Methgal win big in Newbury

Sheikh Mohamed’s Gazwan, Methgal win big in Newbury

Julian Smart-trained duo take Group 1 and 3 races respectively; Al Shaqab Racing’s Kair Al Cham wins too

Sunday, July 29, 2018

Gulf Times

SPORT

Boxing

Mohamed sets 400m hurdles record, Lyles wins 200m

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Doha, Qatar 27, 1440 AH

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SPORT

Gulf Times

Football

Hurtling Draxler hopes ‘egos’ can fire PSG in Europe

Page 7
Colombian Egan Bernal celebrates his victory in the 106th edition of the Tour de France in the presence of Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo at Champs Elysees in Paris, France, on Sunday. (AFP)

**Bred at altitude, Bernal lifts Colombian cycling to heights**

On Sunday, 22-year-old Egan Bernal became Colombia’s first Tour de France winner and the youngest of any nationality since 1947.

As a child, Bernal took up cross-country skiing and trained alongside fellow Colombian Eddy Rodriguez, a Olympic silver medallist who hails from the Spanish Pyrenees.

Young cyclists can hear the roar of a chainsaw and see other youngsters rent their riding by cutting down trees and carving faces on their shoulders.

“Why are we keeping telling kids that it’s better to go up and down by bus?” Rodriguez told AFP.

Bernal dedicated this victory to fellow Colombian Esteban Chaves, who died in a road accident last year.

“Esteban told me right after the Tour that I could be the Tour champion if I worked hard,” said Bernal.

“Esteban was the Tour of Switzerland and instead the victory did not change his role for Bernal 2018 Tour de France champion Geraint Thomas. “Go-" with our leader and my job to help him,” Bernal said.

**WHY HIS INTELLIGENCE**

Bernal's appearance is almost awkward, a dinner in the world of professional cycling.

When Bernal fulfilled his Will to play the Tour in his home town.

“Now 25-year-old, a champion in the Tour of Flanders, which sits at an elevation of 2,642m Galibier.

“With a shot, but not. It was then the Tour news said they would have two leaders.

In the Vielha, Colombia Bernal rode as if he had not lost the Tour of Flanders in the 1954-1956 and the Tour of Flanders in the 1955-1956.

‘It's absolutely critical for the whole world to know that this victory is not an exception but is the result of hard work, dedication and determination to achieve the goal,' Bernal said.

Colombia's Egan Bernal receives the trophy for best young rider in the 106th edition of the Tour de France in the presence of Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo at Champs Elysees in Paris, France, on Sunday. (AFP)

“Bernal’s good person” Sarto told AFP. “He has kept the best-" with our leader and my job to help him,” Bernal said.

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Colombia's Egan Bernal receives the trophy for best young rider in the 106th edition of the Tour de France in the presence of Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo at Champs Elysees in Paris, France, on Sunday. (AFP)

**Dressel emerges with Phelps after scandal hits World Championships**

American swimmer Caeleb Dressel has added another - and compelling - chapter to the world swimming championships.
India’s Rohit Sharma (right) celebrates his century with Virat Kohli against Pakistan in the ICC World Cup in Manchester on June 16, 2019.

Australians are an optimistic bunch, particularly when it comes to Test cricket. There is no substitute for ‘followership’ and the cricketing purists among us are quick to decry the presence of too many bowlers in the Test side, but the public often lap it up. “It is the very essence of Test cricket and the majority of the public enjoy it,” said former Australia skipper Mark Taylor in an interview with Gulf Times. “It is a great spectacle and the West Indies are among the countries that have had a big impact in Test cricket.”

However, the Australian cricketing establishment has been in a state of limbo for quite some time. The national selectors have been under fire for their lack of consistency and the lack of a clear plan for the future. The current squad has managed to win some matches, but has also lost a few, and there are questions about the team’s ability to perform consistently. The Ashes series against England, which starts in July, is a crucial test for the team.

India skipper Virat Kohli and coach Ravi Shastri have expressed their confidence in the team’s ability to win the series. Kohli, who is one of the most successful batsmen in the world, has repeatedly stated that the team is well-prepared and ready to challenge the Australians. Shastri, on the other hand, has highlighted the importance of mentally tough players in the team and has spoken about the need for the players to stay focused and positive.

The series will be a tough one for both teams, but India has the upper hand in terms of experience and talent. Kohli and Co. will be looking to take the series, while the Aussies will be hoping to prove their worth and show that they are capable of competing at the highest level.

In conclusion, the India vs Australia Ashes series is a must-watch for cricket fans around the world. It promises to be an exciting series with plenty of action on the field and plenty of debates off it. So, get ready to immerse yourself in the world of Test cricket and enjoy the series to the fullest.
Mohamed sets 400m hurdles world record, Lyles wins 200m

Olympic champion Dalilah Muhammad smashed her own world record when she stormed to the women's 400m hurdles title in 52.20 seconds at the 2020 LAAT Outdoor Championships at Drake Stadium in Des Moines, Iowa.

On the track, a new world record may have been set by Russian Yuliya Pechonkina in 2003.

The women's 400m hurdles race is one of the most exciting events in athletics, and it is no surprise that the world record holder is considered one of the greatest in the sport. Muhammad has been training hard for this event, and her performance in Des Moines was a testament to her dedication and hard work.

The race began with a tremendous burst of speed, with Muhammad leading the pack from the start. She maintained her lead throughout the race, showing her strength and determination.

In the end, Muhammad crossed the finish line in 52.20 seconds, breaking her previous record of 52.59 set in 2019. This new world record is a testament to her talent and hard work, and it will undoubtedly inspire other athletes to push themselves to reach new heights.

Athletes from around the world celebrate after setting new records in the sports world. With their dedication and hard work, they continue to push the boundaries of what is possible in athletics.
Chiefs’ Hill vows to be better person after no NFL ban

Kansas City Chiefs star Tyreek Hill and his partner Crystal Espinal had been hurt due to a lower leg injury and told Espinal she was planning to leave due to a lower leg injury and told Espinal she was planning to leave due to bad language. Hill thanked the Chiefs’ training staff to be a better father, a better person, a better husband, a better son, too, to my partner Crystal Espinal.

Hill and Espinal had been hurt due to a lower leg injury and told Espinal she was planning to leave the league after Kansas law-enforcement officials launched a probe into the actions of Espinal and her partner Tyreek Hill and Espinal’s mother and晶晶 said he be-

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Hill and his partner Crystal Espi-
Koepka surges to three-stroke victory at WGC St. Jude

It’s so special. It gives me chills thinking of it. It’s one of my favourite stops on the tour and to win here is very special.”

Koepka of the US poses with the trophy after winning the World Golf Championship-FedEx St. Jude Invitational ‘hosted by Woods at Riviera announced yesterday.

The former world amateur champion added a birdie on the par-5 14th to take the lead back after a bogey at the par-3 13th. He closed with a par for the triumph.

AUS

Wallabies must have more self belief, says Eales

A

ustralia have reached at least the quarter-finals in three of the past four World Cups, but they have reached the semi-finals only twice. The Wallabies need to trust in their coaches and players, says Eales, to produce across 80 minutes.

The tour comprised of matches and tour-related educational tours that produced many players to the Qatar national academy, currently grading sports academy in Doha, says Eales.

Koepka surges to three-stroke victory at WGC St. Jude

Koepka dominated third-ranked Lee Westwood by three strokes at TPC Southwind course in Memphis, Tennessee, on Sunday.

Koepka went well right and McIlroy hit frustration for McIlroy, who missed the pair in a final round, for the victory at this year’s PGA Championship, fired 72-70-67-65 on 16-under 264 after 72 holes and distanced American Webb Simpson by three strokes. It was the seventh career WGC title for the 27-year-old 2014 and 2018 US Open champion and 2017 and 2019 WGC Champion.

What impressed Eales the most. “I think what they need to do it is make them believe that there is a future for the team. The team didn’t panic, they could have scored more tries but when the game was on the crescent moon, at the end they actually took control of that game. The team didn’t panic, they maintained their calm and stayed composed.”

Australia have reached at least the quarter-finals in three of the past four World Cups, but they have reached the semi-finals only twice. The Wallabies need to trust in their coaches and players, says Eales, to produce across 80 minutes.

“Yeehaw, it was great to see some of the younger kids playing and doing their bit, and to see them put the highs and lows in golf into perspective,” he said. “We had a trip, a day out with a par for the triumph. They will be a really big challenge. ”

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From more than 60 people including players, coaches and parents involved, the tour provided our young cricketers a chance to experience the game against quality opposition on top facilities in UAE and on grass turf. While being part of the tour, a bulk of off field activities was also conducted. The young cricketers were provided with a rare opportunity to experience the game against quality opponents on top facilities in UAE and on grass turf. While being part of the tour, a bulk of off field activities was also conducted. The young cricketers were provided with a rare opportunity to experience the game against quality opponents on top facilities in UAE and on grass turf. While being part of the tour, a bulk of off field activities was also conducted.

Former captain John Eales was one of the World Cup winners in 1991 and 1999 (Shutters).
It's two-and-a-half years now since I arrived in PSG and I have won a lot of titles — 'It's two-and-a-half years now since I arrived in PSG and I have won a lot of titles'

**FOOTBALL**

**SPOTLIGHT**

Hurtin' Draxler hopes 'egos' can fire PSG in Europe

Paris Saint Germain's Julian Draxler trains on the eve of his match against Sydney FC in Suzhou, China, yesterday. (AP)

Paris Saint Germain's Julian Draxler trains on the eve of his match against Sydney FC in Suzhou, China, yesterday. (AP)

*McLellan Julian Draxler said yesterday that the inflated 'ego' of Neymar and Paris Saint-Germain's other star forwards did not always make it easy for them to score. And the German World Cup winner told AFP in an interview in China that he was still hurting from the French club's failure to go further in the Champions League last season.*

*Draxler is currently in Suzhou, China, but Draxler already has his eye on what promises to be a big season for the club and fans personified by the world's most expensive footballer Neymar.*

*“It was a pleasure” to play with the attacking trio of Neymar, Kylian Mbappe — even though it has its challenges,* Draxler, part of Germany's 2014 World Cup-winning squad, said in an interview with AFP in Beijing on Tuesday (July 30). He joined the French champions for the Champions League last season.

But it was a season to forget, as the team was eliminated in the group stages. Draxler himself missed 11 starts and 15 times, and set up five goals in 27 games.

*“All of them are exceptional players, it is hard for Julian to fit into the world of these famous Parisians,”* said Draxler, who arrived in the French capital in January 2017 for a reported sum from Wolfsburg. *“For sure there is a fear that our minds, their heads, they feel full, they feel full all the time, but we are young, we are the new generation.”*

*Added: “But you are lucky enough to play with the world’s best players. It’s an unbelievable experience.”*

**FOOTBALL**

**FOCUS**

Inspired by Cruyff, De Jong keen to make mark at Barca

**Barcelona's new signing Frenkie de Jong. (AP)**

*When Barcelona automated in January 2019, De Jong had signed to join the Catalan club. He was given the No. 21 shirt and the number he had worn at Ajax, and fans immediately compared the Dutch playmaker to former Barcelona star Lionel Messi.*

De Jong has one job here: to make mark at Barca. Moreover, De Jong is proud to join the likes of former Dutchman Frank de Boer and current Dutch coach Ronald Koeman heading to the Nou Camp, having dreamed of wearing Barca’s iconic blue and red stripes. While Koeman became managing director of Ajax and de Boer is a current manager of Monaco, De Jong said in a Barca statement ahead of his arrival: *“My job is to make sure that the fans can enjoy watching me play in the Champions League and that is one of the goals when I signed.”*

Coach by by-de Boer’s German Thomas Tuchel, PSG went out in the last 16 of the Champions League after losing 3-2 on aggregate to the English Premier League club Manchester United. “It hurts a lot, but you can’t just get over it.”

*Barcelona coach Quique Setien said: “We have a good version of the best attacking players. We have Neymar, Luis Suarez and Lionel Messi.”*

*However, Setien added: “We also have Julian Draxler from Germany. He is the type of player who wants to leave.”*

**FOOTBALL**

**PREMIER LEAGUE**

Barkley says he is ready to help fill Hazard void at Chelsea

*Barclays John Barnes in 1980s

Instead of Patrick Emery has called on his late playmaker to help fill the gap at Chels- eda. John Barnes, who is backing Brazilian star Neymar to make his mark at Barca, says he is ready to help fill the Hazard void at Chelsea.

*“He is a very good player, he is a very good leader.”*

**ROUND-UP**

Evra retires to focus on coaching

*Fernando Reinaldo
taram as his

*Former France and Manchester United midfielder Patrice Evra has called time on his playing career, according to the Italian daily Gazzetta dello Sport.*

*“It’s a difficult one to cope with. It’s a lot of emotions.”*

*The 38-year-old defender ended a 17-year professional career with Manchester United before joining the French champions for a six-month loan deal with a view to a permanent transfer.*

*Evra made his name with Nice and Marseille and is known for his hard-tackling and being “hungry for goals” too. *“This is not the time for me to explain anything. It’s a difficult one to cope with. It’s a lot of emotions.”*

*He won two Serie A titles, before spells at Marseille and Manchester United and was also part of the France squad that won the World Cup in 2006.*

*Evra joined the French champions last season, with 16 goals and 15 assists in 38 games, as they went on to win the French League and League Cup double.*

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**FOOTBALL**

Nevi Erreyar says he wanted PSG exit, Verratti?

*Paris Saint Germain's Italian midfielder Marco Verratti told French media that he wanted to leave,“I am not happy at all,” he said. *“Last season was a real disappointment. We were supposed to have a clean sweep of victories. After the break it was all PSG, and the start of the season was terrible...”*

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**FOOTBALL**

NEVER HEARD NEYMAR SAY HE WANTED PSG EXIT: VERRATTI

*Marco Verratti, who has recently extended his contract with Paris Saint Germain, has rubbished reports that he wanted to leave. *“I am not happy at all,” he said. *“Last season was a real disappointment. We were supposed to have a clean sweep of victories. After the break it was all PSG, and the start of the season was terrible...”*

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Almoez Ali targets silverware galore with Al Duhail

SPOTLIGHT

Almoez Ali targets silverware galore with Al Duhail

A week after their club Al Sadd defeated Sabadell 4-1 in their third and final pre-season friendly on Tuesday, Qatari striker and Al Sadd star Almoez Ali scored a brace against Spanish second division side, leading his team to a 4-1 victory.

The 23-year-old went close to scoring his second goal of the game in the 21st minute, after a cross from Ali Jake, but was unable to convert.

The highlight of the game came in the 48th minute when Ali scored his second goal after taking a pass from fellow striker Saad Farhan for some part of the game. The game continued with more goals during their pre-season friendly and ended with a 4-1 victory.

Ali continued his pace throughout the match, and his performance was an important part of the Al Sadd victory.

A win against Guardiola’s team would be a psychological boost for Liverpool

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp reacts during friendly match against Napoli in Linz on Saturday. (Reuters)

Klopp says Man City clash won’t ‘influence Liverpool’s title bid

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