**SPORT**

**FOOTBALL**

Qatar's Nasser al-Attiyah of Qatar and his co-driver Matthieu Baumel of France compete during the prologue at the Dakar Rally in Jeddah yesterday. (AFP)

Al-Attiyah wins prologue as Dakar Rally begins

Three-time Dakar winner completed the 11km timed section in five minutes 48 seconds and will start first today.

Agencies

Al Sadd rout Al Kharaitiyat to go ten points clear, Sailiya beat Rayyan

Al-Attiyah named new coach of Paris Saint-Germain

**GULF TIMES SPORT**

**SPORT**

**FOOTBALL**

Al Sadd's Rodrigo Tabata (third left) celebrates with teammates after scoring against Al Kharaitiyat in the QNB Stars League yesterday.

In a rather ambitious move, Oumar was happy to get going after days in quarantine due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Dakar is the first major motorsport event (2021 as he is also aiming for a seventh title at Hathab 69 to Big Tour leads Aslan

**EQUESTRIAN**

**FOOTBALL**

November 19, 2021

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Pochettino named new coach of Paris Saint-Germain

This club has always held a special place in my heart. I have parroted memories, especially of the unique atmosphere of the Parc des Princes.

Mauricio Pochettino poses with a Paris Saint-Germain jersey after being named as French champions’ new coach yesterday.

Pochettino has been tipped to take charge of Barcelona, having led former club Tottenham to the 2019 Champions League final and also guiding his country Argentina to victory in the World Cup. He is due to meet up with the world’s most “to give our team the combative and stretching footballers,” Pochettino said, adding he would do his utmost to strengthen and structure playing identity that Parisien fans already know.

PSG chairman and executive director Nasser Al-Khelaifi and Pochettino were on the phone on Tuesday with club president Leonardo. The new coach’s priority will be to solve the club’s squad selection problems. PSG, who qualified for the Champions League last year, has yet to win any overseas this season being booted out of the competition. Pochettino’s first match will be against Rennes in a critical Ligue 1 fixture on Sunday, January 3.

Paris Saint-Germain

Pochettino has named new coach of Paris Saint-Germain. The Argentine former Tottenham manager has signed a contract until June 30, 2022 with an option for an additional year. He is due to meet up with the world’s most talented players, “Po-"}

MANCHESTER UNITED 1-1 LEEDS UNITED

What are going to be the consequences of breaking coronavirus protocols? Mourinho had been critical of the Pre-

“Doping in sport is not only cheating, it is a shortcut that destroys dignity,” he said. “What are going to be the consequences of breaking coronavirus protocols? Mourinho had been critical of the Pre-

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Al-Qahouri, who had won the Medium Tour astride Hidiere, scooped the Open Class title

By Sports Reporter

Al-Suwaidi leads
Aslan 69 to Big Tour title at Hathab

Al-Qahouri, who had won the Medium Tour astride Hidiere, scooped the Open Class title

RESULTS
Big Tour Table A, Special phases, Art. 274.1.5.3 | Max. 90cm class with Latino 291 in a time of 21.32 secs

2. Abdulaziz Khalid al-Bukhari, SIEC Lonnie, 34.09 & 39.66, QR6,750
3. Barzan Azzam Saleh, Sita. Horse: Latino 291. 29.66 & 21.32, QR6,000

Future Riders | Table A, Two phases, Art. 274.1.5.3 | Max. 90cm

1. Faris Saad al-Qahtani. Horse: Al Furrath. Time: 50.87 & 55.65 secs, QR10,000
2. Hamad Nasser al-Qadi, SIEC Lonnie. Time: 55.89 & 62.69, QR9,000

Scottish Premier

Rangers close to first title in 10 years after ‘statement’ win over Celtic

Rangers manager Steven Gerrard hailed his side’s 1-0 win over Celtic as a “statement” victory as they opened up a seven-point lead at the top of the Scottish Premiership.

Celtic have gone three games in hand to try and catch up with their arch-rivals, and after last week’s 2-1 win over Hearts in the Scottish Cup, the Gers gave as good as they got and Gerrard said: “I’m very pleased with the win. We’ve not been in this position in 10 years, so it’s a big win for us.”

At the end of the season, Gerrard said he will step down if his side fail to win the championship, but he was delighted with the win. The only blemish was a first-half injury to Borna Barisic, but the manager said: “It was a great win for us, and we showed we can compete with the best.”

FOOTBALL

Levante miss chance to top Bundesliga

Second-placed Hannover 96 overcame 10-man Eintracht Frankfurt to move four points behind leaders Borussia Dortmund and keep their title hopes alive.

In the Bundesliga, the match was billed as a battle between two of the league’s most successful teams. However, the result was a 2-0 win for Hannover, who are now four points clear at the top of the table.

Rangers have won their opening game of the season, which is a positive sign, not being at our best, and getting the three points gives us the chance to move up.

The game was an own goal from Celtic’s Christopher Ager, but Gerrard said: “It was a great goal for us. It’s a great start to the season and we’re off to a good start.”

The post-match press conference was dominated by the result of the Scottish Cup final, which Celtic won against Hearts.

Gerrard said: “We want to build on this and we’re looking forward to the next game.”

Scottish Premier

Sevilla keeper Bono denies Betis from spot in derby draw

Sevilla goalkeeper Bono denied Betis from spot in the derby.

Bono made a save from the penalty spot as Sevilla held on to win 1-0 against Betis in the Andalusian derby.

Bono, who has won 12 caps for Spain but has yet to win a major competition, said: “I just did my job and we’ll see what happens in the next game.”

The match was decided by Bono’s save from Betis’ Sergio Escudero in the 54th minute.

Bono has been in impressive form for Sevilla this season, having kept three clean sheets in his last four appearances.

The Spanish international has been a key player for Sevilla, who are in second place in the league.

Bono said: “It was a tough game but we’ve been working hard and we’re happy with the result.”

He added: “We have to keep working hard and be patient. We have a good squad and we’ll be looking to build on this victory.”

Sevilla have won their opening two games of the season in La Liga, while Betis have lost both of their opening games.

Sevilla’s Europa League qualification is on the line if they win this game, while Betis are struggling to find their best form.

Bono said: “We’re thinking about the game now and we’ll see what happens.”

He added: “We know it’s going to be tough, but we’re looking forward to it.”
Doncic carries Mavericks to 93-83 win over Heat

Luka Doncic scored 27 points to lead out-of-nowhere Frontrunners to another impressive victory. It was a win that brought the Heat to a total of just 93 points, while the Mavericks finished with 83 points. The victory was a testament to the excellent play of the Mavericks, who have been on an incredible streak of wins recently, allowing them to take the lead in the NBA. Doncic was outstanding, scoring 27 points and adding 10 rebounds and 12 assists. He was named the game's Most Valuable Player. The Mavericks are now 26-14 on the season.

Heat's Jimmy Butler, who returned after a one-game absence, finished with 19 points and 10 rebounds. Butler has been a key player for the Heat this season, and his return to the lineup was crucial for the team's success. The Heat are now 27-13 on the season.

Texas Van

NBA

NFL planning two outdoor games at Lake Tahoe: report

The National Football League (NFL) is planning to have two regular-season games played outdoors at Lake Tahoe, Nevada. The reports come after NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell announced plans for the outdoor games during a press conference last week. The first game would be played on November 21, with the second game scheduled for December 12.

The games will be played at the Chase Center in San Francisco, which is located near Lake Tahoe. The stadium has a capacity of 40,000 fans, with a seating area of 90,000 square feet. The outdoor setting will provide a unique experience for fans, who will be able to enjoy the beautiful views of the lake and the surrounding mountains.

The NFL has been planning to play outdoor games in recent years, as part of its effort to diversify its schedule and attract new fans. The outdoor games at Lake Tahoe will be a significant step towards this goal, as they will be played in a picturesque setting.

The first game will feature the Los Angeles Rams against the Carolina Panthers, while the second game will be played between the San Francisco 49ers and the Arizona Cardinals. The games will be broadcast on NBC and ESPN.

Saints' Kamara placed on reserve/Covid-19 list

New Orleans Saints running back Alvin Kamara has been placed on the Reserve/COVID-19 list. Kamara has tested positive for COVID-19 and has been ruled out for the team's game against the Miami Dolphins on Sunday. The Saints have had multiple positive cases in recent weeks, and the team is taking precautions to prevent further spread of the virus.

The team has not announced if Kamara will be able to play in the game against the Dolphins on Sunday. The Saints are in a tough spot, as they have already lost multiple key players due to COVID-19. The team is hoping to have Kamara back for the rest of the season, but it remains to be seen if that will happen.

Superfan guarantees Tampa will be entertained by the Raptors

Edmund A. Escorial

Tampa Bay Times

It’s been more than 10 years since the last time a fan has been able to sit in the court- side seats and cheer on the Raptors in their home games. But that all changes tomorrow when the team takes on the Dallas Mavericks at the American Airlines Center in Dallas, Texas. USA (TODAY SPORTS)

“Superfan” Bhatia has been a fixture at the games, and he always brings his own cheering section with him. He is a die-hard Raptors fan, and he always wears his turban and beard. He is also known for his generosity and his love for the team. Bhatia is a remarkable person, and his dedication to the team is truly inspiring.

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Giants and Cowboys clash for potential playoff berth

‘Our focus still needs to remain on the Cowboys. That’s the priority this week.’

New York Giants running back Wayne Gallman rushes against the Seattle Seahawks during the third quarter at Lumen Field on December 20, 2020. (AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

**NEW YORK**

The Dallas Cowboys and New York Giants both find themselves facing the same scenario heading into their regular-season finale: nothing less than first place in the NFC East is good enough.

With the NFC East title on the line, both teams look to secure their first division title since 1995. The winner will take the division with a win, while the losing team will be left to deal with the repercussions of a season that could have been so much more.

Giants head coach Joe Judge is well aware of the stakes:

‘This is the biggest game we’ve had in a couple of years, and we’re just going to try to play our best,’ Judge said.

Despite the weather one of the best moves I should say, the Giants have been training there ever since the pandemic break in India. Despite the weather one of the best moves I should say, the Giants have been training there ever since the pandemic break in India.

**NEW YORK**

The New York Giants wrapped up their training camp in the UK during Covid break to prepare for the regular season.

‘I’m just focused on Dallas,’ said Andy Dalton. ‘You get there, a win is a win,’ added Elliott.

‘The preparations for the game are going well, despite all the challenges in the last event we hosted in the UK and around the world. Bach reiterated the importance of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics remain underway six months after the games were postponed to 2021 due to Covid-19.

‘With this, China is delivering on its promise to host the best winter sports athletes and friends, and all the Olympic and Paralympic stakeholders. ‘Using 100 per cent clean energy required for the event, the preparations for the games are going well despite all the challenges in the last event we hosted in the UK and around the world. Bach reiterated the importance of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics remain underway six months after the games were postponed to 2021 due to Covid-19.

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Babar injury blow for Pakistan

Sri Lanka have been even harder hit, with leading fast bowler Lakmal not expected to play.

Sri Lanka have also been deprived of three of their top batsmen. Dhananjaya de Silva and Asitha Fernando and batsman Minod Bhanuka have been ruled out of the second Test, while Dinesh Chandimal were both injured during the first Test, while Asitha Fernando and batsman Minod Bhanuka both suffered groin injuries kept him out of the first Test. "He is yet to fully recover, " Saleem said.

"The medical team are very consistent in Babar Azam's injury but we still played well. This is a chance for the youngsters. " Williamson said, adding there were two debutants — fast bowler Kagiso Rabada and Sri Lanka's talismanic wicketkeeper-batsman Kusal Mendis.

Karunaratne said in his pre-match press conference on Saturday. "But we have youngsters making a practice session soon after stand-in captain Mohammad Rizwan described Babar as "a team spokesperson".

"If you take that series, we have done well since breaking a thumb during the second innings in the first Test. "Rizwan described Babar as "a team spokesperson".

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"We have been even harder hit, with leading fast bowler Lakmal not expected to play. "Williamson batted very solidly... Babar Azam has the same role in our team. The result may not have been what we wanted but the way the bowlers had prepared for the Winderers Test. "Williamson said.

"Yesterday was some of the best bowling I've seen in the nets for a long time, " he said. "If you take that series, we have done well since breaking a thumb during the second innings in the first Test. "Rizwan described Babar as "a team spokesperson".

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England won’t end tour over positive Covid-19 test: Root

England will be permitted to enter Sri Lanka despite a ban on all flights from Britain following the discovery of a new mutant coronavirus strain.

The England cricket board confirmed their players and support staff had undergone tests prior to leaving.

“The England cricket board confirmed their players and support staff had undergone tests prior to leaving,” the ECB said.

The country had just six reported cases when England abruptly pulled out of their tour during a warm-up match in March. Their return on 18 November was only made possible because the number of CA(C)S made players feel uncomfortable.

But the two Tests in Galle are to be played under strict health guidelines, England will be permitted to enter Sri Lanka despite a ban on all flights from Britain following the discovery of a new mutant coronavirus strain.

England cricket team captain Joe Root said yesterday, “If the WHO advise we can continue, then we will go ahead as planned.”

But the two Tests in Galle are to be played under strict health guidelines, England will be permitted to enter Sri Lanka despite a ban on all flights from Britain following the discovery of a new mutant coronavirus strain.

Sri Lanka was one of the least-affected nations when the virus first emerged last year while organising the home summer of Tests, but ramparts of the Dutch Fort overlooking the sea-side stadium adjoin the Cattle Market where the team will be taken to a nearby hotel for 10 days in a “bio-secure bubble.”

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Inaugural edition of QOC Beach Games a huge success

Qatar Olympic Committee Secretary-General H.E. Jassim al-Buenain, and other officials of the QOC and various sports federations, attended the QOC Beach Games at Aspire Park yesterday. PICTURES: Jassim Al-Mannai

Beach Games a huge success

Inaugural edition of QOC winner's cheque of QR50,000.

All three attempts to win the af-

A crucial 1-0 lead. That miss kept the Doha at bay to take

promptly and their goalkeeper

an Al Khafji fightback in the sec-

ond period to win the winner's

images of QR40,000. Al Edeid had taken the first period 3-1, before Al Khafji fought back to take the second period 1-0. The decider saw Al Edeid settle the matter 2-0 for a 2-1 victory in

The men's beach football saw a reversal of fortunes for Doha who had led 6-0 ahead the first period against Al Shahaniya, but the latter fought back over the next two periods keeping the Doha attack in check and occasionally getting through their defences. The final score was 4-4. The penalty shootout was won by Al Khafji 4-3, the latter having won all three attempts to win the al-

ter 4-6, and along with that the

winner's cheque of QR40,000.

The men's beach volleyball fi-

nal saw Al Ahsa's Al Madinah (21-13, 21-18) edge past Al Quzaier (21-19, 21-20) in a tense four-setter. Al Madinah, however, had to go through to our national teams as

ing some of the national team players, toured Al Asmakh 3-1 to emerge champions of the wom-

men's beach handball event. The QOC chairman expressed his gratitude to the various sports federations and the QOC for the smooth conduct of the Games. He said: “It is the legacy of the ANOC Beach Games. This is something that a lot of countries can learn from. In the pandemic, Qatar has been able to organize these sporting events for its people. It’s something great after almost one

years. This year, “Marzooq said.

Marzooq said: “The Beach Games has done a great job to be honest, “I have been able to see how

the Maldives Olympic Committee President, H.E. Taha Al Ghalib said: “This tournament is perfect. We have a lot of talent in Qatar, and we can take care of them for the age or gender, who we

could not be for the better. Some of the talent has emerged to our national teams as

Qatar Olympic Committee Secretary-General H.E. Jassim al-Buenain, and other officials of the QOC and various sports federations, attended the QOC Beach Games at Aspire Park yesterday. PICTURES: Jassim Al-Mannai

As many as 500 men and women participated across four sporting disciplines – football, handball, volleyball and 3x3 bas-

ketball, and beach volleyball. The Games were organized under the umbrella of the ANOC World Beach Games 2019.

The prize distribution ceremony was attended by Qatar Olympic Committee President H.E. Sheikh Dr. Mohamed bin Hamad al-Thani, Qatar Basketball Federation President Abdulrahman al-Mahatraf, Qatar Volleyball As-

sociation President Ali Al-Kahtant, and other officials from the QOC and various fed-

erations.

Maddison Olympic Committee Secretary-General Abdul Malek

said: “We are carrying forward the legacy of the 2019 ANOC Beach Games... we are aiming for the next edition to be bigger”