

Kapil Dev enthralls students

BY A SPORTS REPORTER

Vasco: India's World Cup winning captain Kapil Dev was the star attraction on Day 1 of Spree 2017.

In keeping with the theme of the festival, 'Summon Your Champion', he regaled the audience with stories behind India's World Cup triumph and what it means to lead up coming cricket team. He spoke at length about how sporting success lies at the intersection of love and determination.

In a candid chat with the audience, Kapil Dev, in a jovial mood, confessed that his 'favourite bowler' was anyone whom he could hit for consecutive sixes without breaking a sweat. He gave a peek into the India-Pakistan cricketing rivalry. Coming to the topic that everyone was most keen to hear about, he pointed out that the World Cup victory was the result of a collective effort and it could not be attributed to any single member of the team including him, as Captain.

He stressed the importance putting the best interests of the team and the nation above those of all individuals in team sports like cricket.

When asked about his famous 175 not-out knock against Zimbabwe, he explained how he never let the pressure of being the captain affect his approach when batting. He thoroughly entertained the crowd with his wit and charisma and certainly inspired



the audience to summon the champion in them and follow their passion.

Meanwhile, the athletes continued to brave the sun and battle it out on the pitch, enthralling the crowd with their intensity and tenacity.

The home university's women's team started off the day with an exciting draw in their first game of the tournament.

Meanwhile, the girls' basketball team gave the home fans plenty to cheer for with a resounding victory in their opening encounter. This victory came as a huge respite for the home fans who had seen their men's basketball team suffer a heart-wrenching defeat in a close encounter on the previous day. The BITS Goa football team took to the pitch later in the day and put on a dominant display to outclass their opponents in their final group stage encounter, which also saw the goalkeeper of the away team being stretchered off after suffering a serious injury while vying for the ball. Group stage action of the tennis, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, cricket and squash events also got underway, as Spree Day 1 served as the perfect start for the three day extravaganza.

◀◀ **Kapil Dev speaking on the opening day of Spree 2017, sports festival of BITS Pilani Goa campus.**

Spree 2017 sports festival kicks off at BITS Pilani Goa campus

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Vasco: Spree 2017, BITS Pilani Goa's annual sports festival was inaugurated on the campus' basketball court as the sports festival for students kick started.

Chief Guest Prof Raghurama, Director BITS Pilani KK Birla Goa Campus graced the occasion as the nation's fastest growing sports festival got off to a rousing start just ahead of the home team's beginning of its basketball campaign.

The guests of honours included the festival's faculty co-ordinator

Chandu Lamani and other senior members of the administration including Dr Bharat Deshpande, Dr Angshuman Sarkar and Dr CK Ramesha.

The ceremony began with bouquets being presented to the guests, after which, the ceremonial lamp was lit by the chief guest.

The glistening collection of trophies was unveiled in fine fashion, as the Director addressed the gathering.

The fest convener Arjun Varanasi finally declared Spree 2017 - Sum-

mon Your Champion open, as the University Vice-President Harsh Maliwal concluded the ceremony with the vote of thanks.

The inauguration was the perfect start-off to Spree 2017, which promises to enthrall like never before with big names like Michael Clarke making their way to BITS Goa to inspire the athletes.

Furthermore, popular comedians Abish Mathews and Sahil Shah are all set to add another dimension to the sports extravaganza.



The glistening collection of trophies unveiled at the Spree 2017, BITS Pilani Campus, Goa on Friday.