

CRICKET

LYON SPIN GIVES AUSTRALIA CRUSHING WIN OVER BANGLADESH

CHITTAGONG: Nathan Lyon spun Australia to a series-levelling win over Bangladesh yesterday with a 13-wicket match haul in the second and final Test.

Chasing 86 for victory on a deteriorating Chittagong pitch, the visitors lost their top three batsmen before completing a seven-wicket win in the final session of the fourth day. Glenn Maxwell, who hit the winning six to take his score to 25, and Peter Handscomb, on 16, helped Australia bounce back from their loss in Dhaka last week. Bangladesh had been on a high after their historic first Test win over Australia. But Lyon brought them back to earth with a bump.

The off-spinner, who received the man of the match award, set up the win for Steve Smith's side after returning career-best match figures of 13-154.

Lyon claimed a third successive six-wicket haul to dismiss Bangladesh for 157 in their second innings. He took his series tally to 22 wickets, the most by an Australian bowler in a two-match contest. Opener David Warner also stood out with two successive centuries in the series including 123 in Australia's first innings that helped secure a crucial 72-run lead.

"We played some good cricket at times. To restrict them to what we did in the first innings was great. There wasn't a great deal in the surface for Lyon, but he was remarkable," Smith said of Lyon's 7-94 that helped restrict Bangladesh to 305 in the first innings. "I think he took 22 wickets for the series so that was a really good effort... But credit to Bangladesh, they really made us fight throughout the series," he added.

The hosts had bowled out Australia for 377 in the first innings, preventing their visitors from adding a run Thursday morning to the overnight total and restricting their lead to 72. But Bangladesh skipper Mushfiqur Rahim said his batsmen were not good enough after electing to bat first.

"Credit to Australia. The wicket was pretty good to bat on, we missed out in the first

innings. That's what cost us. We should've got 350 at least," said Mushfiqur.

"Win or lose, there are a lot of areas of improvements. Our batsmen made things tough for themselves, hopefully we'll learn," he added.

Mushfiqur managed a top score of 31 off 103 balls in Bangladesh's second innings. But none of the other batsmen could cope with a pitch that brought joy to Lyon.

HIGHS AND LOWS

Bangladesh started the day on a high, dismissing number 11 batsman Lyon in the second over of the day. But Lyon returned to pick up further wickets as Bangladesh slipped to 83-5 at lunch.

A 54-run sixth-wicket stand between Mushfiqur and Sabbir Rahman steadied the innings briefly but an unrelenting Lyon had Sabbir stumped for 24.

Mushfiqur fell to fast bowler Pat Cummins after being caught behind, leaving his side in dire straits.

Cummins and Steve O'Keefe, who combined with Lyon to wipe off the tail in the final session of play, took two wickets each, bowling Bangladesh out for 157 and leaving Australia requiring just 86 to win.

With meagre room for manoeuvre bowling in the fourth innings, Bangladesh had early success when Mustafizur Rahman dismissed Warner, who shared the man of the series award with Lyon, for eight.

Spinners Shakib Al Hasan and Taijul Islam then took the wickets of Steve Smith for 16 and Matt Renshaw for 22 to leave Australia at 48-3. But Handscomb and Maxwell then dug in and saw Australia home with their unbroken 39-run stand.

"We all know that we haven't had the best of success in the sub-continent. It was important for us to come here as a young group and stand up," said Lyon. Australia now travel to India where they will play five one-day internationals and three Twenty20 matches between September 17 to October 13. — AFP

SCOREBOARD

CHITTAGONG, Bangladesh: Final scoreboard of the second and final Test between Bangladesh and Australia at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday:

Bangladesh first innings 305 (Mushfiqur Rahim 68, Sabbir Rahman 66; N. Lyon 7-94)		Mushfiqur Rahim c Wade b Cummins	31
		Sabbir Rahman st Wade b Lyon	24
		Mominul Haque c Cummins b Lyon	29
		Mehedi Hasan not out	14
		Taijul Islam b Lyon	4
		Mustafizur Rahman b O'Keefe	0
		Extras (b12)	12
		Total (all out, 71.2 overs)	157
		Fall of wickets: 1-11 (Soumya Sarkar), 2-32 (Tamim Iqbal), 3-37 (imrul Kayes), 4-39 (Shakib Al Hasan), 5-43 (Nasir Hossain), 6-97 (Sabbir Rahman), 7-129 (Mushfiqur), 8-149 (Mominul), 9-156 (Taijul), 10-157 (Mustafizur)	
		Bowling: Cummins 11-3-27-2, Lyon 33-11-60-6, O'Keefe 22.2-6-49-2, Agar 5-1-9-0	
Australia 1st innings			
M. Renshaw c Rahim b Mustafizur		4	
D. Warner c Imrul b Mustafizur		123	
S. Smith b Taijul		58	
P. Handscomb run out		82	
G. Maxwell c Rahim b Mehedi		38	
H. Cartwright c Soumya b Mehedi		18	
M. Wade lbw b Mustafizur		8	
A. Agar b Shakib		22	
P. Cummins lbw b Mehedi		4	
S. O'Keefe not out		8	
N. Lyon c Imrul b Mustafizur		0	
Extras (b8, lb3, w1)		12	
Total (all out; 119.5 overs)		377	
Fall of wickets: 1-5 (Renshaw), 2-98 (Smith), 3-250 (Handscomb), 4-298 (Warner), 5-321 (Cartwright), 6-342 (Wade), 7-346 (Maxwell), 8-364 (Cummins), 9-376 (Agar), 10-377 (Lyon)			
Bowling: Mehedi 38-6-93-3, Mustafizur 20.5-2-84-4 (w1), Shakib 31-3-82-1, Taijul 21-1-78-1, Nasir 6-2-14-0, Mominul 2-0-6-0, Sabbir 1-0-9-0			
Bangladesh 2nd innings			
Tamim Iqbal st Wade b Lyon		12	
Soumya Sarkar c Renshaw b Cummins		9	
Imrul Kayes c Maxwell b Lyon		15	
Nasir Hossain c Smith b O'Keefe		5	
Shakib Al Hasan c Warner b Lyon		2	
Australia 2nd innings (target 86)			
M. Renshaw c Mushfiqur b Shakib		22	
D. Warner c Soumya b Mustafizur		8	
S. Smith c Mushfiqur b Taijul		16	
P. Handscomb not out		16	
G. Maxwell not out		25	
Extras		0	
Total (3 wickets, 15.3 overs)		87	
Fall of wickets: 1-13 (Warner), 2-44 (Smith), 3-48 (Renshaw)			
Did not bat: H. Cartwright, M. Wade, A. Agar, P. Cummins, S. O'Keefe, N. Lyon			
Bowling: Mustafizur 5-1-16-1, Shakib 6-1-35-1, Taijul 4-0-26-1, Nasir Hossain 0.3-0-10-0			
Result: Australia won by seven wickets.			

ANDERSON ON BRINK OF 500 CLUB AFTER WINDIES DOUBLE

LONDON: James Anderson was just one wicket away from becoming the first England bowler to take 500 Test wickets after striking twice against the West Indies at Lord's yesterday.

West Indies, who won the toss, were 35 for two at lunch on the first day of the third and deciding Test with a three-match series all square at 1-1.

England spearhead Anderson, who started this match on 497 Test wickets, had lunch figures of two for 18 in 10 overs after removing both Kraigg Brathwaite and Kyle Hope with the aid of catches by wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow.

Kieran Powell was 17 not out and Shai Hope eight not out.

Despite a green-tinged pitch affected by fungus, West Indies captain Jason Holder-whose side were unchanged following their shock five-wicket win in the second Test at Headingley-opted to bat first as he backed his top order to come through the tricky overcast conditions.

Anderson, who went wicketless in the second innings at Leeds, should have had his 498th Test wicket when he took Brathwaite's outside edge when the

opener, who made 134 and 95 at Headingley, was on three.

But Alastair Cook, who floored two first-slip catches as West Indies chased 322 for victory last week, dropped a seemingly routine chance.

It was not a costly error as Anderson, however, squared Brathwaite up on 10, and Bairstow made no mistake with a simple catch to leave West Indies 18 for one. Rain then stopped play for some 40 minutes and when the match resumed Anderson had Kyle Hope out for a duck when the batsman, trying to withdraw his bat, was well caught by Bairstow diving to his right, in front of Cook.

Anderson had taken two wickets for no runs in 12 balls and West Indies were 22 for two. Hope's exit brought in younger brother Shai Hope fresh from scores of 147 his maiden Test century—and a match-winning 118 not out in Leeds. The 23-year-old, carrying on from where he left off, got off the mark first ball by punching Anderson, now just one wicket away from becoming only the sixth bowler to join Test cricket's '500 club', through the covers for an elegant four. — AFP



CHITTAGONG: Australian cricketer Matt Renshaw (L) plays a shot as the Bangladeshi cricket captain Mushfiqur Rahim (R) and Mominul Haque looks on during the fourth day of the second cricket Test between Bangladesh and Australia at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday. —AFP