Moya fails, Martin sails

AFP, *Palma de Mallorca*

Mallorca-born Carlos Moya once again failed in his bid to carry his home tournament when the number three seed was ousted in a straight sets hammering by compatriot Alberto Martin in Saturday's semifinal here.

Unseeded Martin coasted to a 6-3, 6-3 win, making for a surprise final date with Argentine Guillermo Coria who beat Spaniard Juan Balcells 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 in their semifinal tie at the 500,000-dollar Mallorca Open ATP tournament.

"I'm really disapointed but he played better than I did," said 24-year-old Moya, playing in his fourth tournament here, and who has defeated Martin in their past four encounters.

It will be 22-year-old Martin's first final of the season and the Barcelona player is bidding for his third career title to add to his tournaments titles in Casablanca and Bucharest in 1999.

Fourth-seeded Coria, 19, had more of a challenge duelling with Spain's Davis Cup hero Balcells in Mallorca's bull fighting arena.

Coria won the first set, but Balcells cheered on by the enthusiastic home crowd, rallied to take the second, and the Spaniard came back from 5-2 down in the third to draw level at 5-5.

But the Argentine proved more consistent and won two games in a row to secure his place in the final and his chance of winning his second title in 2001 after Vina del Mar in February.

Sino paddlers clean sweep

AFP, *Osaka*

China's Wang Liqin wept tears of happiness Sunday after staging a courageous comeback to defeat teammate Kong Linghui 3-2 in the World Table Tennis Championships men's singles final.

The usually reserved 22-year-old hugged his towel to his face after the final point, while a distraught Kong -- who had let a 2-0 lead slip -- stood glumly at the other side of the table.

It was a fitting finale to two weeks of sometimes stunning competition, in which China's young stars proved themselves several levels above their rivals, winning all seven titles on offer.

But such was the Chinese dominance, the head of table tennis's world governing body was forced to issue a blunt warning on Sunday that the sport could soon become "boring".

International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) president Adham Sharara insisted the problem was not that the Chinese were too good, simply that players from other countries were not fit enough or well prepared.

And he issued a challenge to the rest of the table tennis world to "take the sport more seriously and more professionally and be more prepared".

All this was of little consequence however to Wang, who although ranked number one in the world had not previously won a major title, unlike his opponent, the Sydney Olympic gold medalist and 1995 world champion.

The lankily athletic Wang had been dropped from the Chinese squad in the semifinal and final stages of their triumphant team title campaign here, amid whispered concerns about his temperament.

MSC

FROM PAGE 13

Sanwar	9	0	50	2
Mustadir	10	1	42	3
Minhaz	3	0	10	0
Tikolo	4	0	27	0

Result: Mohammedan SC won by three runs.

SUPER LEAGUE TABLE

Teams	M	W	L	Points
Mohammedan	16	14	2	28
Abahani	16	12	4	24
Biman	16	10	6	20
Dhanmondi	16	8	8	16
Surjo Tarun	16	7	9	14
Kalabagan	16	7	9	14

Kallis

FROM PAGE 13

Samuels	9	0	61	0
Gayle	5	0	32	1

WEST INDIES

Gayle c Kirsten b Poolock	1
Powell c Ntini b Pollock	15
Chanderpaul c Dippenaar b Pollock	16
Lara b Ntini	31
Hooper run out	29
Samuels lbw b Klusener	20
Jacobs run out	10
Hinds c Ntini b Ontong	11
McGarrell c & b Ontong	8
Dillon b Ntini	4
Cuffy not out	1
Extras: (lb-2, w-5, nb-2)	9
Total: (All out in 39 overs)	155

Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-24; 3-48; 4-87; 5-119; 6-126; 7-133; 8-153; 9-153

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Pollock	6	0	23	3
Kallis	6	0	35	0
Donald	6	0	26	0
Ntini	7	1	27	2
Klusener	7	0	30	1
Ontong	7	1	12	2

Result: South Africa won by 132 runs and lead the series 2-1.

Mushtaq's spin class

Cricket

AGENCIES, *Nottingham*

Mushtaq Ahmed bamboozled British Universities with an eight-wicket haul that bowled Pakistan to a two-day innings victory here at Trent Bridge in the opening match of their tour here Saturday.

The little leg-spinner - by no means a certain pick for Pakistan's first Test team against England later this month - finished with match figures of 10 for 51 as the students were bowled out for 155 in their second innings.

After a first-day sighter, which mustered a paltry 74 all out, the Universities found themselves needing 243 to make Pakistan bat again.

Initially they appeared much better equipped this time - but the task still proved way beyond them.

Openers Michael Brown and Will Jefferson blunted the early efforts of pacemen Waqar Younis, Wasim Akram and Mohammad Sami only to fall prey to a virtuoso performance from Mushtaq (eight for 49).

The former Somerset leg-spinner had a mesmeric effect on the students, all the more worrying for the future of the English game because he did so on a wicket offering no more than average assistance to his brand of bowling.

Against the new ball, though, Jefferson (40) in particular was in control.

The 6ft 10in Essex hopeful hit a series of fluent boundaries and looked well set until he went lbw when he played across the line on the back foot to Mushtaq.

His was the first of eight consecutive wickets for Mushtaq, who must have been eyeing all 10 until youngster Sami uprooted Chris Elstub's leg stump for the ninth scalp of the innings.

After 26 overs and 19 runs worth of stoic resistance, Brown gave Mushtaq his second wicket when he lost his patience and lobbed an attempted slog-sweep only as far as the safe hands of Wasim at mid-on.

James Pyemont's uncertain forward defensive proved no match for Mushtaq, as the Derbyshire youngster played outside the line and lost his off bail.

Matt Banes was making a good fist of the struggle until he padded up to Mushtaq's temporary

MUSHTAQ ... 10 for 51

round-the-wicket line of attack, failed to kick away the leg-break and was bowled to become the first of two departures in as many balls either side of tea.

Next to go was Jamie Dalrymple, lbw pushing forward for a first-ball duck - and Mushtaq had his sixth victim when the left-handed Joe Porter also went lbw for nought, on his 21st birthday.

By way of variation Mushtaq had Rob Ferley caught bat-pad at silly mid-off and then snared James Foster when the England A wicketkeeper's attempted slog to leg ended instead with a dolly catch in the covers.

Sami finally put the students out of their misery - with tailender Tim Murtagh unbeaten on 22 - when he pinned Mark Tournier lbw.

Not out batsman Murtagh had a match to remember after taking six for 86 when Pakistan batted.

Earlier, the conclusion of the Pakistan innings had been a typically mixed bag which included a collapse of five wickets for six runs and a last-wicket stand of 66 in which Waqar made an unbeaten, 59-ball 50 containing nine fours.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard of the three-day tour match between Pakistan and British Universities at Trent Bridge on Saturday:

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES: First innings 74 all out.

PAKISTAN: First innings 316 all out in 85.5 overs.

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES: Second innings

Jefferson lbw b Mushtaq	40
Brown c Akram b Mushtaq	19
Banes b Mushtaq	19
Pyemont b Mushtaq	4
Porter lbw b Mushtaq	10
Dalrymple lbw b Mushtaq	0
Foster c Waqar b Mushtaq	17
Ferley c sub b Mushtaq	0
Murtagh not out	22
Elstub b Sami	0
Tournier lbw b Sami	13
Extras: (b-1, lb-3, w-3, nb-4)	11
Total: (All out in 58 overs)	155

Fall of wickets: 1-51; 2-71; 3-78; 4-100; 5-100; 6-107; 7-113; 8-124; 9-125; 10-155.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Akram	9	3	31	0
Waqar	8	3	29	0
Sami	14	6	27	2
Mushtaq	24	10	49	8
Younis	3	1	15	0

Result: Pakistan won by an innings and 87 runs.

Sami swings in swing

Cricket

REUTERS, *Nottingham*

New pace discovery Mohammad Sami is struggling for form at the start of Pakistan's tour of England -- ironically, because the conditions are so helpful.

The 20-year-old right-arm bowler, challenging for a place in the team for the first test later this month, failed to impress in the opening match against a British Universities side as Wasim Akram and Mushtaq Ahmed grabbed all the weekend headlines.

Left-arm pace bowler Wasim, exploiting damp and overcast conditions so typical of the early English summer, took four wickets in the first innings, three of them in four balls, and leg-spinner Mushtaq took eight for 49 in the second on Saturday to seal an innings and 87-run win.

Pakistan coach Richard Pybus, however, said he was not concerned, adding that Sami would soon show his true talent.

``He's got exceptional pace but you haven't seen that yet,'' he said. ``I didn't want him going full tilt as he got his first feel of English

MOHAMMAD SAMI

conditions.

``He's a rhythm bowler. It's a learning curve for him. You don't get conditions like this in Pakistan where the wickets are flatter and offer less help to the bowler.

``There was prodigious swing on the first morning against British Universities and it can be incredibly unnerving -- you bowl your usual line and it swings too much.

``You also have to bowl a fuller length, almost a half-volley length.''

Sami, unknown at the start of the year, made a major impact in his debut test against New Zealand in Auckland in March.

A small, slender man with a whippy action, he took eight wickets in the first test to earn the man-of-the-match award, including a final-day spell of five wickets for six runs.

``That was on quite a flat wicket,'' said Pakistan captain Waqar Younis. ``I'm hoping in these conditions he should do well.''

Sami's chances of playing in the first test at Lord's have been enhanced after Shoaib Akhtar, just back from injury, did not leave Pakistan with the rest of the squad after failing a medical. He is expected to join the team on Monday.

Pybus was pleased that Karachi-born Sami had at least picked up a few wickets in the first match, even against an outclassed student side.

``That was good for him,'' he said, adding: ``If you have Wasim and Waqar at mid-on and mid-off, you don't get better advice than that.''

Marcus leads the way

Cricket

AFP, *London*

England opener Marcus Trescothick continued his superb start to the year as Somerset powered to an emphatic eight-wicket Benson and Hedges Cup win Northamptonshire at Wantage Road Saturday that boosts their chances of securing a quarter final place.

The left-hander hit 15 fours in his unbeaten 109 off 117 balls as the visitors passed Northamptonshire's 219 for six with more than 10 overs to spare.

It was his second century in the competition - and his third in all cricket - so far this season, Trescothick warming up in impressive style for the first Test against Pakistan at Lord's later this month.

He and Somerset's Australian captain Jamie Cox (72) added 145 for the second wicket to make it three wins out four for the west country county.

Meanwhile Nick Knight, the man whom Trescothick has overtaken in the Test stakes, also made a century.

At Edgbaston the left-hander's undefeated 107 steered Warwickshire to a 55-run win against Glamorgan.

The two-day double - he made 101 against Northamptonshire on Friday - kept alive his side's chances of reaching the quarter-finals.

Another England exile, Mark Ramprakash, was also in the runs, his unbeaten 97 off 117 balls, taking Surrey to a six wicket win over Essex at The Oval.

He was backed up by England wicketkeeper Alec Stewart, who in his first game of the season scored 59 off 118 balls, including six fours.

Earlier England captain Nasser Hussain and Australian Stuart Law shared a 105 run partnership.

Law was the first to reach 50, scored off 68 balls including five fours.

Hussain got to 50 in 77 balls, including three fours and one six, but the partnership was broken next ball, when Law fell for 55 to a good Alistair Brown catch at short mid-wicket off Ian Salisbury's bowling.

Hussain was eventually out for 63, his caught behind by Stewart off Surrey captain Adam Hollioake.

The former England one-day captain took four for 36 with his usually medium-pacers.

Meanwhile Durham's Paul Collingwood (95 not out) produced his second match-winning performance in a week to guide his team a seven wicket win over Leicestershire at the Riverside.

Collingwood followed up his 89 at Derby on Tuesday in fine style after helping to restrict Leicestershire to 200 for seven with one for 34 and two slip catches.

The north-east county were without Queenslander Martin Love for this match after the Australian broke his finger in Friday's defeat against Nottinghamshire.

PHOTO: AFP

Czech Jiri Novak jubilates after beating compatriot Bohdan Ulihrach in the Munich Open semifinal on May 5.

Graveney for all-seam attack

INTERNET, *London*

Chairman of selectors David Graveney has revealed that England will ditch spinners Ashley Giles and Robert Croft in favour of an all-seam attack for the first Test against Pakistan.

Giles and Croft were a vital part of England's magnificent series victory in Sri Lanka over the winter, but Graveney says England will return to the format employed in last summer's series victory against the West Indies.

"Although we came in for a lot of criticism last summer for playing what people perceived to be an unbalanced side in seven batsman and four seamers, on the majority of my travels I have found that most of the wickets are favourable to seam," Graveney told Sky Sports in an exclusive interview. "We used the format last summer against the West Indies and that would be the more likely option, although I wouldn't like to put all my eggs in one basket."

While the news will come as a huge blow to the centrally-contracted Warwickshire spinner Giles, Graveney's comments are sure to please Dominic Cork.

The Derbyshire captain missed both series victories in Pakistan and Sri Lanka over the winter after struggling first with a loss of form, and then a stress fracture of his back in Pakistan.

He was one of 12 players awarded a central contract by the England and Wales Cricket Board at the end of March, but was warned that he had to prove his fitness before the start of the Pakistan series on May 17 or face being dropped from the elite list.

Diaz dumps Clijsters

AFP, *Croatia*

Unseeded Argentine Mariana Diaz Oliva booked her spot in the final of the 170,000-dollar Croatian Open WTA tournament here Saturday when she ousted top-seeded Belgian Kim Clijsters in three sets.

Diaz Oliva looked to be on her way out of the tournament when she lost the first set 6-0 and was lead by the 17-year-old Clijsters in the second, but the Buenos Aires player rallied to take the next two sets 6-2, 6-3.

"I'm really happy with they way I'm playing at the moment and delighted to see that at 25 years I can produce some nice play," said Diaz Oliva, after reaching the first final of her career.

"In the first set the strings on my racket were a bit too tight. Then in the second, while I was being lead, I told myself that I had to win at least one game.

"That's what I did and then I started to play differently, to do more with the ball and it worked," added Diaz Oliva.

The Argentine meets Angeles Montolio in the final after the in-form Spaniard caused another upset when she ousted second-seeded Frenchwoman Sandrine Testud in straight sets.

Number three seed Montolio, who won her first WTA event last month in Estoril, had little difficulty overcoming Testud for a 6-1, 7-5 scoreline.

A delighted Montolio said: "This is one of my nicest victories because I've never won before against Sandrine. But it's the first time that we've met on clay and this surface suits my game."

Dupuis-Novak showdown

AFP, *Munich*

Frenchman Anthony Dupuis was Saturday celebrating the day two years ago that he turned in his disco dancing shoes for tennis footwear as he reached the first final of his career at the 400,000 dollar Munich Open.

Dupuis, who didn't start to get serious about his sport until age 25, stormed to a light-footed semifinal comeback on the red clay of the Iphitos club to overcome Morocco's Younes El Aynaoui 5-7, 6-1, 6-2.

The winner will play Sunday for the biggest payday of his life - 54,000 dollars - against Jiri Novak, who beat Czech compatriot and best mate Bodhan Ulihrach 6-4, 6-4.

The low-key finale was set up after a swag of leading names all crashed out in the first and second rounds. Among their number: double Grand Slam champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov, former Munich champions Thomas Enqvist and Wayne Ferreira and Chile's former world number one Marcelo Rios.

Dupuis admits that he never really started taking his tennis seriously until a few years ago, when he gave up the many temptations of nightlife and clubbing.

"I started to play when I was 18, but between the age of 18-25 I went more to discos than I played tennis," he said. "Then I met my coach at 25 that's when my career really started."

Arjuna won't speak

Cricket

AFP, *Colombo*

Sri Lanka's former skipper Arjuna Ranatunga has resisted ICC investigators grilling him over match-fixing charges and slammed local authorities for probing ``nonsensical allegations.''

Sri Lanka's lone match-fixing investigator Desmond Fernando said Ranatunga refused to answer questions from the International Cricket Council's anti-corruption officials.

``Ranatunga's lawyers took up the position that he had not been given prior notice of the questions,'' Fernando said. ``It is now up to the ICC's anti-corruption panel to decide how they want to proceed.''

Ranatunga was questioned for about two and a half hours on Wednesday in the presence of ICC's chief anti-corruption investigator Jeff Rees and another official. But the foreign investigators could not get answers from Ranatunga.

However, in contrast, Fernando said that Ranatunga's deputy Aravinda de Silva who is also facing similar charges co-operated with the ICC officials and answered their questions.

``When the ICC people wanted to put some questions to Aravinda, I went out of the room because I did not know what the questions were and I felt it could prejudice my own inquiry,'' Fernando said.

De Silva was questioned by Fernando as well as the chief investigator of the ICC's anti-corruption panel Rees, and fellow investigator Alan Peacock.

``Questions suggested by the New Zealand (cricket) Board and Mr. Martin Crowe's counsel was also put to Mr. de Silva,'' Fernando said without elaborating on what the questions were.

The former New Zealand skipper has admitted receiving 7,500 dollars for what he believed was a series of media articles, but broke contact when he realised it was a scam involving an Indian bookmaker.

It has been alleged that Crowe was introduced to bookmakers by Sri Lanka's de Silva.

Fernando said he tried the same approach with the questioning of Ranatunga so that the ICC could put questions to him directly, but failed as Ranatunga and his lawyers objected.

Fernando's probe is focused on allegations contained in a report last year by India's Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) which based the allegations on testimony

ARJUNA RANATUNGA

by an Indian bookmaker, Mukesh Kumar Gupta.

However, ICC's anti-corruption chief, Sir Paul Condon, who visited here last week announced that they were widening the scope of their inquiry beyond the allegations made in the Indian CBI report.

Former skipper Ranatunga was not immediately available for comment, but in a letter published in a newspaper here Sunday he told local investigator Fernando that his main accuser, Gupta was a ``self-confessed rouge.''

Ranatunga also blasted Sri Lanka's Board of Control for Cricket (BCCSL) for setting a bad precedent with the probe.

``Of in the future, anybody whomsoever, however unsavoury a character he may be, makes scurrilous complaints against any cricketer of our country at any time, is that cricketer to be harassed and insulted by being asked for observations on such rubbish,'' Ranatunga said.

Ranatunga said he was ``amazed'' that Fernando, a prominent lawyer, failed to advise the local cricket authorities not to proceed with the inquiry against him and his former deputy De Silva.

Ranatunga said the cricket board which initiated the inquiry against the duo was acting in bad faith and was out to destroy him.

Ranatunga and de Silva are accused in the CBI report of taking bribes to engineer a Sri Lankan defeat in the 1994 Test against India at Lucknow.

The report had testimony from Gupta who alleged he gave 15,000 dollars to de Silva but it was not clear of money had in fact been given to Ranatunga too.

Ranatunga has flatly denied the charges of corruption while de Silva maintained that he never took bribes, although bookmakers approached him.

The head of the ICC anti-corruption panel, former Scotland Yard chief Sir Paul Condon, said that international players named in the Indian match-fixing probe would be investigated beyond the charges made public against them.

``There would be a whole realm of charges and not confined to the CBI report ... It will expand to further material that would not be in the public domain.''

Sir Paul also made it clear that he will not preside over a whitewash and no efforts will be spared to clean up the game. He said match-fixing had been going on for about 20 years.

All-American final

Tennis

AFP, *Hamburg*

Top seed Venus Williams will face little-known compatriot Meghann Shaughnessy in the final of the Betty Barclay Cup on Sunday after the American upset second seed Amanda Coetzer 6-3, 6-4.

Williams earlier made short work of beating unseeded Yugoslav Jelena Dokic 6-3, 6-1.

Seventh-seeded Shaughnessy, who claimed her 200th career victory, has made few headlines. But earlier this year she defeated Conchita Martinez on the Gold Coast and Monica Seles in Scottsdale, where she reached the final.

Despite her current form, the 22-year old started as the underdog after two comprehensive clay court defeats by the South African. The most recent came just last month in Amelia Island, but it was immediately apparent that Coetzer was going to have a fight on her hands this time.

In a match consisting of long baseline rallies, Shaughnessy was aggressive as well as patient, and she held the advantage throughout the first set.

Coetzer did threaten her after trailing 4-1, pulling back the break but losing a long game as she failed to level at 4-4. She also led twice in the second set and held a point for 5-1, but was unable to maintain her advantage.

Williams was in devastating form, and tied up her victory in less time than it took Shaughnessy and Coetzer to complete the first set.

She fired 11 aces in her 54-minute win, although ironically she dropped her serve for the only time in the match with a double-fault. That came in the third game, but she immediately rebounded by winning 16 of the next 18 points to lead 5-2.

In the second set she again went on the rampage, dropping only three points in five games, although it then took her four match points to close out the match.

"I was able to execute my serve pretty well today and that's always a plus," said Williams. "I don't like to be broken and in that game I gave it away a bit. I had two games points and then made two mistakes, and after that I tried to focus a lot more and do better. I like playing against her. She's a good player and hits the ball well, and for me it's a good match."

PHOTO: AFP

American Meghann Shaughnessy exults after defeating Amanda Coetzer of South Africa in the Betty Barclay Cup semifinal in Hamburg on Saturday.

CROSSWORD *By Eugene Sheffer*

ACROSS

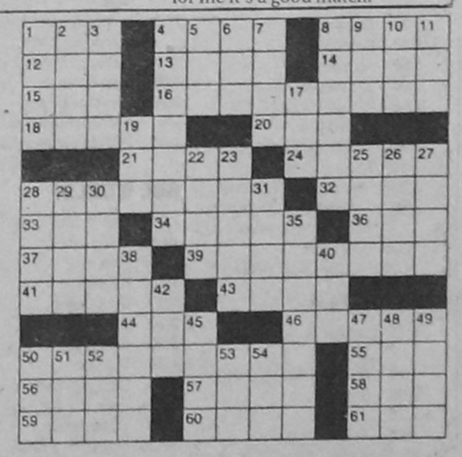
1 Once around
4 "See ya"
8 Funnyman Foxx
12 Civil War-era nickname
13 Green acres
14 School founded by Henry VI
15 In the offing
16 Hiawatha's bride
18 Knapsack part
20 Saloon request
21 Bound
24 Sport canoe
28 One of the clergy
32 Aaron's daughter
33 Lennon's lady
34 November birthstone
36 Martini need
37 Straddling
39 Reduce extremely
41 Color variations
43 Approaching
44 "Eureka!"
46 "The Mark of —"
50 Gov. Ventura's milieu
55 A billion years
56 Beige
57 Self-righteous one
58 "Little Women" woman
59 Spruced up
60 Witnesses
61 Family-television network

DOWN

1 Young fellows
2 Touch
3 Equal
4 Storm
5 He gave Jackie her O
6 Grocery container
7 King of Siam's employee
8 Prepare leftovers
9 Schedule abbr.
10 Homer Simpson's expletive
11 Modern-day evidence
17 Antlered beast
19 "The Greatest"
22 Teeny particle
23 Father of Charlemagne
25 Boo-Boo's pal
26 Four Corners st.
27 Cattle
28 Castle protector
29 Really busy with
30 High time
31 Hindu princess
35 Runs a slalom course
38 Goober
40 Conductance unit
42 Roseanne movie, "— -Devil"
45 Indiana Jones' worry
47 Harvest
48 Actress Downey
49 Jet black
50 Chaps
51 Lipinski's milieu
52 Arms org.
53 Pitchblende, e.g.
54 Dead heat

Solution time: 25 mins.

D	I	P	S		C	O	P	S		B	A	G
U	T	A	H		O	B	I	E		U	T	A
C	O	W	A	R	D	I	C	E		L	O	S
			M	E	A	T		R	A	L	P	H
A	R	O	M	A			D	E	L	E		
S	E	X	Y		C	L	O	S	E	T	E	D
P	L	Y		T	O	O	N	S		I	D	O
S	Y	M	B	I	O	N	T		S	N	I	P
	O	R	E	S			W	A	S	T	E	
S	C	R	O	D		S	P	E	W			
O	H	O		Y	A	K	E	T	Y	Y	A	K
H	A	N		E	R	I	E		E	E	R	O
O	N	S		S	A	N	K		R	A	I	N



CRYPTOQUIP

S V U R Z S K N R V T Z Y T K N V U A R G A Z K Z E K G Z T U V Z N K V Z L G G X Z L W H W G Y Z X G W K Z E H Z S U Z A Y.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MY EYE SURGEON WAS SO MISERLY THAT HE WAS ALWAYS CUTTING CORNEAS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals G

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.