

What to Watch

Sony ESPN

Europa League
Lazio v Nice
Live from 2:00am (Friday)
TEN 1

Europa League

Lyon v Everton
Live from 12:00am (Friday)
Sociedad v Vardar
Live from 2:00am (Friday)

TEN 2

Europa League
AEK v Milan
Live from 12:00am (Friday)
Arsenal v Crvena Zvezda
Live from 2:00am (Friday)
TEN 3

Europa League

Slavia Prague v Villarreal
Live from 12:00am (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 (7 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.

U-19s take on Maldives today

SPORTS REPORTER



A spirited Bangladesh are looking forward to registering their first win in the AFC U-19 Championship Qualifiers when they take on South Asian opponents Maldives at the Republican Central Stadium in Dushanbe, Tajikistan today.

The match gets underway at 4:00pm (EST).

The boys in red and green have a mission of qualifying for the final round after 15 years and they made a good start by holding hosts Tajikistan to a creditable goalless draw. The result boosted the confidence of the players to do well in the upcoming matches against Maldives, Uzbekistan and are favourites on paper, but it will not help match a win if the boys can't perform on the pitch.

Though Bangladeshi senior team have suffered defeats against their Maldivian counterparts regularly in recent past and the margin of their last defeat was 0-5 in a friendly match in Male, but Bangladesh U-19 team has a good record over the Maldivians.

They beat the Maldives 1-0 in the SAFF U-18 Championship just a month ago.

"Maldives have included seven new players to the squad. On Tuesday they drew again against Sri Lanka despite taking the lead twice. They are a good side. At this stage, all teams play for the victory, so they will also come for a win. We will also go there for a victory and I believe we have the capability to beat them," said Roxy.

Conte lashes out after mauling

AFP, Rome

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 had a goal down for 38 seconds, the first of a triple by El Shaarawy double.

"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 opponents 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 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 consid-

RESULTS

Basel	1 - 2	CSKA Moscow
(Tuff 32)	(Dzager 65, Wembo 79)	
Man United	2 - 0	Benfica
(McGinn 89-90, Blind 78-pen)		
Celtic	1 - 2	Bayern Munich
(McGregor 74)	(Coman 22, Martinez 77)	
PSG	5 - 0	Anderlecht
(Verratti 16, Neymar 45+, 46+, 50, 52, 72, 77)		
Atletico Madrid	1 - 1	Qarabag
(Parve 56)	(Michel 40)	
Roma	3 - 0	Chelsea
(El Shaarawy 1, 36, Perotti 43)		
Olympiakos	0 - 0	Barcelona
Sporting Lisbon	1 - 1	Juventus
(Gued 26)	(Higuain 79)	

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

AFP, Paris

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 on four.

Meanwhile Diego Simeone's under-pressure group 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 Simeone'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 10 years we have won 30 or 40 games like this."

"I believe you get what you deserve," added Simeone. "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:

Ronaldo is incredible but I wouldn't swap Kane for anything

Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino says that Ronaldo is incredible but he would not swap his in-form striker Harry Kane for anybody.

Secret to scoring runs? An 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 on his pads. Sachin Tendulkar spilled the beans, tweeting: "Shall I spill the secret behind my ability to score runs? Taking a shower & eating an apple before going to bat."

Stephens suffers fresh

Austin defeat

Stoane Stephens was beaten by Anastasia Sevastova at the WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuhai, her third successive defeat since winning the US Open.

Titas, Police victorious

SPORTS REPORTER

Holders Titas Club regis- tered their second victory in the Premier Division. Volleyball League when they handed a straight sets (3-0) defeat to Dhalab Sabuj Club at the Palton Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

Titas Club won the match 25-10, 25-10, 25-11 before the 10th edition registered a 25-16, 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.

Barca suffer double blow

AFP, Barcelona

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.

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 (Roberto) 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

AFP, Manchester

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 pen-alty against Benfica on Tuesday, Mourinho insisted David de Gea take it.

"I don't understand why Mourinho asked me the same [question]," Herrera said when asked about his decision. "I paid to take decisions, good or bad. In the first half, the decision was bad because 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 it and he did well 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 have the personal responsibility to take the responsibility," Herrera said. 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

SPORTS REPORTER

The final round of the JFA U-14 Women's National Football Championship begins underway today at the Bangabandhu National Stadium with eight teams fighting it out for the title.

Six zonal champions — holders Mymensingh, Thakurgaon, Rajshahi, Barisal, Sylhet — and two best runners-up — Tangail and Manikganj — will be playing in robin-round league 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 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 Mahfuza Akter Kiron said during an official press conference