

CHANNEL 9
Bangladesh Premier League T20
Barisal Bulls v Dhaka Dynamites
Live from 1:00pm
Rangpur Riders v Chittagong Vikings
Live from 5:45pm

BOISHAKHI TV
Bangladesh Premier League
Feni SC v Uttar Baridhara
Live from 3:30pm
Chittagong Abahani v Rahmatganj MFS
Live from 6:15pm

STAR SPORTS 1
India v England
3rd Test, Day 2
Live from 10:00am
Indian Super League
Delhi v Goa
Live from 7:30pm

STAR SPORTS 2
South Africa v Australia
3rd Test, Day 4
Live from 9:30am
STAR SPORTS HD 4
Bundesliga
Darmstadt v Schalke
Live from 8:30pm

Hertha Berlin v Mainz
Live from 10:30pm
SONY ESPN
Serie A
Roma v Pescara
Live from 1:30am (Monday)
SONY SIX
La Liga

Villarreal v Alaves
Live from 5:00pm
Osasuna v Atletico Madrid
Live from 9:15pm
Celta Vigo v Granada
Live from 11:30pm
Real Sociedad v Barcelona
Live from 1:45am (Monday)

TEN 1 HD
Tri-Nation Final
Zimbabwe vs Sri Lanka
Live from 1:30pm

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League T20
Barisal Bulls v Dhaka Dynamites
Time: 1:00pm

Rangpur Riders v Chittagong Vikings
Time: 5:45pm
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Dhaka

Bangladesh Premier League
Feni SC v Uttar Baridhara
Time: 3:30pm

Chittagong Abahani v Rahmatganj MFS
Time: 6:15pm
Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chittagong

National swimming starts today

SPORTS REPORTER
The National Swimming Championship gets underway today at the Mirpur Swimming Complex after a year's break. The largest swimming competition of the country, which was skipped last year due to preparation for the South Asian Games, will have 420 competitors from 59 teams including district teams, services teams, educational institutions and club sides. The three-day competition will feature diving and water polo apart from the swimming events. There will be monetary awards for those setting new national records, informed speakers at a press conference arranged in this regard at the auditorium of the Bangladesh Olympic Council yesterday. The competition will be inaugurated by the president of Bangladesh Swimming Federation and Navy chief Admiral Nizamuddin Ahmed today morning.

U-14 Women's Nat'l C'ship from today

SPORTS REPORTER
The 2nd JFA Cup Under-14 Women's National Championship gets underway today with 32 district teams participating across seven different venues. The regional round will be held at Tangail, Rangpur, Laxmipur, Narail, Rajshahi, Satkhira and Faridpur venues, informed organisers at a press conference yesterday. Top teams from each venue and the best runners-up team will qualify for the eight-team final round which will be held in Dhaka next month. The tournament is run by the 25,000 dollar annual assistance provided by the Japan Football Association.

CONFED CUP DRAW Germany, Portugal kept apart

AFP, Kazan
World Cup holders Germany were placed in Group B for the 2017 Confederations Cup alongside Chile, Australia and the winner of next year's Africa Cup of Nations at Saturday's draw in Kazan. Hosts Russia will come up against Euro 2016 winners Portugal, Mexico and New Zealand in Group A in the event billed as a warm-up for the World Cup to be held in Russia in 2018. The tournament kicks off in Saint Petersburg on June 17 and will end at the same venue on July 2. Matches will also be staged in Kazan, Moscow and Sochi. With just over six months to go until the tournament begins, Russia is having to deal with numerous challenges ranging from delays in stadium construction to corruption scandals and worries about their own national team. After a disastrous Euro 2016 in which they were eliminated in the group stage while the country's football hooligans dominated headlines, Russia are rebuilding under a new coach in Stanislav Cherchesov but they currently languish in 55th place in the world rankings. A key area of concern is the delayed construction of the venue for the final in Saint Petersburg, where a solution must be found to the retractable pitch at the futuristic 68,000-seater stadium that is unstable and unsuitable for play.



A file photo from October 26, 2005 shows Fidel Castro (L) enjoying a light moment with long-time friend and Argentine football legend Diego Maradona in Havana. The former Cuban president died yesterday at the age of 90.

PHOTO: REUTERS

No more letters from Cuba

AGENCIES

The link between Fidel Castro and football has a name: Diego Maradona.

The Argentine legend went to Cuba for the first time in 1987 and since then a friendship between him and the leader of the Cuban revolution blossomed.

The former Cuban president and leader of the country's revolution passed away at the age of 90 yesterday, with Castro's brother Raul announcing the news in a brief speech on state television in Cuba.

Castro remained closely involved in politics until 2011 when his declining health resulted in him being forced to pass control to his brother.

Throughout his life, he always maintained that he was a huge fan of sport, particularly baseball, but he often boasted of his friendship with one of the greatest sportsmen ever: Maradona.

The Argentine superstar first visited the Caribbean country in 1987 and since then established a close relationship with the Cuban leader. In fact, on his visits to the island, Maradona gave Castro several football jerseys, including the one he wore on his Newell's Old Boys debut and an autographed Argentina No.10 shirt.

The Argentinian was a reasonably frequent

visitor to the island and when he was going through a very tough time in 2000 owing to his drug habits, Castro opened the doors to Cuba for his friend and asked him to seek treatment there, where Maradona spent time at the famous La Perdera clinic.

Maradona had even interviewed the leader in 2005, on his TV show La Noche del 10.

Aside from being Castro's close friend, Maradona has also openly showed his support for the Cuban revolution by getting a tattoo of Castro on his leg and one of Che Guevara on his arm.

In 2015, Castro himself also made public some of the letters he had exchanged with the former Barcelona player, with the two men sharing their opinions on politics and sport. Famously, Castro wrote a letter to Maradona in 2015, disputing rumours that he had died. Nobody had heard from the leader for three months prior to that letter.

Castro had even called Maradona "Che of the sport," while also toying with the idea of building a statue in Maradona's honor in Cuba.

"Fidel if there is one important thing I have learned from you throughout the years of our sincere and beautiful friendship, it is that loyalty is priceless," Maradona said in one letter, dated January 15.

I'm terribly sad as he was like a second father. When the tennis is over, I'll go to Cuba to say goodbye to my friend. He opened the doors to Cuba to me when Argentina was closing them on me.

Maradona on Castro's death

Ikanga brace revives Sheikh Russel

SPORTS REPORTER



Jean Jules Ikanga scored twice as Sheikh Russel Kriya Chakra continued their consolidation of a string good results in the JB Bangladesh Premier League with a 2-0 win over Muktiyoddha Sangsad at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

The Cameroonian striker scored with two towering headers, one in each half, as the former champions stitched together a five-match unbeaten streak, moving two points clear of ninth placed Team BJMC.

The match saw possession fairly equally shared all through and there weren't too many clear cut opportunities, but the Cameroonian, using his imposing physique to great effect, notched up Sheikh Russel's fifth win of the campaign. Ikanga gave the Blues a

36th minute lead by powering home Atiqur Rahman Meshu's in-swinging corner into the far corner of the Muktiyoddha net.

Muktiyoddha could have found the equaliser during the last minute of the half when Ahmed Kolo Musa darted into the box from the left and found Sheikh Russel keeper Mamun Khan in a one-on-one situation, but the

SHEIKH RUSSEL 2 - 0 MUKTIJODDHA
SHEIKH JAMAL 1 - 1 TEAM BJMC

striker's powerful attempt sailed over the crossbar.

The All Reds were made to pay for that missed opportunity as the same combination gave Sheikh Russel their second goal nine minutes from time. This time Mishu floated in a perfectly weighted cross from the left flank, and Ikanga once again rose high to head the ball past Muktiyoddha's goal-

keeper.

Sheikh Russel moved up to 19 points while Muktiyoddha remained on fifth position with 23 points.

Meanwhile, defending champions Sheikh Jamal continued their indifferent form as they were held to a 1-1 draw by Team BJMC in the second match of the day. The three-time champions conceded the lead when Samson Iliyasu wrongfooted Sheikh Jamal goalkeeper Mazharul Islam Himel from the spot after being bundled inside the box by defender Malick Mendy.

However, the Dhanmondi giants came out guns blazing in the second half and wasted a couple of chances before Emeka Darlington's powerful header on an Enamul Haque Sharif cross salvaged a valuable point. That point took third-placed Sheikh Jamal to 29th position while Team BJMC remained in 9th with 17 points.

Australia in control

REUTERS, Adelaide



Australia took firm control of the day-night third test on Saturday when they reduced South Africa to 194 for six at the close on day three, only 70 runs ahead of their hosts.

Desperate for a consolation victory to avoid a first 3-0 series sweep on home soil, Australia's tail boosted their first-innings tally to 383 before the bowlers took over.

Dean Elgar and Hashim Amla departed before tea and JP Duminy, captain Faf du Plessis, Temba Bavuma and Kyle Abbott followed under the lights in the night session.

Opener Stephen Cook was the one top-order batsman left standing after hitting 81 off 199 balls and

will return to the crease on day four with Quinton de Kock, who had yet to score.

Paceman Mitchell Starc, who earlier completed his seventh test half century, removed Elgar for a duck within the fifth ball of the innings before taking the key wicket of Du Plessis for 12 courtesy of a brilliant catch by Peter Handscomb.

The home side celebrated with the debutant as if they had won the match, an indication of the importance they placed on the wicket of Du Plessis, who contributed an unbeaten 118 to South Africa's first innings 259-9 declared.

SCORES IN BRIEF:
SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 259 decl
AUSTRALIA: First innings (Khawaja 145, Smith 59, Handscomb 54, Starc 53; Abbot 3-49, Rabada 3-84)

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings (Cook 81 not out, Amla 45; Starc 2-71, Lyon 3-48)

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Moses leads Blues back to summit

AFP, London



Chelsea stormed back from behind to end Tottenham Hotspur's unbeaten Premier League record with a 2-1 victory on Saturday that propelled Antonio Conte's soaring side back into top spot.

Chelsea had seen Liverpool and Manchester City steal past them earlier in the day and fell behind in the 11th minute when Christian Eriksen became the first player to score past them in seven games.

But Pedro Rodriguez's glorious curler and a Victor Moses tap-in either side of half-time gave Chelsea a seventh successive win -- their longest such run within one season since January to April 2007.

Chelsea, who visit City next weekend, restored a one-point advantage over second-place Liverpool and left London rivals Tottenham seven points below them in fifth place.

It marked a rotten end to a disappointing week for Spurs, who were knocked out of the Champions League by Monaco in mid-week and have won only one of their last 10 fixtures in all competitions.

Their run of games without victory at Stamford Bridge, where their title challenge last season ended in May, now stands at 30, their last victory there having come in February 1990.

Missing Toby Alderweireld and Danny Rose, Spurs were patched up at the back, where centre-back Kevin Wimmer filled in at left-back and Eric Dier partnered Jan Vertonghen in the centre.

But the return to a 4-2-3-1 formation, after dalliances with a back three and a 4-3-2-1 system, helped them get their press in order and they had Chelsea on the back foot in the first half.

After a couple of early threats, including a Harry Kane effort that was chalked off for offside, Mauricio Pochettino's men took the lead with a fine goal.

Breaking from midfield, Dele Alli toed the ball to Eriksen and from outside the box the Dane let fly with a vicious left-foot shot that soared past Thibaut Courtois's outstretched right hand.

It was the first goal Chelsea -- unchanged for the sixth game running -- had conceded in 601 minutes of football, since a 3-0 defeat at Arsenal on September 24.

The visitors were playing with an intensity last seen in their impressive 2-0 win over Manchester City in early October and their rediscovered confidence was expressed by their willingness to shoot.

Victor Wanyama, Kane, Eriksen and Mousa Dembele all chanced their arm from range, although only Kane worked Courtois.

Ronaldo on the double

AFP, Madrid

Cristiano Ronaldo struck twice as Real Madrid were thankful to a late missed penalty from Duje Cop to open up a seven-point lead over Barcelona at the top of La Liga with a 2-1 win over Sporting Gijon.

Madrid looked set for an easy afternoon as Ronaldo opened the scoring from the penalty spot before he headed home a second inside 20 minutes.

However, Carlos Carmona halved Sporting's deficit 10 minutes before half-time and the struggling visitors were handed a huge chance for an unexpected point 12 minutes from time when Nacho brought down Victor Rodriguez.

Yet, Cop sent his penalty high and wide as Real held on amidst a torrential down-pour to extend their unbeaten run to 31 games in all competitions.

Barca can cut the gap back to four points when they travel to Real Sociedad on Sunday ahead of the first Clasico of the season between Spanish football's two giants at the Camp Nou next weekend.

Fresh from netting a hat-trick against Atletico Madrid last weekend, Ronaldo continued his return to scoring form with a quickfire double to move ahead of Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez as La Liga's top scorer.

Sporting had the first big chance to go in front when Carmona fired wide with just goalkeeper Keylor Navas to beat.

ব্যাংকিং খাতে সেবা করদাতার স্বীকৃতি অর্জন করল জনতা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

ব্যাংকিং খাতে শীর্ষ আয়কর প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের মর্যাদা অর্জন করায় মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রী আবুল মাল আবদুল মুহিত এমপি'র নিকট থেকে জনতা ব্যাংক লিমিটেডের সিইও এন্ড এমডি মোঃ আবদুস সালাম, এফসিএ ২০১৫-২০১৬ কর বৎসরের সেবা করদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানের সনদ পত্র গ্রহণ করেন। এই অর্জনে অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, ব্যাংকের পরিচালনা পর্ষদ, গ্রাহক, শুভানুধ্যায়ী ও কর্মীদের অভিনন্দন।



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