

# Lillehammer Games notebook

**LILLEHAMMER, Norway, Feb 2:** Hillary Clinton may be here, and possibly Al and Tipper Gore. Movie stars, heads of state and monarchs are coming.

During the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, this rural town of 23,000 will be the place for VIPs galore, reports AP.

At least that's what the Norwegian press has concluded.

Norwegian news reports claim Mrs. Clinton, the wife of President Bill Clinton, and possibly Vice President Gore and his wife, plan to attend at least parts of the Feb. 12-27 Winter Games.

However, Olympic organizers, the Norwegian foreign ministry and the US embassy in Oslo all said they had no confirmation of the travel plans.

"We have heard talk about it, but we don't know," said Rolf Nereng of the Lillehammer Olympic Organizing Committee.

Although the final guest list isn't done, the Norwegian news media said 12 heads of state were expected at the Games.

The Lillehammer Tilskuer newspaper said it expected actress Jane Fonda, and her husband CNN founder Ted Turner, as well as rock stars, top fashion models and actors.

The Norwegian news agency NTB said the monarchs of Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Spain are expected, as well as representatives of other royal families. Britain's Princess Anne will attend as a member of the International Olympic Committee.

And Prince Albert of Monaco is signed up as a member of his country's four-man bobsled team.

**TINY TURNOUT:** Last weekend, Lillehammer Olympic organizers appealed to local residents to go to the ski jump stadium in the hills above town to help test plans for the Feb. 12 opening ceremony.

In newspapers and on the radio, LOOC said it needed at least 1,000 volunteers to play the parts of national teams and bear the flags of such countries as the United States, Greece and Japan.

LOOC even offered free tickets to the dress rehearsal of the opening ceremony.

Maybe everyone was too busy getting ready for the Games.

Only 200 people showed up.

### THE MISSION BAR

Everything from bars to car dealerships are being turned into temporary bars and restaurants for the Games.

Even the local Christian missionary association will move out its Bibles and hymn books so they can rent out their building to the French Olympic Committee, which has been awarded a temporary liquor license for closed parties on the premises, said the Oslo newspaper Dagbladet.

The decision was approved at a general assembly of the Norwegian missionary society, after strong debate since many members oppose consumption of alcohol.

"Some were emotional about it, others argued against it on principle," said Arnfinn Skaheim.

In the end, it came down to the bottom line: 300,000 kroner (dfls 40,000) in rent.

### SLOW TRAINS

Passenger trains from the Norwegian capital of Oslo to Lillehammer will have to run with clocklike precision to help bring up to 100,000 people a day to the Lillehammer area during the Games.

The problem is that almost half the trains are running late, with less than two weeks to go until the Games. And with much of the 180 kilometers (110 miles) served by single track rail lines, organizers fear there could be traffic jams on the rails as well as the roads.

On Sunday, 15 of 24 trains ran late, with an average delay of 39 minutes. The reason: snow, breakdowns and moose blocking the tracks, reported

### FOR SALE

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Tore J. Haugen from the town of Skjak, near Lillehammer, plans to sell earrings made of moose droppings.

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# Tennis faces uneasy period

**MELBOURNE, Feb 2:** The achievements of Pete Sampras and Steffi Graf at this year's Australian Open won the respect of the tennis world but failed to generate much box-office excitement, reports Reuter.

Attendance figures for the two-week tournament showed a drop of almost 10 per cent on the 1993 aggregate, and were the lowest at the year's first Grand Slam event for four years.

Even though Australian fans acknowledged the talent of Sampras and Graf, now dominant forces in the men's and women's games, the withdrawal of numerous big-name players did nothing to encourage them to Plinders Park.

Andre Agassi, Boris Becker, Monica Seles, Martina Navratilova, Michael Chang, Sergi Bruguera, Pat Cash and John McEnroe, all Grand Slam title winners of recent times, were clearly missed and the resultant drop in attendances will concern the sport world-wide.

Ticket prices of a 71 dollar (50 dollar) for a men's final seat, as well as the counter-attraction of cricket in a busy sporting month, may be part of the reason, but tennis now faces an uneasy period.

Sampras and Graf, the top seeds, were a class above their opponents Todd Martin and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the weekend's finals. Sampras is still only 22 and Sanchez 24.

It was the American's third Grand Slam title in a row and the German's fourth, demonstrating both their ability but also a lack of consistent rivals. The Grand Slam consists of the Australia, French and US Opens along with Wimbledon.

Sampras was taken to within two points of defeat by brilliant young Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov in the second round, but otherwise dropped only two sets.

Graf, far fitter than all her opponents, conceded an average of only four games a match during the entire fortnight.

If the pair were to win the French Open starting in May — potentially the most difficult venue for both — their opponents would be entitled to panic.

If they cast their minds back 12 months, however, the opponents would discover at least a measure of consolation.

This time last year, the top seeds had also waked away with the two Australian Open singles titles. Jim Courier and Monica Seles, it was assumed, would carry all before them for the rest of the year.

As the world now knows, Seles was stabbed in Germany in April and has not played a competitive match since. Courier lost the French Open final to Bruguera, lost the Wimbledon final to Sampras and was admitting to a lack of motivation by the year's end.

Sport is never totally predictable, except for Seles's return which is certain to please a harassed Women's Tennis Association and Graf herself.

If Agassi and Becker, among others, can rouse themselves for Paris and Wimbledon, the men's game will be equally grateful. The lesson of the 1994 Australian Open is that quality at the top cannot always hide the deficiencies below.

# Death robs Austria of a star

**VIENNA, Feb 2:** Hans Eder felt as if "the world was going under" when he saw the crash that killed Ulrike Maier.

Eder's comments reflected those of many Austrians Sunday as the nation mourned the death of its two-time world champion, who was killed the day before in a horrifying spill during a downhill race in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, reports AP.

Austrian newspapers banneted the tragic news, including the mass-circulation Kurier: "The skiing world mourns one of the best and most likable women athletes."

Eder, a neighbour of Maier interviewed on Austrian TV, saw the crash on a television replay, seeing "Ulri" lose her balance when her right ski jerked to the right, sending her into a timing pole and sprawling down the slope. She died 2-1/2 hours later after being airlifted to a local hospital.

The 26-year-old "skiing mom" of a 4-year-old Melanie was fourth in the World Cup overall standings and her country's best hope for a medal at the upcoming Winter Olympics in Norway. She will be buried on Saturday in her Salzburg province hometown of Raub.

Austrian women's coach Herwig Demoschar said he did not want to think about skiing.

"My thought are far away from the Olympics, and from the ski sport," he said. "He who in such a situation can think for a second of sport or successes has no heart."

To me the fight for medals

has moved to a seemingly unreal distance. I cannot think of anything else but of Ulri's family, of Hubert and little Melanie," Demoschar said.

Maier had long planned to give up competitive skiing and get married later this year to Hubert Schweighofer, her fiancé and Melanie's father.

The Austrian Ski Association canceled the women's team participation in next weekend's World Cup races in Sierra Nevada, Spain.

Austrian officials made clear, however, that the team would compete in the Olympics at Lillehammer beginning Feb 12.

Schweighofer, who immediately went to the hospital where his fiancée died, said he

### Olympic flame in Helsinki

**HELSINKI, Feb 2:** The Olympic flame arrived in Finland on Tuesday on its way to the Winter Games starting in Lillehammer, Norway, on February 12, reports Reuter.

National television showed the flame being carried by a white-clad member of a relay team the 20 kilometers over snow, in a temperature of minus 13 centigrade, from the city's airport to a ceremony in downtown Helsinki.

The flame, which arrived by air from Copenhagen, was lit in Greece on January 16 and will travel some 6,500 kms through Europe before it reaches Lillehammer.

### ATP's rankings

- PARIS, Feb 2: American Todd Martin moves up from 12th to eighth place in the world tennis rankings on Monday, thanks to reaching the final of the Australian Open on Sunday, reports AFP.
1. Pete Sampras (USA) 4573 pts
  2. Michael Stich (Germany) 3243
  3. Jim Courier (USA) 3115
  4. Sergi Bruguera (Spain) 2544
  5. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) 2542
  6. Andrei Medvedev (Ukraine) 2415
  7. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) 2252
  8. Todd Martin (USA) 2196
  9. Michael Chang (USA) 2157
  10. Thomas Muster (Austria) 2054
  11. Cedric Pioline (France) 1896
  12. Magnus Gustafsson (Sweden) 1873
  13. Boris Becker (Germany) 1729
  14. Petr Korda (Czech) 1684
  15. Richard Krajicek (Neth) 1553
  16. Ivan Lendl (USA) 1551
  17. Marc Rosset (Switz) 1490
  18. Wayne Ferreira (S Africa) 1420
  19. Karel Novacek (Czech) 1412
  20. Alexander Volkov (Russia) 1402

# Becker bounces back

**MARSEILLE, France, Feb 2:** Boris Becker returned to the tennis circuit as he beat Britain's Jeremy Bates, 6-2, 6-4, in the first round of the dfls 538,000, Marseille Open tennis tournament Tuesday, reports AP.

Becker had been inactive since the beginning of December to devote time to the birth of his son, Noah Gabriel, and marry his fiancée, Barbara Felts.

Becker's son was born Jan 18 in Munich, Germany.

Becker had no trouble with Bates and was happy to be back in competition.

"The fact to have a child and a family puts me in good spirits on the court and off the court," Becker said. "That makes things different on the court. Tennis is becoming easier."

Becker is now working with Nick Bolletieri, the former coach of Monica Seles and Andre Agassio.

"In order to return to competition, I trained very hard for four weeks in Munich, including two when Nick was there," Becker said.

In other first round matches, two other Germans won. Joern Renzenbrink defeated eight-seeded Alberto Berasategui of Spain, 6-1, 6-4. Carl Uwe Steeb advanced when sixth-seeded Carlos Costa Spain had to retire from his match in the second set with an injury.

Also Jonas Bjorknan of Sweden defeated Czech Daniel Vacek, 6-4, 6-3 and Spain's Tomas Carbonell beat Omar Camporese 6-4, 6-3.

### Adelaide to try again

**ADELAIDE, Feb 2:** Adelaide, which was beaten by Kuala Lumpur for the right to stage the 1998 Commonwealth Games, hopes to bid again for the 2002 event, reports AP.

South Australia will seek federal government support for its proposed bid, state government Sports Minister John Oswald said Wednesday.

The South Australian government originally had planned to bid for the Commonwealth Games in 2006 but fears South Africa may mount a strong challenge, Oswald said.

He said the state government had initially believed there was little hope of staging the 2002 Games because they would be held only two years after Sydney plays host to the 2000 Olympics.

"It's a crystal ball at this particular time, and I'm keeping my options open," Oswald said.

Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur beat Adelaide for the right to stage the 1998 games by 40 votes to 25 in a secret ballot taken in Barcelona in July 1992.

Although Adelaide's facilities and ability to stage the event were praised by delegates, Kuala Lumpur successfully lobbied on the basis that it was time to end the monopoly on the games: enjoyed by affluent, mostly-white Commonwealth nations.

London and Manchester in England also have indicated interest in staging the Commonwealth Games in 2002.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation will choose the 2002 host in November 1995. No other countries have submitted bids yet, but they have until May 1995 to enter the race.

The 1994 Commonwealth Games are scheduled Aug. 18-28 in Victoria, Canada.

### REFUGEES OF THE GAMES

About 160 refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina, who were forced to flee their homes in war-torn former Yugoslavia, had to pack their bags again.

This time, due to the Olympics in Lillehammer.

The refugees had been housed in apartments near Lillehammer that will be needed during the Games, and they had to move to cabins and hotels outside the Olympic area.

### FOR SALE

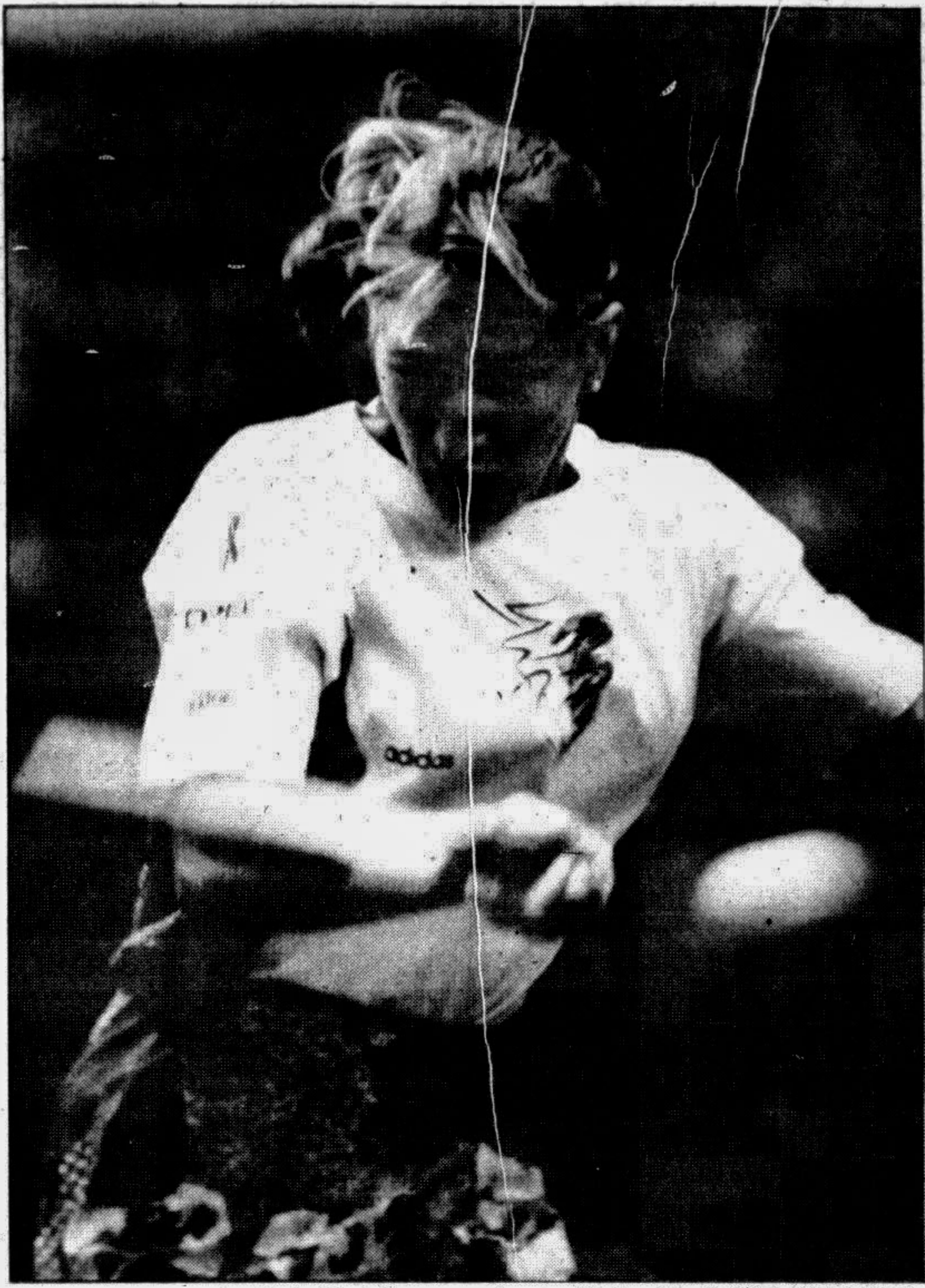
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World number one Steffi Graf of Germany returns a forehand to Britain's Clare Wood during their second round match in the Toray Pan Pacific Open women's tennis tournament in Tokyo yesterday. Graf won 6-3, 6-4 to move into the quarter-finals. — AFP photo

# Rough ride for top seeds

**TOKYO, Feb 2:** World number one Steffi Graf and defending champion Martina Navratilova overcame tough second round challenges on Wednesday to move into the quarterfinals of the 750,000 dollar Pan Pacific women's tennis tournament, reports Reuter.

Top-seeded Graf of Germany battled to beat Britain's Clare Wood 6-3, 6-4, while second seed Navratilova of the United States shrugged off a rusty start and first set loss to overwhelm Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands 6-7, (6-8), 6-2, 6-1.

Playing on the fast carpet surface at Tokyo's Metropolitan Gymnasium, Graf conceded seven games in a match for the first time this year.

"It's very difficult to play a perfect match constantly," said the 24-year-old German, fresh from victory in last week's Australian Open at Melbourne.

"On this surface, if somebody serves well, it's really difficult to do anything. I've only had two days to get used to the court, so I'll need a little longer to get my rhythm," she added with a shrug of the shoulders.

In a first set dominated by powerful serving, Graf had to

wait until the eighth game to break her opponent and then serve out the set.

Wood seemed unfazed. Ranked 92 in the world, she stepped up her serve and return and, taking advantage of a lapse in Graf's concentration, strode to a 3-0 lead.

"My first serve was going well and I didn't give her a chance to dominate from the back," Wood said. She called it the best match of her career.

"I didn't return well, that was what did it," said Graf, twice winner of Asia's premier women's tournament.

"She served very well, so she didn't give me many chances," she added. Graf's determination and vast experience eventually saw her through, enabling her to break the Briton twice and wrap up the match in 61 minutes.

Meanwhile Navratilova, seeking her third title here and 167th of her illustrious career, capitalised on Bollegraf's visible exhaustion to secure a berth in the quarterfinals.

"The key was to serve well in the first game of the second set because I was very disappointed after losing the tie-break," said Navratilova, who is playing her first tournament since losing in the second round of the New York Virginia Slims in mid-November.

Unleashing her powerful serve-and-volley game spiked with topspin, the Czech-born American world number three romped through the last two sets leaving her Dutch opponent helpless.

"This is as fast a surface as we play on all year, so for me, it's a real treat as I don't have to think what I'm doing," said Navratilova, who upset Graf in the 1993 semifinal here.

She attributed the first set loss to some muscle pain in her ankle and buttock, but quickly added: "The body's holding up pretty well. There are a few tweaks, but hopefully I'll be feeling better tomorrow."

The tournament's first major casualty was seventh seed Helena Sukova of the Czech Republic, who was beaten 1-6, 6-3, 3-6, by veteran Pam Shriver of the United States.

In other first round matches, Wimbledon finalist and fourth seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic disposed of Japan's Ai Sugiyama 6-3, 6-4.

Eighth seed Nathalie Tauziat of France beat American Lori McNeil 6-2, 7-5. Australian Kristine Radford downed Karine Quentrec of France 7-5, 3-6, 6-1, and Kristie Boogert of the Netherlands defeated Japan's Yone Kamio 6-2, 6-3.

### Pollard wants a change

**MELBOURNE, Feb 2:** Australia's leading tennis administrator favours rule changes that would speed up matches, reports AP.

Geoff Pollard, president of Tennis Australia, said Wednesday that fans should not have to put up with unnecessary delays between points, drawn out tiebreakers and lengthy deuce games.

Pollard favours a reduction of the time players are allowed between points, abolition of the first change of ends in every set, and adoption of one-point advantage tiebreakers.

"Most points should be played quicker and there is no reason why players can't be like a Steffi Graf and grab the ball and serve straight away," Pollard said.

"They have 25 seconds between points and most of them drag it out so the maximum becomes the norm and not the exception: We would like to see it reduced to 20 seconds."

Pollard wants a tiebreaker won by the first player to reach seven points, regardless of whether the player has a two-point advantage.

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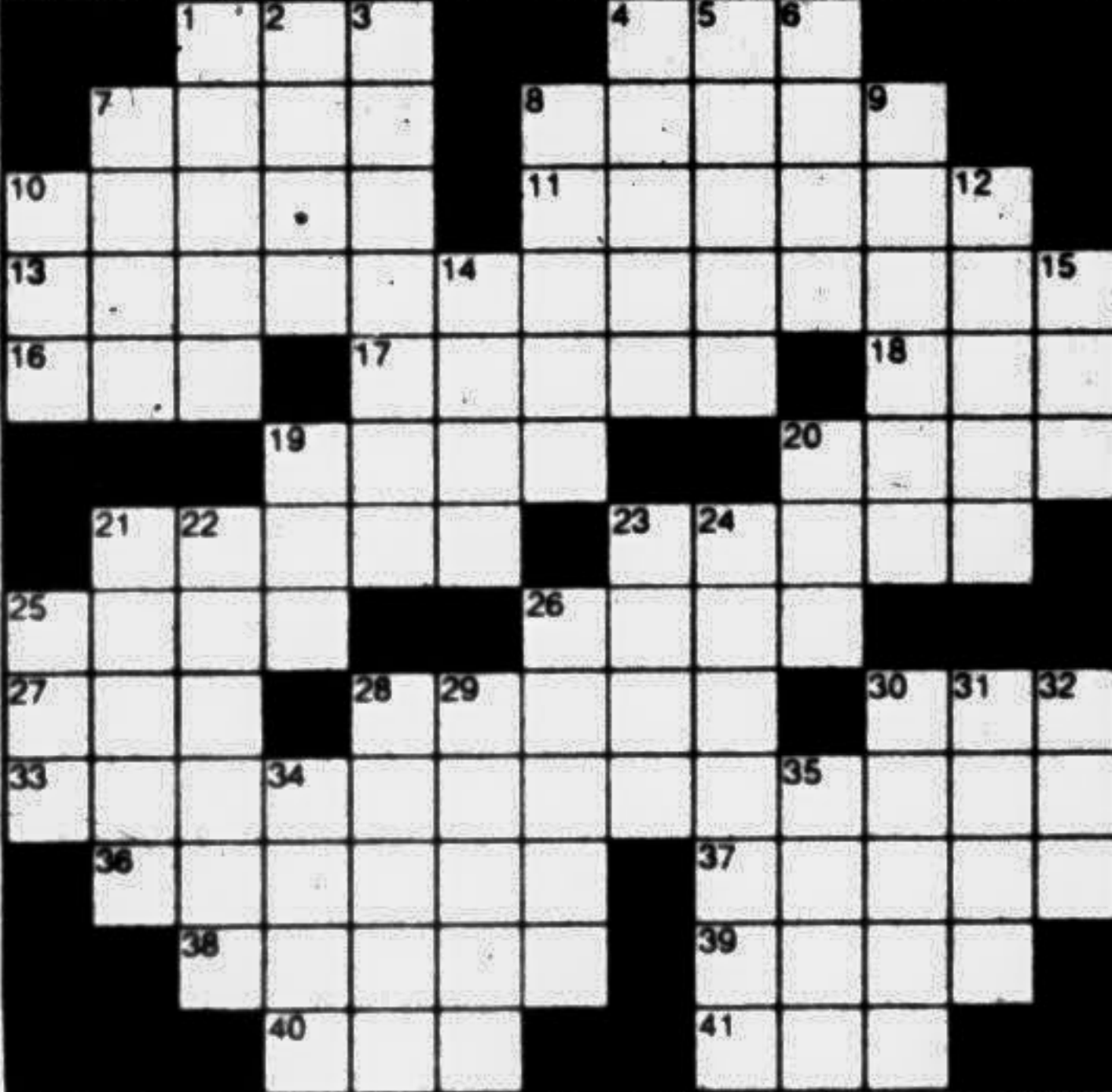
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# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Ta-ta!"
  - 4 Depot, abbr.
  - 7 Get ready, for short
  - 8 Donat role
  - 10 Gets dirty
  - 11 Montana's capital
  - 13 Paging system
  - 16 "You — There"
  - 17 Unfettered
  - 18 Noshed
  - 19 Afflictions
  - 20 Distort the data
  - 21 "Mind your — Os"
  - 23 Lecherous woodland deity
  - 25 Chest muscles: slang
  - 26 Partner in crime
  - 27 One in a row?
- DOWN**
- 2 Act the cheerleader
  - 3 Character in "The Odyssey"?
  - 4 Molts
  - 5 Señorita's wiggle?
  - 6 Mimic
  - 7 Rain cats and dogs
  - 8 Extreme disorder
  - 9 Furtime
  - 10 Fat farm comment
  - 12 Michaelmas daisy
  - 14 Vassarite, 1 Sop
  - 15 Stitch
  - 19 "When I — 17..."
  - 20 Eyesore
  - 21 Bosc and Bartlett
  - 22 Scenario
  - 23 Bang the door
  - 24 Annual publication
  - 25 Weasel's noise
  - 26 Fred's sibling partner
  - 28 Irving Berlin song
  - 29 Dickens title start
  - 30 Scatter about
  - 31 Lines of fashion?
  - 32 Epoch
  - 34 String instrument
  - 35 Forum wrap
- Solution time: 22 mins.**
- SLOB BAG SPAS**  
**LIME AMI PINA**  
**AMAD CONVICTS**  
**TOREROS ERASE**  
**CAN DNA**  
**BECKY JAILERS**  
**OVA OOM YAK**  
**WARDENS CHEW**  
**AXE SUE**  
**SCALLA SWEATER**  
**CELLMATE VAVA**  
**IDEA RYE EXIT**  
**SEES EXT NILE**
- Yesterday's answer 6-23



**CRYPTOQUIP**

Y U Y V O R K U Y J R J U F - Y G Z Z  
 U P K W C I V R I K Q P G D I  
 K W R K I W U W R I W D I  
 D G F Q O C K G C K H G F W U F

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WOULD SUMMER RAIN FALL CAUSE THE CORN FARMER TO BE WET BEHIND THE EARS?

Today's Cryptoquip clue: F 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.