

Women Indoor Hockey Team Stuns Oman at Asia Cup



TEHRAN – Iran's women's team defeated Oman 8-0 in the 2024 Women's Indoor Hockey Asia Cup on Monday.

Team Melli Banovan has been pitted in Pool A along with Kazakhstan, Nepal, Oman and Malaysia.

Iran will play Malaysia on Tuesday.

Pool B consists of Thailand, Cambodia, Singapore, Vietnam and Indonesia.

The 2024 Women's Indoor Hockey Asia Cup is the ninth edition of the Women's Indoor Hockey Asia Cup, the biennial international women's indoor hockey championship of Asia organized by the Asian Hockey Federation.

The completion is being held at the Thailand National Sport University in Chonburi, Thailand from May 13 to 16.

The winner will qualify for the 2025 Women's FIH Indoor Hockey World Cup.

Junior Volleyballers Down Afghanistan at Nations League



TEHRAN – Iran's junior volleyball team beat Afghanistan at the Central Asian Volleyball Association (CAVA) tournament underway in Pakistan.

Iran's junior volleyball team won in straight sets against Afghanistan with scores of 25-17, 25-23, and 25-19 in the second match held on Sunday.

Iran will play Kyrgyzstan in the third match on Monday.

The CAVA Nations League is currently taking place in Islamabad, Pakistan from May 11 to 17.

The competition consists of six teams including Iran, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and host Pakistan competing for the top spot in the Central Zone.

On Monday, in latest development, Iran lost to Kyrgyzstan 3-0 (27-25, 25-23, 25-19) in the event.

Iran, who had defeated Turk-

menistan and Afghanistan, is scheduled to meet Sri Lanka on Wednesday.

The CAVA Nations League is taking place in Islamabad, Pakistan from May 11 to 17 at the Li-aqat Gymnasium, promising to be a thrilling display of athleticism and sportsmanship.

Six teams consisting Iran, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and hosts Pakistan vie for top honors in the Central Zone.

The CAVA Nations League holds significant importance as it will be integrated into the world ranking system starting from next year, 2025.

This elevation underscores the growing prominence and competitiveness of volleyball within the Central Zone, attracting attention and anticipation from across the globe.

Arsenal Reclaim Provisional Top Spot With 1-0 Win at Man United

MANCHESTER (Reuters) - Arsenal's Leandro Trossard capitalized on Manchester United's dreadful defending to secure a 1-0 win on Sunday that saw his side provisionally overtake Manchester City atop the Premier League, ensuring the title race will be decided on the final day.

While Arsenal, who won for just the second time at Old Trafford in their last 17 visits, have 86 points with one game left of the tightest title race in years, holders City remain in the driving seat with 85 points and two matches to play.

City, who are aiming for an unprecedented fourth consecutive English top-flight title, can retake the lead if they beat Arsenal's London rivals Tottenham Hotspur on Tuesday.

Trossard scored in the 20th



Manchester United's Amad Diallo (left) dribbles past Arsenal's Kai Havertz (center) during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester United and Arsenal at the Old Trafford Stadium in Manchester, England, May 12, 2024.

minute when Havertz sauntered off the right before sending the ball into the box for Trossard to tuck home.

Heads turned to check for an

offside flag but Casemiro -- recently moved from midfield into United's injury-depleted back line -- had slowly moved out from the box and kept Havertz onside after goalkeep-

er Andre Onana launched the ball upfield.

United manager Erik ten Hag was left shaking his head in frustration.

The game swung from end to end over a final tense few minutes, with Onana leaping to push away shots from Arsenal substitute Gabriel Martinelli and Declan Rice.

United, who were hoping to bounce back after a woeful 4-0 loss at Crystal Palace on Monday, are eighth with two games left. They trail sixth-placed Newcastle by three points in their quest for a European berth next season, setting up a key showdown when the Magpies visit Old Trafford on Wednesday.

Ten Hag said it would be "very damaging" to miss Europe.

Leverkusen Extend Unbeaten Run, Bayern Stay Second in Bundesliga



Leverkusen's players celebrate fifty undefeated matches in a row after the German Bundesliga soccer match between VfL Bochum and Bayer 04 Leverkusen in Bochum, Germany, May 12, 2024.

BERLIN (Reuters) - Leverkusen extended their unbeaten streak to 50

games after a dominant 5-0 victory over 10-man Bochum, while Bayern Munich secured the second spot with a 2-0 win over Wolfsburg in the closing matches of Bundesliga's 33rd round.

Bochum, facing relegation, started strong but couldn't capitalize on their early opportunities. In the 11th minute, Philipp Hofmann narrowly missed a header from Kevin Stoger's corner. The game's momentum shifted dramatically in the 15th minute when Felix Passlack was sent off for a last-man foul on Nathan Tella.

Despite initial misses by Patrik Schick and Granit Xhaka, Leverkusen capitalized on their numerical advantage, opening the scoring in

the 41st minute with a volley from Schick off Arthur's precise cross. They doubled their lead shortly before halftime through Viktor Boniface's penalty.

In the second half, Bochum defended deeply, with goalkeeper Manuel Riemann repelling several shots. However, Leverkusen's pressure was relentless, and they tripled their lead at the 75-minute mark when Amine Adli headed in a corner from Jonas Hofmann. Josip Stanisic and Alejandro Grimaldo added two more goals, sealing the 5-0 rout.

Meanwhile, Bayern Munich fielded a younger, second-string side against Wolfsburg, emerging victorious with a 2-0 scoreline.

Denver Cruise Past Minnesota to Level Play-Off Series

WASHINGTON (Sky Sports) - Reigning NBA champions the Denver Nuggets secured a 115-107 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves to level their Western Conference play-off semifinal series at 2-2.

Nuggets centre Nikola Jokic scored 16 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter, with Aaron Gordon adding 27 points and Jamal Murray ending game four in Minneapolis on 19 points.

Anthony Edwards led the overall scoring on Sunday with 44 points in total for Minnesota.

The Nuggets, who lost the opening two games of the semi-finals in Denver, were 64-49 ahead at half-time, but the Timberwolves rallied in the final quarter to pull within six points of the lead in the final minute.

The series goes back to Denver for game five on Tuesday.

In Sunday's other games, the Indiana Pacers demolished the injury-hit New York Knicks 121-89 to level up their Eastern Conference play-off semifinal series after four games.

The Pacers dominated from the off



Aaron Gordon (centre) scored 27 points for Denver Nuggets

and raced into a 20-point lead after the first quarter.

They continued to control the game as six players scored double figures - Tyrese Haliburton the pick with 20 points.

The Knicks had led the best-of-seven series 2-0 before the Pacers halved the deficit with victory in game three, and the resurgence continued on Sunday in Indianapolis. The teams return to New

York for game five on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the Atlanta Hawks will have the first pick in next month's 2024 NBA draft after coming out on top in the draft lottery.

The lottery determines the draft order for the 14 teams that failed to make the play-offs.

The Washington Wizards will pick second, followed by the Houston Rockets and the San Antonio Spurs.

Tabilo Beats Djokovic in Huge Upset at Italian Open

ROME (Reuters) - Chile's Alejandro Tabilo claimed the biggest win of his career when he beat world number one Novak Djokovic 6-2 6-3 in the third round of the Italian Open in a match that lasted just 67 minutes, two days after the Serbian was hit on the head by a water bottle.

Djokovic has won the tournament six times, with his last title coming in 2022, but Tabilo broke the top seed four times on Centre Court while not conceding a single break point.

Djokovic looked far from his best and the 36-year-old blamed Friday's "unfortunate" incident where he was accidentally struck on the head by a fan's water bottle while signing autographs after his second-round win.

The victory made the 26-year-old Tabilo -- who won a Challenger Tour tournament two weeks ago -- the first Chilean in



Chile's Alejandro Tabilo in action during his round of 32 match against Serbia's Novak Djokovic

17 years to beat a world number one since Fernando Gonzalez beat Roger Federer at the ATP Finals in 2007.

The result also means Djokovic -- who made a double fault on match point -- has failed to reach a single final in 2024 and has played only six matches on clay

in the build-up to the French Open.

The Serbian had reached the semi-finals of the Monte Carlo Masters but a premature exit in Rome could hamper his preparations for Roland Garros where the year's second Grand Slam begins on May 26.