

**SONY SIX**  
**La Liga**  
**Deportivo v Real Betis**  
**Live from 1:40am (Saturday)**  
**STAR SPORTS SELECT HD2**  
**Bundesliga**  
**Hamburger v Leverkusen**  
**Live from 1:20am (Saturday)**

## KOREAN CYCLES TO ANFIELD TO WATCH GAME

A Liverpool fan cycled from South Korea to Anfield in an epic bid to see his beloved team's stadium. Jungyu Lee travelled more than 10,000 miles on his bike, passing through China, Russia and the Netherlands on his way. After 235 days, the intrepid traveller finally reached Liverpool this week. Shortly after arriving, Lee attempted to get himself a ticket for a game, but was unable to attain one. The South Korean then had to settle for watching the match in a local pub. But upon hearing his story, Liverpool kindly provided Lee with a ticket to their match against Spurs on February 11 and will also give him a stadium tour. Speaking to BBC, Lee explained: "I'm a really big fan of Anfield. And Jurgen Klopp - he's a top guy." Lee also confessed to spending only 5,000 dollars on his trip. He added: "It was really exciting and really nervous because I had finished my whole journey."

—AGENCIES



# Siddikur rebounds but Jazz in charge

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's premier golfer Siddikur Rahman bounced back in style with a 66 in the second round of the Bashundhara Bangladesh Open, but Jazz Janewattanond of Thailand surged to a solo lead yesterday.

Having fared poorly in the previous two editions and having made an unflattering start to this year's event, the onus was on Siddikur to deliver. And the two-time Asian Tour winner did so on Thursday to surge to joint fifth position with a five-under-par (66) at the Kurmitola Golf Club. Having traded a single bogey for six birdies yesterday, Siddikur still trails Janewattanond by six shots, but will feel he is in with a realistic shout going into the last two rounds of the 300,000-dollar Asian Tour event.

The 32-year-old golfer was the best-placed among the 10 local golfers to have made the cut alongside 63 foreign golfers.

"I hit the ball good and made a few putts today. My ball striking was a little off yesterday [Wednesday]. I putted really well today and that was the key," Siddikur said after wrapping up his day's work.

"This is my best position so far after two rounds in this tournament. I will try to follow what I did today for the next two rounds. No changes and nothing aggressive," Siddikur added.

However, Shakhawat Hossain Sohel, Bangladesh's best performer in the two previous events, rued the many bogeys over two days after narrowly missing out on the cut. The 32-year-old

SELECTED SCORES		
POS	NAME	SCORE
1	Jazz Janewattanond (THA)	-11 (131)
2	Shubhankar Sharma (IND)	-10 (132)
3	Rattanon Wannasrichan (THA)	-8 (134)
3	Panuphol Pittayarat (THA)	-8 (134)
5	Dodge Kemmer (USA)	-5 (137)
5	Siddikur Rahman (BAN)	-5 (137)
22	Dulal HOSSAIN (BAN)	-1 (141)
31	Sajib Ali (BAN)	Par (142)
31	Jamal Hossain Mollah (BAN)	Par (142)
36	Mohammad ZIA (BAN)	+1 (143)

golfer mixed five birdies and an eagle yesterday, but two bogeys and two double bogeys meant that he missed the cut by one stroke.

"It was a very fluctuating day for me," Sohel said. "I did play five birdies and an eagle, but I also hit too many bogeys in this event which cost me

dearly. I will not be looking for any excuses, but will try to do well in the following events."

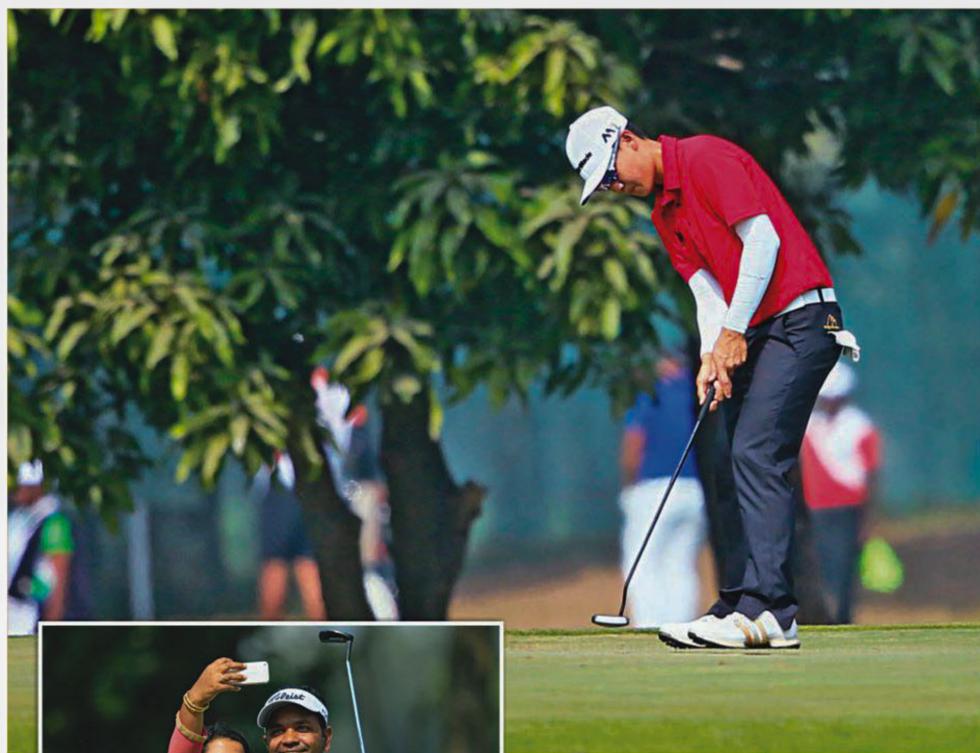
The day, and so far the event, belonged to young Janewattanond from Thailand, who carded a four-under-par (67) for a one-stroke lead over joint overnight leader Shubhankar Sharma of India.

The 21-year-old traded seven birdies against three bogeys to lead on 11-under-par (132).

"It was a mixed round for me but I wasn't thinking much. I walked to the club from my hotel for about 20 minutes in the cold this morning and I forgot my jacket. I didn't have much time to warm up and prepare. It was a bit of a rush but I still managed to par the first couple of holes so I am happy with that," said Janewattanond.

Sharma, also chasing a maiden win, took pride in his commendable round despite falling out of the lead.

"The round wasn't as smooth as it was yesterday but it was still good. I hit the ball decent and I managed to hang in there. My target was to shoot -10 for the first two rounds and I managed to do it. I am looking forward to the next two rounds," said the 20-year-old Indian.



Jazz Janewattanond of Thailand was in unforgiving mood as he grabbed a one-stroke lead in the second round of the Bashundhara Bangladesh Open at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday. (INSET) Siddikur Rahman enjoyed his excellent round, taking selfies with his wife Sajaun Anjum Aurooni.

PHOTOS: FIROZ AHMED

# Enrique unhappy despite win

AFP, Madrid

Barcelona coach Luis Enrique admitted missed chances leave his side with still some work to do to reach a fourth consecutive Copa del Rey final despite taking a 2-1 semi-final, first leg lead over Atletico Madrid.

Sensational strikes from Luis Suarez and Lionel Messi had Barca cruising at half-time at the Vicente Calderon on Wednesday.

However, Antoine Griezmann pulled a goal back for an inspired Atletico after the break before Neymar blasted over a huge chance to restore Barca's two-goal lead.

"If we had been more efficient with the quality we have in this team, we could have taken our chances better and had a different second leg," said Enrique.

Barca will also be without Neymar for the return leg on Tuesday as he picked up his third yellow card in the Cup this season late on.

"We knew we had to score here," said Suarez. "That was important and we got two, but it is not at all over."

It was a tale of two halves as Barca dominated in the first 45 minutes with

Suarez's sensational solo run and finish after seven minutes added to by Messi's thunderous 20-yard strike.

"I think we started the tie very well, knowing how difficult it is to play here at the Calderon," added Enrique. "We made sure they couldn't create any attacks, we kept the ball in their half, created a lot of chances and were very efficient."

"In the second-half, given the result, Atletico had to attack. They pressed us much more and caused a lot more problems. But it would be naive or ridiculous to think you can come here and not suffer."

Messi was once again a class apart as he constantly pulled the Atletico defence apart on top of firing home his 30th goal in 29 games this season.

"The big games are when you see the best Leo Messi," added Enrique.

"He showed us his full repertoire. His dribbling, generating superiority in midfield, giving assists and scoring goals. There are few new superlatives for Messi."

Four previous two-legged ties between these sides over the past three seasons had been split two apiece.

And Atletico looked far more like the side that Diego Simeone has made a serial contender for trophies over the past five years after the introduction of Fernando Torres at half-time.

"We spoke at half-time and I think in the second-half we got close to the team we have always been," said Simeone.

"I am left with that positive feeling. We were close to a draw, we fronted up against all the difficulties we faced in the first-half."

However, for all his achievements, Simeone is yet to win at the Camp Nou as Atletico boss and is aware the odds are very much against Los Rojiblancos reaching the final.

"I don't know what percentage chance we have," he added.

"Even if it is 20 per cent, we will give everything we have to make that 20 per cent count."



Barcelona striker Luis Suarez celebrates after opening the scoring through a brilliant individual effort against Atletico Madrid in their Copa del Rey semifinal first-leg at the Vicente Calderon on Wednesday.

PHOTO: AFP

## YOUTH HOCKEY Massive wins for Dhaka teams

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka District and Dhaka Educational Board posted massive wins in the Agrani Bank 26th National Youth Hockey Championship at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Dhaka toyed with Patuakhali with a 12-0 win, thanks to a four-goal haul including a hattrick from Arman Hossain. Sihab Hossain and Raihanuddin scored three and two goals respectively while Tanjim Ahmed, Mohammad Sohel and Ratul Ahmed netted one goal apiece.

In the day's other match, Dhaka Educational Board thrashed Narayanganj 9-0 riding on a four-goal strike from Parimal Mardi. Promod Dewan struck two goals while Ashraful Alam, Tahmid Haque and Akib Hossain netted one goal each.

# Senior national booters' fitness camp ends

SPORTS REPORTER

The fitness assessment camp of the first group of 29 national footballers ended yesterday at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) while the second group, also comprising 29 players, will start today at the same venue.

The camp has been arranged to see the current condition of the national players, who are supposed to take part in the Bangabandhu Gold Cup in March following the completion of Sheikh Kamal International Club Cup championship this month.

The booters had 12 days of training at the sports institution where fitness drills and technical training were conducted under English fitness coach John Whittle and local coach Syed Golam Jilani.

"Usually the players don't take much care of themselves during the off-season. That's why they struggle with fitness in the beginning of the season and I think this type of endurance camp will help them this season," said Jilani.

Jilani informed that midfielder Mashuk Mia Jonny was the best among 29 players in endurance as he covered 3450 meters which was better than the set mark while midfielders Emon Babu, Mohammad Abdullah, Jafar Iqbal and defender Nasir Chowdhury also did well in the conditioning camp.

## Pellegrini, Silva victims of con-artist

AGENCIES, Manchester

Manchester City star David Silva and former manager Manuel Pellegrini were the victims of a 150,000 pound credit card fraud, according to a report from the Manchester Evening News.

Professional con-artist Jonathan Reuben posed as Silva to withdraw 20,950 pounds in cash from the midfielder's bank in Manchester in September 2015.

Reuben travelled to four branches of Silva's bank -- at Wigan, Bolton, Bury and Prestwich -- before using the card to make withdrawals from cashiers and machines.

Then-City boss Pellegrini later discovered he was also a victim of the same scam, losing around 130,000 pounds as his card was refused at a restaurant.

At the time of the scam, Reuben, who has since been jailed for 20 months after admitting three counts of fraud, was serving a 14-week suspended sentence for posing as a company director in another 14,000-pound scam.

# Lampard hangs up his boots

AFP, London

Former England and Chelsea midfielder star Frank Lampard said he was retiring Thursday at the age of 38 after turning down "a number of exciting offers" in Britain and abroad.

"After 21 incredible years I have decided that now is the right time to finish my career as a professional footballer," Lampard wrote on Facebook. "I'm immensely proud of the trophies I've won, of representing my country over 100 times and of scoring more than 300 career goals."

Lampard did not say what he plans to do next, but said he was grateful to the Football Association for the opportunity to do his coaching badges, suggesting he may go into management.

Lampard left New York City FC in the autumn and also played for West Ham United and Manchester City in the Premier League.

But it was at Stamford Bridge where he really made his name as a prolific midfielder.

He scored 211 times for the Blues and won every major club honour, netting the goals which in 2005 secured the club's first championship title in 50 years.

"Of course, the largest part of my heart belongs to Chelsea Football Club, a club which has given me so many great memories," Lampard wrote. "I will never forget the opportunity they gave me and the success that we managed to achieve together. It is impossible to give thanks individually to all the people that helped and supported me in my 13 years playing there."

"All I can say is from the day I signed until now and going forward, I'm eternally grateful for everything and to everyone. Chelsea fans gave me such incredible support. Their passion and hunger drove me on personally to give my best year after year. I couldn't have done it without them."



## Auba told to tone down exit talk

AFP, Berlin

Star striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang has been told by Borussia Dortmund's director of sport to tone down any talk in future interviews about leaving at the end of the season.

"We spoke briefly and I advised him to give less interviews about the summer and to concentrate on the hunt for a Champions League place," Dortmund boss Michael Zorc told local newspaper WAZ.

"He understood," Aubameyang, the Bundesliga's top scorer this season with 16 goals in 16 games, fell offside with Zorc after giving two interviews recently when he openly admitted considering leaving in June.

The Gabon striker has a Dortmund contract until 2020, but has made it clear he wants to eventually play for Real Madrid to keep a promise he made to his grandfather just before he died.

But despite stern words with Aubameyang, Zorc made it clear the club's relationship with their star striker has not been affected.

# Jesus fires Manchester City

## Crouch reaches 100 PL goals in Everton draw

AFP, London

Gabriel Jesus opened his Manchester City account in a 4-0 stroll at West Ham United on Wednesday that sent his side level with fourth-place Liverpool in the Premier League.

Pep Guardiola's team took full advantage of slip-ups by the other teams in the leading pack on Tuesday to move level on points with Liverpool, 10 points below leaders Chelsea.

"Gabriel Jesus is a fighter with an instinct for the goal," beamed Guardiola of his 27 million pound recruit from Palmeiras. "He's good at assists too."

Manchester United could not follow suit, however, a damaging 0-0 draw at home to struggling Hull City leaving Jose Mourinho's men four points below Liverpool and City in sixth place.

Just a point now separates the teams sitting second, third, fourth and fifth, with Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal level on 47 points, a point above Liverpool and City.

Guardiola made two bold selection choices at West Ham's London Stadium, dropping goalkeeper Claudio Bravo for Willy Caballero and keeping City talisman Sergio Aguero on the bench.

And it worked as the visitors streaked into a 3-0 lead inside 39 minutes through goals by Kevin De Bruyne, David Silva and 19-year-old Brazil starlet Jesus.

In the 67th minute, Yaya Toure made it

4-0 from the penalty spot.

"We played a front three with an average age of 20. I like the fans to be excited," Guardiola told BT Sport.

"Those players are the future of the club. They will be important players for the next few years."

Hull's draw at Old Trafford gave them a small measure of revenge for last week's League Cup semi-final defeat at Manchester United's hands.

"We didn't score. You don't score, it is not possible to win. Their goalkeeper was good," Mourinho said in a terse post-match interview. "They had the

feedback and were comfortable to do what they did. I am not critical of that. They are fighting against relegation and every point is gold."

The point took Hull off the foot of the table, but Marco Silva's much improved side are still four points from safety.

Everton remain seventh, nine points below the Champions League places, after a 1-1 draw at Stoke City.

Peter Crouch gave Stoke an early lead with his 100th Premier League goal, but Ryan Shawcross turned Seamus Coleman's cross into his own net in the 39th minute to give the visitors a point.



Stoke City striker Peter Crouch does his trademark 'Robot' celebration after scoring against Everton at the Bet365 Stadium on Wednesday. He became the 26th player to reach 100 Premier League goals.

PHOTO: REUTERS