Decision day



REUTERS, London

Fifteen of the 16 places in the first knockout round of the Champions League could be known after the fifth matchday of the group phase of the competition is completed this

With four of the six matchdays played Chelsea, Inter Milan, Juventus and Olympique Lyon are already assured of their places in the

They could be joined by as many as 11 other clubs if Tuesday and Wednesday's matches go according

The one group that will still be unresolved no matter what happens this week is Group H, which has already been won by Chelsea, but has a three-way fight for second place between CSKA Moscow, Paris St Germain and European champions Porto and can only be decided after the last round of group games next month.

Group B, which includes ninetimes European champions Real Madrid could also be resolved if Real beat Bayer Leverkusen on Tuesday by more than 3-0 to secure the advantage in their head-to-head match-up which is decisive in case

However the complicated mathematics involved in the group which has Dynamo Kiev, Real and Bayer Leverkusen all on seven points and AS Roma on one, mean that it is likely that both qualifiers will only be known after the last matches on December 8. However if Real win, they are almost -- but not mathematically -- certain of their place.

The Spaniards will be keen to bounce back from their 3-0 drubbing by Barcelona in La Liga on

A win for both sides is vital and even Real's notoriously unstudious superstar Ronaldo has commented that three into two does not go.

Real continue to have doubts over their defender Ivan Helguera, who aggravated a problem with his left knee while on international duty a week ago for Spain and who missed the game at Barcelona.

If Helguera fails a late fitness test then Francisco Pavon will keep his place in the centre of the Real

There are also worries over Luis Figo, who twisted his right ankle at his old club on Saturday.

If Figo and Helguera are fit then Real could field up to nine of the players who featured in the side that beat Bayer 2-1 in Glasgow to win the 2002 Champions League title.

However, the big debating point surrounds one man who was sitting Real won their last European trophy.

Many people are asking whether England captain David Beckham should keep his starting role.

Beckham has been anonymous in his three outings since he returned to action after spending six weeks out injured with broken ribs sustained in England's World Cup

qualifier against Wales last month.

"It hasn't been too good recently. I'm not back in my old form but I think I just need to get a few more games under my belt before I get backinto myrhythmagain.

"You can't under-estimate the importance of this game. After a season without winning a trophy, we want to keep alive all our options and we all know we have to return to our winning ways quickly," said Beckham on Sunday.

He also dismissed suggestions that he was only playing at the moment because of his high-profile "It doesn't worry me that people

say that because before I arrived at Madrid they said I was only coming to sell shirts and I personally don't believe that.

EXTURES

Champions League fixtures on Tuesday (kick-off 1945 GMT unless stated):

Monaco (FRA) v Liverpool (ENG) Coruna (SPA)

Dynamo Kiev (UKR) v AS Roma (ITA) Real Madrid (SPA) v Bayer Leverkus

Bayern Munich (GER) v Maccabi Tel-Aviv Juventus (ITA) v Ajax (NED)

Manchester United (ENG) v Lyon (FRA) Sparta Prague (CZE) v Fenerbahce

PSV Eindhoven (NED) v Arsenal (ENG) Rosenborg (NOR) v Panathinaikos

Barcelona (SPA) v Celtic (SCO) AC Milan (ITA) v Shakhtar Donetsk

Anderlecht (NED) v Valencia (SPA) Werder Bremen (GER) v Inter Milan (ITA)

CSKA Moscow (RUS) v FC Porto (POR) Chelsea (ENG) v Paris Saint Germain

"I enjoy my football here in Spain and I believe that if I m playing well I will get in the team and if I'm not then it doesn't matter how many shirts I sell I won't get in."

Tuesday will also be an important day for Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson, whose team will make sure of their place in the next round with one match remaining in Group Difthey beat Olympique Lyon at Old

Ferguson, whose first match in charge of United ended in a 2-0 defeat at Oxford United on November 8, 1986, takes charge of the team for the 1,000th time on Tuesday.

He will be looking for an improvement on their 2-2 draw at Lyon in the opening match of the series when Ruud van Nistelrooy scored twice to salvage a point after Lyon went 2-0

If Sparta Prague beat Fenerbache in the other match in the group, United will actually qualify for the next round no matter the outcome of their match against Lyon.

The two qualifiers from Group A can be decided if Liverpool win at Monaco and Olympiakos Pireaeus beat Deportivo Coruna at home, Olympiakos and Liverpool both have 7 points, Monaco 6 and Deportivo 2.

In Group C Juventus have already sealed their place after four straight 1-0 wins and Bayern Munich will join them if they beat Maccabi Tel Aviv as expected and Juventus see off Ajaxin Turin.

With Chelsea already qualified and Liverpool and Manchester United hoping to come through on Tuesday night, Arsenal will hope to become the fourth English club to qualify on Wednesday.

But they face a worrying match against Group E leaders PSV Eindhoven in the Netherlands.

PSV lead with nine points, followed by Arsenal (6), Panathinaikos (5) and Rosenborg Trondheim (1).

Arsenal have faltered in the Premier League in recent weeks winning just once in five games, and their performances in Europe have been almost as indifferent.

They need to re-discover the kind of form that gave them a 4-0 win at Eindhoven two years ago, but if they were to lose on Wednesday and Panathinaikos beat Rosenborg in Norway, Arsenal's fate would be out of their own hands. A win for PSV will put them

through. If Arsenal win and Rosenborg beat Panathinaikos, then PSV and Arsenal would both be Group F, which is all but decided, will definitely be over if Barcelona

beat Celtic at the Nou Camp and AC Milan see off Shakhtar Donetsk at the San Siro. Milan and Barcelona both have nine points, Celtic and Donetsk

both have three and in reality the focus now is on who finishes third out of Celtic and Donetsk to take the UEFA Cup place. The one vacant spot in Group G will be taken by Werder Bremen if they become the first team to beat

Inter Milan, who have already quali-

fied. But if Werder lose and Valencia beat already-eliminated Anderlecht, the outcome of the Valencia-Werder match in Spain on December 7 will decide who qualifies. Chelsea wrapped up their place when they won at CSKA Moscow on November 2 for their fourth succes-

sive victory -- leaving the rest of the group trailing in their wake. But although CSKA and Paris St

Germain only have four points, and Porto only have two, all three clubs are still in the hunt for second place. If CSKA beat Porto in snowy

Russia and Chelsea beat PSG, second place will be decided when PSG play CSKA in Paris On December 7. If PSG better CSKA's winning 2-0 margin in September, they will go

AFP, London

British sports minister Richard Caborn has called on football authorities to operate a zerotolerance approach to racism after two Blackburn fans abused their former player Dwight Yorke in Sunday's Premiership match with

The incident came just four days after England players were abused during a friendly in Spain.

"This seems to be an isolated incident, but it is still unacceptable behaviour," he said of the Yorke

"Of course, this was nothing like the events that went on in Madrid last week - but racism should not be tolerated in any form." Last week the England players

threatened to walk off in a friendly in Madrid with Spain after Spanish fans chanted abuse at the black England players. FIFA president Sepp Blatter has

said he would have backed England players if they had they abandoned "I welcome what Sepp Blatter

said - he was very robust," Caborn "I believe that the FIFA inquiry



DWIGHT YORKE

into what went on in Madrid should develop some type of solution to say how football deals with these incidents at matches in the future. But Arsenal star Thierry Henry, the

subject of racist abuse by Spain's coach Luis Aaragones, believes the soccer authorities are doing nothing to quash

"We can talk all day about this matter but what is actually happening? Nothing." Aragones' attack was not the first

time Henry has suffered racial abuse. Arsenal's Champions League clash against PSV Eindhoven on Wednesday will revive painful memories of the taunts he suffered in the Phillips Stadium two years ago.

And only last month he was subjected to monkey chants from Panathinaikos fans in Athens. "But if I'd reacted I would have got

a red card. It seems it is always the players who are at fault." Blackburn confirmed one fan had

been ejected for making a gesture at Yorke, and pledged a full investiga-Birmingham manager Steve

Bruce said of the Yorke incident: 'Apparently it is monkey taunts and that is sick. It's all right him getting a bit of stick but when it comes to what we've just seen in midweek, everybody is sickened by it." Yorke left Blackburn for

Birmingham in August after two tempestuous years at the club.

Blackburn chief executive John Williams said: "We want to talk to the police, we want to talk to our stewards, wewant to review all the CCTV footage.

Larsson faces six weeks out

surgery and will be out of action for

tomorrow (Monday) and will be away from the game for six weeks," club doctor Lluis Til was quoted as saying on the Swedish daily Aftobladet's website. The 33-year-old former Celtic

his left knee in the second half of Barcelona's 3-0 win over Spanish Primera Liga title rivals Real Madrid

Yorke the latest victim The legend of Fergie

Football

REUTERS, London

Alex Ferguson will celebrate the latest milestone in an astonishing career when he takes charge of Manchester United for the 1,000th time on Tuesday.

Over the past 18 years, the former trade union shop steward from Glasgow has transformed a struggling club into the richest in the world and become British football's most successful manager of all time. Ferguson, 62, can already look

back on a United career that has brought him sporting triumph, personal wealth, a knighthood and the respect of the world game. Eight league titles, five FA Cups and the 1999 European Cup have

been added to United's trophy room since Ferguson made an inauspicious start with a 2-0 defeat at Oxford United in November 1986. Generations of players have come and gone, boardroom battles

over transfer fees have been won and lost, and countless referees have borne the brunt of Ferguson's notorious temper in those 18 years. When he settles down in the Old Trafford dugout for Tuesday's

Champions League game against Olympique Lyon, Ferguson's passion will remain undimmed and his hungerfor success unsatisfied. Ferguson is neither the game's greatest tactician nor the shrewdest

wheeler-dealer in the transfer mar-As a manager who instils the right combination of respect, dedication and fear, he has no equal.

United, who won the European Cup in 1968 under Matt Busby, had suffered years of mediocrity under a string of managers including Ferguson's predecessor Ron

The Scot's early years, though, contained few hints of the glories to

After United finished second behind Liverpool in 1988, there followed two disappointing league campaigns and a painful, though successful, battle against the drinking culture among his players.

Ferguson stuck to his task and

the turning point in his tenure was a 1990 FA Cup final replay win over Crystal Palace.

West Germany's legendary forward

Gerd Muller claims Bayern

Munich's Peruvian youngster Jose

Paolo Guerrero has the natural

killer instinct to become a striking

substitutes' bench to score his

fourth goal in as many matches

during Bayern's 3-1 win over

107 minutes to score four times

and 1974 World Cup icon Gerd

The supersub has required just

Kaiserslautern on Saturday.

Guerrero, 20, came off the

Have Bayern

unearthed

a gem?

AFP, Munich

legend.

Ferguson's revamp of the United youth system paved the way for a new generation of players who would sweep all before them.

David Beckham, Paul Scholes, Ryan Giggs, Gary and Phil Neville, and Nicky Butt came through

saw the captain's armband pass to Roy Keane, a combative ball-winner and box-to-box runner.

The young generation, combined with prolific strikers Andy Cole and Dwight Yorke, then pro-

> Ferguson and Wenger are fierce rivals and their teams have turned most of their recent encounters into When trouble brews, Ferguson instinctively defends his men to the hilt. Behind closed doors, however, any serious transgressor can expect to face his volatile temper. In his autobiography "Managing My Life", Ferguson recalls playing for Harmony Row, a team of 10 and 11-year-olds. His description of their manager bears an uncanny resemblance to the future boss of Manchester United. Mick McGowan...not only had a passionate enthusiasm for football but a fanatical, one-eyed, allconsuming commitment to Harmony Row," he wrote. "Nothing and nobody came before the inter-

thing his own way; Arsenal boss

Arsene.Wenger has become a source

and 2002, along with his 2003 FA Cup

and 2004 league trophies, have

effectively ended United's hege-

Wenger's English doubles in 1998

of torment for him.

ests of the club. He was an impossible man. We all loved him but at one time or another fell out with him." Ferguson's temper rebounded on him when a wayward boot kicked during a fit of pique after United lost 2-0 to Arsenal in the FA Cup fifth round in February 2003 hit Beckham, cutting him above the eye and giving him the resolve to walk

Change has become a recurring theme at United in recent years as Ferguson works on the transition from one era to the next. Strikers Ruud van Nistelrooy and

out on the club.

Wayne Rooney, along with defender Rio Ferdinand, are truly world-class, though at a combined cost of 75 million pounds they ought to be. Rooney and Portugal winger Cristiano Ronaldo, both 19, will

provide a formidable strike threat for years to come, and there is plenty of promise in Scotland's 20-year-old midfielder Darren Fletcher. That he can continue to spot and

groom some of the world's best footballing talent after a career spanning three decades is a testament to Ferguson's passion for the

SIR ALEX FERGUSON

pelled United to the club's most

successful season, the 1999 treble

A Premier League title, the FA Cup and an unforgettable night in

Barcelona when United scored

twice in stoppage time to beat

Bayern Munich 2-1 in the

Champions League final impressed

Yet Ferguson has not had every-

even Ferguson's critics.

Ferguson's academy, and a handful

of inspired purchases ensured

United's success for the rest of the

more than a French rebel, artist and

poet named Eric Cantona, who got

the glory years rolling with United's

first league title under Ferguson in

1993 and their 1994 and 1996 dou-

None captured the imagination

PAOLO GUERRERO

'There's no one like Ruud'

AFP, Manchester

Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson on Sunday hailed Ruud van Nistelrooy as the best striker he has ever worked with at Ferguson has worked with some

of the best attacking players ever -Eric Cantona, Mark Hughes, Andy Cole and Dwight Yorke - but the towering Dutchman is head and shoulders above them, he claimed. Ruud van Nistelrooy has been

the best - without doubt the best finisher we have ever had at this club," said Ferguson. ' If I had played alongside Ruud

the problem would have been getting a chance ahead of him."

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Road Division, Rangour

RHD Tender Amendment Notice

EE/RRD/2004-2005 invited this office Memo No. 2900 Date 02-10-2004 for construction of flexible pavement with premixed bituminous carpeting and seal coat at 8th (P), 9th & 10th (P) KM of Madhapara-Shahebganj-Mithapukur (Madhapara-Mithapukur portion) Road under Road Division, Rangpur is amended as hereunder for receipt, submission & opening of tenders:

Notice SI No	Item	Original provision	Amended provision
06.	Eligibility of tenderers	Mentioned in the tender documents elaborately.	Any individual (s)/firm (s) who fulfi the qualifications criteria stipulated in the Tender Data Sheet (TDS) and other conditions of the tender(s document (s).
07.	Price of tender document	Tk 5,000/- (Taka five thousand) only.	Per page (Tk 2/-+Tk 30/-)
10.	Name and of address of the office receiving tenders	Primary location a) Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Rangpur. Secondary location a) Additional Chief Engineer (RHD), Rangpur Zone, Rangpur. b) Superintending Engineer (RHD), Rangpur Road Circle, Rangpur. c) Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Kurigram & Lalmonirhat.	a) Primary location Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Rangpur. Secondary location a) Additional Chief Engineer (RHD) Rangpur Zone, Rangpur. b) Superintending Engineer (RHD) Rangpur Road Circle, Rangpur.
12.	Last date and time for selling tender document	21-11-2004 during office hours.	13-12-2004 during office hours.
13.	Last date and time for submission of tenders	28-11-2004 up to 12:30 PM.	14-12-2004 up to 11:00 AM.
14.	Date & time for opening of tenders	28-11-2004 at 3:30 PM.	14-12-2004 up to 12:00 Noon (Road Division, Rangpur).

parcel of the tender document.

DFP-27216-9/11/04

Road Division, Rangpur

Executive Engineer (RHD)

Inter do it the hard way

Italian Cup

Football

Inter Milan came from behind to

beat Bologna 3-1 in an Italian Cup third round, first leg match at the San Siro stadium on Sunday. Bologna took the lead in the 22nd

Alberto Fontana. and had to wait until the end of the half before Christian Vieri headed in

After the break, Inter continued

minute when striker Claudio Bellucci caught Inter's defence

napping, latching on to a long pass before slotting the ball past keeper Despite enjoying more posses-sion, Inter struggled to break down the visitors' defence from open play

the equaliser from a corner.

to dominate but failed to apply the finishing touch until 11 minutes from time, when substitute Alvaro Recoba was scored with a closerange header following a corner. With Bologna pressing forward,

a late goal, heading in a cross by midfielder Giorgios Karagounis. In an earlier match, a late Gianfranco Zola penalty gave Cagliari a 2-1 win over Cup holders

The result meant Lazio became the latest high-profile casualty in the competition after Juventus and Roma, who lost to Atalanta and

Siena respectively in first leg action Cagliari took the lead in the 35th minute, when striker Antonio

Langella dribbled past two defend-

Domenico Caso bolstered his attack, sending on strikers Roberto striker Julio Cruz sealed the win with equalizer just after the hour.

Lazio seemed more likely to grab the winner as the game drew to a close, but the 79th-minute red card for defender Leonardo Talamonti swung the balance in favour of the

ers before beating keeper Angelo Peruzzi with a powerful left-footed After the break Lazio coach

Muzzi and Paolo Di Canio, and it was Di Canio who crossed for team mate Antonio Filippini to head in the

Four minutes later, Cagliari midfielder Edgar Alvarez tumbled after a challenge on the edge of the area and former Italy international Zola fired home from the penalty

The match of the day, though, was

Sociedad seemed down and out after Athletic hit them with two quick-fire goals at the end of the first half, midfielder Santi Ezquerro opening the scoring after 40 minutes with a stylish finish after a fine

100th league goal for the club when he made it 2-0 three minutes later with a neat volley after midfielder Andoni Iraola had lofted a delightful pass over the

But Sociedad began their fightback 12 minutes into the from Darko Kovacevic.

Athletic goalkeeper Daniel Aranzubia was sent off for bringing down Kovacevic as he raced clear towards goal 10 metres outside the area just after the hour mark. Sociedad made the most of cross from Valery Karpin. The result allowed Sociedad to

a far-post header following a great

TOP SIX Spanish football league standings after

Barcelona 12 9 2 1 24 7 29
Real 12 7 1 4 16 9 22
Sevilla 12 6 3 3 13 11 21 Espanyol 12 6 2 4 13 7 20 Valencia 12 5 4 3 19 11 19 Atletico 12 5 4 3 13 8 16

REUTERS, Stockholm Barcelona and Sweden striker Henrik Larsson is to undergo knee

"Larsson will be operated on

player was carried off after twisting

Muller, scorer of 68 goals in 62 internationals, tipped the South American for great things. "Paolo is going to be one of the greats," Muller told daily Bild. "He can use both feet, is good in Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD) the air and has a natural instinct in front of goal. "He has the knack of being in the right place at the right time like a great striker does. He can smell the goal which many strikers are It is notified for all concerned that due to some unavoidable circumstances, the Tender Notice No. 02unable to do." Munich's striking coach, Muller has worked with Guerrero in the youth team and insists Bayern have a real gem on their hands. "When he is kicked he rolls his sleeves up and gets on with it,"

Bayern manager Felix Magath echoed these comments. "He has the instinct of a street footballer who wants to score goals," explained Magath.

added Muller. "Bayern should be

grateful for having such a great

Primera Liga Baptista boosts Sevilla

Football

REUTERS, Madrid Sevilla climbed to third in the Primera Liga after Brazilian forward Julio Baptista's first-half strike

flying Espanyol on Sunday.

Baptista charged on to a neat through pass from fellow striker Carlos Aranda, rode a challenge from the goalkeeper and poked the ball into the net six minutes before the break. The Brazil striker missed a pen-

earned them a 1-0 win over high-

alty late in the second half after Espanyol defender Mauricio Pochettino was penalised for handball but it did not prevent his side track with a first win in four outings. Barcelona stretched their lead at

the top to seven points on Saturday after outclassing arch-rivals Real Madrid with a 3-0 win at the Nou Barca lead the table with 29 points from 12 matches, Real follow

on 22 and Sevilla have 21. Espanyol are in fourth spot with

20 points, one ahead of Valencia, who recorded their first victory in 10 matches with a 2-0 win at Malaga on Atletico Madrid moved up to sixth place after a hard-earned 2-0 win

over basement side Numancia at the

Calderon, the goals coming in the

second half from defender Pablo

Ibanez and leading striker Fernando

at Anoeta where Real Sociedad fought back from two goals down to claim a morale-boosting 3-2 win over neighbours Athletic Bilbao in the Basque derby.

solo run down the right wing. Striker Ismael Urzaiz scored his

second half when Turkish international Nihat Kahveci drilled the ball into the net after good work Sunday's game began to turn in the home side's favour when

their numerical advantage with Nihat levelling the scores after another fine assist from Kovacevic and midfielder Igor Gabilondo clinching the win with

haul themselves into 14th place but Athletic are now hovering just a point above the relegation zone.

Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lest, goals for, goals against, points):