

<b>What to WATCH</b>	<b>GTV &amp; STAR SPORTS 1</b> ICC U-19 World Cup 3rd Place Play-off Bangladesh v Sri Lanka Live from 9:00am Bundesliga	Dortmund v Hannover Live from 8:30pm <b>GTV &amp; PTV SPORTS</b> Pakistan Super League Karachi v Quetta Live from 5:30pm	Lahore v Peshawar Live from 10:00pm <b>STAR SPORTS 2</b> Bundesliga Cologne v Eintracht Live from 11:30pm	<b>STAR SPORTS 4</b> English Premiership Sunderland v Man United Live from 6:45pm Crystal Palace v Watford Live from 9:00pm	Chelsea v Newcastle Live from 11:30pm <b>SONY ESPN HD</b> Primera Liga Real Madrid v Bilbao Live from 9:00pm	<b>SONY SIX</b> Serie A Juventus v Napoli Live from 1:45am (Sunday)
	<b>DAY'S EVENT</b>	<b>ICC U-19 World Cup</b> Time: 9:00am	3rd Place Play-off Venue: Fatullah Bangladesh v Sri Lanka			

## Fiery Tamim powers Zalmi

STAR SPORT DESK

Swashbuckling Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal produced his best innings so far in the Pakistan Super League (PSL), smashing a flawless unbeaten 80 as Peshawar Zalmi beat Islamabad United by seven wickets at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium. In the process he became the PSL's highest scorer with 237 runs at an average of 75.

After Peshawar skipper Shahid Afridi chose to field, a disciplined and incisive bowling display kept Islamabad to 153 for six.

In the chase, Tamim took on the responsibility of lifting the momentum and guiding his team home after the dismissal of Mohammad Hafeez. He reserved special punishment for the spinners in his 58-ball innings studied with six fours and three sixes, hitting the shot of the day when he stepped down to Saeed Ajmal and hit an inside-out cover drive that went racing to the cover boundary. In Ajmal's next over he repeated the shot for six and followed it up with another maximum over the bowler's head. He reached his 50 off 37 balls and by then had swung the momentum decisively in Peshawar's favour, before Shahid Yousuf played a supporting role to take them home with nine balls to spare.

Earlier yesterday, Bangladesh wicketkeeper-batsman Mushfiqur Rahim made his PSL debut for Karachi Kings, who rode on a spectacular all-round display from Ravi Bopara to crush Lahore Qalandars by 27 runs.

Mushfiqur came in to bat in the 19th over, and scored an unbeaten 10 off seven balls with one boundary. Later he also effected a stumping and took a catch. His Bangladesh and Karachi teammate Shakib Al Hasan, however, did not enjoy a good outing as he was out for nine and not given the ball during Karachi's defence of 178. The spotlight belonged to Bopara as he hit a stunning 43-ball 71 before backing it up with an astonishing spell of six for 16 in four overs.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

**ISLAMABAD UNITED:** 152 for 6 (Latif 59, Misbah 32; Wahab 2-24)

**PESHAWAR ZALMI:** 153 for 3 in 18.3 overs (Tamim 80 not out, Yousuf 27 not out, Hafeez 25)

**Result:** Peshawar Zalmi won by 7 wickets.

**KARACHI KINGS:** 178 for 5 (Bopara 71 not out, Nauman 35; Qalandar 2-26)

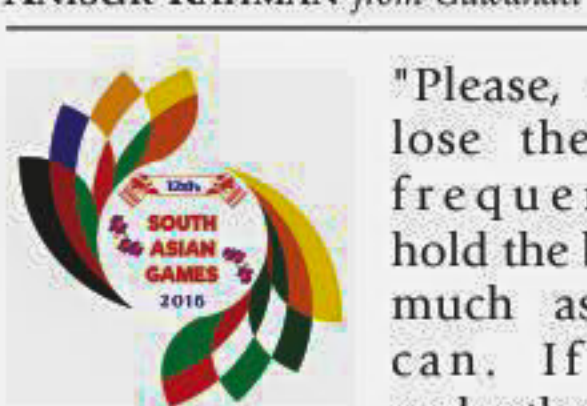
**LAHORE QALANDARS:** 151 for 8 (Delport 55, Gayle 37; Bopara 6-16)

**Result:** Karachi Kings won by 27 runs

# Moreno stresses on possession

## Booters face India in semifinal today

ANISUR RAHMAN from Guwahati



"Please, don't lose the ball frequently; hold the ball as much as you can. If you make the same mistakes tomorrow [Saturday], then you will get no medals and will have to go back to Dhaka empty-handed," was coach Gonzalo Sanchez Moreno's appeal to his charges ahead of today's semifinal match against hosts India at the Indira Gandhi Athletics Stadium in Guwahati.

Having emerged as group champions with four points, defending champions Bangladesh achieved their first target of reaching the semifinals of the coveted event of the South Asian (SA) Games. However, Bangladesh's performances in their matches against Bhutan and Nepal were not encouraging enough to suggest that they could thwart the hosts, who returned to the race boldly with a 3-2 win over Maldives after losing their first match to Sri Lanka.

It was understandable why former Barcelona youth team player Moreno, urged his troops to keep their cool on the pitch and maintain possession during yesterday's training session, especially since keeping the ball has been a major problem for Bangladesh so far.

Nevertheless, two-time champions Bangladesh have no alternative but to display their best against the home side if they want to reach the final, a stage where Bangladesh have been ever-present -- making it to the final during six of the eleven previous editions.

"Bangladesh are always favourites, but it's not easy to play against any team in their backyard," said Moreno. "If we want to win against India, we need to play controlled football. I spoke to the players and told them 'don't make mistakes and don't lose control of possession. If you make mistakes tomorrow, you will have to pay a big price.'"

The 43-year-old Spaniard addressed the players for ten minutes before the start of yesterday's light training session at the outer stadium of the match venue. Most of his focus was on instructions about what to do and what to avoid doing against India. Having played two games in three days, the players were a bit worn out, so they had recovery sessions in the morning and afternoon. However, India are in better shape, getting an extra day's rest.

"India played two matches seriously and they are strong opponents. But the most important thing is to play our football. If we can display our normal performance, it will be possible to post a win. Bangladesh is only focused about their performance, not that of the opposition," said Moreno, who believes his charges will play better football on the pitch of the main stadium.

"Tomorrow [Saturday] we will play on another ground which is supposed to be better than that of the last two venues, which was very very bad. I believe the players can deliver their standard performances on the new ground," Moreno concluded, defending his charges, although at the start of the conservation the coach urged journalists not to file negative reports about the booters.



Bangladesh coach Gonzalo Sanchez Moreno (C) conducts a training session at the Indira Gandhi Athletics Stadium in Guwahati yesterday on the eve of their SA Games semifinal against archrivals India.

PHOTO: STAR

Sevilla set up a meeting with Barcelona in the final of the Copa del Rey after a 2-2 draw away to Celta Vigo on Thursday saw them win their semifinal 6-2 on aggregate.

Unai Emery's side had done the damage in last week's first leg at home, winning 4-0 to leave Celta with a mountain to climb in the return at Balaidos.

However, in the driving Galician rain, Celta did make Sevilla fret as they went 2-0 up on the night thanks to a brace either side of half-time by Iago Aspas.

But Ever Banega quickly pulled one back for Sevilla and Swedish striker John Guidetti struck the post with a penalty for Celta after he had been brought down in the box by goalkeeper Sergio Rico.

Sevilla then equalised on the night when Vitolo set up Yevhen Konoplyanka for an easy finish late on.

Sevilla and Barcelona, who met in the final of the UEFA Super Cup in Tbilisi at the start of the campaign with Barca winning 5-4 in extra time, will now clash again in the final of the Copa del Rey, with the game scheduled for May 21 at an as yet undecided venue.

## Morris trumps Root

AFP, Johannesburg



Joe Root hit his second successive century for England but again finished on the losing side after an astonishing assault by South African all-rounder Chris Morris squared the series at the Wanderers Stadium on Friday.

South Africa won the fourth one-day international by one wicket to set up a series decider in Cape Town on Sunday.

Man-of-the-match Morris, dropped on 14 when South Africa were eight down and still 52 runs short of victory, slammed 62 off 38 balls.

Adil Rashid, the man who dropped Morris, was brought on to bowl with the scores level and bowled Morris with a googly. But last man Imran Tahir punched the next ball square for the winning boundary.

That the match went so deep seemed unlikely when England were floundering at 108 for six after being sent in to bat.

But Root made 109 and steered England to a total of 262. Chris Woakes scored 33 and helped Root put on 95 for the seventh wicket.

Stuart Broad bowled Centurion century-maker Hashim Amla for nought in the first over of the South African innings. The rest of Broad's match was less successful, although he had De Villiers dropped on nine off the first ball of his second spell.

De Villiers immediately went on the attack, hitting Broad's next two balls for four and six. He hurried to 36 off 27 balls and was threatening to swing the match back in South Africa's when Woakes ran him out with a direct hit.

No South African batsman was able to score more than Farhaan Behardien's 38 until Morris took full advantage of his let-off, hitting three sixes and four fours.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

**ENGLAND:** 262 all out in 47.5 overs (Hales 50, Root 109, Woakes 33, Rashid 39; Abbott 2-57, Rabada 4-45, Tahir 3-46)

**SOUTH AFRICA:** 266 for 9 in 47.2 overs (Morris 62, Behardien 38, De Villiers 36; Topley 2-39, Rashid 2-38, Stokes 2-46)

**Result:** South Africa won by 1 wicket

## FIFA court bans Valcke for 12 years

AFP, Zurich

A FIFA tribunal on Friday banned former secretary general Jerome Valcke for 12 years for misconduct ranging from involvement in a World Cup ticket scam to "sightseeing" travel at the expense of the world body.

FIFA's ethics committee tribunal said that Valcke, who was fired last month, was banned "for 12 years from all football-related activities".

The 54-year-old Frenchman had previously denied any wrongdoing after he was implicated in the sale of black market sales of tickets for the 2014 World Cup.

## Chelsea 'a team of Zorro's'

AGENCIES, London

Chelsea manager Guus Hiddink has confirmed Diego Costa has suffered a broken nose in training but will be available to face Newcastle.

"Costa broke his nose in a duel with one of the other players. He will wear a mask. We are a Zorro team," Hiddink told reporters, referring to facial injuries already picked up by Nemanja Matic and Cesar Azpilicueta this season.

## Quack! Team all-out for 0

AFP, London

A cricket team were bowled out for nought in just 20 balls to lose a game by 120 runs, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) reported Thursday.

The rare result came during the Kent regional finals of the ECB's national six-a-side championship when the Bapchild team failed to trouble the scorers in an indoor game against Christ Church University in Canterbury.

Christ Church spinner Mike Rose told the Crawley Observer newspaper: "We all couldn't really believe it to be honest, bowling a team out for 0, especially indoors."

"I think I was the only fielder to touch the ball off the bat!"

## Tata talks about Alexis, Leo

AGENCIES, Barcelona

The Argentina boss Gerardo Martino has revealed a strange situation with Alexis Sanchez during his time at Camp Nou and also gave some insight into the difficulty of being Lionel Messi's coach.

Martino says he had a bizarre "bust-up" with Arsenal forward during their time at Barcelona - because the Chilean read in the papers that they were fighting.

Alexis spent three seasons at Barca between 2011 and 2014 and played for Martino in 2013-14, prior to his move to the Gunners.

The Chile attacker played his finest football for the Catalan club under the Argentine, but Martino revealed a curious anecdote with the 27-year-old in an exclusive interview.

"I had a problem with Alexis Sanchez," he said. "We were just about to start an exercise in training. He was 50 metres away. I called him: 'Ale, Ale'. And he started sprinting towards me as if it were a match."

"I thought: 'What's up with him to make him come so fast?' So I asked him: 'What's up? Are you crazy?' And he said: 'Well, as we're fighting...'"

"Who's fighting?' I asked him. And he said: 'Didn't you see the paper today? That's what it says so, well, I thought there was a problem.' So I told him to sit down and have a coffee with me: 'Listen, that's a lie.'"

And Tata added: "It's normal that players read things. I don't know if Alexis bought the paper or not. Probably someone went to him and said: 'Hey Alexis, have you seen the paper? Are you fighting with the coach?'"

"It's a good thing that someone tells you these things."

Martino also revealed it can be difficult to have to field so many questions about Lionel Messi, but says he learned at Barcelona that it was necessary to answer all kinds of queries on the 28-year-old attacker.

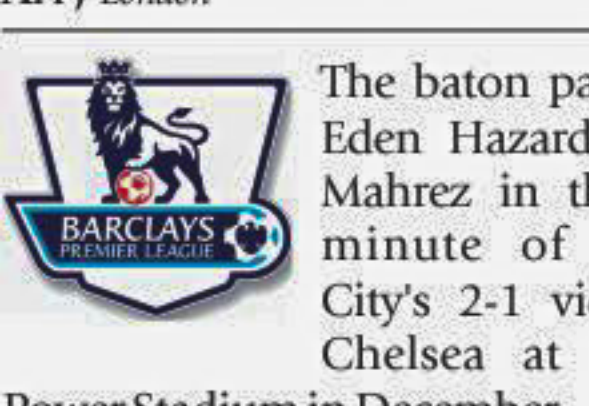
"It gets a little tiresome," he said. "First of all because you have to talk about all sorts of topics with respect to a player of yours. Of course, the best in the world, but he's a player."

"One day they asked me what I thought about a fine they had given him in the street because he didn't have the baby seat in the back of the car. I swear it was like that."

"It's fine to answer things that interest everyone, like whether or not he will come to the national team, whether he plays on the wing or in the centre. It's impossible to respond

# Taking the EPL by storm

AFP, London



The baton passed from Eden Hazard to Riyad Mahrez in the second minute of Leicester City's 2-1 victory over Chelsea at the King Power Stadium in December.

As Hazard ambled over to close Mahrez down on the Leicester right, the Algerian nonchalantly popped the ball between his legs before advancing and taking a shot at goal, leaving the Chelsea number 10 in his wake.

Hazard was the Premier League's showboater-in-chief in 2014-15, but his crown has been stolen by Mahrez, whose 14 goals and 10 assists make him one of the favourites to succeed the Belgian as England's Player of the Year.

The two players were born a month apart in 1991 and both are quick, skilful forwards who learnt their trade in northern France -- Hazard at Lille, Mahrez at Le Havre.

But it is where their similarities end that the symbolism begins.

Hazard, a £32 million (\$46.3 million, 41.3 million euros) signing from Lille in 2012, has become the sleep-walking incarnation of Chelsea's slump from champions to mid-ranking also-rans.

Leicester have taken their place at the summit and in the impish Mahrez, a £400,000 bargain buy from Le Havre,

they possess a figure who embodies the Premier League's startling democratisation.

He tied Manchester City in knots last weekend, inspiring Leicester to a sensational 3-1 win, and on Sunday it is Arsenal's turn, as Claudio Ranieri's men look to defend their five-point lead at the top of the table.

Born in Sarcelles, an ethnically diverse northern suburb of Paris, to an



RIYAD MAHREZ

Algerian father and Moroccan mother, Mahrez began his career with local club AAS Sarcelles and joined fourth-tier Quimper in 2009.

Frequently dismissed by coaches for being too scrawny, he cites the loss of his father when he was 15 as a moment that hardened his resolve to succeed.

"I don't know if I started to be more serious, but after the death of my dad things started to go for me," he told The

Guardian in September. "Maybe in my head I wanted it more."

Paris Saint-Germain and Marseille, his boyhood team, watched him at Quimper, but he opted to remain in the northwest and join the acclaimed youth set-up at Le Havre, whose alumni include Juventus star Paul Pogba.

Mahrez broke into the first team in 2012 and after tracking him for 18 months, Leicester made their move in January 2014.

"Everybody was saying to me: 'Riyad, England is not for you, it is too physical, too strong,'" he said.

"But when I got here I really liked it. When I started training and playing games I thought to myself: 'I was stupid to hesitate.'"

"If I was still playing in the second division in France, nobody would have watched me."

Four months after arriving in England, he was celebrating the Championship title and by the August he was a Premier League footballer.

It took him a season to find his feet among England's elite, but since scoring twice in a 4-2 win over Sunderland on the opening day of the current campaign, the 24-year-old has been flying.

He became the first Algerian to score a Premier League hat-trick in December with a treble at Swansea City.

## Sevilla set up final with Barca

AFP, Madrid

Sevilla set up a meeting with Barcelona in the final of the Copa del Rey after a 2-2 draw away to Celta Vigo on Thursday saw them win their semifinal 6-2 on aggregate.

Unai Emery's side had done the damage in last week's first leg at home, winning 4-0 to leave Celta with a mountain to climb in the return at Balaidos.

However, in the driving Galician rain, Celta did make Sevilla fret as they went 2-0 up on the night thanks to a brace either side of half-time by Iago Aspas.

But Ever Banega quickly pulled one back for Sevilla and Swedish striker John Guidetti struck the post with a penalty for Celta after he had been brought down in the box by goalkeeper Sergio Rico.

Sevilla then equalised on the night when Vitolo set up Yevhen Konoplyanka for an easy finish late on.

Sevilla and Barcelona, who met in the final of the UEFA Super Cup in Tbilisi at the start of the campaign with Barca winning 5-4 in extra time, will now clash again in the final of the Copa del Rey, with the game scheduled for May 21 at an as yet undecided venue.

Sevilla set up a meeting with Barcelona in the final of the Copa del Rey after a 2-2 draw away to Celta Vigo on Thursday saw them win their semifinal 6-2 on aggregate.

Unai Emery's side had done the damage in last week's first leg at home, winning 4-0 to leave Celta with a mountain to climb in the return at Balaidos.

However, in the driving Galician rain, Celta did make Sevilla fret as they went 2-0 up on the night thanks to a brace either side of half-time by Iago Aspas.

But Ever Banega quickly pulled one back for Sevilla and Swedish striker John Guidetti struck the post with a penalty for Celta after he had been brought down in the box by goalkeeper Sergio Rico.

Sevilla then equalised on the night when Vitolo set up Yevhen Konoplyanka for an easy finish late on.

Sevilla and Barcelona, who met in the final of the UEFA Super Cup in Tbilisi at the start of the campaign with Barca winning 5-4 in extra time, will now clash again in the final of the Copa del Rey, with the game scheduled for May 21 at an as yet undecided venue.