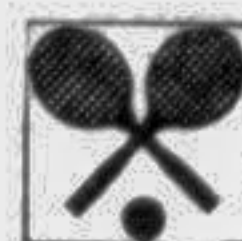


Super Sampras' second US Open



NEW YORK, Sept. 13: Pete Sampras, the world's No. 1 ranking back in his pocket, added a second US Open Championships to his record Sunday with a dominating 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 victory over Cedric Pioline, reports AP.

The victory, in front of more than 19,000 fans at the National Tennis Centre, was worth \$1.5 million for Sampras and capped two weeks in which he played invincible tennis and underscored his claim as best in the world.

A big serve, expert net play and an answer to every challenge Pioline threw his way gave the 22-year-old American his third Grand Slam title and second US Open championship in four years. Sampras had 12 aces and won 31 of 39 points at the net.

He was helped by big mistakes at key moments by Pioline, whose fourth-round upset of then-No. 1 Jim Courier opened the way for Sampras to reclaim the top spot.

Sampras broke Pioline in the first game of all three sets, with the 15th-seeded Frenchman seventh double fault supplying the final point for a 1-0 Sampras lead in the third.

Pioline broke back on Sampras' own double fault, but Sampras regained the advantage for 2-1 a series of Pioline errors.

They stayed on serve, Pioline never getting another break point, until deuce in Game 9, when double faults again did Pioline in.

Pioline saved a match point in the ninth game with a lunging backhand volley off a rocket-like crosscourt backhand. A long forehand gave Sampras a second match point and Pioline served his eighth double fault to end the match in 2 hours, 4 minutes.

Sampras, seeking his second US Open triumph in four years to go with his Wimbledon title from this summer, used his big serve to keep the 15th-seeded Frenchman off balance and dominate play.

Pioline converted the first break point Sampras had faced in two matches to take a 2-1 lead in the second set, broke again for a 4-3 lead and served out for a commanding lead.

Pioline ended that break with his fifth double fault and slammed the ball high in to the stands in frustration, drawing a code-of-conduct warning from umpire Peter Kasavague.

Sampras' serve was hitting 110-115 mph (177-185 kph) consistently, with a high of 125 mph (201 kph). But it was the movement and spin as much as the speed that befuddled the Frenchman and Sampras seemed to have an answer for whatever Pioline tried — baseline battles or serve-and-volley.

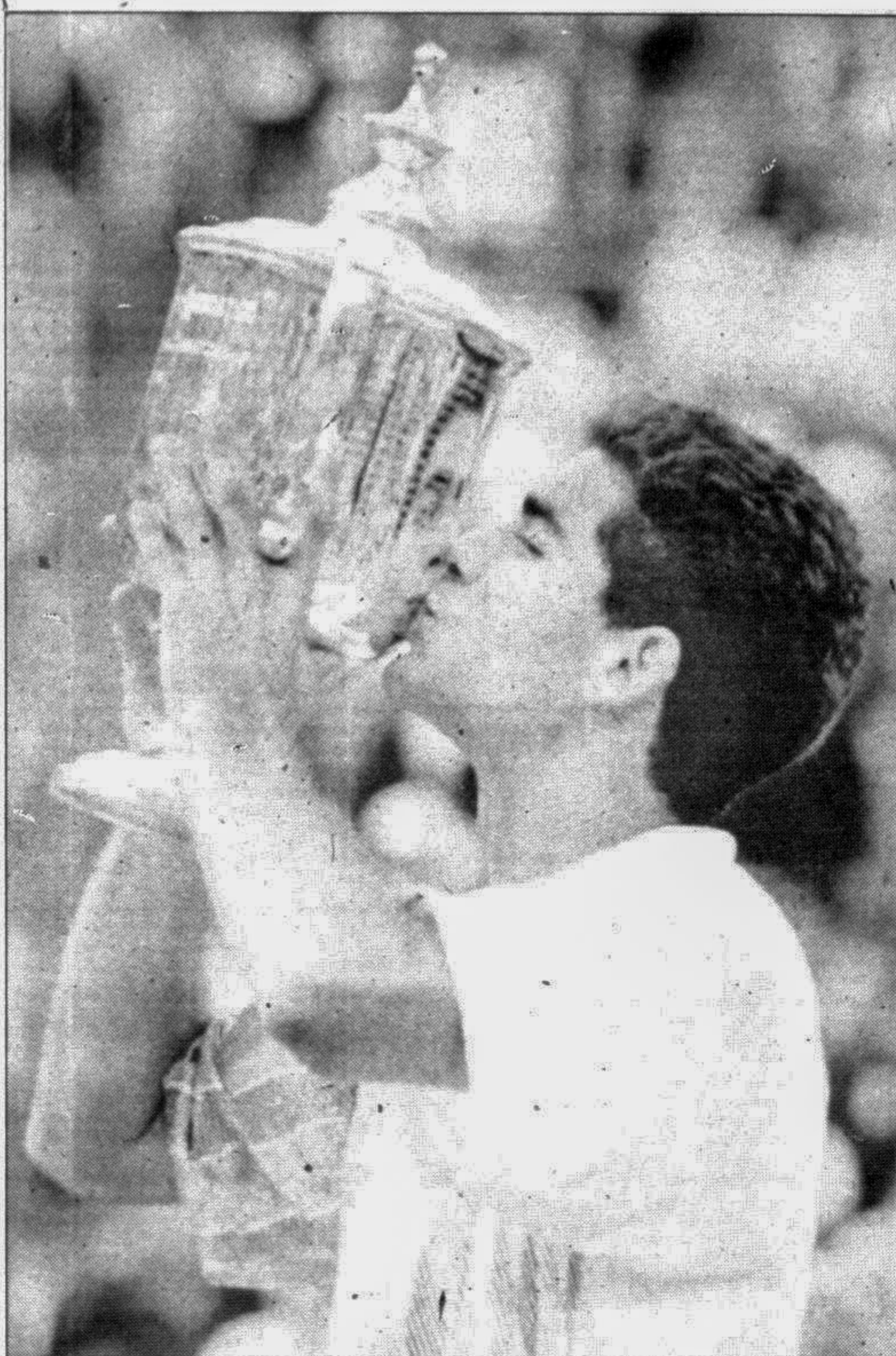
Sampras backed his big serve with few errors and a devastating net game, winning eight out of every 10 times he made an approach. He had 10 aces through two sets.

Sampras broke in the first game of the second set when Pioline's attempt at a slice second serve landed outside the court.

But Pioline grabbed a break point in the next game — the first against Sampras since the second set of his victory over Michael Chang in the quarter-finals — and converted when Sampras slipped as he tried to volley into an open court and pushed the ball in to the net.

Sampras got the decisive break in the seventh game on two errors and two double faults, and served out the set when Pioline netted a forehand approach.

In the first set, Sampras broke Pioline at 15 in the first game and had break points in all but two of the Frenchman's other service games in the set.



American Pete Sampras, who regained world number one slot on Friday, kisses the US open championships trophy after winning the men's singles final against Frenchman Cedric Pioline on Sunday at the National Tennis Centre. —AFP photo

US Open Notebook

NEW YORK, Sept. 13: The victory by Pete Sampras in the men's final at the US Open Sunday gave him the top spot in the \$1.5 million Grand Slam Cup, reports AP.

Sampras, who won the first cup in 1990 following his first Open victory, finished the Grand Slam season with 1,650 points, 75 more than Jim Courier and 730 more than third-place Stefan Edberg.

Cedric Pioline, who lost to Sampras 6-4, 6-4, 6-3, also made the field for the cup, which includes the players with the top 16 point totals from the four Grand Slam tournaments — the Australian, French and US opens and Wimbledon. Points are awarded on a sliding scale downward from 600 for a tournament winner.

The cup, with \$1.5 million to the winner, is scheduled for Munich Dec. 7-12.

NOT BAD FOR OPENERS: Had Pioline won, he would have become only the third man since the open era began in 1968 to make his first tournament victory a Grand Slam championship.

Mats Wilander made such a momentous debut when he won the French Open as a 17-year-old in 1982.

Before that, it was Mark Edmondson, who registered his first tournament title at the Australian Open in 1976.

WHAT A CROWD: More people attended this year's Open than any other tennis tournament in history.

A crowd of 19,721 for Sunday's final made total attendance for the two weeks 530,764, breaking the mark of 520,868 set in New York a year ago.

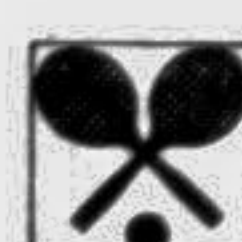
The US Open attendance, with day and night sessions through the first 11 days, is listed as a world record for tennis.

The crowd figures were boosted this year by 500 grounds pass sold daily through the second Tuesday. They allowed holders onto all courts except the stadium, and were offered this year for the first time.

Single-session records were set three times this year, with a high of 22,676 for the day session last Sunday. A daily attendance mark of 43,502 also was set that day.

Despite the attendance record, there were empty seats for Sunday's men's final. The stadium at the National Tennis Center holds 20,000 people.

Sukova's spell of plenty



NEW YORK, Sept. 13: Helena Sukova left the US Open Sunday with two doubles titles and a tidy little addition to her bankroll. She said all the money in the world could not compare with being a champion, reports AP.

Sukova, the women's singles runner-up, teamed with Arantxa Sanchez Vicario to win the women's doubles over Amanda Coetzer and Ines Gorrochategui 6-4, 6-2.

Last Thursday, Sukova and Todd Woodbridge beat Martina Navratilova and Mark Woodforde 6-3, 7-6 (6-6) to claim the mixed doubles title.

"It was a pretty good two weeks," Sukova said. "It was disappointing yesterday, but Steffi just played better and I am happy that we have been able to win this one."

"Two out of three," Sanchez Vicario told her partner. "So what do you want?"

Even though Graf spoiled Sukova's chances of becoming the first player since Navratilova in 1967 to win the triple crown — singles, doubles and mixed doubles — with a 6-3, 6-3 victory Saturday, Sukova still

walked away with a pretty good payday.

The Czech won a total of \$139,750 — \$100,000 for winning the women's doubles, \$12,250 for winning mixed doubles and \$27,500 for finishing second in singles.

"I have always been playing for the victories, so the money doesn't matter to me," said Sukova, who has won almost \$1.5 million in her career. "I have enough of it and I don't need so much of it. It is the victory which means a lot to me."

Sukova beat Sanchez Vicario in the singles semifinals Friday before they teamed for their last two doubles wins, including a semifinal victory over Gigi Fernandez and Natalia Zvereva that ended the top-seeded pair's 41-match Grand Slam winning streak and hopes of a sweep of the Slam doubles this year.

Against Coetzer, from South Africa, and Gorrochategui, from Chile, Sukova and Sanchez Vicario attacked constantly. They lost serve just once and put 86 per cent of their service returns in play — including 96 per cent by Sanchez Vicario. They broke for the first set on a double fault by Gorrochategui.

In the second set, they broke Coetzer's serve for 4-2, held at love on a poaching volley by Sanchez Vicario and won the last four points to break for the match.

Down 40-15 in the eight game, they wrapped it up on a netted overhead by Coetzer, a volley winner by Sanchez Vicario, a forehand pass by Sukova and a service return to Gorrochategui's feet by Sanchez Vicario.

Sukova and Sanchez Vicario decided to team up in doubles 2 years ago, when they bumped into each other in an elevator.

The elevator, Sanchez Vicario said, was going "Up. Always up."

Other champions crowned on the Open's final day included Betsy Nagelsen and Joanne Russell, who defeated Rosie Casals and Billie Jean King 6-3, 6-4 in senior women's doubles. Marty Riessen and Sherry Edwards beat Bob Lutz and Stan Smith 6-4, 6-4 for the senior men's doubles title.

The junior boys singles championships went to Marcelo Rios of Chile, who beat Steven Downes of New Zealand 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

His own serve was moving, with six aces and a slew of service winners. He did not face a break point and lost just four points on his serve in the set.

Pioline, seeking his first tournament victory in his first Grand Slam final, tried everything, but Sampras, the 1990 Open champ and runner-up to Stefan Edberg last year, always had the answer.

While Sampras was attempting to become the first man since Boris Becker in 1989 and the first American since John McEnroe in 1984 to hold both the Wimbledon and US Open titles at once, Pioline was looking for his first title on the pro tour.

It was long shot for the Frenchman. The last person to make a Grand Slam title their first on the tour was Mats Wilander, when he won the French Open in 1982.

Pioline also was trying to become the first Frenchman to win a Grand Slam tournament since Yannick Noah won the French Open in 1983. And he would become the first French winner of the US championships since Henri Cochet beat Francis Hunter 4-6, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 in 1928.

Italy win Euro v'ball title

HELSINKI, Sept. 13: World champions Italy beat the Netherlands 3-2 in a hard-fought final to win the men's European volleyball title on Sunday, reports Reuters.

The Italians won all their seven games in the week-long tournament but faced a determined challenge from the Dutch who had upset Russia 3-0 in Saturday's semifinal. Italy had won their semifinal against German 3-0.

In the final the Italians clinched the title 15-6, 15-5, 15-8, 15-9.

Russia beat Germany 3-1 in the bronze medal playoff, winning 15-3, 9-15, 15-8, 15-5.

It's threshold for Tszyu

NEWCASTLE, Australia, Sept. 13: Unbeaten junior welterweight Kostya Tszyu has been promised a world title fight before the end of the year if he beats veteran Livingstone Bramble in a 10-round international contest Monday night at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre, reports AP.

Russian-born Tszyu, the world amateur champion in 1991, is 9-0 as a professional with eight knockouts. He is ranked in the top five in his division by both the WBC and the IBF.

Tszyu already holds a victory over another former world champion, Puerto Rican Juan LaPorte. He is the only man to last the distance with Tszyu.

Graf likes it the hard way

NEW YORK, Sept. 13: Steffi Graf would like nothing better than to get some more competition, reports AP.

"It was an incredible year, and I'm very happy about it," Graf said after winning the US Open for the third time and her third consecutive Grand Slam tournament title. "But one player who has not been around for the last three Grand Slams — that's Monica Seles — I hope she'll be back soon."

Graf's only Grand Slam loss this year came in the Australian Open final in January — to Seles. And Seles is the one who has dominated women's tennis since Graf won a Grand Slam in 1988.

But Seles was stabbed in the back by a Graf fan during a tournament in Hamburg, Germany, on April 30 and has yet to heal sufficiently to be able to play again. And since she's been sidelined, Graf has been unstoppable.

Her 6-3, 6-3 victory over Helena Sukova Saturday was the 14th Grand Slam crown of her career.

"I think I am a better player than I have been right now," Graf said.

That's should be enough to send a shiver through the rest of the players on the women's tour.

Graf defeated Mary Joe Fernandez to capture the French Open, Jana Novotna to triumph at Wimbledon, and finally Sukova.

"I think it's a great achievement to have been able to win three Grand Slams and be in the final of the other one," Graf said. "And having the possibility to even have a Grand Slam. I had it once. That is fine."

Graf's French Open victory boosted her back into the No. 1 spot on the Virginia Slims computer ranking, replacing Seles.

"It was an incredible year, and I'm very happy about it," Graf told the crowd of 20,000 after receiving the trophy and the \$1.5 million winners check.

With this latest victory, either Graf or Seles has won the last 12 Grand Slams — since Gabriela Sabatini was the surprise winner at the 1990 US Open.

"Sure it helps to have a player who pushes me more," Graf said in acknowledging Seles' absence. "But I'm not necessarily a person who needs it, because I like to push myself. When I realize how well I'm playing, it's really difficult to do something against me."

Her latest title was Graf's eighth of 1993 and ran her US Open match record to 51-7. So far this year, she is 63-5.

Konishiki exits

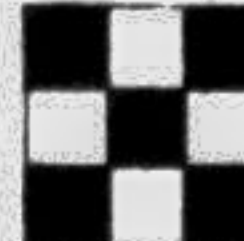
TOKYO, Sept. 13: Hawaiian sumo star Konishiki bowed out of the Autumn Grand Sumo tournament here Monday because of an inflammation of his right thigh, the Japan Sumo Association said, reports AP.

Konishiki is under treatment for cellulitis, an inflammation of connective tissue, at Doyukai Memorial Hospital in Tokyo. He went in for treatment after he was upset in his opening-day bout Sunday with No. 2 Magashira Akinoshima.

Konishiki, whose real name is Salevaa Fauli Atisanoo, submitted a doctor's report that said he needed three weeks of treatment, the association said.

Other injuries have been attributed to his weight. Konishiki hurt his right knee in May 1986 and had more knee problems in the summer of 1988, when he reached 252 kilograms (554 pounds).

Timman lets go easy chance



ARNHEM, Netherlands, Sept. 13: Dutch Grandmaster Jan Timman let slip an outstanding chance

for victory in the fifth game of the FIDE World Chess Championship on Sunday, drawing against Russian ex-world champion Anatoly Karpov, reports Reuters.

Timman had the advantage for most of the game, but cool and accurate play by Karpov when he had under a minute left on his chess clock to play nine moves showed why he is ranked number two in the world.

The series remains even at 2-1/2 points each, and the advantage of the white pieces and the first move goes to Karpov for Tuesday's sixth game.

Commentators at the Electrum Theatre in Arnhem were full of praise for Timman's play early in the game but feared that the Dutchman, ranked 31 in the world, might lack the killer instinct needed to win games at the highest level.

Timman, playing white, surprised Karpov with his first move (C4) which led the game into the English Opening.

In earlier games with white Timman had failed to break through Karpov's solid Caro-Kann defence but his deci-

sion to switch to the English Opening was totally unexpected.

Karpov, arriving a few minutes late, seemed unperturbed but was soon using up large amounts of thinking time on the complex strategic manoeuvring that ensued.

While Karpov was thinking Timman relaxed in a private room behind the stage watching the game on closed-circuit television, drinking tea and mineral water and eating chocolate.

As soon as Karpov moved Timman would return to the playing arena but would generally not think for long before playing a move and returning to his private room.

After 15 moves German international Master Stefan Löffler declared Timman has a slight but clear advantage, which he should be able to maintain for the next 15 moves.

Timman was not willing to wait that long. On the 19th move he made a powerful pawn sacrifice which enabled his pieces to invade Karpov's position.

"This looks like trouble for Karpov," said Dutch International Master Paul Boersma. "No, it looks killing" added Boersma's compatriot Grandmaster Jeroen Piket, one of

Timman's main assistants for the match.

But Karpov is one of the best defenders in the world and he rocked Timman with a brilliant rook sacrifice on Move 32. By move 40 Timman's advantage had disintegrated and Karpov began to play for a win with two good Bishops against a rook.

After seven hours and 55 moves the players agreed a draw.

After the game Dutch experts pointed out many ways in which Timman could have won, but consoled themselves with the knowledge that the higher rated Karpov had been outplayed in the opening for the fourth consecutive game by their countryman.

Karpov won the first game but Timman replied immediately with a win the second. The third and fourth games were drawn.

The first player to reach 12-1/2 points in the 24-game series is the winner.

Karpov and Timman are playing for the official World Championships because Garry Kasparov of Russia, the world number one, and Nigel Short, his British challenger, broke away to arrange their own championship, now taking place in London.

Chavez contemplates rematch



SAN ANTONIO (Texas), Sept. 13: Julio Cesar Chavez went home to Mexico Saturday, a rematch with

Pernell Whitaker on his mind, reports AP.

What Whitaker was looking forward to was an American football game. As for fighting,

the World Boxing Council welterweight champion was more interested in talking about Friday night's draw with Chavez.

"I want credit for what I did last night," said Whitaker, who will stay in Texas until he watches former high-school classmate Bruce Smith play for the Buffalo Bills Sunday

against the Dallas Cowboys in an National Football League game.

"I thought I won eight rounds," Whitaker said.

The decision after 12 rounds was a draw. One judge favored Whitaker by two points, but the other two each had it even.

The 31-year-old Chavez, an idol in Mexico, is still unbeaten, but his mystique was battered. There would be a better ring to 88-0 than there is to 87-0-1.

Chavez thought he should be 88-0.

"Nobody knows why this fight was called a draw," Whitaker said. "I'll let the fans decide."

"Mexicans were coming over to me and saying, 'We're big Chavez fans, but he lost,' said Shelly Finkel, Whitaker's co-manager.

"A certain number of people are going to tell Chavez that he didn't win. That's going to haunt him."

There were scattered boos from the highly pro-Chavez crowd of more than 60,000 fans in the Alamodome, but there were no signs of outrage.

"The silence said it all," said Dan Duva, Whitaker's promoter.

"That was one of those good, old-fashioned project whippings," said the 29-year-old Whitaker, who grew up in a public-housing project in Norfolk, Va.

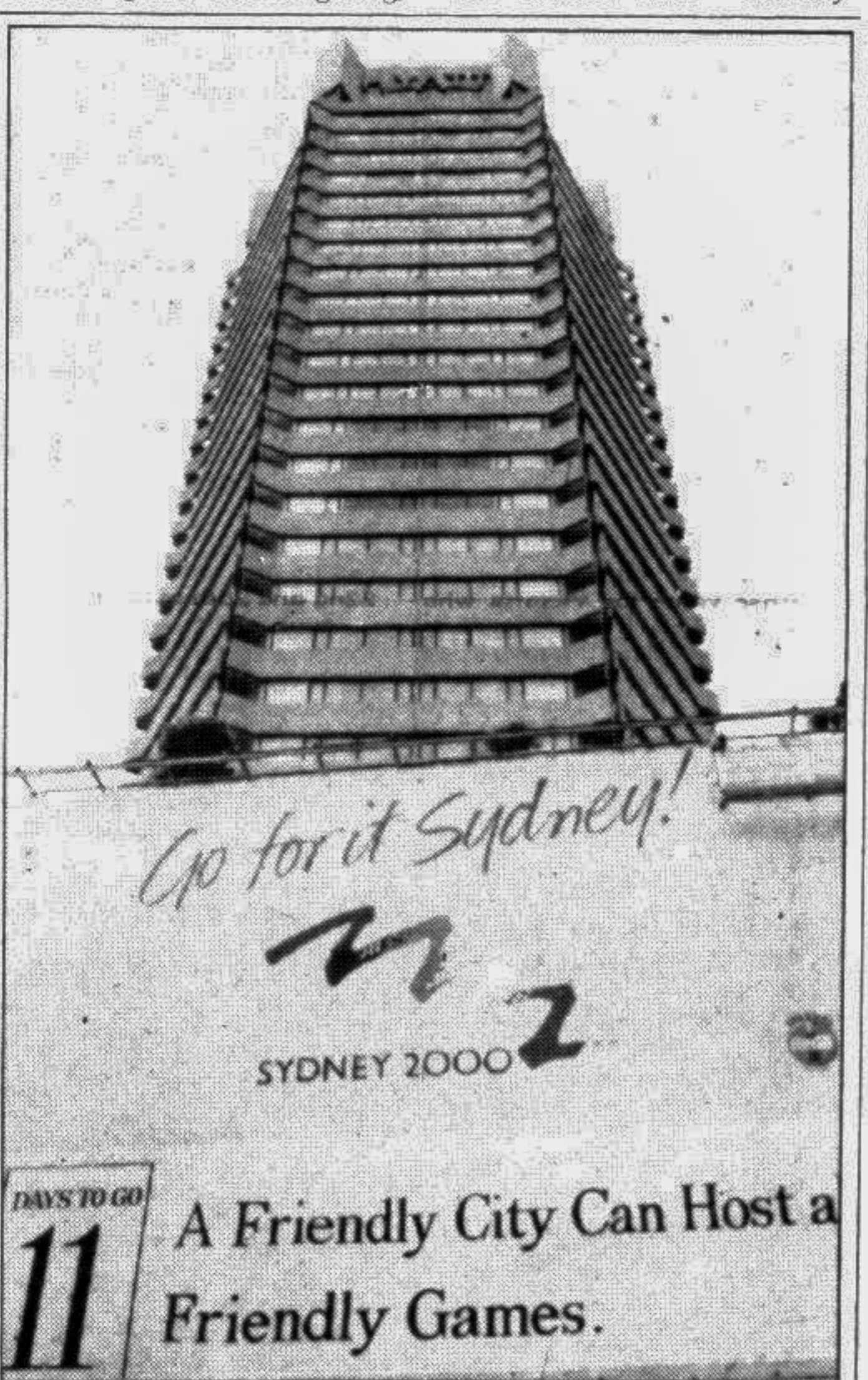
The 31-year-old Chavez tried to pressure Whitaker, and he did score with several good right leads and body punches.

It was Whitaker, however, who orchestrated the tempo of the fight. He kept Chavez off balance with movement and hand speed, and on several occasions actually backed him up.

Nobody backs up Julio Cesar Chavez. It was written in a record of 87-0, with 75 knockouts. That record now has been blurred.

"I'm the best fighter in the world," said Whitaker, a 1984 Olympic lightweight champion and world champion at three weight classes.

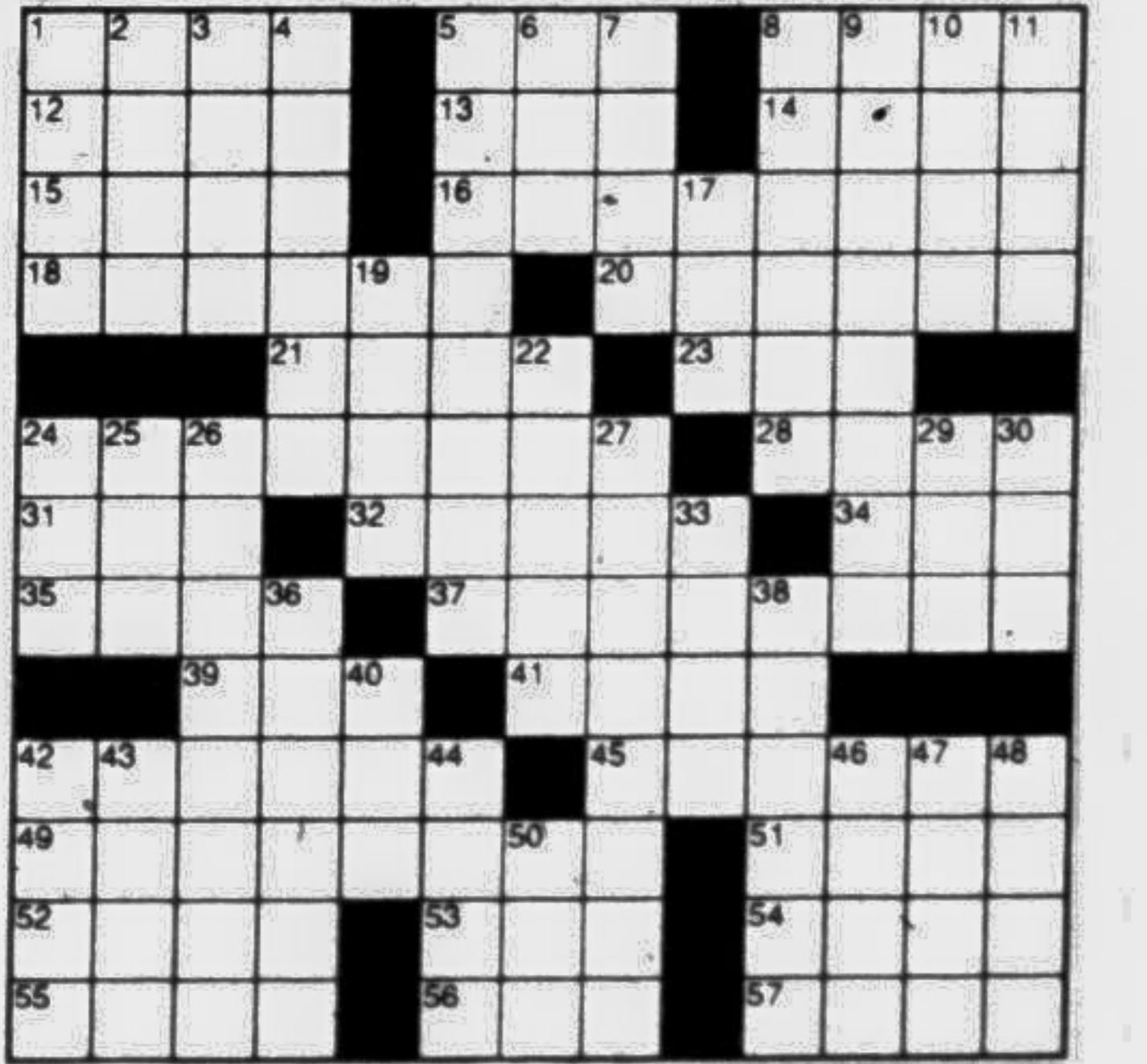
"I'm glad they called it a draw," Whitaker said.



A giant billboard overlooks one of Sydney's busiest streets to promote the city's bid for the 2000 Olympic Games. The 20x12 metre sign with the Olympic logo bears the slogan "Go for it Sydney" and has a countdown beneath to when the International Olympic Committee delegates make their decision in Monaco. —AFP photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS										DOWN																																										
1 Magazine articles?	5 Word within brackets	8 EEE, e.g.	12 Money, in slang	13 Backing	14 In due time	15 'Let's Make a Deal' option	16 Mourned for	18 No. 1 Hun?	20 Tailors, in a way	21 'Honey —' (JFK's grandfather)	23 Because	24 Mad	28 Approach	31 Author	32 Durable fabric	34 Hot tub	35 Graceful girl	37 Took umbrage at	39 Otolaryngology abbr.	41 Jaffe or Barrett	42 Horse-shoe holders	45 Susan of 'L.A. Law'	49 Coined	51 Corn country	52 Ogle	53 Candle count	54 Act the robot	55 Acidic	56 Manh. or Bklyn.	57 Costner portrayal	10 Busy one	11 Tackles' team-mates	17 Sprite	19 'The Swedish Nightingale'	22 Diode name	24 Party mix	25 Leading lady?	26 And	27 Chaos	29 Mimic	30 'Terrific!'	33 PC options list	36 Turn topsy-turvy	38 Land	40 X rating?	42 Sword handle	43 Draftable	44 Impale	46 One of Hamlet's choices	47 Instills reverence	48 Ayes' antitheses	50 Cause of 'I' strain?



CRYPTOQUIP
EUIJ ICWCZ QCVIOICOP
QCLUZ KR ZR UEUIJ
KACPW VJ KAU VRRL
Saturday's Cryptogram: IS FANCY GEM LOST ON GOLF COURSE A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH?
Today's Cryptogram clue: Z equals D
The Cryptogram 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.