What to WATCH

STAR SPORTS 1
India v South Africa
Third Test, Day Four
Live from 10:00am
SONY ESPN
UEFA Champions League
Club Brugge v PSG
Live from 1:00am (Wednesday)
SONY SIX
UEFA Champions League
Shakhtar Donetsk v Dinamo Zagreb
Live from 10:55pm
Galatasaray v Real Madrid
Live from 1:00am (Wednesday)
TEN 1
UEFA Champions League
Man City v Atalanta
Live from 1:00am (Wednesday)
TEN 2
UEFA Champions League
Atletico Madrid v Leverkusen
Live from 10:55pm
Juventus v Lokomotiv Moscow
Live from 1:00am (Wednesday)

DAY'S EVENT

Sheikh Kamal International Club Cup
Chennai FC v Terengganu FC
Time: 4:00pm
Bashundhara Kings v Gokulam Kerala
Time: 7:00pm
Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chattogram

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Bashundhara Kings forward Daniel Colindres (C) and Bakhtiyar Duyshobekov (L) take part in a training session at the Port Stadium ground on the eve of their Sheikh Kamal International Club Cup match against Gokulam Kerala today.

Kings on a mission

SPORTS REPORTER *from Chattogram*

Bangladesh Premier League champions Bashundhara Kings will start their pre-season campaign looking to add to their double when they take on Gokulam Kerala of India in a Group B fixture at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chattogram today.

The second match of the day will kick off at 7:00pm following the game between Chennai City FC and Terengganu FC at 4:00pm.

Bashundhara Kings, in their debut season in top-flight football, won the Bangladesh Premier League and the Independence Cup, and coach Oscar Bruzon is looking to build on the success with what he feels a more balanced squad.

"Last year we were having some problems as we didn't have lot balance in the squad. There was little bit difference between best players and worst players. But this year is the opposite scenario. This year we have all good players in our squad," the Spanish coach told reporters after his team's training session at the Port Stadium ground yesterday morning.

The new powerhouse of Bangladesh football currently boasts 10 national players from the most recent squad alongside Topu Barman, Atiqur Rahman Fahad and Mashuk Mia Johnny who are recovering from injuries. The team definitely is stronger as far as local players are concerned, but the coach feels the foreign collection is also much stronger than last season.

"We got Kingsley from BJMC because we like him. Then we have Daniel (Colindres) and Bakhtiyar (Duyshobekov) who are ready now and left a lot last season. We have one new addition, Jalal (Lebanese striker Jalal Kudoh). He is gonna be a sensation, not only in this tournament but also throughout the season. I hope in 3-4 months all of you will recognise Jalal is the best striker in the country," the coach said.

While Bruzon was hopeful that his side could start the pre-season on a high, he was respectful of his opening-match opponents Gokulam Kerala, who won the prestigious Durand Cup two months ago after finishing ninth in I-League last season.

"They are the recent winners of Durand Cup beating teams like East Bengal and Mohun Bagan in the semifinal and final. Gokulam Kerala is going to be tough rival," Bruzon said.

Gokulam may, however, not be well prepared for this tournament, taking the field after having arrived only on Sunday and playing without an official practice session here.

Meanwhile, the day's other match pits defending I-League champions Chennai City FC against Terengganu FC of Malaysia.

Like Mohun Bagan, Chennai City FC boast a host of Spanish players, but they are taking the field after only one practice session following their arrival on Sunday. Terengganu FC, on the other hand, cane to Chattogram three days ago.

'Want to be the best in South Asia'

ATIQUE ANAM *from Chattogram*

There are very few footballers in Bangladesh who can boast a record of three goals in first 11 international matches. In fact with Bangladesh's ever-present scoring issue, forwards hardly score in international matches and spend the season at reserve bench of their respective clubs.

Rabiul, however, has proved to be a bit different. The Arambagh forward last season showed his quality under Maruful Haque and has become a go-to-man for national team coach Jamie Day when looking for goals and injection of fresh legs in the latter part of games.

RABIUL

The 20-year-old forward came to everyone's notice last year when he scored against Cambodia in a FIFA friendly in Phnom Penh. But he scored the most important goal of his fledgling career, and arguably the most important goal for Bangladesh in recent times, in the 1-0 away win against Laos in the first round of World Cup Qualifiers. The slightly-built forward has since added to the tally, scoring against Bhutan in a FIFA friendly in Dhaka recently.

Rabiul is setting his sights on much higher things though.

"I want to be the best player in South Asia and for that I have to be established in the best club of the country," said the forward who moved from Arambagh to champions Bashundhara Kings in the recent transfer window.

A member of the first batch of the now-defunct Sylhet BFF football academy, Rabiul started his journey in Dhaka football with third-division outfit Dilkusha KC before being quickly poached by Arambagh, where he improved his reputation under Maruful.

The forward sees his recent move to Bashundhara Kings as a just reward. "You have to take challenge if you have to achieve and do something good. If I can't take the challenge myself, I can't be a top player. That's why I came to Bashundhara Kings. Hopefully it will be a good outcome at the end of the season."

Rabiul heaped praise on his new coach Oscar Bruzon, who he believes has brought 'European system' into training drills, which he believes will further his development as a footballer.

"Oscar (Bruzon) is a very good coach. His tactical work is very good, like the European style. The match we played in Salt Lake, if I were in Bashundhara team before, I would have played better because of the way Oscar trained us, making us better players," Rabiul said.

India on the brink of series sweep

AFP, *Ranchi*

Pace duo Mohammed Shami and Umesh Yadav claimed five wickets between them Monday to put India on the brink of a series whitewash after South Africa crumbled while following-on in the third Test.

At the end of the third day in Ranchi, the tourists were on 132-8, trailing India by 203 runs, with replacement batsman Theunis de Bruyn on 30 and Anrich Nortje, on five.

De Bruyn came in under the new concussion sub rule after Dean Elgar took a nasty hit on the helmet from a short delivery by Yadav and had to retire hurt on 16.

The impact left the opener shaken as he lay on the ground getting physio assistance, and officials called for early tea with the Proteas reeling on 26-4.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: First innings 497 for 9 declared

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 162 all out (Hamza 62, Bavuma 32, Linde 37; Shami 2-22, Yadav 3-40) and second innings 132 for 8 (Linde 27, De Bruyn 30 not out; Shami 3-10, Yadav 2-35)

'Cannot accept physical punishment'

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh national swimming team's Japanese coach, Takeo Inoki, resigned from his post and left for his home country after witnessing the horror of how meaningless punishments were inflicted on junior swimmers at the Syed Nazrul Islam National Swimming Complex in Mirpur on Sunday.

Inoki, who was appointed as head coach in August, yesterday wrote on Facebook about how the junior swimmers who violated the rules by bringing cellular phones to the training camp were punished in cruel fashion.

"I felt it was important for me to show that I really do have zero tolerance with organizations or individuals who physically abuse/punish or harass the swimmers," wrote Inoki, who left the country on Sunday following the incident which took place at around 11:00am.

According to Inoki, a few junior national swimmers broke the rules by bringing phones to training and were subsequently reprimanded by the junior team's coaching staff.

"They were meaninglessly punished through physical exercise under the strong sun. All swimmers were required to wear long sleeve shirts and tracksuit pants. Some of the exercises were running, front summersaults on the hard tiled floor and rolling around on the hard tiled floor," stated Inoki, who added that one swimmer lost consciousness and even though the coach pleaded for an ambulance or doctor to be called, the coaches called it play-acting.

Bangladesh Swimming Federation general secretary MB Saif termed the punishments as 'routine' as the swimmers often violate this rule.

"We provide mobile devices to the swimmers on Thursday night and take it away on Friday night. But some swimmers kept the mobile without our consent and were punished, which is nothing serious. We tried to contact the coach and waited for five hours but he never returned or gave us a chance to explain," said Saif adding that they formed a five-member probe committee to look into the matter and submit a report within five working days.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Gono University players celebrate after becoming champions of the Faraaz Gold Cup Inter-University football tournament by beating Southeast University 4-2 in tiebreakers at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Gono Uni clinch title at last

SPORTS REPORTER

Gono University became champions of the Faraaz Gold Cup Inter-University football tournament by beating Southeast University 4-2 in tiebreakers at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The exciting final rolled directly into the penalty shootout after the regulation 70 minutes ended in a goalless draw in front of a few hundred spectators, who cheerfully backed their sides from the galleries.

Man-of-the-match Bibek Mandal, a former BKSP student and player of Agrani Bank, converted the fifth spot kick to give his fellow students something to really cheer for as he delivered the title in the process. After being eliminated from the group stages in the first two editions of the tournament, Gono University were surely glad to get their hands on the coveted trophy.

Meanwhile, Southeast University had to be satisfied with the runners-up trophy for the second time in a row despite having fielded a strong squad, featuring about seven-eight students who also play different competitive leagues under the Bangladesh Football Federation.

Gono University, studded with former BKSP players, played comparatively better between the sides, however, their forwards failed to cash in on their opportunities in regulation time. On the other hand, Southeast University were unlucky to not have notched a victory as they were twice denied by the woodwork.

"It was bad luck that we lost the final in tiebreakers again. We had confidence to win the match in regulation time but we were denied by the crossbar twice. We had less preparation in penalty taking," said Southeast University Games and Sports Club president and coach Golam Rabbani.

"Faraaz Gold Cup has tuned into a platform for university footballers to show their skills and the university authority is also providing different scholarships to athletes during the admission," said Rabbani.

"Faraaz Gold Cup is helping those university footballers who don't play any competitive football to grow up as they have no other platform to show themselves," said Mandal.

Chief guest, state minister for youth and sports Zahid Ahsan Russel, congratulated both teams.

"Faraaz Gold Cup is not only a football tournament, it has turned into a platform of friendship as the students from different universities are getting opportunities to get introduced with each other through Faraaz Gold Cup. I want to thank both the winners and losers for participating in the tournament," said Russel.

During the prize-giving ceremony -- attended by advocate Saifuzzaman Shekhor MP, Faraaz Foundation's secretary general Binoy Das, sponsor United Enterprises & Company Ltd's director Khandokar Zayed Ahsan, former footballers Sheikh Mohammad Aslam, Satyajit Das Rupu and Hasanuzzaman Khan Bablu -- a one-minute tribute to the memory of Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain was observed.

Tigresses to leave today

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced a 15-member Bangladesh women's team for their tour of Pakistan. The team is scheduled to leave Dhaka today to play a three-match T20 series ahead of a two-match ODI series against their Pakistani counterparts, starting on October 26.

SQUAD: Salma Khatun (T20 Captain), Rumana Ahmed (ODI Captain), Jahanara Alam, Shamima Sultana, Ayesha Rahman, Nigar Sultana, Sanjida Islam, Lata Mondol, Panna Ghosh, Ekka Mollik, Sharmin Sultana, Khadija-Tu-Kubra, Farjana Haque, Sharmin Sultana, Shanjida Akther.

Bangladesh under-16 players pose for a selfie before leaving for Pakistan yesterday to play two three-day matches and three one-dayers against Pakistan under-16s. All the matches will be held at Rawalpindi's Khan Research Laboratories Ground.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

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Master in Development Studies (MDS)
Admission Spring 2020

Application Deadline: 4 December 2019 till 1:00 PM
Admission Test: 6 December 2019 (Written + Viva) at 10:00 AM

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