

TV PICKS

PKL auction: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 5 p.m.
IPL: Star Sports 1, 2 & Select 1 (SD & HD), 8 p.m.
Serie A: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 12 a.m. (Tuesday).
Premier League: 55 Select 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 12.30 a.m. (Tuesday).

IN BRIEF



Harris boosts Nets' playoff push

LOS ANGELES
Joe Harris sank the go-ahead three-pointer with 84 seconds left as Brooklyn Nets' playoff push got a boost with a 133-128 win over Milwaukee Bucks on Saturday. Nets used a balanced attack to beat the shorthanded Bucks as eight players scored in double figures. They also drained 19 three-pointers. Elsewhere, Philadelphia 76ers trounced Chicago Bulls 116-96. AFP



Deulofeu puts Watford in FA Cup final

LONDON
Gerard Deulofeu starred for Watford as it roared back from two goals down on Sunday to beat Wolves 3-2 and set up an FA Cup final against Manchester City. Goals from Matt Doherty and Raul Jimenez looked like sending Wolves into their first FA Cup final since 1960 but Deulofeu pulled one back and a last-gasp penalty from Troy Deeney levelled the match at 2-2. Deulofeu scored the winner for Watford in the first period of extra-time. AFP



Lin Dan, Tai Tzu-ying win Malaysia Open

KUALA LUMPUR
Chinese badminton ace Lin Dan beat compatriot Chen Long 9-21, 21-7, 21-11 to win the Malaysia Open and claim his first major title in two years. Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu-ying clinched her third straight crown here after a 21-16, 21-19 win over Japan's Akane Yamaguchi. AFP

Indian women have slow start

AL AIN (UAE)
Olympian Shagun Chowdhary found herself in the 39th place with a score of 67 out of 75 after three rounds in women's trap in the shotgun World Cup in Al Ain, UAE, on Sunday. Shagun had a series of 22, 24 and 21, which was the best among the three Indians. Rajeshwari Kumari had 66 following 23, 23 and 20, for the 49th place while Varsha Varman struggled with rounds of 20, 17 and 14.

Barcelona inches closer to La Liga title

Breaks resistance of 10-man Atletico, moves 11 points clear; Everton outguns Arsenal

EURO LEAGUES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BARCELONA

Luis Suarez and Lionel Messi scored one each in span of two minutes as Barcelona broke the resistance of 10-man Atletico Madrid to go 11 points clear of its La Liga title rival.

Diego Costa was sent off in the 28th minute at Camp Nou after insulting referee Gil Manzano but while Atletico held on for almost another hour, Suarez and Messi struck late to seal a pivotal 2-0 win.

The victory leaves Barca almost out of sight with seven games left to play. "It is three crucial points," coach Ernesto Valverde said. "We are a little closer."

Costa's early and needless dismissal left Atletico needing snookers just to avoid defeat, let alone pull off the win that its coach Diego Simeone had said last week was the only result to keep its chal-



A peach: Luis Suarez can't hide his joy after lining up a shot from 25 yards to score Barcelona's first goal in the 85th minute. ■ REUTERS

lenge alive. Suarez intervened with a superb long-range strike in the 85th minute, before Messi added a second in the 86th.

The pair has now scored 53 league goals between it

this season while for Messi, this was a record 335th La Liga victory.

Jagielka's dramatic entry At Everton, another disappointing away performance

saw Arsenal lose 1-0. Phil Jagielka, drafted in at the last minute, scored the game's only goal as the Gunners extended their wretched record as the only club in the top four divisions of English

football not to have kept a clean sheet on their travels this season.

Important results: Premier League: Everton 1 (Jagielka 10) bt Arsenal 0.

La Liga: Alaves 1 (Calleri 18-pen) drew with Leganes 1 (Silva 90+3); Getafe 1 (Rodriguez Diaz 78) bt Athletic Bilbao 0; Real Valladolid 0 lost to Sevilla 2 (Mesa Quevedo 84, Munir 90+2); Celta Vigo 3 (Aspas 51-pen, 70, Gomez 90+1) Real Sociedad 1 (William Jose 32-pen)

Serie-A: Fiorentina 0 lost to Frosinone 1 (Ciofani 84); Udinese 3 (De Paul 15, 41-pen, Mandragora 45) bt Empoli 2 (Caputo 11, Krunic 24); Inter Milan drew with Atalanta 0-0.

Bundesliga: Augsburg 0 lost to Hoffenheim 4 (Kramaric 6, Belfodil 61, 74, 82); Borussia Munchengladbach 1 (Neuhaas 49) drew with Bremen 1 (Klaassen 79).

On Saturday: Barcelona 2 (Suarez 85, Messi 86) bt Atletico Madrid 0; Rayo Vallecano 2 (Tomás 32, Mario Suarez 90+1) bt Valencia 0.

Serie-A: Sampdoria 0 lost to Roma 1 (de Rossi 75).

Chennaiyin storms into semifinals

Mailson and Thapa help the side rally from a one-goal deficit

SUPER CUP

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
BHUBANESWAR

Chennaiyin FC erased a goal deficit and scored twice to beat NorthEast United FC 2-1 in the last quarterfinal of the Hero Super Cup at the Kalinga Stadium here on Sunday.

After a forgettable outing in the Indian Super League, the win must have come as a big relief for Chennaiyin FC which moved into the semifinals where it will meet ATK on April 10.

Chennaiyin suffered an early setback but recovered against a NorthEast side that missed five of its regular players.

Early strike

NorthEast capitalised on the hesitation shown by the Chennaiyin defenders when

Puitea released Panagiotis Triadis and the Greek winger sent a low cross for Rowlin Borges to tap home in the ninth minute.

Chennaiyin clawed back into the game gradually with Gregory Nelson and Anirudh Thapa showing more intent in the attacking third.

Both midfielders came in as changes to the side that figured in a goalless draw in the AFC Cup against Minerva Punjab FC at Ahmedabad earlier in the week.

The equaliser

Chennaiyin drew level in the 33rd minute when, off a Nelson corner, Thapa sent a sharp cross for an unmarked Mailson Alves to nod home. Chennaiyin went into the lead seven minutes later when Thapa pounced on a mistake by Puitea and made a solo run into the NorthEast

box, finishing with an angular shot.

NorthEast United made a couple of changes, bringing in the young Girik Khosla for Triadis in the wings and Keegan Pereira for Croatian Mato Grgic at the back.

The introduction of Khosla brought fresh energy and NorthEast almost pulled level in the 61st minute when Khosla set up forward Juan Mascia. The Italian striker, however, saw his attempt come off the crosspiece.

Mascia was unlucky again when the woodwork came in the way, this time in the 77th minute, when headed in an assist from Janeiler Rivas. Chennaiyin held on for the rest of the contest.

The result:

Chennaiyin FC 2 (Mailson Alves 33, Anirudh Thapa 40) bt NorthEast United FC 1 (Rowlin Borges 9).



On target: Mailson Alves netted the opening goal for Chennaiyin FC. ■ BISWARANJAN ROUT

Sathiyian finishes sixth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
YOKOHAMA

G. Sathiyian, who had booked a World Cup berth with a stunning win over World No. 14 Chun Ting Wong of Hong Kong on Saturday, couldn't reproduce

his best. The Indian lost to the 17-year-old Lin Yun-Ju of Chinese Taipei 11-4, 11-8, 11-8, 14-12 in the match for 5-6 spots.

Lin, ranked World No. 21, proved too good for the 26-year-old Indian.

U-23 Challenger Trophy: teams announced

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Harleen Deol, Sushree Dibyadarshini and Devika Vaidya will lead the India Red, India Green and India Blue teams respectively at the U-23 Women's One-Day Challenger Trophy to be played in Ranchi from April 20 to 24.

The teams:

India Red: Harleen Deol (Capt.), R. Kalpana (wk), S. Meghana, Richima Aggarwal, Ruzu Saha, Tejal Hasabnis, C.H. Jhansilakshmi, Renuka Chaudhary, Tejashwini Duragad,

Arundhati Reddy, Shanti Kumari, Devyani Prasad and Suman Meena.

India Green: Sushree Dibyadarshini (Capt.), Shivali Shinde (wk), Priya Punia, Yastika Bhatia, Ayushi Garg, I.V. Drishya, Ekta Singh, Radha Yadav, Rashi Kanojia, Manali Dakshini, Renuka Singh, A. Akshaya and S. Anusha.

India Blue: Devika Vaidya (Capt.), Nuzhat Parveen (wk), Shefali Verma, Simran, Tanushree Sarkar, Pratvika Rana, Minnu Mani, Tanuja Kanwar, C. Pratyusha, Simran Dil Bahadur, Kshama Singh, Vrushi Bhagat and Indrani Roy.

Serjeant At Arms lives up to his billing

MUMBAI: Serjeant At Arms, ridden by P. Trevor, won the Maharaja Sir Harisinghji Trophy, the main event of Sunday's (April 7) evening races. The winner is owned by Mr. K.N. Dhumjibhoy and Mr. S. Z.K. Dhumjibhoy rep. Five Stars Shipping Co Pvt. Ltd. & Mr. V. S. Patel. S.S. Attaollahi trains the winner. Trainer: S.K. Sunderji and Jockey: A. Sandesh won three races on the day.

1. M.D. PETIT PLATE (2,000m), Cl. IV, rated 20 to 46: FANFARE (Sandesh) 1, Benevolence (Trevor) 2, Brazos (Pranil) 3 and Retained Asset (Dashrath) 4. Not run: Arrefice. 2, 1-1/4 and 4-1/2. 2m, 4.4s. ₹21 (w), 11 and 13 (p). SHP: 34, FP: 49, Q: 22, Tanala: 195 and 134. Favourite: Benevolence. Owner: Mr. K.H. Vaccha. Trainer: S.K. Sunderji.

2. DIEGO RIVERA PLATE (1,400m), Maiden, 3-y-o only: GALLOPING

GOLDMINE (Sandesh) 1, Wizard Of Stocks (Trevor) 2, Istanbul (Merchant) 3 and Sir Ramon (Nazil) 4. 3/4, 8-1/2 and 4-1/4. Im, 23.7s. ₹16 (w), 10, 10 and 19 (p). SHP: 26, FP: 36, Q: 18, Tanala: 129 and 74. Favourite: Galloping Goldmine. Owners: Mr. Mukul Sonawala, Mr. D.R. Thacker rep. DT Racing & Breeders LLP, M/s. Akhtar Adamji Peerbhoy, Ajay K. Arora & Pramod Gajanan Churi. Trainer: S.K. Sunderji.

3. MAHARAJA SIR HARISINGHJI TROPHY (Gr.2) (1,600m), 4-y-o & over: SERJEANT AT ARMS (Trevor) 1, Caprisca (Sandesh) 2, B Fifty Two (Zervan) 3 and Turning Point (Dashrath) 4. 2, 1-1/2 and Nk. Im, 37.5s. ₹10 (w), 11 and 13 (p). SHP: 20, FP: 22, Q: 14, Tanala: 38 and 29. Favourite: Serjeant At Arms. Owners: Mr. K.N. Dhumjibhoy and Mr. S. Z.K. Dhumjibhoy rep. Five Stars Shipping Co. Pvt. Ltd. & Mr. Vispi R. Patel. Trainer: S.S. Attaollahi.

No job guarantee for Kovac: Rummenigge

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BERLIN

Bayern Munich CEO Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has warned coach Niko Kovac that he is not safe from the sack, despite the team's breathtaking 5-0 victory over title rival Borussia Dortmund on Saturday.

"Nobody has a job guarantee at Bayern, that is a guiding principle at the club," said Rummenigge in a Sky Sports chat show on Sunday morning.

"Anyone who can't deal with that pressure is at the wrong club."

The pressure on Kovac appeared to evaporate as Bayern regained its perch at the top of the Bundesliga with the thumping win over Dortmund.

Earlier trouble

Yet, less than 24 hours later, Rummenigge said that Kovac was at fault for Bayern's troubles earlier in the season.

"In October and November, we tripped ourselves up because the coach decided to rotate an unbelievable amount and that led to unrest in the team," said Rummenigge, laying the blame squarely on Kovac for a run of form which saw Bayern win just two



Niko Kovac. ■ REUTERS

games in seven last autumn.

"You can always rotate a bit," said Rummenigge, but added that Kovac had done so "irrespective of players' performances".

"There were a few things going in the wrong direction at that time, we had some frank conversations about it and corrected it," he said.

But Rummenigge, who is alleged to have favoured Thomas Tuchel over Kovac when Bayern was seeking a new coach last year, admitted that Kovac's task is not an easy one.

"It has been an incredible 10 years for Bayern, we have won doubles and Jupp Heynckes won the treble," he said.

Jeevan-Purav duo loses

SPORTS BUREAU
VILLENA (SPAIN)

Third seeds Jeevan Nedunchezhian and Purav Raja were beaten 7-6(5), 6-1 by Gerard Granollers and Pedro Martinez of Spain in the semifinals of the Challenger

tennis tournament.

The results:

€46,600 Challenger, Villena, Spain: Doubles (semifinals): Gerard Granollers & Pedro Martinez (Esp) bt Jeevan Nedunchezhian & Purav Raja 7-6 (5), 6-1.

Indian girls to clash with China

SPORTS BUREAU
KUALA LUMPUR

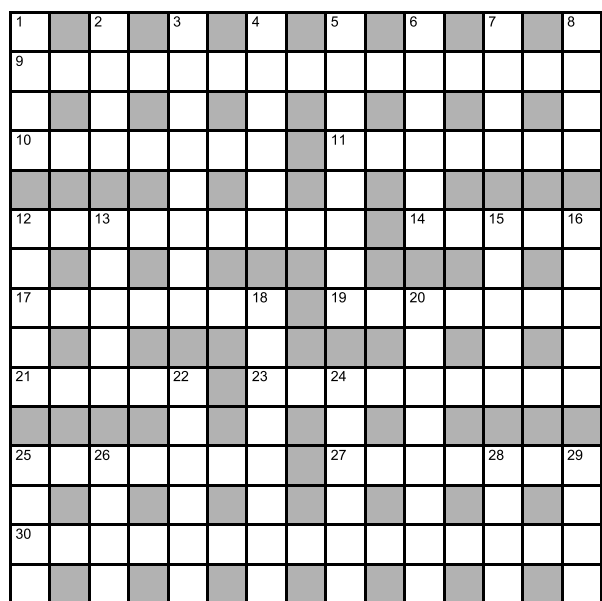
The Indian girls have been clubbed with China, Lebanon and Australia in Group D in the Asia-Oceania World junior under-14 tennis tour-

nament to be held here

The Indian squad of Pari Singh, Veda Raju Prapurina and Shruti Ahlawat, along with skipper Rushmi Chakravarthi, will open against China on Monday.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12594

(set by Hypatia)



- 14 Took a dip in water with one holy man (5)
- 17 One bored by author's never ending exchange with independent liberal? (3,4)
- 19 Dull about small break ending on Wednesday, say (7)
- 21 Prison cells smelt bad, from second shift to the last (5)
- 23 Say, fair maiden by players had no hit wickets taken (4-5)
- 25 Multiply the inverse of 22? (7)
- 27 Former scheme to preserve dairy (essentially milk) (7)
- 30 After mass exodus, more volunteering transformed agricultural movement (5,10)
- 6 Moles burrow in cold seasons (6)
- 7 Article about denial did not take too long (4)
- 8 Man, perhaps from hell, essentially recalled afterlives (4)
- 12 Defy parade after a Nationalist is killed for nothing (5)
- 13 Stocking material in new building only (5)
- 15 Comprehensive guide on being raised by one ethnic tribe (5)
- 16 Think legends camouflage yarn (5)
- 18 Unusually silent engineer is pulled up, one hears (8)
- 20 Now, power outage in severe flood (8)

DOWN

- 1 Notes swapped by dynasty for tusk (4)
- 2 Resist under hand lobs to bowl over (4)
- 3 Like to break up and swallow close to 1000 bits (8)
- 4 Live wire act got several people turning up (6)
- 5 What light travellers can be seen reducing? (4,4)
- 22 She advises anxious patients to lose weight? (6)
- 24 Spotted animal duck in front of Church's parking area (6)
- 25 Border's advantage (4)
- 26 Went ahead with Indian import that's fabricated (4)
- 28 Drop homeless man at one time? (4)
- 29 Sound character (4)

ACROSS

- 9 Soldiers in civilian clothing can cause agitation? (4,2,4,5)
- 10 Leave the French Navy's party held in boat (7)
- 11 Reconcile tentatively upon leaving or abandon (7)
- 12 Spot of excitement heard in Spooner's rabbit call (5,4)

SUDOKU

3	2		4	9				1
				8				
		6				7		3
							8	1
	3	8	9		1	4	2	
2	4							
6		4					3	
					2			
	7			4	6		9	5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 12593

C	L	A	S	H	O	N	D	E	L	I	V	E	R	Y
B	U	A	E	V	N	M	A							
E	L	D	E	R	C	H	I	E	T	A	I	N		
H	I	D	R	L	E	T	I	K						
A	T	T	E	S	T	O	R	N	U	C	I	E	I	
L	O	H	M	I	X	N								
F	O	R	M	I	D	A	B	L	E	S	W	I	G	
P	L	A	N	S	C	R	U	T	I	N	I	S	E	
R	O	R	D	E	A	L	F	I	G	H	T	I	N	G
O	R	D	E	A	L	F	I	G	H	T	I	N	G	
V	O	R	T	P	L	A	N	E	N	L				
E	N	C	H	I	L	A	D	A	R	O	G	U	E	
R	K	E	D	E	R	T	I	O	S					
B	E	S	I	D	E	R	T	H	E	P	O	I	N	T

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	8	3	5	2	4	9	1	6
1	5	4	6	7	9	3	8	2
9	2	6	3	1	8	4	5	7
3	9	7	2	8	6	5	4	1
8	4	5	7	3	1	6	2	9
6	1	2	9	4	5	7	3	8
2	7	8	4	6	3	1	9	5
4	6	9	1	5	2	8	7	3
5	3	1	8	9	7	2	6	4

FAITH

Dasaratha heartbroken

As every episode in the Ramayana unfolds, Valmiki captures the rich insights into human life and nature that is under the powerful influence of a larger destiny, pointed out Kalyanapuram Sri Aravamudhachariar in a discourse. King or commoner, scholar or unlearned, man or woman, are all affected in this samsara. Could there be a greater heartbreak than the one experienced by Dasaratha who is driven to send Rama into exile for fourteen years instead of crowning Him Yuva Raja as promised a few fours back? There is haste in Dasaratha's decision. He confesses to Rama that he has premonitions and ominous dreams which portend death of kings or similar calamities. He says he is resolved to carry out his plan the next day itself without any delay as it happens to be most auspicious for a king's coronation according to astrological experts. This is to take place despite Bharata's absence at the moment. Although Bharata is pious, compassionate and righteous by nature, obedient to all and is self controlled in all ways, the king says that human mind is very unpredictable. Moreover, any resolve to accomplish good ends can be disrupted and one has to guard against any harm or evil within or without. These words are indicative of how destiny forces him to change his own cherished desire to see Rama crowned. As Rama leaves for the forest in the chariot driven by Sumantra, Dasaratha, hit by the rudest of shocks, experiences the greatest void ever in his life and succumbs to sorrow. He gazes at the clouds of dust raised by the speeding chariot until when they are no longer visible and then falls on the ground. He waits that having followed Rama, his sight has not returned. But in such a situation that triggers strong emotions, Rama maintains equanimity and teaches by example how to deal with misfortunes.