

shorttakes

Tilak rises to third in T20 batting rankings, set to play for Hampshire in County Championship
DUBAI/ HYDERABAD: India's Tilak Varma climbed one spot to third in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings, while spinners Varun Chakaravathy and Ravi Bishnoi held on to the third and seventh positions respectively in the latest bowling chart released on Wednesday. In the bowling rankings, besides Chakaravathy (706) and Bishnoi (674), left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh is also in the top 10 with 653 points. Hardik Pandya continues to lead the all-rounders' list with 252 rating points. Meanwhile, Tilak is set to represent Hampshire in the County Championship after being approached by the English club, the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) said on Wednesday.

Indian junior women's team fights past Belgium 2-1

ANTWERP: Indian women's hockey team edged out Belgium 2-1 to register their second successive win during the European tour here. Lalthantlangi (35') and Geeta Yadav (50') scored for India after a goalless first-half at the Hockey Center of Excellence on Tuesday. India scored the opening goal after Lalthantlangi successfully converted a penalty stroke. In the last quarter, Van Hellemont (48') scored the equaliser through a field goal. However, two minutes later, Geeta replied with a field goal and grabbed the winner for India. India then defended well to fend off the Belgian attacks in the final 10 minutes. India had beaten Belgium 3-2 in the first match, and the visitors will next play their European counterparts in the third and final match on June 12.

Bhambri-Galloway pair exits Boss Open

STUTTGART: India's number one doubles player Yuki Bhambri and his American partner Robert Galloway fought their hearts out before losing the BOSS Open pre-quarterfinals, here. In a match where both sets were decided by tie-breakers, the Indo-American combine lost 6-7 (5) 6-7 (5) to Santiago Gonzalez from Mexico and Austin Krajicek from the USA in one hour and 34 minutes. India's challenge is still alive in the tournament, with veteran Rohan Bopanna and N. Sriam Balaji competing with their respective partners. Balaji and his Mexican partner Miguel Reyes-Varela are up against the second-seeded French pair of Sadio Doumbia and Fabien Reboul. The 45-year-old Bopanna has teamed up with Belgium's Sander Gille and they will take on the local combination of Jakob Schnaitter and Mark Wallner.

Manchester City signs Reijnders from AC Milan to complete spending spree

MANCHESTER: Manchester City concluded a \$150 million spending spree ahead of the Club World Cup by announcing the signing of Netherlands midfielder Tijani Reijnders from AC Milan on Wednesday. The 26-year-old Reijnders moved for an initial fee of 55 million euros (\$63 million) and is the second midfielder — after France playmaker Remy Cherkhi — to join City in the special June 1-10 transfer window created to allow sides in the 32-team Club World Cup to reshape their squads. City paid Lyon \$41 million for Cherkhi and also signed Algeria left back Rayan Ait-Nouri from Wolverhampton for \$42 million. City announced the transfer of Reijnders a day after the special transfer window closed but appears to have signed him in time for him to play in the new-look, 32-team Club World Cup, which starts on Saturday. City is in the same group as Juventus, Al Ain and Wydad Casablanca and its first match is on June 18.

Manu Bhaker, Chain Singh enter finals but miss medals in shooting World Cup

MUNICH: Paris Olympics medalist Manu Bhaker and senior pro Chain Singh made it to the finals of their respective events but could not nail a podium finish as India endured a medal-less day at the ISSF World Cup here Wednesday. Double Olympic bronze-medalist shooter Bhaker finished sixth in 25m pistol after entering the eight-shooter final placed fifth with an aggregate 'precision' and 'rapid fire' score of 588. Chain made it to final of the men's 50m rifle 3-positions event on the back of a fine qualification round score but finished seventh in the eight-shooter medal round. On the opening day of the competition on Tuesday, India won a bronze through Elavenil Valarivan in women's 10m air rifle event.

Women's ODI WC: Delay in formation of local organising committee creates disquiet in BCCI

NEW DELHI: The Women's ODI World Cup is not far away but host BCCI is yet to form the local organising committee responsible for the smooth conduct of the ICC event. The formation of the LOC was on the agenda in the BCCI Apex Council meeting held in March but no decision was taken at that time. Earlier this month, the ICC announced the partial schedule of the tournament to be played across five venues from September 30 to November 2. Colombo will be the neutral venue for the games involving Pakistan as per the agreed hybrid model by BCCI, PCB, ICC for all ICC events till 2027. The BCCI top brass was busy with the conduct of the IPL till June 3 and with Apex Council expected to meet soon, the LOC could finally be formed.

Duckett stars as England complete T20 sweep against West Indies

SOUTHAMPTON: Ben Duckett starred with a blistering 84 from just 46 balls as England wrapped up a T20 series sweep of the West Indies with a 37-run victory on Tuesday. England opener Duckett blasted 10 fours and two sixes as he set a frenetic pace in the hosts' score of 248-3 from 20 overs in Southampton. Rovman Powell's unbeaten 79 was a defiant response from the West Indies, but they still fell short, finishing on 211-8 as England white-ball captain Harry Brook made it six successive victories to start his reign. Having crushed the West Indies 3-0 in the one-day international series, this was another impressive display of England's batting power. Smith, who partnered Duckett at the top of the England batting order, smashed 60 in 26 balls, with four boundaries and five sixes. The pair put on 120 for the first wicket in 8.5 overs before Brook hit 35 not out and Jacob Bethell produced an electric 36 not out from only 16 balls.

TODAY'S SPORTS

24th Vagator Soccer 2025 (quarters): Sao Jose de Areal SC vs Saligao United, at Vagator football ground, at 4.30 pm

Benaulim Panchayat Cup: Sporting Club Davorlim vs Navelim Villagers Union (1st semi-final) at St John the Baptist Panchayat ground, at 4.45 pm

Silver Jubilee Cup 2025: SFX Camarxett SC vs Batora United, St Alex Church ground, Curtorim, at 5 pm

Brazil, Ecuador book World Cup berths, Uruguay on brink

AFP, SAO PAULO (Brazil): Brazil booked their place at the 2026 World Cup in North America on Tuesday with a lackluster 1-0 home victory over Paraguay, the first win of Carlo Ancelotti's reign.

The five-time world champions punched their ticket to the finals in Canada, the United States and Mexico thanks to Vinicius Jr. The Real Madrid star poked in from close range in the 44th minute in Sao Paulo after a cross from new Manchester United signing Matheus Cunha.

It was the perfect gift for the Italian Ancelotti on his 66th birthday, having seen his new side held 0-0 by Ecuador last week in his first game as coach.

Uruguay's 2-0 win over Venezuela in Montevideo had raised the prospect of qualification for both Brazil and Paraguay at Corinthians Arena.

Paraguay needed only a point to qualify while Brazil knew they could advance with a win.

In the event it was Brazil who seized the opportunity presented by Venezuela's loss with Vinicius scoring the only goal just before half-time.

Surprise package Ecuador joined Brazil by sealing qualification with a point following a 0-0 draw with Peru in Lima.

In other games, Uruguay edged closer to qualification with their win over Venezuela while Chile were

eliminated with defeat to Bolivia.

Goals from Rodrigo Aguirre and Giorgian de Arascaeta secured all three points for Marcelo Bielsa's Uruguay to leave the two-time world champions firmly on course for a place in next year's finals.

Like Paraguay, Uruguay need only a point from their final two games to qualify.

Venezuela, who are bidding to reach the World Cup for the first time in the nation's history, are seventh with 18 points from 16 games.

Argentina, who have already qualified, came from behind to frustrate Colombia with a 1-1 draw in Buenos Aires.

Liverpool star Luis Diaz

frid Colombia into the lead with a superb 24th minute goal, and the Colombians were given a further boost midway through the second half when the world champions were reduced to 10 men after Enzo Fernandez's dismissal.

But Colombia's hopes of a vital win were dashed nine minutes from time when Thiago Almada weaved into the box and found the target to level.

The top six finishers in South America qualify automatically for the World Cup, with the seventh-placed team advancing to an inter-continental playoff.

Bolivia defeated Chile 2-0 to end the former South American champions' hopes of qualification.

Netherlands thrash Malta, Poland stumble

AFP, PARIS: Netherlands maintained their winning start to European 2026 World Cup qualifying by dismissing Malta 8-0 on Tuesday, while their group rivals Poland lost to Finland in a match interrupted due to a medical emergency in the crowd.

The results leave Finland top of Group G on seven points, one ahead of the Dutch who have played two matches less. Poland sit third on six points after three played.

Poland began life without leading goalscorer Robert Lewandowski in miserable fashion as they went down 2-1 in Helsinki.

Starc strikes as Australia fight back against SA

AFP, LONDON: Mitchell Starc led Australia's recovery as the defending champions fought back with the ball against South Africa on the first day of the World Test Championship final at Lord's on Wednesday.

WTC FINAL

Australia were dismissed for just 212 after South Africa captain Temba Bavuma won the toss in overcast, bowler-friendly, conditions, with spearhead quick Kagiso Rabada taking 5-51.

But at stumps South Africa had slumped to 43-4 in reply, a deficit of 169 runs. Kagiso Rabada took five

wickets as South Africa dismissed Australia for 212 after tea on Wednesday's opening day of the World Test Championship final at Lord's.

The paceman finished with impressive figures of 5-51 in 15.4 overs. Rabada struck twice in a single over as he reduced Australia to 16-2, dismissing Usman Khawaja and Cameron Green following South Africa captain Temba Bavuma's decision to field in overcast conditions.

Rabada also dismissed Australia captain Pat Cummins and top-scorer Beau Webster (72) before bowling Mitchell Starc to end the innings.

Hockey: Poor defence hands Men in Blue third straight loss

PTI, AMSTELVEEN (The Netherlands): Sloppy defending cost the Indian men's hockey team dearly as it went down 3-4 to Argentina, slumping to its third consecutive defeat in the European leg of the FIH Pro League here on Wednesday.

The Indian defence were caught off guard by the Los Leones as they scored through skipper Matias Rey (3rd minute), Lucas Martinez (17th), Santiago Tarazona (34th) and Lucio Mendez (46th) to secure the win.

India's goals were scored by skipper Harmanpreet Singh (12th, 33rd) and Abhishek (42nd).

Tony hat-trick powers Bhatti SC into semis

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Tony Dias receives man-of-the-match award from Baptisto Fernandes but Valzino Fernandes' shot struck the post and

went out of play. Bhatti SC capitalised soon after, with Tony Dias opening the scoring in the 10th minute to make it 1-0.

Dias doubled the lead in the 20th minute, giving Bhatti SC a strong 2-0 advantage going into half-time.

In the second half, Bhatti extended their dominance as Ralf Dias added a third goal in the 35th minute. Tony Dias completed his hat-trick in the 40th min-

ute, making it 4-0 for the home side.

Cumborda managed to pull one back through Roy Fernandes in the 45th minute, but Bhatti responded swiftly, with Ralf Dias scoring his second goal in the 50th minute to seal a comprehensive 5-1 win.

Tony Dias was named man-of-the-match and received the award from Baptisto Fernandes, a member of the Sporting Club of Virabhat.

Pedro treble powers Calangute; Assonora win

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MAPUSA: Two thrilling quarter-final clashes at the 24th Vagator Soccer 2025 tournament saw St Savio Sports Club, Calangute and Assonora United FC book their places in the semi-finals after impressive performances on back-to-back days at the Vagator football ground.

On Wednesday, St Savio SC, Calangute, cruised past hosts Vagator Parish Youth Sports Club with a dominant 5-1 win. The match tilted in Calangute's favour early when Vagator's Sahil Gadekar was shown a straight red card in the 4th minute for handling the ball inside the penalty box. Pedro Gonsalves coolly converted the resulting penalty to make it 1-0.

Gonsalves struck again in the 17th minute with his second successful penalty after another foul in the box. Calangute extended their dominance as Fasel D'Souza netted the third just before the interval.

Resuming after half-time, Calangute showed no signs of relenting. Domic Fernandes added a fourth, before Gonsalves completed his hat-trick in the 52nd minute, sealing a comprehensive 5-0 lead. Vagator managed a late consolation

through Kunal Virmodkar in the 70th minute.

Pedro Gonsalves was awarded man-of-the-match for his standout performance, netting a fine treble.

A day earlier, Assonora United FC edged past Sinnerim SC with a 3-0 win via the tie-breaker after a goalless stalemate in regulation time.

Assonora created the better chances in open play, with Prajot Naik leading the charge. He fired a long-range effort narrowly over in the 5th minute, missed a close opportunity in the 13th from a Jovian Conceicao cross, and again tested the keeper in the 18th with a powerful drive. Punaji Kalangutkar came closest to scoring when his header was cleared off the line by Sinnerim's Aiyon Shaikh.

Sinnerim too had a chance through Pratik Tirodkar in the 26th minute, but it was comfortably saved. With the score locked at 0-0, the match went into penalties.

Sinnerim failed to convert any of their spot-kicks, while Assonora made no mistake — with successful penalties from Kunal Salgaonkar, Sattyam Gawas, and Prajot Arabekar sealing the win.

Prajot Naik was named man-of-the-match for his consistent attacking presence throughout the contest.

TOMORROW
JAWAN IS COMING TO CANDOLIM
13TH JUNE 7.30PM
DANDO A/C HALL
CANDOLIM
8888718809 / 9822393408
CANDOLIM SHOW TICKET BOOKING : SANTAN 9765508312 / 7798800494

SEASON'S TOP SHOW COMES TO PANJIM BY PUBLIC DEMAND
15TH JUNE 10:30AM PANJIM
DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF THE HALL FOR MAINTENANCE ONLY ONE SHOW IN PANJIM MORNING SHOW
For Panjim show tickets contact Jason 9300985421 (Ticket price Rs 200)
15TH JUNE 7:45 PM MARGAO
For tickets contact Jack: 8527915348
Attention audience: Due to non-availability of Ravindra Bhavan Hall Margao all shows have to be shifted to GVN Hall Margao (Ticket price at Rs 250 to only cover cost at GVN)
Ticket prices will be back to normal once shows resume at Pai Tiatr Hall Margao after repairs. Please bear with us.
06TH JULY 3:30 PM RAVINDRA BHAVAN
27TH JULY 3:30PM VASCO

NEVIA PRODUCTION
17TH JUNE 7.30 PM K.A PANJIM
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER
29TH JUNE 3.30 P.M. R.B.VASCO
(FOR TICKETS CONT-9637998260 RODRIGUES TAILOR)

KONKANI COMEDY FILM
ON 14 JUNE 3.30 P.M. GOMANT VIDHYA NIKETAN HALL MARGAO
WITH COMEDY SUPERSTAR
PRINCE JACOB JOHN D'SILVA RAJIV HEDE
FOR BOOKING CONTACT 9822488450

14TH JUNE AT GVN, MARGAO AT 7:30 PM
BOLLYWOOD SENSATION - VARSHA USGAONKER, HOLLYWOOD STAR - DHIRUV SINERO
MARIANO FERNANDES PRESENTS HIS NEW TIATR
DEVACHEM NAVN JIETAM HANU
WRI. & DIR. BY: MARIANO FERNANDES
GRAND RELEASE 15TH JUNE - RAVINDRA BHAVAN, VASCO - 3:30 PM
18TH JUNE - KALA ACADEMY, PANJIM - 7:30 PM
IN GOA 22ND JUNE - RAVINDRA BHAVAN, SANVORDEM - 3:30 PM

POSITIVELY LAST SHOW AT PANJIM SATURDAY
14TH JUN - 7.30 P.M. - K.A. PANJIM
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER
FOR ONLINE BOOKING: 7350839227/9309985421
29TH JUN - 3.30 P.M. - G.V.N. MARGAO

Khuim Vhortolo?
WITH THE BLESSINGS OF PADR AGNEL FRANCIS DE TUEN PRESENTS HIS 10TH TIATR

15th JUNE 3.30 RAVINDRA BHAVAN SAVORDEM
FOR SAVORDEM TICKETS CONTACT 9975258918
18th JUNE 7.30 G.V.N. MARGAO
AIR.M.ASA. Production
SMILE PLEASE
22ND JUNE 3.30 RAJIV KALA MANDIR PONDA
FOR PONDA TICKETS CONTACT 9960609920

19th JUNE - 3.30 P.M. G.V.N MARGAO
ALL TICKETS SOLD AT RAVINDRA BHAVAN PAI HALL
TO BE EXCHANGED AT G.V.N COUNTER WITHIN 3 DAYS.
THANK YOU FOR THE LOVE & SUPPORT IN OUR DIFFICULT TIMES

25TH JUNE 3.30 P.M. KALA ACADEMY A/C HALL PANJIM
FOR ONLINE TICKETS CONTACT: 9309985421
28TH JUNE 3.00 PM RAVINDRA BHAVAN VASCO
COMEDIAN RISTON PRESENTS HIS 1ST TIATR
DHUV TUJI ROGOT MHOJEM
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7798944546