Saina advances to last-8, Sindhu crashes out

Olympic bronze medallist Saina Nehwal on Thursday reached the quarterfinals of the Asia Badminton Championship after brushing aside Thailand's Nitchaon Jindapol in straight games at Wuhan, China. The fifth-seeded Indian won 21-14, 21-18 to take her head-to-head record over the Thai player to 7-0. The world No. 8 will take on third-seeded Chinese Shixian Wang next. PV Sindhu, the other Indian in the fray, however suffered a 21-13, 20-22, 8-21 loss against the deceptive Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei.

New boxing federation to have player representation:

In a first for boxing administration in India, the proposed new federation will have representation from current and former pugilists by including them in the Executive Committee after elections for the new office-bearers are conducted next month. “Four boxers -two men and two women -will now be duly elected in BFI's Executive Committee independently,” a top official said. The former boxers - one male and one female -in the committee will be picked through elections after registering all the retired pugilists via an athletes commission. The active members will be elected during the National Championships that will be held after BFI takes charge.

No Curry, no problem as Warriors rout Rockets:

Golden State Warriors rolled into the second round of the NBA playoffs without injured superstar Stephen Curry, thoroughly embarrassing Houston Rockets 114-81 on Wednesday to clinch the series 4-1. Klay Thompson scored 27 points. Warriors now face the winners of Los Angeles Clippers-Portland Trail Blazers series. Portland leads the series 3-2 after winning at Los Angeles, while Charlotte won narrowly at Miami to also take a 3-2 lead.

SSP in 22nd place:

Indian golfer SSP Chawrasia opened with a strong three-under 69, while former champion Jeev Milkha Singh turned in a two-under 70 on the opening day of the Volvo China Open in Beijing on Thursday. Chawrasia, winner of the Hero Indian Open this season, was tied 22nd and Jeev, winner of the event in 2006, was tied 39th. South African Hennie Otto, who carded a stunning nine-under 63, stormed into the lead.

Advani, Damani & Chawla for World 6-Red snooker:

Brijesh Damani, who topped both the selection camps that concluded in Bengaluru on Thursday, and second-placed Kamal Chawla will represent India in the IBSF World 6-Red Snooker Championship to be held at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from July 20-30. The duo will join Pankaj Advani, who got a direct entry as the defending champion.

Tiwari in line for double:

Ashutosh Tiwari, who won the doubles title partnering Sai Pranoav Ponaka, moved into the boys' singles final with a 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 win over Apuroop Reddy in the Century Club-Gokuldas Lifestyle AITA Championship Series in Bengaluru on Thursday. In the final, Tiwari takes on top-seeded Aadthiya Senthil Kumar. In the girls' section, Sonashe Bhatnagar stunned top-seeded Rashmika Rajan.
6-3, 6-3 in the semis. Sonashe meets Apoorva SB in the title clash.

Parikrma seal title:

Parikrma, with 28 points from 11 matches, clinched the BDFA's B Division football title ahead of nearest rivals Sri Gajanana (27 points from 11 matches) and Tilak Memorial (24 points from 10 matches). In football action on Thursday, Vikram scored a brace to guide Sri Gajanana to a 6-1 win over RS Sports.

Easy win for Neptune:

Neptune CC defeated Young Lions by eight wickets after chasing down a total of 155-runs on Thursday. Batting first, the Lions rode on a 50 from Nayan KV (54), while Advaith (21) and Gagan (31) chipped in with some valuable runs to set a respectable total of 154. Abhishek of the Neptune's scalped 427 while Piyush managed to take three wickets (326). After restricting the Young Lions for 154 in 27 overs, Neptune CC chased down the target in 24.3 overs. Rithik BK of Neptune smashed a fluent 69, and was the top-scorer.

Rahul to lead:

Rahul Ramchandra Rao will lead the Hockey Bengaluru team at the Hockey India junior national championship to be held in Raipur from May 4-11.

Honda Ten10 Racing Academy kick starts training:

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India Pvt Ltd., in association with Ten10 Racing, launched their first round of the training at the Meco Kartopia track in Bengaluru on Thursday. Named as the Honda Ten10 Racing Academy, 20 aspiring riders, in the age group of 17-30, were offered theory and practical sessions. The riders were given an opportunity to interact with India's first Moto 3 racer Sarath Kumar. Academy's chief trainer Ramji Govindarajan imparted the theory sessions. The academy will conduct 11 more rounds of training across the country.

Results (Round 2): Women: Sania Nehwal bt Nitchaon Jindapol (Thai) 21-14, 21-18; Tai Tzu Ying (Tpe) bt PV Sindhu 13-21, 22-20, 21-8.

Playoff results (series best of seven): Eastern Conference:
At Miami: Charlotte bt Miami 90-88 (Charlotte leads series 3-2).
Western Conference: At Los Angeles: Portland bt Los Angeles Clippers 109-98 (Portland leads series 3-2); At Oakland, California: Golden State bt Houston 134-81 (Golden State win series 4-1).

Results: U-18: Boys: Singles (Semi): Aadhiya Senthil Kumar (TN) bt Dheeraj KS (TR) 6-4, 2-6, 6-1; Ashutosh Tiwari (Mah) bt Apuroop Reddy A (AP) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4. Doubles (Final): Sai Pranav Ponaka/ Ashutosh Tiwari bt Arjun Honnapa/ Rahul Shankar 7-5, 3-6, 10-7. Girls: Singles (Semi): Sonashe Bhatnagar (Kar) bt Rashmi Rajan (Kar) 6-3, 6-3; Apoorva SB (Kar) bt Kiran Rani (TN) 6-4, 7-6 (6). Doubles (Final): Apoorva SB/ Shriman KS bt Monica Shree A/ Vinesha Shree 6-1, 6-3.

Results: Sri Gajanana 6 (Suman 2, Vikram 4, 48, Varadaraj 40, pen, Bharath 46, Stephen 69) bt RS Sports 1 (Kishore 13); Tilak Memorial (Rajesh 48) bt Universal 0. Action today: Tilak/Memorial vs RS Sports (2:30pm); Universa/vs RBI (3:45pm).