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1. India Women 5th, Men 6th in Asian Squash Championships (June 17, 2024)

India's women's squash team secured the fifth position at the Asian Team Squash Championships in **Dalian, China**, concluding on **June 16**.

An Overview of the News

- Women's squash team defeated Iran 2-0 in the match determining the fifth and sixth places.
- Rathika Suthanthira Seelan and Pooja Arthi Raghu clinched victories comfortably for the Indian side.
- Conversely, India's men's team finished sixth after losing 1-2 to South Korea.
- Velavan Senthilkumar secured a victory, while Suraj Kumar Chand and Om Semwal narrowly lost their matches.

India's Performance:

- Women:
 - Position: 5th
 - Match Result: Beat Iran 2-0
 - Rathika Suthanthira Seelan: Beat Fereshteh Eghtedari 11-5, 11-9, 11-7
 - Pooja Arthi Raghu: Beat Parmin Nekopayantak 11-5, 11-7, 12-10
- Men:
 - Position: 6th
 - Match Result: Lost to South Korea 1-2
 - Velavan Senthilkumar: Beat Jeongmin Ryu 11-5, 11-1, 11-4
 - Suraj Kumar Chand: Lost to Minwoo Lee 11-7, 11-13, 9-11, 8-11
 - Om Semwal: Lost to Jooyoung Na 9-11, 6-11, 9-11

About Asian Team Squash Championship

- The Asian Team Squash Championship occurs every two years.
- Organized by the Asian Squash Federation and the host country's federation.
- **Men's first championship:** 1981 in Karachi, Pakistan; won by Pakistan.
- **Women's first championship:** 1986 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Hong Kong won.

2. Diksha Dagar Ties for Sixth at Ladies Italian Open Golf (June 17, 2024)

Diksha Dagar secured a sixth-place tie at the Ladies Italian Open Golf. She achieved a 6-under 210 total for the week with consistent play.

An Overview of the News

- Diksha finished four shots behind the winner, Amy Taylor of England.
- **Amy Taylor won the title with scores of 70, 67, and a closing 69.**
- Diksha demonstrated her talent in this challenging tournament.
- She will defend her title at the Czech Ladies Open next week.
- Diksha is scheduled to play in two Majors and the Olympic Games later this year.
- **This is the 27th edition of the Ladies Italian Open Golf 2024.**

About Italian Open (golf)

- The DS Automobiles Italian Open, also known as Open d'Italia, is Italy's men's national golf championship.
- **Founded in 1925**, it was played annually except in 1933 and during WWII until 1960.
- After an eleven-year hiatus, it returned in 1971 and was included in the British PGA Order of Merit circuit.
- The following year is recognized as the first official season of the European Tour, with the Italian Open featured annually.
- The 2018 event marked the 75th edition of the championship.

3. Likith SP and Dhinidhi Desinghu Secure Bronze at 2024 Singapore Nationals (June 14, 2024)

Likith SP and Dhinidhi Desinghu from India won two bronze medals at the 2024 Singapore National Swimming Championship.

An Overview of the News

- Likith SP secured bronze in the men's 100m breaststroke, finishing with a time of 1 minute and 2 seconds.
- Dhinidhi Desinghu earned bronze in the women's 200m freestyle, completing the race in 2 minutes and 5 seconds.
- The Singapore National Swimming Championship is crucial for swimmers aiming to qualify for the Paris Olympics, with the qualification deadline set for June 23, 2024.

Singapore swimming Association:

- Established in 1939 as SASA, renamed in 2002.
- Member of FINA (Fédération Internationale de Natation) since founding.
- Founding member of Asia Swimming Federation.

4. Shruti Vora becomes first Indian rider to win a 3-Star Grand Prix event in Equestrian (June 14, 2024)

Shruti Vora made history by becoming the first Indian rider to win a three-star Grand Prix event in equestrian sports.

An Overview of the News

- She achieved this milestone riding Magnanimous at the CDI-3 event of the FEI Dressage World Cup in Lipica, Slovenia, scoring 67.761 points.
- Shruti surpassed Moldova's Tatiana Antonenco, who secured 66.552 points, to claim the victory.
- Shruti Vora, a seasoned rider, has represented India in prestigious competitions like the Dressage World Championship 2022 and the Asian Games in 2010 and 2014.

Equestrian Federation of India:

- In the 1950s, the Indian Army started sending riders to international competitions.
 - Founded:- 14 March 1967
 - Headquarters:- Delhi
 - Secretary:- Colonel General Jaiveer Singh

5. Divya Deshmukh Wins World Junior Girls' Chess Championship (June 14, 2024)

Divya Deshmukh of India emerged victorious in the World Junior Girls' Chess Championship.

An Overview of the News

- The tournament took place at the Gift City Club in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- In the final round, Divya defeated Beloslava Krasteva from Bulgaria.
- She secured her victory with a decisive win in the 10th round, making it her first under-20 title.
- Divya maintained an unbeaten record throughout the championship.
- She won nine games and drew the remaining two, showcasing her dominant performance.

The World Junior Chess Championship:

- It is an under-20 tournament in chess, managed by the World Chess Federation.
- The concept originated with William Ritson-Morry, who initiated the inaugural event in 1951.
- The first championship was held in Birmingham, England, as per Ritson-Morry's vision.
- Originally held biennially, the championship occurred every two years until 1973, after which it became an annual event.
- In 1983, a separate tournament exclusively for girls was established alongside the main competition.

6. Puja Tomar Becomes First Indian to Win in UFC (June 11, 2024)

Puja Tomar became the first Indian to win a bout in the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), defeating Brazil's Rayanne Amanda dos Santos via split decision at UFC Louisville on 8 June.

An Overview of the News

- Tomar beat dos Santos with scores of 30-27, 30-27, and 29-28.
- The bout lasted all three rounds, totaling 15 minutes of intense, fast-paced action.
- The judges awarded Tomar a split decision victory with scorecards reading 30-27, 27-30, and 29-28.

Puja Tomar:

- Puja Tomar was born on 25 November 1995 in Budhana village, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh.
- She is a five-time national wushu champion.
- Tomar has a background in karate and taekwondo, winning multiple medals in both disciplines.
- She is an Indian professional mixed martial artist competing in the Strawweight division of the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC).
- **Tomar became the third person from India and the first woman to get a UFC contract.**
- Tomar has competed in Matrix Fight Night, winning the straw-weight title twice.
- Known as "Cyclone," the 30-year-old signed a contract with the UFC in October last year.

Other Indian Representatives:

- The other Indians who have represented the country in the UFC are Anshul Jubli and Bharat Kandare.

- Canada-based Arjan Singh Bhullar has also represented India on the world stage in the UFC.

Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC):

- It is an American mixed martial arts (MMA) promotion company based in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- Ownership: Operated by TKO Group Holdings, a subsidiary of Endeavor Group Holdings.
- Size: Largest MMA promotion globally as of 2023.
- Events: Hosts worldwide events with 11 weight divisions (eight men's, three women's) following the Unified Rules of MMA.
- History: Over 600 events held by 2022.
- Leadership: Dana White has been president since 2001 and CEO since 2023, under whom UFC became a global multi-billion-dollar enterprise.
- Founders: Established by Art Davie and Rorion Gracie; first event in 1993 at McNichols Sports Arena, Denver, Colorado.

7. Gulveer Singh Breaks National Record, Wins Silver in 5000m at Portland Track Festival (June 11, 2024)

In athletics, India's Gulveer Singh won the silver medal in the men's 5000m race at the Portland Track Festival High-Performance Meet in Portland, USA on June 10.

An Overview of the News

- Gulveer Singh is an Asian Games **bronze medallist**.
- He became the **fastest Indian in the men's 5000-metre race**.
- Gulveer set a **new national record with a timing of 13 minutes 18.92 seconds**.
- This timing surpassed the **previous record of 13 minutes 19.30 seconds, set by Avinash Sable last year**.

Winners:

- Gold medal: **Dylan Jacobs (USA)**
- Silver medal: **Gulveer Singh (India)**
- Bronze medal: **Eric Van Der Els (USA)**

Records:

- Gulveer Singh now holds the **national records in both the 10,000-metre and 5,000-metre races**

Important Points

- **Parvej Khan** clinched the **championship title in the men's 1500m** event with a time of 3:42.73 at the prestigious SEC Outdoor Track & Field Championships 2024 held in Louisiana.
- **Sable** recorded a time of 8:21.85 on June 9th, securing second place in his debut 3000m steeplechase race of the 2024 athletics season.
- Sanjivani Jadhav of India emerged victorious in the women's 10,000m event.
- Parul Chaudhary claimed third place in the women's 3000m steeplechase race.

8. India's Sumit Nagal Wins Heilbronn Neckercup Challenger (June 11, 2024)

Sumit Nagal won the Heilbronn Neckarcup Challenger on June 9 in Germany.

An Overview of the News

- Nagal defeated Switzerland's Alexander Ritschard with scores of 6-1, 6-7, 6-3 in the men's singles final.
- This victory marks Nagal's **6th ATP Challenger title**.
- The win virtually qualifies him for the upcoming Paris Olympics.
- Nagal achieved a career-high World Ranking of **77 in the Live ATP rankings** following this victory.

Heilbronn Neckarcup Challenger Doubles Titles 2024

- Champions:
 - Romain Arneodo (Monaco)
 - Geoffrey Blancaneaux (France)
- Runners-up:
 - Jakob Schnaitter (Germany)
 - Mark Wallner (Germany)

About The Heilbronner Neckarcup

- It is a tennis tournament.
- It is held in Heilbronn, Germany.

- The tournament has been held since 2014.
- The event is part of the ATP Challenger Tour.
- It is played on outdoor clay courts.

Filip Krajinović Filip Krajinovic holds the singles record, winning two Heilbronn Neckarcup Challenger titles.

9. Spain's Carlos Alcaraz Garfia Clinches French Open Men's Singles Title (June 10, 2024)

Carlos Alcaraz Garfia of Spain won his first-ever French Open Men's singles title at Roland Garros in Paris.

An Overview of the News

- Carlos defeated Alexander Zverev of Germany in the final with a score of 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, and 6-2.
- Alcaraz, at just 21 years old, has now won more Grand Slam titles than all men born in the 1990s combined.
- He also became the second youngest player in the Open era to win a major title on all three surfaces.
- Alcaraz reached the final by defeating Jannik Sinner, while Zverev secured his spot by defeating Casper Ruud.

About The French Open

- It's called Roland-Garros, happens annually in late May in Paris, France.
- It's named after French aviator Roland Garros.
- It's the foremost clay court championship and the sole Grand Slam on this surface.
- It's the second Grand Slam of the year, following the Australian Open and preceding Wimbledon and the US Open.
 - Founded:- 1891
 - Editions:- 123 (2024)
 - 93 Grand Slam events (since 1925)
 - Most singles titles:- Rafael Nadal (14)
 - Most doubles titles:- Roy Emerson (6)

10. Coco Gauff Secures First Grand Slam Doubles Title at French Open (June 10, 2024)

Coco Gauff, along with partner Katerina Siniakova, clinched their first Grand Slam doubles title at the French Open.

An Overview of the News

- Gauff and Siniakova defeated Italians Jasmine Paolini and Sara Errani in the final with a score of 7-6 (5), 6-3 at Court Philippe Chatrier.

Gauff's Previous Attempts:

- This victory marked Gauff's third appearance in a women's doubles final.
- She had previously reached the championship matches at Roland Garros in 2022 and the U.S. Open in 2021 but fell short.

Opponents and Their Achievements:

- The Italian duo of Paolini and Errani put up a strong fight, with Paolini also being the singles runner-up in the tournament.
- Errani, a veteran player, has notable achievements in doubles, including winning the French Open title in 2012.

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