

Magnus shatters

Stefan's dream

BASTAD, Sweden, July 13: Magnus Gustafsson stopped Stefan Edberg's dream of winning a Swedish Open title by beating his top-seeded countryman 6-3, 7-6 (7-4) in Saturday's semifinals, reports AP.

Infamous trial in Sept

BONN, July 13: A German court said on Friday it had granted a prosecutor's request to put the father of tennis star Steffi Graf and one of his financial advisers on trial for tax evasion, reports Reuters.

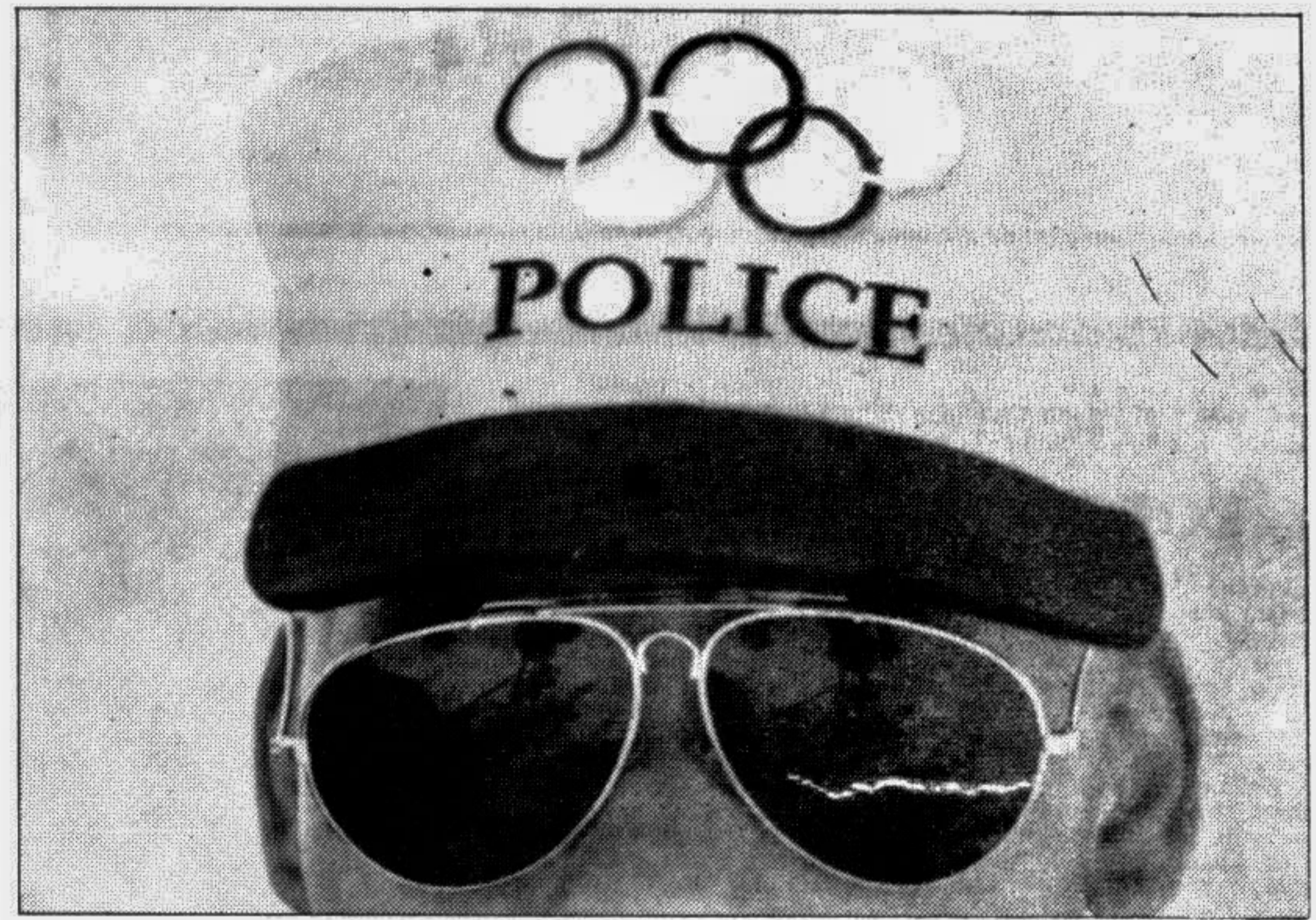
Peter Graf since 1991 without his knowledge of this. "This illegal and unfair game of blindman's buff ended only when Graf's house was searched in 1995," their statement said.



PETER GRAF

King's widow & son to do the honours

ATLANTA, July 13: The widow and son of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King will carry the Olympic flame next Friday on the last day of its 15,000-mile (25,000-km) relay across the United States, reports Reuters.



Officer Calvin Stephens wears the Olympic police cap while on patrol on July 12.

- AFP/UNB photo

Kafelnikov sent packing

GSTAAD, Switzerland, July 13: Spain's Alberto Costa stunned top seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 here on Saturday in the semifinals of the 560,000-dollar Swiss Open, reports AFP.

I'm now hoping to make it two. I've had bad luck in finals. I've played world number two Thomas Muster three times. After winning the opening set, Kafelnikov found himself in his first real fight of the post-Wimbledon week.



ALBERTO COSTA

Sweden lives in a hope

ATLANTA, Georgia, July 13: A depressed Sweden is looking to the 2004 Olympic Games to cheer the country up. Olof Stenhammar, president of Stockholm's bidding committee, admitted here on Friday, reports AFP.

Athens wants the moon?

ATLANTA, July 13: Athens, snubbed by Olympic leaders six years ago when it demanded that the Centenary Olympics return to their birthplace, displayed a new spirit of humility on Friday as it bid for the 2004 Summer Games, reports Reuters.

sharp contrast to Athens' last Olympic outing in 1990. Then, Greek officials demanded the Games almost as a birthright, endlessly reminding IOC members that not only was Greece home to the ancient Olympiads but it also hosted the first modern Olympics in 1896.

Indians beat minnows

THE HAGUE, July 13: India beat the Netherlands by 19 runs in a friendly one-day international cricket match here Friday, reports Reuters.

SCOREBOARD table with columns for India and Netherlands players and scores.

Byron joins casualty list

NEWPORT, Rhode Island, July 13: Top seed Byron Black of Zimbabwe lost his quarter-final match in Leander Paes of India Friday at the Hall of Fame tennis championships, leaving the semifinals to four unseeded players, reports Reuters.

black Black's serve in the second and fourth games for a 5-0 lead. Black broke Paes in the eighth game of the second set for a 5-3 lead. After I took the second set, I thought I'd win the match, but he pulled himself together and got stronger in the third set," Black said.

Solid Fed Cup debut for Seles



NAGOYA, Japan, July 13: Monica Seles made a Fed Cup debut in style here Saturday, leading the United States to a 2-0 lead over Japan with Lind-say Davenport in the world group semifinals, reports AFP.

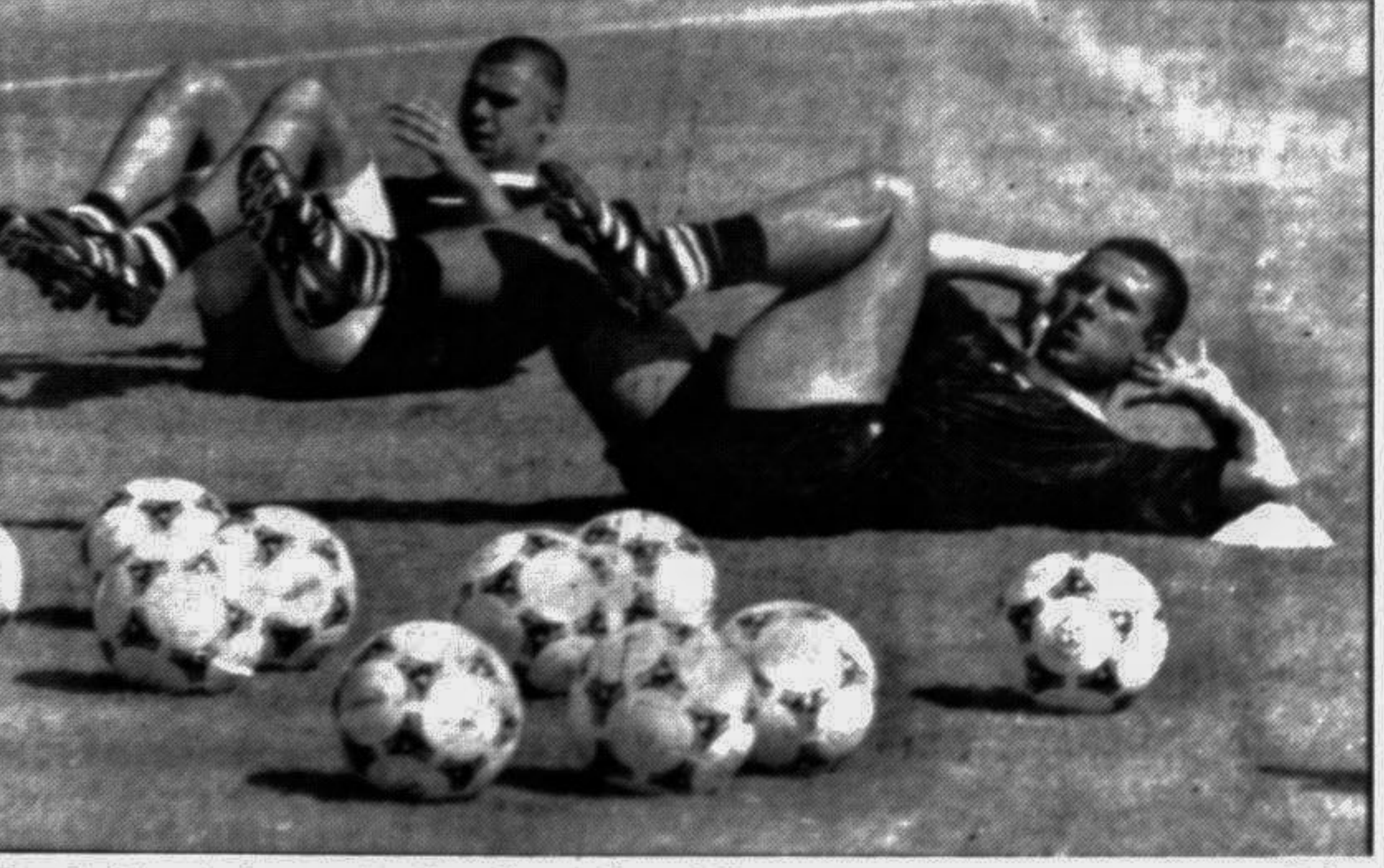
Dreams do come true

ATLANTA, July 13 (AP): As a lonely teenager in a new country, Kevin Han wondered if he would ever play badminton in the Olympic Games.

Now, he's on his way to the Olympics. America's best hope in a sport dominated by countries like Indonesia, Denmark and China.

Japanese club deals with 'ifs and buts'

BUENOS AIRES, July 13: Argentine veteran soccer star Diego Maradona said on Friday he would agree to a deal to play for a Japanese club if they raised their offer by 5.0 million dollars and if Tokyo authorities granted him a visa, reports Reuters.



French Olympic booters Geoffroy Toyos (R) and Florent Laville practice in Auburn on July 12.

China's course to revival

BEIJING, July 13: (AFP): China will try to repeat its excellent performances at Barcelona four years ago when the Atlanta Olympics start later this month. But the Chinese remain annoyed by allegations that their athletes systematically used drugs.

national championships despite failing drug tests. "In order to achieve a clean Olympics, these countries should pay more attention to their athletes," Wei said.

Kipketer can run for Kenya

ATLANTA, July 13: World 800-metre champion Wilson Kipketer has been offered a last ditch chance to compete in the Atlanta Olympics for the country he no longer represents, reports AP.

Cantona's FA Cup jersey sold for £17,500! LONDON, July 13: A football shirt worn by Manchester United star Eric Cantona raised 17,500 pounds (25,000 US dollars) in a raffle at a Labour Party gala dinner on Thursday night, reports AFP.