

## The Lions bite back in Fifth Test cliffhanger

MANY of the 7,000 fans fortunate enough to watch spellbound the deciding Fifth Test at Sheffield's Owlerton Stadium on Sunday will remember this as a classic.

It was a bruising cliffhanger all those that saw will drool over and savour for years ahead.

For with the series tied 2-2 all was still finely balanced, 48-48, between great rivals England and the USA at the 361-metre steel city speedbowl after 16 heats, and just two to go.

**Reports: Stewart Boroughs. Pictures: Trevor Meeks**

Throughout, until the final score-line, the differential never exceeded six points, invariably it was a feeler gauge thick too.

Indications were that Sheffield would provide the closest finish in this year's series—until Lions pulled off two tremendous 5-1, in the closing laps to grab the Ashes by a respectable 58-50 margin.

And that with an under-strength side—five other Lions who had contributed in the series, John Davis, Dave Jessup, Malcolm Simmons, Gordon Kennett and Kevin Smith were competing in the British semi-final at Eastbourne on a track which, with the brilliant Shawn Moran competing on home shale, was generally regarded as favouring the Americans.

On six occasions, including the interval, the squads were all square. But on this occasion it was one of those days the Brits took a leaf out of the ebullient Americans' book, geeing each other along and generous with praise.

All the Lions were English heroes, Kenny Carter, Chris Morton and captain Peter Collins simply outstanding.

PC came storming back after his disastrous zero-scoring Ipswich performance to top score this time, like Carter and Morton producing strong performances, and vintage form scything through heavy traffic from the back.

Carter, who opened up at a blazing pace in heat one setting 63.9s and the fastest time of the season, was then joined by Neil Collins (who took two reserve rides from Steve Bastable, himself substituting injured Sheffield Tiger Dave Morton) and it was that partnership, Neil up front team-ridden home brilliantly by Carter, that inflicted the first crucial 5-1, and 53-49 lead, which piled all



### FIFTH TEST—SHEFFIELD RESULT AND SCORERS

**ENGLAND, 58:** Peter Collins 16, Chris Morton 14, Kenny Carter 13, Les Collins 5, Neil Collins (reserve, two rides) 4, Michael Lee 4, Steve Bastable 2, Andy Grahame (reserve, one ride) 0.

**USA, 50:** Dennis Sigalos 13, Shawn Moran 12, Bobby Schwartz 11, John Cook 6, Kelly Moran 5, Lance King 3, Steve Gresham (reserve, one ride) 0, Rick Miller (reserve, DNR) 0.

ABOVE: A happy weekend all round for the Lions who rode in the First Test at Wimbledon. Manager Mawdsley with Peter Collins, Kenny Carter, Michael Lee, Les Collins and Chris Morton, triumphant at Sheffield, with British finalists John Davis, Dave Jessup and Malcolm Simmons who qualified to Coventry on June 1 from Eastbourne.

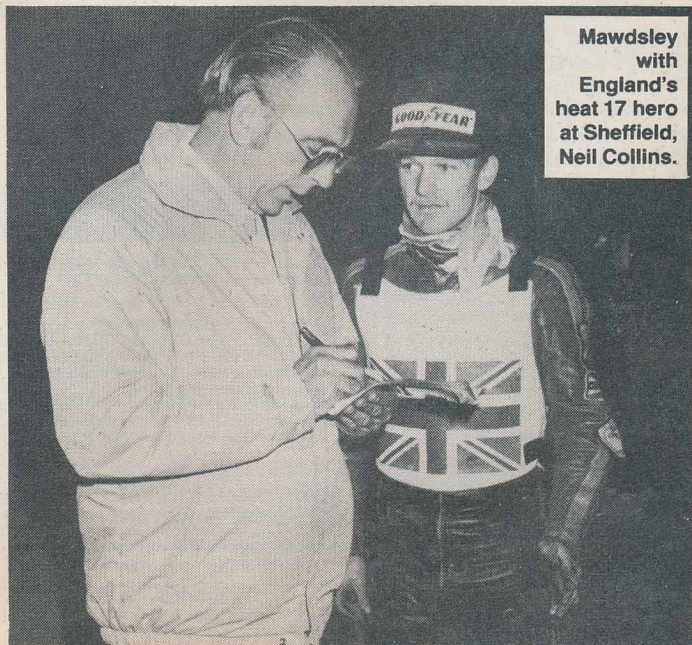
the pressure on the Americans to respond in the final race, the best they could hope for being to draw.

The whole series depended on that and it was PC who rose to the challenge, as he has so regularly in his illustrious England past, and with Michael Lee brought the house down by soundly beating the Moran brothers, Shawn and Kelly.

For the Americans, whose machinery is normally so well prepared and reliable, they will rue the day they came ill-prepared.

Before the vital heat 17, Dennis Sigalos' rapid Weslake had been shared by John Cook and Shawn Moran and the clutch finally failed. Its appearance in the last race, ridden by Shawn, marked its tenth outing in 18 heats.

All is now square in the four-year-old series which follows a regular pattern: USA won the first, England the second, America again with a 3-2 last year and now the tables turned once again.



Mawdsley with England's heat 17 hero at Sheffield, Neil Collins.

# ENGLAND v USA SPEEDWAY TEST SERIES

## LIONS SOAK U.S. AT POOLE

A CAPACITY crowd went ecstatic at Poole on Wednesday as they witnessed the Lions consolidating on their Swindon second test victory by overturning the Yanks once again by a larger 63-45 margin.

Poole had been the graveyard for England's aspirations in 1982, the scene of their heaviest defeat ever at the hands of the Americans, by 39-69, and consequent 3-2 crash in the series.

But there was to be no repeat this time and the Lions came storming out, denting America's confidence with two early hits that left the normally buoyant Yanks reeling 10-2 down from 5-1s in the opening races.

King Kenny Carter was once again the kingpin of England, as he had been 12 months ago. He was unbeaten in his first five rides but missed out on his maximum after missing the gate in his last, finally finishing third.

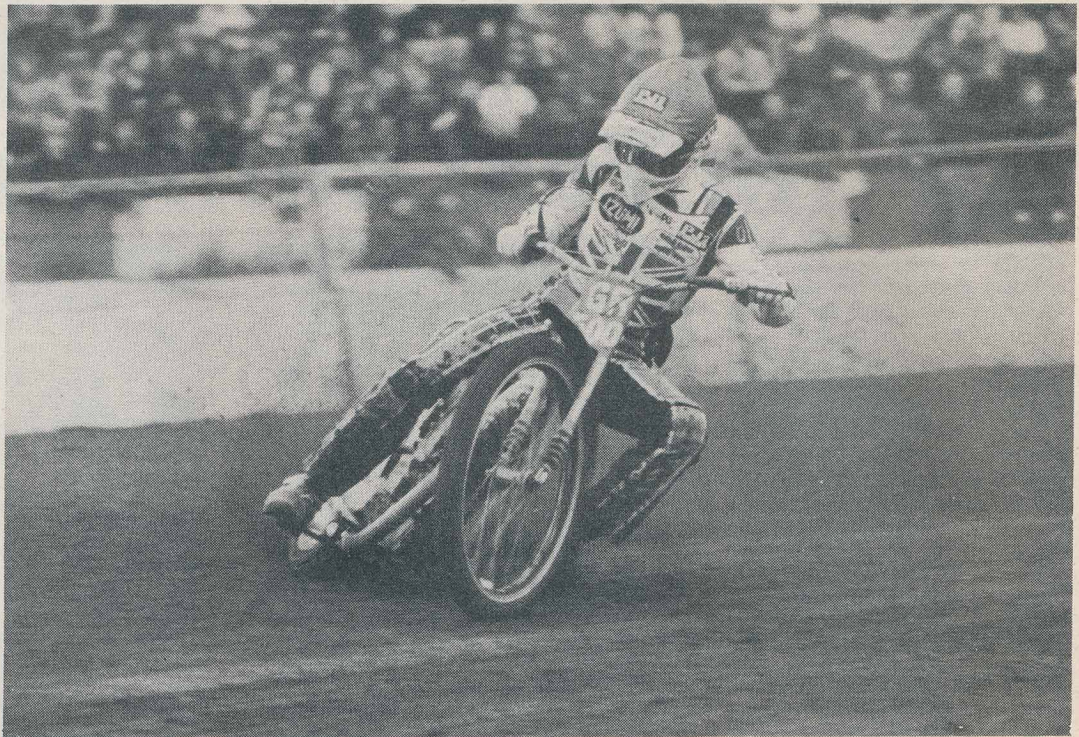
### Bombshell

But the main recipient of the British applause was another wearing the Union Jack, blond bombshell Simon Wigg.

He was outstanding, bringing all to their feet with two cracking wins from the back.

The first was over the Moran brothers, Shawn and Kelly—who had been persuaded to return from California to complete the series—both of whom were startled to see Wiggy pressing home Lions' blistering start by rushing round them in hair-raising style to take top points on the last lap of heat three.

Suitably encouraged with their



Blond bombshell Simon Wigg inspired the Lions to victory with two from back to front wins at Poole.

scalps under his bib, he continued the decimation, this time leaving Bobby Schwartz apparently stopped in his wake as he fought his Godden to the front in the seventh.

The Lions powered away and with that inspiration there was nothing the Yanks could do to stop them. It could have been clinched as early as heat 15, where Michael Lee, with two wins and two seconds, switched off his electronic black box in a freak accident.

"I must have caught it with my leathers or boot strap," he admitted. "That's the first time I've ever done that."

Instead, the honour went to reserve John Davis. The Poole superstar came out in the next in place of Chris Morton, trapped perfectly and won his only race to clinch matters, 57-39.

John Cook, flown in from California as replacement for Mike Faria, looked out of contention in his first British meeting for almost a year,

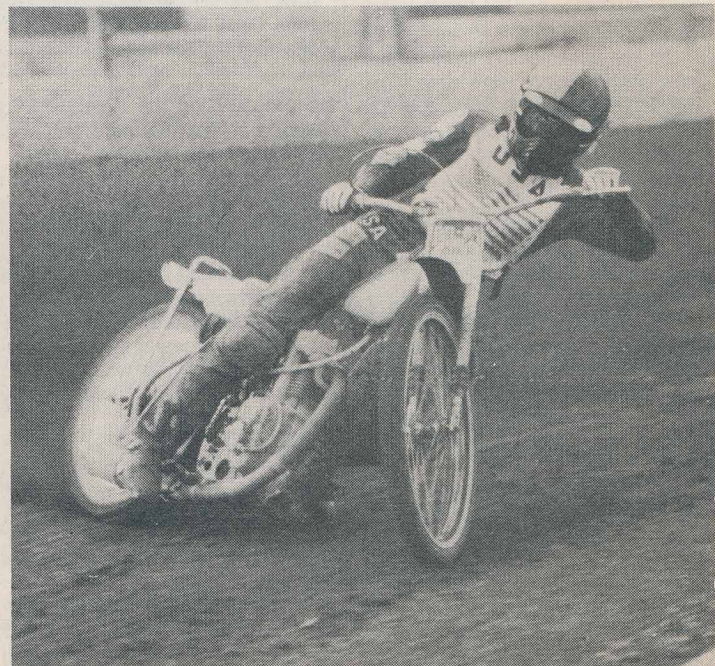
### THIRD TEST—POOLE RESULT AND SCORERS

**England, 63:** Kenny Carter, 16; Michael Lee, 12; Simon Wigg, 12; Peter Collins, 10; Dave Jessup, 6; Chris Morton, 3; John Davis (reserve, one ride), 3; Kevin Smith (reserve, one ride), 1.

**USA, 45:** Dennis Sigalos, 11; Kelly Moran, 11; Shawn Moran, 8; Bobby Schwartz, 7; Lance King, 6; John Cook, 2; Steve Gresham (reserve), DNR; Rick Miller (reserve), DNR.

scoring two points, yet surprisingly reserve Steve Gresham, itching to have a go, was not called on until too late in the day, heat 16.

He declined and his enthusiasm was obviously drained for he was to miss attending the following evening's Test at Ipswich.



John 'Cowboy' Cook, back in action shoveling English shale, scored two at Poole and six at former home, Ipswich.

## FIXTURES

### TONIGHT

Cradley Heath-Belle Vue (League Cup), 7.30; Poole-Eastbourne (LC and Spring Grove Trophy), 7.45; Long Eaton-Edinburgh (National League), 7.30.

### THURSDAY, MAY 12

Ipswich-Swindon (LC), 7.30; Wimbledon-Hackney (LC), 7.45; Oxford-Leicester (Inter-League challenge), 7.30; Middlesbrough-Mildenhall (NL), 7.30.

### FRIDAY, MAY 13

Hackney-Eastbourne (LC), 8; Edinburgh-Newcastle (NL), 7.15; Peterborough-Rye House (NL), 7.30.

### SATURDAY, MAY 14

Coventry-Wimbledon (British League), 7.30; Eastbourne-Reading (LC), 7.30; Halifax-Leicester (LC), 7.30; Swindon-Poole (LC), 7.30; Canterbury-Rye House (NL), 7; Stoke-Newcastle (NL), 7.30; Belle Vue-Sheffield (Cock of the North Trophy), 7; King's Lynn-Ipswich (Double

Decker Trophy), 7.45; Berwick: Berwick-Edinburgh-Glasgow (Scottish Triangle), 7.

### SUNDAY, MAY 15

READING: WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP UNITED KINGDOM FINAL, Australia-England-New Zealand-USA, 3.30; Boston-Berwick (NL), 6.45; Mildenhall-Canterbury (NL), 3.30; Rye House-Crayford (challenge), 4.30; Glasgow-Edinburgh (NL), 7.30; Newcastle-Berwick (NL), 7.30; Scunthorpe-Middlesbrough (NL), 7.15.

### TUESDAY, MAY 17

LEICESTER: WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BRITISH SEMI-FINAL, 7.30; Weymouth-Peterborough (NL), 7.30; Milton Keynes-Oxford (NL), 7.30; Crayford-Canterbury (challenge), 7.45.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Poole-Halifax (BL), 7.45; Long Eaton-Crayford (NL), 7.30.

AFTER the euphoria of England's Cinderella win at Poole only 24 hours earlier, it was predictable both that the Americans would be fired up to respond positively to save the series, and that the Lions would be vulnerable at Ipswich for the Fourth Test.

And sure enough, they came down to earth with a bump.

The Lions had never beaten the USA in earlier series at Foxhall Stadium and in spite of an encouraging start the Yanks maintained their 100 per cent success record with another convincing 66-42 win, the same scoreline as last year, to level the series and ensure a winner-takes-all gunfight in the final Test at Sheffield.

It was the Yanks' heat-leader trio who provided a formidable spearhead at Ipswich with the Godden-mounted Shawn Moran racing to an impeccable 18-point maximum, skipper Bobby Schwartz chipping in 16 and Dennis Sigalos only slightly under-par on his home track, contributing 15 from his six rides.

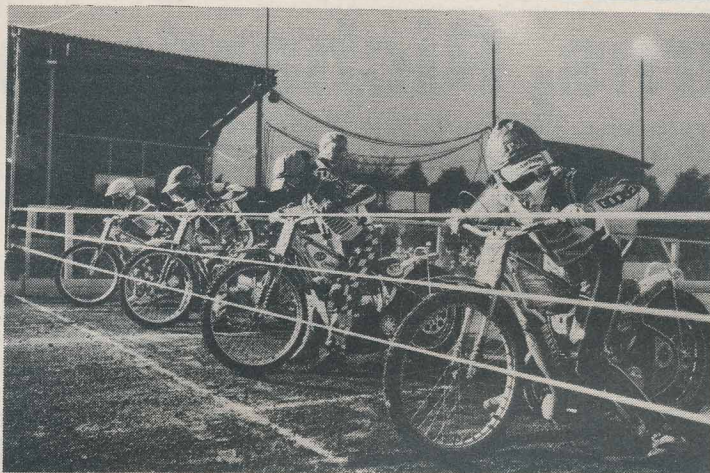
Sigalos was beaten three times—by Michael Lee, Kenny Carter and Chris Morton—and it was his first defeat by Lee that gave the Lions a promising 7-5 advantage after heat two.

Dave Jessup and Morton trailed the dominating Shawn Moran to maintain the advantage after heat three but that lead was shortlived and the last occasion Lions had their whiskers in front.

The Yanks instigated a slide of avalanche proportions with 5-1s in heats four, six and nine to establish a we're-in-charge 34-20 lead at the interval.

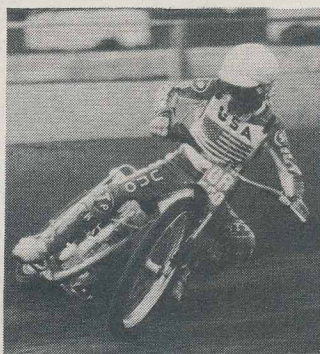
But, more importantly, on several occasions they had shown a never-say-die fighting spirit and talent to come from the back that was sadly lacking in the British camp on the night.

In fact after the Lions' heat two win they didn't register another heat advantage until another 4-2 in heat 16 . . . after the Moran brothers had passed the magic 55-point winning post in the previous race.



This is a race that Simon Wigg, closest to the camera, and Michael Lee will want to forget. Maximum man Shawn Moran and namesake Kelly inflicted America's third 5-1 in heat 7. Below: Shawn Moran shows the style and speed that made him unbeatable at Foxhall Stadium.

## YANKEE SPIRIT LEVELS SERIES



### FOURTH TEST—IPSWICH RESULT AND SCORERS

**England, 42:** Kenny Carter, 13; Chris Morton, 9; Simon Wigg, 9; Dave Jessup, 7; Michael Lee, 3; Neil Collins (reserve, two rides), 1; Peter Collins, 0; John Davis (reserve, three rides), 0.  
**USA, 66:** Shawn Moran, 18; Bobby Schwartz, 16; Dennis Sigalos, 15; Kelly Moran, 6; John Cook, 6; Lance King, 4; Rick Miller (reserve, one ride), 1.

Rookie Rick Miller entered the fray for the first time in the series, placing third to the detriment of England reserve John Davis in the last race.

Once again Carter was England's

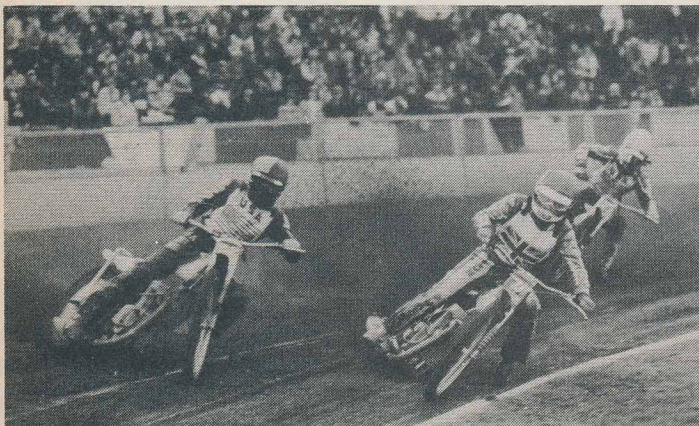
strongest competitor and prolific scorer, this time contributing 13 on a track heavy and patchy in the earlier races.

Simon Wigg, relatively subdued after his Poole exploits on a track where he had only ridden once before, and Morton, were next best effective with nine each.

Lee, after opening so well, withdrew after his second successive unrewarded ride in heat nine, complaining that his Weslake wouldn't rev, and Jessup stopped, his carburettor adrift from his Italian GM, when he and partner Morton looked well on the way to giving Lions their only 5-1 in heat 14.

However, he came back to notch one of only four English race wins two heats later.

Yet the most despondent in the Brit camp was captain Peter Collins. PC had a miserable evening, sliding off in his first ride wearing new leathers, failing to score in three others and standing down from his other two: his worst England performance.



Fortunately for England, Kenny Carter had time to change his bike for the heat one re-run caused by Peter Collins sliding off. He's about to take the lead from John Cook, outside, later pushed into third by Bobby Schwartz, trailing.

# NEXT WEEK

## SPORT

### North-West 200

We'll be reporting on the UK's fastest genuine road race on the famous Coleraine, Portstewart, Portrush circuit in Northern Ireland, where a top entry will again be battling for honours.

### World endurance championship

The endurance road racing season gets under way at Le Mans. Not only will MCW be reporting this gruelling event, but staffers Peter Clifford and Mat Oxley hope to compete as well.

### World Team Cup speedway

Stewart Boroughs reports from the UK qualifying round at Reading where England hope to get through against America, Australia and New Zealand.

## ROAD TESTS

### Suzuki GSX1100ES

The big Suzuki four came in for a lot of stick last year. Have they improved the 1983 model? Steve Brennan reports.

### Kawasaki GPz305

Is boring out a 250 merely an act of mechanical expediency or has it produced a more zestful machine? Mat Oxley road tests the new Kawasaki twin.

## FEATURES

### BMF Rally

Full report on Britain's biggest gathering of road riding motor cyclists as they assemble at Peterborough for the BMF Rally. MCW's team of genuine motor cyclists will be there, too.

### Sidecar cross

Peter Clifford was at Frome last week for the British Sidecar Cross GP to make a technical examination of the ruggedly strong outfits.

### Touring in Japan

How one man got to tour the land of the rising sun on a motor cycle. Maybe, Japan isn't that far away after all.

## Wood burns, Richardson glows!

A CONTROVERSIAL last-heat refereeing decision brought tempers, and racing, to boiling point and turned the result at Eastbourne on its head on Sunday.

The outcome was to produce a finish as heart-stopping as the fifth England v USA Test staged, crazily, concurrently at Sheffield, as the first 16 British semi-finalists fought out a tooth and nail match to keep their world championship hopes alive by reaching next month's British Final at Coventry.

At the centre of the heated argument was referee Lew Stripp awarding heat 20 to Colin Richardson, by a tyre canvas on the line, after Paul Woods had led all the way and was clear odds-on favourite to take the chequered flag.

The three points were important for they would have brought his haul to 13 and forced a run-off with eventual semi-final winner England international John Davis.

The race was even crucial to Richardson, who needed the win to join Alan Grahame and Joe Owen, eight points, in a run-off for the last Coventry berth.

"A diabolical decision," said the local hero. "I crossed the line before I shut off. I'm in no doubt I won it." His abundant supporters obviously thought so too.

"That's the third time this has happened to me in as many meetings this season. But at least I've qualified," said an appeased Woods, who had been beaten in his penultimate race by the sharp-gating Davis.

The hotly-disputed decision, however, had a cruel twist . . . the virtual

elimination of Alan Grahame, runner-up to brother Andy, holder of the 1982 British Championship.

"A bad decision," he choked after losing out in one of two three-man run-offs needed to close an enthralling afternoon's racing.

After opening so well with two wins, he reflected: "Unfortunately I had the best gates, one and two, against my weakest opposition and the worst in my toughest rides."

Richardson took tapes-to-flag win in the run-off to secure his ticket to Coventry. Consolation for Grahame is one of the two reserve berths, having kept the last National League rider in the competition, Owen back in third place.

In the other run-off to settle third and fourth behind winner Davis and Woods, Dave Jessup headed slow-getting-under-way Malcolm Simmons and former Eastbourne hot-shot Gordon Kennett. All scored ten.

"I'm very happy with the referee's decision," said an elated Richardson. "I began to think I wasn't going to make it so I brought out my fastest Weslake for my last chance in heat 20. That made the difference.

"I used my 'softer' Wessie for my four earlier rides because the track was slick and I scored 16 on it at Arlington a week ago."

Phil Collins, still recovering from his appendicitis operation and who the night before had scored his first paid maximum for his club, Cradley, this season scored nine to qualify for Coventry as did Hackney's Sean Willmott. Somewhat ironic, for his 4.86 points average was the lowest

in the line-up.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, John Louis (9.52 average) could only muster five points in spite of a track that favoured his fast trapping.

**Result:** 1 J. Davis (Poole) 13, 2 P. Woods (Eastbourne) 12, 3 D. Jessup (Wimbledon), after run-off, 10, 4 M. Simmons (Wimbledon) 10, 5 G. Kennett (King's Lynn) 10, 6 P. Collins (Cradley Heath) 9, 7 S. Willmott (Hackney) 9, 8 C. Richardson (King's Lynn), after run-off, 8. British Final reserve: A. Grahame (Cradley Heath) 8.

**The above qualify for the British Final at Coventry on June 1.**

10 J. Owen (Newcastle) 8, 11 J. Doncaster (Ipswich) 7, 12 J. Louis (King's Lynn) 5, 13 L. Carr (Belle Vue) 4, 14 K. Smith (Poole) 3, 15 K. Jolly (King's Lynn) and N. Middle-ditch (Poole) 2.

Last eight British Final places will be known after the Leicester semi-final on Tuesday, 7.30.

In the running at the Parker Drive track are the eight triumphant Lions from the Sheffield Test, plus Dave Morton, who should have recovered from a nasty crash at Ipswich last Monday, Nigel Flatman, Mark Courtney, Tim Hunt, Reg Wilson, Malcolm Holloway, Melvyn Taylor and wizard Wigg.

## It's another cap for Mr Instant Success

MR INSTANT SUCCESS, Simon Wigg, has deservedly earned a place in the England squad named by manager Wally Mawdsley to contest this Sunday's World Team Championship United Kingdom Final at Reading.

The 22-year-old blond bombshell of Cradley Heath stars in a strong Lions quartet after just two impressive appearances for England in the thrilling Test series completed against the USA.

Skipper Peter Collins, back on form at Sheffield on Sunday where his top-scoring 16 points provided the leadership for a heart-stopping 3-2 victory over the Americans, leads the side with Kenny Carter at number two, Chris Morton three and just-qualified British finalist Dave Jessup an extremely capable reserve.

"It was a very difficult decision to make as who to leave out," admitted Mawdsley, "but I would stress to everyone that all riders in the full England squads are still very much part of my planning. In no way does my choice discredit anyone who has missed out on this occasion."

Following their confidence-boosting Test series victory, England, together with the USA, look favourites to fill the two places from Reading to the team Inter-Continental Final set for June 26 at Wimbledon, to the detriment of UK rivals Australia and New Zealand.

However, while the Down Under nations clearly lack the favourites' strength in depth, equally it can be said the team format makes them more competitive.

The Aussies boast 'Billy the Kid' Sanders and Milduran Phil Crump in their numbers while the Kiwis are captained by Mitch Shirra, a tornado on his home track who'll take some holding, and they also have



Simon Wigg

the services of the canny and resourceful Ivan Mauger to call on.

Reading will provide one of those rare occasions to once again see the 43-year-old maestro, six-times world champion, in action this year.

Team line-ups at Reading are: **Australia:** B. Sanders (captain), P. Crump, J. Titman, G. Guglielmi, reserve S. Regeling. **USA:** B. Schwartz (captain), D. Sigalos, S. Moran, K. Moran, reserve L. King. **New Zealand:** L. Ross, M. Shirra (captain), D. Bargh, I. Mauger, reserve A. Mason. **England:** P. Collins (captain), K. Carter, C. Morton, S. Wigg, reserve D. Jessup.

## New Heathen

PETER RAVN has been signed from British League champions Belle Vue by Cradley Heath boss Peter Adams. The Dane made his debut for the Heathens at Dudley Wood Road on Saturday, scoring nine in Cradley's 56-22 League Cup win over Midland rivals Birmingham.

## RESULTS

### MONDAY, MAY 2

**League Cup: Birmingham v Leicester** postponed. **Coventry 39** (O. Olsen 12, S. Bastable 12, T. Knudsen 11); **Cradley Heath 39** (S. Wigg 9, E. Gundersen 9, L. King 7); **Ipswich 43** (D. Sigalos 10, B. Sanders 8, P. Eriksen 7); **Sheffield 35** (P. White 12, S. Moran 9, D. Bargh 7); **Reading 41** (M. Shirra 12, J. Anderson 8, B. Schwartz 8); **Poole 37** (M. Lee 11, K. Smith 11, J. Davis 8).

**British League: King's Lynn 43** (G. Kennett 10, J. Louis 9, R. Hellsen 7); **Halifax 34** (K. Carter 15, S. Baker 6, M. Dixon 4); **Challenge: Wimbledon 44** (K. Niemi 11, D. Jessup 9, M. Ferreira 8); **Belle Vue 33** (L. Ross 14, L. Carr 8, C. Morton 6); **National League: Peterborough v Edinburgh** postponed. **Newcastle v Glasgow** postponed. **Rye House 58** (B. Garrad 14, M. Cox 14, S. Naylor 13); **Boston 38** (P. Alderman 15, D. Gagen 15, B. Burton 60); **Scunthorpe v Long Eaton** postponed. **Weymouth 54** (M. Yeates 12, S. Bear 12, S. Cross 10); **Oxford 42** (N. Sparshott 17, G. Drury 11, S. Crockett 5). **Individual: Exeter:** Trathens Rapide postponed.

### TUESDAY, MAY 3

**League Cup: Leicester 42** (C. Cook 9, M. Courtney 9, F. Jensen 8); **Belle Vue 36** (C. Morton 12, P. Collins 8, L. Carr 7); **National League: Crayford 54** (B. Thomas 15, A. Sage 11, K. Teager 8); **Weymouth 42** (S. Cross 13, M. Yeates 13, S. Bear 6); **Milton Keynes 55** (K. White 13, C. Featherby 13, S. Payne 10); **Edinburgh 41** (D. Townson 11, C. Turner 10, G. Taylor 9).

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

**Third Test: Poole: England 63** (K. Carter 16, M. Lee 12, S. Wigg 12); **USA 45** (D. Sigalos 11, K. Moran 11, S. Moran 8); **Long Eaton 47** (M. Stevenson 11, D. Perks 11, J. Frankland 10); **Rye House 49** (B. Garrad 18, M. Cox 15, S. Naylor 8).

### THURSDAY, MAY 5

**Fourth Test: Ipswich: England 44** (K. Carter 13, C. Morton 9, S. Wigg 9); **USA 66** (S. Moran 18, B. Schwartz 16, D. Sigalos 10); **British League: Sheffield 38** (P. White 8, L. Ross 7, R. Wilson 7); **Wimbledon 40** (M. Simmons 12, K. Niemi 9, B. Sanders 8); **Middlesbrough 56** (S. Wilcock 13, M. Spink 10, G. Pusey 10); **Rye House 40** (B. Garrad 11, S. Naylor 11, M. Cox 11).

### FRIDAY, MAY 6

**League Cup: Hackney 40** (L. Ross 12, S. Willmott 11); **Reading 38** (J. Anderson 12, M. Shirra 11); **Halifax 41** (K. Carter 10); **Cradley Heath 37** (A. Grahame 12); **National League: Peterborough 65** (P. Allen 14, J. Barney 15, A. Pullen 12); **Stoke 31** (T. Owen 11, J. Jackson 10).

### SATURDAY, MAY 7

**Eritish League: Belle Vue v Poole** postponed. **League Cup: Cradley Heath 56** (E. Gundersen 11, P. Collins 11); **Birmingham 42** (A. Grahame 7, H. Nielsen 6); **King's Lynn 26** (G. Kennett 10, R. Hellsen 10); **Hackney 32** (M. Simmons 14, S. Willmott 7); **National League: Berwick 44** (S. McDermott 16, B. Cribb 10, B. Thorpe 8); **Crayford 52** (B. Thomas 11, A. Mordrige 9, K. Teager 8); **Canterbury 56** (B. Kennett 15, K. Mullarkey 10, D. Kent 8); **Boston 40** (D. Gagen 14, P. Alderman 9, B. Burton 6); **Stoke v Middlesbrough**, postponed. **Silver Helmet:** Barry Thomas (Crayford) beat S. McDermott (Berwick).

### SUNDAY, MAY 8

**Fifth Test: Sheffield: England 58** (P. Collins 16, C. Morton 14, K. Carter 13); **USA 50** (D. Sigalos 13, S. Moran 12, B. Schwartz 11); **World Championship: British semi-finals: Eastbourne:** J. Davis (Poole) 13, 2 P. Woods (Eastbourne) 12, 3 D. Jessup (Wimbledon), after run-off, 10.