

Column One
SPORTS TALK



Martina Hingis
(World No 1 tennis star)
"It was just Tina. Tina was her name. It wasn't my horse. I'm not riding her anymore."
While answering to a query regarding the horse from which she fell down before the French Open.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-78

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm, Sept 19, '97

- 1 In which year did Pakistan and India suspend Test tours between them?
1988 1989 1987
- 2 Who won the Italian Super Cup football title?
Vicenza Bologna Juventus
- 3 Who is the England cricket captain?
Stewart Hussain Atherton
- 4 Who lifted the inter-division women's volleyball trophy?
Palna Khulna Comilla
- 5 Which team clinched the Second Division chess league title?
W Jatrabari BUET Jatrabari

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)



Clouds over Chilean soccer

SANTIAGO, Sept 13: Chilean soccer players said on Friday they were going ahead with a strike over the weekend but the country's leading two clubs responded by announcing they would field youth teams to fulfil the top fixture, reports Reuters.

Directors of Universidad Catolica and Colo Colo, the country's biggest clubs, said that they would go ahead with Sunday's Derby in Santiago, a match that normally attracts a 80,000 full house.

But Universidad de Chile, the country's third biggest club, said they would not play against Huachipato. "We will not play with youth team players or first team players," said club president Rene Orozco, who offered to mediate in the dispute.

Players are angry at what they describe as deplorable working conditions and have been backed in their action by the country's coaches.

The players' union complains that many of their members are not given contracts and are not paid on time. They add that facilities at many clubs are dismal and that many training grounds do not even have showers.

Players' union president Carlos Ramos said: "What we are looking for can be summed up in one word: respect. Respect for the players, respect for the professional and respect for the job."

Broadcasters get Olympic home

SYDNEY, Sept 13: Sydney Olympic organisers have settled on a venue for the international broadcast centre for the 2000 Games, reports AP.

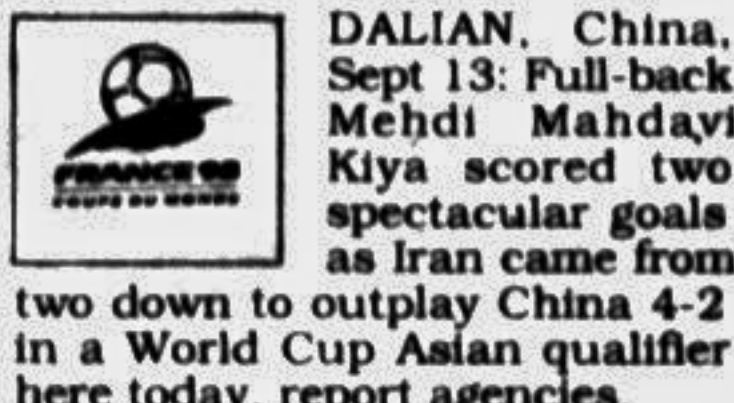
The IBC is expected to be bigger than at any previous Games and will take up more than 70,000 square metres to cater for 10,000 broadcasters.

The building is close to 15 Olympic venues including the main stadium and athletes' village.

Chief operating officer of the Sydney Olympic Broadcasting Organisation Gary Fenton said he was delighted to get hold of the site.

"Its proximity to the Olympic Stadium, Aquatic Centre, Olympic Village and Indoor Sports Centre is unparalleled in Olympic broadcasting and provides easy access for broadcasters to 15 Olympic venues," Fenton said in a statement.

Iranians begin in style



DALIAN, China, Sept 13: Full-back Mehdi Mahdavi scored two spectacular goals as Iran came from two down to outplay China 4-2 in a World Cup Asian qualifier here today, report agencies.

Iran kept to their attacking instinct even when behind and knocked China out cold in a dramatic final half hour.

Both of Mahdavi's goals came out of the blue. He beat four Chinese defenders to drive past goalkeeper Ou Chouliang in the 68th minutes and 18 minutes later the 20-year-old fired in a lightning shot past Ou from 35 metres.

The groggy Chinese, who have improved since taking on English consultant Ted Buxton nine months ago, could not believe what had happened after their promising, if controversial start to the Group A campaign.

Iran had the best chance of the first half when Ali Daei cleverly passed to fellow Bundesliga star Khodadad Azizi, but the Asian player-of-the-year's shot hit the post.

China took the lead two minutes from half time through a penalty by skipper Fan Zhiyi. The decision by South Korean referee Park Hae-Yong clearly annoyed the Iranian team who thought Zhang Enhua took a dive. Zhang was delighted and celebrated as though he had scored.

Iran seemed destined for a shock defeat when Li Ming flung himself at a cross from the right and volleyed into the goal nine minutes into the second half.

Kareem Bagheri, the third of the successful Iranian trio to make a breakthrough in the German First Division, pulled one back with a penalty that was as doubtful as the first, with no obvious offence.

With China tiring, Iran, who had started nervously, took the initiative and seized upon any chance, with even the enterprising Mahdavi getting in on the act.

Iran put the match beyond dispute in the 86th minute when substitute Ali Asghar Modir Rosta controlled a ball



South Korea's Lee Sang Yoon (L) and Uzbekistan's Qambaraliyev Bahtiyor engage in an aerial tussle during their World Cup qualifying match in Seoul on Friday. The Koreans won 2-1.

group, the defeat already means they cannot afford to lose another of their seven matches if they want to stand a chance of reaching the World Cup finals for the first time as their fanatical followers now expect.

In Seoul, South Korea defeated Uzbekistan 2-1 (halftime 1-0) in a Group B match on Friday.

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"Muhammad has established this meeting to set a tone for a healing process that will benefit boxing at all levels," said Skip Morse, project director for the Ali Cup and Ali Tribute.

"Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson standing together in unity is a tremendous show of support for amateur boxing and respect for the ideals of ... Muhammad Ali."

The Holyfield and Tyson camps issued statements Friday saying the fighters looked forward to the meeting and that the tribute to amateur boxing linked to Ali was the appropriate setting.

"It is very important to Mike that he meets with Evander and puts a regrettable occurrence behind them," the Tyson camp said.

Holyfield's camp said, "The meeting with Mike Tyson is a great way to do something that cleanses a great sport of something that all of us — both amateurs and professionals — in the sport regret. Evander likes Mike and appreciates how difficult it is for him. We are thankful for this situation and appreciate what Muhammad Ali did to make it possible."

Evander, Mike meet again!

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky, Sept 13: Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson, whose last heavyweight championship bout ended with a bite instead of a punch, will meet face-to-face next week at the behest of Muhammad Ali.

Organisers announced Friday that Holyfield and Tyson will meet Sept 20 — the day after the conclusion of the Ali Cup amateur tournament, reports AP.

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Grayson stymies Glamorgan

LONDON, Sept 13: An unbeaten 83 spanning almost four hours by Essex's Paul Grayson on Friday denied county championship-chasing Glamorgan victory at Cardiff with a day to spare, reports Reuters.

Essex ended the third day only 128 ahead with two wickets left but with rain forecast for today Glamorgan know they are far from home and dry.

The chances of a comfortable Glamorgan victory had looked high when Essex were reduced to 215 for six — just 23 ahead.

But Grayson, ably supported by Barry Hyatt and Ashley Cowan, led Essex's stout resistance to 320 for eight. He has already faced 209 balls.

In the other match affecting the top of the table, England all-rounder Mark Ealham took four wickets to give leaders Kent the edge in their clash with Yorkshire at Headingley.

He took four for 41 as Yorkshire stumble for 205 for two to 290 for eight at the close — a lead of 228.

Captain David Byas, with 74, and Darren Lehmann, who made 68, had appeared to put Yorkshire in the driving seat with 182-run third wicket partnership.

South Africa paceman Allan Donald grabbed four wickets in his final championship game of the season as Warwickshire crushed Gloucestershire by an innings and 81 runs at Edgbaston.

Donald needed little over an hour to mop up Gloucestershire, "remaining wickets in a spell of four for 25."

Lancashire also completed an innings victory over Surrey at The Oval, spinner Gary Keedy capturing six for 79 for match figures of 10 for 173.

Gunners to go without Bergkamp

LONDON, Sept 13: Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has confirmed that Dennis Bergkamp will miss the London club's opening UEFA Cup match in Greece next week because of the Dutch striker's fear of flying, reports Reuters.

"No, he will not go with us," Wenger said on Friday when asked the latest on Bergkamp's situation.

"I think personally that it would be stupid to make him travel for two or three days there and back and not be in shape after that," the Frenchman added.

"It's too tiring and too dangerous."

Arsenal drew northern Greek club Paok Salonika in their UEFA Cup first round first leg match, a fixture that immediately posed problems for Bergkamp who has been on great form for the club this season.

He said he would try to make up for his absence in the second leg and added that if it had been a major game he would have missed the league match before it to guarantee that he could get there and be ready.

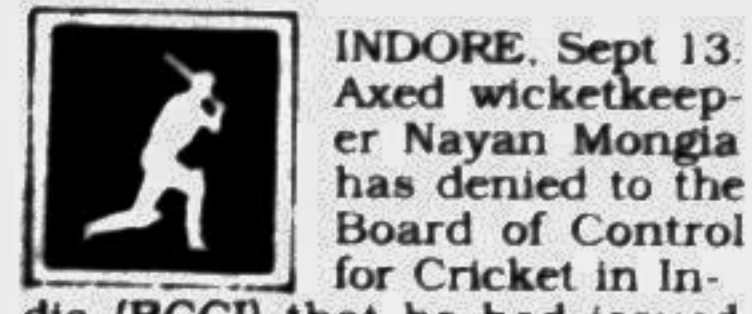
The Dutch player has said he will never fly again and did not want counselling for his fear.

The Paok match will be the second Bergkamp has missed this year because of his condition.

He ruled himself out of a Group Seven World Cup qualifier in Turkey in April, a match the Dutch lost 1-0.

Bergkamp, who did play in the 1994 World Cup in the United States, has said his fear dates from 1989 when several top Dutch players of Surinamese descent died in a plane crash near the Surinam capital Paramaribo.

Mongia rebuts the report



NAYAN MONGIA

INDORE, Sept 13: Axed wicketkeeper Nayan Mongia has denied to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) that he had issued any press statement criticising his omission from the national squad for the tours to Canada and Pakistan, according to BCCI's acting secretary JY Lele, reports PTI.

A national daily quoted Mongia as saying that he was still the number one wicketkeeper in the country and he had lots of things to expose which he would do at the right moment.

To accommodate someone, they (the selectors) have to axe somebody. Nobody cares about talent," adding that he would not have been dropped if he had a "godfather."

These reported statements of Mongia were roundly criticised by former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar in his weekly Syndicated Column.

According to Lele, the Baroda stumper had clarified to the BCCI that he had not made any controversial statement of this kind to any newspaper.

Regarding the controversy about India's strike bowler Venkatesh Prasad, Lele said that it was a fact that Prasad was unfit.

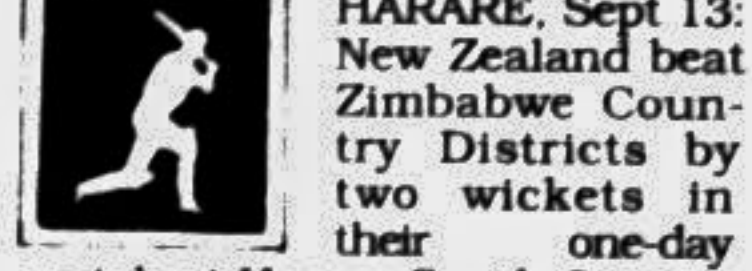
"The board has got the report of Dr Anant Joshi, who examined Prasad at the MRF Centre in Kanpur. The report said Prasad cannot bowl for at least six weeks. It has been signed by Prasad also," Lele said.

Lele reiterated that the board has not sent any observer for the Indo-Pak five-match Sahara Cup series which is commencing at Toronto in Canada today.

Lele, who arrived here Friday morning for the two-day Ranji panel umpires examination scheduled to commence today, said that the venues for the forthcoming matches against Sri Lanka will be decided before September 21.

The Lankans are expected to arrive in India on November 14 to play three Tests, three one-day internationals and a three-day match.

Cairns warms up well



CAIRNS ... all-round show

HARARE, Sept 13: New Zealand beat Zimbabwe Country Districts by two wickets in their one-day match at Harare South Country Club on Friday, reports Reuters.

Scoreboard in the one-day match between Zimbabwe Country Districts and New Zealand at the Harare South Country Club on Friday:

COUNTRY DISTRICTS

Rennie b Vettori 74
Viljoen c Horne b Davis 3
Whittall c McMillan b Davis 8
Campbell c Parore b Cairns 17
Evans c Parore b Cairns 3
Bruk-Jackson c Astle b Vettori 44
Bartlett not out 14
Rennie not out 8
Extras: (lb-10, w-8, nb-1) 19
Total: (For six wickets in 50 overs) 190
Fall of wickets: 1-14; 2-25; 3-64; 4-70; 5-153; 6-170
Did not bat: A. Huckle, C. Kok, C. Lock

Bowling:

Sewell 6 0 31 0
Davis 9 0 37 2
Cairns 9 1 20 2
Larsen 10 1 20 0
Harris 6 0 20 0
Vettori 10 0 36 2

NEW ZEALAND

Horne c Viljoen b Huckle 31
Spearman c Kok b Huckle 42
Fleming c Rennie b Huckle 4
McMillan c Viljoen b Evans 12
Cairns not out 45
Parore c Campbell b Evans 5
Harris lbw Whittall 5

86: 4-100; 5-108; 6-140; 7-141; 8-151.

Did not bat: D. Sewell

Bowling:

	O	M	R	W
Lock	10	0	32	0
J. Rennie	9	0	29	1
Whittall	7.4	0	44	1
Huckle	10	1	38	4
Evans	6	0	33	2

Russians fly into a rage

MOSCOW, Sept 13: The Russian government has come under fire for the failure of the country's soccer team to qualify automatically for next year's World Cup finals, reports Reuters.

Opposition Deputies in parliament on Friday condemned the poor performance and liberal daily Nezavisimaya Gazeta devoted its front page to a call for President Boris Yeltsin to be succeeded in the year 2000 by someone able to get results on the pitch.

This dull, spineless defeat is a blow to national prestige, opposition Liberal Adam Mishin told fellow members of the State Duma, Lower house of parliament, after Russia went down 1-0 in Bulgaria on Wednesday night.

Nezavisimaya newspaper blamed recent poor results on players who it said are now keener on making money than on patriotism thanks to Yeltsin's post-communist reform.

Starting the match with an ace, last week's US Open finalist never looked back and a combination of power serving and touch tennis saw him run out a 7-6 (7-3), 6-3 winner. The first set was his eighth successive victory in a tie-break.

"It's really nice to be able to do this in Bournemouth — and on clay courts. Maybe they will be my favourite surface in future," said the Briton.

The Canadian-born left-hander said he was delighted to break into the world's elite but vowed he would not rest on his laurels.

"It is special to get in to the world's top 10 but I just want to get higher and higher."

"I want to try and compete and get to the top of the game. I still want to try to do more."

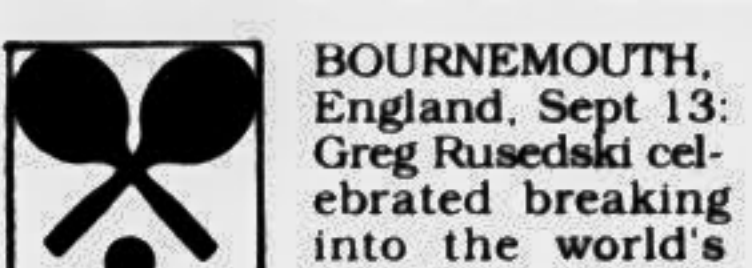
Rusedski will have his work cut out in the semifinal of the 370,000 dollars tournament where the meets world number five clay expert Moya, the Spaniard who beat Italy's Davide Scola 6-3, 6-4.

The clash has a little added spice following remarks made by Moya on the opening day when he said he thought Rusedski would lose in the opening round to Spain's Alberto Martin.

Earlier, second seed Felix Mantilla booked his last four berth in comfortable style. The Barcelona baseliner dismissed Belgian Christophe van Garre 6-3, 7-6, (7-4).

Mantilla meets South African Marcos Ondruska who beat Mantilla's training partner Jacobo Diaz 7-5, 6-3.

Rusedski races into semis



RUSEDISKI

BOURNEMOUTH, England, Sept 13: Greg Rusedski celebrated breaking into the world's top 10 by roaring into the semifinals of the Bournemouth International Open on Friday with a straight sets win over Argentine Lucas Arnold, reports Reuters.

The third seed here, who will meet top seed Carlos Moya in the last four, will be confirmed world number 10 when the rankings are issued on Monday and the Association of Tennis Professionals have confirmed.

Under the complex ATP rankings system, current number six Australian Thomas Muster loses points he won in Bogota this time last year and as he is not playing a tournament this week — and so cannot earn any points — he drops out of the top 10.

Rusedski will be the highest-ranked Briton since the ATP rankings were launched in 1973. Roger Taylor was ranked 11 in that year.

Arnold was Rusedski's victim this time on a blustery and rainy day on England's south coast.

Scotland's WC venue shifted

GLASGOW, Sept 13: Scotland on Friday switched the venue for their decisive final World Cup qualifier against Latvia on October 11 from Edinburgh to Glasgow, the country's biggest soccer ground, reports Reuters.

The key Group Four match, which will see Scotland through to at least the playoffs if they win, had been scheduled for Hibernian's Eastern Road ground.

But the Scottish Football Association said it would now be played at Celtic park, which can hold 50,000 and is three times bigger than the Hibs ground.

It is currently the biggest soccer venue since the national Hampden park ground is being redeveloped.

Edmundo runs riot

BRASILIA, Sept 13: Star striker Edmundo set a Brazilian soccer championship record by netting six goals in the same game in Rio de Janeiro on Friday, reports Xinhua.

Edmundo scored all goals in Vasco's 6-0 blanking of Uniao Sao Joao.

He came short of seven goals as he missed a penalty kick in the 83rd minute.

Despite his scoring talents, Edmundo is unlikely to be on the Brazilian team at next year's World Cup in France. His hot temper led national team coach Mario Zagallo to recommend psychological counselling for the one sometimes referred to as "the animal".

Clouds over Chilean soccer



Chinese pair of Chi Bin and Wang Rui dive from the 10-metre platform during the synchronised competition in Mexico City on Friday. They won with a score of 312.54 points.

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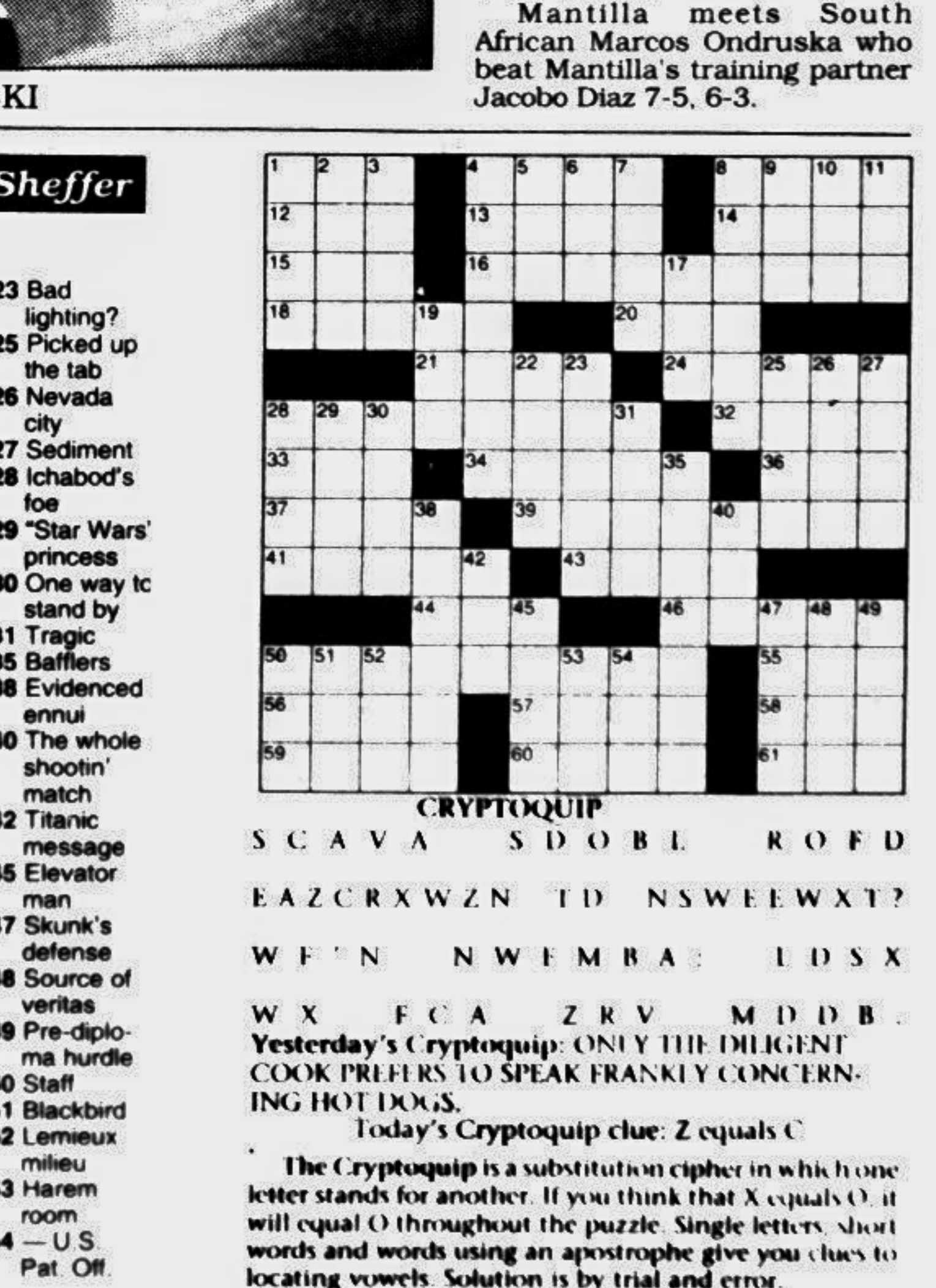
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rummy
 - 4 Go no further
 - 8 Makes
 - 12 Past
 - 13 Give a hoot
 - 14 Pennsylvania port
 - 15 Calendar abbr.
 - 16 Air force?
 - 18 Ribber, for one
 - 20 Soon-Yi's mom
 - 21 Geometry find
 - 24 Drive
 - 28 It's incredibly flaky
 - 32 Wan
 - 33 Embarrassed, obviously
 - 34 Actor Davis
 - 36 Mamie's man
 - 37 Uncutious
 - 39 Some pick up trucks
 - 41 Pre-Columbian tribe
 - 43 Simon or Diamond
 - 44 Court
- DOWN**
- 3 — Scotia trademark
 - 50 A big waterfall?
 - 55 Fort —, N.J.
 - 56 Never again?
 - 57 Inventor's inspiration
 - 58 — budget
 - 59 Conked out
 - 60 Succumbs to gravity
 - 61 Computer acronym
 - 1 They're all here
 - 2 Dr. Frankenstein's aide
 - 3 Playful movement
 - 5 Greek cross
 - 6 Stick figure?
 - 7 Salon request
 - 8 Leave secretly
 - 9 Playwright
 - 10 Wrestling victory
 - 11 Witness notation
 - 19 La —, Bolivia
 - 22 Bridge position
 - 42 Titanic message
 - 45 Elevator man
 - 47 Skunk's defense
 - 48 Source of veritas
 - 49 Pre-diploma hurdle
 - 50 Staff
 - 51 Blackbird
 - 52 Lemieux mlieu
 - 53 Harlem room
 - 54 — U.S. Pat. Off.
- Solution time: 28 mins.**
- Most difficult words:** COO, OUCH, RATT, AHA, BUREAU, RIPPON, JAPAN, SCULPTED, DEFRIGERATE, UNCLE, FUNK, WAGES, FRONTAL, HAVERSACK, LE, TO, REDS, LADY.
- Yesterday's answer**

Cryptopquip

SCAVA SDOBL ROED
EAZCRXWZN TD NSWEWXT?
WFEN NWEMBAE LDXS
WXFECA ZRV MDDB
Yesterday's Cryptopquip: only the DILIGENT COOK PREFERS TO SPEAK FRANKLY CONCERNING HOT DOGS.
Today's Cryptopquip clue: Z equals C
The Cryptopquip 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.