

Real land Illarramendi

REUTERS, Madrid



Real Madrid extended their new policy of snapping up promising home-grown talent by paying 39 million euros (\$50.9 million) to buy Spain Under-21 midfielder Asier Illarramendi out of his contract with La Liga rivals Real Sociedad on Friday. Big-spending Real president Florentino Perez is known for luring "galacticos" like David Beckham, Zinedine Zidane and Cristiano Ronaldo to the Bernabeu but Illarramendi's capture follows hard on the heels of the purchase of playmaker Isco from Malaga and the return of fullback Daniel Carvajal from Bundesliga side Bayer Leverkusen. The trio were in the Spain squad that won the Under-21 Euro championships in Israel last month and Isco and Illarramendi were both named in UEFA's team of the tournament.

Real sealed the deal for Illarramendi when they deposited the 23-year-old's buyout fee of 32.19 million euros plus value-added tax (VAT) of 6.76 million with Spain's professional league (LFP), Sociedad president Jokin Aperribay, flanked by the player, told a news conference. The Basque club, who qualified for the Champions League playoffs last season, did not want Illarramendi to leave but Real's move automatically triggered his exit, he added. "We would have preferred to hold on to Asier Illarramendi than get the money but life goes on," he said. Illarramendi is seen as a long-term replacement for Spain midfielder Xabi Alonso, another former Sociedad player who will be 32 in November, and he will also compete for a place with Germany's Sami Khedira and Croatia's Luka Modric. He has agreed a six-year contract and will be presented at the Bernabeu stadium on Saturday after undergoing a medical, Real said on their website.

"I thought long and hard with the people around me and I came to the conclusion that it was a unique offer and opportunity, one I couldn't refuse," a tearful Illarramendi, a product of San Sebastian-based Sociedad's youth academy, told reporters. "I will give my all in all the training sessions and if I play I will give my all then too," he added. "I love (Sociedad) but a decision had to be taken and of course Real Madrid excites me too." Real are looking to bounce back from a poor season under former coach Jose Mourinho, who quit and returned to Chelsea after failing to win any major silverware. Portuguese Mourinho was replaced by Italian Carlo Ancelotti, whom Real bought out of his contract with French champions Paris St Germain. Under construction magnate Perez, Real have spent hundreds of millions of euros on players but have failed to win the 10th European crown they have been chasing since their last continental triumph in 2002.



Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho (C) and players give a traditional Thai greeting after arriving at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Giaccherini joins Sunderland

AFP, Rome

Italian international midfielder Emanuele Giaccherini on Thursday joined English Premier League side Sunderland in a nine million euro (\$11.7 million) deal from Serie A champions Juventus, the Italian club's coach Antonio Conte said. "I'm not happy about Giaccherini's departure but with this nine million euros we can take Carlos Tevez and Fernando Llorente," said Conte. Giaccherini rarely figured last season for Juventus but was part of the Italy squad at the Confederations Cup where he scored twice. The 28-year-old will link-up with fellow Italian, Paolo Di Canio, the coach of Sunderland.

Pep whips up a storm

AFP, Madrid



Bayern Munich coach Pep Guardiola whipped up a media storm in Spain on Friday by accusing his former bosses at Barcelona of trying to use coach Tito Vilanova's cancer illness to criticise him. The 42-year-old, who won 14 titles between 2008 and 2012 at Barcelona and took a year off in New York before joining the German side, exposed a deep rift between him and Barca president Sandro Rosell's management team. "This year there have been too many things that crossed the line," Guardiola told a news conference Thursday at Lake Garda in Italy, where the German team were in pre-season training. "But using Tito's illness to damage me is something I will never forget," he said in Catalan, denying he had failed to see Vilanova while he was treated in New York for salivary gland cancer. "I saw Tito in New York and if we did not see each other on other occasions it is because it was not possible, but not on my part." He did not say who exactly had made the accusation. Barcelona vice president Jordi Cardoner

said he was surprised when he heard Guardiola's outburst and he denied the club had made any such claim. "We have not used Tito's illness to go against him and whoever does such a thing is a bad person," he told Barcelona-based sports daily Mundo Deportivo in an interview published Friday, adding that he hoped there would be an explanation because he believed Guardiola's relations with himself and Rosell had always been "cordial". Vilanova had been Guardiola's assistant at Barcelona for five years and he led the Catalan team to their most successful league win in history last season, Guardiola said. The new Bayern coach said he had asked Barcelona's management to leave him in peace when he left the club. "The only thing I asked Rosell was to leave me in peace and they have not left me in peace even from 6,000 kilometres away," Guardiola said. "They have not done it, they have not lived up to their word." Guardiola's quotes were splashed across the pages of Spain's sporting press. "Guardiola dynamites Barca," ran the front page of leading sports daily As. "Guardiola on the attack!" said Mundo Deportivo.

Windies name squad for Pakistan

AFP, Port of Spain

West Indies on Thursday named a 13-man squad for the opening one-day internationals against Pakistan in Guyana. The matches will be played at the Guyana National Stadium on Sunday, July 14 and Tuesday July 16. The series will also mark the return of international cricket to Guyana after a one-year absence and will include five One Day Internationals and two Twenty20 Internationals. Guyana will host the first two ODIs, followed by three ODIs at the Beausejour Cricket Grounds in St Lucia. The Arnos Vale Cricket Ground in St Vincent will host the two Twenty20 Internationals on July 27 and 28. **SQUAD** Dwayne Bravo (captain), Tino Best, Darren Bravo, Johnson Charles, Chris Gayle, Jason Holder, Sunil Narine, Kieron Pollard, Kemar Roach, Darren Sammy, Marlon Samuels, Lendl Simmons, Devon Smith.

Hot Spot inventor says sorry

AFP, Nottingham

The inventor of the Hot Spot thermal imaging replay system has apologised to England after Jonathan Trott was given out by the third umpire on the second day of the first Ashes Test. England collapsed to 11 for two in their second innings against Australia at Trent Bridge on Thursday after Joe Root and Trott, out for a duck, fell to successive Mitchell Starc deliveries. Root chose not to challenge his decision, even though replays suggested he would have been reprieved, as technology indicated he had made no contact with the ball before being caught down the leg side by wicketkeeper Brad Haddin. Next ball, Pakistani on-field umpire Aleem Dar initially gave Trott not out in reply to Australia's lbw appeal. Australia challenged his decision and South African third umpire Marais Erasmus overturned Dar's original verdict despite the fact the side-on Hot Spot image of the dismissal, which might have confirmed whether Trott had in fact edged the ball first, was not available. Angry England coach Andy Flower demanded an explanation from match referee Ranjan Madugalle, the International Cricket Council's most senior official, over the lbw dismissal while bowler Jimmy Anderson called it "very frustrating".

'Rooney not for sale'

AFP, Bangkok



Manchester United boss David Moyes testily repeated that Wayne Rooney is not for sale Friday after he abruptly quit their Asian tour and Chelsea's Jose Mourinho voiced his admiration for the unsettled star. Moyes was careful not to be dragged into a row with Mourinho but he showed signs of impatience as he underlined his position that Rooney, who flew home with a hamstring injury just hours after arriving in Bangkok, would not be sold. "Unless I was speaking Double Dutch, I think we've said Wayne Rooney is not for sale," Moyes told a packed press conference in the Thai capital, where he will make his debut as manager on Saturday. He added: "It's hard to keep repeating myself but I will do -- Wayne's a Manchester United player and will remain that." Moyes, Rooney's former boss at Everton, said the England striker would be out for two to three weeks but will be fit for the start of the season on August 17. "It's a blow that we've lost him because he's been training well and looked very good," said Moyes. "But unfortunately he just felt something in his hamstring, we double-checked it and he has a slight grade one injury there that'll probably keep him out for two to three weeks... I don't foresee any problem with Wayne starting the season." Rooney's sudden departure did not ease speculation about his future which has been swirling since former United manager Alex Ferguson said the striker had asked for a transfer. The 27-year-old has denied asking to leave the club but he has not confirmed his intentions either. Britain's Daily Mail has reported that Chelsea are preparing a 60-million-pound (\$90-million) bid. Mourinho, who also arrived in Bangkok with Chelsea on Friday, was warm in his praise for Rooney and is also looking for a striker, but he stopped short of saying he wanted to sign the Liverpoolian. "It's a funny, tricky question because from the ethical point of view, I cannot speak about players from other teams," Mourinho said.

"But again you know me and you know it's not my kind of character to speak with a little bit of hypocrisy. I always say what I feel, what I think. "I've always said he's a player that I like very, very much but I cannot say more than that. Being fast and direct, I like him very much but he's a Man United player." Mourinho may be mindful of a notorious "tapping-up" incident in 2005 when Chelsea were hit with heavy fines for holding a meeting with Ashley Cole, then at Arsenal. But Moyes, when asked about Mourinho's comments, refused to rise to the bait. "I think Jose said in his comments that he doesn't normally talk about players from other clubs either. (But) it does happen," he said, when asked if Mourinho was being disrespectful. He added: "I think I've covered all the things on Wayne. What I've given you is about his injury. But what you mustn't forget is Manchester United is about a team and about a football club and not about any one individual. "In lots of ways, I'm only interested about the team." Both clubs are entering new eras under Moyes and Mourinho, who are coincidentally making their bow within days of each other in Bangkok and could be vying for the Premier League title by the end of next season. While Mourinho is returning for his second stint as Chelsea manager, Moyes he had been "lifted" by the sheer professionalism and commitment of his squad - and taken aback at their welcome by Thai fans. "We arrived at the airport and I heard lots of screaming young ladies. I don't think it was at me," he said. "It was like some famous pop group arriving, it was an incredible welcome." Manchester United play Singha All-Stars on Saturday -- their first game since Alex Ferguson's 27-year reign -- while Mourinho's Chelsea are in action next Wednesday. Rooney said on Facebook that he was "gutted" to be missing United's tour, which also goes to Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and Sweden.



Juventus striker Fernando Llorente (C), flanked by teammates Carlos Tevez (R) and Angelo Ogbonna, runs during a training session in Valle d'Aosta yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Wenger eyes Suarez

AFP, Jakarta

Manager Arsene Wenger refused to be drawn Friday on whether Arsenal would match Liverpool's reported asking price for striker Luis Suarez, after a 30 million-pound bid was said to have been rejected. The Gunners boss declined to say if Arsenal were willing to stump up what is thought to be 40 million-pound (\$60.7 million) bottom line for the controversial Uruguayan, but hinted that a deal may not be entirely dead. "... We're hoping we will be in a position where we can answer this question," Wenger told reporters.


New rules of etiquette

AFP, Rio de Janeiro



Brazil's Maracana football stadium, one of the sport's most hallowed and raucous grounds, has some new rules of etiquette: remain seated during games and please wear a shirt. Another: no musical instruments such as drums or bamboo poles to wave flags. The code of good conduct at South America's largest stadium was devised after the home team Fluminense signed a contract to play there another 35 years, stadium officials said Thursday. It is a common sight at Maracana to see throngs of young male fans shirtless in the steamy South American heat, standing and screaming throughout games, and occasionally fighting with each other in spats with rival team supporters or rival Fluminense fan clubs. Now, fences will be set up to separate

them this season starting later this month. The barriers will be removed when Brazil hosts the World Cup next year. During that period, football's world governing body FIFA will essentially be in charge of the stadium. "We are going to talk to the teams to change habits," said Joao Borba, president of the consortium that runs the legendary arena. Not everyone likes the segregation. "It is a shame to put up bars at Maracana to separate fans. They have to live together in harmony," said former Brazilian star Bebeto on Twitter. He is on the World Cup organizing committee. Sports journalist Edgar Catoira said the "FIFA pattern" does not take into account "carioca patterns." Carioca is the local word for people or things from Rio. The stadium has undergone a \$536 million overhaul with an eye to being the centrepiece of the World Cup.



অগ্রণী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

এইচআর প্লানিং, ডিপ্লয়মেন্ট এন্ড অপারেশনস ডিভিশন
প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয় : সিনিয়র অফিসার পদে লিখিত পরীক্ষার তারিখ পুনঃনির্ধারণ।

অগ্রণী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এ সিনিয়র অফিসার পদে নিয়োগের জন্য গত ৩১ মে ২০১৩ তারিখে লিখিত পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়, যা পরবর্তীতে বাতিল করা হয়। উক্ত লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ২৬ জুলাই ২০১৩ সকাল ৯-৩০ থেকে ১১-৩০ ঘটিকায় অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। যে সকল প্রার্থী ইতোপূর্বে প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোড করেছে শুধুমাত্র তারাই ১৪/০৭/২০১৩ হতে ২১/০৭/২০১৩ তারিখ রাত ১২-০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে www.recruitemp.com ওয়েবসাইট হতে প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোড করে লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবে।

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