

English county cricket scores

AFP, London

English County Championship cricket scores on Friday (third day of four):

FIRST DIVISION

At Canterbury: Kent 472 (E Smith 103, G Blewett 60, M Carberry 53, G Jones 52; P Weekes 4-70, J Dawes 4-90) v Middlesex 221 (B Hutton 74; M Saghers 4-48) and 61-0

At Old Trafford: No play Friday due to rain. Essex 215 (J Foster 57, J Anderson 4-67) and 41-2 v Lancashire 375 (I Sutcliffe 109, M Chilton 106; R Irani 4-59)

At The Oval: Leicestershire 200 (P DeFreitas 65; Azhar Mahmood 5-78) and 32-2 v Surrey 560-8 declared (M Ramprakash 152, I Salisbury 101 not out, A Brown 73, A Stewart 71; P DeFreitas 4-101)

SECOND DIVISION

At Stockton: No play Friday due to rain. Worcestershire 395 (Kabir Ali 84 not out, B Smith 81, S Peters 62, V Solanki 52) v Durham 146-3 (J Lewis 66 not out)

At Bristol: No play Friday due to rain. Hampshire 369 (S Katic 96, W Kendall 69, J Crawley 69, N Potthas 63; J Lewis 4-80) v Gloucestershire 316-4 (C Spearman 103, P Weston 61, J Rhodes 57 not out)

At Northampton: No play Friday due to rain. Yorkshire 399 (M Vaughan 103, R Dawson 77, A McGrath 51; J Brown 4-99) v Northamptonshire 311-2 (P Jacques 183 not out, M Hussey 65)

At Taunton: Glamorgan 200 (N McLean 5-43) and 29-1 v Somerset 476-6 declared (P Bowler 92, M Burns 82, M Trescothick 70, A Laraman 61 not out)

Greene set to start from Paris

AFP, Portland

Maurice Greene's run at a fourth consecutive 100-metre World Championships title begins here Saturday at the Oregon Track Classic.

The American sprint star, 2000 Olympic champion and past world record-holder at 100m, sees his opening 100m of the outdoor campaign as the exit to the starting blocks down a path leading to August's World Championships in Paris.

"This meet is very important," Greene said. "It's just like the start of a race, only it's the start of the season. I plan to run very fast, and I'm not holding anything back."

Greene has appeared in several relay races and clocked a quick 20.16 seconds for 200 meters at April's Mt. SAC Relays.

The strongest challenge for Greene is likely to come from 2001 World Championships medalist Kim Collins of St. Kitts et Nevis along with Aziz Zakari of Ghana and Lindel Frater of Jamaica.

The IAAF Grand Prix meet also marks the kickoff of the US Golden Spike Tour, which leads to next month's US championships, the US qualifying meet for the worlds.

Three-time world shot put champion and two-time Olympic medalist John Godina will go against top-ranked rival Adam Nelson.

2nd day of tour

FROM PAGE 13 SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the four-day tour match between Sussex and Zimbabwe on Friday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings (overnight 317-4)

Ebrahim c Hodd b Taylor	14
Vermeulen not out	194
Carlisle c Montgomerie b Davis	35
Flower c Goodwin b Hutchison	64
Taibu c Zuidereit b Hutchison	0
Extras: (lb-5, nb-5)	10
Total: (For 4 wks in 93 overs)	317
Fall of wickets: 1-33 2-147 3-317 4-317	

To bat: Marillier, Ervine, Streak, Blignaut, Nkala, Price				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Lewry	18	1	88	0
Taylor	19	7	37	1
Hutchison	17	4	78	2
Innes	15	5	33	0
Davis	17	4	58	1
Yardy	5	0	10	0
Hopkinson	2	0	8	0

SUSSEX: R Montgomerie, M Yardy, M Goodwin, B Zuidereit, C Hopkinson, K Innes, P Hutchison, M Davis, A Hodd, B Taylor, J Lewry

Ctg move into

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At Patuakhal, Barisal handed down a 124-run defeat on the hosts. Defending a fighting 192-9, Barisal shot Patuakhal out for 64 in 22.3 overs. Jishan and Rabi finished with three wickets each for the winners.

At Jhenidah, Kushtia recorded a tense two-wicket win over Magura.

Magura scored 167 before being all out in 46.4 overs. Kushtia reached the victory 168-8 with two overs to spare. Shaon struck 49 and Nishan made 34 in the winners total.

At Dinajpur, Rangpur defeated Thakurgaon by 31 runs. In a crueltail 25-over-a-side match, Rangpur scored 155-6 and then restricted Thakurgaon to 124-6.



PHOTO: INTERNET

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK: Former Argentinian tennis star Gabriela Sabatini (R) and German star Boris Becker share a light moment during an exhibition match in Hamburg on Friday.

Serena, Amelie in last four



AFP, Rome

World number one and defending champion Serena Williams cruised into the semi-finals of the clay court Rome Masters Friday after beating unseeded veteran Conchita Martinez.

A comfortable 7-5, 6-2 victory over the 31-year-old former Wimbledon champion took Williams into the last four where she will meet French fourth seed Amelie Mauresmo.

Although her first serve percentage was alarmingly low, Williams benefitted from her Spanish opponent's wayward forehand to wrap up the match in 1hr 19mins and

remain on course to defend her Italian crown.

Belgian second seed Kim Clijsters will meet Japanese 13th seed and doubles partner Ai Sugiyama in Saturday's other semifinal at the Foro Italic.

Clijsters defeated Russian eighth seed Anastasia Myskina 6-2, 6-2, while Sugiyama ousted unseeded Slovenian Tina Pisnik 6-1, 6-3.

Williams said she was impressed with the form of Mauresmo, who stands between her and a place in a second consecutive Rome final.

"Amelie is definitely here to win and hopefully I'll get in her way," said the 21-year-old American, winner of 22 WTA Tour titles.

Williams said she had to step up

a gear at 5-5 in the opening set when the match was finely balanced.

"I picked up the level of my performance, hit a few good shots and was able to come through," she said.

"It's one of my characteristics. I have a fighting spirit. I have the ability to stay tough mentally."

Mauresmo defeated American fifth seed Jennifer Capriati 6-3, 7-6 (12/10) to clinch her place in the semifinals.

Quicker off the mark, Mauresmo broke Capriati early to race into a commanding 3-0 lead.

A runner-up here in 2000 and 2001, Mauresmo held on to her advantage to clinch a solid first set in half an hour.

After a break apiece in the second set, Mauresmo squandered a 40-0 lead at 5-4 to give Capriati two set points, but saved both to draw level in a gripping match.

Mauresmo cashed in on a string of unforced errors to break Capriati again, but the 27-year-old New Yorker showed her fighting spirit to hit back and force the tie-break.

Choosing to attack from the baseline and rarely coming into the net, Mauresmo saved two set points before shaking off the three-time Grand Slam winner.

"I could feel myself playing better and better as the match went on," said the 23-year-old Mauresmo, a semi-finalist at Wimbledon and the US Open last year.

"It was a very close match with very long rallies, especially in the tie-break, and I'm happy to have won it in two sets rather than go to a third."

Clijsters, who has spent less than three hours in winning her three matches on the way to the last four, said she hoped Saturday's match against Sugiyama was equally comfortable.

"Let's hope so, but I don't think it will keep going this way," said Clijsters.

"The games will get tougher but things have gone well for me so far."

Sugiyama became the first Japanese player ever to reach the last four after brushing aside Pisnik.

Knocked out in the first round in Berlin last week, Sugiyama said a quick turn of foot was the secret behind her success.

"I wasn't moving well enough in Berlin so I've been working on my footwork," said the 27-year-old.

the 26-year-old Australian.

"I was mentally drained just from the past few games. It's my second tournament on clay. I came out here and played three tough matches.

"I can't remember how many times I've played this tournament, but I can't even remember making it past the second round the last four times I've played."

Heath for better

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Streak suggested that in future it might be more beneficial all-round if four matches in England pitted the visiting side against Test hopefuls.

"I don't think it's a conspiracy thing, it is up to each and every country to select their team maybe if they (authorities) had looked at giving an incentive or combining counties it would be better," he said.

"There is not much that the counties are playing for in these tourist matches, in terms of benefit to themselves.

"Maybe there is a need to put guys forward who have some chance of making the England team or put up some financial reward for performances and winning teams. Perhaps then they would be more inclined to play their full-strength sides."

Arsenal's FA

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and the tactic worked for most of the first half.

Strachan, seeking to repeat his side's 1-0 upset win over Manchester United in the 1976 final, produced the only selection surprise of the match when he gave right back Chris Baird only his second start in four games for Southampton.

And Arsenal star Thierry Henry soon had Baird and the other Saints defenders under pressure.

Within 20 seconds of referee Graham Barber starting the game Henry had burst through with Claus Lundekvam tugging at his shirt and Southampton goalkeeper Antti Niemi made a nervous first save.

After seven minutes Niemi could not hold another Henry effort and Baird made his mark by clearing Dennis Bergkamp's follow up effort off the goal line.

Southampton only eased the pressure in the ninth when Michael Svensson forced David Seaman into his first save. That allowed Saints to get into the game.

The Swedish international had Arsenal in trouble again five minutes later with a volley that went narrowly wide. Shortly after Saints player of the season, striker James Beattie, produced a curling shot that troubled Seaman.

Referee Barber saw his first trouble when veteran Gunners defender Martin Keown staged a clumsy challenge on Brett Ormerod and had to be booked.

Beattie had his own yellow card for his snipe at the ankles of his Arsenal marker Oleg Luzhny.

Arsenal broke the deadlock with 37 minutes gone with classic pressure on the Southampton goal.

Henry and Bergkamp had efforts blocked. Freddie Ljungberg's shot was poorly cleared and Pires came in from the left to shoot the ball into the net. With Saints stunned, a few seconds later Pires was clear again but tripped as he was shooting and the ball span wide.

Saints did not give up and took the game to Arsenal in the second half in the hunt for an equaliser.

But their next stroke of bad luck came with Finnish international Niemi collapsed to the ground after taking an offside free kick and had to be stretched off.

Welsh international Paul Jones came on in his place and was soon plunged into the heart of the action when Henry came clattering toward him with Michael Svensson at his side.

Henry plunged to the ground from Svensson's challenge and with a choice between welcoming Jones to the game with a penalty kick or punishing Henry - referee Barber booked the Arsenal striker for diving.

Saints brought on Jo Tessem and the Arsenal manager replaced Bergkamp with Sylvain Wiltford for the finale.

Yuvraj late

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following in the footsteps of Sachin Tendulkar who was the county's first overseas star in 1992.

And the club hope Yuvraj's presence will boost their support among the county's large Asian population.

Yorkshire have been criticised for not yet selecting a local-born Asian to play for the first team but chief executive Colin Graves said last week he hoped Yuvraj could help the club mend some fences.

"We've had a tremendous response already from the Indian community," chief executive Colin Graves said last week.

"A lot of them have wanted to get involved and help the financial situation so we will talk with those people and try and sort something out.

"There is a big Asian market and the response from them in the past has been minimal and we've got to get them coming here to Headingley and enjoying it."

In 73 one-day internationals Yuvraj has scored 1,644 runs at an average of 31.01 and taken 23 wickets with his left-arm spin.

Rookie trio

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success in the World Cup and is a man for the future."

McGrath, 27, played under Hussain's captaincy on the England A tour of Pakistan in 1995-96.

"I was surprised and delighted to get the call from David Graveney this morning," McGrath said. "I think I have been in good form this season so far and played pretty well without getting a really big score."

Graveney said England would not be taking Zimbabwe lightly in the two-Test series.

"The worst mistake we can make is to underestimate Zimbabwe," he said. "We have to be professional, try to win the two Test matches and move on to South Africa."

The first Test is at Lord's from May 22-26 and the second at Durham's Chester-Le-Street ground from June 5-9. England host South Africa in a five-Test series starting in late July.

SQUAD

Nasser Hussain (captain), James Anderson, Mark Butcher, Andrew Flintoff, Ashley Giles, Stephen Harmison, Matthew Hoggard, Robert Key, James Kirtley, Anthony McGrath, Alec Stewart, Marcus Trescothick, Michael Vaughan.

McCormack no more

AFP, New York

Mark McCormack, considered by many people as the most powerful man in global sport, died here Friday, four months after suffering cardiac arrest. He was 72.

McCormack was the founder of International Management Group (IMG), the agency which has ties throughout the sports world in promotions, representation of athletes and event operations.

The legendary McCormack had historical ties to Al Capone, the Pope and the King of Sweden. He had been in a coma at a hospital since mid-January.

McCormack's rise to the top of the sports marketing empire began in 1960 with a handshake between himself and golf legend Arnold Palmer, a pact that ignited the mainstreaming of professional athletes.

"I am proud of what IMG has achieved and I know I was very lucky to start with Palmer, Gary Player and Jack Nicklaus," McCormack told www.sportbusiness.com in an interview in 2001.

"When I signed them they had only won one tournament between them. But TV was just coming into its own, the players started winning and if people wanted to talk to them they had to come through me."

And what about that famous handshake with Palmer?

"We have always been forthright and stuck by our written or verbal agreements and that has brought us business," he said.

"There are some people around the fringes of this business who are sleazy, who do under the table

deals with dirty money."

McCormack's stable of stars included golfers Tiger Woods and Annika Sorenstam, tennis' Venus and Serena Williams, American football's Joe Montana and ice hockey legend Wayne Gretzky.

Among IMG's clients are Wimbledon, the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, model-actors Elizabeth Hurley and Liv



MARK MCCORMACK

Tyler, renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman, the Kennedy Space Center and the Smithsonian Institute.

McCormack also handled special projects for world leaders like Margaret Thatcher, Mikhail Gorbachev and the Pope.

McCormack played a pivotal role in how athletes were paid and portrayed. His corporation employs more than 3,000 people and provides more than 5,000 hours of television programming to more than 200 countries worldwide.

A Yale University law school

Waugh regrets it too



AFP, Sydney

Captain Steve Waugh said on Saturday he regretted Glenn McGrath's ugly outburst at West Indian batsman Ramnaresh Sarwarin in this week's fourth Antigua Test and was not surprised by the revulsion it received in Australia.

Waugh, who arrived home from the Caribbean on Saturday, said he told his players to "back off and get on with the game" following McGrath's foul-mouthed rage at Sarwarin at the height of a sledging war with the batsman.

The Australian skipper said the first he saw of the incident was McGrath complaining to English umpire David Shepherd just after the heated clash, which drew censure from the Australian Cricket Board and widespread disgust from the Australian sport-public.

Waugh, criticised here for his non-intervention at the time, defended his response, arguing that it was the responsibility of individual players to behave themselves when representing their country.

"The first I saw of it was (McGrath) talking to David Shepherd," Waugh told reporters at Sydney Airport.

"As soon as that happened I did mention to Glenn and our other players just to back off and let's get on with the game. So, as far as I'm concerned, I did what I thought was necessary.

"Many times I have stepped in and said enough's enough. On that occasion I did my best.

"There's always regrets when things like that happen on a field. The heat of the moment got to a few players."

Waugh, who said little about his Test future, said the first three Tests in the Caribbean had been friendly. He said the relationship between the teams was among the best he had experienced in his career.

"But sometimes frustrations do come out," said Waugh, who turns

38 next month.

"There were a lot of emotions out there. Obviously, Glenn was under pressure. He came back home because (wife) Jane had some problems (treating a cancer) with illness and when you're out there playing, you're only human."

"Some of those emotions are going to come to the surface and that's what happened in the last Test."

"We are sometimes seen as the bully boys but I know in the last Test quite a few of their (West



STEVE WAUGH

Indian) players did say some things on the field."

Waugh said it was each player's duty to act responsibly.

The team was aware of their role-model status, he said, but the players made mistakes at times.

"As a captain I make the guys aware of what their responsibilities are. But once you step on a field you're responsible for your own actions. It's up to each player to know their responsibilities.

"If they step out of line then they pay the price," he said.

"I think (the Australian public) expect us to behave well on the field and I think 99 percent of the time we do. There's going to be incidents when you play top level sport there's a lot of emotions."

"In the last Test ... one or two things were said, they were misunderstood and you saw the result."

"Like everyone else, we're not

graduate, McCormack did not stop with Palmer.

After Player and Nicklaus, he branched out into other sports, signing tennis great Rod Laver in 1968. Bjorn Borg, John McEnroe, Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova followed.

By 1990, McCormack was named the "Most Powerful Man in Sport" by Sports Illustrated. He also has been named the "Most Powerful Man in Tennis" and the "Most Powerful Man in Golf."

McCormack, who was working at the time of his heart attack, is survived by his second wife, former tennis pro Betsy Nagelsen, four children and seven grandchildren. His three oldest children are executives at IMG.

The Chicago-born McCormack suffered a fractured skull when he was six after being hit by a car.

Unable to play contact sports, he turned to golf.

He learned the sport by playing with his father and occasionally with Chicago prosecutor George E.Q. Johnson, who put Capone behind bars.

After qualifying for the US Open as an amateur, McCormack graduated from Yale law school. Following a tour of duty in the Army, he accepted a position at a prestigious Cleveland law firm, Arter and Hadden.

While there, he launched IMG with the Palmer handshake.

IMG has 80 offices in 32 countries and is based in Cleveland. Under its umbrella, it is the largest independent producer of televised sports programming, top modeling agency and biggest licensing agency in the world.

perfect. We're going to make mistakes. There's a lot at stake, a lot of pressures. I'm not making excuses for it but it does happen. That's the reality of the situation."

Waugh made no commitment to the July home series against Bangladesh in Darwin and Cairns, or the tour to India next year.

"Now I just want to sit back and think about things," he said.

"I want to reflect on a really positive series where we won 3-1 and was played in good spirit. I don't want to reflect on one or two incidents that people think marred the series. And now I've got some time to relax and think about my future."

"It would be great to play (for the first time) in Darwin and Cairns for the players who will be involved in it."

Asked about the India tour, Waugh laughed: "It's a long time away. It's too far ahead for any player when the game is so professional and competitive."

Stars yet

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held here on May 23.

TEAMS

SRI LANKA (from): Marvan Atapattu (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Ramesh Kaluwitharana, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Russel Arnold, Upul Chandana, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralitharan, Prabath Nissanka, Dharshana Gamage, Kaushal Lokuarachchi, Kumar Dharmasena, Kaushalya Weeraratne.

PAKISTAN (from): Rashid Latif (captain), Mohammad Hafeez, Taufeeq Umar, Faisal Iqbal, Yousef Youhana, Yousif Khan, Shoaib Malik, Abdul Razzaq, Shoaib Akhtar, Mohammad Sami, Umar Gul, Yasir Hameed, Shabbir Ahmed, Faisal Athar, Danish Kaneria.

Umpires: Daryl Harper (Australia) and Tyrone Wijewardene (Sri Lanka)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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