

# Iranian Athlete Bags Gold at World Para Championships



Hamed Amiri snatched a gold medal at the Men's Javelin Throw F54 event of the Dubai

DUBAI (Dispatches) – Hamed Amiri from Iran snatched a gold medal at the Men's Javelin Throw F54 event of the Dubai 2019 World Para Athletics Championships on Wednesday.

The thrower won the gold with a 29.77 meters effort.

Greek participant Manolis Stefanoudakis came second with 29.76m and Aleksei Kuznetsov from Russia seized a bronze with 29.68m.

More than 1,400 athletes from 120 nations are competing in the World Championships from November 7 to 15.

# Iran to Take on Iraq in Jordan at 2022 FIFA World Cup

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran national football team will lock horn with their familiar foe Iraq on Matchday 5 of Asia's second round of qualifying for the 2022 FIFA World Cup on Thursday.

Group C leaders Iraq entertain Iran in neutral Amman as the two sides resume what is one of Asia's most well-known rivalries, one which dates back all the way to 1962, FIFA.com reported.

Marc Wilmots' visitors can, of course, take heart from their superior head-to-head record in all competitions, including winning two and losing one of their past three World Cup qualifying meetings. Srecko Katanec's hosts side, however, have prov-

en more than competitive over their rivals in recent meetings, including at this year's AFC Asian Cup.

Having suffered a 1-0 loss at the hands of Bahrain in the previous outing, Team Melli are under pressure to bounce back with an away win. Wilmots has named a full-strength squad featuring ten overseas-based players. Katanec, though, has called up a trio of uncapped players to provide fresh impetus to Iraq as they aim to cement their place at the top with all three points. Should the battle end in stalemate, Bahrain, level with Iraq on points, have the opportunity to move top with victory in Hong Kong.

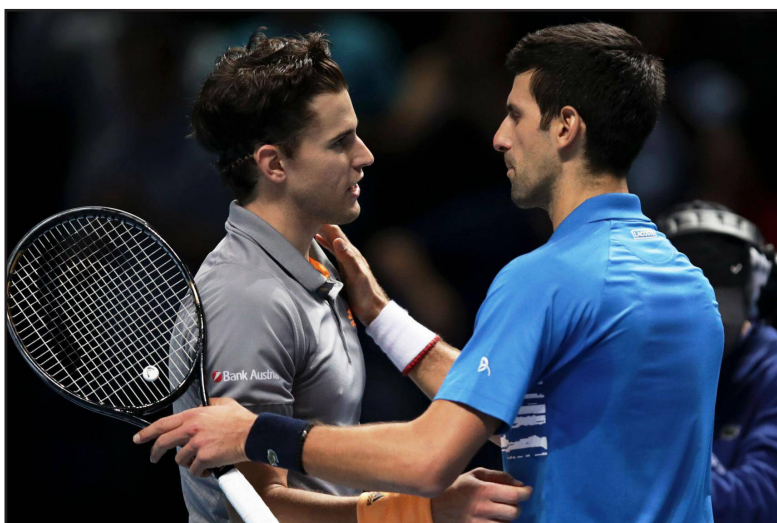
## Thiem Stuns Djokovic to Reach Semis at ATP Finals

LONDON (Dispatches) – Dominic Thiem stunned Novak Djokovic to become the first player into the semi-finals at the ATP Finals in London.

The Austrian won a thriller 6-7 (5-7) 6-3 7-6 (7-5) to advance, ensuring Djokovic and Roger Federer will fight for the other place when they meet in their final group match on Thursday.

Federer, who had lost his opening round-robin match to Thiem on Sunday, had earlier got his campaign on track.

He beat Italy's Matteo Berrettini 7-6 (7-2) 6-3 to keep



Dominic Thiem and Novak Djokovic.

alive his hopes.

The results set up an enticing winner-takes-all battle between 16-time Grand Slam champion Djokovic and 20-time major winner Federer, who played out an epic Wimbledon final in July that the Serb eventually won.

The top two players in each group after the round-robin stage progress to Saturday's semi-finals.

The event, which is taking place in London for the penultimate year, features the top eight male players of 2019.

## Salah to Miss Two Cup of Nations Qualifiers



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah, left, scores his side's second goal of the game during the English Premier League soccer match at Anfield, Liverpool, England, Nov. 10, 2019.

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's soccer federation says Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah will miss two Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers.

Salah has an ankle injury and was ruled out of the Egyptian squad for games against Kenya on Thursday and Comoros on Monday.

The federation's statement says Egypt coach Hossam el-Badry met with Salah, who stressed his commitment to play for the Pharaohs. That's despite occasionally strained relations with the federation that go back to the World Cup

in Russia last year.

Salah watched his teammates train near Alexandria on Tuesday with the federation tweeting a photo of Salah wearing a protective boot on his left foot.

The 27-year-old Salah has struggled with a nagging ankle injury the last month. He started and scored in Premier League leader Liverpool's 3-1 win over defending champion Manchester City on Sunday, coming off in the 87th minute.

Egypt is in Group G, which also includes Togo.

## Lakers Cruise Past Phoenix Suns 123-115 in NBA



Kyle Kuzma reacts after hitting a crucial late three-pointer in the Los Angeles Lakers 123-115 win over the Phoenix Suns

A LeBron James three-pointer put the Lakers 114-113 ahead before Kuzma weighed in to stretch the lead to 120-113.

"I've been finding my rhythm all season," Kuzma said of his crucial pair of late three-pointers.

"I feel like every single game I've been getting better with my rhythm and timing.

"It kind of clicked a little bit. I know I can shoot," added Kuzma, who finished with 23 points off the bench while Anthony Davis led the Lakers with 24 points and 12 rebounds.

James added 19 points, 11 assists and seven rebounds as the Lakers made an instant return to winning ways following Sunday's loss to Toronto.

James meanwhile praised the contribution of Kuzma, saying he had never doubted the 24-year-old's ability to

deliver.

The win saw the Lakers improve to 8-2 at the top of the Western Conference, continuing the franchise's resurgence under head coach Frank Vogel.

Phoenix meanwhile fell to 6-4 with the defeat. Devin Booker and Ricky Rubio led the Suns scoring with 21 points apiece.

Elsewhere Wednesday, Trae Young exploded for 42 points as the Atlanta Hawks upset the Denver Nuggets 125-121 in Colorado.

Young also added 11 assists in a virtuoso display that was the 21-year-old's fifth 30-point game of the season and his third in a row.

In Philadelphia, the 76ers improved to 7-3 in the Eastern Conference table with a gritty 98-97 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers at the Wells Fargo Center.

## Formula 1 Launches Plan to Become Carbon Neutral by 2030

London (AFP) - Formula 1 has launched a plan to become carbon neutral by 2030.

The intention is to wipe out the carbon footprint of activity at race tracks, including road and air transport of staff and equipment to the events.

F1 says it will "move to ultra-

efficient logistics and travel and 100% renewably powered offices, facilities and factories" and offset emissions that cannot be cut.

F1 said as a first step it would begin carbon-reduction projects immediately.

It added that it will make all events "sustainable" by 2025, in-

cluding eliminating single-use plastics and ensuring all waste is reused, recycled or composted.

And in 2021, rules will demand that the petrol used in F1 has a bio-fuel content of at least 10%.

The high-tech turbo hybrid power-units used to power F1 cars since 2014 are the most efficient

car engines in the world in terms of the percentage of fuel energy that is converted into power, a measurement known as thermal efficiency.

F1 engines have a thermal efficiency rating of 50%, whereas a road-car petrol engine is generally in the region of 30%.

## Superb Mokoena Goal Gives South Africa Win in Olympics Qualifier



A file photo of South African Teboho Mokoena (L) celebrating scoring against the Seychelles in a 2019 Africa Cup of Nations qualifier

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - A brilliant Teboho Mokoena free-kick goal gave South Africa a 1-0 victory over the Ivory Coast Tuesday in a 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games qualifier in Cairo.

Mokoena, a late arrival for the eight-nation competition because SuperSport United refused to free him ahead of the November 10-19 international window, struck on 79 minutes.

The free-kick was in the middle of the pitch, but well outside the penalty area, and Mokoena lifted the ball over a wall of players and goalkeeper Ira Tape Eliezer.

Victory lifted South Africa to the top of Group B with four points, one more than the Ivory Coast and Nigeria, who defeated Zambia 3-1 in the second match of a double-header.

## Spain's Record Scorer Striker Villa Retires After 19-Year Career

MADRID (AFP) - Star striker David Villa, Spain's top goalscorer, Wednesday announced he will retire next month, ending a glittering career in which he won the World Cup, European Championships and Champions League.

The 37-year-old Vissel Kobe striker said he will call it a day at the end of the 2019 J-League season after a 19-year career that took in Barcelona, Atletico Madrid and Valencia while accumulating 98 caps for his country.

Villa played in three World Cups and was a member of the Spanish side that lifted the trophy in 2010 and won the European Championships in 2008, though he missed out on the 2012 triumph through injury. He scored 59 times for Spain, a national record.