



DOPE TEST

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC ATHLETE PETER BOL TEST POSITIVE

Following his interim suspension for failing an out-of-competition drugs test, Australian Olympic track star Peter Bol claimed innocence and said he was "in absolute shock."

The 800-meter runner, who lost out on a medal by placing fourth behind Kenyan winner Emmanuel Korir in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, returned the favorable result on January 10. Peter Bromley, the head of Athletics Australia, stated that Bol's A sample revealed an adverse analytical finding for erythropoietin receptor antagonists, which improve performance (EPO). Bol is not permitted to train or compete at the national, state, or club levels as a result of the temporary suspension.



INTEGRITY CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATION

AIU FILES CHARGES AGAINST BELARUSIAN COACH

The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) on Thursday filed charges against Belarusian coach Yury Maisevich for allegedly violating the World Athletics Integrity Code of Conduct during Krystsina Tsimanouskaya's withdrawal from the 2021 Olympic Games in Tokyo. Tsimanouskaya, 26, was kicked out of the Olympics by her country after she rebuked her coaches for placing her in a race that was longer than usual. She ran away from Belarus during the Olympics and sought safety in Poland. She announced in an Instagram post that she had received Polish citizenship in August of last year.



SEXUAL ASSAULT CHARGES

DANI ALVES, A BRAZILIAN FOOTBALLER, DETAINED

Brazilian defender Dani Alves was held by Spanish police on Friday after being questioned about a sexual assault allegation in a Barcelona police station, a Mossos' Esquadra force official told a news agency. The spokeswoman stated that Alves, who has refuted the accusation, will appear before a judge later on Friday. The 39-year-old Alves's future in police custody after the hearing was uncertain. The alleged victim informed police that on December 30, in a nightclub in Barcelona, the former Barcelona and Brazil soccer player had unwanted contact with her while she was wearing only her undergarment. Alves presently represents Mexican club Pumas UNAM after playing for Barcelona from 2008 to 2016 and briefly returning to the Spanish squad for the 2021-22 season.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

DJOKOVIC IN LAST 16 DESPITE HAMSTRING INJURY

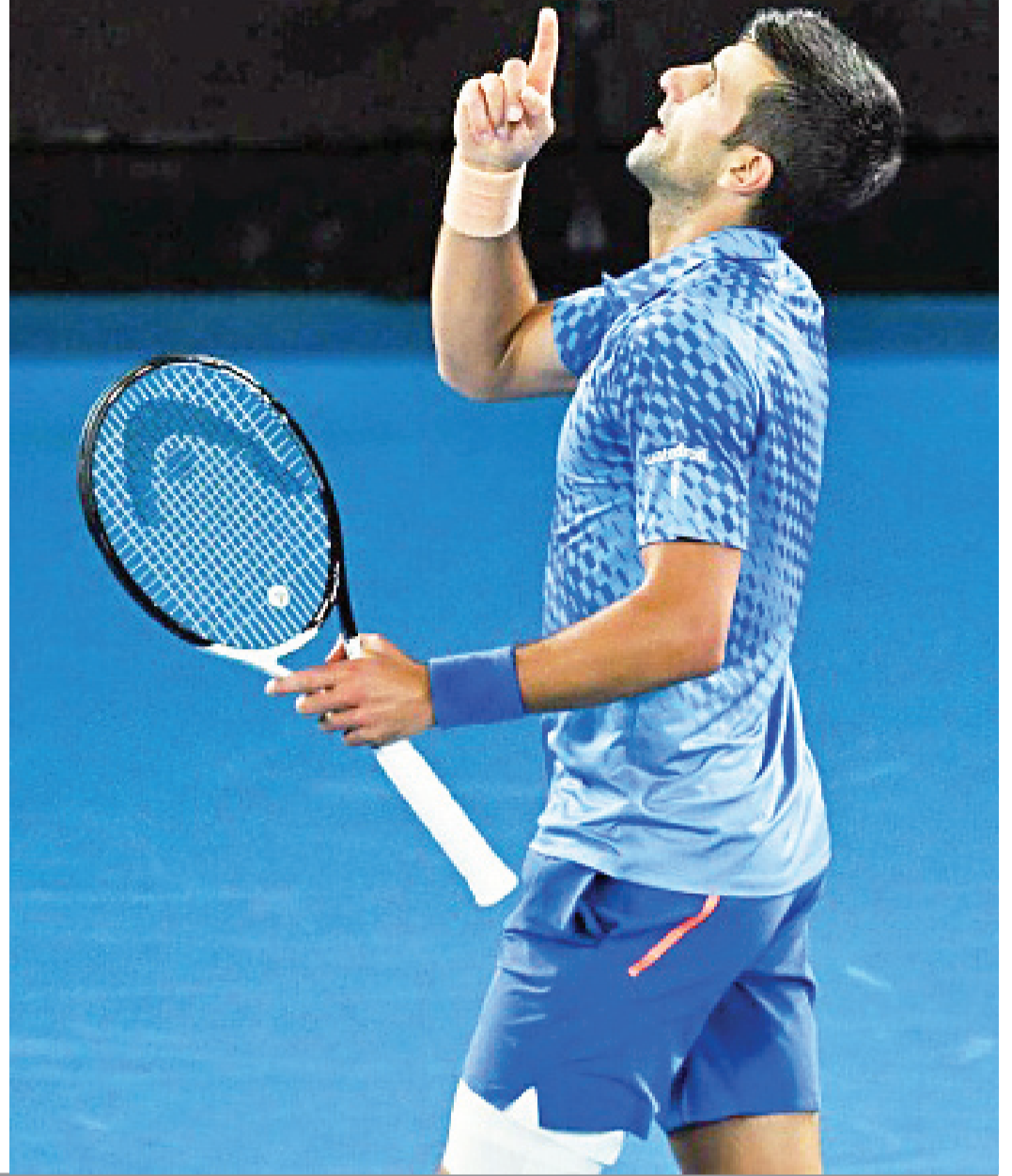
Despite struggling to move at points during the match due to an injured hamstring, Novak Djokovic beat Grigor Dimitrov in straight sets - 7-6 (9-7) 6-3 6-4 - to reach the last 16 of the Australian Open. It seemed as if injury is no impediment when he broke Dimitrov's serve in the first game.

Though he was forced to take a medical timeout after winning a grueling tie break, he didn't give up. After some treatment, Djokovic bounced back and took advantage of Dimitrov's loose play. He took the

second set comfortably.

The spectators witnessed his sensational shots at times. Serving 15 aces, he played some terrific shots. He ended the match with 50 unforced errors. Djokovic's defense was unshakeable at times.

It frustrated Dimitrov time and time again. He broke five serves in the third set and eventually closed out the match to win in straight sets. He is on his hunt for a 22nd grand slam title. He will now face Australian Alex de Minaur in the round of 16. The 23-year-old will have a raucous home crowd behind him.



HOCKEY WORLD CUP

ABORIGINAL ARTISTS DESIGNED THE KOOKABURRAS' JERSEY

Many hockey fans appreciated the Australian team's "alternative" orange-and-black outfit, emphasising the Aborigines' motif, during Friday's World Cup Pool-A match versus South Africa at the Birsa Munda Stadium. The huge Kookaburras, who often wear the well-known green-and-gold colour scheme, paid homage to Australia's first settlers.



SHUTTLE BOOST

YONEX ANNOUNCES 2ND FACTORY IN INDIA

The Chairman of Yonex, Japan, Ben Yoneyama, announced the opening of a second factory there to accommodate the country's rising demand for high-quality graphite badminton racquets.

Speaking to the media, Yoneyama said the Thomas Cup victory by India the previous year had made him realize Yonex required a second factory in Bengaluru to keep up with the rising demand.

Yonex opened its first facility in Bengaluru, India, in 2016 to produce aluminium racquets for beginners. Every year, there were new production records, therefore it was a huge success.



INDIA'S DOMESTIC 1ST CLASS CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIP

TEAM VIDARBHA DEFENDS LOWEST TOTAL IN RANJI TROPHY HISTORY

At Nagpur's Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium, where India and Australia will play next month, Gujarat was given the task of chasing 72 for victory against Vidarbha, but were bundled out for just 54 in the fourth innings, with just one player reaching double digits. Aditya Sarwate, the Player of the Match, amassed 6-17 from 15.3 overs, while Harsh Dubey, another teammate, grabbed 3-11 from nine overs. The previous mark, which was set in 1948/1949 when Bihar successfully defended a 78-run target against Delhi, was the lowest target ever successfully defended in Ranji Trophy history.

INDIAN OPEN

NO INDIAN IN QUARTER FINALS FOR 1ST TIME SINCE 2008

Saina Nehwal, the lone Indian shuttler left in the competition, lost to World No. 3 Chen Yu Fei of China in straight games, putting an end to the country's hopes of winning the ongoing India Open 2023. Yu Fei overcame Nehwal 21-9, 21-12 to easily advance to the tournament's quarterfinals, where she will play Supanida Katethong, who earlier this week upset title favourite PV Sindhu in the first round. No Indian will appear in the quarterfinals in any category for the first time since the tournament's resumption in 2008.

