Hellenistic, Lady Princess shine with feature victories

Umm Qarn colts Antar and Equnoxe bag the derbies for three-year-old Arabs and local thoroughbreds respectively

By Nabil Bala

Hellenistic, one of the most exciting sons of Zard in the last five years, was the star attraction in the feature event of the Al Qudairat Arabian Race Festival on Friday at Al Ain. The son of Zardozi ridden by the legendary Canadian jockey Jean-Claude Rouget for trainer Jean-Claude Rouget for trainer Jean-Claude Rouget’s stables was the star attraction of the day, winning the Al Qudairat Arabian Race Festival’s main event, the $750,000 Al Qudairat Arabian Derby, in scintillating style.

The exciting colt, who was a $250,000 purchase at the Keeneland September Yearling Sale, emerged victorious with ease after a riveting battle with his stablemate Equnoxe. The two horses battled tooth and nail, with Equnoxe proving to be the closest challenger, but Hellenistic’s determination and speed proved too much for his rival.

Both colts, trained by Jean-Claude Rouget, showcased their incredible form and speed, with Equnoxe coming in second, securing another memorable day for the trainer and the owner.

“Hellenistic is a son of Zardozi, and we have high hopes for him. He has been performing consistently well, and today’s victory is a testament to his ability and potential,” said Jean-Claude Rouget after the race.

Following his victory, Hellenistic has established himself as one of the top contenders for the upcoming Dubai World Cup Series, with his owners and trainers looking forward to his next outing.

Meanwhile, Equnoxe, who was also a strong performer, ran a brave race to come in second. The colt, who was purchased for $225,000, has been an outstanding performer under the guidance of Jean-Claude Rouget.

With his victory, Hellenistic has taken a significant step forward in his career, and his owners and trainers are confident that he has the potential to become one of the top horses in the Arabian racing world.

The day also saw several other exciting races, with Antar emerging victorious in the $500,000 Al Qudairat Arabian Classic. The colt, who was trained by Tony Alford, put in an outstanding performance to secure the victory.

The feature event of the day was the $750,000 Al Qudairat Arabian Derby, which saw Equnoxe and Hellenistic battle it out for the top honors. The two horses, both trained by Jean-Claude Rouget, showed their mettle, with Equnoxe coming in second, just ahead of Hellenistic.

The thrilling race was a testament to the quality of the Arabian horses, and the trainers and owners were thrilled with the outcome.

Meanwhile, Antar, who has been a consistent performer, secured the victory in the $500,000 Al Qudairat Arabian Classic, adding another win to his impressive list of achievements.

With the victory of Antar and Equnoxe, the Al Qudairat Arabian Race Festival has once again showcased the incredible talent and quality of Arabian racing. The festival, which is one of the most prestigious events in the Arabian racing world, continues to attract top performers and trainers from around the globe.

The upcoming Dubai World Cup Series promises to be another exciting chapter in the Arabian racing world, with top horses like Antar, Equnoxe, and Hellenistic poised to make their mark.

The Al Qudairat Arabian Race Festival has cemented its reputation as one of the most prestigious events in the Arabian racing world, and with the victory of Antar and Equnoxe, the festival has once again demonstrated its ability to attract top performers and trainers from around the globe.

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FOCUS

Qatar Airways sponsors Amir Cup final

Qatar Airways, a major sponsor of the Amir Cup final, congratulated the champions in the Real Futbol Club, who won the Amir Cup final for the second consecutive year, on their 2-1 victory over Al Gharafa SC. The match took place on Qatar National Football Stadium in Al Khor and was a big moment for the country, as it was the first time a Qatari club had won the Amir Cup.

"We are proud to support local talent and see it thrive on the field," said Chief Executive Officer of Qatar Airways, Akbar Al Baker, in a statement. "This victory is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved in the sport in Qatar, and we look forward to more success in the future."

"The Amir Cup is a symbol of unity and pride for Qatar, and we are delighted to see the passion and skill on display during the match," added Al Baker.

The Amir Cup is a domestic football competition in Qatar, organized by the Qatar Football Association (QFA) and is the most prestigious domestic football event in the country. It is held annually and is open to all Qatari clubs.

BUNDERSLAG

Gladbach fine Thuram's month's wages after splitting with opponent

Borussia Monchengladbach have paid Thorgan Hazard's one-month's wage to the ex-Olympiakos forward, after splitting with him following a row with management over his return to Belgium. The forward had been out since October with an injury and returned to Belgium for treatment in November.

"I am very happy to be back and ready to help the team," said Hazard in a statement. "I want to thank the fans for their support during this difficult time."

"It is important for the team that Hazard is back and can contribute to the team's success," added manager Marco Rose.

AGGF COMMISSION FORMS COMMITTEE TO VISIT IRAQ AND INSPECT ITS FACILITIES

Bozka Tunceli Arab Cup Football Committee (Bozka Tunceli, Avrupa Kupası Futbol Komitasyonu) has agreed to send a delegation to Iraq and inspect its facilities. The delegation will consist of experts from the Arab Cup Football Committee, in order to assess the country's readiness for hosting the Arab Cup 2023.

"We are committed to ensuring that all necessary measures are taken to host a successful event," said Bozka Tunceli, the head of the Arab Cup Football Committee.

"We will work closely with our colleagues in Iraq to ensure that everything is in place for the Arab Cup 2023," added Bozka Tunceli.

VOLKSWAGEN

Volkswagen signs new deal with Monaco Racing

Monaco Racing announced today that it has signed a new deal with Volkswagen. The German car manufacturer will become the primary sponsor of the team for the next season.

"We are excited to partner with Monaco Racing," said Volkswagen CEO Herbert Diess. "They have a strong tradition in motorsport and we look forward to supporting them in their endeavors.

"This new deal will help us further the Volkswagen brand's presence in motorsport," added Diess.

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LIGUE 1

Volland helps Monaco end three-match losing streak

Monaco's signing Julian Draxler helped the team to a 1-0 win against Rennes. The French striker scored a goal in the second half, helping Monaco to end their three-match losing streak.

"I'm very happy to have scored and help the team," said Draxler after the match. "The team is working hard and we are starting to see the results."
United state title credentials as Leicester dent Spurs hopes

Solskjaer’s Manchester United now have 26 points — five behind league leaders with a game in hand.

SPFL

Manchester United’s Scott McTominay celebrates after scoring against Leeds during the Premier League match at Old Trafford on Wednesday 29th December 2021.

PREMIER LEAGUE RELEGATION
Brighton & Hove Albion v Sheffield United, Premier League, AMEX Stadium, 1st February 2022, 16:00 GMT

Leeds United’s Patrick Bamford and Leeds United’s Raphinha celebrate after scoring against Everton during the Premier League match at Goodison Park on Wednesday 29th December 2021.

SPOTLIGHT
Leao scores fastest-ever Serie A goal to keep AC Milan on top

Peretz says Real Madrid want reform of club competitions

Celtic clinch historic quadruple-treble with shootout win in Scottish Cup

Leeds United 1 – 1 Manchester United

Celtic clinch historic quadruple-treble with shootout win in Scottish Cup

FOOTBALL

Celtic’s John Kennedy celebrates with his players after winning the Scottish Cup post-match.

Leicester City 2 – 1 Tottenham Hotspur

Leicester City’s Jamie Vardy celebrates after scoring against Tottenham Hotspur during the Premier League match at King Power Stadium on Wednesday 29th December 2021.

Soccer

Soccer

Soccer

Soccer

Soccer

Celtic’s Moussa Dembele celebrates scoring the third goal against Hearts during the Scottish Cup semi-final at Hampden Park on Wednesday 29th December 2021.
I SPORT

Federer training and committed to playing in Australia

Australian Open organise says all top players will play the tournament

Those who passed on in 2020

Tennis

Agnieszka Radwanska, 29

Radwanska died in September in her native Poland after suffering complications from a lung infection. She was a two-time Grand Slam singles champion and reached the French Open final in 2014.

Grosjean shares ‘something special’ with Escoffier

F1

Aerodynamicists and wind tunnels are key to the sport’s success. In the FIA, the role of technical communications is crucial for sharing technical knowledge and insights.

Grosjean was a key figure in the F1 scene and his passing was a great loss for the sport. His enthusiasm and technical expertise had a lasting impact on the sport.

Bottomline

Escoffier shares ‘something special’ with Grosjean

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Escoffier worked closely with many drivers and engineers in the sport. His passion for F1 was unmatched and his contributions made a significant impact on the sport.

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Bills clinch division title with big win over Broncos

Packers win as Rodgers becomes first QB to throw 40 touchdowns in three seasons

NFL

T

he Buffalo Bills clinched their first AFC East di-
vision title in 21 years on Sunday, fending off the New England Pats, 38-9, to become the fifth team to clinch a spot in the championship in the NFL and the fifth team in the league to clinch a playoff spot. The Bills dominated the entire game, amassing 382 yards of total offense to just 96 for the Patriots. New England was on the move after Daylight Savings Time, but the Bills' defense shut them down, allowing just 96 total yards. In the fourth quarter, Bills quarterback Josh Allen went 14-for-22 for 220 yards and three touchdowns, combining with running back Devin Singletary to lead the Bills to victory.

In a dominant victory, the Bills scored on five of their first seven possessions, including a 5-yard touchdown pass from Allen to tight end Kyle Juszczyk early in the first quarter. Allen then added a 2-yard touchdown run on the Bills' next possession, and Singletary completed the scoring with a 21-yard touchdown run later in the first quarter. The Bills led 28-0 at halftime and never looked back, scoring on their first possession of the second half to put the game out of reach. Allen finished the game with 341 yards passing and three touchdowns, while Singletary had 17 carries for 75 yards and a touchdown. The Bills' defense held the Patriots to just 96 total yards, including 69 on the ground, and allowed just one touchdown.

In the fourth quarter, the Bills added to their lead with a 14-yard pass from Allen to Singletary and a 3-yard touchdown pass from Allen to running back Zack Moss. Allen's performance was a testament to the Bills' offense, which has scored at least 27 points in each of the past five games. The Bills' defense also played a key role in the victory, holding the Patriots to just 96 total yards. The Bills' defense will have the challenge of stopping the Baltimore Ravens in the Divisional Round of the playoffs, but with a win over the Ravens, the Bills could advance to the Super Bowl.
Seifert leads NZ home to wrap up Pakistan T20 series

Hafeez scores unbeaten 99 as Pakistan set 164-run target. Seifert hits 84 not out.
Alvarez batters Smith to claim two titles

I represent not only the boxing world but my country. I did a great job after a 13-month layoff. I am the best in the world.

Golf

Tiger's son wows at PNC event

When I was a child, I was always selective in the courses I played. But now, I'm more open to new experiences. I've played with a lot of great players and enjoyed new courses. I'm looking forward to this tournament.
**SPORT**

**SPOTLIGHT**

Skills test held for Al Nashaab horseback archery competition

A rehearsal for the event ahead of the final will be held on Dec 27th, says Fuad al-Mudahka, President of Horseback Archery Society.

By Sports Reporter

In keeping with the Gulf National Games and Special Olympics, the Horseback Archery and Modern Pentathlon Federation, in cooperation with the Horseback Archery Society conducted the qualification skills test for the first Horseback Archery Championship which is to be held in February.

The organizing committee— comprising Ali al-Saif of al-Mudahka and Secretary-General, Hajar Arabian Archery, and Fuad al-Mudahka, President of Horseback Archery Society—oversaw the skills test which will be held in February.

The committee also considered horseback archery competing in the final round.

The committee is headed by Abd al-Mekad Al-Mudahka.

Al-Mudahka informed that the participation for the skills test was very encouraging despite the losses of the sport in the country. "We had a record skills test participation where 75 horseback archers from three different societies participated," he said.

The participants were divided into two groups of archers and the scores of each group were added to determine which horseback archers would be for the final round.

Moreover, among those who participated in the skills test were, Abrol al-Saif and Khalid al-Saif from Kuwait, and four men from the local club, Al-Mudahka.

The organizing committee of the Horseback Archery Society, led by Fuad al-Mudahka, has also initiated plans to develop the sport in the country and held two tests, depending on the results of the next championship.

A每股Vatican takes part in the qualification skills test for the first Horseback Archery Championship at the Gulf Federation of the Arab States.

The committee said that the skills test was to familiarize horseback archers with each other and with the sport in the region.

During the qualification skills test, participation had a total of ten shots from the bow and arrow and six shots using arrows from the side of the saddle.

"Participants were asked to have a training plan for their horses, and the results of the test will be announced on the website of the Horseback Archery Society," the committee said.

**FOOTBALL**

Credit to Qatar and AFC for hosting Champions League, says Ballan

Qatar is in a strong position globally as a footballing nation, having hosted the AFC Champions League for the first time in December 2020.

Qatar’s hosting of the tournament was widely praised by football officials, with AFC President Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa stating that Qatar had "set a new standard in hosting international football events".

The tournament featured some of the world’s top clubs, including Saudi Arabia’s Al-Hilal, Iran’s Persepolis, and Malaysia’s Johor Darul Ta’zim.

The four-week tournament was well-received, with fans enjoying the high-quality football and the excellent facilities on offer.

**FOCUS**

AFC president says Qatar ready to host 2022 World Cup

16 June 2023

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) President Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa has confirmed that Qatar is ready to host the 2022 World Cup.

In a press conference held on the sidelines of the AFC Congress in Doha, Shaikh Salman said: “We are fully prepared to host the 2022 World Cup.”

The tournament will feature 32 teams from across the globe, including defending champions France.

Qatar was chosen by FIFA to host the 2022 World Cup in 2010, ahead of other bidding countries such as Australia and the United States.

The tournament is expected to take place in winter to avoid the high temperatures of the summer months.

Qatar has invested heavily in infrastructure and facilities, with numerous stadia and training facilities being constructed.

The Qatar Football Association (QFA) has also been working closely with FIFA to ensure a smooth and successful tournament.

Shaikh Salman said: “We are confident that Qatar will deliver a fantastic World Cup.”

The tournament is expected to attract millions of fans from around the world, with Qatar looking to use the event as a platform to showcase its progress on the global stage.

Qatar will be hosting its first World Cup, and the country has been working tirelessly to prepare for the event.

Qatar is also the first Arab country to host a World Cup, and the tournament is expected to be a major boost for the country’s profile.

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