Haunted by their past, Proteas looked to be safe rather than sorry.

The final moments of South Africa's engrossing run chase against India were an illustration of the very best that Test cricket can offer. For four days India had, to the surprise of many in the cricket world, locked eye to eye with South Africa, occasionally causing the mighty hosts to flinch. And then on the fifth, two old friends and fine cricketers mounted what should have been the very best run chase in the history of our glorious sport. They fell marginally short, as valiant warriors sometimes do, but they brought their team to the very edge of the impossible. Somebody only needed to walk across the victory line.