

Australia crushes New Zealand, sweeps series

Another five-for gives Lyon 10-wicket match haul; Warner gets 24th century

NZ IN AUSTRALIA

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SYDNEY
Nathan Lyon captured five for 50 and 10 match wickets as Australia crushed New Zealand by 279 runs on Monday, capping a golden domestic summer as it swept the three-Test series.

The off-spinner led the powerful Australian bowling attack to dismiss the Kiwis for 136 and seal another heavy win over the Black Caps after similar victories in Perth and Melbourne.

Unbeatable
Australia has been unbeatable this season, winning all five Tests at home – two against Pakistan and three against New Zealand – after retaining the Ashes by drawing the series 2-2 in England. “It’s been a great summer for the Australian Test side,” Lyon said.

“It’s pretty special to be part of it, we have been impressive, pretty clinical, the batters have done well and given us bowlers plenty of time.”

Australia declared its second innings at 217 for two with David Warner scoring an unbeaten century, leaving the Black Caps with a revised 416-run target in the fourth innings on a wearing Sydney Cricket Ground



On a roll: The Australian team notched up another series win, beating New Zealand comprehensively in Sydney on Monday. • AP

pitch.

But the Kiwis buckled under the pressure of Australia’s superior bowling attack with Mitchell Starc taking three for 25 to support Lyon’s wiles.

“They were clinical in all areas and after the first match they put us under pressure, session after session,” said skipper Kane Williamson, who missed the

Test with a virus.

New Zealand was reeling early at 27 for four and never recovered after Starc and Lyon took two wickets each in the middle session.

Starc removed both openers – Tom Latham and Tom Blundell – in the first five overs. Blundell fell to a stunning catch by a diving Lyon at point for two and stand-in skipper Latham lost a review

for leg before wicket.

Jeet Raval was out in a review to the faintest of edges on ‘Snicko’ in Lyon’s first over for 12.

First-innings top-scorer Glenn Phillips went for a duck after technology detected a faint outside edge to wicketkeeper Paine off Lyon.

Taylor’s record
Ross Taylor became the

leading all-time Kiwi batsman, going past Stephen Fleming (7,172) before he was bowled by Pat Cummins for 22 to take his Test aggregate to 7,174.

Colin de Grandhomme smacked Lyon for six to bring up his fifty but went next ball hoicking to Joe Burns at deep mid-wicket for 52. Todd Astle was out to a superb diving catch by James

Pattinson in the outfield for 17. Starc yorked William Somerville’s middle stump for seven and B-J. Watling was the last to fall, caught by Cummins for 19.

Earlier, Warner completed his 24th Test century and skipper Paine declared upon the dismissal of Marnus Labuschagne.

Penalty
There was drama late in the Australian innings when Warner was given an official warning by umpire Aleem Dar for running down the middle of the pitch in scampering a single.

It resulted in five penalty

runs being added to New Zealand’s first innings total meaning the target was revised down from 421 to 416.

- Taylor became the leading run-scorer in Tests for NZ with 7,174
- Labuschagne completed 1000 Test runs in 18 innings. He scored 896 runs in five matches, the second best after Hammond (905 runs in 1928-1929).
- Lyon now has 18 five-wicket hauls in Tests and three 10-wicket hauls in a match

SCOREBOARD

Australia – 1st innings: 454.
New Zealand – 1st innings: 256.

Australia – 2nd innings: D. Warner (not out) 111, J. Burns lbw b Astle 40, M. Labuschagne c Latham b Henry 59; Extras (b-3, lb-3, w-1): 7. Total (for 2 wkts. decl. in 52 overs): 217.

Fall of wickets: 1-107, 2-217.
New Zealand bowling: Henry 12-2-54-1, de Grandhomme 13-1-43-0, Wagner 9-1-37-0, Somerville 10-0-36-0, Astle 8-1-41-1.

New Zealand – 2nd innings: T. Latham lbw b Starc 1, T. Blundell c Lyon b Starc 2, J. Raval c Paine b Lyon 12, R. Taylor b Cummins 22, G. Phillips c Paine b Lyon 0, B-J. Watling c Cum-

mins b Lyon 19, C. de Grandhomme c Burns b Lyon 52, T. Astle c Pattinson b Lyon 17, W. Somerville b Starc 7, N. Wagner (not out) 0, M. Henry absent hurt 0; Extras (b-3, lb-1): 4. Total (in 47.5 overs): 136.

Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-4, 3-22, 4-22, 5-38, 6-107, 7-128, 8-136, 9-136.
Australia bowling: Starc 9-3-25-3, Cummins 11-3-29-1, Pattinson 6-3-8-0, Lyon 16.5-4-50-5, Labuschagne 5-0-20-0.

Man-of-the-Match & Series: Labuschagne.
Australia won match by 279 runs and series 3-0.
(Target revised following five-run penalty in Australia’s 2nd innings)

Australia firmly in second spot

ANI
DUBAI
Australia grabbed full 120 points from the series against New Zealand and is firmly in second position on the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) points table.

Australia has 296 points after completing a 3-0 series win and is behind India, which is on 360 points from three series.

Australia gained 120 points from the series against Pakistan and 56 from a 2-2 draw with England.

New Zealand is on 60 points after two series, having split points for a 1-1 series draw with Sri Lanka earlier.

Sri Lanka and Pakistan are slightly ahead with 80 points each.

Each series of the WTC is worth 120 points, distributed evenly over the number of matches in the series.

England and South Africa, currently engaged in a four-Test series which hosts South Africa leads 1-0, are on 56 and 30 points, respectively.

Meanwhile, the West Indies and Bangladesh, who have played one series each against India, are yet to earn a point.

Sindhu aims to start year on a high

Saina looks for return to form; Kashyap runs into Momota

MALAYSIA MASTERS

IAN S
KUALA LUMPUR

Since the World Championship win, P.V. Sindhu hasn’t had a great run and the ace shuttler will look to put that behind her and start the new year on a high when she begins her campaign at the Malaysia Masters Super 500 tournament, here on Tuesday.

Early exits
Sindhu made early exits in the rest of the season since becoming the World champion and also failed to defend the World Tour Finals crown in December.

Sixth-ranked Sindhu should ease past Russia’s Evgeniya Kosetskaya in the first round and the Indian will look to stay on course for an expected meeting with World No. 1 Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei in the quarterfinals.

Saina Nehwal, who also endured a lean patch last year since winning the Indonesia Masters, will open



Fresh start: P.V. Sindhu needs to find her form in order to return to the pinnacle where she belongs. • AP

against a qualifier at the Axiata Arena.

B. Sai Praneeth will meet Thailand’s Kantaphon Wangcharoen in the first round.

Former World No. 6 P. Kashyap will face top seed and World No. 1 Kento Momota of Japan in the first round, while H.S. Prannoy, who was down with health issues for the most part of last season, will meet Japan’s Kanta Tsuneyama.

K. Srikanth will take on Chou Tien Chen of Taiwan.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, who became the first Indian men’s pair to claim a super 500 title at the Thailand Open and also reached the final of the French Open Super 750 event, will lock horns with Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi.

Ashwini Ponnappa and N. Sikki Reddy will take on Korea’s Chang Ye Na and Kim Hye Rin.

Tilkowski passes away

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BERLIN

Former Germany goalkeeper Hans Tilkowski, who conceded a controversial Geoff Hurst ‘ghost-goal’ at the 1966 World Cup final, died at the age of 84, his family told on Monday.

During the England-West Germany final at Wembley, Tilkowski, who made 39 international appearances, was beaten by Hurst’s shot which hit the cross bar and was adjudged to have crossed the line during extra-time as England went on to lift the trophy 4-2.

The incident continues to leave a mark on German football where the term “Wembley-goal” is used to describe goal efforts which are difficult to validate.

In English, “Russian linesman” is a term sometimes used to describe controversial refereeing decisions after Azeri Tofik Bahkramov gave the green light to goal. “I will die with the certitude that the ball didn’t cross the line,” Tilkowski said of the incident.

Kapil turns 61

Wishes pour in for the legend

IAN S
NEW DELHI

Legendary cricketer and India’s first World Cup-winning captain Kapil Dev turned 61 on Monday and wishes for the former all-rounder poured in on various social media platforms. Kapil had led India to its maiden World Cup title in 1983.

Not only the cricket fraternity, but also wishes from personalities of other walks of life came in for the legend.

“Wishing you a day filled with happiness and a life filled with joy. A very happy birthday @therealkapildev Paaji,” former batsman V.V.S. Laxman tweeted.

Wishing Kapil, Mohammad Kaif also thanked the former cricketer for being a role model for the younger generation. “Many more happy returns of the day @therealkapildev Paaji. Thank you for inspiring a whole generation of youngsters,” Kaif tweeted.

“Wishing Team India’s greatest all-rounder and 1983 World Cup winning



Kapil Dev. • FILE PHOTO

Birthday Greetings for the greatest Indian all rounder till date..God Bless Kaps now & Always

— BISHAN SINGH BEDI

Captain Kapil Dev a very happy birthday,” the BCCI tweeted.

“Happy Birthday to one of the legends of Indian cricket @therealkapildev Sir. Have a blessed year ahead,” India opener Shikhar Dhawan tweeted.

Kapil’s former teammate and legendary spinner Bishan Singh Bedi said: “Birthday Greetings for the greatest Indian all rounder till date..God Bless Kaps now & Always..Love All Always..!”

Odisha set to put on a show

Khelo University Games from Feb. 22

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

After staging a series of big-ticket events, Odisha is set to host the first edition of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) from February 22 to March 1.

The inaugural games, to be held at the KIIT University in Bhubaneswar, will have 17 sports disciplines and feature around 4,000 athletes from around 80 to 100 universities.

The individual events will be in archery, athletics, boxing, fencing, judo, swimming, weightlifting and wrestling. The team events will be in badminton, basketball, football, hockey, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, rugby, and kabaddi.

In the last few years, Odisha has hosted big tournaments such as the 2017 Asian Athletics Championships, 2018 Men’s Hockey World Cup, 2019 Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships, and the Hockey Olympic Qualifiers in November 2019.

Ahead of the launch event on Monday, Odisha’s Minister of Sports and Youth

Services, Tusharkanti Behera, said the KIUG would provide a perfect platform for young athletes to gain national recognition.

“It is an event of massive scale involving youth and we expect a seamless and successful execution of the event. We are confident that participants will demonstrate highest level of sportsmanship and return to their states as ambassadors for KIUG and Odisha,” Behera told *The Hindu*.

Telecast on DD
The KIUG 2020 will be broadcast on Doordarshan. There are plans to stream key events across the state’s social platforms and YouTube channels. Behera said a dedicated event site would provide schedules, updates, photos and highlights of the games.

The Odisha government is organising the games in association with Sports Authority of India, Association of Indian Universities, National Sports Federations, Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and the participating universities.

No balls: Third umpire on the job again

ANI
DUBAI

The front-foot no-balls in the limited-overs series between West Indies and Ireland will be monitored by the third umpire.

This was done during India’s limited-overs series

against West Indies.

West Indies will host Ireland for a three-match ODI series and as many T20Is, starting on January 7.

“The upcoming limited-overs series between the West Indies and Ireland will

be contested trialling technology that will authorise the third umpire to call front-foot no-balls, like during West Indies’ recent ODI and T20I tour of India,” the International Cricket Council (ICC) said in a statement.

“During the trial, which will be carried out in all three ODIs and three T20Is, the third umpire will monitor each ball for any front-foot infringement and communicate it to the on-field umpire to call a no-ball,” the statement said.

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