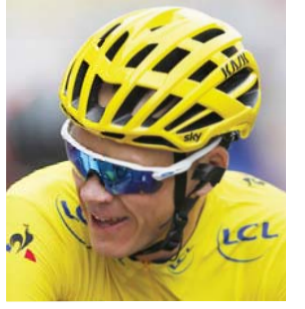


Sports

Spieth sets out looking to win British Open title



Froome wins fourth Tour de France title



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SIMMONS SLUGS ANGELS TO WIN OVER RED SOX

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LONDON: England players pose with the trophy after winning the ICC Women's World Cup cricket final between England and India at Lord's cricket ground in London yesterday. — AFP

ENGLAND EDGE INDIA IN WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FINAL

LONDON: Anya Shrubsole bowled England to a dramatic nine-run win over India in the Women's World Cup final at Lord's yesterday. India, set 229 to win, were well on course for victory at 191 for three in front of a full house of more than 26,000. But the dismissal of opener Punam Raut, who made a fine 86, lbw to Shrubsole, sparked a stunning collapse.

Shrubsole took five wickets for 11 runs in 19 deliveries as India, bidding for a first World Cup title on the ground where their men's side won an inaugural World Cup crown in 1983, slumped to 219 all out. Pace bowler Shrubsole finished with stunning figures of six for 46 in 9.4 overs as England won a fourth World Cup title and third on home soil, by gaining revenge for their opening group stage loss to India. Opener Smriti Mandhana—who made 90 in that match—was bowled for a duck by Shrubsole.

But fellow opener Raut hit Shrubsole back over her head for six. Meanwhile India captain Mithali Raj, in what was, together with fellow 34-year-old Jhulan Goswami, likely to be her last chance to win a World Cup after being on the losing side in 2005, struck several fine boundaries. But the all-time leading run-scorer in women's one-day internationals, effectively ran herself out for just 17.

Her exit brought in the big-hitting Harmanpreet Kaur, whose stunning 171 not out had set up India's semi-final win over reigning champions Australia. Kaur lofted and swept left-arm spinner Alex Hartley for two huge sixes.

Raut went to fifty in 78 balls and Kaur got there in 80 balls. But the duo were separated when Kaur swept Hartley straight to Tammy Beaumont at deep backward square to end a stand of 95. Sarah Taylor, arguably the best wicket-keeper in the women's game, then missed a chance to stump Raut, on 65 off spinner Laura Marsh. Another chance went begging when Veda Krishnamurthy (10) was dropped by England captain Heather Knight at extra cover off pace bowler Jenny Gunn. India's target was now under a run a ball and Veda Krishnamurthy raised a fifty stand with Raut off just 54 balls when she cut

SCOREBOARD		
LONDON: Scoreboard in the Women's World Cup final between England and India at Lord's yesterday:		
England		
L. Winfield b Gayakwad	24	M. Raj run out (Sciver/Taylor)
T. Beaumont c Goswami b Yadav	23	H. Kaur c Beaumont b Hartley
S. Taylor c Verma b Goswami	45	V. Krishnamurthy c Sciver b Shrubsole
H. Knight lbw b Yadav	1	S. Verma b Hartley
N. Sciver lbw b Goswami	51	D. Sharma c Sciver b Shrubsole
F. Wilson lbw b Goswami	0	J. Goswami b Shrubsole
K. Brunt run out (Sharma)	34	S. Pandey run out (Shrubsole/Taylor)
J. Gunn not out	25	P. Yadav not out
L. Marsh not out	14	R. Gayakwad b Shrubsole
Extras (lb3, w7, nb1)	11	Extras (lb3, w7, nb1)
Total (7 wks, 50 overs)	228	Total (all out, 48.4 overs)
Did not bat: A Shrubsole, A Hartley		
Fall of wickets: 1-47 (Winfield), 2-60 (Beaumont), 3-63 (Knight), 4-146 (Taylor), 5-146 (Wilson), 6-164 (Sciver), 7-196 (Brunt)		Fall of wickets: 1-5 (Mandhana), 2-43 (Raj), 3-138 (Kaur), 4-191 (Raut), 5-196 (Verma), 6-200 (Krishnamurthy), 7-201 (Goswami), 8-218 (Pandey), 9-218 (Sharma), 10-219 (Gayakwad)
Bowling: Goswami 10-3-23-3 (3w); Pandey 7-0-53-0 (1nb, 1w); Gayakwad 10-1-49-1 (1w); Sharma 9-0-39-0 (1w); Yadav 10-0-36-2; Kaur 4-0-25-0 (1w)		Bowling: Brunt 6-0-22-0; Shrubsole 9.4-0-46-6 (4w); Sciver 5-1-26-0; Gunn 7-2-17-0 (1w); Marsh 10-1-40-0 (1w); Hartley 10-0-58-2 (1w); Knight 1-0-7-0
India		Result: England won by nine runs.
P. Raut lbw b Shrubsole	86	
S. Mandhana b Shrubsole	0	

Shrubsole over point and drove her over mid-off for two fours in as many balls. Raut's fine innings ended when she was lbw to Shrubsole, having faced 115 balls including four fours and a six.

It was the start of a cascade of wickets as panic set in. Krishnamurthy made a fine 35 before she holed out off Shrubsole before Goswami was yorked by Shrubsole for a duck. Shika Pandey was run out before Shrubsole, after Jenny Gunn had dropped a simple catch, ended the match by bowling Rajeshwari Gayakwad for a duck as England won yet another close game this World Cup. Earlier pace bowler Goswami took three for 23 in 10 overs as India held England to 228 for seven.

Goswami's haul, which saw her take two wickets

in two balls, included the dismissals of star batsman Taylor (45) and top-scorer Nat Sciver (51). England started steadily after Knight won the toss. But from 47 for none, they lost three wickets in quick succession to be 63 for three, with leg-spinner Poonam Yadav (two for 36) having Knight lbw for just one on the sweep.

Taylor and Sciver put on 83 before Goswami, the all-time leading wicket-taker in women's ODIs, struck in her second spell. Taylor was caught down the leg-side by wicket-keeper Sushma Verma. And 146 for four became 146 for five when Fran Wilson was lbw for a golden duck next ball. But England's tail, with Katherine Brunt making 34, took them past 200 and those runs proved vital in the end. —AFP



EAST RUTHERFORD: Barcelona's Brazilian forward Neymar (C) vies for the ball with Juventus players during the International Champions Cup (ICC) match between Juventus FC and FC Barcelona, at the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on Sunday. FC Barcelona defeated Juventus 2-1. — AFP

NEYMAR DAZZLES AS BARCA DOWN JUVENTUS

EAST RUTHERFORD: Neymar gave Barcelona fans a dazzling reminder of what they could be about to lose on Saturday, scoring twice as the Spanish giants defeated Juventus 2-1 in a pre-season friendly. The 25-year-old Brazilian superstar is at the centre of frenzied speculation linking him to a gargantuan, world record 222-million-euro (\$256.8 million) transfer to Paris Saint-Germain.

Neymar had kept the guessing game about his future bubbling away after posting a picture of himself looking pensive on Instagram on Friday. But there was little to suggest that the charismatic striker is overwhelmed by the transfer saga as he produced a bewitching performance in front of a sell-out 82,104 crowd at the MetLife Stadium in New Jersey. The Brazilian broke clear after only four minutes but saw a tame shot from near the edge of the area drift away from the goal.

Barcelona, with Lionel Messi starting, looked by far the more threatening of the two teams with Aleix Vidal and Messi both drawing early blocks from the Juventus defence.

At the other end Mario Mandzukic might have given Juve the lead on 14 minutes but his header from a Stefano Sturaro cross went wide. The Italians were made to rue Mandzukic's profligacy a minute later when Neymar fired the Catalans into the lead, playing a clever one-two with Paco Alcacer and drilling his finish past Gianluigi Buffon. Nine

minutes later and Neymar grabbed his second, picking his way through a static Juventus defence before burying a low shot beyond Buffon once more. Neymar might have had a hat-trick three minutes from half-time, when Messi floated a delightful pass in behind the Juve defence for the Brazilian. Buffon on this occasion was equal to the challenge however and blocked safely.

Barcelona rang the changes at half-time, withdrawing all but two of their starting line-up, Neymar exiting for Sergi Roberto and Arda Turan replacing Messi.

Juventus also made a raft of substitutions which led to the introduction of Paulo Dybala, Gonzalo Higuain and Douglas Costa amongst others. The changes immediately gave Juve a sharper attacking edge and Dybala was quick to test Adria Ortola with a rasping shot on 62 minutes that was turned around for a corner.

From the ensuing setpiece, Giorgio Chiellini nodded home Dybala's cross to make it 2-1. However it was Barcelona who finished the stronger of the two sides, with Luis Suarez repeatedly threatening to extend the Spanish side's lead. Man of the moment Neymar departed the stadium without addressing reporters, while Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde could only repeat his desire to keep the Brazilian. "We want Neymar to be with us," Valverde said. "We know his value on the pitch and what he brings to the locker room." —AFP



LONDON: England's Jenny Gunn slides into the crease as India's Rajeshwari Gayakwad unsuccessfully attempts to run her out during the ICC Women's World Cup 2017 final match between England and India at Lord's in London. — AP