

Jordan Elite Bowlers demolish Incredi-Bowlers

UNIMONI Exchange clobber Pin Pals, KRAHS crush 'X' Strikers

KUWAIT CITY, March 21: Defending champions UNIMONI Exchange clobbered the Indian team Pin Pals 2,871-2,535 to snatch the top rank while KRAHS (former TGIF), the first runners-up of last season, crushed "X" Strikers 2,836-2,624 to keep holding the second best high position in the second week of the elimination round of the First Philippine Bowling Association in Kuwait-Kuwait Bowling Federation Cup 2019 Tenpin Bowling League in its new home at the Kuwait Bowling Sporting Club Complex in Salmiya, Kuwait. Other teams that posted victories were Asian Air Safari, Falcon International Cargo, Jordan Elite Bowlers and IBL Tigers while SKARZ played bye.

Although playing with just four bowlers, the UNIMONI Exchange clobbered Pin Pals 2,871-2,535. Top scorers Mohammad Khaled (551) and Rudy de Lima (537), who were playing more consistently with the able assistance of Rashid Akeer Ali (536) and Ahmad Fadi Karam (488), who played above average, were able to subdue their competitors by sweeping the three-game series. The losing team Pin Pals, the highest scorer being Vasant Harshan (488), assisted by Raj Reddy (431), Agnello Fernandes (283), Diego Camilo (281), Avinash Mathew (281), Allan Fernandes (243) and Neeta Fernandes (110), slid to twelfth position from eleventh while UNIMONI hovered from third place to prime position.

During the collision between the two new teams, Jordan Elite



KRAHS



Jordan Elite Bowlers



SKARZ



Dragon Bowlers



IBL Tigers



Pin Pals

BOWLING

Bowlers proved their superiority over Incredi-Bowlers when they demolished the Mangaf team 2,801-2,650. In the first two games the JEB team overpowered their nemesis 959-816, 906-867 but on the third game the Incredi-Bowlers surprised the elite group 967-911 but with no impetus to grab the win points. Ali Hikmat delivered 196/200/198 (594) to top the scoring board followed by Ali Arqoub (499), Aji Varghese (496), Basma Ammar (301), Waleed Al Bloshi (287) and Yousef Waleed (278) while Incredi-Bowlers top pointer was Lito Michael (556), assisted by Erick Chang (502), Sandy Panopio (460), Adolfo Prena (416) and Chat Sarne (258).

The KRAHS (reverse of word Shark) team overwhelmingly won the three game series against "X" Strikers 926-886, 986-899, 899-839 (2,836- 2,624). The second victory was for two consecutive weeks while the defeat was second for "X" Strikers. Joel Tizon top-scored with 533 points supported by Moises Amahan (513), Rene Marzan (469), Eddie Pena (302), Sam Behbhahani (300), Pilar Patula (166) and Camilo Baker (147) while "X" Men top pointer was Rocky Castil (568) while the rest played two games each, Cris Carungay (329), Ronnel Valencia (329), Joe Presenta (309), Reygan Percy (258), Abel Nitikusumo (258) and Bima Nitikusumo (245). With the win KRAHS maintain the second spot while "X" Strikers drop down to eighth place.

The rivalry between the two feathered monsters started from take-off until midair with shuffling of feet and sharp beak-fighting. In the first scuffle, Falcon won the game 936-817. In the second game, it was the turn of the Eagles to win, 902- 839, but summing it up Falcon had 56 points advantage. And in the third game, an intense fight ensued, and the much bigger bird won the game, the Swooping Eagles with the score of 909-858. With two wins for the Eagles and one win for the Falcon, the Swooping Eagles were short of five points to even the score and Falcon International Cargo won over the Swooping Eagles 2,628-2,633. Though the Eagles lost, they still keep the fourth position while Falcon Cargo slide from fifth to sixth place.

The IBL Tigers dominated the first two games against NUSANTARA 915-861, 827-778 with 103 points advantage. In the third game, NUSANTARA came back with a vengeance and out-scored the Tigers 932-860 with 32 points deficit and by winning the 25-win point, the total score was 2,627-2,570. Winning the game but with low output, the IBL Tigers slid to third from first place. Asian Air Safari registered their first win over Dragon

Bowlers 2,729-2,211 and step up from tenth to ninth place while the Dragons remain cellar dwellers. The SKARZ who played bye were Melwin Isaac (493), Lionel Mendes (462), Stephen Sequiera (308), Kathy Fernandes (254), Solomon Moras (253), Ignatius Fernandes (214) and Fatims Fernandes (92).

The competing teams are supported with 'handicap' as per bowler individual classification and average. After the thirteen-game elimination round, the top eight teams will be playing for

a two-week round robin for the championship. The league features the 'individual event' for the men and ladies categories. A special award will be given both to Individual and Teams' best. For 'Bowler of the Week' and on the grand awarding rites, special prizes will be presented to individual bowlers per class with the highest game points and highest average and for the teams, team holding the Number One position for 'seven consecutive weeks' and Weekly High Series.

Individual High Game				Individual High Series			
Category	Name	Team	Score	Name	Team	Score	
Men's A	Mohammad Karam	Asian Air Safari	246	Moh'd Karam	Asian Air Safari	201.70	
Men's B	Lito Michael	Incredi-Bowlers	215	Ali Hikmat	Jordan Elites	193.80	
Men's C	Ahmad Fadi Karam	UNIMONI Exchange	196	Ceddie Faa	'X' Strikers	165.30	
Ladies A	Sonia Mathews	Asian Air Safari	199	Sonia Mathews	Asian Air Safari	165.80	
Ladies B	Basma Amar	Jordan Elite	178	Basma Ammar	Jordan Elites	149.00	

Team Weekly High Series			
Week	Team	Score	
First Week	IBL Tigers	2,813	
Second Week	UNIMONI Exchange	2,772	

Second Round Results: 1. UNIMONI Exchange (5,701); 2. KRAHS (5,687); 3. IBL Tigers (5,540); 4. Swooping Eagles (5,434); 5. Jordan Elite Bowlers (5,433); 6. Falcon International Cargo (5,328); 7. Incredi-Bowlers (5,290); 8. 'X' Strikers (5,274); 9. Asian Air Safari (5,247); 10. NUSANTARA (5,170); 11. SKARZ (5,058), Pin Pals (5,026) and 13. Dragon Bowlers (4,576).

Lightning edge Capitals in OT for 6th straight victory

Canucks keep hopes alive with Senators win

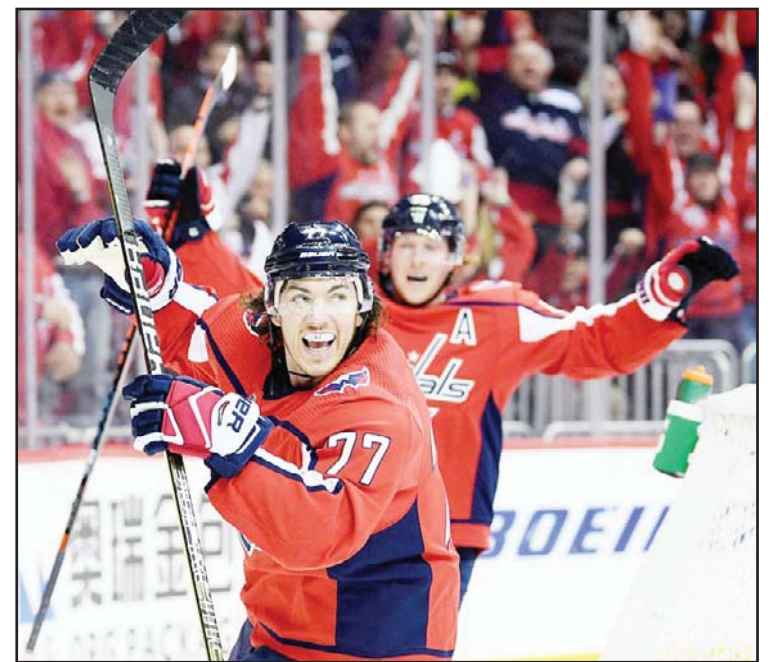
WASHINGTON, March 21, (AP) — Andrei Vasilevskiy made a franchise-record 54 saves, Nikita Kucherov scored twice and the NHL-leading Tampa Bay Lightning won their sixth consecutive game, beating the Washington Capitals 5-4 in overtime Wednesday night in a potential playoff preview.

Victor Hedman scored 3:01 into overtime to keep the Lightning rolling in their first game since clinching the Presidents' Trophy and home-ice advantage throughout the playoffs.

Vasilevskiy was on top of his game as Washington set a franchise record with 58 shots. He rebounded in the overtime after allowing Evgeny Kuznetsov to tie the score with 52.6 seconds left in regulation.

Kucherov's goals came on the power play and gave him 37 overall this season and increased his league-leading point total to 119.

Anthony Cirelli and Steven Stamkos also scored for the Lightning. Stamkos added two assists. The Lightning's league-leading power play went 3 for 3, and their penalty



Washington Capitals right wing T.J. Oshie (77) celebrates his goal with center Nicklas Backstrom (19), of Sweden, during the second period of an NHL hockey game against the Tampa Bay Lightning on March 20 in Washington. (AP)

NHL Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, March 21, (RTRS): Results and standings from the NHL games on Wednesday.

Team	Opponent	Score	OT	PTS	Team	Opponent	Score	OT	PTS
Toronto	4 Buffalo	4		2	Vancouver	7 Ottawa	4		4
Tampa Bay	5 Washington (OT)	4		2	Winnipeg	3 Anaheim	0		0

Eastern Conference						Western Conference						
Atlantic Division						Central Division						
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts	
Tampa Bay	57	13	4	292	195	118	Winnipeg	44	25	4	249	213
Boston	44	20	9	221	185	97	Nashville	42	27	5	222	195
Toronto	44	25	5	263	221	93	St Louis	38	27	8	214	200
Montreal	38	28	7	215	213	83	Dallas	38	29	6	185	180
Florida	32	29	12	236	246	76	Minnesota	34	31	9	200	217
Buffalo	31	33	9	202	237	71	Colorado	32	29	12	232	224
Detroit	26	37	10	198	249	62	Chicago	32	30	10	243	263
Ottawa	25	42	6	217	270	56						

Metropolitan Division						Pacific Division						
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts	
Washington	43	23	8	256	231	94	Calgary	45	21	7	260	208
NV Islanders	42	24	7	206	178	91	San Jose	43	22	8	261	229
Pittsburgh	39	24	11	251	223	89	Las Vegas	41	27	5	227	203
Carolina	40	25	7	215	198	87	Arizona	36	31	6	196	204
Columbus	40	29	4	222	214	84	Vancouver	32	32	10	206	229
Philadelphia	35	30	8	223	244	78	Edmonton	32	34	7	206	244
NV Rangers	28	32	13	204	244	68	Anaheim	30	36	9	173	230
New Jersey	27	38	9	205	253	63	Los Angeles	25	39	8	170	230

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

ICE HOCKEY

kill was 5 for 6, thanks in large part to Vasilevskiy.

Lars Eller, Carl Hagelin and T.J. Oshie scored for the Capitals, who are trying to hold on to first place in the Metropolitan Division. Braden Holtby allowed five goals on 28 shots as the Lightning beat the Capitals for the second time in five days.

JETS 3, DUCKS 0

In Anaheim, Calif, Connor Hellebuyck made 29 saves in his first shutout of the season, and Kyle Connor had a goal and an assist in Winnipeg's fourth straight victory.

Mark Scheifele scored a power-play goal in the first period and Nikolaj Ehlers added a goal for the Jets, who extended their lead atop the Central Division to three points over Nashville. Jacob Trouba had two assists as the Jets completed a Southern California sweep and moved into position to clinch a playoff berth as early as Thursday in Vegas.

John Gibson stopped 20 shots for the Ducks, who were shut out for the seventh time in 2019.

Anaheim had won six of nine in a late-season surge before getting shut down by Hellebuyck.

Maple Leaf 4, Sabres 2

In Buffalo, New York, John Tavares and Auston Matthews each had a goal and assist, and Toronto won for just the second time in six games in beating Buffalo.

Mitchell Marner and Zach Hyman also scored and the Maple Leafs inched to within four points of the idle Boston Bruins in the race for second place in the Atlantic Division standings. Garret Sparks stopped 22 shots for Toronto, which was playing on consecutive nights after a 3-0 loss at Nashville.

Casey Mittelstadt and Alexander Nylander scored for Buffalo, which dropped to 1-7-1 in its past nine.

Canucks 7, Senators 4

In Vancouver, British Columbia, Bo Horvat had two goals and an assist and Vancouver kept its playoff hopes alive with a win over short-handed Ottawa.

Tanner Pearson also had two goals for Vancouver (32-32-10). Brock

Boeser, Jake Virtanen and Loui Eriksson also scored.

The Canucks matched their longest winning streak of the season with their third straight victory.

Elias Pettersson had two assists. He leads all rookies with 27 goals, 36 assists and 63 points.

Canuck goaltender Jacob Markstrom stopped 21 shots.

Ottawa made it interesting when Max Veronneau, Brady Tkachuk and Oscar Lindberg scored goals 4:48 apart in the third period. Anthony DuClair scored on the power play with under two minutes left with goaltender Craig Anderson on the bench.

Anderson made 33 saves for Ottawa.

Germans show signs of improvement with Serbia draw

Germany make promising start

WOLFSBURG, Germany, March 21, (RTRS): Germany's new-look team made a promising return to the international stage with a 1-1 draw against Serbia in a friendly on Wednesday, showing signs of improvement following a disastrous 2018.

The Germans, knocked out of the World Cup in the group stage and relegated in the Nations League last year, had only one player from their 2014 World Cup victory in the starting line-up and their oldest outfield player was aged 24.

More aggressive and quicker than in recent games, with Kai Havertz, Julian Brandt and Leroy Sane playing behind forward Timo Werner, the hosts needed only three minutes to get a shot on target with Havertz firing the ball at Serbia keeper Marko Dmitrovic following a quick passing move.

Coach Joachim Loew sent world champions Mats Hum-

fired a shot over the bar.

But the Germans kept their foot firmly on the gas and wasted several chances in the second half before substitute Leon Goretzka grabbed a deserved equaliser in the 69th minute. "In the first half the automation in this new team, playing together for the first time, did not function that well," Loew told reporters.

"In the second half the team sent a very good signal that we can increase pressure and we can increase the tempo. We had a lot of chances and we missed the final touch a bit. That is also part of the learning experience.

"Overall, I am very satisfied with the mentality, the pressure we created."



Serbia's Miroslav Bogosavac (left), duels for the ball with Germany's Ilkay Gundogan during an international friendly soccer match between Germany and Serbia at the Volkswagen Arena stadium in Wolfsburg, Germany on March 20. (AP)

SOCCER

mels, Jerome Boateng and Thomas Mueller into international retirement in a surprise decision last week as his team prepare to launch their Euro 2020 qualification campaign against the Netherlands on Sunday.

Serbia went forward after 11 minutes and their first corner bounced off the back of two players to land perfectly for Luka Jovic to head in for his first international goal.

The 21-year-old, who has scored 22 goals in 35 appearances for Eintracht Frankfurt this season, is likely to be among the biggest transfer targets this summer, with Real Madrid and Barcelona among clubs reportedly interested.

Werner twice went close to an equaliser before Serbia, who won promotion in the Nations League after an undefeated run in their group, wasted a chance when Adem Ljajic