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| Headline: | Farhan is last hope | | | | |
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| Description: | Spotlight on silat exponent Sheik Farhan, 17, who beat Azrul Abdullah of Malaysia 4-1 in the men's Class J (90-95kg) Pencak Silat World Championships semi-finals in Phuket, Thailand. He will meet Vietnam's Mac Quoc Hong in tomorrow's finals. | | | | |



FARHAN IS LAST HOPE

He will meet Vietnamese in final, while Suhaila and Shakir lose to Indonesians

Report by SAZALI ABDUL AZIZ
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She was just one kick away from becoming a world champion yesterday.

But silat exponent Nurul Suhaila Mohamed Saiful, 19, fluffed her lines and allowed her opponent to score the points needed to beat her.

She lost 5-0 to Indonesia's Selly Andriani in the women's Class D (60 to 65kg) at the Pencak Silat World Championships in Phuket, Thailand, but the scores could so easily have been reversed.

In silat, the final scores depend on whom each of the five jurors deems to have won the match after three rounds.

The jurors sit at different points around the ring and note the technical strikes made by each exponent, tabulating the points total of each fighter.

NECK AND NECK

Suhaila was neck and neck with Selly until the third and final round.

"Towards the end, she was ahead of me by just one point," Suhaila told The New Paper in a phone interview.

"I needed just one successful kick to score two points and become world champion.

"But I panicked and fell as I tried to kick and she executed a beautiful

