

C'WEALTH GAMES  
MEDALS TABLE

VICTORIA, Aug 29: Commonwealth Games medals table after the final day of competition on Sunday (tabulated): gold, silver, bronze:

Australia	84	53	41
Canada	38	41	49
England	31	41	47
Nigeria	12	13	13
Kenya	7	4	8
India	6	11	6
Wales	5	6	6
Scotland	5	3	10
Northern Ireland	5	2	3
New Zealand	4	16	17
Nauru	3	0	0
South Africa	3	4	5
Jamaica	2	4	2
Malaysia	2	3	2
Cyprus	2	1	2
Sri Lanka	1	2	0
Zambia	1	1	2
Namibia	1	0	1
Zimbabwe	0	3	8
Papua New Guinea	0	1	0
Western Samoa	0	1	0
Pakistan	0	0	3
Hong Kong	0	0	2
Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	2
Uganda	0	0	2
Bermuda	0	0	1
Guernsey	0	0	1
Tanzania	0	0	1
Botswana	0	0	1
Ghana	0	0	1
Norfolk Island	0	0	1
Seychelles	0	0	1
Tonga	0	0	1

Note: No silver or bronze medals awarded in the men's pairs running target shooting event. No bronze awarded in women's 50-km team cycling time trial and women's 4x200 freestyle swimming.

Medals for disabled events are not included.



Mary Onyali of Nigeria exults after her country's victory in the women's 4x100m relay at the Commonwealth Games in Victoria on Aug 28. Nigeria's time was 42.99 seconds. —AFP photo

## Refractory reality rules over idealism

## Dove-Edwin's fall from grace

VICTORIA, Aug 29: The XV Commonwealth Games will be remembered for Australian achievement and Canadian enthusiasm but its slogan "Catch the Spirit" had been replaced by "Catch the Drug Cheat" long before the closing ceremony, reports Reuters.

Australia's extraordinary swag of 84 gold medals shattered all previous records and left traditional rivals England and Canada trailing vainly in their wake, particularly in the pool where Kieren Perkins broke the only world records of the Games.

Yet if one man summed up the uneasy relationship between the Commonwealth ideal and modern reality it was Horace Dove-Edwin, the hyphenated hero-turned-villain of the athletics track.

Until Sunday, the Sierra Leone sprinter had provided one of the Games' most heart-warming tales from his lack of any smart clothes for the opening ceremony to his silver medal in the 100 metres behind world champion Linford Christie.

When he was finally defrocked for using stanozolol, the same steroid which propelled Ben Johnson into infamy, it instantly stripped away yet another layer of the romance which has long protected the Games' modesty.

Dove-Edwin's fall from grace followed the third positive test of the Games, and the sixth involving athletes scheduled to perform in Victoria.

From the moment Nigerian relay runner Udemé Ekepeyong was turned back at the airport after banned substances were found in his suitcase, fresh drug rumours were never far away.

Ghanaian boxer Godson Sawah, English athletes Paul Edwards and Diane Modahl and Jamaican high hurdler Robert Foster were all added to the list, a spread of names and countries which underlined the extent of the problem.

Other athletes would like to forget Sunday, too.

Australia's Cathy Freeman thought she had had won her third gold medal of the Games when she overtook Sally Gunnell in the stretch and gained the 1,600 metres title for her country in a Games record time.

Minutes later, her team was disqualified because she had stepped in front of Nigeria's Fatima Yusuf and impeded her on the final bend. Nigeria was disqualified, too, for an illegal changeover.

From that point, it was protest and counter protest.

The English quarter, which finished second, also was initially disqualified. After they complained, too, officials gathered again to debate the race. Eventually, the English were given the gold medal and their time, 3:27.06, replaced the Australians' 3:26.84 as the Games record.

There was a long delay until the result of the final event, the men's 1,600 relay, was announced after more protests about that race. The outcome was disqualification for Kenya.

England's European champion Duane Ladejo made up

10 metres on Jamaica's Garth Robinson on the final leg to beat him at the wire. England clocked 3:02.14. Jamaica won the silver and Trinidad and Tobago gained the bronze.

Steve Monaghan came to the Games having won the marathon bronze medal in 1986 and the silver in 1990. This time he took home the gold.

The 31-year-old Australian plodded the rainsoaked Victoria streets to win in 2 hours 11 minutes 49 seconds.

Despite England's late haul, Australia dominated the 10 sports event.

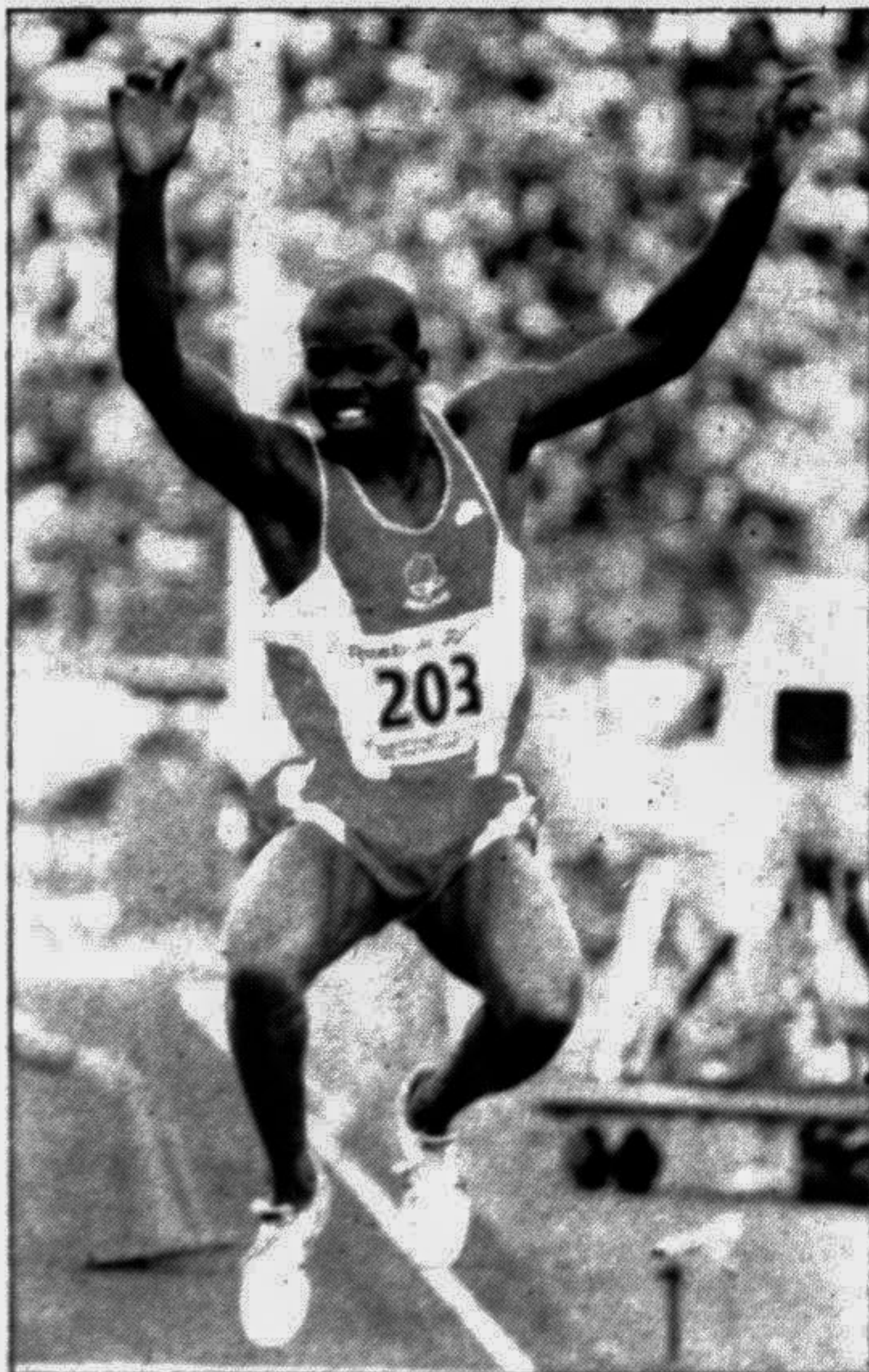
The only drug fuelling the Australian team, so it seemed, was an overdose of national fervour.

The squad received 70,000 letters and 50,000 faxes from home, reflecting a medal count which read like a cricket score.

Their final gold tally was 32 more than the previous jointly-held record of 52 and enabled them to overtake England at the top of the all-time list. Second-placed Canada finished 46 adrift.

Of the 32 swimming golds on offer, the Australian squad won all but eight, including Perkins' world record in the 1,500 metres in which he also set a fresh 800 metres mark.

On Saturday, as if to illustrate their versatility, Australians won 17 golds in seven different sports, going even further towards justifying the massive 4.7 million Aus dollars (9.4 million US dollars) investment in the squad.



Julian Golley of England leaps through the air to take the gold medal in triple jump during the Commonwealth Games in Victoria on Aug 28. Golley also set a new Games record with a jump of 17.03 metres. —AFP photo

Team spokesman Ian Hanson suggested the secret was not so much the amount of money as the way it had been spent, citing the beneficial effect of the Australian Institute of Sport which is now attracting envious glances from abroad.

But even Australians are wondering if their Victorian triumph has been too much of a good thing. "Even the team leaders were beginning to shake their heads by the end," Admitted Hanson. "I think people have got to look at it. We're getting better, but maybe the rest are getting worse."

Beneath the obvious determination of Victorians to make the most of their 10 days in the world spotlight, there were numerous other reminders.

From the bumpy bowling greens where Scotland's Richard Corsie took the hotly contested men's singles title to the boxing ring which provided a daily diet of controversy, lovers of the eccentric were rarely disappointed.

Australian official Arthur Tunstall added a whole new dimension to sports diplomacy, compatriot Rob Parrella promised to dye his hair yellow and green if he reached the bowls final and three Solomon Islands boxers arrived overweight after eating and drinking too much on the plane.

There were innumerable stories of personal triumph against all emotional odds and a firm commitment to repeat

the whole exercise in Kuala Lumpur in 1998.

But even in Victoria far more people watched the nightly fireworks and free concerts than the actual events. By 2002, in showbiz terms, the Commonwealth Games could be no more than an end-of-the-pier act.

## Commoners' Commonwealth

VICTORIA, Aug 29: The brother of the Sultan of Brunei, the world's wealthiest man, grabbed the limelight but it was the ordinary folk who had the golden touch in the Commonwealth Games shooting competition, reports AFP.

Prince Balkiah of Brunei



JASPAL RANA

lived in a private mansion and was driven to the shooting range in a luxury limousine with three escort cars. He had an exclusive mobile home to rest in during the breaks.

But it was ordinary people — computer operators, electricians, plumbers, students and even a fisherman — who swept the titles in their largely anonymous sport.

Pistol prodigy Jaspal Rana, an 18-year-old student from India, gunned down two gold medals and came within striking distance of a third to become a national hero.

Rana showed a steely nerve in outshooting experienced Englishman Mickey Gault for the centre-fire pistol title after combining with Ashok Pandit for the team gold.

He shot 10 bullseyes under tiebreaker pressure to win, and an admiring Gault said it was a "pleasure" to lose to that man.

And he almost denied Canada's Jean-Pierre Huot, a florist from Quebec, the final gold of the competition before settling for silver in the air pistol.

He has become the star of international shooting at a very young age. Indian coach Sunny Thomas said, "He is going to win many laurels in the years to come."

Rana like trap winner Mansher Singh, has his sights trained on the Hiroshima Asian Games.

Australians reaped the richest gold harvest from Healy's Range, mirroring their overall Games performance, and denied the Canadians a clean sweep of the final four titles. The Aussies won 10 golds — two more than the Canadians.

English shooters, considered the biggest threat to Australian domination, grabbed 17 of the 94 medals, but only two were gold.

Hamlet Cup  
Kafelnikov's

COMMACK, New York, Aug 29: Red hot Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov continued his surge up the world's tennis ladder on Sunday by beating Cedric Pioline of France 5-7, 6-1, 6-2 in the final of the 313,750 dollars Waldbaum's Hamlet Cup, reports Reuters.

The 20-year-old Kafelnikov, who was ranked 148th last August and started the year at number 104, will be 11th when the new rankings are released on Monday, according to an Association of Tennis Professionals spokesman.

The Hamlet Cup, the US Open warmup where last year Kafelnikov had to qualify to reach the main draw, became the fifth-seeded Russian's third tournament victory. Beating the sixth-seeded Pioline gave him a 51-1 match record since January.

The 18th ranked Pioline, who lost in last year's US Open final to Sampras, suffered his seventh career defeat in a final. He has yet to win a tournament since turning pro in 1989.

Pioline looked tired. Maybe he was sick, "Kafelnikov said. "He had a trainer come out."

Pioline said he wanted the trainer to give him medicine in the second set as a precaution because his stomach "felt funny." He insisted: "It wasn't sick."

On the eve of the first day of the US Open, Kafelnikov said he was physically tired but was looking forward to his first Open.

"Maybe my body is too tired. There are five-set matches at the Open," he said. "On the other hand, with a day's rest between matches, maybe I'll recover."

Kafelnikov said he won't be disappointed if he loses his first-round match to Sweden's Jacco Eltingh. "I did a good job at the Hamlet and won the tournament," he said.

Eltingh pockets  
OTB title

SCHENECTADY, NY, Aug 29: Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands made quick work of Chuck Adams in cruising to a 6-3, 6-4 victory Sunday in the championship match of the OTB International, reports AP.

In a match that lasted only 70 minutes, Eltingh had four aces and put in 83 per cent of his first serves while twice breaking Adams' serve.

Eltingh, who turns 24 on Monday, captured the \$15,400 first prize by winning his first title of the year on the ATP Tour.

In the ninth game of the second set with the score tied 4-4, Adams served a 109 mph (175 kph) ace down the middle, but failed to capitalize. Adams double-faulted and netted his next backhand shot from the baseline as Eltingh charged the net and went ahead 5-4.

In the women's final, eighth-seeded Judith Wiesner of Austria rebounded to a 7-5, 3-6, 6-4 victory over defending champion Larisa Neiland of Latvia.

Wiesner, who won \$15,400 showed the same tenacity when she bounced back in the third round of the 1993 Lipton International, when she defeated Jennifer Capriati after being within one game of losing in straight sets.

Wiesner, who won her first title of the year, will play Romania's Tedjakusuma of Indonesia on Tuesday in the first round of the US Open.

## Wide open US Open on card



NEW YORK, Aug 29: Steffi Graf slipped quietly into the empty stadium before the comedians took the court, no smile on her face.

She looked up at the vacant red, white and blue seats, then quickly got down to business, practising one last time on the court where she won her third US Open a year ago, reports AP.



STEFFI GRAF

No one, least of all Graf, knows whether the back spasms she's been suffering will subside long enough to let her defend her title over the next two weeks.

On this hot, humid afternoon Graf practised without any apparent discomfort. There was power in her forehand, as always, and her slice backhand looked as silky as ever.

But Graf's retreat from an exhibition last week, her loss in the first round at Wimbledon and the manner of her defeat against Mary Pierce at the French Open, have left the German with doubts and her rivals with hope.

"This is one of the first years that there's no clear-cut favourite," Lindsay Davenport said Sunday at the Arthur Ashe AIDS Tennis Challenge, a fundraiser with comedians Bill Cosby and Alan King, a dozen pros and a few players from

the local pro basketball and American football teams.

Graf got off the court before the fun began, and didn't come back to join in.

"Graf can be considered a favourite, but you don't know how she's feeling," Davenport said. "There are a lot of other girls who can do it here today."

Davenport, who graduated from high school last spring and had a good run at Wimbledon, mentioned French champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and Wimbledon champ Conchita Martinez, then giggled shyly when asked if she would include herself among potential winners. Surely, she should, if only because she hits some of the hardest groundstrokes in women's tennis.

The new optimism of all the players is obvious. With Monica Seles still sitting out and Graf's health uncertain, there is a sense that women's tennis is no longer under the domination of any particular player.

The chain of leadership — Chris Evert to Martina Navratilova to Graf to Seles and back to Graf has been broken.

"Anyone can have a shot to win the title here," said Chanda Rubin, who has a difficult first-round against No. 15 Magdalena Maleeva. "Getting right into a tough match is good for me a lot of times. I'm going to see if I have the guts to get by that match."

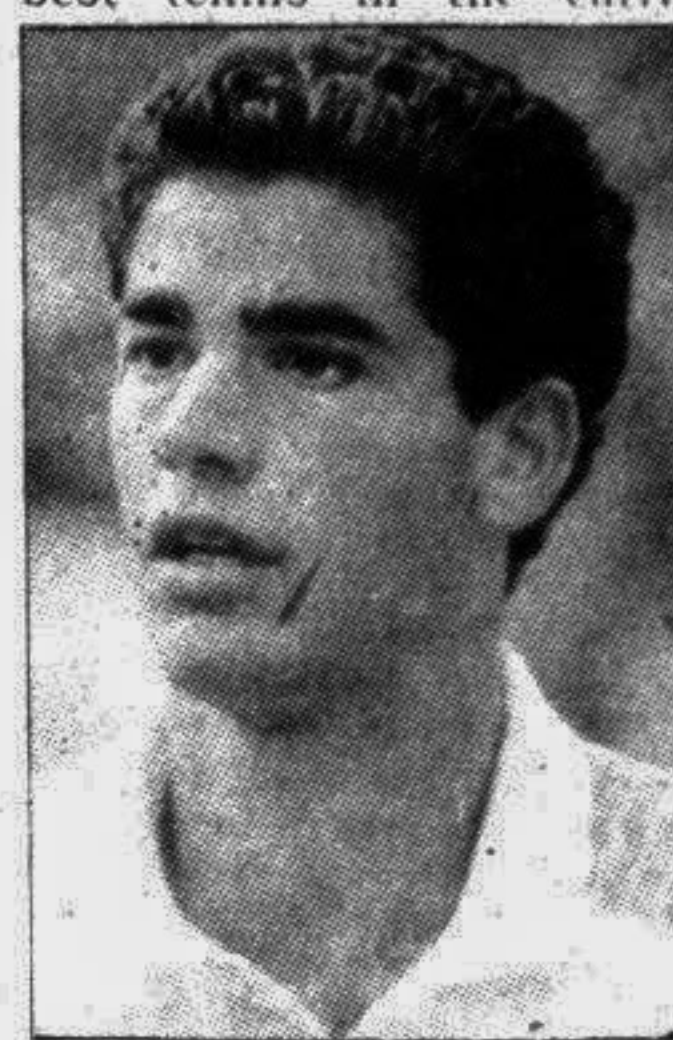
Four years ago, Linda Ferrando scored the greatest upset of a largely undistinguished career when she beat Seles in the third round of the US Open. Ferrando, who had won only one match at the Open since then, will be trying to pull off another upset Monday against No. 2 Sanchez-Vicario in this year's first match in the stadium.

Andre Agassi, unseeded, meets Robert Eriksson in the second stadium match. With Wimbledon winner and defending US Open champion Pete Sampras off the court for more than a month because of an ankle injury, the men's title may be just as much up for grabs as the women's.

"You can't be so devastating

in a sport when you've missed a few months," Agassi said after losing a tiebreaker to John McEnroe in Sunday's exhibition. "Yet Pete's a gifted enough player to come in here and possibly be devastating. But I think the odds for him have dropped considerably."

"The earlier rounds will be the telling point. If he gets to the second week, to the quarterfinals, he'll be OK. But it's hard to believe he'll play his best tennis in the early



PETE SAMPRAS

rounds."

No. 9 Todd Martin, recovered from a groin injury, is hardly discounting Sampras.

"I think he'll get better as he plays on," said Martin, who is also a strong contender for his first Grand Slam title if he's healthy. "It's going to depend on his draw and who he plays. I don't perceive him as a clear favourite as he's been at the other Grand Slams lately. But even though he's not the clear favourite, he's the best player in the world right now."

Other men's matches Monday include No. 2 Goran Ivanisevic against Markus Zoccke, No. 3 Sergi Bruguera against Bryan Shelton, No. 6 Michael Chang against Andrei Cherkasov, and No. 7 Boris Becker against Richey Reneberg.

Graf and Sampras were given Monday off to rest a little more.

## Ageless Lendl prowls on



NEW YORK, Aug 29: There are too many aches and pains, too many early-round losses now, and

yes, too many good young players for Ivan Lendl to be considered a contender for this year's US Open men's singles title.

And he knows it, reports AP.

"I would say my chances of winning are definitely not as good as they were in the mid-1980s," Lendl said of the period when he reached the US Open singles final a record-tying eight consecutive years.

Asked if he should be considered among the favourites, Lendl said, "I really haven't given it a thought."

Lendl will play in his 16th consecutive US Open today when he faces Australian Neil Brown on the Grandstand court. Neither is seeded.

If Lendl makes it past Brown, he will better his trip to the National Tennis Centre a year ago. That's when he was ousted in the opening round for the first time in his career.

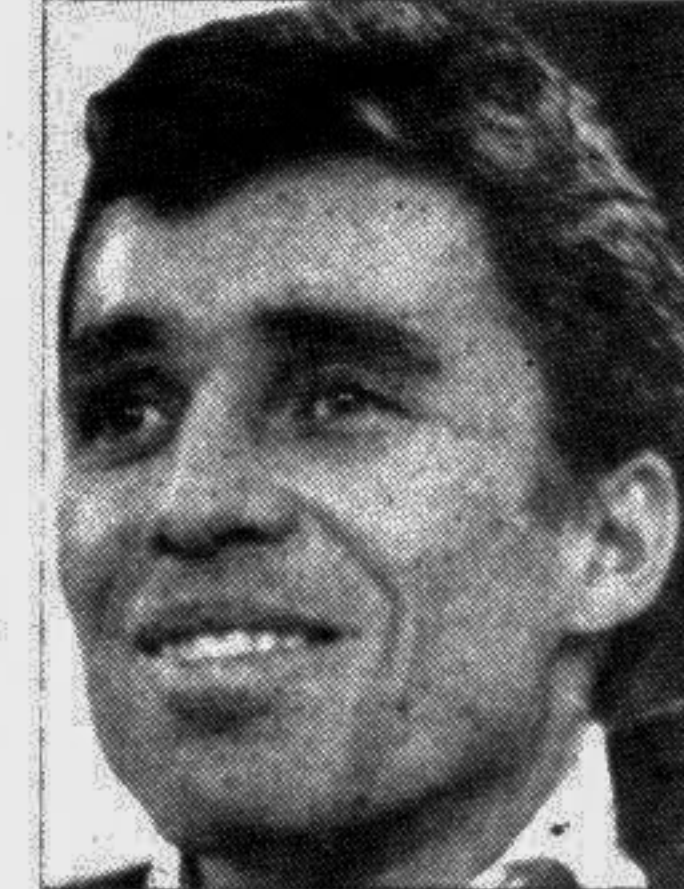
During his eight consecutive trips to the title match, he won three times — all in a row — from 1985-87.

The last two years haven't

been kind to Lendl's ranking. Some of that can be traced to a series of injuries.

"I had a little back trouble for a while (this year)," he said, explaining his first year without an ATP Tour title since 1980. "In general, it has been pretty good right now."

But it's not just injuries that



IVAN LENDL

have sent Lendl's ranking plummeting out of the top 20 in the world. He's now at No. 29.

It's a combination of a lot of things," he said. "The guys are getting better, the injuries, and I'm getting older, too."

Still, the right-hander ha-

sn't considered following contemporaries John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors into retirement just yet.

"I don't know how long I will continue to play," he said. "As long as I have fun and as long as I feel I can move."

The native of Czechoslovakia, who became a US citizen in 1992, finished in the top 10 in the world for 13 consecutive years, second only to Connors' 16 straight. From 1985-88, he had an uninterrupted stretch of 157 straight weeks as No. 1 in the world, second again only to Connors' streak of 162 weeks.

He has held the No. 1 spot longer than any other male player, 270 weeks in all. His first Grand Slam title came at the 1984 French Open — his first of three on the red clay courts of Roland Garros — when he came from two sets down to beat McEnroe.

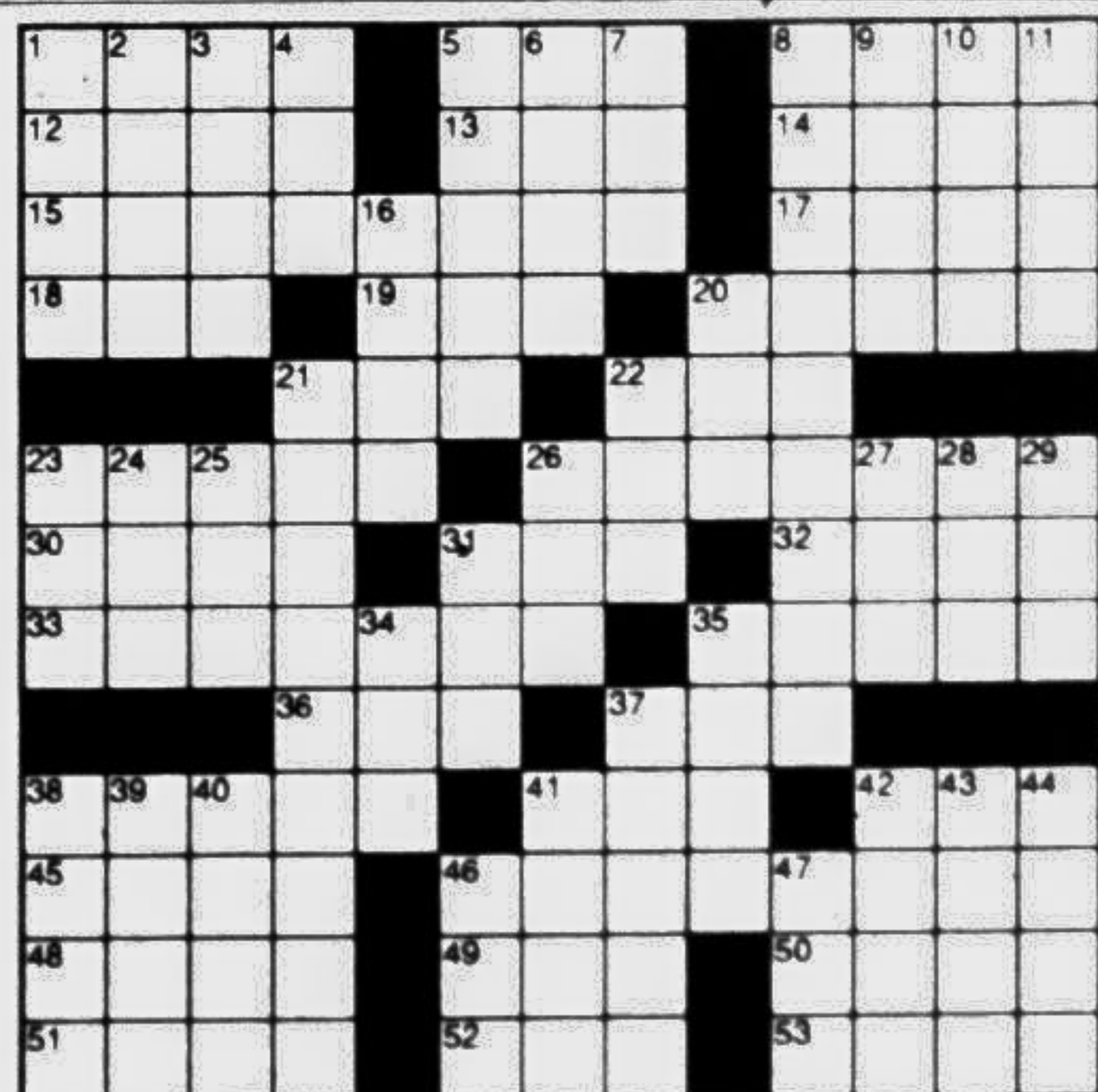
Only Wimbledon escaped his grasp, and he reached the final of the grass court event in both 1986 and 1987.

But that's in the past, and Lendl lives for the present and the future.

"I don't sit and home and wonder what happened to the game. I'm more interested in my golf swing and my kids."

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37 Enjoyment	2 Blueprint	20 Branch
1 D.C.	38 Condescend	calculation	21 "Blazing Saddles"
scandal	41 Calendar	3 Daytime	director
suffix	abbr.	TV format	22 Modern
5 Launch	42 "The Side"	4 Suffer a recession?	office
site	45 Cartoonist	5 Schroeder's	equipment
8 Red	Peter	instrument	23 Male cat
planet	46 "The Velvet Fog"	6 Teen woe	24 "Lazy River"
12 Steed	48 26 Across	7 Calendar	25 Ingot
with spirit	need	abbr.	26 Petrol
13 Bump off	49 Blackbird	8 "Lethal Weapon"	27 Privy
14 Beelzebub's forte	50 Doctors' due	star	28 Mag.
15 Sylvester's voice	51 Ball-bearing items?	9 Shakespeare's	staffers
17 Crazy	52 Pair	river	29 Scoundrel
18 Tibetan	53 Bivouac	10 Houston campus	31 "Charlotte's"
beast	structure	11 Decelerate	34 Back talk
19 Inseparable	DOWN	16 Author	35 Batter's tactic
20 Veep, 1969-73	1 Malodorous	Anita	37 Page number
21 Low sound?	ous		38 Remedy for an icy walk
22 Calendar			39 Verifiable
abbr.			40 Never again?
23 Ziti, e.g.			41 Computer list
26 Casino			42 Priceless?
patron			43 Churchly sitcom
30 October			44 All else
stone			46 Humor magazine
31 Moustache application			47 Frequently
32 Pop			
33 Symbols of sanity			
35 Give a leg up			
36 Tease			



CRYPTOQUIP

R D ' C F R A A R U J G D D I  
D M L U S L V M D R V M F  
S J W D R W B F I B R D ' C  
W I D K I G R D M D I K I R W D  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AMBITIOUS MAN WHO ENTERED THE HOUDINI LOOKALIKE CONTEST IS BOUND TO WIN.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals T

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.