

STAR SPORTS 1
India v Bangladesh
1st Test, Day-4
Live from 10:00am

STAR SPORTS SELECT HD1
English Premiership
Burnley v Chelsea
Live from 7:30pm
Swansea v Leicester
Live from 10:00pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT HD2
Bundesliga
Wolfsburg v Hoffenheim
Live from 8:30pm
Freiburg v Koln
Live from 10:30pm

SONY ESPN
Serie A
Crotone v Roma
Live from 5:30pm
Sampdoria v Bologna
Live from 11:00pm

Cagliari v Juventus
Live from 1:45am (Monday)
SONY SIX
La Liga
Villarreal v Malaga
Live from 5:00pm

Leganes v Sporting Gijon
Live from 9:15pm
Las Palmas v Sevilla
Live from 11:30pm
Atletico Madrid v Celta Vigo
Live from 1:45am (Monday)

DAY'S EVENT

BANGLADESH CRICKET LEAGUE
(Four-Day Match, Day-2)
Time: 9:30am

Walton Central Zone v Prime Bank South Zone
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium

Islami Bank East Zone v BCB North Zone
Venue: Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium, Chittagong



Manchester United forward Anthony Martial (C) celebrates after scoring the second goal with teammates during their Premier League encounter against Watford at Old Trafford yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Siddikur at five-under

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman slipped to 29th position after enduring his first over-par round of the Maybank Championship in the third round yesterday. Having started the day at 14th position with an aggregate score of six-under-par, the 32-year-old golfer slipped way down with two bogeys and a double bogey over the first 10 holes of the Saujana Golf and Country Club in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday.

But three late birdies salvaged his position somewhat as he ended the day with a total score of five-under-par (211). Siddikur was still 11 shots off the pace, with Danny Willet of England leading the pack at 16-under-par (200), followed by David Lipsky of USA in second position at 13-under-par (213).

Agrani Bank, Shinepukur notch wins

SPORTS REPORTER

Agrani Bank Cricket Club and Shinepukur Cricket Club won their respective First Division Super League matches yesterday to brighten their chances of getting promotion to the Premier Cricket League.

Jabarul Islam hit 77 as Agrani Bank (146-6) defeated Kalindi Krira Chakra (142-9) by four wickets at the Fatullah Outer Stadium.

At BKSP, Shakhir Hossain scored 89 as Shinepukur Cricket Club (184-4) beat Ruppangji Tigers Cricket Club (183-10) by six wickets.

In the day's other match, Kakrail Boys Club (200-9) beat Surjo Torun Club (201-3) by seven wickets at BKSP-4 venue.

Teammate blasts Mario

AFP, Nice

Italian striker Mario Balotelli was labelled as moody, individual and difficult to talk to by Nice teammate Valentin Eysseric on Friday.

The 24-year-old was also careful to balance his words by adding that Balotelli was clearly "The best (footballer at Nice), the fastest and most skilful".

"When something goes wrong he lets his head drop, he starts grumbling and can be difficult to talk to," Eysseric said.

United close in on City

AFP, Manchester



United extend their brilliant Premier League form as they outclassed Watford in a comfortable 2-0 victory at Old Trafford on Saturday.

Earlier, Alexis Sanchez brought manager Arsene Wenger some breathing space with a brace of goals as Arsenal overcame Hull City 2-0.

The Chilean forward contentiously scored with his hand in the 34th minute and netted a stoppage-time penalty to get Arsenal back to winning ways following successive defeats by Watford and leaders Chelsea.

Jose Mourinho may have a reputation as a defensive manager, but that accusation could not be made during this contest as United were wonderfully entertaining from start to finish.

With an attack containing Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Henrikh Mkhitaryan and both goalscorers, United had class to spare and Walter Mazzarri's Watford had no real answers.

Mourinho will be particularly pleased with the return to form of Martial, a player who has blown hot and cold recently following speculation about his future.

United's impressive league form has seen them go unbeaten since their humiliating 4-0 reverse at leaders

Chelsea on October 23.

They now trail fourth-place Manchester City by just a point ahead of their derby rivals' trip to Bournemouth on Monday.

Watford arrived in Manchester confident, however, after consecutive wins over Arsenal and Burnley.

United had the best of the opening moments, but clear-cut chances were a rarity early on. That was to change.

Antonio Valencia's deflected cross fell to Ibrahimovic 12 yards out after 60 seconds, but he mishit his volley, while a jinking run from Martial had Watford worried until his shot deflected wide.

Watford were clearly up for the fight as Jose Holebas and M'Baye Niang targeted Valencia on United's right flank and repeatedly ran through on David de Gea's goal, but could not make it count.

After 17 minutes, Paul Pogba nearly opened the scoring with a fine effort from 25 yards that Heurelho Gomes managed to brilliantly claw away at full stretch.

United slowly turned up the tempo and had three brilliant opportunities as Watford began to sit back, a tactic that can prove fatal at Old Trafford.

Firstly Ibrahimovic volleyed over following a fine ball from Pogba before the Frenchman almost scored himself, volleying Valencia's low cross goalwards, only for Gomes to produce another smart save.

The best opportunity, though, fell to Mkhitaryan, who blasted over from Mata's intelligent pass, much to Mourinho's dismay.

It felt like Watford's resistance had to break and so it proved.

With Mourinho imploring the home crowd to chant more loudly in support of his side, Gomes produced a stunning close-range block from Ibrahimovic before Mata broke the deadlock in the 32nd minute.

Martial ran Watford ragged down the left and his pinpoint pass gave Mata an easy tap-in from four yards out for his ninth goal of the season.

Watford somehow reached half-time just a goal down, but Mourinho's men continued where they had left off after the interval as a Martial effort just went wide of the far post 60 seconds into the second half.

Martial did a little better on the hour, grabbing his side's second goal as United twisted the knife.

In the blink of an eye, Ibrahimovic fed Martial near the halfway line and he ran through on goal, took his time and then beat Gomes at his near post through a thicket of defenders.

After the goal Watford actually improved as they chased the match and Daryl Janmaat should have halved the deficit with 20 minutes to go, only to blast wastefully over from 12 yards out.

It summed up Watford's afternoon as United closed up at the back and ran down the clock with ease.

Afif, Shuvagata light up first day

SPORTS REPORTER



Afif Hossain shone with the bat in Chittagong while Shuvagata Hom sparked with his off-spin in Fatullah as the third round of the Bangladesh Cricket League got underway yesterday.

It was a special moment for 17-year-old Afif as he reached the three-digit score on his first-class debut to bring back happy memories of his five-wicket haul on debut in the Bangladesh Premier League.

Riding on a 197-run opening stand between Imtiaz Hossain and Afif, Islami Bank East Zone made a solid start against league leaders BCB North Zone as they made 293 for three at stumps at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium.

Afif hit a 171-ball 105 with 14 fours and two sixes before Nasir Hossain dismissed him, while Imtiaz contributed with 81 off 148 balls, a knock that featured eight fours and two sixes.

At the Fatullah Cricket Stadium, Hom claimed six wickets for 91 runs to dismiss second-placed Prime Bank South Zone for

260. Hom started the carnage by grabbing the first three wickets as South Zone were reduced to 51 for three. Mohammad Mithun and Tushar Imran repaired the damage, sharing 61 runs in the fourth wicket stand before pacer Abu Hider trapped Mithun for leg before wicket for 42.

Tushar had another 91-run partnership with Al-Amin, who scored 30 runs, but Sharifullah broke the partnership by removing Tushar, who made 81 off 168 balls, to pave the way for Hom to mop up the tail quickly. Central Zone negotiated the last four overs of the day without any damage.

SCORES IN BRIEF
ISLAMI BANK EAST ZONE VS BCB NORTH ZONE

ISLAMI BANK EAST ZONE: 293-3 in 90 overs (Imtiaz 81, Afif 105, Tasamul 34, Zakir 48 not out, Yasir 10 not out; Yasin 2-34)

PRIME BANK SOUTH ZONE VS WALTON CENTRAL ZONE

PRIME BANK SOUTH ZONE: 260 all out in 83.5 overs (Tushar 81, Mithun 42, Al-Amin 30, Gazi 43; Hom 6-91, Hider 2-34, Sharifullah 2-48)

WALTON CENTRAL ZONE: 4-0 in 4 overs (Shadman 3 not out, Mazid 0 not out)



Afif Hossain... 105

'MSN' smash Alaves for six

AFP, Madrid



Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar were all on target as Barcelona went top of La Liga for the first time since October with a 6-0 thrashing of Alaves on Saturday.

Barca's success was overshadowed, though, by violent clashes between fans outside the ground before kick-off which left one supporter in hospital with serious head injuries.

On the field, Barca boss Luis Enrique rotated his squad once more with six changes from Tuesday's 1-1 draw with Atletico Madrid that secured their place in a fourth consecutive Cup final.

The visitors had goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen to thank for not going behind early on with a brilliant one-on-one save from Theo Hernandez.

There was no doubt over the outcome once Barca went in front thanks to a fine team move finished off by Suarez from close range eight minutes before half-time.

A goalkeeping error from Fernando Pacheco allowed Barca to double their lead three minutes later as he punched a loose ball off Suarez's head and the ball rebounded for Neymar to tap into an empty net.

The champions hit top form after the break with four further goals in eight minutes.

Messi drilled his 34th goal of the season low past Pacheco just before the hour mark.

The Argentine was then played in by Suarez, but the last touch came off Alaves defender Alexis to make it 4-0.

Ivan Rakitic blasted home the fifth from Suarez's cut-back before the Uruguayan rounded off the rout himself after Pacheco had parried Neymar's initial effort.

Tigresses walloped

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh women's team continued their poor batting displays as they lost their final group match of the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier against their South African counterparts by six wickets at the P Sara Oval in Colombo yesterday.

Bangladesh will have to wait till the last group matches are played to know about their Super Six fate. Bangladesh have two wins from four matches while South Africa brightened their chances with three wins from as many matches.

Having decided to bat first, Bangladesh made a poor start, losing Sharmin Sultana off the third ball of the innings before two quick wickets reduced them to eight for three in the fifth over.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BANGLADESH: 100 all out in 46.5 overs (Rumana 39; Ismail 3-14, Niekerk 2-22, Luus 3-17)

SOUTH AFRICA: 101-4 in 25.2 overs (Lee 34, Wolvaardt 30; Rumana 1-18, Salma 1-14)

Result: South Africa won by six wickets.

BOA holds 1st AGM Bolt fires 'All Stars' to Nitro Series win

Olympic village proposed, EC formed

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) yesterday held its maiden Annual General Meeting since its inception in 1979, with BOA president and army chief General Abu Belal Mohammad Shafiqul Haque in chair and 49 members of the general assembly present, at the Kurmitola Golf Club.

Even though the tenure of the executive committee of BOA expired in late January this year, the committee hosted the AGM to approve some financial statements where four years' (2012 - 2016) financial reports were approved.

The meeting also approved a budget worth Tk 11.36 crore for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

BOA secretary general Sayeed Shahed Reza later appraised reporters of the outcomes of the meeting at a press briefing at the BOA auditorium.

"To ensure the transparency of my four-year-tenure, we organised the AGM for the first time in BOA's history and I'm really happy to do so," Reza told reporters.

Reza also earmarked three things which he believes were successes of his tenure. Even though Bangladesh's performance in last year's South Asian Games was rather disappointing, Reza claimed that he did something exceptional in his tenure.

"We hosted the Bangladesh Games after 11 years is was very pleasing. We even sent teams to different events using fund from our own coffers and those teams did well.

"We have also proposed a Games Village for accommodation of athletes during different local and international sports events. I and the sports minister have already spoken to the Prime Minister about this and we are looking for land for that project. If it takes shape sometime in future, it will have a great impact on our sport," Reza said.

The former ambassador also informed that they have already formed a three-member election commission to conduct the upcoming election.

"I didn't have any intention to hold on to the chair which is why we formed an election commission led by BKSP director general Brigadier General Shamsur Rahman," Reza said.

Meanwhile, Kazi Razibuddin Ahmed Chapal, treasurer of BOA, informed that the reserve of BOA's bank account increased to Tk 45 crore, Tk 21 crore more than what it was when they took over in 2012.

REUTERS, Melbourne



Usain Bolt fired his team of international 'All Stars' to victory in the inaugural Nitro Athletics Series in Melbourne on Saturday, capping the glitzy event with a dominant win in the 4x100m relay to pip hosts Australia in the final standings.

Running the second leg of the relay, the eight-times Olympic gold medal-winner took the baton from fellow Jamaican sprinter Asafa Powell before Jeneba Tarmoh and Natasha Morrison powered to the finish in front of a sell-out crowd at Lakeside Stadium.

Having run in only the relays in the opening two instalments of the three-night series, Bolt also took his first individual run of the year, burning away from a modest field for an easy win in the 150m sprint ahead of New Zealander Joseph Millar.

The 'All-Stars' finished the team-based meeting with 3,040 points, edging Australia by 77 points, with Bolt playing a key role as both his team's linchpin and the event's 'chief entertainment officer'.

But the final score was less important than the crowds and television figures for an event that promised to "revolutionise" athletics by borrowing heavily from the formula of sport and entertainment that has underpinned Twenty20 cricket's considerable success.

"It was brilliant, it was exciting. Tonight came down to the last event and I think everyone in the track and field world really enjoyed this," Bolt, who was paid a seven-figure sum to run in Melbourne and was



Sprint superstar Usain Bolt and his All Stars team celebrate after winning the Nitro Athletics meet in Melbourne yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

given a stake in the Series, told reporters on the track.

"I knew that this is what track and field needed.

"I'm just happy the event came together the way that it did. We know we have improvements to do ... We're going to keep trying to improve it along the way."

With a sprinkling of big international names and a number of athletes well off peak fitness, the entertainment outweighed the quality of the sport but the parochial

crowd warmly embraced the team rivalries and the novel program of events.

IAAF president Sebastian Coe, battling to lift the sport's profile outside of the Olympics and repair its reputation after a series of major doping and corruption scandals in recent years, was impressed.

"I thought it was a terrific start," said Coe, who attended the latter two nights of the Series.

"It's an obvious thing to say but unless we innovate we are going to become less and less relevant and we can't afford to do that."