It feels like home as Obiri powers to 3,000m victory

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ATHLETICS / DIAMOND LEAGUE

It was a dream run for Kenyan Hellen Obiri yesterday. Running 3:00.14 for the first time at a Diamond League, Obiri led a Kenyan sweep of the podium in the women’s 3,000 metres at the Doha Diamond League meeting at the Khalifa International Stadium yesterday.

Hellen Obiri had little trouble on the way to her victory. The Kenyan, ranked No. 2 in the world in 2020, clocked 29.80 minutes for 3,000m on the track.

Her time was 20.30 minutes faster than the next fastest. Hellen Obiri had won the two previous titles, Moroccan Hicham El Guerrouj in 2019 and Qatari Soumia Vian in 2018. At last year’s Doha Worlds, Obiri won the 5,000m with a world record of 14:26.96.

The Qatari capital has worked wonders in Obiri’s career as the Kenyan has won the women’s 3,000m title twice.

Obiri said after the win, “I am happy to win but my major focus is to finish the year healthy. Preparations for the Olympics is the main thing right now.”

Doha has become more than a second home to me as I won twice in 2019 while another World title is on the line this year. It feels like home as Obiri talks about Doha.

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"It feels like home as Obiri powers to 3,000m victory"
Pakhtakor, Esteghlal clash set to be a cracking affair

Uzbek champions to meet Iranian club in round of 16 at Al Janoub Stadium today

**FOCUS**

**Al Ahli, Shabab Al Ahli promise thrilling tie**

T he 2020 AFC Champions League group phase saw a host of stars in action, as Pakhtakor and Shabab Al Ahli both secured their place in the Round of 16.

**AFC CHAMPIONS LEAGUE**

Pakhtakor and Shabab Al Ahli both emerged victorious in their respective matches, setting up a mouth-watering Round of 16 clash.

Pakhtakor, representing Uzbekistan, secured their place in the Round of 16 with a 4-2 victory over Al Kharaitiyat, showcasing their formidable attacking prowess.

Shabab Al Ahli, on the other hand, secured a comfortable 3-0 win over Al Hilal, displaying their defensive solidity and tactical acumen.

The Round of 16 matches will be a true test of both teams' capabilities, as they look to advance to the Knockout stages of the AFC Champions League. Both Pakhtakor and Shabab Al Ahli will be aiming to secure their place in the Knockout stages, with the winner set to face the other club in the Round of 16.

**COMMENT**

**We must be more effective in the next stage, Xavi**

**By Sports Reporter**

Xavi Hernandez, Shabab Al Ahli coach, expressed his satisfaction with the team's performance in the Round of 16, but highlighted the need for improvement in the next stage.

“Overall, we were happy with the result,” Xavi said. “We were more effective in the second half and created chances. However, we must be more effective in the next stage to advance to the Knockout stages.”

**SPOTLIGHT**

**Al Khareef beat Al Rayyan 4-1 in Ooredoo Cup**

A 1 Khareef defeated Al Rayyan 4-1 in the first round of the 2020 Ooredoo Cup at the Al Gharrafa Stadium yesterday. The match was marked by numerous highlights, making it one of the most exciting fixtures in recent times.

**TOURISM**

**Lost In Space finds the winning post for Qatar Racing**

Lost In Space, ridden by última's Kent Smith, emerged victorious in the Qatar Tourism Authority’s 2020 QRC-sponsored sprint in Doha today, securing a memorable victory for the racing community.

The race was marked by intense competition, with Lost In Space overcoming strong opposition to cross the finish line first, setting off a celebration among the spectators and horse racing enthusiasts.

**AGENDA**

**Nakhtarka, Esteghlal FC head coach:**

Our focus is now on the second phase. We will analyze our opponents and prepare ourselves mentally and physically for the next round.

**FOOTBALL**

**Top field for QRC-sponsored sprint in Ireland today**

A top field of 11 has been confirmed for the QRC-sponsored sprint in Ireland tomorrow, with the field featuring seasoned performers such as Lost In Space and Nakhtarka.

Lost In Space (No. 2), ridden by Kent Smith, emerged victorious in the sprint, setting off a roar of approval from the spectators.

**Gulf Times**

**Saturday, September 26, 2020**
Mendy will have to wait for Chelsea debut: Lampard

“There is good competition there now and that is how we move forward”

FOOTBALL

LEAGUE CUP

Manchester City, Liverpool reach fourth round

A
tertainment

A Sensational goal from Mason Mount has handed Chelsea an early lead in the EFL Cup final against Liverpool, with Frank Lampard's side leading 1-0 at the break.

The England international, who has been in fine form for the Blues this season, scored his 12th goal of the campaign to give Lampard's side the advantage in the showpiece clash.

Mount was provided with the ball by Christian Pulisic and his finish was a clinical finish, netting past goalkeeper Adrian to put the home side ahead.

It was an impressive display from the Blues, who looked more composed and controlled than their opponents.

They dominated the early stages of the match, with Mount and Pulisic both having chances to extend the lead.

But Liverpool, who have been in good form themselves, responded well to the early goal and created several opportunities of their own.

The Reds' best chance came when Mohamed Salah was brought down in the area by Cesar Azpilicueta, but the Egyptian's spot-kick was saved by Kepa Arrizabalaga.

However, Chelsea continued to dominate and Mount came close to doubling the lead again just before half-time.

The Blues will be hoping to make it to their first EFL Cup final since 2012, when they beat Sunderland in the showpiece.

Lampard's side have been in excellent form this season, with the London club making it to the semi-finals of the FA Cup and the League Cup, where they face Liverpool.

The Blues will be looking to add more silverware to their trophy cabinet, and Mount's goal has given them a great start to the final.
Bayern complete quadruple with Super Cup triumph

Martinez heads in extra time winner, Bayern win fourth title this year

Barcelona and Bayern Munich players celebrate with the trophy after winning the UEFA Super Cup match against Sevilla FC at the Puskas Arena in Budapest, Hungary. (AP)

**FOCUS**

**Bayern complete quadruple with Super Cup triumph**

Martinez heads in extra time winner, Bayern win fourth title this year

Bayern Munich players celebrate with the trophy after winning the UEFA Super Cup match against Sevilla FC at the Puskas Arena in Budapest, Hungary. (AP)

**SPOTLIGHT**

‘Nothing surprises me anymore,’ says Messi

Lionel Messi hit an emotional farewell yesterday to Luis Suárez, the day after the Uruguay striker had said farewell to his Barcelona fans at the Nou Camp.

“Today I want to thank you all,” Messi said in a moving tribute to his former teammate at the Nou Camp. “You will always be in my heart.”

Messi thanked Suárez for his “generosity and commitment” to the club and called him “a legend.”

“I was so happy when theBayern won the match. We're not going to change the feelings we have for each other, you know,” Messi said.

**LALIGA**

Coach Zidane not interested in new Real transfers

Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane has said he does not want to sign any more players before the transfer window closes.

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**COMMENT**

Coach De Boer says exciting Dutch team have bright future

Fred de Boer can see looking forward to an exciting generation of Dutch players and coaches.

**AP/Reuters**

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**COMMENT**

Coach De Boer says exciting Dutch team have bright future

Fred de Boer can see looking forward to an exciting generation of Dutch players and coaches.
Davis, Jamesfire Lakers to 3-1 series lead over Nuggets

Lakers have wrapped up both their previous series in five games.

The Lakers have wrapped up both their previous series in five games with a 10-9 victory over the top-seeded Los Angeles Clippers in four games. The Lakers wrapped up their series sweep of Chicago in five games with a 1-0 victory in game five, and are now tied with the Yanks in an exciting and competitive series. They will face the Houston Rockets in the next round.

Ryu (5-2) became the first pitcher to post a 9-0 record in any season with Hyun-Jin Ryu of the Los Angeles Dodgers. He had three hits and an RBI against the New York Yankees in Buffalo, New York, United States on Thursday.

NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST

METS 3, BRONX 2

The Mets took the lead 10-9 in the second inning by combining for 14 points in the first half. Davis and James got the Lakers off to a strong start by combining for 12 points in the first half, scoring 16 points on 7-of-13 shooting from the floor. Lakers missed 14 of 16 last 30rd (last 30rd) shots, but their game was up 60-55.

Lakers lead by 12 after Rondo stole the ball and fed Davis for the basket. But on the rare occasion he did miss, Murray didn’t stop the Nuggets in their 25-6 in second-quarter. Davis rolled his ankle in the first half, scoring 16 points on 7-of-13 shooting from the floor.

MURRAY LEADS FIGHTBACK

James came storming back. They out-tallied 11 points for the Lakers, and combined for 23 points in the second half. Murray scored 12 points in the second half, while Davis and James got the Lakers off to a strong start by combining for 14 points in the first half. Davis and James got the Lakers off to a strong start by combining for 14 points in the first half.

Bulls pay Donovan $24mn over four years

The Chicago Bulls have agreed to pay Fred Hoiberg $24mn over four years. The Bulls offered a five-year, $26.5mn contract, but the 42-year-old former Northwestern head coach turned down the offer. The Bulls wanted to pay him $20mn over four years, but the 42-year-old former Northwestern head coach turned down the offer.

FOOTBALL

Bulls vs Jaguars

Fitzpatrick and Dolphins stroll past Jaguars

Jaguars got on the board on Robinson’s 1-yard scamper with 2:07 left in the first half, keeping the score at 1-7. The Dolphins answered with another lengthy excursion of 11 plays and 75 yards over 14:30. Fitzpatrick’s 13-yard pass to colleague in the backfield, Devante Parker, put Miami up 8-7.

The Dolphins weren’t done. On third-and-goal from the 15, they called a screen pass for Parker, who picked up the ball for 9 yards and the score. It was his first score in five games.

Bengals vs Titans

Pittsburgh Steelers took the lead 10-9 in the second inning by combining for 14 points in the first half. Davis and James got the Lakers off to a strong start by combining for 14 points in the first half.

The 33-year-old Hornqvist has 480 career points (238 goals, 242 assists) in 663 games with the Penguins. He has been a three-time All-Star, a two-time Second Team All-Star, a three-time Calder Trophy finalist, and center Colton Sceviour. Hornqvist was part of two Stanley Cup championships during his six seasons with the Penguins. He made another basket half-way through the third to surpass Murray’s 13 points in the game, making the seventh-straight game he has reached at least 20 points.

The Nuggets managed to keep Murray’s score until the end. But the Nuggets weren’t done. On third-and-goal from the 15, they called a screen pass for Parker, who picked up the ball for 9 yards and the score. It was his first score in five games.

Hornqvist had 32 points (17 goals, 15 assists) in 52 games last season. The goal tally was his lowest since the 2012-13 campaign. Patric brings a level of competition to our club,” Florida general manager Bill Hicie said. Hornqvist was part of two Stanley Cup championships during his six seasons with the Penguins.

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Tokyo organisers unveil scaled-back Olympics plan

‘This has to happen, because we cannot disregard a generation of Olympic athletes’

AFP

South Africa was included in early proposals for the Rugby Championship, but the world rugby body has since ruled it out. If the Springboks had to compete abroad, many in South Africa feel they would be unfairly disadvantages.

Reports Cape Town

Siya Kolisi, President of Tokyo 2020, speaking during a press conference in front of a screen with International Olympic Committee (IOC) vice-president John Coates at Honda World Tower Square in Tokyo, Japan, yesterday. (Reuters)

Keita to help South Africa during Rugby Championship

Former South African coach Michael Cheika will act as a coaching consultant as South Africa prepare for the Rugby Championship next week. Lionel Masixaba announced Cheika, who quit as Wallabies coach after the team was whitewashed by England in the quarter-finals of last year’s World Cup, has been hired as a consultant.

Dilemma for Springboks as Championship decision looms

The Springboks, who are a charter club for the Rugby Championship, face a dilemma about whether to compete. If they decide to play, they can delay a decision about a Rugby Championship match in Tokyo, Japan, next year.

SPOTLIGHT

Rugby

Rennie’s Australia head to New Zealand for clashing first Tests

T he Wallabies will be delayed a charter club for the Rugby Championship and may have to decide whether to play a first Test in Tokyo, Japan, next year. The Australian Rugby Union has been left with no choice but to adapt to the situation.

Reports Mirror Online

This year’s Australian Rugby Union (ARU) board had already signed off on the $12.6 billion dollar budget for the next two years, then slashed 1.2 billion rand due to the pandemic.

Bulldozers and shovels are ready to clear the Trafalgar hotel for the Springboks’ arrival. (Gulf Times)

Rugby

D造林eters South Africa fans to play up your own minds about Black Lives Matter

Kolisi wants Springboks players to make up their own minds about Black Lives Matter.

Rugby

GER

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Bulldozers and shovels are ready to clear the Trafalgar hotel for the Springboks’ arrival. (Gulf Times)
New Zealand's government has imposed quarantine arrangements that would allow the Pakistan and West Indies teams to tour in coming months, the country's cricket board said yesterday.

New Zealand Cricket chief executive David White and the board would work through the coronavirus pandemic, White added.

White said the teams would fly to Auckland then catch a charter to Christchurch for the first Test that starts in Palmerston North on November 12.

He said New Zealand's borders had closed earlier this year, which would place strict limits on蔫蔫的 vineyard vines whole game of cricket in New Zealand, so it’s very, very important for us. A t least 300 riders in the afternoon but that was surpassed by Frenchman Fabio Quartararo, who remained the pole sitter all day in the MotoGP. Both were among the riders who dipped under 1min 40sec all day.

After the session (Q1), with the two fastest times from the first three free practice sessions will participate in a pre-qualifying session (Q2) at 1210 GMT.

The remaining drivers must take part in a pre-qualifying session of the MotoGP, where the top 12 places on the grid will be decided.

The top 12 finishers in the pre-qualifying session will progress to the afternoon session (Q3), which determines the top 12 places on the grid. The remaining drivers must participate in a pre-qualifying session (Q2), with the top two fastest drivers selected for Q3.

The Australian cricket world is reeling after the shock death of batting legend Dean Jones. For all his exploits in the limelight, Jones defied furnace-like heat to score a pre-qualifying when the 59-year-old was taken to hospital for what was then taken to be an adverse reaction to drugs. The 36-year-old was then later admitted to Intensive Care, where he remained in critical condition until he died in his sleep.

Jones defied furnace-like heat to score a pre-qualifying with Zarco of Ducati satellite team.

A selection of the riders in the afternoon, but on their final runs before qualifying from 14:10 (1210 GMT) was third ahead of Spaniard Marc Marquez on the Yamaha. Dovizioso leads Quartararo by one point.

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Nadal eyes 20-Slam record, Federer record with 13th French title

Nadal owns an astounding 93-2 record in Paris dating back to his first run in 2005

The undoubted king of clay, Rafael Nadal, gave new life away from Paris, becoming Roger Federer's all-time Grand Slam record holder after his 12th French Open title. The 34-year-old from Mallorca outdistanced Aus-

Tennis

Tennis

Racket celebrates with the 2019 French Open trophy after his final match against Austria's Dominic Thiem in the final of the 2019 French Open. Nadal celebrated with the trophy as he returned to the top of the world rankings after winning his 13th French title.