

TEN 3
Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe
5th ODI
Live from 10:15am

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1,
STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
Wimbledon
Fourth Round
Live from 5:45pm

TOMIC RIDICULES HIS CRITICS

Fresh from his controversial comments at Wimbledon, Bernard Tomic says he does not care what people think of him, saying people can only dream of the riches he has accrued. Tomic exited Wimbledon following a listless performance against Mischa Zverev, and he stunned reporters at a press conference by declaring himself "a little bored" on the most famous stage in world tennis. But speaking to the Sunday Herald Sun, Tomic insisted he deserved everything he had earned in his career so far, ahead of an anticipated plunge down the ATP rankings. "I worked 10 hours a day with my father, having no money in our life from the age of eight to 15," Tomic said. "We were driving a \$500 car to now having millions and earning millions at 24, having houses all over the world. You probably don't like me but, at only 24, you guys can only dream about having what I have at 24." —AGENCIES



U-16 women booters off to South Korea

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh U-16 women's

team left for South Korea

last night to play some

practice matches as a part of their preparation for September's AFC U-16 Women's Championship, with the hope of gaining valuable experience as well as overcoming the fear of facing stronger opponents.

The girls will play four practice matches including one against South Korea U-16 women's team, who are one of their seven opponents in the AFC U-16 Women's Championship. That match will be the biggest test so far for the Bangladesh team since they clinched the qualifying round in Dhaka last year.

The girls in red and green have already visited Japan twice and China and Singapore once where they played a total of 17 practice matches including a few short-length games. After this 10-day trip to South Korea, the Bangladesh team will return home and will prepare for their final journey to Thailand. They will also play a few practice matches in Vietnam in August on their way to Thailand for the AFC U-16 Championship finals.

"This tour is a continuation of our preparation for the upcoming AFC U-16 women's championship. We returned home 10 days ago after playing four practice matches in Japan and worked to rectify the mistakes we made during those games. As South Korea is similar to Japan and North Korea in terms of strength, the tour will be a stage to test how far we have come since touring Japan, China and Singapore," the team's coach Golam Rabban Choton said at a press conference yesterday.

"As we have been pitted against strong opponents like defending champions North Korea, runners-up Japan and Australia, playing practice matches against strong opponents is also part of overcoming the fear of facing such strong opponents in Thailand," opined Choton, who has been assisted on every tour by BFF technical and strategic director Paul Smalley, who is also working as an adviser to the U-16 women's team.

Apart from the match against South Korea, the Bangladesh girls will also play three matches – two against Oju Middle School and one against Yulmyun Middle School. The two school teams belong to U-17 and U-18 age groups.

According to the coach, the players have improved their running ability as the youngest player – Tahura Khatun – ran 2950 meters in 12 minutes during a Cooper test while the average of other players is 2500 to 2600 meters. The girls are also being tried in unfamiliar positions on the field so that they can handle match situations and with versatility.

BFF women's committee chairman Mahfuz Akter Kiron informed that they also dream to qualify for the AFC U-16 Women's Championship with this squad and the preparation of U-16 women's team is not only for AFC U-16 Women's championship but also to build the women's senior team.

SCHEDULE

July 11 – South Korea U-16
July 14 – Oju Middle School
July 17 – Yulmyun Middle School
July 19 – Oju Middle School



PHOTO:
COLLECTED

After 13 years away, Wayne Rooney finally walked back through the Goodison Park hallways as he made his return to the club after a hugely successful run at Manchester United, where he became the club's all-time leading goal-scorer.

Rooney returns home

AFP, London

Premier League
England and Manchester United's record goalscorer Wayne Rooney declared himself 'ecstatic' after completing a move back to Everton the club where he first starred as a teenager on Sunday.

The 31-year-old -- who had become a peripheral figure under Jose Mourinho last season -- signed a two-year contract on a free transfer, bringing the curtain down on 13 trophy-laden years at Old Trafford.

Rooney -- whose move comes the day after United announced they had agreed terms with Everton over buying their leading scorer Romelu Lukaku -- will hope the switch revives his international career which also stalled last season.

"It is some time since I said that the only Premier League club I would play for other than Manchester United was Everton, so I am delighted that the move has happened," he said in a statement to the Press Association.

"Thirteen years ago I went to United with the intention of winning trophies and I have been fortunate to be a part of one of the most successful periods in the club's history.

"I have come back to Everton because I believe [Everton manager] Ronald Koeman is building a team that can win something and I look forward to playing my part in making that a reality for the club I have supported since a boy," added Rooney, who was five times United's leading scorer and on another occasion shared the honours.

Rooney also candidly revealed: "I've managed to keep it hidden all this time, but for the past 13 years I've been sleeping in my Everton PJs."

Koeman said in Rooney he was buying a player with a surefire winner's mentality.

"Wayne has shown me that ambition that we need and that winning mentality -- he knows how to win titles and I'm really happy he's decided to come home," said Koeman. "He loves Everton and he was desperate to come back. He is still only 31 and I don't have any

He shook Old Trafford with a sublime hattrick on his Manchester United debut as an 18-year-old and Wayne Rooney remained a mainstay of then-manager Sir Alex Ferguson's triumphant squads throughout the year. After 13 years, in which time he became the club's leading goalscorer, Wazza moves back to his boyhood club Everton. Here are some stats from his time at United.

Appearances: 557

Goals: 251

HONOURS:

Premier League (5): 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2010-11, 2012-13.

FA Cup (1): 2015-16

League Cup (2): 2005-06, 2009-10, 2016-17.

UEFA Champions League (1): 2007-08

Europa League (1): 2016-2017

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:

PFA Players' Player of the Year: 2009-10

PFA Young Player of the Year: 2005-06

FWA Footballer of the Year: 2009-10

Premier League Player of the Season: 2009-10

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"His experience, focus and determination will be missed and I wish him well for the future."

United's vice-chairman Ed Woodward paid a handsome valedictory tribute to Rooney.

"Wayne has been a fantastic servant to United since the moment he signed for us as a prodigiously talented, explosive teenager some 13 seasons ago," said Woodward.

"Who can forget his storybook debut hattrick against Fenerbahce, the spectacular overhead kick against [Manchester] City and the countless match-winning performances in his time here? But after much discussion, the club has decided to accept his request to rejoin his boyhood team.

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