

PRIMETIME

LIVE ON NEO SPORTS

11:00 MISSION HILLS STAR TROPHY (GOLF)



LIVE ON NEO SPORTS

14:00 CIMB ASIA PACIFIC CLASSIC (GOLF)

LIVE ON STAR CRICKET

15:00 T20: AUSTRALIA VS SRI LANKA (CRICKET)

This weekend, Sri Lanka kick off their tour of Australia with a solitary T20 international followed by 3 ODIs. After their disappointing tour of India, the Aussies will be looking to start on a positive note, which will give them the much-needed boost before the Ashes.

LIVE ON TEN ACTION+

16:55 ITALIAN SERIE A: PALERMO VS LAZIO (FOOTBALL)

LIVE ON NEO SPORTS

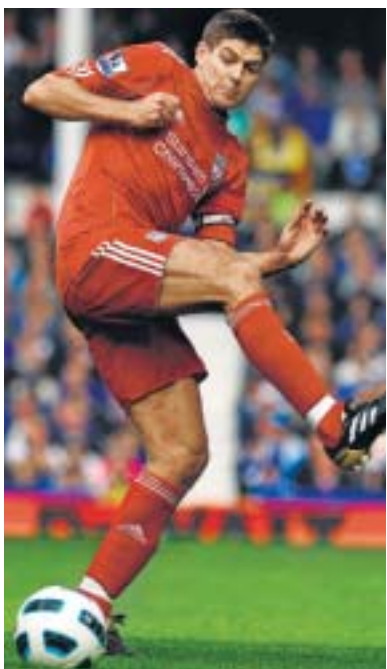
17:00 PORTUGAL MOTOGP - MAIN RACE (MOTO RACING)

LIVE ON NEO SPORTS

20:30 WTA TOUR: SONY ERICSSON CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL (TENNIS)

LIVE ON ESPN

21:25 BOLTON WANDERERS VS LIVERPOOL (FOOTBALL)



Liverpool have beaten Bolton in their last seven Premier League meetings. But the Reds have had a poor start to the premier league this season. Though they returned to winning ways last weekend by beating Blackburn 2-1, Roy Hodgson's boys still remain in the relegation zone, with just nine points from nine games. Meanwhile, Bolton are unbeaten in five League games and have not lost at the Reebok Stadium since April.

Also watch

17:25 ASTON VILLA VS BIRMINGHAM CITY - LIVE ON STAR SPORTS

18:55 NEWCASTLE UNITED VS SUNDERLAND - LIVE ON ESPN

LIVE ON TEN ACTION+

21:25 LA LIGA: SPORTING GIJON VS VILLARREAL (FOOTBALL)

KARATE KIDS

The Akshay Kumar-run karate tournament has received 53,000 entries for competition in 282 categories

Derek Abraham MUMBAI

Avantika Singh is surprisingly shy. So what? Not all nine-year olds are chirpy, bubbly or vivacious.

Eyebrows, however, are bound to rise when Anju Singh tells you that her daughter took to karate at the age of three, holds a golden-brown belt in the Go-Ju-Ryu version of the sport and is set to adorn a black belt before she turns 10.

And just when you realise this is no normal kid, the mother reveals that Avantika missed out on a bronze medal by a whisker at the World Kuyukai Championship in Japan earlier this year and aspires to represent India at the big stage.

However, the fact that astonishes you the most is that boys of Avantika's age — both at Jambhai Narsee School as well as her colony — are simply too scared to mess with her. A quick look at her face and she lets out a wry smile. Well, this isn't the shy kid one thought!

Avantika is one of the 4,500 extremely-focused, dedicated and no-nonsense kids taking **PUNCHLINE** part in 'The Akshay Kumar 2nd Invitational National Karate-Do Championships 2010' at the Andheri Sports Complex. The tournament, which is the brainchild of Bollywood's most famous *khiladi*, and Mehul Vora, a sixth degree black belt, has today become a colossal martial arts movement. Colossal because 53,000 applications were received in only two weeks. Colossal because Kumar and the sponsors (Micromax) have spent over Rs 1 crore to realise this awesome dream in a country which eats, drinks, thinks and breathes cricket.

Six rectangular rubber mats in a fairly large arena — yes, it's housefull — make for a gripping display of non-stop karate action. Not many tournaments can boast of 282 categories. Yes, you read right, 282 categories across various age and weight groups. And that means

we'll have 282 gold medallists and an equal number of silver and bronze winners. If this isn't a movement, what is? The actor's prowess in martial arts is well-documented, but this tournament is truly special.

Take a bow, Kumar & Co. Back to our not-so-shy Avantika, now proudly flaunting her bronze medal in 'kathas' (Japanese term for 'moves'). "She is a bit sad. She was expected to win gold," says Vora, who has been her coach since the very beginning. "She needs to train hard and she can represent India at big events like the Asian Games. She needs to train hard and stop eating too many burgers," adds Vora.

The junk food comment doesn't bother Avantika too much and she coolly announces that she loves her burgers. So does she actually want to become a karate professional? "Yes, I want to go all the way," is not a reply you get from every other kid.

Avantika's mother recalls a humorous story involving a boy in her daughter's school bus. "One day, a boy starting teasing and she came home crying. I asked her not to be a complaint box. The other day, the same boy fooled around with her. Avantika came and told me she beat him up! I was expecting a call from the principal's office, but thankfully, nothing of that sort happened."

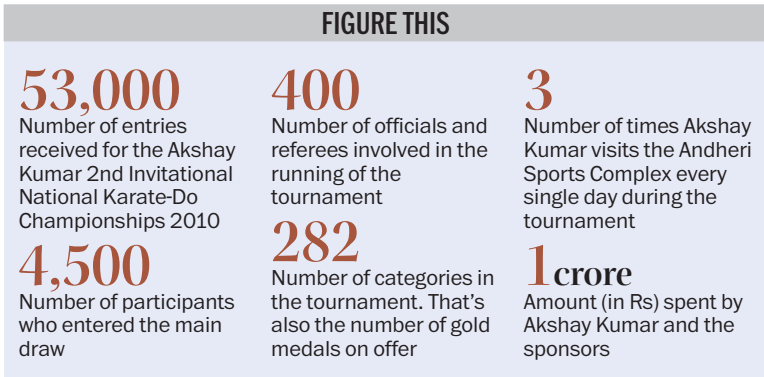
So what did she do with that poor boy? "I pinched him hard. I hate it when boys play with my *chotti* (hairdo)," Avantika says.

Vora, Avantika's guru is quick to remind that his ward has been taught how not to use her karate skills to harm or hurt anyone. "It's meant for self-defence. Karate teaches you discipline. She will never use her skills to inflict pain on anyone."

No matter what, boys in Avantika's class are still not prepared to mess with her.



Avantika Singh at National Karate Championship at the Andheri Sports Complex on Saturday — PRAMOD THAKUR DNA



TALENT HUNT

Watch this space every Sunday to know who's setting the maidans afire

Shuttler with promise



Akshaya Warang is a promising young player, putting up strong performances in the city's badminton courts. Aged only 13, she is the winner of the Under-16 singles and the Under-16

doubles categories and the runner-up in the Under-19 single category in this year's Greater Mumbai Badminton Association — District Championship held at CCI. Akshaya has been playing the sport for five years and trains at the Tata Padukone Badminton Academy at CCI under Hufrih Nariman. A student of Balmohan Vidyanandir, Dadar, she is the captain of her school's badminton team. This year, she led her school to victory in the DSO zonal tournament and will represent the zone in the state tournament. She also came third in the MSSA Badminton singles tournament. Last year, she was a part of the State Under-13 doubles team, which earned the silver medal in the nationals.

SPORTSGURU

Have questions on how to shape your child's career? Here's help. This Saturday, DNA will feature a Sports Guru, who will offer tips and suggestions with regards to the right coaching, academies and training. This week, **Savio D'Souza** will take your questions related to long-distance running. Mail in your questions to:



sportsguru@dnaindia.net

They braved a mishap...

Courageous youngsters participate in handball tourney despite meeting with an accident

Taus Rizvi MUMBAI

Dreams almost turned into tragedy for a few young aspiring handball players, on their way to participate in the state meet, when their bus met with an accident earlier this week. Though some of them suffered minor injuries, the youngsters showed immense courage and continued with the tour.

Players from St Joseph, Raigad, the district U-14 champions, and Rizvi College, Bandra, the U-19 district champions, were in a bus on their way to Durjapur to take part in the state handball championship when the mishap occurred. The vehicle went off the road and hit a tree about 40 km ahead of Sholapur, in the early hours of Wednesday. A few players suffered injuries, but there was no serious damage.

The players of both the sides', however, did not lose hope and courageously decided to go ahead with the tour and participate in the championship.

St Joseph even made it to the semifinals but lost the game by a three-goal margin. The gutsy Rizvi College boys, however, were knocked out in the first round. "Everyone was sleeping when our bus went and crashed into a tree. Some of our players got injured and I got

hurt too. For few minutes, we did not understand what had happened," said Rajesh D Sonawane, sports director of Rizvi College. "God was kind to us that none of us were in danger," he added.

Sonawane is proud of the fact that the players went on to play in the tournament despite the unpleasant incident.

"I did not force them but the boys were keen to play. Though some could not walk properly, they showed courage and went on to play," he added.

Sameer Dumbre, one of the players, said it was a scary moment. "For some time we were blank. We weren't hurt that badly and managed to walk. We had worked hard to be in the

state championship hence, we did not want to waste the opportunity.

"We decided and told Sonawane sir that we want to play. Though we lost the match, I am happy that at least we played," said the 18-year-old Commerce student. St Joseph's sports in-charge Pravin Khutarkar said he is happy that his team made the semifinals despite going through such a tough time.

"Nobody was seriously hurt. Only three of them needed stitches. However, the youngsters were all charged up. I was amazed to see their enthusiasm," said Pravin.

SHORT STORIES

Idewele powers GM to win

Nine-man GM Sports Club recorded a crucial 1-0 win over Kenkre U-19 in a Group D match of the MDFA Super Division at St Xavier's Ground, Parel, on Saturday. Earlier, in a Division Two encounter, Sporting Options continued their impressive run with their third win on the trot after putting three goals past Green Park FC.

Results: NACIL Air India 2 (Vinay Acharya, Akash Chaudhary) bt BARC 1 (Kevin D'Alemdia); Sporting Options 3 (Ashish D'souza, Roger Fernandes, Cornelius Fernandes) bt Green Park 1 (Roshan P); GM Sports Club 1 (Michael Idewele) bt Kenkre u-19 0

Course for referees

A two month class for football referees will be conducted in Bhandup. Players, coaches and sports teachers are eligible to attend the classes and get qualified to become fulltime profession referees or for knowledge of the laws. For further details, contact: 9819660349

Sahu held to a draw

Vikramaditya Sahu was held to a draw by Ekisha Basu on the first day of the Mumbai Open Rating Chess tournament held at Andheri Sports Complex on Saturday. Playing with white, Sahu accepted the

Scandinavian Gambit. After 21 moves Ekisha offered a draw to him and Sahu accepted it after realising that she had a better position.

Maharashtra in final

Maharashtra girls overcame a strong challenge by Chhattisgarh to enter the final of the IMG-Reliance National Basketball Championship at the Fr Agnel's School in Vashi on Saturday. Maharashtra won 76-48. They will take on Kerala in the summit clash. Kerala beat Tamil Nadu 64-43.

Lahiri retains BILT title

Bangalore's Anirban Lahiri retained the BILT Open title after signing off with a steady two-under 70 at the KGA in Bangalore on Saturday. Lahiri totalled 11 under 277 for the week to take home the winner's cheque of Rs 1.616,500 that helped him climb from fourth to first place in the 2010 Rolex Rankings.

Bhutia backs Houghton

Indian football captain Baichung Bhutia on Saturday came out in support of national coach Bob Houghton, saying the Englishman did not make any racist remarks against referee Dinesh Nair. Bhutia said it was Nair "who crossed the line by making false allegations

against Bob." He also said he is returning to the full fitness and hoping to get back into the groove once the Indian team embarks on their trip to Dubai.

Nat'l baseball from Nov 22

Indore will host the 25th Senior National Baseball championship from November 22-27, a senior official of the Madhya Pradesh Basketball Association (MPBA) said on Saturday. Secretary of MPBA, Jasraj Mehta said the six-day competition will have both men and women categories. About 850 players and 150 officials are expected to take part in the event.

TN beat K'taka

Spinner Aprajit's six wicket haul propelled Tamil Nadu to beat Karnataka by five wickets and move to the top of the table of the South Zone U-19 Vinu Mankad Trophy for the limited overs, played at Nehru Stadium, Fatorada at Margao on Saturday.



CRICKET: Police Shield, 10am onwards, Various venues

BASKETBALL: Junior national c'ships, Fr Agnel's HS, Vashi, 5pm



C Ronaldo
Led Real to victories over AC Milan and Racing Santander this week. Scored the opening goal and authored another in their 2-0 win against Milan and scored four goals against Santander taking his tally to 10 goals from 8 matches in La Liga

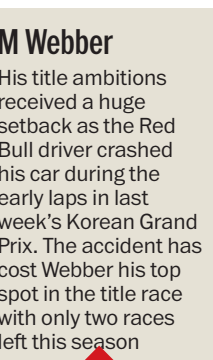


L Modi
Is 'wanted' for a good cause this time. Has been invited to address the International Sports Event Management Conference in London to share his knowledge of sports management with high-profile sports administrators

WHO'S HOT
Guess who's back again! Lalit Modi surprised all after being invited as a speaker at a high profile event in London. A brief recap of the studs and duds of the last seven days



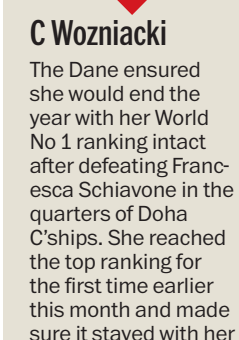
S Afridi
Pakistan lost the T20 series and first ODI against South Africa under his captaincy. Afridi's batting was reckless, he scored only 28 runs in two T20 matches. His batting woes continued in the ODI as he got out scoring a single run from 2 balls



M Webber
His title ambitions received a huge setback as the Red Bull driver crashed his car during the early laps in last week's Korean Grand Prix. The accident has cost Webber his top spot in the title race with only two races left this season



P Advani
The Indian failed to defend yet another title this year! After losing his IBSF billiards and national snooker title, Advani bowed out in the quarters of the World Pro Billiards c'ship on Friday. He lost to compatriot Dhruv Sitwala 723-608



WHO'S NOT

WEEKLINK

SATURDAY
Sebastian Vettel grabs pole in Korean GP
Asif withdraws suspension appeal
Bopanna-Qureshi out of Kremlin Cup
Nine Australian athletes test positive

SUNDAY
Indian archery coach Lenin Cherukuri dies in road accident
India win ODI series against Australia 1-0; 3rd ODI at Goa called off
South Africa wants UDRS for India tests
Fernando Alonso wins Korean GP; takes championship lead
Federer equals Sampras' record - wins 64th ATP title

MONDAY
Tendulkar is the lone current player in all-time Test World XI
India secure second spot in ODI rankings
IOC planning to abolish fireworks at opening and closing ceremonies

TUESDAY
Cup oracle Paul the octopus dies
Pune poultry giants Venky's set to buy Rovers for £46 mn
Poonia accepts Samuels' challenge

WEDNESDAY
BCCI gives Kochi 30 days to sort out mess
Vidya Stokes resigns as president of Hockey India

THURSDAY
Indian money to fund Aussie cricket Big Bash
Mike Tyson ends his boxing career
Arsenal beat Newcastle 4-0 in League Cup

FRIDAY
Anand, Humpy pull out of Asian Games
Lalit Modi invited to address international management conference in London
P Kashyap beats Ponsana; enters Denmark Open quarters