FOOTBALL | Page 2

Al Gharafa face uphill battle against Al Sadd

Debutants Kobe seek semi-final joy against Ulsan

Carroll claims last pole of the season

OVERALL CLASSIFICATION Cross-Country Bajas

Qatar’s Nasser Saleh al-Attiyah fends off Sainz and Peterhansel to win Hail Baja 1

Al-Attiyah held his nerve in a head-to-head clash with World Rally Car champions

Rohit Sharma claims last pole of the season

Reigning F1 world champion Max Verstappen claims last pole of the season

FORMULA 1

Verstappen claims last pole of the season

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Rahab 6 28, 1442 Al

GULF TIMES SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Debutants Kobe seek semi-final joy against Ulsan

AFC CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

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aving lifted their trade in the second tier of football at Al-Attiyah has been a success story for the club, but they have defined all to reach the semi-finals of the AFC Champions League. Their victory over Sainz and Peterhansel was the highlight of their season, as they advanced to the semi-finals, guaranteeing them a place in the AFC Champions League final. They have been preparing for every step of this competition since the start of the season, and we want to show our quality on the pitch and play a good game as we can go further,” said Al-Attiyah.

“Having played 130 minutes last game, fitness might be a problem, but I have trained hard and I am confident to give my best. I believe in our squad and we can get a result,” he added.

“Al-Attiyah fans have come a long way since 2017. We have been preparing for this match and we are ready to show our quality on the pitch. I am confident to win this game,” said Al-Attiyah.

REIGNING WORLD RALLY CHAMPION

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Al-Attiyah held his nerve in a head-to-head clash with World Rally Car champions

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It was a good day for us. We followed our team plan. We opened the road but we only had one way and that was to push.

The second stage began close behind the first stage leader, but Al-Attiyah moved ahead of Dutchman Bernardo De La Rosa by 1 minute 53 seconds and gained a lead of 6 minutes 10 seconds over Sainz and Peterhansel.

The third stage began with Al-Attiyah leading by 6 minutes 10 seconds, but he lost that advantage as the stage progressed to the fourth. Russian Vladimir Voevdo moved ahead of De La Rosa and took the lead by 1 minute 53 seconds.

The fourth stage began with Al-Attiyah leading by 6 minutes 10 seconds, but he lost that advantage as the stage progressed to the fifth. Russian Vladimir Voevdo moved ahead of De La Rosa and took the lead by 1 minute 53 seconds.

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Al Gharafa face uphill battle against Al Sadd

As we approach the 26th week in this year's QNB Stars League and will be seen how that record that will count whenplain text
Stuttgart crush hosts Dortmund 5-1

Lewandowski rescues a draw for Bayern against Union Berlin

FIFA to help run Haitia federation

Koeman feeling comfortable at Barcelona despite poor results

Focus: Man Utd injury forced to keep going: Ibrahimovic

By Sports Reporter

Haidan claims Big Tour win with Miss Chili

BUNDESLIGA

Stuttgart's Silla Wamangituka (second from right) celebrates after scoring a goal past Dortmund's Swiss goalkeeper Roman Buerki (centre) during the Bundesliga match in Dortmund, Germany, yesterday.

Lewandowski rescues a draw for Bayern against Union Berlin

Bundesliga

Lewandowski rescues a draw for Bayern against Union Berlin

Bayern Munich's Robert Lewandowski has rescued a draw for his side against Union Berlin.

Wamangituka and Lewandowski scored for the home side, while Union Berlin's Vedad Ibisevic scored for his side.

The match was played in front of 35,000 spectators in the sold-out signal.

Bayern coach Ronald Koeman is not ruling out under pressure despite defeat in the previous round and must see his side to the top of the league.

After his side suffered a 2-1 defeat by Hoffenheim at home on Saturday, Koeman said that he would not rule out the possibility of the club going on to win the title.

Koeman said: “We have no time left to get it right. We need to win this game to stay at the top.”

Amer Mohamed al-Hamidi, President, Qatar Endurance Committee, said: “We are not going to get it right. The most important thing is to stay at the top.”

Leipzig, who briefly led the Bundesliga charts, were outplayed by the hosts, who managed a 2-1 victory.

The Ruhr valley club, who were without fans, are seventh in the league with 19 points, while Stuttgart are in eighth place with 15 points.

Married Saudi Haidan topped the Big Tour charts with his mount Miss Chili on Sunday, becoming the first rider to win four events in the same month.

Maryam al-Fahad, the Saudi Arabian woman, said: “I feel comfortable but of course we’re worried about the results and we’re going to improve ourselves and be better before the next one.”

Also, 31.98sec; Prize: QR9,000

In the Accumulator with Open Class on the same day, 32.44sec in the jump off  and equally challenging but needed 31.98sec in the jump off  as well.

Haidan, supported by The So- cial & Sport Contribution Fund, has taken an important step towards the FEI World Cup in 2022.

Haidan, who had finished second in the 1.50m class at the previous round, said: “I feel confident and I believe we have to try our best to get a better result.”

With fans in the stands, the气氛 and they profited from it.

The plate went to the Swiss as they profited from the atmosphere and they profited from it.

Stuttgart were better than us in every area,” said Dortmund's captain Marco Reus.

Wamangituka sent keeper Roman Buerki the wrong way from a Jude Bellingham mis- take in the 26th minute for the home side to take the lead.

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**Verstappen claims last pole of season**

It was a tricky qualifying, but luckily everything came together for me in that final lap.

__Red Bull's Max Verstappen celebrates after qualifying in pole position. (Image: Reuters) He is seen in action during qualifying.__

**Red Bull’s Max Verstappen celebrates after qualifying in pole position yesterday. At bottom, he is seen in action during qualifying.**

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**Shibuno shoots 67, surges to US Women's Open lead**

Yuki Shibuno carded a two-under-par 67 on Friday to surge to the top of the leaderboard at the US Women's Open. She finished the two-day tournament at five under par, just one shot behind leader Hinako Shibuno, who shot a 68.

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**Concentration revelations a ‘watershed moment’**

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**Bottomline**

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**Formula 1**

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**Golf**

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Tanaka is perfect for Mets rotations

New England Patriots quarterback Cam Newton scored a key role in the final drive of Thursday night against the Los Angeles Rams. Newton completed a 4-yard touchdown pass with 14 seconds left to give New England a 24-21 win. (USA TODAY Sports)

Belichick done talking about status of Newton

Newton completed just 9 of 16 passes for 119 yards on Thursday night against Los Angeles Rams

NFL

Belichick also said he still sees signs of growth from Stidham. "He's done everything that he can do, and I think there's still a lot more that he can do," Belichick added. "So, that's what we're trying to win the game.... I mean, that's what's important to us."

Newton completed 9 of 16 passes against one of the top defenses in the NFL. He was 2 of 8 for 47 yards when the Patriots' offense turned 79 yards for a touchdown by the New Orleans Saints. "I'm not sure what they were doing to go 4-0. Newton and after the game, 'We just have to be better and if starts with the personnel, you have to make more plays and change the game.'"

Williams came on and threw for 37 yards on a 32-yard pass. He was sacked twice after Newton was sacked four times in the game. "It's just everything we've asked him to do and he's done everything that he can do. I don't think there's anything more on that than what I think that Belichick means."

It remained uncertain if Seth Lugo will jump the rotation. "There's no indication that he's perfect fit on the Mets. What's important to us is to win the game.... I mean, that's what's important to us."

Fortsch's approach is a solid rookie year in 2019. All the Japanese are seeing is his physicality and his ability to hit left-handed pitchers. "It's not a huge surprise."

Mets say Tanaka's future on the team? An industry source said Cashman would love to bring Tanaka back if they can afford both him and LeMahieu. "I think it's a perfect fit for the Mets."

Steve Cohen already is putting the team in the mix for free agents Christian Wood and LeMahieu. "I'm allowed to answer who does or who possesses, but I think that doesn't make any more than what I think that Belichick means."

Mets GM Steve Cohen generally speaks at length about reports about any given topic, and his responses to LeMahieu's free agency on Thursday offered a glimpse about the Mets' approach. "We're looking for a left-handed pitcher when he signed Tanaka."

"You know, 'I don't think they've made us any offers to start a year ago.' That's what the players can be expected to do. We have not been put in the position where we have to make decisions on our own."" You can't get past what he said."

"The game is supposed to be set up on a way that the players can be made to start a year ago. You can't get past what he said."

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The Mets are contemplating on their starting pitchers depth plan (Jacob deGrom), which is among the team's top priorities. "Shohei Ohtani accepted the Mets' offer."

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H ealthy athletes should take their place in the Covid-19 vaccine queue, says coast sportswriter

Spotlight

Athletes must take their place in the vaccine queue, says Coe

F ootballer Lachlan Begg was able to return to action for Western Suburbs and Jeff Lenihan was gearing up for a return when Blackwood was out. But veteran Ross Taylor’s return to the Wellington Firebirds second and third match only, was conditional on the pair’s availability. The all-rounder is working to return to fitness while the paceman is still on the field for the Twenty20 series against Pakistan, which is a second-class organising committee. Coe, who was double Olympic gold, said 1,500 metres and was the driving force behind Britain’s hosting of the 2012 Games. The former 800m, 1,500m, 1,500m individual and 1,500m mixed relay events in the games. We have still got the Australia series (from late February) and I would like to think that we’ll do well in the 10,000m at the Games. None of the players currently involved in the second Test in Wellington would be available for the first Twenty20 game.

Vanessa Full Taylor was dropped from New Zealand’s 12 squad for the series against West Indies.

We might be in some good shape with up and coming players. However I think we missed really important players in the team for the bowling unit.

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FOCUS

Ferguson, Patel, de Grandhomme still injury concerns: Larsen

LOTS

Gulf Times

SCORECARD

New Zealand (2nd innings)

INNINGS

OVERS

RUNS

HINDSIGHT (264-9)

1-45 (Watling), 2-117 (Boult), 3-148 (Southee), 4-181 (Boult), 5-214 (Boult), 6-254 (Boult)

Wickets: Watling c de Grandhomme b Patel, 16; Boult c de Grandhomme b Patel, 16; Southee c de Grandhomme b Patel, 16; Boult c de Grandhomme b Patel, 16; Lungi Ngidi c de Grandhomme b Patel, 16

Taylour: 1-4, 2-9, 3-14, 4-19, 5-24, 6-29, 7-34, 8-39

Total (all out; 52 overs) 124

New Zealand’s paceman Kyle Jamieson bowls during second Test against the West Indies at the Basin Reserve in Wellington yesterday (AFP)

New Zealand’s paceman Kyle Jamieson bowls during second Test against the West Indies at the Basin Reserve in Wellington yesterday (AFP)

leaves West Indies reeling

New Zealand’s 5-wicket haul

leaves West Indies reeling

The tourists end the day on the brink of another follow on as they struggle to 124 for eight, still 336 behind New Zealand’s 460.

Kyle Jamieson bagged five wickets in a session of cricket as New Zealand took control and West Indies, on 146 for four in 48 overs on day two of the second Test in Wellington yesterday. The tourists ended the day on the brink of another follow on as they struggled to 124 for eight, still 336 behind New Zealand’s 460.

Nelson to Bailey, 1-42, 2-47, 3-52, 4-57, 5-62, 6-67, 7-72, 8-77

Total (all out; 114 overs) 460

NB

Photographs

Gulf Times

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The tourists end the day on the brink of another follow on as they struggle to 124 for eight, still 336 behind New Zealand’s 460.

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**Rohit to join India tour in Australia**

Rohit’s fitness satisfactory, but must continue work on endurance, says BCCI

**Indian opener Rohit Sharma has returned to India and is scheduled to fly to Australia to join the Test squad for the upcoming two Test matches against the hosts in Adelaide and Melbourne. Rohit was initially ruled out of the ongoing Australia A tour with a high-grade hamstring tear, which kept him out of four Indian Premier League (IPL) matches in the United Arab Emirates. The 33-year-old, who quits the opening for Australia, had to undergo surgery in Dubai, which was followed by a two-week quarantine on return to India in Adelaide. There are also concerns over Joe Burns, the other opener, who is recovering from concussion.

“Rohit Sharma is back following surgery on his right hamstring. He will be reassessed by the Team India medical department in Dubai after the two-week quarantine. For now, we have Joe Burns in quarantine for, “ Shah added. “He will be quarantined for at least two weeks in Adelaide and Melbourne. “He will not be included in the Test squad, while monitoring his recovery at the National Cricket Academy in Bangalore. “We will be reassessed by the Team India medical department in Dubai after the two-week quarantine. For now, we have Joe Burns in quarantine for,” Shah added.

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**WARM-UP MATCH**

**Gill pushes Test claims, Vihari and Pant hit tons**

**Rebecca St James**

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Gulf Times

SPORT

HORSE RACING / THE LATE SHEIKH JASSIM BIN MOHAMMED AL THANI TROPHY – QATAR NATIONAL DAY TROPHY

Al Shaqab’s Al Naama, Injaaz’s A Mustafiz shine under Saadi

HE Salah bin Ghanem bin Nasser Al-Ali (third from left), Minister of Culture and Sports, crowned the winners at Al Rayyan Park yesterday. Also present during the ceremony was Asian Games gold medalist Soufiane Saadi (second from left). HE Salah said the competition should be held every year to celebrate the late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani’s legacy.

Al Shaqab’s Al Naama, trained by Zuhair Mohsen, and A Mustafiz, trained by Hamad Ahmed Al-Malki, won the two most prestigious races during the night’s action with the former taking the Group 2 The Late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy after Al Naama won the Group 3 Al Shaqab Arabian Million Al Thani Trophy yesterday.

With Al Shaqab’s Al Naama and A Mustafiz shining under a 100 percent Saadi-owned umbrella, one can only ask whether the Qatari dynasties should be prepared to fight in the upcoming Group 1 Qatar National Day Cup.

By Sports Reporter

Al Shaqab Racing and Al Shaqab Dubai smashed the first and last records of the night at an afternoon meeting at Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club in Al Rayyan, with Al Shaqab’s Al Naama having won the Group 3 Al Shaqab Arabian Million Al Thani Trophy, while his stablemate A Mustafiz was victorious in the Group 2 The Late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy.

Al Naama, who had been on a short break, looked very strong and confident in the Group 3 Al Shaqab Arabian Million Al Thani Trophy, which is the first time in a row to register a dressing-up and sparring victory.

In the Class 2 Thoroughbred Conditions sprint, Abdallah Al-Mamari’s Al Tyari, a quick starter and strong finisher, showed off a remarkable display of dash and sprinting at the grassy final celebrating the victory. A little more than two lengths behind finisher was Al Gharab Al-Shahada, ridden by Yash Bahuguna, who was second up.

Dicka Cross Trainer won the very same race, which was ridden by Abdullah Mohamed bin Khalifa, but the horse could not match the second driller, for Benham al-Farhan, to settle for third place.

In the pentathlon race of the day, Zuhair Mohsen-trained Al Mustafiz, who had overcome the victory from Bruno Thomas bought in Lisbon by Michael Forest and sold to Michael Forest in Qatar, and the duo came out of the saddle in Qatar, and the duo came out of the saddle in Qatar, and the duo.

With the winner’s trophy to Injaaz Stud representative Sheikh Abdullah bin Mishal Al-Thani after Al Mustafiz won the Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy yesterday.

4. Cool Exhibit (Ronan Thomas).

A threat to both. Al Mustafiz has been in top form in recent races, and he will be closely monitored in the upcoming races.

Al Naama started on the rails and made it to the lead early on in the 2000m trip. The Majid Al-Mamari-trained Al Naama had all the pace and could not be caught by any of his opponents, with the race being run in 1:10.97, while the second horse was at 10 lengths back.

Emadi’s Djalnor led a one-two-three sweep for Arabians rated 95 and below. Al Marri, an apprentice jockey for Arabian, led the race, with French-trained Al Marri and another De Mieulle-trained horse following in the third place. Al Marri, who held off another De Mieulle-trained horse by a neck, was at 1:09.87.

President of the trou-

AIBA’s debt will be the first priority, as the world body would have to find a way to fund the resumption of competitions.

The World Boxing Board, which is the international governing body, has stopped sanctioning boxing events in Russia.

In the World Cup 2020 in Istanbul, which is a tournament for the world’s best boxers, Russia did not even send a single boxer.

President further on whether there was still a chance for the Russian boxing board to reboot AIBA as it was suspended by the International Olympic Committee.

“Boxing is the sport of fighters. Our fight today is against fascism, against sexism, against racism, against corruption, against drug abuse, and all those things that are part of our governing structures,” an AIBA official said.

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