

tuesday — (all times are kuwait local)

12:50 swimming ..... bein sports 8hd  
 13:00 water polo ..... bein sports 7hd  
 13:00 water polo ..... bein sports 10hd  
 14:15 soccer ..... bein sports 4hd  
 14:35 diving ..... bein sports 7hd  
 18:00 norway vs dutch/soccer ..... bein sports 4hd  
 18:00 spain vs belgium/soccer ..... bein sports 6hd  
 19:00 baseball ..... bein sports 13hd

# Sports

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## Thomas in driving seat as rivals lose time

Wout Van Aert wins 10th stage of Tour, Alaphilippe keeps yellow jersey

ALBI, France, July 15, (AP): Tour de France rookie Wout Van Aert won a sprint to the line while Julian Alaphilippe kept the yellow jersey after contenders got trapped in an echelon in the final kilometers of Stage 10 on Monday.

A day before the first rest day, crosswinds caused the peloton to stretch and break up during the last 35 kilometers of the 217.5-kilometer trek from Saint-Flour to Albi in southwestern France. Defending champion Geraint Thomas reached the finish line in the main pack but Frenchman Thibaut Pinot and other favorites were caught off guard and lost



Alaphilippe

### CYCLING

time.

Pinot was in a group including Rigoberto Uran, Jakob Fuglsang and Richie Porte that lost 1 minute, 40 seconds.

The peloton split into three groups on a long but narrow section of road opened to the wind when Alaphilippe's Deceuninck Quick Step teammates sped up the pace at the front to close the gap to six breakaway riders.

The fugitives were brought in with 25 kilometers left before Thomas' Ineos teammates, working well with Alaphilippe's team, pushed harder in an impressive display of collective strength.

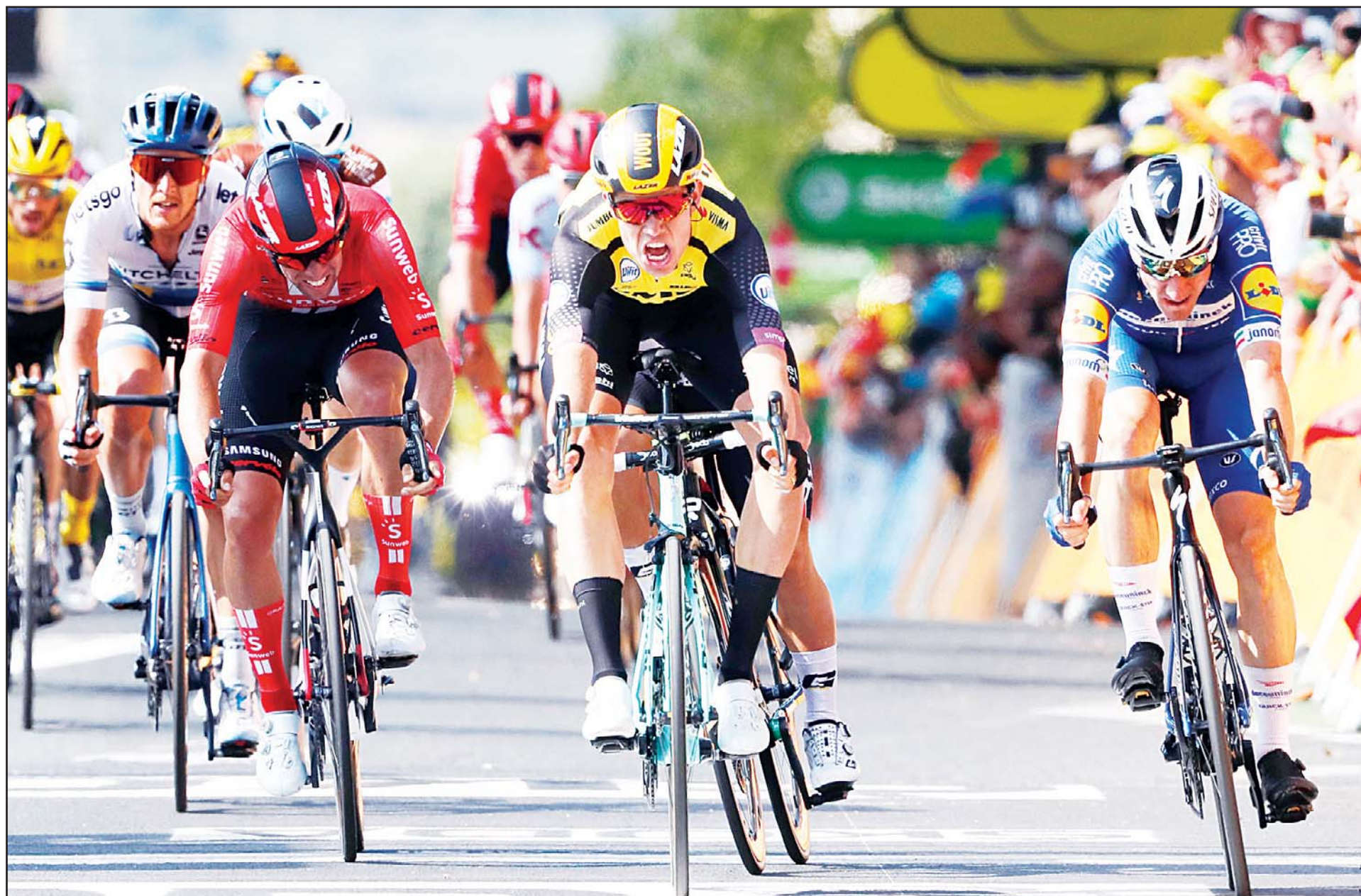
"I couldn't think of anything better," Thomas said. "It's especially good on a day like today when you never expect it. It was just a positioning error from them and they lose a minute and a half. That's how it goes."

Pinot used an expletive to describe his day. "What do you want me to say? There's nothing to say," he said, looking absolutely disgusted.

Thomas moved to second place overall, 1:12 behind Alaphilippe, with teammate Egan Bernal in third place, four seconds further back.

A three-time cyclo-cross world champion, Van Aert is riding his first Grand Tour after claiming two stage wins — a sprint and a time trial — at the prestigious Criterium du Dauphine in June.

"The last 70 kilometers were very



Belgium's Wout Van Aert (center), sprints to win the tenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 217 kilometers (135 miles) with start in Saint-Flour and finish in Albi, France on July 15. (AP)

nervous," Van Aert said after edging Italian rider Elia Viviani by just a few inches. Australian Caleb Ewan ended third.

Van Aert surged from the left in the last stretch and resisted Viviani's comeback by throwing his bike at the line.

The up and coming Belgian said he got the OK from his team bosses to race for the win because his team leaders were in the group behind. But even then he didn't expect to beat recognized sprinters such as Viviani and Peter Sagan in a photo finish by inches.

### SOCCER

draw.

CAF have not announced the date of draw but officials told Reuters on Monday it would be in Cairo at the end of the month.

Africa's World Cup qualifiers will overlap with qualifiers for the next Africa Cup of Nations in 2021 but a suggestion to combine them was rejected by CAF's executive committee.

More than 8 million tune in to see England win World Cup

## 'Awarding 6 overthrows in final over an error by umpires'

LONDON, July 15, (RTRS): England should have been awarded five runs instead of six in the final over of Sunday's World Cup title clash against New Zealand after a throw from the deep struck Ben Stokes' bat and ran away for a boundary, former umpire Simon Taufel has said.

England ended their 44-year wait for a maiden 50-over World Cup by beating New Zealand on boundaries after a tied Super Over. But Australian Taufel suggested that the umpires had made an "error of judgement". With England needing nine runs from the last three balls of the final over, Stokes desperately dived to complete a second run when Martin Guptill's throw from the deep hit his bat and went to the boundary, prompting the umpire to signal six runs.

"It's a clear mistake. It's an error of judgment. (England) should have been awarded five runs, not six," Taufel, who is part of cricket's law-making body, told foxsports.com.au.

MCC's law 19.8, which deals with overthrows, says: "If the boundary results from an over-

throw... runs scored shall be any runs for penalties awarded... and allowance for the boundary, and runs completed by batsmen, together with the run in progress if they had already crossed at the instant of the throw or act." "The umpires take decisions on the field with their interpretation of the rules and we don't comment on any decisions as a matter of policy," a spokesperson for the governing International Cricket Council said.

Cricket website ESPNcricinfo reported after reviewing footage that Guptill had released the ball when Stokes and Adil Rashid had not yet crossed for the second run.

Taufel said leg-spinner Rashid would have been on strike to face the last two deliveries had the second run been found to be incomplete.

However, he had sympathy for Sri Lankan umpire Kumar Dharmasena and his South African colleague Marais Erasmus, the men in the middle.

"In the heat of what was going on, they thought there was a good chance the batsmen crossed at the instant of the throw," the

48-year-old added.

"Obviously TV replays showed otherwise. The difficulty you (umpires) have is you've got to watch batsmen completing runs, then change focus and watch for the ball being picked up, and watch for the release (of the throw).

"You also have to watch where the batsmen are at that exact moment... it's unfair on England, New Zealand and the umpires involved to say it decided the outcome." More than 8 million people in Britain tuned in to watch England win the Cricket World Cup on Sunday following the decision by Sky decision to allow the final to be shown on a free-to-air channel.

After criticism that England's

### CRICKET

earlier matches had only been watched by under a million viewers on Sky's subscription-based channels, the broadcaster made Sunday's finale against New Zealand available on Channel 4.

"I'm thrilled that a total peak audience of 8.3m watched Eng-

land win the Cricket World Cup. It's wonderful that the whole nation can come together to share these momentous British sporting events," said Alex Mahon, chief executive at Channel 4.

More than 50 percent of those who watched the dramatic match, which England won on boundary count after a tied Super Over, did so on Channel 4.

However, despite being available to more people, the cricket failed to top numbers who watched the BBC's coverage of the thrilling Wimbledon tennis men's singles final between Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer, which took place at the same time and peaked at 9.6 million viewers.

The lack of free-to-air coverage of England's progress through the competition was blamed for the failure to generate the excitement of other major sporting competitions.

More than 11 million viewers in Britain tuned watched the England women's soccer team in the semifinal of the World Cup in France for free on the BBC, making it the country's most widely viewed broadcast of 2019.

The 2005 Ashes series against Australia attracted an audience of some 8.4 million, but the number of viewers dwindled after the decision was made to screen all England games on subscription channels.

Prime Minister Theresa May's spokesman said the World Cup victory would live forever in British sporting history and cricket chiefs are hopeful the game will inspire more young people to play the game.

"It's also exciting to think just how many children will be inspired by this victory to pick up a bat for the first time and hopefully become the great cricketers and World Cup winners of tomorrow," May's spokesman said.

## CAF changes WC qualifying format

CAIRO, July 15, (RTRS): African teams will contest a final playoff round in their World Cup 2022 qualification campaign, a system last employed for the 2014 tournament, the Confederation of African Football has decided.

Qualifiers for the next World Cup in Qatar will be divided into three stages with two rounds of knockout ties on either side of league competition, officials said.

The 28 lowest ranked sides on the continent will first contest a knockout round over two legs, with the 14 winners advancing to the group stage.

The 28 include Madagascar, who reached the Africa Cup of Nations quarter-finals last week.

The winners will join the 26 highest ranked sides in a 40-team, 10-group pool phase that will be played over 18 months. The group winners will then be drawn into five playoff ties over two legs with the victors qualifying for the World Cup. The first leg is hosted by the lower ranked country.

## Tour de France Results/Standings

ALBI, France, July 15, (AP): 10th stage, a 217.5-kilometer (135-mile) flat ride from Saint-Flour to Albi, with four climbs, all Category 3 and 4.

1. Wout Van Aert, Belgium, Jumbo-Visma, 4:49:39.
2. Elia Viviani, Italy, Deceuninck Quick-Step, same time.
3. Caleb Ewan, Australia, Lotto Soudal, same time.
4. Michael Matthews, Australia, Sunweb, same time.
5. Peter Sagan, Slovakia, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time.
6. Jasper Philipsen, Belgium, UAE Team Emirates, same time.
7. Sonny Colbrelli, Italy, Bahrain-Merida, same time.
8. Matteo Trentin, Italy, Mitchelton-Scott, same time.
9. Oliver Naesen, Belgium, AG2R La Mondiale, same time.
10. Greg Van Avermaet, Belgium, CCC, same time.
11. Julian Alaphilippe, France, Deceuninck Quick-Step, same time.
12. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Ineos, same time.
13. Mads Würtz, Denmark, Katusha Alpecin, same time.
14. Egan Bernal, Colombia, Ineos, same time.
15. Maximiliano Richeze, Argentina, Deceuninck Quick-Step, same time.
16. Patrick Konrad, Austria, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time.
17. Coes Bol, The Netherlands, Sunweb, same time.
18. Steven Kruijswijk, The Netherlands, Jumbo-Visma, same time.
19. Enric Mas, Spain, Deceuninck Quick-Step, same time.

20. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, same time.

### Overall Standings

1. Julian Alaphilippe, France, Deceuninck Quick-Step, 43:27:15.
2. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Ineos, 1:12.
3. Egan Bernal, Colombia, Ineos, 1:16.
4. Steven Kruijswijk, The Netherlands, Jumbo-Visma, 1:27.
5. Emanuel Buchmann, Germany, Bora-Hansgrohe, 1:45.
6. Enric Mas, Spain, Deceuninck Quick-Step, 1:46.
7. Adam Yates, Britain, Mitchelton-Scott, 1:47.
8. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, 2:04.
9. Daniel Martin, Ireland, UAE Team Emirates, 2:09.
10. Giulio Ciccone, Italy, Trek-Segafredo, 2:32.
11. Thibaut Pinot, France, Groupama-FDJ, 2:33.
12. Patrick Konrad, Austria, Bora-Hansgrohe, 2:46.
13. Rigoberto Uran, Colombia, EF Education First, 3:18.
14. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, same time.
15. Romain Bardet, France, Bauke Mollema, The Netherlands, Trek-Segafredo, 2:45.
16. Jakob Fuglsang, Denmark, Astana, 3:22.
17. Warren Barguil, France, Arkea-Samsic, 3:26.
18. Roman Kreuziger, Czech Republic, Dimension Data, 3:28.
19. Xandro Meurisse, Belgium, Wanty-Gobert, 3:42.
20. Richie Porte, Australia, Trek-Segafredo, 3:59.



England's Ben Stokes dives to make his ground and get a 6 from overthrows during the Cricket World Cup final match between England and New Zealand at Lord's cricket ground in London on July 14. (AP)