

TEN 1
UEFA Champions League
 Roma v Shakhtar Donetsk
 Live from 1:45am (Wednesday)

TEN 2
UEFA Champions League
 Man United v Sevilla
 Live from 1:45am (Wednesday)

PAOK PRESIDENT INVADES PITCH WITH A GUN

The Greek top-flight match between PAOK Salonika and AEK Athens on Sunday was abandoned after PAOK's president invaded the pitch with a gun. Ivan Savvidis tried to confront the referee with a gun in a hip holster after his side had an 89th-minute goal ruled offside with the score 0-0. AEK's players left the pitch concerned for their safety and did not return. The match was officially abandoned two hours later and it was reported the referee had reversed his decision. Fifa said it is "aware" of the incident and "fully condemns such behaviour" but added that any disciplinary measures "fall under the jurisdiction of the Greek FA". Greece's deputy culture and sports minister Georgios Vassiliadis said the situation called for "bold decisions". Savvidis, one of Greece's richest men, was born in Georgia of Greek heritage and is a former member of the Russian parliament. He asked his team to leave the pitch following the offside decision then marched towards the referee before being pulled back by bodyguards.



--AGENCIES

Abahani fly off to India

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Premier League champions Abahani left for India yesterday to play their AFC Cup against JSW Bengaluru FC tomorrow. Nigerian striker Emeka Darlington and defender Alison Udoka are scheduled to fly out this morning as they only got the Indian visa last night. However, they are expected to play the match alongside Japanese midfielder Seiya Kojima while Nigeria striker Sunday Chizoba is ruled out due to his sending off in the first match. Abahani suffered a 1-0 defeat against New Radiant SC of Maldives in their first home match.

Russia picks deaf cat as WC oracle

AFP, Moscow

Russia on Monday named a deaf white cat who lives in Saint Petersburg's historic Hermitage Museum as its official prognosticator for the World Cup. Achilles the Cat will hope to repeat the fabled exploits of Paul the Octopus and other "psychic" animals tasked with predicting winners of football's showpiece event. "We will hold a special press conference and hand Achilles a Fan ID card," the Hermitage Museum's cat press secretary Mary Khalitonen told the R-Sport news agency.



National women's team's Sabina Khatun (L) and Krishna Rani Sarker are all smiles as they are set to feature in the Indian Women's Football League later this month.

PHOTO: STAR

Sabina, Krishna want to raise bar

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh national women's football team captain Sabina Khatun and forward Krishna Rani Sarker will appear for Sethu FC, a Tamil Nadu-based club, in the final round of the second edition of the Indian Women's Football League, scheduled to kick off on March 16.

The league will feature seven teams from seven regions of India and will be played in a round robin format, with the top four teams making it to the semifinals. The league final is slated for April 15. All the matches will be played in Shillong, according to reports in Indian media.

Sabina, a prolific striker of the national team, said this is an opportunity for them to showcase Bangladesh women's football in a greater light so that future generations can get more opportunities to play in overseas leagues.

"This is my second time playing in an overseas league. I have played in the

Maldives Football League and Futsal League a few times. But the difference in class in terms of football between the two countries is huge. This will be highly competitive as there will be many foreign footballers there. However, this is our opportunity to showcase our skill and talent. I hope both of us play well and create opportunities for future women footballers from Bangladesh to feature in such leagues," the veteran striker, who scored 22 goals in the Maldives Women's Football League in 2015 apart from scoring plenty in the two editions of Futsal Leagues there, said during a press conference at the BFF House yesterday.

"Both players are very good and they are physically very fit. National women's team coach Golam Rabbani Choton said. "I hope they will prove their worth and pave the way for more women footballers from Bangladesh."

The press conference was attended, among others, by BFF Women's Wing chairman and FIFA member Mahfuza Akter Kiron, BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag and the federation's strategic director Paul Smalley.

BD take on Afghans today

SPORTS REPORTER

Fresh from an emphatic 5-1 win over Hong Kong, Bangladesh hockey team will take on Afghanistan in their third and final pool match of Asian Games Qualifiers today with the hope of emerging group champions.

With three consecutive wins including a warm-up win against Kazakhstan, another easy win is expected against Afghanistan today.

Bangladesh have not only confirmed the semifinals berth, but also confirmed qualification for the Asian Games as the top five teams from this tournament will advance to the 12-team event.

Dybala sends Juve to top

AFP, Rome

Paulo Dybala struck twice to send Juventus to the top of Serie A with a 2-0 victory over Udinese on Sunday, as title rivals Napoli were held to a goalless draw at Inter Milan.

Argentinian Dybala followed his midweek Champions League winner over Tottenham with a match-clinching double, as Massimiliano Allegri's men moved a point clear of Napoli with a game in hand.

Gonzalo Higuain missed a first-half penalty, but Juve took another comfortable step towards a seventh consecutive league title.

FIDE chief urges more

SPORTS REPORTER



The chief executive officer of the World Chess Federation (FIDE), Geoffrey Borg, has urged Bangladesh's government and chess federation to take the sport to a new height by investing in schools.

The FIDE official, who arrived in Bangladesh on Saturday for a four-day tour, made this request before the media after having met with the sports minister, sports secretary and other high-ups of the Bangladesh Chess Federation.

Though Bangladesh produced the first Grand Master of the sub-continent, Niaz Murshed, the nation has fallen behind neighbouring India, who boasts nearly 47 Grand Masters as opposed to Bangladesh's five.

"This is an opportunity to evaluate chess in Bangladesh. I have actually been involved in this area and that's why we evaluate where Bangladesh is today. Bangladesh have five Grand Masters and technically they play

quite well and have good results.

"Following the meeting with the minister and secretary of the sports ministry, the secretary general of the Bangladesh Olympic Association and the president of the Bangladesh Chess Federation, we agreed that we should begin long-term training in chess, not only to create new players but to also develop the future citizens of Bangladesh," said Borg, who is also the president of the Malta Chess Federation.

"We need to particularly invest in development of chess at schools. All that's left is to involve the ministry of education, which is also ready to work with us, and to encourage the federation to make the programme solid," Borg continued. "However, we know that this requires a significant investment at the grassroots level."

Borg believes that Bangladesh is technically capable enough to reach a higher level of the sport. He added that there is a wide scope for development as there have been no investment at school level yet and since they will work together with the FIDE.



Juventus forward Paulo Dybala celebrates in trademark style one of his two goals against Udinese during their Serie A encounter in Turin on Sunday.

PHOTO: AFP

Badminton, table tennis conclude

SPORTS REPORTER



Though the going had been tough for budding athletes participating in their respective events of the inaugural Bangladesh Youth Games at the Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Indoor Stadium, the shuttlers and table tennis players enjoyed every moment of yesterday, despite all the air-conditioners being switched off.

The wooden floor was divided into two parts -- one side for table tennis and the other for badminton -- and the athletes could be seen sweating profusely during their respective matches. However, none of them seemed hindered by the heat as they fought till the last to show their talents.

Just like the swimming events, trained and experienced players dominated across all the table tennis and badminton fixtures, save a couple of games where those players lacked the experience to play at the top level.

Out of 32 boys there were nine promising players, trained at the BKSP, representing their respective districts while a good number of boys and girls who were unearthed through the talent hunt programme, conducted by the National Sports Council last year, were also participating.

In the boy's single table tennis encounter between two national junior champions -- Hridoy of Rangpur division and Sabbir of Khulna division -- Hridoy won the gold 3-0 while national senior championship semifinalist Sadia Rahman Mou of Khulna division beat Tushi, who is from the same division, 3-1 to win gold in the girl's single event.

All the medals across six events -- three each for boys and girls -- went to athletes who have already been playing in the youth and national championships as well as the leagues in Dhaka. Therefore, there was no one to pick out in particular from these games.

"Table tennis is a game where an unidentified player can't upset trained players because players improve step by step," said table tennis coach-cum-judge Hafizur Rahman yesterday.

However, he added that there are a few promising players such as Emon, Rahim Leon, Hridoy, Mou, Tushi and Asha, who can improve significantly if provided better training in the future.

Likewise, trained shuttlers dominated the badminton scene as Sylhet's national under-18 champion Lokman and Chittagong's national U-15 champion Sibgat moved into the boy's single final. U-18 champion Urmi Akter of Khulna and U-15 champion Jerin also moved into the girl's single final.

However, Bangladesh Badminton Federation joint secretary Zahidul Haque Kochi was not happy with the results from badminton as the recognised juniors dominated the show.

"The Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) should make an idea of how to bring up the talent from grass-root levels but they did not consult with us. Badminton has some pockets from where a lot of shuttlers are coming but the BOA has allowed only the divisional champions to take part in the badminton event, thus paving the way for a one-sided affair. If the divisional runners-up were also allowed, then the competition would have been more competitive and we would have gotten some new players," said Kochi, adding that the difference between the trained and raw players is huge during competitions.

BE A PART OF A KNOWLEDGEABLE INNOVATIVE & CONFIDENT FINANCIAL TEAM

Lankan Alliance Finance Limited is a newly established joint-venture Financial Institution with Multi-National Collaboration in Bangladesh. Our major shareholder is an established Market Leader in Leasing and Finance in Sri Lanka. The local sponsors include reputed and well known large Corporates. We aspire to provide user-friendly financial solutions to customers and introduce innovative product for safe and easy money management.

Head- Consumer Banking	Head- Corporate Banking	Treasury Dealer
Job Description/Responsibility	Job Description/Responsibility	Job Description/Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience in managing a portfolio of asset and liability products. Identify market requirements and develop innovative/new product for the consumer market. Build a robust retail asset portfolio. Coordinate with sales, credit and operations to ensure compliance with Bangladesh Bank's rules and regulations of the retail business. Lead a team and achieve Business Targets of Consumer Finance Division. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and build a strong corporate customer portfolio. Maintain strong working relationships with diversified segments of corporates to deliver consistent results. Apply industry experience and credit expertise to manage a portfolio of relationships in various economic sectors. Deliver excellent banking services, integrating our capabilities into customer's strategic business processes. Proactively provide financial solutions that are most suitable to customers. Work to deliver best in class customer service, maintain operational excellence and ensure credit quality of the portfolio. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possess extensive relationship with Banks and NBFIs. Ability to be a self-starter and develop the Treasury Unit into a profitable venture. Communicate with other banks to arrange for money market limits. Manage placements as well as settlement efficiently and monitor day to day liquidity. Perform money market and dealer functions effectively. Monitor changes in the treasury portfolio and changes in legislation.
Educational Qualification	Educational Qualification	Educational Qualification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree and MBA/Master's in the field of Finance and Accounting, Economics, Marketing or Banking Management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree and MBA/Master's in the field of Finance and Accounting, Economics, Marketing or Banking Management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualifications.
Experience	Experience	Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 7-8 years of experience in the Banking sector or in a Financial Institution. At least 2 years of experience in a senior position is required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 8 years of experience in the Banking sector or in a Financial Institution. At least 2 years of experience in a senior position is required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 3-5 years of experience in the Banking sector or in a Financial Institution. At least 3 years of experience in a similar position is required.
<p>Job Nature: Full-Time Job Location: Dhaka Salary & Benefits: Competitive remuneration package and other benefits as per company policy</p>	<p>Send your application attached with a complete CV/Resume, a recent passport photograph to: recruitment@plalliance.com.</p>	<p>Shortlisted candidates will be called for interview. Application Deadline: 29 March 2018 Website: www.lankanalliance.com</p>