

Ramos denies Inter in opener

Sergio Ramos scores as Monterrey draws 1-1 with Inter Milan in Club World Cup opener

- Ramos heads Monterrey into early lead
- Lautaro Martinez equalizes for Inter Milan
- Inter dominates possession but fails to score more

AFP | Pasadena

The 39-year-old Spanish great Sergio Ramos scored as Monterrey held Inter Milan 1-1 in a hard-fought FIFA Club World Cup Group E opener in Pasadena.

Argentine striker Lautaro Martinez scored a well-worked equaliser to cancel out Ramos's opener for the Mexican side in front of 40,311 fans at the Rose Bowl.

Inter, playing their first game since being thrashed 5-0 by Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League final, were left ruing their failure to turn their dominance of possession and territory into goals.

But the draw was a boost for Ramos and Monterrey, who face Argentina's River Plate in their next game on Saturday.

"When you don't get all three points you're never entirely happy," Ramos, the former Spain and Real Madrid defender, said.

"But one point is better than no point."

"They were a tough opponent and have just played in the final of the Champions League. We were a little bit nervous but in the second half we stayed organised and kept the ball better."

"Now we need to think about the next game."



Sergio Ramos #93 of CF Monterrey scores his team's first goal

Inter coach Cristian Chivu said his team had struggled to break down a Monterrey team who sat deep for long periods.

"We played well in the first half even though we went behind," Chivu said. "We could have attacked better in the second half. It's not easy to play against a very low block."

Chivu, in his first match in charge after the departure of Simone Inzaghi, denied the Champions League finalists had underestimated the Mexicans.

"We respect every team we play and we knew what kind of team they were, we tried to do



At 39 years and 8 months, Ramos became the oldest goalscorer in Club World Cup history, adding another record to his legendary career that includes 4 Champions League titles

our best," he said.

"Sometimes you get the best out of it, sometimes you don't. We created a lot of chances. Football's not won on paper."

All Inter

The Italians were in complete control almost from the kick-off, Benjamin Pavard the first to threaten with an eighth-minute shot that flew over the bar.

Matteo Darmian should have done better in the 22nd minute but shot over after clever work down the left from Nicolò Barella.

Yet despite the early onslaught, Inter were rocked in

the 25th minute when Monterrey scored from one of their few forays into the Italians' half.

Midfielder Oliver Torres swung a corner in from the right and Ramos -- who had lost Francesco Acerbi on the edge of the six-yard box -- steered his header into the bottom corner.

Inter were soon back on the offensive and only a point-blank save by Monterrey goalkeeper Esteban Andrada from Sebastiano Esposito prevented an equaliser.

Martinez also went close after 36 minutes, and Inter had a strong penalty appeal when



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SERGIO RAMOS

Pavard's header struck Ramos on the arm inside the area.

VAR found in favour of Ramos and Monterrey escaped.

Three minutes later Inter drew level with a wonderfully worked free-kick routine.

Albanian international Kristjan Asllani shaped to shoot from 25 yards out but instead flighted a delicate chip behind the Monterrey defence.

Brazilian international Carlos Augusto timed his run to perfection and squared into the path of Martinez, who tapped in for 1-1.

Monterrey almost regained the lead against the run of play on 64 minutes, Sergio Canales unleashing a low shot that cannoned off the post.

Inter had a Martinez goal ruled out for offside moments later as the Italians continued to threaten.

But it was Monterrey who came closest to grabbing a winner in stoppage time when Colombian midfielder Nelson Deossa got behind the Inter defence but could only shoot into the side netting.

Bahrain Para-Athletes Secure Medals in Tunisia

TDT | Manama

Bahraini para-athletes Nassar Al-Marri and Ahmed Noah clinched a silver and a bronze medal respectively at the Tunis International Para-Athletics Meeting, held from June 16 to 18, the Bahrain Paralympic Committee announced.

Al-Marri secured the silver medal in the men's T54 200m race, demonstrating a strong performance. Noah earned the bronze in the men's T53 200m event, adding another achievement to his international career.

The results highlight Bahrain's active participation in international para-athletics events and reflect the national federation's efforts to support its athletes.



Nassar Al-Marri and Ahmed Noah with their medals

Inzaghi defends manner of exit from Inter to Saudi club

AFP | Milan

Former Inter Milan coach Simone Inzaghi has shrugged off criticism over the manner of his move to Saudi club Al-Hilal.

Inzaghi takes charge of his new club for the first time when they faced Real Ma-



Simone Inzaghi

drid in the Club World Cup in Miami.

Al-Hilal's chief executive officer Esteve Calzada told the BBC on Wednesday that the move had been decided before Inter's 5-0 Champions League final loss to Paris Saint-Germain.

NMS boys seal CBSE cluster basketball title



New Millennium School lifted the Boys' Basketball title in the CBSE Cluster (Bahrain Chapter) Inter-School competition. NMS overwhelmed the other finalist team in the finals with a score of 18:5 emerging as winners. The NMS team members were : Sai sarthak (grade12), Rohan Singhvi (Grade12), Shaurya Shyju Nair (grade 12), Anirudh Sachin Nair (grade 12), Vedanth Ramanujan (grade12), Akshant Mukesh (grade 12), Kunwar Areeb Ali Khan (grade12), Aarav Mukesh (grade11), Kunal Lokhande (grade11), Verghese Keenali (grade 11), Anant Dixit (grade 10), Jatin Wasekar (grade 9).