

Krabbe loses her last sponsor

BERLIN, Aug 21: Double world sprint champion Katrin Krabbe, who admitted this month to taking a banned stimulant, lost her last sponsor on Friday, reports Reuter.

German hairspray maker Goldwell AG said it would not follow sportswear maker Nike or fashion house Gerry Weber in cancelling its contract but would simply stop paying Krabbe until the deal expires at the end of 1993.

"You don't get much support among the public for using a symbol like her any more," said Goldwell spokesman Peter Hering.

Krabbe and team mate Grit Breuer, star athletes in former East Germany, admitted to taking the banned steroid Clenbuterol which their trainer bought on the black market.

The two athletes, who did not compete in the Barcelona Olympics, face a four year competition ban.

The long legged, blonde Krabbe was a sponsor's dream and attracted millions of marks to her club in Neubrandenburg in economically depressed East Germany before the news broke.

Hering said Goldwell, who used the 22-year-old in television commercials, stopped a publicity campaign when Krabbe was first accused of using drugs in February. She was later cleared on a technicality.

"We're obviously disappointed because we believed her claims of being innocent to the end," said Hering.

"The company lost around one million marks (690,000 US dollars) in the affair," he said.

Hy's career high

MONTREAL, Aug 21: Unseeded Patricia Hy delighted her fellow Canadians on Thursday by upsetting fifth seed Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-3, 6-3 in the third round of the \$50,000 Canadian Open women's tennis championships, reports Reuter.

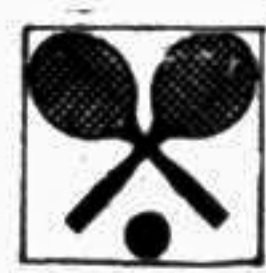


England captain Graham Gooch limps after being hit by a Waqar delivery while Inzamam-ul Haq at slip looks on during Thursday's Texaco Trophy match at Trent Bridge. —Star TV photo by A Khan.



Wasim Akram juggles with the ball near the fine-leg boundary while catching England opener Alec Stewart off a mistimed hook from the bowling of Waqar Younis during Thursday's one-dayer at Nottingham. —Star TV photo

Connors conquers age with desire



INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Aug 21: Eleventh seed Jimmy Connors proved yet again the desire to conquer age when he beat fifth seed Wayne Ferreira 6-3, 6-2 on Thursday in the third round of the 1 million US dollar RCA Championships, reports Reuter.

Top seeded Jim Courier, second-seeded Pete Sampras and third seed Boris Becker all were tested before winning their third-round matches.

World number one Courier needed a tiebreaker to post a 7-6, 6-2 victory over Sweden's David Engel.

The third-ranked Sampras, the defending champion, struggled against Indiana's own Todd Witsken before winning 6-4, 7-5.

The ninth-ranked Becker held off a tenacious David Wheaton, the 13th seed, in the first set. Becker led 4-1, but

six service breaks pushed the set into a tiebreaker.

Wheaton had a 4-0 lead in the tiebreaker, but Becker won the next six points and finally won the tiebreaker at 9-7 when the American dumped a forehand volley into the net.



JIMMY CONNORS

The second set was easier for a 7-6, 6-3 victory for Becker and the right to face Connors in the quarter-finals.

The 37th-ranked Connors, who has been playing since 1970 and is two weeks away from turning 40, showed no signs of slowing down against the 12th ranked Ferreira.

Connors toyed with the 20-year-old South African, who reached the semifinals of this year's Australian Open.

"I'd like to go out and play like that every day of the rest of my life," said Connors. "I think he underestimated me. He must have thought he's got out there, be present and win."

Ferreira was the higher ranked player, 20 years younger and has had big wins including a quarter-final victory over John McEnroe at this year's Australian Open.

Connors was quite aware of all that. "He's seeded number five here and he's in the top 15," said Connors. "That's a big win for me. That could move me up a good eight spots in the rankings."

"It's always an experience to play Jimmy," said Becker of his quarter-final opponent. "For many tennis players he's an idol. So too for me."

Bridge Olympiad from today



SALSAMAGGIORE

Italy, Aug 21: The US team, world champions at the last World Bridge Olympiad four years ago, is given a good chance to retain the title when competition begins Sunday, reports AP.

Contract bridge teams from 59 nations will compete in the two-week tournament sponsored by the World Bridge Federation that ends Sept 5. Simultaneously, teams from 35 countries will vie for the world Women's Olympiad title.

Teams in each event have been subdivided into two divisions and round-robin competitions will take place within these divisions. The top four teams will advance to the quarter-finals. From that point on, teams will play head-to-head knockout matches, the winners advancing and losers eliminated, until the two champions are determined.

The defending champion in the Open is the United States, and the Americans are rated one of the best bets to win this time too.

Five of the six players who won the Olympiad in Venice in 1988 are back Symon Deutsch,

Houston; Bob Hamman and Bobby Wolff, Dallas; Jeff Meekstroth, Reynoldsburg, Ohio, and Eric Rodwell, West Lafayette, Ind. The sixth member, Jim Jacoby of Dallas died two years ago. He has been replaced by Michael Rosenberg of New York City.

Once again the team is captained by Dan Morse of Houston.

The Americans are in a division that has several other contenders, including Iceland; the Bermuda Bowl champions last year in Japan; Sweden; France; Pakistan; and Germany. Norway, the Netherlands and Argentina also are possibilities for the quarter-finals.

Poland, Brazil, Britain and Austria are the standouts in the other division. Other strong teams are Canada, host Italy and Denmark.

In the Women's Olympiad, Denmark is the defending champion — and Denmark

again will be one of the favourites. Playing for Denmark will be Trine Bilde, Dorte Cilleborg, Bettina Kalkerup, Judy Norris, Charlotte Palmund and Lotte Skaanning-Norris, with Inge Hansen as non-playing captain.

The toughest opposition in Denmark's group probably will come from France, Australia, Canada, Italy, and Britain.

The United States will be the leading contender in the other division, with strong competition from Austria, the Netherlands, Germany and China.

South Africa, which dropped out of world bridge play in 1983 because of its apartheid policies, will return to the fold in these events.

The Confederation of Independent States, made up of many former republics of the Soviet Union, has entered teams in both events. Teams from Estonia, Croatia and Slovenia also will compete.

Chinese champs reap it rich

BEIJING, Aug 21: Chinese gold medalists at Barcelona could end up with more than 185,000 dollars in cash each, plus cars, sponsorships, free air travel and lifetime supply of soft drinks, reports AFP.

And "that doesn't even include the spiritual rewards," the English-language Beijing Weekend said.

Since returning to their nominally communist state, China's most successful Olympic team ever has been showered with money, praise and prizes.

For the 17 gold medalists, their good fortune might well surpass one million yuan (185,000 dollars), the newspaper said.

Two Hong Kong tycoons gave each champion a total of nearly 60,000 dollars. One Henry Ying Tong-Pok, threw in 17 pure gold medals for good measure, each weighing one kilo (2.2 pounds).

The Chinese National Sports Commission doled out award money of 80,000 yuan (14,625 dollars) for gold medalists, 50,000 yuan for silver and 30,000 yuan for bronze.

Athletes also received cash awards from several companies, but figures were not available.

Holiday chess

Sports Reporter

Ziaur Rahman became the first week champion of the Azad Products weekly chess competition registering six straight wins yesterday.

The six-round Swiss active system tournament, which includes thirty-four of the country's top-ranked players, is a part of the three-month long Holiday chess meet, organised by the Anirban Chess School.

Ziaur, who earned one thousand taka as prize money, was followed by Lavlu who secured five points.

The three-month long tournament is played only on Friday's from 3 pm to 8 p.m.

US Indoor meet organisers plan to give fans money's worth



PHILADELPHIA, Aug 21: Fewer players, fewer seats and one less court should add up to better tennis at next year's \$1.7 million US Indoor, tournament officials said Thursday, reports AP.

Although the field will be trimmed to 32 players from 48, the biggest change will be the elimination of 5,000 seats at the Spectrum, event chairman Thomas L Gowen said.

The move will create a 12,000-seat horseshoe-shaped stadium with a corporate hospitality tent, a champagneable section, premium box seats and more seats close to the action.

"What we're trying to do is give people more for their money," Gowen said. "We're trying to create more of a festival atmosphere, where are places to sit down with your friends and have a drink or have something to eat."

While some of the changes will benefit major sponsors and their guests, "We're also trying to make sure that the guy who digs into his own pocket for a ticket has the best

seat possible," he said. Jim Courier, the world's top-ranked player, and Pete Sampras, two-time Philadelphia champion, have signed commitments to play in the Feb 15-21 tournament, Gowen said.

Brad Gilbert and Aaron Krickstein are expected to play, and tournament officials are talking to Andre Agassi and Jimmy Connors, Gowen said. Local favourite David DiLucia of Norristown also is expected, he said.

Most top-ranked Europeans are likely to compete that week in Stuttgart, Germany, he said.

The smaller field also will eliminate a two-court format during early rounds. Players have long complained about the side-by-side courts because of such distractions as stray balls, crowd applause and umpires' calls from adjoining games.

A new hardcourt surface on a rubberized carpet will be used, giving Philadelphia a similar surface to tournaments before and afterward in Memphis, San Francisco, Scottsdale and Indian Wells.

Tickets will be sold separately for day and evening sessions, with prices ranging from \$10 to \$20 Monday through Thursday days, from \$15 to \$35 Monday through Wednesday evenings and \$20 to \$40 from Thursday evening through Sunday's final.

Attendance last February was 93,551, down about 2,000 from the previous year. The recession, the Winter Olympics and the early exit of top players hurt sales, Gowen said.

By reducing the field, the Philadelphia International Indoor Tennis Corp committed itself to sponsor a \$1.7 million Challenger Series tournament for lower-ranked players during the first three months of 1993, Gowen said.

"We don't think it will draw flies in Philadelphia, but we think it might do well" in the region, he said. Possible sites include Hershey, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Pittsburgh and Princeton, N.J.

Proceeds from the US Indoor benefit public tennis programs in the Philadelphia area. More than \$3.75 million has been contributed during the tournament's 31-year history.

Barrowman caps a brilliant summer



MISSIONEIEJO

California, Aug 21: Mike Barrowman added the final sheen to golden summer here Thursday as he completed a breaststroke double at the US national swimming championships, reports AP.

Barrowman, who won the 200m breaststroke in Barcelona in a world record time, won the 100m breaststroke national title Thursday in a personal best of 1 minute 2.02 seconds.

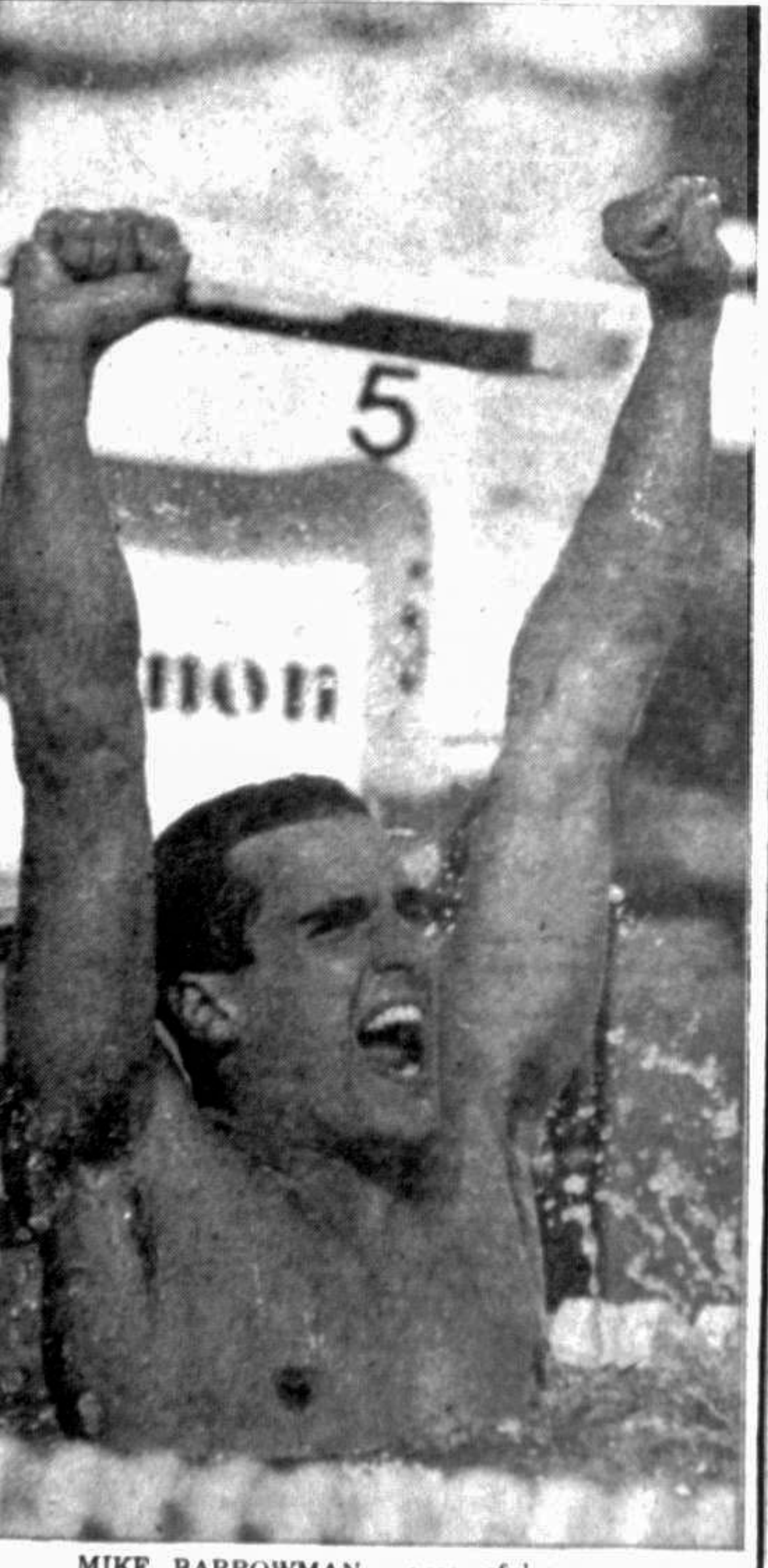
He had already secured the

national 200m breaststroke title on Tuesday, despite battling the flu.

Another US Olympian, Angie Wester-Krieg, won her second event of the national championships, the women's 100m butterfly, in 1:01.26.

Kristine Quance, whose hopes of making the team for Barcelona ended when she came down with mononucleosis before the trials, won her third event of the meet, the women's 100m breaststroke.

Quance won in 1:09.60, overtaking Lydia Morrow on the final length.



MIKE BARROWMAN ... successful summer

Lack of cash, culture hinder South Asia's sporting development

NEW DELHI, Aug 21: With more than 1 billion people in South Asia, you would think somebody could win an Olympic medal.

From the entire Indian sub-continent, home to one-fifth of the Earth's population, only Pakistan's field hockey team came home from Barcelona with a medal — a bronze, reports AP.

In a region where hunger is still a problem, leisure sports take a low priority. There is no popular sports culture, not much sports history and few heroes.

Still, the dismal performance in Barcelona aroused national shame, inflamed public anger and aroused ferocious debates in parliaments and newspapers.

Even before the athletes returned home, India's sports minister suggested in parliament a four-year moratorium on international competition to build a sports programme that won't be a national embarrassment.

But some commentators blame the politicians controlling the sports world, whom one newspaper described as "whiskey-swilling and potbelled."

"I do not have a magic wand to make our athletes win medals," Sports Minister Mamata Banerjee said. "We are not serious enough to do better at international meets."

India has about 5,000 "serious sports persons. Isn't this tragic in a country of 850 million people?" she asked rhetorically.

India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka lag far behind most countries in technique, temperament and government support. Sport is still a pastime, not a business.

The nations of South Asia are among the poorest of the world with annual per capita incomes ranging from \$170 to \$370. In India, the per capita expenditure on sports is less than 2 cents.

"It is almost as if the seemingly endemic corruption and inefficiency of our system has so affected us that we have resigned ourselves to being failures," the Times of India newspaper said.

"We do not have proper sports facilities," commentator Naveen Kohli said. "And, the notion is drilled into the head of every potential athlete that sports will not earn him the bread and butter."

On Wednesday, Miss Banerjee presented an "action programme" to parliament designed to create more sports awareness, identify and train talented athletes, and transfer more cost of sports to the private sector.

Bangladesh, a nation of 111 million people, sent nine athletes to Barcelona. Its best performance was by a shooter

who finished 45th. "We did not have the resources to build a powerful team for winning medals in the Olympics," Bangladesh Olympic Committee president Oias Kamal Choudhury said.

In India, three schools in four have no proper playground or gymnasium. A mere 10 per cent of the 733,654 schools have received any funds for sports. Of the 4,718 colleges and 1,812 universities, only half have any sports facilities.

New Delhi, a city of 10 million, has just one Olympic-size swimming pool. Most residential neighbourhoods have no public playing fields.

India sent 39 athletes, 16 field hockey players and 27 coaches and officials to Barcelona. Nobody qualified for the final of their event. The closest was 800-meter runner Shiny Wilson, who set a new Indian women's record of 2:01.90 but finished fourth in her first-round heat.

Its field hockey team, which has won 10 of the 12 Indian medals since it first participated in the Olympics in 1900, finished seventh in Barcelona.

"We suffer from tremendous inferiority complex," said

Ashok Ghosh, the chief of the Indian team. "We think the Americans, Europeans and others are superior."

Sri Lanka, a nation of 17 million people, sent 11 athletes. Its only prayer for a medal was a marathon runner who finished 71st out of 84.

Pakistan, with 110 million people, sent 39 athletes to take part in field hockey, boxing, wrestling, yachting and track and field.

"We just don't have the money to groom athletes for Olympic competition," said Shamim Ahmed, a sports official in Islamabad.

In India the Barcelona performance was not at all unforeseen. Even in the 1990 Asian Games in Beijing, India finished 10th in the medals tally behind countries like Indonesia, Qatar, Thailand and Malaysia.

Indian national records in athletics events are well below international standards.

The Indian men's record in the 100 metres is 10.30 seconds, nearly half a second slower than Carl Lewis' world mark of 9.86. In the 10,000 metres the best an Indian has done is 28 minutes, 48.72 seconds, more than 1:40 off Arturo Barrios' record of 27:08.23.

Top seeds sail in New Haven



NEW HAVEN, Connecticut, Aug 21: Stefan Edberg led the top five seeds into the third round of Volvo international tennis championships with easy wins on Thursday, but ninth seed John McEnroe narrowly escaped elimination, reports Reuter.

Edberg, who will be defending

his US Open title at the end of the month in New York, overwhelmed American qualifier Buff Farrow 6-3, 6-1 in a second-round match.

"If I continue to play well I'll have every chance in the world to win here," the top-seeded Swede said. "It's important to me to do well here because it's a build-up to the U.S. Open."

Czechoslovakia's Petr Korda, the defending champion and fourth seed, advanced when Arnaud Boetsch of France was forced to default because of a shoulder injury.

Second-seeded Goran Ivanovic, third seed Michael Chang and fifth seed Ivan Lendl were straight-set victors.

Ivanovic, who admitted "I'm not playing my best tennis right now," beat American Bryan Shelton 6-3, 7-5. Shelton twisted his ankle at 5-5 in the second set, impairing his mobility against the Croatian.

Chang was steadier than Italy's Gianluca Pozzi in 6-3, 6-3 victory. Lendl, a two time winner of this tournament, out-hit hard-serving Shuzo Masukoika of Japan 6-3, 6-4.

McEnroe knocked over a television cameraman and almost was a knockout victim himself, needing more than three hours to get past relatively unknown Frenchman Thierry Guardiaola.

Only two points away from elimination at 4-5 in the third set, McEnroe rallied for a 6-

7, 7-5, 7-6 victory. He won the deciding tie-breaker at 7-3.

In the first set tie-breaker, after missing a chance for a put-away at the net, McEnroe showed his frustration by pushing over a television camera and the man behind it.

"I'll probably get fined but I didn't mean it," he said. "It was just the heat of the moment. I was made at myself for missing the shot. I just hope this doesn't take away from a great tennis match."

McEnroe said. "The guy played unbelievable."

Guardiola, 21 years old and ranked 131st in the world, displayed a big serve and a punishing forehand in playing the match of his career.

In the day's only upset, sixth-seeded Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands was ousted by U.S. National Collegiate champion Alex O'Brien 7-6, 7-6.

Also falling was 11th-seeded American Brad Gilbert, who yielded easily to Frenchman Felice Santoro 6-0, 7-6.

Shah Sports soccer

Sports Reporter

Golam Mostafa Lane Kishore Sangha qualified for the semi-finals of the third Shah Sports cup soccer tournament by beating Chandpur Bhai Bhai XI by a solitary goal at the Hazaribagh Park ground yesterday, says a press release.

Norman's withdrawal irks Aussie fans

SYDNEY, Aug 20: Greg Norman said Thursday that he would skip this year's Australian Open golf championship, sparking anger and surprise in his homeland, reports AP.

The former British Open champion who was born in Queensland, Australia, but now lives in Hobe Sound, Fla, said he wanted instead to spend time with his family over the American Thanksgiving holiday.

Norman's announcement caught both tournament organisers and his Australian management representatives by surprise.

"I don't believe that," said Australian Golf Union executive director Colin Phillips.

"We have a contract with him for a start. When I saw Greg three weeks ago he was fairly confident of playing and said he would get back to us."

International Management Group spokesman Frank Williams said he had not officially been advised of Norman's decision, but said he was surprised Norman planned to play in the Johnnie Walker Classic in Melbourne the week after the Open.

Norman, a three-time Australian Open winner and a

Kenya can't afford joining WC U-17

NAIROBI, Aug 21: Kenya has pulled out of the World Cup Under-17 tournament because of lack of money, the country's football federation announced here today, reports AFP.

"We have been forced to withdraw from the championship which begins next month as we have no money," said the secretary Sammy Obingo.

Kenya's withdrawal gives their first-round opponents, Madagascar, a walk-over to the second round, while the federation will have to pay a 400-dollar fine.