

Wins satisfy Shaun

REUTERS, St George's

South Africa captain Shaun Pollock was all smiles after his team secured their second victory in two days, beating West Indies by eight wickets in the fourth one-day international to take a 3-1 lead in the series.

South Africa dismissed their hosts for 200 before reaching their target with 23 balls to spare. Gary Kirsten top-scoring with 72 and Boeta Dippenaar making an unbeaten 62 in his first international innings in over two months on tour.

"We discussed the importance of the weekend," Pollock said. "Two wins back-to-back can have a big impact on the series. We're really proud of ourselves and the way we've played to have won both and the two wins stand us in good stead."

South Africa won the two games emphatically and in contrasting styles, amassing an imposing total on Saturday and then chasing comfortably on Sunday.

"It's good to have won batting first and then fielding first. Obviously the toss is only there to start the game and it's good to know that we can win under all circumstances."

"It's also important for us as a team to see Boeta (Dippenaar) come in and bat at three and get some runs. We need to have as much depth as we can and the guys have got to keep realising that they're all good enough and when they get the opportunity they must take it," Pollock said.

The South African captain backed his decision to bowl first with a superb bowling performance, taking 1-16 from his ten overs.

"Having won the toss and elected to bowl I think the fourth or fifth ball went through the top so I thought 'Oh dear, we've made the wrong decision here'. But there was only one option which tended to explode and it wasn't really on a length which bothered our right-handers," he said.

Man-of-the-match Allan Donald finished with 4-38 from his ten overs, despite seeing his first three balls clattered to the boundary by Brian Lara. His first over cost 14 runs.

"I could understand the first delivery going for four because it was a rank long-hop, the second one made me sit up and take notice and the third one forced me to wonder whether I was going to finish the over, it was that bad," Donald said with a smile.

"I think in situations like that you've got to keep positive, keep varying the pace. At that stage I thought he (Lara) was going to try and take me out of the attack but I just had to stay patient. Ten overs for 38, I'll take that."

West Indies captain Carl Hooper struggled to find positives after a bleak weekend for his side in front of two full houses.

"I think we've had a poor two days," Hooper said. "We didn't bowl well yesterday and today we didn't bat well. We've got to pick ourselves up now and go to Barbados for the next game."

Gloucs

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finish with a match-winning 76 not out.

Lancashire, who started out as one of the competition favourites, suffered their third defeat in four games on Sunday at the hands of Roses rivals Yorkshire at Liverpool.

Despite a second-wicket stand of 110 between England opener Mike Atherton (60) and John Crawley (52), they were restricted to a modest 170 for nine.

Yorkshire replied with 171 for five off 46.3 overs, David Byas (55) and Darren Lehmann (35) making the biggest contributions.

In the Southern Division, Middlesex's Owais Shah smashed the day's only century with 118 not out off 109 balls, including three sixes and nine fours, to inspire his side to a 25-run victory over Hampshire at Lord's.

Paul Weekes (46) and Andrew Strauss (36) boosted the home total to 225 for five before Hampshire struggled to 200 for eight.

In the other game, Sussex (180 for five) beat Kent by five wickets at Hastings to join Surrey on six points at the top of the table.

The final round of matches to decide the quarterfinal qualifiers is due to be played on Monday.

B & H CUP SCORES

At Derby: Derbyshire 233-4 (M Downman 76 not out, R Bailey 62) bt Nottinghamshire 231-5 (U Afaal 50) by 6 wks

At Liverpool: Yorkshire 171-5 (D Byas 55) bt Lancashire 170-9 (M Atherton 60, J Crawley 52; C Silverwood 3-30) by 5 wks

Midlands/West/Wales Division
At Bristol: Gloucestershire 263-8 (I Harvey 92, K Barnett 85; A Sheriar 4-19) bt Worcestershire 242-7 (A Singh 83, W Weston 65) by 21 runs

South Division
At Lord's: Middlesex 225-5 (O Shah 118 not out) bt Hampshire 200-8 (C Keegan 3-39) by 25 runs

At Hastings: Sussex 180-5 bt Kent 175 (M Walker 52; M Robinson 4-29) by 5 wks

Windies crushed again

Cricket

AFP, St George's

West Indies suffered their third successive crushing defeat when South Africa won the fourth one-day international by eight wickets at Queen's Park Sunday.

Fast bowler Allan Donald took four for 38 as West Indies were restricted to 200 all out after being sent in.

Opening batsman Gary Kirsten and stand-in number three Boeta Dippenaar made half-centuries as South Africa cruised to victory with 23 balls to spare.

South Africa went 3-1 ahead in the seven-match series. They won the first leg of a double-header by 132 runs at the same venue Saturday after an eight-wicket win in St John's, Antigua, Wednesday.

West Indian captain Carl Hooper was 17 minutes late for the toss to the annoyance of the South Africans.

Although he made 46 and bowled steadily to take one for 29 he found himself with few options in the field.

He looked downcast after the match, but said: "We can still win the series. We have to be optimistic."

Hooper added that the batting had been poor. "We were 50 runs short again," he said.

Marlon Samuels made a fighting 65 as the West Indies batsmen struggled against a disciplined South African bowling and fielding performance.

The hopes of a capacity crowd of about 12,000 were ignited briefly when Donald's first three deliveries were hit for fours by star batsman Brian Lara.

Lara made only 25, however, before he became Donald's first victim, charging down the pitch and edging a simple catch to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher. At that stage West Indies were in deep trouble at 61 for four in the 21st over.

Hooper and Samuels put on 67 for the fifth wicket before Hooper was caught at deep midwicket off Donald.

Samuels took 26 balls to make his first ten runs but then hit some powerful drives, especially straight down the ground, as he went on to make his 65 off 71 balls with seven fours.

Saturday's man-of-the-match, South African all-rounder Jacques Kallis, did not play because of a hamstring injury and was replaced by Justin Kemp, who took three wickets, although he was expensive in conceding 54 runs.

Kallis' injury gave Dippenaar his first chance to bat in an international match on South Africa's tour, which started in March, and he took his chance by stroking an unbeaten 62 off 109 balls.

Herschelle Gibbs and Kirsten gave South Africa a quickfire start, putting on 58 for the first wicket in

0.4 overs, before Kirsten (72) and Dippenaar added 96 in a second wicket stand which made a South African victory certain.

South African allrounder Lance

	O	M	R	W
Bowler	10	3	16	1
Pollock	8.5	0	54	3
Kemp	9.3	1	38	4
Donald				



PHOTO INTERNET

South Africa fast bowler Allan Donald screams in frustration after being whacked for a four by Marlon Samuels of the West Indies during the fourth ODI at the Queen's Park Stadium on Sunday.

Klusener joined Kallis on the injury list when he limped off with a groin injury after bowling one ball of his seventh over.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard in the fourth one-day international between West Indies and South Africa at Queen's Park Sunday:

WEST INDIES		SOUTH AFRICA	
Gayle c Rhodes b Kemp	9	Ntini	10
Powell c Ntini b Kemp	17	Klusener	6.1
Chanderpaul c Kemp b Ntini	10	Ontong	5
Lara c Boucher b Donald	25	Boucher	5
Hooper c Kemp b Donald	46	McLean	6
Samuels lbw b Pollock	65	McGarrell	4.1
Jacobs c Pollock b Ntini	8	Hooper	10
McGarrell c Donald b Kemp	2	Gayle	10
McLean c Gibbs b Donald	7	Samuels	4
Jeremy not out	8	Extras: (lb-4, w-6, nb-1)	10
Cuffy c Boucher b Donald	3	Total: (All out in 49.3 overs)	200
Extras: (lb-3, w-6, nb-1)	10	Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-22, 3-49, 4-61, 5-128, 6-174, 7-177, 8-185, 9-	

Result: South Africa won by 8 wickets and lead the series 3-1

Man-of-the-match: Allan Donald.

Next match: May 9, Barbados.

Munich Open Novak's

AFP, Munich

Jiri Novak completed a one-week turnaround in his tennis fortunes, reversing a season-long run of poor form with a victory in the final of the 400,000-dollar Munich Open here Sunday.

Novak, who had won only one match this year before coming to the Bavarian capital, earned the trophy and a 54,000-dollar top prize as he beat Frenchman Anthony Dupuis 6-4, 7-5 in slightly more than an hour at the Iphitos club.

The extra cash may come in quite handy for Novak, playing Munich for only the second time and a quarterfinalist in 2000.

"My wife is expecting twins in three weeks," he said afterwards. "It's been an extra motivation for me," said the Czech, a winner of two previous tournaments.

"I've played well the whole week here," he added, admitting he was as surprised as anyone to have recorded a victory.

"One week ago, I didn't think I had a chance of reaching the final," he said.

"Winning today was a total surprise. But I played better and raised my game. I was very solid from the baseline and I hit the ball very well."

Dupuis, playing in his first tournament final, was unable to reproduce the sparkling form which had carried him into Sunday's match but denied nerves had affected his performance.

"I didn't make enough shots and I couldn't hold serve easily like I had done earlier in the week," said the 28-year-old former teaching pro.

"Of course I was a bit nervous playing in my first final, but I don't think it affected me."

Novak added the Munich trophy to a collection which includes titles in Auckland (1996) and Mexico City three years ago.

Due to illness, Novak got off to a slow and late start this year, skipping January's Australian summer hard-court swing and then getting bogged down in losses.

But this week in Bavaria has been a tonic for the Monte Carlo-based 26-year-old.

He gained a major dose of confidence with a second-round knockout of second-seeded Swede and 1998 champion Thomas Enqvist, then carried on with wins over veteran Australian Wayne Arthurs and best friend Bohdan Ulihrach in the semi-finals.

Novak broke into the first set lead after the match was locked early at 3-1. He then got an early break in the second over former French teaching pro Dupuis and rode the margin out for victory.

Martin takes revenge

AFP, Palma de Mallorca

Alberto Martin overcame fourth-seeded Argentine Guillermo Coria 6-3, 3-6, 6-2 here Sunday to secure a popular home win at the 500,000-dollar ATP tournament.

The 22-year-old Barcelona player had been the underdog going into his first final of the year, having lost his previous meeting with Coria just two weeks ago in the quarterfinal of the Monte Carlo Masters.

But the Spaniard proved the most adept in the duel in Mallorca's bull fighting arena which turned into a baseline battle with long exchanges as each player waited for his opponent to fault.

Martin had had an impressive run in Mallorca including a semifinal win over local favourite Carlos Moya.

And Sunday he meted out the same treatment on Coria, nicknamed "Mini Moya" due to his resemblance to the 1998 French Open champion.

"To win here in front of the Spanish fans is the maximum," said Martin.

"I had a good feeling in the beginning of the match, but I kind of lost this feeling in the second set," he said.

Martin had little difficulty imposing in the first set, but 19-year-old Coria came back in the second breaking his opponent's serve and going on to take the set.

But the Argentine appeared to lose his concentration in the third set, disputing a line call at 2-1, and going on to lose his serve, which gave the Spaniard the opportunity to take control of the match.

"I felt the tiredness of the whole season," said Coria, who won the ATP title in Vina del Mar earlier this year.

"The only thing I could do was fight, but Martin played very solid tennis so I couldn't play my best."

It was a third career title for Martin after Casablanca and Barcelona in 1999, which were also on clay.

For winning the title he takes home 66,400 dollars as well as 35 ATP Champions Race points.

John's anxious moments

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

John Buchanan's role as national coach will be the subject of a meeting with Australian Cricket Board chief executive Malcolm Speed on Wednesday.

Sources Monday said the board wants to clearly define the coaching role for the first time after Buchanan made some controversial statements about Shane Warne during the recent Indian tour.

Buchanan, one of the major factors behind Australia's run of 16 winning Tests, was criticised for an outspoken criticism of Warne's fitness leading into the deciding Test of the Indian series.

It has led to claims from an English newspaper that Buchanan could lose his role as a tour selector for this year's Ashes defence in England.

Buchanan said he was surprised at the article and said he had no idea whether his automatic role as joint tour selector would be reviewed by the ACB's board of directors.

But it is believed there is tension between Buchanan and the ACB, which is still expected to renew his contract during the Ashes series.

The crux of the issue remains

whether the coach should be a behind-the-scenes mentor or a spokesman for the team.

Buchanan's role could be restricted by the ACB despite his outstanding record as national

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Buchanan, who is a former coach of Middlesex, hasn't always seen eye-to-eye with his players, most notably Stuart Law in Queensland and Middlesex pair Mark Ramprakash and Mike Gatting.

But his success and support from most players have been unquestioned, leading to his appointment in November 1999 following the retirement of Geoff Marsh.

Buchanan was not afforded much credit during Australia's record-breaking streak, but his role came under question in India when Australia lost their first series in more than 18 months.

The Queenslanders said he would be disappointed to lose his role as tour selector but admitted

it could be seen as contradictory.

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