

What to WATCH

GTV & STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
Bangladesh v Australia
Second Test, Day-4
Live from 9:30am
US Open
Semifinal
Live from 5:00am (Friday)

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
England v West Indies
Third Test, Day-1
Live from 4:00pm

DAY'S
EVENT

Bangladesh v Australia
Second Test, Day-4
Time: 9:30am
Venue: ZACCS, Chittagong

Bangladesh Premier League
Venue: BNS
Team BIMC v Salf Sport
Time: 5:00pm

Sk Russel v Mohammadan
Time: 7:15pm



Sheikh Jamal forward Solomon King Kanform celebrates one of his two goals against Brothers Union during their Bangladesh Premier League fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

'BARTOMEU IS A JOKE'

Neymar labelled Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu a "joke" as the war of words between Barcelon's beleaguered board and the Brazilian star continued on Tuesday after Neymar claimed Barca would be better off without Neymar. With Bartomeu's handling of Barca's haphazard transfer policy being heavily criticised, he described the loss of Neymar as an "opportunity" for Barca to rebuild their midfield rather than pile resources into a superstar front three of Neymar, Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez. "The trident was very good but it had its consequences," Bartomeu told Sport. "It is an opportunity to return to the collective football in the middle of the field, which traditionally was Barca's strength. It is an opportunity, with a new coach, a new project. We need to stop being pessimistic." Bartomeu also criticised Neymar and his father and agent Neymar Sr's exit strategy. "This president is a joke," Neymar replied in a comment about the news on social media site Instagram.



King takes Sheikh Jamal to top

SPORTS REPORTER



Ten-man Sheikh Jamal DC joined leaders Chittagong Abahani on top of the Bangladesh Premier League after notching a come-from-behind 2-1 win over Brothers Union at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Mohammed Biplob put Brothers Union ahead with a header in the 20th minute before Gambian forward Solomon King nodded home twice in the 54th and 68th minutes to put Chittagong at the top of the 12-team table alongside Chittagong Abahani on 19 points from seven matches.

After the second goal, Sheikh Jamal were reduced to 10 men as Enamul Haque received marching orders for a second bookable offence, leaving the control of the match to Brothers. The Orange

were, however, denied of legitimate penalty by referee Jalal Uddin after Md. Biplob was brought down inside the penalty area.

Earlier in the day, Rahmatganj MFS and Fasahganj SC shared honours in the Old Dhaka derby by playing out a 1-1 draw in a lively encounter.

Mohammad Shamim gave

Fasahganj a first-half lead before

substitute Mohammad Elias levelled

the margin for Rahmatganj MFS in

the second half of an entertaining

encounter in front of some hundred

spectators as the league resumed

after the Eid-ul-Adha break.

Rahmatganj came into the match

on the back of a creditable 0-0 draw

against Brothers Union. They

oversaw a good dominance of the game

over Fasahganj, who had suffered

four straight defeats in the run-up to

this game. However, it turned out to

be a fiercely fought contest between

the two Old Dhaka outfit.

Fasahganj looked good on the

pitch from the outset with their positive attitude, pressing on their old rivals, with Nigerian Chinu Edem Mathew forcing Rahmatganj MFS to a decent save from a close-range header in the 19th minute. However, two minutes later the goalkeeper failed to stop a dipping shot from Shamim, who let loose from the edge of the box after being set up by Mathew, who snatched the ball from a Rahmatganj mid-fielder on the 86th minute.

Rahmatganj could have killed off the match in the stoppage time but Faisal Ahmed failed to connect to a low cross from the right flank from hand-shaking distance while from a counter-attack Omar Faruk failed to efforts Alzabir Alzabir and Mathurah Zamani them-matched 1-1.

With the first draw in seven matches, Fasahganj stayed at the bottom with four points while Rahmatganj raised their tally to nine points from seven matches to stay at fifth position.

substitute Elias tapped in from a scramble after Farashganj goalkeeper Omar Faruk failed to grip an incoming looking header from Ismail Bangura.

With the score locked at 1-1, both teams tried to get the match winner and Farashganj were deprived of restoring the lead when Mathew saw his attempt come off the woodwork in the 86th minute.

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Korea, Saudi qualify

Syria, Australia into playoffs

AFP, Tehran



Omar Al Soma's stoppage-time equaliser took Saudi Arabia into the knockout stage of the World Cup play-offs on Tuesday, as South Korea and Syria joined them both booked their spots at next year's tournament.

Syria were 2-1 down against Iran and heading out when Al Soma headed his shot through goalkeeper Alireza Salimi's legs in the third added minute, sparking wild celebrations.

The 2-2 draw means Syria now face Australia home and away, with the winner going into an intercontinental play-off.

On the final night of Asia's qualifying group games, South Korea drew 0-0 with Uzbekistan to reach their ninth straight World Cup, while Saudi Arabia joined them with a 1-0 win over Japan.

Fahad Al Muwallad's thunderous winner in Jeddah qualified the Saudis for their fifth World Cup, snatching the second automatic spot in Group B -- and relegating Australia to the play-offs.

South Korea spurned several late chances

before settling for the 0-0 draw in Uzbekistan, becoming the second automatic group in Group A as their heartbroken hosts missed out.

Syria's heroics also extinguished China's faint hopes of reaching only their second World Cup, despite snatching a 2-1 win over 2022 hosts Qatar thanks to Wu Li's late winner.

It was in Group B, Australia won 2-1 against Thailand but they will rue their failure to score more as they missed out on an automatic place on goal difference.

The United Arab Emirates also saw their dream die when they lost 1-0 to Iraq to finish fourth in Group B.

But there was jubilation in Syria as they extended their dream run, after Tamim Mohammad and Al Soma became the only players to score past Iran in the final qualifying round.

Mohamad scored in the 13th minute before Iran equalised through Sardar Azmouz, who chested in a rebound on the stroke of half-time and then put the hosts ahead in the 64th minute.

Al Soma's heart-stopping goal had one Syrian team official in tears before the players hugged and celebrated at the final whistle.

India win lone T20I to sweep Sri Lanka 9-0

AFP, Colombo

Skipper Virat Kohli hit a blazing half-century as India completed their rout of Sri Lanka on this tour, winning the one-off Twenty20 by seven wickets in Colombo on Friday.

The visitors remained unbroken throughout their nine matches against Sri Lanka as they won the Test and one-day series 3-0 and 5-0 respectively.

Chasing 171 for victory, India rode on a 119-run second-wicket stand between Kohli (82) and Manish Pandey (51 not out) to achieve their target with four balls to spare.

Kohli remained calm in a tricky chase with a 50-ball 50 for company after India lost their openers for 42 runs in the sixth over.

Rohit Sharma fell to veteran paceman Lasith Malinga for nine and Lokesh Rahul was bowled by a superb catch by Dusun Shanaka at short cover off Seekkuge Prasanna.

But Kohli took the attack to the other end of the pitch, four fours and a six during his 54-ball knock before falling to Isuru Udana with India requiring 10 runs to win.

Pandey finished off the game with a boundary that brought his maiden T20 fifty in 36 balls.

Earlier leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal played his part by claiming three wickets to restrict Sri Lanka to 170-7 after being put into bat first.

Dilshan Munawera hit a 29-ball 53 before Ashan Priyanjan scored a run-a-ball 40 not out to lift the Sri Lankan total after a middle-order collapse.

Argentina, Chile stumble

AFP, Montevideo



Argentina and Chile's World Cup qualification hopes were left on a knife edge Tuesday after the South American heavyweights slipped up once again on the road to next year's finals in Russia.

Argentina needed a second-half own goal to help them snatch a 1-1 draw against already-eliminated Venezuela in Buenos Aires while Chile crashed to a 1-0 defeat against Bolivia in La Paz.

The results left 2014 World Cup finalists Argentina and reigning Copa America champions Chile outside of the automatic qualifying places and sets up a nail-biting final two rounds of matches next month.

Argentina are fifth in the standings with 24 points from 16 games while Chile are sixth with 23 points.

The Argentinians -- who would face a gauntlet against New Zealand if they remain fifth -- host fourth-place Peru next month in Srinagar before an awkward final game at altitude against Ecuador.

Chile meanwhile will face Ecuador in Santiago on October 5, before heading to Brazil for their final qualifier five days later.

At the top of the table, Brazil have already qualified and assured themselves of first place. The Brazilians picked up another point on Tuesday with a 1-1 draw against

Uruguay in a game that was

decided by a goal-line own goal.

from Radamel Falcao.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina coach Jorge Sampaoli admitted his team had blown a golden opportunity to force themselves into the automatic qualifying places following Chile's defeat earlier in the day.

Sampaoli blamed poor first-half finishing for his side's failure to take all three

points against the Venezuelans.

"We have two games left against Peru and Ecuador and we need to win both of them," Sampaoli said. "We had three chances to score in the first half and everything could have been settled."

"We must continue to fight in attack and give strength to the players."

Uruguay meanwhile moved to the brink of qualification with a typically combative 2-1 win over Paraguay in Asuncion.

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PHOTO: AFP

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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.

Auriel lashes out at media
Tottenham Hotspur new recruit Serge Auriel says he got a rough deal from the media during his often controversial time at Paris Saint-Germain.

Mbappe says change of heart triggered PSG move
Kylian Mbappe revealed a change of heart prompted him to join Paris Saint-Germain from French champions Monaco in a deal poised to become the second most expensive transfer in history.

La Liga chief says PSG make mockery of system
Qatar-owned French Paris Saint-Germain's president, Nasser Al-Khelaifi, has been summoned before a Spanish court as part of a probe into alleged tax evasion by the world's top footballer, Kylian Mbappe.

World Cup tax evasion case
Cristiano Ronaldo's agent Jorge Mendes, has been summoned before a Spanish court as part of a probe into alleged tax evasion by the world's top footballer, Kylian Mbappe.

PHOTO: AFP

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