

**Sport**

# West Indians outplay Indians

**WELLINGTON, Mar 10:** West Indies, lifted by an unbeaten 58 from Keith Arthurton, kept alive their hopes of reaching the World Cup cricket semifinals with a five-wicket win over India today, reports Reuter.

Arthurton and Carl Hooper, with 34 not out, shared an unbeaten sixth wicket stand of 83 to guide West Indies home after a slump in which four wickets tumbled for 31.

India made a modest 197 all out in 49.4 overs, collapsing from 166 for three, and West Indies were cruising to victory at 81 for one after just 11 overs when rain halted play.

India's total was revised to 194 and West Indies, needing 195 in a total of 46 overs, slumped to 112 for five.

Sensible batting from Arthurton and Hooper hauled them out of trouble and they secured victory in 40.3 overs at 195 for five.

Fast bowler, Anderson Cummins, named man-of-the-match, was the main perpetrator of India's collapse, taking four for 33 in 10 overs as the last seven wickets crashed for 31.

West Indies victory chase was set up by a whirlwind opening stand of 57 in just over six overs between Desmond Haynes and Brian Lara.

The match had begun in fine conditions but during the interval rain threatened and that may have been the spur for West Indies to play like the team of old.

Lara smashed the India opening attack to all parts. He hit Manoj Prabhakar for two fours and one six in one over.

Prabhakar had to be taken off after three overs which cost 32 runs.

Even the dismissal of Haynes for 16, caught by Sanjay Manjrekar off Kapil Dev, who was also expensive, brought little relief.

Phil Simmons, playing because Malcolm Marshall was out with an ankle injury, hit a six into the terraces with his first scoring shot.

But the 20-minute rain break gave India chance.

Lara fell for 41 three balls after the stoppage, out for the fourth successive time caught at backward point, this time taken by Manjrekar off Javagal Srinath's bowling.

Lara's runs came off just 38 deliveries and included six fours and a six.

West Indies were concerned to keep their run-rate up in case the rain came again and they lost Simmons, captain Richie Richardson and Gus Logie in quick succession.

Simmons went for 22 to a fine catch by Sachin Tendulkar, running towards the boundary to take a skier.

Hooper and Arthurton only had to score at just over 3.5 runs an over and they realised it was vital to retain wickets.

Their half-century stand came in 87 balls and they seldom looked in trouble against an attack lacking teeth.

India's total should have been higher, a delightful 61 from captain Mohammad Azharuddin having left them well placed at 166 for three.

"We didn't bat too well," Azharuddin said afterwards. He added the pitch was fine and India should have scored around 220.

The defeat has put enormous pressure on India in their bid to qualify for the semifinals.

"We have to win our next two matches or we are out of the competition," Azharuddin said.

India got off to a solid but sedate start with opener Krish Srikkanth unusually cautious.

The big-hitting right-hander hit his first boundary in the 12th over and, with Ajay Jadhava, had only 46 on the board after 15 overs.

They weathered the initial storm of the West Indies speed attack but medium-pace Simmons made the breakthrough when he had Jadhava caught at mid-off for 27 with the total 56.

Srikkanth and Azharuddin added 46 before Srikkanth was caught at square leg by Logie from the off-spin of Hooper for 40. His 61-ball innings produced only two fours.

Curtly Ambrose, who had conceded only 13 runs in his first five overs, returned to dispatched Sachin Tendulkar cheaply with the aid of a catch by wicketkeeper David Williams.

Azharuddin's 85-ball innings was characterised by deft deflections and placements. He hit five fours.

None of the last six batsmen got to double figures and the slump was completed with two balls left when Venkatapathy Raju was run out.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard in the World Cup cricket match between West Indies and India today:

**INDIA**

Jadeja c Benjamin b Simmons	27
Srikkanth c Logie b Hooper	40
Azharuddin c Ambrose b Cummins	61
Tendulkar c Williams b Ambrose	4
Manjrekar run out	4
Kapil Dev c Haynes b Cummins	3
Amre c Hooper b Ambrose	4
More c Hooper b Cummins	5
Prabhakar c Richardson b Cummins	8
Srinath not out	5
Raju run out	1
Extras: (b-2, lb-4, nb-1, w-5)	12
Total: (49.4 overs)	197
Fall of wickets: 1-56, 2-102, 3-115, 4-166, 5-171, 6-172, 7-180, 8-186, 9-193.	
<b>Bowling:</b>	<b>O M R W</b>
Ambrose	10 1 24 2
Benjamin	9 4 0 35 0
Cummins	10 0 33 4
Simmons	9 0 48 1
Hooper	10 0 46 1
Arthurton	1 0 5 0

**WEST INDIES**

Haynes c Manjrekar b Kapil Dev	16
Lara c Manjrekar b Srinath	41
Simmons c Tendulkar b Prabhakar	22
Richardson c Srikkanth b Srinath	3
Arthurton not out	58
Logie c More b Raju	7
Hooper not out	34
Extras: (lb-8 w-2 nb-4)	14
Total: (Five wickets 40.3 overs)	195
Fall of wickets: 1-57, 2-82, 3-88, 4-98, 5-112.	
Did not bat: D Williams, C Ambrose, A Cummins, W Benjamin.	
<b>Bowling:</b>	<b>O M R W</b>
Kapil Dev	8 0 45 1
Prabhakar	9 0 55 1
Raju	10 2 32 1
Srinath	9 2 23 2
Tendulkar	3 0 20 0
Srikkanth	1 0 7 0
Jadeja	0 3 0 5 0

CUMMINS.....man-of-the-match



Curtly Ambrose reacts after taking the wicket of Sachin Tendulkar for four during yesterday's World Cup match in Wellington. — AFP photo

## CUP STANDINGS

World Standings after Tuesday matches (Tabulate under played, won, lost, no result, points, net run-rate):	Cup cricket
New Zealand	5 5 0 0 10 0.86
England	5 4 0 1 9 1.05
South Africa	6 4 2 0 8 0.18
West Indies	6 3 3 0 6 -0.02
India	6 2 3 1 5 0.29
Sri Lanka	6 2 3 1 5 -0.56
Australia	5 2 3 0 4 -0.25
Pakistan	5 1 3 0 4 -0.14
Zimbabwe	6 0 6 0 0 -1.12

(Note: Net run-rate is difference between batting and bowling rates. Under competition rules, runs scored in no-result matches are not included in run-rate.)

## Richardson delighted

**WELLINGTON, Mar 10:** West Indies captain Richie Richardson said after beating India today that next week's clash with Australia could decide the last World Cup cricket semifinal place, reports Reuter.

"That's going to be a hell of a match. The Australians are going to come out blazing and they're really going to need that win for a semifinal spot," Richardson said of the March 18 match, to be played in Melbourne.

With New Zealand and England apparently cruising towards a place in the last four, South Africa, West Indies, India and Australia are battling for the last two semifinal places.

Richardson said he was delighted with his team's five-wicket victory over India, especially after a comprehensive defeat at the hands of New Zealand on Saturday.

With six points from six games, West Indies move into fourth place behind South Africa after today's matches. Their other game, apart from Australia, is against Sri Lanka in Bert on Friday.

"We improved in every department and I'm glad to see we've come back. We have to win both remaining matches to get to the semifinals," Richardson said.

"We realise we haven't been playing very well but we psych ourselves up last night and it paid dividends. They batted pretty well but I thought we were always in the game and the guys bowled exceptionally well," he added.

## Pakistan's plight

**PERTH, Australia, Mar 10:** Pakistan have three key players in doubt for Wednesday's critical World Cup cricket match against defending champions Australia at the WACA Ground, reports AP.

Experienced batsman Javed Miandad, bowler Aaqib Javed and Rameez Raja all are either ill or injured.

Miandad still is suffering from a stomach complaint that ruled him out of the team's weekend match against South Africa.

Miandad has scored 189 runs at an average of 63 in his four World Cup appearances this summer and his aggression has helped lift Pakistan's run-rate.

Aaqib underwent X-rays on Sunday after being struck on the head by a ball, while powerful batsman Rameez has a shoulder injury.

"Aaqib has slight concussion but we expect him to be OK for the match with Australia," captain Imran Khan said Tuesday.

"But Rameez's shoulder problem doesn't seem to be improving a great deal."

Imran himself has played through pain with a shoulder injury.

Pakistan have only three points from their five matches in the tournament so far and need to win all three of their remaining matches to have any chance of progressing to the semifinals of the nine-nation tournament.

Imran said the Pakistanis were hopeful most of their doubtful players would be fit to tackle Australia.

"We hope for some good news," Imran said.

Miandad, who has been in great pain, is the least likely to recover in time. "It is a bit early to tell if he will be fit for Wednesday, but the problem has been severe," Imran said.

**FA Cup soccer**  
**LONDON, Mar 10:** Sunderland's John Byrne headed a powerful equaliser eight minutes from time as the second division team tied 1-1 with Chelsea in English Football Association Cup quarter-final game Monday.

Clive Allen netted for Chelsea nine minutes before half but the first division team was helped by some stunning saves by its goalie, Kevin litcheock.

Now the two teams must replay March 18 to decide who faces either Southampton or Norwich in the semifinal April 5.

# S Africans stay in the hunt

**CANBERRA, Australia, Mar 10:** South Africa kept themselves in the hunt for a semi-final place in their first ever cricket World Cup with a thumping seven-wicket rout of lowly Zimbabwe at the Manuka Oval here today, reports AFP.

Wessels and Kirsten added 112 for the second wicket before the captain was out in the 41st over with only 25 remaining for victory.

Wessels was bowled by Seamer Ali Shah after facing 137 balls in his typically dour style, of which only six were hit for boundaries.

Adrian Kuiper was dismissed for seven, but Jonty Rhodes (three not out) helped Kirsten overcome Zimbabwe's score with 29 balls to spare.



Peter Kirsten knocks a ball through the off-side during yesterday's World Cup match between South Africa and Zimbabwe in Canberra. — AFP photo

Kirsten hit the winning runs, a couple to mid-wicket off Eddo Brandes, from the 105th ball he faced. He hit just three boundaries.

Zimbabwe's batting fell part against the steady South African attack with no batsman surpassing all-rounder's Brandes 20.

The score was boosted with the help of 28 extras as the South Africans sent down 13 wides and four no balls besides conceding 11 leg byes.

The top five batsmen were removed by the 27th over with the score at 80.

To add to Zimbabwe's problems, opener Andrew Flower was struck on the fingers by arising delivery from fast bowler Allan Donald and went off for medical attention.

He returned at the fall of the fifth wicket but added only 13 to his score of six before being caught behind off part-time bowler Hansie Cronje.

Kirsten, who came on in the 25th over, gained a wicket with his fifth ball when Andrew Waller held out to deep midwicket where Cronje took an easy catch.

In his second over, Kirsten removed Zimbabwe skipper David Houghton and Ali Shah off successive deliveries to open up the tail.

Cronje also picked up the wicket of Mark Bustmaster and seamer Brian McMillan took three, leaving Donald to finish the innings by bowling last man Kevin Duccs in his final over.

Zimbabwe were reeling at 123 for eight in the 38th over before the last two wickets added 40 to help their side cross the 150-run mark.

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Traicos made 16 while Jarvis, batting at number 10, hit 17 including a six over midwicket against McMillan.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Cup cricket match between Zimbabwe and South Africa today:

**ZIMBABWE**

James lbw b Pringle	5
Flower c Richardson b Cronje	19
Pycroft c Wessels b Kirsten	19
Houghton c Cronje b Kirsten	15
Waller c Ronje b Kirsten	15
Shah c Wessels b Kirsten	3
Brandes c Richardson b McMillan	20
Burmester c Kuiper b Cronje	1
Traicos not out	16
Jarvis c and b McMillan	17
Duccs b Donald	5
Extras: (lb-11, w-13, nb-4)	28
Total: (48.3 overs)	163
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-51, 3-72, 4-80, 5-80, 6-115, 7-117, 8-123, 9-151	
<b>Bowling</b>	<b>O M R W</b>
Donald	9 3 1 25 1
Pringle	9 0 25 1
Snell	10 3 24 0
McMillan	10 1 30 3
Cronje	5 0 17 2
Kirsten	5 0 31 3

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Wessels b Shah	70
Hudson b Jarvis	13
Kirsten not out	62
Kuiper c Burmester b Brandes	7
Rhodes not out	3
Extras: (lb-4, w-2, nb-3)	9
Total: (three wickets-45.1 overs)	164
Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-139, 3-151	
Did not bat: H. Cronje, B McMillan, D. Richardson, R. Snell, M. Pringle, A. Donald.	
<b>Bowling:</b>	<b>O M R W</b>
Brandes	9 1 0 40 1
Jarvis	9 2 23 1
Burmester	5 0 20 0
Shah	8 2 32 1
Duccs	8 1 19 0
Traicos	6 0 26 0

Result: South Africa won by seven wickets

## Cup organisers ban political signs

**CANBERRA, Australia, Mar 10:** Advertising hoardings arguing the two sides of next week's South African Reform Referendum were banned from Tuesday's World Cup cricket match between South Africa and Zimbabwe at Manuka Oval, organisers said, reports AP.

Permission for a sign promoting a "Yes" vote in the March 17 referendum was withdrawn after the organisers faced demands for equal space from supporters of the "No" case.

The South Africa-Zimbabwe clash, like all South Africa's World Cup matches, was televised live back to South Africa and a South African business lobby has paid for "Vote Yes" signs at all venues where the South Africans are playing.

Australian Capital Territory Cricket Association executive director Wayne Boardman said his organisation was happy to allow the "Vote Yes" sign because the Vote Yes case was consistent with the South African government's reform process that allowed the country back into international sport after 20 years of sanctions.

The ACTCA changed its mind after receiving an approach from a Sydney-based representative of the Conservative Party opponents of the dismantling of apartheid, Boardman said.

"The Vote No people approached us and they demanded an equal-sized sign," he said.

"It looked like the match was going to develop into a political football for South African politics, about which we know nothing."

"All we are here to do is to promote cricket in the ACT and Australia."

A "Yes" vote in the referendum is seen as crucial to maintaining the reform process begun by the government of President F W de Klerk, whose reforms have faced mounting political opposition from white conservative opponents.

## Tension in Pak, Aussie camps

**PERTH, Mar 10:** Australia's captain Allan Border refused to give television interviews today as tension took hold in both the Australian and Pakistani camps ahead of Wednesday's make-or-break World Cup cricket match, reports Reuter.

Border, angry over a commercial television report critical of his captaincy, pointedly declined interviews with television reporters after his teams practice here.

But the veteran left-hander, whose own form has been poor in the Cup holders' disappointing showing, told print and radio journalists his main worry was that Pakistan would finally play to their potential.

"Pakistan could be well equipped for this wicket. Wasim Akram is a super bowler and Aaqi Javed is a more than useful back-up," Border said.

But Australia, who beat Sri Lanka on Saturday for only their second win in five matches, will be facing opponents who have at least three players who are below full fitness.

Captain Imran Khan is troubled by a shoulder injury while the experienced Javed Miandad, who missed Sunday's defeat by South Africa, is battling a virus, and opener Rameez Raja has a shoulder strain.

The Pakistanis, with only three points in five matches, will risk taking in players under an injury cloud, according to Imran.

"It's such a crucial game, we're two desperate teams. Tomorrow is make or break, so you have to take these chances," Imran said.

Imran, who admitted the importance of the match was getting to all his players, said he would be instructing his main strike bowler Akram to go all out for wickets rather than to bowl within himself as he has been doing.

few wides, if it means he can unsettle their top order," Imran said.

The Pakistanis, with only one victory against bottom team Zimbabwe for their Cup campaign, were unlucky to lose Sunday's match against South Africa when after rain, they had to chase double the original run rate off fewer overs.

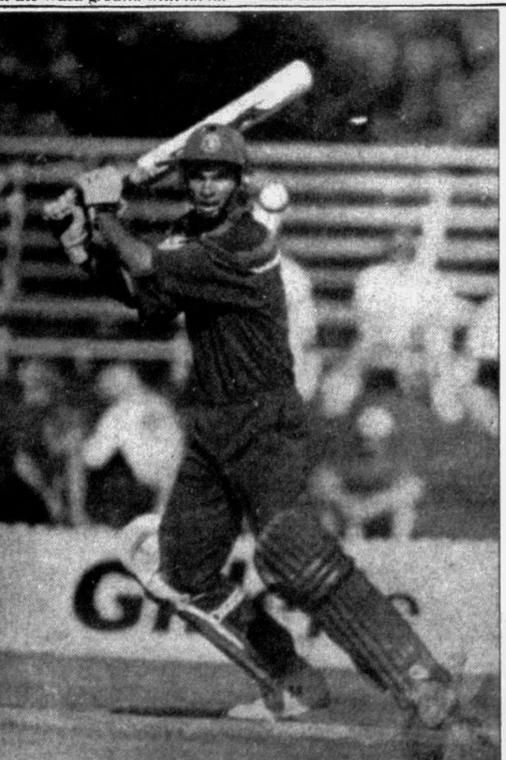
Australia, pre-tournament favourites, kept their challenge alive with an emphatic seven-wicket win over Sri Lanka, and are likely to go into the match at the Waca ground with an all-

pace attack.

Victorian pace bowler Merv Hughes is expected to replace off-spinner Peter Taylor, joining Craig McDermott and left-arm Mike Whitney.

Border experimented against Sri Lanka by opening with medium pacer Steve Waugh but admitted afterwards he was not happy with the move and that the bowling still lacked penetration.

"Merv's been bowling well, and the temptation is to play the quicker bowlers," Border said here.



Kepler Wessels sends a high ball to the boundary in yesterday's World Cup match in Canberra. — AFP photo