

What to WATCH

SONY ESPN

Copa America

Panama v Bolivia

Live from 5:00am (Tuesday)

Argentina v Chile

Live from 8:00am (Tuesday)

DAY'S EVENT

Dhaka Premier Cricket

League

Time: 9:00am

Venue: SBNS

Kalabagan CA v Kalabagan KC

Venue: BKSP-3

Abahani v CCS

Venue: Fatullah

Prime Bank v Prime

Doleshwar

Green Delta Premier Div

Hockey

Mariner Youngs v Wari Club

Time: 2:00pm

Sonali Bank v Bangladesh SC

Time: 4:00pm

Venue: Maulana Bhasani

Hockey Stadium



King Novak reigns supreme

AFP, Paris



Novak Djokovic captured a first French Open at the 12th time of asking on Sunday, becoming just the third man in history to hold all four Grand Slam titles at the same time.

The world number one downed old rival Andy Murray 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to claim a 12th career major and join Don Budge in 1938 and Rod Laver, in 1962 and 1969, as the only players to simultaneously possess the French Open, Australian Open, US Open and Wimbledon trophies.

Djokovic also put himself halfway to the calendar Grand Slam, last achieved by Laver 47 years ago.

But he did it the hard way, being broken in the eighth game of the fourth set as he served for the title and then squandering two championship points in the 10th before he sealed victory when Murray netted a backhand.

"It's a very special moment, the biggest of my career," said Djokovic, one of only eight men to complete the career Grand Slam and who had lost his previous three finals in Paris.

"I felt today something that I never felt before at Roland Garros, I felt the love of the crowd."

Djokovic imitated former three-time champion Gustavo Kuerten by drawing a giant heart in the Paris clay before collapsing inside it.

"I drew the heart on the court, like Guga who

gave me permission to do. My heart will always be with you on this court."

Playing in his 20th final at the majors and sixth in succession, the Serb superstar is the first man since Jim Courier in 1992 to win the Australian and French Opens back-to-back.

Victory also allowed Djokovic to stretch his winning record over 29-year-old Murray to 24-10 overall and 8-2 in Grand Slams.

Novak Djokovic becomes the fourth player in the Open era to achieve a career Grand Slam, having won all of the majors: Australian Open (6), Wimbledon (3), US Open (2), French Open (1).

He also became the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 -- and third overall -- to hold all the four major titles at the same time.

He now has the fourth-most Grand Slam titles, behind of Roger Federer (17) and Rafael Nadal and Pete Sampras (14 each).

Murray remains with two Grand Slam titles as he failed to become the first winner of the French Open since Fred Perry 81 years ago.

"What Novak's achieved in the last 12 months is phenomenal, winning all the Grand Slams in one year is an amazing achievement. It's so rare in tennis, and for me personally, it sucks to lose," said Murray.

Before a ball was hit, spectators stood to applaud Muhammad Ali after an image of the boxing legend

appeared on the giant video screen high up on the Philippe Chatrier court.

Djokovic was quickly into his stride, breaking Murray to love in the first game and shrugging off having to play five days in the last six.

The British star broke back to level before reeling off the next four games for a 4-1 lead as Djokovic's game quickly and unexpectedly unravelled.

Murray remained in charge, finding time to loudly berate a French television interviewer for climbing uninvited into his player's box.

Djokovic then argued with umpire Damien Dumusois for refusing to have a point replayed at 15-0 as Murray served for the first set.

But the Serb was horribly out of sorts even before that spat with his 13 unforced errors proving fatal.

The world number one had to shake off a break point in the opening game of the second set before Murray imploded, dropping serve to fall 2-0 behind.

Djokovic misread the geometry on a dropshot which would have given him a double break in the fourth game but he was soon 4-1 to the good.

Djokovic, with the Paris crowd loudly on his side for the first time in four final appearances, broke for 2-1 in the third set which became 4-1 off a sublime running, backhand, cross-court drop-shot.

The Serb saved four break points to go to 5-1 before securing the set against a weary-looking Murray to get to his first French Open final.



Serbia's world number one Novak Djokovic took his place in the pantheon of tennis greats as he defeated Britain's Andy Murray to win the French Open at the Roland Garros yesterday, which made him the eighth male player -- and the fourth in the Open era -- to win the Career Grand Slam. PHOTO: AFP

Pele recalls Ali's jab

AGENCIES, Rio de Janeiro

Brazil legend Pele joined those paying tribute to the life of the late, great Muhammad Ali, revealing that the sporting icon told him "football is more beautiful than boxing, but I'm more beautiful than you".

Tributes have since flooded in for Ali, who transcended his sport in more ways than one, becoming an inspiration for a generation in the 1960s and 70s. In football, Pele was arguably of a similar stature in that period, spearheading the attack of the great Brazilian teams on the international stage.

The 75-year-old was good friends with Ali, and paid tribute while in Manchester at an event to mark the 25th anniversary of the city's humanitarian aid charity Human Appeal.

"He used to say he was my brother," Pele told reporters. "We had many opportunities to be together in time... we worked together for children in Unicef. He once told me, 'Football is more beautiful than boxing, but I am more beautiful than you'."

"I saw him last year. We went to his house, we did an interview for a hospital in Brazil -- a children's hospital I work for."

Pele then took to Instagram, writing: "The sporting universe has just suffered a big loss," he wrote. "Muhammad Ali was my friend, my idol, my hero. We spent many moments



Pele embraces Muhammad Ali after Pele's final game as a member of the New York Cosmos at Giants Stadium in New Jersey on October 1, 1977. Pele presented Ali with the game ball at the conclusion of the match. PHOTO: MUHAMMAD ALI'S TWITTER

together and always kept a good connection throughout the years. The sadness is overwhelming. I wish him peace with God."

EURO 2016 COUNTDOWN 4 DAYS TO GO

Belgium must deliver

REUTERS, Brussels

Brimming with talent and buoyed up by a quarter-final place at the 2014 World Cup, Belgium will be a popular choice as an outside bet at the European Championship but need key players to be on form after they lost captain Vincent Kompany to injury.

The Red Devils return to the tournament for the first time since co-hosting the event with the Netherlands in 2000 but an exciting generation of talent will be no demure debutants, having already had a taste of the big time in Brazil two years ago.

Their performance in reaching the quarter-finals -- they exited after a 1-0 loss to Argentina -- plus a convincing qualifying campaign for Euro 2016 led to a five-month stint at the head of the FIFA world rankings.

Belgium would be the first to scoff at the idea that they are the world's best team but they are strong in all departments. Coach Marc Wilmots has an abundance of talent, led by Kevin De Bruyne, Axel Witsel, Thibault Courtois and the mercurial Eden Hazard, who is set to become the new captain after a groin injury sidelined

Kompany.

Belgium will need Hazard to emerge from the funk that has characterised his club season with Chelsea and show more than just the occasional moment of magic if they are to emerge from the opening-round group they share with Italy, Ireland and Sweden.

If Hazard is on song, and working well in tandem with De Bruyne, then Belgium will have two much-feared players, capable of dictating the outcome of most matches.

There is a large contingent of English-based players in the Belgian squad who will need to be fresh after a taxing club season which has seen many of their players battle injury.

Wilmots has sought to keep his side under the radar.

Only days ago he proclaimed his side were nowhere near favourites. "We hope to do as well as we did at the World Cup and maybe a little better. A place in the last four would be fantastic," he told Belgian media. "France, Germany and Spain are the favourites for me."

There will be many who disagree and see Belgium as a top team at the tournament. The country has once reached the final,

Ali's funeral open to all

AFP, Louisville

The world is invited to the funeral of Muhammad Ali in his hometown on Friday where the boxing legend's life will be celebrated with a public funeral procession and memorial service.

Ali died Friday aged 74 after health problems complicated by a long battle with Parkinson's disease. The official cause of death was septic shock due to unspecified natural causes.

The dazzling fighter -- whose words, often delivered in catchy rhymes, were as devastating as his punches -- had been admitted to an Arizona hospital earlier in the week.

On Sunday, Ali's relatives will accompany his body from Scottsdale, Arizona to Louisville, his hometown.

After a private family funeral on Thursday, Ali's coffin will be transported through the streets of Louisville on Friday, before a public memorial service at an arena.

The procession will "allow anyone that is there from the world to say goodbye," family spokesman Bob Gunnell said.

Louisville lowered flags to half-staff in his honor, as fans flocked to the boxer's modest childhood home, now a museum, to pay their respects.

The interfaith service is to be conducted at Louisville's KFC Yum! Center in accordance with "Muslim tradition" and in the presence of an imam.

Ali will be buried at Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville, where he was born in 1942.

Amir returns for Eng Tests

AFP, Lahore

Fast bowler Mohammad Amir has been named in Pakistan's Test squad to face England in a four-match series starting next month, six years after he received a spot-fixing ban against the same opponents.

The 24-year-old is expected to receive his British visa in the next couple of days following a special request for leniency from the Pakistan Cricket Board.

Chief selector Inzamamul Haq said Amir would receive a visa.

"Amir is expected to get visa in the next couple of days and (Mohammad) Hafeez is also cleared by medical staff so we have included him," Inzamam told a press conference.

Vardy wants Arsenal move, says Giroud

REUTERS, London

France and Arsenal forward Olivier Giroud has fuelled speculation that Jamie Vardy is on his way to the Gunners by saying he has heard the Leicester City striker is keen to move.

"I have been told that Jamie wants to join us and it's very good news for us," the striker said after France's game against Scotland on Saturday.

British media reported on Friday that Arsenal, had triggered a buy-out clause in Vardy's contract.

Brazil's lucky escape

AFP, Los Angeles



A controversial decision spared Brazil's blushes at the Copa America Centenario on Saturday as the five-time world champions opened their campaign with a goalless draw against Ecuador.

Ecuador looked to have taken a sensational lead at the Pasadena Rose Bowl midway through the second half when Brazil goalkeeper Alisson Becker fumbled a cross from Miller Bolanos into his own net as he stooped to gather at the near post.

But as Ecuador's bench and players celebrated, the match officials whistled for a goal kick, after ruling that the ball had gone out of play shortly before Bolanos crossed into the six-yard box.

Replays of the incident appeared to suggest the ball was fractionally still in play and that Brazil had been saved from a losing start to Group B by an officiating error.

Brazil's players left the field to scattered boos from the 53,158 crowd at the Rose

Bowl, scene of the South American giants' 1994 World Cup final triumph.

"I saw it 25 times on video just now and the ball never went out completely -- maybe 65 percent but not completely," said Ecuador head coach Gustavo Quinteros. "The linesman is so sure of himself even though he is 50 metres away," the Bolivian complained.

Brazil manager Dunga said he hadn't been close enough to judge whether the goal should have been allowed

"From the angle I was at it was difficult to see if the ball went out," Dunga said. "The players who were closer said it did."

In the day's other Group B game, Peru got off the mark with a 1-0 victory over Haiti in Seattle which saw striker Paolo Guerrero surpass Teofilo Cubillas as his country's leading international goalscorer.

Guerrero, 32, headed home his 27th international goal in the 61st minute at CenturyLink Field, home of the Seattle Seahawks NFL team.

The win was just about deserved for Peru, who created the better chances but struggled to break down a well-organized Haiti defense.



Ecuador's Miller Bolanos (L) thought he had scored when his cross rattled the post before bouncing off Brazilian goalkeeper Alisson Becker and into the back of the net. However, the referee waved off Ecuador's fervent appeals, as his linesman indicated that the ball had crossed the line. PHOTO: AFP

52 penalties in shootout!

AGENCIES, Prague

A game in the Czech Republic was decided by 52 penalty kicks on Friday, the longest shoot-out in history.

Fifth division teams SK Batov 1903 and FC Frystak drew 3-3 after 90 minutes of a regional championship match.

It took 52 spot-kicks for the shoot-out to end 22-21 to Batov. The previous world record was 48 kicks.

Frystak had opportunities to win at 4-4, 11-11 and 14-14 but missed the penalties in front of a crowd of around 150. The full shoot-out was filmed by a fan and uploaded on YouTube.

Hrebacka was quoted as saying "we wanted to go home", with chairman Vratislav Rudolf joking about missing a "family barbecue".

Kante on his way to PSG?

AGENCIES, Paris

N'Golo Kante could leave Leicester City, reports Le Parisien.

According to the reports, Paris Saint Germain have triggered Kante's release clause of 25 million euros and have offered him a provisional five-year contract, subject to the player's approval of leaving the English Premier League.

Kante had previously said that he would consider offers after the Euros.

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