#### Aussies fallible, says Dyson

REUTERS, Kingston

Australia beat West Indies in the opening Test of their three-match series on Monday but West Indies coach John Dyson said his side had learnt the visitors were fallible.

Top in Tests and world champions in the one-day game, Australia have dominated international cricket for the last decade but Dyson, an Australian himself, said his team's battling display showed there were chinks in their opponents' armour.

"It has made us realise that they are human, they are not superhuman. They are just human and they can falter.

"If we can apply enough pressure at the right times and continue doing the good things that we can do, they might falter just enough to give us that opening," said Dyson whose team had the tourists shaking at 18 for five in the second innings.

West Indies, who have suffered a decade of decline, showed, particularly with their bowling and fielding that they were an improving side, albeit one whose batting was not yet sturdy enough.

"I think we will take away from the game a lot of positive things. That's what we've tried to do since the South Africa tour last year. You can't expect a team to turn around, overnight and consistently win every game," Dyson said.

"We recognise that and that this series is against the strongest unit in the world. I think we have put on a pretty good show in this match. If we can just improve in a couple of areas, we will put on another good show in the second Test in Antigua."

Dyson picked out the pace bowling of Fidel Edwards and Daren Powell as particularly pleasing along with the batting of Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who made a century on the third day.

But he demanded that other batsmen, such as Devon Smith and Runako Morton showed the ability to go on from good starts to make big scores and he was disappointed with the failure to make more of the final day's opportunity.

"Obviously I was hoping, hoping for a much stronger start to the day. But they bowled very well. There were only a couple of sessions throughout the Test match that cost us very dearly. That is the thing about Test match cricket, you can't afford to have bad sessions."

#### New face

FROM PAGE 17 senior side.

"Nazmul was our first choice but he was declared unfit due to a groin injury and Rasel has yet to recover from his ankle injury. Dollar was the best available replacement for us because of his impressive showing with the Under-19s and in the domestic tournaments," explained Rafiq.

On the other hand, the axe fell on left-handed opener Zunaed, whose paltry collection of 41 runs in six one-day internationals, but Rafiq admitted that Dhiman was unfortunate not to be in the team.

"It was bad luck for Dhiman because Mushfigur did exactly what he needed after being left out of the side. We had no choice but to pick Mushfiqur considering the team combination after Shakib left a huge vacuum in the top-order," said Rafiq while recalling Mushfiqur's run-spree in the domestic competitions.

But while Zunaed's exclusion could be justified, questions were raised regarding Aftab Ahmed's place.

"Aftab was reasonable in his performance against New Zealand, South Africa and Ireland. Most importantly, we don't want to break the unity and confidence in the team as the whole team's performance was not satisfactory," said Rafig.

The former national player also explained the reason behind the inclusion of Mehrab, who returned home two days back from United' States after cutting short his holiday. "He was brilliant with the Academy team and in domestic cricket with (Old DOHS and inspired spell, and had Dhaka)," he said.

Rafiq again reiterated his claim that they are totally against making frequent changes in the team and in that case, the players should have realised their professional duties.

"I want to be patient on the players but the first thing is that the players have to be professional and they have to do their duty in the right way," said Rafiq adding that his only expectation is that the Tigers will be competitive in the tri-

series and the Asia Cup. Selector Naimur Rahman informed the reporters that Bangladesh captain Mohammad Ashraful, who is preparing for the HSC examination along with Aftab Ahmed, is ready to sacrifice his examination if it hampered his international commitments.

"His (Ashraful) entire concentration is on cricket and he assured us that he will sacrifice his examination if it clashes with practice or matches," said Naimur.



VICTORY FOR YOUTH: Rajasthan's young batsman Niraj Patel runs off to celebrate their victory while Mumbai paceman Ashish Nehra cannot comprehend the loss at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur on Monday.

## Youth over experience

CRICINFO, undated

doubted that boys." cricket could

watch the last ball of this incredible self on an unforgettable night in game between Mumbai Indians and Hyderabad early on in the compe-Rajasthan Royals on Monday. A tition, and Yusuf Pathan and sureison." current Indian under-19 star and Mohammad Kaif the other evening one from the not-too-distant past in Kolkata. Shane Watson and ranged against a side with a wealth Graeme Smith have done their bit, Mumbai Indians' desperation, but of international experience. Two as has Kamran Akmal. runs for the win, one for the tie. Who would your money have been on? What unfolded was almost

false starts, summoned up a delivery that couldn't quite be slogged, but when the ball streaked back towards him, he dived over it. Another international scampered fly with a throw that was a few feet wide of the stumps. International number three couldn't collect the ball. In between all this mayhem, with the stadium noise amplified to under the spotlight. ear-splitting levels, the two lesser lights ran two. Game over.

So much for experience. Shane Warne couldn't stop gushing about Niraj Patel and Ravindra Jadeja later, and who could blame him? "I thought they'd left it one over too late," he said with typical candour. "Jadeja hit one shot over cover for

Clark's dismissal of Smith was far

more straightforward. The left-

handed opener was adjudged lbw

for 28 in the seventh over of the

morning, when he offered no shot to

Morton, when the batsman was

nearly bowled on one, after he

inside-edged a delivery and almost

played it into the stumps before he

had the presence of mind to kick it

But there was no saving Morton,

when he drove at a full-length

delivery from Lee, missed, and was

Lee was in the middle of an

Chanderpaul dropped on five,

when the left-hander edged a well-

pitched delivery straight into the

lap of first slip fielder Simon Katich,

and next ball, he had an appeal for

end, when Chanderpaul -- who

had scored a century in the first

innings -- responded with a

crunching pull through mid-

The Australia strike weapon

however, had the last laugh, when

he held a return catch to remove

Clark piled on the pressure,

when he removed Bravo for a duck

caught by the short mid-on fielder

deliberately positioned for the

batsman's penchant to play

the demolition job before lunch,

since Sammy joined Ramdin at the

crease, and they batted through the

last hour before the interval to stem

dropped Ramdin on one off Lee,

Wicketkeeper Brad Haddin

But Australia could not complete

uppishly through the leg-side.

But Lee was on the receiving

adjudged lbw to Lee for four.

an lbw verdict turned down.

wicket for four.

Chanderpaul for 11.

the fall of wickets.

Lee came close to removing

a ball that pitched and straightened.

FROM PAGE 17

and skill, and then for Patel to hit around the toss of coins. him (Fernando) back over his head Those who for six. I'm just very proud of those

No matter what the situation, and it was dire on Monday night needed only to unearth a hero. It was Warne him-

beyond belief. The experienced balls, be the man, be the hero. Go and accuracy of Wasim Akram in bowler, after a couple of nervous out there and express yourself." his prime ("absolutely outstanding

round. Sachin Tendulkar ventured But for that sensational little in from long-off, gathered, and let across to the bowler after practi- cameo from Yogesh Takawale, who

With Tendulkar again staying conference, it was left to Lalchand Rajput to survey the wreckage of a campaign that had appeared to revive with six straight victories. the team that calls it home appears "Our fielding let us down today ing into an unconvincing explana- fledgling league couldn't have six that showed unbelievable talent tion about luck that revolved more worthy winners.

dropped Sammy on four off

MacGill, but the Aussies remained

proved to be one of the less impres-

sive efforts for Australia, as Ramdin

and Sammy batted with enterprise,

and gathered runs freely off Bowler

Jaques on the deep square leg Tiffin.

MacGill, in particular, and Mitchell Lee

But the breakthrough came

once Lee was brought back into the

attack, and Ramdin was run out for

26, when he failed to beat MacGill's

direct hit at the bowler's and from

mid-on going for a single off the

boundary dropped Sammy on 31,

when the batsman pulled a short,

rising ball from Lee, but Clarke

completed his five wicket haul

The tailenders -- led by Powell --

entertained the crowd with some

imaginative stroke-play towards

the end, but their effort was mean-

Final scoreboard on the fifth and

final day of the opening Test

between West Indies and Australia

AUSTRALIA: First innings 431

WEST INDIES: First innings 312

AUSTRALIA: Second innings 167

WEST INDIES: Second innings

when he had Sammy lbw.

SCOREBOARD

(Chanderpaul 118)

(overnight 46-1)

Smith Ibw b Clark

Morton lbw b Lee

at Sabina Park on Monday:

(Symonds 79; Bravo 4-47)

Parchment c Haddin b Clark

Sarwan c Symonds b Clark

Chanderpaul c and b Lee

Ramdin run out (MacGill)

Bravo c Johnson b Clark

(Ponting 158; Edwards 5-104)

on track for victory.

Aussie fast bowler.

Johnson.

ingless.

and short leg fielder Phil Jaques Sammylbwb Clark

The first half-hour after lunch Extras: (b-4, lb-2, nb-3)

Clark sinks Windies

Warne understandably was dismissive of those remarks. "It all comes down to belief," he said. "These situations tell you about the differences between the teams. with 32 needed from the final 12 Fernando bowled a wide down the PREMIER LEAGUE cious mistress balls, the Rajasthan Royals seem to leg side. That has nothing to do with luck. Now, I'm not having a go at him, but it comes down to poor execution of skills when the pres-

> Tendulkar's diving catch to dismiss Watson epitomised the from the moment the Powerplay "In our dressing room, the fetched them only 29 runs, they motto is Find a Way," said Warne. were always playing catch-up. "Whether it's for one ball or three Tanvir again bowled with the skill Mumbai's fielding disintegrated again" was the Warne-speak), and in the final stages, with overthrows controlled spells from Siddharth conceded, poor efforts at the Trivedi and Yusuf Pathan denied stumps and an air of panic all Mumbai any sort of momentum. cally every ball, and Fernando, who struck four fours and a six in had bowled three magnificent Watson's final over, this would overs for 12 and two wickets, have been another demolition job seemed to wilt like a wallflower in keeping with Rajasthan's absolute dominance on home turf.

The Sawai Man Singh Stadium, away from the post-match press which has become the IPL equivalent of Fortress Stamford Bridge, boasts of an obstacle course on the premises. For the moment though, capable of brushing aside anything (Monday)," he said, before launch- that blocks its path to glory. This

Powell c Haddin b MacGill

Total: (All out in 67 overs)

Jaggernauth c Jaques b MacGill

Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-55, 3-60, 4

Result: Australia won by 95 runs

Umpires: Aleem Dar and Russell

423 runs in the National Cricket

League while Imran led mediocre

City Club into the Super League and

also performed considerably in the

first-class competition. Farhad has

been kept as a standby for the

Ireland-bound squad while there

was no mention of Imran, the right-

Tour to Ireland: Zunaed Siddiqui,

Imrul Kayes, Shamsur Rahman,

Alok Kapali, Jahurul Islam, Nadif

Chowdhury, Nayeem Islam,

Dhiman Ghosh, Rubel Hossain,

Syed Rasel, Suharwardi Shuvo,

Mahbubul Alam, Arafat Sunny

Tour to England: Zunaed Siddiqui

Tamim Iqbal, Nazimuddin

Rokibul Hasan, Nayeem Islam,

Mushfiqur Rahim, Alok Kapali,

Rajin Saleh, Musharraf Hossain,

Sajidul Islam, Dollar Mahmud

Nazmul Hossain, Rubel Hossain,

Syed Rasel, Shakib Al Hasan.

and lead three-match series 1-0.

Man-of-the-match: Stuart Clark.

ligers crowd

22 6 81

74, 5-80, 6-82, 7-149, 8-172, 9-191

Edwards not out

Clark

Johnson

MacGill

Toss: Australia.

FROM PAGE 17

handed batsman.

Nazmul Hossain.

TEAMS

### Vettori hails scheduling

AFP, Manchester

New Zealand captain Daniel Vettori believes the fixture schedule can help his side level their Test series with England after a deflating six-wicket defeat here at Old Trafford.

after the drawn first Test at Lord's. But the final match of this three-Test series doesn't get underway until June 5 at Trent Bridge.

Between now and then New Zealand have a three-day tour match against Northamptonshire, starting on Friday.

Vettori hopes this will give his side a chance to lick their wounds whilst allowing the likes of middleorder batsman Daniel Flynn, who played no further part at Old Trafford after being hit on the head by a James Anderson bouncer on the first day, an opportunity for time in the middle.

"We are lucky we do have that warm-up game," Vettori told reporters after England had won a match which New Zealand dominated early on with more than a day to spare.

"If we rolled straight round into a Test match three days later than there would be some guys who were still reeling from this loss. Hopefully, that warm-up game is a chance to get a few things out of the system.

"Then we can come to Trent Bridge thinking we can square the series. That will still be a good result for us," said Vettori, whose side were beaten 2-1 in a Test campaign by England in New Zealand in March.

The Black Caps had initially been hopeful that Flynn would be able to bat again. But bouts of nausea and illness kept the 23year-old Northern Districts lefthander out of the firing line.

"He hasn't been in a great space the last couple of days. He wants to bat but it just wasn't a good idea," said Vettori.

"He's got some cosmetic surgery to have and, depending on how he recovers from that, it's a great idea for him to get straight backinto it."

For much of this match New Zealand, who saw Ross Taylor score a career-best 154 not out in the first innings, looked well-placed to record what would have been only their fifth win in 49 Tests in England.

But a second innings slump, when they were bowled out for just 114 with Vettori's rival left-arm spinner Monty Panesar taking a Test-best six for 37, allowed England back into the game.

Although the hosts' target was an Old Trafford Test record 294 it should have been much greater and England, with opener Andrew Strauss scoring 106, completed their run-chase off the last ball before tea on the fourth day.

#### Kuznetsova

FROM PAGE 17

"I hit the ball big and heavy and these conditions were very heavy so I felt very comfortable especially with her ball being flat and slow," she said.

Later Tuesday, Rafael Nadal, the triple men's champion, was due to face Brazilian qualifier Thomaz Bellucci with the Spaniard hoping to take a first step towards joining Bjorn Borg as the only man to win four successive men's titles here.

Russian fourth seed Nikolay Davydenko, a semifinalist in 2007, was taking on Swedish veteran Thomas Johansson, the 2002 Australian Open champion.

If he comes through that he could meet compatriot, and former world number one, Marat Safin who was facing Monaco's Jean-Rene Lisnard in his first round

Safin is one of three former number ones in action Tuesday. Juan Carlos Ferrero, the 2003 French Open winner, faces Brazil's Marcos Daniel while Australia's Lleyton Hewitt, a quarterfinalist in 2001 and 2004, meets France's

Nicolas Mahut. Hewitt arrived in Paris nursing a painful hip injury and hasn't played since helping Australia beat Thailand in a Davis Cup play-off in

#### Chennai in

FROM PAGE 17 Rao's 46-ball knock, which included three fours and one six, was mixture of aggression and caution while Teja was furious right from the word go. Teja hit four fours and a six in his 28-ball knock.

Once the duo departed, the hosts' wickets fell one after another as they crumbled under pressure of putting up a big total.

#### **SCORES IN BRIEF**

DECCAN CHARGERS: 147 for 8 in 20 overs (Gilchrist 5, Gibbs 8, Styris 20, Venugopal 46, Ravi Teja 40, Afridi 1, Yadav 0, Singh 10, Ojha 1 not out, extras 16; Ntini 1-24, Gony 1-21, Morkel 2-37, Muralidaran 1-22, Balaji 2-34).

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS: 148 for 3 in 19.2 overs (Patel 20, Fleming 14, Raina 54 not out, Dhoni 37, Morkel 12 not out, extras 11; Vijaykumar 1-32, Sarvesh 1-18, Ojha 1-28). Result: Chennai Super Kings won by seven wickets.

Toss: Deccan Chargers. Man-of-the-match: Suresh Raina Umpires: BG Jerling (South Africa) and AM Saheba

## Sidebottom's year

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Akram". He followed up with some-Wasim Akram".

Zealand were batting ineptly, that Sidebottom was unworthy to be taking 24 wickets at 17, but his comment already seems dated. Sidebottom is the first pace bowler on England's team sheet and will remain so for the foreseeable future. Sidebottom isn't Wasim Akram

and he never will be, but who is? Only two left-arm pace bowlers have ever taken more than 200 Test wickets: Wasim and Chaminda Vaas, who have taken 757 between them. That's more than the next five left-armers (Alan Davidson, Zaheer Khan, Trevor Goddard, Richard Collinge and Bruce Reid) put together. Garry Sobers, who bowled allsorts, is discounted from this list.

taken 100 Test wickets. Bill Voce leads the way with 98, John Lever is next with 73, and Sidebottom is third with 63. So over the course of the next 12 months he ought to become England's greatest ever left-handed quick. Not bad for a bloke who, as a 14-year-old, was told he wasn't good enough by Yorkshire, and as a 23-year-old, by Duncan Fletcher.

But how good is he? Sidebottom has quickly become a cult figure in England because of his Roger Daltrey hair and, let's be honest, because of a drought of potential heroes. But he is also England's "main strike bowler", according to England's bowling coach Ottis Gibson in a forthcoming issue of the Wisden Cricketer. He is not just Mr Dependable (though he's that as well), not just the new Matthew Hoggard. He is Michael Vaughan's go-to bowler. It is some burden, though one he appears to relish.

bowlers, only South Africa's Dale Steyn has taken more wickets (78) than Sidebottom, whose entire career total of 63 has come in that When Ryan Sidebottom was slicing time. (His debut Test back in 2001 through New Zealand's raw top was fruitless.) Steyn and order back in March, Jeremy Coney, Sidebottom will, fitness permit-This clash followed on just days the former Kiwi captain, ting, come head to head in six bemoaned that the batsmen were weeks' time or so, when South "making him look like Wasim Africa play a four-Test series in England. It is a contest to decide thing along the lines of "and he's no global pace bowling's pre-eminent exponent. Brett Lee might just

Coney's point was that New consider himself in the mix as well. Even to think of Sidebottom as



RYAN SIDEBOTTOM

No England left-armer has ever worthy of consideration is to undergo some severe headshaking and skin-pinching. This is a man who, as previously mentioned, has been told on more than one occasion that he's not up to it. His selection in 2001 scarred his image to a point where he became something of a joke figure, an emblem of a failed domestic system that produced only trundlers ill-equipped to deal with the rigours of international cricket.

It's not that Duncan Fletcher was wrong to discard Sidebottom in 2001 but that it took until 2007 to recognise Sidebottom's transformation. There was a disconnect between Fletcher and the county game, a lack of trust and respect on both sides. That schism has been mended now and a player with Sidebottom's abilities, one hopes, will not be ignored again.

But Sidebottom did transform himself, make no mistake. His next best thing.

Over the last 12 months, of pace success is a testament to the simple but underestimated virtues of hunger and application. He takes pride in his England cap, not in how much cash he might make out of Allen Stanford or the IPL. He acknowledges that he wasn't ready for Test cricket in 2001, which itself throws up another question about the rigours of the county game.

Sidebottom has the capacity to bowl properly quick now, in the same 90mph bracket as Steyn, and he has the rat-like cunning and variations that every successful bowler must have in these bat-friendly times. He has developed the crucial nip-backer to the right-hander and he has learned how to bowl round the wicket, having observed RP Singh in England last year. He might also like to know, if he doesn't already, that Singh has got Mike Hussey four times -- one to store in the memory bank for the 2009 Ashes.

It is still early days for Sidebottom. He has had success against West Indies and New Zealand, the two weakest batting line-ups in the world apart from Bangladesh. Against India and Sri Lanka he took 13 wickets at 48. though he did have five catches dropped by the wicketkeeper, Matt Prior, in those two series. Steyn has laid waste to every line-up he has come across. Yes, he has cashed in against Bangladesh but also against India and Pakistan. He has never played a Test in England but then he has a tidy attack to back him up. Sidebottom is part of a green England attack that, as Ross Taylor showed at Old Trafford, is fragile when their plans are undermined. Taylor flayed three sixes of Sidebottom.

Steyn is the man to beat in the global pace bowling stakes right now, but Sidebottom, as a rare breed, has the chance to write his name in history. Australia's Davidson took 186 Test wickets and he is the third greatest left-arm pace bowler in Test history. Sidebottom is a third of the way there already and, as a later starter, is still approaching his peak at 30. He'll never be Wasim, or Chaminda, but he could be the

## Back from dead'

Cricket

backforasix-wicketwin.

CROSSWORD

53 Ireland

24 Ball

of

yarn

25 Galena

and

26 Brit's

radio

31 Picture

32 Tell

30 Lubricant

puzzle

tales

cinnabar

zone

Solution time: 21 mins.

AFP, Manchester

Andrew Strauss's hundred was the centrepiece of England's run stand of 60 in the second innings chase as they reached their victory target of 294 for the loss of four hander Alastair Cook, told reporters: wickets just before tea on the fourth day at Old Trafford here Monday.

But for much of this match

Test series after a draw at Lord's, England completed their second were outplayed.

Monty Panesar's career-best haul Australia at Headingley in 2001, England captain Michael Vaughan of six for 37, which saw New added: "We knew we were chasing admitted his side were close to being Zealand dismissed for just 114 in the game. "dead and buried" in the second Test their second innings, to give against New Zealand before coming England's batsmen a chance of four overs, he was nervous and winning the game.

> between Strauss and fellow left-"Chasing 294, the key was the start. "If we lost early wickets we were

going to be dead and buried."

Vaughan, who shared a second-



By Eugene Sheffer

England, now 1-0 up in the three- wicket stand of 90 with Strauss as highest victory chase on home soil It needed left-arm spinner after their 315 for four against

"Monty Panesar's first three or didn't get his pace right. But then Vaughan, praising a first-wicket he got on a roll. It's amazing how a game can change."

Strauss, whose Test career had looked like coming to a close during March's tour of New Zealand, was at a loss to explain his return to form.

"It's hard to explain, that mystery thing form. The only way to get it is by scoring runs," Strauss said after his second century in three This was Strauss's 12th Test

hundred and the Middlesex lefthander said: "It is certainly one of the more satisfying.

"It's not very often you get the chance to get a hundred in the fourth innings. It's special for me, even more special for the team. We were under the pump for two days."

Strauss was dropped for

England's pre-Christmas tour of Sri Lanka after a run of low scores. Although recalled in New Zealand, the31-year-old was still

under pressure for his place come the final Test in Napier. But, after a first innings nought, he scored a Test-best 177 and

England went on to win by 121 runs as they clinched the series 2-1. "There were a couple of technical things I worked on, not trying to

hit too early through offside," Strauss said.

DM O YLIOKUC ILLIY KU OJVDK

GDY YDIY, YDSGK GL GLOJ

KU KGL XUISCLYYDUIOA

XUIMLYYDUIOA? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DAILY NEWSPAPER THAT CONTAINS ARTICLES ON THE YANKEES AND THE METS: "THE NEW YORK TEAMS." Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals H

# Usha midfielder Zahidul Islam Rajan (2nd from left) races down the flank during their Premier Hockey League Super 5 match against Ajax at the

Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

#### 33 Archie's DOWN 23 Harped ACROSS 1 "Two nickname 1 Society newcomer 24 Gunk Years 26 Fortnight 2 Rd. son-in-3 Fresh the 35 Existed 4 Spite ary bas-5 Boutique 37 Burdened 6 Sound ketball coach of laugh Hank ter 12 Squared farm employee 7 Have 28 Paddock away debts papa 13 Ottumwa's 40 Coral 8 Oars 29 Witstate structure 9 Wearing nessed 14 Pitching 42 Nelther diamonds 31 Squashstat mate 10 Rainbow 15 Saman- 43 Made ed square very, very 11 Appre-34 Also tha's 35 Food hends happy sitcom 17 Triangular 48 Mimic 16 Make made with an lace 49 Arm 20 Kinsman iron bone 18 Slender (Abbr.) 37 Main-50 Stead shark 21 Unhappy lander's 51 Marry 19 Attire 21 Opening 52 Aspen destiny memento CRYPTOQUIP 22 Canal 38 Rodents night

doit

39 Lasso

40 Hindu

royal

41 Greek

44 Wapiti

vowels

45 Midafter

46 Auction

47 Payable

ending

noon, on

a sundial