

**Villas-Boas a fan of motorsport**

AFP, London

Chelsea manager Andre Villas-Boas wants to translate his lifelong passion for motorsport into taking part in the gruelling Dakar Rally.

The 33-year-old also admitted that even a motorcycle accident when he was younger won't put him off his ambition.

"My first bike was a 350. I started straight away with a heavy engine. I went into a national competition in Portugal and then broke my arm. This was in a period when I was coaching Porto's youth team," he said.

Villas-Boas owns five motorbikes and is part-owner of a collection 12 cars, including some classics.

"I have a couple of bikes from the Dakar Rally that I own," he said, revealing he would love to enter the famous race before admitting: "It's expensive."

"I'm a bit of a crazy head with Enduro bikes as well, so I go into the mountains and almost kill myself. It feels fantastic.

"It's my escape, it's my passion and you feel well. You feel the need for it."

**Stuttgart slaughter Kaisers**

REUTERS, Berlin

Dutchman Khalid Boulahrouz scored and set up another to help VfB Stuttgart win 2-0 at Kaiserslautern on Friday and lift them up to fourth place in the Bundesliga.

Germany forward Cacau tapped in Boulahrouz's low cross seven minutes after the restart for his third goal of the season before the rugged defender added another with a deflected shot.

The win took Bruno Labaddia's team to 13 points from eight games, five behind leaders Bayern Munich. Kaiserslautern are just above the drop zone on five points.

The hosts, who have won only once this season, came close in the first half with captain Christian Tiffert failing to beat Stuttgart keeper Sven Ulreich from close range and Richard Sukuta-Pasu firing wide.

Israeli forward Itay Schechter then squandered three golden opportunities in the second half, missing from point blank range on each occasion.



Liverpool striker Andy Carroll celebrates his opening goal against Everton during their Premier League clash at Goodison Park yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

**Reds' derby delight**

AFP, London

Liverpool downed 10-man Everton 2-0 to move up to fourth in the Premier League table on Saturday after another stormy edition of the Merseyside derby.

Second-half goals from £35 million striker Andy Carroll and Uruguayan international Luis Suarez sealed the points for Kenny Dalglish's men at Goodison after Everton midfielder Jack Rodwell was controversially sent off.

Dalglish later admitted the sending off of Rodwell for a robust challenge on Suarez in the 23rd minute had swung the game in Liverpool's favour.

"I think until they lost a man it was even," Dalglish told Sky Sports. "I didn't think there was much between the teams. Obviously sometimes the numerical advantage works in your favor, sometimes it doesn't."

"We're delighted with the result, but whether or not we would have won if they didn't go down to 10 men I don't know."

Referee Martin Atkinson reached for a straight red as Suarez lay on the pitch writhing in agony. Replays however showed that Rodwell had played the ball cleanly and was

unlucky to have been dismissed.

Dalglish meanwhile brushed off questioned about the legitimacy of Rodwell's red card. "I haven't seen it and I don't intend to," he said.

Rodwell is the 20th player to be dismissed in Premier League encounters between Liverpool and Everton, and the 11th in the last 14 games between the Merseyside rivals.

It got worse for Everton shortly before half-time when Phil Jagielka clattered into Suarez from behind for a certain penalty.

Dirk Kuyt's spot-kick was low and well-placed but Tim Howard guessed correctly to pull off a fine diving save as Everton breathed again.

Howard was well beaten soon afterwards when Charlie Adam crashed a 25-yard thunderbolt off the underside of the bar but again Everton escaped.

The deadlock was finally broken by Carroll in the 71st minute shortly after Dalglish had sent on substitutes Craig Bellamy and Steven Gerrard.

Bellamy surged forward and released full-back Jose Enrique down the left who crossed from the byline. Kuyt cleverly ducked out of the way of the cross for Carroll, who hooked his shot into the corner beyond Howard.

Liverpool wrapped up the points on 82 minutes when a dreadful defensive mix-up involving Sylvain Distin and Leighton Baines gifted Suarez a straightforward finish to make it 2-0.

**RESULTS**

Aston Villa 2 (Agbonlahor 36, Bent 62)	Wigan 0
Blackburn 0	Man City 4 (Johnson 56, Balotelli 59, Nasri 73, Savic 87)
Everton 0	Liverpool 2 (Carroll 71, Suarez 82)
Man Utd 2 (Anderson 68, Welbeck 87)	Norwich 0
Sunderland 2 (Bendtner 24, Elmohamady 26)	West Brom 2 (Morris 4, Long 5)
Wolves 1 (Fletcher 88)	Newcastle 2 (Ba

**City, Tevez compromise likely: expert 'Juve clash a mental battle'**

**Football**

REUTERS, London

Leading sports lawyer Simon Pentol believes Manchester City will eventually reach a compromise with suspended striker Carlos Tevez to avoid possible litigation.

City have banned the player for up to two weeks pending an investigation into his conduct after manager Roberto Mancini said the Argentine refused to go on as a substitute during the 2-0 Champions League defeat at Bayern Munich on Tuesday.

"My gut feeling is they will find a short-term compromise with a long-term view of moving him on which would save City and Tevez the embarrassment of having to litigate and keep everyone financially happy," Pentol told Reuters in an interview on Friday.

"It wouldn't surprise me to see City keep him until the end of the season and while he's there they will engage with his representatives to

move him on to a club that will pay them a big fat transfer fee come next August, or even in January.

"They will then have the money for him, he can go and join someone else and everyone keeps their honour because that's the most sensible, pragmatic way to approach this."

Pentol likened the situation to the legal dispute between City's Premier League rivals Chelsea and Adrian Mutu after the Romania striker tested positive for cocaine in 2004.

Chelsea decided Mutu's failure to pass a drugs test represented a breach of contract. They sacked the player and took him to court.

The London club were eventually awarded 14.1 million pounds (\$21.9 million) to cover the cost of buying Mutu, plus the lost opportunity of recouping a transfer fee from moving him to another club minus the money they would no longer have to pay for his wages.

Pentol, who has represented clubs and players for several years in disputes and regulatory affairs, said the Tevez row was more complex than the Mutu situation.

"In Mutu's case there was firstly a very clear breach of the morality clause, i.e., a player being found with drugs in his system," he explained.

"Secondly there would have been almost certainly a specific clause in his contract that you do not take drugs, performance-enhancing, social or otherwise, and Mutu also didn't try to pretend there hadn't been a breach of contract to justify termination of his deal.

"The key difference is Tevez would want to argue he didn't breach his contract and he would argue City breached the contract by using the events of last Tuesday to get him out of the club."

Ultimately, Pentol said, it could be that Tevez emerges from the situation in a stronger position than his manager.

"As I understand it Tevez has a very good relationship with Sheikh Mansour and the club owner's representatives and it may, in truth, make the player more powerful than Mancini," said Pentol.

The 51-year-old barrister also recalled Tevez's controversial spell

with West Ham United when the London club were fighting to avoid relegation in 2007.

"Tevez ultimately cost Alan Pardew his job as manager of West Ham when he refused to play him to a greater extent, and Javier Mascherano to a lesser extent, because they were brought in by the then-board above his head," said Pentol.

"The manager felt he had been lumbered by them and the deal had been done for the benefit of the incumbent board and he chose not to play either of the players.

"Pardew eventually got the bullet. Alan Curbishley came in, Tevez played virtually every game for the rest of the season and the rest is history," added Pentol.

"In February West Ham were dead ducks but finally of course Tevez scored the winning goal in the last game at Manchester United and the club stayed up. That's the sort of thing that can happen in football."

Pentol added there would be no shortage of takers if City decided to allow Tevez to leave.

**'Juve clash a mental battle'**

AFP, Rome



AC Milan coach Massimiliano Allegri believes Sunday's crunch Serie A clash against Juventus will be more of a mental battle than a physical one.

Juve lead the early scudetto table on goals scored while Milan are in the bottom half but the two sides are separated by only three points.

And while Milan played in the Champions League in midweek, beating Viktoria Plzen 2-0, Juve have had the last seven days off.

But Allegri doesn't believe that should put his players at a physical disadvantage.

"We're fine, we're playing every three days but we're always the same," he said.

"We won't be brilliant we're fine. Tomorrow's (Sunday's) is a game which will be played on a mental level more than a physical one."

"And then we can rest during the international break."

Allegri admitted he is wary about the influence former Milan star Andrea Pirlo will have on the game.

The Italy midfielder has had an excellent start to the season and is already a fans' favourite in Turin.

"He's playing in a team that appreciates his quality, with players like that if you let them play they make life easier for you," said Allegri.

"We have to try to limit their opportunities, both his and those in the attacking zone."

**Bayern fire blank in Neuer's landmark match**

AFP, Berlin



Bayern Munich goalkeeper Manuel Neuer went over 1,000-minutes without conceding a goal during Saturday's goalless draw at Hoffenheim as the Bavarian's had their 10-match winning streak ended.

Bayern's 2-0 win over Manchester City in the Champions League on Tuesday had been their 10th consecutive victory and although the run was broken at Hoffenheim, Munich's last defeat in any competition was still back on August 7.

Germany star Neuer, who joined from Schalke 04 last summer, has now gone 1018 minutes without conceding a goal in all competitions.

The 25-year-old had to work to keep his record intact as he pulled off a stunning save from defender Marvin Compper on 22 minutes.

Neuer still has to keep several cleansheets to claim a record.

Belgian Dany Verlinden holds the European record of 1,390 minutes for Arsenal, a mark which Manchester United's Edwin van der Saar came close to breaking when he went 1,311 minutes without conceding a goal in the 2008-09 season.

Bayern's best chance came in the first-half when Hoffenheim's Ghana defender Isaac Vorsah cleared a shot off the line from Munich's Jerome Boateng.

Despite picking up a point, Bayern remain three points clear at the top of the league and with a vastly superior goal difference, they can not be caught even if second-place Werder Bremen win at Hanover on Sunday.

Moenchengladbach, the only team to beat Bayern this season, suffered their first defeat in four games



PHOTO: AFP

Bayern Munich goalkeeper Manuel Neuer gestures during their Bundesliga tie against Hoffenheim at the Rhine-Neckar Arena yesterday. Neuer passed the 1,000-minute mark without conceding a goal during the match.

when they went down 1-0 at Freiburg to stay third.

Gladbach's teenage goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen conceded his first goal since August 22 in his side's 1-0 defeat at Freiburg after midfielder Johannes Flum fired home from 20 metres and his shot took a deflection.

Ex-Germany captain Michael Ballack captained Leverkusen to a 3-1 win at home to Wolfsburg having scored in his team's Champions League win over Belgium champions Genk on Wednesday and played the full 90 minutes.

Ballack was again impressive and went close with

a long-range shot in the first-half as Swiss striker Eren Derdiyok, defender Gonzalo Castro and forward Stefan Kiessling all scored.

Dortmund bounced back from their heavy Champions League defeat at Marseille in midweek to enjoy an impressive 4-0 win at home to Augsburg as Poland striker Robert Lewandowski and Germany midfielder Mario Goetze ran riot.

Lewandowski hit two first half goals, before goalkeeper and captain Roman Wiedenfeller maintained his side's lead when he dived the right way to halt a penalty on 48 minutes from defender Gibril Sankoh.

Goetze made sure of the three points when he darted onto a chip from Lewandowski and the 19-year-old returned the compliment when he fired in his cross which the Polish forward headed home to complete his hat-trick.

The three-points has done wonders for Dortmund's league position and lifted them up to fourth.

Mainz came back from 2-0 down to seal a 3-3 draw at Nuremberg, while Hanover host Bremen on Sunday and Schalke new coach Huub Stevens, who was appointed on Wednesday will be in charge for the Royal Blues game at Hamburg.

Stevens, who is on his second stint in Gelsenkirchen, was in talks to host Hamburg only last weekend.

**RESULTS**

Bayern Leverkusen 3 (Castro 14, Derdiyok 65, Kiessling 85)	Vfl Wolfsburg 1 (Mandzukic 59)
Nuremberg 3 (Feulner 5, Mak 19, Pekhart 82)	Mainz 05 3 (Bungert 32, Choupo-Moting 45, Ivanschitz 52)
Dortmund 4 (Lewandowski 30, 44, 78, Goetze 75)	FC Augsburg 0
Hoffenheim 0	Bayern Munich 0

**SPORTS POLL**  
**WEEKLY QUESTION**  
Who do you think West Indies will miss the most during the ODI series?  
Visit the sports page of www.thedailystar.net to cast vote  
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www.twitter.com/dssport

**What to WATCH**

**ESPN & STAR Cricket**  
Champions League T20  
Mumbai v New South Wales  
Live from 4:30pm  
Chennai v T&T  
Live from 8:20pm

**STAR Sports**  
MotoGP World Championship  
Japanese Grand Prix  
Live from 9:00am  
English Premiership  
Bolton v Chelsea  
Live from 6:25pm  
Tottenham v Arsenal  
Live from 8:55pm

**TEN Sports**  
La Liga  
Espanyol v Real Madrid  
Live from 1:55am (Monday)

**TEN Action**  
Serie A  
Novara v Catania  
Live from 4:25pm  
Udinese v Bologna  
Live from 6:55pm  
La Liga