

TV PICKS

Senior women's T20: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 10.45 a.m.
NBA: Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 6 a.m. & 8.30 a.m.
BBL: Sony Ten 3 (SD & HD), 1.30 p.m.
South Africa v England: 2nd Test, 2 p.m.

IN BRIEF



James' triple-double propels Lakers

LOS ANGELES
LeBron James produced his ninth triple-double of the season on Sunday and Los Angeles Lakers blocked 20 shots on the way to a fifth straight NBA victory, 106-99 over Detroit Pistons.
The results: Cleveland Cavaliers 103 lost to Minnesota Timberwolves 118; LA Lakers 106 bt Detroit Pistons 99; Miami Heat 122 bt Portland Trail Blazers 111; Phoenix Suns 114 lost to Memphis Grizzlies 121; LA Clippers 135 bt New York Knicks 132. *AFP*



Warne puts baggy green up for auction

SYDNEY
Legendary Australia leg-spinner Shane Warne has announced he will be putting his baggy green — which he wore throughout his 145-Test career — for auction in order to raise funds for bushfire relief. “The bushfires have been absolutely horrific, they’ve touched all of us in a way,” Warne said on Fox Cricket. The auction is set to run for a week with the figure set to potentially go close to Sir Donald Bradman’s baggy green which fetched \$425,000 in 2003. *JANS*



Justin Thomas is champion

LOS ANGELES
Justin Thomas botched the lead hole in regulation but held on to win the Tournament of Champions in a playoff on Sunday, edging Patrick Reed and Xander Schauffele for his 12th US PGA Tour title. The American birdied the third extra hole to edge Reed after defending champion Schauffele had been eliminated with a three-putt par on the first playoff green. All three had finished 72 holes with 14-under 278 after *AFP*

Dev Javia focused on pro circuit

The left-hander prioritising staying fit and improving his game

TENNIS

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

The biggest temptation for any good junior tennis player in the country is to get admission in one of the American universities and ensure a secure career. A few like Mahesh Bhupathi, Somdev Devvarman, Sanam Singh or Jeevan Nedunchel-hyan returned from the good life of the US to excel in the professional circuit.

When Somdev opted to study in the US and pursue his tennis along with it, after having won the men's ITF Futures title on clay when he was 17 years old, many felt that he was being sucked by the urge of a secure career.

Somdev proved his hunger for tennis by winning back to back NCAA singles titles, beating no less than the towering John Isner in one final.

However, no Indian player from American universities



Looking ahead: Dev Javia, the country's best ranked junior tennis player at No. 54 in the world, is aiming to step it up.

• KAMESH SRINIVASAN

has had such success as Somdev, who won the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games gold medals, apart from reaching a career best

rank of 62.

In such a scenario, 17-year-old Dev Javia, ranked junior No. 54 in the world on Monday, has steadfastly coun-

tered his parents' recommendation of pursuing his tennis along with his education in the US.

Somdev in touch

The good thing is that Somdev is in touch with the talented left-hander and his parents to ensure the best possible guidance at this crucial juncture.

“Dev did work in the camp with us. He did well. If he takes the right steps, he could be really good,” said Somdev, who recently conducted a training camp in Chennai.

He may not have a big build but Dev is a delight to watch on a tennis court. He can construct the points well and be explosive with his serve and strokes when required.

Dependable guide

Groomed from a young age by coach Shrimal Bhatt in Ahmedabad, Dev has found a dependable guide in coach

Stephen Koon at the Impact Tennis Academy in Thailand.

“I have put in the hours, as I got good time to work on my fitness as well as my game. We have two weeks before the grade-1 tournament in Australia, followed by the Australian Open. I should be ready by that time, and hopefully perform well,” said Dev, when contacted at his training base in Bangkok.

Dev is pretty clear in his mind that he would compete in the juniors to get the Grand Slam experience, but start competing among the men from this year to form a strong base.

“I have some goals to achieve in men's circuit this year. But, I am looking to develop myself, doing the right things, surrounded by right people. This year is crucial for me. So, I have to stay fit and improve my game, to compete at higher levels,” said Dev.

Watch out for Dev Javia!

Prajnesh off to a good start

SPORTS BUREAU
BENDIGO (AUSTRALIA)

Prajnesh Gunneswaran defeated wild card Jason Kubler of Australia 7-5, 6-3 in the first round of the \$162,480 Challenger tennis tournament on Monday.

Ramkumar Ramanathan lost 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 to Emil Ruusuvuori of Finland.

The results (first round): Emkl Ruusuvuori (Fin) bt Ramkumar Ramanathan 3-6, 6-2, 6-3; Prajnesh Gunneswaran bt Jason Kubler (Aus) 7-5, 6-3.

Rain washes out play

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

Rain washed out play on the first day of the ITF grade-3 junior tennis tournament at the CLTA Complex on Monday.

In the main draw, only Sandeep Singh Rao has been able to get a singles seeding, and has been seeded seventh in the girls event.

The seedings:

Boys: 1. Jean Marc Malkowski (Sui), 2. Han-Chih Lin (Tpe), 3. Huang Haoyuan (Chn), 4. Raphael Collignon (Bel), 5. Leo Raquin (Fra), 6. Bohua Dong (Chn), 7. Orel Kimhi (Isr), 8. Yamato Sueoka (Jpn).

Girls: 1. Yu-Yun Li (Tpe), 2. Alessandra Simone (Ita), 3. Salakthip Ounmuang (Tha), 4. Jasmine Conway (GBR), 5. Amelia Waligora (Bel), 6. Mika Dagan Fruchtman (Isr), 7. Sandeep Singh Rao, 8. Huang Jiaqi (Chn).

No play on final day; three points for Delhi

RAKESH RAO
MOHALI

Intermittent drizzle, following early morning rains, ensured that there was no play on the fourth and final day of the Delhi-Punjab Ranji Trophy match here on Monday.

Match was eventually called off at 1 pm. Delhi skipper Dhruv Shorey was adjudged Man of the Match for his 96. From this drawn en-

counter, Delhi received three points and Punjab, one.

Punjab next faces host Kerala from January 11. Delhi prepares for defending champion Vidarbha ahead of its home encounter, beginning on January 19, at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground.

The scores: Punjab 313 and 44 for four drew with Delhi 339.

Points: Delhi 3 (10), Punjab 1 (18).

RANJI SCORES, ROUND 4, DAY 4

GROUP A

At Hyderabad: Kerala 164 & 218 in 86.5 overs (Rohan Prem 44, Vishnu Vinod 44) lost to Hyderabad 228 & 155/4 in 46 overs. **Points:** Hyderabad 6 (6), Kerala 0 (3).

Mohali: Punjab 313 & 44/4 in 13 overs drew with Delhi 339. Delhi 3 (10), Punjab 1 (18).

Jaipur: Rajasthan 151 & 257 in 106.1 overs (Yash Kothari 41, Ashok Menaria 79, Rajesh Bishnoi 49) lost to Andhra 257 & 152/4 in 49.5 overs (G. Hanuma Vihari 52 n.o., K.S. Bharat 50). Andhra 6 (14), Rajasthan 0 (0).

Kolkata: Gujarat 194 in 73.3 overs (Priyank Panchal 40, Akash Deep 6/60, Ishan Porel 4/62) drew with Bengal 239/5 in 65 overs (Abhimanyu Easwaran 42, Ritwik Roy Chowdhury 53 n.o.). Bengal 3 (12), Gujarat 1 (13).

GROUP B

Dharamshala: Himachal 175 & 285/5 in 85 overs (Akash Vashist 84, Ankit Kalsi 115, Nikhil Gangta 48 n.o.) drew with Madhya Pradesh 427/9 decl. MP 3 (6), Himachal 1 (10).

Kanpur: Tamil Nadu 180 & 154 in 54.5 overs (B. Aparajith 53,

Saurabh Kumar 5/39) drew with Uttam Pradesh 175 in 71.1 overs (Mohammad Saif 77, T. Natarajan 4/24) & 42/2 in 7.4 overs. TN 3 (4), UP 1 (2).

GROUP C

Ranchi: Jharkhand 259 & 155 in 54.4 overs (Aqub Nabi 5/38) lost to Jammu & Kashmir 441. J&K 7 (20), Jharkhand 0 (16).

Raipur: Haryana 123 & 258 bt Chhattisgarh 119 & 173 in 50.5 overs (Avnish Singh 69). Haryana 6 (21), Chhattisgarh 0 (8).

Agartala: Tripura 288/6 decl. drew with Odisha 121 in 40.2 overs (Biplab Samantray 51, Rana Dutta 5/23) & 71/1 in 22 overs. Tripura 3 (3), Odisha 1 (22).

PLATE

Sovima: Chandigarh 400/6 decl. drew with Nagaland 135 in 58.3 overs (Shresth Nirmohi 5/39) & 26/0 in eighth overs. Chandigarh 3 (20), Nagaland 1 (14).

Bhubaneswar: Sikkim 329 in 81 overs (Yashpal Singh 155) drew with Arunachal Pradesh 146 in 48.1 overs (Ishwar Chaudhary 4/60, Iqbal Abdulla 4/35) & 32/0 in 13 overs. Sikkim 3 (3), Arunachal Pradesh 1 (2).



Magesh wins title

CHESS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
CHENNAI

India's P. Magesh Chandran remained unbeaten in nine rounds to win the title in the 95th edition of the prestigious Hastings International Chess Congress in Hastings, England.

The 36-year-old GM with a FIDE-rating of 2479, remained unbeaten and finished first with 7.5 points from nine games after securing a 33-move draw in the final round against compatriot G.A. Stany, also a GM, on Sunday. He also beat compatriot GM Deep Sengupta in the eighth round.

Stany took the sixth place with 6.5 points, while India's woman GM R. Vaishali finished 10th with six points.

Two others — Sengupta and Swamy Mishra — finished 13th and 14th respectively with identical six points.

France's Romain

Edouard, who was the only player to end the tournament a half point behind Magesh, took the second spot. Four players shared third to sixth places with 6.5 points.

Six wins, three draws

The US-based Magesh posted six wins and secured three draws to take the top spot.

He outscored a field that included two players with a 2600-plus ELO rating and five in the 2500-plus category.

He was delighted with his performance and rated the win over compatriot Sengupta as his best in the tournament.

“It is great (to win the tournament). I haven't had such a performance in a long time,” Chandran, who hails from Madurai in Tamil Nadu, said.

The Indian had become a GM in 2006 and moved to the US for higher studies at the University of Texas.

Paso Robles clinches Golconda Oaks

HYDERABAD: M/s. M. Rama Krishna Reddy & Meka Yugandhar's Paso Robles (Suraj Narredu up) won the Golconda Oaks, the feature event of the races held here on Monday (Jan. 6). L.D-'Silva trains the winner.

Paso Robles, who was racing second all the way on tight reins, took command in the last 200m, to ensure Suraj had an armchair ride to victory.

1 RACE CLUB PLATE (1,100m), 3-y-o only, (Cat. II), (Terms): LACROSSE (Akshay Kumar) 1, Just Incredible (B.R. Kumar) 2, Detonator (Ashhad Asbar) 3 and Astronaut (Ajeeth Kumar) 4. 4, hd and 1-1/2. Im, 6.90s. ₹ 8 (w), 6, 7 and 25 (p), SHP: 14, FP: 19, Q: 13, Tla: 279. Favourite: Lacrosse. Owners: M/s. Poonawalla Racing & Breeding Pvt. Ltd. rep. by Mr. Zavareh S. Poonawalla & Ms. Simone S. Poonawalla and Mr. M. Ramakrishna Reddy. Trainer: L.D'Silva.

2 MALAKPET PLATE (Div. I), (1,200m), 4-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): LOCH STELLA (Nakhat Singh) 1, Shivalik Valley (Rohit Kumar) 2, Kimberly Cruise (Surya Prakash) 3 and Jo Malone (Dashrath Singh) 4. Shd, 5-1/4 and shd, Im, 12.70s. ₹ 28 (w), 7, 5 and 9 (p), SHP: 28, FP: 76, Q: 14, Tla: 216. Favourite: Shivalik Valley. Owner: Mr. A.C. Muthiah. Trainer: Satheesh.

3 ANMOL RATAN PLATE (1,200m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): CRIMSON FIRE (Rohit Kumar) 1, One One One (Aneel) 2, Lightning Fin (Surya Prakash) 3 and Heaven Can Wait (Afroz Khan) 4. Nk, shd and 1. Im, 12.09s. ₹ 41 (w), 12, 10 and 6 (p), SHP: 35, FP: 295, Q: 233, Tla:



Hyderabad Race Club Chairman R. Surender Reddy presents the winner's prize to M. Rama Krishna Reddy, left and Meka Yugandhar whose horse Paso Robles won the Golconda Oaks.

• NAGARA GOPAL.

1,721. Favourite: Lightning Fin. Owners: Col. K.S. Garcha, Mrs. Indrajit Garcha & Mr. Harinder Singh Garcha. Trainer: Satyanarayana.

4 DYNAMIC DANCER PLATE (Div. I), (1,200m), 5-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): SOUL EMPRESS (Irvan Singh) 1, Gorgeous Lady (Akshay Kumar) 2, Patron Saint (Santosh Raj) 3 and Hurricane (Abhay Singh) 4. Nk, 3/4 and nk, Im, 13.47s. ₹ 17 (w), 8, 5 and 19 (p), SHP: 24, FP: 68, Q: 29, Tla: 913. Favourite: Gorgeous

Lady. Owners: M/s. T. Amarend Reddy & Syed Abul Hasan Razvi. Trainer: S. Sreekanth.

5 RAJA SITHARAM BHUPAL OF DOMAKONDA SAMASTHAN MEMORIAL CUP (1,400m), 4-y-o & over (Cat. II), (Terms): VICTORY PARADE (Akshay Kumar) 1, Nayadeep (Irvan Singh) 2, Titus (Deepak Singh) 3 and Champion Bull (G. Nares) 4. 5-1/4, 1/2 and 3-1/4. Im, 25.21s. Rs. 7 (w), 6, II and 10 (p), SHP: 24, FP: 33, Q: 33, Tla: 242. Favourite: Victory Parade. Owners: Mr. V. Krishna Das, Dr.

24.84. 3. U.V. Sruthiraj (Calicut) 24.99.

1500m: 1. Harmilan Bains (Punjabi, Patiala) 4:24.86s MR, OR 4:24.87 of Calicut's P.U. Chitra 2018; 2. Deore Durga (SS Pune) 4:26.22, 3. C. Babitha (Calicut) 4:32.66. **4x400m relay:** 1. Calicut (M.P. Archana, Abitha Mary Manuel, S. Arshitha, Jisna

Mathew) 3:40.01s, 2. Mahatma Gandhi, Kottayam (3:42.81), 3. Maharshi Dayanand, Rohtak) 3:45.97. **Marathon:** 1. Munni Devi (MD, Rohtak) 3:14:42.26s, 2. Rinku (Punjabi, Patiala) 3:19:09.27, 3. K.M. Laxmi (C.S.M., Kanpur) 3:20:46.29. **Triple jump:** 1. B. Aishwarya (Mangalore) 13.29m, 2. Sandra Babu (Mahatma Gandhi, Kottayam) 13.28, 3. S. Nandhini (Bharathiar, Coimbatore) 12.95. **Pole vault:** 1. Divya Mohan (Mahatma Gandhi, Kottayam) 3.70m, 2. Prosy Meena (TNPES) 3.70, 3. E. Baranika (Mangalore) 3.70. **Hammer throw:** 1. Varsha (Managalore) 57.24m, 2. Ritu Dhiman (Mangalore) 54.91, 3. W.R. Harshitha (RGHUS) 51.27. **Overall championship:** 1. Mangalore University (170 pts), 2. Madras (98.5), 3. Mahatma Gandhi, Kottayam (80). **Team championship:** **Men:** 1. Mangalore (101 pts), 2. Madras (56.5), 3. Maharshi Dayanand, Rohtak (34). **Women:** 1. Mangalore (69 pts), 2. Mahatma Gandhi, Kottayam (47), 3. Madras (42). **Best Athlete:** **Men:** Jay Shah Pradeep (Mangalore), triple jump 16.53m, 1115 pts). **Women:** Y. Jyothi (Acharya Nagarjuna, 100m hurdles 13.03s, 1146 pts).

Winning leap: Jay Shah bettered his own long jump record and won the best men's athlete award. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



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Liverpool kids sink Everton

Lucas Moura rescues Tottenham Hotspur

FA CUP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Liverpool inflicted fresh misery on Merseyside rival Everton as a superb strike from teenager Curtis Jones sealed a 1-0 win in the FA Cup third round on Sunday. Jones' second half curler sent Anfield into ecstasy as the club's youth academy graduates handed Everton an embarrassing derby defeat.

Elsewhere on Sunday, Lucas Moura kept Tottenham's FA Cup hopes alive with the equaliser in its 1-1 draw at second tier Middlesbrough, while Callum Hudson-Odoi got back in the groove as Chelsea cruised to a 2-0 win over Nottingham Forest.

Important results (third round): Sunday: Chelsea 2 (Hudson-Odoi 6, Barkley 33) bt Nottingham Forest 0; Crystal Palace 0 lost to Derby 1 (Martin 32); Gillingham 0 lost to West Ham 2 (Zabaleta 74, Fornals 90); Liverpool 1 (Jones 71) bt Everton 0; Middlesbrough 1 (Fletcher 50) drew with Tottenham 1 (Moura 61); Sheffield



Ecstatic: Liverpool's Curtis Jones is cock-a-hoop after scoring a stunner against Everton. • REUTERS

Utd 2 (Robinson 8, Clarke 60) bt AFC Fylde 1 (Williams 78). **Saturday:** Bournemouth 4 (Billing 8, 79, C. Wilson 67, Solanke 82) bt Luton 0; Brighton 0 lost to Sheffield Wednesday 1 (Reach 65); Burnley 4 (Rodriguez 8, 52, Pieters 15, Hendrick 23) bt Peterborough 2 (Toney 39, Jade-Jones 76); Fulham 2 (Knockaert 54, Arter 74) bt Aston Villa 1 (El Ghazi 63); Leicester 2 (Pearce 19-og, Barnes 40) bt Wigan 0; Manchester City 4 (Zinchenko 20, Aguero 42, Har-

wood-Bellis 58, Foden 76) bt Port Vale 1 (Pope 35); Preston 2 (Bodin 48, Harrop 84) lost to Norwich 4 (Idah 2, 38, 61-pen, Hernandez 28); Rochdale 1 (Wilbraham 79) drew with Newcastle 1 (Almiron 17).

Southampton 2 (Smallbone 47, Vokins 87) bt Huddersfield 0; Watford 3 (Dele-Bashiru 12, Chalobah 14, Pereyra 34) drew with Tranmere 3 (Jennings 65, Monthe 78, Mullin 87-pen); Wolves 0 drew with Manchester United 0.

Odisha downs Chennaiyin

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUBANESWAR

Odisha FC beat former champion Chennaiyin FC 2-0 in a crucial Indian Super League clash to remain in the hunt for a top four spot here on Monday.

First-half goals from Jerry Mawimhingthanga (37th) and Vinit Rai (41st) were enough for Josep Gombau's side to make it three wins out of their last four matches. Odisha FC (15 points from 11 matches) has climbed to within a point of fourth-placed Mumbai City FC.

Anahat falls in the final

SPORTS BUREAU
BIRMINGHAM

India's lone hope Anahat Singh's run ended in the under-13 girls' final, when the top-seeded Egyptian Amina Orfi defeated her 11-0, 11-1, 11-4 in the British Junior Open squash here on Monday.