

what to WATCH

DAY'S EVENT

GTV & MAASRANGA
Bangladesh Premier League
Phase Three
Khulna Titans v Rangpur Riders
Live from 1:30pm
Comilla Victorians v Dhaka Dynamites
Live from 6:30pm

Bangladesh Premier League
Phase Three
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium
Khulna Titans v Rangpur Riders

Time: 1:30pm
Comilla Victorians v Dhaka Dynamites
Time: 6:30pm

SONY ESPN
South Africa v Pakistan
Second ODI (D/N)
Live from 5:00pm
SONY SIX & TEN 2
Australian Open
Men's/Women's Quarterfinals
Live from 7:30pm

MOSES WANTS £2.86M 'ASSURANCE FEE'

Chelsea winger, Victor Moses has made a sensational demand of £2.86m as 'assurance fee' from Fenerbahce, in the likelihood of the team getting relegated after he joins them, reports footballlive.ng. The report at the weekend said Fenerbahce were still keen on adding Moses to their squad this month but, though the Istanbul-based side have reached an agreement with Chelsea for the winger, the former Super Eagles star is holding out for possible damages. Apart from a princely assurance fee, Moses is also seeking 200,000 euros in bonus fee, if he helps Fenerbahce avoid relegation, while preparing a cushion in the event that he failed to save them from demotion. The winger's caution is based on the startling reality that Fenerbahce are in the Turkish Super Lig relegation zone after the first stanza, as The Yellow Navy Blues sit 17th on the 18-team table with 16 points.

-AGENCIES



Serena Williams exults after winning a point against Simona Halep during a 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 defeat of the world number one in their Australian Open encounter in Melbourne yesterday. (Inset) Novak Djokovic celebrates his 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-2, 6-3 victory against Daniil Medvedev in a men's singles round of 16 match.

PHOTO: AFP



Shai is class: Sobers

ICC

 Shai Hope, the Windies batsman, has come in for effusive praise from the legendary Sir Garry Sobers, who said the 25-year-old was "class".

Sobers -- widely recognised as one of the game's greatest all-rounders with 8032 runs and 235 wickets in 93 Tests for the Windies -- was immediately impressed by Hope the first time he saw him, when he spent a few weeks coaching the Windies side.

In his conversations with the young batsman, Sobers told him he could "add another string to your bow".

"I saw him when the president [of Cricket West Indies] asked me to come down and do some coaching with the team for four or five weeks," Sobers told Sky Sports. "The first time I saw him, I said, 'Pfft, this is class! This is class'."

However, Sobers noticed a few things in Hope that he could help make better. "He had one shot that I didn't want to take away from him because he played it all the time," said Sobers. "[He] was hitting the off-spinners, trying to hit them through mid-off and that kind of thing."

"Never take away what a player has. Try to help him with the others or try to

help him to play that shot better. After about two or three weeks watching him, I just said to him, 'Shai, that's your shot, don't lose it, don't let anybody take that away from you but I can just give you another string to your bow.'

"There are only two men behind square (on the leg-side), that's a big area for two men to control. If you went over to the off stump a little bit, do you know how many runs you could score through there? They can't put anybody else there, only two. Try it, if you can't do

it, put it away, play the way you play but just give it a try in the nets, practise it and see how it works for you."

And that, in essence, is Sobers' coaching policy. He said it's about improving players, not taking away something that comes naturally to them -- something Sobers believed modern coaches were guilty of.

"The coaches today just say, 'No, bad shot. Don't do that. Do this and do that,'" said Sobers. "I believe some of the coaching now is wrong. I don't know why."



West Indies legend Sir Garry Sobers (C) gives batsman Shai Hope (L) some pointers during a recent net session.

PHOTO: ICC

SHORT CORNER

Dembele sidelined for two weeks
Barcelona's French international forward Ousmane Dembele will be out for two weeks after spraining his ankle in Sunday's 3-1 victory over Leganes, the Spanish champions said on Monday.

The news comes as a blow for the 21-year-old, who opened the scoring for the La Liga leaders and has impressed in recent weeks, netting six times in his last 10 outings.

The injury means he is likely to miss both legs of their Copa del Rey quarter-final with Sevilla, and Sunday's Catalan derby at Girona.

It is also possible that he could be sidelined for the visit of Valencia at the beginning of February, although he should be fit for Barca's Champions League last-16 meeting with Olympique Lyonnais in February.

--REUTERS

Rokeya House retains title

Gareth Southgate insisted on Sunday his work as England manager was far from done as he indicated he had no interest in taking charge at Manchester United any time soon.

"I'm the England manager and it's a privileged position to be in," Southgate told Sky Sports.

A recent report in Britain's Sunday Telegraph said Southgate was on a shortlist being drawn up by Old Trafford chiefs as they sought a permanent replacement for the sacked Jose Mourinho.

But with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, the caretaker manager, having won his first seven games in charge of United, the Red Devils may have a ready-made successor in their former striker.

--AFP

NZ women cricketers earn 91% less than commentators

With sportswomen world over pushing for pay parity, a startling revelation has been made in New Zealand cricket where reportedly a pay difference of 91% exists between a cricketer and a commentator. Former New Zealand cricketer Peter McGlashan made the claim on his Twitter account to highlight the wage difference in domestic cricket.

--SPORTS REPORTER

The Super Smash doubleheader at the Eden

Park Outer Oval witnessed Auckland Aces take on Otago Volts followed by the women's final between the Wellington Blaze and the Canterbury Magicians. McGlashan commented in both the games before revealing that he was paid more than any of the women players.

In his tweet, McGlashan revealed that seamer Mitchell McClenaghan earned \$575 for his commenting job while White Ferns and Wellington player Sophie Devine received just \$55. --AGENCIES

How cricket helped Barty

Australia's Ashleigh Barty believes a decision to take a break from tennis and play professional cricket revived her career, giving her the drive to reach a Grand Slam quarter-final in Melbourne this week.

Barty will become the first local hope to play in the last eight at the Australian Open in a decade when she faces Czech rival Petra Kvitova on Tuesday.

The 22-year-old has already claimed her biggest scalp yet with a three-set triumph over five-time major champion Maria Sharapova on Sunday in front of a frenzied Melbourne Park crowd.

But Barty's career was in crisis a few years ago, when the Queenslander walked away from the sport she had played since she was a toddler.

Jaded with the constant travel and loneliness of being on tour, as well as the pressure from Australian fans desperate for Grand Slam success, Barty decided tennis was not for her.

She retired and in 2014 made the stunning announcement that she would instead play professional cricket in Brisbane, preferring a team sport over tennis' gladiatorial ethos.

"There's never a lonesome moment on the field if you're struggling," she said at the time. "There's 10 other girls that can help you out and get you through the tough times."

Barty played for the Brisbane Heat in the Women's Big Bash League, scoring 39 runs from 27 deliveries on debut against the Melbourne Stars.

--AFP

Messi inspires Barca

AFP, Barcelona

Ousmane Dembele gave Barcelona a glimpse into the future but Barcelona still needed Lionel Messi to beat Leganes 3-1 on Sunday and restore their five-point lead at the top of La Liga.

Messi had started on the bench, rested by coach Ernesto Valverde, and for just over an hour at the Camp Nou, Dembele filled the void by scoring the opening goal in a sparkling individual display.

The 21-year-old, however, limped off with a sprained ankle in the 69th minute,



Barcelona superstar Lionel Messi (L) celebrates his goal with teammate Jordi Alba during their 3-1 La Liga win against Leganes at the Nou Camp on Sunday. PHOTO: AFP

SA desperate to draw level

AGENCIES, Durban

After a morale-boosting five-wicket win in Port Elizabeth, Pakistan will look to build on the momentum and keep the pressure on South Africa when they collide again in the second ODI in Durban on Tuesday.

Pakistan, however, will expect their bowlers to strike early considering South Africa are not the type of team who will keep repeating the same mistakes.

After slipping to a five-wicket loss in the first ODI, South Africa will be desperate to draw level, and prevent the deficit from becoming even steeper in the five-match series.

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.

It was a target that Mohammad Hafeez, the Pakistani batsman, said his side were always confident of chasing, given it was "below par".

South Africa lost just two wickets in the series opener in Port Elizabeth, but still couldn't breach the 300-run mark, ending the innings at 266/2.