

Bahrain break away to sink Algeria

Blistering second-half seals Bahrain's second win in Arab Basketball Championship

- 2 wins out of 2 for Bahrain
- Kuwait clash could decide group leadership

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's U16 national basketball team thrashed Algeria 80-54 in Cairo to keep their perfect start at the Arab Championship intact. What began as a tense, low-scoring battle turned into a dominant display, with the young Red Tide shifting gears in the second half to leave their opponents trailing.

Turning Point in Third

Trailing 35-34 at halftime, Bahrain flipped the contest in the third quarter with an emphatic 24-7 run. Defensive intensity set the tone, while sharp shooting from beyond the arc punished Algeria's attempts to close down



Bahrain's Abdelqader during yesterday's match



Action from the match

the paint. The shift was decisive, as Algeria never recovered.

Scorers Step Up

Hassan Abdelqader and Has-

san Fouad led all scorers with 22 points each, while Yousif Yaqoob added 17. The first half had seen Ali Fardosi and Yaqoob keep Bahrain in touch with time-



Bahrain have now won both of their opening games by margins exceeding 25 points

ly three-pointers, but after the break it was the Hassan's who tore the game open.

Momentum Building

This second successive win gives Bahrain four points from two games, strengthening their position in the standings. Algeria drop to three points after one win and one loss. Bahrain now turn their attention to today's 1:00pm meeting with Kuwait, with a chance to tighten their grip on first place and reinforce their title credentials.

Bahrain outgun USA in high-scoring clash

Bahrain open President's Cup bracket with statement win over the USA in Cairo

- Bahrain edge USA, Tunisia next
- Eid flawless with six from six

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Bahrain's youth handball team, competing in the President's Cup after missing out on the main knockout stage, began Group IV play at the IHF Men's Youth World Championship with a 39-33 win over the USA. Their route here came via a narrow 32-30 loss to Japan, a 36-28 defeat to hosts Egypt, and a morale-boosting 36-33 win over South Korea in their final group fixture.

A blistering first half against the Americans saw them lead 23-13 at the break, a margin that proved decisive despite a late rally.

Attack in Full Flow

Bahrain converted 68% of



Mahmood Jalil being awarded the Man of the Match award yesterday

their 57 shots, punishing the USA's defence from all areas. They went 11/13 from the six-metre line, 7/15 from nine metres, and scored on 6 of 8 fast breaks. The balance of their at-

tack kept the Americans guessing — five players finished with four goals or more.

Standout Performers

Ahmed Eid led with a perfect

6/6 shooting, while Abbas Ali (6/7), Mahmood Yusuf (5/10), and Sayed Ahmed Alfalahi (5/5) all made major contributions. Mohamed Aadam's 80% shooting and Fadel Ebrahim's flawless 3/3 added depth to Bahrain's scoring spread. In goal, Haider Salman made 8 saves from 29 shots, while Mohamed Abdulhusan chipped in with three stops.

USA's Late Push

The Americans, led by Simon Neumaier's 7 goals and Kaeden Kuhlmeier's 6, outscored Bahrain 20-16 in the second half. They found particular joy in breakthrough plays (7/10) and wings (6/10), but were undone by missed opportunities at nine metres and a leaky first-half defence.

Next Steps

With two points secured, Bahrain will look to build on this momentum in their last President's Cup match. They face Tunisia today at 5:15pm, aiming to secure the highest possible ranking in the classification stage.

Atletico sign Italy forward Raspadori from Napoli

AFP | Madrid

Atletico Madrid have signed Italy forward Giacomo Raspadori from Serie A champions Napoli on a five-year contract, the La Liga club announced yesterday.

Raspadori, who also won the

Scudetto with Napoli in 2023, has joined for 20 million euros (\$23.2 million), according to Spanish media reports.

The 25-year-old scored six goals for Napoli last term in his third season with the club after signing from Sassuolo in 2022.

Man City's Grealish to join Everton on loan: reports

AFP | London

Manchester City winger Jack Grealish has agreed to join Everton on loan for the 2025-26 season, according to reports yesterday.

Grealish fell out of favour with City boss Pep Guardiola last season and made just seven starts in the Premier League.

The 29-year-old was left out of City's squad for the Club World Cup in the United States amid speculation that he was set to leave the Etihad Stadium.

Everton have now agreed a deal for Grealish, who earns a reported £300,000 (\$402,000) per week, ahead of the new Premier League campaign, which starts for the Toffees at Leeds on August 18.

The England international joined City from Aston Villa in 2021 for

a then British record fee of £100 million.

Grealish has won three Premier League titles, the Champions League and the FA Cup with City, but his form had dipped significantly since he played a key role in the 2022-23 treble-winning campaign.

He was left out of England's Euro 2024 squad, an omission that left him "heartbroken".

Guardiola rarely picked Grealish last season despite City's struggles and he was left on the bench for the shock FA Cup final defeat against Crystal Palace.

If Grealish passes a medical and completes his move to Everton, the winger will have a chance to revive his spluttering career and potentially earn a recall to the England squad ahead of next year's World Cup.

Jack Grealish

West Indies level ODI series with Pakistan as Chase stars

AFP | London

The West Indies beat Pakistan by five wickets on Sunday as Roston Chase and Justin Greaves led the charge with the bat to level the one-day series between the sides.

Chase had 49 runs and Greaves was not out for 26 with a thrilling selection of fours and sixes in a game shortened by rain delays in Tarouba.

Scorecard

West Indies 184 for 5 (Chase 49*, Rutherford 45, Hope 32, Mohammad Nawaz 2-17, Hasan Ali 2-35) beat Pakistan 171 for 7 (Hasan Nawaz 36*, Talat 31, Seales 3-23) by five wickets (DLS method)

Earlier, West Indies' poor start was steadied by Sherfane Rutherford's 33-ball 45 to put

the home side back in the driving seat. Chase sealed the deal by steering a delivery from Hasan Ali through cover for four and he punched the air in celebration.

"I'm happy with the win. We had to come in and level the series, so very pleased," Chase, who was named man of the match, said.

The decisive third match of the series takes place at the same venue on Tuesday.



West Indies' Justin Greaves and Roston Chase celebrates at the end of the match