

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh v Australia  
Second Test, Day-3  
Time: 10:00am  
Venue: ZAKS, Chittagong

# Six-month suspension for Jilani

SPORTS REPORTER

Syed Colam Jilani, a SAFF U-16 Championship winning coach, has been suspended from all football activities for six months by the Bangladesh Football Federation for a breach of the code of conduct.

The BFF-appointed coach had made comments on the alleged fixed match of the Senior Division Football League between Dhaka United Sports Club and Friends Social Welfare Organisation in June.

The decision was taken at the executive committee meeting of the BFF as the Dhaka Metropolitan Football League Committee (DMFLC) recommended action against the coach after the enquiry committee found that he had spoken in favour of Friends Social Welfare Organisation, where he is also a football secretary.

The AFC-A licensed coach, will however rejoin the BFF coaches' panel after serving the punishment, which will end in November.

The BFF meeting also decided that one club from the Bangladesh Premier League will be relegated this season while two teams from Bangladesh Championship League will be promoted to the top flight.

The meeting also formed that only three clubs - Abahani, Mohammedan SC and Saif SC - could meet the conditions of AFC Club Licensing and they are now the only eligible clubs to take part in competitions organised by the Asian Football Confederation.

# 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:

**Germany rout Norway, but wait for Russia berth**  
Timo Werner netted twice as Germany routed Norway 6-0 in a World Cup qualifier, but Joachim Löw's team must wait until next month to confirm their Russia 2018 place.

**England's Ali says offensive gesture was 'joke'**  
England's Dele Ali said he was having a 'joke' with team-mate Kyle Walker after he was caught on camera raising his middle finger during their 2-1 win over Slovakia.

**Simone to complete unfinished business at Atletico**  
Diego Simeone's lone affair with Atletico Madrid is set to continue for another three years after the Argentine renewed his contract till 2020.

**Mentor Cruyff's flame still burns bright: Jonk**  
The late Johan Cruyff's philosophy is still relevant despite the emphasis placed on results by club owners, former Netherlands international Wim Jonk says.

**Brazil police launch raids in Rio Olympics vote buying scheme**  
Brazilian police searched the house of the country's Olympic chief on allegations that the IOC was bribed to pick Rio de Janeiro as host of last year's Olympics.

Bangladesh Premier League  
Venue: BNS  
Rahmatganj v Farashganj  
Time: 5:00pm

Sk Jamal v Brothers Union  
Time: 7:15pm



Roger Federer has a chance to avenge his 2009 final defeat after setting up a US Open quarterfinal clash against Juan Martin Del Potro scheduled for tonight.

# Federer's shot at vengeance

To face Del Potro in quarterfinal on Wednesday

**AFP, New York**

Eight years after losing to Juan Martin Del Potro in the US Open final, Roger Federer locks horns again with the giant Argentine in New York still convinced he should have won the match which ended his five-year reign as champion.

Del Potro was just 20 years old when he downed the Swiss legend 3-6, 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 7-6 (7/4), 6-2 but Federer believes that he was the dominant force in that 2009 showdown.

"The only time when he was really better, in my opinion, was the fifth set. Obviously that was good enough to beat me that day," said Federer on Monday after seeing off Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-4, 7-2, 5-7 to set-up Wednesday's quarterfinal with Del Potro.

"I felt like that I left that match with a lot of regrets. Probably feels like one of those matches I would like to play over again."

"Feel like I would probably win it somehow because I should have been up maybe two sets to love."

Federer leads Del Potro 16-5 in their head-to-head record although his win in Miami this year represented the first time the pair had met in four years.

Despite his disappointment at losing the 2009 championship match, Federer admits that having also defeated Rafael Nadal in the semi-finals, Del Potro was overall a worthy winner.

Federer had already won the French Open, to complete the career Grand Slam in 2009, before going onto to win a sixth Wimbledon. He also became a father for the first time.

"Making the finals here was actually a good run. But it ended my five-year reign in New York," he said.

Federer believes that had Del Potro remained fit he could have become world number one after that breakthrough.

For Del Potro, beating Federer should have meant he had the world at his feet.

Sadly, it was his wrists which proved the problem as he went on to undergo four surgeries.

After his 2009 triumph, he was to miss a total of 10 Grand Slam tournaments. At one stage last year, his world ranking, once as high as four in the world, slumped to 1,045 and he even considered retiring.

Federer said he was happy to see the likeable Del Potro back on tour and the feeling is mutual.

"I admire him, too. Everybody loves him," said Del Potro.

"It's going to be an interesting match to play. It will be the first time after eight years again in the central court of this tournament."

"I know how to play if I want to win, but always is a pleasure to play the greatest guy in history."

Now the 28-year-old hopes to recover in time for the clash having needed to save two match points to defeat Dominic Thiem 1-6, 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7/1), 6-4 in the fourth round.

He even admitted he had come close to quitting the match as a fever had left him with breathing difficulties.

"I feel tired, but we cannot do magic," he said.



Jamaican sprint king Usain Bolt enjoyed his time in Kyoto and even entertained a couple of Japanese geishas into striking his trademark pose at a charity event yesterday.

# 'My records will stand for 20 years'

**AFP, Kyoto**

Usain Bolt is feeling no pressure in retirement, confident his best times can remain world records for decades.

The only sprinter to capture the 100 and 200 meter track titles at three consecutive Olympics, Bolt retired last month after the world championships in London. He holds the world record of 9.58 seconds in the 100 and 19.19 in the 200 - both set in Berlin in 2009.

"I think [the records] are going to last a while," Bolt said during a promotional event in Japan on Tuesday. "I think our era with Yohan Blake, Justin Gatlin and Asafa Powell and all these guys was the best era of athletes. If it was going to be broken, it would have been broken in this era, so I think I have at least 15 to 20 more years."

Bolt's farewell major meet didn't go to plan in London. After a surprising third-place finish in the 100 behind Americans Gatlin and Christian Coleman, Bolt's last race ended in the anguish of an injured hamstring while anchoring Jamaica's 4x100-meter relay team.

Gatlin, often cast as the villain during Bolt's long dominance, said he thinks his rival will be back. But Bolt brushed off that notion.

"I have nothing to prove, that's the main reason I left track and field. After you do everything you want there is no reason to stick around," Bolt said.

As for the future, Bolt says he is interested in playing soccer and possibly settling down and getting married.

"Something I've always wanted to do is play football," said Bolt, a die-hard Manchester United supporter. "My team is working on that but we haven't confirmed anything yet!"

Barcelona's under-fire president Josep Maria Bartomeu launched a counter-attack on his critics on Tuesday by insisting a four-year contract extension for Lionel Messi has been signed by the player's agent and father, Jorge Horacio Messi.

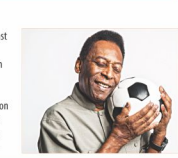
Barca announced an agreement with Messi in July, but Messi himself is yet to put pen to paper amid rumours he is unhappy with the running of the club.

Messi's current deal expires in 2018 meaning he could leave Barca for free next summer.

"It is all agreed and signed," Bartomeu said in an interview with Sport.

# PELE CONGRATULATES & CHALLENGES RONALDO

Pele says he was happy to see Cristiano Ronaldo overtake his mark for international goals last week, but claims the Real Madrid forward has a long way to go before he can be in the illustrious company. Ronaldo hit a hat-trick for Portugal in a 5-1 win over the Faroe Islands in World Cup qualifying on Thursday night to take his international tally to 78 and overtake Pele. However, Pele's 77 goals came in just 92 appearances, while the Brazilian also won three World Cups for his country in 1958, 1962 and 1970. And Ronaldo, who helped his nation bring home the Euro 2016 trophy last year, now has 78 strikes in 145 games for Portugal. In reference to his total career goals record, the three-time World Cup winner added: "Now he has to score more than 1,283 goals!"



# BPL resumes after Eid break

## Sk Jamal take on Brothers

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The Saif Power Battery Bangladesh Premier League resumes today after a six-day break for Eid-ul-Adha, with Sheikh Jamal DC looking to catch up on league leaders with an outright win over Brothers Union in their seventh match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Sheikh Jamal have 16 points from six outings, three behind leaders Chittagong Abahani who have already played seven matches.

The Dhanmondi giants are expected to test the Copinhab outfit, who are in 10th position with only five points. Though Brothers were demolished 0-5 at the hands of newcomers Saif SC in the previous match, they will try to bounce back with a credible performance.

Sheikh Jamal have the upper hand when it comes to their forwards, with Momodou Bah and Solomon King Kanfom finding the target regularly. Both forwards scored in their previous match against Mukti Joddha Sangs.

The day's second match is an Old Dhaka derby as Rahmatganj MFS will take on Farashganj SC.

On paper and performance, Rahmatganj are well ahead of Farashganj and they are fifth position with eight points while Farashganj lie at the bottom with three points from six matches.

The match is expected to be a mouth-watering affair due to the long-standing rivalry between the two sides.

PHOTO: AFP

# Lara laments Windies' embarrassing tactics

**ESPN**

Brian Lara has implored the top sides in world cricket to ensure that the integrity of the game is upheld and admitted there were times he was "truly embarrassed" by the behaviour of the West Indies side he represented.

Lara, delivering the MCC Spirit of Cricket Cowdrey lecture at Lord's, not only called on batsmen to "walk" but suggested the leading sides had a responsibility to "show the way and lead the way" in which the game is played.

And, despite the outstanding record of the West Indies sides of the 1980s and early 1990s, Lara felt they were occasions when the tactics they employed resulted in them "playing the game in a way it should never, ever be played."

In particular, Lara raised the notorious series against New Zealand in 1980, when Colin Croft shoulder-barged an umpire and Michael Holding kicked over the stumps in 1988 and England in 1990 when he suggested West Indies employed a certain amount of gamesmanship to win at any cost.



BRIAN LARA

Despite it being a period when people in the Caribbean were "accustomed to victory after victory," Lara suggested it was a time he was "not very proud of." He confessed to being "embarrassed" when a series of umpiring decisions helped them overcome Pakistan in 1988. In particular, he felt Viri Richards was fortunate to survive a leg before appeal against Imran Khan and Jeffrey Dujon fortune to survive an appeal for a catch off Abdul Qadir.

Lara referred to events in the 1990 series against England as "disturbing" and suggested that seeing his heroes behave in such a manner was "one of the saddest moments in the world."

The left-hander elaborated by saying that everyone, including groundsman, had begun wasting time. After periods of rain, groundsman would take tens of minutes to do simple tasks to ensure that the game would not start.

"Eventually, it started with a couple of hours to go and the groundsman had time. We bowled, in one hour, seven overs. It was dark and Graham Gooch had to call his troops from the field and West Indies grabbed a draw.

He also lamented his role in the process.

"This is maybe the most embarrassing moment for me as a young West Indian, watching West Indies time-wasting, playing the game in a way it should never, ever be played."

"I was 12th man. I was very, very busy. I was running out with laces, a banana, water, cough tablets, all sorts of things in that last hour. It was truly embarrassing."

Lara also suggested that such gamesmanship actually damaged Caribbean cricket in the long run. The series wins they achieved over Pakistan and England allowed them, Lara claims, to overlook their flaws.

**THE CHAUFFEUR EXPERIENCE**

Talking about his first ever visit to England on tour in 1991, Lara recalled how he had bowled 25 overs in a tour game and also became Sir Viri Richards' driver on the tour, but never got a chance to play a Test match.

"I was the perpetual water-boy in those days. Viri Richards asked if someone wanted to bowl and I immediately put up my hand. I bowled leg-breaks and googlies and eventually I bowled 7 overs and said I was down. But he threw the ball back at me. By the end my fingers were 25 overs, not for 130," Lara said.

"Afterwards Viri threw the keys of the car he was gifted to me and he sat at the passenger's seat. After that I knew all the roads in England as I became his driver, the only strip that I wanted to drive on was the 22 yards on cricket field but I never got a chance to play in that tour," he said.

# 'Father signed Messi's new contract'

**AFP, Barcelona**

Barcelona's under-fire president Josep Maria Bartomeu launched a counter-attack on his critics on Tuesday by insisting a four-year contract extension for Lionel Messi has been signed by the player's agent and father, Jorge Horacio Messi.

Barca announced an agreement with Messi in July, but Messi himself is yet to put pen to paper amid rumours he is unhappy with the running of the club.

Messi's current deal expires in 2018 meaning he could leave Barca for free next summer.

"It is all agreed and signed," Bartomeu said in an interview with Sport.

"There are three contracts: one with Messi's foundation that is signed by the president of the foundation and the player's brother; a contract with Leo Messi's image rights; that his father and administrator of his company have signed; and the work contract that Leo's father has signed."

When pressed on the delay in Messi signing the deal, Bartomeu claimed both the player and club's hectic start to the season was to blame and that it would be resolved within a month.

"There are no problems. All that is left is the protocol of the signature. We are calm," he added.

Bartomeu also described the loss of Neymar as an "opportunity" for Barca to build their team around the midfield rather than a superstar front three.



JOSEP BARTOMEU