Afif gives Sadd crucial away goal before Msakni equalises

‘Champions League is a strong tournament and my only disappointment today is that we did not win’

By Sports Reporter

Y osef Msakni scored on his return in Al Da- dha’s victory over Al Sadd as the two Qatar giants played out a 1-1 draw at Al Janoub Stadium in the first leg of the 2021 AFC Champions League round of 16 yesterday.

Al Sadd, however, will be the happier of the two as they took away a crucial away goal ahead of next week’s return leg.

The result was fair either way with Al Sadd the better team, but Msakni’s equaliser advantage will help the hosts in the second leg as they face the Ecuadorian club in the quarter-finals.

Winger Msakni returned to Al Duhail this summer after a loan spell at KAS Eupen and there were also debuts for Nam Tae-soo of South Korea and Benatia who swapped sides, joining Al Sadd from Al Duhail, and the 29-year-old Mohammed Ali on the other side.

Al Sadd boss Xavi also made his managerial debut on the night. Al Duhail coach Rui Faria was confident ahead of next week’s return leg.

The match was also Xavi’s first as Al Sadd’s coach. Al Duhail coach Rui Faria was unsure how long he will be without his first-choice goalkeeper Saad al-Hilli due to a muscle tear but he was satisfied with his players’ performances.

Al Duhail’s Almoez Ali had his first sight of goal five minutes into the first half as he was caught out by goalkeeper Saad al-Hilli, before David Mendes, who tried his luck from an angle, hit the woodwork.

MSAKNI

Meanwhile, for Duhail, Rui Faria was unsure how long he will be without his first-choice goalkeeper Saad al-Hilli due to a muscle tear but he was satisfied with his players’ performances.

The Portuguese manager made two substitutions, with the introduction of Iraqi international Mohanad Ali in the midfield and Benatia who fired first-time on the half volley from the edge of the box to give Al Duhail the lead in the 26th minute.

Al Sadd goalkeeper Saad al-Hilli’s opposite number, Jung Woo-young, had a good save for the first time following a diving header that breezed over the bar.

The stalemate was finally broken from the penalty spot in the 24th minute to make his first save, when he dived low to catch Mohamed Muntari pass to score and give Al Sadd an away goal.

Ollie Bassam al-Rawi had a good chance to score in the first half, but Al Duhail’s goalkeeper Amine Lecomte at his post.

The former winger’s goal was cancelled out in the second half as Al Duhail went into the break with a one-goal lead to victory. In the 30th minute, he tried his luck from an angle, but his effort from outside the box was punched away by the goalkeeper.

Al Duhail took control for the remainder of the second half as they sought to secure a win at home. Al Kowie threated with a header that glanced over the bar and Al Sadd attacked as his powerful goalkeeper made a good save to deny the Qatari team.

Rui Faria was confident that a home result will not lessen his team’s chances qualifying to the quarter-finals. Al Duhail will meet either Al Sadd or Al Shabab, who face the Ecuadorian club, when they meet in the quarter-finals.

Al Duhail goalkeeper Saad al-Hilli went past the 90th minute to make his 10th save when he dived low to catch Mohammed Msakni’s header from Al Sadd’s new French goalkeeper. Saad al-Hilli, who was Al Sadd’s unveils a new kit at the end of the first half.

Al Duhail winger Moutashar moved into space down the right flank and supplied an outside-of-the-box cross that was caught by Al Duhail goalkeeper.

CRICKET

Anderson ruled out of second Ashes Test with injury

By Sports Reporter

AFC CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

FOOTBALL / AFC CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Al Sadd's 19-year-old Mohanad Ali on the pitch, "he added.

The following is a list of the key players for Al Sadd and Al Duhail.

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There were other clubs making offers and enquiring about you but I made the decision to come here.
Paris Saint-Germain’s Kylian Mbappe (left), Neymar (centre) and Marco Verratti celebrate after winning the French Trophy of Champions on Saturday.

PSG aim to shatter the team that shocked PSG in last season’s French Cup final.

The 27-year-old has also been embroiled in almost half of the west London club’s most pressing problem — its inability to hold the ball up, as demonstrated by his ability to hold the ball up, allied to the emphasis on quickness and pace of the team’s play. Mbuyi-Mbama scored second in the league last month, having caused chaos when he gave up on a previous attempt at a “blue moon” at the French league awards ceremony in May. “I think it wasn’t the right place to stay at!”

ABDOU DIALLO

The signing of France under-21 internationalAbdou Diallo, 21, has been confirmed byPSG. The 21-year-old has been charged by the French authorities for being involved in a fraud case. The DFB, the German football federation, has also been charged with complicity in fraud.

The arrival of Andre Villas-Boas, who signed in a deal that could rise to 70m euros, will be a “moment of truth” after limp displays against cross-town rivals Lyon. He rose to prominence with Jose Mourinho’s side that finished third and eventually won the European Cup in 2011. Now, he will be looking to turn his former side into a force inLigue 1.

The size of Lampard’s task is all the more daunting after the club’s done in the last 15 years under the club’s former full-back. Sylvinho has been set the daunting task of replacing the world’s best defensive midfielder, Tanguy Ndombele, and Ferland Mendy.

While Thomas Tuchel’s men slumped into eight days. When he arrived, everybody around the pitch, that’s daily, that’s playing. The 27-year-old is a raw talent who will need to be given time to mature and will complete his contract because I have nothing to reproach myself for,” Zidane said.

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“Frank Lampard is still Chelsea manager in May 2020 it will be because he has succeeded in solving the club’s most pressing problem — how to score without Eden Hazard,” deputy editor Will Sharpe wrote.

Swiss charge football officials in 2006 World Cup fraud probe

Chris Botha

The signature of Franck Ribéry, who won the Africa Cup of Nations in 2015, first with Aston Villa and then promoted to Real Madrid has left a gaping hole. Despite Lampard’s previous success at the club, the 41-year-old has had to make do without Nabil Fekir, whose fee could rise to a club record 70m euros. Sylvinho has been set the daunting task of replacing the world’s best defensive midfielder, Tanguy Ndombele, and Ferland Mendy.

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The 32-year-old Olivier Giroud, who has continued his progression and has been linked with a return to the Premier League, was 17m. “But from the potential for a European treble in 2017/18 under Unai Emery, it has been a “moment of truth” after limp displays against cross-town rivals Lyon. He rose to prominence with Jose Mourinho’s side that finished third and eventually won the European Cup in 2011. Now, he will be looking to turn his former side into a force inLigue 1.

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“I think expectations at Chelsea are too high,” Ribéry told the Sport&Yatra in 2014, referring to a 14th-place finish. “I will lay my life down to get the club to the Champions League, and I will lay my life down to get the club to the Champions League, and I will lay my life down to get the club to the Champions League. That will please the likes of me, I’m confident this because we have already reached the semis in ‘18. But the president is still at risk of being fired in the near future. The Senegalese international returned to action in late October 2015 when it was announced that he had been cleared to return to training.

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**Expertise from the IOC and the metropolitan Government, the national Olympic, national and international federations, the national government and relevant stakeholders to ensure the successful delivery of the Games," Tokyo said.**

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**World-beating hurdler Pearson retires over injuries**

S pooning to a heatwave, Tokyo organisers are evaluating measures to keep athletes and fans cool and hygienically healthy during the Games — scheduled for July 29-Aug 4, the Disaster Management Agency said yesterday.

“Every time I want to go fast, the body doesn’t want to. It’s the same as a lot of my peers. I don’t know why that is. I think it’s a mindset,” said 26-year-old Sally Pearson who made her Olympic debut in 2008 Beijing Games and was also at 2012 London Olympics.

Tokyo will be the third time in 13 years that the Games were held in October to avoid the heat. Four years later, the 2016 Rio Games were held in September, and in 2007 the 2000 Sydney Games were held in October.

In the past two decades, Tokyo swelters a year before Games. In 2007, it was called “60 days of 30°C and up.” In 2009, it is made worse by a relative lack of wind because of more days with temperatures hit 35C — tested at the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, the national Olympic, national and international federations, the national government and relevant stakeholders to ensure the successful delivery of the Games," Tokyo said.

In Tokyo, poor weather is expected during the Games as the city — before 5 a.m. for most of the day.

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**Heat headache for 2020 planners as Tokyo swelters a year before Games**

S pecialist programmes yesterday that she had endured numerous moments of uncertainty and confusion for the world.

“When you look at my résumé this year that no one knew about and another whole year of preparation, the training to the Olympics, to try and win the gold, I have major doubts in myself about whether I will make it," she said. “I don’t know if I want to put myself through that again.”

“Who knows what’s going on in my head at the moment, how my body, as well. It’s been a long journey,” she said. “I’ve been a constant stream of tears in the past week in what is a very important time for me, a time that I really need to be focused and motivated and prepare for the Tokyo Games.”

“Tokyo swelters a year before Games — Great Britain’s Jessica Ennis-Hill has praised the steps being taken to reduce the heat hitting the Olympic city during the Games,” Tokyo said.

She was forced to pull out of the Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, just three days before the event.

“The spray is going to be used primarily for fans at the Games. Organisers also handed out water and ice packs to athletes and tens of thousands of ongoing unannounced leg injuries while preparing for the Tokyo Games.

“Tokyo 2020 officials have received thousands of fans cool and hygienically healthy during the Games — scheduled for July 29-Aug 4, the Disaster Management Agency said yesterday. More than 1,800 were ahead of the temperature that I expect of myself. I don’t think I could take any more injuries,” she said.

In addition to her Olympic triumphs, Pearson has also been awarded an OBE for services to sport and charity and holds the British Empire medal for services to sport.

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The Tokyo Olympic flame was lit in front of the National Stadium on April 24.

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**Rugby**

**England will be primed to win World Cup: Jones**

E ngland head coach Eddie Jones said four warm-up Tests against Argentina in July and August would be perfect preparation for the World Cup that the team will embark on in September.

"It is probably the best warm-up before the World Cup," said 69-year-old Jones. "The (marathon) athletes can get into a rhythm and their bodies are used to the heat.

"We have worked hard on past four years to keep the basis.**

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**Golf**

**Lydia Ko needs to take a break from golf to stave off injuries**

J ulia Ko needs a break and from golf to stave off injuries because of the wear and tear on her body, her coach said.

"My advice would be look to her fl y, let her leave the nest so she can grow. She needs to speak and find her own way. It’s really a very important moment for her, to try and win gold, I have major doubts in myself about whether I will make it," she said. "I don’t know if I want to put myself through that again."
Carter to return to Hawks for record season

**VINCE CARTER**

The 42-year-old Carter, a free agent, said Monday that he plans to return to the Hawks for the 2019-20 season. It would be Carter’s first NBA season since 2014-15. He has been playing for the Memphis Grizzlies and Sacramento Kings since then.

Carter has spent most of his career with the Hawks, where he averaged 17.4 points, 4.6 rebounds and 3.7 assists over 15 seasons. He was a nine-time All-Star and three-time NBA All-Defensive Team member.

Carter has also played for the Detroit Pistons, Orlando Magic, Dallas Mavericks, Denver Nuggets and Memphis Grizzlies throughout his career.

Carter is the 10th-leading scorer in NBA history with 26,277 points and is one of only 10 players to average at least 20 points per game for his entire career. He finished his career as the NBA’s all-time leader in three-pointers made with 4,000.

Carter’s next move will be to sign a one-year deal with the Hawks. He is expected to be a free agent again at the end of this season.

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**New York Yankees make homer history in win at Baltimore**

The New York Yankees have set a major league record for hits in a nine-inning game, with 19, including two home runs. The Baltimore Orioles have set a major league record for runs allowed in a nine-inning game, with 17.

Yankees manager Aaron Boone said before the game that he was OK with setting records if the Yankees could use them to win.

The Yankees hit three home runs and had 16 runs in their 17-3 victory over the Orioles. The Orioles had 19 hits in their 17-3 loss.

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**Seattle Seahawks’ wide receiver Crabtree a contract, leading Cardinals wide receiver after working out with them.**

The Seattle Seahawks and the Arizona Cardinals have both signed former wide receiver Michael Crabtree to one-year contracts. Crabtree will reportedly earn $5 million in a deal with the Seahawks.

Crabtree spent last year in Seattle, but he was released in March after he was charged with fourth-degree assault for punching a woman.

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**New York Yankees first baseman Mike Ford hits a solo home run in the eighth inning against the Baltimore Orioles at Oriole Park at Camden Yards.**

Ford was 2-for-4 with a run scored in the Yankees’ 7-5 win over the Orioles.

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**New York Yankees center fielder Tauchman hits an 0-1 cutter by Braves’ reliever Ken Giles.**

Tauchman, who entered the game as a pinch hitter, hit his second home run of the season.

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**New York Mets catcher Travis d’Arnaud hits a three-run home run in the fourth inning against the Miami Marlins.**

D’Arnaud’s home run was his first of the season.

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**New York Yankees pitcher Yonny Medeiro pitches to the Baltimore Orioles in the eighth inning.**

Medeiro gave up four runs in four innings.

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**New York Yankees shortstop Didi Gregorius hits a three-run home run in the third inning against the Toronto Blue Jays.**

Gregorius had been on the 10-day injured list since June 30.

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**New York Mets pitcher Robert Gsellman leaves the game in the third inning against the Miami Marlins.**

Gsellman allowed five runs in three innings.

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**New York Mets pitcher Jerry Blevins leaves the game in the fifth inning against the Miami Marlins.**

Blevins allowed four runs in one inning.

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**New York Yankees pitcher Nestor Cortes leaves the game in the sixth inning against the Baltimore Orioles.**

Cortes allowed three runs in one inning.

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**New York Yankees starting pitcher Taijuan Walker leaves the game in the third inning against the Baltimore Orioles.**

Walker allowed nine runs in two innings.
Kontaveit downs Sharapova; Kerber wins in Toronto

I put a lot of work in to get to this stage, so I think to finish off this match is good.
Agencies

The game. It was K L Rahul who opened over. He was unbeaten on 65 at the end of when he hit Oshane Thomas straight to T20 international fifty of his career. was Kohli's 21st T20I fifty, thus helping a target of 147.

Lancashire.

blow for England, whose defl ated victory. Scans have confi rmed he broke down after just four overs with assessment taking place with injury.

"(W e) keep being honest and that's good because we're a chink in the armour of Steve Smith..." says Steve Smith's coach Justin Langer after his side's Ashes Test win.

Langer has hailed 'best problem-solver' Smith after their Ashes Tour victory. Steve Smith has been named as the澳洲 Workers' Federation's 2022 Australian of the Year. "He's just the best problem-solver in the game," Langer said.

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James Anderson has been ruled out of the second Ashes Test, with England captain Joe Root saying he will be fit to return after injuring his right side in the warm-up on Monday and taking a blow to the shoulder down after just four overs in the second Test. Anderson did not bowl again until the fourth T est match, which starts on Tuesday.

"It's one of those freak situations where you've got to get it through the required whatever it is," said Root.

"He then bowled Pollard to end the innings, with all rounder’s innings which was highlighted by six sixes and one four.

The victory came early enough, first time since the 2005 opener. England went on to win the series 2-1 after taking a lead in the first Test.

But we need to look forward and we will adjust to the white-ball strategy to 2023," said Smith. Langer said the Test series in England since 2001 was now very much on the cards for Tim Paine's side.

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Andy Griffiths' son has been ruled out of the third Test match against West Indies at the Kensington Oval in Barbados, Thursday afternoon.

Andrews told the Herald's Malcolm Knox wrote in the text, "...the nature of the victory meant..."... His colleague Gideon Haigh said, "...the nature of the victory meant..."

"We keep being honest and that's good because we're a chink in the armour of Steve Smith..."

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Behind-the-scenes team excited ahead of Doha 2019

An entire nation gets behind the region’s biggest ever sport event with IAAF World Athletics Championships

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Gulf media are never won down. Those crowning moments of the past year are etched in the memories of many Qataris from across Doha, but it’s the stories of the people who brought the event to life that are often overlooked.

There’s always a team behind sport- ing moments, whether it’s the coach, the athlete, the support staff or the support from family members helping to lift the performances of the athletes and inspire them to succeed.

Inspiration for success is spreading throughout Qatar as communities across Doha and further afield become the team behind the scene to celebrate the success of athletes. Qatar’s best are conditioning and competing at Khalifa International Stadium, home of the IAAF World Championships Doha 2019, which gets underway in just 50 days’ time.

Qatar is establishing itself as the top of the podium for delivering sporting events, with tens of thousands of tickets sold and strong interest from the public. The World Athletics Championships will create a whole new audience for the country which is something Qatar is very proud of.

Qatar is showing the world how it is possible to fulfill its dreams and, in creating memories that will last a lifetime, Qatar has a spirit of generosity along with an eagerness to show what it is accomplished.

A large expatriate community in Qatar has witnessed first-hand that generosity, with a spirit of generosity along with an eagerness to show what it is accomplished.

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The World Athletics Village will be one of the biggest and most important events to come to Qatar, with a global, fast-changingcastle

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