



HOLDING IT FOR DEAR LIFE: Wooreri Raman, the substitute fielder stationed at silly point, gobbles up skipper Alec Stewart for 74 off slow left armer Venkatapathy Raju in England's first innings on the third day of the second cricket Test match between England and India. England, replying to India's mammoth 560 for six declared, were on 221 for seven when stumps were drawn. — AFP photo

England again on the rack

MADRAS, Feb 13: England are starting at a second successive Test defeat by India — and with it the series — after a disastrous afternoon on the third day of the second Test on Saturday, reports Reuter.

From the comfortable bulwark of 157 for one they lost six wickets for 64 runs in 39 overs to leave them 221 for seven at the close.

With a follow-on target of 361 required, after India's 560 for six declared, England are almost certain to have to follow on for the third successive Test against India.

Only Neil Fairbrother of the recognised batsmen is left, on a Test best 38 not out.

Venkat, Raju, the left-arm spinner, was the architect of England's demise, taking three for one in 25 balls after off-spinner Rajesh Chauhan had made the crucial breakthrough. He had Graeme Hick leg before for 64, his best Test score, ending a vibrant partnership of 117 with captain Alec Stewart that looked like carrying England to safety.

Stewart then retreated into his shell, scoring just nine more runs in 19 overs before being caught off the glove at silly point for 74.

England's batting began to crumble like the wicket, debutant Richard Blakey and Chris Lewis failing to score and key batsman Mike Gatting falling for two.

Gatting was brilliantly run out by Praveen Amre at short leg as buoyant India exerted a vice on England's fragile middle-order and squeezed the hope out of them.

With two days to go India are poised to take a two-nil series lead and England, beaten by Pakistan at the end of their last home season, appear to be heading for their third successive Test loss for the first time since 1988.

England, 19 for no wicket

overnight, progressed cautiously with 23 runs coming off 15 overs in the first hour.

Apart from four early overs from Kapil Dev, India used spin throughout with Azharuddin rotating his bowlers constantly until Chauhan and Raju clicked into gear in the final session.

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble broke the opening stand at 46. He trapped the uneasy Robin Smith (17) leg before to a ball seven at the close.



GRAEME HICK...64

that might have missed leg stump. Hick and Stewart then produced England's brightest cricket. Mixing pad-play with boundaries they took charge and made batting look simple.

Hick, playing his 13th Test, passed his previous best score of 51 with the 10th four of an innings that far outstripped his 19 previous efforts.

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But as the game passed the halfway mark, the balance tipped again to India. Hick was leg before — the ball was high but he was well back — and Gatting perished soon after.

With Fairbrother's lone resistance finally supported by Ian Salisbury England's tally sneaked past the 207 Gatting made here by himself in the 1984-85 tour.

But in the penultimate over Salisbury (4) became umpire Raju Rathore's third and unluckiest victim when given leg before to a Kumble delivery that appeared to be going well over the stumps.

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English press dubs Indians cheats

MADRAS, Feb 13: India's ace all-rounder Kapil Dev was Saturday awaiting copies of some British tabloids which accused the home team of cheating in the second Test against England being played here, reports AFP.

"I have heard that a few papers in England have called us cheats. It is a serious accusation but I want to read the reports first before commenting on them," Kapil told AFP after the third day's play Saturday.

London tabloids like Today and Daily Mirror reported Saturday that Indian batsmen had cheated by damaging the wicket when running singles during the second day's play Friday.

The newspapers added that the umpires had spoken to the Indian players about running on the wicket.

The 34-year-old Kapil was one of the four players mentioned in the reports — the others being Sachin Tendulkar, Praveen Amre and Kiran More — but the veteran all-rounder insists he was not spoken to by the umpires.

"The umpires never spoke to me about it," said Kapil, a statement later verified by umpire V K Ramaswamy.

"Yes we spoke to a few Indian players about running in the wicket, but Kapil was not one of them," Ramaswamy said.

Anyway, it was not a warning to the players as it is being made out, he said.

Match referee Cammie Smith of the West Indies said the umpires had not reported the matter to him.

"These things often happen in cricket, but the issue is closed as far as I am concerned," Smith said.

"There would be reason to take action if the batsmen continued to run on the wicket. Which obviously they did not. Otherwise the umpires would have reported it to me."

Jordan suspended for one match

NEW YORK, Feb 13: Chicago Bull superstar Michael Jordan was suspended by the National Basketball Association for Friday's game against the New York Knicks and fined 10,000 dollars for a fight on Wednesday night, reports AFP.

Jordan was not penalised immediately after the brawl with Reggie Miller of the Indiana Pacers, though Miller was ejected from the game.

At the time, the referees said they saw Miller hit Jordan with a forearm, but did not see Jordan hit Miller.

After reviewing videotape of the incident, NBA officials suspended and fined Jordan for being the aggressor and for punching Miller.

Miller was fined 6,000 dollars, but was not suspended since he had already been thrown out of Wednesday's game.

Jordan's suspension without pay will cost him 48,480 dollars for Friday's game.

He was also fined 5,000 dollars for criticising referees after Chicago's loss to Atlanta on December 8.

"It is a league rule that when a player throws a punch, he has to be suspended, and Michael Jordan broke a league rule," said Jerry Krause, vice president of basketball operations for the Bulls.

Car crash takes Kostina away

MOSCOW, Feb 13: Russian Oksana Kostina, who won five gold medals at the 1992 World Rhythmic Gymnastic Championships, has died after a car crash, ITAR-Tass news agency said on Friday, reports Reuter.

Kostina, dropped from the CIS squad for the Barcelona Olympics after infighting among republican sports chiefs, died on the operation table late on Thursday after the car she was in hit a truck head-on at high speed.

Tass said the driver of the car, Barcelona modern pentathlon bronze medalist Eduard Zenovka, 24, was seriously injured.

Navratilova outguns Garrison

CHICAGO, Feb 13: Second-seed and defending champion Martina Navratilova defeated Zina Garrison-Jackson for the 32nd time in 33 meetings, 6-2, 6-1 on Friday to reach the semifinals of the 375,000 dollar Virginia Slims of Chicago, reports Reuter.

Navratilova, 36, ranked third in the world, will face fourth-seed Katerina Maleeva in today's semifinals. Maleeva edged Pam Shriver 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

In Friday's other quarterfinal, third seed Mary Joe Fernandez survived a tough match with Iva Majoli of Croatia, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2. Fernandez, 21, ranked seventh, will play the top-seed and top-ranked player, Monica Seles, in the other semifinal.

"With me, she knows that if she doesn't come in (to the net), I will," said Navratilova, whose only loss to Garrison-Jackson was in the quarterfinals of the 1988 US Open.

"She plays the kind of game I play. I just play it a little better."

Navratilova, victorious on Sunday in Japan, allowed only three points off her serve in the first set. The key game was the sixth when Navratilova won on the third break point when Garrison-Jackson's passing shot was long.

Navratilova is vying for her 13th Chicago Slims title, and 163rd singles championship of her career. She won the Chicago event last year with a three-set win over Jana Novotna.

In the other quarterfinal, Shriver who has complained of a viral infection and a strained muscle in her leg, called the trainer to the court after the first game of the third set to examine Shriver's right shoulder.

Shriver stayed in the match, and in the second game, served up two aces at 94 and 95 mph.

But after the fifth game of the third set, trailing 4-1, she knocked over the table behind the chair umpire and was issued a warning for unsportsmanlike conduct.

"I was frustrated about everything," Shriver said. "When you're up a set and two breaks against someone who is 14th in the world, when you get to a semifinals indoors on my best surface, I've got to close the match out."

"I wasn't feeling great," she said. "The fact that I wasn't strong enough in my head or my body to close it out, I was extremely annoyed."

"Those are the things I need to do," she said. "To get back into the top 20 and heading toward top 10."

It was only the third time in 10 meetings that Maleeva has beaten Shriver. Five of their matches have gone to three sets.

Novotna races to Asian Open semis

AMAGASKI, Japan, Feb 13: Jana Novotna raced to a straight forward win over Wang Shi-Ting here Friday to set up a semi-final meeting with Pascale Paradis-Mangon at the 150,000-dollar Asian Open women's tennis tournament, reports AFP.

The top favourite from the Czech republic, seeking her first singles victory since winning at Oklahoma in February 1991, kept an upperhand over Taiwan's number one player showing serve-and-volley game to score a 6-3, 6-1 win.

Today, she will play the seventh-seeded French woman, who overpowered Misumi Miyauchi of Japan 6-1, 6-4.

Kimiko Date of Japan, whose ranking plummeted to 33rd in the world this week, kept local hopes alive when she pulled off a mild upset to beat Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-7 (1/7), 7-6 (7/2), 6-2.

The Japan Open titleholder's semi-final opponent is eighth-seeded Laura Gildemeister, runner-up last year, who needed three sets to beat Elizabeth Smylie of Australia 4-6, 6-1, 6-4.

The Maleeva sisters, losers in the singles competition, made a berth in the doubles semi-finals when Manuella and Magdalena edged past the second-seeded Australian pair of Smylie and Rennae Stubbs 6-2, 6-7 (6-8), 6-1.

They will take on Jill Hetherington of Canada and Kathy Rinaldi of the United States, 6-3, 6-3 winners over Rika Hiraki and Nana Miyagi of Japan.

Watts still ahead at Kent Open

HONG KONG, Feb 13: American Brian Watts shot a 3-under-par 66 Saturday to maintain his lead after the third round of the US darts 250,000 Kent Hong Kong Open, reports AP.

Watts, from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, ended the third day's play with a total of 13-under-par 200, three strokes ahead of Canadian Ray Stewart.

The 26-year-old Watts, who had a four-stroke lead overnight, birdied the fourth, seventh and ninth holes but bogeyed the third and eighth on the front nine at the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club.

He birdied the 12th but said there are lots of holes left and a lot of things could happen.

Stewart, from Abbotsford, British Columbia fired a four-under-par 67 for a three-round 10-under-par 203.

One stroke behind was American Mark Aebli, the 1985 Hong Kong Open winner, who carded a 66 on Saturday.

Jacobsen takes WBO title

RANDERS, Denmark, Feb 13: Challenger Gert Bo Jacobsen of Denmark took the World Boxing Organisation welterweight title on Friday by defeating American Manning Galloway on points, reports Reuter.

It was the third title fight between the two, Jacobsen retired with an eye injury in the first bout in February 1991 and the second last November was declared "no contest" after a clash of heads in the first round left Jacobsen bleeding profusely from a head wound.

Agassi falls, Courier wobbles

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb 13: Tod Martin upset third-seeded Andre Agassi, while top-seeded Jim Courier saved a match point for the second straight day before advancing Friday at the Kroger-St Jude International tennis tournament, reports AP.

Martin beat Agassi 6-1, 7-6 (7-4) and Courier downed Jonathan Stark 6-7 (5-7), 6-3, 7-5 in the quarterfinals.

In another quarterfinal second-seeded Michael Chang easily beat No. 9 Andre Chesnokov 6-4, 6-0.

Martin took control in the tiebreaker against Agassi; going ahead 5-4 on a passing shot and adding two quick points for the match.

Stark led 5-4 in the final set against Courier and had a match point at 40-30, but Courier broke his serve when Stark hit a passing shot long. Courier then held serve and put away Stark with an ace.

"I just missed a few close balls there," Stark said. "I guess that's why he's No. 1. He found a way to win."

Courier was pleased with his comeback in the final set. "This time last year, I was being up match point and losing matches, so it's a good feeling," he said.

Winning the Australian Open the last week of January left him with little time to prepare for this week's tournament, Courier said.

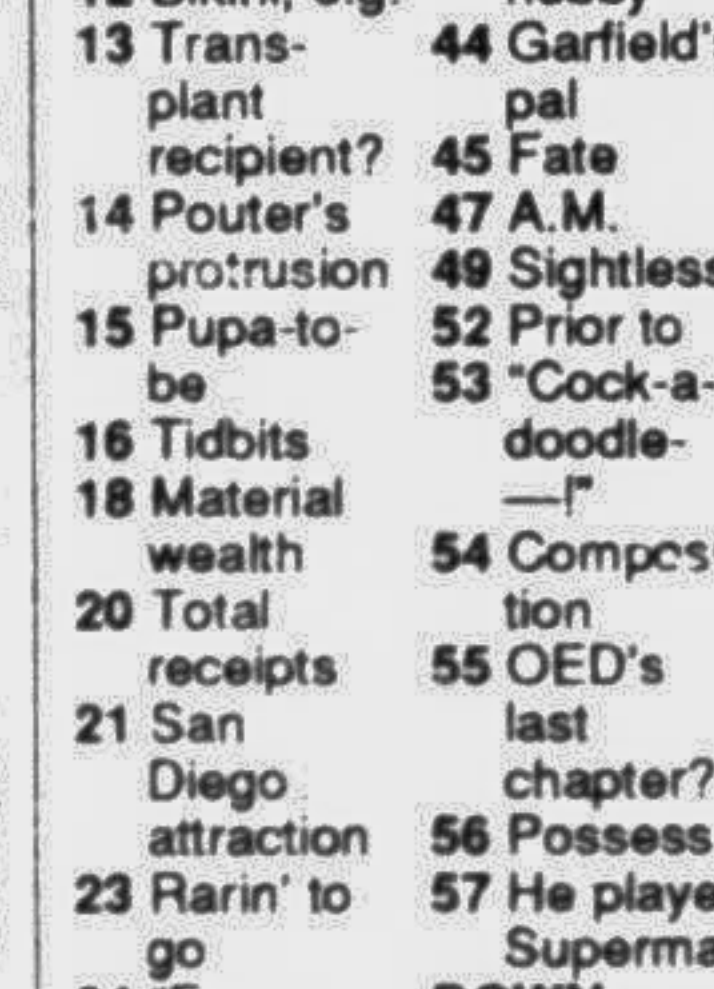
"I'm quite willing to trade the win in Australia for not being prepared here," he said.

Courier faced match point against Brett Steven in the third round Thursday.

"There's certainly no question that everyone has to be on his toes from the 'get-go,'" Courier said. "There is no free lunch out there."

Courier will meet No. 6 seed Amos Mansdorf in the semifinals Saturday. Mansdorf routed Dave Randall 6-2, 6-2.

Stark kept pace with Courier in the 2-hour, 40-minute match by rushing the net and forcing him into mistakes.



Gert Bo Jacobsen of Denmark (R) duels with American Manning Galloway in the World Boxing Association (WBO) welterweight title bout in Randers, Denmark on February 12. Jacobsen dethroned Galloway when he won by a unanimous points decision. — AFP photo

Home cooking palliates peppered English palate

MADRAS, Feb 13: When England's cricketers returned to the team dressing room during the second Test against India on Friday they could have been forgiven for believing the sun had affected their senses, reports Reuter.

For not only were they assailed by the smell of home cooking — a welcome aroma after two months in the alien environment of India — but they were greeted by the sight of their manager, chaplain and physiotherapist playing chef.

After cleaning all the pots and pans in boiling water, the trio — manager Bob Bennett, chaplain Andrew Wingfield-Digby, who is on a brief visit, and physio Dave Roberts — cooked a lunch of baked beans, corned beef, ham, tuna, vegetable soup, chicken pate, boiled rice, tea and coffee.

All except the rice had been brought out from England by recently arrived team officials and relatives.

The management claim the impromptu cookery session is unrelated to the outbreak of food poisoning that preceded the Test, robbing the team of captain Graham Gooch and leaving two senior batsmen indisposed.

The problem is that the team hotel in Madras is too far from the Chepauk ground. On the first day the team had food cooked locally. But it had been cooked, allowed to cool, then partly reheated — a process considered risky in any country.

Instead, the players ate corned beef and nan bread sandwiches which was not considered adequate to sustain them when fielding all day under a hot sun.

The solution was to cook their own food and, so far, it has gone down well, with one player saying "they were excellent cooks, it was all tinned stuff but far better than anything available at the ground."

Many a legend has been told about tummy troubles for Englishmen — and Australians, New Zealanders and West Indians — touring the sub-continent, but until their arrival in this east Indian coastal city this team had coped better than most with only minor upset.

The problems are not confined to western teams — Asian sides have had problems adjusting to western food and Sri Lanka players once suffered food poisoning after eating seafood in the renowned English fishing port of Ormsby.

the tour by a doctor at the hospital of tropical diseases in London specifically advised against eating shellfish or Chinese food. Gooch, fellow sufferer Mike Gatting and others ate prawns in a Chinese restaurant.

The tour management argue that, short of eating Indian food every night for three months, players are bound to eat in Chinese restaurants which, at the hotels where the team stay, appear to be of high quality despite the apparent absence of Chinese chefs.

At each hotel Roberts checks the kitchens, and Bennett said: "We have been sensible about food throughout the tour."

While there may be some grounds for criticising the players for eating prawns on Wednesday — and the management for not forbidding it — the decision not to bring a doctor on tour, also criticised, was probably correct.

At every turn, local doctors have proved excellent and, as Bennett points out, an Indian doctor is far more likely to diagnose correctly problems associated with local conditions than an English one.

On the food front the irony is that many an English cricketer spends the domestic season eating in Indian restaurants all round the country circuit and the current touring players will no doubt be doing so again in the forthcoming season.

Norman richer for \$ 3,400

GOLD COAST, Australia, Feb 13: Greg Norman collected dms 3,400 US on the first hole and was the only winner Saturday, opening day of the two-day Australian Skins golf tournament at Sanctuary Cove, reports AP.

The next eight holes all were halved and Norman, fellow Australian Ian Baker-Finch and Craig Parry and US PGA champion Nick Price will return Sunday with dms 89,600 US still up for grabs.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Cougars 6 "Bravol!" 9 Lingerie purchase 12 Bikini, e.g. 13 Trans-plant recipient? 14 Pouter's protrusion 15 Pupa-to-be 16 Tidbits 18 Material wealth 20 Total receipts 21 San Diego attraction 23 Rarin' to go 24 "For — sake!" 25 Hostels 27 Jittery 29 Little brothers do it 31 J.R. Ewing, e.g. 35 Acknowledged the alarm 37 Luke Skywalker's teacher 38 Third Greek letter 41 Lead-in to king or carte 43 Laura Petrie's hubby 44 Garfield's pal 45 Fate 47 A.M. 48 Sightless water 52 Prior to 53 "Cock-a-doodle—" 54 Composition 55 OED's last chapter? 56 Possess 57 He played Superman 58 Friend 59 Actress 62 — liner (witty remark) 64 Omega's precursor 26 Flower part 28 Christmas songs 30 Potential 27th Amdt. 32 Tenon's mate 33 Botheration 34 Apprehend 36 Ho Chi Minh City 38 Raul Julia role 39 Worship 40 Stuck in the mud 42 Traffic light shade 45 Have more than a hunch 46 Otherwise 48 Wedding words 50 Re warships: abbr. 51 It gets to the roots of the problem

CRYPTOQUIP
J N A Y I F A G N J I V W L N O T M O
F I L Y O T M E Z F H H J M M D P
Z M J D M O : " F I N I V W .
H Z M J J , P Y V ' O M L F O M E . "
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MASTER SHINGLE MAKER WAS KNOWN FOR HIS ANGER; HE OFTEN HIT THE ROOF.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: L equals F

11x11 crossword grid with numbers 1-51.

CRYPTOQUIP
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F I L Y O T M E Z F H H J M M D P
Z M J D M O : " F I N I V W .
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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.