

Ashwin wreaks havoc, India thump Australia by an innings & 132 runs

NAGPUR, Feb 11:

A wily Ravichandran Ashwin blew away a panic-stricken Australia with a fiercer India dismantled visitors' second innings in a single session to win the opening Test by a comprehensive innings and 132 run margin, here today.

After taking a massive 223-run first innings lead, India decimated Australia for just 91 in 32.3 overs with the Test match finishing inside three days at Jamtha.

It's rare that an Australian innings folds inside on session.

After Axar Patel's career-best 84 and Mohammed Shami's entertaining 37 took India to a commanding first innings total of 400, Ashwin (5/37) literally maulled the Australians with the new ball, taking his 31st five-wicket haul in Test cricket.

The Australian batters once again made the cardinal mistake of playing the pitch rather than the bowler and looked utterly confused on whether to defend or attack.

The Indian innings showed that demons were in the minds of Australian batters and not in the 22-yard strip.

The intent was to be positive but even with all the simulated training sessions, it was always going to be difficult to read Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja (2/34), latter playing the second fiddle this time.

They didn't have slightest clue which one was turning and which one was coming straight.

Usman Khawaja (5) after hitting a boundary was lured with a tossed up off-break outside his off-stump and his half slash-half drive effort went into Virat Kohli's hands in the slips.

Marnus Labuschagne (17) hit a few boundaries but when Jadeja flighted one which turned a shade after pitching, the right-hander premeditatedly rocked on to the back-foot rather than coming on the front-foot.

The result was an easy leg-before decision.

David Warner's (10) stay was struggle and after he charged Ashwin to get two boundaries, Ashwin bowled a slider and he wasn't half forward this time and got rapped on the pads.

Matt Renshaw was then trapped on the backfoot and right-hander Peter Handscomb got a classical off-break which would have disturbed the timber

SCOREBOARD

Australia 1st Innings: 177
India 1st Innings:
 Rohit Sharma b Cummins 120
 KL Rahul c&b Murphy 20
 Ravichandran Ashwin lbw b Murphy 23
 Cheteshwar Pujara c Boland b Murphy 7
 Virat Kohli c Carey b Murphy 12
 Suryakumar Yadav b Lyon 8
 Ravindra Jadeja b Murphy 70
 Srikr Bharat lbw b Murphy 8
 Axar Patel b Cummins 84
 Mohammed Shami c Carey b Murphy 37
 Mohammed Siraj not out 1

Extras: (B-6, LB-1, NB-3) 10
Total: (All out in 139.3 overs)
Fall of wickets: 1-76, 2-118, 3-135, 4-151, 5-168, 6-229, 7-240, 8-328, 9-380, 10-400
Bowling: Pat Cummins 20.3-3-78-2, Scott Boland 17.4-34-0, Nathan Lyon 49-13-126-1, Todd Murphy 47-12-124-7, Marnus Labuschagne 5-0-24-0, Matt Renshaw 1-0-7-0.

Australia 2nd Innings:
 Usman Khawaja c Kohli b Ashwin 5
 David Warner lbw b Ashwin 10
 Marnus Labuschagne lbw b Jadeja 17
 Steven Smith not out 25
 Matt Renshaw lbw b Ashwin 2
 Peter Handscomb lbw b Ashwin 6
 Alex Carey lbw b Ashwin 10
 Pat Cummins c Bharat b Jadeja 1
 Todd Murphy c Sharma b Patel 2
 Nathan Lyon b Mohammed Shami 8
 Scott Boland lbw b Mohammed Shami 0

Extras: (LB-1, NB-4) 5
Total: (All out in 32.3 overs) 91
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-26, 3-34, 4-42, 5-52, 6-64, 7-67, 8-75, 9-88, 10-91
Bowling: Mohammed Shami 4.3-1-13-2, Ravichandran Ashwin 12-3-37-5, Mohammed Siraj 1-1-0-0, Ravindra Jadeja 12-3-34-2, Axar Patel 3-0-6-1.

anyway. Alex Carey for the second time went for a non-existent sweep shot and perished.

Steve Smith could only helplessly watch as wickets fell like nine pins at the other end. He tried delaying the inevitable without much success.

Mohammed Shami (2/13), after a solid batting show put the final nail in the Australian coffin by trapping Scott Boland.

Honey Bears of Heritage School organizes Spring Fiesta



Staff and students of Heritage School posing together during a function on Saturday.

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: An event named 'Spring Fiesta' was organized today by Honey Bears of Gummy Bears' World Heritage School for their parents and grandparents.

The programme started with a 'shloka' dedicated to 'Lord Ganesha' followed by songs and dance, accompanied by a host of activities specially designed for grandparents and parents. After the prize distribution, few grandparents and parents expressed

their happiness to see their little ones perform in gay abandon.

Principal Heritage School Akash Pradhan complimented the staff and students for putting up an excellent show. Earlier, Viviana Khajuria, a student of Honey Bears, gave the welcome note.

The co-ordinator of the Kindergarten Wing Kusum Abrol, presented the welcome address.

The guests thoroughly enjoyed the programme which culminated with a thank you note by Nitara Gupta-a student of Honey Bears.

Pushp Vatika Jeevan Nagar celebrates foundation day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: Pushp Vatika, Jeevan Nagar organized a function today to celebrate its foundation.

Usha Bhat (ex-teacher of the School) was the special guest on the occasion.

The function commenced with lighting of the traditional lamp by Principal of the School Rameshwar Mengi, Director of Pushp Vatika Risheek Mengi and special guests-- Parmeet Kour and Sakshi Sharma (ex-teachers of the School).

Tiny toddlers of the Schools presented beautiful dance per-



Recipients of Tara Chand Magotra Memorial Awards posing with Principal of SRML Higher Secondary School Anjali Gupta and other dignitaries.

SRML School distributes Tara Chand Magotra Memorial Academic Excellence Awards

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: Government SRML Higher Secondary School, Jammu organized a function today to distribute Tara Chand Magotra Memorial Awards.

The awards, which carry a cash amount of Rs 11,000, are given to the School toppers of Class X and Class XII in the Board Examinations.

The function was held under the overall supervision of School Principal Anjali Gupta and was attended by the sons of Tara Chand Magotra - Vinod Magotra (former Chief Commissioner of Income Tax) and Ravi Magotra (former Director General of Accounts & Treasuries), Vice-Principal Raina, senior school faculty and the students.

Speaking on the occasion, the School Principal announced that the scope of the awards will henceforth be extended to toppers of Class XI also because this is also now a Board examination. She also explained that because of Covid pandemic and

some other difficulties, the awards could not be distributed for a couple of years and are being distributed late now for 2022 examinations. She assured that the awards for 2023 examinations shall be organized well in time in October 2023.

Shubham Kumar, son of Satish Kumar (who had topped in class X), Vishal Kumar son of Dewan Chand and Ayush Rakwal son of Ashok Kumar Rakwal (both of whom had topped in Class XII) were given the award of Rs 11,000 each.

Ayush Rakwal who is an engineering student in Kolkata could not attend and was represented by his father Ashok Kumar Rakwal. The school toppers had also figured in the first 5 ranks at the Board level.

Recalled his passing out from this school 55 years back in 1967, Vinod Magotra said that the road of path to success as taught to him by his father late Tara Chand Magotra is continuous pursuit for excellence, hard work, persistence, high moral values and above all, prayer to the Almighty.



Chairman JKRDS Haji Mubarak Gul and others during run against drugs in Jammu.

Gul organizes run against drugs

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: Chairman of J&K Rural Development Society (JKRDS), senior National Conference leader and former Speaker Haji Mubarak Gul organized a run against drugs from Manda Zoo to Gandhi Chowk, Satwara, here today.

In his terrestrial locomotive rally along with the vice-chairman Babu Rampal, provincial chairman KL Abrol and all JKRDS workers, Gul expressed his serious concern that drug addiction in J&K is a new alarming epidemic today.

Gul advised youth to keep them away from this deadly menace. He expressed that it can only be stopped by if youth wisely wage a strong revolt jointly against this deadly poisonous death, otherwise it seems to be going out of control with the smugglers and their OGWs.

The former Speaker also explained the risk factors and protection factors of drug addictions. He said that Addiction is a neuropsychological disorder characterized by persistent and intense urge to engage in certain behaviours, one of which is changes physical appearances. He said that drug addiction can start with experimental use of a recreational drug in social situa-

tions and for some people the drug use become more frequent.

Younis Mubarak Gul (chairman, People's Help Groups) gave the significant protective factors that lead for drug addiction's prevention. He added that all social and religious activists should be vigilant about child/student's behavioural change. He said that strong parental bonds and family relationships, training programme for students to deal with life pressures and community based drugs abuse prevention programs must be conducted in schools.

Chairman JKRDS K L Abrol said that every youth has the capacity to live healthy upto to the age of 100 years if he keeps himself away from all types of drugs and practices the healthier tips in his daily routine life.

Vice-chairman JKRDS Babu Rampal also spoke on the occasion.

Prominent among those who participated in the run were provincial press secretary Subash Chander, Dr Vikas Sharma, Harish Kumar Chopra, Vijay Chopra, Deepak Kumar, Jagan Raj, Ravi Kumar Chopra, Jagjit Singh, Kala Ram and Sanju Kumar.



JMC Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria and other guests during a function at Sri Guru Gobind Singh Public HSS, Kunjwani in Jammu.

Sri Guru Gobind Singh Public HSS celebrates Annual cum Sports Day

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: The 40th Annual cum Sports Day of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Public Higher Secondary School (HSS), Kunjwani was held with great zeal and enthusiasm in the School auditorium.

The programme began with the welcome address presented by Administrator Charanjeet Kour.

Baldev Singh Billawaria (Deputy Mayor, Jammu Municipal Corporation) was the chief guest on the occasion while Prof Harbans Singh (chairman,



Players during Ice Skating competition at Gulmarg on Saturday.

Khelo India winter Games

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 11: Amid snow and wind that marked second day of 3rd edition of Khelo India Winter Games, a number of events in different categories were conducted on the slopes of Gulmarg bowl organized by Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council.

The Games scheduled for the day at Golf Club were Cross Country 15 Km Sprint Senior Men, Cross Country 10 Km Sprint women, Cross Country 2 Km Sprint Junior Boys, Cross Country 1.5 Km Sprint Junior Girls, Bobsleigh & Skeleton and Snow Shoe long distance event of men and women category.

The Ice hockey and Ice Skating competitions were held at Rink Gulmarg. However, all the events of Alpine G Slalom of every category which were scheduled today at Kangdoori were cancelled due to the snow and strong currents of wind.

At the first leg of Khelo India 2023, the J&K Ski Mountaineering Association conducted a Sprint Women competition in which Divya Thakur from Himachal Pradesh got first position, Ishani Savant from Maharashtra achieved 2nd position while third position was achieved by Kajal Saxena of Uttar Pradesh.

Similarly, in the Ice Stock men's event, Maharashtra won gold, Daman & Diu silver while Rajasthan and Karnataka won bronze.

Bhatnagar distributes certificates of success among Sigma Skiers at IISM Gulmarg

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 11: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, today felicitated six students of a special batch of 20 skiers of Six Sigma High Altitude Medical Service professionals who qualified special seven-day beginners' Ski course at Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering (IISM) here.

Speaking on the occasion, Advisor Bhatnagar complimented SIGMA medical services for their selfless services towards saving lives of thousands of helpless people in remote high altitude areas who become victims of avalanches, landslides and other natural calamities. He said that after this course the SIGMA professionals will be the ambassadors of Kashmir and will share experience with peers about the beauty of Kashmir and hospitality of people here.

The Advisor further said that this institute is the best platform to develop bonding among youth of the nation and promote winter sports. He also assured all possible assistance to the institution in their working for the welfare of people.

Advisor also asked the CEO Six Sigma to prepare a proposal regarding establishment of a training school and help centers for people of Kashmir who need such assistance in remote areas. He also assured to implement the proposal of homologation of Gulmarg slopes and get them registered with international ski federation to facilitate the local athletes to shine in international events.

Consultant, IISM, Colonel S Dhillon, while speaking on the occasion, briefed the gathering about the institute's journey from



Advisor R R Bhatnagar presenting certificates of success to a trainee of Six Sigma at Gulmarg.

being a defunct institute to be the one of the best ski schools of SE Asia.

Dr P Bhardwaj, while speaking on the occasion, briefed the Advisor about various rescue and medical aid camps undertaken by Six Sigma high altitude medical

services in Himalayas and the need to train more teams so that they could reach to the far flung accident areas without any difficulty.



Students of MLZS Jammu presenting a dance performance during Annual Day function of the School.

MLZS Jammu, its junior wing KIDZEE celebrate Annual Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: Mount Litera Zee School (MLZS) Jammu and its junior wing 'KIDZEE' celebrated its Annual Day with a display of immense talent in order to glorify the five years of academic excellence and existence of this institute which is setting standards across the globe.

The magnificence of the Day was made stronger by chanting of mantras. The programme commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by chief guest Ravinder Raina (president, J&K BJP), special guest Ashok Koul, general secretary (organization) J&K BJP, guest of honour SSP Sandeep Mehta (Commandant IRP-11th Battalion, Anantnag) and Sunaina Sharma Mehta (Joint Director, Tourism Jammu), Jaswinder Sethi (Regional School Director, Zee learn Limited, North Zone) and Santosh Mahajan (patron of the School).

The dignitaries were accorded warm welcome by the chairman Dr Parneesh Mahajan. MLZS and its junior wing 'KIDZEE' touched the emotional chord of the parents by "Cultural Fest" which means a great way to understand one's culture. The cultural fiesta was marked by a series of exotic talents thus creating a festive mood.

Principal Dr Nitasha Bali divulged the achievements of the students in her annual report. President J&K BJP in his speech said that MLZS will become one of the J&K's leading schools in enhancing the quality of education in the State and making the students globally competent.

Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Koul appreciated the achievements of the School within a short span of five years.

Jaswinder Sethi threw light on the use of technology and the skill development programmes by MLZS which will help the students of Jammu to become leader of 21st century.

Vice-Principal of the School Dr Radhika Mahajan proposed the vote of thanks.

RHS Bari Brahmna celebrates Annual Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: Rich Harvest School (RHS) Bari Brahmna celebrated its Annual Day today amidst great splendour.

The cultural programme revolved around the theme 'Parivartan the change we need. The mesmerizing short plays as well as song and dance performances beautifully delivered the timeless, crucial and thought provoking message of the need to change to sustain life in all its glory.

The Gita Saar brought the house down with Aaradhya as Lord Krishna imparting the ultimate knowledge to Arjun (played by Adarsh) on the battle field of Mahabharat.

On the occasion, the chief guest and other dignitaries released "The Magalogue" which showcases the talent and achievements of RHS scholars.

The Annual Function culminated with the National Anthem.

MCC sails into finals of GRD Memorial T20 Cricket Tournery

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 11: Media Cricket Club (MCC) Jammu entered into finals of GRD Memorial T20 Cricket Tournament by defeating ACB XI at MA Stadium Jammu by 8 runs today.

The match was inaugurated by Yudhvir Sethi (vice president, J&K BJJ, Vivek Suri, Captain of MCC Jammu won the toss and elected to bat first but Vicky Raina departed early. Amit and Amritpal Singh gave a solid foundation to the team and shared 89 runs for 2nd wicket before Amritpal was out on 44 runs.

ACB XI bowlers bowled miserly and restricted MCC Jammu to 131 runs in stipulated 20 overs. Amit made brilliant 59 for the team. Imran, Javid and Tahir took 2 wicket for ACB XI.

Chasing 132 runs to win in 20 overs, ACB XI lost Sahib early. Imran and Adnan tried to rebuild the innings but Adnan was out on 22. Brilliant bowling spells by MCC Jammu bowlers restricted ACB XI to 123 runs and thus, MCC won the match by 8 runs.

Imran and Zahoor scored 39 and 22 runs, respectively. For MCC Jammu, Ashish took 3 wickets, Vicky Raina took 2 and Krish and Abhinav shared 1 wicket a piece.

Amit of MCC Jammu was declared Man of the Match for his brilliant innings.

The screening committee comprised of Divisional Sports Officer, Jammu Manager, M A Stadium Jammu, Physiotherapist, member Sports Council and an International player.

The Badminton Association of J&K organized a coach camp before the team will leave for representing the UT in the 84th Senior National Badminton Championships being held at Pune (Maharashtra) from 22nd to 28th February. The team will leave for Pune on 21st February.

Screening of Sr JK Badminton team held

Excelsior Sports Correspondent