Almoez’s stunner nominated for best goal of the Asian Cup

‘He got two awards that are very well deserved. He got this because of the group, but he did excellent work’

Almoez’s success however was not much of a surprise, as he knows he would score many goals. "I have been working very hard and I’m sure he will be looking for him in the next tournament," said Almoez. "Almoez is a fantastic player and he’s very important. It is good for the future."

"The celebrations continued late into the night, with the players taking to the streets of Doha in the early hours of the morning. Thousands lined the roads to welcome the team back to Qatar, with fireworks lighting up the night sky.

"For Almoez also, it is great as he knows he will score many goals. He is a perfect striker and we have seen him play in the Qatar Stars League (QSL)."

The tournament saw some of the best goals ever scored, with Almoez’s sensational bicycle-kick curling into the corner of the net. "This group of Qatar players are very good," said Almoez. "The celebrations continued late into the night, with the players taking to the streets of Doha in the early hours of the morning. Thousands lined the roads to welcome the team back to Qatar, with fireworks lighting up the night sky.

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**FOCUS**

Rafael Nadal has reached the semi-finals at Indian Wells, where he will face Novak Djokovic in a bid to win his 12th title at the tournament.

**PREMIER LEAGUE**

_Aguero treble sinks Arsenal as Man City close in on Liverpool_

A sixth consecutive away league game without a win sees Arsenal slip down to sixth behind Manchester United, who were 1-0 victors at Leicester earlier yesterday.

Manchester City closed to within two points of Premier League leaders Liverpool thanks to Sergio Aguero’s hat-trick in a 3-1 win over Arsenal yesterday. For the second time in a week, Aguero scored inside the first minute to give City the perfect start.

Aguero had already scored twice against the Gunners in the Carabao Cup during thecaretaker reign of le Gunnar Solskjaer, with his latest treble taking him to within two points of the Premier League top four.

The same two players combined for the City goal from just the second minute against Arsenal, Aguero finding the back of the net unoccupied from an inch away from the near post. Aguero was left a yard unmarked for his first half-chance of the match.

Aguero received a pass from Kevin De Bruyne inside the penalty area and found the back of the net unoccupied from an inch away from the near post. Aguero was left a yard unmarked for his first half-chance of the match.

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**BOTTOMLINE**

_Rashford fires United into fifth_

Oscar Gómez told Sports Illustrated that his team, Manchester United, have been working on their way to the top of the Premier League for a year, and he's excited about what's to come.

Gómez, who has been working with the team since 2017, said: "We are in a very good moment. We have the best team in the country."
LA LIGA

Messi double earns Barcelona point vs Valencia

By Sports Reporter

FOOTBALL

FOCUS

A Kass Cup to showcase world’s top young talent

Qatar’s Aspire Academy will add local flavour to the tournament won by PSG last year

By Sports Reporter

LA LIGA

Messi double earns Barcelona point vs Valencia

Barcelona's Argentinian forward Lionel Messi celebrates after scoring against Valencia CF at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on Saturday night.

FOOTBALL

SETBACK

Atletico title bid suffers with loss at Real Betis

Reuters

SPOTLIGHT

Neuer injury adds to Bayern’s woes

Bayern Munich have already suffered one of their four league defeats this season last September, go down 2-0 at the Olympiastadion.

By Sports Reporter

WORLD CUP 2022

An international football tournament that provides some of the world’s choice young football skills. Several players

3

Gulf Times

Wednesday February 4, 2020

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Qatar Olympic Committee (QOC) President HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani, QOC first vice-president Sheikh Saud bin Ali Al Thani, QOC secretary general Jassim Rashid al-Buenain and other officials cut a cake celebrating Qatar’s AFC Asian Cup triumph in Abu Dhabi on Friday.
Harden extends streak, Doncic gets job done for Mavs

We ask him to do a lot and he just keeps doing it and did tonight

James Harden posted his 24th game with at least 30 points for the third time this season as the Houston Rockets overcame thetl Iniguez scored two major third-period goals in the Lightning’s 3-2 win over the Rangers.

New York Rangers forward Artemi Panarin scored his fifth goal of the season, a power-play tally with 53 seconds left in the third period, to lift the Rangers to a 3-2 win over the New York Islanders.

In the second period, Oilers forward James Neal scored his 11th goal of the season, tying him for second in the NHL with Alex Ovechkin.

NHL

Stamkos, Lightning edge New York Rangers

Steven Stamkos scored his 20th goal of the season on a power play at 13:37 of the first period to give the Lightning a 2-1 lead.

The Lightning outshot the Rangers 27-23 and won a third straight against New Jersey.

Stamkos scored his 29th career hat trick in the Lightning’s 5-2 victory over the Rangers, becoming the sixth player in NHL history to reach the milestone.

In other NHL action, the Los Angeles Kings ended the San Jose Sharks’ three-game win streak with a 3-1 victory, moving into a tie for second place in the Pacific Division.

NBA

Harden extends streak, Doncic gets job done for Mavs

James Harden posted his 24th game with at least 30 points for the third time this season as the Houston Rockets overcame the Detroit Pistons by the end of the night. Blake Griffin had 21 points and 12 rebounds for the Pistons.

Doncic had missed Thursday’s game in Los Angeles due to some good fortune. Ludwig finished with 26 points and nine assists for his seventh of the season.

Andrew Copp, Blake Wheeler and Brendan Lemieux also had the two longest streaks in NBA before turning 25, following in the footsteps of such stars as LeBron James, Kevin Durant and Kobe Bryant.

Harden also posted his 11th triple-double of the season against the Pistons.

The Clippers posted the biggest comeback in NBA history.

The Lightning went ahead at 6:51 of the fourth quarter, but the Rangers tied the game at 3-3 with 9:19 left in the period.

The Ducks scored two goals in the second period and rolled to a 9-3 victory Saturday.

The Lightning went ahead at 8:29 of the first period, but the Rangers tied the game at 1-1 with 1:45 left in the first period.

The Ducks scored three goals in the first period and rolled to a 9-3 victory Saturday.

The Lightning went ahead at 3:30 of the first period, but the Rangers tied the game at 1-1 with 5:46 left in the first period.

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The Ducks scored two goals in the first period and rolled to a 9-3 victory Saturday.

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Equestrian

Al Shaqab set to host exciting back-to-back competitions

By Sports Reporter

Days before the peak of the Olympics, Al Shaqab set to host two important and prestigious events: the Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping and the FEI World Cup™ Grand Prix.

For the first time in Qatar, Al Shaqab will host both events back-to-back, providing a unique opportunity for riders and spectators alike to witness the highest level of equestrian sport in one location.

The Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping, the pinnacle of the FEI World Cup™ Jumping series, has one of the most prestigious and competitive fields in the world. This event will feature the world’s top 30 riders, including defending champion Conor Swail of Canada.

The FEI World Cup™ Grand Prix, on the other hand, is a standalone event that serves as a qualifier for the Olympic Games and the FEI World Cup™ Final. It is one of the most highly anticipated events in international equestrianism.

Veteran riders like Nick Skelton and Scott Brash, who have won multiple World Cup™ titles, are expected to compete in both events.

Tickets for both the World Cup™ Jumping and the Grand Prix will be on sale shortly. Al Shaqab is committed to providing a world-class experience for all equestrian fans, ensuring that the competition is not only exciting but also accessible to fans of all ages.

With a capacity of over 10,000 spectators, Al Shaqab’s stadium will be filled with dedicated fans and supporters of equestrian sport.

Additionally, Al Shaqab is planning several entertainment activities and performances to enhance the overall spectator experience. These include live music, food and beverage stands, and interactive zones for children.

The stadium will be transformed into a festival atmosphere, with a range of activities and entertainment options to keep fans engaged throughout the day.

Al Shaqab is also proud that Qatar Airways will be the official airline of both events, further supporting the event’s impact on the local and regional equestrian community.

The event promises to be a spectacular celebration of equestrian excellence, offering a memorable experience for riders, spectators, and equestrian enthusiasts alike.

PHOTOS

Tampa Bay Lightning center Steven Stamkos (left) and New York Rangers left wing Josh Bailey vying for the puck during the third period at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. PICTURES | USA TODAY Sports
West Indies beat England in second Test to clinch series

‘It’s been a disappointing performance with the bat here and last week’

Frank discussion set stage for West Indies turnaround, says Holder

West Indies players celebrate after winning the 2nd Test against England Vince Richardson Cricket Stadium in North Sound, Antigua and Barbuda, on Saturday. (AFP)

Frank discussion among the players after a short but intense series against Bangladesh last year proved a turning point for West Indies captain Kraigg Brathwaite, who said on Saturday that the team had some frank discussion in the dressing room. England was in the lead after the first Test but the West Indies won the second Test by an innings and 31 runs to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

“We talked about the opportunity (to bowl first) and we felt we had done some good stuff,” Holder said of the discussion. “We thought in a bowler’s group we were actually bit harder and had some good stuff.”

“Simulating under 2010 in Thiruvananthapuram, simulating the pressure of losing the tour, which meant England was always on an uphill task having to bat first on a green pitch that offered the bowlers quite a bit of swing,” Holder added.

“West Indies had that opportunity to bowlers and it’s been a disappointing performance with the bat here and last week,” Holder said of the batting. “We wanted to do some good stuff. We had a really long, hard talk in the dressing room,” Holder said.

His performance, among others, leaves Selector Roddy Hoareu hopeful the good times might be quickly to win with more than 118 in the second innings.

“After the tour of Bangladesh the guys missed the tour due to a shoulder injury, but was kept apprised of things,” Holder said. “We all rallied around one and we had a really long, hard talk in the dressing room,” Holder said.

The transformation after those first two Tests, and especially the win in the second Test, was especially gratifying after an innings and 59 runs defeat in the first Test in Grenada.

“We wanted to get some honestly in the room,” Holder said. “It’s been a disappointing performance with the bat here and last week.”

Selector Roddy Hoareu acknowledged that England’s batting and bowling groups were in top form and some good stuff was lacking from West Indies’ batting and bowling groups.

“We wanted to do some good stuff. We had a really long, hard talk in the dressing room,” Holder said. “We all rallied around one and we had a really long, hard talk in the dressing room,” Holder said.

Holder hopes the good times might be quick to win with more than 118 in the second innings.

“We all rallied around one and we had a really long, hard talk in the dressing room,” Holder said.
Rayudu to the rescue as India wrap up series

‘We required guys to show character and they came out and showed a lot of character today’

India players celebrate after winning the fifth one-day international match against New Zealand in Wellington yesterday.

**SECOND TEST**

Khwaja, Starc return to form as Australia tighten noose

**Scorecard**

AUSTRALIA

| Australia vs Sri Lanka | 2nd Test | Scorecard | Australia won by 4 wickets 3 of 548 (90.1 overs) | Australia 2-0 | Total | Australia 9-344 (Day 2) | 1-174, 2-280, 3-337, 4-426

**Shahid Khan Afridi**

Score: 96

**Kohli (capt) **

Score: 80

**Rohit Sharma**

Score: 90

**Harm el Patric**

Score: 10

**Parthiv Patel**

Score: 10

**Bumrah**

Score: 10

**India**

Score: 10

2nd Innings: 2-201 (90.1 overs) | 3-280 (90.1 overs) | Total: 4-337 (90.1 overs)

**Sri Lanka**

Score: 10

2nd Innings: 1-174 (90.1 overs) | Total: 2-280 (90.1 overs) | 3-337 (90.1 overs) | 4-426 (90.1 overs)

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Bertens beats Vekic to win St Petersburg title

By Sports Reporter

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The tournament, which featured a total prize money of €180,000, will feature a host of the world’s top players led by world No. 1 and Australian Open champion Naomi Osaka, who will be in the mix to win the title. World No. 3 Karolina Pliskova, 2017 champion Sloane Stephens and world No. 5 Elina Svitolina will also be among the entrants.

Other players to watch out for include 2016 champion Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain, world No. 19 Anastasija Sevastova and 2017 US Open champion Madison Keys as well as the 2018 French Open doubles champion Barbora Strycova.

With tickets selling fast both online and onsite at Landmark, City Centre and Villagio malls, besides the Khalifa International Tennis & Squash Complex, the 17th edition of the event promises a high level of зрительства and уровень зрительской компании of the previous editions.

“HE Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani’s Trophy is here and we are highly encouraged by the level of interest. Without any doubt, the tournament has come to stay as one of the biggest events in Qatar’s sporting calendar”

Tennis: Khalifa Complex wears new look for Qatar Total Open

‘Without any doubt, the tournament has come to stay as one of the biggest event in Qatar’s sporting calendar’

By Sports Reporter

The Khalifa Complex, the venue for the Qatar Total Open 2019, which starts on February 11, has undergone a modern transformation to cater for the Premier WTA Tour event, which will be held at the ultra-modern venue from February 11 to 25.

The Khalifa International Tennis & Squash Complex is already wearing a new look in preparation for the 17th edition of the event, which will be held at the ultra-modern venue from February 11 to 25.

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After dominating the first set, eighth seed Yastremska在现场 secondo a straightforward second set to seal the victory and clinch the title.

Yastremska reached her win with a scintillating performance after a tense two hours and 22 minutes. The Ukrainian served strongly and aggressively in the first set, and then put on a clinical performance in the second set to seal the title.

The victory capped an impressive run for Yastremska, who defeated top seed Garbine Muguruza in the quarter-finals. Both finalists, who faced each other in the China Open quarter-finals last year, won in top form in Thailand, not dropping a set each and the final was a classic match.

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