

What to WATCH

CHANNEL 9 & STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
New Zealand v Bangladesh
First ODI (D/N)
Live from 7:00am
SONY ESPN
South Africa v Sri Lanka
First Test, Day One

Live from 2:00pm
West Indies v England
Third Test, Day Five
Live from 8:00pm
TEN 1
UEFA Champions League
Tottenham v Dortmund
Live from 2:00am (Thursday)

TEN 2
UEFA Champions League
Ajax v Real Madrid
Live from 2:00am (Thursday)

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League (Football)
Sheikh Russel v Chittagong Abahani
Time: 3:00pm

Venue: Sylhet District Stadium, Sylhet
Mohammedan v Saif SC
Time: 4:00pm

Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium, Dhaka

RAMSEY PENS 400K P/W DEAL WITH JUVENTUS

Arsenal midfielder Aaron Ramsey has signed a pre-contract agreement to join Juventus in the summer in a deal that will earn him over £400,000 a week. The 28-year-old has agreed a four-year contract that will see him join the Italian champions as a free agent, ending his 11-year spell with Arsenal. Ramsey passed a two-part medical in January, having picked Juve following talks with a host of European clubs. He will be the highest-earning British player ever based on basic salary. The Wales international's Arsenal contract expires on 30 June and the Gunners will receive no fee when he leaves. "As a result of the registration of the player, Juventus will incur additional costs of 3.7 million euros, to be paid by July 10," the Serie A champions said.

--AGENCIES



Sheikh Jamal forward Shakhawat Hossain Rony celebrates his all-important goal against Brothers Union during their Bangladesh Premier League fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Jibon brace downs Arambagh

Sheikh Jamal edge Brothers Union

SPORTS REPORTER



Six-time champions Abahani maintained their all-win record against Arambagh in the professional football league as the Sky Blues came from behind to hand the giant-killers a 2-1 defeat in their Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) match at the Rafique Uddin Bhuiyan Stadium in Mymensingh yesterday.

There were hopes that Arambagh, who were defeated by Abahani in all 16 previous meetings, would cause an upset following spirited performances which led to wins against Mohammedan, Saif SC and Chittagong Abahani but the Dhaka-based outfit had other ideas.

Holders Abahani also boast undefeated records against teams like Uttar Baridhara Club, Beanibazar SC, Sukhtara Jubo Sangho -- who were all relegated from the BPL -- and newcomers NoFEL SC. In addition, the Sky Blues have remained unbeaten against Chittagong Mohammedan and Feni Soccer Club in the professional league.

Striker Nabib Newaj Jibon played a key role in

maintaining the unique record.

Smarting from a 2-0 away defeat at the hands of Sheikh Jamal, Arambagh could not make good on their giant-killers tag despite taking the lead. With this win, Abahani extended their winning streak to four from six matches.

Promising winger Arifur Rahman got hosts Arambagh ahead in the 14th minute, running down the left before beating goalkeeper Shahidul Alam Sohel with a powerful shot from inside the box.

However, Maruful Haque's charges held on for

BROTHERS	0 - 1	SK JAMAL
ARAMBAGH	1 - 2	SHAKHAWAT 2'
ARIFUR 14'		ABAHANI
		JIBON 32', 38'

just 18 minutes before Jibon equalised after a superb move. Having collected a through-pass from defensive midfielder Atiqur Rahman Fahad, Jibon rounded off his marker to scoop the ball into the top-corner from the edge of the box.

It was Jibon who gave Abahani the decisive

lead six minutes later, sending a free-kick home from the top left corner of the box, thereby taking his goals tally to five, equalling the league's top-scorer Ballo Famosa of Muktijoddha Sangsad.

The win put Abahani on top of the table again with 15 points from six matches, three ahead of newcomers Bashundhara Kings, who, however, played only four matches while Arambagh stayed on nine points from six matches.

At the Bangabandhu National Stadium, last season's runners-up Sheikh Jamal managed a 1-0 win over Brothers Union, courtesy of a second-minute strike from Shakhawat Hossain Rony.

"It is really a happy moment for me because I scored the lone goal and the team won," said Rony. "I believe my first goal in the league will boost my confidence for the next matches even though I scored only one goal during the Federation Cup."

Sheikh Jamal coach Joseph Afusi admitted his charges were lucky to secure full points as Brothers dominated. With three straight wins, Sheikh Jamal raised tally to 10 points from six matches while Brothers, with three straight defeats, stayed on three points from five matches.

GREAT GORDON passes away

AFP, London

Gordon Banks, England's goalkeeper during their triumphant 1966 World Cup campaign, has died aged 81, his former club Stoke City announced on Tuesday.

His family said the 73-times capped Banks, who lost an eye in a car crash in 1972, had passed away in his sleep.

"It is with great sadness that we announce that Gordon passed away peacefully overnight," his family said. "We are devastated to lose him but we have so many happy memories and could not have been more proud of him."

Geoff Hurst, who scored a hat-trick in the 4-2 win over West Germany in the World Cup final at Wembley, tweeted a fulsome tribute.

"Very sad to hear the news that Gordon has died. One of the very greatest," tweeted 77-year-old Hurst.

Banks, who played in every game of the 1966 campaign on home soil, is probably best known for a wonder save he produced to deny Brazilian great Pele

in the 1970 World Cup group match.

"Once I got my hand to it I hadn't a clue where it was going," he modestly said afterwards.

Pele -- who would go on to lift the trophy -- admitted later he had said 'gol', so sure was he that the ball was heading into the net. Brazil still won the game 1-0.

However, Banks later recounted that he did not appreciate the remark made by one of his teammates that day, midfielder Alan Mullery.

"I patted him on his head, and I said 'why didn't you catch it?' and the abuse that came back was unbelievable," said Mullery. Mullery said Banks was probably the best goalkeeper he had played with or against.

"He was the best at that time. We had some great goalkeepers in those days, and the only person I can think came near was Pat Jennings," said Mullery. "He was absolutely marvellous goalkeeper. He was a likeable man, and when it came to business, he was probably the best there has ever been."



Gordon Banks (R) lifts the World Cup trophy in 1966 in England.

PHOTO: TWITTER



Gordon Banks pulls off what is remembered as his finest save, tipping over a header from Pele in a group match of the 1970 World Cup.

PHOTO: FA TWITTER



PHOTO: REAL MADRID

OFF TO AMSTERDAM: Real Madrid's Brazilian trio of (From L-R) Marcelo, the red-hot Vinicius Jr and Casemiro board a flight for Amsterdam ahead of Los Blancos' Champions League Round of 16 first leg against Ajax tonight. Also in action will be Borussia Dortmund, who travel to London to take on Tottenham Hotspur.

Reus blow for Dortmund

AFP, Berlin

With top-scorer and chief playmaker Marco Reus out injured Borussia Dortmund will face Tottenham Hotspur without their best player, says Germany legend Lothar Matthaus, ahead of tonight's Champions League clash.

Reus has scored 17 goals and created 11 more for the Bundesliga leaders this season, but is absent for the last 16, first leg against Spurs at Wembley with a thigh strain. "The third-best team in the Premier League against the best in the Bundesliga - I see it as 50/50," Matthaus said. "In Reus, Dortmund are missing their best player."

Right-back Lukasz Piszczek, centre-back Julian Weigl striker Paco Alcacer are also missing for Dortmund while Spurs are without Harry Kane and Delle Alli.

SHORT CORNER

Sayed to run for BHF GS post

Even though the schedule of Bangladesh Hockey Federation's election is yet to be disclosed, the campaign took a new turn as Mariner Youngs Club's hockey committee chairman AKM Mominul Haque Sayeed became councillor of Mohammedan Sporting Club.

The game's local governing body asked its affiliate bodies to send their councillors' list by February 17 after the National Sports Council (NSC) formed a three-member election commission to hold the BHF polls.

13 Dhaka clubs together submitted their councillors' list to the BHF, with Sayeed declaring his intention to contest the polls as a candidate for general secretary post. He is a permanent member of Mohammedan. Current BHF general secretary Abdus Sadeque is also expected to compete for the general secretary position, being backed by Abahani.

-- SPORTS REPORTER

Root draws praise for response to Gabriel sledge

Former England captain Nasser Hussain and football pundit Ian Wright have led praise for Joe Root after he stood up to alleged homophobic abuse while batting in the third Test against the West Indies.

Shannon Gabriel was warned by the umpires for using foul and abusive language towards England captain Root, who responded to the sledging by saying: "Don't use that as an insult. There's nothing wrong with being gay".

Now pundits and fans have taken to social media to praise his forward-thinking actions, with Hussain describing Root as a role model. Hussain said: "I don't know who said what to whom... but boy do I applaud Joe Root's reaction here. For me his twelve words as a role model will be in the end more important than a Test hundred or possible victory."

Former footballer and current BBC pundit Ian Wright said simply: "Joe Root. Well played and well said sir."

-- AGENCIES

RTV to telecast Bangamata Gold Cup

Private satellite channel RTV has earned the rights to telecast matches of the Bangamata U-19 Women's International Gold Cup, which is scheduled to get underway in Dhaka on April 23 with the participation of six nations.

K-Sports, the official rights holders of the tournament, sold the broadcast rights to RTV. K-Sports' CEO Fahad MA Karim and RTV CEO Syed Ashik Rahman signed the agreement at the BFF House.

-- SPORTS REPORTER

Minute's silence at CL, EL games for Sala

In memory of Emiliano Sala, a minute's silence will be observed at all Champions League and Europa League games this week, UEFA said on Tuesday.

Sala, who signed for Cardiff City from Nantes in January for a club record fee of 15 million pounds, died when the plane he was on crashed in the English Channel last month.

-- REUTERS

Feni SC Pip Baridhara

Feni Soccer Club registered a 1-0 win over Uttar

Baridhara Club in the Bangladesh Championship League at the Birshrestha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Shawon, who once played in the Bangladesh Premier League, scored the only goal of the match in the 47th minute. The day's first match between T&T Club and Agrani Bank ended in a goalless draw.

-- SPORTS REPORTER

Inter-house sports end

Shahidullah House became champions while Dr. Kudrat-e-Elahi House became runners-up in the Birshrestha Munshi Abdur Rouf Public College inter-house annual sports competition at the BGB Sports Board ground yesterday.

BGB additional director general Brigadier General AQM Shamsul Haq distributed prizes among the winners.

-- STAFF CORRESPONDENT

YCL one-dayers begin today

The one-day version of the Youth Cricket League (YCL) begins today with East Zone taking on Central Zone at the Shaheed Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi while North Zone battle it out with South Zone at the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogura.

The four-day version of the tournament came to an end on February 9, when Central were crowned champions and North became runners up.

It is an initiative that helps cricketers compete with each other before they enter the big leagues. Bangladesh's top under-19 players will take part in this competition.

--SPORTS REPORTER

যে কোনো ব্র্যান্ডের ব্যবহৃত পুরাতন এসি বদলে নিন ওয়ালটন ব্র্যান্ডের নতুন এসি (২ টন পর্যন্ত)

মেয়াদ: ৭ ফেব্রুয়ারি থেকে ৩১ মার্চ '১৯

১ম স্থান অর্জন

১০ বছর গ্যারান্টি

নতুন এসি কিনলে ইস্টিলেশন চার্জ ফ্রি

আয়োনিজার রুমকে করে ব্যাকটেরিয়া ও দুর্গন্ধমুক্ত

ইনভার্টার এসিতে ৬০% পর্যন্ত বিদ্যুৎ সাশ্রয়ী

গোয়েন্দা ফিল ১০০% কপার টিউব

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