



Sri Lanka opener Tillakaratne Dilshan leaps in celebration of scoring a century against Australia on the third day of the first Test in Hobart yesterday.

Dilshan ton keeps SL afloat

Cricket

AFP, Hobart

Tillakaratne Dilshan led a fighting counter-attack with a gutsy century as Sri Lanka trailed Australia by 141 runs with two days to play in the first Hobart Test on Sunday.

Dilshan batted for almost seven hours for his 147 and shared in a record Sri Lanka stand in Australia with Angelo Mathews to get the tourists within 114 runs of the home side's first innings of 450 for five declared.

The Australians tightened their grip on the match reaching third day stumps at 27 without loss and were in the box seat to press on for their first victory of the domestic summer after losing the recent three-Test series to South Africa.

At the close, Ed Cowan was on 16 with David Warner not out on eight.

Sri Lanka, boosted by Dilshan's 15th Test century and good play from Mathews (75) and Prasanna Jayawardene (40), were bowled out for 336.

Peter Siddle, leading the Australian attack in the absence of injured Ben Hilfenhaus, knocked over the Sri Lankan tail to finish with five for 54 off 25.3 overs.

"It's about pressing forward tomorrow, obviously it's going to be hard

to start tomorrow morning for the batters, but they'll dig in and we've just got to play it from there and see what we go and see what target we can go with," Siddle said.

Dilshan's innings-saving effort came to an end when he was yorked by Mitchell Starc in the 98th over some 30 minutes after tea.

The 36-year-old right-hander hit 21 boundaries off 273 balls and was primarily responsible for getting Sri Lanka past the 251 follow on after the tourists were in strife at 87 for four at stumps on Saturday.

It was Dilshan's second century against Australia following his 104 at Galle in 2004.

He shared in a record 161-run stand with Mathews for the fifth wicket that took the momentum away from the Australians for a large part of the third day.

Australia's wicketkeeper Matthew Wade was left red-faced by a botched stumping of Kulasekara on three when he dropped the ball after the fast bowler jumped down the wicket to spinner Nathan Lyon.

Swing bowler

Hilfenhaus left the field in

the opening hour after

delivering just two balls of

his 13th over. Team officials

said he had a left side strain

and was taken to hospital

for scans.

Siddle triggered a late

wicket collapse, trapping

Prasanna Jayawardene and

Rangana Herath (0) both

leg before wicket, before

Nuwan Kulasekara was

caught in the deep by sub-

stitute Jordan Silk off

Nathan Lyon for 23.

Siddle mopped up the innings with the wicket of Chanaka Welegedara for a duck, snapped up at gully by Mike Hussey leaving the Australians 14 overs to negotiate to stumps.

Australia, down a bowler with Hilfenhaus off the field with a side strain, toiled hard for most of Sunday, with only Mathews's wicket to show for their efforts up to tea.

Vice-captain Mathews, who is expected to take over as skipper after Mahela Jayawardene announced he would be

stepping down as captain after the Australia tour, was another Siddle lbw victim.

Australia's wicketkeeper Matthew Wade was left red-faced by a botched stumping of Kulasekara on three when he dropped the ball after the fast bowler jumped down the wicket to spinner Nathan Lyon.

Swing bowler

Hilfenhaus left the field in

the opening hour after

delivering just two balls of

his 13th over. Team officials

said he had a left side strain

and was taken to hospital

for scans.

Siddle triggered a late

wicket collapse, trapping

Prasanna Jayawardene and

Rangana Herath (0) both

leg before wicket, before

Nuwan Kulasekara was

caught in the deep by sub-

stitute Jordan Silk off

Nathan Lyon for 23.

Hazlewood (foot) all out of action.

Pattinson was ruled out for the Test season after suffering his injury during the second Test against South Africa in Adelaide, while Cummins is aiming to recover from stress fractures to his back for next year's Ashes tour.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First innings 450 for 5 declared (Hussey 115 not out, Hughes 86; Welegedara 3-130)

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 87 for 4)

Karunaratne c Wade b Hilfenhaus 14

Dilshan b Starc 147

Sangakkara c Hussey b Siddle 4

M Jayawardene lbw b Watson 12

Samaraweera c Wade b Lyon 7

Mathews lbw b Siddle 75

P Jayawardene lbw b Siddle 40

Kulasekara c Silk (sub) b Lyon 23

Herath lbw b Siddle 0

Eranga not out 5

Welegedara c Hussey b Siddle 0

Extras: (b-2, lb-6, nb-1) 9

Total: (All out in 109.3 overs) 336

Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-42, 3-70, 4-87, 5-

248, 6-289, 7-316, 8-320, 9-336.

Bowler O M R W

Starc 24 3 104 1

Hilfenhaus 12.2 3 30 1

Lyon 25 8 76 2

Siddle 25.3 11 54 5

Watson 20.4 5 55 1

Clarke 2 0 9 0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Cowan not out 16

Warner not out 8

Extras: (lb-1, nb-2) 3

Total: (For no loss in 14 overs) 27

To bat: Hughes, Watson, Clarke, Hussey, Wade, Siddle, Starc, Hilfenhaus, Lyon.

Bowler O M R W

Kulasekara 6 3 10 0

Welegedara 5 1 10 0

(b a c k) a n d J o s h

Hilfenhaus unlikely to play

APP, Hobart

Australia paceman Ben Hilfenhaus has a side strain and is not expected to bowl again in the first Hobart Test against Sri Lanka, team physio Alex Kountouris said on Sunday.

The Tasmanian swing bowler left the field after delivering just two balls of his 13th over in the opening hour of the third day's play in Hobart and later was taken to hospital for scans.

Kountouris said Hilfenhaus's injury was on the mild side but he could still miss the second Test, starting in Melbourne on Boxing Day.

"Ben's got a side injury. It's a typical fast bowler's injury where they get these side strains," Kountouris said.

"It's not too bad at the moment, but it's bad enough for him not to take the field and we'll see what he's like tomorrow in terms of his participation in the match, but it's looking doubtful that he will bowl again in the game."

Kountouris said the side injury was not as serious as the one that has sidelined fellow paceman James Pattinson for the rest of the Test season.

"They're completely different injuries, I call them side strains because they are in the same region but they are completely different injuries," he said.

Two crucial

FROM PAGE 16
hand but we are not thinking about the opponents. We will go there for full three points and I am confident the boys will be able to follow my instructions in tomorrow's (Monday) match," said Manik yesterday.

On the other hand, Mohammedan are flying high after beating star-studded Sheikh Russel and looking forward to pull off another victory against Team BJMC, who last season held Mohammedan twice in the league. The match will start at 6:15pm under the floodlights.

Siddikur

FROM PAGE 16
Siddikur over the four days as he traded seven birdies for a double bogey to finish the 2-million-dollar event at a respectable position.

LOCAL snippets

SPORTS REPORTER

Three players shared the lead with maximum 5 points after the fifth round of the Shaheed Muktijuddha Mufti Mohammad Kasem International Rating Chess Tournament, in the city yesterday. They leaders are: GM Ziaur Rahman, GM Abdullah Al Rakib, FM Sheikh Nasir Ahmed Club. IM Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar and Sohel Chowdhury. Monir Hossain was in second position with 4.5 points.

Khilgaon, Matuail in Pioneer League final

Khilgaon Football Academy and Matuail Udayan Sangsad moved to the final of the Dhaka City Corporation Pioneer Football League after beating their respective semifinal opponents at the Bishreshtha Shahid Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Khilgaon thrashed Nasrin Sporting Club 4-0 in the first semifinal, thanks to a brace from Monjurul Alam and one goal each from Mohammad Jhikor and Alam Babu.

Matuail defeated Tangail Football Academy 2-0 in the second semifinal, with goals from Masud Rana and Faisal Ahmed. The final will be held at the same venue of Wednesday.

V-Day basketball

The semifinals and final of the Citycell Victory Day 3-on-3 Basketball Championship will be held at the Dhanmondi Basketball Gymnasium today. Dhumketu Club will take on Bangladesh Navy in the first semifinal while Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protishthan will play against Border Guard Bangladesh in the second semifinal. The winners will face off in the final at the same venue later in the day. Mehboob Chowdhury, chief executive officer of Pacific Bangladesh Limited will present as chief guest to distribute prizes.

Ryan keeps breaking 'em

Swimming

AFP, Istanbul

American star Ryan Lochte kept up his phenomenal form at the world short course championships on Saturday when he set a world record 50.71 sec in the men's 100m individual medley semi-finals.

On Friday, the five-time Olympic champion broke the 200m individual medley world record on his way to winning his fourth gold of the championships.

He was already under world record time by the end of the butterfly leg and he continued to eat into it over the following three laps.

Australia's Kenneth To recorded the second fastest time with 51.47 and George Bovell of Trinidad and Tobago was third with 51.66.

"I have the 200m backstroke final (before the 100m individual medley final) on Sunday so I knew if I wanted any shot at this record, it had to be tonight," said Lochte, who knocked .05sec off the old mark set by Slovenia's Peter Mankoc in 2009.

"I messed up in a couple of places tonight so I know there is some room for improvement."

In the women's 200m individual medley, China's Ye Shiwen attacked in the final 25m to win gold as she touched the wall in 2:04.64 to record a championship record

Arron bids sprinting adieu

AFP, Paris

Former European 100 metres sprint champion Christine Arron has announced that she is calling time on her career at the age of 39.

The Guadeloupe-born French runner was at her best in 1998 when she ran 10.73 seconds to win the European title in Budapest in a European record that stands to this day.

Arron remained among the top sprinters in the world for most of the next decade, taking third place over 100 meters and 200 metres at the 2005 World Championships, but her only Olympic medals came in the 4X100 metres relay at the 2000 and 2004 Games.

Subsequent to that she was often injured and she said that as she was pregnant for a second time, she had decided to draw the curtain on her career.

"After 35 years (of career), it's becoming harder and harder to stay fully fit," she told the Journal du Dimanche. "I would have liked to continue racing, but you have to draw a line under it one day."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

3 Sash

4 Realm

5 Saw

6 Supporting