

Bahrain crowned Arab U16 Basketball champions

Golden Bahraini Generation Surges Past Algerians to Grab Gold

● Bahrain dominate Algeria again when it counts

● Algeria fall short in second Cairo meeting

● Bahrain's Fouad and Somoto headline

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain won the ABC Arab U16 Championship title last night with a comfortable 81-63 win over Algeria at Cairo International Stadium, powered by Hussien Fouad's 24 points. The Red Tide edged a cagey opening frame 14-12, before breaking the contest open with a blistering 26-12 second quarter that gave them breathing space heading into halftime.

Momentum Shifts

Algeria, spurred by Abdelkarim Yahiaoui and Mika Ernst, tried to claw their way back after the interval. But Bahrain turned up the intensity once again, out-scoring their opponents 25-17



Team Bahrain being crowned champions

in the third quarter to build a convincing lead. The Algerians finally won the last frame 22-16, but by then the damage was done and Bahrain had already imposed their rhythm.

Stars Deliver

The night belonged to Hussien Fouad, whose shot-making carried Bahrain through tense stretches, while Somoto Patrick's 18 points and colossal 21

rebounds anchored the paint at both ends. Mohamed Ghloum chipped in with 13 points and six assists, and Aly Hussien orchestrated with precision, finishing with a game-high eight assists. Yahiaoui's 18 points and nine

boards gave Algeria hope, but it was never enough to bridge the gap.

Roads to the Final

Bahrain completed a flawless campaign, sweeping aside Qatar,

This was Bahrain's second major youth crown in as many months

Algeria, Kuwait, Tunisia, and hosts Egypt before defeating Algeria once again when it mattered most. Algeria had looked equally sharp on their path, beating Kuwait, Qatar, Tunisia, and Egypt, yet they could not solve Bahrain's defense in two attempts in Cairo — and crucially, not in the title game.

Crowning Moment

The final buzzer sparked celebrations as Bahrain lifted their first Arab U16 Championship crown. Already crowned winners of the FIBA U16 Asia Cup GBA Qualifiers last month, Bahrain stamped their dominance across two competitions, while Algeria's wait for a maiden youth Arab title continues.

Reserve Messi scores in Miami win while Son gets first MLS win

AFP | Miami

Lionel Messi returned from injury as a reserve and scored in the 84th minute to spark Inter Miami over the defending MLS champion Los Angeles Galaxy 3-1 on Saturday.

The iconic 38-year-old Argentine striker was back on the field for Miami after suffering what Inter coach Javier Mascherano had called a "minor muscle injury" -- an apparent hamstring strain -- in Inter's August 2 Leagues Cup victory over Mexican side Necaxa.

"It had been something very small," Mascherano said of his injury after the match. "The three training sessions we had were good. The important thing is that the match ended. As the minutes went by, I saw him better. We have to see how he feels tomorrow."

Eight-time Ballon d'Or winner Messi, who missed a Leagues Cup win over Pumas UNAM and last weekend's MLS loss at Orlando City, was on the bench as a reserve before entering in the second half, replacing Telasco Segovia.

"We had planned the match to give minutes to Leo. The idea



Inter Miami's Lionel Messi (L) celebrates scoring with teammate Jordi Alba

was to give him 45 minutes so that he can find sensations," Mascherano said. "I didn't see him after the game. Tomorrow we'll see what feelings he had."

"He's an extraordinary player. I saw that he was clearly not 100 percent comfortable but as the minutes went by he was loosening up more and more. We will have to see how he ended with the fatigue."

Jordi Alba scored for Miami in the 43rd minute but Joseph Paintsil equalized for the Galaxy in the 59th minute.

Messi scored in the 84th and Luis Suarez added an insurance tally in the 89th off an assist from Messi to produce the final victory margin.

Messi, the reigning MLS Most Valuable Player, has 19 goals and 10 assists in 19 MLS appearances for Miami this season.

He also has the Herons into the quarter-finals of the Leagues Cup, which they won in 2023 just after Messi's arrival. Miami will play Tigres in a Cup quarter-final on Wednesday.

Bahrain Open with Steady Win over Kuwait in Amman

● Bahrain meet Iraq today

● Injury scare for key player Hassan

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

At the Prince Hamzah Hall in Amman's Al Hussein Youth City, Bahrain's U17 volleyball team got their 17th Arab Championship campaign off to a winning start. They beat Kuwait in four sets — 25-14, 16-25, 25-18, 25-16 — to claim three points in Group B.

Kuwait Battle Back

After Bahrain controlled the first set comfortably, Kuwait came back in the second with a 25-16 win that briefly swung momentum their way. But Bahrain reset quickly, tightening their block and serve to retake control in the third before closing the match with a dominant fourth set.

Level on Points

The result left both Bah-



Bahrain's team celebrate at full time

rain and Kuwait tied on three points, as Kuwait had earlier swept Palestine 3-0. With two sides already staking a claim in the group, Bahrain's focus now turns to sustaining their momentum.

Next Up: Iraq

Bahrain face Iraq in their second group match today at 5pm, a key fixture in their push to advance deep into the competition.

The tournament, hosted in the Jordanian capital until August 26, features some of the strongest youth sides in the region.

Injury Concern

The win came at a cost as player Sayed Hassan suffered an injury during the match and was forced to leave the court. His condition will be closely monitored ahead of the coming fixtures.