

Mehdi Saberi Bags Gold at Asian Throwing Championships



TEHRAN – Mehdi Saberi of Iran won a gold medal in the 2024 Asian Throwing Championships.

The Iranian shot putter came first with a throw of 19.27 meters.

Chinese thrower finished in second place with 19.26 meters and the bronze medal went to an athlete from the Philippines with 19.22 meters.

Earlier in the day Iranian discus thrower Hussein Rasouli had won a gold medal.

The competition started on June 14 in Mokpo, South Korea, and will run until June 18.

The annual tournament features all the best continental athletes around Asia.

Noshad Alamiyan Secures Paris 2024 Spot in Latest World Rankings



TEHRAN – Iranian table tennis player Noshad Alamiyan secured his spot in the 2024 Olympic Games.

His brother Nima had qualified for the Games a month ago by grabbing the gold medal at the Central Asia Regional Olympic Qualification held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

As the countdown to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games intensifies, ITTF announced significant progress in the qualification process for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

With the Games now under

50 days away, this week's world ranking update has seen eight athletes secure their participation based on the selection of Continental quotas allocated by World Ranking.

With only one more world ranking update scheduled before the final roster for Paris is confirmed, the qualification process reaches its penultimate stage.

Next week's world rankings will be crucial, determining the final competitors for the highly anticipated Paris 2024 Games.

U-23 Rowers Win Medals at Asian Canoe Championships

TEHRAN – Iranian rowers claimed several medals at the 2024 Asian Canoe Sprint Junior & U-23 Championships on Saturday.

The rowers won two gold medals, one silver and three bronzes.

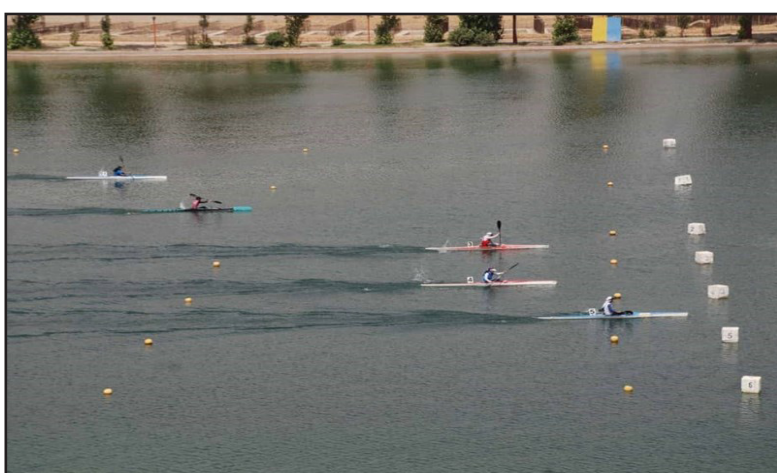
In the 1000 Junior Women K4, Arshin Rezaenejad finished in first place with a time of 04:16.635

Kazakhstan's Viktoriya Falaleyeva (04:17.228) and Uzbekistan's Milana Dushev-Yanich (04:21.045) won the silver and bronze medals, respectively.

Elnaz Shafieian seized a gold medal in the 1000 U-23 Women K1, clocking 04:09.940.

Vietnam's Thi Huong Hoang and Kazakhstan's Stella Sukhanova won the silver and bronze medals with a time of 04:11.682 and 04:15.045, respectively.

Muhammad Abbasi and



Shayan Hussein won a silver medal in the 1000 U-23 Men C2 with a time of 03:41.690. Uzbekistan's Mukhammadali Mirismanov and Shokhjakhon Mukhammadiev won the gold medal with a time of 03:36.117 and the bronze medal went to Thailand's Mongkhonchai Sisong and Pit-

piboon Mahawattanangkul with a time of 03:44.127.

In the 1000 Junior Men K2, Abolfazl Janati and Amir Reza Ouladian took a bronze medal with a time of 03:31.255.

Kazakhstan's Yegor Krasnosenos and Dmitry Kholmogorov won the gold medal with

03:23.378 and Uzbekistan's Danila Kryukov and Bogdan Kolosov claimed the silver with 03:26.568.

Uzbekistan's Mirjalol Kamilov won a gold medal in the 1000 U23 Men C1. Thailand's Pitpiboon Mahawattanangkul seized the silver with 04:02.516 and the bronze medal went to Iran's Shayan Hussein with a time of 04:04.396.

Mehrab Asayesh snatched a bronze medal in the 1000 Junior Men K1 with a time of 03:46.302. Uzbekistan's Ziyodbek Yuidashaliev and Chia-Cheng Hsieh of Chinese Taipei won gold and silver medals with 03:43.755 and 03:46.289, respectively.

The Asian Canoe Sprint Junior and U-23 Championships are being held in Pattaya-Rayong, Thailand from June 14 to 16.

Messi, Martinez Score Twice in Argentina Win



Argentina forward Lionel Messi (10) dribbles the ball between Guatemala midfielder Marco Dominguez (5) and defender Jonathan Franco (22).

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Lionel Messi scored two goals and set up another

as Argentina came from behind to beat Guatemala 4-1 in their international friendly here on Friday.

Lisandro Martinez gifted Guatemala the lead in the fourth minute at Commanders Field when he turned the ball into his own net at the far post after a dangerous Oscar Santis free-kick.

The reigning world champion equalized minutes later after a bungled clearance attempt by goalkeeper Nicholas Hagen allowed Messi to roll the ball into an unguarded net.

The Albiceleste took the lead just before halftime through Lautaro Martinez, who converted from the penalty spot after Nicolas Samayoa's reckless challenge on Valentin Carboni.

Argentina began to dominate and

Martinez extended his team's advantage just after the hour through a superbly worked team goal.

Enzo Fernandez began the move with a sumptuous chip into the path of Messi, who laid off an equally impressive one-touch pass to the unmarked Martinez on the edge of the six-yard box.

Messi completed the rout with a lofted effort over Hagen after being set up by Angel Di Maria 13 minutes from time.

The match was Argentina's last outing before this summer's Copa America in the United States. The Albiceleste, who won the last edition of the continental tournament in 2021, will begin its title defense against Canada on June 20 before also facing Chile and Peru in the group stage.

Dallas Mavericks guard Luka Doncic (77) shoots over Boston Celtics forward Xavier Tillman, center, during the first half in Game 4 of the NBA basketball finals, Friday, June 14, 2024, in Dallas.

DALLAS (Reuters) -- Luka Doncic scored 25 of his 29 points in the first half, Kyrie Irving added 21 points and the Dallas Mavericks avoided a sweep with a 122-84 rout of the Boston Celtics in Game 4 of the NBA Finals on Friday.

The series shifts back to Boston for Game 5 on Monday as the Celtics will look to close it out at home. However, Dallas showed

life in extending the series after Boston was the dominant team while winning the first three games of the best-of-seven series. The script flipped in Game 4. Doncic and the Mavericks got off to a fast start and didn't look back. Doncic started a 10-0 spurt in the first quarter with a floater and closed it with a driving layup as Dallas took a 25-14 lead with 3:19 left in the period. That early run was a sign of things to come.

Dallas had a 34-21 lead by the end of the first quarter, scoring the final six points on 3-pointers by Irving and P.J. Washington.

The Mavericks kept pouring it on. They doubled up the Celtics 50-25 on a layup by Irving at the 5:16 mark of the second quarter. To close the half, Maxi Kleber drilled a corner 3-pointer off an assist by Doncic. That gave Dallas a 61-35 lead at the break. The Mavericks shot 52.3 percent from the field compared to the Celtics' 29.7 percent in the opening half. Dallas also won the rebounding battle 29-13 over the opening 24 minutes.

Dallas turned it into a full-on rout in the second half, leading by as many as 48, taking a 115-67 lead on a 3-pointer by Jaden Hardy with 5:58 left in the game.

Hosts Germany Crush 10-Man Scotland 5-1 in Euro 2024 Opener

MUNICH (Reuters) - Germany thrashed 10-man Scotland 5-1 on Friday with three goals in the first half to make a triumphant start to their Euro 2024 campaign and lay down a marker with the biggest opening game margin of victory in the tournament's history.

The Germans, hunting a record fourth European title and first major trophy after a barren decade, scored through Florian Wirtz, Jamal Musiala and a Kai Havertz penalty before Niclas Fuellkrug and Emre Can added two more late in the second half.

Scotland, who had defender Ryan Porteous sent off on the stroke of halftime, got on the scoresheet in the 87th minute courtesy of Antonio Ruediger's deflected own goal.

Julian Nagelsmann's Germany next face Hungary on Wednesday before taking on Switzerland in their final Group A match.

"We played with a lot of intensity and played the right spaces, took

some risks and that is why we scored. We played an outstanding first half and we were up 3-0," Germany captain Ilkay Guendogan said.

"That is how we wanted to start. I had a good feeling before the game and I was proved right."

"The start is what we wanted but still the goal we let in showed that all teams have quality and if you don't pay attention you will be punished."

The Scots, who lost Porteous for a studs-up challenge on Guendogan that earned the hosts their penalty, must quickly go back to the drawing board and regroup if they are to make it past the group stage for the first time in a major tournament.

The Germans, who lost their opening matches at the 2018 and 2022 World Cups as well as the previous Euros in 2021, dominated possession from the start with the Scots defending high.

That ambitious strategy proved fatal for the visitors, who left far too many



Germany's Niclas Fuellkrug celebrates after scoring his side's fourth goal during a Group A match between Germany and Scotland at the Euro 2024 soccer tournament in Munich, Germany, June 14, 2024.

open spaces at the back, and it did not take long for the hosts to punish them.

Toni Kroos flighted a perfect 30-metre cross for Joshua Kimmich who timed his pass to Wirtz perfectly for the winger to drill home for a 10th minute lead and become the youngest

scorer for Germany at a Euros aged 21.

With Scotland still recovering, Germany struck again nine minutes later, with Guendogan slipping another ball past the Scottish backline, this time for Havertz on the left, with the for-

ward laying it off for Musiala in the box to rifle home.

It was the start all of Germany was hoping for as hundreds of thousands of supporters across several fan zones erupted with joy, but there was more to come with Porteous' reckless challenge and dismissal conceding a spot kick Havertz easily converted.

It was one-way traffic again after the break and Germany added a fourth through substitute Fuellkrug's fiercely struck shot in the 69th as Scotland coach Clarke, the first man to lead the team to back-to-back Euros, looked on helplessly.

"First half, we just got it all wrong really, didn't show up, weren't aggressive enough, and we let good players get on the ball," said Scotland captain Andy Robertson.

"Second half, we're down to 10 men and I thought the lads dug in really well. We have to bounce back quickly because there was lots wrong here and it's a quick turnaround now."