

Column One Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

Now Taka 1000/-!!! Hey Kids! Take a look at this WHIZZ KID...

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-44

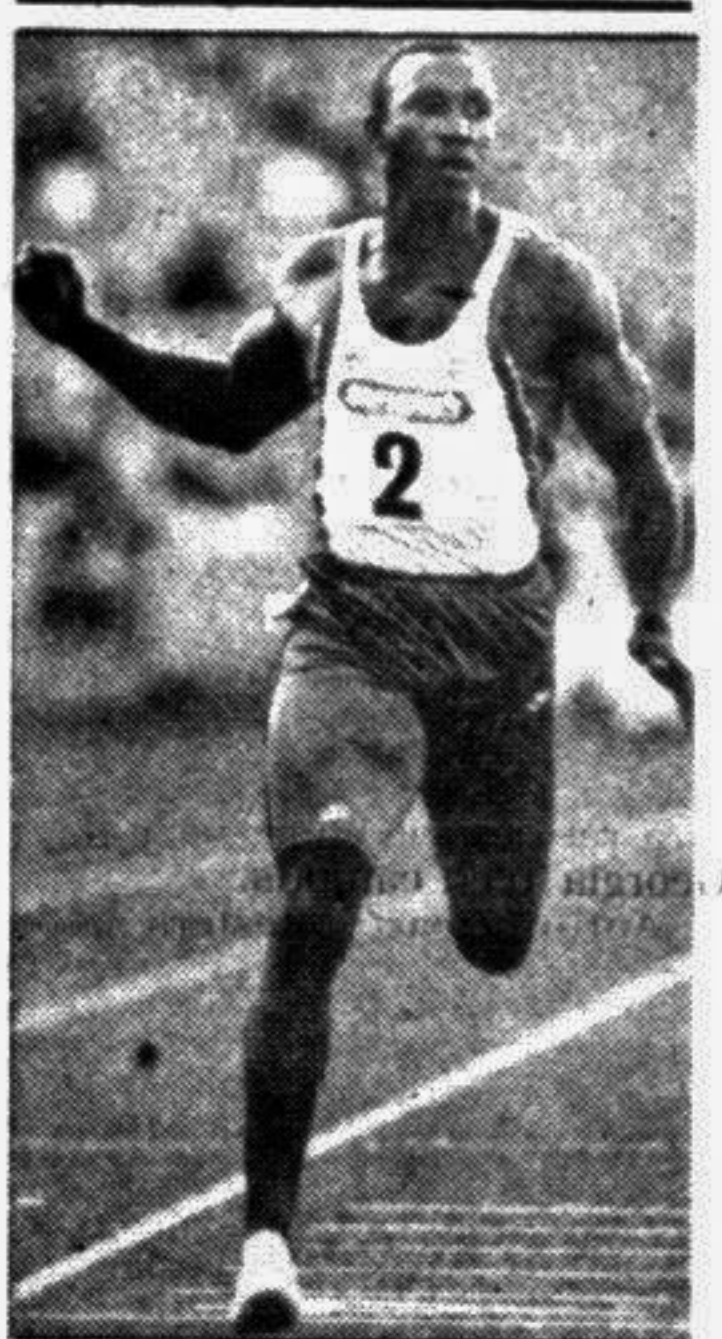
Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. July 5, 1996)

- 1. Boris Becker won his first Wimbledon tennis title in 1986, 1988, 1995. 2. Sir Garry Sobers once played Sheffield Shield in Australia for Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia...

Name: Class: Roil No: School Address: Phone: (if any)

SPORTS TALK



Linford Christie (British sprinter) "I go into every race believing I can win. You've got to be confident. If you're not confident in this world you get into trouble."

Game 13 drawn

ELISTA, Russia, July 2: Russian title-holder Anatoly Karpov managed on Monday to secure a draw against his American challenger Gata Kamsky in the 13th game of the World Chess Championship...

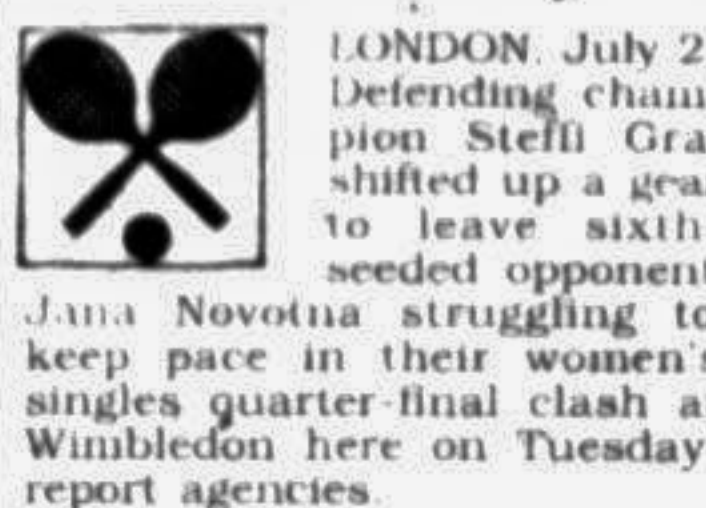
Age-group tennis

Sayed Aziz Raj and his counter part on the distaff side, Shereef Nusrat clinched the u-11 single titles of the national age-group tennis championships at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

Schools kabaddi

Shahid Nabi, High School and Riles Public School and College won their respective 6th schools kabaddi championship matches at the kabaddi court of Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Steffi, Sanchez in semis



LONDON, July 2: Defending champion Steffi Graf shifted up a gear to leave sixth-seeded opponent Jana Novotna struggling to keep pace in their women's singles quarter-final clash at Wimbledon here on Tuesday...



Sanchez-Vicario survived an early service break and came storming back on the No. 1 Show Court to beat experienced Judith Wiesner and reach the last four.

only seed left in the other end of the men's draw took another step towards a probable spot in the final by completing a 3-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-2 victory over Swede Thomas Johansson in a match suspended after three sets on Monday.

McGrath surprised ninth-seeded compatriot Mary Joe Fernandez 6-3, 6-1 to reach her maiden Grand Slam semi-final.

Sampras landed with both feet on top of a three-foot high ball container. As his racket flew out of his hands, Sampras somehow managed to keep his balance and drop safely to the ground.

Two more unseeded players, Romanian-born German Alex Radulescu and American Maliva Washington, also reached the last eight and will face each other to ensure that there is an unseeded semifinalist for the first time since John McEnroe in 1992.

Radulescu, a 21-year-old ranked 91st in the world, took his tally of aces to 101, more than any other man so far, as he cruised to a 6-3, 6-0, 6-4 triumph over South African qualifier Neville Godwin.



Washington progressed at the expense of Dutchman Paul Haarhuis, winning 6-3, 6-4, 2-6. He has not dropped a set since his first round match against Australian Richard Fromberg.

Bangladesh cage the Flamingo

Sports Reporter The national cricket team kicked off their series of exhibition matches in North America with a convincing 87-run win over Flamingo Club at West Bridge Ferry Park, New York, on Tuesday.

According to a faxed message received here last night, the Bangladesh national team, which is on a month-long tour to the United States and Canada as part of their preparation for the forthcoming ACC and ICC trophies, had finally rolled into action in a reduced 40-over-a-side match, shrugging off the frustration due to incessant rain during the last couple of days.

Opener Athar Ali Khan top scored with a gritty 29 followed by a rapid-fire 24 by long-handed Mohammed Rafique. Besides, skipper Akram Khan (20) and Enamul Hossain (18) were the other notable run-getters for the visitors.

Former West Indies wicket-keeper David Williams apart from his regulation job behind the wickets added merrily with the cherry for Flamingo, offering the visitors venomous Caribbean chill by claiming three wickets. His skipper Zamin, who bowled nippily, gave 28 runs for his three scalps.

Bangladesh, who missed their first exhibition match with Guyana XI on Monday due to rain, will play their next match with Cosmopolitan XI today.

Federation polls within a year

Sports Reporter The State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs, Obaidul Quader, has emphasised on democracy for the survival of local sports.

The Minister said this while speaking as chief guest in a seminar on the role of sports journalists, organised by the Bangladesh Sports Writers Association (BSWA), at the conference room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Imran inter-thana chess champ

Sports Reporter Mir Imran Ali of Dhamrai emerged unbeaten champion in the inter-thana chess competition of Dhaka district which ended at the Dhaka DSA auditorium yesterday.

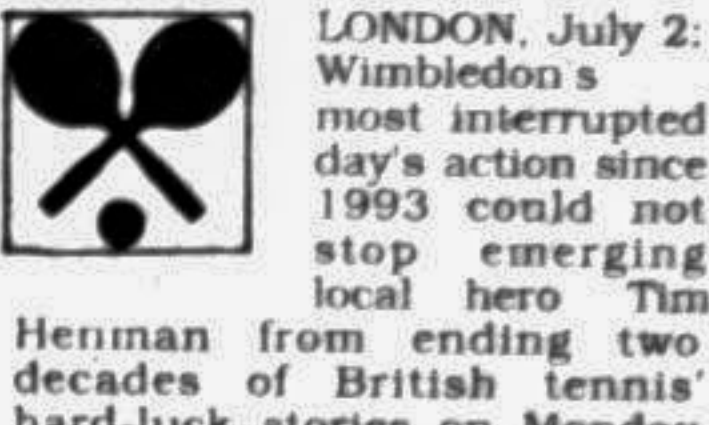
England bids to host 2006 World Cup

LONDON, July 2: England on Monday launched a bid to stage the soccer World Cup in 2006, after its success in hosting the European Championship, reports Reuters.



Fahim Hasan Romi plays backhand against Rahat Kamal Islam (not in picture) during their national junior age-group tennis championships under-16 semifinal engagement at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday. Fahim won 6-4, 7-6 (7-5). — Star photo

Date drives out Conchita



LONDON, July 2: Wimbledon's most interrupted day's action since 1993 could not stop emerging local hero Tim Henman from ending two decades of British tennis' hard luck stories on Monday by reaching the quarterfinals, reports Reuters.

Henman rewarded the patience of the centre court crowd on a cool, showery afternoon by beating Swede Magnus Gustafsson 7-6, 6-4, 7-6 to become the first Briton to enter the last eight club since Roger Taylor in 1973.

There was also a shock exit for 1994 women's champion Conchita Martinez, dumped unceremoniously out of the championship 5-7, 7-6, 6-3 by Japan's Kimiko Date.

The Spanish third seed's emotional triumph over Martina Navratilova two years ago suddenly seemed as distant as the days when British players ruled the lawns, as Date took herself into the last eight of the women's singles for the second year in a row.

Until Martinez's late demise, only Steffi Graf and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario had threatened to divert attention away from Henman's impressive progress.

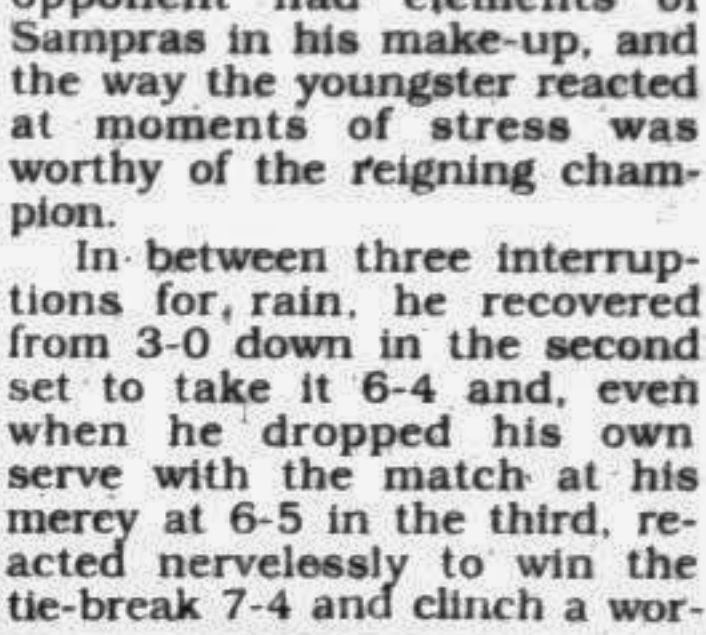
Graf dismissed 15-year-old Martina Hingis 6-1, 6-4 in the same cool manner she dealt with suggestions by Navratilova she was faking a knee injury, while Sanchez-Vicario survived one wobbly set against Sabine Appelmans to join her rival in the quarterfinals.

Rain has been a rare visitor to the All-England Club in recent times, but until now the drought encountered by British tennis has been relentless and unbreakable.

made of sterner stuff and is beginning to invite cautious, if premature, comparisons with a youthful Pete Sampras or Stefan Edberg.

The 21-year-old now faces either American 13th seed Todd Martin or Swede Thomas Johansson and sees no reason why he cannot progress even further in the bottom half of a draw which is wide open.

Obviously I'm very pleased to be in the quarterfinals but I have to keep looking forward," said Henman, currently ranked 11th.



CONCHITA MARTINEZ 62nd in the world. Gustafsson, ranked 37th, had had suggested his young opponent had elements of Sampras in his make-up, and the way the youngster reacted at moments of stress was worthy of the reigning champion.

In between three interruptions for rain, he recovered from 3-0 down in the second set to take it 6-4 and, even when he dropped his own serve with the match at his mercy at 6-5 in the third, reacted nervously to win the tie-break 7-4 and clinch a work-

thy victory in just under two hours.

"He's a guy for the future, as I said before," said Gustafsson. "Give him one or two years and you won't be surprised he's in the quarterfinals of Wimbledon."

Australian Jason Stoltenberg, also advanced to his first Grand Slam quarterfinal, beating Switzerland's Jakob Hlasek 6-2, 7-6, 6-2.

Stoltenberg was 4-0 down in the second set only to be saved by a rain break. "The rain really helped. It was the turning point. I was going down and was able to get away, regroup and come back."

Despite the unsettled weather, all the women's last 16 matches were completed with Czech Jana Novotna and Mary Pierce of France making significant progress.

Novotna will now play Graf after beating Canadian Patricia Hy-Boulais 6-3, 6-1, while Pierce plays Date as a reward for her straight sets win over Russia's Elena Likhovtseva.

The conqueror of Monica Seles, Katarina Stutenikova of Slovakia, went down to Meredith McGrath to set up an all-American quarterfinal with Mary Joe Fernandez, while Austria's Judith Wiesner will be Sanchez-Vicario's opponent.

The departure of Martinez, though, appears to make life easier for Graf in the top half. "I'm not playing bad. I just had a bad match," said the Spaniard. "I wasn't very comfortable and my strokes weren't working."

Martina takes horns back



WIMBLEDON, England, July 2 (AP, Reuters): Steffi Graf beat one Martina and took a swipe at another at Wimbledon on an irritating day of too much rain, too little tennis and testy tempers.

Graf turned in one of her best performances of the tournament Monday in a 6-1, 6-4 rout of Martina Hingis to reach the quarterfinals, then turned on the Swiss teen's namesake, Martina Navratilova, for implying that Graf exaggerated her injuries.

"She's lucky she doesn't have to live with them," Graf said icily. "I think she should know better than to say these things."

Relations between Graf and Navratilova have been frosty since Wimbledon last year, when they were scheduled to play doubles together before Graf backed out at the last minute. Navratilova was left without a partner and no chance to tie Billie Jean King's record of 20 overall Wimbledon titles. Navratilova came up one short when she won the mixed doubles with Jonathan Stark.

Their tiff continued recently when Graf won the French Open for her 19th Grand Slam singles title, surpassing Navratilova's total, and reportedly felt miffed by not receiving a congratulatory note from her.

Czech-American Martina Navratilova was however, quick to defuse the row with Steffi.

If you read the newspapers you'd think she belongs in hospital, if you look at her today she's running like a gazelle.



Her quips while commenting at Wimbledon for the American HBO television network sparked tabloid headlines about "volleys of abuse."

But Graf, who is bidding to win the singles title for the seventh time, revealed on Monday that they had patched up their differences.

Graf, who has been wearing a brace in practice and a small white bandage on her knee in matches, said "I wish the things she says were true, I don't like to talk about injuries, or use it as an excuse."

Graf said she confronted Navratilova about the comment in the locker room a couple of days ago.

"She said she was sorry the way it was put," Graf said. "And she didn't really mean how she said it."

"I have never been a person who likes to talk about injuries and use them as an excuse. I've never done that and I hope I never do," Graf said.

Graf, whose career catalogue of injuries includes a broken right thumb, chipped foot bones and a stress fracture, pulled out of a British tournament at Eastbourne last month because of his hurt her left knee during practice.

The argument between two of the game's most famous players erupted when Navratilova said Graf's recent knee injury "is just an excuse ahead of time in case she needs it."

Navratilova, holder of nine Wimbledon singles titles, said, "Steffi Graf could run in the quarter-mile at the Olympics."

Britons dream a dream

day. Henman grew up watching British players failing to live up to the nation's hopes at Wimbledon.

"I very much enjoyed watching (Wimbledon), and you saw some good British performances," he said. "But it was disappointing that they didn't advance as far as everybody liked. So I think that gave me an incentive to try and put things right."

In 1973, the year Wimbledon was hit by a players' boycott that robbed the field of the sport's top names, Taylor wound up losing in the semifinals.

Roger Taylor was the last Brit to make the men's final eight in 1973. Now the British public is pulling for Henman to become in the first to win the men's title since Fred Perry in 1936.

"I'm very pleased to be in the quarterfinals, but I have to keep looking forward," the 21-year-old Henman said after his 7-6 (7-2), 6-4, 7-6 (7-4) win over Gustafsson. "I am pleased with what I have achieved but there's still more tennis to be played."

"That was, along with breaking my ankle, the lowest point of my career," Henman said. "I think 12 months ago, it was a slight concern that was going to be my lable. But there is another incentive to produce good results and hopefully people will begin to forget about that and think about the positive."

Henman's next opponent will be either No. 13 Todd Martin or Thomas Johansson. Martin led 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 when their fourth-round match was suspended by darkness Monday.

England's new hope Tim Henman slams down a rising return from Magnus Gustafsson of Sweden during his fourth round match at the Wimbledon on July 1. — AFP/UNB photo

THE WIMBLEDON DIARY

LONDON, July 2 (Reuters): She may have found Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario too much to deal with, but Belgium's Sabine Appelmans is certainly a hit in her homeland.

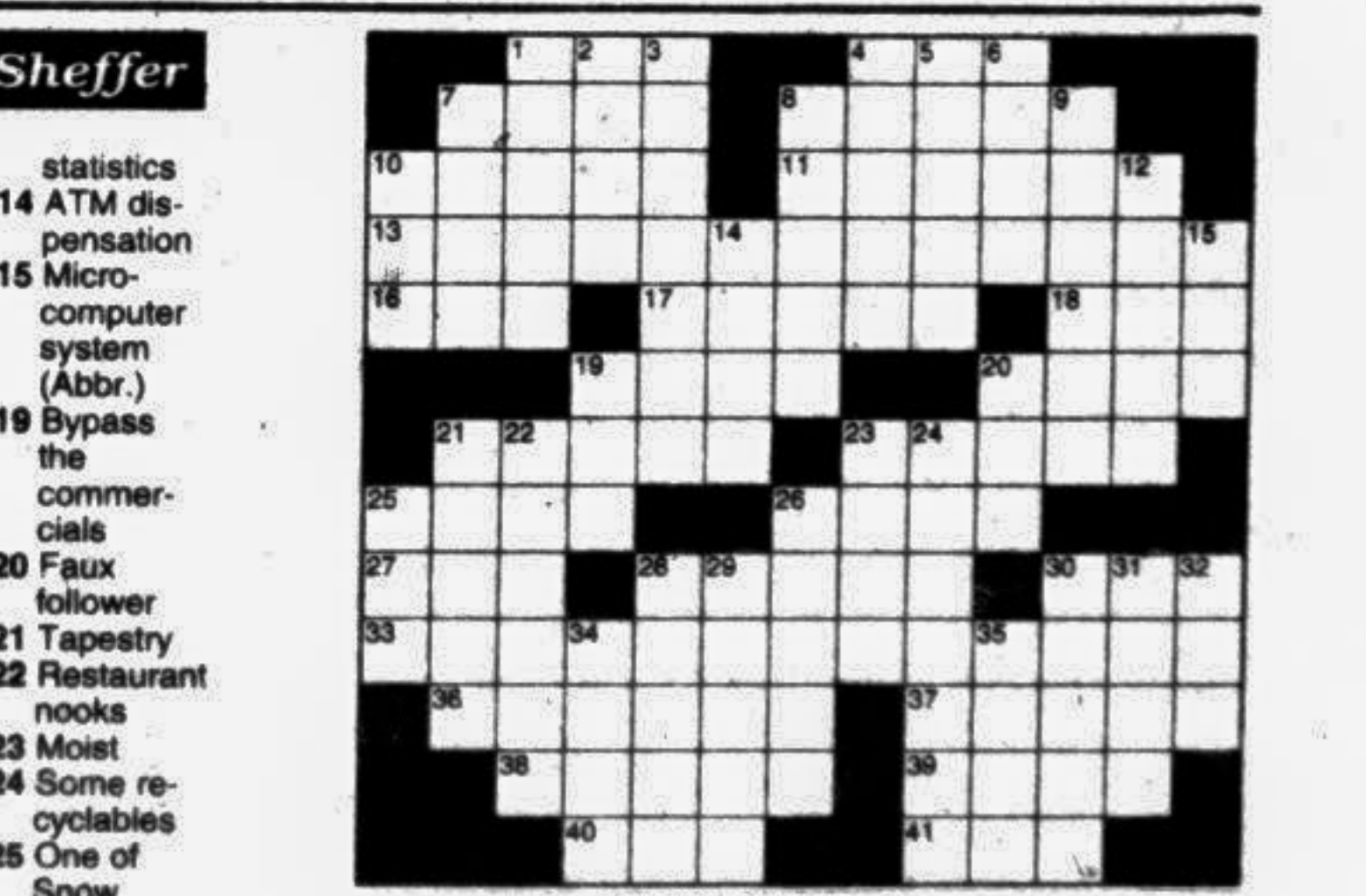
Match points are usually tense — but spare a thought for Karolina Jagieniak. She led Ireland's Claire Curran 6-1, 5-1 and 40-30 and was preparing to serve at match point in their girls' singles second round tie on court 15.

A Swedish visitors to Britain, lucky enough to obtain Wimbledon tickets, waxed lyrical in the women's lavatory high above Centre Court, but not about the tennis.

"This is the best view from any toilet I have ever been in," she exclaimed as she looked out north east over the wash basins towards a Panorama of London from Canary Wharf to Battersea power station.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Milleur for Lemieux 4 Put together 7 Gift-tag word 8 Descend like a buzzard 10 Set 11 Armored tank 13 Diagonal 16 D.C. nickname 17 Ostentatious ornamented 18 Long March leader 19 Gusto 20 Snapshots 21 Embarrass 23 Word in many whodunit titles 25 Rainstorm minutes 26 Medicaments 27 Partner of plate



CRYPTOQUIP J K T P V G A Q B C C A : F C V N V P F S K G K Y V G F S K G R N O Q V J F R O S R B Y R F C X K T C R. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I DON'T RECKON COFFEE COULD BE CALLED BREAK FLUID, COULD IT? Today's Cryptoquip clue: P equals V