

Karatekas for Canada

Bangladesh is likely to participate in the World Shotokan Karate Championships, to be held in Canada this week. General Secretary of Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation (BJKF) told UNB yesterday evening. The two-day World Championships will be held at the Calgary University premises in Alberta in Canada September 7-8. A 13-member Bangladesh karate team will leave here for New Delhi today, Monday, for obtaining visas. Members of team are: Manager—Moazzem Hossain Sentu; Coach—Nazmul Morshed; Players—Jamaluddin Ahmed, Rafiqul Islam, Ahsan Kabir, Kazi Nazmul Islam, Mohsin Imam, Kazi Mohammed Kayes (Hamza), Motahar Nabi Billah Khan, Dr Shahed Arzu, Kazi Meskutul Haque, Abdur Rahim Mollah and Delwar Hossain.

Indo-Aussie hockey series Oct 5-10

NEW DELHI, Sept 1: The Indian hockey team will play four Test matches on their tour of Australia in October, reports Reuter.

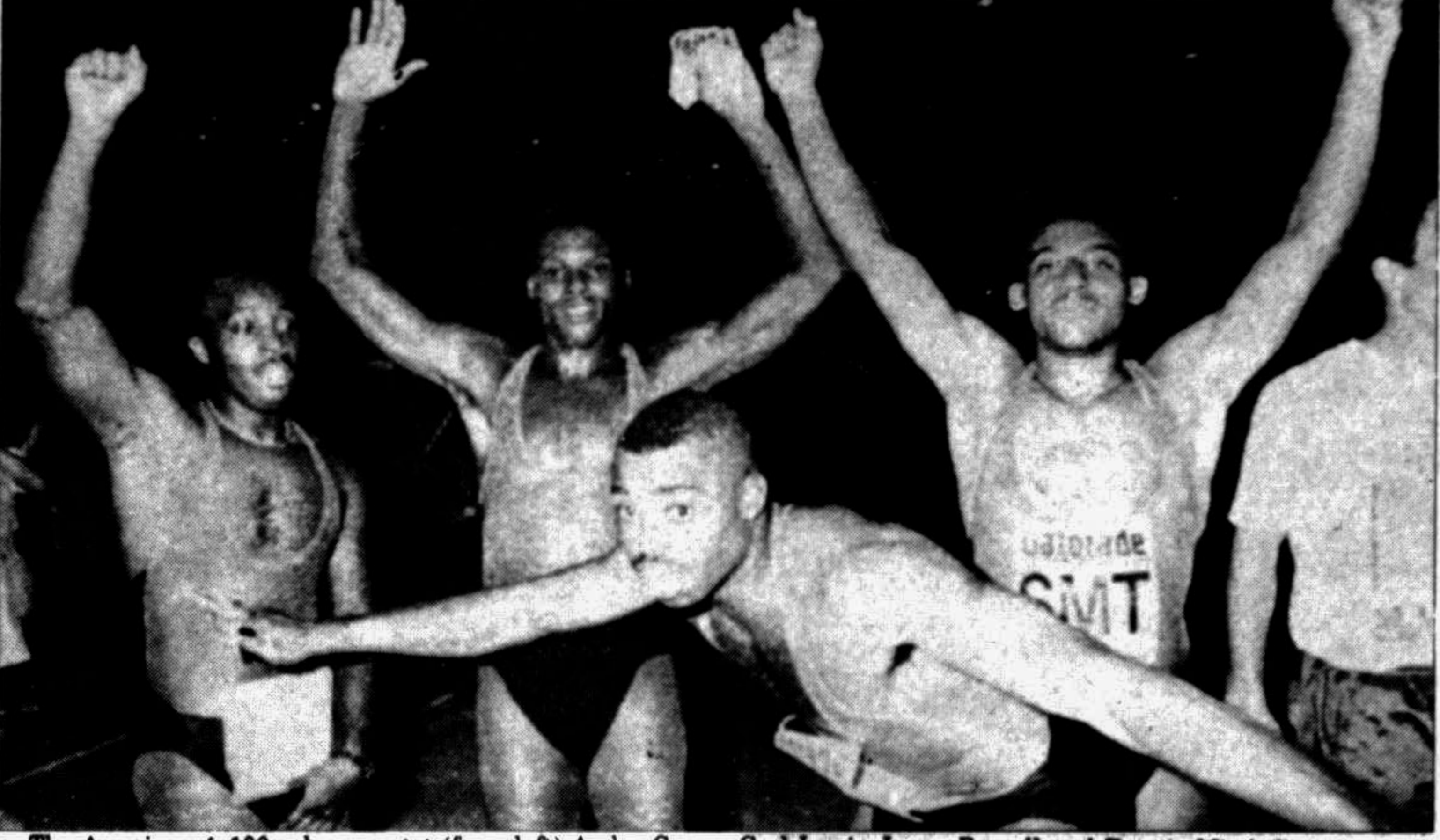
India will play Australia in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney from October 5 to 10. Indian Hockey Federation Secretary Gursevak Singh said today.

Fantastic finishing flourish by US Four



TOKYO, Sept 1: The all-powerful American relay team set a new world record as they powered to the gold on the last day of the World Championships here today, reports AFP. Anchored by world 100m record-holder Carl Lewis, the US team clocked 37.50 sec to shatter their previous world record of 37.67 set in Zurich earlier this year. France, who had held the record before the Americans, Swiss success, took the silver in 37.87 with Britain snatching the bronze in 38.09. Reuter adds: The US sprint relay team broke their own world record with a superb anchor leg by 100 metres world champion Carl Lewis. The Americans clocked 37.50 seconds, slashing 0.17 seconds off the record they set in Zurich on August 7. Lewis was just ahead of Frenchman Bruno Marie-Rose when he was handed the baton by Dennis Mitchell but he powered away for a comfortable win over the French, who held the record for almost a year after breaking it at last year's European Championships. The Americans clocked 37.50 seconds, slashing 0.17 seconds off the record they set in Zurich on August 7. Lewis was just ahead of Frenchman Bruno Marie-Rose when he was handed the baton by Dennis Mitchell but he powered away for a comfortable win over the French, who held the record for almost a year after breaking it at last year's European Championships.

Zurich where Mike Marsh ran the first leg. Handing over to 100 metres silver medalist Leroy Burrell. Lewis claimed his second world record at the Championships after he clocked 9.88 seconds to win the 100 metres title exactly a week earlier. It was the third world record of the Tokyo event, all set by Americans. On Friday Mike Powell broke the oldest record in the book, the men's long jump, with a leap of 8.95 metres. "I've never had a great meet like this," Lewis said. "We had something to prove. We are the supreme sprinters in the world. All summer long we've been hearing about the French-American team in-



The American 4x100 relay quartet (from left) Andre Cason, Carl Lewis, Leroy Burrell and Dennis Mitchell shattered their own world record by timing 37.50 seconds on the concluding day of the World Championships in Tokyo yesterday. The previous mark was set in Zurich barely a month ago. —Star file photo

Thompson issues Olympic warning

LONDON, Sept 1: World decathlon record-holder Daley Thompson issued an Olympic warning to new world champion Dan O'Brien here on Saturday as the American celebrated his gold medal in Tokyo, reports AFP.

The 33-year-old injury-plagued Briton, who has held the world record for seven years insists he can make one of athletics' greatest comebacks by winning next year's gold medal at the Barcelona Games. Thompson said: "Dan is new kid on the block. He's staking the decathlon to places I wish I could have."

Ottey's solace

TOKYO, Sept 1: Merlene Ottey finally got the gold medal she so desperately wanted when she anchored Jamaica's 4x100m relay team to victory at the World Championships here today, reports AFP.

Ottey, who lost out in the 100m and 200m finals to Germany's brilliant Katrina Krabbe, got her revenge this evening.

Ironically it was a mix-up between Krabbe, running the third leg, and Heide Drechsler which cost the 21-year-old Krabbe the chance to become the first triple gold winner of the championships.

Drechsler went too soon and had to come to a grinding halt to get the baton, a blunder that almost certainly cost Germany the gold.

Ottey pounced on the error as she crossed the line in 41.94 secs, a new national record.

The Soviet Union crashed in on the German mistake to take the silver.

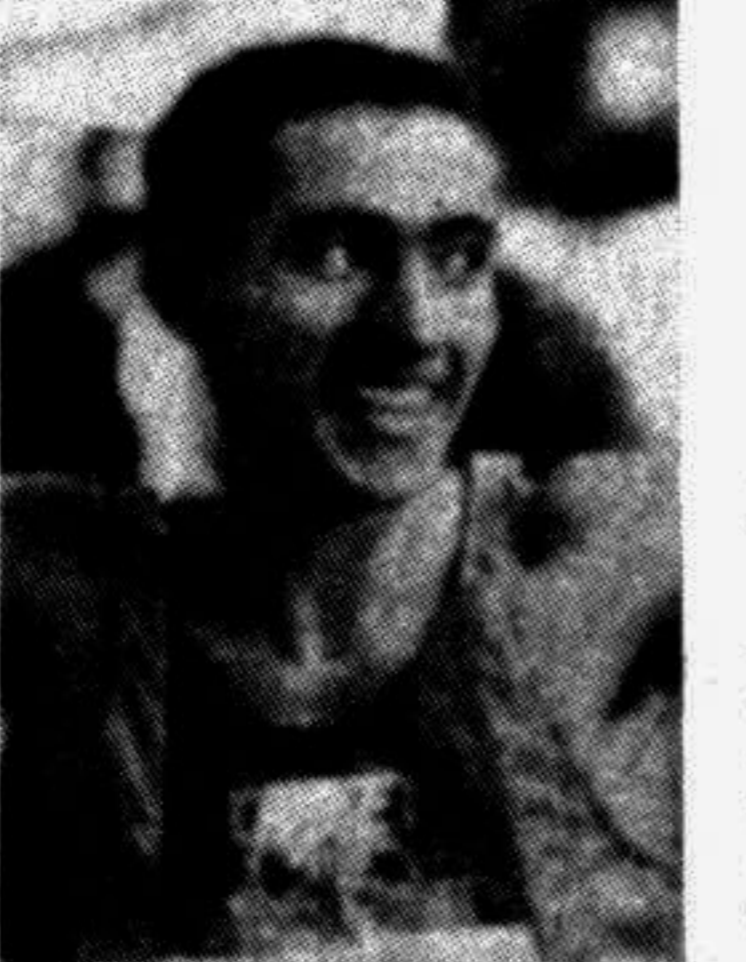
"We knew we had to break 42 secs to win and we did," said a delighted Ottey afterwards.



MERLENE OTTEY "A lot of people thought we couldn't do it. We proved them wrong. We got the gold — thank God", added the 31-year-old.

Morceli caps Algerian double

TOKYO, Sept 1: Over the past two years, Noureddine Morceli has dominated the world at 1,500 metres. And at age 21, he says the best is yet to come, reports AP.



NOUREDDINE MORCELI

The Algerian on Sunday breezed to an easy victory at the World Championships, winning by two seconds and setting a meet record of 3

Abahani lead

Abahani Kriya Chakra Sunday beat Diganta Prasari by a solitary goal and maintained their lead in the Rajshahi Coca-Cola Super Division Football League, reports UNB.

It was their third victory in the league, being held at the Rajshahi Stadium. They have now secured seven points from four outings and remain unbeaten.

Title-aspirants Abahani will now face Tiger SC in their last league tie on September 6 at the same venue.

minutes, 32.84 seconds. The silver medalist was Wilfred Kirochi of Kenya.

"I'm very happy, this title means great things for me," said Morceli, who fell to his knees to kiss the track after crossing the finish.

"I knew after the heats and the semifinal that I was going to win," he said. "I was very, very confident."

Morceli's victory was especially sweet for Algeria, whose Hassiba Boulmerka on Saturday beat Soviet triple gold medalist Tatyana Daro Voskikh in the 1,500m.

David Kibet, who moved into the early lead, tried to box in Morceli, but the Algerian moved around them as the bell lap began and kept a commanding lead through the finish.

"We were working together," said Kirochi, who finished fourth in the Kenyan championships last month. "We had planned with Kibet that he goes and I follow. In the home stretch I was still watching behind, but at that point it wasn't hard anymore."

Kibet, who slowed in the final lap, finished seventh, Hauke Fuhlbrugge of Germany, the 1989 world indoor silver medalist with a time of 3:35.28.

A showdown between Morceli and the former 1,500m master, world record holder Said Aouita, failed to materialise.

Aouita, who was never a factor in the race, finished a distant 11th with a time more than 10 seconds slower than his world record of 3:29.46, set in 1985.

"I thought he was in shape and could take the championship," Morceli said of the 32-year-old nemesis, who refused to talk to reporters after

the race. "I don't know what happened to him today."

AFP adds: Algeria's sudden gold rush continued here on Sunday when Noureddine Morceli added the world 1,500m outdoor title to the indoor title he won earlier this year.

Until Hassiba Boulmerka won the women's 1,500m on Saturday, no Algerian had ever taken a world title.

And like his teammate's win, Morceli's victory never looked in doubt.

The 21-year-old went to the front at the bell with Said Aouita of Morocco sitting on his heels. But the challenge from the 31-year-old 5,000m world record holder never materialised as Morceli pined on the pressure.

The fast early pace had taken its toll on Aouita's aging legs. By the time Morceli rounded the final bend the only question remaining was what his winning time would be. In the end he clocked 3 min 32.84 sec, just outside his best time of the season—3:31.00.

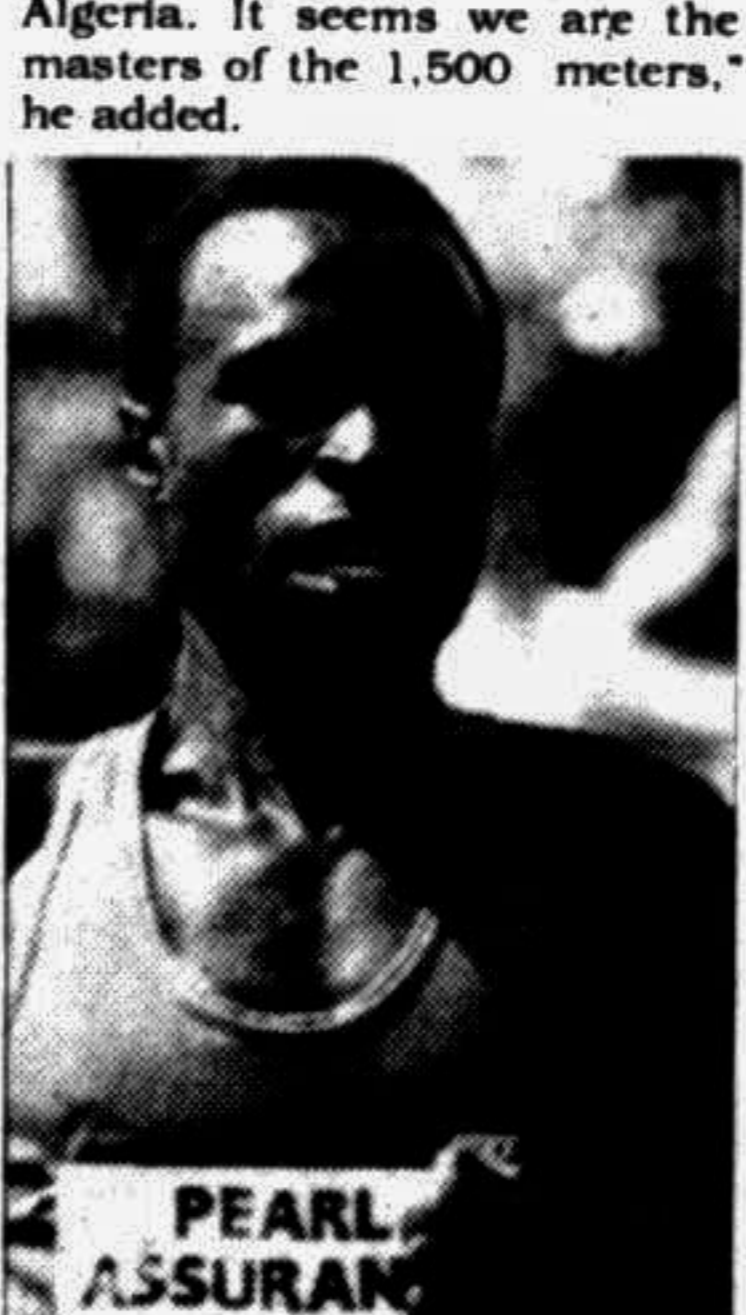
"I did not mind the fast pace. I am used to running fast, having run a couple of

Fine double by ROK handballers

HIROSHIMA, Japan, Sept 1: Seoul Olympic silver medalists South Korea beat Japan here today to retain the men's title for a fourth straight time at the Asian handball championships, reports AFP.

The South Koreans, the gold medalists at the Beijing Asian Games last Summer, coasted to a 27-23 (13-8, 14-15) victory to secure their berth in the Barcelona Olympics next year and the 1993 World Championships in Sweden.

5.31secs in Europe this season," said Morceli. "I think we will have a big welcome in Algeria. It seems we are the masters of the 1,500 meters," he added.



YOBES ONDIEKI

Ondieki runs to 5000m gold

TOKYO, Sept 1: Yobes Ondieki didn't wait to see how the tactics might develop. He just ran hard from the start and kept it up for more than 13 minutes, reports AP.

"I like it best when pace is hot," Ondieki said after breaking the meet record and coasting in 19 seconds ahead of Ethiopia's Pita Bayesa in the World Championships 5,000 pace race.

That gave Kenya four of the six men's championships at distances longer than 400 metres. In the 1,500 metres, a Kenyan was second. In the marathon, the African nation's two strong contenders both dropped out of the race before the start.

Ondieki led almost from the start and turned up his speed over the second 1,000 metres, 50 metres ahead of Bayesa and Morocco's Brahim Boutayeb, the 1988 Olympic gold medalist.

Bayesa in 13:16.64. Kenyan John Ngugi had set the previous World Championships record of 13:22.68 in 1987.

Boutayeb was third in 13:22.70, and Dieter Baumann of Germany, the 1988 Olympic silver medalist, was fourth in 13:28.2.

MEDAL TABLE

TOKYO, Sept 1: The final medal table at the World Athletic Championships which closed here today:

	G	S	B	T
USA	10	8	8	26
USSR	9	9	10	28
Germany	5	4	8	17
Kenya	4	3	1	8
Britain	2	2	3	7
China	2	1	1	4
Algeria	2	0	1	3
Jamaica	1	1	3	5
Finland	1	1	1	3
France	1	1	0	2
Japan	1	1	0	2
Bulgaria	1	0	0	1
Zambia	1	0	0	1
Switzerland	1	0	0	1
Italy	1	0	0	1
Poland	1	0	0	1
Cuba	0	2	0	2
Canada	0	1	1	2
Hungary	0	1	1	2
Romania	0	1	1	2
Norway	0	1	1	2
Brazil	0	1	0	1
Djibouti	0	1	0	1
Sweden	0	1	0	1
Namibia	0	1	0	1
Netherlands	0	1	0	1
Ethiopia	0	1	0	1
Morocco	0	0	2	2
Spain	0	0	1	1



German Heike Henkel waves to a cheering crowd after jumping 2.05 metres to win the gold in the women's high jump at the 3rd World Athletic Championships in Tokyo on August 31. —AFP photo

Derby stay on course

LONDON, Sept 1: Spinners Peter Bowler and Richard Sladdin combined to keep Derbyshire in the race for the English country cricket championship with a 195-run victory over Leicestershire on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Bowler took three wickets in 11 balls as his former country collapsed from 237 for four to 291 all out, chasing 487 to win.

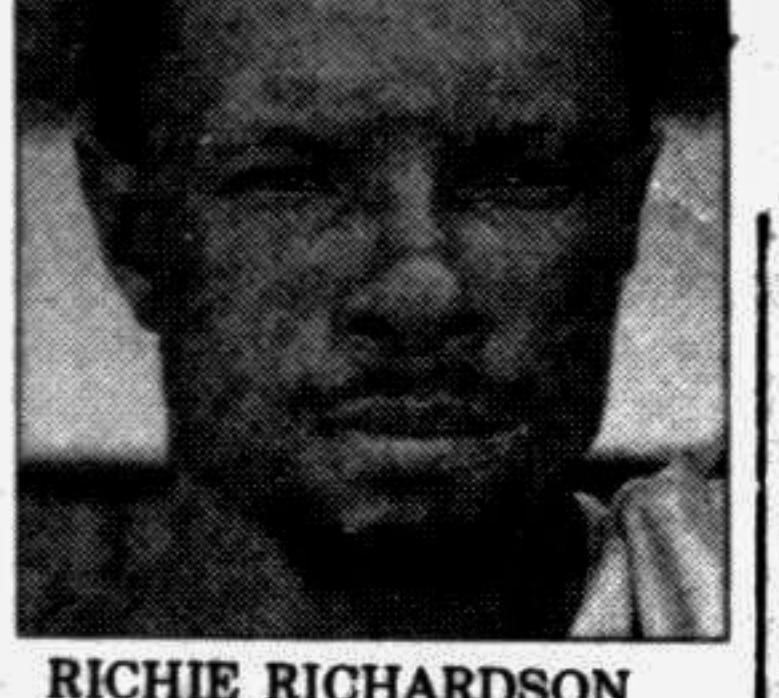
Bowler, who finished with three for 41, and left-armers Sladdin, who took three for 60, wreaked havoc with the Leicestershire middle-order after James Whitaker cracked 13 fours in a dazzling 85 off 158 balls.

Victory left them in third place, 21 points behind and within striking distance of leaders Warwickshire who

Lobbying for Richardson

ST JOHN'S Antigua, Sept 1: Local newspapers are calling on the West Indies Cricket Board of Control to appoint Antigua's Richie Richardson as Viv Richards' successor as captain, reports AFP.

Richardson turns 30 next January and Barbadian Desmond Haynes, vice-captain



RICHIE RICHARDSON

on the recent tour to England, will be 36 in February.

He scored the most runs (495) in England and led the batting averages (55).

He has scored more than 1,200 runs in first-class matches, and has compiled 4,647 runs in 62 Tests at an average of 47.90.

Malaysians stun England

CARDIFF, Sept 1: Malaysia pulled off a major upset in the four-nations men's hockey tournament here on Saturday when they beat Olympic champions Great Britain for the first time, reports AFP.

Kanniah Embaraj, the towering six-foot seven-inch Malaysian full-back, scored the only goal of the game in the 63rd minute, but blotted his copybook by getting sent off four minutes later.

Embaraj converted fittingly with an ace.

"I wouldn't call him an outstanding player," Becker said. "It was just that he was playing someone who couldn't run."

Becker said he would go home and rest his injured leg in hopes of being able to play against the United States in the Davis Cup semifinals three weeks away in Kansas City, Missouri.

GRAF STRUGGLES

On the women's side, Becker's top-seeded compatriot Steffi Graf found herself in a surprising struggle before taking her place in the round of 16.

Graf led 5-0 in the second set but needed seven more games to finish off 10-year-old Eva Sziglerova of Czechoslovakia 6-4, 7-5.

Sziglerova, a first-round loser in the year's first three Grand Slams, fourth off one match point in the sixth game of the second set to start her on the way to winning five successive games against the world number one.

Haarhuis exploits Becker's injury

NEW YORK, Sept 1: Top-seeded Boris Becker, slowed by injury, fell to unseeded Dutchman Paul Haarhuis in straight sets on Saturday in the third round of the US tennis championships, reports Reuter.

Becker showed none of the thunderous power game which carried him to three Wimbledon titles and the 1989 Open crown as Haarhuis out-slugged the German 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 to reach the round of 16.

"I was two or three steps slower out there," said Becker, who bandaged his injured right thigh midway through the second set. "It affected my whole game. I tried as hard as I could."

"Paul played smart. He saw I couldn't run. He went for corners, trying to make me run."

Haarhuis, who also registered a US Open shock two years ago when he eliminated John McEnroe in the second round, took full advantage of Becker's condition.