

Column One SPORTS TALK



Sanath Jayasuriya (Explosive Sri Lanka opener) 'I felt the same way the Pakistanis might have felt when I was holding the centre-stage. It's a good experience.'

**Roost sports WHIZZ KID**  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
**Competition-75**  
✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Competition closes at 8 pm, August 8, '97

1 Who is the soccer coach of AC Milan?	Sacchi	Capello	Tubarez
2 Who lifted the Legg Mason Classic tennis title this year?	Korda	Chang	Wheaton
3 Which is the new club of Roberto Baggio?	Bologna	Atletico	Vicenza
4 Who won the All Sports 7th schools kabaddi title?	Millat	Rifles	Nawabpur
5 Who scored the first hat-trick in this year's Federation Cup football?	Iqbal	Al-Amin	Sohag

Name .....  
Class ..... Roll No. ....  
School Address .....  
Phone: (If any) .....

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ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Peter returns to prison

STUTTGART, Germany, July 29: The father of tennis star Steffi Graf arrived at a German prison hospital on Monday to begin a sentence for evading millions of dollars worth of tax on his daughter's income, state justice officials said, reports Reuters.

Peter Graf was sentenced in January to three years and nine months in jail for evading or trying to evade 12 million marks (dollars 6.5 million) of tax, the verdict became legally binding last month after prosecutors dropped their appeal against it.

Graf will probably only have to serve two thirds of his sentence in total, meaning he may be out of prison as early as next year because he has already served 15 months in investigative custody.

Justice officials said Graf had begun his jail term in a prison hospital because he wanted a health check-up. They said they would decide in the next few weeks where he would spend the rest of his sentence.

The Mannheim court which released Graf on bail last November had ordered him to receive psychotherapy. His mental health during his time in investigative custody was the subject of German newspaper speculation.

The Graf family's former tax adviser, Joachim Eckardt, who was sentenced to two and a half years in jail for complicity, also began his term on Monday in a Frankfurt prison.

Steffi's father has been the most important figure in the life of the former world number one, who first started playing the game when she was hardly bigger than a tennis racket.

Peter Graf acted as her mentor, manager and adviser and the two were virtually inseparable until he was arrested in August 1995 after tax officials raided their homes.

Prosecutors in March dropped investigations against Steffi Graf herself, who is out of the game at the moment with a knee injury, after she agreed to make a donation to charity. Media reports put the sum at 1.3 million marks (dollars 700,000).

Steffi says she knew little about her financial affairs, entrusting them to her father from the start of her career.

The 28-year-old, who has slipped to fifth place in the world rankings and who was unable to defend her Wimbledon title last month and will miss the US Open, has recently said she was considering retiring because of persistent injury.

Mike facing the music



LEEDS, July 29: In the wake of England's humiliating fourth Test defeat, chairman of selectors David Graveney has admitted it's time to inject some fresh talent into the line-up, reports AP.

Down 2-1 in the six-match series, England team seems on its way to losing the Ashes for the sixth time in a row.

Now Graveney and his fellow selectors Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting are faced with the task of assembling a new outfit which would give England every chance of winning the final two Tests, or at least salvage some pride with a win at either Trent Bridge or the Oval.

"We must not be panicked into wholesale changes," said Graveney. "But at the same time, we have to give ourselves the best possible chance. We need an injection."

In the second Test at Lord's, England was bowled out for 77 before rain saved the day. England's last four innings have been 172, 268, 162 and 200 and have led to two consecutive defeats.

England's top order must be tampered with, and there is a strong case for calling up the brothers Adam and Ben Hollis, even Glen Morgan, opener Stephen James, who last week became the first player to reach 1,000 runs this country season.

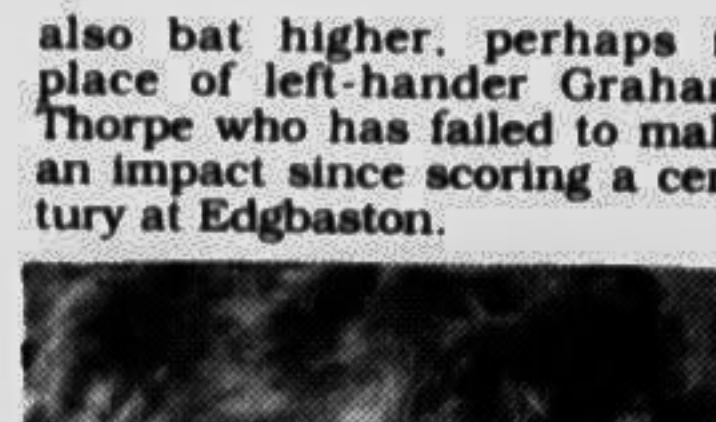
Adam Hollis, 25, starred in all three one-dayers for England while 19-year-old Ben has played two match-winning knocks at Lord's this year.

Playing England's best batsman further up the order may also contribute to the "injection" Graveney is craving for.

Nasser Hussain and John Crawley are clearly the form players of the series so far.

Hussain, the present No. 4, scored a double century in the first Test and a gutsy 105 at Headingley. He is England's leading run-getter with 307 runs, and could be more useful at No. 3, allowing wicketkeeper batsman Alec Stewart to drop down to No. 6.

Crawley, presently batting at No. 6, has scored 83 and 72 in his last three innings and could



also bat higher, perhaps in place of left-hander Graham Thorpe who has failed to make an impact since scoring a century at Edgbaston.

The pressure does seem to be affecting Atherton, who publicly insulted an MCC member on the fourth morning of the match after hearing him describe England's performance on the field as "garbage".

The British press is already calling for Atherton's scalp, suggesting Surrey captain Adam Hoolioke be England's next leader.

Monday's Daily Mail put it bluntly: "the question is not if Atherton should quit, but when?"

Atherton, who said he will review his position at the end of the Ashes series, has often indicated he believes a four-year cycle is a natural life span for a captain.

Atherton at least has the support of Graveney, who himself is feeling the pressure at the end of the honeymoon period which began with England's 3-0 whitewash in the one-day series and ended when England escaped defeat at Lord's.

"What's hurting Michael Atherton more than anything is that the chances have been created in the last two tests — but they have not been taken," said Graveney.

"But Atherton is very strong — that's why he's captain — and I've said often enough that I have the highest regard for him both as a cricketer and as a man."

"We have to be strong people together. People are hurting in our dressing room — the players are hurting, the captain is and so am I."

"In this position I do feel you have to stand back for a couple of days," added Graveney.

On the bowling side of things, medium pacerman Andrew Caddick, who took five wickets at Edgbaston, is likely to be recalled in place of Headingley debutant Mike Smith, who failed to take a wicket in his first Test.

Selectors will also be watching former Test speedster Dominic Cork, who has been sidelined with injuries but last week took six wickets for Derbyshire.

said Atherton, England's longest-serving captain with 44 Tests. "It is difficult to win the next two Tests. But we need to start playing a lot better."

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Pioneer soccer

Sports Reporter

Gazipur Eleven and Deba Sangsard recorded their first win in Pioneer Division Super league played at different city venues yesterday.

At the Rajuk ground adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium, the Gazipur boys blanked Parado-gair Krira Chakra 2-0 to celebrate their first win after a disappointing start. Bishwajit gave the winners a 25th minute lead before Harris struck the second midway through the second half to seal the fate of the match.

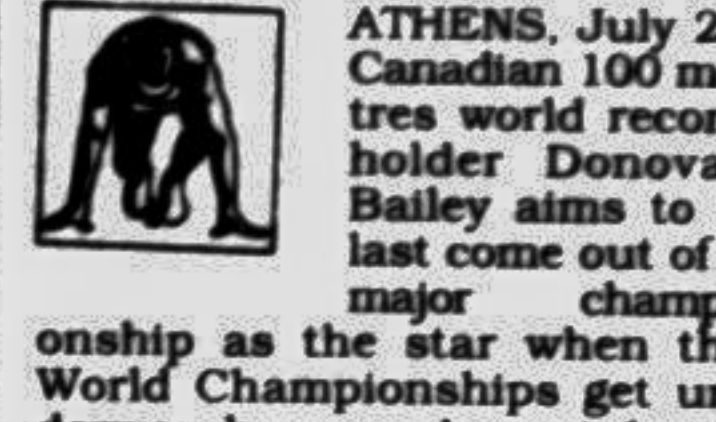
With this win Gazipur earned three points on completion of their two group league engagements.

In the other match of the day at the Mohakhali T & T ground, Deba Sangsard came from behind to post a 2-1 win against Badsha Smriti Sangsard.

Depak gave Deba Sangsard the much-needed equaliser 14th minutes after Shafique shot Badsha Smriti Sangsard into the lead in the 20th minute.

While Sumon scored the match-decider in the 55th minute. It was Deba Sangsard's first victory from two matches.

Wishing an end of ordeal



ATHENS, July 29: Canadian 100 metres world record holder, Donovan Bailey aims to at last come out of a major championship as the star when the World Championships get underway here on August 1, reports AFP.

The 29-year-old Bailey, yet another Jamaican born athlete to have transferred to the maple leaf banner of Canada, is the dual world and Olympic 100 metres champion and like his disgraced former compatriot Ben Johnson broke the world record in the final.

However, every time his achievement has been overshadowed by other events.

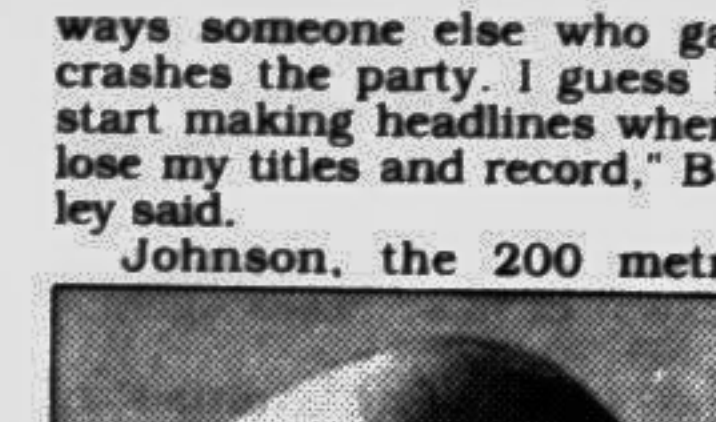
His world title in Gothenburg in 1995 was tarnished by reigning champion Linford Christie running the final with an injury and dramatically collapsing over the finishing line while his world record performance was again overshadowed by Christie when he was disqualified from the final.

Bailey, who gave up being a marketing consultant to concentrate on athletics, then claimed the tag of being the fastest man in the world as he beat Michael Johnson in a 150 metres duel at Toronto.

Though again his win was blemished by the fact that Johnson pulled up with an injured guardrail.

"It beats me how everytime I do something good there is always someone else who gate crashes the party. I guess I'll start making headlines when I lose my titles and record," Bailey said.

Johnson, the 200 metres



world record holder, sparks off something darker in the normally affable and urbane Bailey, who enjoys good relations with his main 100 metres competitors such as Frankie Fredericks and Linford Christie.

"I don't go round making personal knocking comments about Johnson but that guy has no respect for anyone. I have no interest in talking to him whatsoever," Bailey said.

Bailey, who did call Johnson a 'chicken' after the duel though he later apologised, refused to join a press conference for the Paris Grand Prix this season because the American was also present and Johnson was not shy in launching another trade against the Canadian.

For Bailey, who only seriously concentrated on athletics in 1994, it is not so much Johnson that concentrates his mind as retaining the 100 metres title in Athens — and he believes he can go faster.

"I am still searching for that perfect race, and I think I can improve upon the 9.84 seconds as I tried to run even quicker at 70 metres in the Olympic final instead of keeping my form," Bailey said.

Though he has been beaten in Moscow and Paris this season Bailey is happier with his preparations for the World Championships than for the Olympics.

Driven on by his coach Dan Pfaff, Bailey always appears to rise to the big occasion and while he is likely to lose several races during the season he still has what it takes when it comes to a championship, something he revels in.

There is little doubt that Bailey, who will eventually sacrifice his running shoes for a quieter life of golf, is the man to aim at in Athens and hopefully this time he will garner all the glory without having to share it with someone who gets it for the wrong reasons.

Reincarnationist

COLOMBO, July 29: A 20-year-old Sri Lanka cricket fan committed suicide because his mother scolded him for playing too much, a press report here said today, reports AFP.

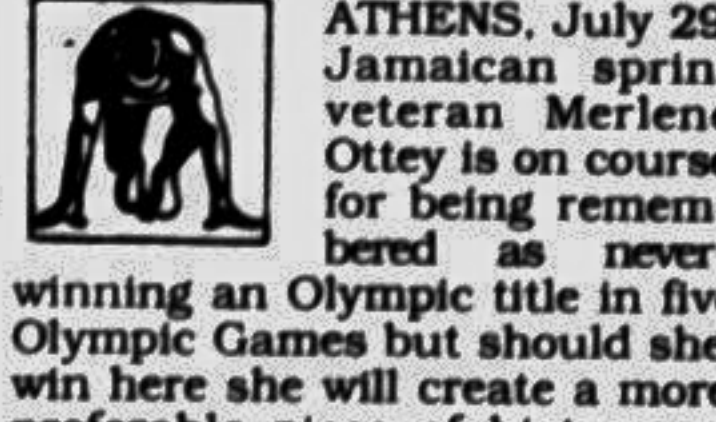
Wasantha Kumara, drank insecticide after leaving a request to be buried with a cricket bat and ball and hoping that he will be a better player in his next life, the Sinhalese language Divaina said.

He may have been scolded a million times because he neglected his work and concentrated only on playing cricket, the newspaper said adding that the unemployed cricket lover was from the southern district of Galle.

The suicide report came three days after Sri Lanka won the Asia Cup thrashing four-time winners India by eight wickets. Sri Lanka are the current world champions and the country is regarded as cricket crazy.

Sri Lanka also has the world's highest suicide rate and official figures show 70,000 suicides between 1983 and 1996, surpassing the number of people killed in the country's drawn out Tamil separatist war.

Ottey awaits 'Ode to joy'



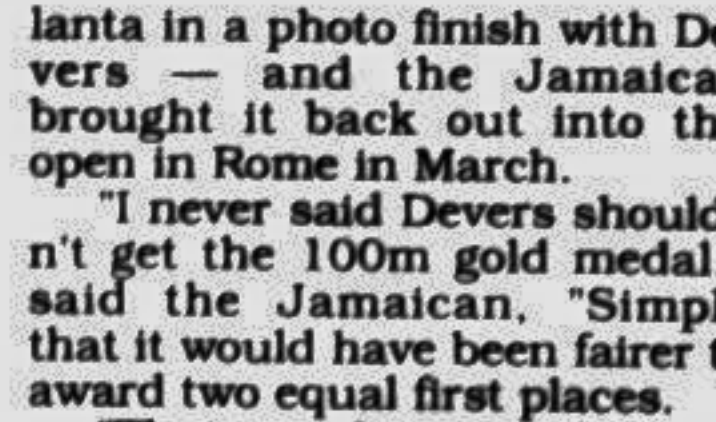
ATHENS, July 29: Jamaican sprinter Merlene Ottey is on course for being remembered as never winning an Olympic title in five Olympic Games, but should she win here she will create a more preferable piece of history as the oldest ever world champion, reports AFP.

The 37-year-old Ottey, who saw her last chance of Olympic gold disappear in the final 30 metres of the 200 metres as Marie-Jose Percec stormed past her, would easily beat the Czech Republic's Helena Fibingerova who won the 1983 shot put title at the age of 34.

Wrote Ottey, who ran in the 1984 Olympics as Ottey-Page during her ill-fated marriage to hurdler Nat, to finish in the medal positions, she would still hold the record for oldest medalist as the 1984 Olympic champion Maricica Puica took silver in the 1987 3,000 metres aged 37 and 34 days — Ottey will be 37-year-old and 83 days when the championships open.

Ottey, Monte Carlo-based but who has hinted she may return to her long time home in Rome and become an Italian national, has had so many near misses in the past that it is easy to forget she has won the last two 200 metre world titles — the last one because Gwen Torrence was disqualified.

There has never been much love lost between Ottey and the American sprinters, Torrence and Gail Devers, particularly after she was deprived of Olympic 100 metres gold in Atlanta.



lanta in a photo finish with Devers — and the Jamaican brought it back into the open in Rome in March.

"I never said Devers shouldn't get the 100m gold medal," said the Jamaican. "Simply that it would have been fairer to award two equal first places."

That way I too would have had the gold medal I deserved. However, we were in the United States and they wanted to favour the American.

"I felt robbed. I know that sounds as if I'm a sore loser but I just couldn't believe that she had beaten me for a second time like that," Ottey added.

Ottey, who has garnered 30 championship medals since she

took bronze in the 1980 100 metres Olympic final in Moscow, has been restricted in her appearances this season because like Algerian 1,500 metres world champion Noureddine Morcelli she has suffered from anaemia.

However, she has posted the fourth fastest time over 100 metres, 10.96sec in the Jamaican trials in Kingston and stands a good chance of enlarging on her record haul of 13 world medals.

Ottey, who has cast her talents into bringing out a fashion line, is dismissive of the tag of 'choker' that has been given to her by several pundits saying she was not always the form favourite.

"I have been the favourite, yes, but sometimes only because I have had the public's support. I will always remember the reception I received when I got my first 200 metres World Championship gold medal in Stuttgart — the pain of losing in all those other finals was washed away in a tide of emotion, Ottey said.

A woman who has almost touched greatness, indeed could have been acclaimed the greatest if she had had more of a mid-as touch when it came to the medal positions in finals, will not want to bow out of a major championship with nothing to show for it — a sign that it is time for that fat lady to sing farewell.

Ottey would surely prefer Beethoven's 'Ode to joy' to be played as she grabs a third world title — whether it is the 100 or 200 metres not as she will reveal in being the oldest medalist in town.

Hope waxed and waned



History of most of the cricketing nations is all the same. They all had to start from the scratch, Barring England and

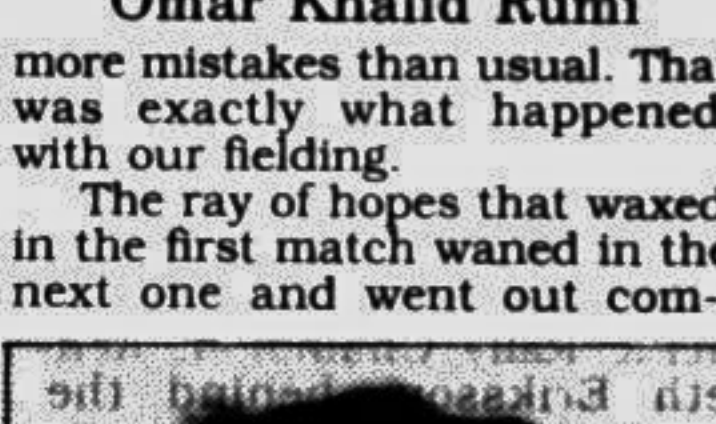
lath Australia, the founders of cricket, all the other nations had to start from square one. In the beginning they used to be thrashed around in the field by the bigger and better cricketing nations and nations. West Indies, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe — they all had to suffer an equal fate. Therefore, it is only natural that Bangladesh would have to go through the same ordeal, learning from the failures for many years to come and finally one day scraping through to the ultimate goal. We should not be impatient. We should have the perseverance.

In the recently concluded Asia Cup held in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh had to face three mighty Asian cricketing nations, losing to all of them as expected.

We had nothing to lose from these matches, rather, we got the opportunity of learning a lot of international cricket. We faltered somewhat in batting, left a whole lot of loose gaps in fielding and had a huge sigh of despair from bowling. In the first two matches against Pakistan and Sri Lanka, our batting seemed steeper than before. At least for a brief period, Athar and Akram against Pakistan kindled a ray of hopes for Bangladesh by batting like any in the international arena, specially Athar displayed some sparkling performances. Even a very sluggish and sloppy fielding and at times very ordinary bowling by the Pakistanis, could not reduce the charm of Athar's batting by any means. Athar handled both pace and spin equally well. Akram did not lag behind. But the rest of the batting was simply pathetic. Bulbul and Pilot could not measure upto it. But at the end the total of 200-plus appeared better than average score for Bangladesh. Compared to that our bowling seemed like an ordinary club standard. Pick of the three was the off-spinner Salahuddin.

He stuck to a line and bowled within his limitations. In this game, when you know that your bowling armory is very limited, you must bowl within your limitations, i.e., bowl one line with least of variations. Our pacers and the rest of the spinners did just the opposite and paid the price.

Fielding was substandard. This is of course very natural that when a side is being hammered all around, its fielding is obviously under pressure, the fielders are bound to make



more mistakes than usual. That was exactly what happened with our fielding.

The ray of hopes that waxed in the first match waned in the next one and went out completely in the last one. The statistics of the second match spoke for that. Athar stood out as the best again. Rest followed with lesser contributions. Bowling was as usual below par, excepting Salahuddin who bowled a good line but without much success. And without quality pacemen it is certainly impossible to make any impression on the opponents of these calibres. We have to find out some two real quicks. The sooner they appear the better it is for us. But, as long as we could

not get them, our stock bowlers should be told to bowl a proper line.

In the third and final match we failed in all departments of the game. The only satisfaction was once again Athar. Bulbul finally chipped in with a moderate score. The rest of the batting could not cope either with pace or spin and at the end finished with a very low score. Bulbul was shaky in the beginning and then when he started to settle down, fell for a languid shot. Maybe because of lack of adjustment or lack of big match temperament.

And when the time came for bowling, the story was even worse. They were hammered mercilessly. Added to that misery this time was the sloppy fielding. Missed chances and opportunities were regular affair. After the halfway mark of the Indian innings when the fielders were supposed to be spreaded all over and near the boundaries, mid-off and mid-on were brought in. The Indian batsmen cashed in on the inexperience by hitting over the fielders heads.

Lack of good pace bowlers would automatically put pressure on the spinners. So, there should be more than two spinners in the side. Fielding would improve through hard practice and then rude exposure. Things will automatically fall into places then. In the end we would definitely get our share of the glory in the very near future.

The contributor Omar Khalid Rumi is a former national cricketer.

Maria means business

ATHENS, July 29: There are few more resilient characters on the athletics circuit than Maria Mutola and here in August she will try and reclaim her 400 metres title she lost in dramatic fashion in 1995, reports AFP.

The 24-year-old Mutola, who made her first appearance in the Olympic Games aged 15, lost the chance of defending her title in 1995 when she was disqualified, after finishing first in her semi-final, for running outside of her lane too early.

The three-time world indoor champion was distraught but rebounded later in the season to break the 1,000 metres world record, with the bonus of the overall Grand Prix prize.

And aside from her disqualification she put together an unbeaten run of 50 800 metres races (1992-96) ended when she could only take bronze behind the astonishing Russian Svetlana Masterkova in Atlanta.

Mutola, who started her career as a footballer in Maputo before she moved to Oregon on an athletic scholarship, showed perhaps the greatest courage of her career when she came to Paris in March for the world indoors.

She blitzed the field to win her third title and then broke down in tears on the track as she revealed that her father had been killed in a car accident weeks before and she had not bothered to train.

"I didn't want to come. I was so upset as my father was my idol and role model," she said.

Guatemalans compensated

GUATEMALA CITY, July 29: The families of 78 Guatemalans crushed to death in an overcrowded soccer stadium last year received a check for 6,500 dollars each on Monday from FIFA, the international soccer authority, reports Reuters.

"We don't want tragedies. But whenever they happen in World Cup football (soccer) we feel we should indemnify the victims and their families," said Jack Warner, a FIFA vice president who travelled from New York to distribute the checks.

Overcrowding triggered a human avalanche in the cheap seating section of Guatemala City's Mateo Flores Stadium on October 16 just minutes before a World Cup qualifying match between Costa Rica and Guatemala.

It was the worst tragedy in the history of soccer's World Cup competition.

Warner said the extent of the tragedy affected him deeply.

"I spoke to one family today who lost five members. A few thousand US dollars could never pay for that. The mother was crying. She was still burdened. After it I couldn't continue. I had to excuse myself," Warner said.

The checks may seem small by the standards of developed nations, but many of the families who lost people in the tragedy were very poor and 6,500 dollars could represent more than double the yearly income of one person.

Warner said the money for the families came out of a "fair play" fund.

Perec fond of farce?

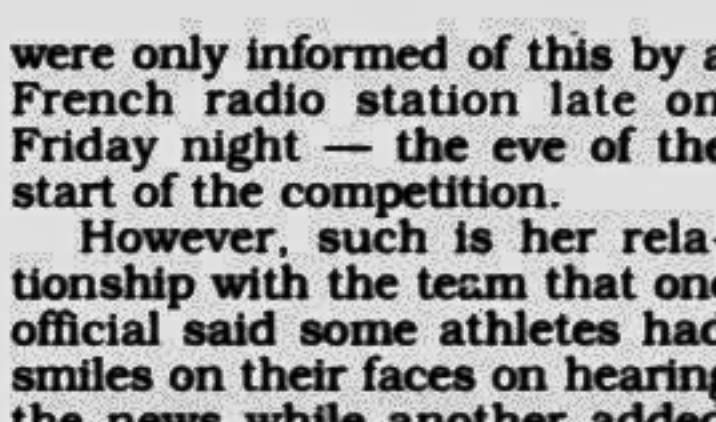


ATHENS, July 29: France's dual 1996 Olympic champion Marie-Jose Percec likes keeping people on their toes and her belated decision to run in the 200 metres in Athens only adds to her unpredictable aura, reports AFP.

The 29-year-old Percec, who won 200 and 400 metres gold in Atlanta, has never enjoyed warm relations with the French press which has given her a rather haunted look at press conferences.

The Guadeloupe born athlete, who lives in Los Angeles where she is coached by men's sprint favourite Ato Boldon's mentor John Smith, does create problems for herself typified by her procrastinating over whether to run for France in the European Cup in June.

She eventually decided not to run, after saying through Smith that she would do so, but the French team management



were only informed of this by a French radio station late on Friday night — the eve of the start of the competition.

However, such is her relationship with the team that one official said some athletes had smiles on their faces on hearing the news while another added that the French team was "bigger than Marie-Jose even if she is a double Olympic champion."

His point was amply proved when the Guadeloupe born Christine Arron, her replacement in the 200 metres, won the event — she will be in Athens as well.

Perec, who won 400 metres gold at the 1991 World Championships and the 1992 Olympics, was booed by the French crowd three days later at the Paris Grand Prix when after running down the field with Arron finishing in front of her.

She said it was down to a stress fracture of the shin — despite the fact she had been training over the weekend of the European Cup.

Perec, who alerted the world of her potential when as a 21-year-old she won the World Cup 400 metres although she was disqualified for moving out of her lane, then claimed that she was not going to run in Athens because she could not win.

"I do not go to championships to finish second — I go to win and clearly I am not going to do that in Athens the way I am feeling and running," she said on July 2.

However, just 20 days later the charming but inscrutable athlete had delivered yet another volte-face saying she was in great shape and ready to take on the world's best over 200 metres.

Which Perec turns up in Athens will probably dictate whether Jamaican star Merlene Ottey, who Perec deprived of an elusive Olympic gold and said later it was a victory tinged with sadness for that reason, mounts the top of the podium or if she again plays second fiddle to France's sole athletics star.

Kelly knows

ATHENS, July 29: Kelly Holmes is Britain's best chance for track gold when the World Championships begin here next weekend, reports AFP.

But the 27-year-old army corporal is refusing to let the hype surrounding her go to her head.

"I hope to be in the best shape of my life in Athens. I'll need to be," she admitted recently.

Holmes has not forgotten what happened to her at Atlanta.



An AP file photo shows British 800-metre runner Diane Modahl. The athlete on Monday was given permission to sue British Athletic Federation for 480,000 pounds which she spent as legal and medical costs after she had challenged a four-year ban imposed by the federation. She is also seeking over 400,000 pounds in punitive damages.

**CROSSWORD BY Eugene Sheffer**

ACROSS	35 Black lacquer	DOWN	20 Shade provider
1 Channel-surf	36 Army rank: abbr.	23 Kipling lad	24 Commotion
4 Abscus component	37 Exclude	25 Menagerie	26 Jazz job
8 Report-card notation	38 Musical description of summer	27 "Pat Joey" song	28 History chapter
12 "Little Teapot"	45 Lollapalooza	29 Hideaway	31 Coverups for people who lie?
13 Wheelbase	46 Mindy's mister	32 "A" "H" cast member	34 Gallery's outcry
14 "It's to tell a Lie"	47 Mister Sebastian	35 Hoisted	36 Increase ingredient
15 Rain-snow link	48 Sighs movie	37 "Childe Harold" author	38 Mary Celebes or
16 Squirrel sustenance	50 "Back-minute"	39 Jupiter's counterpart	41 "A" "H" cast member
17 Mad	51 Chopin's love	42 Low-pri	43 Gernseyman, perhaps
18 Shrewd	52 Chopin's love	44 Miss America's tenure	
21 Tackle the comestibles	53 Aachen article		
22 See 18 Across			
23 "On the Waterfront" director			
26 Prize possession			
27 Letter from London?			
30 Pedestal occupant			
31 Orchestra's place			
32 Ardr			
33 Low sound			
34 Joplin's style			

**CRYPTOQUIP**  
CE NHHNVW, DEIBCAME-  
CFRB QMMR VXMDDPXV  
VXB WMRH UCIUCA  
CAEMUFCRR QNPXV  
Yesterday's Cryptquip: MAYBE THE STRANGE ORTHODONTIST LIKED GIVING ROCK STARS HEAVY METAL BRACES.  
Today's Cryptquip clue: U equals W

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.