

# Column One

## SPORTS TALK



**David John Richardson**  
(South Africa wicketkeeper)  
"I have been saying this for the last four years, 'this is my last season'. But I have kept going. I've got three young boys at home who need my attention, and a family. Maybe this could be my last season."

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

**competition-69**

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes 8 pm, May 16, '97

1	Who was adjudged man-of-the-final in the 6th ICC Trophy?	Pilot	Tikolo	Rahque
2	Who scored two half-centuries for Bangladesh in the 6th ICC Trophy?	Akram	Bulbul	Nannu
3	Who was the man-of-the-match in the second semifinal of the 6th ICC tournament?	Williamson	Pilot	Dumbe
4	How many centuries has Sanath Jayasuriya scored in Test cricket?	Two	Three	Four
5	How old was Denis Compton when he died?	75	78	79

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

### Fredericks' turn of speed

OSAKA, Japan, May 11: Double Olympic silver medalist Frankie Fredericks finished in under 20 seconds in a Grand Prix 200-metres Saturday, giving a firm early-season warning to Olympic and world champion Michael Johnson, reports AFP.

The Namibian beaten by Johnson over 200 metres at the Atlanta Olympics and the 1995 World Championships broke away with powerful strides to win in 19.90 sec at the second round of the Grand Prix Tour.

Kevin Little finished second in 20.29 with another American Todd Long third in 20.55.

Johnson, who set the world record of 19.32 at Atlanta needed 20.29 sec to win the season opening Grand Prix at Rio last week in Fredericks' absence.

The American sprinter skipped the Osaka meet which featured six Atlanta gold medalists but failed to produce any serious threat to world records.

The 29-year-old who also lost to Canadian Donovan Bailey over 100 metres at Atlanta has yet to decide in which sprint event he will compete at the World Championships at Athens in August.

"In any case, I will do my best," he said.

World and Olympic javelin throw champion Jan Zelezny unbeaten since the 1992 Barcelona Olympics came nowhere close to his year old world record of 98.48 metres despite a big build up.

The organisers had installed a hand written 100metre marker on the field for the Czech who threw 94.02 metres in South Africa in March, but he could do not better than his third attempt which went 88.24 metres.

American Derrick Adkins the Olympic and world 400m hurdles champion, beat his archrival Samuel Matete of Zambia by four hundredths of a second in an exhibition race which did not count toward the Grand Prix standings.

Jamaican James Beckford, the long jump silver medalist at Atlanta soared 8.30m to his second straight Grand Prix win with Americans Sean Fobbs and Eric Walder second and third at 8.01m and 7.99m.

In the women's 400m hurdles Jamaican Olympic champion Deon Hemmings overtook Atlanta runner up and world record holder Kim Batten of the United States in the last 10 metres to win in 53.85 sec. Batten trailed home 0.24 seconds behind.

# Akram hits crucial ton

**Skipper Akram Khan** scored a level-headed unbeaten century to guide holders Chittagong to an imposing first innings lead of 185 runs against Bangladesh Biman on the second day of the 23rd national cricket championship final at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

## BRIEF SCORES

**BANGLADESH BIMAN:** First innings 109 all out in 67 overs (Atiar 44, Halim Shah 37 not out; Zakir 5/35, Enamul 3/25)

**CHITTAGONG:** First innings 294 (15 overnight) for five in 95 overs (Akram 100 n.o., Nannu 76, Azam Iqbal 45, Masum 45; Athar 2/62, Shovon 44/2)



AKRAM ... 100 n.o.

beaten 95 in Chittagong's semi-final victory against Dhaka University, ran towards both Asgar and Mahboob — the two umpires of the four-day final, protesting the caught behind decision as a confused Mahboob declared him out after consulting with the leg umpire.

Akram, who came into bat at

couple against Biman skipper and off-spinner Ziaur Rashid Rupon. Rupon, however, finally had his tormentor caught by Munna at mid-on with eight balls remaining on the day.

But Akram, the champion Bangladesh skipper, made the most of a couple of left-offs by the butter-fingered Biman fielders to reach the magical three figure mark.

The right-handed stroke-maker in his undefeated 158-ball vigil hammered a quartet of fours. He offered a hot return catch to Munna while on only three which the Biman new-ball bowler failed to cling on. And at the nervous nineties, the beefy Chittagonean spooned a simple catch to his Biman counterpart Rupon at extra cover. But Rupon spilled the sitter.

Earlier, openers Zahid Razak Masum and Azam Iqbal, resuming the Chittagong innings in the morning with overnight scores of 15 for no loss, laid the solid foundation for a commanding total putting on 83 runs in 26.3 overs. Both Masum, the former national opener, and young Azam Iqbal chipped in with 45 runs before being dismissed in quick succession.

Masum, the more aggressive



Chittagong middle-order bat Minhazul Abedin Nannu works the ball during his patient knock of 76 on the second day of the 23rd national cricket final against Bangladesh Biman at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

of their first innings quota of 100 overs today.

The otherwise engrossing battle of the two worthy opponents, who were pitting in a repeat clash, was, however, soured to a great extent when national wicketkeeper Khaled Masood Pilot, in a shameful gesture of unsportsmanship to fash his ICC heroics in Malaysia, made an ugly protest after being declared caught behind.

Pilot, who scored a fine un-

his customary position of number five, shared 171 runs for the fourth wicket with Minhazul Abedin Nannu. The two national stalwarts, who virtually set the field afire after the drinks interval in the afternoon, plundered 91 runs from the last 16 overs before Nannu departed for a dazzling 74.

In his 159-ball stay at the crease the most experienced cricketer of the country clouted three towering sixes including a

of the two, hammered seven firmly hits across the rope in his 88-ball knock before being caught at long-off by Shovon. While Azam, the most consistent performer in the meet, clubbed two fours in his patient 123-ball vigil before being clean bowled by seamer Athar Ali Khan.

But once the two were separated Chittagong suffered a stunning collapse losing four wickets for the addition of 31 runs to the total.

# Game Five ends a draw

**NEW YORK, May 11:** World chess champion Garry Kasparov and IBM supercomputer Deep Blue looked to a sixth and final game to determine the winner of their rematch after man and machine played to a draw Saturday, reports AFP.

A visibly exasperated Kasparov agreed to a draw even though his white pieces had dominated play throughout the game, which was harder fought than the previous games in the 1.1 million-dollar tournament.

"I saw the draw in move forty," Kasparov, 34, said on emerging from the isolated conference room in which he and Deep Blue played their 49-move draw that evened the score at 2.5 points apiece.

"That was probably the cleanest game in the match. It was very close and it has been a miracle that the black could save the game," he added.

Kasparov, world champions since 1985, is to play the final game Sunday with the black pieces, but was undaunted by the theoretical disadvantage at

which that placed him.

"I will do better moves," he said, recognising that his electronic adversary — eight years in the making — is an "outstanding scientific achievement."

Chung-Jen Tan, the head of the IBM team that created Deep Blue, agreed that "The baby is doing very well."

Deep Blue, which can calculate 200 million possible moves per second, lost the first game, won the second and the drew the last three games.

"The computer has not won a game, I have lost one," Kasparov told chuckling audience that has followed the match in the basement of an insurance company's headquarters here.

Each draw is worth half a point, while a win earns one point.

Should man and machine tie again Sunday, the purse will be shared between them.

Kasparov beat Deep Blue's predecessor last year in Philadelphia, but the champion has struggled against the new version, which is twice as fast.

IBM has denied it was using the highly publicised match up to work on an artificial intelli-

gence project.

Chess and artificial intelligence expert Frederic Friedel, a member of Kasparov's team, said Deep Blue has an intelligence of its own.

"Extremely Deep searches turn into strategic behaviours," he told AFP, adding "I hope very much we could have access to the computer's programmes."

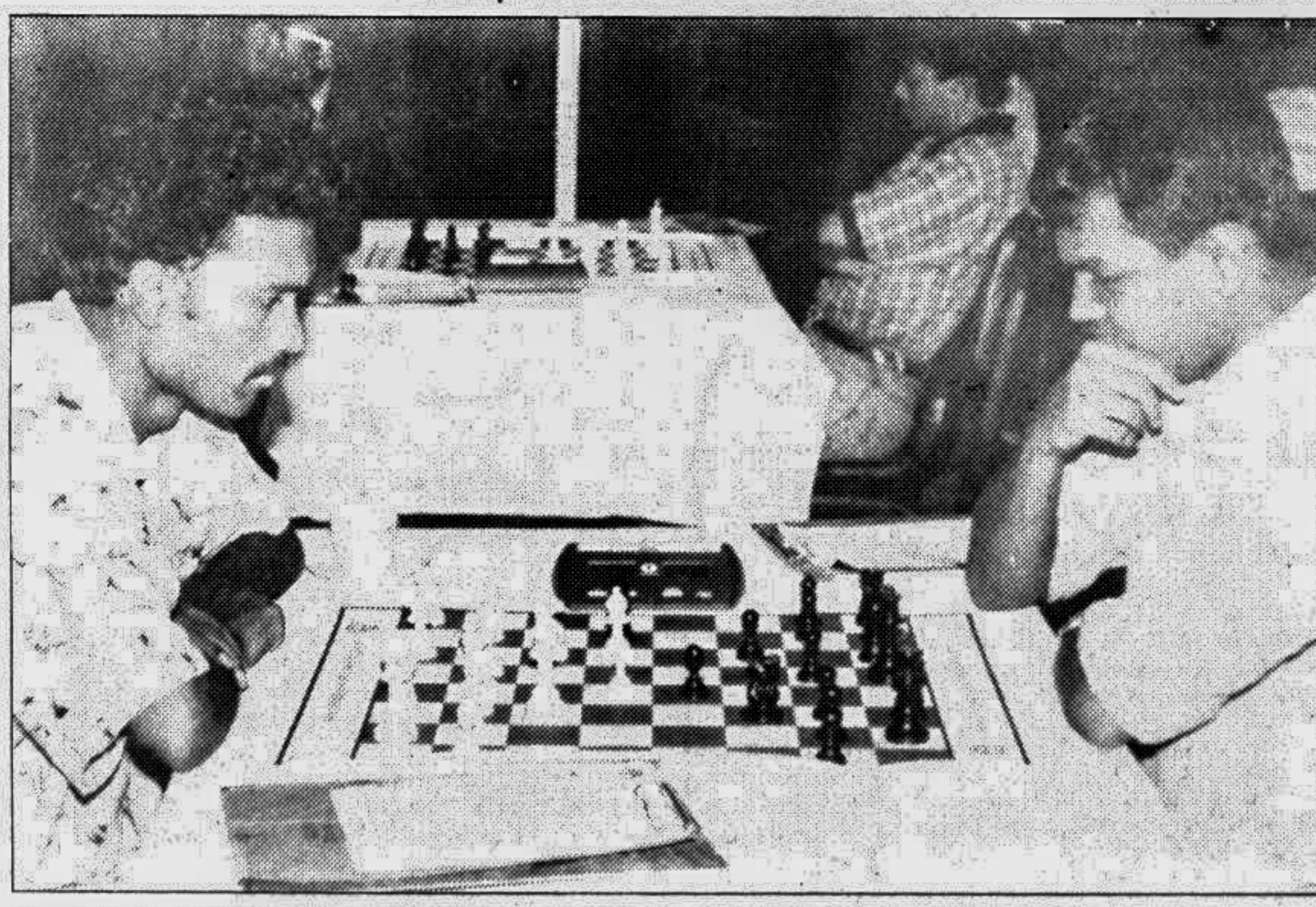
"We would like to put Deep Blue on the Internet and make it available to the public," Chung-Jen Tan said without commenting on the possibility of granting access to the programme itself.

Asked what changes had been made to the supercomputer since the tournament began, he said IBM took "Deep Blue for a walk this morning."

The computer scientist then said his team fixed a few programme 'bugs' that appeared in previous games.

Friedel said that for Kasparov "the most important driving force here is curiosity."

"It is like (formula One race car driver) Michael Schumacher faced with a 4,000 horse-power Ferrari: Of course he would like to drive it."



Scene from yesterday's engagements in the 23rd national chess championship at NSC.

# Rezaul suffers setback

**The smooth going of Rezaul Haq** in the 23rd national chess championship suffered a severe jolt when the FIDE Master conceded his first defeat at the hands of Abu Sufian in fifth round of 15-round Swiss league meet at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

The Biman contender, who was leading the table with four wins on the trot, suddenly found the going tough against Shaki's Ruy Lopez Opening and surrendered after 39 moves. As Rezaul faltered, it was Enamul Hossain Rajib who made the most of the formers debacle to join him on the top slot — both having collected four points each from five games.

In this round Rajib defeated Shiplu to score his fourth consecutive defeat after a horrible start. Playing with black pieces Rajib, one of the few firm title contenders in the absence of two stalwarts — IM Ziaur Rahman and IM Rezaul-bin Sattar — tamed an unheralded Shiplu after 53 moves on the board.

The day was also marked by a stunning defeat of Khandakar Kayes Hassan. The experienced player, who was trailing table leader Rezaul by a half points at the end of the fourth round, bit the dust when Mintu earned resignation from Kayes after 34-moves.

The two are now sharing the second spot with three and a half points each.

No matches except the adjourned affair between Pallab and Arif will be held today, the scheduled rest day.

Standings 4 points — Rezaul and Rajib; 3.5 — Kayes and Mintu; 3 points — Rakib, Lovlu, Sumon and Shakil; 2 points — Shiplu, Nafiz, Masum and Pallab (played one game less); 1.5 points — Arif (played one game less) and Javed; 1 point — Amir.

Office cricket league in May

Office cricket league 1996-97 under the supervision of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will begin at the end of this month, reports UNB.

A BCB press release said yesterday, Dhaka-based government, non-government, autonomous organisations, semi-government offices, banks and insurance companies will be able to take part in the meet.

The BCB, also requested the interested teams to enlist their entry with Tk 10,000 fees by Thursday.

Div I v'ball results

Country's two volleyball giants, Bangladesh Rifles and Titus Club, registered their second consecutive victories in the National Bank Metropolitan Division volleyball league yesterday, reports UNB.

The riflemen beat Dhaka Shabuj by 15-13, 15-10, 15-14 points while Titus Club defeated old horse Wari Club by 15-9, 15-12, 15-8 points in the afternoon.

In the day's other matches, Bangladesh Bank overcame Sonali Bank 15-9, 15-8, 8-15, 15-10 while Water development Board got walkover against Brothers Union.

# Another reception

Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim will host a reception to the ICC Trophy champions Bangladesh team members at a local hotel yesterday, reports UNB.

State Minister for Youth, Sports Obaidul Quader, BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP and Bangladesh T&T Board chairman MA Mannan Chowdhury will attend the function.

# S'pore booter charged

**SINGAPORE, May 11:** A Singapore footballer has been charged with bribery and conspiracy to fix matches in the city-state's fledgling professional league, the Sunday Times reported, reports AFP.

Devaraj Doraiswamy, 30, former midfielder for the Woodlands Wellington Club, was granted bail of 50,000 dollars (\$35,714 US) after being charged Saturday, the newspaper said.

Three alleged bookmakers, one of whom is on the run, were charged over the conspiracy earlier this month.

Devaraj and three other players were mentioned then in the court charges brought by the corrupt practices investigation bureau. Their clubs were directed by the Singapore League Board not to field them in the ongoing competition.

Devaraj allegedly received 10,000 dollars after Woodlands lost a match to the Sembawang Rangers Club in May last year, the Sunday Times said.

He was also charged with accepting 1,400 dollars after Woodlands suffered a 1-5 loss in August to Balestier Central, and in October, it was claimed he offered 5,000 dollars to goalkeeper Sandro Radun as a reward for his alleged part in fixing a third match.

The maximum penalty for soccer corruption is a 100,000-dollar fine or five years' jail.

Singapore introduced its own league in 1996 after pulling out from an elaborate league in neighbouring Malaysia, following accusations that it was not doing enough to stamp out soccer bribery.



Victoria custodian Shahidullah, who has a taxing time under the bar, thwarting an attempt from Usha's centre forward Mohammad Sadeq (grounded) during one of yesterday's two Green Delta Insurance First Division league matches at the National Hockey Stadium.

# Tutul joins hattrick club

**Title aspirants Usha Kirra Chakra** extended their impressive all-win record to three with a 8-0 whitewash of promotes Victoria Sporting Club in one of the two Green Delta Insurance First Division hockey league matches, billed at the National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 2-0.

The Usha goal feast was marked by a hattrick from Tutul Kumar Nag. The nimble centre-half scored all the three goals in the second session of a lop-sided affair. Playing in the shadow of the two most prolific scorers in the domestic circuit — Mohammed Sadeq and Kamal — Tutul struck his first goal in the 40th from a penalty corner.

Tutul added his second and Usha's fifth goal two minutes later capitalising on a pass from national stalwart Mohammed Sadeq deep inside the opponents box. Sadeq, who had earlier opened the floodgates scoring the first goal in the ninth minute of the proceedings, then set up Tutul with yet another gem of a pass for his hattrick.

It was the seventh hattrick in the league so far and incidentally, Tutul treble was the third on the trot for Usha after Kamal's hattrick in successive matches.

But Kamal, who scored seven goals in his side's previous two matches, failed to live up to his reputation in yesterday's match. Although the young centre-

forward remained off-colour most of the time, however, scored the seventh goal for his side in the 55th minute.

While Sadeq, the ever energetic Usha play-maker, fittingly sealed a thumping defeat punching in the last goal nine minutes from the final whistle.

With this win Usha joined defending champions Mohammediyan Sporting Club, Abahani Kirra Chakra and Mariner Youngs in the crowded top slot — all having collected nine points each from three outings.

On the other hand it was Victoria's third successive defeat in the 18-team meet.

## SONALI BANK, AZAD SPLIT POINTS

Meanwhile, in the first match of the day, Sonali Bank and Azad Sporting Club shared honours to a two all draw.

In a sea-saw battle between the two mediocre outfits, Asif Imtiaz put the Bankers into the lead in the 14th minute through a nice field goal. But their joy was short-lived as Azad restored parity seven minutes later when Rubel stepped up to convert a penalty stroke.

Habul then gave Azad a 2-1 lead four minutes from the lemon break before Shameem made it 2-2 seven minutes into the second half.

## PETE set for alien war

**ROME, May 11** (Agencies): Pete Sampras is giving dreaded clay another shot.

The world's No 1 ranked player heads a field of the tour's top talent in the 2.3 million dollars men's edition of the Italian Open, which begins Monday on the slow red surface.

For Sampras, especially, it is required preparation for his bid to capture the French Open and put to rest any doubts that he's a complete player. The French is the only Grand Slam played on clay and the only one he's never won.

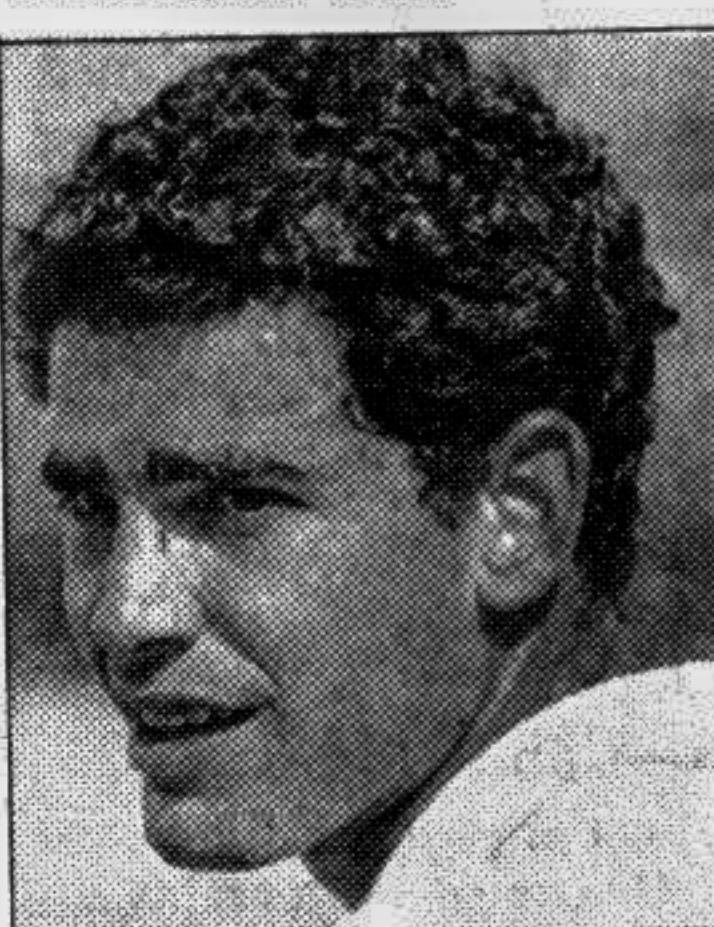
This year, the competition in Rome is particularly stiff. Nine of the 10 top-ranked players and 17 of the top 20 are entered.

They include two-time defending champion Thomas Muster, last year's French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Michael Chang, Marcelo Rios, a host of European clay court specialists, as well as big hitters like Boris Becker and Goran Ivanisevic.

Sampras captured the Italian title in 1994, showing he can win on the surface although his record on clay since has not been encouraging. He's won the Australian Open and two other titles this year, but at Monte Carlo, in his only taste of clay, he was ousted in his first match. He lost in three sets to Magnus Larsson, who is ranked 40 places below Sampras.

"It's the same story with me on clay," he lamented after his elimination. "On hard courts, it just comes naturally."

While Sampras' familiarity on clay is well known, Muster's showing this season has been a



PETE SAMPRAS

Speaking of futility, Becker, one of the big crowd favourites at the Foro Italico, is still seeking the first major clay court title of his career. Given the field, it should be tough going for him.

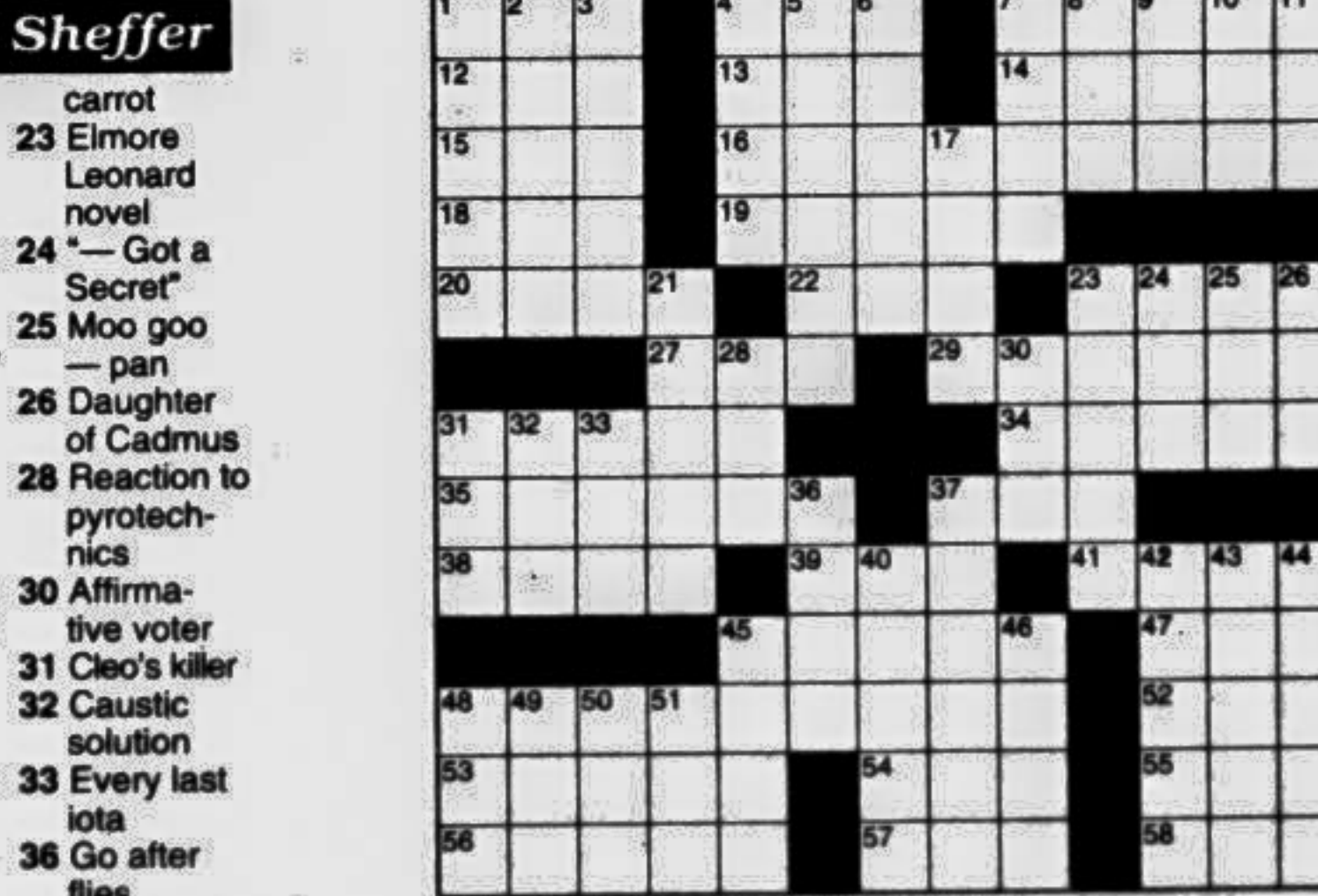
To do so, Becker would have to see off two of the world's most accomplished clay-court players: Russia's reigning French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov — in ominous form in Hamburg last week — and world number three Michael Chang.

## Horse-trading over Hesp

**AMSTERDAM, May 11:** Barcelona have begun negotiations with Dutch Cup winners Roda JC over the transfer of goalkeeper Ruud Hesp, Dutch media reported today, reports Reuter.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Get all the gravy
  - 4 Upper boundary
  - 7 Miserly
  - 12 Half a dance
  - 13 "— Blue?"
  - 14 Egg: Sp.
  - 15 Crow need
  - 16 There are four in Con-necticut
  - 18 Calendar abbr.
  - 19 Tolerated
  - 20 Hunger
  - 22 Call energy source
  - 23 Lerner & Loewe show
  - 27 A billion years
  - 29 Woody
  - 31 Memorable mission
  - 34 Farm refrain
  - 35 Slender, graceful women
  - 37 "Down"
  - 38 Hide
  - 39 Experienced
- DOWN**
- 2 Actress Maureen
  - 3 Helen's captor
  - 4 One of the Mamas
  - 5 "The Joy Luck Club"
  - 6 author
  - 7 Siltom sample
  - 8 Neighbor of Libya
  - 9 Nickname for Boston
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  - 11 Type units
  - 12 Castilian king
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**CRYPTOQUIP**

X N P X - R N T N E P Y M T N B  
A V O I A O I B W M M R  
A N E W B V X B Z T B M U V B  
P M V A M Y O E Z U O E A  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DO THE ENGLISH REALLY LIKE TO CALL LITTLE WHITE AND GRAY CATS? KITTENS.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: U equals F

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.