

# Grobelaar cleared to play

**HARARE, Nov 12:** Zimbabwean soccer officials and players were overjoyed Saturday that embattled goalkeeper Bruce Grobelaar had been cleared to play against Zaire.

"Fantastic," grinned an exuberant Grobelaar as he arrived for training with the rest of the Zimbabwean team for the African Cup of Nations qualifying match Sunday.

FIFA, the governing body of world soccer, decided Friday that Grobelaar could play despite allegations the goalie had taken bribes to fix matches in the English Premier League.

FIFA made its decision after examining a preliminary report by the English Football Association (FA) on the allegations published last week in the mass circulation London tabloid The Sun.

Zimbabwe's national coach, German Rudi Gutendorf, said he expected all along that Grobelaar would be cleared to play.

"FIFA never suspends a player without evidence. If they (FA) say it's 100 per cent true, FIFA will take action. But even the FA couldn't do that," Gutendorf said.

Grobelaar, in a front page report Saturday in The Herald, the country's main daily news-

paper, repeated that he "completely and utterly" refuted the corruption allegations against him.

He also rejected suggestions the stress of the controversy would unsettle his game.

"The people of Zimbabwe have shown their faith in me, they do not doubt my integrity and I and the national team will not fail," he said.

Gutendorf said Grobelaar was "completely relaxed. It is



GROBELAAR

amazing for me. He is cool, composed."

An editorial in The Herald condemned the British press for "screaming guilty" over the allegations before they were

proved.

At least Grobelaar will find his many fans more open-minded," it said. "And what a roar there will be from the terraces if he keeps Zaire out and helps Zimbabwe through to the next round of the African Cup of Nations."

Grobelaar has been accused by The Sun of taking bribes from a Far East gambling syndicate to fix Premier League games. The paper, which says the allegations are backed up by secret videotapes and recordings, has turned over its evidence to the FA and British police for investigation.

Grobelaar, the former Liverpool goalkeeper who now plays for Southampton, denies the allegations and is suing The Sun for libel.

The Sun's main allegation against Grobelaar is that he pocketed 40,000 pounds (\$65,000) to help Liverpool lose 3-0 to Newcastle in a Premier League match last November.

The Sun also alleged that Grobelaar was offered money to fix other matches, and in some cases, missed out collecting because he inadvertently made spectacular saves.

The Sun's investigation was based on a sting operation involving Chris Vincent, a former business partner of Grobelaar, who posed as a middleman for a bogus betting ring.

## Graf not sure about NY Slims

**PHILADELPHIA, Nov 12:** World number one Steffi Graf say she is not yet sure whether her recurring back problems will allow her to play in next week's year-ending Virginia Slims Championships in New York, reports Reuter.

Graf, top seed for the 3.5 million dollars event, practised on Friday against Martina Navratilova at the Pennsylvania Convention Centre, site of this week's Slims of Philadelphia.

Graf, whose back problems forced her to pull out of the tournament a week ago, had asked permission to use these practice courts, which are identical to the ones that will be used at Madison Square Garden for next week's championships.

Navratilova, the incoming WTA Tour president, was here for meeting involving the Women's Tennis Council.

When asked about her status for next week, Graf said she did not know and would wait to make her decision.

Graf has been plagued by back problems that began during the summer and was visibly affected during the US Open, where she lost in the championship match against Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario.

Since the Open final, the German has withdrawn from three scheduled tournaments.

## Cuban punchers test positive

**BERLIN, Nov 12:** Cubans Manuel Mantilla Rodriguez and world amateur flyweight champion Waldemar Font, who both won gold medals at the Goodwill Games in St Petersburg in July, have tested positive for doping, boxing officials said on Friday, reports Reuter.

The general secretariat of the International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA) said tests showed the two men had taken furosemide, a banned diuretic.

Font, who defeated American Carlos Navarro to win gold in the flyweight category, and Mantilla, who thrashed his South Korean rival in the light-flyweight category, are suspended until they appear before an AIBA disciplinary commission.

It was not clear when the commission hearing would take place.

The Goodwill Games boxing tournament turned into a showdown between the traditionally dominant Cubans and the Russians, who emerged as serious contenders to unseat the Caribbean islanders from their reign over amateur boxing.

The Cubans won six gold medals to the Russians five. Diuretics are sometimes used to shed weight quickly or decrease the concentration of drugs in urine.

Ghanaian boxer Godson Sawah tested positive for the drug and was stripped of his bantamweight bronze medal in the Commonwealth Games in Canada in August.

Ringside observers at the Goodwill Games were on record as expressing surprise when Mantilla, in the light-flyweight final, demolished South Korea's Choi Joon-Wok by an incredible score of 30-3 in a fight which many thought should have been stopped well before the end.

The 16-year-old Tu was a wild-card entrant and had played just 10 professional matches before facing the world's No 5 women's player.

"It was just another match — no big deal," Tu said. "If you start thinking you can't play with those players, it can get a little overwhelming. I know I can play with them."

Zvereva had few problems with Schultz's powerful serve in the first set and won five of the first six points in a second-set tiebreaker.

Zvereva, who has not lost a set in the tournament, broke Schultz twice in the first set. The two stayed on serve in the second until Schultz hit into the net to give Zvereva a 3-1 lead in the tiebreaker.

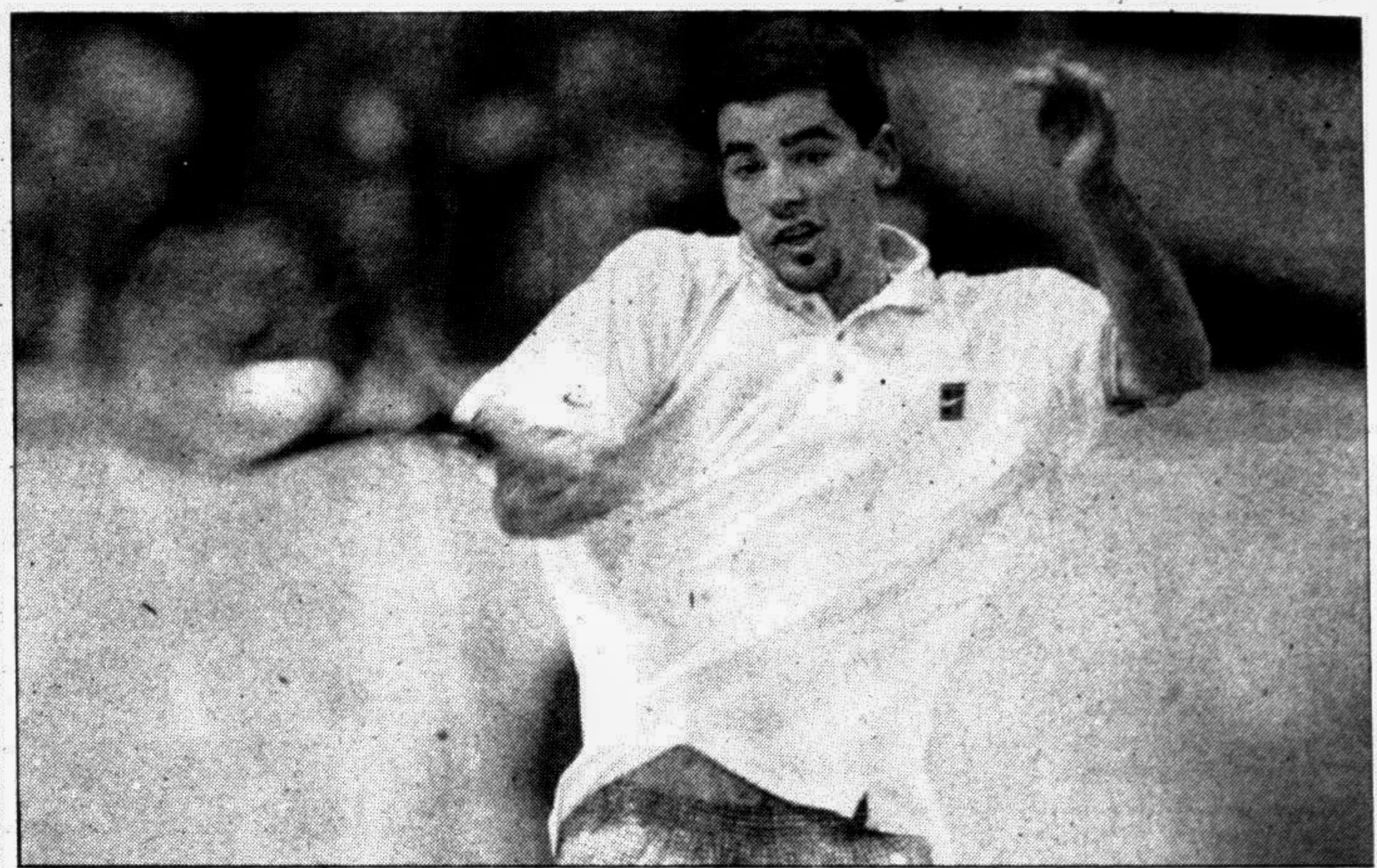
The trio were joined by Denmark's Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen who hit top form in his 15-7, 15-9 victory over last week's Thailand Open runner-up, Sun Jun of China.

Stuer-Lauridsen will now play Wiranata, who has an 8-3 head-to-head career record over the Dane, while Arbi takes on practice-partner Kusuma.

"I have lost a lot of times to Allan but recently I have been winning my games against him," said All-England champion Arbi, after his comfortable 15-8, 15-11 quarter-final triumph over Kim Hak-Kyun of South Korea.

"The trouble is that he can anticipate where I am going to place my smashes," Kusuma was impressive in his 15-8, 15-0 destruction of compatriot Hermawan Susanto, the defending champion, second seed Wiranata also cruised into the semi with a 15-3, 15-4 win over China's Hu Zhilan.

"Ardy has a good record against me but I am beginning to play like the old me," said Stuer-Lauridsen, who was off the circuit for six weeks after injuring his knee in August's World Cup in Vietnam. "I played really well today — really concentrated."



World number one Pete Sampras of the United States makes a forehand return during his ATP indoors quarterfinal match against Zimbabwean Byron Black in Antwerp, Belgium on November 11. Sampras sailed into the semifinal with a 6-1, 6-3 victory.

## In shadows of a farewell



**NEW YORK, Nov 12:** Competition among the world's best women players at the season-ending Virginia Slims Championships will take a back seat next week as the tennis world pays tribute to retiring legend Martina Navratilova, reports Reuter.

The 22-year-old odyssey of one of the greatest athletes of all time comes to a close at the 3.5 million dollars tournament, which begins on Monday at Madison Square Garden.

The drama and emotion will be heightened every time the 38-year-old Navratilova takes to the familiar blue carpet court as she and New York's tennis fans know that each match may be the last of a most remarkable career.

A special ceremony is planned in Navratilova's honour following her opening match on Tuesday night during which a banner bearing her name will be raised to the rafters.

The banner will hang at all future tennis events at the famous arena, where Navratilova has reached 12 finals in 16 appearances and won seven of her record 167 singles titles.

Whether she bows out in the first round, reaches one more final as she did last week in Oakland, or pulls a George Foreman and claims title number 168, the 1994 Virginia Slims Championships will have a special place in tennis history.

"What I'll miss most is going neck and neck with the top players when the chips are down," Navratilova said of her retirement.

She'll get one more chance beginning with her first match against former champion Gabriela Sabatini.

"I'm excited," Sabatini said following Thursday's draw.

"I'm looking forward to playing her, especially because it's her last tournament. But I'll have to forget about all that when I'm on the court and just play my best."

There are a number of in-

teresting subplots as the elite field of 16 vies for the most prestigious non-grand Slam title on the women's calendar.

The season finale, which concludes with the only best-of-five set final in women's tennis, provides three-time champion Steffi Graf with one last chance to defend one of her major 1993 titles.



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The increasingly vulnerable world number one picked up seven singles titles this year, but failed to defend her crowns at the French Open, Wimbledon and US Open.

Her task is made all the more difficult by recurring back problems that have forced the German Star to

## Rahilou retains Euro title

**RANDERS, Denmark, Nov 12:** France's Khalid Rahilou stopped challenger Gert Bo Jacobsen of Denmark in the third round to retain his European light-welterweight boxing title on Friday, reports Reuter.

The referee stopped the scheduled 12-round title fight in the third after the Dane received a deep gash on his nose from the always aggressive Frenchman.

## Sampras calls for proper break

**ANTWERP, Nov 12:** World number one Pete Sampras says he is considering opting out of Davis Cup tennis next year and has called for the introduction of a proper break in the season, reports Reuter.

"As far as next year, the Davis Cup is definitely up in the air," Sampras said after his quarter-final victory over Byron Black of Zimbabwe at the European Community tennis championship.

"The scheduling of Davis Cup is impossible. A week after the Australian (Open in January) is the first round. It's too much tennis," he said.

After that Grand Slam (Cup in December) you need time to chill out, to relax, and to play Davis Cup is something I'm not too high on," he said.

Sampras has been dogged by a string of injuries since winning Wimbledon in June and blamed playing Davis Cup matches for some of the problems.

"The year is too long. There's no off-season... other sports have three or four months off where you can work on your game or rest or have a bit of a normal life," he said.

"Now there is no time off and that causes injuries, that causes burnout," he said.

But withdrawing from the Grand Slam Cup in December has not crossed his mind.

Sampras, the first player to hold the number one ranking for an entire calendar year since Ivan Lendl in 1987, also plans to play more clay court tournaments next year to prepare for the French Open, the only Grand Slam tournament he has not won yet.

## Vasquez defends WBA crown

**BUENOS AIRES, Nov 12:** Argentina's Julio Cesar Vasquez easily retained his World Boxing Association light middleweight title on Friday with a unanimous points decision over American challenger Tony Marshall, reports Reuter.

## Wise man from Gothenburg



**DUBLIN, Nov 12:** Swedish international goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli knows the big game between IFK Gothenburg and Manchester United is a moment of truth in this season's European Champions' League, reports Reuter.

"Whichever team wins that game will go through to the quarter-finals," said Ravelli, looking ahead to the November 23 clash in Gothenburg.

"Barcelona have to be favourites to top the group now after beating Manchester United 4-0 last week. We hope that we do not have to go to the Nou Camp Stadium for our final game in the group needing to win," he added.

Group A remains delicately poised after four rounds of games.

Gothenburg head the standings with six points, Barcelona lie second on five while Manchester United are a point adrift in third.

Galatasaray of Turkey trail with a single point.

"I am a bit surprised that we are ahead of Barcelona and Manchester United at this stage," admitted Ravelli. "But things have gone well for us."

"We had our two easiest games, at least on paper, at home and away to Galatasaray and won both 1-0. It is true that we also enjoyed a bit of luck when getting that late winner to beat Barcelona 2-1 at home."

"The team showed its fighting spirit then," he added. Gothenburg's only Champions' League defeat occurred at Old Trafford when they succumbed 4-2 to a United team at its best.

When the sides meet for the return leg United will be anxious to bury all memories of the crushing defeat they suffered at the hands of Barcelona last week.

"I was surprised at that result. I thought that United would do much better," said Ravelli.

## Sabatini struggles to semis



**PHILADELPHIA, Nov 12:** Gabriela Sabatini, who gets the first crack at knocking Martina Navratilova into retirement next week at the Virginia Slims finals in New York, has her sights set first on winning a \$750,000 tuneup tournament, reports AP.

Sabatini struggled in the first set before settling down and beating Chanda Rubin 6-3, 6-0 Friday to reach the semifinals of the Virginia Slims of Philadelphia.

"With the way I'm playing, I'm feeling good," Sabatini said. "I feel everything is there. If I keep doing the same things, I can win the tournament."

Sabatini turned a close match into a rout in the second set against Rubin.

After struggling with her serve in the first set, Sabatini held Rubin to just six service points in the second set and broke her service three times. In her first three matches, Sabatini has lost one game in the second set.

"Once I win the first set, I feel more comfortable with my game. I get more confident, and I feel good about it," Sabatini said.

Also advancing to the semifinals were No 5 Natalia Zvereva, who beat Brenda Schultz 6-1, 7-6 (7-4); and No 2 Mary Pierce, a 6-2, 6-4 winner over Meilen Tu.

Sabatini meets No 6 seed Anke Huber in the semifinals. Huber beat Kimberly Po 6-3, 6-2 in the quarterfinals.

Sabatini plays Navratilova on Tuesday in the opening round of the \$3.5 million Virginia Slims Championships, which mark the end of Navratilova's career. Sabatini, who last won at the Italian Open in 1992, lost twice in tournament finals this year.

Nothing could be better for Sabatini than a win in Philadelphia.

"That will be a relief," Sabatini said. "Most of all, I'll feel more secure and more confident with my game. To win a tournament and beat a top player — that's what I've been needing."

Huber has had perhaps the toughest route to the semifinals. She had to overcome the return of Jennifer Capriati in the first round, was stretched to three sets by local star Lisa Raymond in a match that ended near midnight and returned to beat Po on Friday



Indonesian Arbi Heryanto makes a full length dive to retrieve a crosscourt shot from compatriot Allan Budi Kusuma during yesterday's clash. The All-England singles champion rallied from one set down to win 10-15, 15-5 and 15-13.

## Indonesian juggernaut rolls on

**HONG KONG, Nov 12:** Top seed Heryanto Arbi, Olympic champion Allan Budi Kusuma, and silver medalist Ardy Wiranata continued Indonesia's dominance of the Hong Kong Open badminton tournaments as they marched into the semifinals on Friday, reports Reuter.

The trio were joined by Denmark's Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen who hit top form in his 15-7, 15-9 victory over last week's Thailand Open runner-up, Sun Jun of China.

Stuer-Lauridsen will now play Wiranata, who has an 8-3 head-to-head career record over the Dane, while Arbi takes on practice-partner Kusuma.

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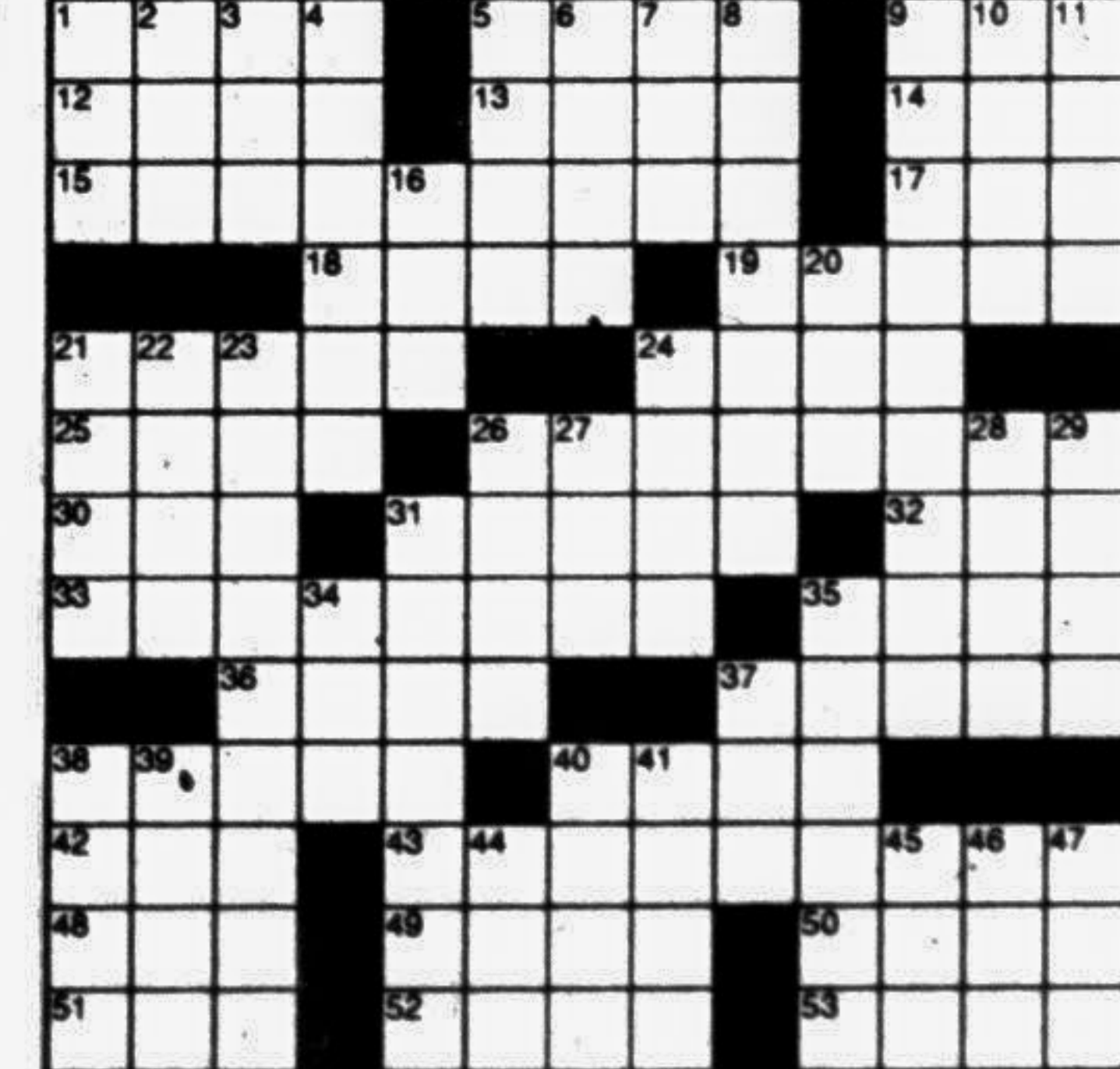
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## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	1 Science work-shops	5 Use a spatula	9 Bikini top	12 Wind instrument	13 Joel's "Cabaret" costar	14 Listening device	15 Salt shakers?	17 Rubber-tree plant mover	18 Desire	19 Anti-polio doctor and kin	21 Skiers' mecca	24 Caron role	25 Sense	26 Acted abjectly	30 Healers' org.	31 "You Light Up My Life" singer	32 Deposit	33 Lightly undulating	35 Tragic	36 Press											
2 Honest politician	3 Fluffy accessory	4 "I" movie, e.g.	5 Standard	6 Beatnik's conversation filler	7 Noun-to-verb suffix	8 Quiescent	9 Famed star of British revues	10 Foul-smelling	11 Crafts' mates	16 Coffee vessel	20 Census datum	21 Some-where out there	22 Big rig	23 Nickname for Ernie Ford	24 Chuck Barris prop	26 Enter	27 Director Howard	28 Count's counterpart	29 Turned blue?	31 Police book	34 Paid player	35 Render defenseless	37 "A pox upon thee!"	38 Dumb-struck	39 Sauce source	40 Periodicals, briefly	41 Oodles	44 Prior to	45 Compete	46 Blueprint add-on	47 Solidify

**DIOR KOP ARIZ**  
**AMBIANCE PINE**  
**RAINGOAT LEYS**  
**GET IDONOT**  
**ABIES STEM**  
**DOOR RAINBOW**  
**OAT SAROS RIP**  
**RAINMAN CENT**  
**SOPH JAMES**  
**JOJOBA PUN**  
**AHAB RAINDROP**  
**RIVA TRUELOVE**  
**SOAR BIS ETAT**

**Solution time: 24 mins.**



**CRYPTOQUIP**  
 V Y E F N X L N Q D Y Q R T :  
 "FLW" B T O V K D R, J E V R  
 Z O S E ' M R L W X S Z L B  
 B J L K Y W F V .  
 Yesterday's Cryptquip: WHEN MY TURTLE WON THE RACE, MY UNGRACIOUS RIVAL WAS GREEN WITH ENVY.  
 Today's Cryptquip clue: N equals C  
 The Cryptquip 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.