

VAR keeps Aussies alive

Mile Jedinak's controversial penalty earns Australia draw against Denmark

Reuters | Samara, Russia

Captain Mile Jedinak rode to Australia's World Cup rescue with a penalty to cancel out Christian Eriksen's superb opener for Denmark, securing a 1-1 draw yesterday that ensured Group C would go down to the wire.

Eriksen's seventh-minute opener was fully deserved by the fast-starting Danes and the quality of his half-volley finish was excellent in a tournament that has produced some wonderful goals.

Jedinak, however, got Australia back into the game with his second penalty in Russia, awarded following the intervention of the VAR, and the draw kept the Socceroos just about alive in the tournament.

Denmark moved on to four points and need at least a draw against France in



Australia's midfielder Mile Jedinak scores from the penalty spot for Australia's first goal to equalise 1-1 during the Russia 2018 World Cup Group C football match between Denmark and Australia at the Samara Arena in Samara

DENMARK 1 1 AUSTRALIA

7' Eriksen Jedinak 38' (pen)

Possession

48% 52%

10	Shots	14
5	On target	5
7	Fouls	5

mediately returned into the area. Nicolai Jorgensen controlled and cleverly flicked the ball inside to Eriksen, who ghosted into space and lashed a sweet half-volley on the rise which flew high into the net.

It was Eriksen's 13th goal in his last 15 appearances for his country and underlined the pivotal importance of the Tottenham Hotspur playmaker to the otherwise workmanlike Danes. They should have doubled their advantage when Jorgensen flashed a header wide as Australia looked ragged at the back and toothless up front.

Yet just as in their opening game, Australia were handed a route back into the match from penalty spot, thanks to intervention of the Video Assistant Referee.

their final game to guarantee a last-16 spot. Australia's destiny, however, is no longer in their own hands.

With one point, they must win their last match against Peru to stand any chance of going through, but results could still conspire to send them home.

After their opening defeat by France, Australia coach Bert van Marwijk resist-

ed the temptation to draft in attacking reinforcements, leaving veteran forward Tim Cahill on the bench for the second match in a row.

It looked a bad decision in the early stages as Australia laboured up front and the Danes tore into their opponents at a furious pace.

Aaron Mooy's poor clearance was im-

Today's match

Group E
Brazil vs Costa Rica (3:00 PM)
Serbia vs Switzerland (9:00 PM)

Group D
Nigeria vs Iceland (6:00 PM)

Point Table

FIFA WORLD CUP **RUSSIA 2018**

GROUP C

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
France	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Denmark	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Australia	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Peru	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

GROUP D

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Croatia	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Iceland	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Argentina	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Nigeria	1	0	0	1	0	2	0



For me it is important just that we have to beat Peru. I have no influence on the rest so I do not think about it. I will not sleep one second less

AUSTRALIA COACH BERT VAN MARWIJK

Messi is better than Maradona: Ramos

Reuters | Kazan, Russia

Spain captain Sergio Ramos has responded to a putdown from Argentina great Diego Maradona by making an unlikely declaration of admiration for Lionel Messi, his usual enemy as the talisman of Real Madrid's arch-rivals Barcelona.

Maradona, his country's 1986 World Cup-winning captain, remarked this week that "Ramos is no superstar, the real superstar defender is Diego Godin" when comparing Spain's serial-winner Ramos with the Uruguay captain.

Ramos was asked what he made of Maradona's comments after Spain's 1-0 World Cup Group B win over Iran, and chose to praise on Messi, who has led Barcelona to numerous wins over Real Madrid and had plenty of full-blooded clashes with the Spaniard.

"I respect Maradona because he is an all-time great, I think he was a star, but I'll also tell you that Argentine football knows Maradona is light years behind their number one player, which is Messi," Ramos said.

Serbia take on Switzerland with Brazil looming

PREVIEW

Serbia will attempt to wrap up qualification to the World Cup knockout rounds today as they take on a Switzerland team brimming with confidence after grabbing a draw with Brazil.

The Serbs control their own destiny in Group E after an opening 1-0 win against Costa Rica on Sunday, which came courtesy of a stunning Aleksandar Kolarov free-kick.

Victory over Switzerland in Kaliningrad today would guarantee Serbia a place in the last 16, regardless of whether they win or lose their final group game with Brazil next week.

Roma star Kolarov acknowledged that Serbia are in a strong position to qualify for the knockout rounds for the first time since they competed alongside Montenegro in 1998.

However the 32-year-old cautioned that the Serbs would take nothing for granted against the Swiss.

Serbia



With no injury issues, Serbia head coach Mladen Krstajic could name the same XI that started the 1-0 win over Costa Rica. Filip Kostic will hope to start, however, after his second half cameo from the bench.



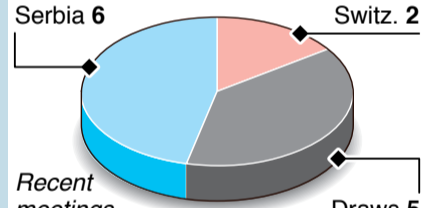
Nemanja Matic

Possible line-ups: Stojkovic, Ivanovic, Milenkovic, Tosic, Kolarov, Milivojevic, Matic, Ljajic, Milinkovic-Savic, Tadic, Mitrovic

12 FIFA rank **36**

SRB 1-0 CRC Match 1 SUI 1-1 BRA

HEAD-TO-HEAD



Recent meetings

2001	Switzerland	1-2	Serbia
2001	Serbia	1-1	Switzerland

WORLD CUP RECORD

18	Wins	11
8	Draws	7
18	Losses	16
1.48	Goals for*	1.35
1.34	Goals against*	1.76



Switzerland

Valon Behrami sustained a knock in the 1-1 draw with Brazil, but should be fit to start. Indeed, Vladimir Petkovic could name the same XI that started against Brazil on Sunday.



Granit Khaka

Possible line-ups: Sommer, Lichsteiner, Schar, Akanji, Rodriguez, Behrami, Khaka, Shaqiri, Dzemaili, Zuber, Seferovic

WORLD CUP PREDICT AND WIN

Yesterday's lucky winner is **Maryam Marhoon**. Winner will be contacted



THE DAILY **tribune**
NEWS OF BAHRAIN

PREDICT & WIN
A Gift Pack from *Coca-Cola*

DAY 9, 22nd JUNE 2018

BRAZIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	COSTA RICA	<input type="checkbox"/>	DRAW	<input type="checkbox"/>
NIGERIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	ICELAND	<input type="checkbox"/>	DRAW	<input type="checkbox"/>
SERBIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	SWITZERLAND	<input type="checkbox"/>	DRAW	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name: Mob:
CPR No.: Email:

Send a photo of the filled in form to whatsapp No. 33609505 or email: mail@newsfobahrain.com.

Alternatively you can participate in the contest on our website www.newsfobahrain.com

Winner's photo will be published in The Daily Tribune.

Entry should be submitted before 2pm