

What to WATCH

SONY SIX
Caribbean Premier League
St Kitts & Nevis v Trinbago
Live from 4:00am (Thursday)

TEN 1
UEFA Champions League
Steaua Bucuresti v Sporting
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

TEN 2
UEFA Champions League
Liverpool v Hoffenheim
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

BALDOCK TOWN'S UNSUNG HERO

Baldock Town of the South Midlands League played North Greenford United of the Combined Counties League in the preliminary rounds of the FA Cup of Sunday afternoon. Fans of the home side unable to attend the big match were invited to follow their side's fortunes on social media, courtesy of regular live updates being emitted via Baldock Town's official Twitter account. However, shortly after Baldock had gone 3-1 up in the second half, the live updates ceased without warning. It was only the following day that the club's social correspondent, Liam Kenna, informed confused fans as to why. "Sorry for the lack of updates during the last 10 mins yesterday. Our Twitter correspondent had to go on as sub." That's right. McKenna had been asked to pull a double-shift, live-tweeting until the 78th minute before coming on as a late impact sub. After the explanation went viral, one fan contacted Baldock directly to ask how McKenna performed in the latter stages. Of course, the club's Twitter account duly gave their sub a glowing review: "He was very good. Should have started!"

—AGENCIES



SAFF U-15 CHAMPIONSHIP

BD thump Bhutan to seal top spot

SPORTS REPORTER



Holders Bangladesh sealed their semifinal berth as Group A champions after easing to a 3-0 victory over Bhutan in their final group match of the SAFF U-15 Championship at the ANFA Complex ground in Nepal yesterday.

Faisal Ahmed, who had slotted a hat-trick against Sri Lanka in the tournament opener on Friday, put Bangladesh ahead in the first half before Miraj Mollah struck twice in the second half to help Bangladesh top the group. Bangladesh had beaten Sri Lanka 4-0 on Friday.

While Bangladesh's senior side were sent packing, 1-3 on aggregate, by Bhutan in the Asian Cup Qualifying Playoffs last year, the young boys in Red and Green hardly faced any trouble disposing of the Himalayan nation. They dominated all through the match, except for the first 10 minutes, before sealing the tie with three spectacular strikes.

The charges of Anwar Parvez looked a bit nervous in the early stages of the game, but those nerves eased away as time progressed. Bangladesh came close to taking the lead in the 20th and 22nd minutes before Faisal opened the scoring with an eye-catching strike in the 25th minute.

Taking a forward pass from a teammate near the centre line of the left flank, Faisal made a diagonal run into the right side of the box after playing a one-two with another teammate before changing his foot and curling a left-footer into the corner of the net.

Bangladesh kept pressing for the second goal with greater possession, forcing Bhutan to play counter offensively, from such a situation Bangladesh conceded a free-kick outside the box. However, the woodwork came to Bangladesh's rescue from the set-piece in the 40th minute.

Bangladesh took control of proceedings after restart and doubled the lead in the 52nd minute when Rahim darted into the right side of the box to play a fierce low cross, which Miraj tucked in with a diving header, giving the Bhutan goalkeeper no chance to react.

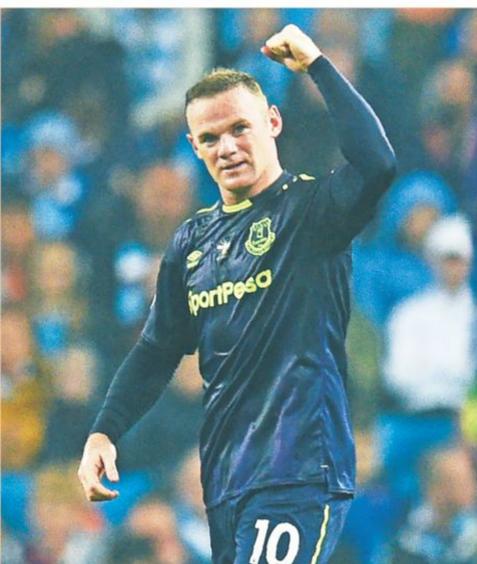
Miraj then struck his second goal to seal victory with a clever strike in the 81st minute. A teammate entered the box from the left side and put a lob into the six-yard box, with Miraj stabbing home after changing the direction of the ball.

Bangladesh will now play Friday's first semifinal against Group B runners-up -- either India or hosts Nepal, who are scheduled to face off in tomorrow's final match of Group B.



Bangladesh's Miraj Mollah (R) celebrates one of his two goals against Bhutan during their SAFF U-15 Championship fixture at the ANFA Complex ground in Nepal yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



Wayne Rooney joined the legendary Alan Shearer as the only two players to have scored 200 goals in the English Premier League with his strike against Manchester City on Monday. Interestingly, he has scored his 50th, 150th and 200th strike against The Citizens.

PHOTO: AFP

Rooney joins 200 club

REUTERS, Manchester



Wayne Rooney scored his 200th Premier League goal in Everton's 1-1 draw at Manchester City on Monday and gave another display which showed his career is far from over.

Rooney's 35th minute goal looked to have earned Everton a surprise victory at the Etihad Stadium before substitute Raheem Sterling volleyed in an 82nd minute equaliser.

Although he did not end as the match-winning hero, Rooney was able to savour the moment he became just the second player to reach 200 Premier League goals.

Former Newcastle and England striker Alan Shearer, who ended his career with 260 goals, welcomed Rooney to the exclusive club by tweeting: "It's been lonely in this @premierleague 200 club. Welcome and congratulations @WayneRooney".

"It was nice. To do it today in such an important game for us, with tough games coming up, it was a sweet moment and I am sure the red half of Manchester will have enjoyed it as well," said Rooney who scored 183 of his goals in the red shirt of United.

Rooney's move last month back to the club he has supported since his youth and where he made his professional debut, was questioned by some critics who wondered whether he might have run out of steam.

But the 31-year-old, who scored on his home debut against Stoke City last week, gave another display of clever passing and positioning as well as his trademark finishing.

"It is not bad for someone who is not fit anymore and can't get about the pitch! I have always put a shift in for the team and tonight is no different," he said.

"The manager has made it clear he wants to play me in the attacking positions. I have done that throughout my career and the thing for me is to play. I didn't play as much last year and if you don't play you don't get that match fitness," he said.

Rooney's revival in blue has raised the issue of whether he could earn a recall to Gareth Southgate's England squad ahead of next month's internationals.

"I am focusing on Everton. I am sure I will speak to Gareth Southgate over the next few days and we will see what happens," said the forward.

Monaco fans turn on Mbappe

AFP, Monaco



LIGUE 1



AS Monaco

AFP, Monaco

Wilshere brawls in U-23 match

AGENCIES, London

A raging Jack Wilshere was sent off for Arsenal U-23s after flooring a Manchester City U-23 player and sparking a brawl on the pitch before then fighting in the tunnel.

The midfielder, who is on the path to returning to first-team action after a prolonged spell on the sidelines, reacted furiously to a late tackle from Matt Smith and fronted up to the City star and sent him to the floor while referee Samuel Allison tried to get between the pair.

Then another City player, Tyreke Wilson, flew into Wilshere and appeared to aim a kick at him.

Some seven players were then involved in a tussle in the centre circle before Wilshere -- who did not try to appeal his red card -- and Wilson were sent off.

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:

'Bangladesh unbeatable at home'

Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan makes bold statement that Bangladesh 'are unbeatable at home'. The Premier all-rounder, who is the top ranked all-rounder in all three formats of the game gave his view on Bangladesh's change in mentality in an interview with The Guardian.

Gayle, Samuels to fly in for ODI series with England

Explosive West Indies opener Chris Gayle is set to play his first one-day international in two years after being recalled to the squad for the series with England.

Guardiola left frustrated after City's missed chances

It was a familiar tale for Manchester City -- waves of attacks, relentless pressure but missed chances meant Pep Guardiola's side needed an 82nd minute equaliser from Raheem Sterling to earn a 1-1 draw at home to Everton.

Barca suing Neymar

AFP, Barcelona



AFP, Barcelona

Barcelona are seeking at least 8.5 million euros from Neymar for breach of contract, the club said yesterday as the bitter fallout rumbles on from his world record 222-million-euro move to Paris Saint-Germain.

"In this lawsuit, the club demands the amount already paid as a bonus for the renewal of his contract for breach of contract, 8.5 million euros in damages, and an additional 10 percent in interests," Barcelona said in a statement.

Neymar signed a new five-year deal with Barca in 2016, but the Catalans were powerless to stop his move to PSG just a year later as the French side met the buyout clause in his contract.

Barca added the demand was lodged against Neymar on August 11 with Barcelona's employment court, eight days after his stunning move to Ligue 1.

The Catalan giants have also passed the claim onto FIFA and the French Football Federation via the Spanish Football Federation to take what they see as "the appropriate legal effects".

Moreover, Barca urged PSG to pay the amount they are seeking if Neymar -- who is reported to earn 30 million euros after tax for the next five years in Paris -- isn't able to meet their demands.

The club's latest move comes two days after Neymar fiercely criticised Barcelona's under-fire board after scoring twice in a stunning home debut as PSG beat Toulouse 6-2 on Sunday.

"There are people in charge that shouldn't be there," Neymar told reporters. "Barca deserve much more and everyone knows that."

Barcelona have also withheld a 26 million euro bonus due to Neymar for signing the renewal to his contract last year.

"The player hasn't fulfilled his contract with the club...given that breach the club will not pay this renewal bonus," Barcelona spokesman Josep Vives said on August 4.

The animosity from the saga had carried on for a long time over the loyalty bonus and money owed to his father and it seems far from over with this latest turn.



World No 1 Rafael Nadal got a great view of the solar eclipse across the United States of America as he is currently in the country gearing up for the upcoming US Open.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Digne's heroic act

AFP, Barcelona

French international Lucas Digne helped the injured in the aftermath of last week's van attack in Barcelona that killed 13 people and injured over 100 others, Spanish media reported Monday.

The 24-year-old Barcelona defender, who lives near the central Las Ramblas boulevard where the attack took place, raced to the scene with napkins and water, daily newspaper El Pais reported.

Digne helped the injured, applied tourniquets to arms and legs and cooperated with first aid until ambulances arrived and police requested, as a precaution, that Las Ramblas be evacuated," the newspapersaid.

Tourniquets are used to apply pressure to

stop bleeding. Makeshift versions can be fashioned out of napkins, shirts or shoelaces.

"The Frenchman does not want to talk about it. He does not consider himself to be a hero for applying tourniquets to treat injured arms and legs," sports daily Mundo Deportivo reported.

A white van ploughed through crowds on Thursday in Las Ramblas, leaving bodies strewn along the boulevard as others fled for their lives.

Police on Monday shot dead the suspected driver of the van, 22-year-old Younes Abouyaqoub, at a village about 60 kilometres (37 miles) west of Barcelona.

Digne joined Barcelona from Paris Saint-Germain in July 2016 on a five-year contract.

Boycott apologises for 'unacceptable' remark

AFP, London



AFP, London

Controversial England batting legend Geoff Boycott made a grovelling apology on Tuesday for remarking he needed to "black up his face" to get a knighthood at an event last week.

The 76-year-old astonished his audience with his comment during a question and answer session in one of the intervals at last week's first Test with the West Indies.

Boycott, who played a pivotal role in organising the 1982 England rebel tour of South Africa when sporting links had been cut with the rest of the world because of the apartheid regime, said knighthoods had been bestowed on West Indian cricketers like "confetti".

"Mine's been turned down twice. I'd better black me face," Boycott is reported to have said according to a guest at the event cited by The Daily Mirror.

Boycott took to Twitter on Tuesday to unreservedly apologise.

"Speaking at an informal gathering I was asked a question and I realise my answer was unacceptable," he tweeted.

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