

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-87

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm on Jan 30, 1998

1. Which Kiwi batsman scored the only ODI century against Pakistan?
Cairns Aile Crowe
2. Which is the highest ODI individual score?
194 189 198
3. How many ODI centuries has Azharuddin hit?
3 4 5
4. Who scored the only half-century for Bangladesh in the Independence Cup?
Aminal Akram Mahmud
5. Who is leading Bangladesh in the World Youth Cup cricket in South Africa?
Sabbir Al-Shariar Sajal

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

EN-VITS

SPORTS TALK



Steve Waugh
(Australia's one-day captain)
"Being dropped is always a huge moment in your career."

Ton in Dhaka Saurav's favourite

CALCUTTA, Jan 28: Star cricketer Saurav Ganguly rated his knock of 124 in the final of the Independence Cup against Pakistan in Dhaka recently as his best innings in one-day cricket so far, reports PTI.

"I consider the maiden century at Lords as my best in Test matches. The century at Dhaka is my best innings in one-day internationals," Ganguly told reporters here today.

Taking part in a "face-to-face" interaction with the media, organised by the Central Group of Companies, Ganguly answered to a wide range of queries from cricket to family.

Asked whether his lifestyle has changed after tasting success at the highest level of the game, the elegant left hander said that life has been the same.

"I am the same person as before. It is a question of how you balance it. Cricket is a part of life and I really enjoy playing it, but it is not everything. Life is more important," he said.

On the current Indian team, Ganguly said that it was one of the best in the world. "The team is gradually settling down. It lacked a bit of confidence earlier, but if we keep winning it will turn into a very good team," he said.

U Insurance golf Feb 7

Sports Reporter

The United Insurance Cup golf tournament, organised by Dhaka Club will be held at the club golf course on February 7, says a press release.

The competition will start at 7:30 am.

Dates for entry extended

Sports Reporter

The last date for entering either the 14th national snooker championship or the third Ashok Leyland national under-21 championship has been extended upto February 4, says a press release.

Gifts for U-13 cricketers

The Bangladesh U-13 cricket team, which emerged unbeaten champions in the Chand Ballav Ghose All-Bengal sub-junior tournament in Siliguri, West Bengal, were given blazer and cricket kits yesterday, reports UNB.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader, who is also chairman of National Sports Council (NSC), presented the items in a simple ceremony at the NSC conference room.

Donald doubtful for Friday



MARK TAYLOR

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 28: South Africa's hopes of winning the third and final cricket against Australia and squaring the series at 1-1 hinge heavily on the fitness of their fast bowling firebrand Allan Donald, reports AFP.

The big champion from Free State remains under an injury cloud, and a decision is unlikely to be made until shortly before the start of the crucial

game at Adelaide Oval Friday.

The paceman has not tested his strained left buttock muscle since he injured it in the second limited-overs final against Australia in Sydney on Monday night.

"I know it's a race against time right now," Donald said Wednesday. "We've been treating it yesterday and today and it's been non-stop. I'll probably have a bowl tomorrow and Friday morning."

South African coach Bob Woolmer conceded his main bowler was in serious doubt. South African selectors met for two hours Tuesday to work out what they would do if Donald does not recover.

Woolmer said the extent of the damage would not be known until Donald tested it, but said medical staff had told him the injury took between five and 10 days to heal.

But, Donald, 31, said fielding aggravated it more than bowling, he would not put the side at risk if he was not fit.

"Bowling to me is not the great problem — it's the moving around the field," he said.

"I'll do myself an injustice and also the team an injustice by going in there and breaking

down."

While Donald battles to be ready in time, Australian wicket-keeper Ian Healy is limbering up for his 100th Test — a milestone that has been achieved by only three other Australians, former captain Allan Border (156 Tests), David Boon (107) and current vice-captain Steve Waugh, who completed a century of Test appearances in the Sydney game four weeks ago.

However, the Proteas' number one strike weapon was forced to sit out Tuesday's deciding one-day clash, narrowly won by Australia, and South African officials concede he faces a race against time to be ready for the Test.

Donald has spearheaded the South African attack superbly in the first two Tests, taking 12 wickets at an average of 17.83.

In the first Test in Melbourne at the end of last year, he wrote his name into the record books when he overtook South African off-spinning legend Hugh Tayfield (170 wickets) to become the top Test wicket-taker in his country's history.

Donald now has 174 victims at an average of 23.33 from 37 Tests.

He stands so far ahead of the next best bowler in Hansie

THE ENDURING SIXTEEN

NAME	COUNTRY	TESTS
A Border	Aus	156
K Dev	Ind	131
S Gavaskar	Ind	125
J Mianad	Pak	124
V Richards	WI	121
G Gooch	Eng	118
D Gower	Eng	117
D Vengsarkar	Ind	116
D Haynes	WI	116
C Cowdrey	Eng	114
C Lloyd	WI	110
G Boycott	Eng	108
G Greenidge	WI	108
D Boon	Aus	107
I Botham	Eng	102
S Waugh	Aus	100

Cronje's side that his loss could be a crippling blow, especially on a pitch likely to be batsman-friendly, particularly on the opening three days.

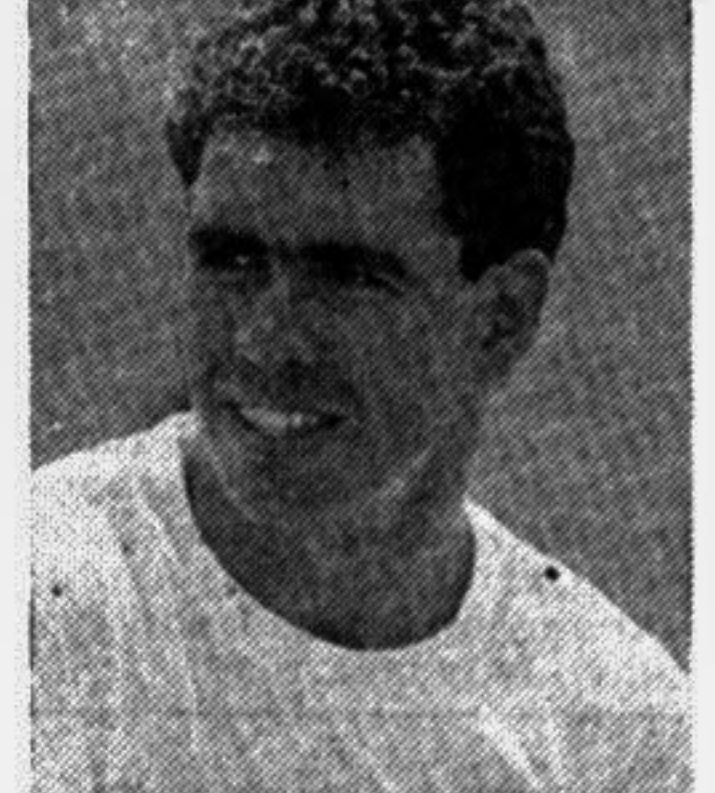
Donald's absence would throw a huge burden on young paceman Shaun Pollock (seven wickets in the series at an average of 29) and veteran off-spinner Pat Symcox (seven at 36.42).

the next most successful of the Proteas' bowlers in this series.

Healy, 33, has been Australian's regular Test wicket-keeper since he made his Test debut against Pakistan in Karachi in September, 1988.

Although he recently lost his place in his country's one-day line-up to Adam Gilchrist, Healy remains firmly established as Australia's gloveman in the traditional form of the game.

He will become only the 17th



HANSIE CRONJE

player in the world — and the first wicketkeeper to play in 100 Tests.

Healy is rapidly closing in on countryman Rod Marsh's world record of 355 wicketkeeping victims.

Healy has snapped up another 15 scalps this summer in five Tests against New Zealand and South Africa and now has a total of 344.

He looks set to challenge Marsh's record in Australia's three-Test series in India, starting next month.

TEAMS

AUSTRALIA: Mark Taylor (capt), Steve Waugh (vice-capt), Andy Bichel, Grey Blewett, Matthew Elliott, Ian Healy, Kasprowitz, Stuart MacGill, Ricky Ponting, Paul Reiffel, Shane Warne, Mark Waugh (12th man to be named).

SOUTH AFRICA (from): Hansie Cronje (capt), Gary Kirsten (vice-capt), Paul Adams, Adam Bacher, Allan Donald, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Lance Klusener, Brian McMillan, Shaun Pollock, Dave Richardson, Jonty Rhodes, Pat Symcox (to be finalised, depending on Donald's fitness).

WI-Eng series kicks off today

Rabeed Imam

All eyes will be on Brian Lara as the leads the West Indies to the field for the first Test against the England side at the historic Sabina Park in Kingston, Jamaica today.

After an extremely disappointing last 12 months, West Indies will be looking to set the records straight and start the new year on a positive note against their favourite whipping boys. England have not won a Test series against West Indies since 1968.

Lara's ascendancy to the Windies throne just might be the tonic required to inspire a formidable yet clumsy squad into an aspiring unit. The left-hander's return to form and the performances of ageing warriors with the new-ball Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh holds the key to Windies' hopes.

On the other hand, England with their interesting blend of youth and experience are determined to cause an upset.

The match will be shown live on Star Sports from 9.00 pm BST.

Jamaica's way of gratitude for Walsh

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan 28: Deposed West Indies captain Courtney Walsh was named an ambassador and special envoy for Jamaica Tuesday, becoming only the second Jamaican to receive the honour, reports AP.

Prime Minister P J Patterson made the announcement during a lunch at Jamaica house honouring the veteran cricketer, who handed over the captaincy to Brian Lara for the upcoming series against England.

Lara, a 28-year-old Trinidadian, is considered one of the world's best batsmen. But a series of run-ins with cricket officials has slowed his rise to the captaincy.

Patterson praised Walsh for "his exemplary conduct and the leadership he has provided for his club, his country and the region," adding that he "personifies all that is good by way of his example in the field of sports."

He said he was pleased that Walsh had agreed to keep playing for his team despite being passed over by the West Indies Cricket Board. "It shows that he is an even bigger person than his physical stature indicates," he said.

Walsh, a 36-year-old veteran of 96 Tests, lost the captaincy after his team's 3-0 thrashing by Pakistan.

Patterson presented Walsh with a diplomatic passport as a symbol of his new status. Olympic track star Merlene Ottey is the only other Jamaican to receive the honour.

Dale drafted for ODI series against Kiwis

ADELAIDE, Jan 28: Queensland swing bowler Adam Dale was today recalled to the Australian one-day cricket side for next month's tour of New Zealand, reports AFP.

Dale was included in a 13-man squad for the four-match series.

All-rounder Ian Harvey was ruled out after injuring his hamstring in Tuesday's third tri-series one-day final against South Africa in Sydney.

Andrew Bichel has also been added to the squad, which includes the 12-men used for the successful final series against the Proteas.

SQUAD

Steve Waugh (capt), Shane Warne, Mark Waugh, Adam Gilchrist, Darren Lehmann, Michael Bevan, Paul Reiffel, Paul Wilson, Adam Dale, Andrew Bichel, Stuart Law, Tom Moody, Ricky Ponting.

World Youth Cup English keep hopes alive

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 28: Australia unexpectedly went down to England by six wickets at Newlands in Cape Town on Tuesday, keeping alive their hopes of making the final of the under-19 cricket World Cup, reports AFP.

The boys from Australia will now head home a few days early while the Englishmen await the outcome of the India-Pakistan clash on Friday to see if they will be playing in Sunday's final — an Indian victory could see them through, based on a superior run rate.

Australia, who had been fancied for Sunday's final, were bowled out for 147 against some tight England bowling and fielding as the British displayed their best form of the tournament.

Apart from Michael Klinger (62 not out), who did not what he could to hold the innings together, the Australian batsmen, regarded as the tough guys of the tournament, failed when it mattered.

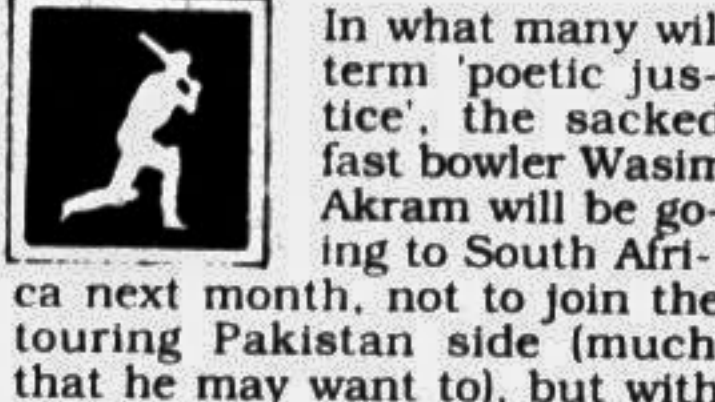
Their score of 147 all out 47.2 overs was not going to be near enough to clinch victory.

With all-rounder Paul Franks leading the charge in a well structured 51 off 67 balls, England were never under threat as the runs flowed.

The winnings runs were scored by England captain Owais Shah who was on 13 not out when they wrapped up the match with 20.2 overs to spare.

'Poetic justice' awaits Akram?

Star Sports Monitor



WASIM AKRAM

In what many will term 'poetic justice', the sacked fast bowler Wasim Akram will be going to South Africa next month, not to join the touring Pakistan side (much that he may want to), but with his English county team Lancashire.

According to the Pakistani press reports, Lancashire have informed Wasim that they have planned a training tour of South Africa next month and since he has been named as their captain for this season, he is expected to tour with them. It is a practice with leading British counties to undertake training tours before the start of the championship season.

Wasim, who has been dropped from the Pakistan team currently touring South Africa, has not only been named captain of Lancashire, but his county have also declared 1998 as his benefit year.

The all-rounder presently in London in connection with the launching of a new biography on him and the curtain-raiser receptions, celebrating his benefit year. He has not taken in stride the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) decision to drop him for the South African and Zimbabwe tours on 'fitness' grounds and sources close to him say he will certainly be playing in South Africa for Lancashire to prove a point to the Pakistani cricket authorities.

"I'm devastated... it's unbelievable. The chief executive (Majid Khan) has said I'm unfit, while the selectors saying they were asked not to pick me a reason," Akram told The Telegraph of India recently.

"Just a few weeks ago, I played a crucial four-day game for PIA against Allied Bank. If I

remember right, I picked up two wickets in 15 overs in the first innings and, then, scored 60-odd... If I'm unfit, how could I have taken wickets and scored runs? Will somebody give me an answer? It's rubbish to say I'm unfit."

"I'm going to fight back; I won't take this lying down... I intend talking to the higher-

ups, in the government mind you, not the PCB. I don't have respect for anybody... after what they have done. Perhaps, I would be meeting our Prime Minister (Nawaz Sharif). He's a cricket buff. Maybe he can throw some light."

But if Wasim tours South Africa with Lancashire at the same time that Pakistan team is playing there, and comes up with some sterling performances, it would certainly put the PCB, and particularly Majid, in an embarrassing position.

"Perhaps, I'll even bump into

our guys. I will, after all, be in South Africa. Only with a different team... But all I say is that every single player has my good wishes. Sitting hundreds of miles away, I can only wish them well," said the tallented tearaway in an emotion-choked voice.

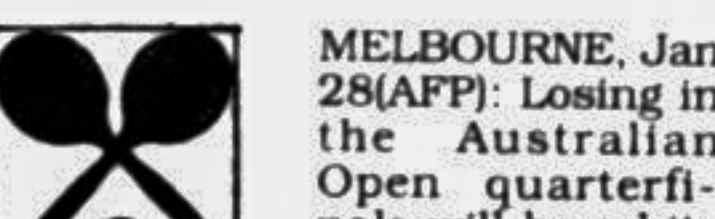
The Pakistan Cricket Board has escaped any real scrutiny or criticism for dropping Akram so unceremoniously because the mainstream and popular national print media has surprisingly not pleaded his case with conviction.

But it was reported by the Pakistani media that Akram stepped down as captain in December amid allegations of match-fixing despite leading his team to a 3-0 whitewash of the West Indies in November. Although the PCB did not come up with any clear reason for the much-debated dropping, the all-rounder, who took 334 Test wickets and captured 341 scalps in one-dayers so far, strongly rebutted those reports.

"Am I so stupid to give it all away for a few pennies? Don't my performances count for anything? People need reminding that I've had a most successful career for nearly a decade-and-half... The allegations are the handiwork of those who are jealous... I'm a victim of politics. Besides, when the PCB has constituted a (one-man) probe commission, shouldn't its findings be awaited?"

On Ataur Rehman (discarded pacer) reportedly having submitted an affidavit to the PCB, directly involving him with bookies, the former Pakistan captain said, "Yes, I've heard of that. But when I confronted Ataur, he denied having given anything to the PCB. That's all I know... If anybody thinks I'm finished and done with, he's terribly mistaken."

Pete accepts the reality



number one Pete Sampras to swallow.

Sampras had no excuses after losing in four sets to the surprise Slovak Karol Kucera at Melbourne Park on Tuesday night, and he did not hide his disappointment at falling below his own high standards again, he also failed in the fourth

round at the US Open last September.

"When you feel like you are in a position to win a major, and considering the way I've been playing this week, it's tough to get over, said the American.

Sampras was blitzed in the first two sets when Kucera served brilliantly and ran for every ball. The defending champion, no stranger to five set battles, just could not raise his game.

"It is just hard to accept be-

cause these are matches I have come through in the past. That quarterfinal I would have come through in the past," he said.

Sampras may also have been a victim of his own reputation as the best player of the past 25 years, other players fear him so much that for some beating Sampras is a bigger prize than the title.

He admits that it is becoming tough to win seven matches in a row to add to his 10 Grand Slams Czech veteran Petr Korda won a hard fought match against Sampras at the US Open and Kucera was also looking to make a name for himself.

"It's easy playing me. I know a guy can play well, but these guys have nothing to lose. I used to go out against someone and I could be the underdog every now and again. But this happens when you are at the top."

Sampras said his defeat and that of US Open champion Pat Rafter and the re-emerging Andre Agassi showed how open the men's game had become.

"I think at times we take a lot of these wins for granted," Sampras said.

"If anyone gets hot at the right time in majors, anything is possible. Sure it would have been nice to have me and Andre play in the final. But these guys are hungry and we got beat and that is it."

Sampras' other problems is age. Without even hinting that the end is in sight, the 26-year-old world number one has already said here that both he and Agassi want to go out on a high.

In his case it is beating Roy Emerson's overall record of 12 Grand Slams and Jimmy Connors' record of finishing as number one for five straight years.

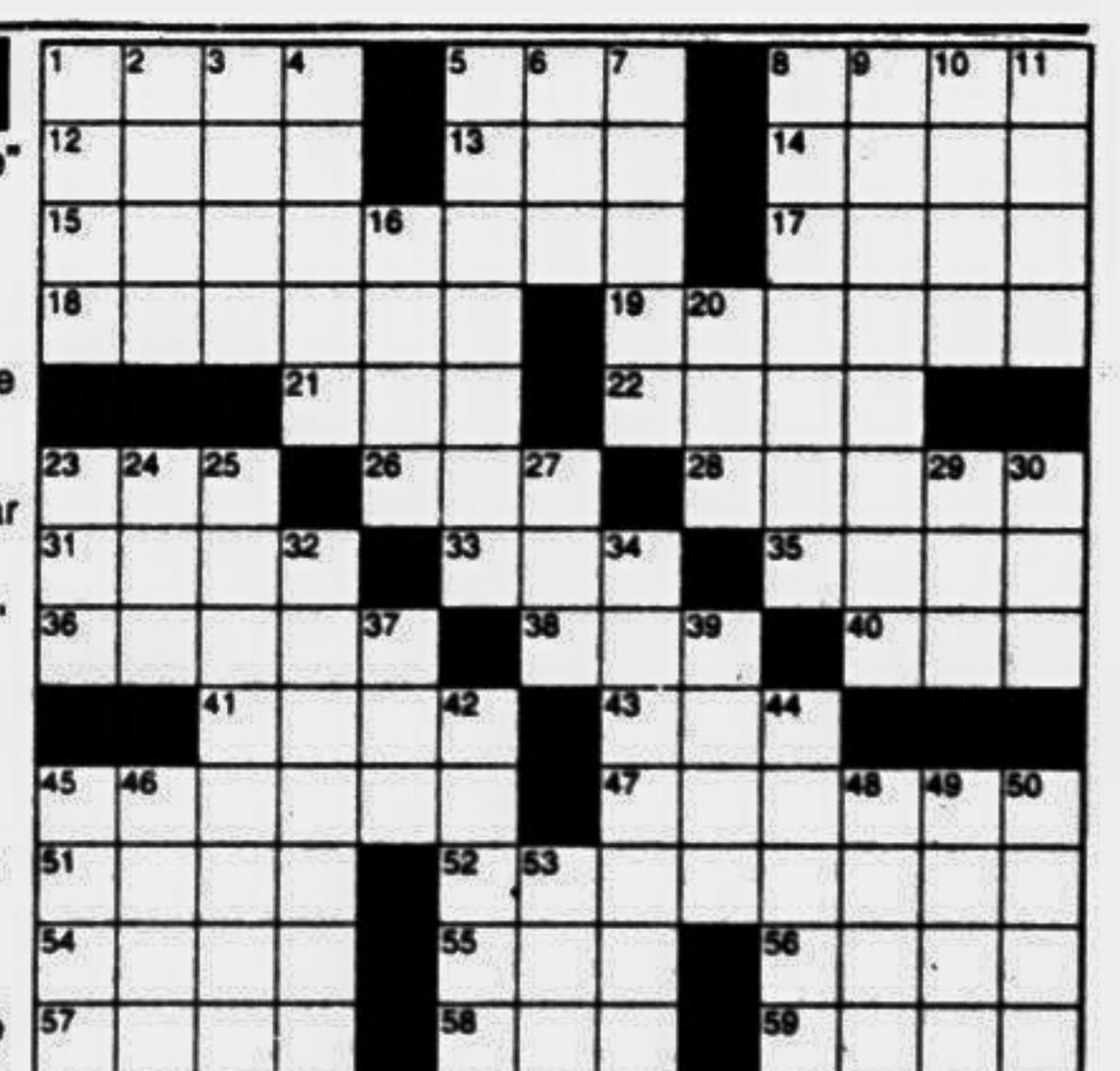
Sampras has already equalled Connors and he said that although losing in Melbourne did not help "being number one is a big goal for me this year."

He is now going to return to the United States to "chill out" and prepare for the next major in May, at the French Open, which is a key one for Sampras at this stage of his career.

He has never won the French Open, and not to win the greatest clay court tournament at Roland Garros irks the player who wants to go down in history as the best.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Remove one's cap
- 5 Pea's place
- 8 "Waterloo" quartet
- 12 Eerie glow
- 13 Nest egg
- 14 — Bones from Sleepy Hollow
- 15 "A Woman of Substance" author
- 17 Hindu princess
- 18 Aft
- 19 Coat with fur
- 21 Expected
- 22 Nays
- 23 Skilled stock dealer; abbr.
- 26 Comprehend
- 28 Pale
- 31 Actress
- 32 Seance noise
- 35 Senorita's sandwich
- 36 Vigilant
- 38 Mad-money hiding place
- 40 "Holy mackerell!"
- 41 Act
- 43 Zsa Zsa's sis
- 45 Peanut butter holder?
- 47 Set in opposition
- 51 Pub potations
- 52 "Fahrenheit 451" writer
- 54 "— sow, so..."
- 55 Mountaineer's foothold
- 56 Competent
- 57 Supreme leader?
- 58 Envision
- 59 Ready for a drive
- 60 DOWN
- 1 "The Aba — Honey-moon"
- 2 What we share
- 3 Brothers' grp.
- 4 Slowly disappeared
- 5 Initiate
- 6 Stick figure?
- 7 Pop
- 8 Side by side
- 9 QB nicknamed
- Solution time: 21 mins.
- LAMP TAW APED UNIT OLD TILLY CYCLES ELSA YAK WAX QUEEN FLY PUT MAMAS CHAINED OVAL GOD AURA WEEKEND ENTER LOU FIVE PAGAN BLUE OPA AVON MEDIALES GORD AMA MOTH EWES MIS PREY
- Yesterday's answer



CRYPTOQUIP

ECB ATWPUP TAAFSWETWE

F Z E B W H U O V E C T E

C B V W F C E W Q O S E T

Z U Q S H B C B T P

Yesterday's Cryptquip: CAN YOU LEARN TO BECOME A RAILROAD CONDUCTOR BY READING A TRAINING MANUAL?

Today's Cryptquip clue: Q equals G

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