

What to WATCH DAY'S EVENT	CHANNEL 9 FIFA Int'l Friendly Bangladesh v Afghanistan Live from 4:00pm	NEO SPORTS French Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals Live from 6:00pm	WEDNESDAY Men's & Women's Quarterfinals Live from 6:00pm	STAR SPORTS2 England v New Zealand Second Test, Day 5 Live from 4:00pm	TEN CRICKET WEDNESDAY West Indies v Australia First Test, Day 1
	FIFA Int'l Friendly Venue: BNS Bangladesh v Afghanistan				

KLOPP TO TAKE A BREAK

Fresh from his final match as Borussia Dortmund coach, Jurgen Klopp confirmed Monday he will take an undetermined break from coaching, despite being linked to Real Madrid, Napoli and Liverpool. After seven years as head coach, the 47-year-old had his last game in charge of Dortmund in Saturday's 3-1 defeat to Wolfsburg in the German Cup final at Berlin's Olympic Stadium to deny him a fairytale farewell. But with no specification as to how long the break will last, Klopp is sure to end his self-imposed



Football gets 20-cr boost

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) finally got a monetary boost as the Association of Bankers, Bangladesh Limited (ABBD) and the Finance Ministry together promised to provide Tk 20 crore for the betterment of the game.

The promise from the two institutions came after relentless pursuing by the BFF over the last one-and-a-half to convince finance minister Abul Mal Abdul Muhith, who virtually convinced the ABBD to come forward to help football.

BFF president Kazi Salahuddin yesterday sat with the high-ups of ABBD, who made the promise after the meeting.

"It has been possible due to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and finance minister Abul Mal Abdul Muhith. The bankers' association will provide Tk 18 crore, out of which Tk 14 crore will come from private banks and Tk 4 crore from the government banks, while Tk 2 crore will be provided by the finance ministry," said BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag, adding that the bankers association yesterday handed over a check of Tk 2 crore to Salahuddin.

The money will be spend under various fields including wages of foreign coaches, the national team, the BFF academy, women's football, domestic tournaments and due payments of Bangabandhu Gold Cup.

"They will provide the money in phases over the next one year," said Shohag, adding that the ABBD would take further decisions whether to continue after analysing the output of the first year.



Defending champion Maria Sharapova (L) of Russia congratulates Czech Republic's Lucie Safarova after losing the French Open women's fourth round match in Paris yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Gay chases WC berth

AFP, Eugene

Tyson Gay revved up his pursuit of a first World Championships berth since 2009 with a 100m victory in Eugene, but the US sprinter remains shadowed by his recent doping ban.

Gay, winner of 100m, 200m and 4x100m gold at the 2007 World Championships, clocked the third-fastest 100m in the world this season on Saturday as he triumphed in 9.88sec.

The victory was a morale builder for the man who just two weeks earlier saw his 2012 Olympic 4x100m relay team-mates told to return the silver medals won in London because of his doping case.

Gay served only a one-year ban thanks to his cooperation with investigators -- a reduced punishment that has provoked criticism from some, including Jamaican sprint star Usain Bolt.

But Gay, who has said he took supplements he believed were clean, said coming back from even an abbreviated suspension hasn't been easy.

"I was stressed out, I was overweight," he said. "It was more so about my character, my name. It wasn't the year off, it was about the fact that people believed I was full of steroids and stuff like that and no one considered it was a mistake."

Sevilla sign Krohn-Dehli

AFP, Madrid

Europa League winners Sevilla have signed Danish international Michael Krohn-Dehli on a free transfer from Celta Vigo.

"Sevilla have signed Michael Krohn-Dehli for the next two seasons, plus the option for an extra season," the club said in a statement on their website on Monday.

The 31-year-old was a star performer for Celta this season with five assists as the Galicians finished eighth in La Liga.

Toni shares award

AFP, Milan



Evergreen striker Luca Toni capped another remarkable season in Italy's top flight but was stopped from snatching sole possession of Serie A's 'Capocannoniere'

top-scorers' award by Inter Milan's Mauro Icardi on Sunday.

Toni, a 2006 World Cup winner who notably played for Fiorentina (twice) and Bayern Munich in his storied career, scored for Verona in a 2-2 draw with champions Juventus on Saturday to take his tally to 22 goals for the season.

It put Toni, at the age of 38 and five days, two goals clear in his quest to become oldest top scorer in Italy since 35-year-old Dario Hubner scored 24 goals for Piacenza in 2001-2002 to share the prize with Juventus striker David Trezeguet.

But Inter Milan striker Icardi had other ideas, scoring twice in a 4-3 win over Empoli a day later to pull level on 22 goals and clinch a share of the spoils.

Considering Toni and Icardi finished with two more goals than Juventus striker Carlos Tevez, neither are likely to complain.



LUCA TONI

TOP SCORERS

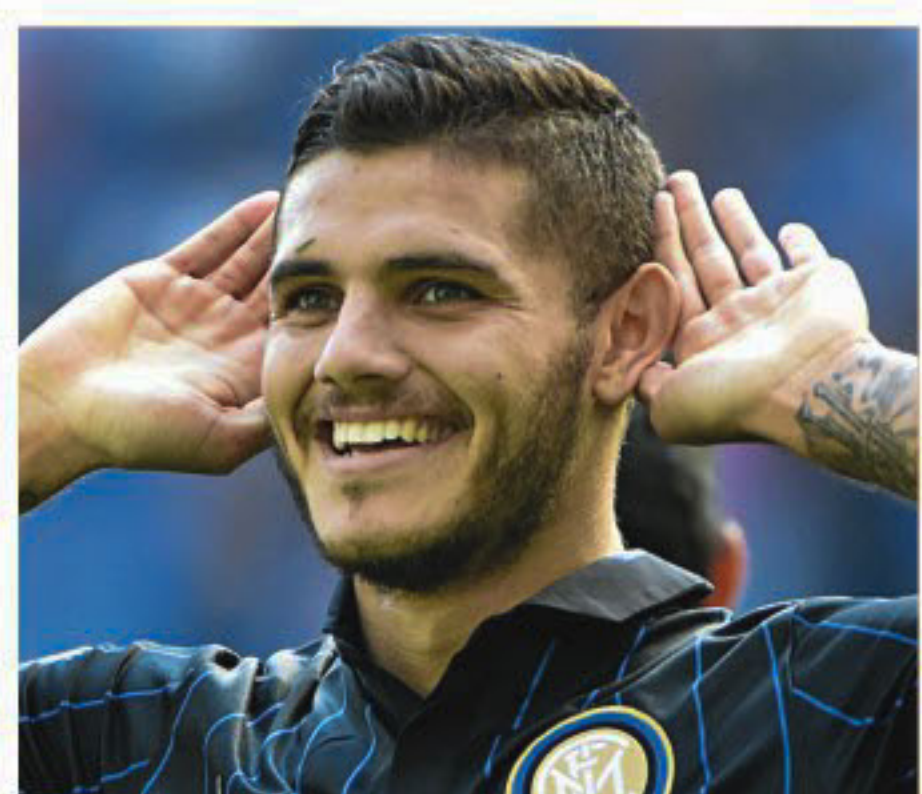
22 goals: Icardi (Inter Milan), Toni (Hellas Verona)
20: Tevez (Juventus)
18: Higuain (Napoli)
16: Ménez (AC Milan)
15: Berardi (Sassuolo), Gabbiadini (Napoli)

"It's a great end of the season for me," said Icardi, although with Inter and AC Milan failing to qualify for Europe next season the Argentine has hinted he could be tempted elsewhere.

"I didn't expect to win (a share of) the title, but I always train hard and tonight the lads tried to set me up as much as possible."

But it is Toni, who last year finished runner-up to Ciro Immobile, who has attracted the plaudits nine years after a 31-goal haul for Fiorentina ended a 47-year wait to see a player score more than 30 goals in Italy's top flight and handed him his maiden Capocannoniere.

Toni's 2006 feat secured his place in Italy's World Cup squad and the big centre-forward notably scored twice in a 3-0 quarterfinal win against Ukraine before Italy went on to beat Germany and France to clinch their fourth World Cup.



MAURO ICARDI

Nadal to face Djokovic

Sharapova sent packing; Federer, Murray in last eight

AFP, Paris



Defending champion Rafael Nadal will face Novak Djokovic in a thrilling quarterfinal of the French Open as both players won their respective matches comfortably on Monday.

On the other hand defending champion Maria Sharapova was sent packing from the French Open at the fourth-round stage on Monday, but top seed Serena Williams survived a scare to seal her quarterfinal place.

Nadal clinched his 70th win at Roland Garros on Monday when a 6-3, 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 victory over America's Jack Sock put him into the quarter-finals.

Similarly Djokovic eased into the quarter-finals on Monday with a 6-1, 6-2, 6-3 win over France's Richard Gasquet to set up a showdown with nine-time champion Nadal.

On facing Djokovic in the last-eight,

Nadal said: "I will have to play my best tennis. He's the world number one and is having a great season. It'll be a complicated match."

Sharapova, seeded two, was beaten in straight sets 7-6 (7/3), 6-4 by Lucie Safarova, the 13th seed from the Czech Republic who will now meet Garbine Muguruza of Spain in the last eight.

Williams, meanwhile, lost the first set against compatriot Sloane Stephens on the same Court Philippe Chatrier but came back to win 1-6, 7-5, 6-3 and set up a quarterfinal clash with Sara Errani of Italy. On a bright Paris morning the Russian second seed, who was looking to become the first woman to successfully defend the French Open title since Justine Henin in 2007, was punished for an erratic display from beginning to end.

Meanwhile, Roger Federer and Andy Murray swept into the French Open quarterfinals as the tournament waited to see if Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic

could tee-up a Paris blockbuster.

Second seed Federer, the 2009 champion, made the last eight for the 11th time with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 win over France's Gael Monfils and goes on to face Davis Cup-winning teammate Stan Wawrinka.

British third seed Murray ended the hopes of another home player, seeing off unseeded Jeremy Chardy 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

He will next take on seventh-seeded Spaniard David Ferrer.

Federer raced through the final two sets on Monday in just over an hour after the last-16 tie was delicately poised at a set apiece when it was suspended in the chilly gloom of Sunday evening.

Federer will take a 16-2 career advantage over Wawrinka into Tuesday's quarterfinal, including a win on clay in Rome earlier this month.

Murray, twice a semifinalist in Paris, will face 2013 runner-up Ferrer for a place in the last four.

Rain restricts New Zealand

AFP, Leeds



New Zealand thrashed England's bowlers for quick runs to leave the hosts facing a record chase to win the second Test at Headingley on Monday's fourth day before rain stopped play.

The Black Caps extended their overnight 338 for six to 454 for eight declared, scoring 116 runs in just 16 overs on Monday before captain Brendon McCullum called a halt.

That left England needing 455 to win. The most any side have made in the fourth innings to win a Test is the West Indies' 418 for seven against Australia at St John's, Antigua, in 2002/03.

England's corresponding record is 332 for seven against Australia at Melbourne back in 1928/29.

But rain meant England, who started their reply before lunch, faced just overs in Monday's second session before officials brought forward the tea interval by 30 minutes.

Adam Lyth, who scored a maiden Test hundred in the first innings, was 24 not out on his Yorkshire home ground. England captain Alastair Cook, who in the first innings became England's highest run-scorer in Tests, was 18 not out.

New Zealand were unlucky to be 1-0 behind in this two-match series after scoring more than 700 runs and taking 20 wickets in the first Test at Lord's yet still going down to a 124-run defeat.

BJ Watling resumed Monday on exactly 100 not out after becoming the first New Zealand batsman to score a Test hundred at Headingley.

Mark Craig, 15 not out overnight, was dropped on 23 when a diving Stuart Broad at mid-off failed to hold a tough chance off James Anderson.

It was estimated that dropped catches had cost England 250 runs in the series and 182 in the second innings of this match alone.

Anderson's second delivery with the new ball removed Watling for 120, the ball taking the shoulder of the bat before third slip Joe Root held a fine catch to end a 163-ball innings, including 15 fours and a six.

England's cause was not helped when Ian Bell failed to move for a chance offered by Tim Southee off Anderson.

SCORES IN BRIEF

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 350
ENGLAND: First innings 350
NEW ZEALAND: Second innings 454 for 8 decl (Guptill 70, Taylor 48, McCullum 55, Watling 120, Ronchi 31, Craig 58 not out, Southee 40; Anderson 2-96, Broad 2-94, Wood 3-97)
ENGLAND: Second innings 44 for no loss (Lyth 24 not out, Cook 18 not out)

Timeless rivalry

LATIN POST



Barcelona recently won the 2014-15 Spanish League championship for the 23rd time in franchise history

much in part to their dynamic offensive pair of Lionel Messi and Neymar. Although the two have been teammates since 2013, they will each be facing off against one another in the 2015 Copa America this summer. The Copa America is of course South America's biggest and most recognizable soccer tournament that dates back to 1916. This year's Copa America will be played in Chile, and it begins on June 11.

Brazil and Argentina represent one of the biggest international soccer rivalries of all-time. Brazil has won the most FIFA World Cups ever with five, however Argentina has the edge in Copa America titles, 14-8.

The last seven matches have ended with four Brazil victories, two draws and just one win from Argentina.

This Copa America is particularly huge for numerous reasons. One, Argentina is looking to make history as the greatest South American National Team in continental history. Argentina has won 14 Copa America championships, the second most ever behind Uruguay who has 15. Messi led this nation to the World Cup finals last year but unfortunately lost to Germany in the championship, and he has yet to win a Copa

America. As a matter of fact, Argentina hasn't won this tournament since 1993 when they defeated Mexico in the finals.

For Brazil, the stakes are just as high. Just last summer they were embarrassed on their home soil against Germany in the notorious 7-1 route in the knockout stage. Brazil has the third most Copa America titles of all-time with eight, however they have won four of the last six tournaments since Argentina won their last back in 1993. This is Neymar's time to shine. Neymar scored four goals in the World Cup last year but couldn't finish because of a vertebra injury. Neymar has been named Brazil's team captain ahead of Thiago Silva.

Brazil defeated Argentina in the finals in both 2004 and 2007. Messi was a member of the '07 Argentina squad that lost in the finals. However, geography may be on Argentina's side. The last time a Copa America was played in Chile was 1991. That year Argentina defeated Brazil in the finals. Again, this rivalry runs deep.

Argentina is in Group B with Uruguay, Paraguay and Jamaica. Argentina is currently the No. 2 ranked team in the world. Uruguay ranks No. 8, Jamaica ranks No. 74 and Paraguay ranks No. 81.

Brazil is in Group C with Colombia, Peru and Venezuela. Brazil is currently the No. 5 ranked team in the world. Colombia ranks No. 4, Peru ranks No. 63 and Venezuela ranks No. 69.

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ব্যাংক

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