

tuesday — (all times are kuwait local)

07:30 wta rome/tennis ..... bein sports 12hd  
 09:00 punjab vs bangalore/cricket ..... bein sports 13hd  
 09:30 rockets vs warriors/basketball ..... bein sports 1hd  
 13:00 jeonbuk vs buriram/soccer ..... bein sports 5hd  
 14:30 persija vs home utd/soccer ..... bein sports 7hd  
 16:00 kampala vs al ahly/soccer ..... bein sports 1hd  
 18:30 al duhail vs al ain/soccer ..... bein sports 3hd  
 22:00 es tunis vs township/soccer ..... bein sports 2hd

# Sports

Latest sports scores at — <http://sports.arabtimesonline.com>

## Germany protests ban on journalist

BERLIN, May 14, (AFP): Berlin protested Monday against Moscow's decision to ban from the World Cup the German journalist who broke the story on Russia's state-sponsored doping scandal, stoking further an already controversial tournament.

The row erupted just days before German Chancellor Angela Merkel is due to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin, who in recent years has clashed repeatedly with Western leaders on a litany of issues including the conflicts in Syria and Ukraine.

Russia was already a disputed choice when it was handed the World Cup in a closely-watched 2010 vote that has since been tainted by bribery charges.

But it was German journalist Hajo Seppelt's documentaries on doping

### SOCCER

among Russian athletes that sparked a storm and ended up with Russia being banned from this winter's Pyeongchang Olympic games.

The row came full circle as it emerged Friday that Moscow has refused to allow in Seppelt to cover the World Cup, which kicks off next month.

"We view this measure by the Russian authorities to invalidate Seppelt's visa as wrong," said German government spokesman Steffen Seibert.

"We call on the Russian leadership to allow this German correspondent to enter the country to report on the football World Cup tournament."

Asked if Merkel would raise the issue when she meets Putin on Friday, Seibert said: "Let's wait to see what this week brings."

Seppelt had revealed Friday that his application for a visa, submitted by public regional broadcaster SWR, was rejected as he was apparently on a "persona non grata" list in Russia.

Moscow did not specify the reason but Seppelt said the "uncovering of the state doping system has had such great impact for Russia that it felt that it needed to take such measures".



Tristan Thompson #13 of the Cleveland Cavaliers attempts a shot against Marcus Smart #36 of the Boston Celtics in Game One of the Eastern Conference Finals of the 2018 NBA Playoffs at TD Garden on May 13 in Boston, Massachusetts. (AFP)



Terry Rozier #12 of the Boston Celtics is defended by LeBron James #23 of the Cleveland Cavaliers during the fourth quarter in Game One of the Eastern Conference Finals of the 2018 NBA Playoffs at TD Garden on May 13 in Boston, Massachusetts. The Boston Celtics defeated the Cleveland Cavaliers 108-83. (AFP)

# Celtics humble Cavs in Game 1

No LeBron worries despite rout

NEW YORK, May 14, (AFP): LeBron James says he's not worried after the Cleveland Cavaliers were routed 108-83 Sunday by the Boston Celtics in the opening game of the NBA Eastern Conference Final.

But the four-time NBA Most Valuable Player, trying to reach his eighth consecutive NBA Finals, admits the Cavaliers need to make some changes before the best-of-seven playoff series resumes Tuesday in Boston.

"I have zero level of concern at this stage," James said. "You get better throughout the series. I've been down 0-1. I've been down 0-2. I've been down before. We have another opportunity to be better Tuesday."

"Game One has always been a feel-

out game for me. I got a sense of how they are going to play me and I can make some changes going into game two. We'll see ways we can be better and get our offense into a better rhythm."

Jaylen Brown scored 23 points and grabbed eight rebounds while Al Horford added 20 points for the Celtics, who seized a 36-18 lead after the first quarter and never looked back, inflicting the second-worst Game One playoff loss James has ever suffered.

"We were great," Horford said. "We came out with a lot of energy. We fed off the crowd and we kept it going throughout the game. We're just here playing hard and doing the best we can."

Marcus Morris had 18 points and 11 rebounds for Boston and led a swarming defensive effort that shut down Cavs playmaker James, who averaged 34 points, 9.4 rebounds and 9.0 assists in prior playoff games.

"We just have to make it hard for him," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said.

"Our guys played with good aggression."

James finished with 15 points on 5-of-16 shooting with seven rebounds and nine assists. He blocked two shots but also made seven turnovers as the Cavaliers missed their first 14 3-point attempts and came no closer than 14 points in the second half.

"They had a great game plan in Game One," James said. "They did a great job of communicating the whole game. We have a lot of film to look at how they were making us uncomfortable. I was out of my rhythm the whole game."

### BASKETBALL

Morris boasted he was the best defender to guard James and led the hustling work that contained the 33-year-old Cleveland superstar, who has more career playoff appearances than the entire Celtics roster combined.

"It was a team effort," Morris said. "Everybody played their part in guarding him. We did a great job of that."

The Celtics forced James to work harder defensively as well.

"They showed two bodies (against James) all night," Cavaliers coach Tyrone Lue said. "When he thought he had driving lanes, they made him kick it out to other shooters."

"We didn't play well. We know we have to play better. They attacked us early on. We had some great shots we couldn't make and it snowballed from there."

Kevin Love led Cleveland with 17 points and added eight rebounds. Tristan Thompson had a game-high 11 rebounds off the Cavs' bench. Jayson Tatum added 16 for Boston and Terry Rozier had eight points and seven assists.

Lightning suffer big home loss

## Caps grab control of 'Eastern Finals'

LOS ANGELES, May 14, (AFP): Evgeny Kuznetsov scored off a lucky bounce late in the second period as the Washington Capitals seized command of the Eastern Conference Final with a lopsided 6-2 win over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Sunday.

Goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy misplayed a Kuznetsov centring pass that deflected into the net at the end of the second period to make it 4-2, helping the Capitals take a two games to none playoff series lead.

"We played hard and we played smart," said Capitals forward Alex Ovechkin. "All four lines did their job. We waited for our opportunities."



Kuznetsov

The series now shifts from Florida to Washington on Tuesday night where the Capitals will try to take a 3-0 stranglehold.

Kuznetsov also had two assists, Lars Eller finished with a goal and two assists and Braden Holtby made 33 saves for the Capitals, who are in the semifinals for the first time in two decades.

They are playing for a spot in the National Hockey League's Stanley Cup Finals against either the Las Vegas Golden Knights or Winnipeg.

The Jets have a 1-0 series lead. Russian forward Kuznetsov said he doesn't know how to explain it but he performs better in road games like Sunday's contest at Tampa's Amalie Are-

na. He loves the idea of sweeping the series with two wins at home but can't wait to get back to Florida if the series goes that far.

"I don't know man. The last couple of years I just been dreaming to play all games on the road. I don't know why," Kuznetsov said. "I feel bad for our fans. I want to play in front of them, but overall I really like to be on the road."

The Capitals are also winning without their top two-way player Nicklas Backstrom who is out with a hand injury. His place in the lineup has been taken by Eller who has stepped out of the shadows to give the Capitals the extra punch they need.

Eller was instrumental on both plays when the turning point came in the final minute of the second period.

He scored the eventual winner with 62 seconds left and then assisted on Kuznetsov's powerplay goal.

The Capitals were given a powerplay with 10 seconds left after netminder Vasilevskiy tripped

### ICE HOCKEY

Washington's Andre Burakovsky, sending the Swedish forward hard into the end boards.

Vasilevskiy then attempted to intercept Kuznetsov's centring pass to Eller but the puck hit his blocker and went in just before the buzzer to give the Capitals a two-goal lead heading into the intermission.

Tampa tried to battle back in the third but the Capitals did a good job of slowing them down and not allowing them to utilize their speed and skill around the net.

Holtby also made clutch saves when he had to. He had back-to-back stops from in close on Tampa forward Brayden Point on the powerplay halfway through the third.

Washington forward Brett Connolly scored at 12:57 after taking a pass on his stick blade and then, like a lacrosse player, whipping the puck into the upper half of the net to round out the scoring.

Russia's Ovechkin, with his team-leading 10th goal of the post-season, Tom Wilson and Devante Smith-Pelly also scored for the Capitals.

Point and Steven Stamkos scored goals for Tampa, who may have dug a hole too deep to climb out of by losing the first two games on home ice.

Vasilevskiy finished with 31 saves.

## Russia blank Slovakia 4-0

HERNING, Denmark, May 14, (AP): Russia shut out Slovakia 4-0 at the ice hockey world championship while Norway beat South Korea 3-0 to relegate the Asian debutant on Monday.

Maxim Mamin and Nikita Gusev scored in the first period and Maxim Shalunov added the third in the third period. Ilya Mikheyev completed the win with an empty net goal.

Russia is second in Group A in Copenhagen, one point behind Sweden. The Czech Republic was two points behind Sweden. Those three teams have advanced to the

### ICE HOCKEY

quarterfinals.

Switzerland is fourth and Slovakia fifth with a game in hand.

South Korea will be relegated after finishing pointless in its first championship.

"These guys play at a very high level," Canadian-born South Korea forward Brock Radunske said. "It takes a little bit for our guys to learn what's going on out there."

Norway completed the group stage in seventh place in Group B in Herning.



Ryan McDonagh #27 of the Tampa Bay Lightning skates with the puck against Jay Beagle #83 of the Washington Capitals during the first period in Game Two of the Eastern Conference Finals during the 2018 NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs at Amalie Arena on May 13 in Tampa, Florida. (AFP)

Read

ARAB TIMES PDF



arabtimeskuwait

arabtimeskuwait

www.arabtimesonline.com

arabtimeskuwait

ARAB TIMES

THE FIRST ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY IN FREE KUWAIT

Published by: Arab Times Publishing House

Editor-in-Chief  
AHMED AL JARALLAH

Editorial Office:  
Airport Road, Shuwaikh  
P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait

Telephone: 24813566 & 24849144  
Fax: 24818267

E-mail: arabtimes@arabtimesonline.com

Advertising: Tel: 55633481  
Fax: 24911307

E-mail: advt@arabtimesonline.com

Annual Subscriptions:  
Individuals KD 45/ Companies and Official  
Departments KD 75 Airmail charges extra for over-seas

Tel: 24849144  
Fax: 24839487