

TV PICKS

New Zealand v England: 3rd T20I, SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 6.30 a.m.
NBA: Sony Six (SD & HD), 9 a.m.
Australia v Pakistan: 2nd T20I, Sony Six (SD & HD), 1.30 p.m.; Sony Ten1,2,3, Six & ESPN (SD & HD), 1.30 a.m. (Wednesday)
UEFA Champions League: Sony Ten 2 & ESPN (SD & HD), 11.30 p.m.; Sony Ten1,2,3, Six & ESPN (SD & HD), 1.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

IN BRIEF



Luka Dončić logs in another triple-double
CLEVELAND
Luka Dončić recorded his second consecutive triple-double as the Dallas Mavericks defeated the Cleveland Cavaliers 131-111 at the Quicken Loans Arena on Monday. The 20-year old is the youngest player in NBA history to have back to back 25-point triple doubles and it was the 11th triple double of his burgeoning career.
The results: Pacers bt Bulls 108-95, Knicks lost to Kings 92-113, Heat bt Rockets 129-100, Spurs lost to Lakers 96-103, Cavaliers lost to Mavericks 111-131, Clippers bt Jazz 105-94.



Bayern Munich sacks coach Niko Kovac
BERLIN
Bayern Munich on Sunday sacked coach Niko Kovac, a day after the German champion suffered a historic 5-1 loss against Eintracht Frankfurt – its worst Bundesliga defeat in a decade. Assistant coach Hansi Flick will take charge of the team "until further notice", said a statement. AFP



Todd wins in Bermuda with birdie blitz
LOS ANGELES
Brendon Todd fired a nine-under-par final round of 62 to win the PGA Tour's inaugural Bermuda Championship on Sunday. The 34-year-old reeled off seven consecutive birdies during a remarkable display on the front nine to finish ahead of overnight leader Harry Higgs. AFP

All-round show gives India-B the title

Kedar Jadhav and Shahbaz Nadeem's exploits highlight the facile win over India-C

DEODHAR TROPHY

Y.B. SARANGI
RANCHI

Kedar Jadhav's responsible 86 and Shahbaz Nadeem's crucial four-wicket haul were significant contributions in the well-rounded performance of India-B, which beat India-C by 51 runs to win the Deodhar Trophy at the JSCA Stadium here on Monday.

Opting to bat in the final, India-B overcame a slow start to post 283 for seven and then restricted India-C for 232 for nine.

Porel strikes

On a pitch offering good bounce and movement, medium pacer Ishan Porel bowled beautifully to hand India-C an early advantage. He had Rituraj Gaikwad with a perfect outswinger and the rival skipper Parthiv Patel, who had promoted himself and had escaped on three, with a delivery that found the southpaw's outside edge. India-B was struggling at 28 for two in nine overs.

Yashasvi Jaiswal, reprieved on 10, stitched together 45 runs with B. Aparajith (13) before the latter was trapped in front by Jalaj Saxena.



Champion: The triumphant India-B team with the Deodhar Trophy •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Jaiswal (54, 79b, 5x4, 1x6) flourished to play some delectable shots to get his second half-century. He perished due to his rush of blood, hoisting Axar Patel to Porel at deep midwicket.

Good stands

At 92 for four in the 25th over, India-B was in the danger of losing its grip. However, Jadhav stood firm in three important partnerships – worth 79, 74 and 31 with Nitish Rana (20), Vijay Shankar (45) and K. Gowtham (35 n.o.) respectively – to turn the script around.

Even while using his excel-

lent judgement to rotate the strike, Jadhav played some good-looking strokes, predominantly off Mayank Markande on the leg side, in his 94-ball knock containing four fours and as many sixes.

As Vijay and Gowtham switched gear in the death, Jadhav provided support until the final over. Gowtham was severe on Pathania, who spilled two catches off his own bowling and conceded 31 in his last over, during his blitzkrieg which gave his side a distinct advantage.

Porel scalped Rana, Vijay and Jadhav for his second five (five for 43).

India-C faltered in its reply, losing captain Shubman Gill to Mohammed Siraj in the second over. Ten overs later, Nadeem removed a well-set Mayank Agarwal (28).

Soon, Virat Singh was run out and Suryakumar Yadav and Dinesh Karthik fell to Nadeem's disciplined bowling as India-C reeled at 77 for five. The efforts of Priyam Garg (74), Axar (38), Saxena (37) and Markande (27) were in vain.

The scores: India-B: Rituraj Gaikwad c Suryakumar b Porel 0 (6b), Parthiv Patel c Karthik b Porel 14 (20b, 1x4), Yashasvi Jaiswal c

Porel b Axar 54 (79b, 5x4, 1x6), B. Aparajith lbw b Jalaj 13 (30b, 1x4), Kedar Jadhav c Shubman b Porel 86 (94b, 4x4, 4x6), Nitish Rana c Karthik b Porel 20 (28b, 1x4), Vijay Shankar c Axar b Porel 45 (33b, 4x4, 2x6), K. Gowtham (not out) 35 (10b, 3x4, 3x6), Rush Kalaria (not out) 0 (1b); Extras (b-4, lb-3, nb-1, w-8): 16; Total (for seven wkts. in 50 overs): 283.

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-28, 3-73, 4-92, 5-171, 6-145, 7-276.

India-C bowling: Porel 10-0-43-5, Pathania 10-0-79-0, Jalaj 10-0-42-1, Axar 10-0-33-1, Markande 10-0-79-0.

India-C: Mayank Agarwal c Gowtham b Nadeem 28 (31b, 3x4), Shubman Gill c Jaiswal b Siraj 1 (7b), Priyam Garg b Siraj 74 (77b, 8x4, 1x6), Virat Singh run out 6 (7b, 1x4), Suryakumar Yadav b Nadeem 3 (7b), Dinesh Karthik lbw b Nadeem 3 (10b), Axar Patel run out 38 (49b, 3x4, 1x6), Jalaj Saxena (not out) 37 (65b, 1x4), Mayank Markande c Siraj b Nadeem 27 (35b, 3x4), Diwesh Pathania b Kalaria 6 (10b), Ishan Porel (not out) 5 (2b, 1x4); Extras (lb-2, w-2): 4; Total (for nine wkts. in 50 overs): 232.

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-56, 3-64, 4-71, 5-77, 6-140, 7-165, 8-212, 9-223.

India-B bowling: Kalaria 10-0-56-1, Siraj 10-1-43-2, Rana 10-0-45-0, Nadeem 10-1-32-4, Gowtham 10-0-54-0.

Toss: India-B.
India-B won by 51 runs.

'Able to handle situations better than before'

Off-season preparations have helped Aparajith perform consistently this season

Y.B. SARANGI
RANCHI

Shaking off two forgettable seasons, B. Aparajith is back among runs in the domestic one-dayers and looks forward to continue his good touch.

Aparajith, among the top run-getters in the Vijay Hazare Trophy (598 in 12 matches) and the highest scorer in Deodhar Trophy (167 in three), said preparations in the off-season benefited him.

"I prepared really well in the off season as regards fitness and skill. That aspect is helping me now. I even worked on my bowling," said Aparajith, who was part of the India-B side that won the

Deodhar Trophy on Monday. Aparajith – who has 3660 runs at 39.35 in 70 first class matches and 2887 runs at 43.74 in 77 List-A matches apart from taking 42 and 43 wickets respectively with his off-breaks – said he needed to keep doing the good work.

Keep at it

"Nothing will come easy, so I have to keep performing and be in the process. It is important for me to score a lot of runs – not only in one tournament, but in T20s and Ranji Trophy as well.

"The last two seasons were not great, but now I have performed well in consecutive matches.

"I should carry that con-

sistency forward in all formats. If I keep doing well, one day that (India selection) will happen.

"For me it is important to perform in every match – batting, bowling or fielding, contribute in every match."

The 25-year-old Tamil Nadu batsman said the challenges he faced in his eight-year-old career made him a mature cricketer.

"With experience, you keep evolving as a player. From where I started, I am able to handle situations and challenges better than before."

Constant improvement
Aparajith's goal is to get better every year. "I have been

working on my batting...This year I wanted to get better in the technical part.

"I wanted to be a well-rounded batsman, have (more) organised batting.

"That was my goal. From last year I wanted to be 15-20 per cent better."

Aparajith was thankful to his twin Indrajith, who has also played for the State.

"We exchange ideas. Not many people have that advantage."

About his targets in the forthcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy and Ranji Trophy, Aparajith said, "I am going match-by-match.

"I need to be in the present and concentrate on what I am doing."

Harsimran selected for Australia NBA camp

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Harsimran Kaur has been selected for the NBA Global Academy basketball camp to be conducted from November 7 to 24, in Canberra, Australia. The 16-year-old was adjudged the MVP in the third NBA Academies women's program held in Mumbai from October 2 to 5.

Harsimran has been a regular in the national team, and was one of the four girls who attended the Next Generation program at the NCAA women's final in Tampa, US, in April this year. She had also participated in the Basketball Without Borders Asia in Tokyo.

Harsimran, who will practise with top Australian prospects under the guidance of coaches from the NBA Academy and Basketball Australia's Centre of Excellence, said "the opportunity to train at the NBA Global Academy will not only identify and address the areas I need to work on, but also serve as a platform to showcase my skills."

ITF shifts India-Pakistan tie to neutral venue

AITA names Rohit Rajpal as non-playing captain

DAVIS CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The International Tennis Federation on Monday decided to shift India's Asia/Oceania Group I Davis Cup tie against Pakistan from Islamabad to a neutral venue, hours after Rohit Rajpal was named captain for the upcoming matches.

The November 29-30 contest had already been rescheduled from September owing to security concerns raised by India due to the prevailing diplomatic tensions between the two nations after the revocation of Article 370.

'Safety first'

"The ITF and Davis Cup Committee's first priority has always been the safety of athletes, officials and spectators and the decision was made on this basis," said an ITF statement.

According to Davis Cup regulations, the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) now has the choice to nominate a neutral venue and has five working days to confirm their proposed venue.

Earlier in the day, the All India Tennis Association (AITA), at its executive committee meeting in Chandigarh, named former India player and chairman of its selection panel Rohit Rajpal as the non-playing captain following pullouts by top players and captain Mahesh Bhupathi.

"Rohit will stay as captain of the side. He will talk to the top players if they are available.

"We were ready to send team to Pakistan too but it's an excellent decision. We welcome it," said AITA president Praveen Mahajan.

AITA sources added that Bhupathi, whose term had ended in December 2018, may not be considered for the job, for he refused National duty.

"It's a huge responsibility and I am thankful to AITA for choosing me for such an important tie.

"The onus is on ITF and Pakistan government to ensure Indian contingent's security," Rajpal told PTI. "I am going to approach all the players who have made themselves unavailable and request them to reconsider their decision," he added.

Documentary on Real Kashmir wins award

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

BBC documentary *Real Kashmir F.C.* has won the 'Single Documentary' category at the British Academy Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Awards Scotland.

The work documents the journey of former Rangers ace David Robertson as the head coach of Real Kashmir FC and its success story in the I-League 2nd division in 2017-18.

Real Kashmir FC co-founder

der Sandeep Chattoo said, "Our dream, which started as a small team of Kashmiri youth, playing football as a hobby, soon became one of the biggest and the most successful dream runs by any team.

"We won the 2nd division on debut and finished 3rd in the 1st division I-League.

"This award is a tribute to each and every person who has contributed to making this club what it is today."

BFC's Cuadrat appeals for improved refereeing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAMSHEDPUR

Raising the standard of the players and coaches alone cannot help Indian football, the level of the referees has improve in equal measure to ensure the development of the game, said Carles Cuadrat, the coach of the reigning ISL champion Bengaluru FC.

"My premise is pretty simple. Like I am assessed

by my club on the kind of work I do with the team and in the same way the players are banished to the bench if they do not perform well, the referees should also be made accountable about their decisions," Cuadrat said. "What shocks me is that I have not seen much of improvement in the standard of referring in the four years that I have been here in the country."

Have worked on my power & reach: Panghal

BOXING

ANANT KAUR
NEW DELHI

Amit Panghal is diminutive in stature but big in strength and power. Recently-promoted to the rank of Subedar, the army man believes the silver medal at the World Championship in September motivates him to dream big for the forthcoming Asia Oceania Olympic qualifiers in Wuhan, China in February. "I have worked on a lot of punches in my game," Pangal told *The Hindu*.

"I have definitely improved a lot in my weight (52 kg) category. In the final bout (against Uzbekistan's Shakhobidin Zoirov, the reigning Olympic champion) I lacked power and since then I have worked on my power and reach. Earlier my attack was only of one or two punches. My game was about defence first and then counter, more of single punches," said Panghal.

Panghal always studies his opponent's game and then decides on the course to adopt. "In the first round I always observe my opponents' playing style. Me and



Amit Panghal •ANANT KAUR

my coaching staff make the strategy accordingly and play on those lines. I wait for my opponent to play his game," said the 2018 Asian Games gold medalist in 49 kg.

On his training in recent times, Pangal said, "I have added multiple punches to my game because points can be earned by attacking continuously. I have been sparring with tall boxers one weight category higher to test my reach and power," Panghal added.

The 24-year-old praised all his coaches and especially the training regimen of the foreign coach Santiago Nieva. Panghal claimed his regimen was unique.

"Earlier we used to work on one thing once in a week and on the contrary now we repeat that one single technique the whole week in every training session."