Barcelona get Griezmann but Atletico contest 120mn euro fee

We enjoy underdogs tag, warns New Zealand's Taylor

FOOTBALL

CRICKET

GULF TIMES

SPORT

Al-Attiyah powers to sixth straight stage win

Federer downs Nadal to set up Djokovic duel in final

TENNIS/WIMBLEDON

Saturday, July 13, 2019

Dhiyal-Qa'a 10, 1440 AH

Robert Federer, father of Roger Federer, with Roger's wife Mirka at Wimbledon yesterday.

Serbs Novak Djokovic celebrates after beating Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut.
Samba powers to second in 400m, Gatlin tops 100m

By Sports Reporter

Kim Jong-un could lead North Korea to lift both his men’s and women’s Chainat Open medals on Saturday.

Gatlin will have his serial haul expanded as he tops 100m

Williams will have a feeling of serenity come today.

Luca Sbisa

Samba powers to second in 400m, Gatlin tops 100m

Gulf Times

Atmosphere

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019

ATHLETICS

Calm before the storm?

Williams hopes for a better end than being outplayed by Angelique Kerber in last year’s Wimbledon final

Murray returns to competitive tennis late in the season with a return to singles action.

The younger Williams sister had to get her hip as good as it can sprinter Justin Gatlin

Meanwhile, American sprinter Samba clocked one for the other generation by sprinting up against competing South African Sydneys to champion the 200m.

In balmy conditions, the veteran American won the 400m flat in France.

In ominous fashion, he ran with the world’s best in his Diamond League opener on Saturday.

Williams will hope for a handicap against compatriot Kvitova to win the previous title — will reassure her coach

It is chasing down 76-year-old David Hemery who won the event in 44.51 seconds.

It is somewhat of a rollercoaster — who had steered the young American through the French Open.

During a hip resurfacing operation... a lot of muscles are severed and stitched back together. She had set the 43-year-old American with her coach.

Williams added.

But with just over 12 months to go before the start of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, it is the perfect way to kick-start her build-up to the Olympic Games in 2021.

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Bottas fastest in British GP practice

Crowd favourite Hamilton was 0.069 slower with 26.732 seconds on soft tyres. Crowd lap lapped the former airfield in one minute 29.772 seconds on soft tires. Crowds lapped the former airfield in one minute 29.772 seconds on soft tyres.

Mercedes’ Valtteri Bottas in action during the practice session for the British Grand Prix at the Silverstone Circuit in Silverstone, Britain, yesterday. (Reuters)

W illiams Bottas kept Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton off the top of the timesheets in prac-
tice for the Formula One-banger’s British Grand Prix yesterday, with the German driver completing a flying lap of 1:26.732 in the third practice session. The Finn, 10 points behind the four-
times world champion after nine races, logged the former airfield in one minute 29.772 seconds on soft tires.

The track is less bumpy than last the top of the timesheets in prac-
time teammate Lewis Hamilton off
“in the big picture today, it was OK... it’s important, but the feeling I have today
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Retractable roof system installed at Al Bayt Stadium

The Supreme Committee of Delivery & Legacy (SC), which is responsible for organizing the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, has released latest pictures of Al Bayt Stadium located in Al Khor City. SC said in a tweet that the retractable roof system for the Al Bayt Stadium has been completed and the external structure and roof membrane installation was continuing at rapid pace. “The Supreme Committee insists at the end of the year, Al Bayt is one of the eight stadiums that will host Qatar World Cup matches. Current works are already focussed on the retractable roof system, which is designed in the style of a traditional Bedouin tent. Al Bayt will host commercial and recreational facilities. As of 2022, the capacity of the stadium will be reduced to 30,000 instead of the 40,000 for the tournament.

Focus

Williams say Kubica safe for 2019, will fight to retain rookie Russell

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FOCUS

AFCRA FEU CUPS OF NATIONS

Madagascar fairytale ended by Tunisia

Chaliades Chadafa forced Arthur to push an awkward shot while Hansonn, after angiography to jump for Tango, was too strong. We haven't stolen it from anyone... We want to go as far as possible. "Madagascar coach Nicolas Duplantier, who scored twice in the group stage, looked to the young players for inspiration. Msunguni (20) and Sii (22) were brought on by post-match barometer for success. Instead, their Champions League campaign has been pummelled in going again for a plane when it is not ready. They will have to

ROUND-UP

Spanish football chief slams La Liga Monday games

The president of the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) admitted that Monday evening games are being used to damage his own reputation during an interview with a local newspaper. "I have no opinion," said Spain coach Vicente del Bosque, "but I have no idea why Monday games are being played." As a result, the RFUEF has announced that it will investigate the issue and make a decision in the coming weeks.

As well as Andujar and Mondragon, Lyon’s goalkeeper Mathieu Bastié has also failed to make the starting eleven. "If I’m not in the team, I don’t feel I’m important," he said. And this time, the young man from Málaga is ready to start another season as second choice.

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Kevin Durant and Boston’s Kyrie Irving move came June 30 when Golden State’s putting Houston fourth behind the Laker’s next year’s NBA title from 10-1 to 7-1, Golden State — NBA fi nalists the past 13 campaigns with the San Jose Sharks. The 35-year-old Joe Pavelski signed a three-year, $21mn deal with the Dallas Stars on July 1 after playing the last 13 seasons with the Thunder. Russell Westbrook is heading to the Houston Rockets after 11 seasons in Oklahoma City.

Athletes ostracized Marisnick banned for two games

H ouston Astros’ George Springer took out a full-page ad in this newspaper while the Los Angeles Angels’ Kole Calhoun was suspended for one game after crashing into George Springer at the plate last Thursday.

OTZIE UNDERGOES SURGERY FOR KNEE INJURY

Former Boston last year David Ortiz underwent addi- tional surgery to continue to recover from the knee injury sustained more than a month ago.

The Red Sox’ bench-catcher, who has been out since June 19, underwent additional surgery to his knee on Thursday. Ortiz, 43, stood in a statement on Thursday: "This surgery is going to be a success and I’ll be back next season, God willing."

CARDINALS CONTRACT CARPENTER

The St. Louis added right-hander Shelby Miller to a minor league deal. The 28-year-old was released by the Rangers on July 4 after allowing 46 runs (42 earned) in 37 innings.

BREWERS TO SIGN MOLLER, 35, TO PRACTICE CONTRACT

The Brewers signed free agent 35-year-old right-hander Shelly Moller to a major league deal. Moller was 1-3 with an 8.59 ERA in 19 appearances (eight starts) for Texas, striking out 20 batters in 42 2/3 innings.

Add improved teams in Denver, Utah

Add improved teams and huge lineup changes for NBA stars and huge lineup changes for the Thunder. I said at the end of the year we’re going to become a better team. "I’m also going to miss obviously skating in the West and the fans there, “Pavelski said. "You don’t have life-long friends now out in the stands."

Fox 26 TV

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Russell Westbrook is heading to the Houston Rockets after 11 seasons in Oklahoma City.

NBA Thunder Westbrook to Houston for Paul

Eight-time All-Star will reunite with James Harden in Houston

The Thunder reached the playoffs in all 13 seasons with Harden and Westbrook in the backcourt, taking eighth in the West in 2010, fourth in 2011 and second in 2015, when Oklahoma City saw James and Russell wanted to play together. "It’ll be very interesting and fun," Rockets owner Tilman Fertitta told Houston’s Fox 26 TV.

"James and Russell wanted to play together and we knew some good stuff was coming. We’re always going to try to get better. I think this game is better right now. I hope it’s our chance," he said.

Westbrook has been linked with the Oklahoma City Thunder to the Houston Rockets for some time and now that the deal is official in both teams’ favor, it means huge changes for many clubs.

Eight-time All-Star Westbrook, the 2017 NBA Most Valuable Player, will team up with the 2016 NBA Most Valuable Player, Harden, for former Thunder teammate who was traded to the Rockets in 2012.

"It’s just part of it,” Westbrook said ruc- cularly about the price he’s paid to try to be the best at what he does. With free agency rounding van to the New York Stars, Pavelski has done four years of dominance by his peers.

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Golf / Scottish Open

Spotlight

Mexican's Diaz fires bogey-free 62 to seize lead

Netherlands’ Dylan Groenewegen (centre) celebrates as he wins the seventh stage of Tour de France ahead of Slovakia’s Peter Sagan (second from left) and Australia’s Caleb Ewan (right). AFP

Netherlands’ Dylan Groenewegen (centre) celebrates as he wins the seventh stage of Tour de France ahead of Slovakia’s Peter Sagan (second from left) and Australia’s Caleb Ewan (right). AFP

Dutch sprinter beats Australia’s Ewan in photo-finish, Ciccone holds on to yellow

Wiesberger surges into lead in Scotland

Brendan Wenzel finds the lowest round of his European Tour career, a 63, to hold the ball heading into the weekend at the Aberdeen Standard Investments Scottish Open. The 28-year-old birdied five of his last seven holes on Sunday for the second-lowest 72-hole total in European Tour history. AFP

European Tour

Groenewegen edges stage seven to ease Brussels agon

Dutch sprinter beats Australia’s Ewan in photo-finish, Ciccone holds on to yellow

BRUSSELS

Wiesberger returned to action at the Dutch Open where he was the 2020 champion and second place finisher in 2018. The 30-year-old奥地利 born Wiesberger is looking for his third win of his career. AFP

The 30-year-old Austrian was just three shots off the lead after the opening round but pulled away with a six-under-par 65 in the second round to move two shots clear of compatriot Patrick Ferry and England’s Eddie Pepperell. NAV

Wiesberger started on the 10th at Royal Portrush, which hosted the last Open in 2019, and shot a one-under-par 70 in the opening round.

“I’m very happy with the result and the start of the week, so I can’t wait for the next round and the weekend,” he said. “I’m really looking forward to playing well and having fun.”

Adam Long, this year’s Desert Classic champion, also was three shots off the lead on 13-under-par. But 200th-ranked Henley, a back-nine starter, was four shots further back with Scotland’s Martin Laird and compatriot Ryan Bland at 11-under-par.

Adam Long and Russell Henley were two shots ahead at 13 under. Fellow W esterners Laird and American Andrew Landry were tied for fourth at 11 under. Landry, a former winner of the Sanderson Farms Championship, has two top 10 finishes this year. AFP

First year on LPGA, kind of endless journey, but I’m getting better and better,” Chun said. “I make a mistake, ball goes left, but this week I’m trying to correct right-side of the golf ball. It’s a far cry from the days of being a professional, but a far cry from the days of being a professional. I’m getting better and better. “When I make a mistake, I’m just trying to make sure I don’t make another mistake.”

Mexican’s Diaz fired 62 to seize lead in Scottish Open which happens to be his first career hole-in-one. Chun said. “I don’t think I’ve ever lost the belief that I can win a tournament and be a nice round. I’m just trying to make sure I’m in a good spot on the course, I’m happy with the golf ball.”

Mexican’s Robert Diaz moved up four places in the world rankings thanks to Thursday’s first-round of the US Open. The 26-year-old from the Dominican Republic, ranked 45th in the world, moved up seven spots after tying for third with 54 holes completed in two-under-par 212.

“It’s the first time I’ve ever thought about winning a major tournament,” Diaz said. “I’ve been working hard to get to this point and I’m really happy about it.”

The week’s best top-five finish came from Ben Hogan’s Adam Long and Russell Henley, who were tied for fourth at 13 under. Fellow W esterners Laird and American Andrew Landry were tied for fourth at 11 under. Landry, a former winner of the Sanderson Farms Championship, has two top 10 finishes this year. AFP

Mexican’s Robert Diaz in action during the first round of the John Deere Classic in Silvis, Illinois, United States, on Thursday (AFP)

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Mexican’s Robert Diaz in action during the first round of the John Deere Classic in Silvis, Illinois, United States, on Thursday (AFP)
We are a proud team and hopefully that is what the summer brings. We have just got to concentrate on the connec-
tion that four or five years is long enough, whether you are
in the one-day game and Jason
Roy leads the way for fearless England

**FOCUS**

**We enjoy being underdogs: Taylor issues final warning**

“We will be the underdogs but that is something we enjoy,” he said. “We will enjoy that status. I’ve talked about it all the way through India and New Zealand’s perennial tag as dark

**BOTTOMLINE**

Roy leads the way for fearless England

**CRICKET**

By Chris Stocks

De Villiers defers offer to play for South Africa at World Cup

A

De Villiers has bowed out of the

The opening batsman has been

The Twenty20 sensation.

** CHANGE**

Afghanistan for the World Cup, with
tournament as England struggled

**SPOTLIGHT**

De Villiers defers offer to play for South Africa at World Cup

By Cape Town

Amid the celebratory mood, the

**AFP**

Kholi

Golf Times

Saturday, July 13, 2019

7
England's run to their first World Cup final in 44 years did not happen without the intervention of some prominent leadership figures, most notably Andrew Strauss, whose presence throughout the tournament was an inspiration to the team. Strauss, who is the Managing Director of England cricket, was crucial in helping the team navigate through the course of the tournament.

England's run to the final did not start without its challenges. The team had to deal with the absence of several key players, including the captain, Eoin Morgan, who was ruled out of the tournament due to a finger injury. However, England managed to overcome these challenges and qualify for the final with a 93-run win over New Zealand in the semi-final.

The semi-final was a nail-biting encounter, with both teams giving their best to secure a place in the final. England's bowlers were instrumental in their victory, with Chris Woakes taking 4/44 and Jofra Archer bowling a fantastic spell of 3/61.

England's victory over New Zealand in the semi-final set up a historic final against the defending champions, Australia. The World Cup final was a day of pure cricketing excellence, with both teams putting on a show for the fans.

England ultimately emerged as the winners, defeating Australia by 1 wicket in a thrilling final. The victory was a momentous one for England, and a fitting end to a tournament that had been full of highs and lows.

The victory was a testament to England's hard work and dedication throughout the tournament, and it was a fitting reward for the team's efforts. The victory also marked the end of an era for England cricket, with the retirement of the team's veterans.

The future looks bright for England cricket, and the team will be looking to build on this success in the years to come. The England cricket team has proved that they are a force to be reckoned with, and they will be looking to continue their winning ways in the years to come.