



What to WATCH

BTV WORLD & BOISHAKHI TV
Bangladesh Premier League
Muktijoddha v Sk Russel
Live from 4:30pm

Team BJMC v Sk Jamal
Live from 7:30pm

TEN 1 HD
West Indies v India
Fourth Test, Day 1
Live from 8:00pm

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

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League
Muktijoddha v Sk Russel
Time: 4:30pm

Team BJMC v Sk Jamal
Time: 7:30pm
Venue: BNS

Women's golf underway after 116 yrs

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Miriam Nagl of Brazil became the first woman in 116 years to hit an Olympic golf shot as competition got under way at the Rio Games on Wednesday.

Women's golf is back for the first time since 1900, when American Margaret Abbott won the Paris Games' nine-hole event from a field of 10.

In Rio, a global lineup of 60 golfers is seeking gold.

In contrast to a men's tournament that concluded on Sunday and was skipped by the sport's biggest male stars, all of the world's eligible top women golfers are competing in Rio, led by world number one Lydia Ko of New Zealand.

The chants that rocked the stands

ATIQUÉ ANAM from Rio de Janeiro

Brazilians have earned quite a name for themselves with their expressions of support and disapproval during these Olympic Games. While it has a good bit about it -- a boisterous cheer for their home teams and individuals -- it also has a darker shade to it in the form of boos and jeers for the opposition.

That theme was played out once against at the Maracana on Tuesday where Brazil were playing against Sweden in the semifinals of the women's football competition.

It was a weekday and there were close to 70,000 people in attendance long before the kick-off. The audience was large as it was loud, and it was extremely partisan. No surprise in that.

By the time this reporter arrived at the stadium, the first half was already over. But there was still enough time and excitement left in the match -- all of the second half plus the extra time culminating in a penalty shoot-out -- to soak in the electrifying atmosphere.

Every time the Brazilians made a forward move, even if inside their own half, there was a deafening roar from the crowd. Even when the hosts were defending a goal-scoring opportunity by the Swedes, there were loud

cheers as though the hosts had scored a goal. In fact on the way up the staircase of the stadium towards the end of the first half there was such a loud roar that it seemed that Brazil had just scored a goal, only to find on the android app that the scoreline was still 0-0.

The crowd kept bellowing out all sorts of chants from the stands every now and then, some of which were very nice while others a bit rude. 'Ole Ole, Marta Marta' and 'Braasil, Braasil' were there, and there was 'Formiga, Formiga' (Formiga is a very popular player among the crowd it seemed) every time the midfielder got the ball forward.

Then there was an instantaneous chant reserved for Rafaela Silva, the Olympic gold medallist judoka, who had made an impromptu appearance during the match.

There were some rude gestures pointed towards the referee and opposition players too. But the most common was the 'Mil gols so Pele; Maradona Cheirador', a song which has been belted out at almost all venues during these games, regardless of the sport. This song has a nice rhythm to it, and when sung by thousands, it resembles the ones we usually hear English hooligans chanting during Premier League matches.

The Pele and Maradona part does make it



The result may not have been to their liking, but the near-capacity crowd at the Maracana for the Brazil-Sweden Olympic women's football tournament match got their fill of fun by cheering and chanting Marta and Co on fiercely on Tuesday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

quite an appealing song, even if one doesn't have a clue what the song is all about. But thanks to a local journalist, who happens to speak English, the meaning of the song was finally deciphered.

It is a song belittling Maradona and praising Pele, the journalist explained. This

song was created as a riposte to a song made by the Argentines after Brazil's 7-1 defeat against Germany during the World Cup in 2014. And since then this song has become the go-to number when they need to invoke some national pride, and indulge in a little bit of banter.

Top IOC official arrested

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Brazilian police on Wednesday arrested top International Olympic Committee member Patrick Hickey over illegal sales of Rio Olympics tickets.

Police said in a statement that Hickey, the 71-year-old head of the European Olympic Committees as well as the Irish national committee, was detained at a luxury Rio hotel.

According to Brazilian media, Hickey tried to escape during the operation.

The reports said he fell ill during his arrest and was taken to hospital.

City police acted to "carry out an arrest warrant and search warrant against Patrick Joseph Hickey, from Ireland, a member of the International Olympic Committee," police said in a statement.

"He was arrested," a spokesman confirmed.



Gabriel Jesus (L) and captain Neymar (C) combined to destroy Honduras in Brazil's 6-0 semifinal victory at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Neymar leads Brazil into final

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Neymar scored twice, including the fastest goal in Olympics history, as Brazil coasted into Saturday's gold medal football match with a 6-0 thrashing of Honduras at Rio's iconic Maracana.

The hosts now have the chance to ease some of the pain caused by a 7-1 humiliation at the hands of Germany on home soil at the 2014 World Cup by delivering Brazil's first football gold medal.

A mouth-watering rematch with the Germans is in store should the world champions see off 1996 winners Nigeria in Wednesday's other semi-final, later in Sao Paulo.

Neymar had been much criticised for his lacklustre displays in two 0-0 draws to start the tournament, but his transformation back from the nation's whipping boy to golden boy was capped by his determination to open the scoring after just 15 seconds.

The Barcelona star hounded defender Johnny Palacios to rob possession on the edge of the Honduras box and goalkeeper Luis Lopez's attempt to atone for his teammate's error only ricocheted the

ball off Neymar's midriff and into an empty goal.

For a moment, Neymar's bravery looked like it may have come at a cost as he had to be stretchered off after being wounded in the challenge.

However, there was no repeat of his tears of anguish when carried off with two broken vertebrae in his back that ended his World Cup participation in a brutal quarter-final against Colombia two years ago.

The 24-year-old was soon back terrorising the Honduras defence as he teed up Luan for an effort Lopez managed to repel, before Bryan Acosta and Allans Vargas were booked for taking their uncompromising attempts to stop Neymar too far.

However, it was Manchester City's new £27 million (\$36 million, 31 million euros) wonder kid Gabriel Jesus who piled on the pain for Honduras with two more goals before the break.

Luan's lovely through ball was prodded past the helpless Lopez by Jesus for his second goal of the tournament on 26 minutes.

Nine minutes later, Neymar turned provider with a precise pass down the left that Jesus burst onto before crashing

the ball into the roof of the net.

Neymar was even whipping the near capacity 78,000 crowd into a frenzy as he uncharacteristically crashed into tackles, with Brazil relieved from the burden of expectation that appeared to weigh heavy on the young squad early in the competition.

However, Brazil didn't have long to wait for a fourth when Paris Saint-Germain defender Marquinhos took advantage of some awful Honduras marking to sweep home a corner six minutes into the second-half.

Fittingly, in their best performance of the tournament, Luan converted a fine team goal for Brazil's fifth as Gabriel Barbosa slipped in Felipe Anderson to cross low to the far post.

And Neymar capped a fine display with his second of the afternoon from the penalty spot in stoppage time.

Victory also guaranteed Brazil a fourth Olympic men's football medal, but after bronze in 1996 and 2008 and the shock of losing to Mexico in the London 2012 final, only gold will suffice for an expectant nation back at the Maracana on Saturday.

Trott claims historic fourth gold

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Laura Trott crushed the opposition to retain her women's track cycling omnium title and become the first British woman to win four Olympic gold medals on Tuesday.

With the victory, the 24-year-old clinched her second successive team pursuit and omnium double after she also won both events at London in 2012.

"I can't believe it, I did not expect that at all. I'm just so happy," Trott told the BBC. "It has all come together -- what a day. I'm literally over the moon."

"It's down also to the backroom team who have put up with me being stroppy at times."

"To be able to repeat my London success -- I just can't explain what I'm feeling right now."

America's two-time omnium world champion Sarah Hammer took silver for the second time in a row with Jolien d'Hoore of Belgium rounding off the podium.

Hammer has won a silver medal in all four of Trott's golden triumphs.

Trott, also the world champion, came into the last of the event's six disciplines with a commanding lead of 24 points after coming first in three of the previous races.

She seemed to be simply enjoying herself during the final points race, extending her lead as Hammer and d'Hoore battled behind her.

Lochte can't leave

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

A Brazilian judge on Wednesday ordered that US Olympic swimmer Ryan Lochte and teammate James Feigen be prevented from leaving the country after doubts emerged over their claim to have been mugged at gunpoint.

Judge Keyla Blank "issued warrants for searches and the seizure of the passports for the US swimmers," a statement from her office said. "With this, they are banned from leaving the country."

The US Olympic Committee refused to comment on the athletes' whereabouts but confirmed that Brazilian police were looking for the swimmers.

"Local police arrived at the Olympic Village this a.m. and asked to meet with Ryan Lochte and James Feigen and collect their passports in order to secure further testimony from the athletes," spokesman Patrick Sandusky said.

"The swim team moved out of the village after their competition ended, so we were

not able to make the athletes available.

Sandusky said the US team would "continue to cooperate with Brazilian authorities."

Lochte says that he and three team-mates were held up by muggers posing as police as they left a party in central Rio.

Lochte said he had a gun put to his forehead in the robbery, when the swimmers' taxi was pulled over by criminals who forced them to lie on the ground and stole money and other items.

"The guy pulled out his gun, he cocked it, put it to my forehead and he said, 'Get down,'" Lochte said afterwards. "He took our money, he took my wallet -- he left my cell phone, he left my credentials."

However, Olympic officials have said police are still looking for key witnesses, including the driver of the cab the swimmers said they had been in.

Blank's office said the judge was probing "possible inconsistencies in the swimmers' stories".

These included different accounts of how many assailants there were.



Britain's Laura Trott celebrates her win in the women's omnium track cycling event at the Velodrome in Rio de Janeiro on Tuesday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

'Amateur boxing stinks'

THE TELEGRAPH

Ireland's Michael Conlan let rip with one of the most spectacular outbursts broadcast on live TV after controversially losing a bout to a Russian opponent. Conlan erupted the day after another Russian was booed as he won heavyweight gold on another disputed judges' decision.

"If you have watched these Olympic Games and seen some of the decisions, Olympic boxing is dead," Conlan said after losing his bantamweight quarter-final to Vladimir Nikitin on a unanimous points decision. "It's whoever pays the most money. Whoever has the most, wins."

The morning session was progressing serenely when the Conlan-Nikitin bout developed into a ferocious scrap, with most ringside observers agreeing Conlan's superior speed and accuracy had won him the fight against a Russian counter-puncher. A smaller group felt the contest had been a 'war' in boxing parlance and that the judges simply miscalculated.

But when the three officials from Brazil, Sri Lanka and Poland gave the fight to Nikitin, Conlan wagged his finger, tore off his top and flexed his muscles as the crowd cheered him.

He then left the ring to be interviewed by Ireland's RTE and said live on air: "AIBA are cheats. They're cheats. That's me -- I'll never box for AIBA again."

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