



JYOTHI YARRAJI SETS NEW NAT'L RECORD

Hurdler Jyothi Yarraji improved her National Record (NR) from her previous best of 8.18 seconds, which she clocked in the heat, by clocking 8.17 seconds in the 60m hurdles final at the Elite Indoor Track Miramas meeting in Metropole, France, on Friday night. She has broken NR three times this season (8.20, 8.18, and 8.17). The 23-year-old Indian came in second place to Dafni Georgiou of Cyprus, who likewise ran in 8.17 seconds but took first place in the competition thanks to a quicker response time (0.145). Sacha Alessandrini of France, who finished in third place, timed 8.20s.



FORMULA E CARS ARRIVE FOR 1ST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

On Thursday, special charter flights carrying the FIA Environmental Accreditation racing cars landed at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, bringing the first group of Gen 3 Formula E cars to Hyderabad. The racing vehicles have been parked in a designated area of the airport. They will be racing around the street circuit next to the picturesque Hussain Sagar lake for Season 9 of the FIA Formula E World Championship. After receiving the requisite permission from customs and other governmental agencies, the vehicles will be rolled into the track.



6 FI ENGINE SUPPLIERS CONFIRMED BY FIA

The six engine suppliers for the 2026-30 cycle, which aspires to employ sustainable fuels and more electric power, were confirmed by the organisation that governs Formula One on Friday. According to the FIA, the registration of the next generation of engines was successfully completed by Alpine, Audi, Ferrari, Honda, Mercedes, and Red Bull working with Ford. New to the series is the German automaker Audi, and American automaker Ford is making a comeback.



OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY SET TO BEGIN IN MARSEILLE

Organisers revealed on Friday that the Paris Olympics torch relay will begin in the southern port of Marseille in April 2024. On a three-masted ship, the Olympic torch will sail from Greece, the origin of the Olympics, to Marseille. It will serve as a catalyst for the Games, whose opening ceremony will take place on Paris' Seine River. In Marseille, sailing competitions will take place. The 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris run from July 26 until August 11.



T20 U-19 WORLD CUP

VICTORY FOR INDIA'S DAUGHTERS

ENGLAND BOWLED OUT FOR 68

India won the final of the inaugural Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup in South Africa, defeating England by seven wickets in Potchefstroom.

After being put in to bat in the final on Sunday, England could only muster a meagre total of 68.

Ryana MacDonald-Gay top-scored for England, making 19 from 24, with only four batters able to reach double figures, as India's opening bowler, player of the match Titas Sadhu, took 2-6 to spearhead their early stranglehold.

England lost wickets

consistently to the Indian attack, losing seven wickets for 52.

India were composed in response, with a batting line-up headed by star full international, captain Shafali Verma, at the top of the order. Shafali made 15 from 11 balls to set the tone, and although England claimed two quick wickets to regain some momentum, the duo of Soumya Tiwari (24no) and Gongadi Trisha (24 from 29 balls) made quick work of England's below-par total. Soumya Tiwari hits the winnings runs and India are the champions of the inaugural edition of the ICC Under 19 Womens T20 World Cup.



REPORTS: FORD SET TO TEAM UP WITH RED BULL IN F1

According to speculations in European media, American automaker Ford will announce an engine deal with reigning Formula One champions Red Bull starting in 2026 during the team's debut in New York on Friday.

After an apparent embargo breach, details were made public by Italian media on Thursday. The BBC in Britain stated that Ford will contribute to the cost of an engine being developed and produced by Red Bull Powertrains at their English headquarters in Milton Keynes. Starting in 2026, Formula One will use a new power unit with a larger electrical component and fuels that are 100% sustainable. Red Bull presently uses V6 turbo hybrid engines produced by erstwhile business partner Honda in Japan, and talks with Porsche were terminated last year.

COACH ASHAN'S CONTRACT WITH TAMIL THALAIIVAS EXTENDED



Ashan Kumar, the coach of Tamil Thalaivas, has had his contract renewed till 2025.

Ashan joined Thalaivas in October 2022 and led the group to the Pro Kabaddi League's first-ever playoff qualifying. The former India international's ability to remain composed in challenging circumstances was a great asset to his charges. He believed he could get the best out of them by calming their nerves and treating them with respect. The 61-year-old coach from Haryana's Bhiwani area has a wealth of coaching expertise and has worked well with Iran and South Korea, the 2018 Asian Games finalists.



JEAN-PIERRE JABOUILLE, RENAULT'S FIRST F1 WINNER NO MORE

Jean-Pierre Jabouille, a French racing driver and engineer who helped Renault win their first Formula One race in 1979, passed away at the age of 80. The two-time race winner, whose triumph at Dijon-Prenois was also the first in Formula One for a car with a turbocharged engine, was remembered by the Renault-owned Alpine team on Thursday as a pioneer. Jean-Pierre Jabouille, a French racing driver and engineer who helped Renault win their first Formula One race in 1979, passed away at the age of 80.

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INDIA MOVES UP IN IBA WORLD BOXING RANKINGS

In the most recent International Boxing Association (IBA) global rankings, India has moved up to third place. With 36300 ranking points, Indian boxers are third in the world behind Kazakhstan (48100) and Uzbekistan (37600). The USA and Cuba, two top boxing powers, are currently ranked fourth and ninth in the world, respectively. Indian boxers have taken home 16 medals from the Elite World Championships since 2016 in both the men's and women's divisions. Indian athletes have won 22 medals at the junior and young levels from the last two Youth World Championships. This year, from March 15 to 26, India will play home to the Women's World Boxing Championships for the third time.



NEW F1 TEAMS CAN NOW APPLY THANKS TO FIA

When the governing body of Formula One, the FIA, opened the application process for potential new teams on Thursday, the grid was one step closer to being expanded. That might work in the favour of Michael Andretti's Andretti Global, which is collaborating with the Cadillac brand of General Motors. The American alliance has lobbied the FIA to join F1, but current teams are opposed because they fear that an 11th team will reduce their revenue. Ben Sulayem mentioned the new engine rules coming in 2026 as a factor attracting interest from potential new teams. The FIA did not specify when applications would close, when it might decide on new teams, or when they could start racing.