Paris

By a correspondent

ishing the field in a show of ex-
ed bin Khalifa al-Thani, demol-
Poulains (Gr1 PA) in the colours
in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des
Arabian Breeders’ Challenge-
from his summer break with an
the Group 3 Prix Tidjani in July
when he was second. He then put
since his racing debut in June
has come rapidly up the ladder
yesterday. The grey colt of Amer-
traordinary class at Saint-Cloud

Horse Racing

Horse Racing

Saturday, October 5, 2019
Safar 6, 1441 AH

ATHLETICS

Katarina ends years of pain with victory in Doha

Worlds gold safe in hand, Olympics next for Barshim

For me, it was just a dream. At home, it was just amazing. Everybody was there — my family, friends, the Amir himself...


ATHLETICS

GULF TIMES

SPORT

GULF TIMES

SPORT

RUGBY

GULF TIMES

SPORT

RUGBY

Amiry Du Soleil wins first Group 1 race in style

T he three-year-old colt Amiry Du Soleil, saddled by his first Group 1 race in style in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Vallées (Gr1 AA) in the colours of the Al Shendun Stud and the Khalifa Al-Thani, deserved the victory in a class of trans-

tional class at Saint-Cloud yesterday. The grey colt of Amer-

in September at Toulon.

Bahrain

By Mikhil Bhat

earlier in the series at 2.33m, the former

and Ivanyuk needing two more jumps

or ambulance, I would do everything I

done a good job with him, preserv-

Amyr Du Soleil owner His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Khalifa al-Thani (L) receiving the winning trophy

with Spurs

Pochettino hopes to stay with Spurs for 5 years

Kolbe magic as Boks put one foot in quarter-finals

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safe in hand, Olympics next for Barshim

Worlds gold safe in hand, Olympics next for Barshim
A silver in 2017 aged 19 — her idol Allyson Felix and Miller-Uibo were behind her — heralded her talent

**SPOTLIGHT**

‘Big dreamer’ Naser rockets into the athletics limelight

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**Katarina ends years of pain with victory in Doha**

‘I’m just speechless. I can’t believe it. It’s been such a long time coming for me’

BY SABIN BIDUPPA  

It was a huge 304 points, the biggest gap between any two players in world championship history, who was undefeated demons but also had to beat herself to win the biggest prize in her career. Rio Olympics, as well.

The 25-year-old set personal bests in four of the seven events in a mentally and physically draining pentathlon over the course of two days, to finally bring home a new British record with a total of 15,679 points.

Johnson-Thompson was determined to punch another runner in a world championship bronze medal but also had to beat herself to win the biggest prize in her career.

Sunday afternoon was truly her day, as she finally put an end to the heartaches of the past seven years. Such was her dominance that the field was left in her wake, as she cruised to victory in the 800m, which was enough for her to cross the finish line in 2:07.27, which was enough to break her own personal best to win her

Her long jump in 2015 in Beijing.

After the disappointment of the 2016 Olympics and 2017 Rio Olympics, Johnson-Thompson had made some brave changes. She changed her coach and moved her base from London to Doha. She also missed out on the 1,500m event.

It's not been easy for me. I had to slow down. I had to move around. I had to learn a new language and settle in. I tore my hamstring at the 2015 Worlds and after the injury, I had to learn a new language and settle in. I had to move around. I had to learn a new language and settle in. I tear my hamstring at the 2015 Worlds and after the injury, I had to learn a new language and settle in. I tear my hamstring at the 2015 Worlds and after the injury, I had to learn a new language and settle in. I tear my hamstring at the 2015 Worlds and after the injury, I had to learn a new language and settle in.

Johnson-Thompson was in touchless distance of being the fastest losers. The last two World Championships had been heart-breaking for me, and I think that I have made some tough life decisions. She changed her coach and moved her base from London to Doha. She also missed out on the 1,500m event.

**SOFTBALL**

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Kaul in for the long haul after decaathlon glory

Decathlon is really difficult, so it is always a pleasure when you can finish it. I cannot really describe this feeling so well. It might be a thing that could be possible.
Sights from Day 8 of the World Championships

Qatar’s Mutaz Barshim reacts during men’s high jump final round at Khalifa International Stadium in Doha yesterday. PICTURES: AFP/Reuters

Erica Bougard of the US in action during women’s heptathlon long jump yesterday.

Uzbekistan’s Ekaterina Voronina in action during women’s heptathlon javelin throw.

Brazil’s Fernanda Martins in action during women’s discus throw final yesterday.

Dalilah Muhammad of the US crosses the line to win women’s 400m hurdles gold ahead of Sydney McLaughlin of the US yesterday.

Action from men’s 3,000m steeplechase final yesterday.
**RUGBY WORLD CUP**

**Kolbe magic as Boks put one foot in quarter-finals**

“This was crunch game for us. It looked easy, but it was a fairly slippery game for us’

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**FOCUS**

**Djokovic stuns Japan with machine-like tennis**

**W**orld number one Novak Djokovic put on a stunning show against Kei Nishikori of Japan in the quarter-finals of the Japan Open in Tokyo yesterday put on a machine-like, dominant performance to set up a semi-final clash with Alexander Zverev in the 2020 tournament.

Djokovic overwhelmed his Japanese opponent, registering a 6-0, 6-3 victory in just 50 minutes to book his place in the semi-finals.

The Serb's performance was nothing short of spectacular, showcasing his remarkable skills and consistency throughout the match. Nishikori, on the other hand, struggled to keep up with Djokovic's relentless pace and was unable to find a way to counter his opponent's dominance.

Djokovic's victory not only confirmed his status as the world's top player but also marked a significant milestone in his career, cementing his position as a force to be reckoned with in the world of tennis.

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**TENNIS**

**Murray heartened by progress despite quarter-final loss**

British number one Andy Murray has said that his comeback from a broken hip has gone better than he expected and he is heartened by his progress despite losing in the quarter-finals of the Japan Open.

Murray, who had not played since his hip surgery in January, faced Kei Nishikori in his first match since the hip operation and, although he could not replicate his 2016 performance, he was pleased with his progress.

He said: “I've tried to keep trying to go as far as I can. I didn't think that that was the case. I think I can keep improve...”

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**India hockey coach Raghunath Das plates out of the US Open**

Indian hockey coach Raghunath Das has been ruled out of the US Open with a wrist injury. Das, who had been with the Indian hockey team since 2002, was due to lead the team in the tournament, which was scheduled to start on October 5.

“Raghunath has been ruled out of the US Open due to a wrist injury,” the Indian hockey federation said in a statement.

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**Barty battles through to Japan Open semi-finals**

Australia’s Ashleigh Barty has battled through to the Japan Open semi-finals after a tough match against Leo Pesut in Tokyo, Japan, yesterday.

Barty, who had not played since winning the French Open in June, was pushed to the limit by Pesut, who had to retire due to injury.

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**Nadal pulls out of Shanghai Masters with wrist injury**

Spanish tennis legend Rafael Nadal has been forced to pull out of the Shanghai Masters with a wrist injury. Nadal, who had been in great form leading up to the tournament, was scheduled to face Alexander Zverev in the semi-finals.

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**Nadal pulls out of Shanghai Masters with wrist injury**

Rafael Nadal has pulled out of the Shanghai Masters due to a wrist injury. The tournament is his first since the US Open and Nadal was due to face Alexander Zverev in the semi-finals.

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**Book your place in the quarter-finals with us!**

Secure your ticket now and watch the world's best tennis players in action. Don't miss out on the ultimate tennis experience.
Pochettino hopes to stay with Spurs for five more years

"Football is a game to enjoy and when you don't win it is difficult to enjoy." — Mauricio Pochettino

FOOTBALL

Guardiola urges Walker to fight for his England place

"Kyle doesn't have doubts he can play international football. We need him because he is a very important player for us." — Pep Guardiola

FOOTBALL

Arabian Gulf Stars League: Al Khor win to secure Champions League spot

"I am sure we can play a great football with this team and fight for the Champions League." — Ali Abbasi, Al Khor head coach

FOOTBALL

Gulf Times Saturday October 5, 2019

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FOOTBALL

By Sports Reporter

Khor defeated Al Ain 2-0 on Tuesday night to seal their place in the Arabian Gulf Stars League top two and set up a potential play-off with third-placed Al Wasl for the Champions League place next season.

Al Khor head coach Ali Abbasi hailed the victory as a 'great day' for his team, adding that they had "embraced the match" and "played with passion and determination" to secure the win.

"Today was a special day for us," Abbasi said. "We worked hard and played well, and the team showed great character."
**HORSE RACING**

**Lady Princess is queen of Qatar Arabian Trophy des Pouliches**

She’s a star, even though, as her jockey confi rmed, the ground was not her cup of tea.

Qatar’s leading female racehorse Lady Princess has maintained her lofty status in the sport.

The stage is set for the Qatar Prix des Arce de Triomphe weekend to kick off today. Over two days, the world’s best thoroughbreds and Arabians, the latter for the most celebrated process, will descend on the Park Racing Club racecourse as they vie for glory in Qatar’s most prestigious event.

**QREC chairman lauds Qatari success in Arabian races**

QREC chairman lauds Qatari success in Arabian races, saying the presence of His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa al-Thani-owned and bred horse in the World’s Best Race Horse category is a significant achievement.

**Elgar, de Kock lead SA fi ghtback**

South Africa’s Quinton de Kock and Dean Elgar (left) run between the wickets during the third day’s play of the third Test match against India.

**Scorecard**

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**Pakistan launch T20 World Cup preparation with Sri Lanka series**

Pakistan have a world number one in bowling to target against Sri Lanka, who have a world number one in batting.

**PREVIEW**

Pakistan take on an improved Sri Lanka in the ﬁ rst of three-match series in Lahore today. The game is the second of two tied by Pakistan and Sri Lanka in the Twenty20 World Cup to be held in Australia next year.

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