

## Sports

# Kohli's third straight ton in vain as West Indies level series

## Fourth ODI will be played in Mumbai tomorrow

**MUMBAI:** India captain Virat Kohli struck his third consecutive hundred but it was not enough as West Indies defeated the hosts by 43 runs in the third one-day international yesterday to square the five-match series at 1-1.

Milestone man Kohli, who became the fastest batsman to reach 10,000 ODI runs during Wednesday's tied match at Visakhapatnam, compiled 107 to bring up his 38th century in the format but his dismissal ended India's hopes of chasing down 284 for victory.

Part-time off-spinner Marlon Samuels emerged as wrecker-in-chief for the Caribbean side, picking up his best ODI bowling figures of three for 12 as India were all out for 240 in the 48th over.

West Indies batsman Shai Hope, who, like Kohli, also bats at number three, continued his rich vein of form, following up his unbeaten 123 in the last match with 95 to anchor the innings and help his side to 283 for nine after being asked to bat first.

With Kohli in irrepressible form, India appeared to be comfortably placed at 172 for three after 31 overs but lost their way with the quick wickets of Rishabh Pant, who made 24 off 18 balls, and Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

Kohli still looked like a man on a mission-evident from his muted celebration after reaching his hundred-but once he got castled in Samuels' first over, the fate of the match was sealed. The right-handed batsman, who will turn 30 next month, hit 10 fours and one six in his 119-ball knock.

Earlier, Jasprit Bumrah - one of the three fast bowlers the hosts drafted in for the match - was the pick of the Indian attack with four for 35, and his early strikes threw the West Indies' innings into disarray.

Opener Chandrapaul Hemraj fell to a sensational catch by India's 37-year-old wicketkeeper Dhoni, who ran towards the fine-leg boundary and completed a full-length diving catch after the batsman had miscued a pull shot off Bumrah.

Rohit Sharma then took a sharp catch at first slip to send back the other opener, Kieran Powell, and once fast bowler Khaleel Ahmed dismissed Samuels cheaply, West Indies were reduced to 55 for three.

Hope, who hit six fours and three sixes in his 113-ball knock, and the swashbuckling Shimron Hetmyer (37) then added a quickfire 56 before Dhoni completed a smart stumping to dismiss the latter off-spinner Kuldeep Yadav.

Hetmyer hit two fours and three sixes in his 21-ball knock after scores of 106 and 94 in the two previous ODIs. Bumrah produced a superb inswinging yorker to dismiss Hope, reducing West Indies to 227-8 and boosting India's hopes of restricting their opponents to a modest total.

But the West Indies were boosted by tailenders Ashley Nurse and Kemar Roach, who added another 56 runs off 36 balls to take their side past 280. Nurse hit four boundaries and two sixes in his 22-ball 40 before becoming Bumrah's fourth victim. The penultimate ODI will be played in Mumbai tomorrow. —Reuters



**PUNE:** West Indies cricketer Shai Hope (R) plays a shot as India wicketkeeper Mahendra Singh Dhoni watch during the third one day international (ODI) cricket match between India and West Indies at the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Pune yesterday. — AFP

## Durant leads Warriors' rally past Knicks

**NEW YORK:** Kevin Durant scored 25 of his game-high 41 points in the fourth quarter Friday night as the Golden State Warriors ended the game on a 42-9 run to complete a furious rally to beat the host New York Knicks, 128-100. The two-time defending NBA champion Warriors have won five of six to open the season. Stephen Curry scored 29 points for Golden State while Draymond Green (18 points) and Klay Thompson (12 points) also scored in double digits. The Knicks have lost five straight since a season-opening win, though they have fallen to contenders such as Golden State, the Boston Celtics and Milwaukee Bucks. Tim Hardaway Jr. led New York with 24 points while Frank Ntilikina had 17 points, Trey Burke added 15 points, and Dmyean Dotson finished with 12 points.



**NEW YORK:** Dmyean Dotson #21 of the New York Knicks shoots the ball against the Golden State Warriors on Friday at Madison Square Garden in New York City, New York. — AFP

points on 2-of-11 shooting for Minnesota, which was booed off the court at halftime after its poor play over the first 24 minutes.

### RAPTORS 116, MAVERICKS 107

Kyle Lowry had 20 points and 12 assists to record his fourth straight double-double as Toronto defeated visiting Dallas on Friday night. Kawhi Leonard scored 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds for the Raptors, who have won their first six games of the season for the first time in franchise history. They won their first five to open the 2015-16 season. The Raptors also have won their first five home games of the season to match the club record previously accomplished in 2014-15 and 2003-04.

### CLIPPERS 133, ROCKETS 113

Montrezl Harrell scored a career-high 30 points. Lou Williams chipped in 23 and visiting Los Angeles rolled to a lopsided win over Houston. The Clippers, whose lackluster start offensively was covered by their stellar defense, thrived on offense against the injury-depleted Rockets, who were without starters James Harden and James Ennis and remained winless at home. Houston welcomed back guard Chris Paul from suspension, but he shot 3 for 13 and had five turnovers while scoring

12 points in 34 minutes.

### HORNETS 135, BULLS 106

Kemba Walker scored 30 points, all in the first three quarters, and Charlotte salvaged a split of a home-and-home set against visiting Chicago. The Hornets had eight players score in double figures. Michael Kidd-Gilchrist scored 15 with eight rebounds; Miles Bridges scored 15; Cody Zeller scored 14; and Nic Batum, Jeremy Lamb and Malik Monk scored 10 each. Zach LaVine led the Bulls with 20 points. The Bulls also got 19 points from Jabari Parker, 15 from Cameron Payne and 13 from Antonio Blakeney.

### KINGS 116, WIZARDS 112

Buddy Hield scored seven of his 22 points in the final 6:18, and host Sacramento took advantage of three late Washington turnovers to hold on for a second straight victory. Hield made three of four free throws in the final 19.6 seconds, De'Aaron Fox one of two with 2.4 seconds left and Nemanja Bjelica a pair with 1.8 seconds to go. Bjelica led the Kings with 26 points and added 12 rebounds. John Wall, whose 3-pointer with 3.2 seconds remaining gave Washington a chance, led the Wizards with 26 points. Washington lost its fourth of five games. — Reuters

But the Red Sox hit back when Jackie Bradley Jr homered off Dodgers closer Kenley Jansen at the top of the eighth inning to level at 1-1. The Red Sox were denied a 2-1 lead in the 10th inning by a stunning double play from Cody Bellinger, the Dodgers outfielder launching a bomb from long-range that found catcher Austin Barnes at home plate who tagged out Ian Kinsler. The Red Sox then took the lead in the 13th inning when a fielding blunder involving Dodgers reliever Scott Alexander and Mike Hernandez allowed Brock Holt to scamper home for a 2-1 lead.

The Dodgers appeared to be sliding to defeat but were then gifted a tying run in the bottom of the 13th with another fielding gaffe. Down to their final out, Cuban slugger Yasiel Puig hit a simple ground ball to Red Sox veteran Kinsler, but the second baseman chucked wildly past first base allowing Muncy to race over for the tying run at 2-2. From that point on it became a question of who would blink first. Eovaldi did brilliantly to shut down the Dodgers in the late innings, while the Dodgers Kenta Maeda survived a jam in the 15th when the Red Sox got two men on base but were unable to score.

The stadium erupted in the 15th when Muncy missed a home run by just a few feet in far right field as it drifted into foul territory. As the clock turned midnight, the crowd cheered wildly as the game neared the 20-inning mark. —AFP

## Muncy homer as Dodgers down Red Sox in marathon

**LOS ANGELES:** Max Muncy blasted an 18th inning walkoff home run as the Los Angeles Dodgers snatched a 3-2 victory over the Boston Red Sox in the longest game in World Series history. A record-shattering game three that began on Friday afternoon at 5:09pm local time finished 7hrs 20 minutes later in the early hours of yesterday morning with the Dodgers claiming a victory that cut Boston's lead in the best-of-seven series to 2-1.

The game was the longest in the 115-year history of the World Series, comfortably surpassing the 14-inning, 5hr 41min battle between the Houston Astros and Chicago White Sox in 2005. The marathon duel was also the longest postseason game in Major League Baseball history. "Had our backs against the wall many times, and for us to persevere, it wasn't how we scripted it but it was a big win for us," Dodgers manager Dave

## NBK sponsors battle of the East Fitness Festival

**KUWAIT:** National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) is the golden sponsor of Battle of the East Fitness Festival. The festival takes place on the 2nd and 3rd of November at the Green Island-Gulf road.

The sponsorship comes in line with NBK's commitment to support youths' health. This sponsorship aims to spread physical awareness and attract youth to participate in sporting events.

NBK Public Relations Assistant General Manager, Manal Al Mattar, said: "NBK's sponsorship to this sports event comes in line with the bank's customary and ongoing spirit of corporate citizenship as well as the vital role it plays in supporting youth and their health. NBK always strives to empower youth to realize their potentials, providing different supportive opportunities".

"NBK's booth will host games and various sports challenges and will reward winners with valuable prizes", she added. "The purpose of this event is to increase fitness awareness for all Kuwait citizens. This event sheds light on the potential of youth in regards to fitness and sport awareness".

The Battle of the East Fitness Festival will include sports challenges that will attract more than 1500 spectators and more than 600 pro-



Manal Al Mattar

fessional athletes. The competitions in this festival comprised a range of physical challenges that depend on the strength, flexibility and endurance. All of which contribute to raise the spirit of positive competition among student circles.

NBK has always considered supporting youth an essential part of its social and philanthropic outreach which comes in line with the bank's commitment to encourage a merit-based system in health, education and environment that promotes the best and the brightest the country has to offer.

## Paine axed, Finch named Australia's ODI skipper

**SYDNEY:** Aaron Finch was named Australia's new one-day captain yesterday ahead of their upcoming series against South Africa, with Test skipper Tim Paine and his deputy Mitch Marsh axed. The explosive batsman is already in charge of the Twenty20 team and takes over from Paine who averaged just 7.2 in Australia's 5-0 ODI series rout by England in June.

Spin veteran Nathan Lyon was another notable omission, although Shaun Marsh kept his place despite a dire recent Test series against Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates. Alex Carey and Josh Hazlewood were appointed joint vice-captains in a 14-man squad that sees the return of fast bowlers Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins.

"It's very exciting. I'm very humbled, very honoured to lead the side and lead Australia," Finch said, welcoming having a bowler as his deputy. "I think it's really important to have the voice of the bowlers there as well... a lot of the time batters are in leadership roles and bowlers are neglected in terms of that and it's almost an 'us versus them' at times."

National selector Trevor Hohns said the leadership decisions were based on presentations the players made, their vision for Australian cricket and their actions on and off the field. "We expect

Aaron, Josh and Alex to lead the side through a big Australian summer... they'll also be driving our standards and values as we prepare our defence of the World Cup, which is only seven months away," he said. "We believe the squad we have selected will give us a great opportunity to not only be competitive at home this summer, but it also allows us to start to build continuity leading into next year's tournament."

Finch, Marsh, Travis Head and Glenn Maxwell spearhead the batting while big-hitting Chris Lynn has been recalled, with Carey taking over the wicketkeeping duties from Paine. "Alex Carey will pull on the gloves full-time to allow Tim Paine to focus purely on captaining the Test team, which includes preparing for next year's Ashes," said Hohns in explaining why Paine was dropped.

"Alex provides us with another strong batting option, as he displayed in last year's Big Bash, and he's a wonderful young leader to have around the group and out in the field." Two spin bowlers were included in the absence of Lyon-Ashton Agar and Adam Zampa.

Despite Lyon and Mitch Marsh being dropped, Hohns suggested the door was not shut for their return leading into the World Cup next year. "We have made the decision to manage Mitch Marsh and Nathan Lyon carefully to ensure they are in the best condition possible to put their hand up for selection either later in the summer or for the World Cup next year," he said. "No doubt with a big summer program ahead opportunities may well present themselves for Andrew (Tye), Mitch and Nathan, as well as others not included in this squad." Australia play three one-dayers against South Africa starting in Perth on November 4. — AFP