

Gluey Pak fifth wicket

Cricket AFP, Johannesburg

Pakistan batsmen Misbahul Haq and Asad Shafiq held up South Africa's push for victory with a defiant fifth-wicket partnership on the third day of the first Test at the Wanderers Stadium on Sunday.

Pakistan were 183 for four at the close after being set to make an improbable 480 to win.

The match seemed headed for an early finish when the first four wickets fell for 82 runs, but Pakistan captain Misbah (44 not out) and the stocky Shafiq (53 not out) defended grimly for more than three hours, adding an unbeaten 101.

South Africa remained in a strong position to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series, however, with a second new ball due after five overs on Monday and only wicketkeeper Sarfraz Ahmed of the remaining batsmen likely to offer sustained resistance to the South African fast bowlers.

Both Misbah and Shafiq had let-offs.

Shafiq edged an outswinger from Vernon Philander to Graeme Smith at first slip when he had 40 and the total was on 155.

Shafiq had almost reached the boundary edge when his dressing room alerted him to a television replay which showed that Philander had bowled a no-ball.

Four balls later, Misbah, on 31, sliced a drive against Jacques Kallis to backward point, but Robin Peterson, diving to his right, could not hold a waist-high chance.

Before Misbah and Shafiq came together everything had seemed to be going South Africa's way.

AB de Villiers hurried to a century before South Africa declared on 275 for three, leaving Pakistan with an hour's batting before lunch.

De Villiers needed only 33 balls to move from his overnight 63 to 103 not out.

He and Hashim Amla added 68 in nine overs before the declaration, which came immediately after De Villiers punched Umar Gul to the cover boundary to reach his 15th Test century off 117 balls.

He hit 11 boundaries. Amla was unbeaten on 74 off 114 balls with seven fours. The pair put on an unbeaten 176 for the fourth wicket, easily the best partnership of the match.

After being routed for their all-time low total of 49 in the first innings, Pakistan made a more confident start to the second innings.

SCOREBOARD SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 253 PAKISTAN: First innings 49 SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings (overnight 207-3) ... BOWLER O M R W ... AUSTRALIA ... WEST INDIES



Australia's George Bailey drives through the covers while scoring 125 in the second one-day international against the West Indies at the WACA in Perth yesterday. PHOTO: INTERNET

IPL VI AUCTION HELD Maxwell the lone million dollar man

INTERNET, Chennai



Young Aussie all-rounder Glenn Maxwell was the lone millionaire on an evening that saw the sale of 37 players from a pool of 108 for a total of 11.89 million dollars on Sunday.

Maxwell commanded a winning bid of exactly seven figures from Mumbai Indians following a fierce competition between Nita Ambani's franchise and newbies Hyderabad Sunrisers in preparation for the sixth edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) that begins in April.

Explaining their hugely expensive buy of Maxwell, Mumbai Indians mentor Anil Kumble said, "He is an exciting player and a good catch for us. I knew him before he made his debut for Australia. He will be with the Australian team in India for the Test series, so looking forward to the challenge."

The auction adopted a bizarre route, with most franchises opting to forgo the known names in favour of the unknown commodity. As a result, rank outsiders proved to be the biggest gainers, a case in point being South Africa's 25-year-old all-rounder Chris Morris, who was picked up by Chennai Super Kings for 625,000 dollars from a base price of 20,000 dollars.

Other major successes included Sri Lankan mystery spinner Ajantha Mendis (725,000 dollars, Pune Warriors India), rookie Australian quick Kane Richardson (700,000 dollars, PWI), and Thisara Perera (675,000 dollars, Hyderabad Sunrisers). Mumbai's Ranji Trophy hero Abhishek Nayar also made himself richer by 675,000 dollars, thanks to Pune.

Of the 108 names that were to go under the hammer on the day, Ricky Ponting's and Michael Clarke's were the biggest. But both iconic Aussies went to their first base price bids -- of 400,000 dollars -- to Mumbai Indians and Pune Warriors respectively.

Women's World Cup results

AFP, New Delhi Results from the Women's World Cup matches on Sunday:

In Mumbai, England beat India by 32 runs. ENGLAND: 272-8 in 50 overs (Charlotte Edwards 109, Arran Brindle 37 not out, Sarah Taylor 35, Lydia Greenway 29, Katherine Brunt 21; Jhulan Goswami 2-50, Niranjana 2-56)

INDIA: 240-9 in 50 overs (Harmanpreet Kaur 107 not out, Karuna Jain 56; Katherine Brunt 4-29, Danielle Wyatt 2-52)

WEST INDIES: 368-8 in 50 overs (Stafanie Taylor 171, Deandra Dottin 50, Merissa Aguilera 47 not out, Kyshona Knight 44, Kycia Knight 30; Shashikala Siriwardene 2-58, Sharina Ravikumari 2-69, Chamani Seneviratna 2-72)

SRI LANKA: 159 all out in 40 overs (Deepika Rasangika 28, Prasadani Weerakkody 22; Shaquana Quintyne 3-32, Shanell Daley 2-35)

SOUTH AFRICA: 188-9 in 50 overs (Marizanne Kapp 61, Trisha Chetty 59, Shandre Fritz 24 not out; Ellyse Perry 3-35, Megan Schutt 2-42)

AUSTRALIA: 190-7 in 45.4 overs (Rachael Haynes 83, Lisa Sthalekar 29, Jodie Fields 21, Erin Osborne 20 not out; Shabnim Ismail 4-41, Susan Benade 2-38)

NEW ZEALAND: 108-3 in 29.4 overs (Suzie Bates 65 not out, Katie Perkins 25 not out; Sana Mir 2-26)

PAKISTAN: 104 all out in 41.2 overs (Asmavia Iqbal 21, Bismah Maroof 20; Rachel Candy 5-19, Nicola Browne 2-12)

When he reached 300 Test wickets against New Zealand last month in his 61st match, he was the third fastest bowler in Tests to do so after Muttiah Muralidaran (58th) and Dennis Lillee (56th).

Of players with 300 or more Test wickets, no-one has a better strike-rate than Steyn's of a wicket every 41 balls.

But what makes him certainly the best quick of his generation is not just his pace, but the ability to get the ball to do what he wants.

Another Starc show

Cricket AFP, Perth

A maiden century from George Bailey and another inspired bowling performance from the emerging Mitchell Starc helped Australia beat the West Indies by 54 runs in the second one-day international at the WACA Ground on Sunday.

Set 267 to win after Bailey's unbeaten 125 rescued the Australian innings, the West Indies were cruising at 159 for three in the run chase, before the return of Starc to the attack turned the match again as the tourists were bowled out for 212 in the 39th over.

Starc (5-32) had claimed the first three wickets in the West Indian innings, all lbw, to have them reeling at 33 for three, but when he came back into the attack the Australians were struggling, with opener Kieran Powell and Dwayne Bravo putting on a century partnership for the fourth wicket.

However, the left-arm, who took 5-20 as the Australians routed the West Indies for 70 in Friday's opening game en route to a nine-wicket victory, struck two more telling blows.

After spinner Glenn Maxwell ended the Powell and Bravo partnership at 126 runs by having the latter caught behind for 45, Starc removed Powell,

adjudged lbw for 83 on a decision review and Devon Thomas (0) in successive balls to claim his second

SCOREBOARD AUSTRALIA ... WEST INDIES ... BOWLER O M R W ... RESULT: Australia won by 54 runs

five-wicket haul in as many matches.

Thomas was given out in quite bizarre circumstances, with umpire Nigel Llong giving the batsman not out on a caught behind appeal, but third umpire Asad Rauf reversing the decision despite the apparent lack of any evidence at all to suggest the West Indian hit the ball.

When Darren Sammy fell for eight a short time later, the West Indies had lost 5-20 and slumped to 179 for eight.

Sunil Narine (24) briefly lifted West Indian hopes when he belted four sixes in a row off Maxwell (4-63), before being stumped from the last ball of the same over.

Earlier, brilliant catching by the West Indies had Australia in deep trouble at 98 for six, before Bailey steered a spirited fightback that saw the home team make 266 for seven from their 50 overs.

Bailey reached his century by blasting Kemar Roach over mid-wicket for six in the 49th over.

He then finished the innings in style, hitting three sixes in the final over from Bravo as the Australians plundered 25 runs.

Bailey hit 30 runs from the last six balls he faced in the innings, facing 110 deliveries overall and hitting 10 fours and four sixes.

Steyn: aggressor on field

FROM PAGE 16 the past, statistics are in his favour.

When he reached 300 Test wickets against New Zealand last month in his 61st match, he was the third fastest bowler in Tests to do so after Muttiah Muralidaran (58th) and Dennis Lillee (56th).

Of players with 300 or more Test wickets, no-one has a better strike-rate than Steyn's of a wicket every 41 balls.

But what makes him certainly the best quick of his generation is not just his pace, but the ability to get the ball to do what he wants.

His career best figures came in India when he took seven for 51 in Nagpur on a flat wicket in 2010.

The conditions were not suited to him, but when the wicket offers little pace, he turns to swing, bounce and seam movement.

"When it is coming out nicely then speed becomes less important because you just let the ball do the work," he said.

"A couple of years ago I was conscious of strike rates and always wanted to take wickets to lead the attack. This attack is led by everyone.

"Morne Morkel has opened the bowling on a

number of occasions and Vernon has stepped in and stood up to the plate.

"Jacques Kallis is a legend in his own right and we have had some good spinners.

"We are enjoying our cricket and that helps you to be successful. As long as the team is winning that is the most important thing."

Winning start

FROM PAGE 16 Lanka are participating in the open section and 12 players from Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka are participating in the women's section.

Viqarunnisa keep winning

SPORTS REPORTER

Viqarunnisa Noon School and College recorded their third victory in the Friendly School Handball Tournament in Nepal when they defeated Mount Annapura School in Pokhara yesterday. Viqarunnisa led the first half 7-4. Nabiba and Jim scored seven and four goals respectively for Viqarunnisa.

Div I cricket

FROM PAGE 16 wickets and 3.5 overs remaining.

SCORES IN BRIEF CITY CLUB: 334 for 9 in 50 overs (Reza 116; Rezwanul Islam 2-24). BANGLADESH BOYS CLUB: 75 all out in 28.5 overs (Nuruzzaman 19; Monjur 4-6).

Result: City Club won by 259 runs. ORIENT SPORTING CLUB: 167 all out in 49.2 overs (Mosharaf Hossain 59; Nasom Ahmed 5-26).

INDIRA ROAD: 170 for 7 in 46.1 overs (Sadman Islam 44; Musumud Doula 2-26). Result: Indira Road won by 3 wickets.

Pattaya Open Kirilenko's

Tennis AFP, Pattaya

Maria Kirilenko defeated Germany's Sabine Lisicki 5-7, 6-1, 7-6 (7-1) to claim the Pattaya Open title in a tension-filled final on Sunday.

The Russian number two seed took the title in two hours 37 minutes at the end of a fluctuating final set during which both players served for victory.

It is the sixth title of her career and her first since 2008. Since her last tournament victory she has lost four finals, including the 2012 Pattaya final to Daniela Hantuchova.

"I had a birthday before the tournament started and had a cake in my room with some candles, and I made a wish," said Kirilenko, who turned 26 on January 25.

"The wish was to win this tournament and the wish came true." It was a high quality final in which both players served well, hit deep groundstrokes, were not afraid to come to the net and moved their opponent all around the court.

Lisicki also used the dropshot to good effect. After an early exchange of breaks fifth-seeded Lisicki sneaked the opening set by breaking at 6-5 when Kirilenko put a forehand wide, and she had an opportunity to take control when she held three break points for a 2-0 lead in the second.

Instead, it was Kirilenko who dominated much of the next hour, sweeping the next nine games to win the second set and build a 3-0 lead in the third.

Lisicki held her next service game with three aces as she staged a late revival, and she then saved two match points on her own serve when down 5-2.

Kirilenko then faltered, failing to serve out the match at 5-3 and allowing Lisicki to level at 5-5.

Div I v'ball

SPORTS REPORTER

Uttara Sporting Club defeated Nabajagoroni Sangha in straight 3-0 sets in the lone match of the Walton Air Conditioner First Division Volleyball League at the Volleyball Stadium in Palatan yesterday. Uttara Sporting Club will play again today as they take on Bhai Bhai Sangha in the day's lone match.

Abahani stay

FROM PAGE 16 Muktiyoddha Sangsad went ahead in the 22nd minute through a strike from Brazilian striker Tyson Silva. But Komol Islam frustrated the hosts by equalising in the 80th minute. Mohammad Yousuf of Muktiyoddha was shown red card after the match following his misbehaviour with the referees. The draw extended an impressive run of form for Brothers which saw them win two and draw two in last four matches and took them to eight points, on seventh position. Muktiyoddha stayed at fourth position with 15 points.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS 1 Region of India known for black tea, 6 Some pocket change, 11 Make, 12 Puts up, 14 Sanctify, 15 Dormant, 16 Web address, 17 Unadorned, 19 Chicken-link, 20 Highlander, 22 Sermon subject, 23 Regiment, 24 First Little Pig's material, 26 Renders harmless, in a way, 28 Frenzied, 30 Dress in, 31 Abuja's land, 35 Half a 1960s quartet. DOWN 1 Ark landing site, 2 Merchant, 3 Actor, 4 On, 5 Whimpers, 6 Characterized, 7 Persia, now, 8 Brooks or Blanc, 9 Dessert choice, 10 "Hot", 11 Drinks all at once, 13 Hits a fly, 18 Help, 21 Worse, as excuses go, 23 "Good-bye, Mr. Chips" star, 25 Kids' card game, 27 Jump, 29 Languish, 31 DEA agent, 32 Tropical lizard, 33 "The House of the Seven", 34 Industrious critter, 36 Hay fever factor, 37 Colored ring, 38 Packs away, 41 Discard in a hurry, 44 Pop, 45 Not, dialectically, 48 Fleur-de, 50 Appomattox figure

Cryptquip puzzle grid with letters: RXQUMU BTZZUQ VTQMTQK ZK CZM MTQ RQMPVPI UMPIU ZSQC PFF CHR TM HM U P BFZUHC R-ZSMHZCPF KQUZKM

CRYPTOQUIP Yesterday's Cryptquip: REGION IN THE BALKANS WHERE EVERYBODY WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ON A SUPERVISING POSITION; BOSS-NIA. Today's Cryptquip Clue: M equals T