

Seles must keep Mazda to remain at top

CARLSBAD, Calif. Aug 2: Top-ranked Monica Seles started strongly and held on to defeat...



MONICA SELES face the winner of Friday's match between third-seeded Manuella Maleeva-Fragniere...

In other play, No. 5 Zina Garrison beat Karine Quentrec 6-2, 6-1 to move into a quarterfinal...

In day's other match, fourth-seeded Jennifer Capriati dispatched error-prone Lori McNeil 6-2, 6-1.

The 15-year-old Capriati, who drew a first-round bye, neutralized McNeil's net game with passing shots and capitalized on her opponent's mistakes...



JENNIFER CAPRIATI quarterfinal match against fifth-seeded Zina Garrison...

Capriati, ranked 10th in the world, set the early tone by following a winning lob with a strong passing shot...

No big deal!

HAVANA, Aug 2: The US Olympic Committee began damage control on Thursday on the first scandal of the Pan American Games...

The release was spurred by a flurry of calls from journalists about why there were no toilet seats in many athletes' bathrooms.

But as far as the USOC and athletes were concerned, it was a bit of a storm in a tea cup because they have more on their minds than worrying about the comforts of home.

A US athlete doing warm-up exercises on one of the broad streets of the village, who did not want to be identified, was unworried.

A Cuban official explained that toilet seats had been ordered overseas but had not arrived on time to be installed.

"We are sorry about that but we are confident that the American athletes will find everything else to their liking," the official said.

"Well, we finished it — all 55 buildings, 1,473 apartments and capacity for 6300 members of the Pan American sports delegations," the official said proudly.

Monaco ready for hot relay race

MONACO, Aug 2: France fielded three members of their world record-breaking sprint relay quartet at Saturday's Monaco Grand Prix athletics meeting...

For France, Daniel Sangouma, who clocked 8.90 seconds in an inspired second leg in Split, Jean-Charles Trouabal and Anchorman Bruno Marie Rose combine with Gilles Quenehervie in place of Max Mortiniere.

Ben Johnson, once the world's fastest man, has been included in Canada's relay squad although he did not turn up here as scheduled on Thursday after apparently missing his flight.

Since serving a two-year ban for steroid use, Johnson has struggled to recapture even a

semblance of his former explosive speed and he will not be representing his country in the 100 metres at next month's Tokyo World Championships.

Monaco is the penultimate Grand Prix event before Tokyo and several of the World's top sprinters and hurdlers have been attracted by the prospect of clear, hot weather and attractive appearance money.

Britons John Regis and

Roger Black, European champions over 200 and 400 metres, test themselves in their specialist events against Americans Michael Johnson and Antonio Pettigrew respectively.

The strength of American high hurdling is underlined by the presence of Tony Dees, fastest man in the world this year but unable to make the US team for Tokyo.

In the 400 metres hurdles

Tokyo favourite Danny Harris runs against fellow-American and Olympic champion Andre Phillips plus Britain's European gold medalist Kriss Akabusi.

The women's 200 metres features Jamaican Merlene Ottey, the world number one for the past two years, her compatriot and Olympic silver medalist Grace Jackson and Germany's 1986 European champion Helke Drechsler.



The French men's 100 m relay quartet which set the world record in Split, Yugoslavia last year.

Cram certain to vie in Tokyo

BIRMINGHAM, England, Aug 2: World mile record holder Steve Cram shrugged off the effects of prolonged injury on Friday to qualify for Saturday's 1,500 metres final in the British World Championship athletics trials.

Cram, 30, won his heat emphatically in his first significant track race for nine months and made himself a strong bet to snatch the automatic ticket to next month's Tokyo World Championships which awaits the winner of the final.

"I'm just delighted to be here," said Cram with a smile afterwards. "It's really nice to be back bracing again."

Cram, who last month reckoned he was closer to quitting the sport than ever because of a knee injury, led his heat in a leisurely three minutes 42.55 seconds.

But the way he pulled clear with 250 metres to go, covering the last half-lap in 27 seconds, signalled the measure of his recovery.

"There were a few nerves leading up to the race," admitted Cram. "And you never know what's going to happen in this situation with people tripping up or punching each other."

But he put his foot down on the final back straight and quickly opened up daylight before winning by some eight metres.

Evt'e Finikin became the first record-breaker of the two-day championships, setting a new Commonwealth mark of 13.46 metres in the fledgling women's triple jump event.

That, beat by 10 centimeters the previous record set six days ago by clubmate Mary Berkeley at the World Student Games in Sheffield.

Tyson left without paying bar tab, fondled beauty queen, witnesses say

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug 2: Former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson left without paying a 380-dollar bar tab and fondled a beauty queen in two days of revelry that ended with Tyson accused of rape, witnesses said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

A special grand jury will hear evidence about the alleged July 19 rape charges levelled by an 18-year-old contestant in the Miss Black America beauty pageant.

Tyson has denied the allegations. On July 18, Tyson and eight friends went to an Indianapolis nightclub called Seville's, witnesses said.

Seville's owner Mark Ritkitch said he offered Tyson a bottle of house champagne but the boxer demanded Dom Perignon. "He asked for Dom

Perignon, so I had to go to the liquor store and buy three bottles at 90 dollars a bottle," he said.

He said Tyson left the bar 2-1/2 hours later without pay-

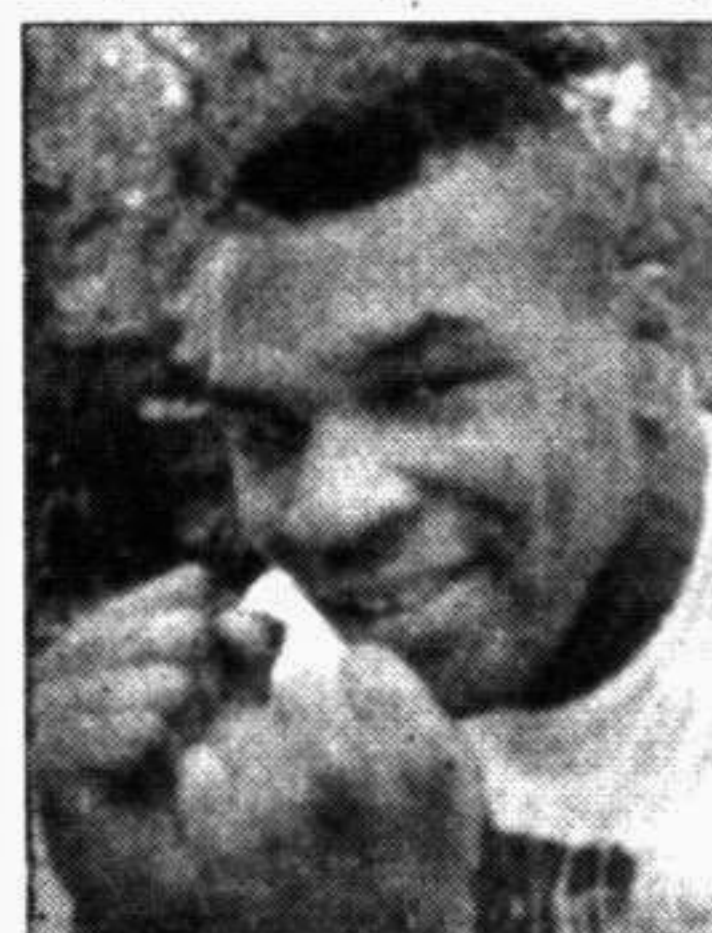
during his planned three-day visit at the Indiana Black Expo convention, said he saw Tyson leave a 100-dollar bill as a tip.

Rosie Jones, last year's winner of the pageant, told reporters Tyson fondled her and said 'perverted things' in propositioning her the next day during a rehearsal.

Charles Williams, president of the convention, said the 18-year-old woman involved in the alleged rape was taken to Tyson's hotel in a limousine provided him.



MIKE TYSON



MIKE TYSON

ing his party's 380-dollar bar or leaving a tip. He also shouted profanities at a photographer who attempted to take a picture of him and Boyd. Ritchey said.

Ali returns to scene of first triumph

MIAMI BEACH, Florida, Aug 2: An audience of 600 that included heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield, two former champs and other VIPs paid tribute Monday to Muhammad Ali, who won his first title in Miami Beach 27 years ago, reports AP.

"Sometimes I have to pinch myself to keep from believing all the praise," said Ali, 49. "For years I've been telling people I was pretty good. But

I've never been one to brag." Ali upset Sonny Liston on Feb. 25, 1964, for the first of his three heavyweight titles. On Monday, Hall 'C' of the convention center where that bout took place was renamed the Muhammad Ali Hall of Champions.

me the inspiration. It's not how big a fighter you are, it's the fight that's in the fighter." Other attendees included former heavyweight champions Pinklon Thomas and Jimmy Ellis, longtime Ali trainer Angelo Dundee, Ali's personal physician, Dr. Ferdie Pacheco, and former opponent Earnie Shavers.

Evander Holyfield is scheduled to fight champion Evander Holyfield for the undisputed world heavyweight title on November 8.

Edberg, Sampras in quarterfinals

LOS ANGELES, Aug 2: Top seed Stefan Edberg breezed to a 6-3, 6-4 victory over fellow Swede Peter Lundgren Thursday night, advancing to the quarterfinals of the Volvo Tennis tournament.

The only time Edberg was threatened was in the fourth game of the second set when Lundgren, up 2-1, had four break points against the world's No. 2-ranked player. But Edberg pulled through to win, then broke Lundgren in the seventh game at love.

for a closer match." Edberg, the tourney's defending champion, meets No. 7 seed Aaron Krickstein Friday afternoon.

SAMPRAS IN QTRS

In another third round match of the day, second-seeded Pete Sampras also advanced to the quarterfinals of the tournament with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Japan's Shuzo Matsuoka.

the way. He won his last two service games at love, including his next-to-last game in which he served up three aces, two of which were clocked at 117 mph (188 kph) or faster. "Today my serve was the best I've served in quite a while," he said. "I was going for it. I wasn't serving that well at the beginning of the match and it brought back some memories."

reading his serve wrong." Sampras will meet Amos Mansdorf, the eighth seed, in the quarterfinals. Mansdorf, of Israel, defeated Italy's Gianluca Pozzi 6-4, 6-3 and fought off all six break points against him.

IOC boss against 'artificial' sports

MADRID, Aug 2: Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch wants a revolution to sweep away sports which have no real following outside the Games, reports AFP.

The president of the International Olympic Committee is quoted in Friday's El Pais newspaper as saying that "An important step in the Olympics will have been completed at Atlanta in 1996. After this, there should be a revolution and all those sports which are alive today only because they are Olympic ones should be got rid of."



JUAN SAMARANCH

served through over the issue of the Soviet Union's breakaway republics. "On the other hand, we must be careful over the Baltic countries. We would be delighted to accept their Olympic committees but we must not move too quickly for the moment," he said.

IAAF to outlaw rough-tailed javelin

SHEFFIELD, England, Aug 2: The International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) is planning to outlaw the rough-tailed javelin used by Finn Seppo Ratty to break the world record in June, a spokesman said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

The IAAF congress will vote on a proposal to change the design laws next month. The proposals from the IAAF technical committee would require all javelins to be smooth and uniform throughout, media director Franco Fava said.

The surface of the shafts will have to be devoid of any dimples, grooves, ridges, holes or roughness. Former world record holder Steve Backley of Britain has said records are losing their credibility because of the technological developments and called for the IAAF to impose tight restraints.

Croats quit all Y'slav sports bodies

BELGRADE, Aug 2: The republic of Croatia, taking its secessionist battle into the sports arena, left the Yugoslav Olympic Committee and all other federal sports bodies on Thursday and advised its athletes not to compete for Yugoslavia, reports Reuter.

Croatia also decided to cut all sports ties with the rival republic of Serbia, accusing it of starting the inter-ethnic fighting in which more than 100 people died in the last month.

The Yugoslav Sports Union (YSU) could not flank the CSF at an emergency session today in Belgrade and deny Croatian sportsmen and women a last chance of competing for the country. "Anything could happen," said a high-ranking YSU official, who asked to remain anonymous. "We may easily ban Croats once and for all from competing for Yugoslavia."

Iraq to attend '92 Olympics

BAGHDAD, Aug 2: Iraq said on Thursday, the eve of the first anniversary of its invasion of Kuwait, that it would take part in the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, reports Reuter.

The official Iraqi news agency quoted an official source at the National Olympic Committee as saying Baghdad would announce later which events it would take part in. It gave no details.

Backley regained world record from Czechoslovak Jan Zelazny

Raty extended the record to 91.98 and then 96.96 with the latest aerodynamically assisted Sandvik, which has a roughened tail.

Backley regained the world record from Czechoslovak Jan Zelazny a year ago with a throw of 90.98 metres using the new nemth javelin. Rely extended the record to 91.98 and then 96.96 with the latest aerodynamically assisted Sandvik, which has a roughened tail.

Whitaker fights Diaz tonight

NORFOLK, Aug 2: World lightweight boxing champion Pernell Whitaker played the role of gracious host this week, even giving European titleholder Poli Diaz of Spain a stuffed bear wearing an 'I Love Norfolk' shirt, reports AP.

Whitaker, 25-1 and "Sweetpea" to hometown fans, left the routine preflight fireworks to his manager, Lou Duva, who said of the undefeated Diaz, "He's going to get hit by so many punches, he better start advertising sangria wine on the soles of his shoes."

Whitaker and the 24-year-old Diaz, 32-0, are scheduled to go 12 rounds Saturday night after a February match between them was scrubbed. The headliner bout of the nine-fight card at the Scope arena will be televised on Home Box Office. For Whitaker, a Norfolk native with 13 knockouts to his credit, it is his first fight at home since August 1989. Then he avenged his only defeat, which came in Paris in March 1988, by dominating Jose Luis Ramirez for a 12-round unanimous decision.

Holyfield ponders his options

NEW YORK, Aug 1: The people who guide heavyweight champion Evander in case Mike Tyson is unable to fight in November, reports AP.

Holyfield is scheduled to defend the undisputed title Tyson Nov 8 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, but a special grand jury is preparing to investigate allegations that Tyson raped an 18-year-old woman in an Indianapolis hotel on July 19.

"Holyfield definitely wants to fight in November and we're planning on it being Tyson," promoter Dan Duva said Wednesday. "If however, it gets to where he's not available, we want to have an alternate so Holyfield can fight in November." Duva said he and Shelly Finkel, Holyfield's manager, have had only preliminary discussions about the possible need for an alternative opponent.

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Evander Holyfield



EVANDER HOLYFIELD

Molyfield April 19 and who currently is suing Holyfield for \$100 million.

Foreman and promoter Bob Arum are suing Holyfield, Duva and Finkel for breach of contract, claiming here was an agreement for a Holyfield-Tyson rematch in November. The next highest contender in the World Boxing Association rankings is Pierre Coetzer of South Africa, and the World Boxing Council's next highest contender would be Donovan "Razor" Ruddock of Canada. Coetzer's nationality could cause problems with human rights activists. Ruddock suffered a broken jaw in losing to Tyson June 28 and might not be ready to fight in November. Ranked right behind Ruddock is Foreman.