

Sylhet surprise

FROM PAGE 12
Ziaur 14, extras 19, Wasel 2-30, Ehsanul 2-48, Yasir 2-57, Sabbir 3-49, Ilias 1-41).

CHITTAGONG: First innings 422 and second innings 140-4 in 36.1 overs (Masum 35, Salahuddin 56, Nazimuddin 23, Ehsanul 14, Sadik 1-28, Sazzadul 1-35, Sahagir 1-9, Salam 1-6).

Result: Chittagong won by six wickets.

Jaques added

FROM PAGE 12
Jaques will fly to South Africa on Wednesday to bolster the Australian touring party following injuries to skipper Ricky Ponting (abdominal muscle strain), all-rounder Andrew Symonds (hip flexor strain) and Stuart Clark (rib bruising), which forced them out of Sunday's opening ODI loss to the Proteas.

All are battling to be fit in time for Friday's second ODI in Cape Town.

In his only ODI Jaques made 94 off 112 balls against South Africa in Melbourne last month.

Tigers expect

FROM PAGE 12
spin-attack to maintain their winning record against Bangladesh.

"I have seen the wicket and it looked pretty dry and a lot rolled. If there is any moisture in the morning, it will dry out with the sunshine. You know there are plenty of spinners in our line-up and even a few batsman can spin," said the 28-year-old middle-order batsman.

He, however, praised Bangladesh highly. "They bowled very well in the last series and it was not easy to score runs against them. So, we have to do all the hard work. But guys have adjusted to the conditions which was not easy, especially who have come for the Test series only," he said.

Coach Tom Moody denied that they were short of experience in absence of pace spearhead Chaminda Vaas.

"(Lasith) Malinga has been playing over the past year while Dilhara Fernando is also playing for quite some time now although he has been irregular in the squad. I think it has given them an opportunity to do something," said the former Australian cricketer.

SQUADS
BANGLADESH (from): Habibul Bashar (captain), Khaled Mashud (vice-captain), Iaved Omar, Nafees Iqbal, Shahriar Nafees, Mohammad Ashraful, Alok Kapali, Rajni Saleh, Mohammad Rafique, Enamul Haque, Shahadat Hossain, Syed Rassel.

SRI LANKA (from): Mahela Jayawardene (captain), Kumar Sangakkara (vice-captain), Upul Tharanga, Michael Vandort, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Chamara Kapugedera, Prasanna Jayawardene, Muttiah Muralidaran, Malinga Bandara, Farveez Maharoof, Dammika Prasad, Lasith Malinga, Dilhara Fernando, Thilhan Samaraweera, Sajeeva Weerakoon.

Shabbir can't

FROM PAGE 12
"The 12 month time period is set to ensure that a bowler can modify his action not merely to pass a test but to embed improvements on a permanent basis so they will withstand the demands of bowling long spells under the pressure of international cricket."

Shabbir, who has taken 51 wickets in 10 Tests, is the first bowler to be banned for 12 months.

Shabbir was banned after tests on his bowling action proved he exceeded the prescribed limit of 15 degrees for a bent arm on the delivery stride.

He underwent remedial measures on his action supervised by former Pakistan seamer Sarfraz Nawaz, but the ICC's review group upheld the suspension.

The review group included former Indian paceman Javagal Srinath and Sri Lankan batsman Rohan Mahanama.

Did U Know?

Swimming was one of the original sports in the first modern Olympics, held in Athens in 1896. Until 1908, the competition took place in the sea.



AS Roma defender Cristian Chivu (above) celebrates the first goal against Lazio with his teammates during their Serie A clash at the Olympic Stadium in Rome on Sunday.

SERIE A

Roma set new record

Football

REUTERS, Rome
AS Roma set a record of 11 consecutive Serie A wins when goals by Rodrigo Taddei and Alberto Aquilani secured a 2-0 triumph over city rivals Lazio on Sunday.

Roma's run of victories eclipsed the previous best of 10 in a row held jointly by Juventus (1931-32), AC Milan (1950-51) and Bologna (1963-64).

The derby win kept Roma fourth in the table with 54 points from 27 matches.

Leaders Juventus (70 points) came from behind to defeat struggling Lecce 3-1 and maintain their 10-point advantage over AC Milan, who won 2-0 in Palermo.

Inter Milan lie third on 58 points after beating Udinese 3-1.

Without captain Francesco Totti, who fractured his ankle against Empoli last week, Roma lacked their usual fluency early on.

Lazio looked more dangerous and striker Tommaso Rocchi struck the first in the 13th minute.

"Roma showed their ruthlessness" by taking advantage of their first

scoring chance in the 31st minute, Taddei rising at the near post to nod in the corner.

Lazio continued to press but lacked the spark to break through the defence and Roma made sure of maximum points in the 63rd minute.

Brazilian Mancini dribbled into the area before cutting the ball back for Aquilani to follow past Angelo Peruzzi.

Totti, who watched the game from the touchline close to Roma's dugout, was ecstatic about his side's record-breaking run.

"Now we have made history and nothing else matters," said the 29-year-old striker.

At Juventus, Lecce took the lead when Gennaro Delvechio drove to head Alfonso Camorani's cross past Gianluigi Buffon in the 10th minute.

The champions hit back when Emerson back-heeled Adrian Mutu's low shot into the net eight minutes later.

Defender Robert Kovac put Juve ahead on 44 minutes, heading in Mutu's free-kick for his first Serie A goal.

Lecce were reduced to 10 men when Camorani picked up his second yellow card after 51 minutes.

"Alessandro Del Piero made sure of victory for Juve with a penalty after

Pavel Nedved was tripped by Davide Giorgino.

Filippo Inzaghi put AC Milan 1-0 up on Palermo, rising above his marker to head in Johann Vogel's 72nd-minute cross.

Andriy Shevchenko clinched Milan's fourth Serie A win in a row from the penalty spot seven minutes from time after he was tripped by keeper Mariano Andujar.

Inter overcame 14th-placed Udinese thanks to two goals from Julio Cruz, one a penalty, and an effort from his strike partner Obafemi Martins.

The home team's win was soured when Walter Samuel was red-carded for a heavy tackle on Vincenzo Iaquinta after 67 minutes.

Iaquinta netted a consolation goal for Udinese, who had Cristian Zapata dismissed with five minutes left.

TOP SIX

Team	P	W	L	D	G/A	Pts
Juventus	27	22	4	1	56	18 70
AC Milan	27	19	3	5	60	24 60
Inter Milan	27	18	4	5	51	21 58
Roma	27	16	6	5	51	25 54
Fiorentina	27	16	5	6	46	29 53
Livorno	27	11	11	5	29	26 44

Ronaldo hits back at Raul

Football

AFP, Madrid
Sunday's defeat at Real Mallorca has intensified a simmering feud between Real Madrid stars Raul and Ronaldo with the Brazilian hitting back at earlier criticism from the Spanish international.

Raul had accused his teammate of dampening some of the 'magic' of the Champions League after saying on the eve of last week's home defeat by Arsenal that he had "never really felt at home at the Bernabeu" and that fans "don't show any patience to me." But the criticism irked the three-time world player of the year and ended Real's hopes of overhauling runaway league leaders Barcelona. Ronaldo hit back at his fellow 'galactico'.

"Everyone says what he wants and talks about what he wants. Raul is responsible for his own words and I am for mine, but it's sure that his words have only made the situation worse," Ronaldo told Cadena Cope radio following Sunday's loss.

Raul has been an idol at the Bernabeu for over a decade and has won three European Cups.

Ronaldo, in contrast, has in his three seasons failed to land the continental

mental game's top honour and the media he has been awash with speculation he will head back to Italy in the summer, either to former club Inter Milan or city rivals AC Milan.

Real defender Sergio Ramos, who scored a consolation goal in Mallorca, also commented on the

apparent lack of unity in the squad.

"After my goal, I had the impression it was Mallorca who had scored," he said.

"Unity makes you strong and that's a factor which counts for a lot. It would be different if relations between players were warmer," he said.

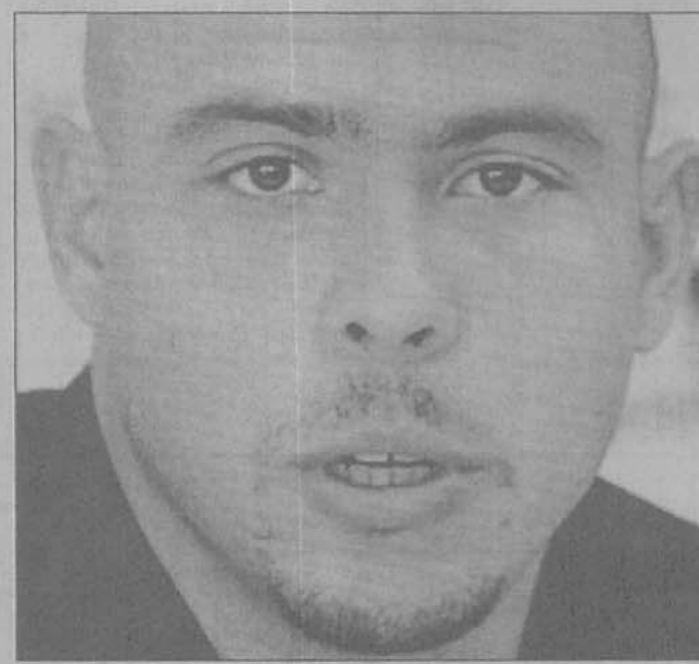
Tabloid newspaper reports claimed the 29-year-old Dutchman had been deliberately snubbed by Sir Alex Ferguson after a bust-up over the Manchester United manager's decision to field Louis Saha alongside Wayne Rooney in attack.

Van Nistelrooy, scorer of 147 goals in 208 games for United, certainly cut a disconsolate figure as he trudged off the field, apparently deep in thought after briefly joining his teammates for their end-of-match celebrations.

Ferguson however played down talk of a rift, insisting that Saha had deserved his chance after scoring five goals in United's four pre-final matches in the competition.

"I explained to Raul that Louis Saha deserved his chance in the final. Raul really only came into the competition in the second leg of the semifinal and he seemed fine in the dressing room.

"It is not about who is the best player. If you keep overlooking players like Louis then you are going to create a problem."



RONALDO

Smith propels Proteas

Football

FROM PAGE 12
"He will undergo intensive treatment and will be reassessed late next week," said Alcott.

Symonds had been expected to play Sunday but Alcott said it had been decided to the player five more days to be fully fit for the second match of the five-game series in Cape Town Friday. Clark is also expected to be fit by Friday.

Stand-in captain Adam Gilchrist decided to bat after winning the toss but his side were soon in trouble as South African opening bowlers Shaun Pollock and Makhaya Ntini took advantage of helpful, overcast conditions.

With rain a constant threat, South Africa were quickly ahead of the required rate despite losing Boeta Dippenaar and Herschelle Gibbs early. Gibbs fell to a sensational run-out by Clarke at short midwicket, with the fielder flinging himself to his left to stop a powerful shot by Smith and flicking the ball in one movement, hitting the stumps at the bowler's end with Gibbs, backing up, unable to get back to his crease.

Smith and AB de Villiers put on 83 off 62 balls with De Villiers playing a dazzling innings of 43 off 30 balls before Smith and Justin Kemp took South Africa to victory with an unbeaten fifth wicket stand of 73.

from ten overs.

Lee and Shane Watson added 51 for the seventh wicket as Australia finished strongly. Andre Nel, in his first match since suffering a foot injury in early January, conceded 21 runs off his final over, which included two sixes by Lee and three wickets.

Ntini gave an improved performance after conceding 44 runs in three overs in a 20-overs international in Johannesburg Friday in his first match since suffering a knee injury in Australia in December. He had figures of two for 25 off eight overs but his ninth and final over cost 17, including two sixes by Nathan Bracken.

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SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard in the first one-day international between South Africa and Australia at Centurion Park on Sunday.

AUSTRALIA: 229 for 8 in 47 overs (Hussey 56, Clarke 53, Lee 38 not out, Watson 22; Pollock 3-23, Ntini 2-42)

SOUTH AFRICA: (target 201 in 41 overs)

Smith not out 119
Dippenaar b Bracken 10
Gibbs run out (Clarke) 0
De Villiers c Gilchrist b Hogg 43
Boucher run out (Katich) 4
Kemp not out 24
Extras: (b-1, nb-1, w-5) 7
Total: (For 47 wks in 37.3 overs) 207

Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-28, 3-111, 4-134. Did not bat: Pollock, Peterson, Hall, Ntini, Nel

Bowler
O M R W
Lee 10 0 59 0
Bracken 8 1 27 1
Johnson 3 0 28 0
Lewis 3 0 25 0
Hogg 8 1 30 1
Clarke 3.3 0 19 0
Watson 2 0 18 0

Result: South Africa won by 6 wickets on Duckworth-Lewis method and take 1-0 lead in the five-match series.

Man-of-the-match: Graeme Smith.

Second match: Cape Town, March 3.

Ronaldinho ruled out of Russia friendly

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Ronaldinho will miss Brazil's World Cup warm-up against Russia in Moscow on Wednesday after picking up an injury in Barcelona's Champions League win against Chelsea last week.

The World Footballer of the Year left Stamford Bridge with a swollen left ankle but was still considered fit enough to turn out for Barcelona against Real Zaragoza on Saturday.

But after scoring a penalty in the 2-0 win the injury flared up again forcing Ronaldinho to leave the pitch before the final whistle.

Ronaldinho joins AC Milan keeper Dida and Julio Cesar (Inter Milan) on the sidelines for Wednesday's game at Lokomotiv Moscow's ground.

Brazil have friendlies against Croatia, Australia and Japan also lined up as part of their preparations to defend their World Cup crown in Germany this summer.

Cup solace for Man U

AFP, Cardiff

Wayne Rooney scored twice as Manchester United avoided the ignominy of a second consecutive trophy-less season by hammering Wigan 4-0 to win the League Cup.

Louis Saha, with his sixth goal in the competition, and Cristiano Ronaldo also found the net as Wigan, appearing in the first major final of the club's history, found themselves out of their depth in the Millennium Stadium.

The triumph in a competition Ferguson has treated with disdain for most of his time at Old Trafford will provide only limited consolation for the fact that Chelsea are virtually wrapped up a second consecutive Premiership title and for United's early exit from the Champions League and the FA Cup this season.

Wigan, beaten 4-0 on their last meeting with United at Old Trafford in December, looked destined to suffer a similar fate from the outset of one of the most one-sided finals in memory.

Ruud's United future in doubt

AFP, Cardiff

Ruud van Nistelrooy's Manchester United future has been thrown into fresh doubt after the club's top striker was left on the bench for all of the 4-0 League Cup final win over Wigan.

Tabloid newspaper reports claimed the 29-year-old Dutchman had been deliberately snubbed by Sir Alex Ferguson after a bust-up over the Manchester United manager's decision to field Louis Saha alongside Wayne Rooney in attack.

Van Nistelrooy, scorer of 147 goals in 208 games for United, certainly cut a disconsolate figure as he trudged off the field, apparently deep in thought after briefly joining his teammates for their end-of-match celebrations.

Ferguson however played down talk of a rift, insisting that Saha had deserved his chance after scoring five goals in United's four pre-final matches in the competition.

"I explained to Ruud that Louis Saha deserved his chance in the final. Ruud really only came into the competition in the second leg of the semifinal and he seemed fine in the dressing room.

"It is not about who is the best player. If you keep overlooking players like Louis then you are going to create a problem."

'South Africans outplayed us'

REUTERS, Centurion

Australia's stand-in captain Adam Gilchrist acknowledged the world champions were comprehensively outplayed in the opening one-day international against South Africa on Sunday.

"Man for man, South Africa just outplayed, outbatted and outfielded us. We just didn't deliver today," Gilchrist told reporters after Australia slumped to a six-wicket defeat in the first game of the five-match series.

Gilchrist also refused to use injuries to skipper Ricky Ponting, all-rounder Andrew Symonds and fast bowler Stuart Clark as an excuse.

The injuries to Ponting (abdominal muscle), Symonds (thigh) and Clark (ribs) meant the visitors were reduced to 11 fit men.

Mitchell Johnson and Mick Lewis, with only six one-day internationals between them, had to play and South Africa punished the inexperienced pacemen mercilessly. The duo bowled only three overs each for a combined cost of 53 runs.

Paceman Brett Lee also finished with none for 59 in his 10 overs as South Africa, chasing a revised target of 204 in 41 overs, eased home with 21 balls to spare.

PRIMERA LIGA

Real beaten, Valencia held

Football

REUTERS, Madrid

Third-placed Real Madrid lost 2-1 at lowly Real Mallorca on Sunday, ending their six-match winning run in the Primera Liga.

With second-placed Valencia held to a 1-1 home draw by Getafe, Barcelona strengthened their grip at the top thanks to Saturday's 2-0 victory at Real Zaragoza.

The champions have 58 points from 25 games, Valencia have 50 points and Real 48.

Osasuna, in fourth on 46 points, failed to take advantage of Real's defeat as they lost 2-1 at home to Deportivo La Coruna, who are seventh on 40.

Real were cautious and disappointed after their midweek Champions League defeat by Arsenal.

The visitors took the lead against the run of play through Sergio Ramos after 32 minutes but 16th-placed Mallorca always looked dangerous.

Argentine striker Leonardo Pisiculi levelled from the penalty spot in the 53rd minute and 10 minutes from time Venezuelan forward Juan Arango grabbed the winner.

It was new coach Gregorio

Manzano's second win in two games since taking over from Hector Cuper at Mallorca two weeks ago.

"Mallorca were deserved winners," Real coach Juan Ramon Lopez Caro told reporters.

Their workrate, organisation and finishing was the difference between the two sides.

Getafe held firm under intense pressure from Valencia until they had Argentine defender Anibal Matellan sent off in the 65th minute.

Valencia defender David Navarro broke the deadlock from close range after Fabio Aurelio's free-kick was headed back across goal by Mario Regueiro on 78 minutes.

A wayward pass from David Albelda into his own area allowed Nano to sneak in and fire an unlikely equaliser for Getafe two minutes from time.

The draw allowed Valencia to stretch their unbeaten league run to 14 games.

Celta Vigo climbed to fifth on 42 points after beating Cadiz 2-0 at home while Sevilla dropped to sixth following their 5-0 defeat at Espanyol.

Real Betis climbed out of the relegation zone with a 2-0 win at home against Real Sociedad and Athletic Bilbao drew 1-1 with

Villarreal.

Madrid always struggled in a rain-lashed encounter against a highly combative Mallorca who had not won at home since Oct 26.

The visitors took the lead when David Beckham's free-kick was headed firmly into the corner by Ramos.

Mallorca never let Real settle and three minutes before the break Arango rounded Iker Casillas and fired into the side-netting from a tight angle.

Early in the second-half Ramos gave striker Iuni the slightest of nudges in the area for a penalty to be awarded which Pisiculi fired straight down the centre of the goal.

Ten minutes from time Angelos Basinas made a strong run through midfield before releasing Arango into space.

This time when he rounded Casillas, Arango made no mistake, stroking the ball into the empty net.

TOP SIX

Team	P	W	D	L	G/A	Pts
Barcelona	25	18	4	3	60	21 58
Valencia	25	14	8	3	37	21 50
Real Madrid	25	15	3	7	48	25 48
Osasuna	25	14	4	7	33	27 46
Celta Vigo	25	13	3	9	27	25 42
Sevilla	25	12	5	8	32	26 41

France can win WC: Zidane



REUTERS, Paris

France will go to Germany believing they can win the World Cup and with a team good enough to do so, a defiant Zinedine Zidane told sports daily L'Equipe on Monday.

"The World Cup is not an important objective, it's the greatest objective. We'll go to Germany to win the World Cup," the French playmaker said in an interview published as France were assembling before Wednesday's friendly against Slovakia.

"We are not going to play a World Cup just for the pleasure of taking part. I don't know if we'll win it but we can make it, I'd stake my life on it," he added.



ZINEDINE ZIDANE
Zidane, who will play his 99th match for France on Wednesday.

"I'm 33, I'll be 34 in Germany. When one has won the World Cup and lost it four years later, winning it back is a magnificent and imperious obligation."

The Real Madrid midfielder, who shelved his international career after the 2004 European championship but returned to help France qualify for the 2006 World Cup, said he was back to form after struggling at the start of the season.

"I have been going well for several weeks. The first six months of the season were difficult because I was injured and Real had bad results," he said.

"The form of a player often depends on his team results. Now, we are doing better in terms of results and quality of play."

Henman powers past Lopez

Tennis

AFP, Dubai

Tim Henman, the former world number four from Britain, won a crucial battle to retain a foothold on the main tour when he prevailed in an up-and-down tussle against Feliciano Lopez, a former finalist, to reach the second round of the Dubai Open.

Henman, whose ranking has sunk to a ten-year low of 49, was so desperate for matches and points that he only entered the tournament at the last moment as a wild card, and his 6-2, 7-6 (8/6) win over the unpredictable Spaniard came as a relief.

"I have had so many problems with my bad back that when I get out there and actually feel healthy I really feel I want to take advantage of it," said Henman, no longer British number one for the first time since 1999.

Henman was given plenty of help

from an erratic Lopez in the first set, during which the world number 38 made too many errors to remain in contention and once slammed the ball into the ground in irritation.

But after Henman had failed to convert three break points in the second game of the second set, and Lopez produced one magical side spin stop volley winner, the match began to change character.

Lopez became dangerous with heavy serves and much heavier ground strokes, and Henman often settled for containment, with blocked service returns and sliced backhands, while watching for opportunities for occasional ambushing net attacks.

Lopez also broke in the next game and but for an umpire's over-rule when a line judge wrongly called a Henman drive out at 2-4, 15-40 Lopez would have gone two breaks up.

But when required to serve for the set at 5-4 Lopez could not manage it, finishing the game with a double fault, and in his next service game at 5-6 he only rescued the match with two gambling volleys.

Three more match points came Henman's way in the tiebreaker before the Briton's short low backhand elicited another driving error from the Spaniard.

"I think one aspect of it was how calm I was on those important points," said Henman. "And the back feels all right too, so I'm very pleased."

Earlier Rainer Schuttler, the 30-old former world number five from Germany, scored his best win for eight months when he upset David Ferrer, the fifth-seeded Spaniard by 2-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Schuttler, who had had only one win in six tournaments this year and only two since October, had made a huge fall to 98 in the world rankings, but now played like a top 20 player again.

But it was a topsy-turvy affair between two not dissimilar, mobile, hard-working baseliners with Schuttler appearing to have lost two important leads only to be presented with another late chance which he grabbed.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Goblet part
5 Commonest English word
8 Shed leathers
12 Volcanic outflow
13 Drone
14 Medley
15 Figure-skating jump
16 String around your finger, e.g.
18 Many BB shooter
21 Shaft of light
23 Debtor's letters
24 Thrash wildly
28 Bridge position
31 Actress
32 Automobile style
34 Pi follower
35 Tarzan's entourage

DOWN
17 Mid-afternoon, a sundial
19 Camera necessity
22 Jason's helper
24 Ga. neighbor
25 Talk
26 Prelude
27 "Baker Street" singer
29 The girl
30 Anderson's "High —"
33 Dweeb
36 Kin of golfer Sam
38 Nutty confection
40 Raggedy —
42 Attention-getter
43 Here (Sp.)
44 Pierre's st.
46 Arrived
47 Squared
48 Fender bender
50 Prior to

Solution time: 24 mins.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				13			14			
15				16			17			
18		19		20						
			21		22		23			
24	25	26				27	28		29	30
31			32			33		34		
35		36		37			38			
			39		40		41			
42	43			44	45		46	47	48	
49				50			51			
52				53			54			
55				56			57			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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24	25	26				27	28		29	30
31			32			33		34		
35		36		37			38			
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42	43			44	45		46	47	48	
49				50			51			
52				53			54			
55				56			57			

CRYPTOQUIP
D W E R Z F H B K H Z N N H
W N B M Z F H B S C H D O Z B K C Y Z
G B F K Z F . H Y B S N O M Z G E N N

Y Z F E H C F Z Z C R Z C E N N Z F ?
Saturday's Cryptquip: TV DRAMA SHOW ABOUT A GUY WHO TENDS TO NEVER LEAVE ANYTHING OUT. "OMISSION IMPOSSIBLE."
Today's Cryptquip Clue: C equals T

The Cryptquip 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 equaling an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.