

GTV & PTV SPORTS
Pakistan Super League
Karachi v Peshawar
Live from 5:30pm
Islamabad v Lahore
Live from 10:00pm

SONY SIX
Primera Liga
Sporting Gijon v Barcelona
Live from 11:30pm
TEN ACTION
UEFA Champions League

Roma v Real Madrid
Live from 1:45am (Thursday)
TEN SPORTS
UEFA Champions League
Gent v Wolfsburg
Live from 1:45am (Thursday)

BEYONCE SECRETLY SUNDERLAND FAN

'Queen Bee' is set to perform at the Stadium of Light in June, and the Black Cats' boss has urged supporters to buy tickets to see the club's biggest fan in action. Beyonce has never revealed her choice of Premier League team, but Allardyce seems to have been reliably informed that she is a follower of a Black Cats. The American superstar is set to perform at the Stadium of Light in June, and in a tweet that almost certainly wasn't composed by a member of Sunderland's communications team, Allardyce has attempted to convince supporters to buy tickets to see the club's most famous fan. "Remember to get your Beyonce tickets tomorrow! She is live at the Stadium of Light on Jun 28 & I hear she is a secret Sunderland fan too!"



কু গোল্ডকাপ
য় ফুটবল টুর্নামেন্ট ২০১৫



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina enjoys her time with the girls from Kalshindur Primary School, the champions of the Bangamata Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib Gold Cup Primary School Football Tournament, after the final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: BFF

Carlos takes a swipe at Barca

AGENCIES, Madrid

Real Madrid would have been heavily criticised for attempting Lionel Messi's trick penalty, according to Roberto Carlos.

The Barcelona star's decision to roll his spot-kick sideways to allow Luis Suarez to complete his hat-trick in the 6-1 rout of Celta Vigo has triggered significant debate in recent days.

Both Celta boss Eduardo Berizzo and Barcelona coach Luis Enrique have defended Messi from accusations of disrespect for his opponents, though a handful of players from across Europe have criticised the incident.

And former Madrid full-back Roberto Carlos has little doubt that such a penalty at the Santiago Bernabeu would have received widespread condemnation.

"If we did that Messi penalty at the Bernabeu, it's a lack of respect," he told Cadena SER's 'El Languero'.

The veteran also took a swipe at Barca by suggesting that they, unlike Madrid, rely far too heavily on their attacking trident of Messi, Suarez and Neymar.

Kalshindur's hat-trick title

SPORTS REPORTER



Kalshindur Primary School retained their supremacy in the Bangamata Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib Gold Cup Primary School Football Tournament with a 3-1 victory over Khodorkor Primary School of Rajshahi in the final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. This was the third title in three editions for the school from Dhobaura in Mymensingh, which has already lent more than ten footballers to the women's national team.

Meanwhile in the Bangabandhu Gold Cup Primary School Football Tournament final held earlier at the same venue, Rajkhal Primary School of Pekua, Cox's Bazar beat to Moricha Primary School of Birganj, Dinajpur 3-2 in tie-breaker to emerge as the new champions. The regulation time had ended 1-1, with Abid Hasan's strike for the eventual champions being cancelled out by a goal from Bipul Hasan.

Both the champion teams received trophies and cash awards of Tk 1 lakh each while the runners-up teams got Tk 75 thousand each as well as trophies.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina witnessed the finals and later distributed awards among the teams. Primary and Mass Education Minister Mostafizur Rahman Fizar was also present there along with other officials of the ministry and the Bangladesh Football Federation.

This year a total of 10, 79, 653 students from 63, 509 schools participated in the preliminary round of the Bangabandhu Gold Cup Primary School Football Tournament while a total of 10, 78, 327 students from 63, 431 schools participated in the preliminary round of the Bangamata Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib Gold Cup Primary School Football Tournament. Seven teams from each of the two tournaments made it into the final rounds, which were held in Dhaka from February 10 till yesterday.

CUJAD felicitates Mahfuza

SPORTS REPORTER

The Chittagong University Journalism Association, Dhaka (CUJAD) yesterday organised a reception for the department's student Mahfuza Khatun Shila, who won two gold medals from the South Asian Games in India recently. Mahfuza was accorded with flower bouquets at the program, which was held at the National Press Club in Dhaka in the afternoon.

Zika doesn't worry Nadal

AGENCIES, Rio de Janeiro

Former No. 1 Rafael Nadal says he's "not scared" of the Zika virus as he prepares in Brazil - the center of the viral outbreak - for this week's Rio Open tennis tournament.

Roma plot Real upset

AFP, Milan



The prospect of spoiling Zinedine Zidane's Champions League coaching debut with Real Madrid may be formidable, but Roma midfielder Seydou Keita believes his side can upset the 10-time record champions in their last 16, first leg clash.

"How we line up against them is down to the coach, but for me, we have to believe in ourselves and go on the pitch convinced," said the Malian ahead of Wednesday's tie in Rome's Stadio Olimpico.

Former Barcelona midfielder Keita knows his opponents well having won 11 matches with the Catalans in the 17 times he played against the arch Liga rivals.

"This game will be difficult, but not impossible," added Keita of Real's miserable record against Italian teams in the competition.

Roma coach Luciano Spalletti, brought back to the club recently following the sacking of Frenchman Rudi Garcia, was at the helm when the Italians prevailed over two legs in 2008.

Roma beat Real 2-1 at home, a score they would repeat at the Santiago Bernabeu before being humbled 3-0 by eventual winners Manchester United in the quarter-finals.

Real have made it to the semi-finals of the competition the past five seasons, claiming their historic 10th title, 'La Decima', in 2014 when current manager Zidane was assistant to Carlo Ancelotti.

Efforts to go one step further last year were rebuffed when Juventus claimed a 2-1 win in Turin and booked their final place against Barcelona thanks to a 1-1 draw at the Bernabeu.

But there is little chance Zidane is entertaining another early exit and the former France and Juventus great comes to Rome with only one defeat from his six-game tenure so far, during which Real have scored 23 goals.

Despite it being his Champions League debut as coach, Zidane's past experience in the competition gives him the knowledge of what it takes to succeed in Europe's premier club competition.

"When you're a player, you dream of playing in the World Cup, but you can dream of the Champions League every year," said Zidane.

"We are prepared and we want to do something important in this competition."

Although Welsh winger Gareth Bale remains sidelined with a calf strain, Real welcomed left-back Marcelo, who missed a 4-2 win over Athletic Bilbao at the weekend due to a dislocated shoulder, back to their matchday squad.

With central defender Pepe sidelined, Raphael Varane will keep his place alongside Sergio Ramos despite being sent off in a poor display at the weekend.

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FACTFILE

- COACHES:**
Roma - Luciano Spalletti (ITA) -- 56 yrs
Real Madrid - Zinedine Zidane (FRA) -- 43 yrs
- LEADING SCORERS IN ALL COMPETITIONS:**
Roma - Miralem Pjanic (10 goals)
Real Madrid - Cristiano Ronaldo (32 goals)
- DOMESTIC LEAGUE PERFORMANCE:**
Roma - Fourth in Italy's Serie A, 10 points behind leaders Juventus. They are two points behind Fiorentina in the race for the third and final Champions League berth.
Real Madrid - Third in Spain's La Liga, four points adrift of Barcelona who also have a game in hand. Unbeaten in nine league games, averaging over four goals per outing during that stretch. Key game at home to neighbours Atletico, a point clear of Real in second, awaits them on February 27.
- GROUP STAGE PERFORMANCES:**
Roma - Second in Group E behind Barcelona
Real Madrid - Winners of Group ahead of Paris Saint-Germain
- CHAMPIONS LEAGUE BEST PERFORMANCES:**
Roma - runners-up 1984
Real Madrid - winners 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1966, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2014
- PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**
Roma 1-2 Real Madrid - 2001/02 Champions League first group stage
Real Madrid 1-1 Roma - 2001/02 Champions League first group stage
Roma 0-3 Real Madrid - 2002/03 Champions League first group stage
Real Madrid 0-1 Roma - 2002/03 Champions League first group stage
Real Madrid 4-2 Roma - 2004/05 Champions League group stage
Roma 0-3 Real Madrid - 2004/05 Champions League group stage
Roma 2-1 Real Madrid - 2007/08 Champions League last 16, first leg
Real Madrid 1-2 Roma - 2007/08 Champions League last 16, second leg

Neymar's assets frozen

AP, Sao Paulo



Brazilian authorities have blocked assets of Barcelona star Neymar, including a yacht, a jet and several properties worth almost \$50 million.

A Sao Paulo federal court rejected an appeal from the Brazilian striker last week and started issuing warrants to freeze the assets worth 192 million reais (almost \$50 million). Brazilian media reported on Monday.

Last year, Neymar, his family and related businesses were found guilty of evading 63 million reais in taxes (almost \$16 million) between 2011 and 2013 when he was playing for Brazilian club Santos. He has denied any wrongdoing.

The 23-year-old Neymar used the jet to travel to Brazil for World Cup qualifying matches and holidays.

Iagaro Jung Martins, an auditor with Brazil's federal tax agency, told The Associated Press that Neymar isn't likely to go to jail if he pays what regulators say he owes.

"He can still appeal that decision, but it is a step forward," Martins told the AP. "Nothing changed to what was in place last year: if he pays what he owes, the case is closed. Our legislation isn't too harsh."

The assets seizure is the latest in a streak of bad news for the Brazilian star off the pitch.

On February 2 Neymar and his father were questioned for three hours in a Madrid court about the player's transfer to Barcelona. The case was brought by Grupo Sonda, which invested in Neymar early in his career and was allegedly entitled to 40 per cent of the total transfer amount.

Barcelona maintains the deal cost the club 57.1 million euros (then \$74 million). Santos officially received a payment of 17.1 million euros (\$18.5 million), with the remaining 40 million euros (\$55.5 million) going to a company owned by Neymar's father, Neymar Santos. But investigations in Spain later showed that Barcelona spent nearly 83.3 million euros (\$90 million) to acquire Neymar.

Former and current Barcelona presidents and representatives of Santos were also questioned. The Brazilian club also claims to have been hurt by the transfers. All parties denied any wrongdoing.

Blatter appears before appeals committee

AFP, Zurich



Disgraced FIFA president Sepp Blatter appeared before a FIFA's appeals committee on Tuesday to fight an eight-year ban from the sport for ethics violations.

Blatter arrived at FIFA headquarters in Zurich 90 minutes before the start of the hearing at 0800 GMT.

His hearing follows a similar appeal by the fallen head of European football, Michel Platini, on Monday.

Blatter and Platini were banned by FIFA's ethics committee in December after being found guilty of breaches surrounding a mysterious 2 million Swiss franc (\$2 million, 1.8 million euros) payment Platini received from Blatter in 2011.

Both men, once the most powerful figures in world football, have insisted that the payment was part of a legitimate oral contract reportedly for consulting work performed by Platini a decade earlier.

The notorious 2011 payment is also part of a criminal probe by Swiss prosecutors targeting Blatter, in which Platini has been questioned in a capacity that falls between a witness and an accused person.

Blatter and Platini have been the most high-profile casualties in the unprecedented, wide-ranging scandal that has seen senior football executives suspended or fired, with 39 people indicted for corruption by the United States.

The saga has provoked endless discussion about the complicated relationship between Blatter and Platini, who previously were allies before the relationship turned publicly sour.

As the two men fight to preserve their football careers, the campaign to replace Blatter is heating up with the vote 10 days away.

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• ফিরতি ফোন কল-এ প্রশ্নের সেরা উত্তর দিয়ে প্রতি সপ্তাহে জিতে নিতে পারো আকর্ষণীয় iPadAir2

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