

ACB chairman asks players to play with patriotic spirit in ODI series against Pakistan

KABUL. Addressing national squad, Afghanistan Cricket Board Chairman Farhat Yousaf urged players to play with a patriotic spirit and strive to give their best performance in this important series. He was talking to national players ahead of their test of Sri Lanka where they face Pakistan in a three-match ODI series.

Yousaf added that not only ACB but the whole Afghanistan looks forward to witnessing great performance from the national team against Pakistan. He further stated: "Team unity and hard work

will lead you to victory," Yousaf stated following his meeting with U.S. President Mohammed Ashraf Khan and followed by a meeting with the national team.

He added, "President appreciated your achievement and expressed his best wishes for the success of the national team." The ACB Chairman also added that the players will be rewarded handsomely if they perform well against Pakistan.

He called on players to play with a strong and positive mind-set to ensure good results. Con-

cluding his remarks, Yousaf applauded ACB CEO, Dr. Hamid Shariq's management of executive affairs and positive performance. He said, "With proper team unity and support from ACB, we feel confident and strive to win the upcoming contests."

He expressed his respect for all players and stated that the team's preparation together will give us the positive result that we need in the series ahead. "Afghanistan National squad will represent to Sri Lanka for the ICC ODI Super League matches against Pakistan."

Concluding the meeting, Captain Hashamullah Shahid delivered his remarks on behalf of the national team.

He said, "With proper team unity and support from ACB, we feel confident and strive to win the upcoming contests."

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Sport climbers in Montana react to sport on Olympic stage

HELENA. — At this year's Summer Olympics, traditional and non-traditional sports have been on display for almost three weeks. One of the newer, non-traditional sports that's been on display is sport climbing.

Competitors are competing in three different disciplines: bouldering, speed climbing, and lead climbing, and are looking to capture one of six medals.

Climbers local to Helena noted the ability to see one of their favorite sports on display on the world stage has been a great experience, and will hopefully change people's outlook on what is and is not a sport.

"It feels good that the rest of the world is finally taking it up on the fact that climbing is a proper sport," said Karmen Hadfield.

"It's really cool to see the growth, you know, climbing has kind of been sport identified as not really a sport," said Jackson Weatherill.

Despite some folk's thoughts on the sport, the excitement in the Olympic Games is resonating with climbers both young and old.

"I think it's really cool. And it's not just the competitive aspect, but the fact that it's a sport that's growing, you know, climbing has

kind of been sport identified as not really a sport," said Jackson Weatherill.

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Whelen Engineering Cadillac on pole in starting lineup for IMSA SportsCar Weekend

IMSA's opening long-haul Whelen Engineering Racing will start from the pole position for the IMSA SportsCar Weekend at Road America after Felipe Nasr qualified the No. 31 Cadillac with a 2-minute, 07.03-second lap.

Nasr is second with Pipo De la Parra, 114 points out of the lead held by the Kenan Miata Team, and 35 points behind Mazda Motorsports in second.

Nasr's pole position was earned despite the fact that he was one of several drivers to spin during the session, which was run in wet conditions.

"We were first time driving in the rain because we didn't take part in the test yesterday in F1 due to the conditions," Nasr said. "So for me it was like I'll try to understand the grip level. And as you go out there in a driver, you never know what to expect. You're just driving to the grip and with the tire, there was a lot of pressure to get out a lap as fast as possible. So I kept driving away from the track by control of the car."

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Athletics-Kenya's Kipchoge cements legacy with back-to-back marathon golds



SAPPHORO. Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge won the Olympic gold medal with a commanding performance in the men's marathon on Sunday, winning his second straight gold medal and cementing his place among the all-time greats of the sport.

Abdi Nageeye of the Netherlands took silver and Belgium's Bartolomeo Burrows took bronze.

Kipchoge, 36, from Eldoret, Kenya, won the 2016 Rio de Janeiro and 2017 London marathons, and is the only runner to win back-to-back gold medals in the Olympic marathons.

The world record holder has won four Olympic medals in the marathon, and is the only runner to win the Olympic marathon in two consecutive years.

Kipchoge finished in two hours, eight minutes and 46 seconds, coming in one minute and 20 seconds ahead of Nageeye.

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Roger Federer withdraws from Canadian Open and Western & Southern Open due to knee injury

HELENA. Roger Federer withdrew from the Canadian Open and Western & Southern Open due to a knee injury.

Federer, 36, announced his withdrawal from the Canadian Open on Sunday, and the Western & Southern Open on Monday.

Federer, who has won 20 Grand Slam titles, is the world's second-ranked player in men's singles tennis.

Federer's withdrawal from the Canadian Open and Western & Southern Open is the latest in a series of injuries that have plagued the Swiss star.

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