

Iranian Greco-Roman Wrestlers Win Four Medals at World Junior Championships



TALLINN, Estonia (Dispatches) – Iranian Greco-Roman wrestlers have claimed two gold and two bronze medals at the United World Wrestling World Junior Wrestling Championships in Tallinn, Estonia.

Mohammad Aziz Naghousi of Iran defeated Russian Damir Rakhimov 2-1 in a tight match in the 77kg final on Saturday.

Iran's Aliakbar Hossein Youso-

fi also won 2-1 against American Cohlton Michael Schultz to claim the 130kg gold.

Iranian representatives Pooya Soulat Dad Marz and Shahin Eidi Badaghi Mofrad won two bronze medals in 55kg and 63kg respectively.

The Russian Federation (97 points) has a seven-point lead over second-place Iran (90 points).

U-19 Volleyballers Defeat Brazil in Friendly



TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Iran U-19 volleyball team earned its third win in a row ahead of the 2019 FIVB Volleyball Boys' U-19 World Championship.

On Saturday, the Iranian team beat Brazil 3-1 (20-25, 25-20, 25-23, 25-20).

Iran had already defeated Egypt and Cuba in warm-up games in Tunisia.

Iran is pitted against the Czech Republic, Italy, Colombia and Bulgaria in Pool B.

Pool A consists of Tunisia, Brazil, Taiwan, Cuba and Belarus.

Japan, Egypt, Argentina, Mexico

and German have been drawn in Pool C.

Russia, South Korea, USA, Nigerian and the Dominican Republic are in Pool D.

The 2019 FIVB Volleyball Boys' U-19 World Championship will be the sixteenth edition of the international volleyball tournament and the world championship for men's national teams under the age of 19, organized by the sport's world governing body, FIVB.

The tournament will be hosted by Tunisia in Tunis from August 21 to 30.

Mes Sungun Runner-Up at AFC Futsal Club Championship

BANGKOK (Dispatches) - Nagoya Oceans of Japan have won the title after overcoming Iran's Mes Soongoon 2-nil in the final of AFC Futsal Club Championship in the Thai Capital Bangkok.

The Iranian defending champions stepped into the game looking to avenge their 3-2 loss to Oceans in the group stage.

However, they fell behind to an early Neto Antonio Hirata strike after a defensive mix-up in the 7th minute.

A stunned Mes Soongoon created and wasted several chances as Oceans took a 1-nil lead into the break.

That advantage was doubled in the 34th minute when Ryo-hei Ando volleyed home a corner and the Iranian side immediately switched to their power play mode.

Nagoya Oceans however, held on to their lead to deny Mes back-to-back crowns and win a record-extending 4th AFC Futsal Club Championship title themselves.



Qatar, Iran Futsal Teams to Play Friendly Match

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranian and Qatari national futsal teams are to play friendly matches in Iran during September 3-4.

The two teams are set to play in

presence of Iran's best futsal player Vahid Shamsaee on two consecutive days.

Qatari national futsal team is scheduled to visit Iran on September 1.

Medvedev Shocks Djokovic to Reach Cincinnati Masters Final



Upset winner: Ninth-seeded Daniil Medvedev of Russia shakes hands with world number one Novak Djokovic after topping the Serb star in the semi-finals of the ATP Cincinnati Masters

CINCINNATI (AFP) - World number one Novak Djokovic crashed out of the Cincinnati Masters Sunday, beaten 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 by ninth-seeded Russian Daniil Medvedev in the semi-finals.

Medvedev, who now leads the ATP with 30 hardcourt wins this season, will play for the title on Sunday against Belgium's David Goffin, who defeated France's Richard Gasquet 6-3, 6-4.

Both defending champion Djokovic and Medvedev had reached the semi-finals without

dropping a set.

But it's Medvedev who will play his second Masters final in eight days, after losing to Rafael Nadal in the Montreal title match on Sunday.

The week previously, the 23-year-old also played the Washington final, losing to Nick Kyrgios.

Djokovic appeared to have the contest under control, but had no answer when Medvedev stepped up the pressure in the second set.

Bale, Benzema Lead Madrid to Opening Spanish League Win



MADRID (AP) — Zinedine Zidane's revamped Real Madrid got the spark it needed from a couple of veterans to get off to a winning start in the Spanish league.

In the absence of injured new signing Eden Hazard, it was Karim Benzema and Gareth Bale who contributed with goals and assists as Madrid comfortably won at Celta Vigo 3-1 on Saturday.

Bale, who many thought would be gone from the squad by now, set up Benzema's opening goal, then Toni Kroos and Lucas Vázquez added to the lead in a match in which Madrid played most of the second half with 10 men following a red card to Luka Modric.

After Madrid's attempts to transfer Bale failed, Zidane started the Wales forward at Balaidos Stadium.

Liverpool Beat Southampton 2-1 for 2nd Win to Open EPL



Liverpool's Roberto Firmino, centre, celebrates scoring his side's second goal of the game with teammates during the English Premier League soccer match between Southampton and Liverpool, at St Mary's, in Southampton, England, Aug 17, 2019.

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP) — Liverpool made light of an exhaustive midweek trip to Turkey to post a club-record 11th straight Premier League win with a 2-1 triumph at Southampton, despite a late blunder by goalkeeper Adrian on Saturday.

Goals from Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino kept up Liverpool's impressive domestic record, with the team having won every game going back to the Merseyside derby on March 3 last season. It is unbeaten in 19 league games overall.

This win must be as pleasing as any for Jürgen Klopp, given his players did not land back in this country until 4 am local time on Thursday following a penalty-shootout win over Chelsea in the UEFA Super Cup in Istanbul.

Honda Facing Very Complicated Red Bull Penalty Call

TOKYO (Dispatches) - Honda has already brought two engine upgrades during the 2019 season, which its aggressive development program presenting the opportunity to introduce a third update the next time it gives Red Bull and Toro Rosso fresh engines.

The Japanese manufacturer's Spec 3 engine made its debut in the French Grand Prix and has completed five races.

With power-sensitive races coming up at the Belgian and Italian GPs, followed by one of Red Bull's strongest races in Singapore, either of the two races immediately after the summer break represents a logical time to introduce a new engine.

These are traditionally favored venues for changes that trigger grid drops as it is easier to recover ground at Spa or Monza without compromising a strong race in Singapore.

However, Honda's F1 technical

director Toyoharu Tanabe said a decision had not been made prior to F1's summer break.

Singapore will almost certainly be prioritized given it represents a significant opportunity for Red Bull to take another win this season, but Honda's home race in Japan is only the fifth race after the summer break.

That is firmly in Honda's sights as the best opportunity for a strong result at Suzuka since it returned to F1 in 2015.

If Red Bull's leading driver Max Verstappen takes a grid penalty at Spa or Monza and does not take another fresh engine before Suzuka, he will have to contest Honda's home grand prix with a unit that is several races old.

Honda believes its engines are now reliable enough to complete six full weekends without problem or significant degradation in performance.

VAR Controversy Hides Chasm Between Man City, Spurs

MANCHESTER (AFP) - "I am in love with VAR," joked Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino after his side escaped with a 2-2 draw at Manchester City thanks to Gabriel Jesus's late winner for the Premier League champions being ruled out on review.

Yet, the score line masked the fact that Spurs, despite reaching the Champions League final last season and breaking the club's transfer record for French midfielder Tanguy Ndombele, still look well off potential challengers to City's throne as champions.

Mauricio Pochettino's men finished 27 points behind City last season, on Saturday 27 was the difference in the shot count as Tottenham mustered three to the hosts' 30.

City will bemoan their luck and lackluster defending that allowed Erik Lamela and Lucas Moura to cancel out goals from Raheem Sterling and Sergio Aguero with Spurs' only two efforts on target.

However, there was no evidence in the performance of a slipping of standards after winning the first domestic treble of trophies English football had ever seen last season.

"When the people say: 'you can do better', better than this I don't know if it is possible," said a proud City manager Pep Guardiola.

"We played incredible. The best game we have played in our time together, it was so good. We played good, but we could not win.

"If we continue to play in that way we won't have regrets and that is the most important thing."

City were pushed all the way last season by a Liverpool side who recorded the third highest points tally in English football history with 97 and yet still could not topple Guardiola's men for the title.

The European champions have started the Premier League season with two wins to take an early two-point lead over the champions and are clearly the most likely challengers to prevent City a hat-trick of titles.