

PRIME TIME

friday — (all times are kuwait local)

12:00 swimming ..... bein sports hd  
 15:30 cricket ..... bein sports 13hd  
 15:30 basketball ..... bein sports 10hd  
 17:00 tennis ..... bein sports 8hd  
 17:00 tennis ..... bein sports 9hd  
 18:00 basketball ..... bein sports 10hd  
 19:15 athletics ..... bein sports hd  
 20:30 basketball ..... bein sports 10hd

# Sports

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## Netherlands reach first World Cup final

Dutch play US

**LYON, France, July 4, (RTRS):** A long-range strike from Jackie Groenen sent European Champions The Netherlands into their first women's World Cup final as they edged Sweden 1-0 after extra time in their last-four clash.

The 24-year-old midfielder scored in the 99th minute when she collected a deflected pass outside the box and struck it expertly into the bottom right corner of the goal to put the Dutch into Sunday's final against holders the United States.

"I saw a nice angle. We've been discussing this for a couple of weeks now, that I need to take shots more often. The ball just came really nicely, and I thought, 'Let's do this'," the goalscorer said.

"We are going to rest a lot first but now first a party. Sunday in the final — unbelievable," said coach Sarina Wiegman, herself a former Netherlands midfielder who amassed more than 100 caps in a 14-year playing career.

That was before the Dutch, playing in only their fifth major tournament, became the force they are now.

The game marked the first time a Women's World Cup semifinal had gone to extra time and it proved a tight contest between the two sides, who last met in the quarter-finals of Euro 2017 when the Dutch won 2-0 before going on to win the competition.

While the 48,452 spectators in attendance fell a few thousand short of those who watched the US beat England 2-1 the previous evening, there was still a cacophony from 'ultras' of both Sweden and The Netherlands behind each goal.

The match build-up had focused on the talented Netherlands forwards such as all-time top scorer Vivianne Miedema (60 goals) and the pacy attack of 2016



Sweden's Hanna Glas (left), is tackled by Netherlands' Danielle Van De Donk during the Women's World Cup semifinal soccer match between The Netherlands and Sweden at the Stade de Lyon outside Lyon, France on July 3. (Inset): Jackie Groenen celebrates after scoring. (AP)

Stunning Copa América comeback

## Peru upset Chile, set up showdown with Brazil

**PORTO ALEGRE, Brazil, July 4, (AP):** After being counted out by most, Peru pulled off a stunning Copa América comeback.

Two weeks after a demoralizing 5-0 loss to Brazil that left the team on the verge of a first-round elimination, Peru got past two-time defending champions Chile 3-0 to make it to the continental final for the first time since 1975.

Peru had already stunned title-favorites Uruguay in the quarterfinals after advancing as one of the two best third-place finishers from the three groups, and now they will get a rematch against hosts Brazil in Sunday's final at the Maracanã Stadium.

Chile were trying to become the first team to win three straight Copa América titles since Argentina in the 1940s, but now will play the third-place match against the Argentinians on Saturday in a repeat of the last two finals.

"We entered the match already thinking about the final and that's how we allowed Peru to surprise us,"

Chile coach Reinaldo Rueda said. "We didn't show the attitude and aggressiveness from the previous matches."

Chile's loss to longtime rivals Peru will add pressure on Rueda, a Colombian who had been criticized since he took over the squad at the

**Argentina vs Chile beIN SPORTS MAX 3HD, MAX 4HD**

22:00 local (Saturday)

**Brazil vs Peru beIN SPORTS MAX 3HD, MAX 4HD**

23:00 local (Sunday)

beginning of last year. The result will also raise further questions about so-called golden generation, which failed to qualify for the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

The veterans of Chile's recent triumphs, including Eduardo Vargas, Arturo Vidal and Alexis Sánchez, had subpar performances at the Arena Grêmio in Porto Alegre.

Despite a team without the same quality as Chile, it was Peru that got

## US head to final after win over Jamaica

**NASHVILLE, July 4, (RTRS):** The United States will face Mexico in the Gold Cup final after two goals from Christian Pulisic helped the hosts to a 3-1 win over Jamaica on Wednesday.

The home side got the perfect start after eight minutes when Weston McKennie stormed into the box to pick up a cut back from Reggie Cannon and sidefoot home from six meters out.

The teams were withdrawn from the field in Nashville after 15 minutes due to lightning but the one-and-a-half hour delay did little to change the momentum as the United States continued to dictate when play resumed.

### SOCCER

The United States doubled their lead after 52 minutes when Jamaica goalkeeper Andre Blake could only parry Jordan Morris's shot and Pulisic pounced on the loose ball to score.

Shamar Nicholson headed Jamaica back into contention in 69 minutes, the goal the first the United States have conceded at the tournament, but Man of the Match Pulisic restored the hosts' two-goal cushion three minutes from time when he was once again alert to a rebound from a Paul Arriola shot.

US coach Gregg Berhalter said his side were not put out of their stride by the weather delay.

"It's part of soccer and the guys dealt with it in a really good way," he said. "It gave us time to look at film and give them encouragement ... We showed a



United States defender Tim Ream (13) heads the ball away from Jamaica defender Elvis Powell (5) during the first half of a CONCACAF Gold Cup semifinal soccer match on July 3 in Nashville, Tenn. (AP)

relentless spirit when we came back out tonight."

Jamaica's Blake said his team had given their all. "The guys did a great job tonight, unfortunately the result didn't go our way," he added. "I think this is probably our best game all tournament, that happens sometimes."

The defending champions will now play arch rivals Mexico in Sunday's final at Soldier Field in Chicago.

The two have met in the Gold Cup final five times, with Mexico victorious all but once — in 2007 when the United States won 2-1, also at Soldier Field.



Peru's Paolo Guerrero (right), vies for the ball with Chile's Arturo Vidal during a Copa America semifinal soccer match at the Arena de Gremio in Porto Alegre, Brazil on July 3. (AP)

off to a good start and dominated the match early on.

"When this team wants something, it works hard and gets it," Peru striker Paolo Guerrero said. "We deserved to make it to the final. We were fully focused from the start."

Edinson Flores opened the scoring with a shot from inside the area in the 21st minute and Yoshimar Yotún added to the lead in the 38th with a strike into the open net after Chile goalkeeper Gabriel Arias left the area to try to stop a counterattack.

Guerrero sealed the victory in stoppage time to become the Copa América's all-time leading scorer among active players with 13 goals.

Chile's Eduardo Vargas could have matched Guerrero when his team was awarded a penalty kick in the final seconds, but he had his weak shot from the spot saved by Peru goalkeeper Pedro Gallese.

Gallese had a great performance to stop Chile's attack, which faltered during most of the match despite creating most of the scoring chances.

The Peruvian goalkeeper made an embarrassing mistake in the rout against Brazil, but had already saved penalty kicks by Uruguay's Luis Suárez and Brazil's Gabriel Jesus.

Peru, which last year made their first World Cup appearance in 36 years, were playing in the semifinals for the third time in the last four Copa Américas.

They had lost seven of their last eight competitive matches against Chile, including in the semifinals of the Copa América in 2015.

The rivalry between Chile and Peru dates to the 19th Century. The nations fought in the War of the Pacific from 1879-84, with Chile coming out victorious against a Peru-Bolivia alliance and taking over some key land with access to the

Pacific Ocean.

Meanwhile, Brazilian midfielder Willian was ruled out of Sunday's Copa América final against Peru because of a right thigh injury.

Brazil's soccer body said the substitute player will remain with the squad.

Willian felt pain during Tuesday's 2-0 win over Argentina at the Mineirão Stadium in Belo Horizonte.

The midfielder stayed on until the final whistle because coach Tite had already made his three substitutions. He scored one goal in the tournament in Brazil's 5-0 win against Peru in the third match of group stage.

Tite frequently uses Willian to close midfield gaps and try long-distance shots.

Willian was called to the squad after star striker Neymar picked up a right ankle injury days before Copa América's opening match.

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