

B'Baria cricket

From Our Correspondent
BRAHMANBARIA, Oct 26: Akadash Cricket Club defeated Bhodaghar Cricket Club by 30 runs in a friendly cricket match at Bhodaghar playground here today.

Akadash club batted first and scored 135 all out.

In reply, Bhodaghar made 105 runs.

Meanwhile, Sarkarpara Cricket Club defeated Kaziara Cricket Club by 50 runs in a test match at the Eidgah ground today.

Sarkarpara winning the toss and collected 170 all out.

Arif was top-scorer with 65. Kaziara replied with 120.

Rajshahi soccer

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAH, Oct 26: Santir Mor Sporting Club emerged champions in the Masud Smriti Football Tournament organised by Nawabganj Kira Sangstha played at Nawabganj stadium today.

The winners beat Soner Mor Sporting Club 1-0.

Meanwhile, Baikali Sangha trounced Kajliata Sporting Club 5-0 in the Rajshahi Hockey League today at Rajshahi stadium.

In the second match of the day, Jagrata Sangha and Friends Sporting Club shared points after their match ended 1-1.

Purabi basketball

Defending champions Dhaka Mariner Young's Club crushed Hornets SC 105-34 in the Purabi Insurance First Division Basketball League at the Dhamondri Basketball Gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners dominated the first half 47-20.

In the day's other match, Suhrid Sangha edged past Rangers Club 57-56 after leading the first session 32-31 at the same venue.

CBI names seven foreign names?

NEW DELHI, Oct 26: Seven foreign cricketers have been named in a report into allegations of cricket match-fixing, carried out by India's security agency Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the Press Trust of India reported Wednesday, says AFP.

A source at the CBI said the report, which had yet to be handed to the Indian government, mentioned by name seven players -- a Pakistani, three Australians, two West Indians and one Englishman.

He said a "passing reference" had been made to the players in the report, based on the testimony of a number of bookmakers.

Intelligence sources had said that four Indian cricketers were likely to be named in the interim report.

The Indian cricket board has said it will ban for life any player found guilty of match fixing and erase his records.

Among the stars investigated by the CBI were former coach Kapil Dev, ex-captain Moham-mad Azharuddin, Ajay Jadeja, Nikhil Chopra, Ajay Sharma and Navan Mongia.

Former International Cricket Council president Jagmohan Lal Bahadur Shastri and board treasurer Kishore Rungta were among administrators questioned by the CBI during its six-month probe.

Azharuddin, Jadeja, Chopra and Mongia were last month dropped from the national team until their names were cleared. Kapil Dev resigned as coach, saying the scandal had made him lose interest in the game.

Kenyan boss surprised

NAIROBI, Oct 26: The manager of the Kenyan cricket team which beat the West Indies in the 1996 World Cup has ridiculed allegations that the match was fixed, the Daily Nation newspaper reported today, says Reuters.

Harilal Shah, now vice-chairman of the Kenya Cricket Association (KCA), called the allegations "total nonsense."

London's Sunday Telegraph newspaper had reported that an investigation by India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into match-fixing would name two West Indian players allegedly involved in throwing the match.

Kenya dismissed the West Indies for 93 in a group game at Pune to give the east African team a 73-run victory in one of the biggest upsets in the tournament's history. The West Indies went on to lose to Australia in the semifinals.

Shah said the West Indians' reaction showed the game had not been rigged.

Lanka waltz

From page 13

Strang b Arnold 0
Friend not out 12
Mbanga c sub (Upul) b J wardena 4
Extras: (b-4; lb-2; w-4) 10
Total: (All out in 48.3 overs) 153
Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-24, 3-25, 4-35, 5-43, 6-46, 7-108, 8-109, 9-143

Bowler O M R W
Vaas 10 3 27 2
Zoya 9 3 16 3
Weeraratne 10 0 51 0
Mitharan 10 3 19 2
Javasiyura 4 0 18 0
Arnold 4 0 12 1
Jwardena 1.3 1 4 1

Result: Sri Lanka won by 123 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Chaminda Vaas.

SA batter Black Caps



CENTURION. South Africa, Oct 26: Nicky Boje hammered his second century in three matches as South Africa gained an easy win over New Zealand in the third limited-overs international at SuperSport Park, Centurion, Wednesday, reports AFP.

Boje made a career-best 129 then had a hand in three of New Zealand's first six wickets as South Africa won a rain-interrupted match by 115 runs.

Boje shared a South African second wicket record stand of 160 with Gary Kirsten (94) as South Africa piled up 324 for five, their highest total against a Test nation, after being sent in on an excellent batting pitch.

It was only four short of their highest against newcomers, against Holland in the 1996 World Cup.

An already difficult task for New Zealand became near-impossible after a rain interruption early in their innings which left them with a revised target of 305 from 43 overs.

Nathan Astle (46) shared stumps of 56 off 46 balls with Stephen Fleming (35) and 72 off 74 balls with Roger Twose (40) as New Zealand stayed on target for a while. Then Roger Twose bowled Twose and star all-rounder Chris Cairns with successive deliveries to start a collapse to 189 all out.

Boje's 129 off 114 balls followed scores of 105 not out in Potchefstroom and 64 in Benoni. South Africa lead the series 2-0, with the Potchefstroom match having been rained off.

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming said he felt his side preferred to chase a target on a good pitch but he added the proviso that his bowlers needed to restrict South Africa to a reasonable total.

A hussled, South Africa were scoring at around six runs an over virtually from the start with Kirsten and experimental opener Daryl Cullinan setting the pace. Kirsten drove crisply through the covers and Cullinan hooked Shayne O'Connor for a six before playing across a straight ball from Chris Cairns after making 22.

Boje was in sparkling form and South Africa raced to 95 for one in the first 15 overs before a period of consolidation before accelerating again in the last 20 overs. Boje reached his fifty off 47 balls with six fours and his century off 101 deliveries with nine boundaries before cutting loose. He was caught on the straight boundary off the penultimate ball of the innings.

Boje held a simple catch at square leg to dismiss opener Chris Nevill, then ran out Craig McMillan with a throw from Astle caught on the boundary in his only over. Slow bowler Boje was brought on to bowl the 25th over in a hurry when more rain started to fall. It 25 overs

had not been completed the match would have been a no-result.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third one-day international between New Zealand and South Africa at the Centurion Park in Pretoria on Wednesday. New Zealand's target was reduced to 305 from 43 overs after a rain interruption.

SOUTH AFRICA: 324 for 4 in 50 overs (Boje 129, Kirsten 94, Kallis 45, Cairns 2/62)

NEW ZEALAND
Nevill c Boje b Telemachus 7
Astle c Dippenaar b Boje 46
Fleming c Kirsten b Pollock 35
Twose b Telemachus 40
Cairns b Telemachus 0
McMillan run out (Boje) 13
Harris c Cullinan b Donald 17
Parore not out 17
Styris c Boucher b Donald 1
O'Connor c Boucher b Pollock 0
Alotti c Boucher b Pollock 0

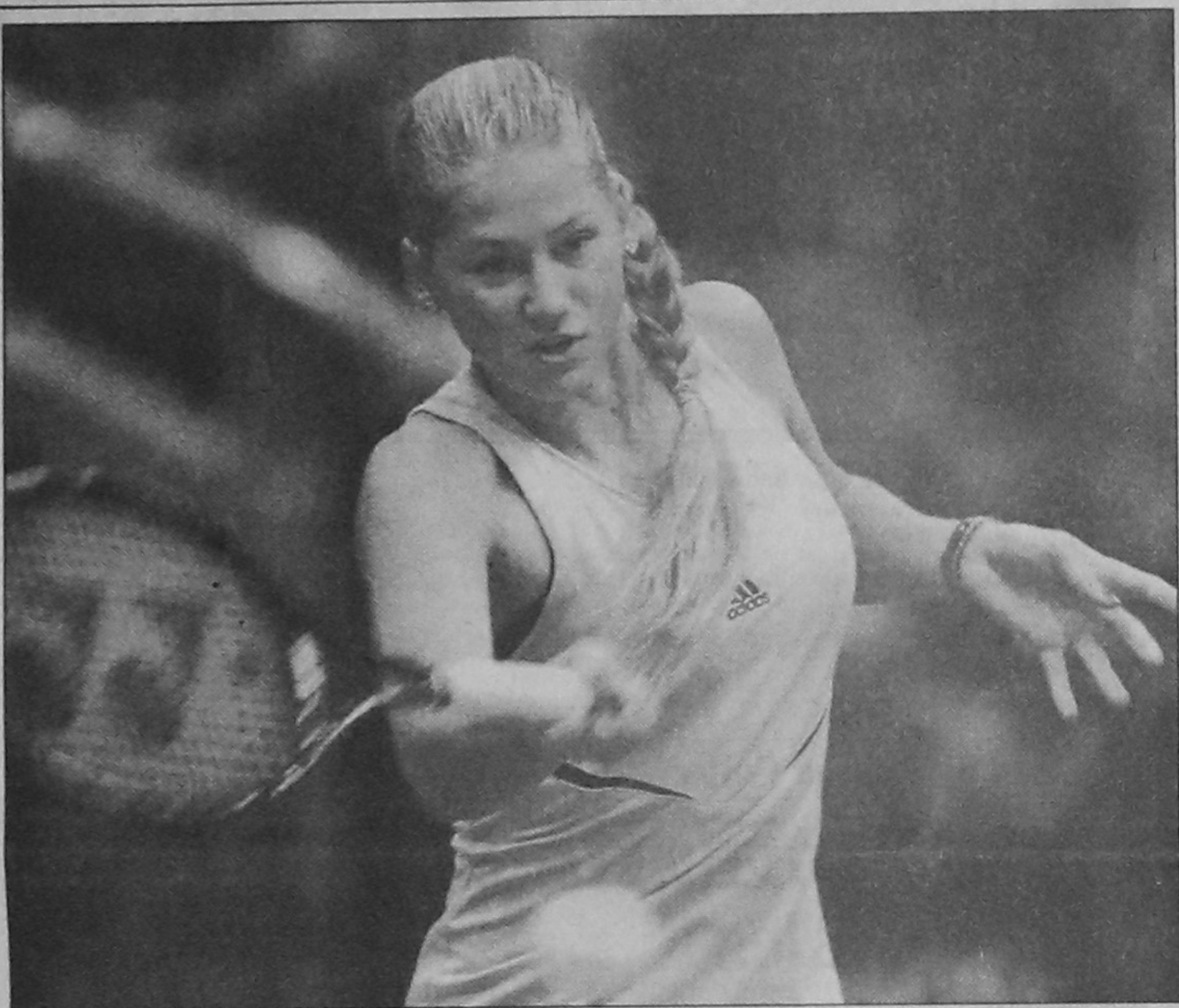
Extras: (b-5; lb-5; w-1; nb-1) 12
Total: (All out in 33.4 overs) 189
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-63, 3-135, 4-135, 5-149, 6-151, 7-185, 8-187, 9-189

Bowler O M R W
Pollock 7.4 1 37 3
Telemachus 6 1 45 3
Donald 7 1 27 2
Klusener 5 0 39 0
Boje 1 0 2 1

Result: South Africa won by 115 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Nicky Boje.

Next Match: Kimberley, October 28.



Russian Anna Kournikova plays forehand against compatriot Vera Zvereva at the Kremlin Cup in Moscow yesterday. Kournikova won 7-6, 6-4. -AFP photo

Hingis, Tauziat in qtrs

MOSCOW, Oct 26: Top-seed Martina Hingis of Switzerland saw off Czech rival Kveta Hrdlickova with a hammering to enter the quarterfinals of the WTA Kremlin Cup event here on Wednesday, reports AFP.

The world number one, fresh from her home victory in the Swisscom Challenge last week, allowed her opponent just one match during the 6-0, 6-1 tie which lasted 40 minutes.

Hingis, who received a first round bye from the organisers, got off to a flying start breaking her 25-year-old opponent's serve to win the first set 6-0 in just 18 minutes.

The 20-year-old Hingis underlined her dominance in the second, allowing Hrdlickova just one game on the supreme court of Moscow's Olympic tennis stadium.

After the match Hingis said she was happy with her form this season, which has seen her lift seven titles.

"I'm playing my best tennis now and feel good and that's why I experienced no problems today," said Hingis.

"I always wanted to come to Moscow to make my mark on this famous city," she added.

Defending champion Nathalie Tauziat of France also moved into the quarterfinals ousting Japan's Ai Sugiyama in straight sets 6-3, 7-5.

Tauziat, seeded second here, took the match under control from the start, winning the opening set 6-3 in 30 minutes.

Both rivals exchanged breaks throughout the second, but Tauziat looked more precise and concentrated and took the set 7-5 to win the match.

Eighth-seeded Barbara Schett of Austria comfortably

crushed into the second round past Russia's Elena Likhovtseva 6-4, 6-1.

Schett broke Likhovtseva's service in the ninth game of the opening set to win it in 31 minutes.

The Austrian player, currently 20th in the world, motored ahead in the second to earn a 5-0 lead and going on to win 6-1 in less than an hour.

Russia's Tatiana Panova had to fight a tough three-set battle over 1hr 44min against Argentina's Paola Suarez for her quarterfinal spot.

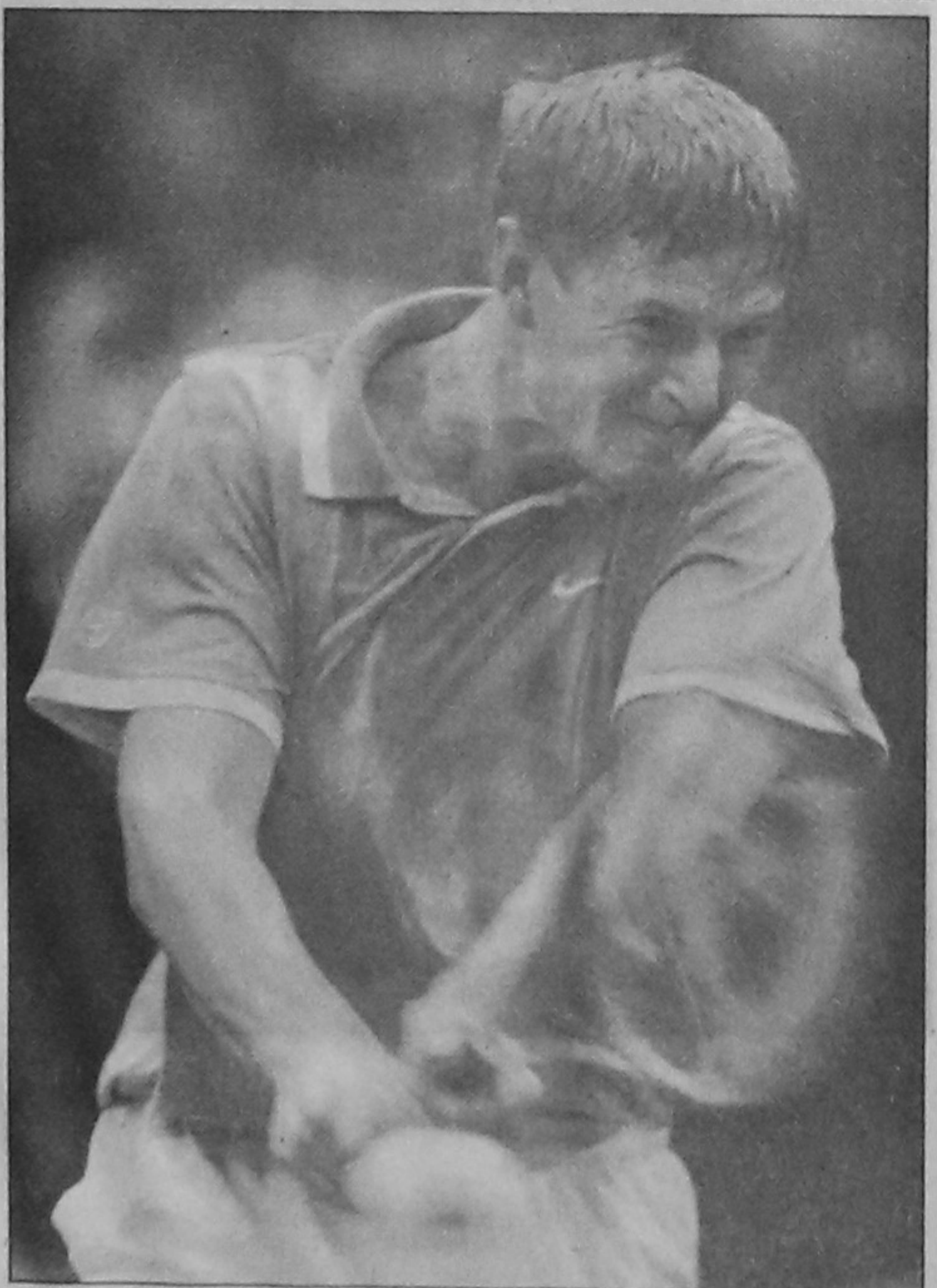
While Olympic silver-medallist Elena Dementieva of Russia, seeded seventh in Moscow, bounced back to make her

quarterfinal berth in her show-down with Italy's Silvia Farina-Elia.

The 19-year-old Dementieva lost the first set 6-2 and was trailing 2-0 to the 28-year-old Italian in the second before stepping up a gear to level at 2-2 and then run away to win the set 6-4.

Dementieva grabbed the initiative and started the third with an immediate break taking a commanding 3-0 lead, but Farina-Elia fought back to equalise 4-4.

Nevertheless the Russian teenager kept her nerve and broke her rival's serve again to win the set 6-4 and take the match in two hours.



Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov makes a double-fisted backhand return against his countryman Denis Golovanov at the Kremlin Cup in Moscow on October 25. -AFP photo

Unchanged S Africa

CENTURION. South Africa, Oct 26: South Africa named an unchanged squad Wednesday for the remaining three limited-overs internationals against New Zealand, reports AFP.

Promising fast bowler Mfumeke Ngam, 21, will join the squad as a non-playing member to gain experience after shining on a tour of the West Indies with the South Africa A team.

The squad was announced by selection convenor Rusdhi Magat during a rain delay in the third international at Centurion Park.

SQUAD

Shaun Pollock (captain), Mark Boucher (vice-captain), Gary Kirsten, Boeta Dippenaar, Jacques Kallis, Daryl Cullinan, Jonny Rhodes, Lance Klusener, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Allan Donald, Roger Telemachus, Andrew Hall, Shafiek Abraham, Makhaya Ntini.

Remaining fixtures: Kimberley (October 28), Durban (November 1), Cape Town (November 4).

Santoro falters

MOSCOW, Oct 26: Frenchman Fabrice Santoro, seeded fifth, was ousted in straight sets by Russian wild-card entry Mikhail Yuzhny in his opening round match here Wednesday, reports AFP.

The 18-year-old Yuzhny won the first set 6-4 in 50 minutes after breaking the 27-year-old Santoro's serve in the 10th game.

In the second Santoro completely lost control of the game, allowing the Russian to take a comfortable 5-0 lead before the teenager went on to win the set 6-2 in just 27 minutes.

Yuzhny said he was pleased with his first experience of winning against a seeded player.

"I'm playing better than previous years and feeling much more confident on the court," said Yuzhny, who will face Thomas Johansson of Sweden in the second round.

Defending champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia overcame tough opposition from another teenager and compatriot Denis Golovanov whom he defeated in straight sets 7-6, 6-4 to enter the second round.

Both players held their serves in the opening set, with Olympic gold medallist Kafelnikov winning the tiebreak in 44 minutes.

Kafelnikov began the second with a couple of breaks, earning a comfortable 4-0 advantage but Golovanov bounced back to level at 4-4.

The 26-year-old Kafelnikov broke again to win the set and match in one hour 20 minutes.

Swiss Marc Rosset, seeded fourth, booked his spot in the quarterfinal after beating Swede Magnus Gustafsson 6-3, 6-4 in 65 minutes during their second round tie.

Belarus' Max Mirnyi, sixth seed here, had to fight hard through a tough first set, which he managed to win in a tie-break, before taking control in the second to win 7-6, 6-1 against Kristian Pless of Denmark.

Germany's David Prinosil also made the second round beating Canada's Daniel Nestor, who entered the tournament after third seeded Dutchman Sjeng Schalken withdrew because of exhaustion.

Prinosil lost the first in the tie-break but took control in the second and third winning 6-3, 6-3 in 1hr 55min.

Healy lets cat out of the bag

SYDNEY, Oct 26: Former wicketkeeper Ian Healy says in his new book Australia's Test players were close to mutiny over the selectors keeping Mark Taylor in the side when he could not score runs, reports AFP.

Taylor, the former captain, went 21 innings without a Test match 50 and unrest reached a pitch when Australia played star batsman Michael Bevan as a specialist spinner against South Africa in Pretoria in 1997 to keep "Tubby" Taylor in the side.

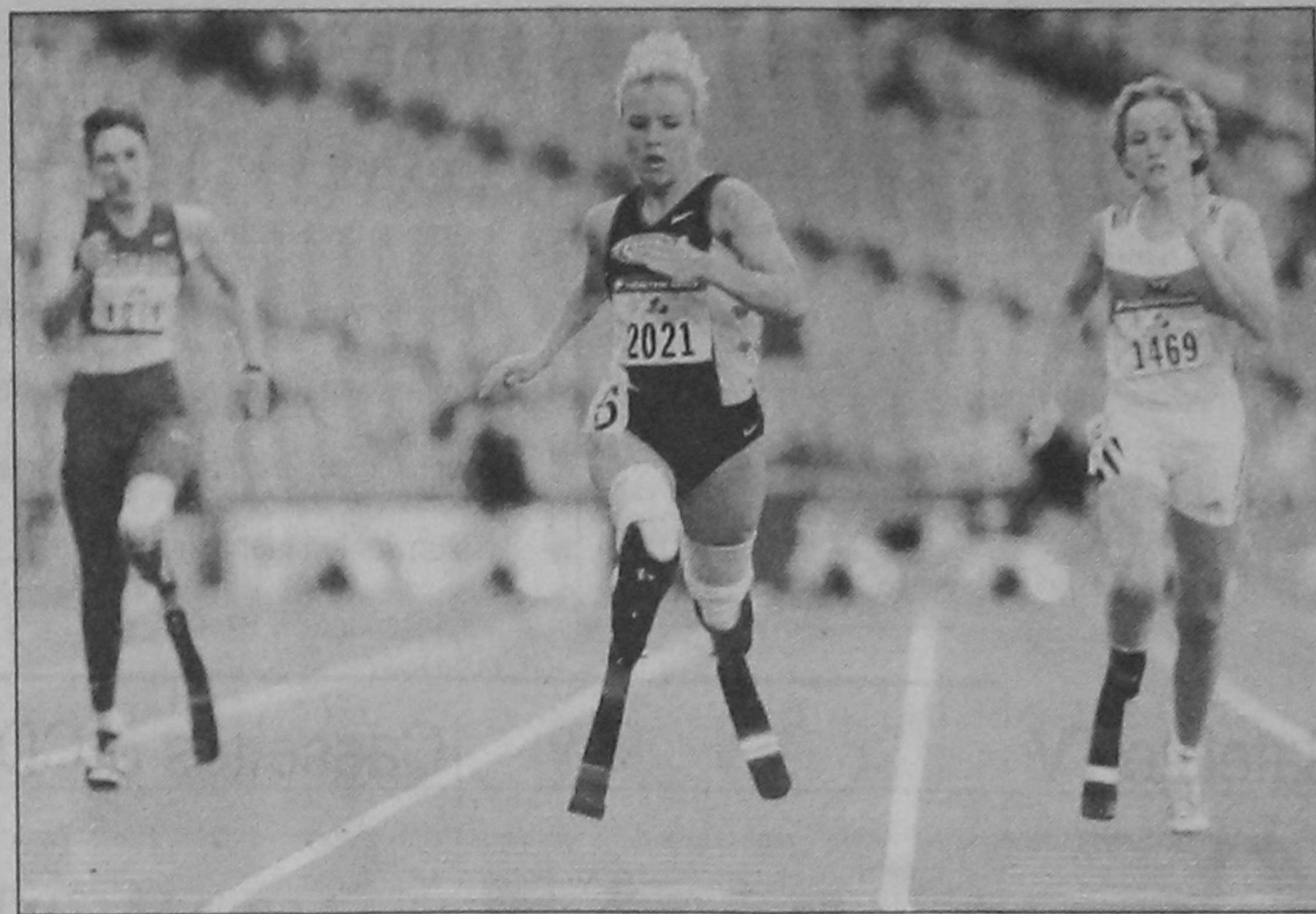
"More than one teammate would mutiny the team selectors, weren't choosing our strongest side for the sake of the captain, why one or two even complained some players' careers were being jeopardised by our selection strategies," Healy says in his autobiography.

Healy, who made 366 catches and 29 stumpings for a Test world record 395 dismissals in his 11-year Test career, is the first Australian player to speak about the unrest in the team as Taylor struggled to find form.

Pele to appear before fraud probe

BRASILIA, Oct 26: Legendary football star Pele, former FIFA president Joao Havelange and ex-Brazilian national soccer coach Wanderley Luxemburgo are among leading Brazilian sporting figures who will be called to give evidence before a parliamentary probe into fraud in Brazilian football, it was revealed Wednesday, reports AFP.

Two inquiries, one before the senate and the second before the parliament, will investigate whether alleged fraud occurred during transfers such as that of star players Ronaldo of Inter Milan and Romario and irregularities in contracts signed with sports company Nike running into 400 million dollars.



American Shea Cowart (C) on her way to win the women's 100 metres gold at the Paralympic Games in Sydney yesterday. -AFP photo

Australia reaping rich

SYDNEY, Oct 26: Australia cracked 100 medals and are on track for their most successful Paralympic Games campaign here Thursday, reports AFP.

Australia captured more medals -- 47 golds and 143 overall -- in the 1984 Games, jointly hosted by New York and Stoke Mandeville, but their supremacy looks certain to net more medals over the closing three days of competition.

The host nation with 45 medals past their 42 gold medals when second behind the United States at the last Paralympics in Atlanta in 1996 to continue their dominance of the 11-day competition.

Swimmer Siobhan Paton equalled Australia's best individual performance at a Paralympics, winning her fifth gold medal, replicating teammate Priya Cooper's achievement at Atlanta.

Paton, 17, ruled over her intellectually-impaired class rivals and has established seven world records in the pool this week.

Paton has a chance to better Cooper's Atlanta feat when she lines up for the 50m freestyle and a possible sixth gold at her first Paralympics on Saturday.

Other Australian multiple gold medalists were Greg Smith, Tim Sullivan and Lisa Llorens with three each on the track.

Great Britain were holding down second place on the medals table behind the tearaway Australians following their four gold medals on Thursday.

Kenny Cairns captured the men's 100m freestyle and the British team won the men's 4x100m freestyle relay.

Other wins came from Ken Churchill in the men's F37 javelin and Lee Pearson in the individual dressage.

Spain were third on the standings winning three events with the United States and China picking up five golds.

French swimming queen Beatrice Hess held fingers aloft after winning her fifth individual gold medal on Thursday with another world record in the 100m freestyle of 1:18.99 Thursday.

Mild cerebral palsy-sufferer Hess, 38, who claimed six gold medals at the Atlanta Paralympics, has also won the 200m SM6 individual medley, 50m butterfly, 200m freestyle and 50m S5 backstroke.

Nigeria's Monday Emoghavwe smashed his own world best twice in 20 minutes in the powerlifting competition.

Emoghavwe improved on his own record in the 67.5kg division by 5kg when he heaved 212.5kg in his final attempt.

The 37-year-old Nigerian won over the crowd when he upped the ante to go for a second record even though he had secured the gold medal and did not need a heavier lift.

But amid the inspiration of courage and will-to-win came more sobering news Thursday for the Paralympic movement.

Three more powerlifters were thrown out of the Games, bringing to nine the number of confirmed drug cheats, a number the International Paralympic Committee called "extremely disturbing".

And the immediate future of the Paralympics itself is shrouded in doubt as IPC president Robert Steadward voiced serious concerns about the next 2004 Athens Games.

"Right now I have a lot of fears and anxiety as I think about the possibilities and the difficulties that I perceive," Steadward said.

"I would be less than honest with you if I said I did not have concerns, I have some great concerns," Steadward is due to meet Greek officials this weekend to try to sort out their contractual row.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 First st.
4 Chaps
7 "Star Wars"
8 Less
10 Winter
11 Release
13 Element
16 First-while Asian terr.
17 Over-sentimental
18 Upper limb
19 Band in Boston
20 Costa
21 Public tantrum
23 Armada
25 Paper holder
26 Lumbox
27 See
28 Earm
30 Lumbox

DOWN
1 Stage scenery
2 Dead Sea
3 Go-between
4 Confusion
5 Adversary
6 Senseless
7 Makes marginalia
8 Wait-staffer's handouts
9 Coin of the realm
10 "Charlie"
12 Pamphlet
14 Manage
15 Resort
19 Energy
20 Roulette bet
21 Pivots
22 Lemony, maybe
23 French police officer
24 Powerball, e.g.
25 With
27-
28 Across, renege
29 Stage awards
31 "Well, That Ends Well"
32 Charge
34 Netman
35 Nastase
36 Off the payroll

Solution time: 26 mins.
L A L A C H O F A L L
E V I L L A D A L I A
T I F F O V E R C O A T
O V E R D U E I T E M S
B I N A D I O V E R I D I
R E P P R Y A C E
O V E R S E E S H I R E W
N A T A L I A
O V E R T U R E B O W E
O A M P A R O V E N
N O W S S I V R E D S
Yesterday's answer

CRYPTOQUIP
N G I M L W L S 2 P Z M P J R
N Z O O E Z S W L S P L F V
F J R D M D V G E G D V L O D M P
D F V Z S L O D L R
Yesterday's Cryptquip: MIMES ARE GLAD TO HAVE A NICE THEME SONG: "I LOVE A CHARADE"
Today's Cryptquip Clue: O equals I
The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think X equals Q, it will equal Q throughout the puzzle. Skip letters, short words, and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.