

Men in Blue pull off a rare T20I series whitewash

New Zealand loses the script after looking set for a consolation win; Bumrah continues to be a conundrum for the Kiwis

INDIA IN NZ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MOUNT MAUNGANUI
India choked New Zealand yet again to turn the match around and post a seven-run win in the fifth T20 International and a rare 5-0 T20 series whitewash on Sunday.

The Indian pacers, led by the ever-reliable Jasprit Bumrah, shared seven wickets for 25 runs in match-swinging 7.2 overs to restrict the Kiwis to 156 for nine while defending 163 for three.

Deadly death bowling

Bumrah conceded just 12 runs in his four overs and got rid of three batsmen, bowling yorkers in the death overs.

India's total was built around stand-in skipper Rohit Sharma's 60 after electing to bat. Tim Seifert (50) and Ross Taylor (53) kept the Black Caps in the hunt for a consolation win, but the hosts again fell near the finish line.

New Zealand got off to a poor start and was reduced to 17 for three in the fourth over. Bumrah had Martin Guptill lbw, and Washington Sundar bowled Colin Munro (15). Tom Bruce's run-out didn't help either.

Taylor and Seifert came together at that juncture, putting on 99 for the fourth wicket.



Unplayable! Daryl Mitchell, as most of the New Zealanders on Sunday, has no clue to this one from Jasprit Bumrah. • AFP

They took 34 runs off Shivam Dube in the 10th over, after which K.L. Rahul, who took over the reins with Rohit Sharma off the field injured, had to take corrective measures.

He brought back his frontline pacers and they both

struck. Navdeep Saini dismissed Seifert and then Bumrah bowled Daryl Mitchell with a searing yorker.

New Zealand's chase was all but over when Mitchell Santner (6) holed out off Shardul Thakur and Manish Pandey held a fine running

catch at long-on. Ish Sodhi smacked 16 off 10 balls to provide some fireworks at the end but it was not enough. Earlier, Rohit, batting at number three, retired hurt after injuring his left calf whilst hitting a six and walked off the field in dis-

STAT SPHERE

1 The Rohit-Rahul pair is the quickest (18 inns) to cross 1000 runs in T20Is -- Runs: 1019; Avg. 59.94; RR: 10.16; Century stands: 3, Fifty stands: 5

1 Rahul (224, 5 inns) aggregated the most runs by an Indian in a bilateral T20I series, surpassing Kohli's 199 (3 games) against Australia down under (2016)

7 Maiden overs bowled by Bumrah in T20Is, the most in the format's history. He is followed by Kulasekara (6) and five each by Harbhajan, Mendis, Johnston (Ire), Amir, Nabi, Naveed (UAE)

2 Dube becomes the second most expensive bowler in T20Is after conceding 34 runs in an over. Broad's 36 against India (Yuvraj's six sixes) remains top of the list



Boundaries hit in the series
India 90 (55 fours, 35 sixes)
NZ 103 (64 fours, 39 sixes)

25 Number of 50-plus scores for Rohit in T20Is, edging past Kohli's 24. The two Indians are followed by Guptill (17), Stirling (17) and Warner (16)

SCOREBOARD

INDIA
K.L. Rahul c Santner b Bennett 45 (33b, 4x4, 2x6), Sanju Samson c Santner b Kuggeleijn 2 (5b), Rohit Sharma retired hurt 60 (41b, 3x4, 3x6), Shreyas Iyer (not out) 33 (31b, 1x4, 2x6), Shivam Dube c Bruce b Kuggeleijn 5 (6b, 1x4), Manish Pandey (not out) 11 (4b, 1x4, 1x6); Extras (lb-1, w-6): 7. Total (for 3 wkts. in 20 overs): 163.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-8 (Samson, 1.3ov), 2-96 (Rahul, 11.3), 2-138 (Rohit retired, 16.4), 3-148 (Dube, 18.5).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING
Southie 4-0-52-0, Kuggeleijn 4-0-25-2, Bennett 4-0-21-1, Sodhi 4-0-28-0, Santner 4-0-36-0.

NEW ZEALAND
Martin Guptill lbw b Bumrah 2 (6b), Colin Munro b Washington 15 (6b, 2x4, 1x6), Tim Seifert c Samson b Saini 50 (30b, 5x4, 3x6), Tom Bruce run out 0 (3b), Ross Taylor c Rahul b Saini 53

(47b, 5x4, 2x6), Daryl Mitchell b Bumrah 2 (4b), Mitchell Santner c Manish b Shardul 6 (7b), Scott Kuggeleijn c Washington b Shardul 0 (1b), Tim Southee b Bumrah 6 (5b, 1x4), Ish Sodhi (not out) 16 (10b, 2x6), Hamish Bennett (not out) 1 (2b); Extras (lb-1, nb-1, w-3): 5. Total (for 9 wkts. in 20 overs): 156.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-7 (Guptill, 1.3), 2-17 (Munro, 2.3), 3-17 (Bruce, 3.2), 4-116 (Seifert, 12.4), 5-119 (Mitchell, 13.6), 6-131 (Santner, 16.3), 7-132 (Kuggeleijn, 16.5), 8-133 (Taylor, 17.1), 9-141 (Southee, 18.2).

INDIA BOWLING
Washington 3-0-20-1, Bumrah 4-0-12-3, Saini 4-0-23-2, Shardul 4-0-38-2, Chahal 4-0-28-0, Dube 1-0-34-0.

Toss: India.
Man-of-the-Match: Bumrah.
Man-of-the-Series: K.L. Rahul.
India won match by seven runs and series 5-0.

6 We need everyone to be the best versions of themselves. It is all about laying the vision in front of the boys, the way you think, prepare. The guys are taking notice of it and they realise that the team needs 120 percent from them every time

6 Kane and me have similar mindsets, similar philosophies. Despite what the scoreline suggests, I feel New Zealand cricket is in the best hands and he is the right guy to lead this team. He is the perfect, perfect man to lead them

KOHLI
while Rohit scored his 25th T20I half-century off 35 balls. **ODIs:** Feb. 5 (Hamilton), Feb. 8 (Auckland), Feb. 11 (Mount Maunganui), all 7.30 a.m. start.

Indian women lose to Australia

TRI-SERIES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
CANBERRA
India Women suffered a four-wicket loss to Australia after a disappointing batting performance in their second match of the T20 Tri-series here on Sunday.

India struggled to 103 for nine in 20 overs after being asked to bat. The Indian bowlers did well to stretch the game till the penultimate over, but there were not enough runs on the board.

Ellyse Perry was the undisputed star of the game, picking up four wickets (three in one over) before making 49 off 47 balls in Australia's chase.

India had beaten England in the tournament opener while Australia had lost to England in a Super Over finish on Saturday, leaving all three teams with a win each.

Barring opener Smriti Mandhana (35) and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (28), the Indian batters showed complete lack of application on a

pitch offering extra bounce.

India lost its last six wickets for 21 runs with pacer Perry picking up three of them in the 14th over - Harmanpreet, Taniya Bhatia and Deepti Sharma.

The spin-heavy Indian bowling attack did all it could with left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad taking two for 18 in four overs. Offie Deepti, who opened the bowling, took one for 18.

India's next match: February 7 (Friday), vs England, Melbourne, 8.30 a.m.



Gone! Shafali Verma becomes one of Ellyse Perry's four victims. • GETTY IMAGES

SCOREBOARD

INDIA
Shafali Verma b Perry 5 (3b, 1x4), Smriti Mandhana c Perry b Jonassen 35 (23b, 3x4, 2x6), Jemimah Rodrigues c Carey b Vlaeminck 1 (11b), Harmanpreet Kaur c Carey b Perry 28 (32b, 4x4), Veda Krishnamurthy c Carey b Vlaeminck 8 (11b, 1x4), Taniya Bhatia c Mooney b Perry 0 (1b), Deepti Sharma c Mooney b Perry 0 (3b), Arundhati Reddy c Mooney b Vlaeminck 4 (4b, 1x4), Shikha Pandey (not out) 8 (19b), Radha Yadav c Vlaeminck b Schutt 11 (11b, 1x4), Rajeshwari Gayakwad (not out) 2 (2b); Extras (w-1): 1; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 103.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-15 (Shafali, 1.1), 2-16 (Jemimah, 2.6), 3-56 (Smriti, 9.3), 4-78 (Harmanpreet, 13.1), 5-78 (Taniya, 13.2), 6-78 (Deepti, 13.5), 7-82 (Veda, 14.1), 8-82 (Arundhati, 14.4), 9-99 (Radha, 19.1).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING
Schutt 4-0-26-1, Perry 4-0-13-4, Vlaeminck 4-1-13-3, Sutherland 1-0-6-0, Jonassen 4-0-19-1, Carey 2-0-14-0, Wareham 1-0-12-0.

AUSTRALIA
Alyssa Healy c Deepti b Shikha 1 (5b), Beth Mooney st Taniya b Deepti 6 (13b, 1x4), Ashleigh Gardner b Rajeshwari 22 (14b, 3x4, 1x6), Ellyse Perry c Veda b Radha 49 (47b, 8x4), Rachael Haynes c Veda b Arundhati 9

(12b, 1x4), Jess Jonassen c Jemimah b Rajeshwari 6 (9b), Nicola Carey (not out) 9 (12b, 1x4), Annabel Sutherland (not out) 1 (1b); Extras (w-1): 1; Total (for six wkts. in 18.5 overs): 104.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-1 (Healy, 1.1), 2-30 (Mooney, 4.6), 3-30 (Gardner, 5.2), 4-52 (Haynes, 9.5), 5-82 (Jonassen, 14.4), 6-99 (Perry, 17.5).

INDIA BOWLING
Deepti 4-0-18-1, Shikha 3.5-0-27-1, Rajeshwari 4-0-18-2, Radha 4-0-23-1, Arundhati 2.4-0-17-1, Harmanpreet 0.2-0-1-0.

Toss: Australia.
Player-of-the-Match: Perry.
Australia won by four wickets with seven balls to spare.

Djokovic continues his love affair with Norman Brookes

The defending champion beats Thiem in five-set epic to win the trophy for the eighth time Down Under

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MELBOURNE
Novak Djokovic battled through a five-set thriller with Dominic Thiem to maintain his dominance at the Australian Open on Sunday, claiming a record eighth title and returning to World No. 1 in the process.

The indomitable Serb stretched his unbeaten streak this season to 13, but he had to rally from two sets to one down to beat the courageous fifth-seeded Austrian 6-4, 4-6, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 in a nearly-four-hour marathon.

It was his 17th Grand Slam title. Djokovic had never before won a Slam final in seven previous attempts when finding himself two sets to one down.

The Serb, 32, was the overwhelming favourite, but the supremely fit and fast Thiem, 26, always had the weapons to trouble him, which he deployed successfully for much of the match.

It was a nerveless start from Djokovic, who comfortably held then put big pressure on the Austrian's serve, with a forehand into the net giving him an immediate break and a psychological edge after some monster rallies.

Thiem, though, is as strong mentally as he is physically and he finally got on the scoreboard after another tough service game.

And against the run of play, with Djokovic seemingly in control, he broke back, unleashing pinpoint ground-strokes to make the most of some loose Djokovic shots.

But the World No. 2 was unrelenting, breaking again as Thiem served to stay in the set, with the Austrian send-

ing down his first double fault of the match at the crucial moment.

Remarkably, a rare Djokovic double fault handed Thiem a break to go 2-1 up in set two with the courageous Austrian refusing to go away.

The Serb was getting frustrated, looking at his coaching box and pointing at his head.

He refocused and once again began attacking the Thiem serve, breaking back for 4-4, pumping his fists when the fifth seed sent a backhand wide.

But two time warnings on his serve in the next game rattled Djokovic and he was broken again, with the Serb losing his cool by patting the umpire's foot at the change-over and telling the official: "Great job... you made yourself famous."

With Djokovic still looking distracted, Thiem served out the set - the first the Serb had dropped in an Australian Open final since 2015.

Djokovic appeared dejected and was immediately broken twice in set three as Thiem raced to a 4-0 lead, having won six games in a row with Djokovic imploding.

The Serb was heard telling a trainer he was tired and after losing the set, he went for a medical timeout.

He came back and the fourth set went with serve until a Thiem double fault handed the Serb two break points and he converted to regain control, serving out the set with an ace.

Djokovic drew on all his experience to force another break in the deciding fifth set to take a 2-1 lead and kept his foot on the gas to claim an eighth crown from the last 13 Australian Opens.

Djokovic is the first man in the Open Era to win Grand Slam singles titles in three different decades and the second in history after Ken Rosewall, who earned Major titles in the 1950s, 60s and 70s

The Serbian won a career-best fifth straight Grand Slam final he has appeared in:

- bt Thiem, Australian Open 2020
- bt Federer, Wimbledon 2019
- bt Nadal, Australian Open 2019
- bt del Potro, US Open 2018
- bt Anderson, Wimbledon 2018 (9-1 overall in finals since 2015 Wimbledon)

In five-set Slam finals, Djokovic is 4-1

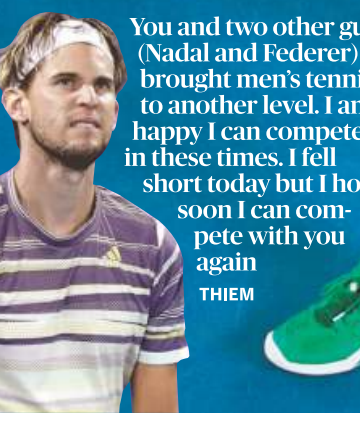
- bt Thiem, Australian Open 2020
- bt Federer, Wimbledon 2019
- bt Federer, Wimbledon 2014
- lost to Murray, US Open 2012
- bt Nadal, Australian Open 2012

MOST SLAM CROWNS AFTER TURNING 30:

- Djokovic 5 | Nadal 5 | Federer 4
- Laver 4 | Rosewall 4

MATCH SCAN		
Thiem	-	Djokovic
13	Aces	9
5	Double Faults	5
55	Winners	46
57	Unforced Errors	57
5/12	Break Points Won	5/12
147	Total Points Won	157

Scoreline: 6-4, 4-6, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4
Duration: Three hours 59 minutes



You and two other guys (Nadal and Federer) brought men's tennis to another level. I am happy I can compete in these times. I fell short today but I hope soon I can compete with you again
THIEM

SERB'S SWEET 17!
Djokovic's eighth crown at Melbourne Park pulled him closer to Federer and Nadal

Grand Slam collection

Federer | 20

Nadal | 19

Djokovic | 17

Sampras | 14

Emerson | 12

Tough luck. It was a tough match. But you were very close to winning it. You know, you definitely have a lot more time in your career and I'm sure that you will get one of the Grand Slam trophies. And more. More than one

Spurs make City pay for profligacy

EURO LEAGUES

REUTERS
LONDON
Steven Bergwijn made an instant impact on his Tottenham Hotspur debut with a stunning opener in his side's 2-0 win over champion Manchester City in the Premier League game on Sunday.

The Dutch midfielder, signed this week from PSV Eindhoven, swept home a right-foot volley three minutes after City had been reduced to 10 men when Olexandr Zinchenko was shown a second yellow card on the hour. With City stretched Son Heung-min added a second in the 71st minute with a deflected effort.

City remains 22 points behind runaway leader Liverpool and only had itself to blame for a sixth defeat of the season as it wasted several gilt-edged chances and missed yet another penalty when Hugo Lloris saved Ilkay Gundogan's spot kick.

Sergio Aguerro was unusually profligate, striking the post in the first half and



Turn and shoot: Spurs' new signing Steven Bergwijn had a dream debut with this strike against City. • GETTY IMAGES

missing two other chances.

The results: Serie A: Juventus 3 (Ronaldo 40-pen, 80-pen, De Ligt 90+1) bt Fiorentina 0; AC Milan 1 (Calhanoglu 29) drew with Hellas Verona 1 (Faraoni 13); Atalanta 2 (Toloi 12, Ilicic 35) drew with Genoa 2 (Crisicito 19-pen, Sanabria 33); Lazio 5 (Immobile 3, 29, F. Caicedo 16, 38, Adekanye 58) bt SPAL 1 (Missiroli 65).

Premier League: Burnley 0 drew with Arsenal 0.

La Liga: Leganes 2 (Omeruo 49, Rodriguez 90+4) bt Real Sociedad 1 (Isak 20); Eibar 1 (Orellana 15-pen) drew with Real Betis

1 (Fekir 7); Athletic Bilbao 0 lost to Getafe 2 (Suarez 36, Mata 50-pen).

Bundesliga: Cologne 4 (Bornauw 29, Cordoba 55, Ekhizbue 90+1, Jakobs 90+2) bt Freiburg 0.

Saturday: La Liga: Real Mallorca 0 lost to Valladolid 1 (Unal 56); Valencia 1 (Solter 77) bt Celta Vigo 0).

Serie A: Cagliari 2 (Joao Pedro 19, Simeone 54) drew with Parma 2 (Kucka 42, Cornelius 90+4); Sassuolo 4 (Caputo 7, 16, Djuricic 26, Boga 74) bt Roma 2 (Dzeko 54, Veretout 73-pen).

Priyanshu hunts down Keun

PBL

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD
Priyanshu Rajawat of Hyderabad Hunters produced a stunning performance to outclass World No. 49 Lee Dong Keun as the hosts registered a stunning 4-3 win over Mumbai Rockets in an inconsequential match of the Premier Badminton League at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium on Sunday.

Despite the victory, Hunters is virtually out of contention. It has 10 points, the same as Mumbai. The 18-year-old Priyan-

shu, whom chief National coach P. Gopi Chand rates highly, showed amazing maturity and composure. More importantly, he controlled the pace of the game with his net dribbles and telling smashes.

Earlier, Hunters' men's combine of Ben Lane and Vladimir Ivanov lost to former World Championship doubles medallists Kim Gi Jung and Kim Sa Rang.

In men's singles, P. Kashyap of Rockets clinched the Trump match with a clinical 15-8, 15-13 win over Daren Liew, giving his team a 2-0 lead.

In Hunters' Trump, P.V. Sindhu won as expected against the young Shreyanshi Pardesi in just 20 minutes. With the contest at 3-3, the hosts' mixed doubles pair of Vladimir Ivanov and N. Sikki Reddy clinched the issue.

The results: Hyderabad Hunters bt Mumbai Rockets 4-3 (Ben Lane & Vladimir Ivanov lost to Kim Gi Jung & Kim Sa Rang 10-15, 8-15; Daren Liew lost to P. Kashyap (T) 8-15, 13-15; P.V. Sindhu (T) bt Shreyanshi Pardesi 15-5, 15-10; Priyanshu Rajawat bt Lee Dong Keun 15-13, 15-9; Vladimir Ivanov & N. Sikki Reddy bt Kim Sa Rang & Pia Zebadiah 15-8, 15-8).