

TEST MATCH SERIES BEGINS

England's new opening pair, Cowdray (left) and Peter Richardson really began the innings after a rain-delayed start. The great Lindwall opened to Richardson but the young left-hander from Worcestershire played him like a master and scored runs from the beginning. It's early days yet but all hope that in Richardson and Cowdray England have found openers who will banish timid, negative play. Nevertheless Australia should have had a wicket when a misunderstanding between the batsmen presented a chance quite incredibly missed. Six yards from home Richardson slipped, dropped his bat. At the bowler's end Miller misfielded and the batsman was saved. Cowdray went on unperturbed; so did Richardson and the score mounted merrily.

It was 52 for no wicket at lunch. Davidson bowled after the interval, and it was he who got the first wicket.... In Davidson's second over a short one got up quickly and Cowdray gave Miller an easy catch. ~~Graveney~~ Graveney had a very brief stay, caught off when Johnson for eight. So/the skipper, Peter May, came in England were 72 for two. If he'd falled anything might have happened. Fortunately he played Lindwall with confidence.

With a four off Lindwall Richardson reached his fifty.

Then came tragedy for Australia. First, Lindwall went off with a pulled thigh muscle. Next, Davidson fell ⁷⁸ ~~with~~ a cracked fibula. Never has any touring team been so crippled by injuries as this one. ~~This~~ was misfortune indeed. For England Richardson (65 not out) and Peter May played out time.