

## ATHLETICS / NORTH ZONE ATHLETES SET THREE RECORDS

# Saraswathi, Pawani walk into record books

By Our Sports Reporter

**HISSAR, DEC. 4.** Walkers Vadluri Saraswathi and Solipuram Pawani share a lot in common. The duo is almost of same age, hail from a similar background in Hyderabad and train together under coach T. Srinivas Rao at Andhra Pradesh Sports School. On Monday, they became the National record-holders in two different categories.

Saraswathi walked herself into the record books in the 5km event in the under-18 category, while, Pawani created a new mark in the under-16 3km event in the National inter-zonal athletics meet, which concluded at the Giri Centre, Haryana Agricultural University, here.

Fifteen year-old Saraswathi opted for the higher age group, with the aim of participating in next year's Asian Junior championship. And with her effort of 26 minutes, 34.7 seconds, the frail-built lass took a vital step towards her quest.

"I hope to do better in the coming National inter-state championship. I may better this timing as I could not give my best due to the cold conditions," said Saraswathi, who erased Paramjeet Kaur's name from the record books, improving upon the latter's mark by 1.3 seconds.

In contrast to the marginal improvement of the National record by Saraswathi, Pawani bettered the previous mark by 53.6 seconds as she completed the 3km course in 14 min. 44.7 secs.

"I had come with a target of 14:30 but I am still happy with my first win in the inter-zonal championship," said Pawani, who eclipsed L. Deepmala's timing, achieved in 1996.

Apart from those by the walkers, there were three other National records on the final day, all by North Zone athletes. The records were set by Mukesh in the boys' under-18 1500m, Ashis Kumar in the under-16 hammer and Suman Kumari in the girls' under-18 hammer.

A few more records could have been listed had there proper equipment support. The absence of wind gauge operator and photo finish arrangement meant the efforts of sprinters and a triple jumper would prove futile in terms of ratification.

"The inability of the operator (from Delhi) to reach at the venue was the reason for no electronic timing arrangement. The shuffling of dates also created confusion," said AAFI Secretary, Mr. Lalit Bhanot.

Those who suffered because of the inadequacy were Jaspreet Singh (100 metres, 10.5 seconds, men under-20), Sanjay Mishra (100 metres, 10.8 seconds, boys under-18) and Pritpal Singh (triple jumper, 15.94m, men under-20). Pritpal's effort should be considered the most outstanding, though no wind-reading was available.

● **The results:**



**South Zone's Vadluri Saraswathi (left) and Solipuram Pawani, who set National records in women's 5km (under-18) and 3km (under-16) walk events respectively in the National inter-zonal athletics meet at Hissar on Monday.**

Kuldeep Kumar (North) 3:53.6, 2. Bhupender Singh (West) 3:59.6, 3. Vinod Kumar (North) 4:04.6; 10,000m: 1. Ritesh Rattan (North) 34:16.0, 2. Babloo Ghosh (East) 34:17.0, 3. Pradeep Kumar (South) 36:40.0; triple jump: 1. Pritpal Singh (North) 15.94m, 2. Shamsheer Singh (West) 14.28, 3. Maha Singh (North) 14:21; Javelin: 1. Ashok Malik (East) 61.51, 2. Dinesh (North) 59.95, 3. Subhash Singh (West) 59.65; 4x400m: 1. South 3:25.8, 2. West 3:28.9, 3. North 3:32.8. Team championship: 1. North 168, 2. East 109. Individual champion: Brameshwar Nath (East) 10 pts.

**Boys (under-18):** 100m: 1. Sanjoy Mishra (East) 10.8, 2. M. Safru Chaudhary (East) 10.9, 3. Girish (South) 10.9; 1500m: 1. Mukesh (North) 3:57.68 (NR, old, Abdul Wahid Khan, 3:58.8, 1995), 2. Pritam Bind (North) 3:57.7, 3. Surjan Xalxo (East) 4:06.3; Triple jump: 1. Apresh Yadav (North) 14.08, 2. Jal Dev (North) 13.81, 3. K.Parmenanda (East) 13.55; Pole vault: 1. Rampal (West) 4.20m (ENR, Virendra Singh, 1999), 2. Gajanan (West) 4.15, 3. Davender Singh (North) 4.00; Javelin: 1. Bhagi Nath (North) 62.70, 2. Mukesh Kumar (North) 62.44, 3. Jagmohan Singh (West) 56.80; Hammer: 1. Himanshu (North) 56.38, 2. Somveer (West) 53.53, 3. Ashok Tiwari (North) 53.24; 4x400m: 1. East 3:20.7, 2. North 3:29.9, 3. South 3:30.5; 10km walk: 1. K.H.Rattan (East) 48:34.0, 2. Ashok (North) 49.04, 3. Sanjoy Kumar (East) 55:10.0. Team championship: 1. North 134, 2. East 99. Individual champion: Mukesh (North) 10 pts.

**Under-16:** Hammer: 1. Ashis Kumar (North) 64.86 (NR, old, Himanshu Mishra, 55.30, 1998), 2. Madhu Kumar (North) 49.10, 3. Paranta Kumar (East)

championship: 1. North 146, 2. East 62. Individual champion: Surender Singh (North) 16 pts.

**Women (under-20):** 100m: 1. M. Lalitha (South) 12.1, 2. K.M.Laxmi (South) 12.2, 3. Shipra (West) 12.5; 1500m: Swati Gurmukhi (West) 4:44.5, 2. Sunil Joon (North) 4:45.9, 3. Tulsi Gope (East) 5:03.3. 10,000m: 1. L.Chaobachanu (East) 39:27.0, 2. Vaishali (West) 39:44.0, 2. Manju Kumari (North) 41:19.0; Triple jump: 1. M. Krishana Priya (South) 12.64, 2. Deep Mala (North) 12.32, 3. Binita Sonawal (East) 12.07; Javelin: 1. Babita (North) 45.50, 2. Gupreet Kaur (North) 42.32, 3. Seema Samuel (South) 39.80; Hammer: 1. Y. Brojeshwari (East) 44.95, 2. Gursharan Kaur (North) 42.48, 3. Sompinder Pal (North) 40.53; 4x100m: 1. East 50.0, 2. South 50.1, 3. West 52.38; 4x400m: 1. East 4:03.6, 2. North 4:20.0, 3. South 4:24.3; Heptathlon: 1. Pinu Mini Gohai (East) 3221, 2. Deepti Hazarika (East) 3194 (only two competitors). Team championship: 1. East Zone 143, 2. North 117. Individual champion: Deepti Vaidya (West) 18 pts.

**Girls (under-18):** 100m: 1. Ruta Pathkar (West) 12.4, 2. Debashree Roy (East) 12.7, 3. Jaswinder (North) 13.0; 1500m: 1. Tajinder Kaur (North) 4:50.2, 2. Asha Rani (East) 4:53.3, 3. Dimple Naidu (West) 4:56.7; Triple jump: 1. Tulsi Deshmukh (East) 11.76m, 2. Itibal (East) 11.54, 3. Priyanka (North) 10.56; Javelin: 1. Kalya Nichetia (East) 35.84, 2. Waheeda Rahman (East) 32.92; Hammer: 1. Suman Kumari (North) 44.18 (NR, old, G. Shoba, 43.42, 1999), 2. Amandeep Kaur (North) 39.71, 3. Snehal Kaur (West) 36.74; 4x100m: 1. North 51.5, 2. East 52.1; 4x400m: 1. East 4:02.1, 2. North 4:07.3, 3. South 4:32.5; 5km walk: 1. V. Saraswathi (South) 26:34.7 (NR, old, Paramjeet Kaur, 26:36.0, 1996), 2. Ravinderjit Kaur (North) 28:34.8, 3. Jyoti (North) 28:34.8; Heptathlon: 1. Shweta Singh (North) 3490, 2. Minu Gogoi (East) 3142, 3. Renu (North) 3007. Team championship: 1. East 132, 2. North 110. Individual champion: Ruta Pathkar (West) 18 pts.

**Under-16:** 100m: 1. Ranjita Ray (East) 12.3, 2. Pavneet Chimni (North) 12.5, 3. Sampa Garai (East) 12.7; Javelin: 1. Aplesh (North) 32.4, 2. Sikka Patra (East) 32.04, 3. Renu (North) 31.78; 4x100m: 1. North 51.1, 2. East 52.6; Pentathlon: 1. Gitanjali Borah (East) 2280, 2. Monlisha Borah (East) 2067, 3. Sharda Patil (West) 1807; 3km walk: 1. Solipuram Pawani (South) 14:44.7 (NR, old, L.Deepmala, 15:38.3, 1996), 2. M.Mukhubi Debi (East) 15:48.5, 3. Manju (North) 16:57.5. Team championship: 1. North 84, 2. East 83. Individual champion: Monika Joon (North) 10 pts.

**Under-14:** Pentathlon: 1. Sabina Khatun (East) 2510 pts, 2. E.Surya Kumari (South) 2309, 3. Anita (North) 2211.

**Overall championship:** 1. North 751.