

Nothing ventured...



Simon Ruddell, of Griffith, found himself in a predicament at the Federal Golf Club course yesterday, but he successfully risked wrapping his club around a tree-trunk to clear his ball to a more easily playable lie.

Picture: MICHAEL POTTER

PACIFIC CONFERENCE GAMES

Athletes strike gold

CHRISTCHURCH, Sunday (AAP). — Australia's young athletes made it a glittering day of gold at the Pacific Conference Games track and field meeting at Queen Elizabeth II Park, Christchurch today. They captured eight gold medals to take their games tally to 12 and finish at the top nation at the four-yearly meeting. Australian athletes, relishing the decided fitness advantage of competing in season compared with other nations coming from northern winters, dominated today's program. Wollongong's Peter Gandy completed the sprint double with a powerful win in the 200m in 20.89sec to add to yesterday's gold in the 100m (10.42sec). In rapid succession, Sydney typist Linda Garden won the women's 400m hurdles by almost two seconds

in 57.73sec and Melbourne insurance clerk Peter Bourke won a gold, despite finishing second to invited Hungarian runner Andreas Paroczai in the 800m. Later in the day Gael Mulhall completed a field double with success in the shot put with a hurl of 17.21m to add to yesterday's discus win. Twenty-year-old Sue Howland won a gold medal for finishing second to Briton Tessa Sanderson in the women's javelin with a best throw of 60.36m. Like Bourke, Howland was elevated to first because Sanderson was another of 20 invited competitors. They were ineligible for the medals which went only to athletes from the Pacific Conference countries — Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Japan and the United States. Australia capped the day off with magnificent wins in both the 4x400m men's and women's relays. The women's team of Marian O'Shaughnessy, Lyn Foreman, Michelle Baumgartner and Terri Cater cleared away with the relay in three minutes 34.20sec. The men's team turned on a heart-thumping performance when Bruce Frayne, running the last leg, was headed in the back straight by the American representative only to fight back and take the gold in a thrilling final-straight surge. The winning time was 3min 7.03sec. Policewoman Cater failed to catch American Leann Warren, finishing second in the women's 800m. Steven Knott's 7.49m was not enough to beat American Mike Marlow in the long jump while Chris Stanton and Katrina Gibbs finished third and fourth respectively in the high jump behind the Japanese winner, Hisayo Fukumitsu (1.89m).

NZ GAMES

Organisation irks coaches

CHRISTCHURCH, Sunday (AAP). — The organisers of the New Zealand Games swimming competition were criticised today by visiting officials and spectators at the end of the three days of competition. Some swimming managers and coaches accompanying the overseas teams to the games were critical of the fact that the 25 swimming and diving events were spread out over six sessions and four days — one a rest day. Team officials said the number of events could have been contested over two days, preferably with a rest day in between. Commenting on criticism from overseas swimming officials, the chairman of the New Zealand Games organising committee, Murray Hunter, said he thought there might have been a case for reducing the number of sessions. "I think there is some substance to their views", he said. "I am not an expert in swimming but I think there might have been a case for altering the number of days spent in the swimming competition."

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP

Australia wins on a 'creeper'

MELBOURNE: Australia scraped home by a bare half dozen runs from New Zealand in a drama-packed finish to yesterday's one-day international third final match at the MCG.

But the game ended on a sour note when Trevor Chappell, on the instruction of his captain brother Greg, bowled the last ball underarm along the ground. This was one of two incidents which marred the important game and it was a coincidence that both directly concerned Greg Chappell.

The win gave Australia a 2-1 lead over the Kiwis in the five-match final series with the series now to be decided in Sydney either on Tuesday or, if the New Zealanders level the series, on Wednesday.

The world-record crowd for a one-day game of 52,990 gave full vent to its feelings during the two incidents which overshadowed the day's play.

The first incident came during the Australian innings when Greg Chappell, on 58, skied a ball from Lance Cairns to Martin Snedden well out at mid-wicket. Snedden, without doubt, held the catch while diving headlong and forward for the ball.

But the umpires ruled Chappell not out and told New Zealand skipper, Geoff Howarth, that they did not see the catch and were more intent on keeping their eyes on the wicket area.

The incident drew heated protests from the New Zealanders and caused a lengthy outburst of hooting from all parts of the ground.

The same reaction was to follow right at the end of the game several hours later when Trevor Chappell bowled his underarm delivery.

Greg Chappell said the delivery was quite legal and within the rules, but Howarth described it as "morally not in the spirit of the game".

Those incidents apart, the game was a real cliff-hanger with the New Zealanders coming back dramatically in the closing stages and just failing to snatch the day's honours by six runs.

Both teams exhausted their 50 overs with the Australians scoring 235 for the loss of

four wickets and New Zealand replying with eight wickets for 229.

If one performance had to be singled out from yesterday's match, it must surely be the dogged 102 not out by New Zealand's Bruce Edgar, which just failed to steer his side to victory.

Edgar spent 202 minutes at the wicket, faced 141 deliveries and hit seven fours. In that time he saw eight of his colleagues sent back to the pavilion.

Apart from John Wright's 42 in the opening stand of 85 with Edgar, the only other real effort was John Parker's 24 in the middle of the innings. If he could have survived a little longer there is no doubt that he could have helped New Zealand pull the game out of the fire.

Set the tough task of a target rate of four and three quarter runs an over, the Kiwis trailed badly for a big slice of the innings only to put a lot of life into it toward the finish.

That New Zealand failed was no disgrace, especially as the team needed a burst of top-scoring shots in the closing stages to worry the Australians out of it.

When wicket-keeper Ian Smith was bowled by Trevor Chappell on the second last ball of the day and Brian McKechnie replaced him for what must surely be the season's shortest innings, it needed just one lofty six to tie the thriller.

However, the underarm delivery which dribbled up the wicket, wrecked all that and McKechnie reacted angrily by hurling his bat away.

It was a tight finish but not in the spirit that almost 53,000 fans had been hoping for. Earlier Greg Chappell showed a change of front when he decided to bat after winning the toss.

When Allan Border was dismissed for five with the total at just eight, it appeared that Chappell could have made the wrong decision. But he and Graeme Wood quickly set about righting the position and for the next two hours and six minutes they put on 145 runs for the second wicket — a stand which in the long run saved Australia.

It was during that stand that the controversial catch incident occurred, Chappell went on to add another 32 runs before being

out to an identical low-diving catch taken by Bruce Edgar.

"I had no doubts about that one as I was watching it all the way", Chappell said later. Wood's 72 in 136 minutes and a valuable 33 by newcomer Martin Kent helped keep the Australians afloat.

There was nothing sensational about New Zealand's attack but Snedden, apart from the disallowed catch, must go down as the unlucky player of the day, as easy catches hit up by Martin Kent and Rod Marsh were both put down.

The Australian selectors decided last night to retain the same 13-man squad for Tuesday's game and for Wednesday if a game is necessary on that day.

SCOREBOARD AUSTRALIA

Table with columns: Player, Runs, Wickets, Overs. Includes players like Border, Parker, Wood, Chappell, Edgar, Snedden, Marsh, Kent, Smith, Wollers, Sundries.

NEW ZEALAND

Table with columns: Player, Runs, Wickets, Overs. Includes players like Wright, Kent, G. Chappell, Edgar, Howarth, Marsh, G. Chappell, Cairns, Burgess, P. McEwan, Wood, Beard, Parker, Chappell, Lillies, Hadlee, Ibb, T. Chappell, Smith, B. T. Chappell, McKechnie, Sundries.

Fall: 85 (Wright), 117 (Howarth), 136 (Cairns), 139 (Burgess), 172 (McEwan), 221 (Parker), 225 (Hadlee), 229 (Smith). Bowling: D. Lillies 10-3-61, M. Walker 10-35-50, G. Beard 10-0-30-2, G. Chappell 10-0-43-3, T. Chappell 10-0-57-2. Bowling time: 202 mins. Overs: 50. Umpires: P. Croxall, D. Waver. Australia won by six runs. Criticism of Greg Chappell. — Page 15.

Wicket criticised

MELBOURNE: Australian and New Zealand skippers Greg Chappell and Geoff Howarth are anything but enthusiastic about the MCG playing area.

The pair were again critical of it after yesterday's one-day international cup third final game.

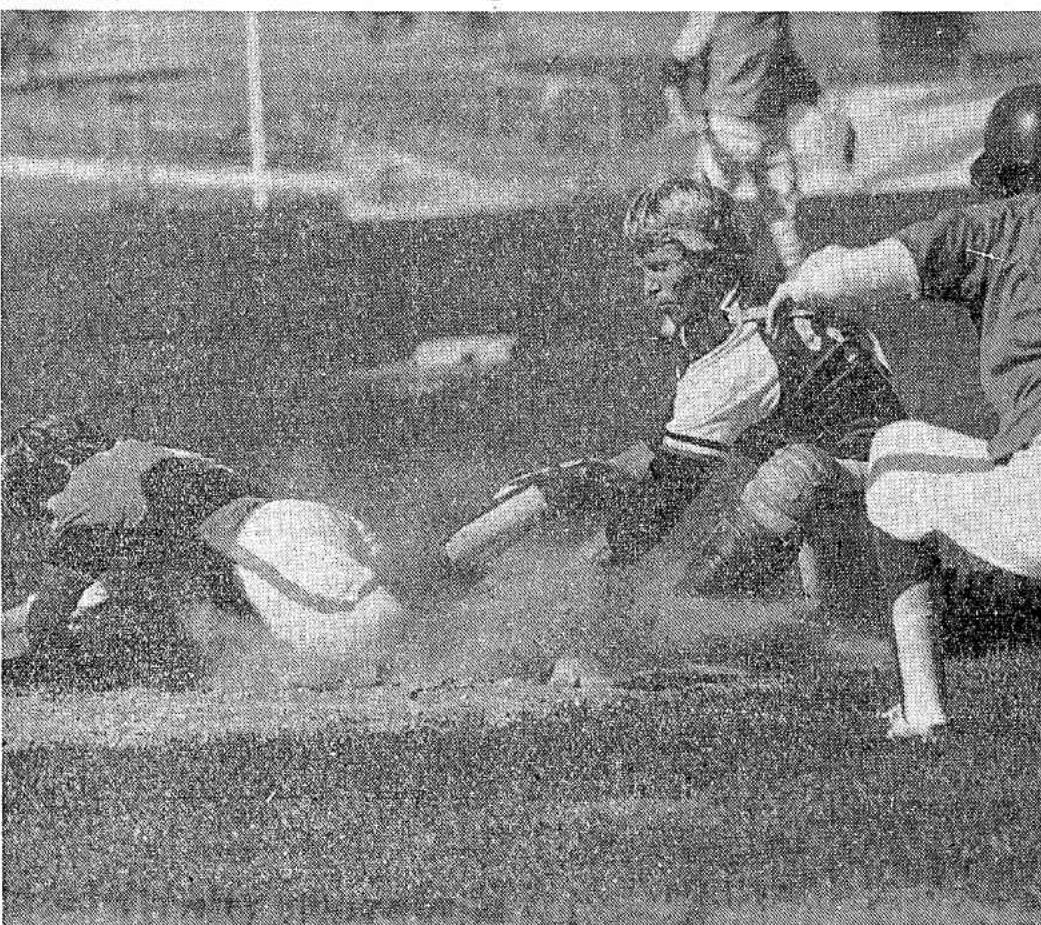
"Conditions on the past two days were very ordinary", Chappell said. "I am far from happy with the standard

of the wicket and the ground generally". The wicket could be a problem for the third Test against India beginning next Saturday as the crease area was very powdery and caved in under pressure from the fast bowlers.

But he said the authorities were committed to playing the Test on the ground.

Howarth described the wicket and ground as not conducive to international and first-class play.

Tagged out at the plate



Indians baserunner Geoff Watson is tagged out by Ainslie catcher Graham Kent as on-deck batter Craig Brewer (11) gives the slide signal. Watson was trying to score on a double by Ricky Horwood. Indians won 3-2. Report. — Page 15.

KAMBAH UTD SOCCER CLUB commences training on Tue. 3-2-81 At Kambah No. Two oval 6.30 ALL PLAYERS WELCOME

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THE CANBERRA TIMES Printed by the Federal Capital Press of Australia Pty Limited at Pirie Street, Fyshwick, ACT, for the publishers, The Federal Capital Press of Australia Pty Limited and John Fairfax & Sons Limited.

FOR SALE AND HOME DELIVERY Telephone The Canberra Times on 480066 extension 314 or 288 or contact your local newsagent. Phone Newsagents at: Acton 488796; Ainslie 479227; Aranda 511843; Barton 806692; Belconnen 514300; Braddon 474192; Bruce 514300; Campbell 491909; Chapman 885808; Charnwood 584951; Chifley 814194; City (Coven 486738, Glover 486914); Cook 511843; Curtin 811062; Deakin 813522; Dickson 498135; Downer 498135; Duffy 882563; Duntroon 491909; Evalt 584626; Fairbairn 491909; Farrer 863811; Fisher 881852; Flynn 584951; Forrest 959703; Fraser 584951; Fyshwick 806692; Garran 811063; Giralong 413669; Griffith 958332; Hackett 489387; Hall 302210; Hawker 545402; Higgins 549675; Holder 884448; Holt 542395; Hughes 811063; Koleen 413669; Kambah 317615; Kingston 959132; Latham 545915; Lyneham 497183; Lyons 814194; Macgregor 545915; Macquarie 511843; Manuka 959703; Mawson 863811; Melba 584626; Monash 317529; Narrabundah 958778; O'Connor 487097; O'Malley 863811; Page 541839; Parkes 806692; Pearce 861479; Phillip (Industrial Area 814194, Town Centre 815222); Red Hill 957990; Reid 486914; Rivett 882563; Russell 491909; Scullin 541839; Spence 584626; Stirling 885808; Swinger Hill 863811; Torrens 861479; Tuggeronong 317615; Turner 487097; Wanniasca 317529; Warawanga 881852; Watson 411505; Weetangera 545402; Weston 884448; Woden Town Centre, David Jones 815222; Yarralumla 813160; Queanbeyan (Wall 971086, Holden 971265).

SOCCER

United beats Arrows and keeps Cup

NEWCASTLE: Newcastle KB United retained the Prime Minister's Cup when it beat Canberra Arrows 3-0 at the International Sports Centre yesterday.

After a scoreless first half, United showed more enterprise in the second session and was never troubled by the visitors. Forward David Jones gave United hope for victory when he chipped in the first goal eight minutes after the interval.

Jones ran on to a pass from Arno Bertogna, beat the Canberra fullback, and lofted his shot over goalkeeper Steve Hozowski. Malcolm McClelland steered a left-foot shot across the face of the goal past Hozowski in the 26th minute of the second half for United to lead 2-0.

Paul Burrows had been on the ground for less than a minute as a replacement when he made it 3-0 and a certain victory for United. Burrows replaced David Jones and was still heading for his position when a pass from McClelland gave him a one-off shot at goal which he converted.

Canberra could not match United in general play and seemed out of condition the longer the match progressed. Tony Brennan and Don McLaren were replaced early in the second half to no avail with Hozowski taking over from the regular goalkeeper Richard Wilson in the second half. Further soccer reports. — Pages 14 and 15.

JENKINS

Cartoon strip with three panels. Panel 1: 'I'LL HAVE TO REFER THIS ON TO THE CHIEF CLERK.' Panel 2: 'I'D BETTER PASS THIS ON TO THE DIRECTOR.' Panel 3: 'I'LL HAVE TO GET JENKINS ONTO THIS!'

RUGBY LEAGUE

Burke coach of Country Firsts

SYDNEY: Former State halfback Brian Burke has been appointed the Country Firsts coach for the annual clash with City at Bruce Stadium in May.

Burke was appointed to the post at the annual conference of the NSW Country Rugby League in Sydney yesterday.

The 1972 Caltex Country Rugby League player of the year, Burke has been a stalwart of country football for the past 15 years and coached Country

Seconds to within a whisker of victory over City Seconds at the Sydney Cricket Ground last year.

City hung on desperately to win the match 17-16 after Country staged a magnificent fightback in the closing stages of an exciting match.

Formerly of Newcastle, Burke has had extensive experience coaching in the country and was chosen from a strong field of contenders following a recommendation by the CRL management committee.

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