

**SIX ON SIX**  
Sri Lanka vs India  
Third Test, Day 2  
Live from 10.30am  
STARS SPORTS SELECT 1  
IAAF World Champs  
Evening Session

Live from 10:00pm  
Premier League  
Newcastle vs Tottenham  
Live from 6:15pm  
Manchester United vs West Ham  
Live from 8:45pm

**SIX ON SIX**  
Spanish Super Cup  
First Leg  
Barcelona vs Real Madrid  
2:00am (Monday)

## FIRMINO KEEPS HIS WORD

When Roberto Firmino switched from No. 11 to No. 9 earlier this summer, he did so with the promise he would autograph new 2017-18 Liverpool jerseys supporters had purchased with his previous squad number printed on. The Brazilian kept his word, signing the first batch of shirts sent in by fans at Melwood on Thursday. The Brazil forward painstakingly went through each item before and after the day's training and applied his signature before they were sent back to their original owners. The Brazilian has quickly turned into a fan favourite at Anfield and he will presumably be kept very busy over the next few days as the next batches of jerseys pour in. —AGENCIES



## DAY'S EVENT

**Bangladesh Premier League**  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium  
Time: 6:00pm  
Rahmatganj vs Sheikh Jamal



Chelsea's season got off to a disastrous start as they conceded three goals -- the most let in by reigning champions on the opening day of a Premier League season -- in their loss to Burnley. Chelsea's Marcos Alonso perfectly reflected the mood of his teammates at the Stamford Bridge yesterday.

# Holders get the blues

L'pool held by Watford; Rooney bags winner on Everton return

**Sam Vokes** scored twice as Burnley torpedooed defending champions Chelsea 3-2 at Stamford Bridge on Saturday in one of the most sensational opening-weekend results in English top flight history.

Chelsea had captain Gary Cahill and Cesc Fábregas sent off and Burnley took full advantage through Vokes's brace and a superb Stephen Ward effort, with goals from Alvaro Morata and David Luiz coming in vain.

Leicester City lost 2-1 at Hull City on the first day last season, but given the unexpected nature of their title win, this was the biggest opening-day shock since Aston Villa's 3-1 win over Manchester United in 1995.

Huddersfield Town marked their top flight return with a remarkable 3-0 win at Crystal Palace that sent them top of the table, while Wayne Rooney bagged the winner on his Everton comeback in a 1-0 victory over Stoke City.

Burnley's win, their first at Chelsea since 1971, further blackened the mood around Stamford Bridge after a close season during which manager Antonio Conte has grown frustrated by his side's lack of transfer activity.

Conte was without the injured Eden Hazard and out-of-favour striker Diego Costa and started with 158 million signing Morata on the bench.

Youth-team graduate Jeremie Bogga made his debut but was handed off in the reshuffle that followed Cahill's 14th-minute dismissal for a reckless,

studs-up foul on Steven Defour. Vokes put Burnley ahead in the 24th minute, volleying in from Matthew Lowton's cross.

Ward doubled the visitors' advantage in the 39th minute with a blistering left-foot strike from Jack Cork's lofted pass and Vokes added a third before half-time, heading in Defour's cross.

Half-time substitute Morata and Luiz

RESULTS		
Chelsea	2	3 Burnley
Manchester City	2	1 Hull City
Crystal Palace	0	3 Huddersfield
Everton	1	0 Stoke
Southampton	0	0 Swansea
Watford	3	3 Liverpool
West Brom	1	0 Bournemouth
Played Friday		
Arsenal	4	3 Leicester
Lacazette, Welbeck 45+2		Okaka 8, Vardy 29, 56
Ramsey 83, Giroud 85		

reduced the arrears in the second half, either side of Fabregas's 81st-minute dismissal for a second yellow card, but Burnley hung on for a famous victory.

Liverpool were denied a winning start as Miguel Britos claimed a contentious stoppage-time leveler to earn Watford a 3-3 draw at Vicarage Road.

Watford went in front through Stefano Okaka and Abdoulaye Doucoure, but Liverpool equalised each

time via Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino, who then tied up new boy Mohamed Salah to put the Reds 3-2 up.

In the third minute of injury time, a shot from Richardson was pushed against the bar by Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet and Britos, who appeared to be offside, nodded the ball over the line.

"The equaliser was offside. It's obvious because the linesman is on the line. He needs to see it," said Liverpool manager Jürgen Klopp. "We would have had defensive areas we need to work on even if we'd won 3-2, but we were the better team. We should have won."

Frank de Boer made a losing start to life as Palace manager after a Joel Ward own goal and a Steve Mounie double earned Huddersfield a 3-0 win on their return to the top flight after an absence of 45 years.

Mounie's goals were the first repayments on his club-record £11.4 million transfer and sent David Wagner's men to the top of the fledgling standings.

Rooney crowned his first appearance for formative club Everton since 2004 by netting the only goal against Stoke, heading in Dominic Calvert-Lewin's cross for his 199th Premier League goal.

Debutant Ahmed Hegazi's first-half header earned West Bromwich Albion a 1-0 win over Bournemouth, while Mauricio Pellegrino's tenure as Southampton manager began with a 0-0 draw at home to Swansea City.

Late goals from substitutes Aaron Ramsey and Olivier Giroud earned Arsenal a 4-3 win over Leicester in Friday's frantic opening game.

## Neymar to debut for PSG today

As the hysteria mounts ahead of Neymar's Paris Saint-Germain debut on Sunday focus switched from his record transfer fee to the question of which star would make way for the Brazilian.

The daily Le Parisien suggested it would be Javier Pastore, the Argentine who was the first major signing after PSG were bought by their Qatari owners.

Sports daily L'Equipe saw things differently, though. "Neymar, the football version," ran their headline in a joke about how the most expensive transfer in football history has dominated news without the 25-year-old forward even kicking a ball yet.

"A trio of Neymar, Pastore and Di Maria will support Cavani," they predicted.

In the tiny Brittany town of Guingamp, with a population of around 7,000, tickets for the match have been changing hands for a king's ransom as the Stade du Roudourez has a capacity of just over 15,000.

"We could have filled a stadium of 40,000 seats with no problem at all," Guingamp president Bertrand Desplat told local newspaper Le Télégramme.

# Season's first El Clasico

Real travel to Nou Camp today

AFP, Barcelona

Barcelona host rivals Real Madrid in the first leg of the Spanish Super Cup on Sunday badly in need of a morale-boosting win following the world record sale of Neymar to Paris Saint-Germain.

Despite banking 222 million euros for the Brazilian, Barca's approach to finding a replacement has been unsuccessful with bids for Liverpool's Philippe Coutinho and Ousmane Dembele of Borussia Dortmund rebuffed.

New Barca coach Ernesto Valverde must therefore try to down the European and Spanish champions with a weekday squad than the one which missed out to Real for the La Liga title last season.

However, Barca did manage to beat Madrid without the then suspended Neymar the last time the sides met in competitive action back in April as Lionel Messi scored an incredible encounter 3-2 with the last kick of the game.

The Catalans also edged last month's Miami friendly between the two in Neymar's last game for Barca 3-2.

"We've had a good pre-season and we are coming into the game in good condition," said Valverde. "But on Sunday the real thing starts, with a competitive game and a title at stake against our biggest rivals."

Despite failing to win any of their pre-season games, Madrid started the new campaign as they ended last season with another trophy as Zinedine Zidane's men proved too strong for Manchester United to win the UEFA Super Cup 2-1 on Tuesday.

Should Zidane wish to maintain the 4-4-2 system he has utilised to huge success in 2017, Mateo Kovacic is the favourite to replace his Croatian teammate in midfield.

However, Modric's absence increases Cristiano Ronaldo's chances of returning to the Madrid starting XI after making just a brief cameo appearance as a substitute against his former club in Macedonia.

## 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:

### Federer into Montreal semis

Swiss star Roger Federer outclassed Roberto Bautista Agut as he inched closer to his sixth title of the season with a 6-4, 6-4 win in the quarter-finals of the Montreal Masters on Friday.

### Pochettino forgives Rose

Tottenham Hotspur manager Mauricio Pochettino says he has forgiven Danny Rose after the left-back criticised the club in a controversial interview.



Netherlands' Dafne Schippers had a close call at the IAAF Championships in London on Friday night, but in the end she walked off with another 200m gold. PHOTO: AFP

# Schippers retains 200m

AFP, London

Dutch sprinter Dafne Schippers held on to retain her world 200m title on Friday as the United States had another night to savour at the London Stadium and two experienced campaigners claimed more gold.

Schippers, who won bronze in the 100m, roared off the bend into the final straight and looked as if she would coast safely home.

But the Dutchwoman began to tie up and only a savage dip at the line that saw her clock 22.05 seconds edged her past Ivorian Marie-Josée Ta Lou by just three-hundredths of a second.

In the field, American Brittny Reese claimed a fourth world title in the long jump and Poland's Pawel Fajdek a third consecutive gold in the men's hammer throw.

won 200m silver in the Rio Olympics. "I have won so hard this year so I am so happy. It's so cool. Two times in a row is very special too."

"It was very important to win. I worked so hard in the last years and last year was not the easiest for me. I changed everything and got a new coach, so I'm very happy."

"I'm great, especially with a gold medal. My secret is enjoying the sport and enjoying my racing. I feel a little bit nervous starting out, but I'm a final runner and I'm grateful for the experience now it's over."

Shaunae Miller-Uibo of the Bahamas, who in the space of 20 metres fell from clear leader to finish fourth in the 400m, had the consolation of claiming bronze in 22.15sec.

# Zidane to sign 3-year extension

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane confirmed on Saturday he will sign a contract extension in the near future with the club he has guided to back-to-back Champions League titles.

"I'm happy because it's a sign of confidence, that we have done good work," Zidane told a pre-match press conference ahead of Real's Spanish Super Cup showdown with Barcelona when quizzed on reports of his future.

Madrid sports daily AS reported the Frenchman will be rewarded with a three-year deal for his feats in not only delivering two Champions Leagues in just 20 months in charge, but also Real's first La Liga title for five years.

"I enjoy every day here," added Zidane, who ended his illustrious playing career at the Santiago Bernabeu. "I'm lucky to have this extraordinary squad and I am very happy with it."

Zidane added a sixth trophy to his collection when Madrid came off Manchester United 2-1 to retain the UEFA Super Cup. However, he acknowledged that even his future would depend on maintaining his winning streak.

Zidane also admitted that "there aren't many players" with Neymar's individual qualities, but claimed his absence wouldn't give Madrid the upper hand over two El Clasico clashes.

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- Head Office & Dhannondhi Campus : 44 (P44 code), Sattomajdi Road, Dhannondhi, Dhaka
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**Contact Us:**

- 9131388, 9124161, 58151469, 58155834
- Ext.: 118, 119, 125, 126, 127 & 128
- 01765-781186, 01675-694842
- 9355967, 9336932, 58315626, 58314032
- Ext.: 116, 119, 121 & 122
- 01738-879596, 01836-976941