

# What to WATCH

**SONY SIX**  
Australian Open Men's Final  
Live from 2:30 pm  
**STAR SPORTS 3**  
ICC U-19s World Cup  
9th Place Play-off  
Sri Lanka v England

Live from 2:00 pm  
**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
India v New Zealand  
Fifth T20I  
Live from 1:00 pm  
**English Premier League**  
Tottenham v Man City

Live from 10:30 pm  
**SONY ESPN**  
Serie A  
Atalanta v Genoa  
Live from 8:00 pm  
**TEN 2**  
Serie A

Juventus v Fiorentina  
Live from 5:30 pm  
Lazio v SPAL  
Live from 8:00 pm  
Udinese v Inter Milan  
Live from 1:45 pm (Monday)

## DAY'S EVENT

**Bangladesh Cricket League**  
Four-day Match, Day 3  
North Zone v South Zone

Time: 9:30 am  
Venue: ZACS, Chattogram  
Central Zone v East Zone

Time: 9:30 am  
Venue: SNBS, Dhaka



**Sofia Kenin of the US kisses the Australian Open trophy after beating Spain's Garbine Muguruza 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 in the final at Melbourne Park on Saturday.**

PHOTO: AFP

# Kenin stuns Muguruza in final

AFP, Melbourne

America's Sofia Kenin stunned two-time Major champion Garbine Muguruza to win the Australian Open on Saturday, completing a surprise run where she has come from nowhere to win her first Grand Slam title.

Despite making her debut in a Major final Kenin, 21, showed all her trademark aggression as she fought back from a set down to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 in 2hrs 3mins against the shellshocked Spaniard.

The 14th seed, who will now jump as high as seventh in the world and usurp Serena Williams as America's number one, was in tears at the end and headed straight for her father Alexander, who is her coach.

It was the final twist in a tournament of upsets, after Williams went out in the third round and Kenin upset Australia's world number one Ashleigh Barty in the semifinals.

"My dream officially came true, I can't describe this feeling," said Moscow-born Kenin. "It's amazing, dreams come true. If you have

dreams, go for it, it's going to come true."

Spain's Muguruza, 26, was unseeded for the first time at a Slam since 2014 having suffered a marked loss of form in the last 18 months.

She was resurgent in Melbourne over the past fortnight, but after grabbing the first-set lead, her serve failed her spectacularly.

She totted up eight double-faults in all, three of them in the final game -- including one on the second championship point, handing the title to her younger opponent.

Muguruza drew first blood at Rod Laver Arena, where the roof was closed for rain in Melbourne, getting the first break of serve.

Moscow-born Kenin, who ended the fairytale run of 15-year-old Coco Gauff on her way to the final, bounced her American stars-and-stripes racquet on the hardcourt in irritation.

The 2016 French Open and 2017 Wimbledon winner Muguruza took the first set in 52 minutes when the young American planted her forehead out.

But the aggressive Kenin upped the ante in the second set, breaking

Kenin vs Muguruza	
2020 Australian Open women's final, February 1	
<b>Sofia Kenin</b>	<b>Garbine Muguruza</b>
21	26
USA	Spain
1.85 m	1.82 m
170 cm	162 cm

Grand Slam titles	
Kenin	2
Muguruza	0

Head-to-head match record	
Kenin	2
Muguruza	0

Progress	
1st rd vs Martina Trevisan (ITA)	6-2, 6-1
2nd rd vs Ana Ivanovic (SRB)	6-2, 6-1
3rd rd vs Zheng Shuai (CHN)	6-2, 6-1
4th rd vs Coco Gauff (USA)	6-2, 6-1
QF vs Ons Jabeen (UZB)	6-2, 6-1
SF vs Ashleigh Barty (AUS)	6-2, 6-1
Final vs Garbine Muguruza (ESP)	4-6, 6-2, 6-2

her more experienced opponent in the fourth game and easily holding to sprint into a 4-1 lead.

Kenin, who won their only previous encounter in three sets,

grabbed the second set in an emphatic 32 minutes. A rattled Muguruza was seen briefly by a physio for what appeared to be a lower-back problem.

Into the deciding set and the gutsy Kenin saved three game points in a pivotal fifth game, tossing the ball back over her head by way of celebration.

Kenin, who was overshadowed in the build-up to Melbourne by the likes of Williams, Osaka and Barty, adds by far the biggest title of her fast-burgeoning career to the three WTA crowns she won last year.

"The past two weeks have been the best of my life," she told Rod Laver Arena, as her father -- who left the Soviet Union in 1987 to give the family a better life -- filmed her victory speech on his phone.

"I love you guys from the bottom of my heart, thank you so much," she told the crowd.

At 21 years and 80 days, Kenin is 22 days younger than Japan's Naomi Osaka when she won the title last year.

Kenin is the youngest Australian Open champion since Maria Sharapova -- her idol -- won aged 20 in 2008.

# SETIEN WANTS UCL ON HIS TOMBSTONE

Quique Setien may have landed the job of his life when he was appointed Barcelona coach last month -- but he is already thinking about how he wants to be remembered in death. "I want my tombstone to say that I won the Champions League with Barca," the 61-year-old said in an interview with Catalan newspaper L'Esportiu on Saturday. "I have already told the players that I am getting on and I don't have much time to lose," added Setien.

-- REUTERS



# Can Thiem topple 'king' Novak?

AFP, Melbourne



"King" Novak Djokovic has won all seven Australian Open finals he has contested, he is on a 12-match winning streak and will become world number one if successful in the Melbourne Park decider on Sunday.

Against those overwhelming odds, few are giving Dominic Thiem much of a chance to wrench the title from his iron grip and clinch a maiden Grand Slam.

But the Austrian, remarkably, is the one with the recent edge. Djokovic is 6-4 in their career head-to-heads, but Thiem has won four of the last five.

Three of those were on his favoured clay, but he also came from a set down to beat the Serb on hardcourts at the ATP Finals in November.

Djokovic is the first to admit that the slick 26-year-old has successfully refined his game over the past 12 months to compete on all surfaces.

And he acknowledges it is just a matter of time before Thiem wins a Slam.

"I don't think he's really anymore 'next

feeling and playing. I thought ATP Cup went really well for me, got a lot of hours spent on the court, singles and doubles," said the 16-time Grand Slam winner.

"Obviously got a lot of positive energy from that competition. I dropped only one set so far up to the finals. Hopefully I'll be able to perform as well as I always have in the Australian Open finals."

Thiem, who has beaten four seeds to make the grade, including Rafael Nadal in the last eight, is no stranger to Grand Slam finals, making the last two at Roland Garros.

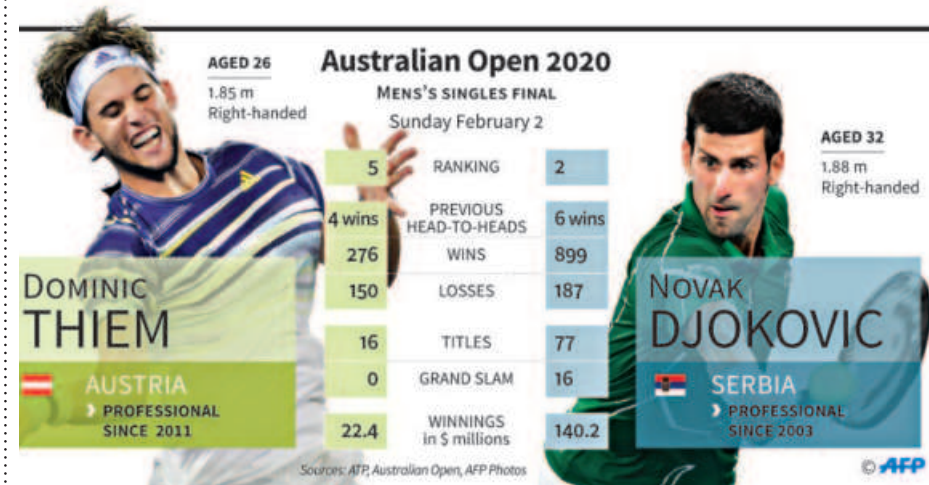
But this is his best effort outside of the French Open.

He lauded Djokovic as the "king of Australia" and insisted his recent successes favoured him counted for little at the Serb's favourite tournament.

"It's true, I won I think more of the last encounters than he did. But I think it doesn't count so much. It's absolutely his comfort zone here," he said.

"He always plays his best tennis in Australia since many, many years. So I'm expecting that as well in the finals.

"All I can do is my best again, play great tennis again, and of course take a look at



generation'. He's been around for many years. Now already he's an established top-five, top-10 player," said Djokovic.

"It's just a matter of one match here and there that can potentially give him a Grand Slam title, that he can actually get in the mix of top three in the world," he added.

Despite the platitudes, Djokovic, 32, is banking on adding yet another chapter to his storied Melbourne Park career, and heads into the match with an extra day's rest after dispatching an injured Roger Federer in his semifinal on Thursday.

The world number two has been firing ever since arriving in Australia a month ago, and was unbeaten over six ATP Cup singles matches as he led Serbia to the inaugural title ahead of the Australian Open.

"Yes, I'm pleased with the way I've been

the last matches we had... try to repeat the good stuff that I did there."

Despite playing down his chances, Thiem has the weapons to trouble Djokovic.

He is supremely fit and regarded as one of the fastest movers on court, with a one-handed backhand that generates heavy spin and a power-packed forehand.

While the slower clay has always been his preferred surface, beating Federer in the Indian Wells final last year was a turning point for the Austrian on hardcourts.

"That victory gave me so much relief and so much confidence because finally I got my first Masters 1000 title on hardcourt," he said.

"I made this huge step forward. I really developed my game I think in the right direction."

# Liverpool move 22 clear

AFP, London



Liverpool surged 22 points clear at the top of the Premier League with a 4-0 win over Southampton as Leicester and Chelsea consolidated their place in the top four in a 2-2 draw.

Mohamed Salah scored twice as the champions-elect equalled a Premier League record with a 20th straight home win at Anfield.

Southampton believed they should have had a penalty early in the second half when Danny Ings went down in the box, but no spot-kick was given. Liverpool went straight up the other end to take the lead through Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain.

"The game would have been going in a different direction," admitted Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp had the penalty been awarded.

"We had to change in the second half. That helped massively and when we are rolling it's difficult to stop."

Jordan Henderson doubled the European champions lead with a smart finish on the hour mark.

Salah then produced two cool finishes in the final 20 minutes as Klopp's men took their tally of points to a remarkable 100 from the last possible 102.

Chelsea stretched their advantage over Manchester United, Wolves and Tottenham to seven points, but offered further hope to the chasing pack in the battle for a Champions League place.

Frank Lampard's men have won just four of their last 13 league games and needed two goals from centre-back Antonio Rudiger just to claim a point.

"Not many people gave us the top four slot and I understand why, and it's probably the same now," said Lampard. "We've come to Leicester,

who everyone's raving about, quite rightly, and we've got a point."

All the goals came in the second half as Rudiger nodded Chelsea in front before two goals in 10 minutes from Harvey Barnes and Ben Chilwell turned the game around for Leicester.

A brilliant leap from Rudiger 19 minutes from time denied the Foxes all three points, but Brendan Rodgers's men maintain an eight-point lead over Chelsea in third.

"We should have won having gone 2-1 up. We gifted them two goals really, which we're disappointed with," said Rodgers.

Sheffield United are Chelsea's closest challengers as Chris Wilder's men moved into fifth with a 1-0 win at Crystal Palace thanks to a calamitous own goal from Eagles' goalkeeper Vicente Guaita.



**Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah found the back of the net twice as the Premier League leaders crushed Southampton 4-0 to stretch their record at Anfield to an imperious 20 straight wins.**

PHOTO: AFP

# Haaland makes it 7 in three

AFP, Berlin

Erling Braut Haaland made it seven goals in three games for Borussia Dortmund after scoring a double in Saturday's 5-0 Bundesliga thrashing of Union Berlin while Bayern Munich went top of the table.

The 19-year-old, who signed from Salzburg, scored either side of half-time at Signal Iduna Park after being handed his first Dortmund start by coach Lucien Favre.

His tally is the most by any Bundesliga player in their first three matches.

Dortmund moved to third in the table, three points behind Bayern, who beat Mainz 3-1.

In Dortmund, 19-year-old England winger Jadon Sancho became the first teenager to score 25 goals in the Bundesliga when he started the rout with a looping shot past Union goalkeeper Rafal Gikiewicz.

Haaland added to his record run on 18 minutes when he was presented with a simple tap-in, before winning a penalty, which captain Marco Reus converted mid-way through the second half and Axel Witsel made it 4-0 on 70 minutes.

Haaland completed the rout when a Brandt backheel fell into his path and he drilled his shot past the despairing Gikiewicz.



**Real Madrid forward Karim Benzema celebrates after scoring the decider in a La Liga encounter against Atletico Madrid yesterday. The Frenchman now has 13 league goals this season, one behind chart-topper Lionel Messi.**

PHOTO: REAL MADRID

# Zizou inspires Real to Atletico win

AFP, Madrid



Zinedine Zidane's double substitution at half-time transformed the Madrid derby on Saturday as Real Madrid edged past Atletico 1-0 to move six points clear at the top of La Liga.

Karim Benzema scored the winner at the Santiago Bernabeu after Zidane's decisive intervention turned a contest that Atletico had dominated into another comfortable Real Madrid victory. Vinicius Junior, one of the substitutes, was a key to the goal.

Second-place Barcelona can cut the gap back to three points by beating Levante at

home on Sunday but Atletico now trail the leaders by 13 points.

This is Atletico's fifth game without a win. The worry is that on this form, they should worry not about the title race but about missing out on Champions League qualification.

Zidane's team are on a relentless run, now 21 games unbeaten, the latest due in large part to his changes.

The decision to ditch a failing system and revert to 4-3-3, with Vinicius Junior and Lucas Vazquez coming on for Isco and Toni Kroos, was both brave and effective.

Real's form is impressive and they have Eden Hazard, out since November, on the brink of a return.