

Crowe inspires Kiwi revival



HAMILTON, New Zealand, Mar 27: New Zealand beat Australia by three wickets with just two balls to spare today in a thriller which had all the best ingredients of one-day cricket, reports Reuter.

Set a demanding 248 to win by Australia, New Zealand were on the ropes at 94 for four and needing to score at over seven runs an over.

But a masterful and courageous 91 off 100 balls by injured captain Martin Crowe and a thrilling 44 not out off 28 balls by teenage Jeff Wilson allowed the Kiwis to snatch victory at 250 for seven.

The series is nicely poised two-all for Sunday's decider at Eden Park, already a sell-out.

Australia won the first two matches but Crowe, carrying an old leg injury, also scored 91 in the third game to set up New Zealand's first win in Wellington on Wednesday.

Make-shift Australian opener Mark Waugh, who had already scored two half centuries in the series, appeared to have set up a winning total for Australia when he hit a fine 108.

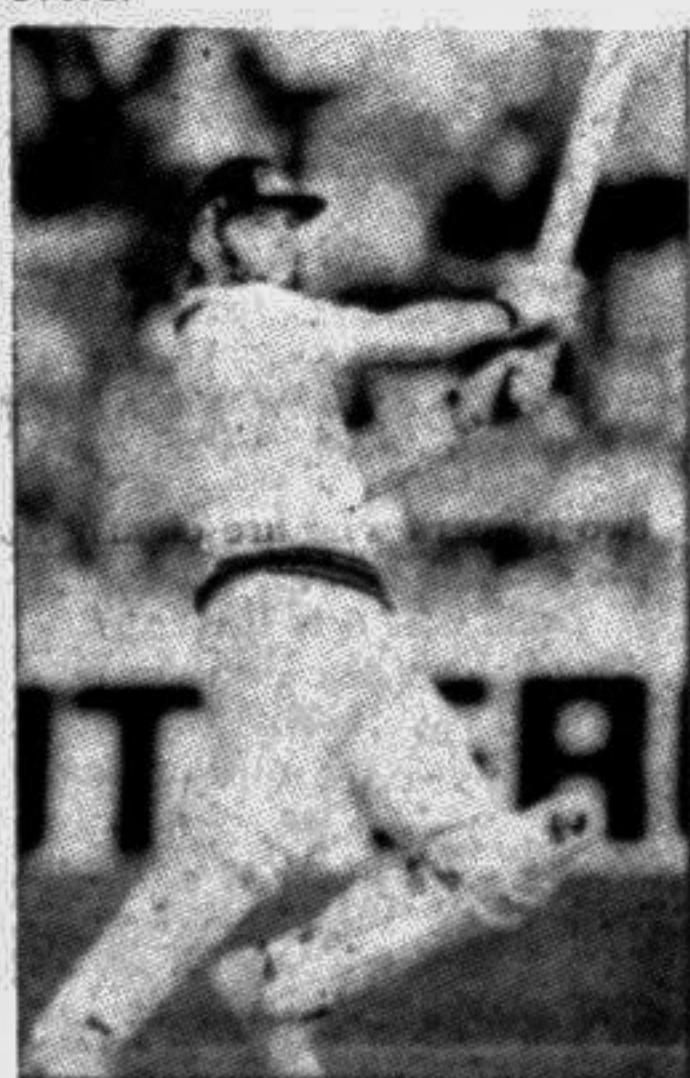
Australia's acting captain Mark Taylor won the toss and chose to bat and although he went out early, Waugh and the aggressive Dean Jones added 143 runs for second wicket in just 97 minutes from 27 overs to build a fine base.

Both batsmen took best advantage of a modest bowling attack.

Smart running between the wickets kept up the momentum of the innings, and it needed a run-out of Jones for 64 to break the stand.

Australia had threatened to build a massive total but the fall of regular wickets restricted them to 247 for seven.

When Crowe came to the wicket after Mark Greatbatch's early dismissal, New Zealand already appeared to be out of the running, scoring at just over two an over in the first 15 overs.



MARK WAUGH ... 108

But Crowe produced a succession of fine strokes to dominate the innings. He savaged medium-pace Paul Reiffel, who dropped a sharp caught-and-bowled chance when Crowe was on 12.

Crowe received great support from wicket-keeper Tony Blain and together they added 78 in 86 balls.

At 172, Crowe was run out by a direct throw from Mark Waugh at gully. He scored 91 of 148 runs made while he was at the crease.

New Zealand needed 76 runs from the last 10 overs but Blain kept the flame alive taking 10 from a Steve Waugh over, including a six over long-on, where Reiffel caught the

Jones	3	0	18	0
NEW ZEALAND				
M Greatbatch	c	Healy		
b Hughes			13	



New Zealand fast-medium bowler Danny Morrison pleads with the umpire for an lbw decision against Mark Taylor, the stand-in Australian captain, during the fourth one-day at the Trust Bank Park in Hamilton yesterday. The Kiwis won the tie to level the five-match series 2-2. —AFP photo

19-year-old Wilson took up the mantle.

With three overs left, New Zealand needed 25 runs. Wilson hit Steve Waugh over wide long-on for six, 11 came from the over and 14 were needed in 12 balls.

Wilson, who has played rugby for the New Zealand Colts and is tipped to represent his country in both codes, secured the win before a delirious capacity crowd by swinging the fourth ball of the final over to the long-leg boundary.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard after the fourth one-day cricket International between Australia and New Zealand today:

AUSTRALIA				
M Taylor	c	Blain		
b Morrison			13	
M Waugh	b	Morrison		108
D Jones	run out			64
D Boon	c	Morrison		b
Harris			2	
S Waugh	b	Pringle		19
D Martyn	c	Blain		b
Morrison			17	
I Healy	lbw	Pringle		1
A Dodemaide	not out		1	
M Hughes	not out		10	
Extras: (b-1, lb-6, w-5)				12
Total: (for 7 wickets, 50 overs)				247
Fall of wickets: 1-29; 2-172; 3-178; 4-215; 5-217; 6-227; 7-235.				
Did not bat: P Reiffel, T May				
Bowling: O M R W				
Morrison	9	0	35	3
Pringle	8	1	41	2
Larsen	10	0	42	0
Wilson	3	0	20	0
Patel	10	0	47	0
Harris	7	0	37	1

A Jones	run out		18	
M Crowe	run out		91	
R Rutherford	c	Healy		
b Reiffel			9	
C Harris	c	Healy	b	Reiffel
			0	



MARTIN CROWE ... 91

T Blain	b	Dodemaide	41	
J Wilson	not out		44	
D Patel	run out		4	
G Larsen	not out		12	
Extras: (w-5 lb-11, b-2)			18	
Total: (for 7 wickets, 49.4 overs)			250	
Fall: 1-24; 2-59; 3-88; 4-94; 5-172; 6-196; 7-210				
Did not bat: C Pringle, D Morrison				
Bowling: O M R W				
Hughes	10	3	28	1
Dodemaide	10	1	39	1
Reiffel	10	2	46	2
May	10	0	45	0
S Waugh	7.4	0	59	0
M Waugh	2	0	20	0
Result: New Zealand won by three wickets.				
Series two all with one to play on Sunday.				

Lloyd, Pataudi match referees for Ashes Series

LONDON, Mar 27: Former Test captain Clive Lloyd and the Nawab of Pataudi will referee the forthcoming season's Tests and one-day internationals between England and Australia, reports Reuter.

Pataudi, who played 46 times for India, has been appointed by the International Cricket Council to oversee the three one-day matches and the first two Tests.

Lloyd, who made 110 appearances for West Indies, will be match referee at the last four Tests.

Knight named MCC secretary

LONDON, Mar 27: Former Surrey captain Roger Knight has been named as the next Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) secretary, reports Reuter.

Knight, who also played for Gloucestershire and Sussex, will take over next January when Colonel John Stephenson retires after nearly seven years in the job.

With Australian David Richards appointed the International Cricket Council's (ICC) first chief executive, Knight will be able to concentrate more on the business of MCC, a private club but still the sport's traditional figurehead.

Shuttlers leave for HK tomorrow

An eight-member badminton team comprising five players and three officials will leave Dhaka to Hong Kong tomorrow to take part in the Asian Badminton Confederation (ABC) championships to be played there from March 31 to April 5.

The five players are: Mahbub, Suman, Rana, Hamid, and Hashem. Delwar Hossain, an official of a top club of the country, will lead the team. Wahidul Alam is the team manager.

To make the list of officials ludicrously long Fazul Huq, treasurer of the Bangladesh Badminton Federation will complete the trio of officials and to cap the topsy-turvy state of affairs in the sports arena of this country, the treasurer will, in all likelihood, represent Bangladesh in the Annual General Meeting of the ABC scheduled to be held during the meet.

Bangladesh will take part in three singles and one doubles contest.

The organisers of the tournament will bear all expenses regarding food and lodging of the Bangladesh team.

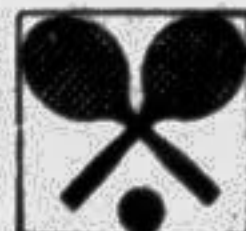
The passage of the Bangladesh team to Hong Kong will be marked for an off-court significance. Biman Bangladesh Airlines inaugurates its Dhaka-Hong Kong flight on March 29 and the Badminton squad would be on board the flight, scheduled leave on Monday morning.

Japan beat US in team gymnastics

HAMAMATSU, Japan, Mar 27: Japanese men's and women's gymnasts dominated the team and the all-around individual event Saturday in the Japan-United States Gymnastic Championship, reports AP.

In the team competition, Japan beat the United States 218.350 to 217.300 in the men's event.

US fall at starting block



MELBOURNE, Mar 27: Australian Mark Woodforde and Todd Woodbridge won a five-set thriller over Jim Grabb and Richey Reneberg on Saturday, ending the United States' brief reign as Davis Cup champion, reports AP.

Woodforde and Woodbridge triumphed 7-6 (7-5), 6-2, 3-6, 6-7 (3-7), 6-4 in the marathon doubles on the grass center court at Kooyong to give Australia an unassailable 3-0 first-round lead.

The American team was the first defending champion for 10 years to lose in the first round. The United States beat Switzerland 3-1 in the 1992 final in Fort Worth, Texas, in December.

Australia led 2-0 after Friday's singles, in which Wally Masur beat Brad Gilbert and Woodforde downed David Wheaton.

Woodforde and Woodbridge, the top-ranked doubles pair in the world, took three hours 20 minutes to beat US Open champions Grabb and Reneberg, both of whom were making their Davis Cup debut. "This is right up there," said Woodforde. "It is fantastic to play a part in both the singles and doubles."

Grabb and Reneberg rallied from two sets down to 2-2, but lost after Grabb dropped serve in the fifth game of the final set.

"We know each other's games so well and that's what gets you through a tight match like that," said Woodbridge.

Sunday's reverse singles now will be reduced to the best of three sets. Woodforde will play Gilbert and Masur will face Wheaton.

"Whether you win 3-2, 5-0 or 4-1 doesn't matter," said Australian captain Neale Fraser. "What matters is that you win."

The Americans also were the last defending champions to lose in the first round. The United States was beaten 2-2 by Argentina in Buenos Aires in 1983 after winning the Cup in 1982.

Captain Tom Gorman said his team had given 100 per cent.

"They guys are proud of what they did because they went down to the last point fighting," he said.

Gilbert, Wheaton, Grabb and Reneberg were selected to play for the United States after Jim Courier, Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi and Michael

Chang all declared themselves unavailable. "From our perspective we felt we had a good chance to

Davis Cup in 1990 and 1992 and were runners-up in 1991 all under the captaincy of Gorman.



American Davis Cupper Richey Reneberg hides his despair during the doubles match against Australian Mark Woodforde and Todd Woodbridge on March 27 in Melbourne. The American pair of Jim Grabb and Reneberg went down to the Australian pair to give the hosts an unassailable 3-0 lead. —AFP photo

John McEnroe has repeatedly said he would like to take over from Gorman.

"I have no idea whether there is a question over my future," Gorman said. "It is not an issue in my mind and hope to be here in 1994."

It was only the third time in 20 years that Australia has beaten the United States in Davis Cup play, though the Americans still hold a 24-19 head-to-head edge.

Australia had not played the United States at Kooyong since 1957, when the Australians won 3-2 in the challenge round.

Australia and the United States last met in the 1990 final in St. Petersburg, Fla., when the Americans won 3-2.

Australia now will face either Italy or Brazil in the quarterfinals, while the United States faces a World Group promotion-relegation match against an opponent yet to be decided.

John McEnroe has repeatedly said he would like to take over from Gorman.

"I have no idea whether there is a question over my future," Gorman said. "It is not an issue in my mind and hope to be here in 1994."

It was only the third time in 20 years that Australia has beaten the United States in Davis Cup play, though the Americans still hold a 24-19 head-to-head edge.

Australia had not played the United States at Kooyong since 1957, when the Australians won 3-2 in the challenge round.

Australia and the United States last met in the 1990 final in St. Petersburg, Fla., when the Americans won 3-2.

Australia now will face either Italy or Brazil in the quarterfinals, while the United States faces a World Group promotion-relegation match against an opponent yet to be decided.

Indians take lead over Swiss



CALCUTTA, Mar 27: Indian tennis players Leander Paes and Ramesh Krishnan outplayed Swiss Marc Rosset and Jacob Hlasek in five sets to win the doubles match of Davis cup world group tie at Calcutta's South Club courts Saturday, report agencies.

India now have a 2-1 lead against Switzerland.

Playing for more than three hours on a soggy court, the highly-rated Swiss team tumbled 6-7 (4-7), 7-6 (10-12), 7-5, 2-6, 6-3.

Hlasek told reporters after the game that they could not put in their best since the court hardly had any grass. "The court does not compare

with Wimbledon standards, but we have to put up with this," said the player, ranked 33rd in the world.

Hlasek lost his singles match Friday to the 19-year-old Indian wonder player Paes in straight sets.

Krishnan also admitted that rains had made the court heavier and cut bounce. "We also had problems. The ball gets heavy, but what do you do," he said.

The two teams clash Sunday for their reverse singles match.

Moscow, Germany shrugged off the absence of Boris Becker by taking a 2-0 lead over Russia, inspired by Carl-Uwe Steiner's comeback from two sets down to beat Andrei Cherkasov.

Michael Stich, at the centre of the row which blew up over Becker's Davis Cup intentions, then made his personal point by dismissing Andrei Olhovskiy in four sets.

Sweden, with Stefan Edberg to the fore, quickly snuffed out the early optimism of Cuba, making their world group debut.

Edberg, back on a court in his home region of Smaland for the first time since he launched his professional career a decade ago, dropped only six games against Cuban rookie Juan Pino.

"It may be a slight overkill to have me in the team against Cuba, but I need to play more matches," said Edberg, looking to home his game after his early-year back problems.

Sabatini in semis

HOUSTON, Mar 27: Top-seeded Gabriela Sabatini breezed past Italy's Sandra Cecchini 6-2, 6-1 Friday night in the quarterfinals of the \$375,000 Virginia Slims of Houston, reports AP.

Sabatini's victory sets up a semifinal match with No. 3 seed Conchita Martinez, who beat Patricia Tarbin of Argentina 6-3, 6-2 Friday.

Martinez hasn't faced Sabatini since losing a memorable three set match in the 1992 French Open. Sabatini has won eight of the last 10 matches between the two, including the last six.

"Every time we play it's a close match," Sabatini said. Cecchini broke Sabatini's serve only once and committed 35 unforced errors to Sabatini's 16. Sabatini won 60 of 95 points and needed only 72 minutes to win the match.

"I'm playing very good right now," Sabatini said. "I'm going to the net more and making better decisions than I was before."

Also Friday, fourth-seeded Jana Novotna stopped Radka Zrubakova 6-3, 7-5. Novotna will meet unseeded Sabine Hack in the semifinals Saturday.

Hack advanced with a 6-0, 6-3 victory over Tatiana Ignatieva of Russia in a match that lasted only 48 minutes. Hack's first serve were perfect the 19-minute opening set. She won 24 of the 30 first-set points.

Ignatieva had moved from No. 330 to No. 119 in the computer rankings as a result of her second-round victory over No. 2 seed Jennifer Capriati Wednesday night.

France through to Round 2

VIENNA, Mar 27: France's Guy Forget and Henri Leconte put France in the second round of the Davis Cup as they won the doubles to clinch the Davis Cup encounter against Austria Saturday, reports AP.

Forget and Leconte beat Horst Skoff and Alex Antonitsch, 7-5, 6-4, 7-5 in 2 hours 22 minutes to give France an unbeatable 3-0 lead in the best of five.

Forget and Arnaud Boetsch won the singles on Friday. France meet the winner of the India-Switzerland match in the next round.

Antonitsch was to play with Gerald Mandl. But on Saturday morning Austria's captain put Skoff in place of Mandl.

The Swiss didn't do any good. Forget and Leconte are unbeaten in Davis Cup doubles. They won the first set taking the last three games in a row. They immediately gained a break in the first game of the second set and held that until the end.

The third set went to 5-5 on serve. Then the French closed out the match.

Tyson's woe prolonged

INDIANAPOLIS, Mar 27: A prison board ordered Mike Tyson to spend at least 30 extra days in prison Wednesday after finding the former heavyweight champion guilty of disobeying an officer, reports AP. The Department of Corrections said Tyson was placed in disciplinary segregation, where he is likely to remain until Monday. Tyson also lost commissary privileges for 30 days.

Skah to run at Amorebieta after all



LONDON, Mar 27: Moroccan Khalid Skah, who has just repaired a rift with his national federation, resumes hostilities with the Kenyans at the World Cross-Country Championships in Amorebieta, Spain on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The volatile Skah, winner in 1990 and 1991, has been in dispute with the Moroccan Federation, accusing them of failing to pay a promised bonus after landing the Olympic 10,000 metres title in Barcelona last year.

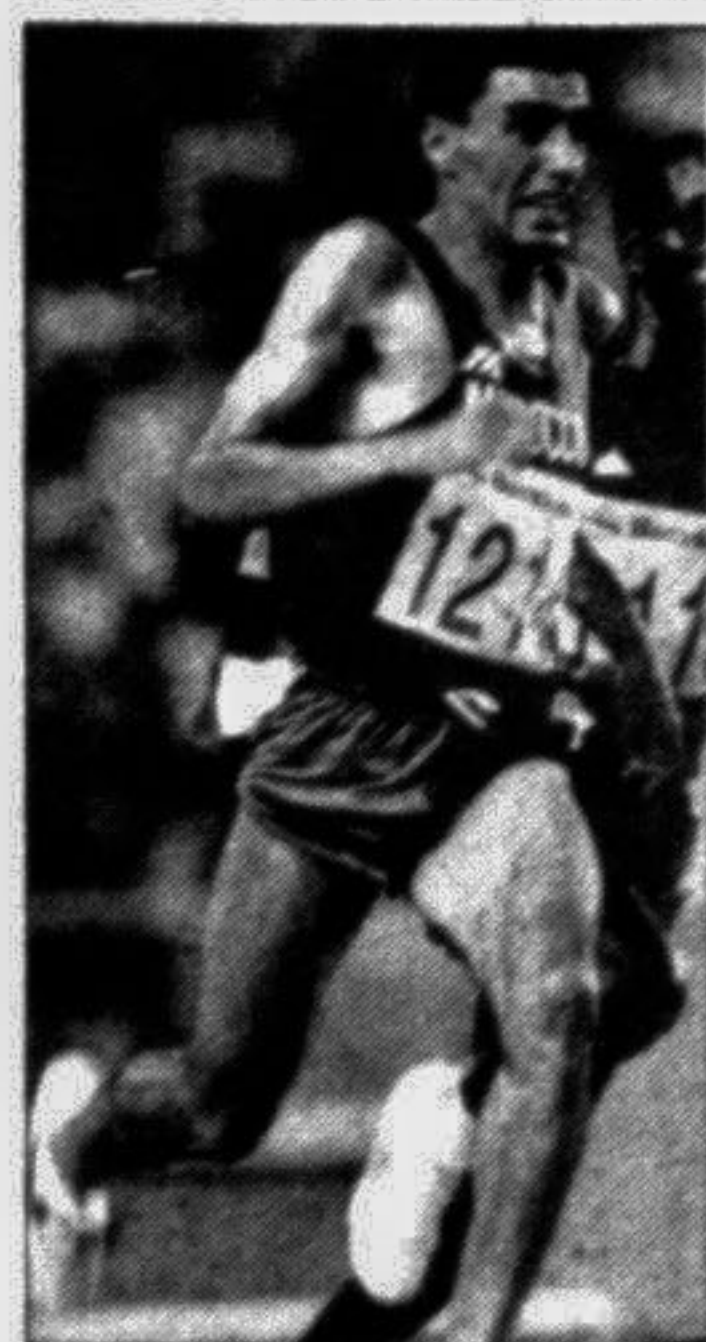
After threatening to boycott the championships Skah has made peace with the authorities, returning to Morocco to train with the rest of the team near Rabat after wintering in the French Pyrenees.

The battle between Skah and his federation will seem trivial in comparison to the bitter rivalry between the Moroccan and the Kenyans.

Skah sparked the biggest controversy of the Barcelona track programme when he appeared to be paced for part of the race by teammate Hamou Boutayeb in the 10,000 final.

Officials agreed, awarding the gold medal to Kenya's second-placed Richard Chelimo who was Olympic champion for less than 24 hours when the decision was reversed on appeal and Skah was reinstated as champion.

The animosity between Skah and the Kenyans precedes Barcelona with the Moroccan complaining that he was robbed of a third successive titles.



KHALID SKAH

five cross-country title in Boston last year. The event was won for a fifth time by John Ngugi, who has been suspended by the Kenyan Federation for refusing to submit to a drug test.

"I was shocked by the Kenyan tactics," Skah said. "They were rushing me and stopping in front of me and a

lot of illegal things." They first started to notice me when I won in 1990 and now the Kenyans have a lot of trouble from us north African guys there's always a big rivalry."

Chelimo who has not been running well this year, missed selection for Amorebieta and the Kenyan team is headed William Sigel, unbeaten in his home country this year, and Moses Tanui, world champion over 10,000 metres.

The Kenyans will vie with Ethiopia for the men's team title with Fita Bayissa, second in the 1991 World Championship 5,000 metres final, currently in great shape.

Bayissa is unbeaten this season and has won each of the world four world cross-country challenge races.

In the women's event, American Lyn Jennings has made a remarkable comeback from an emergency appendix operation on new year's eve to attempt her fourth successive victory.

Jennings finished third in this month's world indoor 3,000 metres and says she is ready to take on the Africans.

"It is the toughest race there has ever been," Jennings told a news conference on Friday.

"The course isn't as tough as last year but the field is tougher."

between Ethiopia's Derartu Tulu and South African Elana Meyer, who provided one of the most gripping races of the Olympics in the women's 10,000 metres.

Tulu eventually prevailed in Barcelona but Meyer, who has only ventured outside South Africa once during the cross-country season, has real hopes of leading the South Africans to victory in the team event.

"I am confident that I can run cross country at the top level," she said. South Africa have also included Zola Budd who as Zola Budd won the title for Britain in 1985 and 1986. The South Africans say Pieterse is in better shape than at any time since returning to her native land four years ago.

Zola Budd returns to England

LONDON, Mar 27: South African long-distance runner Zola Budd is to return to England in June and use her former adopted country as a base for an attack on the Grand Prix circuit, reports AP.

The 26-year-old former world cross-country champion suffered a miserable time when she lived in England in the 1980s, being the subject of constant anti-apartheid protests.

But she told Thursday's London Evening Standard: "My whole attitude to the sport has changed for the better."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Like steak tartare

4 "A friend is... a second —"

8 Barber-shop item

12 Mined find

13 Author Wiesel

14 Eye part

15 Have the sniffles

16 Tiny bit

17 Flex

18 Ad writers' domain

21 Howard or Paillo

22 Freedom, briefly

23 Dick Grayson, at times

26 Shriner's topper

27 Genesis vessel

30 Egyptian sacred bird

31 "Encore"

32 Inventor's need

33 Snare

34 "Monkey suit"

35 Easily obtained profit

36 Pointed tool

37 Angel's pet letters?

38 Cultural area of NYC

45 Redact

46 Use a peeler

47 Tin Man's need

48 Zip

49 Square

50 Salad dressing ingredient

51 Luge

52 Latest info

53 Porcine pad

DOWN

1 Peregrinate

2 Met

3 Tuesday at the movies?

4 Heighten the flavor

5 John of rock

6 Celebrity

7 About half of us

8 Cigarette used to remedy catarrh

9 Bakeshop fixture

10 Carte

11 Com-manded

19 Rainbow

20 Namely: abbr.

23 Prearrange

24 Kyoto cummerbund

25 Crib

26 See 23

27 Oklahoma city

28 Gun an engine

29 Jay's follower

31 Reliever's warmup area

32 Press agent?

34 Seesaw quorum

35 Salad stuff, often

36 Played the part

37 Bit of hardware

38 Camera feature

39 Matinee figure

40 Mets or Muses

41 Hub

42 Art colony of New Mexico

43 Door sign

44 Depend (on)

Solution time: 23 mins.

WAF VAS SWAMI
AWL APO TALON
LAY CONFUSION
TRE AGAIN
ZERO ERR MASK
PIE MYOPIA
TRIAL AVERY
OUTLEY UKE
MESS HOP SARI
JUNTA ZOO
PROPUSION LAW
TUNES OWN ELA
ANENT NNE CAN

CRYPTOQUIP

F D C D N K E - P X K M W A O

X P A C K X I Y N A E Z

I N Y F X K Z W H F K Z W A O

F X T N M C N T W A F

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE INVESTMENT SHUNNED BY BROKER'S VERY UPPER-CRUST CLIENTELE: COMMON STOCK.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals H

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.