

Pakistani players await anxiously for a Dutch penalty corner during their Champions Trophy third place decider in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday. The Asian giants were thrashed 6-2. — Star TV photo

# DLV for sweeping changes

DUISBURG, Germany, July 12: German athletics officials are campaigning for sweeping changes to the sport's anti-doping rules to give athletes greater freedom to fight bans, reports Reuter.

The German Athletics Federation (DLV) said on Sunday it would put its proposals to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) congress in Stuttgart in August. The DLV, which has already called for a major cut in the statutory four-year doping ban, wants athletes to have the right to go straight to arbitration in disputes with the IAAF.

The Germans also want to take power away from the IAAF's ruling council in doping disputes and transfer it to an independent arbitration panel.

The DLV has been tangled up in legal problems with the recent Katrin Krabbe drugs case.

The Germans are annoyed that the IAAF council suspended double world sprint champion Krabbe and teammates Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr in May until it discusses their cases in November.

German rules would allow the athletes to run long before than.

"These open-ended suspensions are just not fair," leading

DLV official Ruediger Nickel said in an interview.

"We want the athletes to have the right to appeal quicker. That is a right every citizen has in law. We will be pushing through these plans as urgent proposals."

The IAAF is not happy with a decision by the DLV's arbitration panel last March to cut a four-year ban on Krabbe and Breuer to one year and on Derr to eight months.

IAAF rules stipulate that the minimum ban is four years.

But the IAAF's council decided at a meeting in May to postpone any ruling until it meets in Mexico in November.

The decision effectively stopped Derr, whose ban finished at the end of April, from competing in the World Championships in Stuttgart in August.

Krabbe and world 400 metres silver medalist Breuer have no chance of returning to action this season.

Under IAAF rules any athlete who competed against them would also be banned for four years.

The DLV said Derr tried to compete at this weekend's German Championships but the federation managed to stop her on a technicality that she missed the deadline for registration.

The DLV voted to put forward its proposals when it met

at the national championships.

The federation fears Krabbe, Breuer and Derr, who admitted using the drug Clenbuterol, may take up their case in the civil courts.

"We want the athletes to be able to go straight to an appeal with the IAAF's arbitration panel rather than wait for the council to make a decision whether the case should go to arbitration," said Nickel.

"It is not right that it is all open-ended and people say a decision might be made this year or next year."

The DLV, one of the IAAF's biggest members, is concerned that present IAAF rules on doping do not comply with civil law in many countries, especially the four-year ban.

The Germans will propose a more flexible ban between two and four years depending on individual offences.

A reduction to two years would meet the International Olympic Committee's recent moves to standardise bans for all sports.

"There are legal problems with four years. We want athletes to adopt the IOC plans for a minimum two years," said Nickel.

"It can't be right that a cyclist can get away with a fine or a short ban for doping and an athlete is banned for four years from carrying out their profession."

## Because it's there

OSLO, July 12: Kenya's Yobes Ondieki, who broke the 10,000 world record here, has breached yet another incredible athletics barrier — a sub-27 minute performance, reports AFP.

Like Roger Bannister's sub-four minute mile, Bob Beamon's astonishing long jump at the 1968 Olympics and Sergei Bubka's 6m clearance in the pole vault eight years ago, Ondieki's time was yet further proof of man's infinite capacity to achieve.

The Kenyan knocked almost 10 seconds off the world record with a time of 26 minutes 58.38 seconds on Saturday.

Just five days earlier another Kenyan Richard Chelimo stunned the athletics world by setting a new world record of 27:07.91 in Stockholm.

But Ondieki, 32, destroyed Chelimo's time with one of the finest performances in the history of long distance running.

The 5,000m world champion, who has not run a 10,000m since setting his previous best time of 28:28.24 in 1983, had given little suggestion of his ability at this distance.

Beamon's 23-year-old long jump mark of 8.90m was the most famous and long-standing record in athletics till Mike Powell taped 8.95m to win the 1991 World Championships.

Beamon said it was 'inevitable' his record would be broken, as he knew only too well the relentless sporting improvement of man.

Morocco's Said Aqita holds the 5,000m world record of 12:58.39, but for years the 13-minute mark was thought near "impossible," and, arguably one of the best world track records is Sebastian Coe's 1min 41.73 sec 800m time set 12 years ago — the first man under 1:42.

## Heike Henkel for tougher rules

BONN, July 12: Athletes who cheat with drugs will still manage to compete at next month's World Athletics Championships because of slack doping tests, according to German Olympic high jump champion Heike Henkel, reports Reuter.

Asked if all athletes at the Stuttgart event would be clean, Henkel told the Magazine Der Spiegel: "No way. Some will still be full up to the eye balls. There is still a lot of sloppiness with testing internationally."

Henkel was quoted in an interview to be published in the German magazine today.

Many countries have introduced random out-of-competition tests in training in the last few years in a bid to stamp out drugs. Blood tests have also been introduced in a series of top Grand Prix meetings this season.

But doping scandals continue to damage the sport.

Henkel, an outspoken campaigner against drugs in sport and in society in general said she had some understanding for athletes from Eastern Europe who returned to pills to survive in their struggling economies.

"I have more understanding for them than for the Americans or the Germans who are doing very well for themselves," she said. For the Eastern Europeans it is a matter of whether they land in the gutter or they manage a half-normal life.

"But even though I understand all of this, I still think it is unfair."

## Bobkova wins Palermo crown

PALERMO, Italy, July 12: Radka Bobkova won the 100,000 dollar Palermo women's tennis tournament after beating top seed Mary Pierce of France 6-3, 6-2 here on Sunday, reports AFP.

The 20-year-old Czech, world-ranked 64th, proved the better of the Canadian-born champion of the past two years, who made too many unforced errors.



Olympic gold medalist Linford Christie of Great Britain (C) leads Namibian Frank Fredericks (R) and American Michael Green during the men's 100m dash in the Bislett Games in Oslo on July 10. Christie clocked 10.09 to win the gold ahead of Fredericks and Green. — AFP photo

## Chechi good, Scherbo best

BUFFALO, New York, July 12: World and Olympic champion Vitali Scherbo of Belarus continued his streak of all-around gymnastics titles by taking the gold medal at the World University Games on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Scherbo, who collected six gold medals at the Barcelona Olympics, scored a 9.7 on the vault to break a tie with Italy's Juli Chechi on the final apparatus.

Scherbo finished with 56.425 points for the six events, four-tenths ahead of Chechi, who settled for silver after leading for most of the evening.

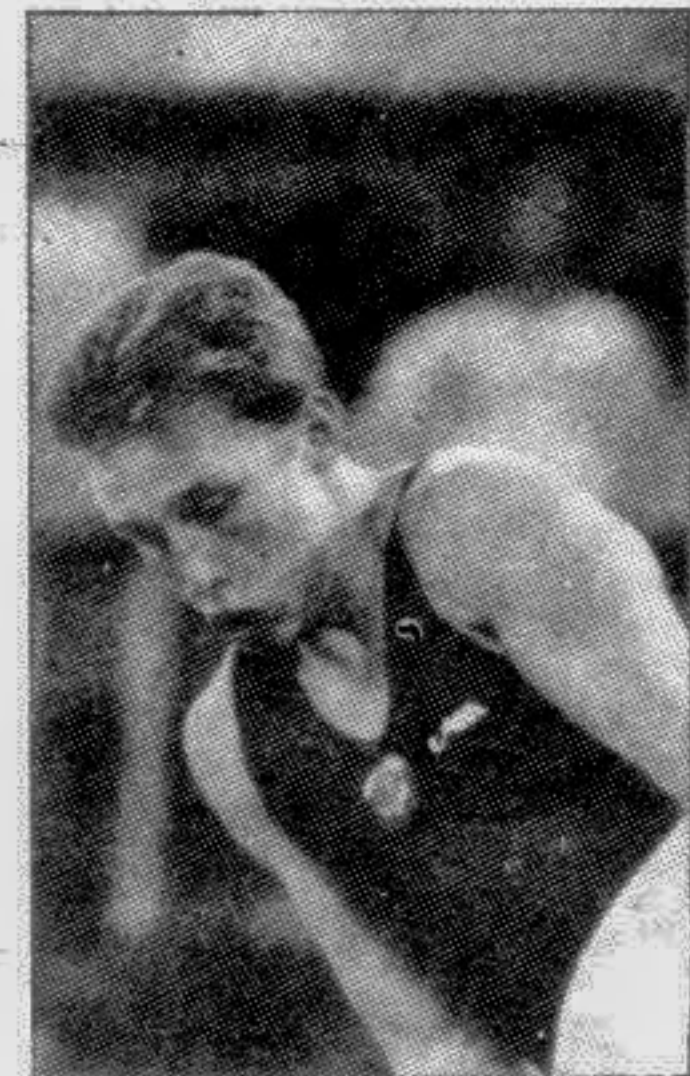
Chechi, who scored a 9.3 on the pommel horse to conclude the competition, said: "I knew when I saw Vitali with 9.7 that I could not beat him."

"I am a good gymnast, but Scherbo is the best. For me, the goal was the podium, not first place."

Ogor Korobchinsky of Ukraine won the bronze with 55.712.

Scherbo's dynamic vault — a

round-off back flip with two twists in a lay-out position — was a repeat of the vault he per-



SCHERBO... invincible

formed in winning the individual gold at both the Olympics and the World Championships.

"First of all, I'm never ner-

vous," said a confident Scherbo of his tie-breaking vault.

"Second, I've been doing this vault all of my life, so I knew I would do it beautifully."

On his first five events, Scherbo received scores between 9.2 and 9.525, a performance he described as sub-par.

Scherbo said he had been performing for young gymnasts at a Pennsylvania camp the past five months and said his training has suffered as a result.

"The gym is full of children, and I sometimes feel like I'm in a swimming pool," explained Scherbo, who will return home to his national team in September. "Plus I have a wife and child, so it is hard."

In Friday's team final, Chechi gave hints that an all-around gold was within reach. He qualified for the final with the day's second-highest individual combined score, two place ahead of Scherbo.

China's Wang Xian, who led all gymnasts on Friday, struggled into fifth place.

## Melodramatic

BUFFALO, New York, July 12: Cuban team officials said on Sunday they had not heard from a baseball pitcher who may have decided to seek asylum in the United States after he jumped a stadium fence at the World University Games, reports Reuter.

Just before Saturdays scheduled game against Chinese Taipei, Cuban pitcher Edilbert Oropesa, 23, scaled the chin-link fence at the Baseball Stadium in front of hundreds of spectators, police and stadium security. He got into a blue car that was apparently waiting for him and drove off.

John Ingham, district director of the US Immigration and Naturalisation Services, said on Sunday that nobody had contacted Buffalo authorities to seek asylum in the US but added if he did receive an asylum claim we would keep it confidential. Morales Quintana, Chef-de-Mission of the Cuban team, said through an interpreter: There were no notes to the players as to why he defected.

"He could have done it differently if he wanted to," Quintana said, "less conspicuously."

Cuba's assistant coach Dimas Rene Bello was more concerned with baseball than politics.

"What can we do about it. We'll still win the gold anyway. Things like that happen," he said.

Game officials later disclosed that a second Cuban athlete had also gone missing.

A document circulated to team representatives for fencing on Sunday identified the second missing Cuban as fencer Geovany Perez.

Perez, 21, is ranked second in Cuba in the individual sabre event.

He is scheduled to compete on Tuesday.

A spokesman for the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) in Buffalo would neither confirm or deny whether Perez had contacted authorities to seek asylum, saying he was obligated to keep such information confidential.

## Full house at Malaysian Open

KUCHING, Malaysia, July 12: All-England Champion Heryanto Arbi of Indonesia and Denmark's

Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen have emerged top contenders in the 180,000 US dollar Malaysian Open badminton championships beginning here Tuesday, reports AFP.

Their task of winning the singles crown in the world's richest badminton purse has been made easier by the withdrawal of Malaysia's defending champion Rashid Sidek and seasoned champions from Indonesia.

Rashid, recuperating from an eye operation to correct his vision, had proved invincible at home and had won the title in the last three championships.

All eyes would be on top seed Heryanto who is struggling to find the form that won him the Taiwan masters, Japan Open and the prestigious All-England crowns earlier this year.

"I have not been playing very well since the All-England but there is too much pressure for me to win. But winning the Malaysian title will give me back my confidence," said the 21-year-old Heryanto whose compatriot Ardi Wiranata is seeded joint third and fourth seed.

Lauridsen, the Danish national champion, is hoping to win his first Malaysian title and

follow in the footsteps of his mentor, Morten Frost who won it in 1985.

## Sitbangprachan TKOs Kyung

NAKHON SAWAN, Thailand, July 12: Reigning International Boxing Federation (IBF) flyweight champion Pichit Sitbangprachan of Thailand successfully retained his title here with a lightning victory over South Korea's Kyung Yul-Lee, reports AFP.

The 27-year-old scored a first-round technical knock-out after only one minute and two seconds over No 8 contender Kyung, 25, in a scheduled 12-round second title defence fight.

Both fighters moved in from the very beginning of the bout, but Pichit landed a powerful left hook to the face dropping the Korean challenger for a mandatory eight-count after less than 30 seconds.

Kyung tried to fight on but was again punished by another heavy left hook sending him to the canvas and Australian referee Billy Males stepped in to stop the fight.

Kyung, the former IBF mini-flyweight champion, landed only a few light punches throughout the bout.

Pichit improved his fight record to 14 wins including 13 knock-outs, while Lee's record now stands at 26 wins, including 11 knock-outs and three losses.

The 21-year-old Dane, who is currently the world's number three, came close to winning last year but was eventually beaten by the in-form Rashid.

Lauridsen, the second seed, has no fear of the Indonesians who in turn have greater respect for the tall Dane who is tipped to meet Ardy in the last four and an eventual meeting in the final with Heryanto.

Malaysian campaigner Foo Kook Keong is expected to qualify for the quarter-finals with ease but will then face joint third seed Paul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen of Denmark.

It is a match which could go either way with the winner earning the right to play Heryanto in the semifinals.

The men's doubles promises some classic action with several of the top pairs in the world competing.

Leading the pack are World Grand Prix champion Ricky Subagja and Rexy Mainaky, who are the top seeds and tipped to play second seed Cheah Soon Kit and Soo Beng Kiang of Malaysia in the final.

In the women's singles, world champion Susi Susanti is set to dominate in the absence of top Chinese and South Korean shuttlers.

She is drawn to meet second seed Sarwendah Kusumawardhani, also from Indonesia, in the final.

Players from 19 countries would compete in the five-day tournament.



The players and an official of Abahani Krira Chakra who emerged champions in the Sylhet First Division football league, organised by the Sylhet District Association. — Star photo

## Falcon flies high in Buffalo

BUFFALO, New York, July 12: Cuba's Rodolfo Falcon held off a late challenge by American Tripp Schwenk with a World University Games record in the 100-metre back-stroke to claim his second gold medal on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Falcon's winning time of 55.60 seconds and Schwenk's silver medal clocking of 55.78 both surpassed the previous Games' record of 56.26 set in 1985 by Igor Polyanski of the Soviet Union.

Italy's Emanuele Meris took the bronze in 56.31.

Falcon, who picked up his first gold of the Games in the 200 back-stroke, was asked whether the possible defections of two Cuban teammates — baseball pitcher Edilbert Oropesa and fencer Geovany Perez — had been a distraction to him.

"It was a distraction to the delegation but of little distract-

tion to me," he said.

On Saturday, Oropesa scaled a fence at the baseball venue and rode away in a waiting car. Prez left his team's quarters in the Athletes' Village. US immigration officials would not say whether either of the athletes had sought asylum.

Schwenk's silver medal gave the American one of each. On Friday, he took bronze in the 200 back-stroke and on Saturday he paced the US to gold in the 4X100-metre medley relay.

Schwenk, however, said he expected three golds.

"I did not expect to lose tonight or Friday. It is just not in the cards for me this weekend. I feel I sort of let some people down, being on home ground," he said.

Now that he is finished competing at the Games, Schwenk said he intended to "eat pizza."

Belgium's Sandra Cam

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Festive counselor  
4 Oohs' mates  
7 Admitting air  
11 Slept like —  
13 Fracas  
14 Rum cake  
15 "The Gift of the —" (O. Henry)  
16 Low sound?  
17 Do what you're told  
18 Lewis Carroll's Boojum  
20 Motherless calf  
22 Campaign promise?  
24 Investors' jitters  
28 Move on casters  
32 Big dipper?  
33 Crosby's pal  
34 Crucial  
36 Vegetarian's no-no  
37 Stronghold?  
39 The Chosen people?

**DOWN**

1 Schools of whales  
2 Thicke or Arkin  
3 Meditative practice  
4 It's your sleeve  
5 Gangster  
6 Approach, eagle-style  
7 Johnny Cash hit  
8 Poke  
9 Li'l Abner's son  
10 Actor Liotta  
12 Doris Day's image  
19 Josh 21 4 qts.  
23 Wapiti

**25 Thought**  
**26 Family**  
**27 Collec-tions**  
**28 Bad guys?**  
**29 Hitchcock tour de force**  
**30 "— the Roof" (1963 song)**  
**31 "A mouse!"**  
**35 — Kippur**  
**38 Ad-dressee?**  
**40 Sartorial woe**  
**42 Picture puzzle**  
**45 Total receipts**  
**47 Tackles' team-mates**  
**48 Orem's state**  
**49 Capitol cap**  
**50 Take care of 40**  
**51 Shade**  
**52 — pro nobis**  
**54 John Ritter's dad**

**Solution time: 24 min.**

P	A	R	T	S	S	A	F	E	R	
R	O	M	E	R	O	E	P	O	D	E
A	M	U	S	E	D	V	I	R	T	L
V	A	L	T	A	K	E	S	T	I	A
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S	E	T	O	N	D	E	B	U	S	S
M	U	D	D	U	N					
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59					60					61	

**CRYPTOQUIP**

J U L F V H P L W J U I T H P R  
H W F V W M T R J M M R Q

I G P M G E G E I Q E Q I  
Saturday's Cryptoquip: ARCHAEOLOGY GRADUATES MARCHED TO "POMPEII AND CIRCUMSTANCE."

Today's Cryptoquip clue: F equals J

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.