

# Lewis looks at it differently

HOUSTON, July 21: World 100 metres record holder Carl Lewis said he would use a July 30 showdown with Olympic champion Linford Christie at Gateshead, England, as a stepping stone towards a double sprint victory at next month's World Championships, reports Reuters.

A British newspaper report said each runner would be paid 100,000 pounds sterling (150,000 dollars) each.

"The clash will be the first meeting between the pair since the 1991 Tokyo World Championship where Lewis won the gold in a world record 9.86



CARL LEWIS

"I'd like to run well at Gateshead, run better at Zurich and at least as well in Monte Carlo because that would set me up for the World Championships," Lewis told Reuters in a telephone interview on Tuesday.

Lewis said that after the Christie race he would run 100 metres and a 4x100-metre relay at Zurich on August 4 and 200 metres at Monte Carlo on August 7 before the Worlds.

Lewis for the first time will be seeking victories in both the 100 and 200 metres at the World Championships, which begin on August 14 in Stuttgart. He previously has concentrated on the 100 metres and long jump at the Championships.

Lewis said he was looking forward to racing against Christie but was disappointed it had taken so long to arrange. "I think it's good for the sport that we are able to compete," Lewis said about their duel at an invitation athletics meeting in Gateshead near Newcastle. "(But) there is no reason to have gone this long. "I guess he caved in to the pressure."

# Lewis-Bruno bout in October

LONDON, July 21: After months of on-again, off-again negotiations, WBC heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis has agreed to fight fellow Briton Frank Bruno in October, reports AP.

A news conference was scheduled Wednesday afternoon to announce details of the fight that British boxing fans have been longing to see.

Bruno said the bout will probably take place at Cardiff Arms Park in Wales. Wembley Stadium has also been mentioned as a possible venue.

The bout, which has been called off several times, became reality after Lewis' scheduled defence against American Tommy Morrison, was put off until next year.

Bruno was also involved in talks for a possible fight against IBF and WBA champion Riddick Bowe. But Lewis was always his preferred opponent.

After Lewis defeated Tony Tucker to retain his crown in May, his manager Frank Maloney said the next defence would be against Bruno on Sept 25 in Cardiff, Wales. But the bout was called off after a dispute over how the total purse would be split.

Maloney then announced that Lewis was "signed, sealed and delivered" to meet Morrison this fall to kick off a two-fight, \$10 million deal.

But the Lewis camp was unable to reach agreement with Caesars Palace in Las Vegas for a possible Nov 5 date, and a proposal from the newly-built MGM Grand was turned down.

"They gave us a Dec 30 date for Lewis and Morrison, but that wasn't acceptable," Maloney said. "But their offer of the last week in February and first week in March was OK for Lennox."

With the Morrison fight postponed, Maloney concen-

trated on making deal with the Bruno camp for an all-British contest.

Meanwhile, Maloney said he's turned down an offer from the Bowe camp for the two champions to get together in November, a deal that promised \$11 million for Lewis.

"The deal was \$11 million for Bowe and a 50-50 split if the final purse went above \$12 million," Maloney said. "We declined that, and the Bowe fight won't happen until the summer of 1994."

Lewis was awarded the WBC title last year after Bowe was stripped for failing to make his first defence against the British fighter. Bowe retained the International Boxing Federation and World Boxing Association crowns.

Bruno, who has lost title bouts to Tim Witherspoon and Mike Tyson, announced his retirement in 1989, but is 4-0 since returning to the ring in 1991.

He had been quoted on Sunday as saying that if it turned out Marseille general secretary Jean-Pierre Bernes had been involved in the bribery of Valenciennes players to rig a key league match in May, the European champions would be banned internationally and immediately.

He said a FIFA decision on the bribery affair might be taken as early as today when an examining magistrate confronts Bernes with Marseille and Valenciennes players who have named him as the instigator of the 250,000 franc (44,000 dollar) bribe.

That prompted French Football Federation (FFF) chief Jean Fournet-Fayard to warn FIFA against jumping the gun before the French judicial investigation was completed.

Asked about reports he had criticized the FFF for acting too slowly on the Marseille affair, Blatter told Le Provençal: "I simply said the Polish Federation had acted faster."

The European Football Union (UEFA) decided to keep Marseille in the draw for next season's Cup but has given the FFF until August 30 to nominate another club if the champions are found guilty of cheating and withdrawn.

ACOG names 6 US cities to host soccer qualifiers

ATLANTA, July 21: The Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) on Tuesday named six US cities as potential sites for preliminary matches in the Olympic soccer competition in 1996, reports Reuters.

The committee said the finalists were Birmingham, Alabama, Boston, Dallas, Miami, Orlando, Florida, and Washington. They were chosen from a total of 14 proposed sites.

Next month the cities will be visited by Atlanta Committee staff and officials from FIFA and USA Soccer. Up to four sites are expected to be selected to stage preliminary matches.

Each city chosen will host four to eight Olympic teams and between eight and 16 matches during the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, Atlanta Committee officials said.

Germany face uphill task

FRANKFURT, Germany, July 21: Defending champions Germany, put out of the Federation Cup by Australia in the first round, may have to play in the qualifying tournament to reach next year's finals, reports AFP.

The German injury crisis grew Wednesday when Anke Huber, winner at Kitzbuhel at the weekend, dropped out of Wednesday's vital playoff match against Austria because of a back strain.

The losers of the play-off matches here have to enter the qualifying competition next spring.

# Spectacular welcome for Gullit, Platt

GENOA, Italy, July 21: The arrival of Ruud Gullit and David Platt at Sampdoria on Tuesday drew 12,000 fans who caused traffic jams around the club's training ground, reports AFP.

The Dutchman and the England captain was the star attraction at the Genoa Club Bogliasso ground just down the coast.

Their presence caused one tailback 12 kilometers (7.5 miles) long. The cars even delayed the arrival of Gullit, 31, who has joined after six seasons at AC Milan.

"I am delighted to be here and I am sure we are going to achieve great things with this team," said the Dutch star.

Platt added: "This was a spectacular welcome today and I just want to thank everyone. I am not an out and out attacker but I think I will still score a lot of goals. I must first get used to the atmosphere."

# Blatter denies FIFA nexus

MARSEILLE, France, July 21: FIFA Secretary General Sepp Blatter today denied having threatened Marseille with an immediate international ban if bribery allegations were proved, reports Reuters.

The senior official of world soccer's governing body said it was up to the French soccer authorities to take disciplinary action first.

In an interview with the Marseille daily Le Provençal, Blatter said an interview he gave to the Swiss newspaper Sonntagsblick about the Marseille-Valenciennes bribery affair had been misinterpreted.

"The possible suspension of Marseille from the European Cup does not depend on us. We suspend a club only if it is suspended by its own federation," Blatter told the French paper.

"FIFA cannot act against a club. It is just a supervisor, an overseer of world soccer which has to keep an eye on everything that happens."

"For the moment, Marseille can be reassured about its future... FIFA will not put the cart before the horses."

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# The price Scherbo has to pay

LOS ANGELES, July 21: Life should be sweet for Vitaly Scherbo. He won six gold medals in the Barcelona Olympics. His homeland of Belarus is finally independent of the former Soviet Union. And

competition he's entered. "I spend time with the baby or travelling to exhibitions or some little competition and had no time to do my routines with the new tricks," he said.

Adding to his frustration is Scherbo's lack of a coach in the United States. He receives some

camp in Woodward, Pa. He and his wife, Irina, and daughter, Kristina, 4 1/2 months, are living with camp owners Ed and Barbara Isabelle.

"I know only gymnastics in my life and I can do only gymnastics, nothing else," he said. Kristina was born in the



VITALY SCHERBO ... sighs more than he smiles

he has a loving wife and infant daughter at home.

Yet the 21-year-old gymnast sighs more than he smiles these days, reports AP.

"Another side of this coin is a hard life," he said. "All the time travelling, I have a wife and daughter, it's very hard to take care of them."

Scherbo has maintained an exhausting pace since his Olympic domination nearly a year ago. And he's got lots of medals to prove it.

He's coming off a gold medal in the all-around in the World University Games in Buffalo, N.Y. last week. He also won gold on the vault, silver on the parallel bars and bronze on the high bar.

He won four medals, including the all-around gold, in the World Championships in April. He was the all-around champion in the American Cup in March.

In the past three years, Scherbo has finished no worse than third in the all-around portion of every international

help from former teammate Vladimir Novikov, an assistant coach at Penn State.

But mostly he's on his own. "It's very hard," he said.

Scherbo and Shannon Miller, who won five medals in Barcelona, headline the Hilton Challenge exhibition Wednesday night at the Sports Arena.

It's the first time teams from the United States, Belarus and Ukraine are competing against each other in gymnastics since the formation of the new independent states.

Scherbo dislikes the international travel because it takes him away from his family. He smiles at the memory of a brief vacation with his wife in Miami Beach.

"We had three days before an exhibition — no training, just have fun. No reporters, no TV. Sleep on the beach all day, water skiing, drink beer, whatever you want," he said.

Even when he's not on the road, Scherbo can't get away from the sport. He's staying temporarily at a gymnastics

United States while Scherbo was competing in the American Cup.

Scherbo would never encourage his daughter to pursue gymnastics because it's "enough to have one gymnast in the family."

Like most American parents, Scherbo is torn between a job — in his case, being the world's best male gymnast — and parental responsibilities.

"When I go into exhibitions and competition my wife stays with the baby. When I come home I want to help her," he said.

Scherbo eventually wants to settle his family somewhere permanently and become a coach.

That won't happen before the 1996 Olympics, however.

"I have every title and I have only just one dream. Little dream — to take more Olympic gold medals," he said.

"Just two to add to my six golds. Just to make some gymnastics record."

# Sharing, Tour de France style

ANDORRA, July 21: Members of a cycling squad are expected to put their Tour de France winnings into a team pool for all to share. This ranges from sprint bonuses to a \$10,000 first prize for an overall victory, reports AP.

Thus the members of the Banesto team earn part of leader Miguel Indurain's winnings as he rides toward a possible third consecutive victory.

Indurain held the leaders' yellow jersey as the tour took an off day Tuesday before it begins three stages in the Pyrenees. He has a lead of 3 minutes, 23 seconds over Alvaro Mejia of Colombia, 4:31 over Zeno Jaskula of Poland and 5:44 over Tony Rominger of Switzerland.

Throughout the Tour de France, Indurain's teammates have always been around him, protecting him, providing a draft, pacing him back to the pack when he falters.

In Monday's 15th stage, over nine climbs from Perpignan to Andorra, the Banesto team earned their share.

For most of the race they

formed a protective cushion around Indurain and did the pacing for the whole pack. The other top riders hung around waiting like vultures to attack.

The chance to attack never came because Indurain never ran out of helpful teammates. After the majority of the Banesto team faded late in the

# Fire at Atlanta Fulton Stadium

ATLANTA, July 21: Fire erupted at Atlanta Fulton County Stadium, home of the Atlanta Braves baseball team, just as fans were filing in for a Tuesday evening game with the St. Louis Cardinals, reports Reuters.

The fire erupted in a luxury box immediately adjacent to the press box.

Witnesses who were in the stadium at about 6 pm when the fire started said it was preceded by an explosion that "sounded like a cannon."

Fans were evacuated and there were no immediate reports of casualties.

race, Gerard Rue was still leading Indurain.

"Miguel prefers a high tempo and continuous pace. My role was to accompany him as far as possible," Rue said.

Entering the final 6-mile (9.6 kilometre) climb, Rue finally tired and left Indurain alone. Others, such as Tony Rominger and Alvaro Mejia, were ready to make their move.

Then team member Pedro Delgado came up suddenly, taking over the pacemaking chores.

"All the team worked in a great way," said Rue, who ended up more than eight minutes behind, but did his job. "That Banesto, it's a great team," said Eric Boyer of France, a member of the rival GAN team. "They did their work from start to finish."

Rominger spent most of the day near Indurain, waiting for his chance to attack. However Rominger lacked the resources he had in the Alps and only made one final burst to move to second as Indurain let up, content to stay close.

# 'The Olympics — China's Dream'

BEIJING, July 21: Chinese grandmothers and young children joined tens of thousands of screaming rock fans for two nights this week when they turned out at slickly run concerts in support of Beijing's Olympic bid, reports AP.

More than 10,000 people filled the capital stadium Sunday and Monday to hear six of Beijing's hippest rock bands perform with the latest equipment and lighting systems at "The Olympics — China's Dream" concerts.

Sunday's concert was the kind of family affairs the authorities had banked on when permitting two entertainment companies to organise such an unpredictable event under the banner of its bid to host the 2000 Games.

Young Chinese danced and — in the absence of the promotional T-shirts sold at most western gigs — waved concert publicity posters alongside small children who covered their ears when the bass accompanying heavy metal singer Wang Di got too much.

Lights flickered and the whole stadium broke into song when Zhang Chu, a young rock-and-roller, broke into his popular ballad "Sister." Banners declaring "Luo Qi, I love you" appeared as the female lead singer of compass appeared, bringing the male-dominated crowd's excitement to a high.

In a fairly low-key security operation, officers dotted around the stadium seemed more interested in tapping their feet to the music than keeping a close eye on the crowd.

But on Monday extra security guards appeared as a more hard-core crowd threatened to upset the good-natured atmosphere the organisers had promised in return for permission to stage the concert.

Small groups of people were dragged from the stadium as the paper aeroplanes thrown the previous night were put aside in favour of more harmful missiles — half-full plastic water bottles.

In some cases it was, ironically, overzealous support for the Olympic bid that attracted the unwelcome attention of security guards.

One officer rushed in pursuit of young men from northwestern Shandong province, who teetered on a narrow ledge way above the crowd waving a banner reading "Olympic Dream —

Chinese Dream. Shandong people look forward to the Olympic Games."

After months of exposure to official campaigning, he and many others appeared well-versed in their praise of the bid. "Olympics — it's my dream," one man confided in his best English after the concert.

Zhao Xiaoping, one of the concert's organisers, acknowledged however that supporting the Olympic bid was little more than a cover.

"From my own point of view, I think hosting the Olympics would be good for China, but really we were just looking for an opportunity for all these bands to perform together," said Zhao.

In comparison to the usual intrusiveness of the government's Olympic campaign, ref-



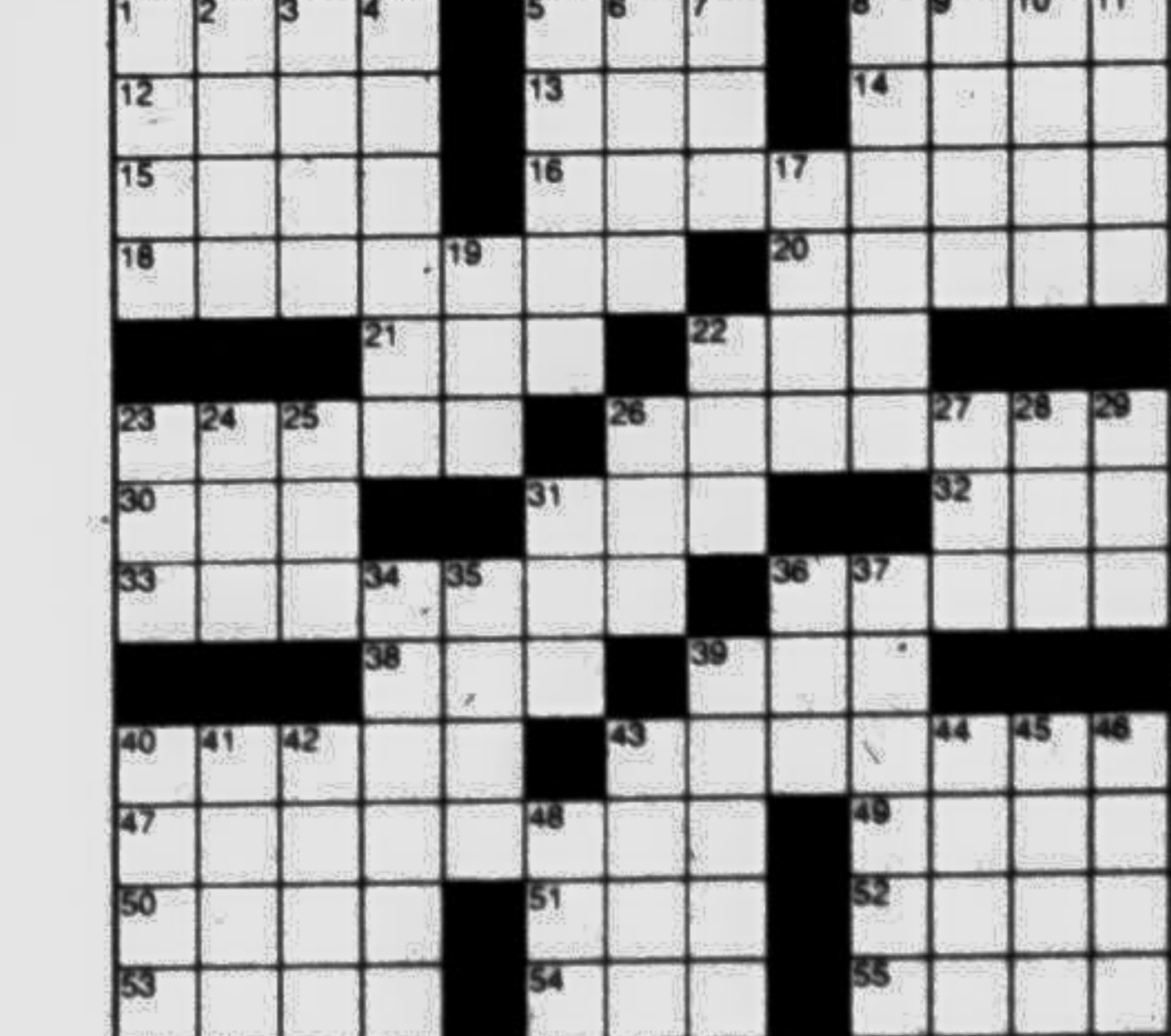
Luo Qi, the lead singer of Chinese rock band Compass, performs during a concert styled "The Olympics — China's Dream" on July 19. Some 10,000 people turned out for the show organised in support for Beijing's bid for Olympics 2000. The price of tickets ranged from 20 to 150 yuan although many were distributed for free. — AFP photo

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 39 La —, 40 Bet after attention or go 5 Children's game 29 — Moines 31 Turk's topper 34 Not obligated 35 Guitar's ancestor 36 Predicament 10 Otherwise 11 Tennis player Wilander 17 — pro quo 19 Build on 39 Meat pie 40 He played TV's Batman 41 Actress Nazimova 42 Equipment 43 Dressing room occupant 44 Caesar's "I saw" 45 Ingredient in A.G. Bell's serenity 46 Memorization method 48 Fresh

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Solution time: 24 mins.



# CRYPTOQUIP

FTACWDT MSCYLFWCG  
CTDDP APGVYWMCFWPC  
CYMC YTYMP  
CSFCDT FTVMDD  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: POPULAR RESTAURANT, FAMOUS FOR ITS POTATO DISHES, NEEDED A MASHER.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: A equals P  
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.