



Zahid Fazal, the Pakistani Test cricketer, cuts Sri Lankan Sajith Fernando during the first SAARC cricket tournament tie at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Zahid Fazal made amends for earlier failures with an unbeaten on 31 as Pakistan stormed to a nine-wicket win.

Local umpires need exposure, says Rabbani

Sports Reporter
"Bangladeshi umpires are very keen to learn but like the players they also lack exposure for which they make some errors under pressure", Ekram Rabbani, the Pakistani umpire, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Rabbani, who conducted two matches involving Bangladesh in the now-postponed inaugural SAARC cricket tournament along with local

E RABBANI ... Pak umpire
umpires, suggested that Bangladeshi umpires be given intensive training by bringing over foreign umpires.
Forty-nine-year-old Rabbani, who has conducted one Test match and eight one-day internationals, mentioned local players like pacesman Saiful Islam, Golam Nawsher Prince, Aminul Islam Bulbul, Minhazul Abedin Nannu and Akram Khan as talented cricketers.

"Bangladesh are likely to start as favourites in the 1994 ICC Trophy and they may very well be one of the three teams to make the 1995 World Cup berths", said Rabbani.

Rabbani, who vehemently opposed the idea of TV replays in cricket, however, strongly advocated for a panel of neutral umpires.
"This has now become a necessity and we should accept it", Rabbani stated matter-of-factly.

JU badminton

By JU Correspondent
Eight matches were decided on the opening day of the Jahangir Nagar University inter-department badminton championships at the university gymnasium on Tuesday.



Players of German league side Werder Bremen (from left to right) Uwe Hartgen, Austrian Andreas Herzog, Hans Juergen and Norwegian Rune Bratseth displaying their new jerseys with the slogan "My friend is foreigner" in a photo session at Bremen on December 8.

Pak manager tips Bangladesh to play next World Cup

World Cup
Pakistan team manager Mian Wasem Ahmed Nasir Bhatti feels Bangladesh will play in the next World Cup cricket championship.

"Bangladesh will definitely be one of the three associate members of the ICC to qualify for the 1995 World Cup cricket championship."
"Bangladeshi players have the talent; what they lack is exposure for which the completion of the four-nation first ever SAARC cricket tournament is a must."

These were some of the observations made by Bhatti while talking to The Daily Star last evening at his hotel room.
Clad in the traditional Pakistani dress of kurta and shalwar, Bhatti seemed quite interested about development of cricket in Bangladesh.

"We want Bangladesh cricket to flourish and to reach this goal we are ready to assist you in all possible way," said the 43-year-old Pakistani manager.

President of the Sargodha Division Cricket Association Bhatti, who is also a member of the BCCP, wants to see the Bangladesh team reach Test level in the near future.
"Three neighbouring countries of Bangladesh are members of the elite club and I see no reason, why Bangladesh couldn't be another", Bhatti said.

The amiable Bhatti, who is a Deputy Commissioner, quickly retorted when this correspondent expressed doubts over Bangladesh's chances of ever playing test cricket.

"What you need is strong motivation and good planning", Bhatti prescribed.
A member of the monitoring board for domestic cricket in Pakistan Bhatti suggested that Bangladesh should participate in the prestigious Quaid-e-Azam cricket tournament in Pakistan.

"Although no foreign team is allowed to play in that tournament, arrangements can be made for Bangladesh as a gesture of genuine goodwill", Bhatti felt.

The Pakistani manager, who has reportedly informed the Bangladesh Cricket Control

Board (BCCB) about this offer, also suggested that Bangladeshi teams should play in exhibition matches in Pakistan.

Always preferring Test cricket to the instant variety, Bhatti assured that he could help Bangladeshi clubs sign up good, promising Pakistani cricketers.

"Pak players in the making can always play in Bangladesh



W A N BHATTI

for nominal fees," said Bhatti.
"He explained that two formats of cricket—one dayers and four-dayers—are being held in Pakistan with all leading clubs and divisional sides taking part.

"Performance in domestic cricket is the main criterion to select players for the national team," the Pak manager said when he was asked to give an idea of the domestic cricket set-up in Pakistan.

Bhatti, who was all praise for the BCCB officials and their hospitality, also thanked the local crowd.
"They're indeed sporting", said the Pakistani manager.

The Pakistani team, which reached the final with yesterday's win, leaves for home today but will definitely return if the tournament is rescheduled for next January, Bhatti pledged.

"We feel very much at home away from home in Dhaka. That's one of the reasons we would love to come here again," concluded the friendly and unassuming Pakistani team official.

Mathur thinks it's too early to call off England's tour

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Dec 9: Indian cricket tour manager Amrit Mathur said on Tuesday his players were worried about the religious unrest at home but it was too early to consider cancelling England's forthcoming tour, reports Reuter.

"The boys are naturally worried and they have been phoning home to find out more about the situation," Mathur said. "It is difficult to get full information here. But it is not something we want to comment on."

At least 400 people have been killed and hundreds injured since the violence began when Hindu militants demolished a mosque in Ayodhya.

England's Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) are monitoring the situation and will seek advice from the foreign office ahead of their planned departure for India on December 28.

Mathur said it was too early to think about cancelling the tour. "It is still some way off," he said.
The Indian players have been on tour since mid-October and return home in early January. They were reluctant to discuss the unrest.

Mohammad Azharuddin, the captain, is in a particularly sensitive position as the only Muslim player in the side. "I don't want to talk about it," he said.

Team doctor Ali Irani is the only other Muslim in the 19-strong tour party.

There is no sign of religious dissension within the team.

\$ 4.9m Aussie Open

MELBOURNE, Dec 9: Defending champions Jim Courier and Monica Seles will lead the \$4.9 million Australian Open tennis tournament's strongest entry yet in January, it's general manager said Wednesday, reports AP.

The top 19 ranked players in the world have entered the men's singles. John McEnroe is the highest-ranked absentee at No 20.

General manager Jim Reid said 29 of the top 30 women players had entered, and No 5 ranked Martina Navratilova was the only absentee.

Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi will make his Australian Open debut.

Stefan Edberg, Pete Sampras, Goran Ivanisevic and Boris Becker head the challengers to Courier, while Steffi Graf, Gabriela Sabatini and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario are the highest-ranked women players behind Seles.

N'ganj Club tennis

Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Dec 9: Maruf will be up against Faisal Huq in the men's final of the Paradise Cable tennis championship, organised to mark the centenary celebrations of Narayanganj Club, at the club courts here tomorrow.
Maruf beat Rumon in straight sets in the first semifinal while Faisal Huq was stretched to three sets before edging out Fayaz in the other semifinal.

In the women's singles, Saathi outclassed Seema in the semifinal to set a final date with Rina, who outclassed Anju in her semifinal engagement.

In the boys' singles final Johnny will take on Omar.
Johnny registered a straight sets victory over Obhi while Omar struggled to beat Faisal in a three-setter.

PSG, Auxerre in UEFA Cup qtrs

PARIS, Dec 9: French clubs won the UEFA Cup's Franco-Belgian summit Tuesday night and reached the quarter-finals of the competition—Paris St Germain putting out Anderlecht and Auxerre eliminating Standard Liege, reports AFP.

But it took a headed goal from late substitute Antoine Komeouare 14 minutes from time to earn Paris St Germain their place in the last eight.

His goal, from a Valdo corner, forced a 1-1 draw with Anderlecht in Brussels and drew the curtain down on a hard-fought encounter which had opened in the French capital two weeks ago with a 0-0 draw.

After another goalless 45 minutes on Tuesday, the 30,000 crowd in the Constant van Den Stock Stadium were sent into raptures seven minutes after the break when Dutch international Johnny Bosman rose to head home from a centre from compatriot Peter van Vossen.

It was the first goal conceded by the French side in the competition and they reacted superbly.

Kombouare, who had come on for Sassus in the 68th minute, climbed up to meet a perfectly-struck corner from the ever-dangerous Brazilian frontrunner Valdo and it was enough to shatter the dreams of the 1976 and 1978 European Cup winners and the 1983 UEFA Cup holders.

Anderlecht manager Luka

Peruzovic put a brave face on the defeat.
"That's football," he said, adding: "We go out of the competition with our heads high. We did not lose either tie and my players gave it everything they had."

"We had our chances but we didn't always have the luck. Now we shall concentrate on winning the Belgian league."

Paris St Germain's delighted Portuguese coach Artur Jorge said: "This is the second time we have beaten top quality opponents in the event. We beat Naples and now we have beaten Anderlecht. We fully deserve our place in the quarter-finals."

Both teams went into the clash under strength.
Paris St Germain, who have spent 30 million dollars on players over the past two seasons were without injured Liberian striker George Weah and stylish David Ginola, suspended after being sent off in the home-leg.

Anderlecht, who also finished the first-leg clash with ten men when Marc Degryse was ordered off, had to lineup without the striker and also their suspended stopper Philippe Albert. Auxerre's Gerald Batlle, who was playing Second Division football at Amiens just 14 months ago, confirmed his leadership of the UEFA Cup goal scoring charts when he hit his eighth of the campaign against Standard Liege.
His dramatic 73rd minute goal helped Auxerre to a 2-1

home win and a 4-3 aggregate triumph following the 2-2 draw in Belgium a fortnight ago.

Tuesday's match exploded into life in the last quarter of an hour — Batlle and Daniel Dutel scoring after Standard Liege were reduced to ten men. Standard Liege's hopes ended when Regis Genaux, who had been shown the yellow card late in the first-half, received his marching orders on the hour for a second foul on Rabarvoroy.

Batlle's goal came when he volleyed home from a superb cross from the left from Pascal Vahirua and Dutel then put the issue beyond doubt with seven minutes left to play.
It was left to Marc Wilmons to pull one back for the visitors in the dying seconds — ramming home from Guy Wellers long-range pass.

Other winners on Tuesday were Benfica, Ajax and Borussia Dortmund.
In Lisbon, two goals in a six-minute blitz immediately after the break ended Dynamo Moscow's hopes and put Benfica through.

Brazilian midfielder Isaisa, who scored twice in the 2-2 draw in Moscow a fortnight ago, was on target again on Tuesday, and Russian forward Sergei Yuran then hit Benfica's second to the delight of a 50,000 crowd.

A 62nd minute away goal by Swiss international striker Stephane Chapuisat stopped Spain's Real Zaragoza in their tracks.

The German side, bringing a 3-1 first-leg lead with them, went down 2-1 in the return.
Uruguayan Gustavo Poyet put Zaragoza clear after 26 minutes but as the Spaniards' need for a second goal became increasingly urgent, frustration began to set in.

The match became punctuated by needless fouls and errors and gaps began to appear in the Zaragoza's defence.

A mistake by substitute Garcia San Juan was superbly exploited by Chapuisat who effectively killed off the tie with his goal.

Zaragoza did manage to pull one back in the third minute of injury time when Germany's World Cup defender Andreas Brehme stepped up to slot home a penalty after Pardeza was brought down.

Ajax made no mistakes against German opponents Kaiserslautern.

Having won the home tie 2-0 they also won the away clash 1-0. Their goal came two minutes before half-time from midfield powerhouse Rob Affen.

Kaiserslautern's 27,000 fans were given some early hope when Thomas Vogel first went close with a fierce drive after 20 minutes and then forced Menzo to pull off a spectacular save from a header six minutes later.

But the Germans couldn't keep up the pressure and once Affen had put the finishing touches to a neat pass from Marciano Vink there was no way back.

Baggio — a perfect nine and a half

ROME, Dec 9: Juventus and Italy playmaker Roberto Baggio has been dogged by controversy despite being out of soccer with a cracked rib for the past three weeks, reports Reuter.

The absence of Baggio, hurt in a World Cup tie with Scotland last month, has provoked a heated debate about the true worth of the man who joined Juventus from

Florentina for a then world record 13 million in May 1990.

The most successful club in Italian soccer history, Juventus have won nothing since Baggio's much-trumpeted move and his namesake and teammate Dino Baggio recently suggested they are more effective without their captain.

The results are inconclusive with Juventus winning two and losing two in the player's absence.

Baggio stirred the pot himself in a recent interview with a television channel owned by Silvio Berlusconi, president of league champions and great rivals AC Milan.

"I'm very pleased to hear compliments paid to me by Berlusconi but it would also be nice to hear them from my own club. I want guarantees before signing a new contract," he said.

The soccer-saturated Italian media immediately began speculating that Baggio could soon join Milan with any number of top names including Italian winger Gianluigi Lentini or Dutchman Ruud Gullit making the reverse move.

Juventus attempted to quash the speculation by saying Baggio had signed a new deal which would keep him with Juventus until 1996.

Not true retorted Baggio, insisting he had merely signed a non-binding preliminary agreement — and the row rumbles on.

Baggio is one of the clients of the International Management Group (IMG) which manages sportsmen from disciplines such as golf and tennis and top names in the show-business world.

IMG believe Baggio is one of the faces which can help win

over a sceptical American audience when the World Cup road show rolls into the US in 1994.

Two-footed, blessed with superb pace and balance. There is no doubting Baggio's talent but his critics a huge question mark over his character.



ROBERTO BAGGIO

A ready smile and bobbing pony-tail add to the image of a free spirit lost in a world of tough labourers.

Tough Juventus, coach Giovanni Trapattoni has not been slow to point out Baggio's limitations.

"Some players bite opponents' heels but Baggio is not one of these... you can't make wine if you don't have the grapes," the vastly-experienced Trapattoni said. "But Baggio came to us young. I believe he can still develop."

There has also been endless debate about whether the lightly-built Baggio is best employed as an attacking midfielder or an out-and-out

striker.
Michel Platini, who won the European Cup with Juventus in 1985 and had his own love-hate relationship with Trapattoni, summed up the problem succinctly.

"He is a perfect number nine and a half," Platini said of Baggio, who wears the black and white number 10 shirt once graced by the great Frenchman.

Trapattoni pushed Baggio into a striker's role shortly before his injury.

He responded with six goals in two matches but even then his detractors pointed out the opposition was weak.

Baggio hopes to return next weekend when Juventus travel to Foggia and prove his fitness for his country's World Cup qualifier with Malta on December 19.

"These arguments have charged me up. I'm dreaming of a great return," he said.

It may be that Baggio needs something special if he is to keep the faith of Trapattoni.

"If Roberto is not happy he can leave. It's not a dictatorship here but I think he wants to stay."

"But if husbands and wives can divorce, can't clubs and players do it, too?" he added ominously.

DU soccer

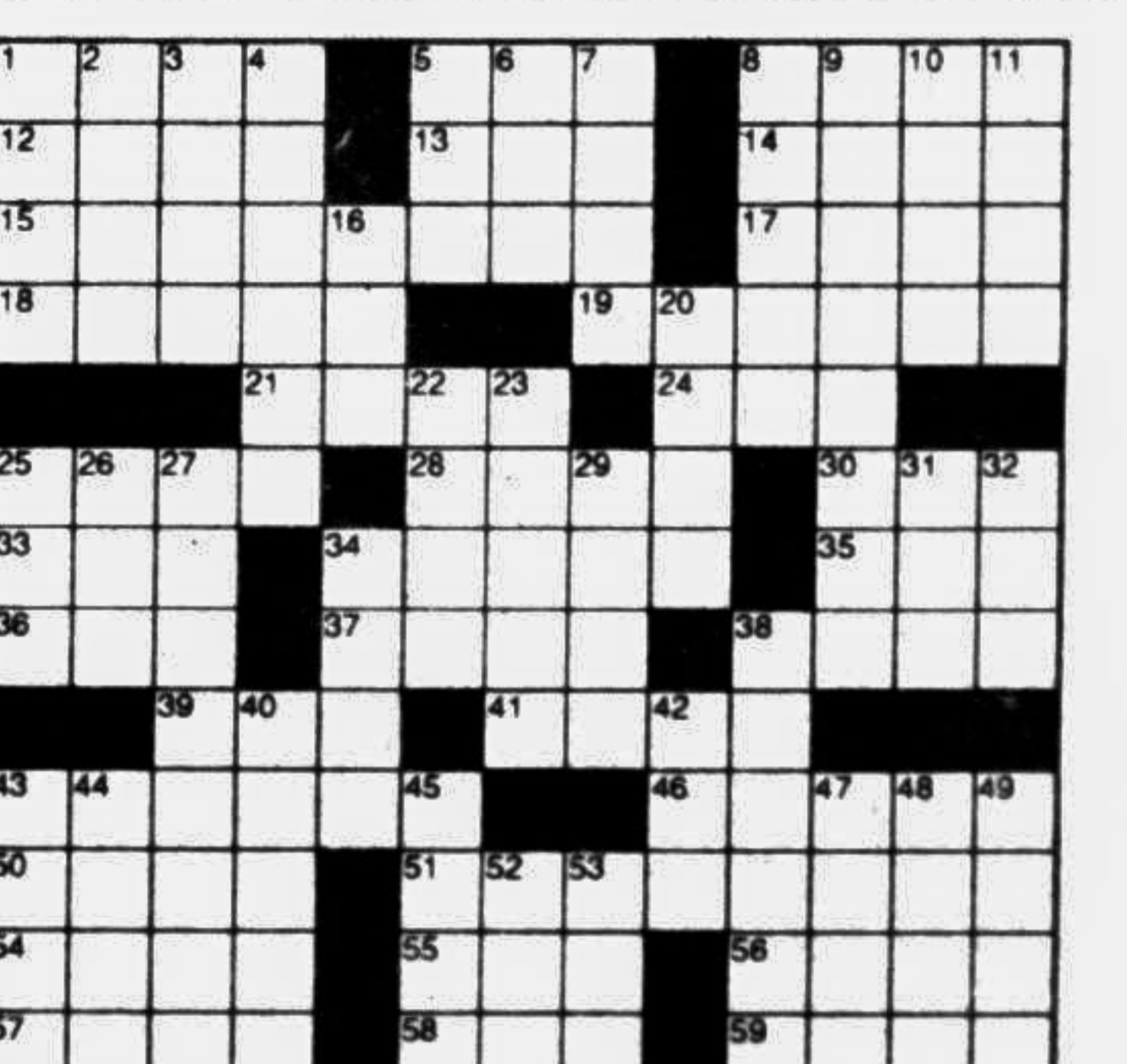
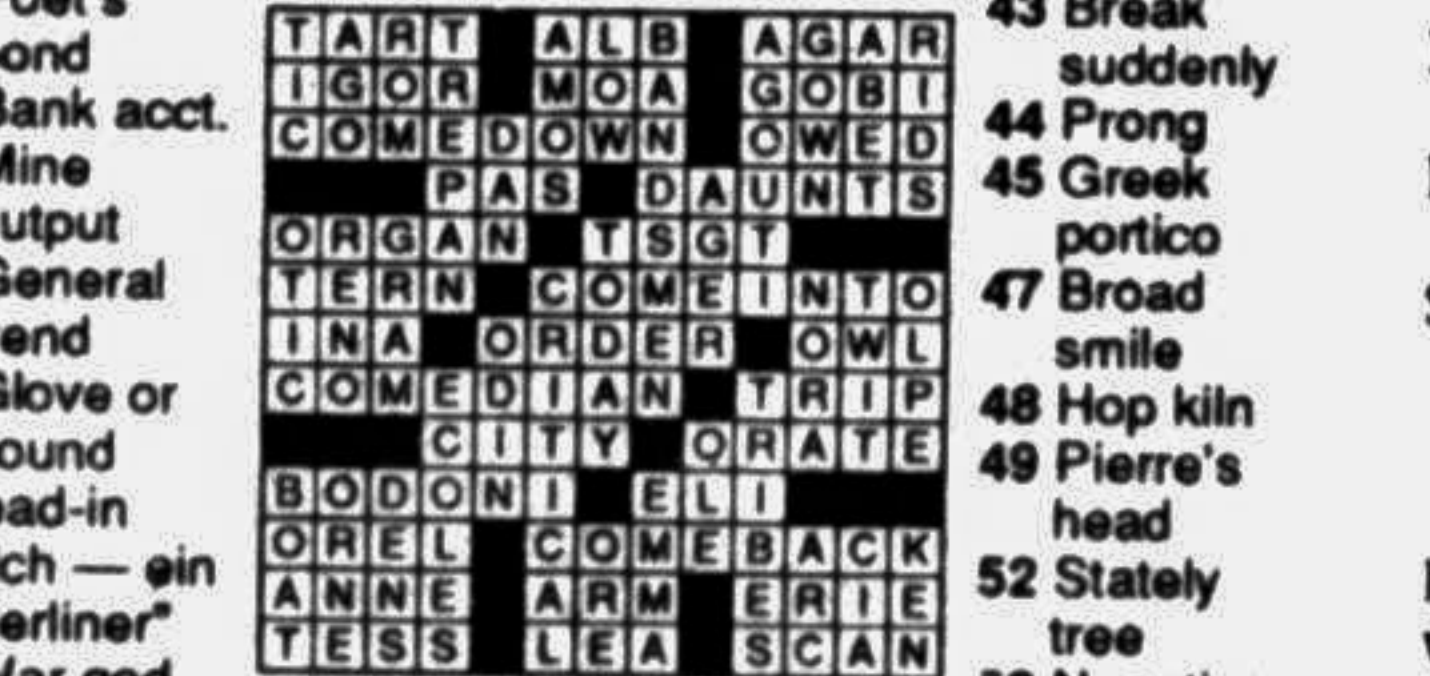
Sports Reporter
Department of Statistics got the better of Department of Applied Physics by three goals to nil in the Dhaka University inter-department football tournament at the university playground yesterday.

Partha netted twice while Shaiful Islam scored the other goal for the winners.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | Persian | DOWN | final |
| 1 Former TV host | 39 Pinch | 1 Coal mines | 20 Cud-chewer |
| 5 Entreat | 43 Fashions | 2 The dill weed | 22 Hebrew measure |
| 8 Commotion of rye | 46 Disease | 3 River in Italy | 23 Dogma |
| 12 Letter phrase | 50 Unless, in law | 4 Common talk | 25 Lawless crowd |
| 13 Spanish gold | 51 Holy Week service | 5 Japanese festival | 26 Swiss canton |
| 14 Miss Home | 54 Wild ox | 6 White-tailed eagle | 27 English poet |
| 15 Kind of nail | 55 Palm leaf | 7 Spanish painter | 29 Mrs. Miniver, for one |
| 17 Presently | 56 Shopper's need | 8 Drudge | 31 Taylor or Stewart |
| 18 Small porch | 57 Await settlement | 9 Largest of the Canary Islands | 32 Lumberman's tool |
| 19 Pre-Christmas season | 58 One of the March girls | 10 Privy to heraldry | 34 Recording product |
| 21 Unruly tumult | 59 Grafted, in heraldry | 11 Rave | 38 Carrara product |
| 24 Always, to a poet | | 16 Slender | 40 Greek epic poem |
| 25 Mongrel dog | | | 42 TV's Horsley |
| 28 Poet's pond | | | 43 Break suddenly |
| 30 Bank acct. | | | 44 Prong |
| 33 Mine output | | | 45 Greek portico |
| 34 General trend | | | 47 Broad smile |
| 35 Glove or hound lead-in | | | 48 Hop kin |
| 36 "Ich — ein Berliner" | | | 49 Pierre's head |
| 37 War god | | | 52 Stately tree |
| 38 Early | | | 53 Negative vote |

Solution time: 21 mins.



CRYPTOQUIP

P I N L N E P H M P W C V W X B I
N A N E V B I B A V B H M E R Z
N E X N A E B V L C Z
Yesterday's Cryptokuip: MY VERY AMBITIOUS SECRETARY IS A PAPER CUT ABOVE THE REST.

Today's Cryptokuip clue: E equals N

The Cryptokuip 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.