

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
Wimbledon
Men's Quarterfinals
Live from 6:00pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
Wimbledon
Women's Quarterfinals
Live from 4:30pm



It proved to be a truly manic Monday for Rafeal Nadal yesterday as Gilles Muller fought tooth and nail with the Spaniard throughout their Wimbledon encounter. Muller eventually won an epic fifth set 15-13 to knock Nadal out in their fourth-round match. PHOTO: REUTERS

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:

Starc signs with rival sponsor to Cricket Australia

Mitchell Starc has become the first player to



take the provocative step of aligning with a rival to one of Cricket Australia's protected sponsors as the sport's industrial war rages on.

Rabada ban a 'big loss' for Test cricket: Elgar

South Africa stand-in skipper Dean Elgar has



said Kagiso Rabada's ban from the second match of the England series is a "big loss for Test cricket" and not just the Proteas.

Farah eases to victory

British athletics great Mo Farah eased to victory



in the 3000 metres at the Diamond League meet in the London Stadium and insisted off the track matters didn't concern him.

Ronaldinho and friends boost Pakistan football

Brazil's Ronaldinho and a host of other



former top footballers played an exhibition match in Pakistan in a push to encourage people in the cricket-mad nation to take up the game.

Suarez pays Messi a surprise visit

Lionel Messi, who is enjoying a vacation at the Lesser Antilles islands in the Caribbean was joined by his friend Luis Suarez.



Lukaku pays gushing farewell

Romelu Lukaku bid a fond farewell to



Everton as he contemplated life with Manchester United following his move for a reported £75 million transfer record deal between British clubs.

Chelsea sign Germany defender Rudiger

German international defender



Antonio Rudiger joined Chelsea from Italian club Roma for a reported fee of £29 million.

POGBA PUSHES REPORTER INTO POOL

Manchester United's Paul Pogba takes every opportunity to have the time of his life. So a journalist should have known better when opting to interview the France international next to a swimming pool in LA. Pogba, along with United's new £75million signing Romelu Lukaku, have been doing a series of interviews with ESPN. And it seems the France midfielder has become a little too comfortable with the presence of journalists. As a video on social media shows, Pogba and Lukaku decide to have a game of rock, paper, scissors with a journalist. After counting to three, the duo both opt to present a pair of scissors, while the reporter makes the paper symbol with her hand. The two Red Devils stars therefore win outright, which you'd think would be enough. But no, to celebrate his victory, Pogba suddenly launches the journalist towards the pool and pushes her in. He then takes great pleasure in laughing at the soaked woman while Lukaku looks altogether a bit more shocked.

—AGENCIES



U-23s take on Nepal counterparts today

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh's under-23 team captain Sohel Rana said his side will look to win against their Nepalese counterparts to boost their confidence ahead of AFC Under-23 Championship Qualifiers.

The Bangladesh team, which flew to Nepal on Saturday morning, will play the lone practice match against the Nepal under-23 side today, with the encounter scheduled to get underway at 3:15pm Bangladesh time at the ANFA Complex in Satdobato.

"We have a new team. Our preparation has been good. We are going to play against strong opponents in the AFC U-23 Championship Qualifiers. So we want to win here to boost our confidence," Rana was quoted as saying by Goalnepal.com.

"There are only three senior players in the side. So we are young but we want to fight for a win," the Chittagong Abahani

midfielder added.

After about two weeks of training under Andrew Ord, the under-23 team beat Federation Cup champions Abahani in a practice match at home before they went to Nepal. They had already had their first practice session at the match venue on Saturday and were scheduled for another session yesterday.

Meanwhile, Nepal's under-23 team skipper Bimal Gharti Magar said their target is to win this fixture as well. "Bangladesh are in same standard as we are. We have ten national players in the team. We have prepared well and we are playing for a long time together. We are expecting a good result."

The Bangladesh team will fly off from Nepal after the match and will play a practice match against Qatar U-23 team on Thursday on their way to Palestine, where the qualifiers will take place from July 19 to 23.

Bangladesh have been pitted against Jordan, Tajikistan and Palestine in Group E while Nepal are in Group D with UAE, Lebanon and Uzbekistan.

COMMONWEALTH CHESS

Hanif, Neer earn solace

SPORTS REPORTER

While the grandmasters of Bangladesh failed to earn laurels from the Commonwealth Chess Championship in India, it was unheralded veteran Hanif Mollah and young Manon Reja Neer who brought some solace to the nation.

Hanif won a gold medal in the 60+ age group category while Neer won silver in the under-8 age group category in this competition, which concluded in New Delhi, India yesterday. Hanif earned four points in nine games to become champion of his group while Neer earned 5.5 points in seven games to become the runner-up in his group.

Meanwhile, in the open section, GM Mollah Abdullah Al Rakib became 11th, GM Ziaur Rahman became 20th, GM Niaz Murshed became 21st and GM Enamul Hossain became 25th with six points each. FM Md Taibur Rahman finished 47th and WIM Shamima Akter Liza became 49th with five points each.

Bolt reveals retirement plans

AGENCIES, London



Usain Bolt has revealed that he wants to mark his retirement with a Nando's and a pint of Guinness.

The Jamaican sprinter, 30, is set to call time on his career in athletics next month.

And he reckons a slap-up meal with his big mate Paul Pogba is the perfect way to celebrate.

In an exclusive chat with United Kingdom's Daily Star, Bolt said: "I've not decided exactly how I will celebrate the end of my career, but as I am in the UK I hope to see my good friend Paul.

"We can go and have dinner at Nando's. And maybe afterwards we can party a little and I might buy him a Guinness...but not too many because I expect him to lead Manchester United to be champions next season!"

Bolt is set to bow out of athletics at the IAAF World Championships in London next month.

He said: "London is the perfect place to say goodbye. It is one of my favourite cities and a city where I have had a lot of success in the past."

More than 60,000 fans a day will flock to the Olympic Stadium for its biggest sporting event since London 2012.

Bolt is expected to make his final appearance in the 4x100m relay final on August 12. He is the fastest human in the world over 100m and 200m and has won eight Olympic gold medals.

He is also determined to prove he is still the greatest sprinter alive. In a warning to his rivals, he said: "I still believe I am the man to beat and I want to finish while I am still the best."

Nadal shocked by Muller

Kerber, Azarenka and Radwanska also bow out

AFP, London



Rafeal Nadal was shockingly eliminated yesterday while defending champion Andy Murray reached a 10th successive Wimbledon quarter-final as fellow heavyweight Roger Federer joined him.

Two-time champion Nadal suffered a stunning 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 15-13 fourth round defeat against Luxembourg's Gilles Muller.

The 31-year-old Spaniard, finally worn down by Muller after four hours and 48 minutes on Court One, hasn't won Wimbledon since 2010 and last made the quarter-finals in 2011.

Muller, seeded 16th, will make his first Wimbledon quarter-final appearance against former US Open champion Marin Cilic.

Top seed Murray eased to a 7-6 (7/1), 6-4, 6-4 win over France's Benoit Paire.

World number one Murray will face Sam Querrey, who he leads 7-1 in career meetings, for a place in the semi-finals.

Only Roger Federer and Jimmy Connors (11 each) have reached more consecutive Wimbledon quarter-finals than Murray.

The 30-year-old's progress is particularly noteworthy as he came into the tournament nursing a hip injury.

Murray's win meant that with Johanna Konta also making the last-eight in the women's tournament, it is the first time since 1973 that Britain

has two players in the quarter-finals.

Querrey made the quarter-finals for a second successive year with a 5-7, 7-6 (7/5), 6-3, 6-7 (13/11), 6-3 over unseeded Kevin Anderson of South Africa.

Federer reached his 50th Grand Slam quarter-final and 15th at Wimbledon with a 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 win over Grigor Dimitrov.

Seven-time Wimbledon champion Federer will face either Canada's Milos Raonic, the sixth seed, or German 10th seed Alexander Zverev for a place in the semi-finals.

Federer, 35, is also the second oldest man to make the quarter-finals at Wimbledon behind Ken Rosewall who was 39 when he reached the last-eight in 1971.

Croatian seventh seed Marin Cilic reached a fourth successive Wimbledon quarter-final with a 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 win over Roberta Bautista Agut of Spain.

Milos Raonic, the 2016 runner-up also reached the quarter-finals with a 4-6, 7-5, 4-6, 7-5, 6-1 win over Alexander Zverev of Germany.

Canadian sixth seed Raonic will face seven-time champion Roger Federer in the last-eight in a rematch of last year's semi-final won by the giant Canadian.

Meanwhile on the women's side, Angelique Kerber crashed and lost her hold on the world number one ranking, while five-time champion Venus Williams became the oldest All England Club quarter-finalist in 23 years.

Amid a scheduling row that saw accusations of sexism aimed at

Wimbledon chiefs after they put just two women's matches on the main show-courts, Williams wasn't the only star savouring a historic last 16 triumph.

Kerber was beaten 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 by Spanish 14th seed Garbine Muguruza as the German's fourth round exit extended a miserable run for last year's Wimbledon runner-up.

Muguruza goes on to play Russian seventh seed Svetlana Kuznetsova for a place in the semi-finals.

Halep, the Romanian world number two, defeated Victoria Azarenka 7-6 (7/3), 6-2 and will be guaranteed top spot if she beats Konta in the last eight.

If Halep, a two-time French Open runner-up, loses to the Briton, then Czech world number three Pliskova will be the new number one despite losing in the second round.

Former US and French Open champion Kuznetsova, reached her first Wimbledon quarter-final in 10 years with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Polish ninth seed Agnieszka Radwanska.

Williams crushed 19-year-old Croatian Ana Konjuh 6-3, 6-2 in 64 minutes on Centre Court and will now play French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko for a place in the semi-finals.

Ostapenko had advanced after finally converting her eighth match point to defeat Ukrainian world number five Elina Svitolina 6-3, 7-6 (8/6) on tiny Court 12.

World number seven Konta defeated France's Caroline Garcia 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 6-4 on Court One.

SAFF U-15, U-18 CHAMPIONSHIPS DRAW HELD

Preparations begin today

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh were pitted in Group A alongside Bhutan and Sri Lanka in the upcoming SAFF U-15 Championship, the draw for which was held at the Bangladesh Football Federation yesterday.

Runners-up India were placed in Group B, with Nepal and Maldives being the other two teams in the six-team championship.

Bangladesh are the defending champions of this tournament as they clinched the 2015 title in Sylhet by beating India in the final. The championship this time will be held from August 18 to 27 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Meanwhile, the draw for the SAFF U-18 Championship was also held during the same ceremony at the BFF House, which is also the headquarters of the South Asian Football Federation.

Bangladesh were placed in Group A of that tournament, alongside runners-up India and Bhutan. Defending champions Nepal were placed in Group B alongside Maldives and Sri Lanka for this championship, which will be held in Thimphu, Bhutan from September 18 to 27.

SAFF U-15 CHAMPIONSHIP	
GROUP A	GROUP B
Bangladesh	India
Bhutan	Nepal
Sri Lanka	Maldives
*August 18-27, Kathmandu, Nepal	



SAFF general secretary Anwarul Huq Helal (R) and BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag conduct the draw ceremony for the SAFF U-15 Championship and SAFF U-18 Championship at the BFF House yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

SAFF general secretary Anwarul Huq Helal and BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag conducted the draw ceremony.

"These two tournaments were previously for the under-16 and under-19 age groups. But due to recommendations from the Asian Football Confederation, we will be

SAFF U-18 CHAMPIONSHIP	
GROUP A	GROUP B
India	Nepal
Bangladesh	Maldives
Bhutan	Sri Lanka
*September 18-27, Thimphu, Bhutan	

holding the tournaments for the under-15 and under-18 age groups. These two tournaments will be a platform for the AFC U-16 and AFC U-19 Championship qualifiers next year," Helal explained after the draw ceremony.

The two finalists of the previous edition were regarded as the top two seeds and drawn in different groups. The other four teams, for both tournaments, were chosen from lottery. "There will be no prize money as such for the teams but there will be participation money and hosting money for the teams and the hosts," Helal informed.

Meanwhile, BFF spokesman

Shohag informed that preparation of the Bangladesh teams for the two tournaments already got underway: "A 30-member under-18 squad will report at BKSP tomorrow [Tuesday], where they will have training under a few local coaches as well as strength and condition coach John Whittle until July 24, when they will be released to their respective clubs for the league. Head coach Andrew Ord will take charge of the team after returning from Palestine. Meanwhile, there are preliminary training camps going on in Gopalganj and Khulna for the under-15 squad, which has been gathered from various trials."