

What to WATCH

STAR SPORTS SELECT HD1

Wimbledon

Men's Round-1

Live from 6:00pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT HD1

Wimbledon

Women's Round-1

Live from 4:30pm

BELLERIN GARNERS £19,000 FOR GRENFELL

Arsenal defender Hector Bellerin will donate over £19,000 to help victims of the horrific Grenfell Tower fire. At least 80 people died in the fire in Kensington, though more fatalities are expected to be confirmed. Bellerin pledged to donate £50 for every minute he played for the Spanish team at the European Under-21 Championships this summer, with La Roja reaching the final. Bellerin won a silver medal as Spain lost 1-0 to Germany in the final, and the kind-hearted defender has now confirmed that he has raised £19,050 to donate to the British Red Cross, after playing 381 minutes. The 22-year-old revealed the number on Twitter on Sunday morning, and has urged others to "please support in any way you can".  
—AGENCIES





Portugal pulled off a late heist in the Confederations Cup third-place match against Mexico. Pepe brought the scores level in added time of the second half, before Adrien Silva (R) scored the decisive goal from the penalty spot in the 104th minute in Moscow yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

# Portuguese blitz stuns Mexico

AFP, Moscow



Adrien Silva scored an extra-time penalty as Portugal recovered from a goal down to beat Mexico 2-1 in Sunday's third-place play-off at the Confederations Cup in Moscow.

Luis Neto bundled into his own net to hand Mexico a 54th-minute lead, but Pepe stabbed home a stoppage-time equaliser to force an extra 30 minutes at Spartak Stadium.

Silva then struck his first international goal after a handball inside the box on 104 minutes, while both sides finished with 10 men as Nelson Semedo was dismissed for Portugal before Raul Jimenez saw red for Mexico.

World champions Germany face Copa America holders Chile later in the final in Saint Petersburg.

European champions Portugal were without captain Cristiano Ronaldo after the Real Madrid star was released from the squad to return home to meet his newborn twins.

Portugal and Mexico drew 2-2 in the opening game of the group stage, when Hector Moreno salvaged a last-gasp point for the Gold Cup winners, but were left fighting for a consolation prize in the Russian capital.

Portugal should have gone in front on 17

minutes when Andre Silva was upended by 38-year-old Rafael Marquez, with the video assistant referee stepping in to award the spot-kick.

But Mexico goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa flung himself superbly to his right to tip Andre Silva's low spot-kick round the post.

Rui Patricio produced a sharp stop to deny Javier Hernandez, Mexico's all-time leading scorer, from close range on the half hour, but the keeper was beaten shortly after the break.

Hernandez's cross from the byline floated beyond Carlos Vela and Patricio, with Zenit St Petersburg centre-back Neto unwittingly turning the ball home.

Portugal went in pursuit of an equaliser and Gelson Martins -- replacing Ronaldo in attack -- was denied by an excellent save from Ochoa with just over an hour played.

But Ochoa was beaten in the first minute of injury time as Pepe lunged to get on the end of Ricardo Quaresma's curling right-wing cross to force extra time.

Silva then grabbed the winner just before the end of the first period of extra time, burying a penalty after Miguel Layun handled in the box.

Semedo was then sent off on 106 minutes after picking up a second yellow card, but Mexico's numerical advantage was swiftly wiped out when Jimenez received his marching orders.

## 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:

- Ostapenko flying high

Jelena Ostapenko was flying high after her shock French Open triumph when she was invited into the cockpit of the plane taking her home to a hero's welcome in Latvia.

Valverde undergoes successful surgery

Spanish veteran Alejandro Valverde has undergone a succesful operation to fix a broken kneecap he suffered in a crash that knocked him out of the Tour de France, his Movistar team said.

Infantino hails VAR 'great success'

FIFA president Gianni Infantino hailed the video assistant referee (VAR) system as "great success" at the Confederations Cup, but admitted it still needs improving.



With the most celebrated tennis tournament of the year set to start at the All England Club in London today, there is a huge contrast between the state of the men's and women's draws. Wimbledon 2017 for the men is a throwback to the early days of the Big Four of men's tennis, with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal being the overwhelming favourites and home favourite Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray bringing up the rear.

Murray is ranked number 1 in the world, while Djokovic has slipped to fourth and as the pre-eminent players of the last two years they have a lot to prove in the middle of an underwhelming season so far. Federer and Nadal, meanwhile, have won the last Grand Slams that they have played.

On the women's side however, with Serena Williams preparing for the birth of her first child and Maria Sharapova sidelined by a thigh injury, the race to be crowned Wimbledon champion is the most wide-open in a generation. In the absence of American great Williams and the headline-grabbing Sharapova, women's tennis has an undeniable lack of star power heading into Wimbledon. Into the breach may step in two-time winner Petra Kvitova or world number one Angelique Kerber. A surprise winner, more common in the women's tour, is certainly a possibility.



### RAFAEL NADAL (4)

Although he is enjoying a renaissance at the moment, Wimbledon has always been bittersweet for Nadal.

The 31-year-old started the season in fantastic shape, a far cry from his injury-ridden struggles before, romping to the Australian Open final where he was denied in a five-set thriller by Roger Federer. In the clay-court season Nadal lived up to his moniker of King of Clay, winning the Monte-Carlo Masters, Barcelona Open and Madrid Open before the stretch culminated in his 10th title at Roland Garros.

Wimbledon however, has been a different story. He was champion in 2008 and 2010, but a fourth round run in 2014 represents his best recent effort.

Nadal admitted that if he suffers a new problem with his knees, then his visit to London may again be short-lived.

"If I have pain in the knees, then I know from experience that it's almost impossible," said the 31-year-old. "If I am able to go through at the beginning, I think I'm with confidence."



### ROGER FEDERER (3)

Twelve months after shutting down his season in the wake of a devastating semifinal defeat, Roger Federer returns to Wimbledon as favourite to capture a record-breaking eighth title and become the tournament's oldest champion.

The evergreen Swiss, who turns 36 in August, is poised to break the tie for seven Wimbledon titles he shares with Pete Sampras and take his career tally at the majors to 19.

Federer, who captured a fifth Australian Open in January, will go into Wimbledon refreshed by skipping the daycourt season. However, he will not write off his three major rivals with whom he has shared all the Wimbledon titles since his maiden triumph in 2003.

"If Andy is anything close to 100 per cent physically, I consider him one of the big favourites to win. It's that simple. It's the same for Novak and the same for Rafa," said Federer who will start his Wimbledon campaign against Alexander Dolgoplov of Ukraine. "I think it's very even when we put it all out on the line. Everybody has their own little story right now."



### ANDY MURRAY (1)

Two-time Wimbledon winner and reigning champion Andy Murray insisted that he was fit enough to defend his crown after recent struggles with a hip injury.

That will be a big load off Murray's mind, who admitted that he was worried the pain would not recede in time for the event.

"I'll be fine to play the event and play seven matches," Murray said ahead of the tournament. "You never know. I haven't been in that sort of position too often, only a few days before a Slam and not felt good at all," he said. "Obviously this is an extremely important tournament, so you worry a little bit. It's a little bit stressful if you can't practise for a few days."

"I just tried to think positively. I tried to make the best decisions along with my team to give myself the best chance to feel good on Monday. I feel like I've done that."

Murray, who revealed that he and wife Kim Sears were expecting their second child, will be level with Fred Perry as the three-time home winner if he can win this time around.



### NOVAK DJOKOVIC (3)

Djokovic, the three-time Wimbledon champion, warmed up for the premier grass court event by claiming a morale-boosting title triumph at Eastbourne on Saturday.

That was his first trophy since Doha in January, representing just how far he has fallen off since last season's dominance when he came to the All-England Club with all four Grand Slams under his belt.

However, he is confident that this is simply a rough patch, which is nearing its end.

"All the top players go through this. I have to get through it and learn the lessons and come back stronger," said the 30-year-old Serb who will also work with former Wimbledon semifinalist Mario Ancic who famously defeated Federer at the All England Club back in 2002.

The jury is still out on his decision to hire Andre Agassi as coach while his quarterfinal loss at Roland Garros to Dominic Thiem was his first in straight sets at the majors in four years, but this is the perfect platform to Djokovic to bounce back.



### PETRA KVITOVA (11)

If Petra Kvitova gets her hands on the Venus Rosewater Dish for a third time, it would complete a fairytale comeback for the Czech following the horrific hand injury she sustained while being attacked by a knife-wielding burglar in her home in December.

Kvitova, the Wimbledon champion in 2011 and 2014, was out of action for six months, but she returned at the French Open before winning the Birmingham title on grass last week.

The 27-year-old pulled out of Eastbourne due to an abdominal injury, but hopes to make a strong run at her favourite Grand Slam.

"I've been through a very difficult time in my life. Winning in Birmingham gives me some extra confidence that I am still able to fight," said Kvitova, who meets Johanna Larsson in the first round.

"We still do have great players in the draw, even (though) Serena is not playing.

"It's very open. So who knows who going to win."



### ANGELIQUE KERBER (1)

World number one Angelique Kerber has failed to live up to her seeding as yet, failing to win a single ATP title in 2017 and Wimbledon may not be the best venue for her to break her slump.

The 29-year-old has reached the final of the event just once, where she was defeated in straight sets by an imperious Serena Williams.

However, the German believes that Serena's absence will give her the chance to make amends for last year's final misery.

"Of course it's different if Serena is not here. We will see. Everything is possible in two weeks," Kerber told reporters at Wimbledon on Saturday. "There are so many good players right now, so I will not put the pressure on my side.

To win the title, Kerber needs to improve dramatically after making unwanted history when her defeat against Ekaterina Makarova made her the first top-ranked woman in the Open era to fall in the opening round at Roland Garros.

## Should have stopped earlier: Blatter

AFP, Geneva

Disgraced former FIFA president Sepp Blatter, forced out as head of football's governing body amid a corruption scandal in 2015, admitted on Sunday he regretted not stepping down earlier.

The 81-year-old was banned over ethics breaches, bringing an end to his 17-year reign as FIFA chief, following a suspect two million Swiss franc payment to ex-UEFA president Michel Platini.

"I should have stopped myself earlier," Blatter said in an interview, adding that his ousting was "a relief".

Blatter, who was re-elected for a fifth term in May 2015 before promptly announcing his plans to resign, recalled the editor-in-chief of a Swiss magazine warning him the role of FIFA president had an expiration date.

# 'The judges were crazy' Pacquiao's camp fuming after loss to Horn

AFP, Brisbane



Former schoolteacher Jeff Horn stunned world champion Manny Pacquiao to win the World Boxing Organisation welterweight crown with a controversial unanimous points decision in Brisbane on Sunday.

Given no chance by most observers, the 29-year-old Horn's ultra-aggressive style rocked Pacquiao, with the three judges scoring the fight 117-111, 115-113 and 115-113 to the Australian after 12 rounds.

Pacquiao's camp and observers including Lennox Lewis slammed the decision, as the eight-weight world champion said on Filipino TV: "We thought that we won this fight."

"There is no problem with me if there's a rematch," he added. "It would be better if the rematch would be held in the Philippines."

Pacquiao's camp had predicted a "short and sweet" win over Horn. But Horn showed no signs of being overawed by the occasion, relentlessly taking the fight to the Filipino great.

THE VITALS		
PACQUIAO	STATS	HORN
32%	TOTAL PUNCHES	15%
572	THROWN	625
182	LANDED	92
31%	JABS	10%
193	THROWN	197
59	LANDED	19
32%	POWER PUNCHES	17%
380	THROWN	428
123	LANDED	73

Pacquiao did manage to land some left jabs in the opening rounds to take the early points, but Horn refused to back away and his brawling tactics paid dividends through the middle stages.

Pacquiao, bleeding profusely from cuts high above both eyes caused by accidental head clashes, launched a savage counter-attack in the ninth round and appeared to have Horn in trouble with some massive blows that left the Australian staggering.

"The ref came over (at the end of the round) and said 'show me something or I'll stop the fight'," Horn said. "I thought, 'Hang on, hold your horses -- I'm not that bad, I can keep going.'"

Pacquiao's strength and conditioning coach Justin Fortune claimed: "The referee was sketchy, judges were crazy."

"Manny lost the fight, but Jeff Horn looks like a pumpkin," added Fortune, referring to the badly swollen face of Horn.

Lewis, the former undisputed world heavyweight champion, tweeted: "This is what's wrong with boxing. Horn was very game but I'm hard pressed to see how he could have won that fight by any stretch!"



Jeff Horn (L) stunned Manny Pacquiao to win the WBO welterweight crown in Brisbane yesterday by a unanimous decision after 12 rounds with neither willing to give an inch. The decision however was lambasted by many, including boxing legend Lennox Lewis.

PHOTO: REUTERS