bul, Minhazul Abedin Nannu.

Enamul Haq Moni, Athar Ali Khan, Khaled Masud Pilot,

Habibul Bashar Sumon, Saiful

Islam, Hasibul Hossain Shanta.

Sheikh Salahuddin and

(capt), Saeed Anwar, Aamir So-

hail, Shahid Khan Afridi, In-

PAKISTAN: Rameez Raja

Naimur Rahman Durjoy.





#### Sachin Tendulkar

(Indian cricket captain) "They (selectors) have saddled me with a B-grade team for the Asia Cup. I have decided to speak the truth..... I will allow no one to use me.'

Reacted on the omission of his school friend Vinod Kambli and Nayan Mongia.



COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-74 Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes 8 pm, July 25, '97 Who lifted the Wimbledon

ladies' singles crown this Hingis Vicario How many times has

Sampras won the Wimbledon? Three Which nation clinched the

Copa America title? Brazil Who became champions in the World Youth Soccer Cup? Colombia Argentina

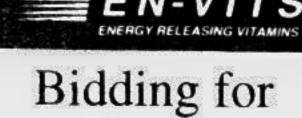
Who won this year's Green Delta First Division hockey league title?

Class ..... Roll No.

Mohammedan Abahani Usha Name ..... THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY. יייי לאינייי ולווניי וליוניי ליווליי ווווייייי וייי

School Address .....

\* Phone: (If any) .....



MILAN. July 15: Roberto Baggio, being chased by English Premiership club Derby County, has also attracted bids from Serie A sides Udinese and Bologna, reports AFP.

Udinese are reported to have offered 6 billion lira (3.45 million dollars) to AC Milan for the 1994 World Cup star while Bologna have offered half that amount.

Bologna are reported to have offered the 30-year-old player better personal terms — 2.87 million dollars for a two-year

However, Derby's 8 million pound (13 million dollar) package betters anything Udinese or Bologna have offered. Derby revived interest in

Baggio when a move to Parma collapsed.

#### Davis Cup roundup

LONDON, July 15: Egypt defeated Lithuania to secure its place in next year's Euro/African zone Group 2 of the Davis Cup Monday while Georgia completed a 5-0 whitewash of Nigeria in Tbilisi, reports AP.

Bad light in Cairo forced the final reverse singles match between Egypt's Hisham Humeideh and Evaenidos Cariovas of Lithuania to be abandoned Sunday.

The teams were locked 2-2 before the deciding match and when the players resumed Monday Cariovas lead 3-2 in

the final set. But the Egyptian crawled back and finally triumphed in a marathon victory 6-2, 7-6(7-4),

6-7(5-7), 5-7, 11-9. Georgia, already up 3-0, had already secured its place in next year's Group 2 of the zone before rain prevented any play on

Sunday. Monday's play saw Georgia's Givi Samkharadze defeat Sule Ladipo 6-3, 3-0 after the Nige-

rian retired. Vladimir Margalitadze then defeated Nigeria's Jean Louis Adelikan, 6-1, 6-2 to complete

the 5-0 whitewash.

#### Monaco sign Costa PARIS, July 15: French

champions Monaco made a surprise signing today when they snapped up midfielder Francisco Jose Rodriguez da Costa whose contract with Portuguese Second Division side Nacional Madeira had expired, reports AFP.

# Column One | Locals' first test by fire

Bangladesh will kick off their Pepsi sixth Asia Cup campaign against former world champions

Pakistan at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo today. The ICC champions, riding high on their recently awarded one-day status, will stand their first test by fire to justify their bid for Test rank, the ultimate goal for cricketing nations. Un-doubtedly the underdogs along-

batting depth to pull off an unlikely win. With the enthusiasm going up in every nook and corner of the country, the national cricket team, led by skipper Akram Khan, will get into the

side the three Asian giants. Bangladesh will count on their

match with a positive approach.

Bangladesh, a regular visitor in the biennial cricket carnival, lost all of their previous ten matches in the last four editions since their first appearance in the second Asia Cup in

Odds will certainly be in favour of the talented Pakistanis who have never won the regional trophy since its introduction in 1984.

Although a victory for Pakistan is always on the cards,

#### Paul's fitness mission

LONDON, July 15: Paul Mc-Grath starts a three-match trial at West Ham this week in a bid to earn himself a one-year contract with the London side, reports Reuter.

The 37-year-old centreback who has 82 Ireland caps - and the most famous knees in English soccer — must prove his fitness against Clyde, Dunfermline and St Johnstone after being released by Derby at the end of last season.

West Ham manager Harry Redknapp sees McGrath as the ideal man to help his side through their pre-season injury crisis. McGrath's troublesome knees would have meant retirement for many lesser players many years ago, but he has overcome a series of injuries and operations on them.

The highly-rated former Manchester United, Aston Villa and Derby player, could extend his already glittering career even longer as West Ham have serious deficiencies at the back. Central Defender Richard Hall will be out for several months following another operation on his troublesome foot, while skipper Julian Dicks also misses the start of

the season after knee surgery. With full-back Tim Breaker also due to enter hospital for treatment and Croatian Slaven Bilic having moved to Everton, McGrath was quick to answer Redknapp's distress call. He said: "Harry very kindly

invited me down to train with the team and get a bit of fitness. With the situation he is in with defenders, he wants me around while he sees whether others are going to be getting fit. If they do, so be it. My attitude is at least I'm training. It's keeping me busy so I'm grateful to

Harry for asking me here." "I'll still be looking for a club to play for even if it's not West Ham" he insisted.

cket Monday announced some

major changes in playing

conditions with a nod to the use

of floodlights in Test cricket

when poor visibility threatened

tive of the ICC, briefing re-

porters after the first-ever

meeting of Test captains and its

cricket committee at the week-

end said the use of artificial

lights would be allowed provid-

ing both countries agree to the

same before Test series and

without any change in hours of

play for day and night Test

tively to persistent complaints

by players that there was "too

much cricket" and put a limit

on each country to playing no

more than ten to 12 Test

matches and 25 to 30 one-day

French Riviera on July 14.

Other major decisions taken

internationals per year.

The ICC also responded posi-

cricket.

David Richards, chief execu-

to disrupt play, reports PTI.

LONDON, July 15:

The International

Cricket Council

(ICC) while signif-

icantly curtailing

the volume of

international cri-

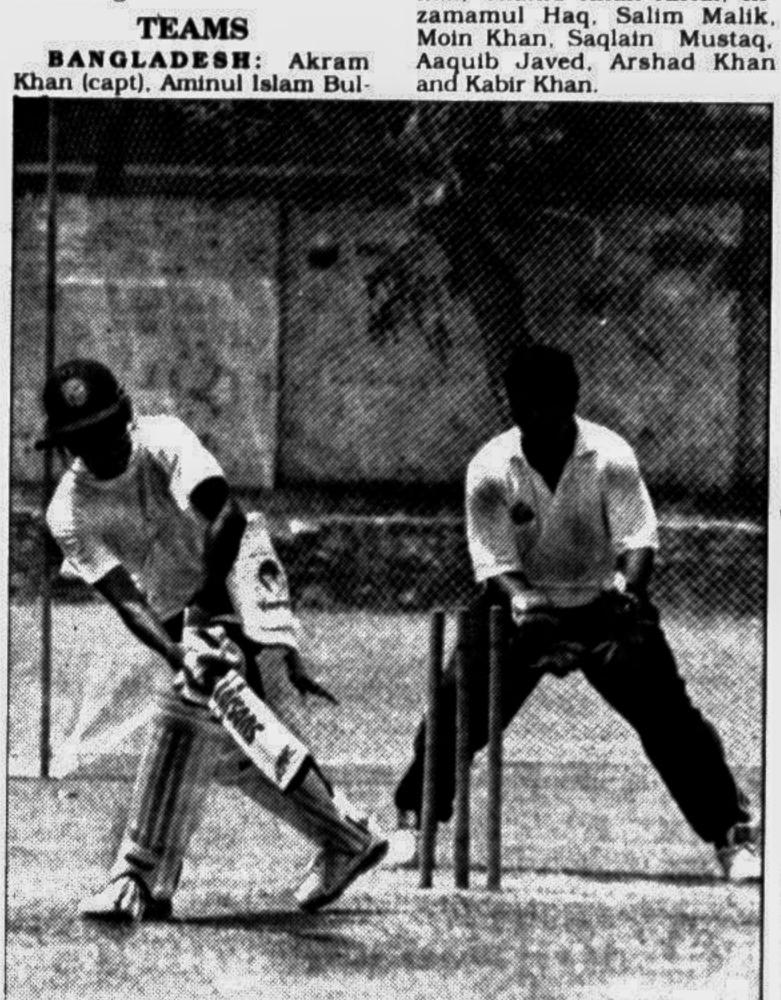
Sports Reporter

Bangladesh, who have promised to fight till the last ball is bowled, will be out to prove the game's glorious uncertainty.

The national team, however, had a light practice session at the Premadasa Stadium last evening to tune themselves up for the big occasion.

TEAMS

BANGLADESH: Akram



Bangladesh's Hasibul Hossain practises in the nets while manager Gazi Ashraf Hossain performs behind the stumps the day before their Asia Cup match against Pakistan in Colombo today. - AFP/UNB photo

## ASIA CUP RESULTS

Results of the 10 Asia Cup matches played by Bangladesh: Second Asia Cup, Colombo 1986 (Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh):

Pakistan beat Bangladesh by 7 wickets (Bangladesh 94 all out, Pakistan 95/3) Sri Lanka beat Bangladesh by 7 wickets (Bangladesh 131/8, Sri Lanka 132/31

Champions: Sri Lanka, runners-up: Pakistan Third Asia Cup, Dhaka 1988, (India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh) India beat Bangladesh by 9 wickets (Bangladesh 99 all out,

India 100/1) Sri Lanka defeated Bangladesh by 9 wickets (Bangladesh 118 all out, Sri Lanka 120/1)

Pakistan beat Bangladesh by 167 runs (Pakistan 278/3. Bangladesh 111 all outl-Champions: India, runners-up: Sri Lanka

Fourth Asia Cup, Calcutta 1990 (India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh) India beat Bangladesh by 9 wickets (Bangladesh 170 all out, India 171/1)

Sri Lanka beat Bangladesh by 71 runs (Sri Lanka 249/4. Bangladesh 178/8) Champions: India, runners-up : Sri Lanka Fifth Asia Cup, Sharjah 1995 (India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan

and Bangladesh) Pakistan beat Bangladesh by 6 wickets (Bangladesh 151/8, Pakistan 152/4)

Sri Lanka beat Bangladesh by 107 (Sri Lanka 233 all out, Bangladesh 126 all out) India beat Bangladesh by 9 wickets (Bangladesh 163 all out, India 164/1)

per hour with only fast bowlers

in operation through such short

innings and the fall of all wick-

mittee members are concerned

at the general decline through-

out the world in standard of

pitches, especially for Test

cricket," Richards said adding

that this issue would be raised

with respective boards as a mat-

called the captains conclave as,

"Very fruitful exercise. The

meeting produced excellent re-

sults on a number of issues per-

taining to cricket." He said the

members wanted "Ideally to in-

clude eight-week break to allow

players to recharge mentally

He said all these decisions

and overcome minor injuries."

would be discussed by the exec-

utive committee of the Interna-

tional Cricket Council at its

meeting in Calcutta in Decem-

ber this year. This would be the

first ever meeting of the ICC ex-

ecutive council outside the

- AFP/UNB photo

Lord's cricket ground.

captains and cricket committee

The ICC chief executives

"Captain and cricket com

ets." he said.

ter of priority.

Champions: India, runners-up: Sri Lanka.

ICC ushers in few changes

were to allow the practice of

bowling two bouncers per over

in Tests and the use the third

umpire television replay sys-

tem by two umpires to decide

whether or not a catch had been

third umpire decisions on

doubtful cases of close catches.

Richards said, "If the bowling

umpire is uncertain as to

follow the normal practice of

consulting the square leg um-

pire. Only if both agree, then

only can they signal for a tele-

vision replay and decision

tory to have one absorbent

roller in order to expedite the

resumption of play after heavy

rains as part of its aim to stan-

dardise equipment on all

grounds used as venues for in-

not to impose over-rate fines if

a side was dismissed in 50 overs

or less in Tests or in 35 overs in

one-day internationals. "This

recognises the difficulty of

meeting the average of 15 overs

Britain's Lady Diana is taken by an unidentified young girl for a jet-ski ride in the

It has also been decided to

ternational events.

The ICC has made it manda-

through red or green lights.

whether the ball carried, he will

Elaborating on allowing

cleanly taken.

### Div III cricket qualifiers from July 22

Sports Reporter The qualifying round of the Lotus Kamal Third Division cricket league 1997-98 will begin in the city on July 22, under the auspices of Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan

(CCDM). The clubs who already made their entries have been asked to collect the fixture from Bangladesh Cricket Board office at the Dhaka Stadium on July 19. According to a CCDM official yesterday, 74 clubs have enrolled so far.

## Hockey trial

Sports Reporter Barnak Samaj Kalyan Krira O Sangskritik Angan of Mirpur has organised a trial on July 19 to select a hockey team which will participate in the Second

Division league this year. Interested players have been asked to be present at the club ground by 7 am.

#### M United to get Silva

MANCHESTER, July 15: English Premiership champions Manchester United confirmed Monday they have agreed a fee for Brazilian defender Celio Silva, reports AFP.

The 29-year-old centre-back was in Manchester negotiating personal terms. But his Brazilian club Corinthians have accepted a bid - believed to be around 3.5 million pounds (about 5.5 million dollars).

Club lawyer Maurice Watkins said: "A figure has been agreed with his club and negotiations are well advanced with the player.

Because Silva, who was outstanding for Brazil during the Tournoi de France, is a non-EU national. United will need a work permit before he can play for them. Watking added. The actual

transfer will not be completed until we have lodged the work permit application with the Department of Employment and that has been granted."

The club are not anticipating any problems - Silva has been a regular in the Brazil side since 1995 and fulfills the necessary requirements for the permit to be granted.

Silva would-be manager Alex Ferguson's second major signing of the summer, following England strike Teddy Sheringham's 3.5 million pound move from Tottenham.

#### Ginola on the move?

LONDON, July 15: French winger David Ginola is set to join Tottenham from Newcastle after agreeing personal terms with the English Premier league club's chairman Alan Sugar, reports Reuter.

The London club's clubcall line said Monday that a deal was "all but done"

There was no other official comment from either the North London club or from Newcastle. The clubcall line said the

transfer was expected to be for around 2.6 million pounds (4.4 million dollars) and the 30vear-old Frenchman was expected to sign shortly before joining the squad on their tour of Norway this week.

The clubcall service quoted Ginola's agent Michel Benguigui as saying that the player had met Sugar on Sunday in the south of France and they had agreed personal terms for the move.

"The two clubs need to finalise a fee but David will have a medical on Tuesday and should link up with the other Tottenham players on their pre-season tour of Norway on Wednesday," Benguigui said.

Ginola, who joined Newcastle from Paris St Germain two years ago, has been unable to hold down a steady first team place at the club since Kenny Dalglish took over as manager from Kevin Keegan last season.

The winger will fill the gap left at Tottenham after the shock departure last month of England striker Teddy Sheringham to Manchester United.

## Stojkovic put on suspension

TOKYO, July 15: Yugoslav player Dragan Stojkovic of the Nagoya Grampus Eight will be suspended for four games for insulting the referee, the Japan Professional Soccer League said Tuesday, reports AP. Hiroshi Kazayama, a spo-

kesman of the J-League, said the 32-year-old Stojkovic made insulting remarks to referee Shinichiro Obata when shown a yellow card during a match against the Yokohama Marinos last Wednesday. Kazayama declined to spec-

ify what the player said, but Stojkovic took the card from the referee's hand while complaining against his ruling. The Marinos blanked Nagoya 1-0. Nagoya now stand 13th in

the 17-team league and the Marinos fourth with two games remaining in the season's 16game first stage. It will be Stoikovic's second penalty this season. He was suspended for two games after he insulted a referee in a game May 7 against Kashiwa Reysol. Former Yugoslav national team player Stojkovic joined

22 Pad

**26** Notorious

the skies

chieftair

Santa's

number

Agency

35 Dowel

36 Ford

sack

33 Caron

34 Pin

29 Take to

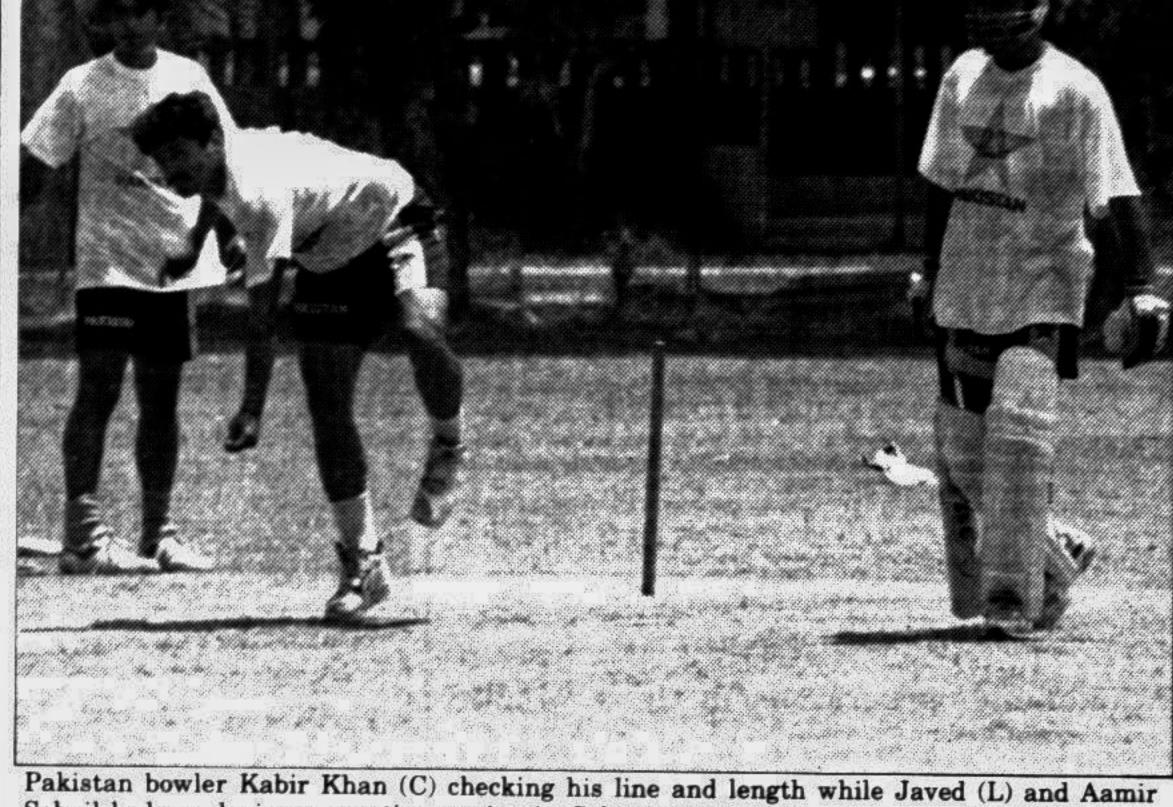
30 Bustle

31 Islamic

32 Item in

Nagoya in 1994. He is the team's second leading scorer overall, with 29 goals in the past four years, but has not scored yet this season. Yasuyuki Moriyama leads with

48 goals.



Sohail look on during a practice session in Colombo yesterday. - AFP/UNB photo

## Bevan's berth at stake



CARDIFF, July 15: Australia's three-day match against Glamorgan Wednesday is the first of two first-class enco-

unters which will decide the tourists' troubled No 6 batting spot before the crucial fourth Test at Headingley, reports AP. Fringe batsmen Justin

Langer, Ricky Ponting and Michael Slater are vying for the position of Michael Bevan, who has contributed little to Australia's Ashes effort. The left-handed batsman

exposed his vulnerability against short-pitch bowling in the first three Tests when he scored eight, 24, four, seven and nought.

He has picked up just two wickets with his 'chinaman' wrist spinners. Australia's liking for a second spinner to assist Shane Warne in the Tests appears the only reason why Bevan has also been included in the shortlist of 12 against Glamorgan. But he will need a bag of wickets and a big century to keep his Test spot.

against the English during Australia's Ashes victory in England four years ago, is the third opener in the tour party. He did his Test chances no harm with an electrifying 95 against Scotland in Edinburgh last week.

Left-handed Langer and Ponting are both No 3 batsmen. but may bat lower in the order, below the experienced Steve Waugh to provide some solidity to a batting line-up that has been left down by the top four.

RAMAT GAN, Isreal, July 15: The 370-strong Australian cabiah Games decided today to stay on and compete despite the

aged the team members to continue at the Games for Jewish athletes, but said they would not prevent anyone from reat Lord's, and then 113 for five and 132 for five at Old Trafford. Of the three candidates, Langer is the only one to have scored a century on this tour,

but good performances by any

of the batsmen against Glamor-

gan, and then Middlesex at Lord's, could settle the argument before the July 24-28 Test. The real test for the three,

who have played little cricket against top-class opposition on the tour so far, will come in Cardiff, provided Waqar Younis and Steve Watkin pass fitness

Slater, who scored freely

In the three Tests so far, Waugh has most of the time held the innings together, after Australia was reduced to 54 for eight at Edgbaston. 159 for six

#### Tragic!

team at the Olympic-style Macdeaths of two members when a bridge collapsed during the opening ceremony, reports

Games organisers encourturning home if they wished.

MISHAEL BEVAN

gan attack.

ing a back injury.

the Welsh county side.

Adam Gilchrist's tour.

the Lancashire League.

tests to spearhead the Glamor-II

Pakistan's Waqar, the

fastest bowler in international

cricket and a fierce swinger of

the ball, is in devastating form,

but may be forced out of the

match with a thigh strain.

Watkin, Waqar's opening part-

ner with the new ball, is carry-

make his Australia debut and

fulfill his mother's last wishes

when he keeps wickets against

join the 17-man tour party after

a freak training accident ended

past seven or eight years I've

always held those aspirations

that one day I might get an op-

portunity," Berry said of his un-

expected call-up from his duties

as coach with Macclesfield in

rough patches in the last two

years, losing both parents to

"I've been through a couple of

Victorian Darren Berry will

Berry, 27, was called up to

"Keeping for Victoria for the

Morris, Adrian Dale, Matthew Maynard (captain), Tony Cottey, Michael Powell, Gary Butcher, Adrian Shaw, Wagar Younis, Darren Thomas, Steve Watkin, Dean Cosker and Owen Parkin.

cancer. That got at me and

probably motivated me a lot

was just the proudest mum ever

wanted me to achieve before she

died. One was to get married and

two was to get the baggy green

done both and I hope if she's up

there she's got a smile on her

**TEAMS** 

Matthew Elliott, Michael

Slater, Greg Blewett, Ricky

Ponting. Justin Langer.

Michael Bevan, Darren Berry,

Mark Taylor (captain), Paul

Reiffel, Brendon Julian,

Michael Kasprowicz and Jason

GLAMORGAN (from): Hugh

AUSTRALIA (from):

face."

Gillespie.

- she'd take me everywhere.

"All mums are proud but she

"She had two dreams she

"Within three months I've

#### FedEx sponsors Benetton team

DUBAI, July 15: FedEx Express Corporation (FedEx) announced Friday a major sponsorship deal with the Benetton Formula 1 racing team. As part of a global branding pro-gramme the distinctive FedEx logo will now be prominently positioned on both race cars and emblazoned on drivers Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger,

says a press release. Commenting on the sponsorship deal, FedEx Vice President, Marketing and Customer Service. Paul Evens said: "The ingredients required to be a successful F1 team are speed, reliability, innovative technology and outstanding team work. That same mix of skills has established FedEx as the leading global Express transportation company. Our alliance with F1 racing and the Benetton team is a perfect fit."

Managing Director of Benetton Formula Ltd Flavio Briatore, added: "Its important for us to attract the right type of sponsor. FedEx is No 1 in its own market and that's exactly where we want to be. On a practical level, it's also good to team up with a service provider like FedEx, who can get our critical car components to and from race tracks around the world within hours. We are delighted to welcome them as a major

new sponsor." In only ten years the Benetton Formula 1 team has earned three Championship titles Driver's Championship 1994, Drivers and Constructor's 1995. The team now has a tally of 185 Grands Prix, 13 pole positions, 26 victories and 35 fastest laps, and is one of the most competitive in Formula 1, along with the historically more established teams. Each member of the Benetton team plays their part in the construction and marketing of the Benetton B197 where some 12,000 components and 4,500 drawings are used for just one car.

CRYPTOQUIP IUQVR EXWPH

FASUZ I ZIUQIVXX QBFN?

SF'N NSCTPB: AXTTSUQ CIH. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: APT SIGN WHICH IS ON A SCALE AT THE HEALTH SPA: GO WEIGH! Today's Cryptoquip clue: T equals P

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

#### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS employee 3 Betty of 23 Set down 1 Car for 37 Muppet cartoons 24 Advantage 25 Urudgery 4 Mandli-26 Goat'skova of 40 Chowder than 90 tennis cheese 8 Dog-41 Parka 6 Pen point 27 Congrega-45 Scorch patch's 7 With tional cry dexterity 28 Revealing creator 48 Lab vial 12 "X-Files" 50 Eject 8 Ersatz vessel? 51 Initial chip 29 Visibility chocolate 13 Low-pH 52 "How Can 9 It would hindrance 14 Exchange - Sure? 32 Communi not wither premium 53 Utter an Cleopatra cations 15 TV orison 10 Chart satellite 17 Saxo-54 Angling 33 Didi and Gogo waited for phone 11 Space-55 Pile craft 18 Transmit compan abroad 1 Rubik's ment 19 Counter-16 Leafy baffler part of con 36 Place for 2 Crazy recess 21 Itsy-bitsy

AXE

a trophy

**Picture** 

39 Squander

44 Refuse to

46 "Ben- ---"

49 Chemical

47 Botanist

45 Squad

ow 42 Destroy