Newsmakers of 1980-99

BEN JOHNSON

ger raised in triumph. He was travelling so fast at the finish

that he ran for a further 100

world fell apart when the IOC

announced he had tested posi-

tive for the anabolic steroid

metres champion was a cheat

sent shock waves throughout

the world. Johnson at first de-

nied taking drugs. He recanted

the following year in a dra-

matic appearance before a

Canadian government inquiry,

revealing systematic drug use

magnitude of a drugs problem

which was discrediting and

threatening to destroy the pri-

mary Olympic sport., the In-

GRIFFITH JOYNER

ternational Amateur Athletic

Federation (IAAF) introduced

Thirteen women's world

records set before the introduc-

tion of random testing still

stand, suggesting to at least one

current IAAF council member,

German professor Helmut

Diegel, that they are irrevoca-

and 200 metre world records set

by Florence Griffith Joyner in

the northern summer of 1988.

have not been approached let

the world 200 mark twice in

Seoul, aroused suspicions be-

cause of the startling improve-

ments in her times and her

and retired before random

testing was introduced. Griffith

Joyner died prematurely at the

fected, with seven Chinese

swimmers failing dope tests at

the 1994 Asian Games in Hi-

roshima. In 1998 four Chinese

tested positive at the world

championships in Perth, Aus-

tralia. Another was caught

smuggling human growth hor-

ning the 1998 soccer World Cup

was replaced in less than a

month by shock and bewilder-

ment as the Tour de France.

France's greatest sporting festi-

val, ended in scandal and suspi-

opened in Ireland. Festina

masseur Willy Voet was caught

transporting 400 containers of

banned drugs. Six days into the

MICHAEL JORDAN

Three days before the Tour

France's euphoria at win-

mone into the country.

She never failed a drug test

Swimming was similarly af-

Griffith Joyner, who broke

Two of the marks, the 100

bly drug tainted.

alone equalled.

muscular torso.

age of 38 last year.

The results were immediate.

random drugs testing in 1989.

Stung into action by the

stanozolol.

Three days later Johnson's

News that the Olympic 100

LONDON, Dec 18 (Reuters): Carl Lewis, a stripling of 19, should have run for the United States at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

Instead he watched on television, courtesy of President Jimmy Carter who led a western boycott of the Games in retaliation for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in the previous year.

The Soviet Union had intended to use the Olympics to help refurbish their image.

Instead the Soviet leaders watched with impotent fury as the US withdrawals rendered the Games largely meaningless. They were to have their revenge four years later.

Athletics finally went professional in 1982 and in the following year Lewis won three gold medals at the inaugural



CARL LEWIS

world championships, a feast of track and field staged in Helsinki.

A year later the Soviet Union and the majority of its eastern block allies predictably boycotted the Los Angeles Olympics. Americans watching in per-

son and on television did not care. At the height of the Ronald Reagan era, patriotism was popular again and the Soviet absence just meant more gold medals for the Americans. Lewis was a man for the

times. He announced he wanted to emulate Jesse Owens and win four Olympic gold medals and become as a result richer and more famous than Michael Jackson, the pop singing phenomenon of the 1980s. His naked hunger for fame

and fortune sometimes obscured a glorious talent. Lewis at the height of his powers was a runner and long jumper of enormous grace who looked unbeatable in Los Angeles.

OLYMPIC TURNING POINT Los Angeles marked a turn-

ing point in Olympic history.

Boycotts became generally acknowledged as self-defeating and under the guidance of the new International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch, the Games were transformed into multi-million dollar businesses.

In 1960 the American network CBS paid 50,000 dollars for the rights to the Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley, California and 394,000 dollars for the Rome Summer Olympics.



SAMARANCH

Next year NBC has agreed to pay 705 million dollars for the Sydney Games alone. Samaranch, a former Span-

ish ambassador to Moscow, relaxed the amateurism rules. clearing the way for the millionaire giants of the US basketball Dream Team to compete at the 1992 Barcelona Games.

Michael Jordan, stunningly successful on the court and in the commercial world, was a member of the first Dream

Team. With aerial slam dunks and spring-footed jump shots, Jordan took the Chicago Bulls to six National Basketball Association titles. His fame spread far beyond the NBA and he was an idol to children around the world who had never seen a basketball court, let alone a live

In Los Angeles, Jamaicanborn sprinter Ben Johnson finished third behind Lewis in the 100 metres final, a feat barely noticed outside his adopted homeland Canada.

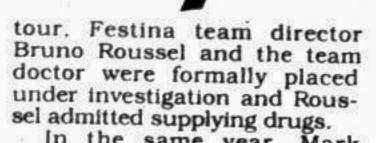
Three years later, the strapping Canadian with the torso of a body builder, was the fastest man in the world, beating Lewis while scorching to a world record of 9.83 seconds at the 1987 Rome world champi-

onships. Lewis, who equalled the previous world mark of 9.93 yet was never in the race, made it clear he thought something was wrong although he would not make any specific allegations.

JOHNSON DRUG CASE SHOCKS WORLD

The 1988 Seoul Olympic final was clearly going to be the sprint duel of the century, although in the end it was no contest

Johnson shot out of the blocks as if jet-propelled and sped over the line with one fin-



In the same year, Mark McGwire, the strapping first baseman for the St Louis Cardinals, helped restore baseball's place in American affections four seasons after a damaging players' strike with a record 70

Yet even baseball could not escape the taint of drugs. McGwire's feats were aided by a muscle-building steroid allowed in baseball but banned by the IOC.

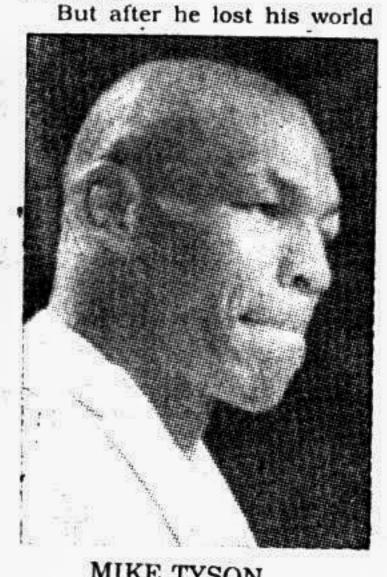
On the eve of the new Millennium, doping, with all the attendant legal complexities as banned athletes turned to the civil courts, was still the biggest problem facing sport.

A solution seemed as far away as ever when a special IOC doping conference convened at the start of 1999 mainly as a result of the Tour de France scandal failed to reach accord between the individual federa-

FLAWED TYSON SELF-DESTRUCTS

While Johnson was at his peak on the track a fighter as destructive as in any in history was mowing down opponents in

Mike Tyson was as nasty as Sonny Liston, punched as hard as Joe Louis and possessed the physical authority of George Foreman.



MIKE TYSON

heavyweight crown to James "Buster" Douglas in 1990 it became slowly apparent that Tyson was no more a true champion than Johnson.

He served a prison term for rape, bit Evander Holyfield's ear in a notorious 1997 world title bout and punched an opponent after the bell during an attempted comeback in late 1999. Tyson's troubles coincided with a general malaise in box-

With four separate organisations claiming their own world champions. the credibility of the sport was questioned increasingly throughout the final

20 years of the century. Interest in Europe waned and television audiences for all but the biggest fights declined. leaving a problematic future for the sport.

A third gifted but fatally flawed character was Diego Maradona, a victim partly of circumstance but also of his own excesses.

The squat, powerful Argentine, who was acknowledged as the best footballer in the world during the 1980s, was both devil



DIEGO MARADONA

and angel in a 1986 World Cup quarter-final against England. With brazen impudence he pushed the ball with his hand past goalkeeper Peter Shilton for one goal then ran through practically the entire England side with the ball glued to his lest foot to score a spectacular

second. British football, increasingly scarred by hooliganism. plummeted to its nadir in 1985 when 39 people, mostly Italian, died as a result of rioting before the European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus at the

Heysel stadium in Brussels. Throughout the closing years of the century a number of athletes felt less constrained by the rules governing civilised behaviour in normal society

than in previous decades. John McEnroe was one, screaming at referees and line umpires in between playing peerless tennis in two marvelous Wimbledon finals at the start of the 1980s against Bjorn

He was succeeded by fellow-American Pete Sampras, whose athleticism and power of serve and volley took him to the world number one spot for a record six consecutive years.

INTEREST SWITCHES TO WOMEN'S TENNIS Power began to replace fi-

nesse in the men's game and much of the more interesting tennis and certainly the better rivalries were on show in the

women's game. Martina Navratilova overcame public prejudice against her unconcealed lesbian relationships and, through deter-mined hard work, turned herself into an awesome athlete after defecting from Czechoslo-vakia to the United States.

She won a record nine Wimbledon titles, five of them against her great rival Chris Evert. German Steffi Graf took over where Navratilova had left off, bringing new standards of power and athleticism to the women's game.

Rugby union joined the professional ranks in 1995 with



M NAVRATILOVA winger Jonah Lomu becoming

the sport's first household name during the World Cup of the same year. New Zealand were the best

team in the tournament but were outplayed in Johannesburg by South Africa in a final resonant with political signifi-

South Africa had returned to international sport after the release of Nelson Mandela from prison in 1990. In a master stroke of public relations. Robben Island's best known inmate, now his country's president, wore a replica of Springbok captain Francois Pienaar's number six jersey.

With Mandela on their side. South Africa could hardly lose and in a symbol of reconciliation between black and white, Mandela handed Pienaar the World Cup.

At the dawn of the new millennium sport clearly retained its ability to provide images of unbearable poignancy. It had also expanded into a cultural phenomenon unimaginable at the beginning of the century.

The challenge for the world of sport at the turn of the century was to balance the realities of everyday life, commercial and otherwise, with the innocent joy which prompts small children to run, jump and throw in the first place.

Red Smith, the best American sportswriter of the century, kept it all in perspective.

"I've always tried to remember that sport isn't Armageddon," he said. "These are just little games that little boys can

Wilcox finally breaks up with Rovers

LEEDS, England, Dec 18: English Premiership pacesetters Leeds United on Friday completed the 3-million-pound (4.6 million dollars) signing of midfielder Jason Wilcox from First Division Blackburn Rovers, reports AFP. England international

Wilcox, 28, signed a four-and-ahalf-year contract after spending his entire career at Ewood Park. He joined Blackburn from school and was a key figure in their 1995 Premiership title-winning side. Wilcox's arrival is a timely

one for Leeds manager David O'Leary, who has been hit with injuries to the midfield which includes the loss of both David Batty and David Hopkin.

Scottish international Hopkin is out until mid-January following groin surgery while England international Batty is likely to be sidelined for another two weeks after a recurrence of his calf injury sustained in the Worthington Cup defeat to Leicester in midweck. England Under-21 star Lee

Bowyer, meanwhile, has been playing all season with the threat of a hernia operation hanging over him.

Although Wilcox mainly plays on the left-hand side of midfield he is certain to become an integral squad member as O'Leary aims for glory on three fronts

United currently lead the way in the Premiership, while they are also in the fourth round of both the UEFA and FA

Leeds chairman Peter Ridsdale told reporters said: "What we are trying to do is to build a side that is capable of challenging for honours. "We have the nucleus of a

very good team as we have

demonstrated already, but we

will continue to strengthen the squad as and when the players who the manager has identified become available. "This is a player we have admired for some time. He wasn't available when we first inquired about him but I would like to compliment Blackburn

on the way they have handled

the deal since. They have been impeccable. "Jason is one of a number of players we admire and this will not be the last signing, we will make further signings as and when the right players do come

"Jason won his second Eng-

land cap earlier this year and

he has been at Blackburn all his

career so he has clearly demon-

strated his commitment and

body of his calibre and experi-

ence has become available and

that he wants to be part of what

we are doing here at Leeds."

"We are delighted that some-

loyalty.

down in recent years. Ferguson claimed in his own autobiography 'Managing My Life' that they have had their disagreements, but Edwards insisted there was no problem.

Brazilian fed RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec 18: World football governing body FIFA on Friday threatened to suspend the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) until it resolves a legal case being made against them by two Brazilian clubs in the civil courts, reports

"FIFA will have no doubts about suspending the CBF from whatever activity until the situation is stabilised," FIFA said in a statement. Two clubs-Sao Paulo and

FIFA cautions

gal action against the CBF. Sao Paulo are seeking to have points reinstated after they were deducted points for fielding a player who had falsi-fied his date of birth on all doc-

Gama -are currently taking le-

uments. Previously the sports justice tribunal had decided that to punish the fraud perpetrated by the player — Sandro Hiroshi that Sao Paulo would have to forfeit the points they won against Rio de Janeiro outfit Botafogo. The restored points enabled Botafogo to escape relegation to the Second Division.

But Gama considered that Botofago had unfairly been awarded the points and wants them returned to Sao Paulo. That would mean that Botafogo would be relegated and Gama wouldd return to the top flight. CBF president Ricardo Tex-

eira threatened both clubs with a two-year suspension if they did not withdraw their complaints. After receiving the FIFA ultimatum, CBF judicial director

comment on the situation. He would only say Friday: " can not speak about all that. don't know what legal position we can take in this respect."

Carlos Eugenio Lopes refused to

Someday Beckham will leave United'

LONDON, Dec 18: Manch ester United and England midfielder David Beckham would like to play for an overseas club eventually and should be paid more money, his wife Victoria "Posh Spice" Adams says, reports Reuters.

Saturday newspapers quoted the pop star as saying in an interview with BBC Radio One that Beckham was unlikely to see out his career at the European champions.

"At some point he will move and I think playing abroad is something he'd like to do," she said.

"At the moment David is happy up there and I'm happy. But I'm travelling between London and Manchester. At some point he will move. But not right at the moment." Adams, hugely wealthy in

her own right as a member of the Spice Girls group, was also asked about the recent 50,000 pounds (80,630 dollars) a week pay deal agreed by Manchester United captain Roy Keane.

"I don't know what kind of difference that will make but David's money should go up, she said.

Universidad Chilean champs

SANTIAGO, Dec 18: Universidad de Chile have won the Chilean league title after the final games late Thursday, but their closing 3-0 defeat to previous title-holders Colo Colo was marred by crowd trouble. reports AFP.

The university side were already assured of victory before the final round of matches, but they went two down at halftime to Colo Colo and a 68th minute penalty from Jose Luis Sierra ended their hopes of

closing on a winning note. Riot police were called in when Colo fans lit fires on the terraces, smashed chairs and hurled objects at other fans. Five policemen were injured and 88 supporters were arrested.

The violence continued outside the ground with several cars being damaged.

Vialli only can watch

LONDON, Dec 18: Chelsea manager Gianluca Vialli accepted philosophically the news that he has been banned from the touchline for Chelsea's next European Champions' League game by UEFA, reports AFP.

The Italian was ordered off the bench during the 0-0 draw with Lazio in Rome after protesting to an assistant referee, and has now been punished by European football's goevrning body.

Vialla's ban will cover the Group D match away to Marseille on February 29.

"I have to accept it, it's part of the game," Vialli told the Press Association. "The referee made his decision and I have to get on with it.

MU chief's refusal

MANCHESTER, Dec 18 Manchester United's chief executive on Friday moved to deny rumours of a rift between himself and manager Sir Alex Ferguson, reports AFP.

Martin Edwards was reacting to claims in a book, entitled 'Manchester Unlimited' and written by British journalist Mihir Bose, that relations between the pair have broken

"I'm sick to death of picking up newspapers and reading about a rift between myself and Sir Alex Ferguson," he told the Press Association.



Werder Bremen's Ailton skips to avoid a sliding tackle by Lothar Matthaeus of Bayern Munich during their Bundesliga clash at Bremen on December 17. - AFP photo

Bayern's late burst



COLOGNE. Ger-Dec 18: Bayern Munich ensured they were Germany's "Autumn champions"

STANDINGS

Bundesliga table after Friday's matches (played, won, drawn,

at the halfway stage of the Bundesliga season Friday by beating Werder Bremen 2-0 in a turnaround of last year's German Cup final result, reports

Bayern, who on that occasion had their dream of a league and Cup title double smashed by Bremen, found themselves much more at ease Friday

lost, goals for, against, points)

Bayern Munich

Hamburg SV

VfB Stuttgart

1860 Munich

Kaiserslautern

Hertha Berlin

Unterhaching

VfL Wolfsburg

Hansa Rostock

MSV Duisburg

Eintracht Frankfurt

Arminia Bielefeld

SC Freiburg

SSV Ulm

Schalke 04

Werder Bremen

Borussia Dortmund

Bayer Leverkusen

evening and showed once and for all that their Weser Stadium complex was broken.

Twenty three times in succession Bayern were unable to beat Bremen away but now they have done so three times in a

The reigning champions have 36 points and a comfortable cushion over their nearest rivals Bayer Leverkusen (31 points). Hamburg (28) and Stuttgart (27).

Carsten Jancker opened Bayern's account on 71 minutes when Hasan Salihamidzic

17

19

13

18

29

35

blindly flicked the ball over his head. It passed over Bremen's defence and fell conveniently at Jancker's feet for a clear shot. "Brazzo (Salihamidzic) lobbed the ball in and I was a bit lucky to push it through Frank Rost's

legs," Jancker said. Bremen's ex-Germany international Dieter Eilts was red carded in the 79th minute when, as the last man, he tripped up Salihamidzic as tirey both ran at the ball from opposing directions.

With one man fewer in de-

fence. Paulo Sergio was able to extend Bayern's lead three minutes later. His 15 metre shot on the edge of the goal area was deflected over the head of goalkeeper Rost by the foot of Bremen defender Frank Baumann. "It was Markus Babbel's work beforehand which created

the chance," Bayern coach

Ottmar Hitzfeld said. "Paulo

was pretty lucky. Actually he should have crossed it into the middle to make sure of it." "I'm really happy with this year, especially for our millions of Bayern supporters," Hitzfeld added as he looked back on a tumultuous year which has seen increasing crit-

icism of his side's lethargy in recent months. "The team came back and gave them the right response at the end. We played better tonight and can feel happy

about the way we closed out the Bundesliga this year." Two quick goals in the second half by Sean Dundee gave VfB Stuttgart a fortunate 1-2 win at bottom side Arminia Bielefeld. Jorg Bohme raised Bielefeld hopes with his goal after an hour buf South Africanborn Dundee, who was more or less written off as a player when he joined Stuttgart this season from English side Liverpool, scored in the 75th and 82nd

minutes. Krassimir Balakow, Stuttgart's temperamental Bulgarian playmaker who stormed out of the stadium and went home during the half time break of Tuesday's game against Hansa Rostock after coach Ralf Rangnick substituted him was left on the bench Friday for discipline reasons.

It was the first time in four years Balakow was forced to watch a game from the sidelines for the full 90 minutes.

Iran, Mexico friendly Jan 9 CHICAGO, Dec 18: Iran will

take on Mexico in a friendly at Oakland, California, on Jan 9, one week before playing the United States at the Rose Bowl. the US Soccer Federation has announced, reports AP.

Iran are scheduled for Asian Cup qualifying March 31-April 4 in Damascus, Syria, and April 7-11 in Tehran. Besides Syria. Iran face Bahrain and Maldives in their qualifying group.

Mexico and the United States will be preparing for the CONCACAF Gold Cup in Miami, Los Angeles and San Diego Feb

e Sheffer	1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
19 Pocket- protector carrier?	12				13					14			T
	15								8	16		1	1
20 "— the Dog"				17				18	19				t
21 Eager, plus	20	21	22				23		T				
22 Litterer's penalty	24					25					26	27	ı
23 Malt shop order	28		T		29						30		31
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AMYDV

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RYV

SDB

YMHWI SWYM Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE NEW DELI 40 Blue hue 43 Listening WORKER WAS SACKED. IT SEEMS HE

QYRK,

COULDN'T CUT THE MUSTARD. Today's Cryptoquip clue: K equals T

collection The Cryptoquip 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.

VfB Stuttgart's Thomas Kies (L) and Berkant Goektan of CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

1 Serviceblade's women 5 Ex-sophs 37 Use (Abbr.) 8 Tasma-40 Timetable mountain 41 Tress 12 One way 42 Giant to start a redwoods family 47 Carolina 14 Approach county 15 Order 48 White

ACROSS

heater 49 Juror, 17 Nth degree 18 Country 50 Coach music? 20 Eucharist 51 Member-23 Distort 24 Hertz rival

25 Stogie

28 Martini

16 Lab

ingredient 29 Prepare for the Y2K crash S L A M 30 Newton flavor 32 Exposes a charlatan

LADMEE 34 Manto-man alternative, to cagers 35 Initial stake

Yesterday's answer

Solution time: 23 mins.

wine type

retically

Parse-

ghian

1 Ain't no

more

DOWN

Arminia Bielefeld are in pursuit of the ball during their

quencher

3 — au vin

matters

5 Hoodoo

7 Casual

8 Combi-

nation

punch

9 Son of

10 Having

the ful

marble

comple-

11 Composer

13 Lachrymal

Khachat-

footwear

4 Foamy

2 Summer- 19 Pocket-

6 Fabulous 22 Litterer's

host

34 All but

million?

37 Applaud D V

36 Very dry

38 Sprinkler

39 Twinge

hookup

Bundesliga fixture at Bielefeld on December 17.

44 Dander 45 Literary 46 Rarin'