

TV PICKS

NBA: Sony Six (SD & HD), 7 a.m.
Vijay Merchant Trophy: Final, Star Sports 3, 9 a.m.
Big Bout League: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 1.15 a.m. (Tuesday)
Serie A: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 1.15 a.m. (Tuesday)

IN BRIEF



Siakam shines as Raptors down Nets
LOS ANGELES
Pascal Siakam scored 30 points, 10 rebounds and five assists, as Toronto Raptors defeated the visiting Brooklyn Nets 110-102 in the NBA on Saturday.
The results: Houston Rockets 107 lost to Detroit Pistons 115; Dallas Mavericks 118 lost to Miami Heat 122; Milwaukee Bucks 125 bt Cleveland Cavaliers 108; Toronto Raptors 110 bt Brooklyn Nets 102; Denver Nuggets 110 bt Oklahoma City Thunder 102; Chicago Bulls 109 bt LA Clippers 106; Memphis Grizzlies 128 bt Washington Wizards 111; Phoenix Suns 119 lost to San Antonio Spurs 121. AFP



Tokyo unveils main Olympics stadium
TOKYO
Tokyo formally unveiled its 60,000-seater main Olympic Stadium on Sunday, more than seven months before the 2020 opening ceremony — with a host of special features to beat the feared heat. Built on the site of the stadium used for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, it has five floors above ground and two below, with greenery on the decks to provide shade from the scorching sun. The eaves around the outer perimeter will help channel breeze into the stadium. AFP



Momota and Chen reign at BWF World Tour Finals
SHANGHAI
World No. 1 Kento Momota (in pic) fought back from a game down to win his 11th badminton title of the year on Sunday at the BWF World Tour Finals. The Japanese beat Indonesian Anthony Sinisuka Ginting 17-21, 21-17, 21-14 in 87 high-quality minutes. The 23-year-old Ginting has now tasted defeat in all five of his finals this year. In the women's final China's Chen Yufei also roared back from a game down to defeat Taiwan's Tai Tzu-ying 12-21, 21-12, 21-17. AFP

Mithun Perera clinches title

An even-par show helps the Sri Lankan to an one-stroke win

RCGC GOLF

Y.B. SARANGI
KOLKATA
Overnight joint leader Mithun Perera's even-par showing enabled register a one-stroke win in the inaugural ₹40 lakh ICC RCGC Open at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club course here on Sunday.

Sanjeev Kumar, who resumed from third spot, carded a 71 to take the second place.
Perera turned around a disappointing start, including three bogeys on front nine, to perform amazingly on back nine. The never-say-die Sri Lankan, who had dropped four shots by the 11th hole, raised his game towards the close and birdied four of the last five holes, barring 17th.

As Sanjeev was in the lead, Perera played with grit. On 18th, his second shot travelled more than 200 yards to lie within three feet from the pin.
The 32-year-old maintained his composure to sink a birdie and celebrate his first professional victory in the city.
“I dedicate this win to my father and one of Sri Lanka's all-time great golfers, Nandasena Perera, who passed



Getting it right: Mithun Perera raised his game towards the close to triumph. ■ RAJEEV BHATT

away earlier this year,” said Perera, who recently became a father himself.
Perera, the only golfer in the field not to shoot over-par, claimed the winner's purse of ₹ 6,46,600 for his seventh win and his first since March 2018.
Kapil Kumar, who was in the lead for the first three days, finished tied-fifth.
The scores: 280: Mithun Perera (71, 70, 67, 72); 281: Sanjeev Kumar (75, 68, 67, 71); 284: Anil Mane (69, 68, 76, 71), Shamim Khan (74, 73, 66, 71).
285: Yuvraj Singh Sandhu (69, 76, 71, 69), Ankur Chadha (68, 73, 74, 70), Kapil Kumar (68, 68, 72, 77) and Manu Gandas (76, 70, 74, 65); 286: Chiragh Kumar (74, 68, 73, 71); 287: Yashas Chandra (75, 73, 71, 68), Sunit Chowrasia (70, 72, 70, 75) and Abhinav Lohan (75, 70, 67, 75).

Barsoton, Shone win in record time

Srinu Bugatha and Kiranjeet are the fastest Indians

KOLKATA 25K

Y.B. SARANGI
KOLKATA
Kenyan Leonard Barsoton and Ethiopian Guteni Shone won the elite men and women's titles with new event records on an altered course in the \$100,000 Tata Steel Kolkata 25K here on Sunday.
Barsoton, who confirmed participation only two weeks ago, left the others behind with 4km to go and crossed the line in 1:13:05s.

“Am excited to have broken the record (1:13:48) of the great Kenenisa Bekele on first attempt,” said Barsoton, who returned a superb 59:09 at the Valencia half-marathon earlier this year.
Ethiopians Betesfa Getahun (1:13:33) and Bayelign Yegsaw (1:13:36) came second and third respectively.
Shone also produced a sensational performance of 1:22:09s to better Degetu Azimeraw's record of 1:26:01 by almost an unprecedented four minutes. She was followed by the Bahrain pair of Desi Jisa (1:23:32) and Tejitu Daba (1:24:32).

The new course, with fewer bends, helped five women and four men run under the event record.
Srinu Bugatha clocked 1:18:31 to beat Tirtha Pun by eight seconds and emerge as the best Indian male runner.
The women's race witnessed a dramatic turnaround in fortunes as Bengal girl Shyamali Singh, who led



Leonard Barsoton. ■ RAJEEV BHATT



Guteni Shone. ■ RAJEEV BHATT

for a considerable period, took a break after a bout of vomiting.
It allowed Kiranjeet Kaur, who spent almost 21 hours in transit from Delhi to Kolkata due to a flight delay by Air India, to win in 1:38:56s. Shyamali fought till the end but came in second in 1:39:02.
The elite winners received \$7,500 each, while



Proud Indians: Srinu Bugatha and Kiranjeet Kaur with their gold medals. ■ RAJEEV BHATT

the Indians got ₹2.75 lakh.
The results: Elite: Men: 1. Leonard Barsoton (Ken) 1:13:05; 2. Betesfa Getahun (Eth) 1:13:33; 3. Bayelign Yegsaw (Eth) 1:13:36. **Women:** 1. Guteni Shone (Eth) 1:22:09; 2. Desi Jisa (Bah) 1:23:32; 3. Tejitu Daba (Bah) 1:24:32. **Indian: Men:** 1. Srinu Bugatha 1:18:31; 2. Tirtha Pun 1:18:39; 3. Harshad Mhatre 1:20:03. **Women:** 1. Kiranjeet Kaur 1:38:56; 2. Shyamali Singh 1:39:02; 3. Arati Patil 1:39:40.

Anuj Uppal takes honours

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Anuj Uppal won the Delhi State 15-red snooker title here.
In the final, Uppal defeated Jaison Malhotra 65-38, 60-25, 66-43, 15-58, 70-17, 56-61, 38-65, 43-66, 65-13.
Uppal and Malhotra will represent Delhi in the National championship.

Bagan eyeing full points against Kerala

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOLKATA

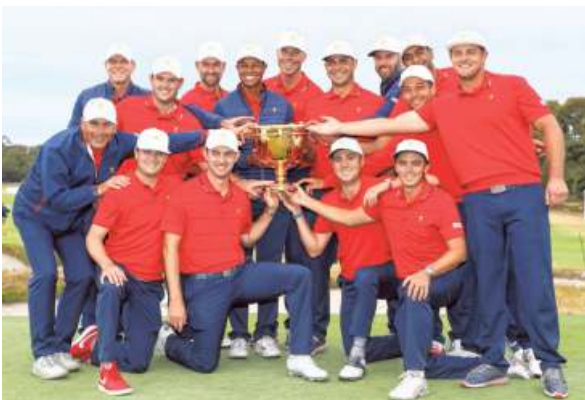
On a high after thrashing TRAU FC, Mohun Bagan will look to bag full points against Gokulam Kerala in its I-League fixture at Kalyani Stadium on Monday.
The match will be the Mariners penultimate fixture before the high-voltage derby against East Bengal.

Gokulam has an all-win record from two games so far and look well-organised while Bagan redeemed itself with a 4-0 victory over debutants TRAU FC in its previous game, after failing to register a win in its first two.

Spanish coach Fernando Varela, however, refused to read much into Gokulam's recent form and success against its opponent it had beaten in its only previous encounter this season, in the Durand Cup.

Mohun Bagan gaffer Kibu Vicuna brushed aside his side's previous result against Gokulam.

“It is a different game tomorrow. That match was very even and we didn't take advantage of the chances we had at the end of the match. We know that we have a hard game to play but we are prepared to face it.”



Champions, indeed! The victorious USA team. ■ GETTY IMAGES

USA triumphs

Internationals succumb on final day

PRESIDENTS CUP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MELBOURNE

Tiger Woods' United States produced a stunning turnaround to deny Internationals a first Presidents Cup in 21 years on Sunday, dominating the singles on a tense final day that went to the wire.

Veteran Matt Kuchar was the hero, with his winning putt on the 17th in the penultimate match enough to ensure victory, sparking wild celebrations from playing-captain Woods, who set the tone by getting the first point on the board.

Crushing loss

It was a crushing loss for Ernie Els' young International-

als, who led for the first three days of the biennial matchplay event but failed to deliver the killer blow against a more experienced and accomplished US team.

It was the United States' 11th victory in 13 editions of the event.

The results: Internationals 14 lost to USA 16 [Abraham Ancer lost to Tiger Woods 3 & 2; Hideki Matsuyama tied with Tony Finau; CT Pan lost to Patrick Reed 4 & 2; Li Haotong lost to Dustin Johnson 4 & 3; Adam Hadwin tied with Bryson DeChambeau; Im Sung-jae bt Gary Woodland 4 & 3; Joaquin Niemann lost to Patrick Cantlay 3 & 2; Adam Scott lost to Xander Schauffele 2 & 1; An Byeong-hun lost to Webb Simpson 2 & 1; Cameron Smith bt Justin Thomas 2 & 1; Louis Oosthuizen tied with Matt Kuchar; Marc Leishman tied with Rickie Fowler].

Gold for Tasnim; Tara takes silver

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SURABAYA (INDONESIA)

Tasnim Mir clinched her maiden under-15 women's title at the U-17 & U-15 Asia junior badminton championships outshining compatriot Tara Shah in the final here on Sunday.

The young shuttlers fought hard before top-

seeded Tasnim claimed a 17-21, 21-11, 21-19 win. Both girls bettered their performances from the last edition when they had reached the quarterfinals in Myanmar.

In Saturday's semifinals, Tasnim thrashed Sora Ishio-ka of Japan 21-16, 21-11, while Tara beat Kazune Iwato, also of Japan, 21-18, 21-14.

Humpy second in Monaco GP

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

Grandmaster Koneru Humpy's comeback journey continued in the women's FIDE Grand Prix in Monaco on Saturday night, finishing runner-up and retaining the World No. 3 (Elo 2580) position.

Crucial loss

Humpy told *The Hindu* on Sunday, a ninth-round loss to German Elisabeth Pahtz had affected the final analysis.

Russian Aleksandra Goryachkina went into the last round with a full-point advantage over Humpy and Alexandra Kosteniuk (eventual champion). The Indian would have won the title if Kosteniuk had lost to Pahtz.

But, the former World Champion won convincingly and emerged winner thanks to a better tie-break.

Humpy will not play the third of the Grand Prix series in Lausanne (March 1 to 14, 2020) as the result there would not affect her standing. She would, instead, like to devote the time to improving her game, she said.

She would next play the women's World rapid and blitz championship from December 25 though it “is not my cup of tea being a classical player”.



Koneru Humpy. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Consigliori primed for Golconda 2000 Guineas

HYDERABAD: Consigliori, who is in great heart, appeals most in the Golconda 2000 Guineas (1,600m), the second Classic of the season to be held here on Monday (Dec. 16).

1. PALAMPET PLATE (1,400m), maiden 2-y-o only (Cat. II), (Terms), 12-40 p.m.: 1. Detonator (4) R. Ajinkya 55, 2. Just Incredible (5) B.R. Kumar 55, 3. Lightning Power (2) Akshay Kumar 55, 4. Mark My Day (9) Nakhat Singh 55, 5. Turf Monarch (6) Ajit Singh 55, 6. Coastal Cruise (7) P. Trevor 53.5, 7. Lady Of War (3) G. Naresh 53.5, 8. Sweet Melody (8) Koushik 53.5 and 9. Turf Winner (1) Ashad Asbar 53.5.

1. LIGHTNING POWER, 2. COASTAL CRUISE, 3. TURF WINNER
2. RAWL.T.C. PLATE (1,400m), 3-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), (no whip), 1-10: 1. City Of Blossom (4) Rohit Kumar 60, 2. Green Turf (6) Akshay Kumar 59.5, 3. Red Snapper (2) Jitendra Singh 57.5, 4. N R I Flame (1) Khurshad Alam 53.5, 5. Royal Girl (7) Gaurav Singh 51.5, 6. Symbol Of Star's (8) Rafique Sk. 51.5, 7. Whiskery (5) Surya Prakash 51, 8. Jo Malone (9) Abhay Singh 50.5 and 9. Secret Command (3) N. Rawal 50.5.

1. ROYAL GIRL, 2. GREEN TURF, 3. CITY OF BLOSSOM
3. SILKY BABY PLATE (DIV. I), (1,100m), 3-y-o & over (not won a race since July 1, 2019), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) 1-40: 1. Blue Empress (8) Ashhad Asbar 60, 2. Monte Rei (7) A. Imran 59, 3. Silver Set (6) Surya Prakash

57.5, 4. Troubadour (2) Dashrath Singh 57, 5. Air Salute (10) Jitendra Singh 55.5, 6. Incredible (9) Akshay Kumar 55.5, 7. Flying Queen (5) Afroz Khan 54.5, 8. Rare (3) Rafique Sk. 54, 9. Bedazzled (12) Kuldeep Singh 53, 10. Acadian Angel (1) N. Rawal 51.5, 11. Snow Castle (4) Khurshad Alam 51.5 and 12. Ashwa Yuth Vijeta (11) Santosh Raj 51.

1. INCREDULOUS, 2. MONTE REI, 3. TROUBADOUR

4. POCHARAM PLATE (1,200m), 5-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2-10: 1. Freedom Fire (9) Rohit Kumar 60, 2. Human Touch (8) Srinath 59.5, 3. Golden Hope (6) Akshay Kumar 58.5, 4. Limousine (11) B.R. Kumar 56, 5. Semira (1) Anel 56, 6. Composite (2) Nakhat Singh 55, 7. Tammana (7) Dashrath Singh 54, 8. Vijay's Empress (12) Ajit Singh 53.5, 9. Halo's Princess (5) Gaddam 53, 10. Khan Sahib (3) Ajeeth Kumar 53, 11. Withrosemakeup (10) Gaurav Singh 53 and 12. Patron Saint (4) Jitendra Singh 52.

1. HUMAN TOUCH, 2. TAMMANA, 3. PATRON SAINT
5. TARAMATI CUP (1,600m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 2-45: 1. Destined Dynamite (II) A. Imran 60, 2. Guiding Force (4) Akshay Kumar 59, 3. Egyptian Prince (10) Ajeeth Kumar 56, 4. Actually (8) Surya Prakash 54.5, 5. Lockhart (6) Ashhad Asbar 54.5, 6. Deep Sleep (9) Wait 51.5, 7. Hero (5) Gaddam 52, 7. N R I Heights (9) Abhay Singh 52, 8. Raajneeti (7) Kuldeep Singh 52, 9. Mahira (1) Dashrath

Singh 51.5, 10. Delphina (3) P. Trevor 51 and 11. Vijay's Empire (2) Afroz Khan 50.5.

1. N R I HEIGHTS, 2. GUIDING FORCE, 3. DESTINED DYNAMITE

6. BAKRANANGAL PLATE (1,600m), 4-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 3-15: 1. George Cross (13) Gaurav Singh 60, 2. Shiloh (1) Deepak Singh 60, 3. Tiger Of The Sea (6) Surya Prakash 60, 4. Batur (8) Aneel 57, 5. Barnabas (2) Rohit Kumar 56.5, 6. Alexanderthegreat (5) Ajeeth Kumar 55.5, 7. Alta Vita (12) Rafique Sk. 55.5, 8. Vashishta (14) B.R. Kumar 55, 9. Solo Winner (3) Nakhat Singh 54, 10. Diesis Dream (7) Ashhad Asbar 53.5, 11. Super Act (4) Akshay Kumar 53.5, 12. Royal Avenger (9) Ajit Singh 53, 13. Vega Cassandra (11) Kuldeep Singh 53 and 14. Stormy (10) Afroz Khan 52.5.

1. TIGER OF THE SEA, 2. ALEXANDERTHEGREAT, 3. SUPER ACT


7. GOLCONDA 2000 GUINEAS (1,600m), 3-y-o only (Terms), 3-45: 1. Consigliori (4) P. Trevor 57, 2. Majestic Warrior (6) Dashrath Singh 57, 3. My Journey (2) Suraj Narreddu 57, 4. Premier Action (1) Akshay Kumar 57, 5. Victory Parade (3) A. Imran 57 and 6. Vijays Singham (5) Srinath 57.

1. CONSIGLIORI, 2. MY JOURNEY

8. TELANGANA AND ANDHRA SUB AREA CUP (1,000m), 3-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 4-15: 1. Palace On Wheels (10) Gopal Singh 60, 2. La Mer (9) R. Ajinkya

57.5, 3. Shandaar (5) Gaurav Singh 57.5, 4. Giethorn (14) A. Imran 57, 5. Her Legacy (8) P. Trevor 57, 6. Happy Together (12) Nakhat Singh 56, 7. Kionia (13) Jitendra Singh 55.5, 8. Your Grace (3) B.R. Kumar 55.5, 9. Lineowler (2) Ajit Singh 54.5, 10. Platinum Claasz (15) Rafique Sk. 54.5, 11. Strategist (4) Akshay Kumar 54.5, 12. Yours Forever (6) Surya Prakash 54.5, 13. Kingswood (7) Aniket K 54, 14. Celeritas (11) Afroz Khan 52 and 15. Marvel Princess (1) N. Rawal 52.

1. STRATEGIST, 2. GIETHORN, 3. HER LEGACY



MAGNUS, A MAGNUM OPUS!

14-year-old Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa - a shy teenager - is a livewire on the chessboard - as 10 (un)fortunate amateur players from *The Hindu* found out. It was 10 win out of 10 for the youngster at the end of this simultaneous exhibition.

Dravid's doctrine
The 'Wall' Rahul Dravid has a recipe to success. Read our junior cricketers on the path to success. Read the full interview to know more about his roadmap for U-19 cricket.

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