

Draw looms

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rain stopped play, came on in the 14th. But an increasingly assured Gangaroff drove his third ball for four in front of a sparse crowd before bad light halted proceedings.

England, were a bowler light with Matthew Hoggard off the field since Saturday because of a thigh problem and were also missing all-rounder Andrew Flintoff, out of this match due to a recurrence of a left ankle injury.

That England, in their first match under new coach Peter Moores, set a stiff chase owed much to Kevin Pietersen's dashing 109 in a second innings total of 284 for eight declared.

West Indies, who'd seen England pile up an imposing 553 for five declared in their first innings, fought hard to avoid the follow-on but were bowled out for 437.

Their performance was all the more creditable given that two days of their three-day game against Somerset, their lone warm-up fixture in England, were washed out.

Panesar's haul included five lbws - the first time this had been achieved in a Test innings by a spinner and only the fifth instance in all.

England's first innings saw Matt Prior become the first England wicket-keeper to score a century on Test debut with a rapid 126 notout.

Paul Collingwood (111), Ian Bell (109 not out) and Alastair Cook (105) also reached three figures, four England batsmen scoring hundreds in the same Test innings for the first time in 69 years.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the fifth day of the first Test between England and West Indies at Lord's on Monday:

ENGLAND: First innings 553-5 declared (Prior 126 not out, Collingwood 111, Bell 109 not out, A Cook 105)

WEST INDIES: First innings 437 (Chanderpaul 74, Ramdin 60, Bravo 56; Panesar 6-129)

ENGLAND: Second innings

Strauss c Morton b Collymore 24

Cook c Ramdin b Collymore 65

Shah c Ramdin b Collymore 4

Pietersen lbw b Gayle 109

Collingwood c Morton b Bravo 34

Bell c Ganga b Bravo 3

Prior c Bravo b Gayle 21

Plunkett st Ramdin b Gayle 0

Harmison not out 11

Panesar not out 3

Extras: (b-4, lb-3, w-1, nb-5) 10

Total: (For 8 wkt dec in 66.5 overs) 284

Fall of wickets: 1-35, 2-51, 3-139, 4-241, 5-248, 6-264, 7-264, 8-271

Did not bat: Hoggard

Bowler O M R W

Powell 9 0 44 0

Collymore 15 1 58 3

Gayle 20.5 4 66 3

Bravo 18 2 91 2

Taylor 4 0 21 0

WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight 7-0)

Gayle not out 47

Ganganot out 31

Extras: (b-4, lb-3, w-3, nb-1) 11

Total: (For no loss in 22 overs) 89

To bat: Smith, Sarwan, Chanderpaul, Morton, Bravo, Ramdin, Powell, Taylor, Collymore

Bowler O M R W

Harmison 8 1 21 0

Plunkett 11 1 48 0

Panesar 3 0 13 0

Eye to eye

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"I think Mashrafe is best batsman in the team. I was not surprised that the way Mashrafe batted today because he can do anything. He is great," was the compliment of Shahdad for his new ball partner.

But he said that the pitch was fantastic for batting. "The pitch was fantastic for batting. It's tough to take a wicket if a batsman makes no mistake," he said.

LOCAL SNIPS

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the third round. Liza was closely followed by IWM Rani Hamid, Nazrana Khan Eva, Zaka Sultan and Mahmuda Haque, all with 2.5 points.

DIVITI

Sports World blanked Combined SC 3-0 in the AB Bank first division table tennis super league at the Woodenfloor Gymnasium but fellow title contenders Paloric Group dropped one set on way to a 3-1 win over Dhaka South' East TTC. In the other match, TT Academy defeated Barna TTC in straight sets.

Berlusconi picks

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"The President's role is to motivate the team and give the mission statement to the Coach and players," said Berlusconi.

"I don't think our results in my 21 years here have been all that bad... Ancelotti, Tassotti and Costacurta are great friends and this atmosphere will certainly help the work done at Milanello."

If one old face is moving on, then another could return, as the patron and former Italian Prime Minister has again invited Andriy Shevchenko to end his Chelsea spell.

"The doors are not just open for Sheva, they are spread out wide for him. I would not change Milan with any other squad, especially after the arrival of Ronaldo and the focus on youngsters in the future to lower the average age of the team."



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani cricketers Kamran Akmal (L), Imran Nazir (2nd L) and captain Shaib Malik congratulate Shahid Afridi (R) for taking the wicket of Sri Lankan batsman Upul Tharanga (not in picture) in the second one-day international at the Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Sunday.

Now Afridi with the ball



CRICINFO, undated

Try as Sri Lanka might, keeping Shahid Afridi from tinkering with matches is proving beyond them currently. Having laughed, and wallowed, in the face of a lout game two nights ago, Afridi conjured up another opportunity to lead Pakistan to a 98-run win and a series triumph at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Sunday night.

Afridi's bowling has kept his place in the team in recent months. The leg-spin is more pick 'n' mix than mystical, but its effectiveness is in little doubt. Shaib Malik knew it when he shunned the third powerplay and brought him on as the 17th over.

He had little choice, for Sri Lanka were picking their way delightfully into a daunting 314-run target. Their openers had set the tone, in a wonderfully free-spirited, attacking opening. Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Sami attacked in contrasting manner. Chamara Kapugedera and Upul Tharanga responded in kind. By the fifth over, Tharanga was putting away Asif for three fours, of which the last -- a punch down the ground -- was the pick.

Two wickets fell, whereupon began the real game. Outside Australia, there cannot currently be a more assured presence at the crease than Mahela Jayawardene. If Pakistan needed proof, he soon gave it to them. Having already clipped Sami square, he pulled Umar Gul so elegantly that the resulting guntuan six seemed too uncouth a result for it. Tharanga kept up, driving Asif relentlessly in the 15th over, a fifty union came up, as well as, staggeringly, the 100.

It was then that Afridi's itchy fingers clicked. Tharanga fell in his second over and almost every delivery asked a question different from the last. Some bounced, some spun

more, some went the other way, some had more hustle. Malik, who had come on himself, ensured that runs dried up.

Both went through their ten overs unchanged, Afridi adding Chamara Silva and Prasanna Jayawardene to his tally. The latter, dismissed one over after Malik trapped Tillakaratne Dilshan, effectively ended the match. Jayawardene, the skipper, refused to forego his grace under fire but when he fell at the start of the third powerplay, with him went the series.

As with the chase, so with the fielding: Sri Lanka were well in at various stages only to give it away. Having started by resting Lasith Malinga and Sanath Jayasuriya, the World Cup finalists didn't help their cause.

An attack more notable for who wasn't there rather than who was thus presented: Pakistan's batting with plentiful gifts. Salman Butt, and Yasir Hameed took advantage, with a blazing sun and a no-frills track to help, to post a pair of pretty fifties.

Ruchira Perera in particular seemed to have gotten up on the wrong side of bed: left-arm and of indeterminate pace he may be, Chaminda Vaas is isn't. The no-ball to begin the innings was careless, the two leg-side half-volleys that Butt clipped through square leg were the pick.

It was a recurring leitmotif in those first overs, Perera honing in on Butt's shins and toes, the batsman honing in on the square leg hoarding. Dilhara Fernando was quicker, but no better. Though he sent back Imran Nazir early, the start had been given away.

Butt and Hameed slipped into a delicious groove, their timing not betraying lengthy absences. Not a slog was seen during the duo's 98-run partnership, as befits batsmen of such poise, yet they still went near a run a ball. Drives, angled bats, flicks, punches all slipped past fielders on the surface rather than the air. Butt bringing up an important fifty -- his first in 15 months --

inevitably putting Perera away.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second one-day international between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Sunday:

PAKISTAN

	Butt	c and b Bandara	74
Nazir	b Fernando	17	
Hameed	c and b Bandara	50	
Yousuf	run out	37	
Malik	b Bandara	27	
Akmal	c Dilshan b Maharoof	38	
Afridi	c Bandara b Maharoof	1	
Razzaq	b Fernando	16	
Sami	b Maharoof	22	
Gul	not out	0	
Asif	not out	5	
Extras: (lb-5, w-17, nb-4)		26	
Total: (For 9 wkt in 50 overs)		313	
Fall of wickets: 1-45, 2-143, 3-167, 4-207, 5-233, 6-237, 7-277, 8-308, 9-308			

Bowler

O M R W

Perera 10 2 67 0

Fernando 10 0 71 2

Maharoof 10 0 65 3

Bandara 10 0 56 3

Dilshan 10 0 49 0

SRILANKA

Tharanga c Nazir b Afridi	48
Kapugedera b Sami	20
Warnapura lbw b Asif	5
M Jayawardene b Asif	61
Silva c Razzaq b Afridi	21
Dilshan lbw b Malik	10
Payawardene lbw b Afridi	1
Maharoof Butt b Sami	17
Bandara c Hameed b Gul	11
Fernando not out	2
Perera b Gul	0
Extras: (b-1, lb-7, w-5, nb-6)	19
Total: (All out in 39.5 overs)	215
Fall of wickets: 1-37, 2-49, 3-113, 4-153, 5-172, 6-176, 7-188, 8-205, 9-215	

Bowler

O M R W

Asif 10 0 59 2

Sami 6 1 27 2

Gul 3.5 0 38 2

Malik 10 0 46 1

Afridi 10 0 37 3

SRILANKA

	R	B	4s	6s
Javed Omar lbw b Rudra Pratap Singh	7	16	1	0
Shahriar Nafees c Sachiin Tendulkar b Zameer Khan	32	56	2	0
Habibul Bashar c Sachiin Tendulkar b Rudra Pratap Singh	0	2	0	0
Rajin Saleh c Sourav Ganguly b Ramesh Powar	41	83	6	0
Mohammad Ashraful c Dinesh Karthik b Rudra Pratap Singh	5	20	0	0
Shakib Al Hasan b VRV Singh	27	49	4	0
Khaled Mashud lbw b VRV Singh	2	19	0	0
Mash				