

What to WATCH

DAY'S EVENT

STAR SPORTS 1

India v South Africa

Second Test, Day Four

Live from 10:00am

SONY ESPN

2020 Euro Qualifiers

Hungary v Azerbaijan

Live from 10:00pm

International Friendly

Slovakia v Paraguay

Live from 12:45am (Monday)

TEN 1

2020 Euro Qualifiers

Wales v Croatia

Live from 12:45am (Monday)

TEN 2

2020 Euro Qualifiers

Belarus v Netherlands

Live from 10:00pm

Estonia v Germany

Live from 12:45am (Monday)

National Cricket League

Four-Day Match, Day Four

Time: 9:30am

Rajshahi v Dhaka

Venue: KSOAS

Rangpur v Khulna

Venue: SANS

Barisal v Sylhet

Venue: SKS

Dhaka Metro v Chattogram

Venue: SBNCS

Three Lions tamed

Ronaldo inches closer to Ali Daei

AFP, Paris

England missed an opportunity to qualify for Euro 2020 on Friday as they slid to a 2-1 loss in the Czech Republic, while Cristiano Ronaldo scored his 699th goal in a routine Portugal win over Luxembourg.

Harry Kane converted a fifth-minute penalty in Prague after Raheem Sterling was clipped by Lukas Masopust, the Tottenham striker taking his qualifying tally to seven goals.

But Czech Republic, humbled 5-0 by England in the reverse fixture last March, levelled shortly after as Jakub Brabec bundled in from a corner for his first international goal.

Substitute Zdenek Ondrasek swept home the winner on his debut for the hosts on 85 minutes, a goal that ended England's decade-long unbeaten run in qualifying spanning 43 matches.

"I think we have had a lot of credit over the last couple of years and tonight we did not do enough," England manager Gareth Southgate told ITV.

"Our performance was not good enough, it's as simple as that. The goals we conceded were typical of the chances we gave away."

England's last qualifying defeat came ahead of the 2010 World Cup when they lost 1-0 away to Ukraine in October 2009.



CRISTIANO RONALDO

Southgate's side remain top of Group A on 12 points alongside the Czechs, who have played a game extra. England could still clinch qualification on Monday with victory in Bulgaria if Kosovo fail to beat Montenegro.

World champions France claimed a 1-0 win away to Iceland as Olivier Giroud delivered the only goal with a penalty on 66 minutes in Reykjavik.

Giroud has played springily for Chelsea this season but the 33-year-old is now just four goals behind Michel Platini (41) for second on France's list of all-time leading scorers.

France are level on 18 points with Turkey atop Group H ahead of Monday's showdown in Paris, where victory would send Didier Deschamps' men through to the finals.

"It was very difficult, a really hard match. We needed to take the three points and now we have an important game coming up at home," said Antoine Criezmann, who was fouled for the penalty.

Iceland's first home loss in qualifying since June 2013 dropped the Nordic island nation six points adrift of the top two.

Juventus star Ronaldo grabbed his 94th goal at international level in Portugal's 3-0 home victory over Luxembourg.

Bernardo Silva opened the scoring in Lisbon in the first half before Ronaldo added a second on 65 minutes with a magnificent chip following an error in the visitors' defence.

Goncalo Guedes added a late third although defending champions Portugal still trail Group B leaders Ukraine by five points.

Portugal next travel to Kiev to face a Ukraine side on the cusp of qualification following a 2-0 home win over Lithuania secured by Atalanta midfielder Ruslan Malinovskyi's brace.



Czech Republic's Jakub Brabec and goalkeeper Tomas Vaclik celebrate after their side secured a 2-1 win over England in a UEFA Euro 2020 qualifier match in Prague on Friday. (Inset) England were understandably downcast after the defeat seeing as it ended a 43-match unbeaten run in qualifiers.

PHOTO: AFP

Hosts clinch hockey series

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh under-21 hockey team clinched the five-match series 3-1 following a 4-1 victory against their Omani counterparts at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

The hosts had won the first match 5-1 before being held to a 2-2 draw in the second match. The men in red and green took the third match 2-0 on Friday before another comfortable victory yesterday. The last match of the series will be held on Tuesday.

Mahbub Hossain gave Bangladesh the lead from a field goal in the 13th minute before Ashraf Islam's field goal made it 2-0 in the first quarter. Although the hosts failed to score in the second quarter, Shohanur Rahman Sabuj, who was wearing the captain's armband in this match, scored in the 40th and 43rd minutes from penalty corner to give the hosts a comfortable lead.

Rashed Al Fazari scored a consolation goal for Oman in the 58th minute.

Zverev sets up final clash with Medvedev

AFP, Shanghai



The dominant Daniil Medvedev reached a staggering sixth final in a row but will need to beat Alexander Zverev for the first time to win the Shanghai Masters today.

The US Open finalist defeated fellow rising star Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece 7-6 (7/5), 7-5.

In the other semifinal yesterday, Zverev eased past Matteo Berrettini of Italy 6-3, 6-4 in a showdown between two more budding talents.

With Roger Federer and world number one Novak Djokovic ousted in the quarterfinals on Friday, the next generation of men's tennis stars has made its mark in China.

The 23-year-old Russian Medvedev embellished his fast-growing reputation with a fifth victory in as many matches against Tsitsipas, 21.

In contrast, he is yet to overcome the 22-year-old Zverev in four attempts.

"I did say before this year and during this year in the beginning that Sascha [Zverev]



DANIIL MEDVEDEV



ALEXANDER ZVEREV

was the best in our 'Next Gen' group," the world number four said. "He won three Masters when none of us were even close to doing this."

The seventh-ranked Tsitsipas, who dumped out defending champion Djokovic in three sets on Friday, said that Medvedev's formidable serve had been the difference.

"Same vibes, same thing all over again," said Tsitsipas of yet another defeat to the red-hot Russian.

"I don't mean to be rude at all, but it's just boring. It's so boring that I hate myself for putting myself into that kind of situation where I have to play in his own terms and not in my terms."

Sixth-ranked Zverev, long touted as the man most likely to join the "Big Three" of Federer, Djokovic and Rafael Nadal, has had a disappointing year, winning only one title.

But the German defeated 20-time Grand Slam champion Federer on Friday and took that momentum into his last-four clash with the 23-year-old Berrettini.

The Italian, 13th in the world, put up a better fight in the second set but was broken in the ninth game as his hopes of an upset faded.

U-15s take on India today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will face India in their last group match of the SAFF U-15 Women's Championship at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu today in what will be a dress rehearsal for Tuesday's final between the two sides.

Both sides are already through to the title-deciding match following two wins each, and today's match, which will kick off at 3:00pm, will be an opportunity to weed out mistakes of previous matches for both sides.

Bangladesh, the 2015-edition champions, won 2-0 against Bhutan before beating Nepal 2-1 while India, the defending champions, have been much more convincing, beating Nepal 4-1 before thrashing Bhutan 10-1.

Bangladesh, though, will have an opportunity today to exact revenge for their 1-0 defeat in the last edition's final against their neighbours ahead of the final.

SHORT CORNER

FARAAZ GOLD CUP

Southeast romp into final

South-east University moved into the final of the Faraz Gold Cup Inter-University Football Tournament, beating Bangladesh University of Textiles (Butex) 4-1 in the first semifinal at the Bishreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Mohammad Aurangzeb put Southeast ahead in the 23rd minute before Mohibur equalised for Butex six minutes later. However, Mubassher scored in the 51st minute to give Southeast the lead back before goals in the last minute from Shaheen and Aurangzeb confirmed a comprehensive victory.

--SPORTS REPORTER

T20 cricket tournament begins

Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan, City Club, Kalabagan Krira Chakra and Uttara Cricket Club registered wins over Indira Road Krira Chakra, Orient Sporting Club, Azad Sporting Club and Surjo Torun Club respectively in the opening day of the Dhaka First Division T20 Cricket Tournament yesterday.

--SPORTS REPORTER

Women's game abandoned again

Like the first game, the second match of the three-match women's T20 series between Bangladesh A and their visiting Indian counterparts was abandoned without ball being delivered due to a wet outfield at the Sheikh Kamal International cricket Stadium in Cox's bazar yesterday. The third and final match of the series will take place at the same venue tomorrow.

--SPORTS REPORTER

'Was never given anything'

Mo Farah angrily hit back at critics on Friday, saying he was never given any banned drugs while a member of the Nike Oregon Project and claiming he has been unfairly singled out in the scandal surrounding his former coach Alberto Salazar.

Farah said "there are no allegations" against him as controversy continued to rage over Salazar who has been slapped with a four-year ban by the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

"I was never given anything," said four-time Olympic champion Farah, breaking his silence on the scandal. --AFP



Ruman Sana (2nd from L) receives a crest from Bangladesh Olympic Association secretary general Syed Shahed Reza during a felicitation programme organised by the Regency Hotel and Resort yesterday to honour the archer winning a gold medal in the recently concluded Asia Cup: Stage-3. Ruman's coach Martin Frederick (L) and Bangladesh Archery Federation high-ups were also present.

PHOTO: STAR