England v India First Test, Day-4 Live from 4:00pm



Booters win against university team

SPORTS REPORTER



minute.

The Bangladesh national football team registered a 2-1 win over Sehan University team in their second practice match of their South Korea tour at the Mokpo International Training

Centre yesterday. Young forward Saad Uddin gave the visitors the lead in the 10th minute as

Bangladesh started the match on the front

foot, launching numerous attacks. The men in red and green, who are in South Korea as preparation for this month's Asian Games and next month's SAFF Championship, however failed to make their chances count and conceded

However, Jamie Day's charges, who lost their previous practice match against Gwangju FC 2-0 three days ago, snatched the lead again in the 85th minute, thanks to

the equaliser from a spot kick in the 69th

a goal from Mahbubur Rahman Sufil, which eventually ensured victory.

Day expressed his satisfaction with the win over this amateur outfit. "Bangladesh played much better in this match. Our boys played very well and improved a lot," the Englishman was quoted as saying by the Bangladesh Football Federation.

Team manager Satyajit Das Rupu lamented the number of missed opportunities in his reaction. "We played very well against Sehan University team, but again missed a lot of chances in the match. We dominated full time and should have won by a much bigger margin."

The Bangladesh team are scheduled to play their third and final practice match against another team on Monday, although the opponents have not been finalised yet.

The team will wrap up their two-week camp in South Korea on August 10 and leave for Indonesia the following day for the Asian Games, where they will play against Uzbekistan, Thailand and Qatar in Group B.

Lukaku defends Mourinho

AGENCIES, Manchester

Romelu Lukaku made an impassioned defence of beleaguered manager Jose Mourinho yesterday ahead of the start of the new season.

Mourinho has come under intense criticism this summer after a turbulent pre-season.

But Lukaku has insisted his manager should be afforded some slack.

"When you lose, you get angry. When he is upset, he's the type of person that you can really see it. But that should be embraced because he is a manger and a coach that wants to win."

Murray wins a marathon

AFP, Washington



A tearful Andy Murray advanced to the ATP Washington Open quarterfinals in a threehour marathon ending at 3:00 am Friday, then ripped organizers for putting him in such a situa-

Three-time Grand Slam champion Murray, in his first hardcourt event after an 11-month layoff for a right hip injury, outlasted Romania's 93rd-ranked Marius

Copil 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 7-6 (7/4). The 31-year-old Scotsman won his third three-set victory in four days, having been on the court for eight hours 11 minutes in all, and he started at midnight thanks to a fourth day of rain delays.

"I don't think I should be put in a position like that," Murray said. "(My body) doesn't feel great right now.

"I've had a few long matches. Finishing matches at three in the morning isn't good for anyone involved in the event, players,

TV, fans, anyone.

"When you're expected to come back and perform the next day, I think that's unreasonable."

And the sheer lateness of the hour wasn't good for players.

"That's something the tour needs to look at," Murray said.

The British star said he was unlikely to finish post-match conditioning and get to sleep before 5:30 am, ahead of a scheduled Friday quarter-final against 19-yearold Australian Alex De Minaur.

"Not playing, potentially, is possible. I don't know how players are expected to recover from that," Murray said.

"It's like playing two matches in a day. I'm not sure how well I'll recover from

After the final point, Murray went to his chair, buried his face in a towel and wept, sobbing at times, and kept his head down and face covered as he exited the

coming out at the end of an extremely

long day and a long match," Murray said of what made him so emotional.

Former world number one Murray, now ranked 832, denied Copil on all four break chances in the first set and took a 5-0 tie-breaker lead only to drop the next seven points and squander the set, yelling at himself several times before netting a backhand to end the misery.

Murray broke to open and close the second set, then traded breaks in the sixth and seventh games on the way to a final tie-breaker.

Murray hit a forehand long to fall level 3-3, then slammed his racquet to the court, recovered it and hit three winners to reach match point, winning when Copil netted a backhand.

If his body can take it, Murray plays for a semifinal spot in Friday's last match against 72nd-ranked De Minaur, who pulled two upsets Thursday after rain, dumping US 11th seed Steve Johnson 6-4, 7-5 and South Korean eighth seed Chung "Not a whole lot, really, the emotions Hyeon 6-2, 4-6, 6-2.

Fareast, South East in final

SPORTS REPORTER



Fareast University and South East University moved into the final of the 2nd Shahjalal Islami Bank Faraaz Gold Cup Football Tournament by beating their respective semifinal opponents at the Birshreshtha Mostafa Kamal Stadium in

Kamalapur yesterday.

Fareast University edged past ULAB 1-0 in the first match of the day, thanks to a seventh-minute strike from Moinul Abedin Sujoy. ULAB tried their best to equalise, but Fareast University held on to the slender lead to seal their final berth.

In the second semifinal, South East University had a rather comfortable outing as they outplayed Brac University 3-0. Mohammad Tuhin gave South East University the lead from a free-kick in the 42nd minute before Abdul Kayum doubled the margin in the 62nd minute. Tuhin scored another in stoppage time to confirm a comprehensive victory and a place in the final.

The final will be held tomorrow at 3:30pm at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Masud Rana's Guinness attempt

SPORTS REPORTER

Masud Rana, a swimmer from Magura, attempted a new Guinness World Record by swimming 50 meters with a football balanced on his head at the Syed Nazrul Islam National Swimming Complex, Mirpur on Thursday.

The Guinness World Records authority set a timing of one minute for Masud Rana to attain the record, however, he completed his effort in 44.95 seconds.

The evidence of his record attempt, including the video and other required documents, will be sent to London for the official acknowledgement shortly.

Neuer denies racism claims

AFP, Berlin



Germany captain Manuel Neuer has denied that Mesut Ozil was the victim of racism within the German FA

(DFB), but admitted the fiasco has taken a toll on the players.

Ozil quit international football last month amid the furore over his meeting and photo opportunity in May with Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan, which raised questions about Ozil's loyalty to Germany.

Having been booed by German fans in pre-World Cup friendlies, Ozil quit the national team following Germany's shock early exit from the finals in Russia and with his parting shot he accused DFB president Reinhard Grindel of racism.

However, Bayern Munich star Neuer denies any claims of racism within the national team.

"We've always tried to integrate all the players and we've also done everything for our teammates to make them feel good going into games," said Neuer at Bayern's pre-season training camp in southern Bavaria.

The world-class goalkeeper admitted Ozil's comments have taken a toll reasons to quit, "it is the decision of on those who still play for Germany.

"There has been a lot of back and forth with much written and said about it. Of course, it was very stressful for those who read about it," added Neuer. Only a few Germany stars have

spoken out about the scandal and head coach Joachim Loew has yet to comment. After 23 goals and 40 assists in 92

internationals for Germany, Ozil, who was born in Gelsenkirchen to Turkish parents, quit the national team in an explosive three-part statement a fortnight ago. "In the eyes of Grindel and his

supporters, I am German when we win, but I am an immigrant when we lose," wrote the Arsenal midfielder, whose comments sparked a racism storm in Germany and triggered fierce debate about integration.

Ozil was singled out by some corners of the German media as a reason for Germany's poor World Cup performances, but Grindel, who has refused calls to resign, later refuted his claims of racism within the DFB.

Neuer said he understood Ozil's each player. You have to look for the reasons for yourself and, in his case, he found them.

"Of course we accept this decision." Following the Ozil furore and Germany's woeful World Cup displays in the group stages, Neuer has called for a fresh start, especially for their next game against new world champions France in Munich on September 6.

"It is the task of those in charge at the DFB to re-structure the team and to give it a new face," said Neuer with Loew already promising an over-haul of the national squad.

"We need to have new players, who are really proud to play for the national team and want to give everything to

play for their country. "I think that there is a lot going on within the national team and the DFB. "We will have to wait and see how

things shape up. "The fact is that some things need to be changed.

"We also have big goals in the national team and of course we want to show a different face again."

Vidal set to

Chile midfielder Arturo Vidal

is reportedly on the verge of

signing for Barcelona after

leaving the Bayern Munich

dynamo was whisked away

from Bayern's pre-season

training camp in Bavaria and

several media outlets claim an

announcement of his transfer

newspapers Mundo

Deportivo and AS and UK

daily The Guardian,

Barcelona are prepared to pay

30 million euros (\$35m) for

receive a three-year contract

and earn around nine mil-

Vidal would reportedly

the box-to-box midfielder.

lion euros per season.

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According to Spanish

to Barcelona is imminent.

The 31-year-old midfield

training camp on Friday.

join Barca

AFP, Berlin



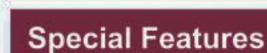
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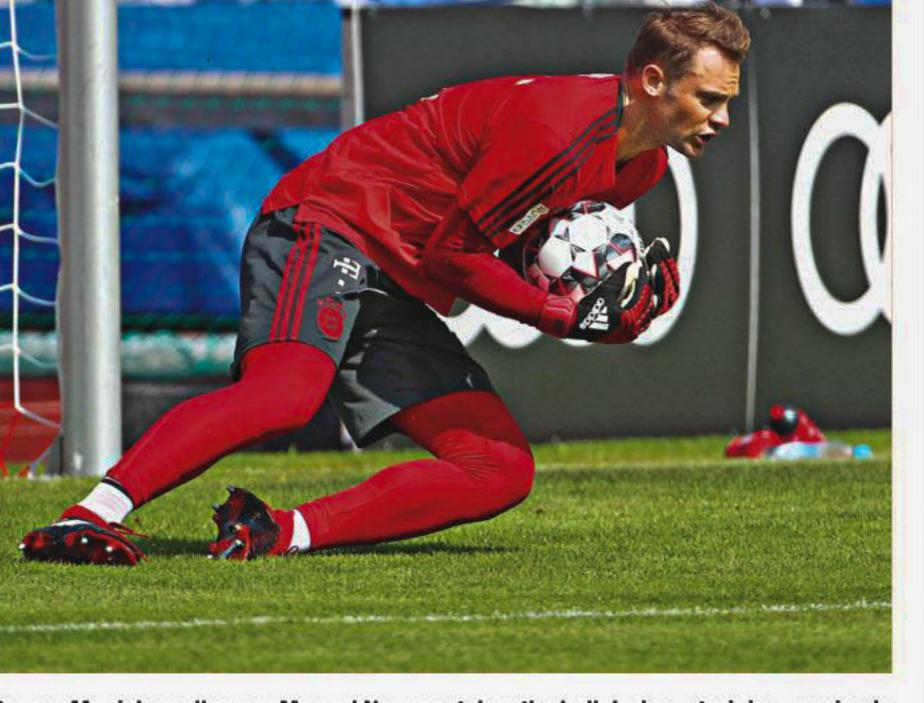
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Bayern Munich goalkeeper Manuel Neuer catches the ball during a training session in their pre-season training camp in Rottach-Egern yesterday. PHOTO: AFP