

Round two goes to Williams, Windies

Pacer dismisses Kohli cheaply; West Indies, led by Simmons & Pooran's whirlwind unbeaten knocks, overhaul India's total with ease



West Indies' Ksrick Williams gestures after dismissing Virat Kohli during the second T20I in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday. AP



SCORECARD » India vs West Indies

2nd T20I | Trivandrum | Toss: WI

INDIA	170/7
R Sharma b Holder	15 (18b, 2x4)
KL Rahul c Hetmyer b Pierre	11 (11b, 1x4)
S Dube c Hetmyer b Walsh	54
	(30b, 3x4, 4x6)
V Kohli c Simmons b Williams	19
	(17b, 2x4)
R Pant not out	33 (22b, 3x4, 1x6)
S Iyer c King b Walsh	10 (11b, 1x4)
R Jadeja b Williams	9 (11b)
Washington Sundar c & b Cottrell	0 (1b)
D Chahar not out	1 (1b)

■ Extras: (lb 3, nb 2, w 13) 18
Fall of wickets: 1-24 (KL Rahul, 3.1 ov), 2-56 (Rohit Sharma, 7.4 ov), 3-97 (Shivam Dube, 10.3 ov), 4-120 (Virat Kohli, 13.2 ov), 5-144 (Shreyas Iyer, 16.2 ov), 6-164 (Ravindra Jadeja, 18.6 ov), 7-167 (Washington Sundar, 19.4 ov)

■ Bowling:	
S Cottrell	4-0-27-1
K Pierre	2-0-11-1
J Holder	4-0-42-1
K Williams	4-0-30-2
K Pollard	2-0-29-0
H Walsh	4-0-28-2

WEST INDIES 173/2 IN 18.3 OV

L Simmons not out	67 (45b, 4x4, 4x6)
E Lewis st Pant b Sundar	40
	(35b, 3x4, 3x6)

S Hetmyer c Kohli b Jadeja	23 (14b, 3x6)
N Pooran not out	38 (18b, 4x4, 2x6)

■ Extras: (nb 1, w 4) 5
Fall of wickets: 1-73 (Evin Lewis, 9.5 ov), 2-112 (Shimron Hetmyer, 13.4 ov)

■ Bowling:	
D Chahar	3.3-0-35-0
B Kumar	4-0-36-0
Washington Sundar	4-0-26-1
Y Chahal	3-0-36-0
S Dube	2-0-18-0
R Jadeja	2-0-22-1

■ West Indies won by 8 wickets



Batting at No.3, Shivam Dube made 54 off 30 balls. PTI

BRIEFLY

SAG: India pulls ahead with more gold

Kathmandu: Swimmers and wrestlers continued their complete domination in their respective disciplines as India continued its commanding performance on yet another medal-laden day to leave rival countries far behind in the South Asian Games here on Sunday. The swimmers picked up as many as 7 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze while the wrestlers clinched all the four yellow metals on offer on Sunday to help India add 38 medals on Day 7. India's total medal count stood at 252 (132 gold, 79 silver, 41 bronze), leaving behind hosts Nepal and Sri Lanka behind.

FC Goa back to winning ways

Hyderabad: Manvir Singh came off the bench to score the match-winner as FC Goa beat Hyderabad FC 1-0 in an Indian Super League clash here on Sunday. FC Goa dominated the proceedings for most part of the match but both teams struggled to create clear-cut chances before second-half substitute Manvir (68th) headed in the decisive goal. With the crucial three points away from home, Sergio Lobera's side climbed back into the top four after securing their first win in three games. They are now third with 12 points from seven matches. Hyderabad remain winless in four matches and are at the bottom of the table with four points.

Churchill beat Bagan 4-2 in I-League

Kalyani: Trinidadian hitman Willis Plaza stamped his class yet again as he struck a brace to help Churchill Brother FC beat Mohun Bagan 4-2 in an I-League match here on Sunday. Plaza (2nd, 38th) and Robert Primus (29th) did the damage in the first-half before Radanfah Abu Bakr (76th) put the match beyond the reach of Mohun Bagan. For the Mariners, Fran Gonzalez (34th) converted from the penalty spot and Subha Ghosh (90th) found the target. With six points from two games, Churchill Brothers now sit on top of the I-League points table followed by Gokulam Kerala, separated by goal difference.

Sonia, Kachari lead Rlys to 6 gold medals

Kannur: World Championships silver medallist Sonia Chahal (57kg) and India Open Gold medallist Bhagyabati Kachari (81kg) won the top prizes as Railways continued their dominance by clinching six gold medals at the Women's National Boxing Championships here on Sunday. 2016 national champion Sonia showed some stunning resilience to edge Haryana's youth world champion Sakshi 3-2 in a hard-fought final to add a second Nationals gold. A year after settling for the silver, Bhagyabati Kachari beat Shailly Singh in the 81 kg final 5-0 win to get the gold.

India win 3-Nations hockey tournament

Canberra: The Indian junior women's team tasted its first loss of the competition on Sunday, going down 1-2 to hosts Australia in the fourth match but still won the 3-Nations hockey tournament after finishing top of the points table. India had seven points from four matches, ahead of hosts Australia on goal difference, with New Zealand finishing third with only three points from their four matches.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

TUSHAR BHADURI

DECEMBER 8

THE INDIAN team prides itself on its fielding — but the two T20Is against West Indies are matches they would like to forget — apart from one superhuman grab by Virat Kohli. Eight drops in two games and a ball going through the legs of a fielder on the 30-yard circle to the boundary — what made it worse that it was Ravindra Jadeja at fault — is a serious reality check.

The West Indians took full toll and overhauled the target of 171 at a canter, with nine balls to spare. Lendl Simmons, who Indians fans will remember as one of the architects of India's ouster from their own party at the 2016 ICC World T20, was the glue with a 45-ball unbeaten 67 while the three left-handers around him — Evin Lewis, Shimron Hetmyer and Nicholas Pooran — were more aggressive in fashioning an eight-wicket victory. Simmons will also have happy memories of the venue for the series decider — Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium.

The Windies hit 12 sixes in 18.3 overs while India managed just five, which makes a huge difference in itself. The visitors six-hitting prowess is second to none, while the Indian big boys are not ones to get going from Ball One. Sunday was when Kohli, Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul departed without making a big impact.

Kohli played an innings for the ages on Friday, but the skipper — the heaviest run-getter in the format now — is somehow off his peak when setting the pace instead of chasing, explaining to a large extent India's poor T20 record batting first. When Ksrick Williams got his silent retribution with the big wicket on a much better evening for him with the ball, India's major hope for a total in the 190 territory went bust.

A little earlier, Shivam Dube got to his first 50 for India in double quick time, but he should send a thank you note to Kieron Pollard and Jason Holder. The left-hander, surprisingly sent in at No.3 ahead of the skipper, was struggling to put bat to ball effectively with 12 runs scored off his first 14 balls. The crowd was getting on his back as Dube was reduced to swinging wildly like a rusty gate. One of those swings, aimed at somewhere over midwicket, went over slip for a boundary.

Dube looked anything but a No. 3 and all he seemed to be achieving was keeping Kohli away from the crease. But the two West Indian veterans helped him out, testing the middle of the pitch at their pedestrian pace, allowing the big hitter to use his power to find the square boundaries. When they tried to bowl full on a sluggish wicket, they overcompensated into full tosses. The 10th over, bowled by Pollard, went for 26 including three sixes, injecting momentum in a somewhat subdued innings. A half-century off 27 balls was a decent effort, but

if it's not to be a one-off experiment, Dube needs to get better against spin and everything that isn't in his arc.

However, his innings had put the team on course for a total that would have made them favourites on a sluggish pitch. Even after the skipper's departure, the team was well placed at 144/4 with four overs to go, a run rate of nine an over. But the last 24 balls went for a mere 26 as Hayden Walsh Jr, Sheldon Cottrell and Williams conceded just a solitary boundary for the gain of three wickets. After an inauspicious start — the first over of the innings went for 12 as Cottrell couldn't find his line and repeatedly gave leg-side wides and freebies — and Dube's assault in the middle, the final four overs would have provided the required bounce in the Windies dressing room.

No hell-for-leather approach

The Windies chase didn't get into fifth gear from the start. Deepak Chahar and Bhuvneshwar Kumar kept a lid on proceedings in the first couple of overs. When Lewis and Simmons did miscue, in the same over from Bhuvneshwar, first Washington Sundar and then Rishabh Pant dropped the catches. Simmons's reprieve proved the costlier one in the final analysis.

When spin was brought in, the two openers didn't target the stands off every ball, but waited for deliveries in their arc. One of Sundar's overs went for 15, but his return of one wicket for 26 off four overs

EXPLAINED Joshua's win and what it means for the heavyweight division

TAKING A page out of a boxing great he has previously knocked out, Anthony Joshua *Klitschkoed* his way to a win against Andy Ruiz, choosing distance and safety over power. Instead of going blow-for-blow with Ruiz like their first fight (he knocked the Mexican down before being knocked out in June), Joshua chose to go the "sweet science" route.

According to analytics website Compubox, 65 of Joshua's 107 landed punches were jabs while 93% of the fight was spent at distance. The ring in Riyadh was also bigger, which made cornering Joshua that much more difficult for Ruiz.

More importantly, Ruiz was in worse shape than he was for the first fight, coming in 15 pounds heavier. "I don't think I prepared as good as I should have. The three months of partying affected me...I gained too much weight and I wasn't able to throw my combinations," said Ruiz.

For now, the status quo has been restored. Ruiz had his moment in the sun and a third fight looks needless for now. Joshua has regained the WBA, IBF, WBO and IBO heavyweight titles. WBC title-holder Deontay Wilder is still the unbeaten 'One Punch Man' while lineal champion Fury too has kept himself busy. While Wilder-Fury rematch is already a lock for February, Joshua will deal with his mandatory challengers for the time being. The Brit should then take on the winner to have unify the titles and leave the world with one undisputed heavyweight champion.

hook, it may come crashing down on me.

"I realize chasing that fight wasn't playing to my benefits. So I'm just going to let the path take its course. When the opportunity presents itself to become undisputed heavy-

weight champion of the world, I'll definitely step up and take the challenge."

So, for the time being, Joshua appears likely to fight mandatory challengers, probably starting with Kubrat Pulev of Bulgaria

in the spring to keep the IBF belt. Then, Oleksandr Usyk — the unified cruiser-weight champion who recently stepped up to heavyweight — in the summer to retain the WBO strap.

Only then could he realistically fight "the other guy," as Joshua often refers to Wilder.

So, apparently, there is no real rush to meet the American. Not like a couple of years ago when that unification fight clearly dominated the thoughts of Joshua and his ambitious promoter, Eddie Hearn.

The loss to Ruiz in New York could, then, be the making of Joshua. It was a shock to the system, making him realize it will not be a straightforward ride to global domination, that he cannot switch off in any fight and expect to pull through.

"It's nice to KO and there were times when I looked in Andy's eyes and I wanted to put my fist through his head," Joshua said. "But then I thought to myself, 'This is boxing. I need to win for myself, show people that there is a sweet science to the sport as well.' It's not like a script, it's not wrestling, this is real life and it's dangerous."

"These guys are highly skilled athletes. I just love preparing for a good challenge. This is all I have, all I got. I have disciplined myself for it."

RESTORING THE STATUS QUO

Joshua 2.0: British boxing star plots new path to dominance with win over Ruiz



Anthony Joshua became the fourth man in history to regain the world heavyweight title in a direct rematch after Muhammad Ali, Lennox Lewis and Floyd Patterson. AP

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIYADH, DECEMBER 8

IT'S NOT all about the devastating knockout for Anthony Joshua anymore.

He's not going to go desperately chasing Deontay Wilder for the elusive belt in his heavyweight collection, either. This is Joshua 2.0. After what he describes as a "roller coaster" year, the British boxing star is back as the multiple world heavyweight champion after beating Andy Ruiz Jr. in a unanimous points decision in their rematch in Saudi Arabia early Sunday.

Listening to Joshua after the fight, there's a sense he is about to embark on a new path to domination of the marquee division. The drastic change to his fighting style and mind-set is an indication of that. Against Ruiz, Joshua overhauled his approach — "I took it back to the old school, '70s style," he said — and used dancing feet instead of his traditional power-punching to break down his opponent.

"Boxing's a sweet science," Joshua said with a grin. "Hit and don't get hit. That's the name of the game."

For a heavyweight who made his name as a knockout merchant, Joshua has only won one of his last five fights by knocking his opponent to the canvas, in a period

stretching back 2 years. He is becoming more cautious, more of a student of boxing.

Expect that to continue in his second reign as champ after regaining the WBA, WBO and IBF belts.

Joshua said he has learned his lesson after not preparing properly for his first fight against Ruiz in June, which went badly wrong when he was knocked down four times before being stopped in the seventh round at Madison Square Garden.

When asked if his fans might have expected more from Joshua in the controversial rematch in the Middle East, where avoiding Ruiz played as big a part in the game plan as punching him, the Briton said: "If I box for the crowd and people's opinion, I might not have been victorious. I trusted my own process and now I am the champion. I'm going to follow my own instincts while I'm boxing."

The more mature side of Joshua might also come through in his seemingly never-ending pursuit of Wilder, the WBC champion who owns the belt Joshua needs to become the first unified champion since Lennox Lewis early this century. "I would love to unite the belts," Joshua said. "But when you are chasing . it's the same as when you're in the fight. Sometimes if I'm chasing the right hand, I'm chasing the left