

Iranian girls finish third in Asian youth weightlifting



● IRNA

Sport Desk

Iranian girls finished on the third podium in the youth contests of the Asian Youth & Junior Weightlifting Championships in Delhi, India.

The host country collected 690 points to pip Uzbekistan to the title by two points, with Iran – represented by seven weightlifters at the youth event – tallying 488 points, – courtesy of three golds as well as four silver and bronze medals apiece.

Ghazaleh Hosseini headlined the list of the Iranian medalists in Delhi by making a clean sweep of top-spot finishes in the 64kg weight class – the first Asian weightlifting golds of the age category for the country.

Haniyeh Sharifi took the clean & jerk silver and total bronze of the class.

La'ya Karimi rounded off her 71kg campaign with three medals – the snatch and total silvers plus the C&J bronze.

Asal Kadhodaie added a couple of 76kg snatch and total bronzes to Iran's medal count, while Ghazal Hosseini grabbed a snatch silver thanks to an 80kg lift in the 59kg weight class.

Iran settles for taekwondo team silver in World University Games



● taekwondo.ir

Sport Desk

The final day of the taekwondo competitions at the Summer World University Games saw Iran take the kyorugi silver in Chengdu, China.

The four-man team – comprising Alireza Hosseinpour, Mirhashem Hosseini, Mehran Barkhordari, and Arian Salimi – suffered a 52-40 defeat against South Korea in the final showdown.

Iran enjoyed a glittering taekwondo campaign in the Games, bagging 13 medals – including four golds.

Nahid Kiani (women's -53kg), Mehdi Haji Mousaei (men's -54kg), Hosseinpour (men's -58kg), and Hosseini (men's -74kg) all walked away with the ultimate prizes of their respective weight classes.

New suitor for Taremi as Spurs table €24m bid: Report

Sport Desk

The latest twist in Mehdi Taremi's transfer saga suggests that Premier League club Tottenham Hotspur is considering a move for Porto's talisman.

Portuguese daily sport newspaper O Jogo wrote on Friday that the Tottenham "is willing to pay €24 million" for the Iranian.

However, O Jogo added Spurs' offer could be turned down by Porto, which has tagged the prolific striker with a €30 million asking price, while Taremi, 30, could also reject the bid, as the London-based outfit will play no part in the European competitions in the upcoming season after an eighth-place finish in the domestic league in the previous campaign.

Several reports in recent months had suggested that Taremi, whose contract at Porto expires next summer, would join Milan, but a deal fell through when the Seire A giant signed Nigerian Chimerenka Chukwueze from Villarreal.

O Jogo wrote the most likely scenario for Taremi's future at the moment is a Porto contract renewal, with the negotiations getting under-



● MIGUEL RIOPA/AFP

way in September. A remarkable campaign saw Taremi bag 31 goals in 51 outings across all competitions for Porto last season, while providing his teammates with 12 assists. Having joined the Dragons

from Rio Ave in 2020, Taremi netted 22 goals to finish as the Primeira Liga's leading marksman, though Porto had to settle for a runner-up spot behind Benfica in the Portuguese top flight before lifting the

Taça de Portugal trophy for a second successive season. Former Persepolis striker also scored five goals in seven games to help Sergio Conceicao's side win the Champions League group before being knocked out

by Inter in the round of 16. Tottenham, meanwhile, is reportedly in the market for a new number nine as the club's all-time top scorer Harry Kane, who has one year left on his contract, is edging closer to a switch to

Bundesliga champion Bayern Munich. Tottenham chairman Daniel Levy is eager to cash in on the England captain this summer rather than let him leave as a free agent in July 2024.

Fritz says climate protests 'annoying' after match suspended

REUTERS – World number nine Taylor Fritz said climate activists need to find a better way of protesting instead of "annoying" sports fans by interrupting events, after his Washington Open match against Andy Murray was briefly halted on Friday.

Play was stopped during the opening set of the American's 6-7(2) 6-3 6-4 victory when protesters threw large tennis balls with flames printed on them onto the court. Some of them unfurled

banners in the stands calling on tournament sponsors Mubadala and Citi to stop funding the fossil fuel industry.

"I get they're protesting, but there's just got to be a better way to do it," Fritz told reporters.

"I don't understand how people are going to get behind a cause when you're ruining everyone else's good time. Like, it doesn't really make sense to me."

Climate change protesters similarly interrupted play at Wimbledon last

month, releasing orange ticker-tape mixed with jigsaw puzzle pieces during two matches.

"It's annoying, obviously, when they do it. It's ruining everyone's time. Everyone wants to watch the tennis. I jokingly said, 'Honestly, this makes me want to go fly on jets more,'" Fritz said with a smile.

"I think they're supporting a good cause, but the way they're doing it... Who's going to want to listen when they're just annoying everybody?"



Taylor Fritz hits a forehand against Andy Murray on day seven of the Washington Open Washington, D.C., US, on August 4, 2023.

● GEOFF BURKE/USA TODAY SPORTS

Arteta considered Arsenal future after missing out on title



● PETER CZIBORRA/ACTION IMAGES

BBC – Mikel Arteta considered his future as Arsenal manager after last season's title disappointment until deep "reflection" persuaded him to stay put. The Gunners led the Premier League by five points before consecutive draws with Liverpool, West Ham and Southampton proved costly. Arsenal's next game was a heavy defeat at City, who went on to win the title by five points from the London side.

"The first few weeks, very tough," said Arteta, looking back at his summer.

"The first thing you have to do is look in the mirror and understand – is there something that you should have done better or differently? If that is the case

then learn from it. "Judge yourself – 'are you still the right person to drive the club, the team, forwards in the way that you want and do you have that energy and that belief that you want to do it?'"

"It took a big reflection, but the answer is yes and I feel with a lot of energy and positiveness." During the title run-in, Arsenal led 2-0 at Liverpool and West Ham before being held to draws, with winger Bukayo Saka missing a penalty when his side were 2-1 up against the Hammers.

Arsenal then needed two late goals to salvage a 3-3 draw against a Southampton side who went on to be relegated, before sliding to a telling 4-1 defeat at City.

Asked what was the difference between City and his team, Arteta said: "Momentum. In the key moments when it should have gone one way – and in many situations in the season it went for us – it didn't go for us."

"You are talking about a team that if they need to win 25 games in a row, they have the capacity to do that, so the last thing that they need is momentum and belief and we gave them that. "They were key moments when we just weren't ruthless enough, clinical enough, didn't have the luck or we made certain mistakes that allowed that to happen. We have to recognise that as well."

Arsenal will play City in the Community Shield today.