


Five advance, five exit

Sports Reporter



Five teams had their hopes of making it to the next year's Second Division cricket league dashed as five others crossed the first of the many hurdles yesterday in different venues in the capital as well as outside.

On the eastern ground of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium Uttara Friends Club chalked up a 45-run victory against Ibrahim Eleven.

Asked to bat first, Uttara made 139 for nine from their stipulated quota of 35 overs with Turki topscoring with 38. Tajul made 24 not out while Dipu got 13.

Mini was the most successful bowler for Ibrahim Eleven with figures of three for 30. Faruq took two for 21.

Ibrahim Eleven did not have the batting at their disposal to measure up to a scant target of 140 and were shot out for 94 in 32.2 overs. MoIn stood among the ruins quite bravely with a defiant knock of 32.

Faruq with 16 and Munna with 14 were the other batsmen to reach double figures.

George was the wrecker-in-chief for the winners with figures of four for 12.

Mohakhali Cricket Club recorded a massive 119-victory against Tejaon Club at the Mirpur Pallabi ground.

Put in to bat, Mohakhali made a not-so-imposing 165 for seven from their quota of 35 overs with Azam hammering a swashbuckling 67 with the help of eight boundaries and one overboundary. Murad, 20, and Selim, 19, were the other major contributors.

Morris with two for 23 and Nchal with two for 39 shared the bowling honours for Tejaon Club.

Tejaon Club made a mess of a chase when they found themselves skilted out for 46 in 18.1 overs.

Murad ran through the Tejaon batting with excellent figures of four for 14. Romel backed him up well with two for five.

Dhanyia Club recorded an impressive six-wicket victory over Baishakhi KC on the western portion of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Invited to bat, Baishakhi totalled 152 for four in 35 overs with Azad Rahman scoring 53. Mazhar Ali, 28, and Pankaj Roy with 19 were the other run-getters.

Khokan took one for 16 while Saiful collected one for 21 for Dhanyia.

An unbeaten 51 by Swapan Kumar Mondal formed the foundation of an easy victory for Dhanyia. Khokan made 34.

Dhanyia posted 153 for four in 30.3 overs.

Salahuddin of Baishakhi took two for 35 and Papu one for 20.

At the Mohakhali T&T ground, Udity 'B' crushed Mill Barracks Junior Boys Club by 135 runs in another unequal contest.

Battling first, Udity rattled up 195 for six with Johnny hitting 48, Turin 40, Farid 28 and Masum 27.

Turin's cavalier 40 included two sixes and four hits to the fence.

Asadul was the pick of the Mill Barracks bowlers with figures of three for 30.

Mill Barracks were booked for 60 with extras emerging as the highest scorer with 20. Skipper Ratan was the top scorer with the willow with 16 runs against his name.

Karim, two for 13, Rupal, two for six, and Farhan launched a collective assault to decimate the Mill Barracks innings.

In the only match outside the capital, Rampura Jubo Sangha defeated Demra SCS at the Narayanjan Stadium by six wickets.

Sent in to bat, Demra with the help of a rather large contribution from Mr Sundries mustered 130 in 34.2 overs with Iqbal topscoring with 27. Mazhar with 19 and Mizan with 13 were the other run-getters.

Hcal claimed three for 18 for Rampura Jubo Sangha. He was ably assisted by Aziz who claimed three for 20. Mizan took two for 25.

A string of useful scores by the Rampura batsmen saw their side home and dry in 23.2 overs with Kamal chipping in with 33, followed by Zahidul, 25, Aziz, 24 not out, and Kabir, unbeaten on 19.

Zaheer, Pappu and Milton claimed one wicket apiece for Demra SCS.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Matuail vs Nayapallan Cricketers (DCS West)

Maghbaraz vs Ex-Notredamians (N'ganj Stadium)

Mugda Cricketers vs Hatkhola KC (Mirpur Pallabi)

YMCC vs Pirerbagh KC (Mohakhali T&T)

Dhaka Cricket Proshikhkhon Kendra vs Azam Waqar Cricket Clinic (DCS East)

Bulbul, Selim shine with bat

Sports Reporter

Team 'B' piled up 258 for six from their stipulated 50 overs in the second trial match arranged as a part of the preparatory programme for the Bangladesh national cricket team to take part in the South East Asian championship to be held in Singapore, yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium.

Aminul Islam Bulbul of Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club showed fine batting form with a sparkling unbeaten 67 made with the help of five fours and three sixes. Mahabubur Rahman Selim of Abahani scored a solid 59 while his teammate opener Zahid Razzak Masum made 40.

Rafiqul Alam, one of the consistent performers for Mohammedans in the last league, struck two fours and a six in his 43 being caught by Liton off leggie and teammate Waheed who played for Team A.

Harunur Rashid Liton, who was in such great form last season with GMCC, got 24 but Biman skipper Shahinawaz Shaheed Shanu was one big flop, falling for a duck to the leg-spin of Habibul Bashar Suman.

Team A will resume their innings today.

Anand, Short share title

AMSTERDAM, May 22: Britain's Nigel Short and Viswanathan Anand of India were declared the co-winners of the Sparbank chess tournament here on Thursday after finishing level on 3.5 points from their six matches, reports AFP.

Short, playing with the black pieces, beat Yasser Seirawan of the United States in 22 moves in their sixth and final match, while Anand fought a draw with Jan Timman of the Netherlands.

Short and Timman are due to face each other in January to determine a challenger to world chess champion Garry Kasparov of Russia.

Final standings:
Anand and Short 3.5 points
Seirawan and Timman 2.5

Karpov leads in Madrid chess

MADRID, May 22: Russia's former world champion Anatoly Karpov notched up his fourth win at the Madrid international chess tournament on Thursday when he beat Zsuzsa Polgar of Hungary, reports AFP.

Zsuzsa's sister Judith Polgar kept second place in the overall standings with a win over Julio Granda of Peru.

Standings after four rounds:
Karpov 4 pts
J Polgar 3.5
San Segundo, Epichin 2.5
Salov, Romero Granda, Yudasin 1.5
Z Polgar 1

Khwaja chess

Sports Reporter
The 16-player Khwaja invitational chess organised by the Narayanjan District Chess Players' Association has got underway in Narayanjan.

In the opening round of the tournament, marking its twentieth anniversary, Abdullah al-Mursalin beat Farhad Hassan Jewel, Abdul Khaleq Master won his match against Anisuzzaman Mullik, Hassan Mollah Babu outwitted Razuiddin, Jahangir defeated Azharul Islam and Chowdhury Mamunur Rashid checkmated Monir Hossain. Zakia Sultana drew with Monir Chowdhury while the match between Subodh Chandra Saha and Monirul Haq also ended in a draw.



Thailand's Vichai Kadphol (R) throws a right straight to South Korean Lee Hae-Jun in the flyweight final match at the Seoul Cup amateur boxing tournament in Seoul on May 21. The Thai won the gold medal and was selected as the most valuable boxer. — AFP photo

Stich recovers, but not in time

DUESSELDORF, May 22: Wimbledon champion Michael Stich cast aside his recent injury and off-court problems to lead Germany to victory over Russia at the world team Cup on Thursday, reports Reuter.

But the hosts could not stop Czechoslovakia sealing their place in Sunday's final with a 3-0 trouncing of the United States, their second whitewash victory of the round-robin blue group.

Stich, whose final preparations for next week's French Open have been hampered by an Achilles tendon injury and problems with press invasion of his private life, impressed in a 6-3, 6-1 victory over

to save the tie with a spirited 7-6, 7-6 win over Volkov and sult from the other group the Germans knew that group leaders Czechoslovakia could not be stopped. Even if they lose their last match 3-0, the Czechoslovakia will go through after winning more rubbers.

Alexander Volkov in the opening rubber.

Alter Carl-Uwe Steeb was beaten 7-6, 6-3 by Andrei Cherkasov in the second singles. Stich teamed with Steeb Cherkasov.

But after checking the results in Sunday's final, they will meet the winners of today's key match in the Red group between France and Spain. Both are unbeaten.

But the German, working hard to adapt his serve-and-

volley game to the slow clay courts, said his injury problems were now clearing up and he was getting close to the fitness which helped him to the final of the German Open earlier this month.

I haven't quite got back to the level of two weeks ago but I am close," Stich said. "I only have slight pain and the injury doesn't disturb me anymore."

The Americans struggled from the start when Pete Sampras, who is also a serve-and-volleyer, was beaten 6-3, 6-1 by Petr Korda in the opening rubber. Karel Novacek then stretched the Czechoslovakia lead with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Derrick Rostagno.

Korda and Cyril Suk beat Patrick McEnroe and Jim Grabb 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 in the doubles.

McCallum wins

LAS VEGAS, May 22: Former two-time world champion Mike McCallum battered journey man Fermin Chirino from the opening bell and breezed to a 10-round unanimous decision Thursday night, reports AP.

McCallum, the former World Boxing Association junior middleweight and middleweight champ, had no problem with the light-hitting Chirino. McCallum, at 167 pounds (75.6 kilos) worked the body the first two rounds, then concentrated on the head. Chirino, 167 pounds (75.6 kilos), was virtually defenseless in the final two rounds and his right eye was swollen shut by the 10th.

McCallum, 43-1-1 with 34 knockouts, is scheduled to fight International Boxing Federation middleweight champ James Toney in Reno, Nev on Aug 29. The two fought to a draw last December.

Swimmer banned

HAMBURG, Germany, May 22: Former world freestyle champion Astrid Strauss has been temporarily suspended for alleged doping, the German Swimming Federation announced here on Friday, reports AFP.

A large quantity of Testosterone was found after a drug test during a training session in Magdeburg, in eastern Germany, in March, and the result was confirmed after a second test on Thursday, the Federation said.

Strauss won the 800 metres event at the Madrid World Championships in 1986 while competing for the former East Germany.

The swimmer denied taking the drug and said she had a clear conscience. "I know that I took nothing and I cannot explain what happened."

Gillingham sounds a warning

SHEFFIELD, England, May 22: Britain's Nick Gillingham sounded an early Olympic challenge when he swam desperately close to the world 100 metres breaststroke record on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Gillingham clocked one minute 1.33 seconds in heats for the British Olympic trials, just four hundredths of a second outside the world mark set by Norbert Rozsa of Hungary at the European swimming championships in Athens last August.



NICK GILLINGHAM

champion Moorhouse into second place by over a second but just failing to improve on his performance in the heats.

Moorhouse, who produced his best time of the year when he touched in 1:02.45 in the heats, clocked 1:02.64 in the final, with James Parrack third in 1:03.18 after leading at the turn in 29.05.

Gillingham is more noted as a 200 metres breaststroke swimmer, winning the European title at the distance in 1989 and 1991 as well as the silver medal at the 1988 Seoul Olympics and bronze at the 1991 World Championships. He is the 200 short-course world record holder.

Moorhouse, pre-selected for the 100 at the Barcelona Games so under no pressure of qualification, is in the middle of heavy training. Gillingham, by contrast, had focused on the trials.

Courier—overwhelming favourite

PARIS, May 22: The French Open has something unusual this year — an overwhelming favourite for the men's title, reports AP.

Can any body stop Jim Courier?

The 21-year-old American is returning to Paris, where he won his first Grand Slam title a year ago, as the undisputed No. 1 player in the world.

He won the Australian Open earlier this year and swept to an impressive victory last week in the Italian Open, the season's major clay-court warmup for Paris, stretching his winning streak to 16 matches.

So dominant is Courier at the moment that he has taken to describing his form in terms of perfection.

"The way I'm hitting the ball and moving and how I feel physically, it's perfect," Courier said after overpowering Spain's Carlos Costa, in the year's clay-court sensation, in

the final of the Italian Open last Sunday. "I am very pleased and very confident."

The women's field is headed by two-time defending champion Monica Seles, with Gabriela Sabatini, Steffi Graf and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario as the main challengers. No surprises there.

But there hasn't been such a strong favorite among the men since Mats Wilander won at Roland Garros in 1988. In the past three years, the French

of it.

Other contenders in Paris figure to include Stefan Edberg, Wimbledon champion Michael Stich, Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi, Chang, Costa and clay-court specialists such as Emilio Sanchez, Sergi Bruguera and Thomas Muster. Boris Becker is skipping the French Open because of a thigh injury.

Of all the challengers, Agassi — Courier's former roommate at the Nick Bollettieri academy in Florida — has the game most suited to the red clay in Paris. But he has folded in two straight French Open finals, and this year has slipped to No. 12 in the world rankings.

"He is as much a question mark for me as for you," Courier said. "I do know Andre is one of the most talented players on the tour and he's a threat to win any week he decides he wants to. I am quite sure he will decide he wants to play well here."

So will Chang, who stunned the tennis world three years ago by winning the French at the age of 17. He said he has become more aggressive to keep up with power hitters like Courier.

Open began with wide-open fields and ended with surprise winners — Michael Chang in 1989, Andres Gomez in 1990 and Courier in 1991.

None came into the French with the kind of season that Courier has enjoyed in 1992.

"I'm playing much better," he said. "I feel I'm more of a professional as each day goes by. I know what I need to do to play well. It's been pretty much of a dream year."

There's every reason to believe the dream will continue in Paris, although Courier won't take anything for granted.

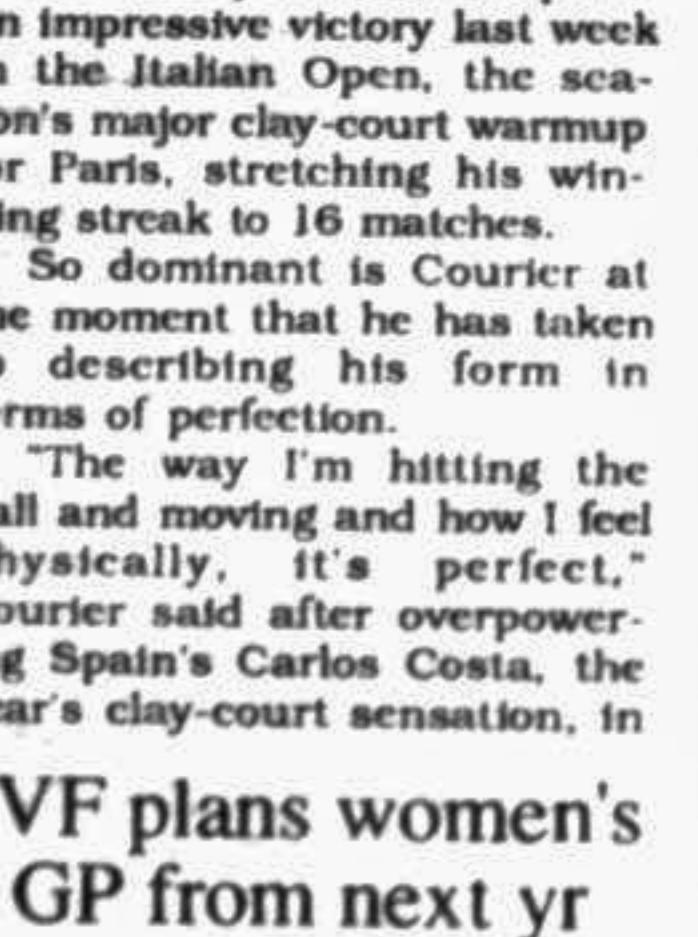
"Two weeks is a long time," he said. "A lot of weird things can happen. That's the beauty

Tragic

LA CROSSE, Wis., May 22: A 17-year-old girl was killed when struck in the head with a discus thrown during a high school track meet Thursday, police said, reports AP.

Angie Peterson, 17, was struck in the back of the head during a meet at La Crosse Logan High School and died later at a hospital.

The victim, a Logan junior competing in the discus, was hit by another athlete's practice discus as she walked through the competition area.



JIM COURIER

IVF plans women's GP from next yr

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, May 22: The inaugural women's volleyball Grand Prix series will open in Tokyo on May 27 next year, Dr Ruben Acosta, president of the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB), said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

This event, with one million dollars prize money at stake, will be contested by the six best national teams in the world plus two teams who must qualify — one from Europe and the other from South America.

After opening in Tokyo, the series will move on to Seoul, Kuala Lumpur, Perth, Bangkok, Taipei and Hong Kong where the final round will be staged from June 17 to 20.

Aouita ready to reclaim glory

NEW YORK, May 22: Said Aouita spent much of 1991 recovering from operations on both his calves, but the Moroccan runner says he is ready to reclaim his place as one of the world's best, reports Reuter.

"People say I'm finished, well I'm not," Aouita said on Thursday at a news conference ahead of Sunday's New York Grand Prix athletics meet. "I have five world records. Now I'm out to prove I'm not finished."

The Moroccan said he has not yet gained the power and endurance needed to compete effectively at 5,000 metres but that he is ready to run and win at 1,500. Running an indoor world record at 3,000 metres in March helped to convince Aouita of his fitness.

"I didn't run well last year, but at the beginning of this season, I began working hard," said Aouita, who credited US sports doctor David Carborra as being instrumental in helping him return to form.

"I set a world record at 3,000, so I guess it's okay," Carborra says. "I can run 3-27 (outdoors at 1,500). I didn't believe I could run a world record (at 3,000), but I did it."

Aouita, who won a 1,500 metres race on Sunday in Sao Paulo, will run the mile in the New York Games.

"I ran a 3:37 in Brazil and last year I ran 3:34 at the same period," said Aouita, who holds the world 1,500 mark of 3:29.46.

WEIGHTS ABANDONED

"That's eight seconds faster, and it's a good sign."

Aouita, 32, said he has abandoned weight training and returned to the regimen he

used early in his career.

"From 1982 to 1985, I did natural training (mainly running) and from 1985 to 1989, I went to modern training (weights) and that caused my injuries," said Aouita. "Now I've changed everything. I'm back to where I was from 82 to 85."

Carborra convinced Aouita to run in the World Championships in Tokyo last summer, and although he finished 11th in the 1,500, Aouita said the experience helped him.

"I ran a 3:33 before Tokyo, so (Carborra) thought it was a good idea to compete," Aouita said. He said, "You must run."

He thought it was a psychological problem because I kept saying I had nothing to prove, I had five world records. He prepared me for Tokyo. When I lost in Tokyo, it made me want to run fast this year."

This year, Aouita is shooting for Olympic gold in Barcelona. Algerian Noureddine Morcelt will probably be favoured to win the 1,500 but don't count out Aouita, who has won an Olympic title in the 5,000 and bronze in the 800.

"I think I can win the 1,500," Aouita said. "My workouts have gone well and I know the athletes. I expect to run under 3:30. If I'm in good shape and Morcelt takes the lead, we can do it."

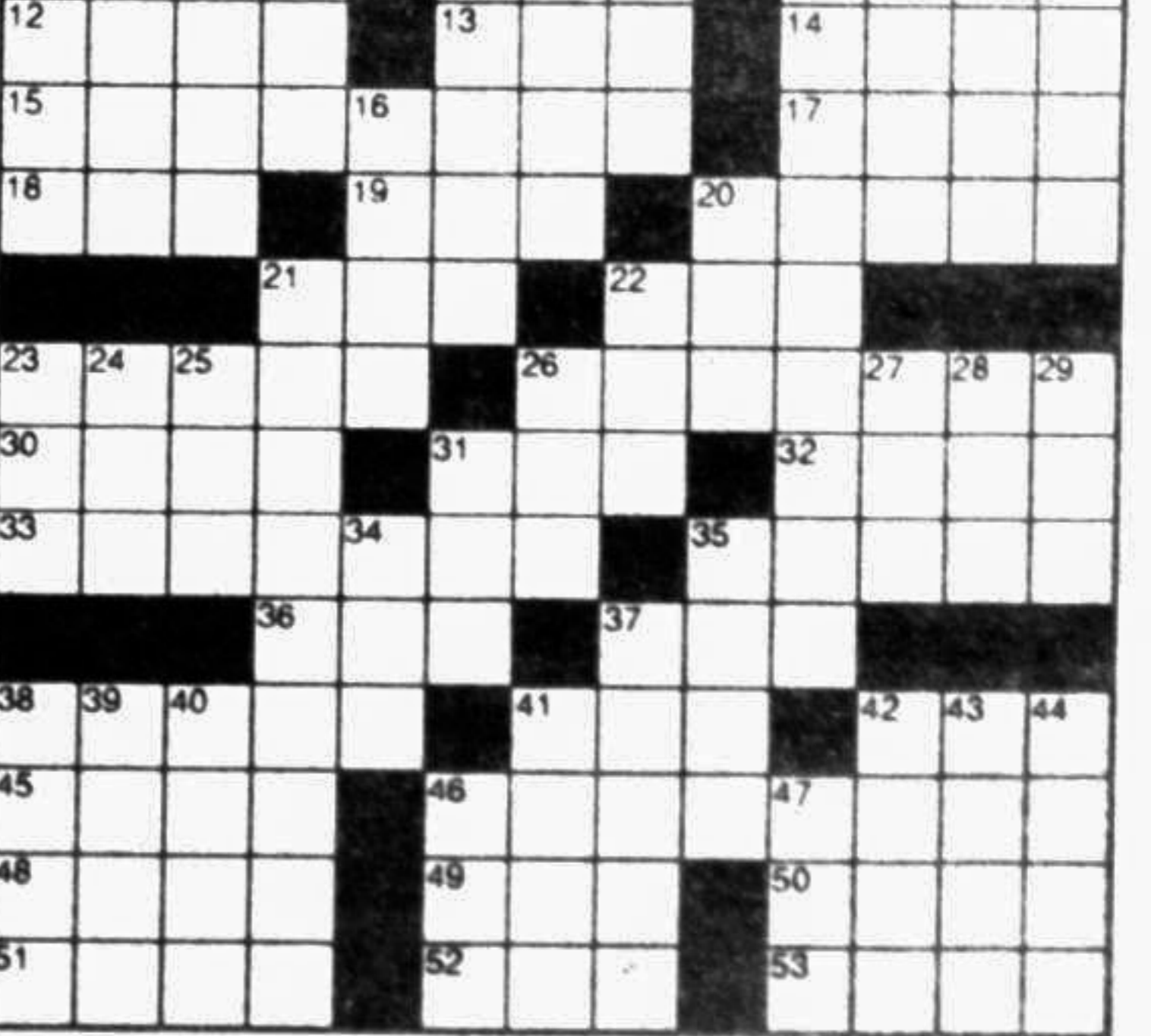


SAID AOUITA... confident of recovery

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Coffee or cider
5 Weaken gradually
8 Lake or singer
12 Dies —
13 Nigerian
14 Role for Luise Rainer
15 Bed throw
17 Barn topper
18 Spanish queen
19 Shabby
20 Postpone
21 Low island
22 The heart
23 Mountain climber's spike
26 Chorus members
30 Serb or Croat
31 Small group of seals
32 Oil-producing country
33 Against the law
35 Very dirty
36 Sought office
37 S.A. country

38 Sultan's house-hold
41 Gaffer's goal
42 Actor Hunter
45 Fetid
46 Concern of reporters
48 Name of baseball siblings
49 Cuckoo
50 October birthstone
51 Coarse file
52 Barbara — Geddes
53 Trading center
3 Etna output
4 Jamie — Curtis
5 Ludicrous
6 Retired
7 — au-feu (French dish)
8 Top advertising model
9 Patron saint of Norway
10 Lion's pride
11 Unique thing
16 Book-binder's leather
20 Funny Knotts
21 Enveloped entirely
22 Spanish hero
23 Greek letter
24 — Take Romance
25 Former chess champ
26 Fa follower
27 Son of Gad
28 Ewe's mate
29 Curve of ship's planking
31 Give a bad review
34 Rita of movies
35 Author Vidal
37 Quibble
38 Very old
39 — breve
40 Rivers, in Spain
41 Corn bread
42 Bark cloth
43 Culture medium
44 Safety or corn follower
46 Mr. Calloway
47 Type style: abbr.



Solution time: 27 mins.
 OTT MAT TREP
 DRAG ORO HOPI
 EERO BAT EMIT
 STOOB BERG
 DAM MOORED
 GOBBLER DOONE
 AMOY WIT DANA
 SALEE GENERAL
 PREACH GOA
 GUAM DRAYS
 AGUA VOW TRAP
 SARI ERI HULA
 SPIN NOG MET

CRYPTOQUIP
 G B P V Z W Y P M P W J V E C I F M V
 M C O P E B Z J Z I P E E
 Y P O P E C X P Y X E C G
 Today's Cryptquip clue: Y equals D
 The Cryptquip 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.