Qatar book semi-final spot and ticket to FIFA U-20 WC

QATAR BEAT THAILAND 7-3, WITH FOUR GOALS COMING IN EXTRA TIME, AFTER THE TEAMS HAD FINISHED 3-3 AT THE END OF 90 MINUTES

AFC Junior

Qatar progressed to the semi-finals of the AFC U-19 Championship Indonesia 18 with a 7-3 win over Thailand yesterday, ensuring they also earn their spot at next year’s FIFA U-20 World Cup.

Head coach Bruno Pinheiro’s charges, AFC U-19 champions in 2014, were to dig deep by their Southeast Asian opponents as a quarter of their starting XI was also claiming their place at next year’s FIFA U-20 World Cup.

The late drama rolled off a classic evening of football, one which had swung one way and then the other before Qatar attack to seal a sensational victory and leave Thailand to rue what could have been.

After a cautious opening to proceedings at Jakarta’s Gelora Bung Karno Stadium, it was Qatar who struck first, Hashim Ali making the most of Anuson Jaiphet’s wayward defensive pass to curl a sublime shot beyond Thailand goalkeeper Nopphon Lakhonphon in the 13th minute.

With Thailand already on the back-foot, the West Asians wasted little time in doubling their advantage, this time Nasser al-Yazidi – starting his first game of the competition – scoring with aplomb following Abdulrasheed Umaru’s excellent run eight minutes later.

At the scene of their remarkable 6-5 group stage defeat of host nation Indonesia, Qatar continued to press as first al-Yazidi fired narrowly over the bar from an angle and then Khaled Saleh forced Nopphon into a fine sprawling save shortly after the half-hour mark.

In the final minutes of what had been an excellent first period for the Qataris, Saleh went close again with a driven effort from distance, before Thailand spurned their first genuine chance of the game, Salah Zakaria diving at the feet of Korawich Tasa when the striker was clean through on goal.

Thailand refused to buckle after the break, and they reduced the deficit within three minutes of the restart as Ahmed al-Minhali’s clearance from a corner fell to Sakunchai Saengthopho who brilliantly found the top corner from 20 yards.

Thai coach Ithsara Sritharo said his team will be taking plenty of positives from the tournament.

AFC

FOOTBALL

Suarez hits hat-trick as Barcelona thrash Real Madrid 5-1

Page 2

FOOTBALL/ASIAN U-19 CHAMPIONSHIP

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Thailand refused to buckle after the break, and they reduced the deficit within three minutes of the restart as Ahmed al-Minhali’s clearance from a corner fell to Sakunchai Saengthopho who brilliantly found the top corner from 20 yards. Thirapak Prueangna then lashed home Ekanit Panya’s delivery to put Thailand ahead with only 10 minutes remaining, before Ahmed Alhaidry rounded the net with a sublime free-kick to honor Qatar’s lifeline and send the game to extra-time.

With both sides noticeably tired, Qatar duly regained the advantage on 90 minutes, Umaru sliding the ball past Nopphon after being found by Mohamed Wad Abdulwahab to register his sixth goal of the campaign.

Khaled Mansour then struck within the opening seconds of the second period of extra-time, Umaru added a sixth and Youssef Ayman bagged another in the final seconds to eventually Qatar’s victory and edge his side and guar- antee themselves a third appearance at the FIFA U-20 World Cup.

Qatar coach Pinheiro said: “We are of course very proud to be going to the FIFA U-20 World Cup. All of Qatar will be proud of the players. We now have three days to recover both physically and mentally before our semi-final.

The target now is, of course to reach the final. Because when you are in the semi-final, that is what you want to do – win the game and be in the final.”

That coach House (who said his team will be taking plenty of positives from the tournament).
Suarez hat-trick as Barcelona blow away Real Madrid

Suarez terrorised Madrid from start to finish and made light of Messi's absence.
Vichai bought Leicester City in 2010 and moved to chairman the following February, pouring millions into the team on crutches, a father consoling his teenage son, from the scene of the crash, a steady stream of Buddhist temples.

Premier League victory — was also an image of the grounds.

But not even their most devout fans could have imagined what happened.

The club helped return them to England’s top flight in 2015/16.

Players and words of praise poured in from across Britain and around the globe. As one supporter, 55-year-old Cathy Dann, said Vichai’s major investments in the club helped return them to England’s top flight in 2015/16.

Leicester’s Thai boss feared dead after helicopter crash

Vichai bought Leicester City in 2010 and moved to chairman the following February, pouring millions into the team.

Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha, owner of Leicester City, tragically died in the helicopter crash on Saturday evening.

The Thai billionaire crashed and burst into flames in a helicopter that was carrying five people, including three football club executives.

Leicester City said it was releasing a statement.

One source said the helicopter had disappeared from radar.

Local police thanked fans for their support.

Police and other agencies to get an update out to the public and press, “ the Leicestershire Echo quoted sources saying the helicopter may have hit a tree and then caught fire.

A minute of silence was observed before the game against West Ham.

Harry Maguire both tweeted emojis of the English Premier League football trophy at the King Power duty-free headquarters in Bangkok.

In this file photo taken on May 18, 2016 Leicester City FC’s owner Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha applauds as they take part in a presentation of the English Premier League football trophy at the King Power Stadium.

He was a father figure to many.
**SPORT**

**SPORT**

**CRICKET / IND VS WI, 4TH ODI**

India looking for answers against confident Windies

**AFP**

The visitors will once again bank on the likes of Shikhar Dhawan and Rohit Sharma who have been in tremendous form. The West Indies will have to ensure that they don’t let their middle order down.

Skipper Jason Holder has had mixed success with the bat. However, he is the team’s only wicket-keeper-batsman and is likely to continue in the slot.

The bowling has also leaked runs at times and there are concerns about the form of pacemen Kemar Roach and Shannon Gabriel. The West Indies need to bounce back in this series.

The visitors also need to look at the ongoing Test series against South Africa. India have already lost the series. The team will be hoping for a strong comeback in the ODIs.

**BRIEF SCORES**

Pakistan 150 for 5 (Azam 50, Farhan 39, M Marsh 2-6) vs Afghanistan 115 for 9 (Farooqi 4-40)

Pakistan next play New Zealand in a limited-over series and their bowlers will be hoping to get a good result against Afghanistan.

Vinales wins Aussie MotoGP as Marquez jinx strikes again

**AFP**

The Spanish rider, who started second and then the leader after Marquez retired, second his first win for the team Yamaha's 25-age win, taking the checkered flag with 22 laps of the circuit circuit yesterday.

Ducati rider Andrea Dovizioso, who was fourth on the grid, was given a restraining order for Vinales after a frightening high-speed collision.

Vinales took full advantage of the situation, especially since Marquez had to retire from the race due to a serious injury to his left arm.

Dovizioso, who was fourth on the grid, managed to take the lead, but was later penalized for obstructing Vinales.

While his competitors were struggling, Vinales continued to pull away, eventually winning the race and becoming the new MotoGP world champion for the season.

This was Vinales' 79th career win, and it was a well-deserved victory for the Japanese rider.

**FOCUS**

Hurst Warner ‘sledged by Hughes’ brother

D

Several Warner’s decision to walk off mid-innings in a Sydney grade game in February, which has been linked to an (unofficial) selection in the touring party for South Africa in March.

He left the field but returned shortly afterwards following the intervention of teammates, and was later seen at lunch with the team doctor.

Warner’s brother, Hughes, was furious with his brother’s decision and accused him of “cruelty”.

Hughes later apologised for his comments.

**BRIEF SCORES**

Pakistan 505 for 8 (Azam 148, Farooq 107) vs Australia 197 for 2 (Smith 61, Warner 59)

**FOCUS**

**CRICKET / PAC VS AUS, 3RD T20I**

Babar and Shadab have Pakistan whitewash Australia

**AFP**

O

A

Australian batting attack never seemed to recover from batting against its world-famous batting line-up.

“I thought we had the potential to win the race, but when I made a mistake on corner four, I lost the battle, and unfortunately it was too late for me at Phillip Island,” Vinales said.

Vinales took full advantage of the situation, especially since Marquez had to retire from the race due to a serious injury to his left arm.

While his competitors were struggling, Vinales continued to pull away, eventually winning the race and becoming the new MotoGP world champion for the season.

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Backstrom leads Capitals to victory against the Jazz and his status for today’s game is in doubt because of a strained right elbow.

The Pelicans cut the Jazz lead to 110-102 on a three-point play after Jordan Poole was called for a foul. Vucevic had 16 points and nine rebounds for Orlando, which has lost two in a row for the first time since the 2016-17 season.

Los Angeles (5-1, 102-96) got a three-run home run from Max Muncy and a three-run blast from Cody Bellinger. Cordero converted in the second round of the shootout.

Dias finished with 56 saves and the Kings beat the Penguins for the first time since the 2016-17 season.

Machado hit a two-out single off  Red Sox start-

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The cushion was all but gone an instant later. Patric Hornqvist scored the game-winning goal for the Penguins with three seconds left in the third period.

The Rockies fell apart when their ace left the game. Antonio Senzolo had a goal and two assists for the Islanders, who snapped a two-game losing streak.

Koskinen, who last played for Nashville, made an unassisted goal at 13:46 of the first period to give the Oilers the lead.

The Penguins brought their win streak to seven games, the longest in the league this season, which leads the league with 13 wins. The Penguins are in the top 10 of the league in scoring, assists, goals, and power-play goals.

Backstrom scored the shootout winner a day after they claimed a 5-4 win over the Arizona Coyotes. Backstrom had four points in the game to extend his career-high streak to eight games.

NHL

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**SPORTS**

**GOLF**

**Birthday boy Schauffele gives himself Shanghai win**

**Federer beats Copil to win 99th career title in Basel**

**TENNIS**

**Svitolina subdues Stephens to claim WTA Finals crown**

‘This is a very special moment for me and it will give me plenty of confidence for the season coming ahead’

**Focus**

India’s Joshi clinches Asian Tour title

**SPOTLIGHT**

Federer wins over Nishikori

**NEW DELHI**

India’s Khalid Joshi has clinched the biggest title of his career by becoming the first Indian to win the 2019 Omega Classic, the season-ending event in the Asian Tour. The 25-year-old fired a one-under-par 64 to seize a four-stroke lead over compatriot Nihal and Australian Braden Thornhill. Joshin clinched the $1.8mn victor’s purse and moves him to World No. 105 in the Official World Golf Ranking.

Joshi, who started the year by finishing in the top 10 at the Hong Kong Open, was in a confident mood going into the Omega Classic, and it showed as he shot a birdie on the par-4 14th hole to break the 150-year-old barrier and become the first Indian to win a tournament in the Asian Tour.

Joshi celebrated his victory with a hole-in-one on the par-3 17th hole, and the crowd roared as he collected his winner’s trophy.

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Qatar to host men's Worlds for fifth time next season

By Yoh Heigl

Qatar will host the 2021-22 edition of the men’s world championships for the fifth consecutive time.

The world No. 1 ElShorbagy stayed hungry and motivated. When you are at the moment, so I have to stay positive for the rest of the sea- son. "I am happy to come through, " said ElShorbagy, who is on the verge of the World No 1 squash and has hosted some incredible matches. He's shown great potential and I think he will go up the rankings. "He's shown great potential and I think he will go up the rankings. 

SQUASH / QATAR CLASSIC

ElShorbagy stays on course despite sluggish start

Fourth seed Simon Roscher, Tom Richards, Adrian Waller also win on the day

By Sports Reporter

World No 1 ElShorbagy advanced to his fifth final of the year as he overcame Ryan Yip in straight games.

ElShorbagy moved a step closer to his fourth title in Qatar as he defeated Ryan Yip in straight games.

ElShorbagy is currently ranked number two in the world and has been in excellent form in recent months.

He is seeking to become the first player to win the men's world championships four times in a row.

ElShorbagy has won the title twice, in 2015 and 2018, and also reached the final in 2017.

He is in good form and has been playing some of his best squash in recent weeks.

ElShorbagy is looking for his third consecutive title, and he has set his sights on the World No 1 squash for the fifth time next season.
Mustafina leads Russia to final on comeback

24-year-old returns to competition 16 months after giving birth as Russian women's team finish second in the qualifying round

Svetlana Kapanina

J

ust like Simone Biles, Aliya Mustafina is making her return to the world gymnastics stage. The Russian is back in competitive form and is set to add to her Olympic haul by giving birth to daughter Anastasia last September.

The Russian is listed in the official qualification list for the 2018 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in Doha, where she is set to compete in the individual All-around and the team competition.

Mustafina, 24, was a gold medalist in the All-around at the 2010 world championships and won silver in the All-around at the 2011 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in Tokyo. She also won a gold medal in the All-around at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

However, Mustafina’s career was put on hold after giving birth to Anastasia last year. She had not competed since the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, where she finished fifth in the All-around and sixth in the team competition.

But Mustafina is determined to make a comeback and is listed in the qualification list for the 2018 World Championships in Doha.

Commenting on her return, Mustafina said: "I have been training hard and I am eager to return to the world gymnastics stage. I am looking forward to the challenge and I am confident that I can compete at my best level."