

What to WATCH	CHANNEL 9 Sk Kamal Int'l Club Cup Karachi Electric v Ctg Abahani Live from 4:30pm Abahani v East Bengal	Live from 7:30pm SUNDAY De Spin Ghar Bazan v Solid SC Live from 4:30pm Dhaka MSC v Kolkata MSC Live from 7:30pm	TEN ACTION Sri Lanka v West Indies Second Test, Day 3 Live from 10:15am TEN CRICKET Pakistan v England	Second Test, Day 3 Live from 12:00pm STAR SPORTS1 English Premiership West Ham v Chelsea Live from 8:00pm	Arsenal v Everton Live from 10:30pm SUNDAY India v South Africa Fifth ODI (D/N) Live from 2:00pm	STAR SPORTS4 SUNDAY English Premiership Sunderland v Newcastle Live from 5:45pm Man United v Man City	Live from 8:00pm Liverpool v Southampton Live from 10:30pm	STAR SPORTS2 SUNDAY Bundesliga Wolfsburg v Schalke Live from 10:30pm
	DAY'S EVENT	Sk Kamal Int'l Club Cup Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chittagong Karachi Electric v Ctg Abahani Time: 4:30pm Abahani v East Bengal Time: 7:30pm	SUNDAY De Spin Ghar Bazan v Solid SC Time: 4:30pm	Dhaka MSC v Kolkata MSC Time: 7:30pm	NATIONAL CRICKET LEAGUE Day 1 (Four-day Match) All Matches Start at 9:30am	Venue: Bogra Rangpur v Dhaka	Venue: Fatullah Khulna v Dhaka Metro	Venue: Chittagong Chittagong v Sylhet

Selectors in a dilemma

SPORTS REPORTER

The Tigers will make their last appearance in the National Cricket League today when the fifth round of the four-day competition begins at different venues across the country. The preparation camp for the Zimbabwe series will begin on October 29, upon the return of head coach Chandika Hathurusingha, so the Tigers cannot take further part in the tournament till the series ends.

However, two members of Bangladesh's national side will be missing from this round as well. Left-handed opener Tamim Iqbal will not feature for Chittagong against Sylhet at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium as he was rested. "I have been given a rest as I am facing some problems in my leg," said Tamim.

Pacer Mustafizur Rahman will also be missing from Khulna's side when they face Dhaka Metro at Fatullah as the left-arm pacer was rested according to the national team management's instructions.

Zimbabwe will arrive in Dhaka on November 2 to play three ODIs and two T20Is. The Tigers will have a 14-member preparation camp before that. However, the selectors face a dilemma about who to recall from the A-team, which is currently touring South Africa.

Soumya Sarker, Liton Das and Sabbir Rahman are all but confirmed to return home from South Africa and join the national camp after the A team's three-day match concluded yesterday, but selectors

were also struggling to decide which pace bowlers to choose. Chief selector Faruque Ahmed was on a trip to Europe so Minhajul Abedin and Habibul Bashar -- who is now touring with the A team -- have to deal with the team selection.

"Taskin Ahmed and Rubel Hossain have very slim chances of being fully fit for the series, so we have to decide which pacers will return home from South Africa. Al-Amin Hossain, Mohammad Shahid and Kamrul Islam Rabbi are being considered but the most important thing to decide is who will replace them in the A-team," said Minhajul yesterday.

"I will talk with Sumon [Habibul Bashar] tonight [Friday] to take a decision. It's really pathetic that we don't have enough players, especially pace bowlers, to send for the A-team's tours. I am really frustrated with the way things are going in the National Cricket League in terms of pace bowling," he continued.

Bangladesh have had great success in ODIs at home this year, so there is no question of making any major changes to the side which previously featured, but the injuries to Taskin and Rubel have made matters more difficult for the selectors.

Bangladesh's ODI and T20I captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza has also been struggling to get back his fitness after recovering from dengue.

"Mashrafe has still not fully recovered from his illness. The coach will decide whether he will allow Mashrafe to play a National Cricket League match for match practice before the series," Minhajul said.



Maria Sharapova (C) of Russia answers questions during the official draw ceremony of the WTA Finals in Singapore on Friday. The Russian was joined by Lucie Safarova, Simona Halep, Garbine Muguruza, Petra Kvitova, Agnieszka Radwanska, Flavia Pennetta and Angelique Kerber in the season-ending tournament.

PHOTO: AFP

Siddikur slips

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman dropped to joint 34th position in the USB Hong Kong Open after a disappointing second round yesterday. The 30-year-old golfer, who started the day tied for 11th, traded two birdies for a bogey and a double bogey at the Hong Kong Golf Club on Friday for a second round score of one-over-par (71). That took Siddikur's overall tally to two-under-par (138), thanks to a three-under-par he had fired in the opening round on Thursday.

However, Siddikur still trails the new leader, Justin Rose, by seven strokes as the Englishman backed his opening round 65 with a 66 yesterday. One stroke behind Rose is Lucas Bjerregaard of Denmark, with Ian Poulter of England and Lu Wei-chih of Chinese Taipei a further stroke behind.

DRU cricket begins tomorrow

SPORTS REPORTER

The Dhaka Reports Unity will host a cricket tournament beginning at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium tomorrow.

The Pepsi-DRU Cricket Tournament will feature 40 different media agencies -- including 21 teams from print media, 11 teams from television channels, 5 teams from online portals, 2 teams for news agencies and one team from a radio station.

The teams were divided into eight groups of four teams. They will face-off in the group stage matches, from which only the champions will advance into the quarterfinals.

Du Plessis fined

AFP, Mumbai

South Africa batsman Faf du Plessis has been fined 15 per cent of his match fee for "showing dissent" at an umpire's decision during the fourth One-Day International against India, the International Cricket Council (ICC) said Friday.

"The incident happened in the 15th over of South Africa's run-chase when du Plessis showed obvious dissent by raising his right hand after being declared caught behind off Axar Patel," the ICC said in a statement.

Mancunian derby tops billing

AFP, London



Manchester City midfielder Kevin de Bruyne is relishing the chance to inspire his first derby victory against Manchester United when League leaders visit Old Trafford this weekend.

De Bruyne will experience the hostility and passion of the Manchester derby for the first time following his £55 million (\$84 million) move from Wolfsburg in August.

The 24-year-old Belgian has already made a big impact at City and added to his popularity with the stoppage-time goal that clinched a crucial Champions League win against Sevilla on Wednesday.

From the Denis Law flick that effectively relegated United in 1974 all the way through to Mario Balotelli's unveiling of his "why always me" t-shirt during a 6-1 romp four years ago, City fans have always reserved a special place in their hearts for players who can inflict misery on the old enemy.

Now De Bruyne, who has five goals in nine appearances for Manuel Pellegrini's side, has set his sights on joining the select group of City stars who have tormented United.

"I am very excited. These are the moments you live for as a player," De Bruyne said.

"There will be a lot of atmosphere. Great games and derbies are the most important games for the fans. Hopefully we can do good on Sunday."

City have won on three of their last four

visits to Old Trafford, but they lost 4-2 there last season, a result United surprisingly achieved without a goal from Wayne Rooney.

With 11 career goals in the Manchester derby, Rooney has been a constant menace to City and the United captain, whose brilliant overhead kick to win the derby in 2011, would dearly love to mark his 30th birthday on Saturday with another memorable contribution.



WAYNE ROONEY

A Rooney-inspired triumph would be especially timely as Louis van Gaal's team will leapfrog City to the top of the table if they win and Arsenal drop points against Everton on Saturday.

That fixture at the Emirates Stadium has assumed extra importance for Arsenal defender Per Mertesacker, who knows his side can't afford to rest on their laurels following Tuesday's vital Champions League win over Bayern Munich.

The Gunners have won their last three Premier League matches and Mertesacker

said: "We want to play a part in the title race. We need to have a certain consistency otherwise it will be difficult."

"But if you get good wins against the good teams then it breeds confidence."

After a dismal start to their title defence, Chelsea can only look on enviously as their rivals step up their bids to take the trophy from Stamford Bridge.

The Blues are languishing 10 points behind City in 12th place after a campaign



KEVIN DE BRUYNE

scarred by lacklustre displays, rumours of dressing room rifts and outbursts from the increasingly tetchy Jose Mourinho.

Yet Chelsea captain John Terry has seen encouraging signs in the last week following a 2-0 win over Aston Villa and a gritty goalless draw against Dynamo Kiev.

"We are a great side and we will get there with the hunger and the ambition that is in the squad," Terry said.

"When the chips are down, I'd take this squad over any. We've got a great squad of players. More importantly we've still got the

best manager in the world.

"Everyone's fully behind him. There's stories and this and that, but believe me everyone's together."

On Sunday, Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp will take charge of his first home Premier League match when Southampton visit Anfield.

Meanwhile, Steve McClaren has tried to play down the significance of his first Wear-Tyne derby as Newcastle manager.

FIXTURES	
(1400GMT unless stated)	
Saturday	Arsenal v Everton (1630GMT), Aston Villa v Swansea, Leicester v Crystal Palace, Norwich v West Brom, Stoke v Watford, West Ham v Chelsea
Sunday	Bournemouth v Tottenham (1305 GMT), Liverpool v Southampton (1515 GMT), Manchester United v Manchester City (1305 GMT), Sunderland v Newcastle (1100 GMT)

The Magpies head for the Stadium of Light on Sunday determined to break a run of five successive defeats against bitter rivals Sunderland, who are still waiting for their first win this season after a 1-0 defeat in new boss Sam Allardyce's first game at West Bromwich Albion last weekend.

Newcastle are also in the relegation zone so the stakes are high, but McClaren said: "It's just another game. We don't know anything about the five previous derbies."

"It's a fresh game and a great opportunity."

Champagne enters FIFA race

AFP, Lausanne

Former French diplomat Jerome Champagne on Friday officially entered the running to succeed Sepp Blatter as president of football's scandal-hit governing body FIFA.

"I have submitted my candidacy and have the support of five member states (of FIFA)," the 57-year-old Champagne told AFP.

The former deputy general secretary of FIFA is the fourth official candidate for the election, which is scheduled to take place on February 26.

His confirmed rivals are UEFA chief Michel Platini, Prince Ali bin al Hussein of Jordan and former Trinidad and Tobago captain David Nahkid.

The election to replace Blatter, who has been FIFA president since 1998 and who is standing down, comes at a time of crisis within world football's governing body.

Prosecutors are investigating top FIFA officials, including Blatter and Platini as part of a wide-ranging clamp-down on fraud and corruption at the heart of the Zurich-based organization.



Liverpool defender Alberto Moreno is sent flying by a tackle from Ruben Kazan captain Oleg Kuzmin during their Europa League encounter at Anfield on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

Klopp frustrated again

AFP, Paris



Jurgen Klopp's Anfield bow as Liverpool manager ended in a 1-1 draw against Rubin Kazan in the Europa League on Thursday as fellow British hopefuls Celtic and Tottenham went down to defeat.

Emre Can cancelled out Marko Devic's well-taken opener for Russian side Rubin to notch the first goal of the Klopp era, but despite playing against 10 men for 54 minutes following Oleg Kuzmin's dismissal, Liverpool could not find a winner.

The fit-again Christian Benteke, on as a second-half substitute, came closest with a shot that hit the post, but he could not prevent Liverpool registering a third successive 1-1 draw in Group B and the second stalemate of Klopp's tenure after Saturday's 0-0 draw at Tottenham Hotspur.

The one consolation was that Liverpool held on to second place in the group ahead of next month's return fixture in Kazan, although they are now four points below leaders FC Sion who won 1-0 at Bordeaux.

"When you come for the first time to a new house, you normally get a present," Klopp said.

"I'm not satisfied with my present tonight, but it's only the first time and I'll come again. We'll see next time. Maybe it's better."

Celtic were 2-0 down to Molde inside the first 18 minutes in a game which saw former Manchester United favourite Ole Gunnar Solskjaer take over for a second spell in charge of the Norwegian side.

Mohamed Elyounoussi made the most of a poor Dedryck Boyata pass before finding Ola Kamara who drove the ball past goalkeeper Craig Gordon after 11 minutes.

Seven minutes later it was 2-0 thanks to Vegard Forren's left-footed effort.

Kris Commons reduced the deficit in the 55th minute for Celtic but Molde restored their two-goal advantage just a minute later through Elyounoussi.

Fenerbahce recorded their first win in the same Group A thanks to a last minute Fernandoao strike against Ajax.

Molde lead the way with seven points, three ahead of Fenerbahce while Ajax and Celtic have two points each.

Tottenham slipped 2-1 at Anderlecht despite Danish midfielder Christian Eriksen giving them the lead after just four minutes.

But Anderlecht, who lost to the north Londoners in the 1984 UEFA Cup final, were back level before the quarter of an hour when right back Guillaume Gillet volleyed in a corner past Hugo Lloris.

Anderlecht bagged the points on 75 minutes when substitute Frank Acheampong crossed from the left for informant Stefano Okaka to charge into the box to slide the ball past Lloris despite one of his boots having fallen off.