

**What to Watch**

**GTV & STAR SPORTS 2**

Asia Cup Super Four

Afghanistan v Bangladesh

Live from 5:30pm

**STAR SPORTS 1**

Asia Cup Super Four

India v Pakistan

Live from 5:30pm

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 2**

English Premier League

West Ham v Chelsea

Live from 6:30pm

Arsenal v Everton

Live from 9:00pm

**TEN 2**

Serie A

AC Milan v Atalanta

Live from 10:00pm

Frosinone v Juventus

Live from 12:30am

**DAY'S EVENT**

**AFC U-16 Women's C'ship Qualifiers**

Bahrain v UAE

Time: 11:30am

Bangladesh v Vietnam

Time: 3:30pm

Venue: BSMK

# Vietnam test for girls

SPORTS REPORTER



Hosts Bangladesh will look to seal a place in the second qualifying round of the AFC Women's Under-16 Championship Qualifiers with a win against Vietnam in the last match of Group F of the first qualifying round in Dhaka today.

The match will get underway at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur at 3:30pm. BTV will telecast the match live from the venue.

Bangladesh, who emerged as group champions to qualify for the final round in 2016, have a slightly tougher test this time as they will have to win against a strong Vietnam team in the final matchday.

Both teams go into the game with nine points each from three games played and have the same goal difference (+25). Hence a draw in this match would take the game to tiebreakers to decide the group winners.

However, Bangladesh coach Golam Rabbani Choton is confident of pulling off a victory in regulation time.

"We are confident. The team is fully prepared for the match and everyone is quite fit and ready to play," the veteran coach told The Daily Star yesterday.

Bangladesh had a chance to improve their goal-margin when they beat UAE 7-0 in the second match on Friday after Vietnam had inflicted the same margin of defeat on Lebanon earlier in the day. However, despite taking a 5-0 lead in the first half, Bangladesh could not add more than two goals in the second half, courtesy of a few wasted opportunities by the forwards. One more goal in that match would have put Bangladesh in pole position and they could have qualified with only a draw in the last match.

"The girls tried their best. It is unfortunate that they could not score more, but they did try to score all the time," the coach said, defending his players.

Anuching Mogini scored three goals of the seven while Shamsunnahar, Anai Mogini and Ilamoni scored the others. The other was an own-goal. Bangladesh had rested skipper Maria Manda in that match.

The Bangladesh coach knows Vietnam are a strong team and wasting opportunities could come back to haunt them in this match. Hence he worked specifically on finishing during the final practice session on Saturday.

"We worked on those mistakes. We know how important this match is. We have our own gameplan against Vietnam which I don't want to disclose. However, they have a few good players like the captain and the No. 10, who can cause us trouble. We will have special plans for those players," Choton said.

A defeat might not entirely rule out Bangladesh's chances of qualification, but a win would see them emerge group champions. The six group champions and the two best runners-up teams will play the second qualifying round after being split into two groups, from which the top two teams of each group will qualify for the final round, which will be held in Thailand in September next year.

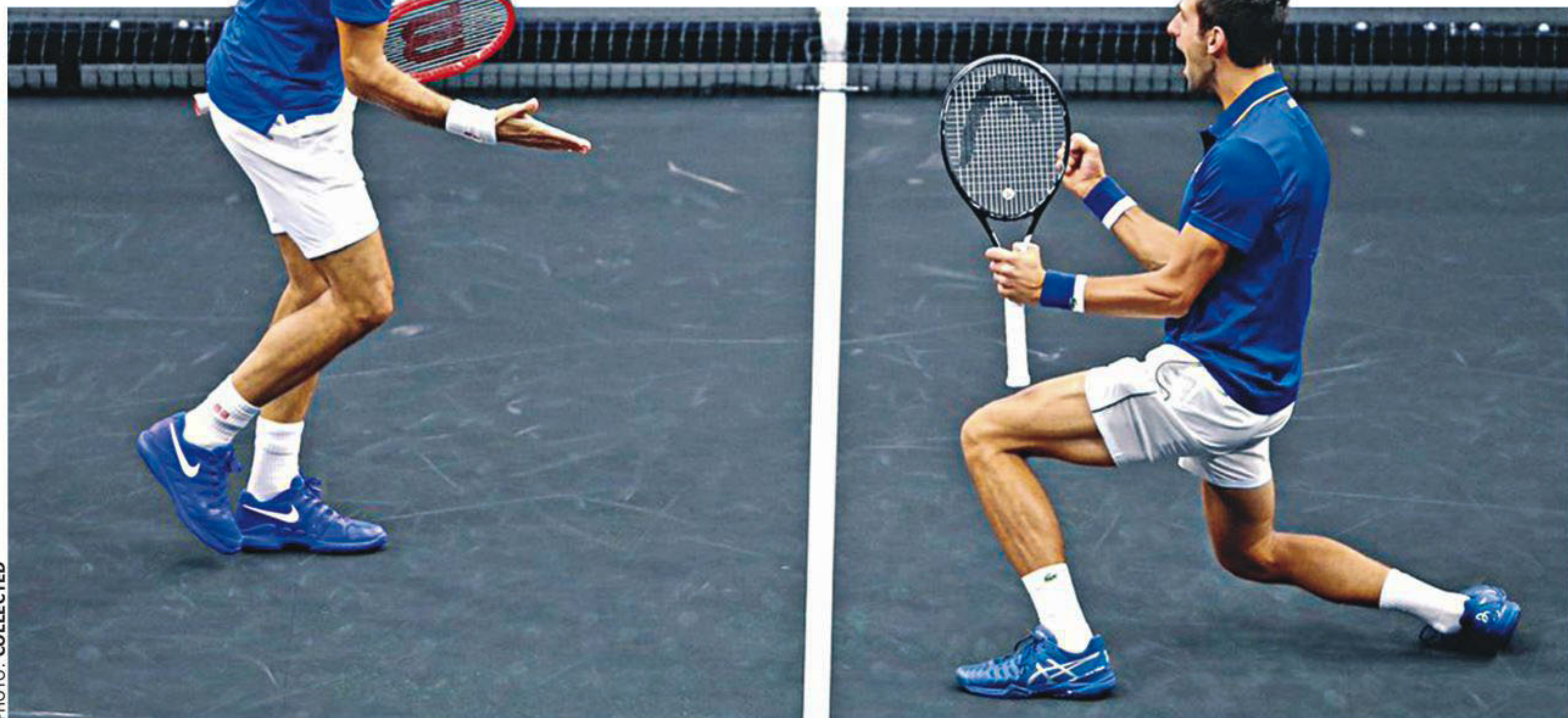


PHOTO: COLLECTED

There were some sparkling moments such as this as Roger Federer (L) and Novak Djokovic teamed up for the first time. However things did not go according to plan in the Laver Cup as Team Europe's dynamite duo were outdone by Team World's Kevin Anderson and Jack Sock in a 6-7, 6-3, 10-6 defeat on Saturday.

## Bashundhara show their power

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari



Newcomers Bashundhara Kings showcased their power with a 4-1 win over

Maldives Premier League champions New Radiant SC at the Sheikh Kamal Stadium in Nilphamari on Friday. The Championship League winners of the last season, who are emerging as the new powerhouse of local football, dispatched the

Maldivian giants with a clinical performance in front of an around 15,000 strong homecrowd.

Haitian forward Kervens

Belfort, Gambian forward Ousmal Jallow and local forwards Tawhidul Alam Sabuj and Mahbubur Rahman Sufil scored one goal apiece in this international club friendly, which was organised by the Bashundhara Kings as part of their build-up for the upcoming season in top-flight football.

Bashundhara Kings, coached by New Radiant's former coach Spaniard Oscar Bruzon, opened the scoring when Belfort flicked home a cross from Colindres. The lead was doubled four minutes later when Sabuj headed home Belfort's cross from the right.

The Maldivian giants, who came here with only 13 players,

had a great opportunity to reduce the margin in the 32nd minute, but veteran Ali Fasir blasted his spot-kick way off target.

The home side made it 3-0 six minutes after restart, with substitute Jallow scoring from a Colindres cross before another substitute Sufil took the game away from the Maldivians with a fourth on the hour-mark.

Radiant's Ugandan forward Atuheire Kipson reduced the arrears three minutes later, thanks to a fumble from Bashundhara's substitute goalkeeper Anisur Rahman, but the home side comfortably held on to the three-goal lead to grab a morale-boosting victory.

ASIAN MEN'S CHALLENGE CUP

## Volleyball team finish fourth

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh volleyball team finished fourth in the AV 1st Asian Men's Volleyball Challenge Cup after losing in straight sets against hosts Sri Lanka in the third-place playoff on Friday.

The men in red and green lost the match by 25-16, 25-17, 25-17 points against the Lankans, who finished third. Iraq won the title, beating Saudi Arabia in the final.

Bangladesh started this eight-nation event with a defeat against Iraq before bouncing back with wins over UAE and Mongolia to emerge group champions. They thrashed Hong Kong in straight sets in the quarterfinals before losing by 3-1 sets against Saudi Arabia in the semifinals.



Organisers and dignitaries officially unveil the trophy of the Bangabandhu Gold Cup 2018 through a glitzy ceremony at a hotel in the capital yesterday. The fifth edition of the invitational tournament featuring six teams will get underway in Sylhet on October 1 and will conclude in Dhaka on October 12. Commerce minister Tofail Ahmed was the chief guest at the ceremony where Bangladesh Football Federation president Kazi Salahuddin and other high-ups were present.

PHOTO: STAR

### 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:

**City, Liverpool win; Man Utd held**

Manchester City and Liverpool sealed dominant wins against Cardiff City and Southampton respectively while a toothless Manchester United were held to a 1-1 draw with Wolves in Premier League matches.

**India, Pakistan couples bowled over in UAE**

While India and Pakistan's fierce cricket rivalry has been on display at the Asian Cup in the United Arab Emirates, some families in the country have divided loyalties.

**'That's why we don't play doubles, bro!'**

Novak Djokovic accidentally smashed a forehead into doubles partner Roger Federer's lower back during their Laver Cup game and was quick to apologise but when the pair subsequently sat down at a change of ends, Federer said to Djokovic: "That's why we don't play doubles, bro!"

**Tuchel puzzled by poor CL display**

Paris Saint-Germain manager Thomas Tuchel admitted Saturday he was left puzzled by the lack of cohesion between his trio of star strikers against Liverpool.



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