

TV PICKS

**NBA:** Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 8.30 a.m.  
**New Zealand v England:** 2nd Test, 55 Select 1 (SD & HD), 3.30 a.m.  
**Big Bout League:** Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7 p.m.

IN BRIEF



**Mavs halt Lakers' winning streak**  
LOS ANGELES  
Luka Doncic had 27 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds, and the visiting Dallas Mavericks snapped the Los Angeles Lakers' 10-game winning streak with a 114-100 victory here on Sunday. Doncic scored 21 of his points in the second half as the Mavericks captured their seventh win in eight games. Kawhi Leonard scored 34 points as Los Angeles Clippers routed Washington Wizards 150-125.  
**The results:** Miami 109 bt Brooklyn 106, Boston 113 bt New York 104, Memphis 115 bt Minnesota 107, Dallas 114 bt LA Lakers 100, Detroit 132 bt San Antonio 98, Oklahoma City 107 bt New Orleans 104, Orlando 100 bt Golden State 96, Toronto 130 bt Utah 110, LA Clippers 150 bt Washington 125.



**Leclerc keeps third place, Ferrari fined €50,000**  
ABU DHABI  
Charles Leclerc retained his podium finish in Sunday's Abu Dhabi GP after a post-race stewards investigation into a fuel infringement, but his Ferrari team was fined €50,000. The Monegasque driver finished third behind Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen. The outcome is seen as a lenient sanction for the Italian team after a period during which its cars and performance had been the subject of much scepticism from rivals. AFP



**David Warner's wife quotes Mahatma Gandhi**  
ADELAIDE  
Australia opener David Warner's wife Candice used the words of Mahatma Gandhi to heap praise on her husband after his record-breaking 335. "Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will. (Mahatma Gandhi)," Candice wrote on Twitter after David's marathon innings. "It's not important what other people believe about you. It's only important what you believe about yourself." IANS

**Bengaluru extra race day on Dec. 13**  
BENGALURU  
The Stewards of Bangalore Turf Club have decided to conduct an extra race day on Friday (Dec.13).

# Top cueists for inter-unit PSPB meet

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA**  
Top cueists, including Pan-kaj Advani, Aditya Mehta, Brijesh Damani, Alok Kumar, Rupesh Shah, Sourav Kothari, Dhruv Sitwala and Manan Chandra, will be seen in action in the 16th Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) inter-unit billiards and snooker tournament starting at the Bengal Rowing Club here from Tuesday.  
With the addition of Hindustan Petroleum, the four-

# Devdutt Padikkal has quickly climbed the ladder

The youngster has offered enough evidence of his abundant talent

**SHREEDUTTA CHIDANANDA BENGALURU**

Last year, the senior India selector Jatin Paranjpe travelled to Mysuru for a Ranji Trophy game despite a bad back, because he wanted to watch a certain young Karnataka batsman in action. It is fair to presume Paranjpe walked away from the Gangotri Glades duly impressed. For Devdutt Padikkal offered a glimpse of his bountiful talent on debut, stroking his way to an attractive 77 in the second innings.

If that was a sample of his potential, the 19-year-old has delivered a full batch this season, topping the run charts in both the Vijay Hazare Trophy (609 runs, 67.66 avg.) and the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (580 runs, 64.44 avg.).

Champion stuff

"He's been the find of the season," off-spinner K. Gowtham told *The Hindu*. "Last year, he started off fairly well



**On the way up:** Right from the time Devdutt Padikkal made his debut in 2018, he has grown by leaps and bounds. ■VIJAY SONEJI

in the Ranji Trophy. Maybe things didn't go the way he wanted after that but this year he's been working really hard. He's shown he has what it takes to succeed at this level. What he's done is absolute champion stuff."

From a roster full of stars,

Karnataka picked a teenager to open (for the most part), and he did not disappoint. Back in October, in his second Vijay Hazare Trophy outing, Padikkal had fallen for 60 at a critical juncture in a run-chase against Hydrabad. Karnataka lost a low-

scoring game by 21 runs. "It changed him as a batsman," Manish Pandey said later. "That loss hit him quite a bit." Scores of 8 and 44 followed. In the five innings after that, Padikkal made 79, 103 n.o., 102 n.o., 50, and 92. "When I feel I am drifting

# Bergamasco betting big on young talent

Says a star like Mary comes only once in about a 100 years

BOXING

**STAN RAYAN KANNUR**

She is the biggest name in boxing but she's 36 and may not hang around for long. The search is now on for girls who could step into M.C. Mary Kom's shoes.

Raffaele Bergamasco, the High Performance Director for Indian women's boxing, feels that there are plenty of talented girls in the country but it will not be easy to take over from 'Magnificent Mary', the six-time World champion.

"Mary is a very big name, something like Maradona in football. Talent like that comes only once in about a hundred years. We may not have a girl who could be another Mary but we have a very talented bunch of young boxers," said Bergamasco in a chat with *The Hindu* on the sidelines of the Elite National women's championship here on Monday evening.

Before taking over as the



Raffaele Bergamasco  
■STAN RAYAN

HPD early last year, Bergamasco had worked wonders as India's national youth coach, a role which now offers him a chance to pick out the ones who could do well in future.

"There are a number of talented girls among the youth bunch. Nitu and S. Kalaivani (48kg), Nikhat Zareen, Jyoti (Gulia) in 51kg, Manisha and Sakshi (57kg) are all good.

"And then we have Simranjit Kaur, though she is not a young girl she is performing very well now, Lovlina (Borgohain) and Pooja Rani," said the Italian who hails from Napoli.

Bergamasco has been travelling around the country hunting for young talent. "I went to Rohtak for their youth and junior championships, there are some girls who are very promising," he said.

"Also, the mentality of the girls towards sport has changed. Earlier they thought that boxing was a way to find jobs and support their families. And once they joined Railways or Police, they finished their career but now step by step, they have changed that mentality, they want to win gold in big competitions like the Olympics."

A former multiple Italian national champion, Bergamasco mixes the European and Asian style of boxing for Indians.

"Asia is very strong in women's boxing and Indian boxers have a very strong heart, they are very strong in their boxing but they have to work on their footwork. They understand this because when you combine speed with strong punches, the mix will carry you far."

# Rifle and pistol Nationals from Dec. 7

The men's air pistol is set to run for nine days

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI**

The 63rd National shooting championship for rifle and pistol is scheduled to be held at the Madhya Pradesh Shooting Academy in Goregaon, Bhopal, from December 7 to Jan. 4, 2020.

With the overall entries scheduled to break all record and touch around 10,000, and with limited firing points, some of the events are slated to run from six to nine days.

The men's air rifle final is set for Dec. 13, after the event starts with the official training on Dec. 7. It will be followed by mixed air rifle on Dec. 14. The men's rifle 3-position final will be on Dec. 18,

the same as 25m sports pistol for women.

The women's air rifle final will be on Dec. 19. The men's and women's finals in air events will also be followed by the finals in the junior and youth sections on the same day. The women's air pistol final will be on Dec. 24, along with the men's 25m rapid fire pistol. On Christmas, the mixed air pistol final will be staged as also the women's rifle 3-position final.

The non-Olympic events like rifle prone for men and women, apart from free pistol, will be held from Dec. 12 to 29. The men's air pistol is expected to beat all records as it is set to run for nine days from Dec. 27 for the qualifica-

tion process, and the final will be held on Jan. 4.

The standard pistol and centre fire pistol events will be held from Dec. 28 to Jan. 1. Considering the examination for students, the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) has announced that it would adjust the qualification dates for shooters, provided they apply for the same with their examination schedule and admit card, latest by Dec. 5.

The shooters would also be allowed to exchange their positions with same State shooters in different batches of the same event if they are able to justify their request with supporting documents by Dec. 5.

# Ramkumar for Oz Open wild card

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI**

Ramkumar Ramanathan will be the third best-ranked player at 176 to compete in the Australian Open wild card play-off, scheduled to be staged in Zhuhai, China, from December 3 to 8.

Jason Jung of Chinese Taipei and Tatsuma Ito of Japan are the better ranked players at 128 and 148 respectively. Sasi Kumar Mukund, ranked 271, is the other Indian player in the main

event. Sidharth Rawat and Arjun Kadhe will play each other in the qualifying event on Tuesday, in search of a main draw berth. Twelve players will be joined by four qualifiers in the main draw.

Arjun Kadhe is scheduled to compete for the doubles wild card in partnership with Ramkumar Ramanathan. In the concurrently held junior event, the 499th ranked Aaryan Zaveri is the only Indian entry.

# One-sided bouts mark opening day

**STAN RAYAN KANNUR**

A series of one-sided bouts marked the opening day's action in the fourth Elite National women's boxing championship at the Monday-day indoor stadium here on Monday.

Many of the big names will be stepping into the ring over the next couple of days and the championship is expected to warm up with that.

Host Kerala's Ananaya Das, Assam's Joy Kumari and Maharashtra's Sangita Rumale were among those who won with unanimous verdicts.

**Important results: 48kg:** Jyotika Bisht (HP) bt Pinki Kumari (Bih) 5-0. Rajani Singh (UP) bt V. Sudha (Kar) RSC.

**51kg:** Monika (Chd) bt Tanvi Kaushal (Del) 5-0. Ananya Das (Ker) bt Sandhya Rani Das (Odi) 5-0. Soibam Rebika Devi (Man) bt Jyoti Kumari (Cht) 5-0; Maya Kumari (HP) bt Ibadarisha Lyngdoh (Meg) 5-0. Joy Kumari (Assm) bt Angelina Biswakarama (Ben) 5-0. Poonam (Raj) bt Salma Soren (Jha) 5-0; Divyani Shukla (Kar) bt Gayatri Arrojo (Tel) RSC-2.

RACING

# Paso Robles obliges in Golconda 1000 Guineas

**HYDERABAD:** Paso Robles (Suraj Narredu astride) clinched the Golconda 1000 Guineas, the first Classic of the season here on Monday (Dec. 2). The winner is the property of M/s. M. Rama Krishna Reddy & Meka Yugandhar and trained by L. D'Silva.

Paso Robles, who jumped out first, settled down to race third till the final bend when Suraj, who rode confidently, made his move in the straight. The filly responded well and took command in the last 250m mark to gallop past long-time leader Ice Floe and take the honours comfortably ahead of the fast-finishing Cape Kidnappers.

**1 GOLDEN DAGGER PLATE** (1,400m), 3-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): PRINCE VALIANT (Ajeeth Kumar) 1, Marinetti (Akshay Kumar) 2, Midnight Dream (Kuldeep Singh) 3 and Artistry (Gaurav Singh) 4. 2, 3 and 3/4. Im, 25.31s. ₹7 (w), 5, 6 and 10 (p), SHP: 14, FP: 13, Q: 11, Tla: 50. Favourite: Prince Valiant. Owner: Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan. Trainer: Deshmukh.

**2 FLYING TREASURE PLATE** (DIV. II), (1,100m), 4-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): TAKISHA (Gaurav Singh) 1, Air Salute (Afroz Khan) 2, Secretary (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Best Friend (Jitendra Singh) 4. 3/4, 1/2 and 2-1/4. Im, 6.87s. ₹97 (w), 19, 7 and 7 (p), SHP: 16, FP: 511, Q: 222. Tla: 2,450. Favourite: Running Fire. Owner: Mr. Raghunath Reddy

## Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Top Five

	Name	Innings	Runs	Highest	Avg.	S/R	50/100s
BATTING	Devdutt Padikkal (Karnataka)	12	<b>580</b>	122*	64.44	175.75	5/1
	Ruturaj Gaikwad (Maharashtra)	11	<b>419</b>	82*	41.90	146.50	3/0
	Suryakumar Yadav (Mumbai)	10	<b>392</b>	94*	56.00	168.96	4/0
	Harshal Patel (Haryana)	12	<b>374</b>	82	31.16	165.48	2/0
	Aditya Waghmode (Baroda)	10	<b>364</b>	88	45.50	153.58	3/0
BOWLING		Mat	Wkts	BBI	Avg.	Econ.	4/5W
	R. Sai Kishore (Tamil Nadu)	12	<b>20</b>	4/6	10.40	4.63	1/0
	Shreyas Gopal (Karnataka)	12	<b>19</b>	5/19	15.00	6.78	0/1
	Harshal Patel (Haryana)	12	<b>19</b>	3/14	15.94	7.04	0/0
	Darshan Nalkande (Vidarbha)	6	<b>16</b>	5/18	9.93	7.33	0/1
	Lukman Meriwala (Baroda)	7	<b>16</b>	5/21	10.68	6.33	0/1

away, I am looking to concentrate more and get back to the game," he told reporters. "It is just about batting long."

Delightful freedom

In the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Padikkal played with a delightful freedom, attacking from the outset, and finishing with a strike-rate in ex-

cess of 175. The tall left-hander hits sixes with what seems like minimum effort; he struck 33 of them during the tournament, 11 more than anyone else.

The former Karnataka captain R. Vinay Kumar, who handed Padikkal his Ranji Trophy debut in Mysuru, was never in any doubt about his ability. "The way he was tim-

ing the ball in that second innings in Mysuru, he never looked like a youngster to me," Vinay told *The Hindu*. "That day I felt, 'This guy will make it very big.' He looked ready for the next level. He is fearless. He is totally dominating the bowling. It won't be long before we see another Karnataka player in the Indian team."

# Good day for India

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA POKHARA (NEPAL)**

Indian men's badminton team, led by Kidambi Srikanth, expectedly claimed the gold medal beating Sri Lanka 3-1 in the finals of the 13th South Asian Games (SAG) here on Monday.

India had earlier opened its medal account with one gold, two silver and a bronze in triathlon.

Adarsha M.N. Sinimol gave India the first gold by winning the men's individual triathlon while Bishworjit Srikhom took the silver in a 1-2 finish for the country.

Thoudam Sorojini Devi and Mohan Pragnya added a silver and a bronze in the women's individual event.

The individual triathlon event consists of continuous three legs of 750m swim, 20km bike race and a 5km run.

Sinimol clocked 01:02.51 to win the gold in the men's event while Bishworjit was second in 01:02:59.

In the women's individual event, Sorojini timed 01:14:00 to finish second behind Sony Gurung of Nepal.



**Recognising excellence:** The HRC chairman R. Surender Reddy, right, with Paso Robles owner M. Rama Krishna Reddy, second from right, trainer L. D'Silva, left, and jockey Suraj Narredu. ■K.V.S. GIRI

Boomireddy. Trainer: M.F. Alkhan.

**3 GALLANT COMMANDER PLATE** (1,400m), 3-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): AYUR SHAKTI (Suraj Narredu) 1, Beyond Limits (Akshay Kumar) 2, City Of Blossom (Deepak Singh) 3 and Royal Treat (Nakhat Singh) 4. 3, 3 and 3-3/4. Im, 25.66s. ₹12 (w), 5, 6 and 11 (p), SHP: 15, FP: 25, Q: 10, Tla: 111. Favourite: Beyond Limits. Owners: M/s. Premanand Sugandhi, G. Raghunandan Chary & Subodh Kumar Ananthula. Trainer: Faisal Hassan.

# Anjali scripts history with 6/0

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA POKAHRA (NEPAL)**

Nepal's Anjali Chanda on Monday scripted history by producing the best bowling performance in a women's T20I with figures of 6/0 in a match against Maldives at the 13th South Asian Games here.

This is the first time ever

a bowler has taken six wickets for no run in any international match.

Nepal won by 10 wickets.

Earlier, the record belonged to Malaysian Mas Elysa, who had claimed six wickets for three runs from her four overs against China in January this year.

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