

Rohit and Krunal’s exploits fashion India’s series victory



The propeller: Rohit Sharma's innings took the Men in Blue to a match-winning total. ■AFP

The opener provides the fireworks while the all-rounder chips in with vital runs and wickets

INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LAUDERHILL (USA)

Rohit Sharma's sublime in-
nings and Krunal Pandya's
all-round show powered In-
dia to a series-clinching 22-
run win over West Indies in
the rain-affected second
T20I here on Sunday.

Batting first, India scored
167 for five and then had
West Indies reeling at 98 for
four in the 16th over when
lightning and thundershow-
ers struck. The Duckworth-
Lewis par score at that point
was 120, leaving India win-
ner by 22 runs.

Final flourish
Rohit top-scored with 67 off
51 balls before Krunal (20 off
13 balls) and Ravindra Jadeja
propped up the innings,
smashing 20 runs in the final
over bowled by Keemo Paul.
Krunal hit the first two
balls of the 20th over for six-
es before Jadeja smashed
another.
During the course of his
innings, Rohit became T20I's
most prolific six-hitter, going
past Chris Gayle's record of
105. He struck six fours and
three sixes in this match.
India was off to a quick
start, crossing 50 in the se-
venth over with Rohit doing
the bulk of the scoring. The

Next match
■ August 6, thir T20I,
Providence, 8 p.m. IST

India vice-captain found the
gaps with ease, clipping Paul
off his pads for a six over
deep midwicket. The highest
scorer in the World Cup then
swept him for a four as the
Indians upped the tempo.
Paul gave West Indies the
breakthrough when he bow-
led Shikhar Dhawan. India
was 67 for one in the eighth
over at that stage.

Breaking free
Two quiet overs followed as
India skipper Virat Kohli
joined Rohit. The latter
broke the shackles with a six
over deep midwicket off Su-
nil Narine and brought up his
17th T20 half-century with a
single to long-off.
Kohli, at the other end, hit
a six off left-arm spinner Kha-
rry Pierre to get going. Rohit
then smashed Carlos Brath-
waite for a six and four as In-
dia's 100 came up in the 13th
over.
It took a fine catch from
Shimron Hetmyer to bring an
end to Rohit's stay. The In-
dian opener departed in the
14th over.
Rishabh Pant (5) perished
quickly, top-edging Thomas
into the hands of Kieron Pol-

lard at third man.
Sheldon Cottrell then took
the prize scalp of Kohli,
sending the middle-stump
cartwheeling with a perfect-
ly-executed yorker and per-
forming his trademark
salute.
In reply, West Indies was
off to a disastrous start with
both openers Evin Lewis and
Sunil Narine back in the hut
with just eight on the board
in the third over.
Rovman Powell and Ni-
cholas Pooran lifted the team
with a 76-run stand for the
third wicket before Krunal
again got into the act, remov-
ing both batsmen in the
space of three balls in the
14th over. Just as things were
getting tougher for the hosts
came the showers followed
by lightning.

STAT SPHERE

1 Rohit has the most runs in
T20Is (2422 from 96 games)
followed by Kohli (2310/69).
He also has the highest number
of centuries (4)

1 Rohit (107) has overtaken
Gayle (105) to top the list of
six-hitters in T20Is. Guptill is
third with 103

1 Kohli (8416) leads the list of
Indian batsmen with the most
runs in T20 cricket, surpassing
Raina (8392). Rohit (8291) is third

100 Match referee Jeff
Crowe becomes
the first to officiate
in a century of T20Is, edging past
Ranjan Madugalle (99). Chris
Broad, with 92, is third

■ India ends its winless streak of
three T20I series dating back to
November 2018

SCOREBOARD INDIA VS WEST INDIES, SECOND T20 INTERNATIONAL

INDIA

Rohit Sharma c Hetmyer b
Thomas 67 (51b, 6x4, 3x6),
Shikhar Dhawan b Paul 23 (16b,
3x4), Virat Kohli b Cottrell 28
(23b, 1x4, 1x6), Rishabh Pant c
Pollard b Thomas 4 (5b), Manish
Pandey c Pooran b Cottrell 6
(8b), Krunal Pandya (not out) 20
(13b, 2x6), Ravindra Jadeja (not
out) 9 (4b, 1x6); Extras (lb-3,
w-7): 10; Total (for five wkts. in
20 overs): 167.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-67 (Dhawan, 7.5 overs), 2-115
(Rohit, 13.5), 3-126 (Pant, 15.1),

4-132 (Kohli, 16.2), 5-143
(Pandey, 18.3).

WEST INDIES BOWLING

Thomas 4-0-27-2, Cottrell 4-0-
25-2, Narine 4-0-28-0, Paul 4-
0-46-1, Brathwaite 2-0-22-0,
Pierre 2-0-16-0.

WEST INDIES
(target 121 in 15.3 overs)

Sunil Narine b Washington 4
(12b), Evin Lewis c & b
Bhuvneshwar 0 (2b), Nicholas
Pooran c Pandey b Krunal 19
(34b, 1x4), Rovman Powell lbw
b Krunal 54 (34b, 6x4, 3x6),
Kieron Pollard (not out) 8 (8b,

1x4), Shimron Hetmyer (not out)
6 (4b, 1x4); Extras (lb-1, nb-1,
w-5): 7; Total (for four wkts. in
15.3 overs): 98.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-2 (Lewis, 1.2), 2-8 (Narine,
2.6), 3-84 (Pooran, 13.2), 4-85
(Powell, 13.5).

INDIA BOWLING

Washington 3-1-12-1, Bhuvnesh-
war 2-0-7-1, Khaleel 3-0-22-0,
Saini 3-0-27-0, Krunal 3.3-0-
23-2, Jadeja 1-0-6-0.

Toss: India. MoM: Krunal.
India won by 22 runs (DL
method).

Smith proves unstoppable again

THE ASHES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BIRMINGHAM

Steve Smith hit his second
century of his comeback
Test on Sunday as Australia
set England a daunting 398
to win the Ashes opener at
Edgbaston.
Ashes-holder Australia,
bidding to win its first Test
series away to England in 18
years, made 487 for seven
declared in its second in-
nings as it capitalised on the
absence from the home
side's attack of the injured
James Anderson.
That left England needing
398 for victory – the most it
has made in the fourth in-
nings to win a Test was 332
for seven against Australia at
Melbourne back in 1928/29.
Australia captain Tim
Paine's declaration late on
the fourth day left England
with an awkward seven
overs to bat before stumpers.
Rory Burns, fresh from
his maiden Test century in
the first innings, and Surrey
teammate Jason Roy saw En-
gland to 13 for no loss at the
close.
Smith made 142 following
his 144 in the first innings of
the match – the former Aus-
tralia captain's first Test



Extra special! Steve Smith marked his return to Tests with another memorable knock. ■AFP

since the end of a 12-month
ban for his role in last year's
ball-tampering scandal in
South Africa.
He is just the fifth Aus-
tralian to score hundreds in
both innings of an Ashes
Test.
Matthew Wade marked
his first Test for nearly two
years with a fine 110.
Smith, having reached
lunch on 98 not out, went to
three figures in style when
he cover-drove England pac-
eman Stuart Broad for his
10th four in 147 balls faced.

SCOREBOARD

Australia — 1st innings: 284.
England — 1st innings: 374.

Australia — 2nd innings: Came-
ron Bancroft c Buttler b Moeen
7, David Warner c Bairstow b
Broad 8, Usman Khawaja c Bai-
rstow b Stokes 40, Steve Smith
c Bairstow b Woakes 142, Travis
Head c Bairstow b Stokes 51,
Matthew Wade c Denly b Stokes
110, Tim Paine b Moeen 34,
James Pattinson (not out) 47,
Pat Cummins (not out) 26; Ex-
tras (b-11, lb-2, nb-6, w-3): 22;
Total (for seven wkts. decl. in
112 overs): 487.

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-27, 3-75,
4-205, 5-331, 6-407, 7-409.

England bowling: Broad 22-2-
91-1, Woakes 13-1-46-1, Moeen
29-1-130-2, Root 12-1-50-0,
Stokes 22-5-85-3, Denly 14-1-
72 0.

England — 2nd innings: Rory
Burns (batting) 7, Jason Roy
(batting) 6; Total (for no loss in
seven overs): 13.

Australia bowling: Siddle 2-0-
4-0, Lyon 3-0-7-0, Pattinson 2-
1-2-0.

The move to have Satwik play at the front paid off

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

India's leading men's combi-
nation of Satwiksairaj Ranki-
reddy and Chirag Shetty
served a reminder that they
were not far behind when it
comes to winning a Super
Series title.
It was the Malaysian dou-
bles coach Tan Kim Her,
who left this March even
though his contract was to
end only after the 2020 To-
kyo Olympics, who made
Satwik and Chirag join forc-
es five years ago.
New coach Dwi Kristia-
wan's move to have the 18-
year-old Satwik on the front-
court, given his ability to
come up with stunning
smashes, proved a game-
changer.
It wasn't easy for the duo
to play back-to-back marath-
on matches and sustain peak

form. Satwik even braved a
niggle in shoulder to play
on.
“It's the biggest title we
have won so far in our car-
eer. Right now, I am out of
words after playing in a final
and beating the current
World champions. I am ex-
tremely happy,” Chirag said.
“I think it is refreshing to
see the doubles pair win a
major title.
“The few questions often

raised about the general
standard of doubles game in
India may have been an-
swered with this perfor-
mance,” chief national
coach P. Gopi Chand told
The Hindu.
“The best part is they are
young and have many we-
apons in their armoury. We
always believed that they
had the potential and this
win could not have come at a
better time.”

The Satwik-Chirag file

Satwik | Age: 18
Born: Amalapuram, Andhra Pradesh

Chirag | Age: 22
Born: Mumbai

NOTABLE RESULTS (MEN'S DOUBLES):

2018 French Open (Super 750): **Semifinal**

2018 Fuzhou China Open (Super 750): **Quarterfinal**

2018 Commonwealth Games: **Silver**

2019 Indonesia Open (Super 1000): **Round-of-16**

2019 Japan Open (Super 750): **Quarterfinal**



Pioneers: Chirag, left, and Satwik have gone where no other Indian combo has. ■AFP

Hamilton’s tactical acumen to the fore



Whoop of joy: Hamilton's record seventh win in Hungary is applauded by Verstappen, left, and Vettel. ■AFP

HUNGARIAN GP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
HUNGARORING

Lewis Hamilton regained his
momentum in the drivers'
World championship with a
memorable strategic victory
on Sunday when he over-
came young rival Max Ver-
stappen to triumph in a
tense and thrilling Hungar-
ian Grand Prix.
Hamilton started third on
the grid in his Mercedes
and, after stalking the 21-
year-old Dutch tyro for most
of a fascinating tactical con-
test, finally swept into the
lead on lap 67 of a stirring
70 laps.
Hamilton's record se-
venth win in Hungary and
81st of his career wrecked
Red Bull's hopes of turning
Verstappen's maiden pole
position into victory and in-
creased his lead in the title
race to 62 points before the
sport's European summer
break.
Four-time champion Se-
bastian Vettel was third for
Ferrari ahead of teammate

Charles Leclerc, Carlos
Sainz of McLaren and Pierre
Gasly in the second Red
Bull. Kimi Raikkonen was
seventh for Alfa Romeo
ahead of Hamilton's Mer-
cedeses teammate Valtteri
Bottas, who had been
forced into an early pit-stop
after a first lap incident.

THE RESULTS

1. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) 1h
35min 03.796sec, 2. Max Ver-
stappen (Red Bull) at 17.796sec,
3. Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari)
1:01.433, 4. Charles Leclerc
(Ferrari) 1:05.250, 5. Carlos
Sainz Jr (McLaren) 1 lap, 6.
Pierre Gasly (Red Bull) 1 lap, 7.
Kimi Raikkonen (Alfa Romeo) 1
lap, 8. Valtteri Bottas (Mer-
cedes) 1 lap, 9. Lando Norris
(McLaren) 1 lap, 10. Alexander
Albon (Toro Rosso) 1 lap, 11. Ser-
gio Perez (Racing Point) 1 lap,
12. Nico Hulkenberg (Renault) 1
lap, 13. Kevin Magnussen (Haas)
1 lap, 14. Daniel Ricciardo
(Renault) 1 lap, 15. Daniil Kvyat
(Toro Rosso) 2 laps, 16. George
Russell (Williams) 2 laps, 17.
Lance Stroll (Racing Point-Mer-
cedes) 2 laps, 18. Antonio Giov-
inazzi (Alfa Romeo) 2 laps, 19.
Robert Kubica (Williams) 3 laps.

Sathiyar powers Dabang into the last four

Mavericks staring at elimination after the big loss to the Delhi side

UTT

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

In its battle for survival, Kol-
kata's RP-SG Mavericks was
expected to give it its all. But
contrary to expectations, it
was defending champion Da-
bang Delhi that played its
heart out for a convincing
10-5 win and ensured a place
in the last-four of Ultimate
Table Tennis League here on
Sunday.
The result catapulted Del-
hi to the top of the table
where it joined U Mumba
with 33 points from four out-
ings and left Mavericks (26)
staring at elimination in the
six-team league.

With just a match on
hand, Mavericks is likely to
join Purni Paltan on the si-
delines after the 15-match
round-robin league phase.
Dabang skipper G. Sathi-
yan produced the kind of
performance expected of
him. The 30th-ranked Indian
was at his belligerent best in
blanking Benedikt Duda,
ranked 46th. Continuing his
winning display in the com-
pany of Bernadette Szocs,
Sathiyar played his part in
stopping Duda and Manika
2-1.
Late in the decider, Berna-
dette made amends with
some sterling returns and
took the pressure off Sathi-
yan as the duo bounced back
to win.



Touch and go! Szocs and Sathiyar won a tight contest against Duda and Manika. ■COURTESY UTT

Like Sathiyar, his team-
mate, the 63rd ranked Jon
Persson, added three points
at the expense of an in-
consistent Sanil Shetty and gave
Dabang a winning lead.

With Dabang leading 9-3
before the final singles, Ma-
vericks' left-hander Matilda
Ekholm, ranked 23, staved
off an upbeat Bernadette 2-1
and reduced the margin of
defeat. But that was hardly a
consolation for a team star-
ing at elimination.
The results:
**Dabang Delhi bt RP-SG Mave-
ricks (Kolkata) 10-5** (Krittika
Singh Roy lost to Manika Batra
11-9, 8-11, 9-11; G. Sathiyar bt
Benedikt Duda 11-9, 11-7, 11-6;
Sathiyar & Bernadette Szocs bt
Duda & Manika 11-10, 5-11, 11-8;
Jon Persson bt Sanil Shetty
11-6, 11-10, 11-8; Szocs lost to
Matilda Ekholm 8-11, 8-11,
11-5).
Monday's fixture: Goa Challen-
gers v U Mumba (7 p.m.).

Desperate measures



Gotcha: Tamil Thalaivas trap Haryana Steelers raider Vikas Khandola on way to a 35-28 victory in the ProKabaddi League in Patna on Sunday. In the other match, Purni Paltan beat Patna Pirates 41-20. ■RANJEET KUMAR

TV PICKS
UTT: Star Sports 1 & SS Se-lect 1 (SD& HD), 7.10 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD& HD), 7.15 p.m. & 8.30 p.m.
TNPL: Star Sports 3, 7.10 p.m.
The Ashes: Sony Six (SD& HD), 3.30 p.m.
Rogers Cup tennis: Sony ESPN (SD& HD), 9.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF
Mick Schumacher opens Formula2 account
BUDAPEST
Mick Schumacher, the 20-year-old son of seven-time World champion Michael Schumacher, on Sunday claimed his first Formula Two victory ahead of the Hungarian Grand Prix. The German driver won the 28-lap 'sprint' race for Prema Racing after starting from pole. Schumacher finished 1.5 seconds ahead of Honda-backed Nobuharu Matsushita of Carlin. AFP

No stopping Alex at Czech Moto2 GP
BRNO
Alex Marquez made the most of pole position to dominate Sunday's Czech Moto2 Grand Prix to register his fifth win of the season. The Kalex rider, brother to MotoGP champion Marc Marquez, heads the championship standings on 161 points, 33 clear of Swiss teammate Thomas Luthi. Luthi had to retire after a fall 16 laps from the end. Marquez crossed the line over three seconds up on Italy's Fabio Di Giannantonio with Enea Bastianini in third. In Moto3, Aron Canet won his second race of the season to retake the championship lead. AFP



Marquez completes half-century of career wins
BRNO
Honda's Marc Marquez claimed his 50th career race win at the Czech MotoGP on Sunday after the race had been delayed by 45 minutes due to rain. Spain's defending champion beat Ducati's Italian Andrea Dovizioso by 2.4sec to extend his advantage at the top of the riders' standings with his sixth triumph of the season. Australian Jack Miller was third in the race cut by one lap due to the weather. Earlier, Marquez's 58th pole position took him equal with Mick Doohan of Australia. AFP



Thiem realises a childhood dream
KITZBUHEL (AUSTRIA)
Top seed and World No. 4 Dominic Thiem captured his 14th career title and first on home ground on Saturday with a 7-6(0), 6-1 win over Spain's Albert Ramos-Vinolas in the final of the Kitzbuhel clay court tournament. It was Thiem's third title of 2019 after a maiden Masters win at Indian Wells and in Barcelona on the eve of Roland Garros where he eventually went on to finish runner-up to Rafael Nadal for a second successive year. AFP

Bharat women win, men lose
CHENNAI: Though Bharat lost to Korea 7-0 in the men's category, it beat Malaysia 4-0 in the women's section on day one of the Special Olympics International football championship here on Sunday.
The results: Men: Austria bt Myanmar 1-0; Malaysia bt Bangladesh 2-0; Korea bt Bharat 7-0.
Women: Bharat bt Malaysia 4-0; Russia bt Maldives 6-0; Indonesia bt Bangladesh 2-1; Philippines bt UAE 4-0.

No stopping Rajiv Sethu

Anish Shetty and Venkatesan achieve a double

MOTORSPORTS
SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI
Rajiv Sethu (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) scrambled to his fourth win in-a-row in the Pro-Stock 165cc class on the final day of the third round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National motorcycle racing championship at the MMRT on Sunday.

Bengaluru-based Anish Shetty (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) and Chennai's I. Venkatesan (Moto Maniacz Racing) achieved a double each in the Pro-Stock 201-300cc and Novice (Stock 165cc).

Ryhana Bee (Sparks Racing), also from Chennai, took the honours in the girls'



Ryhana Bee, winner of girls' race.

PTF chief allays Indian fears

Says tie will be held in a safe and secure environment

DAVIS CUP
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI
Seeking to allay fears on the Indian team's security during the Davis Cup tie, Pakistan Tennis Federation president Salim Saifullah Khan assured that the contest will be held in safe and secure environment, promising "impressive hospitality" to the visitors.

The PTF chief also said it plans to invite India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi to watch the contest, scheduled for September 14-15, and promised memorable

race. Sethu tops the leaderboard with 100 points, followed by Jagan Kumar of TVS Racing (94) and Sarath Kumar (93).

The results (Provisional, all 8 laps unless mentioned):

National c'ship: Pro-Stock 301-400cc (Race-2): 1. K.Y. Ahamed (TVS Racing) 15:32.793s; 2. Rahil Shetty (Sparks Racing) 15:35.179; 3. Deepak Ravikumar (TVS Racing) 15:44.637.

Pro-Stock 201-300cc (Race-2): 1. Anish Shetty (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 16:13.776; 2. Abhishek Vasudev (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 16:26.707; 3. Aravind Balakrishnan (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 16:31.680.

Pro-Stock 165cc (Race-2): 1. Rajiv Sethu (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 16:07.022; 2. K.Y. Ahamed 16:07.032; 3. Sarath Kumar (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 16:15.267.

Novice (Stock 165cc): Race-2 (6 laps): 1. I. Venkatesan I (Motomaniacz Racing) 13:13.563; 2. V. Lokesh (Speedup Racing) 13:14.839; 3. Annish Samson (Speedup Racing) 13:21.887.

Girls (Stock 165cc, 5 laps): 1. Ryhana Bee (Sparks Racing) 11:09.174; 2. Alisha Abdullah (Alisha Racing) 11:12.948; Nivetha Jessica (Pvt.) 11:32.874.



Victorious: Bengaluru-based Anish Shetty was in complete control in the Pro-Stock 201-300cc.

Sowjanya, Sravya lose final

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU
TABARKA (TUNISIA)
The fine run of Sowjanya Bavisetti and Sravya Shivani came to an end as they were beaten 6-2, 6-2 by the Dutch pair of Eva Vedder and Stephanie Judith Visscher in the doubles final of the \$15,000 ITF women's tennis tournament.
The results: \$15,000 ITF women, Tabarka, Tunisia: Final: Eva Vedder & Stephanie Judith Visscher (Ned) bt Sowjanya Bavisetti & Sravya Shivani Chilakalapudi 6-2, 6-2.

In principal approval for 22nd race from the next year

Mercedes boss says teams have agreed to expand the calendar

FORMULA ONE
AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BUDAPEST
Formula One teams have given their approval in principal to an expanded 22-race calendar next year without any allowance for an additional power-unit, Mercedes team boss Toto Wolff has said.
Speaking after a teams' meeting with F1 chief executive Chase Carey at the Hungarian Grand Prix, Wolff was quoted on Sunday saying the 22-race plan with no extra engines - and therefore costs for the smaller customer teams - was supported.
"In a nutshell, we basically agreed to have a 22nd race," said Wolff, as quoted by Autosport (www.autosport.com).
"We've got to let Liberty do their business and their business is to grow F1.

"If they are able to attract promoters, we've got to support them so, we shouldn't change the technical regulations because we have an extra race. That was the debate we had."
No extra components
Wolff added that an increase to the duration of the season and number of races should not be interpreted as a chance for more components to be used on the cars.
"It shouldn't be seen as an opportunity to increase the number of components, but equally we've got to protect our people and all of us because it could get to a point where it's not manageable any more with one single crew.
"That becomes a factor that needs a solution."
Support from the Catalan government for the continuation of the Spanish Grand



Toto Wolff.

Prix this week suggested an expansion of the existing 21-race calendar was inevitable. The enlargement requires approval from the teams, a factor that precipitated the meeting on Saturday.

Double headers
The expansion may lead to an increase in the number of 'double-headers' formed of two successive race we-

kends in a calendar due to a return of the Dutch Grand Prix and a Vietnam Grand Prix for the first time.
Wolff also said Mercedes was not considering promoting impressive young British rookie George Russell from Williams to the main factory team alongside Lewis Hamilton next season.
He has made clear that current driver Valtteri Bottas is under consideration to retain his seat, but that a final choice between him and highly-rated reserve driver Esteban Ocon is due to be made during the sport's European summer break this August.
Russell on Saturday out-qualified his Williams teammate Robert Kubica by 1.3 seconds to take 15th place on the grid, the team's best effort this year.
"I think you've got to consider that these guys come

into F1 at a very young age," said Wolff. "And, yes, there are exceptions to the norm, such as Max Verstappen."
Learn from mistakes
He said the 21-year-old Dutch tyro, who will start Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix from his maiden pole position, had benefited from being allowed to learn and make mistakes at both Toro Rosso and Red Bull.
"You're not given the possibility to do that in a Mercedes because you're being put in a car that is able to win races and championships, in a high-pressure environment."
He said that putting Russell alongside "the best driver of his generation who has been with us for seven years", referring to Hamilton, could go terribly wrong for him. "And I wouldn't want to burn George."

Moondancer wins Air Command Cup

HYDERABAD: Satyanarayana-trained Moondancer (Rohit Kumar up) won the Air Command Cup, the main event of the races held here on Sunday. The winner is owned by Mr. Thimmaraja Yelamarthi & Mr. C. Krishna Kannaiah. It was a good day for Rohit Kumar as he rode two more winners, while trainer Laxman Singh saddled three horses to victory.
1. VIKARABAD PLATE (1,600m), 4-y-o & over, rated upto 25 (Cat. III): BRAVE WARRIOR (Rohit Kumar) 1, Turf Emperor (Umesh) 2, N R I Flamea (Kuldeep Singh) 3 and Durango (Suraj Narredu) 4. 1-1/2, nk and shd. Im, 26.73s. ₹35 (w), 8, 9 and 7 (p), SHP: 26, FP: 484, Q: 147, Tla: 2.351. Favourite: Durango. Owners: Ms. Meka Ahalya & Mr. Ownks Yugandhar. Trainer: L.D'Silva.
5. SILVERADO PLATE (Div. I), (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): MEKA'S (Afroz Khan) 1, Solar Heights (Rafique Sk.) 2, Lockhart (Ajeeth Kumar) 3 and Durango (Suraj Narredu) 4. 1-1/2, nk and shd. Im, 26.73s. ₹35 (w), 8, 9 and 7 (p), SHP: 26, FP: 484, Q: 147, Tla: 2.351. Favourite: Durango. Owners: Ms. Meka Ahalya & Mr. Ownks Yugandhar. Trainer: L.D'Silva.
6. AIR COMMAND CUP (1,400m), 3-y-o & over, rated 75 & above (Cat. II): MOONDANCER (Rohit Kumar) 1, That's My Class (Ashay Kumar) 2, Exclusive Wind (Santosh Raj) 3 and Exclusivenorthwind

Empress (R.S. Jodha) 3 and Buttonwood (Abhay Singh) 4. 1-3/4, 1-1/2 and 3/4. Im, 41.76s. ₹13 (w), 8 and 7 (p), SHP: 13, FP: 28, Q: II, Tla: 54. Favourite: Gusty Look. Owners: M/s. Five Stars Shipping Co.Pvt.Ltd.rep. by Mr & Mrs. K.N. Dhunjibhoy & Mr. Z.K. Dhunjibhoy. Trainer: Laxman Singh.
4. WANAPARTHY CUP (Div. II), (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): MEKA'S (Afroz Khan) 1, Solar Heights (Rafique Sk.) 2, Lockhart (Ajeeth Kumar) 3 and Durango (Suraj Narredu) 4. 1-1/2, nk and shd. Im, 26.73s. ₹35 (w), 8, 9 and 7 (p), SHP: 26, FP: 484, Q: 147, Tla: 2.351. Favourite: Durango. Owners: Ms. Meka Ahalya & Mr. Ownks Yugandhar. Trainer: L.D'Silva.
5. SILVERADO PLATE (Div. I), (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only (Cat. II), (Terms): SHIVALIK VALLEY (Rohit Kumar) 1, Lineweller (Umesh) 2, Moskova (Suraj Narredu) 3 and Born Greek (R.N. Darshan) 4. 1-1/4 and 1. Im, 13.86s. ₹18 (w), 7, 6 and 8 (p), SHP: 15, FP: 51, Q: 22, Tla: 171. Favourite: Lineweller. Owners: M/s. J.S. Prasad & Nirmal Singh. Trainer: Satyanarayana.
6. AIR COMMAND CUP (1,400m), 3-y-o & over, rated 75 & above (Cat. II): MOONDANCER (Rohit Kumar) 1, That's My Class (Ashay Kumar) 2, Exclusive Wind (Santosh Raj) 3 and Exclusivenorthwind

(Koushik) 4. Not run: Highly Acclaimed. 5-1/4, 2-1/2 and 3/4. Im, 25.98s. ₹32 (w), II and 5 (p), SHP: 9, FP: 94, Q: 36, Tla: 544. Favourite: Exclusivenorthwind. Owners: Mr. Thimmaraja Yelamarthi & Mr. C. Krishna Kannaiah. Trainer: Satyanarayana.
7. WANAPARTHY CUP (Div. II), (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): SUPER DART (Suraj Narredu) 1, The Special One (Akshay Kumar) 2, Dunkirk (Afroz Khan) 3 and Shaquille (Kiran Naidu) 4. 4-3/4, 1 and 1. Im, 26.15s. ₹11 (w), 6, 6 and 8 (p), SHP: 17, FP: 36, Q: 25, Tla: 82. Favourite: Super Dart. Owner: Mr. S. Pathy. Trainer: Laxman Singh.
8. NIZAM SAGAR PLATE (2,000m), 3-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): CALL OF THE BLUE (Akshay Kumar) 1, Wings Of Eagles (B.R. Kumar) 2, Royal Style (R.N. Darshan) 3 and Ashwa Arjun (Gaurav Singh) 4. Not run: Mr. Shanghai. Nk, 1/4 and hd, 2m, 8.47s. ₹15 (w), 8, 5 and 8 (p), SHP: 15, FP: 38, Q: 19, Tla: 185. Favourite: Wings Of Eagles. Owners: Dr. Reddi Reddy Prabhakar Reddy & Mr. P. Prabhakar Reddy. Trainer: R.H. Sequiera.
Jackpot: ₹13,505 (45 tkts). Runner up: 1,541 (169 tkts). Mini Jackpot: 1,486 (130 tkts). Treble (i): 275 (194 tkts), (ii): 666 (88 tkts), (iii): 342 (354 tkts).



Green extends Warriors stay till 2024
SAN FRANCISCO
Three-time NBA champion Draymond Green has agreed to a four-year maximum contract extension with Golden State Warriors, linking him to the club until mid-2024. The 29-year-old power forward, an emotional leader as well as a versatile playmaker, was set to become a free agent next July but will stay with Warriors. Green's remaining contract now goes for five years and pays \$118 million. He has won the NBA crown in 2015, 2017 and 2018. NBA Defensive Player-of-the-Year 2017, Green has been on the All-Defensive first or second team for five consecutive seasons. AFP



AC Milan snaps up Africa Cup star Bennacer
ROME
AC Milan on Sunday announced the signing of French-born Algerian midfielder Ismael Bennacer, named Player-of-the-Tournament at the recently concluded Africa Cup of Nations. Bennacer, who played for the French under-18 and -19 teams before switching to Algeria in 2016, joins the Milan club from fellow Serie A side Empoli on a five-year contract. He has won 16 caps for Algeria, including seven at the Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt, where his team beat Senegal in the final. AFP

Man U faces uncertain future

Can Solskjaer make the Red Devils contenders again?

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Manchester United has missed out on the top four in four of the six seasons since Alex Ferguson stepped down and fans are coming to terms with its current status as Premier League also-rans. Here, AFP Sport looks at whether Ole Gunnar Solskjaer can make United a contender again for the first time since its last Premier League title in 2012-13 or whether it is facing another season of turmoil and pain.

What to expect

It is difficult to know what to expect from Solskjaer's United, which enjoyed a purple patch after the Norwegian replaced Jose Mourinho but slumped alarmingly towards the end of last season.

At one stage it looked likely to finish in the top four but there was the suspicion it was getting the rub of the green and so it proved.

Its campaign ended with a whimper as it drew 1-1 at relegated Huddersfield and it was beaten 2-0 at home on the final day by Cardiff, which was also heading out of the Premier League.

A gap of 32 points to champion Manchester City was embarrassing and many questioned whether the club had been too hasty in appointing the relatively inexperienced Solskjaer to the full-time manager's post.

United will not have Champions League football to paper over the cracks during the coming season, with Thursday nights in the Europa League ringed in the calendar instead.

The club has had a positive pre-season but there are still lingering issues that need to be addressed – Paul Pogba's future is still in doubt and Solskjaer has to wrestle with the conundrum of an underperforming Alexis Sanchez.

United had problems at both ends of the pitch last season – scoring 30 goals fewer than City in the Pre-

Annu, Shweta ready to make it count in Rio

Second Olympic quota place to be won

SHOOTING

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI



Target Tokyo: Annu Raj Singh and Shweta Singh who have returned to the National air pistol team for the Rio World Cup. ■ KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Two of the best women pistol shooters in the country, Annu Raj Singh and Shweta Singh, will compete in the last World Cup of the season in Rio de Janeiro aspiring to win the second Olympic quota for Tokyo 2020, in air pistol.

The 32-year-old Shweta, who works with ONGC, has competed in five World Championships, and three Asian Games.

She did win the Asian Games individual bronze in Incheon, 2014.

Returning was tough

"I am happy to make the main team for the last World Cup of the season. Returning to the team was tough because of various reasons. "It was hard to spare time

for training (following marriage and the birth of a child). But, my husband supports me and takes care of our child.

"I worked full force, covering all training needs and made the World Championship team last year," recalled Shweta.

Huge payments

"I used my savings for participating in open tournaments abroad for more exposure and paid hefty fees to mental and physical trainers. I trusted my abilities and worked hard.

"I was missing selection to the national team by 0.1 point or one point. I am happy that the hard work is paying off," said Shweta.

Unlike Shweta, Annu Raj, who is with Air India, has been in the 25m sports pistol team, having represented the country in the London Olympics by virtue of silver

in the World Cup in Fort Benning when she had shot an impressive qualification score of 389.

The last time Annu made the National team in air pistol in a World Cup was in 2015. The 35-year-old Annu will be competing in the 60-shot air pistol for the first time in a global competition.

"I don't think making the team in itself is noteworthy. It is just the first step.

"I don't think much about quota, etc. It would be nice to get it. It is more about being able to follow the process," said Annu.

"The knowledge available for young shooters, along with funding for the junior programme, is helping them get there faster (among the elite).

"For them, transition is the key. Earlier, we would learn from our seniors. Now, the juniors motivate me to give my best," said Annu.

Dortmund wins German Supercup

Alcacer, Sancho deny Bayern a third triumph

IANS
DORTMUND

Borussia Dortmund stunned Bayern Munich 2-0 in the German Supercup final on the strength of goals by Paco Alcacer and Jadon Sancho.

The win on Saturday ended a streak of three straight victories for Bayern in this annual match, which pits the winners of the previous season's Bundesliga and German Cup titles.

The duel was electric from the start, more than might be expected in the first days of August, reports Efe news.

Dortmund had more opportunities in an evenly contested first half, with Bayern superstar Robert Lewandowski unable to assert his presence in the centre of the



Best of the best: Borussia Dortmund celebrates the German Supercup victory. ■ AP

field. Thomas Muller finally got off a shot for the Bavarian giants in the 19th minute, but it sailed over the crossbar. Dortmund, meanwhile, test-

ed Bayern goalkeeper Manuel Neuer, who managed to keep the game scoreless with a foot save of a shot by Raphael Guerreiro.

The evenness of the match unravelled as soon as the second half began. Just three minutes had passed when Thiago lost control of

the ball and Bayern paid the price.

Sancho made a speedy counterattack down the side, booted the ball across to where Alcacer took control straight in front of the net and drilled it in past Neuer in the 48th minute.

Bayern tried to battle back, but Marwin Hitz made an outstanding save to deny a shot by Kingsley Coman; Joshua Kimmich then made a strong run but sent his shot off target.

Those missed chances proved costly when Sancho intercepted a pass by Jerome Boateng, raced down the field and beat Neuer with a crossing shot to give Dortmund an insurance goal in the 69th minute.

Guardiola places a premium on Premier League

Is averse to gambling all on the Champions League

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Pep Guardiola has dominated English football in his time at Manchester City, winning five of the six domestic trophies in the last two seasons, and once again is putting Premier League glory at the top of his list of ambitions for the new season.

Liverpool won its sixth European Cup with victory over Tottenham in May, and while Guardiola does want to conquer Europe with City, he prefers the sustained excellence that a successful league campaign brings over the vagaries of the post-Christmas knockout rounds.

The 48-year-old Spaniard has won eight titles in 10 seasons as a manager and he is now aiming to repeat the three straight league title wins he had at German giant Bayern Munich with City.

"The Champions League is an important tournament and difficult to win," he said.

"But it's seven games (the knockout stages). I am not going to go to the casino and gamble everything I have in my pocket on seven games. I don't want that.

"I want to be happy for 11 months and the Premier League makes me happy. Every game when we win, I am happy and I go to a restaurant feeling better.

"Why am I going to wait until February for seven games and put everything on black? From my point of view, that is too risky."

Guardiola, whose side was knocked out of the Champions League by Liverpool and Spurs in the past two seasons, said the title meant everything to him.

"To maintain the health and focus of the team, the



Pep Guardiola. ■ REUTERS

most important thing is the Premier League," he said.

"It is the standout competition because it is every weekend. In the Champions League, many things can happen in one or two games.

"We will be closer to achieving in Europe when we have more Premier League titles. That is a nice process and the right process to do at Manchester City.

"If I could have one thing this season, right now, it

United's pre-season run continues

James fetches shoot-out win over AC Milan

FOOTBALL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
CARDIFF

Daniel James converted the winning penalty in a shoot-out to give Manchester United victory over AC Milan on Saturday and six wins in as many pre-season matches.

The 21-year-old Wales international, who signed from second tier Swansea in the close season, sealed victory after David de Gea had saved a spot-kick from Daniel Maldini, son of Milan and Italy legend Paolo.

United's 5-4 victory – its other five victories included beating Tottenham Hotspur and Inter Milan – in the shoot-out came after the match ended 2-2 but was not enough for it to win the International Champions Cup with the honours going to Portuguese side Benfica instead.

"It's amazing. Today was a difficult test but it showed the spirit to come from behind," James told MUTV. "To score that last penalty, especially here in Cardiff, is very special."

The English side's triumph came despite the absence of Belgium striker Romelu Lukaku, who is

expected to leave the club on a potential swap deal with Argentinian Paulo Dybala from Juventus, and France's World Cup-winning midfielder Paul Pogba.

Pogba purportedly missed the trip to Wales with a back injury although the *Daily Mirror* claimed he had sought to seal a move away to Real Madrid by not travelling with the squad.

United took the lead when Marcus Rashford opened the scoring with a delightful individual effort, dancing through two rather feeble efforts at tackles before his shot took a deflection off Milan skipper Alessio Romagnoli.

The visitors levelled in the 25th minute, Suso curling one into the net from outside the penalty area. de Gea denied Suso a second seven minutes before the break.

Suso was at the heart of the goal that gave Milan the lead on the hour mark, his cross being flicked on by Samu Castillejo which hit United central defender Victor Lindelof's head and went in.

United struck back as substitute Jesse Lingard's shot beat former Liverpool goalkeeper Pepe Reina with 18 minutes remaining.



Decisive moment: Daniel James scores the winning penalty. ■ AFP

Nadal heads the field at Montreal Masters

Djokovic, Federer have opted out of the key US Open tune-up

ROGERS CUP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MONTREAL

Defending champion Rafael Nadal heads the field for the ATP Montreal Masters that starts on Monday with Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer opting out of the key US Open tune-up.

With Djokovic and Federer putting a return to action on hold after their dramatic Wimbledon final, 33-year-old Nadal will be seeking to retain the title he earned last year in Toronto, when he beat rising star Stefanos Tsitsipas in the final.

Thiem seeded two

The Greek is back, taking the fourth seeding behind a pair of fellow young guns in number two Dominic Thiem of Austria and Germany's Alex-



Testing time: Nadal wants to assess himself at Montreal before taking on call on taking part in Cincinnati. ■ REUTERS

ander Zverev, seeded third.

Federer and Djokovic aren't scheduled to resurface until the Cincinnati Masters starts on August 12, giving them one tournament prior to the August 26 start of the US Open at Flushing Meadows, the final Grand slam of the year.

Federer has been training

on hardcourt at home in Switzerland after falling to Djokovic in a dramatic five-set final at the All England Club three weeks ago, in which the Swiss great held two match points.

Enjoying a break

Djokovic has been pictured relaxing at various European

beach resorts with his family prior to picking up the racquet once again.

Nadal, meanwhile, is pacing himself after another season marred by injury, insisting despite the pleas and inducements of Cincinnati officials that he won't decide whether to play there until he sees how he feels after Montreal.

"Depending on what happens in Montreal, I'll take a decision on Cincinnati," he said. "Cincinnati is still an option. But I want to arrive well prepared and ready for the US Open, the last Major of the season."

Nadal could face a challenge in the second round after a bye, with a possible match against Australian Alex de Minaur – winner of the Atlanta title last weekend.

Second seed Thiem has purposefully left it late for the hardcourts, preferring to stay as long as possible on European clay by entering both Hamburg and Kitzbuehel.

Thiem, beaten by Nadal in the last two Roland Garros finals, has a special goal driving him when he lands in Francophile Canada. Thiem will open his campaign against either Canadian Denis Shapovalov or Frenchman Pierre-Hugues Herbert.

Third seed Zverev, who won the title here two years ago with a win over Federer in the final, will open against either Briton Cameron Norrie or Hungarian Martin Fucsovics. Tsitsipas will bid to better his 2018 finals showing but must first get past either Milos Raonic or American Taylor Fritz.