

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

National Youth Championships

BENGAL'S Jhuma Khatun set another national record and walked away with the best girl athlete award in the second Reva National Youth Athletics Championships that saw Andhra Pradesh and Kerala bagging boys' and girls' team titles, respectively.

Rajesh Kaliramana, the 17-year old from Hissar, who set a national mark in high jump clearing 2.08 metres, was declared the best athlete in the boys' section.

CHESS

National Women's 'A' title

NISHA Mohota won her maiden national title after forcing a draw against veteran Bhagyashree Thipsay. The Bengali girl, who represents Life Insurance Corporation, garnered nine points from 13 rounds for the top honours.

CRICKET

England-Bangladesh Test series

ENGLAND beat Bangladesh by an innings and 27 runs on the third day of the second and final Test. Earlier, England had defeated Bangladesh by innings and 261 runs in the first Test at Lord's. This was fifth successive Test series victory for England, a feat achieved for the first time since 1971.

West Indies-South Africa One-day series

SOUTH Africa secured a historic 5-0 sweep of the West Indies with a seven wicket win in the rain shortened fifth and final One-day International.

Earlier, an incredible last over hat-trick from Charl Langeveldt had brought South Africa from the brink of defeat and handed them a stunning one run victory with one ball to spare in the third One-day International.

West Indies-Pakistan One-day series

PAKISTAN became the second team to complete a clean sweep in the Caribbean when they won the third and final One-day International against West Indies by 22 runs. Since they won the Champions Trophy in September, 2004, West Indies have lost 12 of 13 one days.

West Indies-Pakistan Test series

WEST Indies wrapped up a comprehensive 276-run win at Bridgetown to take a 1-0 lead in the series. It was

first significant Test win for West Indies since they beat Sri Lanka in June 2003 (their only success since then has been against Bangladesh). This was the first victory for Shivnarine Chanderpaul as captain.

Pakistan fought back to take the second Test at Kingston, Jamaica by 136 runs. This was the first time in 17 years that Pakistan won a Test against West Indies in the Caribbean. Man of the match Danish Kaneria claimed his 11th five-wicket haul in his 28th Test.

FOOTBALL

Champions League title

LIVERPOOL were crowned European champions for the first time in 21 years after beating A.C. Milan 3-2 on penalties in a dramatic final.

HOCKEY

Azlan Shah Cup

OLYMPIC and three-time champions Australia came from behind to beat South Korea 4-3 on a golden goal and lift the Azlan Shah Cup. India prevailed over hosts Malaysia 2-1 with a 76th minute golden goal to finish fifth.

TENNIS

French Open, 2005

JUSTINE Henin-Hardenne of Belgium produced a flawless display of claycourt tennis to defeat France's Mary Pierce 6-1, 6-1, for her second French Open title. The 10th seed is the lowest seed ever to win the women's title in Paris.

Rafael Nadal beat unseeded Argentine Mariano Puerta 6-7, 6-3, 6-1, 7, to win the men's singles title and his first Grand Slam title. In doing so he also became the first debutant since Swede Mats Wilander in 1982 to win the men's singles at Roland Garros.

Spain's Virginia Ruano Pascual and Argentine Paola Suarez took the doubles title.

The Men's Doubles title was won by Jonas Bjorkman (Sweden) and Max Mirnyi (Belgium).

India's Sania Mirza made history as the first Indian woman to get a direct entry into a grand slam singles draw.

World Team Cup

GERMANY lost their opening match but rallied to beat Argentina 2-1 to win the World Team Cup.