

Dean Mascarenhas staves off spirited Gill



CHENNAI: Team Champions' Dean Mascarenhas survived a late but spirited onslaught from three-time APRC winner Gaurav Gill to win the opening round of the Champions Yacht Club - FMSCI Indian National Rally Championship here on a nail-biting Sunday. Going into the third and final leg with a 10-second overall lead and a handy 1.41 minutes over Gill, Mascarenhas (Shruptha Padival) would have hoped for a pressure-free day in the office. But an errant car and a possessed Gill saw his lead being steadily wiped out from both ends, raising the specter of a sensational last-minute upset.