

The British heavyweight boxer Frank Bruno (L) launches a savage attack on Mike Evans of America during their contest in Glasgow on May 13. Bruno knocked his opponent down only in the second round.

— AFP/UNB photo

Austrian natant banned for doping

VIENNA, May 14: Austrian swimmer Birgit Konwalinka has been banned for two years after failing a dope test, the Austrian Swimming Federation said on Saturday, reports Reuter.

She is the fourth Austrian swimmer to be barred for doping in the last three weeks.

The federation said Konwalinka, 19, who had qualified for this year's European Championship in Vienna, had taken a medicine containing banned substances while in a training camp in Fort Lauderdale in the United States earlier this year.

Federation president Otmir Brix said Konwalinka took the medicine because of a sore elbow but had not mentioned it in a questionnaire she completed before undergoing a random test.

"I feel sorry for her, but she had the chance to report the medicine," he said.

"I can guarantee that only lily-white athletes will represent Austria at the European Championships," Brix said and added that his swimmers would have to undergo further random dope tests in the future.

Last month three swimmers, Michael, Bernard Rausch and Gertraud Lackner, were suspended a day after they had refused to undergo random tests.

Agassi faces fine

HAMBURG, May 14: Top-ranked Andre Agassi may face a fine for a swearing outburst after losing at the German Open, an ATP Tour official said Sunday, reports AP.

Tour officials viewed a tape of Agassi's angry exchange with a spectator in Hamburg and were sending the tape and a report to David Cooper, the administrator of regulations, in New York who will then decide whether to take any action against Agassi.

Tom Barnes, the tour's supervisor, said Agassi could be fined for unsportsmanlike conduct.

After losing to Sergi Bruguera in the quarterfinals, Agassi was involved in an ugly exchange with a spectator who complained loudly about the quality of the match.

As he was picking up his bag to leave the court, Agassi cursed the spectator and said, "Are you gonna get a knife and chase me now?"

He was alluding to the April 1993 stabbing of Monica Seles during a tournament at the same court. Seles, then the top-ranked woman player, has not played since she was stabbed in the back by a spectator.

Italian Open Martinez's

ROME, May 14: Conchita Martinez showed herself the hottest player on the women's tour, downing Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in straight sets Sunday in the final of the Italian Open, reports AP.

The 6-3, 6-1 victory over her Spanish rival gave Martinez her fourth consecutive title this year and her third straight in Rome.

And she beat a player about to become the world's No. 1 when the new WTA rankings come out Monday.

"It was not my day," Sanchez Vicario said after the 1 hour 38 minute match.

Savon's sensational fifth



BERLIN, May 14: Cuba's Felix Savon won a record fifth gold medal Saturday at the World Amateur Boxing Championships, when his bout against an overmatched German bank employee was stopped in the second round, reports AP.

Savon, who has yet to lose in a major international tournament, dropped Luan Krasnqi with a right hand. The referee stopped the heavyweight bout when the inexperienced Yugoslav-born fighter was reduced to grabbing the Olympic champion.

Savon was one of three Cubans to defend their titles, while boxers from Romania, Russia and Bulgaria also claimed gold medals.

Welterweight Juan Hernandez and middleweight Ariel Hernandez also had little problem defending their crowns as Cubans went undefeated Saturday.

Juan Hernandez won his third title by pouncing out a workmanlike 4-2 decision against the overmatched 19-year-old Russian, Oleg Saltov. Ariel Hernandez, considered the best combination of power and speed in the amateur ranks, was never challenged as he outpointed Tomasz Borowski 6-2.

But the stocky Pole managed to solve Hernandez's dazzling footwork late in the fight as he tagged the Cuban Olympic champion repeatedly with shots from both hands.

Savon, the Olympic champion, has dominated the amateur ranks for a decade.

"Sure I could heat Mike Tyson and George Foreman, but why? I would have to train even harder," said the 26-year-old Cuban.

The only American left, Antonio Tarver, fights Sunday against Cuba's Diosvani Vega, the man he beat earlier this year in the finals when he took home a light heavyweight gold medal from the Pan Am Games.

Lawrence Clay-Bey won America's only other medal, a bronze in super heavyweight, in an overall disappointing performance by US boxers.

French fighters had to settle for two silvers Friday, but established themselves as a coming boxing power. They are being trained by coaches on loan from Cuba, which is strapped for hard currency.

Romania's Leonard Doroftei pounded out a surprisingly lopsided 12-4 decision over favored Bruno Wartelle, the popular Frenchman who has already beaten the top three Cuban lightweights this year. Doroftei, an Olympic bronze medalist, neutralized the Frenchman's speed with his crowding style.

"I wanted to win very much — nobody remembers who finished second," said Wartelle, a 23-year-old sports student.

Compatriot Bernard Inou, won a silver in light flyweight after being outpointed 5-11 by Daniel Petrov. The veteran Bulgarian, with 261 bouts under his belt, had been beaten in the finals at the both the last world championships and the Barcelona Olympics.

Raimkul Malachbekov salvaged a poor performance by the Russians, who only had three boxers reach the finals, by outpointing Poland's Robert Ciba 5-3 to take home the bantamweight title.

The 19-year-old Malachbekov, unbeaten for two years, staged the biggest comeback of the tournament when he ousted Cuban Joel Casamayor in the round of 16 after tailing 13-4 in the second round.

Malachbekov then rattled the Olympic champion with so many punches that he pulled out a 17-16 decision with a last-second blow.

While Russia and the United States had disappointing tournaments, countries like Morocco and Turkey emerged by claiming bronze medals.

"But I think the Olympics will be different. You'll see a lot of big countries taking over again," said US head coach Jesse Ravelo.

MEDALS TABLE

Following is the medals table on Saturday after the first six of the 12 weight division finals here (six remaining finals today):

China	G	S	B	Total
China	3	0	2	5
Russia	1	1	0	2
Romania	1	0	0	1
Bulgaria	1	0	0	1
France	0	2	1	3
Poland	0	2	0	2
Germany	0	1	3	4
Morocco	0	0	2	2
Armenia	0	0	1	1
Lithuania	0	0	1	1
Turkey	0	0	1	1
Uzbekistan	0	0	1	1

Moorer, Lewis victors



SACRAMENTO, California, May 14: Michael Moorer kept alive his hopes for a rematch with heavy-weight champion George Foreman by pouncing out a unanimous decision against a game but outclassed Melvin Butler, 23-11-1, with five seconds left in the fifth round.

Despite his record and the 261 pounds he carried on his 6-foot-1 frame, Butler was ranked third by the WBC behind Lewis after the organization decided this week to make Mike Tyson its No. 1 contender.

Moorer, 36-1 with 30 knockouts, punished Foster with shots to the head and body, but Foster weathered them. Neither fighter went down, although Foster came close.

Moorer became the first left-handed heavyweight champion in April 1994 with a 12-round decision over Evander Holyfield. He lost the WBA-IBF title in November when a battered Foreman took him out in the 10th round.

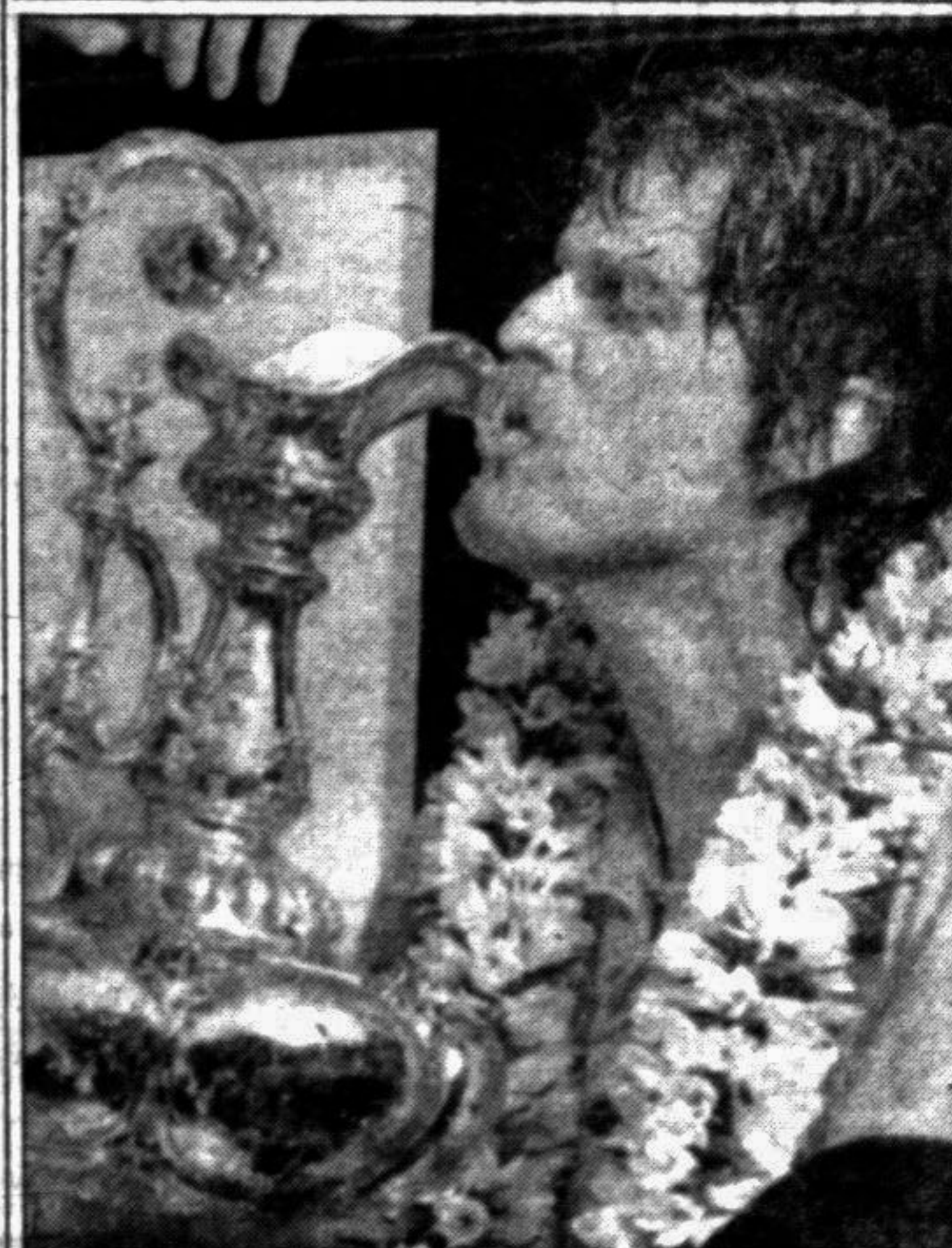
Despite his southpaw style, Moorer's snapping right jab seemed to do the most damage to Foster, 19-2-1. Moorer seemed to have Foster close to hitting the canvas at times, but he couldn't finish the job and, at one point, inexplicably stepped back from a wobbling opponent.

The three judges gave Moorer nine rounds to one for Foster.

"I guess some people think I could have done more, but sometimes it looks different when you're in the ring," Moorer said.

Foster, who was breathing heavily after the second round and bleeding from the mouth following the fifth, said a body shot broke a rib in the second and slowed his punching ability.

Foster was a late replacement for Tim Puller, who broke his hand in training and had to withdraw. Foster said the short time to spar against a left-handed boxer hampered him.



Peter Blake, the syndicate head of the New Zealand team, celebrating the American's Cup drinking champagne from the trophy at the San Diego Yacht Club on Saturday. Team New Zealand defeated Team Stars and Stripes in five straight races.

— AFP/UNB photo

Kong completes Sino sweep

TIANJIN, China, May 14: Tenth-seeded Kong Linghui squeaked by Chinese compatriot Liu Guoliang, another dark horse, to take the men's singles title Sunday at the World Table Tennis Championships, reports AP.

Kong's 17-21, 21-16, 15-21, 21-14, 21-10 victory completed a Chinese sweep of all seven titles at stake in the championships.

In another all-Chinese final, No. 1-ranked Deng Yaping and Qiao Hong narrowly upset defending champions Liu Wei and Qiao Yunping for the women's doubles title.

Deng and Qiao Hong needed four games to win 21-19, 21-17, 17-21, 21-19.

In the men's semifinals, Kong beat fellow Chinese Ding Song 21-12, 21-18, 21-18 and Liu triumphed 17-21, 21-15, 21-18, 21-16 over China's top title contender, Wang Tao, ranked second in the world.

Wang was called in unexpectedly to replace South Korea's Ki, Taek-soo, who was disqualified for having used an illegal glue on his paddle.

In the women's doubles semifinals, Liu Wei and Qiao Yunping defeated Hungarians Csilla Batorfi and Krisztina Togh 18-21, 21-17, 21-19, 21-16, and Deng and Qiao Hong outlasted Wang Chen and Wu Na, also of China, 14-21, 20-22, 21-11, 21-18, 21-9.

Samaranch in Tianjin

TIANJIN, China, May 14: International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch said today he would discuss a possible Beijing bid to stage the 2004 Games while at the World Table Tennis Championships here, reports AP.

"I'm very pleased and happy to be in the People's Republic of China once again and with my old friends from China," the IOC chief said upon arriving for the final day of the World Table Tennis Championships in Tianjin.

He confirmed that Beijing's ambition to host the 2004 Games would be discussed. Many senior Chinese sports officials are also in Tianjin.

Beijing was beaten by Sydney for the 2000 Games. The IOC president also said he would also discuss the issue of adding extra table tennis events to the Olympic Games with Lollo Hammarlund, the newly elected president of the international federation, with the new president and "maybe after leaving Tianjin I would tell the result of the conversation."

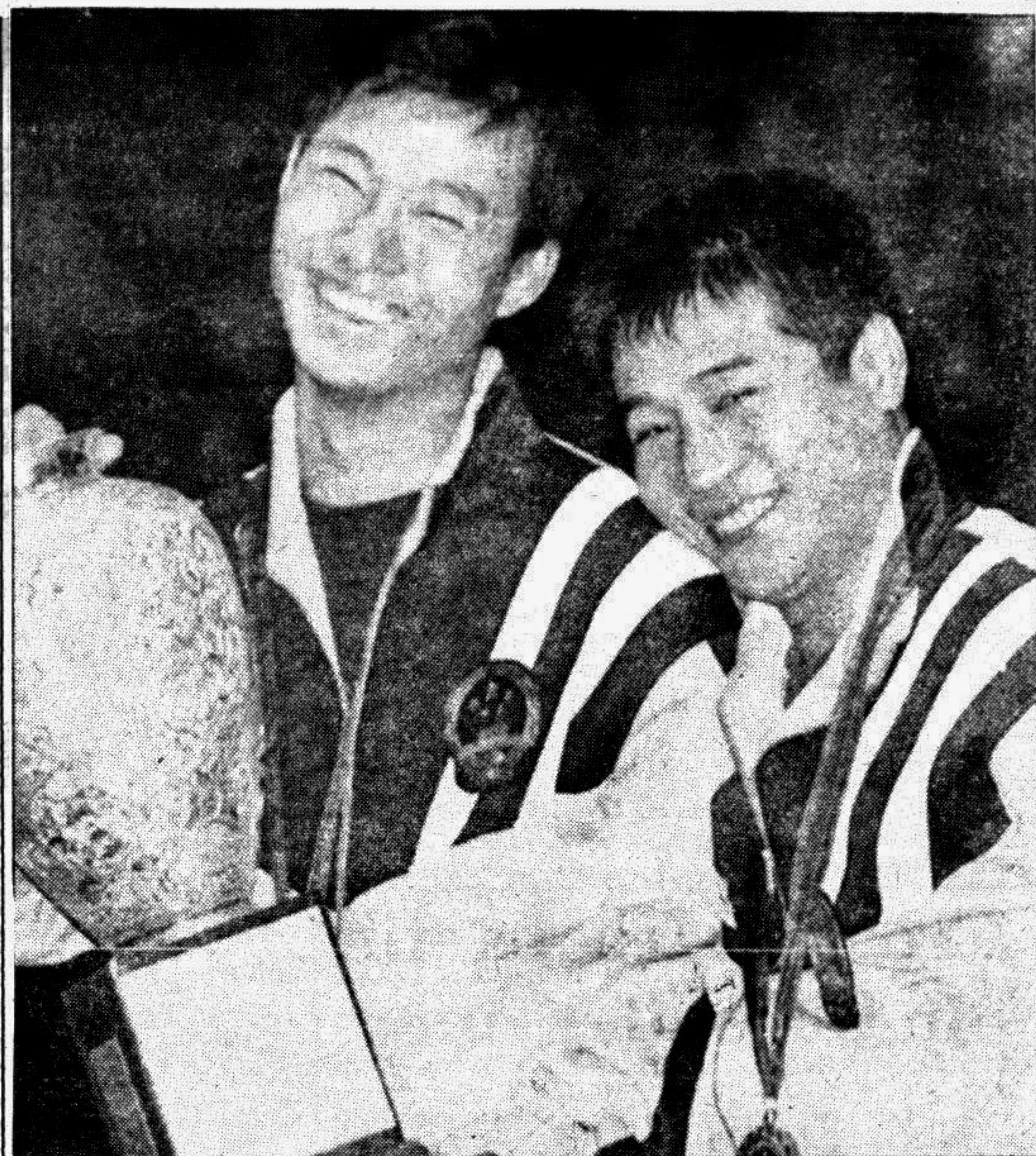
Samaranch also said that he expected to see a strong Chinese table tennis team at next year's Olympics in Atlanta.

Table tennis, which became an Olympic sport at Seoul in 1988, has already had men's and women's singles and doubles events included. The ITTF is lobbying to have men's and women's team events added.

Record lift

WARSAW, May 14: Turkey's Hafis Suleymanoglu beat the world 59kg snatch record with 140kg on the first day of the European weightlifting championships here on Wednesday, reports AP.

Suleymanoglu originally lifted 138kg to break the 137.5kg mark, set by the World Weightlifting Authorities. Bulgarian Sevdalin Minichev then lifted 138.5kg and Suleymanoglu immediately replied with 140kg.



Defending champion Wang Tao (R) and Lu Lin are all smiles with the trophy after winning the men's doubles title of the 43rd World Table Tennis Championships in Tianjin on Saturday. The Chinese pair defeated Zoran Primorac of Croatia and Valdimir Samsonov of Belarus 18-21, 21-15, 21-14 and 21-17 in the final.

— AFP/UNB photo

Medvedev's second in a row



HAMBURG, Germany, May 14: Andrei Medvedev overcame chilly, windy conditions to beat Goran Ivanisevic 6-3, 6-2, 6-1 Sunday for his second German Open title in a row, reports AP.

Medvedev won easily against an erratic Ivanisevic, who had beaten two-time French Open champion Sergi Bruguera in the semifinals.

The Ukrainian earned \$125,000 for his first title of the year, while Ivanisevic had to settle for \$133,800.

Ivanisevic, the fourth seed, could do nothing right. He talked to himself, looked in disbelief after missing the simplest of shots and at one point even surrendered his racket to a spectator.

"It was the worst match I played in my life. I can't play any worse. It was terrible," Ivanisevic said. "I had a good week, but today nothing worked. The conditions were very tough but it's no excuse."

Medvedev, who was last

Nissan Challenge Lizardo's

KUALA LUMPUR, May 14: Filipino Joseph Lizardo beat Malaysia's Selvam Veerawah 5-7, 7-5, 7-6 (7-4) Sunday for the singles title of the Nissan Challenge tennis tournament, reports AP.

"He was serving so well and had so many aces that I had to really concentrate on my returns. I knew if I missed, I would lose, so I am really focused on what I had to do and it paid off," said Lizardo, who collected 4,000 dollars.

"I started well, but was too relaxed in the last two sets," said Selvam, who received 2,350 dollars.

year ranked in the top 10 but has since slipped to No 20 in the world, picked up a valuable win on the slow red clay of the Rothenbaum club in the event that serves as a major warm-up for the French Open.

The French Open starts May 29 and Medvedev will now be considered as one of the favorites.

"I gained my confidence again, it was important to win. I've never defended a title before. I am very excited going into the French Open, I feel again that I have a chance there," he said.

Twice in recent history, German Open champions have gone on to win at Roland Garros. Yannick Noah in 1983 and Ivan Lendl in 1987.

Medvedev, 20, lost in the first round in the last two clay-court tournaments before coming here to defend his title.

Both players were injured early in the year. Medvedev broke his left wrist at the Australian Open, while Ivanisevic had knee surgery in February.

Ivanisevic, playing his first final of the year, dropped his serve in the fourth game and was never ahead again.

Medvedev, who was seeded 12th, patiently waited for the Croatian's mistakes, while Ivanisevic rushed his shots in frustration.

Ivanisevic double-faulted to lose his first two service games in the second set and although he regained one break in the fourth game, he dropped his serve in the very next.

The final set was a similar story and the match ended after 78 minutes with another Ivanisevic error, a forehand into the net. With the victory ceremony already in progress, Ivanisevic still sat on the bench with his head covered

with a towel.

"Everything I tried I missed," he said. As a consolation prize Ivanisevic also received a racing bicycle. "If I play like this, perhaps I should try biking, try for the Tour of Italy," he joked later.

Becker to skip Italian Open

ROME, May 14: World number three Boris Becker pulled out of next week's Italian Open on Friday because of a back injury, reports Reuter.

Becker, a disappointing first round loser in Hamburg earlier this week, was due to make his first appearance on the clay courts of the Foro Italico on Monday.

But Becker, who has never won a clay court title in his career and lost to Pete Sampras in last year's Rome final, has dropped out after complaining of pain in his lower back.

Rovers English champs

LONDON, May 14: Blackburn won their first English league title in 81 years Sunday when second-place Manchester United drew 1-1 at West Ham on the last day of the season, reports AP.

Blackburn took the crown despite a 2-1 defeat at Liverpool, giving rovers manager Kenny Dalglish an emotional triumph at Anfield where he won more than a dozen trophies in 14 years as a player and manager at Liverpool.

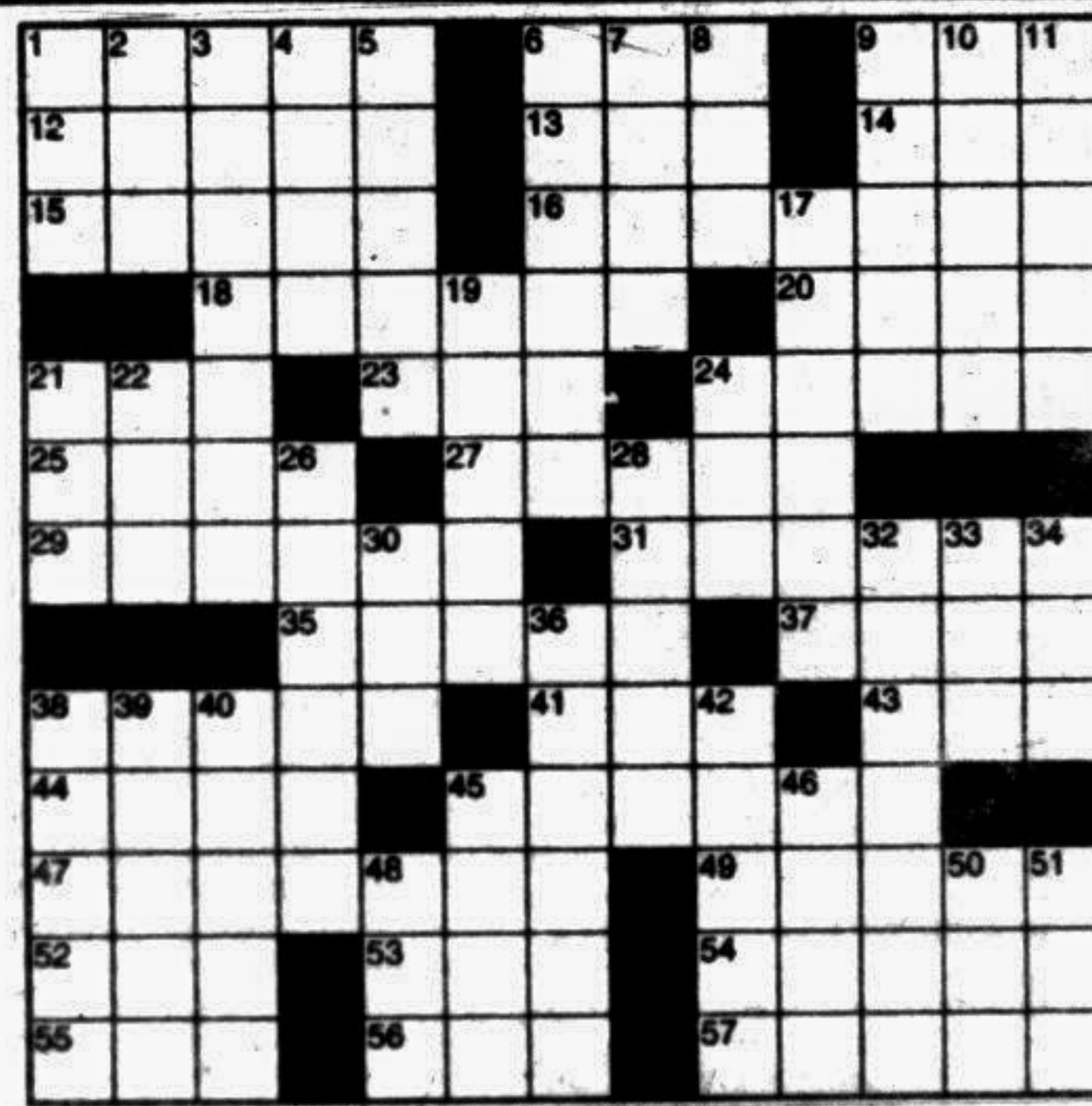
Blackburn led Manchester United by 2 points going into Sunday's finale.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 They're often linked
 - 6 Eggs
 - 8 Satchel
 - 12 Off the perpendicular
 - 13 Ms. Piggy
 - 14 Actress Gardner
 - 15 "West Side Story" heroine
 - 16 Oil prospector
 - 18 Left a lasting impression
 - 20 Wine choice
 - 21 Massachusetts sets cape
 - 23 Beer container
 - 24 Outlets
 - 25 Slept like —
 - 27 — the mangel (stubbornly selfish)
 - 29 Consider
 - 31 Jacob's wife
 - 35 Draft in an apartment?
- DOWN**
- 37 Food fish
 - 38 Capacitance unit
 - 41 Mahal
 - 43 Born
 - 44 Author Haley
 - 45 Going steady
 - 47 Mimic
 - 49 English rustic laborer
 - 52 Ending for Joseph or Gerald
 - 53 With 39
 - Down, Romberg song
 - 54 Take as one's own
 - 55 Moray
 - 56 Undant-
 - ably
 - 57 "Prima Ballerina" painter
 - 10 "Halt, salt!"
 - 11 Slalom obstacles
 - 17 Soak thoroughly
 - 19 Louella's rival
 - 21 Gridlock component
 - 22 Bulling bravo
 - 4 Float like a butterfly
 - 5 Heap
 - 6 City on Lake Ontario
 - 7 Emptiness
 - 8 Hole-making tool
 - 9 Strips in the morning?
 - 36 Conditions
 - 38 Prima — evidence
 - 39 See 53
 - 40 What like poles do
 - 42 Muslim holy war
 - 45 Hamlet, for one
 - 46 Lump
 - 48 Coquettish
 - 50 4.0, ideally: abbr.
 - 51 UFO crew?

Solution time: 28 mins.

GIFT TAM AGER
AREA USE NUDE
GILL PAR DIGS
ASLEEP VARLET
SEE RED
WIDE NECKWEAR
ADO CPR RUN
ROUSSEAU ASKS
BAH ZAP
PALMER EXPERT
ALOP UBI ELIE
COOL BAR ALLS
TUNE EGO LEES



CRYPTOQUIP

IGPRN GALRND EWW G
 XWUC XRED: DGQ LDCDQG-
 IXDP EWW URUDQH HDGVP.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: LOWLY FURNITURE STORE OWNER BADLY WANTS TO BE A FINE DRESSER.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: L equals V

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.