

RPHQ Jammu's knock out cricket tournament Friends Club Akhnoor, Dhanu Club register wins

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Range Police Headquarters (RPHQ) Jammu organised Knock out Cricket Tournament under the command and control of DIG JSK Range, Dr. Sunil Gupta under Civic Action Programme 2023-24 at Jammu University Cricket Ground, here.

The Tournament was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Staff officer to DIG Jammu Rajinder Singh Katoch SSP, and Guest of Honour SP South Jammu Ajay Sharma, DySP RPHQ Jatinder Singh, other dignitaries and general public from surrounding area were also present to boost the morale of the



Chief Guest and other dignitaries posing with participating teams on Monday.

players.

In first match, Friends Cricket Club Akhnoor beat Royal Cricket Club Jammu by 94 runs and Akshit

Chadha was declared Man of the Match for grabbing five wickets and scoring 35 runs.

In another match, Dhanu Cricket Club beat Maira

Maindrian Cricket Club in a very close game by six runs and Nitin was declared Man of the Match for scoring 61 runs.

Rajinder Katoch, while addressing to media, said that the main motive of J&K Police to organising such a tournament is to encourage youth to stay away from drugs, negative influence and bad company.

He also said that total eight teams from different locations of district Jammu participated in this tournament and Final Match will be played on April 4, 2024.

Committee members of CAP from Range Police Hqrs. Jammu ASI Tarsem Lal, ASI Jasbir Singh, SgCt Sudesh Sharma, Jit Kumar and Vishal Verma were also present for smooth functioning of the tournament.

Yudhvir hopeful of making it to Playing XI as LSG introduces sensational Mayank

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
LUCKNOW: Despite having a battery of fast bowlers and now introducing a sensational young fast bowler, Mayank Yadav, who consistently touches the 150 km mark, J&K's fast bowling all-rounder Yudhvir Singh Charak is still hopeful to make it to the Playing XI for Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) very soon.

Yudhvir had a brilliant last season, especially his performance in the shortest format (T20) Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy was superb as Yudhvir captured 10 wickets in this tournament with a fantastic economy and 3/13 as his best.



No-doubt, LSG has a good number of promising fast bowlers in their kitty. Mohsin Khan, Naveen-ul-Haq, Yash Thakur and now speed gun Mayank Yadav, who had a brilliant debut, capturing 3/27 in his 4

overs, yet Yudhvir is all set to get the nod of team management.

"I leave no stone unturned to keep myself match fit and I am hopeful to make it to the Playing XI anytime. Out of the two matches, LSG has won one and lost one. Mayank is a genuine quick bowler," Yudhvir maintained.

Out of the five IPL players from Jammu and Kashmir, Abdul Samad, Umran Malik and Rasikh Salam have found their opportunities in the season, while Yudhvir Singh and Abid Mushtaq have yet to make it to the Playing XI. J&K cricket lovers are eager to see them play.

CLUJ girls win bronze medal in All India Gatka Inter-university Competition

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jagmeet Kour, Satvir Kour and Fiza Naz of Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ) brought laurels to the J&K UT by winning bronze medal in the All India Gatka Inter-university Competition held at LNCT University in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from March 8 to 11, 2024. The event featured men's and women's teams from 14 universities across the country. The Competition was held under the patronage of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, Prof.



VC CLUJ, Prof. Bechan Lal and other dignitaries posing with bronze medal winner girls.

Bechan Lal along with Ankur Mahajan, Registrar CLUJ, Dr. Ranvijay Singh, Dean Students Welfare, CLUJ, Dr. Naveen Anand, DAA CLUJ, Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director Physical Education & Sports, CLUJ, Neenu Sawhney Physical Director, Govt.

MAM College, Ravi Kumar, Physical Director SPMR College of Commerce, Ramandeep Kralia, Physical Director, GCOE Jammu congratulated Gatka Players namely Jagmeet Kour, Satvir Kour and Fiza Naz for their efforts.

Seven-day NSS Winter Camp culminates Commerce College

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: NSS Units of Government SPMR College of Commerce on Monday organized the valedictory function to mark the conclusion of the seven-day NSS Winter Camp.

This event, held under the auspices of IQAC and the patronage of Dr. Rajinder Singh, Principal of the College, saw the diligent supervision of Prof. Deepshikha Sharma and Dr. Deepak Pathania, NSS Programme Officers of the College.

The winter camp covered many activities such as cleanliness drives, blood donation camp, visit to sewage treatment plant, adopted village and voting awareness.

The occasion of valedictory



Principal, Dr. Rajinder Singh presenting flower pot to chief guest.

function was graced by Dr. Jasbir Singh, former Chairman Jammu University, as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Ranvijay Singh, DSW Cluster University of Jammu, as the Guest of Honour.

The welcome address was delivered by Prof. Deepshikha Sharma, followed by a comprehensive report on the week's activities presented by NSS

Volunteers Taranpreet and Krish.

The event featured a captivating cultural programme, which added vibrancy to the celebration.

In his address, the Principal commended the dedication of the NSS Programme Officers and Volunteers. Dr. Jasbir Singh shared invaluable insights into the significance of various values that volunteers should embrace, while Dr. Ranvijay engaged in an interactive session with the students.

Certificates of participation were distributed to all NSS Volunteers who attended the camp. Adil Nazir Qureshi and

Ankush Kotwal were awarded as the Best NSS Volunteers, in appreciation of their exemplary dedication, leadership, and enthusiasm throughout the camp.

The Seven-Day Winter Camp was not only a platform for learning and growth but also a testament to the spirit of community service and leadership fostered by SPMR College of Commerce.

Among the dignitaries present were Prof. Pawan Gupta, Dr. Reena Rani, Prof. Ashwani, Dr. Madhu, Prof. Esha Abrol, Dr. Neeru Devi Anand and Ravi Kumar. Dr. Deepak Pathania presented formal vote of thanks.

GCW Gandhi Nagar organises Oral & Poster Presentation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Government College for Women (GCW), Gandhi Nagar on Monday organized Oral & Poster Presentation on "Chemistry in Everyday Life" in which Principal Prof. S.P. Saraswat was the Chief Guest for the students of B.Sc. Honours of Sem 6th.

A total of 20 students of B.Sc. Honours participated in the event.

The competition was organized to raise awareness among students regarding importance of chemistry in our day to day life. The event was organised by Department of Chemistry.



Winner students posing for a photograph with faculty members.

The organizing committee comprised of Prof. Rakesh Singh, HOD Chemistry, Dr. Aran Sharma, Dr. Sham Lal and Dr. Manmeet Kour.

Prof. S.P. Saraswat said that such events provide best plat-

form to the students as they learned various presentation skills through this activity. The Principal took keen interest in the various oral as well poster presentation and lauded the efforts of students.

Prof. Rakesh Singh, said that, it was great learning experience for the B.Sc. Honours students.

He further said that this activity was organized by Department to create aware-

ness about importance of chemistry in day today life and to acquaint the students with various presentation skills.

Prof. Yash Paul, Prof. Rabia Javed and Prof. Sumita were the jury members for poster presentation, while Prof. Yash Paul, Prof. Upasana Andotra and Prof. Rajni Khajuria were the jury members for the Oral presentation.

Kushi and Archana of Semester 6th were adjudged 1st, Khushboo and Meenka of Sem 6th were adjudged 2nd and Kumika and Ishika were adjudged 3rd. Dr. Manmeet Kour presented formal vote of thanks.

Sumit wins Samba open Chess title

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHA: Sumit Grover won the title trophy while second place went to Aarav Gupta in the Samba District Open Chess Championship held under the banner of All J&K Chess Association (AJKCA).

Anurag Singh secured third place and the fourth position bagged by S P Sharma. Aahana Gupta won best woman title while Suresh Raina presented best veteran award. In under-10 age group, Nidhir Nagar declared the winner and in under-15 group, Tanmay Jamwal emerged best player.

The organisers distributed cash prizes worth Rs 25,000 among position holders in different categories, a handout



Winner players posing with dignitaries.

issued here today mentioned.

In the prize distribution, Chief Accounts Officer of J&K Sports Council, Dilawar Singh was the chief guest who along with ex Sarpanch, Anil Sharma and Darshana Devi distributed cash prizes.

Stuti Gupta acted as technical official conducting the

matches as per latest international laws of chess with Swiss system.

Also present were Baldev Raj and Atul Kumar Gupta president and working president of AJKCA respectively. The event was sponsored by J&K Sports Council and LA-Veraz.

April Cool Day celebrated at DPS Udhampur



DPS Udhampur faculty and students during April Cool Day celebration.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: April Cool Day under the theme for this year 'Parivartan, Better, greener future tomorrow' was celebrated at Delhi Public School (DPS) Udhampur to enhance the intellectual, social, personal and emotional growth of the kids and also make them climate-conscious and global citizens.

The children planted various saplings including Ashoka, Neem, Belpatra, Tulsi, Herb plants, Fruit plants, etc. in and around the

school premises.

The idea was to transform the concept of 'Pool Day' into Cool Day where right habits can be inculcated in the young minds to make them understand the importance of sustainable development for future generations.

It was worthwhile mentioning here that celebrating 1st April as April cool day is an annual affair of the school and year after year DPSU is celebrating April Cool Day.

The day became all the more important as Pro Vice

Chairman of the school, Dr. J. C. Gupta, MD, Vivek Gupta, Director Academics, Sucheta Gupta along with Principal Dr. Kunal Anand launched the Almanac for this session on the theme Parivartan.

The oath of green tomorrow was instituted by Head Mistress Sr. Wing Bhavni Sharma, the program was coordinated by Chief CCA Coordinator. The program was attended by Head Mistress Jr. Wing Shivani Koul & Chief Coordinator Sr. Wing Sangeeta Nargotra.

Mirabai finishes 3rd in group B of World Cup, set to qualify for Paris Olympics

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
THAILAND: Tokyo Olympics silver-medallist Mirabai Chanu all but qualified for the 2024 Paris Games after she finished third in the women's 49kg Group B event of the IWF World Cup here on Monday.

Returning from a six-month injury lay off, Chanu lifted a total of 184kg (81kg+103kg) at the tournament, which is the final and a mandatory qualifier for the Paris Olympics.

"It feels incredible to come back after an injury. Almost every lift I made today felt clean, clear, and powerful, and I'm leaving this competition feeling strong and confident," Chanu said.

"The rehabilitation was

tough and demanding, but with the support of everyone involved in my rehab and recovery, I pushed through all the complications."

With the completion of her event, Chanu has fulfilled the criteria for the Paris Olympics, which is participating in two compulsory events and three other qualifiers.

The 2017 world champion is currently ranked second in the women's 49kg Olympic Qualification Ranking (OQR) behind China's Jian HuiHua.

The qualification period for weightlifting will end on April 28, following which the IWF will notify the NOCs which have athlete(s)

ranked in the top 10.

The top 10 lifters from each weight class will qualify for the Paris Olympics.

"The goal was to secure my spot for the Paris Olympics, and now that I am almost through for the Paris Olympics, all my attention is on making a mark at the Paris Olympics," she added.

Chanu, who last competed at the Asian Games in September where she suffered a hip tendonitis injury, was not at her best, but was able to make five clean lifts.

Her final clean and jerk attempt of 106kg was

deemed a no lift on technicality.

"Today's event was to assess how Mira's body is progressing given she is returning after six months of injury and rehabilitation. And more importantly to get her confidence back," chief coach Vijay Sharma told PTI.

"We were not bothered about the qualification, she has already qualified. Now we will focus on peaking at the right time in Paris," he added.

Chanu's lifts in the snatch and clean and jerk sections were nowhere close to her personal best efforts.

The 29-year-old has a personal best of 88kg in snatch while she had lifted the then world record of 119kg in clean and jerk at the Asian Championships in 2021.

But given that she is coming off an injury and rehab, Chanu still has time to peak in July and her progress looks good.

She will have a lot of ground to cover up as her opponents had total efforts of up to 221kg in the A category on Monday.

Chanu will be the lone Indian weightlifter at the Paris Games, which will be her third appearance at the Olympics.

Father-son duo of Jeev & Harjai to compete at inaugural Chandigarh Open

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
CHANDIGARH: The legendary Jeev Milkha Singh and his 14-year-old son Harjai Milkha Singh will be in action at the inaugural Chandigarh Open which will witness some of the top golfers teeing off at the Chandigarh Golf Club here on Wednesday. Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) on Monday announced the launch of the Rs 1 crore prize money tournament, to be held from April 3-6. Harjai, who won the US Kids Golf European Championship in the boys U-13 category last year, alongwith Ayaan Gupta and Ram Singh Maan are the three amateurs who will get the chance to rub shoulders with the top professionals. A host of stars including Veer Ahlawat, who finished tied 2nd at Hero Indian Open on Sunday, Gaganjeet Bhullar, SSP Chawrasia, Rajad Gangjee, Rashid Khan, Yuvraj Singh Sandhu, K Chikkarangappa, Karandeep Kochhar, Om Prakash Chouhan and Manu Gandas will be part of the field. The field will also comprise international golfers such as N Thangaraja and K Prabakaran from Sri Lanka, Jamal Hossain and Badal Hossain from Bangladesh, Kevin Esteve Rigall from Andorra and Varun Chopra from the USA. "We are pleased to announce the inaugural edition of the Nissan presents Chandigarh Open 2024 hosted by Chandigarh Golf Club. The golf-loving Chandigarh crowds can expect a visual spectacle," said PGTI CEO Uttam Singh Mundy in a release. The field also includes rookies like PGTI Qualifying School winner Matias Dominguez from Chile, Subash Tamang from Nepal, Michele Ortolani from Italy and Stepan Daneek from the Czech Republic.

KL Rahul engages in batting, fitness drills; LSG monitoring his fitness

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BENGALURU: KL Rahul went through his paces at the nets and participated in fitness drills, but Lucknow Super Giants remained tight-lipped about his role against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in their IPL 2024 match here on Tuesday.

Rahul was rather surprisingly used as an Impact Player during LSG's 21-run win over Punjab Kings, with Nicholas Pooran doing the captain's duty.

"We will see how he is pulling up at nets, and will make a decision based on that," said Pooran in his pre-match press conference here on Monday.

The right-handed Rahul, who opened the innings with Quinton de Kock, made a 9-ball 15 before perishing to Punjab pacer Arshdeep

Singh. Later, LSG substituted him with pacer Naveen-ul-Haq.

Though Rahul engaged himself in batting and other drills at the nets, the 31-year-old did not go through the wicket-keeping session, perhaps an indication that De Kock might continue to don the big gloves.

In some way, it has also increased the responsibility on Pooran, LSG's top-batter this season so far having made 104 runs from two matches at a strike-rate of 170 with a fifty.

The Trinidadian was ready to shoulder the burden too.

"I've worked tremendously hard over the last couple of years on my batting. I'm happy to do whatever the team needs me to do. So, whatever is required of me on a given day, I'm ready for that opportunity," said

Pooran.

The 28-year-old was also pleased with the way pace sensation Mayank Yadav has handled his overnight fame.

The 21-year-old Delhi tear-away pacer made an instant impression against Punjab Kings, bagging three wickets. He also clocked the quickest delivery of this IPL - a 155.8 kmph thunderbolt.

"What he (Mayank) did was obviously a bit overwhelming. But I think he has handled it really nice so far, a very nice guy as well. I think he just wants to constantly do what he's doing - bowl a little fast and take wickets.

"I know he's looking forward to that opportunity. He has some really good guys around as well in this team. I also will be supporting him and guiding him," said Pooran.

RCB coach Andy Flower hopes top-order batsmen to fire soon

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BENGALURU: Head coach Andy Flower on Monday admitted that Royal Challengers Bengaluru's top-order batsmen have not fired in a desired manner, and hoped for them to find their rhythm sooner than later.

Except Virat Kohli, who made two fifties in three matches so far in IPL 2024, others like skipper Faf du Plessis, Glenn Maxwell, Cameron Green and Rajat Patidar have not been among runs for RCB.

"Our top five batsmen are yet to fire. There are big scores on offer at Chinnaswamy. So, once our

big batsmen start scoring runs, I think we'll see some of those big scores. I have absolutely no doubt about that," Flower said in his pre-match press conference ahead of RCB's match against Lucknow Super Giants on Tuesday.

During the last two matches, the Chinnaswamy Stadium pitch has offered some grip to the bowlers, particularly in the first innings.

Flower also expected to see a track that keeps its character throughout Tuesday's match.

"To be honest, I expect the pitch to be a reasonable pitch

tomorrow night. We scored 184 here a couple of nights ago and that was chased down in 17 overs. So, there are big scores on offer and particularly the venue being a little smaller. The ball travels here on the field too," said Flower.

Unlike Chepauk for the Chennai Super Kings or Wankhede Stadium for Mumbai Indians, the Chinnaswamy is not precisely a happy hunting ground for the Royal Challengers.

Out of 84 matches that they played here, RCB have won 40 and lost 41 games with three others ending in no results.