What to WATCH

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
English Premier League
West Ham v Chelsea
Live from 6:30pm
Tottenham v Stoke City
Live from 9:00pm

Newcastle v Leicester
Live from 11:30pm
New Zealand v West Indies
2nd Test, Day-2
Live from 4:00am (Sunday)

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
Bundesliga
Eintracht v Bayern Munich
Live from 8:30pm
Monchengladbach v Schalke
Live from 11:30pm

TEN 1
Ligue 1
PSG v LOSC
Live from 10:00pm
Juventus v Inter Milan
Live from 1:45am (Sunday)

TEN 2
La Liga
Getafe v Eibar
Live from 6:00pm
Real Madrid v Sevilla
Live from 9:15pm

Deportivo v Leganes
Live from 11:30pm
Valencia v Celta Vigo
Live from 1:45am (Sunday)

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League
Sk Russel v Abahani
Time: 4:30pm

Farashganj v Team BJMC
Time: 6:45pm
Venue: BNS, Dhaka

Bengal to challenge Saif

Premier Division Chess League starts today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bengal Chess Club is all set to return to top flight chess after 31 years when the 17th edition of the Premier Division Chess League gets underway today with 11 clubs taking part.

Having last played in the premier league in 1986 after becoming champions in their debut participation in 1985, Bengal Chess Club have re-entered the top flight after buying Masud Sporting Chess club. They have formed a strong squad with three GMs including the sub continent's first GM Niaz Murshed and two from Georgia while the other three players are: WIM Shamia Akter Liza, Monir Hossain and Shams Ud Duha.

"As far as I know, Niaz was the man behind who brought Bengal into chess some 32 years ago and it is again Niaz who has inspired the group to return to top flight," chess arbiter and chess federation official Haroon-Or-Rashid said.

"Bengal emerged champions in 1985 and became runners-up in 1986, but they did not take part since Niaz's departure for the United States after he became a GM in 1987," Rashid added.

The club's captain Shams Ud Duha said it is part of the many good deeds for society that are undertaken by the group.

"Bengal Group is always involved with many good deeds. They arrange intellectual things such as classic music festivals, and chess is also a part of intellectual ventures rather than just a game. Bengal came to chess to inspire the game again," said Duha, who is also a lecturer of English at the Brac University where Niaz is working as an adviser of its chess club.

Meanwhile, defending champions Saif Sporting Club have formed a formidable squad too with five GMS featuring Ziaur Rahman, Abdullah Al Rakib, Enamul Hossain, Russia's Aleksey Goganov and Ukraine's Martyn Kravtsiv. FIDE master Tayebur Rahman is the sixth player of Saif Sporting, who are likely to face challenge from Bengal Chess Club, Bangladesh Navy and Sheikh Russel Chess Club, who roped in country's third Grand Master Reefat Bin Sattar.

Apart from Reefat, who is returning to chess after a four-year gap due to his professional commitments, Sheikh Russel also included IM Abu Sufiyan Shakil, FM Mehedi Hasan Parag, FM Showkar Hossain Pallab and two Indian rated players while Bangladesh Navy signed up IM Minhaz Uddin, FM Sk Nasir Ahmed, FM Kh Aminul Islam, SM Sharon, Sharif Hossain and FM

Arsenal midfielder Mohamed Elneny celebrates after scoring the sixth goal during their Europa League 6-0 drubbing of BATE Borisov at the Emirates Stadium on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

Shooters frustrate in Japan

SPORTS REPORTER

Shooter Rabiul Islam failed to transform his promise into success in the 10th Asian Airgun Championships as he finished 12th among 19 participants in the junior 10m air rifle event held in Wako City, Japan yesterday.

Before their departure for Japan, coach Klavs Christensen had pinned his utmost hope on Rabiul to at least qualify for the eight-shooter final round, but the 18-year-old could only manage a score of 618.3 points, which was 2.9 points less than what the eighth and final qualifier scored. Rabiul's effort was less than what he had scored (620.1) during the Junior World Championships earlier this year,

Rabiul was not alone though as senior shooters from Bangladesh also failed to shine during yesterday's events of this continental championship where he had won two silver medals in the last edition.

Commonwealth Games silver medallist Abdullah Hel Baki finished 12th among 28 shooters in his pet event of men's 100m air rifle while his teammates Risalatul Islam and Rabbi Hasan Munna became 16th and 18th with modest scores. Baki fell 3.3 points short of the qualifying mark for the final round after scoring 620.9 points.

Risalatul and Munna scored 615 points and 613.8 points respectively. The overall scores of the three shooters meant the Bangladesh team finished fourth after China, India and Japan.

Female shooter Zakia Sultana Tumpa was eliminated from the qualification round of women's 10m air rifle event as she finished 21st among 34 participants with a score of 410.1 points, 4.7 points less than the final qualifier.

Meanwhile, Syeda Atkia Hasan Disha will take part in women's junior 10m air rifle event while Arnab Sarar will vie for youth men's 10m air rifle event today.

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:

Stirling, McCarthy lead Ireland's series-levelling win
Opener Paul Stirling cracked a brilliant half century while medium pacer Barry McCarthy took a maiden five wicket haul to guide Ireland to a 51-run win over Afghanistan in Sharjah.

Where will the Manchester derby be won?
Old Trafford will be at the centre of the football universe when Manchester United face Manchester City in a crucial top-of-the-table Premier League clash.

Juventus trip title test for unbeaten Inter
After expertly dealing with flamboyant Napoli last Friday and securing a spot in the Champions League last 16, Juventus can make it a perfect week by denting Serie A leaders Inter Milan's title credentials.

'Hope that battle with Messi continues'
Cristiano Ronaldo won his fifth Ballon d'or at a ceremony which took place at the Eiffel Tower. This has been a particularly good year for Cristiano as he also won the FIFA's Best Award earlier.

Arsenal destroy BATE

AFP, *Paris*

Jack Wilshere starred as Arsenal romped to a 6-0 thrashing of BATE Borisov at a half-empty Emirates Stadium in their final Europa League group game on Thursday, while Marseille booked their place in the last 32.

Arsene Wenger made 11 changes to the team that were beaten by Manchester United at the weekend, but the Frenchman's second string put in promising displays to give him a 700th win as Arsenal manager.

After injury-plagued Mathieu Debuchy started the rout in the 11th minute by drilling home his first goal for 1,082 days and Theo Walcott tapped in, two minutes before the break Wilshere ended his Arsenal goal drought that dated back to the final day of the 2014-15 Premier League season.

A Denis Polyakov own goal made it four early in the second period, before Olivier Giroud scored his sixth goal this term from the penalty spot and Mohamed Elneny completed the rout with 16 minutes left.

"It's a bit of a relief [that I scored]. It's one of those games -- it didn't mean anything because we had topped the group," Wilshere told BT Sport. "It's one of those games you need to be in the right mind -- we enjoyed it. We're happy to go into the next round. All we can do when we get our opportunity is give the manager a headache."

Arsenal finished four points clear of Red Star Belgrade at the top of Group H, as the Serbs joined them in the knockout stage with 1-0 win over struggling Bundesliga outfit Cologne.

Cologne, still waiting for a first Bundesliga win of the season, only needed a draw in Serbia to qualify after beating Arsenal last time out, but a Slavoljub Srnic goal sent their season from bad to worse.

Guerrero given one-year ban

AFP, *Paris*

Peru captain Paolo Guerrero will miss the World Cup after being banned from football for a year for failing a drugs test, FIFA's disciplinary committee announced on Friday.

The 33-year-old attacker, who plays for Brazilian giants Flamengo, was handed the ban after "testing positive for cocaine metabolite benzoylecgonine".

Guerrero will now miss Peru's first World Cup since 1982, his country deprived of one of its most important attacking players as it prepares to face France, Australia and Denmark in Group C.

Bayern Munich were hit by a massive dose of snow during their training session at the Allianz Arena in Munich yesterday, but the players made the most of the downtime as they posed for pictures and joshed around.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

PL to boost TV games in new deal

AFP, *London*

The Premier League will make dozens more games available in its next TV rights auction as clubs target an increase on the huge £5 billion deal they secured last time, a report said Friday.

Britain's Daily Telegraph said for the first time entire rounds of Premier League matches would be shown live and football would go head-to-head with entertainment programmes on Saturday evenings.

Four full rounds of Premier League games will reportedly be up for grabs -- three midweek rounds of fixtures and a programme on a public holiday.

The Telegraph said the league had issued the tender document for TV rights to fixtures for three seasons from 2019-20 and 200 of the league's 380 matches would be available -- 42 more than at present.

MU eye City derby scalp

AFP, *London*

Pep Guardiola's Manchester City travel to Old Trafford for the toughest test of their Premier League title credentials so far, while new Everton boss Sam Allardyce bids to defy Liverpool's "Fab Four" as the northwest derbies take centre stage on Sunday.

City are eight points clear at the top of the table and victory at their fierce rivals could realistically end Jose Mourinho's hopes of landing the club's first league title since Alex Ferguson's reign.

But while Manchester will be at the centre of attention on Sunday, up the road Liverpool host Everton in the season's first Merseyside derby.

Elsewhere, third-placed Chelsea travel to West Ham and Spurs desperately need to end a four-game winless streak in the league.

FIXTURES

(1500 GMT unless stated)

Saturday: West Ham v Chelsea (1230), Burnley v Watford, Crystal Palace v Bournemouth, Huddersfield v Brighton, Swansea v West Brom, Tottenham v Stoke, Newcastle v Leicester

Sunday: Southampton v Arsenal (1200), Liverpool v Everton (1415), Mancheser United v Manchester City (1630)

Jose Mourinho emerged from last week's thrilling encounter at Arsenal with a 3-1 win even though the home side enjoyed 75 percent of possession and had 33 shots compared with United's eight.

United were hailed for producing a counter-attacking masterclass but they were also indebted to goalkeeper David De Gea, who pulled off a string of eye-catching saves.

But how will Mourinho approach the task of slowing City -- made all the tougher due to the suspension of midfielder Paul Pogba?

The United boss certainly has the resources at his disposal to trouble City, with an embarrassment of attacking riches including Romelu Lukaku, Anthony Martial, Marcus Rashford and man-of-the-moment Jesse Lingard.

But few expect him to go toe-to-toe with City in a free-flowing game of football.

Liverpool have put their problems behind them, topping their Champions League group with an avalanche of goals and climbing into the Premier League's top four, with five wins in their past six top-flight games.

After their 4-1 defeat by Tottenham Hotspur in late October, the focus was on the side's porous defence but the 'Fab Four' attackers have since dominated the narrative -- with 46 goals between them this season.

Sadio Mane, Roberto Firmino, Mohamed Salah and Philippe Coutinho have formed a fluid and devastating attacking group but they will come up against arch-pragmatist Allardyce.

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