

Hamilton wants more diversity in F1

AFP | London

Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton says he wants to be remembered for "helping people and changing the industry and the viewpoints" after the publication of his report into improving diversity in motorsport.

Britain's seven-time world champion was spurred into action after noticing the lack of diversity in an end-of-season photograph in 2019 and subsequently set up the Hamilton Commission.

Hamilton, 36, has taken the knee before every race since the beginning of last season and has persuaded his Mercedes team to paint its cars black to highlight discrimination.

The commission's report, Accelerating Change: Improving Representation of Black People in UK Motorsport, asks for a di-

versity and inclusion charter to be implemented by F1 teams and other motorsport organisations.

Expanding the apprenticeship provision to include higher apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships as an alternate pathway into the sector are among the other suggestions to attempt to draw in under-represented groups to F1.

Paid work placement and work experience schemes, as well as supporting the creation of scholarship programmes to enable black graduates from degrees to progress into specialist motorsport roles have also been proposed. Hamilton, the only black driver in Formula One, told the BBC he hoped the findings would be "part of my legacy".

"I would like to be remembered for much more than winning championships, which

is an amazing thing on its own, but for actually helping people and changing the industry and the viewpoints," he said. "We are all the same. We all bleed the same. There is no reason why it shouldn't be as diverse as the world around us.

"All it takes is the shift of the needle and then in the long distance that can be a whole continent's size. It could be huge." Hamilton said the commission, which included experts in motorsport, education and engineering, had found that obstacles for black people ran deeper than issues in gaining access to the sport.

"We realise it's not just the motorsport industry that needs to change," said Hamilton. "We found there are still systemic issues facing young black people at all levels of the education system."



file pictures

Federer pulls out of Olympic Games

BBC

Twenty-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer has pulled out of the Tokyo Olympics because of a knee injury.

Federer, 39, lost in the quarter-finals of Wimbledon this year but anticipates re-joining the tour for the hard-court swing later in the year.

The Swiss won doubles gold at Beijing 2008 alongside Stan Wawrinka and silver in 2012 in the singles after losing to Andy Murray in the final in London.

Federer, now ranked number nine in the world, had two



knee surgeries in 2020.

In the last two years he has seen his Grand Slam tally equalled by Spain's Rafael Nadal at the 2020 French Open and most recently by Serbia's Novak Djokovic - who won a record-equalling 20th major at Wimbledon.

BRAVE CF 54 set for September 25, marking the promotion's debut in Poland

Konin, Poland

BRAVE Combat Federation, the fastest-growing MMA promotion in the world, has become Europe's biggest Mixed Martial Arts organisation, with multiple events held in the continent and the biggest scouting program for European fighters in place.

The expansion is at full steam, with the Bahrain-based



event announcing yet another card for the region, this time marking its debut in Poland. BRAVE CF 54 will take place in the historical city of Konin, situated roughly 180 km away

from the capital Warsaw.

The event will be held in association with local promoters Galana Group. The Polish debut for BRAVE Combat Federation will crown a very busy end of summer and beginning of fall for the truly global MMA promotion. BRAVE CF 52: Bad Blood is already confirmed for Milan, Italy and the following BRAVE CF 53 announced for Almaty, Kazakhstan, both in

August. Over the course of the last years, BRAVE CF quickly rose to a prominent position in the European MMA scene, becoming the continent's top international promotion due to its unparalleled numbers: with more than 70 European fighters, from 25+ different nations signed, and being the only global MMA promotion in history to host 7 events in Europe in a single year.

S.Korea draw 2-2 with Argentina in Olympics prep match

● The match held in Yongin, south of Seoul, was one of two warm-up matches this week ahead of the Tokyo Olympics set to begin next week.

AFP News

The South Korean Olympic football squad drew 2-2 against Argentina on Tuesday after they netted an injury-time equaliser in a friendly match in front of empty seats.

The match held in Yongin, south of Seoul, was one of two warm-up matches this week ahead of the Tokyo Olympics set to begin next week.

It was played without spectators under tightened coronavirus restrictions as a recent surge in infections grips the greater Seoul area.

Argentina went ahead early



Argentina's Carlos Valenzuela (R) competes for the ball with South Korea's Um Won-sang (L) during their friendly football match in Yongin, South Korea

when Alexis Mac Allister scored from just outside the box in the 12th minute to give his side a 1-0 lead.

But South Korea caught up in the 35th minute with midfielder

Lee Dong-gyeong's long-range strike hitting the back of the Argentine net.

The visiting team took the lead again 10 minutes into the second half when Carlos Valenzuela

made a curling shot into the far corner after receiving a cross.

The home team then generated a last-minute turnaround when winger Um Won-sang delivered an equaliser in the 92nd minute.

The 2-2 draw gave the players "confidence that they could play well against a strong team," head coach Kim Hak-bum said in a post-game interview.

South Korea will play France on Friday in their last preparation match before heading to Japan, where they will start their quest for a second Olympic medal against New Zealand on July 22.

The South Korean team won bronze at London 2012.

Romania and Honduras are also in Group B while Argentina will face Egypt, Spain and Australia in Group C.

The top two teams from each of the four groups will advance to the quarter-finals.

Gayle's half-century powers West Indies past Australia

AFP News

Chris Gayle half-century blasted the West Indies to victory over Australia in St Lucia on Monday, clinching the five-match T20 series between the sides.

Chasing a modest target of 142, Gayle recaptured his most destructive form in racing to 67 off only 38 balls to take his team to the target with five overs to spare at the Daren Sammy Stadium.

By spearheading the West Indies to an insurmountable 3-0 lead in the series, the 41-year-old also sent an ominous warning that he could yet be a factor in the Caribbean side's defence of the World T20 title later this year.

Gayle's pyrotechnics followed another efficient West Indies performance in the field as wrist-spinner Hayden Walsh again presented the



most effective challenge to the Australians with figures of two for 18 in limiting the visitors to 141 for six.

All-rounder Moises Henriques topscored with 33 and struck the only two sixes of his team's innings.

Henriques' contribution followed his side's best opening partnership of the series -- 41 -- between captain Aaron Finch and Matthew Wade.

However, the tempo of the innings dropped considerably when they were separated by Obed McCoy in what proved to be the seamer's only over of the innings.

Formula One star Norris 'shaken' after Euro final watch theft

AFP | London

McLaren driver Lando Norris had his luxury watch stolen outside Wembley stadium after watching Italy's Euro 2020 final victory against England.

Norris was robbed of the Richard Mille watch, worth a reported £40,000 (\$55,000), as he approached his McLaren supercar following the dramatic penalty shoot-out on Sunday.



The 21-year-old was shaken but unharmed in the incident, his Formula One team said.

Norris is preparing for this weekend's British Grand Prix at

Silverstone.

"McLaren Racing can confirm that Lando Norris was involved in an incident, after the Euro 2020 final match at Wembley, during which the watch he was wearing was taken," a statement said.

"Thankfully, Lando was unharmed but he is understandably shaken. The team is supporting Lando and we are sure

Norris was robbed of the Richard Mille watch, worth a reported £40,000 (\$55,000), as he approached his McLaren supercar following the dramatic penalty shoot-out on Sunday.

that racing fans will join us in wishing him all the best for the British Grand Prix this weekend.

"As this is now a police matter we cannot comment further."

Norris's mugging is the latest off-field incident to overshadow the Euro final.

The security operation around the match in London has been widely criticised after hundreds of ticketless fans stormed the pe-

rimeter gates and gained access to the stadium.

Many fans who had paid for tickets found their seats occupied by the mobs who had broken into Wembley, while social media videos showed people being attacked on the concourses.

Police made 53 arrests at Wembley, with several officers hurt in the violent scenes.