

Ali, Morgan star in big Eng win

Kanpur
Skipper Eoin Morgan's sublime half-century and a disciplined bowling effort powered England to a comprehensive seven-wicket win against India in the first Twenty20 international in Kanpur yesterday.

Chasing a modest 148 for victory, England rode on the third-wicket 83-run stand between Morgan (51) and Joe Root (46 not out) to romp home with 11 balls to spare.

But it was off-spinner Ali's career best 2-21 that helped England take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series at Kanpur's Green Park Stadium.

Ali justified his captain's decision of bowling first as he struck on his opening ball to send back opposition skipper Virat Kohli for 29.

The wily spinner not only got another wicket in Manish Pandey but also dried up the flow of runs to put pressure on an Indian batting



Joe Root

line-up that suffered from lack of partnerships.

"I thought our bowlers were outstanding tonight. Everybody within the unit produced exactly what we talked, we executed our plans," Morgan said.

In reply, Billings, who hit a 10-ball 22, came out all guns blazing as he smashed paceman Jasprit Bumrah for 3 fours and a six to set the pace. (AFP)

Scoreboard

England

J. Roy b Chahal	19
S. Billings b Chahal	22
J. Root not out	46
E. Morgan c Raina b Rasool	51
B. Stokes not out	2
Estras (b1, lb2, w4, nb1)	8

Total (3 wickets: 18.1 overs)148

Fall of wickets: 1-42 (Roy), 2-43 (Billings), 3-126 (Morgan)

Bowling: Nehra 3-0-31-0 (2w), Bumrah 3.1-0-26-0 (1nb), Chahal 4-0-27-2, Rasool 4-0-32-1, Raina 2-0-17-0, Pandya 2-0-12-0 (1w)

Result: England won by 7 wickets

Series: England lead the three-match series 1-0

Kiwi star Latham to join Durham

London

New Zealand opener Tom Latham has agreed to join Durham as the English county's overseas player for the second half of the 2017 season.

Latham is Durham's second overseas recruit this week after South Africa batsman Stephen Cook signed on for the first half of the forthcoming campaign.

Cook is expected to be selected for his country's Test series against England in July and August.

Latham, who has already played for Durham's academy and second team, will arrive after the Champions Trophy in June as Cook's replacement.

The 24-year-old left-hander is an emerging force in Test and one-day international cricket.



Tom Latham

"I am really looking forward to another stint in county cricket in 2017," he said.

Australia CRUSH Pakistan

win series 4-1

Adelaide

Australia cruised to a 57-run victory over Pakistan in the fifth and final one-day international at the Adelaide Oval yesterday.

After setting an imposing total of 369-7, thanks to a record opening partnership of 284 between David Warner and Travis Head, the Australians bowled Pakistan out for 312.

Pakistan's Babar Azam scored 100 and Sharjeel Khan a quickfire 79, but the home side were always in control and celebrated Australia Day in style with a convincing win.

Warner and Head earlier got Australia away to a superb start, with Warner particularly damaging as he smashed the Pakistan attack to all parts of the ground.

Warner blasted 179 and Head 128 on their way to an opening stand of 284, a new Australian record for any wicket in ODIs.

Both batsmen made their highest scores in one-day internationals, with Head also recording his maiden international century.

After losing the toss and being asked to bowl first, the Pakistanis almost got the perfect start when Mohammad Amir enticed an edge from Warner with his first ball.

But a diving Azhar Ali at first slip couldn't hold onto a difficult chance and Warner was soon in full flight.

He brought up his 50 from 34 balls and his 100 from 78 including 11 fours and two massive sixes. His 150 came from only 107 deliveries with 17 boundaries and three sixes.

Head was far more circumspect but once the ball stopped swinging after just four overs, he began to look more and more comfortable.

On a flat pitch that offered nothing to the bowlers, the Australians were untroubled until Warner

began to cramp, restricting his movements.

Warner eventually fell when he swatted a short ball from Junaid Khan to Babar at point with the score on 284.

Australia were headed for a score well over 400 when Warner and Head were in full flight but Pakistan fought back with some late wickets to restrict them to 369.

Pakistan's chase started badly when Azhar fell leg before to Mitchell Starc for 10, but Sharjeel and Babar took up the attack and moved the score to 140 before the big hitting Sharjeel mistimed a pull shot and skied a catch to wicketkeeper Matthew Wade.

Babar began to pick up the pace and reached 100 from 107 balls, however, soon after bringing up his fourth ODI century he holed out to Head at mid-on. (AFP)

Scoreboard

Australia

D. Warner c Babar b Junaid	179
T. Head c Azhar b Hasan	128
S. Smith c Wahab b Junaid	4
G. Maxwell c Hafeez b Amir	13
M. Wade c Malik b Hasan	8
P. Handscomb c Hafeez b Wahab	1
J. Faulkner not out	18
M. Starc run out	6
P. Cummins not out	1
Extras (b1, lb4, w6)	11

Total (for 7 wickets, 50 overs) 369

Fall of wickets: 1-284 (Warner), 2-288 (Smith), 3-323 (Maxwell), 4-336 (Wade), 5-342 (Head), 6-351 (Handscomb), 7-367 (Starc)

Did not bat: A. Zampa, J. Hazlewood

Bowling: Amir 10-0-71-1 (1w), Junaid 10-0-61-2 (2w), Hasan 9-0-100-2 (1w), Hafeez 7-0-43-0, Wahab 10-0-62-1 (2w), Malik 4-0-27-0

Australia win series 4-1



David Warner