Pakistan lose by 5 wickets

WORCESTER, May 8: Pakistan slumped to a five-wicket defeat against Worcestershire Friday in the debut first-class match of its four-month English tour.

Worcestershire's pace bowler Phil Newport ripped through Pakistan's middle and tail-order, taking five wickets for eight runs from 36 deliveries, forcing Pakistan to close its second inning at 93 for nine.

Pakistan appeared to control the match after declaring Wednesday at 374 for four, including 172 to Rameez Raja, and Worcestershire declared at five for 303 Thursday.

But Pakistan was immediately in trouble on Friday's final day after resuming at 31 for two. All-rounder Philip Weston had Pakistan acting captain Salim Malik caught for seven to start the collapse.

Newport, a 29-year-old who has played two Tests for England, then took five wickets with only opener Shoaib Mohammad on 46 managing a decent score.

Inzamam-ul-Huq went for seven, Wasim Akram for four, Rashid Latif for two, Mushtaq Ahmed for four and Aaqib Javed for a duck.

With Asif Mujtaba unable to bat after injuring his hand fielding Wednesday, Pakistan had to close its innings at 93 for nine with Salim Jaafar not out one.

Newport was selected for England after taking 10 Australian wickets in 1989 when the home team wrapped up the game in less than two days.

He was hopeful Friday of gaining selection for England's one-day series against Pakistan starting May 20.

"I'm always hopeful of being picked again. If you have no international aspirations county cricket can be a bit of a grind," he said.

Worcestershire was set 165 for victory. England representative Graeme Hick hit 33 before Jaafar had him caught and bowled, while captain and opener Tim Curtis finished with 45 after Wasim Akram had him leg before.

Weston, not out 32, and Steven Rhodes unbeaten on 21, guided the home team to five for 166.

An earlier Reuter report said: Graeme Hick fluffed his first big test of the summer against Pakistan on Thursday — and added another grim failure to an ever-growing international collection.

With the start of their one-day series against the visitors less than a fortnight away, England were hoping for a confidence-boosting innings from Hick against Pakistan at New Road.

Instead, the Worcestershire batsman fell for a ninth ball duck, caught at slip following a leaden-footed prod outside off stump.

Last season's string of cheap dismissals against West Indies were hugely disappointing. A set of modest scores in New Zealand during the tour there left him still searching for his first Test half century. But Thursday's flop was perhaps Hick's most unconvincing performance yet against international opposition.

With Worcester chasing Pakistan's first innings 374 for four declared, the troubled 25-year-old survived an early lbw appeal from Aaqib Javed but it was to prove a very temporary reprieve for Hick and only a minor disappointment for Aaqib.

A tame push and a thin edge resulted in a routine catch to Salim Malik at first slip.

Aaqib also removed Seymour for 37 and spinner Mushtaq Ahmed later prevented Tim Curtis from completing a century, dismissing him for 85 as the opener offered no shot against a googly and fell lbw.

Philip Weston, England's under-19 captain who was playing only his third first-class match, revived Worcester's innings with a fine unbeaten 64 while sharing in an unbroken century stand with Steve Rhodes (46 not out) which took Worcestershire to 303 for five declared.

By the time bad light ended play two overs early, Pakistan had increased their first innings lead of 71 to 102 for the loss of Aamir Sohail (11) and Rameez Raja (5).

SCOREBOARD

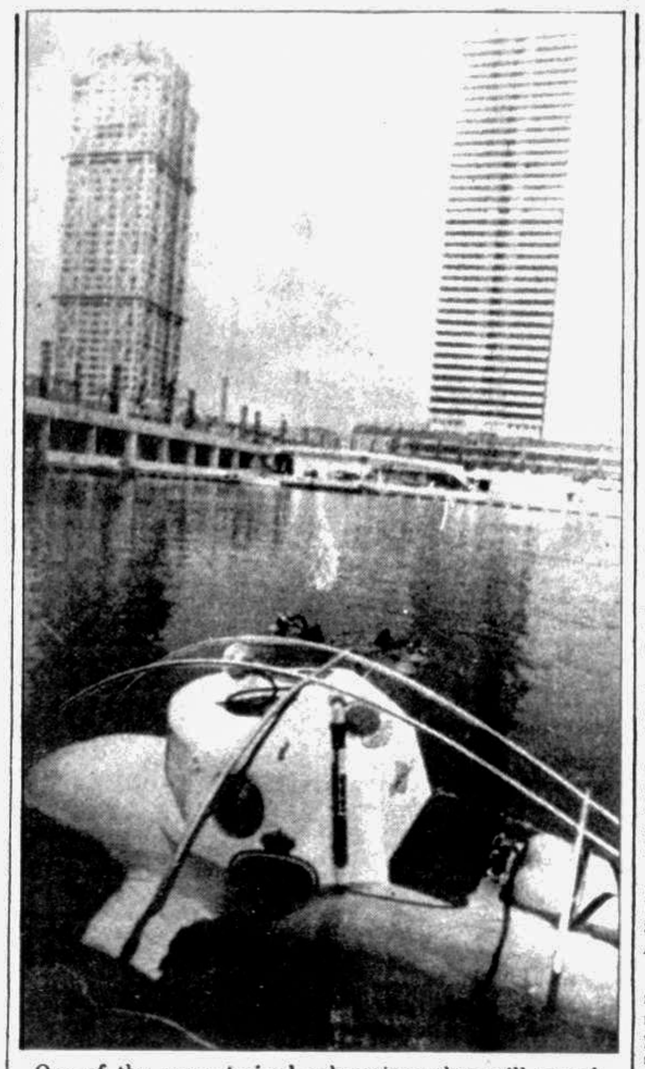
PAKISTAN: First innings 374-4 declared (Rameez Raja 172, Salim Malik 91)

WORCESTERSHIRE: First innings 303 for 5 declared (Curtis 85, Mushtaq 3 for 71)

PAKISTAN: Second innings

Aamir Sohail c Newport b Radford	11
Shoaib Mohammad not out	12
Rameez Raja run out	5
Salim Malik not out	1
Extras (w-1 nb-1)	2
Total (for two wickets)	31

Fall of wickets: 1-16; 2-30.
(Incomplete)



One of the computerised submarines that will patrol Barcelona's seaboard during Olympic Games and provide added security, is presented at the Olympic port in front of the Olympic towers in Spain on May 7. — AFP photo

Seles, Sabatini in semis

ROME, May 8 : Top-seeded Monica Seles took little more than an hour to rout Georgia's Leila Meskhi 6-1, 6-4 on Friday, leading the way into the semifinals at the dirs 550,000 Italian Open, reports AP.

Second-seeded and defending champion Gabriela Sabatini followed in a similar fashion, easily beating No 7 seed Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-0, 6-1, on centre court at the Foro Italico, delighting a large section of Italian and Argentine fans.

Later Friday, in the other quarterfinals, Amanda Coetzer of South Africa faced Natalia Zvereva of Russia and Anke Huber of Germany played Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States in an evening encounter.

It was the third relatively easy victory at the clay-court event for Seles, who lost to Sabatini in last year's final.

"All the matches till now were pretty easy, but I have not played great. I will have to improve a lot in the next matches," said Seles, who has not lost a set all week.

Seles had won her three previous matches against Meskhi, but the Georgian took Seles to three sets at the Australian Open in January.

But Meskhi seemed to have no chance to get into the match Friday, as Seles pounded two-fisted groundstrokes consistently down the lines, her opponent in futile crosscourt pursuits.

After winning the first set in 30 minutes, Seles appeared to slow and lose concentration at times, but was never threatened.

CAPRIATI CRASHES

An earlier Reuter report said : Yugoslav world number one Monica Seles marched into the last eight of the women's Italian Open on Thursday but third seeded American Jennifer Capriati slumped to defeat.

JENNIFER CAPRIATI

Seles crushed American left-hander Carrie Cunningham 6-0, 6-1 in the third round but Capriati went down in three sets to 16th seed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa.

"These are all warm-up tournaments for France and Wimbledon. I'm going to have to play a high-ranking opponent to say how good I am," Seles said.

Seles will meet 10th seeded Georgian Leila Meskhi in the next round of the clay-court event.

The 18-year-old Seles had words of comfort for the disappointing and sluggish Capriati, two years her junior, who was beaten 6-1, 3-6, 6-4.

"It's not easy to do it day in day out. Everyone expects young players to win all the time," Seles said.

She said the demands placed on women players were becoming excessive.

"There are more and more tournaments. This year we had to commit to 10, next year there are 12, and you just don't have time to rest."

"We don't have an off season. I can't think of another sport like that," Seles added.

"You can't take two weeks off without worrying about slipping in the rankings."

The ironic background to Seles' remarks was that Capriati was playing her first tournament for around a month.

The American, who almost went out to Italian Sandra Cecchini on Wednesday, again served poorly and took only one game in the first set.

"I chose not to play. I wanted to stay home and be in school," Capriati said when asked about her month's absence from the game.

She said she was looking forward to the Grand Slam events in Paris and Wimbledon but added she was not certain whether she would compete in the Olympics in Barcelona in July.

The 20-year-old Coetzer will play 14th seed Natalia Zvereva of the Commonwealth of Independent States in the quarter-finals.

Ranatunga regains captaincy

COLOMBO, May 8: Sri Lankan cricket selectors reappointed Arjuna Ranatunga as captain for the series against Australia, disregarding a court finding

ARJUNA RANATUNGA

that called him a loner, indifferent and haughty," sports officials said Friday, reports AP.

Ranatunga, 28, was named captain in 1988 but was removed from the post in June 1991 after High Court Judge Vimal Wickremasuriya found him unfit to lead his country.

Wickremasuriya had been appointed to investigate Sri Lanka's disastrous New Zealand tour in 1991.

"There is no doubt that he (Ranatunga) is a skilled player but as a captain there is doubt that he would have contributed towards the development of Sri Lanka, particularly at the national level," Wickremasuriya's report, made public by the Daily News on Friday, had said.

Ranatunga's successor, Aravinda de Silva, did not do well and selectors said the burden of captaincy affected his batting.

Ranatunga, a stocky left-handed batsman, was the top scorer in the World Cup, aggregating 262 runs at an average of 52.40.

The selectors gave no reason why they were reinstating Ranatunga. The batsman was not available for comment.

The selectors also named a pool of 27 players, including former captain De Silva, to prepare for the the Australian tour beginning in August that would end Sri Lanka's five-year isolation as a host.

In 1987 New Zealand aborted a tour after playing one Test following a bomb explosion in Colombo. Since then nations have declined to tour Sri Lanka due to the ongoing Tamil ethnic war.

Edberg in qtrs

HAMBURG, May 8: Stefan Edberg breezed into the German Open quarter-finals on Thursday, preaching his serve-and-volley game can break the trend and pay dividends on slow clay courts, reports Reuter.

The Swedish world number two took just 74 minutes to dispose of Spaniard Francisco Clavet 6-3, 6-1

Fraser ready to return

LONDON, May 8: England opening bowler Angus Fraser is set to return to county championship cricket after nearly a year out with a hip injury, reports Reuter.

Fraser was not considered

ANGUS FRASER

ready for the current game against Lancashire at Lord's but if he comes through the match against Oxford University next week without adverse reaction he will probably play in the four-day game against Leicestershire which starts on May 19.

"It's encouraging and now it's a question of building up his confidence," said Middlesex coach Don Bennett.

Fraser, who managed only two championship appearances before being ruled out for the final three months of last season, has played in all Middlesex's one-day games so far, bowling well within himself in the Benson and Hedges Cup and Sunday League.

Gooch slams 160 for Essex

LONDON, May 8: England captain Graham Gooch scored 160 to put Essex in a commanding position against Leicestershire on the second day of English county cricket matches Friday, reports AP.

Gooch dominated Essex's opening stand of 238 in 60 overs, reaching his score from 193 balls. It was his 92nd first-class century.

West Indian Winston Benjamin and David Millns were the only Leicestershire bowlers to restrict Gooch's scoring pace.

He eventually fell caught Philip Whitticase off Alan Mullally. Fellow- opener John Stephenson made 91 before Millns had him caught by Justin Benson as Essex easily passed Leicestershire's first inning of 223.

At London's Lord's ground, former England captain Mike Gatting hit his second century in successive championship matches as Middlessex chased Lancashire's 342.

Gatting survived a leg before appeal from England colleague Phil DeFreitas before scoring, but went on to make 103 from 149 balls before DeFreitas ran him out.

West Indian opener Desmond Haynes made an opening partnership of 132 with Gooch before Warren Hegg caught him for 62 off Ian Austin.

Sussex's West Indian all-rounder Franklyn Stephenson rallied the county after it slumped to 128 for seven chasing Somerset's 264.

Stephenson reached his 50 off 88 balls with eight fours to join Tony Pigott in frustrating the Somerest attack.

All games continue Saturday.

An earlier Reuter report said: Indian teenager Sachin Tendulkar confirmed his outstanding potential on Thursday with a whirlwind 86 off 134 balls on his championship debut for Yorkshire.

But Yorkshire were still dismissed for 250 after being put in by Hampshire at Headingley.

After being reduced to 27 for three by Cardigan Connor Yorkshire bounced back with a stand of 139 between Tendulkar, whose innings included 13 fours, and Richard Blakey (72).

In reply, Hampshire lost Paul Terry without scoring as they reached seven for one.

Fast bowler Allan Donald stormed back into championship cricket with an explosive spell at Edgbaston.

The South African took three for eight in seven overs as Derbyshire collapsed to 21 for five in reply to Warwickshire's 235.

Northamptonshire opener Alan Fordham cracked a magnificent 192 against Surrey at Northampton.

The 27-year-old batsman hit two sixes and 28 fours in a 272-ball innings as Northants were all out for 375 at the close.

Cook to lead Transvaal in Lord's festival

LONDON, May 8: Jimmy Cook, leading run scorer in English county cricket last season, is to captain the first South African team to play at

JIMMY COOK

Lord's for more than 25 years, it was announced on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Cook, a shock omission from South Africa's World Cup squad despite scoring more than 2,000 runs in each of his three seasons with Somerset, skippers South African provincial side Transvaal in a special one-day game against an MCC International XI on July 19.

The 55-overs-side match features a host of leading international players.

New Zealand captain Martin Crowe has been invited to lead the MCC team, which will include World Cup-winning Pakistan captain Imran Khan and West Indies captain Richie Richardson, Lancashire and England duo Neil Fairbrother and Phillip DeFreitas and New Zealand batsman Ken Rutherford.

Piquet hurt in Indy

INDIANAPOLIS, May 8 : Nelson Piquet, a three-time Formula One champion but an Indianapolis rookie, was injured when his car slammed head-on into a wall Thursday during practice for the May 24 Indianapolis 500, reports AP.

The Brazilian driving star was taken to Methodist Hospital with what speedway officials described as severed injuries to both feet. He was reported conscious and alert.

Piquet, 39, had been virtually flawless on the 2.5-mile (4-kilometer) track during a winter test session, the three-day rookie orientation and the first five days of official practice.

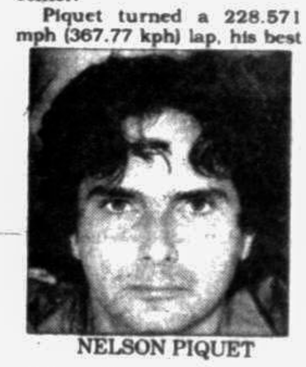
But, the treacherous Indy oval got him Thursday afternoon as he worked his way up to speed moments after his crew made some adjustments to the car on pit lane. Piquet did one lap under 150 mph (241 kph), then turned a lap of 212.304 (341.597) before the crash occurred in turn 4 his next time around.

The 1992 Lola-Euick V6 from Team Menard appeared to be solidly in the racing groove before the rear end suddenly slipped to the left, sending Piquet on a fast looping spin into the outside concrete wall nearly head-on.

A slow-motion videotape replay appeared to show an unidentified metal piece flying from the rear of the car just moments before he entered the turn and lost control.

It took safety crewmen and track medical personnel nearly 10 minutes to remove Piquet from the car and place him on a stretcher for the ambulance ride to the infield medical center.

Piquet turned a 228.571 mph (367.77 kph) lap, his best



NELSON PIQUET

of the week, several hours before the crash.

His was the sixth crash since the track opened for practice.

Ram wins title

BEIJING, May 8 : Limba Ram of India won the men's individual all-round title on Friday at the Beijing Invitational archery tournament, reports AP.

Ram scored a total of 97 points from 12 shots in the 70-meter shoot-out, beating China's Fu Shenjun by 13 points, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Indonesia's Setijawan Hondra edged out China's Duoji Guiyun by five points in the third-place shoot-out.

Karpov feels he can stage comeback

MADRID, May 8: Chess legend Anatoly Karpov may have squandered his best chance to regain the World Championship he lost in 1985, but he insists he will be back, reports Reuter.

Karpov lost to British Grandmaster Nigel Short last week in the semifinal round in Spain, assuring current champion and fellow Russian Garry Kasparov of his first new challenger.

But, brimming with his usual confidence, Karpov insisted his long career at the summit of world chess was not finished.

"I'm not sad. One defeat definitely does not mean the end of my chess career," Karpov told Reuters on his way to France and then a two-week Caribbean holiday with his wife Natasha.

"I paid for my mistakes in the match against Nigel Short — I was too optimistic. I believed I would beat him easily."

Short beat Karpov 6-4 in the 10-game series and will meet Jan Timman of the Netherlands — who beat Russian Artur Yusupov 6-4 — in the finals in Spain next January to see who will face Kasparov.

"It's not important who wins," Karpov said. "Neither of them has a chance against Kasparov."

"I was the only one who could beat him."

All four players said they played scrappy, nervous games. "We all played so badly that none of us would have lasted against Kasparov. Even a Kasparov playing at half-strength," Karpov said.

He will be absent from the World Championship final, to be held in Los Angeles in

ANATOLY KARPOV

1993, for the first time in 17 years.

"I was trying to become world champion again but this defeat definitely does not change my plans," Karpov said. "I hope I can play Kasparov in (the next world title challenge in) 1996."

But Kasparov thinks fresh blood will have ousted Karpov for good by then.

The world champion, who turned 29 last month, recently told Reuters he expected to retain his title easily in 1993, and would be confronted by a younger opponent by 1996. He aims to remain the world's number one until the end of the century.

Two up-and-coming players, Indian Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand and Vasily Ivanchuk of Ukraine, are both 22.

Timman is 41, Karpov 40 and Short 26.

After hearing of Karpov's defeat, Kasparov said he would like to play Short, who became an international master at the age of 14 and a Grandmaster at 18.

Karpov, meanwhile, is keen to display he might be down but he is certainly not out.

After his holidays, he returns to Madrid for another tournament where he hopes to move one step closer to turning his world record score of 92 match and tournament wins into a round hundred.

"I am a fighter," he said. "But now I feel tired — I think I have played more than any other Grandmaster in the last few years."

He remained affable and dignified in defeat.

"I congratulate Short," he said. "He was great talent. I remember the day when he was only six years old and I was playing a simultaneous exhibition in London and he played against me. He was a chess prodigy."

But as for own his future, he added: "It's not the end of anything for me. I've just lost one match. When you're fighting, you have to be aware you might lose."

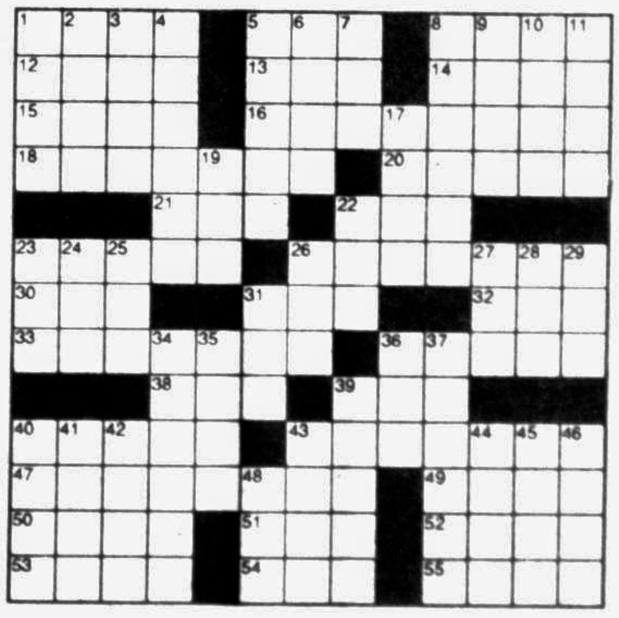
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Boatswain's place
5 Dried's partner
8 Fiddler on the reef?
12 Legendary Swiss hero
13 Harem room
14 — avis
15 Word before code or rug
16 Portable meal
18 Twelve, at dice
20 Baker's need
21 Alfonso's queen
22 Bank abbr.
23 Zodiac sign
26 Good theater location
30 Commotion
31 DDE's rival
32 Even the score
33 Child's flyer
36 Andean creature
38 American humorist
39 Truth, in China
40 Comb. form in chemistry
43 Popular shrub
47 Fast-growing maple
49 Case for small articles
50 Aconite
51 Thus far
52 Garden favorite
53 Iran ruler, once
54 Before
55 Hardens

DOWN
1 Attempt
2 Large sandwich
3 Holm oak
4 Type of mining
5 Hooded snake
6 Japanese vegetables
7 Price add-on
8 Table vessels
9 Frog genus
10 Circle segments
11 Coin of Thailand
17 Keen-sighted wildcat
19 Actress Alicia
22 Hawaiian hawks
23 Large dog, for short
24 Altar promise
25 Spar
26 Apiary denizen?
27 Schedule abbr.
28 Point the rifle
29 Darjeeling
31 Had a bite
34 City in ancient Syria
35 Pedestal occupant?
36 Careless
37 Some Pullman berths
39 Sticky cake
40 Desert garments
41 Household pest
42 Plant of the iris family
43 Lager or bock
44 Indian
45 Eject
46 Coin-minting devices
48 Batik artisan's need

Solution time: 24 mins.

A	T	L	I	■	B	A	H	■	A	S	H	E
S	U	E	T	■	E	N	A	■	S	T	O	A
S	R	A	S	■	H	A	L	F	P	I	N	T
E	F	F	E	T	E	■	S	P	I	L	E	S
■	■	■	L	O	M	A	■	A	R	E	■	■
H	A	L	F	T	O	N	E	■	E	T	T	A
U	L	A	■	S	T	E	N	O	■	T	I	N
T	E	N	T	■	H	A	L	F	M	O	O	N
■	■	■	C	O	R	■	R	I	F	E	■	■
P	R	E	F	E	R	■	S	A	M	P	L	E
H	A	L	F	M	A	S	T	■	O	L	E	A
O	T	O	E	■	V	I	E	■	R	E	A	R
T	E	T	E	■	E	N	D	■	Y	A	R	N



CRYPTOQUIP

B V I X E P G M X X M B M B I M X D G N D R N X D P L X M A N P L F X A. G M X M F J J V U E P F L G F X U M E T P E R N P.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: B equals M

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.