

What to WATCH

MASRANGA & GTV
 Bangladesh v South Africa
 First Test, Day-3
 Live from 2:00pm
SONY SIX
 Pakistan v Sri Lanka
 1st Test, Day-3
 Live from 12:00pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
 English Premier League
 Huddersfield v Tottenham
 Live from 5:30pm
 Man United v Crystal Palace
 Live from 8:00pm
 Chelsea v Man City
 Live from 10:30pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
 Bundesliga
 Augsburg v Dortmund
 Live from 7:30pm
 Hamburger v Werder
 Live from 10:30pm

SONY ESPN
 Ligue 1
 PSG v Bordeaux
 Live from 9:00pm
TEN 1
 Serie A
 Genoa v Bologna
 Live from 12:45am (Sunday)

TEN 2
 La Liga
 Deportivo v Getafe
 Live from 5:00pm
 Sevilla v Malaga
 Live from 8:15pm
 Levante v Alaves
 Live from 10:30pm

DAY'S EVENT
NCL Round 3
 Four-Day Match, Day-2
 Time: 9:30am

Khulna v Dhaka
 Venue: ZACS, Chittagong
 Barisal v Rangpur

Venue: SKS, Rajshahi
 Dhaka Metro v Rajshahi
 Venue: SANS, Khulna

Sylhet v Chittagong
 Venue: SCS, Bogra

Under-19 Youth 2nd ODI
 Bangladesh v Afghanistan
 Time: 9:30pm

Venue: SICS, Sylhet

Siddikur makes cut in Taiwan

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman made the cut in the Mercuries Taiwan Masters despite a disappointing second-round effort of one-over-par (73) at the Taiwan Golf and Country Club yesterday. The Bangladeshi golfer exchanged two bogeys for a single birdie as he took his overall tally to an even-par (144), thanks to his one-under-par in the opening round on Thursday.

Siddikur was tied for 19th, with Gavin Green of Malaysia and Juvic Pagunsan of Philippines sharing the clubhouse lead at seven-under-par (137). Play was suspended earlier than scheduled due to darkness, with a few players still waiting to complete the second round. The cut is supposed to be made at three-over-par.

Shoeb made president of fencing fed

SPORTS REPORTER

Shoeb Chowdhury has been appointed president of Bangladesh Fencing Association (BFA) through a government order issued on Tuesday.

Chowdhury, an eminent businessman of the country, previously served BFA as its vice president for a long time. He was also the convener of the 1st ISSF International Archery Championship held in Dhaka earlier this year.

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:

The rare talent of trouble-prone Stokes
 Ben Stokes has long been thought of as key to England's chances of success during the upcoming Ashes tour of Australia, and that view has only hardened since his place was put in jeopardy by his arrest. **Ramos against Pique's independence stance**
 Real Madrid defender Sergio Ramos was not exactly happy with Spain teammate Gerard Pique for backing the independence referendum.

Jafar Iqbal aims higher

It is rare for Bangladesh football to find a forward scoring five goals in four matches in an international tournament, especially when goal-drought is a major concern for Bangladeshi strikers at international level. Jafar Iqbal, an 18-year old forward from Bandarban, has slightly changed that scenario after his five-goal exploits in the just concluded SAFF U-18 Championship, helping the team finish runners-up. The Daily Star's Anisur Rahman met up with this promising forward after the team returned from Bhutan yesterday.

The Daily Star (TDS): How was the SAFF U-18 Championship for you?
Jafar Iqbal (JI): It could have been better had we become champions. However it was a good tournament for all of us as we learnt a lot and gathered a lot of experience which will help us in future. As a team we did not get enough international exposure before, but this time we experienced how to react according to match situations. A strong comeback against India despite going down 3-0 was something different for us and it will inspire us to go forward in future. The key to the comeback was to play pressing football which is being installed by Andrew Ord.
TDS: Why did you take off your jersey after scoring the first goal against Bhutan?
JI: I was initially not considered for the playing eleven against Bhutan. As per the initial plan, I was not supposed to feature if Bangladesh got early goals. I felt bad about it because I had a personal target against Bhutan as I sat on the dugout and watched the senior

team lose 1-3 against Bhutan in the Asia Cup Qualifying play-off last year. That defeat hurt me. When I was given the opportunity, I played with full concentration and took off my number-10 jersey to show the Bhutanese spectators that we can also score goals and made them remember that match.
TDS: You have played for the senior team, the Olympic team and the under-18 team. What difference did you find playing in three different teams?
JI: I was the youngest player (17 years old) in the senior team and my effort was to cement my place whenever I was given the opportunity. In the U-23 team, I was called despite suffering from Chigunguniya. In U-18 team though, we played far better football compared to the Olympic team because there was good team spirit and all members had a bond like family members. One helped another to get rid of problems and was willing to give hundred percent on the pitch. Our target was to become champions.
TDS: Jafar Iqbal is now a well-



known name after the SAFF U-18 Championship. How do you feel about it?
JI: It is always a good feeling when you are getting recognised in football fraternity but I want to keep my performance consistent at any level and at any competition. I try to give best whether it is for the senior team or age-group team.
TDS: You don't often get goals in domestic competitions. How did you change that fortune in international matches?
JI: I am a hard-worker and I always do individual practice in my district as I do not get the opportunity

to have individual practice in club training. I am also not a genuine striker as I play as left-forward or a right-forward but my target is to score goals whenever I take the field. I was the top-scorer in third and second division football leagues before scoring five goals for Arambagh KS in last edition's Bangladesh Premier League.
TDS: You are now a player of league leaders Chittagong Abahani, but you don't often get your chance in the starting eleven. Does it hurt you?
JI: To be honest, I joined Chittagong Abahani with a specific target and I don't want to reveal my target at the moment. I have no regrets for not getting chance in starting eleven, instead I am happy that Chittagong Abahani team are getting results regularly and are on top of the league. But I will always try to give my hundred percent when the coach picks me in the starting eleven.
TDS: Does Jafar Iqbal have any shortcomings on the field?
JI: I have regrets about my height but I try to score goals with head-

ers. I scored two goals from headers in Bhutan. I still believe I can improve in areas such as skill, speed, control, passing because I did not get proper basic training in my developmental stage. However, I am learning a lot from Saiful Bari Titu sir. [Syed Golam] Jilani sir also contributed a lot.
TDS: How did you start playing football?
JI: I always loved playing football but my parents did not permit me. But I continued to play football with seniors at the district stadium by sneaking out of home. I initially dreamt of playing for the national age-group teams such as U-14s and U-16s but I didn't draw much attention. It was a dream-come-true when I was called for the senior team at the age of 17 after playing just five matches for Arambagh KS.
TDS: What is your ultimate goal in football?
JI: Playing better in SAFF U-18 Championship is not the end rather it is the beginning and I want to play in bigger leagues beyond the boundary.

Alli punished over crude gesture

AFP, London

Dele Alli has been given a one-game England ban after making an offensive gesture during his country's World Cup qualifier against Slovakia.

Alli was hit with the punishment and fined 5,000 Swiss francs (£3,800) by world governing body FIFA following the incident in England's win at Wembley last month.

Television footage showed the Tottenham midfielder making a middle-finger salute shortly after a collision with Martin Skrtel.

But Alli claimed the gesture was aimed at England team-mate Kyle Walker rather than the officials or any Slovakia player.

FIFA's disciplinary committee accepted the 21-year-old was not taunting referee Clement Turpin, but still handed out the suspension.

Alli is set to miss next Thursday's game against Slovenia at Wembley as England look to seal their place at next year's World Cup.

He could return for the final group game in Lithuania on Sunday.

Aguero injured in car crash

AFP, London

Manchester City's Argentine striker Sergio Aguero "sustained injuries" in a car crash in the Netherlands and is returning to Britain to be checked ahead of the weekend's Premier League fixtures, his club said on Friday.
 "Sergio Aguero will be assessed by club doctors today after being involved in a road accident on Thursday. The City forward was in Holland on his day off and has sustained injuries," said the statement.
 The prolific 29-year-old was due to return to Manchester on Friday morning to be assessed ahead of City's Premier League clash at Chelsea on Saturday.

Amsterdam police spokesman Frans Zuiderhoek told AFP that officers attended an accident in the city at around 11:00pm (2100 GMT) on Thursday after "a taxi-cab hit a lamp-post".
 He could not confirm the identities of the two passengers and the driver, who all asked to remain anonymous.
 "No other vehicles were involved," he told AFP early on Friday, adding that three people in the taxi "have been transferred to hospital for observation... but there were no bad injuries".

The accident occurred on De Boelelaan street, said Zuiderhoek, not far from the Arena A where Colombian singer Maluma performed on Thursday.
 The Argentina striker, who has scored 176 goals for the English club, on Thursday posted a picture of himself with the singer

on his official Instagram page.
 British media reported that Aguero, who has already scored six times in the Premier League this season, had sustained broken ribs and was set to be out for around two months.

Aguero's former club Independiente posted a message of support on Twitter, saying: "Strength and speedy recovery @aguerosergiokun! All @Independiente is with you at this difficult time."

The striker needs only more two goals to become City's all-time leading scorer and is widely viewed as one of the world's most feared strikers.

Yet just seven months ago, Aguero's Eastlands future appeared bleak after he lost the trust of City manager Pep Guardiola.

Having earned his way back into Guardiola's good graces by refusing to complain publicly about his treatment last term, Aguero has made himself indispensable with a barrage of goals.

Aguero is a hero amongst the City fans after scoring the winning injury-time goal that snatched the 2011/12 Premier League title away from arch-rivals Manchester United, one of the most dramatic goals in the league's history.

Signed from Atletico Madrid for £38 million (\$51 million, 42 million euros) by then-City boss Roberto Mancini in 2011, Aguero wasted little time announcing his arrival on the Premier League stage.

He marked his City debut with two goals in a 30-minute substitute appearance against Swansea.

Dhaka Tribune win media cup

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Tribune lifted the title of Kool-BSJA Media Cup football tournament after a 2-1 win over Channel 24 in a competitive final at the BFF astro-turf yesterday.
 Shahriar Real of Dhaka Tribune was adjudged man-of-the-final while Sadman Sakib of Channel 24 was named the best-player-of-the-tournament.
 Jagonews24.com won the Al Musabir Sadi fair play award as the five-day long six-a-side competition featuring 24 media houses concluded.

Zahid Ahsan Russel, the chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on youth and sports, witnessed the final and distributed prizes among the winners. Dhaka Tribune received Tk 30,000 while Channel 24 got Tk 15,000.

Naval police DIG and sports organiser Sheikh Mohammad Maruf Hasan also awarded Tk 10,000 each to the champions and runners-up teams during the prize giving ceremony, which was also attended by former national team coach Shafiqul Islam Manik, Max Group director Manjurul Alam, BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag, BSJA president Syedur Rahman Shamim and general secretary Junate Hossen.



Arsenal striker Olivier Giroud jumps for the ball during their Europa League match against BATE Borisov in Borisov on Thursday.

Giroud reaches century

AFP, Paris

Olivier Giroud scored his 100th Arsenal goal as a youthful Gunners side beat BATE Borisov 4-2 in Belarus in the Europa League on Thursday, as Everton were held to a shock 2-2 draw by 10-man Apollon Limassol at Goodison Park.

Theo Walcott netted twice for the Gunners and Rob Holding was also on target as they eased to a second victory in as many matches in Group H.

Arsene Wenger's side beat Cologne 3-1 at home in their first outing a fortnight ago, and the Germans lost again on Thursday, going down 1-0 at home to Red Star Belgrade.

Wenger made nine changes to the

Arsenal team after they travelled to eastern Europe on the back of a 2-0 win over West Bromwich Albion on Monday.

Only Shkodran Mustafi and Mohamed Elneny kept their places, while a number of youngsters featured with Joe Willock being handed a first senior start.

It was two comparative veterans who combined for Arsenal's early opener, though, with Jack Wilshere setting up Walcott to head in from close range.

Walcott made it 2-0 midway through the first half after an awful error by BATE goalkeeper Denis Scherbitski, who miscued a clearance straight to the England forward.

Holding then bundled in his first Arsenal goal but a superb header by Mirko Ivanic allowed the Belarusian champions to pull one back before the half-hour.

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