

SA honour G Pollock

CAPE TOWN, Jan 2 (AFP): Graeme Pollock was named South Africa's Cricketer-of-the-Century here Sunday at a ceremony in which close contender Basil D'Oliveira walked onto the Newlands ground for the first time in his life.

The 55-year-old Pollock, an elegant left-handed batsman whose Test average of 60.97 was second only to that of Australian Don Bradman, was a natural choice for the honour, presented by Sports Minister Ngconde Balfour at tea on the first day of the fourth Test between England and South Africa.

But D'Oliveira received a huge ovation when he walked onto the field, in the city of his birth.

Classified as "coloured" (mixed-race) by the previous apartheid government, D'Oliveira could not play at Newlands during his career because of apartheid's racist policies and went to England to make his Test debut at the age of 35.

The other nominees included Test cricketers Allan Donald, Mike Procter and Barry Richards and the late Aubrey Faulkner, Hugh Telford and Dudley Nourse.

Also nominated were bowler Eric Petersen, who played with D'Oliveira for the South African non-racial side in the 1950s, and the late Frank Roro, a black African batsman who reputedly had an average of over 100 in African cricket.

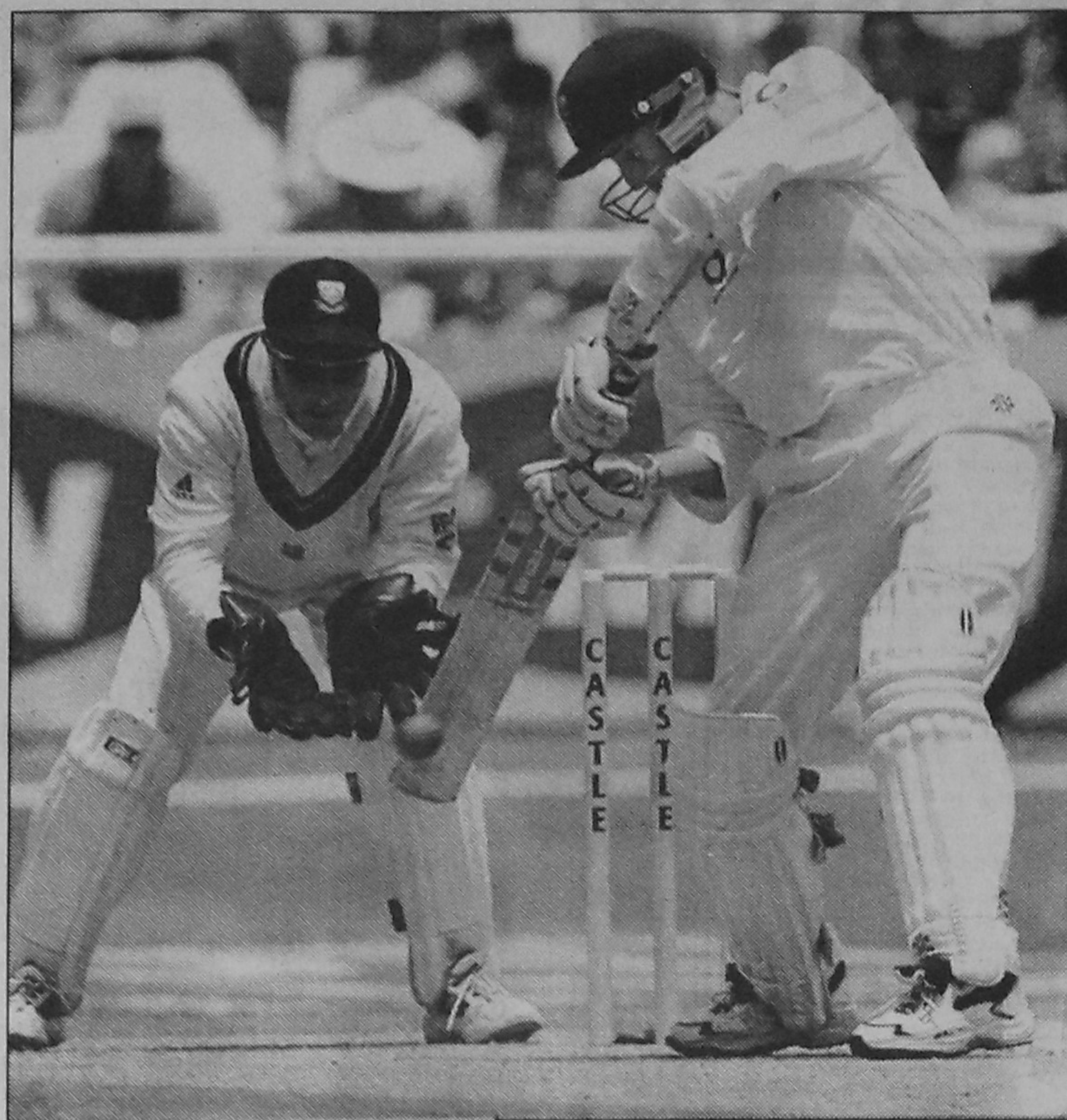
After presenting the trophy in front of a capacity crowd, Balfour praised the recognition given to non-white players D'Oliveira, Petersen and Roro, who were largely ignored by the previous government.

Zia Smriti cricket

From Our Correspondent RAJSHAHI, Jan 2: Nowhata Sporting Club defeated Ora Jannena Cricket Club by 53 in the Shaheed Zia Smriti tournament at the Rajshahi College ground today.

Nowhata collected 166 for seven in the stipulated 25 overs after winning the toss. Babla with 37 was the top scorer. Mainul (22), Rahul (21), Mustaque (15) Tovar (12) were the other fine scorers.

In reply Jannena bundled out for 113 in 22.2 overs.



England opener Michael Atherton working the ball on the off-side at Cape Town yesterday. — AFP photo

England make sound start

CAPE TOWN, Jan 2: Former England captain Mike Atherton took advantage of an early let-off from South Africa's recalled ace fielder Jonny Rhodes as England made a solid start in the fourth Test at Newlands Sunday, reports AFP.

Atherton was 58 not out at lunch as England reached 89 for no wicket in their best start of the series.

Atherton reached a fluent half-century off 77 balls with five fours but he should have been out for 15.

In the only anxious moment of the morning, Atherton sliced a drive off Allan Donald to Rhodes at point, who dropped a straightforward chest-high chance.

Rhodes had been controversially dropped for the drawn third Test in Durban when the selectors decided to include an extra bowler, but he was back in the side on Sunday with fast bowler Mornantau Hayward dropped from the squad of 12.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Donald	7	2	16	0
Pollock	6	0	17	0
Kallis	6	1	28	0
Klusener	6	2	14	0
Cronje	3	2	5	0
Adams	2	0	6	0

Umpires: BC Cooray (Sri), Cyril Mitchell (Rsa).

SOUTH AFRICA: Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Daryll Cullinan, Hansie Cronje (captain), Jonny Rhodes, Lance Klusener, Shaun Pollock, Mark Boucher, Allan Donald, Paul Adams.

Mexican cyclist sets new mark

MEXICO CITY, Jan 2: A 62-year-old Mexican woman was hospitalized with fatigue on Saturday after breaking her own record for cycling by pedalling for 26 straight hours while maintaining a speed of at least 20 km/h (12.4 mph), reports Reuters.

Carmen Alicia Muniz, an Olympic cyclist for Mexico in the 1950s, '60s and '70s, was in stable condition after her record effort, local media reported. Her previous record was listed in the Guinness Book of Records.

"I feel happy and content and I knew I would set a record, never thinking about stopping even though I started feeling bad about three in the morning," Muniz told reporters before being taken to hospital.

The record was set at a velodrome constructed for the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, a popular site for cyclists attempting to set records because of the city's altitude of nearly 7,400 feet (2,240 metres). Less air density at such altitudes lowers wind resistance.

Muniz covered some 572 km (about 355 miles) in 26 hours, averaging 22.02 km/h (13.65 mph) on 1,717 circuits around the 333.33-metres (1,100-foot) oval.

Acme Div II cricket

Azad Sporting Club and Indira Road KC won their respective matches in the Acme Metropolis Second Division cricket league at the city grounds yesterday, reports UNB.

At the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Azad SC outplayed Dhanmondi Protagist Seba Sangha by six wickets.

Dhanmondi PSS: 178 for 8 in 40 overs. Bappi 40, Tapas 36, Rezwani 23, Junaid 17, Mahub 14, extras 31, Salauddin 3/36, Razzak 3/11.

Azad SC: 179 for 4 in 33 overs. Shahadat 57, Sanjoy not out 35, Nasim 31, Razzak 16, Koton 13, Farid not out 10, extras 17, Junaid 2/23.

Indira Road KC beat Tejgaon Cricket Association by two wickets at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

Tejgaon CA: 217 for 7 in 40 overs. Shaheen 60, Jony 42, Hira 33, Haider 23, Liton 14, Badsha 12, Zahid 11, extras 22; Ruhul 2/35, Zishan 2/35.

Indira Road KC: 221 for 8 in 39.4 overs. Sweet 55, Masud 32, RZ Shipu 25, Shipu 20, Liton 19, Bappi 11, extras 27; Nasirul 2/28, Shitu 2/32.

Rajshahi cricket

RAJSHAHI, Jan 2: Zamil Smriti Sangha defeated Prottoy Sporting Club by eight wickets in the fifth Birsasrtha Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir cricket tournament at the Railway ground today.

Winning the toss, Prottoy Sporting were all out for 85 in 20 overs.

In replay Zamil Smriti reached the target (88) losing two wickets in 10.1 overs.

Shoaib feels sorry for fans



SYDNEY, Jan 2 (AFP): Banned Pakistani quick-bowler Shoaib Akhtar, who is due to fly out of Australia Sunday with his future in a cloud, said he felt sorry for the fans who will be deprived of watching the world's fastest bowler.

"I feel sorry for my fans," Shoaib said.

"I play for the crowd first and then for my team and then for my country."

"I create excitement for the crowd. I just let people know that someone can bowl fast after (former Australian speedster Jeff) Thomson."

"I have just put the speed gun into this game again."

Shoaib, 24, was speaking two days after the International Cricket Council (ICC) slapped an indefinite ban on him for bowling with an illegal action.

The ruling bars him from the lucrative triangular one-day series against Australia and India, starting next Sunday, and rules out a fascinating dual with Australia's new fast bowling sensation Brett Lee.

Pakistan team manager Khawaja Mohammed Nasir said Shoaib bowled in the nets Sunday with his colleagues in order to prepare them for a possible confrontation with Lee.

"He wanted to go and bowl to give the batsmen practice," Nasir said.

"Australia has a battery of fast bowlers and we are looking forward to, and we accept, the challenge of Brett Lee."

Nasir described Shoaib as "one of the finest speed merchants in modern cricket."

Shoaib said the ICC had told him his short-pitched deliveries caused concern.

"I'm still confident there is nothing wrong with my action, it is totally fluent," he said.

"It doesn't stop anywhere -- if I stopped and then I pitched the ball, that is wrong, that is throwing. I don't stop my arm anywhere."

"They say I bend my arm a little bit. If I do, every second bowler does all around the world. I can mention four or five names that have been playing Test cricket for ages."

He says he accepts the ICC decision and has vowed to clear his name in time for next month's three-Test home series against Sri Lanka.

When he arrives home, former West Indies fast bowling great Michael Holding, a member of the ICC panel which banned him, will work with him to try to eliminate any doubts about the legitimacy of his action.

It all started after Pakistan's third Test against Australia in Perth last month.

After the Test a special memo was compiled and signed by the three men who officiated in it: ICC match referee John Reid, the former New Zealand captain, and the two umpires on

the National Grid International Panel: Darrell Hair, of Australia, and Peter Willey, of England.

In their explosive six-paragraph memo to the ICC - in addition to their normal reports - Reid, Hair and Willey made the observation that Shoaib was throwing every bouncer "effort-ball", although neither umpires called the Pakistani fast bowler for throwing during the match.

In the course of their memo the three officials also noted that Shoaib had suffered a right shoulder injury since the World Cup in England in May and June, and it appeared to have affected his bowling action adversely. The injury, they felt, had led to Shoaib falling away to the offside in delivery, causing him to push the ball away from him rather than bowling it.

Nations Cup CAF team due in Nigeria for inspection

LAGOS, Jan 2: CAF officials are due in Nigeria on Sunday for a final round of inspection of facilities ahead of the African Nations Cup which Nigeria is co-hosting with Ghana this month, reports AFP.

The Nations Cup will take place in four centres - Lagos and Kano in Nigeria and Accra and Kumasi in Ghana between January 22 and February 13. A total of 16 African countries are participating.

CAF officials will inspect hotel facilities in Lagos and Kano and also assess communications and broadcast equipment in the two cities, the Post Express newspaper reported.

It said the team will visit stadia in the centres to ensure that they meet international standards.

SHOAIB AKHTAR

ing Test cricket for ages."

Anna working for a win



GOLD COAST, Jan 2 (Internet report): Russian tennis star Anna Kournikova says her serving woes won't resurface in Australia this summer as she strives for her first tournament win.

Kournikova has one of her best chances to break the title drought when she lines up as second seed in the Australian Women's Hardcourt Championships starting here on Sunday.

It will be the first time 18-year-old Kournikova has played here since wobbling through her Australian Open campaign in Melbourne last year, hiccupping to 31 double faults in one infamous match.

But Kournikova barely flinched at a press conference on Wednesday when asked whether she was concerned the serving yips would return.

"No, if you saw my last tournaments, I didn't see any prob-

overcome Julie Halard-Decugis, Conchita Martinez and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario.

"We'll see. I can't just say that tomorrow I'm going to be number one," Kournikova said.

"You never know what can happen. I'll say that right now I'm working hard and I'll take it one day at a time and improve with each practice and each match."

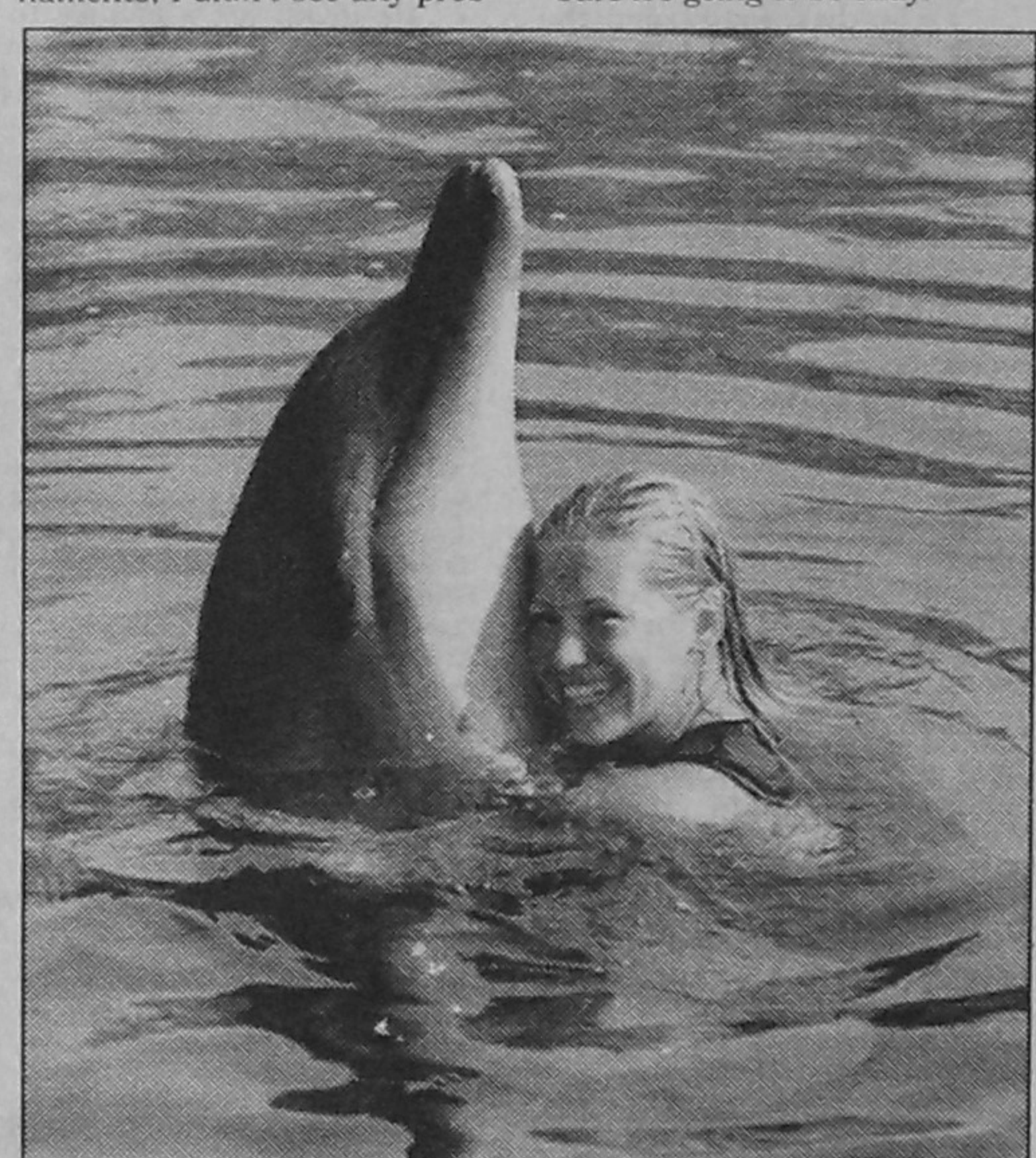
"I have to be focused, which I'm doing now, and hopefully it will come."

Kournikova practised on Wednesday despite showing some signs of a virus.

But she insisted she was almost over the illness and would be ready for her first singles match next Wednesday after receiving a first round bye.

"The first day (in Australia) is always difficult but I'll just try and get used to the atmosphere in the next few days," she said.

"I have plenty of time so I'm sure it's going to be okay."



Russian tennis star Anna Kournikova takes time off to play with Zac the dolphin at Seaworld on the Gold Coast in eastern Australia yesterday. Kournikova will play in a hardcourt tournament there. — AFP photo

lems." Kournikova is full of confidence after completing a solid end to 1999, including an intense last month on the practice court.

She reached the fourth round of three grand slam tournaments this year, including Wimbledon and the French Open, while claiming her first major doubles title with Martina Hingis at the Australian Open.

But Kournikova was reluctant to list goals for 2000, even though the inevitable question surfaced about her hopes of winning a tournament.

To do so next week she must

Conchita wins

GOLD COAST, Jan 2: Third seed Conchita Martinez of Spain beat Austrian Sylvia Plischke 6-3, 6-4 Sunday on the opening day of the Australian women's hardcourt tennis championships, reports AP.

In other first-round matches Sunday, Germany's Barbara Rittner beat 10th seed Magui Serra of Spain 6-4, 4-6, 6-1 and Rita Grande of Italy beat Australian Annabel Ellwood 2-6, 6-0, 6-2.

Martinez, who won Wimbledon in 1994, slumped to a career-low ranking of 15 at the end of last year. Rated as one of the best chances for the gold coast event, she said it was her goal this year to break back into the top 10.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Science and Technology Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

No-MOST/Sha-4/Project-6/98/ Date: 08-09-1406/22-12-1999

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide manufacturers/supplier establishments for purchasing a heavy duty high standard, foreign imported photocopier machine for use in the Ministry of Science and Technology. Each set of tender schedule can be purchased on payment of Taka 100/- (one hundred) taka till 20-01-2000 during office hours from the office chamber of the Senior Assistant Secretary (Section-4) at Room No 917, Bhaban No-6, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka. Tenders will have to be dropped in the tender box kept at the room of the Deputy Secretary (Adm-1) of the ministry (room no-918) on 23-01-2000 at 3.00 pm. Tenders received will be opened the same day at 3.15 pm before the tenderers (if anyone remains present).

2. It is mentionable here that the authority reserves the power to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Md Muhibul Hossain
Senior Assistant Secretary
Phone no 8612439

DFP-29221-28/12 G-07

Government of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, B'baria Notice Inviting Tender

- Tender Notice No : 09/EE RHD, B'baria during-1999-2000.
- Name of work : Providing Brick Pavement, HBB & Earth work road embankment at different KM of diff Road under B'baria Road Divn, during the year 1999-2000 in 3 (three) groups.
- Estimated cost : Tk as per group list.
- Earnest money : Tk as per group list in BD/CDR/Pay Order from any schedule bank to deposit in favour of the undersigned.
- Name of office in which the tender documents will be available for purchases : The Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong/The Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Divn Comilla/Chandpur/Planning & Design Divn, Comilla/Planning Divn-1 (P & D) Dhaka & all SDE's office under B'baria Road Division & office of the undersigned.
- Name of office in which the tender will be received : The Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong/The Addl Chief Engineer, RHD, Comilla Zone, Comilla/The Superintending Engineer RHD, Road Circle, Comilla/The Superintending Engineer, RHD, Procurement and Monitoring Circle, Dhaka & office of the undersigned.
- Time allowed : As per group list.
- Last date of selling of tender : 16-1-2000 during office hours.
- Last date & time of receipt of tender : Up to 12.30 PM on 17-1-2000.
- Last date & time of opening of tender : At 11.00 AM on 19-1-2000.
- Date of lottery : At 12.00 Noon on 20-1-2000.
- Eligibility of contractors : As per group list.
- Chargeable head : 266-Dev.

Group List

Gr No	Name of work & location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractors
1 (one)	HBB & Earth work Road embankment at 39th (P), 40th (P) KM of Companigonj-Nabinagar-Shibpur-Radhika Road during the year 1999-2000.	Tk 17,04,934/-	Tk 34,099/-	30 (thirty) days	"A" to "D" general Category contractors of RHD.
2 (two)	Providing Brick Pavement at 5th KM (P) & 6th KM (P) of Sultanpur-Chinair-Akhaura Road under B'baria Road Division during the year 1999-2000.	Tk 13,69,850/-	Tk 27,397/-	-do-	-do-
3 (three)	HBB work at 2nd (P) & 3rd (P) KM of Nabinagar-Ashugonj Road under B'baria Road Division during the year 1999-2000.	Tk 11,81,431/-	Tk 23,629/-	25 (twenty-five) days	-do-

Md Abdus Salam
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, B'baria.

DFP-29143-28/12 G-10

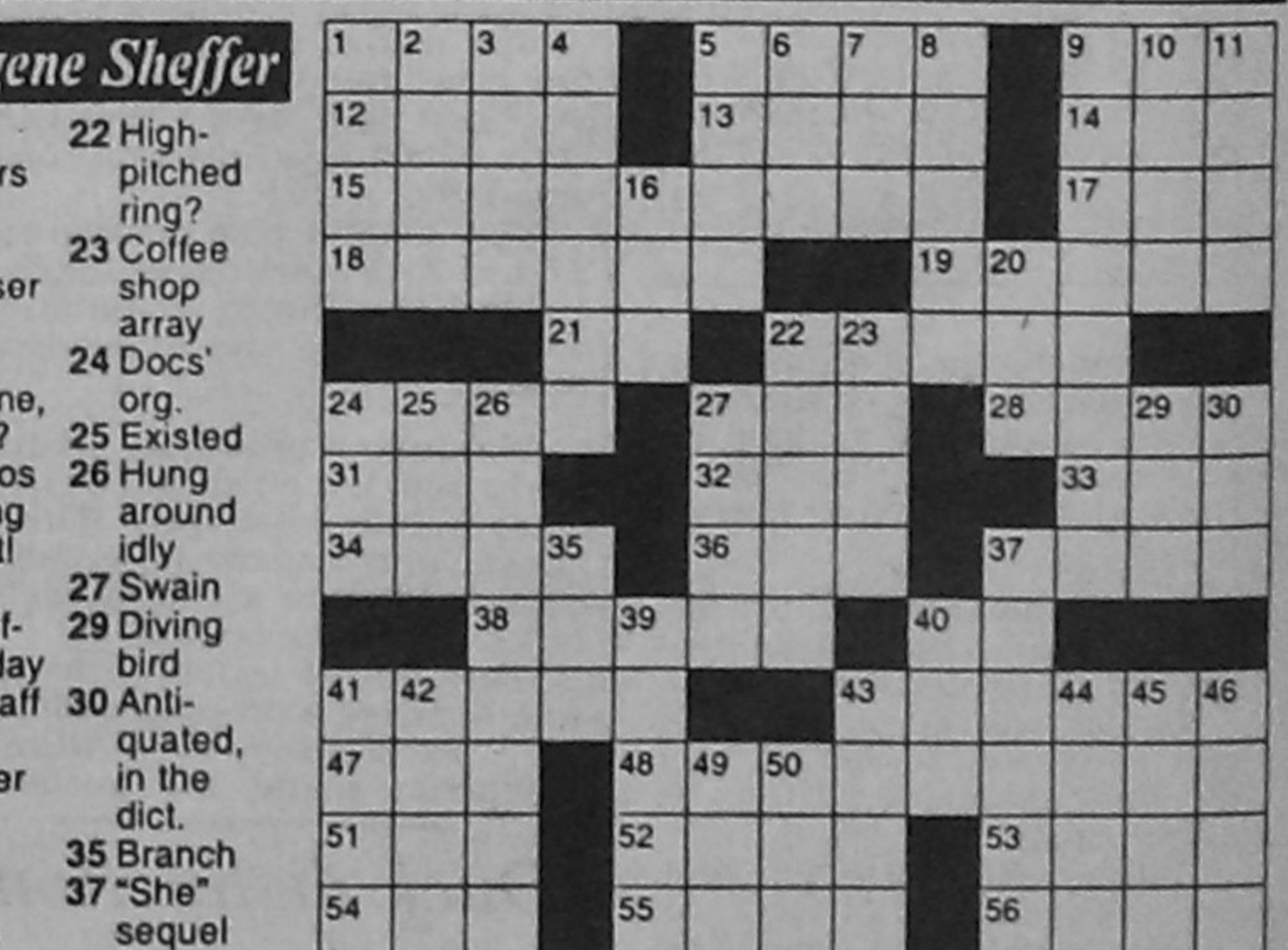
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Barbarian invasions
5 Mine car
9 "A mouse"
12 Geometry find
13 Shake in the grass?
14 IV squared
15 Mellow resident
17 Pendulum locale
18 Catches some z's
19 Wooded valleys
21 - Rushmore
22 Ecuador's capital
24 Hole-making tool
27 Prickly seed case
28 "Arrivederci"
31 Long March leader
32 A billion years
33 Vat
34 One side of the Urals
36 Sloths of puzzle-dom

DOWN
1 Wanders about
2 Pitcher shop array
3 Head of Sorbonne, maybe?
4 Seraglio
5 Anything but that!
6 Same stuff, different day
7 Pub quiz precursor
8 Gras
9 Adventurer's acts
10 Satan's specialty
11 Tool sets
16 Oboe
20 And the rest (Abbr.)
23 Coffee shop
24 Docs' org.
25 Existed
26 Hung around idly
27 Swain
29 Diving bird
30 Anti-qualified, in the dict.
35 Branch
37 "She" sequel
39 Pizzazz
40 Future avas
41 Gabrielle Chanel
42 Use a trailer
43 Catch sight of
44 Lunch-time, maybe
45 Ceramic piece
46 Mullanig, e.g.
49 "All the Things You -"
50 Turf

Solution time: 22 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER
ACROSS: 1. BARBARIAN, 2. WANDERS, 3. PITCHER, 4. SERAGLIO, 5. MINE CAR, 6. SAME, 7. PUB QUIZ, 8. GRASS, 9. ADVENTURER, 10. SATAN, 11. TOOL, 12. GEOMETRY, 13. SHAKE, 14. IV SQUARED, 15. MELLOW, 16. OBOE, 17. PENDULUM, 18. CATCHES, 19. VALLEYS, 20. AND, 21. RUSHMORE, 22. QUITO, 23. COFFEE, 24. DOCS, 25. EXISTED, 26. HUNG, 27. SWAIN, 28. ARRIVEDERCI, 29. DIVER, 30. ANTI-QUALIFIED, 31. LONG MARCH, 32. BILLION, 33. VAT, 34. URALS, 35. BRANCH, 36. SLOTHS, 37. SHE, 38. TRAILER, 39. PIZZAZZ, 40. AVAS, 41. GABRIELLE, 42. USE, 43. CATCH, 44. LUNCH, 45. CERAMIC, 46. MULLANIG, 47. TRAILER, 48. TRAILER, 49. ALL THE THINGS YOU, 50. TURF.



CRYPTOQUIP
C H F B H B G T D A K G S T D V
C T P Y G D I C Y Q G V P B C
T P B D C G C S Q I D C - B P
G X P X D H F T C Q A P K G H G
Yesterday's Cryptquip: I WON'T DENY THAT THE DISAGREEABLE MASSEUR REALLY RUBBED ME THE WRONG WAY.
Today's Cryptquip clue: C equals S
The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals Q, it will equal Q throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.