

25 Rohit hits hundred as India make S African bowlers toil

26 France survive scare to beat USA 33-9 at Rugby World Cup

27 Pochettino faces tough task to lift Spurs after Bayern thumping



Lyles leads American gold rush

Barber wins Australia's first javelin world title



DOHA: (L-R) Canada's Andre De Grasse, Britain's Adam Gemili, winner USA's Noah Lyles and Ecuador's Alex Quinonez compete in the Men's 200m final at the 2019 IAAF Athletics World Championships at the Khalifa International stadium in Doha. — AFP

DOHA: Noah Lyles led a triumphant night for the United States on Tuesday at the World Athletics Championships just hours after the sport had been rocked by the suspension of controversial coach Alberto Salazar.

Lyles produced a courageous performance to win the 200 metres title, whilst Donovan Brazier — who was part of the Nike Oregon Project that Salazar ran — became the first American to win the 800m world crown.

Sam Kendrick was the third American to take gold, coming out on top in the men's pole vault and joining legend Sergey Bubka in being the only men to successfully defend the title. Lyles took time to get going but once he did and drew alongside Briton Adam Gemili he powered away — crossing the line and hugging his mother.

Despite some comparing Lyles to retired Jamaican legend Usain Bolt — the American has run faster than him both over 100 and 200m at 22 years of age — he said they were very different. "Don't say I'm the new Bolt," he said. "I'm me. If you like me, I'll happily entertain you. It's my time." Brazier showed no sign of being affected by the four-year suspension of

Salazar earlier on Tuesday breaking the 32-year-old championship record of Kenya's Billy Koncelolah. The 22-year-old American charged clear down the back straight on the final lap to coast home in 1min 42.34 sec. Brazier professed to be unaware of the investigation into Salazar when he joined the project and hoped his moment of glory would not be tainted. "I think it would be really ignorant to associate me with that," he said. "To even think that would be pretty ignorant."

"I'm just very sad. I've had communication with Alberto, never been trained by him, but he is a good guy, and seeing him getting kind of bad reputation, it hurt him a lot." Kendrick beat Sweden's European champion Armand Duplantis on countback when both failed to go over at 6.02 metres having succeeded at 5.97m in a final conducted notably in a sportsmanlike manner.

"Is it the best? That is a hard phrase to justify it is certainly the most memorable," said Kendrick. "The drama of the last hour made it one of the best, it was hard. "You don't win the pole vault by defence, you win it with offense."

The American monopoly was broken by Australian Kelsey-Lee Barber who won

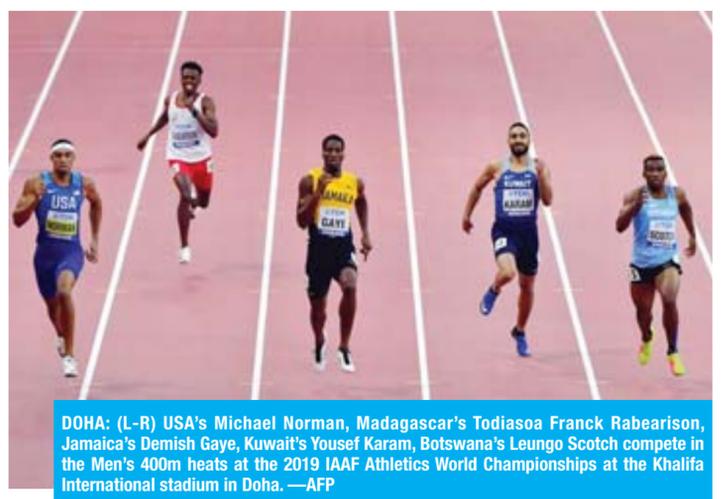
gold in the final throw of the javelin to become the first from her country to win a world title in the discipline. "Any medalist of any colour is a huge thing in Australia," said Barber. "It was a matter of clearing your mind in the final round it is one thing to say you are going to do it it is another to execute it so I am really happy."

Shaunae Miller-Uibo's bid to add world 400m gold to her Olympic title stayed on course as the Bahamas star sauntered through her semi-final.

The 25-year-old — who opted for the event she calls "her baby" rather than the 200m — said she had extra motivation to succeed at the championships due to the havoc wreaked by Hurricane Dorian last month.

The island communities of Grand Bahama and Abaco bore the brunt of Dorian's leaving 52 people dead with over 1,000 listed as missing. "Definitely I want to make my country proud," said Miller-Uibo, who has donated \$25,000 to a fund she has set up.

"A lot of people are really supporting the fund and raising money." Dina Asher-Smith looks a warm favourite to become Britain's first female world sprint champion



DOHA: (L-R) USA's Michael Norman, Madagascar's Todiasoa Franck Rabearison, Jamaica's Demish Gaye, Kuwait's Yousef Karam, Botswana's Leungo Scotch compete in the Men's 400m heats at the 2019 IAAF Athletics World Championships at the Khalifa International stadium in Doha. — AFP

as she recorded the fastest time in her 200m semi-final of 22.16sec.

Her chances of doing so were also aided by the no-show of Olympic 200m champi-

on Elaine Thompson, adding to the stars who withdrew from the event including two-time defending champion Dafne Schippers. —AFP

Murray reaches Beijing quarters

BEIJING: Exhausted Andy Murray battled into a singles quarter-final for the first time in a year yesterday — and then immediately grabbed a snooze. The former world number one outlasted fellow Briton Cameron Norrie 7-6 (8/6), 6-7 (4/7), 6-1 over nearly three gruelling hours in hot and hazy Beijing.

The 32-year-old, now ranked a lowly 503, will play top seed Dominic Thiem or Chinese wildcard Zhang

Zhizhen in the last eight of the China Open on Friday. On the mend after a career-saving hip operation in January, Murray looked all in afterwards, and walked gingerly in and out of the post-match press conference. Blowing out his cheeks several times, the three-time Grand Slam champion said he had slept in the 90 minutes between his victory and talking to reporters. "I'm tired, I just had a sleep before coming. I mean, I'm really tired," he said.

To save his creaking body from more punishment, Murray said that he switched tactics in the deciding third set. "I decided if I want to win I have to go and take risks and come to the net, try and finish the points quicker, which I did," he said.

Murray defeated US Open semi-finalist Matteo

Berrettini on Tuesday for his biggest scalp since his return to singles tennis in mid-August. The hard-fought triumph over 69th-ranked Norrie means he reaches the last eight in singles on the ATP Tour for the first time since Shenzhen in September last year.

Murray showed several flashes of irritation as the first set against Norrie went to the tie break, chuntering away in the direction of his coaching team court-side. But he regained his composure and captured the set thanks to an untimely double fault by his compatriot. The 24-year-old Norrie broke Murray's serve in the sixth game of the second set and Murray was struggling, bending over between points with his hands on his knees to catch his breath.

He shook his head as he slumped red-faced in his

seat at 5-2 down. He displayed the battling qualities which took him to number one in 2016 to somehow surge back, only to lose the second set on the tie break.

But he somehow wrestled back the initiative in the decider, breaking Norrie's first service game on the way to a trademark gritty victory. Also into the quarter-finals was Russian fourth seed Karen Khachanov, a 7-6 (7/0), 7-6 (7/5) winner over France's Jeremy Chardy. In the women's draw, the 2017 US Open finalist Madison Keys was a surprise loser to unseeded fellow American Jennifer Brady. Teenage US Open champion Bianca Andreescu reached the last 16 with a 6-3, 7-6 (7/5) victory over Belgium's unseeded Elise Mertens. —AFP