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Last rites for the oldies





ATLANTA, July 24 (AP): Even Carl Lewis couldn't outrun Father Time.

For Lewis, Jackie Joyner-Kersee and a handful of others who ruled a generation of track and field, the last Olympic Games inevitably has

When they're finished in Atlanta, these athletes, all in their 30s, will have left a legacy of excellence tinged with gold.

"It's kind of the end of an era," US men's coach Erv Hunt

Among Americans, Mike Powell, 32, and Butch Reynolds, 32, could be in their last Olympics and 37-year-old Mary Slaney almost certainly is. British sprinter Linford Christie, at 36 finally showing the effects of time, will give it one final try.

Jamaican sprinter Merlene Ottey, 6, will get one final shot at gold. And Sergei Bubka of Ukraine, who has known both Olympic triumph and failure, could be vaulting in his last Olympics as well at age 32.

Athletes seldom age gracefully. With bodies that have brought them fame and glory, they find it hard to face the truth when time takes its unavoidable toll.

Still, most seem to recog-

LONDON, July 24

(Reuter): The

days when Eng-

land vs Pakistan

was a cricket co-

cktail of contro-

versy, confrontation and crisis

Akram, captains in the three-

Test series starting at Lord's

on Thursday, want to play the

helped by having been Lan-

cashire teammates over the

WASIM AKRAM

last eight years and also by the

presence of David Lloyd, their

county's former coach who is

now doing the equivalent job

in the coming months will

need to maintain their sense of

ship will win the day and that

while the cricket will be com-

petitive on the field, common-

sense will prevail off it."

Atherton said: "Both teams

"But I hope that our friend-

Wasim said: "We do not

matches in a competitive but

Their common aim will be

Mike Atherton and Wasim

may be numbered.

friendly atmosphere.

nise they are about to say

"I stayed around until 35 to come to Atlanta," Lewis said. "I'm going to have a good time and when it's over I'm going to say. Hey, I gave it my all, I had a great time and I was really

happy I stayed around."
It hardly seems 12 years ago that Lewis was overwhelming the 1984. Games with his calculated, almost choreographed, victories in four

The enduring image is of Lewis, a brash 23-year-old, parading around the Los Angeles Coliseum with a giant US

On the same track, 22-yearold Jackie Joyner saw her first glimpse of Olympic greatness. With the world's top heptathletes absent because of a Soviet-led boycott. Joyner missed the gold medal by just five points, mainly because of a subpar effort in her specialty, the long jump.

Four years later, by then married to her coach Bob Kersee, Joyner-Kersee was at the top of her demanding game. She demolished the competition with a world record 7,291 points in Seoul just 26 days after becoming the first woman to top the 7,000-point mark. A few days later, she won the gold in the long jump, too.

There was no world record in the 1992 Games, but Joyner-Kersee easily outdistanced the competition. Lewis got golds in the long jump and

Lord's Test begins today

Foes vow to play fair

want to talk about the past. We

are here to play positive

cricket and then go home

up at some point on the field

but my relationship with both

David Lloyd and Athers will

land and Pakistan have pro-

duced many flashpoint, includ-

ing the figure-wagging a con-

frontation between Mike Gat-

ing and umpire Shakoor Khan

at Faisalabad in 1987, the

cricket has usually been com-

a fascinating contest this time.

with Akram, Waqar Younis and

Mushtaq Ahmed set to give

England's batsmen a searching

examination by swing, speed

formidable opponent than

when Pakistan last toured here

four years, ago, having a

learned the value of patience

by watching Australian fellow

leg-spinner Shane Warne, as

well as developing his skills

during two county seasons

and Nasser Hussain, though his

entry into the series may be

delayed by a finger injury, will

relish the duel while Graeme

Hick must hope his 150 in

Worcestershire's last county

championship match marks a

on Tuesday when opener

Saeed Anwar was cleared of a

clean check after his blood

tests," tour manager Yawar

Younis, who suffered a ham-

string injury last week would

workout tomorrow just to

also probably play.

He added fast bowler Wagar

We will give him another

serious stomach problem.

Pakistan were given a boost

"Saeed has been given a

turning point in his fortunes.

Atherton, Graham Thorpe

with Somerset.

Mushtaq is a more

There is every prospect of

pelling.

While series between Eng-

help if there are any problem.

"Things are bound to heat

quietly like other teams do.

400-metre relay, bringing his Olympic total to eight golds

Lewis and Joyner-Kersee. 34, both have come face-toface with their athletic mortality this year.

At the US trials, Carl was no longer king, finishing fifth in the 200 and dead last in the 100-meter final. He made the team by a mere inch (2.5 centimeters) in the long jump the event he once dominated like no other, going unbeaten for 10 years.

It took a world record by Powell to end that streak. Powell and Lewis will vie in

the long jump for a third Olympics. But Powell, too, almost didn't make it to Atlanta,

jumping from sixth to first on his final try at the US trials. "It would have been heartbreaking. I thought about that, too," Powell said. "But now I can smile."

At 36, Ottey is one of the best female sprinters of all time. She is in her fifth Olympics, but has never won more than a bronze medal. She has won four of them, as long ago as 1980 and as recently as

No one was more elated to make it to Atlanta than Slaney. whose injury-ravaged career includes many records but no Olympic medals. As a youngster, anything but a victory would have been a disappointment. At age 37, she was thrilled to finish second in the 5,000 at the US trials.

make sure but he is an experi-

enced professional and will

know himself whether he is up

to the demands of a Test

Malik is struggling for runs

Haq has yet to make his mark

at Test level in England — he

scored only 66 runs in his four

has hit three tour centuries

and is averaging more than

100, and Aamir Sohail can be a

commanding opening pair. Ijaz

MIKE ATHERTON

Ahmed warned up for the

opening Test with a match

winning century against Kent,

and wicketkeeper Rashid Latif

and Akram offer depth to the

start the series at Lord's -

they won the 1982 and 1992

Tests there and drew a rain-

ruined match in 1987. By con-

trast, England have found Test

wins at the game's traditional

headquarters few and far be-

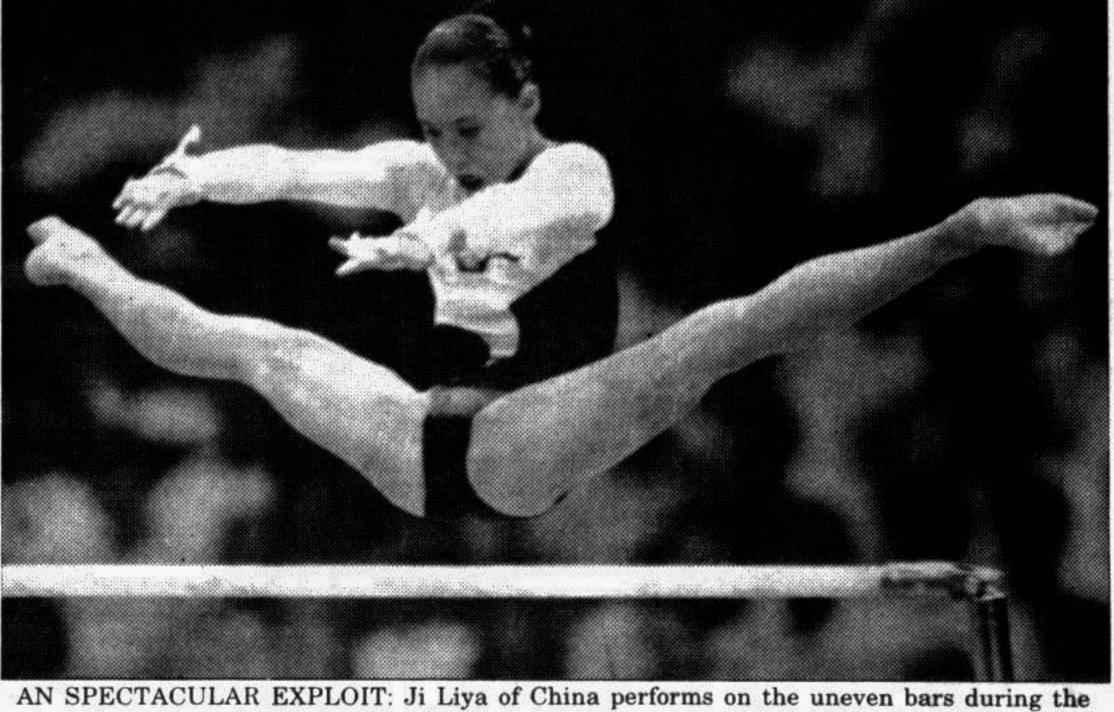
Pakistan will be happy to

However, Saeed Anwar, who

Tests in the 1992 series.

and the talented Inzamamul-

The experienced Salim



women's team optionals in the Olympic gymnastics competition at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on July 23. - AFP/UNB photo

Agassi toils, Seles sails





STONE MOUNTAIN, Georgia, July 24: Fierce heat and humidity sapped the energy of competitors on the opening day of the Olympic tennis tournament on Tuesday as temperatures soared towards 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38

Celsius), report agencies. Defending champion Marc Rosset, launching the Centre Court programme at the New Stone Mountain Tennis Centre some 30 km east of Atlanta. said he had rarely experienced such demanding conditions.

who beat Moroccan Hicham Arazi 6-2, 6-3 in his match. But he confessed he saw a potential omen in his initial suc-

"When I won in Barcelona, I also beat a Moroccan.'

Against Arazi, the 2.01-metre (6-foot-7) Rosset served inconsistently but hit 17 winners and closed out the match in 64 minutes.

through his first Olympic test but acknowledged rapid improvement will be needed if he is to capture the gold medal he has set his heart on.

The top seed's 7-6, 7-6 first round victory over Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman was as

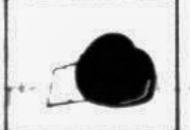
close as the scoreline suggests "After one set I was almost and was not the sort of perdead," said the Swiss player, formance to send temors



Andre Agassi scraped

Cuba keep the pace





ATLANTA. July 24: Light middleweight Alfredo Duvergel joined eight other Cubans through to the second stage of the Olympic boxing tournament on Tuesday as the first American fighter fell by the wayside, reports Reuter.

Duvergel, who won his place at Atlanta by toppling Olympic gold medalist Juan Lemus as Cuban national champion, pinched past Poland's Jozef Gilewski 10-2.

Watched by a rowdy Cuban contingent that included heavyweight champion Felix Savon and triple Olympic champion Teofilo Stevenson. Duvergel led 6-0 after round

Maikro Romero earlier dominated the first direct Cuban-American battle of these Games, hastening US flyweight Eric Morel's professional debut by outpointing the Pierto Rican-born boxer by an overwhelming 24-12 margin.

He dominated the first round 9-1, inflicting a standing eight count on Morel with 17 seconds remaining after catching him with a hard right followed by a left hook.

Morel, who had planned to turn professional after the Games, could not complain about the result It was left to light-mid-

dleweight David Reid, easily overpowering a lanky Korean with a suspect defence and a strong left knee, to restore wounded local pride and become the seventh US boxer through the opening bout Reid, determined to get the

United States back on the winning track, beat Korean Wan-Kyun Lee 20-4 despite being kneed by the man from Seoul in the process. International Olympic

Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch put in an appearance early in the evening. taking his VIP seat just in time to watch Israel's lone boxer Vladislav Neiman go out 18-7 to Kazakh Bolat Djumadilov. A team official agreed that

Israel's boxing tradition was not great. "We are very good at chess," he said. Samaranch also witnessed

Ireland's Damaen Kelly make a remarkable escape from 9-6 down against strong Bulgarian Julian Strogov to scrape through 12-11 in the dying seconds. Germay's flyweight world

champion Zoltan Lunka easily saw off Mexican Martin Castillo

through a below strength men's field. "It was certainly a close call," admitted Agassi, who sported a long-sleeved shirt despite the high temperatures and a cycling cap with USA

emblazoned on the upturned Every time you win two tie-breakers, you've got to feel pretty fortunate. If all had been fair out there, we'd have been playing a third set."

Agassi had to save two set points before taking the opening tiebreak 8-6 and was 5-4 down in the second set with Bjorkman preparing to serve. He also received a warning for an audible obscenity yet insisted afterwards his faults were curable.

Jan Siemerink and Carlos Costa were less fortunate. bowing out in straight sets to Australian Todd Woodbridge and Italy's Andrea Gaudenži respectively

It was a breeze in the heat for Monica Seles."

Seles, the women's top seed, allowed Li Chen of China only four games in a 6-0, 6-4 drubbing.

Seles swept the first set in just 22 minutes, and Li doublefaulted four times after taking a 3-2 lead in the second set.

Monica's Ali fixation

ATLANTA, July 24: When Monica Seles, the top women's seed in the Olympic tennis event, spotted Muhammad Ali in the athletes' cafeteria, it brought childhood memories flooding back, reports Reuter.

"My dad always told me to watch tapes of his fights," Seles recalled after winning her first round match easily, 6-0, 6-4 over China's Li Chen. When he boxed he would

always have unbelievable foot work. But mine is not there." Seles, who is staying in the Olympic Village, said her most

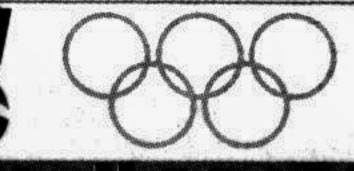
moving moment of the Games so far was meeting Ali. "I saw a big crowd in the cafeteria and I wondered who it was," she said. "I had my pic-

ture taken with him and I got his autograph. "He still has something you know," she said, tears welling in her eyes. "I can't put it into

words but it was very emotional for me that night."



Country



MEDALS TABLE

ATLANTA, July 24: Medals table after the fourth day of competition at the Atlanta Olympics on Tuesday (tabulated under gold, silver, bronze):

United States	9	12	3	24
Russia	9	5	2	16
Poland	5	12 5 2 5 3 2	ī	16 8 12 13 8 6 4
China	4	5	3	12
France	4	3	3 6 3	13
Italy	3	2	3	8
South Korea	3 3 2 2 2	1	2	6
Turkey	3	Ō	1	4
Belgium	2	ī	ì	4
South Africa	2	Ō	î	3
Ireland	2	O	ō	õ
New Zealand	$\bar{2}$	ŏ	ŏ	2273
Culba	1	4	2	9
Japan	ī	2	ō	
Australia	ĩ	4 2 0 0	0 5 2	ě
Ukraine	ī	ŏ	2	3
Romania	î	ŏ	ī	5
Armenia	î	0	ô	î
Costa Rica	î	ŏ	ŏ	
Kazakhstan	î	ŏ	ŏ	
Germany	Ô	6	9	15
Belarus	ŏ	6 3 2	ĭ	- 2
Greece	ŏ	2	Ô	
Brazil	ŏ	ĩ	2	3
Sweden	ŏ	î	ĩ	7
Austria	ŏ	î	ń	
Britain	ŏ	î	ŏ	9
Finland	ñ	î	Õ	30
North Korea	ŏ	î	0	9
Spain	Ô	î	Õ	
Uzbekistan	ŏ	î	ñ	3
Hungary	Õ	ô	0 5 4 4 2	
Bulgaria	Õ	ő	4	,
Netherlands	o	ő	4	
Canada	ő		4	
Georgia	0	0	2	
Moldova	0	0	1	
Yugoslavia	0	0	1	
Note: Two bronze medals as		- 1	.1 1	92



ATLANTA. July 24 (AFP): What people are saying at the Atlanta Olympics:

"The Olympic Games is the premier sporting event in the world not the premier security event. We could do a lot better if there were no spectators." Bill Rathburn, head of Olympic security trying to explain

how an armed convicted criminal got past security and into the opening ceremony.

"Individual gold, there's nothing better than that." Amy van Dyken after winning 100m butterfly gold to add to her 4x100m freestyle gold.

'I thank Mark Tewksbury for beating me in '92, because I wouldn't be here except for him. As I was hearing the Canadian anthem, I committed myself then and there to winning the gold in Atlanta."

American Jeff Rouse after winning the 100m backstroke. "It was like riding on black ice."

British rider William Fox-Pitt, who had to remount after falling on the track during the three-day event cross-country. "When I was young my mother used to give me pocket money to buy my lunch at school. But I always went straight to the shooting range and spent it there. She always wondered why I ate so much in the evening when I go home. I have never told her what I did but now I have won the gold medal I think she will forgive me.

Moscow traffic policeman Boris Kokorev after winning the men's free pistol

"As we thought the food here is not to out liking. We

brought in a lot of instant noodles - that is our premier

weapon in these Olympics." Chinese weightlifting coach Yang Hanxiong explaining his side's gold medal success.

"I had him frustrated and he knew he was losing." American light-middleweight David Reid on why South

Korea's Lee Wann-Kyun kneed him in the groin. 'I'm not predicting the number, but the team will win a lot of medals. I think most everyone competes better at home.

Having the Olympics here gives us a little advantage." United States track and field head coach on his team's medal chances

"I disagree with the notion that the American spinters are going to sweep. I think they will do well to get a medal." Caribbean sprint star Ato Boldon on American chances in the 100 metres.

"He is so sick he may die during the Olympics. If I could win again it would be something special for him at the end of his life. This is the way I can reach out to him."

Emotional Morocco's Khalid Skah on why he must retain his Olympic 10,000m title for his sick father "We are here to talk about how the 1996 Olympic Games

are taking place in a state which has manifestly failed to

uphold the dream of Dr King." Amnesty International chief Pierre Sane in Atlanta to protest Georgia's widespread use of the death penalty.

Sport rues the course tampering with the ball. ously misquoted in the India



with England.

perspective.

Former England cricket players lan Botham and Allan Lamb were accused in the High Court on

former Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan, reports AFP. Botham and Lamb are suing Imran over an "offensive personal attack" on them in India Today magazine which, they say, called them racist, uneducated and lacking class and

upbringing. Imran, who denies libel, says that his words were taken out of context and that he was only trying to defend himself.

Opening the former Pakistani skipper's case. George Carman. QC, said the jury might think it was "a thousand pities that these great warriors of sport could not have made their peace and shaken hands." They should conclude that Imran Khan had offered "the

hand of friendship" and did not want the court battle, but his offer was spurned. Imran had written "perfectly decent kind letters" to them and offered them, in July 1994, a "golden opportunity" -

straight in an open letter to The Times. It would have made the vital points that he had been seri-

which had been turned down

flat — to set the record

Today article and never suggested Botham and Lamb were racist - and would also have made it plan that he had never accused Ian Botham of cheat-And Imran had intended to

express regret if he had been

misunderstood by others and

caused distress to anyone or their families. He added that nobody could deny the trial was "emotionally charged" with "issues of race. class and country moving in and out of this case like black

clouds." He asked: "Who raised the stakes in this case? Who wanted the battle?" "Who are the volunteers to

the court room and who is the conscript.?" Earlier, former England batsman David Gower, who scored more than 8,000 runs in Test matches before retir- " ing to persue a media career. said he had known Botham and Lamb for years and they were

not racists. Shown video footage of himself. Botham and Lamb looking at the ball during the 1982 series, he thought it looked as Botham was repairing the ball.

"Knowing lan's thumbs not intimately - but knowing them, I think he's pushing the ball back and my views is you are allowed to do that. He had never seen Botham

Cross-examined by Carman. Gower agreed that Imran had sent him the same conciliatory

letter he had sent Botham and Lamb after the appearance of a biography in which negative comments" were attributed to Gower agreed that he had written, in reply: "Fear not. You

have no need to worry about

the comments", and assured Imran that he was not hurt. He agreed with comments by England cricket captain. Mike Atherton, that bowlers had "succumbed" to the temptation of ball-tampering many a time, but it was not right that

everyone was doing it. Mike Atherton, accompanied by English cricket coach David Llyod, took their seats in court as Gower said that ball tampering was not accepted by the game as a whole, and that virtually every player would

Women's hockey

like to see the laws upheld.

S Korea drub the Dutch

ATLANTA, July 24: Chang Eun-ju scored twice in the second half, one off a penalty corner, to give South Korea a 3-1 victory over the Netherlands in women's Olympic hockey on Tuesday, reports



up shortly before the start of the women's 100m butterfly qualifier at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Centre on July 23.

- AFP/UNB photo

CENTENNIAL GAMES CHIPS ATLANTA, July 24 (AFP) **TUTU VISITS**

them.

Olympic Games diary for today: GUNNING FOR GEAR Some of the volunteer staff

working at the Atlanta Olympics have had offers of up to 3.500 dollars to sell some of the special T-shirts, hats and pin badges they wear. One security officer was offered 3,500 dollars for his helmet. The police report that their officers have been offered more than 5,000 dollars for the baseball caps they have been wearing on patrol.

A TINGE OF IRONY

For Namibian Frankie Fredericks, the 1992 double spri nt silver medalist, the Olympic Games are short on magic. "We were occupied by South Africa for so many years before our independence, and that took away some of the dreams I would have had as a youngster. I did not grow up with that opportunity to dream. For me, it is just another big meeting. where I get another chance to race the best in the world. That's enough to make me

happy. COACH & CHOCOLATE

American sprinter Jon Drummond admitted his coach was refusing to leave his side in the run-up to the Olympic 100m all because of his love of chocolate biscuits. "I like chocolate chip cookies. He knows that when he's with me. I can't eat them. So he's staying with me." he said.

'DREAM TEAM'

South African Bishop Desmond Tutu and his grandson visited "dream Team iii" during a private workout Tuesday. He said the players had been as great an inspiration to him as he has been to

"He is one of the real heroes of this world, the challenges he has faced and the struggle with apartheid," said "Dream Team" centre David Robinson. "He has life or death struggles. We only face struggles on the court."

"It's a fantastic thing to meet people who have been such heroes and such an inspiration to our young men and women," said Tutu, who posed for pictures with the team.

TALE OF A TEENAGER

By the time Omar Dallal finished his 400m freestyle heat his rivals had climbed out of the Olympic pool, and Dallal knew that 14,000 spectators were focused on him.

"I was saying in my mind. I've got to do this race, I've got to end it," he said. And he did, in a national record of 4:47.62, more than nine seconds better

than his own previous mark. Dallal, a 15-year-old who is Jordan's first Olympic swimmer, said his first look at the entry times of his rivals in Atlanta scared him. He spent a month training in Canada before the Games, and he plans to return there in a bid to further his career.

THAI BID FAIL

Thailand have worked out their lines of communication to let boxers know how they are faring in the ring at the Olympics.

A team member, watching the progressive judges' scores on the television monitors in the press area, screamed out to the Thai cornermen how flyweight Parmuansak Phosuvan was doing against Syrian Khaled Falah Tuesday It was a close bout, the Thai

messenger was working over time shouting out the scores and the Thai corner relayed the state of play to Phosuvan. but it was to no avail, Falah won on points 11-9.

SIMPSON BACK TO SHOW

O J Simpson, acquitted last fall of killing ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson after a highprofile trial, is back in the media spotlight in Atlanta, signing autographs wherever he goes. "He was real nice," said Sunny Burrus, 20, a local university student.

The football legend-turned film actor was spotted at the women's gymnastics finals Tuesday, and was staying at the same hotel as some members of the US basketball squad, the so-called 'Dream Team'