

## Sport



Le Jingyi of China punches the air after winning the women's 50-metre freestyle final in a new world record time of 24.51 seconds at the World Championships in Rome on Sept. 11.

— AFP photo

## Curtain falls on Rome World Championships

### Smeared Sino supremacy

 ROMA, Sept. 12: She's just set the 50 meters world record to go with her 100 mark and collected her fifth gold medal at the World Swimming Championships.

"I didn't know I could swim this fast," Le Jingyi said.

But she can. So can her countrywomen. And that's something that's worrying other swimmers and coaches.

China's women would up with 12 gold medals from 16 events with Le breaking two

### Double delight for Sanchez

NEW YORK, Sept. 12: Less than 24 hours after claiming her first US Open singles crown, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain doubled her pleasure on Sunday by teaming with Czech Jana Novotna to win the women's double title, reports Reuter.

The second seeds defeated the unseeded duo of Katrina Maleeva of Bulgaria and American Robin White 6-3, 6-3 in 64 minutes.

"It's been a great tournament, couldn't be better," said the 22-year-old Sanchez at the conclusion of her championship weekend.

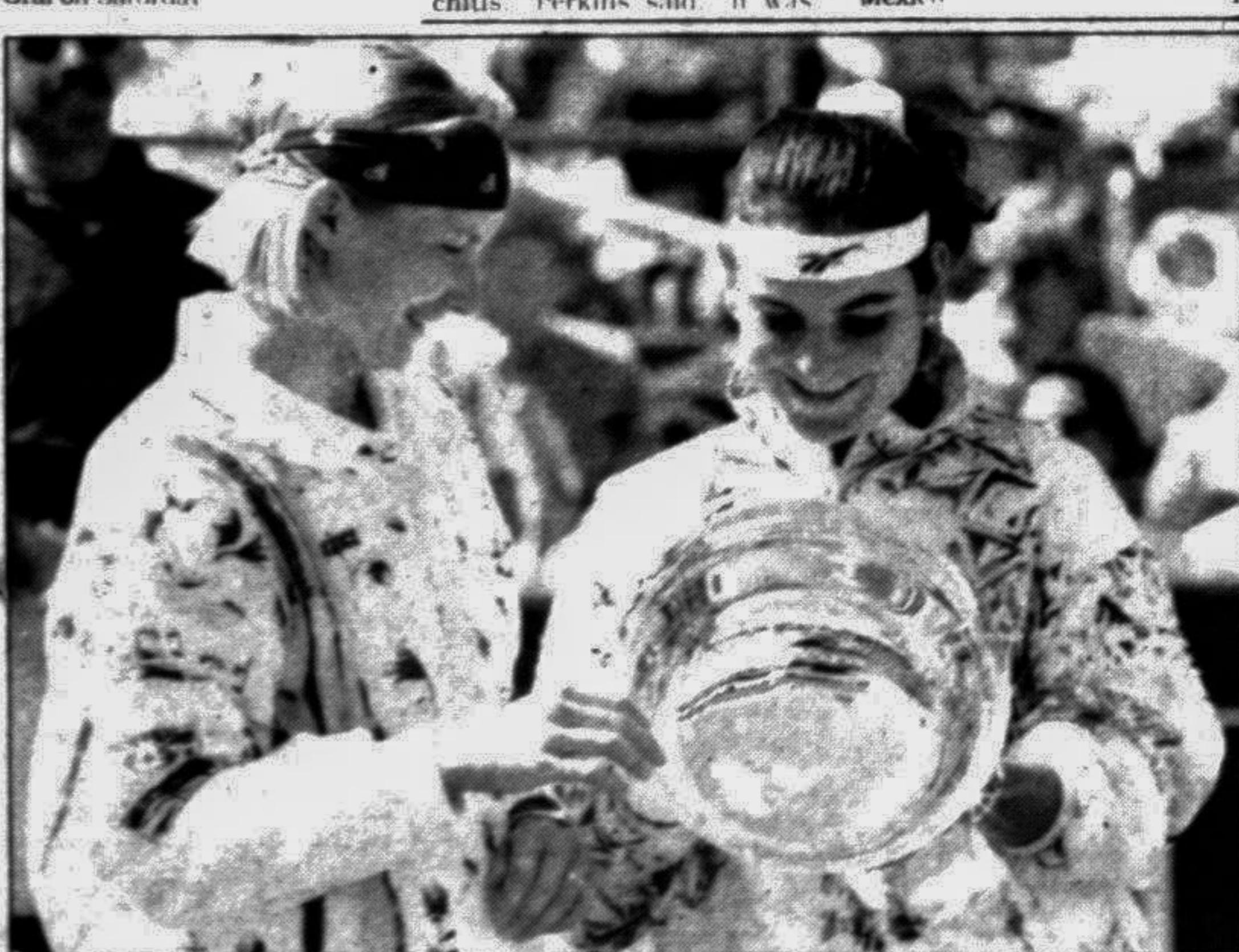
It was Maleeva and White who played giant killers in the semifinals when they upset Gigi Fernandez and Natalia Zvereva to end the top-seeded team's bid for a doubles sweep of the four Grand Slam titles.

On Sunday, however, Maleeva lost her serve twice in the first set and White was broken once in each set.

Novotna dropped her serve once in the opening set, but the second seeds did not face a single break point in the second set.

Sanchez, who also won the US Open doubles title last year with Helena Sukova, will split 200,000 dollars with Novotna.

Sanchez walks away from the 1994 Open 680,000 dollar richer after picking up 550,000 dollar for her come-from-behind victory over Steffi Graf on Saturday.



— AFP photo

### Rare accolade for Klinsmann

LONDON, Sept. 12: German striker Jürgen Klinsmann has become the first ever winner of the Carling-player-of-the-month award, reports AFP.

Klinsmann, Spurs' shock summer signing from Monaco, has scored five goals in four games since his arrival at White Hart Lane.

His scoring feats have helped Tottenham wipe out their six-point penalty imposed for financial irregularities by the FA.

He receives a Carling-player-of-the-month trophy, a cheque for 750 pounds and a magnum of champagne.

### Brazilian eyes spike Japan

SHANGHAI, China, Sept. 12: Brazil clinched the second women's World volleyball grand prix with a 3-1 (15-9, 11-15, 15-8, 15-7) win over Japan here Sunday, reports AFP.

The Brazilians had only to beat the lowly Japanese to make sure of the title after scoring a shock 3-2 victory on Friday over titleholders Cuba, the reigning world and Olympic champions.

Cuba finished runners-up after beating China 3-0 (15-10, 15-8, 15-9) in the final match on Sunday.

China was third overall with Japan fourth.

### Drechsler back with a bang

TALENCE, France, Sept. 12: World and Olympic long jump champion Heike Drechsler made an impressive return to the heptathlon with a world's best performance of the year in winning at an international combined meeting on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The German, who abandoned the discipline after setting a world junior record of 5,812 points 13 years ago, finished the two-day meeting with 6,741.

Resuming on Sunday after accumulating 3,964 points in the first four events, she increased her lead with a leap of 6.95 metres in the long jump. The second longest leap in the world at a combined meeting.

Nathalie Tepp of France finished second nearly 400 points behind Drechsler.

American Dan O'Brien failed in his attempt to break his own decathlon 8,891 points world record set in the same stadium two years ago.

He kept his hopes alive with personal best in the 110

giving me difficulty breathing and I realised after 10 minutes swimming my breathing was causing me problems.

"But my ambition on the day was to win."

In other finals, Chinese women won both the 200 butterfly and 200 backstroke to underline their dominance. Liu Limin collected her third gold of the championships in the butterfly and He Cihong won the 200 breaststroke.

Without mentioning China by name, 18 coaches, including US national team director Dennis Pursey, Australia's Don Talbot and Dave Johnson from Canada, signed a declaration to step up the fight against drug abuse.

They described it "the single greatest threat to the progress and integrity of the sport."

In the final event of the entire competition, the United States 400 medley relay team of Jeff Rouse, Eric Wunderlich, Mark Henderson and Gary Hall won in a championship record time 3:37.74 to give the Americans their fourth gold in the swimming pool.

The American team also won the gold medal in synchronized swimming ahead of Canada and Japan. It meant that Becky Dyroen-Lancer had collected three golds in solo, duet and team events.

#### MEDALS TABLE

Medals table at the end of the 11-day World Swimming Championships on Sunday (tabulated under gold, silver, bronze).

China	16	10	2
United States	7	10	8
Australia	6	3	4
Russia	5	7	5
Hungary	3	3	5
Finland	2	2	—
Germany	1	2	6
Spain	1	2	—
Sweden	1	2	—
Canada	1	1	3
Italy	1	—	2
Poland	1	—	—
Zimbabwe	1	—	—
Japan	—	2	1
New Zealand	—	1	2
Netherlands	—	1	—
Belgium	—	2	—
Brazil	—	—	2
Costa Rica	—	—	1
Lithuania	—	—	1
Mexico	—	—	1

HEIKE DRECHSLER metres hurdles, discuss and pole vault but then finished last in the final event, the 1,500 metres.

O'Brien finished on 8,710 points with Eduard Hamalainen of Belarus second on 8,459 and European decathlon champion Alain Blondel of France third on 8,439.

### Rookies picked for Wallabies squad

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 12: Serum-half Sam Payne and hooker Michael Foley were the only players without international experience named Monday to a preliminary 30-man Australian squad to prepare for next year's World Cup rugby union tournament in South Africa, reports AP.

Payne was selected despite missing out on a place on the Emerging Wallabies team to tour Africa next month.

Australian Rugby Football Union chief executive officer Bruce Hayman said the Australian squad eventually is likely to swell to around 45 players.

Barry Lea, Tony Dempsey, Warwick Waugh and Mark Bell are the only other members of the squad not to have played test football, although Lea, Dempsey and Bell have been on tours to Canada and France and Waugh has been on three tours — to South Africa, Ireland and Wales, and Canada.

### Africans retain World Cup

LONDON, Sept. 12: Sunday Bada, who clinched Africa's first World Cup men's victory in Havana two years ago, saw his team safely through to a repeat win at Crystal Palace on Sunday.

The 25-year-old Nigerian anchored Africa to first place in the 4x400 metres relay in the tropical heat of Cuba in 1992.

On Sunday on a chilly but mercifully dry English autumn afternoon, Bada again ran the final leg for the Africans who this time finished second to the British quartet anchored by former European champion Roger Black.

The result was enough to give the powerful African team victory with 116 points ahead of Britain who finished on 111 with the Americans in third place on 95.

Europe, inspired by Russian Irina Privalova who won the 100 metres here as well as finishing runner up in the 200, had an afternoon to remember.

The African men faltered slightly in Sunday's first track event when Frankie Fredericks who beat John Regis to the line in both last year's world Championships and this year's Commonwealth Games, finished second to the Briton in the men's 200 metres.

Regis, whose season has been disrupted by injuries to his left leg, was fastest out of the blocks while Fredericks was last and although the Namibian came back strongly over the last 50 metres it was enough to win.

Regis, the 1990 European champion, was less than delighted with drawing lane one while Fredericks was similarly disenchanted with lane eight.

"I wouldn't give it to my mother," Regis snorted.

Fredericks commented,

"It's the race I want to forget, I never even practise in lane one."

Tony Jarrett, the world silver medalist who replaced world champion Colin Jackson in the high hurdles, led from start to finish to give Britain a further eight points.

And European gold medalist Steve Backley was another British winner after he launched the javelin past of 80 metres mark five times out of six, eventually winning with a throw of 85.02.

Cuba's Javier Sotomayor, runner-up in his home country two years ago, was a decisive winner of the men's high jump, winning with 2.40 then making three unsuccessful attempts on his world record of 2.45 metres.

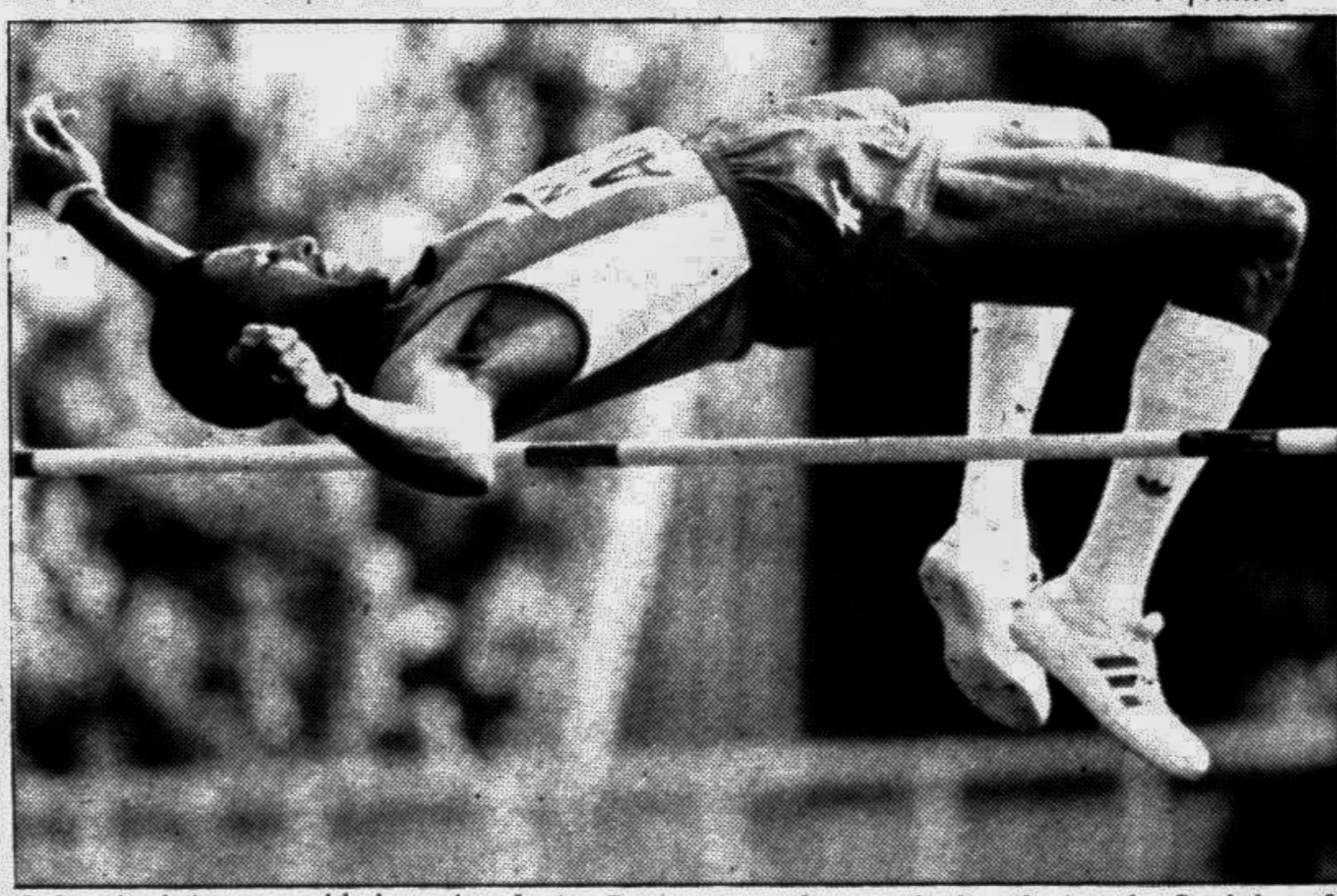
Privalova, who won the 100 metres here as well as finishing runner up in the 200, had an afternoon to remember.

The double European champion did not learn until 11 o'clock yesterday morning that she was to replace Perez after the French woman withdrew with a groin strain.

She then stormed to victory in 50.62 seconds ahead of Commonwealth silver medalist Fatima Yusuf and US world champion Jearl Miles.

"They told me you must run because we will lose the points otherwise," Privalova said. "Of course I'm tired but I thought at the last 100 metres I would win because I'm a sprinter."

Privalova commented,



Cuban high jump world champion Javier Sotomayor sails over the bar during the final day of the Athletics World Cup at Crystal Palace in London on Sept. 11. Sotomayor won the event comfortably.

— AFP photo

### FINA in horns of dilemma

ROME, Sept. 12: A world championship that had 10 world records has left the sport of swimming in the doldrums.

With the spectre of doping looming large again, the sport doesn't know whether to celebrate or hide in shame, reports AP.

"I have never before seen a situation where, if you win, you are tarred with doing something crooked," said Australian coach Don Talbot. "If (drug-cheating) is allowed to keep going, then we are not going to have a sport."

Describing performance-enhancing drugs as "the single greatest threat to the progress and integrity of the sport," 18 coaches signed a declaration calling on swimming's governing body, FINA, to act now to clean up the sport.

"But I am not naive to think that there aren't a few of those who would possibly resort to that," Pursey said.

Although the coaches didn't mention China by name, most

win whether it's a level playing field or not."

German star Franziska Van Almsick (200 freestyle), American swimmer Tom Dolan (400 individual medley), Samantha Riley (100 breaststroke), Kieren Perkins (400 freestyle) and Jani Stevonen (200 medley) were the non-Chinese to break world records.

Of the Chinese, Le Jingyi set marks in the 50 and 100 freestyle. He Cihong broke the 100 backstroke record and the relay teams won the 400 freestyle and medley in world record times. Le Jingyi went home with five gold medals.

The best performance by a Chinese man came from Wang Yifu, who was sixth in a 200 breaststroke consolation final.

Van Almsick's performance was even more remarkable because she didn't qualify for the final.

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	Bates of "Misery"	3	Screw up	19	Tito's aka/
1	Mid-western	37 Tourist's city	4	20 Entreat	21	Ellipse
5	Soon-Yi's mom	40 Wet wiggler	5	22 Mississippi	22	Arizona
8	From such-and-such a date	41 Touch	6	23 Frequent	25	Easily packed away
12	Hanna-Barbera creations	42 Party decorations	7	26 Unadulterated	27	Obi
14	1-Across' state	47 Everything else	8	28 Acidic	29	Biblical pronoun
15	Whaling spears	50 Before tee	10	31 Urban quarter	32	33 Urban quarter
16	Flight angles	51 Woman's name	11	34 Eccentric sort	35	36 Seaweed
17	Suitable	meaning "goddess"	12	37 Irene of "Fame"	38	39 Has no alternative
18	Most skilled	DOWN	13	38 The third man	40	41 Fed. agency
20	Counterfeit	1 Essen expletive	20	39 No	41	42 43
23	Pitch, as a baseball	2 Kid's cry	21	40	44 45 46	47 48
24	Malefice	22	45	4		