

Iran Earn Nine Medals at 2019 Asian Karate Championships

Tehran (Press TV) - Team Iran has displayed great performance on day one of the 2019 Asian Karate Federation Senior Championships, which is underway in Uzbekistan, after earning 3 gold, 2 silver, and 4 bronze medals.

Zabiollah Pour-Shieb in the men's kumite minus 84-kilogram category claimed the gold after beating his Jordanian opponent in the final.

In the women's kumite, Taravat Khaksar and Hamideh Abbasali bagged two



more golds for Iran in the minus 55-kg and the plus 68-kg

categories respectively. Meanwhile, Rozita Alipour

bagged the silver medal in the minus 61-kg category. That's while Sajjad Ganjzadeh, Bahman Asgari, and Fatemeh Sadeghi all pocketed bronze medals for Team Iran.

In the Kata section, the women's team for Iran clinched the silver, while the men bagged the bronze.

The competition has brought nearly 400 competitors from 33 countries together in the city of Tashkent from the 15th to the 21st of July.

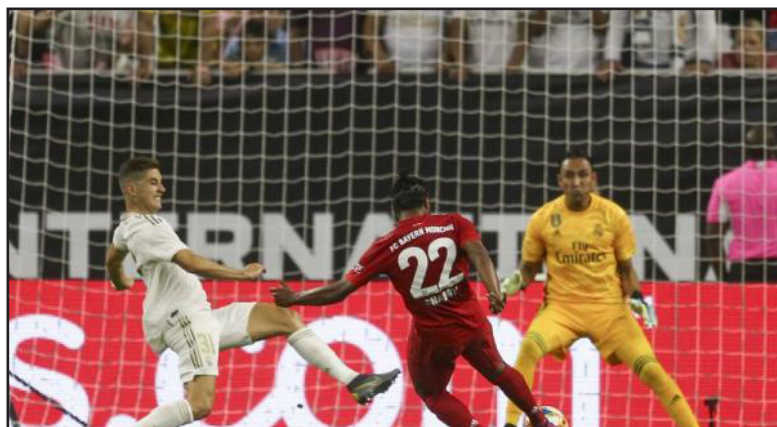
Bayern Beat Real 3-1 in Texas as Clubs Unveil New Signings

HOUSTON (Reuters) - Bayern Munich beat Real Madrid 3-1 in an entertaining International Champions Cup match in Houston on Saturday.

Both sides gave debuts to high-profile acquisitions in a game that featured appearances from 41 different players.

Real, who started with a full-strength side that included a debut for former Chelsea attacking midfielder Eden Hazard went 1-0 down after just a quarter of an hour.

David Alaba cut the ball back



from the left and although Corentin Tolisso's first shot was saved off the line he hammered the rebound into the roof of the net to

put the Germans 1-0 ahead.

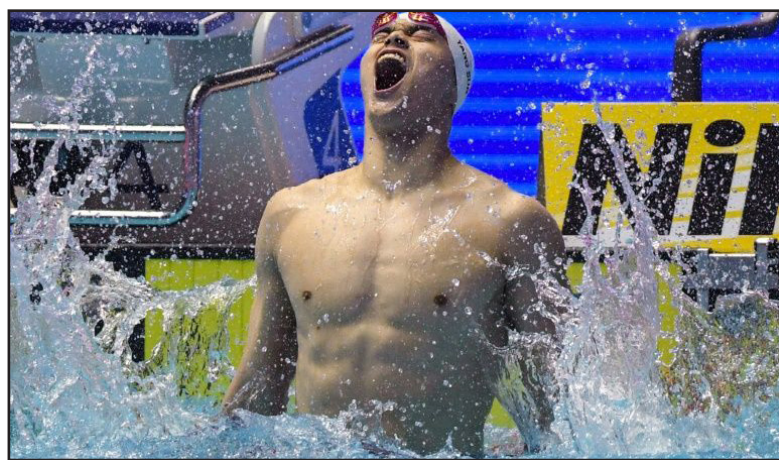
Real, though, had the better of the first half with only Manuel Neuer's presence and Karim

Benzema's profligacy preventing them from drawing equal in a relaxed but end-to-end match.

Bayern made five changes at the start of the second half and Real made 11, with Ferland Mendy and Rodrygo for Real and defenders Lucas Hernandez and Benjamin Pavard for Bayern among the big-name off-season arrivals making their debuts.

Real's young and speedy forwards started the second period on top but instead it was two of Bayern's substitutes who helped seal the result.

China's Sun Blazes to Record Fourth 400m Freestyle World Crown



China's Sun Yang celebrates after winning the final of the men's 400m freestyle event at the 2019 World Championships in Gwangju, South Korea

GWANGJU, South Korea (AFP) - China's Sun Yang stormed to 400 metres freestyle gold at the world swimming championships Sunday, retaining his title and winning it for

a record fourth time.

The controversial triple Olympic champion clocked three minutes, 42.44 seconds in Gwangju with fierce Australian rival Mack Hor-

ton taking silver in a repeat of the 2017 result.

Sun, facing fresh allegations of violating doping protocols coming into the eight-day meet, slapped the water and roared in delight, savouring his moment as he sat on the lane rope.

As he climbed out of the pool after claiming the first gold medal of the eight-day swimming competition, Sun pumped his fist at the crowd and bellowed in delight.

Greeted by deafening cheers from flag-waving Chinese fans screaming his name, Sun sauntered onto the pool deck in headphones and goggles.

After a conservative first 200m, he pulled away inexorably over

the second half to claim his 10th world title.

Horton claimed silver in 3:43.17 and Italian Gabriele Detti bronze in 3:43.23 for a carbon copy of the 2017 podium in Budapest.

Sun and Horton have also clashed outside the pool with the Aussie labelling him a "drug cheat" before pipping him to gold at the 2016 Rio Olympics over a three-month suspension Sun previously served for taking a banned stimulant he claimed was for a heart problem.

The giant Chinese faces claims outlined in a leaked FINA doping panel report that he smashed blood samples with a hammer when testers visited him last year.

Simone Biles Takes Gold Medal at U.S. Classic Gymnastics

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Simone Biles had a lot to feel good about, even with some rare missteps that were quickly forgotten in her latest climb atop another podium.

What mattered most to the world's top gymnast was keeping things moving forward, which Biles did.

Biles won the U.S. Classic on Saturday night to maintain her six-year winning streak.

The four-time Olympic gold medalist and reigning world champion had an all-around score of 60.000, 2.100 points ahead of runner-up Riley McCusker. Grace McCallum was

third at 57.700.

Biles won her 19th consecutive all-around title beginning with the 2013 U.S. Championships. She surged from fifth following the first rotation on the uneven bars into first on the next. She had the highest score in the vault (15.650), though Jade Carey won the event with a two-vault average score of 14.800.

Biles left no doubt in the floor exercise, which generated the most curiosity for what she would add to her top-flight exercise routine.

Biles delivered, unleashing a high-speed punch layout



Simone Biles

front onto her second flip on her signature move known as "The Biles," a double layout with a half turn. Momentum

from the high-energy move sent her out of bounds, though it didn't hurt her score in that segment or overall.

Pacquiao Beats Thurman to Become World Welterweight Champion at 40



ul 20, 2019; Las Vegas, NV, USA; Manny Pacquiao (white trunks) lands a hit against Keith Thurman (red/white/blue trunks) during their WBA welterweight championship bout at MGM Grand Garden Arena.

LAS VEGAS (Reuters) - Manny Pacquiao beat defending champion Keith Thurman on a split points decision on Saturday to take the WBA Welterweight Super Championship at the end of an electrifying fight in Las Vegas.

Two judges scored it 115-112 to Pacquiao and another gave it 114-113 to Thurman, who suffered his first defeat in 30 fights.

"The knock down was a big factor," said Pacquiao, who became the oldest welterweight champion in boxing history.

Thurman had vowed to beat the 40-year old Filipino into retirement, but he was behind from the first round at the MGM Grand.

The 30-year old American had a height, reach, and age advantage but he got knocked down with less than a minute to go in the first round and was chasing the fight from then on.

Thurman started to bleed from his nose in the fifth round and looked beaten but he recovered in the middle of the fight to win several

rounds and shake Pacquiao's confidence.

The Filipino, however, recovered his poise towards the end of the 12-round contest, to edge the fight. "I knew it was just too close. He got the knockdown so he had momentum in Round One," Thurman said on CBS Sports.

"I want to thank the fans. I want to thank everybody for coming out. This was a beautiful night of boxing. Manny Pacquiao is a great, truly great champion.

"I wish I had a little bit more output to go toe to toe. I felt like he was getting a little bit tired, but he did have experience in the ring. My conditioning, my output was just behind Manny Pacquiao. It was a great night of boxing. I'd love a rematch."

Pacquiao, whose speed and power belied his age, is the only man in boxing history to hold world titles in eight different divisions.

His win takes his record to 62-7-2 with 39 knockouts. Thurman falls to 29-1 (22 KOs).

Alaphilippe, Pinot Shine on Tour's Tourmalet to Lift Home Hopes



Deceuninck-Quick Step rider Julian Alaphilippe of France celebrates on the podium, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey.

COL DU TOURMALET, France (Reuters) - Julian Alaphilippe hedged his bets when asked about his chances of winning the Tour de France, but together with Thibaut Pinot, he is leading a French renaissance that could deliver a first home title since 1985.

Alaphilippe leads the race by more than two minutes after stage 14, while Pinot, an impressive winner at the top of the iconic Col du Tourmalet on Saturday, is proving to be the best climber.

Alaphilippe is the world's top-ranked road racer but has never before challenged for the Tour's general classification.

Yet after finishing second to Pinot on Saturday, he holds a 2:02 advantage over defending champion Geraint Thomas, who struggled in the final part of the 19-km ascent to the Tourmalet.

Asked what he would tell a friend who wanted to bet on him to claim the title in Paris on July 28, Alaphilippe said with a smile: "I would tell him to keep his money so we have some to celebrate with anyway."

France have rarely been this close to celebrating a first overall victory

since Bernard Hinault claimed the last of his five wins 34 years ago.

Laurent Fignon went agonisingly close in 1989, when he lost to American Greg Lemond by eight seconds.

Yet all too often since then, the French have been a "laughing stock" in the peloton, according to Pinot's sports director at Groupama-FDJ, Philippe Mauduit.

The French almost disappeared off the radar entirely in the doping-tainted early 2000s, but their recent resurgence has been impressive.

They have claimed victories in 'Monument' classics with Arnaud Demare and Alaphilippe winning the Milan-Sanremo in 2016 and 2019 respectively while Pinot triumphed at the Giro Di Lombardia last year.

French riders have also finished on the Tour's podium four times in the last five years through Jean-Christophe Peraud and Pinot in 2014 and Romain Bardet in 2016 and 2017.

With French president Emmanuel Macron watching from race director Christian Prudhomme's car, Pinot was the strongest on the Pyrenean climb as he bounced back from a positioning error that cost him 1:40 on the flat on Monday.