

JK Public School Kunjwani swimmers shine in inter-school swimming competitions

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In the Inter-School Swimming Competitions held at Jodhamal Public School Channi Himmat, under the banner of District Youth Sports & Services, JK Public School Kunjwani secured four gold medals. The winners were Jaywardhan Singh Jamwal, who showcased exceptional talent by winning three gold medals in the 50M, 100M, and 200M Freestyle and Agrysya Submria clinched one gold medal in 50M Backstroke. In the CBSE Inter-



JK Public School Kunjwani faculty felicitating winner students.

School Sahodaya Jammu Chapter Swimming Competitions which were also held on 05 Oct 2024 at Jodhamal Public School, Jaywardhan Singh Jamwal won two Gold Medals in the 50M and 100M Freestyle categories. Shashi Chaudhary, Director JK Educational Society and School

Principal Rajesh Rathore congratulated the winners and felicitated them in the school assembly. They also lauded School Coach Ram Paul and IOD (Sports) Subash Chander for imparting best training to the students. Speaking on the occasion, Shashi Chaudhary said, we are incredibly proud of our young swimmers. We will remain committed to promoting sports and physical education as an integral aspects of students' development at JK Public School.

Heritageans shine at Inter District Swimming UT Level Championship



Heritage School faculty felicitating winner students.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Heritage School students have once again demonstrated their exceptional swimming prowess at the Inter District Swimming UT Level Championship. The event, organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, was held at Jodhamal Public School on September 27, 2024. Tegmeet Kour, a Class IX D student, clinched three gold medals in the 50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, and 50m

Butterfly events. Vamika Parmar, a Class XI C student, secured one gold in the 100m Backstroke and one silver in the 200m Freestyle. Aditee Bargoitra, a Class XI A student, won a silver in the 200m Freestyle and a bronze in the 100m Freestyle. These outstanding achievements highlight the dedication, hard work, and talent of our young swimmers. Their success is a testament to the school's commitment to nurturing athletic excellence. The Heritage School Fraternity extends its heartfelt congratulations to the medalists and wishes them continued success in their future endeavours.

Skipper Ian Bell anchored India Capitals to 4 wicket victory



STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Ian Bell played a crucial innings and helped his team to secure their second win in Legends League 2024 as they defeated Gujarat Greats by 4 wickets at the Molana Azad Stadium in Jammu on Monday. After winning the toss and electing to bat first, Morne van Wyk and skipper Shikhar Dhawan opened the innings for Gujarat Greats. While Shikhar made just 1 from 3 balls, Morne van Wyk added 10 from 16 balls. Chris Gayle scored 21 from 11 balls. They were down to

38/4 in 6 overs. Mohammad Kaif and Yashpal Singh added 64 runs for the fifth wicket partnership. Kaif made 40 from 41 balls and Yashpal Singh scored 20 from 29 balls. Debabrata Das remained unbeaten on 20* from 13 balls to help his team post a total of 134/6 in 20 overs. For India Capitals, Iqbal Abdulla was the pick of the bowlers who took 3/24 in 4 overs. Dhawal Kulkarni took 2/17 in 4 overs. Ashley Nurse bagged 1/13 in 3 overs. With a target of 135 on the board, Naman Ojha and

Dwayne Smith came to open the innings for India Capitals. They faced an early setback as they were down to 21/3 in 3.4 overs. Naman Ojha made 2 from 11 balls, Smith added 8 from 6 balls and Iqbal Abdulla was dismissed without opening his account. Colin de Granhomme scored 14 from 6 balls. Skipper Ian Bell took the responsibility on his shoulders as he anchored the innings and helped his team win the match. He remained unbeaten on 41* from 49 balls. Ben Dunk played a vital knock of 22 from 14 balls. Bharat Chipli also contributed with 22 from 21 balls. Ashley Nurse remained not out on 11* from 11 balls. India Capitals chased down the target in the last ball of the innings. For Gujarat Greats, Manan Sharma remained the pick of the bowlers who took 4/24 from 4 overs. Yashpal Singh 1/19 in 3 overs.

Round Square International Sports Collaboration 2024 concludes at KC Public School

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Round Square International Sports Collaboration was launched in 2023 with the sole purpose of bringing Round Square schools from all over the world together on a non-competitive sporting platform and offering the participating delegates first-hand experience of internationalism, cultural diversity and team dynamics in sports. Its first edition was hosted by Round Square schools in Japan, Kenya, Bangladesh and India and its second edition was hosted by KC Public School Jammu from October 5 to 7 this year which concluded with a closing ceremony at Hotel Vivanta City Centre on October 7, 2024. The event commenced with an opening ceremony on October 5 which was presided over by Anand Jain, ADGP Jammu, as the Chief Guest. In addition to the host school, delegates from Welham Girls' School Dehradun and Sai



KC Public School faculty honouring dignitaries.

International Residential School Uttarakhand participated in the event. The sports selected for this year's event were Cricket, Badminton and Swimming. KC Public School sports complex with its flood-lit multi-sports ground and other world class sports facilities is ideally suited for hosting any sporting activities. On October 5 after the opening ceremony, swimming events in different categories for both boys and girls were

conducted at the Shri Sudershan Aquatic Centre on school campus. In the afternoon after lunch break, friendly Badminton matches for both boys and girls were conducted in the multi-sports indoor hall of KC Sports Club. In the evening, the Theatre Club of KC Public School entertained the visiting delegates with the performance of Shakespeare's play 'Othello' at Mandua Open Air Theatre on the school campus. On October 6 too, several swimming and Badminton activities were conducted on the school campus and the day ended with friendly Cricket matches for both boys and girls on the flood-lit Cricket ground of KCPS. On October 7, a sight-seeing and nature study excursion to Patni 'Top for the visiting delegates was conducted. The concluding ceremony of the event was held at the Hotel Vivanta, City Centre at 8 PM on October 7. Sunaina Mehta, Joint

Director, J&K Tourism and Sandeep Mehta, SSP Crime Jammu graced the occasion as special guests. Quite a few cultural items were performed on the occasion by the host school and by delegates from visiting schools. In their joint address to the delegates, Sunaina Mehta and Sandeep Mehta greeted the visiting delegates and expressed the hope that they had enjoyed their visit to the historic city of Jammu and gained sufficient insight into the culture of J&K. They also congratulated KCPS management and school administrative and teaching staff for conducting the event very successfully. In his vote of thanks address, Principal AK Mishra expressed his gratitude towards the heads of Welham Girls' School Dehradun and Sai International Residential School Uttarakhand for taking part in the 2nd International Sports Collaboration hosted by KCPS.

Army conducts Volleyball League for girls at Samote

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: The Pir Panjal Volleyball League for Girls recently took place in Samote, Rajouri, marking a significant initiative by the Indian Army to empower young women through sports. This event is a crucial part of broader efforts to enhance female participation in athletics and promote gender equality in rural areas. Organized by the Indian Army, the tournament featured teams from various localities of Rajouri. The structure of the competition fostered a spirit of teamwork and healthy rivalry, allowing participants to build confidence and showcase their athletic abilities. Community leaders expressed gratitude towards the Indian Army for creating this opportunity.



Army officers posing with participating teams.

Local Sarpanch of Samote added that these initiatives not only boost confidence but also inspire girls to pursue sports seriously, potentially opening doors to professional careers in athletics. The league is part of a broader array of empowerment programs spearheaded

by the Indian Army in the Pir Panjal region. These initiatives include vocational training and educational workshops aimed at equipping women with valuable skills for employment. This focus on women's empowerment through sports and vocational training

reflects a growing recognition of the need for gender equality in community development. The Pir Panjal Volleyball League not only promotes physical fitness but also contributes to changing societal attitudes towards women's roles, particularly in conser-

vative regions where traditional norms may restrict their participation in public life. As a result of these efforts, young women in Rajouri and surrounding areas are gaining not just athletic skills but also essential life skills that enhance their future prospects. The Indian Army commitment to fostering an environment supportive of female athletes signifies a transformative approach to community upliftment in the Pir Panjal region. The Pir Panjal Volleyball League serves as a vital stepping stone in empowering young women through sports, promoting social and economic independence, and inspiring a new generation of confident and capable female athletes.

Jammu beat Kashmir Division in kho-kho



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS), Reasi, organized the Inter-Division UT Level Kho-Kho U14 competition at General Zorawar Singh Stadium. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from teams representing both the Kashmir and Jammu divisions, showcasing the sportsmanship and talent of young athletes from across the Union Territory. The Chief Education Officer of Reasi, Deepak Kumar

Gupta, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He was welcomed by Tarsem Singh, the District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Reasi, who also extended his appreciation to all the participants and officials for making the event a success. While addressing, Gupta underscored the significance of sports in the holistic development of young individuals. He emphasized that sports not only enhance physical fitness but also contribute to mental well-being. Furthermore, sports play a

crucial role in imparting essential life skills, such as teamwork, discipline, resilience, and leadership, which are key to shaping well-rounded individuals, he said. In today's match, Jammu Division beat Kashmir Division by 17-16. The match was officiated by Madan Mohan, Ashoka Kumari, Sanjeev Kumar, Ramesh Kumar, Jaswant Singh, Jugal Kumar, Surbhi Anthal organised under the supervision of Kuldeep Kumar (Activity Incharge).

Harmanpreet climbs to 12th place in ICC Women's T20 Rankings



AGENCY
DUBAI: Indian skipper Harmanpreet Kaur on Tuesday climbed four spots to be joint 12th in the ICC Women's T20 batting rankings. Off-spinner Shreyanka Patil surged nine places to be 29th in the bowlers' rankings. Harmanpreet now shares the 12th position with Sri Lanka's Harshitha Samaravickrama, boasting 610 rating points.

In contrast, Smriti Mandhana slipped one place to fifth, and Jemimah Rodrigues dropped two spots to 20th. Veteran off-spinner Deepti Sharma fell two places to fourth, while seamer Renuka Singh Thakur maintained her position at fifth. The rankings have been released in the midst of the T20 World Cup in the UAE. Pakistan spinner Sadia Iqbal made history by becoming

the first from her country to briefly top the rankings, overtaking long-time number one Sophie Ecclestone before settling for second place. After taking 3/17 runs against Sri Lanka in a Group A match, Sadia drew level with Ecclestone on 757 rating points. However, after going wicketless against Bangladesh in a Group B match, Ecclestone slipped to second with 750 points. Sadia's reign at the top was short-lived, as Ecclestone bounced back by claiming 2/15 against South Africa, earning the Player-of-the-Match award and regaining her position. Additionally, South Africa opens Laura Wolvaardt (No 3) and Tazmin Brits (No 6) both achieved career-best-equaling rankings after moving up two spots each.

Australia Tour: India likely to play intra-squad practice game against India A

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Indian team is expected to leave for Australia at least two weeks prior to the first Test starting November 22 in Perth and will be playing one or two intra-squad matches against their 'A' team colleagues as a tune-up to the opening fixture. The Indian senior team's home Test series against New Zealand will end on November 5 in Mumbai if the third match goes into the final day. It is understood that the Test squad will be leaving from Mumbai few days after the series and just like it happened during the last tour of South Africa, the BCCI could have a four-day game between India and India A, which people in the know of things feel will provide Rohit Sharma's men with quality match simulation. The India A team is also supposed to play a couple of A

Tests and that particular squad, comprising the country's bench strength, is expected to leave the Indian shores by October 25 for its series. The BCCI has over the years witnessed a decline in quality of practice matches and there came a time during Mahendra Singh Dhoni's tenure as Test captain when most of these tour games got unofficial status so that all 15 in the squad could bat and bowl. Earlier, these matches -- normally of three-day duration -- would have first-class status. It was before the 2021 World Test Championship final in England, during the peak COVID-19 crisis, that the senior team introduced the concept of intra-squad game in proper whites and with umpires, but the A team shadow tours were stopped during that phase. It was during the 2023-24 series in South Africa that both

India A and India were present in South Africa at the same time. In between the two 'A' Tests, the second-string did take on the main team before the latter's opening game at the Centurion. "Normally, home countries nowadays don't want to provide their best domestic talent for practice. It always helps in quality match practice if a bunch of India hopefuls are pitted against the stars. These are players knocking on the doors and eager to perform," a BCCI insider said. Before the second Test in Adelaide from December 6-10, which is a pink ball affair, the India senior team will play a two-day day/night pink ball game at the Manuka Oval in Canberra on November 30 and December 1 against Prime Minister's XI, to prepare for the main fixture. This will be a time when two

separate Indian teams will be in two different countries at the same time. As the Test team gears up for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy with a World Test Championship final at stake, the Suryakumar Yadav-led T20 team will play 4 matches in South Africa between November 8-15. It is expected that the squad

that is playing against Bangladesh will be retained for that series. The India 'A' team for Australia will be selected after the first round of Ranji Trophy games (from October 11-14). The senior national selection committee will also pick an India U-25 squad next week for the Emerging Asia Cup, which will be held in Muscat this year.

INDIA'S TEST TOUR OF AUSTRALIA

First Test: November 22-26, Perth
Second Test: December 6-10, Adelaide
Third Test: December 14-18, Brisbane
Fourth Test: December 26-30, Melbourne
Fifth Test: January 3-7, Sydney

India's T20I Tour of South Africa
1st T20I: November 8 (Durban)
2nd T20I: November 10 (Gqeberha)
3rd T20I: November 13 (Centurion)
4th T20I: November 15 (Johannesburg).

Title holders India to open women's ACT campaign against Malaysia

STATE TIMES NEWS
KUALA LUMPUR: Two-time champions India will open their title defence against Malaysia in the Women's Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament beginning in Bihar on November 11. The tournament will feature six teams -- hosts and defending champions India, China, three-time winners Korea, two-time champions Japan, Malaysia and

Thailand. According to the official schedule announced by the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) on Tuesday, the tournament, to be played in Rajgir, will conclude on November 20. India won the tournament in 2016 in Singapore before reclaiming the title in Ranchi last year. After Malaysia, the Indian women will take on Korea on November 12, followed by matches against Thailand

(November 14), China (November 16) and Japan (November 17). The top four teams after the round robin format will qualify for the semifinals to be held on November 19, followed by the summit clash on November 20. "The Rajgir Hockey Stadium stands as a symbol of the region's commitment to fostering world-class sports, and we are confident that it will provide an exceptional experi-

ence for players and fans," AHF president Dato Fumio Ogura said in a statement. Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey said it will be a historic occasion for the state of Bihar. "The newly constructed Rajgir Hockey Stadium will serve as the perfect stage for this prestigious tournament, and we are excited to see India defend their title against some of the best teams in Asia," he said.

