Venue: Chittagong

Reading v Arsenal

STAR SPORTS2 **English Premiership Everton v Burnley** Live from 8:00pm Chelsea v Man United

STAR Sports4 Primera Liga Deportivo v Atletico Madrid Live from 10:00pm Real Madrid v Malaga Live from 12:00am (Sunday) Bilbao v Getafe Live from 2:00am (Sunday)

'I liked Tamim's celebration'

SPORTS REPORTER



As soon as Tamim Iqbal hit a boundary through fine-leg, he jumped in the air; removed his gloves and, oddly enough, signalled the crowd in a way that suggested the player was saying to them 'talk now'. It was a gesture against all the criticism that he had faced in the last

few months. While the left-hander, who hammered a brilliant 132, wasn't available at the post-match press conference, his part-

ner in crime, Mushfigur Rahim supported Tamim's reaction.

"He didn't share the meaning of his reaction, but I think anyone can understand what he wanted to say. The last four to five months, everyone has been talking about him and his form. I believe Bangladesh has produced very few batsmen like Tamim and very few will come in the future.

"He didn't get out to bad balls in the last few matches and with regards to the World Cup, there were several good players who couldn't even score 200 runs. Against Scotland he gave us a good start and that was crucial. Players go through bad phases and that's a part of cricket," explained Mushfigur.

"It's not your [media] fault. It's your job to analyse a player's game. But I hope everyone will realise that in situations such as these if he receives support, rather than saying that he is done, that will be good for him. So I liked the celebration," he added.

Tamim and Mushfiqur put on 178 runs for the third wicket, which is Bangladesh's highest ever stand in ODIs. Elaborating on the way they planned the stand Mushfiqur said, "The one thing I tried to remind him was that he had scored several 50s and 60s before and then got out while trying to play an aggressive shot.

"I told him that this was the kind of wicket that if you stick around, you can score plenty of runs. So from that aspect he played a very mature innings and to be honest, I am really surprised that I got the player of the match award," said Mushfiqur.

Mushfigur hammered a 77-ball 106 and his innings at the end proved to be one of the major reasons that pushed Tamim on. The inside-out shot which he played a number of times yesterday was a result of frequent practice in the nets, explained the wicketkeeper-batsman.

On a personal note there was another reason for Mushfiqur to be happy. "After my marriage this is my first century, so I am really happy about this innings. I had come close before but failed, but those innings helped my team win. So I was happy with those as well, but this one is different," exclaimed the diminutive batsman.



Taskin Ahmed gave only eight runs in his second spell and dismantled Pakistan by dismissing Azhar Ali and Haris Sohail to secure Bangladesh's victory.

PHOTO: STAR

'Celebrate after series'

SPORTS REPORTER



When Shakib Al Hasan took the last wicket of Saeed Ajmal to break the 16-year drought against Pakistan last

night, the Tigers didn't celebrate much. Stand-in skipper Shakib made it clear in the post-match briefing that they will only celebrate when their target of winning the series is fulfilled.

"The win obviously means a lot since we didn't win against them in any format for the past 16 years. Also we know we can beat them and we are the favourites in the series. We are happy as we played as a team and put up a professional performance.

"But there are two more games and we need to win at least one and

we will try to do that in the next game," said Shakib, when he was asked why there wasn't much excitement after the win.

"It feels good after a win, especially having won after such a long time. It is a big deal for the team. We will have the upper hand and confidence will be high in the next two matches but it definitely won't be easy. We have to play our best cricket. If we can continue our performances, the result will be good for us," he continued.

Understandably, Shakib extolled the batting of Tamim Iqbal and Mushfigur Rahim and termed their partnership as the turning point of the game. He further added that it Tamim never seemed to be under pressure. "He batted in his natural way and seemed good," said Shakib.

'Fielding & bowling let us down'

SPORTS REPORTER

Pakistan captain Azhar Ali blamed his side's bowling and fielding for their defeat against Bangladesh at Mirpur yesterday.

Speaking to reporters at the postmatch press conference he said, "Our bowing wasn't up to the mark. We also dropped crucial catches [Tamim Iqbal and Mushfigur Rahim at wrong stages. The way we bowled in the death overs and the power play overs... we weren't up to it."

"Its not easy to chase 300 runs. We have an inexperienced line-up, but I think the guys tried their best," he added.

Saeed Ajmal gave away 74 runs in the match, his most expensive figures till date. Azar however, defended the spinner and said that it would take some time before he hits form.

Sk Russel edge past MSC

SPORTS REPORTER



Title contenders Sheikh Russel KC overcame a big hurdle as they edged past Mohammedan SC with a 1-0 victory in their Manyavar Bangladesh Premier League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Defender Rezaul Karim Reza struck only goal of the match, which was resembled more of a dogfight than a football match, to propel the former champions to their second consecutive win and condemn the Black and Whites to their first defeat in three matches. Sheikh Russel struggled against the pace of a youthful

Mohammedan side but goalkeeper Mamun Khan stood tall to foil all the attacks from the Black and Whites. Khan superbly snatched a cross of Arup Kumar from the head of Towhidul Alam Sabuj in the 35th minute before he saw Mohammad Ebrahim's low drive creep wide of the goal. Sheikh Russel reorgansied after the break and had more

impact on the game, with Paul Emile going close to giving them the lead, but Mohammedan goalkeeper Mohammad Nehal Like the previous match, winger Zahid Hossain turned the

was equal to the task. provider for the decisive goal as his swerving cross from the

MOHAMMEDAN 0-1 SKRUSSEL BROTHERS 3-1 FARASHGANJ right flag was headed home by Rezaul. Five minutes later, Zahid Hasan Emily put the ball into the net, but

this time the off-side flag denied them a second goal. Mohammedan launched some sporadic attacks in the second half but they failed to get the better of Sheikh Russel defender Bojan Petric, who was putting on a stellar perfor-

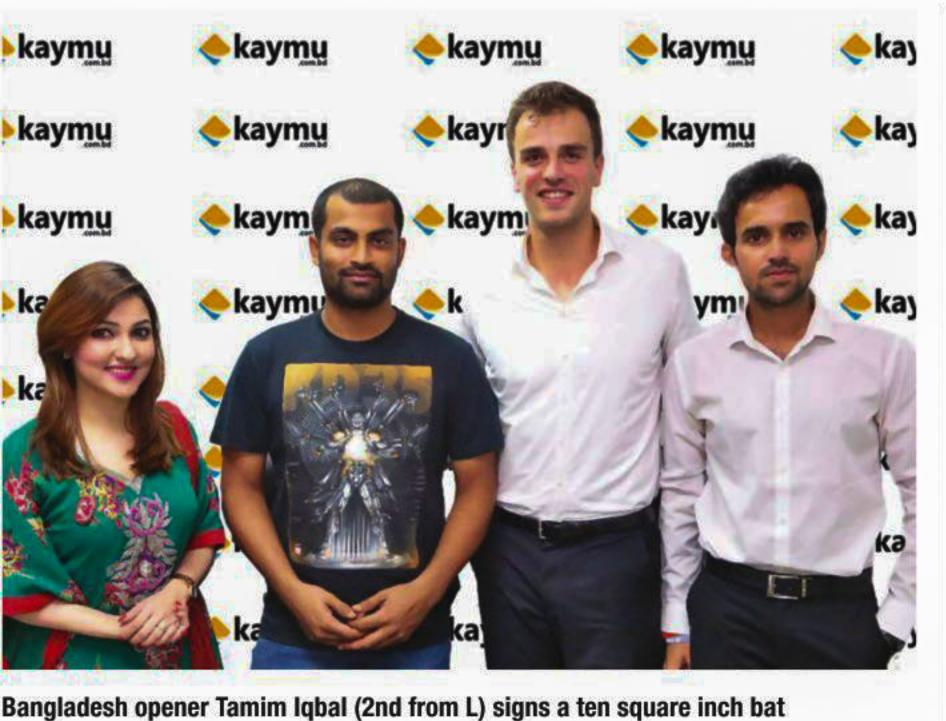
mance throughout the game. Mohammedan's best chance of the match came in the 68th minute when Jewel Rana's square pass found Isamel Bangoura in an unmarked position, but the Guinean's attempt was blocked by Khan as Sheikh Russel left the field with full points.

BROTHERS NOTCH FIRST WIN

Meanwhile, Brothers Union tasted their first victory in their third match with a comfortable 3-1 win over Farashganj SC, who suffered their second defeat in as many matches.

After a barren first half, Nigerian forward Adam Jankasa put Brothers ahead with a placing shot in the 50th minute before Augustine Walson of Haiti doubled in the 55th minute.

Farashganj showed signs fight Nigerian Peter Akinyele reducing the margin in the 78th minute with a header but Jankasa ensured Brothers' maiden win after flicking the ball home five minutes from time.



sponsorship deal with Kaymu Bangladesh Limited at the Sonargaon Hotel on Thursday.

PHOTO: COURTESY

to face off

Novak Djokovic crushed Marin Cilic 6-0, 6-3 on Friday to move into the semifinals of the Monte

The world number one and top seed took just 65 minutes, winning the first eight games against

Nadal, who worked for nearly three hours to subdue Spanish compatriot David Ferrer 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 to

into uncharted territory, ging Grigor Dimitrov 6-1, 6-3. Monfils will next take on Tomas Berdych.

Novak, Rafa

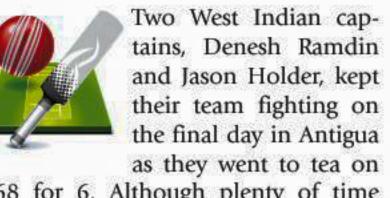
AFP, Monte Carlo

Carlo Masters.

Croatia's reigning US Open champion. Djokovic will face Rafael

seal his semifinals berth. Gael Monfils continued with the Frenchman slug-

Holder, Ramdin stave off England seventh-wicket stand when Holder England's leading Test wicket-taker. CRICINFO



268 for 6. Although plenty of time remained for England to secure victory there were signs of frustration growing, not least from James Anderson who earlier equalled Ian Botham as

Summ

ADMISSION

Anderson's 383rd Test scalp had come shortly before midday when Marlon Samuels edged to gully and when Chris Jordan removed Jermaine Blackwood moments ahead of the new ball, West Indies were 189 for 6 and 51 overs remained in the Test. By tea, that figure was down to 31 - or two hours of play - although England will remember from the first innings how swiftly West Indies' lower can be dispatched.

Broad came closest to breaking the

pulled a short delivery which landed short of Jonathan Trott but the pitch was refusing to yield right until the end. SCORES IN BRIEF

ENGLAND: First innings 399 WEST INDIES: First innings 295 ENGLAND: Second innings 333 for 7 decl (Balance 122, Root 59, Buttler 59 not out; Taylor 2-42, Benn 2-115) WEST INDIES: Second innings 162 for 5 (Smith 65, Blackwood 31, Ramdin 48, Holder 48; Root 2-13)

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