

Yemen trounce Pakistan 5-1

IRBID, Jordan, May 25: Omar Mubarak scored three goals as Yemen took an impressive 5-1 victory over Pakistan Monday in the fourth game of the Asian Group A qualification tournament for the 1994 World Cup. Half-time score was 1-1, reports AP.

Jordan and Iraq tied 1-1 in an earlier match.

Yemen scored three of their goals within four minutes in the second half of the game, eliminating Pakistan's hope for an advanced standing in the group.

Pakistan's Mohamed Tariq scored his team's only goal in the 11th minute when Iranian referee Hassan Askari awarded him the tournament's first penalty kick.

Mubarak scored the equalizer on a 25-yard free kick in the 20th minute. Defender Ali Abu Ghaleb blocked Pakistan's only real try in the second half, and Mubarak scored again in the 53rd minute.

He completed his hat-trick giving Yemen a 3-1 lead in the 77th minute.

Pakistan surrendered and allowed Yemen to score two goals within a minute by Wajdan al-Chadili and Mohammed Hassan in the 80th and 81st minutes of the match, attended by 500 spectators.

Iraq's Nunther, Khalaf scored in the 74th minute to manage a tie with Jordan in a heated game at al-Hassan Sports City Stadium in Irbid, 120 kilometers (74 miles) north of Amman.

Jordan's top scorer, Jiryas Tadros, put his team in the lead with an early 12th minute goal.

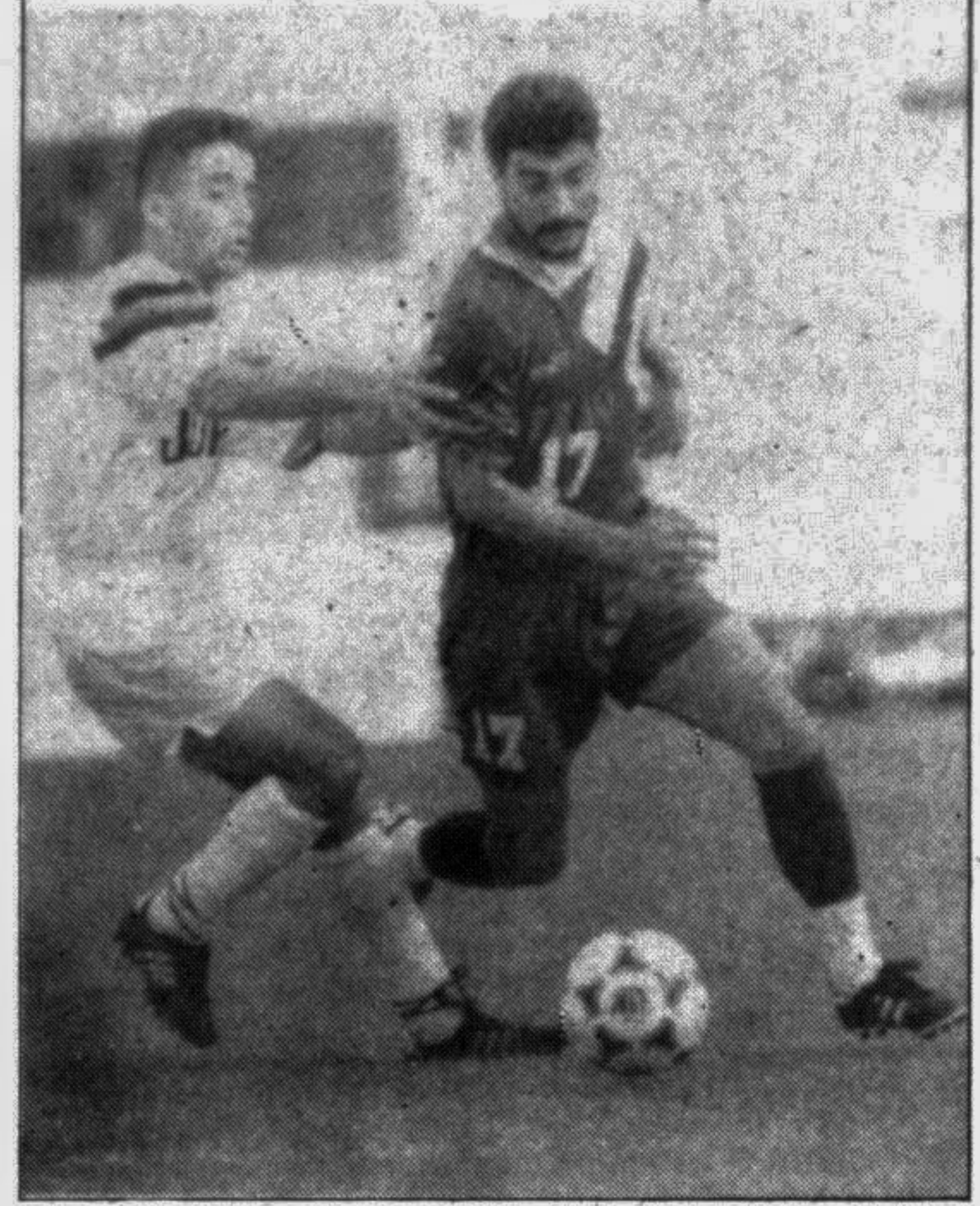
Jordanian goalie Mohammed Abu Daoud successfully

terminated nine definite Iraqi chances throughout the match, which heightened tension between players from two neighboring countries. There were numerous pushing and shoving matches on the field.

The Iraqis lost a chance to equalize in the 31st minute when a corner kick hit the post. Seconds later another

tended by 14,000 spectators including King Hussein's son, Prince Faisal.

Later, state-run Petra news agency reported that Tadros and Jordanian defender Yousef al-Amouri were taken to the hospital after the game. Tadros reportedly had a wrist injury and al-Amouri was being hospitalized for knee injury.



Iraq's Leith Hussein (R) and Jordan's Jerios Tadros fight for the ball during their World Cup Asian Zone Group A qualifying match at the Al-Hassan Stadium in Irbid on Monday. The match ended in a one all draw. — AFP photo

shot was blocked by Jordan's defender Ahmed Abdul Qadir. The contest, which was attended by 14,000 spectators, was not immediately clear.

Krabbe calls it a "dirty trick"

STUTTGART, May 25: Katrin Krabbe described Monday's decision to postpone a final ruling on the doping case involving herself and German teammates Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr as a "dirty trick," reports AP.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) council decided it needed more time to look into the legal complexities of banning the three runners who admitted taking clenbuterol last July.

They will not be allowed to run until the council meets again to discuss their cases later this year, ruling them out of the World Championships in Stuttgart in August.

"The facts have all been out in the open for a long time," said world sprint champion Krabbe. "This renewed delay is a dirty trick."

Krabbe's adviser Thorsten Heuser said the delay would scare off sponsors, put psychological strain on the three Germans and make it more difficult to patch things up with the German Athletics Federation (DLV).

"They (the IAAF) wanted to prevent them by all means from running in Stuttgart," Heuser said.

Heuser said he would consult the three athletes and their lawyer Peter Woessner over how to respond to the IAAF's latest ruling.

Double doubles blow for Indonesia

BIRMINGHAM, England, May 25: Indonesia suffered a double doubles blow in the build-up to their challenge for badminton's Sudirman Cup, which begins against Denmark here on Wednesday night, reports AP.

Rexy Mainaky, top seed with Ricky Subagja for next week's world men's doubles championship, is out of the Cup matches, while Bambang Suprianto, joint fifth seed with Rudy Gunawan, is unlikely to play either.

Mainaky was left at home when the Indonesians flew to England because of stomach trouble, but Indonesian team manager Leo Wiranata hopes he will be able to play in next week's World Championships.

"I phoned him this morning and he should be flying out tomorrow or the 27th," said Wiranata here on Monday. "It depends on how he feels."

Suprianto, who would normally expect to take over from Mainaky and partner Subagja in the men's doubles rubber, is already here, but is confined to bed with a high fever.

"If he can't play in the Sudirman, we'll see if he can play in the World Championships," said Wiranata. "But we can't say yet."

Despite the loss of Mainaky and the probable absence of Suprianto, the Indonesian boss remained optimistic about his team's chances of regaining the trophy they own in 1989.

"We've brought five players for men's doubles and they can all combine," he reasoned. "The likelihood is that Gunawan will team up with Subagja."

Meanwhile, Mexico and Nepal have withdrawn from the Sudirman Cup because they cannot raise a team. Mexico were in Group Eight, while Nepal were in Group Ten, the bottom division.

Seeds march through with weary ease

PARIS, May 25: Neither partisan fans nor an on-court illness Tuesday could stop the favourites from marching into the second round of the French Open, reports AP.

Fifth-seeded Goran Ivanisevic threw up on the sidelines after winning the first set against Argentina's Franco Davin. The Croatian soldiered on to a 7-5, 6-3, 6-4 victory, though by the third set, he said later, "I was dead."

Ivanisevic attributed his illness to an overdose of sun Monday while watching compatriot Goran Prpic play.

The No 10 seed, Sergi Bruguera of Spain, had to contend with a center court crowd rooting fervently for feisty Frenchman Henri Leconte. After a close first set, Leconte, 29, fell apart, and Bruguera rolled to a 7-6 (7-3), 6-1, 6-0 victory.

Also advancing were Michael Chang, the 1989 champion and No 8 seed this year, over France's Frederic Vitoux, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3; No 9 Michael Stich, the 1991 Wimbledon winner, who beat Peru's Jaime Yzaga, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2, 6-1, and No 14 Wayne Ferreira of South Africa, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3), 6-4 over Jan Stemerink of the Netherlands.

Men's No 1 seed Pete Sampras was to play late Tuesday on center-court against Russian Andrei Cherkasov, a tough clay-court player.

All 15 seeded players in action Monday won their matches, and the trend continued Tuesday among the women as well as the men.

Third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini, seeking to reach the finals here for the first time, routed Radka Zrubakova of the

Czech Republic, 6-0, 6-0. No 6 seed Jennifer Capriati cruised to a 6-0, 6-1 victory over France's Nathalie Herremann, ranked 135th in the world and hampered by a sore elbow. During the 18-minute first set, Herremann won only four points.

Ninth-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria won 6-2, 6-2 over Argentina's Mercedes Paz; 12th-seeded Mary Pierce, born in Canada but playing for France, crushed Frenchwoman Catherine Mothes, 6-0, 6-0 and 13th-seeded Nathalie Tauziat of France beat Italy's Marzia Grossi, 6-4, 5-7, 6-1.

The results thus far have

been so predictable that one of the major topics at post-match news conferences was Capriati's new, short haircut.

But one showdown of unseeded Americans produced a dramatic outcome. Completing a match suspended by darkness Monday, Brad Gilbert overcame Bryan Shelton, 5-7, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1, 10-8, for his first French Open victory since 1987.

Men's No. 1 seed Pete Sampras was to play later on center-court against Russian Andrei Cherkasov, a tough clay-court player.

The most hapless victim Monday was France's Nicolas Escude.

The youngest player in the men's field, at 17, and the lowest-ranked, at 578, he found himself across the net from fourth-seeded Boris Becker on center court when the Grand Slam event opened.

The result was predictable, a 6-0, 6-3, 6-0 rout for Becker. For Escude, it was unlike anything before in his modest career.

"I'm not used to playing players that strong in a stadium that big," he said. "I had the feeling I couldn't hit a winning shot."

Two-time defending champion Jim Courier, a strong favourite here despite his No. 2 seeding, rolled over Argentina's Roberto Azar, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 on Monday. His next match is Wednesday against Spain's Thomas Carbonell.

Third-seeded Stefan Edberg overcame 10 double-faults to outlast Uruguay's Marcelo Filippini, 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

Courier lost his only match to Sampras this year in Hong Kong in a third-set tiebreaker and said he'd welcome a rematch here in the June 6 final.

"It's good for the game to have No. 1 and 2 play often," he said.

Among the women, there's no chance for such a matchup. No. 1 ranked Monica Seles is absent while recuperating from the stab wound inflicted April 30 by an obsessed fan of second-ranked Steffi Graf.

Graf, the champion here in 1987 and 1988, can reclaim the No. 1 spot from Seles by reaching the final, but she said the ranking doesn't interest her.

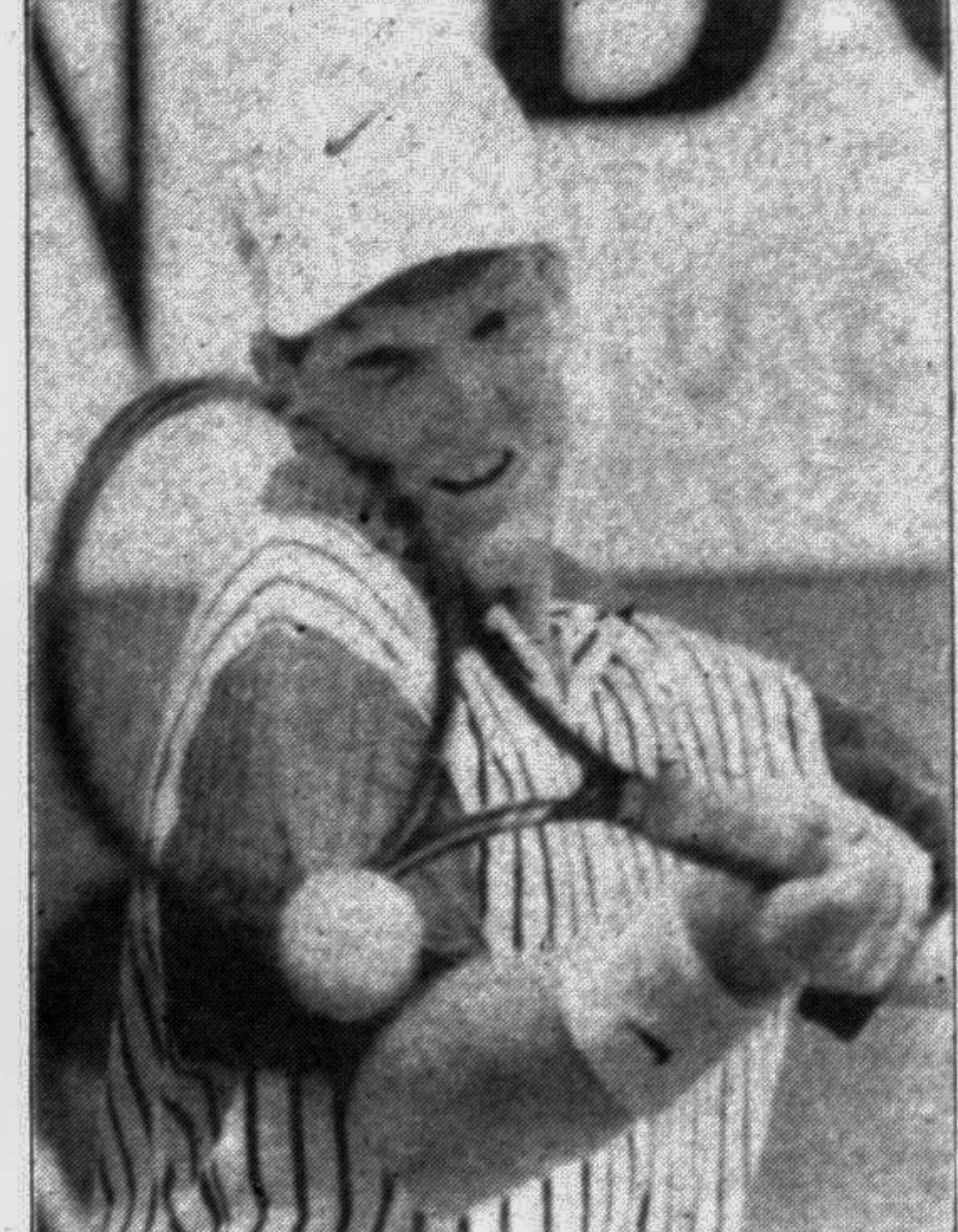
"Over the past few years I've been saying that the rankings don't mean anything to me and that's still the way it is," she said. "I don't really care what happens."

Shadowed by security guards on and off the court, Graf admitted the Seles stabbing had affected her own life.

"It hasn't been easy," she said after her 7-6 (7-4), 6-1 victory over Sweden's Cecilia Dahlman.

The No. 3 seed, Gabriela Sabatini, was to begin play late Tuesday against Radka Zrubakova of the Czech Republic.

Seeded women advancing included No. 4 Conchita Martinez of Spain, 7-5, 3-6, 6-4 over Lea Ghirardi of France; No. 8 Anke Huber of Germany over France's Sara Pitowsky, 7-6 (7-5), 6-3; No. 11 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa, 6-0, 6-4 over Larisa Meland of Latvia; No. 15 Sabine Hasek of Germany, 6-3, 6-4, over Stephanie Rottier of the Netherlands; and No. 16 Kimiko Date of Japan over Germany's Karin Schwendt, 6-4, 6-4.



World No 2 American Jim Courier makes a powerful return to Roberto Azar of Argentina during their match in the men's singles of the French Open at Roland Garros on Monday. Courier cruised past Azar 6-3, 6-3, 6-3. — AFP photo

IAAF orders KAAA to ban Ngugi

STUTTGART, Germany, May 25: Athletics governing body refused on Monday to accept Kenya's decision to lift a doping ban on John Ngugi and ordered the country's federation to stop him from running, reports Reuter.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) council agreed at a meeting that the Kenyan Amateur Athletics Association (KAAA) should reconsider their decision earlier this month to lift a ban imposed on the five-times world cross country champion after he refused a drugs test.

"The IAAF sees this as a clear case of a refusal to take a test which should result in the athlete being ineligible for four years," IAAF general secretary Isvan Gyulai said after a meeting of the body's ruling council.

"The council has decided to refer the case back to the Kenyans and ask them to investigate again and declare the athlete ineligible."

The council decided to postpone a final ruling on the doping case involving Germans Katrin Krabbe, Grit Breuer and Manuel Derr until another meeting later in the year because it needed more time to look into its legal complexities.

None of the three will be allowed to run until the council meets again to discuss their cases late this year, ruling them out of the World Championships in Stuttgart in August.

The KAAA lifted the ban on Ngugi on May 12, saying he was innocent of trying to dodge a random dope test at his Kenyan home in February.

Under IAAF rules anybody refusing to undergo a test is automatically banned for four years—the same penalty as a positive test.

But Ngugi, a soldier, claims he refused to give a urine sample because there was no mili-

tary official present, which is required under Kenyan military sports rules, and is innocent of doping charges.

The KAAA has 30 days to reply to the IAAF request, an IAAF official said.

"The council has a meeting just before the World Championships but it is unlikely to consider the two cases then," said the official, who did not want to be identified.

It won't be until the autumn meeting at the end of the season that the cases will probably be discussed.

"I am sure the Kenyans will look at this case in a sensible way," he added.

Gyulai admitted the IAAF



JOHN NGUGI

Filipinos have a big squad as well

MANILA, May 25: The Philippines is sending 442 athletes to compete in 28 events at the South East Asian Games in Singapore next month, the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) said here Tuesday, reports AP.

The athletes, accompanied by 72 coaches and officials, are bannered by Asian sprint queen Lydia de Vega, fellow trackster Elma Muros, and swimmer Eric Buhain, who won six gold medals in the last staging of the biennial Games in Manila in 1991.

It won't be until the autumn meeting at the end of the season that the cases will probably be discussed.

"I am sure the Kenyans will look at this case in a sensible way," he added.

Gyulai admitted the IAAF

Irony!

BIRMINGHAM, England, May 25: Badminton's biggest ever World Championships are likely to attract one of their smallest attendances here in the next 13 days, reports AP.

A record 40 nations will contest the third Sudirman Cup, which begins on Tuesday, and an all-time high of 47 countries will be represented in the eighth World Championships starting next Monday, but only 10,000 tickets have so far been sold for the two events.

With the venue holding 8,000 for nine of the 13 days and 5,000 for the semifinals and finals, spectators will hardly be cramped for room.

Nevertheless, organisers are putting a brave face on the situation as the Badminton Association of England attempt to round off their centenary with a flourish.

"It's normal for any racket tournament that progresses in this way in England outside of the Wimbledon tennis championships," said spokeswoman Caroline Searle.

"We're hoping that lots of people turn up on the day and certainly we know from the ethnic communities here that they'll be doing exactly that."

The Chinese, Indonesians, Koreans and Malaysians are waiting to see how their teams get, who they're playing and on which days. It's exactly what happens at Wembley for the all-England.

"If the current level of ticket sales carries on, the arena will certainly be well over half full for the semifinals and finals."

Graf simply can't get over it

PARIS, May 25: Steffi Graf, shadowed by security guards on court and off, says her life has changed in the wake of the stabbing of Monica Seles.

It hasn't been easy, a subdued Graf said after her 7-6 (7-4), 6-1 victory Monday over Sweden's Cecilia Dahlman in the first round of the French Open, reports AP.

As she spoke, a security guard sporting a crew cut and navy blue blazer hovered nearby — one of the visible new measures adopted by organizers of the \$18.3 million event.

With Seles absent, Graf is favoured to win the women's title for the third time in her career. But she admitted that she has been shaken by the knife attack on Seles during a match in Hamburg on April 30. The assailant said he wanted to help Graf reclaim the No. 1 ranking.

The last few days had gotten a little bit quieter, but until then it wasn't a very quiet time, Graf said. "There were a lot of things that disturbed me."

I don't think about it when I walk out on the court, Graf said. "But there have been incidents at home and knowing that the guy was one of my fans ..."

Graf declined to elaborate on the incidents in Germany. However, a women's tour offi-

cial said Graf has been hounded by photographers in recent weeks — especially during a shopping trip in Hamburg.

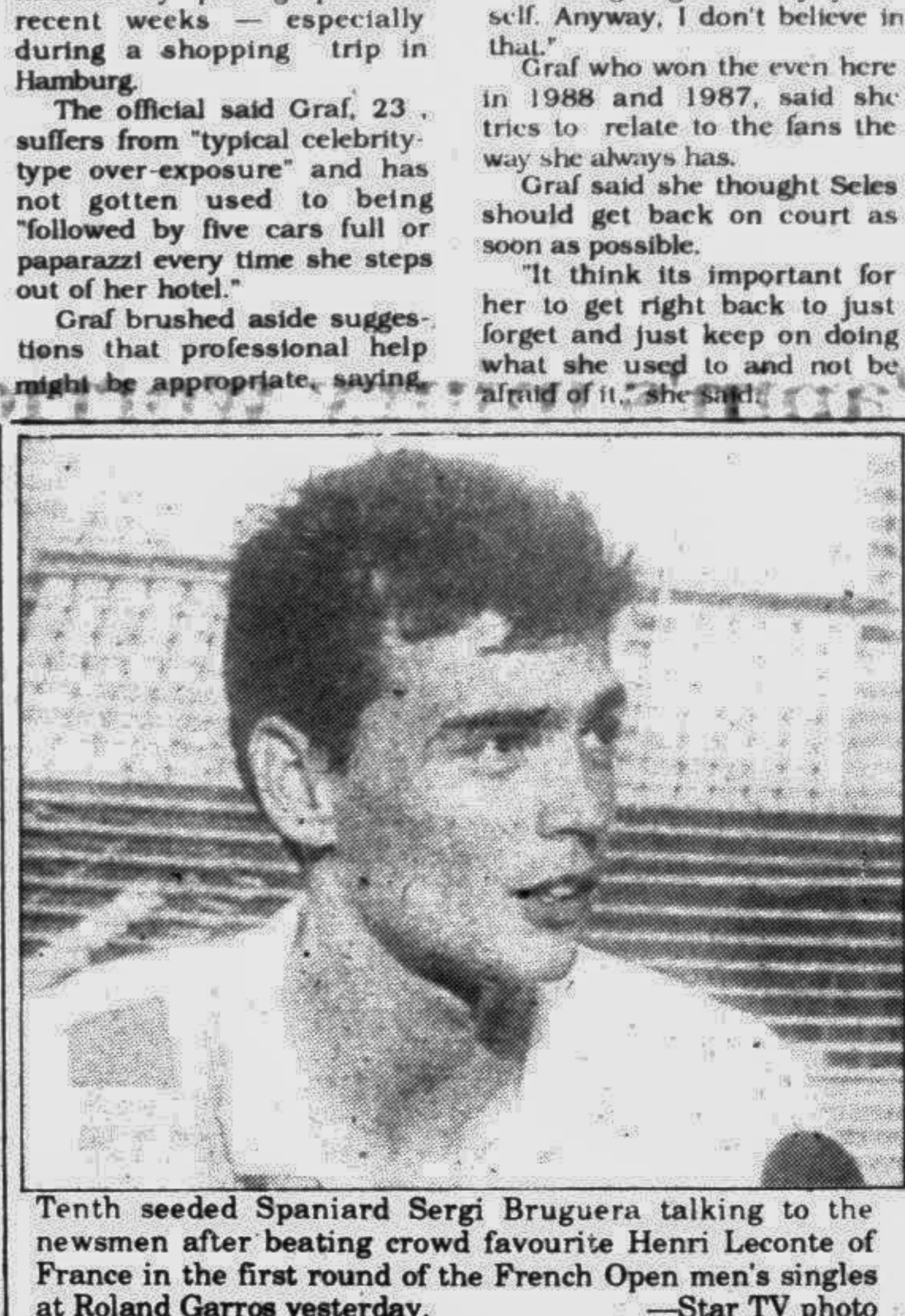
The official said Graf, 23, suffers from "typical celebrity-type over-exposure" and has not gotten used to being "followed by five cars full of paparazzi every time she steps out of her hotel."

Graf brushed aside suggestions that professional help might be appropriate, saying, "I wouldn't do that never. It's something to get over by yourself. Anyway, I don't believe in that."

Graf who won the event here in 1988 and 1987, said she tries to relate to the fans the way she always has.

Graf said she thought Seles should get back on court as soon as possible.

"I think it's important for her to get right back to just forget and just keep on doing what she used to do and not be afraid of it," she said.



Tenth seeded Spaniard Sergi Bruguera talking to the newsmen after beating crowd favourite Henri Leconte of France in the first round of the French Open men's singles at Roland Garros yesterday. — Star TV photo

Workers put the finishing touches on May 22 on a colourful display featuring Singa, the lion mascot of the 17th South East Asian (SEA) Games on the highway near the airport. Nine countries will participate in the Games scheduled for a June 12 start in Singapore.



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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 TV's — "Na Na" movie-house showing

4 Motor-cycle, for short

8 Horn or lace lead-in

12 Actor Johnson of horror films

13 Maple genus

14 Resound

15 Brazilian macaw

16 Employees of 50

18 Noted Greek physician

20 Small amount

21 Declare for score

24 "The Balcony" playwright

28 Heart of 50

32 Rail bird

33 Highest note of the gamut

34 Capital of Yemen

36 Ascot

37 Condition of sale

DOWN

1 For men only

2 Lively dance

3 Inland sea

4 Streamers for 50

5 Cold dessert

6 Suburb of London

7 Formerly

8 Highest suit, in bridge

9 Chop

10 Tree of the beech family

11 They loop the Loop

17 Witch

19 Print units

22 Banker's transaction

23 One receiving a gift

25 Observe

26 It's between Ontario

27 Asian weight unit

28 Close by

29 Otherwise

30 Homeless child

31 Gullets of animals

35 Slander

38 "Unto our gentle —" (Macbeth)

40 Kind of bread

42 Urban music style

45 Festive occasion

47 Coarse file

48 Pagan god

49 Baritone Nelson

50 Lincoln is its cap.

51 Airport info.

52 Distorted

53 Bill-signing memento

54 "Dig in!"

Solution time: 28 mins.

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CRYPTOQUIP

Q S R X F E R T F W E D Z X
Y D X X M X D N T Z Z E E Q
Z T M M F X M N S G W M X Y G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DID FOOLISH ADAM AND EVE EAT THEMSELVES OUT OF HOUSE AND HOME?

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals B

The Cryptoquip 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.