

sportspopup

India defender Subhasish named men's player of the year; Soumya wins in women's section
BHUBANESWAR: India defender and Mohun Bagan Super Giant's ISL double-winning captain Subhasish Bose was on Friday named the country's Men's Player of the Year after a memorable season, while East Bengal FC striker Soumya Guguloth won the honour in the women's section. Under Bose's leadership, Mohun Bagan SG completed a historic Indian Super League double, winning both the League Winners' Shield and the ISL Cup in the same season. They secured the win over Bengaluru FC in the final, with a final score of 2-1 last month. This achievement makes them only the second team in ISL history to achieve this feat, after Mumbai City FC in 2020-21. Jamshedpur FC gaffer Khalid Jamil was named the Men's Coach of the Year for the second time in a row during the awards function hosted by the All India Football Federation. Sujata Kar was given the Women's Coach of the Year award for leading newly-promoted Sribhumi FC to a third-place finish in the Indian Women's League. Midfield mstermind Brisson Fernandes was named the Most Promising Men's Player of the Year, while 18-year-old defender Thoibisana Chanu won the Most Promising Women's Player of the Year award. Vishal Kaith was named the Men's Goalkeeper of the Year, while Panthoi Chanu won the honour in the women's section for keeping the maximum number of clean sheets in the IWL. In recognition of consistent officiating on the pitch and the touchline, Venkatesh R was named Male Referee of the Year, while Tekcham Ranjita Devi received the Female Referee of the Year honour. Vairamuthu P was chosen as the Male Assistant Referee of the Year, while the Female Assistant Referee of the Year went to Riiohlang Dhar.

Swiatek thrashed by Gauff, Sabalenka returns to Madrid final
MADRID: Reigning champion Iga Swiatek suffered a crushing 6-1, 6-1 semi-final defeat by Coco Gauff on Thursday, with the American to face world number one Aryna Sabalenka for the Madrid Open title. The second-ranked Swiatek, a five-time Grand Slam winner, dropped serve five times against Gauff as the Pole fell in 64 minutes. Swiatek, usually excellent on clay, has struggled during her Madrid title defence. Gauff, 21, broke in the third, fifth and seventh games to blow Swiatek away in the first set, converting her second set point. Last year's runner-up Sabalenka sealed a return to the final after battling past Ukraine's in-form Elina Svitolina 6-3, 7-5. In the men's draw, Casper Ruud reached the semi-finals with a 6-3, 7-5 triumph over Daniil Medvedev. Ruud, ranked 15th, will face Francisco Cerundolo in the final four after he edged past Jakub Mensik 3-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-2. Fifth seed Jack Draper swept past Matteo Arnaldi 6-0, 6-4. He meets Lorenzo Musetti next after the Italian brushed Canada's Gabriel Diallo aside 6-4, 6-3.

Stokes fit to captain England against Zimbabwe
LONDON: Ben Stokes was given the all-clear to captain England in their one-off Test against Zimbabwe later this month as he was named in a 13-man squad announced Friday. The 33-year-old all-rounder has been recovering from hamstring surgery after breaking down in New Zealand in December, his second hamstring tear in five months. Stokes has not featured for county side Durham so far this season but is set to skipper England in the opening Test of their home season, which is a four-day game rather than the standard five, at Trent Bridge from May 22 to 25. England selector Luke Wright expects Stokes, a lively seamer, to play a full part with both bat and ball against Zimbabwe even though he is not due to play any competitive cricket before the Test.

ECB bars transgender players from women's cricket with immediate effect
LONDON: The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on Friday banned transgender players from competing in women's and girls' matches with immediate effect, complying with a recent Supreme Court ruling that excludes them from the legal definition of women. The ECB's decision came less than 24 hours after the Football Association (FA) took a similar resolution. A statement issued by ECB said that it is announcing a change to its regulations on the eligibility of transgender players after an "updated legal position" following the recent Supreme Court ruling. "With immediate effect, only those whose biological sex is female will be eligible to play in women's cricket and girls' cricket matches. Transgender women and girls can continue playing in open and mixed cricket," the ECB statement said. The ECB said while it was all for inclusivity in sports, the Supreme Court decision has prompted it to formulate new rules for women's and girls' cricket.

Women's hockey: India eye positive end to tough Australian tour
PERTH: Having endured three consecutive defeats, India will look to turn the tide by trying out new strategies when they clash with hosts Australia again in their fourth match of the five-game series, here, on Saturday. The visitors, led by Salima Tete, had lost 3-5 and 2-3 to Australia 'A' in the first two matches of the exposure trip before going down 0-2 to Australia at the Perth Hockey Stadium on Thursday. With one eye on the World Cup next year and the Hockey Pro League in Europe next month, the tour Down Under is the best opportunity for India to streamline their technique and tactics. But, unfortunately, they haven't met with success so far. "The women's team is working hard behind the scenes to ensure that the squad is a robust one. While we have not had much success in terms of winning games on the tour of Australia, there have been plenty of positives from the performances already," said chief coach Harendra Singh in a Hockey India release.

Real Madrid or Leverkusen? Xabi is waiting for news just like everyone else
BERLIN: Xabi Alonso is waiting just like everyone else to see who will coach Real Madrid next season. The Spanish coach said on Friday he knew "nothing new" about his future amid links to his former club, but that he understands why the uncertainty continues and no decisions have been made. "I respect what happens in other clubs," the Bayer Leverkusen coach said. "It's not a situation that I need to talk about. I know that they're at a stage in the season in which they're still fighting for the championship, and we also have our goals. The season isn't over, so we must wait." Alonso is widely expected to return to Madrid — where he played from 2009-14 — and take over if current coach Carlo Ancelotti departs at the end of the season. The 65-year-old Italian's contract with Madrid runs for another season but he is being courted by the Brazilian Football Confederation after what has been a disappointing season so far for the Spanish powerhouse. Madrid was eliminated by Arsenal in the Champions League quarterfinals, lost the Copa del Rey final to bitter rival Barcelona last weekend, and is trailing the Catalan club by four points with five rounds remaining in La Liga. They meet again in Barcelona on May 11.

Gujarat Titans back on track with big win, Sunrisers Hyderabad out of play-offs race

The trio of Gill, Buttler and Sudharsan fired in unison to propel Gujarat Titans to 224 for 6; in reply Sunrisers Hyderabad were off to a good start too but could not sustain for long and were stopped at 186 for 6

PTI, AHMEDABAD: Gujarat Titans roared back to winning ways with a 38-run mauling of Sunrisers Hyderabad after Prasidh Krishna's outstanding bowling complemented Shubman Gill and Jos Buttler's explosive half-centuries in the Indian Premier League match played, here, on Friday.

The result meant SRH are all but out of the play-offs race, even as GT boosted their prospects. The trio of Gill, Buttler and Sai Sudharsan fired in unison to propel GT to 224 for six.

In reply, SRH were off to a good start too but could not sustain for long and were stopped at 186 for six.

Abhishek Sharma top-scored for SRH with 74 off 41 balls.

This was after Gill blazed away to a 38-ball 76, and Sudharsan chipped in with a breezy 23-ball 48 while

forging an opening stand of 87 runs in just 6.5 overs, following which Buttler took GT past 200 with his 64 off 37 deliveries.

Prasidh once again excelled with the ball for GT, finishing with excellent

figures of 2/19 in 4 overs. The only cause of concern for GT this evening came when Ishant limped off the ground after failing to complete the final over.

SRH, though, meant business at the start of their in-

nings as Mohammed Siraj (2/33) went for 22 runs in his first two overs, while Ishant Sharma conceded 20 in his first two.

However, a spectacular catch in the deep by Rashid Khan ended Travis Head's innings after he covered a lot of ground to reach the ball, having run from deep square leg and then change his direction to judge it to perfection.

Ishan Kishan got out for 13 after consuming 17 balls, as the required rate went over 14.

Despite the presence of

Abhishek and Heinrich in the middle for SRH, the match was already in GT's bag thanks to the asking rate that gone past 16.

Meanwhile, an upset Gill engaged in an animated chat with the two umpires over a review call involving Abhishek, who was seen trying to calm the GT captain.

Sent in to bat, Gujarat Titans skipper Gill got the innings underway with a flick off a loose Mohammed Shami deliv-

ery for a six.

Having conceded 11 runs in the first over, Shami looked off-colour as Sudharsan dispatched the seamer for five boundaries, including four on the trot.

SRH captain Pat Cummins brought himself into the attack, but the carnage continued as Gill launched into his opposite number, first greeting him with a cover drive and then playing an even better shot through the gap between mid-off and cover.

SCOREBOARD

Gujarat Titans: Sai Sudharsan c Klaasen b Ansari 48, *Shubman Gill run out (Klaasen) 76, Jos Buttler c Sharma b Cummins 64, Washington Sundar c Reddy b Unadkat 21, Shahrukh Khan not out 6, Rahul Tewatia c Verma b Unadkat 6, Rashid Khan c and b Unadkat 0. **Extras:** 3. **Total:** 224-6. **Fall of wickets:** 87-1, 149-2, 206-3, 218-4, 224-5, 224-6. **Bowling:** Mohammed Shami 3-0-48-0, Jaydev Unadkat 4-0-35-3, *Pat Cummins 4-0-40-1, Harshal Patel 3-0-41-0, Zeshan Ansari 4-0-42-1, Kamindu Mendis 2-0-18-0. **Sunrisers Hyderabad:** Travis Head c Khan b Krishna 20, Abhishek Sharma c Siraj b Sharma 77, Ishan Kishan c Krishna b Coetzee 13, Heinrich Klaasen c Buttler b Krishna 23, Aniket Verma c Khan b Siraj 3, Nitish Kumar Reddy not out 21, Kamindu Mendis c Buttler b Siraj 0, *Pat Cummins not out 19. **Extras:** 12. **Total:** 186-6. **Fall of wickets:** 49-1, 82-2, 139-3, 141-4, 145-5, 145-6. **Bowling:** Mohammed Siraj 4-0-33-2, Ishant Sharma 4-0-37-1, Prasidh Krishna 4-0-19-2, Gerald Coetzee 4-0-36-1, Washington Sundar 1-0-6-0, Rashid Khan 3-0-50-0.

Man-of-the-match: Prasidh Krishna

TODAY'S IPL FIXTURE

Royal Challengers Bengaluru vs Chennai Super Kings, at the M Chinnaswamy Cricket Stadium, Bengaluru, at 7.30 pm

GFA U-17 Div II League: USC Seraulim win



Zidane Shaikh of Cuncolim Union was adjudged as the man-of-the-match



Ronaldo Pereira of Gatamorod receives the man-of-the-match from Florian D'Mello



Velton Fernandes scored the all-important goal in the 6th minute of the match. Zidane Shaikh of Cuncolim Union was adjudged as the man-of-the-match.

Loyola HS in finals

Perpetual Succour Convent High School, Navelim, downed The King's School, Sao Jose Areal, 2-0, in the first semi-final to enter the final in the U-14 boys category of 5th All Goa inter-school Sir Jawaharlal Da Costa football tournament organised by United Sports Club of Seraulim at Seraulim panchayat ground, on Friday.

Perpetual Succour Convent High School scored both the goals in the first half through Royden Carvalho and Cyndro Souza.

In the second semi-final, Loyola High School, Margao, made easy work of Saviour of the World, Loutolim, 4-1 also to move into the final.

Jaisman Gomes scored a hat-trick and Gareth Rebello added one more for Loyola HS. Ashwin Miranda reduced the margin for Saviour of the World.

In the U-12 boys semi-finals, Marina English High School, Verna, proved too strong and hammered The King's School, Sao Jose de Areal, 5-1, to move into the final.

Nitesh Yadav scored a brace and Arprit Ming, Nunzio Ferrao and Ericsson Gama scored a goal each for Marina English High School.

Issac Mendes reduced the margin for The King's School. Loyola High School entered the final defeating Saviour of the World. Nathan Afonso scored a brace for Loyola HS. The finals are slated for May 4, at 3.15 pm.

Team Herald

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RAIA/CALANGUTE: USC Seraulim scored a solitary goal win over CAC Cansaulim to collect full points in the Goa Football Association U-17 Division II League match played at Cansaulim ground, on Friday.

Alvito Pereira scored the winning goal for USC Seraulim in the 37th minute.

The match between Panchwadi United SC and Salcete FC ended in a 1-1 draw. Sayan Nagvenkar gave an early lead to Salcete FC which was later cancelled by Roydon Noronha for Panchwadi United in the second session.

Calangute Association Cup: Raia SC march into last four

Raia Sporting Club secured a decisive victory against Goa Velha Sporting Club 3-0 in a thrilling quarter-final match to move into the semi-finals of Calangute Association Cup inter-village football tournament played at the Poriat ground, here, on Friday. Star forward Velroy Borges led Raia SC's charge with two remarkable goals in the 5th and 55th minute, showcasing exceptional control and finishing. The third goal came from

For his stellar performance, Velroy Borges was awarded the man-of-the-match by Calangute Association's Organising Committee Treasurer Gabriel Fernandes

Alvon Vaz in the 23rd minute, further solidifying Raia SC's dominance on the field.

Holy Cross Trophy: Uguem Rising dominate CAC Cansaulim

Uguem Rising Club delivered a stunning performance by thrashing CAC Cansaulim 5-0 to move into the semi-finals of 27th Holy Cross inter-village football tournament played at Vodlemoll ground, Kakoda, on Friday.

Uguem Rising Club wasted no time, with Hutrihik Badodkar opening the scoring in very 4th minute with a low strike into the bottom corner. Prathamesh Goakar doubled the lead three minutes later with a similar effort, giving Uguem Rising Club a quick 2-0 advantage.

Austin Coutinho added a third in the 38th minute, followed by a confidently taken penalty by Youhan Dias just two minutes later. Sidroy Gomes rounded off the first-half rout in the 46th minute, beating the goalkeeper one-on-one to make it, 5-0.

Rebello Pandal football: Gatamorod Boys in semis

Gatamorod Boys, Navelim, outplayed Micon Warriors, Agalli, 2-0 to enter into the semi-finals of 18th Rebello Pandal football tournament played at St Rita Church ground, Maina-Curtorim, on Friday.

Ronaldo Pereira opened the scoreline for Gatamorod Boys in the first session of play, while Bonny Niasso scored in the second session of play and seal the fate of Micon Warriors.

Navelim Sporting Club pipped Cuncolim Union by solitary goal to enter the quarter-finals of St Rock's Super Soccer inter-village football tournament played at Calata ground, Majorda, on Friday.

Velton Fernandes scored the all-important goal in the 6th minute of the match. Zidane Shaikh of Cuncolim Union was adjudged as the man-of-the-match.

Inter-school football: Marina English HS, Perpetual Convent,

TODAY'S SPORTS

GFA U-17 Division II League (South Zone) Group A: Wilred Leisure SC vs Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda, at Navelim ground, 4.15 pm
Panjim Veterans soccer semi-final: Verem Veterans vs Goa Police Veterans, at Taleigao ground, 5 pm
Holy Cross Sports Club football (3rd quarter-final): Navelim Sporting Club vs Cuncolim Union, at Vodlemoll ground, Kakoda, at 4.30 pm
33rd St Rock Super Soccer: St Anthony SC, Colva, vs SC Davorlim, at Majorda ground, 4.30 pm
Peddem Bomm Cup 1st quarter-final: Peddem Bomm SC, Anjuna, vs Xetrapal SC, Oxel-Siolim, at Peddem Bomm ground, Anjuna, 4.30 pm
Calangute Association Cup inter-village football (quarter-final): Sinquirim Sports Club vs Assnora United, at Poriat ground, Calangute, 4.30 pm

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