

SONY SIX
Sri Lanka v India
Third Test, Day 3
Live from 10:30am
SONY ESPN
Caribbean Premier League
Trinidad Knight Riders v St Kitts & Nevis
Live from 6:00am (Tuesday)

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League
Venue: BNS

Farahganj v Mohammedan
Time: 6:00pm

DEMBELE SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY

Borussia Dortmund on Sunday said Ousmane Dembele remained suspended "until further notice" for skipping training this week, as speculation continues to swirl over the wantaway forward's possible move to Barcelona. Dembele was sanctioned after he failed to show up for practice on Thursday, the same day Dortmund announced they had rejected Barca's opening offer for the France international. The youngster was fined and initially suspended until Monday, missing Dortmund's 4-0 win over Rielasingen-Arlen on Saturday. "Our focus is now on a concentrated preparation of the team for the Bundesliga opening match in Wolfsburg this coming weekend," Dortmund's sporting director Michael Zorc said in a statement. "Ousmane Dembele of course has the option to train separately from the group." German tabloid Bild has reported that Dortmund want an eye-watering 150 million euros for their rising star, a price Barca have bristled at. Dembele himself has made clear he is keen to join the Catalans, and German media have suggested his no-show at training may have been intended to put pressure on the negotiations. —AFP



SAFF U-15 CHAMPIONSHIP

Holders Bangladesh face uphill task

SPORTS REPORTER



Holders Bangladesh will leave for Nepal on Wednesday to take part in the SAFF U-15 Championship with little hope of defending the title they clinched in Sylhet in 2015.

Two years ago, Bangladesh trained for at least six months for the then SAFF U-16 Championship at the now-defunct BFF academy in Sylhet and reaped the rewards by winning the South Asian title.

But this time, neither the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) nor the coaching staff is confident of returning home with the trophy from Nepal. One of the major reasons behind such low expectations is due to the fact that the team got only one month's time to prepare.

It is well known that neighbouring India, Nepal and Bhutan are improving their football from the grassroots level with the presence of strong academies -- unlike in Bangladesh where teams rely on short-term training for major championships. Hence Bangladesh are expected to face an uphill task against the likes of India, Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives.

"This time we don't have individual performers like Saad Uddin and Sarwar Zaman Nipu who were part of the U-16 team in 2015, but the present U-15 squad is a good one with a good defence and midfield," opined head coach Mostafa Anwar Parvez at a press conferece at the BFFF House yesterday.

Parvez's charges have been together for only

one month as they started training on July 13 in Khulna before coming to the capital to play two competitive matches of the Dhaka Metropolis Football Tournament and one practice match against Saif SC youth team in BKSP. The boys in red and green lost both competitive matches (0-1 and 0-2) before playing out a 2-2 draw with Saif SC youth team.

The 23-member squad features 11 players from BKSP and three players from the Shamsul Huda Football Academy in Jessore while the rest are from Dhaka, Narayanganj, Noakhali, Habiganj, Sirajganj, Rangpur, Barisal and Sylhet.

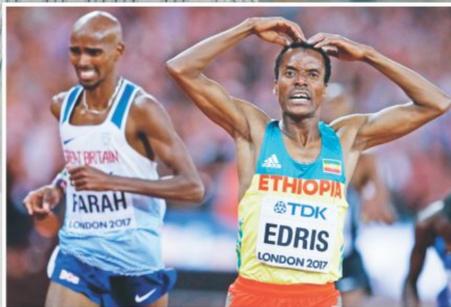
"It is true that our neighbouring countries have strong academy systems and they have strong squads but we are no less strong because most of our players are from BKSP and they have been together for a long time," Parvez said. "Our first target is to qualify for the semifinals and it is important to emerge as group champions to ensure a place in the final."

Captain Jehad Hossain said: "We will try to retain the title that our seniors won. We have been preparing in line with what the coaches are instructing us. After playing three matches, we felt that we have to be mentally strong as the opponents are expected to be strong sides."

Bangladesh will start their campaign by taking on Sri Lanka at ANFA Complex ground on August 18 before playing their second and final group match against Bhutan on August 22. Both semifinals are billed for August 25 while the final will take place on August 27.



Britain's legendary long-distance runner Mo Farah recovered from the shock of finishing second in his final race and posed alongside his family at the London Stadium on Saturday night. (INSET) 5,000m gold medalist Muktar Edris does Farah's patented 'Mobot' celebration upon crossing the finish line. PHOTOS: REUTERS



FABULOUS FARAH		
	10	2
FINISH	EVENT	TIME
6th	2007 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 5000m	13:47.54
7th	2009 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 5000m	13:19.69
Gold	2011 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 5000m	13:23.36
Silver	10,000m	27:14.07
Gold	2012 OLYMPICS 5000m	13:41.66
Gold	10,000m	27:30.42
Gold	2013 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 5000m	13:26.98
Gold	10,000m	27:21.71
Gold	2015 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 5000m	13:50.38
Gold	10,000m	27:01.13
Gold	2016 OLYMPICS 5000m	13:03.30
Gold	10,000m	27:05.17
Gold	2017 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 10,000m	26:49.51
Silver	5,000m	13:33.22

Farah denied final gold

AFP, London



British athletics legend Mo Farah narrowly failed to complete a fifth successive global double on Saturday when he finished second behind Ethiopian Muktar Edris in a thrilling 5,000 metres world final.

The 34-year-old, whose winning run in the 5,000m at Olympics and world finals stretched back to 2011, fought desperately to claw back the deficit in the finishing straight but Edris held on to win in 13min 32.79sec.

Edris celebrated by holding his hands up over his head in the 'Mobot' gesture that Farah invented for his succession of victories.

Farah finished in 13:33.22, just failing to repeat his memorable Olympic double on the same track in 2012.

Farah said he couldn't have given it more but added he had proved that it was possible to break up the Ethiopian and Kenya hegemony over the distance races.

"I gave it my all, 110 percent,"

said Farah. "I don't think there was any more I could have done. They [the Ethiopians] run as a team.

"Never feel like you can't beat the Kenyans and Ethiopians -- anything is possible."

Farah -- who immediately went to his family as he has made a habit of doing -- said he had had an extraordinary ride in the past six years.

"It's been amazing. It's been a long journey but it's been incredible," said Farah who was embraced by his fans as he made his way around the stadium on a lap of honour. "It doesn't quite sink in until you compete here and cross the line -- I had a couple of minutes to myself -- that this is it."

American Paul Chelimo added world bronze to his Olympic silver, timing 13.33.30.

Edris said his 'Mobot' gesture was both a symbol of the passing of the champion's baton and a mark of respect for Farah.

"Mo has many victories but now I have one," said the 23-year-old.

"I am the new champion for Ethiopia. That's why I did the Mobot. I am the next champion.

"I have won the gold in front of his home crowd. I didn't have much support but we did it. I did the Mobot out of respect as well for him."

Farah and his team-mate Andrew Butchart had tried to break up the field with 600 metres to go in a race that had been run at generally a very slow pace.

However, Edris and team-mate Yomif Kejelcha seized the initiative as the bell went and Farah struggled to go with them.

He fell several metres behind them going down the back straight.

Edris led round the final bend with Farah under pressure from Kenyan-born Chelimo as they hit the straight.

Edris gritted his teeth and set sail for home with Farah moving down the inside to try and engineer a remarkable final burst but the gas just wasn't there.

"I thought it might be possible, but my legs had had it," said Farah.

"I got boxed in early on (in the final charge) -- it doesn't normally happen -- and couldn't get out."



Competing as a neutral athlete, Maria Lasitskene on Saturday became the first Russian to win a gold medal at the 2017 IAAF World Championships when she won the high jump. 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:

Tamim survives close call

Tamim Iqbal survives a close call after



being cut with broken shards of glass during Bangladesh's three-day practice match at Chittagong.

Memories of last season keep Pep grounded

Pep Guardiola says Manchester City will not get carried away after a 2-0 opening day win at Brighton as he is still stung by the bitter experiences of last season.



Lukaku brace fires MU

AFP, Manchester



Romelu Lukaku enjoyed a dream Premier League debut for Manchester United as the Belgian's brace inspired a 4-0 rout of West Ham, while Jonjo Shelvey's dismissal was the pivotal moment in Tottenham's 2-0 win at Newcastle on Sunday.

75-million-pound signing Lukaku needed just 33 minutes to get off the mark.

Accelerating on Marcus Rashford's pass, Lukaku drilled a powerful strike in off the post to put United ahead in their Premier League opener at Old Trafford.

Lukaku was virtually unplayable at

times and he doubled United's advantage in the 53rd minute with a bullet header from Henrikh Mkhitaryan's free-kick.

Substitute Anthony Martial added United's, slotting past Joe Hart in the 87th minute, before Paul Pogba's 90th minute strike sent Mourinho's men to the top of the table above Huddersfield on goal difference.

Once sold by Mourinho when the pair were at Chelsea, Lukaku could be the catalyst for a first serious title challenge from United since Alex Ferguson retired in 2013.

Lukaku wasn't the only impressive United debutant, with Nemanja Matic delivering a solid display.

At St James' Park, Tottenham Hotspur disposed of 10-man Newcastle courtesy of goals from Dele Alli and Ben Davies.



Manchester United striker Romelu Lukaku hit the ground running on his Old Trafford bow, scoring the first two goals in his side's 4-0 rout of West Ham yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

BHF POLLS 111 nomination papers sold

SPORTS REPORTER

A total of 111 nomination papers against 28 posts for the elections of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation were sold during nomination distribution which ended yesterday.

Out of 86 councillors, 73 members bought nomination papers for the August 27 polls while 25 councillors bought more than one.

"The candidates who bought papers will submit them by 4:00pm Thursday," said returning officer and NSC law officer Kabirul Islam.

The withdrawal of papers and disclosure of final candidates' list is on August 23.

Dr Wazed Mia KC win title

SPORTS REPORTER

Dr Wazed Mia KC emerged as champions of the inaugural Dhaka Metropolis Football Tournament after beating Shantinagar Club 2-1 in the final in Kamalapur yesterday.

Mehedi Hasan Tapu put the winners ahead on the half-hour mark before Rasel Hossain equalised in the 70th minute, before Abdul Halim Tutul's late winner.

'Uphold the spirit of Sheikh Kamal'

SPORTS REPORTER

Obaidul Quader, general secretary of Bangladesh Awami League and minister for road transport and bridges, urged all to keep sports out of politics like Sheikh Kamal did during his time as a sports organiser.

The former sports minister made the remark during a memorial programme on Sheikh Kamal, the founder of Abahani and the eldest son of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, to mark his 68th birth anniversary at the Sheikh Russel Roller Skating Complex in Paltan yesterday.

The programme turned into a get-together of former and current sports people, organisers, cultural figures, politicians and those who were once deeply involved with sports and cultural activities alongside Sheikh Kamal.

Speakers opined that the face of the country's sports would have been different had Sheikh Kamal not been assassinated alongside most of the members of his family on August 15, 1975.

"Many people have tried to call into question the character of Sheikh Kamal over the last 42 years, but his brilliance in sports, culture and politics has been recognised as time progressed. I will hope the character of Sheikh Kamal will be reflected in our sports," chief guest Quader said. "Kamal kept sports beyond politics and I urge you all to uphold the spirit of Sheikh Kamal in a bid to develop and take the country's sports ahead."

Freedom fighter and eminent cultural personality Nasiruddin Yousuf Bacchu described how Sheikh Kamal was involved with 1969's mass movement and the War of Independence and the formation of cultural organisations.

"The death of Sheikh Kamal was not only a big loss to sport but also to culture," said Bacchu.

Singer Ferdous Wahid reflected on how they were introduced to modern musical instruments after liberation, which he felt was possible due to the involvement of Sheikh Kamal.

"Sheikh Kamal is not only the all-time best organiser; he is a piece of history and an institution. He was a politician, a sportsman, an organiser and a cultural personality," said former athlete and organiser Rafia Akter Dolly.

India bully Lankans

AFP, Pallekele

A century from Hardik Pandya and four wickets from Kuldeep Yadav left India in total command of the third and final Test against Sri Lanka on Sunday.

Sri Lanka were bowled out for 135, before the visitors enforced the follow-on.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: First innings 487 (Dhawan 119, Pandya 108, Sandakan 5-132)

SRI LANKA: First innings 135 (Chandimal 48; Yadav 4-40)

SRI LANKA: Second innings 19 for 1

5-a-side football from Aug 17

SPORTS REPORTER

The 12th edition of the Ascent Corporate 5-a-side Soccer Cup will begin August 17 at the Scholastica campus in Uttara.

The announcement was made at a press meet yesterday. This season, there will be 44 corporate teams. Each team will have eight members.

The tournament has been running since 2006, and was created by Excalibur entertainment. Ascent Group became title sponsors two years later and has continued in that role since.