

Foolad Sirjan Win Asian Club Volleyball Championship



TEHRAN – Foolad Sirjan Iranian defeated Shahdab Yazd 3-0 (25-20, 25-18, 25-23) to win the 2024 Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship. Foolad Sirjan won the Asian Club Championship for the second time. Foolad and Shahdab will represent Asia at the 2024 FIVB Volleyball Men's Club World Championship in Bangalore, India.

Indonesia's Jakarta Bhayangkara Presisi also Kazakhstan's Pavlodar Volleyball Club 3-0 in the bronze medal match.

The 2024 Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship was the 24rd edition of the Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship, an annual international men's volleyball club tournament organized by the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) with Iran Volleyball Association (IRIVF).

The tournament was held in Yazd, Iran, from September 8 to 15.

Iran Claim Third Team Title in Asian Rowing Championships



TEHRAN – Iran have claimed the third team title in the 2024 Asian Rowing U-19 and U-23 Championships after winning three gold and one silver.

The Iranian athletes taking part in the competitions were Fatemeh Mojallal, Mohanna Haji-Hosseini, Kimia Zarei, and Saqi Maleki who took part

in women's section. Amirreza Abdoli competed in men's section.

The competitions were held in the Chinese city of Shenyang on September 11-14. China claimed the first team title by winning 13 gold, 2 silver, and 2 bronze. It was followed by Uzbekistan, which secured 3 gold, 3 silver and 5 bronze.

Atletico Cruise to 3-0 Win Over Struggling Valencia

MADRID (Reuters) - Atletico Madrid cruised to a convincing 3-0 home win over bottom side Valencia on Sunday in La Liga thanks to goals from Conor Gallagher, Antoine Griezmann and Julian Alvarez.

Marcos Llorente and Samuel Lino went close in the first half before Atletico took the lead in the 39th minute when new signing Gallagher finished into the bottom corner after latching on to a delightful pass from Rodrigo De Paul that was slipped through the legs of defender Cristhian Mosquera.

Alexander Sorloth, another summer signing for Diego Simeone's revamped side, also created a couple of dangerous chances only to be



Atletico Madrid's Norwegian forward #09 Alexander Sorloth, Atletico Madrid's Spanish defender #24 Robin Le Normand and Valencia's Spanish defender #03 Cristhian Mosquera jump for the ball.

denied by goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili.

Valencia fought hard for an equalizer, with Javi Guerra's long-range effort going wide, but they were unable to prevent Griezmann from finding the net after Lino's header fell

into his path nine minutes after the break.

Another new recruit, Alvarez, put the icing on the cake with his first goal in the Spanish top flight after joining from Manchester City, when he slotted home Rodrigo

Riquelme's cross in the 93rd minute.

"I didn't feel any pressure (to score), I simply say that the goal happens as a result of the game and you have to be prepared for when the opportunity comes," Alvarez told Spanish TV.

"We're doing well as a group, we're getting off to a good start. Now we have Champions League games coming up and we have to keep working to keep this momentum going," he added.

Atletico, who are unbeaten this season, moved into second place, level on 11 points with Real Madrid and four behind leaders Barcelona. They face RB Leipzig in the Champions League on Thursday.

Piastri Wins 'Most Stressful' F1 Azerbaijan GP



McLaren driver Oscar Piastri of Australia in action during a Formula One Grand Prix in Baku, Azerbaijan, Sept 15, 2024.

BEIJING (Reuters) - McLaren's Oscar Piastri withstood heavy pressure from Ferrari's Charles Leclerc to take victory in Sunday's Formula 1 Azerbaijan Grand Prix, as the race ended under caution after a penultimate lap tangle between Carlos Sainz and Sergio Perez.

Starting second on the grid, Piastri remained close to polesitter Leclerc and took the lead at the start of lap 20, diving down the inside of the Monegasque at Turn 1.

From then on, the Australian had Leclerc breathing down his neck for the remainder of the race, and though the Ferrari driver came close to drawing alongside on several occasions, the McLaren always seemed to have just enough to stay ahead, with Piastri seemingly having better rear traction out of corners.

However, Leclerc's challenge faded with around three laps remaining as he struggled with his tyres, and the Monegasque fell

into the clutches of Perez and Sainz, who then collided on lap 50 while battling over third.

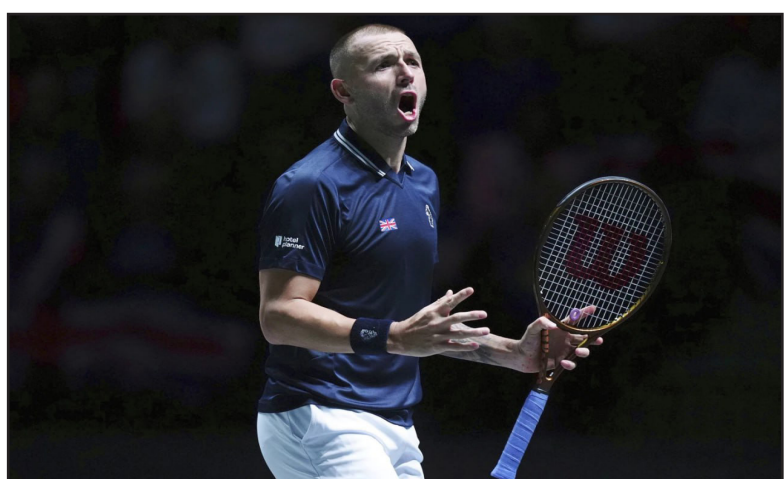
But while chaos reigned behind, Piastri reigned supreme to take his second Grand Prix win of 2024, in Behind Piastri, Leclerc took second place, with the Monegasque rueing his Ferrari's lack of pace on the Hard compound tyres.

Sainz and Perez's clash promoted Mercedes' George Russell into an unexpected third place, with Piastri's teammate Lando Norris salvaging fourth place after starting only 15th following a disrupted qualifying session.

The Briton also took the bonus point for the fastest lap, taking a total of three points out of championship leader Max Verstappen, who had a low-key run to fifth.

Fernando Alonso took sixth for Aston Martin, while an excellent afternoon for Williams saw Alex Albon and Franco Colapinto finish seventh and eighth.

Britain Fail to Reach Davis Cup Finals Last Eight After Losing to Canada



Britain's Dan Evans reacts during the Davis Cup group stage finals match against Canada's Denis Shapovalov, at the AO Arena in Manchester, England, Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024.

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — Britain failed to qualify for the last eight of the Davis Cup Finals after losing to Canada 2-1

in their last group-stage tie on Sunday, while Novak Djokovic helped Serbia secure a place in next year's qualifiers.

The British needed a 3-0 win against the Canadians in Manchester, but Dan Evans lost 6-0, 7-5 to Denis Shapovalov to end Britain's hopes in the opening match in front of a crowd of 15,700 at the AO Arena, the biggest for a Davis Cup tie on British soil, according to organizers.

Felix Auger-Aliassime then defeated Jack Draper 7-6 (8), 7-5 to seal Canada's victory and first place in Group D. England won the final doubles match.

Evans hinted this may have been his last Davis Cup appearance.

"I've probably had my fair share now. It could be and probably will be (the end)," he said. "I need to have a think. If I don't feel capable of playing, I won't come back."

Canada and Argentina advanced from Group D. Finland was the other team eliminated.

Four groups have been playing in four cities to qualify for the eight-team Finals in Malaga, Spain, in November. The top two in each four-team group advance.

Ronaldo Misses Al-Nassr's Debut in Asia's New Elite Tournament With Virus

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Cristiano Ronaldo has a virus and did not travel to Iraq with Al-Nassr for Monday's AFC Champions League Elite debut match at Al-Shorta.

Al-Nassr, Ronaldo's Saudi Arabian club, said that the Portugal forward "wasn't feeling well" and "was diagnosed with a viral infection," adding that the team physician confirmed he needs to rest.

Playing for Portugal in the

Nations League, Ronaldo recently scored against both Croatia and Scotland to take his men's-record tally of international goals to 132.

Ronaldo won five UEFA Champions Leagues but has yet to win a major trophy with Al-Nassr.

It's the first edition of the Elite version, which replaced the AFC Champions League as Asia's top club tournament.

Ronaldo's debut in the Elite tournament could now come



Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo, right, sits on the bench during the UEFA Nations League soccer match between Portugal and Scotland at the Luz stadium in Lisbon, Portugal, Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024.

against Qatari club Al-Rayyan on Sept. 20 in Riyadh.