

Kohli's half-century keeps India going

Mayank steadies the innings initially with a fifty, after the fall of Rahul and Pujara

INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KINGSTON

India recovered to reach 157 for three at tea on the opening day under testing conditions in the second World Test Championship match against the West Indies here on Saturday.

Skipper Virat Kohli stood firm with an unbeaten 52 with deputy Ajinkya Rahane giving him company on 20. Mayank Agarwal came good for the first time in the series with a timely half-century, before being dismissed in the second session.

Earlier the visitors laboured their way to 72 for two after opener K.L. Rahul and No. 3 Cheteshwar Pujara were dismissed cheaply in the first session. Rahul and Pujara were out for 13 and 6 respectively.

Cautious start

After West Indies captain Jason Holder opted to field, Rahul and Mayank negotiated the first half an hour without taking any risk on a tricky pitch.

Opening bowlers Kumar Roach and Shannon Gabriel, however, could not get much movement from the pitch.

Holder introduced himself in the seventh over and immediately got the breakthrough by having the wicket of Rahul to break the 32-run opening stand.

Peach of a delivery

It was a peach of a delivery which jagged away from middle stump with Rahul edging it to debutant Rahkeem Cornwall was involved in all the three dismissals

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Holder was getting the bounce and movement and Cornwall made the Indians toil for runs with his tight off-spin bowling.

India was 36 for one in 13 overs at the drinks break.

Pujara, who came after Rahul's departure in the seventh over, struggled again as he took 15 deliveries to open his account and was finally out for 6 which came from 25 balls.

Easy catch

The bounce extracted by 26-year-old off-spinner Cornwall, who stands at 6ft and 5 inch and weighs more than 140kg, brought about Pujara's downfall as he hit straight to the hands of Shamrah Brooks.

India was 46 for two in the 17th over at the fall of Pujara but Kohli and Mayank ensured that the visiting side did not lose any further wicket until lunch.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA – 1ST INNINGS

K.L. Rahul c Cornwall b Holder 13 (26b, 2x4), Mayank Agarwal c Cornwall b Holder 55 (127b, 7x4), Cheteshwar Pujara c Brooks b Cornwall 6 (25b), Virat Kohli (batting) 52 (125b, 7x4), Ajinkya Rahane (batting) 20 (51b, 3x4); Extras (b-4, lb-7): 11; Total (for three wkts. in 59 overs at tea): 157.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-32 (Rahul, 6.5 overs), 2-46 (Pujara, 16.5), 3-115 (Mayank, 40.5).

WEST INDIES BOWLING

Roach 11-4-22-0, Gabriel 9-0-44-0, Holder 15-6-26-2, Cornwall 17-5-41-1, Chase 7-3-13-0.

TOSS: West Indies



Coming good: Mayank Agarwal made use of the the extended chance given to him by scoring a useful 50. ■ AFP

Karun holds fort for India Red

Green bowled out for 440; off-spinner Wakhare scalps five

DULEEP TROPHY

SHREEDUTTA CHIDANANDA
BENGALURU

Karun Nair remained in sparkling form in the Duleep Trophy, scoring an unbeaten 77 for India Red on the second day of its clash with India Green at the Alur grounds here.

The Karnataka batsman had made scores of 99 and 166 n.o. in the previous game – scoring a First Class hundred after nearly two years – and on Friday he picked up from where he had left off.

Karun's assured half-century, which featured some attacking stroke-play against spin, led India Red to 140 for two at stumps on the second day. It came after Green had been bowled out for 440, with off-spinner Akshay Wakhare taking five for 103.

In the morning, the overnight pair of Priyam Garg and Akshay Wadkar emerged unscathed from the first hour of play.



In good touch: Karun Nair's assured knock helped India Red make a strong reply to India Green's huge total. ■ FILE PHOTO

Soft dismissal

But Garg was dismissed in soft fashion after having done the hard work. On 53, he drove left-arm spinner Sarvate to short extra-cover where Priyank Panchal held a good, low catch.

Dharmendrasinh Jadeja walked out to bat and blazed a few boundaries, as he and Akshay Wadkar added 51 for the sixth wicket. But Wakhare claimed the Saurashtra man for 37 (54b, 5x4), the left-hander also finding Panchal with an uppish drive.

It triggered a collapse, with Sandeep Warrior getting rid of Rahul Chahar and Ankit Rajpoot in quick succession.

India Green lost its last

five wickets for 35 runs as an extended first session came to a close.

"The pitch is quite flat and slow; we should have got around 550," Jadeja admitted later.

Surprised by the bounce

The left-arm spinner claimed both the Red wickets to fall on the day. Panchal, who made a patient 31, was surprised by a delivery that bounced higher than normal, and the ball lobbed off his glove to first slip.

Ankit Kalsi, who was impressive in the previous fixture, slashed at a Jadeja delivery and was caught on the second attempt by Dhruv Shorey at slip.

Karun, who walked out at

one drop after Abhimanyu Easwaran had retired hurt with a gluteal strain, then took control. The Karnataka man was initially troubled by Ishan Porel, but he came into his own steadily.

He took the spinners on, as is his wont, striking 14 boundaries in all. Karun had Mahipal Lomror (22 batting) for company at the close, as the players walked off for bad light. There is still work to be done.

The scores: India Green 440 in 131.3 overs (Akshath Reddy 146, Dhruv Shorey 44, Siddhesh Lad 64, Priyam Garg 53, Akshay Wadkar 44, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja 37, Akshay Wakhare five for 103) vs India Red 140 for two in 45 overs (Priyank Panchal 31, Karun Nair 77 batting).

Anderson ruled out of Ashes, Overton in

ANI
LONDON

Pacer James Anderson has been ruled out from the remaining Ashes as England Cricket Board (ECB) on Friday announced a 13-member squad for the fourth Test match.

As Anderson was bowling in his ninth over in Lancashire's second XI four-day friendly against Durham, he became aware of right calf pain.

He immediately sought a medical assessment from Lancashire and was withdrawn from the remainder of the game. Further review with the ECB medical team confirmed his unavailability for the remaining two Test matches.

Somerset seamer Craig Overton has been added to the team.

Overton has returned to the Test squad for the first time since March 2018.



Craig Overton. ■ AFP

He will be looking to add to his three Test caps. Overton has taken 32 wickets at an average of 21.34 from eight Country Championship matches this season.

The squad: Joe Root (Capt.), Rory Burns, Jason Roy, Joe Denly, Jonny Bairstow, Jos Buttler, Ben Stokes, Sam Curran, Chris Woakes, Jofra Archer, Stuart Broad, Jack Leach, Craig Overton.

Out-of-form Dhawan to play for India-A

Injured Vijay Shankar out of series

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Out-of-form senior opener Shikhar Dhawan has been included in the India-A side for the last two unofficial one dayers against South Africa-A to get back some form after a poor tour of the West Indies.

The veteran left-hander, who made a comeback from a hand fracture sustained during World Cup, totalled 65 runs across five international games, including three T20s and two ODIs.

He had scores of 1, 23 and 3 in the T20 Internationals, while he made 2 and 36 in the two completed ODIs.

"The all-India Senior Selection Committee on Friday decided to add Mr. Shikhar Dhawan to India-A squad for the fourth and fifth one-day against South Africa-A," the BCCI said in a



Shikhar Dhawan. ■ AFP

release.

However, it was another setback for Tamil Nadu all-rounder Vijay Shankar, who is now out of the 'A' series with a thumb injury.

"Vijay Shankar has been ruled out of the series owing to an injury to his right thumb," the press release stated.

Titans fall short against Paltan

PKL

ANANT KAUR
NEW DELHI

Puneri Paltan thwarted the Telugu Titans with an all-round performance to win 34-27 on the last day of the ProKabaddi League Delhi leg at the Thyagaraj Sports Complex here on Friday.

Although Titans displayed the art of perfect defence with a record-setting seven super tackles, it was not enough to win the match.

A successful raid by Paltan's Nitin Tomar took out Abozar Mighani and Amit Kumar, which helped the team race to a five-point lead just four minutes into the game.

Titans produced five Super Tackles in the first half as Vishal Bhardwaj raced to a high-5, but the defensive masterclass was not enough to prevent an all-out in the final minute of the half



Super raider: Manjeet of Puneri Paltan fights past the Telugu Titans defence. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

which ended 17-14 in favour of the Pune side.

Siddharth Desai was in no mood to let Pune dominate him and started the second half positively, picking four points in his first four raids. Desai also reached a personal milestone of 300 points in PKL.

A super raid by Paltan's Manjeet took out Vishal

Bhardwaj, Farhad Milaghardhan and C. Arun. Manjeet and Nitin Tomar took care of Paltan's raiding duties.

In the process, Nitin Tomar registered 400 raid points in the PKL. Paltan took a healthy lead before the finish line despite a late challenge from the Telugu side.

Health scare for Richards

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KINGSTON

Sir Vivian Richards fell ill while he was on air doing a pre-game analysis but recovered in quick time to return to commentary in the post-lunch session of the second World Championship Test between India and West Indies here.

The 67-year-old complained of uneasiness and left the ground with the help of two volunteers.

He suffered from dehydration due to excessive humid conditions.

Later, he returned to be a part of the commentary team in the second session of the match. "To all the fans around the world, I want to say I have recovered. I am OK and I have returned (to do commentary)," Richards said on air.

"No bowler in the world could do it to me, that was done by nature. We have to respect nature," he added.

Federer and Barty sweep into the fourth round with thumping wins

Pliskova also progresses but end of the road for Nishikori and Halep; Zverev stretched again; Kyrgios in a hurry

US OPEN

REUTERS
NEW YORK

After slow starts in his first matches, Roger Federer took his game up a notch with a stress-free 6-2, 6-2, 6-1 win over Briton Daniel Evans to reach the fourth round, while Alex de Minaur beat Japanese seventh seed Kei Nishikori 6-2, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3 on Friday.

The Swiss great, seeded third, was brimming with confidence from the start, taking advantage of the speedy hardcourts under the open roof at Arthur Ashe Stadium on a warm and sunny day.

Federer, seeking his sixth U.S. Open title, rifled 48 winners and 10 aces to see off the overmatched Evans, who is now 0-3 lifetime against the 38-year-old.

In the women's section, French Open champion Ash-

leigh Barty swept into the last 16 with a 7-5, 6-3 victory over Greek 30th seed Maria Sakkari. Czech third seed Karolina Pliskova was tested by Tunisia's Ons Jabeur before winning 6-1, 4-6, 6-4.

Meanwhile on Thursday, Wimbledon champion Simona Halep and Petra Kvitova suffered surprise defeats in second round action, while holder Naomi Osaka cruised through to the last 32.

American qualifier Taylor Townsend came back from a set down to beat fourth seed Halep 2-6, 6-3, 7-6(4) to consign the Romanian to a third straight early exit.

Czech sixth seed Kvitova, who has been struggling with a forearm injury this season, was far from her best in a 6-4, 6-4 defeat by German Andrea Petkovic.

The men's sixth seed Alexander Zverev was taken to a deciding fifth set for a second consecutive match as he overcame American Frances



Big scalp: Taylor Townsend rallied to oust Simona Halep. ■ AP

Tiafoe 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3. Three-time champion Rafael Nadal got a walkover after Australian wildcard Thanasi Kokkinakis withdrew with an injury.

In men's doubles, Indians Divij Sharan and Leander Paes made a first round exit while playing alongside Monaco's Hugo Nys and Argentina's Guillermo Duran.

Australian Nick Kyrgios let his racquet do the talking as he fired 24 aces in a convincing 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 win over unseeded Frenchman Antoine Hoang.

IMPORTANT RESULTS

Men: Third round: 3-Roger Federer (Sui) bt Dan Evans (GBR) 6-2, 6-2, 6-1; Alex de Minaur (Aus) bt 7-Kei Nishikori (Jpn) 6-2, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3. **Second round:** 22-Marin Cilic (Cro) bt Cedrik-Marcel Stebe (Ger) 4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-3; Chung Hyeon (Kor) bt 32-Fernando Verdasco (Esp) 1-6, 2-6, 7-5, 6-3, 7-6(3); Denis Kudla (USA) bt 27-Dusan Lajovic (Srb) 7-5, 7-5, 0-6, 6-3; 23-Stan Wawrinka (Sui) bt Jeremy Chardy (Fra) 6-4, 6-3, 6-7(3), 6-3; 17-Nikoloz Basilashvili (Geo) bt Jensen Brooks (USA) 3-6, 7-6(3), 7-5, 6-2; 5-Daniil Medvedev (Rus) bt Hugo Dellien (Bol) 6-3, 7-5, 5-7, 6-3; Daniel Evans (GBR) bt 25-Lucas Pouille (Fra) 6-4, 6-3, 6-7(4), 6-4; Alex De Minaur (Aus) bt 31-Christian Garin (Chi) 6-3, 7-5, 6-3; 28-Nick Kyrgios (Aus) bt Antoine Hoang (Fra) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; 24-Matteo Berrettini (Ita) bt Jordan Thompson (Aus) 7-5, 7-6(5), 4-6, 6-1; 13-Gael Monfils (Fra) bt Marius Copil (Rou) 6-3, 6-2; 6-Alexander Zverev (Ger) bt Frances Tiafoe (USA) 6-3,

3-6, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3; Aljaz Bedene (Slo) bt 29-Benoit Paire (Fra) 4-6, 6-7(3), 6-2, 7-5, 7-6(4); 14-John Isner (USA) bt Jan-Lennard Struff (Ger) 6-3, 7-6(4), 7-6 (5); 2-Rafael Nadal (Esp) w/o Thanasi Kokkinakis (Aus). **Doubles:** Casper Ruud (Nor) & Miomir Kecmanovic (Srb) bt Leander Paes (Ind) & Guillermo Duran (Arg) 7-5, 6-2; Federico Delbonis (Arg) & Roberto Carballes Baena (Esp) bt Divij Sharan (Ind) & Hugo Nys (Mon) 6-4, 6-4. **Women: Third round:** 2-Ashleigh Barty (Aus) bt 30-Maria Sakkari (Gre) 7-5, 6-3; 3-Karolina Pliskova (Cze) bt Ons Jabeur (Tun) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; 22-Petra Martic (Cro) bt 12-Anastasija Sevastova (Lat) 6-4, 6-3. **Second round:** 19-Caroline Wozniacki (Den) bt Danielle Rose Collins (USA) 4-6, 6-3; 6-4; 1-Naomi Osaka (Jpn) bt Magda Linette (Pol) 6-2, 6-4; 21-Anett Kontaveit (Est) bt Ajla Tomljanovic (Aus) 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; 13-Belinda Bencic (Sui) bt Alize Cornet (Fra) 6-4, 1-6, 6-2; Yulia

Putintseva (Kaz) bt 9-Aryna Sabalenka (Blr) 6-3, 7-6(3); 23-Donna Vekic (Cro) bt Kaia Kanepi (Est) 7-5, 6-3; 26-Julia Goerges (Ger) bt Francesca di Lorenzo (USA) 7-5, 6-0; 7-Kiki Bertens (Ned) bt Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (Rus) 7-5, 6-4; Taylor Townsend (USA) bt 4-Simona Halep (Rou) 2-6, 6-3, 7-6(4); 15-Bianca Andreescu (Can) bt Kirsten Flipkens (Bel) 6-3, 7-5; 25-Elise Mertens (Bel) bt Kristyna Pliskova (Cze) 6-2, 6-2; 20-Sofia Kenin (USA) bt Laura Siegemund (Ger) 7-6(4), 6-0; 16-Johanna Konta (GBR) bt Margarita Gasparian (Rus) 6-1, 6-0; 33-Zhang Shuai (Chn) bt Ekaterina Alexandrova (Rus) 7-6(5), 4-6, 6-3; Karolina Muchova (Cze) bt 29-Su-Wei Hsieh (Tpe) 6-1, 4-6, 7-6(2); 22-Petra Martic (Cro) bt Ana Bogdan (Rou) 6-2, 6-4; 12-Anastasija Sevastova (Lat) bt Iga Swiatek (Pol) 3-6, 6-1, 6-3; 18-Qiang Wang (Chn) bt Alison Van Uytvanck (Bel) 7-5, 6-4; 30-Maria Sakkari (Gre) bt Shuai Peng (Chn) 6-7(5), 6-4, 6-2.