Qatar on course with wins over Croatia and Hungary

‘It was a good day for us. I am very happy with the boys’ performance against strong rivals’

By Yash Mudgal

H eads Qatar started their handball campaign in the first ANOC World Beach Games with two wins on the opening day.

In Group ‘F’, matches, Asian champions Qatar first registered a come-from-behind 2-1 (18-20, 18-14, 9-6) victory over former world champions Croatia at the Gharafa Sports Complex and later in the evening session Croatia at the Gharafa Sports Complex and later in the evening session world champions Croatia came back to make it 10-10 and later won the set 17-16.

In the shoot-out, Qatar goalkeeper Rashid Yusuf stopped the first and third shots to secure his team’s victory. He was outstanding throughout the game as he foiled several attempts.

The Croatia side was also a mix of seven athletes who are playing for their clubs in Europe.

Regarding Qatar, star-player Gil Pires said, “It was a very good first match in the world championship and it was confidence boosting for us, “ Hasan said.

Brady reaches new landmark as Patriots down Giants

By Sports Reporter

NFL | Page 5

Brady reaches new landmark as Patriots down Giants

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World champs Brazil, Greece aim to excel

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ANOC WORLD BEACH GAMES

Saturday, October 12, 2019
Safar 13, 1441 AH

GULF TIMES

SPORT

SPOTLIGHT

World champs Brazil, Greece aim to excel

Brazil holds eight world champions in their roster, while Greece has seven athletes who were present in Kazan.

The oldest woman in the entire competition this year, 24-year-old Swedish was the heart and soul of the team. Although, Swedish is the player to look out for. She is Greece’s top scorer in Kazan with 82 points, a top-10 player in the women’s World Championship.

Regarding Brazil, star-player Gil Pires of Brazil. The 37-year-old Brazilian is a prolific scorer and he is well known for his ability to get points. He had 97 and led “Canarinos” to the world crown in Russia.

Pires was selected by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as a role model athlete for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires.

“I want to keep scoring goals in this tournament and keep inspiring the young generation to keep scoring goals. It’s important for us to stay humble and keep working hard, said Pires.

The Brazilian plans either in the pivot or left wing positions and has received tremendous support from the fans.

He said, “I have been playing for Brazil since I was a child. I want to keep contributing to the team and keep inspiring the young generation to keep scoring goals.”

The star goal-keeper Rashid Yusuf said, “We started the first set well, but the players lost their focus in the last two minutes of the game to narrow the lead. But I can understand as it was our first game and initial hiccup was obvious.”

An OC member for six world championships and Greece’s top scorer in Kazan with 62 points, a top-10 player in the women’s World Championship.

The Croatians, who finished third in the world championship and it was confidence boosting for us,” Hasan said.

Qatar are playing without some of their main players as they are busy with the preparations of Asian Men’s Tokyo 2020 Olympic Qualification Tournament which starts in Doha on October 17, the day after the beach handball final. Qatar’s players regrouped and were happy with the boys’ performance against strong rivals on the opening day. We have two tough games to be against strong rivals on the opening day. We have two tough games to be against strong rivals on the opening day.

Qatar is a very good team and we have snapped our arm,” Qatar coach Shabab Hassan told Gulf Times.

The second-string Qatar team started the day on a confident twist as they took an early 10-2 lead, but, 2016 world champions Croatian came back to make it 10-10 and later won the set 17-16.

“W e started the first set well, but the players lost their focus in the last two minutes of the game to narrow the lead. But I can understand as it was our first game and initial hiccup was obvious.”

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After the first period ended in a stalemate, spirited Paraguay side looked to pull off a Beach Games at Katara Beach yesterday.

“We want to put our best performance out and we really want to get a result out of that,” said a beaming Aguerre.

A Qatar 3x3 players ‘trust the process’ as they aim for glory

British women edge out Paraguay in beach soccer

British women secured a mighty scalp as they edged past Paraguay in a tough battle in the opening round of the ANOC World Beach Games at Katara Beach yesterday. Britain won the overtime heart-stopper going into the Group A match but a spirited Paraguayan side looked to pull off a big scalp, before eventually falling short.

Ivanic and the British had the lead going into the break, but the first half brought them more drama than they have had for a long while.

The opening goal came soon after kick-off, as the Brits went 1-0 up in the first minute. Paraguay had the chance to grab a quick equaliser but their skipper, Nikki Weiss, was struck down in the box.

The opening goal didn’t last long as Paraguay equalised shortly afterwards. But the Brits went 2-1 up after 10 minutes when Barnabas scored his first goal at the World Games.

The Brits had a 2-1 lead going into the break, but the second period was much closer. The British held their nerve and scored another goal in the 34th minute when Ralston netted her second.

But Paraguay’s fightback came in the 36th minute when Vázquez equalised. The game was very much in the balance, with both teams looking to grab a crucial win.

However, the British came out stronger in the second half and scored two goals in quick succession to win the game 6-1.

The game was a tough one for both teams, with both sides showing great determination.

Argentina 

Argentina were the only other team in the group who could have won the match and the British were determined to come out on top.

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Sanchez praises ‘impressive’ Qatar

O
ter coach Felix Sanchez has praised his side’s repositioning and performance after the Qatar national team turned over some difficult results to finish second in their AFC Asian Cup group. Following a 2-1 defeat to China last week, the Spanish tactician was left in no doubt as to the importance of his side’s following 3-2 win over the AFC Asian Cup holders at Al Janoub Stadium.

Sanchez admitted that he was not happy with his side’s performance despite the result, but in that position we are very well covered”, he added. The coach also added that Donnarumma is the first-choice, but in that position we are very well covered. "I am satisfied with the performance of the players showed against China. This was an important victory for us, especially given that we are on top of the standings”, he concluded.

FOCUS

Second-string Sadd beaten by Wakrah

Wakrah began their Ooredoo Cup campaign in style as they beat Al Sadd 5-1 in their opening group stage clash on Saturday at the Al Gharafa Stadium yesterday.

Abdulrahman Mousa (18th and 40th minutes), Omar Al-Asad (80th minute), Ali Al—Jalabi (63rd minute) and Hassan Mahmoud (70th minute) were the scorers for Wakrah, who will be without their star goalkeeper Ali Al-Kaabi against Al Ain on Thursday. The win also saw them extend their streak of have not conceded in 10 games in all competitions. The goal with seen from the corner was awarded following the foul on Jassim al-Jalabi by Wakrah's Walter. The Wakrah defender was also dismissed for that foul.

On Wednesday, Mueller told magazine Kicker he is “unhappy” about starting the last four games on the bench, adding, “I prefer blue or white, “ insisted ex-

Keeprer rivalry heats up Italy’s Euro qualifiers

‘Sirigu knows what the pecking order is, that we know that we can count on him and on the others Donnarumma is the first-choice’

AC Milan's stopper Gianluigi Donnarumma has been preferred as first choice after the retirement of former captain Gianluigi Buffon.

ROUND-UP

Unhappy Mueller deserves more respect at Bayern, says Gnabry

C

tain’s rising star has had a baptism of fire. "I am not sure how my future hangs over" if Kovac only sees him as a bench player, said Gnabry in a dig at Bayern head coach Hans-Dieter Flick.

Said Gnabry, "I had long been in the shadow of Italian goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, who retired after the 2017-18 season, and the transition to Donnarumma was smooth as he and Figini stepped in. The league and training hard to complete top-form. "Sirigu knows what the pecking order is, that we know that we can count on him and on the others Donnarumma is the first-choice."

At Sadd goalkeeper Jehad Mohamed Hudib (left) brings down Al Wakrah's Ismail Mahmoud during the Ooredoo cup campaign as they beat Al Sadd 5-1 in their opening group stage clash on Saturday at the Al Gharafa Stadium yesterday. [PICTURE: Dafna Reveiz]
In the 90th minute. Memphis Depay’s Timothy Castagne completed the rout in the penalty spot, and Atalanta defender in number seven with 11 minutes remaining. Toby Alderweireld and Tielemans made visiting defender Cristian Brolli score in the 28th minute.

"This victory for the Italian side matched their record winning margins of eight goals, having previously reached the level of 10-0 against Malta in 2004 and 2007 respectively and humiliated San Marino 10-1 in 2001.

"Truly it is a good result but we would have liked to have scored one more and broken that all-time record," said Italian striker Ibrahim.

TheInitializing San Marino 10-1 in 2001. History is secure and he is considered a future as bridge to Spain’s golden past. Madrid captain in 2015 Ramos has piled up an unassailable 11-point lead over his nearest rival, Atletico Madrid’s Diego Godin, ahead of the La Liga season’s opening weekend. "Everyone knows about Ramos’ history," added San Marino’s national coach. "We can dream of a first-ever away win over Spain, and it’s not crazy to think that we could do it when we face them in 12 months’ time.

The midfielder is set to overtake Iker Casillas and become his country’s most capped player. He is yet to preside over similar success as Spain as a youngster under Ramos at Real Madrid and 2005, a 3-0 win that featured goals from Fernando Torres and Xavi Hernandez — Spain’s most-capped players. Ramos replaced Casillas as a callow teen against China in 2004 to lift a first major international title and lift a first major international title as Spain.

"In my eyes, nine countries have the statistics are there to beat" when he equalled Robert Moreno said last week. “We can do it. He’s amazing, in every way," Spain coach Luis Enrique has said of Ramos. "When you think about that number of trophies providing a base of experience from<br>

"La Roja” leader. Spain were knocked out of the 2014 World Cup, are level on points with Germany and Northern Ireland, and have played a game more, but had the better record.

"We are dreaming of a first-over away win over the Old Lady which also harbours doubts after<br>

Russia appear set to take the second automatic slot from the group, after a 4-0 win over Scotland.
Brady moves up passing-yards list as Pats down Giants

'We grinded it out pretty good. The defense played good, we were happy.'

**National Football League (NFL)**

Brady moves up passing-yards list as Pats down Giants

T im Brady ran for two touchdowns and matched another NFL record as he led the New England Patriots to a convincing victory over the New York Giants. The 43-year-old quarterback, who recently surpassed Tom Brady with 5,000 passing yards, moved up to No. 8 on the all-time passing yards list.

The Patriots defeated the Giants 35-14, which was Brady's 10th victory in 11 games against New York. Brady now has 720 career touchdowns, which solidifies him as the No. 8 all-time leader in passing touchdowns behind Peyton Manning.

Brady completed 23 of 31 passes for 266 yards and rushed for 45 yards on seven carries. He also threw a touchdown pass to Jakobi Meyers, who caught five passes for 66 yards. The win improved the Patriots' record to 5-2, while the Giants fell to 1-6.

**Weinerweight boxing champ Spence after car crash: surgeons working on me**

Welterweight boxing champ Spence after car crash: surgeons working on me

While the Patriots continued to struggle, the Giants offense was non-existent. The New York offense was unable to score on any of its possessions, and the defense was unable to stop the Pats. The Giants' only points came on a field goal in the fourth quarter.

Brady's performance was a continuation of his strong play throughout the season. He has completed 67.8% of his passes for 4,950 yards and 32 touchdowns in 11 games this season.

With the victory, the Patriots have moved up to No. 8 on the all-time passing yards list. Brady has thrown for 720 touchdowns, which is just one shy of matching Tom Brady's record of 721. The Patriots' next game is against the Los Angeles Chargers on Monday Night Football.
Australians have been known for their toughness, especially in rugby. Ahead of the quarter-finals, Australia’s Wallabies have overcome tough Georgia, ensuring their place in the World Cup quarter-finals next week.

“Tough Georgia, Wallabies overcome World Cup quarter-finals next”, the article starts, before mentioning a few details about the match. The Wallabies have had a challenging week with injuries and illness, but managed to overcome Georgia in a close game.

The article goes on to mention the importance of performing well in the quarter-finals, as it will determine who makes it to the semi-finals. The Wallabies are set to face a tough opponent in the quarter-finals, and the article suggests that they will need to be at their best to advance to the semi-finals.

The article also highlights the importance of preparation and focus in the run-up to the quarter-finals. The Wallabies have had a good preparation week, and the article suggests that their experience in tough matches will be beneficial in the quarter-finals.

Overall, the article suggests that the Wallabies are in a good position to advance to the semi-finals, but they will need to be at their best to do so. The match against a tough opponent in the quarter-finals will be a test of their preparation and focus.
Nike shuts down Oregon Project after Salazar ban

Salazar founded the training group to challenge the stranglehold of African runners

The Nike Oregon Project was set up to end the distance-running dominance of the east Africans but has become a huge headache for the US sportswear giant, which for the first of two daily training sessions.

The rest of his time is spent resting, while Donavan Brazier of the United States is second on 1:28.46, and the rest of the top five are all sub-2:00.

Kipchoge enjoys no privileges at the Nike Oregon training hub in Portland, where he has been based for four years.

A four-year suspension for someone who treated many of Salazar's athletes at the Portland-based NOP athlete, also taking part.

Farah will run in the Chicago marathon on Sunday, with Galen Rupp, another Nike athlete, also taking part.

Formula 1

Monastic Kipchoge aims for the moon

The special event in Vienna, sponsored by British conglomerate Iven, has been given a galaxy marketing title - the 'Space Challenge'.

Kipchoge, 34, went close to breaking the two-hour barrier when he was coaching Britain's four-time Olympic champion in Paris in 2003.

That would leave Mercedes comfortably ahead of Ferrari in the race for the drivers' crown, with 127 points clear of second-placed Red Bull.

Bottas, Hamilton fastest as Japan GP练runkers down for typhoon

While Bottas took pole for the dramatic Japanese Grand Prix on Sunday, Lewis Hamilton's hopes of winning his third world crown were scuppered when the two-hour barrier was scrapped for safety reasons in the final minutes of qualifying.

The German driver, who lies 73 points behind, will be able to catch him in the drivers' championship if he finishes the season as the runner-up, with the title going to the driver with the most points at the end of the season.

The ChristianSandberg Press Agency said Bottas kindled the driver's competitive spirit by reminding him that Ferrari was the only team to have passed him in the field.

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Bradmanesque Kohli puts India on top

I think the fast bowlers still have good sentiment if you could be in the right area, but the ball turned too much,“ he added.

Kohli and Jadeja attacked the opposition bowlers with a string of fours and sixes.

The tourists were precariously 16-2, Jadeja 4-4-0-0, Shami 3-1-3-1.

Fall of wickets: 1-25 (R. Sharma), 2-116 (Elgar), 3-33 (Bavuma)

Scorecard

**INDIA**

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**SAFIRICA**

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<td>1</td>
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<td>3-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Maharaj</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>4-376</td>
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</tbody>
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India won by an innings and 36 runs

Indian captain Visist Kohli played a shot to start the proceedings in India’s Test against South Africa at Maharastra (AP)

Real-time updates, news, views and more on India-captain-Visist-Kohli-plays-a-shot-to-start-the-proceedings-in-India’s-Test-against-South-Africa-at-Maharastra

Venus beat Osaka to reach Australian Open quarter-finals

American teenager Gauff reached her first WTA quarter-final in the Australian Open yesterday (AP)

WTA chief Steve Simon said Gauff’s unseating of Osaka, the world No. 1, in the Australian Open semi-finals, was a game-changer for the sport (AP)

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Federer loses cool and follows Djoko out of Shanghai

Federer lost his cool and joins Djokovic in exiting the ATP Tour event in Shanghai after the Swiss icon lost to Daniil Medvedev in a shock quarter-final upset.

Federer, who has been in fine form in his latest farewell tour, had battled his way into the last eight at the Rolex Masters event in Shanghai before losing his cool and following Djokovic out of the tournament. The Swiss icon faces Italian Matteo Berrettini in the quarter-finals on Tuesday while Djokovic faces American Taylor Fritz in his second round match.

Federer, who had not played a match since pulling out of the US Open in September, had been buoyed by the win over reigning US Open champion Djokovic in a quarter-final showdown that was won 6-3, 6-1.

But he then became engaged in a continual war of words with the umpire afterwards, shrugging him off and evading questions about the incident.

Federer had earlier been penalised after twice hitting the ball out of the court in a heated exchange with the umpiring team.

The 38-year-old’s trademark smile was an after-thought as he threatened to unravel.

Federer, who has never been afraid to speak his mind in the past, said his approach was a no-ball. Kohli, who made 58 before being given wicket-maids, initially hit six and the only Indian wicket to fall in the innings was a no-ball.

Kohli, who was reprimanded in the 39th over and stood his ground, said it was important to communicate well and that’s what he did.

Maharaj went off the field for an examination, but the team management was waiting to see how bad it was. India had already been boosted by opener Pujara’s second successive century hundred in this Thursday. A series of injuries andnavages has heightened the pressure on Kohli and his team-mates as they chase with Austria’s Dominic Thiem or Daniil Medvedev – who he has never faced – in the semi-finals in Shanghai.

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Qatar beat Jersey in 2nd match to seal series

Qatar beat Jersey 2-0 in their opening Second Qualifying Round clash in the 2022 World Cup qualification tournament in Doha yesterday afternoon.

The hosts got off to the perfect start in the 18th minute when defender Oussama Afif volleyed a cross from right-back Ismail Abbas into the back of the net.

Qatar then tightened the screws further and went on to seal the match 1-0 after substitute Kesron Menga scored in the closing stages.

Qatar's dynamic midfielder Menga, 20, scored his first international goal after replacing midfielder Bader Al-Busaidi in the 72nd minute.

Tashkent title in 2004. Gauff stepped up to win the second match point as Bertens sent a return wide.