

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?
Zagaló Luxembourg Párrera
- 2 Who was the player-of-the match in the fifth Test at Headingley?
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)



The German 4x400 metres relay team of (L-R) Uta Rohlfender, Grit Breuer, Anke Feller and Silvia Rieger acknowledges the crowds applause after their triumph at the European Athletics Championships on August 23. —AFP photo

Coates calls for stiffer doping penalties

SYDNEY, Aug 24: Australian Olympic Committee chief John Coates has called on governments to raise the penalties for serious sports drug offences to match penalties for dangerous narcotics such as heroin, reports A.

If the AOC plan is adopted, those guilty of trafficking commercial quantities of sports drugs such as anabolic steroids could face life imprisonment.

Coates released a report Monday which he has sent to national and state governments and leading sports figures including International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch. The document, backed with details, a call by Australian IOC member Gopfer last week in Lausanne for governments to join the war against sports drugs.

"Australia has an opportunity to lead the world in this regard with the staging of the 2000 Olympics in Sydney and the current international focus on doping in sport," Coates told a news conference. "Now is the time to act. If we're to ensure that the 2000 (Sydney) Olympics are not remembered as the drug games immediate action is required."

The AOC has discussed its plan with the Sydney Olympic Organising Committee and with IOC members Gopfer and Phil Coles. It sent a copy of its proposal to Prime Minister John Howard and the leaders of all Australian states and territories.

The AOC has focused on three areas of sports drugs and says penalties for possession, manufacture and trafficking of these drugs should draw the same penalties as serious narcotics such as heroin and cocaine.

Coates said the three hard drug classes were anabolic androgenic steroids, beta 2 agonists (other than asthma medications) and peptide and glycoprotein hormones and analogues.

The current ceiling for fines for importation of sports drugs is about 30,000 US while the maximum for narcotics is life. Chinese swimmer Yuan Yuan attempted to illegally import enough growth hormones to supply 20 athletes before the World Championships earlier this year but escaped without a fine and was allowed to enter the country.

Under the AOC plan Yuan would have faced a maximum penalty of 25 years jail.

"She should have at least faced the courts," Coates said.

The AOC report said a magistrate in the Victoria state recently applied the maximum allowable penalty of 5,000 Australian (3,000 dollars) on two men caught importing steroids worth 900,000 Australian (525,000 dollars).

"That makes it a worthwhile risk for these dealers to deal in the sports drugs instead of risking the penalties from narcotics," said AOC lawyer Simon Rofe.

Rofe said the governments could add the hard sports drugs into the same category as narcotics within legislation. He said the laws could be drafted within a month, with the biggest delay being getting the laws into the parliamentary agenda.

Former East German coach admits giving steroids

BERLIN, Aug 24 (Reuters / Internet): A former East German sports coach on trial for doping admitted on Monday that he had administered steroids to female swimmers.

Rolf Glaeser made a statement to a Berlin court in which he confessed having given pills containing the banned drug Oral-Turinabol.

Glaeser, one of six swimming officials whose trial opened in March, apologised for his role in the former communist state's doping policy.

"I want to apologise sincerely for what happened to them (the swimmers) during the long years they were under my guidance," Glaeser told the court.

The six, who worked for Berlin club Dynamo, stand accused of damaging the health of female swimmers by giving them steroids in the 1970s and 1980s.

Glaeser said the pills were handed to him by doctor Dieter Binus, also on trial.

Binus admitted last month that he had given athletes in his care tablets containing anabolic steroids, but said that he believed the dosages -- a maximum of 1,000 milligrammes per year -- had not been dangerous to their health.

Glaeser and Binus -- the only two officials to have testified so far -- had their cases separated from those of the others on trial by presiding judge Hans-Georg Braeutigam, which could lead to a swifter verdict for the pair.

Christiane Sommer, one of the swimmers who traded with Glaeser, said: "I acknowledge his apology and I must now think it over and decide how I react to it."

A similar trial of five officials who worked for another Berlin club, TSC, ended last week when three of those accused were convicted of damaging the health of their charges and fined up to 27,000 marks (\$15,000). The other two were also fined but had the cases against them dropped.

The prosecutors, from a special team probing crimes linked to German unification, say the officials were carrying out a policy approved at the highest level of the East German state.

More trials are expected since several East German sports officials, who were involved not only in swimming but also in athletics and other sports, are currently under investigation.

SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

PARTNER MUST HAVE A REASON FOR UNDERLEADING THE ACE!
(Hand # 75)

North
S: XXX
H: KQXX
D: KXXX
C: XX

West
S: AQJXXX
H: XXX
D: -
C: KXXX

East
S: K10X
H: X
D: QXXXX
C: J109X

South (D)
S: X
H: AJ109X
D: AJ10X
C: AQX

BIDDING (East-West vulnerable)

South (Mizan)	West (Sayeed)	North (Akram)	East (Mazumdar)
1H	1S	2H	2S
4D	4S	5H	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

As North had good support in both Heart and Diamond suits bid by partner, he pushed on to 5 Hearts in a competitive bidding.

THE PLAY

West led a small Spade which was won by East with the King. On winning the trick with King, East was wondering why did the partner under-lead the Ace. He must have a reason. Was it that partner wanted a Club return. Well, it could be. But since there were 4 cards of Diamonds in dummy, and South bid Diamond, and East had 5 of them, West must be void. Hence, he must be given ruff, as Club could wait since the declarer could not avoid giving the Club tricks, diamonds being equal in both the hands. Thus, the under-leading the Spade Ace set the contract. Note that East West can also make 5 Spades, but as they were vulnerable, they stopped at 4 Spades.

Wolfsburg hold Rostock

BERLIN, Aug 24: Croatian striker Igor Pamic put on a spectacular performance Friday in the Bundesliga, carrying Hansa Rostock to a 3-3 draw against VfL Wolfsburg by connecting twice and creating the third score, reports AP.



State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader being introduced to participants of the inter-college handball tournament at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

Johnson, Greene head the list

LAUSANNE, Aug 24: World and Olympic 400m champion Michael Johnson and sprint king Maurice Greene will vie for centrestage when the European Grand Prix circuit resumes here tomorrow, reports AFP.

Organisers hope a string of world-class Americans will inspire the fans at the "athletism" meeting. With many of Europe's best sidestepping the event to recover from the just concluded European Championships.

The men's sprints, with Greene, Trinidad's 200m world champion Ato Boldon and newly-crowned 200m African champion Frankie Fredericks to the fore, promise some fine action.

The one absence will be Canadian Olympic 100m champion Donovan Bailey, who is recovering after injury.

The women's 100m, however, will not see the match-up everybody would like to see world champion Marion Jones of the United States, so dominant over the distance, against Christine Arron of France, a major star in the making after taking the European title in record time.

Arron, who also anchored the French 4x100m relay to gold, is due to rest after her heroics in Budapest and will be absent.

The top women's event is likely to come in the 400m hurdles, with American Kim Batten, the world record holder, taking on Jamaican Deon Hemmings, the Olympic champion, and Morocco's Nezha Bidouane, the world champion.

Other Olympic champions on how will be high hurdler Allen Johnson of the US, Russia's Svetlana Masterkova and Nourredine Morceli of Algeria.

Security in Sydney Games at stake

SYDNEY, Aug 24: Sydney Olympic security planning, including the protection of VIPs, may be impeded by tension between Australian governments over funding, an official report warned Monday, reports AP.

The Auditor-General's report into the Commonwealth's security arrangements for the Olympics said lengthy and often bitter talks on cost-sharing for the Games may be hampering security planning between the federal and New South Wales state governments.

The report, tabled out of session in parliament Monday, said overall security planning had so far been effective. "But there is scope for improvement in respect of specific issues."

The absence of a memorandum of understanding between the Commonwealth and NSW governments is seen as an important threshold issue," the report said. "Similarly, the lack of agreement on cost-sharing arrangements may be impeding the ability of agencies to plan effectively."

The governments were urged to try harder.

"More work should be done to integrate the criminal and national security intelligence functions and to maximize the opportunities for analytical interaction and coordination at the Commonwealth level," the report said.

Pointing to Sydney Airport as a key security concern, the report said greater liaison was needed on counter-terrorism responses at the airport. Closer ties were also required for border control and the protection of visiting dignitaries.

The federal government in its May budget, made a provisional allocation of up to 32 million Australian dollars (18.5 million dollars) to the Olympics organisers but tied it to the outcome of talks with the NSW government.

A spokesman for NSW Olympic Minister Michael Knight refused to comment on the funding issue, but said the minister welcomed the report.

"There are some very good relationships in place between federal security services and the NSW police," the spokesman said.

Paes sets new targets for Indian tennis

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Great discoveries always happen by accident.

If Naresh Kumar, then India's Davis Cup captain, had not asked a 16-year-old boy who had just returned after losing the Australian Open junior final to play a few sets before the Davis Cup tie against Japan in 1990 in the northern city of Chandigarh, one would not have known what course Indian tennis would have taken.

Kumar's efforts have paid. Leander Paes, now a strapping 25-year-old, outdid world's best Pete Sampras earlier in the week in the Pilot Pen International tournament at New Haven in the US. He had earlier in the week humbled Swiss Olympic gold-medalist Marc Rosset and French Open champion Sergi Bruguera of Spain as well. Paes, who ranked exactly 100 on the ATP list, can now hope to go beyond his previous best ranking of 98 and possibly into the top 70. Paes' dream run came to an end when he met Goran Ivanisevic and went down to the big-serving Croat in the quarterfinals.

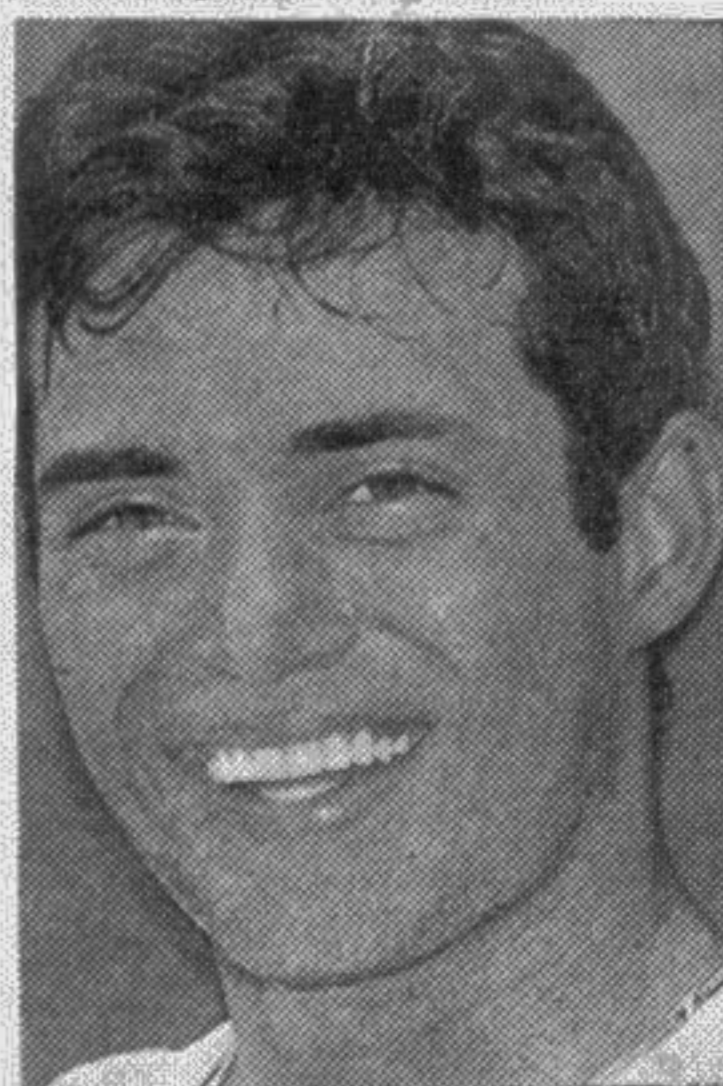
Paes will surely remember the advice Kumar gave him eight years ago. That was the time when the huge chasm left by the retirement of Vijay and Ashok Amritraj and Ramesh Krishnan's seeming inability to take time off for Davis Cup had the game touching poverty levels as far as talent was concerned.

Paes not only played a couple of sets but Kumar took a gamble and put him in the doubles along with Zeeshan Ali. They ranked number one in the country.

Eight years on, Indian tennis revolves around the same Paes, now a mature young man, and another chance discovery, Mahesh Bhupathi, who was quickly drafted into the team after a couple of wins in the satellite circuit. Bhupathi learnt most of his tennis in the Gulf where his father, CGK Bhupathi, worked as a banker.

Paes went on to carve some of the most magnificent Davis Cup wins in recent times, but somehow failed to translate that success on the ATP tour where his performances swung between the mediocre and the mundane.

He won his first Tour title after eight years of struggle when he won the Hall of Fame tournament in Newport, Rhode Island, in July. Elsewhere, he and his Davis Cup teammate Bhupathi became one of the hottest properties on the Tour even as they won one doubles title after the other, climbing up the ATP rankings from the obscure 100s to the top five in the world.



LEANDER PAES

They almost won the world doubles title in Hartford, Connecticut, last year but lost in the final. Soon they came to be known as "the Indian Express," entering the doubles semifinals of three consecutive Grand Slams beginning from the US Open last year, the Australian Open and the French Open.

At the moment, they are ranked third as a team and are comfortably placed in the top ten in individual doubles, while Paes cracked the 100 for the second time after he was on song at the Pilot Pen International recently. Well, Indian tennis never had it so good after the high of the '70s and '80s when the Amritraj and Krishnan were indeed part of the cream of world tennis.

However, the biggest irony of Indian tennis has been that none of the greats mentioned, with the exception of Paes, has been a product of any system. They made it on their own steam, while Paes was one of the first players who made it big through the tennis academies formed to hone talent.

Unfortunately, the academies, by and large, failed to deliver what they had promised. They may have spotted the right talent but the backup system was so bad that many potential stars learnt just enough tennis to land a scholarship in the US.

Despite the odds, Indian tennis may not face a drought by the turn of the century. There is a bunch of juniors coming up. Among them are Vijay Kannan, the national junior champion and ranked 60th in the International Tennis Federation (ITF) junior rankings; Manoj Mahadevan, a trainee at Krishnan's tennis centre in the southern city of Chennai; and Sunil Kumar and Akshay Vishal Rao who are trainees at the Punwre-sponsored academy in Chandigarh.

Among women, there is Nirupama Vaidyanathan waging a lone battle on the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Tour. She became the first Indian woman to win a round at a Grand Slam when she won the first round at the Australian Open this year. Now ranked around 160, she is the highest ever Indian on the Tour and has enough depth in her to at least crack the top 100.

Manisha Malhotra, a member of India's Federation Cup squad, recently made a huge jump in WTA rankings when she catapulted from 900 to around 650 after reaching the final of a Satellite event in Britain.

But the best thing to happen to juniors in the country is the All India Tennis Association's (AITA) decision to decentralise the training scheme, which was earlier centralised at the Dharm Hinduja All India Tennis Association (DHAITA) academy in Delhi.

Now, the AITA has chosen centres in major cities to pick and train juniors with the association's funding. Each trainee will be paid 100,000 rupees (2,381 dollars) towards their expenses, apart from funding them for playing tournaments abroad.

The AITA also made a major breakthrough in getting Krishnan to head the junior programme. Krishnan, already running a centre in Chennai in one of the centres chosen for the junior development programme, with Krishnan's expertise and experience, tennis buffs are hoping that the junior programme will throw up fresh talent that can sustain India's fortunes on the world stage.

—India Abroad News Service

Alex overcomes Andre

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug 24: Spain's Alex Corretja overcame a second-round knockdown to come back and knock out Andre Agassi in the final of the RCA championships on Sunday, reports Reuters.

The sixth-seeded Corretja, runner-up at this year's French Open, rallied for a 2-6, 6-2, 6-3 victory over the fifth seeded American in just under two hours to claim his third title of the year and first victory in five career meetings with Agassi.

"I played great tennis to beat him. I've beaten top guys on hardcourt before," said the 24-year-old from Barcelona.

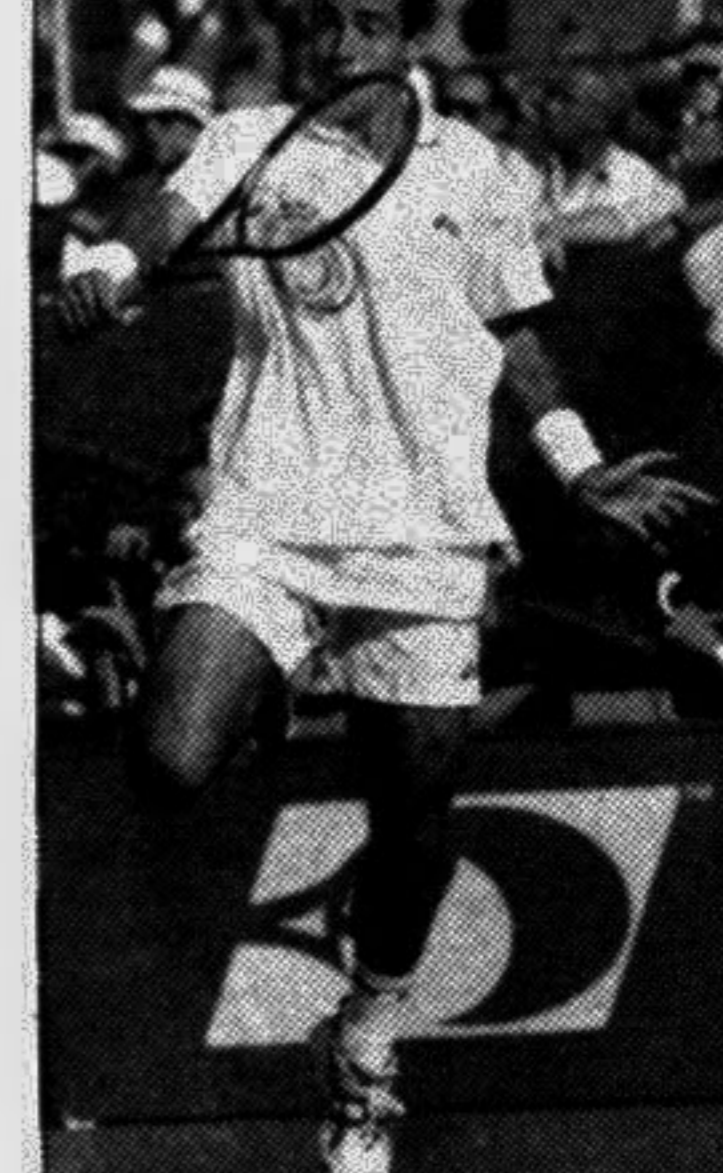
After facing a near perfect performance from Agassi in the first set, Corretja hit the dock in the sixth game of the second when a return from Agassi struck the Spaniard on the right shoulder.

A concerned Agassi vaulted the net and helped his opponent to his feet, but after Corretja dusted himself off, the momentum seemed to turn in his favour.

"It's not a good situation for either player," Agassi, who had raced through the opening and looked on his way to his fifth title of the year, said of the accidental knockdown.

"We both had to deal with it, but I'd rather be on my end than his." "I just let him get into the match in the second set. I stopped being as aggressive as I should have been," Agassi said.

Corretja who will move back into the top 10 today said: "I thought that if he could play as



ALEX CORRETJA

well as he did in the first set he would deserve to win easily.

"I couldn't do anything at the start, he was playing perfect tennis. But I the second set I realised I was playing deeper and he was not hitting as hard," added Corretja.

"After the first set, I just waited for my chance."

Agassi still had a chance to regain the upper hand in the third set, but he failed to convert four break points in the third game as Corretja battled gamely to hold for 2-1.

The Spaniard scored the crucial service break in the eighth game, allowing him to serve out the contest and declare himself a realistic threat at the upcoming US Open.

Despite the loss, Agassi, who won two titles earlier in the summer hardcourt season, also likes his chances for the final Grand Slam of the year.

"I feel good about my preparation. I have to be smart this week and do the right thing. I have no complaints about where my game is right now."

Controversy over epo

PARIS, Aug 24: The drug epo is widely used by Italian Footballers to enhance performance, an Italian Olympic official was quoted as saying on Sunday, reports AFP.

Sandro Donati, manager of the scientific research centre run by the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI), was quoted in a French newspaper as saying that an ongoing judicial probe into drug-taking in Italy would confirm the use of epo.

He told Le Journal du Dimanche: "The situation is without doubt worse in the clubs in the Calcio (Italian League) than in other countries."

Epo is employed in medicine to treat kidney disease but it can also be used to increase oxygen-carrying red blood cell levels, helping to improve endurance.

It was one of the products highlighted in July when a string of cyclists in the Tour de France were accused of taking performance-enhancing drugs and expelled from the race.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Alopecia
5 Paid players
9 — Beta
12 Cruising
13 Singer
14 McEntire
14 Arking shot
16 Harmonious
17 Mr. Baba
18 In a pile
19 Quoted
21 33 Across times 20
22 Pape-razzo's product
24 Rose's place
27 Long March leader
28 Child's play
31 Greek H
32 Freudian concept
33 Sundial numeral
34 Rainout
36 Quotom line
37 Tootnont benefactor

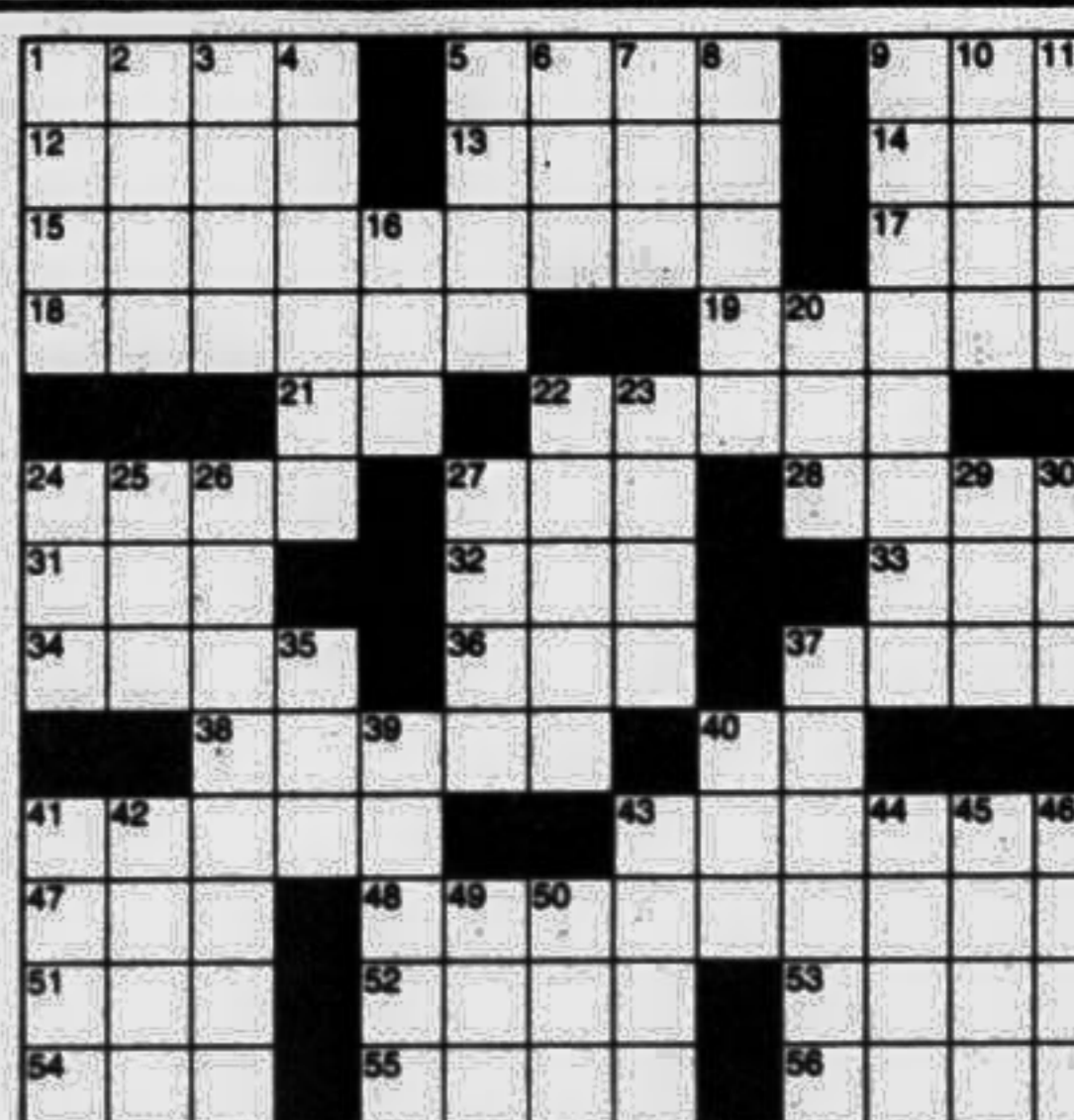
DOWN

2 "— sow..."
3 "Cham-pagne Tony" of golf
4 Sancho Panza's mount
5 Poke
6 Stimp'y's pal
7 Kyoto cummerbund
8 Vanzetti's co-defendant
9 Sexless
10 Sartorial woe
11 Foot-
12 "Down"
13 "Monty Python" opener
16 Whammy
20 "Monty Python" opener
22 Senate staffers
23 Jeer
24 Examine
25 —
26 Cynical
27 Tend 10
29 Intention
30 Chart type
35 Apiece
37 French region
39 Host
40 "Down"
41 Courted a ticket
42 Story
43 Sojourner's place
44 Golden Rule word
45 Opulent
46 Reverb-er-ate
48 Ms. Gardner
50 One of the Kennedys

Solution time: 22 mins.

ACROSS
1 ALOPECIA
5 PAID
9 BETA
12 CRUISE
13 SINGER
14 MCENTIRE
14 ARKING
16 HARMONIOUS
17 BABY
18 PILE
19 QUOTE
21 33 ACROSS
22 PAPERAZZO
24 ROSE
27 LONG MARCH
28 CHILDREN
31 GREEK
32 FREUDIAN
33 NUMERAL
34 RAINOUT
36 QUOTOM LINE
37 TOOTNONT

DOWN
2 SOW
3 CHAMPAGNE
4 SANCHO PANZA
5 POKE
6 STIMPY
7 KYOTO
8 VANZETTI
9 SEXLESS
10 SARTORIAL
11 FOOT
12 DOWN
13 MONTY PYTHON
16 WHAMMY
20 MONTY PYTHON
22 SENATE
23 JEER
24 EXAMINE
25
26 CYNICAL
27 TEND
29 INTENTION
30 CHART
35 APIECE
37 FRENCH
39 HOST
40 DOWN
41 COURT
42 STORY
43 SOJOURNER
44 GOLDEN
45 RULE
46 OPULENT
47 REVERBERATE
48 MRS. GARDNER
49 ONE OF THE



CRYPTOQUIP

R KIVWRXG GSV DZGVI-
Y V W N R T S G E V I B
D V O O Y V X L N V L M V ' H
ERMBO IYVHGRMT KOZXX
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WESTERN CATTLE DRIVERS CAN ALWAYS SAY THEY'VE HERD IT ALL.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: X equals C
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.