

Kiwi allrounder Dipak Patel (c) mishits a Merv Hughes delivery to be caught by Craig McDermott during the third day's play of the first Test against Australia in Christchurch yesterday. The Kiwis are on the brink of an innings defeat.

Kiwis stare at innings defeat

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb 27: New Zealand, at 37 for three at the end of the third day today after following on

303 behind Australia's 485 will have to bat most of the last two days to save the first Test, reports Reuter. New Zealand started the

day at 30 for two and were dismissed in their first innings for 182 with all the Australian front-line bowlers contributing to the Kiwis' demise. New Zealand have their last

two specialist batsmen at the wicket, with captain Martin Crowe on five and Ken Rutherford on four. Fired-up fast bowlers Merv

Hughes and Craig McDermott set the New Zealand second innings off to a disastrous start shortly after the tea break.

Mark Greatbatch was taken neatly by Paul Reiffel at short square leg from a sharply rising Hughes snorter before a run was on the board. Andrew Jones, like

Greatbatch, completed a double failure when he flicked a sharp, low catch to Allan Border at third slip off McDermott. aln his next over McDesmott.

bowled John Wright from an inside edge for 14 to have New Zealand reeling at three for 24. "We've let ourselves down.

We really haven't got off the canvas from the first session," Crowe told a news conference.

He said New Zealand had an opportunity to control the game when they won the toss but had surrendered the psychological edge. But he added that it was possible to salvage the game.

"We'll hold on to that hope."

SCOTTSDALE,

Arizona, Feb 27:

Andre Agassi us-

ed punishing gro-

und strokes to

roll over Spain's

Malivai

Emilio Sanchez

6 l, 6-l on Friday to advance

to the semifinals of the

3.00.000 Scottsdale tennis

championships, reports

Washington of the United

States, had two chances to win

his match against Mark

Woodforde, but squandered

both of them and lost to the

ambushed by South Africa's

Chesnokov of Russia defeated

American Derrick Rostangno,

6-2, 7-6 (7-5), setting up a

semifinal contest with the 20-

has not lost a set in three

matches, and looked sharp

from beginning to end against

The second seeded Agassi

year old Ondruska.

Marcos Ondruska, 7-5, 6-2.

Fifth seed Brad Gilbert was

Earlier, eighth-seed Andrei

Australian 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-3.

Third-seed

Reuter.

Wright was one of the few New Zealand batsmen to defy Australia in the first innings.

of the first cricket Test be-

tween Australia and New

Zealand at Lancaster Park to-

AUSTRALIA: First innings

NEW ZEALAND: First in-

M Greatbatch c Healy b

M Crowe c Taylor b Hughes 15

C Cairns c Boon b McDermott 0

Extras: (w-4, lb-4, nb-4, b-2) 14

3-53; 4-124; 5-128; 6-138; 7-

Fall of wickets: 1-4; 2-18;

R

9

4 73

8 27

21 10 44

22 12 23

NEW ZEALAND: Second in-

M Greatbatch c Reiffel b

J Wright b McDermott

A Jones c Border

Total: (for three wickets)

To bat: C Cairnes, A Parore,

Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-19;

"Technically the match was

over, and then I felt the um-

pire wanted to call a let when

he hadn't said anything for the

first two hours of the match. It

Woodforde's game that cost

than anything. When you serve

for a match you just have to put

it away," Washington said.

him, rather his own.

the second set."

off-balance.

ports Reuter.

Washington said it wasn't

"I think I hurt myself more

"In the third set I just kept

ALGIERS, Feb 27: Algeria

beat Ghana 2-1 (halftime 0-1)

in a World Cup African Group A

qualifying match at Tlemcen in

Western Algeria on Friday, re-

was just one of those things."

3

5

5 2

2 2

12

13

0 0

D Patel, M Su'a, D Morrison, M

McDermott

Hughes

Bowling:

Hughes

S Waugh

Hughes

Owens

3-24

Bowling:

McDermott

of those things."

Hughes

Reiffel

S Waugh

McDermott

M Crowe not out

K Rutherford not out

Extras: (nb-3, lb-1)

Reiffel

Warne

McDermott

J Wright lbw b Warne

K Rutherford b Warne

A Parore c Boon b Reiffel

M Su'a c Healy b Reiffel

M Owens lbw b Warne

D Morrison not out

150; 8-152; 9-181.

D Patel c McDermott

A Jones Ibw b McDermott

In a four-and-a-half hour struggle he made 39 before he was given out leg before to Shane Warne.

Warne, who ended with three for 23 from 12 overs, including seven maidens from his first seven, looked as though he would be the danger



K RUTHERFORD... 57 man in the second innings on a wicket increasingly taking spin. None of the batsmen looked comfortable against

lie bowled Rutherso around his legs to get rid the only other real danger p sented to the Australians the first innings.

Rutherford batted beau fully in an 81-ball innings r 57. He hit eight fours and tw sixes, one a back-foot drive over extra cover off McDermott and the other a hook off Hughes to bring up his half century.

Dipak Patel hit out for 35 but Reigiel, Hughes and Warne quickly mopped up the tail.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on the third day

Agassi blasts Sanchez off court

"I played good, as well as I

Washington, 23, had a one-

He wasted the first match

needed to," Agassi said. "

never let him into the match. I

did everything I needed to do

set lead and was serving at 5-

point with a double-fault, but

appeared to end the match

when Woodforde's forehand

Berger overruled, claiming the

ball was a let cord and should

hit a forehand winner and

eventually win the game and

tiebreaker to even the match.

Woodforde went on the attack.

He won the final three games

with breaks in the seventh and

Washington, ranked 16th in

the world. "I had a couple of

match points and let it get

away from me. I guess it's one

"I definitely had it," said

However, chair umpire Rudi

Woodforde, 27, went on to

From there, the lefthanded

service return was long.

the Spaniard.

and did it well."

4. 40-15.

be replayed.

ninth games.

Gavaskar greets Border

BANGALORE, India, Feb 27: Sunil Gavaskar sent a congratulatory telegram to Allan Border on Friday after the Australian captain had broken his record as the highest run scorer in Test history, reports Reuter.

Border scored 88 in the first Test against New Zealand to take his tally of Test runs to 10,161. Gavaskar hit 10,122.

Gavaskar, the former Indian opener, said of Border: "He is a cricketer after my own heart and has shown right through his career what a good cricketer should be."

"Now he has gone past the mark I hope he will in turn get a target that will not only test but bring out the best in those aspiring to go past him."

Lineker fined for reckless driving

LONDON, Feb 27: Soccer player Gary Lineker was fined 100 pounds (142 dollars) by a British court on Friday for careless driving after knocking down a motorcyclist, reports Reuter.

The former Tottenham Hotspur and England striker, who left Britain last week for a new career in Japan, pleaded guilty by letter to driving without due care and attention when he suddenly pulled to the right and hit the motorcyclist in central London last September.

"True to his reputation for fair play Mr Lineker assisted the cyclist to his feet and provided him with his mobile phone to call the police and an ambulance," the prosecuting attorney told the court.

The motorcyclist suffered cuts to his wrists and hands and his bike was extensively damaged. Lineker was also ordered to pay 25 pounds (35 dollars) costs.

Lineker backs Manchester bid

TOKYO, Feb 27: Japan's most famous soccer import, Britain's Gary Lineker, gave his support on Friday to Manchester's bid to host the Olympics in 2000, reports

Lineker joined British ambassador Sir John Boyd in presenting the city's submission document to two Japanese members of the International Olympic Committee, which will vote on the site of the game on September 23.

Boyd said construction began in January on a national cycling centre and a new gymnastics arena. If Manchester is selected a national Olympic stadtum will be built, he said.

Manchester faces sierce competition from Beijing. Sydney and Berlin.

The people of Manchester are very friendly", Lineker said. "Manchester is a very sporting city, with two famous soccer

Lineker arrived in Japan last Saturday to join his new team Grampus Eight in the central city of Nagoya, one of 10 clubs that will compete in the country's new professional soccer league that begins in

Jarryd ambushes Ivanisevic

ROTTERDAM, Feb 27 Anders Jarryd, who knocked Boris Becker out of last month's Australian Open. claimed another prize scalp on Friday when he beat injury hit Goran Ivanisevic in the quar terfinals of the World Indoor

Jarryd, a wildcard entry. defeated the second-seeded Ondruska outplayed Gilbert Croatian 6-3, 6-4 to reach the from the baseline, cracking semifinals, having dispatched passing shots and used outeight-seeded Wayne Ferreira of standing net play to keep him South Africa in the first round on Tuesday. Algeria win

ivanisevic, playing in his first tournament in six weeks after suffering a stress fracture in his foot, was hampered by a strained wrist tendon in his racked arm and needed treat ment in the second set.

"I felt a big pain with each service and could hardly hold the racket on the volleys. According to the doctor it could be a bad injury. I will take," Ivanisevic said.

"But Jarryd played unbelievable tennis. The balls kept coming back."

The 31-year-old Swede, who rose to fifth in the world rankings in 1985, is enjoying a new lease of life in 1993, having defeated former champton Becker in the first round of the Australian Open.

Becker was seeded number one for Rotterdam but withdrew from the tournament because of a stomach virus.

Jarryd's semifinal opponent is fifth-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia, who swept aside Croatian Goran Pripic 6-2, 6-2 in the quarterfinals.

of the Czech Republic and unseeded Italian Diego Nargiso contest the other semifinal. Novacek beat Denmark's Kenneth Carlsen 6-4, 6-4, while Nargiso beat compatriot

and doubles partner Omar

Camporese 7-6, 7-6.

Seventh seed Karel Novacek



Seville airport, arriving from Buenos Aires on February 26 after playing for the Argentine national side on February 24. Maradona was fined 3 million pesetas for playing for - AFP photo Argentina without FC Sevilla's permission.

Opinion split on Maradona's future



BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, Feb 27: Diego Maradona's return to tional team was

hailed by sports writers Friday, but several wondered if his physical conditioning is up to the demanding standards of international competition, reports AP.

Writers for major Buenos Aires dailies praised Maradona's self-esteem, his perfect assists and skillful ball handling. But, for the first time, they said his lack of physical conditioning is slowing the team.

Friday's commentary followed statements earlier this week by officials at his Spanish club Sevilla that his recent antics regarding the national team and his departures to play for Argentina may hurt his future at the club. Maradona was originally scheduled to meet with club officials Friday but that was postponed to Saturday.

Maradona returned to the national team after a 30-month absence to help Argentina earn a 1-1 draw on Feb. 17 in a match to mark the 100th and niversary of the Argentine federation.

He returned a week later to lift Argentina to another 1-1 draw, this one with European champion Denmark, a match 5-4 on penalties to win the Artemio Franchi Cup.

Argentina eventually prevailed

"ls Maradona still the best?", asked La Nacion in a front page story that shared space with headlines about the political crisis in Italy and a local case of massive poisoning with adulterated wine.

"The doors are open for the return of Fernando Redondo, who was unable to play the (Brazil and Denmark) matches because of an injury, and he might well become the most important Argentine player" in the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

Redondo is a striker for Spanish First-Division club Tenerife.

"The fact that Maradona is 32 years old cannot be ignored. He no longer shows those brief bursts of speed that left opponents behind," La Nacion said.

Clarin, another major daily, said "no one can doubt Maradona's matchless skill with the ball, even at 32. But his physical condition is not the best, he cannot develop that burst of speed after a dodge that made him unique. "If the ball is always passed

to Maradona, the team's attack loses speed and the capacity to catch the opponent by surprise," Clarin said.

Maradona returned to play last September for Spanish

inactivity, including a 15month suspension for failing a drug test when he played for Napoli in the Italian league. According to a poll con-

club Sevilla after 18 months of

ducted by local news agency Diarios Noticias among 39 foreign sportswriters who covered the Argentina-Denmark match, Maradona, midfielder Diego Simeone and forward Gabriel Batistuta should be "musts" in the Argentine

Runners-up were Fedondo, back Oscar Ruggeri and forward Claudio Caniggia. All play for European teams

except Ruggeri, who plays in National coach Alfio Basile

Maradona go. "He is a luxury, a poet of soccer, a prodigy," Basile said.

dismissed the idea of letting

And Maradona, who returned late Thursday to Spain, said, "before my comeback, I said I was the 1,000th ranked player. Now I'm ranked Earlier this week, Sevilla

chairman Luis Curevas said he was concerned about the attitude of Maradona, who returned from the Brazil match a day late and only hours before the club's scheduled league match against Logrones. He played listlessly in a 2-0 loss and then left Monday for the Denmark match without informing the club.

Fernandez fends off Davenport



INDIAN WELLS. California, Feb 27 Top seeded Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States used her experience to rally

past first-year pro Lindsay Davenport of the United States 7-5, 6-2 in the quarterfinals of the 375,000 Evert Cup on Friday, reports AP.

Fifth-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia overpowered a lacklustre third-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-1, 7-5 in a twice rain-delayed quarterfinal match at the 56-player, hard court tourna-

Fourth seeded Amanda Coetzer of South Africa defeated 11th seeded Nicole

eyes

home

rock

51 Rebukes

54 - Bator

55 TV's

56 New

57 Shed

pest

token

severely

Charlotte

Mexican

resort

Provis of Australia 6-4, 6-0, and unseeded Stephanie Rottier of the Netherlands eliminated unseeded Miraim Oremans of the Netherlands 6-2. 6-3, in the other two quarterfinal matches.

In the semifinals today, Fernandez faces Sukova, and Coetzer plays Rottier. The player field was diluted

the weekend before the tournament began when Steffi Graf of Germany and Jennifer Capriati of the United States, the event's would-be top to seeds, both withdrew due to pulled stomach muscles.

Fernandez, seventh in the world, played tentatively and lost the first four games of her quarter final match agains Davenport, the 16-year-old US

25 Health

resort

26 Word on

27 Sudden

a towel

violent

distur-

bance

noble

house

29 Italian

31 Smith

and

32 Pedro's

52 Give a

bad

53 Wager

review

Pacino

Open Junior champion who turned professional at the beginning of the tournament.

Davenport, 99th in the world, was serving for a 5-0 lead when Fernandez settled into her game and began mixing up her shots, causing the hard-hitting Davenport to start making unforced errors.

Fernandez was able to rally to win the first set and take control of the second by throwing Davenport's rhythm with crop shots, lobs and short angles that the lanky Davenport had trouble handling.

Maleeva, 15th in the world, could not find an answer for the barrage of powerful ground strokes from the 16th-ranked Sukova.

Maradona asks for pardon

SEVILLE, Spain, Feb 27: Argentine soccer superstar Diego Maradona asked FC Sevilla's pardon Saturday for recent antics that have led the club to open disciplinary proceedings, the club president

said, reports AP. Maradona and countryman Diego Simeone met with Sevilla managers to discuss the club's investigation into the players' recent trips to Argentina for national team

The players met with Sevilla president Luis Cuervas, who told the Spanish news agency EFE that the investigator, Jose Ramon Cisneros, would probably decide to level fines in the case.

"They were notified of the opening of an investigation," Cuervas told EFE. Then in the chat that took place he (Maradona) told me that if he had annoyed the club, the management or the club members in some way, he asked for pardon."

The club ordered the investigation after Maradona and Simeone returned late from the Argentine national team's game against Brazil earlier this month, then returned to Argentina without authorization for a game against Denmark.

The team levelled an additional charge against Maradona for allegedly disparaging comments he made about Cuervas.

Sevilla bought Maradona's contract from Napoli earlier this season for dirs 7.5 million after he ended a 15-month drug suspension.

During his stay with Napoli and previously with FC Barcelona in Spain's First Division, the ace striker annoyed colleagues by frequently extending his holidays.

Sanchez gets a recall at last

MEXICO CITY, Feb 27: Former soccer hero Hugo Sanchez has been named to Mexico's World Cup team for the first time in seven years, reports AP. News of the 19-man selec-

tion by new coach Miguel Mejia Baron led the front pages of most Mexican sports dailies on Friday. The team enters the next round of playoffs for the 1994

World Cup on April 4 with a game against El Salvador. Mejia Baron said Mexico will play Chile on March 23 and May 2. Named to the squad along

with Sanchez were veterans of

the 1986 team such as Luis

Flores, Francisco Javier Cruz and Miguel Espana. The 34-year-old Sanchez, a forward, was Mexico's most famed soccer star in the 1980s and went on to star in Spain,

first with Atletico Madrid and later with Real Madrid. Mexico's disqualification from the 1990 World Cup in Italy robbed him of a chance to

compete then. A one-time scoring sensation, Sanchez tore up his knee in 1991 and after a less- than-

spectacular return to competition last season, was released by Real Madrid. He returned to play for the Mexico City squad He is far from the league

leaders in goals scored. Reluctance to use Sanchez

reportedly contributed to the firing of Argentine Cesar Luis Menotti as coach of the national team and his replacement by Mejia Barón.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer the pressure on him by going for it," Woodforde said. "I felt tournament, reports Reuter. 23 British 3 Spend **ACROSS** 41 Close a he was panicking after losing them in hawk's guns

1 Normandy 43 Braids 5 Corn or 46 Eagle's gun lead-50 Molten

8 Nimbus 12 Anagram of rail 13 Be in debt 14 Tater 15 Rebellion 17 Man or

Wight 18 Silly ones 19 Roofing tiles 21 Wise

ones 24 Literary collection 25 Keep away from DOWN 28 Indians

channel 33 "Great Expectations" lad

30 Narrow

34 In the -(in person) 35 Wallach Whitney

36 Hardwood tree 37 Smallest of the litter 38 Greek mountain 39 Before

10 Anagram aunt feathers 34 Stew 58 Picnic of lure 38 Chemical 11 Summer refreshers 59 Fashion 16 Run up magazine a seam 20 Swing 1 Illegal angrily 22 Hum-2 It might be red Solution time: 21 mins.

Venice

6 "To thine

- self be

7 Advances,

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8 Chinese

Japanese

9 Steals the

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salt 40 Laughing 42 It's sometimes bent? 43 Early prune 44 French composer 45 Chapter of the Koran 47 Coin of Iran 48 Baal, for ASWANE one 49 Being

CRYPTOQUIP

X F X Y J I V -ZFJDSPWD J D X

GPTXISPQ YVZG BVQZHHSVGJTXGJQ, DX

SC JDXT. FVWDJ TZBX Yesterday's Cryptoquip: COUNTERFEITER'S CON-SCIENCE IS STARTING TO BOTHER HIM, BUT HE

FORGED AHEAD. Today's Cryptoquip clue: F equals L

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.



Carl Hooper looks back at his rattled stumps after an Aaqib Javed in-swerver beat him during the final of the triangular series in Johannesburg yesterday. West Indies won the title -Star TV photo beating the world champions by five wickets.