

What to WATCH

SONY SIX
Australia v England
3rd Test, Day-5
Live from 8:30pm
STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
English Premier League
Everton v Swansea
Live from 2:00am (Tuesday)
TEN 2
La Liga
Malaga v Real Betis
Live from 2:00am (Tuesday)

MBAPPE PIPS MARTIAL TO AWARD

Kylian Mbappe has been named French Young Player of the Year by Telefoot, beating Anthony Martial and Maxime Lopez to the award. There were two panels of judges voting for the prize, with a panel of experts voting that Paris Saint-Germain prodigy as the country's outstanding prospect, while the fans' vote was claimed by Marseille midfielder Maxime Lopez, who is considered to be the club's greatest prospect since Samir Nasri. Mbappe collected the greatest aggregate number of points, beating Manchester United forward and fellow Monaco youth academy graduate Martial into second. Upon receiving the Telefoot Trophy, Mbappe told TF1 of his hopes of winning major trophies this season. "In the Champions League, I'm representing PSG, and France, because we're the only French club left. What's important now is qualifying past Real Madrid. After that is the World Cup, of course. It's the biggest competition for a footballer and I dream of being there."

—AFP



Reds devour Cherries, United edge Albion

AFP, LONDON



Manchester United kept their faint Premier League titles hopes alive with a 2-1 win at West Bromwich Albion, while Liverpool moved back into the top four with a 4-0 rout of Bournemouth on Sunday.

With Manchester City romping away with the title race, United had to win at the Hawthorns to have any chance of reeling in their local rivals.

Romelu Lukaku put Jose Mourinho's side in front with a 27th-minute header and Jesse Lingard netted with the aid of a deflection to double the visitors' lead in the 35th minute.

But what looked destined to be a comfortable win became tense when Gareth Barry prodded home for Albion in the 77th minute.

United ended the game defending for their lives before claiming the win that left them 11 points behind City.

"I think we deserved the win. We were the best team. We controlled the game for a long time," Mourinho said.

"We had a few chances to kill the game but I knew they would react," Mourinho added. "The intensity in the first half maybe we didn't have in the second half."

"West Brom are really powerful in the air. But after their goal we controlled it again."

West Brom manager Alan Pardew, who was appointed last month after Tony Pulis was sacked, made one change to the side who drew 0-0 against Liverpool on Wednesday.

"The team I picked, in hindsight, was not the right team," Pardew said. "I should have put some fresh legs in there, but they did so well at Liverpool that, I'm a new manager, I wanted to show some faith in those players."

"But I should have maybe made two or three changes. We looked leggy."

At Dean Court, Liverpool demonstrated their goal power with a clinical display that took them above Arsenal and Burnley into fourth place.

Reds boss Jurgen Klopp said: "I am really pleased about everything."

"I like how we defended different situations and our tactical discipline was good."

"It was a fantastic first goal and the third was world class."

"We could have scored more, but we didn't really give a lot away so it was well deserved."

Ending a two-match winless run in the league, Klopp's side took the lead in the 20th minute.

Philippe Coutinho took possession 30 yards from goal and weaved his way past several Bournemouth defenders before planting a precise strike past Asmir Begovic.

Liverpool's second goal came six minutes later when Bournemouth failed to clear a corner and Roberto Firmino hooked the ball into the six-yard box, where defender Dejan Lovren stooped to head in.

Mohamed Salah bagged number three for the Reds in the 44th minute.

The Egypt winger ran on to Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain's pass, held off Charlie Daniels, cut inside Nathan Ake and slotted past Begovic for his 20th goal in a superb first season with Liverpool.

Firmino wrapped up Liverpool's commanding performance in the 66th minute, heading in Coutinho's cross despite Bournemouth's appeals for offside.

"We didn't get our game going today and when you don't perform against the top teams, you're going to get punished," Bournemouth manager Eddie Howe said. "It was very disappointing for us today."



Bangladesh forward Tohura Khatun tries to manoeuvre the ball past a host of Nepal players during their SAFF U-15 Women's Championship fixture at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Tohura treble gets hosts off to a flyer

SPORTS REPORTER

Tohura Khatun scored a hatrick as Bangladesh smashed Nepal 6-0 in their first match of the SAFF U-15 Women's Championship at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Anuching Mogini scored twice while Monika Chakma, adjudged the most valuable player of the game, netted the other as the hosts lived up to the hype of being favourites in the four-nation competition. Regional powerhouse India had kicked off the competition with a 3-0 victory over Bhutan in the first match of the day.

Bangladesh had beaten Nepal 9-0 in their triumphant campaign of the AFC U-14 Girls' Regional Championship in 2016 in Tajikistan. Many of the players of both sides have come from those squads, which is why a convincing victory was always expected from Golam Rabbani Choton's charges. The hosts had the lion's share of possession and had numerous shots on target, and the margin of victory could have been

bigger had they not wasted a number of chances in the second half.

Bangladesh started the match brightly and could have broken the deadlock in the seventh minute had Marzia not blasted the ball over the bar from in front of goal with Nepal goalkeeper Kareena Dhimal nowhere in sight. However, it took four more minutes for the hosts to take the lead as Monika's goalbound attempt from a corner kick was inadvertently turned in by a Nepal defender.

The lead was doubled by an acrobatic side-volley by Anuching four minutes later while Tohura, dubbed the Messi of Kalshindur, made it 3-0 in the 32nd minute with a placing shot after having darted into the box from the left side. Choton's charges went into the break with a four-goal lead, thanks to a stoppage-time tap-in with Anuching alongside Tohura being the providers.

Bangladesh continued to dominate the game in the second half as Tohura grabbed her second goal in the 59th minute, poking in on the far post after Anuching's goalbound attempt was blocked by a Nepal defender. The nippy forward completed her hatrick

in the 72nd minute with a powerful left-footed strike from inside the box before Monika's shot came off the crossbar and a few more chances were spurned.

Choton was, nevertheless, happy with the outcome, having got the first hurdle out of the way. "We have two targets in this competition. First is to win and second is to entertain. I think our players did both jobs successfully today," he said at the post-match press conference.

"Yes, there were a few chances wasted, but that is part of the game. We could analyse the match and try to rectify those things, but winning was the most important thing," Choton added.

Tohura, who scored her second hatrick after having scored the first in the AFC tournament's final against India last year, was equally happy. "Our target was to play well and become champions. We have started on the right foot," she said.

Bangladesh will take on Bhutan in their next match at 11:30am tomorrow morning while India will square off against Nepal in the day's second game at 2:30pm.

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:

'I know Neymar wanted the Ballon d'Or'

Barca defender Gerard Pique says that he understood the reason for Neymar leaving Barcelona for PSG and suggests that he is still good friends with the Brazilian.

Hamsik equals Maradona as Napoli go top

Marek Hamsik equalled Diego Maradona's record as Napoli's all-time top goalscorer as they took advantage of Inter Milan's first defeat of the season and moved top of Serie A with a 3-1 win at Torino.



Barcelona, Griezmann agree terms?

AFP, Madrid

Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu has met with the family of Atletico Madrid's star forward Antoine Griezmann ahead of a possible summer move, sports daily Mundo Deportivo reported on Sunday. The French international, who has been Atletico's top scorer for the past three seasons, has been heavily linked with a move to Manchester United in the past.

However, Barca appear willing to meet his 100 million euro buyout clause as they seek to again unite Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez with a prolific attacker following the departure of Neymar to Paris Saint-Germain in August for a world record 222 million euros.

"Barca settled on Griezmann as an objective for 2018 and they spoke with his entourage to see if he was willing to wear the blue and red shirt," reported Barcelona-based Mundo Deportivo.

"After receiving a 'yes' in response, an agreement was reached with the French goalscorer involving Pep Segura, Barca's general manager, and Robert Fernandez, the director of football.

"President Josep Maria Bartomeu has now entered to finalise the operation," the newspaper reported.

Sk Russel end barren run

SPORTS REPORTER



Sheikh Russel KC ended a four-match winless streak in the Bangladesh Premier League with a 2-0 victory over Farashganj Sporting Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Shafiqul Islam Manik's charges had suffered three defeats apart from being held to a draw in the last four matches since their win over Muktiyoddha Sangsad on November 15. A goal each on either side of the break did the job as they reached 23 points from 17 matches, courtesy of a sixth victory.

Fazle Rabbi opened the scoring with an excellent solo effort in the 41st minute before

Uttam Kumar Banik confirmed the victory 13 minutes after the restart by heading in a corner. The defeat kept Farashganj rooted to the bottom of the table with 10 points.

In the day's second match, Mohammedan SC salvaged a point against Team BJMC with a 1-1 draw. Although Team BJMC had lost their last four matches, they took the lead in the 70th minute when Kingsley Oshiohka ran into the box from the left and beat the goalkeeper.

However, Mohammedan were awarded a spot-kick five minutes later when Jahirul Islam brought down forward Kingsley Chigozie, which Mintu stepped up and converted as the Black and Whites moved to fifth position with 24 points. Team BJMC remain seventh.

SK RUSSEL 2 - 0 FARASHGANJ
(RABBI 42, UTTAM 58)
TEAM BJMC 1 - 1 MOHAMMEDAN
(KINGSLEY 70) (MINTU 75)



Juventus midfielder Miralem Pjanic opened the scoring against Bologna with a sublime free kick from the top edge of the box as the Old Lady ran out 3-0 winners and moved into second place, one point behind leaders Napoli.

PHOTO: AFP

Siddikur 30th in Jakarta

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman ended the Indonesian Masters in 30th position after carding a two-under-par (70) in the final round yesterday. The 33-year-old exchanged five birdies for three bogeys at the Royal Jakarta Golf Club on the fourth and final day to end the 750,000-dollar event at a respectable position with an aggregate score of seven-under-par (281).

Earlier in the day he had finished the third round, which was delayed due to bad light, with a four-under (68).

Justin Rose of England clinched the title with a sensational 29-under-par (259).

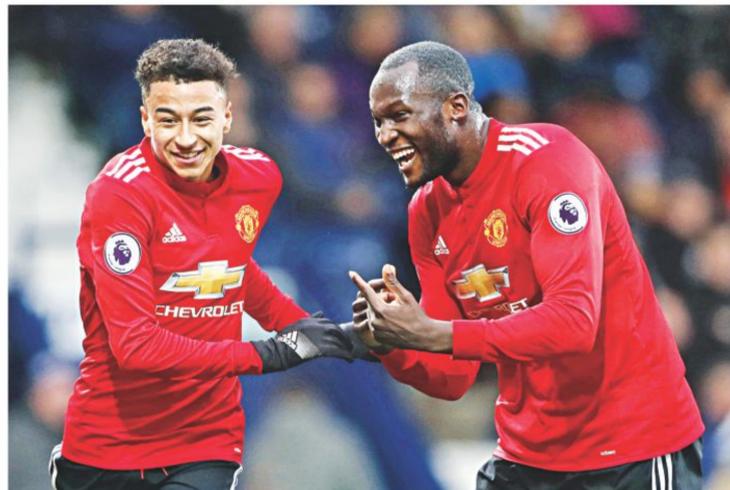
Hearts end Celtic's run

AFP, Edinburgh

Celtic's record-breaking 69-game unbeaten run in Scottish football came to a stunning end as the champions were thrashed 4-0 by Hearts on Sunday.

Brendan Rodgers' side lost for the first time since St Johnstone beat them in May 2016.

Celtic had set a new British record unbeaten domestic run when they reached 63 matches without defeat last month. And Despite their painful loss, Celtic remain two points clear of second placed Aberdeen with a game in hand.



Goals from Jesse Lingard and Romelu Lukaku (R) were enough to see Manchester United record a 2-1 win over West Bromwich Albion in their Premier League encounter at the Hawthorns on Sunday night.

PHOTO: REUTERS

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The 3rd Convocation of BUBT-2018

The 3rd Convocation of Bangladesh University of Business & Technology (BUBT) will be held on 12 February 2018 at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB)-Hall-4, Kuril Bishwa Road (Next to 300Ft. Road), Purbachal Express Highway, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh. Graduating students of BUBT upto Fall Semester 2016-2017 who intend to attend the Convocation are hereby requested to apply for Registration and to deposit Convocation Registration Fee by January 31, 2018 through BUBT convocation website: convocation.bubt.edu.bd.

The Registration Fee of Tk.5,500/- (Five thousand five hundred) only for single degree certificate or Tk.6,500/- (Six thousand five hundred) only for dual certificates (if any) need to be paid in cash in the Accounts Section of BUBT (Ground floor, Campus-2, Dhaka Commerce College Road, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216) or deposit through bKash A/c no.- 01707078195 or Rocket A/c no. 100000001738 (If paid through bKash or Rocket account, transaction charge must be added with the registration fee).

Graduating students are requested to collect convocation confirmation letter from BUBT convocation website and submit it (with 01 copy passport size color photograph) to the Office of the Controller of Examinations on the day of collecting the gowns (not to be returned) with the following documents:

1. Provisional Certificate, in original (if taken).
2. Library Card and ID Card.

For further query please contact:

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