

The crowds were out early, waiting to get into the Headingley ground at Leeds for the start of the Third Test Match --- and they were rewarded with an opening day that had more than its full share of excitement. As usual, the spectators were determined to see everything, right down to the smallest detail.

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The ground was packed when captains May and Johnson came out to spin the coin. May won the toss for England and decided to bat first.

The opening pair, as before, were Richardson & Cowdrey.

~~Richardson, as before, was opening in partnership with Cowdrey.~~
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But/the second over Archer had Cowdrey caught wicket

Next man in was Oakman --- ~~batting~~ faced with a minor crisis in his first Test ~~Match~~ Match.

Then Archer, in his fifth over, ~~batted~~ *got Oakman, 100* ~~Oakman~~

At this point Peter May came in and scored off his first ball

But another disaster followed. Richardson was caught off Archer's deadly bowling.....and the England score was 17 for 3

Now came Washbrook --- to heartening applause

The veteran Washbrook, who had been brought back into Test cricket to deal with just such an ugly situation, survived an appeal-~~4~~ but he more than justified his return trip from selector to player and joined his captain in a magnificent stand. The rot was stopped; and steadily the score edged up from that shameful seventeen, towards the happy hundred. Here's May, scoring his fifty

Soon after, Washbrook reached his own half-century

As the day wore on, these two had changed the face off the game; and here is Peter May, scoring his century, in a partnership that put on a hundred and eighty-seven runs before it was broken

~~English and Australians alike were disappointed when excellent Washbrook was out just two short of his own century. --- but the English had already secured its place among the legends of cricket.~~

sure

This great rescue operation --- followed by Australia's batting collapse --- earned for this Third Test Match a sure place in the legends of cricket.