



## Sinner, Djokovic reach Shanghai Masters final; Sabalenka rallies over Gauff at Wuhan

**SHANGHAI, OCT 12:** Top-ranked Jannik Sinner will chase his seventh ATP title of the year in the Shanghai Masters final after beating Tomas Machac 6-4, 7-5 on Saturday.

Victory ensured Sinner will be the ATP year-end No. 1 and the first Italian to achieve that feat.

His 64th match win of the year set up a final against Novak Djokovic, who overcame physical discomfort to beat seventh-ranked Taylor Fritz 6-4, 7-6 (6) and move closer to a 100th career title and a record-extending fifth at Shanghai.

The 24-time Grand Slam champion also improved to 10-0 in his career matches against Fritz, who blew a 5-3 lead in the second-set tiebreaker and a set point at 6-5 up.

Djokovic was clearly struggling for mobility and balance with his left knee heavily strapped, but U.S. Open runner-up Fritz could not take advantage.

He lost a long rally at 6-6 and succumbed on the first match point when Djokovic stabbed a volley at the net and the American flicked it just long at full stretch.

Djokovic leads 4-3 overall against Sinner, who has won the last two — including in the Australian Open semifinals.

Earlier, Sinner weathered a nearly two-hour baseline storm from No. 33-ranked Machac, who beat No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz in the quarterfinals.

The Italian has a shot at his third Masters title in 2024 following victories in Miami and Cincinnati, to go



with his wins at the Australian Open and U.S. Open. "I just tried to stay there every point, to see what was going to happen," Sinner said. "Just playing every point with the maximum intensity I could, so I'm very happy about that. I'm happy to be back in a final again."

"I'm just looking forward to (the final), to try to find a solution somehow ... and hopefully it's going to win the match." Sinner fired 10 aces and 28 winners, against only seven unforced errors, in a characteristically efficient performance.

Wuhan Open Second-ranked Aryna Sabalenka rallied from a slow start to beat an in-form Coco Gauff 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the semifinals to advance to her third straight Wuhan final and preserve her perfect record at the tournament.

Sabalenka will face seventh-ranked Zheng Qinwen in the final. The Paris Olympics champion beat No. 51-ranked Wang Xinyu 6-3, 6-4. Sabalenka will be bidding for her fourth title of the season, which includes the Australian Open and U.S. Open.

The Belarussian's 16th straight victory at Wuhan ended Gauff's own recent win streak at nine, including the China Open title last week. But it looked anything but certain for Sabalenka as she crashed 6-1 in the opening set.

"In the first set she was just crushing it," Sabalenka said. "Whatever she was doing, everything was flying in. Everything was so aggressive. I didn't have much opportunities."

In a fight between the last two U.S. Open champions, Gauff led by a break early in the second but Sabalenka

responded to pull level at 4-4 and saved a break point on serve to take a 5-4 lead.

Serving to stay in the set, Gauff was broken as Sabalenka hit a lunging forehand volley to force a deciding set.

The Belarussian carried her momentum into the third, extending her streak to seven games for a 3-0 lead. Gauff fought back to level at 4-4, but Sabalenka held strong to halt Gauff's run.

Sabalenka broke once more after Gauff hit her season-worst 21st double fault on match point, ending the 2 ½-hour match.

"I know what she's going through. This is really difficult," said Sabalenka, who had issues on her serve in the past. "But I know that if she'll be able to overcome this serve situation, I'm pretty sure she's going to be one of the greatest players."

## KB Public School bags 16 medals in Distt Level Speed Ball Championship

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, OCT 12**

Students of K.B PUBLIC SCHOOL Who Excelled In district level Speedball Championship-2024 AT Sports Council Stadium Bhagwati Nagar Organized By j&k sports speed ball association Under -10/12/14/16/18 . In Our School 24 Students Participated In The Championship .K.B PUBLIC School Bags 16 Medals In The Championship. ALL MEDAL WINNERS SELECTED FOR STATE LEVEL CHAMPIONSHIP .The Medals 8 Gold,4 silver & 4 bronze

The Medals Winners Ayaan choudhary 7th Gold,Mohmd wasim 7th Gold,Tanvi sharma 7th Gold, Assima ur Hussain



8th Gold, Firhana kouser 9th Gold, Meenakshi 9th Gold, Mafia kouser 8th Gold, Insha 9th Gold, Vidya Devi 9th Silver, Afreen Anjum 8th Silver, Afreen kouser 7th silver, Kashis 7th Bronze,Baserat Maqbool 8th Bronze, Mehmoona 8th Bronze,Aqsa 7th

Bronze,Iqra 8th Bronze Principal KBPS Ms Nehreer Khan Congratulated The Winning Team, Saying That The Dedication And Perseverance of Our Students In The Speed Ball Have Paid Off. She Called For Continued Practice To Strive For Excellence.

The Victorious Students Trained By Sh. Kailash Kashyap Who Received Medals And Certificates Acknowledged The Role of Their Trainer. The Kb Public School Management And Principal Appreciated The Victory of Their Students.

## Sainik School Nagrota Win All India Sainik Schools National Volleyball Championship

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, OCT 12**

The Sainik School Nagrota volleyball team showcased remarkable performance at the 2nd All India Sainik Schools National Games 2024, held at Sainik School Chandrapur, Maharashtra, from 23rd September to 1st October 2024. They defended their title by winning the volleyball trophy for the second consecutive year.

Despite an initial setback in their first match against Sainik School Chittorgarh, where they lost 2-1, the team bounced back to win all subsequent matches. They secured victories against Sainik School Korukonda, Sainik



School Balachadi, Sainik School Nalanda, and Sainik School Chhingchhip, winning the final match 3-0. Cadet Saksham Verma of Sainik School Nagrota was ad-

judged as the Best Player of the tournament. Their dominant performance upheld their legacy as undefeated champions. Principal Capt (IN) Shibu Devasia congratulated the

team for their outstanding achievement, highlighting their teamwork and encouraging them to maintain their dedication in future competitions. Lt Col Suneel Bartwal.

## MOSAJ performs Shastra Puja with trainees

**Sports & Allied News  
JAMMU, October 12:**

SSMission Olympics Shooting Academy Jammu (MOSAJ) celebrated the auspicious occasion of Shastra Puja with great reverence. The ceremony, symbolizing the worship of weapons, marks an important tradition for the academy, as shooters and coaches alike gather to honour their weapons and seek blessings for future success.

The pooja was performed by Pandit Naresh Sharma, who elaborated on the deep significance of the day. He shared that Shastra Puja, traditionally conducted on Vijaya Dashmi represents the respect and sanctity associated with weapons, not merely as tools of warfare but as symbols of strength, protection, and discipline. He emphasized that, for



athletes, particularly shooters, this ritual is a way to invoke focus, dedication, and humility in their craft.

"Weapons have always held a sacred place in our culture. Today, we pray for the success of our young shooters, that they may hit their mark with precision and honor," Pandit Sharma stated.

The event also saw

heartfelt blessings from Coaches Vishal Mehra and Aman Singh, who encouraged the shooters for their forthcoming competitions. They motivated the athletes to stay committed, disciplined, and focused on their goals, while also reminding them of the importance of maintaining their mental and physical well-being. Both coaches expressed pride in the

achievements of the academy's shooters and shared their hopes for even greater success on national and international stages. The Shastra Puja celebration concluded with shooters offering prayers and reaffirming their dedication to the sport, leaving the academy energized and inspired for future challenges.

## Inter District UT level Wrestling Tournament concludes in Bhaderwah

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, OCT 12**

The Inter District UT Level Wrestling Tournament for boys (AAG) concluded today at the Community Hall, Bhaderwah. The event was organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (YS&S) Doda, under the patronage of Rajinder Singh Tara, Director General Youth Services and Sports J&K, and the guidance of Joint Director Jammu Ved Prakash.

District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Doda Sunil Kumar supervised the event, which saw the enthusiastic participation of 164 wrestlers from eight dis-



tricts across Jammu and Kashmir, including Jammu, Udhampur, Samba, Reasi, Kishtwar, Rajouri, Kathua, and the host district, Doda.

While speaking on the occasion, DYSSO Doda

commended the athletes for their remarkable skills, dedication, and sportsmanship. The tournament witnessed intense performances, with District Jammu emerging as the dominant team, securing

17 gold, 5 silver, and 2 bronze medals. Doda wrestlers achieved an impressive haul with 3 gold, 2 silver, and 3 bronze medals. Kishtwar earned 1 silver and 3 bronze, while Udhampur secured 2 gold and 2 bronze. Reasi took home 5 silver and 1 bronze, Rajouri bagged 2 gold and 7 bronze, Samba earned 6 silver and 4 bronze, and Kathua finished with 6 silver and 9 bronze medals.

The tournament highlighted the vibrant wrestling talent across the UT. The matches were officiated by the technical committee, including physical education masters, teachers, and REKS, ensuring smooth conduct throughout the event.

## 3rd T20I: Samson ton powers India to 133-run win, 3-0 series sweep against Bangladesh



**HYDERABAD,, OCT 12:** Sanju Samson's ebullient maiden T20 International hundred dotted India's re-sounding 133-run victory and 3-0 series sweep over a listless Bangladesh here on Saturday. Once India broomed away records like rotten twigs while posting 297 for 6 after electing to bat, it was always a case of

eventual margin of win and Bangladesh never really offered a meaningful fight, ending up at 164/7 in the third and final T20I.

Pacer Mayank Yadav (2/32) and leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi (3/30) led the hosts' bowling effort.

Samson (111, 47 balls, 11x4, 8x6), who hammered the second fastest T20I century by an Indian after Rohit Sharma (35 balls), and skipper Suryakumar Yadav (75, 35 balls, 8x4, 5x6), biffed 173 runs during an electrifying second wicket stand, propelling the hosts past several records.

The total was second in the all-time list of the highest T20I team totals behind Nepal's 314 and ahead of

Afghanistan's 278/3, and also India's highest in the shortest format.

They were purely amazing stats even taking into account a barren pitch and lighting quite outfield.

But beyond that cold realm of numbers, Samson's innings was touched by his esoteric genius, the ingredient that makes him compelling and frustrating in equal measure.

But the Kerala right-hander chose to display his captivating side on the field on a clement Hyderabad night and Bangladesh withered quickly.

Samson needed a big effort after lukewarm outings in the first two matches in Gwalior and New Delhi and, oh boy, did he make it count here!

Samson's brand-new purpose found an immediate on-field expression as he pummelled pacer Taskin Ahmed for four consecutive fours—two cover drives and as many flicks—in the second over of the innings.

It was the perfect teaser for the blockbuster action that unfolded in the next 10.3 overs.

The rapid start also helped India move past the early dismissal of opener Abhishek Sharma (4), falling to a poorly-timed pull off slinger quick Tanzim Hassan.

Suryakumar was a mere spectator once Samson slipped into top gear with an array of mind-spinning shots. That could be the biggest tribute for the 29-year-old's

knock.

It is quite tough to put Suryakumar to shade in T20Is but Samson did that with a knock of rare brilliance as India raced to 82 for 1 in Power Play and 152 for 1 after 10 overs.

It was so glaring in the 10th over when leg-spinner Rishad Hossain erred in line and length and Samson creamed him for five consecutive sixes, including a 105-meter monster.

But the most stunning shot in Samson's innings was a six off the backfoot off pacer Mustafizur Rahman.

Waiting deep inside the crease, Samson judged the slower ball to perfection, and whacked it over extra cover for

a maximum, eliciting a dejected shrug and shake of head from the experienced bowler.

Soon, he brought up his hundred off 40 balls with a boundary off off-spinner Mahedi Hasan and celebrated with a roar and punch before getting melted into a tight embrace by his captain.

Suryakumar reminded the gallery of his presence, smashing Tanzim for three fours and a six while reaching his fifty in 23 balls. But both the batters fell in the space of adding 10 runs. Samson was jettisoned by Mustafizur's well-directed bouncer and Suryakumar became Mahmudullah's last T20I victim, giving a simple catch to Rishad in deep.

But by then India had

reached 206 for three in the 15th over.

That itself was a daunting total but Hardik Pandya (47, 18 balls, 4x4, 4x6) and Riyan Parag (34, 13 balls, 1x4, 4x6) flogged the dead horse to milk a further 70 runs for the fourth wicket as India raced to a massive total.

Once Mayank ousted Pervez Hossain in the first ball of Bangladesh innings, they struggled for momentum in the always futile chase of 298.

The tourists did not have the resources even to attempt a powerful chase as knocks by Towhid Hridoy (63 not out, 42 balls, 5x4, 3x6) and Litton Das (42, 25 balls, 8x4) remained distant specks in the match's scoresheet.