

Iranian Shooter Wins Gold Medal at 2015 Universiade Games



Najmeh Khedmati

GWANGJU (IRNA) -- An Iranian female won the Shooting gold medal of Women's 10m Air Rifle at the 2015 Universiade games (World University Games) underway here in South Korea.

It was the first gold medal that

Najmeh Khedmati achieved for the Iranian sports squad in Universiade games.

Athletes from Czech and Serbia stood at second and third places, respectively.

Already, Khedmati had won the

first gold medal of the Iranian athletes at the 2014 Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea.

The opening ceremony of the 28th Summer Universiade was held on July 3. The games will end on July 14.

Difficult to Repeat Win Against Russia, Iran Coach Slobodan Kovac Says

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Iranian national volleyball team's coach Slobodan Kovac said that it was difficult to repeat Friday's result against Russia.

Iran lost to Russia 3-1 (25-23, 19-25, 25-18, 25-21) in Tehran's Azadi Hall in its last match in Pool B of the FIVB World League.

"It was so difficult to repeat the result (Friday's 3-0 victory over the same opposition), because we had the possibility to join the final and after the match of Poland with USA, we knew that was a big delusion," Kovac said in the post-match news conference.

"Congratulations to Russia's team. They took the last chance to stay at level 1."

"In our second match against Russia, my captain represented how one must fight in the court. I



Slobodan Kovac

want all my players to be like that.

We tried so much to push Russia down to the second level because we do not know the group for next

year."

"I prefer to have Australia in front of us rather than Russia in level 1," he added.

Chile Beats Argentina, Wins Copa América for 1st Time

SANTIAGO (Press TV) - Host Chile has beaten Argentina 4-1 on penalties to win Copa América for the first time in a dramatic shoot-out in Santiago.

After 120 minutes of a goalless but heated final between two of the best teams of the tourney at Estadio Nacional Julio Martínez Prádanos, Arsenal forward Alexis Sánchez chipped the winning penalty for the hosts to win their first major trophy on Saturday.

Gonzalo Higuaín and his teammate Éver Banega missed penalties in the shoot-out, which was followed by La Roja's winning penalty and celebration with thousands of fans present at the stadium in the Chilean capital Santiago.

In spite of Argentinian captain Lionel Messi's only score from the spot, Gerardo Martino's squad emerged second at the tournament and ended La Albiceleste's 22-year quench for a trophy drought.

The Copa América is an international football



Alexis Sanchez holds up the cup after Chile beats Argentina at Copa América as members of the team are joined by their children to celebrate at Estadio Nacional Julio Martínez Prádanos in Santiago.

competition contested between men's national football teams of the South American Football Confederation, determining the continental champion of South America. It is the oldest international continental football competition.

Galatasaray Sign Arsenal Striker Podolski

ANKARA ((Anadolu Agency)_ Turkish reigning Super Toto Super League champions Galatasaray have signed German wing forward Lukas Podolski from English Premier League club Arsenal.

Turkish side announced on their official website Saturday that the 30-year-old German international has agreed to a three plus one-year contract with the Lions on a transfer fee of 2.5 million euros.

"Galatasaray are winners of the last season and will also play in the Champions League this season. My goal is to exert all my energy and effort for Galatasaray," he told a press conference after the signing ceremony at Turk Telekom Arena in Istanbul. The Poland-born German player is set to receive 11.3 million euros during his term in Galatasaray, according to a statement



Turkish champions welcome 30 year-old German to squad on a three plus one-year contract

from the club.

In the last three years he played for the Gunners, "Poldi" had 82 appearances at the Emirates Stadium in London, where he scored 31 goals and produced 17 assists. This year in January, he was loaned to Inter Milan,

where he played in 17 games and scored once.

Before Arsenal, he played for Bundesliga clubs FC Köln and Bayern Munich.

Podolski also helped Germany national team win 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil last summer.

England Create History With Germany Win

OTTAWA (FIFA) - England outlasted two-time champions Germany in extra time to secure third-place thanks to a lone Fara Williams penalty.

It was a first-ever win for England over Germany in 21 attempts after a match of end-to-end action and endeavour from both teams.

The action started on eight minutes as a Tabca Kemme's cross caused chaos for England, forcing Steph Houghton to hook clear off the line just moments after receiving treatment for an ankle injury.

Within a minute Germany striker Celia Sasic had a chance to extend her lead atop the adidas Golden Boot chart but her weak shot was easily gathered by goalkeeper Karen Bardsley.

England soon found their feet and created several opportuni-

ties, most notably Houghton failed to make good contact from close range after superb work down the right from the always lively Lucy Bronze.

The half-chances continued at each end, in particular Germany looked likely through the direct running of Daebritz, Simone Laudehr and others.

Bardsley maintained parity with a superb save from Daebritz eight minutes after the break following a sweeping Germany move in one for the highlights reel.

The litany of half chances continued in front of Bardsley's goal, in particular Kebbe fired narrowly wide from 20 metres.

However, England pushed hard for a winner as the contest became stretched and Jill Scott couldn't get a shot away with

only Nadine Angerer to beat, while Williams saw her fierce goal-bound shot hit a lurking defender.

England may have finished the game stronger but Germany shaded the first period of extra time with a succession of corners causing concern for Bardsley.

Finally the deadlock was broken a minute into the second period of extra time with Kebbe deemed to have hauled down substitute Lianne Sanderson. Williams, just as she had done in the semi-final against Japan, coolly converted by sending the goalkeeper the wrong way.

Sophie Schmidt pushed a back-post header wide and Anja Mittag saw her free-kick blocked as Germany could find no way through in the dying minutes.

Club Licensing Administration System Workshop held

KUALA LUMPUR (AFC) - A workshop on the use of the recently launched Club Licensing Administration System (CLAS) was held in the Malaysian capital city on Friday.

CLAS is another innovative system provided by the AFC to its Member Associations for the implementation of Club Licensing.

This online portal allows clubs to comply with the Club Licensing Criteria and the Member Associations are benefited by the transparency and administrative control of National Club Licensing.

"As you have seen, we are taking club licensing to the next level by introducing CLAS," AFC Deputy General

Secretary Dato' Windsor John said while closing the workshop.

"For the last couple of years, we were working hard to spread club licensing across MAs in Asia. And we have been fairly successful at that. The presence of you all here today is testament to our success in spreading club licensing.

"But we are not here to be content with quantity alone. Now that we have the numbers, we want to see the quality of club licensing improve.

"We have to work together to improve ourselves on qualitative terms. CLAS is the direct result of our continuous efforts in quality development."

Greece, Turkey Look to Bounce Back in Battle for Third Place

HERAKLION (FIBA) - Greece and Turkey will look to shake off differing Semi-Final losses at the 2015 FIBA U19 World Championship as they face off in Sunday's Third-Place Game.

Greece have a chance to finish on the podium for a fourth time and pull into sole possession of second place on the all-time list of top-three placings in the competition. The United States will pick up their ninth top-two showing while Serbia and Lithuania have finished on the podium three times.

Turkey reached the Semi-Finals for the first time and therefore are shooting for their first podium finish.

Turkey face a major uphill battle after being demolished by an essentially six-man Croatia team, losing 91-56 and being dominated in nearly every category. Turkey must find their heart if they are to beat the Greeks again after knocking them off 68-64 in the group stage of the 2014 U18 European Championship en route to the title.

Tournament hosts Greece meanwhile gave a valiant effort but came up just short against the reigning champions United States, losing 82-76.

The six-point game was the closest the USA had thus far in the tournament and was Greece's first defeat. The hosts will have the home crowd on their side as they look to add another piece of hardware to their title in 1995, second place in 2009 and third in 2003.