

Iran's Ice Climber Wins Silver at UIAA World Cup



TEHRAN – Iran's Mohsen Beheshti has bagged a silver medal at the second UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup of the 2023 season.

Myungwook Yang from South Korea snatched the gold medal and the bronze medal went to Mongolian climber Mandakhbayar Chuluunbaatar.

Muhammad Reza Safdarian, another Iranian athlete, came in ninth place in the competition.

The 2023 UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup was held in Champagny-en-Vanoise in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region in south-eastern France.

The third and final event of the World Cup season is slated to be held from the 26-28 of January in Switzerland.

Veteran Tennis Table Team Scoops 6 Medals in Oman



TEHRAN – Six Iranian athletes have received medals at the World Veteran Table Tennis Championships Muscat 2023.

The Iranian squad bagged 2 gold and 2 bronze medals in the single category while the sportsmen got one gold and one bronze in the duo category. Iran's 32 representatives from

various age categories participated in the sporting event.

Over 1600 players – aged 40 to over 90 years – from 69 countries took part in the event.

The World Veteran Table Tennis Championships Muscat 2023 was held from January 15-21.

Top Seed Swiatek Knocked Out by Wimbledon Champ Rybakina

MELBOURNE (Reuters) - World number one Iga Swiatek crashed out of the Australian Open on Sunday with a 6-4 6-4 defeat by Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina on Rod Laver Arena.

Kazakhstan's Rybakina advanced to the quarterfinals of the season's opening Grand Slam for the first time with an impressive display against the misfiring Pole.

"It was a really tough match and I really respect Iga because of the strike she has and the Grand Slams," said Rybakina.

"She's a young player and she plays really well. Today I think was serving also good, just struggling on one side.

"Then in the important moments I played really well and it made a



World number one Iga Swiatek

difference." Rybakina, seeded 22nd, will face Latvia's Jelena Ostapenko in the quarterfinals. Swiatek, the reigning French Open

and U.S. Open champion, got off to a rough start, surrendering her opening service game after receiving a warning from the chair umpire over the time she took for her pre-match

preparations.

She fought back to level the scores by the fourth game but Rybakina would break again, clinically punishing the Pole's second serve to take the opening set.

Swiatek looked to have recovered after she rattled off three straight games at the start of the second set behind a more aggressive forehand, only for Rybakina to haul herself level with another break of serve.

The Russia-born right-hander broke Swiatek again at 4-4 in the second set before holding her own serve in convincing fashion to close out the match.

Rybakina's win sees her progress to a third Grand Slam quarterfinal having also reached the last eight at the 2021 French Open before winning Wimbledon last year.

Napoli Ease to 2-0 Win at Salernitana



Napoli's Nigerian forward Victor Osimhen challenges Salernitana's Italian defender Matteo Lovato (right) during the Italian Serie A football match between Salernitana and Napoli on Jan 21, 2023 at the Arigis stadium in Salerno.

ROME (Reuters) - Goals from Giovanni Di Lorenzo and Victor Osimhen handed Napoli a 2-0 win over Salernitana on Saturday as they took another step closer to ending their 33 year-wait to win the Serie A title.

Napoli controlled much of the game and were never really threatened by Salernitana's passive showing.

Osimhen thought he had given Napoli the lead in the 35th minute but his celebrations were cut short after he was ruled to have been off-

side by VAR.

Napoli eventually went ahead during the first-half stoppage time when a cross from inside the box fell to Di Lorenzo, who fired the ball in.

An unmarked Osimhen doubled the lead in the 48th minute when he tipped in a rebound from Eljif Elmas' shot off the post.

Napoli top the standings with 50 points from 19 games, 12 points ahead of second-placed AC Milan, who play Lazio on Tuesday. Salernitana, in 16th, have 18 points.

Celtics Beat Raptors for 9th Straight Win



Boston Celtics guard Derrick White (9) goes up for a basket as Toronto Raptors forward Scottie Barnes (4) defends during second-half NBA basketball game action in Toronto, Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023.

TORONTO (AP) — Grant Williams scored a career-high 25 points, Jaylen Brown had 27 and the Boston Celtics overcame the absence of leading scorer Jayson Tatum to extend their winning streak to nine games by beating the Toronto Raptors 106-104 on Saturday.

Boston's injury woes worsened when guard Marcus Smart injured his right ankle in the final minute of the first half and had to be helped to the locker room. He did not return.

Center Robert Williams stayed in the game after Brown collided with his left knee in the opening

quarter. At halftime, Williams was ruled out for the second half because of a hyperextended knee.

Malcolm Brogdon scored 23 points and Payton Pritchard scored all of his 12 in the fourth quarter. The Celtics are unbeaten since a Jan. 3 defeat at Oklahoma City.

Pascal Siakam had 29 points and 10 assists, Gary Trent Jr. scored 22 points and Precious Achiuwa had 17 points and 11 rebounds in his first start of the season, but Toronto lost its third straight.

Vine Wins Tour Down Under, Second to Yates in Final Stage

SYDNEY (AFP) - Australia's Jay Vine claimed his first World Tour victory in the Tour Down Under on Sunday, with Britain's Simon Yates winning a thrilling uphill battle to take the race's final stage.

Yates (Team Jayco-AlUla) gave one final lung-busting effort to overtake Vine at the Mount Lofty finish for his first-ever victory in Australia, denying Vine from winning a stage at this year's TDU.

Vine (UAE Team Emirates) capped an outstanding week after keeping close to his only serious rival for the ochre leader's jersey in the

hard slog up to the finish, sealing his win in the final general classification.

Vine won the World Tour TDU at his first attempt and continued his rise to prominence in world professional cycling after winning two stages at the Vuelta a Espana last year.

Yates, the 2018 Vuelta a Espana winner, rolled the dice with 1.7km to go, and Ben O'Connor (AG2R Citroen Team) and Vine tacked on the end of the three-man breakaway in the dash to the finish.

Switzerland's Yule Wins Kitzbuehel Slalom



KITZBUEHEL, Austria (AFP) - Switzerland's Daniel Yule held his nerve Sunday to win the men's World Cup slalom in Kitzbuehel for a second time in his career.

Yule, born in foothills of the Swiss Alps to Scottish parents, had clocked the seventh fastest time in the first leg down a super-icy Ganslern slope in the Austrian resort.

The 29-year-old, who previously won in Kitzbuehel in 2020,

clocked the third-fastest time on the second leg for a winning aggregate of 1min 44.63sec.

Defending champion Dave Ryding took second, at 0.40sec, the Briton jumping 13 spots from his first leg performance after an exceptional second descent.

It was Ryding's second runners-up finish on the Ganslern after 2017, edging out Norway's Lucas Braathen by one-hundredth of a second.

Hill Beats Teixeira to Claim UFC Light Heavyweight Crown

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters) - American Jamahal Hill put on a superb display of striking en route to a unanimous decision win over Brazil's Glover Teixeira to claim the vacant UFC light heavyweight title at UFC 283, which took place at the Jeunesse Arena.

Hill dominated the main event of the card, mixing up a wide variety of strikes and mostly avoiding grappling exchanges where the 43-year-old Teixeira would have had an advantage.

"Where I came from, to get to this, it's unreal," the 31-year-old Hill said in a post-fight interview. "Anything's possible. Hard work, dedica-



Jamahal Hill in action during his fight against Glover Teixeira

tion, accountability, don't let nobody tell you nothing."

The 43-year-old Teixeira, who beat Jan Blachowicz to win the title in October 2021 only to lose it in his first defense against Jiri Prochazka in May 2022, announced his retirement after the fight.

"In reality, I think I'm too tough for my own good, too tough for my own health. I can't keep up anymore," Teixeira said.

In the co-main event, a doctor's stoppage saw Brandon Moreno win the flyweight title when his opponent Deiveson Figueiredo was deemed unable to continue beyond the third round due to a cut near his eye.