## Afro-American dominance on Day 4



STUTTGART, Aug 18: American and African runners shared the honours on a spellbinding fourth

day at the World Athletics Championships here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Michael Johnson and Jearl Miles won the men's and women's 400 metres for the United States while Mozambique's Maria Mutola crushed her women's 800m opponents and astonishing Kenyan Paul Ruto triumphed in the men's 800m.

Jackie Joyner-Kersee pulled off a remarkable escape act in the heptathlon.

Below-par performances had left her needing to beat Germany's Sabine Braun by half a second in the 800m, the last event, it reclaim the title she was forced to abandon in Tokyo.

She went out slowly but overtook Braun 200-metres away from the finish and had a two second advantage at the

Johnson's guardsman-stiff back and short, pattering strides make him look ungainly but it does not stop him running very fast.

He ran the third-fastest 400m of all-time when he searched home in 43.65sec.

Only Butch Reynolds, who ran a world record 43.29 sec in Zurich exactly five years ago, and Olympic champion Quincy Watts (43.50 and 43.71) had run faster. Reynolds followed Johnson

home in 44.13 and Samson Kitur hung on for the bronze in 44.54 although the race did not quite reach the heights of the Olympic final when the first six finished in under 45 seconds.

Hopes of an American clean sweep were dashed when the sole of Watts' shoe ripped off. "It was a lot easier than I

thought it was going to be," said Johnson. "I felt a lot better today than I did yesterday. When I felt tired going into the semifinals. Today, I felt great. "I knew that if I just did what

was supposed to do, everything would take care of itself." Reynolds, who has devoted his energies to fighting a drugs ban for most of the last three years, was satisfied to be back at the top in athletics.

"I tried to run the best race could and be consistent... and I'm pleased with that. Michael's a great athlete and it's going to take a lot to beat him."

Watts held his ripped shoe up after the race and said. This

Austin wins

another match

she won 12 years ago, took an-

over Audra Keller in the first

round of the Matinee Ltd.

and I feel I'm progressing with

each tournament," said Austin,

her right arm wrapped in a

sling with ice after the match. "

fell a little bit more comfortable

champion who has won nearly

dirs 2 million, has been beset

by assorted back injuries thro-

from a car accident in 1989.

ugh the years and a broken leg

and a pair of victories last week

at the Virginia Slims of Los

Angeles have given her renewed

confidence. She is now in the

rankings for the first time in 10

Jennifer Capriati, the No. 6

seed and 1991 Canadian Open champion, advanced with a 6-2,

6-1 victory over Chanda Rubin,

and No. 15 Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan won the last 12 games

on route to a 7-5, 6-0 decision

Letla Meskhi of Georgia defeated

Rene Simpson-Alter of Canada

6-3, 6-4; No. 7 Anke Huber of

Germany beat Brenda Schultz

of the Netherlands 6-3, 6-0; and

No. 8 Manuela Maleeva-Fragni-

ere of Switzerland topped

Ruxandra Dragomir of Romania

No. 9 Helena Sukova of the

Czech Republic stopped Noelle

van Lottum of France 6-3, 6-3; No.' 14 Katerina Maleeva of Bul-

garia defeated Natalia Medvedeva of Ukraine 6-1, 6-4; No. 16

Lori McNetl beat Elena Likhov-

tseva 6-1, 7-5; No. 17 Natalia

Zyereva of Belarus dropped

Rachel McQuillan of Australia,

6-2, 2-6, 6-1, and No. 18

Miri-am Oremans of the

Netherlands downed Meredith

Ullyett downs

Doyle in Bronx

Pro Classic

Ullyett, a South African who

turned down a tennis scholar-

ship from the University of

Texas two years ago to turn pro,

scored a 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory

Monday over Grant Doyle of

Australia in the first round of

the Bronx Pro Classic, reports

NEW YORK, Aug 18: Kevin

McGrath 6-4, 6-1.

7-5, 6-4.

In other first-round matches,

over Canada's Patricia Hy.

In second-round matches,

years, at No. 159.

Minor successes this year

Austin, a two-time US Open

on the court."

"I'm enjoying what I'm doing

Canadian Open, reports AP.

is the answer." Mozambique's Maria Mutola became the first black African

woman to win a World

Championship and she did so in devastating fashion. However, hopes for a Mozambique double were dashed when her cousin Tina Paulino, the fastest qualifier, fell and also brought down de-

fending champion Lilia

Nurutdinova of Russia. The 32-year-old Ruto underlined the notion that you only need to drive into the bush to whistle up a world-beating run-

He had turned up for the

sponded too late. Ruto kept on and was as surprised as anyone to find he had won.

"I kept asking, where is Konchellah, so I went for it," he He only took up running five years ago and was clearly

impressed by the Mercedes he collects as winner. "It's a nice car," he said. Jearl Miles became the first American world champion at 400 metres when she ran a personal best of 49.82 seconds.

That equalled the world best for the season set by Gwen Torrence who is hoping to add the world title to her Olympic



(L) embrace after winning and silver respectively in the men's 400m final at the World Athletics Championships in Stuttgart on Aug 17. Johnson clocked 43.65 secs and — AFP photo Reynolds 44.13 secs.

Kenyan trials and beat Olympic champion William Tanui and world champion Bill Konchellah but he only qualified for Tuesday's final as the fastest

He was designated by the Kenyans to go out fast but Konchellah and Tanui re-

Natasha Kaiser-Brown made it an American double in 50.17 and Sandie Richards of Jamaica snatched the bronze in 50.44.

Tatyana Alekseyeva of Russia led coming off the bend but was overhauled by the two Americans and then lost the third place to Richards in the last couple of strides.

The only other American to win an Olympic or World Championship 400m was Valerie Brisco-Hooks at Los Angeles in 1984 when the Soviets and East Germans boycotted.

Kevin Young cut his right knee when he set the fastest qualifying time for Thursday's 400m hurdles final.

\*Mentally and physically was able to dictate what wanted to do," the Olympic champion said after dipping under 48 seconds.

. Winthrop Graham of Jamaica and Zambia's defending champion Samuel Matete, who have both beaten Young this year, were second and third fastest.

Local favourite Lars Riedel, who failed to qualify for last year's Olympic final, retained his discuss throw title.

Sergey Bubka, another Olympic flop, needed only one jump to qualify for the pole

Only three men jumped the qualifying height of 5.75m but Bubka's 5.65m - 48cm below his world record - gave him the chance to win a fourth world ti-

The United States topped the medals table with six gold, three silver and two bronze.

Germany, China and Kenya had each won two golds, while former sports superpower Russia were still waiting for their first after four silvers.

#### MEDALS TABLE

Medals table after the fourth day of the World Athletics Championships on Tuesday (tabulate under gold, silver,

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Germany	2 (	2
Finland	1 1	0
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## Becker given a bumpy ride



INDIANAPOLIS Aug 18: Boris Becker was forced to go the distance in his second-round match at the 1.04 million US dollar RCA

Championships hardcourt tournament on Tuesday while birthday boy Jim Courter was barely challenged, reports Reuter.

The third-seeded Becker struggled with 157th-ranked Andrew Sznajder of Canada for a 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 win. The second seeded Courier, who turned 23 on Tuesday, captured an easy 6-3, 6-2 second-round victory over 78th-ranked Jaime Oncins of Brazil.

The top eight seeds received

first-round byes. The fourth-ranked Becker showed his lack of match play this summer. He double faulted 11 times and had 53 unforced errors in the two hour, '41

minute match. "I think I am at the stage

where I need to play more matches," said Becker, who had played just two matches since his semifinal appearance at

"I have been on the practice court, but in my opinion, I need to play more matches to get that right kind of shape and the right kind of frame of mind."

An unsettled Becker trailed 3-0 in the opening set, losing his serve at love in the second

"I felt kind of strange on the court, fighting to play a match again after being away for two weeks," said Becker, who pulled out of last week's Cincinnati event because of a foot injury. "I didn't feel very comfortable on the court for the first 15 minutes or so.' Becker held his next three service games without dropping a point and broke serve in the seventh game to even the score at 4-4. He won the final two games of



German heptathlete Sabine Braun throws the javelin in the women's competition at the World Athletics Championships - AFP photo in Stuttgart on Aug 17.

There were four service breaks in the middle of the second set as both players searched for control. The German handed Sznajder the second set when he double faulted three times, including the last two points, in the 12th

Becker finally lived up to his favoured status in the match when he broke Sznajder's serve in the fifth game of the final set. Sznajder wouldn't go away easily though, saving five match points in the final game before Becker won.

The second-ranked Courier never offered Oncins an opportunity to break serve in the one hour. 28 minute match. Courier lost only two points

on serve in the first set and broke serve in the fourth game. Oncins cut down on his mistakes in the second set from 20 unforced errors to 10. But it didn't help as he lost his serve

in the third and seventh

There was a lot of hard hitting and not a lot of finesse out there," said Courier. "It felt pretty good to get one under my

Last week in Cincinnati Courter went down to Australian Jason Stoltenberg in the second round and cramped following that match.

In other matches, Martin, seeded fifth, lost a secondround match 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-0 to Jaime Yzaga of Peru.

Martin, one of the hottest players on tour after reaching the finals at Washington and Montreal, has moved from 92nd to 14th in the world rankings. But Tuesday's loss was his second in a row to the 64th-ranked Yzaga.

\*Jaime has got a very good game," Martin said. "He is solid everywhere and he actually served better than I expected him to today.

Brad Gilbert defeated Aaron Krickstein 1-6, 6-3, 7-6(8-6) in a match postponed from Monday because of rain, and Brett Steven, seeded 15th, rebounded from a bout with food potsoning last week at Cincinnati to down local favourite Todd Witsken 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) in a first-round match.

#### Save the Athletes of Bosnia Project

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. Aug 18: Thirty athletes from Bosnia and Herzegovina will come to the United States to train for the next Olympics, reports AP.

### For China, sky is the limit

STUTTGART, Aug 18: Not satisfied with sweeping all the women's 3000m medals here, China is now preparing to take on mighty Kenyans at long distance running, reports AFP.

Shang Xiutang, China's del-egation chief at the World Championships, warned the Kenyans on Wednesday that they could be in for a shock in the years to come.

"Now, our goal is to get good results from 800m to 10,000m, not only 3,000," Shang told

"We have many, many mountains in China and many different altitudes. We've got high altitude training camps both in the north, for the summer, and in the south for the winter. I don't think over countries have such good conditions."

"We're sure that, some day in the future, we can beat the Kenyans."

China's unexpected hattrick in the 3,000m will certainly have given their rivals food for thought, but Shang didn't seem surprised by the feat.

"We're coming for the experience. Although Chinese coaches only seldom come to international competitions, they're busy. They collect a great deal of information about what, other athletes are doing from television and newspapers, they study it and they use it for their training along with their own ideas.

"Maybe the problem is that we say too little. Because of the language barrier, we can't express what we've been doing for the last few years."

However, Shang said that for obvious reasons, China was only focusing on specific disci-

Sprinting, for example, remains a low priority "Chinese people don't have the right body condition," he

said. "We're smaller than western and European people. And the muscles are not as developed." But he made it clear that

China is determined to make its mark.

"We have a lot of athletes in China," he declared. "About a third of them have world class times and two thirds of them have the top Asian times."

## Old is gold

BAY ST LOUIS, Miss, Aug 18: Shawn Fitzgerald came out jabbing and dancing like an opponent from Roberto Buren's past. But when their fight was over Tuesday night at Castno Magic, Duran has gained his 90th victory and 62nd knockout, reports AP.

The 42-year-old Duran, a four-time champion, forced the 23-year-old Fitzgerald on the ropes and unleashed a furious combination that put the Worchester, Masa, native on his knees with 1:33 gone in the sixth round.

Fitzgerald was counted out by referee Elmo Adolph for his first loss in 20 professional fights. Fitzgerald is 17-1-2.

"I felt he was trying to counterpunch the entire fight," Duran said through his interpreter and promoter Luis DeCubas.

"Once I established the jab, the fight was over. I hit him with a short uppercut, a left book and then a straight right hand. What established the knockout was a right to the body. The way he was moving reminded me some of (Sugar Ray) Leonard."

Duran improved to 90-9 with his second victory at Casino

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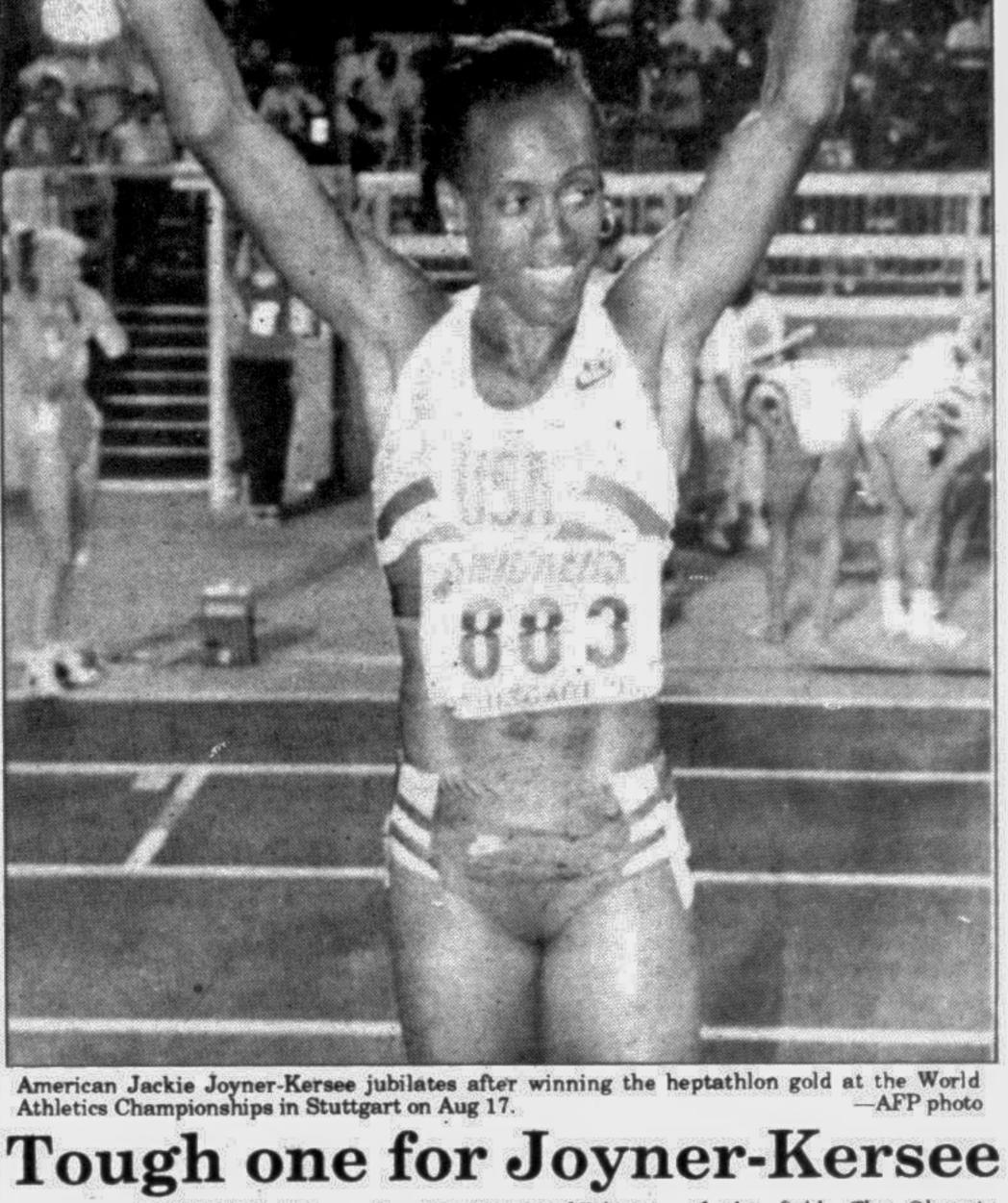
34 One of

31 Off base

29 Saute

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32 All-





STUTTGART, Aug 18: Olympic champion Jackie Joyner-Kersee needed to draw on all of her experience

and energy to hold onto her round female athlete on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

in a dramatic end to the women's heptathlon at the World Athletics Championships, the American held off a fierce challenge from Germany's defending champion Sabine Braun to win by just 40 points.

The battle was settled only after a showdown in the seventh and last event, the 800 metres, when Joyner-Kersee showed superior stamina in a tough last lap to finish some 15 metres ahead of Braun and clinch the winning points.

Braun had gone into the race with a seven-point lead. But despite the support of the partisan German crowd, the diminutive German could not keep up with Joyner-Kersee in the final 300 metres and had to be happy with second place. The American, unbeaten in a

heptathlon since 1985 apart from the Tokyo World Championships two years ago when she pulled out with an injury while leading, totalled 6,837 points to Braun's 6,797.

Sevetlana Buraga of Belarus was third with 6,635 points. At last year's Barcelona Olympics Joyner-Kersee wrote herself into the record books by becoming the first women to defend her title in the heptathlon,

Angeles Games. She comfortably won the Barcelona competition by 199

or the pentathlon which pre-

ceded it until the 1984 Los

But Joyner-Kersee, named Jacqueline after the wife of US President John Kennedy because her grandmother said "some day this girl will be the first lady of something," faced the biggest challenge of her ca-

She had a slim eight-point lead after Monday's first four events following a disappointing first day by the standards of a women who has dominated the event for the best part of a decade.

reer in Stuttgart.

Despite a good performance in the long jump at the start of the second day, 31-year-old Joyner-Kersee knew she had to beat Braun by a good margin to make sure of gold after the German outthrew her in the javelin.

While American Kym Carier took up the pace at the front, Joyner-Kersee and Braun had their personal battle at the back of the field. The Olympic champion kept on Braun's shoulder until just before the bell when she moved ahead With 300 metres to go

Joyner-Kersee started to kick down the back straight and was moving away from Braun with ease as she came down the home straight Joyner-Kersee finished

fourth in two minutes 14.49 seconds with Braun in sixth in 2:17.82. "I've never been in such a

tough situation as this," Joyner Kersee said. "It was too bad that one of us had to lose. I would have liked us both to win. "I would never have believed

that I could have such a bad first day. I'm glad it's over.

Joyner-Kersee was below her best in the 100 hurdles and high jump on Monday.

But she started the second day positively with a superb third leap of 7.04 metres in the long jump, a distance which would have given her silver medal in the individual event

The performance secured a 161-point lead for the 1992 Olympic long jump bronze medalist after the morning session. Braun's best was a 6.54 metre jump at the second at-

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

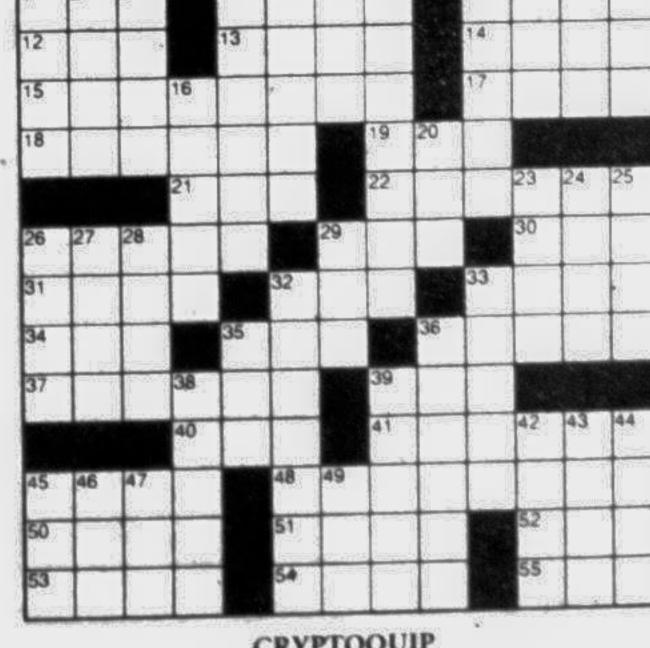
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CRYPTOQUIP

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LXPRQRJC. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: OUR WARM BARBER SO CHERISHED HIS PRECIOUS COMB THAT HE HATED TO PART WITH IT.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: L 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.