

Sports

Matthews scores in OT, Maple Leafs rally to beat Blackhawks

Smith makes 43 saves to lift Flames over Ducks

NHL results/standings

Calgary 2, Anaheim 0; Winnipeg 5, Edmonton 2; Tampa Bay 4, Washington 3 (OT); Toronto 4, Chicago 3 (OT); New Jersey 6, Buffalo 2; Colorado 4, Boston 0; St. Louis 3, NY Islanders 2 (SO).

Western Conference

Central Division

	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
St. Louis	3	0	0	12	8	6
Chicago	2	0	1	18	6	5
Colorado	2	1	0	9	6	4
Winnipeg	1	2	0	10	15	2
Minnesota	0	1	1	6	9	1
Dallas	0	2	0	3	6	0
Nashville	0	2	0	3	8	0

Pacific Division

	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
Los Angeles	2	0	0	6	1	4
Las Vegas	2	0	0	4	2	4
Calgary	2	1	0	8	6	4
Anaheim	1	1	1	7	9	3
Vancouver	1	0	0	3	2	2
Edmonton	1	2	0	7	8	2
Arizona	0	1	1	5	7	1
San Jose	0	2	0	4	9	0

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
Toronto	3	0	0	19	10	6
Detroit	2	0	0	6	3	4
Tampa Bay	2	1	0	13	11	4
Florida	1	1	0	8	9	2
Boston	1	1	0	4	7	2
Ottawa	0	0	2	5	7	2
Montreal	1	2	0	4	10	2
Buffalo	0	2	1	7	15	1

Metropolitan Division

	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
Washington	2	0	1	14	9	5
New Jersey	2	0	0	10	3	4
Philadelphia	2	1	0	8	7	4
NY Islanders	1	1	1	8	11	3
Pittsburgh	1	1	1	9	15	3
Carolina	1	0	0	5	4	2
Columbus	1	1	0	6	5	2
NY Rangers	1	2	0	9	12	2

Note: Overtime losses (OTL) are worth one point in the standings and are not included in the loss column (L)

TORONTO: Auston Matthews scored in overtime as the Toronto Maple Leafs came from behind to beat the Chicago Blackhawks 4-3 on Monday night. Nikita Zaitsev, Connor Brown and James van Riemsdyk also scored for the Maple Leafs, who have won their first three games. Jan Rutter, Jonathan Toews and Richard Panik had goals for the Blackhawks. Frederik Andersen made 18 saves for the win while Anton Forsberg stopped 39 shots.



EDMONTON: Matthew Benning #83 of the Edmonton Oilers battles Nic Petan #19 of the Winnipeg Jets at Rogers Place on Monday in Edmonton, Canada. — AFP

FLAMES 2, DUCKS 0
Mike Smith made 43 saves and Calgary ended a 25-game skid at Honda Center with a win over Anaheim. Calgary got goals from Sean Monahan and Mikael Backlund. It hadn't won at Anaheim since Jan. 19, 2004. John Gibson stopped 27 shots for the Ducks.

BLUES 3, ISLANDERS 2, OT
Brayden Schenn and Vladimir Tarasenko scored shootout goals to lift St. Louis over New York, the third straight win to start the season for the Blues. Andrew Ladd and Anders Lee had scored for the Islanders in the third period to send the game into overtime, Lee's goal coming at the 19-minute mark. Tarasenko scored twice in the second period for the Blues, who were seemingly in control until Ladd scored for the home team at 13:04 of the third period to ruin Jake Allen's shutout bid. Allen, who made 40 saves, denied Jordan Eberle and Anthony Beauvillier in the shootout.

AVALANCHE 4, BRUINS 0
Semyon Varlamov stopped 29 shots, Nail Yakupov scored two goals and Colorado continued its recent success in Boston. Sven Andrighetto and J.T. Compher scored first-period goals for the Avalanche, who improved to 11-0-0-1 in their past 12 games in Boston since the most recent loss coming on March 30, 1998. Colorado completed its season-opening three-game road trip at 2-1. Boston split its first two games - both at home. Tuukka Rask made 19 saves for the Bruins.

LIGHTNING 4, OILERS 3, OT
Brayden Point scored on a power play in overtime. Tampa Bay held high-scoring Alex Ovechkin pointless and the Lightning beat Washington. Point redirected Nikita Kucherov's shot at 3:08 and that came after the Capitals were assessed a too many men on the ice penalty. Ovechkin entered with seven goals in Washington's first two games this season. Tampa Bay

got goals from Alex Killorn, and Chris Kunitz, and Andrei Vasilevskiy made 23 saves. T.J. Oshie had two goals and an assist, while Nicklas Backstrom added a goal and two assists for the Capitals. Philipp Grubauer stopped 36 shots in his first game of the season.

Evander Kane scored twice for the winless Sabres, who were booed off the ice after all three periods. Chad Johnson stopped 16 of 22 shots before being replaced by Robin Lehner (nine saves) in the third period.

JETS 5, OILERS 2
Nikolaj Ehlers had a hat trick and an assist and Winnipeg captured its first win of the season by beating Edmonton. Mark Scheifele and Dmitry Kulikov also scored for the Jets. Leon Draisaitl and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins had a goal each for the Oilers, who have lost two straight. Connor Hellebuyck picked up the win in net by making 37 saves. Cam Talbot turned away 38-of-43 shots in defeat. — AP

DEVILS 6, SABRES 2
Rookie Jesper Bratt and Marcus Johansson each had two goals and an assist and New Jersey beat Buffalo. Brian Gibbons added a goal and an assist, Taylor Hall had two assists, and Stefan Noesen also scored. New Jersey is 2-0 for the first time in three seasons. No. 1 overall pick Nico Hischier recorded his first NHL point and Cory Schneider made 23 saves for the Devils.

Starc urges Aussie fans to 'get stuck into' Ben Stokes

SYDNEY: Fast bowler Mitchell Starc has urged Australian fans to "get stuck into" England bad boy Ben Stokes if he makes the trip for the upcoming Ashes, calling for them to be "very loud". Test vice-captain Stokes was arrested last month in Britain on suspicion of causing actual bodily harm and suspended from international cricket until further notice following an apparent fight outside a nightclub. He was released without charge but remains under investigation. Stokes was included in the Ashes squad but the England and Wales Cricket Board on Friday said he would not travel with the rest of the players when they leave on October 28.

No final decision on his involvement has been made, but if he does play the powerful allrounder faces a hostile

reception. "You can only imagine," Starc said in the Sydney Morning Herald yesterday on what reception awaits Stokes.

"I guess I'd love if he was out here. I'd love for the Australian crowd to get stuck into him the way the Poms (English) get stuck into our blokes over there. Regardless of whether he's here or not, I think the atmosphere is going to be great at all the grounds."

"I'm really looking forward to that atmosphere and if Ben is playing I'm sure it's going to be hyped up and really loud. But I'm sure Ben knows how to cope with that sort of stuff if he does play."

Stokes' absence would be a huge blow for England, who have lost two out of their past three tours Down Under 5-0 and are desperate to hit the ground running in the first Test in Brisbane on November 23. Starc has been subjected to taunting from beyond the boundary in England in the past, while other Australian players have also been the butt of English sledging.

He is encouraging crowds in Australia to give the tourists a hostile welcome with or without Stokes, believing it can make a material difference to the performance of some players. — AFP

Aussie batsman Khawaja reveals racial abuse

SYDNEY: Australia batsman Usman Khawaja has revealed he was racially abused so much growing up that he refused to support the national side, and claimed "racism" once played a role in selections for the team.

The 30-year-old, who immigrated as a child, battled the odds to become Australia's first Pakistan-born national player and is now established as one of the country's leading Test batsmen. But it wasn't an easy journey, and Khawaja wrote on the playersvoice.com.au website that he was vilified over his race from a young age, making him resent Australian sporting teams.

"Getting sledged by opposition players and their parents was the norm. Some of them said it just quietly enough for only me to hear," he wrote on the website, where sportspeople can air their views.

"It still hurt, but I would never show it. Most of the time it was when I scored runs. "It is for this reason why so many of my friends, most of whom were born outside Australia, didn't support Australia in sporting contests. I didn't either."

The abuse ultimately made him stronger, but Khawaja said it was an intimidating environment to play the game he loved. He said he was brought up to be humble and polite "but when I watched the Aussie team, I saw men who were hard-nosed, confident, almost brutish".

"The same type of men who would sledge me about my heritage growing up," he added. As he got older, he said Australia also grew up and "I started to understand that the minority of Australians who did treat me this way were just that, a minority".

"By high school I was a diehard Australian team supporter. But, from a pathways perspective, the damage had been done. "Not to me, but to some of the other immigrant kids who potentially could have gone on to play for Australia. They chose not to pursue a dream because of the negative experiences they had endured."

At one point Khawaja was the only Asian first-class



Usman Khawaja

player in Australia, something he attributed to his strong-willed family. "It's no surprise it has taken Australia cricket so long for coloured players to come through the system," he said.

"There is no doubt racism and politics played a large role in selections in the past. "I've heard a few stories from past Anglo-Saxon players where this seems to be the case. It would just be the times that they lived in."

Khawaja said Australian cricket and society has come a long way and it is now easier for cricketers from all backgrounds to come through the system. But he is reluctant to take any credit for opening doors.

"Maybe it was inevitable with the growing multicultural community in Australia. Maybe it was a few friendly faces at the highest level. We will never know," he said. — AFP



DUBAI: Sri Lanka's Lahiru Gamage celebrates dismissal of Pakistan's Asad Shafiq during their last day at Second Test cricket match against Pakistan in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, yesterday. — AP

Five-wicket Perera stars in Sri Lanka series victory

DUBAI: Off-spinner Dilruwan Perera finished with five wickets to help Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by 68 runs in the second Test in Dubai yesterday and take the series 2-0. Perera had figures of 5-98 as Pakistan, chasing a tough 317 to win, were bowled out for 248 in the second hour of fifth and final day at Dubai stadium. Asad Shafiq fought hard during his 112-run knock - his 11th Test hundred — and together with his skipper Sarfraz Ahmed (68) added 173 for the sixth wicket.

But once their partnership was broken Sri Lanka, having already won the first Test by 21 runs in Abu Dhabi, quickly closed in on the victory. This is Pakistan's first series defeat at their adopted home of United Arab Emirates (UAE) in seven years. They had won five of the previous nine, with four drawn.

Pakistan were forced to play in the neutral venues of the UAE following the deadly terrorist attack on the Sri Lankan team in Lahore in 2009. This is also Pakistan's first home defeat since losing to South Africa 1-0 in 2007, a series held on their grounds, and only the second white-wash in their history.

They previously suffered a 3-0 defeat against Australia, a series also played at neutral venues in Colombo and UAE in 2002. Sri Lankan captain Dinesh Chandimal, whose team lost to India 3-0 in August, hailed "a team performance".

"They put their heart and soul in the practice sessions. "It was a tough series against India but we learnt a lot from it. The boys executed the game plan really well in this series. We knew when we came today that Dilruwan and Rangana (Herath) would do the job." Pakistan skipper Ahmed was left reeling in a tough series. "It was a tough series for us. We came close in both matches, but we haven't played good cricket and that's why we have lost the series," said Ahmed.

Shafiq was the ninth man out when he edged paceman Suranga Lakmal to slip where Kusal Mendis took a low diving catch to end all Pakistan's hopes of an upset win. Shafiq's 253-minute knock had 10 boundaries but he again failed to help Pakistan cross the line, just like his 137 in the lost cause against Australia at Brisbane last year.

Pakistan had looked to the overnight partnership of Shafiq and Ahmed to guide them to the winning target after resuming at 198-5, needing another 119 for victory. Both Shafiq and Ahmed had lucky escapes but Perera finally broke the resistance when Ahmed was caught off a miscued sweep at deep fine leg by Nuwan Pradeep. Ahmed hit five boundaries during his 130-ball knock. Shafiq brought up his hundred with a paddled sweep single off Perera and was reprised on the same score when Dimuth Karunaratne dropped a low catch of the same bowler. — AFP

SCOREBOARD

DUBAI: Complete scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the second day-night Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at Dubai Stadium yesterday:

Sri Lanka 1st innings 482 (D. Karunaratne 196; D. Chandimal 62, D. Perera 58, N. Dickwell 52; Yasir Shah 6-184)	Sarfraz Ahmed c Pradeep b Perera	68
Pakistan 1st innings 262 (Azhar Ali 59, Haris Sohail 56; Perera 3-72, Herath 3-84)	Mohammad Amir lbw b Perera	4
Sri Lanka 2nd innings 96 (K. Mendis 29; Wahab Riaz 4-41, Haris Sohail 3-1)	Yasir Shah st Dickwell b Herath	5
	Wahab Riaz c Chandimal b Herath	1
	Mohammad Abbas not out	3
	Extras: (lb, nb) 5	6
	Total: (all out; 90.2 overs)	248
	Fall of wickets: 1-5 (Aslam), 2-36 (Ali), 3-49 (Sohail), 4-52 (Masood), 5-52 (Azam), 6-225 (Ahmed), 7-230 (Amir), 8-244 (Shah), 9-244 (Shafiq)	
	Bowling: Lakmal 14-4-35-1, Gamage 16-5-29-1 (nb3), Herath 22.2-3-57-2,	
Pakistan 2nd innings (198-5)	Pradeep 11-3-21-1 (Inb), Perera 26-1-98-5, Mendis 1-0-7-0 (Inb)	
Shan Masood c Dickwell b Perera		21
Sami Aslam c Mendis b Gamage		1
Azhar Ali c Silva b Pradeep		17
Haris Sohail c Dickwell b Perera		10
Asad Shafiq c Mendis b Lakmal		112
Babar Azam c Silva b Perera		0
Result: Sri Lanka win by 68 runs.		