

Gaviria claims 2nd Tour win on Stage 4

Soccer Roundup

Nigeria risks FIFA rap

Hedge fund Elliott set to take control of AC Milan

ROME, July 10, (Agencies): Hedge fund Elliott will take control of Italian football giants AC Milan this week after the club's Chinese owners failed to make a loan repayment to the American firm, sources close to the matter confirmed to AFP on Tuesday.

Elliott will take the reins of the seven-time European champions after owner Li Yonghong missed a Friday deadline to repay 32 million euros (\$37.5 million) lent by Elliott to finance the final instalment of two capital increases worth a total of 120 million euros. The source told AFP that Elliott began the legal process of taking control of Milan on Monday, and that a board meeting will be held on Thursday in which the date and agenda of a shareholder's meeting will be confirmed.



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Nigeria on Tuesday edged closer to a possible showdown with FIFA after a judge adjourned a long-running court case over the disputed leadership of the country's football federation.

The case, heard at the Federal High Court in the central city of Jos, seeks to have **Chris Giwa** declared as the real winner of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) elections in 2014. The country's highest judicial authority, the Supreme Court, had previously upheld Giwa's challenge to the elections, in which **Amaju Pinnick** was voted in as president.

Wolves boss **Nuno Espirito Santo** said the new improved contracts for him and his coaching staff reflected the confidence the Premier League new boys have placed in their long-term project.

The 44-year-old Portuguese manager — whose one-year contract extension sees him tied to the club until 2021 — guided Wolves to promotion in his first season in charge as they eased to the second tier Championship title.

England manager **Gareth Southgate's** waistcoats have become such a hit at the World Cup that the Museum of London has announced plans to acquire one for its fashion collection.

Marks and Spencer, official tailors to the England team, declared last Saturday #NationalWaistcoatDay in honour of Southgate and his team.

Barcelona have confirmed the arrival of Brazilian new recruit **Arthur** from Brazilian outfit **Gremio** on a 31 million euros (\$37 million) deal.

The Spanish champions will pay an extra 9 million in bonuses in the six-year deal struck with the Brazilians for the midfielder, full name **Arthur Henrique Ramos de Oliveira Melo**.

A release clause has been set at

400 million, the Catalan giants said overnight Monday on their website. Barca had inked a pre-accord for the 21-year-old in March.

Portuguese club **Benfica** has invited 12 Thai boys and their soccer coach who were rescued from a cave in Thailand to spend an all-expenses-paid week at its training academy.

Club president **Luis Filipe Vieira** wrote to the Thai ambassador to Portugal to invite the boys to the camp in Seixal across the River Tagus from the capital, a club statement said on Tuesday.

Emre Can has said he moved to Italian champions **Juventus** from **Liverpool** because he was attracted to the Turin side's ability to consistently challenge for titles as well as being lured by their ambitious targets.

The German international joined Liverpool in 2014 and played his 167th and last match for the Premier League side in their Champions League final defeat by **Real Madrid** in May.

Former Netherlands midfielder **Nigel de Jong** will join Qatari top-flight club **Al Ahli**, the club has said.

De Jong, who has played for **AC Milan**, **Ajax** and **Manchester City**, most recently played for Bundesliga side **Mainz** where he made 11 league appearances after joining them in January.

Al Ahli said on Twitter the club would hold a press conference with the 33-year-old, who also won 81 caps for the Netherlands, later on Tuesday. Terms were not disclosed.

Aston Villa will probably have to sell several of their best players, including midfielder **Jack Grealish**, to meet Financial Fair Play (FFP) regulations, manager **Steve Bruce** has said.

He told Sky Sports News on Monday that Villa, who missed out on a lucrative return to the Premier League when they lost in the play-off final, have no choice but to sell prized assets.

Iceland captain **Aron Gunnarsson** has signed a new one-year contract with **Cardiff City**.

The 29-year-old, who led Iceland in their debut World Cup campaign last month, was hindered by a long-term ankle injury last season as Cardiff finished second in the second-tier Championship to earn promotion to the Premier League.

Sandro Rosell has been charged with alleged tax fraud and will be questioned by a judge in September, prosecutors in Barcelona said Monday, adding to the former **FC Barcelona** president's legal woes.

The 54-year-old is accused of defrauding the taxman of 229,569 euros (\$270,000) and will be questioned by a judge in Barcelona on Sept 18, a spokesman for Barcelona's prosecutors' office told AFP, without giving further details.



Colombia's Fernando Gaviria (right), crosses the finish line to win the fourth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 195 kms (121 miles) with start in La Baule and finish in Sarzeau, France, on July 10. (AP)

Froome safe

SARZEAU, France, July 10, (AP): Colombia's Fernando Gaviria won for the second time in four stages at the Tour de France on Tuesday, while Olympic champion Greg Van Avermaet kept the yellow leader's jersey.

Gaviria won Stage 4 after edging world champion Peter Sagan in a sprint finish to the flat 195-km (121-mile) leg from La Baule to Sarzeau that started and finished on the Atlantic coast.

The 23-year-old Gaviria had already

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won Stage 1 — when he also edged Sagan — on his Tour debut for his Quick-Step team.

Defending champion Chris Froome of Sky, who remained 55 seconds back due to his fall in Stage 1, finished safely in the pack with leader Van Avermaet.

Quick-Step hunted down the breakaway to set up Gaviria, who powered his way down the final meters of the four-kilometer finish — the longest straightaway to conclude a leg on this Tour.

Gaviria surged across the line just inches ahead of the hard-charging Sagan, who was trying to add to his Stage 2 win, and Andre Greipel in a close third.

Riders were enjoying a calm sunny afternoon in the cycling hotbed of northwest Brittany until a pileup near the front of the peloton with just over 5K left that sent several riders to the tarmac. Last year's runner-up Rigoberto Uran (EF Education First-Drapac) and Katusha leader Ilmur Zakarin were slowed down by the accident.

Van Avermaet, the 2016 Olympic

Tour de France Results/Standings

SARZEAU, France, July 10, (AFP): Results and standings from the 4th stage of Tour de France, a 195.0km ride from La Baule to Sarzeau on Tuesday:

1. Fernando Gaviria (COL/QST) 195.0 km in 4hr 25min 01sec (average: 44.2 km/h); 2. Peter Sagan (SVK/BOR) 0; 3. Andre Greipel (GER/LOT) 0; 4. Dylan Groenewegen (NED/LNL) 0; 5. Marcel Kittel (GER/KAT) 0; 6. Andrea Pasqualon (ITA/WGG) 0; 7. Alexander Kristoff (NOR/EAU) 0; 8. John Deegenkolb (GER/TRE) 0; 9. Dion Smith (NZL/WGG) 0; 10. Timothy Dupont (BEL/WGG) 0.

Overall Standings

1. Greg Van Avermaet (BEL/BMC) 13hr 33min 56sec; 2. Tejay Van Garderen (USA/BMC) 0; 3. Geraint Thomas (GBR/SKY) 3; 4. Philippe Gilbert (BEL/QST) 5; 5. Julian Alaphilippe (FRA/QST) 7; 6. Bob Jungels (LUX/QST) 7; 7. Tom Dumoulin (NED/SUN) 11; 8. Soren Kragh Andersen (DEN/SUN) 11; 9. Michael Matthews (AUS/SUN) 11; 10. Rigoberto Uran (COL/EFD) 35.

Class Standings

1. Peter Sagan (SVK/BOR) 143 pts; 2. Fernando Gaviria (COL/QST) 139; 3. Alexander Kristoff (NOR/EAU) 72; 4. Andre Greipel (GER/LOT) 65; 5. Arnaud Demare (FRA/FDJ) 52; 6. Marcel Kittel (GER/KAT) 50; 7. John Deegenkolb (GER/TRE)

36; 8. Jérôme Cousin (FRA/DEN) 33; 9. Andrea Pasqualon (ITA/WGG) 32; 10. Dylan Groenewegen (NED/LNL) 32

King of Mountains

1. Dion Smith (NZL/WGG) 1 pts; 2. Anthony Perez (FRA/COF) 1; 3. Kévin Ledanois (FRA/FST) 1.

Team Overall

1. Etixx 41hr 21min 02sec; 2. Giant at 16; 3. BMC 23; 4. Sky 1:54; 5. EF Drapac 2:26; 6. Bora 2:52; 7. Astana 2:56; 8. Katusha 3:00; 9. Mitchelton 3:04; 10. Bahrain 3:56; 11. Movistar 4:19; 12. LottoNL 4:32; 13. RadioShack 4:36; 14. AG2R La Mondiale 4:56; 15. Fortuneo-Samsic 6:36; 16. Lampre 6:36; 17. Europcar 6:56; 18. FDJ.fr 7:11; 19. Team MTN 7:22; 20. Lotto 8:48; 21. Wanty 9:08; 22. Cofidis 14:10.

Best Young Riders (Overall)

1. Soren Kragh Andersen (DEN/SUN) 13 h 34:07; 2. Egan Bernal (COL/SKY) at 1:08; 3. Magnus Nielsen (DEN/AST) 1:22; 4. Thomas Boudat (FRA/DEN) 1:40; 5. Antwan Tolhoek (NED/LNL) 1:55; 6. Gregor Mühlberger (AUT/BOR) 2:09; 7. Dion Smith (NZL/WGG) 2:13; 8. Stefan Kung (SUI/BMC) 2:39; 9. Amund Grondahl Jansen (NOR/LNL) 2:54; 10. Elie Gesbert (FRA/FST) 3:02.

Aggressive (Overall)

1. Jérôme Cousin (FRA/DEN)



Belgium's Greg Van Avermaet, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, celebrates on the podium after the fourth stage of the 105th edition of the Tour de France cycling race between La Baule and Sarzeau, western France, on July 10. (AFP)

road race champion who is support rider for BMC leader Richie Porte, took the overall lead when his team won Monday's team time trial.

There were no changes among the other title hopefuls.

Tom Dumoulin was seventh (11 sec-

onds behind), Uran was 10th (:35) and Porte 14th (:51). Movistar teammates Alejandro Valverde and Mikel Landa were 15th and 16th (:53), narrowly ahead of Froome. The 2014 champion Vincenzo Nibali was 19th (1:06), Romain Bardet 20th (1:15) and Nairo

Quintana was 48th (2:08).

A four-man breakaway of Dimitri Claeys and Anthony Perez (Cofidis), Guillaume Van Keirsbulck (Wanty) and Jerome Cousin (Direct Energie) opened up a gap of more than seven minutes early on, but they were slowly reeled in and swallowed up by the Quick-Step-led pack with 2 kilometers to go.

Fans cheered and waved the black-and-white striped Breton flag on the roadside as the peloton rolled through the country villages.

The Tour will spend three more days in northeastern Brittany. Next up is Stage 5, a hilly 204.5-kilometer leg from Lorient to Quimper.

Cycling's most prestigious race will then work its way east before hitting the feared cobbles of Stage 9 and then heading south and into the mountains.

Froome, who was cleared of doping allegations last week by the International Cycling Union, has been jeered by some skeptical fans since arriving in France. During Tuesday's stage, several syringes were seen alongside the course route in apparent protest by anti-Froome spectators.

Group to take part in global biking race to shed light on combating illnesses

Kuwaiti cycling team raise awareness on Crohn's disease

KUWAIT CITY, July 10, (KUNA): As part of charitable activities made by the Kuwaiti people and bodies inside and outside the country, Kuwait's voluntary cycling team has launched a campaign for combating Crohn's disease which is a main type of inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).

The team aims to highlight the disease and help people how to deal with it.

Speaking to KUNA on Monday, Sara Al-Hubail, the team's founder, said the idea of forming the group dates back to 2012 when her brother suffered from the disease.

She added that after the spread of disease, she decided to form a team to raise awareness on the illness, noting that the team has 20 male and female members.

The team will take part in a global biking race to shed light on diseases and set up a fundraising campaign for combating these illnesses, she explained, referring that this year's race is held under the slogan of "we cycle for charity".

Meanwhile, Salem Al-Hubail, team's captain, said that the team would move through Sweden, Denmark and Germany so as to raise knowledge on Crohn's disease.

He expressed his thanks and gratitude to partners for their varied efforts, noting that the team's message is to fight the disease and spread consciousness as well as highlight prevention so as to provide cure for Kuwaiti citizens and residents.

Turning the team into a benefit society is an aim in the future in order to help patients and take part in many



Kuwait Ambassador to France Sami Al-Suleiman with the Kuwaiti youth team.

global events, he revealed.

For further details about Crohn's disease, KUNA asked head of digestive unit at Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital Ahmad Al-Fadhli about the illness.

He said it is an immune illness which affects the digestive system without clear reasons.

He added that the disease causes painful intestine colic, chronic diarrhea and severe loss of weight. He noted that there are some factors, which increase effects of the Crohn's disease like smoking, junk food and others.

Over the last 15 years, about 5,000 people, aged 15-35, suffered from the

disease in Kuwait, he pointed out. The IBD is a group of inflammatory conditions of the colon and small intestine. Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are the main types of the IBD. Crohn's disease affects small intestine, large intestine, mouth, esophagus, stomach, anus and others.

Root to be spurred on by T20 axe

Pak's Shehzad faces a ban on failed drug test

LAHORE, Pakistan, July 10, (Agencies): Maverick Pakistan opener Ahmed Shehzad failed a drug test conducted during a domestic tournament in April, the country's cricket authorities confirmed Tuesday, and could face a ban of up to four years.

The offence is the latest in a long litany of Pakistani players charged with doping, and is a severe blow to the 26-year-old's stuttering career.

The Pakistan Cricket Board will issue a formal charge sheet "later today" it said in a release, confirming reports in recent days that Shehzad had tested positive for a banned substance. Shehzad lost his Test place follow-

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ing Pakistan's tour to the West Indies in mid-2017 and has not played a one day international since last October.

He was part of Pakistan's Twenty20 squad for the team's two international matches last month, managing scores of 14 and 24, but missed out on playing for the tri-series Twenty20 in Zimbabwe which ended Sunday.

Joe Root's exclusion from the Twenty20 series decider against India on Sunday will fuel the England Test captain's desire to improve going into this week's opening one-day international between the sides, interim head

coach Paul Farbrace has said.

Root, a staple of the England batting line-up across all formats in recent years, came under pressure after some sub-par performances in his previous three T20 outings against Australia and India. The poor run led to the 27-year-old's omission in favour of returning all-rounder Ben Stokes, but the change did little to help England as the hosts fell to defeat at Bristol.

West Indies fast bowler Kemar Roach will miss the second cricket Test against Bangladesh



Shehzad

because of the hamstring he strained in the innings victory in Antigua. Roach, who took five wickets in 12 balls, was ordered to rest, and Alzarri Joseph

was brought into the 13-man squad on Tuesday.

Joseph's last test was in August, but he only recently returned to playing after a six-month layoff because of a stress fracture.

On his international return for the President's XI against Bangladesh two weeks ago, he was the most successful bowler with 4-53 from 15 overs. Joseph has played six tests, taking 15 wickets.