

# Iran Finish 3rd in West Asia Baseball Cup



TEHRAN — Iran defeated India 6-3 in the 2025 West Asia Baseball Cup on Wednesday and finished in third place.

Iran had defeated Bangladesh 7-6 in its opening match in Group B but lost to Pakistan 14-0 and Palestine 18-3.

Pakistan and Palestine will lock horns in the final match.

The competition is being held in Karaj's Enghelab Stadium in Iran.

Pakistan is the West Asia Baseball Cup defending champion.

The Asian Baseball Cup was launched in 1995 in Manila, Philippines, as a qualifier for the Asian Baseball Championship. The tournament was split into the West Asia and East Asia Baseball Cups in 2012.

## Djokovic to Carry on Without a Coach After Parting Ways With Murray

PARIS (Reuters) - Novak Djokovic said he would carry on without a coach for now after parting ways with Andy Murray last week, as the Serbian prepares for his latest bid to win a record-extending 25th Grand Slam title at the French Open.

The high-profile partnership with three-time Grand Slam champion Murray lasted only six months but Djokovic said his respect for the Scot had only grown in that time.

"At the moment, I'm not in need of a coach. I don't



Novak Djokovic

need to rush in any context. I feel comfortable with the people around me," Djokovic told

reporters on Tuesday, a day before facing Marton Fucsovics at the Geneva Open.

"In the next few tournaments, we'll see what happens."

Djokovic, 38, is winless on clay this year after exiting the Monte Carlo Masters and Madrid Open with straight-sets losses last month, and his form is a concern heading into Roland Garros, which kicks off on Sunday.

He had appointed fellow former world number one Murray ahead of this year's Australian Open and said in February he would continue working with him for an indefinite period.

## Man City Climb to Third With 3-1 Win Over Bournemouth



Manchester City's Kevin De Bruyne (right) kicks the ball ahead of Bournemouth's Illya Zabarnyi.

MANCHESTER (Reuters) - Manchester City gave Kevin De Bruyne a victory in his final appearance at Etihad Stadium, as Omar Marmoush scored a stunner in a 3-1 Premier League win over Bournemouth on Tuesday that saw them climb to third in the table.

City have 68 points with one game remaining, two points above Newcastle United, Chelsea and Aston Villa in the nervy chase for a top-five finish and Champions League qualification. Bournemouth are 11th, with the loss ending their chances of playing European football next season.

Both sides finished the game with 10 men after City's Mateo Kovacic was shown a red card in the 67th minute for pulling back Evanilson when he was through on goal, followed by Lewis Cook for the visitors in the 73rd for his reckless challenge on Nico Gonzalez.

City were on the front foot from the first whistle and Marmoush scored in the 14th minute when he drifted forward before unleashing a scorching shot from 30 yards out that dipped just inside the top-left corner.

Bernardo Silva doubled their lead in the 38th when Ilkay Gundogan cut the ball back for the Portuguese who slotted it in at the near post and Gonzalez struck in the 89th with a run from deep before whipping the ball past goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga.

Daniel Jebbison pulled one back for Bournemouth seconds before the final whistle when he pounced on a careless pass to Ruben Dias before slotting the ball through goalkeeper Edereson's legs.

The visitors had squandered a terrific chance to equalize on the break in the first half, but a stretching Evanilson hit Marcus Tavernier's cross off the upright.

## Carapaz Triumphs in Giro d'Italia Stage 11



Ecuador's Richard Carapaz of Ef Education - Easypost Team crosses the finish line in first position to win the stage 11 of the Giro d'Italia cycling race, 186 km from Viareggio to Castelnovo ne' Monti, Italy, Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

CASTELNOVO NE' MONTI, Italy (AP) — Ecuadorian cyclist Richard Carapaz soloed to victory at the end of the 11th stage of the Giro d'Italia, while Isaac del Toro kept hold of the leader's pink jersey on Wednesday.

The 31-year-old Carapaz attacked as the peloton caught the breakaway about 4.5 kilometers (three miles) from the end of the last of the three high-category climbs, and he held his pursuers off to clinch his first Giro stage win since he won the Italian race in 2019.

"It was a very, very tough stage, and from the very first climb I saw that so many people were suffering," said Carapaz, the Tokyo Olympics road race champion in 2021. "But I knew I had good legs, I chose the right moment ... and it was almost like a time trial to make it all the way home."

The victory also ended a drought for Carapaz, who hadn't won in 308 days, since securing a stage victory in the Tour de France last year.

Del Toro edged Giulio Ciccone in a bunch sprint for second, about 10 seconds behind Carapaz, at the end of the 186-kilometer (116-mile) slog, that saw 3,800 meters of climbing, from Viareggio on the coast, inland to Castelnovo ne' Monti.

The bonus seconds he earned saw Del Toro extend his overall lead slightly to 31 seconds over Juan Ayuso and one minute, seven seconds ahead of Antonio Tiberi.

The 21-year-old Del Toro became the first Mexican cyclist to lead the Giro when he finished second on Sunday's ninth stage.

Thursday's 12th stage is a 172-kilometer route from Modena to Viadana.

## Gilgeous-Alexander Helps Thunder Rally Past Timberwolves



Gilgeous-Alexander finished with 31 points, five rebounds and nine assists

WASHINGTON (AP) - Shai Gilgeous-Alexander led the Oklahoma City Thunder's fightback from a "rusty" start to beat the Minnesota Timberwolves and win the first game of their NBA Western Conference finals series.

With Julius Randle pouring in 20 first-half points, Minnesota were on course for an upset against the top seeds after taking a 48-44 lead into half-time.

But the Thunder rallied in the final two quarters, with Gilgeous-Alexander scoring 20 of his 31 points to help his side to a 114-88 victory.

"Honestly we were a bit rusty in

the first half but we shouldn't be," Gilgeous-Alexander told ESPN in an on-court interview.

"We were missing layups, free throws. We just needed to keep being aggressive and trust our work."

MVP candidate Gilgeous-Alexander, who scored 30 or more points for a fourth consecutive game, also finished with five rebounds and a game-high nine assists.

"Game ones are feel-out games. In game two they're going to make adjustments and we're going to have adjustments. It's a series and it's best-of-seven, not first to one," Gilgeous-Alexander added.

## Manny Pacquiao at 46 to Fight WBC Welterweight in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Manny Pacquiao is coming out of retirement.

The 46-year-old boxing great is scheduled to face WBC welterweight champion Mario Barrios at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas on July 19, nearly four years after his last professional fight.

"I'm back," Pacquiao posted Wednesday on social media.

Pacquiao's team announced the comeback last week, just hours after he conceded defeat in a bid for another seat in the Philippines Senate.

Pacquiao won 12 titles in a record eight weight classes from flyweight to super

welterweight while becoming one of boxing's biggest draws. He will be enshrined in the International Boxing Hall of Fame on June 8.

Pacquiao previously planned to end his 26-year boxing career in 2021 with a record of 62-8-2 with 39 knockouts.

He had announced his retirement followed a disheartening defeat to Yordenis Ugas. In what was Pacquiao's first fight in more than two years, a younger Cuban boxer beat him by unanimous decision to retain the WBA welterweight title.

Pacquiao's rags-to-riches life story and legendary career



Yordenis Ugas, right, of Cuba, punches Manny Pacquiao, of the Philippines, during a welterweight championship boxing match Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021, in Las Vegas.

brought honor to his Southeast Asian nation, where he is known by the monikers "Pacman" and "People's Champ."

The 30-year-old Barrios,

who retained the WBC welterweight belt with a draw against Abel Ramos last November, is 29-2-1 with 18 KOs.