

Kasper stakes his claim

AFP, London

Australia captain Ricky Ponting admitted the form of Michael Kasprowicz had left the world champions with a problem to solve ahead of the ICC Champions Trophy which gets underway in England on Friday.

Normally the world champions' first-choice attack would feature a pace trio of Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie and Brett Lee with bowling support coming from leg-spinner Brad Hogg and a clutch of all-rounders.

But Kasprowicz, 32, reinforced his growing claims as a frontline, rather than back-up performer, by taking five for 47 in Australia's thrilling 10-run one-day international warm-up win against Pakistan at Lord's here Saturday.

By contrast Lee, the fastest bowler in the Australian squad, finished with expensive figures of 10-0-67-1 in what was only his second top-flight bowling stint since undergoing ankle surgery in March.

"Kasper obviously bowled very well today, Brett maybe not as well as he would have liked but it was his first hit-out with the new ball," said Ponting.

"Everyone who played the game will be better for this workout, there's no doubt about that."

"But I don't know if it makes us any closer to settling on a line-up, or not," added Ponting whose team open the Champions Trophy with a match against rank outsiders the United States at the Hampshire Rose Bowl on September 13.

"We've got one practice game (against Hampshire) before the USA and we'll work out how everyone is going before that practice game."

"It looks like we're happy with how everyone is going we might rotate a couple of guys in and out for that game. Then we'll hit USA with what we think is our full-strength side, our best team."

DAY'S EVENT

Practice match

Bangladesh v USA

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 21

Tick the correct answers, post

The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm Sept 10, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the first gold medal in the Athens Olympics?

Gakina Devers

Du

2. Who became Asia Cup cricket champs?

India Pakistan Sri Lanka

3. Who clinched the Cincinnati Masters tennis title?

Federer Henman Agassi

4. Who lifted the 25th hat'l' hockey crown?

Usha MSC Bangladesh

Army

Name

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Class..... Roll No.....

School Address

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Phone: (If any)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37	Famed	2	Ms.	23	Reed or	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Puts	Pirates		Moore		Summer	12	13	14				
5	Raring to	John		24	Went by	camel	15	16	17				
8	Austin	Actress		3	Rhett's	shocking	18	19	20	21			
12	Powers'	Spelling		4	Positions	25	26	27	28	29	30	24	25
13	Passion	45	Leave	5	Offspring	Stylish	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
14	Pod	47	Felon's	7	Crisp	lustrous	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
15	Acknowl-	49	Inces-	8	"Sound of	a	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
16	Jane	50	Eater	9	Music"	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
17	Austen	51	Past	10	"Price Is	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
18	heroine	52	Cere-	11	Righ"	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
19	Sandy's	mony	53	Santa's	errors	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
20	comment		10	11	"Average	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
21	Stagger	sackful	12	13	"	53	54	55					
22	Gilligan's	54	LBJ	14	Part of	PAKISTAN							
23	boat	pooch	15	55	MPH								
24	Equitable	Differently	16	56	Football								
25	Prop	DOWN	17	18	Fill								
26	Liberate	19	Lum-	20	Loves not								
27	Leader	21	mox	22	wisely but								
28	Giants	22	23	24	too well								
29	legend	24	25	26	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
30	Mel	25	26	27	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
31	Physi-	27	28	29	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
32	cs'	29	30	31	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
33	Coat	30	31	32	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
34	carriers	31	32	33	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
35	33	34	35	36	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
36	Vortex	34	35	36	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
37	Rage	35	36	37	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	
38	Corral	36	37	38	49	50	51	52	53	54	55		
39	Bewil-	37	38	39	50	51	52	53	54	55			
40	dered	38	39	40	51	52	53	54	55				

Solution time: 25 mins.

CRYPTOQUIP

V T J H N D V D X U D V

X M U O N M F G ' U T E O F O T F T F

U T I M X D F N T I G T E O Q Q T J F G

D U D E T H M E T U O G O T F ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: YOU WOULD IMAGINE

THAT THE LUMBERJACKS COULD JOKINGLY BE

KNOWN AS TREETOTALERS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals W

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.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Puts

5 Raring to

8 Austin

12 Passion

13 Pod

14 Acknowl-

15 Jane

16 Sandy's

17 Stagger

18 Gilligan's

20 Equitable

22 Liberace

23 Leader

24 Giants

25 legend

30 Physi-

31 Coal

32 CS'

33 Vortex

34 Rage

35 Corral

36 Bewil-

dered

37 Famed

38 southpaw

39 Actress

40 Pressing

41 Leave

42 out

43 Felon's

44 flight

45 Always,

46 in verse

47 sound of

48 fabric

49 Inces-

50 Eater

51 Past

52 Cere-

53 Santa's

54 LBJ

55 Differently

DOWN

19 Lum-

20 Throat

21 Model

22 Leader

23 Giant

24 legend

25 Mel

26 Coal

27 carriers

28 CS'

29 Vortex

30 Rage

31 Corral

32 Bewil-

33 Famed

34 southpaw

35 Actress

36 Pressing

37 Always,

38 sound of