

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:

Sun sits out 1500m race

Sun Yang was a surprise absentee in the men's 1500m freestyle heats as the world-record holder again opted out at the world aquatic championships.

Neymar set for China trip

The intrigue surrounding Neymar's future at Barcelona took another twist when the Brazilian star said that he would be in Shanghai.

Efimova gains revenge

Russia won three titles at the world championships as the controversial Yuliya Efimova won the women's 200m breast-stroke title to gain revenge over arch-rival Lilly King.

Vettel takes Hungarian GP pole

World championship leader Sebastian Vettel took pole position for Hungarian Grand Prix ahead of Ferrari team-mate Kimi Raikkonen in qualifying.

Barca's big guns want decision

AGENCIES, Miami

Barcelona star teammates said Friday they have begged Neymar to resist the temptation of moving to Paris St Germain after a training ground altercation with new signing Nelson Semedo.

The French giants are supposedly ready to launch a record-breaking 222 million euros move for Neymar, sparking exit fears as the Spanish club prepared for a Saturday "El Clasico" friendly matchup with Real Madrid at Miami.

The unsettled 25-year-old Brazilian stormed off the practice pitch in disgust and has yet to commit his future to Barcelona ahead of the transfer deadline, still more than a month away.

"It's true, something did happen, but that's sometimes what happens in training," Barca midfielder Andres Iniesta said. "All the talk about Neymar right now, everything is magnified. Things like this can happen. It's a personal decision for him, but of course we want him to stay."

Strike partner Luis Suarez has formed a deadly partnership with Neymar and echoed Iniesta's calls for the interest from PSG to be dismissed once and for all.

"As soon as he clarifies the situation it's better for us and him. He will have his say when he is ready and as a teammate I will support him," Suarez said. "Our relationship won't change. We want him to stay."

Boss Ernesto Valverde swerved the media on the eve of the match with arch-rival Real, but Iniesta sang Neymar's praises.

"For me, he's one of the best players in the world. He brings so much to the team and hopefully he will stay for many years," Iniesta said. "He is worth more than 200 million or 300 million."

Neymar made an appearance at a Nike shop in Miami on Friday afternoon to celebrate the release of his new boots, but refused to talk about the speculation.

There has been a lot said about why the move is not completed yet and Spanish media reported yesterday



India captain Virat Kohli (R) leads his team off the ground after a satisfying four-day thrashing of Sri Lanka in the opening Test at Galle yesterday.

India crush Lanka

AFP, Galle

India captain Virat Kohli completed his 17th Test ton on Saturday and then let his bowlers demolish injury-hit Sri Lanka to claim a 304-run victory inside four days in the first Test.

It was India's biggest winning margin in Sri Lanka and showed just why they are the top-ranked Test side in the world.

Set a daunting 550 to win, Dimuth Karunaratne made 97 for Sri Lanka, but after his departure in the final session their hopes sank in Galle.

With allrounder Asela Gunaratne and stand-in captain Rangana Herath unable to bat through injury, Sri Lanka called it a day with eight wickets down and the total on 245.

Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin each took three wickets for the dominant tourists.

Kohli modestly called it a "clinical performance" after his side scored 600 in the first innings and then restricted Sri Lanka to 291.

India lost the opening match in Galle two years ago, but went on to take the series 2-1 and then return to number one in the Test rankings in the following months.

"We are a more experienced side now. We are playing more consistent cricket and that shows," Kohli said after the big win.

The captain reached an unbeaten 103 at the start of the day before declaring India's second innings on 240-3. He then gave his bowlers the job of grinding down the home side.

Karunaratne's stubborn 208-ball innings took him past 2,500 career Test runs but there was not enough support at the other end.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: 600 (Dhawan 190, Pujara 153; Pradeep 6-132) and 240-3 dec (Kohli 103 not out, Mukund 81)

SRI LANKA: 291 (Tharanga 64, Mathews 83, Perera 92 not out; Jadeja 3-67) and 245 (Karunaratne 97 not out, Dickwella 67; Ashwin 3-65, Jadeja 3-71)

Result: India won by 304 runs

Player-of-the-match: Shikhar Dhawan.

Door is open for M'bappe: Ramos

AFP, Miami

Real Madrid captain Sergio Ramos says French teen striker Kylian Mbappe will become a welcome addition for the reigning Champions League and La Liga champions should he decide to leave Monaco.

The 18-year-old forward is wanted by Real Madrid manager Zinedine Zidane, with the Spanish giants poised to make him one of the most expensive players of all time in a move that could cost around 180 million euros.

Ramos was adamant Mbappe has the qualities to become of the best in the world.

"It's not a decision for me but Mbappe is a great prospect. There are not young players around like him. We have an important year ahead of us and already have excellent players," Ramos said ahead of Saturday's meeting with arch-rivals Barcelona in Miami. "But it's money which moves football and people can pay what they want. If he wants to come to Real Madrid, the doors will be open."

While Zidane smiled through his press conference here, Barcelona have been fighting to keep superstar Neymar from accepting Paris St Germain's riches. The French legend declined to twist the knife regarding Neymar.

"We will see what happens," Zidane said. "He's a good player. They are our most important rivals but we lost our last match against Manchester City and we want to put in a strong performance."

England lead by 252 runs

AFP, London

England were 74 for one in their second innings, a lead of 252 runs, at stumps on the third day of the third Test against South Africa at The Oval on Saturday.

Keaton Jennings was 34 not and Tom Westley 28 not out in what is the 100th Test staged at The Oval.

Rain meant only 16.2 overs were possible between lunch and stumps.

Earlier, Toby Roland-Jones became just the sixth England cricketer to take five or more wickets in their debut bowling innings in Test cricket with a return of five for 57 as South Africa were dismissed for 175 in reply to the hosts' 353.

Temba Bavuma top-scored for South Africa with 52 before he was last man out, caught behind off Middlesex seamer Roland-Jones.

SCORES IN BRIEF

ENGLAND: First innings 353

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 175 (Bavuma 52, Rabada 30; Anderson 3-25, Roland-Jones 5-57)

ENGLAND: Second innings: 74 for 1 (Jennings 34 not out, Westley 28 not out)

CR7 to start new season in court

AFP, Madrid

Cristiano Ronaldo faces a brutal return to Madrid before starting pre-season training with Real Madrid as he is expected in court on Monday, accused of evading millions in taxes.

The 32-year-old -- the world's highest paid athlete according to Forbes -- will be questioned by a court in Pozuelo de Alarcon, a wealthy suburb of Madrid where he lives, over allegations he evaded 14.7 million euros in tax.

Madrid's public prosecutors accuse Ronaldo of having taken "advantage of a company structure created in 2010 to hide income generated in Spain from his image rights from tax authorities".

They say this was a "voluntary and conscious breach of his fiscal obligations in Spain".

Ronaldo has defended himself, saying his "conscience is clear".

But the allegations still took their toll, and the man with the "CR7" brand, Real's all-time top goalscorer, threatened to leave Spain over the affair, giving supporters a fright.

He has since hinted he will stay on, telling Spanish sports daily Marca that he would like to continue to win trophies for Real.

Ronaldo is not the only footballer to fall foul of authorities in Spain, which is only just recovering from a damaging economic crisis that saw countless people lose their jobs and inequalities rise.

Lionel Messi was sentenced to a 21-month jail sentence and 2.09-million-euro fine last year for tax fraud.

His prison sentence has since been replaced by another fine of 252,000 euros, which corresponds to 400 euros for each day of jail.



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বার্জার পেইন্টস্ নিয়ে এনে "বার্জারে রাঙিয়ে, ঘুরে আসি লন্ডনে" অফার। ১৫,০০০ টাকার নিখরিত বার্জার পণ্য সিঙ্গেল ইন্সট্যান্স-এ কিনে ডিলারের কাছ থেকে বুঝে নিন একটি পিস্ট কার্ড। পিস্ট কার্ডের ভেতরে পণ্যের ইলেক্ট্রিক কোডটি SMS করে পাঠিয়ে দিন ৬৯৬৯ নম্বরে আর জিতে নিন লন্ডন, মালয়েশিয়া ও থাইল্যান্ডে আকর্ষণীয় সব স্থানে ক্যাপল ট্রিপ-এর দারুণ সুযোগ। এছাড়াও থাকছে স্মাইফোন, ব্রেজার, চার্জার লাউট, ইলেক্ট্রিক আয়রন, মোবাইল বিজার্সহ আরও অসংখ্য বিক্ৰিত উপহার। অফারের মেয়াদকাল : ১ জুন থেকে ৩১ আগস্ট ২০১৭ পর্যন্ত।

বিজ্ঞপিত জানতে যোগাযোগ করুন নিকটতম বার্জার সেলস অফিস এবং ডিলার পয়েন্ট-এ অথবা কল করুন ০৯৬১২২২৫২২২-এই নম্বারে।