Cavani stuns Lazio

RESULTS

Pescara 1 (Weiss 86) Palermo 0

Catania 2 (Spolli 52, Barrientos 64)

Atalanta 1 (Moralez 49)

Chievo O Inter Milan 2 (Pereira 43,

Cassano 74)

Genoa 1 (Borriello 88-pen) Parma 1

(Lucarelli 27)

AC Milan 2 (El Shaarawy 15, 82)

Cagliari 0

Napoli 3 (Cavani 19, 31, 64) Lazio 0

Torino O Udinese O

Roma 1 (Totti 34) Sampdoria 1

AFP, Milan



An Edinson Cavani hattrick handed Napoli a 3-0 win over Lazio to keep pace with Serie A leaders Juventus as Milan finally broke their San Siro jinx by beating Cagliari 2-0 at home Wednesday.

Cavani's first-half brace and third goal just after the hour meant Walter Mazzarri's side join Juventus

in remaining unbeaten after five games, and put the Uruguayan top of the league scoring charts on five goals. "I'm happy to have scored three goals, but the fact we've won is what matters," said

Cavani, who brushed off

suggestions Napoli could

reproduce another challenge for the scudetto. Juventus had failed to build on their twopoint lead on Napoli Tuesday when they dropped their first points of the season in a

0-0 draw away to an impressive Fiorentina. Juventus and Napoli now sit joint top with 13 points and boasting the exact same goals for/against figures.

With Inter Milan winning 2-0 away to Chievo and Sampdoria drawing away to Roma, it means Lazio drop to fifth with AC Milan moving up to 10th after their first home win of the season.

Napoli had managed to beat Lazio only once in their last seven league encounters and early on it appeared the visitors had

opened the scoring after German international Miroslav Klose bundled the ball into the net.

But after Napoli players reacted furiously, Klose admitted he had given the ball a helping hand over the line and the goal was disallowed.

It took Cavani only 19 minutes to settle nerves when he unleashed a longdistance missile which crucially deflected off Michael Ciani to beat the helpless

Federico Agazzi.

Cavani grabbed his second by beating the offside trap to send a rocket over the top of the outstretched Agazzi on the half hour.

The Uruguayan then ran down on goal unchallenged and dribbled around Marchetti to score his third just after the hour mark.



Napoli striker Edinson Cavani celebrates one of his three goals during their Serie A encounter against Lazio at the San Paolo Stadium on Wednesday.

Loew happy with Bastian return

AFP, Berlin

Germany coach Joachim Loew on Thursday expressed his delight at the return to form and fitness of Bastian Schweinsteiger ahead of next month's programme of World Cup qualifiers.

Germany travel to Dublin to face the Republic of Ireland on October 12 and then host Sweden four days later in Berlin in a Group C double-header for the 2014 finals in Brazil.

Bayern Munich midfielder Schweinsteiger, 28, has not played for his country since their Euro 2012 semifinal defeat to Italy in Warsaw in June.

Since then, he has missed the 3-1 home friendly defeat to Argentina and the opening World Cup qualifying wins against the Faroe Islands and Austria.

Falcao at the double

REUTERS, Madrid



Radamel Falcao scored twice as Atletico Madrid twice came from behind to win 4-2 at Real Betis and climb to second in La Liga on Wednesday.

The in-form Colombia striker took his tally for the season to seven with a predatory goal and a penalty just after the re-start, lifting himself to the top of the La Liga goal-scoring charts ahead of Barcelona's Lionel Messi.

Substitute Diego Costa and Raul Garcia completed the victory as Betis finished with nine men, putting Europa League holders Atletico to 13 points from five games, two behind leaders Barcelona.

Betis took the lead after 25 minutes when Salvador Agra's cross bounced across the area and Atletico defender Miranda nudged the ball into his own net.

It only took Atletico two minutes to respond, Falcao sliding in at the far post to convert Raul Garcia's low cross shot.

Betis keeper Casto Espinosa kept his side in the game and before the break they re-took the lead, this time Juan Carlos's low cross ballooning into the Atletico net off defender Juanfran.

Atletico were quickly level again. Falcao was brought down for a penalty just after the re-start, resulting in a harsh red card for Betis defender Damien Perquis, and the Colombian netted from the spot.

Totti now 3rd top scorer in Serie A

AFP, Milan

Club icon Francesco Totti scored his 216th goal in Italy's top flight, all for Roma, to become the third top scorer in Serie A on Wednesday.

Totti gave Roma a firsthalf lead against Sampdoria at the Olympic stadium only for the visitors to level through Gianni Munari after the interval to cement third place in the table.

The 35-year-old, who over the years has been used variously as a striker and a playmaker, joins Jose Altafini and Giuseppe Meazza in third place on 216 goals.

He is now only nine goals short of Sweden's Gunnar Nordahl, the former AC Milan and Roma forward who scored 225 goals between 1949 and 1958.

Silvio Piola, who played for Pro Vercelli, Lazio, Juventus and Novara holds the all-time record of 290.

MU edge Magpies

Arsenal 6 (Giroud 39, Oxlade-

Chamberlain 57, Arshavin 63, Walcott

74, 90, Miguel 80) Coventry 1 (Ball 78)

Carlisle 0 Tottenham 3 (Vertonghen

37, Townsend 53, Sigurdsson 89)

Manchester Utd 2 (Anderson 44,

Cleverley 58) Newcastle 1 (Cisse 62)

Norwich 1 (Tettey 26) Doncaster 0



AFP, London

Manchester United moved into the League Cup fourth round with a 2-1 win over Newcastle, while holders Liverpool fought back to seal a 2-1 victory at West Bromwich Albion onWednesday. RESULTS

United, looking to win the League Cup for the fifth time, made a host of changes from the side that won at Liverpool on Sunday. However, they still fielded

a strong side including

Wayne Rooney, back from a

month out with a thigh injury, QPR 2 (Hoilett 14, Cisse 71) Reading 3 (Gorkss 16, Shorey 76, Pogrebnyak 81) and Darren Fletcher, who was West Brom 1 (Tamas 3) Liverpool 2 starting for the first time in 10 months after recovering from a bowel condition. United's Anderson broke the deadlock in

the 44th minute when the Brazilian midfielder drove his shot past Rob Elliot.

Tom Cleverley put United further ahead in the 58th minute as the England midfielder curled home his first goal for United.

Papiss Demba Cisse came off the bench to

reduce the deficit with a header four minutes later, but Sir Alex Ferguson's side survived a late barrage of Newcastle pressure to go through.

At the Hawthorns, Brendan Rodgers' Liverpool made a terrible start when Australian goalkeeper Brad Jones spilled a free-kick and Gabriel Tamas pounced to score from close range in the third minute.

But Turkey midfielder Nuri Sahin equalised in the 17th minute with his first Liverpool goal, a long-range effort that Albion goalkeeper Ben Foster should have saved. And Sahin ensured Liver-

pool, who made 11 changes

from the United defeat, stole

the victory when the on-loan

Real Madrid star turned in Oussama Assaidi's cross in the 82nd minute. Olivier Giroud finally ended his long wait to score his first Arsenal goal as the Gunners crushed League One strugglers Coventry 6-1 at

the Emirates Stadium. France striker Giroud, who had gone six games without a goal for his new club, got on the scoresheet when he converted a Francis Coquelin pass in the 39th minute.

Terry given 4-match ban

AFP, London

Chelsea captain John Terry was given a four-match ban by the Football Association (FA) after being found guilty of racially abusing Queens Park Rangers' Anton Ferdinand on Thursday.

An FA statement said an independent regulatory commission had issued a suspension for a period of four matches and a fine of £220,000 (\$356,722, 276,000 euros) pending appeal.

Former England skipper Terry, 31, was cleared of racially abusing Ferdinand in a criminal case in July over allegations relating to the same incident, which took place during a match in October.

Terry dramatically announced his retirement from international football on Sunday, the day before the hearing started.

He effectively accused the FA of forcing his hand after the governing body pressed on with charges following the court case.



BTV & STAR Cricket ICC World T20 (Super Eights) Pakistan v South Africa Live from 4:00pm Australia v India

Live from 8:00pm

ESPN Sportscenter India Sports News



Narayanganj v Narsingdi Time: 2:00pm Satkhira v Tangail Time: 4:00pm Venue: Kamalapur Stadium Jessore v Thakurgaon Time: 2:00pm Ansar VDP v Rangamati Time: 4:00pm Venue: Bangabandhu National

Zidane headbutt immortalised



AFP, Paris

The infamous headbutt that French football legend Zinedine Zidane landed on an Italian during a World Cup final has been transformed into a giant statue and displayed in front of the Pompidou Centre in Paris. The bronze work of art, simply titled

"Headbutt", was Wednesday attracting crowds of tourists and locals who jostled to have their photos taken in front of the five-metre (16-foot) statue.

The sculpture is by Algerian artist Adel Abdessemed, subject of a retrospective exhibition in the Pompidou from October 3 until next January.

"This statue goes against the tradition of making statues in honour of certain victories. It is an ode to defeat," said exhibition organiser Alain Michaud.

A much smaller version of the statue -- which shows the two football players in the seconds after the headbutt, with the Italian player reeling after the attack -- was previously exhibited by a New York art gallery.

Zidane, who holds legendary status in France as a member of the national teams that won the 1998 World Cup and Euro 2000, was sent off in the 2006 World Cup final for headbutting Marco

Materazzi in the chest. That was the then France captain's last ever professional match as a player and he later claimed he had reacted to slurs the Italian directed against his sister and mother.

The statue will stay in its spot in front of the Pompidou till the end of the Abdessemed exhibition in January.

front of the Pompidou Centre in Paris on Wednesday.





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