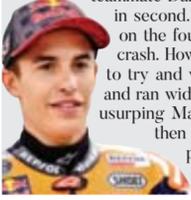


Sports

Marquez wins fourth
MotoGP world title

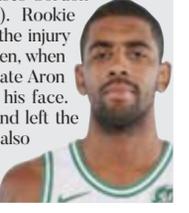
CHESTE: Spain's Marc Marquez sealed his sixth world championship and fourth in the premier MotoGP category with third place at the season-ending Valencia Grand Prix yesterday. Holding a commanding 21-point lead in the championship from Andrea Dovizioso, Marquez was guaranteed the title with a top-11 finish or if Dovizioso failed to win the race. And Dovizioso's fate was sealed when he crashed out five laps from the end. Marquez's Honda teammate Dani Pedrosa won the race from France's Johann Zarco in second. Starting from pole, Marquez waved Zarco through on the fourth lap to rule out any chance of an untimely early crash. However, he couldn't resist an attack on the Frenchman to try and win the championship in style with eight laps to go and ran wide, dropping him down to fifth. Yet, Ducati's hopes of usurping Marquez were quickly undone as Jorge Lorenzo and then Dovizioso both crashed out as they paid the price for pushing at the limit for the whole race. —AFP

Ousted Evra backed by
former team-mate Mandanda

PARIS: After being hit with a season-long ban and losing his job at Marseille for a karate kick on a supporter, Patrice Evra was backed by former team-mate Steve Mandanda yesterday. "He's a really good guy," the Marseille goalkeeper said of the 36-year-old Evra, who parted ways with the club after being banned from European football until June 30, 2018. "I'm very disappointed for Pat, a true friend and a real good guy. We have lost a leader," said Mandanda of the former France captain who also played 379 times for Manchester United. Evra had been widely condemned for the assault on a Marseille fan which took place ahead of a Europa League tie at Portuguese side Vitoria Guimaraes last week. And Mandanda acknowledged his former team-mate had made a major error. "As a professional you need to set an example and this is not the kind of thing you can do," he said. —AFP

Boston's Irving suffers
minor facial fracture

BOSTON: Boston's Kyrie Irving has been diagnosed with a facial fracture and could miss today's game against the Toronto Raptors, where the Celtics will be seeking to win their 12th straight game. The minor fracture to Irving is just the latest health problem for the Celtics, who are one of the hottest teams in the NBA despite the rash of injuries. The loss of Irving means Boston is without all of its Big Three which also comprises Gordon Hayward (out for season) and Al Horford (concussion). Rookie Jayson Tatum is nursing a sore ankle. Irving suffered the injury in the first quarter of Friday's game at the Boston Garden, when he took an accidental elbow to the mouth from teammate Aron Baynes. After the hit, Irving fell to the floor holding his face. Irving was attended to by Celtics trainer Art Home and left the court clutching a towel over his bloodied face. He was also checked for a concussion. —AFP

RunKuwait raises over KD 40,000 in
support of children's rehabilitation

Charity event attracts 2,300 participants



KUWAIT: Fawzia Sultan Healthcare Network (FSHN) is pleased to announce the successful completion of the seventh installation of the RunKuwait annual charity event, which took place on Saturday, November 11 at The Scientific Center, with the support of the founding partner, Agility. This year's race attracted 2,300 participants who crossed the finish line amidst the cheers and applause of family and friends.

The initiative successfully raised a total of KD40,000 which will be channeled towards providing free of charge and subsidized treatment of vulnerable children with disability at the non-profit Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center (CERC), founded by FSHN. CERC offers services for children in a number of areas which include physical therapy, hydrotherapy, speech pathology, counselling/behavior therapy and occupational therapy.

"We are proud to complete another successful installation of the RunKuwait initiative and witness our community members stepping up and supporting this cause through an exciting sporting event. We were able to successfully host this year's event through the support of our founding partner, Agility and our other generous sponsors and partners who shared our vision and goals in helping children in need. We would also like to thank all the individual participants and companies for

joining us this year and we look forward to their continuous support towards the RunKuwait initiative," commented Dr Elham Hamdan, medical director at FSHN.

Excited participants were welcomed with a series of warm-up exercises prior to the start of the race at the race village. The race village was also the hub in offering refreshment options to the attendees, which were provided by both sponsors and contributing companies.

Henadi Al Saleh, Agility Chairperson said: "The outcome of this year's race is impressive. On behalf of Agility, I thank all participants, volunteers and runners who took part in RunKuwait and helped raise funds that help give children with disabilities the much-needed support they require."

RunKuwait's race this year was supported with generous contributions from the following sponsors: Agility as the founding partner, The Promenade as the Platinum sponsor, The Scientific Center as the venue partner, ASAR Legal and INTER-SPORT as the Gold sponsors, KDD as the Silver sponsor, Fitness First, Orbex and Zain as the Bronze sponsors, IKEA, Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa and Porsche Centre Kuwait, Behbehani Motors Company as the Friend sponsors and Gotap as the payment sponsor. The media sponsors for the RunKuwait initiative this year

“The outcome of this year's race is impressive”



are Al Anbaa newspaper, Kuwait Times newspaper and 248am blog as the exclusive social media sponsor.

First, second and third place winners were awarded across different categories for the 5KM & 10KM race including, Male, Female, Youth (18 years and below) & Masters (55 years and above). The serious athletes were able to complete the 10KM race distance within 38 minutes. The first place winners announced were Abdullah Mona (Male), Dorra Al Sboui (Female),

Abdul Aziz Al Duaij (Youth), Chris Robson (Masters).

The sports enthusiasts who opted for a shorter race distance, 5KM, were also awarded within the same categories. The first place winners included, Mohammad Al Matar (Male), Amal Al Roumi (Female), Ahmed Sallam (Youth), Xavier Le Varlet (Masters). All the participants received their participation medal and numerous gifts as they crossed the finish line and returned to the race village to join in relaxing yoga sessions.

Kenyan Kalalei triumphs in
Athens Marathon

ATHENS: Samuel Kalalei won the 35th Athens Classic Marathon yesterday as Kenyan runners dominated the gruelling, largely uphill course by sweeping the top five places in the men's race.

The 23-year-old crossed the line in two hours, 12 minutes and 17 seconds, ahead of Milton Kiplagat Rotich, who clocked 2:14.18, with Jonathan Kiptoo Yego in third at 2:16.08. The women's race was won by 18-year-old Ethiopian Bedaru Hirpa Badane in a time of 2:34.18.

Around 18,500 runners from dozens of countries took part in the authentic marathon which began near the tumulus erected for the Greek dead from the Battle of Marathon. Another 30,000 participated in the shorter 5km and 10km races in downtown Athens.

According to legend, the 42km route from Marathon to Athens was first run by Pheidippides, an Athenian messenger who in 490 BC dashed to the city to announce victory over the Persians, before dying of exhaustion.

Run on a four-lane concrete avenue through the urban districts of east Athens with a finish at the all-marble Panathenaic Stadium, the site of the 1896 Olympics, the race is a challenge for runners as much of it is uphill. — AFP

Olympic
marathon
champ Sumgong
banned for 4 yrs

NAIROBI: Olympic marathon champion Jemima Sumgong was banned for four years after a doping tribunal rejected her explanation that blood-boosting hormone EPO was in her system from being treated at a hospital in Kenya days before her failed test.

The tribunal found no legitimate record of the hospital visit and treatment for an ectopic pregnancy claimed by Sumgong, it said Tuesday in a decision released by the Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya. The panel ruling on her case said the 32-year-old Sumgong's hospital story was "inconsistent at best."

"We might go so far as to state that the athlete's attempt to explain how the substance entered her body bordered on an attempt to deceive the panel," the ruling said.

Sumgong became the first Kenyan woman to win Olympic gold in the marathon when she triumphed at last year's Rio de Janeiro Games. She failed an out-of-competition test on Feb. 28 and was banned for four years from April 3, the date

her provisional suspension was announced.

It makes her ineligible for the 2019 world championships and the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Sumgong is the highest-profile athlete on a long list of Kenyans to be banned for doping in recent years. Her case follows that of Rita Jeptoo, who was the top women's marathon runner in the world when she also tested positive for EPO in an out-of-competition test in Kenya in 2014. Jeptoo also received a four-year ban.

Sumgong waived her right to have her backup "B" sample tested and said she had taken EPO unintentionally after visiting Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi six days before her doping test to be treated for an ectopic pregnancy. She claimed she was suffering from severe abdominal pain and was given a blood transfusion and unidentified medication by an unnamed doctor.

The Olympic champion couldn't provide the name of the doctor who supposedly treated her or reliable documents showing she was admitted to the hospital, the tribunal said. It said documents she provided were denounced as fake by the hospital. The hospital visit was not disclosed by Sumgong at the time of the doping test. She said that was because of the "taboo" surrounding ectopic pregnancies and she wanted to hide it from her husband, who is also her manager.

The only record the hospital had of a visit by Sumgong was in April, when she inquired about treatment for ectopic pregnancies. —AP



Jemima Sumgong