

What to WATCH

DAY'S EVENT

GAZI TV & TEN CRICKET

West Indies v Bangladesh

First Test, Day 1

Live from 8:00pm

ATN BANGLA

Bangladesh v Sri Lanka

World Hockey League, Round-1

Bangladesh v Sri Lanka

Time: 3:30pm

Venue: Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium

World Hockey League, Round-1

Live from 3:30pm

STAR SPORTS1

England v India

Fifth ODI

Live from 3:30pm

TEN SPORTS

US Open

Women's SFs

Live from 10:30pm

TEN ACTION

Brazil v Colombia

Int'l Friendly

Live from 7:00am

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'Time to move on'

REUTERS, Dusseldorf

There is nothing wrong with savouring July's fourth World Cup win as far as Germany coach Joachim Loew is concerned, but he said it was now time for the party to start winding down.

Loew was surprisingly unperturbed after his team's woeful performance in a 4-2 home defeat to Argentina in a rematch of the World Cup final.

He even found positive things to say about the young and inexperienced team he fielded, who trailed 4-0 early in the second half.

Yet after a final celebration in Dusseldorf on Wednesday, where the recently retired Philipp Lahm, Miroslav Klose and Per Mertesacker were presented with gifts before an appreciative crowd, Loew said it was time to get back to work and get ready for the Euro 2016 qualifiers.

"It's nice to come together one last time to say farewell to all the players who are not with us anymore," Loew said.

"It wasn't really possible to do that after the World Cup in Berlin. But after tonight's gathering that is going to be the end of the World Cup [celebrations]."

Ibrahimovic breaks Swedish scoring mark

AGENCIES, Stockholm

Captain Zlatan Ibrahimovic netted twice against Estonia in a friendly on Thursday to become Sweden's all-time leading scorer with 50 goals.

The Paris Saint Germain striker netted a thumping left-footed volley from a corner after just three minutes before breaking Sven Rydell's tally of 49 goals, which has stood since 1932, in the 24th minute with another fine effort.

The 32-year-old Ibrahimovic was earning his 99th international cap, with his 100th set to come in Monday's Euro 2016 qualifier against Austria.

The Swede scored a club record 41 goals in all competitions for French champions PSG last season.

Reid takes Mumbai helm

REUTERS, Mumbai

Former England midfielder Peter Reid became the latest high-profile name to sign up for the inaugural edition of the Indian Super League (ISL) after he was named manager of the Mumbai franchise on Thursday.

During his playing career, the defensive midfielder represented a host of English Premier League clubs and has also managed Manchester City, Sunderland and the England under-21 team.

"It's a great opportunity to coach in the Indian Super League. I enjoyed working overseas with Thailand and am very much looking forward to this new challenge," the 58-year-old former Thai boss said in a statement.

Former Italy striker Alessandro Del Piero, ex France and Juventus striker David Trezeguet, his compatriot Robert Pires, Spaniards Joan Capdevila and Luis Garcia and former Newcastle United striker Michael Chopra have all confirmed their participation in the October 12-December 20 league.

Mumbai FC have signed former Germany centre back Manuel Friedrich as a marquee player and also named Steve Darby as assistant coach.



PHOTO: REUTERS

Argentina star Angel Di Maria (L) celebrates the opening goal with teammates during their international friendly against Germany in Dusseldorf on Wednesday.

Di Maria dazzles champs

REUTERS, Dusseldorf



A brilliant performance from Angel Di Maria spurred Argentina to a crushing 4-2 friendly win over world champions Germany on Wednesday in an entertaining rematch of July's World Cup final.

Despite the absence of injured captain Lionel Messi, Argentina ran circles around the World Cup winners on their home turf in the first match for both teams since Germany's 1-0 extra-time victory in the final in Brazil.

So impressive was the performance of the Argentine winger, who had missed the final through injury, in the Dusseldorf arena that even many of the German fans applauded his performance when he was replaced late in the match.

Germany coach Joachim Loew put only four of the starting 11 that won Germany's fourth World Cup on the pitch in the warm-

up match for their Euro 2016 campaign that starts on Sunday against Scotland.

Captain Philipp Lahm, striker Miroslav Klose and defender Per Mertesacker, who all retired following the World Cup triumph, were hailed by the sell-out crowd of 51,132 while several other key players were missing through injury.

The inexperienced Germany defence could not contain new Manchester United signing Di Maria in the first half but also left lots of open space for lightening counter-attacks by moving deep into Argentina's territory.

Di Maria set up the first goal in the 21st minute with a pinpoint lob to the penalty spot where Sergio Aguero slipped away from his marker and beat Manuel Neuer with an unstoppable volley from point-blank range.

Nineteen minutes later Di Maria broke free on the right near the goal line where he lofted a cross back to Erik Lamela, standing in for the injured Lionel Messi, who

smashed a fine volley past a frustrated-looking Neuer.

Central defender Federico Fernandez headed the third two minutes after the intermission from Di Maria's free kick before the winger made it 4-0 with a superb chip in the 50th minute.

"Di Maria is one of the best four or five players in the world and so his performance didn't surprise me," said Argentina's new coach Gerardo Martino, adding he could have possibly made a difference had he been on the pitch in July.

"His absence there was noticeable," Martino told a news conference looking back to the World Cup final.

But Loew later told reporters he did not think Di Maria would have made a difference in the final.

"We would have beaten them on July 13 even if Di Maria had been playing," Loew said, a statement that prompted some German reporters to applaud. "He couldn't have beaten us on that day."

Germany came into the match still aglow over their World Cup win in Brazil but were facing a rout when they fell behind 4-0.

Andre Schuerrle finally gave the big home crowd something to cheer when got one back for Germany in the 52nd minute, tapping in after a scramble in front of Sergio Romero's goal and World Cup hero Mario Goetze made it 4-2 in the 78th minute.

Germany had plenty of chances themselves, especially in the first half, but were wasteful in front of goal.

Forward Mario Gomez, who missed the World Cup due to injury, reminded German fans of another reason he may have been left at home as he wasted three chances in the first half and was jeered at halftime before being replaced early in the second.

"It was a long time with injuries for me but it's great to be here," Gomez told reporters. "Argentina are a great team and against teams like that you can't afford to rest for even a second."

Begovic goal enters record books

AFP, London

Stoke City goalkeeper Asmir Begovic expressed pride on Thursday after his freak goal against Southampton last season was included in the Guinness World Records book.

The Bosnian international scored in a Premier League game at the Britannia Stadium in November when a wind-assisted clearance bounced over opposite number Artur Boruc only 13 seconds after kick-off.

The distance of the strike was measured at 91.9 metres and it has now been recorded as 'the longest goal scored in football' in the latest edition of the renowned record book.

"I feel amazing to be honoured in this way and as a goalkeeper I didn't expect this to happen, not for this type of record anyway. I will take it though and enjoy it," Begovic told the Stoke website.

"I really do appreciate this award and the certificate will certainly take pride of place on the wall at home. So thank you to everyone at Guinness World Records for presenting me with this wonderful award."

Colback out for Swiss tie

AFP, London

Uncapped Newcastle United midfielder Jack Colback will miss England's opening Euro 2016 qualifier against Switzerland due to injury, manager Roy Hodgson revealed on Wednesday.

Colback, 24, sat out England's 1-0 friendly win over Norway at Wembley Stadium with a knock and Hodgson said afterwards that he had been sent back to his club to receive treatment.

"Jack Colback has had to leave us. He took a very nasty kick on the back of the calf," Hodgson told his post-game press conference.

"We were hoping he would train with us, but he can't do that, so it's better to send him back to Newcastle."

Gremio thrown out

AFP, Rio de Janeiro



Top-flight Gremio were thrown out of Brazil's main cup competition Wednesday in an unprecedented punishment for a club in the football-mad country after a visiting goalkeeper was subjected to sustained racial abuse.

Brazil's sports justice tribunal also fined Gremio 50,000 reais (\$20,000) after a group of fans of the club from the southern city of Porto Alegre chanted insults and made monkey noises at Santos goalkeeper Aranha during a cup clash on August 28.

Gremio had condemned the fans involved and launched an anti-racism campaign, with the players taking to the field in their last league game holding a banner urging supporters to "say no to racism."

But it is the second racist incident this

year involving Gremio, the first earning the club a fine of \$35,000.

Separately, one young female supporter clearly seen yelling "macaco" (monkey) at shot-stopper Aranha was suspended from her job and her behavior sparked a storm of outrage on social media.

A spokesman told AFP the tribunal's five judges unanimously made the decision to turf out Gremio, which club chairman Fabio Koff has appealed on behalf of the four-time cup winners, who are now coached by former Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari.

There were also stiff penalties for the officials of the game, which Santos won 2-0.

Match referee Wilton Pereira Sampaio, who indicated afterwards he had not heard the abuse and only mentioned it in his match report after the media drew his attention to it, was suspended for 90 days.

Brazil start afresh

REUTERS, Miami



It will be easier said than done but Brazil attempt to put their World Cup humiliation behind them when they start life

under new coach Dunga in a friendly against Colombia in Miami on Friday.

Barely two months after their shocking 7-1 defeat to Germany in the semi-finals of the tournament they hosted, there is a new look to the Selecao with Dunga, in his second spell in charge, hoping that fresh faces will be less affected by July's traumatic exit.

Judging from the mood on Thursday at the team's plush hotel on Brickell Key near downtown Miami, the coach's message of not dwelling on

the past has been embraced.

"Dunga told all of us that we have to hold our heads up, put the past behind us, show our ability and that we deserve to be national team players," midfielder Oscar told Reuters.

It is not easy to put the Germany defeat out of our minds, it is difficult, but we have to work and to show our value."

Indeed, there was a relaxed look about the team as they chatted with reporters even though Friday's opponents, a Colombia team out to avenge their 2-1 loss to Brazil in the World Cup quarter-finals, are stern opposition.

Striker Radamel Falcao, who moved on Monday to Manchester United from Monaco, is back in the Colombia

side after missing the World Cup through injury and will team up again with one of the success stories of the tournament in James Rodriguez.

Rodriguez's performances in Brazil earned him a move to Real Madrid but while the thousands of Miami-based Colombian fans expected at SunLife stadium will be keen to see the six-goal Golden Boot winner, the rest of the world will be looking for signs of recovery from the five-times world champions.

Brazil left-back Filipe Luis, who joined Chelsea from Atletico Madrid for 16 million pounds (\$26 million) during the close season, is one of those who missed out on the World Cup and has now been given a chance to claim the spot that has been owned by Dani Alves.

Rooney sinks Norway

AFP, London



Wayne Rooney marked his first game as captain with a goal as England overcame Norway 1-0 in a forgettable friendly game at a half-empty Wembley Stadium on Wednesday.

The Manchester United striker smashed home a 68th-minute penalty won by the impressive Raheem Sterling to give England victory in their first game since they limped out of the World Cup at the group phase.

It was his 41st goal for his country, taking him above Michael Owen in the all-time scorers' list, and saw England end a run of five games without victory ahead of Monday's opening Euro 2016 qualifier in Switzerland.

England manager Roy Hodgson also gave debuts to Aston Villa midfielder Fabian Delph and Arsenal defender Calum Chambers, whose new teammate Danny Welbeck caught the eye as a second-half substitute.

But on a night when only 40,181 fans turned out to watch England -- a record low in the seven-year history of the new Wembley -- there were few satisfactions for Hodgson, whose side registered only two shots on target.

The thin crowd made for an atmosphere more akin to a testimonial inside the cavernous national stadium and it took the promptings of Sterling to spark the home team into life.

His raking 40-yard ball set up a chance for Liverpool team-mate Daniel Sturridge, who could only lob over the bar, while from his passes

Sturridge and then Leighton Baines saw shots blocked.

In response, Tarik Elyounoussi warmed Joe Hart's palms with a 25-yard drive.

Hart almost fumbled a cross into his own net shortly before half-time, but he showed his class early in the second period with a brilliant flying save to repel a header from Blackburn Rovers forward Joshua King.

The same player, a former Manchester United trainee, then forced Hart to block at his near post after Gary Cahill undercooked a back-pass wide on the England right.

Sterling continued to torment the Norwegian defence and after he lured Omar Elabdellaoui into a mistimed lunge, Rooney fired England ahead from the spot.



PHOTO: AFP

England captain Wayne Rooney pumps his fist after scoring from the penalty spot during their international friendly against Norway at the Wembley Stadium on Wednesday.