

King Kahn bows out

Football

AFP, Munich

Former Bayern Munich and Germany goalkeeper Oliver Kahn bowed out of the game on Tuesday after 20 years as a professional...

coached by new Bayern handler Jurgen Klinsmann, who famously dropped him at the 2006 World Cup but the only blot on the evening was a goal he conceded after 33 minutes.



PHOTO: AFP

Legendary Germany and Bayern Munich goalkeeper Oliver Kahn bids goodbye to fans during his testimonial match at the Allianz Arena in Munich on Tuesday.

Niemi retires

Football

AFP, London

Fulham's Finnish goalkeeper Antti Niemi announced his retirement on Wednesday after conceding defeat in the fight to return from a wrist injury.

ated his decision. "My plan was always to finish my career after this contract, which runs out next summer," he told Fulham's website.

Silva pulls out

AFP, Madrid

Valencia midfielder David Silva on Tuesday withdrew from Spain's squad for their upcoming World Cup qualifiers against Bosnia and Armenia due to a left ankle injury.

Keegan's future unclear

AFP, Newcastle

Kevin Keegan's future as Newcastle United manager remained in the balance on Wednesday after the English Premier League club admitted that talks are continuing between the warring factions.

Newcastle's website read. "Both the Club and Kevin would like to reiterate that Kevin remains as manager. He has not resigned nor has he been sacked, as has been confirmed in respective statements made by Kevin and Newcastle United Football Club."

Gerrard likely for MU clash

AFP, Liverpool

Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard is on course to be fit for his side's clash against Premier League rivals Manchester United later this month.

Nasri settling well

Football

AFP, Paris

Arsenal star Samir Nasri will do anything to banish memories of France's disastrous European Championships - even if it means missing the Muslim celebration of Ramadan.

marked this weekend's World Cup qualifier against Austria as the perfect time to show that France is still a top force in international football.

Germany won't miss duo

AFP, Oberhaching

Midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger insists Germany will win both their forthcoming World Cup 2010 qualifying matches without key injured veterans Torsten Frings and Michael Ballack.

Berbatov's dream move

Football

AFP, Sofia

Bulgarian striker Dimitar Berbatov said Tuesday his last-minute 30.7-million-pound (37.7-million-euro, 54.7-million-dollar) transfer to Manchester United was a dream come true.

bly tired Berbatov told the press, who greeted him with a round of applause. "I lived between euphoria and despair... I have never been through anything like this," he added.

City to pay £135m for C'Ron?

Football

AFP, London

Manchester City's new billionaire Arab owners say they are willing to pay 135 million pounds (210 million dollars) to land Cristiano Ronaldo from the Red side of the city.

fellow moneybags club Chelsea in landing Robinho from Real Madrid in a British record 32.5 million-pound move on deadline day late Monday.

The perks of being World Champion



Football

AFP, Rome

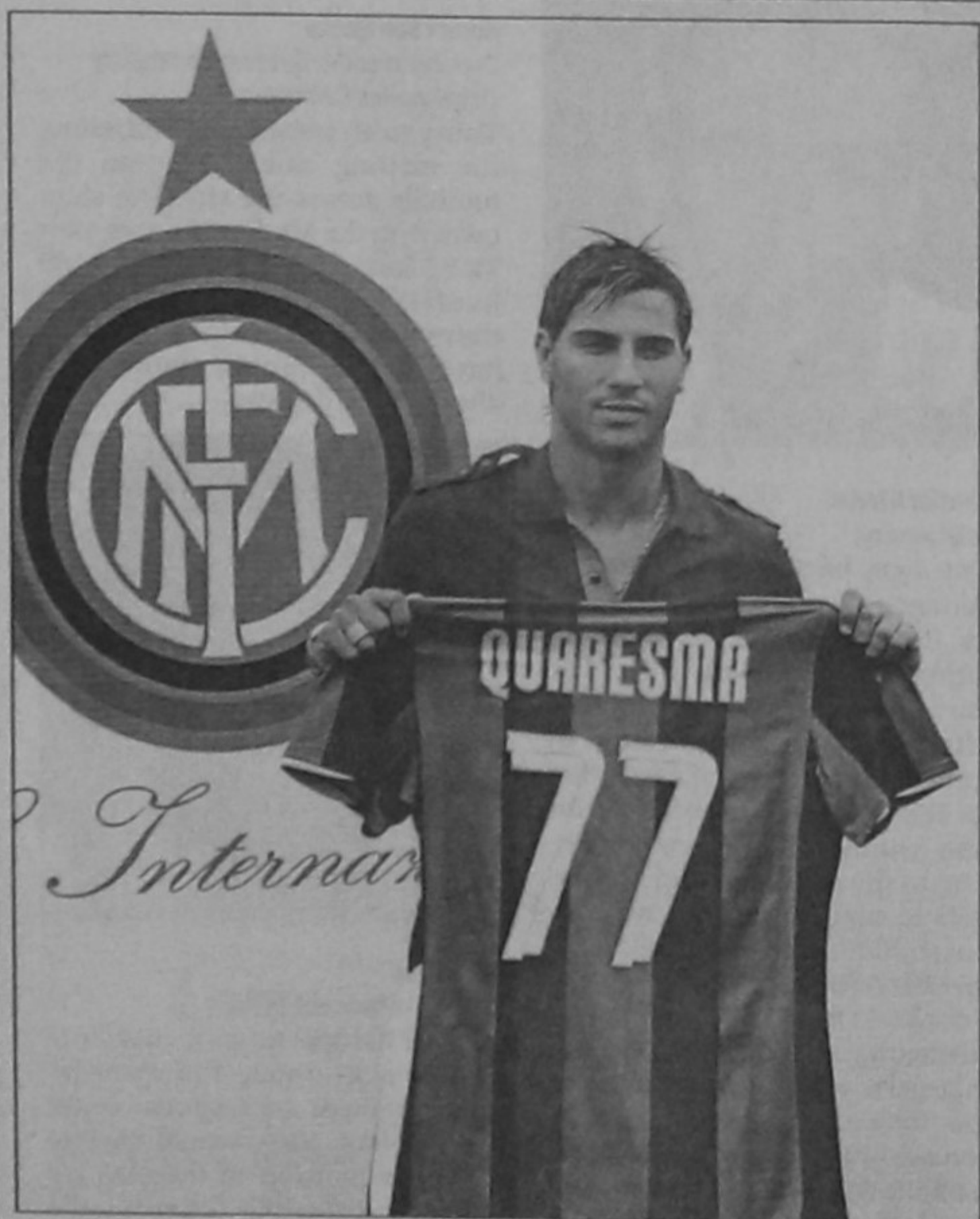
A picture of the Italian national team shirt is seen embossed with the first FIFA World Champions Badge. FIFA is awarding the badge to the current world champions who will wear it on their jersey for the following period to be subsequently taken over by all future champions.

Italy will wear a world champions badge on their shirts when they tackle Cyprus in a World Cup 2010 qualifier on Saturday.

Curbishley quits Hammers

AFP, London

Alan Curbishley has resigned as West Ham manager, the Premier League club confirmed on Wednesday.



Portugal winger Ricardo Quaresma poses with his new jersey after signing for Inter Milan in Appiano Gentile on Tuesday.

reproduce the same errors," he said. "We're in the mood for revenge and want to do well to show another side (to our game), one with more quality than you saw at the Euros."

L'pool defeat hurts more

Football

AFP, Liverpool

Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher has admitted in his autobiography that an England defeat never hurt as much as losing with his club side.

"Did I care we'd gone out of the tournament (the 2006 World Cup when they lost on penalties to Portugal in the quarterfinals)? Of course I did. Passionately, I've never given less than 100 per cent in any game."