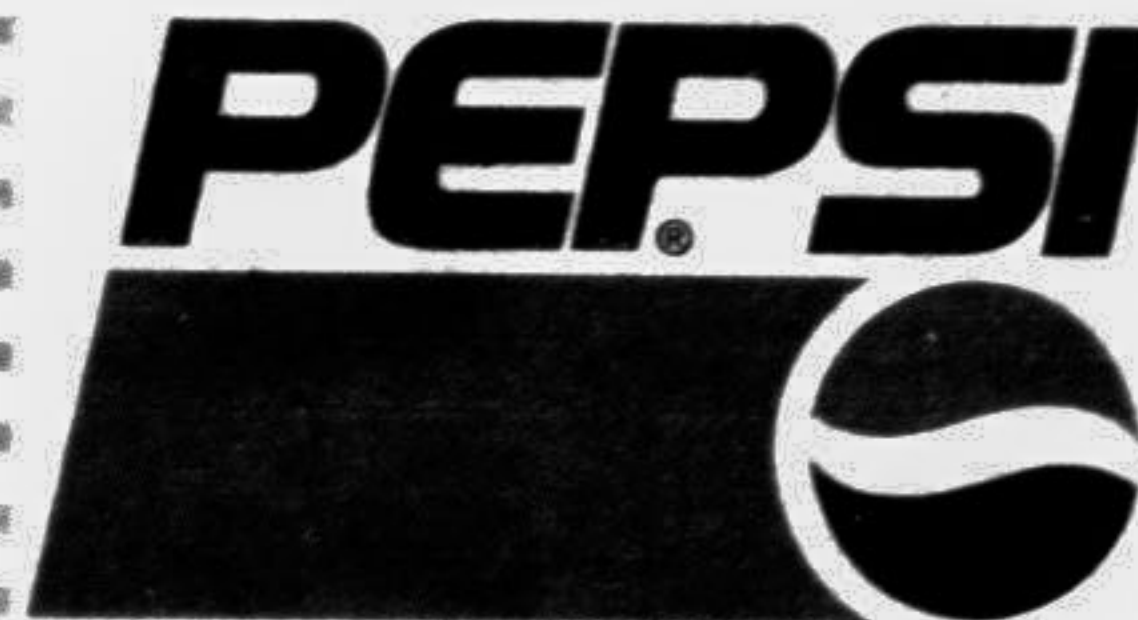


Olympic Update

Because you play to win...



Column One

SPORTS TALK



Monica Seles

(American tennis player)

"He is still something you know. I can't put into words but I was very emotional for me that night."

After meeting boxing legend Muhammad Ali in the Olympic Village cafeteria.

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-47

Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. July 26, 1996)

- Number of players in a basketball team is

Eight	Five	Six
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- The number of jumping events in decathlon are

Two	Three	One
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- The sport badminton was first originated in

England	India	Iraq
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- The number of Bangladeshi athletes participating in the Atlanta Olympic Games are

Three	Seven	Four
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- The present Brazilian football coach is

Zagallo	Pires	Santana
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Name: _____
 Class: _____ Roll No: _____
 School Address: _____
 Phone: (if any) _____

BFF committee announced

Sports Reporter
 The National Sports Council announced the full committee of Bangladesh Football Federation yesterday.

According to a NSC circular, Harun-ur-Rashid, a director of Abahani Limited, has been appointed the new general secretary of the federation. Harun, a familiar figure in the sports arena and the former GS of BFF, will replace Sheikh Akmal Hossain. Akmal, the former secretary of Mohammedan Sporting Club, was not included in the 31-member executive committee of BFF.

Badal Roy, the former national footballer and a member of Mohammedan Sporting Club, will be one of two deputies of Harun along with Sirajul Islam Bachchu, the general secretary of Wari Club. Although Bachchu has earlier served the BFF as joint secretary, for Badal it will be his maiden test in a crucial post of federation.

Three vice-presidents including two new names, Monirul Haque Chowdhury of Mohammedan Sporting Club and Anwar Chowdhury of Abahani Limited, were named in the 31-member committee. The other vice-president is Commerce Secretary Mofazzal Karim, also a vice-president in the past committee. Dr. Shamsuzzaman Basunia, a teacher of BUFT and a member in the previous committee, will act as treasurer of the federation.

The executive committee, which came into being 21 days after the appointment of Mayor Mohammad Hanif as its president, also includes 23 members from different clubs and district sports associations.

Prominent of all is Haji Mohammad Selim, MP, president of Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society.

The other members are: Abdul Mueen Chowdhury, Zilur Rahman, Abdur Rahim, Majid (ret'd) Shah Alam, Afzal Hossain, Manjur Hossain Malu, Shawkat Ali Khan Jahangir, Abul Kasem, Kazi Mishu, Shah Alam Chowdhury, Fazlur Rahman Babul, Amalash Sen, Nurunnabi Chowdhury, Korshed Alam Babul, Abdul Gaffar, Bir Bahadur MP, Shahiduddin Selim, Kutubuddin Akbar, Ajmal Ahmed Tapan, Nazir Ahmed Chowdhury and Alamgir Khan Alo.

Russia reclaims the lead

ATLANTA, July 25 Before Saturday, there weren't any Irish Olympic gold medalists in swimming. Now Michelle Smith is winning gold at a rate of one every other day, reports AP.

She claimed her third Wednesday in the 400-metre individual medley, while Russian Denis Pankratov set a world record in the 100m butterfly to win his second gold and propel his nation to the top of the gold medal standings with 11 after five days of competition at the Atlanta Olympics.

The United States won its fourth consecutive swimming relay of these games and has 10 golds in all. It led the Russians 28 to 23 in total medals. France had six golds, and China and Poland each had five.

Thanks to Smith, Ireland had three, tying it with Australia, Cuba, Italy, South Korea and Turkey.

Along with Pankratov's victory, the Russians also won gold Wednesday in the men's team sabre event in fencing, defeating Hungary in the final for the second straight Olympics.

Three other nations also captured two golds each. French athletes won with swords and bicycles. Australians used guns and horses. Cubans hefted weights and threw opponents in judo.

Italian cyclist Andreas Collinelli broke a world record in qualifying for the individual pursuit race, covering the 4,000 metres in 4:19.699 to better Briton Graeme Obree's 1993 world mark of 4:20.894.

China, off to a slow start in these Games, gained back a measure of respect when world champion Li Xiaoshuang edged Russia's Alexei Nemov for gold in men's all-around gymnastics. Vitaly Scherbo of Belarus, who won the all-around and five other golds in the 1992 Olympics, settled for bronze.

Yugoslavia, banned from the 1992 Olympics because of its involvement in the Bosnian war, marked its return with Alexandra Ivosevic's gold medal in women's three-position rifle shooting.

Hungary won its first gold medal of these Games, and silver too, when Norbert Rozsaa beat teammate Karoly Guttler by .46 seconds in men's 200-metre breaststroke swimming.

Ireland's Smith, who shot out of obscurity when she won the 400-metre individual medley on Saturday, won the 200-metre medley Wednesday, finishing .42 seconds ahead of Canada's Marianne Limpert. China's Lin Li, the 1992 gold medalist, took the bronze, another .39 behind.

Smith also won the 400-metre freestyle on Monday. Pankratov broke his own world mark of 52.32 seconds in winning the men's 100-metre butterfly in 52.27 — 26 ahead of Australia's Scott Miller.

In the women's 400-metre medley relay, the Americans won in 4 minutes, 2.88 seconds, followed by Australia in 4:05.08 and China in 4:07.34.

Chinese gymnast Li, who had been bitterly disappointed with his performance in the team competition, trailed Nemov slightly going into his final high bar routine. He scored 9.787 on the bar for a 58.423 total and beat Nemov by .049 points.

Scherbo, trying in these Games for a record-tying seventh Olympic gold, was another 177 behind and looked bewildered at his scores.

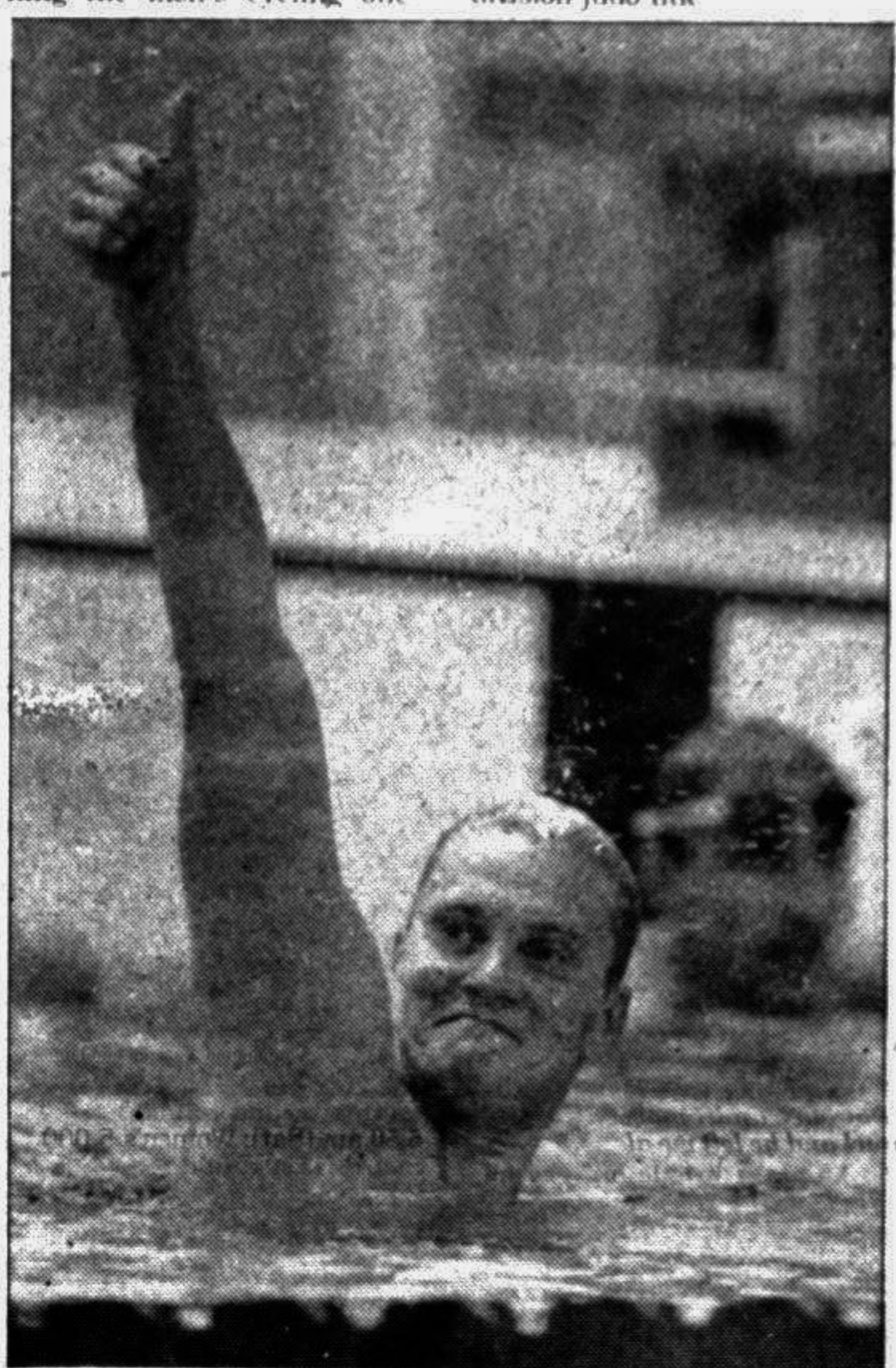
France's Florian Rousseau set an Olympic record in winning the men's cycling one

of contention by pulling his left foot out of the pedal strap as he left the start line.

Australia won its second gold for shotgun marksmanship when Russell Mark took the double trap event.

In competition in style, endurance and jumping on horseback, the Australians defended their Olympic championship in the equestrian three-day event.

Cuba gained its golds when Pablo Lara won the 76-kilogram (167.5-pound) division of weightlifting with a total of 367.5 kilograms (810 pounds) and Driulis Gonzalez beat South Korea's Jung Sun-yong for the women's lightweight judo title.



Dennis Pankratov of Russia shows a thumb-up after winning the men's 100m butterfly in Atlanta on Wednesday. Pankratov set a new world record with a time of 52.27 seconds. — AFP/UNB photo

Kenzo Nakamura, one of three brothers on Japan's judo team, won the men's lightweight title. He beat South Korea's Kwak Dae-sung by a 2-1 vote of the judges.

CENTENNIAL GAMES CHIPS

ATLANTA, July 25 (AFP, AP) Olympic Games diary for today:

UNEASY WITH THE IZZY

The creator of Izzy, the Olympic mascot turned outcast of the Atlanta Games, is depressed. Izzy appears to have gone missing after coming under fire for being so ugly that he frightens children.

It's a bit difficult to describe exactly what Izzy is supposed to be but when he was first unveiled at Barcelona most people thought he was a green sperm.

Izzy creator John Ryan said friends were rallying round to lift his spirits. "That's certainly a comfort. It has been depressing."

Izzy did not appear at the opening ceremony and will not be part of the closing celebrations.

TRANSPORT TRAUMA

Maltval Washington had a confession to make after his opening round Olympic tennis victory Wednesday.

"I will have to admit I did stay in a hotel last night. Yesterday I was coming out to watch Andre's (Agassi) match. I kind of ran into that little transportation glitch they have been talking about, and it took me a good hour and 45 minutes to get from the Village to here," the US tennis player said.

"So I showed up about the middle of Andre's second set, and I couldn't risk that today. The last thing you want is a two-hour trip to the courts before you are playing."

WEIRD WORLD OF COMMERCIALISM

Dominican world triple jump bronze medalist Jerome Román joined the criticism of the television coverage of the Olympic Games' opening ceremony, complaining: "We were not shown walking into the stadium — we clashed with a commercial break. People were kind of upset about it, back home. A day earlier 100m favourite Frankie Fredericks had complained. Natalia had been ignored, adding that he no longer spoke to American

BRAZIL — A BAD LOSER

Brazilian basketball coach Art Vidal and five-time Olympian Oscar Schmidt blamed biased officiating for Brazil's 109-110 double overtime loss to Australia.

"I honestly feel the officials were one-sided," Vidal said. "The two teams played so similar and the decision was so one-sided. It is impossible for me to understand how a player like Oscar Schmidt did not have many free throws."

Schmidt finds this an unhappy way to spend his final games.

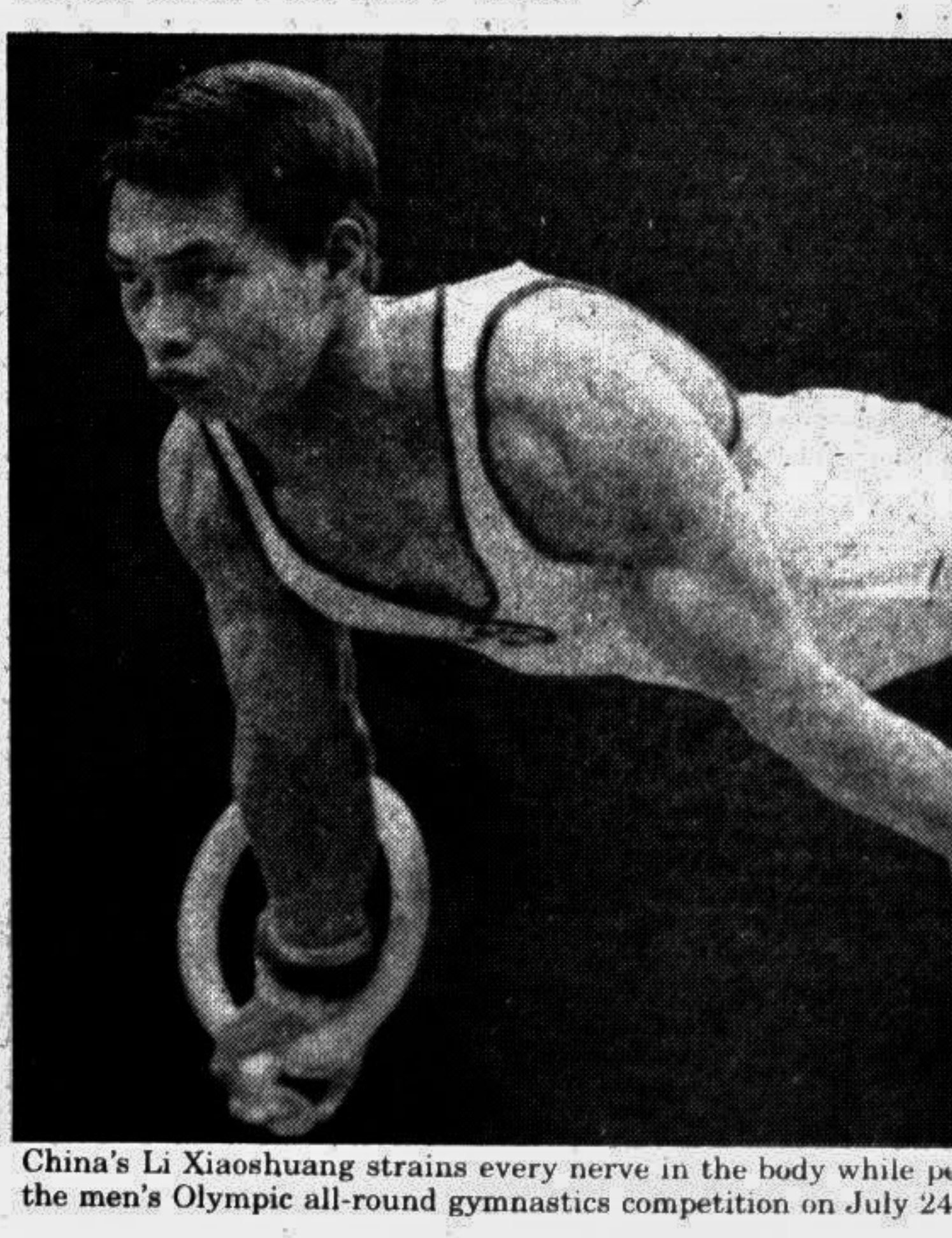
"I've never seen anything like it in my entire life," Schmidt said. "I feel like I

SILVER AS GOOD AS GOLD

Amanda Beard is perfectly happy with the two breaststroke silver medals she has won in individual events at her first Olympics.

"I don't mind that much, I just came here to race," the 14-year-old American said after she finished runner-up to South African Penny Heyns, seven years her senior, in both the 100m and 200m breaststroke. "Silver is a perfect medal. It's just a colour to me."

"I think my mom's rabbit just had babies, so I'm going to take one of them and name it silver."



China's Li Xiaoshuang strains every nerve in the body while performing on the rings during the men's Olympic all-round gymnastics competition on July 24. Li bagged the gold. — AFP/UNB photo

ATLANTA SNIPPETS

MONGOLIANS WIN

THE DRESS

ATLANTA, July 25 (AFP, Reuter): A sportswear manufacturer from the Canadian city of Moose Jaw has helped rescue Mongolia's Olympic team from its state of undress.

Hearing that the Mongolians were in need of a cycle suit to help clad its lone cyclist, Sharon Cole volunteered the services of her company, based in the Saskatchewan City.

A made-to-measure suit — plus one for the Mongolian coach — will be heading for Atlanta in time for competition, Cole said.

"I thought I had to do something for them. I had the suit designed even before I had made contact. They were very happy," Cole told Reuters.

DRINK AND DRINK AND ...

Mary Slaney has a simple recipe for Olympic success in the heat and humidity of Atlanta. "You have to drink and drink and drink and drink... even when you don't want to drink." And that's a 5,000m runner speaking. Just imagine how much the marathon runners will have to drink and drink and drink and ...

Biman pip UAE's Crescent at KL

Sports Reporter
 Bangladesh Biman cricket team moved into the final of the bowl section in the Benson and Hedges cricket carnival, being held in the Malaysian capital city of Kuala Lumpur.

Biman, who were eliminated from the cup competition on Wednesday when they suffered a 32-run defeat to Northern Territories of Australia, earned a berth in the bowl final with a huge eight-wicket victory over Crescent Club of UAE on Thursday's bowl semifinal.

Batting first, the UAE outfit were bundled out for only 72 in 32.2 overs. Biman seamers Manna and Rashed played the pivotal role in the destruction of Crescent Club, capturing four wickets each. They were duly supported by left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique who took the remaining two conceding only two runs.

In reply, Biman reached the winning mark (73) in 15.2 overs with eight wickets in their hand, according to a press release issued here yesterday.

BGIC national volleyball on

Sports Reporter
 Bangladesh Navy take on Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in the opening encounter of the BGIC 19th national volleyball championship, beginning at the National Indoor Stadium this afternoon. In day's other match in men's group, Comilla DSA will face Bangladesh Army.

In the men's group, a total of 15 teams split into four groups will lock horns in the first round robin leagues. Off those, four group champions will qualify for the semifinals billed for July 30.

Besides, in the women's group, six teams are to compete for the title. On the women's inaugural day fixture, Ansars will take on Tangail DSA while Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation are scheduled to meet Dhaka DSA in the next match.



Pakistan's Rahim Khan dribbles past his marker during the Olympic hockey match against Germany on July 24. — AFP/UNB photo

Germans down Pakistan



ATLANTA, July 25 Pakistan hockey coach Samiullah Khan lashed out at the umpires after his team's 3-1 defeat to Germany in a key Olympic men's hockey match here on Wednesday, report agencies.

"I am not saying the umpires were biased, but they were definitely incompetent in this match."

"I think we played better than the Germans in this match. But we were unlucky because of the umpires and the missed chances," Samiullah, a former international, said.

The defeat left World Cup holders Pakistan with just two points from three matches and facing almost certain elimination from the tournament.

Umpires Donald Pior of Australia and Patrick van Beneden of Belgium refused to react to Samiullah's assault, saying they were not allowed to comment on the match by the International Hockey Federation.

Needing a win to stay in contention after garnering just one point from their first two

matches, the desperate Germans took full advantage of Pakistan's bungling defence.

The Pakistanis, whose Olympic dream is fading fast, conceded two penalty strokes and wasted one of their own when Tahir Zaman's push was saved by goalkeeper Christopher Reitz.

Germany's late revival further complicated the scramble for a semifinal place in Group A, and almost certainly ruined Pakistan's chances of moving up.

With two round of league matches to go, giant-killers Spain are the team with six points from three games. A win against bottom-placed United States on Friday will see them through.

The other semifinal spot will be contested by Argentina, who have four points, and India and Germany on three each.

Pakistan face the difficult task of defeating both India and Argentina by big margins to come back into reckoning.

It's a task coach Samiullah believes is difficult, but not impossible. — AFP/UNB photo

"But I do not believe in conceding easily. We will definitely go for wins in both our remaining matches. All is not lost yet," Samiullah said.

Pakistan take on arch-rivals India on Friday, while Germany play Argentina the same day. Earlier India beat hosts United States 4-0 on Wednesday.

Dhanraj Pillay scored two goals, while Sanjeev Kumar and Rahul Singh had one each for India in the rout of the Americans, who saw their overall Olympic record fall to 0-22-4.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Asian expatriates from across the United States have descended on Atlanta ahead of Friday's hockey showdown between arch foes India and Pakistan.

The Clark Atlanta University Campus, the Olympic hockey venue, is beginning to look like an Asian hub as hordes of Indians and Pakistanis sought tickets for the match.

Scalpers were trading 22 dollar tickets for 100 dollars after Games officials said the match at the 15,000-capacity Morris Brown College was sold out way back in June.

In the day's other match Spain came back from an early deficit to clip Argentina 2-1 and remain atop Group A.

Spain's victory left it as the only undefeated team in the group after three matches, two points ahead of the Argentines, who lost for the first time.

Inzamam's fabulous fifth

Sports Reporter

Inzamamul Haq hammered a swashbuckling century at Lord's to steer Pakistan to a modest 290 for 9 at stumps on the opening day of the first Test on Thursday, according to BBC monitored here last night.

The portly middle-order bat came up with a fluent 148, his highest score in the Test, to respond his skipper's decision to bat first after winning the Test. It was Inzamam's first Test ton against England.

In his lively 199-minute stay at the crease Inzamam clubbed 19 fours and celebrated his fifth Test ton with a huge six off Ian Salisbury. However, there are something unique about the big Pakistani that he scored all his five centuries outside the home soil.

But for Pakistan it was a rather disappointing day with the willow. They made a jumpy start losing their in-form opener and vice-captain Aamir Sohail (2) and one-down Ijaz Ahmed, who was bowled round the wicket after scoring only one.

Inzamam and Saad Anwar then held the Pakistan innings together before the left-handed opener departed for a

dazzling 74. And once Anwar departed, Pakistan never looked comfortable on a apparently docile wicket.

Selim Malik was run out for seven following a terrible mix-up with Inzamam. Shahab Kabir, the 18-year-old promising Pakistani, scored only 17 in his debut Test.

Skipper Wasim Akram chipped in with 10, leg-spinner Mush-taq Ahmed got 11 while Waqar Younis, the last Pakistani batsman out in the final over of the day, scored 4.

Wicketkeeper Rashid Latif, who was not out on 7, will resume the Pakistani innings with Aftab Rehan tomorrow.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the opening day of the first cricket Test between England and Pakistan at Lord's on Thursday:

PAKISTAN: First Innings

Aamir Sohail lbw b Brown	2
Saeed Anwar c Russell b Hick	74
Ijaz Ahmed b Cork	1
Inzamamul Haq b Mullanly	148
Salim Malik run out	7
Shahab Kabir lbw b Cork	17
Wasim Akram lbw b Ealham	10
Rashid Latif not out	7
Mushtaq Ahmed c Russell	11
b Mullanly	11
Waqar Younis c Brown b Mullanly	4
Extras: (b-3, lb-3, nb-3)	9
Total: (for nine wickets)	290

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-12; 3-142; 4-153; 5-209; 6-257; 7-267; 8-280; 9-290.

Bowling (to date): O M R W

Cork	21	3	75	2
Brown	16	2	69	1
Mullanly	19.4	6	40	3
Salisbury	10	1	36	0
Ealham	17	3	38	1
Hick	6	0	26	1

INZAMAM ... 148

Imran still being docile

LONDON, July 25: Pakistan's former cricket captain Imran Khan told a libel jury on Wednesday that he had never called any player a cheat, report agencies.

Two former England cricket stars, Allan Lamb and Ian Botham, are suing Imran over an article in India Today magazine in which he allegedly called them racist, uneducated and lacking class.

Botham alone is suing over a May 1994 story in Britain's top-selling tabloid newspaper The Sun which, he says, accused him of ball-tampering, something he denies ever doing.

Starting his defence, Imran said, "I have never called any cricketer a cheat simply because the law is very straight forward. The umpire is the sole authority to decide what is fair and unfair play."

Imran denied that The Sun article was directed at Botham and stressed his respect for the ability of the cricketer, a top batsman and successful bowler. "He is by far the greatest

all-rounder England has produced and one of the greatest of the world. He was a much more talented cricketer than I ever was," said Imran who captained his country between 1982 and 1992.

Earlier Mike Atherton, captain of England who will lead his country in a Test match against Pakistan beginning today at Lord's cricket ground in London, became the latest in a star-studded cast of witnesses.

"Restoring the seam is against Law 42, but as a cricketer, and knowing it has gone on over the years, I wouldn't regard it as cheating," he said.

Botham told the court last week that tampering with the ball was not a common occurrence, but Imran's lawyer George Carman called Atherton to give a contrary opinion.

Carman asked Atherton about his statement published in a 1995 book that players had always tried to alter the condition of the ball during cricket matches in an effort to change its flight through the air or its bounce. Atherton said raising the

seam of the ball was against the laws of the game, but he was "pretty relaxed" about it and players tacitly accepted it.

Atherton himself was criticised by the British press in 1994 when television cameras caught him using dirt in his trouser pocket to dry the ball artificially.

Meanwhile: Wasim Akram and Michael Atherton repeated calls on Wednesday that attention should be focussed on the start of the England-Pakistan Test series and not the high Court case.

Atherton said, "It is important that both sets of players keep everything in perspective. Wasim and I get on fine and we have joked about it a bit so far."

"But we will all be striving to maintain a good relationship. We are aware of what's gone on but, frankly, it is of no concern to either team."

Of his court appearance, Atherton added, "It was unfortunate timing, coming on the eve of a Test match. But I've got it over with and now it's a case of concentrating on the job in hand."