

## D' Islanders, DMDA and IBL overwhelm respective rivals

## Al-Qwassem All-Stars book record breaking victory

By Miguel Carlos

Special to the Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 25: Unleashing the full potential of its power-laden lineup, leading title contender Al Qwassem All Stars showed the rest of the field what it is capable of at any given match as they booked a record breaking victory in their fifth week match at the on-going elimination round of the 2018 Season 12 FTBK Tenpin Bowling Team Tournament being held at the Cozmo Entertainment Center bowling lanes in Salmiya. Not to be outdone were the pin busters of D' Islanders who remained atop the leader board for five straight weeks

## BOWLING

after posting its fifth consecutive win of the season while also overwhelming their respective rivals on their way to equally impressive performances were DMDA Bowleros, IBL, Strikers X and K2E2 Thunders.

Already dubbed as the team to watch right at the start of this event organized by the Filipino Tenpin Bowlers Kuwait (FTBK), Al Qwassem All Stars is now more likely the team to beat after their tenacious week 5 victory over another worthy contender Siete Pares 1. In an explosive show of superb pin breaking, Al Qwassem kicked off its stint by subduing their opponents in the first game of the 4-game match 942-748. Game two was not a different story as the All Stars klegers walloped Siete Pares 1 once again via an 865-675 rout.

In game three and with Al Qwassem's fiery start suddenly losing steam, the Siete Pares 1 quartet of Jovit Dador, Faie Reyel, Rami Mudaf and



FTBK Tournament leaders D' Islanders



Al-Qwassem All-Stars team

Egay Cabildo quickly seized the opportunity and eked out an 829-701 victory. Still way ahead after three games 2,506-2,252, Al Qwassem All Stars bannered by Fahad Ragheeb, Habib Reda, Farid Gabriel and Najji Al Houli came back for the final game brandishing the same menacing form they have in the first two games and annihilated their beleaguered rivals via a one sided 928-691 score. Through their 3,459-2,943 total pin fall winning score, Al Qwassem now holds the team high game and team high series records of the season.

Tournament front runner D' Islanders on the other hand succeeded in holding on to the number one position for the fifth straight week after sweeping aside Rock N Bowl in all four games of the match. Led by team honcho Bobby Carambas, Aga Cuadrzal, Edgar Pascua, Vernie Villaruel, Danny Doctor and Rolly David, D' Islanders handed Rock N Bowl four consecutive



DMDA architectural designers

losses via 780-727, 829-802, 800-690 and 816-779 scores in garnering a final winning tally of 3,250-2,998. Top bowlers for the Rock N Bowl pin snipers were Romy Fermil, Liza Catapia, Norie sairat, Romy daus and Rod Llait.

Meanwhile, the DMDA Bowleros succeeded in ending their 4-game losing streak as they drubbed the off form and fast slipping Siete Pares 2 with a 4 to nothing beating. In collecting their long over 3,248-2,717 total pin fall

victory, the DMDA architectural designers led by Tito Tamayo, Al Belarmino, Chit mariano, Jun Guerra, Liza Breboneria and Sonny Mariano defeated Siete Pares 2 in four straight games 837-698, 798-665, 758-656 and 830-698. Bowling for Siete pares in this forgettable stint were Siddharth Nair, Mario Santos, Alex Nodalo, Ricky Palabon and Hussain Adnan.

Making their way into the elite group of 8 was IBL who bounced back from a game one setback in stopping Pinbowls 3,227-2,966. After Pinbowls headed by Yahya Clenzi, Jheng Liwayway, Mahmoud dashti and JR sabado nipped IBL 763-733 in the opening game, returned the favor with their own 783-757 cliff hanger. And as the Pinbowls continued to lose their touch, IBL spearheaded by Nikshita Shetty, Rani Skeik, Rudolph Castellino, Allen Morais and Uly Menezes dumped their opponents in the next two games 772-677 and 914-769.

Also sustaining their steady rise back into the Top 8 was Strikers X who dished out another win in their fifth week meeting with Cozmo Salmiya. Banking on the pin point accuracy of the straight shooting James Caldwell, together with Norman Conde, Vicky Navarro, Ronald Ferolino and Benny Chan, Strikers X through their 804-758, 800-744 and 823-726 victories in games one, three and four trounced the entertainment magnates 3,204-3,096. Cozmo Salmiya who avoided a clean sweep snatch an 868-752 game two victory courtesy of Fadi Al masri, Wahab Ali, Hasan Karam and Abdullah Al Ali.

In the other two matches of the week, The K2E2 Thunders grounded Lane Surferzz 3,175-3,072 and World Class quashed NLB Windosoft 3,091-2,924.

For the Individual and Team High scores the current record holders are as follows: Individual High Game Men Class O/A-Bill Stules 264, Men Class B-Anastasius Menezes 257, Ladies-Janet Shaikh 246; High Average Men Class O/A-Mousa Abdullah 205, Men Class B-Habib Reda 185, Ladies-Janet Shaikh 223; Team High Game-Al Qwassem All Star 833 and Team High Series- Al Qwassem All Star 3,309.

The team standings after the fifth week are as follows (read as rank, team name and total score): 1. D' Islanders-16,098, 2. Al Qwassem All Star-16,063.3, Strikers X -15,638, 4. Siete Pares 1 -15,541, 5. Rock N Bowl -15,496, 6. World Class -15,473, 7. Lane Surferzz -15,396, 8. Indian Bowling League -15,351, 9. Pinbowls -15,320, 10. Cozmo Salmiya -15,397, 11. K2E2 Thunders-15,276, 12. Siete Pares 2-15,212, 13. NLB Corporation -15,184, 14. DMDA Bowleros-14,937.

## NFL Roundup

## Carr wants Gruden to be hard on him

## Pats confirm concussion for tight end Gronkowski

WASHINGTON, Jan 25, (RTRS): New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski was listed with a concussion on the team's first injury report ahead of next week's Super Bowl LII against the Philadelphia Eagles.

The injury report released Wednesday was the first time the Patriots have acknowledged that Gronkowski sustained a concussion in Sunday's 24-20 comeback victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars in the AFC Championship.

Gronkowski missed the second half against Jacksonville after taking a helmet-to-helmet hit from Jaguars safety Barry Church in the second quarter. Gronkowski was wobbling as he got to his feet.

Patriots coach Bill Belichick sidestepped questions about Gronkowski's potential availability for Feb 4 in Minneapolis.

The NFL concluded that the Carolina Panthers acted properly when they gave quarterback Cam Newton a brief sideline concussion evaluation during their playoff loss against the New Orleans Saints.

The league and NFL Players Association completed their joint investigation into the team's handling of the concussion protocol involving Newton.

Oakland Raiders quarterback Derek Carr wants new coach Jon Gruden to be "really hard" on him after he resigned this season from his



Gronkowski

level in 2016.

Carr said he is looking forward not only to being reunited with Gruden but also to being pushed by the quarterback guru.

His production dropped off in 2017 as he passed for 3,496 yards, 22 touchdowns and 13 interceptions.

The New York Giants are planning to hire James Bettcher to be their defensive coordinator, according to multiple reports.

Newly named head coach Pat Shurmur and the Giants agreed to hire the former Arizona Cardinals defensive coordinator late Tuesday night, a source told ESPN.

Bettcher met with the Giants in Mobile, Ala., on Tuesday afternoon while he was in town for the Senior Bowl.

Pro Football Hall of Famer Chris Doleman was scheduled to undergo surgery to have a brain tumor removed Wednesday in Atlanta, according to reports.

Doleman, 56, was a star defensive end for the Minnesota Vikings for 10 seasons and also played for the Atlanta Falcons and San Francisco 49ers in a career that ran from 1985 to 1999.

Belichick agrees with defensive end Chris Long's decision to join the Eagles after the veteran won a Super Bowl last year in his only season with New England.

With the Eagles, Long finished the regular season with 28 tackles, five sacks and four forced fumbles compared to last year when he had 35 tackles, four sacks and one forced fumble with the Patriots.

## Nylander's 'penalty shot' lifts Leafs over Blackhawks in OT

Pearson scores winner as Kings top Flames 2-1

CHICAGO, Jan 25, (AP): William Nylander scored on a penalty shot 6 seconds into overtime to lift the Toronto Maple Leafs to a 3-2 win over the sagging Chicago Blackhawks on Wednesday night.

Nylander was awarded the attempt after he broke in alone on Jeff Glass from the opening faceoff in the extra period, but was hooked from behind by Chicago's Duncan Keith. Nylander scored the winner and his 10th goal by faking Glass and then burying a high backhand shot to send the Blackhawks to their fourth straight defeat.

Toronto's Nazem Kadri connected for his 15th goal, a power-play score that snapped a seven-game scoring

## ICE HOCKEY

drought and was just his second goal in 20 games. Mitch Marner also scored for the Maple Leafs, who won the second time in seven games.

Brent Seabrook and Nick Schmaltz scored power-play goals for Chicago, which snapped an 0-for-16 drought with the man advantage.

## Kings 2, Flames 1, OT

In Calgary, Alberta, Tanner Pearson scored with 26.1 seconds left in overtime to lead the Los Angeles Kings past the Calgary Flames.

Pearson took a pass from Drew Doughty and shot the puck past Mike Smith to help the Kings beat the Flames for the first time this season after losing the previous two meetings between the teams.

Jake Muzzin also scored for the Kings, while Darcy Kuemper made 30 saves to improve to 6-1-3. Kuemper started in net for the Kings in place of injured goalie Jonathan Quick.

Sean Monahan scored for the Flames, who have recorded points in 10 straight games while going 7-0-3 in that span. Calgary has lost three straight 2-1 decisions in extra time on home ice.



Brandon Saad #20 of the Chicago Blackhawks and Travis Dermott #23 of the Toronto Maple Leafs at the United Center on Jan 24, in Chicago, Illinois. (AFP)

## NHL Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, Jan 25, (RTRS): Results and standings from the NHL games on Wednesday:

Toronto	3	Chicago (OT)	2	Los Angeles	2	Calgary (OT)	1						
Eastern Conference				Western Conference									
Atlantic Division				Central Division									
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS		
Tampa Bay	33	12	3	170	124	69	Winnipeg	29	13	7	161	132	65
Boston	28	10	8	153	114	64	Nashville	28	11	7	142	123	63
Toronto	27	18	5	158	145	59	St Louis	29	18	3	145	129	61
Detroit	19	20	8	125	141	46	Dallas	28	17	4	154	130	60
Montreal	20	22	6	124	150	46	Colorado	27	17	3	156	136	57
Florida	19	21	6	130	154	44	Minnesota	26	17	5	141	134	57
Ottawa	15	22	9	122	163	39	Chicago	22	19	7	141	135	51
Buffalo	13	26	9	110	163	35	Pacific Division						
Metropolitan Division													
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS		
Washington	28	15	5	146	136	61	Las Vegas	32	11	4	163	126	68
New Jersey	24	15	8	144	143	56	San Jose	26	14	7	138	127	59
Philadelphia	24	16	8	140	136	56	Calgary	25	16	7	134	131	57
Columbus	26	19	3	129	136	55	Los Angeles	26	18	5	139	121	57
Pittsburgh	26	21	3	145	150	55	Anaheim	23	17	9	137	138	55
NY Islanders	24	20	5	170	179	53	Edmonton	21	24	3	131	154	45
NY Rangers	24	20	5	147	146	53	Vancouver	19	23	6	127	155	44
Carolina	21	19	8	131	149	50	Arizona	12	28	9	117	170	33

Note: Overtime losses (OTL) are worth one point in the standings and are not included in the loss column (L)

Patriots and Eagles clashing in Minneapolis

## Riveting Super Bowl can make NFL troubles disappear

WASHINGTON, Jan 25, (RTRS): It has been a bruising season for the NFL but nothing can make troubles disappear faster than a good party and the league will be hoping as much when it tosses its annual Super Bowl bash with the New England Patriots and Philadelphia Eagles clashing in Minneapolis.

The Super Bowl is the biggest shindig in North American sports and, just like New Year's, offers the perfect opportunity for the NFL to put any troubles behind and send fans, sponsors and officials smiling into the off-season.

There is no shortage of things the NFL would like to see in the rearview mirror, particularly a feud between US President Donald Trump and the league over players protesting racism

by kneeling during the national anthem.

An agitated Trump scorned any player who protests as a "son of a bitch" who should face suspension. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell praised the athletes as political activists.

## FOOTBALL

"We live in a society that's pretty fractured and when you appeal to a large audience ... those kinds of issues get a tremendous focus," Goodell said in a speech to the Economic Club of New York on Tuesday. "Even though we may disagree with the form of protest it forced us to listen.

"We really took the time to understand them. I think we could use a little more of that in our society."

Trump's Twitter storms directed at the NFL were not the only cloud hanging over the NFL.

A slide in TV ratings, renewed debate over concussions, the prescribing and use of painkillers, domestic abuse and sexual harassment allegations all combined to drag the spotlight away from the field.

The Super Bowl, however, is one of those rare events that some experts say has the capacity cover up a lot of warts while solving none of the problems.

"There is nothing in North America in the same stratosphere as the Super Bowl, in terms of who it reaches, how many people get involved," Norm

O'Reilly, a business professor and chair of Ohio University's sports administration department told Reuters.

"It is the mega event of mega events."

"All we deal with before any Olympic Games is all the negative like in Rio; it's a terrible place to go and then the second the opening ceremonies start everybody forgets."

"It's magic."

"A magical Super Bowl clearly has the ability to make a lot of people forget about some of these things."

This year it will fall on the Patriots and Eagles to provide the Super Bowl magic when they clash on Feb 4.

Good vibes, however, could vanish in an instant if someone kneels during the anthem or if the league's concussion protocol comes under question-

## France, Spain and Sweden reach semis, Germany out

ZAGREB, Jan 25, (RTRS): World champions France, Spain and Sweden qualified for the European handball championship semifinals as holders Germany and hosts Croatia were knocked out after dramatic final games in the tournament's main round on Wednesday. The French remained the only team in the 16-nation tournament with a 100 percent record af-

ter a maximum 10 points, while Sweden, Croatia and Norway have six each and the Swedes squeezed through with the best head-to-head record among the three by a single goal.

France will meet Group II runners-up Spain in their semifinal while the section's winners Denmark face Sweden in another Scandinavian derby likely to keep fans on the edge of their seats.

Having seen Sweden slip up against Norway, Croatia needed only a draw to join France in the medal rounds but fell behind 20-13 early in the second half after making a bright start.

Roared on by their faithful fans, the Croats slashed the deficit to two goals in the closing stages but ran out of steam and time as France closed out the match thanks to six goals from Nedim Remili and five from Kentin Mahe.

## HANDBALL

ter a 30-27 win over Croatia at a packed Zagreb Arena, silencing a passionate 15,000 home crowd.

The result also sent Sweden through from Group I despite their 28-25 defeat by Norway in the afternoon fixture.

France finished top of the section