

### Chess Olympiad

## Bangladesh taste defeats

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh men's team suffered their third loss in the 34th Chess Olympiad when they went down 3-1 to Bosnia-Herzegovina in the fifth round in Istanbul yesterday.

International Masters Reza-bi-Sattar and Ziaur Rahman lost to Grand Masters P Nikolic and I Sokolov while IM Abdullah Al-Rakib and Enamul Hossain Rabb shared points with GMs Kurajica and M Sionovic respectively.

Bangladesh have earned 10.5 points so far in the meet.

Germany are leading the table with 16.5 points followed by Russia who are a point.

The leaders defeated Israel 3-1 while the Russians brushed aside Brazil 3.5-0.5 in the Turkish capital.

In the ladies' competition, Bangladesh were outplayed 0.5-2.5 by Slovenia. They have earned five and a half points.

Georgia with 12 points stay atop in this section. They earned a 2-1 victory over Yugoslavia in the latest round of matches.

The Bangladesh men meet Azerbaijan while the ladies led by IMW Rani Hamid, entertain the hosts in today's sixth round.

### Agrani Bank

## earn promotion

Agrani Bank were promoted to the Premier Division beating BRTC SC 2-1 in the 'super-three' of the NBL First Division football league at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

With the day's outcome, bankers increased their tally to 33 points from 16 matches while BRTC completed their campaign with 28 points from 17 matches.

In the day's match, the bankers trailed 0-1 goal behind in the first half when Siraj scored for BRTC in the 34th minute.

Sohag netted the equaliser for Agrani in the 63rd minute while Rabi scored match decider after 13 minutes.

Friday's match: PWD SC vs Sadharan Bina.

### Green Delta h'ball

Shamsunahar Hall of Dhaka University earned a massive 15-0 victory over Dhaka Women's College in the 6th Delta Life girls' handball competition here yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners dominated the first half 11-1 at the Dhamsunahar Hall of Dhaka University. The Sports Complex with Swarna netting four and Mukta three.

In the day's other matches, Lalmai Women's College, Siddheshari Girls' College, Eden Women's College and Bangladesh-Kuwait Motri Hall (DU) won their respective matches.

### Rajshahi soccer

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Nov 2: Rajshahi University Five Set moved into the final of Professor Sarwar Jahan Suruti football tournament.

University Five Set defeated Brothers Five Set 2-0 at the Tikapara Eidgah playground today. Shamsul scored both the goals.

### CRICKET

Pratima Sangha defeated Firoj Smriti Sangha by 78 runs in the Shubhi ATM Gamruzzaman Hossain cricket tournament at the Adarsha College playground today.

Pratima collected 190 for nine in the standard 25 overs. Shohag with 82 was the best scorer.

The winners booked Firoj Smriti for 112 runs in 22.5 overs.

### Purabi b'ball

The Eagles and the Greys Club won their respective matches in the Purabi Insurance Metropolis First Division basketball league at the Dhamsunahar Hall of Dhaka yesterday, reports UNB.

In the day's first match, the Eagles earned a comfortable 77-58 points victory over Rangers Club after dominating the first session by 42-27.

Shakil scored 25, Abir 25, Nabab 11 for the winners while Sharif 21 and Pkita 14 for the losers.

In the other match, the Greys managed a hard-fought 49-47 points win over the Shaws Club after leading the first half by 25-21.

Faisal made 20 and Apu 14 for the winners while Shanta and Sahil 10 each for the losers.

### New ICC boss' apprehension

SYDNEY, Nov 2: The new president of the International Cricket Council (ICC) said today he feared the worst may still be to come in the match-fixing scandal that has plunged the sport into a deepening crisis, reports Reuters.

Australia's Malcolm Gray told a local radio station he believed a damning Indian police report into cricket corruption suggested the problem was worse than most people thought.

"I would think we're getting to the bottom of it now but I can assure you that it is a lot deeper and has been a lot deeper and broader than anybody realised or expected," Gray said.

# Serie A

## Inter clip Roma's wings

MILAN, Nov 2: Inter Milan consigned AS Roma to a 2-0 defeat Wednesday night at the San Siro.

ensuring that unfashionable Udinese and Atalanta lead Italy's First Division after four rounds of games, reports AFP.

Goals from Turkey's Hakan Sukur and his Uruguayan strike partner Alvaro Recoba abruptly halted overnight leaders Roma's perfect record, leaving Udinese - 2-1 victors at Juventus - top on goals scored from Atalanta, 3-0 winners at home to Verona.

Sukur rose unopposed to head in Clarence Seedorf's corner after 18 minutes with an unintended deflection from Roma defender Alessandro Rinaldi putting the ball right in the Turk's path.

Recoba wrapped up victory with a first-time finish halfway through the second period after being played in by Inter's new Slovak signing Vratislav Gresko to confirm that Udinese and Atalanta stayed in pole after displacing Roma at the summit in the afternoon.

Inter coach Marco Tardelli said: "We showed we can play and score goals at the same time. The players all pulled together and this is important - it shows the right mentality."

His Roma counterpart Fabio Capello, a one-time team-mate of Tardelli's at Juventus, said: "Inter were more decisive. They were very effective opponents."

Struggling Parma gave their beleaguered coach Alberto Malesani a lift in the other evening match with a double strike from Cameroonian Patrick Mboma sufficient to eclipse AC Milan 2-0.

Frenchman Johan Micoud and Portuguese winger Sergio Conceicao were involved in both goals and Micoud now appears to have placated the critics who blamed him for his club's poor start.

Udinese had earlier dispatched Juventus at the Turin giants' Stadio delle Alpi fortress with Argentinian Roberto Sosa bagging both goals before Alessandro Del Piero pulled one back from the penalty spot.

Sosa's first goal saw him beat hesitant Juventus goalkeeper Edvan van der Sar to a loose ball - the latest in a catalogue of blunders by the Dutch custodian.

His second also came from close range after a delightful counterattack launched by Stefano Fiore and Dane Martin Jorgensen.

Sosa almost blotted his copybook when his handball allowed Del Piero to reduce arrears but Udinese prevailed.

Udinese coach Luis De Camo said he was delighted with his side's position at the top.

"We profited from the discontent of Juventus," he told RAI TV. "We have a great little team and I am delighted with all the lads."

Juventus coach Carlo Ancelotti declined to scapegoat van der Sar, saying "It's too easy to blame individual players."

Juve's French playmaker Zinedine Zidane had an indifferent game and was replaced at the interval and Ancelotti admitted that when Zidane fails



Inter Milan's Dutch international playmaker Clarence Seedorf is under pressure from AS Roma's Cristiano Zanetti during their Serie A clash at Milan on November 1.

Two goals from substitute Simone Inzaghi answered an early strike from Dario Hubner for the visitors in Swede Eriksson's first game in charge of the Italian champions since it was confirmed he would take up the post of England coach in the summer.

Brescia's veteran striker Dario Hubner gave the visitors a fourth-minute lead with a twice-taken penalty after Fernando Couto was ruled to have impeded Kubilay Turkulmaz before Inzaghi took over.

Inzaghi, who had replaced an injured Claudio Lopez, squared the match from the spot after 33 minutes. The Italian was brought down after latching on to a long pass from Sinisa Mihajlovic.

And 12 minutes from the close Inzaghi scored the winner after good work from another substitute Fabrizio Ravanelli, who had just entered the fray.

Napoli avoided the defeat at Lecce that might have heralded the departure of their Czech coach Zdenek Zeman.

Salvatore Fressi gave the visitors the lead after 68 minutes from the penalty spot only for Croatian Davor Vruginec to restore parity for the hosts but at least Napoli can celebrate their first point of the season.

Zeman allowed himself a smile as he said: "Today we were better on the tactical front. I am convinced that with time and application we will turn it around."

But they remain bottom after Vicenza picked up their first victory with a 1-0 home win.

## German Cup

# Bayern's ultimate humiliation

BERLIN, Nov 2: Defending champions Bayern Munich were licking their wounds Thursday after the reigning league champions and cup holders endured a German Cup humiliation by losing on penalties to fourth division FC Magdeburg, reports AFP.

Wednesday night's second round match was locked at 1-1 at the end of extra-time and eastern German side Magdeburg won 4-2 on penalties in a battle of two sides who once ruled Europe.

Bayern won the European Cup from 1974 to 1976 and Magdeburg won the now-defunct European Cup Winners Cup in 1974. But while Bayern remain one of Europe's top sides Magdeburg are a far cry from their 70's team and have slid into amateur football since the demise of the old East Germany.

Magdeburg coach Eberhard Vogel's side have given the rest of the Bundesliga hope that Bayern are not invincible as Magdeburg keeper Miroslav Kucera kept Bayern out.

Hamburg, who last week won a Champions League match at Juventus, lost 1-0 to Third Division amateurs Karlsruhe, who have fallen from grace since the early 1990s, when they regularly finished in the First Division's upper reaches.

Kaiserslautern's loss came at the hands of another former big name as they slid out 5-1 to Borussia Moenchengladbach, now in the Second Division, to end a run of four straight wins under Andreas Brehme.

"We didn't play brilliant football - but we fought superbly from the first minute," said Borussia coach Hans Meyer.

"We deserved to win - perhaps not by such a high score-

### Lopez out for four months

ROME, Nov 2: Lazio's Argentinian striker Claudio Lopez has been ruled out of football for four months after medical tests Thursday on the injury to his left knee he sustained in Wednesday's 2-1 First Division victory over Brescia.

Doctors have advised the player to undergo surgery although Lopez, who hobbled off after 13 minutes against Brescia, is yet to agree to that advice.

Thursday morning Lopez had a magnetic resonance scan on the knee and the club doctor Andrea Campi diagnosed the injury as worse than had been first thought.

The scan revealed problems to the knee ligaments and is similar to an injury sustained by Christian Vieri when he was at the Roman club two years ago although in Lopez's case it is worse.

Lazio signed the Argentine from Valencia in the summer after the player had inspired the Spanish club to reach the 2000 Champions League Final.

## 'Chilagoal' relishing the prospect

STRASBOURG, France, Nov 2: Colourful Paraguayan international goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert, who on Wednesday signed a two-and-a-half-year deal with ailing French First Division team Strasbourg, said he was looking forward to a major challenge, reports Reuters.

Those who are successful are those who take on big challenges, Chilavert told a news conference after finalising his contract.

"I'm completely dedicated to my work and hope I can do well here."

Chilavert, who joins Strasbourg from Argentine First Division side Velez Sarsfield, signed after two days of talks with Strasbourg officials and after passing a medical.

Chilavert, 35, cost Strasbourg an estimated 15 and 20 million francs (2 to 3 million dollars).

## Parliament to investigate CBF accounts

BRASILIA, Nov 2: The Brazilian parliament voted on Wednesday to investigate the bank details of the national football federation (CBF) and its president Ricardo Teixeira, reports AFP.

A parliament commission voted by 14 to nine to launch the investigation in connection with Brazil's 10-year contract with Nike, signed in 1997 and worth a reported 180 million dollars.

The Brazilian parliament also summoned several sports journalists on November 7 over suspected irregularities in the deal by the powerful sports company and the CBF.

World Cup legend Pele, in his role as former Brazilian sports minister, or former FIFA president Joao Havelange will also have to appear in parliament on November 9.

Former Brazil coach Mario Zagallo and team doctor Lidio Toledo have been summoned to appear on November 21. Brazilian internationals Ronaldinho, Roberto Carlos and Edmundo are also set to appear on November 23.

Parliament said they had launched the inquiry to clarify whether the contract is breaking Brazilian law.

## Dhindsa meets Muthiah today

NEW DELHI, Nov 2: The Indian government will hold discussions with country's cricket officials to decide on a course of action following a police report that named five Indian players who were involved in rigging matches, reports said today, according to DPA.

Dhindsa will meet the president of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) AC Muthiah on Friday to discuss further action against the erring cricketers. Muthiah has already warned that the guilty players could face a life ban.

## Former Aussie stars to face Windies

PERTH, Nov 2: Former Australian Test stars David Boon and Mike Whitney were named here Thursday in the Australian Cricket Board Chairman's XI to play the West Indies in the tourists' opening match of their programme Tuesday, reports AFP.

Boon, 39, a top order batsman, and Whitney, 41, a left-arm fast bowler, will come out of retirement for the match, a one-day festival fixture, at Lilac Hill Park, Caversham, near here.

A crowd of 10,000 is tipped to watch the limited-overs clash, on the banks of the Swan River, in Western Australia's oldest wine-growing region.

Former Test opener and current South Australian batsman Greg Blewett has also been invited to represent the Chairmen's side - an indication the Australian selectors still consider him a player of international potential.

The home team will be skippered by former Test and one-day international Tom Moody.

## TEAM

Tom Moody (captain), Adam Gilchrist, Jo Angel, Greg Blewett, David Boon, Brad Hogg, Stuart Law, Simon Katich, Justin Langer, Damien Martyn, Steve Nikkars, Mike Whitney (12th man) will be nominated on day of match.

## Bacher not surprised

DURBAN, Nov 2: South African cricket boss Ali Bacher said Wednesday the report of India's Central Bureau of Investigation into match-fixing had come as no surprise, reports AFP.

He also indicated much of his testimony to South Africa's King Commission inquiry into corruption in South African cricket, he said.

"It not surprises me nor pleases me to hear the information contained in the CBI report. Many of my concerns, expressed during my testimony at the King Commission have now been confirmed," said Bacher in a statement.

# Eriksson can't wait

LONDON, Nov 2: New England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson on Thursday said he was "hopeful" of making an early start and gaining Lazio's permission to take charge of the squad for three World Cup qualifiers before his five-year contract officially begins next July, reports AFP.

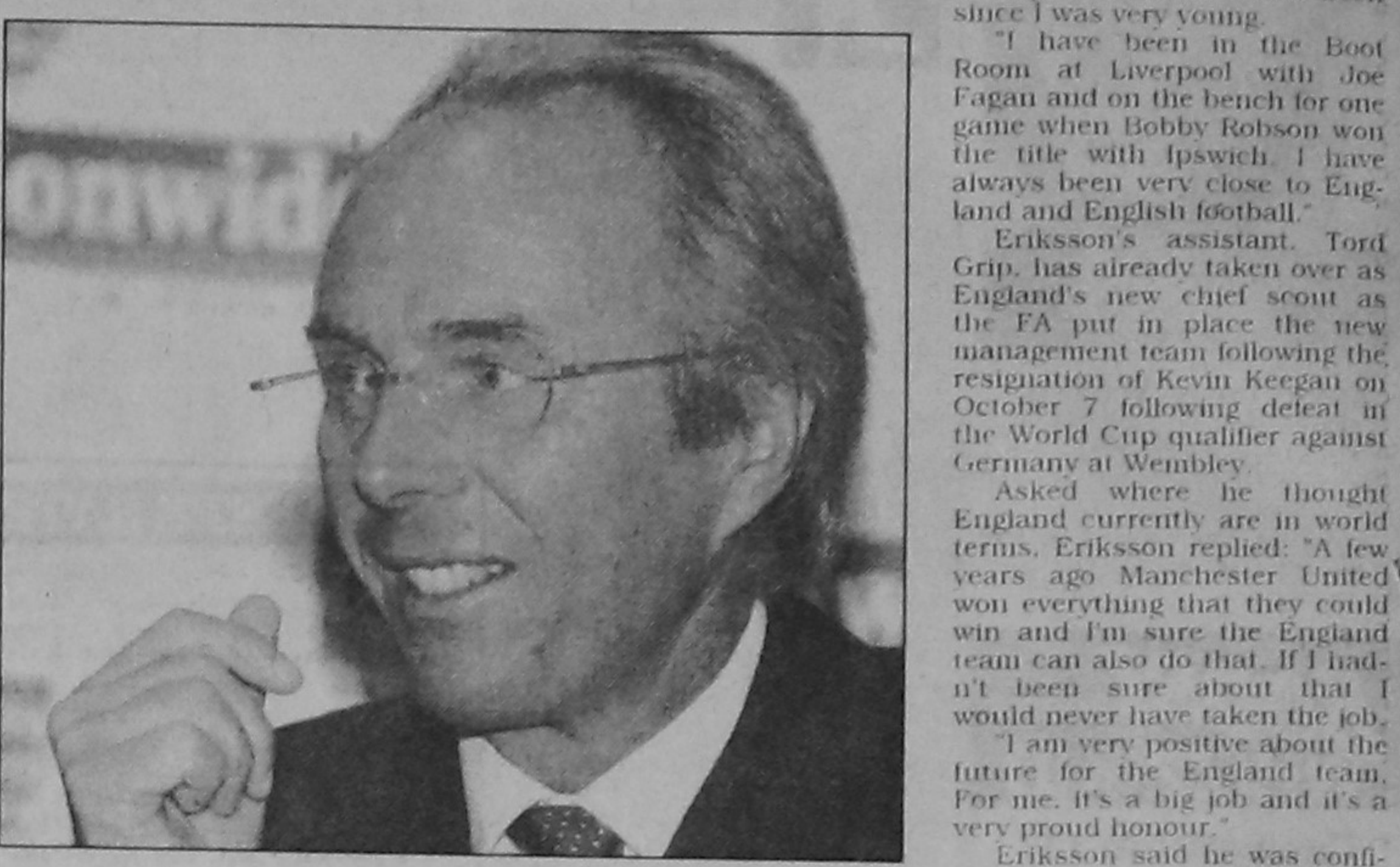
The 52-year-old Swede hopes to persuade his Italian club to allow him to take charge on a match-by-match basis until his contract begins on July 1, 2001, meaning he could be on the bench for World Cup

with Lazio president Sergio Cragnotti for Eriksson's early release.

He said: "We're very hopeful we can secure his release for those qualifying games. President Cragnotti has been incredibly helpful but we have agreed to let it rest for a few days."

"Lazio need to take stock of their position. Things have moved incredibly quickly over a 48-hour period."

"I think at the beginning of next week we will take up those decisions. They will be done properly and hopefully with the right conclusion."



Newly appointed England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson makes a point during a media conference at Sopwell House Hotel in Saint Albans Hertfordshire yesterday. - AFP photo

qualifiers against Finland on March 24, away to Albania four days later and in Greece on June 6.

"I think it might happen," he said. "At this moment I'm not sure, I'm hopeful."

"I will have a contract with the Football Association from July 1, 2001, but we're still talking about the World Cup qualifying games in March and June. We have a lot of time to talk," said Eriksson at a London press conference.

FA chief executive Adam Crozier confirmed he will reopen negotiations next week.

The only definite short-term plan the FA have in place is for Leicester manager Peter Taylor and Manchester United manager Steve McClaren to take temporary control of the team to meet Italy in a friendly on November 15 in Turin.

Meanwhile, Eriksson conceded that it had come as a shock to him when he first learned the FA wanted him to be Keegan's successor.

"I must say it was a big surprise for me when I first heard about it," the Swede told Sky Sports.

He added: "If you look around you know why I took the job. I think it is one of the most prestigious jobs you can have. I am honoured and pleased and I hope to do well."

"You can't say no when you have been offered the job of manager of England. It is so big."

Asked about England's chances of getting to the 2002 World Cup after losing their first qualifier at home to Germany, Eriksson said: "Of course England can qualify for the World Cup. You do not give up until you are mathematically out. You have to think you can do it."

"I am always been a big fan of English football. I have been since I was very young."

"I have been in the Boot Room at Liverpool with Joe Fagan and on the bench for one game when Bobby Robson won the title with Ipswich. I have always been very close to England and English football."

Eriksson's assistant, Tori Grip, has already taken over as England's new chief scout as the FA put in place the new management team following the resignation of Kevin Keegan on October 7 following defeat in the World Cup qualifier against Germany at Wembley.

Asked where he thought England currently are in world terms, Eriksson replied: "A few years ago Manchester United won everything that they could win and I'm sure the England team can also do that. If I hadn't been sure about that I would never have taken the job."

"I am very positive about the future for the England team. For me, it's a big job and it's a very proud honour."

Eriksson said he was confident he could handle the pressure that goes with being England coach, pointing to his current job as Lazio coach as evidence that he could remain cool under fire.

"I have been in a good school for the last few years. To be in Rome when things go badly is not easy for sure," insisted Eriksson, who guided Lazio to the Serie A title last season.

Asked if the number of foreign players playing their trade over here had a detrimental effect on England's chances of success, Eriksson said: "No, it is the same all over Europe, the same in Italy."

"Everyone is talking about too many foreigners. If you're a good football player you will come through. It's good for players in the country to have foreign players around them."

## English League Cup

# Holders thrown out

LONDON, Nov 2: Holders Leicester were dumped out of the League Cup Wednesday as Crystal Palace produced a major third-round upset to win 3-0 at Filbert Street, reports AFP.

Palace, languishing near the foot of the First Division, took the lead through Clinton Morrison's 17th-minute header.

Steve Thomson increased the lead six minutes later and Latvian Andrejs Rubins added another long-range effort at the start of the second half to kill off the Premiership high-fliers.

Arsenal, fielding a number of youngsters, lost at home for the first time this season, as Ipswich gained a 2-1 Highbury victory thanks to James Scowcroft's late winner.

Jamie Clapham put the visitors in front and although Igor Stepanovs equalised on his debut, substitute Scowcroft stole the game in the last minute.

Robbie Fowler scored his first goal since December 1999 to send Liverpool into the fourth round after beating Chelsea 2-1 at Anfield.

His strike came in the first period of extra time as Liverpool battled to overcome their Premiership rivals.

Danny Murphy had put Liverpool ahead, only for Gianfranco Zola to force an equaliser.

But Liverpool's triumph was soured by Emile Heskey's dismissal in the dying minutes of extra time after an incident with Winston Bogarde, spotted by a linesman.

Premiership bottom club Derby found some relief with a 3-0 home win over Norwich with Rory Delap, Craig Burley's penalty and Malcolm Christie netting the goals.

Fulham saw off First Division rivals Wolves as they came from behind to seal a 3-2 win at Craven Cottage.

Tommy Keatsbaia put Wolves in front but two beautifully worked goals from Luis Boa Morte and one from Luis Saba gave the home side the advantage. They then hung on despite Simon Osborn's strike in the last minute.

Newcastle scored three times in seven minutes and then overcame a Bradford fightback to beat them 4-3 in a thriller at St James' Park.

Alan Shearer's double and Daniel Cordone had earned the hosts a 3-0 lead only for Bradford to draw level through Ian Nolan and two from Ashley Ward.

But Bobby Robson's men then sealed their victory with a goal from Steve Caldwell on his debut.

Kevin Horlock's penalty a minute from time took Manchester City into the fourth round as they gained a 1-0 win at Aston Villa.

Second Division Stoke had a last-gasp winner from Norwegian substitute Rikhardur Danason on his debut as they saw off Division One visitors Barnsley 3-2.

Barnsley had twice drawn level through Mateo Corbo and Lee Jones in reply to Bjarni Gudjonsson's double for Stoke.

## Primera Liga

# Mallorca does it again

MADRID, Nov 2: European Cup champions Real Madrid lost 2-0 at home to Real Mallorca in the Spanish league on Wednesday to become the second major scalp of the island club in less than a week, reports AFP.

Mallorca also beat Spain's other giant club Barcelona by the same scoreline on Saturday, though they are still only in ninth place for all their giant-killing efforts.

Valencia meanwhile wrenched top spot from Deportivo La Coruna, who beat Las Palmas 4-0 on Tuesday, with a 1-0 win over Celta Vigo.

Valencia had a hard time in their match but managed to win the fixture with a goal by their Norwegian player John Carew.

Hector Cuper's men, who have made a great start to the season both domestically and in Europe, are two points ahead of Deportivo, five ahead of Real and six in front of Barcelona.

Third-placed Real, who had scored eight goals in their two previous matches, may have paid the price for overconfidence at their Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

The Islanders earned their victory thanks to the poor performance of Real's central defensive pairing of Fernando Hierro and Aitor Karanka who let through both Ariel Ibagaza in the 54th minute then Carlos in the final minute.

Fifth-placed Barcelona, with Francisco Arnaiz in goal instead of the much-criticized French keeper Richard Dutruel, could only earn a 1-1 draw at Numancia.

Nurnia's Uruguayan keeper Alvaro Nunez was beaten by a Rivaldo penalty two minutes after the break and Ruben Navarro scored Numancia's only chance from a freekick in the 89th minute.

## Matthaeus may retire, finally

BERLIN, Nov 2: Former Germany libero Lothar Matthaeus has said he is considering retirement, reports Reuters.

This might have been my last game as a professional player," the 35-year-old told reporters after his New York New Jersey MetroStars lost 2-1 to German First Division Cologne in a friendly in Trier, near Cologne, on Tuesday night.

The former Bayern Munich player's contract with MetroStars expires at the end of this month.

Matthaeus, who retired from international football after extending his world record to 150 caps at Euro 2000, had hinted earlier on Tuesday that he might keep playing at club level.