

TEN Sports  
US Open  
Men's & Women's Qtrs  
Live from 9:00pm  
TEN Cricket  
Zimbabwe v Pakistan  
First Test, Day 2  
Live from 2:00pm

## MU snap up Fellaini

AFP, London

Everton announced on Monday that they have sold Belgium international midfielder Marouane Fellaini to Premier League champions Manchester United for a fee of £27.5 million (\$42.7 million, 32.4 million euros).

The deal for the 25-year-old was announced on the Everton website an hour after the close-season transfer window closed at 22:00GMT.

"Marouane Fellaini has moved to Manchester United for a £27.5 million fee," Everton said in a statement.

"Fellaini's exit ended a summer-long period of speculation after the Belgium international emerged as one of former Everton manager David Moyes' prime targets for his new club."

The move reunites Fellaini with new United manager Moyes, who brought the Belgian to England from Standard Liege in 2008 during his time as Everton coach.

Fellaini becomes United's second close-season signing, after Uruguayan full-back Guillermo Varela joined from Penarol in June.

## Azarenka in qtrs

AFP, New York

Second seed Victoria Azarenka of Belarus advanced to the US Open quarterfinals on Tuesday by defeating Serbian 13th seed Ana Ivanovic 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 in a match postponed from Monday because of rain.

Two-time reigning Australian Open champion Azarenka, who lost to Serena Williams in last year's US Open final, will play for a berth in the semifinals against Slovakia's 48th-ranked Daniela Hantuchova, with whom she has split four career meetings.

## 'Free market in action'

AFP, Zurich



Real Madrid's record outlay of a reported 101 million euros (\$133.5 million, £86 million) for Gareth Bale is a sign of the free market in action, FIFA chief Sepp Blatter said Tuesday.

Pressed on the symbolism of the incredible transfer fee to bring the Welshman from Londoners Tottenham Hotspur to the Spanish capital, Blatter declined to comment directly.

"You'll have to ask Real Madrid," he told reporters at FIFA's headquarters in the Swiss city of Zurich. The Bale deal, which comes as Spain is locked in the deepest economic crisis in a generation, has been described by Barcelona boss Gerardo Martino as showing "a lack of respect" given the current climate.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, meanwhile, has described it as a "joke".

But Blatter said he was reminded of the debate over Portuguese star Cristiano Ronaldo's £80 million move from Manchester United to Real Madrid in 2009.

"At the same time, in Sotheby's in London, there was an auction where they sold a painting of Spanish artist Picasso's Blue Period for 50 million pounds, which at the time was \$100 million," he said.

"At that time I said the man who acquired this painting, he will put it somewhere under closed circuit, because it's dangerous to lose it. But Ronaldo, you'll see at least twice a week in a stadium."

"So is the price high or not high? I think this is the market, and we cannot intervene in this market," he insisted.

Real Madrid are top players on the financial front thanks to deals on TV rights and sponsorship, among other revenue streams, and a global brand in their own right.



## Gunners break bank for

# OZIL

AFP, London



Arsenal on Monday shattered their transfer record to sign Germany attacking midfielder Mesut Ozil from Real Madrid in a deal reportedly worth £42.4 million (\$66 million, 50 million euros).

The deal was completed in the final hours of transfer deadline day, and came a day after Madrid signed Gareth Bale from Arsenal's arch rivals Tottenham Hotspur for a reported world-record fee in excess of £80 million.

Ozil completed a medical in Munich on Monday afternoon and Arsenal subsequently announced on their website that he had signed a "long-term contract".

"We are extremely pleased to have signed Mesut Ozil," said Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger.

"He is a great player, with proven quality at both club and international level. We have watched and admired him for some time as he has all the attributes I look for in an Arsenal player."

Ozil told the Arsenal website: "I am thrilled to be joining a club of the stature of Arsenal and am looking forward to playing in the Premier League."

"It will be great for my own personal development as a player and I am particularly looking forward to working with Arsene Wenger."

"From our negotiations it is clear the club has huge ambition and I look forward to being part of an exciting future."

Ozil's arrival represents a huge coup for Wenger, who has come under unprecedented pressure from the club's fans to sign new players during the current transfer window.

Traditionally reluctant to spend money, Wenger had only signed 20-year-old French forward Yana Sanogo from Auxerre and brought Mathieu Flamini back to the club following a spell at AC Milan prior to Ozil's arrival.

Amid an ongoing eight-year trophy drought, it fuelled accusations that the club lacked ambition, especially after the successive departures of Samir Nasri, Cesc Fabregas and Robin van Persie over the last two years.

However, Ozil's signing represents a serious statement of intent, particularly as Arsenal had never previously spent £15 million on a single player.

"I have said throughout the summer that we have been working hard to bring in top quality players to this football club," Wenger added.

"This has involved many many people across the club and I have always had the full support of the club in making decisions on the football side."

Ozil joined Madrid from Werder Bremen for a fee of around £12.4 million in August 2010 after shining in Germany's run to the semi-finals at that year's World Cup in South Africa.

The richly talented left-footer played a starring role as Madrid romped to the Liga title under Jose Mourinho in 2012, but his position at the Bernabeu was put under threat by the close-season signings of Isco and Bale.

## Pak 249/9 at stumps

AFP, Harare

Zimbabwe's unheralded bowling attack plunged Pakistan into deep trouble on the first day of the first Test at the Harare Sports Club on Tuesday.

Pakistan were floundering at 182 for eight before tailenders Saeed Ajmal and Junaid Khan added an aggressive 67 for the ninth wicket to enable the tourists to finish the day on 249 for nine.

Opening bowlers Tendai Chatara and Tinashe Panyangara, who went into the match with only five Test caps between them, started the Pakistan slide with some disciplined bowling at the start of the day. They were well backed up by off-spinner Prosper Utseya and medium-pace Shingi Masakadza.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

**PAKISTAN:** First innings 249 for 9 (Azhar 78, Misbah 53, Akmal 18, Ajmal 49 not out, Junaid 17; Chatara 2-64, Panyangara 3-71, Masakadza 2-40, Utseya 2-55)

## Falu heads newly formed BKUP

SPORTS REPORTER

A 291-member committee has been named for the newly formed Bangladesh Krira Unnayan Parishad (BKUP) yesterday with former Member of Parliament of BNP and former Mohammedan SC president Mosaddek Hossain Falu occupying the president's post.

Mostaqur Rahman, former Mohammedan joint-secretary, has been nominated as the secretary general of the council, which comprised 32 vice-presidents; most of them are well-known in the sports arena.

The BKUP is considered the counter organisation of the existing Sammilito Krira Parishad.

## EPL tops spending spree

AFP, Paris



The English Premier League's standing as the world's richest sporting competition remains intact after the transfer window closed late on Monday night.

The 20 Premier League clubs between them shelled out a massive total of £630 million (\$1,012 million, 768 million euros) on players, almost as much as the Spanish and Italian top-flight clubs put together.

Financial analysts Deloitte point out that that figure is £130m more than a year ago, an increase of 29 per cent, fuelled largely by a massive increase in TV funding.

Spanish clubs, led by Real Madrid's reported 100 million euro capture of Gareth Bale from Tottenham Hotspur and the 57 million euros Brazilian Neymar is said to have cost Barcelona, paid a total of 395 million euros (\$521 m, £335m) in fees, a staggering 205 per cent more than 2012.

That figure was matched by Italian Serie A

clubs, but it represented an increase of only eight per cent year on year, with the key deal seeing Napoli part with 37 million euros for Real Madrid's Argentine striker Gonzalo Higuain.

This year, that total was almost rivalled by the French league, where massive injections of foreign cash into Paris Saint-Germain and Monaco, saw an outlay of 375 million euros (\$490m, £315m), up 66 per cent on 2012.

PSG led the way, paying Napoli 64 million euros for Uruguayan Edinson Cavani and a further 31 million to Roma for Brazilian Marquinhos, while Monaco landed Radamel Falcao from Atletico Madrid for 60 million and made a double 70 million swoop on Porto for James Rodriguez and Joao Moutinho.

But at a time when the pressure is on clubs to toe the line drawn by UEFA's financial fairness code, Germany's Bundesliga again proved an appropriate role model.

Clubs have long learned to limit their outgoings and this year they were the lowest spenders in the window, parting with 270 million euros (\$358m, £230m).

## Easy win for England

AFP, Malahide

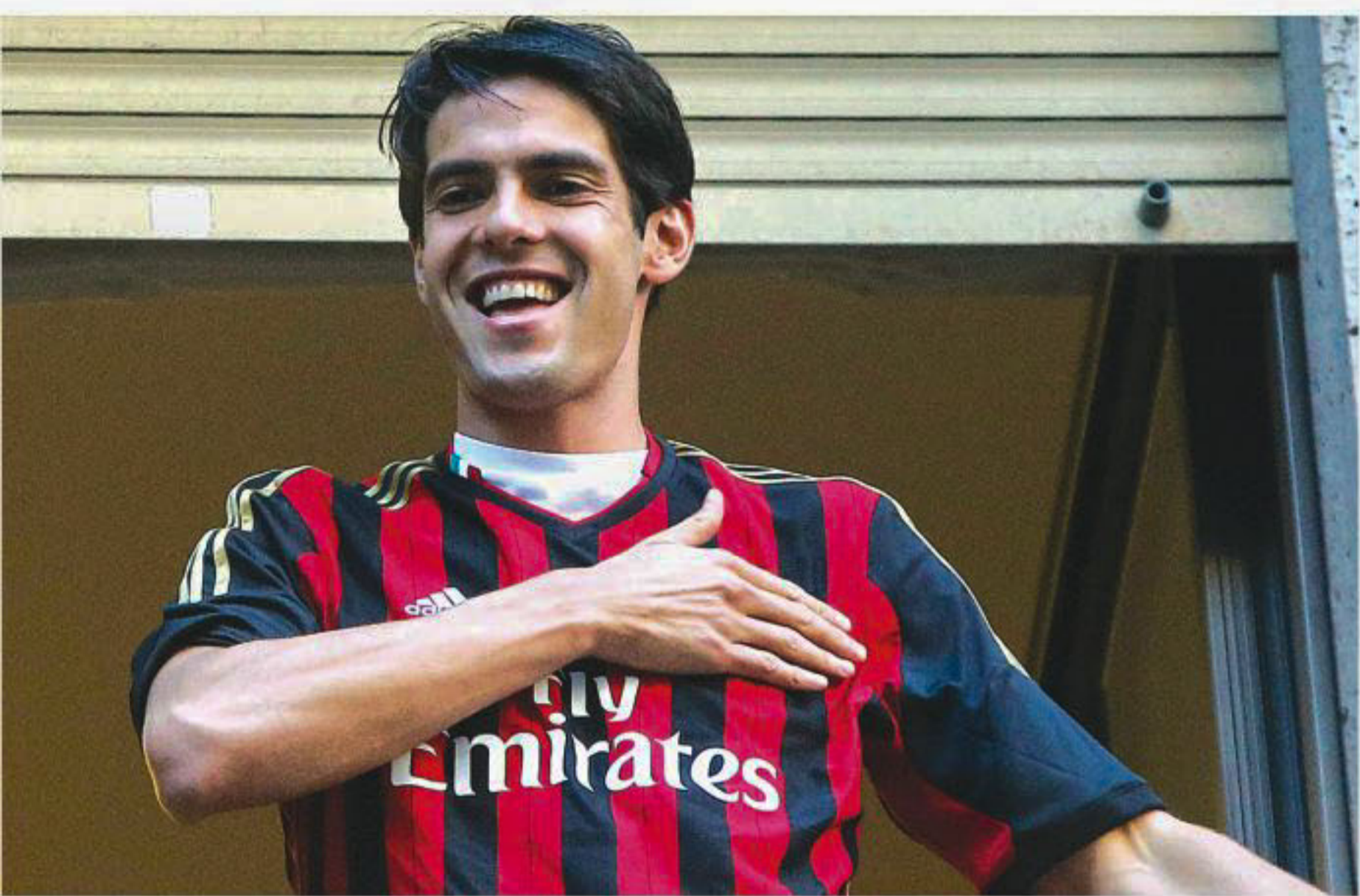
England beat Ireland by six wickets in their only one-day international in Dublin on Tuesday.

Earlier Ireland, after losing the toss, made 269 for seven. Captain William Porterfield top-scored 112.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**  
**IRELAND:** 269 for 7 in 50 overs (Porterfield 112, N O'Brien 26, K O'Brien 23, Mooney 27; Rankin 4-46, Tredwell 2-35)

**ENGLAND:** 274 for four off 43 overs (Taylor 25, Morgan 124 not out, Bopara 101 not out; Murtagh 3-33)

**Result:** England won by 6 wickets.



AC Milan's latest signing Brazil star Kaka gestures to the fans upon his arrival in Milan on Monday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Kaka delighted

AFP, Milan



Dozens of delirious AC Milan supporters took to the streets of the city late Monday to herald the return of Brazilian midfielder Kaka following his arrival from Real Madrid.

Kaka was one of Real's most expensive signings in 2009 when the club paid Milan 65 million euros for him after a highly-successful six-season spell with the Rossoneri.

After being left on the sidelines under Jose Mourinho, Kaka's chances of more regular first team action at the Santiago Bernabeu faded further when his former coach at Milan, Carlo Ancelotti, took over the 'Galacticos' for the new season.

With Brazil hosting the 2014 World Cup, Kaka launched a plea to leave Real and the Spaniards allowed the 31-year-old to return to his former club on a free transfer.

Kaka was met by dozens of fans upon his arrival at Milan-Linate airport on Monday, a scene that was repeated when he met club vice-president Adriano Galliani late on Monday.

At the Giannino restaurant, a favourite haunt of AC Milan and its players, were dozens of fans noisily convened to celebrate Kaka's arrival.

The player sipped Champagne and was presented with a cake adorned with the words 'Some love affairs never end'.

Kaka, who has signed a two-year contract, was delighted to be back.

"I really wanted to come here and now I'm back I am so happy. I've returned home!" said the Brazilian, who took a significant pay cut to facilitate his move to the San Siro.

Kaka's first spell at the Rossoneri, from 2003 to 2009, coincided with his rise to prominence that culminated in him winning the 2007 Ballon d'Or after leading Milan to the Champions League title that year.

Coach Massimiliano Allegri on Friday said: "He's versatile, and his technical attributes would be a big plus to the team."

Although brought in as a replacement for playmaker Kevin-Prince Boateng, who was sold to Schalke 04 last week, it remains to be seen how Allegri slots Kaka into his system.

কোনো গরু উঠে স্কটবল স্টার

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