

Chocolate coated
fresh Strawberries

Available only on order.

The *Kandos* Shop

Tel: 011- 2370771



The Island Sports

Thursday 11th June, 2009

Jayasuriya, Dilshan drive Sri Lanka to comfortable win

NOTTINGHAM, England (AP) - Sanath Jayasuriya and Tillakaratne Dilshan put on an opening stand of 124 Wednesday to lead Sri Lanka to a 15-run win over West Indies in their final group match of the Twenty20 World Cup.

Jayasuriya smashed 81 in 47 balls and Dilshan 74 also from 47 deliveries, flaying West Indies bowlers to all parts of Trent Bridge as Sri Lanka posted 192-5.

Lendl Simmons, who took 4-19, was the only bowler to avoid punishment, with Sri Lanka hitting 23 fours and six sixes.

Simmons then made 29 with the bat, but only Dayne Bravo (51) of his teammates scored more as West Indies closed on 177-5.

Both sides had already qualified from Group C for the Super 8 phase, which begins Thursday.

Despite the early loss of Andre Fletcher, bowled by Lasith Malinga in the fourth over for 13, West Indies

SCOREBOARD

Sri Lanka		West Indies	
T.M. Dilshan c Benn b Simmons	74	L. Simmons c J'wardene b Muralitharan	29
S. Jayasuriya lbw b Simmons	81	A. Fletcher b Malinga	13
K. Sangakkara c Fletcher b Simmons	5	X. Marshall c Silva b Mendis	14
M. Jayawardene c Ramdin b Simmons	4	S. Chandernaul b Mendis	1
J. Mubarak not out	8	R. Sarwan not out	28
C. Silva c Ramdin b Taylor	7	D. Bravo c Mubarak b Malinga	51
A. Mathews not out	3	K. Pollard not out	19
Extras: (lb 5, w 4, nb 1)	10	Extras: (lb 4, w 17, nb 1)	22
Total: (5 wickets; 20 overs)	192	Total: (5 wickets; 20 overs)	177
Did not bat: I. Udana, A. Mendis, L. Malinga, M. Muralitharan		Did not bat: D. Ramdin, J. Taylor, S. Benn, F. Edwards	
Fall of wickets: 1-124, 2-147, 3-168, 4-172, 5-189		Fall of wickets: 1-38, 2-70, 3-71, 4-73, 5-150	
Bowling: Taylor 4-0-32-1 (1nb), Edwards 2-0-37-0, Bravo 4-0-29-0 (3w), Benn 4-0-25-0, Pollard 3-0-45-0 (1w), Simmons 3-0-19-4		Bowling: Jayasuriya 3-0-34-0 (1w), Malinga 4-0-45-2 (2w), Udana 4-0-36-0 (5w), Mendis 4-0-25-2, Muralitharan 4-0-21-1 (1w), Mathews 1-0-12-0 (1nb)	
		Toss: West Indies	
		Umpires: B. Bowden (NZ), S. Taufel (Aus)	
		Third umpire: I. Gould	
		Match referee: B. Broad	



Sanath Jayasuriya reacts after a quick fire 81 before being trapped LBW off the bowling of Lendl Simmons during his team's Twenty20 World Cup cricket match against the West Indies at Trent Bridge cricket ground Nottingham, England, Wednesday June 10, 2009. (AP Photos/Jon Super)

traced to 50 off 29 balls.

The Sri Lankans offered few chances until Dilshan was dropped by Sullivan Benn in the 12th over and they were aided by some comically bad fielding.

Jayasuriya was finally out lbw to Simmons in the 13th over and captain Kumar Sangakkara made 5 before he was caught by Fletcher off Simmons.

Simmons belatedly slowed the run rate with two wickets from three balls in the 17th over, having Jayawardene caught by Ramdin and then tempting Dilshan into a swish that was held by Benn.

Jerome Taylor was the only other bowler to take a wicket, having Chamara Silva caught behind with three balls left.

Needing 28 off the last over, West Indies couldn't work a miracle.

West Indies captain Denesh Ramdin - standing in for the rested Chris Gayle - will regret asking Sri Lanka to bat after winning the toss.

Fidel Edwards conceded 17 off the second over and Kieron Pollard's first over went for 19 as Jayasuriya

made a promising start to the chase, racing to 55-1 after five overs.

However, when Simmons was brilliantly caught at first slip by Mihela Jayawardene off Murali Muralitharan in the seventh over, it brought a collapse.

Xavier Marshall miscued a delivery from Ajantha Mendis straight to Chamara Silva, and Mendis then bowled Shivnarine Chandernaul for the third wicket in seven balls to leave West Indies on 73-4 in the eighth over.

Soon after, Muralitharan caught Bravo but, realizing he was about to fall over the boundary rope and con-

ceded a six, he flicked the ball backward to save two runs.

Angelo Mathews later produced an even more acrobatic piece of fielding, clawing the ball back from well behind the rope to prevent a six and save three runs.

Light rain began to fall, but West Indies - well behind on run rate - was obliged to bat on.

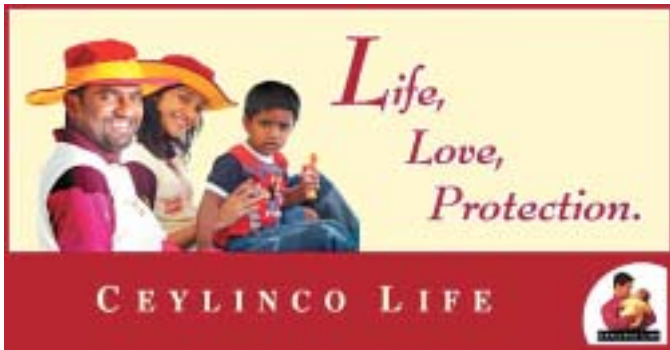
Bravo and Ramnaresh Sarwan made a half-century stand, but took 44 balls to do it, meaning the team needed 72 with five overs left.

Muralitharan could even afford to drop Bravo in the 17th as he was caught in the next over by Jehan Mubarak off Malinga.

Needing 28 off the last over, West Indies couldn't work a miracle.

West Indies captain Denesh Ramdin - standing in for the rested Chris Gayle - will regret asking Sri Lanka to bat after winning the toss.

Fidel Edwards conceded 17 off the second over and Kieron Pollard's first over went for 19 as Jayasuriya



made a promising start to the chase, racing to 55-1 after five overs.

However, when Simmons was brilliantly caught at first slip by Mihela Jayawardene off Murali Muralitharan in the seventh over, it brought a collapse.

Xavier Marshall miscued a delivery from Ajantha Mendis straight to Chamara Silva, and Mendis then bowled Shivnarine Chandernaul for the third wicket in seven balls to leave West Indies on 73-4 in the eighth over.

Soon after, Muralitharan caught Bravo but, realizing he was about to fall over the boundary rope and con-

ceded a six, he flicked the ball backward to save two runs.

Angelo Mathews later produced an even more acrobatic piece of fielding, clawing the ball back from well behind the rope to prevent a six and save three runs.

Light rain began to fall, but West Indies - well behind on run rate - was obliged to bat on.

Bravo and Ramnaresh Sarwan made a half-century stand, but took 44 balls to do it, meaning the team needed 72 with five overs left.

Muralitharan could even afford to drop Bravo in the 17th as he was caught in the next over by Jehan Mubarak off Malinga.

Needing 28 off the last over, West Indies couldn't work a miracle.

West Indies captain Denesh Ramdin - standing in for the rested Chris Gayle - will regret asking Sri Lanka to bat after winning the toss.

Fidel Edwards conceded 17 off the second over and Kieron Pollard's first over went for 19 as Jayasuriya

made a promising start to the chase, racing to 55-1 after five overs.

However, when Simmons was brilliantly caught at first slip by Mihela Jayawardene off Murali Muralitharan in the seventh over, it brought a collapse.

Xavier Marshall miscued a delivery from Ajantha Mendis straight to Chamara Silva, and Mendis then bowled Shivnarine Chandernaul for the third wicket in seven balls to leave West Indies on 73-4 in the eighth over.

Soon after, Muralitharan caught Bravo but, realizing he was about to fall over the boundary rope and con-

ceded a six, he flicked the ball backward to save two runs.

Angelo Mathews later produced an even more acrobatic piece of fielding, clawing the ball back from well behind the rope to prevent a six and save three runs.

Light rain began to fall, but West Indies - well behind on run rate - was obliged to bat on.

Bravo and Ramnaresh Sarwan made a half-century stand, but took 44 balls to do it, meaning the team needed 72 with five overs left.

Muralitharan could even afford to drop Bravo in the 17th as he was caught in the next over by Jehan Mubarak off Malinga.

Needing 28 off the last over, West Indies couldn't work a miracle.

West Indies captain Denesh Ramdin - standing in for the rested Chris Gayle - will regret asking Sri Lanka to bat after winning the toss.

Fidel Edwards conceded 17 off the second over and Kieron Pollard's first over went for 19 as Jayasuriya

Tillakaratne Dilshan plays a shot off the bowling of West Indies' Kieron Pollard during their Twenty20 World Cup cricket match at Trent Bridge cricket ground, Nottingham, England, Wednesday June 10, 2009.



Sangakkara and new cricket

Last Monday (June 8), the newly appointed Sri Lanka cricket captain Kumar Sangakkara's innings against Australia proved he was a man for all seasons. He struck a match-winning unbeaten 55 in 42 balls with four fours and two sixes.

The way he batted for Sri Lanka's first series win in Tests against South Africa in August, 2004 - a sedate 232, while consuming 529 minutes in the middle of the Sinhalese Sports Club grounds - and Sangakkara's 10 elegant centuries which he made in 246 One-day Internationals (50-over) so far, are indicative of the great ability a cricketer has for adaptation to various forms of cricket.

In the thick of the World Cup of Twenty-20 cricket now on in England, the polarization of the cricket fan base, probably all over the cricket world, has apparently acquired features of the very film fan base of the Indian Subcontinent. Test cricket is like an art film where the viewers or the admirers are expected to have a certain (educated) background and refined mentality. The latest Twenty-20 version is at the other end: like the commercially oriented, extremely shallow Bollywood movies which are dumped ruthlessly by most of the serious critics.

Two sides

The way Sangakkara played his innings on Monday with an array of cross-batted shots, converted strokes with a number of hits made by opening his wicket and taking ultimate risks dared all his admirers who always loved the lanky left-hander's pure elegance, flawless drives, cuts and well-measured pull shots seen often in Tests and ODIs. But Sangakkara has to adapt or quit. No other option.

An argument is being talked of in circles that Test cricket is sacred and must remain so.

Others on the other hand argue that the universe is in a state of flux and cricket too has changed over time and therefore changes in the game are to be taken for granted.

Tests affected

Seeing the large amount of Twenty-20 cricket played now, due to its ever-growing popularity, it is hard to believe that these players will play Test cricket in the same way.

The day the Test matches are going to be

over in a quicker time period (within three, four days) and batsmen seeking to play flashy and unorthodox shots leaving the bowlers to find new ways to scalp the batters is almost at our doorstep.

Most people accept that new day with open arms. Lalith Modi recently said, after this season's IPL, a whole new spectator base had been created in South Africa. It may be that most of them hate Test cricket.

Solutions

It is difficult to think, at this tricky phase of the development of the game, that the cricket controlling bodies of the

Test playing countries are ready to make two different approaches towards Test and Twenty-20/ODIs. They are not likely to groom and field two different sides for these two forms of cricket. Such a system, for its effective establishment, has to emerge from the very junior or school level.

Though there is some talk now, it is something unlikely to happen in near future. So, the same Sangakkara has to play Twenty-20 today and switch to five days of Test cricket next month.

New Cricket

It is likely that cricket too, like cinema, will attain a new face after the advent of the Hit and Giggle Twenty-20.

As both Tests as well as the shortened form/s of the game are to be done away with, mainly due to the impact created by active critics in the region, a new mixture is likely to be the future of cricket. That elegant left-hander Kumar Chokshana Sangakkara came on Monday maybe a forerunner of that future game.

