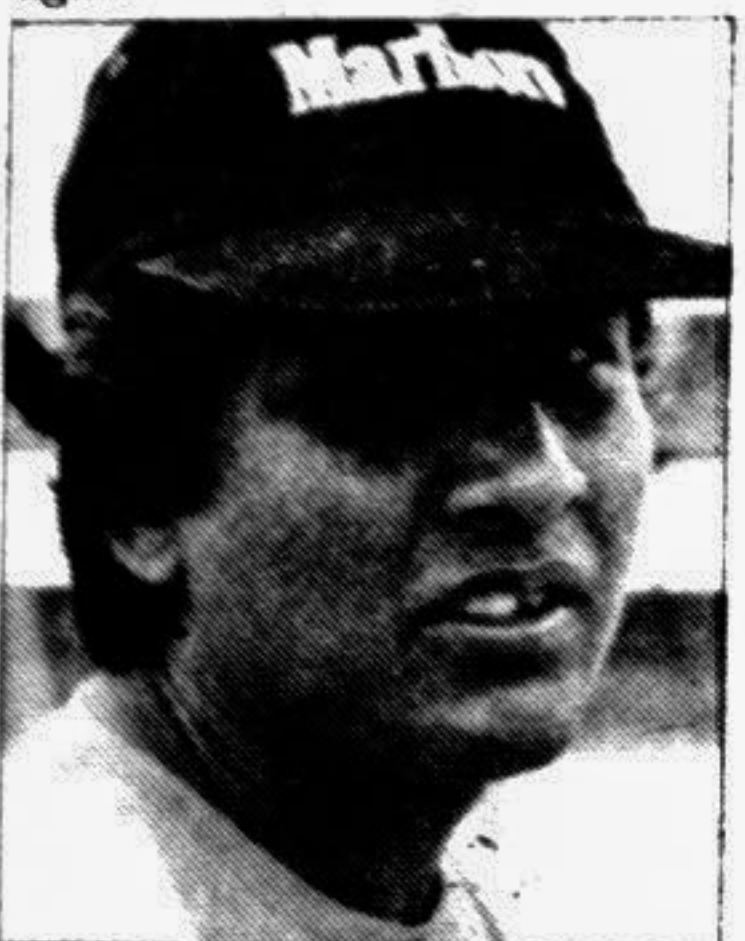


Pakistan in driving seat

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, Nov 19: West Indies have a mountain to scale to save the first Test against Pakistan after conceding a massive 230-run first innings lead on the third day Wednesday in Peshawar, reports AP.

The tourists were not out of woods when stumps were drawn for the day, losing Stuart Williams (2) and Shivnarine Chanderpaul (14) with 99 runs on board and still needing 131 runs to force Pakistan to bat again.



INZAMAM 92

Brian Lara was unbeaten on 36 with the help of eight cracking runs while Sherwin Campbell was batting on 34.

Pakistan posted a substantial total of 381 before they were dismissed 25 minutes before the tea interval. It gave the home team a lead of 230 as West Indies were bowled out for a paltry 151 on the first day.

Earlier, sloppy fielding by the Caribbean allowed Pakistan to score 381 in their first innings as the home team's innings terminated 25 minutes before the tea interval.

Inzamamul Haq, who batted with the assistance of a runner due to swelling on his left foot, got a second chance on 32 when Lara missed a sitter in the first slip in Courtney Walsh's fifth over of the day.

Lady luck smiled again on Inzamam, three runs later, this time Ian Bishop failed to hold on to a difficult catch off his own bowling.

West Indies captain Courtney Walsh yanked last man Mushtaq Ahmed for his fifth wicket of the innings and prevented Inzamam from scoring his second century against the West Indies. His chancy unbeaten 92-run innings included nine fours and two sixes, both straight over the head of Lewis.

Pakistan resumed their first innings at the overnight total of 246 for five but lost Azhar Mahmood in Walsh's first over.

However, wicketkeeper Moin Khan completed his 7th Test hooking Walsh for a six over deep fine leg.

Walsh ended up with five for 78 off his 32 overs while Bishop (3-76) and Hooper (2-40) shared the remaining wickets in between them.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between Pakistan and West Indies in Peshawar Wednesday:

WEST INDIES: First innings 151 (Mushtaq Ahmed 5-35)

PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 246-5)

Anwar c D Williams b Hooper	65
Sohail c Lara b Walsh	4
Ijaz c Hooper b Bishop	65
M Wasim b Walsh	28
Inzamam not out	92
Moin c Walsh b Bishop	58
Akram st D Williams b Hooper	5
Mahmood c Hooper b Walsh	16
Arshad c Lara b Bishop	4
Nazir b Walsh	18
Mushtaq b Walsh	14
Extras: (b-2, lb-7, nb-11, w-2)	22

Total Fall of wickets: 1-10; 2-145; 3-145; 4-193; 5-207; 6-250; 7-294; 8-304; 9-347

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Ambrose	25	4	76	0
Walsh	32	9	78	5
Bishop	29	7	76	3
Simmons	2	0	9	0
Lewis	24	6	93	0
Hooper	20	7	40	2

WEST INDIES: Seconds Innings

S Williams lbw b Akram	2
Campbell not out	34
Chanderpaul c Ijaz b Mushtaq	14

WALSH..... 5 for 78

Lara not out Extras: (b-5, lb-1, nb-7) Total: (for 2 wks in 30 overs) 99

To bat: Carl Hooper, Phil Simmons, David Williams, Rawd Lewis, Ian Bishop, Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh

Bowling:

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Akram	8	4	20	1
S Nazir	3.5	0	17	0
Mahmood	4.1	2	6	0
Mushtaq	8	2	32	1
Arshad	6	2	18	0

Umpires: David Shepherd (England) and Said Shah (Pakistan); TV replays: Javed Akhtar (Pakistan); Match referee: Raman Subba Row (England).

Hingis cruises into qtrs

NEW YORK, Nov 19: Top-seeded Martina Hingis hung on by a tonal — her opponent's — and won her opening-round match at the season-ending Chase Championships when Brenda Schultz-McCarthy retired with an injury Tuesday night, reports AP.

Hingis was leading 7-6 (7-3), 5-2 when Schultz-McCarthy called it quits because of a broken right toe.

Earlier, sixth-seeded Iva Majoli won her first-round match, edging Anke Huber 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-2).

In the night's final match, second-seeded Jana Novotna defeated Conchita Martinez 6-4, 6-4.

The first round will be completed Wednesday night when No. 3 Lindsay Davenport faces Mary Joe Fernandez and No. 5 Monica Seles, the only former champion in the elite 16-player field, plays Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

Sunday's title match is the only time during the year that women play a best-of-5 sets format. The single winner pockets 500,000 dollars, while the first-round losers collect 30,000 dollars.

In the quarterfinals, Hingis will play No. 7 Mary Pierce. Majoli will take on Nathalie Tauziat and Novotna will face the Seles-Sanchez Vicario winner.

Sweden target Chang

LONDON, Nov 19: The Swedish captain Calle Hagberg Tuesday sprung no surprises when he announced his squad against the United States in the Davis Cup final next week, reports AP.

Hagberg nominated Jonas Bjorkman, Magnus Larsson, Thomas Enqvist and Nicklas Kulti for the Nov. 28-30 final in Goteborg, Sweden, but declined to divulge which players he would nominate for the singles.

"I rather wait with that decision. It depends on the daily form and how the players perform on the surface in Goteborg," Hagberg said.

Rating the U.S. as the big favourite, Hagberg thinks Sweden's only change to win is that his players beat Michael Chang and win the doubles match.

Winning the doubles is the key to win the final. Sweden has never won a Davis Cup final without winning the doubles match," Hagberg added.

Perth Test begins today

Kiwis turn to O'Connor

PERTH, Nov 19: New Zealand have opted for the extra pace of Shane O'Connor but are left with an inexperienced attack for the second Test against Australia starting tomorrow, reports Reuters.

Left-arm seamer O'Connor, who made his Test debut against Zimbabwe in September, will play his third Test as a replacement for all-rounder Chris Harris.

O'Connor's inclusion is New Zealand's only change from the side which was crushed by 186 runs in the first Test of the three-match series, in Brisbane last week.

However, it means fast bowler Simon Doull, barring all-rounder Chris Cairns, is the most experienced member of their attack despite playing only 19 Tests. The remaining trio — O'Connor, fellow left-arm paceman Geoff Allott and left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori — have just 12 caps between them.

O'Connor played in both matches in the drawn Test series in Zimbabwe, claiming seven wickets at a costly average of 41.

Harris made little impact in the Brisbane Test, failing in both innings with the bat and bowling only 13 overs of medium pace without reward.

Meanwhile, Australia are poised to give fast bowler Simon Cook his Test debut after Glenn McGrath was ruled out because of groin injury.

Australia's captain Mark Taylor hinted Cook would be promoted ahead of pace bowler Andy Bichel, who was 12th man for the first Test.

"It will be very hard to leave him out after being selected because he has been in good form," said Taylor, who plays alongside Cook for New South Wales in the domestic Sheffield Shield competition.

"We're not trying to pick a guy here for the next four or five years of Test cricket, we're trying to pick a guy who's going to replace Glenn McGrath (as a strike bowler) in Perth," Taylor told reporters.

New Zealand competed strongly with Australia for four days in the first Test before collapsing for 132 in their second innings in Brisbane.

They have also lost heavily against state sides Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.

and have yet to win a match on tour since arriving in Australia last month.

New Zealand are expected to promote captain Stephen Fleming or wicketkeeper Adam Parore to number three and bat Nathan Astle lower down in an attempt to provide middle-order stability.

TEAMS

AUSTRALIA (from): Mark Taylor (captain), Matthew Elliott, Greg Blewett, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh, Ricky Ponting, Ian Healy, Paul Reiffel, Shane Warne, Michael Kasprzowicz, Andrew Bichel, Simon Cook.

NEW ZEALAND: Blair Pocock, Bryan Young, Nathan Astle, Stephen Fleming (captain), Craig McMillan, Chris Cairns, Adam Parore, Daniel Vettori, Simon Doull, Shayne O'Connor, Geoff Allott.

Reading eliminated Leeds 3-2. Newcastle squeezed through at Derby with a 72nd minute strike by Jon Dahl Tomasson.

Arsenal, currently second in the Premier League, needed extra time to put out Coventry.

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English League Cup results

LONDON, Nov 19: Seventeen-year-old prodigy Michael Owen hit a hatrick against Second Division Grimsby on Tuesday to put Liverpool into the English League Cup quarterfinals, reports Reuters.

The England hopeful scored in the 28th minute, earned a penalty which he converted in the 45th and made it three in the 57th.

Grimsby looked capable of making a game of it during the first half-hour, running at Liverpool's defence, but the first goal sapped their spirit and it was left to First Division Reading to play the role of giant-killers on the night.

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Iran, Terry trade fire

SYDNEY, Nov 19 (Reuters/APF): Australia national coach Terry Venables waded today into a controversy over a World Cup qualifier against Iran, criticising the conditions his 'socceroos' will face in Tehran this weekend.

A furious Venables said his team had been treated with a lack of respect by being kept in the dark about the kick-off time until only three days before the first leg tie.

The first leg will kick off in mid-afternoon, forcing Australia's squad to fly to Tehran on Friday rather than the morning of the game.

The second leg will be played at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on November 29, only five days before the World Cup draw in Marseille.

The former England coach also complained about the state of the pitch, saying it was below the standard required for an important international match.

"I've been tearing my hair out over the last 10 days," Venables told the Australian Associated Press news agency at a training camp in Dubai.

"It's just unbelievable that we're left in a position where we don't know what's going on. It's a lack of respect really to us leaving it like this," Venables added.

Iran accused Australia's top soccer official of "embarking on a campaign of misinformation" against the country.

Iran's official news agency IRNA said Soccer Australia chairman David Hill had made "ridiculous allegations implying unsafety of the drinking water in Iran, further adding that his team would bring its own food to Tehran."

Hill had said on Monday that he could not think of a worse place in the world to get to at short notice, describing the trip as "a logistical nightmare."

He said Australian officials had decided to "embark on their food and water and had been in contact with the department of foreign affairs over the crisis in Iraq, Iran's neighbour."

"The irresponsible, sometimes malicious, statements by the Australian soccer official directly contradict the assessment of international organizations of Iran's capacity to host international sports events," IA said.

Venables was also unhappy about FIFA's qualifying schedule, saying it disadvantaged Australia's bid to reach the finals for the first time since 1974 and only the second time in history.

Iran opponent by finished as the fourth best team in the Asia Zone after a gruelling home and away qualifying tournament over recent weeks.

Iran's coach Terry Venables said Iran was expected to hear the outcome of an appeal to FIFA for the lifting of a suspension on key player Karim Bagheri before the match.

"The Iran Football Federation has submitted an appeal, but FIFA has asked the Iran team to submit a video tape of the match played against Qatar. FIFA is expected to make an announcement by this week," said Velappan, general secretary of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC).

Taylor ready to go on strike

PERTH, Nov 19 (AP): Australian cricket captain Mark Taylor warned officials Wednesday that he was prepared to strike if players voted for industrial action over their pay dispute.

"If the numbers went that way I would, yes," Taylor admitted. "I'm obviously captain of the Australian side but I'm a member of the (Australian Cricketers' Association) and if the numbers stacked up that way I would."

The ACA is believed to have several one-day international games in their sights for possible strike action over the long-running dispute for increased pay and power.

The Australian Cricket Board has said it would choose a team of players prepared to break the strike to make sure no games were lost.

As Australia's Test team prepared for Thursday's second Test against New Zealand, Taylor said strike action was a talking point in the dressing-room.

Meanwhile, former captain Allan Border said Wednesday he was joking when he told a television station that he would consider a return as Australian captain in the event of a strike.

World number one Martina Hingis of Switzerland takes rest between points during her encounter with Brenda Schultz-McCarthy of Holland at the Madison Square Garden's Chase Championships in New York on Tuesday.

—AP/UNB photo

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