What to WATCH

MAASRANGA, GTV
Tri-Nation Series
Bangladesh v New Zealand
Live from 3:45pm

SONY ESPN & SONY SIX
Indian Premier League
ELIMINATOR
Hyderabad v Kolkata
Live from 8:30pm

SONY SIX & TEN 1
La Liga
Celta Vigo v Real Madrid
Live from 1:00am (Thursday)

STAR SPORTS SELECT HD1
English Premiership
Southampton v Man United
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

DAY'S EVENT

DHAKA PREMIER LEAGUE
Time: 9:00am
Prime Doleshwar v Khelaghar SKS
Venue: KSOAS

Victoria SC v Partex SC
Venue: BKSP-3
Abahani v Legends of Rupganj
Venue: BKSP-4

FEDERATION CUP
Rahamatganj MFS v Brothers Union
Time: 5:30pm
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

CAVANI, MBAPPE SCOOP AWARDS

Paris Saint-Germain striker Edinson Cavani has been named Ligue 1 Player of the Year for the first time, while Monaco sensation Kylian Mbappe is the best young player for 2016-17. Cavani has scored 35 league goals in as many appearances in a stunning individual season. Their former striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic had won the award in three of the past four seasons, with Eden Hazard, Alexandre Lacazette, Karim Benzema and Didier Drogba also among the previous winners. Mbappe, meanwhile, scooped the Young Player of the award after a season that saw him develop into Europe's most wanted prospect, with 14 league goals and 11 assists playing a huge part in Monaco's stunning campaign. The forward has been compared to Thierry Henry, who also scooped the young player award while at Monaco in 1997. And Chelsea star N'Golo Kante was recognised as the Best French player playing abroad, an accolade which Antoine Griezmann won in 2016. —Agencies

QUICK SINGLES

The following are a few samples of stories that did not make the print edition. However, if they pique your interest, you can always read them online on The Daily Star website by simply scanning the QR codes listed below:

India women Sharma, Raut set record 320-run stand
India's Deepti Sharma and Punam Raut smashed centuries against Ireland and combined in a stand of 320 runs to record the highest partnership in a women's one-day international.

Root to bring aggression back: Warne
Widely regarded as one of the best bowlers in the history of the game, Australia's Shane Warne expects new captain Joe Root to change the way England play Test cricket.

Ronaldo could take Madrid to brink of title in Celta Vigo
In-form striker Cristiano Ronaldo will try to take Real Madrid to the brink of the Spanish title against Celta Vigo.

'Time away has been key for Federer, Nadal'
Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal have returned to tennis in blistering form this season because they were able to recharge during injury layoffs last year, former world number two Alex Corretja has said.

Chelsea celebrate title with 4-3 romp against Watford
Departing captain John Terry led his Chelsea champions to a rip-roaring 4-3 victory over Watford, scoring the first goal on an evening of celebration, fireworks and streamers rather than vintage football at Stamford Bridge.

Mohammedan's Nigerian striker Nkowcha Kingsley (C) celebrates his winning goal against Arambagh during their Federation Cup match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

BNS press box damaged by thunderstorm

SPorts REporter

The thunderstorm on Monday night took a heavy toll on the press facilities of the Bangabandhu National Stadium, the spiritual home of Bangladesh football, where the Federation Cup is currently being played.

The destruction caused by the severe thunderstorm was quite appalling as a large, heavy glass panel crashed upon impact, breaking a number of desks in the two front rows of the press box.

With two matches of the Federation Cup being played there every day, the damage has put the working journalists in jeopardy.

Ashoke Kumar Biswas, secretary of the National Sports Council, visited the scene along with other officials yesterday afternoon and assessed the damage. The secretary also listened to the demands of journalists regarding how to improve facilities at the press box.

"We will take measures immediately to repair the damage caused by the storm."

"Meanwhile we are taking a big project to upgrade the facilities of the stadium, which will include upgrading facilities of the press box as well," Biswas told reporters after his inspection.

It may be mentioned that the roof of the same press box had broken down after heavy rainfall in 2007, hours after the completion of a World Cup qualifying match between Bangladesh and Tajikistan.

Mohammedan stay alive

Sheikh Russel, Sheikh Jamal in last eight

SPorts REporter

Fallen giants Mohammedan came from a goal down to beat Motijheel neighbours Arambagh KS 2-1 in an entertaining encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, keeping their hopes of a quarterfinal berth in the Walton Federation Cup alive.

Coming into the match on the back of a 2-1 defeat against Chittagong Abahani, Mohammedan found themselves in trouble when Arambagh's young winger Robiul Hasan opened the scoring, poking home a rebound after Mohammedan goalkeeper Rasel Mahmud Liton had parried away Rajon Mia's attempt.

But Syed Nayeemuddin's charges hit back in the 35th minute through Toklish Ahmed -- the former national team winger getting his second goal in two matches -- with a simple tap-in from a goalmouth scramble.

While Maruful Haque's Arambagh continued to impress with their enterprising display, it was a glaring howler from their young goalkeeper Mahfuz Hasan Pritom which gave the initiative to Mohammedan in the 66th minute. The inexperienced custodian made a meal of a backpass from a defender, miscuing his clearance, and Nkowcha Kingsley gleefully accepted the gift, poking home from six yards out.

The result means qualification from Group C will be decided on Thursday when Arambagh take on Chittagong Abahani in the group's final match. The Chittagong outfit have three points from one game while Arambagh are yet to open their account with a game in hand. Mohammedan, on the other hand, remain on three points, having played both their games.

Earlier, one-time champions Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra and three-time champions Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club moved into the quarterfinals after the former dispatched strugglers Farashganj SC 3-0.

Playing their first match of the competition, 2012-2013 champions Sheikh Russel cruised to the victory, thanks to a goal each from Dawda Cisse, Arup Baidya and Aminur Rahman Sajib in a lopsided affair of Group B at the big bowl. The victory for Sheikh Russel also meant fellow giants Sheikh Jamal, who had beaten the Old Dhaka outfit by the same margin on Sunday, are also through to the last eight.

FARASHGANJ	0 - 3	ShEIKH RuSSEL dAWDA 32', aRIP 39', sAJIB 52'
MOHAMMEDAN tOKLISH 35', kINGSLEY 66'	2 - 1	aRAMBAGH kS rOBIUL 13'

The two qualified teams will take on each other tomorrow in the group's last match, which will also decide the group champions.

Dawda Cisse gave Shafiqul Islam Manik's side the lead in the 32nd minute, with a powerful diagonal shot from inside the box just a minute after Farashganj goalkeeper Borhanuddin had denied Mohammad Julfikar with a diving save. Veteran winger Arup Baidya doubled Sheikh Russel's lead seven minutes later, picking the corner of the net between two defenders. Sheikh Russel dominated the second half as well and wrapped up the victory soon after restart, with Aminur Rahman Sajib finding the back of the net with a placing shot in the 52nd minute.

Maria denied French Open wild card

AFp, *Paris*

Two-time champion Maria Sharapova will not play at Roland Garros this year after the French tennis federation denied her a wild card, FFT president Bernard Guidicelli said on Tuesday.

The former world number one, who only returned from a 15-month doping ban last month, will miss the French Open, which she won in 2012 and 2014, for the second year in a row.

"Nobody can deprive her of her two titles at Roland Garros, but today I can't grant her the wild card requested," Guidicelli said on Facebook Live.

Pune move into final

PTi, *Mumbai*

M S Dhoni and Washington Sundar made match-winning contributions as Rising Pune Supergiant slayed Mumbai Indians by 20 runs to reach their maiden Indian Premier League final on Tuesday.

Dhoni was at his destructive best, smashing 40 off 26 balls in the death overs to propel Pune to 162 for four before young off-spinner Sundar took three important wickets that led to Mumbai falling short with 142 for nine in Qualifier 1.

Pep rues dry season

AFp, *Manchester*

Pep Guardiola has suggested the results of his first season as Manchester City manager would have seen him sacked by either Barcelona or Bayern Munich.

Guardiola won 14 trophies in four seasons as manager at the Nou Camp, and seven in three years with Bayern.

He never finished lower than second while in charge of Barcelona, while winning the Bundesliga in each of his three seasons in Germany.

But the Spaniard has found life more difficult in England.

Guardiola can finish no higher than third in this season's Premier League, which will be the lowest final placing of his managerial career. He will also end the campaign without a trophy for the first time as a coach.

He has acknowledged that he needs to do better if he is to avoid being labelled a failure in the Premier League.

"I had pressure when I became manager at Barcelona, when I had no reputation to defend myself with," Guardiola said Monday.

"At that club, if in six months you don't win, you are really out. At Barcelona or Bayern Munich, you have to win by far. If not, they don't give you a second chance."

Coentrao, Falcao face lawsuit

REuters, *Madrid*

The Spanish prosecutor in Madrid said yesterday it had filed a lawsuit against soccer players Radamel Falcao and Fabio Coentrao, accusing them of hiding almost 7 million euros ($7.7 million) from the tax office between 2012 and 2014.

Falcao, a Colombian who played for Atletico de Madrid from 2011 to 2013 and now plays for Monaco, has been accused of failing to properly declare a total of around 5.6 million euros earned from image rights.

Portugal's Coentrao, who plays for Real Madrid, is accused of failing to correctly declare almost 1.3 million euros, also earnings from image rights.

Real Madrid declined to comment.

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Federer to skip French Open

REuters, *Paris*

Roger Federer has pulled out of this month's French Open as he feels he needs to avoid playing on clay this season in order to prolong his career, the 18-times grand slam champion said on Monday.

The Swiss, who defied logic to win the Australian Open in January after being out of tennis for six months, will skip the May 28-June 11 claycourt major for the second year running after missing last year's edition through injury.

"I've been working really hard, both on and off the court, during the last month but in order to try and play on the ATP World Tour for many years to come, I feel it's best to skip the claycourt season this year and prepare for the grass and hardcourt seasons," world number five Federer, who won his sole Roland Garros title in 2009, said on his Facebook page.

"The start to the year has been magical for me but I need to recognise that scheduling will be the key to my longevity moving forward.

"Thus, my team and I concluded today that playing just one event on clay was not in the best interest of my tennis and physical preparation for the remainder of the season."

Federer, 35, has already won the three biggest titles of the year to date as he followed his triumph in Australia with wins at Indian Wells and the Miami Open.

After that stunning run, Federer, who missed the second half of last year recovering from knee surgery, said that he would likely skip the European claycourt season except for the French Open.

The former world number one's announcement came a day after Rafael Nadal won his third consecutive claycourt title of the season ahead of the French Open, where the Spaniard will be bidding for his 10th Roland Garros title.