

USA Takes Early Lead In Olympics

Eight Medals In Swimming Boxers Triumph

—America's Mark Spitz and Australia's phenomenal 15-year-old Shane Gould, the potential king and queen of the 1972 Olympics, shattered world records in swimming Monday and the cascade of medals began for the powerful forces of the United States.

Force captain from Hermosa Beach, Calif., who staged a brilliant rally in winning the women's three-meter springboard diving title.

For both Spitz and Capt. King it was a redeeming triumph for heartbreak failures in the Games four years ago.

Spitz shaved more than a full second off his own world record in leading a 1-2-3 American sweep in the men's 200-meter butterfly in 2:00.70, and came back later to anchor the men's 400-meter freestyle relay team to a world mark of 2:26.42.

In all, the United States collected eight medals: three gold, two silver and three bronze—pressed only by East Germany, with seven, including two golds. The massive Soviet Union squad got its first medal—a silver—by finishing second in the men's 400-meter relay swimming race.

Later the Russians picked up their first gold, winning the women's gymnastics.

The Soviet girls scored a combined total of 380.50 points—189.15 for the optional exercises and 191.35 for the compulsories—to 376.55 for the runner-up East Germans and 368.25 for third-place Hungary. The United States was fourth with 365.90.

"I remembered what happened in Mexico," said the handsome Spitz, from the University of Indiana, in recalling that he failed to win a single individual medal in 1968. "I was a little nervous because of that."

Miss Gould lived up to all her press notices with a magnificent, record-snapping victory in the women's 200-meter individual medley.

Miss King, trailing two Swedish divers going into Monday night's final two dives, staged a plucky rally to grab the lead on the eighth dive, then proceeded to pull away with the succeeding two routines.

She had a near-perfect one and one-half somersault with a one and one-half twist on her final dive.

The shapely, 5-foot-7 University of Michigan graduate, fourth at Mexico City four years ago, had a point total of 450.03. Urrika Knappe, a 17-year-old Swedish girl, took the silver medal with 434.19 and Marina Janicke of East Germany the bronze with 430.92.

Little Janet Ely of Albuquerque, N.M., finished fourth among the 12 finalists.

The American "Fuzz Kids" of the basketball court won again, beating Australia 81-55 for their second victory of the round robin and their 57th without a defeat in Olympic History, and silver and bronze medals were grabbed in rifle shooting and white water canoe slalom.

TRY
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American boxers scored their second triumph in as many outings when the tough, 32-year-old Marine Sergeant, Ray Russell, stopped Stephen Thege of Kenya with 20 seconds remaining in the first round of their light heavy-weight bout.

The U.S. was not overly impressive in basketball although coach Hank Iba substituted liberally. Russia, with a good performance by 7-foot-1 Sergeio Kovalenko, beat East Germany 87-63 and Brazil, the Pan-American champion, smothered Egypt

'It's Heavy,' Says Miss King

(P)—"This is heavy around my neck," American diver Micki King said as she fondled her Olympic gold medal, "but I love every ounce of it."

Miss King waltzed to victory Monday night in the women's three-meter springboard diving competition, whipping runnerup Ulrika Knappe of Sweden by almost 16 points.

"I've been diving for 18 years," said Miss King, a 28 year-old Air Force captain. "That is longer than the girl who came in second has been living."

Miss Knappe is a 17-year-old high school student.

The slender, 5-foot-7 champion suffered a broken arm on her next to last dive at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City and was forced to settle for fourth place after having been a strong contender for the gold medal.

"I never did try that dive again," she said, smiling all the while. "But I never got afraid, and I'm enjoying diving as much as when I was 12 years old."

Asked if she might take a shot at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, Miss King pointed to the 10-meter platform in Munich's Olympic swimming hall, and said, "First I've got to go up there and try to win another gold medal later this week. But as far as 1976 is concerned, I would say that's probably not a possibility."

"About one more summer of diving and I will have had it."

Medal Winners

Medal winners in the Olympic Games after the second day of competition:

Country	G	S	B	Tot
USA	3	2	3	8
E. Germany	2	2	3	7
Hungary	1	1	2	4
USSR	1	1	1	3
Sweden	1	1	—	2
Poland	1	—	—	1
N. Korea	1	—	—	1
Australia	1	—	—	1
Romania	1	1	—	2
Austria	1	1	—	2
W. Germany	1	—	—	1



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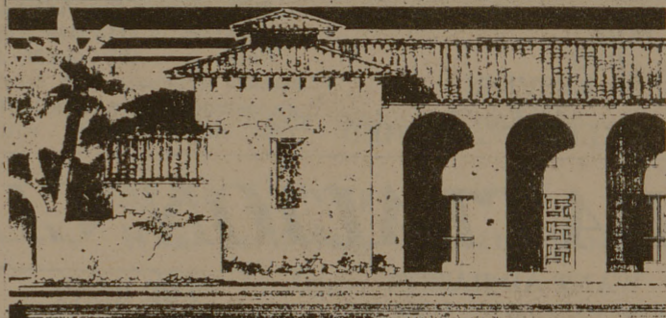
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