

Bahrain youth basketball player Hussein Hayki dies during training

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's sporting community is in mourning following the sudden death of youth national team and Al Ahli basketball player Hussein Hayki.

The teenager collapsed during a routine training session with his club on Thursday evening as they prepared for the new season. He was rushed by ambulance to Salmaniya Medical Complex, where doctors made repeated attempts to resuscitate him. He passed away the following morning.



The Bahrain Basketball Association confirmed his death in a statement, expressing its "deepest condolences and sympathy" to his family and praying for strength and patience for his loved ones.

Hayki was regarded as one of Bahrain's most promising young players, having represented the kingdom at youth international level in several competitions. His sudden passing has left team-mates, officials and fans in shock, with tributes highlighting his talent, dedication and exemplary character.

Bahrain to host first Asian Youth MMA Championship

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Bahrain will stage the inaugural Asian Youth Mixed Martial Arts Championship later this week at Khalifa Sports City Arena.

The two-day event, taking place on 29 and 30 August, is being organised by the Bahrain MMA Federation with direct oversight from the Asian MMA Federation.

It is the first time the continental competition is being held and will bring together some of Asia's top young talent in the sport.

Officials say the tournament highlights Bahrain's growing role in combat sports, with the kingdom having already hosted



a number of major regional and international MMA events.

The local organising committee, chaired by federation president Mohammed Ali Qambar, is finalising preparations ahead of Friday's opening bouts.

Alcaraz impresses as Venus bows out

Venus Williams falls in three-set battle, Alcaraz storms into second round at vibrant US Open night

● Venus loses 6-3, 2-6, 6-1 to Muchova

● Alcaraz defeats Opelka in straight sets

● Kvitova retires after first-round loss

● Keys becomes highest seed to fall

● Draper advances in four sets

AFP | New York

Venus Williams battled bravely before bowing out of the US Open on Monday as Spanish ace Carlos Alcaraz stormed into the second round with a dominant opening win.

The second full day of action in New York saw all eyes turn to the Arthur Ashe Stadium's night session, where the 45-year-old Williams lost in three sets to 11th seed Karolina Muchova.

Williams only returned to competitive tennis in July following a 16-month absence from the sport and had been granted a wild card into the main draw at Flushing Meadows.

But hopes of a fairytale run -- 28 years after her debut in the tournament -- ended in a 6-3, 2-6, 6-1 loss to Muchova, who was not even born when Williams turned professional in 1994.

"I didn't win today but I'm very proud of the way I played," Williams, the US Open champion in 2000 and 2001, said.

"I don't think I've ever had a crowd on my side like that. I knew people around the world and around the United States were really rooting for me, and that felt great."

With the American exiting, 2022 men's champion Alcaraz took centre-stage in the late game in his first round tie against unseeded American Reilly Opelka.



Karolina Muchova of Czech Republic (L) greets Venus Williams of the United States following their match

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VENUS WILLIAMS

ly Opelka.

The Spaniard arrived for the game sporting a striking new hairstyle -- a severe crew cut -- and he duly chopped down the 6ft 11in Opelka with a blistering 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 victory in 2hr 5min.

"Today was a really difficult one," Alcaraz said. "Reilly is a great, tough player. I couldn't get the rhythm that I wanted to get but I'm just really happy with what I did today. I did a great performance today."

Alcaraz is chasing a second US Open title following his maiden

Carlos Alcaraz returns a shot against Reilly Opelka



Venus Williams, at 45, returned to Grand Slam tennis 28 years after her debut, playing against an opponent, Karolina Muchova, who was not yet born when Williams turned professional

Grand Slam victory at the tournament three years ago.

Australian Open winner Madison Keys became the highest-ranked player to exit so far, the sixth seed losing to Mexico's Renata Zarazua 6-7 (10/12), 7-6 (7/3), 7-5.

"Today was the first time in a while where my nerves really got the better of me and it kind of became a little bit paralyzing," home hope

Keys said.

"I was just slow, I wasn't seeing things the way that I wanted to, which I feel like resulted in a lot of bad decisions and lazy footwork."

Kvitova farewell

Czech Republic's Barbora Krejckova bundled out rising Canadian star Victoria

Mboko, defeating the teenager 6-3, 6-2.

Belgian 19th seed Elise Mertens ousted wild card Alyssa Ahn 6-1, 6-0 while Ukrainian 30th seed Dayana Yastremska exited in a 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 loss to Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.

Two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova brought the curtain down on her career after a 6-1, 6-0 defeat to France's Diane Parry.

The 35-year-old Czech had already announced her intention to retire after the US Open, but was nonetheless overcome with emotion as she said farewell to the sport, breaking down in tears as she addressed fans afterwards.

"I hoped I would put on a better show today," Kvitova said. "It was tough to know it could be

my last match, and emotionally it was very tough as well."

Qualifier Coleman Wong became the first man from Hong Kong to record a victory in a Grand Slam singles event in the Open era with a 6-4, 7-5, 7-6 (7/4) defeat of US player Aleksandar Kovacevic.

It was the latest in a series of breakthrough results by young Asian players at this year's US Open.

Alexandra Eala of the Philippines -- who trains with Wong at Rafael Nadal's academy in Spain -- and Indonesia's Janice Tjen both won their first-round matches in the main draw.

British fifth seed Jack Draper needed four sets to get past Argentina's Federico Gomez, 6-4, 7-5, 6-7 (7/9), 6-2.

Other seeds to advance included Norway's Casper Ruud, the 12th seed, who downed Austria's Sebastian Ofner 6-1, 6-2, 7-6 (7/5).

US 17th seed Frances Tiafoe beat Japan's Yoshihito Nishioka 6-3, 7-6 (8/6), 6-3.