

SONY ESPN	TEN 2
Europa League	Europa League
Lazio v Nice	AEK v Milan
Live from 2:00am (Friday)	Live from 12:00am (Friday)
TEN 1	TEN 3
Europa League	Europa League
Lyon v Everton	Slavia Prague v Villarreal
Live from 12:00am (Friday)	Live from 12:00am (Friday)
Sociedad v Vardar	
Live from 2:00am (Friday)	

Bilbao v Ostersund
Live from 2:00am (Friday)
Zimbabwe v West Indies
Second Test, Day 5
Live from 2:00pm

GRAYSON SACKED 20 MINS AFTER LOSS

Sunderland are once again about to begin the process of hiring a new manager after sacking Simon Grayson less than 20 minutes (17 minutes to be precise) after Tuesday night's 3-3 draw against bottom side Bolton. Grayson leaves the club without winning a single home game during his largely dismal 18-game stint. In fact, the Black Cats have now sacked two managers since they last won at the Stadium of Light... in December of 2016. The draw, which keeps Sunderland inside the relegation zone, proved to be the final straw as far as Grayson was concerned, with the 47-year-old's dismissal coming as welcome news for at least one long-suffering fan, who called BBC's radio show after the match demanding a sacking and was delivered the good news halfway through his call.

—AGENCIES



AS Roma's Stephan El Shaarawy (L) opened the scoring after just 38 seconds with an incredible strike, before doubling Chelsea's misery in the 36th minute as the Blues were routed in Rome in their Champions League encounter on Tuesday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Conte lashes out after mauling

Antonio Conte blasted Chelsea's lack of hunger after becoming the first English club to lose in the Champions League this season with a ruthless 3-0 rout by AS Roma. Conte lamented that the English champions – who would have advanced to the last 16 with a win – “lacked everything” after a match where they went a goal down after 38 seconds, the first of a Stephan El Shaarawy double. El Shaarawy made it 2-0 after 36 minutes when ex-Roma defender Antonio Rudiger failed to control Radja Nainggolan's long ball forward. Argentine Diego Perotti scored the third midway through the second half, before missing a chance for a fourth. “Roma proved to have more hunger, more desire, more will to fight and to beat us. We lacked everything,” complained Conte. “If we think because our name is Chelsea the opponent is fearful, this is not the right way. We must have a great desire in every game.” The former Italy and Juventus boss took over Chelsea in 2016, winning the Premier League title in his first season. But this campaign they are trailing nine points behind leaders Manchester City. “What I am most disappointed about is the performance in the second half. I believe in the first half we played well,” he continued. “We then created many chances but we weren't clinical or ruthless enough to convert them. “There is great disappointment for our second half, because I didn't see positive things, it was really bad for a team like us.”

Chelsea can still qualify from Group C as Atletico Madrid were held 1-1 by Qarabag in Madrid. Conte's side are four points above Atletico and can go through with a win in their next game in Azerbaijan on November 22. “We must find the hunger we showed all of last season, and sometimes this season. But this season has been up and down. We need to find consistency,” added the Italian. And in a group where they were considered

RESULTS	
Basel (Lazio 12)	1 - 2 CSKA Moscow (Groupama 6, Westwood 78)
Man United (Sofia 45-og, Blind 78-ogo)	2 - 0 Benfica
Celtic (McGlelland 74)	1 - 2 Bayern Munich (Coman 22, Martinez 77)
PSG (Veretout 30, Neymar 45-4, Barzosa 52, 72, 78)	5 - 0 Anderlecht
Atletico Madrid (Parry 56)	1 - 1 Qarabag (Michel 40)
Roma (El Shaarawy 1, 36, Perotti 63)	3 - 0 Chelsea
Olympiakos (El Shaarawy 1, 36, Perotti 63)	0 - 0 Barcelona
Sporting Lisbon (Corti 20)	1 - 1 Juventus (Higuain 77)

ered outsiders, Roma are now leaders with two games to go, a point ahead of Chelsea, and five ahead of the Spaniards. A draw in their next game against Atletico would see Eusebio Di Francesco's side through to the knockout round in his first season at the club he played for. “We've shown that we're an improving side. We mustn't stop now, though. We have to push on from here,” Eusebio said.

PSG, Bayern advance

Atletico hopes bleak after another Qarabag draw

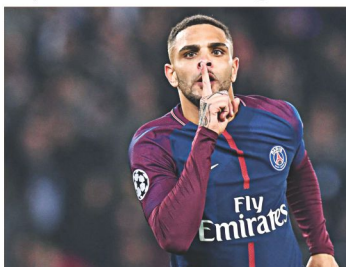
Layvin Kurzawa enjoyed stealing the headlines from Neymar and co as he walked away with the match ball after scoring a second-half hat-trick in Paris Saint-Germain's 5-0 Champions League demolition of Anderlecht on Tuesday, while Bayern Munich joined them in the knockout stage.

Marco Verratti curled in a terrific opening goal on the half-hour at the Parc des Princes, with Brazilian superstar Neymar firing in a second before the break. The world's most expensive player was involved in PSG's third goal as well, as his free-kick was tipped onto the post with Kurzawa forcing in the rebound.

The left-back then headed in another and completed an improbable treble with an angled drive as PSG increased their goals haul to 17 – with none conceded – in four Group B matches.

“If the final were tomorrow I think they would win it,” Anderlecht coach Hein Vanhaezebrouck said of PSG. “Right now they are quite simply the best team in Europe.”

The French giants top their group with maximum 12 points, with Bundesliga leaders Bayern progressing following a 2-1 victory at Celtic. Lionel Messi and Barcelona were frustrated in a goalless stalemate with Olympiakos in Greece, while Juventus salvaged a 1-1 draw at Sporting Lisbon



Left-back Layvin Kurzawa stole the limelight from the fearsome front trio of MCN as he netted a hat-trick in PSG's 5-0 demolition of Anderlecht in their Champions League match on Tuesday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

after Gonzalo Higuain levelled late on following Bruno Cesar's opener. Barcelona remain top of Group D with 10 points, three ahead of last year's runners-up Juve, with Sporting four. Meanwhile Diego Simone defended Atletico Madrid's title as another profligate performance left his side on the brink of an early Champions League exit after being held 1-1 at home by 10-man Qarabag. Back-to-back draws against the Azerbaijani champions, playing their

first ever Champions League campaign, mean Simone's men have to beat Roma at home and Chelsea away in their final two games and hope Qarabag perform more miracles to progress to the last 16. “We have always played the same way,” said the fiery Argentine. “In the past six games we have won 30 or 40 goals like this. “I believe you get what you deserve,” added Simone. “We have to try to beat Roma and then destiny will decide if we deserve to continue or are eliminated.”

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.

“Ronald is incredible but I wouldn't swap Kane for anybody”
Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino says that Ronald is incredible but he would not swap his in-form striker Harry Kane for anybody.

Apple and a shower
When thinking of VVS Laxman one is inclined to remember the silky smooth drives and the classy flick shots to any delivery even slightly out of his pads. Sachin Tendulkar called the batsman, tweeting: “Shall I spill out the secret behind ur ability to score runs? Taking a shower & eating an apple before going to bat.” **Stephens suffers fresh Asian defeat**
Shane Stephens was beaten by Anastasiia Sevastova at the WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuzhou, her third successive defeat since winning the US Open.

Titas, Police victorious

Holders Titas Club registered their second victory in the Premier Division Volleyball League when they handed a straight sets (3-0) defeat to Dhaka Sabuj Club at the Paltan Volleyball Stadium yesterday. Titas Club won the match 25-10, 25-10, 25-11 before Bangladesh Police registered a 25-18, 25-18, 25-18 victory over Fire Service and Civil Defence in the day's second match.



Bangladesh Test captain Mushfiqur Rahim signed an agreement with Lotto to become its brand ambassador recently.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Barca suffer double blow

Barcelona duo Sergi Roberto and Andre Gomes will be sidelined for around a month after picking up hamstring injuries in Tuesday's 0-0 draw at Olympiakos, the club confirmed on Wednesday.

Roberto, who has featured more often at right-back than his preferred central midfield role under Ernesto Valverde, hobbled off at half-time in Athens, whilst Portuguese international Gomes only featured for the final 15 minutes.

The midfielder from Reus (Barbosa) has a torn right hamstring which will keep him out for approximately five weeks,” Barca said in a statement.

“Gomes” with an injury in his right hamstring will be sidelined for around three to four weeks.”

Both players will miss league games against Sevilla and Leganes, as well as a Champions League trip to Juventus.

However, Gomes could be in contention to face his old club Valencia in a top of the table La Liga clash on November 25 or 26.

It was my decision: Jose

Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho defended his decision not to allow misfiring striker Romelu Lukaku to take a penalty during his side's 2-0 Champions League win over Benfica.

When United won a second-half penalty against Benfica on Tuesday, Mourinho instructed Daley Blind to take it.

“I don't understand why everyone asks me the same [question],” Mourinho said when asked about his decision. “I'm paid to take decisions, good or bad. In the first half, the decision was made by the player I chose to

take the penalty [Anthony Martial] missed. “In the second half I made another decision and I don't see the drama. The penalty taker for this match was Martial. He took in the first half and missed.”

“He was not even on the pitch when the second one was [awarded]. And then I have to make a decision. Romelu wants to take and have the personality to take the responsibility. [André] Herrera the same. But my decision, based on what we did in training in the past couple of days, was Blind. The players respected my decision. That's it, end of story.”

Blind settled matters in the 78th minute by drilling the penalty down the middle.



After a three-way tussle for a penalty which saw Ander Herrera rebuff Romelu Lukaku before being moved away by Daley Blind, who vindicated manager Jose Mourinho's decision by slotting home from the spot against Benfica on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

JFA U-14 women's finals start today

The final round of the JFA (Japan Football Association) U-14 Women's National Football Championship gets underway today at the Bangabandhu National Stadium with eight teams fighting out their quarter-finals. Six zonal champions – holders Mymensingh, Thakurgaon, Rajshahi, Comilla, Rajbari, Sakthira – and two best runners-up – Tangail and Manikganj – will be playing in robin-round format after being split into two groups. Top two teams from each group will advance into the semi-finals, billed for November 8 while the

final will take place on November 10. The final round is starting two months after the end of the preliminary round, with the organisers citing exams of the players and unavailability of the venue as the reason for the delay. They want to pick promising players from the finals to build a strong chain to the senior women's national team. “We are considering the final round as a talent hunt programme for the under-15 women's team because we don't have enough money to launch a talent hunt programme across the country,” BFF women's committee chairman Mahfiza Akter Kiron said during an official press conference

yesterday. She added that they would like to select some 30 to 35 players for advanced training, but they would send the talented players, if any found, to the ongoing preparation camp of U-15 women's team. Each of the teams has been given Tk 25,000 as participation money and the players have been accommodated at the Women's Complex hotel. Thakurgaon will take on Rajbari while Manikganj will play against Rajshahi on the opening day. Group A: Thakurgaon, Rajshahi, Manikganj, Rajbari Group B: Mymensingh, Tangail,