

Windies' Aussie tour brief

MELBOURNE, Apr 24: The West Indies will open a five-Test series against Australia in Brisbane on November 22, the Australian Cricket Board announced Wednesday, reports AP.

The second Test will begin a week later in Sydney, the board said in announcing the international programme for the southern hemisphere summer.

Sydney will also host a day night one-day international match on New Year's Day between Australia and Pakistan, who will join Australia and the West Indies in the triangular series.

West Indies will play Australia A in a one-day clash in Melbourne on December 13, while Pakistan will face an Australian XI in a one-day in Sydney on December 28.

The 1996-97 programme kicks off on November 4 with the traditional Lilac Hill clash near Perth featuring the West Indies and the Chairman's XI and culminates with the fifth Test, to be played in Perth from February, 1-5.

Pollock dreams up county goal

BIRMINGHAM, England, Apr 24: South African all-rounder Shaun Pollock said on Tuesday he hoped to help Warwickshire complete a hat-trick of English county championships, reports Reuters.

"It's going to be a new experience for me but I am pretty excited about it," Pollock, who replaces compatriot Allan Donald as the county's overseas player this season, said shortly after his arrival in Edgbaston.

"My main aim is to perform as well as I can and see if we can win the county championship again."

"As for individual targets there has been talk of 700 wickets and 800 and 1,000 runs. That would be nice but I am not sure how ambitious that is."

Pollock, who burst on to the international scene in South Africa's Test and one-day series victories over England a few months ago, could make his Warwickshire debut against the British Universities in a one-day friendly at Oxford on Wednesday.

But he may decide to take a little more rest and play in Warwickshire's opening Benson and Hedges Cup match against Leicestershire on Friday, having played five games in a week for South Africa in the Sharjah Cup.

Zamorano zaps Aussies

ANTOFAGASTA, Chile, Apr 24: Two second-half headers from Ivan Zamorano lifted Chile to a 3-0 victory over Australia in a friendly international football match here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Zamorano scored in the 52nd and 82nd minutes. In between, Esteban Valencia added another.

Australia were reduced to 10 men in the 31st minute when Joe Spiteri was sent off. Five other Australians, Ernie Tapal, Kevin Muscat, Paul Tmboli, George Kulscar and Andrew Bernal were warned in tense match that saw each team trying to unnerve the other from the kick-off.

Chile's Miguel Ramirez and Pablo Galdames were also cautioned by Argentine referee Roberto Rusco.

Two more Aussies, Dominic Longo and Daniel Taitto left the match injured after falls in the first half.

Zamorano broke the game open in the 53rd when he headed home a free kick by Marcelo Vega.

Some 30,000 spectators attended the match at the regional stadium here, 1,085 km north of Santiago, for their 1998 World Cup qualifying campaign.

Sanderson aims for Atlanta

CARDIFF, Wales, Apr 24: Twelve years after winning a gold medal at the Los Angeles Games, British javelin thrower Tessa Sanderson begins a comeback at age 40 next month, hoping it will lead her to a sixth Olympic appearance in Atlanta, reports AP.

Sanderson has ended her four-year retirement and, after training at the University of Miami in Florida, will compete in the Welsh Games in Cardiff May 25 alongside two Current British Olympic champions, sprinter Linford Christie and hurdler Colin Jackson.

Sanderson, who first competed in the Olympics at Montreal in 1976, finished fourth at the last Olympics in Barcelona and believes she is still capable of challenging for a medal in Atlanta.

Christie, the 100-meter t-tist, is keeping everyone guessing about whether he will defend his title in Atlanta after saying during an emotional outburst on a TV show last year that he would not.

Jackson, who won the 110-meter hurdles in Barcelona and also is world record holder, has decided to end his personal boycott of British meets. He fell out with the British Athletic Federation after pulling out of the AAA championships last year with a leg muscle injury and then went on to compete in another meet in Italy.

Win bucks up Windies

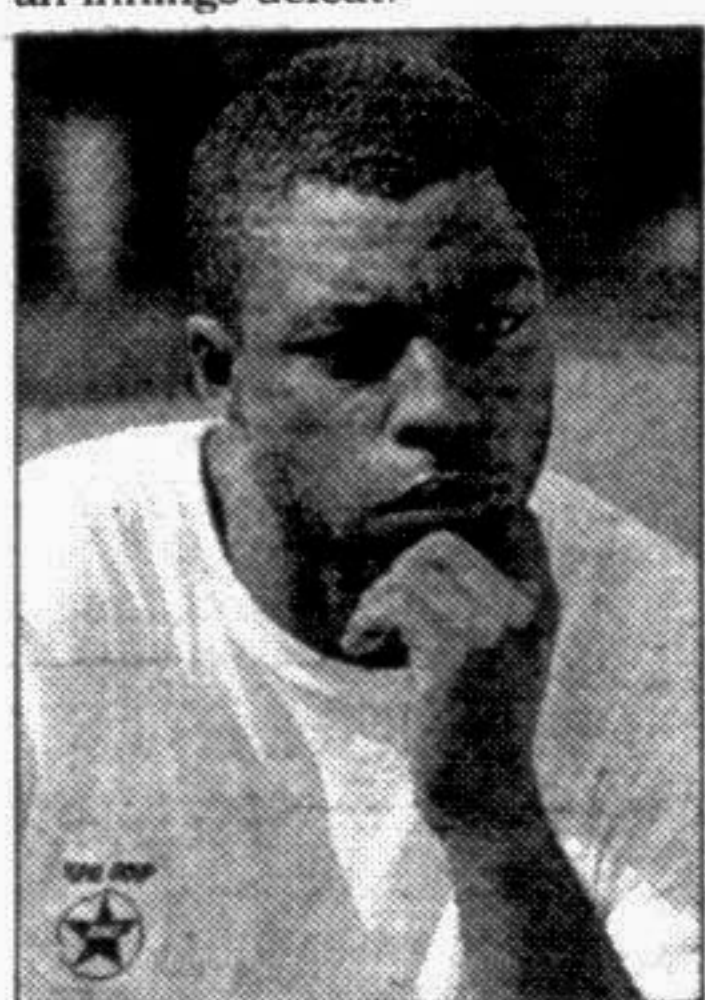


BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 24: The West Indies comfortably beat New Zealand by ten wickets a half hour before tea Tuesday on the final day of a first cricket Test, report agencies.

Opener Sherwin Campbell, the eventual man-of-the-match, knocked off all 29 runs the West Indies needed for victory. His unbeaten 29 included six dazzling fours and came off 21 balls.

Campbell's marathon 208, his maiden Test hundred, had been the backbone of the West Indies' imposing first-innings total of 472.

After a break Monday, New Zealand resumed on 151 for four, still needing 126 to avoid an innings defeat.



CAMPBELL... m-o-m

Nathan Astle, overnight 82 not out, went on to register his first Test century. In his third Test, the 24-year-old from Canterbury made 125 in three hours, 34 minutes at the crease. He scored 100 of his runs in boundaries - 22 fours and two sixes - and faced 154 balls.

He and overnight partner Justin Vaughan established a new fifth-wicket record for New Zealand against the West Indies. The pair added 144, beating the previous best of 142 between Martin Crowe and Jeremy Coney in George-

town, Guyana in 1985.

Astle and Vaughan were separated after an hour's play, soon after passing the landmark.

Left-hander Vaughan had batted two hours, 49 minutes for 24 when he was leg before wicket to fast bowler Ian Bishop.

Astle followed 14 runs later, his counter attacking innings ending with a second slip catch to Campbell off Patterson Thompson.

Adam Parore, whose injured groin forced him to bat with a runner, lasted just four balls before he also edged to Campbell, this time off Bishop.

Captain Lee Germon and Gavin Larsen added a further 35 for the eighth wicket, but when both were leg before to Walsh within six runs of each other, an innings defeat loomed large for the visitors.

But an enterprising last-wicket stand between Danny Morrison and Robert Kennedy ensured the West Indies would have to bat again.

The pair also passed the previous record for New Zealand against the West Indies. With bold stroke play, they added 45 in just 35 minutes with eight fours between them. That beat the former mark of 41 between Bevan Congdon and Jack Alabaster in Port of Spain, Trinidad in 1972.

Last man Kennedy was finally removed to a short leg catch by Jimmy Adams off Walsh.

Walsh ended with four wickets for 72 runs off 22 overs and Bishop with four for 67 off 19 overs.

Campbell then entertained the small crowd by securing the victory in quick time.

The teams meet in the second and final Test of the short series in Antigua starting on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the first Test between West Indies and New Zealand at the Kensington Oval on Tuesday.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings (Adam Parore 59, Nathan Astle 54, Jimmy Adams 5-17)

WEST INDIES: First innings 472 (Sherwin Campbell 208, Shivnarine Chanderpaul 82)

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings (overnight 151-4)

Spearman c Lara b Thompson	20
Twose c Lara b Walsh	0
Fleming c Samuels b Bishop	22
Astle c Campbell b Thompson	125
Harris c Samuels b Bishop	0
Varore c Campbell b Bishop	24
Germon lbw b Walsh	23
Larsen lbw b Walsh	6
Morrison not out	26
Kennedy c Adams b Walsh	22
Extras: (lb-17, nb-29)	36
Total:	305

Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-28; 3-48; 4-57; 5-201; 6-215; 7-219; 8-254; 9-260.

Bowling	O	N	R	W
Ambrose	18	6	41	0
Walsh	22	3	72	4
Thompson	14	1	77	2



NATHAN ASTLE 125

Bishop	19	1	67	4
Adams	6	1	32	0
Chanderpaul	3	1	9	0

WEST INDIES: Second innings

Campbell not out	29
Samuels not out	0
Extras:	0
Total: (for no wicket)	29

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Morrison	2	0	8	0
Kennedy	2	0	21	0

Result: West Indies won by 10 wickets

Man-of-the-match: Sherwin Campbell

Second Test: April 27-May 2 (rest day April 30.) St John's, Antigua.

CONTRIBUTOR'S COLUMN

It's not a game for lords

K Z Islam

An oft-repeated statement is that 'cricket is a Lords' game' — but if one delves deep into this matter certainly as far as Test cricket is concerned the undoubted conclusion will be quite the opposite.

My hypothesis about sportsmen is that outstanding sportsmen do not come from well-to-do families. In fact, more sportsmen have become titled after their sporting achievements than the titled have become outstanding sportsmen. To mention a few, Bradman, Hutton, Gubby Allen, Hobbs, Hadlee, Worrell, Sobers, Constantine, are few names that come to my mind. In fact, Lealie Constantine was honoured by the Queen with the Title Lord Baron of Maraval and Nelson after becoming West Indies High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago.

I cannot tell precisely how many Test cricketers have been decorated in their own countries for their cricketing achievements, but I do recall reading a news item during the visit of Queen Elizabeth to India when Sunil Gavaskar had an audience with Her Majesty.

The Queen reportedly had said that had Sunil been a British subject he would certainly have been knighted.

For that matter, who can dispute Imran to be the uncrowned king of Pakistan.

How many sportsmen be it in tennis, football, cricket, hockey, or any other sports, can claim to belong to well-to-do families. It is a sad testimony that children from well-to-do families despite having all the advantages rarely make themselves as outstanding sportsmen. Averagely good, may be, but not outstanding. Specially, if they happen to be good students, so much of their time is taken up for studies that, they have hardly any time left for sporting activities. To become a sportsman of international standard is a full time occupation.

For the benefit of those who probably don't know let me deviate for a bit and mention some curious facts. In the very first official Test match that was played in March 1876 one Bransby Beauchamp Cooper born in Dhaka in 1844 played for Australia. The next person making it to the Test level from this region was Niaz Ahmed who had the distinction of playing two Test matches for Pakistan. I really don't know where Niaz was born — it may well be that BB Cooper is the sole gift to Test cricket from Dhaka.

The first Test match was won by Australia by 45 runs and by a strange co-incidence

Court turns Botha's plea down

PHILADELPHIA, Apr 24: A federal court has refused to hear an appeal from Francois Botha, who lost his IBF heavy-weight belt in March after being disqualified for steroid use after his last fight, reports AP.

The ruling Tuesday by the US Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit removes the final legal obstacle to a heavyweight title bout between Michael Moorer and Axel Schulz who lost to Botha in December.

Botha had won on a controversial split decision over Schulz for the vacant IBF title Dec. 9, 1995, in Stuttgart, Germany, but then tested positive for a steroid.

The IBF fined the South African 50,000 dollars in February, and instead of stripping him of the title, ordered a rematch.

But the IBF changed its decision and ordered a Botha-Moorer match after Moorer's promoter, Dino Duva of Main Events, protested that the IBF had previously agreed to have Moorer challenge the winner of the Botha-Schulz fight.

Australia exactly repeated their margin of victory played on the same ground (MCG) in the Centenary Test precisely one hundred years later.

Let us now go on a nostalgic meandering through the fascinating history of Test cricket to recall the names of titled personages who have adorned Test cricket teams. The English nobility contributed handsomely in the promotion of the game initially. Cricket first earned Royal patronage in 1723 when Frederick, the Prince of Wales and son of King George-II became an enthusiast promoting many matches around London. His passion for the game and his considerable involvement did much to popularise cricket with the nobility of the day.

In fact, a considerable number of eighteenth century cricketers were of great social distinction.

In the late eighteenth century, after over 50 years of royal patronage no one was more enthusiastic than another Prince of Wales, the eldest son of George-III, later to become George-IV. It was written of him as 'making a party of cricket almost every day.' With the patronage of the royal family over such a period, cricket had attained a position in the English was of life that it was never to lose.

The formation of the MCC in 1787 was undoubtedly a result of cricketers' popularity amongst the nobility and their links with the Court. The famous cricket ground, Lords, however, gets its name from one Thomas Lord, who assisted the MCC in obtaining this ground at a very reasonable cost from the Duke of Dorset. Cricket may have had royal beginnings but when Test cricket started we see a totally different picture. It would be most appropriate to state that it is not the Lord's who became cricketers but the cricketers who became Lords (Knights).



Action from a Third Division football league encounter yesterday.

— Star photo

Int'l chess Niaz in third position

MADRAS, Apr 24: Grand Masters Anthony Miles (England) and Utut Adianto (Indonesia) emerged as joint leaders with a tally of 7 points at the end of the ninth round of Sakthi Finance International Grand Master Chess tournament held here today, reports PTI.

DV Prasad of India is half a point behind while compatriot Grand Master D. Barua and Grand Master Niaz Murshed of Bangladesh shared the third spot with 5.5 points. International Master Sudhakar Babu of India has 5 points. Miles caught up with Adianto after outplaying International Master Shirdh Lak in 43 moves from a Kings Indian defence classical variation.

Scholastica storm into qtrs

Sports Reporter
Scholastica and Mirpur Bangla High School moved into the quarterfinals of the Dhaka zonal qualifying rounds of the 14th Nirman schools cricket tournament after winning their respective group finals yesterday.

Scholastica trounced Nawabpur Govt High School by 101 runs in Group A final at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Mirpur Bangla emerged Group B champions beating T&T High School by a big margin of ten wickets at the Residential Model School ground.

Put in to bat first in a reduced 20-over match due to overnight rain, Scholastica piled up a huge 187 for six with opener Shaker hammering 58 off 42 deliveries inclusive of four boundaries and three sixes. Among others, Ridwan and Imran scored 19 runs each while Nayeem added an unbeaten 18 to the Scholastica Account.

Nawabpur's Romel and Sohel Rana captured two wickets apiece conceding 29 and 30 runs respectively.

In reply, Nawabpur were restricted to only 86 for nine in their allotted 20 overs.

Scholastica's Tasabbur, Nayeem and Rahim took two wickets each with all bowling quite economically.

In the day's other match, T&T School elected to bat first which backfired as they were all out for 7 in 20 overs.

In reply, Mirpur Bangla School reached home (78) in 16.2 overs with both openers Sawkat and Rajib not out on 26 and 28 respectively.

Office cricket league begins today

Sports Reporter
Defending champions Regensea Lines will take on Banque Indosuez in the opening match as the second Office cricket league begins in the capital this morning.

A total of seven office teams are participating in the league this year who will play in a round robin league initially divided into two groups.

Biman and Aqua Marine are the remaining two teams placed in Group B with Regensea and Bank Indosuez while last year's runners up Partex Group are placed in the other group with the Acme Laboratories and Eastern Bank.

Biman football

Sports Reporter
Narayanganj DSA moved into the final round of the Biman national under-14 football championship after defeating Dhaka DSA 3-0 in the zonal final (Tangaila) at the Tangaila Stadium yesterday.

Striker Shahjahan scored all the three goals for Narayanganj in the second half.

After the match, Dhaka lodged a complaint to the tournament committee about the validity of three Narayanganj players who were reported to have participated in the tournament last year. As per the by-laws, a player can only play once in the Biman Cup.

However, one Bangladesh Football Federation official said last night that the final decision will be given after checking all the documents immediately.

Div III soccer

Sports Reporter
Mutuail Juba Sangha and Sunrise Sporting Club shared points in the Progoti Insurance Third Division football super league as their match ended in a 1-1 draw at the Rajuk ground yesterday.

Abul Bashar put Mutuail ahead in the 37th minute while Riaz levelled the match for Sunrise in the 42nd minute.

Div I handball

Pragoti Boys Club defeated Christian Youth Club 26-15 in the Ashraf Real Estate First Division handball league at the court adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium, reports UNB.

The winners dominated the first half 13-5.

Badsha, Kajal and Shamim netted seven, six and five goals respectively for the winners while Salahuddin scored five goals for the losers.

In the other match Victoria SC was declared winner against Nababpur SC by 16-14 goals when Nababpur refused to play in the 17th minute of the second half over a referee decision.

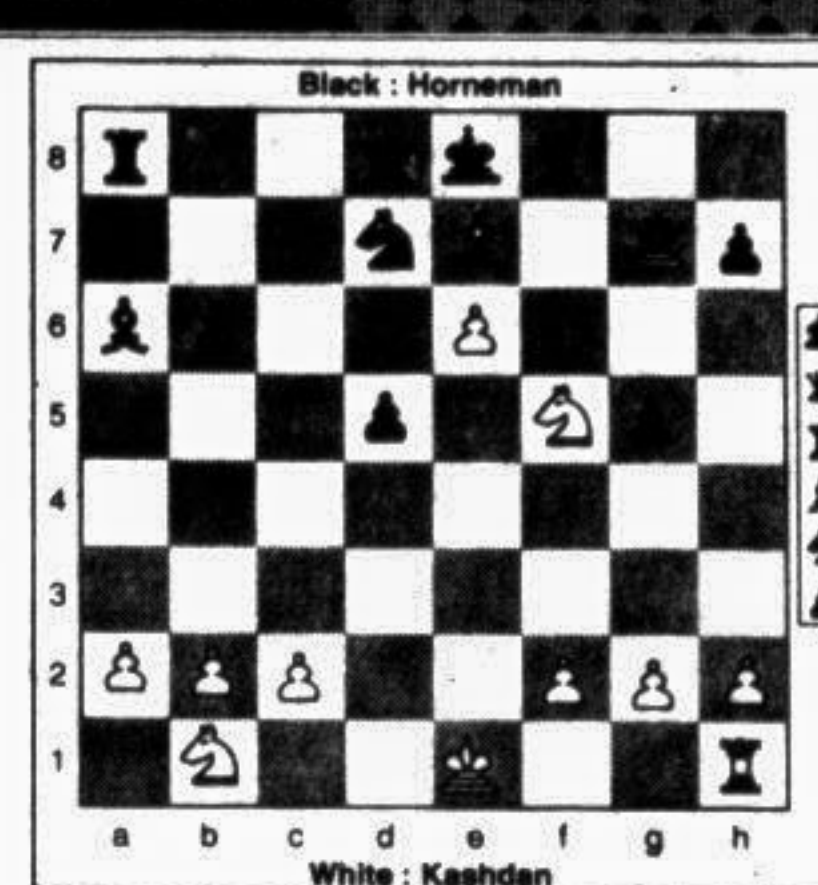
PAPERCHES

IN the old days, chess mas-ters used to give 'odds' to the weaker players. Which means that they removed one or more of their pieces before the start of the game letter to make an uneven match more interesting.

In recent times, it is considered an impossible task among serious players, since the level of technique these days is such that just one pawn surplus for one side becomes decisive.

The last offer to play a tournament player with a knight handicap, came from no other than Bobby Fischer, the man responsible for popularising chess during the seventies. He claimed that he could beat the women's world champion Nona Gaprindashvili without a knight.

Everyone knew that this comment was not a serious one and was meant more as a derogatory remark than an actual challenge. Mikhail Tal had



the best comment on this, "Fischer is Fischer," he said, "But a Knight is also a Knight."

Anyway, here is a successful miniature game played with a rook odd.

And now take a look at the diagram. What should white play? Solution: 15. q-g6 check

4.Q-g4 cd4 5.-f3 N-h6 6.Q-h3 B-e7 7.B-d3 b6 8. Q-g3 N-f5 9.Bf5 ef5 10. Q-g7 R-f8 11. N-d4 B-a6? (bad move) 12.n-f5 N-d7 13. B-g5 f6 14.e6 f6 15. And now take a look at the diagram. What should white play? Solution: 15. q-g6 check hg6 16.N-g7 mate.

From Baghdad to Russia?

MOSCOW, Apr 24: Bowing to international pressure, the world chess federation has scrapped plans to hold its championship match in Baghdad and is proposing to hold it in Russia instead, sources said Tuesday, reports AP.

A Moscow spokeswoman for the federation's president, Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, said she could not confirm or deny the plan.

The chess federation, known by its French Acronym FIDE, came under fire when it announced plans this year to stage its title match between American Gata Karpov and Russian Anatoly Karpov in the Iraqi capital in June.

President Saddam Hussein, whose country is under international sanctions, was to conduct the ceremonial opening for the 2 million dollar match.

Chess federations and US government officials denounced the proposal, and Washington refused to issue a visa to Kamsky.

Ilyumzhinov, who had proposed the Baghdad venue, has decided to abandon that proposal, according to reliable chess sources who declined to be identified. A news conference that he had called for Wednesday was cancelled.

Ilyumzhinov, who also is president of the southern Russian region of Kalmykia along the Caspian Sea, wants to hold the match in the Kalmykian capital city, Elista, the sources said.

The sources said Kamsky's father sent a fax to Ilyumzhinov saying he wanted to talk further about the Elista proposal before agreeing to it, and is flying to Moscow on Thursday.

A spokeswoman for Ilyumzhinov, who as Kalmykian president serves in Russian upper house of parliament, the Federation Council, said she was unaware of the plan and that Ilyumzhinov was not available, she declined to give her name.

FIDE is a rival organization to the Professional Chess Association founded and headed by Russia's Garry Kasparov, who is the reigning PCA champion and the world's highest-ranked player.

The Russian Chess Federation, which is closely allied with Kasparov, had denounced the Baghdad match and said it would "cover FIDE and all chess lovers with shame." It had planned to convene a general assembly of chess federations if the plan had not been called off.

Riley, who escaped with a warning after positive dope test last December at the World short-course championships where she won both the 100 and 200 breaststroke. Finished in 2:31.12, over two seconds slower than her best time.

She made the 100 metres team on Monday despite being beaten by Helen Denman.

Sino novelty!

BEIJING, Apr 24: China has chosen three underprivileged children to be among 12 people who will represent Beijing in the Olympic torch relay across the United States, organisers of the event said on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

The three children, from the project Hope Education Charity, were aged between 12 and 17 and included a Tibetan girl named Rany Ying, Coca Cola China, a subsidiary of Coca-Cola said.

Project Hope is a non-profit programme providing education for children in more than 2,000 schools in China's underdeveloped areas. Coca-Cola is a major sponsor of the charity.

The 12 Chinese torchbearers were chosen from 25,000 candidates from China's 30 provinces and included a medical school graduate and a policeman, Coca Cola said.

The Chinese torchbearers would carry the flame at New York state's Niagara Falls on June 12, it said. Each torchbearer would carry the flame for one km (0.62 miles) of the 84-day journey from Los Angeles to Atlanta.

Coca Cola, an official sponsor of the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and of the Olympic torch relay, would pick 2,500 torchbearers from 69 countries, its statement said.

Jansher Khan of Pakistan leads the world squash rankings, followed by Rodney Eyles and Brett Martin of Australia, and then Peter Nicol of Britain.

Cairo squash tourney May 15

CAIRO, Apr 24: The world's top 32 men squash players will take part in a tournament in Cairo from May 15 to 22, organisers said on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

From the second round onwards matches will take place in a portable glass court imported from Britain and set up near the Giza Pyramids and the Sphinx, they said.

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It's do or die for Perkins

SYDNEY, Apr 24: World record holder Kieren Perkins failed to qualify for the 400 metres freestyle at this year's Atlanta Olympic Games after finishing third at the Australian Olympic trials on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

Perkins, who set the 400 metres world mark of three minutes 43.80 second at the 1994 World Championships in Rome, was beaten by Pan Pacific champion Daniel Kowalski, with Malcolm Allen second.</