

Iran Win Bronze in Ju-Jitsu World Championships

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranian Ju-Jitsu practitioner Kian Alizadeh gained a bronze medal in the 2019 edition of JJIF World Championships underway in UAE.

Alizadeh won the bronze medal of boy's -50kg category on Monday in the Ne-Waza discipline of the youth level.

The 2019 edition of JJIF World Championships started on Nov.

15 in Abu Dhabi and will run through Nov. 24. The competitions are held in categories of adults, youth, masters, and Para Ju-Jitsu with the participation of both men and women practitioners.

Iran have dispatched two practitioners in the youth, nine in senior level, and one in masters level. The senior competitions will start on Wednesday.

Persian League Picks Up Special Merit at AFC Grassroots Football

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) honored the advocates of grassroots football of the year for their contributions to the sport at the AFC Special Grassroots, which was held in conjunction with the 2nd AFC Women's Football Conference in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday.

Persian League from Iran won the special merit, followed by DUO

League (Japan), Grassroots Development Program by NOFA (Philippines) and Blue Sky Football Academy (Vietnam).

ISF Football Program from Cambodia was conferred the Best Grassroots Project accolade.

Street Soccer Hong Kong became runner-up and Free Football Clinic for Youth Level (Thailand) came third.

Italy Thump Armenia 9-1 for Biggest Win Since 1948



Italy's **Ciro Immobile**, left, scores his side's first goal past Armenia's goalkeeper **Aram Airapetyan** during a group J qualifying soccer match between Italy and Armenia at the **Renzo Barbera stadium**, in **Palermo, Italy**, Nov 18, 2019.

PALERMO, Sicily (AP) - Italy have achieved their biggest win in more than 70 years when they beat Armenia 9-1 in their last qualifier for the 2020 European Championship.

Italy's biggest win since a 9-0 result against the United States in 1948 featured three Italians scoring their first international goals.

Nicolo Zaniolo, debutant Riccardo Orsolini, and Federico Chiesa all got off the mark to help Italy to a record-extending 11th successive victory.

Chiesa hit the woodwork twice before finishing off the scoring for

Italy nine minutes from time.

Italy, which had already qualified for Euro 2020 as Group J winner, ensured they progressed with a perfect record of 10 wins in 10 matches. It also beat the United States in a friendly last year.

Italy were 2-0 up after less than 10 minutes and 4-0 at halftime following a **Ciro Immobile** brace, **Zaniolo's** goal, and one for **Nicolo Barella**.

There was a less frantic start to the second period but **Zaniolo** added another in the 64th and **Alessio Romagnoli** bundled in a rebound and **Jorginho** converted a penalty.

Russia Beat Reigning Champions Croatia in Davis Cup Opener



Russia's **Karen Khachanov** returns a shot during a **Davis Cup** match against Croatia.

MADRID (AFP) - **Karen Khachanov** and **Andrey Rublev** have helped Russia open the inaugural **Davis Cup Finals** with a 3-0 victory over defending champions **Croatia** in Madrid.

World number 17 **Khachanov** clinched the point for Russia by fighting back to beat Croatian number one **Borna Coric** 6-7 (4/7), 6-4, 6-4, after **Rublev** had earlier seen off **Borna Gojo** 6-3, 6-3.

"When you're playing not only for yourself, but for your country, you have to fight harder," said **Khacha-**

nov. The 18 nations have been split into six groups of three at the **Caja Magica**, with the pool winners and two best runners-up to play in the last eight of the first edition of the revamped tournament.

The teams face off in two best-of-three-set singles matches and one doubles rubber in each tie.

Khachanov and **Rublev** completed the clean sweep later on Monday with a 7-6 (7/3), 6-4 doubles win over **Ivan Dodig** and **Nikola Mektic**.

Four Taekwondo Athletes to be Sent to World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Four taekwondo athletes will represent Iran at the Moscow 2019 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final.

Armin Hadipour at -58kg,

Mir Hashem Hosseini and Soroush Ahmadi at -80kg and Sajad Mardani at +80kg will participate in the event.

The four-member team will be

headed by Fariborz Askari.

The World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final will be held in Moscow, Russia on December 6 and 7.

It will mark the end of a season that has also seen competitions held in Italy's capital Rome, Japanese city Chiba and Bulgaria's Sofia.

Spain Thrash Romania 5-0 in Last Qualifier for Euro 2020



Spain's **Gerard Moreno** celebrates with **Santi Carzola**, left, after scoring his side's second goal during the Euro 2020 group F qualifying soccer match between Spain and Romania at the **Metropolitano stadium** in **Madrid**, Nov 18, 2019.

MADRID (AP) - Spain have finished their qualifying campaign

for the 2020 European Championship with a 5-0 rout of Romania in

what could have been the farewell match for coach **Robert Moreno**.

Moreno did not show for the post-match interview and there were widespread reports in Spanish media he would not continue at the helm of "La Roja."

The Spanish soccer federation did not immediately say why the coach did not talk to the media.

Moreno took over the job after **Luis Enrique** resigned in March to take care of his sick daughter. **Moreno** had been **Luis Enrique's** assistant until then.

Gerard Moreno scored twice for the hosts, who had already secured a spot in the tournament but needed the victory to be

among the top-seeded teams in the draw this month.

Spain also got on the scoreboard through **Fabian Ruiz**, **Mikel Oyarzabal**, and an own-goal by Romanian defender **Adrian Rus**.

"It was important to finish with the three points in front of our crowd," said **Ruiz**, who scored his first goal with the national team. "We need to keep this same dynamic going into the Euros next year."

Spain ended as the Group F winner with eight wins and two draws, at Norway and Sweden. "La Roja" finished five points in front of second-placed Sweden.

Doncic Scores 42 in Triple-Double, Mavs Top Spurs 117-110

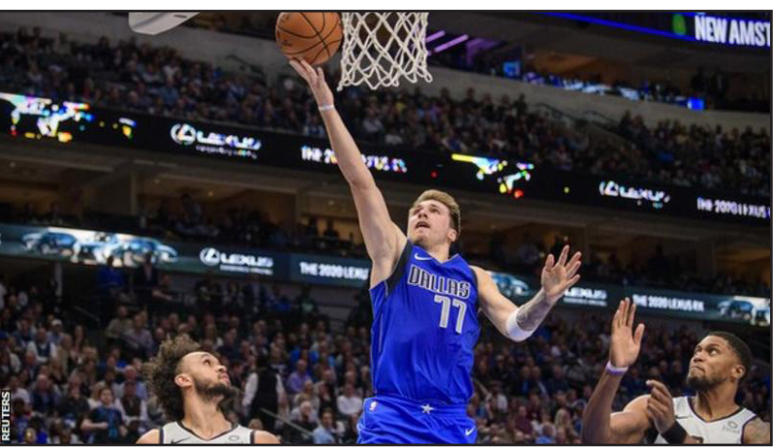
DALLAS (AP) - **Luka Doncic** grew up idolizing **LeBron James**, and now the young NBA prodigy has joined **James** in the record book.

The Dallas Mavericks needed everything **Doncic** delivered in a sensational performance Monday night.

Doncic scored a career-high 42 points to go with 12 assists and 11 rebounds as the Mavericks held off the skidding San Antonio Spurs 117-110. The 20-year-old second-year guard joined **James** as the only players in league history younger than 21 to have a 40-point triple-double.

"It feels like every day there are stats you don't know about, stats that you read about," **Doncic** said. "It's great to hit."

Dallas led wire to wire but had to fend off a late Spurs rally, with **Doncic** hitting a 3-pointer with



Dallas Mavericks owner **Mark Cuban** shakes hands with **Luka Doncic** (77) after the 117-110 win over the San Antonio Spurs in an NBA basketball game Monday, Nov. 18, 2019, in Dallas.

26.5 seconds to play that put Dallas up 115-110 after the Spurs had rallied from 14 down at the start of the quarter.

Doncic has an NBA-leading six triple-doubles in just 13 games this season.

"This guy can do anything he wants to on a basketball court," Mavericks coach **Rick Carlisle** said. "He's having one of those magical runs right now. It's a phenomenal thing to watch. It's a phenomenal thing to be a part

of."

Dallas also got a career-high 22 points from **Dorian Finney-Smith**, and **Kristaps Porzingis** added 18 points and 10 rebounds.

The Spurs have lost six in a row, their longest slide since 2011, and dropped eight of nine since a 4-1 start. They're off to their worst start since 1996-97, the season before they drafted former star and current assistant coach **Tim Duncan**.

DeMar DeRozan scored a season-high 36 points for the Spurs, helping to lead a fourth-quarter surge after they trailed 93-79 entering the period.

"When adversity hits you can't run from it, you can't shy away from it, you can't let it get you down," **DeRozan** said. "Try to channel that energy and put it in the right place so we can understand why we got beat."

Ferrari Drivers Should Follow Hamilton's Example - Brawn



Italian team's former technical director **Ross Brawn**

LONDON (Reuters) – One of Ferrari's two drivers should take a leaf out of **Lewis Hamilton's** book and accept blame for Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix collision, according to the Italian team's former technical director **Ross Brawn**.

Sebastian Vettel and **Charles Leclerc** put each other out of the penultimate race of the Formula One season at Interlagos after a coming together five laps from the end with a likely podium place at stake.

Hamilton, now a six times world champion, collided on the penultimate lap with Red Bull's Thai rookie **Alexander Albon** and immediately recognised he was at fault.

The Mercedes driver was summoned to stewards after the race but declined the chance to defend himself, sending a message to say he accepted full responsibility.

The Briton's action resulted in a five-second penalty and demotion from third place to seventh.