

## Column One

## Sports

## WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

## Announcement

TWO BITS OF A GOOD NEWS!

Hey kids! From next week, WHIZZ KID-51 to be precise, there will be a new format.

Two weeks to send in entries.

Two thousand taka worth of prize bonds to win every fortnight.

## Sports WHIZZ KID competition-50

✓ Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m.

August 16, 1996)

1 The fastest man in the Atlanta Olympic Games is

Surn. Bailey Fredicks

2. Number of golds China won in the Atlanta Olympic Games are

12 14 16

3. Who is the skipper of Nigerian Olympic soccer team

Amokachi Kaju Rashidi

4. Who won the first ever Olympic gold for Burundi?

Batter Chelemo Nyongabo

5. Pakistan won their first Olympic hockey gold in

1964 1960 1968

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

## SPORTS TALK



Monica Seles

(American tennis star)  
"I am not as mentally strong as I was, but then I can't expect to be because I had a break at a crucial time in my career. But it's great to be back and I hope I can get there again."

After winning the Canadian Open title.

## Nat'l handball from Aug 20

## Sports Reporter

The national handball championship will be held in Jamalpur from August 20 under the aegis of the Bangladesh Handball Federation in coordination with the local Sports Association.

## DMFA boss steps down

President of the Dhaka Metropolis Football Association (DMFA) Shahidul Islam Chowdhury has resigned on personal grounds, an official said in Dhaka yesterday, reports BSS.

Islam was appointed president recently by the Bangladesh Football Federation.

Our Sports reporter adds: When contacted late last night, both Bangladeshi Football Federation and DMFA officials expressed their ignorance and surprise about Shahidul Islam's resignation.

## Habiganj lift DC Cup

HABIGANJ, Aug 13: Habiganj Eleven became champions in the Deputy Commissioner Gold Cup football tournament beating Chunraqhat Eleven by 3-1 at the local stadium on Thursday, reports UNB.

Eight teams from eight thanas — Sadar, Habiganj, Baniachong, Ajmiriganj, Lakhai, Chunraqhat, Madhabpur and Bahubal — took part in the tournament, organised by district Sports Council.

Sylhet Divisional Commissioner Mohammad Habibur Rahman witnessed the final and distributed prizes.

## TODAY'S MATCHES

Premier Division football  
(Venue: Dhaka Stadium)

Muktijoddha Sangsads KC vs Brothers Union Club (6 pm).

First Division football  
(Venue: Dhaka Stadium)

Shadhar Bima KS vs PWD (4 pm)

Open rating chess (round-8)

(Venue: NSC chess room (3 pm).



Mohammadans' midfield play-maker Arman (L) tries to shake off a challenge from East End defender Manik during their Danish Premier league opener at the floodlit Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Mohammadans won 2-1. — Star photo

## Shabbir's wizardly return

## Sports Reporter

Syed Rumman bin Wali Shabbir staged a magnificent come-back to competitive football to help title-aspirants kick off their Danish Premier league campaign with a 2-1 win over East End Club at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In front of a strong 20,000 crowd, it was an incredible and emotional return for the ace midfielder, who was out of action for the last couple of seasons after sustaining a serious knee-injury during a league match against PWD on that fateful night of August 17, 1994.

They lynchpin of Mohammadans, appearing on a rain-soaked pitch with his luminous career under the arclamp, put behind the blues of a long and lonely struggle — he played like a spring chicken; the same old flare was very much there.

The diminutive midfielder, with his deceptive runs down the middle and his same old crispy crosses and defence-splitting thoughts, not only revived the memories of his former prolific self, but also played the sheet anchor role in every Mohammadans attack. His stunning performance even overshadowed the lively presence of Arman.

Although Shabbir did not

score in the match, he was the man behind the early lead for Mohammadans with a swerving cross from the right in the 19th minute which East End's Arman Hossain, in a desperate bid to clear, shot into his own net to become the first player to score the first suicidal goal of the season.

Mohammadans, who stroked into the middle in a camouflage of their traditional back and white jersey, was buoyed by the electric presence of Shabbir in their first match against PWD on that fateful night of August 17, 1994.

With Shabbir, who along with Arman formed a formidable duo, Mohammadans got into action from the first whistle with a series of attacks down the right flank.

They got their first real scoring chance in the ninth minute when the Shabbir-Arman combination split the East End defence. But Arman's right-footer from inside the box was brilliantly thwarted by a diving custodian Tota at the cost of a corner.

After enjoying a 1-0 lead at the breather, Mohammadans, who impressed the gallery in their first appearance, pressed for more in the post-lunch session.

Their relentless efforts paid off in the 53rd minute when Ranjan, the fleet footed winger with a lethal left foot, marked an onrushing Tota in good

time to scoop the ball into the empty net (2-0).

However, over-ambitious and careless Mohammadans, went all out to the extent of exposing their defence and almost got a rude awakening for underestimating their opponents. The old town outfit, who gave them a horrid time after their substitute Monsur pulled a goal back in the 86th minute by heading a rebound off a pile driver from striker Saurav.

Saurav, who literally lived up to his fragrance, then gave the biggies a taxing time, enough to expose the shaky Mohammadans' defence till the final whistle. Captain Jewel Rana, was a particularly nervous starter in the match.

East End's Manik, Sagar and Muslim and Mohammadans' Arman were cautioned with the yellow card.

## TEAMS:

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir, Kaiser Hamid, Ruhul Amin, Jewel Rana, Mansur Ali, Manik, Iqbal, Shabbir, Ranjan, Arman (Biplobi) and Alfa.

EAST END CLUB: Tota, Mostafiz, Manik, Imon, Santosh (Sagar), Selim (Muslim Alami), Zahid Hossain (Mansur Ali), Ujjal, Arman Hossain, Ratan and Raju.

Referee: R Alam.

## Farashganj floor F'pool

## Sports Reporter

Farashganj Sporting Club began their Danish Premier Division football league campaign on a promising note when they recorded an upset solitary-goal victory over Young Men's Club Fakirpool in their opening league clash at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday afternoon.

In a low scoring affair held on a wet pitch caused by the afternoon shower, Farashganj striker Towhid netted the all-important match-winner in the last minute of the game.

It was a disappointing day for the Young Men's Club who had all the possibilities of emerging winner having dom-

inated the entire proceedings from the word "go". But, a few mis-cues by their heroes, who elevated their team's position to fourth in elite group last season, and some unplanned moves saw their efforts going in vain.

Striker Jalal spoiled the first opportunity for Young Men's Club as his close-range shot from a Towhid pass missed the far post in the 17th minute.

On the other hand Farashganj, who finished seventh last year, were busy all along guarding their fort against the Fakirpool offensives. And when the moment came their way, they took the lead without any hesitation.

It was a counter-offensive via which Farashganj striker Towhid got the ball inside the Young Men's territory from a right side floater and he confidently placed the ball home defeating a diving custodian Biman. Young Men's Mak-sudul Amin Rana was cautioned with a yellow card.

TEAMS

FARASHGANJ SC: Aminul, Montu, Abu Sufian, Nazrul, Ripon, Moin, Monir, Chanchal, Ritu (Akhtar), Munna (Alam/Reaz) and Towhid.

YMC PAKIRERPOOL: Bijan, Ibrahim, Reza, Sohel, Montu, Apu, Mamun (Moni), Askar Babu, Asif, Amin Rana and Jalal.

Referee: Shamsuddin Ahmed.

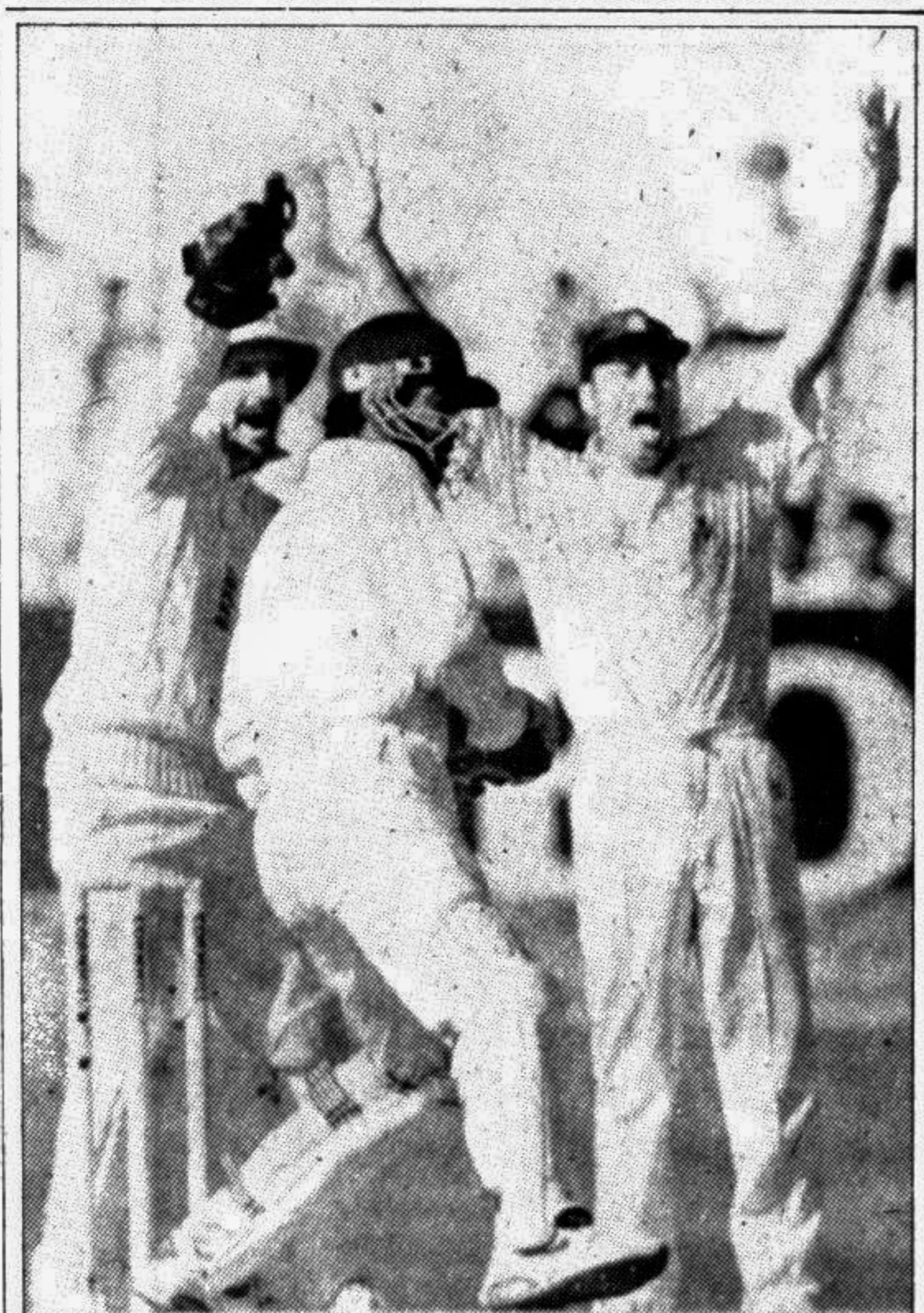
Final hockey camp from August 16

## Sports Reporter

The final training camp of the Bangladesh national hockey team, which will participate in the World Cup qualifiers, will begin at BKSP from August 16 under the supervision of coach Protap Sarker Hazra.

According to a press release of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation yesterday, 25 players were selected for the camp and instructed to report to the two posts of deputy secretary general.

The players are: Rashed Khan, Havilder Osman Gani, Rahmat Ali Asir, Mohammad Zaved, Rabiuuddin Ahmed, Shahidullah, Mamunur Rashid, M Isa Mia, Mahfuz Alam Nixon, Imtiaz Ahmed Shupu, M Hasan Roni, Khurshid Alam, Jahirul Islam, Mahabub Harun, Haidar Alam, M Musa Mia, Mirazul Pintoo, Faruqul Islam, Sirajul Islam Bachchu and Shahed Asgar Chowdhury, the source added.



England wicketkeeper Jack Russell and Nasser Hussain (R) make a successful lbw against Pakistan skipper Wasim Akram on the final day of the second Test at Headingley on Monday. — AFP/UNB photo

## Sport

## Maradona's belated wisdom

BUENOS AIRES, Aug 13: A day after abruptly ending his stint with local side Boca Juniors, Diego Maradona

said on Monday he was travelling to a private clinic in Switzerland to treat a recurring drug habit, reports Reuters.

"I'm doing this for my daughters who mean more than anything to me and I'm saying this so everyone knows I want to get totally cured," Maradona unexpectedly told local television. "I'm told there's an 80 per cent chance they will cure my addiction. I'll make up for the rest with grit and courage."

The State news agency Telam said the former Argentine captain, who announced he was quitting Boca Juniors on Sunday, boarded a plane for Switzerland at 10 pm on Monday (0100 GMT Tuesday).

Maradona, 35, was twice suspended from soccer for using drugs — in 1992 when he was playing for Italian club Napoli and during the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

He has also been arrested

## INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Aug 13: Swede Stefan Edberg put on a display of serve-and-volley supremacy

Monday night to defeat Australian Michael Tubb 6-2, 6-2, to reach the second round of the one million dollar RCA championships, reports AFP.

Edberg, the six-time Grand Slam champion who will retire in November, needed just 59 minutes to advance, winning 12 to 13 service points during one mid-match hot streak.

The 30-year-old Swede broke Tubb five times while losing his own serve only once.

After that misfire for 1-3 in the second set, Edberg bore down and broke straight back with a well-placed precision volley winner.

"I felt really solid, I missed a few at the end, but I was pleased with my performance," said Edberg, the ninth seed and ranked No. 26 on the ATP Tour.

"I know I can still play good tennis, but it is time to retire. The problem is staying fresh week after week. And by age 31 or 32, I think it is almost impossible to win a Grand Slam. For me, this year is the time to retire."

Edberg next faces Argentine Gaston Elliot who gave Andre Agassi a scare in

the first round of the Australian Open.

In earlier play three other seeds advanced.

Australia's Olympic gold medal doubles pair the Woodies proved that they both know how to play the singles game. Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde each won through into the second round.

No. 14 Woodbridge, a first round loser a week ago in Cincinnati, rolled over fellow Australian Scott Draper 6-3, 6-4.

Woodforde needed three sets to put out American qual-

ifier Wade McGuire, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Czech Petr Korda defeated determined Moroccan Hicham Arazi 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

German Bernd Korbacher, last year's losing finalist to Swede Thomas Enqvist, had no energy as he took a surprise 6-2, 6-0 defeat to unknown No. 109 Spaniard Ignacio Trujol.

"Nothing went my way today," said the German. "I played terrible, I couldn't concentrate. I made so many mistakes and didn't serve well."

Korbacher said that he has been bothered for several weeks by fatigue. "I had little headaches and thought the flu was coming up. I have no power, no energy on court. I'm so tired, I don't know what's going on."

Two Italian players came through. Stefano Pescosolido beat American Jonathan Stark 6-2, 6-3 while Cristiano Caratti came won a struggle to put out Croatian qualifier Sasa Hirson 7-5, 4-6, 7-5.

Briton Mark Petchey, another qualifier had lesser luck, losing a 5-2 lead in the opening set as Canadian Sebastien Lareau swept past into the second round 7-5, 6-2.

The victory could be a mixed blessing, as Lareau next faces holder Enqvist.

MONTHAN BEACH, California, Aug 13: Venus Williams made one of her infrequent appearances on the WTA Tour, overcame nerves and some rusty shotmaking to beat Ludmila Richterova 7-6 (7-3), 3-6, 6-2 in the 450,000 dollars Acura Classic on Monday night, report agencies.

Playing just her third tournament of the year, Williams fell behind 0-3 in the opening set against her Czech opponent. Eventually, the 16-year-old Williams, ranked 192nd in the world, harnessed her hard-hitting groundstrokes to improve her match record to 3-3 this year, and 6-6 in a limited pro career that began two years ago.

"I was a little nervous, but I figured that I didn't have time for that and there was nothing to lose," Williams said. "I didn't go out there to be nervous and after I finished being nervous I would've just lost, so I just had to wake up out of that."

Williams awoke in time to break Richterova's service twice in the opening set and race to a 6-1 lead in the best-of-7 tiebreaker. Three straight unforced errors by Richterova handed Williams the tiebreaker 7-3.

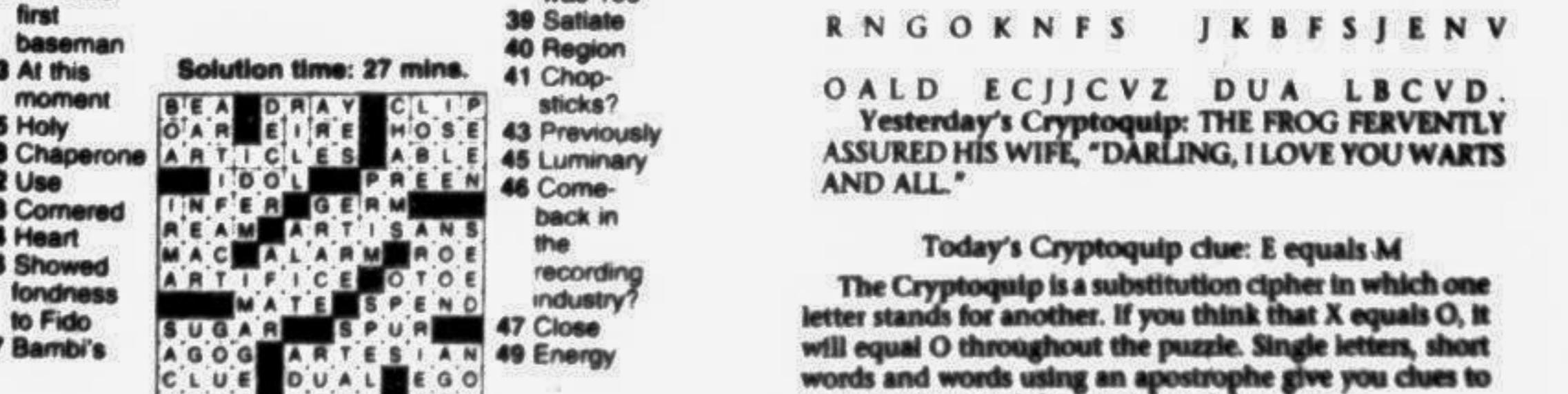
Richterova, 19, rolled through Williams in the second set.

Williams recovered in the third set. She broke Richterova to take a 3-1 lead, then served out a fifth game that went to deuce five times.

## VENUS WILLIAMS

Club: Williams recovered in the third set. She broke Richterova to take a 3-1 lead, then served out a fifth game that went to deuce five times.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer



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