Jubilant winning teams and players posing along with the chief guest and other dignitaries during closing ceremony of 2nd State Universities Championship.

2nd State Universities Sports C'ship

Jammu University retains overall Championship title

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Jammu University retained the overall Championship trophy in the 2nd State Universities Sports Championship, organized by the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu at Varsity Sports Stadium, here.

Jammu University emerged champion by winning Badminton (M&W), Cricket (W), Basketball (W), Volleyball (W) and Table Tennis (W) Championship, besides claiming silver medals in Football (M), Basketball (M), Volleyball (M) and Table Tennis (M) Championships.

Prof Jigar Mohammad, Dean Research Studies, University of Jammu was the chief guest on the closing ceremony who awarded trophies, medals and certificates to the the winners and runners-up teams/players.

The final match of the Cricket (Men) Championship was held today between Cluster University Srinagar and University of Kashmir, which was won by Cluster University Srinagar by 24 runs.

Earlier, Dr Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu presented welcome address and detailed report of the Championship.

The vote of thanks was presented by Dr Komal Nagar, Assistant Director, Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu.

The proceedings of the closing ceremony were conducted by Ramesh Magotra, Drishti Sharma and Mehul Puri.

Prominent among others present on the occasion were Prof Sushil Pandey, Prof KA Tarzan, Dr Ramesh Kumar, Suresh Sharma, Executive Engineer (UWD), Deepak Handa, HS Chib, Pawan Singh Bhau, Ameet Targotra, Irfan Goni, Dr Brij Baloria, Rectors/Directors, HoDs of various departments and students and staff of the University of Jammu as well as the Directorate of Sports & Physical Education.

Meanwhile, Prof RD Sharma, Vice-Chancellor University of Jammu congratulated the players of the University of Jammu for retaining the overall Championship.

It is pertinent to mention here that Football (M) title was bagged by IUST Awantipora, Basketball (M) and Volleyball (M) by Cluster University Jammu and Table Tennis (M) by NIT Srinagar. The Cluster University of Jammu in the maiden session has made a benchmark achievement by lifting the Basketball and Volleyball Championships and remaining runners-up in Volleyball Women and Badminton Men, besides bagging 3rd position in Table Tennis women. Prof Anju Bhasin, Vice Chancellor CLUJ and Dr Twinkle Suri, DSW CLUJ lauded the strenuous efforts of all the Physical Directors and participants of the constituent colleges of CLUJ in this maiden Sports Achievement.

National Sport Climbing Competition for Visually Challenged declared open

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: The 1st IMF National Sport Climbing Competition for Visually Challenged Climbers was declared open today jointly by former MLA Ashwani Sharma and Chairman of Indian Mountaineering Foundation, S. Bhattacharjee in the presence President Dogri Sanstha, Prof Lalit Magotra and Divisional Sports Officer, J&K State Sports Council, Ravi Singh at Sprawling Buds ICSE School, here today.

Rahul Sharma, Chairman and Ramesh Khajuria, Director of Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Jammu where the Competition is being hosted were also present on the occasion along with Principal of Apple Kids, Bantalab, Jammu, Arti Sharma.

While addressing the gathering, the chief guest congratulated the Mountaineering Association for organizing the first ever National Competition for Visually Challenged Climbers. He lauded the role of Mountaineering Association of J&K in promoting sport climbing in the state despite infrastructure constraints and producing national and international climbers like Shivani Charak and Mrityunjay Sharma who have represented the country in the World Cup Sport Climbing Competition-2017. He assured all possible help and cooperation for further promotion of the game in J&K. He also congratulated the climbers for the inclusion of Sport climbing in the next Asian Games at Indonesia and Olympic Games at Tokyo in 2020 and hoped that two ace climbers of the state would find a place in the national team for the Asian as well as Tokyo Olympics.

Earlier, while welcoming the participants Ram Khajuria, General Secretary of Mountaineering Association of J&K disclosed that because of financial constraints and the resultant uncertainty of the conduct of the competition at Jammu only 70-80 climbers from 6 states of the country are participating in this competition. The competitions will be held tomorrow.

National Sport Climbing Competition for Visually Challenged being declared open in Jammu.

Minister for Tourism Tassaduq Mufti testing golfing skills in Srinagar. — Excelsior/Shakeel

Tassaduq Mufti inaugurates Golf Tournament at RSGC

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 27: Minister for Tourism, Tassaduq Hussain Mufti along with President Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI), Sunil Kumar inaugurated a Golf Tournament at Royal Springs Golf Course (RSGC) today to showcase golf potential to visiting delegates in Kashmir valley.

Secretary Tourism Sarmad Hafeez, Director Tourism Mehmood Ahmad Shah and Joint Director Information Zahoor Ahmad Mir along with other officers were present on the occasion.

Tassaduq Mufti, while addressing a press conference on the occasion, laid stress on strategizing tourism promotion to improve tourist footfall during this tourism season in Srinagar.

He said the tourism ministry having entered into a partnership with TAAI hopes for a better start to the year. He said several policies are being formulated which shall prove beneficial to the sector.

Pertinently, TAAI is observing 64th convention and exhibition in Srinagar.

The TAAI President Sunil Kumar thanked the Tourism Department for entering into a partnership with them.

Kalra felicitates wrestlers

JKP Wrestling team wins State Championship

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Jammu and Kashmir Police Wrestling team emerged overall winner in the 10th J&K State Senior/Junior Wrestling Championship for men, while District Kathua remained runners-up, and District Jammu claimed the third place.

The Championship concluded at Mahaveer Akhara, Shastri Nagar, here today.

10th State Wrestling Championship was organized by J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association and was sponsored by J&K State Sports Council.

79 Wrestlers from all over the State took part in the championship and the participating Districts/ teams included Jammu, Udhampur, Reasi, Kathua, Samba, Doda, Anatnag, Srinagar, Pulwama, Kulgam, Baramulla, Ganderbal, Budgam and J&K Police team.

Vice chairman Sports Council Jammu, Ranjeet Kalra who is also member Board of control for cricket in India (BCCI) and Advisor of Sports and youth affairs, Government of Lakshadweep was the chief guest on the occasion who gave away Medals, Certificates, Mementoes and cash prizes to the Medalists.

Joint Secretary J&K State Sports Council Shiv Kumar Sharma who is President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association, Treasurer Indian Style Wrestling Association of India presided over the function.

Divisional Sports officer Jammu, Ravi Singh was the guest of honour.

Shiv Kumar Sharma presented welcome address, while vote of thanks was presented by Bansi Lal Tidyal and the proceedings of the function were conducted by Mulkh Raj Sharma.

The Wrestlers who secured 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th position in eight weight categories were awarded with cash prize of Rs 1,500, Rs 1,000, Rs 500 and Rs 500 along with Medals and Certificates.

Mr Kalra in his address lauded the efforts of J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association for organizing this mega event.

Veteran wrestler and Ustad of Mahaveer Akhara, Shastri Nagar, Jammu Shiv Charn Dass (92 years) was honoured by the chief guest with a shawl and a memento.

State men, women Wrestling C'ship on Mar 30-31

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Jammu and Kashmir Wrestling Association is organizing 23rd men and 19th women J&K State Wrestling Championship 2018 on March 30 and 31, 2018 at Bajrangi Akhara, here.

The decision in this regard was taken in a meeting held today under the chairmanship of Vijay Pahalwan, Senior Vice President, J&K Wrestling Association.

The other members who attended the meeting included Ajay Vaid, General Secretary, Raju Sharma, Treasurer, Kuldeep Sharma, Sowran Lal, Raj Kumar, Ravinder Sharma and Mohd Sadiq.

According to handout issued here the Wrestlers desirous to take part in the Championship have been advised to report to Jai Bharat, Wrestling Coach and Pradeep Sharma, President Bajrangi Akhara.

Volleyball tournament organized

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

SAMBA, Mar 27: A Volleyball tournament was organized by PS Vijaypur at Vaid Higher Secondary School Vijaypur, here today.

A total of three teams including Vaid Higher Secondary School, KFB Karlah and a team from Swankha participated in the tournament.

The tournament was won by team of Karlah(KFB) and the team of Swankha was declared as the runners-up.

The match was attended by SDPO Vijaypur, DySP Baljit Singh and SHO PS Vijaypur Inspector Suraj Pathania.

The winners and the runner-up teams were awarded with trophies on the occasion.

Coach Atul, student Tashi represent India in Korea

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Two Taekwondo players from J&K, Atul Pangotra and his student Tashi Tundup from Kargil successfully completed the New Poomsae Education Course at Muju in South Korea.

New Poomsae Education Course organised by Asian Taekwondo Union under the aegis of World Taekwondo for the first time invited the Indian Taekwondo team along with two coaches Master Atul Pangotra and Master Lee Wan Yang who is presently working in Korean Cultural Centre Delhi along with 6 players.

The camp was attended by highly skilful and experienced Masters and coaches along with their students from different countries.

The motive of the camp was to prepare students and coaches for the upcoming Asian Games which is to be held at Jakarta Indonesia this year.

On this occasion Asain Taekwondo Association presented a Certificate of Honour to Atul Pangotra, who is the only Indian who is associated and a core member of Asian Taekwondo Union and Asian Taekwondo Poomsae Committee.

He is also the first Indian to receive two scholarships from the Kyung Hee University of Korea for showing his brilliant performance in Taekwondo.

SKUAST Jammu team posing for a group photograph after excelling in AIAU Fest 'Reverie-2018'.

SKUAST Jammu wins overall Trophy in AIAU Fest 'Reverie-2018'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: The Cultural troupe of SKUAST Jammu brought laurels by winning the overall champions trophy in 22nd edition of prestigious All India Agri University Fest 'Reverie-2018' held at National Dairy Research Institute Karnal in Haryana.

Seven teams from five different states competed in 33 events such as literary, fine arts, music, dance, theatre, etc.

The University team bagged awards in Shipwreck, Extempore, Hotchpotch, Spell Bee, Wordsworth, Storytelling, Poetry Reciting, Quiz, Painting, Mehendi, Solo Song, Group Song, Solo, Duet, Group Dance, Group Dance Folk, Group Dance Western, Mime, One Act Play, Mono Acting and Fashion Show.

The participating teams were from National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal; Indian Veterinary Research institute, Bareilly; Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; Deendayal Upadhyay Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Mathura; College of Dairy Technology, Pusad and Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani, besides SKUAST-Jammu.

The students of SKUAST-Jammu participated in all 33 events and were adjudged first in six; second in eleven and third in four events, thereby wining a total of 21 awards. The team performed exceptionally well in literary category. On the basis of overall performance, the team was adjudged Best among the participating Universities and was presented with 'Overall Champions Trophy' of the Reverie – 2018. The trophy was presented by Dr NS Rathore, Deputy Director General (Education), Division of Agricultural Education, ICAR, New Delhi. DUVASU, Mathura lifted the runners-up trophy. The team was led by Dr Ankur Rastogi and Dr Pratiksha Raghuwanshi.

Rigour Cup 50-Over Cricket Tournament

Sehwag Academy outplays Country Club by 4 wkts

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Sehwag Cricket Academy trounced Country Cricket Club by 4 wickets in the ongoing Rigour Cup 50-Over Cricket Tournament, being organized by Country Cricket Academy at Gharota, near here.

The Tournament is being organized under the overall supervision of Vikrant Sharma, Director Country Cricket Academy and Vivek Sharma, former Ranji Trophy Player.

Earlier, put into bat, Country Cricket Club scored 168 runs in the allotted overs.

Marutwan top scored with 63 runs, while Udhay Pratap Singh and Ritik Dhar contributed 21 runs each. Surya chipped in with 15 runs, while Praful Dhar and Agastya contributed 10 runs each. Sarthak, Kanav and Snoop departed early for 6, 3 and 2 runs respectively. Shantanu was the main wicket taker for Sehwag Academy, scalping 3 wickets, while Shushant claimed 2 wickets.

In reply, Sehwag Cricket Academy chased the target in 30 overs. Kamran top scored with 64 runs, while Harman (27), Harsh (19), Yudhmanyu (13) and Manik (12) were the other contributors. Marutwan took 3 wickets for Country Cricket Club, while Praful Dhar, Snoop Bhagat and Udhay Pratap Singh claimed 1 wicket each.

In tomorrow's fixture, ACC Udhampur will lock horns with JCC Jammu.

India on roll as Bhaker-Anmol wins air pistol mixed gold

SYDNEY, Mar 27:

The duo of Manu Bhaker and Anmol secured India's seventh gold medal in the ISSF junior World Cup by winning the mixed 10m air pistol event with a qualification world record here today.

Genemat Sekhon bagged an individual bronze medal in the junior women's skeet, shooting a 36 in the final.

In the mixed 10m air rifle event, 17-year-old Shreya Agrawal and 19-year-old Arjun Babuta completed the podium in third place, finishing with 432.8 points, while their country-mates Elavenil Valarivan Elavenil (18) and Tejas Krishna Prasad (20) finished fourth with 389.1.

Bhaker and Anmol dominated the event from the very start and enter the final with the highest qualification score and a new junior qualification world record.

They finished with a 5.6 advantage on their closest rivals, China's Liu Jinyao and Li Xue. (PTI)

Peepal Tree School celebrates Annual Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Peepal Tree School organized Annual Day with pomp and show here today.

The programme began with the musical feast presented by the school's Orchestra group.

In the musical show, in which the students showcased their talent, was a delight to watch.

The welcome dance was performed by the students of class 3rd.

The students also presented a skit and an English drama which entertained the entire audience.

Fireless cooking by the students of Class 2nd added charm to the day, while the fun games left everyone jovial.

Art and Craft, Science Display and Art of Living Exhibition stalls lured everybody towards them.

Finally, Akash Singh, Trustee of the School presented vote of thanks.

Students presenting skit while celebrating Annual Day at St Xavier Convent School Barnai in Jammu.

St Xavier Convent celebrates 22nd Annual Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: St Xavier Convent Senior Secondary, Barnai celebrated its Annual Day cum Prize Distribution Function in the School premises, here.

Father Udhay Singh, St Paul's Church, Residency Road was the chief guest on the occasion, while SM Gill, Ex-MLC was the guest of honour. Both the dignitaries blessed the gathering and prayed for peace, progress and prosperity of the students, staff and the institution.

The programme began with a prayer to invoke the blessing of the Almighty.

The students presented a variety of cultural items including English, Punjabi, Hindi songs and dances, besides Mime, Skit, Yoga, Western Dance and Lavni.

The skit based on the theme 'Parent' was a delight to watch.

The students also presented 'mushaira'.

Er HR Padha, Director of the school presented annual report, highlighting the achievements of the school.

The position holders and other meritorious students in academics and extra-curricular activities were honoured by the chief guest and other dignitaries on the occasion.

They were presented mementoes, certificates and cash prize by the dignitaries present on the occasion.

The chief guest appreciated the management and teachers for excellent results of the school.

Finally, Principal of the School, Pankaj Vihans presented vote of thanks.

Junior Poonch Hockey Championship

Stadium XI to take on Poonch Royals in summit clash

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

POONCH, Mar 27: Stadium XI will face Poonch Royals Club for title trophy in junior category of Poonch Hockey District Championship, here.

In the first match played today, Stadium XI defeated Stadium Red by four goals to two (4-2). For Stadium XI, Sharan, Rudar, Shaid and Jagmeet scored the goals in 10th,18th, 52nd and 58th minutes of the match and for Stadium Red, Nissar and Mankaran netted the goals in 29th and 45th minutes of the match.

In another match, Poonch Royals thrashed Oberio Club by five goals to nil 5-0. For Poonch Royals, Gurjot scored three goals in 15th, 30th and 45th minutes, while Shivesh and Jagmeet scored goals in 20th and 30th minutes respectively.

The Championship is being organized by Hockey Poonch under the aegis of Hockey J&K.

Madan Lal Sharma, HoD DIET Poonch was the chief guest on the occasion, while prominent among others present were Nirdosh Kumar, I/c Sports Stadium Poonch, Dr BK Sharma, Matinderpal Singh, Tarlochan Singh, Sourab Sharma, Sunil Raina, Harmik Singh and DK Raina.

The matches were officiated by Sunil Raina, Gunpreet Singh, Harmik Singh and Rohit Sharma.

The Championship is being conducted under the technical supervision of Pawan Kumar, Hockey Coach.

Abdul Qayoom, S/o Mohd Rashid and Zeenat Begum, R/o Kankote, Haveli, Poonch, who has been declared qualified for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Urdu by the University of Jammu. He worked on the topic, "Tareekhee Novel Ki Riwayat Aur Naseem Hijazi," under the supervision of Prof Shohab Inayat Malik.

Chief guest lighting ceremonial lamp during Annual Day celebration of Hello Kids Playway School.

Hello Kids Playway School celebrates 7th Annual Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Hello Kids Playway School, Lower Roop Nagar celebrated its 7th Annual Day with great fervour at Government College for Women (GCW), Parade, here today.

Principal, Govt. College for Women Parade, Dr Hemla Aggarwal was the chief guest on the occasion, while Dr Seema Mir, Head of Department of English GCW Parade was the guest of honour.

The function was commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the chief guest, guest of honour accompanied by other dignitaries which was followed by Ganesh Vandana presented by the students.

Kids displayed their magical talent in various cultural items which enthralled the audience.

The programme was a colorful bonanza of dance, drama and music.

The Karate demo presenting self dependence of girls also entertained one and all.

The most awaited part of the function was the item 'Stage of Life' performed jointly by students of Nursery, Junior KG and Upper KG.

Principal of the School, Bhawna Bakshi, chief guest and the guest of honour appreciated the team of the school for smooth conduct of the function.

3 archers of SBSC selected for Pre-Asian Para Games National Camp

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Three archers receiving coaching at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex (SBSC) at Katra have been selected to undergo National Coaching Camp for the Asian Para Games scheduled to be held in Jakarta in October 2018.

The selected para archers are Rakesh Kumar, Tarif and Jyoti Ballian. Rakesh Kumar from Katra topped the tally by scoring the highest 1357 out of 1440 points while Tarif snatched 1327 points in the Men's category. In Women's category, Jyoti Ballian topped the list scoring a total of 1280 points. All three selected at the National Open Selection Trials conducted by the Archery Association of India held at Sports Authority of India Centre, Rohtak, Haryana, where the National Coaching Camp is currently being held.

Five other archers belonging to Katra and the surrounding areas undergoing training at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex have been selected for the National Archery Champio-nship in the trials held at the Gulshan Ground, Jammu, recently. They are Smilee, Deepa and Munisha in the Compound round in girl's category and Amit Thakur and Anup have been selected in Recurve round in men's category. Rakesh Kumar, a para archer, has also been selected for the National Archery Champion-ship on the basis of his score in the pre-Asian Para Games trials held at Rohtak.

The National Archery Championship is scheduled to be held from April 5 to April 13, 2018 at Pune.

On the directions of Governor NN Vohra, Chairman Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, special coaching camps are organized by the Shrine Board Sports Complex in the disciplines of Archery, Athletics, Basketball and Shooting to impart technical and tactical training and conditioning to the sports persons.

Consequent to specialised coaching the budding sports persons are showing promising results at different competitions being held at various levels. Mr Vohra has congratulated the selected archers and hoped that they will continue to work hard for the forthcoming championships and win medals.

It is pertinent to mention that Tarif is from Haryana and Jyoti Ballian is from Uttar Pradesh. They are receiving coaching and practicing at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex under the guidance of Coaches appointed by the Shrine Board.

Deeksha Singh, D/o S. Ripudaman Singh and Amresh Kour, W/o Dr Rai Barinder Singh, R/o Kunjwani, Jammu, who has been declared qualified for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Management by the University of Jammu. She worked on the topic, "Self-Brand Connections among Adolescents: A Study of Attitude and Involvement," under the supervision of Dr Alka Sharma, Director, The Business School.