

Abidal goes under knife

AFP, Barcelona

Barcelona's French defender Eric Abidal was recovering in intensive care on Wednesday, after undergoing a lengthy liver transplant operation, the Catalan daily Mundo Deportivo said.

The newspaper said in its online edition that the surgery started at about 3:00 pm local time (1300 GMT) on Tuesday and finished at midnight (2200 GMT). The 32-year-old player was then taken to a specialist unit for post-operative care, it added.

Barcelona announced on March 15 that Abidal needed a liver transplant "in the coming weeks", nearly a year after he had a tumour removed from the same organ.

Club officials have expressed hopes that he will return to action but Spanish transplant experts have voiced doubts that he can play top-flight football again, given the risk of complications if he picked up a knock in his abdomen.

Uruguay reach new height

AFP, Paris

Germany moved up to second in the latest FIFA world rankings published on Wednesday, with world champions Spain still in top spot and Uruguay moving up to third and their highest-ever position.

Germany and Uruguay's movement came at the expense of defeated World



PHOTO: AFP

Barcelona striker Alexis Sanchez celebrates one of his two goals during their Primera Liga encounter against Getafe at Nou Camp on Tuesday.

Barca thump Getafe

AFP, Madrid

Defending champions Barcelona upped the pressure on leaders Real Madrid on Tuesday as they moved to within a point of their bitter rivals after a 4-0 thumping of Getafe.

Two goals from Alexis Sanchez, one from Pedro Rodriguez and Lionel Messi's 39th in the league this season gave Barca a 10th consecutive league victory after another near perfect performance by the Catalans.

In the 22nd minute the home crowd chanted the name of Eric Abidal, the French international who on Tuesday underwent a liver transplant, in recognition of the number 22 shirt he wears as part of Barca's squad.

The clash between Barca and Madrid on April 21st in the Camp Nou has become increasingly important as the Catalans have reduced the gap on Madrid from 10 points to only one in less than a month.

Barcelona dominated Getafe throughout, controlling possession with their usual passing game and goalkeeper Victor Valdes summed up the situation on the final whistle.

"Our work is done here, lets wait and see what Madrid do tomorrow night in their game," he said.

However coach Pep Guardiola was cautious about talking about his team's title chances.

"All we can do is think about our games, we have a big game away to Levante at the weekend and then a Champions League semi-final, we have to focus on those games and nobody else's," he said.

Andres Iniesta had the game's first chance when his shot was tipped over by Miguel Angel Moya in the Getafe goal on 12 minutes.

A minute later and Barca were ahead. Iniesta started the move on the left for Messi to chest the ball into the path of the Chilean Sanchez who made no mistake

from 20 yards out.

On 17 minutes the lead was almost doubled when Xavi Hernandez had appeared to finish perfectly a neat passing move only for Argentinian centre-half Cata Diaz to scoop the ball clear on the goal-line.

Barca continued to dominate but did not add to their lead until just before half-time when Iniesta supplied Messi with a delightful back flick for the Argentinian to finish with a powerful shot.

On 72 minutes Alexis doubled his tally heading home an inch perfect right-wing cross from youngster Isaac Cuenca.

Two minutes later and it was another header from Pedro who rounded off the scoring when he was quickest to meet a right-wing free-kick from Messi.

Barca turned on the style for the final minutes and Messi almost scored again from an impossible angle with two minutes remaining after a twisting run had taken him past 3 defenders.

Earlier on Tuesday Raul Garcia scored two second-half goals to help Osasuna beat Espanyol 2-0 in a battle between two teams competing for places in next season's Europa League.

For Osasuna the result was the perfect recovery from last weekend's 6-0 reversal at Rayo Vallecano, however they were helped by a card happy referee who booked players from start to finish.

Espanyol ended the game with nine men when Philippe Courtois and Juan Forlin were sent off in the second half for two bookable offences each.

Osasuna stay sixth on 46 points while Espanyol, who have not won in five matches, remain four points behind in ninth position.

Real Betis and Real Sociedad shared a 1-1 draw to help both teams edge closer to survival.

Carlos Vela put Sociedad ahead just after half-time before Ruben Castro equalised on 69 minutes for Betis.

Earlier Imanol Agirretxe had a first-half penalty saved by Fabricio Agosto in the Betis goal.

RESULTS

Barcelona 4 (Sanchez 13, 73, Messi 44, Pedro 75) **Getafe 0**
Real Sociedad 1 (Vela 55)
Real Betis 1 (Ruben Castro 69)
Osasuna 2 (Raul Garcia 53, 69)

TOP TEN

- Spain --
- Germany +1
- Uruguay +1
- Netherlands -2
- Portugal +2
- Brazil -1
- England -1
- Croatia +2
- Denmark +2

Cup finalists the Netherlands, who dropped to fourth and out of the top three for the first time since June 2010.

Portugal jumped two places to fifth, leapfrogging 2014 World Cup hosts Brazil who dropped one place, while Denmark's ninth place is their highest position since August 1997.

Italy (12th) and Argentina (10th) dropped three and two places respectively.

SPORTS POLL

WEEKLY QUESTION

Which Tiger will perform better in the IPL?

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SET Max

Indian Premier League
Chennai v Bangalore
Live from 4:30pm
Punjab v Pune
Live from 8:30pm

ESPN

Sportscenter India
Sports News
Live at 8:30pm

TEN Sports

Serie A
Bologna v Cagliari
Live from 12:45am (Friday)

TEN Action

La Liga
Villarreal v Malaga



Bangladesh Premier League
Mohammedan v Arambagh
Time: 4:00pm
Venue: Bangabandhu

Milan back on top

AFP, Rome



AC Milan went back to the top of Serie A, for 24 hours at least, with a hard fought 1-0 victory at Chievo in rainy Verona on Tuesday.

Milan bounced straight back from Saturday's 2-1 defeat at home to Fiorentina despite being ravaged by injury and suspensions -- they had 14 players missing.

Ghana midfielder Sulley Muntari scored the only goal of the game early on as Milan moved two points clear of Juventus.

The Old Lady of Turin can retake the lead if they beat Lazio on Wednesday.

It was a far from vintage Milan performance as Chievo bossed the game but showing the true form of champions they managed to nick the three points despite not playing well.

Such were their problems that coach Massimiliano Allegri gave teenage full-back Mattia De Sciglio a first ever league start, although he previously played in the Champions League.

And veteran midfielder Gennaro Gattuso was draughted back in for a first start since September.

Under pressure after picking up a single point from their previous two games and being overhauled by Juve, Milan needed a bit of luck and things immediately started to look rosy.

Muntari set his sights from more than 25 yards out and although he hit his strike true, goalkeeper Stefano Sorrentino seemed slow in diving to his right and the ball nestled into

the bottom corner on eight minutes.

That apart it was almost all Chievo in the first half but Milan still led at the break.

Former Milan forward Alberto Paloschi had the ball in the net after he was slipped in by Nicolas Frey but that effort was ruled out for a dubious-looking offside.

The young forward then played in Frenchman Cyril Thereau but goalkeeper Christian Abbiati tipped his low effort around the post.

Milan were playing exclusively on the break and one long punt forward caught the hosts' defence napping, sending Antonio Nocerino scampering clear only for the midfielder's awful first touch to carry straight through to Sorrentino.

Frey crossed to the back post but Sergio Pellissier headed wide.

Up the other end, Brazilian Robinho's step over sent two defenders the wrong way but his near post shot was shovelled behind.

On the stroke of half-time Pellissier teed up Luca Rigoni but he failed to hit the target from 15 yards.

Chievo continued to dominate against a weakened Milan team in the second half and Pellissier had two glorious chances to score but the first he volleyed straight at Abbiati and the second was deflected over.

Milan had their hearts in their mouths when Thereau's back flick clearly hit Alessandro Nesta's hand in the box but the Frenchman was flagged for offside.

Francesco Acerbi had the ball in the Milan net with the last kick of the game but that too was chalked off for offside, this time a clear one.

Carroll lifts L'pool

REUTERS, London



Andy Carroll's ninth goal since joining Liverpool over a year ago gave 10-man Liverpool a 3-2 win at relegation-threatened Blackburn Rovers in a game including a sending-off, two penalties and some comical goalkeeping.

Carroll, under fire for his lack of goals since his 35 million pound (\$55 million) move from Newcastle United in January last year, headed home from six metres out with only three minutes on the clock to worsen their opponents' plight.

Blackburn remained in the bottom three on 28 points from 33 games, level on points with 17th-placed Queens Park Rangers and Wigan Athletic who have both played one fewer match, while Liverpool stayed eighth on 46 points.

The visitors started brightly and were two goals clear after Argentine Maxi Rodriguez clinically dispatched chances in the 13th and 16th minutes.

The game, and Liverpool's week with an FA Cup semifinal against neighbours Everton to come on Saturday, was disrupted nine

minutes later when stand-in goalkeeper Doni conceded a penalty and was shown a red-card for a foul on Yakubu Aiyegbeni.

First choice keeper Pepe Reina will miss the weekend Wembley outing after he was given a three-match ban for a red card at Newcastle on April 2, leaving Liverpool with only one goalie in Brad Jones.

The Australian's first action was to save Yakubu's tame spot kick and then point emotionally to the sky in honour of his son Luca, who died of leukaemia late last year aged five.

Yakubu pulled one back for Blackburn with a header on 36 minutes while in the second half Jones went from hero to villain, conceding Liverpool's second penalty in calamitous fashion when he palmed a charged-down clearance straight to the striker.

Jones then pulled former Middlesbrough team mate Yakubu down and could have seen red but escaped with a yellow card and was powerless to stop the Blackburn marksman's drilled penalty just after the hour.

With the game meandering towards a draw Liverpool defender Daniel Agger's header into the path of Carroll gave the out-of-sorts England man a glorious chance to score which he duly took for the three points.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



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Lecturer(Mathematics)	02		
Lecturer(Physics)	04		
Lecturer(Chemistry)	04		
Lecturer(Geography)	05		
Lecturer (Economics)	01	4 years Honours from any recognized university with minimum 2nd class (CGPA-2.50)	
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Lecturer (Home Economics)	03		

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Adjutant General, Bangladesh Army and Chairman, Governing Bodies of Cadet Colleges Army Headquarters, Dhaka Cantonment

- Other requirements/documents needed are as follows:
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 - Photocopy of all educational and experience certificate (duly attested).
 - Nationality Certificate.
 - Character Certificate obtained from 1st class gazetted officer.
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 - Serving applicants must send their application through proper channel.
 - Please write the applied subject on the top of envelope.
- Age:** On **01 June 2012** maximum 30 years. (32 years for freedom fighter category).
- Examination.** Written examination of 100 marks (English-35 marks and respective subject-65 marks) will be held on **15 June 2012** at Dhaka Cantonment Girls' Public School & College.
- No admit card will be issued.** In lieu of admit card, on **07 June 2012** candidates' roll number including time of examination will be published in www.army.mil.bd website and in the notice board of Dhaka Cantonment Girls' Public School & College.
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