

# Djokovic tames Alcaraz to set up semis clash with Zverev

Sabalenka survives scare; Sinner plays Alex de Minaur in quarters on Thursday



Serbia's Novak Djokovic celebrates the match point against Spain's Carlos Alcaraz during their men's singles quarter-final match on Day 10 of the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on Tuesday. (Right) Belarus' Aryna Sabalenka celebrates a victory over Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova after women's singles quarter-final match

AFP, MELBOURNE: A vintage Novak Djokovic tamed Carlos Alcaraz in a late-night blockbuster to set up an Australian Open semi-final with Alexander Zverev as two-time women's defending champion Aryna Sabalenka fought on.



The 37-year-old Djokovic rolled back the years at the scene of his greatest achievements on Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne with a 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 triumph sealed close to 1 am (local time).

The Serb surged into the semi-finals and a date with World Number No. 2 Zverev to edge closer to an 11th Melbourne crown and all-time record 25th Slam title.

With former rival Andy Murray now in his coaching



## Bopanna-Zhang ousted

PTI, MELBOURNE: Rohan Bopanna and Shuai Zhang had a match point in the Super Tie-break but could not close out the mixed doubles quarterfinals in their favour as local wild cards John Peers and Olivia Gadecki emerged winners in an exciting contest at the Australian Open here on Tuesday. Bopanna and Zhang lost 6-2 4-6 9-11 in one hour and eight minutes at Kia Arena, bringing curtains on India's campaign at the first Grand Slam of the season.

corner, Djokovic was at his imperious and defiant best, cupping his ear to the crowd after winning big points. Djokovic was at the centre of a row on Monday after he demanded an apology -- and got one -- from a local TV presenter for what he called "insulting and offensive comments".

Spain's World Number No. 3 Alcaraz will have to wait another year to get a kangaroo tattoo. He had vowed to get one if he won the Australian Open for the first time. The 21-year-old four-time major champion has still never been

beyond the Melbourne Park last eight.

In hot and windy conditions, Germany's Zverev defeated the American Tommy Paul 7-6 (7/1), 7-6 (7/0), 2-6, 6-1 to step up his quest to win a Grand Slam for the first time.

The 27-year-old lost his cool at one point -- because of a feather. The umpire called for a replay when the feather drifted in front of him as he played a shot at a critical juncture.

World Number No. 1 and defending champion Jannik Sinner plays home hope Alex de Minaur in the quarter-fi-

nals on Thursday, the winner facing American 21st seed Ben Shelton or the unseeded Italian Lorenzo Sonego.

Sabalenka will face Paula Badosa in the last four as the Belarusian bids to win the Australian Open for a third time in a row, something last achieved 26 years ago by Martina Hingis.

The World Number No. 1 kept that dream alive but had to battle for it in beating Russian 27th seed Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-2, 2-6, 6-3 in the wind.

Sabalenka next plays Badosa, the Spanish 11th seed who stunned world number three Coco Gauff 7-5, 6-4. Badosa is into her first Slam semi-final at the age of 27.

On Wednesday, Iga Swiatek will look to continue her march to a first Australian Open title when she faces Emma Navarro. The winner plays Madison Keys or Elina Svitolina in the last four.

## Tanisha-Ashwini, Satwik-Chirag march on

PTI, JAKARTA: India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty stormed into the second round of the US\$475,000 Indonesia Masters super 500 badminton with a clinical straight-game win against Chinese Taipei's Chen Zhi Ray and Lin Yu Chieh in Jakarta on Tuesday.

The Asian Games champions, who reached back-to-back semi-finals at Malaysia Super 1000 and India Super 750 in the last two weeks, outwitted Chen and Lin, ranked 38th in the world, 21-16, 21-15 in their opening match. World No. 19 combination of Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa stamped their authority over Thai pair of Ornnicha Jong-sathapornparn and Sukitta Suwachai 21-6, 21-14 in the women's doubles opening round.

Satwik and Chirag, the former world number ones, will face the winner of the match between Indonesia's Raymond Inra and Patra Harapan Rindorindo and Thailand's Kittinupong Kedren and Dechapol Puavaranukroh. Ashwini and Tanisha, who won the Guwahati Masters super 100 title, last month will take on Malaysia's Pei Kee Go and Mei Xing Teoh next.

In the men's singles, 2023 Odisha Masters runner-up Ayush Shetty brushed aside compatriot Kidambi Srikanth 21-7, 21-15, while Tanya Hemant eked out a hard-fought 16-21, 21-17, 21-15 win over Chinese Taipei's Tung Ciou-Tong in the men's and women's qualifying rounds.

Ayush, a 2023 World junior championships bronze winner, will face top seed China's Shi Yu Qi in the main draw, while Tanya will meet Thailand's former world champion Ratchanok Intanon.

## Praggnanandhaa shares lead

PTI, WIJK AAN ZEE (The Netherlands): Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa scored a finely-crafted victory over compatriot Arjun Erigaisi to share the lead with Uzbek Nodirbek Abdusattorov after the third round of the Tata Steel Chess Tournament here.

Both Praggnanandhaa and Abdusattorov have 2.5 points each. It turned out to be an excellent day for the 19-year-old Indian as he handled the Catalan opening to perfection, getting a tiny advantage and squeezing out the defensive resources right from the early middle game stage. After the trade of Queens, the players reached a rook and knight endgame wherein Erigaisi's fractured pawns on the queenside came under the scrutiny.

**KALA ACADEMY GOA**  
10<sup>th</sup> TIATR 'B' GROUP COMPETITION - (2024-25)  
TODAY'S TIATR  
**TEMPA PORMONNEM, MATEAK KHURPONNEM**  
Doel Dias  
Institution: Menino Jesus Kala Association, Chinchinim  
Venue: Ravindra Bhavan, Margao  
Time: 7.00 p.m.

## Mohun Bagan Super Giant held to a goalless draw

AGENCIES, CHENNAI: Chennaiyin FC held Mohun Bagan Super Giant to a 0-0 draw in the Indian Super League match played at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, here, on Tuesday.

The Mariners continue to be at the top of the table with 37 points from 17 games and the Marina Machans are positioned 10th with 18 points from as many games as the visitors.

It was a cagey affair from start to finish as both teams were unable to create enough openings to break open the opposition's defence.

**ISL FIXTURE**  
Bengaluru FC vs Odisha FC at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium, Bengaluru, 7.30 pm

## GOA DIARY

### Football tournament at Curtorim

RAIA: Margao SC in association with Batora United, Curtorim, will organise 1st Vaurudeancho Ixtt (an oldest Konkani weekly) trophy football tournament from January 28, at the DSYA ground, Curtorim. 16 teams will be participating.

## FC Goa trounce Churchill Bros

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

MAPUSA: FC Goa once again had an easy outing as they trounced Churchill Brothers SC by 9-1 margin in the All India Football Federation U-17 I-League match played at Field of Dreams, Guirim,

## AIFF U-17 I-LEAGUE

on Tuesday.

Young Gaurs started earnestly and scored three goals through Shubb, Meldon and Sam, while Celvic Fernandes pulled one back for Church-

ill Brothers before the break to keep them in the game and make it, 3-1.

However, the Young Gaurs came out flying in the second half and pumped in six more goals through Sam, Sangam, Cayden, Vernon and a brace from Josley to end the rout, 9-1.

## Calangute, Fatorda Veterans enter semis

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

PANJIM: Calangute Veterans and Fatorda Veterans scored contrasting wins to enter the semi-finals of the All

Goa Veterans football tournament organised by Mix Friends of Santa Cruz, at Santa Cruz ground, on Tuesday.

Calangute Veterans defeated Bardez Veterans by a solitary goal

scored by Alwyn Fernandes, while Fatorda Veterans proved too strong for Varca Veterans, scoring a 3-1 win.

Fatorda were helped by a brace scored by Rosario and Vincent, while

Domingos was on target for Varca.



Government Higher Secondary School, Khandola-Marcel, won the Zonal Level U-19 Boys Tennis Ball Cricket Tournament for the second consecutive year organised by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs at Mercedes, recently. In the final, they defeated Vidya Prabhodini Higher Secondary School, Porvorim, by 21 runs. The team along with officials (sitting left to right) Ruchi Verekar (PE teacher), Nagaraj Godekar (PE teacher), Sanjay Shiroadkar (ZSO-DSYA), Hemant Khot (technical official) and Vishal Phautankar (official)

**GRAND RELEASE**  
26th JAN 3:15 PM RAVINDRA BHAVAN  
**SANVORDEM (SUNDAY)**  
FOR TICKETS CONT: 9975258918  
02nd FEB 3:30 PM PAI HALL MARGAO (SUNDAY)  
TIATR FATIMA SAIBINICHEA ASREA KHAL  
FANN'S PRODUCTIONS  
FRANCIS DE DICARPALE  
MHOZO FAIDO  
TUZO KAIDO  
WRI & DIR: FRANCIS DE DICARPALE  
MUSIC BY: SHAMON & HIS TROUPE HERTS TONY STAGE MANAGERS: EDILES  
CONT: 8975965951 / 9923699764

**BY PUBLIC DEMAND - 4<sup>th</sup> REPEAT SHOW**  
**24<sup>th</sup> JAN - 3:30 P.M.**  
**PAI HALL MARGAO**  
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER  
TIATR AL-RIYA PRODUCTION STAGE  
ROMA FERNANDES  
ST. JESUSIA ANIL ST. ANTONIO  
GABRIELA APLO POLIGONIZADA  
PANVDE  
NASLEEM GHOR  
WRI & DIR: ROMA FERNANDES  
MUSIC BY: NOLVERT COTA & ARIF THE GREAT CONT: 8669384011 / 9689875727

## GOOD NEW FOR TIATR LOVERS

BY PUBLIC DEMAND  
LAST LAST LAST SHOW

29 JAN 3:15 PM PAI HALL MARGAO

SEE BABY OZLIA IN HEAVY ACTION

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER

THOSE WHO ARE FAR FROM PAI HALL

CAN CONTACT DIR FOR TICKETS: 9822387884

TIATR MILAGRES DE CHANDOR TIATR

Presenta

Last Kiss

MUSIC: MASTER SEVIN & TIO STAGE: DR. BUNKA RAYMOND LIGHTS: VINESH THE GREAT

## CELEBRATING GOLDEN JUBILEE SHOW

**TODAY**

AT BANDIANTLO KHURIS CORTALIM - 7.30 P.M.

BY PUBLIC DEMAND, POSITIVELY LAST SHOW IN MARGAO

30<sup>th</sup> JAN - 7.30 P.M. - PAI HALL MARGAO

(TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER. ONLINE BOOKING: 7798944546)

TIATR WITH THE BLESSINGS OF OUR LADY OF VAILANKANNI TIATR

ULHAS TARI

6<sup>th</sup> Production

Konn Nhoi

Konnacho

WRI & DIR: ULHAS TARI

BAND: ALEX, YESELON, TREMSON, MYLES, ELETON LIGHT: JAISON TRANSPORT: LUIS

FOR VILLAGE SHOWS CONTACT: 9923033704/7798944546

**Fastest Golden Jubilee Show of the Season**

**MARCHING TOWARDS DIAMOND**

1) 25TH OCT. - SANVORDEM

2) 26TH OCT. - PARRA

3) 27TH OCT. - VELIM

4) 28TH OCT. - PANJIM

5) 29TH OCT. - MARGAO

6) 30TH OCT. - TIVIM

7) 2ND NOV. - CANDOLIM

8) 3RD NOV. - VASCO

9) 8TH NOV. - MARGAO

10) 9TH NOV. - CHINCHINIM

11) 10TH NOV. - ARPORA

12) 11TH NOV. - AGASSAIM

13) 12TH NOV. - MERCES

14) 14TH NOV. - MANDUR

15) 15TH NOV. - MARGAO

16) 16TH NOV. - SIOLIM

17) 17TH NOV. - PANJIM

18) 17TH NOV. - MANDREM

19) 20TH NOV. - NAVELIM

20) 22ND NOV. - NUVEM

21) 24TH NOV. - MARGAO

22) 24TH NOV. - BETALBATIM

23) 30TH NOV. - ARAMBOL

24) 3RD DEC. - MORJIM

25) 5TH DEC. - MARGAO

(25TH SHOW)

26) 7TH DEC. - BORIM

27) 8TH DEC. - SANVORDEM

28) 8TH DEC. - KURDEM

29) 9TH DEC. - CARMONA

30) 10TH DEC. - TUEM

31) 13TH DEC. - MAINA

32) 14TH DEC. - ANJUNA

33) 17TH DEC. - MARGAO

34) 19TH DEC. - DIVAR

35) 25TH DEC. - SIRCAIM

36) 26TH DEC. - COLLEM

37) 27TH DEC. - COLVALE

38) 28TH DEC. - MARGAO

39) 30TH DEC. - MOKKORNE

40) 1ST JAN. - NASNOLA

41) 4TH JAN. - AGONDA

42) 5TH JAN. - DANDO-COLVA

43) 6TH JAN. - CHANDOR

44) 10TH JAN. - MARGAO

45) 12TH JAN. - CANACONA

46) 16TH JAN. - PARODA

47) 17TH JAN. - COLVA-5TH WARD

48) 19TH JAN. - GALGIBARG

49) 21ST JAN. - BOGMALO

50) 22ND JAN. - BANDIANTLO KHURIS

(50TH SHOW)

51) 25TH JAN. - PANCHWADDI

52) 26TH JAN. - CONSUA

53) 27TH JAN. - ZUARI

54) 28TH JAN. - ST. CRUZ

55) 29TH JAN. - VARCA - PEDDA

56) 30TH JAN. - MARGAO

57) 2ND FEB. - CANDOLIM

58) 3RD FEB. - POMBURPA

59) 11TH FEB. - ODXEL

... and the show goes on

Congratulations to

**ULHAS TARI & HIS TROUPE**

Best Wishes from:

**PAULO & WILMA, Colva (U.K.)**