

# What to WATCH

**CHANNEL 9**  
**Independence Cup**  
 Team BJMC v Arambagh  
 Live from 5:00pm  
**TEN 2**  
 New Zealand v Pakistan  
 Third Test, Day Two

Live from 12:00pm  
**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
**FIH World Cup**  
 England v Australia  
 Live from 5:30pm  
 Ireland v China  
 Live from 7:30pm

**English Premier League**  
 Watford v Man City  
 Live from 2:00am (Wednesday)  
**STAR SPORTS SELECT 2**  
**English Premier League**  
 Bournemouth v Huddersfield  
 Live from 1:45am (Wednesday)

## LEBRON-INSPIRED KHAWAJA SHEDS 10KGS

Test batsman Usman Khawaja has taken a cue from NBA superstar LeBron James to prepare his body for the gruelling demands of international cricket. As Australia coach Justin Langer weighs up where to bat him for the first Test against India starting Thursday, Khawaja is fit as a fiddle after dropping 10 kilograms in the past eight months. James has been known to go to extraordinary lengths to maintain his imposing physique, spending more than \$2 million a year taking care of his body. Khawaja suggested the three-time NBA champion, who is 33 but continues to defy Father Time, has been an inspiration. "I just wanted to make sure that I was the best version of myself," he told RSN radio. "One of my favourite athletes, LeBron James, does that as well as anyone else. I had a good Ashes campaign but I just felt like it was something I needed to work on at the time. I just started chipping away at it."

--SMH



DAY'S EVENT

**Independence Cup**  
 Team BJMC v Arambagh

Time: 5:00pm  
 Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium



Bangladesh women's football team players pose for a photograph at the BFF premises on the occasion of Unicef's agreement signing with the game's local governing body yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Unicef gives girl power a boost

SPORTS REPORTER

Unicef Bangladesh yesterday signed a two-year partnership agreement with Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) to bolster girls' empowerment through football. As part of the agreement, the Unicef logo will be placed on the shirts of the national under-16 girls' football team in their practice sessions, be it at home or during any international assignment.

In addition, Unicef will work closely with BFF to encourage more girls to participate in football by organising national talent hunts and football tournaments covering all 64 districts of Bangladesh on an annual basis.

BFF president Kazi Salahuddin and Unicef Bangladesh's representative Edouard Beigbeder signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.

"This initiative will offer a unique opportunity to enhance Unicef's partnerships in the world of sport by bringing into limelight the hidden talent scattered across the country with a strong potential to change lives," Beigbeder said at the agreement signing programme at the BFF House.

Beigbeder said that Bangladesh's women's under-16 players were now 'models of girl empowerment and emancipation' and had set an example for other girls in the country to follow.

He said that sport promotes equity and inclusion and plays a vital role in breaking entrenched attitudes and practices that discriminate against girls including child marriage, child trafficking and violence against children.

BFF women's wing chairman and FIFA council member Mahfuza Akter Kiron, BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag and Chief, Unicef Bangladesh's communication advocacy and partnership chief Sakil Faizullah were present among others.

## I should have won Puskas, says Bale

AGENCIES, London

Real Madrid forward Gareth Bale, whose overhead kick settled May's Champions League final against Liverpool, was expected to scoop the Puskas awarded -- given for the best goal of the year -- and many eyebrows, including Bale's, were raised when Mohamed Salah topped the public vote for his solo effort against Everton.

"Yeah, I was surprised by that, to be honest. What can you say? It makes the award look a little diminished, although it was obviously a great goal by Salah," Bale told FourFourTwo magazine.

Bale had been on the pitch for only three minutes when he converted Marcelo's cross, capturing his and Los Blancos' fourth European crown in five years.

"It was instinctive. I got my body positioned correctly, got my footwork right, and caught it perfectly. When you catch the ball perfectly, you know it's on target."

V-DAY HOCKEY

## Army, Navy set up final clash

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Army and Bangladesh Navy set up a final clash in the SIBL Victory Day hockey competition following the last round-robin matches at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday. The final will be held on Wednesday.

Both teams ended with three wins and a defeat, but Navy finished on top due to a superior goal difference following yesterday's win over Army in penalty shootout.

The regulation time of the match between the two table-toppers finished 1-1 as Milon Hossain's 10th-minute strike was cancelled out by Navy's Farhad Ahmed in the 26th minute. In shootout, Navy edged Army 4-3.

In the other match of the day, BKSP outplayed Bangladesh Police 4-0 to secure the third position. Rakibul Hasan scored twice while Mohammad Mohsin and Sabedur Rahman scored one apiece for BKSP.

## SHORT CORNER

### Bangladesh win silver in Asian Goju Ryu Karate

Bangladesh won silver and bronze medals in the 6th Asian Goju Ryu Karate Championship held in Gor Popki Sports hall in Jakarta, Indonesia from November 22nd to 25th.

Hafsa Islam won silver medal in the +84 kg category while David Gomes bagged bronze medal in the veteran category.

--SPORTS REPORTER

### VAR to be used from CL knockouts

Video Assistant Referees (VAR) will be used in the Champions League from the knockout stages of this season's competition and in the Nations League finals in June, UEFA confirmed on Monday.

European football's governing body had previously stated its intention to introduce VAR only from the start of the 2019/2020 season.

"If we can do it before, why wait? We cannot afford any mistakes if we can do it earlier," said UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin.

--AFP

### England to face Netherlands; Portugal host Switzerland in Nations League

England will meet the Netherlands for a place in the inaugural Nations League final with hosts Portugal facing Switzerland in the other semifinal after Monday's draw in Dublin.

Portugal and Switzerland will meet in Porto on June 5 with England and the Netherlands clashing in Guimarães on June 6. The third-place playoff and final will take place on June 9, with the latter game being staged in Porto.

--AFP

### Southampton sack Hughes

Mark Hughes has been sacked as manager of Southampton, the struggling Premier League club announced on Monday, despite an improved performance in a 2-2 draw with Manchester United.

The Welshman, 55, took over at St Mary's in March and guided them to Premier League survival and an FA Cup semi-final but was unable to inspire a better campaign this season.

Assistant first team manager Mark Bowen and assistant first team coach Eddie Niedzwiecki have also left the club.

--AFP



### Zia regains chess title

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman emerged champions in the Omicon 44th National A Chess Championship after finishing with 8.5 points from the 10-round event. Zia beat FM Taibur Rahman in the 10th and final round to win his 14th national title, having won his first in 1988. His last title had come in 2014. The highest-rated GM of the country won eight games, lost one game against FM Parag and drew one game against his son Tahsin Tajwar. IM Abu Sufian Shakil and FM Mehdi Hasan Parag finished with seven points each, and in tie-breaking system, Shakil became runner-up while Parag became third. CM Subrota Biswas became fourth with 6.5 points while GM Reefat Bin Sattar, who came into the championship after a six-year gap, finished fifth. A total of 26 players including two GMs, two IMs participated in the event.

--SPORTS REPORTER

### Banana-wielding Spurs fan arrested

A football fan has been arrested after a banana skin was thrown onto the pitch at the Emirates Stadium as Arsenal forward Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang celebrated scoring a penalty in front of Tottenham fans.

The Gunners won a memorable match 4-2 on Sunday and London's Metropolitan Police afterwards confirmed there were seven arrests made.

Britain's Press Association said it understands that one of those arrests came after a banana skin was hurled from the away end as Aubameyang celebrated scoring in front of the Tottenham fans.

"Behaviour such as this is completely unacceptable and the supporter in question will be issued with a ban," a Tottenham spokesman said.

--AFP

## Klopp charged for celebration

AFP, London

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp was charged by the Football Association yesterday after he raced onto the pitch to celebrate his side's late winner against Everton in the Merseyside derby.

The German was overjoyed by Divock Origi's 96th-minute goal courtesy of a horrendous misjudgement from Everton goalkeeper Jordan Pickford and raced over to Reds goalkeeper Alisson Becker.

He apologised for his actions after the 1-0 win at Anfield but the FA announced he had been charged with misconduct. Klopp has until 1800 GMT on Thursday to respond to the charge.

"Immediately after the game I apologised to (Everton manager) Marco Silva when we spoke to each other," Klopp said following the match. "I told him how much I respect his work."

Silva said he did not hear an apology from the Liverpool boss, and added: "To be honest, I didn't see so I don't know what he did and how he did it."



Chittagong Abahani forward Momodou Bah (2nd from R) celebrates with his teammates after scoring with an exquisite bicycle kick during their Independence Cup fixture against NoFeL Sporting Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

## Bah! Bah!

SPORTS REPORTER

Gambian forward Momodou Bah bagged a brace including a brilliant bicycle-kick goal as runners-up of last edition Chittagong Abahani got off to a flying start in the Independence Cup with a 3-0 win over newcomers NoFeL Sporting Club in Group B opener at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Former Sheikh Jamal DC striker Bah opened the scoring in the 19th minute with one of the finest goals of the season, showing an exquisite bit of skill having profited from a weak

clearance from the NoFeL Sporting defence. Mufta Lawal's long-ball from the midfield was only half-cleared by NoFeL defender Younta Michael inside the box, with Bah looping the ball over

**CTG ABAHANI 3 - 0 NOFEL SPORTING**  
 (BAH 19, 61, LAHAL 54)  
**MOHAMMEDAN 0 - 0 RAHMATGANJ**

the keeper and into the net with a perfect bicycle kick. NoFeL Sporting goalkeeper Apel Mahmud could only watch as the ball dipped inside the net. Lawal doubled Chittagong Abahani's lead in the 54th minute with

a glancing header on the far post following a corner from Kaoshik Barua. Bah showed his full range of skill yet again as he hammered the final nail in NoFeL Sporting's coffin with a brilliant solo effort in the 62nd minute. The Gambian skipped past the challenge of two opposition defenders before sliding the ball home past the onrushing goalkeeper.

The port city outfit could have left the field with a bigger margin of victory had their Nigerian forward Magalan Awala not missed a sitter in the 74th minute with the goal at his mercy.

Meanwhile, Mohammedan Sporting Club were held to a goalless draw by Rahmatganj MFS in the sec-

## Dembele takes Barca to top

AFP, Madrid

Ousmane Dembele took another step on the road to redemption as Barcelona eased past Villarreal on Sunday to move back to the top of La Liga.

Dembele, dropped last month by coach Ernesto Valverde, was making his second consecutive start and repaid the faith by teeing up Gerard Pique's opening goal in a comfortable 2-0 win at the Camp Nou.

Carles Alena, the 20-year-old Spaniard also regarded as a future star, came off the bench to add a late flourish, chipping in his first La Liga goal and Barca's second after a defence-splitting pass from Lionel Messi.

"Alena has earned his step up to the first team," Valverde said.

A narrow victory puts Barca back at the top of the table, two points above Sevilla. It also extends Barcelona's lead over Atletico Madrid, who were held earlier in the day to a 1-1 draw by Girona.

Villarreal, meanwhile, stay 17th, with the pressure mounting on coach Javier Calleja.



## Diego loses his cool

AFP, San Luis Potosi

Former Argentina great Diego Maradona appeared to aim a punch at an Atletico San Luis fan in a fracas after watching his Dorados team lose 4-2 and miss out on promotion to Liga MX.

Maradona raised eyebrows when it was announced in September he was taking the managing job at struggling Dorados, who were then in 13th place in their 15-team league.

Skeptics questioned what interest the 1986 World Cup champion from Argentina, who has publicly battled drug addiction and alcoholism, could have in moving to a place better known for drug cartels than football.

But he answered his critics with an emphatic series of wins, improbably coaching the team to the championship and within spitting distance of promotion to the first division.

Maradona, 58, had to watch the

match from the stands, after being sent off near the end of Dorados's first-leg victory for launching a tirade against the officials when he thought his team should have been awarded a penalty.

Dorados were 1-0 up from the first leg and took a 2-0 aggregate lead in the 32nd minute on Monday.

But San Luis won 3-2 in regulation 90 minutes and then clinched promotion from Ascenso MX in extra time, with the suspended Maradona watching helplessly from the stands.

After the match, Maradona was shepherded by Dorados staff and security personnel through a corridor filled with San Luis fans, who chanted songs about the 58-year-old's weight.

Videos posted to social media appeared to show the Argentine aiming a punch at one supporter, before being bundled into a lift.

## VACANCY



**NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY**  
 Center of Excellence in Higher Education

POSITION: DEAN, SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

We are looking for a dynamic leader to lead the ACBSP accredited School of Business and Economics at North South University. The successful candidate will have the following attributes:

### Essential:

- An earned doctorate or equivalent terminal degree from an internationally accredited high quality institution in a discipline related to business or economics.
- Experience as Dean, Deputy Dean, Head of Department or equivalent positions at a university.
- Demonstrated record of academic/professional accomplishments and a record of impressive scholarly work and publications.
- Demonstrated effectiveness as a supervisor, mentor and career guide for faculty and staff.
- Evidence of accomplished academic leadership with strong interpersonal and organizational skills.
- Demonstrated ability to achieve good outcomes from engagement with government, industry and professions.
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### Desirable:

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- Demonstrated experience with innovative academic programs, pedagogical approaches, and/or modes of delivery.
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- Demonstrated commitment to continuing quality improvement and/or experience with organizational development.
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Salary: An attractive salary package will be negotiated.

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Applicants may apply through-email: [vicechancellor@northsouth.edu](mailto:vicechancellor@northsouth.edu)  
 Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview