

Spice boy!

LONDON (AP/Internet): Posh Spice Victoria Adams gave birth Thursday in London to a 7-pound baby boy. "Victoria is very well," said the baby's father, soccer star David Beckham...

Ferguson all praise for Vialli



MANCHESTER, England, March 5 (Reuters/Internet) - Chelsea chief Gianluca Vialli may have been a manager for only 12 months but he has already impressed one of the oldest and most successful men in the trade...

to Chelsea. They've had good players and decent, entertaining teams over the years but Vialli has now got them playing in a very consistent vein of form.



ALEX FERGUSON Ferguson believes the key to Vialli's success is the way he has studied the game during a long career in Italy and England. Vialli, capped 59 times by

Italy. He has taken the rotational squad system used on the continent and employed it to good effect at Stamford Bridge even though the method has seen the loss of much of the English talent on the Chelsea roster. "Gianluca's got the European mentality. From his success with Italian teams he knows about the demands of coping with league games and Europe. He knows you've got to change and Chelsea are benefitting from it," Ferguson said.

Vasco win Rio-Sao Paulo title

RIO DE JANEIRO, Mar 5 (Reuters/Internet): South American champions Vasco da Gama added another title to their collection by winning the season-opening Rio-Sao Paulo championship. Vasco beat Santos 2-1 away in Wednesday's second leg to win the final 5-2 on aggregate...



Colin Jackson of Great Britain (R) crosses the last hurdle to clinch gold in 60-metre at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in Maebashi, Japan yesterday. He took 7.38 seconds.

World Indoor meet on

Colin claims 60m hurdles



MAEBASHI, Japan, Mar 5: Colin Jackson's celebrations at finally winning a world indoor hurdle title after three silver medals were clouded today by protests from second-placed American champion Reggie Torian, reports AFP.

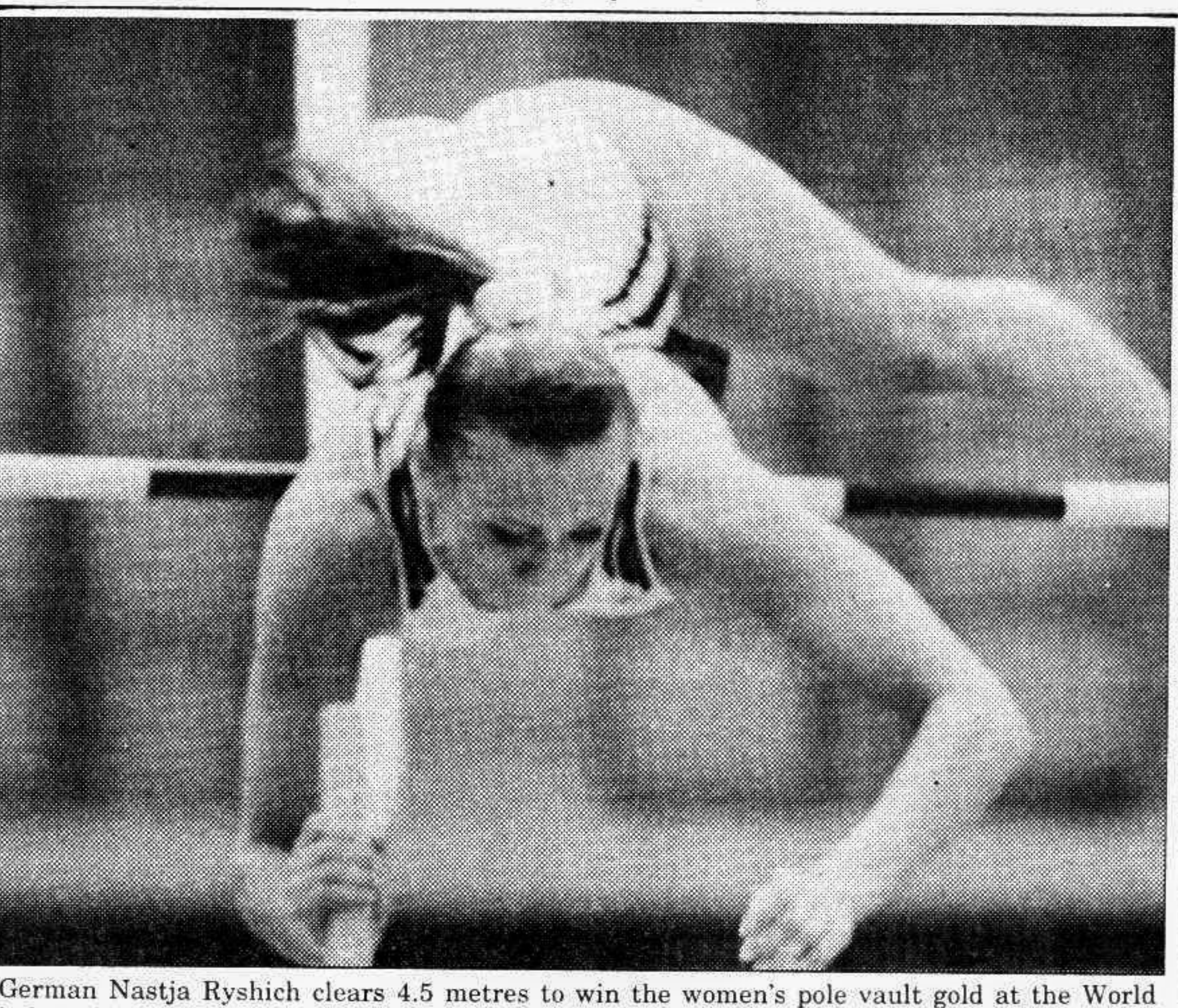
said Jackson as he celebrated with a union jack around his shoulders, unaware of the brewing controversy. "I am just so happy that it is now all done and out of the way," Jackson said of his relief at finally getting the title, to add to his single 110m gold from the outdoor World Championships in 1993.

full, I have never run in an empty stadium. I cannot say that it stopped me running, it was not a problem, but these are the World Championships. Organisers insist all tickets for the three days of the championships are sold out.

Greene feels the urgency

MAEBASHI, Japan, Mar 5: Although Maurice Greene is the world record-holder in the 60 metres he has something to prove in the World Indoor Championship which began today, reports AP.

Greene is coming off a "very disappointing" second place in the USA Championships last weekend, his first defeat of the season. "I didn't run like I wanted to," Greene said Thursday. "I know I let down my fans. I have to do something here to regain them. Now, I can make up for it. I have a lot of faith in my ability."



German Nastja Ryshich clears 4.5 metres to win the women's pole vault gold at the World Indoor Athletics Championships yesterday.

Good day for Wouda, Kovacs

IMPERIA, Italy, Mar 5: Defending world champions Marcel Wouda, Agnes Kovacs and Denys Sylantiev took the lime-light Wednesday in the opening events of the two-day World Cup short course swimming competition in this Italian river resort, reports AP.

Torian, who was credited with a time two hundredths of a second slower, demanded the computer photo be reviewed, insisting he was the winner. The drama overshadowed Ethiopian Haile Gebrselassie's win in the men's 3,000m which leaves him free to secure a unique double if he can add the 1,500m this weekend.

There was no official protest, but there was a discussion as the photo was reviewed," said an IAAF spokesman. "The result stands, Falk Balzer of Germany was third in 7.44sec. Torian insisted there was no personal animosity with Jackson and the two embraced at the end of the race.

Earlier Germany started with a double triumph in the championships with Nastja Ryshich beating all the favourites in the women's pole vault and Charles Michael Friedek taking the men's triple jump.

Sampras fails to Gambill

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona, Mar 5: Jan-Michael Gambill stayed cool under pressure from Pete Sampras to knock the world No. 1 out of the second round 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the \$500,000-dollar ATP Tour event here Thursday, reports AP.

But he is under threat from Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov, who is idle this week. "It's disappointing, I had some chances, but I had some loose service games," added Sampras, who had won his last eight matches against fellow Americans. "I was being aggressive, but he got in some good passing shots, he was pretty solid."

"I felt good going into the match. I thought I could have played a little better. The thing I need at the moment is matches."

Sampras and Gambill duelled on level terms in the first set, with both men firing over-stinging returns. Sampras nosed ahead as he broke his younger competitor for a 5-4 lead and then served out the set.

Rosset sent packing

COPENHAGEN, Mar 5: Angry top-seed Marc Rosset broke three rackets and received a warning from the umpire as he crashed out of the \$25,000 US dollars Copenhagen Open on Thursday, beaten 7-6, 6-4 by unseeded Daniel Nestor, ranked 92 in the world, reports Reuters.

Aided by nine aces, the 26-year-old Canadian won their second round match to move into the last eight at the expense of the tall Swiss, 26th in the world rankings.

Rosset served poorly, recording eight double-faults in a first service percentage of just 51. Frustrated at his own poor play and a number of near-misses, the ex-Olympic champion bowed out in 79 minutes and then refused to meet the press.

Both players held their nerve in the first set, but Nestor won the tie-break 8-6 and never looked back, breaking his opponent's serve to move 3-2 ahead in the second.

"I feel great," Gambill beamed. "It's obviously the biggest win of my life and against the player whom I think is the best in the game. It's huge for me, it's the toughest I've ever stayed in a match."

Sampras looked to be on his way to scoring a third victory over his fast-rising 21-year-old compatriot. But Gambill showed poise as he ignored third-set heroics from the top seed, who had two break points in the seventh game, escaping a dangerous moment to take 4-3 lead on serve.

Two games later, the youngster moved to 5-4 lead after Sampras could only save the first of a triple break point.

Gambill rallied as he served for the match, getting into trouble but saving two break points himself. The world No. 45 fired a backhand winner down the line to seal Sampras' fate after one hour, 36 minutes.

Today, Gambill faces American Justin Gimelstob, a 7-6 (7/5), 6-2 winner over Spain's Fernando Vicente.

Fourth-seeded Croatian Goran Ivanisevic headed for the practice courts to work on his serve after earning a ragged 6-4, 6-4 win against Argentine Hernan Gumy 6-4, 6-4.

Ivanisevic couldn't count on his trademark big serve, producing a mere seven aces in the 71 minute battle while hitting a low 41 per cent on first serves. He saved the only break point he faced in the match.

The fourth seed, whose last appearance here was a decade ago, next plays one of the oldest men still in the singles game, 39-year-old Mark Woodforde. The Aussie advanced with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 win over Spain's Francisco Clavet, aged 30.

"I played him last summer at Cincinnati and he played well," said Sampras trying to downplay the significance of the defeat. "He's beat in some good players in the last year."

Sampras, in his 261st week as world No. 1, has just nine weeks to go to tie the all-time mark held by Ivan Lendl.

Nestor, a doubles specialist, reached the third round in the Australian Open this year and made the quarterfinals in Memphis two weeks ago.

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Kazakh Olga Shishigina on her way to the gold medal in the 60-metre hurdles of the World Indoor Athletics Championships.

MEDALS TABLE

Table with 4 columns: Country, G, S, B. Lists medal counts for Germany, USA, Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Ukraine, Britain, Kazakhstan, Czech Republic, Iceland, Kenya, Nigeria, Russia, Canada, Hungary, Poland.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Entertainment guide listing programs for Saturday 6th March across various channels including BBC, Channel [V], Star World, MTV India, Zee India TV, DD Channel-1, Music Asia, and DD Int'l.