

Good Angels cruise into final

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RAIA: Good Angels cruised into the final defeating Holy Cross, Vaddie, 4-2, in a thrilling tie-breaker in the inter-ward tournament organised by VP Victor's (left) exceptional performance at Cana-Benaulum, earned him the man-of-the-match award at Vaddie ground, on Thursday.

Despite dominating from the start, Holy Cross struggled with accuracy, and their efforts were repeatedly thwarted by the stellar performance of Good Angels' keeper Sugitesh.

The second half saw both the teams maintaining possession but failing to score, leading to a goal-less draw.

In the ensuing



VP Victor's (left) exceptional performance at Cana-Benaulum, earned him the man-of-the-match award at Vaddie ground, on Thursday.

BENAULIM FOOTBALL

tie-breaker, Sugitesh, Savil, Victor, and Styruis, while Kayden and Elton converted for Holy Cross.

Victor's exceptional performance earned him the man-of-the-match award.

Brandon to part ways with FC Goa after contract ends

Expected to join Mumbai City FC for the next ISL season

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MARGAO: FC Goa, the Indian Super League side, on Thursday disclosed that the midfielder Brandon Fernandes will leave the club after his contract ends this summer.

The 29-year-old Brandon is expected to join Mumbai City FC for the next season. The midfielder helped the Gaurs win the Indian Super Cup in 2019, the Indian Super League League Shield in 2019-20 and the Durand Cup in 2021.

Brandon, who joined FC Goa in 2017, netted 17 goals in 130 outings for the club and holds the record for most assists in the club's history (31).

The FC Goa player, who began his youth career in 2002, played for Goa United and Salgaocar FC and made his senior debut with ASD Cape Town in 2013.

He made his senior debut

in India in 2015 with Sporting Clube de Goa, which was followed by his debut in Indian Super League for Mumbai City FC in 2015-16. He also represented Mohun Bagan (in 2016 on loan) and Churchill Brothers (2017) before joining FC Goa.

FC Goa CEO Ravi Puskas said, "He became ingrained into the fabric of the club and was one of the pillars upon which sporting success was built in the seasons he was with us."

He said that the club will be open to have Brandon back in their fold in any capacity. While he leaves us today, Brandon will always be welcomed back to FC Goa in whatever capacity he may choose with open arms.

Brandon, who has also played 25 matches for India since 2019, helped the national side win the SAFF Championship in 2021.



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Hosts Candolim SC lay hands on Candolim Panchayat Cup

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INDIVIDUAL PRIZES

Best player of the final: Melvin Lobo (Candolim SC)
First goal of the final: Clifton Rebello (UC Verna)
Best striker: Saiesh Bagkar (Candolim SC)
Best midfielder: Chaitan Dabolkar (Candolim SC)
Best goalkeeper: Chandan Redkar (Candolim SC)
Best defender: Sairon Albuquerque (UC Verna)

MAPUSA: Hosts Candolim Sports Club had to wait for the penalty shootout as they registered a 4-2 win over United Club Verna in the final to clinch the Candolim Panchayat Cup, played at Dr Gustavo Monteiro ground, Candolim, on Thursday.

The first session was mostly restricted to midfield with both the custodians having a field day.

On crossing ends, UC Verna colts came close in opening their account twice. In the 52nd minute UC Verna's Sheldon Pereira sent a cross to Royden Rego, who passed the ball inside the penalty box to Elrich

Fernandes whose strike deflected off the rival defender and the ball rolled to Antush Moniz whose shot at the goal was confidently collected by Candolim SC's keeper Chandan Redkar.

Another chance went in vain for UC Verna when a left footer by Clifton Rebello off a pinpoint cross by Meekito D'Costa rebounded off the Candolim SC's horizontal bar.

At the other end, Candolim SC too had their

chances but it was UC Verna's custodian who brought back to back saves to deny substitute Nikhil Naik from scoring from just outside the 6-yard box. Also a floater at the goal by Aman Govekar was brilliantly saved by UC Verna's custodian.

In the penalty shoot-out, for Candolim SC Aniket Naik, Aman Govekar, Ashley Fernandes and Rajat Chopdekar were on target, while for United Club of Verna Sairon Albuquerque and

Sheldon Pereira scored.

Earlier, chief guest Arjuna Awardee Bruno Coutinho, guest of honour Candolim Deputy Sarpanch Amalina Dias, Sarpanch Blaize Fernandes, panchas, President of Candolim SC Lawrence Fernandes, organising chairman George Fernandes, former sarpanch Sandra Falho along with other dignitaries were introduced to the players and match officials.

Candolim SC received the winners rolling trophy and cash prize of Rs 60,000, while United Club of Verna had to be content with runners-up rolling trophy and cash prize of Rs 40,000. Bruno D'Souza proposed a vote of thanks and compered.

HERALD PIC



Goa College of Agriculture inaugurates new playground

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PANJIM: The Goa College of Agriculture (GCA) celebrated a significant milestone with the inauguration of its new playground, spanning 13,000 square metres, at Ela-Old Goa, recently.

The event was graced by chief guest Director of Agriculture Nevil Alphonso, who officially opened the playground in the presence of the college's Principal Dr Suresh Kunkalikar, along with the teachers, students and staff members. In his address, Alphonso expressed his delight over the significant milestone and highlighted the importance of sports in the



Director of Agriculture Nevil Alphonso inaugurating the new playground in the campus of Goa College of Agriculture, Ela-Old Goa, recently

holistic development of students. He urged the students to actively participate in various games to maintain their physical health and overall well-being.

Adding to the celebratory atmosphere, Alphonso also released the college magazine titled "Everyone Loves Agriculture", aptly named after the place Ela, the location of the Goa College of Agriculture. The newly established

playground, set amidst the scenic and beautiful campus, buzzed with excitement as students enjoyed a day filled with football and cricket matches. The playground is designed to accommodate a variety of sports including football, baseball, cricket, hockey, lagori, long jump, high jump, kabaddi, and more, providing a comprehensive sports environment for the students.

Chhangte 'ready' to step up as next No. 9 in post Chhetri era

PTI, KOLKATA: Talented winger **Lallianzuala Chhangte** "would not mind" stepping up as the next number 9 of the Indian football team, after talismanic forward Sunil Chhetri's illustrious career comes to an end here on June 6.

Chhetri, who has been a pivotal figure of Indian football for 19 years, is set to make his final appearance in the World Cup qualifier against Kuwait at the Salt Lake Stadium here on June 6.

"Of course, I won't mind if the team wishes for me to play in the center," the 27-year-old Chhangte, who plays for Indian Super League final winning side Mumbai FC, said during a media interaction here on Thursday.

"My height and attributes are suited for a proper number 9. Ultimately, it's God's decision, but I would not mind if the country needs me in that role."

"Everyone is sad. But looking at all his achievements, we are happy for him as well. We will miss him a lot in the dressing room and what he has done for the country. I hope someone will take responsibility," added Chhangte, who was adjudged the AIFF Player-of-the-Year in 2023.

He further recalled his India debut and how Chhetri boosted his confidence. "It was very, very interesting. The first time I played for India, he called me and told me to be myself to enjoy the game. It's a privilege to play alongside him. I want to cherish every single training session with him."

He was talking to the media on the sidelines of the Blue Tigers first practice session here ahead of the Kuwait match.

The Chhetri-led side arrived in the city on Wednesday, after their national camp in Bhubaneswar. The 39-year-old Chhetri had announced his retirement from international football after the Kuwait match in an

emotional video posted on his social media handle earlier this month.

Having made his international debut against Pakistan in 2005, Chhetri went on to become the most-capped Indian footballer (150 matches). With 94 goals, he is the third-highest goal-scorer among active players with global superstars Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi ahead of him.

Chhangte emphasised the importance of teamwork over individual roles within the national squad.

"It's not about taking over from Chhetri bhai. Once it comes to the national team, it's about working together as a team. You can't rely on one player," Chhangte, who was the highest Indian goalscorer (10 goals 15 matches) in the last ISL, said.

Reflecting on Chhetri's impending retirement, Chhangte expressed confidence in the team's collective strength. "I strongly believe that even though Chhetri bhai won't be there in the future, we will work as a team."

Currently placed second in their group with four points from four matches, India are aiming to secure a top-two finish to qualify for Round 3 of the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers and earn a spot at the AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027.

The Mizoram forward urged the crowd to come out in huge numbers so that they can give Chhetri a fitting farewell.



GOA DIARY

Selection trials for Salgaocar FC U-13 & U-15 teams from June 3 to 6 at Margao

PANJIM: Salgaocar FC will conduct selection trials for their U-13 and U-15 teams from June 3 to 6, at Chowgule astro turf ground, Gogol-Margao, from 4 pm to 5 pm. Trials for U-13 team will be held on June 3 and 4, whereas for U-15 team will be held on June 5 and 6. Cut off year will 2012-13 for boys U-13, while 2010-2011 for boys U-15. Interested players should report at the venue with full playing kits along with Aadhaar Card and original birth certificate.

TODAY'S SPORTS

GFA U-17 Division I League: Sporting Clube de Goa vs Sesa FA, at Don Bosco Oratory ground, Panjim, 4.15 pm
Veterans exhibition match: Benaulum Veterans vs AVC Veterans, at SAG ground, Vaddie-Benaulum, 5 pm

FINALS	TODAY	FINALS
1ST ALL GOA 5 ASIDE FUTSAL TOURNAMENT 2024		
organised by		
VERNA SPORTS CLUB		
The Finals will be played on		
31st May 2024		
at 9.00 PM		
Venue:-		
"The kings Turf Verna"		
Felicitation of		
MR. NECIO FERNANDES		
(Dempo Sports Club Player)		
for representing		
Goa State Team at Santosh Trophy 2024.		
●●● CHIEF GUEST ●●●		
Shri Francisco Xavier Pacheco (Micky)		
(Ex-Tourism Minister Govt. of Goa)		
●●● GUEST OF HONOUR ●●●		
Shri. Climax Lawrence		
(Ex-International Footballer & Executive member of AIFF)		
●●● SPECIAL INVITEES ●●●		
Shri. Alvitto Rodrigues - (Ex. player of Verna SC)		
Mr. Necio Fernandes - (Player of Dempo Sports Club)		
Mr. Beneston Barreto - (Player of Mohammedan sporting Club)		
Smt. Loren Fernandes - (Ex-Sarpanch V.P. Verna)		
Shri. Remegio Fernandes - (Ex-President of Verna Sports Club & Panch Member of V.P. Verna)		
Smt. Jessica Fernandes - (Panch Member V.P. Verna)		
Shri. Olavo Gama - (Ex-Physical Education Director, Carmel College)		
Sancen Fernandes (President)		
Joan D'Silva (Secretary)		
Noel D'Silva (Sports Secretary)		
Savio Fernandes (Org. Secretary)		
Remedios Fernandes (Asst. Treasurer)		

