Div III cricket qualifiers

Azam Waqar CC and Discovery CC won their respective Lotus Kamal Third Division qualifying cricket league encounters at different city grounds yesterday, reports APB.

At the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Azam Waqar CC trounced Chawkbazar YMC by 99 runs.

Azam Waqar CC, sent into bat first, piled up 274 for six in stipulated 35 overs and in reply they bowled out Chawkbazar for 175 runs in 31.1 overs.

In the other match at the T&T ground, Discovery CC posted a facile 6-wicket victory over Farida Sporting Club.

Farida SC, electing to bat first, scored 196 for 8 in the allotted 35 overs. In reply, Discovery CC reached their target of 197 losing four with one over to spare.

Taylor draws the line

MELBOURNE, Jan 27: Australian cricket captain Mark Taylor said today he would make a decision on his playing future by the end of the week, reports Reuters.

Taylor, who was named on Monday as the Australian-of-the-year, has indicated he wants to retire from Test cricket to spend more time with his family.

He had previously said he would make himself available for Australia's our of West Indies starting on February 22 but said he was now reconsidering his position.

"I must give the selectors every opportunity," he said.

"I have to give them time before the side is selected at the start of February, so it has to be done before the start of next week."

Taylor has captained Australia with distinction since 1994, including winning three Ashes series.

If he retires, it's likely Taylor would take up a career as a television commentator on the game.

Steve Waugh, skipper of Australia's one-day side, is Taylor's logical replacement as captain.

Mymensingh cricket

MYMENSINGH, Jan 27: Mukul Fouz Red Team defeated Renaissance Club by two wickets in the district First Division cricket league today, reports UNB.

Batting first, Renaissance Club scored 145 for eight. Swapan made 50 runs.

In reply, Mukul Fouz reached their winning target scoring 149 for eight.

Sumanta scored highest 75 and claimed three wickets for 25 for Renaissance.

Sumon Rahman of Mukul Fouz got three wickets for 24.

Boca's gesture

BUENOS AIRES, Jan 27: Argentine league champions Boca Juniors on Tuesday said they would stage a benefit match for the victims of Monday's earthquake which killed more than 1,000 people in Colombia's Andes provinces, reports AFP.

Boca made the decision on hearing that one of the worst-hit areas was the city of Armenia, from where star defender Jorge Bermudez hails, the NA news agency reported.

Two other Colombians — midfielder Mauricio Serna and goalkeeper Ascar Cordoba — play for Boca.

Another Argentine club — Rosario Central — said it was ready to help the relatives of former players Dario Campagna and Diego Montenegro, who both died in the quake.

Cruyff misses Barcelona return

BARCELONA, Spain, Jan 27(Reuters/Internet): Johan Cruyff had to call off his scheduled return to Barcelona to coach an all-star Spanish league selection on Wednesday after hurting his toe.

Cruyff was advised by doctors not to travel from the Netherlands after his foot became infected.

The former Barcelona coach had been due to take charge of the Spanish league team in a charity match against his old club.

Jose Antonio Camacho, Spain's national team coach, was taking over sole command of the side, which includes top international names such as Brazil's Juninho, French World Cup winner Christian Karembeu and Argentine international Claudio Lopez.

Juventus slide out of cup

BOLOGNA, Italy, Jan 27(Reuters/Internet): Dutchman Edgar Davids gave Juventus a 1-0 win at Bologna with a superb long-range strike on Tuesday but it was not enough to stop the league champions sliding out of the Italian Cup quarter-finals.

Davids drove an unstoppable left foot shot into the top right hand corner of Francesco Antonioli's net after 78 minutes of a pedestrian second leg match.

The goal levelled the aggregate score at 2-2 but Bologna hung on to qualify for the last four on the away goals rule.

Bologna had midfielder Davide Fontolan sent off for dissent two minutes from time.

They will meet the winner of Thursday's tie between league leaders Fiorentina and Serie B side Atalanta Bergamo.

Juventus are 11 points off the pace in the championship and their best hope for a trophy now lies in the European Cup. They face Olympiakos Piraeus in the quarter-finals.

BCCSL boss pulls for Muralitharan

Arjuna's hearing today

PERTH, Jan 27: A disciplinary hearing into the on-field conduct of Sri Lankan cricket captain Arjuna Ranatunga will resume Thursday, International Cricket Council referee Peter van der Merwe said Wednesday, reports AP.

Van der Merwe said West Australian umpire Ross Emerson, England captain Alec Stewart and Sri Lankan bowler Muttiah Muralitharan were among those required to attend the hearing at the WACA ground.

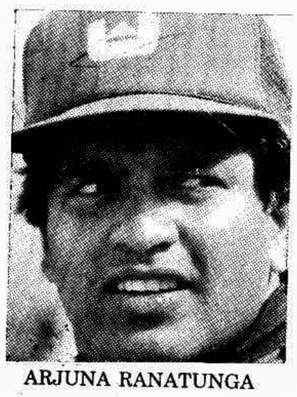
England's Graeme Hick and Sri Lankans Sanath Jayasuria and Ranjit Fernando, as well as Ranatunga and umpire Tony McQuillan, have also been called to attend the hearing which opened in Adelaide Tuesday and was adjourned after about 90 minutes.

Van der Merwe said the Sri Lankan skipper had been charged under Clause 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct which calls for captains to be responsible at all times for ensuring play is conducted within the spirit and laws of the game.

Ranatunga argued heatedly with match officials when Muralitharan was called for throwing by Emerson, halting play for nearly 15 minutes during the tri-series match against England last Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan cricket board BCCSL said Wednesday it would not approach the ICC for another clearance of Muralitharan's action, board chief executive Dhammika Ranatunga said.

There had been suggestions the Sri Lankans would ask for a



ARJUNA RANATUNGA

ruling before Friday's tri-series game against England but Ranatunga, who is the brother of team captain Arjuna, said by telephone from Colombo that this was not the case.

"How many times do we have to go through this process, to clear him every time an umpire calls him," he said.

"If necessary we can do that, but I don't think so, because (ICC) people have seen his video footage and they've said there is no problem with his action.

"Nothing has changed since then, so I can't understand why we need to go through the procedure again and again."

Ranatunga said it was the ACB's right to appoint the umpires of its choice, but added that it was reasonable to expect problems last weekend with Emrson, who called Muralitharan seven times on their last tour.

Emerson was Tuesday stood down from further matches pending an Australian board inquiry into his health after it was learned he had been on sick leave from his public service job for eight weeks.

Ranatunga said the incident had not strained relations between Sri Lanka's cricket board and the ACB.

He welcomed the ACB's decision to remove Emerson from Friday's match against England and said he doubted whether the umpire was fit to control an international match while on stress leave.

"International cricket is not easy, for players, umpires or officials," he said.

"There is a lot of pressure at the top level and it takes a concentrated effort, if there is already a stress situation, then they shouldn't be officiating."

Ponting back in squad

SYDNEY, Jan 27 (AFP/AP): Ricky Ponting won a quick reprieve from the national selectors when he was recalled to the Australian one-day cricket squad for the remaining tri-series preliminary round matches against England and Sri Lanka.

Ponting, who returns after serving a three-match ban imposed by the Australian Cricket Board after an early morning brawl in a Sydney bar last week, said he was thankful to be back in the team.

"It was three games, but it seemed like a lot longer," Ponting said. "It's been hard sitting back and watching it on television." Ponting said he had wondered if he would get back in the team immediately, given that Australia had won their last two matches.

"It's been a long week," he said. "Hopefully I can get out there on Sunday and get some runs and people will start loving me for that rather than hating me for the other thing."

Batsmen Stuart Law and Greg Blewett were omitted from the 12-man squad, while captain Steve Waugh was also missing with a hamstring injury.

Michael Bevan is certain to return to the middle order after overcoming a groin injury.

Chairman of selectors Trevor Hohns said Australia were in an enviable situation having so many good players vying for spots in the one-day side.

"We've now had a couple of wins in a row and last night was a very, very good win so it's important that there's some continuity in the side," he said.

"But we're still trying to sort out our best combination, particularly with the World Cup coming."

The selectors may add a 13th player to the squad for the remaining two preliminary matches in Melbourne and Sydney.

In Waugh's absence, Shane Warne retains the captaincy.

The champion leg-spinner played a key role in the defeat of England, claiming 3-39 in his best display since overcoming a serious shoulder injury.

Australia's next match is against Sri Lanka in Perth on Sunday.

The selectors may add a 13th player to the squad for the remaining two preliminary matches in Melbourne and Sydney.

Australia head the tri-series standings with eight points from four games, ahead of England on run-rate.

Sri Lanka have four points but have a game in hand on both teams.

The next match is between England and Sri Lanka in Perth on Friday.

AUSTRALIA: Shane Warne (captain), Mark Waugh, Michael Bevan, Adam Dale, Brendon Julian, Michael Kasprowicz, Adam Gilchrist, Shane Lee, Darren Lehmann, Glenn McGrath, Damien Martyn, Ricky Ponting.

Valder wants to explain

SYDNEY, Jan 27: Canberra's representative on Sydney's Olympic Games organising team said today he was seeking an urgent board meeting to discuss the furore over how the city won its bid to host the events, reports Reuters.

But a spokesman for Olympics minister Michael Knight said there was no need for such a meeting because board members had been kept fully informed of developments.

Sydney businessman John Valder, who represents Australia's Prime Minister John Howard on the games organising committee, said the storm that broke out last week over Sydney's 1993 bid could threaten the funding and conduct of the 2000 Games.

"The principal concern of people like myself is that we have the wherewithal to stage the Games in the way we aim to do so, and these things can jeopardise that," Valder told Reuters.

He said he was unaware of the details of how the bid was won but his main concern was how the furore would affect fund raising.

"Fairly drastic developments have taken place which could jeopardise the whole funding of the Olympic Games and the conduct of the Games.

"This certainly is a pretty serious situation," Valder said, adding that significant funds were yet to be raised for the games, through both sponsorship and ticket sales.

Sydney currently faces a shortfall of about 220 million (US 140 million) in its Games funding.

Valder said he had formally asked Olympics minister Knight to call the board together urgently. I was surprised to find they hadn't had a meeting (already)".

The committee's board was not due to meet until February 18.

John Cates Australia's Olympic committee president said last week he had arranged sports funding totalling 1.2 million for 11 African countries in the weeks before Sydney won the 1993 bidding race by just two votes from Beijing.

On the eve of the vote Cates promised international Olympic Committee (IOC) delegates from Kenya and Uganda a total of 35,000 each to sponsor sports projects.

The revelations drew Sydney into the biggest scandal to his the Olympic movement in its 105 year history.

The Australian Olympic Committee took the calculated risk of revealing its bid tactics just as the IOC was completing an inquiry into bribery allegations surrounding Salt Lake City's successful bid to host the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Australian officials have said the Sydney payments were all made though national Olympic committees to fund sports projects — unlike Salt Lake City's bid where IOC delegates were accused of taking 600,000 worth of goods and services.

The IOC on Sunday reaffirmed Sydney would be staging the 2000 Games and Olympics chief Juan Antonio Samaranch has said he does not think Sydney did anything wrong.

However, IOC chiefs are to visit Sydney in the next few days to gain further information first hand.

Tyson's next fight Apr 24

FREIBURG, Germany, Jan 27: Mike Tyson, having seen off South Africa's Francois Botha will next face Canadian Donovan "Razor" Ruddock in a bout scheduled for April 24, German promoter Wilfried Sauerland said here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Sauerland had hoped that his own client 30-year-old German heavyweight Axel Schulz would have stepped into the ring to face Tyson at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas.

And both Sauerland and Schulz expressed deep disappointment that US television broadcaster Showtime Networks had preferred to plump from 35-year-old Ruddock instead.

According to Schulz, Showtime wanted a less dangerous opponent than the German Ruddock has been out of the ring for some two and a half years and has already twice been beaten by Tyson.

A battle for the ball between Bologna's David Fontolan (L) and Zoran Mirkovic of Juventus in their Italian Cup quarterfinal clash in Bologna on Tuesday.

—AP/UNB photo

UEFA disciplines Czech booter

GENEVA, Jan 27: A Czech player who attempted to bribe a Hungarian opponent has been banned from European matches until December 31, UEFA's disciplinary committee announced on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Pavel Mraz, who was playing for Sliema Wanderers of Malta at the time but has since been transferred to Valletta, was said to be "devastated" by UEFA's ruling.

Valletta will appeal against the ruling early next month, the incident happened when Sliema played Hungarians Diosgyori in the Intertoto Cup on June 29.

UEFA said Mraz attempted to bribe the Hungarian team's goalkeeper — Slovakian Juluis Nota — before the second leg of their qualifying round match.

Diosgyori had won the first leg 2-0 and also won the second leg 3-2 in Malta to advance 5-2 on aggregate.

Nota reported to his manager that Mraz had offered him money to throw the game.

In a statement UEFA said: "Following a thorough examination, which involved statements given by several people...UEFA has decided upon a sanction of this severity in view of the seriousness of the breach of the principles of loyalty, integrity and sporting conditions."

Valletta president Joe Caruana Curran said: "He is devastated by the decision and we do not think he deserved to get such a hefty ban".

Brazil stay top in revised FIFA rankings

ZURICH, Jan 27 (Reuters/Internet): Brazil remained top of FIFA's new-look world rankings published by world soccer's governing body on Wednesday.

World champions France remain second, while Germany have slipped back to fifth place from third. Italy, moving up four places, and Croatia, who reached the semifinals of the World Cup last year after beating Germany in the quarters, are joint third.

The complicated formula used to calculate the rankings have been revised and a "stabilising mechanism" has been introduced into the system designed to iron out what FIFA describe as "over-dramatic short term fluctuations" in teams' positions.

The rankings will also take into account only seven instead of eight games a year, and results over eight years rather than six years will be counted which means the world rankings now include performances over two World Cups.

Among the big risers under the new system are Portugal, up 19 places to 17th; Belgium, up 14 to 21st, and Bulgaria, up 19 places to 30th.

Wales, up 23 places to 74th are the biggest beneficiaries of the changes in the top 100.

Big fallers include Yugoslavia, down 10 to 16th, Japan, down 13 to 33rd, and Iran down 19 to 46th.

Another change includes the points tally which has been multiplied by 10 so that decimal points disappear from the list.

Top 20 January 1999 rankings with last month's position in parentheses :

1	(1)	Brazil	829
2	(2)	France	787
3	(4)	Croatia	747
	(7)	Italy	745
5	(3)	Germany	742
6	(5)	Argentina	733
7	(8)	Czech Republic	726
8	(11)	Netherlands	720
9	(15)	Spain	703
10	(12)	Romania	698
11	(9)	England	697
12	(10)	Mexico	690
13	(14)	Norway	678
14	(18)	Sweden	652
15	(19)	Denmark	648
16	(6)	Yugoslavia	643
17	(36)	Portugal	636
18	(22)	Austria	633
19	(13)	Morocco	632
20	(16)	Chile	616

Aslam Sher quits BJP

NEW DELHI, Jan 27: In the first fallout in BJP of the recent attacks on minorities, former hockey player Aslam Sher Khan today resigned from the party accusing it of "inaction" causing "insecurity" among minorities, reports PTI.

Khan, who joined BJP on the eve of general elections last year, shot off a letter to party president Kushabhau Thakra, saying he was feeling "suffocated" in it after the recent happenings in Orissa and Gujrat where "unimaginable losses" in terms of life and property to Christian brothers had been inflicted.

The 'cool' Pope!

ST LOUIS, Jan 27: Pope John Paul in an animated display of showmanship won over thousands of youths gathered in a St Lous Sports Arena when he turned his cane upside down and pretended to use it as an ice hockey stick, reports Reuters.

After being presented with a jersey of the St Lous Blues ice hockey team bearing the name John Paul II and a big number one underneath, the 78-year-old Pope joked with the crowd that he might be back to play hockey.

"Now I am prepared to return once more to play hockey, the people who clearly enjoyed the rally said but if I am disposed perhaps after this meeting (I am) a bit more."

Than to shouts of surprise from the crowd and the viable delight of senior clergy, the Pope turned his wooden walking stick upside down and moved it from side to side as if preparing to hit a puck.

Earlier the pontiff drawing parallels with the need for the young to train to be strong in their faith made reference to last season's record 70 home runs hit by St Lous baseball hero Mark McGwire. McGwire met the Pope briefly before the rally began bowing to kiss his ring.

Before leaving the podium to deafening cheers, the Pope took the microphone and like a seasoned performer, closed with "I wish you all a good night sleep well."

WC 2006

FIFA to issue new bidding rules

ZURICH, Jan 27: FIFA is to issue guidelines to countries bidding for the 2006 World Cup to ensure no unreasonable inducements are made to its 24-strong executive committee which will decide the destiny of the tournament, reports Reuters.

The move comes in the wake of the bribery scandal that has brought shame to the Olympic movement.

Keith Cooper, spokesman for world soccer's governing body, said on Tuesday correspondence would be sent next week to all eight World Cup 2006 candidates, setting out recommendations for the final year of campaigning ahead of the vote in March 2000.

The guidelines were drawnup last year after complaints about the excessive amount of hospitality offered by some countries bidding for the 2002 World Cup.

'Better late than never'

MUMBAI, Jan 27 (India Abroad News Service): Ajit Wadekar is no stranger to tough opponents or a series played under pressure. It was, after all, under his captaincy that India first won rubbers in England and West Indies in the early seventies. Wadekar knows what it takes to come out a winner. Yet, an India-Pakistan encounter at home - and that too after over a decade — is more than a tough encounter. The upcoming series is surely a battle of nerves. Which is why cricket watchers were surprised when Wadekar, the chairman of the National Selection Commission, preferred youth over experience when he announced the team last week. By inducting new blood, even for such an important position as opener, Wadekar is also keeping his fingers crossed. While "hopefully the new boys will deliver," the chief selector also defends his panel's decision. "We have come to the conclusion that it (picking new openers) had to come sooner rather than later," Wadekar told IANS in an interview.

Excerpts:

Q: What are the team's prospects in the Test series against Pakistan?

A: We have selected a team keeping in mind the strength of the opposition. It was time to induct new blood at the top and we have begun the exercise. Hopefully, the new boys will deliver the goods.

Q: Why have you chosen this particular series (against Pakistan) to experiment with the team's openers? Wouldn't it have been better to depend on trusted players rather than push two inexperienced batsmen into the arena?

A: I don't think there is anything wrong with the timing of the selection of the cricketers we have chosen for the openers' slots. In fact, I feel it was long overdue. For too long, the Indian team did not have permanent specialised batsmen as openers. We were either pushing Manoj Prabhakar to that position, along with Gavaskar or Navjot Sidhu, or promoting Nayan Mongia and Ajay Jadeja.

Q: In the past, however, such makeshift openers have done their job adequately. So why the need for a shift in policy now, before a crucial series with Pakistan?

A: We (the selectors) have come to the conclusion that it (picking specialist openers) had to come sooner rather than later. A bad start to the innings was telling adversely on our middle-order batsmen. I feel

AJIT WADEKAR

that a cricketer has to prepare himself mentally to play in a particular position. One cannot be forced to go in at a particular position in the batting order. He may do well on a couple of occasions. But it is not a permanent solution to the problem of a sound start to the innings.

Q: Don't you think it will put pressure on V.V.S Laxman and Sadagopan Ramesh to open the innings against a team whose bowling attack is among the best in contemporary cricket? Are you not expecting too much of the inexperienced young pair?

A: Cricket is a game where one has to come out triumphant even when playing under pressure. Admittedly, it will be test by fire for the youngsters. But one has to take things in one's stride if one wants to remain in contention (for a place in the national side).

Q: Is the new policy a result of our poor show in New Zealand recently?

A: Yes. We thought the team would have fared much better if the openers had given a more sound and confident start to the innings. As they failed, it put a lot of pressure on the subsequent batsmen. I admit it was a folly, all these years, not to have opted for two specialist opening batsmen who were capable of delivering the goods at the beginning of the innings. Almost every nation which is doing well at the moment has at least two fine pairs of openers to do the job. We had not looked into the problem earlier, but there is nothing to stop us from doing so now.

Q: What if the new pair fails in the first Test? Will it be the end of the road for them?

A: Certainly not. We want to give them confidence by giving them ample opportunities to show their mettle in a higher grade of the game. There is a need to persist with them. There will be no pressure on them, at least not from the selectors. And then, we feel a right-left combination would be able to pose some problems to the opposition bowlers and fielders.

Q: Does your new policy mean the end of the innings for Navjot Singh Sidhu, who has a record of performing well on domestic wickets?

A: Not at all. He may have been omitted for the present, but he can certainly come back. He is a valiant fighter and has the capability to get back into the team. The fact is, we wanted to give a chance to talented youngsters.

Q: You have sprung a surprise by including 17-year-old Laxmi Ratan Shukla straight into the Test squad against Pakistan after seeing him perform in just one domestic tournament, that too in a one-day format (Wills Trophy). Why such a hasty decision?

A: I wouldn't call it hasty. Rather, you must appreciate the bold decision of the selectors to groom youngsters at the right time. If a player is good for a one-day game, he should be good for the longer version as well. Didn't Sachin Tendulkar make it to the national team at the age of 15? We feel that Shukla has enough talent to play for the country.

Villa win race for Juninho

LONDON, Jan 27(Mirror/Internet): Juninho is on his way back to the Premiership with Aston Villa.

Title contenders Villa have finally agreed a 10million pounds transfer fee with Atletico Madrid.

Manager John Gregory will fly out to the Spanish capital after Saturday's match at Newcastle to tie up the deal - which will give the player 2million pounds up front and a guaranteed total of 8million over four years.

The Juninho coup lifts Gregory's transfer outlay to 31million pounds in the past seven months, making him the biggest spender in British soccer this season.

His spree has already brought in Paul Merson, Dion Dublin, Steve Watson and Alan Thompson.

Now he has signed Juninho after beating off a rival bid by Middlesbrough, who held first option on buying the brilliant little Brazilian.

Juninho, sold to Atletico by Boro for 12million pounds in the summer of 1997, insisted yesterday: "I want to return to English football - and I want to join Aston Villa. I want to get on with the next stage of my career. I would have been happy to stay in Madrid, I like the life. But I want to play football.

"Atletico made me feel I am only a substitute. The club president Jesus Gil said to me things will not change.

"I won't stay and fight for my place. The coach Arrigo Sacchi prefers other players, it is as simply as that. I am sad but that

JUNINHO

is football. That is life."

Last night, Boro manager Bryan Robson confessed: "It would be wrong for me to encourage our fans into thinking Juninho will be coming to us."

Sidetracked by the Stan Collymore affair, with Villa's 7 million-pound misfit sent for psychiatric care at an exclusive clinic yesterday, Gregory was forced to put Juninho on hold for 72 hours.

But now, he can close the signing simply by thrashing out the few remaining details still to be confirmed in the 25-year-old attacker's personal contract.

Juninho will arrive at Villa Park clutching a package worth pounds 30,000 a week for the next four seasons, with a 2 million signing on fee, and the promise of extra money on top for helping Villa win trophies.

Merson, who cost 6.75million pounds from Boro, is in no doubt that Juninho will prove an enormous asset to Villa. He said: "The wee man was tremendous up in the North-East. He is a great player, and an excellent character who always gives 100 per cent."

Following a broken leg which wrecked his hopes of going to the World Cup finals with Brazil, Juninho has been regularly relegated to the role of substitute at Atletico.

While he waits for the work permit which will give him regular first-team football again, his signing casts further gloom over Collymore.

Collymore's mental turmoil must stem in large part from being shoved down the pecking order at Villa Park. Gregory prefers Dublin, Merson and Julian Joachim ahead of Collymore's inconsistent talent.

With Juninho on board as well, unhappy Collymore will find the queue has grown even longer.

This is bound to provide extra pressure for Gregory to seek any buyer prepared to pay a knockdown £2m for the troubled striker.

Rookie sensation stays with Celtic

GLASGOW, Jan 27: Scottish champions Celtic secured the long-term future of their highly-rated teenage striker Mark Burchill on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Burchill, 18, a product of Celtic boys club, signed a new 4-1/2 year contract.

He would have been able to move for nothing at the end of the season if he had not signed a new deal and English champions Arsenal were among a pack of clubs showing interest in him.

But the Scotland under-21 international, who has scored five times in his last seven matches, said staying at Parkhead was his preferred option.

"I never wanted to go anywhere else, I have supported Celtic all my life and I want to repay the club by bringing success to Celtic," he said.

Former Bordeaux president dies

BORDEAUX, France, Jan 27(Reuters/Internet): Former Girondins Bordeaux president, Claude Bez, died of heart failure in a Bordeaux hospital on Tuesday, relatives said. He was 58.

Bez, who ran the French first division club from 1978 to 1990, was to face trial next month on charges of fraud.

Bez suffered a heart attack on Tuesday afternoon and was rushed to a city hospital where he died shortly after arrival.

Under Bez, Girondins Bordeaux became the biggest French club of the 1980s, clinching two league titles and two French cups.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Bump
4 Injure severely
8 Campus area
12 Lennon's lady
13 Involved with
14 Incite
15 Oilers' home
17 In due time
18 Late-'60s radical
19 Squid squirt
21 Mail abbr.
22 St. Lawrence city
26 — the least
29 Chignon
30 New Guinea port
31 Egyptian cross
32 Caviar base
33 Pitch
34 Woody's ex
35 AAA job
36 Garage tasks
37 Canada's capital
39 Fresh from the oven
40 Scuttle
41 Power interruption
45 Hardy's "obscure" hero
48 Red River city
50 Thought
51 "It shouldn't happen to —"
52 Droop
53 Jell-O device
54 Bygone times
55 Stammering sounds

DOWN
1 Baby kangaroo
2 The King's followers?
3 Cavort
4 Make really small
5 Chipped in a chip
6 Judge Lance
7 French woman's name
8 Tremor
9 Coffee vessel
10 Past
11 Lair
16 Jerry's rival
20 "Sound of Music" extra
23 Sci-fi monster
24 Facility
25 Luck o' the Irish
26 — -shanter
27 "...with sugar — ?"
28 Three-handed game
29 Capitulate
32 Pavement
33 All, to the orchestra
35 Seesaw quorum
36 Bar
38 Winning
39 Esteem
42 Basilica area
43 Paraphernalia
44 They're often scrambled
45 Conrad's "Lord —"
46 Japanese vegetable
47 One of the 13: abbr.
49 Berlin's "What'll —?"

Solution time: 28 mins.

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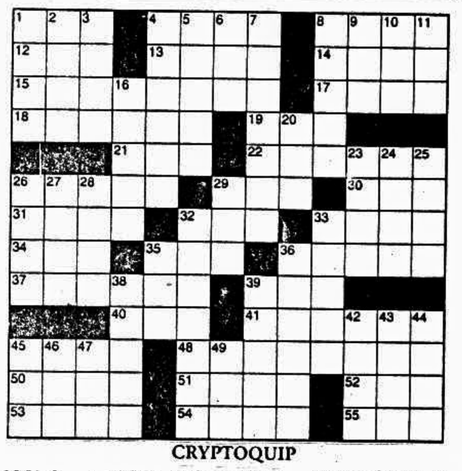
Yesterday's answer



CRYPTOQUIP

N U G J W N Z Q Z M N Z F F R W N R Z X R I B R D M , M R D M , "Q D M U Z W B Z I I F J Q G Z X M F U J J X G Y J Y I R N G Y ."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'LL BET REAL ESTATE AGENTS GREET ONE ANOTHER THUS: "HOUSE BUSINESS?"

Today's Cryptoquip clue: F 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.