

Spaniards herald a new order

HELSINKI, Aug 10: Olympic champion Fermin Cacho and compatriot Isaac Vicosa confirmed Spain's status as a major middle-distance force on Tuesday when they took gold and silver respectively in the European Championships 1500 metres final, reports Reuter.

Cacho's victory in three minutes 35.27 seconds brought Spain their second gold of the championships following Abel Anton's victory in the 10,000 metres on Sunday.

And in a graphic illustration of how times have changed, Britain's Gary Lough and David Strang finished 11th and last in the 12-man race, a far cry from the days when Steve Ovett, Sebastian Coe and Steve Cram dominated middle-distance running for Britain during the 1980s.

While Cacho, who was second in last year's World Championships, and Vicosa celebrated their country's second success of the championships with a joyful joint victory lap, the host nation celebrated its first when world champion Sari Essayah won the women's 10 km walk final.

Essayah, who guaranteed herself a photograph on the front page of every Finnish newspaper, won in 42 mins 37 seconds.

Essayah, coached by Finland's European 5,000 and 10,000 champion Juha Vaatainen, delighted the home crowd, who had been bitterly disappointed by Seppo Raty's failure to win the javelin gold on Monday, with a disciplined performance that also brought her a new championship record.

They gave her a nerve-tingling welcome when she reappeared in the stadium but she needed to maintain her concentration all the way to the line with defending champion Anna-Rita Sidoti of Italy and 1992 Olympic silver medalist Yelena Nikolayeva of Russia just metres behind her.

In a dramatic end to one of the least glamorous events on the whole athletics programme, Essayah came home just six seconds ahead of her rivals who were both given the same finishing time of 42:43.

Sidoti won the silver and Nikolayeva the bronze and all three hugged each other at the end of the race.

"It was an unbelievable feeling to walk out there, my right ear is still deaf," she said afterwards.

Despite a poor first day which left her depressed and worried overnight, Germany's Sabine Braun retained her heptathlon title by the narrow margin of just 15 points from

Rita Inanesi of Hungary. World Student Games champion Ursula Wlodarczyk of Poland came through to take that bronze after Svetlana Moskalets of Russia nosedived down the standings following a poor javelin throw of just 37.94 metres — more than six metres below her best.

Until then Moskalets seemed set to finish among the medalists, but her chance disappeared after that.

Braun had a 27-point lead over Inanesi going into the 800 metres, the final race of the seven-event, two-day endurance test, and would have had to have run disastrously to have lost her crown.

Although Inanesi ran nearly three seconds faster than Bra-

un, that shaved only 12 points off the German's lead. Inanesi finished with the silver, her first major championship medal.

Braun's final total of 6,419 points was nearly 610 points below her best. Inanesi, who was 10th in this event in Split four years ago, finished on 6,404 and Wlodarczyk 6,322 to win 'her first senior medal after a silver in the World Student Games in 1991 and a gold last year.

Bulgaria scored a gold and bronze double in the women's 100 metres hurdles with Svetla Dimitrova, the fastest woman in the world this year, finishing well clear of Yuliya Graudyn of Russia and her Bulgarian teammate Yordanka Donkova, who has held the world record for the last six years.

Dimitrova was never challenged, winning easily into a strong headwind in 12.72

sec. Graudyn and Donkova were both clocked in 12.93 secs. with Donkova, who won the silver in this event as long ago as 1982 and the European title in 1988, being placed third on the photo-finish.

Steinar Hoen won Norway's first ever high jump gold in any major championship when he cleared 2.35m, equal to his own personal best set in Oslo last month.

His only previous relative success came in the European indoor championships in Paris in March when he finished fourth.

Artur Partyka of Poland, who was involved in a three-way tie with American Hollis Conway and Australian Tim

for a record third title, won his heat equally impressively, in 45.79.

There were some surprise eliminations from the qualifying round in the men's long jump with Italian Giovanni Evangelisti, the 1987 bronze medalist, Armenian Robert Emmiyan, the European record holder and German Dietmar Haaf, the reigning champion, all failing to make the 12-man cut for Wednesday's final.

There was no disguising Cacho's joy after winning the 1,500 metres title.

"I am very proud to be the first Spanish winner of the Olympic and European title. It means a lot to my country," he said.



Fermin Cacho of Spain (C) raises his arms after winning the men's 1,500m final at the European Athletics Championships in Helsinki on August 9. Cacho set a new championship record clocking 3m 35.27 sec. Countrymen Vicosa (background) finished second.

— AFP photo

It will help track and field in Spain and sponsors will come. The European title is just as important to me as the Olympic title."

MEDALS TABLE

Medals table after the third day of the European Athletics Championships on Tuesday.

	G	S	B
Russia	3	2	2
Spain	2	1	1
Britain	2	0	0
Germany	1	1	2
Ukraine	1	1	1
Finland	1	1	0
Norway	1	1	0
Bulgaria	1	0	2
Portugal	1	0	0
Italy	0	2	0
Poland	0	1	1
Belgium	0	1	0
Belarus	0	1	0
Hungary	0	1	0
Croatia	0	0	1
Romania	0	0	1
Czech Republic	0	0	1

— AFP photo

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Lewis urges Christie to take part

LONDON, Aug 10: Multi-Olympic Champion Carl Lewis has called upon his "pal" Linford Christie to make next week's Zurich Grand Prix a meeting of legends, reports AP.

Lewis, speaking on BBC Radio on Thursday, said that contrary to popular opinion he was on good terms with the Olympic and World 100 metre champion, who successfully defended his European title in Helsinki this week.

Now the American wants his rival to join him and Leroy Burrell in an assault on the world record in Switzerland next Wednesday.

Lewis, winner of eight Olympic titles in track and field, said: "Linford and I had a heated argument in 1988 but we quickly apologised and, as far as I'm concerned, we have a very good relationship. There is not a problem."

The American denied that the three sprinters had tried to avoid competing against one another.

Lewis said: "Leroy and I are going to Zurich and, if Christie comes, it would probably be the best opportunity."

"I hope things work out. I do believe it would be a treat. We would go close to the world record."

Former Olympian fights cancer

NASHVILLE, Tenn, Aug 10: Wilma Rudolph, winner of three gold medals at the 1960 Olympics, is being treated for cancer.

Rudolph became ill last month while speaking in Atlanta. The Tennessee newspaper reported in a story published Sunday. Doctors detected cancer shortly thereafter, reports AP.

Rudolph was reportedly resting at home. Specifics of her illness were not immediately known.

Ed Temple, Rudolph's coach at Tennessee State University, believes she will beat the disease.

"She's been a fighter all of her life," Temple said. "She had to fight to walk, and then run. She's a determined lady and she's working hard to beat this disease."

Rudolph earned international acclaim in 1960 when she became the first American woman to win three gold medals at one Olympiad. She won the 100- and 200-meter dashes with her third medal coming in the 400-meter relay.

She wore a leg brace for eight years as a child because of polio, and also survived scarlet fever and pneumonia.

Easy rides

SAN MARINO, Aug 10: Sweden's Lars Jonsson, Germany's Oliver Gross and Belgium's Christophe Vandrasse had easy wins Tuesday as first round play continued in the 100,000 San Marino tennis tournament, reports AP.

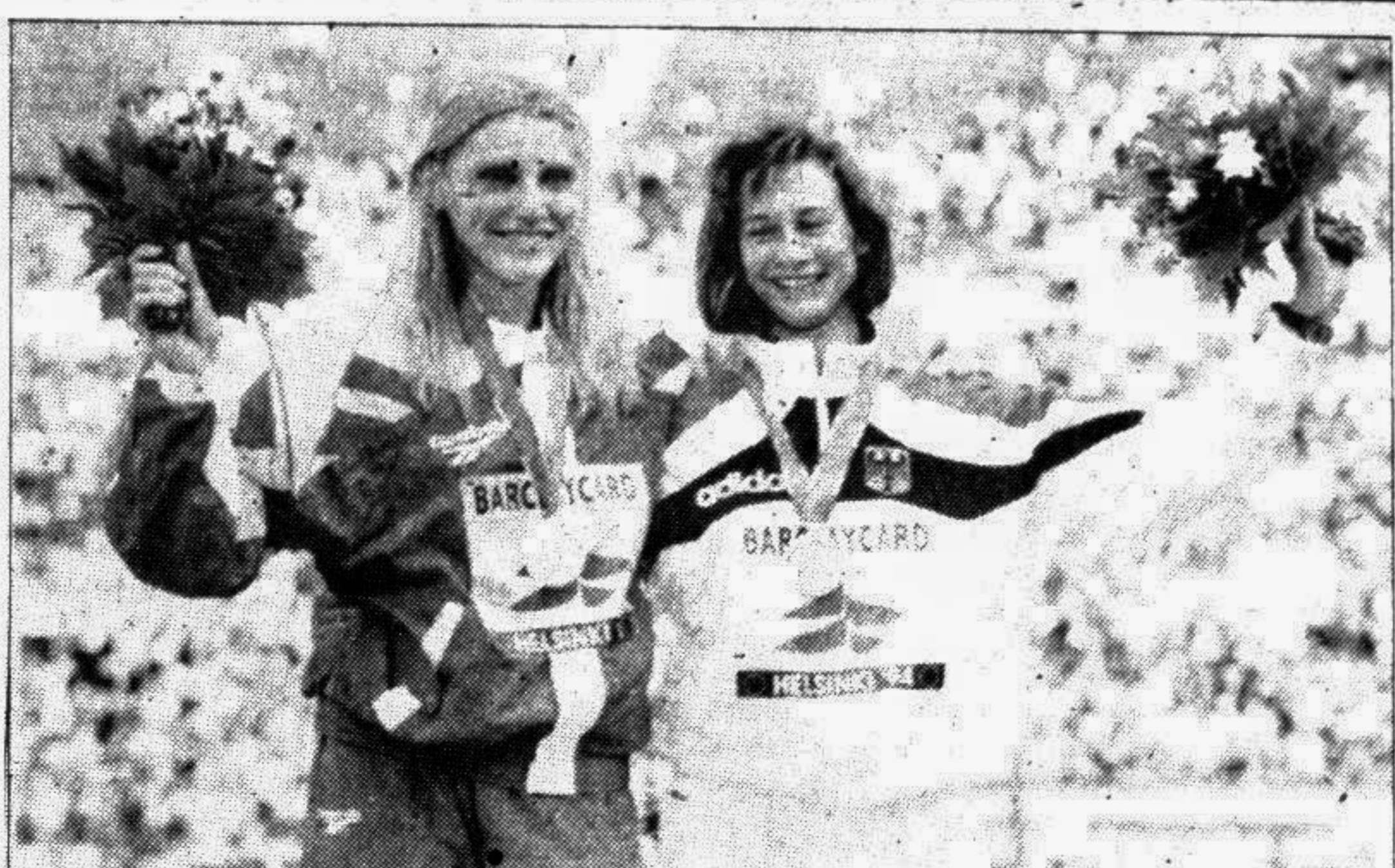
Diego Nargiso of Italy, suffering shoulder pain, was no match for Jonsson, in the 6-3, 6-3 match.

Gross gave up only one game to Spaniard German Puentes, 6-0, 6-1.

Uruguayan Marcelo Filippini had to struggle to master Argentine Hernan Gumy, but won out 6-4, 6-4.

Vandrasse defeated Adrian Voinea of Romania, 6-2, 6-2.

In late night matches, Jordi Arrese of Spain defeated Australian Brent Larkham, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3.



Irina Privalova (L) of Russia poses with bronze medalist Melanie Paschke of Germany after winning the women's 100m final at the European Championships on August 9. Silver medalist Zhanna Tarnpolskaya remained absent for unknown reasons. — AFP photo

Norwegians on medals trail

HELSINKI, Aug 10: Norwegians athletes are hitting the medals trail in history-making fashion at the European Championships after decades of virtual anonymity in track and field, reports Reuter.

Steinar Hoen won his country's first-ever gold medal in the high jump in any major event on Tuesday — just 24 hours after Geir Moen took silver in the men's 100 metres behind world champion Linford Christie.

And Norway is hoping for more gold in the days to come, notably from Vejoern Rodal in the men's 800 metres and women's world javelin champion Trine Hattestad.

For the small Scandinavian nation known more for its winter sporting prowess, the summer of '94 has become one of unparalleled success, with athletic triumph following the first World Cup soccer finals appearance for 56 years.

Norwegian athletics team chief coach Trond Pedersen said after Hoen's triumph: "It proves to us we are doing the

right things. "Of course, it is also due to the personalities of the athletes that Norwegian athletics is successful this year. They are willing to do the hard work necessary to achieve their target."

Taking their lead from winter sports, athletics has reorganised its set-up in a bid for success, forging closer links between clubs and the federation and securing vital sponsorship.

Norwegian Athletic Federation manager Hans Guleikrud said: "Now the clubs and the federation work together and agree instead of working against each other."

"The clubs get money from the federation and the National Olympic Committee as well as organising their own sponsorship."

And success in Helsinki means more sponsorship, says Pedersen. "Because no one can succeed without money," he added with an airy smile.

As Norway's athletes bask in the glory of their finest successes since the days when Grete Waitz and Ingrid

Kristiansen were dominating women's marathons in the 1980s, Pedersen revealed that Winter Olympic triumphs had provided some vital inspiration.

Olympic gold medalists Bjorn Daehlie, a cross-country skier, and speed skater Johan Olav Koss, who won three titles and set three world records at Norway's Lillehammer Games, gave unsuspecting encouragement to the track and field team.

"The athletes could see that it was necessary to put in a 35-hour week to compete properly," said Pedersen.

But the key may have been the small, institute for sports at Sognsvann in the woods on the edge of Oslo, where top winter and summer athletes work together.

"We have fine medical facilities, an indoor track and all the back-up necessary for elite athletics. Also, we pay the expenses for the athletes to be there, added Pedersen.

A new indoor track at Ekeberg in Oslo is also used by the sprinting group led by national sprint coach Leif Olav Alnes.

World Basketball Championships

Americans amerce Aussies

TORONTO, Aug 10: Reggie Miller poured in 31 points and four of his teammates also scored in double figures as the US team of NBA stars routed Australia 120-74 at the World Championship of basketball on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

In an earlier quarter-final, Sergei Bazarevich scored 27 points and Sergei Babkov added 20 as Russia broke open a close game in the second half to beat Puerto Rico 101-85.

The gold medal favourites United States and Russia joined Croatia and Greece as teams with victories in the opening contests of the three-game round quarter-finals.

The US, which barely escaped with a 79-77 victory over Australia at the last World Championship in 1990 before professional players were eligible to participate, has outscored its four foes here by a total of 149 points.

The 56-point margin of victory surpassed Friday's 133-77 thumping of China and is the nation's second most decisive victory at a World Championship. The US crushed South Korea 146-67

at the 1990 Championship in Buenos Aires.

Miller, who plays for the Indiana Pacers and is one of the top outside shooters in NBA, hit 9-of-10 shots from the floor, including 5-of-6 from three point range.

Mark Price also went 5-of-6 from long range, as the Americans shot 63 per cent (14-of-22) from three-point territory and 71 per cent (46-of-65) overall.

"When you lose by that margin, certainly you're embarrassed," said Australian coach Barry Carnes.

Australia's Andrew Gaze, the tournament's leading scorer, scored 15 of his team-high 23-point in the first half when his team built its biggest lead at 17-10.

It was not until 12:22 into the game when Mark Price nailed his first three-pointer that the Americans went in front 27-24.

But the US team's superior depth emerged as all 12 players broke into the scoring column in the first half and the Americans led 62-48 at the in-

termission.

After the break the US put on the defensive clamps and during one eight-minute stretch, they allowed the Australians just one field goal, outscoring them 28-6.

Shaquille O'Neal, the leading US scorer in the preliminary round, played just 11 minutes because of a sore back and scored six points. His absence was missed by the fans who, in the game's waning minutes, chanted: "We want Shaq" between their roars from the thundering dunks of the American All-Star squad.

"Australia executed a really good game plan at the beginning of the game," said US coach Don Nelson. "The first-half score was a little closer than we would have hoped."

In the second-half, we decided to go with a smaller team and basically gave them the same kind of grief they were giving us in the first half."

In the first game, power forward Jose Ortiz, who led Puerto Rico with 20 points, gave his team its last lead at 64-62 with a dunk five minutes into the second-half.

German TV pull plug on ATP Tour

MUNICH, Aug 10: In another blow to the troubled game of tennis, the ATP Tour is losing one of its main television sponsors.

SAT-1, a private German cable station, will not extend its contract with the ATP Tour when it expires next year, SAT-1 sports chief Reinhold Beckmann said Tuesday, reports AP.

A rapid fall in ratings is forcing SAT-1 to drop tennis from its programme, Beckmann said.

"I think the European market is finished. The times when TV stations were the milk cows are definitely over," Beckmann said.

SAT-1 will continue to broadcast only two tournaments from Germany, the ATP Tour World Championship in Frankfurt and the Grand Slam Cup in Munich.

Riding on the successes of Boris Becker and Steffi Graf tennis became very popular in Germany in the 1980s. Germany hosts more than a dozen tournaments every year, in addition to the ATP Tour's season-ending World Championship, formerly known as the Masters.

About 70 per cent of the ATP Tour's television income came from Germany, Beckmann said.

The abundance of tournaments has led to tennis saturation on television and the game is rapidly losing viewers.

Sekulov sent packing

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 10: Top-seeded James Sekulov of Australia was upset by Dimitry Tomashevich of Uzbekistan 7-6, 6-4 Tuesday on the opening day of the third leg of the Malaysian International Satellite Circuit II tennis tournament in Ipoh, reports AP.

Sekulov was leading the standings with 27 points after the first two legs of the satellite circuit.

The second-leg winner, Yoon Yong-il of South Korea, advanced to the second round with a 6-3, 6-0 victory over South Africa's Gerrit Steenkamp, the national news agency Bernama reported from Ipoh, 200 kilometres (120 miles) north of Kuala Lumpur.

Voronova joins dopers' club

HELSINKI, Aug 10: Natalya Voronova, a member of the Russian sprint relay team which won a gold medal at last year's World Championships, has failed a dope test for ephedrine and faces a three-month ban from competition, the European Athletic Association (EAA) announced on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

At Guy of Ireland, the EAA's doping delegate at the European Athletic Championships included the 29-year-old Moscow sprinter's name in a list of eight athletes who have all tested positive in the last two months.

The names of seven of the athletes, on the banned list were said by the EAA to have previously been reported. Only Voronova's case was a new addition to the list.

Guy stressed that no positive tested had yet been returned after the first two days of testing here.

"By the time the championships end we would have tested 10 per cent of all the

competitors. "So far the only positive test we have had back from the lab in Helsinki is a controlled test which we inserted to test the lab procedures. This proves the testing is as accurate and as fair to the athletes as is possible."

The other athletes named were: Mariana Florea of Romania, Piotr Perzlyo of Poland, Vladimir Malatova of the Czech Republic, Hedvika Korosak of Slovenia, Ellen Kovacs of Romania, Solomon Wario of Britain.

Voronova returned a positive test at a meeting in Granada, Spain on June 1.

Besides her relay gold medal at Stuttgart last year she also won an Olympic relay 'bronze in the Seoul Olympics in 1988.

Among her other honours is a sixth place finish in the 1988 Olympic 100 metres final and sixth places in both the 100 and 200 finals in last year's World Championships.

She was formerly known by her maiden name of Pomoshnikova and is listed in the athletics yearbook as a student

of journalism. Florea tested positively for the steroid nandrolone, Perzlyo for a steroid marketed under the name nikethamide and Malatova for nandrolone metabolites.

Voronova, Kovacs and Wario were all discovered with traces of the banned stimulant ephedrine, while Okeke had traces of pseudoephedrine.

Korosak had illegal amounts of testosterone at a meeting in Slovenia in June.

Dr Tapio Kallio of Finland, a former international athlete and a senior figure in the championships' doping control, said: "The increase in the use of ephedrine could be because the athletes believe it is a masking agent and because the punishment for using it is only three months."

"But they are mistaken if they think it can mask or hide other drugs."

"We can now look at the profile of a drug from 10 different directions with the machines we have and you cannot use a masking agent to hide something 10 different ways."



Steve Smith of Britain soars over the bar to take the silver medal during the high jump competition at the European Athletics Championships in Helsinki on August 9. — AFP photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Benchley book

5 "Charlie's Angels" actress

9 Tea variety

12 Canyon phenomenon

13 "— ben Adhem"

14 Obey the coxswain

15 Lou Grant's newspaper

16 Pinochle tactic

17 Prior to

18 Collections

19 Poorly

20 Stoop

21 "And — the opposite shore..."

23 Chartres chum

25 Texas city

28 Saskatchewan's capital

32 Oscar de la —

33 Seething

34 Estuaries

36 Sign up

37 Snitch

DOWN

1 Sharks' foes

2 Farm fraction

3 Iota

4 Sentimental do-gooders

5 Thin layer

6 Famed shepherd

7 Buck

8 Flop

9 Algonquin language

10 Phone, jocularly

11 Dumb-struck, maybe

20 "1984"

22 Japanese city

24 Where-withal

25 Music group, in "Variety"

26 Article in, Aachen

27 Compass heading

29 C

30 O

31 The whole shootin' match

35 Layers

36 Octogenarian's milestone

39 Emanation

40 Picture of health?

41 "Bus Stop" playwright

43 Tops tortes

45 Headlight?

46 Sorts

47 Understands

49 90 degrees from 27 Down

Solution time: 27 mins.

WEB RENO APSE
AMA AVON FLOW
DUCKPINS ROSE
TAIL MAYOR
AMEND GRAM
MERE GOOSEEGG
POI PORTS XLI
SWANLAKE SPED
OILY MELEE
STOVE SOLO
HOPI HENPARTY
ERIC OPUS EWE
ATEE BABY ROW

CRYPTOQUIP

C K M I Y A H J T Q Y C O O I Y
E V M K Y T M M E Y P J V M Y B C
O B B H V P I Z K Y A
Z A Y M M V A Y

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NOTED FOR HIS DRY WIT, MASTER OF CEREMONIES CAN BE A WRY TOAST HOST.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: I equals H

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.