**CRICKET**

**Wood, Broad shine as England take command over SA**

This is just epic man, I don't even know what's going on. My legs feel about 40 kilos each

The outspoken Aussie now

**Kyrgios sets up clash with Nadal**

Australia's Nick Kyrgios faced against Rafael Nadal after their third round match at the Australian Open yesterday.

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**SPORT**

**Leonard leads charge as Clippers cool off Heat**

Federer says ‘epics’ keep him motivated

Roger Federer says ‘epics’ keep him motivated

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**TENNIS**

Federer is on a roll, with a 5-0 win-loss record this year, and is looking to add more titles to his collection. His latest victory came against the in-form Marton Fucsovics, who had lost his last two matches to world No. 10 and No. 27 ranked players, respectively.

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**TENNIS**

**Australian Open**

The Australian Open is one of the four Grand Slam tournaments in professional tennis. It is the oldest and biggest Grand Slam, attracting the best players from around the world. This year, the tournament attracted stars such as Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, and Novak Djokovic.

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**GULF TIMES**

**Qatar to take on South Korea in final**

The Qatar handball team will play with South Korea in the final of the Asian Handball Championships after they defeated Bahrain in the semi-final. The Qatar team is aiming to win its first Asian title.
Serena not going quietly as Coco makes case as heir

WILLIAMS'S LAST GRAND SLAM TITLE CAME THREE YEARS AGO IN MELBOURNE

Serena Williams suffered her latest Grand Slam exit on Sunday when she was oust by 36th seed Veronika Kudermetova at the Australian Open, before a rapturous crowd at the Margaret Court Arena, setting up a potentially tense face-off with her sister, Serena's reign as the sport's greatest player now possibly hanging in the balance.

Veronika Kudermetova was the shock winner of the women's singles title at the Australian Open, defeating seven-time champion Serena Williams in a 6-2 6-2 6-4 victory, in a match that underscored the depth of talent in women's tennis and left Williams with a bitter end to a bid to win a 24th Grand Slam title.

Kudermetova, a 20-year-old Russian who was ranked 48th in the world, managed to stay calm under pressure as she took the final set and the match. Williams, who was seeking to become the first woman to win 24 Grand Slam titles, was visibly shaken after the loss.

"I've tried to be happy, to be positive," Williams said after the match. "But I'm not sure I can do it again."

With her latest defeat, Williams now trails Maria Sharapova by two Grand Slam titles and has not won a major since the 2016 US Open, when she was pregnant with Olympia.

The 38-year-old American, who has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, said she was proud of her daughter Olympia and her determination to keep playing.

"I want to do this one more time," Williams said. "It's a dream come true."

Kudermetova, who is ranked 42nd in the world, said she was happy to be able to play against Williams.

"I want to play against the best," she said. "And Serena is definitely one of the best."
Pakistan thump sloppy Bangladesh for series win

Pakistan's cricket team captain Babar Azam andMohammad Hafeez (second right) bound right good Bangladesh players after winning the second T20 international at the Gaddafi Cricket Stadium in Lahore yesterday. (AFP)

England scored 400 in first innings and then reduced the hosts to 88 for six

M. Wood made the first breakthrough when he had Dean Elgar clean lbw for 26. South Africa finished the day still 157/2, needing 248 more runs to win.

Iqbal took full advantage of the remainder of the match to help Pakistan present their combined-437 as the highest total in the series. Pakistan's bowlers.

Stokes, fined by ICC for foul language rant at spectator

England all-rounder Ben Stokes was fined and given a two-match doping suspension after being convicted in England on Monday. Stokes pleaded guilty to breaching Article 4.2 of the ICC Code of Conduct "in relation torowing a missile at the South Africa dressing room" after the incident, when Ashley Giles, Managing Director for England Cricket’s management, said he was not the only one to blame and made a request for the match to be played.

Stokes is the first player to be fined by the ICC since the Code of Conduct was introduced in 2000.

India aim for another stellar show against New Zealand

Aher securing a stump- ing wicket in the first T20, India, along with their winning run and extended the lead when they took another wicket in the third T20, India, and then finished the match off with a series of the Duckworth-Lewis method. This might be a further game and the two teams will try to make a difference between the two sides.

S. Africa book Super League quarter spot

South Africa are expected to make the difference in the absence of the injured duo of Du Plessis and Hafeez. The team is expected to continue with their winning run and secure their place in the semi-finals.

England’s Mark Wood celebrates with teammates after taking the wicket of South Africa’s Anrich Nortje (gettyimages)
Palmer surges into lead, Tiger battles back at Torrey Pines

Tiger Woods chips out of the bunker on the North Course during the third round of the Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines South. (Getty Images/AFP)

**LEADING SCORES**

Torrey Pines North (Par 71, 7,165 yards)

- **Patrick Reed** (USA) 68-70-69, 205
- **Fred Couples** (USA) 68-70-70, 208
- **JB Holmes** (USA) 68-69, 137
- **JB Holmes** (USA) 68-69, 137
- **Kurt Kitayama** (USA) 69-70-68, 206
- **Ryan Palmer** (USA) 67-71, 138
- **Rafa Cabrera Bello** (ESP) 70-70-73, 213
- **Adam Scott** (AUS) 69-71-72, 212
- **Bubba Watson** (USA) 67-73, 140
- **Keegan Bradley** (USA) 66-72, 138
- **Eddie Pepperell** (GBR) 69-67-72, 210

Torrey Pines South (Par 72, 7,602 yards)

- **Byeong Hun An** (KOR) 70-69, 139
- **Keita Nakajima** (JPN) 69-70-73, 212
- **Erik van Rooyen** (RSA) 73-67-68, 208
- **Tom Hoge** (USA) 64-72-72, 208
- **Kevin Tway** (USA) 66-69-72, 207
- **Ollie Schniederjans** (USA) 70-67-69, 206
- **Scott Stallings** (USA) 65-70-71, 206
- **Jong Oh (KOR)** 66-75-69, 210
- **DeChambeau** (USA) 68-71-69, 210
- **Brendon Todd** (USA) 67-70-73, 210

Tourney leaders, including Bubba Watson, Keegan Bradley and Eddie Pepperell, were three under after 54 holes at the Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines South. (AP Photo/Chris Carlson)

**LEADING SCORES**

China's Wu takes slender lead into final round

Wu Ashun of China reacts after a shot during the third day of Omega Dubai Desert Classic yesterday. (AP Photo/Peter Morrison)

**LEADING SCORES**

Dubai Desert Classic (Par 72, 7,552 yards)

- **Wu Ashun** (CHN) 69-70-68, 207
- **Christopher Morris** (AUS) 69-69-67, 205
- **Nicholas Ffytche** (GBR) 70-67-69, 206
- **Ninon Tamaki** (JPN) 69-71-69, 209
- **David Horsey** (ENG) 67-69-72, 208
- **Tom Lewis** (ENG) 68-71-71, 209
- **Tyronealdo Sunsabeel** (KSA) 68-72-70, 209
- **Makoto Asato** (JPN) 69-71-69, 209
- **Nexu Viera** (VEN) 67-73-69, 209
- **Matthew Jordan** (AUS) 68-71-71, 209

Japan's Yamaguchi in finals

**LEADING SCORES**

Women's Singles Final at the All England Open Badminton Championships today. (AFP)

- **Kento Momota** (JPN) 21-13, 21-13, 21-6
- **Akane Yamaguchi** (JPN) 14-21, 23-21, 21-19

Motorsport

Ott Tanak says ‘everything fine’ after crash, targets Sweden leg

**LEADING SCORES**

Walt Kantio says ‘everything fine’ after his crash in the Rally Sweden phase yesterday. (AFP)

- **Kris Meeke** (GBR) 22-21, 21-16
- **Esapekka Lappi** (FIN) 19-21, 21-16
- **Simon Pagenaud** (FRA) 17-21, 21-16
- **Raymond Courtois** (BEL) 14-21, 21-16
- **Ralfs Sastre** (LAT) 12-21, 21-16
- **Ingvar Svensson** (SWE) 10-21, 21-16
- **Alexandr Kasjanov** (RUS) 9-21, 21-16
- **Hannes Sober** (EST) 7-21, 21-16
- **Laszlo Miron** (HUN) 5-21, 21-16
- **Jaan Kurvits** (EST) 3-21, 21-16
- **Timo Kallio** (FIN) 1-21, 21-16

MOTORSPORT

Ott Tanak says he was late at the start on the third stage of the Rally Sweden, releasing from hospital yesterday following his spectacular Monte Carlo Rally crash. ‘I doubt if it’s possible to have a rally around here any longer,’ the world champion said. ‘In the French Alps town of Gap, ‘The safety devils really did it this time,’ Tanak, 72, said of his opening hole. ‘I took a one-shot lead on the back nine to shoot a 10-under par 67 at the Emirates Golf Club as he chases his first European Tour victory since winning the 2018 KLM Open in the Netherlands leg, gunning for a record-breaking three straight titles. “It’s a marathon,” Woods said. “You can do it in any way you like, but it’s kind of a marathon.” The first 14 holes of champion’s Torrey Pines South course. After shooting an even par two opening round in the final group. “That’s my ‘Happy Chinese New Year Shot,’ he said of his round. “I’m running out of adjectives to describe the power and precision of my golf shots.” (Getty Images/AFP)
Leonard leads charge as Clippers cool off Heat

Leonard, who scored 17 points in third, now has seven straight 30-plus games

Leonard led the Clippers in scoring and also collected 10 rebounds and five assists as the Los Angeles Clipps first career triple double with 30 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists as the Los Angeles Clipps beat the Miami Heat on Monday in Miami, Florida. Leonard had 27 points and 13 rebounds in the third quarter and had 6-4 in the third quarter to lead the Heat. His willingness to do whatever it takes is what makes him great.

The Heat's loss in the fourth quarter meant they had lost seven straight games and dropped to 9-13 on the season. They now have six straight losses.

The Clippers are now 11-2 on the season and have won six straight games. They have scored 125 points in their last two games.

Leonard said of Bryant, "He helped me when I was even more of a rookie, because of what he was able to do. I'm still here to do that at this point of my career, to share the knowledge that I have with the young players, the young team that I'm on."

Leonard also said he would like to see Bryant's number retired. "I would love to see his number retired," he said. "I think it's something that should happen eventually."

The Heat have a young team and Leonard is working hard to help them develop. Leonard said, "I'm trying to teach them to be more of a leader. They're a young team and they need to learn how to play together."

Barzal edges out McDavid as NHL's fastest skater

J.D. Barzal, a forward for the Vancouver Canucks, edged out Connor McDavid, a forward for the Edmonton Oilers, in the NHL's fastest skater competition on Thursday. Barzal had a time of 10.77 seconds, while McDavid had a time of 10.82 seconds. Barzal has been skating faster than McDavid all season.

"It's been a great year for me," Barzal said. "I'm really happy to be able to do that." McDavid said, "I think it's great to see Barzal out there doing what he does best."

The competition was held in the NHL's All-Star Game in Nashville, Tennessee.

LeBron James has big fan in Michael Jordan

By Tom Gugliotta

The anticipation for the feat has been building since the Los Angeles Lakers held the 2021 NHL All-Star Game, which James and Jordan will participate in.

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Mayer gives Austria home win in Kitzbuehel downhill classic

Austrian Matthias Mayer has turned in the performance of a lifetime to give Austria its most famous downhill win against a US team at the World Cup giant slalom in Kitzbuehel.

Mayer crossed the line more than 0.5 seconds ahead of the nearest US challenger to claim the biggest win of his career and give his nation a major triumph in front of a capacity crowd of 38,000.

It was the first giant slalom win for Austria since 1994 when Herbert Blatter sealed a Kitzbuehel victory against a US team.

Mayer, who has made a habit of performing against the US in recent years, clipped the finishing line of the famous Hahnenkamm course in a time of 2 minutes 16.60 seconds.

Fourth-placed Ted Ligety of the US, a two-time Olympic gold medallist, was 0.49 seconds behind Mayer, with third-placed American Travis Ganong 0.66 seconds further back.

It was a huge day for Austria, who have not won a giant slalom race against the US since 1994.

Mayer's win was hailed as a milestone moment in the country's skiing history.

The 30-year-old former world champion and Olympic silver medallist had been struggling to find top-level form over the past year but delivered a masterclass to win by 1.06 seconds from Ligety.

Ligety, who had won a bronze medal in the World Cup giant slalom last month, was unable to find the same level of speed that had won him Olympic gold in 2010.

Ganong, a former US champion, was also unable to challenge Mayer, who took the lead from the start and never looked back.

Mayer took his first World Cup win of the season on Friday and his first in two years, ending a barren spell that had included a fourth-place finish in the Hahnenkamm race last month.

His victory was greeted with wild celebrations on the Kitzbuehel podium as Mayer and his Austrian teammates celebrated a historic win.

It was a fitting end to a week that had seen Austria win its first giant slalom at the World Cup in 26 years.

Mayer's win was particularly sweet for Austrian fans who had been waiting a long time for a major success in front of their own fans.

The win was also a huge boost for Mayer's chances of qualifying for the World Cup championships in Alvarez de Rio and Cresta next month.

He is currently fifth in the World Cup giant slalom standings and will need to perform well in the remaining races to challenge for the overall title.

Mayer, who has been in top form this season, said: "It's a great feeling to win in front of my home crowd."

He added: "I've been working hard for this moment and it finally paid off."

Mayer's win was also a huge boost for Austria's hopes of winning the World Cup overall title for the first time since 1994.

It was the first time since World War II that Austria had won a major international skiing event.

Austria has not won a World Cup title since 1994 whenainer Mario Matt won his only World Cup overall title.

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Rebic fires resurgent AC Milan to victory at Eintracht Frankfurt

Leipzig suffer first loss since October

Leaders slump to a shock 2-0 defeat by mid-table Eintracht Frankfurt

As Milan's Ante Rebic fired home the opener on 28 minutes, AC Milan fans knew they were watching history in the making. The Serbian international, who had been out of the starting XI for four games following a red card against Brescia, came off the bench to snatch the lead against Eintracht Frankfurt. It was Rebic's first goal in over a month and a welcome return to form for the striker.

Standing on the sidelines, AC Milan manager Andrea Pirlo couldn't hide his delight as Rebic's early goal set the tone for the clash against Eintracht Frankfurt. The German side had been in fine form in recent weeks, but Rebic's return to the team was a game-changer. With 14 minutes played, Rebic started to make his presence felt. He took on two defenders in the box before slipping the ball tostructures.

The key to Milan's success was their ability to control possession and keep Frankfurt on the back foot. Rebic's goal was the result of a well-executed counter-attack, with the Serbian striker receiving the ball from Hakan Calhanoglu on the edge of the area before slotting home. The goal not only gave Milan a much-needed lead, but it also boosted the team's confidence.

AC Milan went on to dominate the rest of the first half, with Rebic continuing to be a threat in front of goal. His pace and aerial ability allowed him to cause problems for the Frankfurt defense. In the second half, the Serbian striker was replaced by Brahim Diaz, but Milan continued to press forward, with Rebic's replacement continuing the attack.

The result leaves Dortmund level on 36 points with second-placed Moenchengladbach, but with a game in hand. The team is now in pole position to win the Bundesliga title, and they'll need to keep up the momentum to secure their first league title since 2011.

AC Milan, on the other hand, are struggling to find their rhythm in Serie A. The team has been inconsistent, with wins and losses alternating throughout the season. The team has yet to find a solid defensive unit, and they'll need to address this if they hope to challenge for a top-four finish.
Barcelona beaten by Valencia in early blow for Setien

Real Madrid can move three clear at the top if they beat Valladolid today

Valencia's defender Gabriel Paulista (right) and goalkeeper Jano Dominguez celebrate after their win over Barcelona in the La Liga yesterday. (AFP)