

Sports

US mulls more events after a thrilling World Championships

Slew of athletes grabs spotlight during championships

EUGENE: As a metaphor for a sport with lofty ambitions, Armand Duplantis soaring to a pole vault world record was the perfectly scripted final act that a thrilling World Athletics Championships deserved. The Swedish star brought the curtain down on the 10-day track and field extravaganza in Eugene on Sunday with a jaw-dropping leap of 6.21m, sailing over the bar with ease to electrify Hayward Field. Duplantis - routinely referred to as a "rock star" by World Athletics chief Sebastian Coe - is part of a golden generation of athletes who lit up the 10-day championships in Oregon.

A slew of other athletes also grabbed the spotlight during the championships, with 400m hurdler Sydney McLaughlin delivering a dazzling world record run and the charismatic Noah Lyles racing to gold in the 200m. Those kind of compelling performances delighted both Coe and United States Track and Field (USATF), who are desperate to boost the profile of the sport in the country after years where it has languished out of the spotlight.

In pursuit of that goal, more major track and field events in the United States are a certainty. In 2023, Eugene will host the finale of the Diamond League season - the first time in history that the

meeting has been held outside of Europe. Others have even wondered whether Los Angeles could be a contender to host the World Championships in 2027, a year ahead of the Olympics in 2028 in the city.

'Catalyst' for athletics

Asked about that possibility on Sunday, USATF chief executive Max Siegel did not rule it out. "As far as hosting other events we'd love to continue to host events," Siegel told reporters when asked about 2027. "The more that we can support and give visibility to the sport is great for all of us. The timetable is something that we would have to work through. "But we look forward to working with World Athletics and hosting more events here."

Coe meanwhile said the championships had drawn an additional 400,000 new followers to World Athletics social media platforms with seven million engagements. Videos posted by World Athletics drew 41 million views. Siegel says US officials will continue to work with World Athletics to determine how best to exploit those numbers.

"Anecdotally I've had more people who are not traditional track fans reach out to me," Siegel said.

"There's a huge awareness because of the World Championships. "We're working in partnership with World Athletics to get both quantitative and qualitative data as to where the sport sits, with tons of strategies to reposition the sport and the brand and to tell the stories of the athletes. We have a pretty robust plan leading up to LA 2028. "We're going to capitalize on this event and use it as a catalyst to reposition the sport."

Global spotlight

Athletics will also benefit from a schedule over the next six year that will mean the sport is more or less permanently in the global spotlight. A consequence of the Tokyo Olympics' postponement by a year - and the knock-on decision to reschedule the Eugene championships to 2022 - means that the sport will now have a global championship in seven of eight years between 2021 and 2028.

Next year's World Championships in Budapest are followed by the 2024 Paris Olympics, before Tokyo hosts the World Championships in 2025. A lone fallow year in 2026 is followed by the 2027 World Championships and the 2028 Olympics. "If you look at the next six or seven years we have

athletics absolutely centre stage in northern hemisphere terms in the most broadcastable part of the year," Coe said. "I'm really pleased we've got the opportunity to showcase athletics, but I don't minimize the challenges some athletes are going to face."

While the likes of McLaughlin, Lyles and 800m star Athing Mu were the figureheads of a successful US team, the global spread of talent in Eugene was also notable. The evergreen Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce bagged a fifth world 100m crown, while compatriot Shericka Jackson blazed to victory in the 200m in 21.45sec, the second fastest time in history. On Sunday, Nigeria's Tobi Amusan delivered arguably the most stunning world record of the championships, scorching to 12.12secs before going on to win gold in the women's 100m hurdles.

Those performances encourage Coe to believe that the sport has a range of stars to market itself around in the post-USain Bolt era. "We recognize the unique nature of what Usain Bolt brought to our sport," Coe said on Sunday. "But I'm probably more optimistic about the bandwidth of talent that is coming through... We've got a whole group of young athletes that are there or thereabouts." —AFP

Nigerians bask in Amusan's record-breaking athletic glory

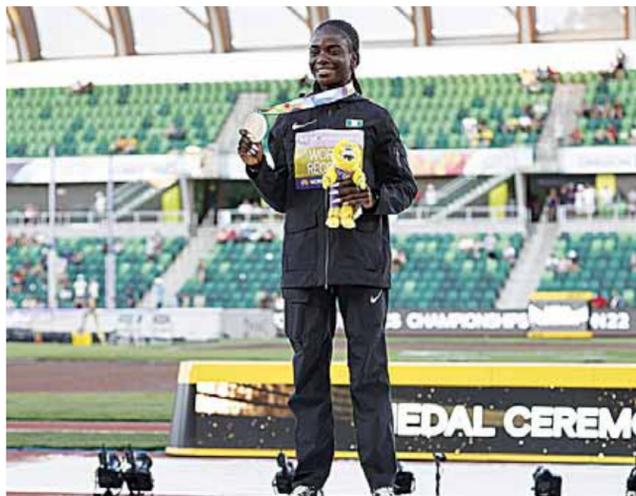
LAGOS: Nigerians, including three presidential candidates, basked in the glory of the country's first world athletics gold medal, welcoming a respite from bad news about economic hardships and deepening insecurity. Tobi Amusan, 25, won gold in the women's 100m hurdles on Sunday in the World Athletics Championships after breaking the world record in a semi-final where she clocked 12.12sec in Eugene, Oregon. Her winning time of 12.06sec in the final will not be recognized as a world record, however, due to regulations over a strong tailwinds assisting runners.

President Muhammadu Buhari praised the "outstanding feat by a compatriot and two-time African Games champion, who in one night stunned the athletics world with her superlative and stellar performance". He said Amusan's feat would inspire upcoming generations of Nigerian

athletes. Buhari, who came to power in 2015, will step down after next year's presidential elections.

The three main challengers in the February ballot also hailed Amusan's success as well as that of Nigeria's Ese Brume who won silver medal in the long jump. Atiku Abubakar of the main opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) said he was "particularly proud of this feat... it underscores my plan to refocus investments in sports, and creative sectors, amongst others." Peter Obi of the Labour Party said the athletes' feats showed Nigeria was "a great country blessed with talents ready to rule the world."

Ordinary Nigerians also showed their appreciation. "She has done it for us, Tobi Amusan, you have written your name boldly in our history and posterity will be kind to you. Thank you, Nigeria is proud of you!!!" said Enetomhe Stephen on social media.



EUGENE: Gold medalist Tobi Amusan of Team Nigeria poses during the medal ceremony for Women's 100m Hurdles on day ten of the World Athletics Championships Oregon22. —AFP

Praise for the athletes comes as Nigeria is struggling with high inflation and unemployment as well as power outages and jihadist and gang attacks, including killings and kidnappings for ransom. —AFP

Kuwait's Saqoby qualifies for prestigious Championships

KUWAIT: The head of Freestyle Football in Kuwait and champion Dr Ali Yousuf Al-Saqoby qualified for one of the most prestigious world championships which will be held in August 2022 in Prague, Czech Republic. As one of the top athletes in the world, he is making a strong return after gradually recovering from an injury. Ali is one of the very few Arabs planning to take a strong position in the world ranking as mentioned in his instagram story, with the hopes of making Kuwait proud.



Dr Ali Yousuf Al-Saqoby

It is worth mentioning, that Ali is also a qualified dentist (a UK graduate). Despite working as a dentist, he still does an incredible job in competing at a professional level even as the president of Kuwait Football Freestyle Association. Having been mentioned in the Arabic textbook as an inspiring figure and a champion, he aims to inspire the youth.

Kuwaiti wins first place in Jet Ski Stock Category



By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Jet Ski team is participating in the Europe International Championship being held in Poland with 33 countries participating. Faisal Taha Burabee won first place in the Stock Category, while in the teams competition, Kuwaitis were not that lucky as Mohammad Burabee and Mohammad Al-Baz could not continue.

Their jet ski malfunctioned and they could not get enough points to win despite being in top places in the preliminaries. Waleed Al-Adsani, Salem Al-Mutawaa and Fahad Al-Rayes faced the same issue.



Javelin champ Chopra out of Commonwealth Games

NEW DELHI: India's Olympic javelin champion Neeraj Chopra was ruled out of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham with injury on Tuesday, two days ahead of the opening ceremony. Chopra, 24, picked up the injury during the World Athletics Championships in Oregon, where he won silver at the weekend. The Indian Olympic Association did not say what the injury was but after coming second behind Grenada's Anderson Peters he complained about "discomfort" in his thigh.

Chopra was the reigning champion at the Commonwealth Games, which start on Thursday. "Chopra had called me earlier today from the US to convey his inability to take part in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games owing to fitness concerns," Indian Olympic Association secretary general Rajeev Mehta said in a statement. "(He) had an MRI scan done on Monday and, based on it, he has been advised a month's rest by his medical team."

Chopra made history for his country when he won the javelin at last summer's Tokyo Games, becoming India's first Olympic athletics gold medalist. Speaking after the World Championships in Oregon, Chopra was quoted as saying by the NDTV news network: "After the fourth throw I did feel a bit of discomfort in my thigh. I wasn't able to put in that much effort. —AFP

Classifieds

Hospitals & Clinics

Sabah Hospital	24812000	
Amiri Hospital	22450005	
Maternity Hospital	24843100	Kaizen center
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700	Rawda
Chest Hospital	24849400	Adaliya
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010	Khaldiya
Adan Hospital	23940620	Kaifan
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300	Shamiya
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000	Shuwaikh
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9	Abdullah Salem
		Nuzha

Clinics

Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadsiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharqi	22465401
Salmiya	25746401

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shah Manan Kumar Jitendra Bhai, holder of Indian Passport No. Z3827682 having permanent address Gujarat, India 380015 residing in Kuwait at present, hereby declare that henceforth my name will be read as: Given name - Manan Jitendrabhai and Surname - Shah. (C# 2025)

I, KANAIALAL VAL-LABHBHAI PAREKH S/o VALLABHBHAI PAREKH, R/o BEDEKAR COMPLEX, A-Wing, Room No#101, Maharashtra, India, Dist. Raigad, Shriwardhan, Pin 402110, Passport No. P6317340. I have changed my name from Kanaiyalal Vallabhbai Parekh to Zaid Vallabhbai Parekh. Kanaiyalal and Zaid both names

belong to one and the same person. (C#2023)

I, Ranjit Khiva S/o Nachhatar Khiva R/o Mohalla. That now I have changed my name from Ranjit Khiva to Ranjit Singh. All concern may be noted. That Nachhatar Khiva and Nachhatar Singh both name's are belong to one. (C#2024)