

Ali and Shafique help Pak reach 109-0 at stumps

Pakistan close in on victory in 1st Test with Bangladesh

CHATTOGRAM, Bangladesh, Nov. 29, (AP) — Fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi claimed 5-32 as Pakistan closed in on victory in the first cricket test against Bangladesh on Monday.

Afridi's fourth five-wicket haul in tests wrapped up Bangladesh's second innings for 157 on Day 4, setting Pakistan a 202-run target to win.

Opens Abid Ali and Abdullah Shafique then helped Pakistan reach 109-0 at stumps, leaving the team needing 93 more runs on the final day.

CRICKET

Ali, who scored 133 in the first innings, was on 56 and debutant Shafique was unbeaten on 53 when bad light ended play early for the fourth consecutive day.

Bangladesh had a 44-run first-innings lead after posting 330 and then bowling Pakistan out for 286.

"We just had a terrible last session yesterday which put us under a lot of pressure in the game," Bangladesh coach Russell Domingo said.



Sri Lankan batsman Pathum Nissanka plays a shot during the day one of the second Test cricket match between Sri Lanka and West Indies in Galle, Sri Lanka, on Nov. 29. (AP)

"They (Pakistan) need another 93 runs, so it will need something really special. Anything is possible in test cricket. We have to come tomorrow morning believing we still have a chance. If we can pick up one or two

wickets in the first half an hour, anything is possible."

Ali and Shafique brought up their second consecutive century partnership in the match, frustrating Bangladesh bowlers for one-and-a-half ses-

Nissanka hits unbeaten 61 as Sri Lanka close Day 1 at 113-1

GALLE, Sri Lanka, Nov. 29, (AP) — Opening batsman Pathum Nissanka scored an unbeaten 61 to get Sri Lanka off to a good start Monday on the first day of the second test against the West Indies as the hosts reached 113-1 at stumps.

Play was suspended because of bad light in the 35th over.

Nissanka, who completed his third test half century, and captain Dimuth Karunaratne shared 106 runs for the first wicket.

Karunaratne, who scored 147 and 83 in the first test, looked

rusty in his 90-ball 42 before being caught and bowled by offspinner Roston Chase. Karunaratne hit six boundaries.

CRICKET

Nissanka looked more fluent as his runs came off 109 deliveries. He hit a six and four boundaries. The pitch in Galle had spin and bounce on the first day but the three West Indies spinners failed to take full advantage. Chase finished the day with 1-33.

Sri Lanka dropped fast bowler Dushmantha Chameera to give batsman Charith Asalanka his first test match on his home ground.

The West Indies made two changes from the first match, dropping fast bowler Shanon Gabriel for Kemar Roach while left-arm spinner Veerasammy Permaul was recalled after more than five years and took the place of off-spinner Rakheem Cornwall.

Sri Lanka won the first test at the same venue by 187 runs and the West Indies need to win the second to draw the two-match series.

sions. Ali completed his third half-century off 92 balls, flicking left-arm spinner Tajjul Islam for three runs.

Shafique joined him in reaching his fifty in the next-to-last over, lofting off-spinner Mehidy Hasan for the lone six of the innings, over deep mid-wicket.

"We planned to have a good start to the chase and we are successful,"

Shafique said. "We are now on course of a victory but we should still play well because the fifth day morning session could be tricky one."

Earlier, Liton Das, who hit 114 in the first innings, battled with little assistance from his Bangladesh teammates in making 59 off 89 balls.

Debutant Yasir Ali scored 36 and appeared to steady Bangladesh's innings,

combining with Liton for 47 runs.

But he had to leave the ground after being hit on his helmet by a short-pitch delivery from Afridi.

It ruined the momentum Bangladesh gained after beginning the fourth day on 39-4 and losing experienced batter Mushfiqur Rahim (16) in the first over when he offered no shot against fast bowler Hasan Ali (2-52).

Capitals claw back after losing 2-goal lead to beat Hurricanes

Maple Leafs topple Ducks 5-1



Toronto Maple Leafs' Pierre Engvall, (right), moves the puck under pressure from Anaheim Ducks' Kevin Shattenkirk during the first period of an NHL hockey game, on Nov. 28, in Anaheim, Calif. (AP)

RALEIGH, N.C., Nov. 29, (AP): Dmitry Orlov scored on a power play with 2:55 remaining, and the Washington Capitals recovered after blowing a two-goal lead to beat the Carolina Hurricanes 4-2.

Alex Ovechkin and Aliaksei Protas scored 59 seconds apart in the second period for the Capitals, who've won nine of their last 11 games (9-1-1). John Carlson added an empty-netter after Orlov's goal put Washington ahead to stay.

Jesper Kotkaniemi and Nino Niederreiter scored in the third period for the Hurricanes. Niederreiter's goal, his first since Oct. 28, tied the game at 2-2 with 6:28 remaining.

Ilya Samsonov stopped 30 shots for Washington, while Carolina's Frederik Andersen made 21 saves.

Maple Leafs 5, Ducks 1

In Anaheim, Calif., Michael Bunting, Alexander Kerfoot and William Nylander each had a goal and an assist, and Toronto beat Anaheim to tie a franchise record with its seventh straight road win.

The Maple Leafs also had seven straight road wins in 1940-41, 1960-61 and 2002-03.

Auston Matthews scored for the third consecutive game, Wayne Simmonds had a goal, and Jack Campbell made 39 saves for the Maple Leafs.

Hampus Lindholm scored and John Gibson made 26 saves for the Ducks, who have lost four of five following an eight-game win streak.

Wild 4, Lightning 2

In St. Paul, Minn., Ryan Hartman broke a 2-all tie midway through the third period, and Minnesota beat Tampa Bay.

ICE HOCKEY

Hartman scored for the third straight game and has goals in five of the last six games to give him 12 on the season.

Nick Bjugstad, Victor Rask and Marcus Foligno also scored for Minnesota, which has won three in a row and scored the most goals in the NHL since Nov. 2. Minnesota's Cam Talbot made 28 saves.

Corey Perry scored for the second time in three games for Tampa Bay. Alex Killorn added his first goal in 11 games, tying the game in the second period. Andrei Vasilevskiy stopped 33 shots for the Lightning, which had won three games in a row and six of seven.

Sharks 2, Blackhawks 0

In Chicago, Timo Meier scored on a deflection and added an empty-net goal, James Reimer earned his 42nd career shutout, and San Jose beat Chicago.

The Sharks won for the third time in four starts, all with Reimer in goal. He was only occasionally challenged en route to his first shutout in 22 months, stopping 29 shots.

The loss was the third in five games for Chicago, and dropped the Blackhawks to 6-3-0 since Derek King took over as head coach.

Devils 5, Flyers 2

In Newark, N.J., Andreas Johnson had two goals and two assists, Jesper Bratt had a goal and two assists, and New Jersey beat Philadelphia.

Doug Hamilton had a goal and an assist, and Nathan Bastian also scored for New Jersey. Mackenzie Blackwood made 22 saves for New Jersey, which snapped a two-game losing streak and won at home for the first time since Nov. 11.

Bruins 3, Canucks 2

In Boston, Brad Marchand scored the tying goal on a power play in the third period and set up David Pastrnak's go-ahead score, helping Boston over Vancouver.

Anton Blidh also scored for Boston, and Linus Ullmark made 36 saves. The Bruins won for the fifth time in seven games.



Belenenses' Diogo Calila vies for the ball with Benfica's Alejandro Grimaldo, (right), during the Portuguese Primeira Liga soccer match between Belenenses SAD and SL Benfica, on Nov. 27. (AP)

1 player recently traveled to SA

13 cases of omicron variant in Portuguese soccer team

TOKYO, Nov. 29, (AP) — Portuguese health authorities said Monday they have identified 13 cases of omicron, the new coronavirus variant believed to be more contagious, among team members of a professional soccer club.

The Ricardo Jorge National Health Institute said Monday that one of those who tested positive at the Lisbon-based Belenenses soccer club had recently traveled to South Africa, where the omicron variant was first identified.

The others, however, had not traveled to South Africa, indicating that this may be one of the very first cases of local transmission of the virus outside of southern Africa.

Those who have been in contact with the positive cases have been ordered to isolate, regardless of their vaccination status or their exposure to possible contagion, and will be regularly tested for COVID-19, the institute said.

As cases of a new coronavirus variant are confirmed around the world, Japan announced Monday that it will suspend entry of all foreign visitors, joining an increasing number of countries that are tightening their borders as fear spreads of yet another extension of pandemic suffering.

Japan, which has yet to detect any cases of the recently identified omicron variant, reimposed border controls that it eased earlier this month for short-term business visitors, foreign students and workers.

Despite the global worry, however, scientists cautioned that it's still unclear whether omicron is more dangerous than other versions of a virus that has killed more than 5 million people. Some countries are continuing with previous plans to loosen restrictions, with signs of reopening in Malaysia, Singapore and New Zealand.

"We are taking the step as an emergency precaution to prevent a worst-case scenario in Japan," Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said of the measure that begins Tuesday. Japan has kept its border closed to foreign tourists from all nations.

Kishida urged people to continue wearing masks and pursuing other basic anti-virus measures until further details of the new omicron variant are known.

Kishida, whose predecessor lost his job in part because of disappointment over his handling of the virus, was not alone in choosing an aggressive approach until details of what omicron can do emerge.

Israel decided to bar entry to foreigners, and Morocco said it would suspend all incoming flights for two weeks starting Monday - among the most drastic of the growing raft of travel curbs being imposed by nations around the world as they scrambled to slow the variant's spread. Scientists in several places - from Hong Kong to Europe to North America - confirmed its presence.

On Monday, the Scottish government announced the discovery of six new cases of the omicron variant of coronavirus, taking the U.K. total to nine. It has asked public health authorities to undertake enhanced contact tracing in all cases. Over the weekend, British health authorities found three cases of the variant.

Others to report new cases over the weekend were the Netherlands, which has 13 confirmed cases, while Canada has found two.

In Malaysia, however, officials went ahead with the partial reopening of a bridge connecting it to the island city-state of Singapore. And New Zealand announced it will continue plans to reopen internally after months of shutdown, while also restricting travel from African nations.

The World Health Organization, noting that the variant has already been detected in many countries and that closing borders often has a limited effect, called for frontiers to remain open.

The variant was identified days ago by researchers in South Africa, and much about it is still unclear, including whether it is more contagious, more likely to cause serious illness or more able to evade the protection of vaccines.

Health officials in Australia's Northern Territory announced that the state confirmed its first case of omicron on Monday, a South African man who flew into Darwin last Thursday. Australian Health Minister Greg Hunt said the prime minister is convening the National Security Committee to review actions that could be taken over omicron.

In New South Wales, Premier Dominic Perrotto said Monday there could be a third omicron case in his state. Health authorities there announced Sunday that two travelers returning from South Africa had tested positive. They were asymptomatic and fully vaccinated. Arrivals from nine African countries are now required to quarantine in a hotel upon arrival.

New Zealand has restricted travel from nine southern African countries in response to the omicron threat, but Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said she didn't anticipate any further restrictions.

And omicron hasn't changed New Zealand's plans to ease restrictions in Auckland and move the nation into a new, more open phase of its pandemic response, Ardern said Monday. Bars, restaurants and gyms in Auckland can reopen from late Thursday, ending a coronavirus lockdown that began in August.

"We've come through the past two years of COVID in better shape than nearly anywhere in the world," Ardern said, pointing to low death rates, a growing economy and high vaccination rates.

Malaysians working in Singapore held joyful reunions with loved ones after returning to their homeland following the partial reopening of a land border that was shuttered for nearly two years because of the pandemic.

Buses ferried fully vaccinated passengers across the Causeway Bridge that connects the island of Singapore with the Malaysian peninsula. Strict measures included pre-departure and on-arrival COVID-19 tests.

Malaysia's health minister tweeted that a COVID-19 case was detected during a screening, but didn't elaborate. The causeway was one of the world's busiest land borders before the pandemic struck. Air travel also reopened with fewer restrictions, allowing anyone who is fully vaccinated to travel quarantine-free between the two countries.

NHL Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29, (AP) — Results and standings from the NHL games on Sunday.

Washington	4	Carolina	2	New Jersey	5	Philadelphia	2
Minnesota	4	Tampa Bay	2	Boston	3	Vancouver	2
San Jose	2	Chicago	0	Toronto	3	Anaheim	1

Eastern Conference							Western Conference								
Atlantic Division							Central Division								
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Toronto	23	16	6	1	33	69	49	Minnesota	21	14	6	1	29	78	64
Florida	21	14	4	3	31	77	56	St. Louis	21	11	7	3	25	71	59
Tampa Bay	20	12	5	3	27	64	56	Winnipeg	21	10	7	4	24	60	60
Detroit	22	10	9	3	23	61	71	Colorado	18	11	6	1	23	73	56
Boston	18	11	7	0	22	56	51	Nashville	21	11	9	1	23	58	63
Buffalo	21	8	10	3	19	60	70	Dallas	19	10	7	2	22	53	55
Montreal	23	6	15	2	14	54	83	Chicago	21	7	12	2	16	45	87
Ottawa	19	4	14	1	9	46	73	Arizona	21	4	15	2	10	39	77
Metropolitan Division							Pacific Division								
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Washington	22	14	3	5	33	78	52	Edmonton	20	15	5	0	30	77	59
Carolina	20	15	4	1	31	66	43	Calgary	21	12	4	5	29	70	42
NY Rangers	20	13	4	3	29	60	54	Anaheim	22	11	8	3	25	70	64
Columbus	19	12	7	0	24	67	59	Vegas	21	12	9	0	24	66	64
Pittsburgh	21	10	7	4	24	62	59	San Jose	21	11	9	1	23	55	58
New Jersey	19	9	6	4	22	57	58	Los Angeles	20	9	8	3	21	53	54
Philadelphia	20	8	8	2	20	49	61	Seattle	21	7	13	1	15	58	73
NY Islanders	17	5	10	2	12	32	52	Vancouver	22	6	14	2	14	51	73

Note: Two points for a win one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Atlético get back near top in Spanish league

Junior gives Madrid 2-1 win over Sevilla

MADRID, Nov. 29, (AP) — Vinicius Junior ran to the corner and performed some samba moves by the flag before his teammates rushed in to embrace him.

The young Brazilian forward had just scored another decisive goal for Real Madrid. His beautiful late strike sealed a 2-1 come-from-behind win over Sevilla in a match between two of the best teams in Spain at the moment.

Vinicius Junior neatly controlled the ball with his chest by the sideline before making a run past a couple of defenders. He fired a well-placed shot into the top corner from outside the area for an 87th-minute winner which delighted Madrid fans at the Santiago Bernabé Stadium.

SOCCER

It was the second goal in the last three matches for Vinicius Junior, and the 11th in total in what has been his best season by far since joining Madrid. He has already scored more goals now than in his previous three seasons in total.

Karim Benzema, another red-hot player for Madrid, also scored to give the league leaders a four-point advantage at the top over defending champion Atlético Madrid, which won 4-1 at Cádiz. Real Sociedad dropped to third after losing 1-0 at Espanyol, while Sevilla stayed

fourth, five points off the lead.

Sevilla, which had been unbeaten in six consecutive league games, opened the scoring with a header by Rafa Mir in the 12th. Benzema equalized from close range after a blunder by Sevilla goalkeeper Bono in the 32nd.

Madrid goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois came up with a big save in stoppage time to guarantee the win for the hosts and keep Sevilla winless on the road against Madrid since 2008.

Atlético got the goals flowing in the second half, with Antoine Griezmann among the scorers in the win at Cádiz.

Thomas Lemar, Ángel Correa and Matheus Cunha also scored after half-



Real Madrid's Vinicius Junior (right), fights for the ball with Sevilla's Gonzalo Montiel (left), during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and Sevilla at the Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid, Spain, on Nov. 28. (AP)

time for Atlético as it rebounded from a surprising home loss to AC Milan that left it in danger of elimination from the Champions League.

Diego Simeone's team had won only one of its last four matches in all competitions.

After a slow start, Atlético secured the three points by scoring three goals in a 20-minute span.

Lemar broke the deadlock in the 56th, then Griezmann scored in the 70th and Correa in the 76th. Cunha added a fourth in the 86th, after Cádiz had pulled one closer in a rare own-goal by Atlético goalkeeper Jan Oblak, who couldn't swat away a high lob shot that went across the area and over his head.

It was the second consecutive loss for Cádiz, which has won only once in its last 10 league matches. It's 17th in the league, just outside the relegation zone.

After having its 17-match unbeaten streak ended by Monaco in the Europa League on Thursday, Real Sociedad lost at Espanyol.

The result dropped Sociedad to third place, one point off the lead.

Yangel Herrera scored in the 77th for Espanyol, which moved to ninth place.

Sociedad had a controversial second-half goal by Alexander Isak disallowed because the ball touched the referee in the buildup.