

world

The Bolt of buffalo? Indian jockey's record wins praise

AFP | New Delhi

Indian sports authorities announced Saturday they will hold trials for a buffalo jockey whose record-setting performance in a traditional footrace has seen him compared to Usain Bolt.

On a track of muddy slush, Srinivas Gowda ran 142.50 metres in 13.62 seconds on January 31, setting a record in the traditional buffalo race known as Kambala held every year in southern Karnataka state.

The 28-year-old farmer has since become a sensation after people praised him on social media and compared him to retired Jamaican sprint superstar Bolt, who is the world's fastest man for his record run of 100 meters in 9.58 seconds.

Comparing Gowda's performance with the Jamaican star's record, commenters have assumed that the farmer would have run 100 metres in 9.55 seconds, which is 0.03 seconds faster than the Olympian's feat.

India's junior sports minister Kiren Rijiju said that authorities have called Gowda to the capital New Delhi for trials under the country's best coaches.

"Officials from Sports Authority of India (SAI) have contacted him. His rail ticket is done and he will reach SAI centre on Monday. I will ensure top na-



Srinivas Gowda, seen running with his buffalo on January 31, 2020, has been compared to Usain Bolt for his record-setting performance in a traditional Kambala race

tional coaches to conduct his trials properly," Rijiju wrote on Twitter.

Many users have however cast doubts on his performance, con-

sidering the high standards of the Olympics and the help received from the buffaloes, who during the races are lashed together with ropes and outfitted

with a plough while a participant matches their speed and controls them.

Gowda is a regular participant in the popular buffalo races

held in the farming belts of the southern coastal state during the winter.

"I did not think I would run this fast. The buffaloes were

quick and I followed them," Gowda told reporters.

The sport was briefly banned following petitions by animal rights groups who decried it as cruel, but races resumed in 2017 under government orders.



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GOWDA



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Britain's Kate talks of 'mummy guilt' in podcast

The morning sickness that she suffered with all three of her children had strained the family, she said.

AFP | London

Prince William's wife Kate laid bare her "mummy guilt" during a landmark podcast yesterday, recorded as part of her efforts to bring about a "generational change" in early-years childcare.

The duchess told the "Happy Mum, Happy Baby" podcast that she suffered anxiety about her performance as a mother "all the time", adding that "anyone who doesn't as a mother is actually lying".

"Questioning your own decisions, and your own judgments, and things like that... I think that starts from the moment you have a baby," said the mother-of-three.

"I totally underestimated the impact and the change it had on our lives.

Asked if she felt "mummy guilt", the duchess -- mother to George, aged six, Charlotte, four and Louis, 20 months, responded -- "yes, absolutely".

She said she "definitely would have done things different... knowing what I know now" referring to her first pregnancy with Prince George.

The morning sickness that she suffered with all three of her children had strained the



The Duchess of Cambridge is mother to George, aged 6, Charlotte, aged 4 and Louis, aged 20 months



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KATE

family, she said.

"William didn't feel he could do much to help and it's hard for everyone to see you suffering without actually being able

to do anything about it," she explained.

Despite the challenges, she said that since having children she had "found a new enjoyment out of life".

Her experience of bringing up three children have led her to launch an early years survey to help find answers about raising a "happy, healthy" generation.

"I think there's a few things that really stand out for me," she said.

"One is quality of relationships -- so those moments that you spend with people that are around you. I remember that from my own childhood.

"I had an amazing granny

who devoted a lot of time to us, playing with us, doing arts and crafts and going to the greenhouse to do gardening, cooking with us, and I try and incorporate a lot of the experiences that she gave us at the time into the experiences I give my children now," she added.

When asked what she hopes her children will remember from childhood, Kate replied: "Going to the beach getting soaking wet, filling our boots full of water."

Kate has previously spoken of worrying about how well she was adapting to motherhood, saying "it is lonely at times and you do feel quite isolated".

New Banksy artwork vandalised



Banksy confirmed he was the artist by posting two images of the artwork on his Instagram account in the early hours of Valentine's Day

London

A new Valentine's Day work by UK street artist Banksy, showing a young girl firing a slingshot of flowers, has been defaced after appearing on a building in western England.

A photograph circulating on social media showed abusive graffiti likely directed at local authorities in the city of Britol scrawled across the artwork in the south west England city.

Banksy confirmed he was



It's a real shame, but it was always going to happen, unfortunately

A LOCAL RESIDENT TOLD THE DOMESTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWS AGENCY

the artist by posting two images of it on his Instagram account in the early hours of Valentine's Day.