



World number one Steffi Graf of Germany through with a serve against Argentine Gabriela Sabatini, the fifth seed, in the quarterfinals of the US Open tennis. Graf advanced to the semifinal with a 6-2, 5-7, 6-1 victory. — AFP photo

## Becker, Courier way laid

**NEW YORK, Sept 8:** They came out of nowhere, mystery men, ambushing Jim Courier by day and Boris Becker by night in this zaniest of US Opens, reports AP.

Most fans never heard of Cedric Pioline and Magnus Larsson, yet there they stood in the quarterfinals while the No 1 Courier and No 4 Becker sulked away.

No sooner was the Becker upset over than another curious match ended in the grandstand. Andrei Medvedev, a 19-year-old Czech playing his first US Open, reached the quarterfinals by defeating the Netherlands' Richard Krajcek 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7-4).

Taking an unbelievable fall was Australia's Jaime Morgan. In one of the Open's all-time collapses, Morgan blew a 5-0 lead in the fifth set, and match point at 5-1, in losing to compatriot Wally Masur. Masur took the last seven games to win 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5 and advance to the quarters.

Steffi Graf and Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere advanced as expected, though Graf had a struggle over Gabriela Sabatini.

The fans cheered Courier to defeat Tuesday. They rubbed it in with a loud, cruel cry — "Bye, bye, Jimmy" — before the final point. Never did US Open fans seem so pleased to see an American lose and a Frenchman win.

They roared for the slender, smiling Pioline as his blistering backhands sent Courier scurrying corner to corner. They oohed and aahed at his dozen aces. They loved his touch volleys and overheads and his calmness under pressure.

And when it was over, when Courier and his snarling, cursing and racket-dropping had nowhere else to go, Pioline had a 7-5, 6-7 (7-4), 6-4, 6-4 victory over the world's top-ranked player.

Hours later, it was Becker's turn. He had the crowd behind him. He seemed ready to make another trademark comeback from two sets down as he did in the first round and seven times before. But his once-mighty serve failed him in the end and he, too, was gone against a stranger, losing to Sweden's Larsson 6-2, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.

Larsson, a clay specialist who played in only six hard-court tournaments this year, out-aced Becker 15-10. Becker double-faulted eight times to the Swede's one.

Trailing 6-5 in the fourth set, Becker double-faulted to 15-30. Two points later he was way long on a forehand. Then he hit his first serve long by five feet (1.5 metres) and finally knocked a forehand wide to lose.

If Becker's loss was stunning, Courier's was historic. The last time a Frenchman beat the No 1 seed at the US championship was 1927, when Rene Lacoste toppled Bill Tilden.

into trouble with his mistakes in this match as much as his arrogance toward the public.

Despite Courier's success this year — the Australian Open title, the finals of the French Open and Wimbledon — his increasingly churlish behaviour on and off the court is endearing him to no one. He chalked up the crowd's cheers for the No 15 Pioline to a typical American desire for an upset.

"Everybody loves the underdog," Courier said.

But it seemed deeper and nastier than that. When Courier was down two sets to one, the crowd didn't get behind him, didn't try to lift him as it did Jimmy Connors or John McEnroe in the past or Martina Navratilova in her loss Monday. This Open has been filled with upsets, but all the big names who have fallen were cheered to the end — except Courier.

Immediately after Pioline's victory, a brief thunder lightning storm struck, as if to punctuate the moment. When the storm passed, women's No 1 Graf shakily advanced to the semifinals with a 6-2, 5-7, 6-1 victory over 1990 champion and No 5 seed Sabatini.

Graf appeared in good shape, serving to end the match at 5-3 in the second set. But Sabatini suddenly played more daringly. She broke, then



Sweden's Magnus Larsson rejoices after recording an upset victory over fourth seed German Boris Becker in the fourth round of the US Open tennis championship. Larsson won 6-2, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5. — AFP photo

## No American left in women's draw

**NEW YORK, Sept 8 (AP):** The 1993 US Open women's singles tournament marks the first time that no American has advanced to the quarterfinals. On three occasions only one American advanced that far:

1961 — x-Darlene Hard; Ann Haydon, Britain; Jan Lehane, Australia; Angela Mortimer, Britain; Yola Ramirez, Mexico; Margaret Smith, Australia; Christine Truman, Britain; Lesley Turner, Australia.

1975 — x-Chris Evert; Katja Ebbinghaus, West Germany; Evonne Goolagong Cawley, Australia; Kerry Melville Reid, Australia; Martina Navratilova, Czechoslovakia; Kazuko Sawamatsu, Japan; Margaret Smith Court, Australia; Virginia Wade, Britain.

1992 — x-Mary Joe Fernandez; Steffi Graf, Germany; Patricia Hy, Canada; Magdalena Maleeva, Bulgaria; Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, Switzerland; Gabriela Sabatini, Argentina; Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, Spain; Monica Seles, Yugoslavia.

1993 — Kimiko Date, Japan; Steffi Graf, Germany; Katerina Maleeva, Bulgaria; Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, Switzerland; Gabriela Sabatini, Argentina; Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, Spain; Helena Sukova, Czech Republic; Natalia Zvereva, Belarus.

## China's latest bid to sweeten Beijing bid

**NUSA DUA, Indonesia, Sept 8:** China will dedicate a stretch of its Great Wall to gold medalists at the 2000 Summer Olympics if the city is awarded the Games, a senior Chinese Olympic bid official said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is due to choose between Beijing, Sydney, Berlin, Manchester and Istanbul at a meeting in Monte Carlo on September 23.

"Should Beijing be honoured with the 2000 Olympic Games we will, at the section of Great Wall within Beijing's boundary, dedicate a 21st century Olympic monument," Wang Boasen, finance head of the city's bid committee, said.

Wang, seeking to sweeten a bid dented by human rights concerns, told an informal meeting of Pacific rim nations on the Indonesian tourist island of Bali that the monument would carry names of gold medalists and IOC members.

Rod McGeoch, chief executive of Sydney's bid committee, told some 600 bankers, officials and diplomats that winning the Games could create 156,000 new jobs in Australia between now and 2000.

"Los Angeles pocketed 230 million dollar in 1984. The 2000 Games is a prize sought after with extraordinary intensity," said McGeoch, who added that Sydney, unlike Beijing, now had in place more facilities than required for staging the Games.

China, a nation of 1.1 billion people, wants the 2000 Games to show off its recent economic and social achievements. It is also seeking to redeem an image hurt by the 1989 killings of prodemocracy protesters in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, posing a tough political decision for the IOC.

## Norway, Holland to fight it out

**SANTIAGO, Chile, Sept 8:** Norway and the Netherlands will battle for the Bermuda Bowl world contract bridge championship in a 160-deal match starting on Wednesday and finishing Friday, reports AP.

Both team scored hair-raising victories in Tuesday's semifinals.

Norway made a doubled game contract in the very last deal of their 96-deal match against Brazil to gain 12 points, enough to win 208-205.

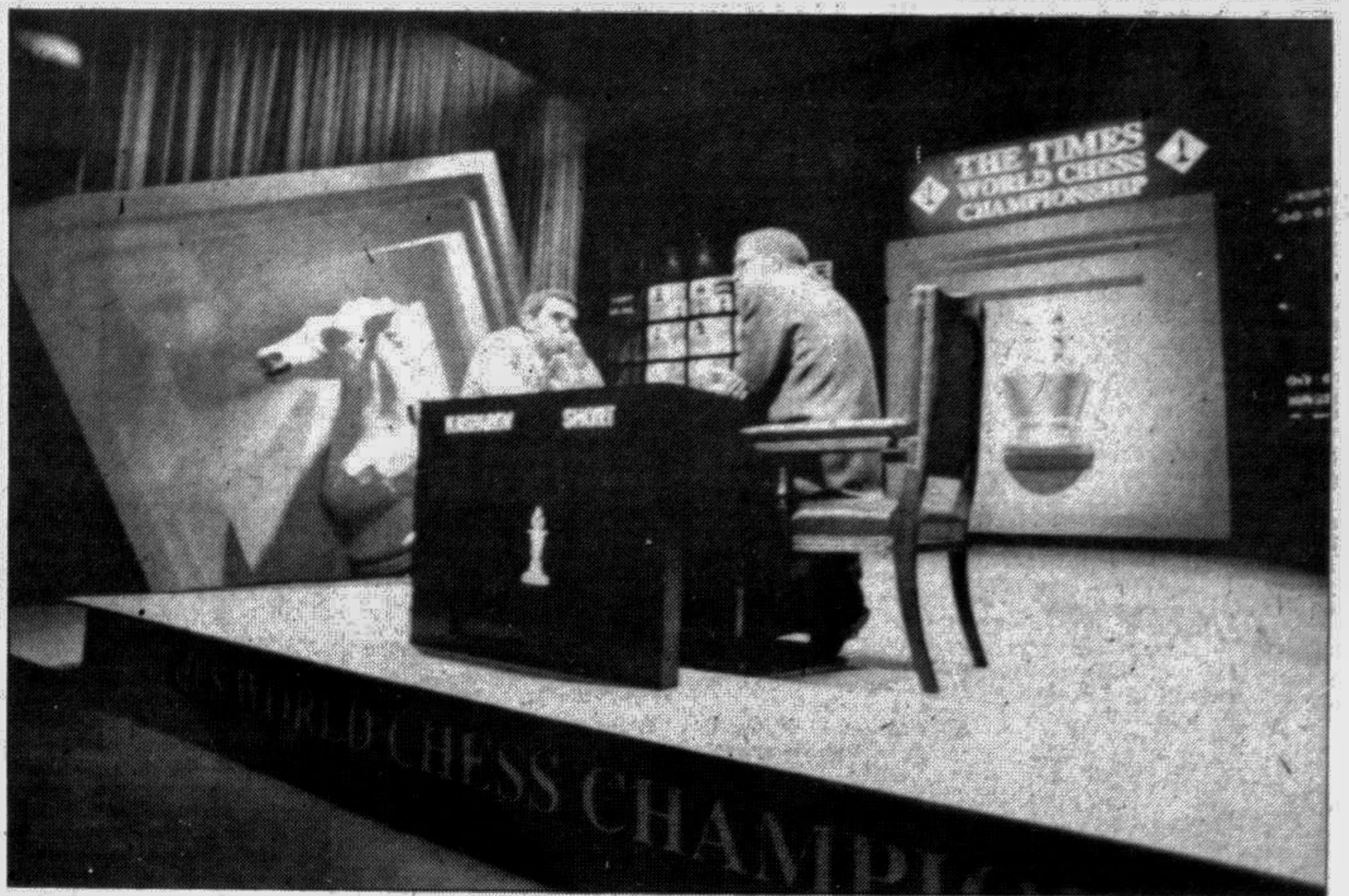
The United States made a difficult slam on the 94th deal which looked like enough to give the Americans the victory over the Netherlands. But a check of the scores showed that the Netherlands had survived, 202-199.

This was the second time Brazil has lost a Bermuda Bowl semifinal on the last board. The United States lost Brazil on the last deal in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 1985, and the Americans went on to win the championship.

Brazil won the Bermuda Bowl in Perth, Australia, in 1989.

In the Venice Cup championship for women's teams, the finalists will be Germany and the United States.

Germany made a thrilling comeback over the last session to defeat Sweden 257-237. The Germans trailed by 28 going into the last 16 deals, but Germany scored a 48-0 shutout in the final segment.



Garri Kasparov of Russia contemplates his next move against challenger Nigel Short of Britain during the inaugural match of the unofficial World Championship at the London Savoy Hotel on September 7. Short lost the first game on time default. — AFP photo

## Short bows to clock and Kasparov

**LONDON, Sept 8:** Nigel Short lost a furious battle with the clock, giving world chess champion Garry Kasparov the victory Tuesday in the opening game of their match for a disputed chess crown, reports AP.

Needing to complete 40 moves in two hours, the British Grandmaster and heavy underdog finished only 39 after both players started slowly and fell into time trouble.

David Levy, technical consultant to the organisers, said Short was "half a second out" from beating the clock.

Kasparov appeared to have an early advantage but his position eroded. He admitted afterwards that he thought his own 40th move, queen to e6-check, would have set up a draw.

"I missed many things" because of time pressure, Kasparov told reporters.

"In a world championship match, anything can happen. If Nigel would have had enough time, I would have forced a draw."

Short did not come to the news conference.

"Kasparov put on pressure at the end and Short panicked, but he wasn't outplayed," said American Grandmaster Larry Evans, five times US champion.

International rules generally give a player 2 1/2 hours to finish 40 moves; Kasparov and Short tightened the time limit for their breakaway championship believing that faster games would be more popular.

The second game will be played Thursday.

The game followed weeks of taunting between the longtime antagonists. After brief introductions, they shook hands and exchanged tight grins before sitting down to the board.

Kasparov, playing white, opened with the Ruy Lopez, also called the Spanish opening. Short responded with a king's pawn defence.

Short, wearing a tan suit, sat

in a high-backed, traditional red leather chair and concentrated on the board. Kasparov, in a light beige suit, sat hunched over, the pieces in a modern, low-slung black leather chair, occasionally getting up for a break.

Kasparov, 30, an ethnic Armenian who was born in Azerbaijan and now lives in Moscow, had a small Russian flag on his side of the table. Short, 28, the first native-born British Grandmaster to contest a world championship, had a similarly sized Union Jack beside him.

London's newly refurbished Savoy Theater — built in 1881 to stage Gilbert and Sullivan operettas but now decorated with two electronic chessboards and a giant bishop and knight — was about three-quarters filled, mainly with British fans.

Every spectator received a headset to listen to analysis from chess experts. Each seat sported a small computerized handset into which viewers could predict the game's next

move — part of an international competition.

Kasparov's advisers complained that Short might overhear the moves suggested by commentators, one of whom told the audience and then jokingly suggested a ludicrous move. That provoked laughter, which appeared to annoy both players.

The match has split the chess world, and just what the victor will win remains a subject of intense debate.

Kasparov and Short rebelled against the chess establishment in February, refusing to play their title match for the international chess federation FIDE, which has run the game since 1948.

They established the Professional Chess Association, which FIDE refuses to recognize. It stripped Kasparov of his title and Short of his position as top challenger.

FIDE invited Anatoly Karpov and Jan Timman, both of whom lost to Short in qualifying matches, to compete for its

championship, which started Monday in Zwolle, the Netherlands.

Kasparov, rated the best player in chess history, is the prohibitive favourite to beat Short, whom he had defeated 10 times while losing only once in previous tournament games.

"The odds are against Nigel but he's at his best in match play and Kasparov knows it," his father David Short said before the match. "He only won once against Kasparov before defeating him on the way to this match."

Many fans rooted for Short. "I think it's wonderful that it's staged in London and that the challenger is British," said Harry Taylor, 68, a consultant scientist and chess lover.

CL Morris, a district attorney from Camano, Calif., said he found out about the championship when he arrived in London on vacation. Morris paid \$15 to watch because his 16-year-old nephew is a serious player, he said, "and he'd wring my neck if I didn't."

## Jan Timman settles score

**ZWOLLE, Netherlands, Sept 8:** Dutch Grandmaster Jan Timman dramatically avenged Monday's defeat by former world champion Anatoly Karpov, outplaying the Russian to level the score in the FIDE World Championship at 1-1, reports Reuter.

Timman's 46-move victory, only his sixth over Karpov, was just what the Dutchman needed to boost his confidence after a carefully-prepared opening innovation was countered by the Russian a day earlier.

"This is marvellous, marvellous," said American Grandmaster Yasser Seirawan, Timman's second who helped him prepare for the match.

The first 12 games in the 24-game match will be played in the Netherlands — in Zwolle, Arnhem and Amsterdam — and

the rest in Oman. The first player to reach 12-1/2 points wins.

Timman, ranked 31 in the world and regarded as the underdog, rushed off after the game to telephone his son Artur, who was celebrating his eighth birthday. Seirawan said Timman's mood would be very different from what it was from on Monday.

"It was a very, very hard blow yesterday," said Seirawan. "Jan's big fear in this match was his form. He is very happy when he is playing well, but this year his form has been very inconsistent."

It is now the turn of Karpov, world number two and a victor over Timman 23 times, to fight back.

Karpov, playing white, began with a queen's pawn opening, steering into the Queen's Indian defence, a favourite opening.

The Russian departed from the textbooks by failing to recapture a central pawn on move 15.

Timman, smarting after Karpov's emphatic riposte to his opening in Monday's game, was ready. He supported his extra pawn then boldly sent a knight into the heart of Karpov's position.

Karpov was forced to allow Timman to capture a rook for a knight to concentrate on shoring up his crumbling position but the Dutchman's accurate play carried him to a decisive endgame. A weary Karpov resigned after move 46.

"This is devastating for Karpov. Maybe he hasn't prepared as well for this match as everyone expected," Rogers said.

Wednesday is a rest day. The third game will begin on Thursday with Timman playing white.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Complaint: slang

5 Chart

8 Quatrain rhyme scheme

12 Between jobs

13 End for pay or gran

14 Gaucho's weapon

15 Cuts short

17 Opposite of unter

18 Loud kisses

19 Hurlied

21 Swat

22 Badder than bad

23 "Cabaret" lyricist

26 Kittenish remark

28 Funny-man

31 Opposite of 22

33 Drop off

35 Magnus of CBS

36 Go

**DOWN**

11 Avon calling?

16 Actor Tamiroff

20 Eggs, to Caesar

23 Freudian concept

24 Manh. of Bklyn.

25 Meadow songbird

27 Court

29 Hope-Crosby "Road" destination

30 Bow wood

32 Separates

34 Bounce

37 Small bird

39 Garbage boat

42 Winger or Paget

44 Allen or Frome

45 Haydn nickname

46 Mr. Sharif

48 Hawaiian city

49 List-end abbr.

50 Tackle-box item

53 "— the fields..."

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

HALF OBI SOCK  
ERIE RAN IVAN  
SIDEKICK DALI  
SAO NOH RELET  
SON JOB  
AFFIX SUBURBS  
MOOD WIG RARA  
PREENED KNEAD  
TUB GAS  
SPORT HOT BAS  
LAVA SIDEWALK  
OPEC IDO OBEY  
BANK NET NYSE

**Yesterday's answer 12-30**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13				14	
15					16				17	
18							19	20		
							21		22	
23	24	25		26		27		28		29
31				32		33		34		35
36				37		38		39		40
				41		42		43		44
45	46							47		48
49										50
51						52	53			
54										56
57								58		59

**CRYPTOQUIP**

LHTMJYV LJG LCKM JY  
MJGUHISHEN, MCOCUNCM  
OCPCTCE UHIATKJYCM  
HS KY. CKE EJYV

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A PROVERB: CALAMITOUS PICKLE MAKER IS OVER A BARREL.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals R

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.