

Shiv leads fightback

Cricket

AFP, Napier

An unbeaten century by the impenetrable Shivnarine Chanderpaul rescued the West Indies from a disastrous start to the second cricket Test against New Zealand here Friday.

At stumps the West Indies were 258 for six as Chanderpaul assisted by Brendon Nash engineered a remarkable fightback after their top order had crumbled to 63 for four on a flat, batsmen-friendly McLean Park wicket.

Overall, New Zealand could claim the honours of the day after losing the toss and fighting back to take six wickets when the conditions were against the bowlers.

But the star of the show was undoubtedly Chanderpaul, who lived up to his billing as the world cricketer of the year as he and Nash staged a 163-run stand for the fifth wicket.

They came together just before lunch and remained at the crease until five overs from the close of play before Nash's gallant stand came to an end.

But Chanderpaul, in his 114th Test, remained rock-solid at the other end as he ended the day unbeaten on 100, his 20th Test-century.

Jerome Taylor, who scored his maiden Test century in the drawn first Test last week, was on one.

Captain Chris Gayle had no hesitation in batting first when he won the toss and the West Indies moved briskly to 43 before running into trouble.

Gayle was the first to fall, edging Iain O'Brien to wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum, starting a slide that saw the West Indies lose four wickets for 31 runs in 16 overs.

With New Zealand in control in the opening session, spectators had the rare sight of an off-spinner bowling on the

opening morning of a Test with two slips, a silly point and a forward short leg. It was a tactic that paid dividends when Ramnaresh Sarwan, on 11, nicked Jeetan Patel straight to McCullum.

O'Brien then struck again when Xavier Marshall edged to Jesse Ryder at third slip and was out for six.

Opener Sewnarine Chattergoon laboured to 13 runs in 115 minutes at the crease before he fell just before lunch to a spectacular reflex catch by Jamie How.

The opener hit out at a floated Daniel Vettori delivery and How, just a few metres (yards) from the bat at second slip, lunged an arm in the air to take the ball.

The veteran Chanderpaul and the novice Nash then set about rebuilding the innings and were rarely troubled by the New Zealand attack.

Chanderpaul had one heart-stopping moment on 28 when New Zealand challenged a failed leg before wicket appeal from Kyle Mills but third umpire Mark Benson

backed the original ruling that the ball would have cleared the stumps.

The left-hander was untroubled from then and his century included three sixes, two off Vettori, and nine fours.

Nash, with a confidence that belied his limited international experience, cruised to 74 before mistiming a drive off James Franklin and the ball ballooned to Daniel Flynn at short cover.

O'Brien and Vettori were the pick of the New Zealand bowlers with two wickets apiece while Patel and Franklin claimed one each.

The inclusion of Patel for fast bowler Mark Gillespie is the only change to the New Zealand side from the first Test.

The West Indies also made one change to their line-up, bringing in left-arm spinner Sulleman Benn for pace bowler Lionel Baker.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the second Test between New Zealand and the West Indies at McLean Park on Friday:

WEST INDIES: First innings
Gayle c McCullum b O'Brien 34
Chattergoon c How b Vettori 13
Sarwan c McCullum b Patel 11
Marshall c Ryder b O'Brien 6
Chanderpaul not out 100
Nash c Flynn b Franklin 74
Ramdin b Vettori 6
Taylor not out 1
Extras: (lb-5, w-1 nb-7) 13
Total: (For six wks) 258
To bat: Powell, Edwards, Benn.
Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-54, 3-63, 4-74, 5-237, 6-257.

Bowler O M R W
Franklin 16 2 57 1
Mills 12 40 29 0
Patel 25 11 41 1
O'Brien 18 2 59 2
Vettori 17 4 58 2
Ryder 3 0 9 0

NEW ZEALAND: McIntosh, How, Flynn, Taylor, Ryder, McCullum, Franklin, Vettori, Mills, O'Brien, Patel.

Toss: West Indies
Umpires: Rudi Koertzen (RSA), Amiesha Saheba (IND)



PHOTO: AFP

West Indies mainstay Shivnarine Chanderpaul celebrates his 20th Test ton during the first day of the second Test against New Zealand at McLean Park in Napier yesterday.

SL confirm

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"Sri Lanka is busy in Bangladesh and once they are free they will tour us. We have sent a full itinerary to Sri Lanka and as soon as it is finalised we will announce it," said Altaf.

Sri Lanka are likely to play Test matches in Karachi, Lahore and Multan, while Karachi would host a one-day and the Twenty20 match. The remaining one-dayers would likely be played in Lahore.

Pakistan last played a Test match in December last year, against India in Bangalore.

Sri Lanka will play two Tests in Bangladesh and feature in a tri-series there with Zimbabwe until January 16.

India Thursday called off their tour of Pakistan after New Delhi refused to grant the team permission to travel across the border in the wake of last month's attacks on Mumbai, which India has blamed on Pakistan-based militants.

The PCB said it was set to lose at least 25 million dollars as a result of the cancellation, but would recover some of the money by hosting Sri Lanka.

Aussies in command

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from Paul Harris, in an unbeaten partnership of 66 in 15.1 overs with Jason Krejza, who eased to 28 and ensured Australia finished on a high. However, it will be up to South Africa's batsmen over the next two days to determine the cost of the home side's errors.

Graeme Smith's men knew they were still alive when Ponting and Hussey fell in consecutive overs with the score on 88. While the back-to-back wickets were important for the status of the match, they also showed the tourists would not fold despite a demoralising implosion against Johnson on the second afternoon.

Ponting, who took regular time out to stretch, enjoyed the spin of Harris more than the probing pace of Jacques Kallis, but he got too aggressive and was caught behind trying to force off the back foot on 32. Hussey (8) was the fourth to exit when he lost his off stump, under-edging an

attempted pull off Makhaya Ntini, an event which continued Australia's tendency in this match to lose wickets in groups at crucial times.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the first Test between Australia and South Africa at the Western Australia Cricket Association ground in Perth on Friday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 375
SOUTH AFRICA: First innings (overnight 243 for 8)
McKenzie c Krejza b Johnson 2
Smith b Johnson 48
Amla b Krejza 47
Kallis c Haddin b Johnson 63
De Villiers c Haddin b Johnson 63
Duminy c Haddin b Johnson 1
Boucher c Kallis b Siddle 26
M Morkel c Krejza b Johnson 1
Harris c Krejza b Johnson 0
Steyn c Haddin b Johnson 8
Ntini not out 5
Extras: (lb-5, w-5, nb-7) 17
Total: (All out in 89.5 overs) 281
Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-106, 3-110, 4-234, 5-237, 6-238, 7-241, 8-241, 9-256, 10-281.

Bowler O M R W
Lee 21 3 59 0
Johnson 24 4 61 8
Krejza 25 2 102 1
Siddle 16.5 5 44 1
Symonds 3 1 10 0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings
Hayden c & b Steyn 4
Katiech c Boucher b Kallis 37
Ponting c Boucher b Harris 32
Hussey b Ntini 8

Clarke c Kallis b Steyn 25
Symonds c Smith b Harris 37
Haddin not out 39
Lee c De Villiers b Kallis 5
Krejza not out 28
Extras: (lb-6, w-2, nb-5) 13
Total: (For 7 wks in 75 overs) 228
To bat: Johnson, Siddle.

Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-59, 3-88, 4-88, 5-148, 6-157, 7-162.

Bowler O M R W
Steyn 16 3 57 2
Ntini 13 2 55 1
Harris 23 3 64 2
Kallis 11 4 19 2
Morkel 12 3 27 0

Pakistan's worst year since '70

AFP, Karachi

Cricket-starved Pakistan has suffered a huge blow with the cancellation of India's five-week tour in the wake of the Mumbai attacks, the third event called off here in a year amid security fears.

This means Pakistan did not play any Test cricket this year for the first time since 1970.

India's cricket board announced Thursday that it would not send the national team to Pakistan on the orders of the government in New Delhi, which has blamed Pakistan-based militants for the deadly siege in Mumbai.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said it would lose at least 25 million dollars in television rights and sponsorships over the cancellation of the tour, which was to include three Tests, five one-day internationals and a Twenty20 international.

They however confirmed Friday that Sri Lanka would play a Twenty20 international, three Tests and three one-dayers next month in Pakistan in place of the India series.

In March, Australia postponed until further notice a tour of Pakistan and in August the International Cricket Council pushed back until 2009 the eight-nation Champions Trophy due to be staged here. Both decisions were made due to security concerns.

Mashrafe

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impressive series against New Zealand at home as the place to look back.

"We don't want to go too far back but we are seeking inspiration from the New Zealand series.

"We had a poor outing in South Africa (last month) but we are hopeful of doing well against Sri Lanka at home," said Mashrafe.

That series against New Zealand saw the emergence of Shabbir Al Hasan as the leading spinner in the team and with Abdur Razzak gone, the onus will surely be on the left-armers from Magura.

"Shabbir has been bowling well since the World Cup (in 2007). Although I have never played him but I can see that he varies his pace very well and relies very much on his accuracy," observed Mashrafe who added, "Just like Rafique bhai (Mohammad Rafique), he can bowl accurately for 30-35 overs and I think that is what gives him the success."

But Mashrafe will miss his best mate Abdur Razzak, who was been suspended by the International Cricket Council for a suspected action.

"Razzak is one of our best bowlers and we will surely miss his presence," said the fast bowler.

"He is working on his action right now and I hope he comes back. But right now we should think about those who are in the squad," added Mashrafe.

BCB XI squad

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part of the Tigers squad that will play the Test series.

But the match will also be used as a reward for some consistent performers in the domestic circuit.

Faisal Hossain, who just played one Test match for the Tigers, has been given the reward for his consistent run of form in the National Cricket League. The left-hander from Chittagong scored an impressive 775 runs at an average of 51.7 with three centuries. His Chittagong teammates Nafis Iqbal (404 runs) and Tariq Aziz (35 wickets) were also called up while Sylhet left-arm spinner Nabil Samad was also handed a chance after picking up 41 wickets in the NCL.

The match will also serve as a great experience for the likes of wicketkeeper Mohammad Mithun and batsmen Saikat Ali, Ashraful Aziz and Mohammad Rahi and legspinner Raihanuddin Arafat.

Mithun, Saikat and Ashraful have all been improved remarkably according to many while Rahi entered the fray after his 71 in the Victory Day exhibition match.

The batsman played for Bangladesh Boys in the First Division League last season and the game would be his greatest opportunity to learn and learn from the several senior pros in the side.

The Sri Lankan batsmen will look to make maximum use of the three-day affair to get into the groove of Test cricket, something they have not played since August.

Tall task for Proteas

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Conventional wisdom states that the WACA gets easier to score on as the match progresses but South Africa will face a tall task to begin the series with a win after Australia extended their lead to 322. However, in a game that has had more changes of direction than a line-dancing class, South Africa's ability to remain in the contest after three days has left the visitors in a confident frame of mind.

They began the morning aiming to stop Australia's momentum, created by Mitchell Johnson's seven second-day strikes. They closed it hopeful of a chase of less than 350 -- a gettable target in Perth -- thanks to a disciplined bowling

effort, although an unbeaten 66-run stand from Jason Krejza and Brad Haddin late in the day tempered their enthusiasm.

"It's pretty even at the moment, we've had an awesome day," AB de Villiers said. "I think momentum was behind us, we slipped a little bit towards the last half an hour but there wasn't a lot in the ball or the wicket in the last half an hour. We've got a few overs to go until the new ball and hopefully we can take three wickets in the morning."

Four times have sides have posted more than 340 in the fourth innings at the WACA and much will, therefore, depend on the efforts of Australia's lower order early on the fourth day. A few more wickets in hand would have been useful for the hosts, who for the second time in the game lost Andrew Symonds and Michael Clarke to aggressive

shots when they were set. "I've been pleased that we've kept looking to score," Australia's coach Tim Nielsen said. "We're 322 runs in front in a Test match at the moment because we backed ourselves and we played positive cricket the whole way through."

South Africa's bowlers maintained the pressure and, while Dale Steyn and Jacques Kallis collect two wickets each, nobody was able to produce a match-changing spell like Johnson. He finished with 8 for 61 after adding one wicket to his overnight tally and Nielsen said the remarkable effort had created a positive feeling in the Australian camp.

"It's been so terrific to see him do so well, the hard work he's put in over the last 18 months and at different times there's been questions about whether he might be good enough to do it or where he sits in the whole scheme of things," Nielsen said. "I don't think we've had any doubt about that."

"He's walking around a bit like a Cheshire Cat at the moment, which is nice. There's a good feeling in the rooms for Mitchell and we think we can ride that wave tomorrow (Saturday) and further on."

The odd ball has behaved strangely -- one Mome Morkel delivery that hit the footmarks bounced so sharply that it nearly cleared Mark Boucher -- but there should still be plenty of runs in the pitch, de Villiers said it would be a major challenge chasing down any more than 350.

"The wicket looks alright at the moment," de Villiers said. "It's very slow though and there's a lot of patches of grass around which gives you that pace too so it depends which patch it hits. It's two paced which makes it very difficult. It's not an easy wicket to bat on, it's also not an easy wicket to bowl on when the batter gets in so it's a bit of both worlds."

Fog frustrates

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love being here and as for me this is where I started and I didn't think that I would captain my country for this long.

"That was just an interim thing they gave me when Marvan (Atapattu) was injured and so far things have been okay. I don't know how long I will hold the post for but the important thing for us is to improve as a team."

Jayawardene, however, could not be drawn from his shell to make predictions.

"I am not a person who forecasts results. I just want to play one game at a time and see. The focus would be to win obviously but if I could forecast then I would have come and went back home without playing. So my focus is to play the game and I'll let you know what the result is after the match."

He added that Kumar Sangakkara's injury was not

serious.

"Kumar had a slight accident, a domestic accident actually at home and got a cut on his foot. Nothing too serious and he should be all right."

Coach Trevor Bayliss was happy about the depth of Sri Lankan cricket in the present days as they are preparing to play the Tests without Sanath Jayasuriya and the one-dayers without Chaminda Vaas.

"First of all they haven't been rested. Sanath has retired from Test cricket and Vaas has not been selected for the one-day team," said Bayliss.

"We have got some very good young bowlers who from Vaas' point of view are bowling very well at the moment and they have just earned their spot in the one-day squad. They have a fair bit of depth in terms of cricketers in Sri Lanka and the task is to get them ready for national level."

Gambhir guides India

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Moore added: "Good players do not become 'not good' players overnight. He showed his value to his team."

The England coach said he was satisfied with his bowlers' efforts, despite gaining just one wicket in the day.

"We bowled well all day," said Moore. "On another day we may have got three wickets."

"Keeping them under three runs an over was a good job and a couple of more wickets would have changed the game."

India began slowly after electing to bat in overcast conditions, groping for the first 10 overs of the match to make 15 runs after losing the dangerous Sehwaig in the second over.

Fast bowler Stuart Broad, returning to the England side in place of Steve Harmison after missing the first Test with a hamstring injury, struck with his sixth delivery.

Sehwaig, man of the match

in Chennai for his explosive 83 off 68 balls, failed to score as he edged Broad's outswinger to wicket-keeper Matt Prior.

David, who turns 36 in January, walked in at his usual number three position despite making just 342 runs in his last 10 Tests at an average of 19.

Gambhir lasted the day after escaping twice in the 70s, off-spinner Graeme Swann being the unlucky bowler both times.

Paul Collingwood failed to grasp a sharp chance in the slips as Gambhir edged Swann, before umpire Daryl Harper turned down the bowler's loud shout for leg-before.

Television replays showed the ball heading towards the middle stump.

Gambhir has so far hit 12 boundaries, besides a six off Monty Panesar, while David has seven fours.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the

opening day of the second Test between England and India at the Punjab Cricket Association ground in Mohali on Friday:

INDIA: First innings
Gambhir not out 106
Sehwaig c Prior b Broad 0
David not out 65
Extras: (lb-3, nb-5) 8
Total: (For one wk in 72 overs) 179
To bat: Tendulkar, Laxman, Yuvraj, Dhoni, Harbhajan, Zaheer, Mishra, Sharma.

Fall of wicket: 1-6
Bowler O M R W
Anderson 15 3 29 0
Broad 16 7 45 1
Flintoff 13 2 31 0
Panesar 13 2 41 0
Swann 15 4 30 0

ENGLAND: Cook, Strauss, Bell, Pietersen, Flintoff, Collingwood, Prior, Swann, Broad, Anderson, Panesar.

Toss: India
Umpires: Daryl Harper (AUS) and Asad Rauf (PAK)

Idris upsets Russel

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and Guinean forward Raphael Sagnio.

Ridon put the local side ahead after 39 minutes at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong while Raphael's fourth league goal one minute from time handed second-from bottom Muktiyoddha their eighth loss in 10 outings.

Last year's bottom-table Rahmatganj, who are sixth with 14 points, stared at their second consecutive loss when the sloppy backline conceded early goals.

Both Youness and Mobarak were left unmarked inside the area when Russel fullback Hasan crossed the ball during an overlap. It was Mobarak who received the ball without any challenge and coolly placed at the far post for his first league goal in the ninth minute.

The Rahmatganj back four was again caught napping nine minutes later when Moroccan striker Youness headed a right-side cross by Monwar and the ball went in off the sidebar despite goal-keeper Ali managed to put fingers to it.

It would have been over for Rahmatganj in the 22nd minute while Mobarak rattled the crossbar after a Hasan lob, sparking a counter attack that reduced the arrears two minutes later.

The nimble-footed forward Hirok Joarder chipped a long

ball for his partner Idris, who snatched possession from Moroccan defender Bourdip and went round the keeper to place in an open goal.

Coming back to the Russel goal after a long break, Titu showed some form when he parried Hirok's powerful shot before making a diving save on Idris's close-range effort before the break.

Although the livelier Rahmatganj created most of the chances later on, Russel got a fine chance eight minutes after resumption when Iqir Mohamed sent Mobarak racing down the right flank and the winger found Alfaz inside the penalty area. But veteran Alfaz chipped the ball wide of an outrushing Ali.

Idris then struck a left-footer superbly for the equaliser in the 56th minute. The Ugandan, who joined Alfaz and Abahani's Nigerian midfielder Emeka atop the scorers' list with seven goals, picked up a through from Ripon on the edge of the area and drove the ball into the roof of the net, giving no chance to Titu, who was slightly out of his line.

Idris and Hirok both kept the rival goal under pressure with two long-range efforts that missed the mark narrowly as Russel pressed hard in search of a winner that never materialised.

POINTS TABLE							
Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Abahani	10	7	1	2	19	6	22
Mohammedan	10	5	4	1	19	7	19
Brothers	10	5	4	1	16	8	19
Russel	10	5	3	2	18	11	18
Ctg Mohammedan	10	4	5	1	9	5	17
Rahmatganj	10	4	2	4	10	9	14
Ctg Abahani	10	3	4	3	8	7	13
Farashganj	10	3	3	4	9	12	12
Arambagh	10	2	3	5	9	14	9
Muktiyoddha	10	1	1	8	4	23	4
Khulna Abahani	10	1	0	9	6	25	3

TOP SCORERS							
7 goals:	Alfaz (Russel), Emeka (Abahani), Idris (Rahmatganj)						
6 goals:	Bukola (Mohammedan), Emily (Abahani)						
5 goals:	Robin (Mohammedan), Youness (Russel)						
4 goals:	Enamul (Farashganj), Divine (Brothers), Raphael (Ctg Mohammedan), Sakhawat Rony (Ctg Abahani)						
3 goals:	Mehdi (Khulna Abahani), Zahid (Brothers), Nasir (Mohammedan), Mithun (Ctg Abahani), Nicodemus (Arambagh)						
2 goals:	Hazem (Mohammedan), Oniya, Manju, Tapu (Brothers), Towhidul, Ridon (Ctg Mohammedan), Kanchan (Muktiyoddha), Ibrahim (Abahani), Nayan (Arambagh), Francis (Rahmatganj), Henry Quae (Brothers)						
1 goal:	Zakir, Felix (Rahmatganj), Abul, Mamun, Zahed, Tipu (Abahani), Arman Aziz, Sharif, Faisal (Mohammedan), Kabir, Yusuf, Johnson, Emeka (Farashganj), Manjurul, Tarikul, Ripon (Khulna Abahani), Camara (Ctg Mohammedan), Shuvra, Munna, Liton (Brothers), Biddyt, Walid (Muktiyoddha), Imrul, Sirajul, Monu, Moudud (Arambagh), Monwar, Said, Aminul, Iqir, Bulbul, Mobarak (Russel)						
Own goal:	Mostafa Kaba (Arambagh v Ctg Abahani)						

Mongla Port Authority Office of the Chief Engineer (Mechanical & Electrical) Mongla, Bagerhat					
Invitation for Tender					
1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Shipping				
2. Agency	Mongla Port Authority				
3. Procuring entity name	Mongla Port Authority, Mongla, Bagerhat.				
4. Procuring entity code	5205				
5. Procuring entity district	Bagerhat.				
6. Invitation for	Procurement of goods for Electrical Repair & Maintenance Works for the Financial Year 2008-09.				
7. Invitation Ref. No.	MPA/XENEE/352/Par/7/2008.				
8. Date	01-12-2008.				
9. Procurement method	Open tendering method.				
10. Budget and source of fund	MPA's own fund.				
11. Development partners (if applicable)					