

STAR Cricket
England v Australia
Second ODI
 Live from 3:15pm
ESPN
Formula One
Italian GP
 Live from 5:45pm

Ten Sports
US Open
Men's Doubles Final
 Live from 10:30pm
Women's Singles Final Live
 from 2:30am (Monday)

Suarez on the double

AFP, Montevideo



Liverpool star Luis Suarez scored twice to give Uruguay a vital victory over Peru in South America's World Cup qualifying race on Friday as Colombia edged ever closer to next year's finals in Brazil.

Suarez, who has not played for Liverpool this year as he completes a suspension for biting picked up last season, struck a first-half penalty before curling home a long-range effort as Uruguay beat Peru 2-1 in Lima.

Jefferson Farfan pulled a late goal back for Peru to set up a nervous finish but Uruguay held on for a win which leaves them firmly on course to secure at least a play-off spot from South America's nine-team qualifying league.

The Uruguayans are in fifth place following the victory, three points clear of sixth-placed Venezuela having played one game less.

Earlier Friday, second-placed Colombia defeated Ecuador 1-0 in Barranquilla to move within touching distance of a ticket to Brazil.

A chaotic afternoon in the Colombian port city saw kick-off delayed for 90 minutes after a tropical monsoon deluged the Estadio Metropolitano.

The game was also disrupted by a floodlight failure at the break which delayed the start of the second half. Play was further held up for several minutes after Colombia goalkeeper David Ospina suffered a nasty head injury.

A first-half goal by AS Monaco striker James Rodriguez secured all three points for the Colombians, who are now guaranteed at least a play-off spot.

Ecuador, who were reduced to 10 men early in the game when Gabriel Achilier was dismissed, could have snatched an unlikely draw if captain Walter Ayovi had not missed a second-half penalty.

The complexion of the game changed decisively on the half-hour mark when Ecuador were reduced to 10 men, Achilier sent off for bringing down Colombia's Teofilo Gutierrez as he sprinted clear on goal.

The dismissal energised the Colombians and within a minute they had taken the lead through Monaco youngster Rodriguez.

Monaco team-mate Radamel Falcao -- named in the starting line-up after recovering from an ankle injury -- unleashed a ferocious long-range effort which Ecuador's stand-in keeper Maximo Banguera could only parry away.

The rebound fell kindly to Rodriguez who rifled home an angled low shot to put Colombia 1-0 up heading into the half-time break.



Uruguay striker Luis Suarez (top) is ecstatic after scoring the opening goal against Peru during their 2014 World Cup qualifier in Lima on Friday.

EURO ZONE RESULTS

Macedonia 2 (Trickovski 21, Trajkovski 80) **Wales 1** (Ramsey 39-pen)
Scotland 0 Belgium 2 (Defour 38, Mirallas 89)
Serbia 1 (Mitrovic 66) **Croatia 1** (Mandzukic 53)
Czech Republic 1 (Rosicky 70)
Armenia 2 (Mkrtychyan 31, Ghazaryan 90)
Malta 1 (Failla 38) **Denmark 2** (Andreasen 2, Camilleri 53-og)
Italy 1 (Gilardino 38) **Bulgaria 0**
Kazakhstan 2 (Nurdauletov 50-pen, Finonchenko 64) **Faroe Islands 1** (Benjaminsson 23)
Republic of Ireland 1 (Keane 21)
Sweden 2 (Elmander 33, Svensson 57)
Germany 3 (Klose 33, Kroos 51, Mueller 88) **Austria 0**
Romania 3 (Marica 2, Pintilii 31, Tanase 88) **Hungary 0**
Turkey 5 (Bulut 35, 39, 68, Yilmaz 61, Turan 90+3) **Andorra 0**
Estonia 2 (Vassiljev 17, 56)
Netherlands 2 (Robben 1, Van Persie 90+3-pen)
Norway 2 (Elyounoussi 43, King 66) **Cyprus 0**
Switzerland 4 (Lichtsteiner 15, 30, Schar 27, Dzemalili 54-pen) **Iceland 4** (Johann Berg Gudmundsson 3, 68, 90+1, Sigthorsson 56)
Slovenia 1 (Kampl 19) **Albania 0**
Russia 4 (Kokorin 1, 36, Kerzhakov 60, Samedov 90+2) **Luxembourg 1** (Joachim 90)
Northern Ireland 2 (McAuley 36, Ward 52) **Portugal 4** (Bruno Alves 20, Cristiano Ronaldo 68, 77, 83)
Bosnia-Herzegovina 0 Slovakia 1 (Pecovsky 77)
Liechtenstein 0 Greece 1 (Mitroglou 72)
Latvia 2 (Bulvitis 20, Zjuzins 42)
Lithuania 1 (Matulevicius 44)
Ukraine 9 (Devic 11, Seleznov 26, Edmar 32, Khacheridi 46, 54, Konoplyanka 50, Beuz 63, Fedetskiy 74, Rakitskiy 90+3)
San Marino 0
Poland 1 (Lewandowski 16)
Montenegro 1 (Damjanovic 11)
England 4 (Gerrard 12, Lambert 27, Welbeck 45+1, 50) **Moldova 0**
Georgia 0 France 0
Finland 0 Spain 2 (Alba 19, Negredo 86)

Klose, C'Ron steal limelight USA, Mexico humbled

AFP, Paris



Miroslav Klose and Cristiano Ronaldo stole the limelight on a busy night of World Cup qualifying fixtures on Friday that saw several European nations edge closer to a place at the finals in Brazil.

Veteran Klose set Germany on the way to a 3-0 win against neighbours Austria which keeps them firmly in control of Group C, while Ronaldo netted a hat-trick as Portugal came from behind to triumph 4-2 in Northern Ireland.

Reigning world champions Spain eased to a 2-0 win in Finland, while Italy are just one more victory away from qualifying for the finals after a 1-0 defeat of Bulgaria in Palermo, but it was not all plain sailing for the big boys, with the Netherlands having to scramble to draw 2-2 in Estonia.

Germany were far too strong for Austria in Munich with the 35-year-old Klose setting them on their way with the 68th international goal of his career.

That saw him equal Gerd Mueller's German record for the most goals scored for his country, before Bayern Munich pair Toni Kroos and Thomas

Mueller got the other goals for the hosts on the night.

Germany are now five points clear of Sweden, who won 2-1 in the Republic of Ireland with Johan Elmander and Anders Svensson getting their goals after Robbie Keane had put the home side in front.

Portugal are still two points clear of Russia at the top of Group F, but having played a game more, after winning an eventful game in Belfast.

In a match that featured three red cards, Northern Ireland twice led before Real Madrid man Ronaldo scored three times in 15 minutes late on to move him above the great Eusebio in his country's list of all-time leading scorers on 43.

Russia had earlier swatted aside group whipping boys Luxembourg 4-1, with Alexander Kokorin of Dynamo Moscow scoring a brace, to keep automatic qualification in their own hands.

Spain are now three points clear at the top of Group I with just two games remaining after Jordi Alba and Alvaro Negredo struck either side of half-time in Helsinki while France, in second, saw their goal drought continue with a 0-0 draw in Georgia.

Italy's single-goal win against Bulgaria in Sicily means they need only

beat the Czech Republic on Tuesday to book their ticket to Brazil from Group B.

Behind them, the race for second and a prospective play-off berth remains open, particularly after Armenia won 2-1 in the Czech Republic.

The Netherlands saw their perfect record in Group D come to an end, however, in their 2-2 draw in Estonia.

Arjen Robben put the Dutch ahead early on, but a stunning double from Konstantin Vassiljev turned the game on its head and the Oranje needed a last-gasp Robin van Persie penalty to spare their blushes.

Meanwhile, England took control of Group H thanks to their 4-0 defeat of whipping boys Moldova which featured a brace from Manchester United's Danny Welbeck.

England lead the section on goal difference from Montenegro, who drew 1-1 in Poland, with Ukraine a further point back in third.

Ukraine hammered hapless San Marino 9-0 and England must go to Ukraine on Tuesday without Welbeck, who is suspended.

Elsewhere, Belgium are on the brink of qualifying from Group A after a 2-0 win in Scotland coupled with Croatia's 1-1 draw in Serbia left them five points clear at the summit.

AFP, Los Angeles



Costa Rica slowed the USA's march toward the 2014 World Cup with a 3-1 win Friday, while Mexico were on even shakier ground after a 2-1 loss to Honduras.

Costa Rica moved to the top of the six-nation final qualifying group in North and Central America and the Caribbean (CONCACAF) with the victory in San Jose that ended the USA's 12-match winning streak.

The Ticos now head the group on 14 points, one more than Jurgen Klinsmann's United States.

Mexico, long the powerhouse of the region, are in worse straits heading into another crucial round of matches Tuesday.

Two goals in the space of three minutes in the second half lifted Honduras to victory in Mexico City and into third place in the group that will see three teams advance directly to next year's finals, and the fourth-placed team play off for a berth against New Zealand.

Mexico, held to three dispiriting goalless draws in their three prior qualifiers at Azteca Stadium -- the venue where they once dominated all comers -- appeared poised to turn things around when Oribe Peralta put them ahead 1-0 in the sixth minute.

But Jerry Bengtson in the 64th and Carlo Costly in the 66th ensured Honduras came away with a maximum three points that take their total to 10, with Mexico fourth on 8.

In San Jose, Costa Rica were out for revenge after a bitter 1-0 defeat to the United States in Denver in March, in a match played in heavy snow.

The hosts jumped to a quick lead as Johnny Acosta beat DaMarcus Beasley on a set-piece corner and headed home a goal in the third minute.

The United States were still reeling when Celso Borges doubled Costa Rica's lead in the 10th, heading in a cross from Christian Bolanos.

Clint Dempsey's first-half penalty -- after charging Costa Rican keeper Keylor Navas brought down Fabian Johnson in the box -- pulled the United States within 2-1 at halftime.

A more disciplined United States were pressing for an equalizer after the break before Joel Campbell's 75th minute strike restored Costa Rica's two-goal advantage.

Klinsmann, whose team were trying to win a qualifier in Costa Rica for the first time, had to make last-minute changes when midfielder Michael Bradley hurt an ankle warming up. It's not clear if he'll be able to play when the United States host a desperate Mexico in Columbus, Ohio, on Tuesday.



Portugal star Cristiano Ronaldo (C) celebrates his second goal against Northern Ireland during their 2014 World Cup qualifier at Windsor Park in Belfast on Friday.

Ronaldo to miss Brazil friendly

AFP, Lisbon

Portugal captain Cristiano Ronaldo will not play in the friendly against Brazil in the American city of Boston on Tuesday, his country's doctor has confirmed.

The Real Madrid forward will be allowed to miss the game as he struggles with tendonitis, Portugal doctor Henrique Jones was quoted as saying by the Lusa news agency.

Ronaldo "has had a week of intense treatment, he made an enormous sacrifice and now he needs to rest," Jones said after Portugal's 4-2 victory in Northern Ireland which kept them on top of World Cup qualifying Group F, two points clear of Russia but having played a game more.

Ghana in play-offs

AFP, Johannesburg



Ghana became the fourth country to qualify for the World Cup Africa zone play-offs when they defeated Zambia 2-1 Friday in a winners-take-all Group D clash in Kumasi.

Goals from Majeed Waris and Kwadwo Asamoah gave the 'Black Stars' a two-goal advantage just past the hour mark before Nathan Sinkala netted to create a tense climax.

Ghana topped the four-nation mini-league with 15 points from six games -- their only setback being a 1-0 away loss to the Chipolopolo (Copper Bullets) last year.

Zambia ended with 11 points and Sudan and Lesotho, who have two points each, meet in Omdurman Sunday to decide who avoids the embarrassment of finishing bottom.

Algeria, Ivory Coast and Egypt reached the play-offs ahead of the final round and another six places are up for grabs this weekend.

A seeded draw on September 16 in Cairo will divide the 10 group winners into five two-leg ties with the victors qualifying for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

Only Andre Ayew of three midfield stars recalled by Ghana started, with Michael Essien, whose father died last weekend, on the bench and Kevin-Prince Boateng sidelined by a knee injury.

The home team controlled possession for most of the opening half at Baba Yara Stadium -- home to two-time African champions Asante Kotoko -- and deservedly led 1-0 at half-time.

Vettel ends Hamilton run

AFP, Monza

Sebastian Vettel ended Lewis Hamilton's run of four straight pole positions on Saturday when he secured the prime starting spot for Sunday's Italian Grand Prix.

Vettel's Red Bull team swept the front row in qualifying, with the 26-year-old German in awe-some form and teammate Mark Webber just behind in second.

Seeking his third win at the Autodromo Nazionale, the series leader and defending triple world champion Vettel clocked a best lap time of one minute and 23.755 seconds ahead of Webber, who recorded a best of 1:23.968.

They were the only two drivers to go below 1:24.

German Nico Huelkenberg delivered a stunning late lap to snatch third place for Sauber ahead of the Ferraris of Brazilian Felipe Massa and Spaniard Fernando Alonso, who were a disappointing fourth and fifth in front of watching Ferrari president Luca di Montezemolo.

German Nico Rosberg was sixth for Mercedes while his teammate Hamilton qualified only 12th after running off the circuit during Q2.

Daniel Ricciardo, the young Australian who will succeed compatriot Webber at Red Bull next season, was seventh ahead of the two McLarens of Mexican Sergio Perez and Briton Jenson Button, with Frenchman Jean-Eric Vergne completing the top 10 for Toro Rosso.