

'Glad we got there in the end'

REUTERS

Off-spinner Nathan Lyon led an inspired bowling performance by Australia with a five-wicket haul to help the tourists beat Pakistan by 115 runs in the final session of the deciding third Test in Lahore and clinch the three-match series 1-0 on Friday.

The 34-year-old took the prized wickets of Imam-ul-Haq, Azhar Ali and Babar Azam to end Pakistan's resistance and finished with figures of 5-83 to register his 19th five-wicket haul in an innings.

Fast bowler Pat Cummins provided ample support by picking up three wickets as Pakistan folded for 235 on the final day of the test match at the Gaddafi Stadium, chasing a target of 351.

"In the first innings, the way we batted and put us ahead of the game was fantastic," Cummins, who was adjudged player of the match for his match haul of eight wickets, said at the presentation.

"Thought 350, if they batted really, really well they were in the game, but thought if we bowled to our potential it was a long way away. Glad we got there in the end."

Pakistan captain Babar, who saved the hosts from the jaws of defeat in the second test in Karachi with a 196 in the second innings, made 55.

"Unfortunately we had some soft dismissals today," Babar said, adding that he was satisfied with the overall performance of his team in the series.



Another World Cup without ITALY

AGENCIES

Italy were "destroyed" by their shock defeat to North Macedonia, with Giorgio Chiellini saying their failure to qualify for the World Cup opened "a great void".

The reigning European champions fell to a surprise 1-0 defeat at home to North Macedonia, with former Palermo attacker Aleksandar Trajkovski netting a surprise winner for the visitors in the 92nd minute.

Italy have now failed to qualify for two straight World Cups. They will not be able to feature on that stage until 2026, with their only win in the competition since they triumphed in 2006 coming against England in the 2014 group stage.

The defeat to North Macedonia marked an incredible turnaround in fortunes for Italy, who won Euro 2020 as part of a 37-game undefeated streak that ended in October - a month after they dropped valuable points against Bulgaria and Switzerland in their World Cup qualifying group.

Roberto Mancini's side ended up missing out on top spot to Switzerland after two further draws, and their capitulation at the Renzo Barbera was tough for Chiellini to take.

"It's hard to explain. There is great disappointment. We played a great match but just couldn't score," Chiellini told Rai Sport. "We weren't presumptuous. We were missing something. We made mistakes from September until today and we paid for them."

"I am proud of this team, but it's obvious we are disappointed and destroyed. We have to start again."

"It's difficult to comment so quickly. There will remain a

great void and I hope this void will give the energy needed to restart. We have to start against to win again and get back to the top of the European Championship and in four years go to the World Cup."

Midfielder Marco Verratti said North Macedonia's goal in added time was a "real nightmare".

"This group had a great chance at the World Cup, we came from the unbeaten record, so it is difficult to accept what happened tonight," Verratti said.

"We all know that we have given everything, now surely it is time to ask ourselves some questions."

Meanwhile, Mancini, who has since the defeat been backed by the Italian FA chief, took the blame for the failure on himself.

"It's difficult to talk about a match in which we had 40 shots and they had one or two," Mancini told reporters.

"I'm the coach, when in football things go wrong it's the coach's fault, so I am responsible."

Another one who was willing to shoulder the blame was midfielder Jorginho, whose two penalty misses against Switzerland in two qualifying phase matches pushed Italy to the playoffs.

"It is difficult to explain what happened," Jorginho told RAI Sport through tears.

"It hurts when I think about it (the penalty misses), because I do still think about it and it will haunt me for the rest of my life. Stepping up there twice and not being able to help your team and your country is something that I will carry with me forever, and it weighs on me. People say we need to lift our heads and carry on, but it's tough."



Expanded IPL returns home

REUTERS, MUMBAI

Champions Chennai Super Kings will kick off the 15th edition of the Indian Premier League against former winners Kolkata Knight Riders on Saturday as the Twenty20 tournament returns home with an expanded version following the addition of two new teams.

Mumbai will host 55 matches in three stadiums in and around the city, while Pune - also in the Western state of Maharashtra - will host the remaining 15 league games which means air travel will not be required for the league's 10 franchises.

Fans will also be allowed to attend matches, with a 25% occupancy limit, during the 2022 edition with COVID-19 restrictions easing in the country.

The IPL, which counts Bollywood stars and billionaires among franchise owners and draws the best cricketers globally, will expand to 10 teams after Lucknow and Ahmedabad paid a combined \$1.7 billion to enter the world's richest cricket tournament.



PHOTO: AFP

SALMA SHOW IN VAIN

In a rain-affected match, Bangladesh off-spinner Salma Khatun, who is seen celebrating one of her three wickets with teammate Rumana Ahmed, single-handedly dismantled Australia's top order and sparked life into their ICC Women's World Cup group stage game in Wellington yesterday. Australia, however, prevailed as an unbeaten 66 from Beth Mooney saw them win by five wickets.

10:42

#FinSmart

Overview

Wells / Personal Loans / Business

Wells / Personal Loans / Business

Services

Microfinance

ED Payment

Mobile Top-Up

Get To

Travel Ticket

Home Banking

Latest Offers

More

Apply for Product

GET THE CREDIT

FinSmart

EASY SOLUTION FOR YOU

Life becomes more convenient and easier when you have our updated **FinSmart**. Now without visiting any of our branches, you can get your desired financial services at your fingertips at any time.

Managing Account

Secured Bio-metric Login

My Account details

Credit Card & Deposit Payment

Apply Online

BEFTN Enrollment

Value Added Services

Mobile Top-Up

Utility Bill Payment

Travel Ticket Purchase

Hotel Booking

Latest Offers

Apply Online : Deposit, Credit Card, Personal Loan, Home Loan, Auto Loan & SME Loan

Utility Bill : Cable, Internet, Electricity, Water Supply, Gas etc.

Download the updated FinSmart app from Google Play Store or Apple App Store by scanning the QR code below.

FinSmart

LankaBangla FINANCE

স্বাধীনতার

আহ্বানে বিজয়ের

সূর্যোদয়

স্বাধীনতার দৃঢ় প্রত্যয়ে, কোটি প্রাণ উঠল জেগে,

লড়াই-প্রতিরোধ-জীবন দান, অতঃপর স্বাধীন বাংলাদেশ।

আজ মুক্ত আকাশে পাখি ওড়ে, আমরাও স্বপ্ন বুনি নির্ভয়ে, সমৃদ্ধির পানে।

সবাইকে মহান স্বাধীনতা ও জাতীয় দিবসের শুভেচ্ছা।

ইসলামী ব্যাংক

বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড

ইসলামী শরী'আহ্ মোতাবেক পরিচালিত

কম্পিউটার সেন্টার: ১৬২৪৯, ৮৩৩১০৯০

www.islambankbd.com