

## FIRST PAKISTAN TEST STILL ON AFTER NEW ZEALAND QUAKE

**WELLINGTON:** The first test between New Zealand and Pakistan is scheduled to go ahead this week after engineers checked the safety of the Christchurch cricket venue following a massive earthquake that rattled the centre of the country early yesterday.

The powerful 7.8 magnitude earthquake pummeled central New Zealand's South Island, killing at least two people, damaging roads and buildings and set-

ting off hundreds of strong aftershocks.

It was felt strongly in Christchurch, South Island's largest city, which was hit by a 6.3 quake in 2011 that killed 185 people. New Zealand Cricket officials told reporters in Christchurch yesterday the match would go ahead. Both teams arrived in the city on Monday, with the Pakistan side arriving from Nelson, where they felt the tremors.

"It was pretty scary, it really was,"

Pakistan coach Mickey Arthur told TVNZ. "We were on the seventh floor of the hotel and it was pretty scary."

"The boys all raced down stairs and most of the guys slept in the team room last night. They were a bit scared to go back up to their rooms."

New Zealand bowler Matt Henry, who lives in Christchurch, added he had been woken by the initial quake, which struck shortly after midnight yesterday.

"I was just laying in bed and woke up to quite a long rumble, so a bit scary," Henry told reporters.

"They are obviously a bit hard to get used to. You kind of sit there waiting to see if you need to react or if you can sit tight. It was quite a long rumble this one." With parts of north Canterbury and around the tourist town of Kaikoura devastated, Henry said he hoped the test would help bring people together.

"I think (cricket) always brings a community together," Henry said. "For a brief moment, you can get back to a bit of normality. It's probably good timing to have the test match this week and it will be a really good occasion."

Henry said his team mates would be conscious of safety concerns at their hotel in Christchurch. "I'm sure a lot of them will want to stay on the lower levels," he added. — Reuters

## LUCK DESERTS WARNER AS PROTEAS MAINTAIN GRIP

**HOBART:** Luck deserted Australia in their desperate bid to salvage the second Test with South Africa snaring the vital wicket of David Warner in unfortunate circumstances in Hobart yesterday.

Warner, who was seeking redemption after his reckless dismissal in the opening over of the first innings, lost his wicket while at the forefront of Australia's fight-back. At stumps on the third day the home side were 121 for two, still 120 runs behind the Proteas, who have been in control of the Test since routing Australia for 85 on Saturday.

Usman Khawaja was unbeaten on 56, his ninth Test half-century, with skipper Steve Smith not out 18. Warner flung his head back in despair when a ball from Kyle Abbott hit his hip and ricocheted off an elbow onto his stumps when he was on 45. It gave the Proteas a huge fillip after Warner and Khawaja had recovered the innings with a 79-run stand after the loss of Joe Burns in the first over.

Burns lasted just four balls before he was caught behind, tickling at one wide down the leg-side from Abbott.

"We've done well with the bat, two unlucky dismissals, but that happens in cricket and the boys have shown some good fight, digging in even though the ball is nipping around a fair bit," Australian pacesman Josh Hazlewood said. "A really good partnership in the morning, a good first hour and that will go a long way to having a good day tomorrow."

Khawaja played some lovely shots in his vigil, providing great support for his captain Smith, who top scored with an unbeaten 48 in the first innings shambles. Australia face a mighty struggle to prevent South Africa, already 1-0 up,

from claiming their third successive series in Australia with only next week's day-night third Test in Adelaide still to play. South Africa earlier extended their first innings lead to 241 before they were all out for 326 with Quinton de Kock plundering a century and Hazlewood finishing with six for 89.

After Sunday's second day was washed out, the Australians chased early wickets but de Kock and Bavuma batted South Africa into a position of strength with a century stand.

The swashbuckling wicketkeeper, likened to Australian Test great Adam Gilchrist, was bowled by Hazlewood just before lunch for 104 off 143 balls with 17 boundaries.

His stand of 144 with Bavuma was the highest by a visiting team in Hobart for the sixth wicket.

"Obviously, I'm happy with what we've done and what we've achieved, but the game has only gone past halfway and we still have a lot to do," de Kock said.

"The Aussies looked very determined in their second innings so we have a lot to play for."

De Kock has scored 540 runs in 2016 in just nine Test innings and leads the year's international averages with 80 having been unbeaten twice.

He became only the fourth South African to register 50 or more in five consecutive Tests after he swept spinner Nathan Lyon for four over wide mid-on. Shortly after lunch, Tembo Bavuma was surprised by a rearing delivery to spoon an easy catch to Nathan Lyon at point and give Joe Mennie his first Test wicket for 74. Vernon Philander was the last man out for 32 off 28 balls, caught behind off Hazlewood. — AFP



**HARARE:** Zimbabwe bowler Tinashe Panyangara is in action during the opening match of an ODI series Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe in Harare, yesterday. — AFP

## S LANKA THRASH ZIMBABWE BY EIGHT WICKETS IN ODI

**HARARE:** A change of format could not bring a change in fortunes for Zimbabwe, as Sri Lanka thrashed them by eight wickets in the first match of a one-day international triangular series at Harare Sports Club yesterday.

Four days after Sri Lanka sealed a 2-0 Test series sweep, the tourists bowled Zimbabwe out for 154 before chasing their target inside 25 overs to claim a bonus-point victory.

As with the Test matches, Zimbabwe suffered from the fragility of their top order, falling to 14 for three in the first five overs. However, this time around they could at least point to some challenging conditions - Harare experienced heavy rain over the weekend, and cloudy skies on yesterday morning gave Sri Lanka's seamers plenty to work with. "In losing the toss we knew it was going to be tough, but there were too many soft wickets," said Zimbabwe captain Graeme Cremer. "This was not a 150 type of wicket."

The collapse began in just the fourth over, when Suranga Lakmal had both Brian Chari and Craig Ervine caught at second slip in the space of three deliveries, and in the next over Sikandar Raza Butt's careless leg-side flick off Nuwan Kulasekara found mid-wicket.

Sean Williams was then bamboozled by Sachith Pathirana's left-arm spin and was stumped by Niroshan Dickwella, before Nuwan Pradeep dismissed Chamu Chibhabha and Elton Chigumbura in successive overs to leave Zimbabwe 50 for six in the 18th over.

As in the Test series, it was left to Zimbabwe's lower order to repair the damage. Wicketkeeper-batsman Peter Moor struck a polished 47 and added 55 for the seventh wicket with Graeme Cremer, and once Moor was trapped lbw by Nuwan Kulasekara, Cremer marshalled the tail to good effect. The Zimbabwe captain put on 31 for the eighth wicket with Donald Tiripano, who made 19, and was left stranded on 31 not out when No. 11 Tinashe Panyangara attempted one big shot too many. Panyangara sliced a delivery off Asela Gunaratne to cover to give the allrounder figures of 3 for 21 in 6.3 overs, while Kulasekara, Lakmal and Pradeep finished with two wickets apiece as Zimbabwe were bowled out in 41.3 overs.

"Everyone did really well," said Sri Lanka captain Upul Tharanga. "The bowlers stuck to the plan and bowled in the right areas. They knew the wicket would do something."

With Dhananjaya de Silva and Kusal Perera putting on 56 for the first wicket, the result was never in doubt.

Although Perera was well caught at deep square leg by Sikandar Raza for 21 and Niroshan Dickwella fell for 41 with the target in sight, De Silva finished unbeaten on 78 as Sri Lanka romped home in 24.3 overs.

The triangular series also includes the West Indies, who will take on Sri Lanka at the same venue tomorrow. — AFP

### SCOREBOARD

**HARARE:** Scoreboard in the first one-day international between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka on yesterday.

Zimbabwe	Bowling	Sri Lanka
B. Chari c Mendi b Lakmal 7	Kulasekara 8-2-23-2, Lakmal 7-0-19-2, Pathirana 10-0-44-1, Pradeep 7-1-21-2, Jayasuriya 3-0-24-0, Gunaratne 6.3-1-21-3.	D. de Silva not out 78
C. Chibhabha lbw b Pradeep 18		K. Perera c Sikandar Raza b Chibhabha 21
C. Ervine c Mendis b Lakmal 0		N. Dickwella c Mumba b Panyangara 41
Sikandar Raza c Pathirana b Kulasekara 1		K. Mendis not out 12
S. Williams st Dickwella b Pathirana 9		Extras (2lb, 1nb) 3
P. Moor lbw b Kulasekara 47		Total (2 wkts, 24.3 overs) 155
E. Chigumbura c Dickwella b Pradeep 1		Fall of wickets: 1-56 (Perera), 2-140 (Dickwella).
G. Cremer not out 31		Did not bat: U. Tharanga, S. Jayasuriya, A. Gunaratne, S. Pathirana, N. Kulasekara, S. Lakmal, N. Pradeep.
D. Tiripano c Kulasekara b Gunaratne 19		Bowling: Panyangara 7.3-0-37-1, Mumba 4-0-31-0, Tiripano 3-0-17-0, Chibhabha 2-0-18-1, Sikandar Raza 3-0-25-0, Cremer 5-0-25-0.
C. Mumba lbw b Gunaratne 1		Result: Sri Lanka won by 8 wickets.
T. Panyangara c Jayasuriya b Gunaratne 12		
Extras (2lb, 6w) 8		
Total (all out, 41.3 overs) 154		
Fall of wickets: 1-13 (Chari), 2-13 (Ervine), 3-14 (Sikandar Raza), 4-29 (Williams), 5-46 (Chibhabha), 6-50 (Chigumbura), 7-105 (Moor), 8-136 (Tiripano), 9-139 (Mumba), 10-154 (Panyangara).		



**HOBART:** Australia's batsman Steven Smith plays a shot on the third day's play of the second Test cricket match between Australia and South Africa in Hobart yesterday. — AFP

### SCOREBOARD

**HOBART, Australia:** Scoreboard at stumps yesterday after the third day of the second cricket test between Australia and South Africa at Bellerive Oval.

Australia 1st Innings: 85	Hazlewood 30.5-10-89-6, Joe Mennie 28-5-85-1, Nathan Lyon 17-2-57-0, Steve Smith 1-0-5-0.
Stephen Cook c Nevill b Starc 23	
Dean Elgar lbw b Starc 17	
Hashim Amla c Nevill b Hazlewood 47	
J.P. Duminy c Smith b Starc 1	
Faf du Plessis lbw b Hazlewood 7	
Temba Bavuma c Lyon b Mennie 74	
Quinton de Kock b Hazlewood 104	
Vernon Philander c Nevill b Hazlewood 32	
Keshav Maharaj b Hazlewood 1	
Kyle Abbott lbw b Hazlewood 3	
Kagiso Rabada not out 5	
Extras: (3b, 8lb, 1nb) 12	
TOTAL: (all out) 326	
Overs: 100.5. Batting time: 425 minutes.	
Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-44, 3-46, 4-76, 5-132, 6-276, 7-292, 8-293, 9-297, 10-326.	
Bowling: Mitch Starc 24-1-79-3 (1nb), Josh Hazlewood 30.5-10-89-6, Joe Mennie 28-5-85-1, Nathan Lyon 17-2-57-0, Steve Smith 1-0-5-0.	
<b>Australia, 2nd Innings</b>	
Joe Burns c de Kock b Abbott 0	
David Warner b Abbott 45	
Usman Khawaja not out 56	
Steve Smith not out 18	
Extras: (1lb, 1nb) 2	
TOTAL: (for 2 wickets) 121.	
Overs: 36. Batting time: 156 minutes.	
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-79.	
Still to bat: Adam Voges, Callum Ferguson, Peter Nevill, Joe Mennie, Mitch Starc, Josh Hazlewood, Nathan Lyon.	
Bowling: Kyle Abbott 14-1-55-2, Vernon Philander 9-1-28-0 (1nb), J.P. Duminy 1-0-8-0, Kagiso Rabada 9-2-19-0, Keshav Maharaj 3-0-10-0.	
Series: South Africa leads 1-0.	

## NEW DAD COOK'S RUNS EASE PAIN OF BEING AWAY

**NEW DELHI:** England skipper Alastair Cook said scoring his ninth Test century in Asia during the drawn first Test against India made the struggle of being away from his newborn baby "worthwhile". Cook jetted back to England from Bangladesh to be there for the birth of his second daughter in October, but returned after spending just 18 hours with his family's new addition.

But the difficult separation was softened slightly by Cook's score of 130 as he put on 180 runs with teenage-opener Haseeb Hameed (82) in second innings in Rajkot - a record opening stand for England in India. England's strong showing in the drawn Test comes as welcome relief to Cook and company who were tested in the two-match Bangladesh series which ended 1-1. "I've seen my daughter for 18 hours. It's never easy

and you want to try to make it worthwhile by scoring a few runs," said Cook Sunday. It was left-handed batsman Cook's 30th Test century and fifth in India, the most for any foreign batsman surpassing Everton Weekes, Clive Lloyd and Hashim Amla who each managed four centuries in India. Cook also bettered Jacques Kallis' score of eight tons in Asia and Don Bradman's tally of 29 centuries.

But Cook dismissed the Bradman comparison. "Let's not talk about Bradman who probably did it in a third of the knocks. I've sacrificed a bit to come out here," he said. "Batting on top of the order it is our responsibility to do that and luckily my record here is OK." After giving India a scare in the first of the five Tests, the tourists now head to the southeastern city of Visakhapatnam for the second Test starting Thursday. — AFP



**Alastair Cook**