

Freestyler Reza Atri Wins Gold at Asian Wrestling Championships



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Reza Atri from Iran claimed a gold medal at the 2019 Asian Wrestling Championships on Tuesday.

He defeated Kumsong Kang from North Korea 9-3 in the final match of the 57kg.

Peyman Biabani from Iran won a bronze medal in the 65kg weight category, defeating Sirojiddin Khasanov from Uzbekistan 3-2.

Younes Emami also claimed a bronze medal in the 70kg after defeating Batyr Borjakov from Turkmenistan 11-0.

The 2019 Asian Wrestling Championships are being held in Xian, China, from April 23 to 28.

Milwaukee Bucks Win to Set Up Boston Celtics Semifinal



Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 41 points for the Bucks

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - The Milwaukee Bucks beat the Detroit Pistons to establish an unassailable 4-0 lead in the best-of-seven play-off series and set up an Eastern Conference semi-final against the Boston Celtics.

The Bucks progressed in the post-season for the first time since 2000-01 with Monday's 127-104 win.

The Pistons set an NBA record with their 14th consecutive play-

off defeat. The Houston Rockets lost 107-91 to the Utah Jazz in the Western Conference but lead their series 3-1.

Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said it was important his side "take a second to enjoy" their progress after failing to make it past the first round in eight previous attempts.

"It's a good night for Milwaukee. It's a good night for the Bucks," he added.

Nadal to Face 63rd-Ranked Mayer in Barcelona Open

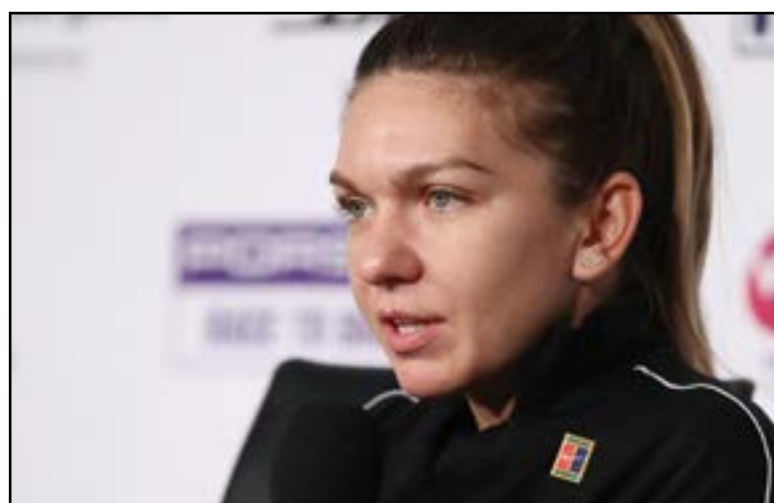


Spain's Rafael Nadal returns the ball to Italy's Fabio Fognini during their semifinal match of the Monte Carlo Tennis Masters tournament in Monaco, April, 20, 2019.

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) - Defending champion Rafael Nadal will face Leonardo Mayer in his first match at the Barcelona Open. Mayer defeated Marius Copil 6-3, 6-7 (3), 7-5 in the first round on Monday. The 63rd-ranked Argentine saved all five break points he faced in a match lasting more than two and a half hours. Second-ranked Nadal, an 11-time winner in Barcelona,

opens play at the clay-court tournament on Wednesday after a first-round bye. He is coming off a loss to Fabio Fognini in the semifinals of the Monte Carlo Masters. "My personal opinion is that I played one of the worst matches on clay," Nadal said in Barcelona. "It's a reality. There is no need to hide it. What has happened has happened."

Halep Pulls Out of WTA Tournament in Stuttgart



Simona Halep

BERLIN (AFP) - World number two Simona Halep has pulled out of this week's WTA tournament in Stuttgart with a hip injury.

Halep was scheduled to play her first match on Wednesday as part of a star-studded line-up which includes world number one Naomi Osaka and reigning Wimbledon champion Angelique Kerber.

However, the Romanian, who missed the end of last season with a back injury, announced her withdrawal on Tuesday after hurting her hip during a Fed Cup match

against France's Caroline Garcia last weekend.

"It was against Garcia in the first set, when I fell down," Halep said. "I felt pain in the hip."

"If I'm not 100 percent, I don't want to step on the court. That's why I decided to pull out, because I have to think about my health first."

The 27-year-old, who has only played on clay in the Fed Cup so far this season, will now aim to return in time to play in Madrid and Rome next month as she gears up for her French Open title defense.

Atalanta Into Champions League Contention With Win at Napoli



NAPLES, Italy (AP) - Atalanta came from behind to beat second-place Napoli 2-1 on Monday and firmly put itself into contention for Serie A's last Champions League spot.

Adding another chapter to a career-best season, Duvan Zapata scored one goal and set up another to hand Napoli only their second home loss in the Italian league.

Atalanta moved level on points with AC Milan, which hold fourth place on head-to-head record.

The top four finishers enter the Champions League group phase.

Napoli remain second but are six points ahead of Inter Milan with five games remaining. Carlo Ancelotti's club has won only one of its last four Serie A matches and was eliminated by Arsenal in the Europa League quarterfinals last week.

Atalanta's 66 goals are second only to the 67 scored by Italian champion Juventus.

Chelsea Move Into Top 4 After Draw With Burnley



Chelsea's Argentinian striker Gonzalo Higuain (2nd right) celebrates with teammates after scoring their second goal during the English Premier League football match between Chelsea and Burnley at Stamford Bridge in London on April 22, 2019.

LONDON (AP) - Chelsea have moved into the Premier League's top four with a frustrating 2-2 draw with Burnley.

Goals two minutes apart from N'Golo Kante and Gonzalo Higuain put Chelsea on top

at Stamford Bridge after Jeff Hendrick had given Burnley an early lead.

But Ashley Barnes pulled the visitors even in the 24th minute and Chelsea was unable to get the winner despite dominating

possession and finishing with 22 shots.

Chelsea climbed into the final Champions League qualifying spot, one point above fifth-place Arsenal and three ahead of Manchester United, but have played one game more.

Along with the disappointment of dropping points, the Blues were also left frustrated by what they felt was time wasting on Burnley's part.

"We wanted to win. They didn't want to lose," assistant coach Gianfranco Zola said. "There was too much time wasting. We couldn't build important rhythm."

Chelsea also have injury concerns after Kante left the game with a rib problem and winger Callum Hudson-Odoi was forced off by what he later said on social media was a ruptured Achilles tendon.

Burnley, meanwhile, all but guaranteed its Premier League status for another season.

Golovkin Seeks Path Back to Alvarez

NEW YORK (AP) - The giant banner behind him revealed not only a new nickname, but a new reality in boxing for Gennady Golovkin.

"The return of the people's champion," it read, touting Golovkin's June 8 match at Madison Square Garden that will be his first fight since dropping his rematch against Canelo Alvarez.

Golovkin came away from those fights with a loss and a draw, and the former holder of three belts has no more after a record 20 consecutive middleweight title defenses.

"Everyone in the Triple G team thinks he won both of those fights, as does the majority of the fan base and the media, and that's why we crowned him the 'People's Champion,'" promoter Tom Loeffler said Monday.

The people may still consider Golovkin a champion, but the boxing rankings have said otherwise since the longtime 160-pound ruler's loss to Alvarez last September in their second fight.

Plenty has changed since that narrow defeat in Las Vegas, though not when it comes to Golovkin's mindset. Some may wonder if he's diminished at 37 after two hard fights with Alvarez, but not Golovkin. He won't be carrying any belts into the ring but he still has a champion's confidence.

Golovkin (38-1-1, 34 KOs) may get his shot at



Gennady Golovkin punches Canelo Alvarez during their WBC

being a real champion again soon, perhaps even against Alvarez.

First, Golovkin will return to the ring against Steve Rolls, a little known Canadian who is unbeaten in 19 fights while fighting at both 160 and 168 pounds.

They will split the difference for the June bout, which will be held at a maximum of 164 pounds. Rolls (19-0, 10 KOs) was selected in hopes he could put up a good enough performance to make Golovkin work, but not good enough to mess up any plans for a third fight with Alvarez.