

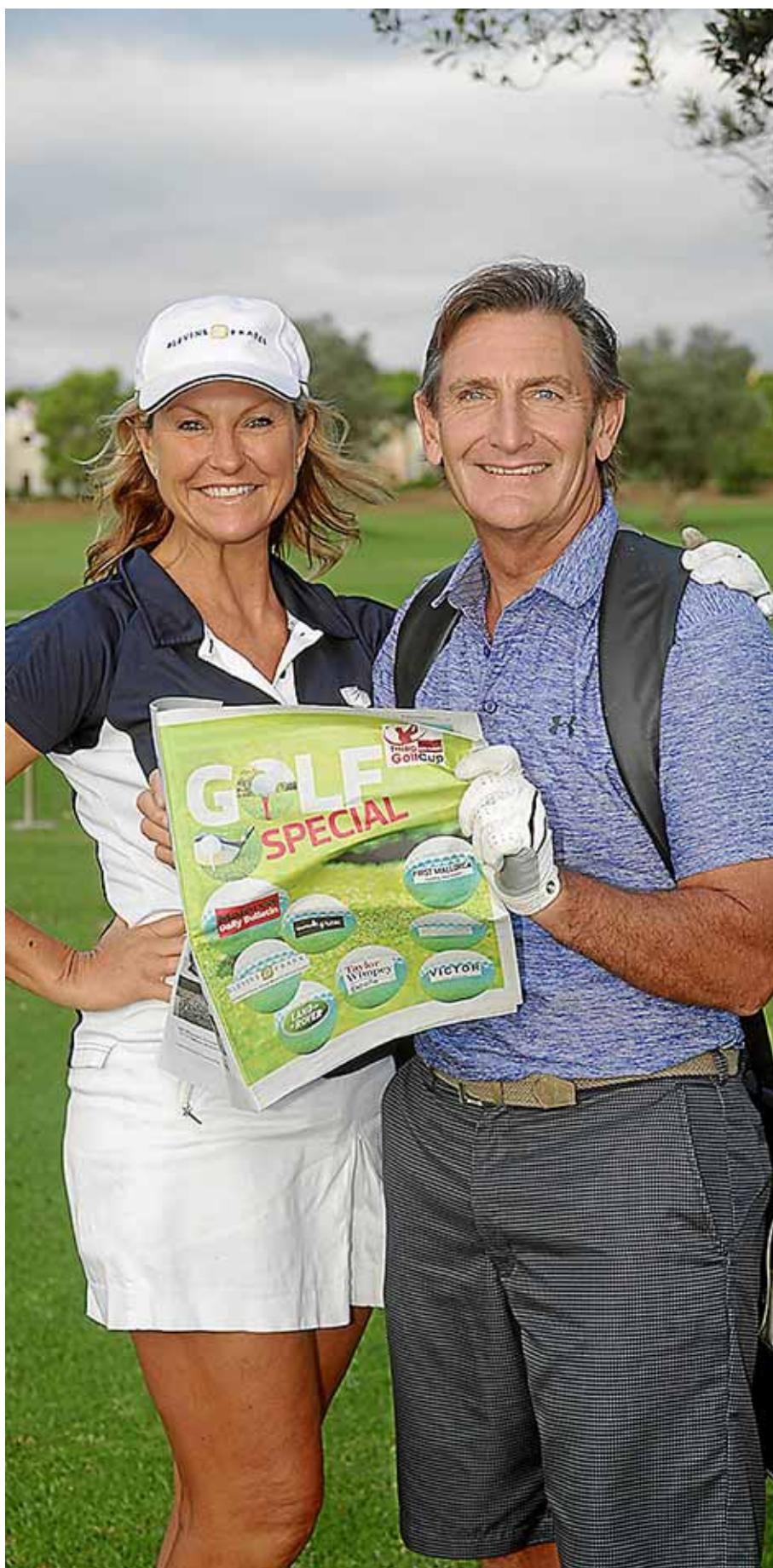
# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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ALL  
YES<sup>T</sup>ERDAY'S  
SPORTS  
ACTION



## Separatists rally around mayors in Barcelona

● Catalan separatists and supporters of the region's right to hold a referendum on independence from Spain yesterday held a rally backing more than 700 mayors facing the threat of arrest.

The mayors have been called in for questioning by prosecutors for agreeing to facilitate the vote locally.

They could be arrested if they do not attend and prosecuted for using public funds if they help stage the ballot.

Madrid has promised to block the vote, saying it is unconstitutional.

Catalonia's regional government in-

sists it will take place as scheduled despite a growing clampdown by the Spanish state. Some of the mayors gathered with Catalan president Carles Puigdemont outside the headquarters of the regional government, the Generalitat Palace, as supporters waved the lone-star flag of the independence movement.

"We stand firm against threats, censorship and prosecution and repeat this: we want to be a free country," Puigdemont told the crowd.

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