

Olympic Update

Because you pay to win...



Column One

Sports WHIZZ KID

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-48

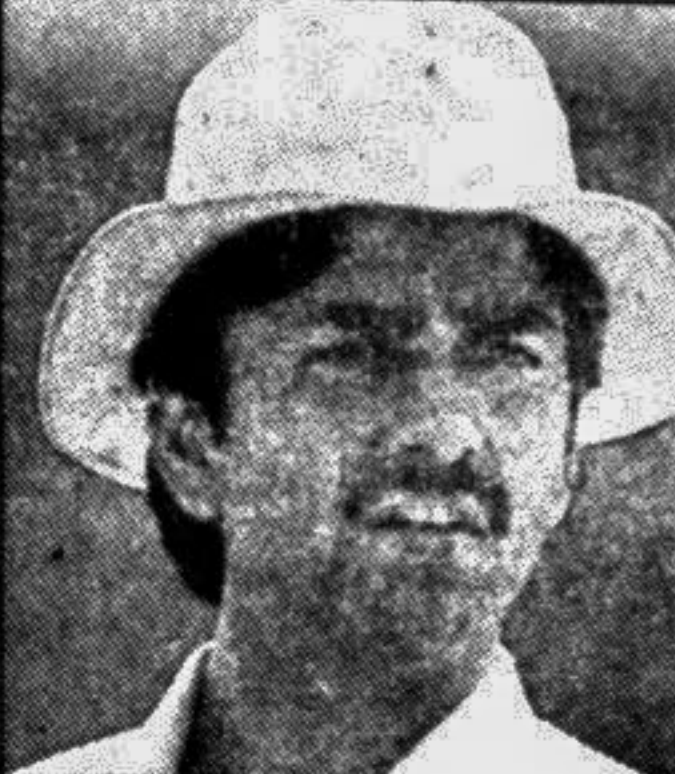
Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. August 2, 1996)

1. Which country won the first gold in Atlanta Olympics?	France	United States	Germany
2. In weightlifting, who is called as 'Pocket Hercules'?	Muhammad Ali	Suleymanov	Leonov
3. The first ever Belgian to win Olympic gold in swimming is	Borghese	Pappas	Perkas
4. The century Inzamam scored in the Lord's Test was his	Seventh	Fourth	Fifth
5. When did Muhammad Ali win his light-heavyweight Olympic gold?	1964	1958	1960

Name: _____
 Class: _____ Roll No: _____
 School Address: _____
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SPORTS TALK



Manoj Prabhakar
 (Former Indian cricketer)
 "If Sachin (Tendulkar) is made skipper now the burden of captaincy may affect his game."

DMFA's video vigil

Sports Reporter
 The Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) has decided to record all the matches of the forthcoming Senior Division football leagues, scheduled to kick-off on August 12 at the Dhaka and Mirpur Stadium simultaneously.

In this regard the DMFA has asked the interested video recording centres to contact them at the Dhaka Stadium office by August 5.

Federation Cup karate on

Sports Reporter
 The second Federation Cup karate tournament '96, organised by the Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation, began at the National Indoor Stadium, Mirpur, yesterday.

Fallon's dream day-out

ATLANTA, Aug 1: The 14-year-old daughter of the woman killed in Atlanta's Olympic Park bombing left her hospital bed on Tuesday for a private meeting with members of the American basketball "Dream Team", reports Reuters.

Fallon Stubbs was with her mother Alice Hawthorne when a pipe bomb exploded in the early hours of Saturday.

Hawthorne died and Fallon sustained deep flesh wounds to her arms and legs.

At the "Dream Team's" hotel on Tuesday, Fallon's face lit up with a broad smile when she was introduced to star forward Charles Barkley, who presented her his practice jersey.

Other players gave her basketball shoes, signed balls and posed for pictures at a private meeting.



Brazilian striker Ronaldo skips a desperate challenge by Nigeria's Taribo West during their Olympic football semifinal encounter on July 31. The Africans upset the South Americans 4-3 in extra-time. — AFP/UNB photo

Brazil's dream shattered

ATHENS, Georgia, Aug 1: The band played. The fans danced, sang, hugged each other and everybody else. There was a wild party at Sanford Stadium, and, incredibly, it was not staged by the Brazilians.

Instead, Nigerian fans celebrated an incredible 4-3 overtime defeat of Brazil in an Olympic soccer semifinal that came off the foot of lanky Nwankwo Kanu, report agencies.

Kanu, who celebrates his 20th birthday Thursday, is the youngest player but already the captain of the Nigerian squad. He scored an equaliser in the last minute of regulation time, then struck four minutes into sudden-death overtime to give Nigeria a berth in the gold medal match against Argentina.

The Ajax Amsterdam star described his heroics matter-of-factly.

"The first goal, I just saw the ball, chipped it up and then turned and drove it home," Kanu said. "The second was typical of the goals I used to score in Ajax. I saw the two defenders, they started turning back and I shot past them."

Brazil, who have never won an Olympic gold despite winning the World Cup four times, went 3-1 up in the first-half and missed two good chances early in the second.

The Brazilian players, who had taken the competition almost as seriously as the World Cup, collapsed in despair and disbelief while "the jubilant

Africans completed a lap of honour.

Brazil coach Mario Zagallo, who was present as either coach, assistant coach or player on each of the occasions Brazil won the World Cups, looked pallid and was lost for words.

"This is an unbelievable defeat for us," he said. "The game was in our hands but we ended up losing. It was a magnificent win for Nigeria and I congratulate them."

Led by 20-million man dollars Ronaldo and Bebeto, one of the heroes of Brazil's 1994 World Cup victory, Brazil will have to play only for the bronze medal against Portugal.

Kanu's goals capped a thrilling comeback by Nigeria, which had already lost a close 1-0 decision to Brazil in preliminary play.

Nigeria was down 3-1 at halftime and was often outclassed by Brazil in the first half.

When Jay-Jay Okocha took a penalty and shot it weakly at the knees of diving Brazilian goalkeeper Dida with 27 minutes left, there seemed no hope left.

"We saw that the Brazilians were getting tired and that we were creating chances. We believed in ourselves," said Kanu, who won a European Cup title with Ajax Amsterdam and has now signed for Inter Milan.

Brazil took a second minute lead when Flavio Conceicao struck a low free-kick which took a deflection as it went through the defensive wall and beat goalkeeper Joseph Dossu.

Brazil relaxed and Nigeria, after causing several scares, were rewarded for some enterprising play with an equaliser in the 20th minute.

Roberto Carlos sliding Celestine Babayara's shot into his own goal.

Brazil regained the lead eight minutes later, immediately after Tijani Babangida had won an excellent chance to pit Nigeria ahead.

Dosu failed to hold a low shot by Ronaldo and the ball ran loose to Bebeto, who shot into an empty net. Nine minutes later Juninho laid off a delightful pass with his chest to Flavio Conceicao who scored with aplomb.

Nigeria came storming back after Ronaldo had wasted two excellent chances to put Brazil 4-1 up immediately after half-time, when it looked as if the Africans might suffer a rout.

Nigeria were awarded a penalty in 63rd minute for a foul on Daniel Amokachi, who appeared to fall over rather than be pushed, but Okacha shot weakly at Dida.

Undeterred, Nigeria continued to play flowing football and in the 77th minute substitute victor Ikebeba scored with a low powerful shot in a move set up after West had dispossessed Bebeto.

After Kanu's "golden goal," Nigeria's players hugged each other, broke into dancing, ran to the section of the stadium crowded with their brass band and carried their Dutch coach Johannes Bonfrere on their shoulders.

The band, dressed in green-and-white Nigerian colours, kept up a furious rhythm all throughout the second half.

This generation of Nigerian players won the Under-17 world title in 1993. Now it has the chance for its first big victory. The 1998 World Cup in France could be the next step.

Deng teaches Chen a lesson

ATLANTA, Aug 1: Four events, four gold medals. That's the Olympic report on Chinese table tennis ace Deng Yaping, who had to overcome a stubborn challenge from Taiwan's Chen Jing to win No. 4, reports AP.

Deng completed her second consecutive sweep of the women's singles and doubles titles with a 21-14, 21-17, 20-22, 17-21, 21-5 victory over Chen.

International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch was in the stands to watch Deng's match and presented her with the gold medal.

Chinese players will meet in the gold medal match of men's singles.

Liu Guliang downed Joerg Rosskopf of Germany 21-17, 18-21, 21-18, 21-18 in one semifinal Wednesday and Wang Tao defeated Petr Korbel of the Czech Republic 23-21, 21-7, 21-16 in the other.

Deng won the doubles title with Qiao Hong earlier in the week and took both events four years ago — beating Qiao in the singles and teaming with her in the doubles in Barcelona.

Ironically, Chen won the gold medal in 1988 in singles when she was competing for China. She also won silver and bronze medals in World Championships for China before moving to Taiwan.

DMFA against major shake-up

Sports Reporter

With the senior division football leagues only eleven days away, the organisers, Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA), is expected to experience a major re-shuffle within a next couple of days following an unexpected resignation of its president M Azizul Huq on Tuesday.

But insiders in the DMFA, the apex body for the Dhaka-based clubs, have made it clear that they would not tolerate any injudicious move by the National Sports Council (NSC), the appointing authority of DMFA.

"This is high time. The league is only eleven days away and we are yet to prepare ourselves for the occasion. But the sudden resignation of our president has put an spoke in our smooth going," said a dejected DMFA general secretary Mozammel Huq Mukta to this reporter last night.

"We are yet to announce the disciplinary committee for the upcoming league. Besides, in the wake of an widespread speculation of a major re-shuffle in the existing body, everything remains stagnant. Nobody feels like working now," said Mukta. "The authorities concerned must do something immediately to end the stalemate. Otherwise the league will suffer a setback."

When asked to elaborate, Mukta categorically said that at this moment his committee wants an immediate appointment of a president. "The NSC can easily help out appointing one of our two vice-presidents as president without any major shake-up in the existing committee."

"We will not tolerate any imprudent move," said Mukta without further elaboration. But the obese organiser from Bangladesh Boys while focusing on the recent change in the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), opined that the newly appointed ad-hoc committee of the BFF ignored most of the clubs.

"Any way that is the national body. But DMFA is purely a club-oriented organisation. So, the authorities concerned should have to be careful enough before any change," said Mukta.

He further added, they have already discussed the issue in a meeting of the Dhaka Metropolitan Club Association (DMCA) recently. And most of the representatives have expressed their dismay by the way allotment of members in the BFF has been made.

Meanwhile, the two-tier Senior Division football leagues involving 20 clubs, will commence from August 12.

Johnson rallies behind Lewis

ATLANTA, Aug 1: Michael Johnson attempted to bury the hatchet with Carl Lewis here on Wednesday by stepping into the US relay controversy and calling for Lewis to be selected, reports AP.

The 400m gold medalist, who had clashed with Lewis on Monday after suggesting it was time for Lewis to stand down from his pedestal as the world's premier athlete, said: "Carl Lewis has more experience than the rest of us put together."

"If I was the coach I would pick him."

Earlier in the day Lewis' hopes of a record third Olympic gold medal were dashed when US track and field head coach Erv Hunt ruled him out of contention.

Tyros steal the show

ATLANTA, Aug 1: Jamaica's Deon Hemmings and Ludmila Engquist of Sweden stole the light, and the gold, from their US rivals, but Michael Johnson and Dan O'Brien made steady progress to clinch Olympic titles Thursday, report agencies.

Engquist won the 100-metre hurdles, ahead of Slovenia's Brigita Bukovec and Patricia Girard-Leno of France, who outleaped favourite Gail Devers at the finish line for the bronze.

It spoiled Devers' attempt to clinch a 100m dash and 100m hurdles double, after she already came tantalisingly close in the 1992 Games, winning the 100m and leading the hurdles before tripping over the final obstacle.

In the women's 400 hurdles, Hemmings upset two Americans — world-record holder Kim Batten and Tonja Buford-Bailey — and set an

Africa won the silver medal — the first medal for a black South African — and Kenyan Fred Onyancha won bronze.

Inessa Kravets of Ukraine won the women's triple jump and Germany's Lars Riedel won the men's discus — as expected.

Kravets, long jump silver medalist in Barcelona, cleared 15.33 metres, 35 cm clear off Inna Lasovskaya of Russia.

What was not expected was that an injury would force the great pole vaulter Sergei Bubka to withdraw before attempting a single vault.

The greatest pole vaulter in history left his second straight Olympics in disappointment. Bubka, the world-record holder and five-time world champion, withdrew with a right Achilles tendon injury.

Bubka won Olympic gold in 1988. He was the favourite in 1992, but failed to clear any

Wednesday as he failed to turn up for the start of the 5,000m. Gebreselassie, who won the 10,000 title on Monday, was hoping to become the first man to clinch the double since fellow countryman Mirus Yifter 16 year ago.

But the rock-hard Atlanta track saw the Ethiopian, who holds the world record for both distances, hobble away from his first gold medal with excruciating pain in both feet.

Valerie Brisco-Hooks won the women's 200m and 400m at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, but some of her chief rivals boycotted the games. Marie-Jose Perek of France, who won the women's 400m Monday, advanced Wednesday in the 200m with the fastest time of 22.24 in the second round.

After five events in the decathlon, O'Brien led with 4,592 points and Germany's Frank Busemann was second with 4,468. American Chris Huffins was fourth with 4,448.

Fu Mingxia added the springboard gold medal Wednesday night to her Olympic platform title, the first woman in 36 years to win both, as China continued to assert its diving dominance.

Fu scored 547.68 points, while Irina Lashko of Russia won the silver medal with 512.19 and Annie Pelletier of Canada took the bronze with 509.64.

Reclusive North Korea decided at the last moment to enter these Olympics, and wrestler Kim Il came out of retirement to defend his 1992 gold medal. It all paid off Wednesday.

Two Russians and two Americans also triumphed. Five more freestyle wrestling golds were to be decided Friday.

Fighting in the lightest weight division, 48 kilograms (105.5 pounds), Kim won his second Olympic gold with a 5-4 victory over Armen Mkrtchyan of Armenia.

Paea earns Tonga's first

ATLANTA, Aug 1: Paea Wolfgram won Tonga's first Olympic medal and caused one of the great upsets of Olympic boxing history on Wednesday when he beat Cuban super-heavyweight Alexis Rubalcaba, reports Reuters.

The quarter-final clash followed another significant but less stuffing defeat for the mighty Cubans when US featherweight Floyd Mayweather beat Lorenzo Aragon.

Mayweather's 12-11 victory made him the first American to beat a Cuban boxer in the Olympics since 1976.

The losses left the Cubans with seven semifinalists, who are guaranteed medals, and the US team with six.



Swede Ludmila Engquist embraces Slovenia's Brigita Bukovec after winning the Olympic 100m sprint final on July 31. Bukovec finished second. — AFP/UNB photo

Olympic record in 52.82 for the first individual gold medal ever for a Jamaican woman.

Norway's Verboern Rodal was another surprise winner in the men's 800m, finishing in an Olympic record of 1 minute, 42.58 seconds.

Hezekiel Sepeng of South

jumps in the final. He also was the favourite in Atlanta.

Also failing to qualify for the pole vault final was medal favourite Okkert Brits of South Africa, failing to clear any of his three vaults.

Haile Gebreselassie of Ethiopia gave up in dream of a glorious Olympic double on

CENTENNIAL GAMES CHIPS

CRAZY COUPLE

ATLANTA, Aug 1 (Reuters/AP): The wife of top International Olympic Committee member Dick Pound was arrested on Wednesday when she kneed a policeman in the groin after the officer tried to stop the couple jaywalking, police said, reports Reuters.

Canadian Julie Pound was charged with obstruction, abusive language and simple battery after the incident on a busy intersection in central Atlanta early on Wednesday morning.

She had to be handcuffed, according to the arresting officer's report, which said Pound, 56, had the "odour of alcohol on her breath and continued to act irrationally."

Pound sustained a small scratch on her right wrist when arrested and the officer suffered a bruised inner thigh, the police report said.

Dic Pound is one of the most prominent members of the IOC and is credited with pulling off a series of big money television rights and sponsorship deals.

TURN-OUT FOR T-SHIRTS

Bedlam erupted at the Olympic Village in Wednesday when athletes were offered free T-shirts.

Extra security guards, had to be hastily summoned when athletes clambered on to the village disco stage to grab fistfuls of T-shirts being offered by a clothing company.

The idea of the sponsor was for each athlete to take a bunch of different-sized T-shirts and then swap them with another athlete of a suitable size.

International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch got the ball rolling by swapping the first T-shirt with athletes.

But after he left, the situation started to get out of hand, athletes ended up taking whole boxes and ripping out the T-shirts.

"We had a much larger turn-

out than expected," a company spokesman said after order was restored.

BET PAID OFF

When Central State University went to Jamaica to recruit some track athletes, the Ohio school liked five prospects and came back to Ohio with six.

The wild card was Deon Hemmings, who won the gold medal in the Olympic 400-meter hurdles Wednesday night.

"It was a package deal," Hemmings said. "Four girls and two guys. Five were good. I came for the academics."

"The deal was if you take five then you must also take her. I could help with the academics."

It paid off handsomely. Some became the first Jamaican woman to win an individual gold medal.

TALE OF TWO BROTHERS

It is unusual for an Olympic athlete to root openly for another who has just defeated

Women's b'ball results

ATLANTA, Aug 1: Lisa Leslie scored 35 points to help the United States beat Japan 108-93 in the Olympic women's basketball quarterfinals on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

Leslie's tally set a new US Olympic mark, and teammate Katrina McClain equalled the country's games record for rebounds with 16.

Australia, with Michelle Brogan top scoring with 17 points, pulled off a 74-70 overtime win over Russia.

They earned their semifinal berth against the undefeated US team by staying cool at the foul line in a game that saw several near fights with the Russians.

Brazil stayed undefeated by beating Cuba 101-69, their second three-figure points total of the tournament.

The Brazilians will face Ukraine in the other semifinal who beat Italy 59-50.

him. Not for the brothers Jabralov.

As soon as Elmadi Jabralov, 30, of Kazakhstan defeated brother Lucman, 34, of Moldova 10-8 at 82 kilos (180 1/2 pounds) in Olympic freestyle wrestling, big brother became little brother's biggest fan.

The two brothers once wrestled together, but went their separate and disparate ways following the breakup of the Soviet Union. They remain close, but see each other now mostly at international tournaments.

Both are former world champions, Elmadi in 1989 and Lucman in 1994, but neither won a medal in these Olympics.

STRUG ON THE MAKE

Kerri Strug, Olympic gymnast, is about to become an actress-endorser-motivational speaker.

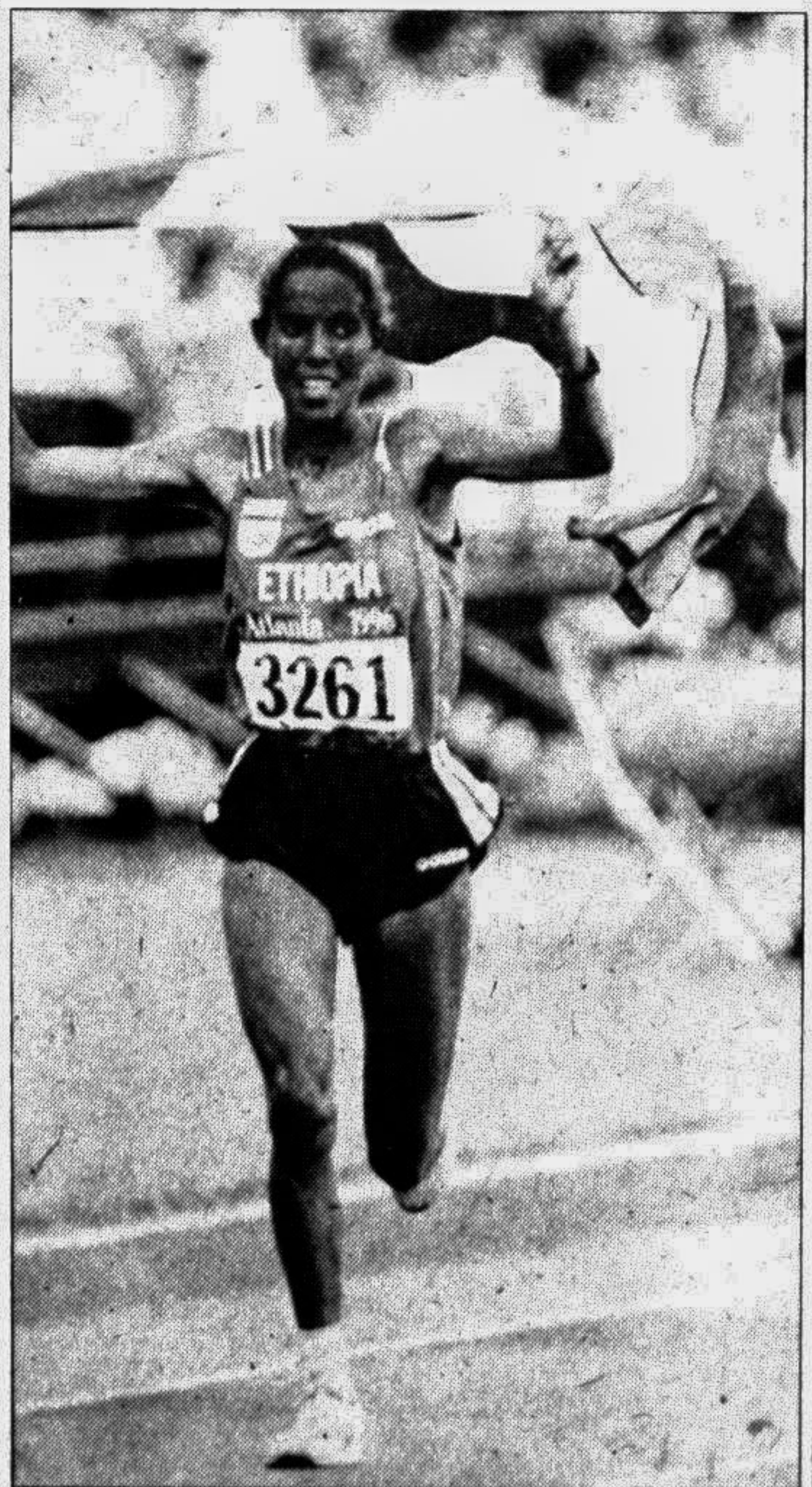
Strug, 18, spent Wednesday going through the stack of offers she has received since she vaulted through the pain of an injury left ankle and into Olympic lore, helping America win its first women's team Olympic gold medal.

Strug debated whether to turn pro or keep her college athletic scholarship. She decided to cash in Tuesday afternoon, then made it public in an NBC television interview.

"She's looking at everything from movie deals to a lot of corporate companies, speaking engagements," said Sheryl Shade, who is serving as an adviser to the family and among those trying to become Strug's agent.

Strug already has agreed to join her six teammates on a nationwide tour that begins in September. Details of the contract were still being finalised Wednesday.

The tour, which pays each gymnast roughly 1,500 dollars per night, was scheduled to make 31 stops but has already been extended because the first show sold out in two days. A second stop has been added there.



Fatuma Roba of Ethiopia goes on a lap of honour after winning the Olympic marathon on July 28. — AFP/UNB photo