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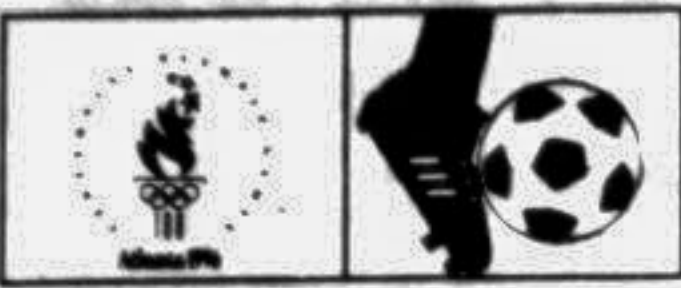
Atlanta 1996



PHILIPS

Let's make things better.

Brazil stay on course



Tuesday. Victory for the world champions, whose best Olympic performance was a silver medal in Los Angeles in 1984 and Seoul four years later, will set up the prospect of a mouth-watering clash with one of their great footballing rivals.

Argentina, who demolished Spain 4-0 in their quarter final on Saturday, were beaten into

second place by Brazil in the South American qualifying tournament in February.

Portugal share a common language, cultural and fierce on-field rivalry with their former colony.

But Brazil will still have to get past a determined Nigerian side, seeking to become the first Africans to reach an Olympic final.

The teams met last week in a fiercely contested first round group match in Miami, with Ronaldo's goal giving Brazil victory.

The 19-year-old striker, who struck twice in Sunday's quarterfinal win, is again expected to take centre stage with his striking partner Bebeto.

The Barcelona-bound teenager has emerged as the quality player of the tournament.

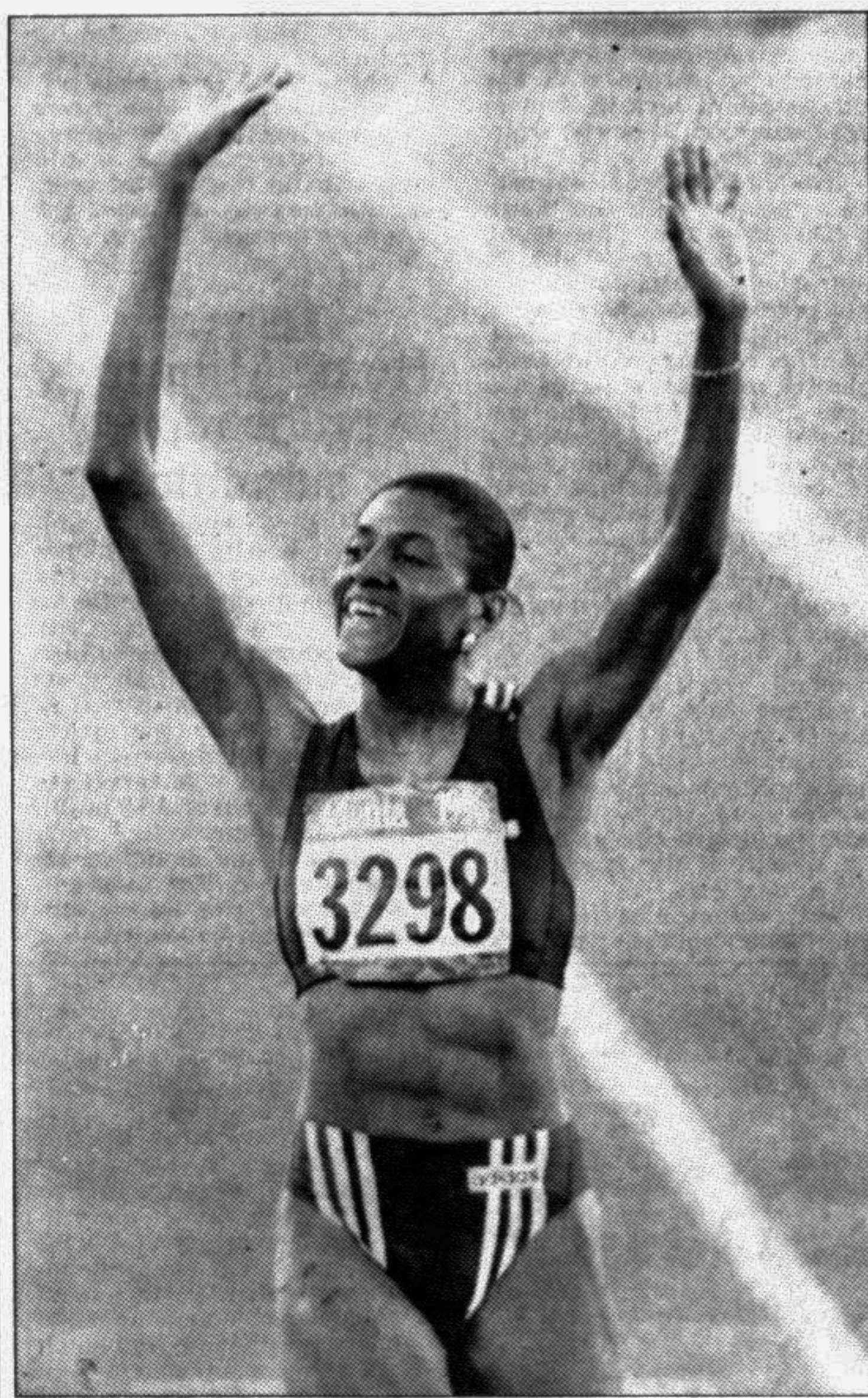
Nigeria, who fielded 10 European-based professionals in their 2-0 quarter final win over Mexico on Sunday, have shown class of their own in winning three tournament matches but lacked midfield cohesion in their previous game against Brazil.

Their king-pin is likely to be mercurial Daniel Amokachi, bristling with talent one minute and irritatingly languid the next.

But his role as one of the over-age players in Nigeria's side has seen him rise to the challenge of responsibility.

Argentina, whose coach Daniel Passarella has installed a strong discipline among his young charges, have their own individual trump card in Ariel Ortega.

None of four semifinalists has won gold at the Olympics before.



A beaming Marie-Jose Perec of France acknowledges the crowds applause after winning the 400m gold with a timing of 48.25 seconds at the Olympic Stadium on July 29. — AFP/UNB photo

Olympics: What's on today

ATLANTA, July 30 (Reuter): Timetable for the 12th day of Olympics competition on Wednesday (all times BST):

- Athletics**
7:00 pm: Decathlon — 100 metres.
7:30 pm: Men's pole vault qualifying.
8:00 pm: Women's 1500 metres first round.
8:05 pm: Decathlon — long jump.
8:45 pm: Men's 200 metres first round.
9:45 pm: Decathlon — shot put.
10:00 pm: Women's 200 metres first round.
3:15 am (Thurs): Women's shot put qualifying.
3:45 am (Thurs): Women's 100 metres hurdles semifinals.
4:15 am (Thurs): Men's 200 metres second round.
4:35 am (Thurs): Women's triple jump final.
4:45 am (Thurs): Women's 200 metres second round.
5:15 am (Thurs): Men's 400 metres hurdles semifinals.
5:30 am (Thurs): Men's discus final.
5:40 am (Thurs): Women's 400 metres final.
Badminton
7:00 pm: Women's doubles gold medal match.
8:30 pm: Men's doubles gold medal match.
5:00 am (Thurs): Women's singles bronze medal match.
6:30 am (Thurs): Men's singles bronze medal match.
8:00 am (Thurs): Mixed doubles bronze medal match.
Basketball
8:00 pm: Women's classification.
1:00 am (Thurs): Women's quarter-finals.
6:00 am (Thurs): Women's quarter-finals.
Soccer
4:00 am (Thurs): Nigeria v Brazil, first men's semifinal (Athens, Georgia).
Hockey
6:30 pm: Men's classification.
3:30 am (Thurs): Men's first semifinal.
Table Tennis
2:30 am (Thurs): Women's singles final.
5:00 am (Thurs): Men's singles first semifinal.
Tennis
9:00 pm: Women's singles semifinals.
11:00 pm: Men's doubles semifinals.




MEDALS TABLE

ATLANTA, July 30 (Reuter): Medals table after the 10th day of competition at the Atlanta Olympics on Monday (tabulated under gold, silver, bronze):

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
United States	24	20	11	63
Russia	18	13	10	41
France	13	6	12	31
Romania	10	12	8	30
Germany	10	11	19	40
Italy	10	6	9	25
Australia	7	8	16	31
Poland	6	5	3	14
Canada	5	2	5	12
Ukraine	4	5	6	15
Hungary	4	3	5	12
Greece	4	3	0	7
Cuba	3	5	7	15
South Korea	3	5	3	11
Japan	3	4	3	10
New Zealand	3	1	6	10
Ireland	3	0	1	4
Turkey	3	0	1	4
Switzerland	3	0	0	3
Brazil	2	6	6	14
Belgium	2	2	4	8
South Africa	2	0	1	3
Ethiopia	2	0	0	2
Belarus	1	4	7	12
Netherlands	1	3	8	12
Britain	1	3	5	9
Kazakhstan	1	3	1	5
Czech Republic 1	1	1	4	6
Finland	1	2	0	3
Spain	1	1	2	4
North Korea	1	1	1	3
Denmark	1	0	1	2
Slovakia	1	0	1	2
Yugoslavia	1	0	1	2
Armenia	1	0	0	1
Costa Rica	1	0	0	1
Ecuador	1	0	0	1
Hong Kong	1	0	0	1
Syria	1	0	0	1
Bulgaria	0	4	4	8
Sweden	0	2	1	3
Jamaica	0	2	0	2
Kenya	0	2	0	2
Austria	0	1	1	2
Norway	0	1	1	2
Argentina	0	1	0	1
Croatia	0	1	0	1
Namibia	0	1	0	1
Slovenia	0	1	0	1
Uzbekistan	0	1	0	1
Georgia	0	0	1	1
Israel	0	0	1	1
Mexico	0	0	1	1
Moldova	0	0	1	1
Mongolia	0	0	1	1
Morocco	0	0	1	1
Mozambique	0	0	1	1
Nigeria	0	0	1	1
Trinidad	0	0	1	1
Uganda	0	0	1	1

Wang wins 5,000m gold

ATLANTA, July 30: China's Wang Junxia won the inaugural Olympic women's 5,000 metres title on Sunday when she produced a startling burst of speed on the penultimate lap to race away from Kenya's Pauline Konga, reports Reuter.

Wang, who won the world 10,000 title three years ago in Stuttgart before disappearing from the international scene after a split with coach Ma Junren, clocked 14 minutes 59.88 seconds.

Konga, who took the lead after New Zealander Anne Hare had made the early pace, finished second in 15:03.49 with Italian Roberta Brunet collecting the bronze in 15:08.49.

Now it's thieves' turn to take their tolls!

ALBANY, Georgia, July 30: Thieves broke into the home of Olympics bomb victim Alice Hawthorne on Sunday while her husband was in Atlanta making funeral arrangements, police said, reports Reuter.

They smashed a window to get into the house and stole the family's video recorder and colour television.

Alice Hawthorne, 44, was so enthralled by the grandeur of the Olympics that she and her daughter Fallon made the 180-mile drive north from Albany to Atlanta to see it for themselves.

But the journey ended in bloody tragedy on Saturday when a homemade pipe bomb killed the woman and left her child on a hospital operating table.

Her 14-year-old daughter was among the 112 people injured in the blast. She underwent surgery at an Atlanta hospital for deep flesh wounds to her arms and legs but was expected to make a fully recovery.

Shouaa Syria's sweetheart

ATLANTA, July 30: Heptathlete Ghada Shouaa can expect a few delights on the road to Damascus after clinching Syria their first ever gold medal in the history of the Olympics on Sunday, reports Reuter.

When the 23-year-old Shouaa won the world title in the Swedish city of Gothenburg last year, she was greeted like a heroine when she returned home.

It was rumoured she was even presented with a house for the performance. This time, it could be a palace.

The road from the airport to Damascus is almost certain to be lined with people when Shouaa returns home after winning her country only their second Olympic medal after Joseph Atiyeh won a silver in the wrestling in 1984.

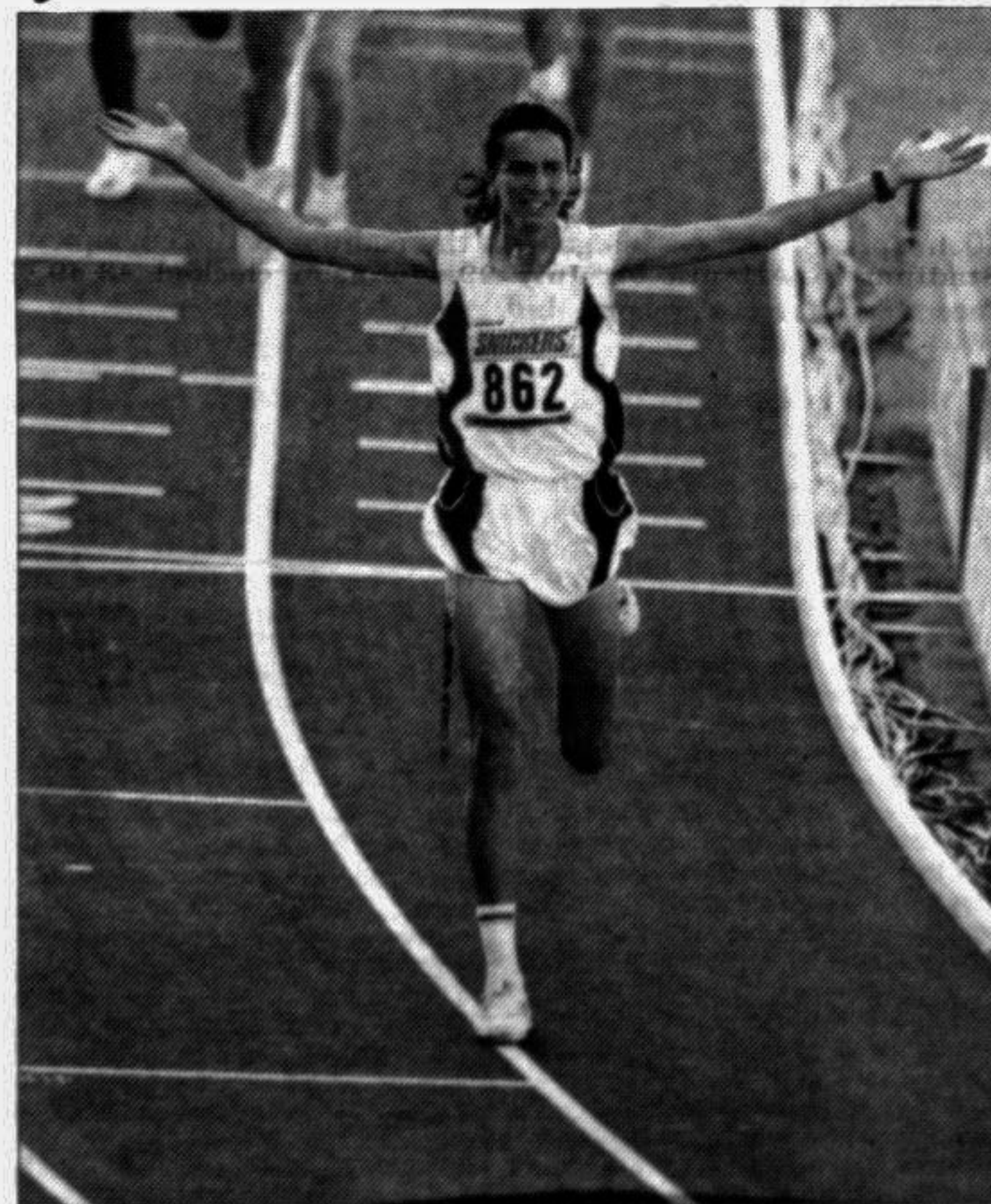
"It was a triumphant return last time," she said. "The people love to see their athletes win. I got a special message from the President last time."

Shouaa is not the most elegant and technical of athletes but she has immense power. As one rival once put it: "She makes the shot look like a pea when she picks it up."

It was fair comment. The javelin in her hands can look a bit like a dart sometimes and she sails over the high jump bar with an such effort as most people would use to jump onto their sofa to watch television.

"But it is not all physical. Determination is also important," she said. "I think my country is proud to have a winning athlete at the Olympic Games. I hope that this will help advance sport."

It took a while before the Syrian decided to concentrate on track and field, however. The towering Shouaa played



GHADA SHOUA ... first ever gold

international basketball for a while.

But, under coach Kim Bukhantsev, a former Russian discus thrower, she has matured into the most all-round of athletes.

She now has her sights on the 7,291-point world record of American Jackie Joyner-Kersey, who pulled out of the Atlanta competition after the

Seles' bubble burst



ATLANTA, July 30: With her shirt soaked and shoulders sagging, Monica Seles walked off the sunbaked court looking as though she had just completed an Olympic marathon.

Which she had.

She finished second. Jana Novotna, long hounded by a reputation for choking, refused to wilt in the midday heat. She ended Seles' bid for a medal Monday by winning a 2 1/2-hour quarterfinal duel 7-5, 3-6, 8-6, reports AP.

The match was this close: Each player won 115 points. "She played better than I did at crunch time," Seles said. Novotna's semifinal opponent will be No. 3 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain, who outlasted No. 8 Kimiko Date of Japan 4-6, 6-3, 10-8.

The other semifinal Wednesday will be between American friends Mary Joe Fernandez and Lindsay Davenport. Fernandez, seeded seventh, rallied past No. 2 Conchita Martinez of Spain 3-6, 6-2, 6-3. Davenport, seeded ninth, beat No. 4 Iva Majoli of Croatia 7-5, 6-3.

Andre Agassi and Maliva Washington are on course for an all-American men's final. The top-seeded Agassi plays No. 5 Wayne Ferreira of South Africa in Tuesday's quarterfinals, and No. 4 Washington faces unseeded Sergi Bruguera of Spain.

No. 14 Renzo Furlan of Italy plays Leander Paes of India, and Brazil's Fernando Meligeni meets Russia's Andri Olhoskiy in the other quarterfinals.

Seles was undecided whether to hang around for the action.

"I'll just play it by ear," she said.

Beginning with the opening ceremony, the top-seeded American established a hectic pace at her first Olympics. She stayed in the Athletes Village, attended events in other sports and enjoyed meeting fellow celebrities such as Muhammad Ali.

"For me this has been a great experience," she said. "It just would have been nice to do well."

Seles, usually at her best when in front, uncharacteristically lost leads of 5-3 in both the first and third sets against Novotna. The sixth-seeded Czech mounted comebacks with a mixture of tricks, charging the net relentlessly and hitting slices to make Seles come forward.

"I really didn't feel tired," Seles said. "I just had so many chances, and I didn't take advantage of them."

A Center Court crowd of 10,000, largest of the tournament, chanted and cheered in vain for Seles.

"I was playing against everybody," said Novotna, who also beat Seles in the quarterfinals of the French Open.



IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE: Russian sprinter Svetlana Masterkova (R) jubilates after winning the women's 800m run at the Olympic Stadium on July 29. — AFP/UNB photo

CENTENNIAL GAMES CHIPS

A RACE LIKE FAIRY TALE

ATLANTA, July 30 (AP, Reuter): Four years ago, Yelena Nikoloyeva won a silver medal in the Olympics. Now she has moved up to gold.

Nikoloyeva captured the 10,000-metre walk on Monday for Russia's first athletics gold and set an Olympic record with a time of 41 minutes, 48 seconds. Italy's Elisabetta Perrone took the silver and Wang Yan of China beat teammate Gao Hongmiao in a photo finish for the bronze.

"What a wonderful morning it was," exclaimed Nikoloyeva. "The end of the race was just like a fairy tale."

Not for Wang. "I am totally unsatisfied with my bronze," she said. "I aimed and hoped for the gold."

RUNNING FOR PEACE

Dieudonne Kwizera of Burundi had more on his mind than the 1,500-metre race. His country has been torn by internal strife and a coup was reported over the weekend.

Kwizera was disappointed with the political problems of his country.

"A lot of people are trying to divide Burundi," he said. "Burundi is all the same people with one language and the

same culture. You need two ethnic groups to divide a country. I don't believe Burundi wants to be divided for politics."

"I hope (athletics) will be useful in unifying my country. If I bring good news and they see me representing my country, it will help. I do not run for myself. I run for my country."

THE LOUDER THE BETTER

The enthusiasm of the home fans has had a positive impact on the American athletes.

"It helps," said Bryan Bronson, who advanced in the 400-metre hurdles. "They push you along when you're tired."

Long jumper Mike Powell agreed. "Now I know how it feels like for the European guys when they're at home. These guys are in our home now."

The crowds at Olympic Stadium have frequently amused themselves by doing a wave, especially when they waited for marathoners or walkers to enter the track for the final moments of their races.

Performing in front of 80,000-plus fans on Monday was an unusual experience for Anthony Washington, a finalist in the discus.

"I like the noise. The louder the better," he said. "We discuss

throwers usually throw in front of five or six guys. We could take our clothes off and nobody would notice."

INTERNET TURNING INTO INCUBUS

The bomber who brought terror to the Atlanta Olympics would have had easy Internet computer access to instruction on how to make an explosive device, network security experts say.

They warn that the Internet, used by millions of Americans every day, has become a virtual textbook for terrorists.

The blast was caused by a simple, crude pipe bomb packed with screws and nails for shrapnel — a device which could have been made by anyone with access to a computer.

"I wouldn't want to but I know that the menu and recipe for putting all these types of explosive devices together could be gotten out of a computer or almost anywhere," said David Tubbs, the FBI special agent leading the Atlanta investigation.

A quick check of the world wide Web, the Internet browsing system turns up a handful of recipes for bombs of all descriptions, ranging from adolescent stink bombs to genuinely dangerous devices and grenades.

England swallow Pak potion

LONDON, July 30: Mushtaq Ahmed and Waqar Younis produced an irresistible combination of wrist-spin and swing bowling to sweep Pakistan to a 164-run victory over England in the first Test at Lord's on Monday, reports Reuter.

England, who faces an improbable target of 408 to win, collapsed from 168 for one to 243 all out as their last nine wickets went for 75 in a dramatic session after lunch on the fifth and last day.

Leg-spinner Mushtaq captured five for 57 and Waqar's speed and lethal yorkers brought him final figures of four for 85 as Pakistan took a 1-0 lead in the three-Test series.

England, 74 for one overnight, were making a resolute effort to save the match under the influence of a second-wicket stand of 154 between captain Mike Atherton, with 64, and Alec Stewart, top scorer on 89.

However, the whole shape of the game was transformed when Mushtaq, having bowled beautifully but without reward from over the wicket, decided to switch to round the wicket immediately after lunch.

The little wrist-spinner soon struck the first, and perhaps most significant, blow by dismissing Atherton.

Atherton pushed forward at a leg break which he edged to substitute Asif Mujtaba at first slip. The England skipper, missed by wicketkeeper Rashid Latif on 19 late on Sunday, faced 211 balls and hit eight fours.

Stewart's impressive innings ended soon after Atherton's departure when he left a delivery from Mushtaq but failed to get his gloves fully out of the way and gave Mujtaba his second catch at slip.

Waqar despatched Graeme Hick for four in similar fashion to the first innings, producing a superb yorker to which the Zimbabwe-born batsman had no answer as it crashed into his stumps.

Mushtaq then bowled Mark Ealham round his legs for one, deceiving the batsman with a ball of fuller length, before Waqar accelerated England's decline by firing out Jack Russell and Dominic Cork.

Russell (1) pushed forward to a delivery moving away from him to be caught behind by Latif, and Cork (3) was comprehensively beaten by a swinging ball that removed his leg stump.

Graham Thorpe, having

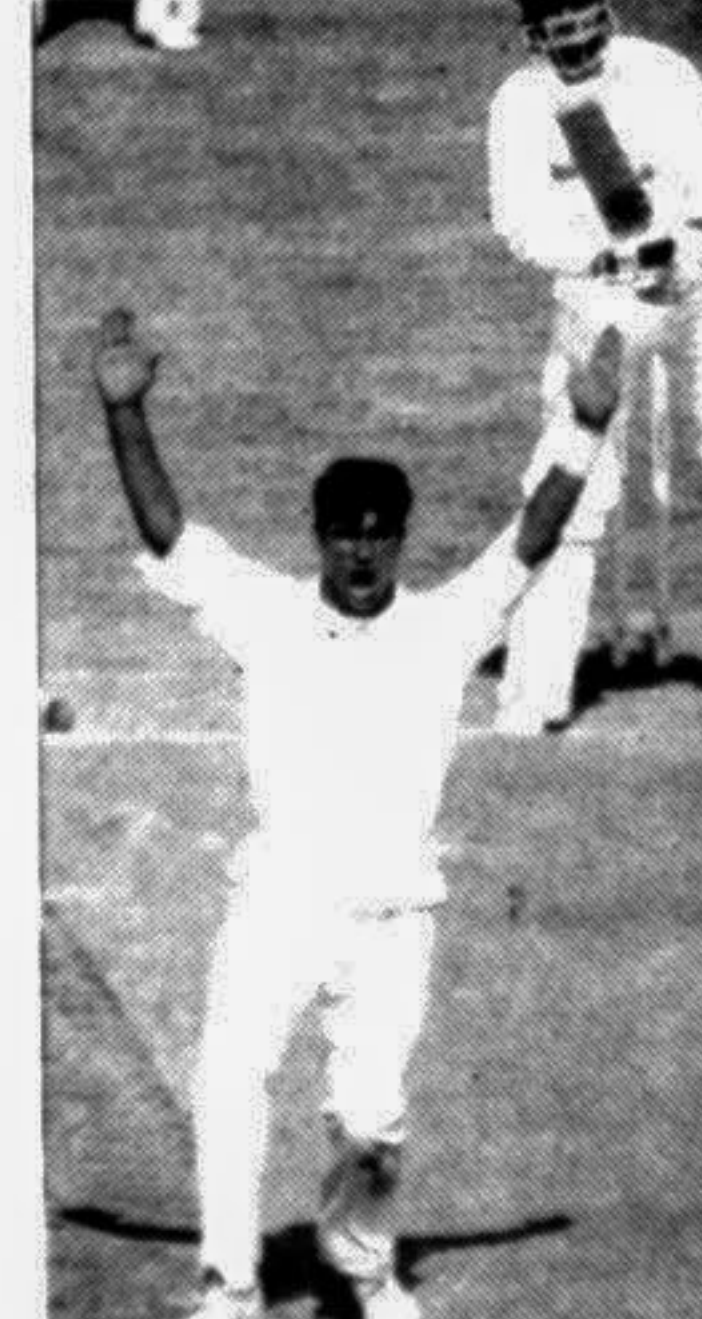
held on for 61 minutes while wickets tumbled at the other end, was given out leg before for three to a quicker delivery from Mushtaq.

Mushtaq removed Alan Mullally (6) with the aid of a catch at silly mid-off, his fifth wicket coming in 57 balls at a cost of only 11 runs.

Pakistan's attempts to polish off the innings were held up by last pair Ian Salisbury (40) and Simon Brown (10), who put on 35 before the former swung at a short ball from Wasim Akram and was caught behind.

After the victory captain Wasim Akram said, "We are capable of beating any team in the world and we are going up to Leeds to try and finish off the series."

Fast bowler Waqar Younis,



WAQAR YUNIS ... m-o-m

who had an eight-wicket match haul, concurred: "I hardly use the pitch — the yorker is my main weapon."

"I had a back injury last year and then a bit of hamstring trouble but I got my rhythm back."

Wrist-wizard Mushtaq Ahmed said "I was always confident of getting wickets on that track because although it was slow, it was also turning. We want to go on and win the series 3-0 now."

Meanwhile, England coach David Lloyd is determined to develop a formula to overcome Pakistan's ability to run through a batting line-up in whirlwind style.

"We've talked about how we

can combat this sort of thing," said Lloyd. "But Waqar has taken a lot of wickets at Test match level and he's no mug that's for sure."

"They are classy bowlers when it comes to getting into a batting line-up. They can swing the ball late and that makes it very difficult to defend against."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the final day of the first cricket Test between England and Pakistan at Lord's on Monday.

PAKISTAN: First innings 340 (Inzamamul Haq 148, Saeed Anwar 74).

ENGLAND: First innings 285 (G. Thorpe 77, N. knight 51; Rehman 4-50, Waqar 4-69).

PAKISTAN: Second innings 352-5 declared (Saeed Anwar 88, Ijaz Ahmed 76, Inzamamul Haq 70).

ENGLAND: Second innings (overnight 74 for one)
Knight lbw b Waqar 64
Atherton c sub b Mushtaq 61
Stewart c sub b Mushtaq 89
Thorpe lbw b Mushtaq 3
Hick b Waqar 4
Ealham b Mushtaq 5
Russell c Latif b Waqar 1
Cork b Waqar 3
Salisbury c Latif b Akram 40
Mullally c sub b Mushtaq 6
Brown not out 10
Extras: (b-6, lb-7, nb-4) 17
Total: 243

Fall of wickets: 1-14; 2-168; 3-171; 4-176; 5-181; 6-182; 7-186; 8-186; 9-208.

BOWLING
O M R W
Akram 21.1 5 45 1
Waqar 25 3 85 4
Mushtaq 38 15 57 5
Rehman 11 2 33 0
Malik 1 0 1 0
Kabir 1 0 9 0

Result: Pakistan won by 164 runs.

Man of the match: Waqar Younis
Second Test: Leeds (Headingley), August 8-12
Third Test: London (Oval), August 22-26.

Surrey share the lead

LONDON, July 30: Surrey sustained their assault on three English cricket titles after an inspirational stand of 195 between Adam Hooloake and Nadeem Shahid put them joint top of the county championship on Monday, reports Reuter.

All-rounder Hooloake lashed an unbeaten 104 and Shahid hit 101 to fire Surrey to a five-wicket victory over Hampshire with five balls left after being set to score 330 in 54 overs.