

# What to WATCH

**BOISHAKHI TV**  
Bangladesh Premier League  
SC Feni v Team BJMC  
Live from 4:30pm  
Rahmatganj MFS v Brothers Union  
Live from 7:30pm

**STAR SPORTS 1**  
New Zealand v India  
1st ODI  
Live from 2:00pm  
**STAR SPORTS 4**  
Indian Super League

Kolkata v Goa  
Live from 7:30pm  
**SONY ESPN**  
Serie A  
Inter Milan v Cagliari  
Live from 7:00pm

Verona v AC Milan  
Live from 12:30am (Monday)  
**SONY ESPN HD**  
Serie A  
Lazio v Bologna  
Live from 7:00pm

**SONY SIX**  
*La Liga*  
Alaves v Malaga  
Live from 4:00pm  
Athletic Bilbao v Real Sociedad  
Live from 8:00pm

Sporting Gijon v Valencia  
Live from 10:30pm  
Villarreal v Celta Vigo  
Live from 12:30am (Monday)

**TEN 1 HD**  
West Indies v Pakistan  
1st Test, Day 4  
Live from 5:30pm

## DAY'S EVENT

**BCB XI v England XI**  
(Two-day Warm-up Match, Day-1)  
Time: 10:00am  
Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chittagong

**Bangladesh Premier League**  
SC Feni v Team BJMC  
Time: 4:30pm

Rahmatganj MFS v Brothers Union  
Time: 7:30pm  
Venue: Sylhet District Stadium

# Zahid fires Ctg Abahani

**SPORTS REPORTER**

**jb BPL**

Zahid Hossain scored twice as Chittagong Abahani moved to the top of the JB Bangladesh Premier League with a 3-1 win against Muktijoddha Sangsad KC at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The veteran winger opened the scoring in the second minute of the game and restored the port city side's lead right before the hour mark after Ahmed Kolo Musa had equalised for Muktijoddha. Lionel Saint Preux then put the icing on the cake with a third goal deep into stoppage time as the big-spenders returned to the top with 21 points from 10 matches.

The Independence Cup champions may however be toppled if surprise package of the season, Rahmatganj MFS, can continue their amazing run by beating Brothers Union today.

Coming into the match on the back of a three-match winning streak, Chittagong Abahani wasted little time in taking the lead as Zahid's speculative shot which took a wicked deflec-

tion off a Muktijoddha defender and ended at the back of the net, leaving Muktijoddha goalkeeper Mamun Khan wrong-footed.

The Chittagong side came close to doubling their lead on 24 minutes, but Mohammad Ibrahim's attempt brushed the top of the crossbar.

Muktijoddha, who started the second half on the right foot, found the equaliser six minutes after restart when Musa tucked in the rebound after skipper Saidul Haque's looping

**CTG ABAHANI 3 - 1 MUKTIJODDHA**  
**UTTAR BARIDHARA 1 - 3 ABAHANI**

attempt came off the crossbar. However, Zahid restored the lead eight minutes later, this time tucking in Mamunul Islam's low cross past Mamun Khan.

Chittagong Abahani comfortably held on to the lead, and after Preux wasted a gilt-edged opportunity by deliberating too much on the ball with acres of space inside the box in the final minute of regulation time, the Haitian scored the third deep into stoppage time, rounding the opposi-

tion keeper before driving the ball into the net past a host of defenders.

**SUNDAY BRACE DRIVES ABAHANI**  
Inspired by the big win of their Chittagong namesake, Dhaka Abahani snapped their two-match winless streak with an identical margin of victory over relegation-battlers Uttar Baridhara in the second match of the day. Sunday Chizoba scored a brace in the first half while Andrew Lee Tuck added a third after the break as the four-time champions moved into the second position, just one behind Chittagong Abahani.

Sunday, who started the match on six goals, opened the scoring on the quarter hour mark with a powerful strike from inside the box before getting his second by smashing in a rebound on 37 minutes.

After Sunday missed a glorious opportunity to take himself to the top of the goalscorers' chart, Lee Tuck provided Abahani a third goal through a neat finish on 71 minutes.

Faisal Ahmed Shitol pulled one back for the bottom-placed side on the stroke of time, which proved to be too little too late.



Veteran winger Zahid Hossain (C) celebrates with teammates Kawshik Barua (L) and Mohammad Ibrahim after scoring one of his two goals against Muktijoddha Sangsad KC at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Frankfurt hold Bayern

**AFP, Berlin**

Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich are now winless in their last three games after being held to a 2-2 draw at ten-man Eintracht Frankfurt on Saturday in the German league.

After last month's 1-0 Champions League defeat at Atletico Madrid and their 1-1 league draw with Cologne before the international break, this was neither the performance nor the result coach Carlo Ancelotti wanted.

Despite the draw, Bayern maintain a two-point lead in the Bundesliga ahead of Wednesday's key Champions League game at home to PSV Eindhoven.

Bayern's Arjen Robben and Frankfurt's Szabolcs Huszti both scored first-half goals.

After Germany international Joshua Kimmich put Bayern head, Frankfurt had Huszti sent off, but Mexico midfielder Marco Fabian scored their crucial second equaliser 12 minutes from time.

## Siddikur's game unravels

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Siddikur Rahman endured a terrible third round in the Venetian Macao Open on Saturday to return a card of six-over-par (77). The two-time Asian Tour winner, who had started the day at seventh position after two decent rounds, exchanged two double bogeys and four bogeys against only two birdies at the Macao Golf and Country Club yesterday to slip to 53rd position.

The disastrous outing on Saturday took the 31-year-old's tally to an even-par (213) as he trailed the leading Indian duo of S Chikkangarappa (203) and Anirban Lahiri (203) by ten strokes.

## Capel named women's coach

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has appointed former England all-rounder David Capel as coach of the women's cricket team.

The 53-year-old, who had been assistant coach for the England women's team which recorded series wins against Australia, Pakistan, West Indies, New Zealand and India between 2013 and 2015 and reached the final of the 2014 ICC Women's World Twenty20 in Bangladesh, will soon join the ongoing preparation camp for next month's Women's Asia Cup in Thailand.

His initial contract with the BCB is until the end of Bangladesh's campaign in the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier to be held in Sri Lanka in February 2017.

# Messi scores on return

AFP, Madrid



Lionel Messi took just three minutes to score on his return from injury as Barcelona enjoyed the perfect preparation for the visit of Manchester City in midweek with a 4-0 thrashing of Deportivo la Coruna on Saturday.

The Spanish champions were already 3-0 up thanks to Luis Suarez and a double from Rafinha when Messi was introduced after nearly a month out with a groin problem just before the hour mark and wasted no time in scoring his ninth goal of the season.

Barca trail league leaders Sevilla by a point after the Andalusians won away from home in La Liga for the first time in 23 games, triumphing 3-2 at Leganes.

Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid can move back to the top of the table when they face Granada and Real Betis respectively later on Saturday.

Barca have traditionally struggled on weekends following international breaks and fell to a shock 2-1 defeat at

home to Alaves on their return to action in September.

Deportivo had also drawn 2-2 on their last two visits to the Camp Nou, but never threatened another upset as Barca got back to winning ways after losing 4-3 to Celta Vigo two weeks ago.

Neymar smashed a volley against the bar and Suarez somehow headed the rebound over early on.

However, Barca had to wait just 21 minutes to open the scoring when Rafinha exchanged a one-two with Suarez before drilling a low shot that had too much power for German Lux.

Rafinha bundled home a second 15 minutes later after Lux had saved Gerard Pique's initial effort.

Suarez moved level with Antoine Griezmann as La Liga's top scorer with six this season when he brilliantly turned away from the Deportivo defence when receiving Neymar's through ball before slotting home the third.

The Uruguayan then smacked the post himself on the volley before he was replaced by Paco Alcacer at half-time to keep him fresh for the visit of City on Wednesday.

Messi was next to be introduced from

the bench and took just three touches to find the net when he flicked another Neymar assist over the helpless Lux.

Deportivo were reduced to 10 men 25 minutes from time when Laure's frustration boiled over as he saw red for elbowing Neymar in the face.

Alcacer missed three golden opportunities to register his first Barca goal.

And Lux produced a brilliant flying stop to prevent Messi rounding off his return with a fifth.

Sevilla moved to the top by ending a 17-month wait for an away league win at Leganes.

Franco Vazquez's opener and a second from the impressive Samir Nasri just before the hour mark put Jorge Sampaoli's men well on course to end that barren run.

However, their defensive frailties looked set to cost them victory once more as Leganes fought back with two goals in three minutes through David Timor and Alexander Szymanski.

Pablo Sarabia proved the match winner off the bench, though, when he curled home from outside the area his third goal in just seven La Liga games since joining from Getafe.

# Bravo resists Pakistan

AFP, Dubai



West Indian batsman Darren Bravo followed up Marlon Samuels' half-century to keep Pakistan at bay in the first day-night Test in Dubai yesterday.

Bravo scored 87, with Shane Dowrich 27 not out, as West Indies finished the day on 315-6, still trailing Pakistan's first innings total of 579-3 declared by 264 runs with four wickets in hand.

West Indies still need 65 more runs to avoid the follow-on.

Pakistan, who removed overnight batsman Kraig Brathwaite in the second over of the day, were left frustrated by a 118-run stand for the third wicket between Samuels and Bravo.

Bravo has kept the fight with his 16th half-century, completed with a fluent boundary off leg-spinner Yasir Shah. He has so far hit six boundaries and a six.

Shah has threatened to take wickets, having so far taken 2-71 in his 26 overs.

The Dubai stadium pitch has not taken much turn which Pakistan could have exploited as Bravo and Samuels were steady in the two-hour session.

Samuels hit two boundaries off the first

two balls he faced, driving powerfully to leg-spinner Shah and settling down quickly on a flat Dubai stadium pitch.

He took a single off spinner Mohammad Nawaz to reach his 24th Test fifty and continued in an aggressive style with 13 boundaries.

Samuels looked set for his first hundred since April last year but fell leg-before to pacesman Sohail Khan as he missed an incoming delivery and was caught right in front.

Samuels cracked 13 boundaries in his 139-ball stay.

Pakistan had looked for quick wickets after West Indies resumed at 69-1 and were rewarded with one when Shah bowled Brathwaite for 32 with a delivery which turned slightly and beat the bat.

Pakistan's big total was built around opener Azhar Ali's unbeaten 302 which is the fourth triple century for his country.

But what distinguishes the 31-year-old from the rest of the triple centurions is that he became the first batsman in day-night Test cricket to achieve the landmark.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**  
**Pakistan:** First Innings 579 for 3 declared (Azhar 302, Sami 90, Babar 69, Shafiq 67)  
**West Indies:** First Innings 315 for 6 (Bravo 87, Samuels 76, Dowrich 27 not out; Wahab 2-53)



Barcelona superstar Lionel Messi celebrates his goal against Deportivo La Coruna, on his return from injury, during their La Liga match at the Nou Camp yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## FIFA takes control of Greek fed

AFP, Athens

World football governing body FIFA said Friday they were appointing a normalisation committee to run the daily affairs of the crisis-hit Greek football federation.

The move follows months of bickering between the federation and the Greek government over discrepancies between national laws and the independence of the federation.

FIFA said in a fax sent to the Greek federation and signed by Secretary General Fatma Samoura, that the committee would revise the relevant regulations to bring them into line with FIFA standards.

"The FIFA Council was briefed on the different issues faced by the Greek federation in recent months, such as the tense relationships with the authorities, due partly to discrepancies between national laws and the independence of the federation," the FIFA fax read.

"The resignation of the president and other members of the federation's executive committee due to judicial procedures, the allegations linked to refereeing, as well as the difficulties surrounding the management of ethics cases."

The FIFA-appointed committee will also organise fresh Greek football federation elections by May 31 next year at the latest.

# Man City, Spurs stumble

AFP, London



Manchester City twice missed penalties in a 1-1 draw with Everton on Saturday as 10-man Arsenal went level with them on points at the top of the Premier League table after seeing off Swansea 3-2.

Arsenal leapfrogged Tottenham Hotspur into second place after their arch north London rivals also dropped points in a 1-1 draw away to West Bromwich Albion.

Following fouls by Phil Jagielka, Everton goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg saved penalties from Kevin de Bruyne and Sergio Aguero -- his second spot-kick failure this week after he was off target in Argentina's World Cup qualifying defeat by Paraguay.

Romelu Lukaku then fired the visitors ahead in the 64th minute at Eastlands

before substitute Aguero's miss.

But City, who've now gone three games without a win in all competitions, equalised in the 72nd minute when Nolito headed in Silva's cross as former Barcelona team-mates turned managers Pep Guardiola (City) and Ronald Koeman (Everton) had to settle for a point apiece.

"We did absolutely everything - Everton create just one chance which was a goal," said Guardiola.

"The players have all the qualities to score penalties but we miss a lot. Hopefully we will score more of them in future."

At the Emirates, Theo Walcott scored twice as Arsenal defeated Swansea for a sixth straight win in all competitions.

Walcott struck in the 27th minute after Jordi Amat failed to clear Hector Bellerin's headed cross.

The England international doubled the Gunners' lead seven minutes later

following Hull's failure to clear a corner.

Swansea, in former United States manager Bob Bradley's first game in charge, saw Gylfi Sigurdsson equalise in his 100th appearance for the Welsh club with a 38th-minute curling shot.

But Mesut Ozil marked his 28th birthday by restoring Arsenal's two-goal advantage with a 57th minute-volley.

Swansea substitute Borja Baston pulled a goal back and Arsenal had to play the final 20 minutes a man down after Granit Xhaka received a straight red card for a challenge on Modou Barrow.

Tottenham dominated possession at The Hawthorns only for former Spurs star Nacer Chadli put the Baggies ahead eight minutes from time.

But Dele Alli's 89th-minute equaliser preserved Spurs' unbeaten league record.

Chelsea hammered champions Leicester City 3-0 at Stamford Bridge thanks to goals from Diego Costa, Eden Hazard and Victor Moses.

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