

Gill ton, Jaiswal's 87 take India to 310 for 5 on Day 1

PTI, BIRMINGHAM: Skipper Shubman Gill scored a classy century while Yashasvi Jaiswal missed out on a deserving ton as India battled hard to reach 310 for 5 against England on the opening day of the second Test here on Wednesday.

This was Gill's (114 batting, 216 balls) second successive hundred in the series after scoring 147 at Headingley. He is one of those rare Indian skipper to have scored back-to-back centuries in his first two Tests as captain.

His century came off 199 deliveries. In all, Gill hit 12 fours.

While Jaiswal once again gave India a solid start with an aggressive 87, laced with 13 boundaries, Gill showed a lot of composure and discretion in shot selection to score his seventh Test century.

Karun Nair (31) and Rishabh Pant (23) threw away their wickets after getting starts while Nitish



Shubman Gill plays a shot on the opening day of the second cricket test match against England, at Edgbaston cricket ground in Birmingham

Reddy (1) was completely clueless when a Chris Woakes nip-backer jagged back sharply.

India were in a spot of bother at 211 for five but

broken sixth-wicket stand. For England, Chris Woakes took two wickets while skipper Ben Stokes, Brydon Carse and Shoaib Bashir took a wicket apiece.



Yashasvi Jaiswal

PANT RISES TO 6TH, BUMRAH CONTINUES TO BE TOP-RANKED

DUBAI: Swashbuckling India wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant continued his ascent in the ICC Test Rankings, moving up to sixth place in the latest list released on Wednesday. He now trails top-ranked batter Joe Root by just 88 points.

Opener Yashasvi Jaiswal retained his fourth position to remain the highest-ranked Indian, while captain Shubman Gill slipped one spot to 21st. In the bowling charts, India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah continued to reign supreme with 907 rating points.

BUMRAH WILL PLAY IN THIRD TEST AT LORD'S: GILL

BIRMINGHAM: Pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah will return to the Indian playing eleven against England in the third Test at Lord's next week after sitting out of the second match here, captain Shubman Gill said on Wednesday.

"Third Test being at Lord's, we think there'll be more in that pitch so we'll use him there," Gill said at the toss for the second game here.

"We were tempted to play Kuldeep (Yadav) but decided to add some depth to the batting."

SCOREBOARD

India: Yashasvi Jaiswal c Smith b Stokes 87, KL Rahul b Woakes 2, Karun Nair c Brook b Carse 31, Shubman Gill not out 114, Rishabh Pant c Crawley b Bashir 25, Nitish Kumar Reddy b Woakes 1, Ravindra Jadeja not out 41. **Extras:** 9. **Total:** 310 for 5. **FOW:** 15-1, 95-2, 161-3, 208-4, 211-5. **Bowling:** Chris Woakes 21-6-59-2, Brydon Carse 16-2-49-1, Josh Tongue 13-0-66-0, Ben Stokes 15-0-58-1, Shoaib Bashir 19-0-65-1, Joe Root 1-0-0-8

Alcaraz ends Tarvet's Wimbledon fairytale

Djokovic recovers with 'miracle pills' in pursuit of record 25th Grand Slam

AFP, LONDON: Defending champion Carlos Alcaraz eased into the third round at Wimbledon on Wednesday, ending British amateur Oliver Tarvet's dream run with a commanding 6-1, 6-4, 6-4 win on Centre Court. Later in the day, Novak Djokovic had a far less straightforward path, needing medical help and four sets to overcome France's Alexandre Muller 6-1, 6-7 (7/9), 6-2, 6-2 in his opening match.

While Alcaraz showed no signs of vulnerability following his gruelling five-set opener against Fabio Fognini, Djokovic admitted to battling physical discomfort that threatened to derail his quest for a historic 25th Grand Slam title. "I went from feeling my absolute best for a set and a half to my absolute worst for about 45 minutes," said the seven-time Wimbledon winner. "I struggled with that, but the energy came back after some doctors' miracle pills."

The world number two, Alcaraz,



Novak Djokovic

played with precision and pace, never allowing Tarvet to settle into the match. The Spaniard, who outlasted Djokovic in last year's final, appears in top form as he looks to defend his crown amid a turbulent week for seeded players at SW19.

Wimbledon's opening rounds have seen a flurry of high-profile exits. Third seed Alexander Zverev crashed out

to France's Arthur Rinderknech, while seventh seed Lorenzo Mussetti fell to Nikoloz Basilashvili. Other top-10 casualties included Holger Rune and Daniil Medvedev, both losing their first-round

matches on Monday. American 12th seed Frances Tiafoe was the latest to fall, losing to British number two Cameron Norrie 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 7-5.

In the women's draw, second seed Aryna Sabalenka survived the upset trend with a hard-fought 7-6 (7/4), 6-4 win over world number 48 Marie Bouzkova.

Australian Open champion Madison Keys also advanced smoothly, dispatching Serbia's Olga Danilovic 6-4, 6-2.



Carlos Alcaraz

Yuki-Galloway pair enters 2nd round, Bopanna ousted

PTI, LONDON: India's Yuki Bhambri and his American partner Robert Galloway progressed to the second round of men's doubles event at the Wimbledon with straight-sets win over Romain Arneodo of Monaco and Manuel Guinard of France here on Wednesday.

The 16th-seeded Indo-American pair defeated Arneodo and Guinard 7-6(8) 6-4 in a first-round match that lasted one hour and 49 minutes.

Yuki and Galloway will next take on the winner of the match between the Dutch combination of Robin Haase and Jean-Julien Rojer and American Marcos Giron and Nuno Borges of Portugal in the next round.

However, multiple Grand Slam champion Rohan Bopanna and his Belgian partner Sander Gilie lost to German third seeds Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz 3-6, 4-6 in straight sets to bow out in the opening round.

Real Madrid oust Juventus as Dortmund reach quarters

AFP, ATLANTA: Spanish giants Real Madrid beat Juventus 1-0 on Tuesday to set up a Club World Cup quarter-final clash against Borussia Dortmund, who edged Mexican side Monterrey.

Serhou Guirassy struck twice for the German outfit as they scraped past Sergio Ramos's side 2-1 in a tight

last-16 clash in Atlanta and denied the former Real Madrid skipper a match-up against his former team.

CLUB WORLD CUP

Youngster Gonzalo Garcia headed home his third goal of the tournament to help Madrid edge Italian side Juventus at the Hard Rock

Stadium in Miami earlier.

It was an impressive display from Xabi Alonso's Madrid side, unbeaten under the new coach, and they were further boosted by Kylian Mbappe's return from illness as a substitute.

The first half was a finely-balanced contest with Igor Tudor's Juventus starting brightly before Real

RESULTS

Last 16
Real Madrid 1 (Gonzalo Garcia 54) Juventus 0;
Borussia Dortmund 2 (Guirassy 14, 24) Monterrey 1 (Berterame 48)

ended it on top. Los Blancos kept turning the screw and found

their goal when Trent Alexander-Arnold crossed for Gonzalo to head home after 54 minutes.

Alonso decided to introduce Mbappe to the delight of the 62,149 crowd but the striker did not find any clear openings as Juve pushed for an equaliser.

Madrid's coach was pleased with his team's per-

formance, including that of Gonzalo -- who he had compared to former Real great Raul -- but also suggested that Mbappe might be ready for a bigger contribution in the next game.

Alonso added that he was satisfied to see Real produce the necessary grit to grind out the result in the second half.

shorttakes

Srikanth enters second round of Canada Open

CALGARY: India's Kidambi Srikanth progressed to the men's singles second round with a thrilling three-game win over compatriot Priyanshu Rajawat at the Canada Open Super 300 badminton tournament here on Wednesday. The 2021 World Championships silver medalist Srikanth, who had finished runner-up at the Malaysia Masters in May, recovered from a game down to prevail 18-21, 21-19, 21-14 in a pulsating 53-minute opening-round clash.

Salvi to continue as Mumbai's head coach

MUMBAI: Multiple-title winner Omkar Salvi will continue as Mumbai's head coach while Sanjay Patil has been retained as the chairman of selection committee, the Mumbai Cricket Association announced here on Wednesday. Salvi, who was appointed Mumbai's head coach in 2023-24, won the Ranji Trophy with the domestic giants in the same season while he also took the 42-time winners to the semifinals in the next.

WOMEN T20: Amanjot, Rodrigues power India to 24-run win over England

BRISTOL: Indian juggernaut in the white-ball tour continued as Amanjot Kaur and Jemimah Rodrigues hit radiant fifties to propel the visitors to a commanding 24-run win over England in the second T20 International here. Tuesday night's win handed Harmanpreet Kaur's side a 2-0 lead in the five-match series, having won the opener by a record-shattering 97-run margin last week. Amanjot (63 not out off 40 balls), who scored her maiden T20I fifty, and Rodrigues (63 off 41 deliveries) posted a formidable 181 for 4 after being asked to bat. The Indian bowlers, led by spinners, then did their bit to restrict the home side to 157 for 7 in 20 overs despite Tammy Beaumont's 35-ball 54, marking the first time any team has been able to beat England in a women's T20I in Bristol.

Shastri among 11 sportspersons to be honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award by SJAM

MUMBAI: Former India cricketer and head coach Ravi Shastri was among 11 sportspersons who were honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Sports Journalists Association of Mumbai here on Wednesday. The others included former India women's cricketer Shubhangi Kulkarni, three-time Amateur World Champion in English billiards Michael Ferreira, Niraj Bajaj (table tennis), GM Pravin Thipsay (chess), shooters Anjali Bhagwat, Suma Shirur and Deepali Deshpande. Hockey Olympians Mervyn Fernandes and Joaquim Carvalho as well as former national badminton champion and national team captain Sanjay Sharma were also honoured with the award.

India cricket tour to Bangladesh could be rescheduled

DHAKA: India's white-ball tour of Bangladesh in August could be rescheduled because it needs clearance from the Indian government, a senior Bangladesh cricket official told AFP on Wednesday. The series, including three one-day and three T20 matches, is due to start on August 17 in Dhaka. However, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) media committee chairman Iftekhar Rahman told AFP that its Indian counterpart, the BCCI, has informed them the tour might be delayed. The BCCI has not made any comment on the tour.

FC Bengaluru United retain Mohanraj as head coach for 2025-26 season

BENGALURU: FC Bengaluru United on Wednesday reappointed former India international Nallappan Mohanraj as head coach ahead of the upcoming I-League 2 season. Under Mohanraj's guidance, FCBU had finished fourth in last year's I-League 2. "We started building a strong foundation over the last few months, and I look forward to building on that momentum, both in terms of performance and development," said Mohanraj, an ISL winner with Chennaiyin FC.

Asian champion 100m hurdler Yarraji suffers injury, in big blow to World C'ships hopes

NEW DELHI: Asian champion and national record holder 100m hurdler Jyothi Yarraji has suffered a knee injury while training a 'few days back', in a big blow to her World Championships hopes later this year. Yarraji, also an Asian Games silver medalist, has a high chance of qualifying for the World Championships in Tokyo in September. However, the recent injury could derail those ambitions.

Sammy calls for right process amid sexual assault allegations against Windies player

ST GEORGE'S (Grenada): West Indies cricket has been rocked by allegations of sexual abuse against an unnamed current player and the team's head coach Darren Sammy has called for justice to be served but also stressed on the need to follow the due process. A report published last week by Guyana-based Kaieteur News claimed that 11 women, including a teenager, have come forward with allegations of sexual offences against the cricketer, some reportedly dating back to 2023. No formal charges have been filed yet. Addressing the media ahead of the second Test against Australia, Sammy acknowledged the gravity of the situation while underscoring the importance of respecting legal procedures.

Under-fire Marquez quits as India football head coach

PTI, NEW DELHI: Embattled India football head coach Manolo Marquez stepped down on Wednesday after reaching a "mutual agreement" with the All India Football Federation (AIFF), which was under pressure to fix accountability for the recent downward spiral of the national team.

The AIFF Executive Committee, in its meeting here, agreed to relieve the 56-year-old Marquez after he expressed his desire to do so despite one year still left in his contract.

"The AIFF and Manolo decided to mutually part ways without any financial implications to any of the two parties. So, he is relieved from being India coach. The AIFF will shortly advertise

for the post of head coach," AIFF Deputy Secretary General K Satyanarayana told PTI.

The AIFF later said in a statement that the executive committee members "collectively decided on the mutual termination of Marquez's contract".

It also said that the Technical Committee, headed by former India captain IM Vijayan, had on Tuesday recommended the AIFF Executive Committee to appoint a new head coach "through an open application process".

"A new advertisement will be floated, inviting applications for the post," the statement said.

The Spaniard was appointed as

head coach in June 2024 for a two-year tenure. He worked in a dual role last year as he was also the head coach of Indian Super League side FC Goa in 2024-25 season.

India lost 0-1 to lower-ranked Hong Kong in an away match of the AFC Asian Cup qualifiers on June 10, which left the country in danger of missing out on qualifying for the continental showcase in 2027.

India logged just one win from their last eight matches under Marquez's tutelage, the lone victory coming against Maldives in March.

This year, India have so far played four matches, out of which they have won one, drew another, and lost two.

The poor results prompted the return of former skipper and iconic striker Sunil Chhetri to the squad but that has done little to improve the team's fortunes.

India's next scheduled international match is an away fixture against Singapore in the third round of Asian Cup qualifiers.

According to sources, Marquez, who took over from Croatian Igor Stimac, had informed the AIFF his desire to quit sometime back -- even before the June 10 match against Hong Kong -- but could not do so unilaterally as he needed an agreement with the AIFF.

Marquez has been one of the longest serving foreign coaches in Indian foot-

ball, having managed multiple Indian clubs. He has secured trophies, including the Super Cup and the ISL Cup.

His tenure of one year is the shortest among Indian head coaches in the last decade -- Stephen Constantine was India head coach from 2015 2019 before Igor Stimac (2019-2024).

There was also speculation that former India captain Bhaichung Bhutia could be show caused for his criticism of AIFF president Kalyan Chaubey on whom he had laid the blame for the current mess in Indian football administration. But Satyanarayana denied any such move by the executive committee.

The Executive Committee made a proposal, after consultation with

the Technical Committee, to increase match time for Indian players, particularly strikers, by reducing the number of foreign players in both leagues (ISL and I-League).

In addition, a feasibility study will be conducted to explore the possibility of fielding U23 national team probables in the I-League, as part of long-term preparations for the Asian Games.

"The house further agreed on the practicality of implementing these changes in consultation with club owners and the league management, to ensure decisions are taken in the best interest of the national team," the AIFF statement said.