



Liverpool's Uruguayan striker Luis Suarez (L) celebrates his late equalizer against Chelsea at Anfield yesterday.

Suarez bites a point



RESULTS

Tottenham 3 (Dempsey 75, Defoe 79, Bale 82) Manchester City 1 (Nasri 5) Liverpool 2 (Sturridge 52, Suarez 90+7) Chelsea 2 (Oscar 26, Hazard 57pen)

AFP, London

Luis Suarez scored a dramatic late equaliser and controversially bit an opponent as Liverpool twice came from behind to draw 2-2 with Chelsea in a thrilling Premier League match at Anfield on Sunday.

The Uruguayan striker headed home deep into injury time after Eden Hazard had initially appeared to have secured the points for Rafael Benitez's side on the Chelsea manager's return to his former club.

Earlier, Oscar's opening goal had been equalised by Daniel Sturridge.

However, the match was overshadowed by an off-the-ball incident when Suarez appeared to bite Branislav Ivanovic.

The incident occurred mid-way through the second half, with Liverpool trailing 2-1, and saw the Uruguayan apparently sink his teeth into the Serbian defender's upper arm after a penalty-area tussle.

Ivanovic pushed Suarez away but referee Kevin Friend did not appear to see the incident and took no action.

Suarez had earlier been booked for a handball that gifted Chelsea the penalty from which Eden Hazard put them 2-1 up, but he finished the game by heading in a dramatic equaliser in the seventh minute of injury time.

Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers said he was not in a position to comment on the incident and said he had not discussed it with Suarez.

Chelsea interim manager Rafael Benitez, the former Liverpool manager, also refused to comment on the matter.

Earlier, Manchester City's slim hopes of retaining the Premier League title were all but extinguished as they collapsed to a 3-1 defeat at Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane.

Leading 1-0 through Samir Nasri's early goal, City looked as though they would prolong the title race for another week at least but Tottenham produced a stunning burst of three goals in seven minutes to keep alive their hopes of a top-four finish.

Clint Dempsey levelled after 75 minutes before substitute Jérôme Boateng curled a superb second four minutes later to turn the match on its head.

Gareth Bale's lob in the 82nd minute completed an incredible comeback for the hosts who moved to 61 points, one point behind fourth-placed Chelsea. Third-placed Arsenal, who have played a game more than Spurs, have 63 points.

With five games left City remain 13 points behind Manchester United who will seal a 20th English title if they beat relegation-threatened Aston Villa at home on Monday.

Some solace for Inter

AFP, Milan

RESULTS

Inter Milan 1 (Rocchi 82) Parma 0
Bologna 1 (Gialdino 24)
Sampdoria 1 (Sansone 59)
Catania 1 (Barrientos 69) Palermo 1 (Ilicic 45+4)

Fiorentina 4 (Quadrado 8, Aquilani 16, Ljajic 33, Romulo 41) Torino 3 (Barreto 45, Santana 56, Cerci 77)

Napoli 3 (Astori 48-og, Cavani 64, Insigne 45+4) Cagliari 2 (Ibarbo 18, Sau 71)

Roma 1 (Destro 51) Pescara 1 (Caprari 14)

A late second-half strike from veteran striker Tommaso Rocchi saved Inter Milan's blushes in a hard-fought 1-0 win at home to Parma which kept the hosts within touching distance of a place in Europe next season.

Inter came into this match under huge pressure to win having dropped to eighth and seen their injury crisis deepen this week with 13 players unavailable as Esteban Cambiasso and Fredy Guarin joined the likes of Antonio Cassano, Diego Milito and Yuto Nagatomo on the sidelines.

Despite the crisis, Inter coach Andrea Stramaccioni was given a vote of confidence last week by club president Massimo Moratti.

However, Stramaccioni's makeshift side were made to suffer throughout by a resilient Parma before Rocchi found time and space to beat Antonio Mirante from 10 metres out in the 82nd minute.

Earlier, a spectacular scissor-kick strike from Antonio Di Natale gave Udinese a 1-0 win over visitors Lazio on Saturday as they moved level on points with them in the Serie A fight for European places.

The 35-year-old striker met Gabriel Silva's floated cross with a perfectly timed mid-air volley that flew past befuddled Lazio keeper Federico Marchetti in the 19th minute.

What to WATCH
SET Max
Indian Premier League
Chennai v Rajasthan
Live from 8:30pm

STAR Sports
English Premiership
Man United v Aston Villa
Live from 2:00pm (Tuesday)

ESPN
Sportscenter India
Sports News

Messi named in Barca squad

AFP, Barcelona



World Player of the Year Lionel Messi has been included in the Barcelona squad for the first-leg of their Champions League semi-final against Bayern Munich on Tuesday.

The Argentine took a full part in training on Sunday morning and although he hasn't yet been fully cleared to play due to a hamstring injury, will be part of the 21-man squad that travels to Germany.

"Lionel Messi trained normally on Sunday morning and although he has not been given the medical all-clear, will be among the 21 players in the squad for the Champions League match against Bayern Munich," said a statement on the Barcelona website.

"The only three players absent from the squad are the injured (Javier) Mascherano and (Carles) Puyol and the suspended Adriano."

Messi is expected to start despite not having played since the second-leg of Barca's quarter-final against Paris Saint-Germain on April 10.

Meanwhile, the 22-year-old centre-back Marc Bartra is likely to partner Gerard Pique at the back.

RESULTS

Bayer Leverkusen 5 (Kiessling 16, 65, Schuerrle 31, 69, Reinartz 79) Hoffenheim 0
Hanover 96 1 (Hoffmann 84) **Bayern Munich 6** (Stindl 16-og, Ribery 22, Gomez 40, 62, Pizarro 71, 86)

Hamburg 2 (Van der Vaart 14, 20) Fortuna Dusseldorf 1 (Schahin 34)

Eintracht Frankfurt 1 (Russ 41) Schalke 04 0

Borussia Dortmund 2 (Reus 1, Lewandowski 87) Mainz 05 0

Werder Bremen 0 **VfL Wolfsburg 3** (Arnold 13,

75 Bayern Munich's goal difference in the league is higher than the goals scored by any other Bundesliga

AGENCIES, Undated

Bayern Munich boss Jupp Heynckes was brimming of pride after watching a second-string lineup romp to a 6-1 victory over Hannover on Saturday, declaring afterwards that the club does not have a B team.

The former Real Madrid coach opted to rest a number of key men ahead of Tuesday's mouth-watering Champions League semifinal showdown with Barcelona, including Bastian Schweinsteiger, Philipp Lahm and Javi Martinez.

However, Bayern still ran riot at the AWD Arena, much to the delight of Heynckes who feels he is in possession of a squad to rival any other in Europe.

"The players have proven time and again that we have no B team, only an A team," the 57-year-old



German is quoted as saying by his club's official website. "The players simply have fun playing football and have a great attitude. All of them are highly motivated. We had a lot of great play, showed great discipline and scored a lot of goals."

"We laid the foundation for this big win in the first half."

Goalkeeper Manuel Neuer believed that the win has set the newly-crowned Bundesliga champions up nicely.

"We wanted to prepare well for the game against Barcelona and we succeeded!"

Meanwhile, Dortmund warmed up for Jose Mourinho's Real with a 2-0 win at home to Mainz 05 at their Signal Iduna Park stadium with Germany's Marco Reus opening the scoring after just 32 seconds.

Mutual respect

Sergio Busquets is the key piece at Barca. There are others who capture the headlines more, but that Barca has achieved so much it is thanks to him.

Javi Martinez,

AFP, Barcelona

Barcelona midfielder Sergio Busquets believes Spanish international colleague Javi Martinez has been the key to Bayern Munich's success this season.

"Javi Martinez has spectacular physical power," he told Barcelona's website.

"He is all over the pitch, he covers a lot of ground and recovers a lot of balls. He is Bayern's lungs. As many of his teammates and manager have said, he is the piece that the team needed."

The clash with Bayern will be a record sixth consecutive semi-final for Barca, but having lost at this stage in three of the previous five years, Busquets is aware of how fine the margins are at this stage of the competition.

"It is a very even tie between two great teams that play great football. The team that is better prepared, more concentrated, is the one that will get to the final."

"Small details or an error will tip the balance. We hope it will be in our favour."

Martinez though was just as effusive about the role played by Busquets in Barca's system.

"Sergio Busquets is the key piece at Barca. There are others who capture the headlines more, but that Barca has achieved so many it is thanks to him," he also told Barca's website.

"He always maintains his position. He gives life to the rest of the players, like Xavi or (Andres) Iniesta, who can incorporate themselves into the attack with their back well-covered."

Martinez believes it is vital to make home advantage count on Tuesday.

"I think it is the ideal moment for us to face Barca. We are in great form, in the Bundesliga and in the other competitions, the problem is that they too are in good form."

Ozil finds his scoring boots

Fabregas strikes late

RESULTS

Granada 1 (El-Arabi 73) Valladolid 1 (Ebert 59)
Real Madrid 3 (Ozil 45, 90+1, Benzema 57) Real Betis 1 (Molina 73-pen)
Barcelona 1 (Fabregas 84) Levante 0
Valencia 5 (Parejo 25, Soldado 28, 30-pen, Canales

REUTERS, Madrid

Mesut Ozil wrestled Cristiano Ronaldo from the headlines and reminded everyone of his match-winning abilities in Real Madrid's 3-1 victory over Real Betis in La Liga on Saturday.

The Germany playmaker scored two and had a hand in creating the third, showing Wednesday's Champions League semi-final opponents Borussia Dortmund they have more to worry about than simply stopping Real's Portuguese goalscoring machine.

Jose Mourinho's side have to travel for the first leg, when Ozil's pace and defence-splitting passes will be crucial to the Spanish club's hopes of going on to tilt for a 10th European crown.

"Ozil is one of the great players who is under-rated in the Spanish league," Betis coach Pepe Mel told a news conference.

"He's at the same level as Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi, only he doesn't score the same number of goals. He's a star."

"We all know the player he is and what he can create, even when he isn't as brilliant as usual," Real's assistant coach Aitor Karanka said.

REAL DUO INJURED

Marcelo and Luka Modric picked up muscle injuries making them doubts for next

week's Champions League semi-final first leg against Borussia Dortmund.

Brazil left back Marcelo fell awkwardly during a challenge after only 12 minutes at the Bernabeu, and was carried out of the stadium on a stretcher.

Croatia midfielder Modric was substituted midway through the second half after pulling up holding the back of his thigh.

"The injuries were the worst aspect of the game," Real assistant coach Aitor Karanka told the post-match news conference. "Marcelo felt a sharp pain. Modric's problem seems only to be a strain, but he said he felt something and we'll do some checks."

ABIDAL RETURNS

As well as putting Barcelona a step closer to winning La Liga, Saturday's 1-0 home win over Levante showed that defender Eric Abidal is fit enough to play a full match after making a remarkable recovery from a liver transplant.

The former France international played at centre back alongside Adriano, the first time the 33-year-old has completed 90 minutes in more than a year, and proved he is a viable option to partner Gerard Pique in the middle of defence in Tuesday's Champions League semi-final first leg at Bayern Munich.

Abidal's experience, athleticism and heading ability could be crucial against Bayern's fearsome attacking force, which includes his former France team mate Franck Ribery.

"It's a very happy day for everyone," said Barca's assistant coach Jordi Roura. "Abidal completed a full match and he felt very good. In footballing terms, I think he played at a very high level and he knew perfectly how to pace himself."



Barcelona forward Cesc Fabregas celebrates after scoring the winning goal in their La Liga match against Levante at the Camp Nou on Saturday.

PHOTO: AFP

NUMBERS GAME

4 Cesc Fabregas has scored more goals for Barcelona against Levante than any other club

3 Mesut Ozil is the German midfielder to score the most braces in Europe's top five leagues this season alongside with A. Meier.