

Russell’s sparkling farewell in vain as Australia sprint to T20 win

West Indies legend Russell’s final innings thrills home crowd, but Australia secure emphatic victory

- Russell smashes 36 off 15 balls
- Sabina Park crowd gives standing ovation
- Australia win by eight wickets

AFP | Kingston

Andre Russell struck a sparkling 36 off 15 balls in his final innings before retirement on Tuesday but could not save the West Indies from losing the second Twenty20 international against Australia in Kingston.

The 37-year-old all-rounder was unable to script a fairytale farewell to his glittering T20 career, but departed to a standing ovation on his home Sabina Park ground after hitting four trademark sixes and two fours.

Batting at number seven in his 85th and last T20 international, Russell’s cameo, plus a late flurry from Gudakesh Motie (18 off nine balls) added to 51 from opener Brandon King enabled the hosts to score 172-8 off their 20 overs.

But a record 131-run stand by Josh Inglis, who made 78 not out, and Cameron Green (56 not



Andre Russell waves to fans at his home ground in Kingston, Jamaica, after batting for the final time in international cricket against Australia

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KNOW WHAT

Andre Russell was given a guard of honour by both teams and thrilled fans one last time with four monster sixes in his final innings, capping a 12-year T20I career

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I didn’t want to finish on a losing note. I enjoy seeing the ball go over the ropes. As a kid you dream about playing here. Thanks to all the fans who came out to support me

ANDRE RUSSELL

out) saw Australia race to an eight-wicket win with more than four overs to spare.

It was Australia’s highest third-wicket partnership in Twenty20 internationals and, aided by six dropped catches by West Indies fielders, gave the visitors a 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

Inglis hit seven fours and five sixes while Green was barely more sedate, clearing the ropes four times and stroking three fours in his second consecutive fifty.

“I didn’t want to finish on a losing note,” said Russell, whose spectacular final knock had briefly thrilled his hometown

crowd.

“I enjoy seeing the ball go over the ropes,” he added.

“As a kid you dream about playing here. Thanks to all the fans who came out to support me.”

Russell, who was given a guard of honour before the match by both teams, played just one Test match.

It was as a Twenty20 specialist that he made his name, winning the T20 World Cup twice with the West Indies in 2012 and 2016.

A more than lively seam bowler, Russell’s free-scoring late-order batting and athletic fielding saw him sought after by T20 leagues around the world.

He has been with Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL since 2014, scoring more than 2,400 runs.

Bahrain Fall to Uzbekistan

- Bahrain finished the four-nation tournament with one draw and two losses.
- The team’s training camp is part of preparations for the AFC U-23 qualifiers in September.

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

This was Bahrain’s second setback in the tournament. They had previously lost their opening match against Oman with the same scoreline, 1-0, while managing a 1-1 draw against Syria in



Bahrain’s Olympic Team Ends Preparations in Defeat, Uzbekistan edge Bahrain in final match

their second game. wrapped up their external training camp in Kyrgyzstan

on Wednesday, having played a series of challenging friendly matches aimed at enhancing the players’ technical and physical readiness.

This preparation is part of the comprehensive plan led by the national coaching staff, headed by coach Ali Abdulmajid, as the team gears up for the Asian qualifiers scheduled for September. Success in these qualifiers will secure their spot in the 2026 AFC Asian Cup finals, which will be held in Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain will compete in Group H of the AFC U-23 Asian Cup 2026 qualifiers, alongside Qatar, India, and Brunei Darussalam. The qualifiers will be held in Doha, and only group winners or the best four second-placed teams will advance to the finals in Saudi Arabia.

Red Tide Rolls On



Bahrain’s men embrace after a point

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

If there were any doubts about Bahrain’s championship credentials in the WAVA Men’s Volleyball Championship, they were erased in their quarter-final performance last night. Led by French Olympian Arnaud Josserand, Bahrain swept Kuwait in straight sets (25-15, 25-22, 25-20) to reach the semi-finals against neighbors Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain is playing with confidence and an efficiency that few in the tournament can match. They haven’t dropped a single set in four matches, finishing Pool A with 3-0 wins over Jordan, Lebanon, and the UAE. Entering the knockout stage, they led the tournament in attacking and serving, including 22 points scored directly from serves, which is a stat they reinforced last night.

To their credit, Kuwait came in battle-tested after a 0-3 loss to Oman, a surprise 3-2 win over Saudi Arabia, and a close 2-3 loss to Qatar. Against Bahrain, they fought hard but couldn’t find answers to Bahrain’s control at the net.

Kuwait’s Rashed Anbar was the top scorer with 19 points, while Bahrain’s Ali Ibrahim led with 14 points. Mohammed Yaqoob added 11, Nasser Anan 8, Hassan Al Warqa 7, and Mohammed Jassim 5. Mahmoud Al Affiah and Mahmoud Abdulwahed matched each other’s tally of one point.

This team isn’t just in great form, they are decorated champions. Just last month, Bahrain won their first-ever AVC title at the 2025 Men’s Volleyball Nations Cup, following their Arab Championship win in November. Now, two wins stand between them and a historic regional treble.

Juventus make Conceicao loan permanent

AFP | Milan

Portuguese international Francisco Conceicao, who spent last year on loan at Juventus, has completed a full transfer from Porto, the Serie A club has announced.

The 22-year-old winger, who has 11 caps for Portugal and scored seven goals in 40 appearances in all competitions for Juventus last season, has signed a deal taking him up to 2030.

“Juventus announce that they have reached an agreement with FC Porto for the permanent acquisition of Francisco Conceicao,” Juve said in a statement released on Tuesday evening.

Juventus, the only Italian club listed on the stock exchange, said it had paid “30.4 million euros (\$35.6 million) payable in four annual instalments”, in addition to 1.6 million euros in fees and other costs.

According to the Italian press, Juventus are also close to finalising the transfer of another player from Porto, Portuguese right-back Joao Mario while defender Alberto Costa is expected to go in the other direction.

Juve, now coached by Igor Tudor, have already strengthened their attacking line with the signing of Canadian international Jonathan David from French side Lille.



Francisco Conceicao