What to WATCH

BTV
Victory Day T20 Cup Final
Prime Bank CC v UCB BCB XI
Live from 2:30pm

STAR Sports 4
Hopman Cup
Italy v Australia
Live from 8:00am

DAY'S EVENT
Victory Day T20 Cup Final
Prime Bank CC v UCB BCB XI
Time: 2:30pm
Venue: SBNS

Steyn sets up easy win

South Africa keep No.1 position

AFP, *Durban*

Dale Steyn took two early wickets to set up an emphatic 10-wicket win for South Africa on the fifth day of the second and final Test against India at Kingsmead on Monday.

The win clinched the two-match series for South Africa after the first Test in Johannesburg was drawn. It also confirmed South Africa's ranking as the world's number one Test team ahead of second-ranked India.

Fast bowler Steyn set the tone for South Africa by taking two key wickets in his first two overs of the day. He followed up with a third wicket - his 350th in Tests - with the second new ball and finished with three for 47 as India were dismissed for 223, leaving South Africa a target of 58.

Alviro Petersen and Graeme Smith need only 48 minutes and 11.4 overs to knock off the runs. It meant that Jacques Kallis, playing in his last Test, did not need to bat again after his first innings of 115 built the platform for South Africa to take a crucial 166-run first innings lead.

Steyn dismissed overnight batsmen Virat Kohli and Cheteshwar Pujara after India resumed on 68 for two. Vernon Philander dismissed Rohit Sharma and left-arm spinner Robin Peterson took two wickets in one over before lunch to leave India facing defeat with only the tail to come.

Ajinkya Rahane carried India's hopes and made a fighting 96, his second half-century of the match, before he was last man out.

Steyn finished with three for 47 while new ball partner Vernon Philander took three for 43 and left-arm spinner Robin Peterson claimed four for 74.

Kohli was given out to the first ball of a bright, sunny morning, pushing at a fast, rising delivery outside his off stump.

Kohli looked shocked by umpire Rod Tucker's decision and replays indicated the ball may have brushed his shirt sleeve after going past the outside edge of his bat. There is no decision review system in place for the series because India have rejected using technology for anything other than line decisions.

With Kohli gone, Pujara loomed as the biggest obstacle to South Africa's push for a win. But he was beaten by a ball which straightened past his forward defensive stroke and clipped the top of his off stump.

Neither batsmen added to their overnight scores of 11 and 32 respectively.

Rohit Sharma and Rahane resisted for more than an hour, adding 33 runs, before Sharma was trapped leg before wicket by a ball from Vernon Philander which seamed back at him.

Indian captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni attempted to counter-attack before whipping a ball from Peterson straight to Alviro Petersen at midwicket. Ravindra Jadeja hit a six off Peterson but in attempting to repeat the shot sliced the ball high to mid-off where Morne Morkel held a well-judged catch.

Zaheer Khan survived for more than an hour before he was leg before to Peterson. The new ball accounted for the last two wickets, with Ishant Sharma fending a Steyn bouncer to wicketkeeper AB de Villiers and Rahane swinging and missing against Philander as he tried to complete what would have been a maiden Test century.

Rahane, playing in only his third Test, completed an impressive series. A compact, composed batsman, he dealt competently with South Africa's pace barrage. He had been unbeaten on 51 in the first innings and was mainly responsible for forcing South Africa to bat again. He played some aggressive shots as he ran out of partners and square cut Philander for six before falling in the same over.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA: First innings 334 (Vijay 97, Pujara 70, Rahane 51 not out, Kohli 46; Steyn 6-100, Morkel 3-50)

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 500 (Smith 47, Petersen 62, Kallis 115, De Villiers 74, Duminy 28, Steyn 44, Du Plessis 43, Peterson 61; Zaheer 2-97, Jadeja 6-138)

INDIA: Second innings (overnight 68-2)

Dhawan c Du Plessis b Peterson	19
Vijay c Smith b Philander	6
Pujara b Steyn	32
Kohli c De Villiers b Steyn	11
R Sharma lbw b Philander	25
Rahane b Philander	96
Dhoni c Petersen b Peterson	15
Jadeja c Morkel b Peterson	8
Zaheer lbw b Peterson	3
I Sharma c De Villiers b Steyn	1
Shami not out	1
Extras: (b-4, w-2)	6
Total: (All out in 86 overs)	223

Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-53, 3-68, 4-71, 5-104, 6-146, 7-154, 8-189, 9-206

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Steyn	21	8	47	3
Philander	16	4	43	3
Morkel	16	6	34	0
Peterson	24	3	74	4
Duminy	8	2	20	0
Du Plessis	1	0	1	0

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings

Petersen not out	31
Smith not out	27
Extras: (w-1)	1
Total: (For no loss in 11.4 overs)	59

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Shami	2	1	4	0
Ishant	5	1	29	0
Jadeja	4	0	16	0
Rohit	0.4	0	10	0

Result: South Africa won by 10 wickets and clinched two-Test series 1-0.

Player-of-the-match: Dale Steyn.

Player-of-the-series: AB de Villiers.

Batting & fielding

M	Inns	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	4s	6s	Ct
166	280	13289	224	55.37	45	58	1488	97	200

Bowling

M	Inns	Balls	Runs	Wkts	Ave	4w	5w
166	272	20232	9535	292	32.65	7	5

PHOTO: AFP

HANGING UP THE TEST BOOTS: South Africa's Jacques Kallis bids bye to fans after the end of the second Test against India at Kingsmead in Durban on Monday.

Landmark beckons Abahani

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Premier League 2013-14

Four-time champions Abahani could become the first team in the history of professional football league to record 100 wins and that feat could very well be achieved in the ongoing 7th Bangladesh Premier League campaign as they stand only 13 wins away from the feat.

Having won 87 out of 122 matches in the last six editions of the professional league, the popular Dhanmondi outfit have a fair chance of reaching the milestone this season as they are getting as many as 27 matches in the 7th professional league.

"We were not aware of the milestone, but surely we can reach 100 wins this season as we will be playing for regaining the league title," said Abahani manager Satyajit Das Rupu adding that they may take preparation to celebrate if Abahani do get to the 100th win.

Mohammedan SC are believed to be the biggest rivals of Abahani, but it instead season's treble-winners Sheikh Russel KC who hold the second place with 69 wins, two ahead of Mohammedan's 67 having played 122 matches.

Apart from these three giants, Muktijoddha Sangsad are the other side to have crossed the 50-win landmark as they have 58 wins while falling giants Brothers Union are far behind with 40 wins.

Abahani also hold the record for the longest unbeaten streak (34), which includes the last eleven matches of the second edition and the first 23 matches of the 3rd edition, which is two more than Mohammedan's record of (32), comprising the last five of the second edition, all 24 matches of the third and the first three of the fourth edition.

However, Mohammedan remain the only team to hold the distinction of remaining unbeaten throughout an entire league (24), which came in the third edition of the league.

Abahani are also the meanest of the five clubs as they conceded only 12 defeats compared to Mohammedan's 20, Sheikh Russel's 23, Muktijoddha Sangsad's 37 and Brothers Union's 42. They also have a hundred percent winning record against four relegated teams -- Arambagh KS (12 matches), Chittagong Abahani SC (8 matches), Shukhtara Jubo Sangsad (2 matches) and Beanibazar SC (2 matches) and never lost against Feni Soccer Club and Chittagong Mohammedan in the professional league.

Though Mohammedan and Sheikh Russel do not have perfect record against any side of the professional football league, both of those clubs have never lost against Farashganj SC, Chittagong Abahani, Chittagong Mohammedan, Team BJMC, Khulna Abahani, Beanibazar SC and Shukhtara Jubo Sangsad. Mohammedan also have never lost against Arambagh KS while Sheikh Russel have never lost against Feni Soccer Club till the end of the sixth edition.

Shakib v Tamim today

SPORTS REPORTER

Tamim Iqbal's UCB-BCB XI will take on Shakib Al Hasan's Prime Bank Cricket Club in the final of the Victory Day T20 Cup scheduled to begin at 2:30 pm today.

Both teams finished with eight points in the group stages and will face off one last time for the championship.

In their first encounter Prime Bank beat UCB-BCB XI by seven wickets in Sylhet. In the second meeting, UCB-BCB XI in a nail-biting chase beat Prime Bank by five wickets in Dhaka.

The finals will be a contest between UCB-BCB XI's batting line-up and Prime Bank's bowlers.

Apart from Tamim, UCB-BCB XI also feature Imrul Kayes, Marshall Ayub, Naeem Islam and Mithun Ali. Prime Bank on the other hand have the likes of Shohag Gazi, Rubel Hossain and Robiul Islam in their side.

BCB XI's skipper Tamim, fresh from a whirlwind 130 in their last match, will be their main hope for the finals. Prime Bank's best players so far have been Sabbir Rahman and Anamul Haque, both of whom have been among the runs.

Schumi still 'critical'

AFP, *Grenoble*

Michael Schumacher, the retired seven-time Formula One champion who often braved death on the tracks, remained in a critical condition Monday after an off-piste skiing accident in the French Alps.

The German racing legend, who turns 45 at the end of the week, had been skiing off-piste Sunday with his 14-year-old son in the upmarket Meribel resort when he fell and hit his head on a rock, prompting an urgent evacuation by helicopter.

In an update to reporters on Monday, doctors at the hospital in the southeastern city of Grenoble where he is being treated said it was still too early to make a prognosis on the famous patient.

"He is in critical condition. He is in intensive care, his condition is very serious," Jean-Francois Payen, head of the intensive care unit, told reporters.

Stephan Chabardes, the professor who operated on Schumacher, said the former racer arrived in hospital on Sunday in an agitated state and was not able to answer questions.

His condition "rapidly deteriorated" and he fell into a coma, he told reporters.

Payen said he was operated on and put into an artificial coma, adding he had been partially protected by his helmet.

"If someone had had this type of accident without a helmet, they would definitely not be here," he said.

Success getting into Shakib?

STAR SPORT DESK

Success should not get into one's head and recently Shakib Al Hasan has been showing signs of that.

In Sylhet last week he lost his temper against a mere cricketing fan during the Victory Day T20 Cup.

Focussing on the off-field events of players' lives is not a strategy that The Daily Star takes up, however, the most recent exchange that the 26-year-old had with one of its reporters, who was singled out during a gathering of reporters at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium on Sunday, has compelled us to publish this report.

Here is a word-to-word transcript of the conversation:

Shakib: Are you not from The Daily Star? How could you publish that photo? Should I sue your paper?

Daily Star: Not quite sure which photo you're talking about.

Shakib: You work for The Daily Star and you don't know which photo I am talking about? What kind of a job do you do? (turning towards the other reporters) They (The Daily Star) published a cover photo of me in some 'Showbiz' magazine. What's your owner's name again? Some Mahbub …?

By which time the reporters started asking questions regarding the game that he had just played.

Showbiz, a supplement of The Daily Star, published a cover photo, which included Shakib and his wife Umme Ahmed Shishir and provided by the couple's official photographer, for a year-end issue indicating the most popular events of 2013.

The left-hander obviously had a problem with that and it is likely that he would have been a happier person had he been able to sell the photo to this newspaper. But in that case he should have instructed his photographer not to give his photograph to the press.

Aussies call up Doolan

AFP, *Sydney*

Australia on Monday added batsman Alex Doolan to their squad ahead of the final Ashes Test against England as doubts remained over the fitness of some players.

Cricket Australia said the Tasmanian was the only addition to the squad which is leading the series 4-0 and firm favourite to win the fifth Test starting Friday at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Doolan is expected to be available if all-rounder Shane Watson is ruled out after suffering a groin strain during the fourth Test win in Melbourne. Fast bowler Ryan Harris is also battling chronic knee soreness.

"With some players still being assessed by our medical team after four demanding Tests, we have decided to add Alex to ensure we have sufficient cover in our batting line-up should it be required," national selector John Inverarity said.

"Alex is a talented player who came under strong consideration for selection ahead of the Ashes series after a string of solid performances in four-day cricket for Tasmania at the start of this season, but also after an excellent finish to last season."

Despite the call-up, bowling coach Craig McDermott predicted no changes to the attack for the fifth Test.

"I fully expect we'll have the same team, or the same bowling group in Sydney," he said.

Pakistan rely on bowling

First Test against SL from today

AFP, *Abu Dhabi*

Pakistan will rely on their strong bowling line-up led by off-spinner Saeed Ajmal to tame Sri Lanka in the three-match Test series starting in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Tuesday.

Pakistan won the preceding one-day series 3-2 on the back of penetrative bowling and strong batting, but captain Misbahul Haq warned that they need to be at their best to beat Sri Lanka in the Tests.

"Ajmal has been performing a key role for us and we hope for the best in this Test," said Misbah, who led Pakistan to a 1-1 series draw against world number one South Africa in their last Test series, in the UAE in October.

"We know each other well so it will be a good contest," said Misbah. "We know that the Sri Lankans are good in these conditions, and with players like [Kumar] Sangakkara and [Mahela] Jayawardene, they are a dangerous side.

"So we need to play good cricket to win."

Pakistan beat Sri Lanka 1-0 in the UAE in 2011, with Ajmal taking 18 wickets in three Tests while Umar Gul (14 wickets) and Junaid Khan (12) shouldered the burden of the pace attack.

Despite the loss, Sangakkara scored 516 runs including a double century in Abu Dhabi. He and Jayawardene are the stalwarts of the team's batting.

Sangakkara, a stylish left-hander, was also the star when Sri Lanka beat Pakistan 1-0 at home last year, scoring 490 in three Tests.

By contrast, Pakistan's batting has been vulnerable and they were dismissed for 49 and 99 this year.

But Mohammad Hafeez's return to form, with three centuries in the one-dayers against Sri Lanka, and the experience of Younis Khan and Misbah will boost them.

Mourinho accuses Suarez of diving

AFP, *London*

Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho believes that Luis Suarez remains at the mercy of his "wild nature" despite the Liverpool striker's improved conduct in the Premier League season to date.

Suarez was banned for 10 games after biting Chelsea defender Branislav Ivanovic in a game last April, but he has since found the form of his Liverpool career to spearhead his side's title challenge.

However, the Uruguayan was involved in a contentious incident towards the end of Liverpool's 2-1 defeat at Chelsea on Sunday, when he went down under a challenge from Samuel Eto'o after losing the ball to Cesar Azpilicueta.

Referee Howard Webb ignored his appeal for a penalty, enabling Chelsea to complete a victory that took them to within two points of league leaders Arsenal and left Liverpool six points off the pace in fifth.

"Suarez lost the duel with Azpilicueta, Azpilicueta has the ball, Azpilicueta is leaving the box with the ball, and now he (Suarez) is doing an acrobatic swimming pool jump to try to get a penalty," said Mourinho.

"Because he's so clever that he also knows that he's in the area where he has the Liverpool supporters behind (him).

"But Webb is only 10 metres away and I think the only mistake Webb did was not to give him a yellow card."

Ibra dreams of signing Messi

AFP, *Doha*

Signing Lionel Messi would take French champions Paris Saint-Germain to the next level, according to their current star forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

Press rumours in France suggest the big-spending Qatari-backed Parisians are in the market for a record bid for the Argentine wizard.

And Ibrahimovic, who failed to strike up a particularly successful partnership with Messi during his one season at Barcelona, believes signing the four-time Ballon d'Or winner would not just allow PSG to dream of bigger and better, but would make them a whole new force to be reckoned with in European competition.