

WI pace too hot to handle

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Apr 22: The West Indies fast bowlers, led by Curtly Ambrose, ripped through Australia's batting to leave the tourists 112 for seven at close of a rain-shortened first day of the third cricket Test here Friday, reports AP.

The Australians' problems started from the time captain Mark Taylor lost the toss and was sent in on a grassy pitch.

Ambrose, the 6-foot-8-inch (2-metre) Antigua, initiated the Australian struggle with three wickets for 35 off 12 overs. Steve Waugh carried a lone rearguard action for the Aussies, battling to an unbeaten 54.

These two principal parties were involved in an ugly confrontation just after lunch on a tense opening day.

Following a harmless Ambrose bouncer just after lunch, the bowler continued in his follow-through to within inches of the batsman Waugh. The two then spent several seconds exchanging unfriendly glares before West Indies skipper Richie Richardson physically pulled the reluctant Ambrose away from the scene.

Match referee Majid Khan of Pakistan said he would meet later with the umpires and the players involved before taking any action.

Courtney Walsh gave the home side the initial breakthrough with his second ball, in the day's second over.

The 32-year-old vice-captain induced an edge from Michael Slater's uncertain back foot stroke to wicket-keeper Junior Murray. It was an ignominious first for Slater, his only "duck" in his 45th innings in Test cricket.

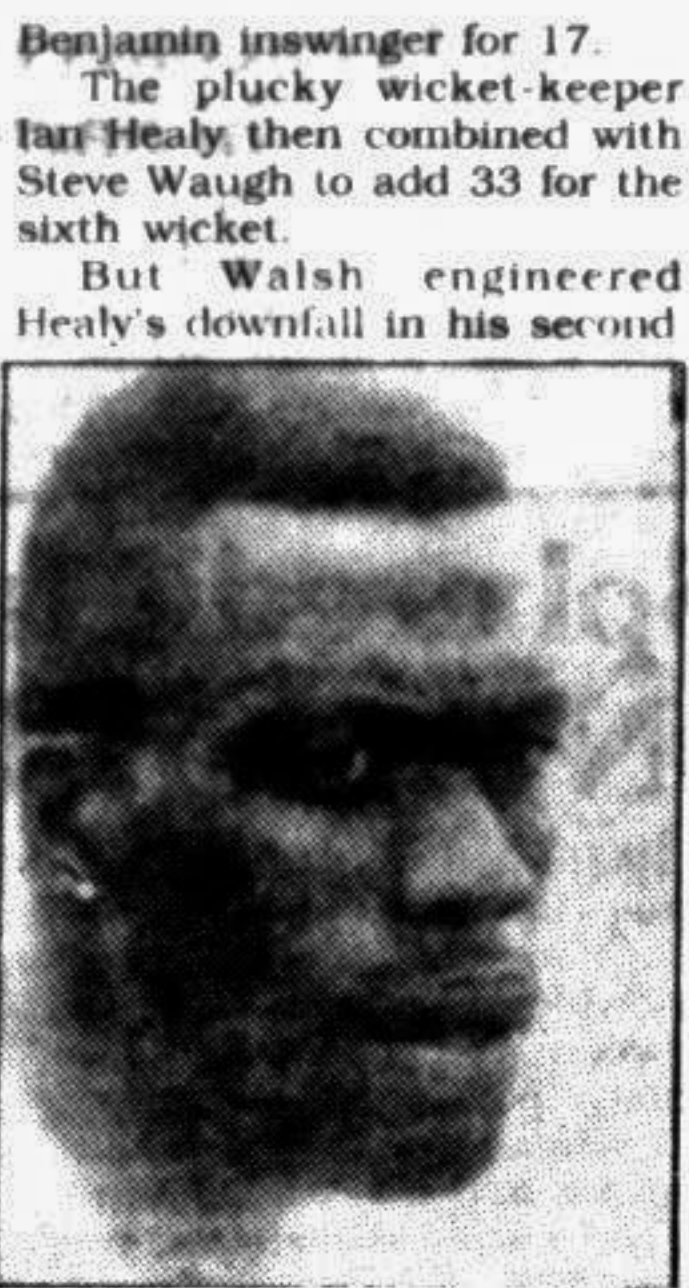
Ambrose hit five balls later by removing Aussie skipper Mark Taylor. The left-hander prodded a catch straight to short-led Jimmy Adams to leave his team two runs for two wickets.

Mark Waugh was another Ambrose victim 12 runs later. The 29-year-old hung his bat outside off-stump and his thick edge was held one-handed to his right by Murray in front of first slip.

But after 55 minutes play, a rain stoppage of an hour and five minutes halted the West Indies rampage.

Play resumed after lunch and Ambrose struck again in the over after his altercation with Steve Waugh. His victim was David Boon, appearing in his 100th Test, who made 18 before edging to Richardson at third slip.

Greg Blewett continued his Caribbean struggle, caught behind off a magnificent Winston



AMBROSE... menacing

spell. His edged drive was initially dropped by wicket-keeper Junior Murray, but the rebound was spectacularly picked up inches from the ground by the alert Richardson at third slip.

It was 98 for seven when Jimmy Adams at short leg snapped up a smart catch to

remove Brendon Jullian off Kenneth Benjamin.

The Australians reached 112 without further loss at tea. Then, heavy showers returned and stopped play again, this time for the day. Overall, 51 overs were lost.

Steve Waugh, struck five fours in his unbeaten 54 in 141 minutes off 84 balls. Paul Reiffel is unbeaten on six. Ambrose's main support has come from Walsh, who has two wickets for 46 off 13 overs.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the first day of the third Test between West Indies and Australia at Queen's Park Oval on Friday.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings				
M Slater c Murray b Walsh		2		
M Slater c Murray b Walsh		0		
D Boon c Richardson b Ambrose		18		
M Waugh c Murray b Ambrose		2		
S Waugh not out		54		
G Blewett c Murray b W Benjamin		17		
I Healy c Richardson b Walsh		8		
B Julian c Adams b K Benjamin		0		
P Reiffel not out		6		
Extras: (lb-4, w-1)		5		
Total: (for seven wickets)		112		
Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-2; 3-14; 4-37; 5-62; 6-95; 7-98				
Bowling: O M R W				
Ambrose	12	4	35	3
Walsh	13	1	46	2
W Benjamin	6	3	13	1
K Benjamin	8	2	14	1



West Indian wicketkeeper Junior Murray takes a spectacular diving catch to send Australia's stylish batsman Mark Waugh to the pavilion during first day's play of the third Test at Trinidad on April 21.

Star TV photo by T A Khan

Rackemann to join Surrey

LONDON, Apr 22: Australian Test paceman Carl Rackemann is to join English county Surrey for this season, the Oval Club announced on Friday, reports Reuter.

The club said they had been given verbal clearance by the Australian Cricket Board to sign the Queensland bowler, who is currently on Australia's Caribbean tour.

Rackemann, who will be 35 in June, has played in 12 Tests and taken 39 wickets at an average of 29.15.

Surrey expect Rackemann to join them towards the end of May, after the four of West Indies, although final ratification of the signing is subject to a written agreement and the granting of a work permit.

Rackemann will replace Pakistan fast bowler Waqar Younis, whose back injury is expected to keep him out of action for at least half the season.

Prabhakar debuts for Durham

LONDON, Apr 22: Indian all-rounder Manoj Prabhakar is set for his Durham debut in Sunday's Benson and Hedges Cup opener against Leicestershire, reports AFP.

Prabhakar, one of India's most consistent players last season — only to be sent home with an ankle injury and replaced by Brian Lara.

The 32-year old flew into Durham on Friday and is clearly looking forward to impressing English spectators.

"Playing in county cricket is something which has been missing from my life," he said.

"If the ball swings for me I will have no problem, if it doesn't I will swing the bat."

A day of mourning

WASHINGTON, Apr 22: The US sports world responded to President Bill Clinton's call for a day of mourning for the Oklahoma City bombing victims, with officials planning a moment of silence at events on Sunday, the sports cable network ESPN reported, says AFP.

Among the major sports events scheduled Sunday were 13 National Basketball Association games, seven National Hockey League games, three golf tournaments, Federation Cup tennis matches, baseball exhibition games and an Indy-car auto race.

Clinton and his wife, Hillary were to attend a memorial service Sunday in Oklahoma City, where a car bomb on Wednesday left at least 78 people dead.

In proclaiming Sunday a national day of mourning Clinton said: "...I ask the American people assembled on that day in their homes and places of worship to pay homage to the memory of those lost in the Oklahoma City tragedy, and to pray for them and their community."

Russian reaps Belgrade marathon

BELGRADE, Apr 22: Vladimir Kotov of Russia won the Belgrade Marathon on Saturday, finishing the race in 2 hours, 14 minutes and 1 second, reports AP.

Compatriot Andrei Kouznetsov came in second with a time of 2:15.19 and Hussein Mbarak of Kenya was third at 2:15.35 over the 42.1-kilometer (26.4-mile) course.

Izabella Zatorska of Poland finished top among the women, with a time of 2:40.27. Malgorzata Birbach and Nina Kovrizhnikina, both from Poland, followed with times of 2:41.41 and 2:43.27, respectively.

This year's marathon recovered some of the flare lost over the last two years because of UN sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia for its role in the Bosnian war. Sanctions on sports, cultural events and travel were eased last October.

Organizers said 1,650 competitors from 35 countries joined in the race, which began and ended in the heart of the Serbian capital under warm, sunny skies.

Among the runners of the marathon and the 21-kilometer (13-mile) so-called half marathon were 120 elite athletes, including last year's men's winner, Vladimir Bukhanov of Ukraine, who still holds the record of 2:12.27.

Zoltan Kadlot of Hungary won the half-marathon for the men in 1:03.54, and Firala Sultanova of Romania led the women with a time of 1:10.45.

More than 20,000 enthusiasts also joined in the accompanying five-kilometer (three-mile) "fun run," amid tight security, with soldiers in army uniforms guarding the course.

The 45-year-old Kotov was later presented the Fred Lebow Trophy, introduced this year to commemorate the former New York marathoner who died last year from brain cancer.



Frenchwoman Mary Pierce makes a forehand return to South African Joannette Kruger during their Federation Cup tie at Metz, France on April 21. Pierce won the match 6-4, 6-3.

Chang-Bjorkman final today

HONG KONG, Apr 22: Fifth seed Jonas Bjorkman will play a semifinal battle of the Swedes Saturday and earned the right to face No. 1 Michael Chang in the title match at the \$28,000 dollar Salem Open, reports AFP.

Bjorkman, ranked No. 27 in the world on the ATP Tour, defeated compatriot Jan Apell 6-1, 6-4 on Centre Court at Victoria Park, Chang, the idol of local fans in the territory, gained revenge for a loss a week ago in Tokyo, beating third seed Jim Courier 6-4, 6-2.

Watching Sunday's finale will be the Princess of Wales, making a weekend charity visit to Hong Kong. Princess Diana is a noted tennis fan who has attended Wimbledon numerous times.

But royalty will likely make little difference to the participants on court. Bjorkman, playing in his first tournament final, will be hoping to give the agile Chang little room to move.

"I want to go for the knock-out punch like in boxing," he said. "I don't want to give him a chance to rally with me."

Bjorkman had the fitness edge over Apell, who played for almost three hours on Friday night, knocking out second seed Wayne Ferreira in an upset.

No 86 Apell was Bjorkman's second Swedish victim in as many days. He also beat fourth seed Thomas Enqvist in the quarterfinals.

Bjorkman and Apell are close friends and doubles partners. They won the ATP Tour world doubles championship last year and are the Davis Cup doubles champions for current-holder Sweden.

"It is easier to lose to a friend than to beat him," said Bjorkman. "At least you know that you lost to someone that you like."

Bjorkman said that although he knows Apell's game from all angles, there were still surprises to be had. But he added: "A win is a win. This is an individual sport."

"We Swedish guys all want to be the best. You must take friendship away when you play

a match like this," he said.

Courier admitted that he was tiring out after two weeks of almost constant tennis in Asia. "I was slow to get to the ball," he said. "I've played a lot of matches on this trip."

"They took a toll. I wasn't able to get out there and control the rally. I woke up this morning a little bit tired. I was in trouble before I got out the door," the American said.

Earlier on Friday, Chang and fellow American Jim Courier won their quarterfinals in contrasting styles.

Chang, the top seed, sailed through his match with unseeded Dane Kenneth Carlsen 6-3, 6-2, while third seed Courier had to battle back from a set down to defeat the sixth-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia 5-7, 6-2, 6-3.

Chang lost in straight sets to Courier in the Japan Open last week and is eager for revenge.

"I am looking forward to playing him again. I enjoy playing him very, very much," said Chang. "Courier is playing about the same as last week but we are in a new place, on a new day and it's new match."

Courier had to stick doggedly to the task against

Coetzer coasts past Pierce

METZ, France, Apr 22: South Africa's Amanda Coetzer defeated Mary Pierce, 6-4, 6-3, Saturday to give South Africa a 2-1 lead over France Saturday in the first round of the World Group Fed Cup, reports AP.

It was Coetzer's second singles win. She beat France's Julie Halard, 6-2, 6-4, on Friday.

Halard takes on Joannette Kruger in Saturday's second singles which is scheduled to be followed by the doubles involving Halard and Nathalie Tauziat against Coetzer and Elna Reinach.

Coetzer, ranked 19th in the world compared to Pierce's No. 3, needed one hour, 28 minutes to beat Pierce.

Before Friday, Pierce, the Australian Open winner, last played Feb 19, when she lost to Steffi Graf in the final of the Paris indoor tournament. Pierce took time off to rest and then had a groin pull over the past month.

The France-South Africa tie started a day ahead of the three other World Group first round matches because of the French presidential elections. Spain-Bulgaria, Japan-Germany and Austria-United States began their play on Saturday.

The semifinals will be played July 22-23.

Sabatini sails

JAKARTA, Apr 22: Argentina and Indonesia each emerged victorious from their singles matches on the first day of the Federation Cup women's group tournament here Saturday, reports AFP.

The world's seventh ranked women's singles player Argentinian Gabriela Sabatini made her comeback in the Federation Cup by beating underdog Romana Tejakusuma of Indonesia 7-5, 6-2 in a straight set.

Indonesia's ace player Yayuk Basuki later returned the favour, beating Argentina's Florencia Labat in an equally easy set of 7-5, 6-4.

Sabatini, 24, allowed Tejakusuma to lead both sets briefly before she relentlessly pounded her to defeat in each one.

New design for two Olympic Stadium towers

ATLANTA, Georgia, Apr 22: Design changes for two of the four light towers at the Olympic Stadium were approved Friday and work on the modifications will begin Monday, reports AFP.

A building worker was killed when one of the towers collapsed last month.

Lyn May, spokeswoman for the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG), said steel braces will be added to each of three frames in the towers.

ACOG construction manager Louis Mosley asked that the design modifications for the northeast and northwest towers be issued first to keep the construction sequence intact.

Modifications for the other two towers, which are different from the north towers, were expected to be approved next week.

May said no trusses on the two north towers were to be replaced. Construction worker Jack Falls was killed when a truss holding a bank of lights collapsed on March 20.

Schulz first, Tyson later

LAS VEGAS, Apr 22: He was never supposed to get this far or fight this long. Now George Foreman finds himself in a race against time as he tries to end his career with a heavyweight title fight against Mike Tyson.

Foreman defends the IBF version of the title tonight against Germany's Axel Schulz, who was plucked from obscurity as a safe way for the new champion to earn a quick 10 million dollars, reports AP.

It may be one of the last few fights for Foreman, who turns 47 in January and may not be able to hang around long enough for the bout he really wants — a megafight with Tyson that would figure to be boxing's richest fight ever.

"It would have been a boxing fan's dream," Foreman said of a fight with Tyson. "But the Tyson people are scared of such a fight. They don't want

him to fight me."

Foreman may be the most popular heavyweight champion since Muhammad Ali, but Tyson's shadow looms large across the heavyweight ranks as Tyson prepares to resume his spectacular career following at three-year stint in prison.

Tyson, though, is not expected to fight until at least August, and presumably wants a few more fights before taking on a major challenge. And Foreman, who became a grand father two months ago, has said repeatedly he intends to retire by the end of the year.

"If Tyson wants to fight, George will find a way for it to happen," promoter Bob Arum said. "But George is getting a lot of pressure from his family. He won't fight after this year."

Arum said that Foreman — assuming he gets past the unranked and unknown Schulz — would fight in July in either Germany or Australia, then end

his career with a Nov 5 fight against a major opponent such as Riddick Bowe or Michael Moorer.

The more immediate business is Schulz, the former East German Army amateur heavyweight who went from a virtual unknown to a major sports figure in Germany after Foreman selected him for the first defence of the title he won from Moorer last November.

Schulz, 21-1-1 with 10 knockouts, appears to be ready-made for Foreman. A straight-ahead fighter who doesn't move well and has little power, he has fought only twice outside Germany.

Foreman will come forward as he always has, looking for the big punch, while the only chance for Schulz will be to try and keep moving and outbox Foreman from the outside.

"I have to be very cautious that I don't get hit too hard," Schulz said through a translator.



American Jim Courier who is better known for his tennis indulges a completely different ball game — table tennis — against compatriot Michael Chang during the break at the Hong Kong Open on April 20.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Reticent one
5 "Holy mackerell!"
8 Pelion pile-on partner
12 A shake in the grass?
13 Parisian prepal
14 Gastro-nome's subject
15 Plant-growth chemical
16 Extend-able page
18 Cougar or leopard
20 Tarzan's transit system
21 Yon maiden
22 Crib
23 Mortal
26 Hamilton, N.Y. school
30 Simile center
31 Exemplar of patience
32 Louis — "The Sun King"
33 St. Louis' — Arch
36 V members

38 Energy
39 Francisco lead-in
40 Egg-carton capacity
43 Sits awkwardly
47 Stretch out
49 Register
50 Pre-dilection
51 Oakley's prop
52 Burt's ex
53 "Piggies"
54 Tackle's teammate
55 Garden spot

3 Chester
— Arthur
4 "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"
5 Bet
6 Gen.
7 Algonquin Round Table
8 (The) near future
9 Any day now
10 Matchless
11 Unites
17 Wicked
19 Coop denizen
22 Bing's pal

23 Crone
24 Dos Passos trilogy
25 Wrestling surface
26 Affectedly shy
27 Exhibit A in the Borden case
28 "— the season..."
29 Leading lady?
31 Predicament
34 Decathlon components
35 Blueprint extra
36 Needle-fish
37 Allow
39 Exhaust
40 Plastic-user's situation
41 Sub in a tub
42 Region
43 Dazzle
44 Unfinished furniture?
45 Matchless
46 Excoriate
48 Candle count

Solution time: 24 mins.

SWAB	HEM	BIAS
TAKE	AMA	ELSE
EVIL	TURNDOWN	
MYNAHS	SOLVED	
IOTA	MAE	
OVERPASS	MYTH	
HIS	INCAS	OOO
MAPS	DOWNTURN	
REA	THAW	
SLEAZY	OPENER	
PASSOVER	LOGO	
ALSO	ERS	VIAL
NOON	SEE	ERDE

CRYPTOQUIP

O L R M K - H L D Z D L Q F R J

Q Y H O L M O M Y E X Z M Z ,

C N H H X Z M Z L M Z E L Q K

H M Y D D C Y Y H X J

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DIPPY SHOE SALES MAN, LOSING HIS TEMPER, HAD A FEET OF ANGER.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: C equals B

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.