

West Indies Collapse, Adrian Barath Rises

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As with all the other Test series since I moved to Barbados, I'm particularly glad this morning to be running DirecTV instead of cable; because, if I had cable, I would have gotten SportsMax; and paid every month for it; and not watched any of it except Wimbledon & West Indies cricket; so I would have paid a fair bit every month to watch the occasional cut-ass.

Better, I think, to have saved my money and my psyche; especially with the current dose of cut-ass being administered Down Under. Instead of staying up late for the agony, live, I just wake up in the morning from a sleep undisturbed by dreadful cricket, and catch up with the catastrophe on the Net.

The Adrian Barath century was the only good thing in three days of cricket for the West Indies. We might have a better performance if he plays Australia alone in the second Test.

If the gifted sight-reading musician can look at a musical score and hear, in delight, the symphony in his head, the dullest statistician can look at a West Indies scorecard and feel the horror in his bone marrow. If you want a horrible firsthand lesson in exactly what I mean, go to Cricinfo and check the fall of wickets in the second innings. Sharpen your razor blade first.