

Ambrose amerces Aussies again

PERTH, Jan 30: Curtly Ambrose took seven wickets in 32 balls for just one run to blast out Australia for 119 on Saturday and virtually end any hopes of winning their first Test series against West Indies for 17 years, reports Reuters.

In an astonishing piece of Test cricket action, the giant paceman cut through the Australian first innings like a power-saw through soft timber.

Then the West Indies batsmen completed the demolition job by reaching 135 for one at the close of the first day of the fifth and final test.

Australia, turning to youth to try to win a series poised at 1-1, crumbled after choosing to bat on a rockhard pitch producing good bounce and movement.

In a memorable spell of fast swing-bowling Ambrose captured Mark Waugh (9), Damien Martyn (13), captain Allan Border (0), David Boon (4-4), Ian Healy (0), Merv Hughes (0), and Jo Angel (0) in the space of five overs for one run.

He had failed to take a wicket in his first 11 overs, bowled at a cost of 22 runs. But his second spell blitz reduced Australia from 85 for three to 104 for nine and gave Ambrose 31 wickets in the West Indies in 1984.

Ambrose also became the highest West Indies wicket taker in a series in Australia. He finished with figures of seven for 25 of 18 overs.

The 29-year-old Antiguan's best haul in Test cricket is eight for 45 in Bridgetown against England in 1989-90.

All but one of Australia's wickets fell to catches, with wicketkeeper Junior Murray taking five of them.

Only Boon, who struck nine boundaries in two and a half hours for 44, showed any resistance and top-scored before edging to captain Richie Richardson in the slips.

Pace man Ian Bishop took Australia's first two wickets, opener Justin Langer (10) and Steve Waugh (13) to reduce

them to 50 for two. It was a disastrous day for Border, who still needs 50 runs to become the highest Test run maker and pass Indian Sunil Gavaskar's total of 10,122.

The decision to bat on a Perth wicket primed for pace and where the West Indies have never lost a Test against Australia was a controversial one.

Australia's new young hope.



C. AMBROSE ... 7 for 25

fuls, all in their early 20s. Martyn, Langer and paceman Angel, all failed.

Angel was a particular disaster, being hit for two sixes by Richardson and conceding 43 runs off seven overs.

Richardson made 47 off 40 balls before being caught on the boundary by Langer. At the close Phil Simmons was on 45 and Brian Lara 16.

Desmond Haynes, hit on his helmet grill when trying to sweep Angel, retired hurt on 21 with a cut above an eye but

will be fit to resume his innings on Sunday.

Ambrose's second spell was described by his captain Richardson as "The best spell of fast bowling I have ever seen."

"I now feel confident we can win the series," he said.

Ambrose, who said he struggled to find the right line and length in his first spell, modestly suggested he had been lucky. "I just kept going hoping it would come good, and it did. Lets say I got lucky."

"I was hoping to get six wickets to get 30. You're lucky to get 30 wickets in a season these days. Well, I've got past that," he added.

Ambrose said he was unaware he had taken seven wickets for one run until the players told him.

"At the end of the day winning Test matches is all that is important to me," he said.

Ambrose said he felt he had bowled better in a couple of occasions, citing Lahore in 1990/91, when he took five wickets for 35 runs against Pakistan.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day on the fifth and final cricket Test between Australia and the West Indies today:

AUSTRALIA: First Innings				
D Boon c Richardson				
b Ambrose	44			
J Langer c Murray b Bishop	10			
S Waugh c Murray b Bishop	13			
M Waugh c Murray				
b Ambrose	9			
D Martyn c Simmons				
b Ambrose	13			
A Border c Murray				
b Ambrose	0			
I Healy c Lara b Ambrose	0			
M Hughes c Arthurs	0			
b Ambrose	0			
J Angel c Murray	0			
b Ambrose	0			
S Warne run out	13			
C McDermott not out	2			
Extras: (8 lb, 1 w, 5 nb)	15			
Total:	119			
Fall of wickets:	1-27, 2-58, 3-85, 4-90, 5-90, 6-100, 7-102, 8-104, 9-104			
Bowling:				
Ambrose	18	9	25	7
Bishop	11	6	17	2
Walsh	11	2	45	0
Cummins	7	0	24	0

Seles treble off gallant Graf



MELBOURNE, Jan 30: Monica Seles clinched a hat-trick of Australian Open women's singles titles at Flinders Park today but only after being forced deep into uncharted territory by a gallant Steffi Graf, reports Reuters.

World number-one Seles won a gripping contest 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 in one hour 50 minutes to retain the trophy she won in 1991 and 1992 and set a new personal record.

It was the first time in 10

matches between the two top players that one had fought back to win having lost the first set and, in terms of quality under pressure, must rank as one of the American-based Yugoslav's most satisfying wins.

Graf hit the ball sweetly for a set and half before Seles extra power began to assert itself in front of an absorbed Centre-Court crowd.

The German second seed, champion herself in 1988,

Grand Slam title in less than three years and the 31st tournament singles crown of her short career — sometimes obscures her ability to come through triumphant from the tightest situations.

The classic 1992 French Open final, where Graf was beaten 10-8 in a palpitating final set on the red clay of Roland Garros, was an obvious example and this latest success was definitely another.

were being exchanged all around the stadium.

The poised Graf was moving beautifully, resembling a sleek greyhound on the baseline while the terrier-like Seles struggled to make her usual impressing in the close-quarters scrap.

It eventually took a double fault on break point by Graf, following a spectacular running forehand across court by her opponent, to thrust Seles in front for the first time at 2-1 in the second set.

She responded by serving as fast as at any time in the match, registering 160 kph (105 MPH) on the courtside speedometer, and then denied Graf a chance to recover by saving a break point at 4-3 and 30-40.

With one hour 16 minutes on the clock, the match entered a do-or-die final set, this time with Seles marginally in the driving seat.

Both women were still striking the ball with crunching power, but the sixth game was to prove fatal for Graf.

A rocket-propelled return from Seles seemed slightly to unsettle the world number two early on, but she recovered well to save two break points, one with a crisp volley which with hindsight should have been a more regular tactic.

Seles, though, forced a third break point and received a bonus when Graf, following in behind a good, deep serve, narrowly missed a forehand to the crozier.

It was a critical miss and, after a ripping ace on break point against her in the next game, Seles wrapped up victory on her second match point to remove any lingering memories of her 6-2, 6-1 defeat to the 23-year-old German at Wimbledon last year.

Seles appeared later in a tracksuit, a departure from previous years when she has often donned full evening dresses, on her way to the airport where a flight to Florida was booked within three hours of her match ending.

"I might have played the key points better in the last two sets," she said.

"In the third set I knew whoever got the break it was going to be important. When I got it I wanted to hand on to it.

"It was a very close match all the way ... I just told myself to concentrate and try to win point by point. You can't think further than point by point when you play Steffi.

"This is the most satisfying of my three titles. When number one and number two are in the final, it's different feeling."



Monica Seles of Yugoslavia holds aloft her third consecutive Australian Open crown after defeating Germany's Steffi Graf 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 in Melbourne yesterday.

1989 and 1990, remained in contention until deep into the third set when her serve was broken to give Seles a 4-2 lead and a clear view of the winners' enclosure.

A typical two-handed return sealed the result, earning Seles the winner's cheque of US \$280,000, dollar.

Graf's consolation prize was a mere US \$140,000 dollar but she again discovered that Seles is nothing if not a gritty champion.

The litany of statistics — it was the 19-year-old's eighth

"She plays every point as hard as she can ... you never get any easy points or easy games," said a downcast Graf.

"There were times in the second set when I wasn't aggressive enough, especially on her serve. She played better in the middle of the second set and didn't let up in the third."

Seles, looking taut and unrelaxed in the first set on a breezy afternoon, was soon 3-1 down and when she netted on break point in the 10th game to drop the first set 6-4 after 39 minutes, meaningful looks

Graf just can't accept it



MELBOURNE, Jan 30: Steffi Graf was locked into fierce self-analysis today after losing her absorbing three-set duel with world number one Monica Seles in the final of the Australian Open, reports Reuters.

Intense disappointment was etched all over the 23-year-old German's face as she struggled to accept a 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 scoreline which failed to reflect how close she came to upsetting the existing order of women's tennis.

Sparing herself no sympathy, she insisted she had let the match slip. "Most definitely," she said. "I'm not very happy about how I played.

There were times in the second set when I felt I wasn't aggressive enough and especially on her serve. I just let up in that second set."

Graf felt her opponent had hit harder against her in the past, but played with more control.

"She has always been difficult but she probably doesn't make that many mistakes any more, especially on her returns. I certainly don't think it's a case that deep down she wants to win more than me."

Graf acknowledged she still had chances to win in the third set, notably when she wasted game point on her own serve for 3-3 and then failed to convert a break point in the next game when Seles ripped

in ace past her racket. "I will probably look for a different game plan," conceded Graf.

With plenty of times to prepare for the French Open in May, the Wimbledon grass again looks her biggest hurdle en-route to a feat the 19-year-old still believes to be well-nigh impossible because of the pressures on modern players.

"I don't think about it too much. I take each match at a time and I don't look too far ahead," she said.

Her next tournament is the Virginia Slims tournament in Chicago the week after next, merely the latest stop in the busy life of a teenage tennis queen.

Sampras puts his money on Courier



MELBOURNE, Jan 30: Jim Courier will retain his Australian Open men's singles title at Stefan Edberg's expense on Sunday, according to the man who wants his world number one spot, reports Reuters.

Despite being beaten in straight sets by Edberg in the semifinals, fellow American Pete Sampras is still convinced his friend and Davis Cup colleague will repeat the success he enjoyed in last year's final.

"I think Courier is going to win and that's not because he is my golf partner," said Lendl advised to wear glasses

MELBOURNE, Jan 30: An Australian eye specialist has told tennis star Ivan Lendl he should start wearing glasses or contact lenses after diagnosing astigmatism. Australian newspapers reported today, reports Reuters.

Lendl, 32, who has slipped to number eight in the world from his top berth at the end of 1989, has complained about not being able to judge the ball properly.

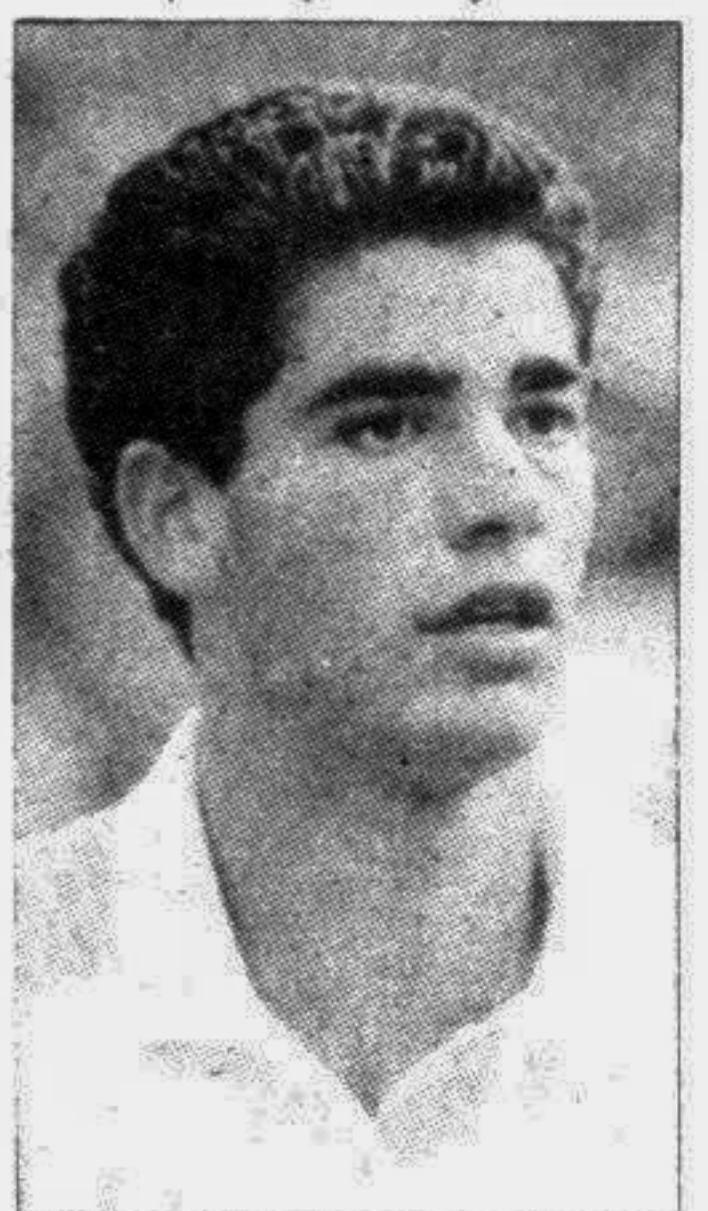
"I got prescription glasses, and tried to get used to them on court," the Melbourne Daily, the Herald-Sun, quoted him as saying.

Lendl, who was knocked out in the first round of the Australian Open last week by Sweden's Christian Bergstrom, said he would have his eyes retested and might get contact lenses when he goes home to the United States.

"I've known for a while there's a problem but I never got round to it," Lendl said.

Sampras, the world-ranked number three who lives 20 minutes drive away from Courier in Florida.

"Stefan is playing pretty well, but I think Jim is returning a bit better. Jim likes returning his serve and I think Jim is physically feeling better. I would put my money on him



PETE SAMPRAS

right now."

Courier could scarcely be more confident. He has not dropped a set in the entire tournament, is totally injury-free and had the satisfaction of topping US \$5 million dollar in career prize money when he reached the last four at Flinders Park.

The 22-year-old is chasing his fourth Grand Slam title in 20 months and has lost only one final, albeit to Edberg in the 1991 US Open.

"It's going to be a bit of a contrast in styles which is go-

ing to be good," said Courier.

"You're getting the top players going at each other in a big situation. It should be appealing to all tennis fans."

Edberg, five years his opponent's senior, can boast a big match temperament unrivalled by almost any other player.

The Swede has six Grand Slam titles to his credit, including two previous Australian Open titles, and insists his injured back will take the inevitable strain against the hard-hitting Courier.

"It has actually felt pretty good the last couple of days. I have no pain and I feel pretty much normal now. I still wear a support just in case, but that's a little bit of a mental thing."

Edberg can also point to history which suggests that the second seed has beaten the number one three times out of four in finals between the two in the Open era. There is an added incentive for the winner following the announcement of a restructuring of prize money at the year-ending Grand Slam Cup.

The winners of each of the four Grand Slam tournaments this year will pick up US \$250,000 dollar plus 100,000 dollar as first round losers, if they simply show up in Munich in December.

Of more immediate concern to photographers is where to go after match point. Two years ago Boris Becker went for a run in a nearby park claiming he wanted to be alone, while 12 months ago Courier celebrated by jumping into the adjoining Yarra River.

Asked about a possible repeat, the American memorably replied: "We'll cross that bridge when we come to it."



Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain (R) and Australian Todd Woodbridge smile as they pose with the mixed-doubles trophy after defeating Rick Leach and Zina Garrison of the United States 7-5 in the final at the Australian Open in Melbourne yesterday.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN NOTEBOOK

MELBOURNE, Jan 30: The Grand Slam committee announced at the Australian Open a new format for prize money at the 1993 Grand Slam Cup, reports AP.

A \$2,500,000 reward will be to male titlists for each Grand Slam event during the year if they compete at the Grand Slam Cup at the Munich Olympic Hall, December 7-12, 1993.

The \$6 million in prize money for the Grand Slam Cup will be restructured to accommodate the new award. The on-site prize money will now total \$5 million with the champion earning \$1.5 million. Previous winners have earned \$2 million.

If a champion of any of the four Grand Slams chooses not to play the Grand Slam Cup, an event sanctioned by the International Tennis Federation, their \$250,000 will be put back into the prize money.

The 1992 Grand Slam Cup was won by German Michael Stich.

TENNIS Australia's president, Geoff Pollard, held a press conference to express his concern about the fairness of the ranking point system employed by the men's ATP Tour.

Pollard, who indicated that officials from the four Grand Slam events will be contacting the ATP Tour about this matter, feel the point scale heavily favors ATP events and not the Grand Slams.

"The reality is the situation should be reversed," Pollard said. "The status of the Grand Slams continue to grow with players, the media and the tennis public."

As an example, a \$125,000 increase in prize money adds 10 points to the winner's total in the highest category of ATP Tour events. At a Grand Slam event, it takes an increase of \$2,500,000 in prize money to earn 10 extra points for the winner.

A titlist at a one-week ATP event can earn more computer points than a player who reaches the semifinal round of a two-week Grand Slam.

The Australian Open offers less prize money than the other three Grand Slams and is penalized in the point system.

"It is also inappropriate to discriminate between the Grand Slams on the basis of prize money alone," Pollard said. "We would strongly recommend ... that the four Grand Slams be treated equally and awarded double the computer points of other tournaments."

THIS year's Australian Open finals represent the first time that both the men's and women's field were represented by the top two seeds since moving to the Flinders Park facility in 1988.

The last time both the men's and women's finals at the Australian featured the top two seeds in the same year was 1982.

This scenario has not happened at the French Open since 1984, Wimbledon since 1982 and the US Open since 1989.

A quick look at how the men's finalists—No 1 Jim Courier and No 2 Stefan Edberg—compare after six rounds:

The two have played seven times before with Edberg holding a 4-3 edge. Courier won their last meeting—a four-set victory in last year's final here.

In this Open, Courier hasn't lost a set, but dropped 57 games. His total match time on court is 12 hours, 11 minutes—an average of 41 minutes per set.

Edberg has lost one set and 62 games. His total match time on court is 11 hours, 40 minutes—an average of 37 minutes per set.

Courier has held serve 76 of 85 service games. He won 223 of 289 first service points and 127 of 201 second service points. He served 37 aces and 16 double faults. He saved 19 of 28 break points he faced.

Courier broke serve 34 of 82 service return games. He had 75 opportunities to break serve. He racked up 202 winners and 135 unforced errors. He won 148 of 192 points at the net.

Edberg has held serve 78 of 87 service games. He won 271 of 356 first service points and 105 of 186 second service points. He served 12 aces and 16 double faults. He saved 25 of 34 break points he faced.

Edberg broke serve 31 of 84 service return games. He had 64 opportunities to break serve. He racked up 196 winners and 132 unforced errors. He won 364 of 561 points at the net.

It's in the air but ...

SANTA MONICA, California, Jan 30: The talk is serious but there's no agreement yet on a proposed athletics super challenge involving Carl Lewis and archrivals Mike Powell and Linford Christie, reports Reuters.

"Nothing has been signed," David Greifinger, general counsel for Lewis' Santa Monica Track Club, said on Friday after what he called "serious" discussions with US cable television company HBO.

HBO wants to match Lewis, the world 100 metres record holder, against Barcelona winner Christie of Britain on the track, then pair eight-times Olympic champion Lewis against world long jump record holder Powell in a made-for-television one-day extravaganza.

Sites in the United States and China, which has offered more than 2 million dollar to host the challenge, are being considered with a date in late May or early June yet to be picked.

Senior leads

PERTH, Jan 30: Australian Peter Senior resisted a strong challenge from Scottish Open champion Peter O'Malley on Saturday to hold a three-stroke lead in the \$200,000 Vines Classic golf tournament, reports AP.

Four birdies on the back nine kept Senior at the top of the leaderboard for the third consecutive day.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Almost a majority

5 1991 Marsha Mason sitcom

9 Mandible

12 California town

13 He played Gilligan's skipper

14 Mimic

15 Make

16 Enthusiastic

17 Barbie's beau

18 Schlepp

19 Promise

20 College bookstore buy

21 Scratch (out)

23 "That tastes awful"

25 Customer

28 Cut back

32 Unicellular organism

33 Chihuahua chum

34 Dubuc of "Major Dad"

36 Type-

writer need

37 Grow

38 Heidi's height

39 Hoosergow

42 Chick's mom

44 Plies the paddles

48 Coffee maker

49 Tire-changing need

50 Thought

51 Actor

52 Hand-lotion add-in

53 "Cheers" regular

54 Band-

leader Kyser

55 Flex

56 Kilmer's inspiration

DOWN

1 Tackled the weeds

2 Admitting a draft

3 Zhivago's love

4 Dinner-table cleaning aid

5 Un-bearded

6 Shake-spearan baddie

7 Enlarge

8 Part: abbr.

9 Fatman's partner

10 Top

11 Took off

20 Evidential mark of a sort

22 Aussie marsupial

24 Galahad's goal

25 0-star review

26 "— Blue?"

27 Sleuth, for short

29 Pen point

30 "I" strain?

31 Adams or Johnson

35 Breathe out

36 In the standings

39 Top-drawer contents

40 Neighbor-hood

41 Race place

43 Keynes' field: abbr.

45 Stench

46 "The Way We —"

47 Unaltered

49 Tyson tactic

Solution time: 27 mins.

POS ACHE ORDO
AFT SOUR COOP
STOCKING TOMEN
CHEF WOMEN
INKED WRAP
MITT CHARISMA
PLO CHIRP TOW
SENORITA BORE
SQUAB DIRK
AUNT STOCKADE
GATE RACK RAW
ADDS OBEY DYE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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15				16					17		
18				19			20				
			21	22		23	24				
25	26	27				28		29	30	31	
32							33				
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39	40	41		42	43			44	45	46	47
48				49				50			
51				52				53			
54				55				56			

CRYPTOQUIP

EC ATEBML DTV TVWZG

DXF XZ DTV BTAZ

CML DMLW XZ XZOOZG

TUG XTDZG

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE RAGS-TO-RICHES SHOE DESIGNER CAN BE CALLED WELL-HEELED.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals W

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.