



Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland plays a backhand shot against Indonesia's Benny Wijaya during the Davis Cup World Group qualifying match in Jakarta yesterday. Hlasek won 7-6, 6-3, 6-0. — AFP photo

### Swiss Davis Cuppers safely placed

JAKARTA, Sept 23: Switzerland raced to a 2-0 lead over Indonesia on Friday by winning the opening singles of their qualifying round tie for the 1995 Davis Cup World Group, reports Reuter.

The Swiss, runners-up to the United States in the 1992 final, encountered stiff resistance from the Indonesians but came through to establish a perfect position from which to win the best-of-five matches tie.

Jakob Hlasek relied on his powerful serve and volleying to overcome Benny Wijaya in the first singles 7-6, 6-2, 6-0.

The Swiss player, ranked as high as seventh in the world in 1989, started slowly and allowed the Indonesian number two to serve for the first set at 5-4.

Wijaya played tentatively and Hlasek broke and went on to take the set in the tiebreak.

Hlasek played more patiently for the rest of the match as Wijaya went down under a spate of unforced errors.

"It is difficult to play someone you have never seen before," Hlasek said. "In the second set, I tried to wait for the opportunity before attacking and it worked."

Marc Rosset, Swiss number one and 1992 Olympic gold medalist, put his team 2-0 ahead with a 6-4, 6-3, 6-1 rout of 17-year-old Suwandi.

Rosset played inconsistently for most of the match but was able to draw on his cannonball serve to fend off the young Indonesian's few opportunities to break.

Suwandi managed to break once in the third set but proceeded to lose the next four games and the match.

Indonesia face a difficult task in Saturday's doubles against Hlasek and Rosset, who won the Italian and French championships in 1992.

### India, S Africa win each

JAIPUR, India, Sept 23: India and South Africa each won a singles match on the opening day of the Davis Cup World playoff Friday, reports AP.

A pulled muscle forced South Africa's Grant Stafford to hobble out of the first qualifying encounter with India's Leander Paes, conceding a match he was losing anyway.

But Wayne Ferreira, ranked 14th on the ATP tour, steam-rolled Asif Ismail of India, who was playing in his first Davis Cup.

The more experienced Paes easily won the first two sets 6-4, 6-3 and was leading 5-2 when Stafford retired.

Paes lost his serve in the opening game, double faulting three times. But he soon found his rhythm, leveling at 4-4 and taking the last two games with well-placed drop shots.

Playing to a cheering home crowd, Paes, ranked 150th in the world, broke Stafford's serve in the fourth game of the second set.

In the other game, Ferreira crushed Ali in three sets 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 in barely two hours.

The doubles will be played Saturday between Paes and Gaurav Natekar of India and Ferreira and Piet Norval.

The winner enters the World Group of 16, and the loser is relegated to the zonal round.

### China blasts Tokyo's role

BEIJING, Sept 23: The Foreign Ministry has rebuked Japan's ambassador over his government's decision to let a Taiwanese official attend next month's Asian Games in Hiroshima, official reports said Friday, reports AP.

Tian Zengpei, the Vice Foreign Minister, summoned Japanese Ambassador Michihiko Kunitshiro on Thursday to lodge a second formal protest over the issue, the reports said.

The continued war of words has ensnared Japan in the rivalry between Beijing and Taipei and made it increasingly difficult for Tokyo to find a face-saving compromise.

China threatened to boycott the Games after the Olympic Council of Asia invited Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui to attend the opening session. The council later appeared to cancel Lee's invitation, saying no political figures could attend the Games in Hiroshima, Japan.

Japan's Foreign Ministry said last week that Taiwan Vice Premier Hsu Li-teh was invited to the Oct 2 opening ceremony, not as a politician but as a sports official — a member of the preparatory committee for Taiwan's bid to hold the Asian Games in 2002.

But Beijing protested that plan as well, saying it violated Japan's commitment to only "one China," ruled by Beijing.

"The Chinese side deeply regrets this decision," the newspapers quoted him as saying.

# McCall's call for Lewis



LONDON, Sept 23: Briton Lennox Lewis, yet to establish his credibility with the sceptical American fight fraternity, will have his credentials as World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champion thoroughly examined by the rugged Oliver McCall on Sunday, reports Reuter.

"They (the American public) will always give me a hard time until there are no more American fighters to beat," Lewis said ruefully this week.

McCall, a rugged, uncomplicated fighter from the Chicago ghettos, boxed more than 300 rounds with Mike Tyson before the former undisputed world champion unexpectedly cost to Buster Douglas in Tokyo four years ago.

He has also sparred with Carl Williams and Larry Holmes and looked highly impressive during his workouts this week.

"I see this fight in my mind. I see so many different things. I've never been so confident. I see me beating him to the jab, outboxing him, landing first with my short right, throwing lots of left hooks while he gets his feet in a jam," McCall said.

Ticket sales for the fight, which will be staged at Wembley arena in the early hours of Sunday morning for the benefit of American television, have been slow despite a series of news conferences devised to provide controversy rather than information.

On Thursday it was McCall's turn to indulge in hyperbole when he threatened to fight

any member of Lewis' team over some obscure reference to his mother allegedly made at a New York news conference.

"I was mentally prepared for anyone who stood up to at least hurl a right over there and get a right hand in at their jaw," McCall said.

"I grew up in a hard neighbourhood on the south side of Chicago, it's the way I've been brought up, kill or be killed."

Even if Lewis wins, he seems certain to be fighting for the last time in Britain.

Born in Britain of Jamaican parents who then emigrated to Canada, Lewis has never been fully accepted by the British public and he now plans for understandable economic reasons to fight in the United States.

The fight fans want me over here, but it goes down to economics. There's more money to be made in America," said Lewis.

"I'm going with some reluctance, and I really want to fight in my home town of London, but cable network home box office pay a great deal of money for fights in the United States."

Lewis, unbeaten in 25 fights including three defences of the WBC title, has the physique and skills to beat the best but his ring work has sometimes been worryingly sloppy.

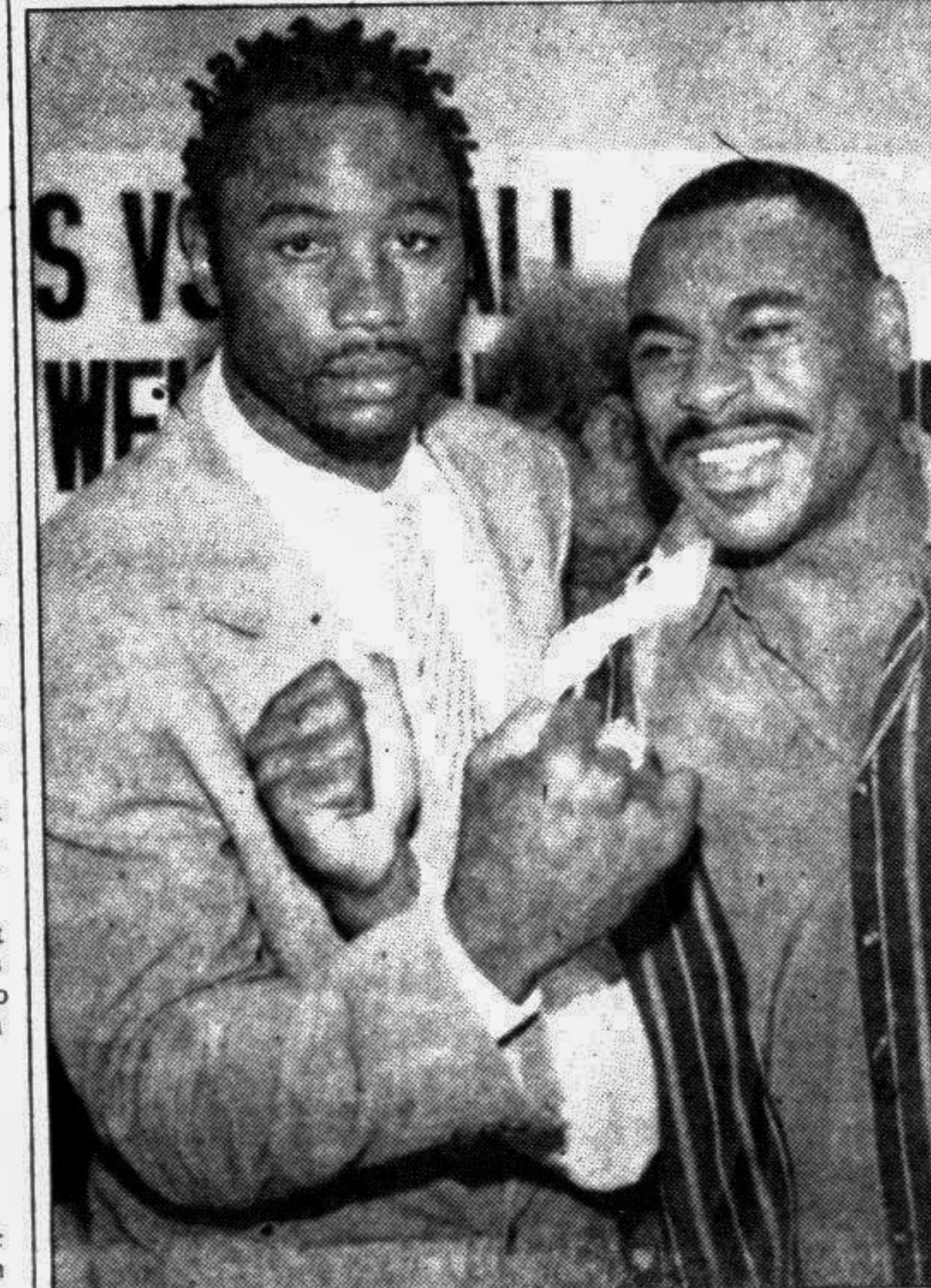
He cannot afford any defensive weaknesses against the rugged McCall, although his confidence is such that he is already eyeing three further Americans and the respect he craves in the United States.

First up will be Riddick Bowe, the man he beat in the 1988 Seoul Olympic super heavyweight title, the pair are scheduled to meet early next year.

Then comes Michael Moorer who took the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles from Bowe's conqueror Evander Holyfield.

And then comes Tyson, at present in prison after a rape conviction, but who could be released on parole early next year.

"Tyson is feeling good and will fight in England and come here to visit when he gets out of jail," promoter Don King promised on Thursday.



WBC heavyweight title holder Lennox Lewis (L) and his American challenger Oliver McCall (R).

### Supporters seek fed regulation of boxing

WASHINGTON, Sept 23: Supporters of a proposed law that would place federal regulations on boxing safety have urged members of the Senate Commerce Committee to adopt the measure, reports AP.

The responsibility for the regulation of professional boxing currently is within the authority of the states," Sen Richard Bryan, who co-sponsored the proposed law, said during hearings on Thursday.

"However, I question if health and safety standards overall are being effectively enforced by all states."

The proposed law would: — Require the results of all fights to be reported to certified registries.

— Prohibit bouts in US states without boxing commissions.

— Establish mandatory registration for boxers and the issuance of identification cards with photographs and social security numbers.

It is unlikely that the US Congress will vote on boxing legislation before its scheduled adjournment next month.

Sen William V Roth Jr said the sport needed federal regulation and introduced separate legislation.

"Heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield told us that he paid nearly 600,000 dollars in sanction fees for his title fight against Larry Holmes and he received little in return," Roth said. "He even paid for his own championship belts."

Roth wants the government to establish a not-for-profit corporation that will enforce minimum federal standards.

"The ultimate victim of all these inequities is the boxer," he said. "Unfortunately, most boxers find themselves at the bottom of the food chain."

Marc Ratner, executive director of the Nevada Athletic Commission and a vice president of the Association of Boxing Commissions, said the ABC endorsed the legislation.

### FINA's findings

LAUSANNE, Sept 23: The International Swimming Federation (FINA) said on Friday 169 dope tests were conducted at this month's World Championships in Rome and none were positive, reports Reuter.

Coaches highlighted widespread concern about drugs in swimming at the end of the 11-day championships, saying doping threatened the future of the sport.

"The apparent re-emergence of performance enhancing drugs, especially in women's competition, constitutes the single greatest threat to the progress and integrity of our sport," coaches and team managers from 18 nations said in a statement.

The women's events were dominated by China, who won 12 of the 16 women's swimming titles and broke five world records in the process.

Four Chinese women swimmers, three of them internationals, have been suspended following positive dope tests in the past two years, a few top swimmers from other countries, including the US and Germany, have also received suspensions in the past.

FINA refused to say before the championships began how many tests they planned to carry out in Rome, saying numbers were kept confidential to prevent anyone from working out the statistical likelihood of being tested.

The federation said in statement on Friday: "The 169 doping control tests carried out during the VII Swimming World Championships were all negative."

### Russia one up against Germany in Davis Cup

## Bad start for Karbacher

HAMBURG, Germany, Sept 23: Yevgeny Kafelnikov spoiled Bernd Karbacher's Davis Cup debut with a four-set victory Friday that gave Russia a 1-0 lead over defending champions Germany in the World Group semifinals, reports AP.

Kafelnikov won the opening singles 7-6 (7-2), 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 on the newly-installed hard court at the Rothenbaum tennis club.

"It was very important for us to get a good start and I went into the match very concentrated," Kafelnikov said. "I knew what I wanted to do and I did it."

The hard court replaced the usual clay surface and was put in to help Germany's top player, Michael Stich, who reached the final of the US Open earlier this month on a similar surface.

Stich played Alexander Volkov in the second singles of the best-of-five series.

Russia advanced past the first round for the first time this year, while Germany are three-time champions.

The organisers took a gamble with the weather by going outdoors and it paid off. The last summer weekend began under a blue sky and a mild temperature.

Karbacher made a backhand error to drop his serve in the fifth game but he tied the score at 4-4 by breaking back in the eighth game.

The set went with serve from then on and Kafelnikov was steadier in the tiebreak, winning 7-2 when Karbacher sent a forehand into the net.

The 20-year-old Russian broke for 2-0 in the next set and rolled through the second set in just 24 minutes.

He lost the third almost as fast.

Karbacher, 26, took advantage of a double-fault by Kafelnikov to break for a 2-0 lead, broke again for 4-0 and demolished the Russian with powerful ground strokes.

Kafelnikov again committed a double-fault to give up the set and the German was back in the match.

"A string of unforced errors that plagued Karbacher throughout the match caught up with him again at the start

of the fourth set when the German immediately dropped his serve.

But he evened the score at 2-2 by rebreaking in the fourth game, delighting about 6,000 fans at the Rothenbaum Club. Despite the sunshine, only about two-thirds of the seats were filled.

Karbacher's momentum did not last long. In the fifth game, facing a break point, he sent a wild backhand volley long that put Kafelnikov back in the lead.

The Russian, ranked 12th in the world after a rapid rise through the ranks this year, survived two break points in the next game, thundered an ace and scored with a scorching forehand to take a 4-2 lead.

Kafelnikov was never under pressure again and won on his first match point when Karbacher sent a forehand long, winning in two hours and 30 minutes.

"He is one of the top returners in the game. I tried to serve to the lines, but it didn't always work and he scored a lot with his returns," said Karbacher, who is ranked 33rd.

## Sanchez-Vicario sails

TOKYO, Sept 23: US Open champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario wasted little time and effort in breezing into the semifinals of the 400,000 US dollars Nichirei women's tennis tournament today, reports Reuter.

The top-seeded Spaniard stayed on course for her seventh title of the season when she emphatically outclassed unseeded American Marianne Iwerson 6-4, 6-0 in the quarter-finals.

The match was a far cry from their encounter last month in San Diego in which Werdel severely extended the world number two in a tight three-set battle.

"The difference between that match and today is that I played much a more consistent and stronger today than I did in San Diego," Sanchez-Vicario said.

The two players slugged it out from the baseline of the sun-drenched Centre Court, with the 26-year-old Werdel breaking the top seed in the fourth game of the first set.

But Sanchez-Vicario broke back immediately and went a break up in the seventh game.

"The first couple of games I had to get used to her shots but I learned a lot from that San Diego match," she said.

Sanchez-Vicario could do no wrong in the second set. Werdel continued her aggressive game but was frequently left shrugging her shoulders in disbelief as the US and French Open champion chased every ball and pulled off seemingly impossible winners.

"I chose to come to Japan because I like the tournaments and the people like me," said Sanchez-Vicario, who has attracted swarms of young autograph-hunters off the court here.

Seventh seed Amy Frazier of the US also made her way into the semifinals with a 6-2, 7-5 win over local hope Mana Endo.

Fourth seed Gabriela Sabatini made heavy weather of her quarter-final, squandering three match points in the second set before barely surviving through the third to beat unseeded Sugiyama of Japan 6-3, 5-7, 7-5.

Sabatini received on-court treatment to her left foot at the beginning of the final set, soon after which the Argentine found herself trailing Sugiyama 3-5 and just two points away from elimination.

But the gritty game of the unheralded Sugiyama fell apart as she succumbed to a bout of nerves, double faulted, and let the Argentine back into the match.

Sabatini, looking for her first tournament title since winning the Italian Open back in May 1992, meets seventh seeded American Amy Frazier in the semifinals.

### Greenpeace hits out at Sydney Games organisers

SYDNEY, Sept 23: Authorities charged with protecting the environment during the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000 have failed to organise effectively, the environmental group Greenpeace said Friday, reports AP.

"We can see no clear and obvious translation of the environmental guidelines into the technical requirements of those developers tendering for the Olympics," said Greenpeace's Australian chief executive, Lynette Thorstensen.

She said there was a "high degree of disorganisation" among those responsible for environmental protection during the Games.

She was speaking at a news conference marking the first anniversary of Sydney's successful bid to hold the Olympics.

"We are concerned at the lack of progress in making Sydney the first 'Green Games'," she said.

New South Wales state Premier John Fahey disputed Greenpeace's statements and denied any environmental agreements had been breached.

"We are committed to an environmental village," Fahey said.

US basketball star Earvin Magic Johnson passes the ball during a charity game to raise funds to fight AIDS against the 'Best of Levallois-Antibes' in France on Sept 22. This was the last game of Johnson's European tour. The 'Magic All Stars' won 130-104. — AFP photo



US basketball star Earvin Magic Johnson passes the ball during a charity game to raise funds to fight AIDS against the 'Best of Levallois-Antibes' in France on Sept 22. This was the last game of Johnson's European tour. The 'Magic All Stars' won 130-104. — AFP photo

## All eyes on Edberg, Sampras



GOTEBORG, Sweden, Sept 23: Stefan Edberg, returning to the city where he made his Davis Cup debut 10 years ago, will play Todd Martin in Friday's opening singles as Sweden takes on a favoured United States team in the World Group semifinals, reports AP.

Pete Sampras, the world's top-ranked player who also is coming off a disappointing US Open, faces Swedish No. 2 Magnus Larsson in the other opening-day singles of the best-of-5 series.

"For me it's an opportunity to get back and play good tennis again. Obviously the US Open wasn't great for me this year," Edberg said after Thursday's draw at the Scandinavium Arena.

Edberg won the US Open in 1991 and '92, but made an early exit this year in the season's final Grand Slam event.

"I hope I can play well during the weekend here. I've been working quite hard for the last couple of weeks," said Edberg, who has dropped to fifth in the ATP Tour rankings.

Ten years ago, Edberg made a successful Davis Cup debut in the doubles with Anders Jarryd, clinching Sweden's victory over the United States in the final.

That American team included both Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe, but they lost on the slow indoor clay on opening day to Mats Wilander and Henrik Sundstrom.

The Swedes picked Tarraflex, a fast carpet, for this weekend's semifinal and it suits the Swedes well. Sampras and Martin, also strong serve-and-volley players, like it too.

"Fortunately the court here is fast, but I'm not really going to get into a lot of long rallies this weekend, because I'm not in great shape," Sampras said.

Sampras won eight tournaments this year, including the Australian Open and Wimbledon, but he was bothered badly by tendonitis in his ankle all summer and was sidelined for six weeks. That hurt his chances in the US Open, where the defending champion lost in the fourth round to Peru's Jaime Yzaga.

Sampras first told US captain Tom Gullikson that he wouldn't be available for the Davis Cup semifinal.

A few days after his loss to Yzaga, Sampras changed his mind and Gullikson got the phone call he was waiting for.

"I went home after the Open and didn't pick up a racket for quite some time," Sampras recalled. "But I was still doing the bike and lifting weights. I thought about it for a couple of days and really got the urge to play."

"I'm just going to try and finish the year really strong and I couldn't find a better way to get motivated back into it than playing Davis Cup," he said. "That is important to me and I'm glad I'm here."

Jonathan Strak will make his Davis Cup debut in Saturday's doubles with Jared Palmer against Sweden's Jan Apell and Bjorkman.

Ranked sixth in the world, the Swedes have been playing well this year. They won both Davis Cup doubles, reached the French Open final, but lost in the first round of the US Open.

The reverse singles will be played on Sunday.

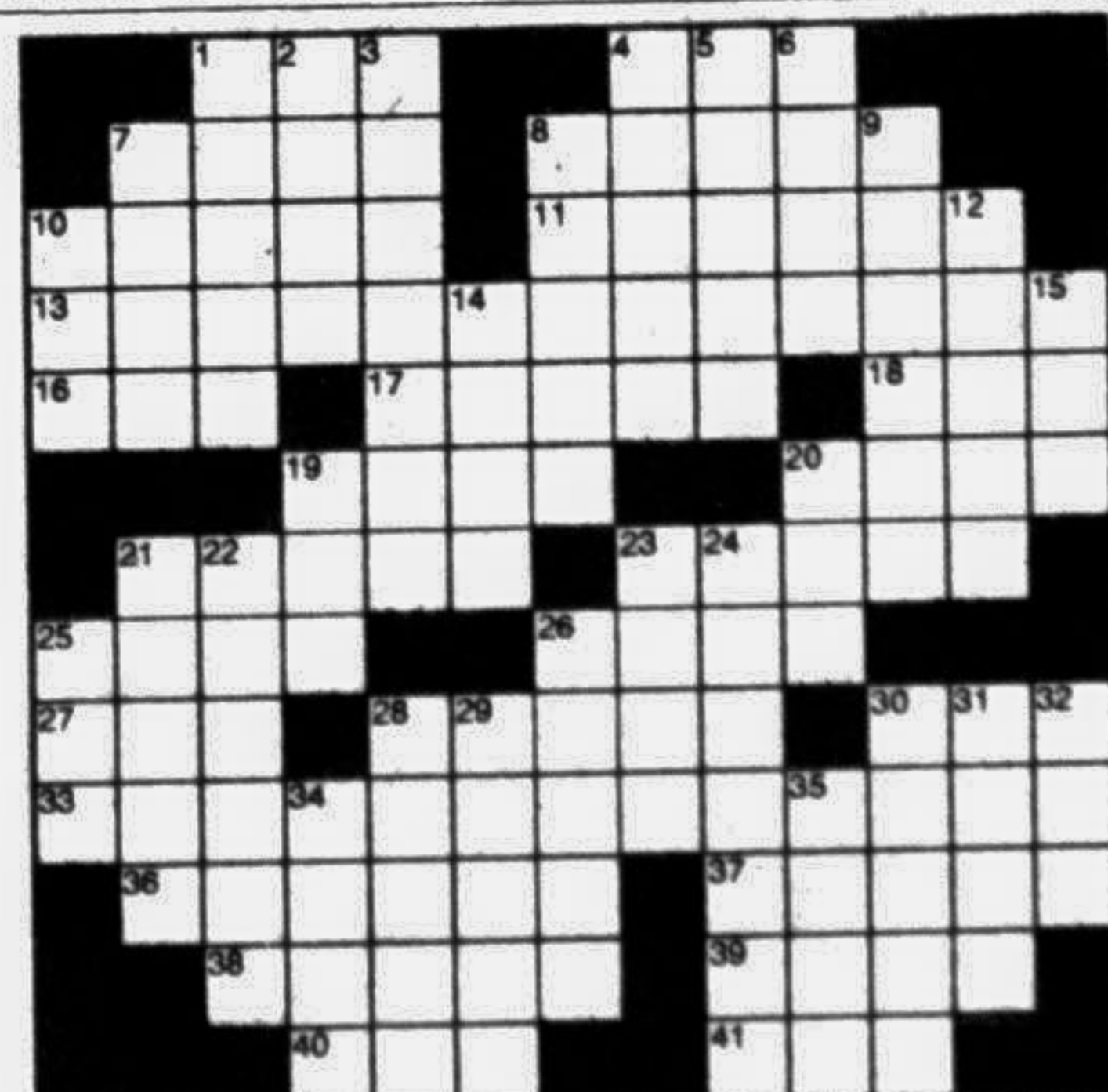
The Americans beat the Netherlands in the quarter-finals and this will be their third straight road match, "but we have been road warriors all year and we like playing away from home," Gullikson said.

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- |                                |                              |                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                  | of your life?                | <b>DOWN</b>          | 12 Auto style                     |
| 1 — Canals                     | 28 Rabbi of whodunits        | 1 Parlor pieces      | 14 Slithery Camp-                 |
| 4 Ovine comment                | 30 Mme., across the Pyrenees | 2 Actress Lena       | 15 Baseball's Camp-               |
| 7 He's a little horse          | 33 Hockey prize              | 3 Earache            | 19 Twisted                        |
| 8 Move slightly                | 36 Equine noises             | 4 Milwaukee squad    | 20 Fororn                         |
| 10 Bulgaria's capital          | 37 "Necktie"                 | 5 Worship            | 21 Venice's Bridge of —           |
| 11 Squirrel's stash            | 38 Winter forecast           | 6 Taj Mahal site     | 22 Acts the peacock               |
| 13 "Inherit the Wind" director | 39 Verifiable                | 7 Sheep's shed       | 23 Gas-gauge notation             |
| 16 Unseid of basketball        | 40 Harvest goddess           | 8 Serenaded the moon | 24 Slackens                       |
| 17 Silly sorts                 | 41 Rarin' to go              | 9 Ill will           | 25 Angkor —                       |
| 18 Altar affirmative           |                              | 10 Compass point     | 26 Verb used with "thou"          |
| 19 Frenzied                    |                              |                      | 28 Bacterial infection, for short |
| 20 Command to Fido             |                              |                      | 29 Partners                       |
| 21 Aerosol output              |                              |                      | 30 Tonto's horse                  |
| 23 "Noises Off" playwright     |                              |                      | 31 Stratagem                      |
| 25 Lean and snawy              |                              |                      | 32 Mimic                          |
| 26 Was prompter?               |                              |                      | 34 One's performance?             |
| 27 The time                    |                              |                      | 35 Bygone days                    |

Solution time: 22 mins.

J	A	M	B	C	A	B	P	A	L	E
A	L	T	A	U	G	O	E	L	I	A
W	O	N	T	R	E	V	N	O	L	D
S	T	E	M	M	E	D	E	R	A	S
A	I	D	M	O	I					
L	E	O	N	A	S	I	N	A	T	R
E	L	F	A	I	X	A	U	P		
G	I	F	F	O	R	D	C	A	R	E
T	I	L	K	C	U	R				
G	R	A	N	D	B	L	E	N	D	E
L	A	N	G	E	L	L	A	O	O	Z
A	R	N	E	O	U	R	L	U	R	E
D	E	E	R	W	E	E	D	R	A	M



### CRYPTOQUIP

D U I B V Q T N Q A T Z O C  
A I G G Q A A N U I D T G G  
Q D B I Z D T C V Z I C N A T G G I B

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT MARVELOUS AMATEUR SHOW, "DOWN IN THE VALLEY" WILL BE SUNG BY DALE AND GLEN.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: A equals F

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.