

Chheda leads Ruia to hat-trick of wins

The Mulund resident won her singles and doubles matches to win the women's team title for Ruia College

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MULUND: Kadambari Chheda of Ruia College, Matunga, played the captain's knock. She helped her college post fine victory in the Women's Team Championship event at the Mumbai University Badminton Championships. It was held at University Pavilion, Marine Lines, Mumbai early this week.

Chheda is a trainee at Yen Badminton Academy at Kalkidas Sports Complex, Mulund.

This was not the first time that Ruia College has won the coveted crown.

Ruia College won the Women's Team Title for three consecutive years. The hat-trick victory was orchestrated by none other than Mulund player Chheda.

In the finals, Ruia College Women's Team defeated Mulund College of Commerce 2-1. Chheda won her singles and doubles matches to win the Women's Team Title.

Earlier, Ruia College had

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KADAMBARI CHHEDA,
Badminton player

defeated H R College of Commerce in the Semi-finals and N M College in the quarter-finals respectively.

In the decisive finals of the women's team championships, Ruia thrashed Mulund College of Commerce to lift the crown. In the first singles encounter, Ishani Savant of Ruia lost to Jui Agaskar of Mulund College of Commerce 21-13 as the former conceded the match.

Then it was Chheda, who shouldered the whole responsibility to drive her team to a fantastic win in the remaining events.

She was charged up after Savant's dismal show and took the baton in her hand to win the doubles and singles.

Chheda and Savant outshone Jui Agaskar and Anikta S. of Mulund College 21-16, 21-10 to register win in doubles format. In the second singles match, Chheda got better of Anikta S.

21-5, 21-5 to finish the show with an impressive victory.

"With the record breaking show I have qualified for the West Zone Inter-University Badminton Championship scheduled in September at Surat. I owe credit to my coach Rajeev Ghanpule and what I am today it's all because of his sincere effort," said 21-year-old Chheda, a final year Arts student.

Kadambari was the All India Inter-University champion last academic year. She, along with Jui Agaskar won women's team championship title for Mumbai University at Mangalore.

It was for the first time in the history of Mumbai University that bagged the all India crown while beating Delhi University.

"Being the champion of All India Inter-University last season, I have been summoned to the selection trial for World University Games to be held in Chinese Taipei in September," said Chheda.

She added: "The selection is scheduled at Gwalior by end of this month for which I have begun training seriously. I practise four hours a day which is segregated into two batches - net training in the morning for and physical fitness routine in the evening for an equal duration on daily basis."



Kadambari Chheda will be part of the selection trial for World University Games to be held in Chinese Taipei in September.

PRATAP SAWHNEY