

# Iranian Taekwondo Athletes Win 7 Gold, 1 Silver at Fajr Cup



TEHRAN – Iranian female taekwondo athletes snatched 8 medals at the 33rd International Fajr Cup taekwondo competitions on Tuesday.

The Iranian female taekwondo athletes won Seven gold medals and one silver medal in this competition with the participation of 349 athletes from different countries in Tehran Taekwondo house.

Armenia won the runner-up title and Kazakhstan came third. Tajikistan and Azerbaijan took fourth and fifth places respectively.

Armenian representative in the -67 kg category was chosen as the best player in the competition.

The 33rd Fajr Cup International Taekwondo competition was held on Tuesday in Tehran.

## Tehran to Host 26 Countries for Asian Indoor Athletics Championships



TEHRAN – The caretaker president of the Athletics Federation of Iran said 26 countries will participate in the 2024 Asian Indoor Athletics Championships.

The championships will be held in Tehran, the capital of Iran, from February 17 to 19.

Iran has the chance to win six quotas for the 2024 Olympic

Games, Mobini had previously said.

“Hosting the 2024 Asian Indoor Athletics Championships is a good opportunity for the Iranian athletes to win medals,” he added.

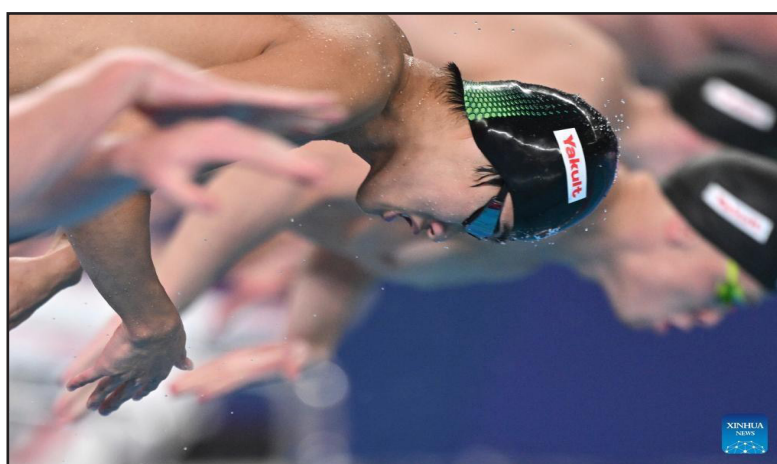
Mobini said on Thursday that a total of 26 countries have been confirmed for the event.

## South Korea's Hwang Claims 200m Freestyle World Title

DOHA (Reuters) - South Korea's Hwang Sun-woo won the men's 200m freestyle event at the World Aquatics Championships on Tuesday night.

The 20-year-old surged in the final 25m, clocking in at one minute and 44.75 seconds. Danas Rapsys of Lithuania claimed the silver medal in one minute and 45.05 seconds, while Luke Hobson of the United States took bronze, finishing just 0.21 seconds behind Rapsys.

“This victory will serve as a stepping stone, allowing me to make necessary preparations for the Olympics,” said Hwang, expressing his joy and determination after the event.



Hwang Sun-woo of South Korea competes during the men's 200m Freestyle final of swimming event at the World Aquatics Championships 2024 in Doha, Qatar, Feb 13, 2024.

Italy's Simona Quadarella dominated the women's 1500m freestyle, finishing in 15 minutes and 46.99 seconds. China's Li Bingjie was 9.63 seconds

shy to secure second place, while Isabel Gose of Germany claimed the bronze medal.

The United States' Claire Curzan clinched her first individual

world championship title in the women's 100m backstroke, finishing with a time of 58.29 seconds. Australia's Iona Anderson took silver with 59.12 seconds, followed closely by Ingrid Wilm of Canada in 59.18 seconds.

In the men's 100m backstroke, Hunter Armstrong of the United States narrowly beat Spain's Hugo Gonzalez to claim the gold medal by a mere 0.02 seconds.

Armstrong finished with a time of 52.68 seconds, securing his first 100m backstroke title at the World Championships. Apostolos Christou of Greece claimed bronze with 53.36 seconds.

## Real Madrid Win 1-0 at Leipzig Courtesy of Diaz Solo Effort



From left, Leipzig's Mohamed Simakan, Real Madrid's Vinicius Junior and Leipzig's Dani Olmo challenge for the ball during the Champions League round of 16 first leg soccer match between RB Leipzig and Real Madrid at the Red Bull arena stadium in Leipzig, Germany, Feb 13, 2024.

LEIPZIG(Reuters) - Real Madrid's Brahim Diaz scored a stunning goal after a mazy run as they won 1-0 at

RB Leipzig on Tuesday to take a clear advantage into their Champions League last-16 second leg next month.

The 24-year-old, filling in for the injured Jude Bellingham, struck against the run of play in the 48th minute.

Real goalkeeper Andriy Lunin, replacing the injured Thibaut Courtois, then came to the rescue with a string of saves to protect the lead as the Spaniards made it seven straight wins in the competition this season.

“It was difficult for us, that's how it is here,” Real coach Carlo Ancelotti said. “The start of the first half and second half were difficult. Lunin played a great game, the best game.”

“We were dangerous in transitions, we could have scored more but we could also have tied. This is a small advantage,” said Ancelotti.

In a lively start the home side thought they had gone ahead when

striker Benjamin Sesko headed in after three minutes. His effort though was disallowed following a VAR review.

The Slovenian had another chance before Real gradually brought some balance to the game and came close themselves through Rodrygo, making his 200th appearance for the club.

Leipzig were again more aggressive after halftime but the home crowd was silenced when Real struck on the break.

Diaz picked up the ball near the sideline, shook off three players, cut in towards the box and curled a superb shot past keeper Peter Gulacsi.

The hosts almost drew level two minutes later but Lunin stopped a Dani Olmo shot before blocking Sesko's rebound effort.

## Hubert Hurkacz Survives Marathon in Rotterdam

ROTTERDAM (Reuters) - Polish No. 4 seed Hubert Hurkacz outlasted a hearty challenge from Czech foe Jiri Lehecka and won 6-3, 6-7 (9), 7-6 (9) in the first round of the ABN AMRO Open on Tuesday in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Hurkacz served for match points three times in the second-set tiebreaker, but Lehecka extended the match each time before earning the 11-9 tiebreaker victory. The tables were turned in the second set, when Hurkacz saved match point in the 10th game and three more in the tiebreaker before posting his own 11-9 win.

Russian second seed Andrey Rublev had an easier go of it against Belgian qualifier Zizou Bergs, prevailing 7-5, 6-3. No.

5 seed Alex de Minaur of Australia beat Sebastian Korda 6-4, 6-3, and No. 8 seed Alexander Bublik of Kazakhstan defeated Croatia's Borna Coric 6-3, 6-4.

Hungarian Marton Fucsovics, Kazakhstan's Alexander Shevchenko and Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff also advanced.

Colombian qualifier Daniel Elahi Galan rallied past Argentine wild card Diego Schwartzman 2-6, 6-1, 6-4 in first-round action in Buenos Aires.

Galan saved six of nine break points while converting four of his six break-point opportunities against the former World No. 8.

Argentina's Federico Coria pleased the home crowd with a 7-5, 4-6, 7-5 victory over Aus-



Hubert Hurkacz of Poland plays a backhand return to Daniil Medvedev of Russia during their quarterfinal match at the Australian Open tennis championships at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, Jan 24, 2024.

tralia's Sebastian Ofner. Other winners included Argentine Camilo Ugo Carabelli, Chile's Alejandro Tabilo and Italians

Luciano Darderi and Andre Vavassori. Two matches were still in action to conclude the night's schedule.

## Lakers Past Pistons 125-111 for 5th Victory in 6 Games



Los Angeles Lakers forward Anthony Davis, right, grabs a rebound from Detroit Pistons guard Cade Cunningham during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024, in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeBron James had 25 points and eight assists, Anthony Davis had 20 points and 14 rebounds, and the Los Angeles Lakers beat the NBA-worst Detroit Pistons 125-111 Tuesday night for their fifth win in six games.

D'Angelo Russell scored 21 points and hit four 3-pointers for the Lakers, who have won 10 of 15 overall to move three games above .500 (29-26) for the first time since a week before Christmas. Rui Hachimura and Austin Reaves added 15 points apiece in another dominant offensive game by the Lakers' new starting lineup, which combined for 96 points.

Davis' six blocked shots led the defense, highlighted by his exceptional stop of Jaden Ivey as the only man back on a 3-on-1 Pistons fast break in the third quarter. James repeatedly referred to Davis after the game as “the defensive player of the year,” an award Davis has never won.

The Lakers had a rare three-day break between games before this meeting, and they rolled to an early 24-point lead in their final home game before the All-Star break, when James will participate for the 20th time.

Spencer Dinwiddie had six points and seven assists in his debut with the Lakers, who signed the veteran Los Angeles native last Saturday. Dinwiddie started 48 games for Brooklyn this season, and the graduate of Taft High

School in suburban Woodland Hills will be a key scoring option and playmaker off the bench for the Lakers.

Ausar Thompson scored 19 points and James Wiseman had 18 points and nine rebounds for the Pistons, who had won two of their previous three games for only the third time all season. Team owner Tom Gores, who lives in Beverly Hills, watched from courtside.

Cade Cunningham had 12 points, seven assists and seven rebounds in the least impressive game of a strong road trip for Detroit, which beat Sacramento and Portland to open it before barely losing to the Clippers in this building last weekend.

One game after the Lakers put up 87 points in the second-highest scoring first half in franchise history, they dropped 71 on the Pistons and took a 71-48 halftime lead paced by Davis' 18 points and 12 boards. The lead matched the Lakers' biggest halftime margin of the season.

Detroit trimmed the lead to 12 points with 4:50 to play, but got no closer. Davis sat out the entire fourth quarter, resting his legs for the back-to-back set.

New Pistons guard Quentin Grimes remained out with a sprained right knee. He has yet to debut for his new team since arriving in the multiplayer trade with New York.

Lakers guard Max Christie missed his second straight game with a sprained right ankle.