

**SONY SIX**  
Sri Lanka v India  
Third Test, Day 1  
Live from 10:30pm  
Caribbean Premier League  
St Lucia Stars v St Kitts & Nevis  
Live from 3:00am (Sunday)

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 2**  
English Premiership  
Everton v Stoke City  
Live from 8:00pm  
IAAF World C'ships  
Evening Session  
Live from 10:00pm

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
English Premiership  
Watford v Liverpool  
Live from 5:30pm  
Chelsea v Burnley  
Live from 8:00pm  
Brighton v Man City  
Live from 10:30pm

**DAY'S EVENT**

**Bangladesh Premier League**  
Venue: BNS

Sk Russel v Ctg Abahani  
Time: 6:00pm

## ISCO GETS €700M BUYOUT CLAUSE

Spanish midfielder Isco has signed a new contract with Real Madrid which takes his release clause to 700 million euros, reported Spanish outlet AS yesterday. In light of Paris Saint-Germain changing the footballing landscape by paying Neymar's 222-million-euro release clause, Real took the action to deter any such moves by any other clubs. Isco has extended his deal for four years, with the option of one more season. His previous contract was due to expire in 2018. He will now be paid six million euros annually. The massive release clause has been a staple of players Real Madrid consider 'untouchables'. Cristiano Ronaldo has the highest in the squad -- and the world -- at one billion euros. "There are no players in Madrid's first-team squad with a clause below 500 million," AS quoted a source as saying. "And in Castilla [Real's 'B' team], there are now players with clauses of 300 million." It is also understood that the 25-year-old actually signed the deal in July, but it was agreed not to make the extension public until this month. —AGENCIES



## Rafa's quest for No. 1 derailed

AFP, Montreal



Canadian teenager Denis Shapovalov shocked top seeded Rafael Nadal to reach the quarterfinals of the ATP Montreal Masters tournament, temporarily spoiling the Spaniard's chances of returning to world number one.

The 18-year-old continued his giant killing form at the hardcourt tournament by rallying to stun Nadal in three sets 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/4) on Thursday.

"I was just swinging for the fences," said Shapovalov, who needed a wild card to get into the tournament.

Nadal would have returned to No. 1 in the world if he reached the semifinals, but he struggled to get the ball to Shapovalov's backhand and didn't have an answer for the Canadian's forehand winners.

Nadal described it as the worst loss of the season for him for a number of reasons.

"Worst loss of the year because I lost against a player with a lower ranking," Nadal said. "At the same time because of the opportunity I had to get back to Number One."

Shapovalov's biggest win of his young career against the 15-time Grand Slam winner came as a result of some inspired tennis in front of a boisterous home crowd who cheered his every shot.

"He won. It is an amazing for him. It is a great story. I am not happy to be part of this story," Nadal said.

Shapovalov, who is ranked 143rd in the world, quickly got on a roll in Montreal, defeat-

ing former US Open winner Juan Martin Del Potro in the second round in straight sets 6-3, 6 (7/4) to set up the showdown with Nadal.

Shapovalov fell behind 3-0 before winning seven of the final eight points of the third set tiebreaker. He closed out the match with a forehand winner down the line and celebrated by falling onto his back then covering his face with his hands.

Nadal easily won the first set but couldn't put the Canadian away with a second win.

The third game of the second set lasted 14 minutes with Shapovalov finally holding serve when Nadal's volley sailed into the net. Shapovalov managed to win the game despite double faulting three times.

"Was it only 14 minutes?," Shapovalov asked. "It felt like three hours. I just kept fighting. I knew it was going to be really tough. I went for my shots in the big moments and I caught a couple of lines got a little bit lucky."

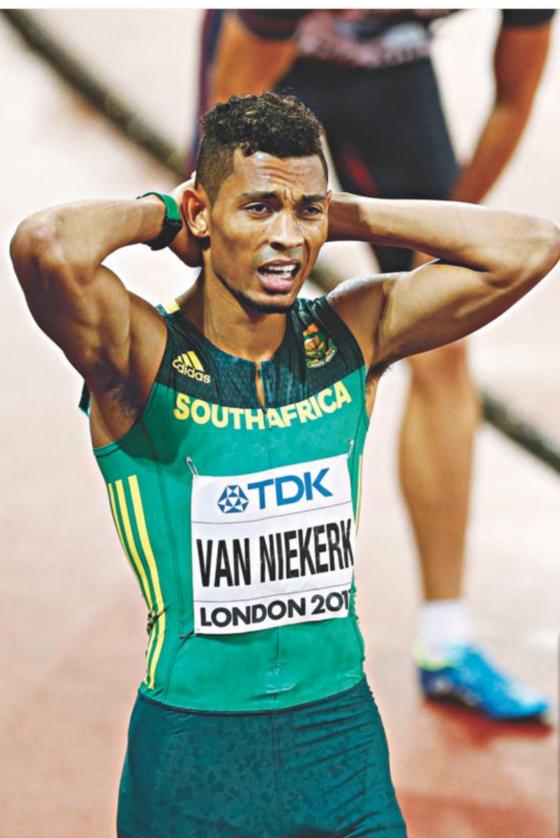
Shapovalov said he didn't think he had a chance to win before the match. It wasn't until he levelled the sets that he realized he could beat the 10-time French Open champion.

"The whole day I was like -- there's no chance. I will go and have fun but there is no way I am beating this guy," Shapovalov said.

"I went up a break in the second set early and even though he broke me back I felt like -- OK, I am capable of breaking him."

"So when I won that second set I thought let's go one more set and who knows, anything can happen."

"It is incredible. I can't even talk right now. I grew up watching Rafa so just to be able to compete with him is one thing but to come out winning is a dream come true for me."



South Africa's Wayde van Niekerk was toppled in the 200m final of the IAAF World Championships in London on Thursday night as his bid to emulate Michael Johnson ended in disappointment. (INSET) Dark horse Ramil Guliyev finished in first place, giving Turkey its first gold medal at the Championships.

PHOTOS: REUTERS



## Niekerk's double denied

### Turkey's Guliyev beats South African to 200m gold

AFP, London



Wayde van Niekerk's dreams of emulating legend

Michael Johnson's 200m/400m world double lay in tatters on Thursday as Turkey's 9/1 outsider Ramil Guliyev edged the 200m final.

Guliyev's win may not have been following the script the organisers wished for after two-time doping cheat Justin Gatlin's win in the 100m upset superstar Usain Bolt's farewell.

Van Niekerk, who had won the 400m earlier in the week, took a swipe at people who he feels have belittled his achievements.

"There are many people who don't think I deserve this," said the 25-year-old, who produced the performance of the Olympics last year breaking the 400m world record in winning gold. "I work just as hard as every other competitor. I don't think I got the respect I deserved after the 400m (winning the world gold) but it's only the beginning and I will show my dominance."

As Guliyev's win was confirmed after a thrilling finish to the 200m, some boos rang out and thousands of spectators couldn't make the exit

quickly enough.

The 27-year-old Azerbaijan-born sprinter, who became a Turkish citizen in 2011, then draped himself in both the Turkish and Azeri flags as he performed his lap of honour.

"It's not a shock. I wanted to win and this year I thought it was possible and I made it," said Guliyev. "Yes I believed in myself."

Taylor won well enough but the threatened assault on Jonathan Edwards's 22-year-old world record never materialised.

He did show his champion's mentality in twice coming back to better Claye's marks and leave his 26-year-old rival to add another silver to his ever growing collection in his trophy cabinet.

"Will makes it tough every single time," said 27-year-old Taylor who added he will move up to the 400m only when he breaks the world record and has a permanent reminder of the 18.30m he needs to do so...on his wrist.

"I have this watch from my sponsor with 18.30 on it. I will try to fight, I will get this number," he said.

"The record is still on. I am still motivated to break that record."

Carter, who is managed by American athletics legend Allyson

Felix's brother Wes, more than justified her decision to opt for athletics ahead of her first love for football.

"When you work so hard and sacrifice so much for something, for it to pay off in the end is so satisfying," said Carter.

"It's a surreal experience right now. Me and my coach (Bobby Kersee), our whole goal and focus was to get on the podium this year, it's what we've been committed to."

Caster Semenya looked to have more than recovered from her exertions in the 1500 metres where she took bronze as the two-time world champion eased through her 800m heat to reach Friday's semis.

Normal order was restored, however, in the night's other two finals with the United States going one-two in both.

Christian Taylor won his third world title in the triple jump with his great rival Will Claye taking silver just as he has done in two successive Olympic Games.

However, Olympic 400m hurdles champion Dalilah Muhammad was unable to add the world gold as she was run out of first by compatriot Kori Carter, the 25-year-old previously regarded as a journeywoman.

## Sheikh Kamal memorial tomorrow

SPORTS REPORTER

A memorial programme to mark the 68th birthday anniversary of Sheikh Kamal, founder of Abahani and the eldest son of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, will take place tomorrow at the Sheikh Russel Roller Skating Complex in Paltan.

Abahani Ltd usually organises a discussion meeting each year on Sheikh Kamal, considered the pioneer to modern sports in our country post-liberation. This time though, 'Samilito Krira Paribar', too, has decided to hold a discussion programme on a big scale to remind people of the contribution of the legendary figure.

Prominent organisers, former athletes, journalists, cultural persons and close ones of Sheikh Kamal are expected to take part in the discussion, which was disclosed at a press conference yesterday.

## 'I always wanted to be Il Preside'

Juventus manager Massimiliano Allegri wrote an article for 'The Players' Tribune' -- a media platform that publishes first-person stories directly from sportspersons, presents direct reflections, thoughts and experiences of professionals. Here the current Juventus manager talks about how he ended up becoming a manager and those two heartbreaking Champions League final losses in the past 3 years. The excerpts are below:

When I watched Mario Mandzukic's strike arch over the Real Madrid goalkeeper, I thought, Wow ... maybe. Then it hit the back of the net, and I thought maybe this is our chance.

It was a magnificent technical sequence from our players in the build-up, and just a beautiful finish from Mandzukic. In my mind, it is a goal that will never be repeated. It shows the difference it takes to be a club in a Champions League final. You can't just be great. You have to be special.

We have special players. Unfortunately, Real Madrid have many of them. By the second half, I knew we just didn't have the pieces we needed. Real Madrid played a very smart match. They were relaxed and comfortable.

To reach the final, you need talent and luck. To win it, you need to be the better team. And this may sound strange, but I walked off the pitch that night with peace of mind. Because I knew we weren't the better team. It was simple as that.

I left Cardiff and returned to Italy. The next evening I had to ask myself a very hard question: Is this the end of the road? Is this as far as I can take this team? Part of me was thinking about walking in and resigning.



Then I thought about why I became a manager in the first place.

You see, we must go back to when I was 14 years old. That's when things got hard. When I was just a little boy, I remember life being pretty simple. My best memories were of my grandfather taking me to the horse track in Livorno with him. As a kid, that's all I can remember: Horse track, football,

maybe eating dinner with my mother.

I didn't like school. I remember sitting in class one day, and the teacher was mad at me about something, and I had this realization. I remember saying to myself: I am not meant to be a good student. But I could be a good principal. Maybe every football manager dreams of being a school principal -- I preside -- I don't know.



A defeated Rafael Nadal waves adieu to the crowd after being knocked out of the Montreal Masters by unheralded 18-year-old Denis Shapovalov.

PHOTO: AFP

## 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:

### United in talks with Ibra

Manchester United are in discussions to re-sign Zlatan Ibrahimovic for the second half of the season when he recovers from a serious knee injury, manager Jose Mourinho confirmed on Friday.

### Buttler set to join Comilla

England wicket-keeper/batsman Jos Buttler has agreed to a contract with Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) franchise Comilla Victorians, reported The Guardian yesterday adding that he had agreed a 200,000 pound deal pending approval from the England and Wales Cricket Board.

