



NBA ALL-STAR GAME

LEBRON JAMES, GIANNIS ANTETOKOUNMPO ELECTED CAPTAINS

LeBron James, a member of the Los Angeles Lakers, was named to the NBA All-Star team for the 19th time on Thursday, tying Kareem Abdul-Jabbar for the most choices in league history. James, who received the most votes overall, will lead one of the teams in the All-Star Game on February 19 in Salt Lake City, while Giannis Antetokounmpo, who won the Eastern Conference voting, will lead the other squad. James is 157 points short of Abdul-38,387-point Jabbar's career scoring total. If James continues to score at his current rate of 29.9 points per game, it will take him just over five games to surpass Abdul-Jabbar. If he doesn't miss any games in that time, he could do it against Oklahoma City on February 7 at home. The NBA scoring record of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar is being challenged by LeBron James. And now, on a different page of the All-Star record book, he has passed Abdul-Jabbar.



FOR 2024 OLYMPICS

RUSSIA, BELARUS GET INVITED TO THE ASIAN GAMES BY IOC

Towards a deal mediated by the International Olympic Committee, Russia and its ally Belarus were invited to compete at the Asian Games on Thursday as the next stage in qualifying teams for the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. On Wednesday, the IOC made it clear that it supports allowing Russian athletes to compete as neutral athletes at the 2024 Olympics. Since the invasion of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus have been excluded from practically all international Olympic competitions. The Asian Games, which will take place in Hangzhou, China, in September and October, will serve as Olympic qualifying events for a number of sports, including boxing and archery. Other sports hold their own regional qualifying tournaments for Asia.



OLYMPICS

PETER SAGAN TO FOCUS ON THE 2024 OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN BIKE

Peter Sagan, a three-time world champion, will compete in his final World Tour season of road races before moving on to the mountain bike competition at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. At a race in Argentina on Thursday night, the Slovakian rider made his plans known. It was his 33rd birthday. In July, he plans to compete in his final Tour de France, where he has won a record-tying seven green jerseys. Prior to his illustrious career on the roads, Sagan began his riding career on mountain bikes. In addition to one-day classics like Paris-Roubaix and the Tour of Flanders, he won 12 stages of the Tour de France. His three global championships were won in a row, from 2015 to 2017. Sagan raced in the road race at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London and the mountain bike event four years later in Rio de Janeiro, both without taking home a medal.

THE COMEBACK KINGS: GERMANY LIFTS THE TROPHY FINALLY!

After a dramatic penalty shootout, Germany defeated Belgium to be crowned as the Hockey World Cup champions. They have become champions for the

third time. They secured a 5-4 win in the shootout. Earlier in the match, they were two goals down. Niklas Wellen, Gonzalo Peillat and Mats Grambusch scored the goals for the Germans at the final match, held in India's Bhubaneswar city. Belgium's Tanguy Cosyns was the one to miss the eventual penalty. With this victory that involved a complete turnaround from a two goals deficit, Germany became the fourth team in the World Cup history to have won in this manner. Belgium had earned the advantage in the ninth minute due

to the fizzing shot from Florent van Aubel. They doubled their lead through a field goal from Cosyns.

The Germans opened their account in the second quarter as Wellen scored the goal from a penalty corner. Gonzalo Peillat levelled the scoreline in the 40th minute. At this point, it was another penalty corner for Germany with Belgium appearing rattled.

It was a complete comeback for the Germans when Mats Grambusch took the team to a 3-2 lead for the first time in the match in the 48th minute.

Later, Belgium bounced back and had a lucky reprieve as two penalty corners were scored in the final minutes of the fourth quarter. Tom Boon converted from one of the corners to make it 3-3. Thus, the match ended into a shootout.



Best Player	: Niklas Wellen
Best Forward of the Tournament Award	: Niklas Wellen
Best Midfielder of the Tournament Award	: Victor Wegnez
Best Defender of the Tournament Award	: Jeremy Hayward
Best Goalkeeper	: Vincent Vanasch
Hero Top Scorer	: Jeremy Hayward
Best Junior Player	: Mustapha Cassiem
Fan's Choice Award	: Christopher Ruhr
Best Team Goal Celebration Award	: Korea
Maximum Team Goals Award	: Netherlands
Fair Play award	: Belgium



SNOOKER SUCCESS

INDIA'S ADVANI WINS CCI SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP

Pankaj Advani of PSPB, an Indian cue sports ace, defeated Stephen Lee of England 7-2 in the CCI Snooker Classic 2023's best-of-13-frame final. Advani, who has won 25 world championships, built seven significant breaks of 73 in the second frame, 82 in the third, 43 in the fourth, 87 in the fifth, 67 in the sixth, 115 in the eighth, and 70 in the ninth to win by scores of 53-101, 73-28, 114-14, 74-30, 87-0, 67-31, 28-60, 115-0, and 106-15.

SHOOTING

PAWAN SINGH TO SERVE ISSF JUDGES COMMITTEE FOR 3RD TIME IN A ROW

The International Shooting Sports Federation's judges committee has re-elected Pawan Singh, joint-secretary general of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) (ISSF). Singh, who resides in Pune, has now been chosen to serve on the seven-person committee for a third straight term. The committee elections were held on January 24 in Munich. The committee reports to the ISSF administrative council after at least one annual meeting.



THE WORLD NO. 1

DJOKOVIC HIS 10TH AUSTRALIAN OPEN TITLE

Novak Djokovic defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas to extend his unmatched record of Australian Open titles to 10. It was an emotional win for Novak Djokovic at the Melbourne Park. He beat Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-3, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5) at the Rod Laver Arena. He now stands alongside Rafael Nadal for the most Grand Slams won in men's singles tennis. The win is significant as he would return to the world no.1 spot in the ATP rankings for the first time since June last year with this victory.



INDIA OPEN 2023 Thai shuttler becomes champion

Shuttler Kunlavut Vitidsarn from Thailand won the India Open Badminton Championship 2023. He defeated Denmark's Viktor Axelsen in the men's singles by 22-20, 10-21 and 21-12. In the Women's Singles category, An Seyoung of South Korea won the title. She defeated Japanese Akane Yamaguchi by 15-21, 21-16, and 21-12. 'Yonex-Sunrise India Open 2023 was held at KD Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi, Delhi from January 17 to 22, 2023. It was the second tournament of the HSBC BWF World Tour Super 750. The total prize money for the championship was USD 900,000.



WEIGHTLIFTING

47 NEW CENTRES OPENED IN INDIA'S ODISHA

Odisha plans to open up to 89 new athletic venues, including 47 weightlifting-specific facilities distributed around the state. According to reports, the stadiums' recent construction would encourage athletes to compete in sports like swimming and athletics in competitions that will eventually serve as a stepping stone for national championships. The goal is to create more athletes of national reputation after producing winners like Katulu Ravi Kumar, who won the Commonwealth gold medal in 2010, and Jhilli Dalabehera, who broke numerous records at the Tashkent-hosted 2020 Asian Weightlifting Championships.

DOPING VIOLATION KENYAN ATHLETE LEMPUS BANNED FOR FIVE YEARS

The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) announced that Kenyan Betty Wilson Lempus had been given a five-year suspension for taking the banned chemical triamcinolone acetonide as well as tampering with doping checks. After winning the Harmonie Mutuelle Semi de Paris in September 2021, Lempus underwent a positive test. Glucocorticoids, which are frequently utilised as medicinal agents in sports but are also restricted when taken in specific ways, include triamcinolone acetonide

NEW ADDITION IN A 1ST, KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES TO HAVE WATER SPORTS

The Khelo India Youth Games 2022, which will take place in Madhya Pradesh from January 30 to February 11, will feature water sports for the first time. At the MP Water Sports Academy in the state capital, Bhopal and Maheshwar (Khargone) will serve as host cities for sports including canoeing, kayaking, and rowing. On the other hand, water slalom will be held in Khargone, Maheshwar.