

**Column One**  
**SPORTS TALK**



**Harold Dickie Bird**  
(World's most respected umpire)  
*'I'm feeling a little bit sad, it's the last time you can't stop age.'*  
Expressing his sentiments to BBC on the eve of his farewell.

**Sports**  
**WHIZZ KID**  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

**Sports WHIZZ KID competition-43**  
Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. June 28, 1996)

- The fastest woman of the 1995 Madras SAF Games is  
Sumanika Damayanti Shyla
- Sprinter Gwen Torrence is the current Olympic champion in  
100m 200m 400m
- The captain of the Croatian football team in the Euro '96 is  
Boban Suker Bokac
- Bangladesh Rifles have won the premier volleyball league title  
5 times 6 times 7 times
- The surname of English cricket umpire Dickie Bird is  
Harold William Henry

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

**Schools kabaddi begins June 28**

**Sports Reporter**  
The sixth schools kabaddi championship, organised by the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation, will begin at the kabaddi court of Dhaka Stadium from June 28.  
Sixteen schools, split into four groups, will take part in the first round knock out phase. The top four teams of each group will qualify for the semi-finals.  
The first round participants are: Rifles Public School and College, Sarmin Textiles Mills High School, Ansar and VDP High School, Motijheel Govt High School, Maniknagar Model High School, Shahid Abu Taleb High School, Badda Alatanissa High School, Millat High School, Shahid Nabi High School, Deep Shikha Bidyalaya, Kamalapur High School, Maniknagar Govt Primary School, BDR School and College, Ramkrishna Mission School, Dolairpar High School and Mitah School.

**Marlboro's incentive**

SHANGHAI, June 21: Marlboro, a unit of Philip Morris companies, is putting up 220,000 dollars as prize money for a four-team soccer tournament this month in Shanghai. The Liberation Daily reported today reports Reuter.  
The fifth Marlboro International Cup will feature teams from Uruguay, Bulgaria, Belgium and the local Shanghai Shenhua side, which won China's league championship in 1995, it said.  
The games will be held from June 24 to July 1, it said. Marlboro also sponsors China's league championship despite an advertising law that bans tobacco advertising at sports venues.  
Sports officials say that the company has been given special approval because of its contribution to soccer in China.

**Asprillas part company**

BOGOTA, June 21: Newcastle United's controversial Columbian striker Faustino Asprilla divorced his wife of seven years, Catalina Cortes, here on Thursday, reports AFP.  
Asprilla will have to pay his wife a settlement estimated at some 600,000 dollars while she also receives custody of the couple's three-year-old son.  
The six-million-pound star is currently training with the Columbia squad ahead of next month's World Cup qualifier against Uruguay.

June 30 ultimatum to DMFA  
**Officials get the boot**

**Sports Reporter**  
The Football Players Welfare Association (BFWA) and Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA), M Anisul Haque, to quit from his dual posts as he and his office bearers have failed to ensure this year's Senior Division football leagues, Premier and First Division.  
According to a press release yesterday, the player's association also demanded the resignation of Sheikh Akmal Hossain, the general secretary of BFWA, and Mozammel Haque Mukta, the DMFA secretary, for the same reason.  
The association asked those officials to vacate their posts immediately otherwise, as the BFWA said, they would be blacklisted and declared persona-non-grata in the sports arena.  
They have no right to hold their posts any more because they have failed to perform their duties for which they were appointed," said the press release.  
"There is no reason why the leagues should not be held. We still have time to begin the leagues. We know who are responsible for this. We shall publish their names if they do not stop their conspiracies against football and the footballers," the press release added.  
In their statement, the players said these officials have failed to ensure the smooth running of local football leagues. This will affect the booters of all the leagues including Second, Third and Pioneer Divisions. The officials are mocking with the fate of footballers.  
They also said that these officials have already spoiled the healthy environment of our

**Game Eight adjourned**

MOSCOW, June 21. Russian Grand Master Anatoly Karpov and young challenger Gata Kamsky carried over until Friday the eighth game of their Chess World Championship match after the 57th move, reports Reuter.  
HAR-TASS news agency said the two players' chances appeared to be almost equal after six hours of the game. But it gave no details of their positions. Karpov, 45, leads 5-2 in the 20-game series.

football and now they were planning to ruin the future of the booters.  
The footballers said that any conspiracy against football would be dealt with appropriately.  
In the strongly worded press release also asked the DMFA officials to recon their decision of not holding the Senior Division football league this year through a fresh meeting before June 30.

**Portugal's noble gesture**

NOTTINGHAM, June 21. Portugal's Euro '96 squad are to dedicate their quarterfinal, against the Czech Republic to the children of East Timor, a territory invaded by Indonesian troops 20 years ago, reports Reuter.  
Coach Antonio Oliveira said he had been upset after receiving faxes from two Timorese children.  
They were unhappy at not being able to watch Portugal play, because of fears of reprisals by Indonesian security forces.  
Indonesia annexed East Timor in 1976, a year after invading the territory.

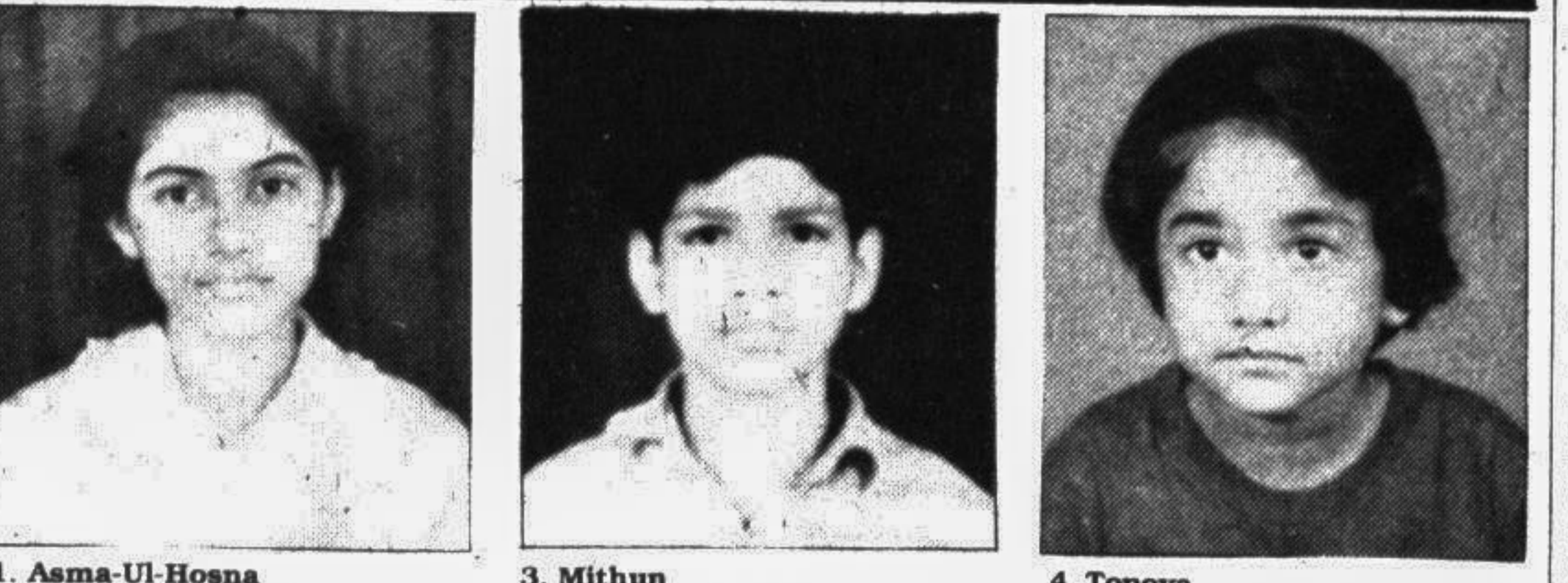


PASSION-PACKED: The exciting and adventurous Portuguese Euro '96 team members who have caught the imagination of soccer fans worldwide, look confident during practice at Birmingham on June 20. Portugal take on the Czech Republic in a quarterfinal fixture tomorrow. — AFP/UNB photo

**Sacchi's stubborn rebuff**

ASAGER, England, June 21: Italian coach Arrigo Sacchi hit back at his critics here on Thursday, insisting Italy's shock exit from the European Championships was not his fault, reports AFP.  
"We may have lost but we are not defeated," he said defiantly as the team prepared to head back home and face the wrath of their fans.  
"We leave this tournament on top after playing better than Russia, Germany and the Czech Republic."  
"We played very well and gave it everything. I believe we can all hold our heads high," he added.  
Sacchi rejected claims that his constant tampering with the make-up of the team was destroying Italy's chances. Instead, he said, the international team is better than ever.  
"I believe Italian football is more refreshing and exciting than it was but we have not reaped the rewards of the seeds we have sown. Here, we did not get the harvest we deserved."  
"In the past, like in the World Cup, it was the opposite where we did not play well but still reached the final," said the former AC Milan who has used over 80 players since put in charge almost five years ago.  
Sacchi stressed that Gianfranco Zola's missed penalty against Germany on Wednesday night was the decisive moment but also said his players had lost their concentration in the 2-1 defeat to the Czechs.  
"We were extremely close to winning against the Germans but the penalty was crucial."  
"I think we lost Zola after that — we lost him mentally but I did not want to substitute him because the team as a whole was playing so well."  
Sacchi dismissed talks that the Italian federation would get rid of him after the Euro '96 debacle.  
"If my contract was conditioned by the results of the European Championships, I would not have signed it."  
"But I have refused a lot of money in order to stay with and I think that is proof of my commitment to the national cause," said Sacchi who earns an estimated 75,000 pounds a year.  
Sacchi's destiny is inextricably bound up with the fate of Antonio Matarrese, the president of the Italian Football Federation, who is up for reelection in two months time.  
The two are accused by the Italian press of being in each others' pockets and on Thursday they had nothing but praise for one another.  
"Matarrese is one of the best directors I have ever worked with," said the Italian coach.

**WHIZZ KID-41 WINNERS**



- Asma-Ul-Hosna**  
Rifles Public School Dhaka
- Mithun**  
Mirpur Bangla High School Dhaka
- Tonoya**  
Playpen Dhaka
- Nahian**  
Shahen School Dhaka
- Md Zakul Islam**  
Motijheel Govt Boys' High School Dhaka
- Afsana Ahmed Moon**  
Sher-e-Banglanagar Govt Girls' High School Dhaka
- Tareque Shareef**  
Scholastica, Gulshan Dhaka
- Ayon Ahmed**  
Foolkuri School Dhaka

**WHIZZ KID-42 winners**

- Md Zakul Islam**  
Motijheel Govt Boys' High School Dhaka
- Afsana Ahmed Moon**  
Sher-e-Banglanagar Govt Girls' High School Dhaka
- Tareque Shareef**  
Scholastica, Gulshan Dhaka
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**Klinsmann's heart goes out for Italy**

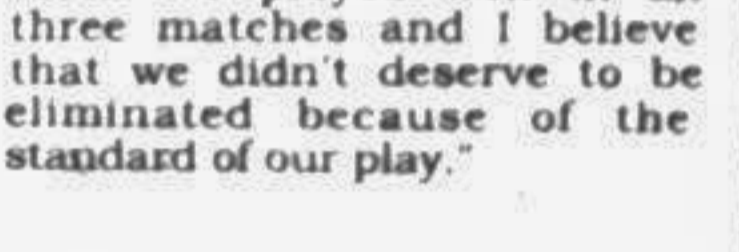
MANCHESTER, England, June 21: As the shell-shocked Italians prepared to fly home after their early exit from Euro '96, German striker Juergen Klinsmann admitted the tournament would miss them, reports AFP.  
"I think it is a big pity that Italy are now out of the championship," said Klinsmann, who accepted that Germany were fortunate to emerge from Old Trafford with a goalless draw against the Italians.  
That result maintained the Germans' position at the top of Group C and booked a Manchester quarterfinal date with Croatia.  
"They are a team full of class players and they were very unlucky against us but that's how football is sometimes."  
"I can't think of another game where we have been put under so much pressure. The Italians showed us how to play an effective pressing game and their rhythm and pace were very impressive."  
Italy's failure to come through the so-called group of death has put coach Sacchi's job on the line even though Italian football federation president Antonio Matarrese issued a vote of confidence immediately after the game.  
"He's the man for us and, as long as I remaining the Italian football federation, Sacchi will remain also," said Matarrese, who may live to regret his declaration when he stands for reelection later this year.  
Sacchi certainly has no intention of falling on his own sword and he left Old Trafford insisting that his men did not deserve to go out of the tournament.  
They would surely have survived, had Parma playmaker Gianfranco Zola not placed his ninth-minute penalty kick too close to Andreas Kopke after the German keeper had unceremoniously up-ended Pierluigi Casiraghi.  
Sacchi refused to discuss whether Kopke should have been dismissed for his mediocrity, but he said definitely: "We were in a group of steel; we played well in all three matches and I believe that we didn't deserve to be eliminated because of the standard of our play."

**Germans going great guns**

AMSTERDAM, June 21: Olympic champions Germany followed up their opening 6-1 victory over World Cup champions Pakistan by scoring a 5-1 triumph over Britain in their second match of the four-nation NCM hockey event on Thursday, reports Reuter.  
Germany's win was their biggest over Britain, the 1988 Olympic champions, for 29 years and a big revenge for their recent defeat in Germany by Britain.  
It was yet another clinical display by the Germans who last week won the pre-Atlanta tournament at Milton Keynes, England.  
They took the lead in the third minute, failed to score again until the 41st, but then quickly added three more goals, helped by some indifferent goalkeeping.  
They had five different scorers: Klaus Michler, Sven Meinhardt, Christian Blunck, Michael Waldhauer and Christoph Bechmann.  
Britain's reply came from full back Jon Wyatt on their third and last corner.  
In the final pool game on Saturday and, indeed, the final itself on Sunday the Germans will come up against the Netherlands who beat Pakistan more easily than the 4-3 scoreline suggested.  
Leading 4-1 at half-time, the Dutch went on to record their fourth win over Pakistan since they lost to them on penalties in the World Cup final two years ago.  
Victory, though, did come at a price as their sweeper back, Erik Jazet, suffered a groin strain and may now miss next month's Olympics.  
Taco van den Honert put the Dutch ahead from a 10th minute penalty corner before the teams exchanged long corner goals. Shahbaz Ahmed junior scoring for Pakistan and Stephan Veen for the Dutch.  
Pakistan protested strongly when Marc Delissen added the third Dutch goal, claiming he did not get a touch on the ball in the circle. The protests, however, were in vain and it soon became 4-1 as Floris Bovlander hammered in another corner.  
The Dutch then gave extended runs to their substitutes which played into the hands of the skilful Pakistani forwards. Rana Mujahid converted a corner for Pakistan and Shahbaz scored his second goal just before the end.

**Passion takes centre-stage**

LONDON, June 21 (Reuter). England and Spain, two of the greatest under-achievers in international soccer, come face to face at Wembley on Saturday in what is bound to be an emotional, highly-charged Euro '96 quarterfinal.  
Despite the triumphs of Real Madrid, Barcelona, Manchester United, Liverpool and other Spanish and English clubs in European competition over the last 40 years, their national teams have in contrast won just one major title each.  
Spain were European champions in 1964, England were World Champions in 1966. Since then neither country has won anything.  
Now they both appear to have a realistic chance of ending that barren spell.



TERRY VENABLES

England come into the match brimming with confidence after their stunning 4-1 win over the Netherlands in their final group match on Tuesday.  
Spain enter the fray unbeaten in 19 matches since the 1994 World Cup in the United States, with a will-to-win second to none and an equally strong sense of team work as England.  
Coaches Terry Venables and Javier Clemente are also old rivals for the mid-1980s when Venables was coach at Barcelona and Clemente was in charge at Espanyol, Barcelona's second team.  
Spanish goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta and Guillermo Amor, who scored the winner against Romania in their last group game, played for Barcelona under Venables and the English coach admits the match has special meaning for him.  
"It does give it an extra flavour but it could hardly be more exciting anyway," he said on Thursday.  
Like Venables, Clemente has been the target of intense media criticism at home and this week was involved in a scuffle with a Spanish radio reporter, sparking even more vilification from the Spanish press.  
Venables has also been a target for the doubters, but after England's 2-0 win over Scotland last Saturday and Tuesday's destruction of the Dutch, he comes into the match riding a wave of popularity that could yet hold carry his team all the way to victory in the final on June 30.  
But Spain will be no pushovers. Ten of their players have already had their names taken or been sent off. Unlike Spanish teams of old, Clemente's side is not afraid of a scrap and defensively they will probably not capitulate as the Dutch did if they fall behind.  
Venables has two injury concerns. Centre-back Tony Adams is doubtful with inflammation of scar tissue on a troublesome knee and wide midfielder Darren Anderton, who has improved with every game, has a hamstring strain. Both players missed training on Thursday.  
Venables will also be without the suspended Paul Ince following two yellow cards, and his absence could allow Fernando Hierro more freedom to create in midfield.  
David Platt will almost certainly take over from Ince in the middle, but Venables will wait until the last possible moment before making any more changes.  
Clemente, who has no serious injury worries, could start with Atletico Madrid's Jose-Juis Camarero in place of Real's Jose Amavisca in midfield following two poor games.



The first-ever black belt test in the country of the International Karate Organisation (IKO) was held at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium yesterday.

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**Blind being realistic**

Blind did concede, however, there had been a breakdown in on field communications in the second half at Wembley which contributed to his side's worst international defeat for 21 years.  
"The worst thing you can have is a team in two minds," said Blind, admitting some players had ignored instructions as England took a grip on the game.  
"Normally there's no problem but on Tuesday there was because some players wanted to go into attack when they should have stayed back."  
Ironically, Hiddink's best way out of trouble is to pick Patrick Kluivert, one of the players to have apparently supported Davids, on the same pitch where he took Ireland apart in last December's qualifying play-off.  
The Dutch won 2-0 with two Kluivert goals crowning a majestic performance, but Blind feels the game obscured the reasons why the Dutch failed to qualify by the conventional route.  
"We played one good game at Anfield and everyone said Holland were favourites," recalled Blind. "The expectations at home have been very big and unrealistic."  
Expectations in France could scarcely be higher, given their 26-match unbeaten record and their effective progress to the last eight under Aime Jacquet.  
"The French are in good shape," agreed Blind. "They're a very good team with a lot of confidence... I see them as one of the favourites. They're a complete side."  
"No-one in England is in danger of forgetting the Wembley scoreline, and public opinion suggests a Dutch revival is about as likely as a Beatles reunion concert in neighbouring Stanley Park this weekend."  
"We have to learn from the England game, that's the important thing," said Blind. "It will be very difficult, but nothing is impossible."

**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Adds alcohol
  - 6 Rep's rival
  - 9 DT's sufferer
  - 12 Earlier on the page
  - 13 Mound stat.
  - 14 Greek penultimate
  - 15 Verifiable
  - 16 Gather
  - 18 They have friends in high places
  - 20 By word of mouth
  - 21 Headly
  - 23 Affirmative action?
  - 24 A Visit From St. Nicholas' poet
  - 25 Scoundrel
  - 27 Texas river
  - 29 'Forrest Gump' actor
  - 31 Filmdom's A.G. Bell
  - 35 Spoonerism
  - 37 Castle
  - 38 Hill in England?
  - 41 Like
- DOWN**
- 1 Restroom: abbr.
  - 2 Lawyers' org.
  - 3 Lass
  - 4 Saticanic
  - 5 Auto style
  - 6 It lasts for years
  - 7 Piccadilly figure
  - 8 de mer
  - 9 End of South Carolina's motto
  - 10 Screen gam?
  - 11 Marquette set
  - 17 More relaxed
  - 19 Harley's
  - 21 Oohs' mutes
  - 22 Wahine's adornment
  - 24 Off-tattooed word
  - 26 One of the Barry-mores
  - 28 Gave a hoo!
  - 30 Crafty
  - 32 Variety of kale
  - 33 — polloi
  - 34 Scratch (out)
  - 36 No longer on the tape
  - 38 Strip in the morning
  - 39 Ivory partner?
  - 40 Ohio city
  - 41 Prince Harry's mum
  - 45 Oboe feature
  - 46 Bard's waterway
  - 48 Berlin's 'What!'
  - 50 Mideast land: abbr
  - 51 Appomattox VIP
- Solution time: 26 mins.**
- BIAS PAM ACES RANT ALO LOPE TIGOR OVA KNEW TOWLING DRAIVES FOR ALL DOPE BITCHINGS DOA BOO CUE THOMPSON BENT**
- CLINGE ROLLING LAND ABE IDOL ONCE TRO NERV FEER HAS TAMP**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

XLQ'J P APLX QQHMB - ZXBQJ FT SPLLXBL ZFH

AXLIXJL IFSSXB TSFOM?

Yesterday's Cryptquip: WHEN A THIEF HELD UP THE FLOWER SHOP HE FOUND A PETRIFIED FLORIST.

Today's Cryptquip clue: A equals B

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 using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.