

What to WATCH

SONY SIX
Caribbean Premier League
St Kitts & Nevis v Jamaica Tallawahs
Live from 4:00am (Tuesday)

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
English Premiership
Man City v Everton
Live from 1:00am

TEN 2
La Liga
Levante v Villarreal
Live from 12:15am (Tuesday)
Malaga v Eibar
Live from 2:00am (Tuesday)

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League
Sk Jamal v Arambagh
Time: 5:00pm

Team BJMC v Farashganj
Time: 7:15pm
Venue: BNS

CELEBRATION TURNS TO AGONY

Germany international Nicolai Mueller faces half a year on the sidelines after rupturing his cruciate knee ligament as he celebrated scoring in Hamburg's opening game of the season. The 29-year-old was left red-faced after scoring the winner in the 1-0 home Bundesliga victory against Augsburg eight minutes into Saturday's match. After netting, Mueller twisted away, repeatedly twirling in his goal celebration and leapt at the corner flag before tumbling to the floor in obvious pain. He tried to play on, but had to be replaced after 15 minutes. Hamburg's worst fears were confirmed on Sunday and the diagnosis means Mueller, who made two appearances for Germany on their 2013 tour of the USA, is out for at least six months.



—AFP



Tawhidul Alam Sabuz shows five fingers as his fifth goal in five matches ensured a fifth win on the trot for Chittagong Abahani, following their 2-0 win over Rahmatganj at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

5-in-5 for Sabuz, Ctg Abahani

SPORTS REPORTER



National discard Tawhidul Alam Sabuz struck for the fifth game running as Chittagong Abahani kept their perfect start to the Bangladesh Premier League intact with a 2-0 win over Rahmatganj MFS at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Sabuz and Zahid Hossain scored on either side of the break to put the port city outfit in pole position with 15 points from five matches, five points ahead of Sheikh Jamal DC while Rahmatganj stayed at seven points from five outings.

Chittagong Abahani came into the match with a morale-boosting 3-1 win over Sheikh Russel KC and dominated the show after surviving a scare in the 19th minute. Goalkeeper Ashraf Islam Rana denied Saddam Hossain from a free-kick, keeping the ball out for a corner.

Then Sabuz came close to breaking the deadlock but his weak

header failed to trouble Rahmatganj goalkeeper Mohammad Razib, who however could not stop the striker's flick from inside the six-yard box after Zahid whipped in a long ball from the right flank in the 43rd minute. Abdullah squandered a great

in the league.

"There is no secret of getting goals in every match. I was the top-scorer [eight goals] among local players last season and that is my inspiration. I want to become the top-scorer again," said the 27-year-old striker.

their best on the pitch in a bid to ensure places in the starting eleven.

"I feel no pressure to get goals, but I am happy that I can contribute to team's victory. There is still a long way to go and I want to score in every match. However, team's victory is more important for me because every match is vital for the team to become champions," said Sabuz, who is optimistic about getting a recall from the national team. His last outing for the Red and Greens was against Afghanistan in a friendly match in 2015.

ABAHANI EXTEND SHEIKH RUSSEL'S MISERY

Meanwhile, defending champions Abahani returned to winning ways with a 2-0 victory over Sheikh Russel KC. Landing Darboe scored twice – opening the scoring from the spot in the 63rd minute before sealing victory with a header in the 85th minute – as the Sky Blues moved to 10 points from five matches. Sheikh Russel, following three straight defeats, remained on four points.

RAHMATGANJ	0 - 2	CTG ABAHANI (SABUZ 43, ZAHID 72)
ABAHANI (LANDING 63, 86)	2 - 0	SHEIKH RUSSEL

chance to double the lead in the 62nd minute by sending the ball wide from the edge of the box before Zahid converted a penalty in the 72nd minute after defender Shariful Islam Sajib handled the ball inside the box.

Sabuz feels there is no magic behind his goal spree; rather he is availing opportunities he gets due to the reduction of foreign players

"Earlier the champion team never fielded local players up front but this time the situation is different due to the reduction of foreign players. If the local strikers get opportunities in starting eleven, I am sure they will score goals," said the Chittagonian.

Sabuz also believes the strong reserve bench of Chittagong Abahani is forcing them to give

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:

'Mominul one of our best'

Premier Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan joins the growing list of high-profile voices who have been criticising the axing of Mominul Haque from Bangladesh's first Test squad against Australia.



Broad tops Botham as England rout West Indies

Stuart Broad starred as England thrashed the West Indies by an innings and 209 runs to ensure the inaugural day/night Test in Britain ended inside three days at Edgbaston.



Mourinho steals Utd for 'roadworks' ahead

Jose Mourinho believes Manchester United have found their missing confidence after making a dream start to the Premier League season.



Atletico defy Griezmann red to salvage draw

Atletico Madrid battled back from 2-0 down after a red card for Griezmann to salvage a 2-2 draw at Girona to start their La Liga campaign.



Diego Maradona leaves a courthouse in March 1994 after answering charges he shot and injured journalists outside his country home. PHOTO: REUTERS FILE

A wild night with Maradona

AGENCIES, London

Argentine legend Diego Maradona was -- and remains -- Mauricio Pochettino's idol. However, when the current Tottenham manager had the chance to fulfil his dream by meeting and sharing a room with his hero, the situation quickly turned into a nightmare.

It was in 1994 and Pochettino had been asked to room with Argentina's World Cup winner before a game for Newell's Old Boys, but when he woke up, the superstar was nowhere to be seen until he emerged on the television, caught in the act of shooting an air-rifle at journalists.

"We were together in the room during pre-season in Mar del Plata," recalled Pochettino. "I remember one day he started shooting the journalists in Argentina. The day before he was sleeping in my room. He loved basketball and went to see it in Mar del Plata -- the final in the conference. And then, in the morning, I woke up and he wasn't in bed."

"I went to breakfast, the manager asked about him and I said 'No, no, no, he didn't come back to the hotel.' After breakfast we went to training. Nobody knew about Diego and at lunchtime it

was breaking news on the television ... Diego shoots journalists in Buenos Aires! Four hundred kilometres away!"

The incident, which led to Maradona receiving a suspended sentence of two years and 10 months after injuring photographers and reporters preceded the disgraceful end of his international career -- being thrown out of the 1994 World Cup after testing positive for drugs.

However neither the incident nor what followed have lessened the image of the owner of the 'Hand of God' in Poch's eyes.

"I love him. I love everything about him. I knew Maradona, the real Maradona. We see him on the pitch and then there is his image. Outside it was crazy. But I promise you, if he arrived here and opened the door we'd all be in love with him. His energy, his personality -- and he's a person that when he's with you he makes you feel the best," the manager beamed.

That day gave Pochettino a glimpse into the art of crisis management while dealing with star names and the attention that they bring, even if the problems that transpired were off the scale when it comes to sheer and utter madness.

India rout Sri Lanka

AFP, Dambulla

Opener Shikhar Dhawan's blazing century and a disciplined effort by the spinners powered India to a nine-wicket win over Sri Lanka in the first ODI in Dambulla on Sunday.

Chasing a modest 217 for victory, India rode on an unbeaten 197-run stand between Dhawan, who smashed 132, and skipper Virat Kohli, who made 82, to canter home in 28.5 overs.

But it was the spinners, led by Axar Patel, who set up the opening win for the visitors in the five-match series after bowling out Sri Lanka for 216 in 43.2 overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SRI LANKA: 216 all out in 43.2 overs (Dickwella 64, Mathews 36 not out; Bumrah 2-22, Jadhav 2-26, Patel 3-34)
INDIA: 220 for 1 in 28.5 overs (Dhawan 132 not out, Kohli 82 not out)
Result: India won by nine wickets.

Player-of-the-match: Shikhar Dhawan

Brathwaite reported

AFP, Birmingham

West Indies' Kraigg Brathwaite has been reported for a suspect bowling action during an innings and 209-run defeat by England in the first Test at Edgbaston.

The off-spinner bowled six wicketless overs in Birmingham.

Brathwaite remains free to bowl in international cricket ahead of the results of a test on his action, which must take place within a fortnight.

Alonso brace spoils Spurs' Wembley bow

AFP, London



Tottenham Hotspur made a losing start to life as Wembley's full-time tenants after Marcos Alonso's double earned Premier League champions Chelsea a 2-1 victory on Sunday.

The Spaniard struck either side of a late Michy Batshuayi own goal to get Chelsea back to winning ways after their opening 3-2 loss at home to Burnley and end Spurs' club-record run of 14 successive home wins.

Spurs went unbeaten throughout their final league campaign at White Hart Lane, but struggled at Wembley in the Champions League and have now lost eight of the last 10 matches they have played there.

Mauricio Pochettino's men appeared to have avoided the worst when Batshuayi put through his own goal in the 82nd minute, only for Hugo Lloris's feeble attempt at a save to gift Alonso the winner two minutes from time.

For Spurs, who are playing at Wembley while White Hart Lane is rebuilt, it was a first home defeat in the league since a 2-1 loss to Southampton in May 2016.

Having endured a deeply trying start to the season, Chelsea manager Antonio

Conte will hope victory over the team his side pipped to the title last season will bring some much-needed positivity back to Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea's list of absentees -- suspended pair Gary Cahill and Cesc Fabregas, injury victim Eden Hazard and the exiled Costa -- moved Conte to adopt an unfamiliar 3-5-1-1 system, with David Luiz anchoring the midfield. He also gave a debut to £40 million signing Tiemoue Bakayoko.

Alvaro Morata should have crowned his full Chelsea debut with an early goal, only to head wide from seven yards when Cesar Azpilicueta's cross picked him out unmarked, but in the 24th minute his side did go ahead.

Chelsea were awarded a free-kick after Dele Alli clipped Luiz and 25 yards from goal, slightly to the right of centre, Alonso arced a magnificent shot into the top-right corner.

Spurs thought they had rescued a point with eight minutes remaining when Batshuayi, who had only been on the pitch for four minutes, inadvertently headed Christian Eriksen's free-kick into his own net.

But six minutes later, Alonso picked up a loose ball in midfield and swapped passes with substitute Pedro before drilling a low shot beneath Lloris to give Chelsea victory.



Two goals from Marcos Alonso gave Chelsea a 2-1 victory over Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday in the first-ever Premier League game at Wembley Stadium.

PHOTO: REUTERS

'Neither players, nor managers are loyal

AGENCIES, Manchester



Manchester City's longest-serving player and captain Vincent Kompany has given a footballer's perspective into loyalty in the game, something that fans all over the world value, but only when it suits them.

A player moving to China is labelled a mercenary, or a player making the move from a smaller side to a larger team is told to 'pay his dues' to the club that established him as a star. Brazilian superstar Neymar even came under fire for leaving Barcelona for Paris Saint-Germain, although his main motivation was to lead his own side to glory.

Compared to others, from Philippe Coutinho to Virgil van Dijk, Alexis Sanchez and Diego Costa -- none of whom played on the opening weekend -- Kompany is held up as a beacon of virtue. However, it is a status he is reluctant to accept, admitting that players, managers and clubs are all out for themselves.

"Loyalty is a difficult topic in football. Everybody wants to have it but in reality managers are thinking 'If I can find a better player, you're out', and players are thinking 'If I can find a club that wins more games, I'm out,'" Kompany said about loyalty.

"I've been lucky enough to be at a club that has grown as my career has developed. But sometimes you have managers and directors that make decisions, and if you don't fit the plans you can love the club as much as you want but you might have to move on."

Kompany also reflected on his arrival at the Etihad nine years ago. He was bought just a week before the club were acquired by Sheikh Mansour and underwent their transformation.

"I've so many dressing-room memories. In my first season, the Brazilians Robinho and Elano would do keepy-ups with their socks, making the rest of us feel like amateurs," Kompany reminisced with a smile. "All you could do is shrug your shoulders and go 'Oh well, I'll just do some push-ups!'"

Entertainment and three points are what City fans will expect against Everton on Monday after Pep Guardiola's team made an impressive start with a win at Brighton.

The presence of Wayne Rooney in an Everton shirt will add spice and Kompany has his own reasons for trying to keep the former United man quiet. Rooney scored one of the greatest goals in the Premier League's 25 years when his overhead kick helped beat City in 2011.

"That goal was a testimony to his talent because I had him in my pocket!" says Kompany. "But top strikers do things at unbelievable times. I was really strong for 90 minutes and then he pulls the overhead kick and I'm thinking 'Oh, come on...'"

SAFF U-15 CHAMPIONSHIP

Bangladesh thru' to semis

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh are through to the SAFF U-15 Championship semifinals, courtesy of Bhutan's 5-0 win against Sri Lanka yesterday.

A draw would have been enough to see Bangladesh through, but the Himalayan kingdom thrashed the islanders 5-0 at the ALFA Complex ground in Nepal to settle the two qualifying spots from the group.

Bangladesh had won their first group match against Sri Lanka 4-0, thanks to Faisal Ahmed Fahim's hat-trick.

The boys in red and green will take on Bhutan tomorrow to decide who goes through as group champions and who goes through as runners-up.

WORLD BRIDGE C'SHIPS

BD team's lowly finish

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh ended their 43rd World Bridge Championships campaign on a low, finishing last among 22 teams in Lyon on Saturday.

Having made a brilliant start to the competition when they beat Mexico and Italy, Bangladesh took a nosedive and kept losing their games, with an odd win or two in between.

They finished with 119.99 points from 21 games as eight teams advanced. France were leading the table with 273.61 points.

Bangladesh were one of only two amateur teams in the competition, with the other being Guadeloupe, who finished in 19th position.