

Chinese walk to two golds



HIROSHIMA, Oct 10: China advanced its campaign to dominate track and field competition at the Asian Games Monday with Games best performances in men's and women's walking events and a record-breaking hammer throw, reports AP.

But, the Japanese broke the Chinese monopoly with a 1-2 finish in the men's 10,000 metres, won by Toshinari Takoake in a Games record 28 minutes, 15.48 seconds.

Teammate Jun Hiratsuka, who stayed close until the final stretch, captured the silver in 28:18.10 and also bettered the 8-year old mark of 28:26.74.

Alyan al Qatani, who stubbornly stuck to the two Japanese until the last three laps, gave Saudi Arabia its first track medal with a bronze in a 28:41.18.

The Chinese especially their formidable women, are expected to take the lion's share of the 43 gold medals at stake. The women hold all but one Asian record in track and field, and three world records by runners in what has been dubbed 'Ma's Army.'

One threat to the Chinese women's domination is Taiwan's Wang Hui-chen who clipped a games record in a 200-metre heat by one-hundredth of a second, finishing in 23.41 seconds.

Walking in a drizzle that persisted through the day, Chen Shaoguo won the men's 20-kilometre walk in one hour 21 minutes, 15 seconds, the best recorded performance in any Asian Games. There are no formal records since courses can vary widely. Chen also has registered the best Asian performance at this distance.

Favoured countryman Bu Lingtang, ranked No. 1 in the world, won the silver in 1:21:56 and Valery Borisov of Kazakhstan took the bronze. The previous best effort in the event was 1:23:16.

In the women's 10-kilometre walk, it was another Chinese 1-2 finish, with world champion Gao Hongmiao taking gold in 44:11 and teammate Guy Yan finishing in 44:18. Yuko Sato of Japan walked to a bronze in 46:51. The previous best in that event was 44:77.

Bi Zhong of China broke his own Games record of 71.30 metres with a winning heave of 72.24 in the hammer throw. Japan's veteran Koji Murofushi was the silver medalist with 67.48 and Pakistan broke into the medals chart via a 66.70 effort by Aqarab Abbas.

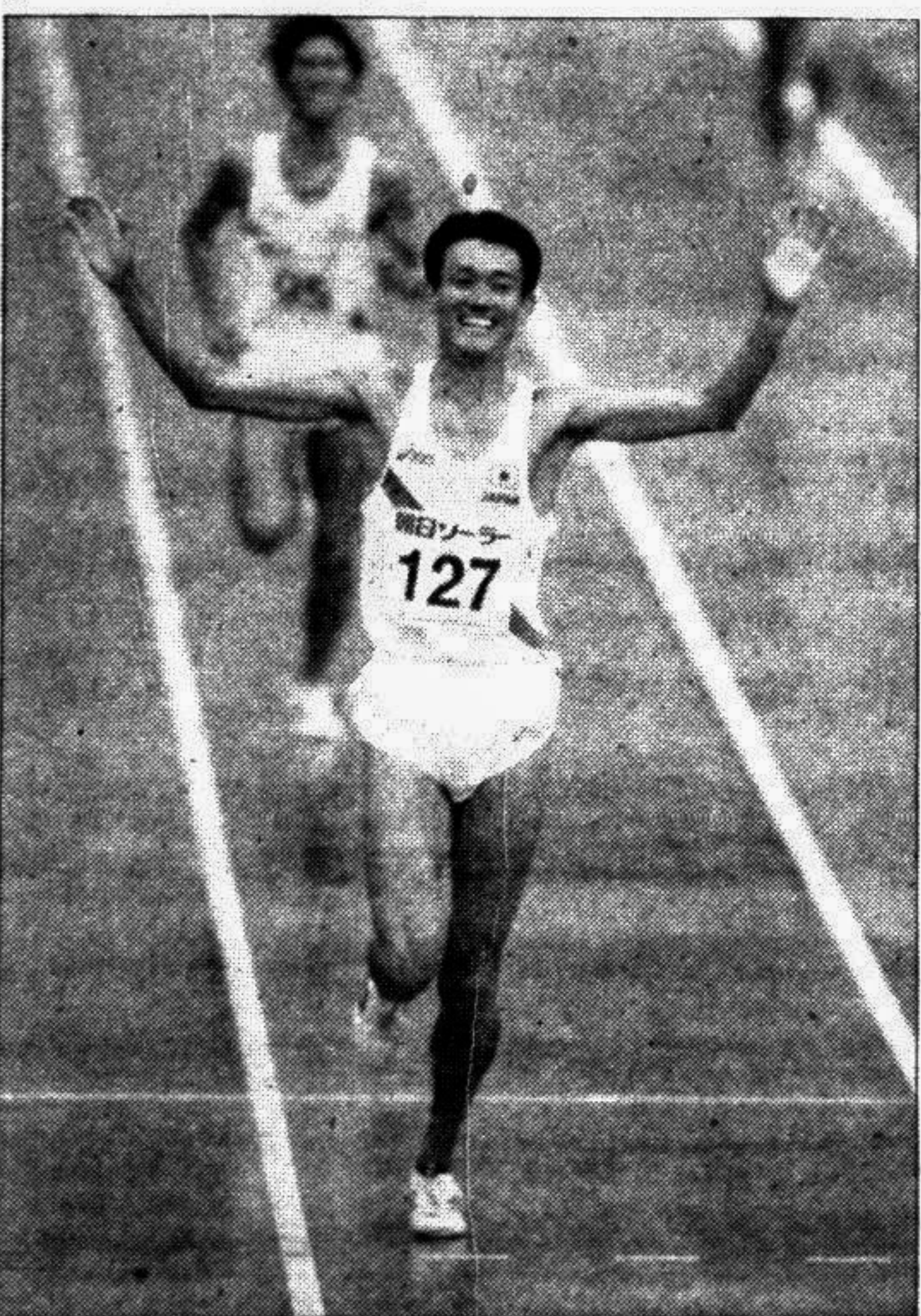
After four of seven events in the women's heptathlon, Syria's Ghada Sheaa was leading with 3,626 points, followed by Taiwan's Ma Chun-ping with 3,511 and China's

Zhang Xiaohui with 3,323. Zhang took the 100-metre hurdles in 14.04 and Ma won the high jump with a leap of 1.84 metres. Ghada had victories in the 200 metres with a 24.67-second sprint and in the shot put with 14.33 metres.

Talal Mansoor of Qatar took it easy with a 10.45-second run in qualifying of the men's 100 metres, in which he hopes to win his third straight Asian gold. He holds both the Games

Korea's Hwang Young-jo, the 1992 Olympic champion, winning the men's marathon and Zhong Huandi of China taking the women's gold.

China's world record breakers will prove the likely stars at Hiroshima's new 'Big Arch' Stadium but the Chinese 29-gold medal haul of the last Asiad will probably be eroded because of the debut of former Soviet republics at these



Toshinari Takoake of Japan crosses the finish line to win the men's 10,000 metres in a new Asian Games record time of 28:15.48 yesterday. —AFP photo

record and the Asian mark, which stands at 10:14.

The best heat times were 10:37 by both Satoru Inoue of Japan and Vitaly Savin of Kazakhstan and a 10:38 by M Mardi Lestari of Indonesia.

In heats for the men's 800 metres, Asian record holder Lee Jin-il of South Korea registered the best time of one minute, 48.68 seconds, while Qatar's Mohammad Ahmed Sulaiman was second fastest in 1:49.81.

Asia's two best in the men's 400-metre hurdles easily sailed by competitors in the heats, with Asian record holder Yoshihiko Saito finishing in 49.39 and Japanese countryman Shunji Karube in 49.99.

Track and field competition began Sunday with South Games, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in particular have brought some world champions to the games.

China's charismatic coach Ma Junre, whose 'army' includes world record holders Wang Junxia in the 3,000 and 10,000 metres and Qu Yunxia in the 1,500 metres, says his charges are not going to set any world marks here. He says they are not in as good shape as last year when they stunned the track world with their performances.

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India's P.T. Usha, who came second, in action during the women's 200 metres heat in the 12th Asiad at the 'Big Arch' Stadium yesterday. —AFP photo

ASIAN GAMES MEDALS

HIROSHIMA, Oct 10: Following is the eighth day medals tally at the 12th Asian Games here on Monday (tabulated under gold, silver, bronze and total):

	G	S	B	T
China	92	60	18	170
South Korea	33	23	41	97
Japan	32	41	54	127
Kazakhstan	13	12	18	43
Iran	8	7	5	20
Taiwan	5	6	12	23
Uzbekistan	3	7	11	21
Kuwait	3	1	4	8
Syria	2	3	0	5
Malaysia	2	1	10	13
Indonesia	1	11	4	16
Turkmenistan	1	3	1	5
Mongolia	1	2	1	4
Vietnam	1	2	0	3
Saudi Arabia	1	1	4	6
India	1	1	4	6
Thailand	0	5	4	9
Kyrgyzstan	0	2	4	6
Hong Kong	0	2	3	5
Jordan	0	2	2	4
Philippines	0	2	2	4
UAE	0	1	3	4
Brunei	0	0	2	2
Nepal	0	0	2	2
Singapore	0	0	2	2
Burma	0	0	1	1
Macao	0	0	1	1
Pakistan	0	0	1	1
Tajikistan	0	0	1	1

Asiad deception detected

HIROSHIMA Oct 10: If there was a gold medal for sharp eyes at the Asian Games, Japan's immigration officials would be a sure winner after catching their third set of bogus Games participants, reports Reuter.

The latest was a group claiming to be Greek sports fans wishing to watch the Games, immigration officials said today.

Alert immigration authorities became suspicious when they discovered none of the group could speak Greek. Further checks showed their passports were fakes.

A group of 15 Burmese posing as a 'cheering squad' for their soccer team were deported on Sunday after officials discovered their visas were fake.

The best attempt so far has been the elaborate scam tried last week by 50 Filipinos who posed, uniforms and all, as their country's volleyball team.

Officials believe all three groups were attempting to sneak into Japan to work.

The 'Greeks' bearing fake passports were caught at Hiroshima Airport on a flight from Seoul which originated in Singapore. They were deported on Sunday.

Officials did not say which country they were from.

FINA strikes again

HIROSHIMA, Oct 10: The International Swimming Federation (FINA) carried out a second unscheduled drug swoop on Asian Games competitors, officials said today, reports AFP.

Several swimmers, including an unspecified number of Chinese women, were called in for tests for the possible use of steroid. Hiroshima's Chugoku Shimun newspaper said. The tests were carried out Sunday, the day after the last finals.

A Games organising committee doping control official said he thought four swimmers were involved.

FINA took samples from 16 Chinese swimmers, 12 Japanese and one from Hong Kong in a surprise test three days before the Games competition started.

A FINA official denied the world body had targeted China's top women who dominated the World Championships in Rome last month. China swept all 15 women's events in Hiroshima with one world record. The Chinese team has angrily denied allegations of drug taking that has followed their success.

Yoshiteru Muto, a Japanese member of the FINA medical commission, said random testing here was aimed at demonstrating FINA's tough policy against drugs.

Today, Muto was in Tokyo where Japan's only International Olympic Committee accredited doping control laboratory is located. He was to return Friday to test water polo competitors.

Abduvaliyev absent again

HIROSHIMA, Oct 10: Andrey Abduvaliyev, the only world and Olympic champion in the Asian Games men's athletics, failed to turn up for the hammer final here on Monday, reports AFP.

The 28-year-old Tajikistan thrower had been expected to fly in for the competition.

But an official at the country's delegation admitted they did not know where he was after he suddenly cancelled his flight to Japan.

The Asian record holder was last seen in competition at the IAAF Grand Prix final in Paris, France, where he won with a throw of 81.45m.



Bulgarian Magdalena Maleeva (R) is embraced by her elder sister Manuela (L) after winning the European indoor tennis title in Zurich on October 9. Magdalena defeated Belarusian Natalia Zvereva 7-5, 3-6, 6-4. —AFP photo

Magdalena makes Maleevas proud

ZURICH, Oct 10: Bulgarian teenager Magdalena Maleeva, the fifth seed, kept the European indoor championship singles title in the family when she beat Natalia Zvereva of Belarus 7-5, 3-6, 6-4 in Sunday's final, reports Reuter.

The 19-year-old Maleeva finally secured her third career title on her fifth match point to emulate her elder sister Manuela, now retired, who beat Martina Navratilova in last year's final.

Both Maleeva and Zvereva, had trouble holding their serves throughout a match which spanned over two-and-a-quarter hours.

Zvereva fought back strongly after dropping the first set in 47 minutes but failed to maintain her momentum in the decisive third set.

Maleeva served for the title at 5-3 but a succession of forehand passes and two-fisted backhands from Zvereva delayed her celebrations.

After eventually picking up the 150,000-dollar winners cheque she said: 'This is the happiest day of my life. I have to thank my coach, who is also my sister Manuela's husband, for making this win possible.'

World Open still Michelle Martin's

ST PETER PORT, Guernsey, Oct 10: Michelle Martin became the first Australian since the great Heather McKay in 1979 to successfully defend the women's World Open squash title on Sunday, reports Reuter.

She beat England's Cassie Jackman 9-1, 9-0, 9-6 in 33 minutes in a final which turned out to be the one of the most one-sided since the first World Open in 1976 when McKay herself yielded only four points.

Martin, 27, virtually remodelled herself after losing the 1992 final to New Zealand's Susan Devoy and now rules the women's game almost as firmly as Devoy used to.

Her control of the pace and spread of the game allied with cool determination left ex-World Junior champion Jackman grappling to get into the contest until late in the match.

From 2-1 up in the opening game until 3-0 in the third, Martin relinquished service only eight times.

At 3-7 in the last game fourth-seed Jackman started at last to strike the ball with the fierce dipping strength which marks her style. Fleeting, it looked like there might be a match after all.

NYC Marathon founder dead

NEW YORK Oct 10: Fred Lebow, who built the New York City Marathon from a small race to a world class event, died on Sunday after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 62, reports AFP.

Lebow, who founded the New York City Marathon in 1970, died of brain cancer, a disease he was first diagnosed with in 1990. In 1991, he had surgery for thyroid cancer, but despite being told he had just six months to live, he fought through the disease for a time and ran in the 1992 NYC marathon with nine-time women's winner Grete Waitz running with him.

'I think I'm the healthiest cancer patient they've ever had,' he joked at the time.

Arkorn comes out punching



HIROSHIMA, Oct 10: Arkorn Chenglai of Thailand rallied in the final round to score a dramatic 26-17

victory over Iran's Anoushiravan Nourian Monday night and powered his way into the welterweight final at the Asian Games boxing tournament, reports AP.

The 24-year-old Bangkok soldier trailed by two points at the end of each of the first two rounds, but out-slugged Nourian in a fast and furious third round to get the decision.

Arkorn was punished to the body by the industrious Iranian in the second round, but dominated the third with hooks to the head, forcing an eight-count.

'I knew I was behind and I knew what I had to do,' said Arkorn. 'He got weaker as the fight progressed and I was able to take advantage.'

Nourian spat out his mouth guard in the final round in a bid to gain a moment of respite, but was stalked relentlessly by the pugnaious Thai.

'I feel confident I can win the gold medal now,' said Arkorn, a 1992 Olympic bronze medalist and a silver medalist at this year's World Cup.

Norjan, Smanov of Kazakhstan, who relaxes by hunting, shot down Nariman Ataev of Uzbekistan in the other welterweight semifinal, a battle between two uncompromising

punchers. Simanov, the current Asian champion, prevailed 17-15 over Ataev, the reigning World Cup champion, after three torrid rounds.

Alisher Avezbaev of Uzbekistan advanced to the heavyweight final with a 13-12 points win over Chinese southpaw Jiang Tao, the current Asian champion, and will face flashy Yousif Harron Hawsawi of Saudi Arabia, a 6-4 winner over Bahman Azizpour of Iran.

Hawsawi was cheered on by dozens of chanting, stomping, flag-waving fans in the gallery.

Mansueto Velasco, one of seven boxing brothers from the Philippines who had to beat one of his siblings in selection trials, advanced to the light flyweight final in impressive style.

Velasco, 20, whose brother Roel was a 1992 Olympic bronze medalist but lost to Mansueto in the trials, scored a 15-6 win over Hermensens Ballo of Indonesia in an all-action battle, reversing a loss to Ballo in the President's Cup earlier this year.

He will now fight Preman-suak Phosuan of Thailand, whose clever movement and counter-punching just gave him the edge over aggressive 19-year-old Indian Birju Sah in the other semi. Sah held a 5-3 lead in the second round but Pramuansak finished strongly to get an uncomfortably narrow 8-7 verdict.

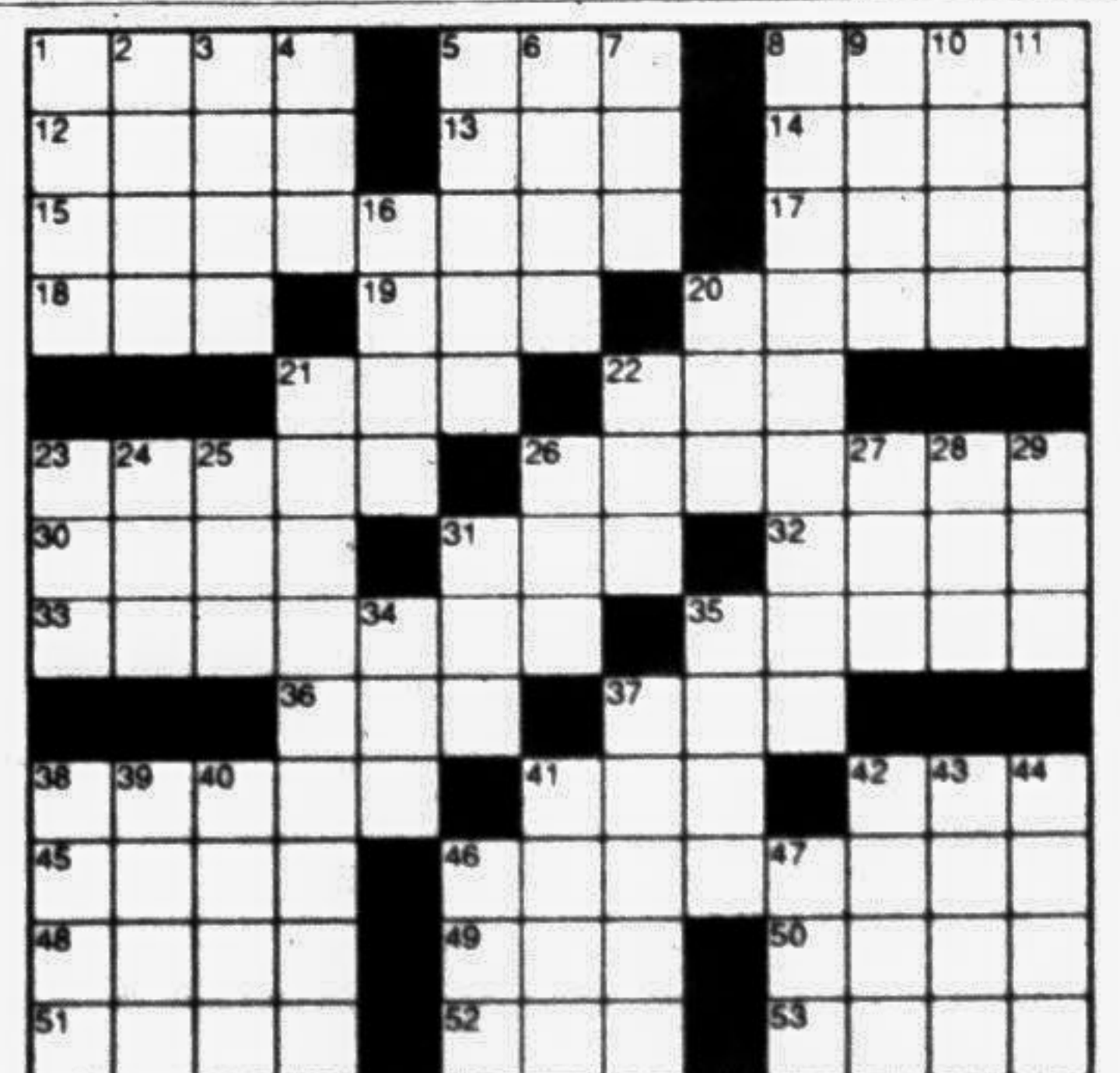
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36 "Diamonds — Forever"	threesome	23 "Pup-petoon"
1 Double agent	37 Longing	4 Wet wiggler	producer
5 Command to Fido	38 Bash	5 Stokowski didn't use one	George
8 Pace	41 Holds	6 Shak's queen	24 "What Kind of Fool—?"
12 Sheltered	42 Resort	7 Card-table cry	25 Cribbage need
13 Ms. MacGraw	45 Take leave	8 Scott role	26 Captain, to a sergeant
14 Perry's creator	46 Pocahontas' father	9 La Scala show-stopper	27 NOW goal
15 Twisted tongue?	48 Raines or Logan	10 Mistortunes	28 Aachen article
17 Cleo's waterway	49 Nancy's man	11 Abound	29 Figs.
18 "— your old man!"	50 Pita	16 First victim	31 Infinitesimal
19 Dickens pseudonym	51 Acute	20 Hose of baseball	34 Have a go at it
20 Tic	52 Sanctions	21 New York island	35 Network ennu
21 Chaps	53 The yoke's on them	22 Occupation, slangily	37 Exhibits
22 Fluffy accessory	DOWN		38 Cheat at hide-and-seek
23 Pontifical	1 Traveler's aids		39 Wheel-base terminus
26 Sweet age	2 Hodge-podge		40 Incense
30 Former Hemsley sitcom	3 Tripod's		41 Dustin Hoffman title role
31 Diana Ross movie, with "The"			42 Charon's river
32 Stooges, e.g.			43 Rid of rind
33 Smoker's gadget			44 Unsigned: abbr.
35 Reacts to a pun			46 Paid player
			47 Past

Solution time: 27 mins.

YAG JAG RAND
OMAR ERR OLEO
NEMO WOE GETZ
GREGG WAGE
EAR TURNIP
THURBER SCORE
HAND FOG LITON
ASTAR TAVERNS
WHOLE PAM
TOUR TEXAS
CZAR GEM NINE
AONE ANI SNOW
PONY ROD GAS

Yesterday's answer 2-22



CRYPTOQUIP

T B W Z O E Y A C Y Q A X N Z M Y,
P V X P E Q M W J Y V X P F T,
K E W Z Y Q: "W C R X O

O Y E Y Q E W J F W R K P Z P E F."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MY DISMISSAL FROM ASPIRIN FACTORY COULD BE A BITTER PILL TO SWALLOW.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Z equals P

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.