Bangladesh Premier League T20

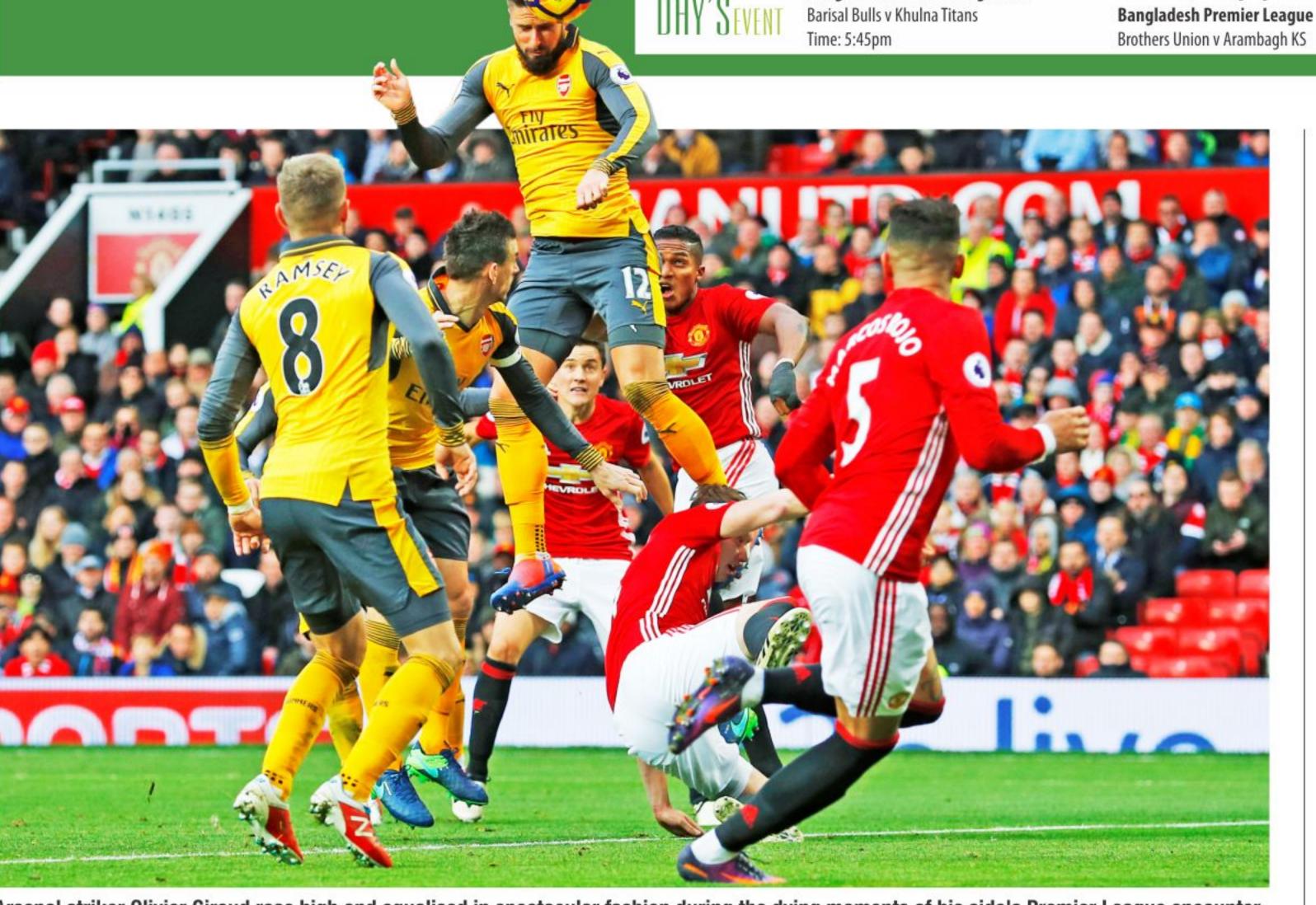
Live from 10:30pm **SONY SIX** La Liga Alaves v Espanyol Live from 5:00pm Sporting Gijon v Real Sociedad Live from 11:30pm

Venue: ZACS, Chittagong

Serie A Inter Milan v AC Milan Live from 2:00am (Monday) **SONY SIX HD** La Liga Valencia v Granada Live from 9:00pm

> Time: 3:30pm Rahamatgonj MFS v Uttar Baridhara Time: 6:15pm

Venue: M.A. Aziz Stadium, Chittagong



Arsenal striker Olivier Giroud rose high and equalised in spectacular fashion during the dying moments of his side's Premier League encounter against Manchester United at Old Trafford yesterday.

## A thrilling tie in Bulawayo

AFP, Bulawayo

Shai Hope hit his maiden one-day international century but the West Indies could only stutter to a dramatic tie in Saturday's clash with Zimbabwe.

With Hope scoring 101 in his second ODI, his side were well on track to overhaul Zimbabwe's 257 as they went into the final six overs on 217 for two.

But Hope's dismissal sparked a late collapse, leaving the tourists needing just four runs off the last over with five wickets in hand, but instead finished on 257 for eight to share the points. SCORES IN BRIEF ZIMBABWE: 257 all out in

50 overs (Ervine 92, Sikandar 77; C Brathwaite 4-48, Holder 2-47)

WEST INDIES: 257 for 8 in 50 overs (K Brathwaite 78, Hope 101; Tiripano 2-26, Williams 2-52) Result: Match drawn. Player-of-the-match: S Hope.

# Giroud snatches a draw



Substitute Premier Olivier Giroud League converted Arsenal's first

rescue a smash-and-grab 1-1 draw for Arsene Wenger's side at Manchester United on Saturday. Juan Mata's 69th-minute strike

looked to have earned Jose Mourinho's United a win, only for Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain to tee up Giroud for a last-gasp leveller. The result preserved Arsenal's six-

point lead over sixth-place United, but left United falling even further behind the table leaders. Arsenal remain without a league

win at Old Trafford in 10 years and Wenger has still not beaten Mourinho in the league in 12 attempts. But this was a draw that will have

felt like a win for the Frenchman, particularly after Mourinho provocatively cited his 12-year wait for a league title in the build-up to the game. Giroud's goal, only his fourth of the

season, extended Arsenal's unbeaten run to 17 games in all competitions and left United with just two wins from their last nine league fixtures.

Mourinho, who shared an icy hand-

shake with Wenger before and after the match, must now rouse his players for Thursday's key Europa League home game with Feyenoord.

Alexis Sanchez came through a fitness check on a troublesome hamstring to boost Arsenal. But with Michael Carrick anchoring United's midfield

### **RESULTS**

Crystal Palace Wickham 66	1	¥	2	Manchester City Toure 39, 83
Everton Coleman 89	1	-	1	Swansea Sigurdsson 41-pen
Man United Mata 69	1	¥	1	Arsenal Giroud 89
Southampton	0	-	0	Liverpool
Stoke	0	-	1	Bournemouth Ake 26
Sunderland Defoe 34, Anichebe 62, 84	3	-	0	Hull
Watford	2	-	1	Leicester

again and Antonio Valencia supplying drive from right-back, there was poise and purpose to the hosts' football.

Capoue 1, Pereyra 12

Carrick's presence allowed Paul Pogba to get forward and he gave a glimpse of his ability by steamrollering Francis Coquelin and drilling a cross into the box that Arsenal managed to clear.

United felt they should have had a penalty in the 35th minute when Valencia nutmegged Nacho Monreal and then went down as the Spaniard leaned across him, but referee Andre Marriner said no.

Pogba then teed up Mata for a low shot that Petr Cech pushed around the post and the Arsenal goalkeeper also saved three times from Anthony Martial.

Arsenal did not register a shot of note in the first half, but as United's momentum waned after half-time, Mourinho turned to his bench.

Wayne Rooney and Daley Blind came on, with Martial and Matteo Darmian making way.

Slowly, United picked up the pace and with 21 minutes remaining they made the breakthrough. Pogba's pass sent Ander Herrera

haring towards the byline and from his cut-back, Spanish compatriot Mata arrived to send the ball past Cech with a sumptuously crisp side-foot effort.

Wenger introduced Giroud for Mohamed Elneny, which saw Sanchez withdraw to the left flank.

Mourinho's men continued to dominate, Marcos Rojo heading wide from Blind's deep cross, only for Oxlade-Chamberlain to skin Marcus Rashford before crossing for Giroud to snatch an unlikely point.

# 9-man Malaga hold depleted Barcelona

REUTERS, Barcelona



Barcelona dearly missed Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez as the La Liga champions were held to a goalless draw at home to nine-man Malaga on Saturday, missing the chance to go top of the standings.

Messi was taken ill before the game while Suarez, joint-top scorer in La Liga along with the Argentine, was suspended. Captain Andres Iniesta was also injured and Luis Enrique's side were incapable of prising open a Malaga side happy to sit back and soak up pressure for the majority of the game.

Barcelona stayed second on 26 points, one behind leaders Real Madrid, who visit local rivals Atletico Madrid later on Saturday.

Despite dominating possession Barca struggled to carve out many opportunities and on the rare occasion they created a chance, Malaga goalkeeper Carlos Kameni was there to frustrate them, clawing away efforts from Gerard Pique in either half and producing a sensational save to deny Neymar in injury time.

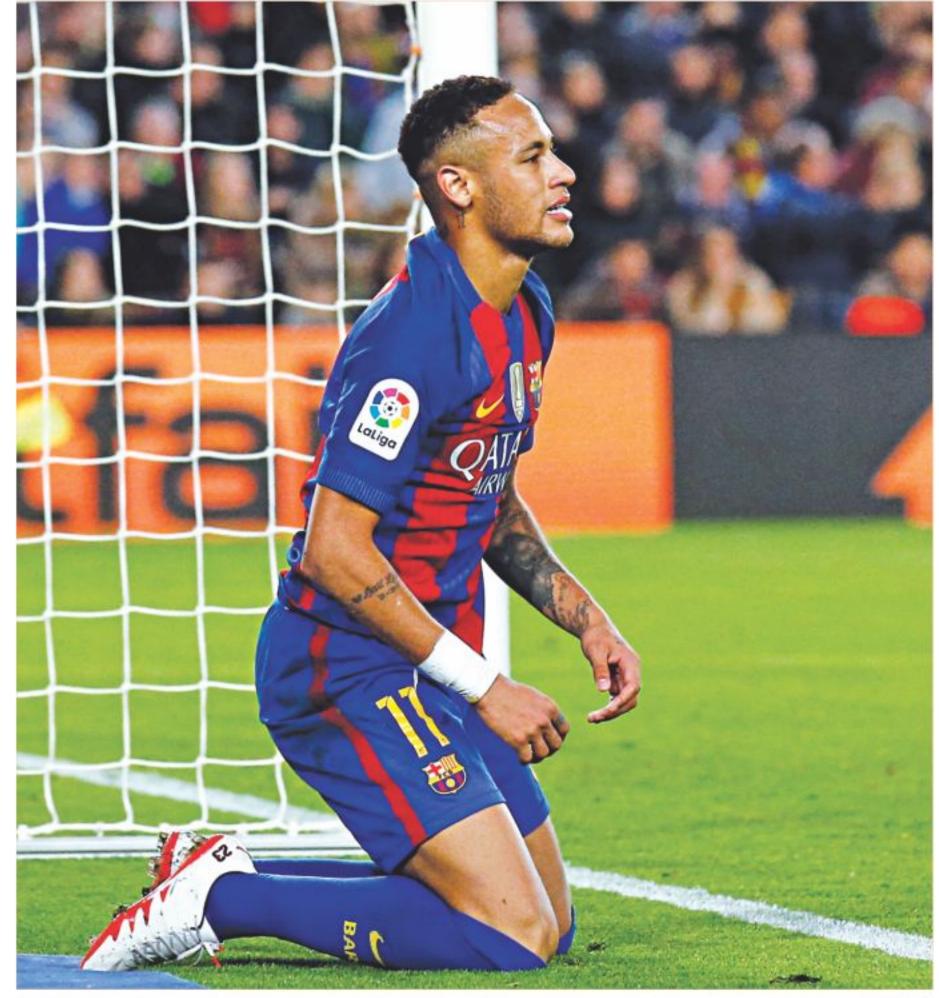
Malaga had defender Diego Llorente dismissed in the 69th minute for a straight red card following a lunge on Neymar, but Barca still could not find a way through, although Pique had what looked a clear penalty appeal turned down after his shirt was tugged in the area by Mikel Villanueva.

Neymar was one of few Barca players who looked capable of finding a winner but found few willing partners, with standin striker Paco Alcacer produced an anonymous display and defender Pique looking far more threatening in attack.

Malaga have proved difficult opponents for Barca recently at the Nou Camp, beating Luis Enrique's side 1-0 in February 2015 and only losing 1-0 last season.

They frustrated the Catalans again by employing a conservative 5-4-1 formation and defending deep for most of the game, although they created one clear-cut chance, midfielder Juankar firing wide of the near post after rounding Marc-Andre ter Stegen.

Malaga's Juankar was shown a straight red card in stoppage time for dissent.



With Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez missing yesterday, the only member of Barcelona's attacking trifecta, Neymar, failed to lead his side to a win against Malaga. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Lee Tuck hattrick propels Abahani

SPORTS REPORTER



jb Andrew Lee Tuck scored the second hattrick of the JB

Bangladesh Premier League as Abahani consolidated their lead at the top with a 6-1 hammering of Muktijoddha Sangsad at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

The English forward, who is more renowned for creating chances than scoring, took full advantage of Muktijodddha's lack-lustre defending and haphazard goalkeeping to equal the biggest margin of victory in the league, which was earlier held solely by Chittagong Abahani. The three goals took Lee's tally to nine goals for the campaign.

Debutante Welshman Jonathan Daid bagged a brace while the league's top-scorer Sunday Chizoba chipped in with one as the four-time champions went seven points clear of rivals Chittagong Abahani with 34 points

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স্যামসন এইচ চৌধুৱ

from 15 matches.

The only unbeaten side of the league so far, Abahani came into the match on the back of a five-match winning streak, but were given a jolt in the 21st minute when they, much against the run of play, found themselves a goal down after Shafiqul Islam Bipul's long-range volley took a wicked deflection off an Abahani defender and wrongfooted goalkeeper

#### MOHAMMEDAN 2 - 2 TEAM BJMC 6 - 1 MUKTIJODDHA **ABAHANI**

Shahidul Alam Sohel.

However, the Sky Blues continued their attacking foray, with Lee Tuck partnered by Sunday and Daid, by persistently pounding down the Muktijoddha defence. And it took Lee Tuck only six minutes to find the equaliser as the Englishman beat Muktijoddha goalkeeper Mamun Khan with a swirling shot which brushed the lower part of the bar

before ending up at the back of the net.

Daid gave Abahani the lead with a toe-poke in the 33 rd minute as the four-time champions wrestled for control going into the break. Lee Tuck scored his second on 64

Mahrez 15-pen

minutes with a clever stab-in before completing his hattrick with a slick finish from inside the box on 86 min-

Sunday then joined in the goalspree with a superlative solo effort, dribbling past two defenders before sidestepping Mamun three minutes later to bag his 16th goal of the campaign before Daid wrapped up the victory with his second two minutes into stoppage time.

The defeat left Mukijoddha in fifth position and 15 points behind the leaders.

Meanwhile, Mohammaedan Sporting Club wasted a great opportunity to move up the table when they blew a two-goal cushion to be held 2-2 by Team BJMC in the first match of the day.

**Under-fire Bangladesh Football** 

Federation president Kazi Salahuddin, while attending a seminar titled 'Bangladesh Football: Reality and course of action', said that he would take all the criticism in his stride for a turnaround of the country's moribund football. The seminar, organised by the Bangladesh **Sports Journalists Association and** held at the Dhaka Club yesterday, called for the development of grassroots level, revival of district football and more importantly unity among the football organisers to pull the game out of the mire.

PHOTO: BSJA

### "I'm tired. I've played so much tennis over the last few months. I'll give it my best effort, the best I have."

## Murray battles past Raonic

AFP, London

Andy Murray remains on course for a dramatic showdown with Novak Djokovic as the world number one staged a superb fightback to defeat Milos Raonic 5-7, 7-6 (7/5), 7-6 (11/9) in the semifinals of the ATP Tour Finals on Saturday.

Murray will face world number two Djokovic or Japan's Kei Nishikori in Sunday's final after surviving a three-hour 39-minute classic that ranked as the longest match in Tour Finals history.

The Scot, who saved a match point in the final set tie-break, must win the Tour Finals for the first time to be guaranteed to finish 2016 on top of the world rankings, with Djokovic able to overhaul him if he takes the title for a record-equalling sixth time.

If Djokovic does make the final, he might find Murray running low on energy after the Wimbledon champion was pushed to his limits by Raonic just days after he had to endured the previous longest match in the tournament, a victory over Nishikori that took three hours and 20 minutes. "I played some great

points and managed to get the break at the end," Murray said. "It was an amazing atmosphere. The longer the match went on the louder the crowd got.

# Dortmund victorious in fiesty Der Klassiker

REUTERS, Berlin



Borussia Dortmund ended Bayern Munich's unbeaten run, edging a 1-0 win on BUNDES Saturday thanks to Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's 12th LIGA Emerick Aubameyang's 12th goal of the season, cutting the gap between the champions and their biggest title rivals to three points.

Gabon international Aubameyang made the most of Dortmund's frantic start, tapping in an 11th-minute assist from Mario Goetze, who was facing his former club for the first time since his move in the close season.

More than a quarter of the game had gone before Bayern, who drop to second in the Bundesliga, three points behind new leaders RB Leipzig, landed a shot on goal, but they were in command for the rest of the half, although they failed to beat keeper Roman Buerki.

They did put the ball in the net 10 minutes after the restart but Franck Ribery's

clever flick was ruled offside. Xabi Alonso then hammered his shot against the crossbar as Bayern upped the pressure, laying siege in the Dortmund half.

Aubameyang should have made it two for the hosts in the 71st when he pounced on an Alonso mistake and charged into the box, but Manuel Neuer stood his ground and palmed his shot wide.

Another gilt-edged opportunity fell to Polish striker Robert Lewandowski, whose shot went just wide of the mark.

Meanwhile, defender Mats Hummels, who returned to his Dortmund after a contro-

versial summer move, was jeered throughout. Dortmund, whose win was only their second in the last nine Bundesliga encounters against Bayern, move up to third on 21 points, six behind Leipzig, who won 3-2 at

Bayer Leverkusen on Friday night.

(Discount available as per policy)

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**15 December 2016** Seats are Limited

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