

What to WATCH

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1

English Premier League
Southampton v Burnley
Live from 6:20pm
Norwich City v Liverpool
Live from 11:20pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2

Bundesliga
Leipzig v Werder Bremen
Live from 8:15pm
Dusseldorf v M'gladbach
Live from 11:15pm

TEN 2

Serie A
Bologna v Genoa
Live from 11:00pm
Atalanta v AS Roma
Live from 1:45am (Sunday)

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Cricket League
Four-day Match, Day 2
Time: 9:30am

Central Zone v South Zone
Venue: Cox's Bazar

East Zone v North Zone
Venue: Cox's Bazar

PELE SAYS HE IS FINE

Former Brazil striker Pele dismissed talk he is depressed and reclusive on Thursday and assured fans he is doing well and maintaining a busy schedule. Pele's son Edinho told Globo in an interview published on Monday that the three-times World Cup winner was depressed and reluctant to leave his house because he cannot get around properly due to hip problems. "I am good," said Pele, who will be 80 in October. "I continue to accept my physical limitations in the best way possible but I intend to keep the ball rolling."

--- REUTERS



Mohammedan forward Ugochukwu Obi Moneke celebrates his decisive goal against Arambagh in their Bangladesh Premier League fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. The 30th-minute strike was the seventh goal of the league so far, all seven scored by seven different foreign players.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Foreigners continue scoring spree

SPORTS REPORTER



Foreign players continued their hold of the scoring chart as two foreign recruits scored two goals in the two games of the Bangladesh Premier League yesterday.

Five foreign players had scored five goals on the opening day of the 12th edition of the top-tier professional league on Thursday, and yesterday Rwanda's Emery Bayisenge and Nigeria's Ugochukwu Obi Moneke added to that tally as Saif and Mohammedan notched 1-0 victories in their respective matches.

Saif had to battle hard to get the better of Federation Cup finalists Rahmatganj in their opening fixture at the Rafique Uddin Bhuiyan Stadium in Mymensingh.

Saif, who finished fourth in the league last season and were knocked out of the Federation Cup from the semifinal stage, had their centre-back Emery Bayisenge to thank for as the Rwandan centre-back curled in a free-kick to undo the plucky Rahmatganj side in the 63rd minute of the game.

It was the first match in charge for former Abahani coach Drago Mamic, who took the helm at Saif with former Chattogram Abahani coach Zulfiqar Mahmud Mintu as his deputy.

SAIF Bayisenge 63'	1	-	0	RAHMATGANJ
ARAMBAGH	0	-	1	MOHAMMEDAN Obi Moneke 30'

Meanwhile, Sean Lane's Mohammedan beat trouble-hit Arambagh 1-0 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka, with Obi Moneke's 30th-minute strike separating the two sides.

The 28-year-old Nigerian collected the ball outside the box and skipped past Eleta Benjamoin before placing the ball at the far post.

The Black and Whites, who are experiencing a rejuvenation under Lane having reached the semifinals of the Federation Cup, had chances to increase the lead in the second half. Souleymane Diabate failed to beat Arambagh goalkeeper from a one-on-one situation two minutes after the break.

Arambagh, too, had their chances to equalise. Egyptian forward Mostafa Mahmood was set up for an easy finish by Eleta Kingsley five minutes into the second half, but Mahmood blasted the ball over the bar.

There were chances for local players to break the foreigners' scoring dominance, but former national team forward Yousuf Sifat saw his chip evade the Arambagh goal by a few inches while another former national team player, Abdul Baten Komol, failed to get the better of Mohammedan goalkeeper Mohammad Sujon in the 80th minute by wasting too much time on the ball.

Barca still favourites, says Setien

REUTERS, Barcelona

Quique Setien says Barcelona should still be seen as joint favourites to win La Liga along with Real Madrid, ahead of his team's clash with Getafe on Saturday.

Barcelona, second, face Jose Bordalas's side at Camp Nou and can pull level with Madrid if they win, before their rivals host Celta Vigo on Sunday.

Madrid are in good form and have winger Eden Hazard poised to return from injury, while Barcelona forward Ousmane Dembele was recently ruled out for six months with a hamstring tear and striker Luis Suarez is still sidelined.

"Many leagues are decided by small details, that none of the teams fighting for the title can control," Setien told a news conference on Friday.

"I think we are exactly equal favourites with Real Madrid. We have three points less but we have a game against them there."

Barcelona hope to be allowed an emergency signing to replace Dembele, pending ratification from the Spanish FA on the French winger's medical report following his operation this week.

Getafe forward Angel Rodriguez has been linked by Spanish media, along with Levante's Roger Marti.

"Dembele's injury set us back a lot and put us in a risky situation, but you always have a plan because you play with 11 players," added Setien.

"I hope that it is possible (to bring in a striker), but if they don't let us sign a player then we will adapt."

Setien and Bordalas have a long history of rivalry, with the Barcelona coach claiming his opposite number "boils my blood" while he was at Real Betis.

"I have forgotten completely about the Bordalas topic and I will not speak about it," added Setien.

Ronaldo earns Juventus a draw at Milan

AFP, Milan



Cristiano Ronaldo's injury-time penalty grabbed Juventus a 1-1 draw at AC Milan in their Italian Cup Semifinal, first leg on Thursday as his incredible scoring run continued.

The 35-year-old has now scored 12 goals in his last eight games in all competitions after the Portuguese ultimately got the better of old rival Zlatan Ibrahimovic despite being largely anonymous for much of the match.

Milan paid for Theo Hernandez's 71st-minute red card as they failed to close out a game they had dominated for long periods and led through Ante Rebic.

Juve will now be favourites to finish the job in the second leg at the Allianz Stadium next month, with a final against either Inter Milan or Napoli up for grabs.

The hosts started strongly, with Ibrahimovic heading over the crossbar inside the first minute.

He continued to be a threat to his former club early on, but could only direct an ambitious backheel flick beyond the far post, before picking up a booking which will see him miss the second leg through suspension.

Juventus finally produced their first shot in anger nine minutes before half-time, as Juan Cuadrado saw his low strike well saved by Milan goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma.

Milan started the second half as they did the first, on the front foot, but Rebic was denied an opening goal by Gianluigi Buffon.

Samu Castillejo also called Buffon into action seven minutes after the break, with the 42-year-old goalkeeper



The first part of the big clash between the two talismans – Cristiano Ronaldo and Zlatan Ibrahimovic – ended all square as the former's late strike salvaged a 1-1 draw for Juventus in their Italian Cup semifinal fixture against Milan on Thursday night.

PHOTO: AFP

able to make a comfortable save.

Stefano Pioli's side finally made the breakthrough in the 61st minute, though, as Castillejo's clipped cross was volleyed home at the back post by Rebic.

Juventus were gifted a way back into the game with 18 minutes remaining as Hernandez was handed a second yellow card for a late challenge on Paulo Dybala.

That prompted the 13-time winners to belatedly pile some pressure on the home goal, and Donnarumma had to be alert to keep out Matthijs de Ligt's header.

Dybala curled wide with five minutes remaining, but Juve were awarded a spot-kick in the final

minute of normal time as VAR spotted a handball by Davide Calabria.

Ronaldo stepped up and slammed the ball down the middle to score his 24th goal of the season.

Six minutes of injury-time gave the visitors hope of clinching an unlikely victory, but Milan at least held on for a draw to keep their bid for a first Cup crown since 2003 alive.

On Wednesday, Napoli struck first blood in their Semifinal as Gennaro Gattuso's men downed Serie A leaders Inter Milan 1-0 at the San Siro, with Fabian Ruiz scoring the winner.

The last-four second legs will take place on March 4 and 5, with the final on May 13 at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome.

Italy's FA wants VAR 'challenges'

REUTERS, Undated

Italy's soccer governing (FIGC) has asked FIFA's rule-making body, the International Football Association Board (IFAB), if it can introduce a system where Serie A teams can challenge referee's decisions and ask for technology to intervene.

The Italian top flight introduced the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system in 2017-18 but it has received criticism from Serie A managers who feel technology should take a second look at controversial decisions made by on-field referees.

Napoli and Parma fumed over VAR last weekend for wrong calls made by the referee after they were not awarded penalties and the FIGC believes managers should be allowed to challenge decisions.

Guardiola fearing sack

AFP, London



Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola said he could be sacked if he fails to beat Real Madrid in the last 16 of the Champions League.

Guardiola has won five major trophies in three seasons at the Etihad, but a failure to progress beyond the quarter-finals of the Champions League has been the big disappointment of his reign.

Guardiola's side trail Liverpool at the top of the Premier League by a mammoth 22 points this season with their campaign now set to be judged on how they fare in Europe.

"I want to win the Champions League. I dream (of it) and I will enjoy preparing for the games against Madrid," Guardiola told Sky Sports.

"If we don't beat them, OK, come the chairman or the sport director and say, 'It's not good enough, we want the Champions League, I'm going to sack you.'"

"I don't know (if this would happen). It has happened many times and could maybe happen."

Guardiola has a contract at the Etihad until the end of next season.

After four years at Barcelona and three



in charge of Bayern Munich, he is expected to fulfil his deal and enter a fifth season at one club for the first time in his managerial career.

But the Catalan coach also hit back at the suggestion that the success or failure of a season should only be measured in trophies.

"We give a bad, bad message for the new generation, for our kids, to just count the winner, the trophies to win," added Guardiola.

"You say the season is a disaster but if you win the Champions League it will be exceptional. Why? It is difficult to win it."

"If you don't, we can say in more than 100 years of history (there) were 100 failure seasons for Manchester City. That is not true."

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Center of Excellence in Higher Education

MS in Economics
Master in Development Studies (MDS)
Admission Summer 2020

Application Deadline: 1 April 2020 till 1:00 PM
Admission Test: 3 April 2020 (Written + Viva) at 10:00 AM

Minimum Admission Requirements

- For MS in Economics:** A four-year Bachelor's or a three-year Honors degree in Economics or in related disciplines from any recognized university.
- For MDS:** A four-year Bachelor's or a three-year Honors or a Master's degree in Economics, Business, Environmental Studies, Social Welfare, Statistics, Engineering or other related disciplines from any recognized university.
- For both:** A minimum CGPA of 2.75/4.00 or at least a Second Class (45% or above in all exams). Undergraduate appeared students may sit for admission test but must submit transcript before admission.

Special Features

- MS in Economics:** The first Department of Economics in Bangladesh to achieve US-based ACBSP (The Accreditation of Council for Business Schools and Programs) Accreditation, which ensures global recognition of the degree. 30-credit program. Up to 9 credits additional foundation courses depending on background.
- MDS:** 39-credit program with maximum waiver/transfer of 2 courses (6 credits) prepares students for career in international development organization. Program focused on theory and practice of development.

- Courses taught by talented and dedicated faculty members with PhD from reputed universities and strong research background.
- Financial aid for deserving students.
- Evening and weekend classes to accommodate working students.
- Internationally recognized degree accepted for graduate studies and job placement.
- Access to major journals through ECONLIT, JSTOR and My Athens subscribed by our library.

Contact: Graduate Admission Helpline Number: 01614271717
Email: graduate.admissions@northsouth.edu
Dr. Gour Gobinda Goswami, Graduate Program Coordinator
Email: gour.goswami@northsouth.edu
Department of Economics, NSU, Bashundhara, Dhaka-1229
Phone: +880-2-55668200 Ext: 1815/1814. Email: eco.inquiry@northsouth.edu
Web: www.northsouth.edu

Apply Online
<http://apply.northsouth.edu>