

# David Gower bids adieu

LONDON, Nov 14: David Gower, one of England's greatest batsmen, announced his retirement on Saturday night, ending months of speculation about his cricket career, reports AFP.

The 36-year-old, whose career started in 1975, has decided to become a journalist, as cricket correspondent for Britain's Sunday Express, rather than see out the last year of his contract with Hampshire.

Gower was left out of England's tour to the West Indies this winter, after 117 caps and 8,231 runs, and it was clear that his international playing days were over.

He had already been controversially passed over for the disastrous tour of India, when England were 'spunwashed' by the Indian bowlers, and for the Ashes battle with Australia earlier this year.

"It's been a very hard decision to make, but there were times last season when I thought 'What am I doing here?'" he admitted.

"I didn't want to come to a decision as soon as the England party was selected for the West Indies and I gave myself time to ponder and see how I felt."

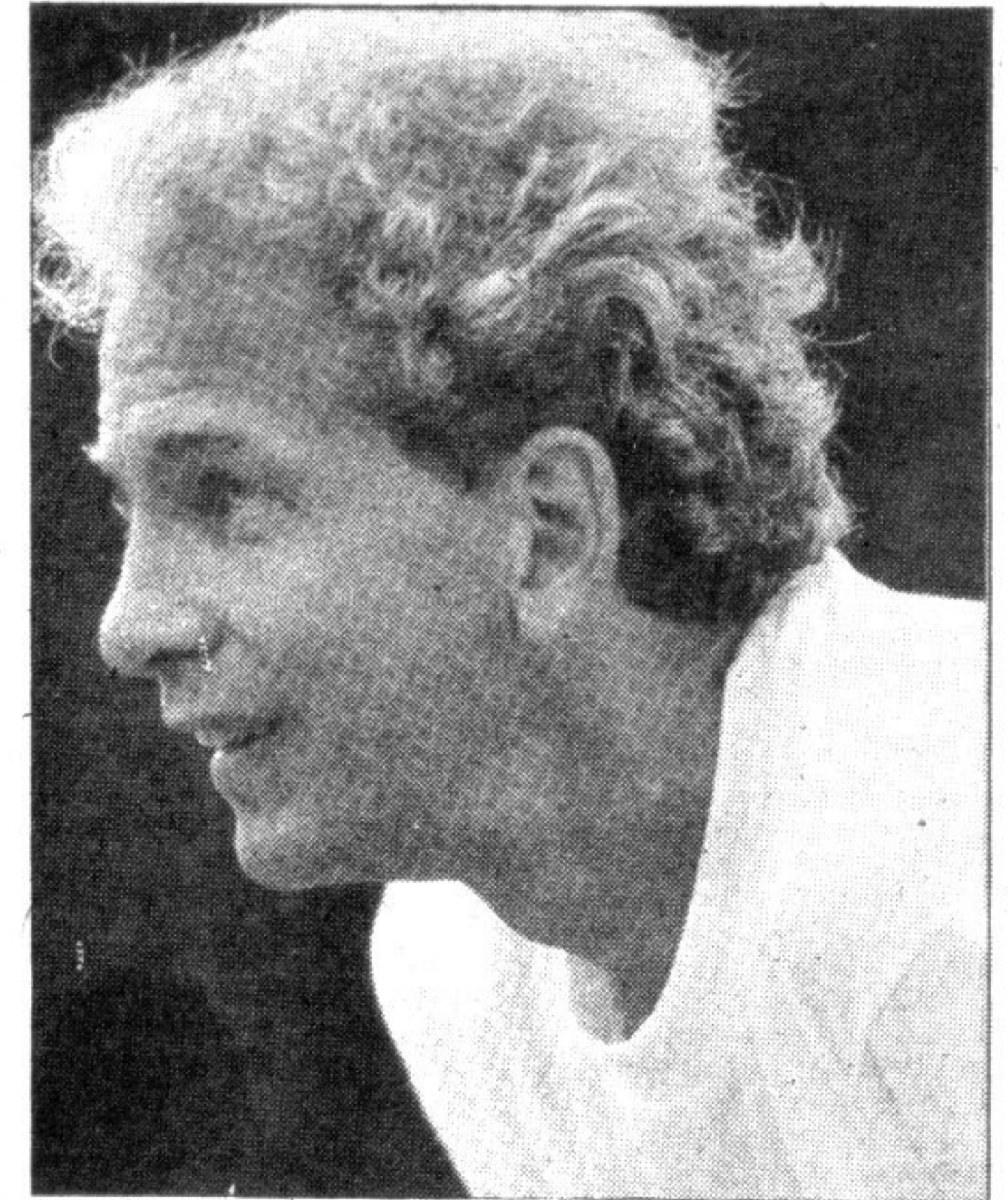
He has been a part-time commentator for various British and Australian broadcasting networks for the past four years.

"The past few weeks have been enough to help make up my mind and I am happy this is the correct move for me," says Gower in the Sunday Express.

"Obviously, if I felt an England place was a realistic hope then certainly it would have been a shame to stop."

"An awful lot of people have

written and spoken to me and said 'Don't give up.' That has



DAVID GOWER

added to the pressure. I realise many of them will be very disappointed and it's left me with a slightly guilty feeling.

"But if I had played on I would have been letting those supporters down in a different fashion. They really don't want to see me going through the motions."

Gower, recalled last year against Pakistan at Old Trafford, became England's leading Test run-maker when sailing past Geoff Boycott's aggregate of 8,114.

## Costa cruises into final

BUENOS AIRES, Nov 14: Second-seeded Carlos Costa of Spain advanced to the final of the South American Open Saturday with a 6-4, 6-3 win over hometown favourite Javier Frana, reports AP.

In the other semifinal, Alberto Berasategui won his ninth consecutive match with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 decision over fellow Spaniard Jordi Arrese. Berasategui captured his first IBM-ATP Tour title last week in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Sergio Casal and Emilio Sanchez, the top-seeded doubles team, defeated Argentines Patricio Arnold and Daniel Orsanic 6-0, 5-7, 6-2 to set up an all-Spanish final. Casal and Sanchez will play Tomas Cabonell and Costa, who won their semifinal on Friday.

## Norman's eagle seals victory

GOTEMBA, Japan, Nov 14: Australian Greg Norman eagled the par-5 final hole Sunday and beat Japan's Yoshinori Mizumaki by one shot in the 150 million yen (dlsr 1.4 million) Sumitomo VISA Taiheyo Masters, reports AP.

After reaching the green on the 517-yard hole with a driver and a 3-iron, Norman rolled home a 24-foot putt. Mizumaki then missed an 8-foot birdie putt that would have forced a sudden-death playoff.

Norman fired a final round 68, finishing at 16-under-par 272, and won 27 million yen (dlsr 252,000).

Mizumaki's final round 70 gave him a 273 total. Masashi "Jumbo" Ozaki of Japan, David Frost of South Africa and Barry Lane of Britain tied for third at 274.

Norman had led by a shot with six holes to play, but fell behind with a double-bogey six on the 378-yard, par-4, 15th hole. He took four shots to reach the green after tangling with the rain-soaked muddy rough.

"At that time, I just drew on past experiences and even though it was a double-bogey I knew I was still only one shot behind," said Norman.

"I knew I could play the last three holes well and when I made the eagle putt on the last I knew I'd won it because Mizumaki had a very tough putt to tie," he added.

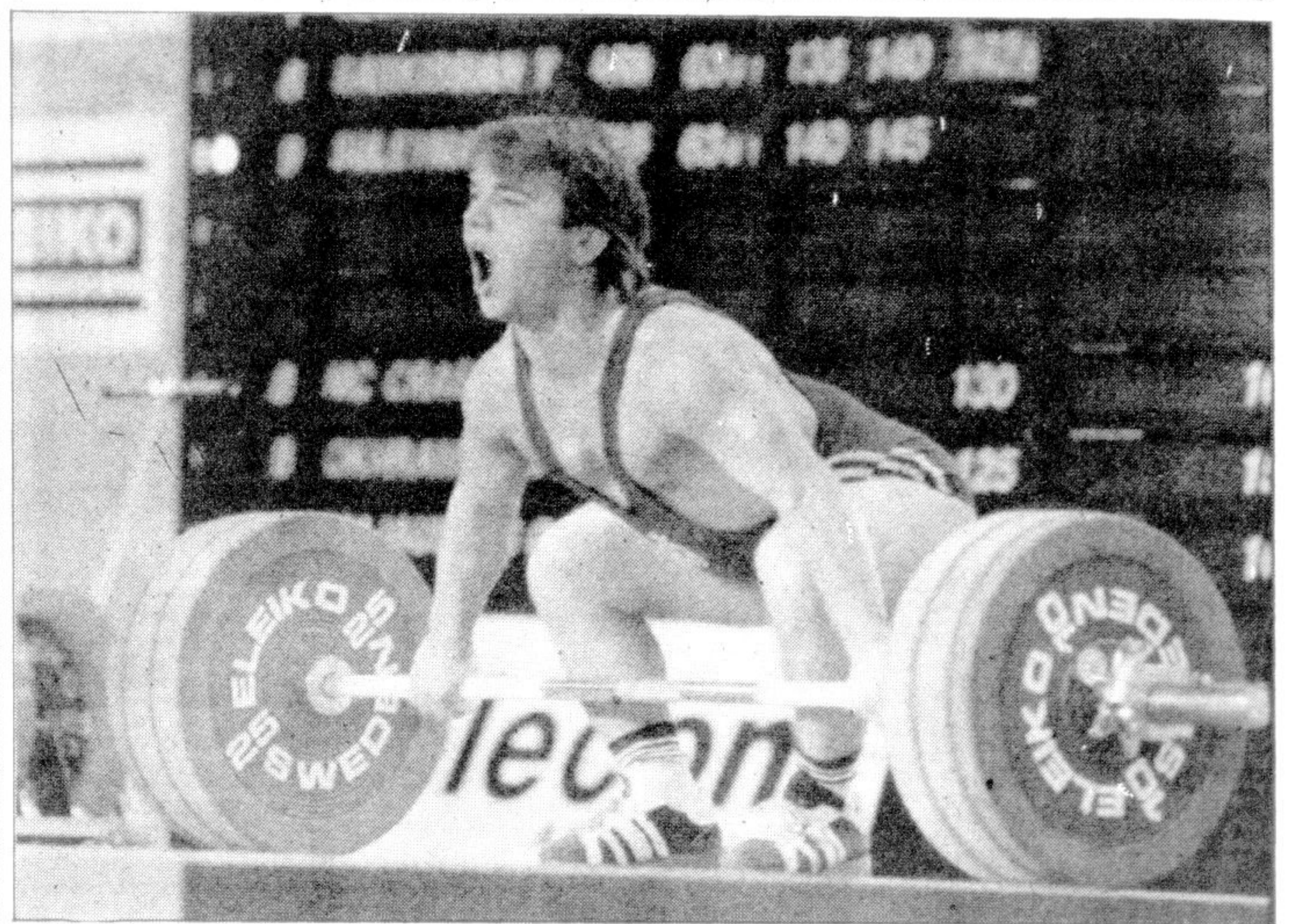
"It was a tough day in tough conditions," said Norman.

"I hit the putt on 18 as I wanted to but I just missed it," said a disappointed Mizumaki.

"I thought it would break right to left but it went the other way," he said.

After playing next week's Dunlop Phoenix Tournament in Miyazaki, the 35-year-old Mizumaki will head to the United States to try to qualify for the US PGA Tour.

Ozaki's chance to defend his championship slipped away when his approach shot to the long par-4, 14th hole found the water in front of the green.



Naim Suleymanoglu of Turkey is about to set a new clean-and-jerk world record of 177.5 kilograms in the new 64-kg class at the World Weightlifting Championships yesterday in Melbourne. Suleymanoglu won all three gold medals in his class to establish himself as the world's greatest weightlifter. — AFP photo

# Suleymanoglu stands tall

MELBOURNE, Nov 14: The king of weightlifting, Naim Suleymanoglu, lived up to his name by taking the crown in the new 64 kg class at the World Championships in front of hundreds of screaming, flag-waving fellow Turks, reports Reuter.

Suleymanoglu, 26, who has not competed since winning his second Olympic gold medal at Barcelona last year, said winning in front of so many Turkish people was like being in Istanbul.

The largely Turkish crowd screamed and jumped for joy each time their hero took the stage on his way to taking another world title. Suleymanoglu has only been beaten once in 10 years and now has won 16 gold medals at World Championships, after winning all three categories: snatch, clean and jerk.

But to Suleymanoglu, known as "Pocket Hercules" for his incredible strength and diminutive size, it was only a warm-up to complete his dream of being the only weightlifter to win three gold medals in successive Olympics.

"My dream is to win three Olympic gold medals and then I

will go down in history as the only weightlifter to do this," Suleymanoglu told reporters after his victory.

Suleymanoglu needed only two lifts in both the snatch, and clean-and-jerk to assert his authority over the opposition.

Suleymanoglu weighs 63.61 kg (140 lbs) and stands 1.53 metres, a shade over five-feet tall, set a world record in the new weight division in the clean-and-jerk by lifting 177.5 kg.

The record is lighter than the 190 kg he lifted in the lighter 60 kg class, a division which no longer exists.

The champion also set a new world mark with a combined total of 322.5 kg in the new heavier weight category, although it is 20 kg lighter than his old record of 242.5 kg in his old class.

The sport's governing body the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) changed the weight divisions in an attempt to clean up the sport, as the old world records were seen to be assisted by illegal drug use which has tainted the sport.

Suleymanoglu cut his opposition down to size, by winning the title by a clear 5.0 kg over Ri Hibong of North Korea, whose combined lift of 317.5 kg was enough to take the overall

silver medal.

Yurik Sarkissian won the bronze, competing for the first time under the Armenian flag. He won the world title in the former 60 kg class for the Soviet Union in 1982 and 1983.

"He (Suleymanoglu) is a great champion, it may have been possible to beat him when he was young but now it is impossible," Sarkissian said.

The Armenian was level with Hungary's Attila Czanka in third place with a combined total of 315.0 kg, but Czanka, the current European champion, missed out due to his heavier body weight of 64 kg (141 lbs).

Czanka won the European title held in Sofia, Bulgaria, in April because the Bulgarian-born Suleymanoglu refused to go to his former homeland for fear on his life.

Suleymanoglu was born in Bulgaria of ethnic Turkish parents, but defected in 1986 during a tournament in Melbourne to protest against the forced assimilation of Bulgaria's one million Turks.

Turkey paid Bulgaria one million dollars to permit him to compete in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, where he set six world and Olympic records, and was flown home in the Turkish Prime Minister's private jet to be welcomed as a national hero.

## Japan braces for a 'gold rush'

MACAU, Nov 14: Japan prepared itself for a medals sweep at the 1993 Asian Judo Championships with their judokas taking all four men's gold medals on offer Saturday, reports AFP.

Koichiro Mitani completed an impressive medal haul for Japan when he beat Igor Peshkov of Kazakhstan to take the heavyweight over 95 kilogram title, setting the scene for today's centrepiece open weight competition.

Although Peshkov — who came from behind in the previous round to beat Iran's Mahmood Miran — took a quick lead, sending Mitani to the mat for a yuko, he could not hold off the pressure from the Japanese heavyweight.

Both Judokas traded koka before Mitani sent his adversary crashing to the mat for an impressive win.

In the under 95 kilogram light heavyweight category, Shinichiro So of Japan notched a steady win over Mongolia's Davaasambu Dorjbat to clinch his gold medal, while Hirotaoka Okada secured gold with a victory over Cho Li-Ho of South Korea in the under 86 kilograms middleweight sections.

Kozo Kitada of Japan won easily his under 78-kilogram light middleweight division with a win over Lin Yu Min of Taiwan.

While Japan's success on the mat drew loud cheers from the Japanese fans and teammates, sources close to the Japanese camp said the team was still not its strongest.

They said Japan had fielded a second strong lineup to give experience to the younger players — as evidenced by the absence of defending Asian open-weight champion Jun Konno and Hirotaoka Okada, middleweight bronze medalist at the Barcelona Olympic Games.

Japan has lost ground in judo over the past few years to its European and Asian rivals, especially South Korea in Asian competition.

# Po can't deny Graf's place

PHILADELPHIA, Nov 14: Kimberly Po couldn't believe her ears after surviving the first match point.

"Come on, Steffi, focus," a fan yelled from the stands. Steffi Graf, the world's top-ranked player, was up 5-1 and serving after winning the first set. Po's sharp forehand down the line to reach deuce had merely stalled the inevitable.

"I was like, 'How can you say that to her?'" Po said.

Graf only needed one more chance Saturday night to win 6-3, 6-1 and stop Po's string of upsets at the Virginia Slims of Philadelphia, reports AP.

In Sunday's final, Graf will face Conchita Martinez of Spain, who earlier ended Amy Frazier's remarkable run, 6-2, 6-4, in the semifinals.

"She makes the court seem very small," Po said of Graf. "I feel like I don't have two many spots to hit the ball."

Nevertheless, Graf missed half her first serves and made

11 unforced errors in the 46-minute match. "I wouldn't even think this was close to her best personally," Po said. "She was making errors, especially in the first set."

Martinez, who became the second-seeded player when fellow Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez Vicario withdrew due to illness, fired drop shots from the baseline and never faced a break point on service against Frazier. Although Frazier often hit harder, Martinez played more consistently, mixing topspin and cut strokes and stopping up to Frazier's corner shots.

"I served very good today," said Martinez, ranked fourth in the world behind Graf, Sanchez Vicario and Martina Navratilova. On service, Martinez won 17 of 24 points in the first set and 20 of 22 in the second set. She had five aces and two double faults.

Frazier escaped three break points in the fourth game of the first set, then double-faulted twice on break points to lose the sixth and eighth games.

# Sampras meets Gustafsson in ECC final

ANTWERP, Belgium, Nov 14: Pete Sampras scored a dramatic victory over Cedric Pioline on Saturday to reach the final of the European Community Championship and deny the Frenchman a place in next week's ATP finale, reports AFP.

Sampras was staring defeat in the face when he decided to live up to his world number one ranking with Pioline serving for an important revenge win.

Pioline won the first set 6-4 and was 5-4 up in the second when Sampras turned on his explosive forehand.

Sampras took Pioline's next two serves to wrap up the set 7-5 and finished off the third 6-1. He now plays Magnus Gustafsson in today's final of the 1.1 million dollar event in Antwerp.

The Swede beat Boris Becker 7-6 (7-5), 6-3 in the first semifinal.

Pioline's defeat cost him a place in the world top eight who play in the ATP world championship in Frankfurt next week. Goran Ivanisevic, beaten by the Frenchman in the quarter-finals here, should now sneak in at number eight.

Michael Chang should also get a place along with Sampras, Jim Courier, Michael Stich, Sergi Bruguera, Stefan Edberg and Andrei Medvedev.

Chang did not play here but Pioline and Becker did not score enough ranking points to keep him out of the elite group.

Pioline will also be regretting a chance for a first win over Sampras and revenge for the American's wins at the final of the US Open and Lyon tournament final this year.

But he will not deny he had his chances in the one hour 58-minute match.

Sampras started uncertainly, having to claw back two points from Pioline to save serve in the opening game. While the American stayed nervously on the baseline, the Frenchman confidently held his serve — he did not concede a service point un-

til the sixth game — and attacked Sampras.

Pioline broke the American in the seventh game and though Sampras broke back to make it 5-5 he committed more errors to give the first set away 7-5.

Sampras started to move forward in the second set. The tactic boosted Sampras but looked too late when Pioline took his 5-4 lead.

The American destroyed Pioline's serve and turned the



US world number one Pete Sampras serves to his French opponent Cedric Pioline during their semifinal at the European Community tennis championships in Antwerp, Belgium on Nov 13. Sampras won 4-6, 7-5 and 6-1.

defend the title. He was also the second seeded German to fall to Gustafsson in two days after Michael Stich in the quarter-finals.

The Swede played brilliantly against moody and uninspired German opponents.

Gustafsson had two break points in Becker's first service game but failed to ram home his advantage. The set then went to a tie-break with the Swede only giving away four service points in six games.

Both men double faulted as the tie-break reached 4-4 and then Gustafsson took control.

A brilliant passing shot made him 5-4, his fourth ace of the game 6-4. Becker pulled one point back and then a superb return off a giant Becker service gave the set to Gustafsson.

Becker came from behind against Australian Jason Stoltenberg but could not reproduce the comeback.

The German lost his serve in the fourth game of the deciding set. He double faulted, hit one volley out, displayed his bad temper over one line call and then put an easy serve into the path of Gustafsson's dynamite forehand.

Becker dropped to 4-1 down and faced three deuces before making it 4-2 in the sixth game. Confident Gustafsson then fired down his seventh ace of the match to make it 5-2.

The German could see defeat looming but did enough to get one more game but Gustafsson served out for the game.

The Swede dictated the match so much that he gave away just seven points on his serve and did not let Becker get close to a break point.

Gustafsson said the key to his success in the one hour 28-minute match had been varying his returns to Becker. "You must not give him any chances, but I only really found the key to his serve in the second set."

"It is a shame there is no German in the final," joked Gustafsson who last week beat world number two Jim Courier in the Paris Open.

GATESHEAD, England, Nov 14: Sandra Voelker broke her own world best time to win the women's 50 metres backstroke on Saturday and collect her second individual title of the European sprint swimming championships, reports Reuter.

The 19-year-old German, winner of Friday's 50 metres freestyle, clocked 28.26 seconds and bettered the mark she set last February in Sheffield, England, by seven-hundredths of a second.

Voelker turned on the power

in the backstroke final to inflict a comprehensive defeat on 16-year-old Russian Nina Zhivanevskaya, who had set a cracking pace in the heats and outsprung the German in the semifinals.

Voelker has won the women's backstroke title at each of the three editions of these championships — a sprint hat-trick emulated on Saturday by Sweden's Louise Larsson (women's 100 metres individual medley) and Russia's Vasily Ivanov (men's 50 metres breaststroke).

European sprint championships on Saturday (Tabulate under gold, silver, bronze):

Germany	9	7	7
Sweden	7	4	1
Britain	1	5	3
Russia	1	4	1
Netherlands	1	1	-
Spain	1	-	-
Estonia	-	1	-
Croatia	-	-	1
Finland	-	-	1

(Table includes two silvers and no bronzes for both women's 50 breaststroke and men's 50 freestyle. No bronze medals for four relays due to lack of entries or disqualification.)

## MEDALS TABLE

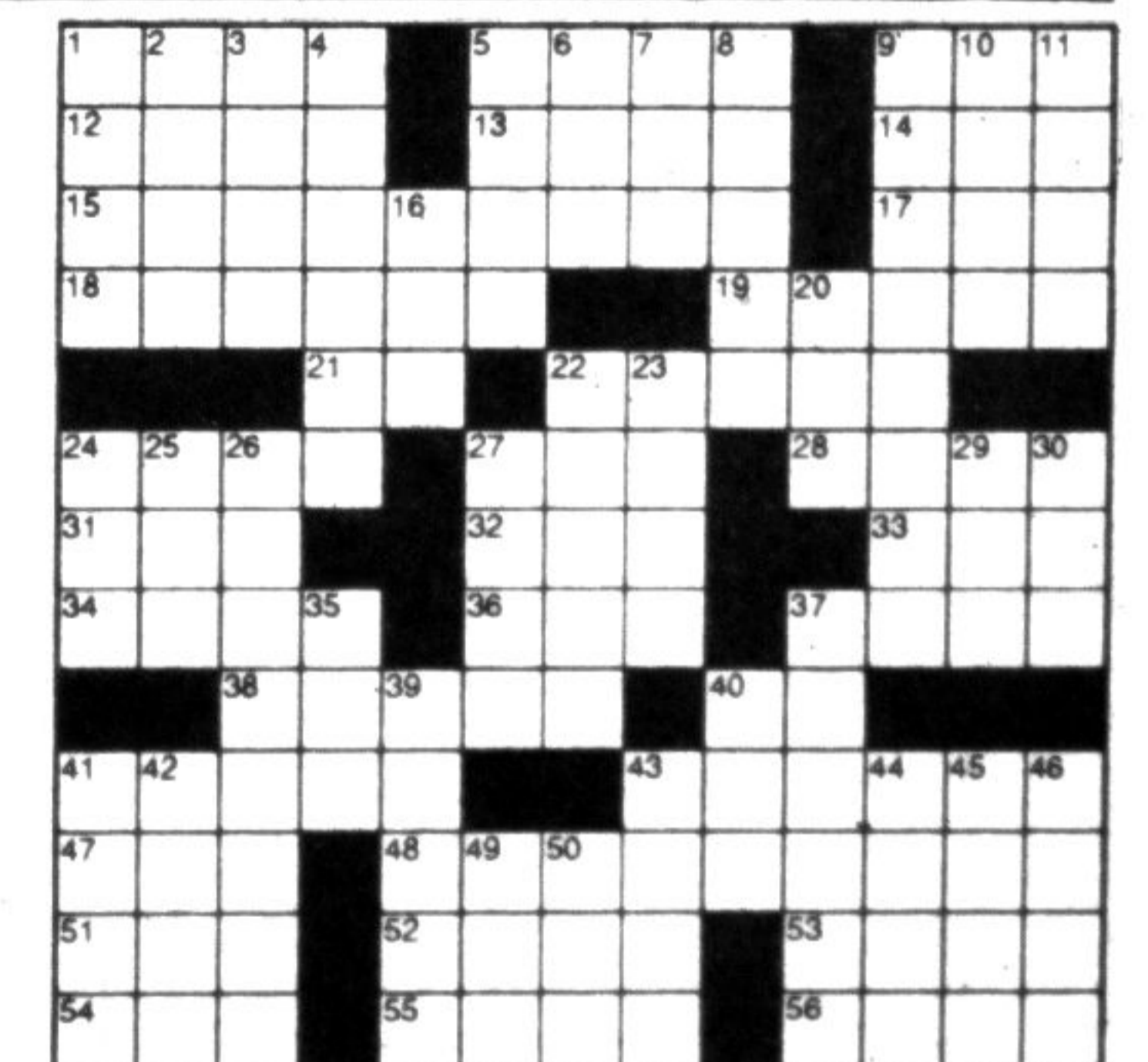
Final medals table of the

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	1 Beatles song and film	5 Compact disc?	9 "— Será Será"	12 Garfield's pal	13 Billy of rock	14 Coffee vessel	15 5-8-10	17 Past	18 St. Lawrence, e.g.	19 Bit of hardware	21 Divorcee	22 Bare one's hair	24 Lane with many curves	27 Wilde-beest	28 Carrots' mates	31 Ferrigno or Costello	32 Hole-making tool	33 Hitter's statistic	34 Shoo-in	36 Hair appli-													
<b>DOWN</b>	1 Coal	2 Ms. Adams	3 South American metropolis	4 Runt	5 Feel sorry for	6 Japanese salad plant	7 Supporting cagers' org.	8 Shylock's demand	9 Home	10 Desire	11 "... were Paradise —"	16 One of the winds	20 Outdo	22 Single	23 Void	24 Every last crumb	25 Halloween pronunciation	26 Ohioans	27 Challenge, old-style	29 Erstwhile cagers' org.	30 Round Table address	35 Relatives	37 Beat the heck out of	39 Rhino's cousin	40 Shell out	41 Chorus member	42 Castle	43 Summer-time nuisance	44 Division word	45 Impale	46 Long lunch?	49 Conductor de Waart	50 Recent addition?

**Solution time: 22 mins.**

G	A	I	T	E	M	U	S	C	O	T
A	N	D	A	P	A	S	O	H	I	O
F	I	E	N	D	I	S	H	M	I	S
F	L	A	K	E	S	E	Y	E	L	E
S	A	T	R	O	O	D				
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T	O	D	D	L	E	R	I	A	T	A
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A	S	H	Y	S	T	I	N	D	E	A



**CRYPTOQUIP**  
FKUWU AHAU HZ SKU  
QAKEJQSEASG XHVRY JU  
XERRUY JEGKZVR  
JHRYUW XHRRWEYH  
Yesterday's Cryptogram: WHEN YOU DIDN'T ORDER CAPPUCCINO, MONEY-HUNGRY RESTAURANT OWNER GOT ALL STEAMED UP.  
Today's Cryptogram clue: X equals C  
The Cryptogram 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.