

Caribbeans on the spot

NAGPUR, India, Dec 2: Indian batting maestro Sachin Tendulkar slammed a career-best 179 on Friday to drive the West Indies against the wall in the second Test here Friday, reports AFP.

The 21-year-old's eighth Test century in 34 matches and his 202-run stand for the fifth wicket with skipper Mohammad Azharuddin (97) enabled India to pile up 546 for nine in their first innings.

Joining in the run-feast was the eighth-wicket pair of Anil Kumble and Nayan Mongia who put on a rapid-fire stand of 93 in 94 minutes to complete the tourists' misery on the field.

Mongia made 44 while Kumble remained unbeaten on a test-best score of 52 as Azharuddin declared the in-

at Madras two seasons ago. Tendulkar, who came in at the wicket on Thursday with India reeling at 49 for two, batted eight minutes short of eight hours in a breathtaking display of attacking batsmanship.

Resuming at his overnight score of 61, the little maestro raced to his century in grand style — moving from 83 to 99 runs with a flurry of boundaries including three in succession against Benjamin.

Tendulkar then hooked West Indian skipper Courtney Walsh over the square leg fence for a huge six and celebrated the landmark by pumping his gloved fists in the air.

It was his first Test hundred against the West Indians in only his second match against them. Tendulkar slammed a match-winning 85

30 minutes before tea, diving to his right to hold a one-handed catch inches above the ground.

But Kumble, who made 42 runs in the Bombay Test, once against showed his batting skills by hitting four boundaries and two sixes off Hooper to take India near the 550-run mark.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the second cricket Test between India and the West Indies here Friday:

INDIA: First innings (overnight 230-4)	
Irabhaakar c Williams b Hooper	19
Sidhu c Murray b Hooper	107
Kambli c Williams b Hooper	0
Tendulkar c Lara b Walsh	179
Reji c Adams b Walsh	2
Azharuddin c Simmons b Hooper	97



TENDULKAR... 179

nings 40 minutes before stumps on the second day of the play.

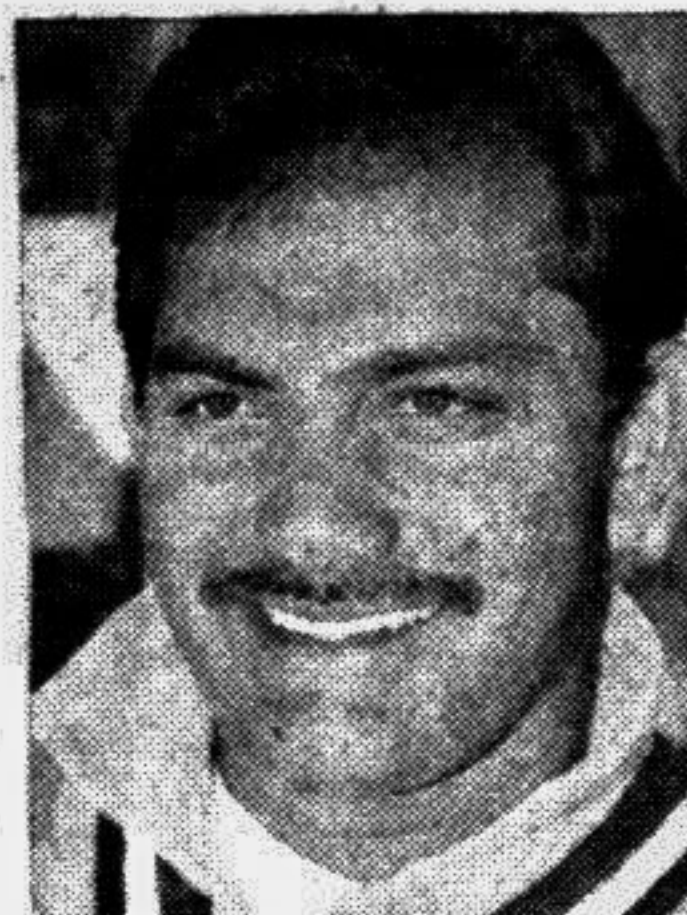
The West Indians, who trail 1-0 in the three-Test series, replied with 15 for one wicket by Friday's close, needing to bat out a major part of the remaining three days to save the Test.

The batsman out was Stuart Williams for 12, caught at silly point by Azharuddin off Rajesh Chauhan in the day's penultimate over.

Phil Simmons, the other opener, made a solitary run after a 31-minute stay at the crease. Night watchman Andy Cummins was yet to open account.

Unlike the first day, when the West Indians twice walked off the field to protest at missiles being thrown at them, the second day's play passed without incident.

But there was no respite for the visitors from the rampaging bats of the home batsmen, who added 316 runs to the overnight score of 230 for four. Tendulkar cracked 24 boundaries and a six while surpassing his previous best score of 165 against England



AZHARUDDIN... 97

in the first Test at Bombay. The wily wonder's seven previous centuries include two against Australia, England and Sri Lanka and one against South Africa.

Azharuddin, who began his innings on Friday morning after night watchman Venkatapathy Raju had fallen in the last over of the first day, matched Tendulkar stroke for stroke during a spectacular assault on the limited West Indies attack.

Azharuddin was unlucky to fall three runs short of his 15th Test century when off spinner Carl Hooper had him caught in the leg by Simmons, midway through the post-lunch session.

Azharuddin's wicket was the first of three to fall within the space of 12 runs as India slipped from a commanding position of 432 for four to 444 for seven.

Hooper also had Sanjay Manjrekar caught by Simmons at leg slip for two and returned the most successful bowler with figures of five for 116 from 40 overs.

Brian Lara ended Tendulkar's knock with a sensational catch at mid-wicket



HOOPER... 5 for 116

Manjrekar c Simmons b Hooper	0
Mongia c Hooper b Cummins	44
Kumble not out	52
Simmons c b Chandrapaul	6
Chauhan not out	1
Extras (lb-12, lb-9, nb-18)	39
Total (nine wickets dec)	546
Full of wickets: 1-48; 2-49;	
3-226; 4-230; 5-432; 6-434;	
7-444; 8-537; 9-543.	

Bowling				
	O	M	R	W
Walsh	32	7	93	2
Chandrapaul	26	4	120	0
Cummins	27	1	96	1
Hooper	40	8	116	5
Chandrapaul	26	1	63	1
Adams	2	2	37	0

WEST INDIES: First innings				
	O	M	R	W
Simmons not out	1			
Williams c Azharuddin b Chandrapaul	12			
Cummins not out	0			
Extras (lb-2)	2			
Total (one wicket)	15			

Fall of wickets: 1-15				
	O	M	R	W
Prabhakar	2	1	5	0
Srinath	2	0	6	0
Chauhan	2	1	4	1
Reji	2	2	0	0

To bat: Lara, Hooper, Arthurton, Chandrapaul, Adams, Murray, Walsh (Capt), Cummins, Benjamin.

Umpires: Nigel Plews (England) and V K Ramaswamy (India).

Now Samaranch has to eat his words

GENEVA, Dec 2 (Reuters): It was a phrase he may now regret.

As the records tumbled in last month's Asian Games, International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch told an interviewer: "I'm sure Chinese sport is very clean."

Samaranch's reasoning was straightforward: A nation of 1.3 billion people does not need to cheat to produce champions.

So confirmation that 11 Chinese athletes failed dope tests in the Japanese city of Hiroshima will come as an embarrassment for the IOC, as well as further complicating its already troubled relationship with Beijing.

The Beijing sports daily announced on Wednesday that China's Olympic Committee had launched an inquiry after being formally notified of 11 positive drug tests. Seven of the athletes are said to be swimmers who took home 11 gold medals between them.

At the IOC's Lausanne headquarters, no comment was forthcoming. Senior officials were tied up in meetings on Thursday.

"The IOC is making no statement on that for the moment. It's not official," a spokeswoman said of the reports from Beijing.

The Olympic Committee of Asia said they were not planning to issue a statement on the affair before Saturday.

But the Chinese doping scandal is a headache Samaranch and his aides could well have done without.

The IOC claims to have led the fight against drug use in sport over the past two decades and this year has been pushing federations in all Olympic sports into adopting unified rules and punishments.

Samaranch has often pointed out that it was the IOC which made the "courageous" decision in 1988 to ban the most famous sprinter in the world — Canadian Ben Johnson — when tested positive for steroids after the 100 metres final in Seoul.

And in Lisbon a month ago, Samaranch even began to claim victory in the doping battle. He told European Olympic officials that drug use was declining, especially in major events such as the Olympic Games so that it was "less important that it was some years ago."

The IOC may well heave a sigh of retrospective relief that at a meeting in Monaco in September 1993 its 90-odd members decided by just two votes to award the 2000 Summer Games to Sydney rather than Beijing.

That vote, facing down massive political pressure from Beijing, came two weeks after two women smashed four world athletics records at the Chinese National Games in one of the first signs of China's soaring sporting prowess.

FINA unconcerned

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Dec 2: The International Swimming Federation (FINA) said on Thursday it was not concerned by a German decision to boycott a World Cup event in China because of reports of drug-taking by the Chinese team, reports Reuters.

FINA director Cornel Marculescu said the federation was not involved in the meeting and it was up to the eight participating nations to act as they see fit.

The World Cup is arranged between the eight federations which take part. We have just allowed them to use the word "world" for the next two years," Marculescu said.

"It's up to them what they want to do. FINA is not involved."

China won't stage it

BEIJING, Dec 2: China, which has been stung by a multiple doping scandal involving its champion swimmers, will not stage a World Cup swimming event in January, officials said Friday, reports AFP.

The second of the eight World Cup events was to have been in Beijing on January 7 and 8, according to provisional calendars. But Yuan Jiawei, deputy secretary general of the Chinese Swimming Federation, said it had been a long-standing decision not to hold the event.

"We have no intention of staging a World Cup event in January at Beijing," Yuan said. "We took our decision in December 1993 for financial reasons and we made it known at this time."

According to organisers of the Hong Kong World Cup meeting, which precedes Beijing on the calendar, the Chinese had problems finding a sponsor.

"They had been expected to stage their event but could not sign a final agreement without the sponsor," said Johnny Li, chief executive of the Hong Kong Organising Committee.



FIFA president Joao Havelange (L) and French President Jacques Chirac (R) co-president of the 1998 World Cup Organising Committee, sign a ball during their visit to the Felix Bollaert Stadium in Lens on Dec 1, on the last day of their trip to the towns and stadia around France which will host the next World Cup. —AFP photo

Parma bring Batistuta down

MILAN, Dec 2: Three days after setting an Italian league scoring record, Argentine striker Gabriel Batistuta was shut out in the Italian Cup as Fiorentina succumbed 2-0 to league leaders Parma in their first-leg quarter-final game Wednesday night, reports AP.

In another quarter-final match at Milan's San Siro Stadium, Internazionale downed Foggia 1-0 on a penalty kick converted by Uruguayan forward Ruben Sosa in the 4th minute.

Parma, taking advantage of the home factor at the Tardini stadium, proved too strong for a Fiorentina team playing with only 10 players for 84 minutes. Fiorentina's forward Francesco Baiano was sent off the field in the 6th minute for elbowing an opponent.

Midfielder Gianfranco Zola scored the opener in the 45th minute with a perfect bicycle kick.

Striker Marco Branca tallied Parma's second goal — and his fourth in the tournament — in the 52nd minute, kicking in from a few metres on a rebound following a header by his Argentine teammate Nestor Sensi.

Branca spoiled an easy chance to make it three in the 70th minute when he failed to convert a penalty kick.

Batistuta, who broke a 32-year-old Italian league record by scoring at least one goal in 11 consecutive games, was overwhelmed by Parma's defence as he was left alone in front following Baiano's expulsion.

The Argentine forward had one of his less impressive performances this season in the game overseen by his national team coach Daniel Passarella.

Parma, who lead Fiorentina by two points in the league standings, dominated play despite the absence of injured

key players such as Tomas Brolin, Faustino Asprilla and Dino Baggio.

Brazilian defender Marcelo Santos was the best player on the Fiorentina side.

In Milan, Inter confirmed their ability to score early goals and to miss easy chances.

Sosa, Nicola Berti, Marco Delvecchio and Pierluigi Orlandini spoiled at least six easy chances for a second goal and left alive Foggia's hope to fight back in the second-leg match on Dec 13.

Both Inter and Foggia ended the game with only 10 players following the expulsion of Massimo Paganin and Nicolò Sciacca. They were punished in the final minutes for rough play.

Fog reduced visibility in Milan and Parma but completion of the two games was never at risk.

On Tuesday Lazio downed Napoli 1-0 at Rome's Olympic Stadium.

Jennings wants another one

NEW YORK, Dec 2: Lynn Jennings has won seven straight US women's cross-country championships. She won't be satisfied until she wins 10 in a row, reports AP.

"It won't mean much until I get 10," said Jennings, who will go for her eighth consecutive victory — and ninth overall — Sunday at Blue Lake Park in Portland, Ore. "Nine is a boring number."

If Jennings wins, she would be the first US athlete — male or female — to win nine national cross-country titles. A victory also would tie her with Pat Porter for the longest winning streak in championship history. Porter won eight consecutive men's titles from 1982 to 1989.

The only year since 1985 that Jennings didn't win was 1986, when Lesley Welch was the champion.

Jennings, 34, also has won the World Cross Country Championships three times, from 1990 to 1992, and has been on two Olympic teams — she finished sixth in the 10,000 metres in 1988 and won the bronze medal in the 10,000 at the 1992 Barcelona Games. In addition she has been a successful road racer

for several years.

Of the three types of running, she prefers the track.

"I have a real love for cross country," Jennings said Thursday during a US Olympic teleconference call. "But it's not what I'm about as a runner. I have an Olympic medal on the track. I think of myself as a track runner."

Jennings said she had not yet decided on which event to focus for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics — the 5,000 metres, 10,000 metres or marathon. She will make that decision after Sunday's race, with her coach John Babington.

Jennings, of Newmarket, NH, said she did not feel any extra pressure despite the historical significance of another victory Sunday.

"I just look at it as another race," she said. "I don't think about winning another title."

The field for the 6,000-metre race will be loaded with seasoned runners, including Olga Appel, Gwyn Coogan, Kathy France, Ceci St Geme and Elaine van Blunk.

Meanwhile, the men's 10,000 metres will include four past winners — Porter; Bobb Kempainen, who broke Porter's winning streak in 1990; Todd Williams (1991 and 1993) and Bob Kennedy (1992). Other top contenders

include Mark Coogan and Marc Davis.

Williams, who beat Porter by six seconds at last year's championships at Missoula, Mont and Kennedy have been training together at Bloomington, Ind under the guidance of Indiana coach Sam Bell.

Williams, 25, of Knoxville, Tenn, thinks it has been beneficial.

"It worked out well," he said. "We were not trying to kill each other, we were trying to help each other."

Williams twice competed in the World Cross Country Championships, with his best finish being 19th in 1992. He also was a 1992 Olympian, placing 10th in the 10,000 metres, the event he is focusing on for the '96 Games.

Sunday's programme also includes a 5,000-metre junior women's race and an 8,000 metre junior men's race. The senior and junior men's races will serve as qualifiers for the International Amateur Athletic Federation World Cross Country Championships March 25 at Durham, England.

The first nine senior men's finishers qualify for the US team, along with the top six finishers in the junior men's race. The women's champions earn automatic berths on the US team.

French Premier's assurance for FIFA boss

PARIS, Dec 2: Premier Edouard Balladur assured world soccer chief Joao Havelange on Friday that France was on course to host a successful World Cup in 1998, reports AP.

But Balladur admitted his government's influence was limited.

"As for successes on the field, it's up to our national team to achieve them," he said of the squad that failed to reach this year's finals. "I wish them good luck."

Havelange met Balladur and senior French soccer officials at the close of a week-long trip in which the president of FIFA visited eight of the 10 cities that will host matches during the 1998 finals.

"With this meeting, we kick off the operational phase of organisation," Balladur said. "All the essential decisions have been made."

Havelange said he was very satisfied with his tour and confident that preparations would be completed on time.

He confirmed that the draw for the qualifying groups would be held Dec 12, 1995, in Paris, and the draw for 32-team finals would be in Marseille in December 1997.

The opening ceremony will be on the Champs-Elysees, the famed Paris boulevard, either June 10 or June 12, 1998. Havelange said it was possible the final could be played on July 14, France's national holiday.

He predicted the matches would draw an average crowd of at least 40,000.

Balladur said his government has agreed to pay 36 per cent of the cost of stadium improvements and infrastructure expansion, up from 30 per cent pledged by the socialist government ousted in 1993.

Edberg ensures Swedish lead

MOSCOW, Dec 2: Stefan Edberg rallied after facing match-point in the final set Friday, to beat Russian Alexander Volkov 6-4, 6-2, 6-7 (2-7), 6-6, 8-6 and give Sweden a 1-0 lead in the Davis Cup final, reports AP.

Volkov held match point on his serve leading 5-4 when Edberg sent a backhand down the line to send it to deuce. He went on to break Volkov and then earned the critical break in the final game.

Morceli, Jackie Joyner honoured

MONTE CARLO, Dec 2: Algerian distance runner Noureddine Morceli and US heptathlete Jackie Joyner-Kersey were named athletes-of-the-year Friday by the International Athletic Foundation, reports AP.

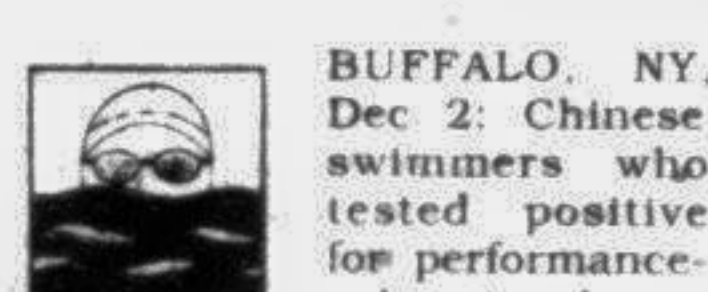
Morceli, 24, set a new world record in the 3,000 metres, was unbeaten in the mile and 1,500 metres and won the men's IAAF Mobil Grand Prix overall title this season.

Morceli received 3,203 points in voting by 1,500 track and field experts from around the world.

Cuban high jumper Javier Sotomayor, who won the Grand Prix and Goodwill Games titles, finished second with 2,721 points. Ukrainian pole vaulter Sergei Bubka, who set his 17th outdoor world record, was third with 1,982.

Joyner-Kersey, the reigning Olympic champion and world record-holder in the heptathlon, topped the women's voting with 3,067 points.

An apology for Sino dopers



BUFFALO, NY, Dec 2: Chinese swimmers who tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs may have been forced to take steroids or not even told what they were taking, US Swim officials say, reports AP. They may (know), but I'm not sure they have a choice," Richard Quick, who will coach the US women at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, said Thursday.

It was said in East Germany that if you didn't follow the programme, using the drugs as part of the programme, that you were thrown out. So you may not have a choice. And I think the young ones may not even know."

Eleven Chinese athletes, seven of them swimmers, tested positive for drugs at the Asian Games at Hiroshima, Japan, in October. Chinese officials denied their swimming federation encouraged or

knew about drug use. "This is an act by individuals," a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday from Beijing, adding his country's sports authorities practice "strict prohibition, strict testing and strict punishment" of drug use.

But Quick doesn't believe it. "I think the coaches know," he said. "I think the administrators know. I think it would be impossible not to know that."

The Chinese swimming programme has improved rapidly in the 1990s — a little too rapidly, some say, as coaches from other countries began to suspect that steroids were part of the reason.

Allegations of drug use escalated in September when the Chinese women won 12 of 16 gold medals at the World Championships in Rome. "It seemed like too much, too fast," said Greg Eggert, a board member of the US Swimming

organization. Eggert said 17 countries, including the United States, signed a petition at the World Championships asking the International Swimming Federation to develop a more rigorous drug-testing programme.

In October, the Chinese women won all 15 of their races at the Asian Games. Then, seven of them tested positive.

"I'm just glad to know that the testing system is working," said Skip Kenney, who will coach the US men in Atlanta. "I just think that when it's fair, it just makes it that much more exciting."

But John Collins, coach of the Badger Swim Club in Larchmont, NY, said he's waiting to see if the Chinese change their ways.

"Everybody knew that they've been doing it, but we couldn't catch them. So the fact that they're catching them is great," he said.



Velez Sarfield's Victor Hugo Sotomayor (R), holding the Intercontinental Cup and teammate Roberto Luis Trotta (L) with the Toyota Cup, celebrate after they beat AC Milan in the final Intercontinental European/South American championship in Tokyo on Dec 1. The Argentines won 2-0. —AFP photo

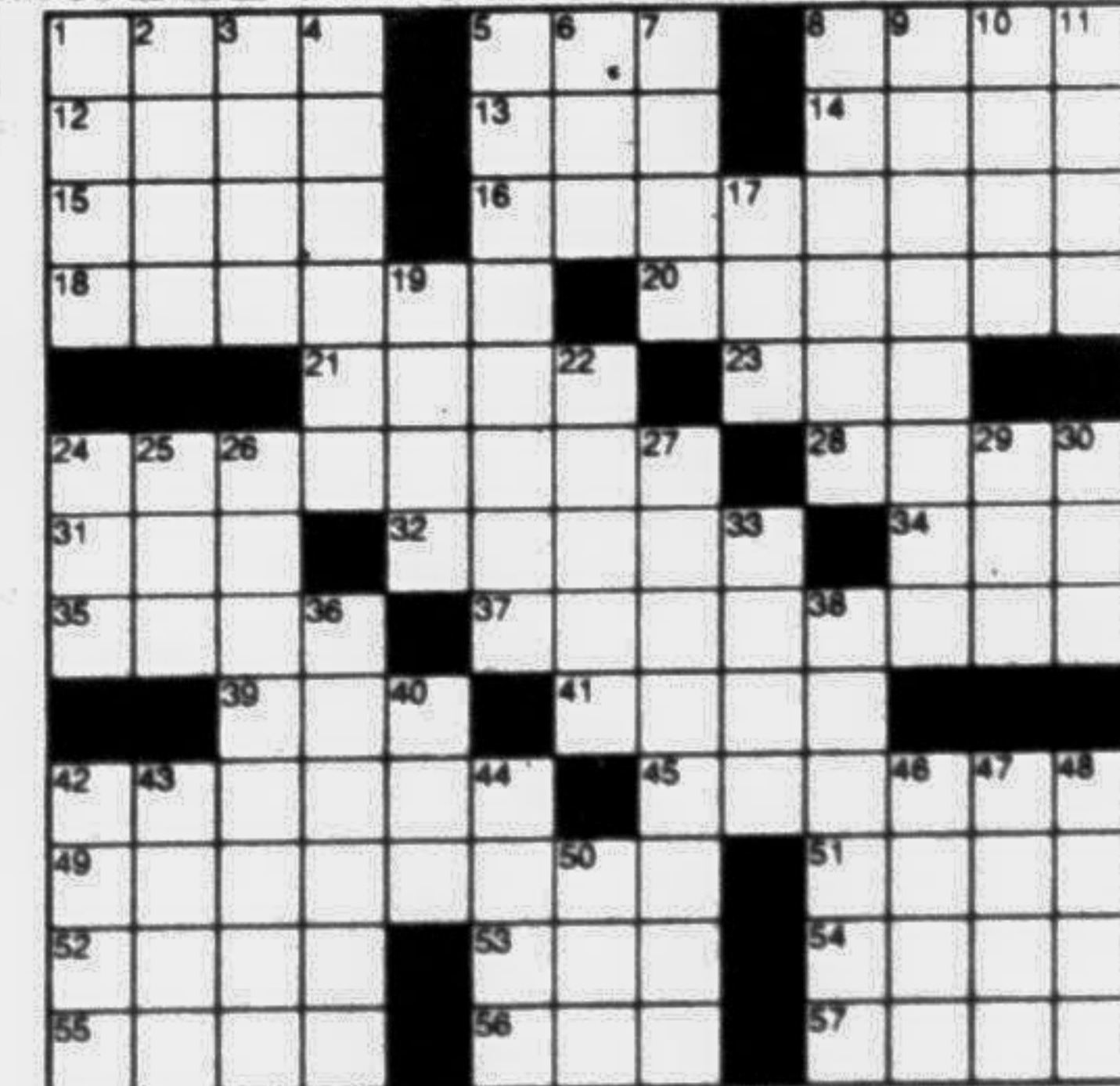
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	1 Paid players	5 The word?	8 Dickens' sneaky clerk	12 Actor Aubrey-Johns	13 Literary collection	14 Prefix re Gandhi's land	15 Help a hood	16 Slugger who wed MM	18 Willing sufferer	20 More sore	21 Waikiki wear	23 X rating?	24 Variation on a chord	28 Harvest	31 Wire measure	32 A to Z	34 Blueprint addition	35 Fluffy accesso-																	
DOWN	37 Seducer	39 Coast Guard noncom: abbr.	41 Workers' rights org.	42 Chop into chops	45 Expulsion	49 Cousin to a CB	51 Therefore	52 Comment re Yorick	53 Grill	54 Undiluted	55 Banquet spread	56 More, to Manuel	57 Kennedy and Koppel	10 Entertainer Adams	11 Indigent	17 Put on a show	19 Safe-cracker	22 Who says?	24 Diplomat: abbr.	25 Carnival city	26 Tablecloth protector	27 Prospects	29 Mr. Baba	30 Arafat's grp.	33 Via, for short	36 Meager	38 Among the missing	40 Breakfast for Brutus	42 Bloke	43 Tra trail	44 Alternative to Gouda	46 Christmas emblem	47 "Zounds"	48 Decays	50 "Rose" — rose...

Solution time: 26 min.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD:

ACROSS: 1. PAYROLL, 5. WORD, 8. CLERK, 12. AUBREY, 13. COLLECTION, 14. PREFIX, 15. HELP, 16. SLUGGER, 18. WILLING, 20. MORE, 21. WAIKIKI, 23. X-RATING, 24. VARIATION, 28. HARVEST, 31. WIRE, 32. A-Z, 34. BLUEPRINT, 35. FLUFFY, 37. SEDUCER, 39. COAST GUARD, 41. WORKERS' RIGHTS, 42. CHOP, 45. EXPULSION, 49. COUSIN, 51. THEREFORE, 52. COMMENT, 53. GRILL, 54. UNDILUTED, 55. BANQUET, 56. MORE, 57. KENNEDY, 10. ENTERTAINER, 11. INDIGENT, 17. PUT ON A SHOW, 19. SAFE-CRACKER, 22. WHO SAYS, 24. DIPLOMAT, 25. CARNIVAL, 26. TABLECLOTH, 27. PROSPECTS, 29. MR. BABA, 30. ARAFAT'S, 33. VIA, 36. MEAGER, 38. AMONG, 40. BREAKFAST, 42. BLOKE, 43. TRA, 44. ALTERNATIVE, 46. CHRISTMAS, 47. "ZOUNDS", 48. DECAYS, 50. "ROSE".



CRYPTOQUIP

DU RPIASGSI'H KSIHFG-
PCTZU KIFLCS DH DTROZ
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