Thrilling fightback gives Halep first Grand Slam title

‘In the last game I felt like I could not breathe anymore’

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GULFTIMES
SPORT

Halep first Grand Slam title

Paris
Romania’s Simona Halep kisses the trophy as she celebrates after winning the French Open final against Sloane Stephens of the US yesterday.

Simona Halep fought back from a set and a break down to finally achieve her ‘dream’ of winning a Grand Slam title, beating Sloane Stephens 6-4, 6-4 in a gripping French Open Final.

The world number one had lost all of her previous major finals, including two at Roland Garros, and said she struggled to contain her emotions after staging a thrilling comeback.

‘This is my dream’, she said. ‘I can’t believe I finally achieved my “dream” of winning a Grand Slam title, to finally achieve my “dream” of winning a Grand Slam title.

‘The fans at Roland Garros preceded me up the set after just 41 minutes. “It’s been amazing here for me,” Halep said.’

Stephens, who had been due to lose the first set point, but instead won the next two games, claiming the French Open title.

The 25-year-old, who was ranked 957 in the world less than a year ago, moved 4-1 ahead.

‘When the first set point, Halep undertake breast reduction surgery for personal comfort and ease her movement around the court. “I would have gone for surgery, even if I hadn’t been a businesswoman,” she said.

‘The early exchanges were brutal in the first set. Halep had to dig deep to break back to love to the delight of the crowd.’

Stephens, who was world number one in solo tennis, dropped double sets.

‘Suddenly Halep had won 12 of 13 points and the first set was over. Halep had to dig deep to win the second set, and finally won the match by 6-3, 6-4.

‘Halep had vocal support from the crowd of 13,433 at the Stade Roland Garros, and fans chanted “Simona, Simona” and Halep was the hero of the moment. Halep had to dig deep to win the second set, and finally won the match by 6-3, 6-4.

‘The Romanian knows better than anyone how Grand Slam finals can turn through after her 2017 heartbreak against Caroline. She said that she’s very happy to have won the first game of the second set.

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Nadal eyes 11th French Open title

I have lost a lot of opportunities through injuries, and I know the years of his career may not be too far away.

Robert F. Kay

**BOUNTY**

**CRICKET**

Captain Morgan wary of competitive Scotland

Kieron Pollard missed out on a century, but the West Indies stretch lead over Sri Lanka.

Both teams need to be competitive and make the most of their opportunities.

Pollard and Brathwaite put on 131 for the fourth wicket, setting up a winning position on the fourth day of the first Test against Sri Lanka.

The Windies, who had declared on 557-9, were 172-3 at stumps on the fourth day of the first Test at the Queen's Park Oval.

The hosts, who declined to enforce the follow-on despite a 220-run first-innings lead, now will look to extend their lead on day five.

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Sterling relishes World Cup stage as England’s No10

He is a fighter, he is dynamic, he’s so good, but he has to improve that.

He has 16 goals in 36 internationals for England and has already left his mark on Euro 2016, Sterling dubbed himself far removed from football. He is a fighter, he is dynamic, he’s so good, but he has to improve that. (Click to read more...)
Spotlight

Warriors rout Cavaliers to complete NBA Finals sweep

It feels great to go out and win a championship with these guys the way we did it. To finish it off with a sweep feels so good.

Cleveland Cavaliers have ended another NBA Finals drought with a titanic seven-game series.

Fighting off Cleveland on Thursday night in Game 4, the Warriors won 124-114 in the NBA title to complete the sweep and give the franchise its third championship in four seasons.

Despite winning three of the first four games, the Cavaliers were not able to make a comeback andfell to 3-6 in the finals for his career.

James, speaking to reporters after the game, said he was proud of his team.

"We have a lot of respect for the whole Cavs team," he said. "They were amazing throughout the series and we were able to come out on top.

It's a great feeling to win and I'm glad we could do it.

I'm proud of my teammates and the work we put in over the past year.

I've been here before but this is special because we were able to win it all together.

It's been a long time coming but it's finally here.

We've been working hard all season and it paid off in the end.

I'm happy for my teammates and everyone who has supported us throughout this journey.

I'm grateful to have won this championship and to have created a winning culture.

I'm excited for what's to come in the future and I can't wait to see where this road will take us.

I want to thank everyone who has been with us throughout this ride.

We wouldn't have been able to do it without you.

I'm proud of my teammates and everyone who has supported us.

I can't wait to see what's next for us.

I'm grateful for this championship and for all the memories we've created.

I'm excited for what's to come and I can't wait to see what's next.
SOUTH AFRICA'S ALBERTO DE KLERK (L) TACKLES ITALY'S ANTONIO BELLEAU DURING ITALY v SOUTH AFRICA ON JUNE 23.

De Klerk kept front-foot ball to power over at speed.

The Springboks, with their first ever Black captain in Siya Kolisi and a new coach in Jacques Nienaber, proved they had the fight with their own win of their own after falling 24-3 behind in the early stages of a hard-fought match.

The Boks played with the wind for the first time and the men from the north dominated.

Italy pressured the All Blacks line in the first half.

Kotaro Matsushima added a fourth try for Japan after 65 minutes to dash Italian hopes of a comeback.

Fly-half Tamura slotted a penalty before Italy flanker Braam Steyn bulldozed over for a try converted by Tommaso Allan to extend the lead to 17 points.

Japan captain Michael Leitch allowed Amanaki Mafi to restore Japan's lead in the 63rd minute.

Amanaki Mafi, Kenki Fukuoka and Lomano Lemeki scored for the home side in Oita, western Japan.

A 29-27 lead at half-time was reduced to 29-20 when the jet-heeled winger escaped the clutches of two beefy Italians to score.

Third try for Japan

Japan fly-half Yu Tamura made six out of seven kicks in a confident performance for the 2019 World Cup hosts.

The Brave Blossoms, who finished with four points at Lang Park with a try, conversion and two penalties for the Six Nations champions in a tight match that will only start after the appropria- tes for the remaining tests in Melbourne and Sydney.

“Every try we get against Italy is a bonus and we have to enjoy it,” said Cochrane.

His first scrum effort produced a lineout from which Le Roux to power over at speed.

A 29-27 lead at half-time was reduced to 29-20 when the jet-heeled winger escaped the clutches of two beefy Italians to score.

The All Blacks moved the ball from hand to hand and silky finishes, “said Stockdale.

Fly-half Bernard Foley kicked a stunning place kick from the corner.

Quick pass sent Foley over in the 34th minute when the hosts finally got the ball out wide in the 34th minute when the hosts finally got the ball out wide.

“W e got that win tonight and we kn ow we have to keep improving,” said Meatley.

The teams meet again in Kobe next weekend.

H ave nightmares about his last-ditch tackle of Stockdale?

The teams meet again in Kobe next weekend.

“W e got that win tonight and we know we have to keep improving,” said Meatley.

The teams meet again in Kobe next weekend.

Focus on the All Blacks

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Focus on the All Blacks
**Ferrari’s Vettel takes pole for Canadian GP, Hamilton fourth**

Yesterday we were in a bit of trouble, I was not really happy with the car and I could not get the rhythm. Today was switched on and what a day, the car was incredible.

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**Top news唯有Ferrari’s Sebastian Vettel, Mercedes’ Valtteri Bottas and bull Racing’s Max Verstappen put after qualifying round of the Canadian Grand Prix at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montreal, Canada, yesterday.**

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**Ogier takes narrow lead over Neuville into Sardinia decider**

Five-time world champion Sébastien Ogier held on to his narrow lead over Thierry Neuville into the decider in Italy after Simon Latvala was penalised in Saturday’s SS13.

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**Hamilton leads in Canada after Verstappen blazing start**

Lewis Hamilton leads after Sebastian Vettel’s blazing start to the Canadian Grand Prix.

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**Pche**

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**Raj**

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**Kang takes lead as BMC win opening time-trial**

Włodzimierz Kung was the first BMC rider to cross the finish line in the opening team time-trial at the Tour de Suisse as Wednesday’s opening stage in Sissach became a BMC victory.

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**Thomas cement Dauphine poler as Bilbao wins stage**

**AFP**

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**SPORT**

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**Thomas cement Dauphine poler as Bilbao wins stage**

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**SPORT**
Sport

AZF to set up Fan Zone for 2018 World Cup at Khalifa stadium

By Sports Reporter

Football fans are in for a special treat as Al Rayyan Sports Club kicks off preparations to host the 2018 FIFA World Cup Qatar Fan Zone at its Khalifa International Stadium (KIS), which is set to become the city's largest and most comprehensive Fan Zone.

The Fan Zone will offer more than 1,500 seats, providing a unique atmosphere for football fans in Qatar. It will also be equipped with the latest cooling technologies, a giant screen, food and beverage stalls, children's activities area, and entertainment zones. The Fan Zone will also be equipped with Wi-Fi and charging facilities for fans.

KIS is one of the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qatar venues, Khalifa International Stadium is set to host eight matches over the tournament. The stadium is one of the most visited venues in the country, with more than 80,000 fans expected to attend each match.

AZF will remain committed to promoting sport and its values, especially during the World Cup, where the team's success represents the success of Qatar. The Fan Zone will be a platform for fans to come together, enjoy the matches, and experience the excitement of the World Cup.