

# Peshalov's professionalism

MELBOURNE, Nov 13: Nikolai Peshalov put the welfare of his pregnant wife out of his mind Saturday night as he swept all three gold medals in the men's 59-kilogram class at the World Weightlifting Championships, reports AP.

Peshalov, 23, collected Bulgaria's second title in men's competition following the triumph of Ivan Ivanov in the 54-kilogram event on Friday.

Peshalov lifted 137.5 kg in the snatch and 167.5 kg in the clean-and-jerk for a total of 305 kg (672 1/2 lbs) in the new division. Both the total and the jerk will be ratified as world records in the newly-recognized weight class.

Hafiz Suleymanoglu of Turkey finished second overall with 295 kg (650 1/2 lbs), while Tang Ningsheng of China was third overall on 292.5 kg (644 3/4 lbs).

Suleymanoglu, who migrated from Azerbaijan to Turkey in 1989, took the silver in the snatch and Qiu Shanlin of China the bronze, while Giorgos Tzelilis of Greece took the silver in the jerk and Tang the bronze.

Olympic champion Chan Byung-kwan of South Korea could only finish fourth overall. "It was very hard to concentrate without knowing what was going on back home," Peshalov said. "I didn't want to ring before the competition because I was too nervous and now I can't get a (phone) line to Bulgaria."

Peshalov, a curly-headed full-time weightlifter who won his first world title in 1990, was an silver medalist in the 60-kilogram class at the Barcelona Olympics.

He said his wife Lubka was expecting their first child in their hometown of Pazardjik. The baby was due Saturday.

"Now I hope to have two things to celebrate," he said. He said he planned to call the baby Victoria in honour of his victory if it is a girl, but would let his wife choose the name if it is a boy.

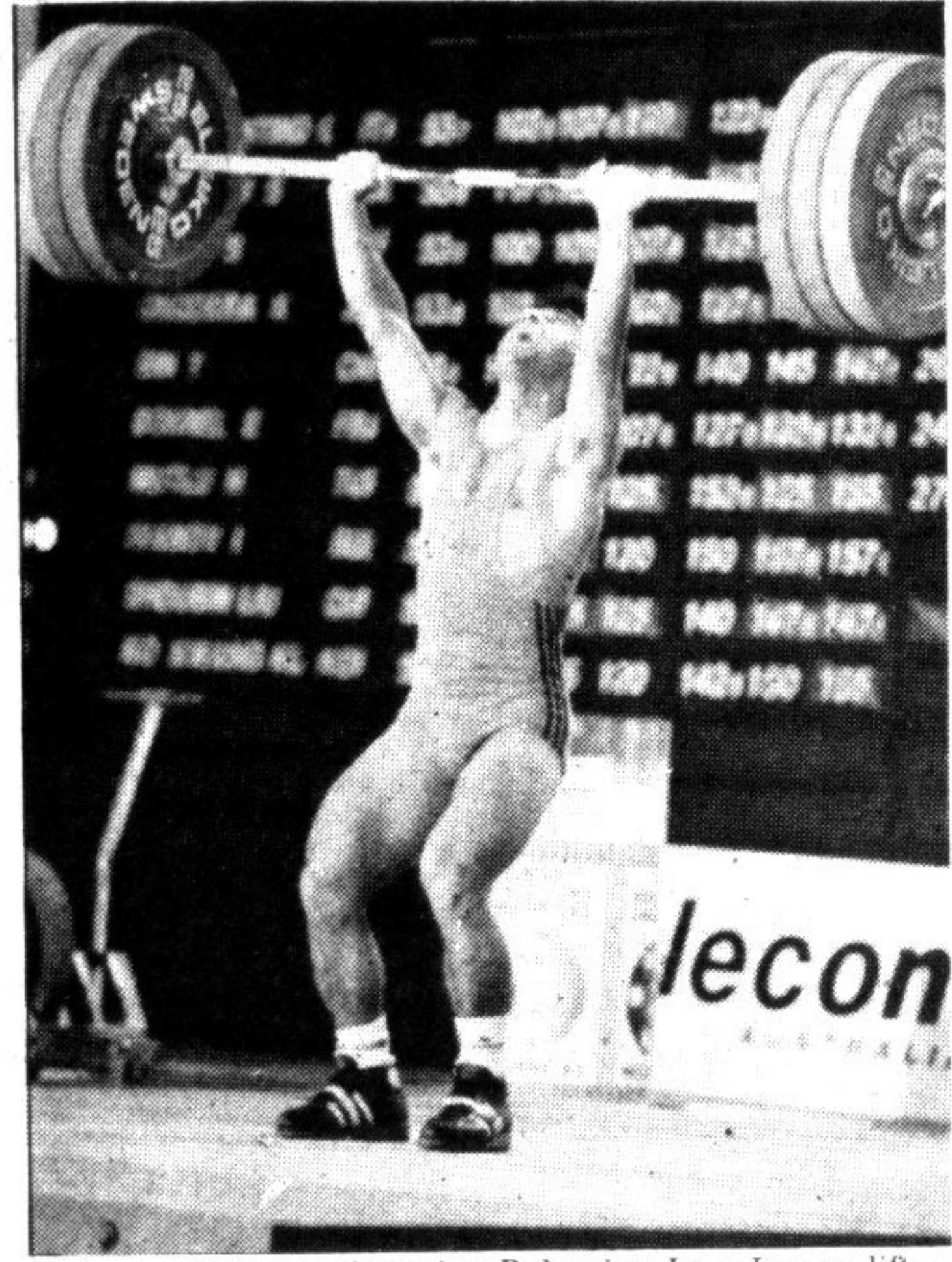
Earlier, Chinese language student Liu Xiuhua needed only three lifts to defeat compatriot Guan Hong and win the women's 50-kilogram class gold medal.

Liu, a stocky 18-year-old

from Guangdong province, took the gold medals in both the clean-and-jerk and overall competitions.

She lifted 77.5 kg (170 3/4 lbs) in the snatch and 110 kg (242 1/2 lbs) in the clean-and-jerk for a total of 187.5 kg (413 1/4 lbs).

Liu lifted only once in the snatch, conceding the gold medal to her friend Guan, who lifted the same total but had a lighter bodyweight. Liu then



Reigning Olympic champion Bulgarian Ivan Ivanov lifts 157.5 kilograms in the 54-kilogram class to set a new world record at the World Weightlifting Championships in Melbourne on Nov 12.

lifted 10 kg (22 lbs) more than her teammate with her second clean-and-jerk to score a comprehensive victory.

"I felt very confident that I would win," Liu said. "I felt I could have lifted more if I had needed to."

Liu won a world title for the second straight year following her triumph in the 48-kilogram class last year. Guan won the 44-kilogram class last year in

Sofia, Bulgaria. Guan, who was unable to compete in the 46-kilogram class on Friday after coming in overweight, took the silver medals in both the clean-and-jerk and overall, while Kuo Chiu-Chun of Chinese Taipei took the bronze medal in all three categories.

The winning lifts in each discipline will be recognised as world records under controversial new International Weight-

lifting Federation weight groupings. The championships are the first event in which world records can be officially recognized in the new classes. World records are set when lifters exceed world standards which were laid down during the year. Lifting in 10 men's divisions and nine women's divisions at the Royal Exhibition Building continues through Nov 21.

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Aged 16, she watched black athletes run away with the medals at an international meeting on television and promised her parents she would beat them — a promise she fulfilled last year. Her only brother returned home after serving in the army but was killed in a traffic accident before seeing Junxia again. The news was withheld from her for three months so she could finish a major sports meeting.

But in primary school she began to win athletics competitions. By the time the family moved to Dalian in 1985 she was running at least an hour a day on the beach and, in winter, an hour a day along snow capped roads, with never a day's rest.

In middle school she ran home for lunch and then ran back to school, a total distance of 10 km (six miles) each day.

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— AFP photo

# The sad story of a Chinese superwoman

BEIJING, Nov 13: The new superwoman of Chinese athletics was weak and malnourished as a child and was told by her mother to avoid looking at people who were well fed, reports Reuter.

Hang Junxia, 20, won the Marathon World Cup in San Sebastian two weeks ago, after destroying the world 10,000 metres and 3,000 metres records at China's National Games in Beijing in October.

The People's Daily on Friday published a moving interview with her parents, farmers who live in a village on the outskirts of Dalian.

Wang was born in January 1973 when the family lived in a village in Jilin province to the north, the youngest in a family of one son and two daughters.

As a child, she was a weakling and could not lift her head until she was three and none of the neighbours asked her to help with farmwork because she looked too frail, the newspaper said.

But in primary school she began to win athletics competitions. By the time the family moved to Dalian in 1985 she was running at least an hour a day on the beach and, in winter, an hour a day along snow capped roads, with never a day's rest.

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— AFP photo

# Jansher posts a breezy win

DOHA, Nov 13: World squash champion Jansher Khan breezed into the second round of the dhrs 135,000 Qatar International Friday, beating Australia's Anthony Hill in straight games as he began the defence of the title he won last year, reports AP.

Backed by a small but enthusiastic crowd of Pakistani expatriates here, Khan took just 29 minutes to book a place in the second round where he will face Mark Car-lyon.

"The reception I get from the fans here is fantastic," Khan said. "I feel like I am playing in Pakistan. It's very important to get the crowd on your side."

The tournament, however, has been hit by the absence of two of the top Australians. World No. 2 Chris Dittmar pulled out last month suffering from a knee injury.

Controversial Australian Tristan Nancarrow, the world No. 11 player, also withdrew on the eve of the contest because of injury.

His late withdrawal could mean a fine being imposed by the Professional Squash Players Association.

Canada's Jamie Crombie, who had been expecting to leave for home after losing in the qualifying event, took Nancarrow's place in the first round draw.

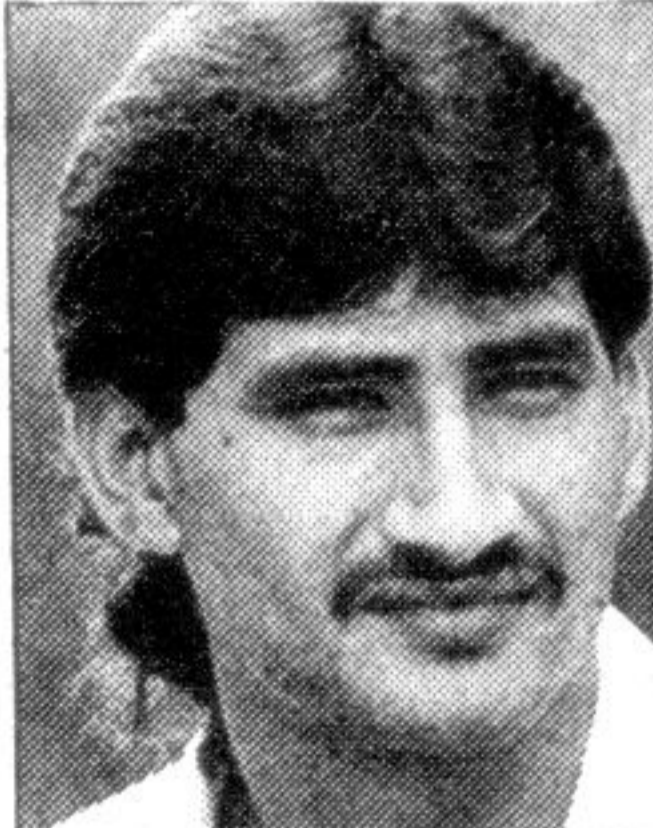
But he went out to Car-lyon in three games.

Meanwhile, an AFP report adds: Jansher Khan has not ruled out playing in India's first major squash tourna-

ment next month, despite death threats from Hindu extremists.

The world champion from Pakistan has been widely reported as withdrawing from the Mahindra International Challenge in Bombay because of the threats.

But his manager Satinder Bajwa insisted here on Friday that such speculation was premature.



JANSHER KHAN

"Jansher hasn't made any decision and neither has he had an invitation to the Bombay event," said Bajwa, an Indian.

"We have been advised by the Professional Squash Association it is not safe for him to go to India and I understand that, but I want to see the proper procedure followed."

"I want to have the invitation and then discuss it with Jansher and see what he says," added Bajwa. "It's one thing to have advice and an-

other to be told what he should do."

Jansher is popular in India and here he to play there after all, it could cause confusion. An invitation has apparently already been sent to Chris Walker, the world number nine from England, to play in Bombay.

However, Jansher will not want to worry too much about such matters during the Qatar International here, a vital build-up to the defence of his world title in Karachi next week.

# JAHANGIR'S BACK

The other great Pakistani, Jahangir Khan, makes his comeback after nine months out with a back injury in the bottom half of the first round today.

The legend who has won the British Open a record 10-times will face English qualifier Paul Lord.

Jahangir helped calm the atmosphere after bitter post-match allegations about the refereeing from an angry Abdul Fahim Khan.

Abdul, a Pakistani who represents Hong Kong, accused Welsh referee Peter Lawrence of racism after a match in which he was beaten in straight games by England's Tony Hands.

At match point Abdul had a penalty stroke awarded against him for failing to give his opponent a fair view of the ball. He was still fuming about it in the arena cooler after.

But Jahangir has a cooler view. "Sometimes referees just make mistakes which have nothing to do with colour," Jahangir said.

# Four more Russians in trouble

MOSCOW, Nov 13: Four more Russian weightlifters have been caught using anabolic steroids, bringing to seven the number who have tested positive for banned drugs since the national championships in September, reports Reuter.

Viktor Polyakov, head of the Russian Weightlifting Federation, said on Friday the four were caught in tests conducted in Moscow just after the St Petersburg Championships.

Polyakov declined to name the four, but told a Russian sports journalist that the federation was currently considering how to punish them.

Official source said the best known of the four were Igor Kachurin, a European champion in 1992 and Russian Champion Avetin Davtyan.

The four, previously unpublished, cases are in addition to the positive dope tests on three leading weightlifters — Maxim Agapitov, Andrei Matveyev and Ramzan Mussayev that led to Russia being banned from the current World Championships in Melbourne, Australia.

That ban waived after the federation paid a 50,000 dollars fine.

# Bubka in business

MARSEILLE, France, Nov 13: Sergey Bubka, the Ukrainian master of the pole vault, is to set up a top-level sports centre near here, reports AFP.

Bubka is buying a hotel and accompanying land at Salon-de-Provence, according to the centre's future director Francois Bourret on Friday.

The costs were not revealed but are at estimated six million francs (one million dollars) before building work, which is due to start in January and finish May.

The world champion and world record holder is putting in a sauna, jacuzzi, weights rooms, swimming pool and gym.

The centre, which will bear Bubka's name, will also offer cross country running and mountain biking.

# Maradona's game of life

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, Nov 13: Star midfielder Diego Maradona said Friday that the upcoming qualifier between the Argentina and Australia national soccer teams for a berth in the 1994 World Cup will be the "match of my life," reports AP.

"I'm going to play no matter what, and I want everybody to know I'm in good shape," the 33-year-old said.

Maradona pinched a nerve in his back during Argentina's 1-1 tie in Sydney on Oct 31.

# It's too hot to ski yet

OBERHOFEN, Switzerland, Nov 13: Women's alpine skiing World Cup races set for the Nov 20-21 weekend at Veysonnaz, Switzerland, may have to be postponed because of warm weather, the International Ski Federation said Friday, reports AP.

"It looks bad," federation spokeswoman Sonja Reichen said. "The situation is the same everywhere."

The federation is seeking possible alternate sites in Europe for the slalom and giant slalom, the first non-glacier women's races this season.

# Don King's words of wisdom

PHILADELPHIA, Nov 13: Boxing promoter Don King advised students at the prestigious Wharton School of Business to "rhapsodize and soliloquize," reports AP.

Whatever that means. King talked and fielded questions for about 90 minutes Wednesday night at the University of Pennsylvania. A standing-room-only crowd of about 300 students laughed, applauded and even paid attention to the self-styled "pioneer and trailblazer, a maverick, an entrepreneur with magic and vision, a bridge over troubled waters."

Although King had no band in last week's Riddick Bowe-Evander Holyfield title fight, the

bizarre doings surrounding the bout could not escape him during his introduction to the students.

"We would have had this presentation outdoors, but the threat of a parachutist pushed us inside," King was told.

Replied King: "This is not a normal presentation because I'm not a normal individual."

One nugget of advice from King concerned taxes.

"You must write it on before you write it off," said the man who once was acquitted on 24 counts of income-tax evasion.

Questions from the audience concerned former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, and the answer to one caught everybody's attention.

"You're talking about business," said a student, who identified himself as "Big Rob"

Brooks. "Well, Mike Tyson being in jail, was that business on your part?"

"No, Mike Tyson being in jail was monkey business on his part," King said.

After the session, King said he meant Tyson, convicted of rape in Indiana, was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Some King business tips:

— "You don't get what you desire, you get what you negotiate."

— "Image is the most important thing," he said of his electric hairdo. "My logo (Don encased in a crown) in the ring is like the Good Housekeeping seal."

— "Never underestimate yourself. I have had setbacks every now and then. Failures? Never."

# Buenos dias for Bueno

SEOUL, Nov 13: Mexican challenger Jose Luis Bueno outpunched South Korea's Moon Sung-ki to become the new World Boxing Council super flyweight champion with a split decision in a 12-round title match Saturday, reports AP.

The two boxers staged a slugfest from the start, with Bueno being floored in the third round before about 5,000 spectators at a gymnasium in the industrial city of Pohang, 280 kilometers (173 miles) southeast of Seoul.

One judge called the bout 115-114 for Moon, but two others carded 117-112 and 118-100 for Bueno.

# One's dream, others' nightmare

NEW YORK, Nov 13: Guenter Parche's dream came true in what has been a nightmare year for women's tennis.

Steffi Graf has not only clinched the No 1 ranking in the world, she has earned more than dhrs 2.5 million in 1993, reports AP.

That leaves only the bragging rights — and dhrs 250,000 — available for the winner of the Virginia Slims Championships, which begins its week-long run Monday at Madison Square Garden and wraps up a troubled season for the spot.

At a tournament in Hamburg, Germany, on April 30, Parche stabbed Monica Seles in the back, admittedly so his idol Graf could regain the No 1 ranking.

Seles has not played since, while Graf, as Parche wanted, regained the top spot on the computer to go with her nine tournament titles she won prior to this past week's tournament in Philadelphia, the final tuneup for the unique New York event.

A German judge found Parche guilty of the attack, then gave him a suspended two-year sentence, allowing him to walk free.

The Women's Tennis Association last week retained a German lawyer in a bid to overturn the sentence and put Parche behind bars.

"Our players were outraged by the decision made in the German court, not only because of Monica, but also because of their concern for worldwide security measures," said Gerard Smith, the WTA's executive director and chief executive officer. "Clearly the court's decision

sent a terrible message."

Besides Seles, Jennifer Capriati will skip the Virginia Slims Championships because of injuries. And several other players — including Mary Joe Fernandez and Helena Sukova — overcame periods of injury-induced inactivity to qualify for the Championships.

While she is almost assured



GUENTER PARCHE of smashing the single-year record for official earnings by a tennis player, Graf turned down a chance to earn dhrs 650,000 bonus from Virginia Slims, which like the overall tour sponsor, Kraft General Foods, is ending its sponsorship of women's tennis after the 1994 season.

Like several other top players, Graf was sidelined during

the year. But when she underwent surgery for bone spurs on her right foot last month, she missed two tournaments she had entered: Brighton, England, and Essen, Germany. That dropped her one tournament below the minimum 12 needed to qualify for the bonus pool — and the dhrs 650,000.

"She knew exactly how much money she would lose," Joan Pennello, director of player services for the Women's Tennis Association, said of Graf. "If she could have played, we believe she would have. She had to have time to recuperate."

Her first tournament back was Philadelphia, which gave Graf just one week to regain the game that won three of the four Grand Slam tournaments — Wimbledon and the French and US Opens.

Going into Philadelphia, where dhrs 150,000 awaits the winner, Graf has earned dhrs 2,503,837 in Kraft Tour event this year. The all-time record for tennis earnings in a single year is dhrs 2,622,352 earned by Seles last year.

Stefan Edberg of Sweden owns the men's single-season record of dhrs 2,363,575, set in 1991, and fourth on the all-time list. Seles won dhrs 2,457,758 in 1991.

Only the top 16 singles players and the top eight doubles teams qualify for the dhrs 3.5 million Championships, the world's richest, best-attended women's sporting event.

The tournament, which pays dhrs 250,000 to the winner, also offers the only best-of-5-sets final on the women's tour.

While next week's Championships is expected to break all attendance records for a women-only tennis tournament, it will mark the beginning of the end for Virginia Slims sponsorship of the sport, a sponsorship which began in 1971 and began the women's professional game.

Smith said the shared sponsorship created recognition problems, even though both Kraft Foods and Virginia Slims are divisions of Philip Morris.

"We want to simplify marketing of the tour," Smith said.

"What we're trying to do... is really trying to simplify the whole concept. We're looking for a relationship where we have one sponsor who's going to work with us in that regard."

Maleeva-Fragntiere announced earlier this year that she will retire after the 1994 Australian Open in January. She has made her final year one of her best, winning two tournaments and reaching the US Open semifinals.

Navratilova, at 37 by far the oldest in the field, has said she will retire after next year. Earlier this month, she won her fifth title of 1993 and the 166th tournament of her career. She now has a staggering 1,404 match wins, more than double her closest active competitor: Graf has won 653 matches.

The left-hander, now in her 21st year on the professional tour, says she continues because it's fun.

"I had this silly little grin on my face at practice the other day," Navratilova said. "I still love this game."

First-time participants at the Championships are Huber, Coetzler, Magdalena Maleeva and Pierce.

# Death threat for Drechsler

HEIDELBERG, Nov 13: German long-jumper Heike Drechsler received a death threat from the home-

town area of the man who stabbed tennis superstar Monica Seles, her coach said Friday, reports AP.

Erich Drechsler, who is also Heike's father-in-law, said the threat came after she made a comment about Steffi Graf. A fanatic Graf fan stabbed Seles last April 30 in Hamburg.

Drechsler said the family had reported the threat to the police.

The threat came in a letter that was mailed in Nordhausen, in the east German state of Thuringia.

Guenter Parche, the man who stabbed Seles in the back during a tennis tournament, hails from the village of Goersbach, just outside Nordhausen.

Parche, a 39-year-old jobless lathe operator, was freed one month ago when a court in Hamburg gave him a suspended sentence for the stabbing.

Judge Elke Bosse said there was little chance that Parche would commit a similar crime again, although he had a highly disturbed personality.

Erich Drechsler said the family had notified the police because of the remarkable connection to the Seles attack.

The letter threatens Heike Drechsler with death because she allegedly damaged the reputation of "Steffie Graf, who was sent to us by God."

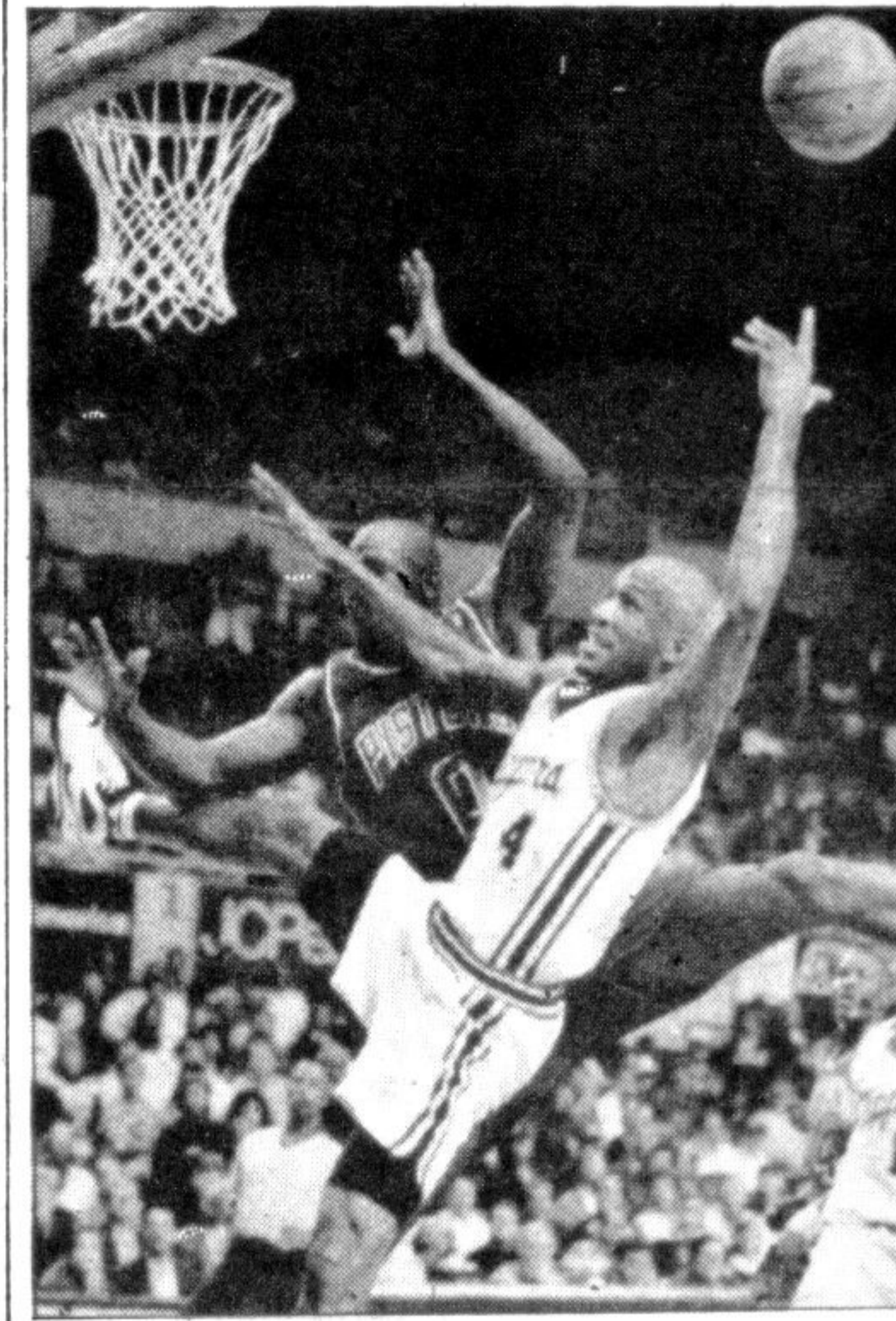
Parche, testifying in his trial, repeatedly insisted on referring to Graf by her formal first name Stefanie.

He described a fanatical obsession with the tennis star, to

whom he referred as a "dream creature." A psychiatrist testified Parche had thought of Graf almost as a deity.

Parche told the court he

wanted to harm Seles so that Graf could regain the No. 1 ranking. Seles has not played since the attack and has dropped to No. 5, while Graf is No. 1.



Los Angeles Clippers Ron Harper (R) is fouled by Detroit Pistons Olden Polynice (L) as he goes up for a shot on Nov 11. The Clippers defeated the Pistons 111 to 99 in Los Angeles.

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Equestrian's concern

5 Aussie avis

8 Aberdeenian director

12 "partridge..."

13 Faux follower

14 Allegheny + Monongahela

15 Dialectical

17 Avoid

18 Snow or dandruff

19 Shoelace's place

21 Posed

22 Cross

23 Listener

26 Soup intruder

28 Winners in 1865

31 Sci-fi film villain

33 Tackle the comestibles

35 Agriculture Secretary

36 Book-jacket

paragraph

38 One of Louisa's girls

40 "Haw"

41 "Mississippi Masala" director

43 Line

45 Infant's walk

47 Gauchos' gear

51 Greet

52 Field

54 Gaelic

55 Where (L.)

56 Pennsylvania port

57 Wan

58 Transgression

59 Wanted-poster option

DOWN

1 Harsh treatment

2 Blue dye source

3 Light bulb?

4 Skin diver's gear

5 Formal letter

6 More (Sp.)

7 Poe's fallen hero

8 "to Watch Over Me"

9 Puerile

10 Seine feeder

11 "...going — Ives"

16 Refusing to listen

20 Whom Uncle Sam wanted

23 Suffer a recession

24 The whole shootin' match

25 Ovate

27 Thanksgiving veggie

29 Unclose

30 Loony Louis

32 Famed WWII general

34 Lay of the land

37 Puppeteer Baird

39 Enter

42 Poser in pictures

44 Tested the waters

45 "— Team"

46 Crew supply

48 Ersatz swing

49 Europe's neighbor

50 Lean-to

53 Bat stat.

Solution time: 21 mins.

BORG AMI BOMB  
AWAY DON ERIE  
BERMUDAS RAKE  
ADE NOT TYLER  
BIN GAL  
BESET BOWLING  
EMIR YAP IDEA  
NUCLEAR DUETS  
ILK GUM  
SPUNK MAN ODD  
COKE BERGELEY  
USER IST AGEE  
MESS BAH RAPS

Yesterday's answer 4-21

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|----|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |   |   |   |   | 13 |   |   |   |    |    |