

Column One Sports WHIZZ KID

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-40

- Tick the Correct Answers (Competition closes: 8 p.m. June 7, 1996) 1. Grand Master Gata Kamsky is...

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

SPORTS TALK



Aaqub Javed (Pakistan's fast bowler) 'In my opinion, it comes from eating habits. We are meat eaters and that gives strength to the body. In India we are told the majority of the population is vegetarian. That could be the reason because there is little difference between India and Pakistan.'

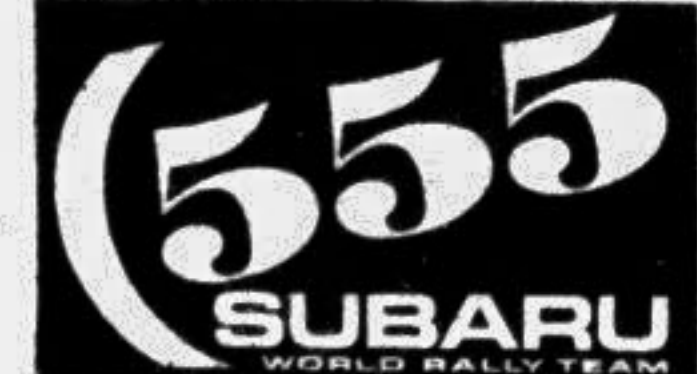
Ali on canvas

ATLANTA, Georgia, June 5: A limited edition painting of Muhammad Ali winning his 1960 Olympic boxing gold medal will be unveiled here next week, reports AFP.

Ali was known as Cassius Clay when he won the title, an era of his career captured on canvas by artist Steve Kaufman in tribute to the centennial Olympic Games here next month.

McRae wins Acropolis Rally

From the outset of the 1996 Acropolis Rally, Colin McRae had every intention of dominating the field & claiming victory & there was never a doubt.



ment that the 27-year-old Scot lost control of the number one slot. Maximum points in Greece has now elevated Colin to 3rd in the Drivers' World Championship and kept the 555 Subaru World Rally Team at the head of the manufacturers' table, says a press release.

Competing in Greece for the fourth time, victory was cruelly snatched from the world champion during 1994's event - the last time the Acropolis was a round of the World Championship - making victory two years later all the more sweet for the rapid Scot.

Piero Liatti once again proved himself a valuable asset to the 555 home in 4th position. The 34-year-old from Biella has maintained an impressive pace throughout his debut. Acropolis Rally, his increasing experience on gravel proving that he is a major force to be reckoned with as he equalled & set some faster times.

The fifth round of the championship will take the international crews to Cordoba in Argentina (4-5 July) where the fast & furious gravel stages will doubtless provide a heated battle at this mid-way point in 1996 FIA World Rally Championship.

Edgbaston Test begins today Azharuddin on his mettle



LONDON, June 5: India look to put dressing room rows, indifferent form and a rain-soaked early British summer behind them on Thursday

MD AZHARUDDIN when they face England at Edgbaston in the first Test of their three-match series, reports Reuter.

The visitors, who have won just one Test match abroad in six years, start as underdogs against an English side showing signs of revival after a dismal tour of South Africa and the World Cup.

But if the Indians can follow the example set recently by captain Mohammad Azharuddin, they have a good chance of clinching their first Test series win since 1986, when Kapil Dev led them to victory - over England.

Azharuddin is far different to the man he was a month ago. When he left India at the head of a 16-man squad in late April, he was unhappy with his batting and under pressure as

captain, but a dazzling show against the English counties has changed all that. The elegant middle-order batsman, who has had two spells with English county side Derbyshire, shook off an early injury to register scores of 119, 68 and 73 last month while his teammates struggled in the cold.

Finally, just in case the English were doubting his form, he smashed 111 not out at Leicestershire in the final county match before the first Test, his century coming of 86 balls, the second 50 of it off just 27.

Questions over his captaincy still remain, and came to a head last week when opener Navot Sidhu quit the squad and returned home, citing ill-treatment by his captain.

But Azharuddin dismissed the incident as 'an unnecessary controversy' that would not lower moral for the Tests. On the field, India have been inconsistent.

Their batting has sometimes shone through the gloom of the English weather, with Azharuddin, Sidhu, Ajay Jadeja, Sachin Tendulkar and Vikram Rathore all chalking up centuries. But they will be looking to tighten up their fielding, which cost them valuable runs in the one-day internationals. The home side won that battle 2-0 after the first match was washed out in the rain.

As the English summer finally swings into view and wickets at Test venues Edgbaston, Lord's and Trent Bridge dry out, the visitors will be looking for more bite from their bowlers.

Azharuddin tips leg-spinner Anil Kumble as a match-winner

at Edgbaston, despite a poor tour so far. 'I am sure Anil will rise to the big occasion in the Test match,' he said. 'He is that sort of cricketer and I am not worried at all about his form. 'We have several bowlers



MIKE ATHERTON who are proven wicket-takers at Test level and with our batsman getting runs in the matches with the counties, we are in good heart for the Test. A revamped England are similarly confident after their bright one-day performances.

They welcome back Essex middle-order batsman Nasser Hussain, who has already hit 85 against India this summer, and in-form Nick Knight, recalled to open the batting with Mike Atherton.

Atherton, confirmed as skipper for the series, teams up with new coach and fellow-Lancastrian David Lloyd in an attempt to further lift England from one of their lowest cricketing ebbs.

Flo-Jo not going to Atlanta

LOS ANGELES, June 5: Florence Griffith Joyner, who set world records in winning the 100-metre and 200m gold medals at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, will not compete at the Atlanta Games due to tendonitis, reports AFP.

Griffith Joyner and her husband-coach Al Joyner gave up on their Olympic bid because of right leg injuries. His is a sore quadriceps muscle that has kept him out of his speciality, the triple jump. 'It's heartbreaking for Florence because she was really busting her tail,' Joyner said of his wife. 'It's depressing. But at the same time, it comes with the wins and losses.'

Both are 36 and were seeking one final Olympic start.

Qatari soccer chief canters

KUALA LUMPUR, June 5: Asian soccer powers Wednesday rejected the son of a controversial Hong Kong tycoon and voted in the Qatari football chief as one of Asia's representatives on the FIFA executive committee, reports AFP.

Qatar football association president Mohammed bin-Hamman secured 27 out of the 37 votes cast at the conclusion of the three-day Asian Football Confederation congress here.

Timothy Fok, a vice-president of the Hong Kong Football Association and son of Hong Kong businessman Henry Fok, received 10 votes.

Hamman was the clear favourite, backed by 19 countries while Timothy Fok was only nominated by Hong Kong and China.

Henry Fok, a property and hotel tycoon with close links to China, had held Asia's seat on the FIFA Exco since 1978. With his help, China took part in the first Asian Games in 1974 and joined the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) two years later.

He announced last year he would be stepping down but that Timothy would be one of two candidates to take over during the vote at the AFC congress in Kuala Lumpur.

The AFC's other FIFA Exco position is held by Saudi businessman Abdullah al Debal. South Korea's Chung Mong Joon represents the AFC as FIFA vice-president.

A tinge of irony!

PARIS, June 5: France's Olympic synchronised swimming team has chosen the World War Two holocaust as the theme for its performance at next month's Atlanta Games, reports Reuter.

The swimmers will goose-step into the swimming pool to German military rhythms and will also act out the arrival of Jews at the Auschwitz Nazi death camp, the French sports daily L'Equipe said.

L'Equipe quoted the swimmers and their coach, Odile Petit, as saying they were well aware that the theme would be controversial, but they did not intend to shock spectators.

'I chose it as it conveys emotions. Our sport is a sport of expression,' Petit said. 'Our message is an appeal to fight racism.'

She recalled that Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay had skated on a theme evoking torture in the Chile. 'We perfectly knew that this could start an argument, but the theme is merely a support for the choreography,' the team's captain Marianne Aeschbacher said.

Francis Lyce, president of the French swimming federation, acknowledged the controversial theme, including Jewish ghetto songs and the musical theme of Stephen Spielberg's Oscar-winning 'Schindler's List,' had been chosen with a view to enhancing prospects of an Olympic medal.

'We took a chance for the Olympic ballet. If we don't do it, the team will remain in fifth place,' he told L'Equipe. Lyce said the swimmers had already tested the ballet and there had been no adverse reaction from the referees, although some spectators had protested.

Christie duels Mitchell in Rome

ROME, June 5: Olympic champion Linford Christie will race American Dennis Mitchell in both the 100 and 200 metres at the Golden Gala Grand Prix athletics event in Rome on Wednesday, organisers said, reports Reuter.

Olympic 100 metres bronze medalist Mitchell, who has been faster than Christie so far this year, had not been expected to compete in the 200 metres but decided to enter late on Tuesday.



ROUND TWO BEGINS: Representatives of 2002 World Cup co-hosts, Japan and South Korea, express their solidarity, burying their fierce rivalry for hosting of the World Cup, at the Asian Football Confederation congress in Kuala Lumpur on June 5.

PROFILE OF EIGHT CITIES

LONDON, June 5 (Reuter): Eight cities are preparing for an influx of 250,000 soccer fans for Euro '96, the biggest sporting event to be held in England since the 1966 World Cup.

Seven English Premier league club stadia and London's Wembley Stadium will host the 31 European Championship matches from June 8 to 30.

Wembley, where England beat Germany in the 1966 World Cup final, will be the venue for England matches against Switzerland, Scotland and the Netherlands plus a quarter-final, a semifinal and the final.

Birmingham, England's second largest city with a population of more than one million, lies in the west Midlands and is home to Premier league team Aston Villa and Birmingham of the First Division.

Villa Park, home of Aston Villa, will host three first round matches, involving the Netherlands, Scotland and Switzerland, and one quarter-final.

Birmingham, an industrial city, known for car building, will be laying on music and street entertainment during the championships.

Leeds which lies in west Yorkshire at the 'crossroads of Britain,' will be hosting matches involving France, Spain, Bulgaria and Romania at Elland Road, home of Premier league Leeds United.

Home to 700,000, Leeds is trying to shed its image as a grey, industrial city with an urban regeneration programme, which embraces 24-hour pavement cafe culture. Leeds has set up a fan camp

with huge marquees for back-packing supporters to sleep in and has opened an exhibition called more than a game' a celebration of soccer culture from the fan's perspective.

Liverpool, birthplace of the Beatles and famed for its seaport is home to rival English Premier league teams Liverpool and Everton. The city in the north west of England has a population of 450,000, nicknamed 'scousers.'

Anfield home of Liverpool, will host matches involving Italy, Russia and the Czech Republic and one-quarter final.

Euro '96 celebrations will include a Lord Mayor's parade, a river festival on the Mersey, street entertainment comedy, concerts and a festival in Stanley Park near the Anfield ground.

Manchester, the world's first industrial city is home to pop groups Simply Red; Take That and Oasis. Manchester United won the Premier league and FA Cup, their second double, but neighbours Manchester City were relegated to the First Division.

The city, with a population of 500,000 Mancunians will be hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2002.

Old Trafford home of Manchester United, will host games involving Russia, Germany, Czech Republic and Italy and will also hold one quarter-final and a semifinal.

Manchester's night clubs such as 'the Hacienda' are laying on the main events for Euro '96 and the pubs, clubs and restaurants in the city have been granted a special licence to stay open later than usual.

Newcastle, once famous for shipbuilding and coalmining, is now listed as one of the world's top 10 'party' cities. The population of 300,000

are called 'Geordies' after mad King George IV but the name is now used as a term of affection and to describe the local dialect.

The city is hosting matches involving France, Bulgaria and Romania at St James's Park, home of Newcastle United the team which finished second in the English championship this year.

The city is laying on 40 events a day to keep fans busy, including a reconstruction of the little known great fire of Newcastle and a huge not until midnight beer tent. Europe's biggest travelling funfair also visited the city in June.

Nottingham is an industrial city in the heart of England, with a population of 300,000. The city is home to Premier league Nottingham Forest, named after nearby Sherwood Forest where Robin Hood and his merry men are said to have lived.

The city ground Nottingham Forest's home ground will host matches involving Turkey, Croatia and Portugal.

During the championship the city is also holding the international festival of football for the disabled and a medal pageant.

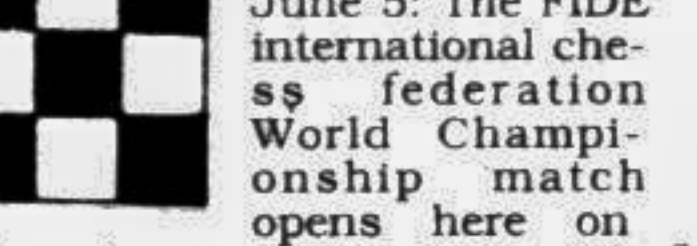
Sheffield home of the British steel industry is a city of 600,000 surrounded by the Peak District National Park. The city is home to first Division Sheffield United and Premier league Sheffield Wednesday.

Hillsborough, the home of Sheffield Wednesday, will host matches involving Denmark, Portugal, Turkey and Croatia.

Sheffield has pioneered the return of the tram to Britain's streets. The city is holding a range of street entertainment for visiting fans including a carnival style European welcome and a jazz festival.

FIDE World Championship begins today

Karpov puts title on line



ELISTA, Russia, June 5: The FIDE international chess federation World Championship match opens here on Thursday with Russian title holder Anatoly Karpov defending against Gata Kamsky in the American colours, reports AFP.

The 20-game tourney is set to run until July 14 with a two million dollar purse put up by an oil company and several Russian banks. Victory will go to the player who first reaches 10.5 points in a drawn ending or 11 points with an outright win.

The winner gets 937,500 dollars and the loser 562,500 both players having agreed to donate 500,000 dollars to a children's fund in Kalmykia.

The Caucasus republic's millionaire leader Kirsan Ilyumzhinov is also FIDE president. He at first tried to organise

the final in the Iraqi capital Baghdad. There was an outcry from European, American and Canadian chess federations.

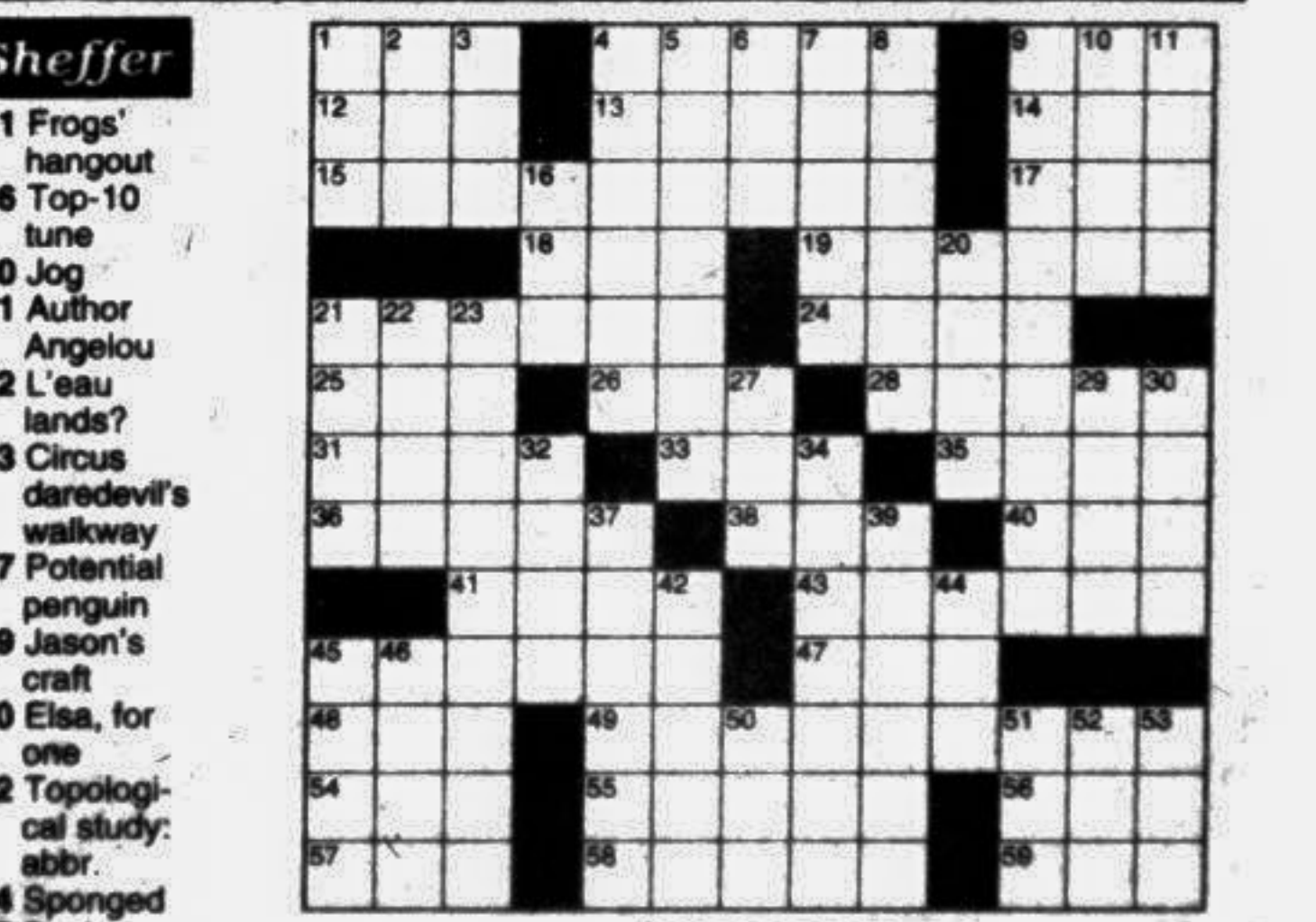
When the FIDE chief proposed his own capital of Elista instead, Kamsky again refused, fearing security problems for himself and his father who acts as his manager if they returned to Russia, but eventually changed his mind.

To become official challenger, the 22-year-old won candidates matches against Paul Vander Sterren of the Netherlands, India's rapid play star Viswanathan Anand, and the Russian Grand Master Valery Salvo.

Karpov, 45, is a veteran of the chess circuit. He was world champion from 1975 to 1985, when Russian superstar Garry Kasparov wrested the crown from him. Karpov became FIDE title holder by beating Holland's top player Jan Timman in 1993.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 36 - long way (last) 40 Past 41 Leading finish? 43 King of the fairies 45 'Aeneid' author 47 Ore, relative neighbor 48 Plati's partner 49 Koppel's 'forever' 54 Lagniappe stand 55 Hudson 57 Hudson costar 58 Language suffix 59 Common counter- 60 Lance part 61 Analogy for Michigan's lower peninsula 62 Segment 24 Clay, today 26 Reuben holder 28 Kingly 31 Salsicracker 33 Lao's studio 36 Adress Gair 38 Tray fill



CRYPTOQUIP NDUSTBUUKYT U NDKNFSTO UMT MDOAQ QM NB QAB B V V Y X X Y V B T Q Saturday's Cryptquip: HAMBURGER BURGLARS WERE CARTED AWAY TO THE POLICE STATION IN A PATTY WAGON. Today's Cryptquip clue: N equals B 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.



An AFP photo shows the official mascot of the '98 World Cup soccer. The cockerel was created by an artist from Montpellier, France.