

What to WATCH

STAR Cricket
CLT20
Highveld Lions v Mumbai Indians
Live from 8:30pm
TEN Sports
Pan Pacific Open
Semifinals

Live from 12:30pm
NEO Prime
Bundesliga
Augsburg v Borussia M'gladbach
Live from 1:00am (Saturday)

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Manchester United striker Javier Hernandez jumps for joy after scoring the all-important goal against Liverpool during their League Cup encounter at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

PHOTO: AFP

Bayern cruise into last 16

AFP, Berlin

Holders Bayern Munich made light work of Hannover 96 with a 4-1 victory on Wednesday that put them into the last 16 of the German Cup.

Thomas Mueller grabbed a brace while Claudio Pizarro and Franck Ribery also found the net in a comprehensive victory for last season's treble winners. Didier Ya Konan struck for Hannover, who also lost 2-0 to Bayern in the league earlier in the season.

In the night's other clash of top flight teams Freiburg knocked out Stuttgart with a 2-1 victory.

MS hammers Hyderabad

AGENCIES, Ranchi

MS Dhoni's 19-ball 63 and Suresh Raina's fine knock of 84 helped Chennai Super Kings to a 12-run win over Sunrisers Hyderabad in the Group B clash of Champions League T20 at Ranchi on Thursday. Chasing 203 runs to win, Hyderabad got off to a flying start as Shikhar Dhawan along with Partiv Patel added 88-run for the first wicket before a goof up between the duo saw Patel getting run out for 38. However, it was a day when Dhoni could do no wrong as the match turned in Chennai's favour when Raina got rid off JP Duminy quickly as well.

SCORES IN BRIEF CHENNAI SUPER KINGS: 202 for 4 in 20 overs (Raina 84, Dhoni 63 not out, Hussey 23; Steyn 2-23, Duminy 2-27) **SUNRISERS HYDERABAD:** 190 for 7 in 20 overs (Sammy 50, Dhawan 48, Patel 37; Bravo 2-34, Holder 2-39) **Result:** Chennai Super Kings won by 12 runs. **Player-of-the-match:** Suresh Raina.

Hernandez upstages Suarez

REUTERS, London



Javier Hernandez poached a second-half winner as Manchester United beat arch-rivals Liverpool 1-0 to move into the English League Cup fourth round on Wednesday, subduing Luis Suarez on his return from a 10-match ban.

Mexican Hernandez lost his marker and steered home a Wayne Rooney corner a minute into the second half and United held on despite being outplayed for large periods by a Liverpool side welcoming back Uruguayan Suarez for the first time since April.

It was a welcome fillip for United manager David Moyes, who had been desperate to avoid a second defeat to a major rival in quick succession after Sunday's 4-1 Premier League loss to Manchester City.

Arsenal set up a fourth-round clash against Chelsea, coming through a penalty shootout against West Bromwich Albion after the match had finished 1-1 after extra time.

An inexperienced Arsenal side had trailed 3-1 in the shootout but won 4-3 with Nacho Monreal netting the decisive spot-kick.

There was gloom for holders Swansea City who suffered a shock 3-1 defeat by second tier Birmingham City

RESULTS

Birmingham 3 (Burn 57, Green 61, Adeyemi 81) **Swansea 1** (Bony 90)

Manchester United 1 (Hernandez 46) **Liverpool 0**

Newcastle 2 (Cisse 31, Gouffran 67) **Leeds 0**

Tranmere 0 Stoke 2 (Ireland 23, Crouch 90)

West Brom 1 (Berahino 71) **Arsenal** (Eisfeld 61)

1 -- aet

and Papiss Cisse scored his first goal since April as Newcastle United beat Leeds United 2-0.

Premier League Stoke City also booked a spot in the next round, winning 2-0 at third tier Tranmere Rovers.

Suarez, who missed the end of last season and the start of this one for biting Chelsea's Branislav Ivanovic, had dominated the headlines in the run-up having caused controversy in previous games against United.

The script was written for him to make a decisive impact, but he was upstaged by Hernandez who showcased his finely-tuned eye for a goal with a typically clever finish.

He left his marker Jose Enrique flat-footed in the box and found a metre of space to sidefoot home.

The goal was largely against the run of play as Liverpool dominated possession, but their neat and tidy approach play frequently lacked any end product.

While United made eight changes from the team that lost to City, Liverpool picked arguably their strongest side and quickly adapted to a change in formation with boss Brendan Rodgers opting to play a back three.

Suarez missed a good chance due to a heavy touch in the first half and crashed a free kick against the bar in the second, but the visitors' best opportunity fell to on-loan Victor Moses.

He headed an Enrique cut-back straight at United keeper David De Gea from 10 metres to leave Liverpool without a win in three games after a bright start to the campaign.

Arsenal had looked to be heading out of the competition when they were two goals down in a penalty shootout against West Brom but Craig Dawson and Morgan Amalfitano missed for the hosts, allowing Monreal to smash home the decisive kick.

The match had finished 1-1 with Arsenal's 20-year-old German midfielder Thomas Eisfeld grabbing the opener on 61 minutes in his second game for the club, before Saido Berahino headed in at the far post to level 10 minutes later.

Dan Burn, Matt Green, Tom Adeyemi were all on target as 2011 League Cup winners Birmingham caused an upset against Premier League Swansea for whom Wilfried Bony grabbed a late consolation.

Roma clear at top

REUTERS, Rome



AS Roma moved clear at the top of Serie A after beating Sampdoria 2-0 on Wednesday as struggling AC Milan came back from 3-1 down to draw 3-3 in stoppage time at Bologna.

Mehdi Benatia's wonderful 65th-minute solo goal and a Gervinho strike gave Roma a hard-fought three points at Sampdoria and means that they have started the season with five successive wins for the first time in their history.

Morocco defender Benatia scored the goal of the night when he dribbled past three defenders before somehow crashing home his first Roma goal as he fell to the ground.

Roma, whose manager Rudi Garcia was sent to the stands just after the hour, moved up to 15 points, two clear at the top after Napoli drew 1-1 with lowly Sassuolo.

Massimiliano Allegri's Milan looked certain to lose their second match in a week following two goals from Diego Laxalt and another from Lazaros Christodouopoulos after Andrea Poli gave Milan a 12th-minute lead.

But two goals in three minutes from Robinho and Ignazio Abate, who struck in stoppage time, enabled the away side to miraculously save a point in a thrilling finale.

Blerim Dzemaili gave Rafael Benitez's Napoli the lead with a fierce drive after 15 minutes, running on to a poor clearance to thump home the opener.

RESULTS

Lazio 3 (Ederson 4, Lulic 39, Hernanes 90+4) **Catania 1** (Barrientos 6)

Chievo 1 (Thereau 28) **Juventus 2** (Quagliarella 47, Bernardini 65-og)

Livorno 1 (Luci 23) **Cagliari 1** (Ibarbo 53)

Napoli 1 (Dzemaili 14) **Sassuolo 1** (Zaza 20)

Bologna 3 (Laxalt 33, 52, Cristaldo 61) **AC Milan 3** (Poli 12, Robinho 89, Abate 90+1)

Parma 4 (Mesbah 19, Parolo 28, 40, Rosi 35) **Atalanta 3** (Bonaventura 20, Denis 44, Livaja 79)

Sampdoria 0 Roma 2 (Benatia 65, Gervinho 88)

Torino 2 (Cerci 36-pen, 52) **Verona 2** (Gomez 44,

But Sassuolo, hammered 7-0 by Inter Milan at the weekend, fought back and grabbed a deserved draw through Simone Zaza, who beat Pepe Reina far too easily with a high shot from an acute angle in the 20th minute to give them their first point of the season. They could have easily come away with all three points had Reina not made a couple of smart saves in the second half. Champions Juventus came from a goal down to win 2-1 at Chievo Verona in a match marred by controversy over a wrongly disallowed Chievo goal with the scores level.

Fabio Quagliarella had equalised for Antonio Conte's side in the 47th minute after Cyril Thereau had given the home side the lead when Alberto Paloschi tapped in what he thought was the home side's second.

Real's lucky escape

AFP, Madrid



A dubious injury time Cristiano Ronaldo penalty was enough to move Real Madrid back to within two points of league leaders Barcelona with a 2-1 win away to Elche on Wednesday night.

However, the hosts were left furious with referee Cesar Muniz Fernandez as after failing to show Sergio Ramos a second yellow card for a clear bodycheck on Coro in the first-half, he pointed to the spot in the fourth minute of added time when Pepe fell to the ground under pressure from Carlos Sanchez.

Ronaldo had put the visitors ahead from a free-kick early in the second-half, but Richmond Boakye thought he had rescued a point when he headed home in the 91st minute before the late drama.

RESULTS

Sevilla 4 (Rakitic 17-pen, 53, Bacca 80, 88) **Rayo Vallecano 1** (Adrian 55)

Granada 0 Valencia 1 (Jonas 90+3)

Elche 1 (Boakye 90+1) **Real Madrid 2** (Ronaldo 51,

With Gareth Bale ruled out with a thigh problem, Real boss Carlo Ancelotti made three changes to the side that started the 4-1 drubbing of Getafe on Sunday as Fabio Coentrao, Ramos and Luka Modric replaced Dani Carvajal, Nacho and Asier Illarramendi.

Ronaldo saw a deflected effort fly just wide in the first minute, but Elche started much the brighter and Real had goalkeeper Diego Lopez to thank to stop them falling behind for the fourth time in six league matches this season.

Messi faces tax case

AFP, Madrid

Idolised for his immense skill on the field, four-time World Footballer of the Year Lionel Messi's squeaky-clean image off the pitch will come under scrutiny on Friday when he faces a judge accused of tax evasion.

The Argentine and his father Jorge Messi are due to appear in court on Friday morning in the coastal town of Cava near Barcelona, where the player lives, accused of evading tax on Messi's image rights to the tune of 4.16 million euros (\$5 million, £3.5 million) between 2006 and 2009.



Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo (L) celebrates his second goal against Elche during their Primera Liga match at the Manuel Martinez Valero Stadium on Wednesday.

PHOTO: AFP