

**Sports**  
**WHIZZ KID**  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN  
**WATCH OUT KIDS!**  
From tomorrow, this space will have a quiz competition only for you and your schoolmates.

**Euro Nations' Cup hockey**

Dublin, Aug 17: Ireland caused an upset on the opening day of the European Nations Cup on Wednesday when they beat Belarus, a side which qualified for last year's World Cup. 2-1, reports Reuter.

World Cup finalists the Netherlands recovered from conceding an early goal to beat Scotland 4-1. Spain beat France 3-1 and Belgium defeated Wales 3-1.

Belarus, who arrived in Dublin by coach late on Tuesday after visa problems, lost possession early on to allow Liam Canning to put Ireland ahead.

Alistair Dunn scored his first international goal to give Ireland a 2-0 lead and Belarus immediately replied through Vitaly Khlopov but then missed a good chance to level the scores.

**Indian Olympic booters due tomorrow**

**Sports Reporter**

The Indian pre-Olympic team is scheduled to arrive in the capital on tomorrow to play two exhibition matches against Mohammedan Sporting Club and Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra.

According to the organisers Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) Muktiyoddha, who were offered a match after Abahani expressed their inability to play, will take on the visitors in the first match on Sunday, June 20. Mohammedans will meet the visitors in the second exhibition on Monday. Both the matches will be held at the Dhaka Stadium.

BFF have fixed the rate of gallery tickets at Taka 30 each.

Both the teams with receive Taka one lakh as appearance fee. Besides, they are also guaranteed ten per cent of the gate receipts.

The first match is expected to be held at 5 pm while the second will kick-off at 7 pm.

**Maradona returns Oct 1**

**BUENOS AIRES, Aug 17:** Diego Maradona, the former Argentina captain, will play his first match since the 1994 World Cup for leading Argentina club Boca Juniors against the South Korea national team in Seoul on October 1, press reports said here, reports AFP.

Maradona was banned for 15 months for testing positive for banned drugs during the finals in the United States. The ban expires at the end of September.

The 34-year-old signed a two-year contract worth eight million dollars for Boca earlier this month.

**Massaro makes dream debut**

**TOKYO, Aug 17:** Italian striker Daniele Massaro scored his first goal in Japan, helping Shimizu S-Pulse beat Urawa Red Diamonds 2-1 in a Japanese professional soccer match on Wednesday night, reports Reuter.

The former AC Milan ace striker, playing his second match in Japan, found the net with a fine diving header in the 74th minute, then set up the visitor's winning goal for Japanese Teruyoshi Ito with a sparkling through pass in the 80th.

**Cummins rattles Hampshire**

**SOUTHAMPTON, Aug 17:** Anderson Cummins responded to his call-up by West Indies because of injuries to their fast bowlers with a five-wicket haul against Hampshire on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Paceman Cummins, who has been playing in the Kent League, took five for 60 from 17 overs as Hampshire were dismissed for 192.

West Indies, spurred by an unbeaten 76 from Opener Sherwin Campbell, were 135 for one at the close on the opening day of the three-day match.

The touring team rested fast bowlers Ian Bishop, Curtly Ambrose, Courtney Walsh and Kenny Benjamin ahead of next week's sixth and deciding Test against England at The Oval, drafting in Cummins and opener Phil Simmons as replacements.



Victor piggy-backing on Bode Baba as Kazakov (left) and Jewel Rana bring up the flanks as all four celebrate Mohammedans' second goal against Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool at the Dhaka Stadium on Thursday.

**Mohammedans do it again**

**Sports Reporter**

Title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club could not think of a better way of beginning their championship campaign in the second leg as they beat a spirited Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool 2-0 in the long Lifebuoy Premier football league match at the flood-lit Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In front of a near-packed audience Mohammedans' new Russian signing Panchiniko Victor struck the first salvo before Nigerian Bode Baba stabbed the second goal to give the DMFA Cup and the Federation Cup champions a moral-boosting win.

Victor, the highest paid player of this season, making his Dhaka league debut, made a dream debut when the dashing Russian gave the black and whites a 22nd minute lead heading home a Kazakov floater from the left.

With this goal the ageing Russian has left behind a looming controversy that he is too old to play for the big club. And when he left the pitch in the second half he was given a standing ovation by the Mohammedan supporters along with a full-throated applause from the terraces.

But it was Kazakov and Bode Baba who made the difference between the two outfits with their professional approach. Kazakov, the highest scorer for Mohammedans last year, along with an hard working Bode Baba, overshadowed valiant efforts by a bunch of youngsters of Fakirerpool.

Among the two, Kazakov, the robust Russian, who set up both the goals for Mohammedans, also gave the Fakirerpool fighters a tough time with his sudden burst of speed down the middle. Tall Bode Baba, who struck the second in the 50th minute, was equally impressive upfront as well as a defender.

On the other hand, Fakirerpool, the surprise but deserving second place holders behind Abahani on com-

rescued the situation with a corner.

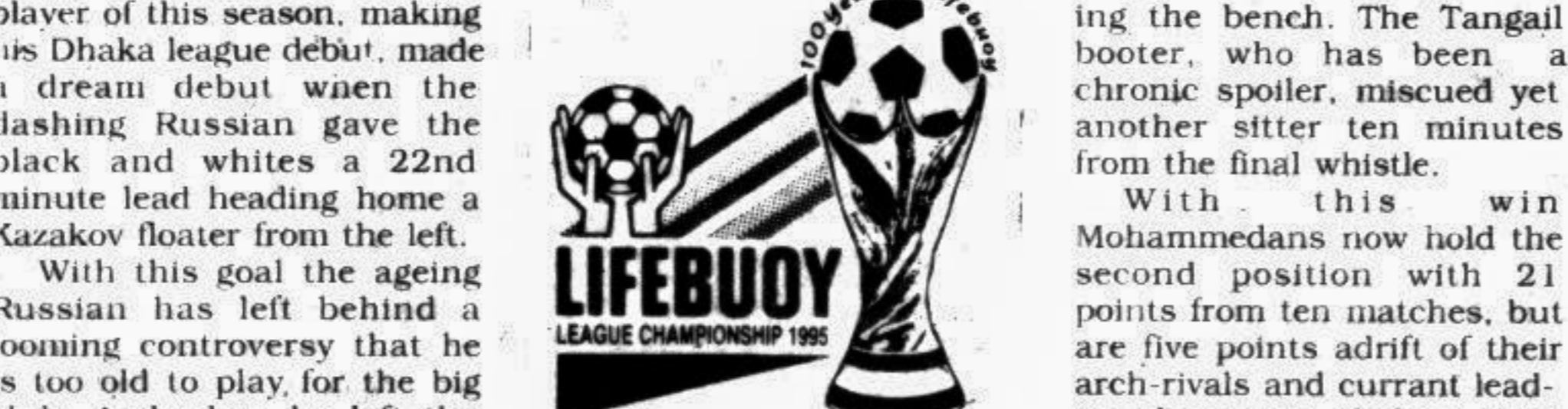
Four minutes into the second half, Asif once again deprived his side of a neutraliser when he blasted the ball miles over the cross-piece with Mohammedan custodian Pontir ready for the goal.

After surviving this close call Mohammedans doubled the margin a minute later with Kazakov setting Bode Baba free with a swerving cross from the right.

Following the second goal, a relieved Mohammedans pulled out Victor for Ranjan, but the latter once again proved his goal blindness when he shot the ball wide off the mark soon after leaving the bench. The Tangail booter, who has been a chronic spoiler, miscued yet another sitter ten minutes from the final whistle.

With this win Mohammedans now hold the second position with 21 points from ten matches, but are five points adrift of their arch-rivals and current leaders champions Abahani Krira Chakra.

The defeat slid Fakirerpool to fourth position behind Abahani, Mohammedans and Muktiyoddha as they remain stuck to their previous collection of 18 points earned from their first leg engagements.



as left back switching Ruhul Amin to the right, got the first positive chance of a lead in the 11th minute.

Ruhul Amin, galloping down the flank, released a perfect floater to an unmarked victor. But the Russian missed the easy sitter from close.

Three minutes later, Kazakov spoiled another opportunity when he failed to shoot home with the Fakirerpool custodian Bijon Barua at his mercy. But Kazakov made amends for his blunder in the 22nd minute with a neat cross from the left. And Victor made no mistake this time before heading with great aplomb past a hapless Bijon through the near post.

Undaunted by the setback, Fakirerpool retaliated in the 35th minute. But an advantageously poised Asif, who with all the time in the world deep inside the box cracked the ball straight to Mohammedan defender Munna, who

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**Bima East End's bane**

**Sports Reporter**

Eskaton from twelve yards with 150 seconds remaining on the clock.

The result was symbolic as both teams are at par with eleven points from ten matches.

**SHANTINAGAR WIN**

The day proved profitable for Shantinagar Club who are otherwise fighting relegation. Shantinagar put behind their worries of recent floods in their locality and inflicted a valuable 1-0 defeat on Dharmendra Club in a match at the Mirpur Stadium. Kamal put Shantinagar ahead in the eleventh minute and they held on to the goal by the grit of their teeth.

Shantinagar now have nine points from ten matches while Dhanmandi are three better from the same number of matches.



Tanja Buford of the United States exults after winning the 400 metres event at the athletics Grand Prix in Zurich on Aug 16. Buford set the best time of the year clocking 52.90 seconds.

**Miandad pads up again?**

**ISLAMABAD, Aug 17:** Test star Javed Miandad will play against Sri Lanka in the three-day tour opener later this month, according to the chief executive of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), Arif Ali Khan Abbasi, reports PFI.

The 38-year-old cricketer, was eager to play and made himself available for the match. Abbasi said while replying to queries at a press conference in Karachi, said the official news agency, APP.

Miandad, who made a sensational debut against New Zealand in 1976-77, has been out of competitive cricket since January last year. He returned home a couple of months ago after spending two months in England for a check-up of his knee problem.

The batting ace informed the PCB that the doctors had medically cleared him and that while in England, he had played some matches to Test his fitness.

"The player is confident about his fitness, yet in order to remove any mental doubts, he had decided to undergo strenuous training before the tour opener," Abbasi said.

According to APP, Abbasi said that PCB had entirely left upon Miandad to decide about his physical fitness and that he was welcome to play against Sri Lanka.

Earlier in an interview, Miandad said that he would decide on playing against the Lankans by the end of this month. "I want to be sure of my match fitness, and be in top frame of mind before deciding to return to international cricket," he added.

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**Bizarre code of conduct!**

**RIO DE JANIRO, Aug 17:** Players will be allowed to dance in celebration after scoring goals in the Brazilian soccer championship this season, but climbing the fence around the pitch or pretending to make phone calls are strictly banned, reports Reuter.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF), which has previously clamped down on players performing elaborate dance routines after goals, said on Wednesday they will show more leniency in the championship which begins on Saturday.

In addition to dancing, the CBF will allow players to celebrate behind the goal and on the running track around the pitch. They can also run to the team bench and hug the substitutes.

Goalscorers can also cover their heads with the front of their shirts.

But the CBF warned that players risk yellow cards for fence climbing or running to the phone behind the goal, common in Brazilian stadiums, and pretending to make a call.

They have also banned players from wearing two shirts so they can pull off the top one and throw it to the crowd after a goal.

**Chang, Stich slump**

**NEW HAVEN, USA, Aug 17:** Top seed Andre Agassi and second seed Boris Becker advanced to the third round of the Volvo International on Wednesday but third seed Michael Chang and fifth seed Michael Stich were ousted, reports Reuter.

Chang, ranked fifth in the world, was ousted in the second round by unseeded Dane Kenneth Carlsen 7-5, 6-4 and Stich retired against Canadian qualifier Albert Chang with the score 4-6, 6-3.

Top-ranked Agassi survived a slightly shaky second set but showed his best baseline weapons in the clutch in a 6-4, 7-5 victory over Fernando Meligeni of Brazil.

Things went well for Becker, who never lost his serve on the way to a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Rodolphe Gilbert of France.

**Ivanisevic beats the heat**

**INDIANAPOLIS, USA, Aug 17:** The heat was tougher than the opponents for second seed Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia and fourth seed Thomas Enqvist of Sweden on Wednesday in the second round of the 1.04 million dollar RCA Championships, reports Reuter.

The seventh-ranked Ivanisevic needed only 54 minutes to send 100th-ranked Margos Ondruska of South Africa packing after a 6-4, 6-2 win.

The 13th-ranked Enqvist also played quickly, taking a 7-5, 6-1 win over 62nd-ranked American Jeff Tarango in one hour.

Defending champion and third-seeded South African Wayne Ferreira lost his opening match to American Richey Reneberg 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).



Both the scoreboard and a jubilant Haile Gebreselassie of Ethiopia shows the moment after beating the 5000 metres world records at the athletics Grand Prix in Zurich on Aug 16. Gebreselassie clocked 12 min 44.39 sec to upstage the previous mark.

**Christie upstages Bailey Africans scale new heights**

**ZURICH, Aug 17:** Ethiopia's Haile Gebreselassie regained his world 5,000m record, clocking 12 min 44.39 sec at the Weltklasse Athletics Grand Prix meeting here on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Kenyan Moses Kiptanui took the record from Gebreselassie when he clocked 12:55.30 in Rome on June 8.

Haile the 22-year-old world 10,000 metres champion knocked nearly 11 seconds off that time to reclaim the record he first set in Henglo, Holland in 1994 in a time of 12:56.96.

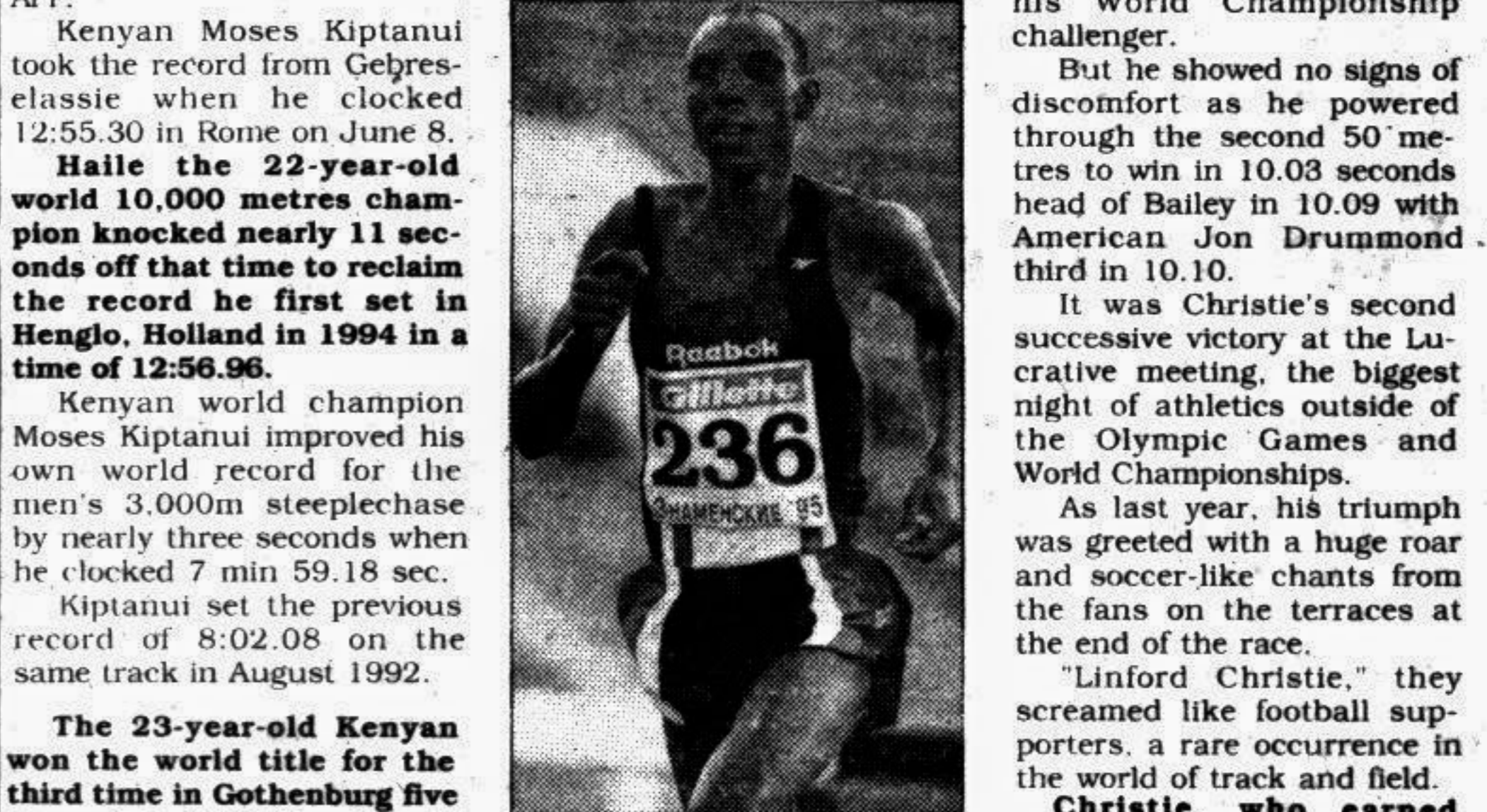
Kenyan world champion Moses Kiptanui improved his own world record for the men's 3,000m steeplechase by nearly three seconds when he clocked 7 min 59.18 sec.

Kiptanui set the previous record of 8:02.08 on the same track in August 1992.

The 23-year-old Kenyan won the world title for the third time in Gothenburg five days ago in 8:04.16 and could easily have beaten the record then.

But he decided to hold back for Zurich where richer financial rewards are on offer.

Kiptanui, the first runner to go under eight minutes for the race, also holds the world



Moses Kiptanui

And in his wake he left the man who took his title, new world champion Donovan Bailey who was second.

The 35-year-old Briton took painkillers for the hamstring and knee cartilage problems which hampered his World Championship challenge.

But he showed no signs of discomfort as he powered through the second 50 metres to win in 10.03 seconds head of Bailey in 10.09 with American Jon Drummond third in 10.10.

It was Christie's second successive victory at the Lucerne meeting, the biggest night of athletics outside of the Olympic Games and World Championships.

As last year, his triumph was greeted with a huge roar and soccer-like chants from the fans on the terraces at the end of the race.

"Linford Christie," they screamed like football supporters, a rare occurrence in the world of track and field.

Christie, who earned 60,000 dollars for just appearing at the meeting, played down the victory.

"I won't say it's revenge for Gothenburg. It's a week too late," Christie said. "Donovan's the world champion ... he got the title I wanted."

**Seles steps up the tempo**

**TORONTO, Aug 17:** Monica Seles stepped up her tempo on Wednesday as she won the second match of her comeback, defeating number 12-seeded Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-2, 6-2 in the third round of the Canadian Open, reports Reuter.

The co-number one seed, who had taken exactly one hour to beat 133rd-ranked American Kimberly Po 6-0, 6-3, bettered that by four minutes against the 17th-ranked Frenchwoman.

"I played a lot better today," Seles said of her second match in her first tournament since being stabbed 28 months ago. "I felt calmer out there, I knew I had to step up my game and I did except for my returns and my serve."

Third-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain, who said she felt no pain from a hamstring injury that bothered her the past two weeks, defeated Canadian Patricia Hy-Boulais 6-4, 6-3 in a second-round match.

No seeded players fell on Wednesday as fourth seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, sixth seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina and eighth seed Iva Majoli of Croatia all advanced.

Also moving into the third round was 14-year-old Martina Hingis of Switzerland.

Seles won't play again until Friday, against the winner of Thursday's match between seventh seed Anke Huber of Germany and 16th seed Irina Spirlea of Romania.

Tauziat, who said afterward that she should have known better than to get caught up all the Seles comeback hype, had planned to use a serve and volley style to try to gain her first win in six meetings with the former world number one.

But she had trouble with her first serve and, once the rallies started, Seles kept her pinned to the baseline with her powerful two-handed drives.

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While Tauziat said that Seles "was playing like a Top-10 player," she didn't think the former Yugoslav, now a US citizen, could beat someone like Sanchez Vicario, her potential semifinal opponent, or actually end up as the champion of her first event back.

After a slow start, Sanchez Vicario, the defending champion, saved three break points serving at 3-4 in the opening set and then gradually took control to stretch her record to 4-0 lifetime against Hy Boulais.

Sanchez-Vicario also said

**Exit Alec, enter Devon?**

**LONDON, Aug 17:** England vice-captain Alec Stewart on Thursday ruled himself out of the deciding sixth Test against the West Indies at The Oval next week because of a finger injury, report agencies.

Stewart's right index finger, broken twice last winter and again in the third Test this summer, has not healed sufficiently to allow him to risk it in the big showdown on his home ground.

"It's frustrating," the batting and wicketkeeping ace said. "It's improved considerably — in fact, it is the best it's been for a long time."

But the sixth Test is such a big game and you have to be

able to know you can go in there and complete the job and I can't afford to take the risk.

"It's got to be strong enough to take another knock, which we don't feel at the moment it is."

"If I could guarantee that I would not get hit on the finger again I would have been playing weeks ago."

"I have had nets on the bowling machine, when obviously you know the ball is not going to hit you on the finger, and there was no problem. But it hasn't healed sufficiently to be able to say it is 100 per cent."

Chairman of selectors Ray Illingworth confirmed on Wednesday Devon Malcolm is being considered for an England recall on the ground

**Exit Alec, enter Devon?**

where he destroyed South Africa 12 months ago.

The 32-year-old Derbyshire paceman has not figured against West Indies this summer since a poor performance in the first Test at Headingley.

But a quick, lively pitch at the Oval in the sixth and final Test on Thursday week could be Malcolm's passport to a place in the series-decider.

A year ago, Malcolm produced the sixth-best bowling performance by an England player when taking nine for 57 during South Africa's second innings at The Oval.

Another paceman, who could be discussed at Saturday night's selection meeting, is Richard Johnson.