

6s
232
4s
1133

WHACK O METER
SHAH CEMENT

Most 6s hit by a player
Chris Gayle
 West Indies
17

Most 4s hit by a player
K Sangakkara
 Sri Lanka
30



Pakistan opener Ahmed Shehzad negotiates one on his way to scoring 93 runs which helped Pakistan to a 129-run win over UAE at McLean Park in Napier yesterday.

Pakistan beat UAE clinically

AFP, Napier
 Pakistan continued their revival in the World Cup with a professional batting and bowling performance in a 129-run win against United Arab Emirates in Napier on Wednesday. Opener Ahmed Shehzad fell seven short of his maiden World Cup hundred while Haris Sohail (70) and skipper Misbahul Haq chipped in with 65 which helped Pakistan to post a big 339-6 on a flat McLean Park pitch.

They then restricted the UAE to 210-8 in their 50 overs with Shaiman Anwar continuing his brilliant form with the bat by scoring 62. The win gives Pakistan four points in as many games as they continued their fight for a place in the quarterfinals. "That was a much needed win for us. We won by a margin so we can relax now. We have a good net run rate now also," said Misbah. UAE captain Mohammad Tauqir admitted chasing such a huge score was always going to be beyond them. "340 was a big total for us, but we batted 50 overs and we are happy with this effort. Anwar is very confident and in great form," said Tauqir.

A required rate of six-plus an over was always beyond UAE's reach but after losing their first three wickets with just 25 on the board -- two to paceman Sohail Khan -- Anwar and Khuram Khan took the fight to the Pakistan bowlers adding 83 for the fourth wicket. Anwar hit four boundaries and two sixes during his 88-ball knock and with 270 runs in four matches became the top run-getter in the tournament. Khuram hit three fours and a six off 54 deliveries. Pakistan's bowling was hampered by the absence of spearhead Mohammad Irfan who hurt his hip during a fall in the field and could bowl only three overs. The team said Irfan's injury was not serious and he was held back as precaution. Wahab Riaz, Sohail and Shahid Afridi took two wickets apiece. Shehzad and Haris restored Pakistan during their second wicket stand of 160 after they lost out of form Nasir Jamshed for four in the fourth over. Pakistan next play South Africa in Auckland on March 7 while UAE face South Africa in Wellington on March 12.

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SCORECARDS

PAKISTAN V UAE

PAKISTAN	R/B	4/6
Jamshed c Khuram b Guruge	4/12	0/0
Shehzad run out	93/105	8/1
Haris c Anwar b Naveed	70/83	5/1
Maqsood c Mustafa b Guruge	45/31	4/2
Misbah c Mustafa b Guruge	65/49	4/2
Akmal c Amjad b Guruge	19/13	1/1
Afridi not out	21/7	1/2
Riaz not out	6/1	0/1
Extras: (lb-3, w-12, nb-1)		16
Total: (For 6 wks in 50 overs)		339
Did not bat: Sohail, Rahat, Irfan.		
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-170, 3-176, 4-251, 5-312, 6-312.		

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Naveed	10	0	50	1
Guruge	8	0	56	4
Javed	9	0	76	0
Tauqir	10	0	52	0
Khuram	3	0	21	0
Chandran	8	0	58	0
Mustafa	2	0	23	0

UAE

UAE	R/B	4/6
Amjad b Rahat	14/30	2/0
Berenger c Akmal b Sohail	2/13	0/0
Chandran c Akmal b Sohail	0/11	0/0
Khuram c Riaz b Maqsood	43/54	3/1
Anwar c Jamshed b Afridi	62/88	4/2
Patil b Riaz	36/68	2/0
Mustafa c Shehzad b Afridi	0/2	0/0
Javed c Sohail b Riaz	40/33	5/2
Naveed not out	0/0	0/0
Tauqir not out	0/1	0/0
Extras: (lb-1, w-12)		13
Total: (For 8 wks in 50 overs)		210
Did not bat: Guruge		
Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-19, 3-25, 4-108, 5-140, 6-140, 7-208, 8-210.		

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Irfan	3	1	2	0
Sohail	9	2	54	2
Rahat	10	0	30	1
Riaz	10	1	54	2
Afridi	10	1	35	2
Maqsood	5	0	16	1
Haris	3	0	18	0

Result: Pakistan won by 129 runs
 Player-of-the-match: Ahmed Shehzad.
 Toss: UAE

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Need to beat SA: Waqar

AFP, Napier
 Pakistan coach Waqar Younis Wednesday targeted big-hitting South Africa, saying his team must beat a strong outfit to prove they belong at the World Cup. They now play South Africa in Auckland on Saturday in a crunch match in which their qualification for the quarterfinals will largely depend. Waqar said the two wins after two losses gave the team much-needed confidence. "Look it [win] definitely changed the body language of the players because a win always make you feel comfortable and confident, but I still feel that we need to win against a big-

ger team like South Africa to tell the world that we are around," said Waqar. Waqar agreed Pakistan were not looking as commanding as South Africa who have posted back-to-back 400-plus totals in their last two wins. Hafeez also injured his calf before the World Cup and returned home to be replaced by Nasir Jamshed. "The tournament will get tougher and tougher and we should be ready for that," added Waqar. "Of course we can, we have done it in the past, it's not asking too much and we have beaten South Africa in South Africa [in late 2013]." Waqar, under whom Pakistan finished as semi-finalists at the 2011 World Cup, said his team was capable of picking up steam. "I think the crucial game will be against South Africa not only for qualifying but also for a morale booster. We need to beat a top team to get our confidence back."

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TODAY'S MATCH
 Bangladesh v Scotland
 Time: 4:00am
 Venue: Nelson

FRIDAY'S MATCH
 India v West Indies
 Time: 12:30pm
 Venue: Perth

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Men of Steel

AHMED SHEHZAD
 Pakistani fans have long believed that young Ahmed Shehzad could well be the solution to their top-order batting stumbles. The 23-year-old has gradually gone on to become Pakistan's most dependable cricketer at the top. It therefore let many down when he failed to score in the first few games of the World Cup. While he began well against India, he had scores of 1 and 0 against the West Indies and Zimbabwe respectively. Yesterday's composed 93 against the UAE though could be the start of a new chapter for the talented batsman in the tournament, and it's something that Pakistan are in dire need of at the moment.

DAVID WARNER
 With free-stroking batsmen breaking records and producing match-changing innings, how could David Warner be left out? His hands were itching for a big one; there's no doubt about that. He ended the pre-World Cup games in style by hammering a century against India. However, ever since he struggled to play a big one despite getting starts. Yesterday though was different. He went all guns blazing even though Australia had lost an early wicket. With five sixes and 19 fours he may have finished on a 178 off 133 balls; but for a brief period he looked set to break the 200-barrier. In fact he would have had he chosen to eke out the singles; instead he went for the big hits.

'Viv Anwar Richards' THIRD EYE A batsman's game

AFP, Napier
 United Arab Emirates captain Mohammed Tauqir found a positive in his team's 129-run defeat against Pakistan at the World Cup in Napier on Wednesday -- his shining star Shaiman Anwar. Anwar was born in Sialkot in Pakistan before migrating to the UAE. Tauqir said Anwar is nicknamed "Viv Richards" after the West Indian great. "I think he's a brilliant batsman," said Tauqir of Anwar who had scores of 67, 106 and 35 in previous games. "He's a very, very confident individual. I'm very, very happy for him. He's doing very well for himself and the team. He's such a confident individual that we call him Sir Viv in the dressing room." Anwar became the highest run-getter in the tournament with 270, two ahead of Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara's 268 and West Indian Chris Gayle's 258. Meanwhile, Tauqir said his team's fielding let them down against Pakistan. "I think the fielding was below the mark, we dropped a few catches," said Tauqir of crucial dropped chances off Pakistani opener Ahmed Shehzad on eight and 11.

ATIQUE ANAM
 Glenn Maxwell's innings against Afghanistan yesterday could be a classic example to illustrate how more and more cricket is evolving into a batsman's game. The outrageously talented all-rounder came to the crease in the 38th over, the third of the batting Powerplay. He reverse-swept the second ball over point for a boundary, curved one over long on for a six in the next over from Dawlat Zadran, and two overs later, reverse-flicked a 140kph delivery from Shapoor Zadran over the third man boundary. The most outrageous shot, though, came in

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the 45th over when he flicked Shapoor over square leg, with a minimalist movement of the body. By the time Maxwell departed, he had added 88 runs in 39 deliveries, 28 of which scoring shots, including six boundaries and seven maximums. Now as much as these shots owe to the skill-set of the batsman, there is no denying that factors and changes in rules have also played a conducive role in manufacturing those shots. In International Cricket Council's

endless endeavour to make the game more television friendly (read batsman friendly), a number of new rules were introduced after the last World Cup. The most significant of those changes was reducing the number of fielders allowed outside the 30-yard circle (except for the two Powerplay blocks when only two and three fielders are allowed outside the ring respectively) from five to four. The other change -- although on first thought may seem a bowling-friendly move, but turns out to be a batting-friendly one on further analysis -- is the use of two new balls from two ends. What these two changes do in combination is that it sort of discourages the pinch-hitting approach at the start of the innings, but more than compensates for that by allowing more opportunities to score as the innings progresses. How? The two new balls wear off less than one would; meaning that the balls remain harder to hit and offer less reverse swing at the death. Unless the bowler produces swing in the air, the batting friendly wickets at use give the bowlers less assistance off the pitch. And the longer the innings progresses, it becomes easy pickings for batsmen. Hence most teams try to lay a solid platform in the mandatory

FEATS

SHAHID AFRIDI
 Shahid Afridi became the second player to score 8000 runs and pick up 300 wickets in ODIs after Sanath Jayasuriya.

The game against the UAE on Wednesday was Afridi's 499th International match, equalling Inzamam Ul-Haq's record for most appearances.

SHAIMAN ANWAR
 UAE's 35-year-old Shaiman Anwar surpassed Kumar Sangakkara's tally of 268 runs in the World Cup yesterday, with his 62 runs off 88 deliveries taking him to 270 overall. He is now the leading run-getter at this World Cup.

270 RUNS | **67.50** AVERAGE | **2** FIFTIES | **1** CENTURY

This was the first game in the history of ODI cricket that featured 40+ aged captains from both sides. Pakistan captain Misbah-ul-Haq turned 40 in May last year, while his counterpart Mohammad Tauqir celebrated his 43rd birthday earlier this year.

AUSTRALIA V AFGHANISTAN

AUSTRALIA	R/B	4/6
Warner c Nabi b Shapoor	178/133	19/5
Finch c Mangal b Dawlat	4/9	0/0
Smith c Najibullah b Shapoor	95/98	8/1
Maxwell c Nabi b Dawlat	88/39	6/7
Faulkner b Hassan	7/6	1/0
Marsh c Najibullah b Mangal	8/9	0/0
Haddin not out	20/9	2/1
Extras: (lb-2, lb-5, w-7, nb-3)		17
Total: (For 6 wks in 50 overs)		417
Did not bat: Clarke, Johnson, Starc, Hazlewood.		
Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-274, 3-339, 4-382, 5-390, 6-417.		

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Dawlat	10	1	101	2
Shapoor	10	0	89	2
Hassan	10	0	70	1
Nabi	10	0	84	0
Sherwari	5	0	34	0
Ahmadi	4	0	18	0
Mangal	1	0	14	1

AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN	R/B	4/6
Ahmadi c Clarke b Hazlewood	13/24	1/0
Ghani c Faulkner b Johnson	12/19	0/0
Mangal c Finch b Johnson	33/35	2/2
Stanikzai c Smith b Johnson	4/10	0/0
Sherwari c Johnson b Clarke	17/31	2/0
Nabi c Clarke b Maxwell	2/10	0/0
Najibullah b Starc	24/31	1/1
Zazai c Haddin b Hazlewood	10/40	0/0
Dawlat b Starc	0/4	0/0
Hassan c Warner b Johnson	7/18	0/0
Shapoor not out	0/4	0/0
Extras: (lb-4, lb-5, w-10, nb-1)		20
Total: (All out in 37.3 overs)		142
Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-32, 3-46, 4-94, 5-94, 6-103, 7-131, 8-131, 9-140.		

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Starc	6	0	18	2
Hazlewood	8	1	25	2
Johnson	7.3	0	22	4
Clarke	5	0	14	1
Marsh	3	0	25	0
Faulkner	4	0	8	0
Maxwell	4	1	21	1

Result: Australia won by 275 runs.
 Player-of-the-match: David Warner.
 Toss: Afghanistan

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