

India demolish Sri Lanka in 1st Test

'Clinical performance'

GALLE, Sri Lanka, July 29, (AFP): India captain Virat Kohli completed his 17th Test ton on Saturday and then let his bowlers demolish injury-hit Sri Lanka to claim a 304-run victory inside four days in the first Test.

It was India's biggest winning margin in Sri Lanka and showed just why they are the top-ranked Test side in the world.

Set a daunting 550 to win, Dimuth Karunaratne made 97 for Sri Lanka, but

after his departure in the final session their hopes sank in Galle. With all-rounder Asela Gunaratne and stand-in captain Ranganatha Herath unable

to bat through injury, Sri Lanka called it a day with eight wickets down and the total on 245. Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin each took three wickets for the dominant tourists. Kohli modestly called it a "clinical performance" after his side scored 600 in the first innings and then restricted Sri Lanka to 291.

India lost the opening match in Galle two years ago, but went on to take the series 2-1 and then

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return to number one in the Test rankings in the following months.

"We are a more experienced side now. We are playing more consistent cricket and that shows," Kohli said after the big win.

The captain reached an unbeaten 103 at the start of the day before declaring India's second innings on 240-3. He then gave his bowlers the job of grinding down the home side.

Karunaratne's stubborn 208-ball innings took him past 2,500 career Test runs but there was not enough support at the other end.

Mohammed Shami forced Karunaratne's fellow opener Upul Tharanga to play the ball onto his stumps for 10. Danushka Gunathilaka went for two, giving an easy catch to Cheteshwar Pujara at short square leg two overs later.

Kusal Mendis made a promising 36 before he made the thinnest of touches to wicketkeeper Wriddhiman Saha. The TV umpire gave it out after a Kohli appeal.

Former Sri Lanka skipper Angelo Mathews, with two to his name, gave the easiest of catches to Hardik Pandya as he skipped down the wicket looking for a big hit.

Wicketkeeper Niroshan Dickwella made 67 and his 101 partnership with Karunaratne raised Sri Lanka's hopes for a while, before he was also caught behind.

That brought in Dilruwan Perera, top scorer in Sri Lanka's first innings with 92. But Karunaratne paid the price for a rare rash shot and was bowled by Ashwin, who is now on 275 Test wickets.

Nuwan Pradeep and Lahiru Kumara went within three overs, leaving Dilruwan stranded on 21.

India's brilliant first innings — in which Shikhar Dhawan scored 192 and Pujara 153 — broke Sri Lanka on the first day.

"We need to improve ourselves fast — the batting, bowling and fielding," said Sri Lanka captain Herath.

Gunaratne has been ruled out of the rest of the series with a frac-



US players hold their national flag as they celebrate winning the women's final water polo match between USA and Spain during the FINA 2017 world championships on July 28, at the Hajos Alfred swimming pool in Budapest. (AFP)

US women sink Spain to retain world title

The United States proved to be a class apart from their rivals as they thrashed Spain 13-6 to retain the women's world water polo title on Friday.

With the final staged in Budapest's leafy Margaret Island, the Americans won the title for the fifth

time in eight editions of the tournament.

Their success was also in stark contrast to the struggles of the American men's team, who could only finish 13th.

"We still have a ways to go but women are celebrated as being

athletes, empowered and given opportunities," women's head coach Adam Krikorian told Reuters.

"It allowed the development and the growth of women's water polo (in the US)."

The lack of money in the sport was also blamed as one of the rea-

sons why the sport struggles to attract male talent.

"Many athletes in our country stay away from aquatic sports because there's not a lot of money or fame," tournament MVP Kiley Neushul said. "Maybe we somehow need to make it more popular."

On Friday, the US took a 5-3 half-time lead and never looked back.

"There were a lot of hugs," Krikorian said. "I'm just so proud of the group, everyone, the veterans, the leaders and the young ones who are stepping in the big role now." (RTS)

Scoreboard

GALLE, Sri Lanka, July 29, (AFP): Final scoreboard from first Test between Sri Lanka and India at Galle on Saturday:

INDIA 1st Innings 600: Dhawan 190, Pujara 153; Pradeep 6-132
INDIA 2nd Innings (overnight 189-3)
 Dhawan c Gunathilaka b Perera ..14
 A. Mukund lbw Gunathilaka81
 C. Pujara c Mendis b Kumara15
 V. Kohli not out103
 A. Rahane not out23
 Extras (w2, nb1 lb1)4
 Total (53 overs - three wickets) ...240
 Did not bat: H. Pandya, W. Saha, R. Ashwin, R. Jadeja, U. Yadav, M. Shami
 Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-56, 3-189
SRI LANKA 1st Innings 291: Tharanga 64, Mathews 83, Perera 92no; Jadeja 3-67
SRI LANKA 2nd Innings
 D. Karunaratne not out97
 U. Tharanga b Shami10
 M. Gunathilaka c Pujara b Yadav ..2
 K. Mendis c Saha b Adeja36
 A. Mathews c Pandya b Jadeja2
 N. Dickwella c Saha b Ashwin67
 Dilruwan Perera not out21
 N. Pradeep c Kohli b Ashwin0
 L. Kumara c Shami b Jadeja0
 Extras (w7, lb3)10
 Total (76.5 overs)245
 R Herath and A. Gunaratne did not bat injured
 Bowling: M. Shami 9-0-43-1, U. Yadav 9-0-42-1, R. Jadeja 24.5-4-71-3, R. Ashwin 27-4-65-3, H. Pandya 7-0-21-0
 Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-29, 3-108, 4-116, 5-217, 6-240, 7-240, 8-245
 India win by 304 runs
 Toss: India
 Umpires: Richard Illingworth (ENG), Bruce Oxenford (AUS)
 TV umpire: Rod Tucker (Aus)
 Match referee: Richie Richardson (WIS)

tured finger but veteran Herath said his injured finger would be better again in a few days.

The second Test starts in Colombo on Aug 3.



Indian cricket team captain Virat Kohli celebrates after dismissing Sri Lanka batsman Angelo Mathews during the fourth day of the first Test match between Sri Lanka and India at Galle International Cricket Stadium in Galle on July 29. (AFP)

South Africa trail by 252 runs

England maintain grip on third Test

LONDON, July 29, (AFP): Keaton Jennings survived a couple of scares against his native South Africa as England maintained their grip on the third Test at The Oval on Saturday.

England were 74 for one in their second innings, a lead of 252 runs at stumps on a gloomy third day where rain meant only 32 overs out of scheduled 98 were bowled.

Jennings was 34 not out and Tom Westley, one of three debutants in England's XI, unbeaten on 28 in what is the 100th Test at The Oval.

Johannesburg born and raised Jennings, the 11th man tried as an England Test opener alongside Alastair Cook since Andrew Strauss retired in 2012, was under pressure for his place after a run of low scores — including a duck in the first innings of this match.

The 25-year-old Durham left-hander, England-qualified through his mother and by residence, nearly fell cheaply again to another slip catch by Dean Elgar off Vernon Philander only for an edge on six to be dropped on this occasion.

Earlier, Temba Bavuma's gutsy 52 helped South Africa avoid the follow-on.

His innings was the cornerstone of the Proteas' 175 all out.

That left then 178 runs behind England's first innings 353, which featured Ben Stokes' 112 and former captain Cook's 88.

Toby Roland-Jones, who'd removed all of South Africa's top four in a sensational debut display on Friday, had Bavuma caught behind to end the innings.

Middlesex seamer Roland-Jones finished with figures of five for 57 in 16.4 overs.

In the process he became just the sixth England cricketer, and first since Graham Onions in 2009, to take five or more wickets in a debut Test bowling innings.

South Africa resumed on 126 for eight, still 28 runs shy of avoiding the follow-on.

Bavuma was 34 not out and Mome Morkel unbeaten on two, with this four-match series in the balance at 1-1 and the continued overcast conditions again favouring the faster bowlers.

South Africa were bolstered by knowing Philander had been passed fit after a night on a hospital drip that followed a second day's play from which the all-rounder was largely absent.

The diminutive Bavuma had a reprieve on 40 when an edged drive off Stuart Broad flew low to gully where a diving Stokes could not hold what would have been a stunning catch.

Bavuma subsequently ensured South Africa avoided the follow-on by driving a Broad half-volley through the covers for four.

And he then produced an even better cover-driven four off James Anderson,



England's Toby Roland-Jones bowls during play on Day 3 of the third Test match between England and South Africa at The Oval cricket ground in London on July 29. (AFP)

England vs South Africa Scoreboard

LONDON, July 29, (AFP): Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the third Test between England and South Africa at The Oval on Saturday:

ENGLAND 1st Innings 353 (B Stokes 112, A Cook 88; M Morkel 3-70, K Rabada 3-85)
SOUTH AFRICA 1st Innings (overnight: 126-8)
 D. Elgar c Bairstow b Roland-Jones 8
 H. Kuhn lbw b Roland-Jones 15
 H. Amla c Bairstow b Roland-Jones 6
 Q. de Kock c Stokes b Roland-Jones 17
 F. du Plessis lbw b Anderson 1
 Bavuma c Bairstow b Roland-Jones ... 52
 C. Morris c and b Anderson 2
 K. Maharaj c Cook b Stokes 5
 K. Rabada b Broad 30
 M. Morkel c Cook b Anderson 17
 V. Philander not out 10
 Extras (b4, lb5, nb3) 12
 Total (all out, 58.4 overs, 277 mins) ...175
 Fall of wickets: 1-18 (Elgar), 2-23 (Kuhn), 3-30 (Amla), 4-47 (De Kock), 5-47 (Du Plessis), 6-51 (Morris), 7-61 (Maharaj), 8-114 (Rabada), 9-161 (Morkel), 10-

175 (Bavuma)
 Bowling: Anderson 13-6-25-3; Broad 15-5-44-1 (1nb); Roland-Jones 16.4-57-5; Stokes 7-1-26-1 (2nb); Root 2-0-5-0; Ali 5-1-9-0
ENGLAND 2nd Innings
 A. Cook b Morkel 7
 K. Jennings not out 34
 T. Westley not out 28
 Extras (lb5) 5
 Total (1 wkt, 21.2 overs, 95 mins) ...74
 To bat: J Root, D Malan, B Stokes, J Bairstow, M Ali, T Roland-Jones, S Broad, J Anderson
 Fall of wickets: 1-30 (Cook)
 Bowling: Morkel 9-3-20-1; Philander 6-0-30-0; Rabada 4.2-3-9-0; Morris 2-0-10-0
 Match position: England lead by 252 runs with nine wickets standing
 Toss: England
 Umpires: Aleem Dar (PAK), Joel Wilson (WIS)
 TV umpire: Kumar Dharmasena (SRI)
 Match referee: Ranjan Madugalle (SRI)

with England's record Test wicket-taker hit on the up.

But a valuable ninth-wicket partnership of 47 ended when Morkel (17) nicked Anderson to Cook at first slip.

Bavuma's edge to the third man boundary off Roland-Jones saw him complete a hard-earned fifty off 111 balls, including eight fours.

The worth of his more than three-hour innings was acknowledged by South Africa captain Faf du Plessis, who led the applause from the dressing room balcony.

But Bavuma was out soon afterwards, edging a good length Roland-Jones ball to wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow.

England lost Cook shortly after lunch when he was bowled by an excellent delivery from fast bowler Morkel for just seven.

Westley, a longstanding team-mate of Cook at county side Essex, twice drove Philander for four and coverdrove Morkel for another boundary as he followed his first-innings 25 with another promising effort.

Left-hander Jennings, who again risked bringing the slips into play by several times defending with an angled bat, was on 33 when given out lbw to fast bowler Kagiso Rabada.

But his review of umpire Joel Wilson's decision showed the ball had pitched just outside the leg stump.

Stadium stampede kills 2 in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG, July 29, (AFP): Two people were killed in a crush during a football match Saturday at the South African stadium that hosted the 2010 World Cup final, local media and an official said.

The incident occurred at a pre-season derby between Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates, the country's most popular teams, both from Soweto.

Public and private broadcasters cited officials saying the crush took place outside a gate at the FNB stadium which hosted the final of the football

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extravaganza seven years ago. Emergency services were not immediately reachable for comment, but Michael Sun, a Johannesburg municipal councillor responsible for public safety confirmed the deaths in a tweet.

"Situation report from FNB Soweto Derby? Stampede reported with multiple injuries, 2 confirmed fatal," wrote Sun on Twitter.

The match carried on despite the tragedy at the stadium which has an official capacity of 94,000 and was won 1-0 by Chiefs.

The two worst football tragedies in South Africa involved matches between the same clubs — in 2001 when 43 people were killed, and in 1991, when the death toll was 42.

Milutin "Micho" Sredojevic resigned as Uganda coach on Saturday, six months after leading the team to the Africa Cup of Nations for the first time in 38 years.

The 47-year-old Serbian confirmed he was terminating his contract with the Cranes in a row over unpaid salary allowances totalling 216 million shillings (\$64,000).

"I have been patient and working under very difficult conditions. Today I have resigned because I and FUFA (Federation of Uganda Football Association) have stretched limits," Sredojevic told AFP on Saturday.

FUFA president Moses Mago confirmed the departure of the Serbian coach after four years in charge of the national team.