

What to WATCH

GTV & PTV SPORTS
Pakistan Super League
 Lahore v Quetta
 Live from 10:00pm
TEN ACTION
UEFA Europa League
 Fenerbahce v Moscow
 Live from 11:00pm

UEFA Champions League
 PSG v Chelsea
 Live from 1:45am (Wednesday)
TEN SPORTS
UEFA Champions League
 Benfica v Zenit
 Live from 1:45am (Wednesday)

CHARLTON TO HAVE SOUTH STAND NAMED AFTER HIM

England great Bobby Charlton is to have the South Stand at Manchester United's Old Trafford stadium named after him, 60 years on from his debut for the club. The Premier League side said on Monday that the formal naming would take place at the home game against Everton on April 2. Charlton, a United director, joined the club as an apprentice in 1953 and made his debut in October 1956. The 1966 World Cup winner made 758 appearances for the club, scoring a record 249 goals. "Bobby is quite simply, the most iconic figure in English football history. A player, a diplomat, a gentleman and a tireless worker for charity," said executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward in a statement. The South Stand contains the only original part of the 1910 stadium infrastructure, as well as the directors' box and old players' changing rooms. --REUTERS



Bangladesh women's handball team pose with the national flag at the Lakshmbai National Institute of physical Education in Sonapur after winning the silver medal in the South Asian Games yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

More silver and bronze

SPORTS REPORTER from Guwahati
 Bangladesh had something to cheer about on the penultimate day of the 12th South Asian Games as they bagged three silver and four bronze medals in Guwahati yesterday.

All the three silver medals came from the women's events of handball, kabaddi and shooting while the four bronze medals came from taekwondo, men's football and men's handball. Out of the two bronze medals in taekwondo, Tahamida Tabassum won in 52kg category while Habibur Rahman grabbed bronze in 81kg category.

With yesterday's feat, Bangladesh raised their medals tally to four gold, 15 silver and 50 bronze medals.

HANDBALL
 Bangladesh women's handball team had to be content with a silver medal after suffering a massive 25-45 goal defeat to India in Sonapur, some 20kms from the Guwahati town.

The Bangladeshi girls were far behind the Indians in every aspect -- technique, tactic, fitness, speed, movement. With full-house crowd supporting the home side from gallery, the Indian left-hand oriented players were almost unstoppable in both planned attack and counter attacks while Bangladesh goalkeeper Shila Roy, who was flown in to India yesterday after the funeral of her mother, looked shaky under the post and could hardly stop the opponent players.

"India were much ahead of us technically and tactically. The senior team have played its first international tournament after eight years while the Indian team played at least 25 international matches in last two years," coach Didar Hossain said after the match.

KABADDI
 Like the women's handball team, the women's kabaddi team also never appeared to pose a threat for India, who won the gold medal match with a 36-12 points win.

The Bangladeshi girls could manage only 12 points from 'the out' while Indian girls earned 13 bonus points out of 36 as well as two points from lona.

"What you have seen in the match is our standard. Even though we had a target of giving India a run for the money, we could not do so due to playing the final less than 24 hours after the semifinal," said captain Shahnaj Parvin Maleka.

Explaining the strength of Indian team, Maleka said, "If you shake hands with them, you can realise how hard their hands are. They do gym regularly while we can't even play domestic matches regularly."

SHOOTING
 After failure in the men's 10m air pistol team event, the women's team ensured a bronze medal as Ardina Ferdous, Armin Asha and Turin Dewan jointly scored a total of 1103 points, some 30 points less than the India team, who confirmed gold medal.

Asha and Ardina also qualified for

the individual 10m air pistol event but they could not finish among the top three as Asha finished fourth while Ardina had to quit the competition due to a glitz of her pistol.

FOOTBALL
 Bangladesh footballers found some consolation in a bronze medal they won after beating Maldives 5-4 in tiebreaker following a 2-2 stalemate in regulation time.

Playing without influential midfielder Jamal Bhuiyan and without the coach Ganzalo Sanchez Moreno at the dug-out, Bangladesh went ahead in the ninth minute when Nabib Newaj Jibon converted a penalty kick and raised tally to three goals from four matches. However, Bangladesh threw away the lead in the 38th minute, thanks to goalkeeper Rasel Mahmud Liton's failure to read a 35-yard free-kick from Ali Fasir.

Maldives went ahead with the second strike from Fasir in the 65th minute before Sohel Ranal levelled the margin four minutes later.

The match rolled into shootout after the extra time failed to find a winner. Atiqur Rahman Fahad, Mashuk Mia Jonny, Rubel Mia, Yeasin Khan and Raihan Hasan duly converted their shots while Essa Ismail missed the fifth attempt for Maldives, handing Bangladesh the bronze medal.

This is the second bronze medal for Bangladesh men's team in SA Games football alongside three silver and two gold medals they won previously.

Meanwhile, the South Asian Olympic Committee yesterday decided that the 13th edition of the SA Games will be held in Nepal in 2018.

Momentum with Chelsea

AFP, Paris

Two months have passed since the draw for the Champions League last 16 was made and much has changed in that time as Paris Saint-Germain prepare to meet Chelsea in one of the headline ties on Tuesday.

When the sides were paired together for the third successive season in December's draw at UEFA's Swiss headquarters, PSG appeared the undisputed favourites.

That was as much down to Chelsea's travails as PSG's almost flawless form, but just three days later Jose Mourinho was sacked and the Premier League side have since begun a steady recovery under Guus Hiddink.

They remain in the bottom half of the Premier League but they have gone 12 games unbeaten, including a 5-1 thumping of Newcastle United on Saturday as Diego Costa scored his eighth goal in that time.

"Now we have more confidence to go there and to play. Paris have a great team, great players, but we go there to try to win the game," Willian told Chelsea TV.

PSG are not exactly in bad shape, with a 1-0 loss at Real Madrid in the group stage their only defeat in 39 games this season.

They have not lost a domestic match since March last year and had won 16 games in a row before a 0-0 draw with Lille on Saturday, when coach Laurent Blanc decided to rest top scorer Zlatan Ibrahimovic, captain Thiago Silva, Thiago Motta and Maxwell.

However, PSG's build-up to the match has been overshadowed after defender Serge Aurier was suspended for insulting Blanc and many of his team-mates in a video posted on social media.

Aurier would have started, as would highly influential midfielder Marco Verratti, who Blanc says is not fit enough having featured sparingly in a wearying run of 12 games in the last six weeks.

"They (Chelsea) didn't have a match last midweek, unlike us. The Champions League merits more preparation than we have been able to put in as we have been playing every three days," complained Blanc, whose side beat Chelsea in the last 16 a year ago after losing in the quarter-finals in 2014.

Hiddink says he will not take any risks on captain John Terry, who came off injured against Newcastle, while Kurt Zouma is out for the season with a knee injury.

Tuesday's other match sees Zenit St Petersburg and their Portuguese coach Andre Villas-Boas face Benfica in Lisbon.

The long Russian mid-season break means Zenit have not played competitively since December and they have already been in Portugal for some winter training.

"The main difficulty lies in the fact that we will meet with a team which is faster and more mobile, because it continues to play in a championship without interruption," said Villas-Boas last week.

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FACTFILE

COACHES:
 Paris Saint-Germain - Laurent Blanc (FRA) -- 50 yrs
 Chelsea - Guus Hiddink (NED) -- 69 yrs

LEADING SCORERS IN ALL COMPETITIONS:
 Paris Saint-Germain - Zlatan Ibrahimovic (27 goals)
 Chelsea - Diego Costa (12 goals)

DOMESTIC LEAGUE PERFORMANCE:
 Paris Saint-Germain - Top of Ligue 1, a huge 24 points clear of second-placed Monaco with 12 games left. Still unbeaten this season, they are on course to win a fourth straight title before the March international break.
 Chelsea - Despite going 10 Premier League games unbeaten, Chelsea have won just four of those and they are 12th in the table, nine points clear of the relegation zone but 14 adrift of the Champions League qualifying berths.

GROUP STAGE PERFORMANCES:
 Paris Saint-Germain - Second in Group A behind Real Madrid
 Chelsea - Winners of Group G ahead of Dynamo Kiev
 Champions League best performances:
 Paris Saint-Germain - semifinals 1995
 Chelsea - winners 2012

PREVIOUS MEETINGS:
 PSG 0-3 Chelsea - 2004/05 Champions League group stage
 Chelsea 0-0 PSG - 2004/05 Champions League group stage
 PSG 3-1 Chelsea - 2013/14 Champions League quarter-final, first leg
 Chelsea 2-0 PSG - 2013/14 Champions League quarter-final, second leg
 PSG 1-1 Chelsea - 2014/15 Champions League last 16, first leg
 Chelsea 2-2 PSG after extra time - 2014/15 Champions League last 16, second leg

Babacar steers Fiorentina

AFP, Milan

Fiorentina striker Khouma Babacar bundled home a late winner in a dramatic finish to secure a 2-1 win over Inter Milan that reignited La Viola's hopes of European football next season.

Babacar was a late replacement for Josip Ilicic, who had helped set up Borja Valero's 60th minute leveller following Marcelo Brozovic's 26th minute opener for Roberto Mancini's visitors.

And the Senegal striker seized the day when Samir Handanovic failed to hold Federico Bernardeschi's weighted cross-shot into the six-yard box, bundling home at the second attempt in the first minute of added-on time.

The win moved Fiorentina two places up to third place, eight points behind new leaders Juventus, who pushed Napoli down to second at a point adrift with a 1-0 win in Turin on Saturday.

Inter remain fifth but are now 12 points off the pace, four behind Fiorentina and only two ahead of city rivals AC Milan, who secured a precious 2-1 home win over Genoa earlier on Sunday.

Japan midfielder Keisuke Honda hit a late winner in an inspirational performance for Milan as they continued their resurgence with a 2-1 win over Genoa.

Honda has enjoyed something of an individual resurgence of late and the attacking midfielder stung Mattia Perin's gloves with a rasping shot that the 'keeper palmed out of the top corner on four minutes.

It takes two to tango



Barcelona stars Lionel Messi (L) and Luis Suarez.

AFP, Barcelona

Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez combined to score one of the classiest penalties in recent times as Messi passed the ball into Suarez's path for the Uruguayan to complete his hat-trick in a 6-1 rout of Celta Vigo on Sunday. Barca were already leading 3-1 when Messi -- who has missed 17 of 83 penalties in his career -- was chopped down inside the area after an outrageous piece of skill on the by-line.

However, instead of handing the spot-kick to Suarez, Messi went one better by rolling the ball into the path of the onrushing former Liverpool striker to slot home.

The goal brought back memories of another Barca legend Johan Cruyff when he and Jesper Olsen played a one-two for the Dutchman to score when playing for Ajax against Helmond Sport in 1982.

French duo Thierry Henry and Robert Pires tried a similar trick without success as they botched a penalty for Arsenal against Manchester City in 2005.

Spanish sports daily AS quickly christened the move as the "penalty of the century."

And Barca defender Jordi Alba admitted the South American duo had caught even their teammates by surprise.

"Leo always invents things and it was perfect," said the Spanish international.

"We hadn't seen it in any training session, we didn't know anything."
 "We all remember Cruyff's goal," said Barca boss Luis Enrique.
 "I wouldn't dare to do it because I would tread on the ball."

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CORPORATE BOOKING

Water Kingdom will remain reserved on 16 February, 2016 (Tuesday) for Dealers' Day Out of RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited.

Water Kingdom will remain open for all from 17 February, 2016 (Wednesday).

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