ALIA CRUSHES FIELD TO WIN 100 BREASTSTROKE IN DOHA

ALIA ATKINSON



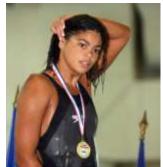
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The **LEGENDARY** Alia Atkinson was once in devastating form this afternoon in Doha. Walking out to the blocks Alia looked like she was in a no nonsense mood. And from the starter's gun that that proved to be exactly the case, she blitzed the field in **29.63** at the halfway stage ahead by over a second and was **.07** of a second off WORLD **RECORD** pace. She was in contact with the **WORLD RECORD** until those decisive last 5 metres where she tightened her stroke and finished in **1:03.38.** Again she easily bested Russian Iuliia Efimova **1:04.68** and Japanese swimmer Kanako Watanabe **1:06.03.**

In the 200 metre individual Katinka Hosszu (Hun) knew she had to have a sizable lead in the first 100 metres to with stand Alia's onslaught on the final 100 metres. Hosszu went out to a big lead over the first two legs the butterfly and the backstroke. The Hungarian lead **59.60** to Atkinson who was 7th at this point in **1:01.62**.

It was at this time Alia turned on her class. She produced the fastest breaststroke split of **35.29** and the fastest last 100 metres **1:05.68** and closed in on the leaders. This time the early advantage of the leaders proved too much and Atkinson ran out pool. She won bronze in 2:07.31 a phenomenal **TWO** second drop from her morning swim **2:09.39.The fastest ever by a Jamaican or Caribbean swimmer.**

Coralie Balmy



www.lazygirls.info

Coralie Balmy got her final swim proceedings underway by winning bronze in the 800 metre freestyle. She had a strong last 100 metres to swim by World cup tour leader Katinka Hosszu (Hun) 8:18.67 to **8:18.71.** The gold was won by Mireia Belmonte (Esp) in **8:14.18** and silver by her countrywoman Melani Costa **8:17.66.**

She would feel the effects of her morning exertion by her 6th place finish in the 200 metre freestyle in **1:58.10** She swim a second slower than in her morning swim. The race swum less than 20 minutes after the 800 metre freestyle. The winner this time Hosszu in **1:53.53**, Silver Femke Heemskerk (Neth) **1:53.65** with Costa third in **1:54.21**.

Edgar Crespo



portales.panamaamerica.com.pa

With Vladimir Morozov of Russia scratching the finals Edgar Crespo of Panama got the chance to swim in the finals. He improved on his morning swim to finish 6 th in the 50 metre breaststroke in **27.65** faster than his morning swim of **27.83**

George Bovell



www.newsday.co.tt

"King" George Bovell 111 of Trinidad and Tobago capped a great night of regional swimming success with a bronze medal in the 100 metre individual medley. He like Atkinson produced breath taking back end speed. He had the fastest last 50 metres of **27.37** seconds no one else broke **28** seconds. Yet again the advantage held by winner Kenneth To (Aus) **51.19** and Vladimir Morozov (Rus) **51.49** proved to be too great as the 6'5 George fell just short of a place on top of the podium.

Contributed by

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