

THE FOURTH TEST:

The last day of the Fourth Test at rain-soaked Old Trafford - with Australia's overnight score at 84 for 2, needing 291 to avoid an innings defeat. The skippers inspect the pitch, and groundsmen work hard to make it playable. For on today's cricket, the Ashes may depend.

Ian Johnson feels the turf. And the battle can start. As the sun dries out the turf Jim Laker can once again get spin on the ball - He has Ian Craig l.b.w. for 38.

114 for 3. And now it's Ken MacKay's turn to face the Surrey wizard. Not for long - he's caught by Oakman for a duck!

124 for 4. Next man in is Keith Miller - surely he'll be able to stand up to Big Jim for a few runs!

But no - it's another duck! So far, Laker has taken all five wickets - and no one seems able to stop him. Ron Archer's the next victim, caught by Oakman - duck number three. The end's nearly in sight when Colin Macdonald goes - Laker's seventh victim. His score of 89 is by far the best of the innings.

Laker to Benand - bowled for 18! The Aussies might still force a draw if they can hold out for another hour or so, but when Ray Lindwall's caught by Lock off Laker, for eight, their hopes are very slim indeed.

Laker to Maddocks - and that's it! The Ashes are out! Everyone crowds round Laker to congratulate him - victims and all - for he's broken all records by his wonderful achievement. He's the first bowler ever to take all ten wickets in a Test innings. In fact, he's taken 19 in the match. If ever one man saved the Ashes, it's Surrey's Big Jim Laker!