

# Time to reign, Hale or shine

By KEVIN BYRNE

JP HALE will become the latest Irish boxer to make his World Championships bow today — and is looking to get the team off the mark after a tough start in Serbia. Lightweight Hale goes in against home fighter Semiz Alicic in the last 64 after three team-mates from three lost their opening bouts in Belgrade.

Yesterday, flyweight Sean Mori went down on a 4-1 split decision to Hungary's Attila Bernath before light-welterweight Brandon McCarthy was unanimously beaten by Gianluigi Malanga of Italy.

Welterweight Eugene McNeever was edged out in Monday's opener by Uzbekistan's Asadbuja Myrdinkhajaev.

It means four Irish boxers remain of the youthful seven sent to the championship — with all of them newcomers to senior majors.

Hale became Irish Elite champion last month when he won a Battle of Belfast with Dominic Bradley.

# A Quinton de shock for stars



CRICKET'S World Cup erupted in controversy when a star player pulled out as he refused to take a knee.

South African Quinton de Kock (left) missed his team's eight-wicket win over West Indies and might have ended his international career.

It came hours after Cricket South Africa ordered players to take a knee because they have adopted different poses in previous matches.

Proteas captain Temba Bavuma said: "We were surprised and taken aback by the news."

# ENGLAND RUGBY

# 10 out of 10

# OWEN GIVES 'STUDENT' TOP MARCUS

By JONNY FORDHAM

OWEN FARRELL has always been a student of the game — now he has turned teacher with whizkid Marcus Smith.

The England skipper will be forced to play his 100th Test at inside centre this autumn as Smith takes the fly-half shirt and centre-stage at Twickenham.

But there is no anger in being shunted out of position for the new golden boy of English rugby.

Farrell, entering his 10th year of international rugby, is just happy to mentor the 22-year-old sensation.

He said: "Marcus is a brilliant lad and he's not just a very talented player but a proper student of the game."

"That sounds a bit clichéd but he is bothered about getting better and understanding the game more. He loves chatting about rugby, so that made it easy for me to get on with him!"

"His passion for the game, it oozes out of him. Marcus is someone who can unlock a game himself but he's also got a brilliant eye for how to make a team work as well."

"He loves trying to understand the game a bit better. If I can help him do that in any way possible, I would love to."

Versatile Farrell, 30, lost his best mate George Ford for the autumn after the fly-half was dropped by ruthless head coach Eddie Jones.

But in smiling assassin Smith — who last season won the Premiership in England with Harlequins and then landed a dream Lions call up — he has a new partner in crime.

Farrell added: "We have worked together before and he has been in camps when he was a bit younger."

"I shared a room with him in the past and it was good to get to know him a bit better over the summer."

Asked if Smith had any bad habits from their time bunking up together, the Saracens star added: "None that I can say here — only joking. He's a brilliant room-mate, a nice lad."

After a season to forget last year, Farrell's form is on the up again.

Just last month boss Jones said he had to up his game after the worst Six Nations in England's history.

And Farrell added: "I would agree with him."

"I could have played better. I agree there's parts of my game that I want to get back to and do more of."

"I came back this summer and couldn't wait to get stuck into the games that were in front of us."

"I couldn't wait to get back to playing for the club, couldn't wait to enjoy being out there on the field again."

"That's where I'm at at the minute."

"I'm excited to see what's in front of us with this England team now. I have never thought no one was undroppable."

"You always have to work hard to be in this team, to play in these games. That's never going to be any different."



**MARCUS SMITH**  
Age 22 Position Fly-half  
CLUB CAREER  
Harlequins (2017-present)  
ENG CAREER (2017-present)  
Caps 2 Derbies 13  
Pts 31 Penalties 8  
Tries 1 Drop goals 2



**OWEN FARRELL**  
Age 30 Position Fly-half  
CLUBS Inside centre  
Saracens (2008-present)  
Bristol (2006-11)  
ENG CAREER (2007-present)  
Caps 93 Derbies 168  
Pts 1,019 Penalties 208  
Tries 10 Drop goals 3

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The successful candidate will work as part of the operations preparing meat products to meet production targets on a daily and weekly basis. Successful candidates will be required to work in all areas of the operation across the factory and include the following:  
Work on own initiative and as part of a team  
Meet production targets  
Responsible to work across all areas of the meat processing plant  
Comply with standard Operating Procedures, safety and quality systems and procedures in their area and across the site.  
Take part in continuous improvement initiatives and opportunities to improve work processes  
Maintain a clean work area in accordance with standard operating procedures  
Complete all training as identified by the company  
No. of Hours Per Week - 38 hours per week  
Annual Remuneration - €20,000  
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Other of Employment Made - Enda Ahearne Meats, 47 Roches Street, Limerick  
**No. of Positions - 1**  
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• Ability to take instruction but also ability to work on own initiative  
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HORNER... cautious

# Horner Mexican standoff

**CHRISTIAN HORNER** has rubbished Lewis Hamilton's claim Red Bull will win the next two grands prix.

Max Verstappen's win in Sunday's United States GP — traditionally a Mercedes stronghold — saw the Dutchman open up a 12-point lead in the drivers' standings.

Afterwards, Merc star Hamilton admitted the upcoming races in Mexico and Brazil would be very

difficult for his team to win based on Red Bull's past results there.

However, Horner says those performances count for nothing as this season's title fight is too close to call.

The Red Bull chief said: "You've got to chuck the form book away. It's very tight between the two teams."

"Mexico has been a good track

for us but it's been a good track for them as well, on occasion. So we don't underestimate them."

"You've got to attack. Twelve points is nothing, it can disappear very quickly, as we have seen previously."

"We've got to keep attacking race weekends and get the most out of them that we possibly can. With five to go, the pressure only gets bigger."

By BEN HUNT