

- BOLLYWOOD
- HOLLYWOOD
- SPORTS
- CRICKET

Mid Week ENTERTAINMENT

**BLACK WIDOW NEW PROMO
TEASES FIRST FAMILY OF SCARLETT
JOHANSSON'S SUPERHERO, HER
DUEL WITH TASKMASTER | 16**



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PEOPLE TOLD ME "I SHOULD KNOW HOW TO COOK": VIDYA BALAN ON FACING GENDER INEQUALITY



"I THINK ALL OF US HAVE FACED GENDER BIAS AND NOT JUST BY THE MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX," SAID VIDYA BALAN.

Actress Vidya Balan, who has always been vocal about her ordeal with body-shaming and other social issues, shared that, like many women, she has also "faced gender bias" in an exclusive interview with Times Now Digital. Vidya, who is married to filmmaker Siddharth Roy Kapur, revealed that she was once told she "should know how to cook" at a dinner table after the actress had shared that neither she nor her husband knows cooking. Recalling the incident, Vidya told the portal: "I remember people telling me over a dinner that, 'Oh my god, you don't know how to cook.' I said, 'No, both Siddharth and I don't know how to cook'. They said, 'But you should know how to cook na...'"

SUNNY LEONE'S SHOT IS SETTING THE INTERNET ABLAZE



**SUNNY LEONE IS SOARING TEMPERATURES
WITH HER NUDE SHOT FOR DABOO RATNANI'S
CALENDAR. TAKE A LOOK!**

'BOYCOTT KAREENA KAPOOR KHAN' TRENDS ON TWITTER OVER REPORTS OF RS 12 CRORE FEE FOR 'SITA' ROLE



**AS PER MEDIA REPORTS, KAREENA
KAPOOR WILL BE STARRING AS SITA
IN AN UPCOMING MYTHOLOGICAL
PERIOD SAGA AND HAS CHARGED A
WHOPPING RS 12 CRORE AS FEE.**

DISHA CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY WITH RUMOURED BOYFRIEND TIGER SHROFF AND HIS FAMILY



**BOLLYWOOD ACTOR TIGER SHROFF TOOK TO
SOCIAL MEDIA ON SUNDAY TO WISH HIS
RUMOURED LADYLOVE, ACTRESS DISHA PATANI
ON HER BIRTHDAY IN A SPECIAL WAY.**

"BACK AT IT:" KATRINA KAIF BEGINS HER FITNESS JOURNEY POST COVID RECOVERY



NEW DELHI: Actress Katrina Kaif, who recovered from COVID-19, in April this year, has started working on her stamina as she is "back to exercise." The 37-year-old actress, on Saturday, dropped a new picture of herself on Instagram. In the caption of the post, Katrina opened up about her journey to fitness and exercise "post COVID" recovery. In the caption, she said that she has been "patient" with herself after recovering from COVID. "Back at it. Post covid I've had to be patient with myself in terms of getting back to exercise- u have to go at your own pace and listen to your body," She wrote in the caption of the post. Katrina Kaif went on to talk about her "good days" and the days when she "feels exhausted" due to post COVID fatigue. "U have good days and then days when u feel exhausted again. Going slow and trusting your body's healing process and giving yourself time. Step by step," She wrote in the caption of the post.

ILEANA D'CRUZ LOOKS STUNNING AS SHE "STRETCHES INTO THE END OF THE WEEK"



NEW DELHI: If you're reading this, congratulations on making it to the end of the week. This is the time to let your hair down and make plans for the weekend ahead, preferably while still following COVID-19 protocol, staying indoors, wearing masks and staying physically distant from people. Our favourite celebrities are also welcoming the weekend in their own ways, often sharing pictures of themselves with their hair down (both, literally and figuratively) on their social media profiles. Take, for instance, actress Ileana D'Cruz who is wowing fans with her ravishing beauty on this unsuspecting Friday afternoon. Looking like her usual enchanting self in a trendy white cropped top, beige shirt and layered neckpiece, with her luscious tresses falling over her shoulder, Ileana is a sight for sore eyes in this throwback picture shared on Instagram.

TO WATCH ALL THE LATEST GOSSIP IN ENTERTAINMENT, WATCH CHANNEL Y ROGERS 857, BELLFIBE 828, TELUS 2418

WTC Final: Rohit Sharma Will "Have His Struggles" If Ball Moves Around, Says Scott Styris



FORMER NEW ZEALAND ALL-ROUNDER SCOTT STYRIS SAID THAT ROHIT SHARMA'S LACK OF FEET MOVEMENT AGAINST SWINGING DELIVERIES COULD LAND HIM IN TROUBLE IN THE UPCOMING WTC FINAL AGAINST NEW ZEALAND.



INDIA'S TOUR OF ENGLAND, 2021-22

MATCH	DATE	VENUE
1ST TEST	4TH - 8TH AUG	NOTTINGHAM
2ND TEST	12TH - 16TH AUG	LORD'S
3RD TEST	25TH - 29TH AUG	LEEDS
4TH TEST	2ND - 6TH SEP	OVAL
5TH TEST	10TH - 14TH SEP	MANCHESTER

INDIA'S SQUAD: Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, Mayank Agarwal, Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli (Captain), Ajinkya Rahane (vice-captain), Hanuma Vihari, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), R. Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma, Mohd. Shami, Md. Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Umesh Yadav, KL Rahul (subject to fitness clearance), Wriddhiman Saha (wicket-keeper; subject to fitness clearance).

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Sunny Leone's Shot Is Setting The Internet Ablaze



New Delhi: After Abhishek Bachchan, Vidya Balan and Vicky Kaushal, ace photographer Dabboo Ratnani shared a new shot from his 2021 calendar and can you guess who is in it? Well, it is none other than Sunny Leone and she looks stunning. In the picture, Sunny can be seen leaning against a pillar. She poses with an oversized hat that doubles up as her outfit and she has her hair styled in waves. Sunny kept the make-up minimal and for footwear, her choice was a pair of stilettos. Sharing her shot from the annual calendar, Sunny Leone wrote: "Summer is here." She added the hashtags #dabbooratnanicalendar2021 and #Sunnyleone to her post. The comments section of her post was filled up with flame emojis. Dabboo Ratnani, sharing the picture wrote: "Sunshine is great for the soul, but make sure to wear a big hat! Scorching hot and stunning shot of Sunny Leone." Last year too, Sunny Leone made a stunning appear-

ance in Dabboo Ratnani's annual calendar, which featured Bollywood's A-listers from the Bachchans to Shah Rukh Khan, Vidya Balan, Alia Bhatt, Anushka Sharma, Akshay Kumar, Kiara Advani and Vicky Kaushal among other stars. Sunny Leone did her shoot with a large book, which doubled up as a prop as well as her outfit of sorts. Sunny Leone is currently seen as a host in the TV reality show Splitsvilla along with Rannvijay Singha. The actress stepped into the Indian entertainment industry with the television reality show Bigg Boss Season 5. She has featured in Bollywood films like Jism 2, Hate Story 2, Ragini MMS 2 and Ek Paheli Leela, to name a few. Sunny Leone married Daniel Weber on January 20, 2011. The couple adopted their daughter Nisha from an orphanage in Maharashtra. They also welcomed Noah and Asher into their lives in 2018. They were born via surrogacy.

"Monday Morning Zoom Calls" Can Be Glam When You Are Chitrangda Singh

New Delhi: The COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown has forced us to stay indoors for over a year now. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that many of us are looking for any reason to just get dressed and feel good about ourselves. While we have nowhere to go, what harm can a little makeup and a fresh pair of clothes do, isn't it? Well, it looks like actress Chitrangda Singh thinks exactly the same way as she shared a light-hearted post on the matter on Monday. In the post, the actress suggests that she will be dressed in all her finery, even if it is just to attend an online meeting and we love her for it! Sharing a photo of herself dressed in an Indian ensemble and traditional jewellery, the actress joked, "Ready for my Monday morning zoom call!" The actress' fans and followers could not get enough of her photo and soon filled the comment section with compliments such as "beautiful" and "gorgeous". Several fans also praised the actress' ability to stay positive during such testing times.



"RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU HAVE DEFEATED THE UNDERTAKER": UMM, SORRY AKSHAY KUMAR, WE MEANT THE REAL ONE



Akshay Kumar, a true blue khiladi, clocked 25 years of his film Khiladiyon Ka Khiladi in the most hilarious way. The actor shared a meme on his social media profile, which was with reference to the plot of the film. Akshay's character in the film defeats the renowned WWF player. The meme read: "Raise your hand if you have defeated the undertaker" and there was also a picture of Akshay Kumar raising his hand because he did defeat the Undertaker (not the real one of course) in the film, which was the fourth installment in the Khiladi series. Humour aside, Akshay Kumar in his post, did clarify that Brian Lee played The Undertaker in the film which also featured Rekha and Raveena Tandon. Sharing the post, Akshay Kumar wrote: "A hilarious note to mark 25 years to the release of Khiladiyon Ka Khiladi tomorrow! A fun fact though: it was wrestler Brian Lee who played The Undertaker in the film." The comments section of Akshay's post was filled up with comments. "Wow," wrote Ayushmann Khurrana. "Last man standing," wrote Varun Dhawan. "Epic," added Karan Kundra.

NOTHING TO SEE HERE, JUST JANHVI KAPOOR BEING HER USUAL STUNNING SELF

NEW DELHI: Actress Janhvi Kapoor just made our weekend a little better with a set of brand new pictures of herself. The 24-year-old actress, on Saturday, added four new pictures to her Instagram feed. In the pictures, Janhvi Kapoor can be seen being her usual stunning self as she strikes some amazing poses in a background full of plants. She can be seen dressed in a flowy white dress in the pictures. First two pictures capture her smiling as she poses with her hands in her hair, while the third one captures her standing. In the last picture, Janhvi Kapoor can be seen sitting and posing like a diva that she is. In the caption of the post, Janhvi wrote: "And those who were seen dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music."

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KIRTI KULHARI-LED CAST OFFSETS WHAT THE FILM LACKS IN DEPTH

An unpretentious, medium-intensity drama such as Shaadisthan has an intrinsic advantage. The film's constricted bandwidth allows first-time director Raj Singh Chaudhary to exercise firm control on the interplay of the modest narrative tools at his disposal. Since there isn't a whole lot to unpack in the 90-minute Shaadisthan, streaming on Disney+Hotstar, the film is never in danger of turning into an unseemly, my-way-or-the-highway scramble. It unravels like a thin, transparent wrapper that readily reveals its contents. Expectations are, therefore, always pegged at a reasonable level. Some might find Shaadisthan a tad bland and superficial, and not entirely unjustifiably, but the uncluttered and surprisingly decent film derives palpable benefits from the fact that it is happy to stay within its chosen limitations.

Chaudhary, who wrote the screenplay for and played a key onscreen role in Anurag Kashyap's Gulaal, displays firm grip on this clash-of-two-worlds tale rendered in the form of a road movie that rarely veers off course.

A conservative middle-class family hitches a Mumbai-to-Ajmer ride with a band of footloose musicians on their way to a show. In the course of the uneasy journey, there is little love lost between the two groups aboard a camper van. Rising tensions engender the possibility of course corrections.

The eventual outcome of the voyage is predictable all right, but the means that Shaadisthan employs is neither in-your-face nor overly all-knowing. The debate that it stokes on the freedom of women to choose how they want to fight/negotiate/absorb the ill effects of patriarchy allows space for enough muddy greys for it not to be a black and white affair.

The cast, spearheaded by the dependable Kirti Kulhari and composed of several non-starry actors who hold their own, is solid enough to offset what the film lacks by way of depth. Together, they deliver a believable, if not dazzling, tale in which two women, a young Mumbai girl a day away from turning 18 and her docile mother who may have left her best behind, have to reckon with impulses that they, especially the older of the two ladies, aren't accustomed to confronting because the man who calls the shots in the Sharma household is oblivious to their emotional needs.

Arshi Sharma (Medha Shankar) has reason to hate her overbearing father (Rajan Modi) more than any other man in the world. But her submissive mom (Nivedita Bhattacharya, serving as a strong and steady foil for Kulhari) is content to do her husband's bidding without ever pausing to wonder if her unquestioning marital fealty has been worth the years that she has wasted on it. The three are on their way to the wedding of the man's nephew in Ajmer.

A minor act of rebellion by the disgruntled Arshi has resulted in the family missing their flight. Her about-to-wed cousin Cholu (Nishank



Verma) activates Plan B, under which she and her parents travel with four members of a band in their souped-up, colour-spangled minivan all the way to Ajmer. One of the musicians is Cholu's pal and the band is scheduled to perform at the wedding.

The lively, amiable quartet is made up of lead singer Sasha (Kulhari) and three easy-going men – Freddie (Apurv Dogra), Jigme (Shenpenn Khymisar) and Imaad (Ajay Jayanthi). Their fancy-free ways – they guzzle beer and smoke non-stop – do not go down well with Arshi's fretful, ultra-orthodox dad, who is worried stiff that his wife and daughter might not be safe in the company of the wayward musicians.

On the way, the vehicle makes a stopover in an Udaipur home-cum-hotel owned by a man named Tiger (Kay Kay Menon in a special appearance), who ensures they have a good time while they are there. The break leads to an unplanned delay and an unintended detour. Arshi's mother is alarmed no end. Separated from her husband for a bit, she is at her wit's end.

Sasha, unable to fathom why the lady is so flustered, has a chat with her. The conversation is intercut with another that Imaad has with Arshi. Imaad wonders why the girl does not put up a fight. As two opposing worldviews collide, it becomes abundantly clear that Arshi is ready to rebel while her mother is completely at ease with being who she is.

As it juxtaposes two dissimilar worlds, Shaadisthan lets both its flanks roll out in their own ways without being overly judgmental about either. It might be easy to see on which side of the debate the filmmaker stands, but he lets the unadventurous Sharmas, especially the young girl and her submissive mom, have their say when the time is ripe. The musicians hold the upper hand for the most part because they are devoid of any inhibitions and their relationships have no strings attached. But every point that they make isn't necessarily at the expense of Arshi and Mrs Sharma. Neither the lady's given name nor her husband's is uttered even once because her identity is yoked to that of the man she is married to and she, on her part, is conditioned against mentioning her husband by name.

Though the men in the film aren't entirely unimportant, Shaadisthan eventually boils down to being a story of three women – a troubled teenager, a fiercely independent singer and a dutiful homemaker who appears to know no other way of living. All three eventually learn a little from each other.

This is what makes this film markedly different from many other gender-role dramas that Hindi cinema produces. The characters do not point fingers at each other. They have polite conversations. So, don't expect high drama and startling epiphanies. Look instead for the little parries and thrusts strewn across the film. While Sasha is the cocky one here, Mrs. Sharma, too, gets a shot at a proper comeback after she has been at the receiving end of much ribbing.



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THODA THODA PYAR	STEBIN BEN
NADIYON PAAR	SACHIN- JIGAR
TERA SUIT	TONY KAKKAR
MAIN JIS DIN BHULA DU	ROCHAK KOHLI
OH SANAM	TONY KAKKAR
BEWAF A TERA MASOOM	JUBIN NAUTIYAL
TUJHE BHOOLNA TOH CHAHA	ROCHAK KOHLI
SAIYAAN JI	YOYO HONEY SINGH

MIDWEEK BOX OFFICE	
SAINA	1.25 CR
GODZILLA VS. KONG	46.58 CR
MUMBAI SAGA	17.00 CR
ROOHI	25.87 CR
COOLIE NO 1	30 LAKH
WONDER WOMAN 1984	10.5 CR

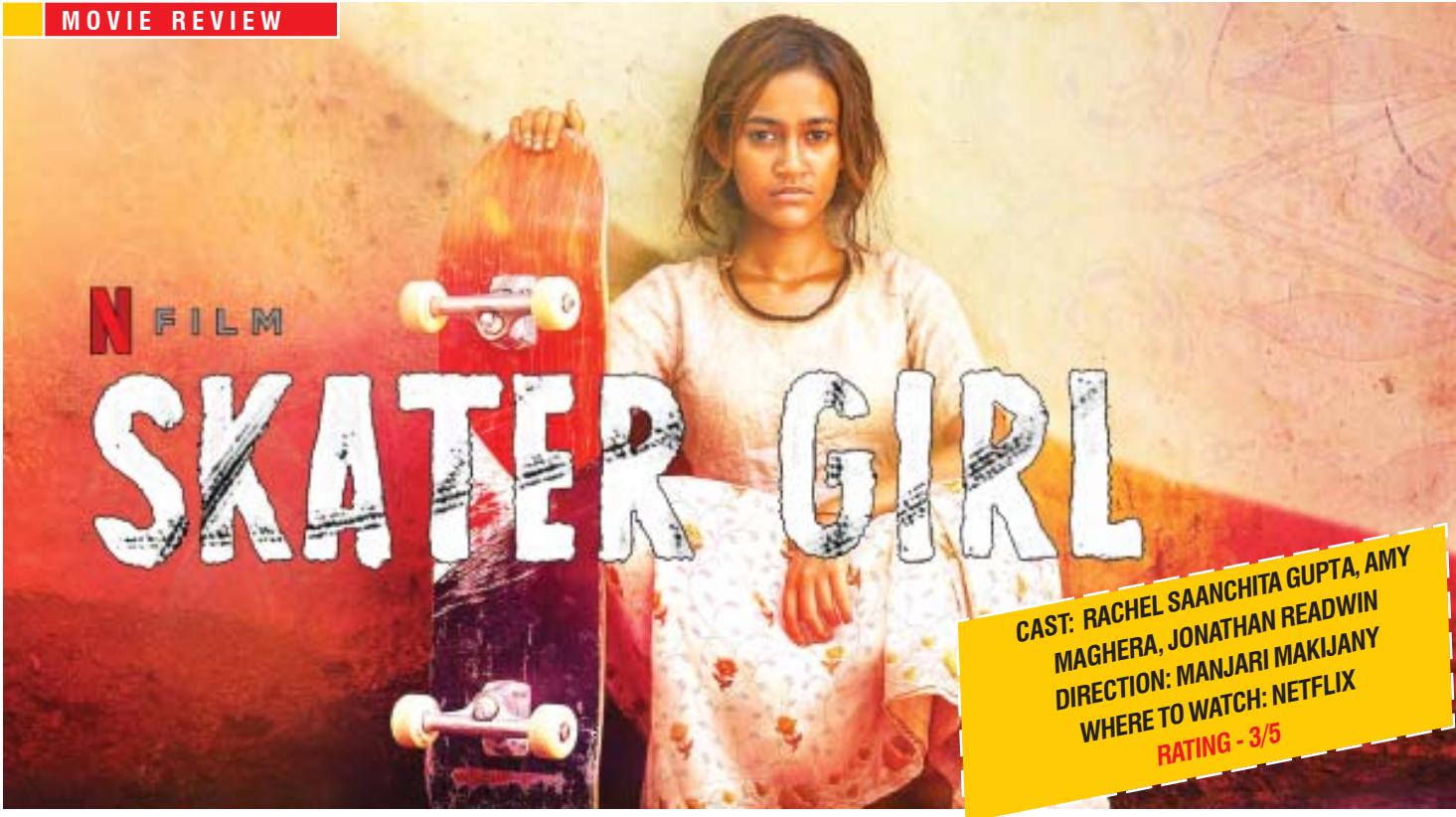
MIDWEEK HIT OR FLOP	
MASTER (ALL LANGUAGES)	HIT
COOLIE NO 1	SUCCESS
WONDER WOMAN 1984	SUPER HIT
LAXMII	SUCCESS
DIL BECHARA	SUCCESS

SUNIL GROVER SHARES HOW HE MAKES COMEDY SEEM SO EASY

He doesn't have to try too hard. His audience can't hold back a chuckle when he doles out a mere oneliner or tiny twist of expression. Sunil Grover makes comedy seem like a cakewalk. "I think I am lucky. I am lucky that people laugh at what I say. So, there is nothing else to it. We all have to do our work and create our jokes, and how to render it and how to approach it. I love it. Maybe the love for it makes it work sometimes," Sunil told IANS. The 43-year-old funnyman gained the spotlight for his portrayals of Gutthi, Dr Mashoor Gulati and Rinku Devi on television. He has also featured in films such as "Bharata, "Gabbar Is Back", "Patakha" and "Baaghi", among many others. "I love what I do and that is a tool. This is something which is not imposed. I can't do anything else. Maybe when you know that this is the only survival thing you have you have to love it," he said. Currently, Sunil stars in a web-series titled "Sunflower", a comedy murder-mystery. The show also features Ranvir Shorey, Ashish Vidyarthi, Girish Kulkarni, Mukul Chadda, Radha Bhatt, Dayana Erappa, Shonali Nagrani, and Saloni Khanna, among a huge ensemble cast.

'BOYCOTT KAREENA KAPOOR KHAN' TRENDS ON TWITTER OVER REPORTS OF RS 12 CRORE FEE FOR 'SITA' ROLE

Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan seems to be embroiled in another controversy and this time she is facing the ire of netizens with #BoycottKareenaKhan trending on social media. Kareena is set to return to work after giving birth to her second child in February this year. As per media reports, Kareena will be starring as Sita in an upcoming mythological period saga. Helmed by Alaukik Desai, the masterpiece will be retelling of Ramayana from Sita's point of view. The reports also say that the actress has charged a whopping amount of Rs 12 crore as fee when she usually demands Rs 6-8 crores for her films.



HEARTWARMING SPORTS DRAMA ZIPS ALONG NICELY

It isn't often that a movie inspires instant collective action. It is even rarer for a film to make a social impact before an audience has seen it. *Skater Girl*, out on Netflix, is one such. It has had a lasting effect on Khempur, which isn't even a dot on the map. The nondescript Rajasthan village located 45 km from Udaipur now has a community skatepark of its own where girls, the audience is told at the end of the film, "are encouraged to dream". Directed by debutante Manjari Makijany, *Skater Girl* is a simple and heartwarming sports drama that zips along nicely and steers clear of the timeworn methods that Bollywood reserves for the underdog-fighting-all-odds genre. It revolves around an impoverished tribal teenager (newcomer Rachel Saanchita Gupta) who discovers skateboarding and makes a dash for freedom. The girl, Perna Bhil, has stopped going to school because she has no money to buy textbooks. What's worse is that her father is hell bent on marrying her off. She is trapped in a conservative, stratified society. Skateboarding promises to set her free. She has to get the better of poverty and patriarchy, surmount other social obstacles and negotiate sharp caste barriers on her way to fulfilling her desire to compete in a national skateboarding event that could change her life forever. *Skater Girl*, written by the director and her sister Vinati Makijany, blends a realistic account of life in an actual village with elements of restrained fiction while keeping overt melodrama at bay. The storyline may not abound in major surprises but it doesn't succumb to cliches either. The direct, unshowy methods that the film employs to get its point across enhance its efficacy and relatability. The cast of *Skater Girl* includes Waheeda Rehman in a special appearance. The veteran actress requires all of two sequences to lend the story a strong emotional context. All the other performances in the film ring true thanks to actors who make a fair fist of seamlessly merging with the milieu. The young boys and girls of Khempur learn to express themselves through a new sport brought into their midst by a 34-year-old Indian-British girl, Jessica (Amy Maghera). The latter has arrived in the village on a personal mission. Soon thereafter, a friend from Los Angeles, Erick (Jonathan Readwin), reaches the place on a skateboard and opens an avenue for the children. It isn't, however, a smooth ride for Perna despite the constant support she receives from her spunky kid brother Ankush (Shafin Patel). Her precarious plight - she is a bundle of fears, misgivings and doubts - reflects the enormity of the hurdles that a girl like her has to inevitably deal with before she can mount a skateboard, let alone take up the sport in right earnest. Her stern father (Ambrish Saxena) sees her as



no more than a helping hand for his wife (Swati Das), around the house and in the kitchen, until it is time to send her away as a bride. Perna's growing friendship with an upper-caste boy Subodh (Vinayak Gupta) upsets the latter's teacher-father (Anurag Arora) just as much as it gets her own father's goat. Breaching caste lines here is as difficult as getting the village folk to accept the girl's new-found passion for skateboarding. The replacement of the flat wooden carts that the children use as indigenous playthings by something as alien and empowering as skateboards represents a massive leap that isn't taken kindly to by the conservative community. The skateboarders and their mentors soon run into a volley of protests. The whole village is up in arms against the kids because, in the excitement of discovering a new sport, not only do they give school a miss, they also begin to cause minor mishaps all around the village. The disruptive nature of skateboarding, a sport without rules that allows the participants to push the limits of what is possible, shatters the calm of the sleepy, dusty hamlet where demarcations - the most glaring of them is manifested by the segregated water handpump for the low caste villagers - are etched in stone. "No matter where you go in the world everybody hates skateboards," Erick quips. In another scene, the Maharani (Waheeda Rehman) reminds Jessica that her people are averse to change. When matters come to a head, Erick and Jessica are left with no option but to attempt the seemingly impossible - carve out a dedicated space for the budding, over-enthusiastic skateboarders. Many stumbles and hiccups later, the two visitors are ready with a plan that pave the way for the children to hit the ground running. A few of the skatepark builders and the skateboarding mentors are integrated into the film's plot. One cannot be faulted for wondering if *Skater Girl* is another of those well-meaning films that end up propounding a Saviour Syndrome. To be fair, it is mindful of the pitfall. Jessica, whose real reasons for being in Khempur are revealed late in the film, is aware that, no matter what, she isn't the one around here who knows best. In a scene at a defining juncture of the story, she says to Erick: "Do I really know what's best for them? I am an outsider. Maybe I should stop interfering in their lives." But she and Perna, who graduates beyond the hand-holding stage once she decides to assert her own agency, have gone too far down the path of quiet rebellion to pull away from the process of emancipation set in motion by the free-spirited, rustic skateboarders. It takes some doing for the village children to master the many tricks of skateboarding but, as in the case of everything else that life throws at them, they are naturally adept at taking the rough with the smooth.



hollywood

BLACK WIDOW NEW PROMO TEASES FIRST FAMILY OF SCARLETT JOHANSSON'S SUPERHERO, HER DUEL WITH TASKMASTER



A brand-new promo from the upcoming MCU movie *Black Widow* has been released by Marvel Studios. Titled 'Got This' the 30-second clip is all about the first family of Scarlett Johansson's superhero. Her past associates, Yelena Belova, Alexei Shostakov and Melina Vostokoff, all appear in the brief clip. The video also teases her titanic duel with the Taskmaster, likely the film's chief antagonist. An unstoppable tank of a man, Taskmaster can mimic his opponent's fighting style to the letter in order to flummox and kill them. Before Natasha Romanoff was an Avenger or even a S.H.I.E.L.D agent, she was a master-spy in the employ of KGB, Soviet Union's now-defunct premier security agency. Clint Barton, also known as Hawkeye, was sent to kill her but ended up recruiting her when he learned of her skills. In Cate Shortland's standalone movie, the superhero is forced to confront her past, including her friends that she left behind and enemies that she has yet to fight. Florence Pugh, David Harbour, O-T Fagbenle, William Hurt, Ray Winstone, and Rachel Weisz also star in *Black Widow*. If the film turns out as promised by the promos, this will be a suitable send off to the superhero who sacrificed her life in *Avengers: Endgame*.

WHEN CHRIS EVANS REFUSED TO PLAY CAPTAIN AMERICA FOR THIS REASON



It is nearly impossible to imagine anybody other than Chris Evans in the role of Steve Rogers or Captain America today. When actor Wyatt Russell stepped into the shoes of the superhero in *The Falcon and The Winter Soldier*, fans opposed the casting and made 'Not My Cap' trend despite knowing that this was temporary. Sam Wilson is Cap now, and he is accepted because he is very much like Steve and carries forward the principles, ideals and legacy that his predecessor embodied. Evans, who celebrates his 40th birthday today, thanks to his charismatic presence, believable acting and characterisation, will forever be Captain America.

NATALIE PORTMAN AND JULIANNE MOORE TO STAR IN MAY DECEMBER



Filmmaker Todd Haynes is teaming up with Oscar-winning actors Natalie Portman and Julianne Moore for his next directorial May December. Haynes, known for movies such as *Carol* and *Far From Heaven*, will direct the new film from a screenplay that was written by Samy Burch with the story by Burch and Alex Mechanik, reported *Variety*. The family drama is set 20 years after a notorious tabloid romance between Gracie Atherton-Yu and her husband, Joe, and as their twins are set to graduate from high school.

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DISHA PATANI CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY WITH RUMOURED BOYFRIEND TIGER SHROFF AND HIS FAMILY



Bollywood actor Tiger Shroff took to social media on Sunday to wish his rumoured ladylove, actress Disha Patani on her birthday in a special way. What can be said as a visual treat to Tiger and Disha's fans, the actor shared a video where the two of them are dancing together. Wishing Disha on her birthday, Tiger wrote: "Happy bday villainnnn @dishapatani." Even though Tiger and Disha are rumoured to be dating for quite some time, the two actors have refrained from speaking about their relationship status. Disha took to the comments section and reacted with the tongue out emojis. In the video Disha and Tiger were seen participating in a dance challenge. In the video, Disha looked beautiful as she was seen wearing a white top and

ripped jeans while Tiger looked dapper as he sported a pastel coloured T-shirt and white pants. Disha also celebrated her birthday with Tiger and his family. Tiger's mother Ayesha Shroff also took to Instagram on Sunday to wish Disha a happy birthday. Ayesha shared a couple of photographs of Disha, one with herself and the other one where the actress is playing with a calf. "Happpppppyyyy birthday deeeeshu!! Everyone sees the glamorous you but I love this side the most!! @dishapatani," Ayesha wrote. Commenting on her post, Disha replied: "Awww love you so much auntyy You're the best." On the work front, Disha was last seen opposite superstar Salman Khan in their Eid release 'Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai.' Her next screen appearance will be in Arjun Kapoor and John Abraham starrer 'Ek Villain 2.'

NICK JONAS' POST FOR HIS "HEART" PRIYANKA CHOPRA IS LOVE, ACTUALLY

NEW DELHI: Leave it to star couple Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas to set goals for every occasion, even when they are miles apart. Nick Jonas' latest Instagram post, mushy and equally adorable, is a love letter of sorts to his wife Priyanka Chopra, who is currently shooting for Citadel in London, while he is busy with the American TV reality show The Voice. The singer-actor shared a super cute picture with Priyanka Chopra to tell her that he misses her. Also, can we take a moment to appreciate how stunning the actress looks in that ice blue saree. "Her. That's it. That's the post. Missing my heart," wrote Nick Jonas. There were comments like "You guys are so cute," "cutest couple" and "OMG love" on Nick's post. Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas might be apart for work but every time they meet, they make heads turn with their stunning red carpet appearances. Remember their recent Billboard Music Awards appearance together? Oomph! Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas met at the grand fashion event Met Gala 2017, where they represented designer Ralph Lauren. Well, Nick Jonas is a true blue romantic. The singer had shut down an entire Tiffany's store in New York to pick out Priyanka Chopra's ring. He had proposed to Priyanka on her birthday while vacationing in London. They got married at the Umaid Bhawan Palace in 2018.



PREITY ZINTA: FEELS AWESOME TO SEE PEOPLE OUT AFTER MONTHS OF BEING LOCKED



Bollywood actress Preity Zinta took to social media on Sunday to share glimpses from the US as things start unlocking over there and life starts getting back to normal. Preity shared a video on Instagram from the US where people can be seen in a weekend mood, enjoying themselves sitting by a roadside cafeteria, while some people roaming on the streets with friends and family (mostly without masks). The actress is also seen without a mask as she shows her smiling face in the video. "Feels awesome to see people out & about enjoying each other's company after months of being locked in their homes. Of course it helps that most of the people have been vaccinated! Here's to life getting back to normal & people enjoying the simple things in life #weekendvibes #lovinit #saturday," Preity shared along with her video. Commenting on Preity's post, fans showered her with love and said she is looking lovely. A user also pointed out how nobody recognises the Bollywood actress even though she is walking on the street without a mask.

AKSHAY KUMAR SHOOT'S DOWN REPORT OF SLASHING FEES BY RS 30 CRORE



Akshay Kumar called out a 'fake' report on him which suggested that the actor slashed his fees by Rs 30 crore for 'Bell Bottom'. The report stated that the producer Vasu Bhagnani asked Akshay to reduce his fees and the actor obliged by doing so. The actor took to his Twitter page and rubbished the news reported by Bollywood Hungama. Akshay tweeted, "What waking up to FAKE Scoops feels like!" Meanwhile, the entertainment portal quoted a source stating, "'Bell Bottom' was supposed to release in April, however, due to the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic, the release has been deferred. The delay was not accounted for and also resulted in a spike in the budget of 'Bell Bottom'.



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VIRAT KOHLI'S OLD LOVE LETTER FOR HIS LOVE GOES VIRAL ON SOCIAL MEDIA | P18



NOVAK DJOKOVIC OUTLASTS STEFANOS TSITSIPAS AT FRENCH OPEN TO WIN 19TH MAJOR | P19

THROWBACK: WHEN SOURAV GANGULY ATTENDED EX-PAKISTAN PACER'S WEDDING KEEPING RIVALRY ASIDE | P19



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MSK Prasad reveals why Rohit Sharma was promoted as opener in Test format



ROHIT WILL BE SEEN IN ACTION IN THE INAUGURAL WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP (WTC) FINAL AGAINST NEW ZEALAND, SCHEDULED TO START FROM JUNE 18TH IN SOUTHAMPTON

Former chief selector MSK Prasad has opened up on Rohit Sharma's meteoric rise in the Test format, saying that the team management was confident about his ability to perform in red-ball cricket. Just like his white-ball stint with India, Rohit initially struggled to cement his place in the Test format. However, it's been a completely different story since his promotion to the top. In his maiden Test as an opener, Rohit scored 176 and 127 in the first Test against South Africa. He followed up with scores of 14 and 212, securing his place in Indian whites. In an exclusive MSK Prasad revealed how Rohit was assigned the role in the traditional format.

"Rohit's Test career was full of ups and downs but his ODI performance, especially after 2016-17, shot up in a phenomenal way. His stint in white-ball cricket was on another level. With Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane, Virat Kohli and Hanuma Vihari in the middle order, we thought Rohit would be a good fit at the top in place of Murali Vijay. "After Rohit's dream run in the 2019 World Cup, we thought

Rohit would definitely perform in Test cricket and decided to make him an opener in the South Africa series. And the rest is history. I had a chat with Kohli and Shastri, and it was a joint decision to assign him the role," Prasad told media.

"Rohit grabbed the opportunity with both hands and notched up a brilliant double century. If you perform in Test cricket, you're labelled as a 'complete player'. Rohit was 'more than happy' to start the innings in the Test format," he further said. The 34-year-old currently averages 79.52 in 18 home Tests, with seven tons and six half-centuries under his belt. Overall, the Mumbaiikar has donned 38 Test caps, where he has scored 2615 runs at 46.69.

Rohit will be seen in action in the inaugural World Test Championship (WTC) final against New Zealand, scheduled to start from June 18th in Southampton. Rohit has secured his position at the top but the team management is spoilt for choices over his opening partner, with young Shubman Gill and technically sound Mayank Agarwal in their ranks.

KANE WILLIAMSON LIKELY TO BE FIT FOR IND VS NZ SHOWDOWN



New Zealand opener Tom Latham has said that captain Kane Williamson and wicketkeeper-batsman BJ Watling are recovering well and is confident the duo will be available for the World Test Championship (WTC) final against India from June 18 at the Hampshire Bowl. "They are recovering reasonably well. It was important for them to get a bit of rest and be fully fit heading into the next week, so I am sure they will go through the fitness testing protocol over the next day or two in order for them to be ready to go for the next week. Fingers crossed. We will have a fully fit squad," said Latham, who stood in place of Williamson in the second Test against England at Birmingham which the Kiwis won. New Zealand defeated England in the second Test by eight wickets on Sunday to clinch their first Test series win in England since 1999. They managed to do it with a side that missed many frontline players.

SHAKIB AL HASAN BANNED FOR 4 GAMES OF DHAKA PREMIER LEAGUE AFTER UNRULY ON-FIELD BEHAVIOUR: REPORTS



Star Bangladesh cricketer Shakib Al Hasan has been let off lightly with a four-match suspension from Dhaka T20 Premier League, following his on-field meltdown during a match between Mohammedan Sporting and Abahani Limited. According to leading Bangladesh cricket portal 'BDCricetime', "Mohammedan Sporting Club captain Shakib Al Hasan has been banned for four matches due to his arrogant behaviour in the Dhaka Premier League. He will not be able to play the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh round matches of the DPL." While his team Mohammedan won the match easily by DLS method, Shakib lost his cool twice during the game -- once when he kicked the stumps after a strong leg-before appeal against his Bangladesh teammate Mushfiqur Rahim and secondly when umpires called for covers with one ball left to complete a minimum of six overs of the Abahani innings which would be required for a result. This time, he rushed from mid-off and uprooted the stumps.

VIRAT KOHLI'S OLD LOVE LETTER FOR HIS LOVE GOES VIRAL ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Team India is currently preparing for their nail-biting final match of the World Test Championship (WTC) against New Zealand. Indian skipper Virat Kohli's team is sweating hard and preparing for the match. Just recently, Virat was spotted at the airport leaving for England with his wife Anushka Sharma and newborn daughter Vamika Kohli. Amid all this, now an old love letter written by Virat Kohli has been going viral on social media. Virat, on Friday night, surprised his fans as he shared an old love letter that he wrote for his love potato. Yes, you heard that right!

11 JUNE - 11 JULY 2021			
Wednesday, June 16		Thursday, June 17	
Match	Time	Match	Time
Finland vs. Russia	9 am	Ukraine vs. North Macedonia	9 am
Turkey vs. Wales	12 pm	Denmark vs. Belgium	12 pm
Italy vs. Switzerland	3 pm	Netherlands vs. Austria	3 pm
Sunday, June 20		Monday, June 21	
Match	Time	Match	Time
Italy vs. Wales	12 pm	Ukraine vs. Austria	12 pm
Switzerland vs. Turkey	12 pm	North Macedonia vs. Netherlands	12 pm
		Russia vs. Denmark	3 pm
		Finland vs. Belgium	3 pm
Friday, June 18		Saturday, June 19	
Match	Time	Match	Time
Sweden vs. Slovakia	9 am	Hungary vs. France	9 am
Croatia vs. Czech Republic	12 pm	Portugal vs. Germany	12 pm
England vs. Scotland	3 pm	Spain vs. Poland	3 pm
Tuesday, June 22		Wednesday, June 23	
Match	Time	Match	Time
Croatia vs. Scotland	3 pm	Sweden vs. Poland	12 pm
Czech Republic vs. England	3 pm	Slovakia vs. Spain	12 pm
		Portugal vs. France	3 pm
		Germany vs. Hungary	3 pm

New Zealand have advantage but we are mentally prepared, says Ajinkya Rahane



India vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane on Wednesday admitted New Zealand would go into the World Test Championship (WTC) final with the advantage of having played two Tests in England, but said his teammates are prepared to face the challenge of playing a one-off Test without a competitive game.

"They are a quality team. We are not going to take them lightly. Yes they played two Test matches against England before the final, so they have this advantage. But as I said this final is all about whoever is going to give their best for the next five days -- in each and every

session," said Rahane. He pointed out that the Kiwis have all the bases covered.

India will head into the WTC final with a few practice sessions that Rahane described as being good. A poor start may not give them the chance to come back as it did in Australia where they played four Test matches and could bounce back from 36 all out and the crushing loss in the first Test by winning two of the next three Tests under Rahane. "I feel it is a mental thing, if you can switch mentally and adapt to it quickly. That is really important. Yes, it is a one-off game but as I said we want to take it as another game, not to think of it as a final. We don't put too pressure on ourselves," he added. "What is important for us is to start well. We have been playing well and consistent cricket." The 33-year-old Rahane said the team management is backing the India youngsters to play fearless cricket and perform with freedom. "I am not telling them anything. They know their game-plans, they know they have played their best cricket for one, one-and-a-half years. They are backing themselves and have the confidence. We believe in their ability, and are allowing them to play their game," he said. "We don't want to create any confusion. As long as we are playing as a unit and playing to our potential, we are not telling them anything. Want them to play with freedom and play fearless cricket."

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NOVAK DJOKOVIC OUTLASTS STEFANOS TSITSIPAS AT
FRENCH OPEN TO WIN 19TH MAJOR



Novak Djokovic came all the way back after dropping the first two sets to beat Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-7 (6), 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 in the French Open final Sunday for his 19th Grand Slam title. Djokovic's second trophy at Roland Garros moves him one major championship away from tying the men's record of 20 shared by Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer. It also puts reigning Australian Open champion Djokovic halfway to a calendar-year Grand Slam, something no man has accomplished since Rod Laver in 1969. The 34-year-old Djokovic eliminated 13-time French Open champion Nadal in a semifinal that lasted more than four hours Friday night. That might be why the 22-year-old Tsitsipas had the upper hand early, and Djokovic looked drained for two sets. Eventually, though, he started making fewer mistakes, got his best-in-the-game returning on track, served almost flawlessly down the stretch and was able to complete his sixth career comeback from two sets down — and second of the past week. Indeed, the International Tennis Federation said Djokovic — who trailed 19-year-old Lorenzo Musetti two sets to none in the fourth round — is the first man in the professional era to win a Grand Slam tournament after twice facing a 2-0 deficit in sets. Experience could have been a factor, too. This was the first major final for Tsitsipas and 29th for Djokovic, who also won the French Open in 2016, along with nine titles at the Australian Open, five at Wimbledon and three at the U.S. Open.

THROWBACK: WHEN SOURAV GANGULY ATTENDED EX-PAKISTAN
PACER'S WEDDING KEEPING RIVALRY ASIDE

Former Pakistan pacer Yasir Arafat has praised former India captain and current BCCI president Sourav Ganguly for his humble nature. Arafat recently revealed that Ganguly attended his wedding in 2011 keeping the India vs Pakistan rivalry aside. Arafat said that he invited several cricketers and not everyone came but Ganguly attended the wedding despite his busy schedule. "Sourav Ganguly is also very humble. I don't think many fans would know it, but he even attended my wedding. I had invited many cricketers, but not everyone came. I had requested Sourav and he came. I think he was a little busy that time. Still, he attended my wedding ceremony," Arafat told Sports Yaari YouTube Channel. Arafat, who played a lot of cricket around the world in leagues and county games, had a short-lived international career as he played just 3 ODIs, three Tests and 13 T20Is. As, he started playing county cricket at the twilight of his career for Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire, and Somerset and also played in the Big Bash League (BBL) for Perth Scorchers. Arafat also revealed that he got an offer from Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan to play in the IPL for the Kolkata Knight Riders but it didn't materialise after Pakistan players were banned from the league after the first edition.



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