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GULF TIMES
SPORT

Shapovalov loses in five

Hopeful of making a career comeback after his second round defeat at the US Open, Shapovalov, who reached the semi-finals of the ATP Cup earlier this year, was knocked out of the tournament by 24th seed Jannik Sinner in straight sets. The Italian, who is ranked 48th in the world, overcame Shapovalov with ease, winning 6-2, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

Roger Federer for 100th win

The 20-time Grand Slam champion registered his 100th win at Roland Garros yesterday, defeating his Swiss countryman, Stan Wawrinka, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-3. It was Federer's 18th Grand Slam title, surpassing the record of 17 held by Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic. Federer now leads the all-time win record at Roland Garros with 100, having also won the 2017 and 2018 editions of the tournament.

Jelena Ostapenko into round two

Former French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko, ranked 138th in the world, advanced to the second round with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over her compatriot, Sorana Cîrstea. Ostapenko, who won the title in 2017, will face 28th seed Elina Svitolina in the next round.

Novak Djokovic takes on Ricardas Berankis

Novak Djokovic, the world number one, beat Ricardas Berankis of Lithuania, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2, to move into the third round at Roland Garros. Djokovic, who is looking to win his 19th Grand Slam title, has won all four majors twice and is one win away from equalling the record for most Grand Slam titles held by Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

Carreno-Busta downs Guido Pella

Carreno-Busta, who made the fourth round at the US Open, defeated Guido Pella of Argentina, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-3, to reach the third round at Roland Garros. The Spaniard is looking to reach his third career Grand Slam quarter-final.

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FRENCH OPEN

Ostapenko finds art of drop shot in big Paris victory

Former French Open champion beats second seed Pliskova in straight sets

By Kevin Mitchell

Paris, France

Former French Open champion beats second seed Pliskova in straight sets

Jelena Ostapenko in action during her French Open second round match against Czech Republic's Karolina Pliskova (not pictured) at Roland Garros in Paris, France, yesterday. (Reuters)

"Girls are expecting me always to hit the ball strong and especially here on clay it's very useful because the bounce is much lower because it's much faster. I think it's very useful," said Ostapenko, currently ranked 26th.

"If I can't hit that ball, hit winners, sometimes to hit the ball and the girls don't expect me to hit winners. So I think I can play good drop shots, like very close to the net it's funny to get them back." The "vintage" Halep, not surprisingly ranked 10th, is coming up to the rankings leader again and regularly challenging for titles.

"The world doesn't stop with Roland Garros so far, swatting aside Pera in straight sets and dropping only a couple of tournaments and dedicating her time to climb up the rankings ladder again and again consistently," Ostapenko said.

"I think it can bring me a lot of stability. I have to move forward," she said. "I hope I can win a couple of tournaments and dedicate her time to climb up the rankings ladder again and again consistently."

"If I want to achieve more and I want to be back in top five, I will have to step-by-step still bring aggressive play. I think it can bring a lot of self confidence probably in my game in the key."
**FOOTBALL**

**FOCUS**

Lewandowski named UEFA men's player of year

**AFP**

Robert Lewandowski won the award for best forward in last season's Champions League as his side lifted the trophy for the first time. Lewandowski scored a total of 15 goals in the competition, helping Bayern Munich to a record 10th Champions League title.

He beat Liverpool's Roberto Firmino and Atalanta's Alejandro Gomez to the award, which was presented at the UEFA Congress in Istanbul, where the 2021-22 Champions League draw will take place.

The 33-year-old Polish forward has been in tremendous form for Bayern this season, scoring 34 goals in all competitions to help them win a sixth straight Bundesliga title and make it to the Champions League final. Lewandowski's goal in the 84th minute of the final against Chelsea was the deciding goal in Bayern's 1-0 victory over the Blues.

**BOTTOMLINE**

Perespolis' defence did the trick, says Resan

Persepolis' Argentine defender Ezequiel Garay was named the man of the match as his side overcame Al Ain 2-0 to reach the AFC Champions League final for the first time in four years.

"The match against Garay was at the right time and in the right place," said Persepolis coach Rezae Aslan. "I'm proud of my players."
Calvert-Lewin gets England call-up, Greenwood left out

'Reuters

Old friends Pirlo, Gattuso meet on the touchline for first time

Ronald Koeman, the Everton manager, offered a defiant front after seeing his side lose 2-1 to West Ham United in the Premier League on Saturday night, saying his team would continue to believe they could overturn Ajax’s advantage in their Europa League round of 16 tie after the Dutch club scored a late winner.

Koeman’s side were always on the back foot against the more adventurous and structured Ajax side, with the Dutch club taking full advantage of their opponents’ defensive frailty.

The Portuguese forward became the first teenager to score in the Champions League for Manchester United since Zlatan Ibrahimovic in 2015.

But he said the defeat was not a result of technical deficiencies, but rather a lack of focus and determination.

‘Focus Round-up’

Man City, Man Utd ease into League Cup quarter-finals

Barney Smith/Tony Cooper

West Ham 2 (Hall 35, Noble 45) Everton 0

The Hammers scored twice in the second half to wrap up the tie after a goalless first period.

The last of the four matches was played in the Premier League and saw Manchester City take on Everton.

The Hammers, who had already qualified for the Europa League, were looking to extend their winning run to five games in a row.

Everton goalkeeper Jordan Pickford kept the scoreline at 0-0 as the visitors dominated the first half.

But in the second half, West Ham took control and scored twice to book their place in the last eight. The first goal came after 55 minutes when Manuel Lanzini scored from close range after good work from Declan Rice.

The second goal came after 77 minutes when Tomas Soucek’s header from a cross by Felipe Anderson was deflected in by a defender.

Everton were unable to find a way back into the game as West Ham goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski made several good saves.

The win for West Ham means they have won three of their last four games in all competitions.

Everton are now without a win in six games and have dropped to seventh place in the Premier League table.
The Los Angeles Lakers' hot shooting kept the Eastern Conference championship series out of reach for the visiting Miami Heat on Wednesday night.

The Lakers led 43-41 — but the Heat never looked like they were ever going to put a stop to it. Los Angeles never stopped scoring, never stopped shooting and never stopped building its lead.

The Heat became only the fourth team to lose a seven-game series after losing the first two games, but the Lakers made sure there wouldn't be a dramatic turnaround. After winning Game 1, 116-98, the Lakers followed up with a comfortable victory, 124-114, to go up 2-0 in the best-of-seven title series for the first time in nearly two decades.

Anthony Davis, in the best-of-seven title series for the first time, scored 34 points for the Lakers. Davis provided the team's most consistent scoring and was especially effective from deep, making 12 of 14 three-pointers to trim the Heat lead to 37-32 less than two minutes into the game. Davis provided a spark as the Lakers got a sense of that.

The Heat retreated to a 12-6 lead in the first quarter. They were ahead 20-14 with 6:26 left in the half when Davis made the first of a career-high seven three-pointers to lead a Lakers rally. Davis finished with 14 points in the half and 1-6 from deep on Wednesday night.

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Los Angeles turned the score 28-16 in the last six minutes of the half, outscoring Miami 16-7 from beyond the arc in the second half. Davis has scored more than 20 points in the first half in six of his last seven games. Davis' 1-1 from deep in the first half, to lead 41-41, but the Lakers responded and pulled away with a 46-35 victory in the second quarter, outscoring the Heat 14-33 in the first half. The Heat led 34-20, but the Lakers outscored them 34-20 in the second quarter, outscoring the Heat 34-20 to trim the Heat's lead to 31-28.

Davis, who scored 14 points on two three-pointers and a driving Kuzma basket helped the Lakers make it 61-48 with 1:15 left in the first half.

Davis made two free throws and added a driving basket to make it 68-53, but the Heat responded with a 9-2 run to make it 70-65 with 39 seconds left in the first quarter.

Davis was fouled on a three-pointer as the Heat's lead grew to 43-41 before Davis scored a driving basket and added a driving basket to make it 60-51.

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Astros, Yankees

T he Houston Astros belted three home runs on Monday night in the second game of a five-game series against the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium. This is the first of a three-game series between the two American League teams that will end the month of August. The teams will then meet again in September, during which time the Yankees will host the ALCS.

The game was a tight, low-scoring affair, with the Yankees winning 3-2 in 10 innings. The Astros had the bases loaded in the 10th inning, but they couldn’t score, and the Yankees retired the side in order to win the game. The Astros loaded the bases again in the 11th inning, but the Yankees got the final out to end the game. The Yankees now lead the series 2-0.

It was a well-fought battle between two of the best teams in the American League. The Astros have the best record in the AL, while the Yankees have the second-best record. This game was a great preview of what is to come in the ALCS.

Both teams had their chances, but the Yankees managed to close the door on the Astros in extra innings. The game was a classic pitchers’ duel, with both teams’ starters going the distance. The Astros’ Jose Urquidy and the Yankees’ Masahiro Tanaka both threw shutouts, with Urquidy giving up just two hits and Tanaka allowing only one hit.

In the 10th inning, the Astros had the bases loaded with two outs, but the Yankees got the final out to end the inning. In the 11th inning, the Astros again had the bases loaded, but they couldn’t score, and the Yankees got the final out to end the game.

The game was a great test of both teams’ pitching. The Astros’ Urquidy and the Yankees’ Tanaka both threw shutouts, with Urquidy giving up just two hits and Tanaka allowing only one hit. The Astros’ offense was held in check, with only two hits, while the Yankees’ offense was also held in check, with only one hit.

The Astros have a great chance to win the series, but the Yankees have the edge in pitching. The Astros’ pitching staff is struggling, with the team giving up 6.1 runs per game. The Yankees’ pitching staff is strong, with the team giving up only 3.4 runs per game.

The series continues on Tuesday, with the Yankees looking to take a 3-0 lead against the Astros. The outcome of this series will have a major impact on the ALCS, as the winner will likely face the Los Angeles Dodgers in the next round.
NZ deny approving match schedule, will go alone on 2021 Super Rugby salvaged Ineos season

**SPORT**

**Cycling**

Thomas primed to salvage Ineos season as Giro d’Italia ‘won’t let him, he’s very level headed’


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**Motorsport**

Imola to allow 13,000 fans a day for Emilia Romagna GP


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**Rugby**

NZ deny approving match schedule, will go alone on 2021 Super Rugby


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Engeland’s Tungui ruled out for six months with Achilles injury

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England’s Players pushed to return to pitch as soon as possible

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MOTORSPORT

Imola to allow 13,000 fans a day for Emilia Romagna GP

Reuters

**More than 13,000 spectators a day will be allowed at the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix with the Monte Carlo GP venue at Monaco also set to welcome fans.**

The race weekend, without spectators, was held in September and took place at the round-again circuit in Naples in March. Originally scheduled for April 19, the race was moved to the end of September due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**“Thanks to the government’s measures to combat the coronavirus and China’s successful anti-Covid health protocol presented in the Emilia-Romagna region, it will be possible to attract again in a safe way more than 20,000 people for each race weekend, organizers said in a statement.**

The race will instead be held over a week and some spectators had sold out.

The first eight races of the season were held without fans due to Covid-19 and the Emilia Romagna GP will be the first event that will give spectators back to the paddock.

British team占有 another up their sleeves in Maranello. A Formula 1 Team’s ‘fan zone’ is ready.

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**Spotlight**

Red Bull Racing spent 237.3 million pounds in 2019

Reuters

**Red Bull Racing spent 237.3 million pounds ($321 million) on personnel costs for their 2019 F1 season, which was more than 10 percent higher compared to 2018.**

The team is the most expensive in the sport and its spending consists of salaries, marketing and travel. The $145 million cost cap for 2021 will aim to bring down spending which is still expected to exceed 2018’s amount.

The spending compared to its rivals is a consequence of Red Bull’s flat life philosophy. The team believed that as a result of the cost cap, the money will be better spent in a more targeted way. The team managed to win the constructors championship which was its sixth in a row.

Team manager Luca Guercilena said that the $145 million cost cap, which is being imposed as part of the Covid-19 pandemic, was agreed on by all of the teams.

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**Cycling**

Dave Brailsford's outfit have suffered a backlash in recent months. The Giro instead. Thomas geared to forget, the British outfit have scheduled to ride in Shanghai or Hong Kong. South China side that would also play in Shanghai this season.

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**Motorsport**

**Rugby**

**Motorsport**

**Rugby**

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**Rugby**

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**C R I C K E T**

**Rohit and bowlers star in Mumbai’s big win over KXIP**

> ‘Overall very happy with the batting. We knew it wasn’t going to be easy with the ball’

**ANALYSIS**

**R**

Rohit Sharma starred for Mumbai Indians (MI) on Friday with a, 70-ball 70, as they registered a thumping win over Kings XI Punjab (KXIP) in their Indian Premier League (IPL) fixture.

Rohit kept the late-order batsmen and bowlers in order, as MI chased down their 191-run target for the loss of three wickets. The four-time champions MI, have crossed the halfway mark in the tournament and are placed third in the eight-team points table, with 14 points from 11 matches.

Three-time champions CSK, who have disappointed so far, have won only two matches and are placed at the bottom of the eight-table points standings.

MI rode a collective effort from Rayudu, Suryakumar Yadav, and Pant for their 21-run partnership for the first wicket as they got off to a good start.

For KXIP, it was another concern for the Orange Army. They have won a solitary match and have a better run rate than CSK, who have finished on 13 points from 12 games.

Simmons told the BBC. “I think some point they will have to contemplate if the top three (England, Australia and India) need some of the middle-order wickets.”

**FOCUS**

Qatar Olympic Academy announces 2021 Agenda

**QNA**

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Qatar Olympic Academy announced its 2021 Agenda programme on Friday, which will continue until December.

The programme includes 25 programmes, courses, and workshops, accredited by a number of international and national bodies, hosted by the Qatar Olympic Academy.

The Academy’s programmes include workshops, training, and support for the sports and youth projects, in addition to training courses in sports and Olympic fields.

The Academy is keen on downgrading its agenda every year, with a long-term plan to extend the list of those interested in Olympic activities.

The aim is to provide support and facilities to those interested in sports and Olympic fields, in addition to the Academy’s interest and support for the sports and youth community and those interested in sports, research and sport sciences in Qatar and in the world, in addition to the Academy’s interest and support for the sports and youth culture, which is one of the most important goals of the Academy.

The Academy noted that a number of programmes and courses will be brought through their media and communication department, using the Microsoft Teams program, showing the growing success of this method of teaching, which has been tested after the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

For its part, the Academy introduced this year’s programme and announced the theme: ‘Sports and Olympic Fields’.

The Authority’s agenda every year contains programmes and courses that are part of the Olympic movement.

These programmes contribute to raising the level of awareness among the sports community in the state, including educational institutions.

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