

## Napoli look to seal 2nd

AFP, Milan

Napoli have all but given hope of snatching the Serie A title from Juventus, but have no intention of giving up a coveted runners-up spot that would guarantee their return to the Champions League next season.

With an 11-point cushion on Napoli and requiring only four points from their last five games, Juventus are virtually assured what would be their 29th league title, their second under coach Antonio Conte.

The Bianconeri even have the chance to secure the championship on Sunday if they prevail over city rivals Torino and Pescara do the unthinkable and defeat visiting Napoli.

Juventus defender Giorgio Chiellini, for one, does not expect Juventus to break open the bubbly this weekend.

"I don't believe Napoli will slip up, they're in the hunt for second place," said Chiellini. "Honestly, I don't think (Walter) Mazzarri's team will have any problems."

Having suffered only four defeats away from home, from five in total this season -- while the biggest of Pescara's six wins came away to Fiorentina -- Napoli are expected to account for Pescara at the Stadio Adriatico.

Arguably the bigger question on the Napoli fans' minds, however, is how well they would fare in next season's Champions League without star striker Edinson Cavani.

Uruguayan international Cavani tops the Serie A scoring charts with 23 goals from 30 appearances, five ahead of in-form Udinese veteran Antonio Di Natale.

## FIXTURES

(all times GMT)

Saturday

Atalanta v Bologna, Cagliari v Udinese (both 1600), Pescara v Napoli (1800)

Sunday

Chievo v Genoa, Palermo v Inter, Parma v Lazio, Roma v Siena, Sampdoria v Fiorentina, Torino v Juventus (all 1300), AC Milan v

## What to WATCH

Maasanga TV

&amp; TEN Cricket

Bangladesh v Zimbabwe

Second Test, Day 3

Live from 2:00pm

SET Max

Indian Premier League

Rajasthan v Hyderabad

Live from 4:30pm

Mumbai v Bangalore

Live from 8:30pm

ESPN

English Premiership

Stoke City v Norwich City

Live from 8:00pm

Serie A

Cagliari v Udinese

Live from 10:00pm

Pescara v Napoli

Live from 12:00am (Sunday)

ESPN

English Premiership

Man City v West Ham

Live from 5:45pm

Wigan v Tottenham

Live from 8:00pm

DAY'S EVENT

BD U-19s v SL U-19s

Fourth Youth ODI

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National



PHOTO: AFP

Chelsea defender David Luiz is ecstatic after scoring the winning goal against Basel during their Europa League semifinal at St Jakob Stadium on Thursday.

## Luiz lifts Chelsea

AFP, Basel

Chelsea goalkeeper Petr Cech tipped a stinging Schar free-kick over the bar, while Valentin Stocker hit the outside of the post with a drilled cross from the right.

The away side finished the half strongly, though, with Sommer producing a sharp reflex save to repel Ramires' half-volley from close range.

Eden Hazard might have doubled Chelsea's lead shortly before half-time, but a last-ditch challenge from Park Joo-Ho put him off just as he was about to take aim at the exposed Sommer.

In the opening exchanges of the second period, both sides hit the woodwork with chances that would have greatly altered the face of the game.

First, Stocker rolled a low shot against the base of Cech's right-hand post, before Fernando Torres saw a left-foot snap-shot crash back off an upright after a bold run down the Chelsea left from Hazard.

Basel coach Murat Yakin introduced Marcelo Diaz and Jacques Zoua from the bench, and the hosts saw Fabian Frei and then Zoua shoot narrowly wide from just outside the box.

Cech saved at the feet of Salah, but after several nervous moments in the Chelsea area, the hosts' pressure told when Czech referee Pavel Kralovec penalised Cesar Azpilicueta for making contact with Stocker from behind.

Schar duly drilled his spot-kick down the middle, before Sommer produced a stunning point-blank save to deny John Terry, only for Luiz to strike in the fourth minute of added time to end Basel's unbeaten home record in this season's competition.

It was Chelsea, however, who took the lead in the 12th minute, to the disappointment of watching Basel native Roger Federer.

Frank Lampard drew a smart save from Yann Sommer with a near-post volley and from the resulting corner, the England midfielder's cross struck Moses and ricocheted into the roof of the net.

Basel responded immediately, briefly forcing the visitors onto the back foot.

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