

Marcus believes in Andy

Cricket AFP, London

Marcus Trescothick said all-rounder Andrew Flintoff could take England to an improbable win in the fifth and final Test against South Africa here at The Oval.



ANDREW FLINTOFF series win in England since 1965 are slim, Trescothick believes that Flintoff, 10 not out, could have a vital role to play.

do a job for us," said the opener. Trescothick, reflecting on his own performance, said: "It was a pretty good day. You've got to be pleased with a double hundred."



MAGNIFICENT MARCUS: England opener Marcus Trescothick celebrates after scoring his first double hundred at The Oval on Saturday.

Hussain stands by Vaughan

BBC ONLINE, London

Former England captain Nasser Hussain has leant his weight to successor Michael Vaughan's criticism of domestic cricket.

Relief for Thorpe

Cricket AFP, London

Graham Thorpe said he could not "have written it any better" after scoring a hundred for England against South Africa in his comeback Test match at his Oval home ground here Saturday.



GRAHAM THORPE when I made my debut because I definitely wanted to do well," added Thorpe, appearing in his 78th Test match.

and-a-quarter hours, facing 244 balls including 17 fours in what was his first Test hundred at The Oval, said the way he was received by his home crowd helped settle his nerves.

Harmison holds

FROM PAGE 13 Fall of wickets: 1-28, 2-78, 3-346, 4-379, 5-480, 6-489, 7-502, 8-502, 9-601

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Rows: Pollock, Ntini, Hall, Kallis, Adams, Rudolph.

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings Smith lbw b Bicknell 19 Gibbs c Stewart b Anderson 9

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Rows: Bicknell, Anderson, Harmison, Giles.

Toss: South Africa Umpires: Simon Taufel (Australia) and Sri Venkataraghavan (India)

The toughest Belgian

FROM PAGE 13 important points. That's what I did."

Henin-Hardenne took home a one million-dollar top prize, twice what Clijsters won. But the check award ceremony drew laughs when she was greeted with "Congratulations Christine" by bank executive Bill Harrison.

healthy to play. There was no more problem with my body. It's just I was feeling tired, a lot of fatigue. I didn't know if I was going to be able to compete and fight 100 per cent.

Woodbridge approaches new record AFP, New York Australia's Todd Woodbridge will play for his 77th career doubles title here Sunday in the US Open men's doubles finals, looking to move one title shy of matching Dutchman Tom Okker's all-time record.

We're closer

FROM PAGE 13 He added: "I'll make sure they won't get carried away after this good improvement because England aren't an easy side either. The last time they toured the sub-continent they beat Sri Lanka."

They have lost 23 of their 24 Tests with a rain-affected draw against Zimbabwe, and have won only three one-day internationals.

Roddick, Ferrero go

FROM PAGE 13 "I'm just going to have to accept the cards I've been dealt," Roddick said. "I would have preferred to be out of there in three but that's the way I had to do it."

"I'm sure it's not easy," Agassi said. "He'll be all right. He's one match away. If there's ever a time to find a little extra, it will be tomorrow."

tie-break, winning the fourth set with ease and taking a 4-3 lead in the fifth. Roddick's rally prevented the first American-less US Open singles finals since 1988, following the semifinal failures of Agassi, Jennifer Capriati and Lindsay Davenport.

Victory of heart & grit

US OPEN 2003 REUTERS, New York

Since the US Open began a fortnight ago, talk was the final Grand Slam of the season had been devalued by the absence of the injured Williams sisters, who had made the title their property in the last four years.

bad for them an all the players. "I don't know if they have to worry ... I hope so."

confidence could also get the job done. "Maybe I arrived a little later than some other players but winning two Grand Slams at 21, I think, is great," she said.

An indomitable Henin-Hardenne pummeled Belgian compatriot Kim Clijsters 7-5, 6-1 to lift the title on Saturday and cap one of the most remarkable recoveries in Grand Slam history.

Following is a factbox on Justine Henin-Hardenne, who beat Kim Clijsters in the final of the US Open to become the first Belgian to capture a singles title at Flushing Meadows on Saturday: Born: June 1, 1982 in Liege, Belgium

Henin-Hardenne lacks the physical presence of the Williams and other power hitters proliferating through the women's game, she confirmed that the heart of champion, a gritty temperament and

Clijsters: finals' flop?

US OPEN 2003 REUTERS, New York

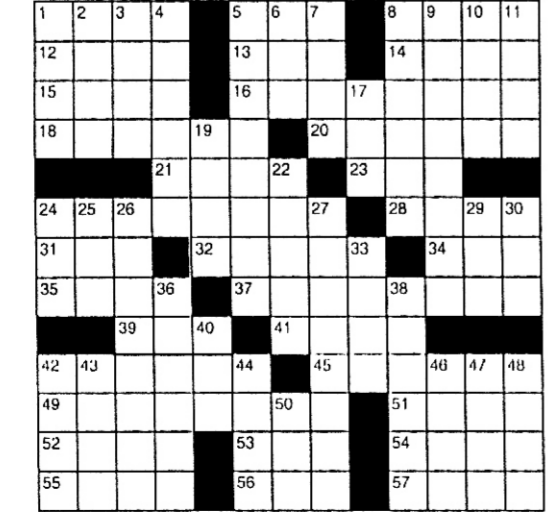
Kim Clijsters appeared to freeze on the big occasion again on Saturday but the Belgian insisted her capitulation to compatriot Justine Henin-Hardenne in the US Open final was not evidence of her frailty.

It was almost a mirror image of her experience at Roland Garros, when she lost 6-0 6-4 to Henin-Hardenne in the final.

nervous (than at Roland Garros)," the 21-year-old said. "That's why I had a slow start."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 41 Solar emissions 5 Annika Soron-stam's stat 8 Con game 12 Mandi-crova of tennis 13 Fuss 14 "Rikki-Tikki-tikki" 15 Sorts Meadows 18 Human soul 20 Fervid feelings 21 Regatta supply 23 Lucy of "Charlie's Cavalier" painter 24 Literary hodge-podge 28 Norway's capital 31 Jimmy Carter's daughter 32 Surname 34 Aachen article 35 Branch 37 Medi-cated lozenge 39 Trench



CRYPTOQUIP Saturday's answer 7-7

Hitting out at American bias

AFP, New York

Frustration with US Open officials over perceived American favoritism boiled over for Argentina's David Nalbandian and Spain's Juan Carlos Ferrero after their US Open semifinal matches here Saturday.

Captain Inzamam

FROM PAGE 13 SQUAD Inzamamul Haq (capt), Imran Nazir, Mohammad Hafeez, Yasir Hameed, Yousef Youhana, Abdul Razzak, Shoaib Malik, Kamran Akmal (wicketkeeper), Junaid Zia, Umar Gul and ShabbirAhmed.

Brave Tigers

FROM PAGE 13 return home on September 10. On the other hand their replacements Tushar Imran, Hasibul Hossain and Mushfiqur Rahman have arrived here to feature in the ODI series.



KIM CLIJSTERS