

Krabbe's ban reduced to one year

BONN, Mar 30: Germany's double world sprint champion Katrin Krabbe has been cleared to defend her 100 and 200 metres titles in Stuttgart this August after a four-year ban for doping was reduced on Tuesday to one year, reports Reuters.

The German Athletics Federation (DLV) said on Tuesday that its arbitration panel had decided Krabbe, Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr were free to run from August 13. The Stuttgart World Championships start on the following day.

The ban has been cut to one year and the September decision for a four-year ban cancelled. DLV doping official Norbert Laurens said.

The panel decided that there was no clear doping offence but has punished the athletes for 'unsportsmanlike behaviour'.

In a statement later the DLV said it would accept the panel's ruling but would not announce a detailed reason for the decision before the end of next week.

The DLV will, of course, completely respect the decision of the panel as its highest decision-making body, the statement said.

Krabbe, Breuer and Derr were suspended last September for taking the drug Clenbuterol.

Breuer has also been banned for a year but Derr, who did not test positive for the drug but admitted to taking it, has been banned for eight months.

It was Krabbe and Breuer's second successful appeal against a drugs ban in a year. Last June the two athletes were cleared of manipulating urine samples through a legal technicality.

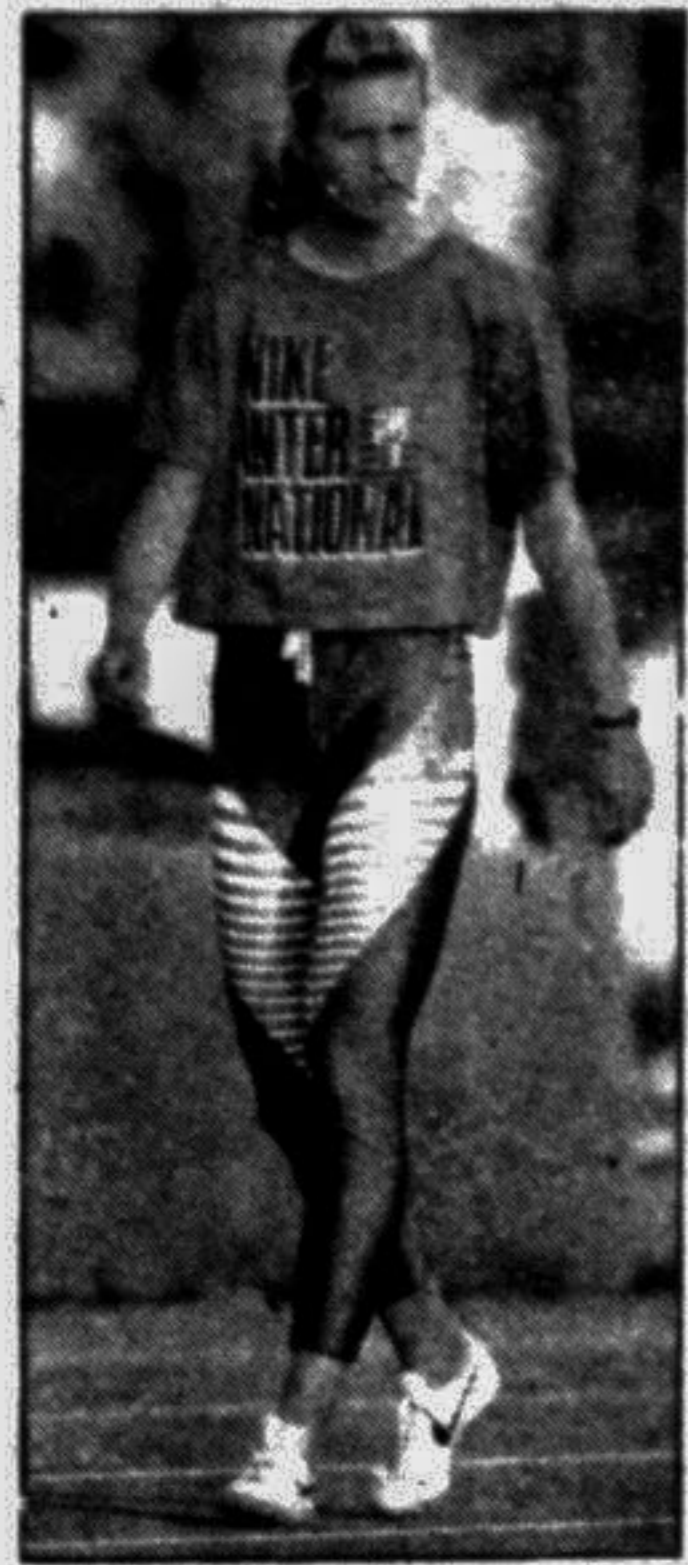
Tuesday's decision seems both a result of the same legal technicality and the confused status of Clenbuterol.

Krabbe and Breuer escaped a four-year ban for tampering with urine samples when the

DLV admitted it had no clause in its regulations permitting it to conduct out-of-competition tests.

The same pair plus Derr tested positive for Clenbuterol in July but the DLV did not update its rules providing for random tests until November.

Accordingly the only ban possible under DLV rules was a maximum two-year suspension for 'unsportsmanlike conduct.' There have also been considerable scientific doubts about Clenbuterol.



KRABBE... lucky again

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) considers Clenbuterol to be both a stimulant and an anabolic agent. The IAAF automatically bans athletes testing positive for anabolic steroids for four years for a first offence.

But two out of three reports ordered by the DLV's arbitration panel said the drug was a stimulant only.

A German athletics source said the DLV had been told by the panel that the case should

not be reported to the IAAF. Laurens could not confirm this.

Krabbe's training has been disrupted by the suspension and she must be doubtful for Stuttgart. But Breuer has been training hard recently and she could compete if the DLV decides to select her.

From Berlin AP adds: German track officials on Tuesday reduced sprint star Katrin Krabbe's doping suspension, but a spokesman said she will not be allowed to take part in this summer's World Championships.

The DLV German track federation, in cutting Krabbe's ban from four years to one, said she could compete after August 13. That is the same day the biennial track and field championships begin in Stuttgart.

But federation spokesman Lutz Nebenthal said there was 'no possibility' for Krabbe to take part in qualifications for the German team to compete at Stuttgart. He ruled out special trial heats for her once the ban is lifted.

The decision to reduce the ban defied the rules of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, the world governing body of track and field. The IAAF last year issued a statement specifying that any athlete caught using Clenbuterol should be suspended for four years, with a life ban in the event of a second offence.

'Clearly, [the DLV decision] seems to be against our rules, which of course we can not accept,' IAAF general secretary Istvan Gyulai said Tuesday in London. 'It is a funny decision. Either she's guilty or she's innocent. If she's guilty, the ban should be for four years. If innocent, zero years. One year doesn't have any meaning.'

Gyulai said he was awaiting more details from the German federation, which he will forward to the IAAF medical commission and possibly the IAAF Council.

The case could be referred to the IAAF's arbitration panel for a final and binding decision, he said.

Krabbe case: Big worry for IAAF

BONN, Mar 30: Katrin Krabbe may ironically have helped athletics' battle against drugs by sidestepping a four-year doping ban for the second time in a year on Tuesday, reports agencies.

Aided by shrewd lawyers, Krabbe, whose ban was cut to one year by a German arbitration panel, has twice exposed sports officials for failing to ensure that their rules on drug testing are legally watertight.

The double world sprint champion's two cases have also thrown up new problems with the International Amateur Athletic Federation's (IAAF) mandatory four-year penalty for a first drug offence.

But if national and international officials learn their lessons from the Krabbe case and plug the loopholes in their rules, sport may gain in the long term with a more effective campaign to nail drug cheats.

The message is crystal clear to the IAAF: Make sure testing rules satisfy civil law and courts world-wide or the campaign against doping is a waste of time and money.

The German Athletics Federation (DLV) wanted to follow IAAF rules and ban Krabbe and teammates Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr for four years after they admitted to taking the drug clenbuterol

last July. But the DLV's independent arbitration panel found the federation's hands were largely tied by German law because of an embarrassing omission in the DLV's regulations.

DLV doping regulations did not contain a clause governing bans for out-of-competition tests when the athletes supplied positive urine samples last July, the same legal technicality that helped Krabbe and Breuer avoid another ban last June.

So DLV anti-doping officials were only able to take action against Krabbe and her fellow former East Germans under their rules regarding 'unsportsmanlike conduct' which have a maximum penalty of two years.

'The panel decided that there was no clear doping offence but has punished the athletes for unsportsmanlike behaviour,' DLV anti-doping official Norbert Laurens said. The federation, which has accepted the ruling, only updated its rules last November which was too late to affect the outcome of the case.

With the added scientific doubts about clenbuterol — two of the three independent reports ordered by the panel said the drug was a permitted stimulant, not an anabolic agent — the panel was forced to cut the ban.

The IAAF will also need to take note that banning pro-

fessional athletes for four years for a first doping offence may be regarded as too harsh for the German civil courts.

The DLV will table a proposal to the IAAF at a meeting before the world championships in Stuttgart in August, where Krabbe is now free to run, calling for a more flexible approach to doping offenders.

'Under German civil law four years is too much to stop someone carrying out their profession,' DLV general secretary Jan Kern said. 'We'll propose that the ban for steroids be more flexible running from one to four years depending on the case.'

'When athletes only have perhaps 10 years in the sport a four-year ban is virtually a life-time sentence.' The swivel, blonde-haired Krabbe, who has lost numerous lucrative sponsoring contracts because of the two scandals, has admitted that the German public may also consider her morally guilty.

But whether she is guilty of doping or not, the 23-year-old German, has used her legal rights to fight her case. Her legal battles may not be over yet, however.

German athletics sources believe Krabbe may not be invited to leading grand prix meetings after the world championships this year because of the doping scandals and may therefore decide to take the DLV to court for compensation.

Independence Day hockey from Apr 4

Sports Reporter
Wari Club will take on Sadharan Bima Kriya Sangstha in the inaugural match of the 1993 Independence Day hockey tournament on April 4. Sixteen teams including 15 First Division sides split into two groups will participate in the knock-out meet. Mohammedan Sporting Club, the reigning First Division league champions, Ajax Sports Club, Usha Kriya Chakra, Dhaka Ansars, Dhaka Wanderers Club, Bachelors Sporting Club, Sonali Bank and Bangladesh Navy are placed in Group A while Group B will feature Abahani Kriya Chakra, last year's league runners-up, Dhaka Martiner Youngs Club, Wari Club, Sadharan Bima, Bangladesh Sporting Club, Bangladesh Police, Azad Sporting Club and Bangladesh Railway.

According to the fixtures announced last Monday, the final is scheduled for April 15 while the two semifinals will be played on April 12 and 13.

Schools h'ball resumes tomorrow

Sports Reporter
Two matches of the fifth Bata schools handball tournament will be held tomorrow when it resumes at the Outer Stadium handball court after a fortnight-long Eid-ul-Fitr break.

Badda Vidya Niketan will play Graduates High School in the day's first match at 3.00 pm while defending champions Narinda Govt High School will take on Bangladesh Rifles High School in the other match at 4.00 pm.

Eleven teams in two groups are participating in the meet organised by the Bangladesh Handball Federation.

The two semifinals will be held on April 8 while the final is scheduled for April 10.

Seles sidelined

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina, Mar 30: World tennis number one Monica Seles has withdrawn from the women's tournament here this week, reports AFP.

Seles told the organisers she had not shaken off a viral infection which kept her out of the Key Biscayne and Houston tournaments earlier this month, and would be unable to play.

Germany's Steffi Graf, the world number two, will be top seed for the 750,000 dollar tourney.

Seles has a clear lead over Graf in the computer rankings, with 321 points to the German's 287.

Bergstrom bows out of Salem Open

OSAKA, Japan, Mar 30: Smashing eight service aces, beat Christian Bergstrom of Sweden 6-3, 6-2 Tuesday in the first round of the \$1.5 million Slam Open tennis tournament, reports AP.

In other first-round matches on the hard courts at Esaka Tennis Center in Osaka, western Japan, Americans Doug Flach, Chuck Adams and Steve Bryan were all winners.

Flach beat Gouichi Motomura of Japan 6-0, 6-2, Adams downed Yasufumi Yamamoto of Japan 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, and Bryan defeated Jamie Morgan of Australia 6-1, 6-3.

Shuzo Matsuoka of Japan scored a 6-2, 7-5 victory over Kim Bong-soo of South Korea. In doubles, top-seeded Jim Grabb of the United States and Todd Woodbridge of Australia beat the Japanese pair of Dajiro Furusho and Tommy Shimada 6-2, 6-2.

WTA's top 20

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Mar 30: Following are the top 20 women's tennis players, according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association yesterday:

1. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia)
2. Steffi Graf (Germany)
3. Martina Navratilova (US)
4. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain)
5. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina)
6. Mary Joe Fernandez (US)
7. Conchita Martinez (Spain)
8. Jennifer Capriati (US)
9. Jana Novotna (Czech Republic)
10. Manuela Maleeva-Frangiere (Switzerland)
11. Anke Huber (Germany)
12. Nathalie Tauziat (France)
13. Helena Sukova (Czech Republic)
14. Mary Pierce (France)
15. Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria)
16. Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria)
17. Amanda Coetzer (South Africa)
18. Zina Garrison-Jackson (US)
19. Kimiko Date (Japan)
20. Natalia Zvereva (Belarus)



Ukrainian Ekaterina Serebrianskaia performs during the ribbon-assisted rhythmic and sportive gymnastic event at the French international gymnastics championships on March 28. Serebrianskaia finished second behind Bulgarian Maria Petrova. — AFP photo

Chinese swimmer banned for doping



LAUSANNE, Mar 30: A Chinese woman swimmer has been banned for two years after a positive dope test, the International Swimming Federation (FINA) said on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Zhou Xin, a Beijing club swimmer but not an international, tested positive for the anabolic steroid Methandienone at the Beijing World Cup meeting last January, FINA director Cornel Marculescu said.

The Chinese Swimming Association informed FINA on March 5 that it had imposed a similar sanction on Zhou, who finished fourth in the 200 metres individual medley behind Olympic champion Lin Li at the Beijing meeting, he said. Marculescu said it was the first instance of a Chinese swimmer banned for doping.

Chinese officials have strenuously denied western allegations that their women swimmers could be taking drugs to enhance performance.

China has made a phenomenal advance in the sport since the late 1980s and their women swimmers won four gold medals at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

Marculescu said Zhou's A and B urine samples had been identified as positive by a laboratory in Beijing recognised by the International Olympic Committee.

'FINA has sanctioned the swimmer, Ms Zhou Xin, a member of the Beijing Swimming Association, with a suspension of two years for positive results of doping control tests carried out during the swimming World Cup series which took place in Beijing (China) in January 1993,' FINA said in a statement.

The same sanction had earlier been imposed on this swimmer by the Swimming Association of the People's Republic of China.

The Beijing meeting which yielded the positive test was the scene of an unusually outspoken challenge by a FINA official to the Chinese to prove they were not taking drugs.

FINA medical officer David Gerrard, a New Zealander, said he saw too many indications that the Chinese women were using something. 'The tell-tale signs of steroid and human growth hormone are there to see,' he said.

The Chinese team said they would protest to FINA after Swedish team captain Hans Chrufak made similar allegations at a World Cup meeting in Malmo in February.

England drop Douglas for World TT

LONDON, Mar 30: Loyal servant Desmond Douglas misses his first World Championships for 18 years after the England squad was announced here on yesterday, reports AFP.

Douglas, 37, who has been the backbone of the national table tennis team, is named as non-travelling reserve for the Gothenburg event which begins in May.

Captain Don Parker said: 'Douglas is still a force to be reckoned with at world level. I am sure he will not let the side down.'

Parker may have to call-up the 11-times English champion if either national champion Carl Prean or number one Chen Xinhua pull out through injury.

Chen, who won a World Championship team gold medal in Gothenburg eight years ago, has been suffering from a vein problem in his thigh, plus the skin disease eczema.

Alan Cooke has just recovered from a back injury too, so Douglas could be drafted in at a later date.

Matthew Syed is the fourth player to make the travelling party which hopes to add to their team silver medal in the European Championship last season.

Lack of funds means that only three women players can travel to Gothenburg.

And Parker has chosen the new England champion Andrea Holt and the European silver medalist Lisa Lomas as automatic selections.

The third place has gone to Fiona Mommessin, 27, who is based in Paris and practises daily with members of the French national squad.

The other candidate for the number three position would have been Alison Gordon, the 1992 England champion who is now based in Glasgow and studying full time. But she asked not to be considered.

England squad: Carl Prean (Isle of Wight), Chen Xinhua (Yorks), Matthew Syed (Berks), Alan Cooke (Derbys), Lisa Lomas (Heds), Andrea Holt (Lanes), Fiona Mommessin (Staffs).

Judge grants Tyson's accuser's requests

INDIANAPOLIS, Mar 30: A federal judge has granted two requests to the woman who was raped by Mike Tyson and is filing a civil lawsuit against the former heavyweight champion, reports AP.

US District Judge Larry McKinney agreed to Desiree Washington's request that attorneys be halted from taking pretrial testimony from witnesses until Tyson's criminal case is resolved.

Also in his March 23 order, the judge granted a portion of the 19-year-old woman's request to restrict public access to specific court documents. He said medical records, communications with psychiatrists or social workers and personal diaries could be held confidential.

The Indiana Court of Appeals is expected to rule soon on Tyson's appeal of his conviction. Tyson is serving a six-year sentence in the Indiana Youth Centre.

Karpov dubs Kasparov 'anarchist'

MOSCOW, Mar 30: Russian Grandmaster Anatoly Karpov has accused arch-rival Garry Kasparov of sparking a row over the World Championship that could plunge chess into anarchy, reports Reuters.



ANATOLY KARPOV

Karpov said in an interview that Kasparov, like champions of the past such as Emanuel Lasker and Jose Raul Capablanca, was bent on dictating his own terms for the title match.

'We are now threatened with a return to the times of complete anarchy and boundless diktat by the current champion,' Karpov told the Russian newspaper Trud in remarks published on

Tuesday. 'Only he intends to decide when and whom he wants to play — and on conditions chosen by him.'

Karpov was commenting on a decision by Kasparov and British challenger Nigel Short to stage their title match outside the auspices of the world chess body FIDE to win players more say in professional chess.

'As far as I understand, most leading world Grandmasters do not support this initiative,' Karpov said.

FIDE last week effectively stripped Kasparov of his title and said it would ask Karpov and Dutchman Jan Timman to play for the world crown instead. Karpov said he had not been officially informed of its decision.

The 41-year-old held the title for 10 years until Kasparov dethroned him in 1985. The two dislike each other intensely.

Karpov said chaos and con-

lict were afflicting Russia, the strongest chess nation, as well as affecting the international running of the game.

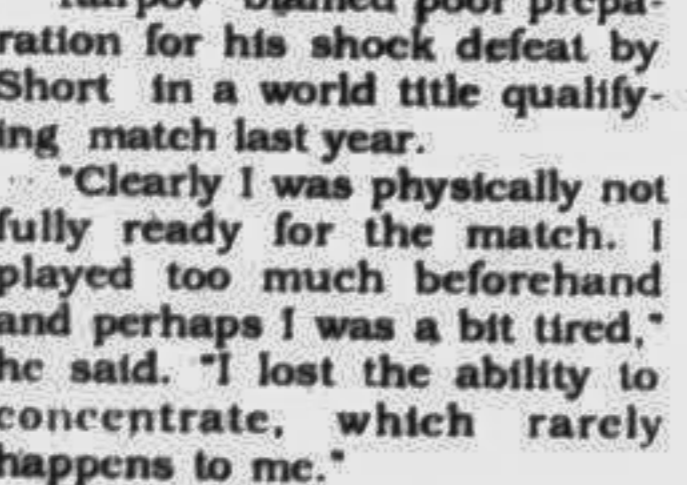
'A real wave of anarchy is building up. A struggle is going on for power over people, for the right to take decisions and control of finances. And this battle is spreading, both

on the international level and in Russia itself,' he told the daily.

Karpov blamed poor preparation for his shock defeat by Short in a world title qualifying match last year.

'Clearly I was physically not fully ready for the match. I played too much beforehand and perhaps I was a bit tired,' he said. 'I lost the ability to concentrate, which rarely happens to me.'

Karpov said chaos and con-



GARRY KASPAROV

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39 Japan follower	ruler	23 Apply with great energy
1 Adventure tale	41 River duck	4 Like a poor loser	25 Morning moisture
5 Acapulco aunt	43 Beach shelter	4 Peace pact	26 Guido's highest note
8 Newts	46 Biblical mountain	5 Afternoon party	27 Arsonists
12 God of love	50 Disorderly retreat	6 "— Get By"	29 New York barge canal
13 Tall shade tree	51 Airports	7 lowa college town	31 Slender finial
14 Small glass bottle	54 "Picnic" playwright	8 Wimbledon winner	32 Thieves' hideout?
15 Bargain site?	55 Airport abbr.	9 Unsafe building	34 Not settled or decided
17 Columnist Bombeck	56 Cousin of etc.	10 Docile Venetian blind part	38 Kind of baseball pitch
18 Devotee or boot	57 Good Queen	11 Venetian blind part	40 Gluts
19 Mason's Della	58 Rogers or Bean	16 "Guys and Dolls" role	42 An enzyme
21 Seaport in Lebanon	59 Steak order	20 Car and but followers	43 Nursery item
24 Baseball's Mel	DOWN	22 City of seven hills	44 Topnotch wind
25 Oppose boldly	1 Barbed fish spear	2 Moslem	45 The west wind
28 The yoke's on them	2 Moslem	Solution time: 21 mins.	47 —
30 "Ruggles of — Gap"			48 Temple's ex husband
33 Yale man			49 Man or Wight
34 Hebrew measures			52 TV actor Robert
35 Mimic			53 Actor Liotta
36 Card game			
37 Around: prefix			
38 Washer cycle			

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CRYPTOQUIP

LUB JVK OJPLRTYPRKY'O
 EUHPYWJK PAC QPHWK
 TK "EUJVKY'O AWJJAK
 CWHWCKBC" ?

Yesterday's Cryptiquip: IF YOU BOUGHT A GAS-GUZZLING AUTO YOU'D BE A TAD FELISH.

Today's Cryptiquip clue: H equals V

The Cryptiquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.