

Column One
DID U' KNOW?
(The Professor does)

THAT you should be very careful about what you eat, particularly if you have a game on hand. What more important a game can there be a World Cup semifinal?

Well, perhaps not realising the import of the pre-match diet, Dilip Vengsarkar, India's middle order strength in the 1987 WC, had a hearty meal of Mackerel curry. And, this was on the eve of the semifinal against England.

Now mackerels are not known to be cricket-sympathisers. So, Dilip spent the day of the semifinal in the dressing room resting his tummy.

After England won the match with a little help from the non-playing mackerel, Mike Gatting, the English captain told reporters: "I can't believe that any player could be so foolish."

If the Australians knew this, they could have sent a truckload of mackerels to the Sri Lankan hotel in Lahore.

SPORTS TALK



Arjuna Ranatunga
(Sri Lankan cricket captain)
"I do not want to comment on the umpiring. You all saw the game. You watched the TV replays, you all decide."

Commenting on the controversial dismissals of Hashan Tillekeratne and Kumar Dharmasena in the Singer Cup final against Pakistan.

Sports
WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID
competition-34
Tick the Correct Answer
(Competition closes: 8 p.m. April 19, 1996)

1. Sir Richard—
Winn Hadley Illingworth
2. The Atlanta Olympics begin from
July 17 July 19 July 21
3. Who has taken more Test wickets?
Kapil Dev Imran Khan Ian Botham
4. Dhaka football is controlled by
BFF DMFA NSC
5. Aussie Rules Football resembles
Cricket Rugby Hockey

Name: _____
Class: _____ Roll No: _____
School Address: _____
Phone: (If any) _____

Nirman schools
cricket

Sports Reporter

Motilal Govt Boys' School, Hasnabad, Kamuchan High School and Shahid Abu Taleb School won their respective 14th Nirman Schools cricket tournament (Dhaka zone) matches on Saturday.

Motilal Govt Boys' School recorded a 4-wicket victory over Arab Mission Public School at the Dhamondia Cricket Stadium (West) while Hasnabad defeated Kalkoti High School by 106 runs at the Mirpur Outer Stadium.

In the day's other match at Residential Model School ground, Shahid Abu Taleb School beat Wari High School by 28 runs.

Brief scores
(35-over matches)
Arab Mission School: 150 for eight in 35 overs (Sakib 46, Afzal 33, Extras 38, Ronny 3/19).
Motilal Govt School: 154 for six in 31.2 overs (Antu 74 n.o., Extras 32).
Hasnabad School: 210 for nine in 35 overs (Rabbi 37, Jahangir 34, Extras 56, Mohibur 4/46).
Kalkoti School: 104 in 27.2 overs (Sayan 17, Extras 27, Hakim 3/14).
Shahid Abu Taleb School: 119 in 24 overs (Sabir 19, Extras 30, Rahman 5/16).
Wari High School: 91 in 19.2 overs (Rajib 24, Tariq 4/28).

192 shuttlers enter Olympics
KUALA LUMPUR, Apr 13: Some 192 of the world's top badminton players qualified for the Atlanta Olympics, the International Badminton Federation announced Friday, reports AP.

The 186 qualifiers names have been sent to the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.



Jubilant Mohammedan players and officials after clinching the Premier league cricket title yesterday. — Star photo

Fitting finale to Premier league
Mohammedans make it at last

BRIEF SCORES

BANGLADESH BIMAN: 180 all out in 46.5 overs (Nasir Khan 87 n.o., Raqib 20; Bulbul 2/37)
MOHAMMEDAN SC: 182 for 8 in 45.2 overs (Litu 49, Nannu 42, Bulbul 40 n.o.; Zafar Iqbal 4/37; Anis 2/34)



Skipper Aminul Islam Bulbul played the role of a savior as Mohammedan Sporting Club clinched the coveted Premier cricket league title for the 1995-96 season with a sensational two-wicket win over title-chasers Bangladesh Biman at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In a low-scoring affair, Bulbul scored a priceless unbeaten 40 as Mohammedans, who were at one stage limping on 148/8, dug out themselves from a living nightmare to a wonderful evening for the celebration of their victory.

Jubilation erupted the whole stadium arena when Hashim Hossain Shanto, who put on an invaluable 34 runs for the undefeated eighth wicket with his skipper, drove the second ball of the 46th over off spinner Jewell Hossain Moina for the winning runs with a massive sixer over long-on.

And the drama of the topsy-turvy league which fittingly climaxed in the finals saw the best team among the 12 elite

Sports Reporter

their chase for an easy target of 3.6 runs per over.

Opener Nadeem Younus scored only 5 and one-down Selim Shahed, who is now a pale shadow of his former self, made 7 before both were dismissed by Biman's national left-arm seamer Anisur Rahman in quick succession leaving Mohammedans 16/2 in 6.2 overs.

Things turned grave when Jahangir Alam (3) followed them shortly with the addition of only six runs to the total, edging a simple catch behind the wicket off Zafar Iqbal.

After the fall of three quick wickets, experienced Minhajul Abedin Nannu, joined Mustafiz Litu to steady the rocking boat founding a potential match-winning partnership of 79 runs for the fourth wicket.

Nannu hammered a brilliant 42 off 45 balls inclusive of three fours before he was bowled around the wicket by off-spinner Moina while going for an intended sweep.

Young Litu, who was playing sensibly nudging and pushing all over the wicket, then added another 20 runs for the fifth wicket with Bulbul before the left-hander fell one run short of what would have been a well deserved fifty. He was run out in a terrible mix-up with his skipper while chasing a non-existing single.

The sad dismissal of Litu brought Biman back into the match, and the pendulum swung on their way when Zafar Iqbal, returning in the 38th over, took two wickets from successive deliveries leaving Mohammedans in the dire strait with 12/7.

The Pakistani international, had Sujon first caught by Nasir Khan at gully and then dismissed compatriot Shahed Mehmud for a first ball duck in his next delivery — magnificently caught by an airborne Rupom in the first slip.

Zafar Iqbal, who bowled with venom in his second spell, also claimed the wicket of Nasu to finish with 4/37 in his 9.5 overs before limping off the ground with a groin injury.

Earlier, sent into bat, the Biman innings was built around a dazzling unbeaten 87 from their Pakistani opener Nasir Ali Khan.

The stout right-hander, fought a lone battle to guide his side to a respectable total until Shanto, the tall national new ball bowler, rattled up the wickets at the bowler's end with a direct hit from cover to mark the fall of the last Biman wicket with more than four overs to spare.

In his 125-ball innings Nasir cracked five fours, while Mohammed Rafique, the other notable run-getter, chipped in with a quick-fire 20 off 19 deliveries.

With this win Mo-

hammedans finished with highest 26 points from their quota of 16 league matches.

Brothers, who ended their campaign with 24 points, finished runners-up while Biman ended their campaign at par with last-years joint holders Abahani Krira Chakra, both having collected 22 points each.

A beaming Bulbul said after the match, "It was a great achievement of my career. Now we are the best among the 12 teams and I'm extremely happy for the way we won the title."

Replying to a query about Mohammedans' defeats at the hands of Brothers Union and Abahani that put their championship hopes in doubt, Bulbul said, "It was very disappointing for me. We could have run away with the title without any fuss. But we failed due to over-confidence and lack of motivation."

Div I cricket

Brief Scores
AJAX SC: 167 in 41.5 overs (Bipul 47 n.o., Vola 25, extras 52; Babu 4/21)
GOPIBAGH FA: 156 in 42.5 overs (Murtaza 22, Ahsan 21, Cornil 3/22)

Sports Reporter

Ajax Sporting Club recorded a 11-run victory over Gopibagh Friends Association in their Yamaha First Division cricket super league encounter at the City Club ground, Mirpur yesterday.

BSWA blood donation

Sports Reporter

A blood donation programme, organised by the Bangladesh Sports Writers Association (BSWA), will be held this morning at the players' lounge of Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) to observe the Bengali New Year's Day, says a press release.

The programme, arranged in collaboration with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and Lion's Club of Dhaka Paradise, will begin at 9 am and will continue upto 2 pm.

Maj Gen M Mahabubur Rahman, the president of Bangladesh Volleyball Federation (BVF), will attend the blood donation programme a chief guest.

Samuels' timely reminder

ST GEORGE'S, Grenada, Apr 13: Opener Robert Samuels made a Test claim with a century which gave the West Indies President's XI a commanding position on the opening day of their four-day cricket match against New Zealand, on Friday, reports Reuter.

Barbadian middle-order batsman Floyed Reifer also enhanced his Test ambition with a flawless unbeaten 98 as the President's XI, sent in to bat on a placid pitch, closed at 358 for six.

Jamaican left-hander Samuels gave the selectors plenty to think about for the first Test starting in Barbados next Friday as he made 124 — his fourth first-class century — laced with 18 fours and a six off 189 balls in 258 minutes.

Adrian Griffith, another contender for the problematical opening slot in the Test team, managed just eight before he was trapped leg before wicket by New Zealand fast bowler Danny Morrison in the day's third over.

Samuels and fellow Jamaican Tony Powell, who made 53, then shared a second-wicket stand of 105, taking the score to 117 for one at lunch.

Powell failed to add to his lunch time score and was caught by Craig Spearman at cover off medium pacer Dion Nash, while captain Dave Joseph made a rapid 30 with two huge sixes off pacer Gavin Larsen before he was run out.

Reifer has hit 19 boundaries, mostly cuts and drives, and has been at the crease for 132 balls and 182 minutes.

He batted with authority, playing the Kiwis' varied pace and spin attack with ease in a 102-run fourth-wicket stand with Samuels.

Samuels, dropped by Adam Parore in the cover off Nash in the fourth over of the innings when he had scored nine, hit most of runs from cuts and straight drives.

PREMIER DIVISION STATS

| Batting Averages: | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----|------|------|-------|--------|------|-----|-----|
| Name | M | Inn | NO | Runs | HS | Ave | 100s | 50s | B |
| Syed Montirul Haque (Wanderers) | 14 | 13 | 4 | 842 | 106* | 93.55 | 2 | 6 | 6 |
| Shahriar Bidyut (BU) | 16 | 16 | 1 | 594 | 102* | 36.60 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Harunur Rashid Lito (Abahani) | 16 | 16 | 1 | 584 | 106 | 36.50 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Shahid Sayeed (Kalabagan) | 45 | 15 | 5 | 569 | 104 | 37.93 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Aamir Hanif (BU) | 9 | 9 | 4 | 534 | 149* | 106.80 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Faruque Ahmed (Kalabagan) | 15 | 15 | 2 | 499 | 74 | 33.26 | — | 3 | 3 |
| Minhajul Abedin Nannu (MSC) | 14 | 14 | 3 | 498 | 112 | 45.27 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Nadeem Younus (MSC) | 11 | 11 | 2 | 479 | 141* | 53.22 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Aminul Islam Bulbul (MSC) | 15 | 15 | 3 | 466 | 99* | 38.83 | — | 4 | 4 |
| Arhar Ali (Biman) | 14 | 14 | 2 | 464 | 102* | 38.67 | — | 1 | 1 |
| Ziaur Rashid Rupom (Biman) | 15 | 15 | 3 | 457 | 66 | 41.55 | — | 5 | 5 |
| Al Shahriar Rokon (Victoria) | 14 | 13 | — | 456 | 82 | 35.07 | — | 4 | 4 |
| Chetan Sharma (Victoria) | 12 | 11 | 3 | 451 | 120* | 56.37 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Sanwar Hossain (BU) | 15 | 15 | 3 | 435 | 96 | 36.25 | — | 3 | 3 |
| Abid Hanif (BU) | 13 | 13 | — | 435 | 69 | 33.46 | — | 3 | 3 |
| (Batsmen scored minimum 400 runs) | | | | | | | | | |
| Bowling Averages: | | | | | | | | | |
| Name | Overs | M | Runs | Wkts | Ave | Sw | B | 5w | 10w |
| Mizanur Rahman (GMC) | 146.3 | 22 | 523 | 43 | 12.16 | 1 | 5/22 | — | — |
| Anisur Rahman (Biman) | 121.2 | 25 | 478 | 36 | 13.28 | 2 | 6/29 | — | — |
| Sajal Chowdhury (BU) | 122.3 | 8 | 555 | 30 | 18.50 | — | 3/15 | — | — |
| Zakir Hossain (Agrani Bank) | 126.4 | 11 | 489 | 28 | 17.46 | — | 4/30 | — | — |
| Saiful Islam (Kalabagan) | 132.5 | 13 | 562 | 25 | 22.48 | — | 4/25 | — | — |
| Hasibul Hasan Shanto (MSC) | 128.4 | 5 | 593 | 24 | 24.71 | 1 | 5/31 | — | — |
| Shahed Mehmud (MSC) | 118.5 | 11 | 515 | 23 | 22.39 | — | 4/41 | — | — |
| (Top seven-wicket takers) | | | | | | | | | |

ROLL OF HONOUR

| Season | Champions | Runners-up |
|---------|---|------------------|
| 1974-75 | Abahani KC | Shantinagar Club |
| 1975-76 | Victoria SC | Abahani KC |
| 1976-77 | Abahani KC | Victoria SC |
| 1977-78 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC |
| 1978-79 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC |
| 1979-80 | Bangladesh Biman | Azad Boys Club |
| 1980-81 | Bangladesh Biman | Mohammedan SC |
| 1981-82 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC |
| 1982-83 | Not held | — |
| 1983-84 | Bangladesh Biman | Mohammedan SC |
| 1984-85 | Abahani KC | Mohammedan SC |
| 1985-86 | Abahani KC | Mohammedan SC |
| 1986-87 | Abahani KC | Mohammedan SC |
| 1987-88 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC |
| 1988-89 | Bangladesh Biman | Abahani KC |
| 1989-90 | Abahani KC | Rupoll Bank |
| 1990-91 | Brothers Union | Bangladesh Biman |
| 1991-92 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC |
| 1992-93 | Abahani KC | Mohammedan SC |
| 1993-94 | Abahani & Biman (joint winners) | Mohammedan SC |
| 1994-95 | Abahani & Mohammedan SC (joint winners) | Kalabagan KC |
| 1995-96 | Mohammedan SC | Brothers Union |

A superb S Africa show



SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Apr 13: South Africa put in a monumental all-round display on their maiden appearance in cricket's desert oasis to blast in-form Pakistan by 143 runs here today, reports AFP.

Daryll Cullinan slammed his first one-day century as the South Africans went on a run riot in perfect batting conditions to raise a mammoth score of 314 for three from their stipulated 50 overs.

Pakistan, who defeated arch-rivals India in Friday's opener of the three-nation Pepsi Cup, found the tough target too hot to handle against the spot-on attack and managed only 171 for seven in reply.

Just 500 spectators were on hand to witness Hansie Cronje's men pile up their highest score against Pakistan, surpassing the previous best of 266 for five at Johannesburg in January last year.

The total fell just seven short of South Africa's all-time record — 321 against the United Arab Emirates during the recent World Cup.

Cullinan returned unbeaten with a masterly 110 off 109 balls after leading the spectacular South African charge against the hapless Pakistani attack which wilted under the hot sun.

Openers Andrew Hudson and Gary Kirsten began the leather hunt with a 115-run stand for the first wicket off just 17 overs.

Hudson 57 off 51 balls and left-handed Kirsten slammed 64 off 70. Both batsmen were particularly severe on Pakistani spearhead Waqar Younis, who opened 23 in his second and third overs after starting with a maiden.

Younis had his revenge when he returned for a second spell as Hudson pulled a short ball to Aaqib Javed on the fine leg boundary.

Cronje and Cullinan put on a brisk 65 for the third wicket off 66 deliveries before the South African skipper holed out against leg-spinner Mush-

taq Ahmed after making 26.

Jonny Rhodes, who remained not out on 47, helped Cullinan add 92 for the unbroken fourth wicket. The pair smashed 54 in the last eight overs to leave Pakistan a daunting victory target of 6.2 runs an over.

Pakistan's hopes of launching a counter offensive vanished when skipper Aamir Sohail fell in the fourth over, caught at gully off Fanie de Villiers for 11.

The South Africans sliced through the Pakistani middle order to reduce the former world champions to a pathetic 62 for six by the 16th over.

Brian McMillan, nicknamed 'octopus' because of his brilliant catching, removed

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Pepsi Cup one-day international between Pakistan and South Africa in Sharjah Saturday:

SOUTH AFRICA:
A Hudson c Aaqib b Younis 57
G Kirsten b Aaqib 64
D Cullinan not out 110
H Cronje c Inzamam b Mushtaq 26
J Rhodes not out 47
Extras: (lb-7, w-3) 10
Total: (3 wkts) 314
Did not bat: B McMillan, C Matthews, S Pollock, D Richardson, F de Villiers, P Symcox.
Fall of wickets: 1-115: 2-157: 3-222.

Bowling:

| | O | M | R | W |
|---------|----|---|----|---|
| Younis | 10 | 1 | 56 | 1 |
| Aaqib | 9 | 0 | 59 | 1 |
| Mushtaq | 10 | 0 | 63 | 1 |
| Saqin | 9 | 1 | 55 | 0 |
| Sohail | 10 | 0 | 56 | 0 |
| Malik | 2 | 0 | 18 | 0 |

Overs: 50
PAKISTAN:
Aamir Sohail c Hudson b De Villiers 11
Saeed Anwar c Cronje b De Villiers 33
Rameez Raja c McMillan b Pollock 1
Salim Malik not out 64
Inzamam-ul-Haq run out 1
Ijaz Ahmed c Richardson b McMillan 1
Rashid Latif c McMillan b Matthews 2
Saqin Mushtaq lbw b Cronje 7
Aaqib Javed not out 45
Extras: (lb-2, w-4) 6
Total: (7 wkts) 171
Did not bat: Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed
Fall of wickets: 1-24: 2-45: 3-49: 4-50: 5-56: 6-62: 7-90

Bowling:

| | O | M | R | W |
|-------------|----|---|----|---|
| Pollock | 10 | 1 | 44 | 1 |
| De Villiers | 10 | 0 | 40 | 2 |
| McMillan | 7 | 1 | 20 | 1 |
| Matthews | 8 | 1 | 21 | 1 |
| Symcox | 10 | 1 | 21 | 0 |
| Cronje | 5 | 0 | 23 | 1 |

Overs: 50
Result: South Africa won by 143 runs
Man-of-the-match: Daryll Cullinan
Sunday's match: India v South Africa

Navratilova now resting on her laurels



CHICAGO, Apr 13: Martina Navratilova is happy with her life and has no plans to make a comeback on the women's tennis tour.

She had a stint as president of the WTA Tour and found the role as time-consuming and more frustrating than that of a player.

She might even play mixed doubles again at Wimbledon. But she has no desire to rejoin the women's tour full-time.

With 168 singles titles — including nine Wimbledon championships, 165 doubles crowns and a total of 223 weeks as the No. 1 player in the world, there's little left to accomplish.

"I'm surprised how little I do miss it," says Navratilova, who'll turn 40 in October.

"I talked to Chris (Evert) the other day and she said — when people would ask her if she missed the game, and she said 'No' — they would say, 'You're in denial. I think we're both in the same boat. We both have other interests other than tennis.'"

"We did it for so long. I've done my part. I didn't play too long, and I played long enough... And I'm ready to get on with the rest of my life," said Navratilova, who retired in 1994.

She can do "nothing" — one of the hobbies listed in her biography. And after amassing more than 20 million dollars in prize money, she can afford to take it easy.

She can go snowboarding, speak out on behalf of animal rights and do promotional work for a credit card that funnels a portion of its proceeds to gay and lesbian organisations.

She's even collaborated on two mystery novels in the tennis world. She'll do some commentary for cable television at Wimbledon again.

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MARTINA NAVRATILOVA
Her proposal to have Monica Seles ranked co-No. 1 as a **Muster moves up**
LISBON, Apr 13: Defending champion Thomas Muster cased into the semifinals of the Estoril Open here on Friday with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Spain's Francisco Claver, reports Reuter.

Muster now meets Alex Corretja, who defeated fellow Spaniard and former Estoril champion Carlos Costa 7-5, 7-5 on Friday.

Dutchman Paul Haarhuis, a recent finalist in Indian Wells, lined up a semifinal with Andrea Gaudenzi of Italy when he beat Richard Fromberg of Australia 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Gaudenzi had little trouble dispatching Spaniard Tomas Carbonell 6-3, 6-1 in their quarterfinal.

way of smoothing her return to the game last year created a ranking among some of the top players.

"I mean some players were suggesting that I was only pulling for Monica to come back because I wasn't playing anymore," said Navratilova, who last year left the post.

"It was ridiculous. She should have never been away from the game in the first place. If she hadn't been stabbed, she would have still been No. 1 or No. 2 at worst, so what's the big deal?"

Navratilova and Evert, longtime rivals, are still good friends. Evert, who is pregnant, is slated to join the Legends Tour for a couple of matches this fall. There are six events scheduled this year.

The Navratilova-Evert rivalry is unmatched in women's tennis. From 1973 until 1988, they played 80 times with Navratilova holding a 43-37 edge.

The current women's game would appear to have a natural rivalry between Steffi Graf and Seles, who met in the US Open final last year. But injuries to both players, have made recent face-to-face meetings rare.

"Look at Sampras and Agassi, you need the rivalries. They can only be created by those player being at the top of their games playing against one another in tournaments and hopefully we'll get that," Navratilova said.

The Legends Tour features laid-back tennis, mostly in a doubles format, with an audience rapport. Billie Jean King, Rosie Casals, Pam Shriver, Wendy Turnbull, Evonne Goolagong, Hana Mandlikova, Virginia Wade and Zina Garrison Jackson are among those competing this Saturday and Sunday as the Tour kicks off its second season.

"You can cut up, but it's still competitive," Navratilova said.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 False god
5 Fit of anger, to
8 Converse
12 Hun bigwig
13 Gallery
14 Wheels of fortune?
15 Estival pest
17 Blueprint statistic
18 Love a la Lyrnalls
19 Ameretto flavor
21 Print-shop supply
24 Ember
25 Mottled
28 Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
30 Under the weather
33 Pompous sort
34 Sweet-heart
35 Connection
36 Shout with a ray gun
37 Hard to find
38 Take a nap
39 Raw rock
41 Genealogy chart
43 Spanish money
46 "Star Wars"
50 WWII losers
51 The writing on the wall
54 Location for a plug?
55 Queen
56 Lettish musical style
58 Late-show actor Jack
57 Pack away
58 Rubber-tree plant
60 Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
61 False god
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78 Late-show actor Jack
79 Pack away
80 Rubber-tree plant
83 Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
84 Under the weather
87 Pompous sort
88 Sweet-heart
89 Connection
90 Shout with a ray gun
91 Hard to find
92 Take a nap

DOWN
20 Highway division
22 Caffeine-laden nut
23 Intelligent
25 La —
26 There —
27 Heavily great Phil
28 U.S.
31 Claiborne of fashion
32 Appomattox VIP
34 Gutter-neck feature
35 Stun with noise
40 Fix a stub —
41 born leer
42 Polar employee
43 Go by
44 Freeway ramp
45 Tel Mahal
46 Missile
47 Lie-condensing abbr.
48 "Arise, dew!"
49 Akira Kurosawa epic
53 Suitable

SOLUTION time: 21 mins.

CRYPTOQUIP
CDPE-BVA ADTEJ UXL
CVD KXZFG JPDZFPQFB
XM MVE BTKFPXPFM
CXB BDDL BXZFEF
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PERSON WHO DIVES INTO A PARISIAN RIVER EVERY DAY IS SAID TO BE WHOLLY IN SEINE.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals K
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that K 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.