

## Jaco Mathew wins title

KOCHI: He has worn the junior National crown and played the international circuit. On Tuesday, Jaco T. Mathew won a 'home' title that was missing from his impressive collection. The 23-year-old from Ernakulam who had been playing for Tamil Nadu earlier, bagged his maiden men's title in the Sree Chitra Kerala State tennis championship at the Regional Sports Centre indoor courts here.

Jaco defeated defending champion Rynold Timothy, his sparring partner earlier during his brief visits home, 6-1, 6-4 in the final.

"Rynold has improved a lot. And tennis here has changed in a big way during my absence," said Jaco. "Usually, it was pushing and rallying, now it's very different."

## Sachin triumphs

Local lad Sachin Antony upset Thiruvananthapuram's top-seeded Pratheesh Kishore Kumar and won the under-16 boys title while promising youngster Aditya Bhat and G.L. Vivek bagged the under-14 and under-18 singles respectively.

K.M. Noordin Mather, President Emiritus, Kerala Tennis Association, was the chief guest and Navanit Nakra, Vice-President, Citibank, gave away the prizes.

The results (finals): Men's singles: Jaco T. Mathew (Ekm) bt Rynold Timothy (Ekm) 6-1, 6-4.

Doubles: K. Shanker (Tvm) / Rynold Timothy bt Jaco Mathew / Sanjo Mathew (Ekm) 6-4, 7-6(3).

Boys: U-18 singles (best of 15 games): G.L. Vivek (Tvm) bt Shyam Babu (Tvm) 8-5.

Doubles: S. Ramanath / Shyam Babu (Tvm) bt M.R. Rajendran / M.R. Sivakumar (Tvm) 8-3.

U-16 singles: Sachin Antony (Ekm) bt Pratheesh Kishore Kumar (Tvm) 8-7(5).

Doubles: Sachin Antony / Pratheesh bt Swathikanth / S. Arvind (Tvm) 8-4.

U-14 singles: Aditya Bhat (Ekm) bt Anand George (Tvm) 8-2.

Doubles: Aditya Bhat / Anand George bt Mohammed Hamraz / Arun Raj (Tvm) 8-4.

U-12 singles: Mathew T. Lazar (Tvm) bt Vikram Ramesh (Ekm) 8-5.

U-10 singles (best of 11): Anirudh Jainudhan (Tvm) bt Jithin George (Tvm) 6-3.

Women's singles (best of 9): Greeshma Roy (Ekm) bt Machat Jeetha Menon (Pkd) 5-1.

Girls: U-18 singles (best of 13): Parvathy Vijayan (Tvm) bt Bhavya Sha (Ekm) 7-1.

Doubles: Parvathy Vijayan / Sneha Susan (Tvm) bt Bhavya Sha / Sana Sadiq (Ekm) 7-1.

U-16 singles: Ratnika Prasad (Tvm) bt Preetika Biswas (Ekm) 7-1.

U-14 singles: Sneha Susan Thomas (Tvm) bt T.S. Saarika (Pkd) 7-0.

U-12 singles (best of 11): A.V. Rithika (Tvm) bt Anjali Jainudhan (Tvm) 6-2.

U-10 singles (best of seven): Tanvi Bhat (Ekm) bt Tanmayi Ramaswamy (Ekm) 4-0.

Veterans' men's singles: K. Vijayakumar (Tvm) bt P.V. Timothy (Ekm) 8-2.

Doubles: M.K. Manoj / Rashid Shah (Ekm) bt M.R. Ramesh (Tvm) / V.K. Joseph (Ekm) 8-4. — Principal Correspondent