

Spectator

Institute open six-a-side foot ball tournament

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Football reached its climax with three thrilling matches going into extra time. The tournament has reached the semifinal stage, with one team each from Cauvery, Ganga, Narmada and Saras still in the fray.

Cauvery 'C' rally to beat Mandak 2-1

Neither of the teams could score in the first half. Almost in the goalmouth, D'Sa dribbled passed two defenders in quick succession and scored in the second half. This was followed by three quick events which led to the downfall of Mandak. The first - Umopathy neatly put in a side throw for the equaliser. The second was a goal by Sreeni. Umopathy could have scored himself, but at the last moment, he passed it to Sreeni, who scored comfortably. The third was the long whistle.

Ganga Naturals beat Tapti 'A' 6-5

Ganga scored first when Javed beautifully headed one hard into the ground - it went into the goal first bounce. Pathak, the Ganga custodian, charged out once only to find that the ball had eluded him and that Kaushik had tapped it in. The score at the breather and at the end of the second half was 1-1. Extra time was goalless.

In the tie breaker, Javed and Anilesh scored for Ganga and Burman and Kaushik for Tapti - the tie was not broken.

This was followed by sudden death extra time (5-2-5). With both teams highly defensive, no result ensued.

In the second tie breaker, both teams scored two each: Javed and Ali for Ganga and Kaushik and Burman for Tapti. Next came the sudden death penalty kicks (in pairs). Javed scored for Ganga with a firm kick to the corner while Pathak warded off Kaushik's attempt.

What a thrilling match it was! Javed played a good game and went on to net all three of his penalty kicks.

Saras 'B' beat Jamuna 'A' 5-4

PS drew first blood for Jamuna and MVS got the equaliser. A nice kick by Malcolm; which went in off Pravin's head saw Saras surge into the lead. PS kicked one in almost from the half line - a dream kick - which took Shajan by surprise. The teams were locked at 2-2. When extra time produced no result, the tie breaker was resorted to. Shajan, MVS and Bilgi scored for Saras while PS and Pravin scored for Jamuna. Kumaran's resounding shot rebounded high into the air off the top bar.

Thus it was that the spirited Saras team made it to the semis.

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Editors can have harrowing times. When one of them was confronted by a cannibal Chief, he was asked, "what is your profession?" To which he replied, "Associate Editor". "Good", replied the cannibal, "today you can be Editor-in-Chief".

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Narmada 'A' beat KVIIT 3-2

KVIIT had the support of a large and vociferous crowd. Narmada scored first when TR headed a Kumaraguru throw-in. Biswas, the cynosure of all eyes, scored the equaliser. Narmada again went ahead, but Mohan Singh equalised when he beautifully judged a long shot and got the ball to take a snick off his head and into the goal. If Narmada hadn't goofed two penalty kicks, the match would never have gone into extra time. Vijay scored for Narmada in extra time to see them through to the semis. Rashid, Billy and TR for Narmada and Biswas, Surd and Mohan Singh for KV stood out.

Cauvery 'A' steamroll Ganga Integrals 5-0

Dawson scored thrice and Vishnu twice in a one sided match. The fourth goal was a beauty from Dawson. This match saw Bucket being injured.

Ganga Naturals beat Cauvery 'C' 2-0

The winners of the first two matches of the day clashed in the last match and the Ganga team was pretty tired. In this match, Sithu was injured, but not before he scored for Ganga. Ali was the other scorer. Sreeni tried hard for Cauvery, but in vain.

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The line up for this evening is
(Saras 'B' vs. Narmada 'A') VS. (Cauvery 'A' vs. Ganga Naturals)
5 p.m. 8 p.m. 6 p.m.