

...As Windies' morale lifts to great heights

From TONY COZIER
(Special to "Guardian")

EXCEPT FOR one remarkable, but brief period in which Australian Test openers, Bill Lawry and Ian Redpath knocked 42 off the first four overs from fast bowlers, Charlie Griffith and Richard Edwards, the match between Victoria and West Indies never seemed likely to end in anything but a draw here, today.

Victoria, set 300 to win in 200 minutes after West Indies captain Gary Sobers had declared half-hour after lunch, decided that they would give it a try.

Lawry and Redpath, running for almost everything, and playing several fine aggressive shots, started with a splurge which suggested that West Indies would be hard-pressed to avoid their third successive defeat of the tour.

Sobers, himself, then stepped in, to end the farce by putting an immediate check on the scoring.

When, after an hour, Lawry was run-out by Edwards return to the bowler's end from mid-wicket, and Redpath bowled by a beauty from Sobers, the chase was over and the match moved towards an inevitable draw.

The excitement of Lawry and Redpath had nothing to the game on this final day, but both West Indies and Australia could gain satisfaction from various aspects of play.

Steve Camacho's second long innings of the match, probably brought the most pleasure to the West Indies camp. The bespectacled 23-year-old Guyanese will be the first choice opener for the first Test, but only if he can reach his peak by then.

So far on this tour, he has been bothered by injury and lack of form and in this game his scores of 38 and 62 have been hard earned.

Yet, he spent four hours all told in the middle and he will play the next game against New South Wales starting Friday in a far happier frame of mind.

Clever variation

Australia's purple patch came before lunch when the bowling of their key medium pacer Alan Connolly and impeccable field placing of captain Lawry frustrated West Indies into losing four wickets for 108 runs in 120 minutes.

Connolly had been lethargic in his first innings but in 20 overs in this innings, he limited the West Indies batsmen with persistent accuracy and clever variation.

He took only the wicket of Camacho—edging to first slip—but his accuracy contributed greatly to the dismissal of Joey Carew and Rohan Kanhai, both holing out to leg-spinner Kevin Kirby and of Seymour Nurse who was caught at slip off the boot



CHARLIE GRIFFITH

Scoreboard

VICTORIA vs WEST INDIANS

WEST INDIANS—1st inns. 401

VICTORIA—1st inns. 338

WEST INDIANS—2nd inns.

S. Camacho c Stackpole b Connolly ..	62
W. Carew c Grant b Kirby	38
R. Kanhai c Grant b Kirby	5
S. Nurse c Kirby b Stackpole	31
B. Butcher not out	48
D. Holford not out	46
EXTRAS	6
TOTAL (for 4 wkts. dec.)	236

Wickets fell at: 92, 105, 108, 158.

BOWLING: Cook 10-0-38-0; Connolly 20-6-49-1; Stackpole 14-2-62-1; Bedford 4-0-7-0; Kirby 12-1-74-2.

VICTORIA—2nd inns.

V. Lawry run out	35
I. Redpath b Sobers	38
K. Stackpole b Carew	7
P. Sheshan b Carew	54
L. Joslin run out	9
P. Bedford not out	19
J. Grant b Holford	33
R. Jordan not out	2
EXTRAS	4
TOTAL (for 6 wkts.)	201

Wickets fell at: 77, 77, 97, 130, 152, 198.

BOWLING: Griffith 5-0-45-0; Edwards 5-2-0-36-0; Sobers 5-1-5-1; Holford 13-2-60-1; Carew 13-3-37-2; Butcher 4-0-13-0.

after just under an hour's batting which again showed he has not yet reached his best form.

At lunch, Basil Butcher and David Holford had added 20 and afterwards they put on a further 58 in half-hour with batting which indicated how pleased they are with themselves.

Holford improves

Holford seems to bat better every time he comes to the crease and at today's declaration he had hit six fours and a straight six off Kirby in only an hour.

Following Sobers' controversial closure in Port-of-Spain earlier this year and Gibbs' challenge to Combined Eleven earlier this month at Perth—both of which resulted in losses — West Indian declarations no matter how tight defeat might appear, now inevitably seem to be risks.

Lawry and Redpath made today no exception.

Fifteen were taken from Griffith's first over and 14 from Edwards' second.

Even though they were averaging six minutes an over the run rate was really hectic with after five overs in just over half hour.

Sobers eased the apprehension and when in his fourth over, Lawry and Redpath were dismissed with successive balls, all danger completely disappeared and the rest of the game was of little interest.