

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Richard Krajicek
(Dutch tennis player)
"How well can you sleep the night before playing a Wimbledon final?"
Recalling his feelings before the final against Maliw Washington in 1996.

Boost sports
WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-74
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Competition closes 8 pm,
July 25, '97

1 Who lifted the Wimbledon ladies' singles crown this year?
Majali Hings Vicario

2 How many times has Sampras won the Wimbledon?
Two Three Four

3 Which nation clinched the Copa America title?
Brazil Peru Bolivia

4 Who became champions in the World Youth Soccer Cup?
Ghana Colombia Argentina

5 Who won this year's Green Delta First Division hockey league title?
Mohammedan Abahani Usha

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: ()

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Chinese soccer roundup

BEIJING, July 21: Dalian Wanda, defending champions in the Chinese soccer league, were held to a 1-1 draw on Sunday by the 11th-ranked Army team, August 1, the Xinhua news agency said, reports Reuters.

Beijing Guo An recovered from a 5-1 defeat to Dalian last week to hammer Shanghai Shenhua 9-1 at home. Beijing dominated the match, with three of their foreign players scoring eight of the nine goals.

The home players had built up a 5-1 lead in the first half and never relaxed their grip. Xinhua said.

The win promoted Beijing from fourth spot to second in the league standing after 10 rounds.

Dalian, top of the standings since the start of the season, kept their unbeaten record although it was forced to a 1-1 tie by August 1.

Guangdong Hongyuan edged Tianjin Samsung 2-1.

In three other drawn matches, Yanbian Aodong drew Guangzhou Apollo 0-0, Jinan Taishan held Vanguard Huan-dao 2-2 and Sichuan Quanzing tied Qingdao Hainiu 1-1.

Kruger lifts Czech Open

PRAGUE, July 21: South Africa's Joanne Kruger won a rain-delayed Czech Open Women's tennis tournament on Sunday, beating Marion Maruska of Austria in straight sets in less than an hour, reports Reuters.

Kruger's 6-1, 6-1 victory came at the end of a long day.

Heavy rain meant there was no play on Saturday, forcing the organisers to schedule the semifinals for Sunday morning.

In those semis, Kruger overcame some stubborn early resistance from Germany's Veronika Martinek to eventually win 7-5, 6-1.

Maruska reached the final after a 6-2, 6-1 win over Catalina Cristea of Romania.

But despite being in the final, the two had to wait to play it as the rains came again.

They had just warmed up when rain began to fall again, driving them back to the dressing room.

Testud wins WTA tourney

PALERMO, Sicily, July 21: Result Sunday of the final in the 163,000 dollars Palermo WTA tournament (seedings in parentheses):

Sandrine Testud (2) of France beat Elena Makarova of Russia 7-5, 6-3.

Arambagh owe ref one

Sports Reporter



Arambagh Kira Chakra moved into the first round Group D final of the Rupali Insurance Cup Federation Cup football tournament after defeating Police Athletics Club in the tie-breaker (4-1) in one of the two matches played at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

After a see-saw 90-minute affair which ended in a 1-1 draw, Bidyut, Ershad, Apu and Senegalese forward Yusuf Mobab Phal successfully converted the spot kicks for the winners while Monir was the lone man for Police to succeed in the tie-breaker after Biplab and Jahangir comfortably spoiled their chances.

Navy aquatic on

CHITTAGONG, July 21: The annual swimming and water-polo championship of the Bangladesh Navy got underway at the Area Sports Complex Swimming Pool at the BNS Issa Khan here today, says a press release.

Four swimming events were finalised while two water-polo qualifying matches were held on the opening day.

Earlier, a first half goal by striker Tara Miah almost assured Police of an upset victory until the 86th minute. Winger Emdad sent a neat cross to the unguarded striker who sent the ball home with a magnificent header past Arambagh custodian Tony. But a controversial penalty, late second half saved Arambagh's blushes against the First Division side.

Bidyut, converted from the spot.

It was not clear why the penalty was awarded to Arambagh as the Motijheel outfit's Bidyut brought down an unidentified Police defender inside the box. But referee Tayeb Hasan Babu signalled the spot and Bidyut shot the ball home to equalise the match.

After the match when asked to comment on his decision, a smiling Tayeb informed that Bidyut was pulled by a Police defender inside the danger area. However, he failed to identify the Police defender. When asked again that why he did not show any card for that offence, the referee said that there was no good reason to show a card as the move was not goal bound but he was well convinced in awarding the penalty.

In the Group D final scheduled on July 24, Arambagh will take Bangladesh Boys Club who earlier in the day recorded a 3-1 victory over Badda Jagarani Sangsad.

The winners led the first half 1-0.

Forwards Bapan, Masud Rana and Tapash struck one goal each for the Boys in the 27th, 58th and 89th minutes respectively while Biswajit pulled one back for Badda Jagarani in the 57th minute.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Rahmatganj MFS vs BRTC SC (4 pm)
Farashganj SC vs Shantinar Club (6 pm)

Ctg Area Army soccer champs

COMILLA, July 21: The Chittagong Area won the annual football championship of Bangladesh Army which concluded at the Comilla Cantonment today, says a press release.

They defeated the reigning champions Jessore Area team 5-4 in the tie-breaker. The scheduled extra-time ended goalless.



Colombian Carlos Valderrama (L) loses his balance in checking Ecuadorian Hector Caravali (R) during their World Cup qualifier in Barranquilla, Colombia on July 20. The home side won 1-0.

Argentines move atop

UNDATED, July 21: Argentina had to be content with a modest 2-0 win over Venezuela, the team with the weakest defence

in South America, in their World Cup qualifier on Sunday, report agencies.

The result — Argentina's fourth successive win in the qualifying tournament — left the two-time world champions all but mathematically certain of a place in France next year having earned 24 points.

But the final score was a disappointment to the capacity crowd at the River Plate Stadium in Buenos Aires, who had been expecting a handful of goals against a team that has conceded 34 in their previous 12 games.

Hernan Crespo opened the scoring after half an hour, just as the crowd was beginning to get on Argentina's backs, and substitute Pablo Paz headed the second eleven minutes into the second half.

Crespo's goal partially compensated Argentina coach Daniel Passarella for the abuse he has received for keeping the striker in the team at the expense of Gabriel Batistuta.

Argentina dominated the game from start to finish but they were defied time and again by world class goalkeeping from Rafael Dudamel.

Dudamel, however, had no chance when Crespo, receiving possibly the only accurate pass his striking partner Claudio Lopez managed in the entire game, beat a defender and scored from close range in the 30th minute.

Venezuela's also defenders cleared two balls off the goal-line before halftime and survived a penalty claim when Javier Zanetti went tumbling

STANDINGS									
South America World Cup qualifying table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for/against points):									
ARG	13	7	4	2	20	11	24		
PAR	12	7	2	3	17	10	23		
COL	13	6	3	4	18	14	21		
CHL	12	5	4	3	24	15	19		
BOL	12	4	5	3	17	12	17		
PER	12	4	4	4	13	15	16		
ECU	13	4	3	6	16	15	15		
URU	12	4	2	6	11	16	14		
VEN	13	0	3	10	8	36	3		

over in the area.

Argentina goalkeeper Carlos Roa made his only difficult save of the game one minute after Crespo's goal, tipping a curling free kick by Gabriel Miranda over the crossbar.

Paz came on when central defender Roberto Ayala was injured in the 49th minute and seven minutes later rose to head Marcelo afterward, Dudamel produced his best save of the day when he blocked a drive by

Lopez at almost point-black range.

Despite facing modest opposition, Argentina also showed the side of the game that has made them unpopular among many fans.

Substitute Gallardo showed he had been booked for attempting to win a penalty with a blatant dive in the first half while the Venezuelan players were victims of numerous rash challenges.

In Barranquilla, hosts Colombia who had taken just one point from their last five qualifiers, scored a dramatic last-gasp goal to beat Ecuador 1-0.

Substitute Antony de Avila's 86th minute effort ended several months of suffering for Colombia but was a bitter pill for Ecuador, whose chances of a first World Cup appearance took a severe knock.

Colombia stayed third in the group with 21 points from 13 games, while Ecuador dropped to seventh with 15 from 13 games. The top four teams go to France next year.

Colombia coach Hernan Dario Gomez had said beforehand that he would resign if the team failed to win at times it looked as if would have a new coach.

Jose Gavica missed an excellent chance for Ecuador, who are coached by former Colombia boss Francisco Maturana, in the 20th minute.

Away in Santiago, Ivan Zamorano scored one goal in each half to give Chile a 2-1 victory over Paraguay.

With four matches to go in the qualifying series, Chile now have 19 points. Paraguay have 23 and are a strong candidate to clinch one of the South American spots.

Zamorano, the star striker of Inter Milan, scored in the eighth minute from a penalty and again at the 47th with a header. Hugo Bruzuela reduced the margin for Paraguay.

A perfectly executed free kick by Marco Etcheverry gave hosts Bolivia a 1-0 win over Uruguay kept alive their faint hopes of qualifying for the finals in France.

But the result was a disaster for the Uruguayans who began the day eighth in the nine-team group with 14 points from 11 games.

Etcheverry chipped a free kick over the Uruguayan wall and into the top corner in the 75th minute to end an afternoon of suffering for Bolivia, who dominated the match but could not turn their superiority into goals.

Uruguay arrived ten days before the game to acclimatise to the altitude of La Paz, 3,600 metres above sea level. Despite their need for a win, they showed no interest in attacking and veteran midfielder Enzo Francescoli was substituted early in the second half.

Bolivia with 17 points are fifth and must play their final four matches — against Colombia, Paraguay, Ecuador and Chile — away from home.

Hilarious!

Sports Reporter

Referee Tajul Islam made a fool of himself in his first appearance in the Federation Cup yesterday.

The man in uniform, one of the few new faces to officiate in the big league, showed three yellow cards to march off substitute striker Mamun of the Bangladesh Boys, igniting a growing dissatisfaction over sub-standard refereeing in the domestic football.

Tajul booked the substitute player first shortly after the lemon break and then went on to show the second in the 35th minute. And quite surprisingly though, he forgot to send off the offender with an ultimate red card. After a brief protest, Munna realised the mistake of the referee and quietly resumed play again, pretending nothing had happened.

But the comedy was also witnessed by a nosy reporter at the stand and he did not hesitate to stop the happy-go-lucky Mamun. When the referee was told about the error through an official, he called Mamun in and promptly flashed the yellow card once before showing him the dreaded red.

Borrusia beat Bochum

KOBLENZ, Germany, July 21: European champions Borussia Dortmund warmed up for the German soccer season with a 1-0 win over VfL Bochum in the new League Cup tournament on Sunday, reports Reuters.

A foul by Bochum defender Peter Peschel on midfielder Joerg Heinrich gave Dortmund a last minute penalty which Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat converted for the only goal of the game.

The lucrative new tournament, featuring the top six teams of last season's championship, replaces the traditional Supercup between the champions and the cup winners as the curtain-raiser to the Bundesliga, which starts on August 2.

The win allowed Dortmund to qualify for the semifinals and make sure of a one million marks (\$500,000 dollars) cheque. They go on to meet champions Bayern Munich in a potentially exciting semifinal clash on Wednesday in Augsburg.

Stuttgart meet Karlsruhe in the other semifinal on Tuesday in Osnabrueck.

Dortmund, who came third in the Bundesliga last season, have largely the same team that won the European Cup against Juventus in May, but are now coached by Italian Nevio Scala, who has replaced Ottmar Hitzfeld who has become the club's sports director.

Mercedes Cup Corretja's

STUTTGART, July 21: Alex Corretja of Spain won his third clay court title of the season Sunday, defeating Karol Kucera of Slovakia, in the 1.04 million dollars Mercedes Cup Stuttgart, reports AP.

Corretja jumped off to a quick start taking charge in the final's first set with Kucera struggling to keep up with the Spaniard's masterful baseline play.

But with Corretja leading 5-2 in the second set, Kucera held his serve in the eighth game and came back to break serve the next.

Corretja fought back to deuce with Kucera serving in the 10th game, but the Slovak held on to tie it at 5-5.

Corretja then held his serve and broke Kucera in the last game with a sideline passing shot impossible to reach.

Corretja, who also won the Italian Open and at Estoril this year, took home the champions check of 157,000 dollars and a new Mercedes CLK 230 car from the sponsors. Kucera got 82,000 dollars.

The happy Corretja ended the post-tournament ceremony singing "La Bamba," to the delight of the crowd in the Weissenhof Tennis Club's stands.

Agassi gets a wild card

LOS ANGELES, July 21: Andre Agassi, a first-round loser in five tournaments this year, will try to turn things around in the Infnitio Open that begins Monday at the University of California at Los Angeles, reports AP.

Agassi, 27, received a wild-card entry and is the seventh seed in the tournament that features five of the world top 16 players.

The former No. 1-ranked player has a 6-7 record this year and will face Justin Gimelstob, a former UCLA standout, in a first-round match Tuesday night.

Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia, the top seed, plays Neville Godwin of South Africa in his opening match and No. 2 seed Thomas Enqvist of Sweden takes on Steve Bryan of the United States.

Playing his first match in 11 weeks, Agassi lost to Dough Flach 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 last week in the second round of the Legg Mason Classic in Washington.

Agassi's best showing in 1997 was a semifinal berth at San Jose in February. He also helped the United States defeat the Netherlands in Davis Cup play in April.

But Agassi has limited his schedule since getting married last spring. He even skipped Wimbledon, which he won in 1992.

Agassi's married to Brooke Shields. What else is there? said No. 3 seed Mark Philippoussis of Australia. "I don't blame him if he doesn't have much motivation."

Rain drives India to the wall



COLOMBO, July 21: India face a desperate run chase in their final Asia Cup league match after their match against arch-rivals Pakistan was again washed out by heavy rain today, reports AFP.

Sachin Tendulkar's defending champions, who reduced Pakistan to 30 for five on Sunday before the match was abandoned, saw their hopes of a crucial win wrecked by bad weather for a second day.

Heavy rain since Sunday night waterlogged the outfield at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground and Sri Lankan umpires KT Francis and BC Cooray called off the match before the covers could be removed.

Tendulkar turned down an appeal by Pakistani counter-part Rameez Raja for play to be abandoned in the morning, preferring to wait till after lunch in case the weather cleared.

The no-result left the Indians with just one point from two games and desperately needing a high score in their last league match against Bangladesh on Thursday to qualify for the final.

Sri Lanka ensured their

place in the final by winning their first two matches against Pakistan and India. Pakistan ended their league engagements



SACHIN TENDULKAR
with three points.

The Indians, with an inferior net run-rate to Pakistan's, need to defeat Bangladesh by scoring at nearly seven runs an over to squeeze through to the

final.

There's little one can do about the weather," said Tendulkar, whose future as captain is at stake after India were beaten in 11 of their 15 one-dayers this year.

"There was nothing more we could do after seizing the initiative on Sunday. It's our bad luck that rain spoils our chances."

But Tendulkar believed all was not lost.

"We will go all out against Bangladesh and hope we can achieve our target. We have done it before and we can do it again."

India, faced with a similar situation in South Africa earlier this year, bettered their run-rate against Zimbabwe to qualify for the triangular series final against the hosts.

The weather appears to be India's main stumbling block. More rain is forecast over the next three days which could ruin Tuesday's game between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh and spill over to Thursday.

In case the last two league games are washed out, Pakistan join the hosts in the final with three points against India's two.

Chang holds on to title



WASHINGTON, July 21: Going into the final of the Legg Mason Tennis Classic on Sunday, Michael Chang referred to

opponent Petr Korda as "a shotmaker. Petr certainly has the ability to beat anyone when he's on," report agencies.

Korda was "on" in the opening set, smacking several outright winners and closing the set with a wicked forehand drive that not even the speedy Chang could run down.

Just as suddenly, however, the momentum changed and Chang charged to a 5-7, 6-2, 6-1 victory to capture his ATP Tour-leading fifth event of the year.

"This surface is my favourite," Chang said after running his hardcourt record this year to 28-3. "It's the one I do my best on and the one I'm most comfortable on."

Korda endorsed this assessment, saying, "If you don't have legs and energy, you just don't beat Michael Chang."

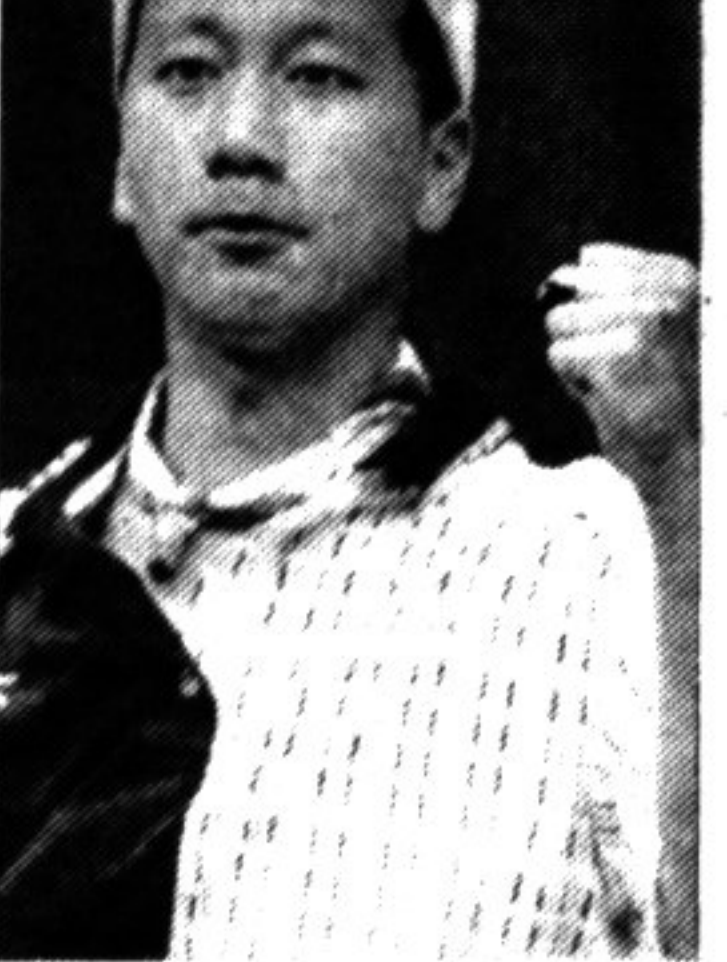
By reaching the final, Korda will see his world ranking climb into the top 20 this week.

The Czech Republic native got tired badly after working for nearly an hour in the first set

and a wave of inevitability set in.

"I started to get tired in the middle of the first set," he said.

Chang broke serve to open the second set and coasted from



MICHAEL CHANG
there to complete a successful defence of the Washington tournament.

"All I tried to do against Korda was play solid tennis con-

sistently and keep the errors down," Chang said.

This he did, committing just one double fault to Korda's nine and being charged with 13 unforced errors to his opponent's 64.

"I can't complain," Korda said. "I had a good tournament, I like the way I'm hitting the ball and I did my best. But I had no energy today. What I went through all week, playing mid-day matches, cost me. Michael came in fresh."

"If I had energy, he would have had a tough time beating me."

"I needed this," Chang said. "I struggled on clay and grass (in Europe), so it's great to get off to a good start in the summer. When I won here last year it was a good steppingstone for a good year."

Korda spent part of the third set walking around in circles trying to regain his strength. At double-break point in the third game, Korda was given a time violation as he collected himself.

The extra time didn't help as the fatigued Korda double-faulted the game away and in frustration smashed the ball high into the air.

Chang won the final four games to remain a perfect 5-for-5 in finals this season. He also won at Memphis, Tennessee; Indian Wells, California; Hong Kong; and Orlando, Florida, with all of the victories except Orlando on hardcourts.

Chang earned 90,000 dollars to increase his season total to 955,920 dollars.

Kournikova bows to Rubin

MAHWAH, New Jersey, July 21: Anna Kournikova, the talented 16-year-old Russian with a bright tennis future, appeared in control of her final match against Chanda Rubin, but a less-than perfect play near the end cost the teenager the title at the 125,000-dollar A and P Women's Classic on Sunday, reports Reuters.

The American pulled out the decisive third-set tiebreaker with the help of a double fault, winding up with a 6-7, 6-4, 7-6 victory.

"It was good to still be in the match after bowing down in every set," said the 29th-ranked Rubin, who won 20,000 dollars.

"I played more aggressively in the final two sets and hung in there while she made a lot of errors. She tried too many risky shots," Rubin said.

Kournikova, who blew a 4-2 lead in the second set and a 3-0 margin in the third, fell behind for good in the final tie-breaker when she committed her eighth double fault to provide the 21-year-old American from Louisiana with a 5-3 lead.

Kournikova won the next point with a cross-court winner, but failed to return two serves to give Rubin the title.

"I didn't feel any pressure as the favourite," said Kournikova, who had been the only player in the tournament not to lose a set.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 One way to pay

5 Creator

8 Beams

12 Troubadour's instrument

13 Wish

14 Medicinal plant

15 Met

16 Greek H

17 Despondent

18 George's Mrs

20 Skater

22 Park city in Arkansas

26 Put forth queries

29 Neighbor

30 Jungfrau

31 Leno's "Leading My"

32 Pewter, mostly

33 Entreaty

34 Buck's mate

35 That girl

DOWN

2 Store, transaction

3 Abruptly

4 Mew

6 AA, in a way

9 Vacillate

10 Cry out

11 Dismay

12 Roll

13 Sneaky

14 Mound

15 Welsh emblem

16 Calendar

17 Flushed

18 Glaswegian

19 Ad-dressee

20 Bishopric

21 Sea eagle

22 One on a downhill course?

23 Emission

24 Hoosier

25 Wobbling

26 Immense

27 Ump's call

28 Without cracking a smile

29 Temple

30 Flushed

31 Generally

32 Ad-dressee

33 Bishopric

34 Sea eagle

35 One on a downhill course?

36 Merriment

37 Resorts

38 OK in any outfit

39 Sand-skating

40 Polish sausage

41 Weather report?

42 Workers' compensation

43 Pigs' digs

44 Vast expanse

45 Laundry fixture

46 Massage

47 Actress

48 Individual

49 Moo goo

50 Fox

51 Distress

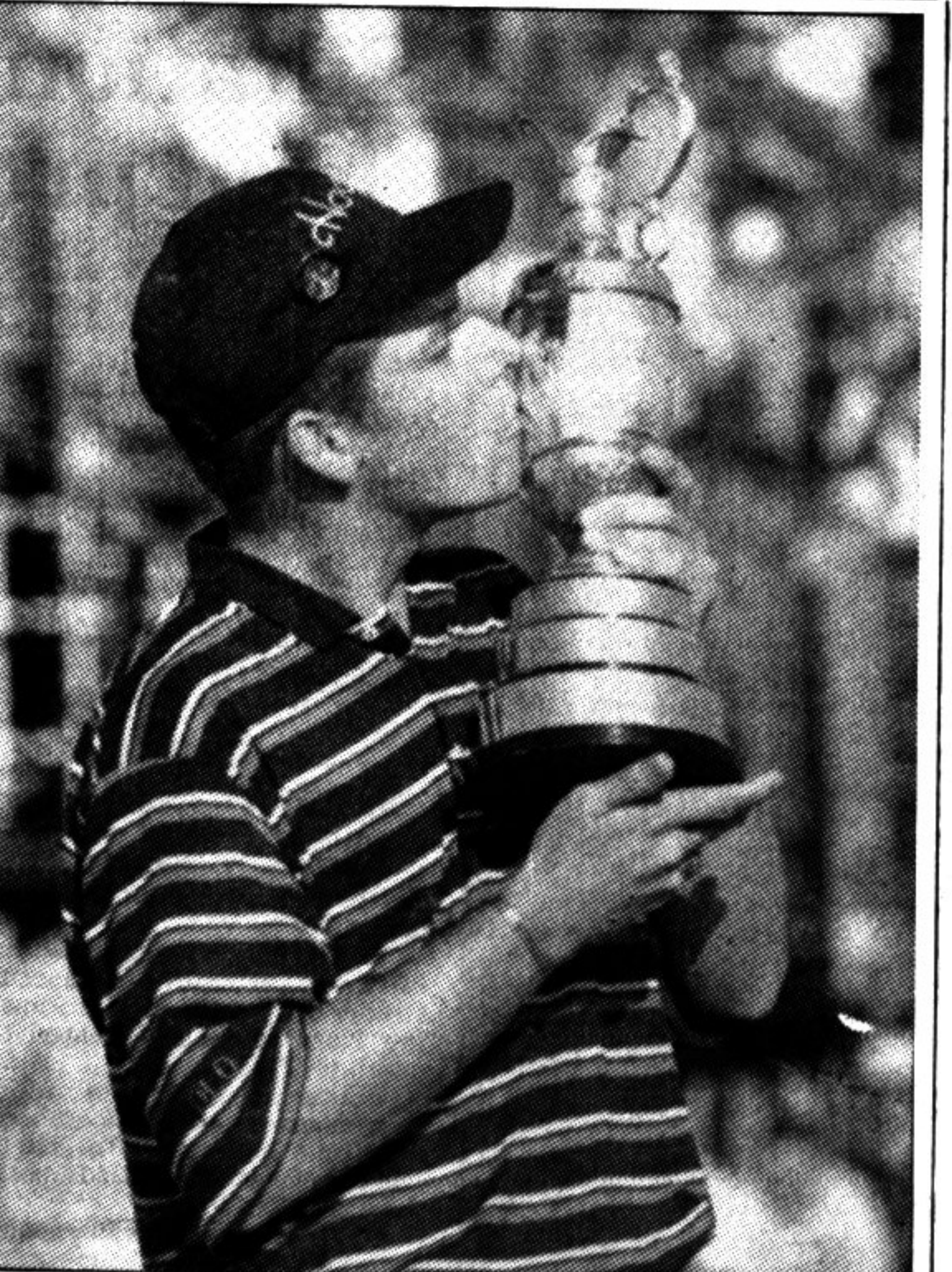
52 Tick off

Solution time: 23 mins.

CRYPTOQUIP

B G M G K Z P K T X Y G K S I
B Q Z Y K F Z P J X Q M C Z J G Q V I X
V Y X Y Q X Z T C F Z J G Q
V P J X V S V F F Z ?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: LARGE SIGN WHICH
AUTO WRECKER KEEPS IN HIS LOT. RUST IN PEACE.
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.



American Justin Leonard kisses the British Open golf trophy after winning the championship at Royal Troon in Scotland on July 20.