

Sport

Column One SPORTS TALK



Kapil Dev (Great Indian all rounder) "Beautiful, fantastic, fabulous" On life after retirement.

DID U' KNOW? (The Professor does)

HAT, although we love cricket, it may be difficult to beat the English. They really love it. The following extract from Asia features will justify the claim that cricket, after all, is the game of the Englishman.

Twelve Englishmen — eight of them totally blind and the others partially sighted — play their own version of cricket on a pitch in Brighton, Sussex, England every weekend. They play by ear.

Behind the wicket is a battery-operated bleeper, the sound of which helps the bowler home in on the batsman. The bowler throws a rubber ball containing ball-bearings. The ball bounces and the batsman hears a jingle. So he can judge when to strike.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN (The rules are published every Saturday.)

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-16

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Dec 8, 1995)

- 1. Maradona is to football as Shahbaz is to ...
2. Andre Agassi is sponsored by ...
3. Who was the man-of-the-match of the 16th Desai Summer cricket final?
4. The 7th SAF Games will be held in ...
5. The mascot of New Zealand cricket is ...

Name: Class: Roll No: School Address: Phone: (if any)

Etienne chess' little master

PARIS, Dec 4: A 12-year-old French schoolboy became the world's youngest ever International Master of chess on Sunday, reports AFP.

Etienne Bacrot, who was world under-10 champion in 1993 and now holds the under-12 title, won the accolade by beating six out of nine challengers at a session specifically arranged to test would-be masters at the game.

Etienne, who has been playing chess since the age of four and a half, lists his other interests as table tennis, reading, fishing and video games.

DU cricket

Soil Science beat Botany by four wickets in the Dhaka University inter-departmental cricket tournament played at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Batting first, Botany scored 112 for nine wickets in the stipulated 30 overs.

Zillur made 32, Bari 20 runs respectively.

Saiful of Soil Science took four wickets for 26 runs while Shaheen bagged three for 40.

In reply, Soil Science reached 114 for six in 27.3 overs.

Mamun contributed the highest 39 runs and Biplab made 14 not out.

Abu Ahmed and Mostafizur took two wickets each giving away 23 and 29 runs respectively.

SAF Games deliberations Hockey, judo mixed bag

Sports Reporter

The inclusion of hockey for the first time in the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games will certainly provide a world-class flare to an otherwise lowly-rated regional sort of Olympic Games when the seventh edition of the meet begins in the Indian city of Madras from December 18.

For Bangladesh, it will be a testing time when our unheralded players will test their fate against two super powers, in the world of hockey — defending World champions Pakistan and eight-time Olympic champions India.

Officials of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) met with the press at the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) office yesterday to discuss the team's preparation and prospects in the forthcoming Games.

Speaking on behalf of his team, manager Shamsul Bari said that the tussle for gold will, for obvious reasons, be restricted between the "big two". Therefore Bangladesh will be aiming to win the bronze on offer.

Bari, who is also the general secretary of the BHF, informed that five nations — India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh — are scheduled to take part in the hockey competition. But the participation of Nepal is yet to be confirmed.

The event will be held between December 19 and 24.

Specifying on his hopes in the meet, Bari said that our team definitely has the might to outplay Sri Lanka and Nepal. Therefore bringing back a bronze from Madras will not be unlikely. Of their encounters against India and Pakistan, Bari assured that the team will give their best. "Even if we lose, we will try to keep the margin as small as possible," he said.

Coach Pratap Sankar Hazra, reminded of the recent disappointing tour of India where the team was knocked out of the first rounds of both the tournaments they took part in, said that the team will try to get over the miseries suffered in that tour and will try to perform at their best at the Games.

Yesterday, the penultimate day of the week-long SAF deliberations organised by the BOA also saw Madras-bound judo officials facing the press. The acting general secretary of the Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation (BJKF) Abdul Kadir, speaking on behalf of general secretary and manager of the SAF team Niaz Rahim, pronounced an ambitious promise of two gold medals from the meet. Notably, Bangladesh managed to win four silver and five

bronze medals in the previous meet in Dhaka in 1993.

The Bangladesh contingent of nine judokas will compete in as many weight categories. Out of these, Kadir laid his hopes mostly on Nagendra Nath Roy (55 kg category) and Aminul Islam (71 kg category).

The SAF camp for the discipline began on May 1 with 46 judokas. They tally was brought down to 34 by June 6. Japanese trainer Ryuji Tanabe, who will accompany the team as coach, took over training duties on July 1 at the BKSP in Savar. The decision by the BOA to include a judo team in the SAF Games was taken on August 5 and the final selection was made on October 26.

There was somewhat of a mild Pandemonium during the deliberations when the BJKF officials came up with an unconvincing reply to a query by the press. Asked why the four judokas sent to the Asian judo meet held in New Delhi last month, which was termed by BJKF officials as a preparatory tourney for the SAF Games, were not included in the ultimate SAF teams, the officials present ensured, "We did not want to risk any injury. Then why call it a preparatory tourney in the first place?" we ask.



TIPUS Tuesday TIPS

Fear is the pain

ence physical pain. One is referring here to the physical pain caused by intense physical effort, the pain of bursting lungs, leaden legs and the feeling of utter sickness.

The player with aggression within himself can force himself through these pain barriers. His mind, his single-mindedness of purpose overcomes all adversities.

Again, this is primarily an attitude of mind. It can be improved by training. Players who experience the intense physical pain of intense effort for the first time are frequently afraid. It is the fear of something dreadful happening to them, rather than the actual pain, which defeat many players. If players are never subjected to intense physical effort, and the resultant pain in training, then they are unlikely to overcome the barrier when they meet it in matches. Furthermore, it is easier for players to break through the barrier in training when several players will experience a similar feeling at a similar point in time. In these circumstances very often the hardest thing to do is stop. Once a player has overcome this basic fear in training there is no reason why he should not do the same in matches.

Some players seem to have a low pain barrier and stop very easily and very quickly when they experience physical pain. One is referring here to the physical pain caused by intense physical effort, the pain of bursting lungs, leaden legs and the feeling of utter sickness.

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Rain dampens SL spirit

LAUNCESTON, Australia, Dec 4: Sri Lanka were forced to settle for a draw in their final tour match before the first Test against Australia after rain halted their bold victory chase, reports Reuter.

With eight wickets in hand, the tourists needed another 80 runs from a minimum of 21 overs to beat Tasmania when the heavy shower interrupted play during the last session of the match on Monday.

Set a target of 240 on the final day of their four-day match, Sri Lanka raced to 160 for two from 33 overs before the two sides left the field.

The umpires finally abandoned play 40 minutes later without another ball being bowled.

Opener Chandika Hathurusinghe remained unbeaten on 61 alongside his captain, Arjuna Ranatunga, who scored a century in the first innings and was not out with 11 in his second innings.

Tasmania, the weakest of Australia's six state sides, earlier declared their second innings on 273 for five, with captain, Rod Tucker 60 not out.

Sri Lanka scored 369 in their first innings in reply to the home side's 335 for four, including an unbeaten century by Rickey Ponting.

Meanwhile in Sydney, Australia's cricket selectors dropped all-rounder Greg Blewett in making three changes for this week's first Test against the tourists.

Blewett's omission followed his failure with the bat as Australia tumbled to a 74-run defeat in the third and final Test against Pakistan at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

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Booters finish with a draw

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh national football team ended their Malaysian tour with a goalless draw against the Malaysian youth team in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday.

It was the fourth and final game for the visiting Bangladesh team who were on a brief tour of Malaysia as part of their preparations for the forthcoming Seventh SAF Games to be held in Madras from December 18. They had earlier won two of their previous games with scorelines of 1-0 and 4-1 while losing the other 1-2.

The team of 25 players and numerous officials returned home yesterday. The final SAF football outfit of twenty booters is expected to be announced today.

V-Day cricket from today

Sports Reporter

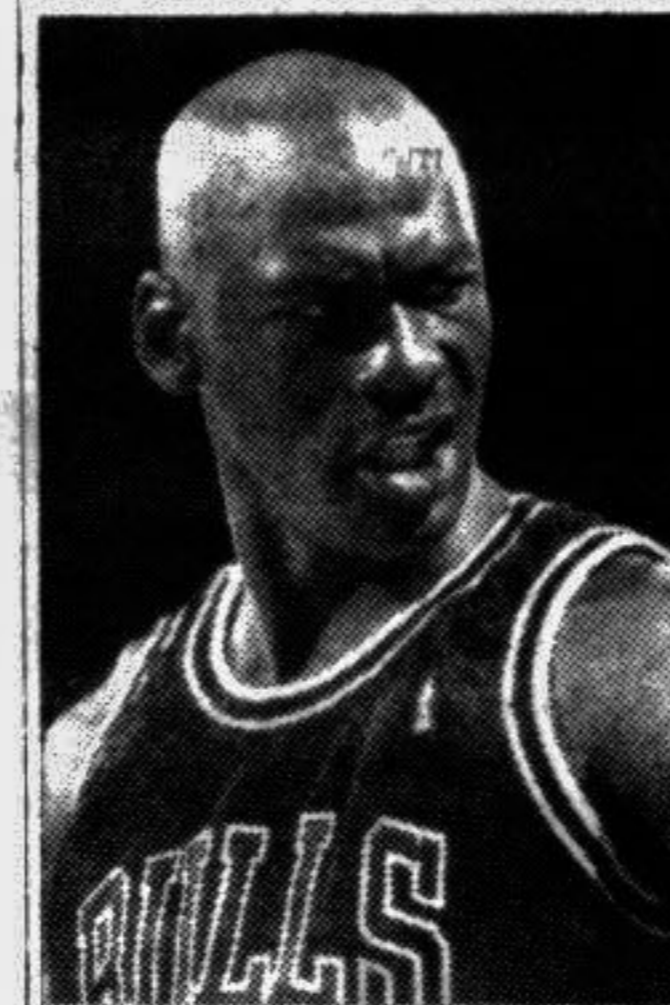
Mohammedan Sporting Club and Kalabagan Krira Chakra will kick-off the Bijoy Dibash cricket tourney when they face each other at the Dhaka Stadium today. The 80-overs-a-side encounter will last for two days and is expected to be completed by tomorrow afternoon.

The week-long knock-out tournament will feature the top four sides of last year's Premier league, the other two teams being Abahani Krira Chakra and Bangladesh Btman. The price of tickets for the tourney have been fixed at: VIP (Gate-1) Tk 50; VIP (Gate-3) Tk 30; both galleries Tk 10.

Meanwhile the Shahid Smriti tourney gets underway at the City Club Ground today with Dhammondi Club taking on Bangladesh Boys. The 11-day-long competition features the ten First Division clubs of Dhaka.

Jordan tops Forbes' list

NEW YORK, Dec 4: For the fourth consecutive year Michael Jordan was the highest-paid athlete this year, not because of his duties on the basketball court.



MICHAEL JORDAN

but for his image off it which earned him some 40 million dollars, reports Reuter.

The second highest-paid professional athlete, according to a Forbes magazine list to be published December 18, was boxer Mike Tyson, whose out-of-ring personality was worth nothing to sponsors. But the former heavyweight champion raked in 40 million dollars for 89-second of work last August and a bonus for the promise of more fights, following his release from prison last March.

Jordan's return to the basketball court, after a brief and mediocre career as a minor league baseball player, earned him 3.9 million dollars from the Chicago Bulls and the chance to add to his huge endorsement contracts for his total of 43.9 million dollars.

Jordan's on-court pay was less than the salaries of seven of the top 10 highest-earning athletes, according to Forbes. Football and baseball player Deion Sanders, the only two-sport athlete on the list, picked up a 13 million dollars signing bonus from the Dallas Cowboys, the largest in team sports history. The Cowboys paid Sanders 3.5 million dollars in salary and another 6 million dollars in endorsements and royalties vaulted "Neon Deion" to third place with 22.5 million dollars, up from last year's rank of 38.

Sanders just edged out boxer Riddick Bowe, fourth at 22.2 million dollars, and Orlando Magic Centre's Shaquille O'Neal, whose 21.9 million dollars put him in 5th place.

With the end of the baseball lock-out, baseball players dominated the big-earner list, with a total of eight, including Cal Ripken Jr. Ken Griffey Jr and Frank Thomas.

The Hardwood and football field provided seven each.

Jack Nicklaus was the top-ranked golfer, in the eighth spot with total earnings of 15.1 million dollars.

Atherton wags in time



ATHERTON... 185 N.O

bowled Stewart and Mark Ramprakash within the space of three balls.

Stewart missed an off-cutter to be bowled between bat and pad after making 38 and a hopelessly nervous Ramprakash, needing a good innings to retain his Test place, was hopelessly beaten by a yorker to send the capacity 30,000 Wanderers crowd whooping with delight.

Left-hander Graham Thorpe attempted to aid Atherton in rebuilding the England innings but then took 47 deliveries after tea in adding just a single before missing a Meyrick Pringle inswinger to depart lbw for 17.

Earlier McMillan's unbeaten 100 overshadowed Jack Russell's world wicket-keeping record and helped South Africa to advance from 296 for six before declaring at 346 for nine.

McMillan resumed in the morning on 76 but added just four runs while three wickets fell, including that of Clive Eksteen who edged Dominic Cork behind to send Russell leaping widely into the bowler's arms in celebration of his new record.

Russell's 11th catch took him past compatriot Bob Taylor's record of 10 victims in a Test, set in Bombay in 1979-80.

But McMillan received good support from last man Allan Donald and, having survived an enormous Cork lbw appeal on 99, scrambled a nervous single to reach his second Test century.

McMillan's runs came from 166 deliveries with nine fours and three sixes.

Cork, easily England's best bowler after taking four for 78 in South Africa's second innings for match figures of nine for 162, was determined England would not go down to defeat easily.

"We are still going to be positive, we've got to believe that we can save it. Michael (Atherton) showed us what a gutsy player he is and what is possible," he said.

"I don't want to lose, none of us do. I will fight with every ball. If it means batting a whole session for three or four runs then that is what I'll do. If Michael and Robin (Smith) can bat through the first session then the South Africans will be a bit worried... frustrated."

Cork, who provided wicket-keeper Jack Russell with his world record breaking 11th catch, admitted it was a special moment.

"I won't ever forget it and obviously Jack won't either. I told him I'd try and get an edge for him but I couldn't be sure. You could see how emotional it was for him by the way he ran around and hugged me afterwards."

For Donald, too, it was an emotional day after becoming the fifth South African to take 100 Test wickets after Taylor, Peter Pollock, Neil Ad-

cock and Trevor Goddard. "It's great to get to three figures. I'm not usually a guy who looks at the history books but I know this is very special."

But there are still six wickets for us to take, including Atherton's. I have always said how good I think he is. He is aggressive and tough and he sets and example to everyone with his determination. That's why he's still at the crease."



DONALD... 100th scalp

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SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fifth and final day in the second Test between South Africa and England at the Wanderers today.

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 332 (Gary Kirsten 110, Daryll Cullinan 69; Dominic Cork 5-84; Devon Malcolm 4-62)

ENGLAND: First innings 200 (Robin Smith 52)

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings 346 for nine declared (Brain McMillan 100 not out, Daryll Cullinan 61, Jonty Rhodes 57; Dominic Cork 4-78)

ENGLAND: Second innings (overnight 167 for four)

Table with columns: Atherton not out 185, Stewart b McMillan 38, Ramprakash b McMillan 17, Thorpe lbw b Pringle 0, Hick c Richardson b Donald 4, Smith c Pollock b Donald 44, Russell not out 29, Extras: (b-4, lb-7, nb-23) 34, Total: (for five wickets) 551

Fall of wickets: 1-75; 2-75; 3-134; 4-145; 5-232.

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Donald 35 9 95 2, Pringle 23 5 62 1, Pollock 29 11 65 0, McMillan 21 0 50 2, Eksteen 52 20 76 0, Cronje 3 1 2 0, Kirsten 1 1 0 0

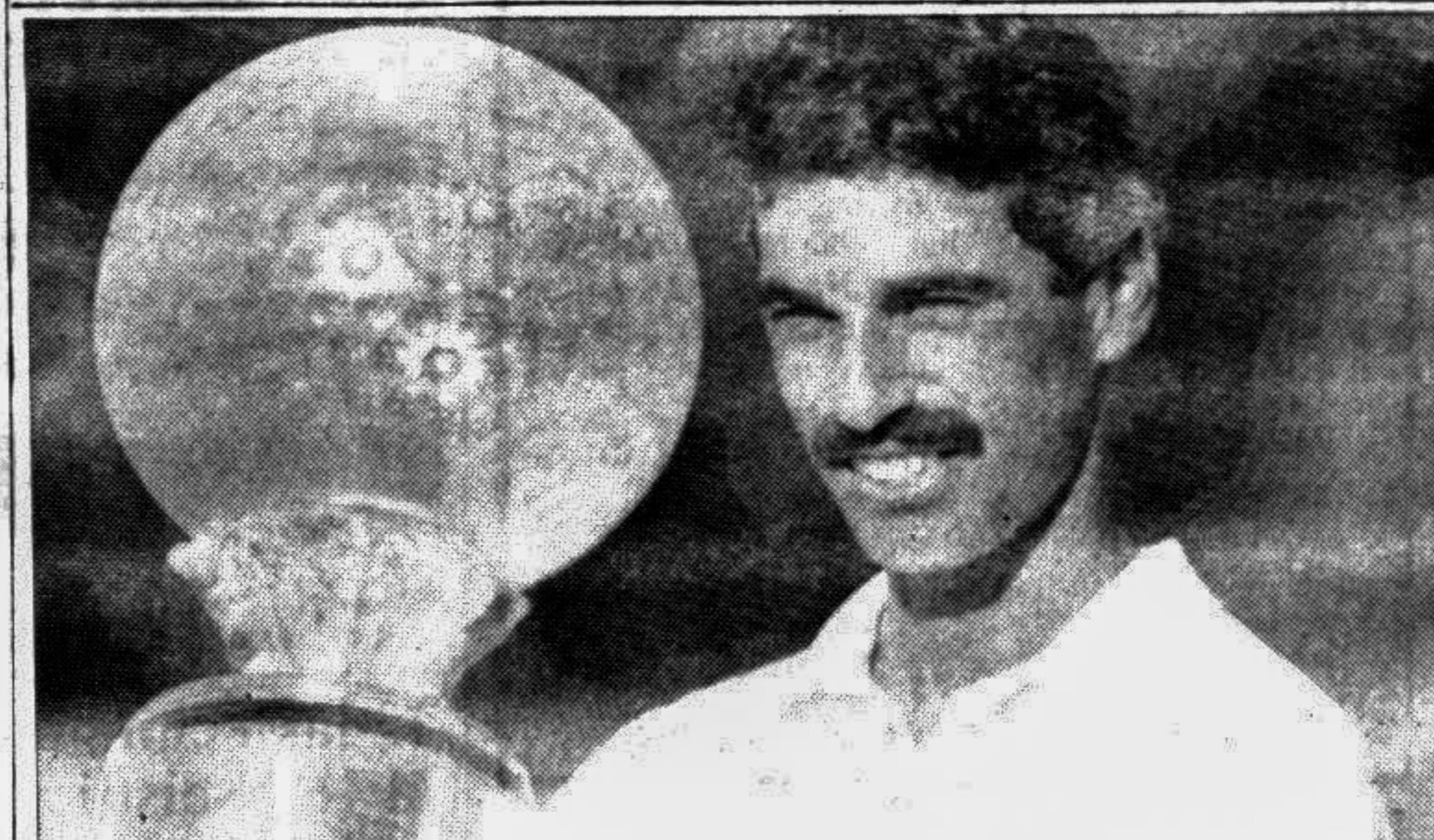
Result: Match drawn.

First Test: Match drawn.

Third Test: Durban, December 14-18.

Fourth Test: Port Elizabeth, December 26-30.

Fifth Test: Cape Town, January 2-6.



American golfer Cory Pavin displays the trophy after winning the Million Dollar Challenge in Sun City, South Africa on Sunday. — AFP/UNB photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes crossword grid and clues. CRYPTOQUIP puzzle with solution: ZTPR X ITQWH BTPR GDXFX FKG N FTZ ISTH WKBWRXRQ: PKKNDFTS FXTDQN.