

**ROK girl Yeo hits first gold**

MOLLET DEL VALLES, July 26: An 18-year-old South Korean, Yeo Kab-soon, won the first gold medal of the Barcelona Olympics Sunday in the women's air rifle, and a shooter from sanctions-hit Yugoslavia won the bronze, reports AP.

Yeo won the eight-woman final round with 498.2. Bulgaria's Vesela Letcheva, 28, finished second with 495.3, just ahead of Yugoslavia's Aranka Binder with 495.1.

Binder is part of a squad of Yugoslav athletes who are officially competing here only as individuals. Their flag and anthem will not be used, and their entries in team events were ordered to stay home as part of the UN approved sanctions imposed to curb support by Serbian-dominated Yugoslavia for Serb forces fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Olympic flag was raised in place of the Yugoslav flag during the medal ceremony.

During the final round, Binder fired from a place adjacent to Bosnia's Mirjana Horvat, who finished eighth.

In the classification round, from which the eight finalists advanced from a field of 45, Letcheva and Yeo led with 396 out of a possible 400. The world record is 399.

Binder said: "I'm delighted. This was the best moment of my career."

The South Korean winner was left speechless by her success.

**SHAHANA 43RD**

Bangladesh's Kazi Shahana Parveen finished 43rd in the air rifle event of the Olympic Games shooting competition with a score of 379 points out of 500 in Barcelona yesterday morning.

According to agency reports compiled by BSS in Dhaka Soma Dutta of India was placed 35th with 383 points and Sri Lanka's Pushpanjali Irene Ramnayake got the 37th position with 382 points. Nepal's Anita Shrestha finished last and 45th with 374 points.

**Sadovyi's gold**

BARCELONA, July 26: Evgueni Sadovyi of the Unified Team won the men's 200-meter freestyle Sunday in an Olympic record 1:46:70.

Anders Holmertz of Sweden won the silver in 1:46:86. Antti Kasvio of Finland won the bronze in 1:47:63.

**Tragic apotheosis**

BARCELONA, July 26: American swimmer Ron Karnaugh marched in the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games unaware that his father, who had flown to Barcelona to watch him, had died from a heart attack in the stands, reports Reuter.

Karnaugh was told of his father Peter's death in Saturday night's ceremony early today.

**Aussies, hosts win in hockey**

BARCELONA, July 26: David Warnsbrough scored twice and set up two as Australia got their Olympic hockey campaign off to a flying start with a seven-goal thrashing of Argentina here today, reports AFP.

Stephen Davies also scored twice and the other goals came from Paul Lewis, Jay Stacey and Lec Bodmeade. Argentina got nothing in reply.

Australia play Egypt in their second pool match on Tuesday.

**SPAIN BEAT KIWIS**

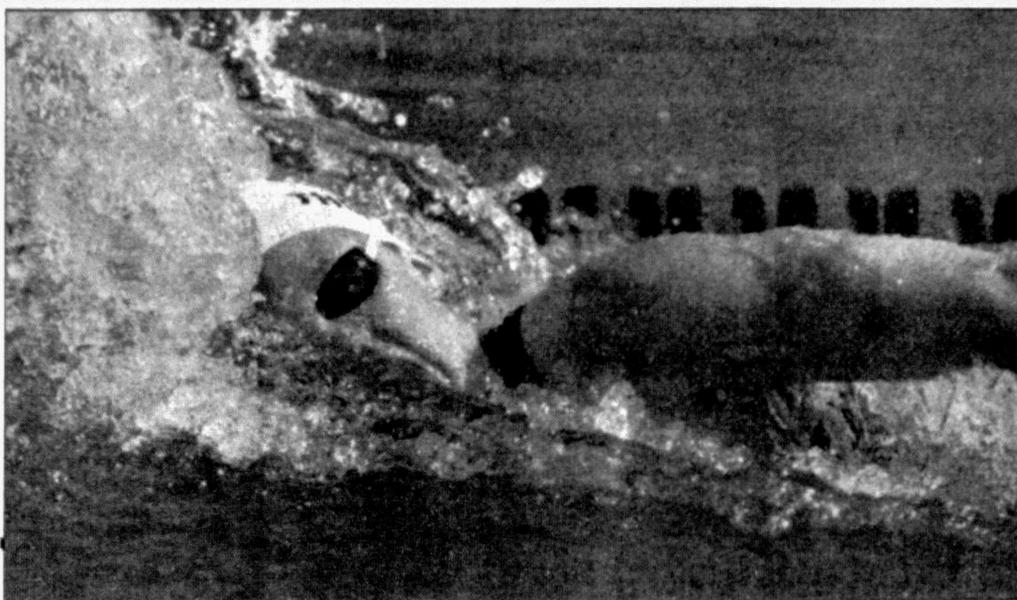
Spain's Escude brothers set up a 3-0 win over New Zealand in their opening match Sunday.

Pedro Joffrac opened the score from open play in the seventh minute and then the Escudes got to work.

Xavier doubled the score on 19 minutes and Ignacio, the team captain, slotted home a 51st minute penalty corner to wrap things up.



**OLYMPIC SPECIAL**



Jennifer Thompson of the USA setting a new Olympic record during the 100m freestyle preliminary heats yesterday.

**Jenny Thompson, Evgueni Sadovyi set pool on fire**

**Two records go by the board**

BARCELONA, July 26: Jenny Thompson of the United States set an Olympic record in the women's 100-metre freestyle and Evgueni Sadovyi of the Unified Team set the Olympic record in the men's 200 freestyle in preliminary events Sunday, reports AP.

Thompson set a record of 54.69 seconds, breaking the mark of 54.79 by Barbara Krause of East Germany in 1980. Thompson had set the world record of 54.48 in the event in the US Olympic trials in March, breaking the record of 54.73 set by Germany's Kristin Otto in 1986.

Sadovyi set an Olympic record of 1:46.74 in the 200 freestyle. The old record of 1:47.25 was set by Duncan Armstrong of Australia in 1988. Anders Holmertz of Sweden, swimming in the same heat, finished in 1:56.76

to also eclipse Armstrong's record. Thompson, 19, of Dover, N H, led the other seven fastest swimmers into Sunday evening's final. Franziska Van Almsick of Germany was second at 55.40 and Catherine Plewinski of France third at 55.44. Nicole Haislett, the former American record holder, was fourth at 55.67.

Summer Sanders of the US team led the entire way in winning her 400 individual medley heat in 4:43.95. The 19-year-old from Roseville, Calif, has a chance for gold medals in four individual events and the 400 medley relay.

Her time was second to Hungary's Kristina Egerszegi, Dersch, swimming next to Diebel, finished 15th in 1:03.14.

Diebel was third in 1:01.80. Dmitri Volkov of the Unified Team was first in 1:01.74 and Akira Hayashi of Japan was second in 1:01.76.

Dersch and teammate Doug Gjertsen debuted avant-garde fullbody suits. Joe Hudepohl and Gjertsen qualified in the 200 freestyle.

Peter Karnaugh, father of the world's top-ranked 200 individual medley swimmer Ron Karnaugh, died Saturday night after being stricken by a heart attack at the opening ceremonies.

The younger Karnaugh said he would compete Friday in his only event of the Olympics, according to Terry Stoddard, his coach with the Mission Viejo (Calif) Nadadores.

Stoddard said the elder Karnaugh "came here to watch his son swim well. I'm sure he will."

Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress, cheered on Sanders and the other swimmers in the searing morning heat.

American Nelson Diebel advanced to the 200 breaststroke final by finishing second in his heat. Teammate Hans

who won her heat in 4:43.83. Sanders' teammate, Erika Hansen, failed to make the final, finishing 10th in 4:48.13. The top eight times make the finals.

Swimmers into Sunday evening's final. Franziska Van Almsick of Germany was second at 55.40 and Catherine Plewinski of France third at 55.44. Nicole Haislett, the former American record holder, was fourth at 55.67.

Summer Sanders of the US team led the entire way in winning her 400 individual medley heat in 4:43.95. The 19-year-old from Roseville, Calif, has a chance for gold medals in four individual

corner striker in the last Olympics of his career. Reason enough for retiring Pakistan skipper Shahbaz Ahmed. Australian manager Alan Berry, Malaysia's Australian coach Terry Walsh and his New Zealand counterpart Kevin Towns all to see the Germans as favourites for the gold medal.

After silvers in both Los Angeles and Seoul, it looks about time. But Lissek, 44, hates the build-up around his squad, citing the example of Australia who in both 1984 and 1988 went home empty-handed after being tipped for gold.

"Seldom does the supposed team win the title," he said, predicting a close and fiercely-fought tournament in the fortnight ahead.

Germany are in the same pool as Australia, Britain and an India rejuvenated after a successful May tour of Europe, besides minnows Egypt and Argentina.

German skipper Fried said making the semis should be no problem, but did not venture further. "We are strong enough for that, then anything can happen," he says.

Australia, for once, are not labouring under the pressure of being number one contenders, which suits them fine. On Friday, they suffered a

major setback when they lost the services of their all-time top goal-scorer, centre-forward Mark Hager, with a fractured bone in his foot.

Pakistan, Holland, New Zealand, Malaysia, Spain and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) comprise the other group.

For Pakistan skipper Shahbaz Ahmed, just 25 years old, Barcelona will mark retirement time and he wants to say adios to international hockey with a gold medal he sees threatened by the Germans.

The Dutch have their reputation as world champions to protect, India want to mark their rebirth as a hockey power to reckon with and Britain to prove their credentials as Olympic champions.

Spain will have a home crowd to cheer them on, 1976 champions New Zealand are banking on a good performance here for a hockey revival, and debutants Egypt and Argentina are raring to spring surprises.

And CIS coach Mikhail Ossintsev thinks his so-called "Unified Team" will be bronze-medallists at least, cautioning against taking anyone for granted in a wide-open field.

"The ball is round," he said mysteriously. "No one knows which way it will turn."

Reilly had been ahead 18-6 after two rounds.

In another first-round bout, two fighters who once could have been teammates fought, with Vitalijus Karpavicius of Lithuania taking a 9-4 decision over Andrei Pestriacov of the Unified Team.

Roel Velasco of the Philippines helped usher in a new era in Olympic boxing when he won the opening match of the tournament.

For the first time in the Olympics, computerised scores were posted after each round, starting with Velasco's 16-1 win over James Wanene of Kenya in a 48-kilogram bout.

"I think he didn't use his right hand as much as he should have," said Mandela, who left immediately after the fight.

Gold medal favourite Eric Griffin of the United States

**Fantastic Fu leads in prelims**

BARCELONA, July 26: China's hot-ouse flower Fu Mingxia, who became the world's youngest diving champion at 12, blossomed in the shimmering Barcelona sunshine on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Now the coach of the delightful young star has just one problem left to conquer — Fu's nerves in the final.

Soaring into the sky against one of the most dramatic backdrops in the world, the teenage prodigy was in sparkling form in the preliminaries of the platform competition at the Olympics.

The baby of the powerful Chinese team and hot favourite for the gold medal, she performed one superb forward somersault with two twists that took her into the lead.

"She is doing just fine. Maybe nerves will be a problem in the final," her coach Yu Fen said after the morning's first three dives left her comfortably ahead of American Mary Ellen Clark who has conquered the vertigo which once threatened her career.

"The heat is no problem. We did acclimatization training in China before we came here," Hu Fen said.

One judge was so impressed with Fu's performance that he came up to shake chief Chinese coach Xu Yiming's hand and say "She's great, young girl, doing just great. What a diver!"

Fu, daughter of two factory workers in Hubei province in central China, first started diving at the age of seven. Under China's intensive training programme, she would not expect to see her parents more than a dozen times a year.

Painfully shy, the girl who has turned the sport into an art form rarely answers more than "yes" or "no" to press queries. But defeat can be a bitter blow. She has wept openly before on the rare occasions when she has lost.

China's diving stars are cosseted by the high pressure state system that has made them world stars in the past decade.

Intensively cultivated like fragile flowers, they can look forward to money, consumer goods and even new houses if they strike Olympic gold.

TERRASSA, Spain, July 26: The CIS men's hockey team reckon they can still upset Olympic favourites such as Germany and Australia despite ankle injuries to two of their most experienced players, reports Reuter.

Defenders Sos Airapetian, who won bronze in 1980 and Oleg Khandav, who played in Seoul in 1988, are both uncertain for Sunday's opening match against the Netherlands.

Airapetian, 32, has scored about 30 goals in more than 200 international appearances.

Despite the injuries, coach Mikhail Ossintsev said: "If we're lucky here we'll be playing for the first three places."

Hockey matches will be played on the twin pitches at the Olympic Stadium in Terrassa, an industrial town about 30 km outside Barcelona.

The Soviet Union qualified for the Olympics at a tournament last year in New Zealand. The team, with almost no money, was kept going by Auckland restaurants which provided them with free meals.

"Here it's different, we have money so there aren't the same problems," Ossintsev said.

Johnson said he had developed any symptoms of AIDS since retiring from the Los Angeles Lakers in November, Johnson said. "I'm going to answer that when I hit the court tomorrow, you will find out."

"The US opens its gold medal quest with a game against lowly rated Angola on Sunday."

Johnson told AIDS sufferers to "keep their head high" and

said he would be "playing for everybody with HIV."

"I'm representing a whole lot of people," he said.

Meanwhile, "Magic" Johnson said Saturday he will decide after the Barcelona Games on whether to return to the NBA.

But teammate Charles Barkley does.

"I hope and pray we get to play them. I really do" Barkley said at the first press conference here Saturday by members of the US Dream Team.

Johnson said that what the Australians think "doesn't matter".

"We can win by 50 with me or 60 without me" he said. "We're going to take care of them."

Asked if he had developed any symptoms of AIDS since retiring from the Los Angeles Lakers in November, Johnson said. "I'm going to answer that when I hit the court tomorrow, you will find out."

"The US opens its gold medal quest with a game against lowly rated Angola on Sunday."

Johnson told AIDS sufferers to "keep their head high" and

said he would be "playing for everybody with HIV."

"I'm representing a whole lot of people," he said.

Meanwhile, "Magic" Johnson said Saturday he will decide after the Barcelona Games on whether to return to the NBA.

But teammate Charles Barkley does.

"I hope and pray we get to play them. I really do" Barkley said at the first press conference here Saturday by members of the US Dream Team.

Johnson said that what the Australians think "doesn't matter".

"We can win by 50 with me or 60 without me" he said. "We're going to take care of them."



FU MINGXIA

Fu earned a place in the Guinness Book of Records when she won the platform diving gold at the World Championships in Perth, Australia at the age of 12.

Now, at the age of 13, she limbers up like a graceful ballerina before ascending the ladder for her exquisite, gravity-defying leaps. She seems to hover like a swallow in flight. It is sheer poetry in motion.

The setting for her athletic prowess could not be more magnificent — the pool is perched on a hillside overlooking Barcelona.

The platform divers are framed against a majestic backdrop — the city is stretched out behind them in a heat haze with the soaring spires of La Sagrada Familia, Antoni Gaudi's unfinished masterpiece, dominating the skyline.

OTHER FINALISTS

Other top finishers in the first round included Ingh Alfoina of the Unified Team in fourth, Jinhong Zhu of China in fifth, and April Adams of Australia in sixth. Romania had Clara Ciocan in seventh and Ioana Voicu in eighth, while Elena Mirochina of the Unified Team was ninth. Mexico's Macarena Alexanderson rounded out the top 10.

Intensively cultivated like fragile flowers, they can look forward to money, consumer goods and even new houses if they strike Olympic gold.

TERRASSA, Spain, July 26: The CIS men's hockey team reckon they can still upset Olympic favourites such as Germany and Australia despite ankle injuries to two of their most experienced players, reports Reuter.

Defenders Sos Airapetian, who won bronze in 1980 and Oleg Khandav, who played in Seoul in 1988, are both uncertain for Sunday's opening match against the Netherlands.

Airapetian, 32, has scored about 30 goals in more than 200 international appearances.

Despite the injuries, coach Mikhail Ossintsev said: "If we're lucky here we'll be playing for the first three places."

Hockey matches will be played on the twin pitches at the Olympic Stadium in Terrassa, an industrial town about 30 km outside Barcelona.

The Soviet Union qualified for the Olympics at a tournament last year in New Zealand. The team, with almost no money, was kept going by Auckland restaurants which provided them with free meals.

"Here it's different, we have money so there aren't the same problems," Ossintsev said.

Johnson said he had developed any symptoms of AIDS since retiring from the Los Angeles Lakers in November, Johnson said. "I'm going to answer that when I hit the court tomorrow, you will find out."

"The US opens its gold medal quest with a game against lowly rated Angola on Sunday."

Johnson told AIDS sufferers to "keep their head high" and

said he would be "playing for everybody with HIV."

"I'm representing a whole lot of people," he said.

Meanwhile, "Magic" Johnson said Saturday he will decide after the Barcelona Games on whether to return to the NBA.

But teammate Charles Barkley does.

"I hope and pray we get to play them. I really do" Barkley said at the first press conference here Saturday by members of the US Dream Team.

Johnson said that what the Australians think "doesn't matter".

"We can win by 50 with me or 60 without me" he said. "We're going to take care of them."

Asked if he had developed any symptoms of AIDS since retiring from the Los Angeles Lakers in November, Johnson said. "I'm going to answer that when I hit the court tomorrow, you will find out."

"The US opens its gold medal quest with a game against lowly rated Angola on Sunday."

Johnson told AIDS sufferers to "keep their head high" and

said he would be "playing for everybody with HIV."

"I'm representing a whole lot of people," he said.

Meanwhile, "Magic" Johnson said Saturday he will decide after the Barcelona Games on whether to return to the NBA.

But teammate Charles Barkley does.

"I hope and pray we get to play them. I really do" Barkley said at the first press conference here Saturday by members of the US Dream Team.

Johnson said that what the Australians think "doesn't matter".

**Castro heckled**

BARCELONA, July 26: About 100 demonstrators heckled and jeered Cuban President Fidel Castro as he arrived for a state reception lunch with King Juan Carlos of Spain here Saturday, reports AFP.

Holding banners calling Castro, the president of Cuba since 1959, 'An assassin and tyrant,' they yelled abuse as he drove past in a motorcade.

The demonstrators lined the driveway to the palace and stood directly across from about 200 pro-Castro supporters.

Dozens of police, armed with machine guns, kept the rival faction apart but in spite of one or two minor cuffs with photographers there were no incidents.

But neither the pro-Castro or anti-Castro brigades caught a glimpse of the again bearded leader, one of 14 Latin American heads of state in Barcelona.

He arrived in a luxury coach with mirrored windows which were impossible to see through.

Later he spoke to reporters as he waited for the lift to take him to his rooms in the Juan Carlos I hotel. He was unfazed by the demonstrations.

"As in most places, there were 100 for, and two against," he said with a smile.

After that he turned his attention to Cuba's hopes in the Games, the country's first Olympics since 1980.

"I am confident we will win a medal, probably in baseball," he said.

Cuba are favourites for the baseball gold, but Castro said he was not sure if he would return to Barcelona for the August 5 final, even if it pitted Cuba against the United States.

OTHER FINALISTS

Other top finishers in the first round included Ingh Alfoina of the Unified Team in fourth, Jinhong Zhu of China in fifth, and April Adams of Australia in sixth. Romania had Clara Ciocan in seventh and Ioana Voicu in eighth, while Elena Mirochina of the Unified Team was ninth. Mexico's Macarena Alexanderson rounded out the top 10.

Intensively cultivated like fragile flowers, they can look forward to money, consumer goods and even new houses if they strike Olympic gold.

TERRASSA, Spain, July 26: The CIS men's hockey team reckon they can still upset Olympic favourites such as Germany and Australia despite ankle injuries to two of their most experienced players, reports Reuter.

Defenders Sos Airapetian, who won bronze in 1980 and Oleg Khandav, who played in Seoul in 1988, are both uncertain for Sunday's opening match against the Netherlands.

Airapetian, 32, has scored about 30 goals in more than 200 international appearances.

Despite the injuries, coach Mikhail Ossintsev said: "If we're lucky here we'll be playing for the first three places."

Hockey matches will be played on the twin pitches at the Olympic Stadium in Terrassa, an industrial town about 30 km outside Barcelona.

The Soviet Union qualified for the Olympics at a tournament last year in New Zealand. The team, with almost no money, was kept going by Auckland restaurants which provided them with free meals.

"Here it's different, we have money so there aren't the same problems," Ossintsev said.

Johnson said he had developed any symptoms of AIDS since retiring from the Los Angeles Lakers in November, Johnson said. "I'm going to answer that when I hit the court tomorrow, you will find out."

"The US opens its gold medal quest with a game against lowly rated Angola on Sunday."

Johnson told AIDS sufferers to "keep their head high" and

said he would be "playing for everybody with HIV."

"I'm representing a whole lot of people," he said.

Meanwhile, "Magic" Johnson said Saturday he will decide after the Barcelona Games on whether to return to the NBA.

But teammate Charles Barkley does.

"I hope and pray we get to play them. I really do" Barkley said at the first press conference here Saturday by members of the US Dream Team.

Johnson said that what the Australians think "doesn't matter".

"We can win by 50 with me or 60 without me" he said. "We're going to take care of them."

Asked if he had developed any symptoms of AIDS since retiring from the Los Angeles Lakers in November, Johnson said. "I'm going to answer that when I hit the court tomorrow, you will find out."

"The US opens its gold medal quest with a game against lowly rated Angola on Sunday."

Johnson told AIDS sufferers to "keep their head high" and

said he would be "playing for everybody with HIV."

"I'm representing a whole lot of people," he said.

Meanwhile, "Magic" Johnson said Saturday he will decide after the Barcelona Games on whether to return to the NBA.

But teammate Charles Barkley does.

"I hope and pray we get to play them. I really do" Barkley said at the first press conference here Saturday by members of the US Dream Team.

Johnson said that what the Australians think "doesn't matter".

"We can win by 50 with me or 60 without me" he said. "We're going to take care of them."

**Contrasting wins for Otto, Griffin**

BARCELONA, July 26: Andreas Otto of Germany, the second-ranked 67-kilogram boxer in the world,

narrowly avoided an upset loss on the first day of the Olympic boxing competition Sunday with an 8-7 win over Andrew Lewis of Guyana, reports AP.

Otto's decision win was booed lustily by the crowd at the Joventut sports complex arena following a third round in which Lewis seemed to land the best and hardest punches.

Otto, who lost in the second round of the 1988 Olympics while fighting for East Germany, advanced to a second round match against Mario