

Cronje's effort fails to salvage SA

Warne weaves another spell

FAISALABAD, Pakistan, Oct 18: Leg-spinner Shane Warne captured four wickets in six balls to bowl Australia to a 22-run victory over South Africa on Tuesday in a triangular one-day tournament, reports Reuters.

Chasing a modest Australian total of 208 for six from their 50 overs, South Africa tumbled to their third successive defeat when they were bundled out for 186 in 48.2 overs.

Warne, who finished with



SHANE WARNE... 4 for 40 four for 40 from his 9.2 overs, received fine support from off-spinner Tim May who claimed two for 34 in his first match of the tournament.

South African vice-captain Hansie Cronje, who top-scored with 64, was voted man-of-the-match but his efforts were in vain as the rest of his teammates succumbed to defeat.

A delighted Australian skipper Mark Taylor said: "It was a great victory as we were defending a small total."

He praised Warne, saying: "The guy bowled really well and had the opposing batsmen in tangles."

"If we keep winning in this way, I think we have a good chance of taking home the cup."

South African skipper Kepler Wessels was disappointed. "The loss has put us back and only a miracle can keep us in the competition," he said.

The South Africans, who desperately needed a victory, had an early setback when opener Andrew Hudson was run out by smart fielding from Warne at mid-on after Wessels had refused a single.

Wessels was then joined by

Cronje in the best partnership of 57 in 120 balls for the second wicket, which took the score to 64 when May broke the stand.

Wessels, who was shaping well, top-edged an intended sweep and was caught by Michael Bevan at short fine leg for 30, which included four fours from 70 balls.

Jonny Rhodes followed next for 11, caught by David Boon as he mistimed a sweep from May, and when Cronje was fourth out at 124, the match slipped out of South Africa's grasp.

Cronje was caught by Steve Waugh at mid-wicket as he pulled McDermott who returned to the attack for his second spell. His well-made 64 contained five fours from 94 balls and was the seventh half century for the 25-year-old Orange Free State batsman in his 54th one-day international.

Dave Richardson was trapped lbw by McGrath for 10 at 139 while Gary Kirsten was also dismissed by the same bowler for 24.

Warne then swept aside the South African tail claiming Eric Simons (11), Derek Crookes (20), Meyrick Pringle (0) and finally Fanie de Villiers with Ian Healy stumping three of them.

Earlier, the Australian batting was highlighted by the second-wicket stand of 63 between Slater (38) and Mark Waugh (38) in 88 balls.

After the South African spinners Clive Eksteen and Crookes had pinned down the Australians as they conceded 43 runs between them from 12 overs, top-scorer Boon with 43 and Steve Waugh (23) revitalised the innings by adding 48 runs for the fourth wicket.

Bevan (36) and Warne (15) further added useful 41 runs for the unbroken seventh wicket to push the total past 200.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the triangular limited-overs cricket series match between Australia and South Africa today:

AUSTRALIA:	
Taylor c Richardson	4
b De Villiers	38
Slater b Eksteen	38
M Waugh c Richardson	38
b Cronje	38
Boon c Wessels b Pringle	43
S Waugh b Simons	23
Bevan not out	36
Healy c De Villiers b Simons	4
Warne not out	15
Extras: (b-1, lb-2, nb-1, w-3)	7

Total: (for six wickets, 50 overs)	208			
Fall of wickets: 1-6: 2-69; 3-95; 4-143; 5-160; 6-167.				
Did not bat: T May, C McDermott, G McGrath.				
Bowling	O	M	R	W
De Villiers	9	2	41	1
Pringle	9	1	49	1
Simons	10	0	41	2
Cronje	10	1	31	1
Eksteen	8	0	26	1
Crookes	4	0	17	0

SOUTH AFRICA:	
Wessels c Bevan b May	30
Hudson run out	5
Cronje c S Waugh	



HANSIE CRONJE... m-o-m

b McDermott	64
Rhodes c Boon b May	11
G Kirsten b McGrath	24
Richardson lbw b McGrath	10
Simons st Healy b Warne	11
Crookes st Healy b Warne	20
Pringle lbw b Warne	0
Eksteen not out	0
De Villiers st Healy b Warne	0
Extras: (lb-7, nb-1, w-3)	11
Total: (all out, 48.2 overs)	186
Fall of wickets: 1-7: 2-64; 3-86; 4-124; 5-139; 6-156; 7-176; 8-176; 9-185.	

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McDermott	9	2	34	1
McGrath	10	2	31	2
Warne	9.2	0	40	4
May	10	0	34	2
S Waugh	10	1	40	0

Result: Australia won by 22 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Hansie Cronje.

Next match: Pakistan v South Africa at Rawalpindi, Thursday.

STANDINGS

Standings in the triangular limited overs cricket series after today's match between Australia and South Africa (tabulate under played, won, lost, points):	
Australia	3 3 0 6
Pakistan	2 1 1 2
South Africa	3 0 3 0

Rain delays SL-Zimbabwe second Test

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, Oct 18: Heavy weekend rain has forced a two-day delay until Thursday in the second cricket Test between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka, reports Reuters.

With water sweeping under the covers and onto the pitch and the rest of the field waterlogged, there was no prospect of any play on the scheduled first day today.

Zimbabwe Cricket Union chief executive Don Arnott said on Monday: "The Sri Lanka Cricket Board has agreed to put back the start to this Test by two days and it will now begin on Thursday."

"There was no chance of starting tomorrow (Tuesday) and a great deal of doubt as to a start even on Wednesday."

Friday was to have been a rest day but play will now go right through to Monday. The third and final Test between the two sides will begin, as scheduled, next Wednesday.

The heavy rain has eased and the long-term weather forecast for the next few days is for brighter, drier conditions.

Holm humbled

BEIJING, Oct 18: Third-seed Henrik Holm became the first seeded player to crash out of the second Salem Open tennis tournament in Beijing, losing in the first round on Monday, reports Reuters.

The Swede, ranked 46th in the ATP rankings, lost to Christo van Rensburg of South Africa 6-7 (4-7), 6-7 (7-9) in the tournament, which will end next Sunday.

In other matches of the day, David Wheaton of the United States defeated fellow American Steve Bryan 6-3, 6-2, Mark Petchey of Britain beat American rival Richard Matsushewski 6-3, 6-0, Russian Andrei Olhocskiy outplayed Martin Sinner of the United States 6-4, 6-4.

Zurich GP still richest

LONDON, Oct 18: Zurich will again be the world's richest athletics meeting next year with a total budget of 5.5 million francs (4.39 million dollars), reports Reuters.

The 15 Grand Prix meetings will be worth more than 27 million dollars with Zurich the most lucrative and Sao Paulo and Nice bringing up the rear with 1,000,000 dollars each.

Zurich promoter Res Bruegger said on Tuesday said he planned to spend 2.4 million dollars on athletes.

"I think costs have peaked," he said. "The recession is one cause but another is the flood of very good Russian athletes now on the circuit who are paid between 500-1,000 dollars. That is worth 10 times more in Russia."

Bruegger also hinted that he was prepared to pay less next year for eight times Olympic champion Carl Lewis, Lewis, who pulled out of this year's meeting with a stomach complaint, has not won a major title since the 1991 World Championships.

"If he doesn't perform it is logical his price is negotiated down," Bruegger said.

The full list is: Zurich 4.39 million dollars, Rome 2.67 million dollars, Lille 2.5 million dollars, Lausanne 2.4 million dollars, Berlin 2.2 million dollars, Monte Carlo 2 million dollars, Brussels 1.8 million dollars, Cologne 1.6 million dollars, Stockholm 1.5 million dollars, London 1.46 million dollars, Oslo 1.2 million dollars, New York 1.1 million dollars, San Jose 1.1 million dollars, Sao Paulo 1 million dollars, Nice 1 million dollars.

ATP's top 20

MONTE CARLO, Oct 18 (Reuters): Leading men's singles tennis rankings released by the ATP Tour on Monday.

1. Pete Sampras (US) 4,884 points
2. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) 3,420
3. Michael Stich (Germany) 3,092
4. Sergi Bruguera (Spain) 2,727
5. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) 2,697
6. Boris Becker (Germany) 2,533
7. Michael Chang (US) 2,450
8. Alberto Berasategui (Spain) 2,361
9. Todd Martin (US) 2,312
10. Andre Agassi (US) 2,132
11. Wayne Ferreira (South Africa) 2,115
12. Yevgeny Kafelnikov (Russia) 1,992
13. Andrei Medvedev (Ukraine) 1,975
14. Jim Courier (US) 1,760
15. Thomas Muster (Austria) 1,625
16. Marc Rosset (Switzerland) 1,424
17. Magnus Gustafsson (Sweden) 1,415
18. Richard Krajicek (Netherlands) 1,354
19. Petr Korda (Czech Republic) 1,335
20. Carlos Costa (Spain) 1,294



Lillehammer gold medalist Oksana Baiul (R) and silver medalist American Nancy Kerrigan take questions during a press conference in New York on Oct 17 to announce "Ice Wars: The USA vs The World" on Nov 9. Two teams led by Kerrigan and Baiul will play each other in the two-day challenge.

— AFP photo

Tale of the other Martina

GENEVA, Oct 18: Prodigy, wonder child, Switzerland's new Heidi, Martina Hingis has breathed excitement into a tennis circuit jaded by the long dominance of Steffi Graf and the absence of Monica Seles, reports AP.

But the shy 14-year-old, squeezing her first two professional tournaments into her school year, shrugs off the headlines and insists she won't let the stardom go to her head.

"I'm not like Jennifer Capriati," she repeats again and again.

All around her, however, the controversy over young players rages on.

"If I had a child I wouldn't want her to play at 14," said Martina Navratilova as she and Hingis met at last week's Zurich Indoors tournament.

Hingis made it to the second round at Zurich in her professional debut just days after her birthday. In Filderstadt, Germany, this week she breezed to a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Helena Sukova — a Zurich semifinalist — and knocked out Germany's Cristina Singer 6-1, 6-4 in her most convincing victories to date.

"A dream win," triumphed the Swiss tabloid Blick.

Her inexperience showed when she squandered four match points and went out 0-6, 6-2, 7-6 (7-5) in the Filderstadt quarterfinals Friday.

The word "prodigy" almost always crops up in media stories. She has even been likened to Heidi in terms of her boosting the Swiss image abroad.

Hingis won the French Open Junior Girls' title in 1993 at age 12, breaking Capriati's record as the youngest victor. She became the first girl at Roland Garros to carry off two straight titles with her victory this year, and she captured the Wimbledon girls' crown.

She was born in Czechoslovakia, and her mother set the scene by

naming her after Navratilova, another Czechoslovak native, and putting a tennis racket in her hand at the tender age of two.

Hingis won her first international tournament when she was 10 and has never looked back since.

Hingis turned pro because of the lack of challenge at junior level. She also wanted to

escape tennis association rule changes that come into effect next year. This will raise the minimum professional age to

15, with limits on the number of tour games that can be played before age 18.

Another 14-year-old rising star, Venus Williams, also beat the rule changes by announcing she will turn pro and join the tour at Oakland, Calif. on Oct 31.

Williams, who was raised in a tough black community in Compton, Calif. rose to fame as a 10-year-old. But her father and coach, Richard, pulled her out of competition and the public eye three years ago and moved her to intensive coaching in Florida. He was against her decision to turn pro.

"We're all waiting with anticipation to see how she'll do in her first match," said Anne Person-Worchester, managing director of the WTA and one of the few people who has been Williams play recently.

Both Hingis and Williams have fiercely protective families and a close relationship with their parents.

Hingis' mother and coach, Melanie, accompanies her daughter everywhere, insists she does her homework, screens her fan mail, and ensures that prize money goes straight to the bank.

Hingis is confident that close relationship with her mother and gentle support from her Swiss stepfather will prevent her from having the troubles that befell Capriati.

"I think in her family Jennifer had problems and that's not the case with us," she said in Zurich. "And there's much more pressure to win in the United States because millions are involved. In Europe it's only thousands."

Capriati has said her problems came to a head last year after she was knocked out of the first round of the US Open. She subsequently withdrew from the circuit and distanced herself from her family, who she said had pushed her too hard.

Capriati was arrested in May on charges of marijuana possession and then went into a 28-day drug rehabilitation treatment. She has delayed rejoining the WTA tour, citing fitness problems.

Edberg wins

HONG KONG, Oct 18: Sweden's Stefan Edberg beat Bryon Black of Zimbabwe 6-3, 7-5 Tuesday in the opening round of the 763,500 dollar Hong Kong Marlboro championship, reports AP.

Edberg, the world's fifth-ranked tennis player, is seeded to win the Blue Group, which also includes Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands.

The 12 players in the invitational tournament are divided into four preliminary groups, with the winner of each group advancing to the semifinals.

Edberg can become the first player to book his semifinal place when he meets Eltingh in his second match on Wednesday.

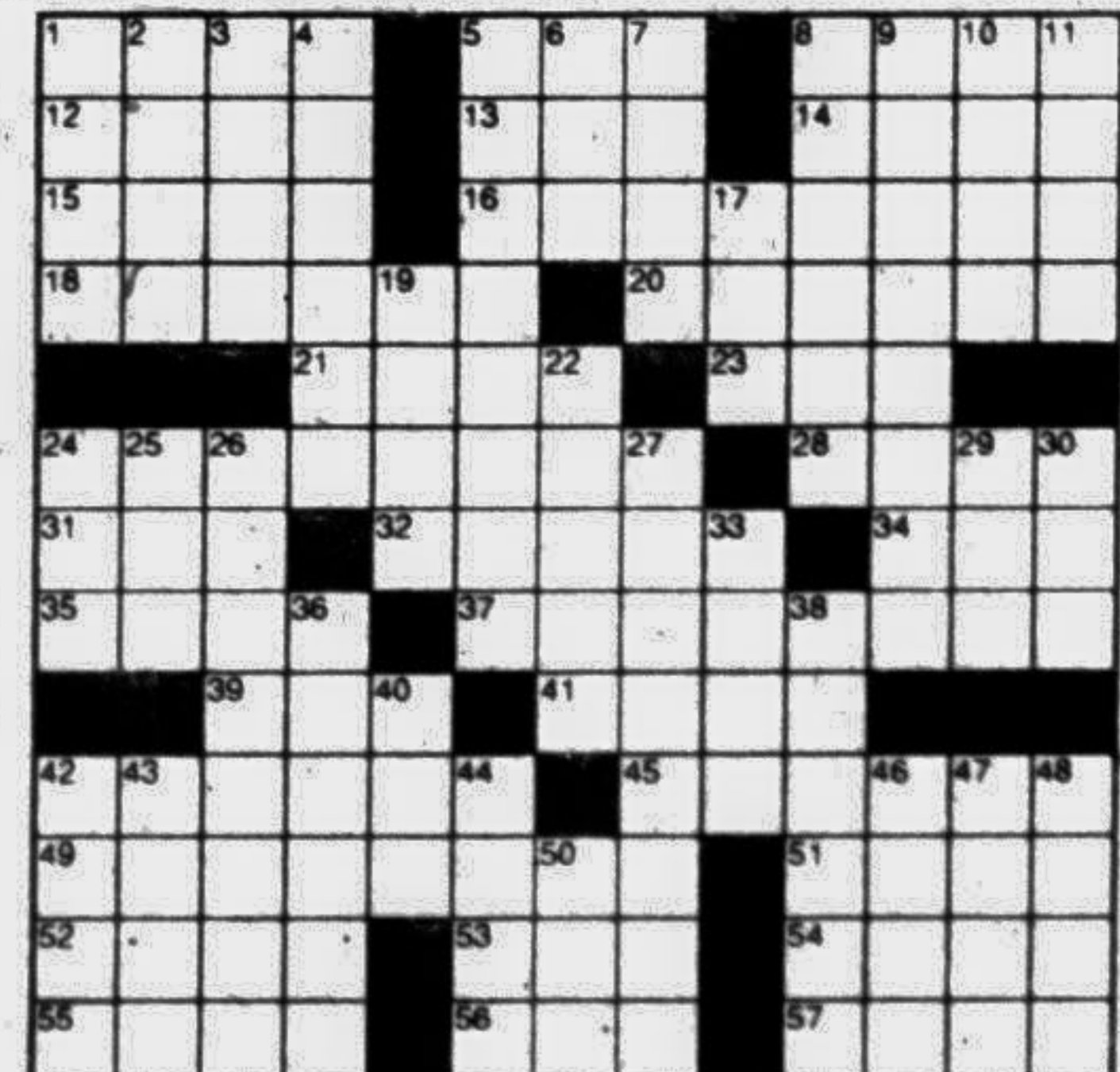
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	42 Digging tools	2 Kansas city	19 Formerly
1 Osculate	45 Yuletide quaff	3 Luminary	22 Prove otherwise
5 Rotating part	49 Coffee container	4 Saturday (Fr.)	24 Pouch
8 Hemingway sobriquet	51 "Sesame Street" denizen	5 Takes the A train?	25 "Blue?"
12 Title	52 Shoppe description	6 "— was saying..."	26 D-Day invasion site
13 Buckeyes' sch.	53 Have bills	7 Pasteur	27 Performed
14 Pianist	54 Actor Jack	8 Parish head	29 Recognize
15 Relicent one	55 Santa's burden	9 Illinois city	30 Yon wench
16 Tend (to)	56 Become one	10 Cheat at hide-and-seek	33 Place for peds?
18 Many look up to him	57 Say it isn't so	11 Farm fraction	36 Gents' companions
20 Quantity consumed	DOWN	17 Not Rep. or Dem.	38 Lost firmness
21 Thrash	1 Recoil		40 Certainly
23 Comic			42 High-lander
24 Handrail			43 — Alto, Calif.
28 —			44 Pack away
31 Latin I verb			46 Cleo's river
32 Fax fore-runner			47 — even keel
34 Society-page word			48 Malodorous
35 Daughter			50 Lamb's dam
37 Evil			
39 Has potential			
41 Author			
Ferber			

Solution time: 26 min.

JOINT CHIEFS
HUNGER HANGUP
TRALEE INCOME
SANO ECTO MEW
OFLA IDA
BAH RIDE INCA
SHALIKASHVILI
ASWE EVOE AUX
KIP ETNA
TNS ETRE NIPS
REHIRE REGALE
ARABIA ICEMAN
POWELL COLIN

Saturday's answer 1-31



CRYPTOQUIP
X H DSK GXOEEK YRKN.
CHXRSDN AKLK NKKH
AJLCXHR XH DSK
GYXE LJGG
Saturday's Cryptoquip: INCOMPETENT PERSON IN CHARGE OF FILLING THE CASTLE'S DITCH WAS DE-MOATED.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: L equals R
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.

Tyson's view of life, love

NEW YORK, Oct 18: Former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson says he hates the world, is just a

"black trophy" for the judge who sent him to prison and his chief regret in life is falling in love, reports Reuters.

Ring Magazine, in an interview with Tyson last August that was not released until Monday, asked Tyson what his biggest regret was.

"I would have never fallen in love," said Tyson, adding that for him falling in love probably was bad: "I've never been successful in relationships where you really have a deep infatuation for a person."

Tyson, 28, is expected to be released in early May after serving about three years of a six-year term for raping a beauty contestant in Indianapolis, Indiana in the summer of 1991.

In a wide-ranging interview, Tyson, who said he runs about eight miles (12.8 km) a day and shadow-boxes to stay in condition, was asked to describe his reactions to several people who have been prominent in his life.

About ex-wife Robin givens, Tyson said: "We weren't ready for marriage, and we got caught up in the whole situation of being who we were... I don't want to be her friend. I don't want to hug and kiss and be cordial with her, but I have nothing bad or good to say."

NBA in Paris

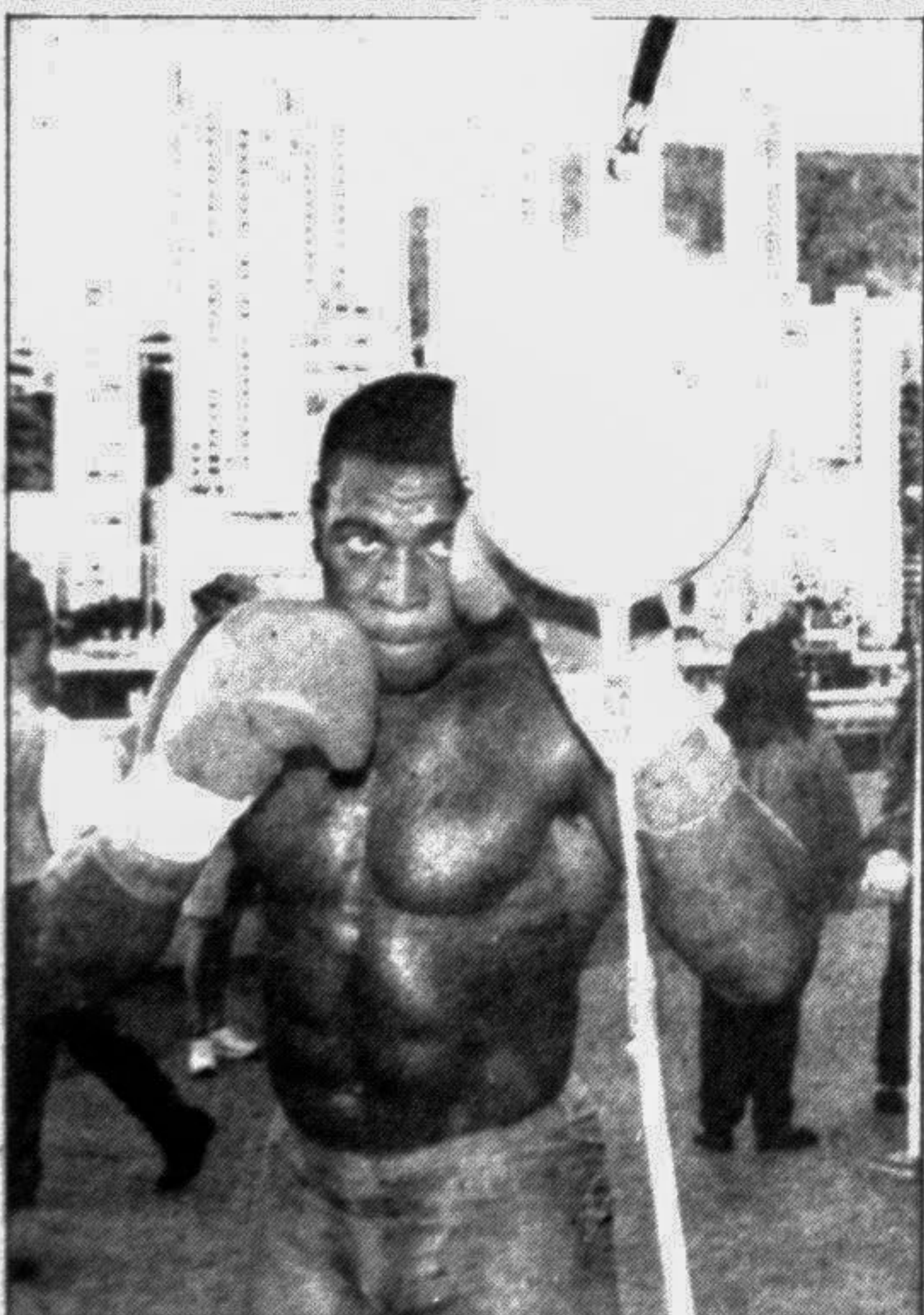
PARIS, Oct 18: The National Basketball Association begins a record 11 pre-season games outside the United States Tuesday when the Golden State Warriors take on the Charlotte Hornets in the French capital, reports AP.

The last time NBA trip to Paris was significant: It was one of Magic Johnson's last games as a member of the Los Angeles Lakers, and his team almost lost.

The Lakers held off Spain's Joventut Badalona, 116-114, at the 1991 McDonalds Open, averting an historic upset.

This time the Warriors and the Hornets know it is just the start of the pre-season. Both teams are still looking for their first victory. Golden State have lost twice and Charlotte once.

Alonzo Mourning of the Hornets, out for two weeks with a leg injury, will miss the contest.



British heavyweight Frank Bruno works out at his outside training camp at Hong Kong's Happy Valley Race Course yesterday. Bruno will fight American Ray Mercer on Oct 23 in the four-card High Noon match up that will pit four British punchers against four Americans. — AFP photo