

Iran Female Para-Archer Runner-Up in UAE Event



Iranian para-archer Zahra Nemati

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranian para-archer Zahra Nemati received a silver medal in the 7th

Fazza International Para-Archery Tournament in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

During the final match, Nemati was defeated by Turkish rival and stood on the second place.

Another athlete from Turkey also received a silver medal.

Nemati had earlier defeated archers from India and Ukraine.

In recent seven years, the Iranian women have clinched several championship titles and gained colorful medals at world sports competitions.

Nemati by winning gold medal became the first ever female Para-athlete in both Iran and Asia and also the thirteenth in history who could be qualified for Olympic or Paralympic games.

Iran's female victories did not end by Nemati's medal, another Iranian Para-athlete-Javanmardi- shined more and more which made the audience worldwide to call her "The Pistol Queen".

Youth Handball Team Wins Yazd Intl Tournament



TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Iran youth handball team claimed the title of the five-team handball international tournament.

A team from Yazd, Iran youth and junior teams, Uzbekistan and Iraq junior teams participated in the five-day tournament.

Iran youth handball team won the competition after beating Uzbekistan in its final match.

Iraq team finished in second place after defeating Yazd team. Uzbekistan and Yazd finished in third place together.

Pogacar Wins UAE Tour as Caleb Ewan Takes Final Stage



Slovenian Tour de France Champion Tadej Pogacar won cycling's season-opening UAE Tour as Australian Caleb Ewan claimed Saturday's seventh stage sprinting honors in Abu Dhabi.

ABUDHABI (Dispatches)- Tadej Pogacar has successfully sealed the overall victory, after neutralizing the threat posed by his main rival Adam Yates and his Ineos Grenadiers team in the crosswinds earlier in the stage. Pogacar was one of around twenty riders who broke clear from the peloton at around 40km to go, opening a lead of 30 seconds before everything came back together.

In the sprint, Ewan benefited from the best lead-out his Lotto-Soudal team managed in the race. Even then, however, more great

work from Bennett's lead-out man Michael Morkov ensured the Irishman was best-place before the sprint started.

Ewan managed to surf a few wheels before landing on Bennett's, moving past him on the right-hand side of the road once the sprint began, and claiming victory by a bike-length. Phil Bauhaus (Bahrain-Victorious) was third.

Having missed out in all the sprints earlier in the race, with third on stage 4 his best finish so far, Ewan was under pressure to win.

Swiatek Latest to Withdraw From Qatar Open



PARIS (Reuters) - French Open champion Iga Swiatek has joined a growing list of top players pulling out of the Qatar Open, with the Pole saying she wanted to avoid injury after winning the second title of her career at the Adelaide International on Saturday.

World number one Ash Barty on Wednesday withdrew from the March 1-6 tournament in Doha because of some intense weeks here," Swiatek, who played a warm-up in Melbourne before this month's Australian Open, said after beating Belinda Bencic 6-2 6-2 in the Adelaide final.

"I don't want to have injury or anything. I want my body to rest properly." Swiatek is also scheduled to compete in the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships next month.

Lakers Beat Blazers 102-93 to Snap Skid

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeBron James had 28 points, Dennis Schroder added 22 in his return to the Lakers' lineup, and Los Angeles snapped its four-game losing streak with a 102-93 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers on Friday night.

Montrezl Harrell had 17 points, while James added 11 rebounds, seven assists, four steals and three blocked shots as the defending NBA champions avoided their longest losing streak since March 2019.

The fresh-legged Schroder was outstanding after a four-game absence under the



NBA's health and safety protocols, scoring 13 points in the second half and leading the Lakers' decisive surge on both ends of the court.

Los Angeles pushed ahead in the third quarter and hung on comfortably for only its second win since losing All-Star selection Anthony Davis to a calf in-

jury 12 days ago.

Damian Lillard scored 24 of his 35 points in the first half for the Blazers, who lost their fourth straight. Portland committed 16 turnovers while losing to the Lakers at Staples Center for the first time since November 2018.

The Lakers broke open a close game with a 14-4 run led by Schroder late in the third quarter. The German point guard also teamed with Alex Caruso to play solid defense on the largely unstoppable Lillard, who got just one shot while playing the entire third quarter.

LeBron James Rejects Zlatan's Criticism of Activist Athletes



LOS ANGELES (AP) - LeBron James has responded to Zlatan Ibrahimovic's criticism of his political activism with a promise that he will never just shut up and dribble.

The Los Angeles Lakers superstar also pointed out that Ibrahimovic clearly didn't feel the same way about spotlighting social injustices when the soccer great called out racism in his native Sweden just three years ago.

The AC Milan striker and former LA Galaxy star criticized James and other socially conscious athletes Thursday in an interview with Discovery Plus. Ibrahimovic called it "a mistake" for James and other athletes to get involved in political causes, saying they should "just do what you do best, because it doesn't look good."

James responded forcefully to Ibrahimovic's

stance after the Lakers' 102-93 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers on Friday night.

"I would never shut up about things that are wrong," said James, who had 28 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists.

"I preach about my people and I preach about equality, social injustice, racism, systematic voter suppression, things that go on in our community," James added. "I know what's going on still, because I have a group of 300-plus kids at my school that's going through the same thing, and they need a voice, and I'm their voice. I'll use my platform to continue to shed light on everything that's going on around this country and around the world. There's no way I would ever just stick to sports, because I understand how powerful this platform and my voice is."

Parker Beats Junior Fa in All-New Zealand Bout

AUCKLAND (Dispatches) - Former heavyweight world champion Joseph Parker overcame Junior Fa by a unanimous decision in their all-New Zealand fight.

Parker won 109-119, 113-115 and 111-117 on the judges' scorecards in front of 12,000 spectators in Auckland.

The fight followed an announcement by the ring MC that the city would enter a seven-day lockdown on Sunday.

The decision was made by the country's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern after one positive case in the community.

Parker, who lost the WBO world heavyweight title to Briton Anthony Joshua in 2018, has now won his past three fights.

The 29-year-old could face Britain's Derek Chisora next after he was ruled out of their initial bout in October 2019 because of illness.



Joseph Parker could now face Britain's Derek Chisora after beating compatriot Junior Fa