

Windies waltz into final

BOMBAY, Mar 10: West Indies demolished South Africa by 96 runs with 15 balls to spare to storm into the final of the 90,000-pound sterling prize money World Masters (over 35) Cup cricket tournament at the Brabourne Stadium here today, reports PTI.

West Indies, opting to bat first, rattled up an imposing total of 289 for 7 in the allotted 45 overs — man-of-the-match Collis King top-scoring with 79 off just 50 balls with eight fours and four sixes — and then bowled out the South Africans for 193 in 42.3 overs to emerge triumphant.

West Indies will take on hosts India in the final of the tournament on Sunday with the champions of the inaugural edition taking home 50,000 pound sterling.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard of the Masters Cup semifinal between West Indies and South Africa here today:

**WEST INDIES**

G Greenidge c and b Ebrahim 39  
J Dujon c Rice b Hanley 5

**South Africa**

H Fotheringham lbw b Clarke 13  
B A Richards c Richards b King 14  
T Smith c Dujon b Moseley 20  
G Pollock c Greenidge b Richards 60  
C Rice st Dujon b Richards 5  
K McKenzie c Logie b Richards 5  
K McEwan b Moseley 48  
O Henry st Dujon b Gomes 10  
S Maglet b Moseley 0  
B Ebrahim run out 0  
R Hanley not out 1  
Extras: (b-4, lb-2, w-7) 17  
Total: (in 42.3 overs) 193

**Fall of wickets:** 1-28; 2-47; 3-83; 4-93; 5-116; 6-145; 7-192; 8-192; 9-192.

**Bowling:**

Garner 6 1 16 0  
Clarke 9 1 38 1  
Moseley 7 2 19 3  
King 4 0 27 1  
Richards 9 0 35 3  
Gomes 7.3 0 50 1

**Result: West Indies won by 96 runs.**

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NZ-SL first Test begins today  
Looking for change in trend

NAPIER, New Zealand, Mar 10: New Zealand go into the third part of their century summer still seeking something to celebrate when they play Sri Lanka in the first Test at McLean Park starting on Saturday, reports Reuter.

With four losses in their last five Tests, New Zealand are desperate for a change in fortune, and captain Ken Rutherford said he has his fingers crossed.

The Sri Lankans, in New Zealand for two Tests and three one-day internationals, were interested by standers earlier in the week when South Africa beat New Zealand by 93 runs in Auckland.

Captain Arjuna Ranatunga expressed surprise at New Zealand's failure to play for a draw when the top half of their batting order were dismissed.

"We were surprised that they left it so late to try and salvage the game," Ranatunga said.

"Still, they played positively, and from our point of view it does give us confidence that they were beaten by South Africa."

Both sides go into the match with only a core of players remaining from the last time they faced each other in a Test.

Sri Lanka beat New Zealand 1-0 in a revised two-Test series in 1992 when New Zealand's tour there was severely disrupted by a bomb blast outside the team hotel in Colombo.

"The conditions here are different and we have different personnel as do they," said Rutherford.

"Sure, we might take a little bit of motivation from the fact that we lost to them, but really we are still trying to seek some credibility for our game."

With nothing to lose after having lost to virtually every other Test nation they have faced this summer, New Zealand have decided to gamble on making at least two changes to the team which played South Africa.

Rookie Auckland fast bowler Kerry Walmsey, who stands 1.98 metres (6ft 5in) tall, is to make his debut in place of the out-of-form left-arm spin bowler Matthew Hart.

And burly left-hander Mark Greatbatch returns to fill the troublesome No 3 spot vacated

by the injured Martin Crowe.

Rutherford indicated that Shane Thomson, who did not play in Auckland, Dipak Patel or medium paced seamer Gavin Larsen would be 12th man.

Sri Lanka have named a squad of 13 and will pick their final side after inspecting the pitch.

Ranatunga hinted that spinner Jayatha Silva and middle-order batsman Snath Jayasuriya could be left out of the playing 11 with the pitch likely to favour early seam movement.

**TEAMS**

**NEW ZEALAND (from):** Ken Rutherford (captain), Bryan Young, Darrian Murray, Mark Greatbatch, Stephen Fleming, Adam Parore, Shane Thomson, Dipak Patel, Dion Nash, Gavin Larsen, Danny Morrison, Kerry Walmsey.

**SRI LANKA (from):** Arjuna Ranatunga (captain), Asanka Gurusinha, Dulp Samarawera, Sanjeeva Ranatunga, Aravinda de Silva, Hashan Tillekeratne, Chamara Dunsinghe, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralidharan, Ravindra Pushpakumara, Jayatha Silva, Snath Jayasuriya.

Sampras scrapes into Round 2

INDIAN WELLS, Mar 10: Pete Sampras, coming off a second-round loss in the US Indoor last month, struggled past Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) Thursday in the second round at the dlr 1.8 million Newsweek Champions Cup, reports AP.

Andre Agassi, the second seed who is gunning for Sampras' No. 1 world ranking, gave a considerably easier time, downing Thomas Enqvist of Sweden 6-1, 6-3.

"I came out here today to really lay it on the line," Agassi said. "My intensity was at an all-time high."

Sampras, ranked No. 1 in the world but looking for his first tournament victory of 1995, had eight aces in winning the first set in just 28 minutes. But he had to rally from a 4-1 deficit to win the second set.

Bjorkman, ranked 44th in the world, broke at love in the fourth game of the second set, then held before Sampras won three straight games to make

it 4-4. The players then held service before Sampras won the tie-breaker.

Sampras, the defending champion who is playing in just his fourth tournament of the year, lost to Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands 6-4, 6-4 at the US Indoor at Philadelphia.

"It felt good to finally win the tie-breaker," said Sampras, who won the final two points to end the 70-minute match. "I hadn't won one this year. I felt I hit the ball pretty well. The conditions, with the air being so dry here, it's pretty fast."

"He is a good player. He serves well, returns well, is one of the better doubles players in the world. I really needed to be at my best. I thought I played a pretty solid match. I lost a little concentration in the second, got down a break, but there was only one break. Then, I played a good break."

In the lone night match Thursday, Agassi made quick work of Enqvist, who had won their only two previous meetings, including the US Indoor last month.

This time, Agassi was up 5-

0 just 19 minutes into the match, which he ended in 65 minutes.

"It wasn't me underestimating him before, he's just beaten me a couple of times," Agassi said.

The second round was completed earlier in the day with six matches including the Sampras-Bjorkman match, and there were two upset — No. 10 seed Andre Medvedev of Ukraine lost to David Wheaton 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4), and No. 13 Andrea Gaudenzi of Italy was beaten by Marcelo Rios of Chile 6-3, 6-0.

In other second-round play, No. 11 Stefan Edberg of Sweden beat Arnaud Boetsch of France 6-3, 6-4; No. 12 Magnus Larsson of Sweden topped Lionel Roux of France 6-2, 6-2; and No. 15 Patrick Rafter of Australia outlasted Tommy Ho 6-3, 2-6, 7-5.

In the first third-round match of the tournament, No. 7 Wayne Ferreira of South Africa breezed past Carlos Costa of Spain 6-3, 6-2. Costa had upset No. 9 Jim Courier on Wednesday.



Gold winner Elvis Stojko of Canada flanked by American Todd Eldredge (Silver, L) and Frenchman Philippe Candeloro (bronze, R) wave bouquets from the podium after the men's competition of the World Figure Skating Championship in Birmingham on March 9. — AFP/UNB photo

Lala Amarnath honoured

BOMBAY, Mar 10: Former national captain and one of the all-time greats of Indian cricket, Lala Amarnath, was honoured by the Board of Control for Cricket in India when he was presented with the inaugural C K Nayudu centenary award at a well-attended function in the Cricket Club of India (CCI) here today, reports PTI.

The award, in memory of another equally revered Indian cricketer and carrying a purse of Rs two lakh, was presented to the scorer of India's first Test century in the inaugural Test against England at the Bombay Gymkhana in 1933-34 by Union Minister for Power and chairman of the Nayudu Centenary Committee, NKP Salve.

Octogenarian Amarnath, thanking the Indian board profusely for the honour bestowed on him, also recalled his indebtedness to Late Nayudu who nursed and guided him during their half-century partnership against the English side led by Douglas Jardine.

Amarnath also recalled that it was Nayudu who encouraged him to give attention to his bowling after seeing bowl at the nets after he had been picked as a keeper-batsman.

Kamsky beats Anand

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, Mar 10: American Gata Kamsky, in his quest to become the youngest world chess champion ever, on Thursday beat Viswanathan Anand of India on time in the first game of the Professional Chess Association candidates finalist series, reports AP.

Despite a reputation as an extremely fast player, Anand, playing white, ran out of time after 32 moves, with his pieces better focused toward Kamsky's king. Players have two hours to make 40 moves.

Both Anand and the 20-year-old Kamsky used an hour for the first 20 moves, with Anand seeming to hold a slight positional advantage.

Anand then took 24 minutes to analyze the possibilities before playing his 21st move from a very open position, setting up an exchange of his central pawn for Kamsky's queen's bishop pawn and of king's knight for Kamsky's powerful queen's bishop.

After 30 moves Anand was ahead slightly on time, with almost four minutes to go, but he used most of his time on his last move. After the 32nd move, Anand only had a minute left while Kamsky had about three.

Both players used the Ruy Lopez, or Spanish opening.

Kamsky takes the white pieces Friday in the second match of the 12-game PCA series.

The winner goes on to play PCA world champion Gary Kasparov in Cologne, Germany, in September.

Sampras, Agassi to team up for Davis Cup

INDIAN WELLS, Mar 10: Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi, ranked No 1 and No 2 in the world, will team again to represent the United States in the Davis Cup in Italy this month, reports AP.

The two last played Davis Cup together when the United States beat Switzerland in the 1992 final in Fort Worth, Texas.

The announcement was made Thursday night after the top-ranked Sampras and Agassi won their matches at the Newsweek Champions Cup.

"It is something that Pete and I discussed a while back," Agassi said. "I think we both have gone through our emotions with it. I think there was a time when I was very adamant about not playing and there was a time when I think Pete felt like it wasn't his best interest to play..."

"It all boils down to our not want to lose to Italy with our fourth or fifth guy. If we are going to lose, they are going to have to beat our best and I am honoured to be considered one of them."

Jared Palmer and Richey Reneberg will be the US doubles team for the "second-round series at Palermo, Italy, on March 31-April 2. The Palmer-Reneberg team is ranked No 1 internationally.

Sampras said Agassi had asked him about playing some time ago and Sampras didn't think he would. But he changed his mind.

"Pretty much we are going to go there to win the Cup, so we plan on winning there and maybe playing Sweden or Austria at home," Sampras said. "We are in it to win the whole thing."

US team captain Tom Gulikson commended the pair, saying: "It is certainly great for American tennis and for tennis all over the world that Pete and Andre, both in pursuit of the No 1 ranking, can come together to be part of the US Davis Cup team."



Dutchman Regilio Tuur is on the defensive after a barrage of blows from Canadian Tony Pep during their WBO superfeatherweight bout in Groningen, the Netherlands on Mar 9. Tuur defeated Pep on points to retain his crown. — AFP/UNB photo

Barcelona World Indoor Championships  
Favourites reign on Day 1

BARCELONA, Mar 10: Jamaican sprinter Merlene Ottey led the qualifying for the women's 60 metres Friday at the World Indoor Championships, reports AP.

Ottey, who has won five medals at three previous world indoors, easily captured her first-round heat in 7.12 seconds to qualify for the semifinals Friday evening.

Matching Ottey's time in another heat was Melanie Paschke of Germany. Other qualifiers included Americans Carlette Guidry (7.25 seconds) and Chryste Gaines (7.28 seconds).

Ottey won the 200-metre gold at the world indoors in 1989 and 1991, and is the reigning outdoor champion in the event. She had to endure three false starts by other runners in her heat.

"I felt very good, but there were too many false starts," she said. "The adrenaline kind of goes out of you after awhile."

In the men's 60 metres, Britain's Darren Braithwaite posted the fastest time of the heats as he equaled his personal best of 6.54 seconds. Teammate Michael Rossweiss, who replaced Linford Christie after his withdrawal Monday, finished second in his heat in 6.68.

Defending champion Bruny Surin of Canada won his heat in 6.59 seconds, while Ottey's coach and long-time boyfriend, Stefano Tilli of Italy, took his heat in 6.64.

In the men's 200, defending champion John Regis of Britain, coming off a recent hamstring injury, eased through his first-round heat in 21.21 seconds.

The best times in the 200

heats were recorded by two Scandinavians, Niklas Eriksson of Sweden and Geir Moen of Norway, both in 21.04. Canada's Donovan Bailey won his heat in 21.33.

In the men's 3,000, defending champion Gennaro Di Napoli of Italy led the qualifying in 7:56.47.

Maria Mutola of Mozambique, the world indoor and outdoor champion who has won 38 straight finals in the 800 metres, coasted to victory in her 800-meter heat in 2:05.15.

Two US athletes were disqualified in Friday's morning session, Wendy Vereen in the women's 200 and Tod Long in the men's 200. Both ran out of their lanes.

"These are young kids who are learning the hard way," US team coach Ken Matsuda said.

About 700 athletes from 140 countries are competing in the fifth world indoors, which run Friday through Sunday at the Palau Sant Jordi arena.

While many of the world's top stars are missing, Irina Privalova stands out.

The Russian sprinter is bidding to become the first woman to win gold medals in three different races at the World Indoor Championships — and she's aiming to set a world record in the process.

Privalova, the European outdoor champion at 100 and 200 meters, is running the 400 meters for the first time at an indoor meet. She won the 60-meter gold at the 1991 world indoors, the 200-meter gold in 1993 and now wants the 400-metre title to complete the set.

"I want to be the first woman to win gold medals at

60, 200 and 400 metres," Privalova said. "I also will try for the world record."

The 400 indoor record is 49.59 seconds, set by Jarmila Kratochvilova of Czechoslovakia in 1982.

"I'm feeling good and I think it's possible to break the record," Privalova said. "I think 400 meters is a good distance for me. I don't have to worry about the start or the reaction time. It's only speed and endurance, and I have both."

The women's 400 meter heats were scheduled for Friday, with the final on Saturday.

The 27-year-old Privalova has been in sparkling form this winter, setting a world record of 5.96 seconds in the 50 meters and equaling her own world record of 6.92 seconds in the 200.

While she has chosen to enter the 400 in Barcelona, Privalova said she will concentrate on the 100 meters for the world outdoor championships in Goteborg, Sweden, in August.

"Everybody wants to know who is the fastest woman in the world," said Privalova, bronze medalist in the 100 at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

Other stars competing in Barcelona include Sergei Bubka of Ukraine, world indoor and outdoor record-holder in the pole vault; Javier Sotomayor of Cuba, world indoor and outdoor record-holder in the high jump; and Olympic champions Mark McKoy of Austria (hurdles), Maksim Tarasov of Russia (pole vault), Fermin Cacho of Spain (1,500), Heike Henkel of Germany (women's high jump) and Paraskevi Patoulidou of Greece (women's hurdles).

Sotomayor aims to reap rich

BARCELONA, Mar 10: Javier Sotomayor never has been one to skip a major track and field meet, and this weekend's World Indoor Championships is no exception, reports AP.

While many of the sport's top stars have begged out, the only high jumper over to clear 2.44 metres (8 feet) will be seeking a record fifth medal in the championships, which began today at the Palau Sant Jordi, adjacent to the Olympic

stadium where Sotomayor won gold at the '92 Games.

The 27-year-old Cuban has earned golds at the 1989 and 1993 world indoors, a silver in 1985, when the meet was called the World Indoor Games, and a bronze in 1989. He also finished fourth in 1987, and along with fellow high jumper Patrick Sjöberg of Sweden, is the only athlete to reach the finals in all five competitions.

If he makes Sunday's final, he would be the only one to

reach six, since Sjöberg is not in this year's event.

And should Sotomayor collect another medal, he would be the first male athlete with five. He presently shares the record of fourth with race walker Mikhail Shchennikov of Russia. Shchennikov, winner of four golds, will not have an opportunity to add to that total this year, since race walking has been dropped from the championships by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Surprise tests on Sino athletes

BEIJING, Mar 10: A doping control team jointly authorized by international sports federations has conducted surprise tests on three Chinese athletes in the past 24 hours, an official report said Friday, reports AP.

Guo Qinglong, a senior official in China's Physical Culture and Sports Commission, said team members travelled to the northeastern city of Shenyang Thursday to collect urine samples from world record-holding runner Wang Junxia and champion swimmer Dai Guohong.

Officials also took a urine sample early Friday in Beijing from Wang Yiwu, a champion men's breaststroke swimmer, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

The report did not provide any information about the results of the tests or say when they would be made public.

The spot test were conducted without advance notice to Chinese sports officials, in line with new anti-doping rules set by the International Amateur Swimming Federation (FINA) and the International Amateur Athletics Federation, Xinhua said.

"We shall assist the doping control team to complete the mission by every possible means," Guo was quoted as saying.

Officials at China's sports commission said they were not aware of the tests. Guo was not immediately available for comment.

FINA officials visited Beijing last week as part of an unprecedented investigation into use of banned performance-enhancing drugs by Chinese swimmers.

The probe was prompted by positive drug tests on 11 Chinese swimmers last year, accounting for more than half of the total doping cases discovered in competitive swimming in the past 20 years.

Positive doping results have drawn accusations from many coaches and athletes in other countries that Chinese successes in swimming, running and other sports may be due to widespread drug use.

During the FINA visit, Guo, who also heads the Chinese Swimming Association, promised there would be no more doping cases among Chinese swimmers.

Nuven Masters tennis results

NAPLES, Florida, Mar 10: Jimmy Connors, Bjorn Borg and Jose-Luis Clerc earned semifinal berths in the Nuven Masters 35-and-over tennis championships Thursday, reports AP.

Borg used consistent ground strokes and his patented passing shots to defeat John Lloyd 6-4, 6-4.

Earlier Thursday, Connors defeated Roscoe Tanner 6-3, 6-1, and Clerc knocked off Guillermo Vilas 6-2, 7-6 (7-1). The wins set up the dlr 300,000 season-ending battle Friday of the top eight performers on the Champions Tour.

Connors broke Tanner in the seventh game of the first set to take the lead. He won eight of the next nine games, finishing off Tanner in a match lasting 68 minutes.

In the second match, Clerc had little trouble with Vilas in the first set but couldn't manage a break in the second set. Clerc dominated in the tiebreaker.

After the match, Vilas was diagnosed with a strained back and was forced to withdraw from the doubles portion of the tournament.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

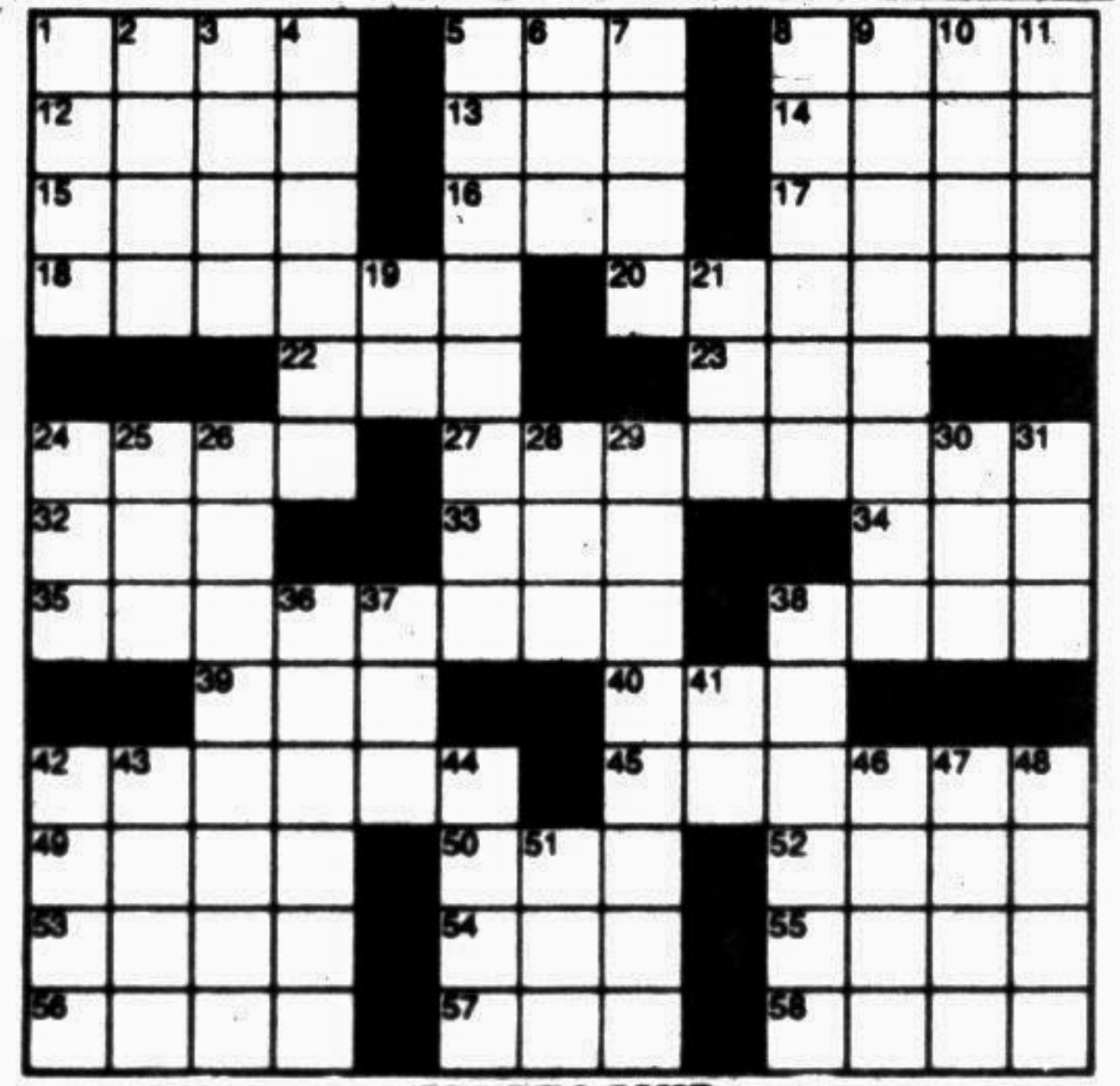
1 11th president  
5 Depot: abbr.  
8 Takes blades to blades  
12 Hodge-podge  
13 Action  
14 Netman  
15 Nastase  
16 Bring up  
17 TV network  
18 Sand-bag of baseball  
19 Gaffer  
20 Greg  
22 Every last crumb  
23 Cagney or Lacey, informally  
24 Daze  
27 Royal  
32 Ending for magic or clinic  
33 Chiang — shek  
34 Altar constellation  
35 Least pallid

**DOWN**

1 Blue material?  
2 Bread spread  
3 Second-story man?  
4 Burnett costar  
5 Graceful  
6 Bill  
7 Mischievous  
8 It gets everything backwards  
9 Game time  
10 Toper of a sort  
11 Spotted  
19 Mr. Capone  
21 Dogfight participant  
24 Knightly address  
25 Greek letter  
26 Too young  
28 More, to  
29 Hurlers  
30 Curve  
31 Negligent  
36 "The public be —"  
W.H. Vanderbilt  
37 Dander  
38 LDS church-goer  
41 Concerning  
42 Vassarite, since 1969  
43 Singer Williams  
44 Near-black  
46 Oodles  
47 Malarial symptom  
48 Tree house? Chart  
51 Cart form

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

**PARK AFT**  
ALOE LAW WADI  
CAPYBARA OPEC  
ARENA SPOUSE  
ERIC ENG  
ABOS SAWS HEW  
IRA CAPET IVE  
MAP OKRA GNAT  
ALI IRMA  
FACILE AMISS  
URIS CAPSICUM  
RITT HUE NERO  
LAYS OFT GREG



**CRYPTOQUIP**

S T M F , M J M H L I L V O E  
I V O F Y T H G T L Y T H E Y L W W  
K M E Y K T G L H E Y R V W -  
W M H K T J T H S M R T .  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TERMITE AMBLED INTO A SALOON AND SAID, "IS THE BAR TENDER HERE?"  
Today's Cryptoquip clue: J equals V  
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.