

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
Indian Premier League  
Chennai v Punjab  
Live from 4:30pm  
Hyderabad v Mumbai  
Live from 8:30pm

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 2**  
English Premier League  
Newcastle v Crystal Palace  
Live from 8:00pm  
Bundesliga  
Bayern Munich v Dortmund

Live from 10:30pm  
**TEN 1**  
**Serie A**  
Juventus v AC Milan  
Live from 10:00pm  
Sampdoria v Roma

Live from 12:30am (Sunday)  
**TEN 2**  
**Serie A**  
Parma v Torino  
Live from 7:00pm  
FA Cup

Man City v Brighton  
Live from 10:30pm  
**La Liga**  
Barcelona v Atletico Madrid  
Live from 12:45am (Sunday)

Bangladesh Premier League (Football)  
Saif SC v NoFel SC  
Time: 3:30pm

Venue: Rafique Uddin Bhuiyan Stadium,  
Mymensingh  
Brothers Union v Rahmatganj MFS

Time: 6:00pm  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium, Dhaka

# High-scoring chase caps off exciting day

SPORTS REPORTER

Prime Bank Cricket Club pacer Al-Amin Hossain bagged a fifer to help his side bundle out Bangladesh in a mammoth 172 runs during their Dhaka Premier League (DPL) encounter at the Khan Shaheb Osman Ali Stadium in Fatullah yesterday.

Meanwhile Dhaka's Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur witnessed an exciting match as Delwar Hossain put in an all-round performance, bagging decisive figures of five for 46 with the ball before a crucial 19-ball 34-run cameo with the bat to help Shinepukur Cricket Club chase down 324-run total posted by Mohammedan Sporting Club and win by two wickets.

At BKSP-3, Brothers Union let an easy win slip out of their grasp as a middle order batting collapse -- courtesy of Gazi Group bowler Nasum Ahmed's five for 49, his best figure in List A -- saw Gazi Group defend a below-par 206-run total to win by nine runs.

Al-Amin ran riot at Fatullah's BKSP batsmen had little clue about how to survive through his spells. Except Shamim Hossain's run-out in the 10th over, all five other top order wickets were scalped by the right-arm medium fast bowler. When Al-Amin rattled the stumps of Abdul Kayum in the 11th over, BKSP were left reeling on 26 for six and they never recovered. Parvez Hossain Emon (15 off 37) remained the only BKSP batsmen to have reached two-figure mark as BKSP suffered a huge defeat.

Earlier, although Prime Bank batsman Abhimanyu Eswaran missed out on his century for eight runs, scoring 92 off 109 balls, a half-ton from Nahidul Islam at the death saw Prime Bank post a challenging 222 for eight.

Meanwhile in Mirpur, Shinepukur pulled off a dramatic win over Mohammedan as they chased down a 300-plus total with two balls to spare. After being asked to bat first, Mohammedan got off to an incredible

start. Contributions from their top-order and middle-order with Liton Das (84 off 89), Irfan Sukkur (50 off 66), Avishek Mitra (50 off 59), Raquibul Hasan (74 off 48) and Shohag Gazi (45 off 22) amongst the runs, helped Mohammedan reach an above-par total.

After the exchange, Shinepukur never



Gazi Group's Nasum Ahmed (L) poses with his man of the match award at the end of their Dhaka Premier League match against Brothers Union at BKSP-3 yesterday.

PHOTO: BCB

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## SCORES IN BRIEF

### PRIME BANK V BKSP

**Prime Bank:** 222 for eight in 50 overs (Eswaran 92, Nahidul 50; Murad 2-35)

**BKSP:** 50 all out in 22 overs (Parvez 15; Al-Amin 5-20, Nayeem 2-6)

**Result:** Prime Bank won by 172 runs.

**Player-of-the-match:** Al-Amin Hossain.

### MOHAMMEDAN V SHINEPUKUR

**Mohammedan:** 324 all out in 49.3 overs (Liton 84, Raquibul 74; Delwar 5-46)

**Shinepukur:** 325 for eight in 49.4 overs (Afif 97, Delwar 34; Gazi 2-40)

**Result:** Shinepukur won by 2 wickets.

**Player-of-the-match:** Delwar Hossain.

### GAZI GROUP V BROTHERS UNION

**Gazi Group:** 206 all out in 49.4 overs (Kamran 81, Mahedi 48; Sajedul 4-54)

**Brothers Union:** 197 all out in 48.5 overs (Junaid 72, Fazle 31; Nasum 5-49)

**Result:** Gazi Group won by nine runs.

**Player-of-the-match:** Nasum Ahmed.

looked on course to chase down the mammoth total until the 118-run sixth-wicket stand between Afif Hossain and Amite Hasan. However, after Amite (43 off 49) and Afif (97 off 86) fell in the 41st and 44th over, it was Delwar, who struck three sixes in penultimate over and decided the fate of the game.

In the other game, after Gazi Group posted a below-par total, Nasum Ahmed returned his best List A figures and ensured Brothers suffer a middle and lower order collapse, eventually falling short on the day.

# Mancini wants tough measure on racism

AFP, Milan

Italy coach Roberto Mancini called for tough measures in Serie A after the "unacceptable" racist abuse of Juventus' Italian international Moise Kean in Cagliari.

"We can no longer accept this, we need to act and hard. Racist behaviour must be stigmatised," Mancini told reporters after receiving the Enzo Bearzot Award given annually to an Italian football manager.

"We must ensure that these things don't happen again. The attitude against Kean was unacceptable."

Kean, along with his French teammate Blaise Matuidi and Brazilian Alex Sandro, were targeted by monkey noises and jeers in Sardinia on Tuesday.

But they increased in intensity after 19-year-old Kean scored the second goal in a 2-0 win when the youngster celebrated with his hands outstretched in front of the Cagliari fans.

And the Italy coach believes that Leonardo Bonucci was "misunderstood" when he said Juventus and Italy teammate Kean was "50-50 to blame," to the fury of fellow international Mario Balotelli.

Mancini fears the row over Bonucci's comments has overshadowed the real problem of racist abuse by the Cagliari fans.

"It seems to me that Bonucci's words have been misunderstood and have been explained by himself," said Mancini.

"Now it seems that the important thing was the controversy between Balotelli and Bonucci, instead of what happened on the pitch."

"Kean's still a boy. Maybe next time he won't celebrate like he did, but he probably felt in distress."

"As for the national team, we'll see whether we call up all three."

Italy next play a Euro 2020 qualifier against Greece on June 8, which is followed three days later with another Group J clash against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

# 'Good signals from Ronaldo' | Zidane praises Hazard

AFP, Rome



Cristiano Ronaldo could be back in the Juventus line-up in time for their Champions League quarterfinal with Ajax, coach Massimiliano Allegri revealed on Friday.

Ronaldo hasn't played for the runaway Serie A leaders since scoring the sensational hattrick that saw Juve come back from a 2-0 first-leg deficit to knock out Atletico Madrid last month.

He was rested in the subsequent 2-0 league defeat at Genoa and then picked up a thigh injury on international duty with Portugal last week, but Allegri is confident the 34-year-old will be ready for Wednesday's first leg in Amsterdam.

"There are good signals from Cristiano Ronaldo ahead of the match with Ajax," he said to reporters ahead of Saturday's visit of fourth-placed AC Milan.

Ronaldo will however not be ready for Milan, who are battling to qualify for next season's Champions League, after missing recent wins over Empoli and Cagliari, the latter of which was overshadowed by racist abuse directed at young Italy striker Moise Kean.

Kean's Juve and Italy teammate Leonardo Bonucci was heavily criticised in the aftermath of that match for saying that Kean was as to blame for the monkey chants to which he was subjected as the Cagliari supporters,



comments for which he apologised on Thursday.

"Racism must always be fought against. It can never be justified," said Allegri.

Bonucci, with his mind still on the game, expressed himself badly but immediately apologised and explained what he meant."

Juve are 18 points clear of nearest challengers Napoli having lost just once this season and will win their eighth title in a row with seven matches to spare at the weekend if they beat Milan and Napoli lose to Genoa.

Should they win it either this week-

end or next it would be the earliest any team has ever won Serie A, and would allow them to focus even more on winning their first Champions League since 1996.

"We'll only celebrate when we win the title. Winning eight in a row is never easy, in particular with these numbers," said Allegri, who has won four straight league and cup doubles with Juve and taken them to two Champions League finals.

"Napoli are having a season with what would often be title-winning form, but we're doing something extraordinary."

AFP, Madrid



Zinedine Zidane expressed his admiration for Eden Hazard on Friday ahead of an expected move for the Chelsea forward from Real Madrid this summer.

Hazard's contract expires in June 2020 and he is yet to sign a new deal, leaving Chelsea in a difficult position if they want to avoid losing the Belgian for free.

After last year's World Cup, he admitted "it might be time for something different" while in October, he said it would be a "dream" to play for Real Madrid, "the best club in the world".

Asked about Hazard at a press conference before Madrid's La Liga game against Eibar on Saturday, Zidane said: "He is a player I have always rated, as everyone knows."

"He is a player that has played in France, that I have watched a lot and that I know personally. There's nothing new about what I think of him as a player. He's a fantastic player."

Real Madrid have certainly struggled for goals this season.

They have scored 26 fewer than Barcelona in the league and rarely threatened Valencia on Tuesday, when they were beaten 2-1 at Mestalla.

"I know the numbers and it has cost us,"

Zidane said. "This year we have had difficulty scoring. Will we change things? Yes."

Barcelona play at home to second-placed Atletico Madrid on Saturday, meaning Real

can close the gap on the top two if they

overcome Eibar at the Santiago Bernabeu.

But they are five points behind Atleti and 13 adrift of Barca while the loss to Valencia in midweek exposed their weaknesses both in attack and defence.

"I'm not worried," Zidane said. "This season has been difficult and I cannot say in two minutes what has happened but there are things that you have to accept."

"We know what all these players have won, not just in my time, but in the last five, six, seven years. We are going to try to turn it around, the club needs change, to win again, to do great things and that's what I'm here for."

"Our problems on the pitch? We accept them. Fewer people in the stadium? We accept it. But we must not forget what these players have done either. I'm not worried at all."

Dani Carvajal returned to training on Friday after recovering from a thigh injury but Thibaut Courtois is unlikely to be available after missing the session, along with Vinicius Junior and Marcos Llorente.



EDEN HAZARD

## Pep hails Sterling's gesture

AFP, Manchester

Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola has hailed Raheem Sterling's decision to buy 550 tickets for his side's FA Cup semifinal against Brighton for pupils of his former school as an "incredible gesture."

Sterling grew up in the shadow of the old Wembley, having moved to England from Jamaica at the age of five.

"I grew up right next door to the stadium and would dream of one day playing in a cup final or even representing my country there," said Sterling.

"To now be able to play there myself is an honour and this is a great opportunity to give back to the community that helped me get to where I am."

The England international has become a key figure not only on the field for club and country, but an increasingly prominent campaigner against racism.

Sterling was allegedly targeted by racist abuse earlier in the season at Chelsea and also spoke out as England players suffered more disturbing scenes in Montenegro last month.

"It is an incredible gesture," Guardiola told reporters on Friday. "This kind of gesture makes a better society for everyone."

"Football players are human beings, we live all together and these kind of gestures dignify who he is."

Sterling's England teammate Danny Rose admitted this week he cannot wait to retire given the lack of leadership from the football authorities in the drive to weed out racist abuse.

However, Guardiola, whose side face Rose's Tottenham in the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final tie next week, encouraged the left-back to stand up and continue the fight against discrimination.

AFP, London



England defender Danny Rose said Friday that he's looking forward to the end of his career after uncheck racism left him completely disillusioned with football.

The 28-year-old also blasted the game's rulers for handing out meagre fines to clubs and countries who fail to rein in their fans, comparing the sanctions to what he spends "on a night out".

Rose says the way racism is combatted is "a farce".

"I have had enough," he said. "I just think that I've got five or six more years left in football and I just can't wait to see the back of it, seeing how things are done in the game at the minute."

Such is his frustration and anger that Rose even admitted he had fully expected to be racially abused when England played a Euro 2020 qualifier against Montenegro last month.

During England's 5-1 win in Podgorica, Callum Hudson-Odoi and Rose had monkey noises aimed at them before fellow black player Raheem Sterling celebrated his goal by capping his ears to the haters in the crowd.



Sterling later tweeted a picture of his goal celebration, saying: "Best way to silence the haters (and yeah I mean racists)".

Rose said the punishments are so weak that fans will never be deterred from abusing players.

"There's so many politics and whatever in football and I just can't wait to see the back of it, to be honest," added the Tottenham defender.