

Bangladesh face Hong Kong on June 16

Nannoo leads SEA Cup squad

Sports Reporter

Minhazul Abedin Nannoo, the Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting skipper, will lead the Bangladesh team in the South East Asia ICC Associate members' limited-overs cricket tourney to be held in Singapore June 16 to 21 next.

Left-arm paceman GM. Nowsheer Prince will be Nannoo's deputy. A press release of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board yesterday announced the selection of a six-man squad for the tournament, the winner of which will qualify for the next Asia Cup. Bangladesh are the defending South East Asian champions, having first won the title in Dhaka in 1986 and then retaining it in Hong Kong three years later.

The SEA cricket competition will be participated also by Malaysia, Hong Kong and hosts Singapore, all associate members of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Papua-New Guinea pulled out of the meet late, thereby delaying the start of the meet by two days. It was originally scheduled to begin June 14.

Bangladesh will face Hong Kong in their first match on June 16.

The Bangladesh team manager and assistant manager will be named by the BCCB after its meeting May 30.

According to BCCB sources, Bangladesh has asked the Singapore Cricket Association to organise at least three warm-up matches before the tour-

nament for the boys to acclimatise. Once the dates of the matches are made known the BCCB will arrange for the team to leave for Singapore about two days before that.

The selectors — chairman Lutfar Rahman Makhani, secretary Reza-e-Karim, Roquibul

Rahman Selim of Abahani, who bowls leg-spin and Mohammedan opener Azher Hossain Shantoo are also handy bowlers in the limited-overs version of the game, as is skipper Nannoo himself.

Nasir Ahmed Nasu, the GMCC wicketkeeper, will do duty behind the stumps.

The selectors have named two stand-bys in MSC's wicket-keeper batsman Jahangir Alam, the young Narayanlal who has made such a name for himself over the past couple of seasons, and Rahman Abu Sayeed Piyal, a promising medium-pace who plays for Biman.

One of the notable omissions from the squad is all-rounder Golam Faruk Suru. Jahangir Shah Badshah, the veteran of almost every previous national team, is also not in the squad, despite claiming most wickets in the last Navaiana league.

Following is the full squad: Minhazul Abedin Nannoo (MSC) captain; Golam Nowsheer Prince (Abahani), vice captain; Aminul Islam Bulbul (MSC), Akram Khan (Abahani), Athar Ali Khan (Brothers), Azhar Hossain Shantoo (MSC), Zahid Razzak Masum (Abahani), Enamul Haq Moni (Biman), Rafiqul Alam (MSC), Jahangir Alam Dulu (MSC), Nasir Ahmed Nasu (GMCC), Saiful Islam Khan (GMCC), Faruq Ahmed (Abahani), Mahubur Rahman Selim (Abahani), Selim Shahed (Biman) and Shahnawaz Shahid Shanu (Biman). Stand-by: Jahangir (MSC) and Rahman Abu Sayeed Piyal.



Hassan, Aliul Islam and Ahmed Iqbal Bachchu — have laid emphasis on a strong batting lineup, as is evident from their choice of only three specialist medium-pace bowlers in Prince, Jahangir Alam Dulu — both left-handers — and Saiful Islam Khan. All-rounder Athar Ali Khan, the Brothers Union captain, is another medium-pace in the squad. The task of spinning has been left to Aminul Islam Bulbul of Mohammedans, Shahnawaz Shahid Shanu and Selim Shahed, the Biman off-spinners, and their left-arm teammate Enamul Haq Moni. Mahubur

Div II qualifying cricket results

Sports Reporter

Three matches were held while two fell through because of unplayable ground conditions in the qualifying competition for promotion to next year's Second Division cricket league yesterday at different venues in and outside the capital.

At the Mohakhali T&T ground, Anushilon Sangsadda defeated Lake Boys by six wickets. Sent in to bat, Lake Boys managed 85 for six wickets from 20 overs, 15 short of the original quota of 35 overs-aside because of inclement weather, with Taki topscoring with 32.

Mahmud took two wickets for Anushilon at a cost of 11 runs while Alamgir took two for ten.

Anushilon overtook the score, making 86 for four with just one ball to spare. Opener Rimon led the victory charge with 42 while his partner Mahubud made 20.

Shawkat, Suki and Tipon of Lake Boys took one wicket each.

Kadamtali Boys Club registered a huge 166-run victory against Disciplined Club at the Mirpur Pallabi ground.

Batting first the winners piled up 213 for seven from 35 overs with Sayem top scoring with 52. Wicketkeeper Sharif with 41 and Raju with 27 were the other notable scorers.

Mintu of Disciplined took three wickets for 28 runs.

Chasing a mammoth target of 214 for victory, Disciplined were shot out for 47, none of their batsmen getting into double figures.

Babu, Rokon and Dulal of Kadamtali picked up two wickets apiece.

In the only match played outside the capital, at the Osmani Stadium in Narayanlal, Maltibagh Cricket Club overcame Holidays Cricket Club by five runs in an exciting encounter.

Put into bat, Maltibagh were all out for 77 in 16.1 overs with Shezan making 19 and Rabbu 12.

Mainul of Holidays claimed three for 13 and Bashar and Mahubud two each. The Holidays batsmen proved themselves a bundle of nerves as they were skittled out for 72 in 17 overs with Pijush making 15.

Swan wrought havoc in the Holidays ranks with figures of four for 12. He was backed by Dulal who snared three batsmen for only ten runs.

The two matches scheduled for the two Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium grounds could not be held because of unplayable conditions. These two ties will now be played today. As a consequence, the other matches of Group B and Group G will be bodily shifted.

Jones engineered a spirited fightback by Durham, who needed 162 to avoid an innings defeat and slumped to 112 for seven. He survived three chances on his way to 50, then batted superbly, hitting 17 fours in his 271-ball innings.

Mursalin wins S. Ray chess

Sports Reporter

Abdullah al-Mursalin Ahmed of the Narayanlal Chess Players' Association (NCPA) with nine points annexed the title of the Satyajit Ray memorial lighting chess competition.

A press release of the NCPA yesterday said the meet, which began under its auspices as part of its lightning chess fortnight, saw another NCPA player Subrata Chandra Saha finish as the runner-up with seven points in his credit.

Syed Munirul Haq of Prati Sangha, Dhaka, Abdul Latif of Mashguli Mahfil, and Anwar Hossain of Goolband Samajkalyan Sanghad placed third, fourth and fifth respectively. In the meet participated by 28 players.

Meanwhile, another lightning chess meet in commemoration of the 93rd birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam concluded at the NCPA premises on May 25. Hassan Kabir Molla Babu of the Fatullah Chess Club emerged champion with six points while Abdullah al-Mursalin Ahmed finished a close runner-up with 5.5 points. Syed Munirul Haq of Prati Sangha was third with five points, NCPA's Subrata Saha fourth with 4.5 and Khandaker Mushtaq Ahmed of Fatullah Chess Club fifth with four points. Masud Kabir, the Narayanlal district champion, was conspicuous by his absence.

Doyle is sure he can easily dip below the Australian selectors' standard of three minutes 44 seconds in the time trial, even "if I'm 10 kilos (20 pounds) overweight".

But he is equally adamant he will not go to Spain if he is not in top condition.

"I don't want to go to the Olympics just to be in the team," he said.

Premier kabaddi

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Rifles Greens, the BDR second selection, and Bangladesh Ansars B posted victories in the Premier Kabaddi league matches held yesterday at the Outer Stadium Kabaddi court.

Bangladesh Rifles Greens outplayed Fire Service B 33-17 in a one-sided affair that saw the winners earn two tonas. The winners led 15-6 at the breather.

The second encounter saw Ansars B struggling to overcome a determined Bangladesh Police B side 8-6 in a keen contest that saw the winners enjoying a slender 2-1 lead at halftime. Neither side managed to score a lona.

Favourites sail smoothly on, but

McEnroe takes his bow in Paris



PARIS, May 27: John McEnroe took a final bow from his unhappy hunting ground at the French Open on Tuesday — but most of the favourites came safely through their opening matches, reports AFP.

who is seeded to play Seles in the semi-finals, did drop a single game in her first tournament match against 98th-ranked Silvia Farina of Italy.

Andre Agassi, beaten finalist for the past two years, wore his trade mark bicycle trunks under denim shorts and added

dered a set to Olivier Soules, an unknown French wild-card entry, on his way to the second round.

And Pete Sampras, seeded to play defending champion Jim Courier in the semi-finals, and Jennifer Capriati, who is seeded fifth in the women's singles, returned to polish off

Frenchman Cedric Pichon in a five-set thriller to join Monday's victim, Jakob Hlasek, on the sidelines.

MAC EXITS
McEnroe's early departure from the championships was not a real surprise. He has never thrived on the slow clay surface and although he came desperately close in the famous 1984 final against Ivan Lendl, it was clear that he could make little impression on 21-year-old Swede Nicklas Kulti.

Now 33 years old and having made it clear that he will retire at the end of the year, the moody American went out in four sets to a player who was nine years old when he lost his Wimbledon final against Bjorn Borg.

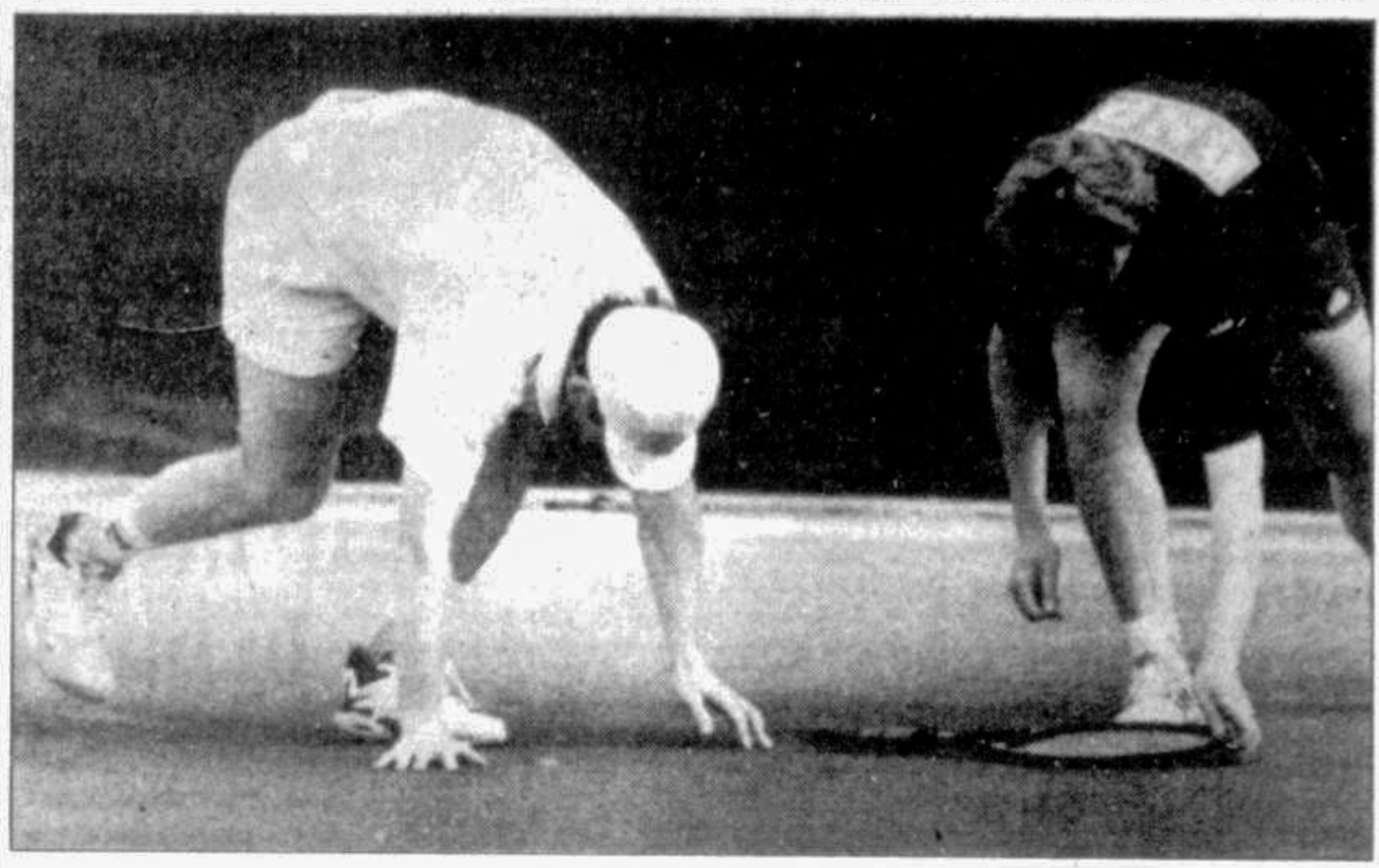
It was the second year running McEnroe had been beaten here in a first round match. "Obviously I'm disappointed. But when you don't feel there isn't any chance of winning then I don't think there is any point in playing."

Although McEnroe has made his exit as a singles player he will still have a last chance to entertain the crowds when he joins up with Agassi later this week for the doubles.

Jimmy Connors, another tennis legend, comes out onto the centre-court on Wednesday.

The 39-year-old American faces Wimbledon champion Michael Stich in a potentially explosive first-round match on Wednesday.

Courier also returns for his eagerly-awaited second-round showdown with hard-hitting Austrian Thomas Muster.



A ballboy picks up John McEnroe's racket after he fell during his French Open first round match against Swede Nicklas Kulti at Roland Garros, Paris on May 26. McEnroe lost the first two sets 2-6, 5-7 but won the third 7-6.

Monica Seles unveiled her new 'Twenties-look' hairstyle on the number-one show court but showed all her old baseline aggression to overcome French opponent Catherine Mothes with the loss of only one game.

Gabriela Sabatini went one better. The Argentinian, who has never won in Paris and

a pirate headscarf to enhance his look. It did him no harm. He scored a swashbuckling straight-sets win over Argentina's Javier Frana.

Second-seed Stefan Edberg, who is desperate to win the only major title that has always eluded him, didn't have things all his own way and surren-

opponents after their Monday matches were stopped by one of the most violent storms in recent memory.

The only seed to fall by the wayside was American Brad Gilbert. The number-fifteen became the second men's seed to fail to reach the second round when he went down to

Agassi looks ahead



PARIS, May 27: Andre Agassi has finally come to terms with losing last year's French Open final to former tennis stab-mate Jim Courier, writes AFP.

"I didn't realise losing the 1991 final had hurt me so much but it's been a tough year for me in many ways. I've been really drained both on and off court, the American said after reaching the second round of this year's tournament.

Agassi, ranked fourth in the world in 1990, has now slipped to 12th but feels he can see light at the end of the tunnel.

"For the first time in six to eight months I'm feeling good about things," he said after beating Argentina's Javier Frana in straight sets 6-1, 6-4, 6-4.

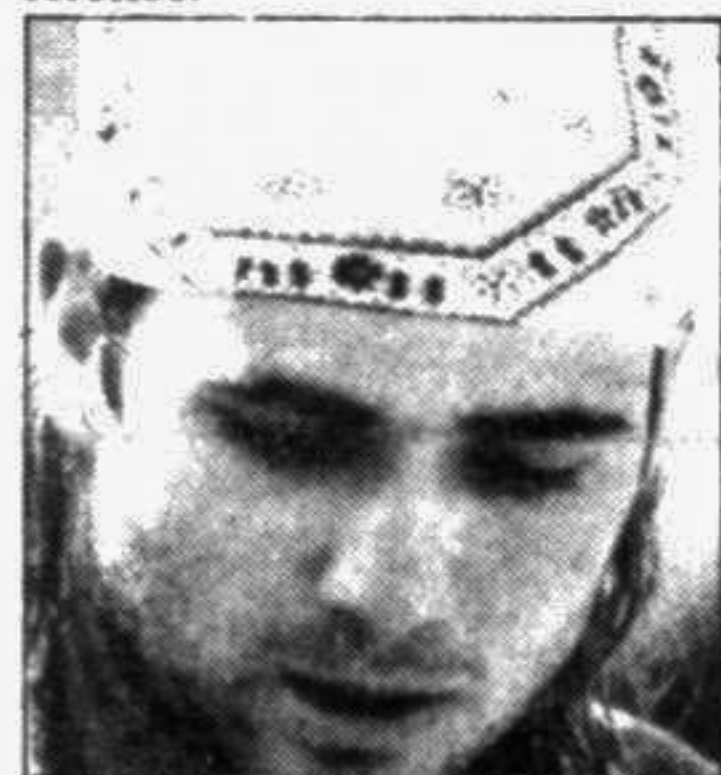
Agassi had chosen an almost conservative clothing wardrobe for Paris but made up for it by wearing a scarf over his head in pirate fashion. The buccaneering line was completed by the beginning of a goatee beard.

"I have a lot to be thankful for. Coming so close to your dreams is something many people never experience," he said.

"But it's also a curse. It can rip away so many things. You really have to turn your mind inside out to come to terms with it."

However, the 22-year-old from Las Vegas now believes the wheel of fortune has

turned his way. "I'm very relaxed now," he said, as he munched his way through a chocolate icecream at his post-match press conference.



ANDRE AGASSI
"I don't want to look back and regret anything. I have so much to look forward to."

And he means to start by capping his fortnight in Paris with his first Grand Slam tournament title.

"That's what I'm here for," he said.

Japanese success

PARIS, May 27: Japan's Akiko Kujimuta moved into the second round of the French Open with a thrilling and exhausting three-set victory over South Africa's Elna Reinach here today, reports AFP.

The 24-year-old from Kumagana clinched the match on a second service when Reinach, whose game was littered with unforced errors, pushed her return wide.

Rashid Sidek top seed



BARCELONA, Spain, May 27: Rashid Sidek, the hero of Malaysia's first Thomas Cup triumph for 25 years, has another chance here on Friday to prove he is a front runner for an Olympic medal, reports AFP.

The Asian and Commonwealth champion, who brought down world champion Zhao Jianhua in the humidity and noise of Kuala Lumpur, is top seed in the city of Barcelona's pre-Olympic tournament from Friday to Sunday.

Badminton makes its Games debut here in less than two months time and Rashid will have the chance to test himself in the purpose built Pavelló De La Marbella, the stadium next to the beach on the Mediterranean Sea.

The Malaysian's main rival, Ardy Wiranata, the 1991, All-England champion he beat in three pulsating games in the final of the Thomas Cup, has withdrawn, and instead another Indonesian is seeded to reach the final.

This is Allan Budi Kusuma, the world silver medalist, although lurking in his half is Foo Kok Keong, who beat him in the Thomas Cup final.

Other contenders for the men's singles title should be Liu Jun, the All-England champion from China, and Poul-Erik Hoyer, the European champion from Denmark.

The main contenders for the women's singles are the

South Koreans Bang Soo-Hyun, who was within a single point of winning the All-England and Lee Heung-Soon, the world number five.

Top seeds in the men's



RASHID SIDEK
doubles are Park Joo Bong and Kim Moon Soo, the world champions from Korea, and Eddie Hartono and Rudy Gunawan, the All-England champions from Indonesia.

Clear favourites for the women's doubles are the world champions from Korea, Hwang Hye-Young and Chung So-Young.

China won't let shuttlers to play for Aussies

SYDNEY, May 27: China has refused permission for two leading badminton players to represent Australia at this year's Barcelona Olympics. The Australian Badminton Association (ABA) announced here Wednesday, reports AFP.

Two hatricks on a day

LONDON, May 27: Hampshire pace-man Kevin Shine and Somerset off-spinner Harvey Trump each did the hat-trick on Tuesday as they bowled their teams to victory in the English county cricket championship, reports Reuters.

Uncapped fast-medium bowler Shine produced the best figures of the season so far as Hampshire topped Lancashire by 172 runs at Old Trafford.

Shine captured eight for 47 as Lancashire, chasing 344 for a minimum of 62 overs, subsided from 132 without loss to 171 all out.

Shine took all his wickets in the space of 38 balls at a cost of just 13 runs, his hat-trick victims being Graham Lloyd, Warren Hegg and Ian Austin, to finish with match figures of 13 for 105.

Trump, also uncapped, recorded his hat-trick as Somerset beat Gloucestershire by 17 runs on a slow, turning pitch at Gloucester.

He accounted for wicket-keeper Jack Russell, Martyn Ball and West Indian pacer Courtney Walsh in successive deliveries to end with seven

for 52 and match figures of 14 for 104.

Gloucestershire, needing 221 for victory, lost their last five wickets for 16 runs.

South African fast bowler Allan Donald, generating high

Australian Tom Moody in one seven-over burst and also accounted for England batsman Graeme Hick, who made 70 from 95 balls.

Australian Test batsman Dean Jones hit 157 for Durham but could not prevent the championship newcomers from losing to Northamptonshire by eight wickets off the last possible delivery at Stockton.

Jones engineered a spirited fightback by Durham, who needed 162 to avoid an innings defeat and slumped to 112 for seven. He survived three chances on his way to 50, then batted superbly, hitting 17 fours in his 271-ball innings.

Lewis arrived 50 minutes late for the first day of Notts' three-day championship game at Derby on Saturday.

He was on his way back from England's one-day international win over Pakistan at the Oval the previous day and blamed heavy motorway traffic for his late arrival.

Nottinghamshire captain Tim Robinson said on Tuesday: "He has been given a stern warning and the matter is now closed."

pace, took five for 69 as Warwickshire beat Worcestershire by 52 runs at Edgbaston.

Donald dispatched Tim Curtis, Adam Seymour and

Doyle remains determined

SYDNEY, May 27: Australian runner Simon Doyle said on Wednesday he was confident of winning a medal in the Olympic Games despite having had a leg operation only six days ago, reports Reuters.

Doyle, the second fastest man over 1,500 metres last year, had an operation last Thursday on an injured Achilles tendon in his left leg and expects to be running again within a week.

Although the first round of the 1,500 metres in Barcelona is just over two months away, the 25-year-old believes he is a medal chance. "I have always thought that," he told Reuters.

His confidence stems from running 1,500 metres in three minutes 31.97 seconds in Stockholm last July, second only in time to the world num-

ber one, Algeria's Noureddine Morceli.

Two days later he ran a personal best of three minutes 49.97 seconds in the Dream Mile in Oslo, finishing fourth but less than one second behind winner Peter Elliott of Britain.

He was ranked second in the world in the 1,500 in 1990, his first season in Europe.

Doyle injured his leg in mid-April and did not run for several weeks, his longest period off training in six years.

"I am hopeful that with all this work behind me (the lay-off) will not have much effect," he said.

"My past record has been that I don't need many races to get right."

The injury was the second setback in less than a year for Doyle as he finished last in the

World Championships 1,500 metres final in Tokyo last year because of a stomach ailment.

He plans to run a time-trial in Canberra, where he is based at the Australian Institute of Sport, in early July before heading to Europe.

The first round of the Olympic 1,500 metres is on August 3 but before then Doyle said he might run one race during the European track season and a time trial.

Doyle is sure he can easily dip below the Australian selectors' standard of three minutes 44 seconds in the time trial, even "if I'm 10 kilos (20 pounds) overweight".

But he is equally adamant he will not go to Spain if he is not in top condition.

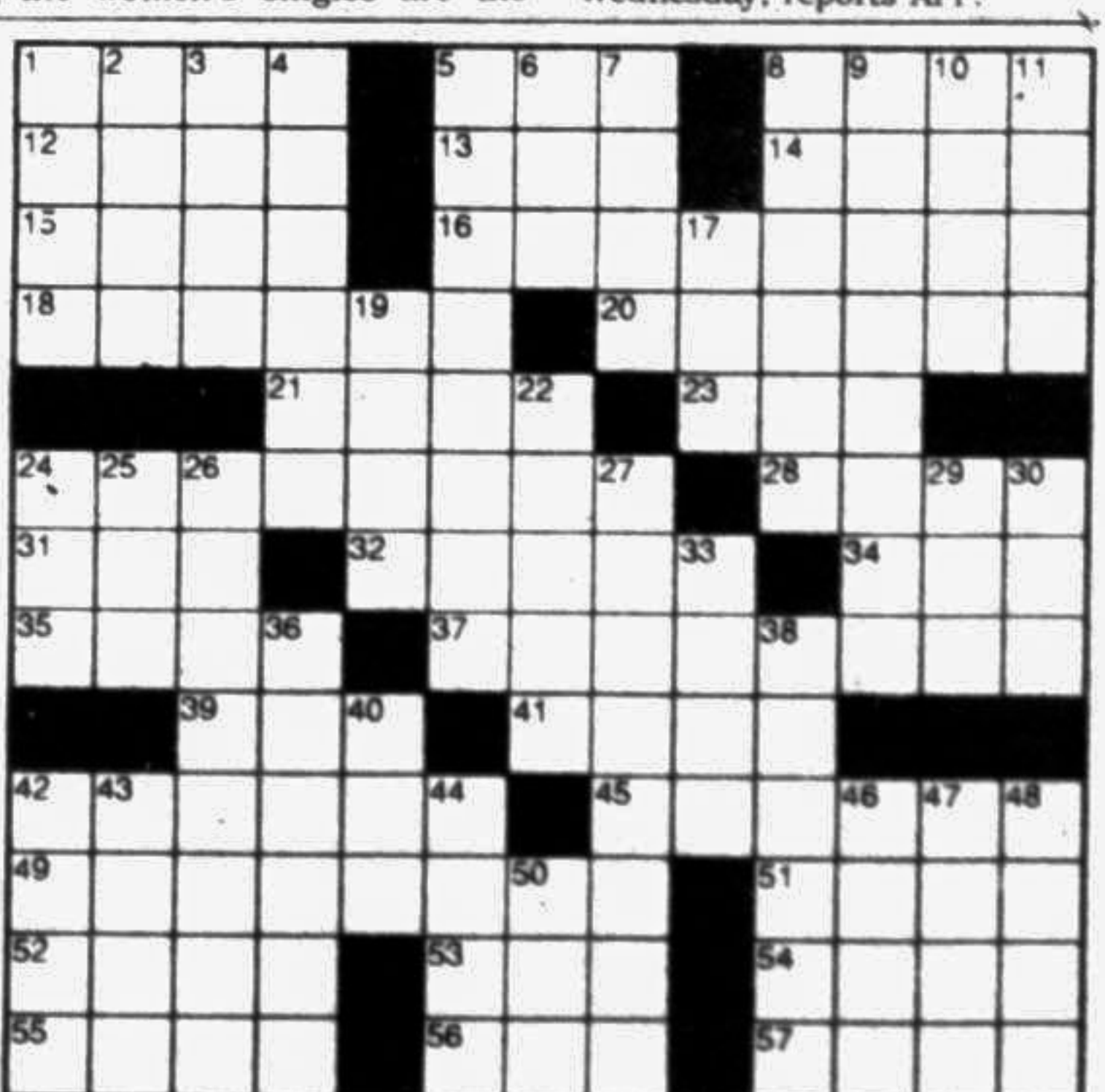
"I don't want to go to the Olympics just to be in the team," he said.



Action from yesterday's Premier kabaddi league match at the Outer Stadium. —Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
1 Oil cartel
5 Coat or nut lead-in
8 Minced
12 — con
Dios
13 Director
Howard
14 Biblical trio
15 Seine sights
16 In retreat
18 Make harmless
20 Fountain favorite
21 Sci. subject
23 He defeated A.E.S.
24 Pursue
28 Break suddenly
31 "Who am I — argue?"
32 Thigh-bone
34 —
Sentimental Mood"
35 Confined, with "up"
37 Fugitives
39 Scale member
- 41 It's "not to the swift"
42 Formal research papers
45 Wisconsin resident
49 Meets by chance
51 Bird of peace
52 Gaelic
53 Debtor's slip
54 Buffalo's lake
55 Winter vehicle
56 Favorite
57 Small, wooded glen
DOWN
1 Roman poet
2 Language of Buddhism
3 "For Your — Only"
4 Edible melon
5 Don King is one
6 Extremely long time
7 Hill-builders
8 Makes corrections
9 Fragrant blossom
10 Water, in Mexico
11 Wine and —
17 Oscar-winner for
- Patricia Neal
19 Repeated phrase in jazz
22 Monkey's cousin
24 Fictional sleeper
25 Shoshone
26 Trivialities
27 Roadster
29 "Have you — wool?"
30 Dance step
33 Biblical word of reproach
36 Made the salad
38 Joined closely
40 Luau garland
42 Very, in Versailles
43 Throw with force
44 Small piece
46 Author Vidal
47 Anagram of veil
48 Highland dance
50 Water tester?



CRYPTOQUIP
TOJ, VOHDR UGWVHLLYDVD
TRNR URDV ZNYRLXD PLVYV
VORJ OGX G ZGWVYLC HPV.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: W equals L

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.