

# What to WATCH

## BOISHAKHI TV

**Bangladesh Premier League**  
Abahani v Rahmatganj  
Live from 4:30pm  
Brothers Union v Ctg Abahani  
Live from 7:30pm

## STAR SPORTS 2

**Kabaddi World Cup**  
Bangladesh v Argentina  
Live from 8:30pm  
**TEN 1**  
**UEFA Champions League**

## Bayern Munich v PSV

Live from 12:45am (Thursday)  
**TEN 1 HD**  
**UEFA Champions League**  
Arsenal v Ludogorets  
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

## TEN 2

**UEFA Champions League**  
Barcelona v Man City  
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

## TEN 3

**UEFA Champions League**  
PSG v Basel  
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

## DAY'S EVENT

**Bangladesh Premier League**  
Abahani v Rahmatganj  
Time: 4:30pm

Brothers Union v Ctg Abahani  
Time: 7:30pm  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

# Pep's emotional return

REUTERS, Barcelona

Pep Guardiola's formidable managerial skills will be put to the test again when his stuttering Manchester City side visit his former club Barcelona in a top-of-the-bill Champions League clash on Wednesday.

Former Barca captain Guardiola, the Catalan club's most decorated coach with 14 trophies in a scintillating four-year spell, is set for his latest emotional return to the Nou Camp.

He has been there as a visiting coach before when his Bayern Munich side lost 3-0 in a Champions League semi-final last year and now he faces an equally daunting task with City.

Guardiola's brilliant start in England which saw him oversee 10 consecutive wins in all competitions has given way to a run of three games without victory, the latest seeing City miss two penalties in a 1-1 draw at home to Everton on Saturday.

The Premier League leaders trail Group C pacesetters Barca by two points following a thrilling 3-3 draw at Celtic in their last Champions League outing but Guardiola said he would not settle for another draw against his former club.

"We have four games left and we need to

win two of them, make six points, to be in the next round. And we are going to try to win the first points in our next game for sure," Guardiola said on Saturday.

The Catalans are unbeaten at the Nou Camp in the Champions League since 2013 but attacking ideologue Guardiola said his team would not stray from their usual style of play.

"We are going to play like we are. I know the way we want to play but, of course, we have to know exactly against which team we're going to play. Not too many teams win there in recent years," he added.

Barcelona are fourth in La Liga and cruised to a 4-0 victory over Deportivo La Coruna on Saturday, with substitute Lionel Messi scoring on his return from a groin injury that had kept him out for over three weeks.

"He will be difficult to stop, I know that from experience," said City striker Sergio Aguero, Messi's international teammate with Argentina.

"All we can hope is that he has a bad day and our defence plays the game of its life. It's that difficult because Leo is the best in the world."

Barca coach Luis Enrique has also been boosted by the return of fullbacks Sergi Roberto and Jordi Alba to training, while Guardiola's only major absence is Bacary Sagna.

# Intra-IUB TT held

SPORTS REPORTER

The Intra-IUB Table Tennis Autumn Tournament 2016 concluded at the Independent University, Bangladesh campus yesterday.

62 students from different departments took part in the tournament, which was split into two groups -- seeded and unseeded. In the seeded group, Javed Ahmed defeated Sheikh MD Nayeem and emerged as the champion, while Munaf Ahmed defeated Azman Fayek in the unseeded group's final.

Mr Rashed Chowdhury, Chairman, Board of Trustees, IUB, and Prof M Omar Rahman, Vice Chancellor, IUB were present as the Chief Guest and Special Guest respectively and distributed prizes.

# Man City make record revenue

AFP, Manchester



English Premier League leaders Manchester City on Tuesday announced record turnover of \$480 million and its Abu Dhabi owners said the club has reached a "turning point".

City, who were hit by UEFA sanctions over their finances in 2014, announced a 20 million pound (\$24.5 million/22.2 million euro) profit from revenues of 391.8 million pounds (\$480 million, 436 million euros).

With broadcasting, match-day and commercial revenues all up, City announced a second straight year of profit.

Chairman Khaldoon Al-Mubarak said the 2015-16 season when City reached the Champions League semi-finals was a "turning point" on and off the field.

"Manchester City has now reached a level of sporting and commercial maturity that allows one to feed the other," said the chairman.

"I believe the 2016-17 season represents the beginning of a critical new phase in the evolution of Manchester City."

Broadcasting revenue from Europe and the Premier League increased 19% to 161 million pounds. Matchday income went up from 43 million pounds a year ago to 52.5 million pounds.



Sheikh Russel right-back Nasirul Islam (C) is embraced by his teammates after he scored the decisive goal in their JB Bangladesh Premier League fixture against defending champions Sheikh Jamal at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

# Nasirul sinks Sheikh Jamal

SPORTS REPORTER



Sheikh Russel Kriya Chakra moved off the bottom of the JB Bangladesh Premier League table after a 1-0 win over defending champions and title contenders Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Nasirul Islam struck the winning goal in the 16th minute as the right-back, set up by Monaem Khan Raju, advanced into the danger zone to drive one low under the legs of goalkeeper Mazharul Islam Himel.

It was only the second victory for the team based in Bashundhara, who celebrated the 53rd birthday of Sheikh Russel, youngest son of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, by moving off the foot of the table and into 11th position with eight points.

Sheikh Jamal, on the other hand, suffered their second successive defeat and fell to fourth position, three behind league leaders Rahmatganj MFS, on 19 points from 11 outings.

Coming into this match on the back of a defeat against Mohammedan SC in the previous match, the charges of Stefan Hansson created a couple of scoring chances, but failed to capitalise. Rakib Sarker rattled the crossbar in the 32nd minute while Wedson Anselme saw his curling free-kick brilliantly kept out by Sheikh Russel

**MOHAMMEDAN 0 - 1 UTTAR BARIDHARA**  
**SHEIKH JAMAL 0 - 1 SHEIKH RUSSEL**

goalkeeper Zianur Rahman, who was later replaced after sustaining a serious head injury.

**UTTAR BARIDHARA BREAK LOSING STREAK**

Uttar Baridhara Club put an end to their nine-match losing streak by inflicting a 1-0 defeat on Mohammedan SC in the first match of the day.

Uttar Baridhara were in danger of equalling their worst losing streak after suffering nine straight defeats since winning the league's first

match against Sheikh Russel, but they turned their fortunes in the last match of the first leg yesterday, thanks to an 84th minute penalty conversion by Khalekuzzaman Sabuj.

Mohammedan, having claimed their first win in the last match after coach Joshimuddin Joshi had left the club due to 'adverse environment in the camp', played aimless football throughout the match apart from initiating a few sporadic attacks. Even those attacks did not come to fruition, thanks to a couple of brilliant saves from Uttar Baridhara goalkeeper Mohammad Ershad, who denied Ismael Bangoura and Aminur Rahman Sajib in the second half.

Then Sabuj struck the crucial blow from the spot, blasting the top of the net, after being brought down by Yousuf Ali Khan and Biswanath Ghosh inside the danger zone.

The fourth defeat in 11 matches means Mohammedan finished the first leg in 10th position with nine points while Baridhara, despite their first win, dropped to the bottom after Sheikh Russel's win over Sheikh Jamal.



A tiny tot gets into the act during the Sheikh Russel School Table Tennis Competition which got underway at the capital's Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Indoor Stadium yesterday. A total of 260 students from 41 schools of the country are taking part in the four-day meet.

PHOTO: STAR

# Diego caught smuggling cocaine

AGENCIES, Bogota

Former Colombia international Diego Osorio was arrested by authorities for carrying over a kilo of cocaine in his underwear.

The ex-Atletico Nacional man, 46, was apprehended in Medellin's Jose Cordova Airport while trying to board a plane for Madrid.

Osorio allegedly had 1.145 kilos of the narcotic stuffed in his underwear when he was intercepted by security at the airport, with an estimated street value of \$40,000.

The former defender had also been held in Miami for cocaine possession in 2002.

# Jose exposes Red's failings

AFP, Liverpool



Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho claimed that his team had exposed Liverpool's shortcomings after holding Jurgen Klopp's well-regarded team to a 0-0 draw.

Liverpool went into Monday's game at Anfield seeking a sixth successive win in all competitions and bidding to draw level on points with Premier League leaders Manchester City and second-place Arsenal.

But United restricted them to few chances, with visiting goalkeeper David de Gea largely untroubled apart from a pair of eye-catching second-half saves to deny Emre Can and Philippe Coutinho.

"The goalkeeper (De Gea) was on holiday for 90 minutes, but he had two

big saves to do and he did," said Mourinho, whose side remain seventh in the table.

"When we recover the ball I was expecting the team to be more dangerous, (although) we had two good chances, but Liverpool did too.

"They are not the last wonder of the world like you (the media) say they are, but they are a very good team so we had to adapt a little to them."

Premier League statisticians Opta said United had only had 35 percent of possession -- their lowest tally for a league fixture since such statistics started being gathered in the 2003-04 season.

But Mourinho returned to the press conference room after he had finished addressing reporters to say the club's own statisticians thought United had seen more of the ball.

"My guy did it -- 42 (percent), not 35," he said, having re-emerged

through a side door.

"I thought it was crazy. We do it ourselves with better people than them."

He had earlier dismissed the importance of statistics, pointing out that United had won 1-0 at Anfield under his predecessor Louis van Gaal last season despite being largely outplayed.

"Last season United won here, Liverpool had 14 shots on target and United had one," he said.

"How many shots on target did Liverpool have on target today? Two. Two shots on target with 65 percent of possession."

"You have to be critical of Liverpool. It is their problem, not our problem."

United largely succeeded in stifling Liverpool, with wide players Marcus Rashford and Ashley Young notably dropping deep to create a six-man defence at times.

# Ibra vows to be clinical

REUTERS, Liverpool



Manchester United striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic has vowed to be more clinical in front of goal after miscuing a header in Monday's goalless draw at Liverpool.

Ibrahimovic, who has struck four Premier League goals this season, combined with Paul Pogba for United's best moment at Anfield, only for the Swede's close-range header from the Frenchman's cross to tumble harmlessly across goal.

"I needed to chase the ball instead of attacking the ball, but still I should have put it at least on the target. But the next game, I will do better," Ibrahimovic told reporters.

"I think the game was a good game, a difficult game at the same time. I mean away

against Liverpool - Liverpool are unbeaten against the top teams...I think it was a good result."

United are seventh in the league standings, five points behind leaders Manchester City, and Ibrahimovic said the club were determined to mount a title charge.

"The season is long. I see many teams are losing points at the same time. Any week, different things can happen so it is important to win the games you need to win and stay on the top," he added.

"I mean, if you win two games in the row you're on the top. That's the way it has been so far. If we can get the wins we need to win the points then we are in touch, but it is a long season."

"We are there, we are fighting, we are getting points. We just need to click and then it'll be easier."

United next travel to Chelsea in the league on Sunday.



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