

What to WATCH	CHANNEL 9 Bangladesh Premier League Team BJMC v Soccer Club Feni Time: 4:45pm	TEN CRICKET Pakistan v Zimbabwe First ODI Live from 8:00pm	SONY MAX Indian Premier League Final Chennai v Mumbai Live from 8:30pm	STAR SPORTS 1 Premier League Hull City v Man Utd Live from 8:00pm	STAR SPORTS 2 England v New Zealand First Test Day 4 Live from 4:00pm	STAR SPORTS 4 Premier League Chelsea v Sunderland Live from 8:00pm	Serie A Milan v Torino Live from 12:45am (Sunday)
DAY'S EVENT	Bangladesh Premier League Venue: BNS Team BJMC v Soccer Club Feni Time: 4:45pm	Asian Men's Volleyball Championship Venue: Mirpur Indoor Stadium AFG v UZB Time: 3:00pm KGZ v NEP Time: 5:00pm					

BFF Award Night held

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation awarded clubs, players and organisers for various leagues and tournaments under its auspices for five seasons (2009-2014) in a gala BFF Award Night at the National Sports Council Auditorium last night.

The game's governing body gave away prizes in 63 categories in a three-hour programme where the football players and organisers of national team, the two tiers of the Professional Football League, First Division, Second Division, Third Division, Pioneer League, district football league and women's league were felicitated.

Among the notable award winners were Mamunul Islam (most valuable player for the 2013-14 season), Hemanta Vincent Biswas (emerging player for the 2013-14 season), Sabina Khatun (most valuable female player for the 2013-14 season) and Sanjida Akter (emerging female player for the 2013-14 season).

Strikers Enamul Haque, Mithun Chowdhury, Anwar Hossain, Shakhawat Hossain and Wahed Ahmed also received awards for becoming highest local goal scorers in five editions of the Bangladesh Premier League.



(L-R) Mamunul Islam, Sanjida Akter and Hemanta Vincent Biswas pose with their respective BFF awards during a ceremony at the National Sports Council Auditorium yesterday.

31ST NAT'L JUNIOR ATHLETICS BKSP dominate closing day too

SPORTS REPORTER

The 31st Shamsuzzoha Smriti National Junior Athletics Championships concluded at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday with four new records and complete domination by the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishthan (BKSP). The sports education centre grabbed both the 100m sprint titles of the juvenile (18-19 yr age group) male and female titles as well as the 200m and 400m sprint titles yesterday, after snatching the 100m sprint titles in the boys' and girls' (15-17 yr age group) category on the previous day.

Saiful Islam Khan won the men's 100m sprint in a record 10.53 seconds, beating the old mark by 0.32 seconds. Anisul Haque Rana of the same institution came second at 10.82, while Uzzal Chandra Sutradhar of Narayanganj DSA finished third at 10.90.

Tamanna Akter won the women's 100m sprint title with a time of 13.36 seconds, beating her teammate Sonia Akter (13.70) and Morzina Akter (13.76) of Khulna DSA.

Sheikh Ashrafuzzaman of BKSP won both the 200m and 400m sprint titles, setting new records. The BKSP man won the 200m sprint title at 22.17 seconds, beating the old mark by 0.73 seconds and the 400m sprint title at a new record mark of 50.72 seconds. Meanwhile, Abdul Alim of Narayanganj DSA set a new record (54.12 metres) in javelin throw.

Tamanna of BKSP became the best athlete of the championships with five gold medals. BKSP finished far ahead of other participating teams, with 22 gold, eight silver and two bronze medals out of 33 events.

FRENCH OPEN BEGINS TODAY Decisive match-ups in quarters

AGENCIES, Paris

As the French Open begins today, the seedings for the players has thrown up some interesting match-up scenarios as Maria Sharapova did the honors and drew the names of the men.

Defending champion Rafael Nadal will have to work hard to retain the title he claimed last year after defeating Novak Djokovic 3-6, 7-5, 6-2 and 6-4, as he goes into this competition as the sixth seed on the back of some poor performances.

On the other hand, Djokovic will go into

Djokovic has already won the Australian Open and four Masters 1000 tournaments in Indian Wells, Miami, Monte Carlo and, most recently, Rome in 2015.

Things are not any easier for Roger Federer. He will potentially face-off against Stan Wawrinka in the quarterfinals if both men go through, while Andy Murray and David Ferrer will hope to face-off so they can avoid Djokovic and Nadal in the quarters.

In the women's tournament, Sharapova will begin her campaign against 49th-ranked Kaia Kanepi, while 19-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams may have to fend off former No. 1 Victoria Azarenka,



Novak Djokovic



Rafael Nadal

the tournament on a 22-match winning streak and is a favourite for the title which has eluded him throughout his career. Djokovic has twice lost the French Open final to Rafael Nadal, but victory would finally make him a winner of all four majors.

There is however a large obstacle in Djokovic's way. Djokovic is up against the tantalising prospect facing his French Open tormenter in a repeat of last year's final, as early as the quarterfinals.

Perhaps good news for Nadal, whose record on the red clay of Roland Garros is 66-1. However, the Spaniard has already lost on clay on five occasions this season, while

currently seeded 27th.

The two biggest names and highest earners in women's sport will set off on another collision course when the French Open gets underway.

Serena Williams, at 33, is still the undisputed queen of tennis and the top seed.

Maria Sharapova has won two out of the last three titles in Paris, including last year, and at 28 is in the prime of her glittering and lucrative career.

Should the seedings hold firm, the American will play the Russian in the final on June 6, if both women make it that far. However, past experience points to there being only one winner in such an event.

Jose won't give medal away

REUTERS, London

Jose Mourinho will receive a third Premier League winners' medal on Sunday but the Chelsea manager is not feeling so charitable this time -- meaning no surprise souvenir for a lucky fan at Stamford Bridge.

After claiming a second English title in 2006 following a 3-0 win against Manchester United, Mourinho launched his medal and blazer into the crowd.

Chelsea host Sunderland in their final game of the season on Sunday where they will be presented with the Premier League trophy for the first time since 2010.

Kane puts NZ on top

AFP, London

Kane Williamson starred for New Zealand as they outplayed England on the third day of the first Test at Lord's on Saturday.

Williamson's well-constructed 132 was the centrepiece of New Zealand's 523 all out which gave them a first-innings lead of 134.

The Black Caps followed-up with two early wickets to reduce England to 25 for two in their second innings.

But England captain Alastair Cook (32 not out) and Ian Bell (29 not out) survived some testing overs to take the hosts to 74 for two at stumps -- a deficit of 60 runs.

New Zealand, bidding for just their second Test victory at Lord's of all time, resumed Saturday on 303 for two, with Williamson 92 not out and Ross Taylor unbeaten on 47.

England with the new ball available just three overs after the start of Saturday's play, opened proceedings with Ali.

Williamson promptly helped himself to five runs before a three to third man off James Anderson saw the New Zealand number three -- unlike England's Joe Root and Ben Stokes who'd both fallen in the 90s in this match -- to a hundred.

Batting with impressive serenity for a 24-year-old, Williamson's century came in just over three hours off 148 balls including 12 fours.

It was the talented stroke-player's 10th hundred in 40 Tests -- an impressive strike-rate -- and the 14th by a New Zealand batsman in a Test at Lord's.

But batting in overcast conditions became significantly more challenging once England took the new ball.

SCORES IN BRIEF
ENGLAND: First innings 389 all out
NEW ZEALAND: First innings 588 all out (Williamson 132, Guphill 70, Taylor 62; Broad 3-77, Wood 3-93)
ENGLAND: Second innings 74 for 2 (Cook 32 not out, Bell 29 not out; Boulton 1-22, Southee 1-30)

Magpies, Hull in survival fight

AFP, London

Northeast rivals Hull City and Newcastle United face a shootout for Premier League survival this weekend as the 2014-15 campaign reaches its conclusion.

Hull must win at home to Manchester United on Sunday to stand any chance of staying up, but if they succeed, Newcastle will be relegated unless they prevail at home to West Ham United.

Newcastle will begin the day two points above the relegation zone, but Hull's superior goal difference (-18 to -25) means that if the two teams finish level on points, it is Steve Bruce's men who will stay up.

The scenario echoes that of the final day of the 2008-09 season, when Hull avoided the drop despite losing 1-0 at

home to Manchester United and Newcastle were relegated after going down 1-0 at Aston Villa.

Bruce has never overcome his former club Manchester United in his 17-year managerial career, but he believes the support of the KC Stadium could tip the match in the home side's favour.

"It's a big positive that this game is at home," said the former United captain, whose side have lost their last three matches.

"We've got one of the giants of English football coming to us and we hope that with the fans right behind us and the players ready for the challenge ahead, we can upset the appercart.

"We have to believe that there is one final twist in this and it needs to go our way."

A run of nine defeats and one draw in 10 games has seen Newcastle slide from 11th place to the threshold of the relegation zone ahead of Sunday's pivotal encounter with mid-table West Ham.

Newcastle's fans have stepped up their protests against unpopular owner Mike Ashley in recent weeks and manager John Carver has admitted that he cannot bring himself to contemplate the thought of relegation.

"It doesn't even bear thinking about, to be quite honest. It's not something that's in my mind," he said.

FIXTURES

Sunday (1400 GMT):
Arsenal v West Bromwich Albion, Aston Villa v Burnley, Chelsea v Sunderland, Crystal Palace v Swansea City, Everton v Tottenham Hotspur, Hull City v Manchester United, Leicester City v Queens Park Rangers, Manchester City v Southampton, Newcastle United v West Ham United, Stoke City v Liverpool



Major general Waker-uz-Zaman, president of Savar Golf Club, inaugurates the Amin Mohammad Group golf tournament at Savar yesterday.

Hamilton on Monaco pole

AFP, Wentworth

Defending world champion and current series leader Lewis Hamilton secured his maiden pole position at the Monaco Grand Prix when he topped Saturday's qualifying times ahead of Mercedes team-mate Nico Rosberg.

It was the 30-year-old Briton's first success on the streets of his favourite circuit and came at the ninth attempt as he outpaced Rosberg in a tight contest to claim the 43rd pole of his career.

Two-time champion Hamilton clocked a final best lap in one minute and 15.090 seconds to wind up three-tenths of a second clear of Rosberg and fellow-German Sebastian Vettel, who was third for Ferrari ahead of the two Red Bulls of Australian Daniel Ricciardo and Russian Daniil Kvyat.

Finn Kimi Raikkonen, who had crashed during morning practice, was sixth in the second Ferrari ahead of Mexican Sergio Perez of Force India, Spaniard Carlos Sainz of Toro Rosso, Venezuelan Pastor Maldonado of Lotus and Dutch teenager Max Verstappen, who was 10th in the second Toro Rosso.

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