

Australia humiliate West Indies

West Indies crumble to second-lowest Test total as Australia complete 3-0 series sweep

● West Indies all out for 27

● Starc takes 6-9 (400th Test wicket)

● Boland completes hat-trick

● Australia win by 176 runs

● 3-0 series whitewash

AFP | Kingston

Australian fast bowler Mitchell Starc produced a devastating opening spell as the West Indies were demolished for 27, the second-lowest score in Test history, to suffer a humiliating 176-run defeat on the third day of the third and final game at Sabina Park on Monday.

Australia swept the series 3-0 after earlier victories in Barbados and Grenada to retain the Frank Worrell Trophy.

Starc reached the landmark of 400 Test wickets and Scott Boland completed a hat-trick but the hosts just avoided New Zealand's record low of 26, set in 1955.

"We didn't think things would start going our way with the ball today until the sun went down a bit," Starc said after collecting the player of the match and series awards.

"But anyway our bowling attack has been pretty much on the money throughout the series," he added.

West Indies captain Royston Chase warned his side must improve with the first of five T20



Australia's players pose with the trophy



West Indies avoided all-time record low of 26, set by New Zealand in 1955, by one run

internationals on Monday.

"Assessing this series is simple: the bowlers kept us in the contest and the batting let us down time after time," he said.

"We need to put in some serious work on our batting moving forward if we really want to compete," he added.

West Indies were set a victory target of 204 after the tourists

lost their last four wickets within 45 minutes of the start of play to be dismissed for 121 in the second innings, their lowest Test innings total against the West Indies for 30 years.

Alzarri Joseph led the effort with his best Test innings figures of five for 27 while Shamar Joseph claimed four for 34 to finish with 22 wickets in the series and go past the 50-wicket mark in Tests along the way.

Everything else in the frenetic first session faded into irrelevance though in the face of Starc's wrecking ball-type performance as he reached the break with figures of five for six off five overs, finishing with six for nine when he bowled last man Jayden Seales half an hour into the second session to seal the win.

In his 100th Test, the left-arm-

Scorecard

Australia 225 (Smith 48, Green 46, Shamar 4-33, Greaves 3-56) and 121 (Green 42, Alzarri 5-27, Shamar 4-34) beat West Indies 143 (Campbell 36, Boland 3-34) and 27 (Starc 6-9, Boland 3-2) by 176 runs

er made up for a luckless first innings, when he picked up just one wicket, by dismissing John Campbell with the first ball of the second innings and adding two more victims -- debutant Kevlon Anderson and Brandon King off successive balls -- before the opening over was completed.

Starc's 400th wicket came at the start of his third over when the other opener, Mikyle Louis, was palpably leg-before.

At that stage, the West Indies were five for four and Starc

boasted the astonishing figures of four wickets for no runs.

The 35-year-old eventually conceded two runs via the outside edge of Shai Hope's bat but then promptly trapped the same batsman lbw for his fifth wicket.

He had taken just 15 deliveries, the fewest ever in Test history, to complete a five-wicket haul.

Skipper Chase was then caught behind off Josh Hazlewood to make the score an eye-popping 11 for six.

Boland then stole the honours at the start of the second session when he dismissed Justin Greaves, Shamar Joseph and Jomel Warrican off successive deliveries to complete the rare feat of a Test hat-trick.

"I was a bit nervous bowling that last ball (to Jomel Warrican)," Boland said.

"I was just trying to concentrate and keep bowling balls in good areas," he added.

Australia were without first-choice wicket-

Mitchell Starc



keeper Alex Carey, who suffered a concussion when hit on the helmet by Alzarri Joseph late on day two. Josh Inglis replaced him behind the stumps.

England captain Stokes wants to 'lie on my bed' after India nail-biter

Stokes shines with bat and ball as England clinch dramatic 22-run win at Lord's

● Stokes scores 77, takes five wickets

● Archer impresses in Test comeback

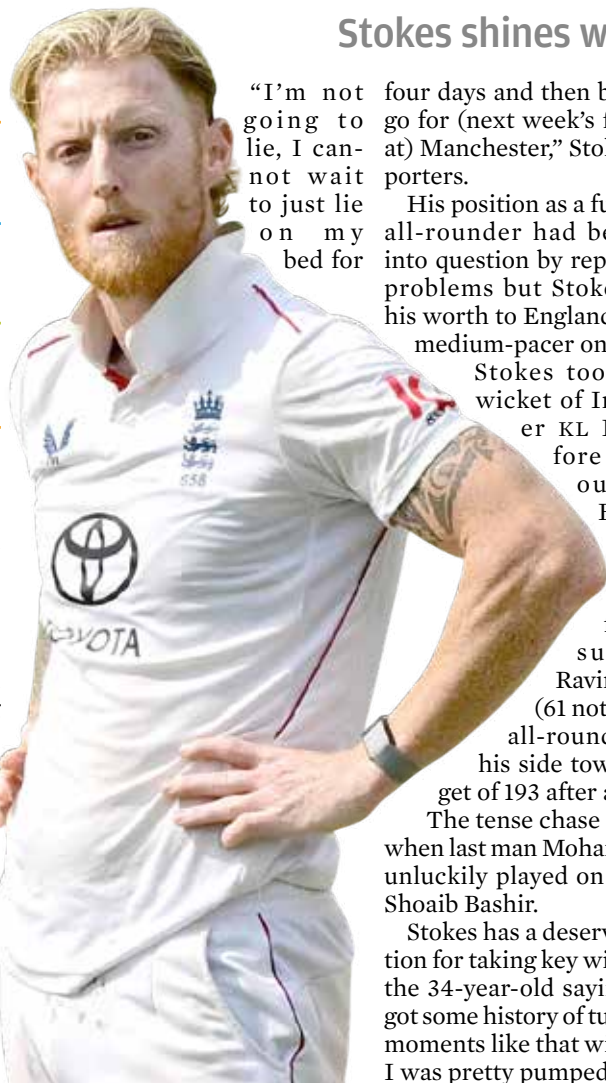
● Stokes player of the match

AFP | London

England captain Ben Stokes said he was looking forward to a lengthy lie-down after leading from the front in a dramatic 22-run win over India in the third Test at Lord's on Monday.

The all-rounder was named player of the match after scoring 77 runs and taking five wickets across the Test, in addition to an important first-innings run out of Rishabh Pant, as England went 2-1 up in a five-match series.

Stokes put himself through a particularly gruelling stint on Monday's final day by bowling 19.2 energy-sapping overs on his way to leading England's attack with a second-innings return of 3-48.



"I'm not going to lie, I cannot wait to just lie on my bed for

four days and then be raring to go for (next week's fourth Test at) Manchester," Stokes told reporters.

His position as a fully fledged all-rounder had been called into question by repeated knee problems but Stokes showed his worth to England as a lively medium-pacer on Monday.

Stokes took the key wicket of India opener KL Rahul before bouncing out Jasprit Bumrah when the tailender was offering stout support to Ravindra Jadeja (61 not out) as the all-rounder guided his side towards a target of 193 after a collapse.

The tense chase only ended when last man Mohammed Siraj unluckily played on to spinner Shoaib Bashir.

Stokes has a deserved reputation for taking key wickets, with the 34-year-old saying: "I have got some history of turning up in moments like that with the ball. I was pretty pumped.

"Bowling to win a Test match for your country on day five... if that doesn't get you going or up for going out there and putting in for your team, I don't know what will.

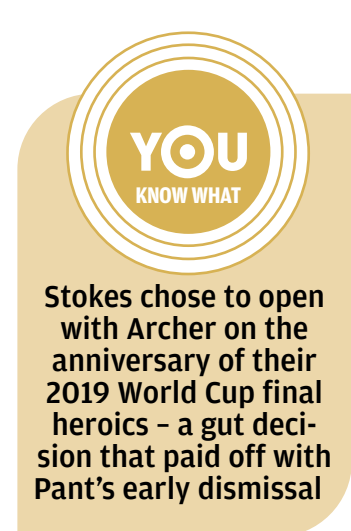
"The game was on the line. Today it was going to be my decision on when I stopped bowling."

England's win came six years to the day since their 2019 World Cup final win at Lord's, with Stokes, Jofra Archer, Joe Root and Chris Woakes the four survivors from that stunning Super Over success.

Archer bowled the most tense six balls in England's limited-overs history and the memory of that day inspired Stokes to open the attack with him on Monday in what was the Sussex express quick's first Test after more than four years of injury-induced exile.

Stokes' decision was vindicated by Archer ripping out dangerman Pant's off stump before the 30-year-old held an excellent caught and bowled chance to dismiss Washington Sundar in front of another capacity crowd at the Home of Cricket.

"That was genuinely the



Stokes chose to open with Archer on the anniversary of their 2019 World Cup final heroics - a gut decision that paid off with Pant's early dismissal

reason why we went with it, it felt right in my tummy that Jof was going to do something this morning to break the game open," said Stokes.

India, all but beaten at 82-7 shortly before lunch, still took the match into the final session with Jadeja, who batted for nearly four-and-a-half hours, doing a superb job of marshalling the tourists' much-criticised tail.

"I'm extremely proud, this is as close as a Test match can get," said India captain Shubman Gill.



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BEN STOKES

Jadeja, 36, has now scored four consecutive fifties this series, with Gill adding: "He's very experienced. He was batting brilliantly with the tail."

India made it clear before the series that Bumrah, the world's top-ranked Test bowler, would only appear in three of the five matches in order to protect his fitness following a back injury.

The outstanding fast bowler has now played two, having also featured in a five-wicket defeat in the series opener at Headingley before being rested from India's mammoth 336-run in the second Test at Edgbaston.

Gill, asked if Bumrah would feature at Old Trafford next week, gave little way in replying: "You'll get to know soon."