



PHOTO: STAR  
Bangladesh Rifles celebrate after winning the Design Zone 2nd Office Handball League at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday.

## Lion-hearted Murali

Cricket

INTERNET, undated

As destructive as he is on the field, hurling the ball with untiring menace, off the field Muttiah Muralidaran is a creative force doing good deeds that go well above the call of duty. If you marvel at his achievements on the field -- and they are unmatched -- the work he has done off the field will floor you.

While sportsmen and celebrities of all kind usually turn to philanthropy now and then, it's hard to find someone who has done so much, personally, for a cause. To see for yourself you have to take a 22-kilometre drive from Galle, towards Colombo to the village of Seenigama, one of the worst affected by the 2004 tsunami. Over there you will find the Foundation of Goodness, an organisation that has touched the lives of people from 25 villages.

The starting point for the activities that the Foundation undertakes is the MCC Centre of Excellence, funded by the Marylebone Cricket Club in London. Kushil Gunasekara, Muralidaran's close friend and business manager,

donated his ancestral property to provide a location for the Foundation's activities.

The property, called Lahuru, which translates to Rays of sunlight, was initially a holiday home built with the purpose of attracting tourists to the area. After the tsunami hit, though, Gunasekara, who is trustee of the Foundation with Muralidaran and Chaminda Vaas as directors, gave new direction to the project.

Moving systematically to meet the need of the hour in the immediate aftermath of the tsunami, more than 1000 houses were built for those displaced. But since then this has grown well beyond a mere housing project with over 21,000 families benefiting one way or another. The Centre of Excellence hosts a general polyclinic where doctors treat patients for free and the amply equipped pharmacy does not charge for the medicines it dispenses. Alongside is a specialised dental clinic.

In other clusters there is a Women's Enterprise department where a wide range of education is imparted, from sewing and cookery, to scholastic pursuits. Once a person completes a basic course she is then sent to a business class. The well-equipped and modern designed

computer labs allow children from the villages to learn to use the machines aside from lessons on web designing and operation of basic software. Even those too young to use these facilities are not left out and bunch of tots were running amok in the free play school.

Just beyond the Centre the Foundation has rolled out what it calls a model project, the Village Heartbeat. The aim is to ensure that every village has access to a computer centre, a library, a classroom and a community hall. Udumalle, the village where this flagship project was launched, has all these, and is the envy of the other hamlets around Galle.

And of course, there is a cricket ground, the Seenigama Oval, set up with help from the Surrey County Cricket Club. The main beneficiaries are the children from the Buddhivimala Vidyalaya, the school that shares a wall with the ground.

By the time you finish a tour of the areas that the Foundation of Goodness has touched you realise just how much is possible if those who have the power to do good use it effectively. The list of achievements is long and still growing. Much like Muralidaran's achievements on the field.

## Office Handball League Rifles'

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Rifles emerged champions in the Design Zone 2nd Office Handball League with a 34-27 victory over Bangladesh Police in the final at the outer stadium handball ground yesterday.

Bangladesh Rifles also won the inaugural tournament title in 2006. In yesterday's final, Rifles dominated the first-half 21-14.

Khairuzaman scored eight goals and Kamrul netted seven for the winners while Helal netted six and Didar Hossain and Russell contributed five each for the losers. Didar was adjudged player-of-the-league.

Director of Exim Bank and chairman of the bank's audit committee M Nurul Fazal Bulbul witnessed the final as the chief guest and distributed prizes.

## Dali's success

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Archery Federation Judge Mohammad Faruk Dali emerged as the country's first Continental Archery Judge recently.

Dali, physical instructor of Govt. Bangla College in Dhaka, who participated in "AAF Archery Organising and Judge Seminar 2008" in Chinese Taipei over July 2-5, also competed in the Continental Judges Examination during the seminar and passed the exam successfully.

## A Lankan fortress

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spinners in your side they try and play a big part. But we want to create more opportunities with our pacers as well," he said. "That is something that we've spoken in our meetings, to see what kind of opportunities we could create from the fast bowlers. Vaas is a quality act altogether but he couldn't come into the game the other day (at the SSC).

"He loves these kind of conditions and he has taken most of his wickets in such conditions. If we can get him into the party as well it will be very good for us." Vaas had a solid outing here against England and another crucial performance could be a lifeline after a listless display at the SSC.

Jayawardene reckoned that the pitch would be similar to that at the SSC. "The pitch will probably turn on the fourth and fifth days, but it depends on the weather as well," he said. "If it is affected by rain there won't be that much time for the pitch to deteriorate. We would like to wrap it up here, that's our plan."

When Sri Lanka played England here, there was a fair bit of rain around and the pitch had some moisture in it -- which was why England negated Muralidaran's threat and escaped with a draw -- but this one appears dry, very much like what the teams got in Colombo.

Both Jayawardene and Trevor Bayliss, Sri Lanka's coach, were wary of India's recent record of bouncing back from poor starts to series but there was no mistaking the tone of assuredness in Jayawardene's assessment of the opposition. "We definitely asked

them some questions (at the SSC) and they didn't have the answers," he said. "We'll have to find out whether they have the answers yet. If they have, we'll start asking different questions."

Like India, Sri Lanka need to win this match but for them the pressure is far less after Colombo and unlike their opposition, they go into this Test on a wave of confidence.

**TEAMS**  
**SRI LANKA** (probable): Michael Vandort, Malinda Warnapura, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene (captain), Thilan Samaraweera, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Prasanna Jayawardene, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralidaran, Ajantha Mendis, Nuwan Kulasekara.

**INDIA** (probable): Gautam Gambhir, Virender Sehwag, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, VVS Laxman, Dinesh Karthik, Anil Kumble (captain), Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer Khan, Ishant Sharma.

## Rajshahi clinch

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Council, was the chief guest in the final and distributed prizes.

**TEAMS**  
**RAJSHAH:** Barna, Moyna, Fatema, Helena, Jui, Dipa, Marium, Rita, Diana and Farhana.

**BANGLADESH ANSAR:** Maleka, Shahnaz, Yasmin, Kamrunnahr, Laboni, Chinghai, Latika, Fatema, Toki and Farhana.

## Zia starts with win

SPORTS REPORTER

The 8th United Insurance and United Leasing International Masters Chess Tournament got underway yesterday.

GM Ziaur Rahman, IM Dinesh Kumar Sharma, IM Himangshu Sharma, IM Mahmood Lodhi, IM Shahzad Mirza, FM Minhazudin Ahmed, FM Taibur Rahman, FM Mohammad Abul Malek, FM Mehedi Hasan Parag, Bitan Banerjee, Joydeep Dutta, Debaraj Chatterjee, FM Rezaul Haq and Shreshth Keshav won their first round games.

A total of 30 players from India, Pakistan, Nepal and hosts Bangladesh are participating in the meet.

## Pioneer soccer

SPORTS REPORTER

Nawabpur Kira Chakra rode on Nayan hattrick to outplay Bangladesh Sporting Club 5-0 in the Dhaka City Corporation Pioneer Football League at the Kamalapur Stadium yesterday.

Nayan scored in the 47th, 67th and 69th minutes for his hattrick while Faisal Iqbal and Mamun netted the other goals in the 26th and 41st minutes.

In the day's other match, Surjona SC defeated Mugdapa Samaj Kalyan Sangsad 4-0 at the same venue.

Pavel Ahmed struck twice while Syed Ali and Jasim scored one each.

## Army back

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Ahsanur found the net for Army, who lost their opening game against Sunrise Sporting Club at the Gazipur Stadium, just before the lemon break.

After the breather Army doubled the margin through a 59th minute strike by Ahsanur.

In the day's Group A match, Jatrabari Kira Chakra came from two goals down to hold Bangladesh Police 3-3 at the Gazipur Stadium.

Bishwa Barua put Police ahead in the fourth minute and Kabirul Islam extended the lead in the 32nd minute. But Tapash pulled one back in the 36th minute as the players went for lemon break with Police leading 2-1.

Jatrabari regrouped in the second-half and looked to secure full points after Yamin scored in the 69th minute and Shariful netted in the 83rd minute.

Monirul Hasan however salvaged a draw for Police by scoring a minute from the long whistle.

Bangladesh Navy meet Bangladesh Air Force at the Gazipur Stadium while Victoria Sporting Club face Dhaka Wanderers Club at the Army Stadium at 4pm in the today's matches.

## Nel nails England

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But he did not add to his score before edging an outswinger from Kallis to South Africa captain Graeme Smith at first slip. Makhaya Ntini, bowling with the wind for the first time after seldom threatening earlier, claimed the sixth wicket when Bell was caught behind shortly before tea.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the third Test between England and South Africa at Edgbaston on Wednesday:

**ENGLAND:** First innings  
Strauss hit wicket b Nel 20  
Cook c Kallis b Nel 76

Vaughan c Boucher b Nel 0  
Pietersen c Prince b Kallis 4  
Bell c Boucher b Ntini 50  
Collingwood c Smith b Kallis 4  
Flintoff not out 4

Ambrose not out 0  
Extras: (b-1, lb-7, nb-5, w-2) 15  
Total: (For 6 wickets in 56 overs) 173

Fall of wickets: 1-68, 2-68, 3-74, 4-136, 5-158, 6-173

To bat: Anderson, Sidebottom, Panesar

**Bowler** **O** **M** **R** **W**  
Morkel 15 2 50 0  
Ntini 11 4 41 1  
Nel 14 5 43 3  
Kallis 13 5 24 2  
Harris 3 0 7 0

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Smith, McKenzie, Amla, Kallis, Prince, De Villiers, Boucher, Morkel, Harris, Nel, Ntini Toss: England.

**Umpires:** Aleem Dar and Steve Davis.

## Glamour couple

FROM PAGE 17

it much because I don't think it is my business unless it disrupts the team and it hasn't done that."

Thompson added that romances and break-ups were natural on swim teams where many competitors are teenagers or in their early 20s. But he said there was no strategy in place such as counselling.

"We've got used to having teenagers in the team, and those who are married with kids," he said.

"There are no rule books for dealing with things like this. We're lucky that they are such professional athletes and mature young people who deal with it."

Retired Australian swimming great Ian Thorpe said the break was "bad timing" but also believed the pair would remain focused on winning gold in Beijing.

"It's one of those situations where you feel sorry for them but they're both professionals... hopefully they'll stick to the task at hand," he told Channel Nine television in Australia.

# Onus on batters: Anil

Cricket

CRICINFO, Galle

Anil Kumble is a man of few words when it comes to addressing the media before, during and after a match but his crisp verdict that India needed to win in Galle at any cost was the most forthright he's been this series. The last time India trailed a three-match series 0-1 was against Sri Lanka in 2001-02 and this Test could prove to be the most important in recent history, given that a loss here could seriously throw up composition concerns going forward into a busy season.

"One down is one down, whether you're in Australia or Sri Lanka, so it's a matter of regrouping," said Kumble. "We've done that and spent quality time discussing issues on and off the field, seeing how we can cope and come back. We've done that in the past with the same set of players and there is definitely a lot of experience and resilience in this team."

"We will fall back on that resilience and I'm sure we will be able to put up a better show and get the right result here. We need to win this Test match. That's the approach we are taking."

India clearly underperformed at the SSC but before questions started to fly around about who was at fault, Kumble pointed out it was a collective failure. "If you look at the team, overall we didn't play to our potential," he said. "It is wrong to point fingers at one batsman or one player. Whatever confidence I can give as a captain and team member, I've done that. It is not just the batting line-up. It's all the members of this team. We are all disappointed at what happened in the last game and we're looking forward to this challenge."

Perhaps aware that the only sides to beat Sri Lanka in Galle did

so because of massive totals, Kumble stressed on batting well. "We will definitely approach this Test in a very positive way. The series is still alive and we'd like to go out and get as many runs as possible. We need a good score and have quality spinners as well to ensure we come into the game," he said. "It is a good surface for the fast

bowlers as well. There will be a bit of swing because of the conditions here. But I'm sure the spinners will definitely come into play."

Coming to Sri Lanka and winning was never going to be easy, said Kumble, but the signs shown in the past four days led him to believe they were hungry to prove they could win. He also said he had



PHOTO: AFP  
India's dependable batsman Rahul Dravid goes on the front foot during a training session at the Galle International Stadium on Wednesday.

## Dalmiya CAB chief again

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Jagmohan Dalmiya has been elected president of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB), a position from which he was unseated in December 2006 following charges of embezzlement. Dalmiya, a former president of both the ICC and the BCCI, defeated the incumbent, Prasad Mukherjee, to secure a seat on the Indian board.

Dalmiya won by 71 votes to 47, an overwhelming margin for someone virtually out of cricket for the past 18 months. His supporters also swept the polls for the other positions, including those of secretary and treasurer.

"Cricket in the state needs me, that's why I'm back," Dalmiya told the Telegraph, a Kolkata-based daily. "I'll require a couple of days to sit down with colleagues and then chalk out plans. Initially, I wanted to make a comeback so that I could emerge without a blemish, but that changed once Bengal got relegated to the Plate Division in the Ranji Trophy. Nothing personal is a priority. Today, there's much work to do."

The election has created interest far beyond Kolkata, because of Dalmiya's bitter and long-running rivalry with the current BCCI

## Marshall returns

FROM PAGE 17

South African experiences with the academy cricketers.

Shakil also informed that the board in principle has decided to form a different selection committee for the Academy and age-group teams to ease the burden of the national selectors.

Grameenphone director (marketing) Rubaba Dowla also spoke in the function.

## SQUAD

Suhrawardi Shuvo (captain), Sahagir Hossain (vice captain), Farhad Hossain, Shamsur Rahman, Marshall Ayub, Nadif Chowdhury, Imrul Kayes, Jahurul Islam, Nasir Hossain, Raihan Uddin, Mahbubul Alam Robin, Shafiq-Al-Jabir, Ziaur Rahman and Delwar Hossain.

## BCB seminar

FROM PAGE 17

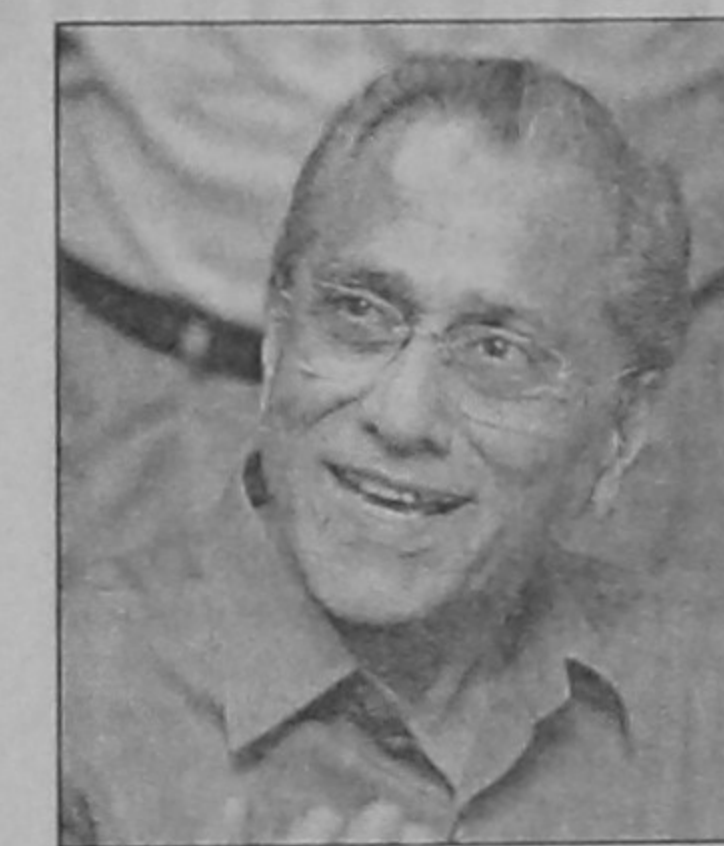
this course and will put into practice to make the BCB a more vibrant organization," said BCB game development committee chairman Shakil Kasem.

BCB cricket operations chairman Gazi Ashraf Hossain felt the seminar provided an eye to the future of BCB.

"I can see all the departments of the BCB represented in this course and everyone has taken this very seriously. We will continue with our endeavour to train our staff through such programmes and in the coming days I am sure we will be able to concentrate more on policy decisions while you managers run the show with initiative and leadership."

administration. The charges of embezzlement -- relating to the 1996 World Cup, and for which he was arrested before being released on bail -- were levelled by the BCCI after Sharad Pawar took over as president. Dalmiya had used his casting vote to help his nominee, Ranbir Singh Mahendra, defeat Pawar in the BCCI presidential election in 2004. On Tuesday night, Pawar said Dalmiya's win was an "internal matter".

Mukherjee -- Dalmiya's opponent in this election -- had been part of Pawar's camp within the



JAGMOHAN DALMIYA

board. The last time the two fought each other in an election, in 2006, Mukherjee had the backing of Pawar and the state's chief minister but lost to Dalmiya by one vote. The embezzlement charge led to Dalmiya being expelled from the BCCI and forced to resign from the CAB post, which then fell to Mukherjee.

Dalmiya challenged the expulsion in the Kolkata High Court and, in July 2007, the court stayed the decision and allowed him to contest elections. The stay came too

late for last year's CAB elections but his return to the fray this year was always on the cards.

Dalmiya's campaign was helped by a general decline in Bengal cricket, of which the lowest point was the Ranji team's relegation from the Elite group. The Mukherjee administration had also seen several glitches, the most glaring and embarrassing being during the first IPL match at Eden Gardens, when the floodlights failed. Mukherjee had suffered a personal embarrassment too several months ago when he was forced to step down as the city's police chief following a controversial murder case.

Mukherjee, however, said the result was unexpected. "The members wanted Dalmiya back and this mandate is overwhelmingly in his favour," Mukherjee said. "I have nothing to say and I congratulate Dalmiya and wish him all the best."

"But this result is unexpected for me and I have not really understood why this happened. I don't want to go into the reasons."

Since his ouster from the CAB in 2006, Dalmiya spent time fighting various legal battles relating to cricket; apart from the embezzlement case, being heard in a Mumbai metropolitan court, he has filed perjury charges against Pawar, his successor Shashank Manohar and BCCI secretary Niranjan Shah. He has also been the subject of investigations by the state government over irregularities in his tannery business.

## THE PANEL

Jagmohan Dalmiya (president), Biswarup Dey, Arun Mitra (joint-secretaries), Samar Kar, Shib Kumar Kalyani, Shibaji Dutta (vice-presidents), Bablu Ganguly (treasurer).

no plans to change the batting order, as he had complete faith in the names on the team sheet.

India's combination for this Test will remain "more or less the same as before" and nothing in India's practice session suggested a change either. The mood was upbeat, with Gary Kirsten, the coach, sharing laughs with India's batsmen as he handed out catching practice. Venkatesh Prasad was stoic as he monitored the bowlers but there was nothing out of the ordinary at that end of the ground. Zaheer Khan's departure from practice early was not a matter of concern, said Kumble, as it was team policy to allow a player to leave once he felt satisfied.

After losing the toss in Colombo, how crucial would it be here in Galle? "Toss and weather is not something we like to concentrate on," Kumble said. "Whether we bat or bowl first we need to do a good job -- bat well, land the ball in the right areas, take our catches. In the subcontinent the toss plays a crucial role but we can't worry about it too much."

Last December, when England played Sri Lanka in Galle's comeback Test, Kevin Pietersen was flipping through the channels one evening when he came upon highlights of The Oval Test in 1998 when Muttiah Muralidaran famously wrecked England's batting line-up. On the eve of the Test, Pietersen noted how much England's approach to Muralidaran had improved since then. After being bowled out for 81 in their first innings, England creditably rallied to 251 before rain forced a draw. England's batsmen allowed Muralidaran only four wickets in that Test, and so Pietersen's observations were correct in a way.

India will hope that their batsmen have improved since they last played Sri Lanka in Galle in 2001 -- and that will be a true test of the resilience Kumble speaks of.

## Dollar picks

FROM PAGE 17

Mahmud had both openers Horton and Brown clean bowled and Tamim took the catch that removed skipper Law. Loye, the attacking right-hander, edged spinner Rubel to wicketkeeper Dhiman Ghosh.

Earlier, it was left-handed national opener Tamim Iqbal who slammed nine boundaries in his 53-ball knock in an enterprising half-century that took Bangladesh A in a good position. But as soon as he fell, the second string side were in trouble and soon were bowled out for 182 in 45.5 overs.

Nayeem Islam, the right-handed batsman, patiently scored 30 off 71 balls as wickets fell around him after Tamim fell when the score was on 93.

Nazimuddin chipped in with 24 off 27 balls with four boundaries.

Paceman Steven Cheetham and leg-spinner Francois du Plessis took three wickets each while Steven Croft took two.

England discard Sajid Mahmood and left-arm Gary Keedy contributed to the Lancastrian cause with a wicket apiece.

Bangladesh A are on the final stretch of their UK tour as they play two remaining one-day matches against MCC and Durham.

## Sharmin

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contestants -- swimmers Dolly Akther (50m freestyle), Rubel Rana (100m backstroke), athletes Nazmun Nahar Beauty (100m sprint), Mohammad Abu Abdullah (100m sprint) and shooter Mohammad Imam Hossain (10m air rifles) -- will represent Bangladesh in the sports mega event.

The 17-member Bangladesh contingent's chief-de-mission Maj Gen Shakil Ahmed met the Olympic-bound athletes, coaches and officials yesterday.

The first batch consisting the chief-de-mission and BOA secretary general leave country on Aug 4. The second batch comprising athletes and coaches will leave on Aug while the rest on August 7.



PHOTO: STAR  
Grand Master Ziaur Rahman (L) moves a piece during his first round game against Monir Hossain in the 8th United Insurance International Masters Chess Tournament at the BCF hall-room yesterday.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

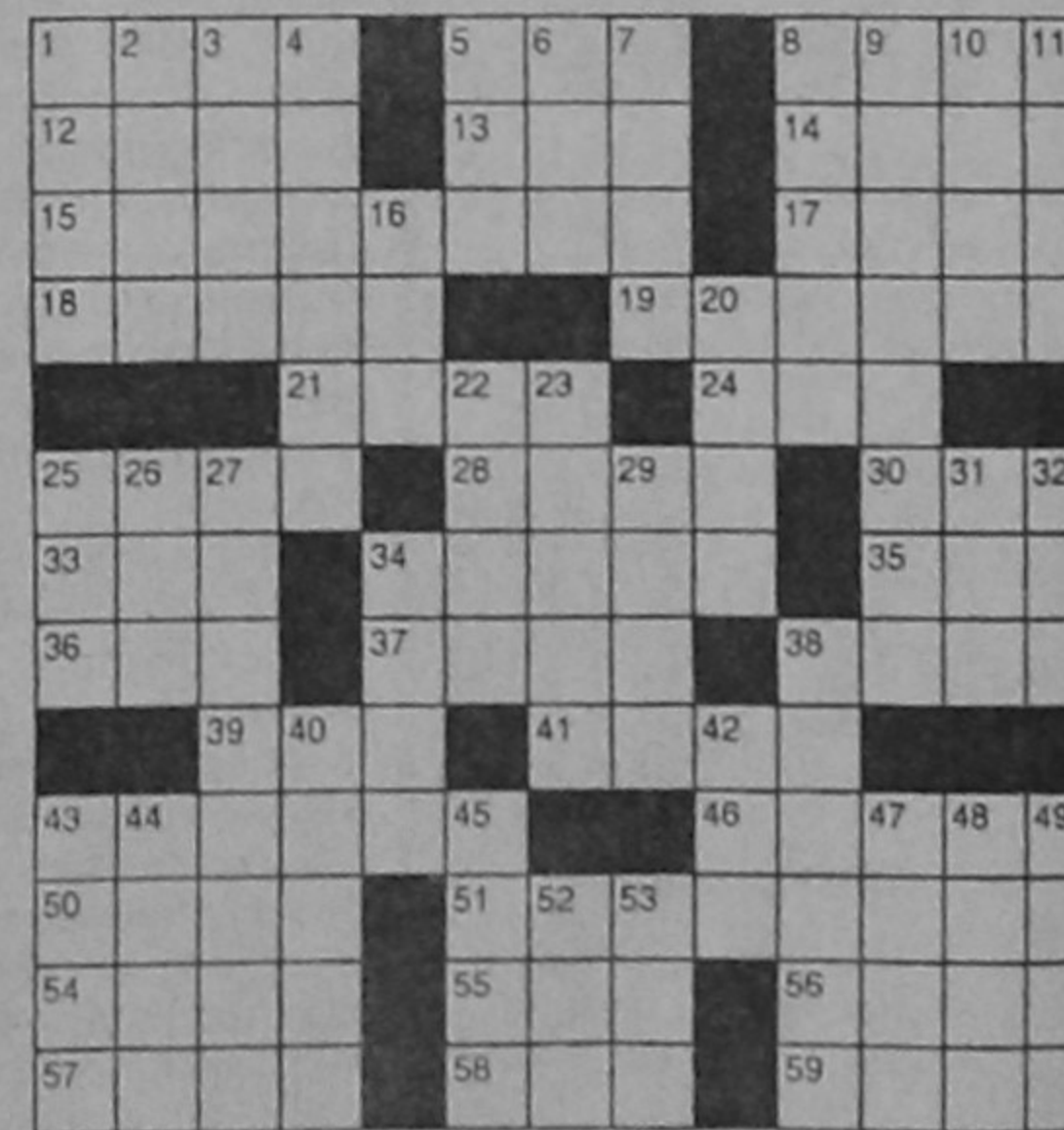
**ACROSS**  
1 Tibetan monk  
5 Brooch  
8 First victim  
12 Blackbirds  
13 Buck's mate  
14 Portrayal  
15 Personal aura  
17 River of England  
18 Strips in the kitchen?  
19 House-coat of a sort  
21 Pinion partner  
24 Architect I.M.  
25 Diastemata  
28 Fibs  
30 Proof abbr.  
33 Volcano output  
34 Easter symbol  
35 E.T.'s craft  
36 The air up there  
37 Give a makeover

**DOWN**  
1 Elia's real name  
2 Author of Selton  
3 Uncate-gorized (Abbr.)  
4 John Jacob and kin  
5 Without delay  
6 Debtor's letters  
7 Requirement  
8 Got up  
9 Small shop  
10 Otherwise  
11 Groucho-like look  
16 -- jiffy

**20** Daisy lead-in  
**22** Hint  
**23** In a way  
**25** Petrol  
**26** Invite  
**27** Bod  
**29** Carbon compound  
**31** Small salamander  
**32** Homer's letters  
**34** Cereal choice  
**38** Alaska explorer  
**40** Made comfortable  
**42** Performance  
**43** At a distance  
**44** Full of wisdom  
**45** Con game  
**47** Blue hue  
**48** Lather  
**49** Dickens' Uriah  
**52** Kanga's kid  
**53** Mamie's man

Solution time: 21 mins.

YULE MAH SLID  
ORAL JOE HARE  
UNDEEPIN ODIN  
VIE EFFECT  
TOYEM AYLA  
OMEN UNDEROOD  
FAK FLETO ETA  
UNDERDRO WAIT  
JOHN PARCE  
NATION REBERIO  
TIGER SAG UNRU  
NEWS TIV 3050



CRYPTOQUIP

YNJCISY, FXCHPWXY JBL

WJLRSEYOY JCH SHNKQXBO

FXWLWR AKAEWJC, X FKEWL

NJWW XV SHHVWHQJBXX

Yesterday's Cryptquip: BECAUSE THE MATHEMATICIAN NEEDED TO USE A GRIPPING TOOL, HE GRABBED HIS MULTI-PLIERS.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: W equals L