

Jansher has a close call

DOHA, Nov 17: World number one Jansher Khan survived a tremendous battle with England's Peter Marshall before reaching the final of the 135,000 dollars Qatar International with a 14-15, 15-12, 15-6, 12-15, 15-4 victory on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

lead with aggressive driving and ambitious drop shots. But fourth seed Marshall, the world number five, then began to find his range with his unorthodox double fisted style and forced the Pakistani into long, energy-sapping rallies.

points, but the Englishman was not to be denied and levelled the match 2-2 after 84 minutes. This reverse jolted Jansher into launching an opening assault and he stormed away with the deciding game although he looked a mighty relieved man as his final drop shot sent him into the final.

Trendafilova takes all

MELBOURNE, Nov 17: Milena Trendafilova of Bulgaria swept all three gold medals in the women's 70-kilogram class Wednesday at the World Weightlifting Championships, reports AP.

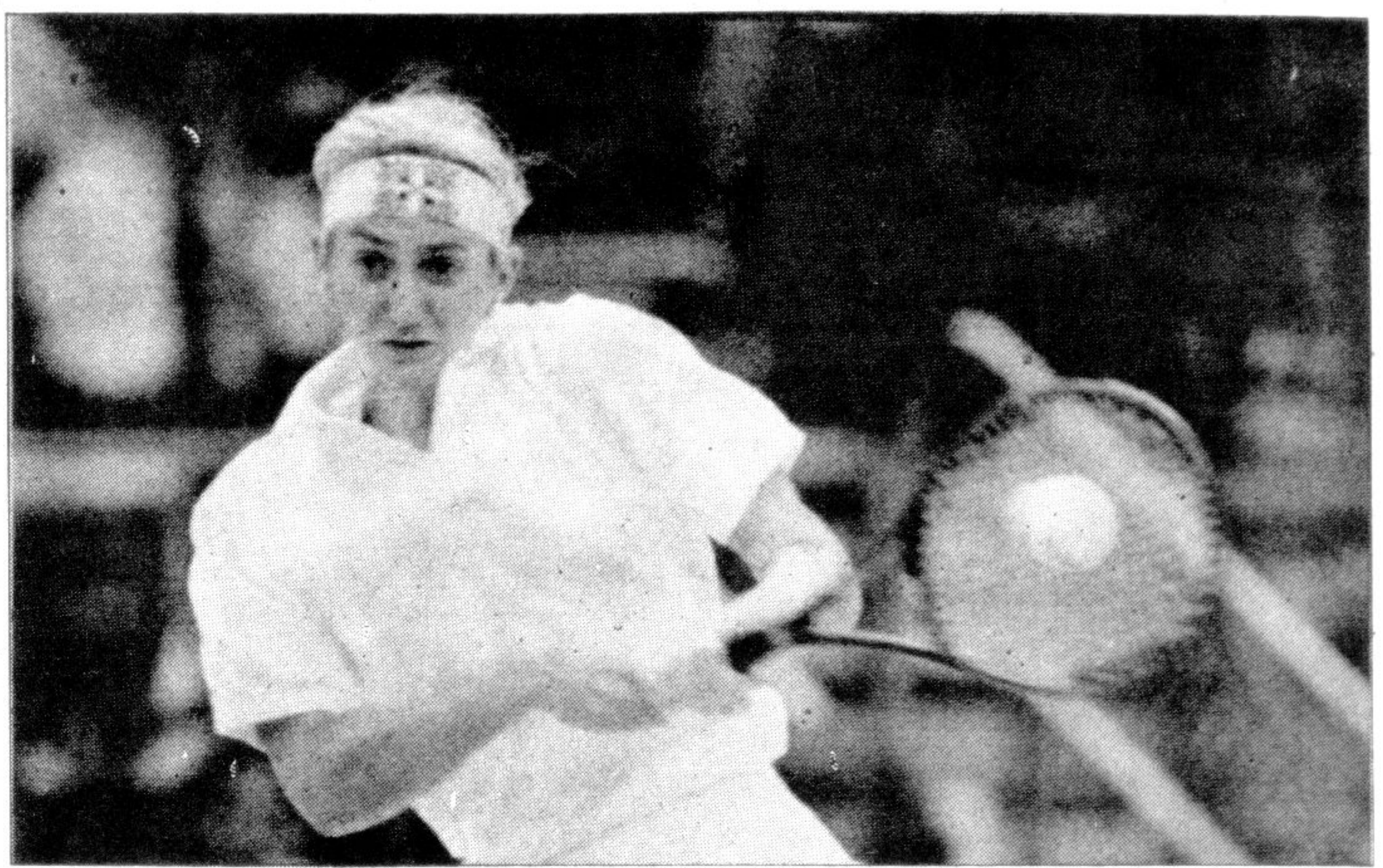
Kumi Haseba of Japan took the silver medal overall and in the jerk, and the bronze in the snatch, while Kim Dong-hee of South Korea took the silver in the snatch and two bronzes. Trendafilova, who finished second in the 67.5-kilogram class at last year's World Championships in Varna, was the fourth Bulgarian to win an overall title here.

Hongyun, 17, added her second world title when she won the new 64 kg class with a clear, 17.5-kg margin. The student, who won the 60 kg class world title last year with a 27.5 kg margin, said: "I would like to win a third world title. After that I shall wait and see, maybe I will become a coach."

China, S Korea, Taiwan cagers in ABC qtrs

JAKARTA, Nov 17: China, South Korea and Taiwan all moved into the quarter-finals of the 17th men's Asian Basketball Confederation (ABC) championship here Tuesday, reports AFP.

In the Group D Taiwan and North Korea got the quarter-final tickets. Earlier, Malaysia beat Bangladesh 144-73 in the same group. Iran is already through in Group C with the runner-up position to be fought over between Japan and Indonesia later Tuesday.



Mary Pierce of France aggressively hitting a double-fisted backhand return to Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini during their first round match of the Virginia Slims Championships in New York on Nov 16. Pierce won 7-6 (10-8), 6-3. — AFP photo

Pierce stuns Sabatini

NEW YORK, Nov 17: Mary Pierce of France got her first-ever victory over a top 10 player Tuesday night, beating sixth-ranked Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina 7-6 (10-8), 6-3 to advance to the second round of the Virginia Slims Championships, reports AP.

thought was long. The crowd, with a few Argentinian flags being waved, agreed with the loser. While Pierce stood at the net, a big smile on her face, Sabatini stared at the baseline, then went to umpire Jane Tabor to protest.

trolled the second set as Sabatini tried in vain to plug the leaks. In the earlier match, Novotna reached match point for the first time in the 11th game of the second set, leading 40-30 on her own serve.

Pierce, a real cosmopolitan

NEW YORK, Nov 17: In the very international game of tennis, Mary Pierce is particularly worldly, reports AP. Pierce, 18, lives in Florida but plays Federation Cup for France.

No Alexeyev to stop him now

MELBOURNE, Nov 17: Rejected from the 1992 Olympics 15 minutes before his competition, Altym Orazdurdiev is set to become a national hero after winning Turkmenistan's first ever gold medal in any sport, reports Reuter.

the bronze position. Orazdurdiev, pleaded in vain with Alexeyev, and even promised to let Samadov beat him. Samadov was later stripped of his medal and banned for life from the sport after he dropped his bronze medal on the podium and stalked out of the award ceremony.

last fail of the competition, but failed to push the 205 kg barbell above his head in the jerk. But the physical education student from Lvov in the west of Ukraine picked up the gold medal in the snatch category with a lift of 170.0 kg, in front of North Korea's Kim Myong-Nam, who lifted 67.5 kg to give him a combined lift of 362.5 kg, enough to give him the overall bronze medal.

Palatable plates

OSLO, Nov 17: If spectators at the Lillehammer Winter Olympics are still hungry after a meal, they can always try chewing on the plates, reports Reuter. Organisers of the Games said on Tuesday they had ordered 900,000 environmentally friendly plates made of potato starch from a firm in neighbouring Sweden.

Cuba still too strong for China

TOKYO, Nov 17: China's challenge to all-conquering Cuba crashed in a straight-sets defeat in the women's competition at the 1.5 million dollar World Grand Champions Cup volleyball tournament here Wednesday, reports AFP.

Michaels shine in Frankfurt

FRANKFURT, Nov 17: Michael Stich's serve and volley and Michael Chang's courage dominated the opening day of the ATP World Tennis Championship on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The tactics of the two Michaels on a tennis court are as far apart as their respective heights. The towering Stich is powerful yet elegant as he comes in on the net for his crisp volleying. The diminutive Chang hugs the baseline and gets his points by scampering around the court and scavenging for every ball.

minutes. The American world number two, who has struggled with his game in recent months after reaching the final of the French Open and Wimbledon earlier in the year, could find no answer to Chang's industry and determination.



The world's eight top tennis players pose for the photographers at the beginning of the ATP World Championships in Frankfurt. From L to R sitting: Sergi Bruguera, Michael Stich, Jim Courier, Pete Sampras; standing from L to R: Goran Ivanisevic, Michael Chang, Andrei Medvedev and Stefan Edberg. — AFP photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Entree on a stick? 37 "Wow!" 38 Gam 40 Queues 42 "— good deed" 44 Tourna-ment type 46 Hard work 50 From birth B-3 52 Grads 54 Director's call 55 Ivana's ex 56 Commits to memory 57 Crowd-scene participant 58 Soprano 59 Te Kanawa 60 Gen. Robert — 61 Bugs sergeant's 62 Solution time: 24 mins.

CRYPTOQUIP ODJ UDQRDSR CMD UAXJAU X SRC VNRA RXFM QDSVXH MRJ FXERSVXJ NU OGEE DO UGSVXRU. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DIDN'T THE UNSUCCESSFUL SEER CONSIDER HERSELF NON-PROPHET? Today's Cryptoquip clue: Q equals M