



What to WATCH

BTV WORLD & BOISHAKHI TV
Bangladesh Premier League
Mohammedan v Muktijoddha
Live from 4:00pm

TEN 1 HD
Sri Lanka v Australia
Third Test, Day 1
Live from 10:30am

PTV SPORTS
England v Pakistan
Fourth Test, Day 3
Live from 4:00pm

STAR SPORTS4
English Premiership
Hull City v Leicester City
Live from 5:30pm

Everton v Tottenham
Live from 8:00pm
Man City v Sunderland
Live from 10:30pm

STAR SPORTS 2
Rio Olympic Games 2016
Live from 5:30pm &
12:30am (Sunday)

TEN 3
West Indies v India
Third Test, Day 5
Live from 8:00pm

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League
Mohammedan v Muktijoddha
Time: 4:00pm
Venue: Rafiq Uddin Bhuiyan Stadium, Mymensingh



Fiji players celebrate their win in the men's rugby sevens final against Great Britain during the medal ceremony of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games at the Deodoro Stadium on Thursday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Chen, Silvia test positive

AGENCIES, Undated

Chinese swimmer Chen Xinyi has failed a doping test at the Rio Olympics, the official Xinhua news agency reported Friday, citing the Chinese Swimming Association (CSA). Meanwhile, Bulgarian athlete Silvia Danekova confirmed that she had failed a doping test at the Olympics in Rio, with Bulgarian television saying she tested positive for blood booster EPO. Chen tested positive for hydrochlorothiazide, a diuretic, on Sunday, it said. On that day the 18-year-old came fourth in the women's 100m butterfly final - just 0.09 seconds away from a place on the podium. Chen has applied to the International Olympic Committee for her B sample to be tested and for a hearing, it added. The 33-year-old Silvia also insisted on her innocence: "I am not guilty, I have done nothing wrong. Four tests were done, three of them were negative. We found out that my fourth test was positive."

Fiji celebrates their 'biggest day'

AFP, Suva

Fijians erupted in celebration Friday, setting off flares and dancing in the streets while a national holiday was declared after the tiny nation won its first ever Olympic medal - and gold at that. The South Pacific island country came to a standstill at the start of the rugby sevens final against Great Britain, and by half-time the fireworks had started and there was a monumental chorus of car horns as it became evident Fiji would win and create history. "This is the biggest day in Fiji's history. Everyone is celebrating," said photographer Feroz Khalil who watched the final on the big screen at the main stadium in Suva. "It was crazy. There were people chanting, crying, tears were flowing. I'm feeling so happy." Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, who was in Rio de Janeiro to watch the final, announced there would be a public holiday on August 22, the day after the team arrive home. In a message to the nation Bainimarama said "every Fijian is rejoicing" around the world. "Never before has the Fijian spirit soared so high as it does today. Never have we stood so tall as a nation." Fiji Rugby Union chief executive John O'Connor told AFP nearly all of Fiji's 900,000 residents would have gathered around television sets in the 110 populated islands to watch the historic event. "Everyone is very excited. Wherever there was a TV in a village there were people gath-

ered round. There were about 2,000 people packed in the main stadium watching the game on the big screen. "Some people may go to work now but I don't think they will be very productive." Many who did go to work finished early to join the festivities as the blue Fijian flag flew proudly from homes, businesses and vehicles. Fiji scored first after just 55 seconds, led 29-0 at half-time and finished up thrashing Great Britain by an emphatic 43-7. "By the time it was half-time people were already celebrating. It was amazing," Khalil said. Traffic was gridlocked in the capital Suva where the streets were filled with people singing and dancing. In the rugby-obsessed island nation, the gold medal victory was also seen as a chance to put behind them the memories of four coups over the past 30 years of political upheaval. "The win was truly a historic moment for Fiji," said Shailendra Singh, a former sports journalist and now head of journalism at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji. "The sevens game is more than a game in Fiji and it is a major unifying force." "The entire nation, young, old, men, women, children and adults and people from across the political divide will come together in celebration." It is only the second Olympic medal won by a South Pacific island nation, following the silver claimed by Tongan boxer Paea Wolfgramm who lost the super heavyweight final to Wladimir Klitschko at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Murray battles past Fognini, and conditions

ATIQUE ANAM from Rio de Janeiro

It's been very windy in Rio de Janeiro for the last couple of days. And the wind has often been accompanied by rain, making it quite unbearable at times. That swirling wind, Andy Murray believes, got him in trouble against Italian Fabio Fognini on Friday. But he said he dug deep, and played not-so-pretty tennis to make sure he got through to the next round. And that he did. The defending champion is through to the quarterfinals after battling back against the Italian for a 6-1, 2-6, 6-3 victory for a quarterfinal berth. "I'm just happy to get through," Murray later told reporters at the mixed zone. "It was very hard conditions today. The goal on days like today is not to play well, but to try to win. Thankfully I'm still there." The scoreline might suggest a straight-forward victory for the Brit, and it seemed like it would be easy sailing when he sealed off the first set 6-1 in just about half an hour. The second set, though, proved to be a different affair altogether as the Italian

staged a brilliant comeback after breaking Murray in his third service game and taking the next three games to wrap up the second set 6-2. The Italian went from strength to



strength and forged an eight-game winning streak as Murray's game started to unravel. The Brit was hitting the ball long, making too many unforced errors, visibly not in command of the conditions. Fognini was 3-0 up at that time when Murray started his resurgence. The Brit showed why he

is a three-time Grand Slam winner and the defending champion in this event. He exhausted his opponent with an array of powerful backhands and long rallies to take the last six games on the trot and wrap up what has been his most difficult tie so far. Murray explained how he had to deal with the elements and overcome them. "The conditions were very, very hard today. There was a big shadow on the court making it hard to pick up the ball and wind was swirling everywhere. I just tried to keep fighting and waited for him to make mistakes. "If you have a consistent wind throughout the course of the match, it's easier to deal with. If you're playing in the wind you hit the ball flatter and harder; if you're playing against the wind, you play with more topspin," Murray explained. "Today it was one shot you were playing with the wind and the next you were playing against it which meant you had to change your technique all the time. I just tried to be patient. It wasn't pretty at times, but the main thing is I'm through and maybe will play a better match next time."

Lee awed by selfie fame

AFP, Seoul

South Korean gymnast Lee Eun-Ju, who found herself in the international spotlight after taking a selfie with a North Korean competitor in Rio, said Friday she was surprised by the extraordinary response to such a simple act. A snapshot of Lee and North Korea's Hong Un-Jong posing for the selfie on Lee's phone swiftly went viral on Twitter, with many hailing the image as a perfect illustration of the Olympic spirit. The photo has been tweeted and shared hundreds of thousands of times, with the likes of IOC president Thomas Bach describing it as a "great gesture." In a radio interview with South Korean broadcaster KBS on Friday, the 17-year-old said the decision to grab a selfie with Hong had been totally spontaneous. "I saw her and asked to take a picture together as a souvenir," Lee said. "I didn't expect such a huge reaction so I'm still awed by that," she added. The two had never met before Rio.

RIO SNIPPETS

ATIQUE ANAM from Rio de Janeiro

COOL KENDERESKI

Tamas Kenderski is a very good swimmer. He just won a bronze medal the other day in the 200m butterfly, behind only Michael Phelps and Japan's Masai Sakato. And he is good-looking. To top it all, he speaks good English too... Or at least he thinks he does. The 19-year-old Hungarian decided that he would not be needing a translator and would be answering questions in English at the press conference on his own. The first question was: "Having clocked a better time in the heats than Phelps how much of a disappointment was it to finish with only a bronze?" The answer was a very confident "Yeah, sure." And the whole room burst into a fit of laughter.

BANGLADESH IN HIGH DEMAND

A Turkish journalist at the Common Media Centre was asking whether this reporter was from Bangladesh. The reply in the affirmative got him very excited and he started asking whether he could get the contact of any of the seven Bangladeshi athletes representing the country at the Rio Olympic Games. One might be wondering why on earth Bangladeshi athletes would become such sought-after names in the Olympic village when the country has never even won an Olympic medal of any colour. Well, that is exactly the reason, and that reason was exacerbated by a report on Friday's USA Today illustrating the sorry fact. The story further said that Bangladesh have for the first time got one athlete, Siddikur Rahman, who qualified for the games on merit. The demand for Siddikur among the journalists was especially high.

Ayana smashes 10,000m WR

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Ethiopia's Almaz Ayana smashed one of the longest-held records in athletics here Friday to win the 10,000m and claim the first gold of the Olympic track and field competition. The 24-year-old pulled away from the field midway through the race and never let up before powering home in 29min 17.45sec. Her winning time was nearly 14 seconds quicker than the previous world best over the distance of 29:31.78 set by Wang Junxia in Beijing in 1993. Marlon Samuels (39 not out) and Jermaine Blackwood (20 not out) held up India's push for a first-innings advantage, as the West Indies reached 194 for three in reply to the tourists' first innings total of 353 at lunch on the fourth day of the third Test in St Lucia on Friday. A draw remains the most likely result after the third day was lost to rain.

Biles crushes rivals

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

US sensation Simone Biles added the Olympic women's all-around to her team title for a second gymnastics gold title in Rio on Thursday. The 19-year-old was peerless as she crushed her rivals with a powerful display of acrobatics and tumbling in the Rio Olympic Arena. She led a US 1-2 ahead of Aly Raisman with Russia's Aliya Mustafina taking her second straight Games all-around bronze. It keeps three-time world all-around champion Biles' bid for a record five women's gymnastics golds on track with vault, beam and floor finals to come in Rio. Biles finished 2.1 points ahead of Raisman, wrapping up the title with a dynamic floor routine which included her signature tumbling "Biles" move named after her. The 1.45m (4ft 9ins) Texan, competing in her first Olympics, had already helped the US women to a second straight team gold. She launched her challenge by nailing a difficult Amanar vault scoring 15.866 despite a wobbly landing to lead Raisman by 0.233. Mustafina pulled out 15.666 on uneven bars on which she is the reigning Olympic champion to lead at the halfway point by 0.034 as Biles hit 14.966 on her weakest apparatus. Biles surged on front again with 15.433 on the beam as Mustafina dropped back after dropping back after errors. The American led Mustafina by 1.533 going into the final floor rotation on which she is the reigning three-time world champion. Raisman, the Olympic floor champion, pulled out a flawless floor routine to snatch silver which was only bettered by Biles.

Younis, Shafiq punish Eng

AFP, London

Asad Shafiq and Younis Khan both scored hundreds as Pakistan built a slender first-innings lead on the second day of the fourth Test against England at The Oval on Friday. At stumps, Pakistan were 340 for six, 12 runs in front, with Younis 101 not out after sharing a fourth-wicket partnership of exactly 150 with Shafiq (109). Promoted up the order from number six, Shafiq's century came immediately after he twice made nought during England's 141-run win in the third Test at Edgbaston. His innings was all the more poignant as flags above The Oval pavilion were flying at half-mast in honour of Pakistan legend Hanif Mohammad, who died aged 81 on Thursday. Mohammad had said the equally diminutive Shafiq's technique was as close as anyone had come to his own. **SCORES IN BRIEF** ENGLAND: First innings 328 (Moeen 108, Bairstow 55; Sohail 5-68) PAKISTAN: First innings 340 for 6 (Shafiq 109, Younis 101 not out)

SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER



(Top) Brazilian football legend Pele posted a message on his Twitter account to American swimmer Michael Phelps, writing: "Congrats @MichaelPhelps on all of your success. You have set an incredible example for future Olympians." (Top R) Hollywood star Matthew McConaughey is having a blast at the Rio Olympics. The US native was seen passionately cheering for Phelps at his race yesterday. (R) The refugee team's Popole Misenga was overwhelmed by cheers in his 90kg judo match, saying: "I walked in and heard all the fans, I mean I am from the refugee team! I felt so happy. I realized, I am also a judoka."

