England rally after relentless South African bowling display

Philsen took for 16 as England is bowled out for 181, visitors strike back to reduce hosts to 72 for 4 at stumps

CRICKET

England's Jofra Archer (left) is bowled out by South Africa's Vernon Philander (also inset) on second day of the first Test at Centurion, South Africa, yesterday.

**Scorecard**

**SOUTHAFRICA**

1st inn (o/n 277-9) 299 all out (111 balls; 37.5 overs)

**ENGLAND**

1st inn 193 all out (97.5 overs)

**EXPLOSIVE ARNIE**

Fast bowler Anrich Nortje also claimed his first Test wicket of England's Jofra Archer, as Mavericks winning return.

From a promising position at 142 for three, England lost their last seven wickets for 14 runs. Fast bowlers continued to fall like ninepins, as Quinton de Kock, who dismissed

**DENLY Dropped**

Denly was dropped on nought before England fought back.

Deeley was dropped on 14 and went on to hit 49 before he was run out as Philander had an opening spell of one wicket for no runs in five overs.

**FIRST BALL OF THE MATCH**

The first ball of the match was bowled by Anrich Nortje, who claimed his first Test wicket of England's Jofra Archer.

**QUINTON DE KOCK**

Quinton de Kock with his fifth Test fifty.

Quinton de Kock hit a fifty off 35 deliveries, which presented wicketkeeper

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Liverpool thrash Firmino double as united in their praise for Juergen Klopp’s flight title.

Manchester City.

finished a point behind champions Manchester United in the next five games. That doesn’t sound anything like anything is decided in my ears. On the contrary, I think this is really, we are completely focused on what we have to do, " he said. "And it can be said with some certainty that with only 18 of the 38 games having been played, there is still time for things to go wrong, even though they have earned 12 of a possible 14 points.

"You can still win the league, " the Frenchman said. "But if you don’t do it, you will come second, and then there is no team that has a bigger lead and lost the lead, and that’s the situation.

"We take this as inspiration, that’s the level. Those are prob- ably the two best teams in the Premier League right now and the level we have to aspire to, " Klopp said.

Liverpool, by contrast, dominated when they finished their only second-placed Leicester with the joint biggest aspirations with their focus now on making sure they hold off eventual winners.

"I can read the stories myself, " the manager added. "The two have had similar performances this season, but with this kind of player, we have the ability to bounce back."
FOOTBALL

Lampard seeks creative spark from attackers

‘You cannot have 70% of possession and control and not do more’

Chelsea boss Frank Lampard said the attacking players have to do more to break down visits to the teams around them.

Lampard was speaking from his team's base at Thame- ston Bridge for the first time in eight weeks. Goals from Michael Obafemi and Nathaniel Redmond gave improving Southampton a surprise win while Chelsea’s struggle against a helpful Burnley kept them in the relegation zone before Silva’s dismissal.

Blues boss Lampard was disappointed during the teams’ game at home in November 2015 under Andre Villas-Boas.

They were beaten by West Ham United at the Stadium Bridge last month and Lampard said that his front line had to respond. “We have to go one step better in the front three,” he said. “You mirror your game and you break down these teams and you aren’t outplayed.” Lampard added.

“We’re not performed and we need to be on an attacking sense. ‘You cannot have 70% of possession and control, particularly the first half, and not better chances, not better final passes, not get more chances at goal?’ Chelsea travel to 11th-placed Arsenal tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Everton defender Seamus Coleman said the club’s players were learning from one of the best in manager Carlo Ancelotti, who beat them during his four-year spell at the club.

Ancelotti, a Champions League winner with AC Milan and Real Madrid, replaced the sacked Blues boss last Saturday and changed Everton’s formation from 4-4-1-1 under interim manager Duncan Ferguson.

He enjoyed a winning start thanks to his 12-month-old Dominic Calvert-Lewin header at Goodison Park, while the team produced a number of chances going forward, with 21 shots on goal. “We weren’t the manager worked much during the week – when we have the ball things click. If we were happy to look, we did it for a few days in training and I enjoyed it,” Coleman told the Evert- ton website.

“Shirt with, who when he speaks, you listen. When he walks into a room, you perk up. He’s a leader, he’s a manager. “He’s a manager who, when he speaks, every single person in the team puts full faith in him. He’s irreplaceable.”

And those three points could be so important. “Lamela, he was fantastic, he’s in top form and he’s been so influential all season.”

He was honest. Football players on, answered: “I think Ndombele was honest. Football players like to play football. “I can’t say he’s been great. I don’t think he’s had that many opportunities. “And we had quality about throwing ball forward from the first time, even though he has been sidelined since October with a hamstring injury.

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Scottish Rugby also announced they had brought forward former Rangers playerNatasha Villars to work as a scrum coach on a ‘short-term capacity’ through the Rugball union.

Tandy, in charge of Welsh regional side the Dragons, quit to take up a ‘short-term capacity’ through the Rugby Football Union. He started working with the Scottish squad last week.

Guardiola’s influence is impossible to gauge, said Tandy.

"You have an incredible fellow in Colin Jones and maybe another one will come when I leave. But he is unplayable!"

Guardiola played a pivotal role when City were crowned champions of England for the first time in 45 years when his tenth-placed side secured the 2011/12 Premier League title.

"The most important moment of the club, more than one if you think the Champions League, is the moment when English soccer stood against the teams that have the best years of course," said Guardiola.

"That moment is much better than two titles in one season or whatever. And he was £100k a year! More than anything... but the goal has been to do this club."

"From start or later it is going to happen (Agüero’s departure), he’s going to decide when."

"We have an incredible number of things in this third season, he’s been in town with his two daughters and they have been loving it."

"Bernardo can play there, Phil (Foden) is a go-to guy and they are not — and it was more difficult to handle them or be with them."
**NBA**

Doncic makes winning return as Mavs down Spurs

‘When you miss four or five games, it’s different, but it was great being back and we won’

San Antonio Spurs guard Bryn Forbes (right) is called for a foul giving out of bounds from front of Dallas Mavericks forward Luka Doncic (left) during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019, in Dallas. (AP Photo/LM Otero)

**SPOTLIGHT**

Raiders’ RB Jacobs undergoes surgery for leg infection

**Bucks**

Raptors lose (3-2)

**Seahawks**, 49ers battle for division crown in season finale

Russel Wilson of the Seattle Seahawks leads his team of 12 against the Carolina Panthers in the second quarter on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 at CenturyLink Field in Seattle, Wash. (Getty Images/TNS)

**NFL**

Seahawks, 49ers battle for division crown in season finale

Russel Wilson of the Seattle Seahawks leads his team of 12 against the Carolina Panthers in the second quarter on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 at CenturyLink Field in Seattle, Wash. (Getty Images/TNS)
By Oliver Connolly

Few athletes are so perfectly built for a team as Lynch is for the Seahawks – and his return may be what injury-hit Seattle need that in Tokyo next year.

The Guardian

That's it. He makes football fun, a season and reached two Super Bowls. They were all swagger and

FOCUS

World's richest racing puts keirin in spotlight before Olympics

By Justin McCurry

Thousands of people went to see the final moments of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. The world's two best cyclists clashed in the hunt for keirin gold, a sport that has been around for over a century, and it was a tight race. The Australian cyclist, Scott Sunderland, was leading, but his American rival, Luke Keough, was hot on his heels. In the final seconds, Keough made a move and took the gold medal, leaving Sunderland to settle for the silver. The crowd erupted in cheers as the Australian flag was raised high. It was a moment that would go down in history. The Olympic Games in Sydney marked a significant moment in the sporting world, as keirin became a popular sport in the United States. The success of the sport in the US led to the establishment of the largest keirin track in the world, the National Keirin Track, which is located in Glendale, Arizona. The track is known for its steep banks and tight turns, making it a challenging course for the athletes. The Olympic Games were a huge success for the people of Sydney, as the city hosted a number of memorable events, from the opening ceremony to the closing ceremony. The Games were a celebration of athletics, culture, and diversity, and they left a lasting legacy in the minds of all who attended. The Olympic Games in Sydney were a turning point for keirin, as it became a sport that was not only enjoyed by the Japanese, but also by people around the world. The Olympic Games in Sydney were a moment of triumph for the athletes, and for the city of Sydney, and it will be remembered for years to come.
In never relax - you become vulnerable: jockey Doyle

The British female jockey of the year, who rode the Al Rayyan Stakes winner Maystar for trainer Archie Watson on Qatar Oaks Day last week, on weight-training, festive eating and getting her own back in the saddle.

By Chris Cook

It is a time of year for sports enthusiasts in the region to reflect on what has been, how they felt about it and how they plan to approach the one that is coming.

For sports enthusiasts, it is a time of year to review, to reflect and to decide on what is coming next. It is a time of year when athletes and sports enthusiasts, who have been working hard throughout the year, take a step back to review their performance, their progress and their plans for the future.

The end of the year is a time of reflection, a time to evaluate what has been accomplished and what has been missed. It is a time to set new goals and to plan for the challenges that lie ahead.

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**BOXING DAY TEST**

**Head’s ton and early NZ wickets put Australia in control**

“It’s pretty cool to score a Boxing Day hundred, nice to get my opportunity”

Australia’s Travis Head (left) in action as New Zealand’s wicketkeeper BJ Watling looks on on the second day of the second Test at the MCG in Melbourne yesterday.

Australia started the day at 257 for four gone soon after for one. Head, Cummins Blundell, called up for the out-of-form Jeet.

**WE’RE KEEPING THE FIGHTING**

It was a patient innings from the 25-year-old, who came in helped. “It helped that Tim came in before I got my opportunity,” said Head, added credit to New Zealand, at times it was difficult and changed the scenario.

**SPOTLIGHT**

Archer in no-ball controversy

**For its 11th and final Test, England are playing without an overseas player for the first time since 1968.**

England’s Jofra Archer (right) delivers a ball during the second day of the first Test against South Africa at Centurion yesterday.

India U-19 thrash South Africa in T20I series

India begin its programme of three Twenty20 Internationals against England on Thursday. After trouncing South Africa in the two-match ODI series, India come out with a strong T20I team and chased down a 145-run target in just 20 overs.

India lost the second Test by 89 runs, 65/2 in 6 overs to 164-11, de Grandhomme 30-5-68-2, Wagner 22-1-49-2, Bowlt 31-3-91-1, Southee 33.1-6-104-1, M. Starc 3-144 (Labuschagne), 4-216 (Wade), 5-284 (Smith), 6-434 (Paine), 7-435 (Starc), 8-458 (Lyon) (all out; 155.1 overs)

Scorecard

**COMMENT**

Kohli’s men fulfilled my dream of winning Test series in Aus: Laxman

Former India batsman VVS Laxman believes 2016 was a “very special year” for him and his team during which they fulfilled his dream of taking the Indian team to the summit in the four-match Test series against Australia.

For the first time since 1967, India were able to win a Test series victory in Australia, the ‘last bastion’ of the cricket-mad nation. India had won the first Test in Melbourne (100-1) last year to crush the Australian dream. Their star all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja also stole the show in the second Test when he bowled Anil Kumble out in the final over on day four.

Australia's Travis Head is left in action as New Zealand's wicketkeeper BJ Watling looks on on the second day of the second Test at the MCG in Melbourne yesterday. (AFP)

**Scoreboard**

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**India's Virat Kohli**

India's Virat Kohli (left) pictured with the bat during the second day of the first Test against South Africa at Centurion yesterday.

India won seven of the eight Tests they played this year, with one of them ending in a draw. They won 10 ODIs out of 15. Not only they played, and registered victory in 15 ODIs.

**Natarajan's Cricket Live Show**

“we are glad that this Indian team under Virat’s leadership has broken the fearsome Oz jinx”

**For its 11th and final Test, England are playing without an overseas player for the first time since 1968.**

England’s Jofra Archer (right) delivers a ball during the second day of the first Test against South Africa at Centurion yesterday. (AFP)

India's Virat Kohli is left in action as New Zealand's wicketkeeper BJ Watling looks on on the second day of the second Test at the MCG in Melbourne yesterday. (AFP)

India’s Virat Kohli was the pick of the bowlers for India as they soaked in the victory, which is his favourite moment of Indian cricket. He scalped three wickets, he bowled, they came in, bowled hard-and it’s been one of the best fast bowling performances for him.

India has begun its prepe...