

## Bairstow seals England clean sweep of New Zealand



England's Jonny Bairstow, right, raises his bat to celebrate scoring fifty runs

Reuters | London

Jonny Bairstow led England to a whitewash of Test world champions New Zealand with a stunning fifty on his Headingley home ground yesterday.

England, set a target of 296 for victory, finished on 296-3 to win the third Test by seven wickets.

Bairstow was 71 not out, having compiled England's second-fastest Test fifty of all time by reaching the landmark in just 30 balls.

Former England captain Joe Root was 86 not out, having started the day on an unbeaten 55 before sharing a partner-ship of 111 with Yorkshire team-mate Bairstow.

Rain washed out the morning session to leave England, 183-2 overnight, with a nominal 78 overs in which to score the 113 more runs they needed for victory.

But they required just 15.2 overs, with Bairstow ending the match after just over an hour's play yesterday with a six over deep midwicket off spinner Michael Bracewell.

# Rising star Khaled gears up for global karting event

Bahraini racer Khaled Alnajjar begins preparations to compete amongst world's best in Rotax MAX Challenge Grand Finals 2022 in Portugal

● Eleven-year-old racer to be amongst 400 karters vying for glory in Rotax MAX Challenge Grand Finals 2022

● Preparations to include intensive training camp in Europe in the coming weeks, supervised by local karting icon Mohammed Mattar

TDT | Manama

Supremely talented Bahraini racer Khaled Alnajjar has begun gearing up to compete in one of the biggest international karting events taking place later this year in Europe. The up-and-coming, 11-year-old racer is the reigning champion of the Mini category in the Bahrain Rotax Mojo MAX Challenge (BRMMC), and by claiming his title, has earned qualification for the Rotax MAX Challenge Grand Finals 2022, set to take place in Portimao, Portugal from November 19 to 26. Khaled will be an integral part



Khaled Alnajjar at Bahrain International Karting Circuit

of Team Bahrain competing at the highly anticipated event, which will feature a world-class field of around 400 drivers from across the globe who will be vying for glory and bragging rights in their respective race categories.

Khaled will be the only driver who will be flying the Kingdom's flag in his age-class. It is the second successive year that he has booked his place in the grand finals.

The year six student at British School of Bahrain has already kicked off his preparations for the Rotax season-finale locally

at Bahrain International Karting Circuit (BIKC) in Sakhir, and will be stepping up his programme with a camp in Europe in the coming weeks.

Khaled is a member of the Praga Middle East professional racing team and his experienced coach Mohammed Mattar, a Bahraini karting icon, will be supervising his training.

"I'm very excited and proud to be able to represent Bahrain among the world's best drivers from all across the globe," Khaled said.

"My team Praga Middle East has put together a special devel-

"I'm very excited and proud to be able to represent Bahrain among the world's best drivers from all across the globe

KHALED ALNAJJAR

opment programme for me and I'm dedicated 100 per cent. I will give my absolute best.

"I look forward to getting my training camp underway and to working hard to be fully prepared for the Rotax MAX Challenge Grand Finals.

"I know there will be a high level of competition that week so I want to be ready to put on a strong performance and show the rest of the world how talented our motorsport community is in Bahrain.

"I would like to thank my family, my friends, the Praga Middle East team, my coach and all those who are supporting me as I continue to pursue my racing dreams."

Khaled is one of Bahrain's most promising rising karters. He started his professional kart racing career at the age of seven as the youngest driver in Bah-



rain. Supported by his parents, Khaled has been racing for four successful years. He has been crowned champion and vice-champion in the BRMMC, which is a part of the Bahrain Karting Sprint Championship held annually at BIKC. He has raced at world-class events in Italy, the UAE, Kuwait and Bahrain and aims to continue his development while regularly competing at the highest level of motorsport.

## McLaren names Neom as Formula E, Extreme E title sponsor

TDT | Manama



McLaren Formula E Team and Extreme E Team cars with Neom branding

McLaren Racing yesterday announced a new strategic partnership with Neom, a sustainable region in northwest Saudi Arabia being built from the ground up, as the Title Partner of the McLaren Formula E Team and McLaren Extreme E Team from the 2022/2023 season.

The McLaren Formula E Team and McLaren Extreme E Team will be renamed to Neom McLaren Formula E Team and Neom McLaren Extreme E respectively, with the combined teams known as Neom McLaren Electric Racing. This represents a new era for McLaren in the

team's endeavour in electric motorsport.

The partnership represents the union of two organisations with similar goals in technology and innovation. McLaren will become a founding partner of Oxagon's innovative advanced and clean industries ecosystem. Oxagon, a coastal city within Neom, will also be home to the Oxagon Research and Innova-

tion Campus, set to offer state-of-the-art facilities across its lab, office and business spaces, and which McLaren will become a first partner of.

In its role as technical partner of Oxagon's advanced and clean manufacturing ecosystem, McLaren's Accelerator program will help with development of circularity and Industry 4.0; the bespoke program leverag-

McLaren Racing will enter the 2022/2023 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship from Season Nine and the beginning of the Gen3 era in the pioneering all-electric race series

es performance-driven data and translates it into the culture and thinking of partners. Accelerator uses its digital and analytical expertise and skills to help teams focus on major items impacting performance, and to better anticipate and resolve them.

## Hurkacz pledges 100 euros for every ace at Wimbledon to Ukraine relief effort

Reuters | London



Hubert Hurkacz

Hubert Hurkacz will hope his powerful serve is on point at Wimbledon after pledging to donate 100 euros (\$105.54) for every ace he hits to the Ukraine relief effort, the Polish seventh seed said on Sunday ahead of the grass-court Grand Slam.

Hurkacz, whose power is suited to grass courts, is third on the list of number of aces hit on the ATP Tour this year with 452 -- behind big-serving Americans John Isner and Reilly Opelka.

Seventy of Hurkacz's aces have come from just six match-

es on grass, with the 25-year-old winning last week's tune-up event at Halle where he beat world number one Daniil Medvedev in the final.

"I'd like to announce that starting tomorrow I am pledging to donate 100 euros for every ace I hit at Wimbledon to help support the people of Ukraine. Hope my serve works well!" he wrote on Twitter.

## Rusty Djokovic sees off Korean Kwon to advance

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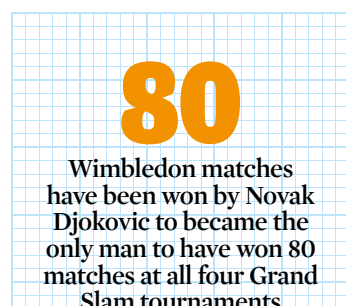
Novak Djokovic returns to Korea's Kwon Soonwoo

Top seed Novak Djokovic overcame a dogged challenge from 81st-ranked Korean Kwon Soon-woo and his own grasscourt rustiness to reach the Wimbledon second round with a 6-4 3-6 6-3 6-4 victory yesterday.

The defending champion, bidding for his fourth Wimbledon title in a row and his seventh overall, looked out-of-sorts at times against Kwon, who brought a lively mixture of tennis, from booming forehands to delicate drop-shots,

onto Centre Court.

Djokovic had not played a grasscourt warm-up tournament and he admitted that did not help his game against a



tough opponent, 11 years his junior.

"I didn't have any lead-up or preparation tournaments prior to this so you're always going to feel a bit less comfortable than

you would like, particularly if you're playing against someone as talented as Kwon who stays close to the line and hits really clean," he said.

"It wasn't easy. I had to put some variety in the game. The serve helped but at this level one or two shots decide a winner."

The 24-year-old Korean broke Djokovic's serve in the fourth game of the second set and went on to win it with a drop-shot and a big serve.

But the Serb, aiming to win a 21st Grand Slam title, recovered enough of his trademark consistency to see off the challenge.

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