Markets suffer ajolt

JOHANNESBURG, July 7: South Africa's financial markets weakened on Thursday following FIFA's announcement in Zurich that the country had lost the bid to host the World Cup 2006 to Germany, reports

The bonds, rand and equity markets softened markedly after the news, the rand losing more than five cents against the dollar.

The currency was trading at 6.7850 to the dollar shortly before the announcement, but closed at 6.8345 compared on Thursday afternoon to Wednesday's close of 6.7815.

A currency trader said the plunge was the result of market players scrambling to buy back dollars after they heard the

"Players sold dollars when they thought South Africa was going to win the bid, and now they are buying them back

again." The Johannesburg Stock Exchange immediately lost ground after the announcement and ended the day 0.71 percent

Construction and tourism. the two sectors billed to benefit the most from the country staging the World Cup, were the hardest hit, the SAPA news agency reported.

South African Chamber of Business chief executive Kevin Wakeford said South Africa would have benefited from some 16 billion rand (2.3 billion dollars) in foreign investment associated with the event, if it had won the bid.

He said a further 14 billion rand would have been generated through domestic investments, and hosting the cup would have boosted the country's gross domestic product by about two percent.

It could also have created some 130,000 jobs in a country where unemployment stands at about 30 percent.

"There is no doubt that it would have provided the South African economy with a muchneeded shot in the arm." he

However, Wakeford added that all was not gloom for the country, as being the runner-up to host the 2006 soccer World Cup would lift South Africa's profile in the international business community.

"Not all is lost, we are now equipped for future sporting events ... We must not see this as a final curtain call for the business of sport in South Africa."

But the Louis Group's chief executive and property economist Alan Louis said South Africa had desperately needed to win the 2006 bid to give the stuttering economy the impetus it needed.

There were investors standing in the wings waiting to make positive decisions had we won the bid," he said.

"Now we are going to have to bite the bullet and wait another four years. Germany didn't need the bid economically speaking, Africa did -- desperately.'

Boskov still under fire

BELGRADE, July 7: Journal ists and players alike continue to severely criticize national coach Vujadin Boskov for Yugoslavia's results at Euro 2000, where the team reached the quarterfinals, before being thrashed by Holland (1-6), reports AFP. Boskov, who has remained

in his post despite the loss, is suffering heavy pressure to resign due to a series of tactical decisions and attitudes that left the mighty Yugoslav players look like a broken army during a large part of the competition. The weekly Blic News re-

ported Thursday that "there is no more place for Boskov in the national team", listing his mistakes before and during Euro

Among the wrong moves were his failure to bring a replacement left-back player, his wrong 4-4-2 tactics in the match against Holland, as well as his easy-going, even arrogant, attitude towards opponents such as Slovenia and Norway, Blic News said in an analysis.

In a Wednesday interview to the Blic daily, Yugoslav team captain, Dragan Stojkovic said the non-respect Boskov showed for him during the preparation period and the competition it self "exceeded all barriers".

"Maybe I made a mistake, maybe I should have just packed my bags and returned home during the preparation period," Stojkovic said.

He said Boskov was often giving inappropriate statements about him to the press, only to discard them as "lies" in

private one-to-one conversa Belgrade press has speculated that Stojkovic might be a good replacement for Boskov.

due to his long experience and respect among the players and experts. Stojkovic, 36, a legendary

Yugoslav midfielder, was left on the bench in the opening game against Slovenia, only to be brought in 35 minutes into the

Yugoslavia drew 3-3 and won the next one against Norway (1 0), with Stojkovic being starter and being named manmembers of the executive body of-the-match by UEFA. voted for Germany while 11

The Yugoslav press considers the results of the national team a "failure" because of the catastrophic loss to Holland, although the team had reached its primary objective of getting into quarterfinals.

New Zealand embarrassed

AUCKLAND, July 7: Oceania football chief Charlie Dempsey, the man who World Cup to Ger handed the 2006 many, is to be hauled over the

In rugby-mad New Zealand, where football is derisively known as 'kiss n kick', Dempsey's decision to abstain in Thursday's crucial final vote at FIFA headquarters in Zurich

coals after it emerged that he

had ignored orders to vote for

South Africa.

did not go down well. Sports Minister Trevor Mallard described Dempsey, who is due back here on Saturday, as an "international embarrass-

Even Prime Minister Helen Clark stuck the boot in, saying she was upset by the result as she had promised New Zealand's support for the South African bid.

Dempsey told New Zealand's TV3 while in transit in Singapore he had been under "unsustainable pressure" when he decided not to vote but would not reveal who he was being pressured by.

"I had very strong reasons but I'm not going into them. I didn't do it lightly, I don't make decisions lightly," he said.

Mark Burgess, New Zealand's representative on the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC), said the Scots-born Dempsey, 78, had not followed instructions given to him at the Confederation's meeting in Samoa in May.

New Zealand Soccer chief executive Bill MacGowan was also adamant Dempsey was told to vote for England first then South Africa.

Dempsey said he knew the enormity of his actions but had no regrets. Had he voted, the final count would have been 12-12, and FIFA president Sepp Blatter's casting vote was headed South Africa's way.

"I'm fully aware of it," he said. "I have no regrets for what I did, none whatsoever. There are a lot of people jumping to conclusions. They can jump to

"You don't make decisions that I made lightly. It wasn't

Dempsey faces a meeting of the OFC in Auckland on Sunday when he will be asked to explain why he did not switch his vote to South Africa after England was eliminated in the second round of voting.

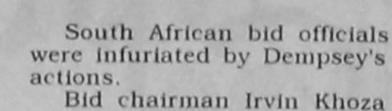
"I can't believe he has done

this intentionally to shoot himself in the foot back here,"

Burgess said Friday. "The vote was a democratic one in Samoa, they still preferred England in the first vote, but on the second the vote was to go to South Africa.

There certainly was no discussion on his abstention, that never entered the thinking at

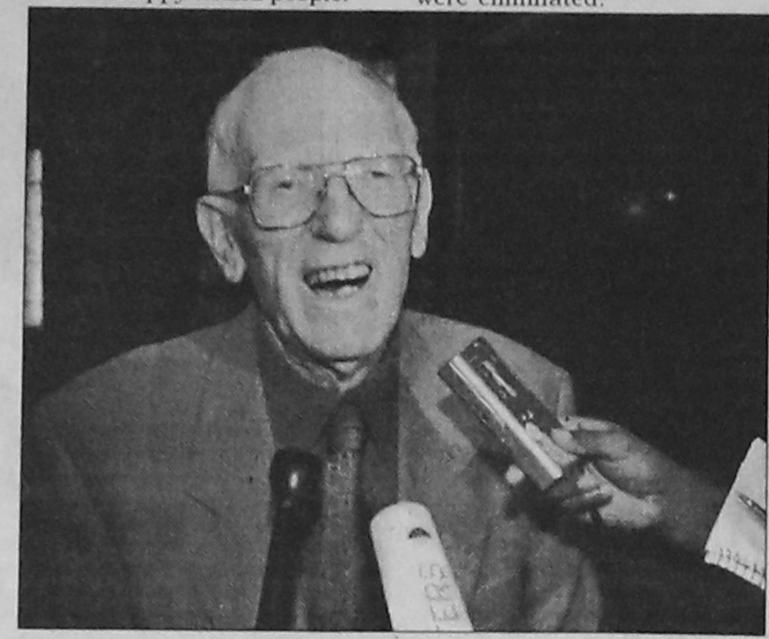
himself and based on that, I'm pretty certain there will be some unhappy island people.



said Dempsey had "betrayed the South African people" "I do not see how a man can vote in the first two rounds and then not vote in the third and

final round. FIFA should in-

vestigate this," he added. Dempsey sought legal advice "He's going to have to explain in New Zealand before releasing a statement saying he would not continue to vote after England were eliminated.



IN HOT WATERS: FIFA's Oceania delegate Charles Dempsey talking to journalists in Singapore yesterday. The New Zealander sparked off a storm on Thursday when he abstained from voting in the critical ballot for who would host the 2006 World Cup -- an action that led to Germany being awarded the tournament.

"He was given the authority to go and cast a vote and he simply hasn't done that, which will upset people."

Dempsey's decision could see him sacked from his position at the helm of the OFC. MacGowan said Dempsey's instructions could not have

been clearer

"We, through our representative on Oceania, told him he had to vote England one, South Africa two," MacGowan said. OFC general secretary Josephine King, Dempsey's daughter, said he "had his own

structions. King said she knew why Dempsey had made his decision but would not elaborate. "I'll wait to he comes home to

reasons" for ignoring his in-

tell the story himself," she said. Dempsey left Zurich, Switzerland, before Germany was named as hosts. He was due back in New Zealand Saturday.

- Internet photo FIFA spokesman Keith Cooper confirmed Dempsey had warned the voting committee what he planned to do before voting started.

"He said he would abstain in the final round for personal reasons," Cooper said.

South Africa made an attempt to remove Dempsey from the presidency of the OFC at a meeting in May. He has headed the federation since it was established in 1964.

"(Dempsey) said he had been accused of bribery and corruption and would not vote again after England were out," Botswana executive committee member Ismail Bhamjee said.

Dempsey was believed to have been one of two executive committee members contacted by former South Africa president Nelson Mandela in the fifor support.

nal days of the campaign to ask FIFA, SA to have separate investigations



day they were open-

BIDDING ing an internal in quiry into Thursday's decision to award the 2006 World Cup to Germany, a spokesman for the world governing body told AFP.

In a separate announcement in Johannesburg South Africa's unsuccessful bid committee for the 2006 World Cup launched their own probe.

Irvin Khoza, president of the South African committee, said that the probe would centre on the abstention of New Zealand FIFA representative Charlie Dempsey in the crucial round of voting.

Meanwhile, FIFA communications director Keith Cooper implied that Dempsey had received death threats prior to the

The FIFA inquiry, meanwhile, will be assisted by the German Football Federation (DFB) and the successful organising committee from Germany.

FIFA and the DFB held a meeting Friday morning and made the decision to launch an investigation together. The FIFA delegation at the meeting was led by secretary

general Michel Zen Ruffinen with what were described as high-level representatives of the German bid - former German football legend Franz Beckenbauer was not one of them, the FIFA source told AFP. But the source added: "At the

moment nothing is putting the decision to award the 2006 World Cup to Germany in ques-FIFA is in possession of 'ma-

terial' - believed to be the photocopy of a fax - received by voting members of the executive committee, the spokesman said.

Dempsey

probe was closely tied to FIFA's own inquiry, member of the South African bid committee Raymond Hack told AFP afterwards.

"We will get information from FIFA before commenting on these allegations (of corruption) ... Everything is hearsay to us," he said

The South African team had only heard of the allegations after they had left Zurich. "If FIFA say, yes, the proce-

dure was correct, then we will accept that," Hack added. South Africa, the favoured candidate of FIFA president Sepp Blatter, had been hotly tipped to win the vote but 12

backed the South Africans in the final round of voting. The decision of Dempsey to abstain proved decisive as a tied 12-12 vote would have left Blatter with the casting vote - which would have gone to South

FIFA communications director Keith Cooper, speaking world governing during a BBC Radio 5 Live 2006 body FIFA said Fri- phone-in, hinted that Dempsey may have received death threats ahead of Thursday's executive committee meeting.

Cooper, who attended the meeting, said: "Charlie referred at the beginning of the meeting to legal advice which he had taken because of the difficult personal situation he found

'No hard feelings' says Mbeki

PRETORIA, July 7: South African president Thabo Mbeki on Thursday assured Prime Minister Helen Clark that the countries were still "friends" despite her New Zealand's role in South Africa's unsuccessful bid to host the 2006 World Cup bid, reports AFP.

Mbeki wrote to Clark in the wake of outrage that New Zealand FIFA representative Charlie Dempsey - mandated to vote for South Africa if England was knocked out - had abstained in the crucial final round of voting Thursday.

"Much as the people of South Africa and the rest of Africa deplore Mr. Dempsey's action. President Mbeki assured the Prime Minister of his conviction that she, her government and the people of New Zealand are genuine friends of our country and people ...," a state-

ment from his office said. "President Mbeki would like to assure the people of New Zealand that our relations would in no way be harmed by actions of a member of the FIFA Executive, over which they have no control," it said.

"He indicated that he was confident that the abstention of The fax will be central to the Mr. Dempsey during the final FIFA probe while the separate round of the FIFA Executive South African investigation voting process was contrary to centres around the role of (Clark's) view, her government and people, as well as the foot-However, the South African ball authorities of New Zealand and Oceania.

Mbeki said he had been assured that the New Zealand government was investigating the matter.

Satirical magazine claims authorship of FIFA fax

FRANKFURT, Germany July 7: A monthly satirical magazine Titanic Friday claimed it had produced the fax sent to FIFA executive committee members on the morning of the decision to award the 2006 World Cup to Germany, reports

The fax, quickly played down as a hoax by FIFA who are launching an inquiry into the circumstances of the vote, was slipped under the hotel doors of FIFA executive committee members and purported to offer the recipients gifts in return for a vote for Germany.

himself in and I would absolutely subscribe to the description of intolerable unbearable personal pressure." Asked to detail the manner of the pressure Dempsey was

under, Cooper said: "If you think of your own personal safety and that of the people who are close and dear to you." When asked if Cooper meant

death threats, he replied: "If you want to interpret it that way I would not disagree with it." Blatter had staked his presidency on having the World Cup played on African soil for the

first time and was voted FIFA president in 1998 on that promise. Since the vote it has been revealed that Dempsey had been ordered by the Oceania Football Confederation and New Zealand politicians to back South Africa in the second round after supporting England

in the first His failure to back the South African bid met with consternation in New Zealand.

The country's sports minister Trevor Mallard branded Dempsey, 78, "an international embarrassment"

"I'm shocked that one individual seems to have abused his voting right by disregarding instructions on voting requirements," he said. "As Oceania's representative. Mr Dempsey was under instruc-

tion to support the South African bid, once England had dropped out of the ballot. Though his abandonment of his delegation, Mr Dempsey has damaged the international reputation of the entire country as well as the sport of soccer in

New Zealand. New Zealand's Prime Minister Helen Clark said she was upset by the result. having already expressed the government's support for the South African bid. She telephoned South

African President Thabo Mbeki to commiserate. Mallard also feared that the ties between New Zealand and South Africa had been dam-

"While formal support for South Africa was not within the Government's authority, the outcome reflects badly on us and our close bilateral relationship particularly in the sporting arena," Mallard said. Dempsey told New Zealand's

TV3 while in transit in Singapore he had been under "unsustainable pressure" when he decided not to vote but would not reveal who he was being pressured by. Dempsey, who faces the sack

as Oceania Football Confedera-

tion president, said he would

make a statement after meeting his executive committee. Mark Burgess, New Zealand's representative on the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC), said the Scots-born Dempsey, 78, had not followed instructions given to him at the Confederation's meeting in Samoa in May.

LONDON, July 7: A FIFA spokesman said Friday that Charles Dempsey, the delegate who effectively handed the 2006 World Cup tournament to Germany by abstaining in a crucial vote, had earlier received a

death threat, reports AFP. Keith Cooper told BBC radio that Dempsey had informed other delegates and FIFA head Sepp Blatter at an executive committee meeting Thursday in Zurich that he and his family had been threatened.

"Charlie referred at the beginning of the meeting to legal advice which he had taken because of the difficult personal situation he found himself in." Cooper said. "I would absolutely subscribe

unbearable personal pressure." Asked to detail the manner of the pressure Dempsey was under. Cooper said: "If you think of your own personal safety and that of the people who are close and dear to you."

to the description of intolerable

death threats, he replied: "If you want to interpret it that way I would not disagree with it.' Asked where such threats came from, Cooper added: "J don't know. That's not my busi-

When asked if he meant

that clear to the meeting." Earlier, Dempsey told BBC radio that he had "no regrets" for abstaining in the third and final vote, after plumping for England in the first two rounds.

ness but he (Dempsey) made

It meant that Germany won the vote 12-11, ending favourite South Africa's hopes of staging the tournament.

"I have very strong reasons for making the decision but I'm not going into them. I didn't do it lightly. I don't make decisions lightly," he said. The Glasgow-born delegate,

"I believe people jumped to conclusions which they can jump to. It wasn't easy.

79, added: "I don't regret what I

Effenberg lashes at recall

BERLIN, July 7: Stefan Effenberg, the Bayern Munich captain and playmaker, has Friday ruled out any return to the German national team despite overtures from the new interim coach Rudi Voller, reports

"The subject is closed." said 31-year-old Effenberg who has won 35 caps, at a Bayern training session. "When we are talking about rebuilding the national team we must realise that dream with younger players not by reactivating a 32year-old. "You can say I am a chicken

and do not dare to play for Germany) if you like," said Effenberg, "But I am keeping the promise I made two years ago and the pundits can say what they like. Effenberg was sent home from the 1994 World Cup by

then coach Berti Vogts after

making a gesture at German fans and was cast into the international wilderness. Erich Ribbeck reinstated the Bayern player in 1998 when he replaced Vogts at the helm of the 'Mannschaft' only for Effenberg to decide to return to

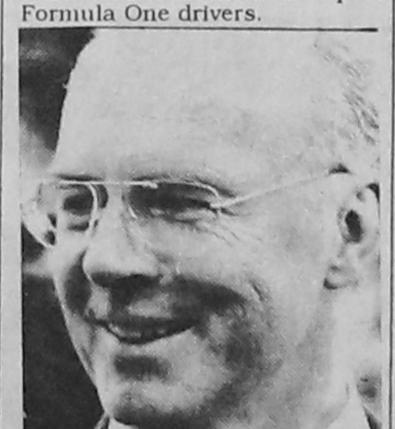
ding Voller earlier this week said he wanted to reintegrate Effenberg but now it would appear the Bayern player's international career is definitively closed.

exile - this time at his own bid-

Beckenbauer laughs off allegations

ROME, July 7: Germany's Franz Beckenbauer who spearheaded Germany's victorious campaign to host the 2006 World Cup Friday denounced claims that Germany had engaged in dubious tactics to obtain the tournament as "primitive and ridiculous", reports

"It is just imagination that we would have toyed with the idea of paying money to obtain something like this," said Beckenbauer as he arrived in Rome to participate in a charity match between Germany's vic torious 1990 World Cup winning team and a team made up of



"I am convinced that the German people are genuinely sorry for South Africa (the vote was 12-11 in favour of Germany) and I believe that for future tournaments we will sup

port an African bid," he added. World governing body FIFA announced Friday they would open an inquiry into the voting process that was tainted by the abstainment of New Zealand South African cricket caprepresentative Charlie Dempsey during the last vote that essentially handed the

Dempsey had reportedly received a death threat but was under orders to vote for South Africa which would have evened the vote and given FIFA president Sepp Blatter the deciding vote. Blatter had already said he was backing South Africa.

World Cup to Germany.

Dempsey was threatened? Trap takes over Italy

league titles and a European

Cup as a player with AC Milan

before a coaching career that

has taken him from Milan to

Juventus, Inter Milan, Ger-

many's Bayern Munich.

Cagliari and Fiorentina. inter-



keeping career, quit after criti-Giovanni Trapatcism of his tactics in Sunday's toni, the most Euro 2000 final, which Italy successful coach in Italian Serie A reached against all the odds but history, was lost 2-1 to France. Trapattoni, who won two

named yesterday to guide Italy to the next World Cup, reports

Trapattoni, who has won an unprecedented seven Italian league titles in a 27-year coaching career, replaces the nation's most capped player, Dino Zoff,

who resigned on Tuesday.

rupted his holiday in Tuscany to drive to Rome to discuss "It's confirmed, it's a two-

Giovanni Trapattoni, who was named on Thursday as Italy's new coach, points to someone during a press conference at Rome yesterday. - Internet photo

year contract until July 2002." an Italian Football Federation spokeswoman said, adding that Trapattoni would hold a news fitting prize for the end of his conference today. career.

The 61-year-old known affectionately as Trap, who resigned as boss of Fiorentina at the end of last season, is set to be a popular choice. A poll yesterday found that more than two-thirds of respondents reckoned he would be a better coach than Zoff.

Zoff, who captained Italy to cret of his desire for the Italy

terms for the job. His wife Paola said the job "was his dream come true. It's a

Trapattoni had been in the frame to take over as German coach but Rudi Voeller was named at the weekend to serve as caretaker for 10 months before handing over to Bayer Leverkusen coach Christoph Daum next June.

Trapattoni had made no se-World Cup victory in 1982 at the job. "Coaching the national

climax of an impressive goal- side is an honour for everyone - definitely better than going back to Germany," his wife

said. Zoff wished Trapattoni "all the best in the world" and Marco Tardelli, who coached the Italian under-21 team to victory in the European championship in Slovakia in June and had been the other top candidate for the job, also offered

congratulations. Football Federation President Luciano Nizzola called him simply "a winner."

Trapattoni's first match in charge will be Italy's opening World Cup qualifier against Hungary in Budapest on September 2.

Trapationi, a grey-haired former printer with a passion for classical music, is expected to bring a distinct change of style both on and off the pitch. Far more excitable than the

taciturn Zoff, the former midfielder is likely to shift the accent firmly on to attack after Zoff's emphasis on defence. In his two years at Fiorentina, his side were always among the highest goalscorers. Trapattoni built arguably

the best ever Juventus side in the late 1970s and early 1980s. In his first year in charge of the Turin club, Juventus won the league title and UEFA Cup. His club retained the league

title again the following year, and again in 1981, 1982 and 1984 — the year in which they also won the European Cup Winners' Cup. Trapattoni guided Juventus

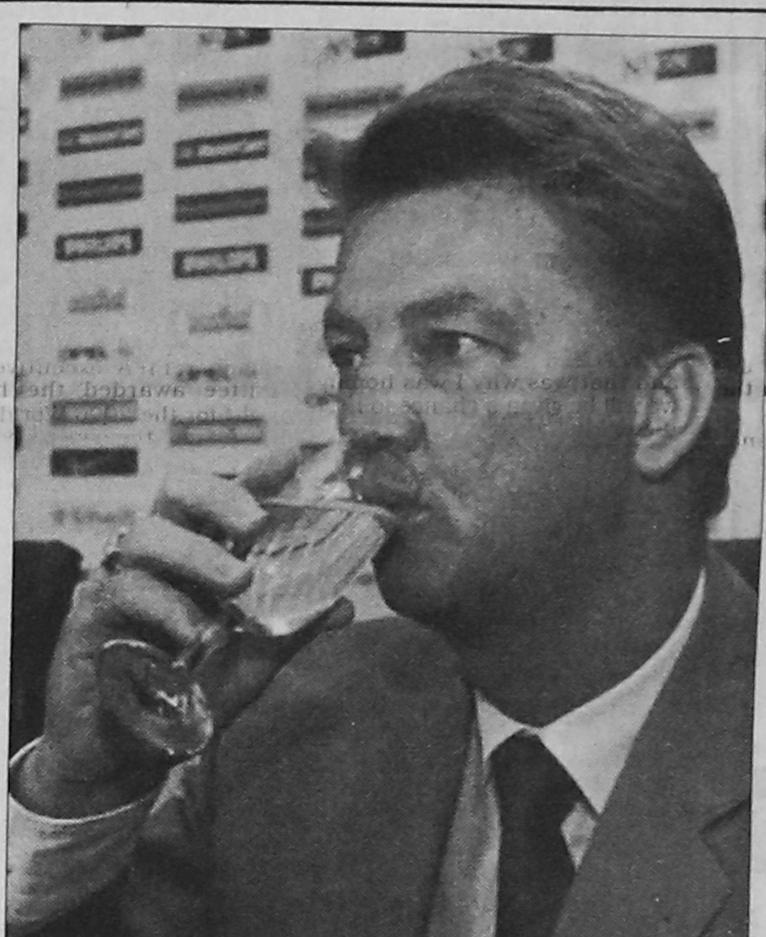
Liverpool was narred by tragedy when 39 people were crushed to death in the Heysel stadium. He moved to Bayern Munich in 194 but resigned at the end of a turbulent season complaining

to their first European Cup in

1985 but that 1-0 victory over

of language difficulties. Nevertheless, he returned there in 1997, guiding them to the Bundesliga crown and becoming the first Italian to win a league title abroad.

Trapattoni made his debut at 18 and hung up his boots in May 1971 after 274 league matches and 17 caps for Italy.



Newly appointed Dutch national coach Louis van Gaal taking a sip from a glass of champagne during a press conference at the Diamond room in the Amsterdam Hilton July 7. Van Gaal who resigned form the Spanish giants Barcelona at the end of May will be replacing Frank last month. - Internet photo

Van Gaal new Dutch coach

AMSTERDAM, July 7: Former Ajax Amsterdam and Barcelona coach Louis van Gaal has been appointed as new coach to the Holland national team, the Dutch Football Federation (KNVB) announced Friday, reports AFP.

Van Gaal has been given a contract until the end of the 2006 World Cup in Germany contradicting press reports in the Dutch press Friday that he had been offered a deal until the end of the 2002 tournament in Japan and South Korea.

The 49-year-old former

physical education teacher won

the UEFA Cup with Ajax in 1992 and added the more prestigious Champions League title three years later. Among his other honours are three Dutch titles also with Ajax (1994, 1995, 1996) the Eu-

ropean Super Cup in 1995 and the Dutch Cup in 1993. With Barcelona van Gaal led his side to the Spanish title in 1998 and 99 as well as the Spanish Cup in 1998 picking up the

Super Cup in the same year. Born in Amsterdam and a former player with FC Antwerp and Sparta Rotterdam he resigned the Barca post after failing to pick up any honours last season.

He replaces Frank Rijkaard

at the helm of the 'Oranje' - Ri-

jkaard quit immediately after

his team's defeat by Italy in the

semi-finals of Euro 2000 after going out on penalties. Louts blamed for England's loss



LONDON, July 75 An unhappy mix of mindless hooligans and naive campaigners cost England dear in the race to host the

soccer World Cup in 2006, the press here concluded Friday, reports AFP. Damning the Kafkaesque

bidding process and ruing the

Springboks for revenge JOHANNESBURG, July 7: Springbok rugby captain Andre Vos Thursday joked that his

team would thrash the All

Blacks in the Tri-Nations series

in revenge for a New Zealander's

pivotal role in letting the World

Cup 2006 go to Germany, reports AFP "We'll definitely have to give the All Blacks a good thrashing." Vos said from Melbourne after learning that South Africa's hopes to host the foot-

ball spectacle had been dashed. Germany beat South Africa by 12-11 votes following a decision by New Zealander Charles Dempsey, the president of the Oceania Confederation, to abstain from FIFA's final round of voting, effectively handing Germany victory.

tain Shaun Pollock was equally dejected. "This is a very sad day for South African sport," he said from Sri Lanka, shortly after

his team suffered defeat against that country in one-day international. "All the guys were waiting anxiously for the announce-

ment and when it came, on top

of losing to Sri Lanka, we were

shattered.

fact that Germany won the ence a New Zealander in his tournament ahead of South pyjamas" -- a reference to re-Africa, British newspapers said ports of candidates using both that for England the battle was lost both on the streets of Belgium and in the corridors of ecutive. footballing power. England has lost out to

moaned The Times, referring to the thuggish behaviour of English soccer fans in Charleroi, Belgium, at last month's Euro 2000 tournament. "It will in all probability deprive this country of the World Cup for another generation. For

the country that invented the

beautiful game yet last staged

hooligans and horse-trading,"

its most prestigious event in 1966, this is a bitter pill to swallow." The Times opined. The Sun as ever was more succinct. How yobs wrecked our World Cup bid. it said under a headline screaming "Mo-

rons 0, Germany 1. Other pundits placed the blame on England's footballing luminaries for lavishing 10 million pounds (15 million dollars) on a bid that was never likely to succeed from the outset. England had no support from the key power-brokers and had been humiliatingly outflanked by its rivals, news-

"The English hosted the best parties and offered the best hospitality... but that counted for little when it came down to football politics." The Guardian It may have been sour

papers decided.

grapes, but the press was distinctly miffed at the entire voting procedure which the Daily Telegraph said "not even Kafka" could have dreamed up. It reviled a process in which "notes are slipped under a hotel

carrot and stick to win votes from members of the FIFA ex-

Back in the real world, the

Financial Times rued the deci-

sion to give Germany the nod

ahead of South Africa as "a shame, a mistake and a badly missed opportunity. "This was a chance to mark Africa's substantial contribution to the game," it said, adding that Germany may have won through because of economic

"Germany is Europe's largest and most successful economy and has easy access to the major European footballing countries which represent the sport's major television markets," the FT said. "Concerns about security in crime-ridden South Africa may also have con-

tributed to the final decision." Care to take on Bayern?

MUNICH, Germany, July 7(AFP): Anyone want to take on Effenberg, Elber and co.? If you've ever fancied your

chances against Germany's

premier football team Bayern Munich, then now is your chance. As part of the club's 100th anniversary celebrations on August 27th, Bayern are inviting teams to apply for the right to meet them on the field as part

of a televised gala in the Olympic Stadium to be shown by TV station ZDF Any organised team of any class whatever can apply and the name of the lucky winners bedroom door trying to influ-

will be drawn out of a hat.