

What to WATCH

TEN Sports  
UEFA Europa League  
Estoril v Sevilla  
Live from 1:00am (Friday)  
TEN Action  
UEFA Europa League  
Tottenham v Tromso  
Live from 1:00am (Friday)

MILESTONES

Wayne Rooney scored twice against Bayer Leverkusen to reach 200 Manchester United goals.  
  
Rooney is fourth on United's all-time leading scorers' list, behind Bobby Charlton (249), Denis Law (237) and Jack Rowley (211).  
  
Cristiano Ronaldo celebrated the signing of his new contract with Real Madrid in stunning fashion with his 23rd career hattrick.  
  
It was Ronaldo's second Champions League hattrick after his treble against

Manchester United star Robin Van Persie (L) acrobatically scores the second goal against Bayer Leverkusen during their Champions League match at Old Trafford on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

RESULTS

**Group A**  
**Manchester United 4** (Rooney 22, 70, van Persie 59, Valencia 79) **Bayer Leverkusen 2** (Rolfes 54, Toprak 88)  
**Real Sociedad 0 Shakhtar Donetsk 2** (Alex Teixeira 65, 87)  
**Group B**  
**Galatasaray 1** (Bulut 84) **Real Madrid 6** (Isco 33, Benzema 54, 81, Cristiano Ronaldo 63, 66, 90+1)  
**FC Copenhagen 1** (Jorgensen 14) **Juventus 1** (Quagliarella 54)  
**Group C**  
**Benfica 2** (Djuricic 4, Luisao 30) **Anderlecht 0**  
**Olympiakos 1** (Weiss 25) **Paris Saint-Germain 4** (Cavani 19, Thiago Motta 68, 73, Marquinhos 86)  
**Group D**  
**Bayern Munich 3** (Alaba 3, Mandzukic 41, Robben 68) **CSKA Moscow 0**

# C'Ron sparkles in goalfest

REUTERS, London

Cristiano Ronaldo underlined his status as Real Madrid's conductor with a hattrick as they joined holders Bayern Munich and Manchester United in posting big wins as the Champions League group stage started on Tuesday.

Thirty goals rained in around Europe but the Portuguese forward stole the show with a scintillating display in Real's 6-1 hammering of Valencia gave new boss David Moyes a pleasing, if sometimes anxious, first taste of the group stage.

Edinson Cavani was on target for big-spending Paris St Germain as the French club began with a 4-1 win at Olympiakos Piraeus in Group C. Twice former European Cup winners Benfica matched them with a 2-0 win at home to Anderlecht.

Not all the European aristocrats had it their own way, however, with Juventus held to a 1-1 draw at FC Copenhagen.

Bayern Munich's main Group D rivals look like being Manchester City with the English Premier League club easing to a 3-0 win away to Czech side Viktoria Plzen.

Edin Dzeko, Yaya Toure and Sergio Aguerro were on target after the break for City who are aiming for the knockout rounds for the first time after missing out in the last two seasons.

Real Sociedad's return to the Champions League group stage for the first time since 2003-04 went flat as Shakhtar Donetsk returned from Spain with a 2-0 victory in Group A.

others drew (Copenhagen held Juventus 1-1), which is even better.

"Our next two games are at home so if we win them we will be doing really well towards making the next stage."

Less than four months after a last-minute Arjen Robben goal won last season's trophy for Bayern Munich the Bundesliga giants were quick off the mark in their defence of the title.

David Alaba's powerful early free kick sent Bayern on their way to a 3-0 victory over CSKA Moscow in Pep Guardiola's first European tie since taking charge. Dutchman Robben was on target again with Mario Mandzukic scoring Bayern's other goal.

Ronaldo's former Manchester United team mate Wayne Rooney also scored twice in the English champions' 4-2 victory over Bayer Leverkusen as the Old Trafford club began their first European venture without Alex Ferguson at the helm since 1985.

Ferguson, who twice steered United to Champions League success, watched as Rooney's double and goals from Robin Van Persie and Antonio

Cancer-struck cricketer needs financial help

SPORTS REPORTER

ISTIAQUE MAHMUD

Istiaque Mahmud Tonmoy, a former member of the Magura district cricket team is battling for his life in a Dhaka hospital. The player was diagnosed with cancer in 2011 and had to undergo surgeries and lose his leg earlier this year in order to survive.

Tonmoy is now under the treatment of an oncologist at the city's Square Hospital and requires around 20 lakh taka for the next step.

His hapless father Abdul Wahab has requested for financial help from all and donations can be deposited at the Islami Bank's Magura Branch, Muduraba Savings Account No. 9924. One may contact him at 01736267334.

Warne, Hurley didn't split

AFP, Sydney

Cricket great Shane Warne broke his silence to deny rumours of a split with model girlfriend Liz Hurley on Wednesday, following intense speculation fuelled by a last minute cancellation at a press conference.

Reports in Britain and Australia had said the celebrity couple were calling it quits with the Sun citing a source as saying: "They have been so loved-up and have tried to make it work, but the distance has been a huge issue."

But Warne took to Twitter on Wednesday evening, saying he and Hurley were working through their problems.

"Some of the reports re EH & me r absolute rubbish. Yes we're sorting through some (private) issues. But we're not throwing the towel in yet," he wrote.

The rumours were sparked by a lack of tweets between the pair with Hurley not sending Warne a 44th birthday message on September 13, although she was in England and he was in Australia visiting his three children.

Both of them are prolific social media users but Warne's last tweet to his 47-year-old fiancée was on August 30. She was reportedly due in Melbourne a week ago but has not turned up.

A Hurley tweet earlier this month that read: "The more I know of man, the more I love my dog" only added to the speculation.

Warne had been due to attend a press conference in Melbourne Wednesday regarding his foundation, which helps raise funds for ill and underprivileged children, but he pulled out just 90 minutes before it was due to be held.

Cricket Victoria blamed a "scheduling conflict" while Warne tweeted his apologies.

"Hey guys apologies about today & the late notice everyone!"

Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates one of his three goals against Galatasaray during their Champions League encounter in Istanbul on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

Unilever

Ill-fated Iker

REUTERS, Madrid

Real Madrid goalkeeper Iker Casillas has suffered bruised ribs and his recovery time will depend on how he responds to treatment, the nine-times European champions said after tests on Wednesday.

The 32-year-old Spain captain should be fit to return to action for their next Champions League outing at home to Copenhagen on October 2, local media reported.

Casillas collided with team mate Sergio Ramos in the opening moments of Tuesday's 6-1 Champions League rout of Galatasaray. After trying to play on, he decided to call for Diego Lopez to come on and replace him.

It was a bitter blow for Casillas, an ever-present figure in the Real goal for more than a decade, who was returning to play a competitive match for the first time since the beginning of the year when he broke a bone in his hand and lost the number one jersey to Lopez.

Coach Carlo Ancelotti has continued where Jose Mourinho left off last season, and started Lopez in their opening four La Liga matches, though he said at the weekend that Casillas would be the team's keeper in cup competitions.

"There was a lack of communication, but there was so much noise we couldn't hear each other," Real defender Ramos told sports daily Marca, of the incident where he jumped into Casillas. "It was really unlucky."

Casillas's hand injury was also caused by a teammate when defender Alvaro Arbeloa kicked him while attempting a clearance in a King's Cup match against Valencia in January.

BREAKTHROUGH IN MEN'S SCALP CARE

TOTAL 3 SCALP DEFENCE\*

NO DANDRUFF<sup>1</sup>. NO ITCH<sup>2</sup>. NO GREASE<sup>3</sup>.

NEW CLEAR MEN

\*Defined as any problem associated with dandruff i.e. itch, dryness, flakes, tightness, inflammation. <sup>1</sup>No visible flakes with regular use. <sup>2</sup>Associated with dandruff.