

Kohli, Jaiswal crack tons as Australia reel at 12/3

Perth, (UNI)

Virat Kohli and Yashasvi Jaiswal provided the defining moments of Day 3 in the first Test at Optus Stadium, as India established a commanding position, extending their lead to 522 runs. By stumps on Sunday, Australia had been reduced to 12/3 in their second innings, facing an almost impossible task of chasing 534 runs for victory.

The day belonged to India's two star batsmen. Jaiswal, on his debut tour to Australia, played a sensational knock of 161, which not only marked his arrival in international cricket but also anchored India's mammoth total. His innings, which included 15 boundaries and 3 sixes, was a fine display of both technical ability and flair. Jaiswal's partnership with KL Rahul



(77) was particularly important, as the two put on a record-breaking 201-run stand for the opening wicket, the highest-ever opening partnership for India in Australia. Jaiswal's innings was a mixture of elegance and aggression, as he effortlessly

maneuvered the Australian bowlers around the park. His knock took India to a strong position, laying the foundation for the team's declaration. The breakthrough came when Mitchell Starc dismissed Rahul for 77, but by then,

Jaiswal had already done his job in a big way. The Australian bowlers did manage to pick up some quick wickets following lunch. Hazlewood claimed the wicket of Devdutt Padikkal (25), while Nathan Lyon cleverly stumped Rishabh Pant (1), leaving the visitors at 321/5. Pat Cummins then dismissed Dhruv Jurel (1), but India's dominance remained unchallenged, as they steadily built their lead. As the innings progressed, all eyes were on Kohli, who had been under pressure in recent times following a dip in form.

He responded in resounding fashion, bringing up his 80th Test century in a composed knock of 100*, much to the delight of his fans. The hundred not only silenced his critics but also

ensured that India remained firmly in the driver's seat. His joy was palpable as he celebrated the milestone with his wife, Anushka Sharma, in the stands, while the spectators at Optus Stadium gave him a rapturous ovation. The partnership between Kohli and Nitish Reddy (38*) extended India's lead further before captain Jasprit Bumrah made the decision to declare, leaving Australia with an imposing task ahead.

India's declaration came at 487/6, with Kohli's century providing a psychological boost heading into the final stages of the match. Australia's response was nothing short of disastrous. With the pitch beginning to show signs of wear and tear, the Indian bowlers took full advantage.

Pant pips Iyer, becomes most expensive IPL player



Jeddah, (Saudi Arabia), (UNI)

In a stunning development at the IPL 2025 Auction, Rishabh Pant has become the most expensive player in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL). The 26-year-old wicketkeeper-batter was sold to Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) for a record-breaking Rs 27 crore, surpassing Shreyas Iyer's previous record of Rs 26.25 crore.

The intense bidding war began with LSG and Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) vying for Pant's services. SRH initially placed a bid of Rs 11.50 crore, but LSG quickly joined the battle, pushing the price up to Rs 17.50 crore. As the bidding continued, it became clear that Pant's value was skyrocketing, with the two teams exchanging aggressive bids. Eventually, Delhi Capitals (DC), holding the Right to Match (RTM) option, raised the offer to Rs 20.75 crore. However, LSG ultimately sealed the deal, upping the bid to Rs 27 crore. Pant's sale eclipsed the previous IPL auc-

tion record, which was set by Shreyas Iyer earlier in the day. Iyer was secured by Punjab Kings (PBKS) for Rs 26.25 crore, following a fierce bidding war with Delhi Capitals.

The record-breaking deals reflect the intense competition among IPL franchises to strengthen their squads ahead of the 2025 season.

Earlier in the day, Australian seamer Mitchell Starc also made headlines, securing a spot with Delhi Capitals for Rs 11.75 crore, marking a significant pay cut from his previous IPL season price of Rs 24.75 crore. As the IPL auction unfolds, teams are making strategic acquisitions, with notable buys including England's Jos Buttler, who joined Gujarat Titans for Rs 15.75 crore, and South Africa's Kagiso Rabada, who was snapped up by Gujarat for Rs 10.75 crore. With intense bidding expected to continue throughout the day, IPL 2025 is shaping up to be another season of high stakes and fierce competition.

Dissolve disputed sports associations, save our future: J&K athletes urges PM

Jammu, (UNI)

Allegedly being "sandwiched" between "disputed" sports bodies fighting legal battles over their affiliations, the Jammu and Kashmir athletes have urged the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene and secure their future.

The athletes have appealed to PM Modi to ask the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) to frame working committees in place of "disputed" bodies by dissolving them.

An appeal comes ahead of upcoming national competitions and the prestigious 38th National Games to be held next year in Uttarakhand from January 28 to February 14.

"Around one dozen sports associations out of the 52 affiliated/registered with the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council—are

having "disputes" and fighting a legal battle to prove their genuineness," official sources said.

They said, most of the 'disputed' bodies affiliated with the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council (JKSC), are not recognised by the associations and federations at the national level, which is an absolute example of utter violation of 'National Sports Code', adding, "similarly, some of the bodies having affiliations with the national federations, are not being treated as valid by the J&K Sports Council."

"What is our fault? Why are we being treated as a sacrificial lamb to a system? The government must settle this mess once for all in the interest of the players to secure our future," said an athlete of international repute.



Punjab state Sr. Badminton championship to kick off on Nov 30

Jalandhar (UNI): The much-awaited Punjab State Senior Badminton Championship is set to take place from 30th November to 2nd December at Raizada Hansraj Badminton Stadium in Jalandhar.

This premier event, organized by the District Badminton Association (DBA), Jalandhar promises to be historic, marking the first time in the history of the championship that the winners will receive cash prizes worth Rs. 2 Lakhs.

Dr. Himanshu Aggarwal (IAS), the Deputy Commissioner of Jalandhar and President of the Jalandhar District Badminton Association unveiled the official poster for the event here on Saturday.

Ritin Khanna, Secretary of DBA and a former national player, revealed that the championship will see around 200 players from across Punjab competing in Men's and Women's categories in Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles events. Matches will be officiated by the BAI-approved referee, Mr. Vilas Hans and his team. The winners of this prestigious championship will earn the honor of representing Punjab at the National Badminton Championship in Bangalore in December, where they will compete at the national level. The championship will be inaugurated on November 30th with Sh. Swapan Sharma (IPS), Commissioner of Police, Jalandhar as the Chief Guest for the opening ceremony. During the event, four remarkable players from Punjab — Tanvi Sharma, Radhika, Manya Ralhan and Jagsher Khangura will be honored for their outstanding achievements in the sport and their contributions to Indian badminton.

Santosh Trophy: J&K men's team rattles Ladakh 5-0

Jammu, (UNI)

Showcasing a remarkable strategy to secure their place at the top of the group with an unbeaten record, the Jammu and Kashmir Senior Men's Football Team have rattled Ladakh 5-0 in the last Phase-1 group match of the Santosh Trophy played at Amritsar. As per reports reaching here, Jammu and Kashmir team have secured nine points from three matches, scoring an impressive 10 goals and conceding only one with victory against Ladakh.

Jammu and Kashmir will now be playing final round matches starting from December 14, 2024 at Telangana, Hyderabad.



The J&K team is led by the experienced coaching duo of Mehrajuddin Wadoo, an international coach, and national coach, and Chief Coach Satpal Singh Kala,

along with physiotherapist Burhan Amin.

The success is also a testament to the rigorous training camps held in Srinagar and Jammu, organized under the guidance of the J&K Sports Council. Jammu and Kashmir Minister for Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma has congratulated the team on their brilliant performance and praised both the athletes and technical staff.

Secretary of Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez, commended the players and officials for their excellent performance while Secretary, J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, lauded the contingent's efforts and expressed pride in their achievements.

Milan-Cortina 2026 hosts 1st World Press Briefing

Rome (Italy), (UNI)

The organizing committee of the Milan-Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games held the first and only World Press Briefing of this Olympic cycle in Milan from November 20 to 22 with over 200 representatives from media organizations, National Olympic Committees (NOCs), and international winter sports federations (IFs) attended the event in person.

During the briefing, the Milan-Cortina 2026 Organizing Committee provided updates on key areas of preparation, including accreditation, transportation, accommodation, and venue operations. Attendees also visited the competition venues in Bormio,



which will host alpine skiing and ski mountaineering events and Livigno, which will stage freestyle skiing and snowboard competitions.

"The snow sports competition areas are small Italian mountain villages with a long history that must be preserved. The organizing committee aims to ensure the delivery of core services while fully considering economic and

environmental sustainability in the preparation process," said Andrea Varnier, CEO of Fondazione Milano Cortina.

According to the organizing committee, one distinctive feature of the 2026 Winter Olympics is its wide geographical spread. The venues span across urban and mountain settings, forming four major competition clusters, with Verona added as the loca-

tion for the closing ceremony. While this innovative approach highlights the diversity of the host regions, it also presents logistical challenges for the organizers.

The Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics will also make history by achieving a record-high female athlete participation rate of 47%. This milestone reflects the International Olympic Committee's ongoing efforts to promote gender equality in winter sports. The Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics will run from February 6 to 22, with the opening ceremony set to take place at Milan's iconic San Siro Stadium and the closing ceremony scheduled at the Verona Olympic Arena.

Jamal Hossain bags IndianOil SERVO Masters 2024 crown

Digboi, (UNI)

Jamal Hossain of Bangladesh saw off a stiff challenge from multiple rivals with a stoic final round performance of one-under 71 to bag the crown at Rs 85 lakh IndianOil SERVO Masters 2024 played at the Digboi Golf Links, Assam on Saturday. Jamal (68-65-72-71) totaled 12-under 276 for the week to win his fifth title by a narrow one-shot margin. Hossain picked up a prize money cheque worth INR 12,75,000 to jump 22 spots from 39th to 17th place in the TATA Steel PGTI Ranking.

There was a four-way tie for second place at 11-under 277 between Noida's Gaurav Pratap Singh (72-67-71-67), Delhi golfers Kapil Kumar (71-70-68-68) and Sachin Baisoya (69-73-67-68) and Pune's Divyansh Dubey (68-70-69-70).

Udayan Mane (70) and Samarth Dwivedi (70) finished tied sixth at 10-under 278. Lucknow's Sanjay Kumar signed for the tournament's lowest score of eight-under 64 to se-



He secured the title by a narrow one-shot margin.

Deven Bhumij (78), the only Digboi-based professional to make the cut, ended the week in tied 46th place at six-over 294.

Jamal Hossain, who enjoyed a two-shot lead over the last two rounds, made an early bogey for the third day in succession when he dropped a shot on the first hole. But

like previous days, the 39-year-old came roaring back once again with birdies on the next two holes landing it within four feet of the flag on both occasions.

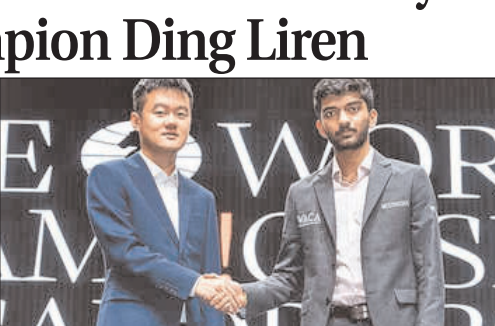
Then despite some great chipping that earned him birdies on the 11th and 14th, Jamal conceded bogeys on the 10th, 12th and 13th, as a result of some ordinary putting that seemed to derail his title hopes. With multiple contenders including Gaurav Pratap Singh, Kapil Kumar, Sachin Baisoya and Divyansh Dubey, breathing down his neck, Hossain relied on all his experience to bring out his best on the last two holes and snatch victory. Jamal executed two excellent iron shots before making a clutch putt from eight feet for birdie on the 17th. The Dhaka-resident sealed it with a brilliant chip-putt for par on the last hole after his nearest rivals Divyansh Dubey (70), Gaurav Pratap Singh (67) and Sachin Baisoya (68) bogeyed the 18th hole to crash out of contention.

Indian challenger Gukesh will not be easy to beat, says World Champion Ding Liren

Chennai, (UNI)

The young Indian challenger Gukesh D will not be easy to beat, said World Champion Ding Liren ahead of the FIDE World Championship match. "We are going to give our best and see what happens" said Ding Liren of China and his young 18-year-old Indian challenger Gukesh in the opening presser at the FIDE World Chess Championship beginning at Singapore on Monday. Gukesh has drawn white against Ding Liren and will make the opening move in the first of the 14-game classical match. The player who scores 7.5 points or more will win the match and take home the better part of the USD 2.5 million total prize fund. The presser, held on the eve of the first match of the Championship, which began on Saturday with an official opening ceremony, was moderated by one of the event's official commentators and master of ceremonies, GM Maurice Ashley.

The panel also featured Arkady Dvorkovich, FIDE President and GM Kevin Goh Wei Ming,



CEO of the Singapore Chess Federation. Asked about his state of mind and feelings before the match, Ding Liren opened up to the audience: "I was very nervous in my first World Championship Match, but this time I feel in peace with a lot of energy." "It's my first time in Singapore, and there are many to visit. It's not so oftenthat I play against a player younger than me. I have more experience than him...he is younger but has already displayed his maturity in many aspects" he said.

Chahal becomes most expensive Indian IPL spinner

Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), (UNI):

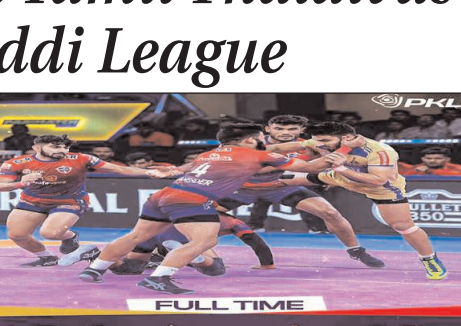
Yuzvendra Chahal has made history by becoming the most expensive Indian spinner ever in the IPL after being sold to Punjab Kings (PBKS) for a record Rs 18 crore. The bidding for the leg-spinner was fierce, with teams like Chennai Super Kings (CSK), Gujarat Titans (GT), and Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) all vying for his signature. However, it was PBKS that outbid all competition, securing Chahal, who has been in superb form, including his standout performance of 4/9 in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy ahead of the auction. The battle for Chahal saw the Rs 10 crore mark breached early, with PBKS and LSG pushing the price higher. In the final moments, PBKS clinched the deal, making Chahal the highest-paid Indian spinner in IPL history.

UP Yoddhas defeat Tamil Thalaivas 40-24 in Pro Kabaddi League

Noida, (UNI)

UP Yoddhas left the home fans grinning after they secured a very impressive 40-24 victory over Tamil Thalaivas in Match 69 of PKL 11 at the Noida Indoor Stadium here.

It was a Super 10 from Bhavani Rajput that left the spectators on the edge of their seats and he was ably supported by his teammates in what was a complete performance from the team. For Tamil Thalaivas, young Nitesh Kumar was a bright spark with a High 5 to his name on Friday night. A strategic approach from both teams defined the first half of the match as UP Yoddhas and Tamil Thalaivas' raiders took the game to the Do-Or-Die raids. In the 10th minute, however, the tide shifted when Vishal Chahal executed a successful raid, eliminating Sumit from the opposition. This breakthrough set the tone for a more aggressive phase in the half. UP Yoddhas initially rode on the raiding prowess of Bharat – who got Anuj Gawade



off the mat – as the side began to take an early lead over Tamil Thalaivas but not for long. Around the 17-minute mark, the intensity peaked with successive successful raids as Sachin eliminated Bhavani Rajput, while Bharat took out Amir Hossein Bastami as the score read 13-13 at the end of the first half. It was in the second half that UP Yoddhas upped the ante with the win on their minds. Two minutes into the second half, they inflicted the All-Out on Tamil Thalaivas.