

## Jansher promises revenge

DUBAI, Sept 25: Jansher Khan and Rodney Martin will meet in today's final of the Dubai Classic in a repeat of their semifinal clash in Hong Kong three weeks ago when the Australian scored a shock victory, reports Reuter.

"I was not in top form in Hong Kong, but it will be different here," world number one Jansher promised.

But Martin, who has beaten Jansher seven times, said: "I know how to beat him — it's all up to how I play on the day. I've got to be confident. After all, this is Australia's week and I was born in Sydney."

Certainly, second seed Martin looked in confident mood as he came through 15-5, 15-14, 8-15, 15-12, in his semifinal on Friday against compatriot Rodney Eyles.

After Eyles had taken a 4-2 lead in the opening skirmishes, Martin took the game by the scruff of the neck with a blistering display of attacking squash.

Eyles had no answer and gained just one more point as Martin took the game in 11 minutes.

It was impossible for Martin to maintain that sort of pace and gradually Eyles fought his way back into the match.

There was never more than a couple of points between them in the second, but Martin reached game point at 14-13.

Eyles saved it, but then, his opponent gambled on a sudden-death finish and moved into a two-game lead as he smashed Eyles's service dead into the net.

But to Eyles's credit, he refused to concede. After trailing 5-4 in the third, he won four points in succession to take a grip on the game.

But in the fourth, Martin showed the quality of a former world champion. He increased the pace at the vital time to win three successive points from 12-12 and clinch his date with Jansher.

The Pakistani had been given more trouble than he must have expected in his semifinal by England's world number 10 Phil Whitlock.

He came through 15-9, 11-15, 15-4, 15-13 after Whitlock had threatened to take the match into a deciding fifth game when he led 13-12 in the fourth.

## Coincidence or vengeance

BEIJING, Sept 25: China released Friday an 11-year-old statement by Deng Xiaoping in which he warned that Hong Kong would be taken over before 1997 if serious disturbances occurred in the British colony, reports AFP.

The comments by Deng, the paramount Chinese leader, were made during a meeting with then-British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in 1982, when it was agreed to return Hong Kong to China after 15 years.

"We considered what we should do if serious disturbances occurred in Hong Kong during the transition period of 15 years," Deng said. "The Chinese government would then be compelled to reconsider the timing and manner of the takeover."

The lengthy statement was released just minutes after Beijing lost its bid for the 2000 Olympics.

British Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd had said a week before the vote by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that Beijing was unfit to host the Games.

At the same time, talks between China and Britain over the transition are deadlocked. The talks focus on Hong Kong governor Chris Patten's plan, rejected by Beijing, to widen democratic representation in the colony before 1997.

China has warned that it will disband the Hong Kong government and legislature if Patten goes ahead with the plan without its approval, as he has said he would do.

"I am worried that there may be major disturbances in this (transition) period, man-made disturbances," Deng said. "These could be created not just by foreigners, chiefly Britons, but also by Chinese."

"This is precisely the problem our consultations were designed to solve," Deng said, adding that the two countries should refrain from doing anything that would hamper the prosperity of Hong Kong.

## Kabaddi league

Mirpur Juba Sangha emerged Group A champions and Daudkandi Bara Goali Juba Sangha became the runner-up in the Dhaka Metropolitan Kabaddi league, at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court yesterday, reports UNB.

Mirpur Juba Sangha clinched the top slot beating BRA Recreation Club 56-24 with six losses. They led the first half 32-06.

In the other match, Bara Goali Juba Sangha outplayed Fatullah Anirban Sangsad 77-13 after dominating the first half 39-06 points.

Jagari Sangsad take on Surjo Kamal Club today.

## Australia in for aureate age

SYDNEY, Sept 25: Australia is about to embark on a new golden age of sport following Sydney's capture of the 2000 Olympics, top athletes and officials say, reports Reuter.

Sports officials expect a massive increase in participation and media exposure, particularly in minority sports.

"Every athlete in Australia will be working just that little bit harder towards the year 2000," said Barcelona Olympics Games swimming gold medalist Kieren Perkins.

Sports psychologist John Crampton said the Games decision would rekindle the great tradition of Australia as a country populated by fit, young people.

"Sport is going to get quite trendy again. The Olympic decision will prove an amazing impetus for young kids to get involved," he added.

Despite Australia's sporting image, the reality, according to Crampton, has been a decline in participation levels among the young, a trend which he now expects to be reversed.

"When you look at school sport running down, you get generations of kids who are basically overweight, unfit, eating the wrong food," he said.

Sydney's triumph will act as

a powerful motivational tool for young athletes, according to coaches at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), the country's elite training centre.

"It will inspire our young people to go after a realistic goal. The talent is, in this country, to have a very big team," said middle distance athletics coach Pat Clohesy.

When Australia staged the

I am thinking about pushing myself a little longer to compete in Sydney," she said.

Perkins, the 1,500 metres free-style world record holder, also laid to rest any thoughts of retirement.

"I know one swimmer who will go around for another seven years," he said after Sydney's winning bid was announced.



Trader Jonathan Cattana poses at the Sydney Futures Exchange in Sydney on Sept 24 as the local market hails the news that Sydney got the right to host the 2000 Olympics with twice as many stocks rising than those falling. The Australian dollar plummeted over a third of a cent while the all ordinaries index rose 17.9 points or one percent to close at 1,946.5 points.

1956 Games in Melbourne, the traditionally sport mad country reaped a record 35 medals — 13 gold, eight silver, and 14 bronze.

With home advantage in 2000, Australia is expected to improve on their haul of 27 medals in Barcelona last year.

"There is no doubt home advantage will be a big boost," Perkins told reporters.

Gymnast Tim Buchanan, 14, summed up the mood amongst the young AIS athletes, desperate to compete in front of family and friends in familiar surroundings.

"It's going to be great — knowing the Games will be in Sydney will add to my training efforts," he said.

Older athletes, such as Commonwealth Games heptathlon gold medalist Jane Flemming, are reconsidering their futures in the wake of the bid decision.

"I had intended to retire in 1998 at the age of 33, but now

The prize for those drawn to compete will be a selection in what is certain to be Australia's largest ever Olympic team.

As host, Australia automatically qualifies for team sports such as soccer, basketball and hockey.

In other events, such as wrestling, the hosts can field the maximum number of competitors allowed under the rules.

Australian athletes will probably never again have so many opportunities to represent their country in the Olympics.

Australia's handball, volleyball, and baseball teams, relatively weak in world terms, are guaranteed a berth after failing to qualify for past Games.

"With the Games coming to Sydney, we instantly gain 10 years in our development," Australian Handball Federation president Alexander Dimitric said.

## A great opportunity muffed

MONTE CARLO, Sept 25: A top Olympic official says the IOC missed "an unbelievable opportunity" by not awarding the 2000 Olympics to Beijing, reports AP.

Dick Pound, a powerful International Olympic Committee member from Canada, said taking the Games to China at the start of the new millennium would have had a great global impact.

In Thursday's secret ballot, Sydney beat out Beijing 45-43 in the fourth and final round.

"You can not criticise the choice of Sydney at all," said Pound, an executive board member who handles IOC negotiations on marketing and television rights.

"On another level, if we want to look at what opportunities were out there, we have at least postponed an unbelievable opportunity to take the Olympic movement into a part of the world where it is not as developed as it is in Australia already."

"I'm very happy with the choice of Sydney," Pound added. "You can't ask for a better city in terms of putting on the Games. But I'm of the school that the other opportunity is really so good that we should consider it now. It might be 10 or 15 years — before you could expect to have another Summer Games in that part of the world."

IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, who does not vote, said a key factor in the decision was the official IOC evaluation report which rated Sydney's bid technically superior to those of Beijing, Berlin, Manchester, England, and Istanbul, Turkey.

"Maybe the final result is an expression of the contents of that report," Samaranch said.

He also noted that Australia was bidding for the third straight time after unsuccessful attempts by Brisbane and Melbourne for the 1992 and 1996 Games. China was making its first bid.

Asked whether he thought Beijing should bid again for the 2004 Games, Samaranch said, "I will not push China to bid for the Games again — it is their own decision. But if China is bidding again, we will be happy. It is a very important country."



Action from yesterday's Metropolitan kabaddi league match between Mirpur Juba Sangha and Recreation Club at the Outer Stadium court. Mirpur Juba Sangha beat Recreation 56-24.

He Zhenliang, an IOC member and president of the Chinese Olympic Committee, said China has not yet discussed whether to bid for 2004. A group of seven former gold medal winners, part of the Chinese delegation in Monaco, issued a statement supporting a 2004 bid.

Samaranch reported that Brazilian and Argentine officials had contacted him about seeking the 2004 Summer Games. But he said there was interest from many other possible contenders as well.

Apart from Beijing, the biggest loser in Monaco may have been Manchester. Bidding for a second consecutive time, the English industrial city was considered a possible surprise contender but ended up being eliminated in the third round with 13 votes.

Bob Scott, chairman of the Manchester bid, had been counting on at least 20 votes. He said it was uncertain whether the city would try again for 2004. Although London is widely viewed as having a better chance of winning the Games, Scott said Manchester should remain Britain's candidate.

"I think that if the British Olympic Association did decide Britain should have another bid, they would have the perfect right not to have a competition and just reappoint Manchester," he said.

## Distraction!

SYDNEY, Sept 25: Sydney's success in winning the 2000 Olympic Games will fuel Australia's sporting obsession and worsen its social and economic ills, an Australian psychologist said on Friday, reports Reuter.

Psychologist and author Ronald Conway, a rare cautionary voice amid the euphoria, said the Olympics would prove a distraction.

"Sport has got beyond its proper function of encouraging excellence when it tends to block out political, economic and lots of other cultural considerations," Conway told the Australian Associated Press.

"It tends to produce a partisanship which makes for a nation of one-eyed barrackers."

"The adversarial system — one side wins and the other side loses — is admirable for winning gold medals, but it's a rotten way to run a country."

Speaking from his Melbourne practice, Conway said: "I have this terrible feeling it's going to be one big distraction. I don't think it's going to add very much to our maturity as a nation," Conway said.

"We are a nation of bad losers... winning is everything."

## It's a new flag they want now

SYDNEY, Sept 25: The campaign for a new Australian flag — one not dominated by Britain's Union Jack — has been given a push by Sydney's winning bid for the 2000 Olympics, reports Reuter.

Ausflag, a group of prominent Australians campaigning for a new national flag, announced today a competition to design a new flag in time for the 2000 Games.

Judges include Australian Olympic Committee President John Coates and Olympic gold medalist swimmer Kieren Perkins.

Ausflag Executive Director Harold Scruby, announcing the competition, said Australians should be able to stand under their own flag at the 2000 Olympics.

"It is now vital that all Australians realise the importance of having their own flag for this event," Scruby said.

The privately funded group is offering Australian 25,000 dollars (16,250 US dollars) for the best design to replace the current flag which features the Union Jack in the upper left hand corner.

The awarding of the Olympics to Sydney came as it appeared support for changing the flag was running out of steam.

A poll published on Saturday in the Australian newspaper showed that just 35 per cent of Australians now wanted to change the flag compared with 42 per cent in May 1992.

Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating has said he wants Australia to become a republic by 2001. The centenary of Australia's federation from a group of British colonies.

Australian Republicans said on Friday that Britain's Queen Elizabeth, Australia's titular Head of State, should not be allowed to open the Sydney Games.

The Games are traditionally opened by the host country's Head of State.

## Monaco leaves IOC wiser

MONTE CARLO, Sept 25: The International Olympic Committee may change its voting rules after one of its members left halfway through Thursday's 200 Games vote, apparently to take part in an elections back home in Swaziland, reports Reuter.

David Sibandze left the IOC's Monte Carlo meeting room after two of the four rounds of balloting in which Sydney pulled off a surprise win by just two votes.

Asked on Friday about Sibandze's departure, IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch said Sibandze had asked permission to leave the room for urgent personal reasons.

Samaranch said he himself was not aware that Sibandze had been called back to help out with Swaziland's elections, as suggested by a questioner in a new conference and believed

by other IOC members.

Voters in the southern African mountain Kingdom go to the polls today in what is widely seen as a breakthrough for democracy there.

"Yesterday during the vote Sibandze asked permission to leave the session for very important and urgent personal reasons. I had to say yes," Samaranch told a news conference.

"I thought at that moment something was going wrong with his family. If you are telling me he was leaving for political reasons, that is new to me."

"Maybe we have to have a strict rule that once the election begins nobody can leave the session unless there is a very important reason, as I thought we had yesterday."

"Luckily the non-presence of Sibandze did not change the result."

With secret ballot and the

situation fluid between the second and third rounds of voting, it was impossible to say on Friday who Sibandze had backed.

But if Sydney had received one vote less in the fourth and final round, leaving it and Beijing with 44 votes each, IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch might have been called upon to cast the deciding vote.

The vote permutations were even more complicated given the absence of Bulgarian member Ivan Slavkov, under investigation for alleged corruption and banned from travelling abroad.

Slavkov, son-in-law of ousted communist dictator Todor Zhivkov, could have helped to swing the vote Beijing's way.

The IOC president refused outright to say which city he would have chosen if the vote had come down to the line.

## If there's will, there's way

MONTE CARLO, Sept 25: The 2000 Sydney Olympics could provide prime time television coverage for both the United States and Europe, top IOC marketing official Michael Payne said on Friday, reports Reuter.

"It will depend on the scheduling, but if events are staged late in the morning or around midday, as they were in Seoul, that will actually give prime time to the US east coast in the evenings," said Payne.

"And if they're staged late in the evening, you'll get prime time back in Europe."

Some events at the 1988 Seoul Olympics were rescheduled some months before the Games to meet the needs of US prime time television coverage.

"The whole scheduled programme has got to be worked out with the international federations," said Payne, the International Olympic Committee's marketing director.

He said live coverage was no

longer a particularly high priority.

"In Barcelona, NBC proved that running delayed coverage actually allowed them to package the programme into a full two to three hour entertainment show," Payne said.

The US television rights for the 1996 Atlanta Games were recently sold to the NBC network for 45 million dollars, but Payne said it was still too early to put a figure on the cost of US rights for Sydney.

"It will be a good three years before we move into the US rights, but this decision will certainly put a lot of focus on the Australian TV rights for Atlanta," he said.

The US fee for the 1980 Moscow Olympics was 87 million dollars which rose to 225 million dollars for Los Angeles in 1984, to 300 million dollars for Seoul in 1988, to 401 million dollars for Barcelona in 1992 and to 456 million dollars for Atlanta in 1996.

Payne said the cost of US television rights had stabilised and added: "You won't see these quantum leaps any more. In Europe, I think it will also

become more stable now that European television has established itself as a commercial market."

The European Broadcasting Union (EBU) has paid 250 million dollars for Atlanta, an increase of 300 percent over the previous cost of European television rights.

"The big change was moving from a non-advertising-driven market to where we are now," said Payne.

"I think we'll still see one or two big changes in certain other parts of the world, but you're not going to see any more doubling or trebling of the figures."

"The US figure (for Sydney) will depend on how the whole second-tier TV structure evolves in terms of cable and so on in Barcelona only about five percent of all sport got shown on television, there's just so much."

By Payne said future technology would enable networks to run full cover of minor sports as well as the standard 200 hours of high profile sports coverage.



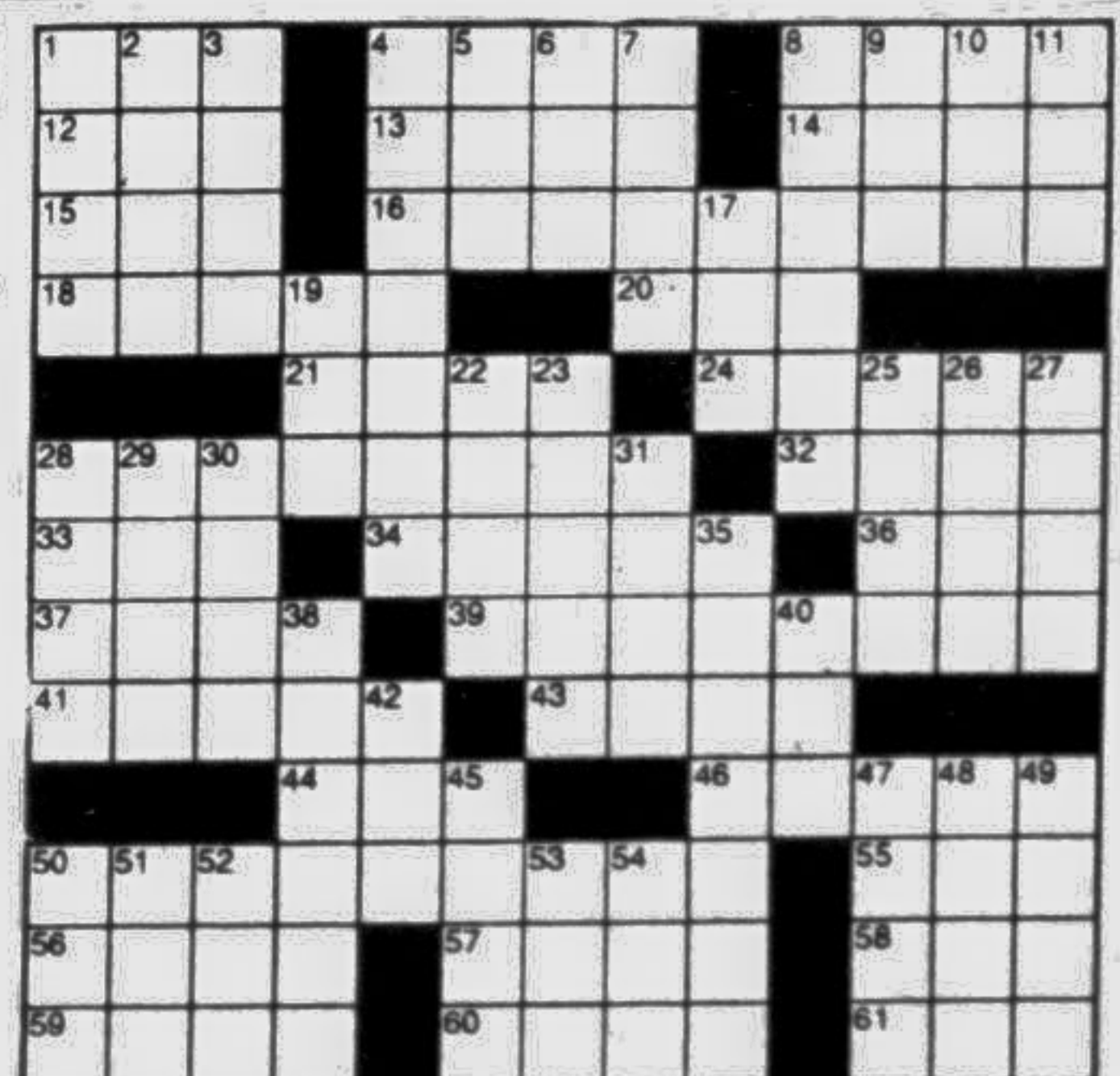
French Stephane Haccoun (L) lands a left hook on Italian Maurizio Stecca in their European championship featherweight bout in Marseille on Sept 24. Haccoun won the bout.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	41 Vegas area	<b>DOWN</b>	preciation
1 Wray of "King Kong"	43 Hard to find	1 "M" or "Z"	19 Make a choice
4 Bronx cheer	44 — long way	2 Geometer's find	22 Ella's style
8 Parlor piece	46 Unclear	3 Gape	23 Birch's cousin
12 George's brother	50 "The Rose" author	4 Appeal outcome	25 Marathon fraction
13 Fencing equipment	55 Abby's	5 Mimic	26 Computer symbol
14 Act the robot	56 Chills	6 Buddhist sect	27 Libretto
15 "Ben-Hur" author	57 Rend	7 Snoring sounds, in Soho?	28 Surveillance
16 Make beef more palatable	58 Un-matched	8 Mail-room worker	29 Door sign
18 Estate house	59 Over 50 percent	9 Kyoto cummerbund	30 On the right track
20 Posed	60 Gospels' followers	10 Moroccan city	31 Ferber or Millay
21 Tower town	61 Section of L.A.?	11 Nay canceler	35 Trays
24 Send payment		17 Music ap-	38 Seal
28 Feeler			40 Culpa lead-in
32 Wedding shower?			42 "Ulalume" poet
33 Tin Man's prop			45 Film terrier
34 Alan and Cheryl			47 "The Ballad of Reading"
36 Bagel topping			48 Wreck
37 Slant			49 Finishes
39 Slum building			50 Scot's hat
			51 Id counter-part
			52 Greek consonants
			53 Dry, to a vintner
			54 Devour

**Solution time: 28 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 3-10**



## CRYPTOQUIP

C M X A F X G U R V A M R  
D J F M R U A J X F D S V G F A D J  
A D J R U N T S ? N A C X U  
A M R K N A U

Yesterday's Cryptogram: LOGICAL LOCATION FOR MY MATTRESS FACTORY: NEAR A SPRING.

Today's Cryptogram clue: F equals C

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.