

What to WATCH

DSports

Pakistan Super League

Islamabad United v Multan Sultans

Live from 5:30pm

Karachi Kings v Peshawar Zalmi

Live from 10:00pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1

New Zealand v England

First ODI

Live from 7:00am

English Premier League

Crystal Palace v Tottenham

Live from 6:00pm

Man United v Chelsea

Live from 8:00pm

TEN 1

Serie A

Juventus v Atalanta

Live from 11:00pm

Ligue 1

PSG v Marseille

Live from 2:00am (Monday)

TEN 2

La Liga

Sevilla v Atletico Madrid

Live from 1:45am (Monday)

'I'M MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN HIM'

Aleksandr Zinchenko has been given a small but important role in Manchester City's side although the Ukraine international notes that he is often mistaken for someone much more famous. It is that distinctive fair hair that causes some to confuse him with Kevin De Bruyne and there has been more than one misunderstanding since he became a member of Pep Guardiola's first team squad this season. "I've heard it all the time, trust me," says Zinchenko. "Everyone calls me 'Kev'. When I'm getting the bus, the fans are shouting 'Kev, can I have a picture?' Then I turn and they're like 'Oh, it's not Kevin'. From afar maybe we look like twins, but when we are together, I don't think so. I am more beautiful than him, definitely."

—AGENCIES

Ronaldo fires Real

AFP, Madrid

A Cristiano Ronaldo double and Gareth Bale's first goal in seven matches helped Real Madrid thrash Alaves 4-0 at the Santiago Bernabeu on Saturday to strengthen their grip on a top-three spot in La Liga.

The reigning champions' title hopes are all but over, with Real 11 points adrift of leaders Barcelona in third, but a run of four straight wins has ended any worries of missing out on a Champions League spot.

Coach Zinedine Zidane brought Bale back into the starting XI after dropping the Welshman to the bench for the midweek victory over Leganes, but the reunited 'BBC' of Bale, Ronaldo and Karim Benzema were left frustrated for much of the first half.

The deadlock was finally broken shortly before the interval, as Benzema's delightful flick found Ronaldo, who duly drilled the ball into the corner.

The Portuguese forward's return to top form has been key to Real's climb up the table, with the opening goal his 13th in the league this season.

Benzema was again the creator as Bale made it two less than a minute into the second period.

The Frenchman powered forward and laid the ball off for Bale, with the 28-year-old winger finishing with aplomb to end a run of six games without scoring.

Ronaldo has been having no such problems in front of goal, though, and the five-time Ballon d'Or winner wrapped up the points just after the hour mark.

He ran onto Lucas Vazquez's pass to slot home his 13th goal in his last seven games in all competitions, including the vital two in last week's Champions League first-leg win over Paris Saint-Germain.

Benzema was rewarded for his earlier selflessness with a late penalty as Ronaldo passed up the chance for a hat-trick.

Barcelona can open up a 10-point lead over Atletico Madrid when they host Girona later on Saturday, with Diego Simeone's capital club not playing until their Sunday visit to Sevilla.

Elsewhere, Celta Vigo gave their hopes of qualifying for the Europa League a boost as Iago Aspas scored in a 2-0 win over Eibar.



Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates one of his two goals against Alaves during their La Liga encounter at the Bernabeu yesterday.



Gabriel Jesus looks set for a return to action as Manchester City aim for their first piece of silverware under Pep Guardiola against Arsenal in the League Cup final today.

Pep's City aiming for first of many

Face Arsenal in League Cup final today

AFP, London

Pep Guardiola is anxious to play down suggestions that winning his first piece of silverware for Manchester City in Sunday's League Cup final against Arsenal would herald a period of dominance.

The former Barcelona and Bayern Munich coach takes his side to Wembley with the Premier League title virtually in the bag and a place in the Champions League quarter-finals looking certain.

But despite City's dominance this season, Guardiola will be eager to get his hands on a trophy, even if it would have been fourth on the list of his priorities when the campaign began.

City are clear favourites to beat Arsenal but Arsene Wenger's men have made a habit of cup success in recent years, winning the FA Cup in three of the past four seasons.

"Not even in Barcelona when we won the first title in the cup did I expect to win 14 titles in four years," said Guardiola, anxious not to over-burden his players. "I'm more pragmatic."

"I think in football it's a big mistake to think what might happen in the next three years. It's a big mistake for our heads, our targets, it makes no sense."

"When people asked in the beginning, about winning four titles (this season), I said of course we'll try, but the big teams have not been able to do that -- the big Liverpools, the big Uniteds, the big Arsenals, the big Chelseas."

Defeat for City could lead to a certain feeling of anti-climax at the Etihad as it would follow hot on the heels of their FA Cup exit at the hands of lowly Wigan Athletic -- ending their quest for an historic quadruple.

Striker Gabriel Jesus could make a shock return at Wembley after being out with a knee injury since the end of December.

YOUTH GAMES

Asif to light torch

SPORTS REPORTER

Commonwealth Games gold medalist, shooter Asif Hossain Khan will light the torch in the opening ceremony of the final phase of the Bangladesh Youth Games, to be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS), as decided during the eighth meeting of the games' steering committee at the BNS conference centre yesterday.

The torch was handed over to Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) president and chief of army staff General Abu Belal Mohammad Shafiq Huq ahead of the meeting. The torch will go through all eight divisions before returning to Dhaka for the opening ceremony.

The meeting, presided over by the BOA president, disclosed that the final phase of the games will feature 2,660 athletes from around the country, who have qualified through upazila, district and divisional stages over two phases.

The galleries for the opening ceremony will open at 4:00pm while chief guest Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will arrive at 6:30pm.

There will be a laser show, among other things, at the opening ceremony, for which the venue is being decorated by the National Sports Council.

Players are paid too much: Aslam

SPORTS REPORTER



Former national star and goal-machine Sheikh Mohammad Aslam has said that the current generation of footballers are paid much more than they are worthy of by the clubs in Bangladesh. The legendary striker, who played for Abahani for most of his career, also said the current strikers do not have the positioning sense, which is a key reason they do not get goals in international matches. He was speaking after appearing for Dhaka in the Veterans Cup Football Tournament, organized by the Sonali Otiti Club at the BFF Artificial Turf yesterday.

"There is a natural instinct for strikers, which tells them where to be when the ball comes towards the box. We used to shoot from a long way outside the box. I don't see these things among the strikers of this generation," said Aslam, who showed he still has not lost his sense of positioning and scoring skill with a wonderfully headed goal and a penalty conversion in

the shootout for Dhaka.

"Only Nakib [Imtiaz Ahmed] was a real goalscorer after us. He was the top scorer for three seasons, so he had that quality. I don't see such quality among our footballers these days."

"I used to play volleyball during the off-season to make sure I could stay up for some time when trying to win an aerial ball or heading for goal. I used to cycle rickshaws to strengthen my thigh muscles. This was all about self-improvement and dedication, which is sadly not seen among the footballers these days. I think the players are overpaid. The wages they are paid does not reflect their performance," he added.

Apart from Aslam, the final of the 12-team tournament was participated by a number of former star players of the national team. Chittagong came back from two goals down to take the tie into shootouts, where they nicked the encounter with a 4-3 victory.

Although his team lost the final, Aslam bagged the most valuable player of the tournament award.



Chittagong players celebrate with the trophy after beating Dhaka in the final of the Veterans Cup Football Tournament, organised by Sonali Otiti Club, at the BFF Artificial Turf yesterday. Chittagong beat Dhaka 4-3 in the tiebreakers.

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:

- Onus on Mourinho to get stars in tune**
Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho is under pressure to show a more daring approach and get the best out of Paul Pogba and Alexis Sanchez for a grudge match against Chelsea's Antonio Conte on Sunday.
- Uncapped Klaasen for Australia Tests**
The South African selectors on Saturday named two uncapped players, Heinrich Klaasen and Wiaan Mulder, in a 15-man squad for the first two Tests against Australia.
- Bernardeschi to miss Spurs clash with surgery likely**
Federico Bernardeschi will miss Juventus's Champions League second leg clash against Tottenham with coach Massimiliano Allegri saying Saturday the winger could require knee surgery.
- 'As good as Maradona': Tottenham boss hails Dembele**
Tottenham make the short journey across London to take on Crystal Palace on Sunday with manager Mauricio Pochettino comparing midfielder Mousa Dembele to Diego Maradona. "I have said before that he is a genius of football," said the Spurs boss of the Belgium international.

National Museum of Science and Technology

Astro-Olympiad 2018

১৪ থেকে ১৯ বছর বয়সী শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য

মার্চ ২৩, ২০১৮

জাতীয় বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি জাদুঘর

অ্যাস্ট্রো-অলিম্পিয়াড

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যোগাযোগ : বিজ্ঞান আন্দোলন মঞ্চ - ০১৭১৭-৯৪৭৫৮০

অনলাইন রেজিস্ট্রেশন : www.astronomybangla.com

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সাংস্কৃতিক বিভাগ, রূপ দূতাবাস, ঢাকা

The Daily Star

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INTER-UNI V'BALL CU sweep titles

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Chittagong University (CU) swept the titles of both the male and female groups of the Inter Universities Volleyball Competition, which concluded at the Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) play ground yesterday.

In the men's final, CU beat PSTU by 25-16, 25-16, 25-10 points while Rajshahi University secured third position.

In the women's final, Chittagong University beat Jessore University while Dhaka University secured third position.

Prof Harun-Or-Rashid, vice-chancellor of PSTU, distributed prizes among the winners while AKM Mostafa Zaman, convener of the tournament committee was present at the prize giving ceremony.

Lewa reignites Real rumours

AFP, Berlin



Bayern Munich's top-scoring striker Robert Lewandowski is again at the centre of Real Madrid rumours after connecting with the agent who helped fix Neymar's record transfer to Paris Saint-Germain.

Lewandowski, who has scored 29 goals in all competitions this season, has split with Cezary Kucharski, his Polish agent of ten years, and linked up with Pini Zhavi.

The 74-year-old Israeli is a major figure behind the scenes in international football and has close links with Real. He helped broker last year's deal which took Brazil star Neymar to PSG from Barcelona for 222 million euros.

Lewandowski also works with German agent Maik Barthel, who helped organise his move to Bayern from Borussia Dortmund in 2014 on a free transfer.

However, Lewandowski, the Bundesliga's top-scorer this season with 20 league goals, has repeatedly denied rumours linking him to Real.

On Friday, Bayern's head coach Jupp Heynckes said Lewandowski's change in agent is not significant.

"A player is allowed to change his agent, it doesn't mean anything," said Heynckes in Munich. "Bayern wants to -- and will -- keep our top players."

But the German media is suspicious of the switch and daily newspaper Bild claim Lewandowski is already talking to Real.

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