

BTV

SAFF U-16 C'ship
Afghanistan v Nepal
Live from 5:00pm

SONY SIX

Sri Lanka v India
First Test, Day 3
Live from 10:30am

TEN CRICKET

South Africa v New Zealand
First T20I (D/N)
Live from 10:00pm

STAR SPORTS 2

English Premier League
Aston Villa v Man United
Live from 12:45am
(Saturday)

STAR SPORTS 4

Bundesliga
Bayern Munich v Hamburg
Live from 12:30am
(Saturday)

DAY'S EVENT

SAFF U-16 C'ship
Venue: Sylhet District Stadium

Afghanistan v Nepal, Time: 5:00pm
Bangladesh Premier League

Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chittagong
Ctg Abahani v Brothers Union



Barcelona stars Lionel Messi (C) Luis Suarez (L) and Gerard Pique attend a training session at the Sports Centre Joan Gamper in Sant Joan Despi yesterday ahead of their Spanish Super Cup encounter against Athletic Bilbao.

Sakho to play despite arrest

AFP, London

West Ham United's Senegalese striker Diafra Sakho could play against Leicester City this weekend despite having been arrested on suspicion of assault, manager Slaven Bilic said on Thursday.

Sakho, 25, is thought to have been arrested last week on suspicion of assaulting his girlfriend in east London.

But he played in the team that won 2-0 at Arsenal in West Ham's opening Premier League fixture last weekend and Bilic suggested he would keep his place against Leicester on Saturday.

"Well, he's training," Bilic told a press conference when asked about Sakho's situation. "He played against Arsenal. He was here every day, he looks OK, he looks happy, he's not worried. For all these things, I'm happy."

Murray, Nadal advance

AFP, Montreal



Andy Murray took care of some unfinished business as the second seed advanced to the third round of the ATP Tour's Montreal Masters on Wednesday with a 6-4, 7-5 win over Tommy Robredo.

The Scot ended the match, which was postponed because of heavy rain Tuesday, by executing a drop shot which bounced on the top of the net before falling onto Robredo's side of the court for the winner.

But there was disappointment for French Open winner Stan Wawrinka who was unable to carry on due to apparent back problems, with the Swiss quitting to hand a 6-7 (8/10), 6-4, 4-0 victory to Australian Nick Kyrgios.

Wawrinka, who did not play after Wimbledon due to a shoulder injury, called for the trainer as he trailed two breaks in the third set.

After speaking with the trainer and his coach Magnus Norman, the 30-year-old third seed decided to give up the match.

Murray set up a meeting with Gilles Muller -- whom he has defeated twice this season -- as he finished his second round contest with 24 winners and 30 unforced errors and breaking four times.

The pair resumed play Wednesday after

standing 4-4 in the opening set when the rain stopped play on Tuesday night.

"It was a very tough match, there were a lot of nerves near the end of the first set," said Murray. "I won two close games to take it."

"Conditions today were a lot different, there was a lot of wind. It was difficult to attack and play aggressively. I had to chase down a lot of balls and got lucky a few times as well."

Rafael Nadal made an encouraging start to the summer hard-court campaign as the Spaniard recovered to defeat Sergiy Stakhovsky 7-6 (7/4), 6-3.

The seventh seed had to wait for two hours before his match at the Uniprix stadium could begin, after a morning rain shower was followed by a towel-drying effort and repairs to bubbles on the rubberized surface.

But once down to business, Nadal made the most of his opening contest on the cement, winning the first set in a tiebreaker and sweeping the second to reach the third round and a date with Mikhail Youzhny, who beat French ninth seed Gilles Simon 6-1, 6-4.

Nadal is playing in Canada for the first time since winning his third title here in 2013. The world number nine improved to 40-12 on the season.

"I go day by day. Today is a victory that I am happy with," said Nadal.

Dzeko joins Roma

AFP, London

Manchester City striker Edin Dzeko has joined Italian side Roma on a season-long loan with a view to a permanent transfer, the English Premier League club said Wednesday.

The Bosnian joined City from Wolfsburg in January 2011 and went on score 72 goals in 189 appearances for the Blues during his four-and-a-half year stay at Eastlands.

But he was less involved last season, scoring just six goals.

His first full season saw Dzeko score 19 goals in 42 appearances including the stoppage-time header which made it 2-2 against QPR before Sergio Aguero's winner in the fourth minute of added-on time sealed the Premier League title.

Dzeko, 29, has left Manchester as a two-time Premier League winner, having also lifted the FA Cup and League Cup. He scored 50 Premier League goals in 130 appearances.

"Edin Dzeko has joined Roma on a season-long deal with a view to a permanent transfer if certain conditions are met," said a statement on City's website.

Juventus after Chelsea duo

MAIL ONLINE

Juventus have enquired about Chelsea midfielders Juan Cuadrado and Ramires.

The Serie A champions are trying to replace the likes of Andrea Pirlo and Arturo Vidal, and are stepping up their chase to sign Julian Draxler from Schalke.

And they have also asked about the availability of South American duo Cuadrado and Ramires.

Ramires has been on the fringes of the first team at Chelsea for some time, and would improve Juventus.

Chelsea may be willing to deal on Cuadrado, who has struggled to settle in the Premier League.

Bayern eye history

AFP, Berlin



Bayern Munich kick-off the Bundesliga season at home to Hamburg on Friday with captain Philipp Lahm eyeing an historic fourth-straight German league title for Pep Guardiola's swansong.

Guardiola will start the third and final season on his current contract with Bayern looking to maintain their ruthless recent domination of Hamburg.

The Bavarian giants show little sign of releasing their iron-grip on the Bundesliga trophy, which they have won for the last three seasons.

Now, they want to be the first German team to win four titles in a row.

"Nobody has ever achieved that, not even the towering team of the 70s," said Lahm.

"It's a great incentive, the players are thinking about it," while defender Jerome Boateng added "we desperately want to do it".

Bayern have lost midfielder general Bastian Schweinsteiger to Manchester United and recruited Chile's midfield dynamo Arturo Vidal and Brazil winger Douglas Costa, but Hamburg should not present a problem for the Bavarian giants.

They were pounded 8-0 on their last Allianz Arena appearance in February and Hamburg's goalless draw at home to Munich last September was seen as a moral victory for the hosts after 4-1, 3-1, 9-2 and 3-0 drubbings in prior meetings.

Having only stayed in Germany's top flight by winning the relegation play-off for a second year running, Hamburg have boosted their defence by signing Bosnian bad-boy centre-back Emir Spahic.

Wolfsburg are at home to Eintracht Frankfurt on Sunday amidst the battle to keep Germany's footballer of the year Kevin de Bruyne, with Manchester City having offered a reported 66 million euros (\$46.9, US\$73.35m) for the Belgium

FIXTURES

(1330 GMT unless stated)

Friday
Bayern Munich v Hamburg (1830)
Saturday
Bayer Leverkusen v Hoffenheim, Augsburg v Hertha Berlin, Werder Bremen v Schalke, Mainz v Ingolstadt, Darmstadt v Hanover, Borussia Dortmund v Bor. Moenchengladbach (1630)
Sunday
VfL Wolfsburg v Eintracht Frankfurt, VfB Stuttgart v

Wawarinka incensed by Kyrgios remark



Stan Wawrinka's romantic interest Donna Vekic and her 2014 Australian Open mixed doubles partner Thanasi Kokkinakis train together.

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

Dual grand slam winner Stan Wawrinka has slammed Nick Kyrgios after the Australian's astonishing sledge, calling on the governing body to take firm action against a player he said "has big problems".

Wawrinka claimed Kyrgios tried to avoid him after the incident, but the Swiss veteran "confronted him".

"It will stay in the locker room," he said. "But I think there are things, regardless of who you are, regardless of the stress you have on the court, there things that you just can't say. And regardless of whether or not he sidesteps it, I think the way he behaves on the court, he has big problems."

After losing the first set, Kyrgios muttered: "Kokkinakis banged your girlfriend. Sorry to tell you that mate".

The moment caused social media to go

into meltdown and sparked heated reaction worldwide, most condemning the controversial player from Canberra.

Kyrgios was referring to Australian colleague Thanasi Kokkinakis and 19-year-old Croatian player Donna Vekic, who has reportedly been dating Wawrinka following the end of his marriage to Ilham Vuilloud earlier this year.

In an on-court interview immediately after the match Kyrgios was asked about his comment.

"I thought he was getting a bit lippy at me, so I don't know, it's just in the moment sort of stuff. But yeah, I don't really know. I just said it," he said.

Wawrinka also took to Twitter to express his disappointment.

"I just hope that the ATP will take big measures against him because he's young, maybe - but there's no excuse. Every match, he has problems. Every match, he behaves very badly," he said.

Mourinho under fire

AFP, London



Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho found himself at the eye of a storm on Thursday as criticism mounted over reports he has sidelined the Premier League champions' team doctor Eva Carneiro.

British media reports claim Carneiro will no longer attend Chelsea's matches or training sessions after Mourinho lambasted her and physiotherapist Jon Fearn for running onto the pitch to treat Eden Hazard during the latter stages of last weekend's 2-2 draw at home to Swansea City.

The outspoken Mourinho, who said that Carneiro and Fearn had been "impulsive and naive", has received widespread criticism, with Liverpool's former head of sports medicine Peter Brukner branding his behaviour "absolutely appalling".

In a statement on Thursday, the Premier League Doctors' Group described Carneiro's reported demotion as "unjust in the extreme".

It added: "In the publicised incident in last Saturday's game against Swansea, the Chelsea medical staff were clearly summoned onto the field of play by the match referee to attend to a player.

Chelsea and Mourinho are yet to comment on reports that Carneiro's role has changed, but he is expected to address the media at his weekly press conference on Friday.

Chelsea were down to 10 men against Swansea following the dismissal of goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois and were temporarily reduced to nine players as Hazard was obliged to leave the field after receiving treatment.

Mourinho felt that Hazard had not been sufficiently injured to warrant treatment and said that although referee Michael Oliver had waved them on, Carneiro and Fearn's actions showed that they did not "understand the game".

Reports emerged on Tuesday that her role would be changing, but that she would be keeping her position as first-team doctor.

Carneiro, born in Gibraltar to a Spanish father and English mother, joined Chelsea in February 2009 and was promoted to the role of first-team doctor and assistant medical director by Andre Villas-Boas, one of Mourinho's predecessors, in 2011.

The chief executive of the Football Medical Association, Eamonn Salmon, said that Carneiro had been correct not to factor in the status of the match when she decided to go to Hazard's aid.

"We fully support the actions of our members and colleagues in this incident, who acted with integrity and professionalism at all times," he said.

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