

TEENAGER AUGER-ALIASSIME BECOMES THE YOUNGEST TO REACH AN ATP 500 FINAL | 21

MBAPPE SCORES ANOTHER BRACE AS PSG BEAT NIMES 3-0 TO MOVE 17 CLEAR IN LIGUE 1 | 22

GALLERY



TRICKSTER: Rashid Khan

Rashid hat-trick helps Afghan sweep Ireland 3-0

Dehradun: Leg-spinner Rashid Khan bagged a hat-trick as Afghanistan swept Ireland 3-0 with a 32-run victory in the third and final Twenty20 on Sunday. Mohammad Nabi's 81 off 36 balls propelled Afghanistan to 210-7 after Ireland captain Paul Stirling won the toss and chose to field. Rashid's 5-27 included the wickets of George Dockrell, Shane Getkate and Simi Singh off the first three deliveries of the 18th over to restrict Ireland to 178-8. Kevin O'Brien top scored with 74 off 47 balls before falling to Rashid in the 16th over that took the game away from Ireland. A five-match ODI series between the teams starts Thursday.

South Africa recall Ngidi, drop Amla for SL ODIs: South Africa have recalled fast bowler Lungi Ngidi to their One-Day International squad for the five-match home series against Sri Lanka, restoring their first-choice fast bowling line-up ahead of the World Cup in England. There is also a first call-up for fast bowler Anrich Nortje, who is also back from injury. South Africa have rested experienced opener Hashim Amla.

Squad: Faf du Plessis (captain), Quinton de Kock, Reeza Hendricks, David Miller, Wiaan Mulder, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, Andile Phelukwayo, Dwaine Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi, Dale Steyn, Imran Tahir, Rassie van der Dussen

India women eyeing series-clinching win against England: After a morale-boosting win in the opener, a confident Indian women team would look to seal the three-match series against world champions England when they meet in the second cricket ODI here on Monday. India women couldn't have asked for a better start to the series, defeating the current world champions by 66 runs in the opener at the Wankhede Stadium on Friday. The win not only gave a fillip to their confidence but also enabled India grab crucial two points in the ICC Women's Championship as the race for securing direct qualification spots for the 2021 World Cup heats up. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

- CRICKET:** WI vs Eng, 3rd ODI, 7 pm (Live on Sony Six)
- SHOOTING:** World Cup: 10m Rifle men's final, 2 pm (Live on Ten 2)
- FOOTBALL:** I-League: EB vs Aizawl, 5 pm (Live on SSN)



Pics: Alapati Sarathkumar/PTI



51 Jasprit Bumrah (right) is the second Indian bowler after spinner R Ashwin to complete 50 or more wickets in T20Is.

MAD MAX: Glenn Maxwell's 56, on a tough pitch, played a big role in the chase

I was able to control the middle overs. Our wickets caused a bit of chaos towards the end but credit to Richardson and Cummins for finishing it off. — Glenn Maxwell

56 A match-winning knock played by Glenn Maxwell is his first fifty vs India - his sixth (fourth in a winning cause) in T20Is.

ALMOST A MIRACLE!

Bumrah's Heroics In Vain As Aussies Clinch Last-Ball Win In Vizag

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Visakhapatnam: With two runs required to win from the last delivery, Australia held their nerve to go one-up in the two-match T20I series. The felicity with which the Australians went about their business early in their innings was in stark contrast to the manner in which the Indians struggled after being put in by Aaron Finch. Two blows in quick succession - a run-out that saw the back of Marcus Stoinis and Jasprit Bumrah trapping Finch for a leg before verdict that was reviewed and adjudged to be the umpire's call - failed to deter the Aussie chase. D'Arcy Short (37; 37b) came into the squad as cover for Shaun Marsh, who is expected to join the team midway through the ODI series. And the left-handed opener made the most of the opportunity to join forces with Glenn Maxwell for a third wicket

partnership of 84 runs (68b). The Aussie No.4 was the only batsman who looked fully in control of everything he did at the ACA-VDC Stadium on Sunday. In clinically marshalling the reply, even if they had only 126 for seven to chase down, Maxwell made a case for himself to be in the mix even as the Aussies nail down their choices for the World Cup. But more importantly his 56 (43b, 4x6, 6x2) ensured Australia emerged on the winning side of a tricky chase much to the dismay of the crowd. The Aussies required 60 runs off last 60 and it soon became 16 from the last two overs after Maxwell holed out to Rahul and Short was run out in a terrible mix-up with Peter Handscomb. Bumrah once again proved to be a thorn in the Aussie flesh as the penultimate over of the innings yielded two runs and saw Dhoni run almost till short fine leg to get rid of Handscomb. He then cleaned up Na-

than Coulter-Nile for good effect. With 14 required in the last over, Umesh Yadav undid all the good work as Pat Cummins and Jhye Richardson took them to 127 for seven. India had earlier suffered for want of momentum and faltered after KL Rahul's 55-run stand for the second wicket with skipper Virat Kohli ended. India rested Shikhar Dhawan and opened with Rahul as they look to give plenty of opportunities to the Karnataka batsman and Rishabh Pant before they firm up their plans for the World Cup. Rahul came good with 50 (36b, 4x4, 6x1) on a day when Punjab leggie Mayank Markande made his debut for India, while Australia gave a T20I cap to Pete Handscomb, who also donned the wicket-keeper's role and did a good job in making use of the Jason Behrendorf throw from point to run out Pant.

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SCOREBOARD

INDIA: Rohit Sharma c Zampa b Behrendorf 5, Lokesh Rahul c Finch b Coulter-Nile 50, Virat Kohli c Coulter-Nile b Zampa 24, Rishabh Pant run out (Behrendorf/Handscomb) 3, MS Dhoni not out 29, Dinesh Karthik b Coulter-Nile 1, Krunal Pandya c Maxwell b Coulter-Nile 1, Umesh Yadav lbw b Pat Cummins 2, Yuzvendra Chahal not out 0. Extras (LB-2, W-9) 11 Total: (For 7 wkts, 20 Overs) 126

Fall of Wickets: 14-1, 69-2, 80-3, 92-4, 94-5, 100-6, 109-7

Bowling: Jason Behrendorf 3-0-16-1, Jhye Richardson 4-0-31-0, Nathan Coulter-Nile 4-0-26-3, Adam Zampa 3-0-22-1,

AUS: Pat Cummins 4-0-19-1, D Arcy Short 2-0-10-0. **AUSTRALIA:** D. Short run out (Pandya/Dhoni) 37, M. Stoinis run out (Yadav/Chahal) 1, A. Finch lbw b Bumrah 0, G. Maxwell c Rahul b Chahal 56, P. Handscomb c Dhoni b Bumrah 13, A. Turner b Pandya 0, N. Coulter-Nile b Bumrah 4, P. Cummins not out 7, J. Richardson not out 7. Extras (w2) 2 Total (7 wickets, 20 overs) 127.

Fall-of-wickets: 5-1, 5-2, 89-3, 101-4, 102-5, 113-6, 113-7

Bowling: J. Bumrah 4-0-16-3, Y. Chahal 4-0-26-1, U. Yadav 4-0-35-0, K. Pandya 4-0-17-1, M. Markande 4-0-31-0. **MOM:** N Coulter-Nile

MAHINDRA ON AN ELECTRIFYING DRIVE 1ST IN BOTH TEAM & DRIVER STANDINGS THE ONLY INDIAN TEAM IN THE ABB FIA FORMULA E CHAMPIONSHIP



Another first for Kohli

Virat Kohli, during his innings of 24 off 17 balls in the first T20I at Visakhapatnam on Sunday, became the first batsman to manage 500 runs against Australia. In the process, he became the first player to complete 500 runs against any opponent in T20Is. New Zealand batsman Martin Gattipill's 463 runs against Pakistan is the next best.



1 Lokesh Rahul's first fifty vs Australia is his fifth in T20Is - all five while opening the innings. His two tons have come batting at No. 3 and 4.



RESPECT: Virat Kohli tells fans to be quiet as the teams pay tribute to Pulwama victims

Saurabh makes history on senior debut

Meerut Shooter Wins World Cup Gold With A Record, Clinches Tokyo Olympics Quota Too

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New Delhi: To say that Saurabh Chaudhary was the favourite to win the men's 10m air pistol gold at the ISSF World Cup would have been saying the obvious.

Despite featuring in his first senior World Cup, everyone present at the Karni Singh shooting range, was expecting more than just the gold from him. The Meerut boy, 16, didn't disappoint.

On Sunday, Saurabh won the gold with a final world record and won a quota place for the Tokyo Olympics in the process.

The cherry on the cake was the margin of victory - Saurabh topped the final with a huge lead of 5.7 points, which is not usual in the 10m air events.

Saurabh shot 245 in the final to break Ukrainian shooter Oleh Omelchuk's record of 243.6. The silver went to Serbian veteran Damir Mitek, who shot 239.3, while Beijing Games gold medalist Pang Wei took bronze with a score of 215.2.

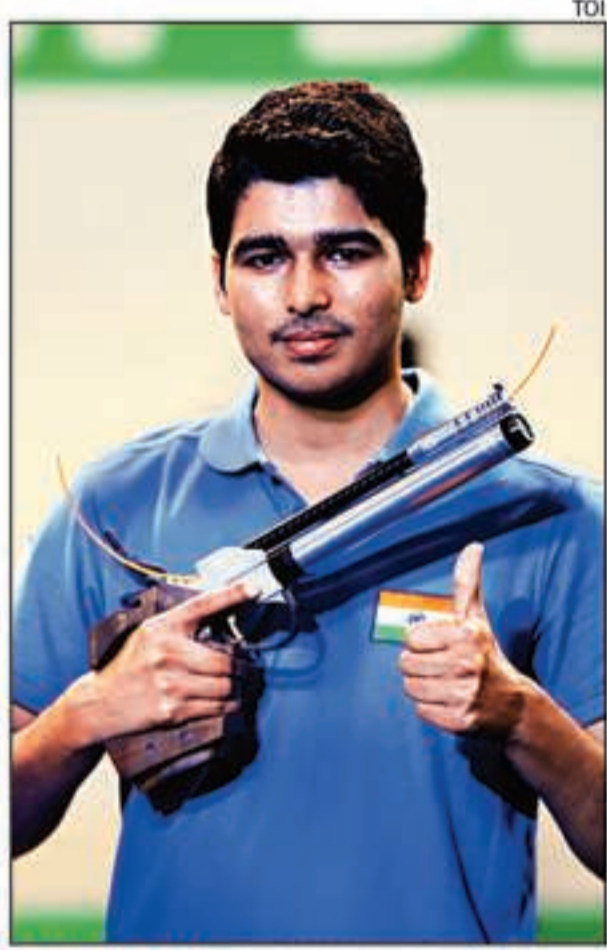
Although Saurabh created a new seniors record, he has been owning

the junior world record (245.5) for almost a year.

To put his form in perspective, Saurabh has shot in 11 international tournaments in the last three years, made it to 10 finals and has won eight gold and one silver, including Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, Youth Olympic Games, Junior World Cups and Junior World Championships.

On Sunday, after qualifying for the final with a score of 587, Saurabh never looked under pressure throughout the 24-shot final, maintaining the lead right from the first shot. The margin of the lead reached around 4 points after 12 shots. Other than shooting 10s consistently, he also shot a few 9s in between. But the margin of his lead was beyond anybody's reach.

"There was a little pressure of playing in the seniors' final, but I did what my coach had asked me to do. He said 'shoot as you do it in practice' and I did that. I never thought about the record or quota place. I didn't even look at the monitor to check my competitors' scores during the final," Saurabh said. "He is a very focused shooter and



WONDER BOY: Saurabh Chaudhary after winning his gold on Saturday

today despite the crowd making so much noise, he managed to shoot so well," national coach and former shooter Samresh Jung said. "Between qualification and the final, he did not talk to anyone and sat alone because he wanted to remain calm," Jung added. Saurabh, a resident of Kalina vil-

lage in Meerut district, has recently built a personal range at his home. His personal coach Amit Sheoran told TOI that training at home ahead of the World Cup helped Saurabh a great deal. "Earlier he used to train at my academy, but it is always very crowded. He has built his own range at home and I used to visit there to train in him. It has helped him remain focussed," said Sheoran.

The coach also said that they had worked on reducing the time Saurabh takes to fire a shot. "Earlier he used to take 17-18 seconds to fire a shot in the finals, but more time means more scope of getting distracted. So we trained to reduce the time to 12-13 seconds and it is helping Saurabh," Sheoran added.

With the individual event over, Saurabh will now shoot in the 10m air pistol mixed event with Manu Bhaker.

Meanwhile, after finishing the qualifying round with an impressive score of 591 (296 precision + 294 rapid) Manu Bhaker finished fifth in the women's 25m pistol final.

Manu, who looked poised to win a quota and a medal, scored 22 in the final. Hungary's Veronika Major clinched the gold with a world record score of 40, while former world Champion from China, Jingjing Zhang won silver with 33.

Bancroft hits 138* on FC return, denies any rift with Warner

Sydney: Cameron Bancroft made an emphatic statement to Australian selectors Sunday by carrying his bat in an unbeaten 138 on his red ball return after a ball-tampering ban, while downplaying any rift with David Warner. The 26-year-old opener completed his nine-month suspension for cheating in late December and has since played Twenty20 cricket for the Perth Scorchers in the Big Bash League.



Cameron Bancroft

In an explosive interview during the Boxing Day Test against India in December, Bancroft alleged it was Warner who asked him to alter the ball in South Africa.

The pair is eligible to play again in late March after their one-year bans for the same ball-tampering incident expire. Some pundits suggested he had thrown Warner "under the bus" and that their relationship was now untenable. But Bancroft insisted they spoke regularly and had been supporting each other. "Yeah, I've spoken to Da-

ve... I think all of us, including Dave, have been really challenged through this period of time," he told broadcaster ABC on Saturday evening.

"I know that all three of us have really stuck by each other and looked after each other well. I guess moving forward there will be great lessons for all of us, including Dave.

"That's something we've all shared with each other and something I've certainly shared with Dave when we've communicated throughout this entire journey." Despite being criticised

for the timing of his Boxing Day interview, Bancroft - who will play for Durham in the English summer to further his Ashes chances - said he had no regrets.

"There were some really powerful lessons I learned through my journey that I wanted others to connect and to share with," he said.

"If other people were triggered by that, I guess that's their battle to face. But if I was able to touch people through some parts of my journey, and to help them I guess break through (in) their lives, that was my sole intention for that," Bancroft said.

With the Ashes series against England looming this year, it was a timely knock with Australia struggling over the summer to find a consistent Test opener.

They tried Aaron Finch, Marcus Harris, and Joe Burns to varying degrees of success ahead of the return of regular opener Warner and former Test skipper Steve Smith. AFP

No visa for Pakistani cueists, snooker event put off indefinitely

Bengaluru/ New Delhi: The third and final leg of the Asian Snooker Tour, scheduled to be held in the Garden City from March 30 to April 2, has been put off indefinitely after organisers failed to guarantee visas for Pakistan cueists in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack.

Snooker Federation of India (BSFI) secretary S Balasubramanian said. "Five out of the 24 players are from Pakistan or of Pakistan origin. They haven't applied for visa but we made ACBS aware of the situation," added the BSFI official. Instead of the Asian Tour event, the organisers, the Karnataka State Billiards Association (KSBA), are planning to have another international event without the Pakistani players around the same time.

"We are awaiting approval from the BSFI and the ACBS for an Asian invitation-

nal tournament that we are planning to have during the same dates," said Pankaj Advani, the joint secretary of the KSBA. Advani had won the second leg in China. The first leg was held in Qatar. **Akbar too denied** Meanwhile, Pakistan's Hamza Akbar, who qualified for the Indian Open world-ranking snooker tournament scheduled to begin in Kochi on Wednesday, has been denied a visa. Akbar had defeated Advani in the final of the Asian Championship in Kuala Lumpur in 2015. TNN & AGENCIES

Delhi pull off a thriller against Jammu & Kashmir

Mulapadu: Delhi pulled off an exciting win against Jammu and Kashmir, reaching the target of 190 off the penultimate ball of the match. Lalit Yadav (47 not out, 7x4, 1x6) and Pawan Negi (15, 7 balls 1x6) saw the team home after a brief stutter. Earlier, J&K rode on half-centuries by Shubham Singh Pundir 68 and Jatin Wadhwan (57) to post 189 for 7.

Test paceman Ishant Sharma finished with figures of 1 for 42 in four overs while Subhodh Bhati took three wickets. It was Delhi's second win after opening with a loss to Jharkhand. In another match, Jharkhand skipper Ishan Kishan smashed his second straight century, a breezy unbeaten 113 to power Jharkhand to a 121-run win against Manipur in a Group 'A' match of the Syed Mush-

taq Ali Trophy T20 cricket tournament here Sunday. **Another Iyer ton in Mumbai win** Indore: For the third time in succession, Mumbai batsmen Shreyas Iyer and Surya Kumar Yadav were involved in a partnership of over 100 runs in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Domestic T20 tournament, here. Iyer, who had slammed a belligerent 147 against Sikkim in Mumbai's opener, helped himself to a second century, scoring a 55-ball 103 against hosts Madhya Pradesh (MP) at the Holkar Stadium on Sunday. Having won the toss, MP opted to bat, but a collective and a disciplined effort by Mumbai bowlers, ensured MP were restricted to a modest 143. And though Mumbai were reduced to 7-2, opener Prithvi Shaw out on the first ball, playing on and skipper

Ajinkya Rahane (7) caught behind, Mumbai eclipsed MP's score with eight wickets and four overs to spare. **MUSHTAQ ALI T20** Bengal hold nerve, beat Haryana Cuttack: Bengal held their nerve to emerge winners against Haryana by three wickets here at Barabati Stadium on Sunday. On a warm Sunday morning, the Group D fixture of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy got a handful of spectators but nothing special was in store for them after Manoj Tiwary won the toss and asked his Haryana counterpart Amit Mishra to bat first.

While Haryana managed 141 in their 20 overs for the loss of eight wickets, Bengal scored 145 for seven with an over to spare, bagging four points for their second win in the tournament. **UP, Uttarakhand and Services win** New Delhi: Priyam Garg (59) and Rinku Singh (52) blasted unbeaten fifties to guide Uttar Pradesh to a huge 58-run win over Tripura in a Group E match. Electing to bat, Uttar Pradesh rode on Garg and Singh to post a commanding 184-4 and then returned to restrict Tripura for 126-8 in 20 overs. AS Rajpuroo (4/17) and Ankit Chaudhary (3/19) shared seven wickets as Tripura failed to stitch together a partnership, losing wickets in regular intervals. In Palam A Stadium, Uttarakhand produced an all-round show to notch up a 10-run win over Puducherry. Batting first, skipper R Bhatia (30), Vijay Sharma (30) and Shivam Khurana (29) came up with useful contributions as Uttarakhand posted 141-6 in 20 overs.