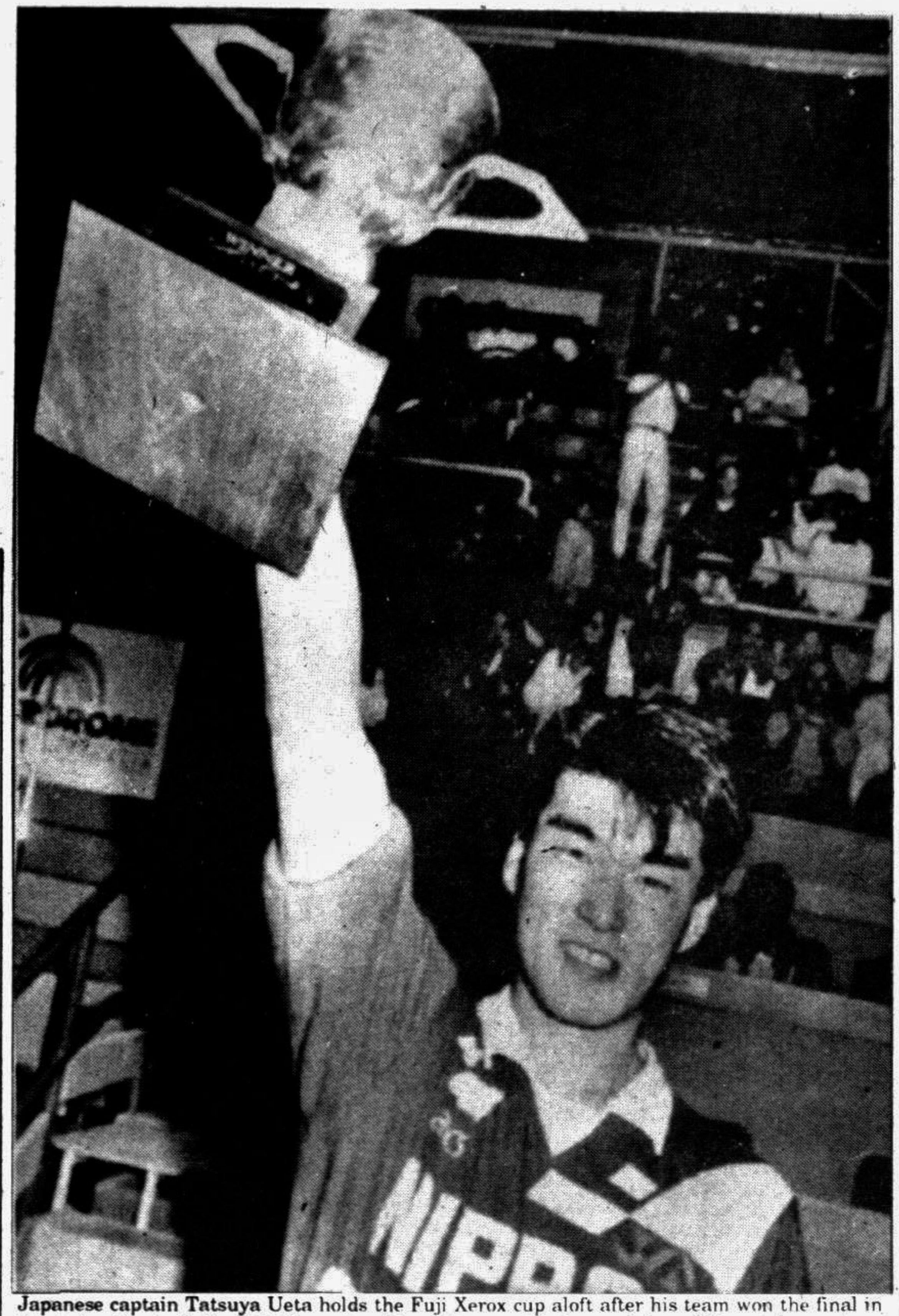


Japan new Asian champs

PERTH, Australia, Aug 19 : Japan scored a major upset by defeating reigning champion South Korea by three sets to two in a pulsating final of the Asian men's volleyball championship here Sunday night, reports AFP.

grabs for countries in the Asian region. Officials described the final as the best game of volleyball ever played in Australia. Japan has preserved its record of having been one of the contestants in all Olympic competitions since volleyball became an Olympic sport.

made an excellent contribution. The host nation ended an encouraging series on a disappointing note when it was outclassed by China earlier in the night in the battle for third place.



Japanese captain Tatsuya Ueta holds the Fuji Xerox cup aloft after his team won the final in the Asian Men's Volleyball Championship on August 18. Japan defeated Korea three sets to two.

Anand rallies

BRUSSELS, Aug 19 : India's Viswanathan Anand improved his position throughout a marathon sixth game against former world champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union in the World Chess Championship quarter-finals in Brussels on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Anand, shown by overnight analysis to be winning the adjourned fifth round game against Karpov, again finished in what experts saw as a winning position when the sixth game was adjourned.

clined to a dutch defence. Gelfand played quietly against it, and eventually crushed Short positionally, winning on move 35. This brings Gelfand back into contention, needing one point to level the match with two games to play.

Sampras upsets Becker

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Aug 19: American Pete Sampras will head into the US Open to defend his title next week on a confident high after upsetting top-ranked Boris Becker 7-6, (7-2), 3-6, 6-3 in the finals of the one million dollar US hardcourt championships on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Sampras said. "Boris is the number one player in the world and someone I haven't beaten before. This gives me a lot of confidence." The Indianapolis victory gives Sampras his second title in the last three weeks. Two weeks ago in Los Angeles he took top honours and last week the 20-year-old made the finals in Cincinnati.

match hinged on Becker's near constant mistakes. He double-faulted three times in a row in the crucial game of the match. At 15-0 in the fourth game of the final set, Becker hit the three bloopers, followed by a backhand into the net, to give Sampras a 3-1 lead. That break gave Sampras the winning Edge.

Seles is too good for Date

BRUSSELS, Aug 19 : India's Viswanathan Anand improved his position throughout a marathon sixth game against former world champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union in the World Chess Championship quarter-finals in Brussels on Sunday, reports Reuter.



MONICA SELES

the last 13 games by attacking Date's vulnerable second serve and frequently hitting outright winners from the baseline. Date looked as though she might be able to stay with Seles when she saved a break point in the second game of the second set for 1-1, but her obvious fatigue kept her from winning another game.

Korja bags Volvo tennis title

NW DELHI, Connecticut, Aug 19: Petr Korja blew by Goran Ivanisevic in straight sets 6-4, 6-2 to win his first career singles title at the Volvo International tennis tournament on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Unwilling entrant

More allegations against Tyson

LOS ANGELES, Aug 19 : A photographer who snapped a shot of Mike Tyson at a trendy restaurant says a bodyguard with former heavyweight champion grabbed his camera and exposed the film, reports AP.

WASHINGTON, Aug 19: The Virginia Slims of Washington was glad to get late word that Monica Seles would compete, but Seles said Sunday she didn't intend to enter, reports AP.

tournament starts tomorrow," she said. "It's such a mistake. It shouldn't have happened." Since the tournament is a Tier Two event with a dir's 350,000 purse, the Women's Tennis Association was obligated to provide one of the top three promotable players - Graf, Seles or Martina Navratilova.

Gary Kaplan said his camera was pulled from his shoulder by one of three men and a woman accompanying Tyson from Nicky Blair's in Hollywood, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. Ron Spear said Sunday.

Pele for rules change

MONTECATINI, Italy, Aug 19: Pele, one of the greatest players in soccer history, has called for radical changes in current rules to make soccer more exciting for fans, reports AP.

should be more significant. The 51-year-old Brazilian, who retired in the late 1970s, suggested abolishing the wall on free kicks and expelling defenders who foul a forward from the back. He also called for eliminating throw-ins, instead making players kick the ball back into play when it has gone out of bounds.

Wet reception for Lewis, Burrell

TOKYO, Aug 19 : Defending champion Carl Lewis and favourite Leroy Burrell had a damp introduction today to Tokyo's National Stadium, venue for their much anticipated sprint showdown later this week, reports Reuter.

Boxers help Cuba finish top

HAVANA, Aug 19: Everywhere Fidel Castro went at the Pan American Games, Cuban gold was sure to follow, reports AP.

he was worth five runs in baseball, four points in basketball, three seconds in swimming, two seconds in track and at least a point in every fight.

Roberto Balado finished it with a one-punch knockout of Harold Arroyo of Puerto Rico at 1:39 of the first.

shrouded in mystery to outsiders. The games will be remembered not for records, but for images, none more potent than the baseball stadium on a broiling Sunday afternoon when Cuba beat the United States 3-2 in a sport both nations love.

The Americans' first training session at the track where they will run against each other on Saturday and Sunday was interrupted by rain after about half an hour.

Lewis is one of three male athletes aiming for a triple success after winning gold in the inaugural championships in Helsinki in 1983 and the second competition in Rome in 1987.

Cuba collected 140 golds, 10 more than the United States. The US led in overall medals with 352 to Cuba's 265.

Cuba finished far behind in third with 22 golds and 127 overall, and Brazil was fourth with 21 golds and a total of 79.

Heavyweight Felix Savon provided the most dramatic moment, thrilling the crowd with a first-round knockout of an outclassed Shannon Briggs, who drew a bye into the finals.

Only one song interrupted the repeated playing of the Cuban national anthem, American Steve Johnston, at 18 the youngest US fighter, won the gold with a decision over Mexico's Edgar Ruiz in the 139-pound class. Castro stood for the "Star Spangled Banner" under the 50-foot (16-meter) mural of Che Guevara just as he had for his own favorite.

The Americans didn't bring their best fighters, and they suffered the consequences, just as they did in basketball and track and volleyball and several other sports. But the United States won the most medals by far, and reaped important experience for many young athletes who could be strong contenders in the future.

More than medals, the games gave 2,000 Americans — athletes, officials, journalists — and about 14,000 other visitors a rare opportunity to live and travel in Cuba, an island that has for so long been

Brazil defeat Germany 2-0

MASSA CARRARA, Italy, Aug 19: Brazil defeated Germany 2-0, Spain downed Uruguay 1-0 and Australia overcame Mexico 4-3 in Sunday's action at the Under-17 World soccer Championships, reports AP.

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Kenya invites SA wrestlers

NAIROBI, Aug 19: A South African wrestling team has been invited to compete in Kenya in December as part of the country's independence celebrations, officials said on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Kabaddi results

Sonali Bank Club became Group 'C' champion to move into the quarter-finals of the Dhaka kabaddi league. At the Outer Stadium kabaddi ground yesterday, Sonali Bank outplayed Farooq Smriti Sanghad 30-8 point after leading 14-4 at the breather.



Action from yesterday's Dhaka kabaddi league match at the Outer Stadium. —Star photo