

Iran's Taekwondo Team Crowned at World Cup Championship

WUXI, China (Dispatches) – Iranian men's team of Azad University gained the title of 2019 WT World Cup Team Championships in Wuxi, China.

In the final bout of men's category on Saturday, the Iranian team defeated a team from South Korea 71-66 to lift the trophy.

The Iranian team, comprised of Hossein Latifi, Amir Mohammad Bakhshi, Sina Bahrami, Erfan Nazemi and Saeid Rajabi, first overpowered Kazakhstan 48-33 before gaining a 66-53 win over the host, China, in the semifinal.

Azad University team was dis-



patched to the world event as the champion of Iran's taekwondo league.

The 2019 edition of WT World Cup Team Championships kicked off on Friday in China's Wuxi with 97 practitioners from 10 countries participating in male, female and mixed-gender categories. The event will wrap up on August 25.

Prior to this event, WT World Cup Team Poomsae Championships was also held in the Chinese city where Iranian practitioners managed to earn two golds, one silver and one bronze.

U.S. Men's Basketball Falls to Australia, 98-94



Hubert Hurkacz, of Poland, hits at the net against Denis Shapovalov, of Canada, in the semifinals of the Winston-Salem Open tennis tournament in Winston-Salem, N.C., Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

MELBOURNE (AP) — The World Cup is a week away, and the United States is no lock for gold.

Australia delivered that message to the world on Saturday.

For the first time in nearly 13 years, a U.S. roster of NBA players played an international game — and lost. Patty Mills scored 30 points, and Australia rallied from a 10-point deficit in the second half to stun the Americans 98-94 and snap a 78-game U.S. winning streak that started with the bronze-medal game at the 2006 world championships.

"They wanted it more than us tonight," U.S. guard Kemba

Walker said. "Lesson learned for us."

It was the first loss for the U.S. in a major international tournament or exhibition since the 2006 world championship semifinals against Greece. The Americans won the bronze there, then were unbeaten through the cycles for the 2007 FIBA Americas, 2008 Olympics, 2010 World Cup, 2012 Olympics, 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympics.

Add all that up, along with wins over Spain and Australia with this team, and it was a 78-game winning streak for the U.S. — the longest in program history.

Paire, Hurkacz Advance to Winston-Salem Open Final

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) -- Top-seeded Benoit Paire and third-seeded Hubert Hurkacz advanced to the Winston-Salem Open final Friday night.

Paire rallied to beat Steve Johnson 1-6, 6-0, 6-0 before Hurkacz upset Denis Shapovalov 6-3, 6-4.

Paire, a Frenchman ranked 30th in the world, will try to win his third tournament of the year after claiming titles in Morocco and Lyon, France, in the spring. He



Hubert Hurkacz, of Poland, hits at the net against Denis Shapovalov, of Canada, in the semifinals of the Winston-Salem Open tennis tournament in Winston-Salem, N.C., Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

has the No. 29 seed at the upcoming U.S. Open.

Hurkacz, of Poland, is in his first final on the ATP Tour. He is ranked 41st.

The quarterfinals were held earlier Friday after a week of severe weather forced organizers to shuffle the schedule. Paire reached the semifinals by beating 11th-seeded Pablo Carreno Busta (11) 7-6 (5), 1-6, 6-3 while Hurkacz defeated 10th-seeded Frances Tiafoe 4-6, 7-6 (1), 6-1.

Quartararo Sets New MotoGP Track Record at Silverstone



Fabio Quartararo was fastest in practice for the MotoGP British Grand Prix on Friday

LONDON (AFP) - French rookie Fabio Quartararo outshone seven-

time world champion Marc Marquez by breaking the track record

in practice for the British MotoGP on Friday on a newly laid surface at Silverstone.

Quartararo was quickest in the first session of the day, but the fireworks came in the afternoon as he posted a new record time of 1min 59.225 secs.

The 20-year-old's joy seemed short-lived when that time was originally ruled out for exceeding track limits.

However, a photo review after the second session had finished, cleared Quartararo to edge him ahead of Marquez.

Former world champion Valentino Rossi, on another Yamaha, also fell foul of the same ruling before being similarly reprieved.

Marquez, who is well on course to

add a sixth premier class world title to his list of honours this season, suffered a crash for the first time in seven races.

The Spaniard was quickly back up and on his Honda, though, to ensure he was second fastest with compatriot Maverick Vinales third quickest.

The 2018 race was cancelled due to standing water on the track, 12 months after Andrea Dovizioso claimed victory in the 2017 event.

On Friday, Dovizioso, who won the last race in Austria to cut the gap to Marquez to 58 points in the title race, was sixth fastest on his Ducati while 2015 winner Rossi was an impressive fourth ahead of Honda's home hope Cal Crutchlow.

Dortmund Come From Behind to Beat Cologne 3-1

BERLIN (AP) — Jadon Sancho scored one and set up another for Borussia Dortmund to again come from behind and maintain its winning start to the Bundesliga in a 3-1 win at Cologne on Friday.

Dortmund also had to come from a goal down to beat Augsburg 5-1 in its opening game last weekend.

The 19-year-old Sancho became the youngest to ever clock 15 goals in the league when he cancelled out Dominick Drexler's 29th-minute opener for Cologne in the 70th, then set up Paco Alcacer to seal the win in injury time after Achraf Hakimi gave Dortmund the lead in the 88th.

"The key was that we stayed calm," Dortmund captain Marco Reus said. "The game also showed that we're a long way off our potential."

Quintana Singles Out Roglic as Vuelta Favorite

PARIS (Dispatches) - Movistar's Nairo Quintana believes Jumbo-Visma rider Primoz Roglic is the favorite to claim the Vuelta a Espana crown.

A number of big names, including Geraint Thomas, Tour de France winner Egan Bernal and 2018 Vuelta champion Simon Yates, have opted to skip the event, with the upcoming World Championships seemingly taking precedent, while Chris Froome is still recovering from the injuries which kept him out of the Tour de France.

team Movistar — has also been instilled as a favourite, alongside team-mate Alejandro Valverde and Jumbo-Visma's Roglic.

And Quintana sees Roglic as the rider who will offer the biggest threat to Movistar, who will be without the injured Richard Carapaz.

"I think [Primoz] Roglic is the big favorite," 2016 Vuelta champion Quintana told reporters ahead of the first stage in Alicante.

"[Jumbo-Vista] will be at the top of the table from the beginning after the team time trial



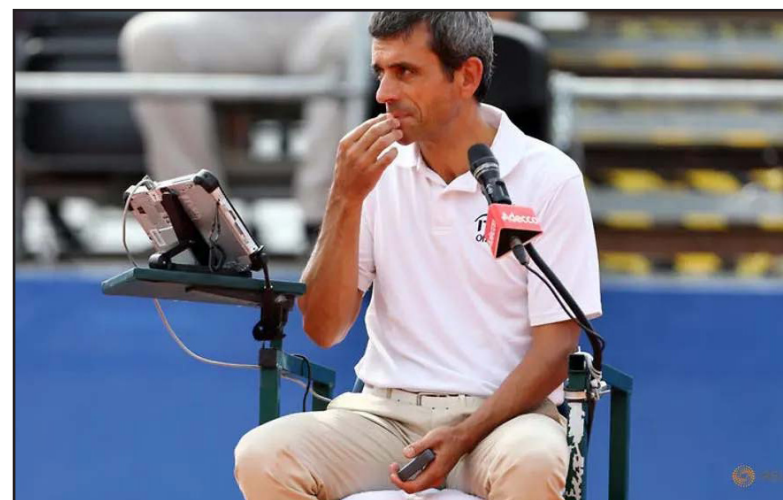
Nairo Quintana believes Primoz Roglic is the primary candidate to triumph at the Vuelta a Espana, which starts on Saturday.

and he'll be our biggest rival there."

Roglic, though, insisted he

has not let the tag of being the favorite have an impact upon his preparations.

U.S. Open Makes Changes After Serena-Ramos Incident



NEW YORK (Reuters) - A year after Serena Williams famously clashed with an umpire during her U.S. Open final loss over being assessed multiple violations that confused some viewers, tournament organizers have unveiled changes to make such rulings clearer to fans.

The United States Tennis Association (USTA), which runs the U.S. Open, said on Friday that this year for the first time at the Grand Slam it will post code violations on the scoreboard as they occur.

Chair umpire Carlos Ramos, in line with the Grand Slam rule book, warned Williams for a coaching violation during last year's showpiece with Japan's Naomi Osaka before deducting a point and later a game for her behavior, which included a smashed racket and calling him a "liar" and thief.

During the post-match trophy presentation a tearful Osaka, who had just won her maiden career Grand Slam title, stood on court while many confused fans who did not understand what was happening as the rules were applied, booed the proceedings.

"We are looking for ways to increase the fan awareness of what's going on in stadium," chief umpire Jake Garner told reporters. "When a violation is given, it will appear on the scoreboards on each court. So again, just to make the fans more aware of what's going on."

In another bid to avoid confusion with how rules are applied the USTA said match officials will be more widely available to broadcasters while during the semifinals and final an official will be on Twitter throughout the match explaining the rules.

During last year's final Williams told Ramos he would not be "on another court of mine as long as you live" and the Portuguese will not oversee any matches at the U.S. Open involving the six-time champion or her older sister Venus.

USTA chief executive of professional tennis Stacey Allaster said the Williams sisters did not put in a request to be kept apart from Ramos, who will still be considered for all high-profile matches.