

Iranian Karatekas Finish Second at World Cup



TEHRAN – The Iranian men's karate kumite team finished as runners-up after losing to Egypt

in the final of the 2024 Karate World Cup held in Spain. In the finals of the tournament,

Iran was defeated by Egypt with a score of 3-0, securing second place in the

sporting event.

Japan claimed third place after overcoming Italy.

Throughout the tournament, the Iranian team emerged victorious against teams from Macedonia, Croatia, Italy, and Australia during the group stage.

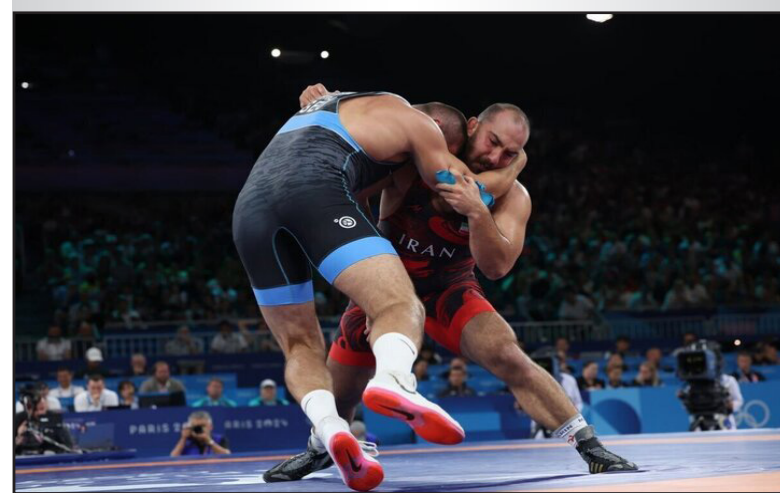
They also achieved a victory against Slovakia in the quarter-finals, which allowed them to advance to the semifinals.

In the semifinals, Iran triumphed over Japan with a score of 3-0, earning a spot in the final match.

The Iranian squad included Mahmoud Nemati, Mehdi Ashouri, Saleh Abazari, and Mehdi Khodabakhshi.

The 2024 Karate World Cup took place in Pamplona, Spain, from November 22 to 24.

Freestyle Wrestlers Win Over Russia in Friendly



TEHRAN – Iran's national freestyle wrestling team beat Russia in a friendly match held in Moscow, Russia.

The match finished 5-5 but Iran was announced the winner courtesy of two big wins in the 97kg and 125kg.

The winners were awarded \$10,000 cash prize and the losers were granted \$5,000.

Iran's Greco-Roman team had also defeated Russia on Friday.

Results:
57kg: Magomedrasul Id-risov df. Ali Momeni, 3-0
61kg: Zaur Uguev df.

Reza Momeni, 5-1
65kg: Shamil Mamedov df. Rahman Amouzad, 10-7
70kg: Kurban Shiraev df. Sina Khalili, 5-2

74kg: Zaurbek Sidakov df. Amir Muhammad Yazdani, 12-1

79kg: Mehdi Yousefi df. Magomed Magomae, 7-5

86kg: Kamran Ghasempour df. Ibragim Kadiev, 8-5

92kg: Amir Hussein Firouzpour df. Magomed Kurbanov, 5-4

97kg: Mojtaba Golei df. Samdan Bady-Maadyr, 11-1

125kg: Amir Hussein Zare df. Shamil Musae, 12-2

Lukaku Keeps Napoli on Top With 1-0 Win Over Roma

NAPLES (AFP) - Napoli have edged out AS Roma 1-0 at home, with Romelu Lukaku's second-half goal securing all three points and top spot in Serie A.

It took 54 minutes for Napoli to break the deadlock, with Lukaku sliding in to meet Giovanni Di Lorenzo's low cross from close range and score against the team he played for last season.

Napoli have 29 points after 13 matches, one point ahead of Atalanta, Inter Milan, Fiorentina and Lazio who occupy second to fifth respectively.

It was a disappointing



Napoli's Andre-Frank Zambo Anguissa (top) and Roma's Manu Kone vie for the ball during the Italian Serie A soccer match between Napoli and Roma at the Diego Armando Maradona Stadium in Naples, Italy, Nov 24, 2024.

day for Roma manager Claudio Ranieri, who began his third stint in charge at the club, with his side 12th in the table with 13

points. "When we arrive at the stadium, we can feel the way the fans push us on. We won today and we are

happy," Lukaku told Sky Sport Italia.

"I just want to do well for the team. We have a process that we need to go through, we knew it would be tough because the other sides won, but we got the result we wanted."

Napoli had an early chance to take the lead, but Khvicha Kvaratskhelia failed to convert, sending a free header wide after being left unmarked at the back post.

Roma goalkeeper Mile Svilar was kept busy, making several crucial saves, including a strong stop from Scott McTominay's angled attempt.

Sinner Leads Italy to Repeat Davis Cup Glory



Italy's Jannik Sinner raises the trophy with teammates after winning the Davis Cup Finals at the Palacio de Deportes Jose Maria Martin Carpena arena in Malaga, southern Spain, on Nov 24, 2024.

MALAGA (Reuters) - Italian Jannik Sinner completed a remarkable season by sealing his country a second successive Davis Cup title in the final at the southern Spanish city of Malaga on Sunday.

World number one Sinner produced a commanding display to outclass Tallon Griekspoor in a 7-6(2) 6-2 in the second singles rubber to wrap up the win after Matteo Berrettini comfortably beat Botić van de Zandschulp 6-4 6-2 in the first singles clash.

It was Italy's third title in the elite men's team competition following their triumphs in 1976 and last year. With Italy also having claimed the Billie Jean King Cup title, they became the fifth nation to win both team titles in the same season after the United States, Australia, Czech Republic and Russia.

A week after capturing the ATP Finals title, Sinner led Italy to another triumph to cap a season in which he also won two Grand Slam titles.

Heat Hold Off Mavericks 123-118 in OT

MIAMI (AP) — Jimmy Butler scored a season-high 33 points, leading the Miami Heat past the Dallas Mavericks 123-118 in overtime on Sunday night.

Bam Adebayo had 19 points and 11 rebounds, Tyler Herro had 18 points and 10 rebounds, Alec Burks scored 15 and Pelle Larsson added 14 for Miami.

Kyrie Irving had 14 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter for Dallas, which had its four-

game winning streak snapped. P.J. Washington scored 21, Naji Marshall had 20, Klay Thompson scored 15 and Dereck Lively II had 14 points and 13 rebounds for Dallas.

The Mavericks played without Luka Doncic, still sidelined with a sprained right wrist. The Heat were without Terry Rozier, who was expected to play but wound up being scratched with a recurrence of right foot discomfort.



Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler (22) battles with Dallas Mavericks forward P.J. Washington (25) for a loose ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024, in Miami.

Liverpool Build Eight-Point Lead After Salah Inspires Comeback at Southampton



Southampton's goalkeeper Alex McCarthy saves during the English Premier League soccer match between Southampton and Liverpool in Southampton, England, Nov 24, 2024.

SOUTHAMPTON (Reuters) - Premier League leaders Liverpool beat bottom side Southampton 3-2 on Sunday to build a sizeable eight-point lead over reigning champions Manchester City after Mohamed Salah led a second-half comeback for the visitors.

Liverpool were trailing 2-1 when Salah scored twice in the second half to take his season's tally to 10 goals in the league, two behind the league's top scorer Erling Haaland of City.

After City lost their third straight league game on Saturday, a 4-0 loss to Tottenham Hotspur, Liverpool took full advantage and Arne Slot's side now have 31 points from 12 games to City's 23 ahead of their clash at Anfield next weekend.

"They were very important, espe-

cially after being down 2-1. It's the most important thing to have won the game," Salah told Sky Sports. "Each game is different. They had a game plan and played very well. We managed to come back and win the game. I think we have a good game plan, we played our game and I was confident we would create chances."

"Man City is Man City. They have a bad time now but they have great players... We have a game against them so hopefully, we win it and go 11 points clear."

Southampton shot themselves in the foot when they tried playing out from the back and under Liverpool pressure, Flynn Downes's pass fell to Dominik Szoboszlai at the edge of the box and the unmarked midfielder fired home to make it 1-0.