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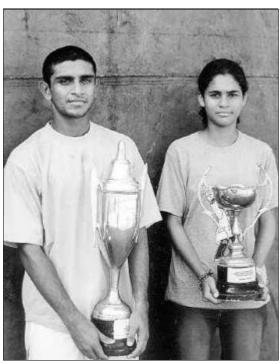
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Sport - Tennis

Jaco, Preethi clinch crowns

By Our Sports Reporter



Kerala's Jaco T. Mathew (left) and S. Preethi of Tamil Nadu, the men's and women's singles champions in the 12th KRL Open all-India tennis tournament at Kochi on Sunday.

KOCHI MAY 4. Former National junior champion, Kerala's Jaco T. Mathew, brushed aside Tamil Nadu's J. Amit 6-2, 6-3 and lifted the men's singles title in the 12th KRL Open all-India tennis tournament which concluded at the Kochi Refineries courts, Ambalamugal, on Sunday evening.

The Chennai-based Jaco, a men's doubles semifinalist at the recent Qatar Futures event, dominated the match with solid forehand top-spinners and shrewd crosscourt play.

The former BAT-trainee took home a winner's prize of Rs. 10,000.

For once, the KRL tournament witnessed some quality players but much of the fare was disappointingly lopsided. Coimbatore's 16-year-old S. Preethi, a student of Stanes' School, picked the women's crown while Mysore's R.K. Praveen and Amulya Chandra had a cakewalk on their way to the under-16 and under-14 boys' crowns.

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The Hindu: Jaco, Preethi clinch crowns

N. Nandakumar, Kochi Refineries' GM (Project Mantra), and Prasad Clemence, Manager (Sports), gave away the prizes.

The results (finals):

Men's singles: Jaco T. Mathew (Ker) bt J. Amit (TN) 6-2, 6-3;

Doubles: M.S. Krishnakumar/Binu Mani (Ker) bt Jaco T. Mathew/Sanjo T. Mathew (Ker) 5-7, 6-3, 6-3.

Women's singles: S. Preethi (TN) bt Sukirti Patnaik (Ori) 6-3, 6-1.

Under-16 boys singles: R.K. Praveen (Kar) bt Rynold Timothy (Ker) 6-0, 6-0.

Under-14 boys singles: Amulya Chandra (Kar) bt Gautam Arun (TN) 6-1, 6-1.

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