



Let's hope Higgs wakes well

From Ray Robinson

Anybody who can add and subtract knows that Australia should start favourites in the second Test tomorrow, yet the pendulum of fortune often makes a mockery of such calculations.

We have to wait until two hours before the start to know how England will alter the eleven who played in the unfinished Brisbane Test.

This delay is partly because fast medium bowler, Ken Higgs, is off colour, though it is hoped his trouble is not the virus infection which kept the vice-captain, Colin Cowdrey, out of the first Test.

England's selectors this afternoon announced this preliminary 13: M. Smith, C. Cowdrey, D. Allen, R. Barber, K. Barrington, G. Boycott, J. Edrich, K. Higgs, J. Jones, B. Knight, J. Parks, E. Russell, F. Titmus.

If Higgs wakes well tomorrow, I think he will partner the left-hand, Jeff Jones, in opening the attack, and the last bowling place will depend on whether England sacrifice one off-spinner, David Allen, to bring in the all-rounder, Barry Knight, as a third pacesman.

Touch regained

Knight is the better batsman, but, to me, Allen's bowling looks more likely to get good batsmen out on Australian turf.

There is talk of extra Test eve practice for Cowdrey, but the touch he regained in Adelaide yesterday convinces me that he should be brought in even if this means squeezing out Russell, who has had no match practice since his right-hand was split in the first Test.

The reason for favouring Cowdrey's inclusion is based on something Sir Leonard Hutton told me when captaining England in Australia in 1954.

Inspection at 7.30 a.m.

Mr. Malcolm Hancock, the Clerk of the Course at Warwick, announced shortly after mid-day today: "We cannot make any decision today about racing here tomorrow. We shall have an inspection at 7.30 a.m. in the morning (Thursday)."

"There has been a slight thaw, but there is still frost in the ground."

"Weather forecasters here tell me that they do not expect any frost tonight."

Leopardstown returns

Weather: fine. Going: heavy

Tote Double: 39/6

1.0—TOURNAINE (M. Curran) 1. Spanish Surprise 2, Windgates Road 3 All ran except Ceana Sgeal, Kay's Vulcan and Artist's War (9) S.P.: 4/1, 5/1, 100/6. Artist's Chance events won.

1.30—BRUNC (F. Shortt) 1. Vulcanegra 2, Collierstown 3. All ran except The Joker, Loughinlea, Archival and Red Arrow (11). S.P.: 13/2, 13/2, 10/1. Prince Tino 6/4 on fav.

2.5—GYPSANDO (C. Finnegan) 1. Busty Hill 2, Clusium 3. All ran except Flying Wild, Shannon Shamrock, Kathleen Rua and Arctic Stream (11). S.P.: 3/1, 5/1, 100/8. Tobraheela 3/1, fav.

2.35—JUDKIN (F. Shortt) 1. Interosian 2, Flying Wild 3. All ran except Greek Vulcan (7). S.P.: 4/1, 5/2, 5/1. Corrigadillisk 2/1, fav.

3.10—THORN GATE (P. Taaffe) 1. Flaxen King 2, Hunch 3. All ran except Gypsando and Inda's Last (11) S.P.: 5/2 on fav., 25/1, 100/7. Tote-Win 3/6; places 4/-, 7/6, 12/- forecast 18/6

3.40—STONEHAVEN (Mr. J. Erogan) 1, Man of the West 2, Silvertrix 3. All ran except Woodbow, Terossian and Poker Trip (10). S.P.: 5/2 on fav., 100/7, 8/1

Hutton said it was an unnerving sensation for a newcomer to walk in to bat in Melbourne before the world's largest cricket crowd.

Non-selection of Cowdrey tomorrow would leave England with only one Melbourne-baptised man, Barrington, in the list of the first seven batsmen.

David Brown's stomach muscle and left elbow injuries leave the opening attack weaker than in the first Test, where England had to follow on 163 behind.

Stronger

Australia's side looks stronger, despite a Crazy Gang selection mix-up over the fast-medium bowler Neil Hawke.

Adjusted unfit to bowl for Australia because of a leg strain, Hawke is strong and mobile enough to bowl in Perth for his State, South Australia.

This absurdity loses no piquancy because the Test selection chairman, Sir Donald Bradman, is also chairman of the South Australian selectors.

It suggests that even Australia's coolest cricket brain is not immune to getting in a whirl.

If the Victorian fast bowler, Alan Connolly, is preferred to the Queenslander, Peter Allan, for his home pitch as partner for top pacesman Graham McKenzie, England's openers, Barber and Boycott, will see the new ball coming from different hands than in Brisbane.

By standing up to the stresses of a come-back century against Victoria, Bob Simpson's repaired forearm enables Australia to gain not only a captain, opening batsman and slip fielder, but also a second leg-spinner to support Phillipott, who took six wickets in Brisbane.

The pools pay-out

LITTLEWOODS Treble Chance: 24 pts £2,890 10s. 23 £18 4s. 22 £12 11s. 22 14s. 21 £8s. Twelve Match Points: 18 pts £10 17 £1 8s. Select 16: 10 draws £1,002 17s. 9 £13, 8 14s. Three Draws: 24s. Nine Results: 160s. Four Aways: 268s. Easier Six: 120s.

EMPIRE Eight Match Treble Chance: 24 pts £702 14s. 13 £2 5s. 22 £2 3s. Seven Match Treble Chance: 21 pts £63 13s. 20 £1 2s. 19 £1 3s. 19 2s. Three Draws (11 on list): 32s. Eight Results: 2,476s. Four Aways: 184s. Three Results: 360s. Jackpot (25 goals): £378. Winning Nos. 12, 27, 45. Correct Scores: (1st div) £70 12s. (2nd) 12s. Four from Four Results: 17s. Easy Six: 256s. Twelve Match Points: 15 pts £1 8s. 14 4s.

COPIES Treble Chance: 24 pts £364 2s. 23 £2 12s. 22 £2 6s. Match Jackpot: 19 1/2 pts £870 18s. 19 £553 8s. 18 £14. 18 £4 12s. 17 £2 4s. Match Results: 8 correct £13. 7 6s. Three Draws: 24s. Nine Results: 32s. Four Aways: 204s. Easy Six: 32s.

Young U's at Chelmsford

Cambridge United's Youth enter the last stage of this season's Mercia Cup programme tonight when they travel to Chelmsford. They will rely on the team that



Emerson beaten by Santana

Australia completed a 4-1 victory over Spain when they shared the final two singles in the challenge round of the Davis Cup tennis competition in Sydney today.

The highlight of today's play was the victory of Manuel Santana (Spain) over the Wimbledon champion, Roy Emerson, by 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 15-13.

About 100 cheering Spaniards surged across Sydney's White City centre court. Waving red and gold flags and scarves, they evaded police and lifted Santana shoulder high as if their hero had won the cup itself.

In the last match of the day, Fred Stolle (Australia) defeated Juan Gisbert 6-2, 6-4, 8-6.

It was a tense and fluctuating battle between Santana and Emerson, with the Spanish champion proving the steadier at crucial moments.

After sharing the first two sets, Santana, holder of the United States singles title, gained a marked ascendancy in the third set with a dazzling returns of

The right-winger, Wesley Maughan, scores Cambridge United's first goal against Bedford at the Abbey Stadium last night, and giving him moral support is the inside-left, David Barretti. Bedford, however, won 4-2 to complete a Christmas double. (See Page 13).

Football numbers

United A 06745 (£40); B 25160 (£40); C 12648 (£40). City C 35707 (£40); A 09280 (£10); B 26045 (£4). Lucky Numbers 12, 22, 78, 89, 38, 18, 27, 33, 28, 64, 50.

service and passing shots. In the marathon fourth set, both men had early chances, but Santana, who survived a set point in the tenth game, gradually got on top.

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Ken Higgs was taken ill with a stomach upset and sore throat today.

Today's racing Taunton

Weather: raining. Going: soft

Tote Double: £86 16s.

MISTLETOE NOVICES' CHASE 2m.

MAN OF KENT ... O. McNally 1 MISS GRMOND ... S. Mellor 2 MESTENGO ... Mr. D. Crossley-Cooke 3

1.30—OLD YEAR JUVENILE (S) HURDLE 2m.

MISS UPLANDS ... J. Haine 1 YOUNG ANDREW O. McNally 2 POLITICIAN ... W. Palmer 3

2.0—ST. JOHN'S DAY CUP 2m.

ROANGLE ... J. Foster 1 GLADIUS ... S. Mellor 2 SLAVE DANCER ... J. Cook 3

2.30—AMATEUR RIDERS' CHASE 3m. 11.

VILLAY ... Mr. D. Scott 1 QUICK APPROACH ... Mr. R. Knipe 2

3.0—CHRISTMASTIDE 4-Y-O H'CAP HURDLE 2m.

SCOTCH CATS W. Shoemark 1 JACKIE R ... O. McNally 2 TIPULIDAE ... A. G. Hicks 3

3.0—KING WENCESLAS HURDLE 2m.

HOPEFUL LAD W. Shoemark 1 MOUNT PROSPECT ... Mr. R. Roberts 2

Official scratchings

Mildmay Steeple Chase, Sandown Park and Mandarin Steeple Chase, Newbury, Arke.

LATE NEWS LEOPARDSTOWN: 3.40 Tote: win 4/1; places 3/1, 5/1, 6/6 TAUNTON: Tote Treble 102/- FOOTBALL NUMBERS: Newmarket and District S.P. 4883; S.W.A.P.A.S. (Cambridge R.U.F.C.) 2770 HILLS Treble Chance: 24 pts £253 9s. 23 £2 18s. 22 £2. Three Draws: 18s. Eight Results: 54s. Ten Results: 1,108s. Three Results: 288s. Four Aways: 358s. Three Correct Scores: 400s. Lucky Seven (paid on 5 correct and 2 postponed): 96s.