

FIFA WORLD CUP 2018 RECAP



AP Photo/Francisco Seco
Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates after scoring the opening goal during the group B match between Portugal and Morocco.

Goatee & goals turn this into Cristiano Ronaldo's World Cup

By RONALD BLUM
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Cristiano Ronaldo walked out for warmups at sun-splashed Luzhniki Stadium with diamonds affixed to each earlobe and a new goatee sprouting from his chin — like a goat, get it? Greatest of All Time.

He sparkled, even before the opening whistle of Portugal's World Cup match against Morocco. And then he validated his flashy look with another glittering goal.

Gems removed, Ronaldo headed in Joao Moutinho's cross after Bernardo Silva's short free kick in the fourth minute to become the career international scoring leader among European players, and followed with one of his look-at-me-me-me celebratory runs. Ronaldo's tournament-high fourth goal stood up for a 1-0 win over a tenacious Moroccan team on Wednesday, putting the European champions in good position to advance to the World Cup's knockout rounds.

Prolific scorer, pretty boy. Acrobat, diver. Winner, whiner.

Goatee and goals are turning this into Ronaldo's World Cup at age 33, past the age considered a soccer player's prime.

Ronaldo's competition with Lionel Messi is the great Millennial rivalry in sports, soccer's version of Ali vs. Frazier, Bird vs. Magic, DiMaggio vs. Williams.

They've split the last 10 FIFA Player of the Year awards. Ronaldo has won four Champions League titles with Real Madrid in the past decade, Messi three with Barcelona.

Ronaldo covets attention. After the first of his three goals against Spain in Portugal's opener last week, Ronaldo stroked his chin as he ran in celebration. Adidas is running an advertisement featuring Messi with a real goat.

No question Ronaldo works hard to be the best, whether it's effort in training, nutrition to keep his body resembling Michelangelo's "David" or ensuring proper rest.

Ronaldo's 85th goal moved him one ahead of Ferenc Puskas into sole possession of second on the career international scoring list, trailing only Ali Daei's 109 goals for Iran. He broke free of defender Manuel Da Costa and leaned low for a header from the top of the 6-yard box.

His celebration was a ballet that would have made George Balanchine

proud. Ronaldo ran toward a corner flag, and pounded the number 7 on his jersey twice — not the team crest. He jumped and twirled his right hand three times before landing with arms spread like a seagull's wings, mouth open.

If Portugal wins its group and Argentina is second — or if Portugal is second and Argentina first — Ronaldo and Messi could even face each other in the final.

Could Ronaldo stay at a high level long enough to play in a fifth World Cup in 2022?

Diego Costa scores again, Spain beats Iran 1-0 at World Cup

KAZAN, Russia — Diego Costa scored on a deflection to lead Spain to a 1-0 win over Iran on Wednesday at the World Cup.

Costa broke the deadlock in the 54th minute after being set up by Andres Iniesta. The powerful striker turned in the area and took a shot but the ball deflected off Ramin Rezeian before bouncing back onto Costa's knee and into the net.

Costa, who also scored two goals in the opening match, has three goals at this year's World Cup, trailing Cristiano Ronaldo by one. He also has nine goals in his last nine starts for Spain.

Both Spain and Portugal have four points in Group B following their 3-3 draw and subsequent 1-0 victories. Iran has three points in the group but Morocco has been eliminated.

Facing a very compact Iranian team that came out to defend, Spain pressed very high and had to be patient. The 2010 World Cup champions were almost caught against the run of the play when Karim Ansarifard unleashed a powerful strike that ended up in the side-netting following a long throw in.

Trailing in the second half, Iran nearly equalized when Saied Ezatollahi had a goal was ruled out on video review.

Iran continued to push hard and managed to challenge with some fast counterattacks.

Spain was lucky not to concede toward the end as Mehdi Taremi connected with a cross from Ansarifard but his header from close range went over the crossbar.

Devils' Taylor Hall edges Avalanches' MacKinnon, wins NHL MVP award

By GREG BEACHAM
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — New Jersey's Taylor Hall and the hometown Vegas Golden Knights went home with major honors from the NHL Awards.

Hall won the Hart Trophy as the NHL's most valuable player Wednesday night in the hockey world's annual postseason awards show.

The high-scoring Devils forward beat out fellow first-time Hart finalists Nathan MacKinnon of Colorado and Anze Kopitar of Los Angeles. Hall got 72 first-place votes and 1,264 total points in the media voting to edge MacKinnon, who got 60 first-place votes and 1,194 points.

Hall became the first New Jersey player to win the NHL's biggest individual honor after he finished sixth in the league with 93 points.

Hall, the No. 1 pick in the 2010 draft, likely got the nod over two worthy contenders because of the way he carried the Devils offensively while they reached the playoffs for the first time in five years. He scored 41 more points than rookie Nico Hischier, the Devils' second-leading scorer.

The Golden Knights also took home four awards from the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino after their remark-



AP Photo/John Locher
Taylor Hall of the New Jersey Devils poses with the Hart Trophy after winning the trophy.

able inaugural season.

Coach Gerard Gallant won the Jack Adams Award, and George McPhee was named the NHL's general manager of the year in recognition of the Golden Knights' immediate growth into champions of the Pacific Division and the Western

Conference.

High-scoring Knights forward William Karlsson won the Lady Byng Trophy for the player best combining sportsmanship and ability. Defenseman Deryk Engelland also won the Mark Messier NHL Leadership Award for his actions

during his team's breakthrough season in the wake of the shooting massacre on the Las Vegas Strip shortly before their first game.

Tampa Bay's Victor Hedman won his first Norris Trophy as the NHL's top defenseman, while New York Islanders center Mathew Barzal won the Calder Trophy in a landslide as the league's top rookie.

Nashville's Pekka Rinne won his first Vezina Trophy as the league's top goalie, while Kopitar won his second Selke Trophy as the NHL's best defensive forward.

Connor McDavid won the Ted Lindsay Award as the NHL's most outstanding player in a vote of the players' union membership, but the Edmonton Oilers star was not a finalist for the Hart, which he won last year.

New Jersey veteran Brian Boyle won the Masterton Trophy for perseverance and dedication to hockey after putting together an All-Star season in the wake of his cancer diagnosis and healthy problems for his young son.

The NHL also welcomed the survivors of the Humboldt Broncos bus crash onto the stage late in the show for an emotional tribute. Darcy Haugan, the late coach of the Broncos, was honored with the Willie O'Ree Community Hero Award.



Columbia Juniors All-Star Softball wins district

Photo courtesy of Jennifer Brown

The Columbia Juniors All-Star Softball team, comprised of kids from Stanfield, Echo and Boardman, poses after defeating Union 12-11 to win the district All-Star tournament on Wednesday in Pilot Rock.

Hermiston Legion falls 8-1 to Southridge

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Playing its third game in two days against Southridge, the Hermiston Legion team had its struggles continue as it fell 8-1 at home on Wednesday evening.

Hermiston (3-11) scored its only run in the bottom of the first inning when Spencer Juul led off the frame with a double, advanced to third on a groundout and then scored on a groundout by Alexis Rosales for a 1-0. But after that Hermiston managed only three more hits and six total baserunners

over the final six innings of the game.

Rustin Edmiston started on the mound for Hermiston, and he kept Southridge off the scoreboard until the fourth when Southridge piled on three hits, drew two walks and three hit-by-pitches to put six runs on the board to take the lead. Ethin Randolph was solid in relief with 2 2/3 innings pitched while allowing three hits and one run and three strikeouts.

Aside from Juuls double, Sergio Rosales, Kelson Robertson and Edmiston each picked up a hit for Hermiston.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

MLB				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	49	22	.690	—
Boston	49	26	.653	2
Toronto	34	39	.466	16
Tampa Bay	34	40	.459	16½
Baltimore	21	51	.292	28½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	40	33	.548	—
Detroit	36	39	.480	5
Minnesota	33	37	.471	5½
Chicago	24	49	.329	16
Kansas City	22	52	.297	18½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	50	26	.658	—
Seattle	46	28	.622	3
Los Angeles	39	35	.527	10
Oakland	38	36	.514	11
Texas	32	44	.421	18

Wednesday's Games				
Cincinnati 5, Detroit 3				
Toronto 5, Atlanta 4				
Cleveland 12, Chicago White Sox 0				
Oakland 12, San Diego 4				
Baltimore 3, Washington 0				
N.Y. Yankees 7, Seattle 5				
Houston 5, Tampa Bay 1				
Minnesota 4, Boston 1				
Texas 3, Kansas City 2				
Thursday's Games				
Seattle (Faxon 6-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Severino 10-2), 10:05 a.m.				
Boston (Porcello 8-3) at Minnesota (Gibson 2-4), 10:10 a.m.				
Baltimore (Gausman 3-6) at Washington (Scherzer 10-3), 4:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Bassitt 0-2) at Chicago White Sox (Giolitto 4-7), 5:10 p.m.				
Toronto (Sanchez 3-5) at L.A. Angels (Skaggs 6-4), 7:07 p.m.				

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	43	30	.589	—
Philadelphia	39	33	.542	3½
Washington	39	33	.542	3½
New York	31	40	.437	11
Miami	29	46	.387	15
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	42	29	.592	—
Milwaukee	43	30	.589	—
St. Louis	38	34	.528	4½
Pittsburgh	36	37	.493	7
Cincinnati	28	45	.384	15
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	40	33	.548	—
Los Angeles	38	35	.521	2
San Francisco	37	38	.493	4
Colorado	36	38	.486	4½
San Diego	34	42	.447	7½

Wednesday's Games				
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, p.p.d.				
Cincinnati 5, Detroit 3				
Toronto 5, Atlanta 4				
Philadelphia 4, St. Louis 3				
Chicago Cubs 4, L.A. Dodgers 0				
Oakland 12, San Diego 4				
San Francisco 6, Miami 5				
Baltimore 3, Washington 0				
Colorado 10, N.Y. Mets 8				
Thursday's Games				
N.Y. Mets (Matz 3-4) at Colorado (Freeland 6-6), 12:10 p.m.				
Arizona (Godley 7-5) at Pittsburgh (Kuhl 5-4), 4:05 p.m.				
Baltimore (Gausman 3-6) at Washington (Scherzer 10-3), 4:05 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 5-6) at Cincinnati (Harvey 1-5), 4:10 p.m.				

St. Louis (Martinez 3-3) at Milwaukee (Suter 7-4), 5:10 p.m.				
San Diego (Ross 5-4) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 0-2), 7:15 p.m.				

MLB				
Northwest League				
North Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Everett (Mariners) 3	3	5	.500	—
Tri-City (Padres) 3	3	5	.500	—
Spokane (Rangers) 2	4	3	.533	1
Vancouver (Blue Jays) 2	4	3	.533	1
South Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Salem-Keizer (Giants) 4	4	2	.667	—
Eugene (Cubs) 4	2	6	.267	—
Hillsboro (D-backs) 3	3	5	.500	1
Boise (Rockies) 3	3	5	.500	1

Wednesday's Games				
Salem-Keizer 6, Boise 4				
Everett 5, Vancouver 4				
Eugene 4, Hillsboro 3				
Tri-City 5, Spokane 2				
Thursday's Games				
Salem-Keizer at Boise, 9:15 p.m.				
Everett at Vancouver, 10:05 p.m.				
Eugene at Hillsboro, 10:05 p.m.				
Spokane at Tri-City, 10:15 p.m.				

NCAA				
College World Series				
At TD Ameritrade Park Omaha				
Omaha, Neb.				
All games on ESPN Networks				
(Double Elimination)				
Tuesday's Games				
Game 6 — Mississippi State 12, North Carolina 2				
Game 7 — Florida 6, Texas 1, TEX eliminated				
Wednesday's Games				
Game 8 — Arkansas 7, Texas Tech 4				
Game 9 — Oregon State 11, North Carolina 6, UNC eliminated				
Thursday's Games				
Game 10 — Florida (48-20) vs. Texas Tech (45-19), 8 p.m.				
Friday's Games				
Game 11 — Mississippi State (39-27) vs. Oregon State (51-11-1), Noon				
Game 12 — Arkansas (46-19) vs. Game 10 winner, 5 p.m.				

Soccer				
FIFA WORLD CUP				
FIRST ROUND				
GROUP A				
	W	T	L	GF GA Pts
x-Russia	2	0	0	8 1 6
x-Uruguay	2	0	0	2 0 6
Egypt	0	2	1	4 0
Saudi Arabia	0	2	0	6 0
x-advanced to second round				

Wednesday, June 20				
Uruguay 1, Saudi Arabia 0				
Monday, June 25				
At Samara, Russia				
Uruguay vs. Russia, 4 a.m.				
At Volgograd, Russia				
Saudi Arabia vs. Egypt, 4 a.m.				
GROUP B				
	W	T	L	GF GA Pts
Portugal	1	1	0	4 3 4
Spain	1	1	0	4 3 4
Iran	1	0	1	1 3
Morocco	0	2	0	2 0

Wednesday, June 20				
Portugal 1, Morocco 0				
Spain 1, Iran 0				
Monday, June 25				
At Kaliningrad, Russia				
Spain vs. Morocco, 8 a.m.				
At Saransk, Russia				
Iran vs. Portugal, 8 a.m.				
GROUP C				

	W	T	L	GF	GA	Pts
France	1	0	0	2	1	3
Denmark	1	0	0	1	0	3
Australia	0	0	1	1	2	0
Peru	0	0	1	0	1	0

Thursday, June 21						
At Samara, Russia						
Denmark vs. Australia, 2 a.m.						
At Yekaterinburg, Russia						
France at Peru, 5 a.m.						
GROUP D						
	W	T	L	GF	GA	Pts
Croatia	1	0	0	2	0	3
Argentina	0	1	0	1	1	1
Iceland	0	1	0	1	1	1
Nigeria	0	0	1	0	2	0

Thursday, June 21						
At St. Petersburg, Russia						
Argentina vs. Croatia, 8 a.m.						
Volgograd, Russia						
Nigeria vs. Iceland, 5 a.m.						
GROUP E						
	W	T	L	GF	GA	Pts
Serbia	1	0	0	1	0	3
Brazil	0	1	0	1	1	1
Switzerland	0	1	0	1	1	1
Costa Rica	0	0	1	0	1	0

Friday, June 22				
At St. Petersburg, Russia				
Brazil vs. Costa Rica, 2 a.m.				
At Kaliningrad,				