

SHORT STORIES

BMC thrashes AI

Top seeds Bombay Municipal Corporation beat Air India 'A' 3-0 to reach the semifinals of the State Ranking Veterans table tennis tournament at Indian Gymkhana on Sunday. Meanwhile, Solapur 'A' blanked Air India 'B' 3-0.

Rohini, Monica shine

India international Rohini Raut and her twin Monica stole the limelight at the first ever National Open Cross Country meet at the Hanuman Vyayam Prasarak Mandal in Amravati on Sunday. Rohini won the 8 km race clocking 35:03.9 mins.

MG Vidya Mandir win

Mahatma Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Bandra East, made a clean sweep of the All-Bandra inter-school road races at the United Athletes Sports Club by winning both the boys and the girls championships. The school also bagged several top spots and podium positions.

Virajeet stars for Gregorios

The St Gregorios cricket team returned from an 18-day tour of the United Kingdom recently. The school was invited by the Bagborough Cricket Club in Somerset, as a part of their centenary year celebrations. 12-year-old Virajeet Sandhu was impressive on the tour, scoring 95 runs in one match.

IN & AROUND THE CITY

FOOTBALL: MSSA inter-school, 7.30 am Venue: Azad Maidan, CST

SPORTSGURU

Have questions on how to shape your child's career? Here's help. This Saturday, DNA will feature a Sports Guru, who will offer tips and suggestions with regards to the right coaching, academies and training. This week, Joaquim Carvalho will take your questions related to hockey. Mail in your questions to:

sportsguru@dnaindia.net

Sethi, Advani in last four

Six-time winner will try to avenge his first-round defeat against Russell; defending champion to take on Gilchrist

Joe Williams PUNE

India's Geet Sethi has a score to settle. The six-time world champion, who lost to Mike Russell in the first round, is set for a rematch with the Englishman, when they clash in the semifinals of the IBSF-DY Patil Vidyapeeth World Billiards Championship at the PYC Hindu Gymkhana here on Monday.

Joining him in the semifinal is the defending champion Pankaj Advani, who scored a 4-2 win over Kyaw Oo of Myanmar. Peter Gilchrist and Mike Russell are the other two in the last four.

"I am getting back to where I should be," said Sethi after his win against Dhruv Sitwala in an all-India affair. "It happens," said Sethi about the wrong ball with which Dhruv played in the six frames, which eventually was won by Sethi 150-89. "It will be a good clash and I am better prepared than what I was on the round-robin," said Sethi, who is eager to avenge the defeat.

Advani too showered praise on Russell. "Let us hope for a good match. The best four have come up and from here on, the



Pankaj Advani in action during the World Billiards Championship at the PYC Hindu Gymkhana in Pune on Sunday. Pankaj will face Peter Gilchrist in the semis on Monday —Vilas Avachat.DNA

championship is set for the best of billiards," said Advani.

Meanwhile, Russell said, "Everything is going well for me. My concentration has improved and I look forward for the tie on Monday."

In another blockbuster semifinal, Advani will take on

Gilchrist. "It all depends on how one plays on that day," said the soft-spoken Advani. The real test is in store for Singapore cueist Gilchrist, who has lost a few and won some in the round-robin matches.

Semifinal line-up: Pankaj Advani (Ind) vs Peter Gilchrist

(Sin); Mike Russell (Eng) vs Geet Sethi (Ind)

Results: Quarterfinals: Pankaj Advani (Ind) bt Kyaw Oo (Mya) 4-2 (150 (100)-18 152 (114)-80 42-151 (85) 117 (95)-151 (89) 150 (82)-118 (113) 152 (110)-5). Peter Gilchrist (Sin) bt Rupesh Shah (Ind) 4-0 (151 (100)-99 152

(101)-52 152-56 150-121); Geet Sethi (Ind) bt Dhruv Sitwala (Ind) 4-2 (152 (106)-24 150 (95)-4 22-152 (85) 151 (78)-146 (91) 97 (88)-152 (92) 150 (141)-89 (85)). Mike Russell (Eng) bt Bhaskar Balachandra 4-1 (151 (76, 75)-23 100-150 (119) 150-85 150 (148)-12 150 (121)-141 (120)).

Pre-quarterfinals: Pankaj Advani (Ind) bt Gary Oliver (Nzl) 4-1 (128-153 151-63 150-73 152-5 150-36), Kyaw Oo (Mya) bt Nay Thway Oo (Mya) 4-1 (152-88 150-45 151-110 73-151 151-44), Rupesh Shah (Ind) bt Sourav Kothari (Ind) 4-1 (79-150 153-9 150-9 150-143 150-109), Peter Gilchrist (Sin) bt Thawat Sujaritturakarn (Tha) 4-0 (150-0 150-21 152-0 150-93), Geet Sethi (Ind) bt Praprut Chaithanasakun (Tha) 4-0 (151-47 150-29 151-128 150-137), Dhruv Sitwala (Ind) bt Alok Kumar (Ind) 4-3 (15-153 150-0 151-47 150-4 139-150 33-150 150-110), Bhaskar Balachandra (Ind) bt Ashok Shandilya (Ind) 4-3 (120-150 0-151 150-147 133-151 150-12 150-42 152-4), Mike Russell (Eng) bt Chul Ho Hwang (Kor) 4-0 (151-0 150-23 150-25 150-6).

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

Lee's Indian 'love affair'



Fast bowler Brett Lee, who hopes to get back into the Australian cricket team for the 2011 World Cup, could earn \$20 million in the next six to seven years from his Indian ventures like a clothing line, modelling assignments, a television deal and Bollywood roles. Lee's manager Neil Maxwell said: "He has the earning potential of 20 million dollars in the next six to seven years." Lee said he "can't get enough of their culture, music and fashion".

Is Ron cheating on Irina?

It seems Portuguese footballer Cristiano Ronaldo is cheating on his Russian lover Irina Shayk. The footballer is said to have been bombarding Page 3 model Rhian Sugden with texts behind Shayk's back. He has been massaging Sugden almost every day since they met in April. "They get on great. Rhian thinks he's a genuine, funny guy. He got her number in a Manchester restaurant," *the Sun* quoted a friend as saying.



Becks, Posh puff it off

David Beckham and wife Victoria were recently spotted sharing a cigar. Becks, an asthma sufferer, and Posh took turns to puff on the cigar while sunbathing on the roof deck of a beach house, reports *the Daily Express*. Beckham was exposed as a secret cigar smoker last year. The player has apparently been banned from smoking in his LA mansion.



More siblings emerge champions

Krithika Gopalkrishnan MUMBAI

On a day when all the top seeds lived up to the expectations, the 'More' siblings grabbed the limelight in the MS-DBA District badminton championships held at Celebration Sports Club in Andheri on Sunday.

Being the top seeds in their categories, Sonal and Rohit More put up a brilliant performance to clinch the women's and men's singles title respectively. It was a cakewalk for Sonal in the final as she beat Riya Pillai in straight sets 21-13 21-15. On the other hand, Rohit faced stiff competition from Ameya Joshi. Having played against each other for many years, Rohit and Ameya are too familiar with each other's game. After losing the first game, Rohit made a comeback and won the next two games to clinch the title 15-21 21-17 21-9.

It was a treat to watch the brother and sister in action and the 11 years of hard work and practice was evident in their game. Both play for the Indi-



Harsheel Dani in action during the final on Sunday —BL Soni DNA

an Railways and are also associated with the Yen Sports Academy for the past three years. With a national ranking of No.6, 23-year-old Sonal has won

six singles titles at the state level and has been honoured with the Chhatrapati Award in 2008. Sonal and Rohit were inspired by their father Suresh's struggle on his way to become Mumbai's first kabbaddi captain and subsequently a national champion.

With the guidance of their father and coach Rajeev Ganpule, Sonal and Rohit have managed to come out with flying colours and hope to make their father proud by winning an international title some day.

Singles results: Men's: R More bt A Joshi 15-21 21-17 21-9; Women's: S More bt Riya Pillai 21-13 21-15; Boys' U-19: D Kumar bt S Karmarkar 21-13 21-17; Girls U-19: R Pillai bt K Wadkar 21-16 21-14; Boys' U-16: H Dani bt K Dharmam 22-24 21-18 21-12; Girls U-16: K Wadkar bt L Katre 21-16 21-18; Boys U-13: SD Reddy bt R Shanbhag 21-7 21-7; Girls U-13: S Agarwal bt K Sawant 21-17 22-20; Boys U-10: V Dave bt P Chhabria 21-18 21-14; Girls U-10: S Singhi bt A Shetty 21-8 21-6

Manohar inaugurates Vengsarkar academy



BCCI president Shashank Manohar inaugurates Vengsarkar Academy on Sunday

DNA Correspondent PUNE

Board of Control of Cricket in India (BCCI) president Shashank Manohar inaugurated PCMC's Varroc Vengsarkar Indoor Cricket Academy at Thergaon, Pune, on Sunday.

Dilip Vengsarkar appealed to the trainees to make most of this opportunity. "You have the talent. Put it to best use. Some of you might become future Tendulkars and Dhonis," he said.

This is the first indoor cricket academy started in the city and third in Maharashtra after Mumbai and Vidarbha.



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