

Aussies in dire straits

PERTH, Jan 31: West Indies pacesman Curtly Ambrose, destroyer of Australia's first innings, struck again on Sunday to leave them facing imminent defeat in the fifth and final Test, reports Reuter.

Ambrose, who took seven wickets as Australia crumbled for 119 on the opening day, struck twice on the second day to leave them in desperate trouble after West Indies had run up a total of 322 for a first innings lead of 203.

At close of play, Australia were 75 for four in their second innings, still faced with the task of making 128 just to avoid an innings defeat, and with it the loss of the series.

Ambrose inflicted further humiliation on Australia with the controversial dismissal of opener Justin Langer for one run, and Shane Warne for a duck.

The two wickets took Ambrose's total for the series to a record 33 wickets, passing Joel Garner's haul of 31 against Australia in the West Indies in 1984.

West Indies, 135 for one overnight, built a commanding lead thanks to a dashing innings from Keith Arthurton (77) — he shared a sixth-wicket partnership of 75 with wicketkeeper Junior Murray (37) — and Phil Simmons (80).

Merv Hughes, the pick of Australia's bowlers, took four wickets for 71.

Australia, whose hopes of a first series victory over West Indies since the 1975-76 rubber were severely damaged when they lost the fourth Test by just one run, were left needing a miracle after their second innings collapsed.

Following Ambrose's dismissal of Langer, who appeared on television replays to have edged the ball to substitute Gus Logic with his shoulder and not the bat, Ian Bishop snared the wicket of Steve Waugh for a duck to reduce Australia to 14 for two.

Then Mark Waugh was out for 21, caught off Bishop, to make the total 67 for three and Warne fell without addition to the total.

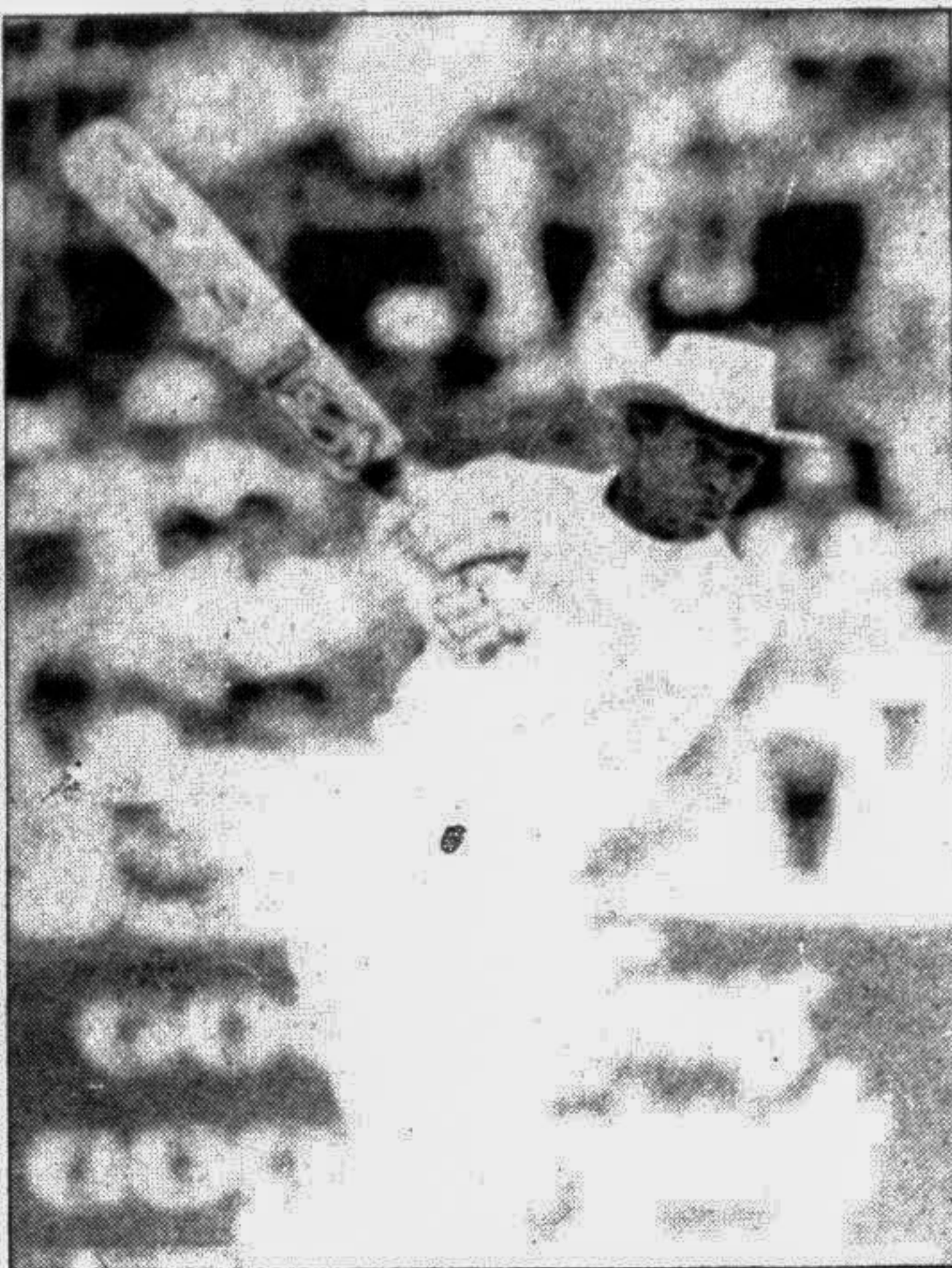
At the close, opener David Boon, the only batsman able to cope with the pace, remained undefeated on 45 with Damien Martyn three.

Boon and Mark Waugh put on 52 runs in the highest ever third-wicket partnership for Australia against the West Indies in Perth, but the West Indians were relishing the rock hard, bouncy pitch where they have never lost a Test.

Bishop had figures of two for 14 and Ambrose had two for 29.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the fifth and final Test



Keith Arthurton in action during West Indies' first innings in the fifth Test against Australia in Perth yesterday. The aggressive left hander scored 77.

between the West Indies and Australia today.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 119 (D Boon 44, C Ambrose 7)



P SIMMONS...80 for 25

WEST INDIES: First innings D Haynes c Healy b Hughes 24

P Simmons c S Waugh b Angel 80

R Richardson c Langer b McDermott 47

B Lara c Warne b McDermott 16

AUSTRALIA: Second innings D Boon not out 45

J Langer c sub (Logic) b Ambrose 1

S Waugh c sub (Logic) b Bishop 0

M Waugh c Richardson b Bishop 21

S Warne c Murray b Ambrose 0

D Martin not out 3

Extras: (1b; 2lb; 2nb) 5

Total: For four wickets 75

Fall of wickets: 13, 14, 67, 67

Bowling: O M R W

C Ambrose 12 5 29 2

Ian Bishop 9 4 14 2

C Walsh 7 2 22 0

A Cummins 4 2 7 0

Hayden one step closer

SYDNEY, Jan 31: Opener Matthew Hayden edged himself closer to contention for an Australian Test debut and moved Queensland towards victory against Victoria with his fifth first-class century on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Hayden scored 112 to take his season's run tally to 909 runs and his average to 60.6 and helped Queensland reach 321 for seven declared in their second innings for a lead of 36.

Victoria, bowled out for 155 in their first innings, were in trouble at 46 for three at the close on the third day of their four-day Sheffield Shield match.

Hayden, 21 and mooted as a Test selection this season, continued to press his claims for a place on this year's tour of England with an opening partnership of 198 with Trevor Barsby (81).

New South Wales had to settle for first innings points after Tasmania batted all day to draw their match at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Johnson still not happy



GLASGOW, Jan 31: American Michael Johnson outclassed all opposition but reckoned he ran badly in winning a 400 metres indoor race on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Johnson allowed Briton David Grindley to lead until the final bend and then accelerated effortlessly to win by nearly half a second in 46.43 seconds.

But he dismissed his winning return to competition after his individual disappointment at the Barcelona Olympics.

"Technically I was terrible. I ran really badly," he said. But his performance impressed Olympic 400 metres finalist Grindley. "It's still a new feeling for me running against the big boys, but he just had another gear to me," the 20-year-old Briton said.

Johnson was eliminated in the Olympic 200 metres semi-finals, blaming his failure on a stomach virus caused by a plate

of suspect Spanish food, but came back to win a gold medal in the world record-breaking US 4x400 metres relay squad.

Fellow world champion Mike Powell scored another American success by winning the long jump with a leap of 8.36 metres, the longest recorded on a British indoor track.

Russian Olympic champion Maxim Tarasov equalled the British all-comers record in the pole vault by clearing 5.80 metres and Natalia Voronova clocked the fastest lap run by a woman on a British indoor track to win the 200 metres in 22.81 seconds.

Russia beat Britain convincingly in both men's and women's matches.

Former Olympic champion Roger Kingdom won the 60 metres hurdles, Henry Neal upstaged his better-known compatriot Dennis Mitchell in the 60 metres and world indoor champion Hollis Conway edged out Sweden's Patrik Sjoeborg in the high jump on a comeback after both cleared 2.29 metres.

Nayan and Mobu scored 24 and 16 respectively for Balkali Sangha. Apple and Mukul claimed three and two wickets respectively for the winners.

Rajshahi Town Club beat Rajshahi Cricket Club by 26 runs in the other match of the day.

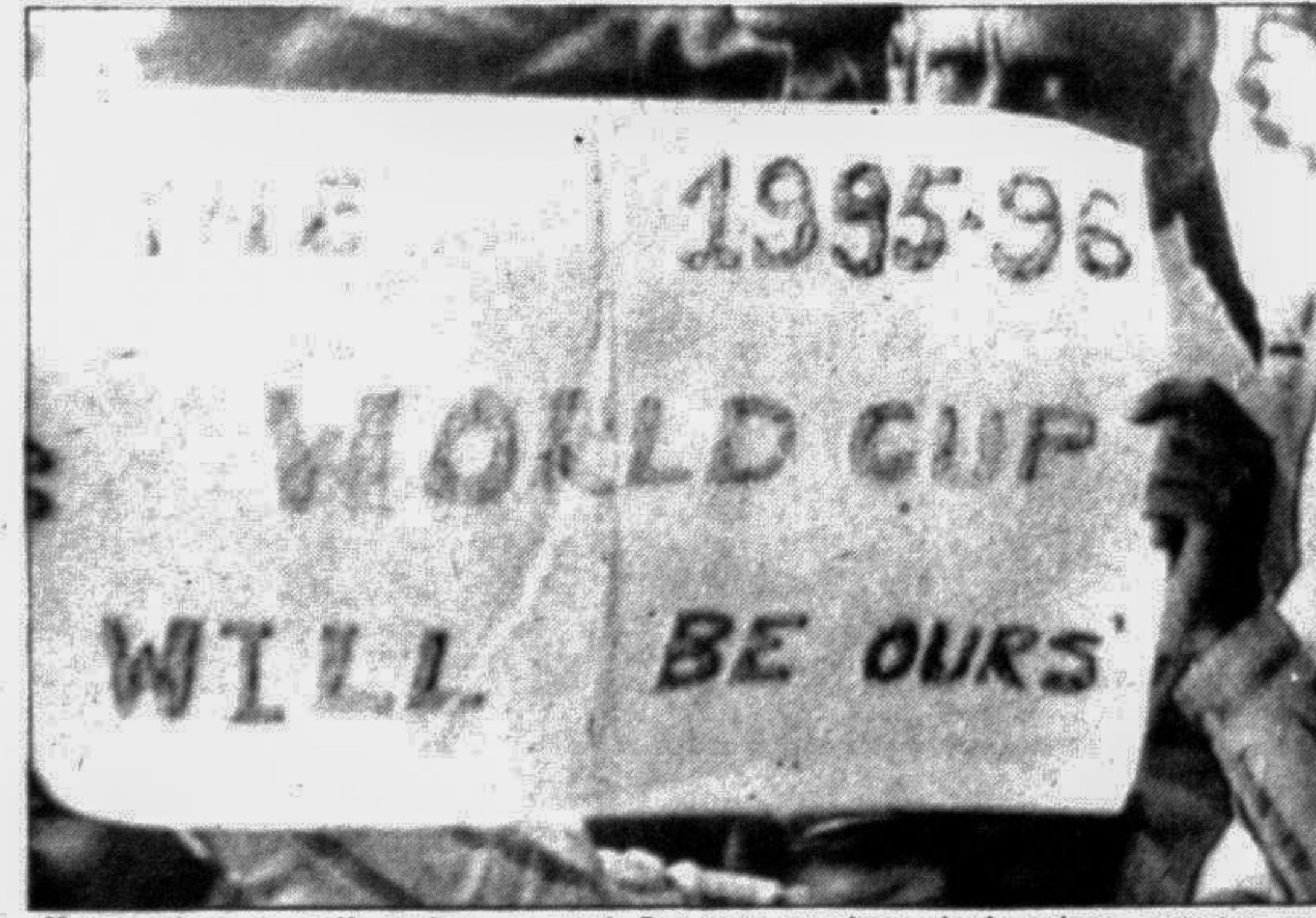
TODAY'S MATCHES
Willow KC vs Diganta Prashani (Rajshahi Stadium)
Friends Sporting vs United Club (Divisional Stadium)

Indoor stadium construction work resumes

Sports Reporter
The second-phase construction work of the country's first national indoor stadium at Mirpur begins today.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia will inaugurate the construction work as chief guest at 3:00 pm.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain will preside over the function.



Hope springs eternally in human mind. But it is not clear whether these optimists are forecasting a second coming of the World Cup to the sub-continent or an Indian resurgence. — Star TV photo

British tennis finds a hero

MELBOURNE, Jan 31: British tennis, so starved of success in recent years, has found a hero in 17-year-old James Bailey who carried off the boys' singles title at the Australian Open championships here today, reports Reuter.

Unseeded Bailey, to the surprise of all including the British journalists packed into the press box on Number One court, emphatically beat New Zealander Steven Downs 6-3, 6-2 in 73 minutes.

The tennis history books show that Billy Knight was the last Briton to win the junior boys' title here back in 1954 and Gerald Battick was the last to win one of the four Grand Slam titles in 1965.

Hampshire born Bailey, 18 on Monday, was far too good for the similarly unseeded Steven, regularly unleashing a ferocious forehand to produce winners on both sides of the court.

— AFP photo

AUSTRALIA: First innings 119 (D Boon 44, C Ambrose 7)

Bowling: O M R W
C McDermott 22 4 85 3
M Hughes 25.4 6 71 4
J Angel 19 4 72 1
S Warne 12 0 51 0
S Waugh 6 3 8 0
M Waugh 6 1 21 2

AUSTRALIA: Second innings D Boon not out 45

J Langer c sub (Logic) b Ambrose 1

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AUSTRALIAN OPEN NOTEBOOK

MELBOURNE, Jan 31: Stefan Edberg had already finished his press conference in English and Swedish after losing the final to Jim Courier 6-2, 6-1, 2-6, 7-5. Then he went on his way to do numerous TV interviews, reports AP.

When he came back through the interview room later he found the journalists still sitting and waiting for Courier to come back after his plunge in the Yarra River.

Edberg didn't miss his moment for a little humor. He quickly dashed up to the platform, sliding into a chair.

"I'm hear to answer Jim's questions," Edberg quipped.

The Swede received resounding applause.

Jim Courier became the seventh top seed to win the Australian Open since the Open era. There were four top seeds who lost in the final since the Open era.

Stefan Edberg became the third No. 2 seed to lose in a final since the Open era. The 2 seed has been successful on 10 occasions since the Open era.

The No. 1 and No. 2 seeds have been in five finals here since 1975.

Courier, the No. 2 seed, beat No. 1 Edberg in the 1991 final.

In 1982, No. 1 Johan Kriek defeated No. 2 Stefan Edberg; in January 1977, No. 2 Roscoe Tanner defeated No. 1 Guillermo Vilas; and in 1975, No. 2 John Newcombe defeated Jimmy Connors.

The Courier-Edberg match marked the 10th time in Australian Open history that the same two players met in consecutive finals.

Jack Crawford and Harry Hopman met in 1931 and 1932. Crawford won both matches.

Fred Perry and Jack Crawford met in 1934 and 1935. Perry won the first and Crawford the second.

John Bromwich and Dinny Pails met in 1946 and 1947. Bromwich won the first and Pails the second.

Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor met in 1949 and 1950. Sedgman won both matches.

Ken Rosewall and Lew Hoad met in 1955 and 1956. Rosewall won the first and Hoad the second.

Roy Emerson and Rod Laver met in 1961 and 1962. Emerson won the first and Laver the second.

Roy Emerson and Fred Stolle met in 1964 and 1965. Emerson won both matches.

Roy Emerson and Arthur Ashe met in 1966 and 1967. Emerson won both matches.

Johan Kriek and Steve Denton met in 1981 and 1982. Kriek won both matches.

THE 1993 Australian Open set an attendance record, which makes the event the largest sporting event Down Under.

The tournament improved its attendance by one percent over last year. This year 332,074 flocked to the Open. In 1992, there were 329,034 spectators.

THE International Tennis Federation presented dhs 75,000 to the International Tennis Hall of Fame, located in Newport, RI.

The payment, which was made during the Australian Open, is the first payment in a promised dhs 500,000 over a five-year period that the ITF will give to the Hall of Fame.

"We need to know of the past to appreciate the present and the Hall of Fame enables us to do this," said Brian Tobin, president of the ITF. "It is the most complete record and display of the history of the game. We are happy to offer financial assistance so the good work can continue."

The ITF, a governing body of the sport, has 176 member nations. It is responsible for the rules of the game and the general development of the sport worldwide.

Rajshahi cricket
Sports Reporter

Bright Star registered an easy 26-run victory against Balkali Sangha in the Rajshahi Bhorer Kagaj First division cricket league at the Rajshahi Stadium yesterday.

Batting first Bright Star were all out for 128 in 34.4 overs with Mahiuddin topscoring with 20.

Shakhawat and Babu took three and two wickets respectively for Balkali Sangha. Bright Star restricted Balkali Sangha to 102 in 31.4 overs.

Nayan and Mobu scored 24 and 16 respectively for Balkali Sangha. Apple and Mukul claimed three and two wickets respectively for the winners.

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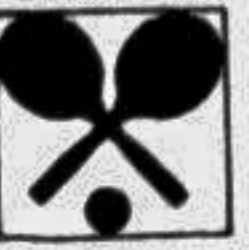
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Courier keeps Edberg at bay



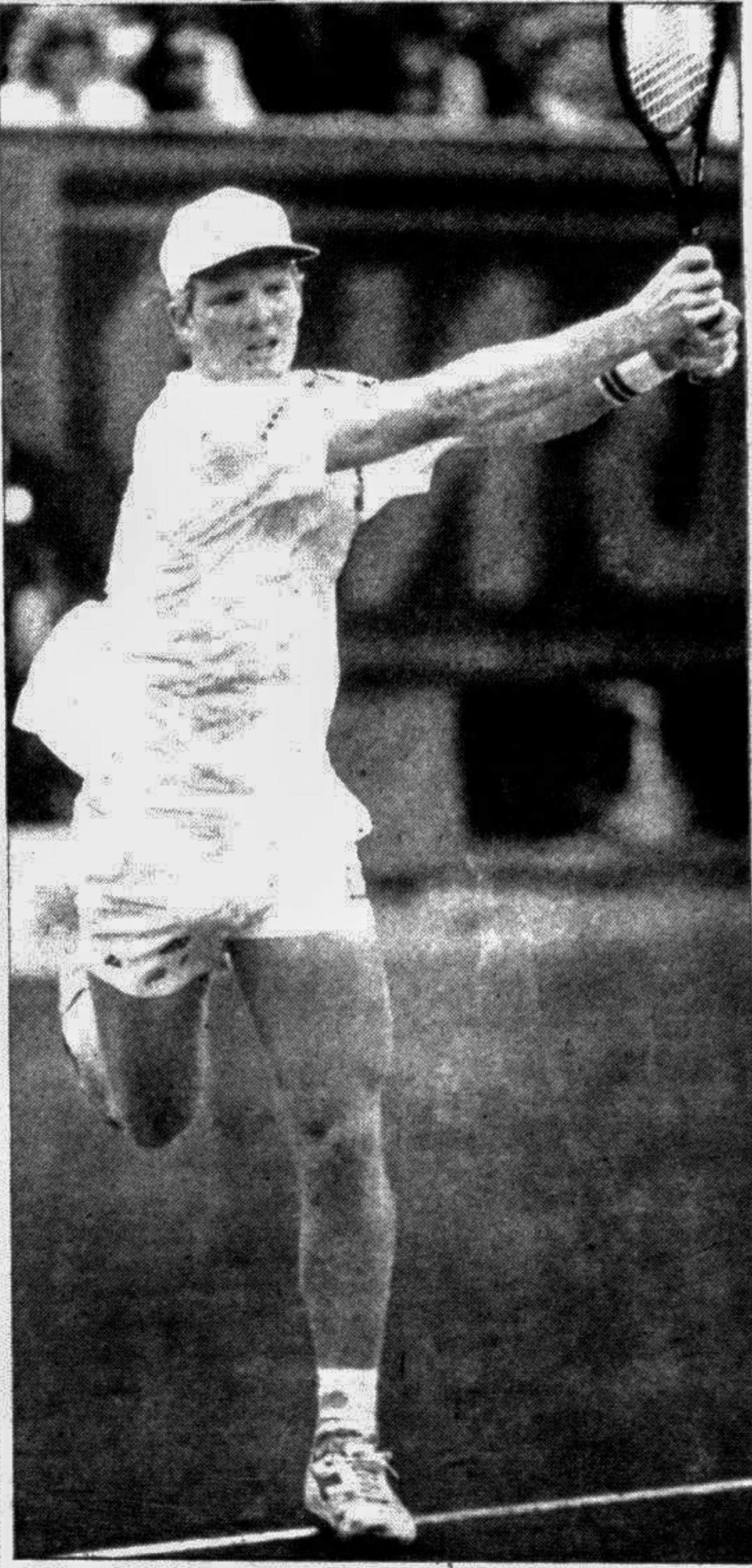
MELBOURNE, Jan 31: Jim Courier kept his nerve when Stefan Edberg turned up the heat and scored a 6-2, 6-1, 2-6, 7-5 win Sunday in the men's singles final at the Australian Open, reports Reuter.

In a repeat of his finals victory over Edberg last year, the 22-year-old American thrived in stifling conditions that saw air temperatures soar to 40°C (104°F) and rise to 67°C (153°F) on the synthetic Rebound Ace court.

"It's always very special to win a Grand Slam to come back and defend it makes it twice as special," Courier said.

As he did last year, Courier celebrated his win by diving fully clothed into the murky Varra River for a brief swim with coach Brad Stine.

The river runs alongside the National Tennis Center complex, and Courier was cheered by dozens of fans.



JIM COURIER... retains title

"At least this year I knew it was the 18th dirtiest river in the world," he said.

Courier said he found difficulty breathing in the sultry conditions.

"The hotter the better," he said before the match. And the Florida native did cope better with the heat than Edberg, who wilted as Courier kept exerting pressure with a mixture of depth and deftness.

"It's quite impossible to play your best tennis in that heat," Edberg said. "In the first two sets I didn't feel like I belonged in the match at all."

Courier roared through the first two sets in just 62 minutes, dropping only five points on serve and breaking No. 2 seed Edberg four times.

Courier's serves were punishing, his returns deadly accurate and his groundstrokes ruthless. He hit the ball early at every opportunity.

Edberg then rallied in the third set as the top seed went into an inexplicable slump.

The Swedish two-time champion broke Courier's previously impenetrable serve three times and the American appeared to have lost concentration as he made a succession of errors of the kind that were totally alien to his game in the first two sets.

World No. 1 Courier made eight of his 14 unforced errors in the third set as Edberg chipped and charged.

Encouraged, Edberg, Ranked No. 2, kept his poise despite making eight foot faults, and pushed Courier right through the fourth set.

It was a stirring comeback, but Courier didn't let it last.

The pair exchanged service breaks but it was Courier who finally broke through when Edberg double faulted to put Courier up 6-5. Courier served out to win in two hours 32 minutes.

"I just played as hard as I could the whole time," he said.

"It was the same temperature on both sides of the court."

The final set took 53 minutes as both players struggled to keep up with the ferocious early pace. Edberg served five of his nine double faults in the last set.

"He played a great match coming back," Courier said.

Courier raised his hands in triumph, then squatted and pumped his fists before throwing his cap toward his chair.

He won the fourth Grand Slam title of his career and has a 4-1 record in Grand Slam finals. He has won the last two French Opens.

Overall, it was the 10th singles title of his career and

his first since the French Open.

He now is 16-2 in matches at the Australian Open.

Edberg, 27, dipped to 6-5 in Grand Slam finals but paid tribute to Courier.

"He played unbelievable tennis," he said. "He didn't make any mistakes in the first two sets."

Edberg said he would have been against playing the final indoors despite the heat and said he adjusted as the match progressed.

"At one stage I felt like death, but I started to feel a lot better," he said. "I wouldn't have minded playing a fifth set, but he was too strong in the end."

Courier said he, too, would have refused to play if officials had sought to close the Center-Court roof to keep out the sun. It was closed several times this week for rain.

"I wouldn't have come out, and then they'd have been real stuck," he joked.

Courier's aggression gave him the edge. He hit 56 winners to Edberg's 33 and won 115 points to 86.

Courier earned US dhs 2,78,800 for his victory, while Edberg collected dhs 1,39,400.

Edberg discarded his baseball cap at 2-5 in the first set, finding it shaded him but also hampered his serve.

"It didn't work. I wasn't used to it," he said. "I started to watch the cap and not the ball."

He also did not wear the back support he has been wearing after suffering muscle spasms earlier in the tournament.

"I would have died in that today," he said.

Edberg never has won the event at the National Tennis Center, where it switched in 1988. His two previous triumphs both came on grass at Kooyong.

Hundreds of members of the crowd found the heat too intense and moved from the stadium to the concourse to watch the end of the match on television monitors.

Gigi Fernandez of the United States and Natalia Zereva of Belarus, the top seeds, won the women's doubles final with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over 10th-seeded pair Pam Shrier of the United States and Elizabeth Smylie of Australia.

The winners shared US dhs 1,14,240 for their win, while the losers collected dhs 57,120.

It was the fourth Grand Slam title in succession for Fernandez and Zereve.

No. 1 seed Monica Seles of Yugoslavia on Saturday won the women's singles title for the third straight year, beating No. 2 seed Steffi Graf, 23, of Germany 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Selem, 19, now has a perfect 21-0 match record at the Australian Open.

Westner pockets \$620,000

DUBAI, UAE, Jan 31: South African Wayne Westner shot a 70 Sunday to win the 400,000 sterling (dhs-620,000) Dubai Desert Golf Classic with an overall 14 under par total of 274, reports AP.

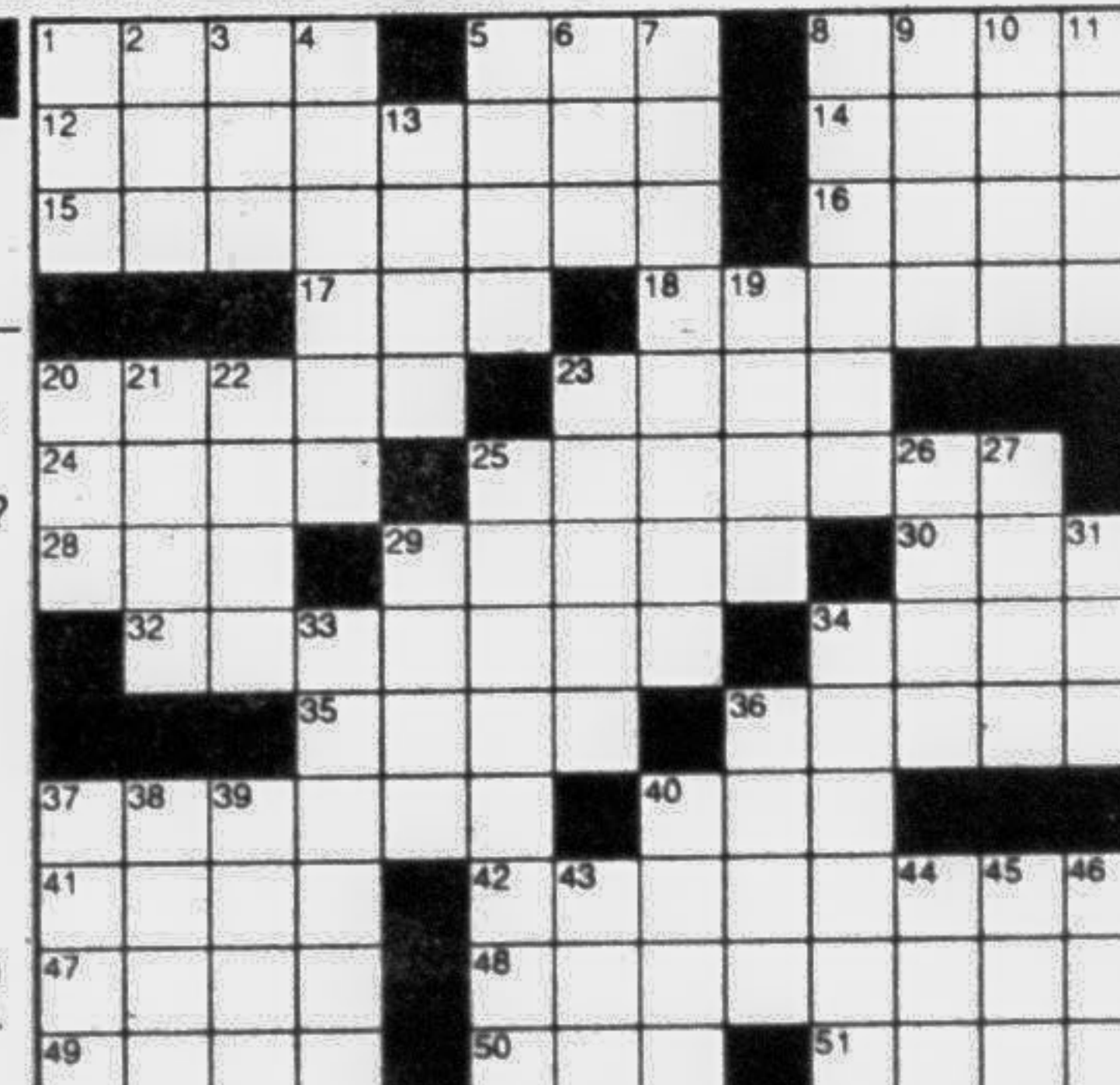
Fellow South African Retief Goosen completed an excellent day by taking second place with a 12-under par total of 278.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Type of hammer
5 Caesar's 1,101
8 Cold Adriatic wind
12 Process used in making soda water
14 Egg-shaped
15 Scaleless sea fish
16 Singer Home
17 Choose
18 Corrects the text
20 Rural structures
23 Sandarac tree
24 Epic poetry
25 Heavily armed cavalryman
28 Actress Salonga
29 Spherical-shaped bacteria
30 Weasel's sound?
32 Prolong unnecessarily
34 Emerald Isle
35 Borders
36 Slander
37 "Top-40" lists
40 Head of the fairway
41 Wash contest
42 Hot-rod
47 War god
48 Heli-copter's forerunner
49 Actress of early TV
50 Affirmative vote
51 Yale grads
19 O.

DOWN
1 Bounder
2 Irish sea god
3 Brazilian macaw
4 Con-estogas
5 Word with jelly or julep
6 Runner Sebastian
7 Dove tail
8 Ravel opus
9 Baker's need
10 Author Ayn
11 Woe is me!
13 Sur-passes
19 O.

Henry's "The Gift of the —"
20 Barbara Geddes
21 Mimicked
22 Leo's message?
23 Archway
25 Time of judgment
26 Role for young Ron Howard
27 Ibsen's "doll"
29 Canadian youth org.
31 Through
33 Collar a crook
34 Become apparent
36 Western lily
37 Applaud
38 Tortoise's opponent?
39 Declare
40 London farewell
43 Bea's "Golden Girls" roomie
44 Trouble
45 Dernier
46 Dawn goddess



CRYPTOQUIP

BUH MPJUQ J'DH BG
VHSDHX JV MPZM
OHSMZJU OHYYJVMV
PZDH GBR YHQV
Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF TAILOR WAS ASKED WHY HE WAS LATE FOR WORK HE HEMMED AND HAWED.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: B equals O

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.