

Sport

McGrath bowls Aussies home

ADELAIDE, Dec 11: Glenn McGrath ripped through the lower order Sunday to steer Australia to a six-run victory over Australia A in a World Series limited-overs cricket match at the Adelaide Oval, reports AP.

Fast bowler McGrath finished with 4-43 from 9.3 overs and claimed the last three wickets in the space of four balls as the second-string Australia A team collapsed dramatically with victory in sight.

Australia were dismissed for 202 of 48.3 overs but then replied by bowling out the second-string team for 196 in 47.3 overs. Australian captain Mark Taylor angrily criticised the concept of an Australia A team after the match.

Taylor said Australian fans should not be forced to divide their support between two teams.

"It was hard yakka (work) and I didn't enjoy the game," Taylor said. "I don't like playing against my own players because it asked the crowd to choose which side it wanted to follow."

"I don't like it when the crowd doesn't support us when we play at home."

Australia now have won all four of their matches in the quadrangular tournament, while Australia A suffered their first loss in three games. The tournament also includes England (0-1) and Zimbabwe, who are out of finals contention at 0-4.

The Australia A were well placed at 190 for six before Phil Emery was run out for 30 and McGrath produced his impressive final spell.

Michael Slater earlier top-scored for Australia with 64, while captain Mark Taylor contributed 44. The pair shared an opening stand of 93, but David Boon, who made 39, was the only other batsman to make an impact.

Merv Hughes, keen to regain his spot in the Australian

Test team, had figures of 3-33 for Australia A, while spinner Gavin Robertson took 2-27.

Matthew Hayden made a laboured 45 for Australia A and Ricky Ponting contributed 42, while Robertson was stranded on 19 at the end.



McGrath... 4 for 43

McGrath was backed up by leg-spinner Shane Warne, who had figures of 3-40.

Australia A captain Damien Martyn said his team had wasted their opportunities.

"We should have won," he said. "I'm disappointed we lost, but the guys put in a great effort and I think we gave them a real fight."

Australia A will now play England in a day-night match in Melbourne on Tuesday.

England have had a dismal preparation for the game, losing two straight limited-overs matches to an Australian Institute of Sport Cricket Academy team at North Sydney over the weekend.

Scoreboard in Sunday's World Series limited-overs

cricket match between Australia and Australia A at the Adelaide Oval:

AUSTRALIA:

M Taylor b Robertson	44
M Slater c Hayden b Rowell	64
M Waugh b Hughes	0
D Boon c Langer b Hughes	39
M Bevan c Emery b Robertson	4
S Law b Moody	0
I Healy c Hayden b Reffel	15
S Warne c Langer b Hughes	8
C McDermott not out	10
T May run out	1
G McGrath c Langer b Reffel	0
Extras: (4-b, 7-lb, 6-w)	17
Total:	202

Fall of wickets: 93; 94; 132; 151; 152; 175; 185; 197; 199; 202.

Bowling:

O	M	R	W
Greg Rowell	10	0	41
Paul Reffel	9.3	2	34
Tom Moody	7	0	36
Merv Hughes	9	0	33
Damien Martyn	3	0	20
Gavin Robertson	10	1	27

AUSTRALIA A

D Lehmann c Healy b McGrath	4
M Hayden c Taylor b Law	45
D Martyn b Warne	37
J Langer c Law b Warne	1
R Ponting c Bevan b Warne	42
T Moody c sub (Fleming) b May	5
P Emery run out	30
G Robertson not out	19
P Reffel lbw McGrath	0
G Rowell c Law b McGrath	0
M Hughes c Law b McGrath	0
Extras: (1-b, 5-lb, 4-w, 2-nb)	12
Total:	196

Fall of wickets: 10; 71; 77; 108; 117; 157; 190; 190; 190; 196.

Bowling:

O	M	R	W
Craig McDermott	9	0	33
Glenn McGrath	9.4	0	43
Mark Waugh	4	1	17
Shane Warne	10	1	40
Tim May	10	0	29
Stuart Law	5	0	28

Australia won by six runs.

STANDINGS

Standings in the World Series limited-overs cricket tournament after Sunday's match (tabulate under matches played, won, lost, points):

Australia	4	4	0	8
Australia A	3	2	1	4
England	1	0	1	0
Zimbabwe	4	0	4	0

Callaghan Kiwis' bane

VERWOERDBURG, South Africa, Dec 11: Dave Callaghan batted, fielded and then bowled South Africa to a resounding 81-run victory over New Zealand Sunday in a one-day match, reports AP.

Callaghan posted the highest score ever by a South African batsman in a one-day international, and the fourth-best worldwide.

With captain Hansie Cronje he broke South Africa's second-wicket partnership record, established only the day before when Cronje and Andrew Hudson put on 145 against Pakistan.

First came Callaghan's memorable innings of 169 not out to help South Africa to their highest ever one-day score of 314/7.

That alone would have been enough, but the plucky 29-year-old was far from finished. Just 15 overs into New Zealand's innings, Callaghan produced an outstanding piece of fielding to dismiss star Kiwi batsman Martin Crowe.

His throw from the deep cover boundary came so fast and so accurately that all keeper Dave Richardson had to do was drop his hands and whip off the balls.

Later, with Kiwis' keeper Adam Parore and Shane Thomson (39) leading a spirited revival with a 106-run fifth-wicket partnership, Callaghan again struck when he had Thomson caught behind.

Parore continued alone, eventually notching up his century off just 87 balls, until Callaghan put the finishing touches to one of the best all-time individual displays when he had him caught by Darryl Cullinan in the deep for 108 (95 balls, 8x4).

With the added wicket of Murphy Su'a (1), Callaghan finished with career-best bowling figures of 3/32.

Understandably, the New Zealand bowling was not a pretty sight. Medium pacer Su'a was the best of the bunch with 4/59 off his 10 overs.

Lankans coast

KIMBERLEY, South Africa, Dec 11: Sri Lanka beat Griqualand West by 45 runs in a day-night 50 overs match on Saturday, reports Reuter.

SCORES: Sri Lanka 229-7 (R Mahanama 76); Griqualand West 184-7 (V Michau 56).

Yamaha Div I cricket

Gopibagh Friends Association got off to a good start in the Yamaha First Division cricket league beating Dhanmondi Club by seven wickets at the City Club ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Gopibagh FA reached their target making 101 for three in 30 overs after dismissing Dhanmondi Club for 99 in 35.1 overs.

Opener Hira remained unbeaten on 34 while middle-order batsman Naveed Bhatti made 16 not out. Labu Khan scored 20 runs.

Earlier, put in to bat, Dhanmondi Club were bundled out for 99 runs in 35.1 overs with Shakil Ahmed and Hira of Gopibagh taking three wickets each.

Pacer Naveed Bhatti took two wickets.

The Dhanmondi opener Nehauluddin played a lone hand scoring 43 runs, the only double figure in the team's score sheet. Extras contributed 35 runs to the total.

In the other league opener, Ajax Sporting Club beat Uddy Club by four wickets on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Replying to Uddy's 96 all out in 41 overs, Ajax lost six wickets to reach their target.

Sajjad scored highest 30 runs for Ajax while Rafiqul Islam was not out 16.

Acme Div II cricket

Mirpur Nabin KC, Khelaghar SKS and Young Pegasus A won their respective matches in the Acme Second Division cricket league held at different venues in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Nabin KC beat Basabo Tarun Sangha by 42 runs on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Mirpur Nabin KC: 172 all out in 39.5 overs. Pavel 34, Iftekhar Ahmed 29, Rabul Alam 27, Montu not out 21, Moshur 19 and extras 20. Tito 3/33, Ferdous 2/24.

Basabo Tarun Sangha: 130 all out in 36.3 overs. Bablu 29, Faisal and Wallur 14 each, and extras 42. Rabul Islam 4/15 and Iftekhar 3/14.

Khelaghar defeated DOHS by two wickets at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

DOHS: 185/7 in 40 overs. Delta 34, Sohel 33, Jamil 26, Riaz 13, Ahmed not out 12 and extras 46. Harun Ur Rashid 2/18 and Shahidul Islam 2/48.

Big payout awaits Sampras

MUNICH, Dec 11: World number one Pete Sampras beat Goran Ivanisevic in a nerve-jangling five-set thriller to advance to the final of the six million dollar Grand Slam Cup and a shot at the biggest payout in tennis, reports Reuter.

Sampras needed six match points to squeeze past the big-serving Croat 5-7, 6-3, 6-4, 6-7, 10-8 in a 3-1/2 hour showdown that was a repeat of his Wimbledon final win this year.

The match set up an intriguing final against Swedish giant-killer Magnus Larsson.

No content with helping Sweden win the Davis Cup a week ago and dispatching Stefan Edberg and Andre Agassi here in Munich, the Swedish world number 19 needed just one hour 15 minutes to sweep aside Todd Martin of the US 6-4, 6-1, 6-1 in the other semifinal.

If Sampras wins Sunday's decider, he will take home two million dollars, including 250,000 dollars for each of the two Grand Slam events he has won this year.

Larsson would get 1.5 million - but even that would nearly double his lifetime earnings.

Asked if he was starting to tire after the best week of his career, Larsson did not have to search long for an answer.

Sampras and Ivanisevic had already proved the point. But despite being played at high speed, their match came alive only at the end of the fourth set thanks to the predictable domination of service on the super-fast carpet of Munich's Olympic Hall.

Ivanisevic, who finished with 41 aces, produced one of his huge serves to stave off the only break point of the set at 5-5. Then found return winners to take the tie-break and level the match at two sets all.

The fifth set went with service until the 10th game, when Sampras earned three match points. But his nerve weakened as he waited for

Syria, Iraq let off the hook

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 11: Syria and Iraq have escaped two-year bans from world football after allegations that they fielded over-age players in the Asian under-19 championships in October in Jakarta, reports Reuter.

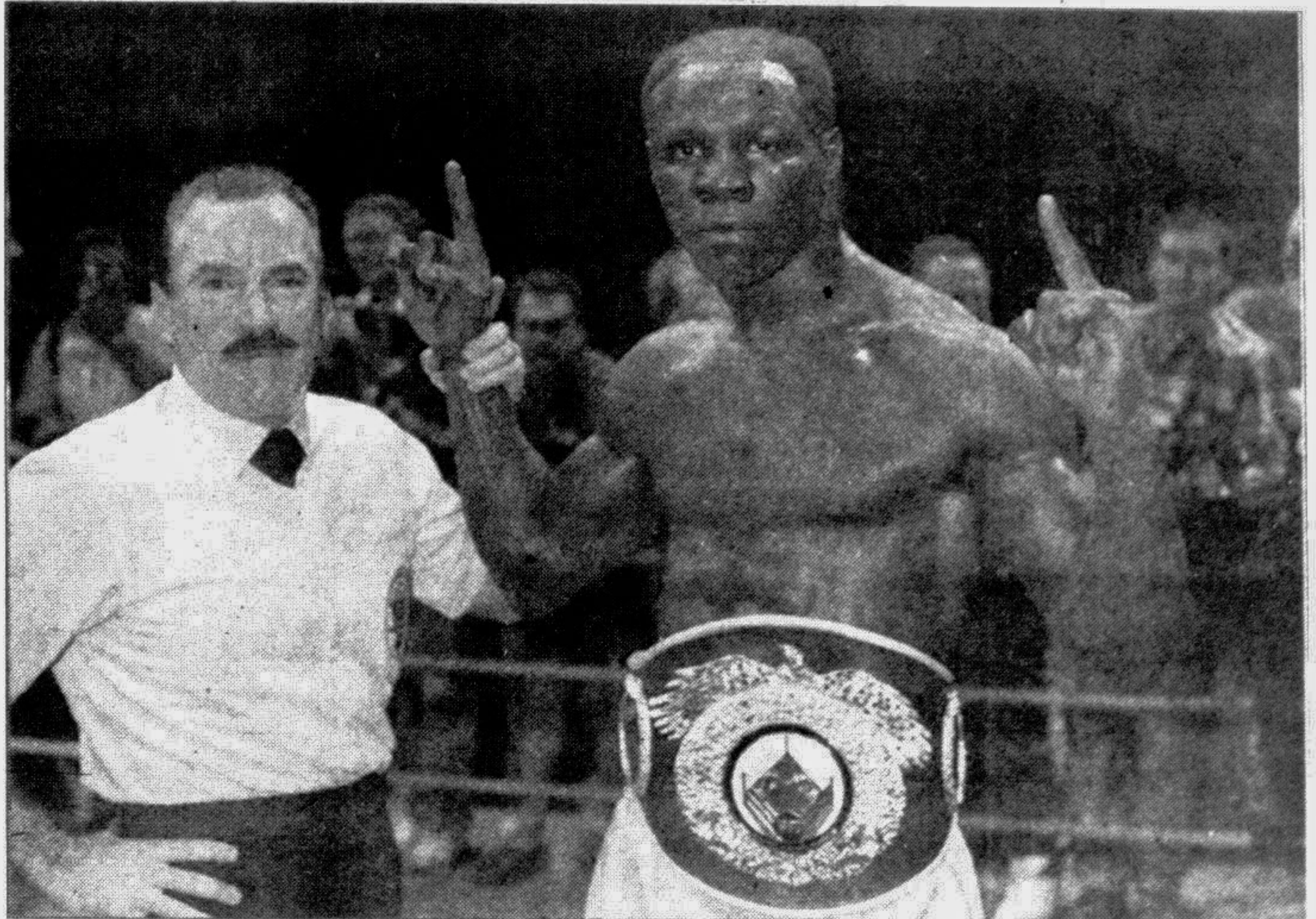
Syria, who won the tournament, are now also free to take their place in next year's World under-20 championships in Nigeria.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) declared an amnesty on Saturday against alleged age cheats after X-ray evidence was ruled inconclusive by world ruling body FIFA.

The X-rays which determine age by analysing bone growth, strongly suggested both teams fielded over-age players in Jakarta, according to the AFC.



Chen Lu of China (L) celebrates after winning the NHK Trophy figure skating in Morioka, Japan yesterday. Surya Bonaly (L) of France took the silver and Junko Yaginuma of Japan the bronze.



Britain's Chris Eubank poses after knocking out fellow-Briton Henry Wharton to successfully defend his WBO super-middleweight title in Manchester on Dec 10.

Eubank overwhelms Wharton

MANCHESTER, Dec 11: Chris Eubank confounded his critics by pounding Henry Wharton to a convincing points verdict Saturday to hold on to his World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title, reports AP.

Considered fortunate to gain the verdict in his last defence against American fighter Dan Schommer in South Africa a month ago, Eubank had fellow-Briton Wharton in trouble from round one and was never under pressure in his 14th defence.

Eubank's persistent jabbing marked Wharton in the second round and the challenger, who also lost to Nigel Benn in a World Boxing Council super middleweight fight, had to fight on with an ugly swelling under his left eye from the early stages.

There were no knockdowns in the fight although Eubank beckoned to the referee to

stop the fight during the ninth after unleashing a series of unanswered combinations.

A fighter who usually relies on counter-attacks, Eubank looked more aggressive this time and his jabs and combinations looked effective against a big-punching but this time

La Hoya's third

LOS ANGELES, Dec 11: WBO lightweight champion Oscar De La Hoya successfully defended his title for the third time Saturday when he stopped challenger Johnny Avila in the ninth round at the Grand Olympic Auditorium, reports AP.

De La Hoya, 16-0 with 15 knockouts, forced Avila to back off with several jabs and combinations. Referee Raul Caiz escorted Avila to Dr Adam Karns at ringside. The doctor examined cuts above and below Avila's eye and ordered the fight stopped at 1:07 of the ninth round.

outclassed opponent who lost a unanimous decision.

Judge Roy Francis scored the fight 118-112. Paul Thomas had it 114-113 and New Jersey official Gerald Maltz gave Eubank the verdict 116-112.

The unbeaten Eubank, who entered the arena in a box mounted on a crane, improved his record to 41-0-2. Wharton slipped to 19-2-1.

On the same card, Ireland's Eamonn Loughran retained his WBO welterweight title on a technical decision over American lefthander Manning Galloway.

A former holder of this title, Galloway suffered gashes on both eyebrows in accidental head clashes and Puerto Rican referee Wiso Fernandez halted the action before a punch had been thrown in the fifth round.

Loughran was declared the winner because he was ahead on points at the time the fight was stopped.

Nazarov floors Gamache

PORTLAND, Maine, Dec 11: Olzubeck "Gussie" Nazarov knocked out Joey Gamache 2:50 into the second round Saturday to retain the World Boxing Association lightweight title, reports AP.

A left hook by Nazarov in the first broke Gamache's nose, and another sent the stunned challenger to the canvas in the next round.

"He caught me with a good shot. He's a surprisingly strong fighter," Gamache said afterward at the Cumberland County Civic Center. "I think he's an underrated champion."

Nazarov, a native of Kyrgyzstan, said his goal is to unify the lightweight championship, preferably against Oscar De La Hoya, who defended his WBO lightweight title Saturday by stopping challenger Johnny Avila in the ninth round.

In the opening round,

Nazarov used his height and reach advantage to score effective blows against Gamache, who admitted he never reached his stride and missed with several punches.

The left-handed Nazarov opened a cut under the challenger's right eye in the first and brought him to his knee early in the second. Referee John Coyle waved off a standing eight count before Gamache was stunned with a left hook later in the round.

Gamache fell backward and hit the canvas hard. He tried to get up at the count of eight but couldn't do it.

"If he hadn't been hit early, it would have been a different fight," said Don Turner, Gamache's trainer. "The guy hurt him and he had never been hurt like this before."

Gamache, who lives in Lewiston, came into the fight with a record of 36-1 with 22 knockouts. He had been waiting impatiently for another

shot at the title after losing the WBA lightweight title in his first defense against Tony "The Tiger" Lopez in 1992.

Nazarov's 15th knockout brought his record to 20-0.

Speaking through an interpreter, Nazarov said he knew in the first round that his powerful left was going to stop Gamache.

Nazarov earned the lightweight title by beating Dinggaan Thobela of South Africa. Before turning pro, he was a three-time all-Soviet amateur lightweight champion and the European lightweight champion.

The fighters were subdued in the week leading up to the bout, which was dubbed "The Cold War."

Gamache displayed none of the bravado he demonstrated when he paraded into a news conference in a safari outfit with a stuffed tiger before suffering his first professional loss against Lopez.

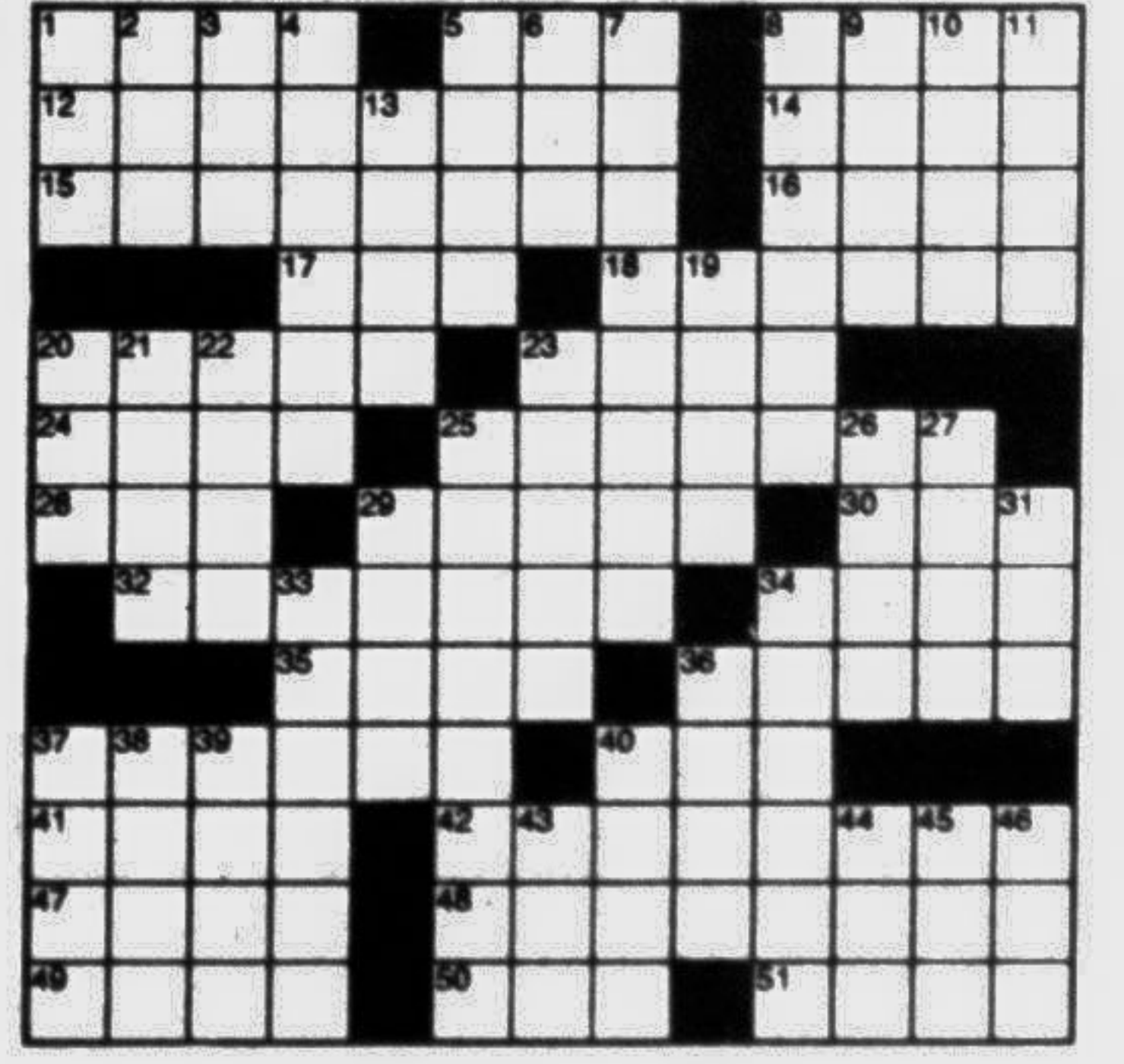
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	1 Prod into action	5 Gumshoe	8 Navigator's stack	12 Bruin star Phil	14 Rose's lover	15 Almond confection	16 Win after win after win	17 Type units	18 Follow-up story	20 Play-ground piece	23 PC list	24 Reps. and Dems.	25 Looks	28 Jackie's second mate	29 Hominy recipe	30 Help	32 Lowers	34 Puerto	35 "Judith" composer	36 Brothers	37 Loathing	40 Ail.																			
DOWN	41 Summit	42 Aromatic herb	47 Land in the water?	48 Three digits after 1	49 Hardens	50 Firmament	51 Stench	1 Prized possession	2 Explorer Johnson	3 Calendar abbr.	4 Quantities	5 Lag-	5 Nap-	6 Greek H	7 Just says yes	8 Product model	9 Adhem's son	10 Nuclear reactor	11 Hawk, in a way	13 Act the stoolie	19 Tackles'	20 Fat farm	21 Dictionary	22 Netman	23 Down East	25 Moses et al.	26 Picnic hamperer	27 Under the weather	29 "Pretty Woman" actor	31 Two, in Tijuana	33 "Duck Soup" quartet	34 Quite ornate	36 Goya subject	37 Secretary of State under Reagan	38 Church area	39 He got the point across to his son	40 Quarry	43 Torah holder	44 Staff	45 Bother	46 Mal de

Solution time: 25 min.

CHOW ADDS BRO
LAVA REAL LIZ
ORAL MANY ADZ
DELL ALI WHEY
YON SPA
ARNOLD HALTER
SHAWL STOVE
HOTAIR STEWED
LEE OAR
JAIL LAD RIOT
AND FOND EDGE
MOE RATE BELLA
BAA ODIN DEER

Saturday's answer 4-4



CRYPTOQUIP

CK AROIHL'L PGBAXRO
TSGDX CTXSBR PTZR
TOA XDPZ PTOAK

Saturday's Cryptoquip: AFTER THE SEANCE FAILED TO PRODUCE THE DESIRED RESULT, MEDUIM WAS DISPIRITED.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: P equals C

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.