Kapil's masterpiece — a tipping point in India's sporting history

The legendary cricketer's unbeaten 175 against Zimbabwe in the 1983 World Cup has a touch of mythical allure to it

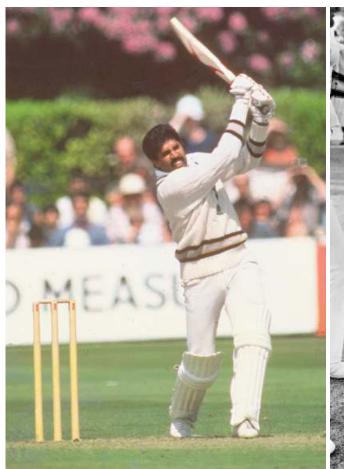


K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR TUNBRIDGE WELLS

A bright Thursday morning, with clear skies and the chirping of birds, was the perfect setting for embarking on a cricketing pilgrimage. Tunbridge Wells is a familiar name to cricket lovers and it was time to head there. Before V.V.S. Laxman and Rahul Dravid engineered that engrossing turnaround against Steve Waugh's Aussies at Kolkata's Eden Gardens in 2001, the Indian version of rising from the ashes harked back to a glorious June 18 in 1983 at Tunbridge Wells.

Kapil Dev's unbeaten 175 (138b, 16x4, 6x6), miraculous in its conception, resuscitated India from a precarious 17 for five in a World Cup match against Zimbabwe. The skipper's dare-devilry and partnerships with Roger Binny and Syed Kirmani ensured that his men scored 266 for eight and subsequently the opposition was bowled out for 235. It was a tipping point in India's sporting history and Kapil's Devils eventually won the World Cup in a David-quelling-Goliath moment against the West Indies at Lord's.

The 36th anniversary of Kapil's supreme effort passed by just recently and it was time to snuggle into nostalgia's warmth. Strangely, on that epochal day, the BBC



Commanding show: Kapil Dev hits a trademark shot during the epic knock. Right: The great allrounder is lauded by teammates after the scintillating effort. • THE HINDU ARCHIVES

crew had a strike and there is had to be switched: Southno footage of an innings for ampton Central to London's the ages. A member of the Waterloo; and Waterloo East 1983 Indian squad once told to Tunbridge Wells. And as this correspondent: "I think the rail-lines snaked past London's high-rises, rolling the strike was an excuse, the BBC perhaps presumed that greens, slumbering sheep, there was no value in reportand through tunnels burrowing a game involving India ing into hills, a slice of history and Zimbabwe." The only linwas to be relived. gering references are photo-

Quaint town

Tunbridge Wells is a quaint town and the venue – Nevill Ground - that witnessed Kapil's masterpiece is fringed by country homes and the

woods laced with flowering shrubs. The guard whispers: "Kapil Dev, 175!" In the middle, a county skirmish was in progress involving Kent and Nottinghamshire. A wicket falls, Samit Patel departs, there is measured applause from an audience munching cucumber sandwiches, pork pies and imbibing ale or wine. The thud of the red cherry in a pastoral setting, surely picture-postcards are made of these moments.

Paul Downton, former England wicketkeeper and the director of Kent County Cricket Club extends a firm handshake. "I missed that match but it changed Indian cricket, didn't it? Till then India only cared for Tests and then this match and the World Cup win shifted attention to ODIs," he says before seeking out the regulars, who were present when Kapil made a mockery of the odds with his rousing big-hits and toothy grin.

Two gentlemen, nursing their beers on the grassbanks, raise their hands when asked about that distant magical day. Carl Openshaw, president of the Tunbridge Wells Cricket Club, remembers: "India was in trouble, losing wickets, first two and then another three and it looked like the match would be over by lunch. It wasn't meant to be that way, imagine India was playing against little Zimbabwe and then Kapil Dev steps in and soon he is hitting sixes and fours all over. It was incredible to be here. It has been our only ODI so far. This ground has limited facilities and it is difficult to accommodate so many modern-day television cameras. We have the stands here and the woods there and you are in time for our annual Kent game too. We prefer it this way."

Epochal venue: A view of the scoreboard above the pavilion. Bottom: Bruce Standring, a cricket

fan, and Carl Openshaw, president, Tunbridge Wells CC, snapped on Thursday. • K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR

Carl's friend and fellow old-timer Bruce Standring was at the arena with his then little daughter and he recalls: "It was jaw-dropping, first there were the wickets and then Kapil Dev strikes those sixes. There were not many Indian fans back then and we were all just catching a game of cricket but it was special."

But is there anything related to the fortune-flipping joust? A scorecard, may be an old picture, any remembrance of things past? Downton does the rounds in the pavilion, the members' bar and the club's office but there are no physical clues to Kapil's incandescent moment under the sun. All that remain are the 'I-was-there' tales passed across generations, adding a mythical allure to a stupen-



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA SOUTHAMPTON

All-rounder Vijay Shankar is the latest to suffer an injury scare in the Indian camp after being hit on the toe during a rain-hit training session on Wednesday.

During training, a Jasprit Bumrah yorker hit Shankar flush on his toes and he was apparently in

However a team source informed that there's nothing to worry as of now. "Yes, Vijay (Shankar) was in pain but it subsided by the evening. Hopefully, there's nothing scary," the source said.

Shankar is one of the designated No. 4 batsmen in this Indian line-up although he is being used



graphs of Kapil launching his

sixes and shards of memory

fixated to a few anecdotes

and R. Mohan's despatches in

Cut to the present, trains

Vijay Shankar. • AP

as a floater. He is also a handy medium-pacer.

With Shikhar Dhawan already ruled out of the tournament due to thumb fracture and Bhuvneshwar Kumar out for two games due to hamstring strain. Shankar's injury will only increase tension for the team management.



Though there is cloud cover, there is neither seam movement nor swing, says the India speedster

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

World's premier fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah on Thursday said the pitches in England used for white ball cricket are the "flattest tracks" he has ever bowled on as there is rarely any movement in the air or off the pitch.

Bumrah busted the myth about English conditions and tracks during an interaction with the media here.

"Whatever white cricket I have played so far, I felt the flattest wickets are those in England. There's no help for the bowlers on these tracks," he said.

'You see cloud cover and feel that the ball will swing but there is neither seam movement nor swing," said



Matter of fact: Bumrah says it is a bonus if the surfaces for the World Cup games offer some help to the speedsters. • AP

Bumrah said when playing in England the Indian bowling unit is always ready for the worst-case scenario and if some help is available, it treats it as bonus.

"You have to rely a lot on

your accuracy and clarity. So that's what we try to do. We know that the wickets are flat

in England and we take that

into consideration as the

worst possible scenario. So if

there is a bit of help, then ad-

ing matches regularly, but it's different for Bumrah who had K.L. Rahul and Virat Kohli in all sorts of trouble

pecially when they are play-

justment becomes easy." Normally fast bowlers don't go full tilt at the nets es-

Thursday's net during session. Rattling Rahul, Kohli A perfect yorker found Rahul's off-stump pegged back. When Kohli batted, Bumrah

got one to shoot up from short of good length, leaving the skipper ducking for cover. The ball hit the top of the bat and flew!

Then there was a delivery that pitched on length and beat Kohli's bat. "With Bumrah, he exactly bowls in the nets as he bowls in the match," the Indian captain had said earlier.

Ask Bumrah about that and he echoes his captain's observation. "Sometimes you want to try something different in the match and

you want to try that in the nets as well. You want to execute everything in the nets. In the match, it's just repetitions. Be it a death-bowling session or with new ball, I do it in the nets."

Where they stand

Team	Mat	Won	Lost	NR	PTS	NRR					
Australia	6	5	1	0	10	0.849					
New Zealand	5	4	0	1	9	1.591					
England	5	4	1	0	8	1.862					
India	4	3	0	1	7	1.029					
Bangladesh	6	2	3	1	5	-0.407					
Sri Lanka	5	1	2	2	4	-1.778					
West Indies	5	1	3	1	3	0.272					
South Africa	6	1	4	1	3	-0.193					
Pakistan	5	1	3	1	3	-1.933					
Afghanistan	5	0	5	0	0	-2.089					
* till the Australia-Bangladesh match on June 20											

Warner's big hundred highlights Australia's consummate win

Mushfigur Rahim's determined century to no avail as a combative Bangladesh comes up 48 runs short

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Australia moved closer to the semifinals after David Warner, with his second century of the tournament, inspired the defending champion to a comfortable 48-run win over a combative Bangladesh here on Thursday.

The left-handed opener contained his natural aggressive self before swinging his arms freely to score 166, which steered Australia to a mammoth 381 for five, its second highest in the World

Warner, who had hit a

hundred against Pakistan. added 121 with his skipper Aaron Finch (53) in a riskfree opening partnership and then raised a 192-run stand with Usman Khawaja

His 16th ODI hundred, which was also his sixth 150plus knock, came off 147 balls and had 14 hits to fence and five over the ropes.

The stage was set to go after the bowlers and Glenn Maxwell produced a 10-ball 32, which had three sixes and two fours. Maxwell was run out after a mix-up with Khawaja, who sent his partn-

INNINGS SCAN PROGRESSION BAN 53/0 0 Maidens 10 overs 53/1 34 30 117/0 112/2 177/4 10 Sixes 168/1 30 overs 40 192 127 245/4 250/1 (2nd) RR 6.66 7.62 381/5 50 overs 333/8

TOP SHOWS Warner 166 (147B, Stoinis 2/54 (8), 14X4, 5X6) Starc 2/55 (10) **Bangladesh** Mushfiqur 102* (97b, 9x4, 1x6) Sarkar 3/58 (8)

er back sensing a risk, and the latter was caught behind 11 short of a hundred.

Faced with a daunting task of chasing down a massive target, the 'Tigers', as expected, took the fight to the rival camp but ended up with 333 for eight in the stipulated overs.

Good cameos

Mushfigur Rahim (102 not out), Mahmudullah (69), Tamim Igbal (62) and the inform Shakib Al Hasan (41) gave it their all in the chase but the effort still proved insufficient though the total was the Asian nation's best ever in one-dayers.

It was Mushfiqur's first hundred in a World Cup game and seventh overall. Paceman Mitchell Starc and Nathan Coulter-Nile shared four wickets between them. The win took Australia to

Next assignment **BANGLADESH:** June 24 vs Afghanistan, Southampton,

the top with 10 points.

AUSTRALIA: June 25 vs England, Lord's, 3 p.m.



Flying high: David Warner celebrates in inimitable style after notching up his 16th ODI century. • AP

STAT SPHERE

The match aggregate of 714 is the highest in the World Cup, surpassing the 688 between Aus (376/9) and SL (312) in Sydney, 2015

Warner's 166 is the highest score of this edition, and his sixth score of over-150 in ODIs MOST 150-PLUS

7 (Rohit)

6 (Warner) • 5 (Tendulkar, Gayle)

4 (Amla, Jayasuriya

and Kohli) Shakib has first player from Bangladesh to score 400 runs in a series,

> Number of 150-plus scores by Warner in the WC, the first player to do so. He had

tournament in any

scored 178 against Afghanistan (Perth, 2015).

Number of 50run partnerships between Finch and Warner in this WC, the highest so fa 7 Number of centuries scored by **Mushfiqur** in ODIs. This is his first in **FEWEST INNINGS TO** 16 ODI HUNDREDS 94 - Amla 110 - Kohli & Warner 126 - Dhawan 128 - Root

SCOREBOARD AUSTRALIA VS BANGLADESH

David Warner c Rubel b Sarkar 166 (147b, 14x4, 5x6), Aaron Finch c Rubel b Sarkar 53 (51b. 5x4, 2x6). Usman Khawaia c Mushfigur b Sarkar 89 (72b, 10x4), Glenn Maxwell run out 32 (10b, 2x4, 3x6), Marcus Stoinis

AUSTRALIA

(not out) 17 (11b, 2x4), Steve Smith lbw b Mustafizur 1 (2b), Alex Carey (not out) 11 (8b, 1x4); Extras (b-1, lb-5, nb-1, w-5): 12; Total (for five wkts. in 50 overs):

FALL OF WICKETS

1-121 (Finch, 20.5 overs), 2-313 (Warner, 44.2), 3-352 (Maxwell, 46.2), 4-353 (Khawaja, 46.5), 5354 (Smith, 47.1) **BANGLADESH BOWLING**

Mortaza 8-0-56-0, Mustafizur 9-0-69-1. Shakib 6-0-50-0, Rubel 9-0-83-0, Mehidy 10-0-59-0, Sarkar 8-0-58-3.

BANGLADESH

Tamim Iqbal b Starc 62 (74b, 6x4), Soumya Sarkar run out 10 (8b, 2x4), Shakib Al Hasan c Warner b Stoinis 41 (41b, 4x4), Mushfigur Rahim (not out) 102 (97b, 9x4, 1x6), Liton Das lbw b Zampa 20 (17b, 3x4), Mahmudullah c Cummins b Coulter-Nile 69 (50b, 5x4, 3x6), Sabbir Rahman b Coulter-Nile O (1b), Mehidy Hasan c Warner b Starc 6 (7b), Mashrafe Mortaza c Maxwell b Stoinis 6 (5b, 1x4); Extras (b-4, lb-4, w-9): 17; Total (for eight wkts. in 50 overs): 333. **FALL OF WICKETS**

1-23 (Sarkar, 3.5), 2-102 (Shakib, 18.1), 3-144 (Tamim, 24.1), 4-175 (Liton, 29.2), 5-302 (Mahmudullah, 45.3), 6-302 (Sabbir, 45.4), 7-323 (Mehidy, 48.2), 8-333 (Mortaza, 49.6).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING Starc 10-0-55-2, Cummins 10-1-

65-0, Maxwell 3-0-25-0, Coulter-Nile 10-0-58-2, Stoinis 8-0-54-2, Zampa 9-0-68-1. Toss: Australia; MoM: Warner.

Australia won by 48 runs.



England's spirits on a high

Sri Lanka desperately needs a win to hang on for survival

WC PREVIEW

SHAYAN ACHARYA

Riding high on confidence after a big win against Afghanistan, England will look to keep the momentum going when it faces Sri Lanka in a World Cup fixture on

The Eoin Morgan-led side is currently second on the table with eight points from five outings. Another win will bring it closer to the semifinals. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, is four points

Fire at the top

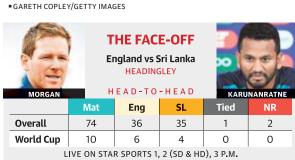
At the iconic Headingley which hosts its first game of the tournament - all eyes will be on the England cap-

Morgan played a solid knock of 146 against Afghanistan at Old Trafford on Tuesday, slamming 17 sixes, the maximum by anyone in ODI cricket. In the absence of regular opener, Jason Roy, owing to a hamstring injury, the onus will be on Jonny Bairtstow, Joe Root and Morgan to fire at the top.

Sri Lanka, on the other hand, is struggling. So far, it



Harnessing their skills: Moeen Ali and Ben Stokes bend their backs at practice on Thursday.



has won only one of five games, but received a point each from two no results. Captain Dimuth Karunaratne - who has been consis-

tent with the bat, amassing 179 runs in three innings needs to inspire the rest of

Sri Lanka desperately

Shooting out,

needs to improve its performance if it has to make the last-four stage

Run feast likely

Before the World Cup, the venue hosted the fifth and final ODI between England and Pakistan - which witnessed a 350-plus total, successfully defended by England. That raises hopes of a run feast on a day that promises to be bright and sunny, with some clouds hover-

Brilliant Advani in summit clash

ASIAN SNOOKER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pankaj Advani made a spectacular comeback to beat Pakistan's Asjad Iqbal and enter the final of the 35th Asian men's snooker championship here on Thursday.

Down 4-0 in the best-ofnine semifinal, the Indian cueist swept the next five frames to set up a summit clash with Thailand's Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon, who had the measure of Iqbal's compatriot Babar Ma-

Earlier in the day, Advani had pipped compatriot Aditya Mehta 5-4 in the quarterfinals.

The results: Semifinals: Pankaj Advani bt Asjad Iqbal (Pak) 5-4 (31-68, 1-54, 40-76, 1-96 (81), 78-8, 89-33, 55-14, 89-24, 52-26); Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon (Tha) bt Babar Masih (Pak) 5-2. Quarterfinals: Advani bt Aditva Mehta 5-4 (0-99(99), 1-60, 64-50, 97(72)-0, 35-90, 113(105)-0, 8-107(107), 61-16, 72-48); Iqbal bt Siyavosh Mozayani (Irn) 5-1; Masih bt Mohd. Bilal (Pak) 5-2; Tirapongpaiboon bt Gao Yang (Chn) 5-1.

IOC lifts hosting restrictions on India

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The uncertainty over India's hosting of international sporting events officially ended on Thursday with the International Olympic Committee communicating the same and lifting any restrictions in place over India's future hosting

The IOC EB decided to "lift, with immediate effect, all provisional measures and restrictions imposed under points 2 and 3 of the IOC EB decision of 21 February 2019 in relation to awarding and hosting any international sports events in India; and inform the **International Sports** Federations accordingly," James Macleod, IOC's Director of Olympic Solidarity and NOC Relations, said in a letter to the Indian Olympic Association.

Satisfied with letter

The letter further added that the IOC Executive Board was satisfied that the Indian government's letter

On behalf of IOA, all NSFs, athletes, the sports-loving community of India and myself, we are extremely thankful

your support NARINDER BATRA IOA president to IOC president Bach

and grateful for

on Tuesday regarding the same ensured that the principle of nondiscrimination of athletes and teams participating in any future international sports events in India will be fully respected.

IOA president Narinder Batra thanked Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju and assured of a constructive and cooperative association going forward.

"On behalf of IOA, all NSFs, athletes, sports loving community of India and myself, we are extremely thankful and grateful for your support and patience in arriving at the resolution on giving clearance to India to host international events," he added in a communique to **IOC** president Thomas

Annu clinches bronze



SPORTS BUREAU

OSTRAVA (CZECH REPUBLIC) Asian silver medallist Annu Rani, who has been steady in the 60m range this season, won the women's javelin bronze in the 58th Ostrava Golden Spike athletics meet, an IAAF World Challenge event, on Thursday.

The 26-year-old had a best throw of 60.20m apart from 59.91 and 59.89 in her

Croatia's Sara Kolak (64.45m) took the gold and Slovenia's Martina Ratej (61.01) bagged the silver.

Shivpal last

Shivpal Singh, who won the Asian championship silver with a personal best 86.23m, was eighth and last in men's javelin with a second round effort of 79.69m. Estonia's Magnus Kirt won gold with a worldleading 90.34m while Poland's Cyprian Mrzyglod (83.88m) claimed silver.

Messi and Armani save Argentina

Zapata books Colombia's last-eight berth



The heroes: Messi slotted home a penalty while goalkeeper Armani brought off quite a few saves for Argentina. • AFP

spot-kick a few minutes later

but Derlis Gonzalez's shot

was saved by Argentina

'keeper Franco Armani,

who was lucky to avoid a red

card when he fouled Gonza-

lez outside his area at the

A late goal from Duvan

Zapata, his second in two

games, gave Colombia a 1-0

win over Qatar at Sao Paulo

and guaranteed its place in

Qatar, one of the two

non-South American teams

invited, improved in the se-

cond period but just as the

game looked destined to fin-

ish goalless, Zapata gave Co-

The results: Group B: Colom-

bia 1 (Zapata 86) bt Qatar O;

Argentina 1 (Messi 57-pen)

drew with Paraguay 1 (Sanchez

lombia all three points.

end of the first half.

the quarterfinals.

COPA AMERICA

REUTERS

Lionel Messi scored from the penalty spot to salvage a 1-1 draw for Argentina against Paraguay in the Copa America on Wednesday as his side rode its luck to cling on to hope of reaching the quarterfinals.

Richard Sanchez put Paraguay ahead in the 37th minute, firing into the bottom corner after a lung-bursting run from Miguel Almiron down the left wing.

Argentina captain Messi levelled in the 57th minute after a handball by Paraguay's Ivan Peris which no one on the pitch appealed for but was spotted by a VAR review.

Paraguay was awarded a

women's cricket in for CWG 2022 PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shooting was left out of the Commonwealth programme on Games Thursday, dealing a big blow to India which won as many as 16 medals, including seven gold, at the 2018 edition in Gold Coast. The Executive Board of

the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) met and approved the inclusion of women's cricket, beach volleyball and para table tennis in the Games programme for the Birmingham edition.

The inclusion of these three sports will now need to be ratified by 51 percent of the CGF members next month.

"Our recommendation of adding women's cricket, beach volleyball and Para table tennis is the result of a thorough review and we believe these sports would help us to enhance the existing programme and new audiences, showcasing the while sports to our local community, spectators and fans across the world, watching on TV," said Ian Reid, CEO, Birmingham 2022. "It's also a selection that could help ensure that the 2022 Commonwealth Games will be the most inclusive in history."

Late goal helps Cameroon make the grade

Argentines break Scottish hearts

WOMEN'S WC

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Ajara Nchout's brilliant goal at the death gave Cameroon a dramatic 2-1 win over New Zealand on Thursday and took the Indomitable Lionesses through to the women's World Cup knockout

lotted five minutes of added time remained when Nchout curled a shot into the net to give her side the victory.

Just 10 seconds of the al-

Argentina fought back from three down to draw 3-3 in Paris to eliminate the Scots as it climbed to third.

Scotland looked to be going through as one of the best third-placed sides when Erin Cuthbert's 69th-minute goal put it 3-0 up after earlier strikes from Kim Little and Jen Beattie. However, Milagros Menendez replied with Argentina's first goal of the tournament in the 74th minute, and then Florencia Bonsegundo's shot went in off goalkeeper Lee Alexander to set up a grandstand finale.

With two minutes left, after an agonising VAR review, Argentina was awarded a penalty. Alexander saved Bonsegundo's tame first attempt, but VAR caught the goalkeeper straying off her line and the Argentine converted her second effort in the fourth minute of stoppage time.

The results: Group D: Japan O lost to England 2 (White 14, 84); Scotland 3 (Little 19, Beattle 49, Cuthbert 69) drew with Argentina 3 (Menendez 74, Alexander Group E: Cameroon 2 (Nchout 57, 90+5) bt New Zealand 1 (Awona 80-og); Netherlands 2 (Dekker 54, Beerensteyn 75) bt Canada 1 (Sinclair 60).



What a finish! Ajara Nchout, left, scored at the death to send Cameroon through. • AFP

Putintseva packs off Osaka

Kerber convincingly beats Sharapova in Mallorca

TENNIS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

World No. 1 Naomi Osaka succumbed to a straightsets defeat to Yulia Putintseva at the Birmingham Classic on Thursday, handing Ashleigh Barty the chance to end the week on top of the rankings.

Osaka admitted ahead of her first grass court tournament of the season that she is still not at home on the surface and it showed as Putintseva romped to a 6-2, 6-3

Putintseva made a blistering start to go 5-0 up in the first set and Osaka's troubles on serve throughout the match ensured she never recovered.

French Open champio Barty can secure World No. 1 by winning the title in Birmingham and she eased into the quarterfinals with a 6-3 6-1 victory over Jennifer Bradv.

Only the rain threatened to slow Barty as it delayed the start of the match and then briefly interrupted the second set.

Bautista Agut advances

In the ATP 500 tournament in Halle on Wednesday, Spain's seventh seed Roberto Bautista Agut beat France's Richard Gasquet 6-1, 6-4.

Bautista Agut next faces Roger Federer, who fought

A big one! Putintseva was off to a blistering start and ensured Osaka never recovered. • REUTERS

past Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 7-6(5), 4-6, 7-5.

del Potro injured Juan Martin del Potro faces

a further lengthy injury layoff and will miss Wimbledon next month after fracturing the patella in his right knee for the second time in nine months.

The Argentine slipped on court towards the end of his first round win at Queen's Club in London over Denis Shapovalov on Wednesday and could also miss the US Open later this year.

Blown away

Maria Sharapova's return from injury at the Mallorca Open came to an abrupt end on Thursday as she was convincingly beaten 6-2, 6-3 by Angelique Kerber.

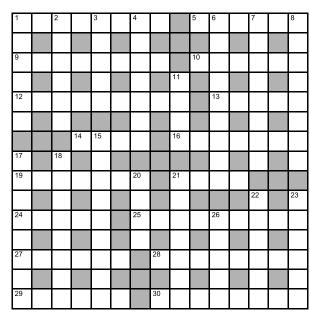
Important results: ATP 500 tournament, Halle: Second round: Roger Federer bt JoWilfried Tsonga 7-6(5), 4-6, 7-5: Alexander Zverev bt Steve Johnson 6-3, 7-5; Roberto Bautista Agut bt Richard Gasquet 6-1. 6-4: Matteo Berrettini bt Andreas Seppi 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

ATP Queen's Club: First round: Jeremy Chardy bt Mikhail Kudel Potro bt Denis Shapovalov 7-5. 6-4: Milos Raonic bt Marco Cecchinato 6-3, 6-2; Stanislas Wawrinka bt Daniel Evans 6-3,

Mallorca Open: Second round: Angelique Kerber bt Maria Sharapova 6-2, 6-3; Belinda Bencic bt Shelby Rogers 5-7, 6-3, 3-1 (retired): Amanda Anisimova bt Alize Cornet 6-2, 6-4.

Birmingham Classic: Second round: Yulia Putintseva bt Naomi Osaka 6-2, 6-3; Jelena Ostapenko bt Johanna Konta 6-3, 6-4; Barbora Strycova bt Su-Wei Hsieh 7-6(3), 6-3; Kristyna Pliskova bt Karolina Pliskova 6-2, 3-6, 7-6(7); First round: Venus Williams bt Aliaksandra Sasnovich 6-3, 6-4; Ashleigh Barty bt Donna Vekic 6-3, 6-4.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12658



ACROSS

- 1 This original font could be indispensable - you need it to type E-books! (5,3) 5 Allow player to enter estate (6)
- 9 Horribly evil tyrant eventually had to hang (8) 10 Last and final wish? To quit
- smoking, finally (6) 12 Vice-president perhaps? No sir, very repulsive creature (9)

- 13 Artist endlessly tweaking instrument (5)
- 14 KrisKross had the French loaf
- rest (3,4)
- New England (7) 21 Contrarian vote? (4)
- 24 Extremist from Kabul trapped
- 25 Fight to save short sorcerer (9)
- 27 Spin bowler's last over to former English pacer (6)
- 28 Horsmen about to saunter around (8)
- 30 Losers back off, refuse to work, inviting trouble (8)

29 Small eggs on rolls (6)

DOWN

- 1 Relief from the sun? Run away to Coimbatore on vacation (6)
- 2 Father's at home with pipe (6)
- 3 All the Egyptian king's money lost in the end (5)

(set by KrisKross)

- 4 Severe old man covered in ash,
- 6 Growing old, seen wearing perfume (9)
- 7 One's beginning to go through quite an intricate statement
- crossing part of New York 11 Gazelle runs, losing leg in fire
- 15 Take down note to treat ailments (9)

18 Heading off to control a

mountain ape (8)

- be sold (8)
- 22 Animal in pain, mostly in shock (6)

driving (5)

SUDOKU

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			8				6					
		6	7	8								
8	7						1	3				
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆												

Solution to puzzle 12657 Solution to vesterday's Sudoku

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FAITH

Teaching through silence

A well-known aphorism says silence is golden. Spiritual leaders have stressed the importance of silence as an aid to meditation and eventual liberation. The sons of Brahma – Sanaka, Sanatana, Sanandana, and Sanatkumara – were well versed in the Vedas. But they wanted to gain knowledge about the Supreme Brahman, and the means to attain Him. Lord Siva, as Dakshinamurthy, imparted to them the knowledge that they sought, elaborated R. Narayanan in a discourse. But He conveyed the Supreme Truth through

Dakshinamurthy's cin mudra conveyed much more than words could ever convey. In the cin mudra, the thumb and the index finger are brought together, and this indicates the jivatma-Paramatma connection. The thumb indicates the Paramatma and the forefinger is the jivatma. These two are brought together in the cin mudra. The other three fingers represent the three malams (impurities) that stand in the way of our attainment of liberation. The three malams are anava (ego), kanma (effects of our actions) and maayai (illusion). When these three impurities are conquered, the jivatma reaches Him. These three malams keep our connection to the material world alive. In their absence, the jivatma automatically comes close to the Paramatma. This is what Lord Siva, as Dakshinamurthy, points out through His cin

In fact, Dakshinamurthy is a silent guru. Using many words to convey something is not as effective as conveying it succinctly through a gesture. Muruga, Lord Siva's son, taught His father the meaning of the pranava. Naturally, Muruga too knew the value of silence. Saint Arunagirinatha says that Lord Muruga taught him the importance of silence.

CM YK

16 Made a story - relax now and like $x^n + y^n = z^n$ (8) 19 Greeting given by a Pole in 8 Starting to travel to holy city,

(4)

17 Researches how paper could

21 Wild beaver eating root of green plant (7)

20 Yes, amateur baked a piece of

23 Kids like to wear casual shirts 26 Where you may crash when