



PHOTO: AFP

Serbian star Jelena Jankovic kisses the winner's trophy after defeating world number one Dinara Safina of Russia in the Western & Southern Financial Group Women's Open final in Cincinnati on Sunday.

Sehwag wants to 'leave' Delhi

CRICINFO, undated

Virender Sehwag is reported to be seeking a move from Delhi, the state he has represented since 1998, to Haryana from the 2009-10 season, citing the heavy interference in selection matters.

"I am trying to leave Delhi and play for Haryana," he was quoted as telling the Delhi-based newspaper Mail Today. "I spoke to the Delhi District and Cricket Association (DDCA) president, Arun Jaitley, (on Sunday) and he has asked me to discuss the issue with him and then take a decision. If I am not satisfied with the outcome of our meeting, I will surely leave Delhi."

Though international commitments have kept Sehwag away from much of Delhi's recent campaigns, he said there was too much manipulation in the Ranji Trophy selection. "It has often happened that four selectors get together and vote for 'their' players, leaving the chairman of the committee and me defeated," he is quoted as saying. "Especially, when I am on national duty, they put pressure on the stand-in captains and the interference becomes more rampant."

He was even less satisfied with selection process for the junior teams in the state. "There is too much interference and manipulation from the sports committee in selection committees," he said. "The sports committee has got too much power. There is more interference at the under-16 and under-19 levels than the Ranji Trophy. In a squad of 15, for instance, the sports committee tries to influence the selectors and slip in one or two of 'their own' boys."

NCL in for

FROM PAGE 17 Tigers Dhaka Metro Zonal U-14 Competition-Phase-2 (October-November), Young Tigers Divisional Competition-Phase-2 (December-January), Young Tigers U-14 National Competition-Phase-3 (January-February), Standard Chartered Young Tiger School Cricket Under-16 programme (October-March), Young Tigers U-18 Divisional Cricket Competition-Phase-2 (December-January) and Young Tigers U-18 National Competition-Phase -3 (March).

Tamim

FROM PAGE 17 "I congratulated him and told him that he could keep the trophy. He deserved it. You don't make world records everyday. It was a truly magnificent innings."

Never the animated type Tamim was taking the excitement surrounding his innings in his stride. "We didn't celebrate much but it just feels wonderful to see the happy faces. We had a team dinner and had fun. One of our officials did a boogie which added to the enjoyment," said Tamim who has been promised an added incentive by uncle and national selector Akram Khan who is in Zimbabwe.

"He is very proud and happy and he has promised me a gift. I don't know what it will be. I'm keeping my fingers crossed!"

Cincy crowns Jankovic

Tennis

AFP, Cincinnati

Serbia's Jelena Jankovic boosted her US Open hopes with a brisk 6-4, 6-2 victory over world number one Dinara Safina on Sunday in the final of the two million-dollar WTA Cincinnati Open.

"My smile is back and I'm having fun playing the matches," said Jankovic, who started the year atop the world rankings but has seen her status slip with a series of lacklustre results. "This is what I missed. I missed this for maybe seven months this year."

Jankovic bounced back from a tough semi-final victory on Saturday night to claim her second title of 2009, after a victory in a claycourt tournament in Marbella in April.

"When I woke up this morning I felt really sore, especially after going to sleep at 2 am," said Jankovic, who needed almost three hours to overcome Elena Dementieva in the semis -- a match in which Jankovic trailed 6-2 in the third-set tiebreaker.

But she showed no sign of weariness as she had just nine unforced errors in pocketing the

first set over struggling Safina.

"I was just a little bit off today. I would say," Safina said. "I was feeling very confident stepping into the court, and then I was just totally off."

Jankovic got a scare in the second set when she landed awkwardly on her left leg. She received treatment on her thigh and didn't seem to be slowed as she finished off a victory that was especially sweet in light of her struggles this season.

Jankovic claimed the world number one spot last August, but couldn't break through for a Grand Slam victory.

Hoping to improve her fortunes in the majors she changed her training regime, putting on 15 pounds in a bid to beef up her game.

Instead, she just felt slow. After falling to teenager Melanie Oudin in the third round at Wimbledon, Jankovic took time off to regroup, and also help her ailing mother -- usually her companion on tour -- get through surgery.

On Sunday her time away appeared to have been well-spent.

"I'm happy that I'm back," said the 24-year-old, who will move from fifth to fourth in the rankings on Monday. "I'm back in this (leading) group of players."

2 IPL sides bailed out

FROM PAGE 17 money has already been paid to the two franchises. Modi declined, however, to comment further on the issue or provide details.

The other teams that were invited for the tournament last year were Victoria and Western Australia, the domestic Twenty20 finalists from Australia, and Titans and Dolphins, the South African toppers, Middlesex, the England champions, and Sialkot Stallions from Pakistan.

Cricket Australia is planning to provide some financial compensation for Victoria and Western Australia from the revenue it hopes to gain from the tournament this year. But these amounts, which will cover advance travel booking, team preparation and lost sponsorship opportunities, are not expected to match the Indian payout. Cricket South Africa declined to comment on the issue but Cassim Docrat, chief executive of Dolphins, confirmed that he has received no information about any compensation.

The BCCI is a founding partner of the Champions League Twenty20, along with Cricket South Africa (CSA) and Cricket Australia (CA), with all three countries enjoying joint decision-making control over the multi-nation, multi-club event. The England and Pakistan boards have no management stake in the tournament.

An official familiar with the decision said there are two opinions within the Indian

board on the compensation amount for the IPL teams. "Some feel that the compensation is reasonable considering the money that the franchises would have possibly earned from the tournament," the official said. "But others have expressed concerns that such a move could set a bad precedent. They fear that other IPL franchises may demand similar bailouts if such situations crop up again in the future, even during the IPL."

However, a member of the IPL governing council said the hefty compensation package for the Indian franchises was reasonable given the amount they would have gained from the tournament and loss of the sponsorship money that had been committed to the two teams. The BCCI's original agreement with the IPL franchises included a possible slot in the Champions League for the finalists, and this was factored into most of the major sponsorship agreements the franchises had entered into.

"The IPL's duty and obligation is towards its franchisees and a fruitful, long-term relationship," the IPL official said. "The IPL's promise to the franchisees was that if you qualify for the Champions League, you will play. But due to unfortunate circumstances, that didn't happen last year and we had to honour that commitment in the best manner possible."

The Champions League Twenty20 was set to start on December 3 last year but was

aborted after terrorists attack on Mumbai, one of the main venues, on November 26. The tournament has now been expanded to include 12 teams and invitations have been extended to this year's domestic toppers from seven countries, including three teams from India, two each from Australia, South Africa and England and one each from New Zealand, Sri Lanka and West Indies.

Tigers get

FROM PAGE 17 After the series Bangladesh will fly for West Indies to play the ICC World T20 in April-May. Bangladesh has been pitted in a group with Australia and Pakistan.

In 2010, Bangladesh cricket team will also visit England to play one one-day warm-up game, two three-dayers, one four-day, three ODIs and two Tests from May 6 to June 17.

Bolt blitzes

FROM PAGE 17 record times, had overcome a nervy semifinal in which he false started for the first-ever time in his career.

But when it came to the final, he enjoyed his normal start, his head staying down over the first 40 metres before slowly bringing his towering 6ft 5in frame fully upright and lengthening out his stride to attain maximum velocity.

After having enraptured the crowd with his trademark bow-and-arrow posing before starter's orders, his pull was exemplary and he was soon away from Gay -- who had a marginally better reaction time -- and his other rivals and celebrating another new world record.

In sultry conditions at the Olympic Stadium, with a temperature of 28C (82F), Bolt's training partner Daniel Bailey of Antigua finished in fourth at 9.93sec on a photo finish with Trinidad's Olympic silver medallist Richard Thompson.

Dwain Chambers, the world indoor 60m silver medallist who is competing here after having served a two-year doping ban, came in sixth with 10.00sec.

Trinidadian Marc Burns and American Darvis Patton, who finished seventh and eighth, in the Beijing Olympics repeated their places here in 10.00 and 10.34sec respectively.

Punter's biggest Test

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Ricky Ponting is not given to hyperbole, so when he declares this week's Ashes finale the most important match of his 135-Test career, it is worth taking note. In a revealing column in the Daily Telegraph, the Australian captain predicted the pain of England's 2005 Ashes victory would prove a motivating factor for his side entering The Oval Test, and hinted reverse swing could play a role in determining the outcome of the match.

But by far Ponting's most eye-catching statement was that regarding the personal significance the fifth and final Ashes Test holds for him. In a career that has spanned 14 years, four continents and every major trophy, Ponting insisted his 136th Test would be the pre-eminent match of his career.

"I have played in 135 Test matches but never played in a match as big as this one," Ponting wrote. "There is nothing bigger than playing a deciding Test in an Ashes series, and you have to grab these moments when they present themselves because you may never experience such a match ever again."

"That kind of excitement adds a bit of zip to your training and when that starts

happening it generally spills over into the week of the game. There has been a very positive feel about our training during the last couple of days. We enjoyed a few days of rest in Leeds but since arriving in Canterbury we have trained very hard and I'm happy with where we are at the moment."

Ponting has previously denied any lingering disappointment from the 2005 Ashes defeat but, since Australia's series-lelling triumph at Headingley last week, has been more forthcoming in discussing the topic. Immediately after the fourth Test, Ponting conceded redemption in England was "a chance I've been waiting this whole tour for", and has since gone on to discuss the pain of watching Michael Vaughan hold aloft the urn at The Oval.

"The only motivation I need this week is the memory of having to search out Michael Vaughan, congratulate him and shake hands at the end of the Ashes series of four years ago," he wrote. "We were off the field when we lost the match due to bad light and the fact that we never had a chance to have a crack at chasing down our target left a bitter taste in the mouth."

"I also remember we made sure we stood outside and watched the ticker tape, the popping of champagne corks and the fireworks. We made sure we took it all in to make us better and stronger for the next time we played in 2006-07. But heading to

The Oval this week it is clear that roles have been reversed completely since 2005.

"Then we were the team facing questions over selection. They had a settled line-up and just come off a victory in the fourth Test at Trent Bridge. Now it is us who have the momentum gained from comprehensively winning at Headingley. We are comfortable with what we have achieved in the last Test-and-a-half."

Most pundits have given Brett Lee little chance of breaking into the Australian XI at The Oval, but Ponting has kept the door ajar for his most senior paceman to make an improbable comeback. The Australian captain suggested reverse swing could play a role in deciding the outcome of the final Test; an art at which Lee has proven particularly adept in recent years, never more so than when he claimed 6 for 76 against England Lions at Worcester six weeks ago.

"Brett Lee is jumping out of his skin to get involved," he wrote. "It was very exciting watching him bowl with reverse swing in the match at Worcester, and if he had not been injured he would have played in the first Test."

"In 2005 reverse swing dominated the series. This year it has probably been a damper summer and we have only seen conventional swing. The Oval is the one ground where that may change, especially if we have a dry, hot week."

BD-Zim 5th

ROM PAGE 17 ODI after Mohammad Ashraful and Shakib Al Hasan guided the Tigers in the first two victories with their swashbuckling centuries.

But on the bowling front, the Tigers have real cause for concern. Touring without pace spearhead Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and subsequently losing pace duo Rubel Hossain and Nazmul Hossain to injuries, the Tigers' bowling attack has looked toothless and the spinners also had very little impact on the Zimbabwe batsmen who twice took the total beyond 300 mark.

However, Bangladesh are not tinker with the winning side while Zimbabwe need to get in a regular fifth bowler to bolster their attack, which has been continually bleeding runs.

The match starts at 2:30pm Bangladesh time, with Bangladesh Television and Ten Sports beaming the live telecast.

PROBABLE SQUADS

BANGLADESH: Tamim Iqbal, Zunaed Siddique, Mohammad Ashraful, Shakib Al Hasan (captain), Rokibul Hasan, Mushfiqur Rahim (wk), Mahmudullah, Naem Islam, Mahbubul Alam, Enamul Haque, Syed Rasel.

ZIMBABWE: Hamilton Masakadza, Mark Vermeulen, Charles Coventry, Brendan Taylor, Sean Williams, Elton Chigumbura, Stuart Matsikenyeri, Prosper Tawesa (captain), Ray Price, Wandura Mupariwa, Ed Rainsford.

Lee's Ashes

FROM PAGE 17 took 2-43 to help his case to oust seamer Stuart Clark from The Ovaline-up.

Sunday's two-day match was awarded to Australia on first-innings score after England were bowled out for 237 in response to the tourists' 340.

Glamorgan's Jamie Dalrymple was the pick of the home batsmen with 58 off 122 balls.

Korean tames Tiger

Golf

AFP, Ashka

South Korea's Yang Yong-Eun became the first Asian to capture a major championship Sunday, doing the unthinkable by rallying past Tiger Woods for one of the biggest upsets in golf history.

The 37-year-old fired a two-under par 70 to win the 91st PGA Championship by three strokes over the world number one, snapping Woods's perfect 14-0 record when leading a major tournament after 54 holes.

The 110th-ranked Asian dynamo went into the final round a heavy underdog as he had only one US PGA victory to 70 career wins and 14 major titles for Woods.

"It will be a crazy party tonight for my friends," Yang said. "I knew the odds were against me. I just tried to be the least nervous I have ever been."

There is a long list of challengers and would-be major champions who have wilted under Woods's final-round glare but Yang would not go away without a fight at Hazeltine National Golf Club, the longest course in major history.

"It wasn't as nerve wracking as I thought it might be," Yang said. "When I saw the pairings the night before I was really happy to be in the final group of a major. My heart was pounding and nearly exploded."

"I had a rough night but as soon as I got to the first tee I became myself. It is what I have always sort of envisioned."

Yang, who didn't take up golf until age 19, spoiled Woods's bid to win the PGA for a record-tying fifth time. Yang finished 72 holes on eight-under-par 280.

Woods, who went into the day with a two-shot lead, shot a three-over 75 to reach five-under 283 for the tournament.

"He played beautifully," Woods said of Yang. "He did the things he needed to do. He was driving the ball in play, hitting the ball in the correct parts of

the green.

"I was certainly in control of the tournament for most of the day. I just didn't make the putts I needed to make."

England's Lee Westwood and rising star Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland tied for third, five shots back of Yang and one ahead of US Open champion Lucas Glover.

Yang set the stage for the birdie on 18 with a brilliant 20-yard approach shot that sailed over a tree and rolled onto the green.

"I thought if I aim true and make a good shot that I have a good chance to seal the deal," Yang said. "I knew Tiger could always have a bad day so I guess this was that day."

Yang, who earned 1.35 million dollars in prize money, clinched the win with a six-foot birdie putt at the 18th. He then celebrated by hoisting his golf bag in the air with both hands before taking possession of the Wanamaker Trophy.

"It sure is a great day," Yang said. "It hasn't completely sunk in but I realize the significance of it."

He not only becomes the first Asian to win a major, he also bettered the previous best performance by a South Korean. His compatriot K.J. Choi was third in the 2004 Masters tournament.

The win beats the top prior major performances by an Asian of Taiwan's Huan Lu-Liang, who finished runner-up in the 1971 British Open, and Japan's Isao Aoki, who placed second in the 1980 US Open. Taiwan's Chen Tze-Chung also tied for second at the 1985 US Open.

"You knew it was just a matter of time before an Asian-born player was going to win," Woods said. "We had a lot of great players over the years starting with Jumbo (Masashi Ozaki) and Isao (Aoki) has come close."

Yang's round included 13 pars, two birdies, two bogeys and chip in for eagle on 14 to take the lead.

Woods was seeking his first major win of the season after missing the cut in the British

Open and sharing sixth at the Masters and US Open. He did not play in last year's PGA because he was recovering from reconstructive knee surgery.

Yang took the lead for the first time on 14 to reach eight-under. Yang made his lengthy chip in and Woods answered by rolling in a 12-foot putt for birdie to stay one back of Yang as the two slugged it out down the stretch.

Woods parred the first three holes of the round before making the first of his five bogeys for the second-straight day on the par-three fourth hole and then doing it again on No. 8.

Woods three-putted No. 4, missing a routine four-footer to the right side of the hole.

"I just didn't make the putts when I needed to," Woods said. "I had a few misreads out there."

Bolt dominates

FROM PAGE 17 Times in London which headlined: "Thunderous Bolt enters a galaxy of off-limits to mortals."

"And now we finally have the answer. Still electrifying, still like a man from another planet. But now we know how fast the man can really go," their correspondent in Berlin wrote.

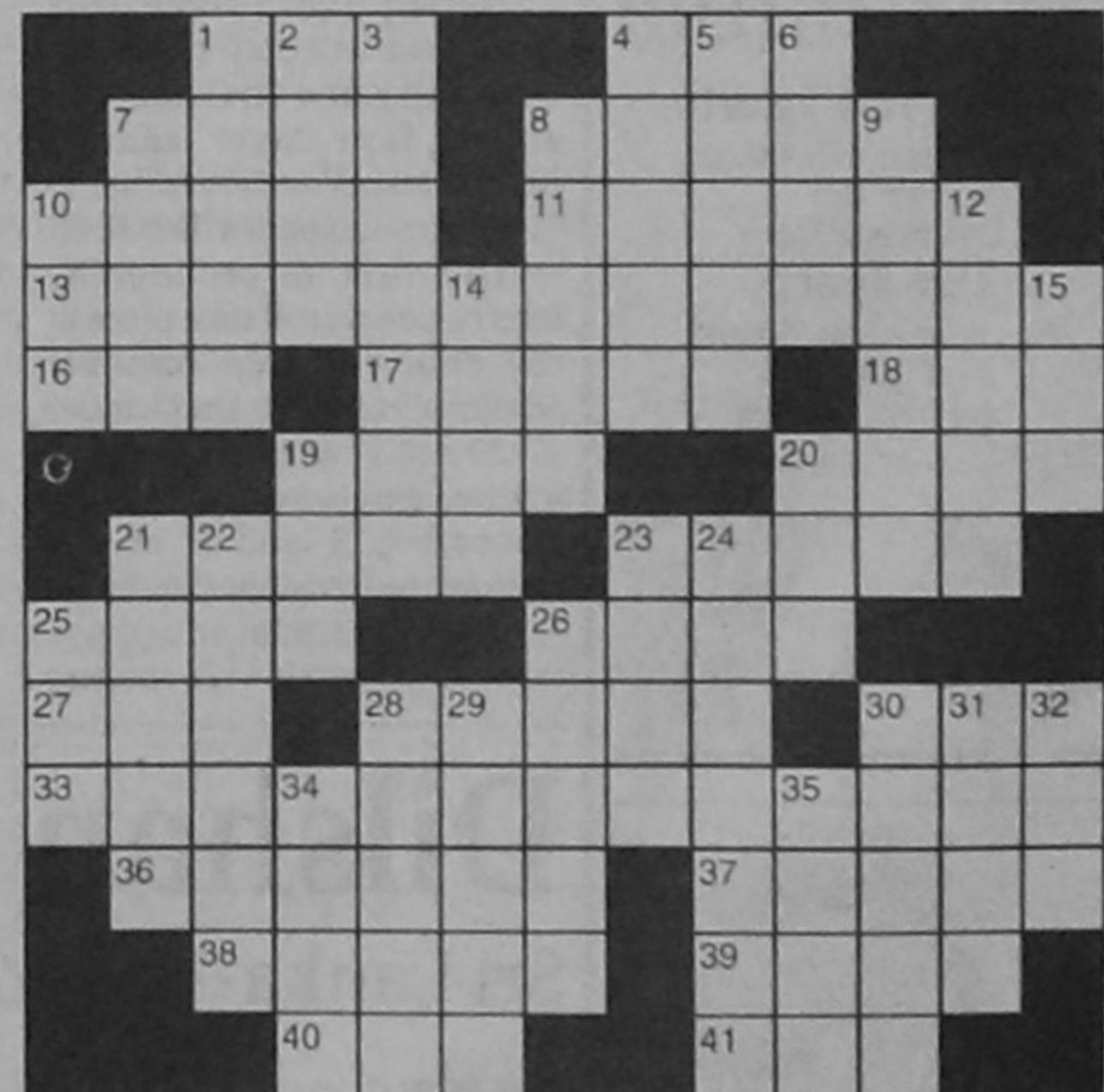
Spain's Marca hailed "a record from the 22nd century", while the Berliner Kurier, in a reference back to the 1936 Olympics gushed: "Somewhere on a cloud high up there Jesse Owens applauded and said 'superb race Usain.'"

"The spirit world is in a state of shock," wrote Le Soir in Brussels, while Italian sports daily La Gazzetta Dello Sport, under a headline of "Bim Bim Bolt", carried a picture of Bolt striking his chest and saying "I am the number one".

"Who can deny it?" the paper continued. "He set a world record of 9.58, a time that previously had just been a mirage."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Yuletide drink
 - 4 Sch. org.
 - 7 Tittle
 - 8 Stumbles
 - 10 Fess up
 - 11 Devours
 - 13 "Here today, gone tomorrow"
 - 16 Turner or Koppel
 - 17 Overact
 - 18 Expert
 - 19 Cereal choice
 - 20 Obtains
 - 21 Spectrum creator
 - 23 Sprite
 - 25 Mine car
 - 26 Hawaiian necklaces
 - 27 Coal carrier
 - 28 Clip wool
 - 30 Billboards
 - 33 Make a deal more enticing
 - 36 Bit of lore
 - 37 Devoid of contents
 - 38 Primary pipes
 - 39 Has a bug
 - 40 Modern-day evidence
 - 41 Desiccate
- DOWN**
- 1 Wanderer
 - 2 Elevator name
 - 3 Reaps
 - 4 Brooklyn institute
 - 5 Ten percent
 - 6 Basilica area
 - 7 Between jobs
 - 8 Mortise's partner
 - 9 Evening meal
 - 10 Sternward
 - 12 Celebra-tion
 - 14 Mosque VIP
 - 15 Ph. bk. data
 - 19 Again, in music
 - 20 U.S. soldiers
 - 21 Roam predatorily
 - 22 Cash in
 - 23 Exploit
 - 24 Dunce
 - 25 Surprise reactions
 - 26 Gives temporarily
 - 28 Oktoberfest souvenir
 - 29 Red-head's secret?
 - 30 Use
 - 31 They're often connected
 - 32 Plippen
 - 34 "Holy cow!"
 - 35 Eastern potentate
- Solution time: 21 mins.**
- | | | |
|----------|----------|------|
| UKES | END | BOSE |
| SIKH | SOU | EVIL |
| EWER | SIDEWALK | |
| SIDECAR | GALLS | |
| | WRY | FAR |
| HARDY | SIDEBAR | |
| ELO | TUK | ANA |
| SIDEMAN | DANDY | |
| | XIX | TAG |
| PLOTS | SIDEARM | |
| SIDESTEP | OLIO | |
| SKIN | HAS | LOGO |
| TENT | ELY | DEAN |



CRYPTOQUIP

J L I E Z L I V Z S M I E Z J O P Z I
T O I D P O Z G P E G I O E W E R T
G P H H P E D S E R I E Z G P E M W H I E Z.
J T V W Z T D I D D I O D T D I O ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT WOULD PEOPLE CALL BIG SCAVENGING BIRDS THAT STUDY ANTHROPOLOGY? CULTURE VULTURES.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals P