

What to WATCH

GTV & MAASRANGA
Bangladesh Premier League
 Comilla Victorians v Rangpur Riders
 Live from 1:00pm
 Dhaka Dynamites v Rajshahi Kings
 Live from 6:00pm
SUNDAY
 Sylhet Sixers v Ctg Vikings
 Time: 1:00pm

Rangpur Riders v Khulna Titans
 Time: 6:00pm
SONY SIX
 Australia v England
 2nd Test, Day-1
 Live from 9:30am
SUNDAY
 Australia v England
 2nd Test, Day-2

Live from 9:30am
STAR SPORTS 1
 India v Sri Lanka
 3rd Test, Day-1
 Live from 10:00am
SUNDAY
 India v Sri Lanka
 3rd Test, Day-2
 Live from 10:00am

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
English Premier League
 Chelsea v Newcastle
 Live from 6:30pm
 Brighton v Liverpool
 Live from 9:00pm
Arsenal v Man United
 Live from 11:30pm
 New Zealand v West Indies

1st Test, Day 3
 Live from 4:00am (Sunday)
SUNDAY
English Premier League
 Man City v West Ham
 Live from 10:00pm
STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
Bundesliga
 Bayern Munich v Hannover

Live from 8:30pm
TEN 2
La Liga
 Barcelona v Celta Vigo
 Live from 6:00pm
 Atletico Madrid v Sociedad
 Live from 9:15pm
 Athletic Bilbao v Real Madrid
 Live from 1:45am (Sunday)

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League
 Comilla Victorians v Rangpur Riders
 Time: 1:00pm

Dhaka Dynamites v Rajshahi Kings
 Time: 6:00pm
 Venue: SBNS, Dhaka

SUNDAY
 Sylhet Sixers v Ctg Vikings
 Time: 1:00pm

Rangpur Riders v Khulna Titans
 Time: 6:00pm
 Venue: SBNS, Dhaka

SUNDAY
 Bangladesh Premier League
 Arambagh v MuktiJoddha

Time: 4:30pm
 Saif Sporting v Farashganj
 Time: 6:45pm

Venue: BNS, Bangladesh

Compound archers give hope MU face Arsenal test

SPORTS REPORTER

Hosts Bangladesh may not have grabbed any medals in the just-concluded Asian Archery Championships but they showed signs of a bright future with surprise quarterfinal berths in five out of 10 events against some of the countries that dominate the world championships and Olympic Games.

A young Bangladesh Archery Federation (BAF) has already tied itself with corporate conglomerate City Group with a package aimed at enhancing performances of recurve archers and an ultimate target of winning at least one medal in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. However, new hopes lie elsewhere, in non-Olympic compound events, where the local archers made it to the last-eight in four events -- men's individual compound, men's team compound, mixed team compound and women's team compound. The Bangladesh team in women's compound surprisingly played in the bronze-medal deciding match where they were beaten by Asian powerhouse Iran.

Recurve archer Roman Sana was the centre of attention for hosts, but the lad from Khulna failed to shine in elimination round despite finishing among top 11 archers in the ranking round. However, Sana's failure was compensated by his teammates, especially in the compound events. But their failure to reach the semifinals was down to lack of international experience, according to Bangladesh Archery Federation's (BAF) general secretary Kazi Razib Uddin Ahmed Chapal.

"We never dreamt of reaching the semifinals [in compound women's team] even though we had said we wanted to qualify for the quarterfinals. We were beaten due to our inexperience," he said.

The game's local governing body is now planning on giving attention to compound events, where there is no foreign coach and the archers have been training under former national archer Ziaur Rahman.

Secretary general of World Archery Association



The Bangladesh archery team was in jovial mood during the just-concluded Asian Archery Championships in Dhaka.

PHOTO: STAR

Tom Dielen has promised to assist Bangladesh by providing a high-class coach in recurve and compound during his short visit to Bangladesh during the championships.

"He promised me to find a high-class recurve coach from Germany," Chapal said. "And we will rope in a compound coach either from India or Iran to hone the skills of compound archers."

The BAF has also decided to host the ISSF Islamic Solidarity Archery Championships every year over the next five years to give international exposure to archers while they will also host the Asia Cup next year and would bid for the 2021 Youth World Archery Championships.

While the organisers have earned a lot of praise from the participating nations for success-

fully hosting such a mega event, they have definitely failed to create enough enthusiasm among the aspiring archers by restricting spectators from the venue on 'security grounds.'

"I must admit that it was our failure but in a sense we did not fail because I received a lot of congratulatory phone calls from organisers at both national and district level. We could have brought a vibe among the newcomers had we grabbed a medal," Chapal said, adding that they would definitely keep attention on the grassroots to make archery popular.

Champions South Korea team's coach Kim Seonghoo also suggested focusing on grassroots with long-term plan to take Bangladesh archery forward.

REUTERS, London



Jose Mourinho is a big fan of Mesut Ozil but the Manchester United manager will undoubtedly be hoping Arsenal's on-form German has one of his off days at the Emirates Stadium on Saturday.

The trip to what has become a fortress for Arsenal pits Mourinho against old adversary Arsene Wenger with anything less than a win of no use to either as they chase runaway leaders Manchester City.

The Gunners are on a run of 12 successive home wins in the Premier League, bolstered by a 5-0 demolition of Huddersfield Town on Wednesday with Ozil and Alexis Sanchez both on the scoresheet.

Ozil is unlikely to be lacking in motivation, with the flair player -- often criticised for drifting in and out of matches -- out of contract at the end of the season and on Mourinho's radar.

The two were together at Real Madrid before Ozil moved to Arsenal and the Portuguese to Chelsea.

His man of the match performance against Huddersfield had Wenger singing his praises.

"Everybody knows he's a great football player," said the Frenchman. "He shows also that he can fight."

"I think he always covered the distance. Maybe he's at an age, he's mature, where he

understands what's important and less important. The judgments are sometimes harsh in this job.

"When you look at the percentage of possession, no matter the game, he always wants the ball. He never hides. He's always available."

United, who won 4-2 at Watford on Tuesday night, are second in the league but eight points adrift of leaders Manchester City.

Past encounters between Mourinho and Wenger have given the Portuguese plenty of happy memories but United have been beaten on their last two league trips to Arsenal, without scoring a goal.

They have plenty of firepower to change that, but the two late goals conceded to Watford when 3-0 up will be a cause for concern.

Arsenal, 12 points behind City, are without record signing Alexandre Lacazette for the match after the French striker suffered a groin injury against Huddersfield.

Manchester City, on a club record 12-match winning run in the league, have far fewer worries as they prepare for what looks like an easy home game against a struggling West Ham United on Sunday.

Fifth placed Liverpool, rampant against Stoke City with a 3-0 win on Wednesday, are at Brighton and Hove Albion while champions Chelsea, in third, host Newcastle United in Saturday's early match.

Fahad beats Zia again

SPORTS REPORTER

FIDE Master Fahad Rahman beat GM Ziaur Rahman in the ninth round of the Omicon Group 43rd National 'A' Chess Championship yesterday.

Fahad, playing with black pieces, took 43 moves to beat the country's highest-rated GM, who had lost to the same player in the 41st edition of the competition. The victory took Fahad to 5.5 points and into third position alongside FM Aminul Islam.

Holder GM Enamul Hossain Razib, meanwhile, shared the lead with GM Abdullah Al Rakib. Razib beat FM Sheikh Nasir while Rakib drew against IM Minhazuddin Ahmed. Both GMs have 7.5 points while Zia was in second position with 6.5 points.

Bale ruled out again

REUTERS, Barcelona



Real Madrid forward Gareth Bale has been ruled out of Saturday's La Liga game at Athletic Bilbao, coach Zinedine Zidane said on Friday, after the Wales international picked up yet another injury on his return to action on Tuesday after 63 days out.

The French coach also added that captain Sergio Ramos will play wearing a protective mask after breaking his nose in the Madrid derby a fortnight ago.

Bale came on in the 62nd minute of the King's Cup last-32 second leg match against Fuenlabrada and had an immediate impact, setting up two goals for team mate Borja Mayoral in a 2-2 draw, with Real progressing 4-2 on aggregate.

Any hopes that this would be the start of a comeback from Bale were quickly dashed the following day, however, with reports he had been ruled out of the game with Athletic with another calf injury.

"It's not much, just discomfort, but as he's been out for so long it's difficult, I hope it's just a physical problem and is only discomfort," Zidane told a news conference on Friday.

"He needs to be with the team, train with the team and feel like another member of the squad. We keep telling him this, that this is a tough time for him but he'll come out of it, and we'll keep supporting him until he is better."

'We're doing what United used to do'

AFP, London



Manchester City captain Vincent Kompany says the Premier League frontrunners have taken a leaf out of their arch rival's book and will never stop believing they can win games even in the dying seconds.

City have maintained an eight-point lead at the top of the Premier League with last-gasp 2-1 victories over Huddersfield and Southampton in their past two games, both late winners scored by Raheem Sterling.

The Southampton goal came six minutes into stoppage time and sparked jubilant scenes at the Etihad Stadium.

Digging out maximum points in such circumstances was a hallmark of many of Manchester United's title successes under Alex Ferguson and City captain Kompany recognises it is a good trait to acquire.

"It's too early in the season to talk about titles but it is just good to know that you can have that feeling that at any time of the game you can make something happen. I felt it could still happen even that late in added time," said Kompany.

"United used to do it to everybody else, to be honest."

"But it's a long season. We have done it so far but, if at the end of the season we have done it consistently, I will be happy about it."

City have won their past 12 league games but the tightness of the past two matches, after some emphatic wins earlier in the run, possibly indicates a change in approach from opponents when facing City.

Wagner puts NZ on top

AFP, Wellington



Neil Wagner rated his career best seven-wicket haul a "horrible" performance as New Zealand seized honours on day one of the first Test against West Indies in Wellington on Friday.

But as the West Indies licked their wounds after being rolled in the first innings for 134, they believed they only were one wicket away from getting back into the game.

Taylor was not out 12 with Jeet Raval on 29 as New Zealand reached 85 for two at stumps -- 49 runs in arrears after Wagner ensured the West Indies were dismissed cheaply.

The South African-born left-armer, a fiery short-ball specialist, claimed seven for 39 as he bettered his previous best of six for 41 against Zimbabwe last year.

"It was a bit of a bizarre day to be honest. I sort of got a bit worried at one stage, they were looking quite comfortable," he said. "The pitch was not doing as much as we expected and I felt horrible to be honest. At the start I just felt like I didn't have a great rhythm."

"I think I've bowled a lot better on other days and not get a wicket and then you get days like this and you end up getting a seven for ... things don't really tick but wickets just

keep falling and it's a just bizarre thing."

SCORES IN BRIEF

WEST INDIES: First innings 134 all out (Powell 42, Dowrich 18; Boult 2-36, Wagner 7-39)
NEW ZEALAND: First innings 85 for 2 (Latham 37, Raval 29 not out)



New Zealand pacer Neil Wagner's seven-for demolished West Indies for 134 on the first day of the first Test at the Basin Reserve in Wellington yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

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:

'Anderson 'bullies' rant a bit rich'

Steve Smith returned fire after a taunt by James Anderson that Australia are bullies, calling the England paceman one of the biggest sledgers in cricket.

Wenger v Mourinho -- origins of a blood feud

When Arsenal face Manchester United in a Premier League clash, the antics of the two sworn enemies will take up as much attention as the actual match.

Chandimal mocks India's green-track claims

Sri Lanka skipper Dinesh Chandimal mocked India's claim of preparing green tracks for the ongoing series and said his side was focused only on winning today's final Test against the hosts.



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APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 2, 2018, Tuesday till 11:30 pm

ADMISSION TEST

January 4, 2018, Thursday at 10:30 am



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