

# What to WATCH

**SONY ESPN**  
Pakistan v Bangladesh  
First Test, Day Three  
Live from 11:00am  
**STAR SPORTS 3**  
ICC U-19 World Cup Final  
Bangladesh v India  
Live from 2:00pm

**SONY SIX**  
South Africa v England  
Third ODI  
Live from 2:00pm  
**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
English Premier League  
Man City v West Ham  
Live from 10:30pm

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 2**  
Bundesliga  
Bayern Munich v Leipzig  
Live from 11:00pm  
**TEN 2**  
Serie A  
Napoli v Lecce  
Live from 8:00pm

**TEN 2**  
Inter Milan v AC Milan  
Live from 1:45am (Monday)

## DUGARRY BLASTS BARCA MANAGEMENT

Barcelona have been branded "a club of clowns" by Christophe Dugarry after a dismal week for the club culminated in Copa del Rey elimination. "It's a club of clowns. Everything is done backwards," Dugarry said on RMC Sport. "They buy (Philippe) Coutinho, Dembele, they buy guys and then sell them. You get the impression there is no project in this club. At every transfer window there is a problem. They've recruited very badly since the departures of Xavi and (Andres) Iniesta. They've spent loads. And above all they have a very bad image. There are far too many people who do not have the elegance, the class that there should be at a club of this standing," Dugarry added.

--- AGENCIES



Pakistan batsmen Babar Azam and (Inset) Shan Masood, who were given lifelines by the Bangladesh team, smashed tons on the second day of the first Test against Bangladesh in Rawalpindi yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

# Babar, Shan give Pakistan control

SPORTS REPORTER



Centuries from Babar Azam and Shan Masood put Pakistan in the driving seat after the second day of the first Test against Bangladesh yesterday as the hosts stretched their lead to 109 runs with seven wickets still in hand in Rawalpindi.

Once again, the Bangladeshi bowlers and fielders repeatedly made mistakes -- much like the batsmen had the previous day -- which kept the Tigers frustrated throughout the second day of the Test.

Although pacer Abu Jayed managed to provide early breakthroughs by removing opener Abid Ali for a duck and skipper Azhar Ali for 34, the visitors were unable to capitalise on the start.

The Tigers could have sent Babar back early on as well but

he was dropped on two by Ebadot Hossain at mid-off off the bowling of left-arm spinner Taijul Islam.

Masood was also given a lifeline on 86 when pacer Rubel Hossain and wicketkeeper Liton Das surprisingly opted not to appeal for a nick.

Babar and Masood went on to register hundreds and added 112 runs for the third wicket before the latter was dismissed by Taijul just after completing his ton. But, by then, Pakistan had already seized control.

Babar was then joined by Asad Shafiq and the pair scored freely, courtesy of some wayward bowling from the Bangladesh pacers. Babar remained unbeaten on a 192-ball 143 which featured 19 fours and a six while Shafiq was not out on sixty.

According to Bangladesh fast bowling coach Ottis Gibson, the bowlers were unable to capitalise

despite getting early wickets. He also blamed the missed opportunities behind the tough day at the office yesterday.

"We did pick up an early wicket and bowl well in patches but perhaps we didn't build pressure for long enough. We are obviously behind in the game but we still have three more days. There is still an opportunity tomorrow [Sunday] to learn lessons from today [Saturday]," Gibson told reporters yesterday.

"We have to be more consistent. When we are not creating many chances, then we have to take the chances that we do create. We had a nick that we didn't even appeal for and then a dropped catch that perhaps could have made the difference. Overall, it has been a tough day."

According to the fifty-year-old, the pacers lack pace and accuracy compared to their Pakistani

counterparts but he hoped that the Tigers would be able to stage a comeback in the coming three days.

"I think there is enough talent but most of them [pacers] are short of pace, like 130 kmph and Ebadot is capable of 140 kmph. But conditions play a huge part in the physique of a fast bowler," Gibson said, adding: "They have grown up bowling on flat pitches in Bangladesh so we are trying to encourage them by taking them abroad where they can see the ball flying through like everywhere else in the world. We do have movement and swing but we lack pace and physicality and that's a genetic thing; there is nothing you can do about that."

"When we go away from home, that's where our main challenge lies. We should have scored more runs and we should have bowled better today," he concluded.

## Nat'l women's rugby begins

SPORTS REPORTER

The fourth edition of the National Women's Rugby Competition, organised by Bangladesh Rugby Federation [Union], began at the Paltan Maidan yesterday.

16 district teams from across the country, featuring 192 players, are taking part in the three-day tournament.

The participating districts are: Norail, Jamalpur, Kishoreganj, Rajshahi, Thakurgaon, Chattogram, Narayanganj, Barguna, Rangpur, Joypurhat, Dhaka, Dinajpur, Habiganj, Faridpur, Tangail and Bagerhat.

## Square Family Sports Day held in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

'Square Family Sports Day', a unique event for the employees of the Square Group, was observed in Pabna amidst huge festivity on Friday. Family members of the executive officers and general workers from different plants of the Square Group, one of the leading corporate industries across the country attended the programme.

The day-long event was organised at the Pabna Shahid Aminuddin Stadium. Managing director of Square Toiletries Ltd, Anjan Chowdhury, was present at the programme.



**GOLDILOCKS?:** Vissel Kobe's triumph over Yokohama F Marinos in the Japanese Super Cup final birthed this snapshot of famously thin-haired Spain legend Andres Iniesta's celebration. After the game ended 3-3 in normal time, Kobe won the shootout 3-2. Iniesta scored the first penalty but with scores tied 2-2, fans at Saitama Stadium watched in disbelief as nine players missed or were denied before the winner went in.

PHOTO: TWITTER

# Roma fall at Olimpico

AFP, Milan



Roma's chances of qualifying for next season's Champions League suffered another blow on Friday as a 3-2 home defeat by Bologna extended the capital club's winless streak to three Serie A games.

Paulo Fonseca's fifth-placed side remain level on points with fourth-placed Atalanta, who visit Fiorentina on Saturday, before the two teams meet in Bergamo next weekend.

"At this moment, we are too anxious, so I must consider what I

can do to change this situation," Roma boss Fonseca told Sky Sport Italia.

"We must work to change this. It's not overly dramatic, it might all seem negative right now, but we just need courage."

Riccardo Orsolini took advantage of an error by English defender Chris Smalling to grab a 16th-minute advantage for Bologna at the Stadio Olimpico, before Stefano Denswil's dreadful own goal drew Roma level just six minutes later.

But Gambian international Musa Barrow scored excellent individual efforts either side of half-time to

send Bologna on their way to victory.

Henrikh Mkhitaryan's header gave the home side hope with 18 minutes remaining, but Bryan Cristante was sent off shortly afterwards to end any thoughts of a comeback.

Bologna climbed to sixth in the table after their third straight win, one point above Cagliari and Parma in the race to qualify for the Europa League.

On Saturday, Serie A leaders Juventus visit Verona, before second-placed Inter, three points off the pace, face city rivals AC Milan on Sunday.

# Everton charge into European contention

REUTERS, Liverpool



Everton scored twice in the second half thanks to a piece of brilliance from Richarlison and late opportunism from Dominic Calvert-Lewin to claim a 3-1 win over Crystal Palace at Goodison Park on Saturday and move up to seventh in the Premier League.

After Christian Benteke cancelled out Bernard's opener with his first Palace goal since April, Brazilian Richarlison picked up the ball on the halfway line, drove into the area and struck an unstoppable shot for his ninth league goal of the season.

Although Palace began promisingly, with Patrick van Aanholt's scruffy shot hitting the post, Everton went ahead after 18 minutes when Theo Walcott created space to deliver a perfect cross for Bernard's controlled volley.

That was Walcott's last meaningful contribution as he soon departed with a jarred knee to be replaced by Djibril Sidibe but only after a curious episode saw the Frenchman briefly disappear down the tunnel, apparently in search of a second sock.

The visitors, who have not won since Boxing Day, struggled to deal with Richarlison's movement and power but forced their way back into contention when Everton keeper Jordan Pickford somehow allowed Benteke's shot to roll under his body in the 51st to end a goal drought that had lasted 1,476 minutes.

Seven minutes later Richarlison scored while Pickford saved point-blank from Benteke, who also hit the post, before Calvert-Lewin put the game beyond Palace in the 88th when he reacted quickest to net after Richarlison's header hit the bar.

Everton have 36 points from 26 games, a point behind fifth-placed Tottenham Hotspur who currently occupy the Europa League qualifying spot, and five points behind Chelsea in fourth, which brings Champions League football next season.

"The best thing today is the result, the performance was not so good," said Everton manager Carlo Ancelotti, whose team have played a game more than their rivals for the European spots.

"It was a difficult game, a lot of interruptions. We were not able to keep the intensity. Richarlison did a fantastic counter attack and we won for this reason."

"Before the (winter) break, three points is important. We know they have this quality, Richarlison is a fantastic player on the counter attack, he used that situation really well."

The Italian, who said the bizarre Sidibe incident was a "new experience for me", stressed that qualifying for Europe was still the club's target. "Since I arrived the team did a fantastic job, now we have the possibility to think about the Europa League."

Palace are in 14th place with 30 points from 26 games, six points above the relegation zone, and have not kept a clean sheet in 10 league games.



Everton players celebrate Dominic Calvert-Lewin's goal during their Premier League match against Crystal Palace at Goodison Park on Saturday. Everton won 3-1.

PHOTO: REUTERS

# Honda gets hero's welcome in Brazil

AFP, Rio De Janeiro



Japanese midfielder Keisuke Honda was given a hero's welcome Friday from several thousand fans of Brazilian club Botafogo, where he recently signed to play until the end of the year.

"Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole, Honda, Honda," chanted a huge crowd of frenzied fans, brandishing Japanese flags as the 33-year-old arrived at the Galeao international airport in Rio de Janeiro.

Hidden by the pack of photographers shooting his arrival, Honda pleased the crowd by hopping onto a platform to greet them, then donned a Botafogo cap and waved a flag in the club's black and white colours.

Honda, one of the best players in Japanese football history, will be officially presented Saturday at Nilton Santos stadium, the athletics venue for the 2016 Olympics.

Botafogo are looking for a boost after

finishing 15th in the Brazilian league last season, barely avoiding relegation.

Honda had been without a club since leaving Dutch side Vitesse Arnhem in December, less than two months after joining.

Formerly of AC Milan and CSKA Moscow, the midfielder has stood out for the Japan national team, scoring 37 goals in 98 appearances, including four World Cup goals.

In 2018 he became the first Japanese player to score in three World Cups.

He is not the first foreign star to sign for Botafogo at the end of his career.

Dutch great Clarence Seedorf -- the only man to win the Champions League with three different clubs -- joined in 2012 and enjoyed a successful 18-month stint in Rio de Janeiro, scoring 24 goals in 81 matches.

Botafogo's most famous son, though, was the wing wizard and two-time World Cup winner Garrincha, who lit up Brazilian football in the 1950s and 60s.



**11th FEB. TUESDAY**  
10AM - 5PM  
**HOTEL LAKESHORE**  
Gulshan2, Dhaka (Near Banani Bridge)

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- Flinders University
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