

Australian skipper Allan Border (C) is bowled for 3 by Chandika Hathurusinghe on the first day of the five-day Test match between Australia and Sri Lanka in Colombo yesterday.

Healy halts Aussie collapse

COLOMBO, Aug 17: Australia's tail ender Ian Healy fought valiantly Monday to score 256 in the first innings of the first Test match after their top and middle order was wrecked by Sri Lankan dark horse, Chandika Hathurusinghe, reports AP.



IAN HEALY ... 66 n o

Healy scored and unbeaten 66, three short of his highest Test score. He ran out of partners when Mike Whitney scooped a leading edge to Pramodya Wickremasinghe, 20 minutes before close of play.

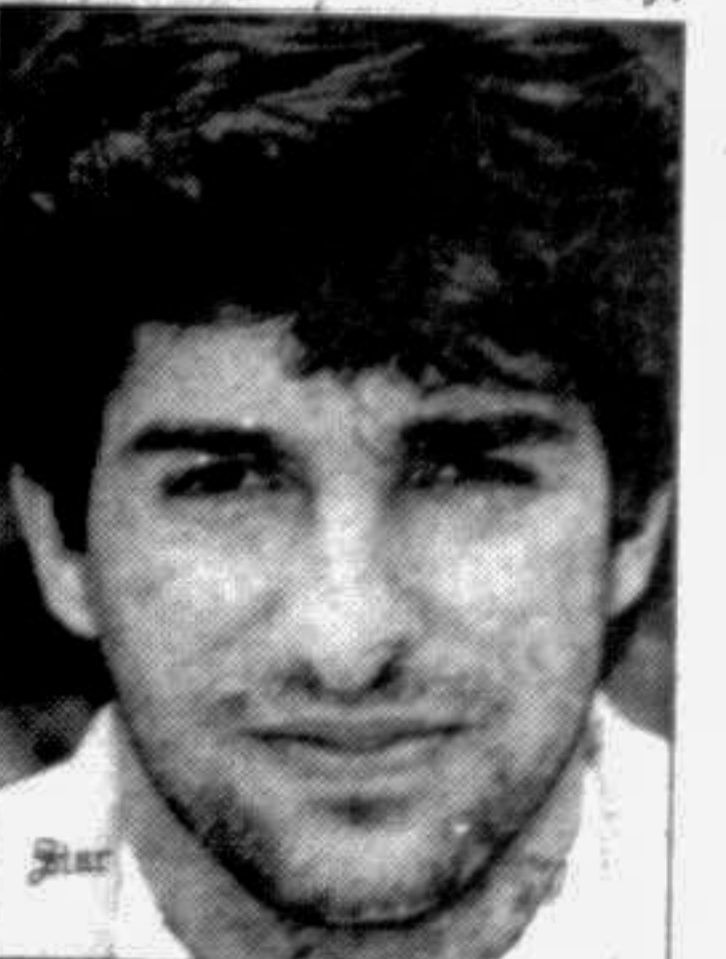
In the remaining time, Sri Lanka scored nine without loss. At crease were Roshan Mahanama (6) and local hero Hathurusinghe (3), who was earlier used successfully as the third seamer, achieving a career-best figure of 4 for 66.

Boon displayed his class with three fours, including a precise cover drive. But soon after lunch he drove Hathurusinghe slightly upward and was caught by Ramanayake inches off the ground at mid off for 32.

Aaqib, Akram grind Gloucestershire

BRISTOL, Aug 17: Pakistan beat Gloucestershire by 292 runs on the third and final day of their cricket match on Monday.

An earlier report said Pakistan, fresh from their 2-1 Test triumph over England, warmed up for Thursday's resumption of the Texaco Trophy one-day series by outclassing Gloucestershire at Bristol.



AKRAM ... 5 for 44

Pakistan, fresh from their 2-1 Test triumph over England, warmed up for Thursday's resumption of the Texaco Trophy one-day series by outclassing Gloucestershire at Bristol.

Resuming at 12 for no wicket in replay to Pakistan's 357 for eight declared Gloucestershire were dismissed half an hour before tea for 123 even though overnight rain had delayed the start of the second day by 75 minutes.

Aaqib, the teenager looking for an English county next season, finished with five for 34, his first five-wicket haul of the tour.

Malaysia keen to host Olympics

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 17: Malaysia, appointed host of the 1998 Commonwealth Games, is keen to host the 2008 or 2012 Olympic Games, sports minister Annuar Musa said, reports Reuter.

The pair were simply too good for Gloucestershire line-up missing rested ex-England batsman Bill Athey and with opener Dean Hodgson coming in at number eight because of flu.

To prolong their own practice, and to the grateful thanks of the local sponsors, Pakistan declined to enforce the follow-on. Otherwise the match would no doubt have been over in two days.

Tailender Mark Davies top-scored with 22 in a pitiful Gloucestershire batting display on a blameless pitch.

Middlesex are Sunday champs

LONDON, Aug 17: A five-wicket win over Yorkshire at Uxbridge took Middlesex to their first Sunday league title, reports Reuter.

The victory was clinched by some of their less celebrated players, emphasising the strength in depth of the squad.

Mansell makes it at last

BUDAPEST, Aug 17: It's all over for 1992. The new Formula One world champion is Nigel Mansell.

The 39-year-old Briton clinched the driver's title at a thrilling Hungarian Grand Prix Sunday by powering his Williams-Renault to second place behind the McLaren-Honda of defending champion, Brazilian Ayrton Senna, reports AP.

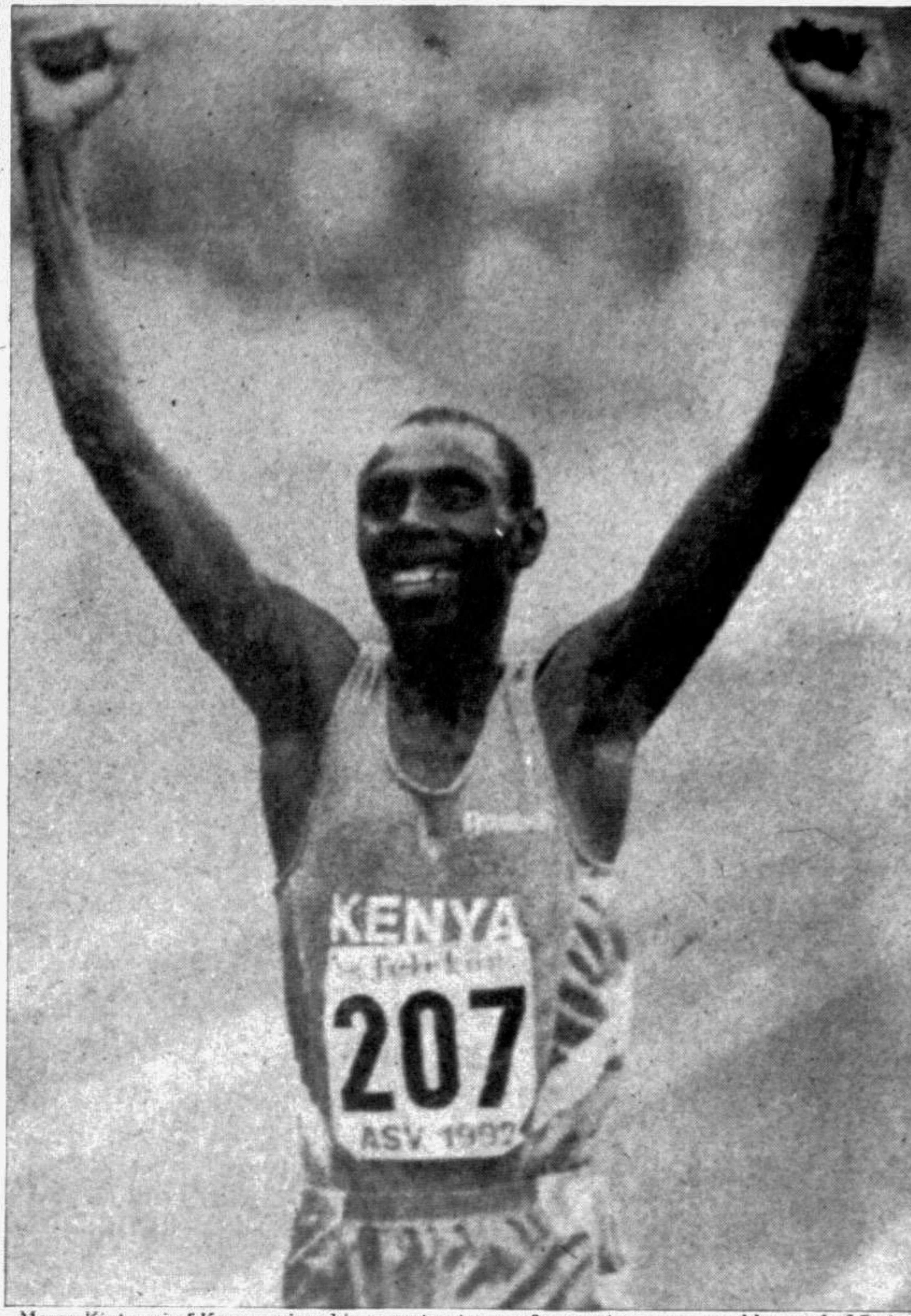
With fewer than 20 laps to go in a race marked with spins and pit stops, Mansell charged from seventh place to second and sixth world championship points for an unassailable total of 29 points in the drivers' tables.

Senna drove a copy-book race, inheriting the lead after Mansell's teammate Riccardo Patrese, who led for 39 laps from pole position, spun off and later retired with engine problems.

Beach volleyball may become an Olympic sport

ALMERIA, Spain, Aug 17: Beach Volleyball could be an Olympic sport in the 1996 Atlanta Games, the president of the International Volleyball Federation said on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The federation will make a big effort to have beach volleyball made a second volleyball discipline in the Atlanta Olympic Games, said Rube Acosta, who is in the southern Spanish resort for the world beach volleyball series.



Moses Kiptanui of Kenya raises his arms in victory after setting a new world record of 7min 28.9 sec for the 3,000 metres at the international athletics Grand Prix meet in Cologne, Germany Sunday.

Kiptanui leads a Kenyan sweep in 3,000m

COLOGNE, Germany, Aug 17: Kenyan Moses Kiptanui ran a gruelling last 800 metres alone to smash Moroccan Said Aquita's 3,000 metres world record at the Cologne Grand Prix athletics meeting on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The 20-year-old world 3,000 metres steeplechase champion left the rest of the field with two laps remaining and powered his way home to finish in seven minutes 28.96 seconds.

His gritty run shaved nearly half a second off the previous best of 7:29.45 set by Aouita on the same track three years ago.

Kiptanui led a Kenyan clean sweep compatriot Paul Bitok, the Olympic 5,000 metres silver medalist, second in 7:33.28 and world 5,000 champion Yobes Ondieki third in 7:34.18.

In a high-class field pulled along by sensible pacemakers, Germany's 5,000 Olympic champion Dieter Baumann could not live with the final fast pace and finished fourth in 7:38.10.

The coolish but calm early evening conditions were perfect for distance running. American Greg Whiteley set a solid pace in the first 600 metres which the leading pack completed in almost exactly two minutes, perfectly on schedule to beat Aouita's record.

Kenyan Charles Cheruyot took up the pace halfway with some courageous front-running. He briefly broke away but went through 2,000 metres just outside record-breaking schedule in 5:04.07.

But Kiptanui suddenly found a second wind with just two laps to go. Roared on by the 35,000 crowd, he took a 20-metre lead and grinded his teeth as he fought off pain down the final straight.

Kiptanui, who missed the Olympics after a disastrous performance at the national trials, said he was surprised by the record but wanted to go for another record in his steeplechase specialty at the Zurich Weltklasse meeting on Wednesday.

Taylor to defend WBA title

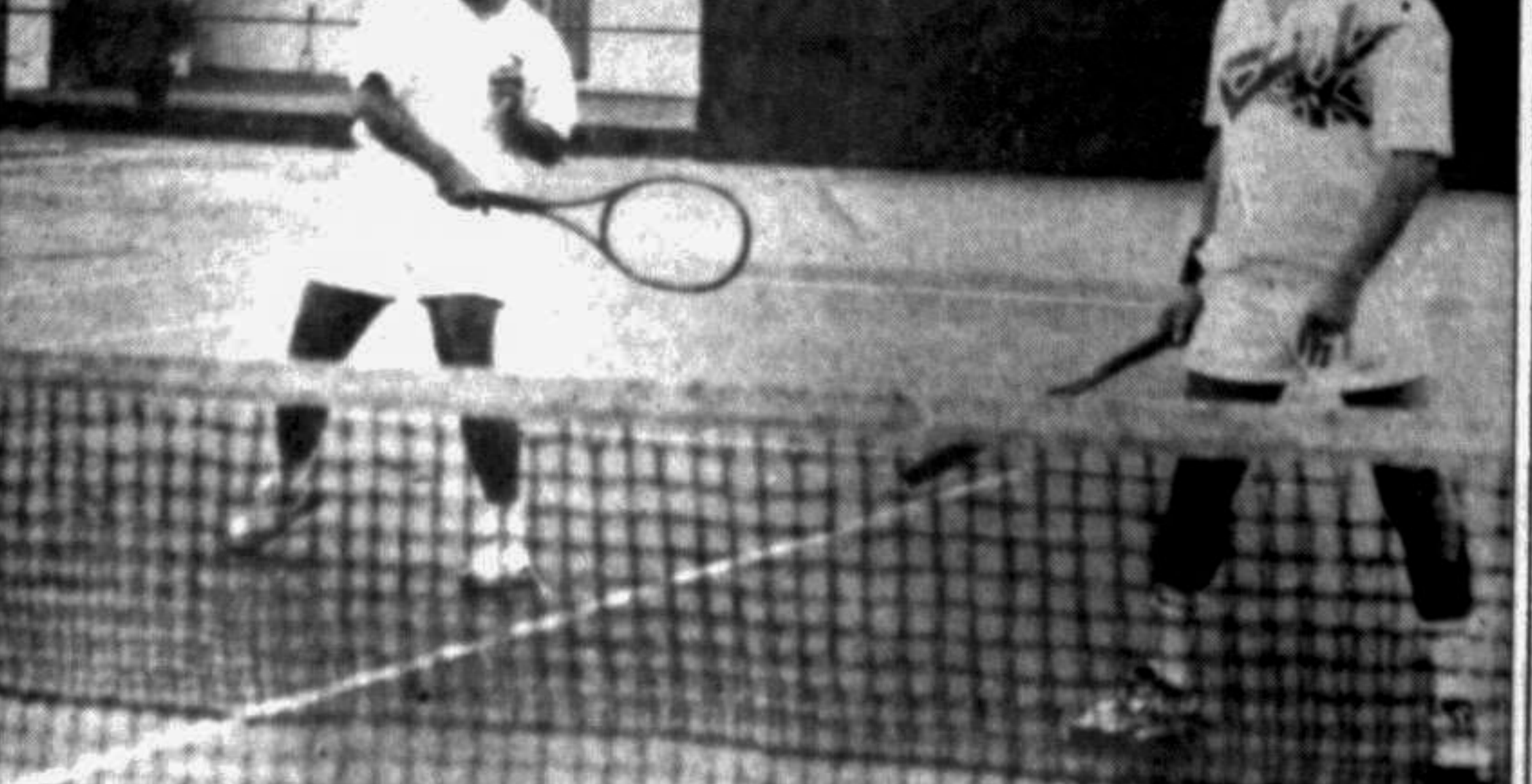
BELFAST, Northern Ireland, Aug 17: Meldrick Taylor of Philadelphia will defend his WBA welterweight title against Belfast-based Venezuelan Crisanto Espana in London on October 31, Espana's connections said Monday.

Torrence, who was second in 22:31 Galina Malchugina another Russian, placed third in 22:44

Olympic champion and world record holder Kevin Young raced to another impressive victory in the 400-metre hurdles, winning in 47.42 seconds.

Young, who smashed the nine-year-old world record of Ed Moses by running 46.78 at the Barcelona Olympics earlier this month, set a blistering pace from the start and was ahead already at the first hurdle.

Although 0.64 outside his world record, the American was still faster than anyone else this year as he cruised home unchallenged.



Abdul Hai Sarkar and Bakhtiar Khalid in action against Mashuk and Dr Zahir in yesterday's semifinal of the Dhaka Club Foundation Day tennis tournament at the Dhaka Club tennis court.

Jennings, Masya win race

FALMOUTH, Mass., Aug 17: Olympic medalist Lynn Jennings won the women's division of the Falmouth Road Race and knocked Joan Benoit-Samuelson out of the record book in the process on Sunday, reports AP.

The men's record also fell as Benson Masya of Kenya completed the distance in 31:52, one second faster than Alberto Salazar ran it in 1982.

Jennings covered the 7.1-mile (11.4-km) course in 36 minutes, 13 seconds, eclipsing the mark of 36:17 established by Benoit-Samuelson in 1985.

"I wasn't running to set the record," said Jennings, a bronze medalist in the 10,000-meter run at the Barcelona Olympics this month. "I wanted to do my best and win, but I was aware of how fast Joan had run to set the record."

Jennings, of Newmarket, N.H., said, "I'm still on a high from the Olympics. It's a thrill to come to a race like this, which I consider in my back yard, and run as well as I did."

Overcast skies and cool temperatures greeted the 7,200 runners.

"It was a spectacular course and great conditions," Masya said. Masya didn't qualify for his nation's Olympic team this summer, but said training for it still left him "in the best shape of my life."

Masya and Jennings each won \$10,000, plus \$1,000 bonuses for breaking records. Kenyan Simon Karori, also of Kenya, finished second among the men in a swap of spots with Masya. Karori last week broke the course record in the Asbury Park 10K with Masya coming in second.

Third for the men was Keith Brantly of Ormond Beach, Fla.

Wilma van Onna, a Dutch runner who now lives in El Paso, Texas, finished second among the women at 36:33, followed by Russian Olga Markova.

The 28-year-old's title defence will be the main supporting contest for a heavy-weight eliminator fight between England's Lennox Lewis and Razor Ruddock of Jamaica at London's Earl's Court.

Espana, 28, is unbeaten as a professional with 25 knock-outs in 27 fights. He holds the WBA international junior welterweight title and is rated Taylor's No. 1 challenger.

"We've been trying for months to get a world title fight," Espana said. "Now it has happened I can hardly believe it is true."

Espana moved to Northern Ireland four years ago and married a local.