

Sport

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-101 Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm, Aug 28, '98, and draw shortly afterwards

- 1 What is the name of Brazil's new soccer coach? Zagallo, Luxemburgo, Parreira
2 Who was the player-of-the-match in the fifth Test at Lord's? Butcher, Donald, Stewart
3 How many Tests will Australia play in Pakistan? One, Two, Three
4 Who is the No 1 on ATP rankings at the moment? Rios, Rafter, Agassi
5 Michelle Smith has been banned for 2yrs, 4yrs, 6yrs

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



SPORTS TALK



Ravindu Shah (Kenyan cricketer) My favourite batsman to watch is Mark Waugh. He is very elegant at the crease and makes batting look so easy. Among the bowlers, I like to watch Allan Donald and Curtly Ambrose.

Raymond out

WELLESLEY, Massachusetts, Aug 16: Mariaan de Swardt of South Africa defeated third-seeded Lisa Raymond of the United States, 4-6, 6-4, 7-5 Saturday to advance to the final of the Boston Cup, reports AP.

SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

NORTH HAS TOO MANY KINGS (Hand # 68)

Table with 4 columns: West, North (D), East, South. Contains card symbols like S, H, D, C and their counts.

BIDDING (North-South vulnerable) Table with 4 columns: South (Sayeed), West (Mannan), North (Mazumdar), East (Mizan). Contains bidding notations like 1S, 4NT, 5NT, 6NT.

After opening a strong hand, North jumped to 2NT showing a balanced hand, and more than the minimum for the Club opening in his bidding system.

THE PLAY East led the Queen of Diamond which was won with the King by the declarer. He could see thirteen tricks provided the Queen of Hearts were with the East. He therefore played the Ace of Hearts...



World No 1 Martina Hingis executes a forehand against Serena Williams of the United States during their Acura Classic quarterfinal match at Manhattan Beach, California on August 14. Hingis won 6-4, 6-1.

Hingis, Davenport in final

MANHATTAN BEACH, Aug 16: A red-faced Martina Hingis huffed and puffed chasing down Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario's shots in a hard-fought 6-4, 6-4 semifinal victory Saturday in the Acura Classic, reports AP.

Hingis blew a 3-0 lead in the first set, then rebounded from a 1-3 deficit in the second. The Swiss teenager broke Sanchez-Vicario twice in winning the match's final three games.

After I won the first set, I was kind of relaxed, but she was always there," Hingis said. "Against her, you can't give up any points otherwise then she makes you run. I gave my lead up too easy."

No 2 seed Lindsay Davenport beat fourth-seeded Monica Seles 6-4, 6-2 in 59 minutes Saturday night to reach her third final in as many weeks. Davenport won titles at Stanford and San Diego, where she notched her first career victory over Seles, also in the semifinals.

with Natasha Zvereva. "I didn't know how it feels anymore." Hingis does know how to play the Spaniard, having beaten her seven times in a row. But Sanchez-Vicario who won the first time they played in 1996, isn't discouraged. Their two previous meetings went three sets.

I know that I'm getting closer and if I do go for my shots like I did today, I can beat her probably next time," she said. "I know I'm at the same level as her and I can compete."

Davenport brings an 11-match winning streak into Sunday's final at Manhattan Country Club.

Hingis, the world's top-ranked player, has lost in the semifinals of her last three tournaments. She hasn't won a title, since the Italian Open in May.

were three-setters and the first game Saturday night involved 10 deuces before Seles held serve with a forehand cross-court winner on the line. She led 3-0 before falling apart and committing 34 unforced errors to 14 for Davenport.

But Davenport, who later gently scolded the crowd for its zealous support of Seles, lost just six points on her serve in the first set. She served three games as love to win in 36 minutes.

Seles struggled with her shotmaking, spraying errors around the court and double-faulting at critical moments, including the fifth game when she lost serve to trail 1-4. She staved off three match points on her serve in the seventh game only to see Davenport ace her in the next game to win the match.

"She was just missing a lot of balls tonight and I didn't feel like I did anything totally spectacular to win, but she was overhitting and missing more than she normally does," Davenport said.

Sampras-Rafter showdown

MASO, Ohio, Aug 16: Pete Sampras showing a rare display of emotion on court, turned the tables on big-serving Swede Magnus Larsson to earn an ATP championship semifinal victory Saturday that moved him within one win of regaining the number one ranking, reports Reuters.

More than once during the one hour 38-minute match, the top-seeded Sampras pumped his fist and rallied the crowd in his behalf after taking a big point on the way to posting a 7-5, 2-6, 6-1 decision.

The victory lifted Sampras into today's championship final against reigning US Open champion Patrick Rafter the fifth seeded Australian who was a 7-5, 6-0 winner over seventh seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia earlier in the day.

Besides his quest to reclaim the top ranking, Sampras was further motivated since Larsson had won their three previous encounters in their last meeting Sampras was forced to retire with a left calf injury at the Davis Cup final last December.

Larsson dominated the first two sets with his heavy serve even though Sampras managed to capture the first set. Sampras who won his fifth Wimbledon title last month, pumped his arms in jubilation after he converted his second set-point in the 12th game of the first set off a forehand winner.

Larsson sailed through the second set, in which Sampras had his serve broken for the first time this week. But Sampras was back in business in the third, breaking Larsson's serve in the second game with a lucky backhand cross-court dink shot Sampras pumped his fist and then raised his arms in a big sweep which brought cheers from the crowd.

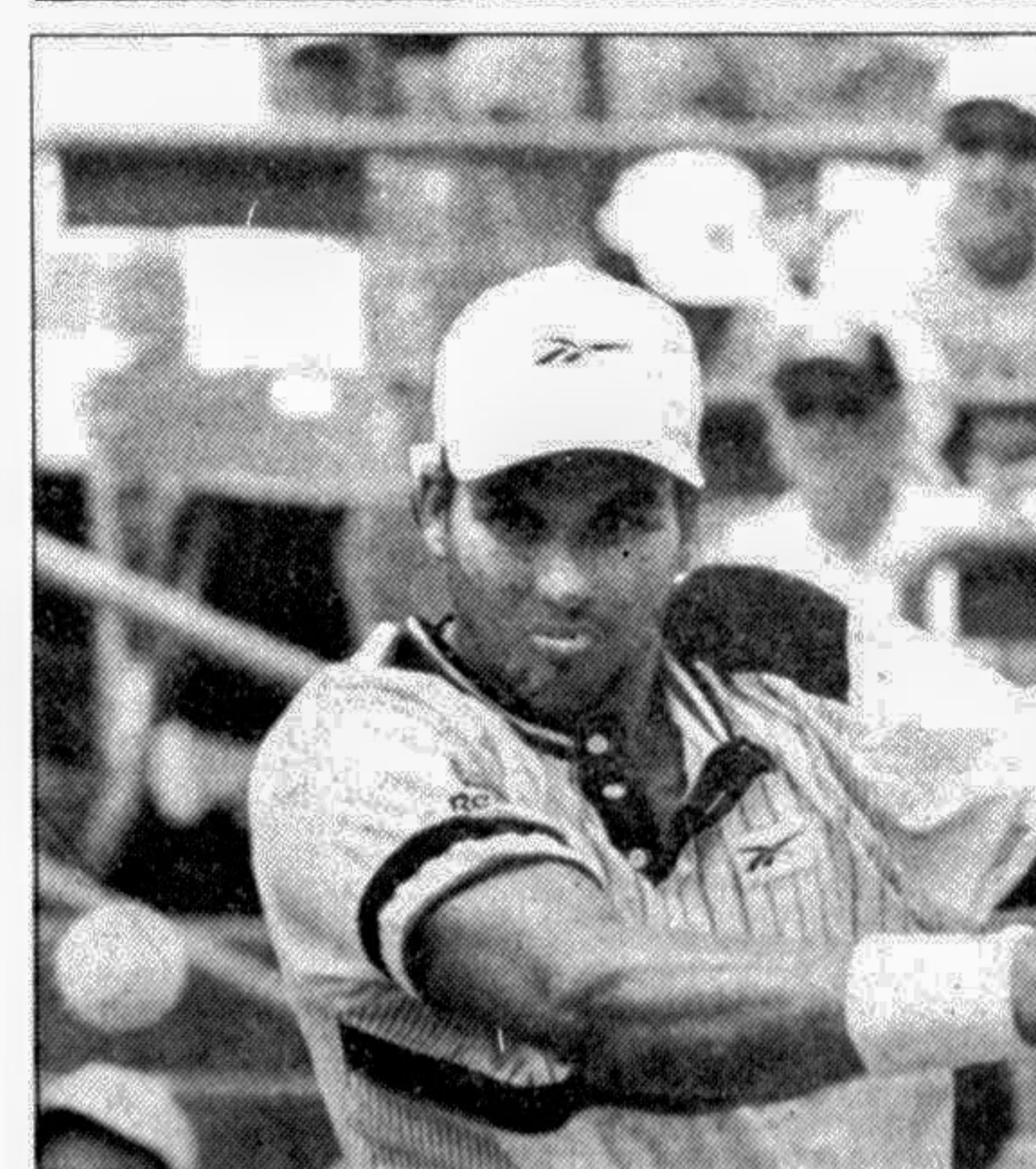
For Rafter, who won last week in Toronto, victory against Kafelnikov was also extra sweet. The Australian had lost all three previous encounters with the Russian.

Rafter gets another chance to get even with an adversary as Sampras has beaten him eight of nine times. Rafter served an impressively high first serve percentage of 70 per cent and was only taken to deuce once in the 12th game of the first set.

After a closely contested first set, in which Rafter scored the one service break in the 11th game, Kafelnikov failed to show up for the second set of the 64-minute match.

The annual basketball championship of the Bangladesh Navy got underway at the Sailors' Colony playground at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday, says a press release.

Khulna Squadron beat BNS Haji Mohsin 59-57, BNS Isha Khan beat BN Dockyard 115-87, Patrolcraft Squadron beat BNS Shaheed Moazzam 74-42 and Frigate Squadron beat BNS Tumir 62-42.



Australian Patrick Rafter prepares to play a backhand against Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia in their Great American ATP Championship semifinal at Cincinnati on August 15. Rafter triumphed 7-5, 6-0.

South Africans want Gullit

JOHANNESBURG, Aug 16: Former Dutch international star Ruud Gullit is among six coaches shortlisted to succeed Frenchman Philippe Troussier as coach of South Africa, reports AFP.

Troussier's contract was not renewed after Bafana Bafana were eliminated in the first round of the 1998 World Cup following a heavy loss to eventual champions France and draws with Denmark and Saudi Arabia.

The South African Football Association said Gullit, Brazilian Carlos Alberto Parreira, Englishman Howard Wilkinson and local coaches Steve Haut, Ebrahim Shakes Mashaba and Trott Moloto were in contention.

Gullit, fired as player coach of English club Chelsea in February, has close political links with South Africa having dedicated his 1987 European-footballer-of-the-year award to the imprisoned leader Nelson Mandela.

Gullit's agent Jon Smith confirmed his client, who is currently vacationing in Holland, had been involved in talks with the South African FA about the vacant post.

"They say they're still looking and formulating their plans. I'm very casual and nothing formal at the moment that's why we haven't made a big deal of it."

The new coach is expected to be named before South Africa launch their 2000 African Nations Cup qualifying programme at home to Angola or Benin on October 3.

Singapore Open badminton

SINGAPORE, Aug 16: Top seed Peter-gade Christensen of Denmark overcame a game two slump against Malaysian Yong Hock Kin on Saturday to enter the final of the 170,000 dollar Singapore Open badminton championship, reports AFP.

The 21-year-old world champion, who won 17-15, 5-15, 15-9, will take on Indonesia's eight seeded H Hendrawan for the men's singles title today.

The Indonesian on Saturday outclassed China's All England champion and second seed Sun Jun 15-10, 15-6 in other semifinal.

In the women's semifinals Indonesia's veteran Susi Susanti upset Denmark's world number one Camilla Martin 3-11, 11-6, 11-2 to book a spot in the final against China's Ye Zhaoying.

Fourth seeded Zhaoying had little trouble disposing of second seeded compatriot Gong Zhichao 11-8, 11-2.

Christensen will have his work cut out in the final, his last three matches have gone the distance and if Hendrawan's attacking mode is any guide, the Dane will need every ounce of energy to earn the title.

Against Yong, he let his 14-10 lead disappear in the opening game before winning in extra points. The Malaysian jumped to a 5-0 lead in the second and suddenly Christensen was all at sea.

The decider again saw the Dane in trouble when his 7-3 lead evaporated through a series of clever net play by Yong. But Christensen's better fitness saw the day through as he reeled off the final five points with powerful smashes.

The men's singles winner will pocket 11,050 dollars while the women's champion takes home 8,500 dollars.

US natants' feat

CLOVIS, California, Aug 16: Teen phenoms Erik Vendt and Diana Munz proved themselves America's king and queen of endurance swimming here Saturday on the final night of the United States swim championships, reports AFP.

Vendt, 17, won the 1,500-metre freestyle in 15 minutes and 10.50 seconds, slicing 20 seconds off his personal best to beat runner-up Chris Thompson by 3.92 seconds.

"I thought I would swim fast," Vendt said. "I never thought I would do this well though."

Hard times for Middlesex

LONDON, Aug 16: The Australian coach of Middlesex John Buchanan was nudged closer to resigning on Saturday as the county were bowled out twice in a day and stumbled to a humiliating defeat by Sussex, reports Reuters.

Buchanan had previously admitted he was unhappy with the team's performances and attitude as they slumped to 17th place in the 18-team county championship.

He said he wanted more time to be spent in preparing for matches and in practice adding "I'm not achieving what I set out to achieve."

Buchanan, who is in his first season with Middlesex was a successful coach for Queensland whom he twice led to the Sheffield title.

At Hove, his team lasted for 48 overs in their first innings being dismissed for 142. Then, following on 250 runs behind they were shot out for 90 in just 27 overs losing by an innings and 160 runs.

Left-arm paceman Jason Lewry did most of the damage with match figures of eight for 63.

The two day defeat was the seventh for Middlesex without a victory and left them dangerously close to the bottom again.

Essex conceded a huge first innings lead of 349 to Hampshire, for whom former Eng-

land batsman Robin Smith made 138 in a total of 490. Barring again, Essex lost two early wickets and were 50 for two at the close.

Northamptonshire, also having a bad season, managed no more than 205 all out in a low-scoring game at Taunton, leaving Somerset requiring 214 to win. They closed at 29 for one.

Worcestershire were left needing 345 to beat Derbyshire after their captain, Australian Tom Moody, took five for 64. But they quickly lost three wickets in their second innings.

Third-placed Lancashire, hoping to make up ground on the top two, who are not playing, were frustrated by Yorkshire's determined batting at Headingley.



An ecstatic Ye Zhaoying of China celebrates her highly creditable win against Indonesia's Susi Susanti in the final of the 170,000 dollars Singapore Open yesterday. Ye won 11-5, 6-11, 11-2.

Women hold centrestage

BUDAPEST, Aug 16 (AP): The biggest star of this week's European Championships might be 800-metre world record-holder Wilson Kipketer of Denmark, and he was born in Kenya.

The quadrennial championships open Tuesday at a time when European track and field seems to be in a slump. That's particularly true for the men, where the sprints this season have been owned by Americans, and every other distance by Africans.

Even Kipketer is beatable. Indomitable for several seasons, he was hit with an attack of malaria in February, didn't resume training until late May, and was beaten last week in the Weltklasse Grand Prix in Zurich — his first loss in three years — by Kenyan Japheth Kimutai.

It's a different story for the European women, who have world-class athletes in almost every event and lead many of the field events.

The six-day championships in the Hungarian capital are sandwiched between last week's Weltklasse, the fourth of the Golden League meets, and the fifth meet in the series Aug 28 in Brussels.

About the only sanctuary for the men is in the field events, led by British triple jump world-record holder Jonathan Edwards.

Edwards, 32, gold medalist at the '95 World Championships when he set the mark, hasn't won gold since in the Olympics, worlds or European but has the top two marks in this season in his specialty.

The fastest European so far is Italy's Carol Baccarini (10.08). "We have been running so well this year and have been a long way ahead of other Europeans on the international circuit," said Chambers. "I believe that it is a realistic aim to have all three of us on the podium."

At 400-metre, Britain's Mark Richardson has run 44.37 which is, the top American time in the world this season. Teammate Iwan Thomas is right behind at 44.38.

Spain — led by Isaac Viciosa at 1,500 and Fabian Roncero in the 10,000 and marathon — is again the force in the distance races with eastern Europe dominating most of the field events.

On the women's side, there is a world-class threat from France's Christine Arron at 100-metre. She has run 10.85 this year and is the only consistent sub-11 European in the world.

Germany's 26-year-old Grit Breuer, an Olympic bronze medalist in the relays at 16 and later banned for drug use, ran 49.51 (the second fastest in the world this season) to win last week's Weltklasse 400.

From 800 through 10,000 metres — excluding the 5,000 — European women have the top times in the world this season. Romanian Gabriela Szabo has the top time at 1,500 and 3,000.

Six of the eight field events also have European women leading them: Venelina Veneva, Bulgaria (high jump); Rodica Mateescu, Romania (triple jump); Irina Korzharenko, Russia (shot put); Natalya Sadova, Russia (discus); Olga Kuzenkova, Russia (hammer throw); Tanja Damaski, Germany (javelin).

A major absence in the triple jump will be world indoor record-holder Ashia Hansen of Britain, who is out with a heel injury.

Four years is an eternity in track and field. So it's eye-popping, the quest by 33-year-old German Heike Drechsler to win a fourth straight European long-jump title.

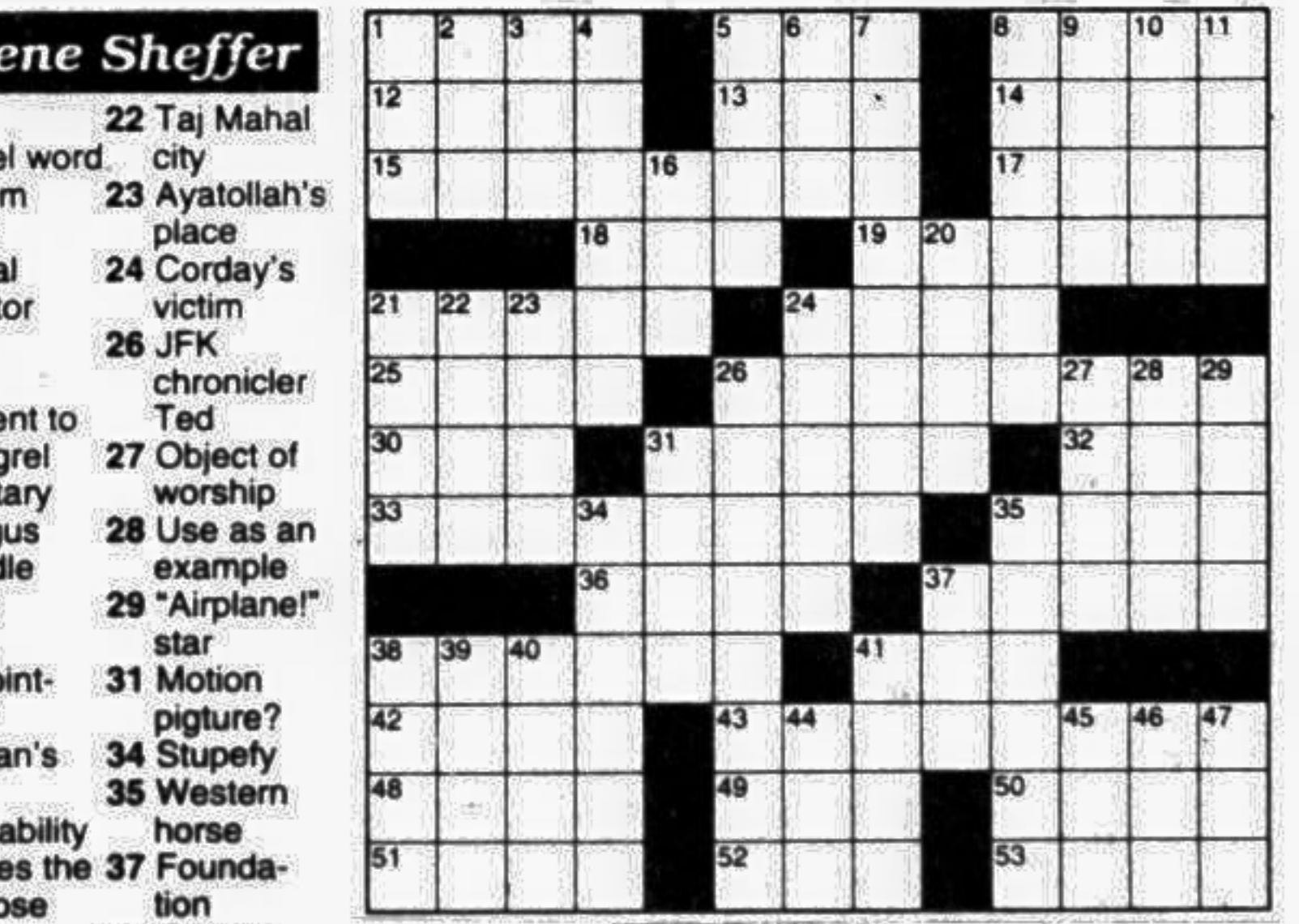
Four others are out to win their third straight European golds: Britons Colin Jackson (110 hurdles) and Steve Backley (javelin), and Germans like Wyldda (discus) and Sabine Braun (heptathlon).

Hansen to miss Euro meet

LONDON, Aug 16: British triple jumper Ashia Hansen, expecting to be a contender for gold, has been forced to pull out of next week's European Championships in Budapest because of injury, officials announced Saturday, reports AFP.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 36 Aid a crook 1 Towel word, city ingredient 37 Hay blocks room 23 Ayatollah's place 5 Interjection 41 Foremost 3 Corral 24 Corday's victim 8 Anthropologist 42 City in central Poland 5 Be 26 JFK chronicler Margaret 5 Be 27 Object of worship 12 Notion 43 Ohio river or bay 6 Mongrel 7 Sanitary 8 Fungus 28 Use as an example 14 Lead-in to bird or plane 49 Id counter-part 10 Org. 11 Appointment words 17 A deadly sin 51 Victor 16 Tarzan's son 34 Stupely 18 Speck 52 Fresh 20 Probability 19 Cut aid 53 A lo-o-o-ong time purpose 21 Serves the purpose 37 Foundation 24 Erstwhile Persian 38 Took a powder 25 Fairy-tale villain 39 Downey of "Touched by an Angel" 26 Fit in between 40 Valhalla 30 Precambrian, e.g. 41 VIP more than a hunch 32 24 hours 44 Candle 33 Variety of cypress 45 - Paulo 35 President before DeGaulle 46 Family 47 Football stats



CRYPTOQUIP Y C J C O K T X Z K W H Y G H X T J R X K Q C G R C U V H W K W Y O Q Z H K W U X W V X R H X R ? Yesterday's Cryptogram: YOU COULD DESCRIBE AN ADOLESCENT AS SURLY TO BED AND SURLY TO RISE. Today's Cryptogram clue: T equals M The Cryptogram 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.