SONY SPORTS 2 Club Friendly AC Milan vs Barcelona Live from 9:00 am Juventus vs Real Madrid

T SPORTS FIFA Women's World Argentina vs Sweden Live from 1:00 pm Brazil vs Jamaica Live from 4:00 pm

STAR SPORTS 2 GT20 Canada Mississauga vs Surrey Live from 9:00 pm Toronto vs Vancouver Live from 1:30 am (Thursday)

No handshake, no problem for Svitolina

AFP, Washington

Ukraine's Elina Svitolina grabbed a second straight victory over Victoria Azarenka of Belarus at the WTA Tour DC Open in Washington on Monday, weeks after the duo's Wimbledon clash was marred by a handshake controversy.

Azarenka was booed off court at Wimbledon earlier this month after her defeat to Svitolina, with fans apparently perceiving she had snubbed her Ukrainian opponent by not advancing to the net for a handshake.

In fact, Svitolina did not offer a handshake -- something she has declined to do with players from Russia and Belarus ever since the invasion of her homeland. Belarus is a key

On Monday, tournament organizers in Washington aimed to pre-empt any possible repeat of the controversy by informing fans before the match there would be no handshakes. "At the conclusion of the match there will be no handshake between the players," a message on an arena screen said beforehand. With that issue settled, it was left to the two rivals to serve up a hard-fought if error-strewn battle that saw no fewer than 17 breaks of serve before Svitolina finally prevailed 7-6 (7/2), 6-4.

Svitolina clinched victory by breaking Azarenka's serve in the 10th game of the second set.

A wild Azarenka backhand presented Svitolina with a match point which she duly converted on the first attempt after bludgeoning a forehand winner into the corner.

Azarenka saluted Svitolina's victory with a fleeting thumbs up before heading off the court.

New challenge for Titu

SPORTS REPORTER

Experienced coach Saiful Bari Titu said he wants to continue the work done by Golam Rabbani Choton and Paul Smalley while trying to improve on certain areas after taking over as the interim coach of the Bangladesh women's football team. The former national team footballer, who has coached men's senior and agegroup teams previously amidst his club coaching stints, has been entrusted with leading the women's team in September's Asian Games. Bangladesh will have Japan and Vietnam - both currently playing in Women's World Cup - in the group alongside South Asian rivals Nepal.

He will also be preparing the women's under-17 team, which will be playing in September's Women's U-17 Asian Cup Qualifiers, Round - 2 against Australia, Vietnam and Philippines.

Titu's presence at the Asian Games as and testing ourselves because we only his accreditation is yet to be approved by the games organising committee, the a great learning experience for the side.

"We will be facing two big teams including Japan in the Asian Games. So I would try to make them understand

While there is still uncertainty over that it's a big learning ground for them World Cup winners Japan have already get to play high-level teams like these during the Asian Games or the World veteran coach is keen on preparing the Cup Qualifiers," Titu told The Daily Star their debut appearance in the 32team for the event, which he feels will be over the phone after conducting his first team event. Bangladesh, ranked 140th, training sessions with the two teams at the Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

Ranked 11th in the world, former 101st in the world.

progressed through the group stages of this year's showpiece event while Vietnam, ranked 32nd, are making will be making their debut Asian Games appearance against these two powerhouses alongside Nepal, ranked

Titu said he is analysing the World Cup matches and gathering information from his predecessors regarding his own

"I'm trying to gather information regarding the process that Smalley and Choton followed for the women's team. I have assistant coaches who will help me here," Titu said. "I'm also following Women's World Cup and analysing the matches. Since we will be playing against two of those teams, I will try to give my inputs in that regard."

The senior team featured 18 players in first day's training, with skipper Sabina Khatun and defender Anai Mogini still on vacation while midfielder Sanjida Akter is suffering from fever.

Titu, who left his job with top-tier side Chittagong Abahani in the middle of last season, said he is glad to have this opportunity to guide the women's team.

'The principles of coaching are the same for both men and women," the 50-year-old observed. "In a sense, this is challenging since women's team is always in the limelight due to their success."

"There is already a training structure in place for women's team. Since that structure is doing well, I'm not keen on bringing any change to that. I will work on the areas that need a bit more improvement," Titu concluded.

Cricket won as clashing ideologies scripted an Ashes epic

ASRAR CHOWDHURY

From the first ball, with Zak Crawley striking a boundary off Pat Cummins, till the last ball on July 31 when Stuart Broad took the wicket of Alex Carey, the cricket world experienced 45 days of edge-of-theseat cinematic action that could not have been scripted by mortals.

The 2023 Ashes has been like no other Test series in living memory. It pitted two styles of cricket against each other: England's fearless Bazball versus a far more orthodox, coupled with characteristic resilience of Australia

"It's been an incredible six weeks... I think both sides have stayed true to their styles and that's what makes a great heavyweight fight."

> England coach Brendon McCullum.

The heavens, like all good scripts, had to intervene with ever-pulsating drama. Eventually, over the set of matches all worthy of five-star reviews, a 2-2 appeared a fair result even though it could have gone either way.

The Aussies geared up to the Ashes with the fire in their belly, having defeated India in the WTC Final. The next target for Cummins' side was to be the first Australian side to win an Ashes in England since 2001.

England also targeted to win the Ashes with Bazball, a style that has seemingly taken draws out of the equation in Tests. This has made Tests interesting at a time when the red-ball format has been under



constant threat from the sport's shortest format, aided by lucrative franchise

declaration at the end of day one to get announced his retirement on the third an early wicket didn't work. England's evening -- scripted a fairytale farewell. sloppy fielding was worse than that declaration. Dropped catches and missed stumpings gave a champion side in Australia the chance to breathe. And with their historical resilience, Cummins and Lyon pulled off an improbable victory at Edgbaston.

The following Test at Lord's was played off the field as well. The 'spirit of the game' was challenged by Carey's stumping of Bairstow. And then, Stokes went on a rampage to emulate Headingley, 2019. The crowd joined in as did the members of the Long Room at Lord's. On-field controversy even induced an exchange of words between the Prime Ministers of the participants. In the end, Australia had a 2-0 cushion, but at the cost of losing their talismanic spinner, Nathan Lyon, for the rest of the series.

Backs against the wall, England had to tweak Bazball to get results. With their Two Ws in Woakes and Wood, England

were unstoppable from then on and emerged victorious at Headingley. Old Trafford was where England could have levelled the series, but then the heavens had a different say.

Rain has always been a 'player' in an English summer. England had the upper hand in Manchester, but the Test being washed out meant Australia had retained the Ashes. However, the two teams went to the final Test at The Oval with plenty at

The Oval had all the elements of theatre. Stuart Broad touched the stumps and got a wicket, the next ball two times. England had luck in a ball change. Rain breaks helped England this time. Australia uncharacteristically In the series opener, Stokes' surprise collapsed. Broad -- who surprisingly His last bat was a six, and his last ball won an Ashes Test and levelled the series. Moeen Ali, too, had called it quits once the series drew its curtain with a fitting climactic end.

Overall, it was hard to deem one superior than the other. If England won a session, Australia crawled back in the next or within the same session. Each result was close. Australia won two Tests by 2 wickets and 43 runs. England won two Tests by 3 wickets and 49 runs.

The difference, however, was in the attitude. England's new-school Bazball to score runs quickly and forcefully and get twenty wickets was challenged by Australia's old-school resilience of patience, grit, and biding time.

In the end, Test cricket won. The redball game brought new-school and oldschool generations together. The young of today are bound to remember the latest Ashes edition for a long time.



'It was written in the stars'

AGENCIES

England Test captain Ben Stokes said it was "written in the stars" after retiring paceman Stuart Broad took the last two wickets as England won the fifth and final Ashes Test against Australia on Monday.

"I have played with Broady for a long, long time," England captain Stokes told Sky Sports. "He has been an unbelievable performer for England and to watch him come in and bowl the way he did -- it was written in the stars."

"It was absolutely wonderful," Broad told Sky Sports at the close. "The crowd were unbelievable. It was so loud and we just jumped on the back of that. To contribute to the team with two wickets is very special. When you make that decision, you wonder what your last ball will be so to take a wicket to win an Ashes Test match is pretty cool."

Captaincy issue still at large?

SPORTS REPORTER

While the national team players are undergoing a few medical tests to assess their conditions ahead of the Asia Cup camp, the meeting between Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Nazmul Hassan and the three national team selectors at the BCB president's office became a focal point for media at Mirpur's Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket

It appears that with the Asia Cup just around the corner, the BCB president was keen to get up from the current limbo that had been set since the onset of Tamim's retirement saga.

Tamim returned to the country on Monday following his medical treatment in England. The matter of Tamim's return to the team, however, still remains very much at large. Following his return, it was learned that the left-hander would have little time to assess during the camp on whether the pain reappears again.

While talking to The Daily Star, the BCB president Nazmul informed that they needed Tamim's opinion regarding his own return before anything else. "We have to know what he [Tamim] thinks regarding the Asia Cup and whether he will play. If he plays, we will definitely ask for his opinion. Even if he communicates that he won't be able to play, we have to think of alternatives and also ask for his opinion. We are hoping he will sit with us in the next one or two days," the BCB president said vesterday.

"We need to know details of what doctor has prescribed. We need to know when he can join practice or what rehab plans from doctors are and when he can play with full strength. Maybe we can think about upcoming steps in one or two days.'

Coach Chandika Hathurusingha is set to return on August 8 before Asia Cup squad is finalised. Nazmul mentioned that captaincy is not an issue as the vice-captain, in this case Liton, would take over responsibility.

While BCB president suggested captaincy is not an issue, it was learned that both Liton and all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan have an aversion to taking on the role until the current situation finds



The Netherlands produced a statement victory yesterday with a 7-0 crushing of Vietnam – one of Bangladesh's opponents in upcoming Asian Games in China. The Dutch registered the biggest margin of victory of the ongoing Women's World Cup to top Group E ahead of defending champions USA, who survived a scare from Portugal following a goalless draw yesterday.

England, Denmark book last-16 spot

AGENCIES

European champions England swept past shell-shocked China 6-1 yesterday and into a Women's World Cup last-16 clash with

It equalled England's biggestever World Cup victory and booked them top spot in Group D, while China's tournament ended at the group stage for the first time and in humbling fashion.

'Again, another day of what dreams are made of," said England forward Lauren James who struck two on the night at the Hindmarsh Stadium in Australia.

Elsewhere, Denmark -- playing at their first World Cup since 2007 -- beat Haiti 2-0 in the other group game to finish second and line up a knockout-round meeting with co-hosts Australia.

Along with former champions Japan -- one of Bangladesh's oppositions in upcoming Asian Games in China -- England are the only team to win all three group games so far, reaffirming their status as among the favourites to win the World Cup.





7th convocation of Eastern University will be held on 19 September 2023. Students who completed all requirements of graduation from Fall 2019 to Spring 2023, are eligible for the Convocation.

Last Date of Registration: 30 August.

Registration for Spring 2023 students begins on 16 August.

Venue: Noboratri, International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB) Kuril Bishwa Road, Next to 300 ft, Purbachal Express Highway, Dhaka

For online registration and details, please visit www.easternuni.edu.bd

For further information, please contact the Registrar's office. Room 207, Road 6, Block B, Ashulia Model Town Savar, Dhaka. E-mail: ro@easternuni.edu.bd

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