

SPORTS

TUESDAY
July 30, 1996

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Atlanta '96

One Down, One to Go

olympic GLANCE

ATLANTA (AP) — Monday, Day 11

FALLEN SEED

No. 1 seed Monica Seles lost to Jana Novotna, 7-5, 3-6, 8-6.

DOMINATING VICTORY

Reserve Nikki McCray led five players in double figures with 16 points as U.S. women defeated South Korea 105-64.

HISTORICAL GOLD

Carl Lewis won gold medal in long jump, becoming only fifth Olympian to win gold in four straight games; Michael Johnson won 400-meter dash in Olympic-record 43.49 seconds; American Allen Johnson won gold in 110-meter hurdles.

INDIVIDUAL MEDALS

Americans Shannon Miller (gold on balance beam), Jair Lynch (silver on parallel bars) and Dominique Dawes (bronze on floor exercise) won medals.

CLOSE CALL

United States Softball advanced to gold medal game with 1-0 victory over China in 10 innings.

QUOTES OF THE DAY

"I've got 48 hours to get ready, and I'll be ready in about two hours." — Michael Johnson, after winning 400 dash, on whether it will be difficult to prepare for the 200.

"We've got ballroom dancing and surfing ready to kick us off the Olympic bus." — Michael Gostigan, the only American in the modern pentathlon.

AGGIE SPOTLIGHT



In USA Baseball's 10-8 defeat to Cuba on Sunday, A&M outfielder Chad Allen was one-for-five with a home run.

Cumulative Stats (through 37 games)

ab	r	h	hr	rbi
112	29	47	6	25

Johnson wins gold in 400m, he will try to repeat in the 200m tonight

ATLANTA (AP) — Record-setting supersprinter Michael Johnson, gold on his feet and his chest, swept to victory on a manic Olympic Monday where Carl Lewis made history and drama was the name of the games.

Johnson, decked out in gold shoes, blew away the field for an Olympic 400-meter record to complete the first half of his hoped-for historic double gold. Not to be outdone was 110-meter hurdler Allen Johnson, who set an Olympic record of 12.95 seconds despite knocking down most of the 10 hurdles along the way.

Throw in Shannon Miller, the 19-year-old gymnast who grabbed a gold medal in the balance beam — her second gold of Atlanta.

CARL LEWIS' QUEST

With a full moon above the Atlanta skyline, the Olympics awaited one last bit of drama: Lewis' bid to capture a long jump gold medal in his final Olympic event. The 35-year-old, on his third leap of the night, soared into the lead and waited.

Nobody beat him. Lewis' jump of 27 feet, 10 3/4 inches earned his ninth gold medal, equaling the American mark held by swimmer Mark Spitz. He became only the second athlete to win the same

event in four straight Olympics; U.S. discus thrower Al Oerter was the first.

"I don't see how I can top this," said Lewis, who filled a plastic bag with sand from the long jump pit and waved it to the crowd. With an American flag across his shoulders, he then did a victory lap as more than 80,000 cheered him one last time.

His eyes glistening with tears, Lewis mouthed the "Star Spangled Banner" with his last medal dangling from his neck. He then blew a kiss skyward.

"I brought a lot of passion, a lot of dedication, a lot of hard work," he said of his contribution to the sport.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

In contrast, the distaff Dream Team continued to roll along Monday with a 105-64 demolition of South Korea.

The Americans, winners of five straight in Atlanta, head into the medals round Wednesday as the solid favorites for the gold. The United States shot 68 percent in the first half and 57 percent for the game in topping 100 points for the third time in Atlanta.

"The important thing is that we're going into the medal round with a lot of confidence," forward Katy Steding said. "... We'll do a lot of scout-

ing, watch some video and come out ready to play."

TRACK AND FIELD

With the games heading into the final week, attention turned to two theatrical tales unfolding at the new Olympic Stadium: Lewis' quest for a medal at his fourth and final Olympics, and Michael Johnson's pursuit of gold medals in the 200 and 400 meters.

Johnson, in his unique upright style, literally ran away from the competition to set an Olympic mark of 43.49 seconds. He dedicated the victory to the woman killed early Saturday by a terrorist bombing in Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park.

"It's extra special for me, because it's my first individual gold medal," said Johnson, who was ill during the 1992 Games and was eliminated in the 200 semifinals. "I've been saying all along this has nothing to do with Barcelona, but now that I've got it I certainly feel better about what happened in Barcelona."

Finishing right behind Allen Johnson in the hurdles was teammate Mark Crear, giving the United States gold and silver. The American men, through the first 10 track and field events, had won six golds, three silvers and a bronze.

GYMNASTICS

Miller, bouncing back from weak performances in the all-

around and the vault, unleashed a near-flawless performance on the balance beam. She was later joined on the medal stand by fellow American Jair Lynch, who took silver on the men's parallel bars, and Dominique Dawes, who collected bronze in the floor exercise.

"I don't know what else to say, but it feels great," Miller said. "It was a great note to end on."

MEN'S DIVING

U.S. Diver Mark Lenzi added to America's medal haul with a bronze in the springboard, locking up third place with a sensational final dive.

Chinese diving star Xiong Ni, in his third Olympics, picked up his first gold as the springboard champion.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The U.S. men's volleyball team was eliminated following its loss to Bulgaria and Brazil's victory over Cuba. The Americans won't win a medal for the first time since the boycotted Moscow Games in 1980.

The Russian Olympic committee on Monday appealed the disqualification of two of its medalists for doping offenses, claiming the drug that turned up in urine tests was not a banned substance. A decision will not come before Tuesday night.



Medals table

1996 ATLANTA

Through Monday, July 29.
Top 30 Countries

Country	G	S	B	Total
United States	24	28	12	64
Germany	10	11	19	40
Russia	18	13	8	39
China	11	13	18	32
France	13	6	12	31
Australia	7	8	16	31
Italy	10	6	9	25
Romania	4	5	6	15
Cuba	3	5	7	15
Poland	6	5	3	14
Canada	2	6	6	14
Ukraine	5	2	5	12
Hungary	4	3	5	12
Belarus	1	4	7	12
Netherlands	1	3	8	12
South Korea	3	5	3	11
Japan	3	4	3	10
Britain	1	3	5	9
Brazil	2	2	4	8
Bulgaria	0	4	4	8
Greece	4	3	0	7
New Zealand	3	2	1	6
Belgium	2	2	2	6
Kazakhstan	1	3	1	5
Ireland	3	0	1	4
Turkey	3	0	1	4
Czech Republic	1	2	1	4

AP

Day

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stands. There are no school, state or regional rivalries — no bitter blood between players and spectators.

"Whether you're sitting next to someone from Texas, Atlanta or Duluth, Minn., there is a strong sense of uniting for a common good."

Only a camaraderie exists. Whether you're sitting next to someone from Texas, Atlanta or Duluth, Minn., there

is a strong sense of uniting for a common good.

This was the most lasting impression I took away from the Games. Of course, I'll remember the bomb blast, the evacuation from Peachtree Street, the crowds and the excitement forever.

But traveling to Atlanta gave me a greater sense of what the Olympics are all about — camaraderie, patriotism and bouncing back when adversity and evil threaten.

Over time, these lessons will be remembered and pointed out well before the actions of some madman take precedence.

I may not have planned on going to Atlanta, but I am glad I went. The Olympic experience cannot be duplicated — and it is one that will never be forgotten.

Bombing causes reflection

I planned to write about the wonderful details of the Olympics, but after Friday night, everything else just seemed insignificant. I was down the block from the AT&T Olympic Village when the bomb exploded at Centennial Park.

For some odd reason, I just figured it was the Parsons' Mounted Calvary cannon. Then I suddenly realized where I was, and the horror struck.

I immediately ran down the street to see what had happened. That's when I



RAY HERNANDEZ
SPORTSWRITER

saw the cloud of smoke rise above the mixer tower. I didn't want to believe what was in front of me. I didn't want to believe terror had hit so close to home.

I felt about every emotion in an instant: horror, relief, fear and anger. I was shocked to see it happen. I was glad I wasn't hurt, but I was afraid someone else had been hurt, or worse. I was angry that people can be so cruel.

I was on my way to the World Bud Party when I felt the blast. I think what scares me most about the incident was the fact that I was running late and I should have already arrived at the party.

There was no doubt that it was a bomb. I could feel the compression

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