() Made in Italy



#### BD-IND SCOREBOARD R/B 4/6 R Sharma c Litton 29/29 2/1 Mustafizur Dhawan c Nasir b Mashrafe 75/73 10/0 Kohli b Shakib 25/35 1/0 Dhoni c Mustafizur 69/77 6/1 Mashrafe Rayudu c Litton b Mashrafe 44/49 3/0 38/21 3/2 Raina b Mustafizur 17/11 2/0 Binny not out 10/5 0/1 Patel not out Extras: (b-4, lb-3, w-3) Total: (For 6 wkts in 50 overs) 317 Did not bat: Ashwin, Kulkarni, Yadav. Fall of wickets: 1-39, 2-114, 3-158, 4-251, 5-268, 6-301.

R/B 4/6 BANGLADESH 5/8 Soumya c Ashwin b Kulkarni 40/34 34/50 3/0 Litton b Patel Mushfigur c Dhoni b Raina 24/30 Shakib c Kulkarni b Raina 20/21 2/0 Sabbir b Binny 43/38 Nasir c Rayudu b Ashwin 32/30 3/0 Mashrafe b Ashwin 0/9 0/0 Sunny not out 14/40 1/0 Rubel c Patel b Raina 2/6 0/0 Mustafizur Ibw b Rayudu 9/17 1/0 Extras: (lb-3, w-13, nb-1) Total: (All out in 47 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-62, 3-112, 4-118, 5-148, 6-197, 7-205, 8-216, 9-222.

Bangladesh clinched the 3-match series 2-1.

## L'pool sign Firmino

AFP, London

Liverpool have signed Brazilian international forward Roberto Firmino, the Premier League club said on Wednesday, with the BBC reporting the fee would be £29 million (41 million euros, \$46 million).

The forward, currently on duty for Brazil in the Copa America in Chile, will join from Bundesliga club Hoffenheim.

"The 23-year-old has agreed a long-term contract with the club," the club said in a statement on its website.



India skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni scored 69 runs in an impressive performance against Bangladesh in the third and final ODI at Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

# Raina happy to chip away

SPORTS REPORTER



When Suresh Raina appeared at the post-match press conference at the end of the third ODI last night, it was as no surprise because he was one of the very few Indian players

who would go home from the tour of Bangladesh with his reputation enriched.

The left-handed all-rounder played a big part in salvaging the win in the last ODI, which deservedly earned him a man-of-thematch award. But his contribution with both bat and ball -- the latter being the underrated part of his all-round ability -stood up even in the first two defeats.

Raina came on to bat at number six yesterday and scored a 21-ball 38 to help India post a challenging score of 317. And then with the scoreboard pressure on the Bangladeshis, Raina turned the screws with his left-arm spin -- removing Shakib Al Hasan and Mushfigur Rahim before getting rid of Rubel Hossain.

The Uttar Pradesh native implied he is happy for not being rated too highly for his bowling skill, which sort of keeps him out of the batsmen's target in a way.

"I know what my role is as a bowler. Whether it is bowling two or three overs in the middle or go for a longer spell whatever the team thinks of me," said the left-armer.

"We know Shakib [Al Hasan] and Mushfiqur [Rahim] have world of experience behind them. Shakib has been playing so long in IPL so he knows how to score in situations like these. So taking those two wickets was very important," added Raina, who took 112 runs in three matches, all in quick time, and has been pretty mean with the ball as well.

The all-rounder, who plays for the Chennai Super Kings team led by Team India skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni, also defended his under-fire skipper. "Losing just one series doesn't make you a bad team. I think credit should be given to MS [Dhoni] with the way he led the team with the bat and then marshaled the side to this victory," said the all-rounder.

While Raina was happy to have seen India salvage some pride, he gave full credit to the hosts for being the better side in the series.

"Bangladesh have played really well so you must give them full credit. It is not as if we lost the games only because we played bad.

But I think they need to play a lot more abroad. They need to play a lot against teams like Australia and England in their conditions before one can comment on which level they are currently in," commented the all-rounder.

## Cavani trains with Uruguay

AFP, Santiago



Uruguay manager Oscar Tabarez expressed hope Tuesday that Edinson Cavani would stay with the squad after the striker's father was arrested following a fatal traffic accident.

Paris Saint-Germain star Cavani was reportedly mulling whether or not to fly home to Uruguay to be with his father following the accident late Monday.

The 28-year-old trained with his Uruguay teammates on Tuesday as they prepared for Wednesday's crunch Copa America quarterfinal against hosts Chile.

Tabarez told reporters Cavani would be given time to decide his choice of action.

"In the next few hours we will speak to him again and hope that he will be able to sort things out and be able to focus on the game," Tabarez said.

"Obviously it has affected him, as it would affect anyone in his position," Tabarez added.

Reports in Uruguay on Tuesday said Cavani could be allowed to leave the squad and would reunite with the team if they progressed to the semifinals.

### Eng thrash NZ in T20

AFP, Manchester

England set themselves up for the Ashes by ensuring New Zealand's tour ended in a comprehensive defeat as they thrashed the Black Caps by 56 runs in the lone Twenty20 international at Old Trafford on Tuesday.

New Zealand, set 192 for victory, collapsed to 135 all out as they lost their last five wickets for four runs.

For England, it was the ideal way to sign off ahead of the Ashes after they had shared the two Test series 1-1 and defeated New Zealand, who humiliated them en route to the World Cup final, 3-2 in a thrilling one-day international series.

Tuesday saw left-arm paceman David Willey (three for 22) and fast bowler Mark Wood (three for 26) mark their England debuts at this level in style.

England's Joe Root was named man-of-the-match for his 68 in the hosts' 191 for seven.

New Zealand's Kane Williamson top-scored for the Black Caps with a typically elegant 57 but his side's hopes of victory effectively ended in a 15th over where they lost three wickets.

#### **SCORES IN BRIEF**

ENGLAND: 191 for 7 (Hales 27, Root 68; Santner 2-28; McClenaghan 2-37)

NEW ZEALAND: 135 all out (McCullum 35, Williamson 57; Willey 3-22 Wood 3-26) Result: England won by 56 runs

Man-of-the-match: Joe Root (ENG)

# League deferred for two more days

SPORTS REPORTER



The Manyavar Bangladesh Premier League has been further deferred by two days after defending champions Sheikh Jamal DC sought more time to rest its football players, most

matches of the Joint Qualifiers of the World Cup and Asian Cup along with two friendlies earlier this month. Now, the second leg of the eighth edition

of whom were engaged with the Bangladesh

national football team who hosted two

professional football league will resume from Sunday instead of Friday with holders Sheikh Jamal DC playing against bottomside Farashganj SC, while four-time champions Abahani face giant-killers Rahmatganj MFS under floodlights at the take the final decision on whether the BFF Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The second phase of the league was scheduled to start from June 20 but it was

pating teams. This is the third time that the league committee was forced to defer the league which is expected to end on August 13, so that the national booters have enough time to prepare before travelling to Australia to play their first away match of the World Cup and Asian Cup qualifiers. "Sheikh Jamal wanted to play after June

deferred by a week on request of the partici-

30 because of fatigue and injury problems of their players who played four international matches for the national team recently and the league committee accepted their demand to start the league from June 28," said Bangladesh Football Federation general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag after the meeting.

In another move, the league meeting requested the BFF executive committee to Academy team would be given the opportunity to play the second-tier professional football league this season.

#### Niaz in lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Niaz Murshed shared the lead in the Commonwealth Chess Championship at the conclusion of the third round in New Delhi in India yesterday.

Niaz beat Indian Ajoy Krishna in his third board to secure the maximum of three points from as many games and shared the lead along with 20 other players. GM Ziaur Rahman of

Dhaka Mohammedan earned 2.5 points, while IM Minhaz Uddin Sagor, FM Sheikh Nasir Ahmed of Bangladesh Navy and WIM Rani Hamid secured two points each. Zia beat Indian Abhishek Das, Rani Hamid beat Indian Jatinder Kapoor and Minhaz drew with Indian Deepak Katiyar in their respective boards.

# Neymar denies insulting ref

AP, Santiago



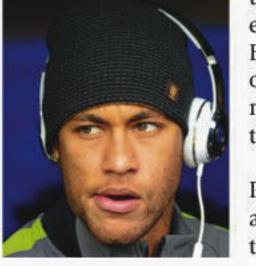
Brazil captain Neymar has denied insulting a referee after being sent off in the Copa America game against Colombia, calling the incident a mix-up. Neymar received a four-game

suspension after the incident in last week's group game.

CONMEBOL said Neymar was given such a lengthy ban because he grabbed the referee by the arms and insulted him in the tunnel to the changing rooms.

But Neymar said he only waited in the tunnel to ask the referee why he was sent off, and claimed that a commotion started after people thought he was going to do something else to the referee.

"Almost nothing happened in the tunnel," Neymar told Globo TV before leaving Santiago late Monday. "I was inside the



tunnel and I knew that (the ref) was coming, so I ended up waiting for him to ask why he sent me off. But then there was a commotion, with security and other people thinking that I was nervous and maybe was going to hit him or something like

A CONMEBOL official told The Associated Press that the punishment against Neymar was aggravated by the fact that the player waited for the referee inside the tunnel.

The Barcelona star was sent off after kicking the ball toward Colombia's Pablo Armero after the referee blew for fulltime in the Group C game in which Brazil lost 1-0. Neymar also appeared to try to headbutt another player who came to confront him, igniting a brief brawl between players from both teams. Colombia's Carlos Bacca, who shoved Neymar from behind, also was sent off after the altercation.

"I hope we can all learn from this," the 23-year-old Neymar said.

## Uruguay striker Edinson Cavani (C) controls the ball during a training РНОТО: session at the Nacional Stadium in Santiago on Tuesday.

# Novak, Serena top seeds

AFP, London



Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams were named top seeds for Wimbledon on Wednesday as two-time champion Rafael Nadal was seeded at 10, his lowly status

reflecting his recent struggles. Defending champion Djokovic and fivetime winner Williams are both current world number ones and their top billing

was a formality. Former number one Nadal, the Wimbledon champion in 2008 and 2010, has endured a miserable record at the All England Club in recent times, losing in the second, first and fourth round on his last

three visits. He was dethroned as French Open champion this season and despite winning the grass-court title in Stuttgart, he was then bundled out of Queen's by Ukrainian journeyman Alexander Dolgopolov in his open-

ing match.

As 10th seed, Nadal could play one of his major rivals such as Djokovic, seven-time champion Roger Federer or 2013 winner Andy Murray as early as the fourth round at Wimbledon which gets under way on Monday.

Federer, fresh from his eighth Halle grasscourt title, is seeded two with Murray at

Behind Williams, who is bidding to clinch her third major of the year after winning the Australian and French Opens, defending Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova is seeded second.

Romania's Simona Halep takes the third seeding ahead of Maria Sharapova, the 2004 champion.

With the exception of Canada's Milos Raonic, a semi-finalist in 2014, being seeded one spot above Spanish veteran David Ferrer, the seedings remained true to the current top 10 rankings in both the men's and women's tournaments.

