

Mirzazadeh Wins Silver at 2022 World Wrestling Championships



TEHRAN – Iranian Greco-Roman wrestler Amin Mirzazadeh has claimed a silver medal at 2022 World Wrestling Championships in Belgrade, Serbia.

He lost to Turkish wrestler Riza Kayaalp in the men's Greco-Roman 130kg.

Kayaalp collected his fifth world championship gold medal as he won gold in 120kg at 2011 Istanbul and three golds in 130kg at 2015 Las Vegas, 2017 Paris and 2019 Nur-Sul-

tan.

Romanian Alin Alexuc-Ciurariu and Mantas Knystautas from Lithuania claimed the bronze medals in the weight category.

Iran wrapped up the competition with two silver medals and one bronze.

Muhammadreza Geraei in the 67kg seized a silver and Muhammadhadi Saravai also claimed a bronze in the 97kg.

Queiroz Returns 'Home' to Take Up Iran Post

PARIS (AFP) - Carlos Queiroz said he feels "at home" after he returned to Tehran on Wednesday to take charge of Iran for a third successive World Cup finals campaign.

The 69-year-old Portuguese coach was appointed to the post last Wednesday having previously been in charge of Iran for eight years, the longest stint in the national team's history.

That included appearances at the 2014 and 2018 World Cup finals where Iran exited in the group stage, although in the latter they beat Morocco for only their second win in football's global showpiece.

"As I said yesterday I feel (at) home, that's the best feeling that you can have," he said on arriving at the airport where he was surrounded by media and Iran supporters.



"I just hope that our work together can drive the dreams of Iran in the near future."

The appointment of the former Real Madrid coach followed a campaign pledge by the new head of Iran's football federation, Mehdi Taj.

Taj was elected president of the

Iranian football federation last week, after previously occupying the role from 2016 to 2019.

Queiroz -- who is perhaps best known for being assistant coach to Alex Ferguson at Manchester United on two occasions -- replaced Dragan Skocic.

Skocic was sacked in July only to be reinstated days later.

Iran will be appearing at their sixth World Cup finals in Qatar.

They begin their campaign against England on November 21 and will also play Wales and round it off with the high-octane clash against the United States in Group B.

A previous meeting in a World Cup finals saw Iran beat the USA 2-1 in a 1998 group match.

Queiroz was last in charge of Egypt, quitting in April after failing to agree terms on a new contract.

The former South Africa, Portugal and Colombia national coach's first task will be two warm-up matches in September, against Uruguay and African champions Senegal in Austria on September 23 and 27 respectively.

Iran to Host Kung Fu To'a World Championships



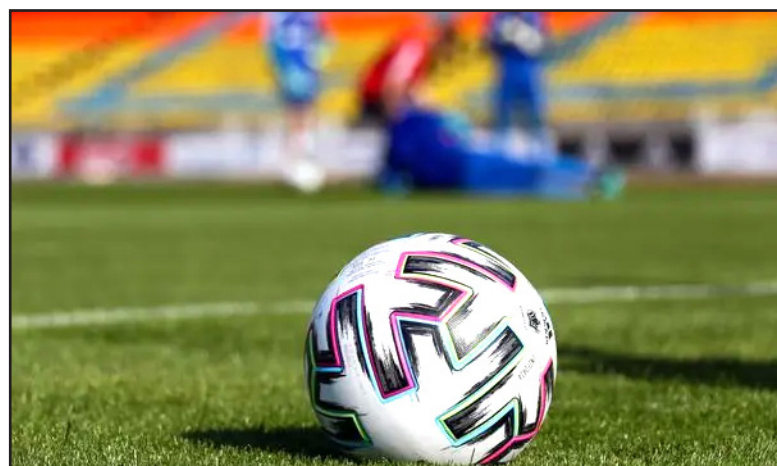
BUSHEHR - Iran's secretary of Kung Fu Federation Mehdi Sedaghat has said that Iran will host the Kung Fu Toa World Championships.

Over 64 Asian and global states are members of the Kung Fu Toa Committee, and it is expected that more than 50 countries will par-

ticipate in this international event hosted by Iran.

Earlier, the 58th Scientific, Cultural & Athletic Congress of kung fu To'a-21 was held on August 16-17 and the 57th Congress of Kung fu To'a-21 was held in Urmia and Miandoab on the 5-7 September 2018.

Three Detained in France Over Assault on Football Star



PARIS (AFP) - French police on Wednesday arrested three men over last year's assault on Paris Saint Germain and national football team star Kheira Hamraoui that rocked the women's game in the country, prosecutors said.

The three men, at least one of whom has a criminal record, were detained at their homes at two different addresses outside Paris, Versailles prosecutors said in a statement to AFP.

According to a source familiar with the case, the three young men are suspected of having participated in the attack on Hamraoui in November 2021 outside Paris.

Hamraoui was dragged from a

car and beaten on the legs with an iron bar near the French capital.

Aminata Diallo, Hamraoui's team-mate and midfield rival, was detained by police immediately after the incident last November, but has always denied involvement.

Hamraoui was assaulted on November 4 as she returned home from a club dinner in a car being driven by Diallo.

The two players, both capped by France, were competing for the same spot in the PSG team and police appeared to initially focus on a theory that sporting rivalry might explain the attack.

Bayern Beat Barca 2-0 to Spoil Lewandowski's Return to Munich

MUNICH, Germany (Reuters) - Bayern Munich scored twice in four minutes against the run of play, through Lucas Hernandez and Leroy Sane, to beat Barcelona 2-0 in their Champions League Group C match on Tuesday.

It was an unhappy return to Munich for Barca striker Robert Lewandowski, the Bavarians' second-highest all-time scorer who left in the summer after eight years, with the Germans now top of their group on six points from two matches.

For Bayern the win could not have come at a better time, following three consecutive draws in the Bundesliga.

"Barca had the better chances in the first half. We had to rely on (keeper) Manuel (Neuer)," Bayern coach Julian Nagelsmann said. "After the break we were more aggressive. We quickly scored two goals.

We basically won because of higher efficiency.

Barcelona are on three points, along with Inter. Viktoria Plzen are in last place.

Barca enjoyed a dream start, boxing the Germans in their own half with relentless pressing and carving out several early scoring chances.

Pedri's shot was blocked by Neuer before Lewandowski fired a volley over the bar in the 17th.

The Pole, who scored 344 goals for Bayern in 375 games, came close again four minutes later, heading on to Neuer from close range.

The visitors did not give Bayern a look-in during the first half, with a hard-working Barca backline double-teaming every Bayern player when they had possession, nipping any planned move in the bud.

"We made six or seven big goal chances but missed them and Bay-



Barcelona's Pedri (right), Bayern's Leon Goretzka (centre) and Bayern's Joshua Kimmich in action during the Champions League, group C soccer match between Bayern Munich and Barcelona at the Allianz Arena in Munich, Germany on Sept 13, 2022

ern took their opportunity," Barcelona coach Xavi said. "We competed, we played very well and had we

scored it would have been a completely different match.

"This is the Champions League though, you need to compete and you try to avoid the marking error at the corner which let them go 1-0 up."

After the break Bayern brought on Leon Goretzka and scored against the run of play with Hernandez beating keeper Marc Andre ter Stegen at the near post from a Joshua Kimmich corner.

Bayern doubled their lead four minutes later when Sane charged into the box and slipped the ball past Ter Stegen after combining with Jamal Musiala.

Pedri hit the post in the 63rd as Barca tried to bounce back but the Germans comfortably held on to get the three points and offer Nagelsmann some relief following their run of draws in the Bundesliga that saw them drop to third place.

They host Czech side Plzen in the Champions League on Oct 4.

Carlos Alcaraz Already Back in Spain for Davis Cup Finals

MADRID (AP) — It was a quick turnaround for tennis' new No. 1.

Hours after celebrating his first Grand Slam title at the U.S. Open, Carlos Alcaraz arrived back home to try to help Spain in the Davis Cup Finals.

"I'm very proud to arrive as No. 1 and do my bit for the team," Alcaraz said. "Playing the Davis Cup is always special. It's a unique atmosphere and I'm looking forward to being with the team."

Alcaraz made it to Valencia the day before Spain was to debut against Serbia in the group stage.

It wasn't yet clear in which condition Alcaraz arrived after having to play a grueling series of matches on his way to the title in New York. "Hopefully he can recover as soon as possible," Spain captain Sergi Bruguera said. "We don't know yet if he will be able to play on Wednesday."

Many expected Alcaraz to skip the Davis Cup after defeating Casper Ruud in the U.S. Open final, which allowed him to become the youngest man to lead the ATP computerized rankings since they began in 1973.

The 19-year-old Alcaraz said following the traditional Times

Squad photo shoot that he "woke up dead" after the four-set final against Ruud.

"We will see how he is feeling, we will discuss it with him," Bruguera said. "The sooner he can play, the better."

Before the final, Alcaraz had three consecutive five-set victories, including a 5-hour, 15-minute quarterfinal match against Jannik Sinner.

"We all knew it was going to happen sooner or later," Bruguera said. "But the way he won three matches in five sets is an incredible effort mentally as well as physically. Being the youngest No. 1 in the world, there aren't any words."

After facing Serbia, which is without Novak Djokovic, Spain takes on Canada and South Korea in Group B. The top two teams in each of the four groups will advance to the quarterfinals, which will be played in November in the southern Spanish city of Malaga.

Alcaraz made it to Spain's Davis Cup team for the first time last year, but had to withdraw from the tournament after testing positive for the coronavirus just before the competition was to start.

Switzerland Launch Bid to Host 2025 Women's Euros

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — Switzerland's soccer federation formally launched a bid Wednesday to host the women's European Championship in 2025.

The Swiss bid team said nine cities — including Bern, Basel, Geneva and Zurich — are in its plan to host the tournament. The 16-team format has 31 games.

Switzerland is competing with France, Poland and a co-hosting bid from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden ahead of a UEFA deadline for candidates of Oct. 12.

The UEFA executive committee will choose the winner at a Jan. 25 meeting.

England will be the defending champion after winning Euro 2022 as the host of a tournament post-



poned one year by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Switzerland co-hosted the men's

Euro 2008 with Austria and staged the 1954 World Cup alone. Both were 16-team tournaments.