

TV PICKS

NBA: Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 9 a.m.
I-League: DSport, 2 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 6 p.m., 8.30 p.m. & 11 p.m.; SS Select 2 (SD & HD), 8.30 p.m.
Big Bout League: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7 p.m.
ISL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.
Serie A: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m., 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Sunday).
Bundesliga: Star Sports 3, 8 p.m. & SS Select 2 (SD & HD), 11 p.m.
Hero World Challenge: DS-port, 11.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF



Westbrook triple-double fuels Rockets
LOS ANGELES
Ben McLemore led Houston with a season-high 28 points and Russell Westbrook (*in pic*) contributed a triple-double of 19 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists as Houston Rockets posted a 119-109 NBA win over Toronto Raptors.
The results: New York Knicks 92 lost to Denver Nuggets 129; Toronto Raptors 109 lost to Houston Rockets 119; New Orleans Pelicans 132 lost to Phoenix Suns 139; Washington Wizards 119 bt Philadelphia 76ers 113. AFP



Ex India TT coach Mukherji dead
CHANDIGARH
Former India table tennis head coach Bhawani Mukherji died at his residence here on Friday. Mukherji, 68, is survived by his wife and a son. Mukherji was the first Dronacharya awardee (2012) in table tennis. He was the head coach at NIS Patiala and became the head coach of the National team for a brief period after the 2010 Commonwealth Games. PTI

Sasi Kumar Mukund beaten in quarterfinals
ZHUHAI (CHINA)
Yunseong Chung of Korea beat seventh seed Sasi Kumar Mukund 6-4, 6-3 in the quarterfinals of the Asia Oceania Australian Open wild card play-off tennis tournament here on Friday.

Brighton inflicts more misery on Arsenal
LONDON
Arsenal's winless streak reached nine games as Brighton beat the Gunners 2-1 on Thursday in Freddie Ljungberg's first home match in temporary charge on Thursday. Neal Maupay headed in a deserved winner for the Seagulls 10 minutes from time after Alexandre Lacazette had cancelled out Adam Webster's opener for Brighton.
The results: Sheffield United 0 lost to Newcastle 2 (Saint-Maximim 15, Shelvey 70); Arsenal 1 (Lacazette 50) lost to Brighton 2 (Webster 36, Maupay 80).

Punjab under pressure

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LUDHIANA
Kolkata giant Quess East Bengal will square off against former champion Punjab FC in a Hero I-League match at the Guru Nanak Stadium here on Saturday.
Playing its first match at home, Punjab will be under immense pressure as it is without the services of captain Anwar Ali, who was sent off in the match against Churchill Brothers.
Defence may be an area of concern for Punjab head coach, Yan Law, as it was left exposed against Churchill.
The coach will also be concerned about the finishing as the team goes up against an immensely attack-minded opposition.

India's golden glut unabated

Shuttlers, paddlers, lifters hold sway; Tejinder's new mark in shot put

SAG

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA KATHMANDU
Shuttlers led the way as India clinched 41 medals, including 19 gold and 18 silver, on the fifth day of the 13th South Asian Games here on Friday. India's tally now reads 165 medals (81 gold, 59 silver, 25 bronze).
The badminton stars won four gold and two silver on the day, while table tennis players took gold and silver in both men's and women's singles. Weightlifters also added to the tally with three gold and a silver.
Track and field athletes, who were leading the Indian charge in the past few days, fetched the maximum 12 medals but just two were gold.
In shot put, Tejinder Pal Singh Toor broke the Games record with an 20.03m effort, while Abha Khatuwa won the women's event.
Important results/medals:
Athletics: Shot put: Men: Gold: Tejinder Pal Singh Toor 20.03m (NMR, Old: 19.15m, Bahadur Singh Sagoo, 1999); **Silver:** Prakash Karhana 17.31. **Women: Gold:** Abha Khatuwa 15.32; **Silver:** Kachana Chaudhary 13.66. **Badminton (all finals): Men:** Siril Verma bt Aryaman Tandon 17-21, 23-21, 21-13. **Doubles:**



Shot-putter supreme: Tejinder Pal Singh Toor underlined his credentials as Asia's best with a record heave. ■FILE PHOTO

Dhruv Kapila & Krishna Prasad Garaga bt Sachin Dias & Buwana Keenathilake (SL) 21-19, 19-21, 21-18. **Women:** Ashmita Chaliha bt Gayatri Gopichand 21-18, 25-23. **Mixed doubles:** Dhruv & J. Meghana bt Sachin Dias & Thilini Pramodika Hendeheewe (SL) 21-16, 21-14. **Cycling: Elite: Men: Gold:** John Naveen Thomas; **Silver:** Arvind Panwar. **Women:** Elangbam

Chaoba Devi. **Fencing: Men: Sabre: Gold:** Karan Singh; **Silver:** Kumaresan Padma Gishonidhi. **Epee: Gold:** Sunil Kumar; **Silver:** Jayaprakash Guruprakash. **Women: Foil: Gold:** Wangelmam Thoibi Devi; **Silver:** Radhika Prasad. **Table tennis: Men:** A. Amalraj bt Harmeet Desai 6-11, 9-11, 10-12, 11-7, 11-4, 11-9, 11-7. **Semifinals:** Harmeet bt B. Purushottam (Nep) 11-5, 11-4, 11-1, 11-4; Amalraj bt Santoo

Shrestha (Nep) 11-4, 12-10, 11-8, 11-2. **Women:** Sutirtha Mukherjee bt Ayhika Mukherjee 8-11, 11-8, 6-21, 11-4, 13-11, 11-8. **Semifinals:** Sutirtha bt Ishara Madurangi (SL) 11-7, 11-4, 11-7, 11-5; Ayhika bt Erandi Dilushika (SL) 11-7, 11-9, 11-4, 11-5. **Weightlifting: Men: Gold:** Achinta Sheuli (73kg); **Silver:** Ajay Singh (81kg). **Women: Gold:** Rakhi Halder (64kg); **Bronze:** Manpreet Kaur (71kg).

Crespo to visit Kolkata for 25K

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA
Three-time World Cupper Argentine Hernan Crespo will be a big attraction for the football-loving City in the sixth edition of the Tata Steel Kolkata 25K on December 15.
Crespo, a prolific striker who has scored over 300 goals in a career spanning 19 years, will be the event ambassador of the IAAF silver label race.
At international level, Crespo scored 35 goals and is Argentina's fourth highest scorer behind only Sergio Agüero, Gabriel Batistuta and Lionel Messi. He played

in three World Cups in 1998, 2002 and 2006.
At club level, Crespo was the world's most expensive player, when he was bought by Lazio from Parma in 2000 for €56 million. He was top scorer in the 2000-01 Serie-A with 26 goals, playing for Lazio.
Crespo has bagged three Serie-A scudetti, a Copa Libertadores for River Plate, a Premier League title with Chelsea and an Olympic Games silver medal. In 2004, he was named by Pele in the FIFA 100 list of the world's greatest living players. Crespo never received a red card during his

career. On his association with 25K, Hernan Crespo said, "I am honoured to be a part of the TSK 25K. As a footballer running has held a special place in my career.
"Whether it is sprinting from one end of the football field to another or jogging waiting for the ball, running has been an important part of my life.
"Argentina has played here once and I know that in this city many people follow and support Argentina, so I am already feeling at home. I have always had wonderful experiences in India and I am delighted to be in this beautiful country again."

Alok stuns Advani

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA
Seasoned cueist Alok Kumar rallied to upset fellow-ONGC mate Pankaj Advani 3-2 to advance to the billiards final in the Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) inter-unit billiards and snooker championships at the Bengal Rowing Club here on Friday.

Alok got the better of Advani 16-100, 100-89, 12-100, 100-0, 101-47 in the semifinals.

Another ONGC player Rupesh Shah defeated Indian Oil's Brijesh Damani 101-47, 72-100, 100-67, 88-101, 100-13 in the other last-four contest.

On Thursday, Advani had defeated Dhvaj Haria of Indian Oil 69-58, 10-75, 63-15, 86-1 in the snooker final to emerge as the champion.

CSA suspends Moroe

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE JOHANNESBURG
Cricket South Africa (CSA) announced on Friday that chief executive Thabang Moroe had been suspended on allegations of misconduct as the body faces a mounting crisis.
Shortly before it was announced that Moroe had been suspended, the South African Cricketers' Association (SACA) called for the resignation of Moroe and the entire CSA board, while Standard Bank, a major sponsor, announced it would not renew its agreement, linking the withdrawal directly to events which have engulfed the governing body.
And 97. Favourite: Lagarde. Owners: Mr. Rama Seshu Eyyunni, Five Stars Shipping Co. Pvt. Ltd. rep by: Mr. K.N. Dhunjibhoy & Mr. Z.K. Dhunjibhoy & Mr. P. Prabhakar Reddy. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

3 MADHUGIRI PLATE (1,100m), rated 15 to 35, 5-y-o & over: CAPSTONE (Kiran Rai) 1, Bold Runner (Naveen Kumar) 2, Ispell-dangertoall (A. Ramu) 3 and Red Galileo (I. Chisty) 4. 1-1/2, 1 and Lnk. Im, 07.60s. ₹32 (w), 17, 26 and 22 (p), SHP: 65, THP: 50, FP: 653, Q: 372, Trinella: 3,110 and 985, Exacta: 12,677 and 4,075. Favourite: Red Galileo. Owner: Mr. Benly Abraham. Trainer: Kishan Thomas.

4 BROADACRES STUD PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 30 to 50, 5-y-o & over: ATTORNEY GENERAL (Srinath) 1, Birchwood (Kiran Rai) 2, Tokyo Rose (S. John) 3 and Dagobert (S. Shiva Kumar) 4. 6-1/4, Nose and 3-1/4. Im 12.62s. ₹17 (w), 12, 21 and 14 (p), SHP: 55, THP: 40, FP: 155, Q: 85, Trinella: 369 and 85, Exacta: 3,950 and 3,078. Favourite: Attorney General. Owners: Sohna Stud Farm

Age just a number for Kavita

Easy for young Shashi Chopra; Sonia Chahal shaky

BOXING

STAN RAYAN KANNUR
She's 33 and the mother of a four-year-old son, still Kavita Chahal packs a punch in the boxing ring. A two-time World championship bronze medallist, the policewoman from Haryana toyed with Rajasthan's Barbara Sampson and entered the heavy-weight semifinals in the fourth Elite women's Nationals at the Mundayad indoor stadium here on Friday evening.
Her tall frame offered Kavita a wonderful reach and with her opponent adopting a crouching stance almost all through, trying to get in, the Haryana star appeared almost a foot taller than her opponent. That made her job easier and Kavita frequently used the right upper cut and the right jab to good effect and in the second round, a right hook forced Barbara to take an eight-count.
"I have two training sessions now instead of three to stay fit," said Kavita, one of the four Arjuna Awardees in women's boxing.
"I hope to continue for another two years and since my category (above 81kg) is not an Olympic event, I will focus on Asian championships."
Unanimous verdict
Haryana's 20-year-old Shashi Chopra, who has moved from the 57kg which brought her 2017 youth World gold to 60kg, also found the going easy, against Chandigarh's Manju with a



Packing a punch: Kavita Chahal, left, used her tall frame to good effect against Barbara Sampson. ■S.K. MOHAN

5-0 verdict to enter the light-weight semifinals.
"I lost weight to stay in the 57kg but I found it very difficult to put my full effort in boxing. And since the 60kg is also an Olympic category, I moved up to that," said Shashi, a wrestler turned boxer.
Meanwhile Railways' Sonia Chahal, the 2017 World champion, appeared a bit shaky against Himachal Pradesh's Vinakshi and made the last-four stage with a split verdict in the 57kg. **Select results (quarterfinals):** **Light flyweight (48kg):** Monika (Rly) bt Rajani Singh (UP) 3-2; Anchu Sabu (Ker) bt Aarti (Har) 5-0. **Flyweight (51kg):** Jyoti Gulia (Rly) bt Mansi Sharma (UP) 5-0; Soibam Rebika Devi (Man) bt Joy Kumari (Asm) 5-0. **Bantamweight (54kg):** M. Meenakumari Devi (Pol) bt Sa-biha Khanam (Jha) 5-0; Meenakashi (Rly) bt Manju Basuma-

tary (Asm) 5-0. **Featherweight (57kg):** Sonia Chahal (Rly) bt Vinakshi (HP) 3-2; Sakshi Chaudhary (Har) bt T.C. Lairemuati (Miz) 5-0. **Lightweight (60kg):** Shashi Chopra (Har) bt Manju (Chd) 5-0; Pavitra (Rly) bt Suman Kumari (Raj) RSC-3. **Light welterweight (64kg):** Pwila Basumatary (Rly) bt Si-wi (Har) 3-2; Ankushita Boro (Asm) bt Abisak Vanlamawii (Miz) 5-0. **Welterweight (69kg):** Lalita (Raj) bt Priyanka (Bih) 5-0; Meena Rani (Rly) bt Shretima Thakur (HP) 5-0. **Middleweight (75kg):** K.A. Indraja (Ker) bt Manu Badhan (Pun) 5-0; Nupur (Har) bt Neha Chauhan (Utk) RSC-1. **Light heavyweight (81kg):** Shaili Singh (UP) bt Kavya (Kar) RSC-1; Bhagyabati Kachari (Rly) bt Saara Qureshi (Tel) RSC-1. **Heavyweight (above 81kg):** Kavita Chahal (Pol) bt Barbara Sampson (Raj) 5-0; P.M. Anaswara (Ker) bt Naganika Gonella (Tel) 5-0.

Ralph and Sandy clinch a thriller

They sail through rocky riverbed challenges with ease

JK TYRE HORNBILL

RAYAN ROZARIO KOHIMA
The Meghalaya pair of Ralph Auswin Lyngdoh and Sandy Marbaniang (Meghalaya) played it patient right through and went back home on a jolly good mood of having clinched the JK Tyre Hornbill Off Road Challenge here on Friday.
It was the excellent co-ordination between the two that helped them sail through those rocky, rough and tough riverbed challenges with some ease. There were four in all and, the first of it was held under the evening skies the other day.



Tough terrain: Ralph Auswin Lyngdoh and Sandy Marbaniang traversing the waters.

Great start
It was a not a great start for the Meghalaya duo as they could manage to collect only 22 points but the Kohima combo of Avibu Khro and Ahu Khezhibu one better to gain the early edge.
They further worked hard in the first two stages of the day and even seemed to be in total control with 165 points. Ralph did likewise and it was just 17 points that separated the two going into the final stage.
All that Avibu and Ahu, the youngest in fray, had to do was to hit a couple of flags clean for points and complete the fast-flowing water course without any

hitch. They seemed confident but fell miserably short towards the end.
Under pressure
They were under tremendous pressure and it was beginning to show on them in the final moments of the rally.
It was quite understandable as they are first timers to any off-road event.
Ralph, who did creditably well in this stage, finished a clear winner, with an overall tally of 210 points. Bodesh-uya and Kezhasemou (196 pts) from Kohima squeezed

in their best to finish ahead of Avibu (180).
"The vehicle slid a lot but we still managed to win it. We were disappointed initially and at one point even knew the title was slipping from our hands but we made it," said Ralph.
"It's a big test for both the man and machine. If you go hard on it you are finished. So, it's important to avoid boulders, nurse the vehicle and bring it safely home. That's what an off-road challenge is all about," said Hari Singh, Head of Operations, JK Tyre Motorsports.

Big Sur claims Ashoka Chakra Cup

BENGALURU: S. Padmanabhan-trained Big Sur (David Allan up) won the Ashoka Chakra Cup, the feature event of the races held here on Friday (Dec 6). The winner is owned by Mr. Inderraj Anand & Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Jockey David Allan and trainer S. Padmanabhan had a treble each.
1 HUTTARI FESTIVAL PLATE (1,100m), rated 00 to 20, 4-y-o & over: DARAHASINI (P. Surya) 1, Gin Daisy (Chetan K) 2, Kanthaka (Rajesh K) 3 and Show Girl (Srinath) 4. 2-1/2, 3-3/4 and 3/4. Im, 14.05s. ₹44 (w), 17, 17 and 21 (p), SHP: 46, THP: 53, FP: 172, Q: 83, Trinella: 777 and 538, Exacta: 2,464 and 1,848. Favourite: Gin Daisy. Owner: Mr. Praveen Kumar N. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.



Hard tussle: Gokulam's Andre Etienne vies for the ball with Arrows' Aman Chetri. ■PTI

a flash and neatly placed the ball at the left-hand corner of the Arrows net.
In the 76th minute, a wonderful Gokulam move resulted in a Joseph header deflecting off an Arrows defender and going in, but Samik brought off a brilliant save.
Five minutes later, Andre Etienne was sent off after bringing down an onrushing Aman Chetri.
The results: Gokulam Kerala FC 1 (Henry Kisekka 49) bt Indian Arrows 0. **At Imphal:** Neroca FC 1 (Ousmane Diawara 28) bt Aizawl FC 0.

2 RANGANATHITTU PLATE (1,200m), maiden 2-y-o only, (Terms): LAGARDE (David Egan) 1, Mountain Lion (Trevor) 2, Handsome (Suraj) 3 and Allabouther (I. Chisty) 4. 5, 4-3/4 and 2. Im, 12.69s. ₹13 (w), 10, 16 and 14 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 37, FP: 41, Q: 36, Trinella: 46 and 19, Exacta: 128

Pvt. Ltd. rep by: Mr. Gautam Thapar & Sultan Singh & Mr. Rajan Aggarwal. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.
5 RACING PATRONS TROPHY (1,200m), rated 60 & above: KERAZANO (David Allan) 1, Into The Groove (Trevor) 2, Royal Crystal (S. John) 3 and Land Of Liberty (Rajesh K) 4. 1-1/4, Lnk and Lnk. Im, 12.25s. ₹20 (w), 13, 12 and 14 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 43, FP: 50, Q: 22, Trinella: 76 and 35, Exacta: 769 and 596. Favourite: Kerazano. Owners: Mr. Joydeep Datta Gupta, Mr. Shomenath Roy Chowdhury, Mr. Sanjay Datta Gupta and Mr. Kersi H. Vachha. Trainer: S. Padmanabhan.

6 ASHOKA CHAKRA CUP (DIV. I), (1,800m), 3-y-o & over, (Terms): BIG SUR (David Allan) 1, Salazaar (S. John) 2, Secretive Force (David Egan) 3 and Brave Lady (Jagadeesh) 4. 1, 4 and 4-1/2. Im, 49.66s. ₹22 (w), 12 and 11 (p), SHP: 24, THP: 21, FP: 48, Q: 21, Trinella: 33 and 23. Favourite: Salazaar. Owners: Mr. Inderraj Anand & Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Trainer: S. Padmanabhan.

7 BROADACRES STUD PLATE (DIV. II), (1,600m), rated 30 to 50, 5-y-o & over: SCARLET PRINCESS (R. Marshall) 1, Call Me Maybe (I. Chisty) 2, Siyouni (Mark) 3 and Morrane Gabriella (R. Pradeep) 4. Not run: San Bernardino. Shd, 3/4 and Lnk. Im, 14.71s. ₹31 (w), 13, 11 and 38 (p), SHP: 28, THP: 93, FP: 69, Q: 40, Trinella: 519 and 546, Exacta: 5,227 and 2,987. Favourite: Call Me Maybe. Owners: Mr. Soumitra Banerji & Mr. Naresh Kumar Pawar. Trainer: Sharat Kumar.

8 PRATAP STUD PLATE (1,600m), rated 45 to 65: KNIGHT TEMPLAR (David Allan) 1, Speedster (S. Shareef) 2, Brooklyn Supreme (Vinod Shinde) 3 and Lycurgus (Vaibhav) 4. 3-3/4, 4-1/2 and 125 (p), SHP: 43, THP: 367, FP: 78, Q: 79, Trinella: 2,404 and 1,339, Exacta: 12,885 and 3,451. Favourite: Knight Templar. Owner: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: S. Padmanabhan.

Jackpot: ₹1,105 (476 tkts.); Runner-up: 351 (643 tkts.); Treble (I): 302 (67 tkts.); (ii): 200 (119 tkts.).