

Sport

Roost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-100

Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm,
Aug 7, '98, and draw shortly
afterwards

- Who won the 'Golden Boot' in France '98?
Suker Vieri Ronaldo
- Who won France '98?
Croatia France Brazil
- Who was the captain of Argentina at France '98?
Ortega Veron Simeone
- What was Holland's position in France '98?
Third Fourth Fifth
- Michael Owen plays for
Liverpool M United Arsenal

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)



SPORTS TALK



Steffi Graf
(German tennis star)
"Right now I am entering a sort of a gray area where it's difficult to know how well I'm going to be doing."

Premier kabadi

Bangladesh Rifles senior team beat their junior side 66-40 in the opening match of the K. M. Mainuddin Smriti Premier Kabadi League at the Outer Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.
The winners dominated the first half 31-17.
Earlier, State Minister for LGRD and Co-organisers Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya formally inaugurated the league, organised by Bangladesh Amateur Kabadi Federation (BAKF).

Gymnastics meet

Sports Reporter
The Bangladesh Monitor gymnastics competition will begin at the NSC gymnasium on August 3.
A total of 70 gymnasts are expected to compete in 15 events of the two-day meet which will be organised by Bangladesh Gymnastics Federation.



The Qatar-bound national footballers at the Zia International Airport just before their departure yesterday. They will take on the Qatar national side today. — Star photo

Comeback ain't so easy

STANFORD, California, July 28 (AP): A few years ago, Jennifer Capriati was a Centre Court attraction at Grand Slam tournaments. Now, she has to play qualifying matches just to get into tour events.
Capriati reached the main draw of the 450,000 dollars Bank of the West tournament Monday by winning a qualifying match against Mercedes Paz, who was playing the last singles match of her 15-year pro-career.
"I'm in the best shape that I have been in a while," said Capriati, ranked 117th in the world after having reached as high as No. 6 as a teenager in the early 1990s.
"It's been frustrating, though, because every time I get in shape and things are going well, something happens to set me back like an injury. I'm working out now to make sure I don't get injured."
Capriati was 14 in 1990 when she reached the semifinals of the French Open in her

first Grand Slam event. She had earned 1 million dollars and won an Olympic gold medal by shortly after her 16th birthday.
But she fell victim to burnout and drugs, dropping off the circuit in 1993. She made a comeback attempt in late 1994 that lasted just one match. Her latest comeback began in 1996, but has been a slowed by injuries.
This year, she has failed to get past the quarterfinals of any tournament. She returned to Wimbledon for the first time since 1993, losing in the second round.
Now 22, Capriati said she's motivated again and trying to spend more time on the practice court.
"Actually, I'm being more serious now," she said. "I'm trying to get back up to the top. That's what I really want."
Capriati, who did not lose a set in her three qualifying matches, defeated Paz 6-2, 6-4. She will face Corina Morariu in a first-round match Tuesday night.
Paz, 32, who is focusing on doubles as her career winds down, said the loss to Capriati

will be her last singles match. After being overpowered by Capriati, she wished the victor luck in her comeback attempt.
"I think it's a good challenge for Jennifer and it's very good that she has tennis," Paz said.
Another player trying to make a comeback, Steffi Graf, is seeded fourth in the tournament despite falling to No. 57 in the world since having reconstructive left knee surgery last year.
Graf and top three seeds Lindsay Davenport, Monica Seles and Venus Williams all have first-round byes and will not play until Wednesday at the earliest.
Monday night's first-round matches featured a pair of players with Stanford connections.
Sixth-seeded Joannette Kruger of South Africa won 1-6, 6-2, 6-4 over Lilia Osterloh, who won the 1997 NCAA singles title as a Stanford freshman.
And Marissa Irvin, who will be a freshman at Stanford this fall, lost 6-1, 4-6, 6-0 to seventh-seeded Elena Likhovtseva of Russia.

C'wealth falling short of funds

SYDNEY, July 28: (The Sydney Morning Herald/Internet): Organisers of the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur are facing economic, cultural, environmental and construction problems in their battle to be ready for the September start. But Games woes are not confined to Malaysia.
While ticket sales have been slow in the host country, raising doubts about how the organising committee (SUKOM) will repay a \$10 million (\$4 million) advance from the Malaysian Government, the Australian Commonwealth Games Association is facing its own financial troubles.
The ACGA is \$1 million short of meeting its \$7 million budget. It was planning to raise \$5 million from the corporate sector and \$2 million from public fund-raising, but ACGA executive director Perry Crosswhite said "it is a lot tougher out there, some industries are not in very good shape". He said many local companies had committed funds to the Sydney Olympics.
Public fund-raising is well short of its target, despite \$1 million being raised in Sydney recently during a well-attended dinner.
The Victorian Commonwealth Games branch is seeking to raise \$600,000 from its swish Premier's Dinner at Crown Casino on July 30, where tick-

ets cost \$6,000 for a table of 10, and big-ticket items such as a Ford car are being auctioned.
Recently, the Federal Government chipped in \$400,000, the first time taxpayers' money has been used directly to help out the organisation. In the past, some funds were directed to athletes through the Australian Sports Commission to assist with their individual preparation.
But Crosswhite said he was confident the final target would be met and the full team of 470, comprising 350 athletes and 120 coaches and support staff, would be going to the Games.
In Malaysia, the bulk of Games tickets are still available after lacklustre early sales, with just 66,000 of the 1.2 million sold.
Local officials maintain ticket sales will be renewed interest in the next few weeks once actual tickets are issued. At the moment, only receipts have been given out to help stop fraudulent copying of tickets.
Earlier this month, Malaysian Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the foreign media had tried to frighten away tourists from visiting the country by saying that Malaysia was affected by haze and a water crisis.
"Such statements will not turn away anyone from visiting the country because it is an attempt to tarnish the image of Malaysia," he told a Malaysian news service.
Muhyiddin said the Government did not hope for the support of foreign countries in making the Games a success but only wanted the co-operation of Malaysians to witness the Games.
However, during pre-Games competitions held this month, major problems emerged at venues, including power fluctuations at the main stadium, technical difficulties and poor results services.
As well, some foreign teams, like Taiwan, waited five hours at Kuala Lumpur international airport before being transported to their accommodation.

ets cost \$6,000 for a table of 10, and big-ticket items such as a Ford car are being auctioned.
Recently, the Federal Government chipped in \$400,000, the first time taxpayers' money has been used directly to help out the organisation. In the past, some funds were directed to athletes through the Australian Sports Commission to assist with their individual preparation.
But Crosswhite said he was confident the final target would be met and the full team of 470, comprising 350 athletes and 120 coaches and support staff, would be going to the Games.
In Malaysia, the bulk of Games tickets are still available after lacklustre early sales, with just 66,000 of the 1.2 million sold.
Local officials maintain ticket sales will be renewed interest in the next few weeks once actual tickets are issued. At the moment, only receipts have been given out to help stop fraudulent copying of tickets.
Earlier this month, Malaysian Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the foreign media had tried to frighten away tourists from visiting the country by saying that Malaysia was affected by haze and a water crisis.
"Such statements will not turn away anyone from visiting the country because it is an attempt to tarnish the image of Malaysia," he told a Malaysian news service.
Muhyiddin said the Government did not hope for the support of foreign countries in making the Games a success but only wanted the co-operation of Malaysians to witness the Games.
However, during pre-Games competitions held this month, major problems emerged at venues, including power fluctuations at the main stadium, technical difficulties and poor results services.
As well, some foreign teams, like Taiwan, waited five hours at Kuala Lumpur international airport before being transported to their accommodation.

Anand awarded Chess Oscar

MOSCOW, July 28: Indian Grand Master Vishwanathan Anand, was awarded the prestigious Chess Oscar at a ceremony in Moscow Monday evening for his outstanding performance in 1997, reports PTI.
Anand, the first non-Russian to receive the Chess Oscar — the prestigious international prize awarded by the Russian chess magazine 64-Chess Review to the best player-of-the-year on the basis of his 'real merit and strength' and not titles.
Anand virtually snatched the coveted prize from the world champion Garry Kasparov when over three hundred Grand Masters and chess media experts from more than 50 countries for the first time named him as the world's best chess player.
Boris Spassky, Bobby Fischer, Victor Korchnoi, Anatoly Karpov besides Kasparov are the other recipients of the award.

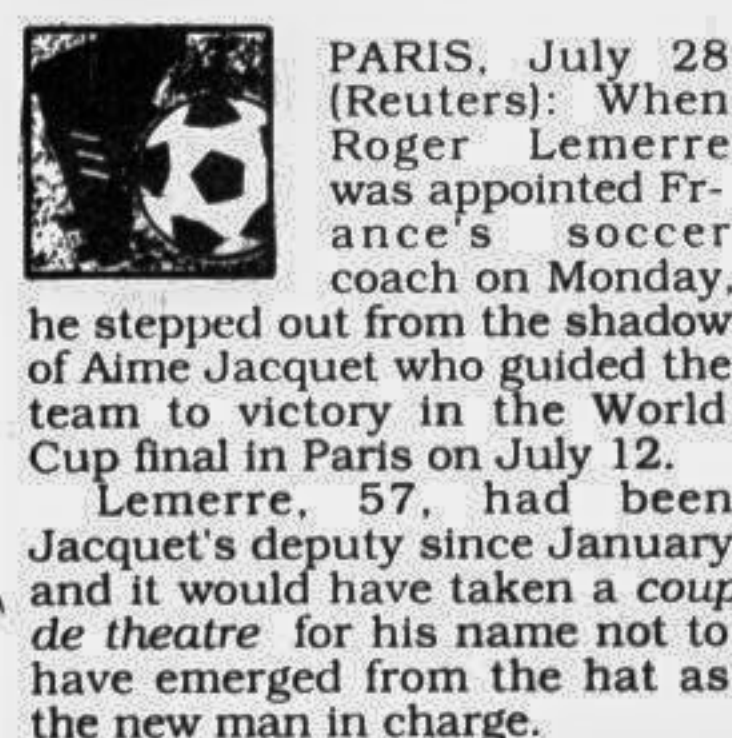
Philippoussis not included

SYDNEY, July 28: Australia's number two ranked player Mark Philippoussis was left out of the national Davis Cup tennis squad for September's playoff home tie with Uzbekistan when it was announced today, reports AFP.
Davis Cup captain John Newcombe had a falling out last April with the temperamental Philippoussis, who declared his unavailability to play in the first round tie against Zimbabwe.
Australia subsequently lost to the Zimbabwean brothers, Wayne and Byron Black, on grass at Mildura in rural Victoria, forcing it into a promotion-relegation fight with under-16 Uzbekistan.
Not only is world number 25 Philippoussis out with Newcombe and team coach Tony Roche, two icons of Australian tennis, but he has fallen out with most of the leading Australian team members — most notable with Patrick Rafter, his former doubles partner.
Australia must beat Uzbekistan in tropical Townsville from September 25-27 to remain in the elite World Group.
The Australian squad is — Patrick Rafter, Jason Stoltenberg, Mark Woodford, Todd Woodbridge, Scott Draper and Lleyton Hewitt.

FINA in for trouble

PERTH, Australia, July 28: The Western Australian government today threatened to sue swimming's world governing body FINA for a two million Australian dollar (1.21 million US) shortfall from the World Championships in Perth in January, reports AFP.
State minister Norman Moore said the Swiss-based FINA had agreed to underwrite the promotional budget for the event, but now claimed it was not obliged to pay the money, although it had offered an ex-gratia payment of 50 per cent.
"I have advised FINA the offer is not satisfactory," Moore said. "All our legal advice is we have a watertight case and we await its response."
"We did a good job for FINA and we expect it to abide by the underwriting it gave us," Moore said the deal covering the promotional budget was arranged by the Western Australian government's championship organising committee and was signed by the national swimming body, Australian Swimming and FINA.
Australian Swimming president Terry Gathercole confirmed his organisation had asked FINA to pay up.
"We are of the opinion the contract we have with FINA is valid," he said. "We are entitled to ask FINA to meet its obligations under the contract."
Moore said it was hoped the issue would be resolved at a FINA bureau meeting in Dubai in November.
The government would consider sending a legal representative to the meeting, he said.

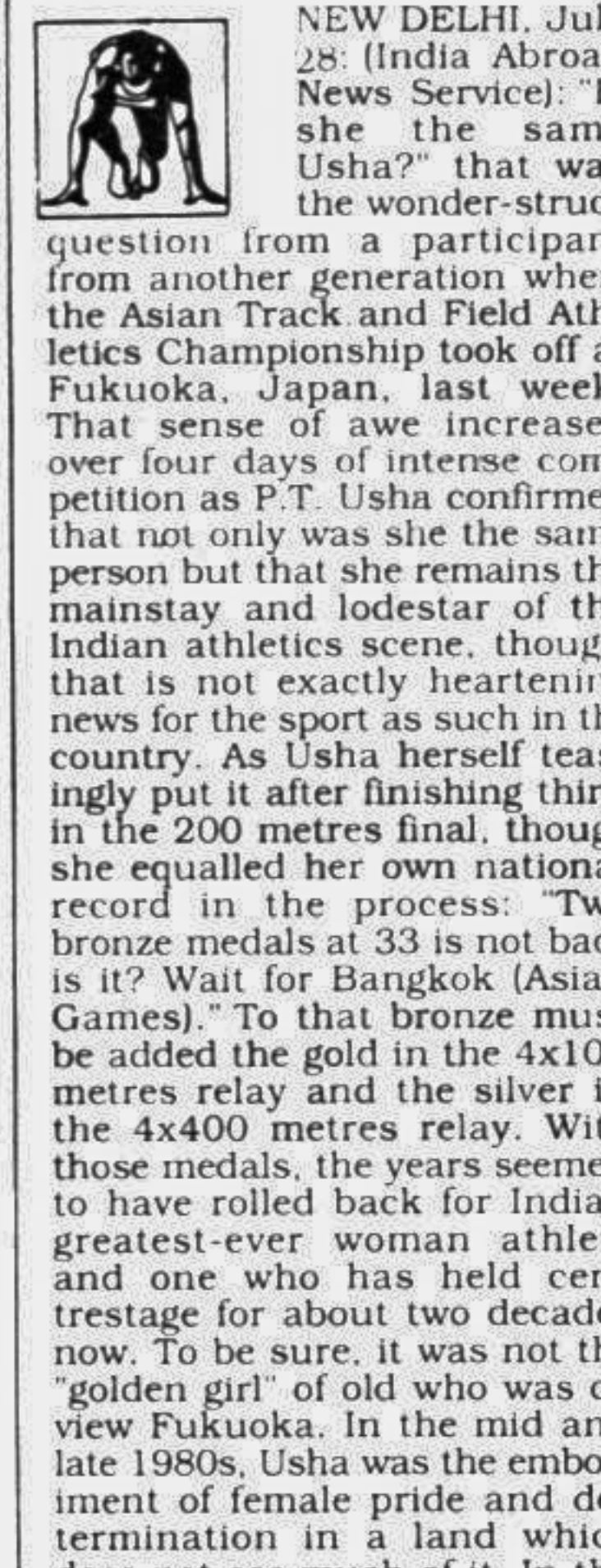
About Roger Lemerre



An AFP file photo of newly-appointed French national team coach Roger Lemerre.

His appointment represented a vote for continuity and a seamless succession on the bench.
Since Jacquet stood down on the day after his side were crowned world champions at the Stade de France, the high-profile candidates for his job have been whittled away.
Monaco coach Jean Tigana was long considered the front-runner, while others included AJ Auxerre Veteran Guy Roux and former Nantes boss Jean-Claude Suaudeau.
Lemerre is a former Nantes, Nancy and RC Lens player capped six times by his country but is untested as a coach at the very top level. His main international success was taking France to the World Military Games title in 1995.
At club level, Lemerre began his coaching career with Red Star, currently in the French Second Division, and helped RC Lens, crowned French champions two months before France's World Cup victory, win promotion to the First Division in 1978.
Lemerre also had two spells with Paris FC, with Srasbourg from 1981 to 1985 and L'Espérance of Tunisia in 1986.
His immediate task is to lead France through the qualifiers for the 2000 European Championship finals to be held jointly in neighbouring Belgium and the Netherlands.
Lemerre makes his debut with the world champions in a friendly away to Austria in Vienna on August 19.
France are away to Iceland when they kick off their Euro 2000 qualifiers on September 5. The group also includes Russia, Ukraine, Armenia and Andorra.

Usha: Rolling back the years



PT USHA
have immersed themselves in family lives or careers away from the track. But Usha has set her eyes on the Bangkok Asian Games in December, which will be her fifth appearance in this event since she first took part in the 1982 Games in New Delhi. For a four-yearly event, this is a remarkable record indeed. An editorial in the Indian Express struck a more poignant note. It said: "True, Usha delivered the goods. But was it fair of India to expect anything from her, given her age?" The editorial went on to plead that people like "Usha should not be ex-

pected to slug it out on the track but, as elder statesmen of Indian sport, encouraged to pass on their knowledge to others." However, it is possible that this just would not be Usha's style of functioning. In any case, she has had, and continues to hold, sports-related jobs with the Indian Railways and the government of the southern state of Kerala. But she is not really cut out for such activities. Usha is at heart a loner who prefers to plough her own furrow. If that were not the case, she would not have been so determinedly and repeatedly in the picture even after she had been written off a number of times at the start of this decade, especially after her marriage in 1991. Usha is not a long distance runner and yet she has often experienced the loneliness which members of that tribe have had eulogies written about. Her aloofness did not particularly endear her to her fellow athletes and a stage came in 1994, during a trial for the Hiroshima Games, when no one was prepared to run with her in the 200 metres. She ran the race alone and ended up in tears. Yet Usha overcame all that through sheer grit and determination. She has a new coach now, J.S. Bhatia, but she still mainly trains on her own at Bangalore. Shortly before the Fukuoka championships Usha had said that she would like to continue only if she was able to clock the timings she was aiming for. Her performance in Japan has shown that she is right on track for that. Of course, it would be too much to expect that Usha can repeat the feats of 1985 when she gained four gold medals at the Asian Track and Field at Jakarta, and 1986, when she won another four in the Asian Games at Seoul. But the fire continues to burn in that still-taut belly. Where does that, however, leave the Indian athletics scene as a whole? Not only is there no other Usha on the horizon, the system does not seem to be attempt to undertake such a task.

pected to slug it out on the track but, as elder statesmen of Indian sport, encouraged to pass on their knowledge to others." However, it is possible that this just would not be Usha's style of functioning. In any case, she has had, and continues to hold, sports-related jobs with the Indian Railways and the government of the southern state of Kerala. But she is not really cut out for such activities. Usha is at heart a loner who prefers to plough her own furrow. If that were not the case, she would not have been so determinedly and repeatedly in the picture even after she had been written off a number of times at the start of this decade, especially after her marriage in 1991. Usha is not a long distance runner and yet she has often experienced the loneliness which members of that tribe have had eulogies written about. Her aloofness did not particularly endear her to her fellow athletes and a stage came in 1994, during a trial for the Hiroshima Games, when no one was prepared to run with her in the 200 metres. She ran the race alone and ended up in tears. Yet Usha overcame all that through sheer grit and determination. She has a new coach now, J.S. Bhatia, but she still mainly trains on her own at Bangalore. Shortly before the Fukuoka championships Usha had said that she would like to continue only if she was able to clock the timings she was aiming for. Her performance in Japan has shown that she is right on track for that. Of course, it would be too much to expect that Usha can repeat the feats of 1985 when she gained four gold medals at the Asian Track and Field at Jakarta, and 1986, when she won another four in the Asian Games at Seoul. But the fire continues to burn in that still-taut belly. Where does that, however, leave the Indian athletics scene as a whole? Not only is there no other Usha on the horizon, the system does not seem to be attempt to undertake such a task.

SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

MAKE THE ONLY ASSUMPTION THAT WILL FULFIL THE CONTRACT (Hand # 53)

West	North	East
♠ S KXXX	♠ S 109	♠ S AQXX
♥ H JXXX	♥ H AK9	♥ H XXXX
♦ D QJ	♦ D A109X	♦ D XXXX
♣ C XXX	♣ C KXXX	♣ C X

SOUTH (D)

♠ S JXX
♥ H QX
♦ D KXX
♣ C AQJ9X

BIDDING

South (Sayeed)	West (Zaglu)	North (Ekram)	East (Mazumdar)
1D*	Pass	2C**	Pass
3C	Pass	4NT	Pass
5D	Pass	6C	Pass
Pass	Pass		

* Artificial, 13-17 HCP
** Artificial, 13-15 HCP

North pushed on to slam, even though the Spades were unprotected. An ambitious contract, no doubt.

THE PLAY

East did not like to open a Spade from Ace-Queen combination. Had he led a Spade, the hand would have been down one. Having bid the slam, North played the hand the way it would make. After clearing trumps, he played the Ace and King of Diamonds and when both the Queen and Jack appeared, he parcelled two Spade losers on good Heart and Diamond to make an ambitious contract.



DESERVING NUMBER : Superstar Roberto Baggio displays his No. 10 Inter Milan shirt during a media conference at Milan on July 28. — AP/UNB photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	steau's territory	offering	Caesar
1 Seating for three or more	38 "It Happened One Night" star	4 Summer-time quencher	25 Apiece
5 Bandleader Brown	41 Backus or Bakker	5 Astronaut	26 Metal-bearing rock
8 Filly's counterpart	42 Jazz devotee	6 Pianist	27 Way back when
12 Eager	45 Margarine city	8 Spanish city	28 Surface for Nadia
13 He often calls out	46 Spanish city	9 Hodge-podge	29 Cards at the door
14 Inter —	48 Tall tale	10 Second motion picture	31 Winter bug
15 Spanish city	50 Stench	11 Daytime TV fare	32 King crowner
17 Omani money	51 Nick's pouch	16 We? Quil	35 Dole's running mate in 1996
18 Shade source	52 Pale, in Salerno	21 Spanish character	37 Who says?
20 Baby bird?	53 Lucy Lawless	22 Use a painted crownbar	38 He painted "Maja Clothed" abbr.
21 Lou's partner	1 Except	23 Burst	39 "Sad to relate..."
22 Cause of royal insomnia	2 Eclipse	24 "Hall" to relate...	40 Ernie's pal
23 Half a '60s quartet	3 Cinema	24 "Hall" to relate...	41 Actress Pinkett
26 Paper-work?			42 Body of laws
30 "— There"			43 Unsigned: abbr.
31 Saute			44 Scarlett's place
32 "Zounds!"			46 Handle clumsily
33 Bedsheet material			47 Bagel adjunct

CRYPTOQUIP

G K F L G D L Q M : M D D
U X L A B S T X P F U F X Y B
X P F S T Q M F Y Q F E Y A M D
X U F E P D T L G K F D K Y F

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WOULD SUSPECT THAT THE CANTANKEROUS CHICKEN FARMER HAD A FOWL TEMPER.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: K 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.