



## Milan hire minder for Balotelli

SOCERNET

Mario Balotelli has been assigned a former police officer to act as personal assistant by AC Milan in a bid to keep him out of trouble off the field.

The Italy international continues to attract unsavoury headlines, most recently for breaking a reporter's microphone in Naples and, on Tuesday, for leaving the San Siro without wearing official club uniform or colours.

Such incidents should be limited in future after the Rossoneri assigned Filippo Ferri to keep a close eye on the player, according to the Gazzetta dello Sport.

Ferri, who was prohibited from official police activity for his part in heavy-handed treatment of protesters at the G8 summit in Genoa in 2001, already works as a security advisor for the Rossoneri and is therefore well-known within the club.

His brief will be to ensure Balotelli's off-field behaviour no longer eclipses the talent he shows on the field, although the president of the Italian Football Association (FIGC), Giancarlo Abete, says Ferri will not be needed when the forward is on international duty.

## Faf fined for tampering

AGENCIES, Dubai

South Africa's Faf du Plessis on Saturday became the latest player to be fined for ball tampering by the International Cricket Council (ICC).

The 29-year-old was caught rubbing the ball on the zip of his trousers during the third day's play in the second and final Test against Pakistan on Friday.

The on-field umpires warned South African skipper Graeme Smith, changed the ball and doctored five penalty runs.

Later Friday, match referee David Boon of Australia summoned du Plessis for a hearing and fined him 50 per cent of his match fee on Saturday after the player had pleaded guilty.

Pakistan's Waqar Younis became the first player to be suspended for one limited-overs international during a tri-series in Sri Lanka in 2000, also involving South Africa.

Indian greats Sachin Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid were also punished for the same offence.

## Pune ousted from IPL

CRICINFO, Chennai

The Pune Warriors franchise has been ousted from the Indian Premier League (IPL) after the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) terminated, with immediate effect, its franchise agreement with Sahara Sport Adventures Ltd, a subsidiary of Sahara India Pariwar.

The reason for the termination was non-payment of the bank guarantee. The decision was taken by the BCCI working committee in Chennai on Saturday.

According to a press release issued by BCCI secretary Sanjay Patel, Sahara were required to furnish a bank guarantee of 170.2 crore rupees for IPL 2014 in March this year. The franchise had defaulted on 70 per cent of the payment last season and had its bank guarantee encashed by the BCCI in May.



Arsenal striker Olivier Giroud (L) heads in the second goal against Crystal Palace during their Premier League match at Selhurst Park yesterday.

# MU stage a fightback

AFP, London



Manchester United belatedly rediscovered their famous fighting spirit by roaring back from behind to beat Stoke City 3-2 on Saturday and re-energise their Premier League title defence.

David Moyes's side trailed 2-1 at half-time and looked on course for a third successive home game without victory in the league, only for goals from Wayne Rooney and Javier Hernandez to secure a much-needed win.

United remain eight points behind Arsenal, who won 2-0 at Crystal Palace to consolidate their position at the head of the table, but they have closed to within three points of the top four.

Stoke took a fortuitous lead in the fourth minute at Old Trafford when Jonny Evans's attempted clearance from an Erik Pieters cross

## RESULTS

Aston Villa 0 **Everton** 2 (Lukaku 68, Osman 81)  
Crystal Palace 0 **Arsenal** 2 (Arteta 47-pen, Giroud 87)  
**Liverpool** 4 (Suarez 12, 17, 55, Sturridge 77) West Brom 1 (Morrison 66-pen)  
**Manchester United** 3 (Van Persie 43, Rooney 78, Hernandez 80) Stoke 2 (Crouch 4, Arnautovic 45)  
Norwich 0 Cardiff 0

cannonned against the prone Peter Crouch and flew into the net.

Robin van Persie equalised in the 43rd minute, tucking home after Asmir Begovic parried a Rooney header, only for Marko Arnautovic to restore the visitors' lead on the stroke of half-time with a superb free-kick.

Stoke lost the influential Arnautovic to injury in the second half and United capitalised by

## Ruhr derby Borussia's

AFP, Berlin



Borussia Dortmund proved too strong for Schalke in Saturday's Ruhr derby in the Bundesliga as Bayern Munich edged out Hertha Berlin to stay top of the table.

Beaten twice by their bitter rivals last season, Jurgen Klopp's side gained revenge with a 3-1 win at the Veltins Arena, while Bayern came from behind to beat Hertha 3-2 and Bayer Leverkusen also recovered from the loss of the opening goal to win 2-1 against Augsburg.

Bayern remain top of the table, a point clear of Dortmund and Sami Hyypia's Leverkusen. And a clear gap has now opened up below, with Hertha in fourth a further 10 points adrift.

Dortmund got off to a dream start in Gelsenkirchen, taking the lead on 14 minutes when Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang stabbed the ball home at the end of a sweeping move.

Schalke were looking to make it three consecutive wins against Borussia for the first time since the 1960s and they were handed a route back into the game on the half-hour mark when Neven Subotic brought down Christian Fuchs inside the area and referee Knut Kirchher pointed to the spot.

However, Kevin-Prince Boateng - who once had a spell with Dortmund earlier in his career - saw his penalty saved by Roman Weidenfeller, and Nuri Sahin went on to double the visitors' lead

## RESULTS

**Bayern Munich** 3 (Mandzukic 29, 51, Goetze 54)  
**Hertha Berlin** 2 (Ramos 4, Ben-Hatira 58)  
**Schalke** 04 1 (Meyer 62) Borussia Dortmund 3 (Aubameyang 14, Sahin 51, Blaszczykowski 74)  
**Bayer Leverkusen** 2 (Rolfes 34, Can 83) Augsburg 1 (Hahn 24)  
Hanover 1 (Sane 56) **Hoffenheim** 4 (Salihovic 10, Herdling 18, Roberto Firmino 62, 64)  
**Mainz** 05 2 (Okazaki 8, 68) Eintracht Braunschweig 0

shortly after half-time.

Schalke pulled a goal back when 18-year-old Max Meyer found the net within moments of coming on. It was his third goal in as many Bundesliga games, but Schalke could not find an equaliser and another substitute, Jakub Blaszczykowski, made it 3-1 in the 74th minute at the end of a brilliant counterattack led by Henrikh Mkhitaryan.

Bayern stay top after extending their year-long unbeaten run to 35 matches against Hertha, although they were made to work for it.

Hertha took a surprise early lead at the Allianz Arena through Colombian forward Adrian Ramos and Bayern coach Pep Guardiola also lost Toni Kroos and Arjen Robben inside half an hour.

However, that turned out to be a blessing in disguise as their two replacements turned the game around in the reigning champions' favour.

## Liverpool duo rebukes Fergie

AFP, London



Liverpool greets Kenny Dalglish and Jamie Carragher have hit back at former Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson for criticising the Merseyside club in his newly published autobiography.

In 'My Autobiography', released on Thursday, Ferguson said Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard "was not a top, top player" and questioned some of Dalglish's signings during his second spell as manager between 2011 and 2012.

He also described Liverpool's decision to publicly support striker Luis Suarez after he had been accused of racially abusing United left-back Patrice Evra as "ridiculous".

Dalglish, a former Liverpool player and manager who returned to the club as a non-executive director earlier this month, said he was "surprised" by his fellow Scot's remarks.

He also queried why Ferguson did not go into greater detail about his dispute with former United shareholder John Magnier over the ownership of the racehorse Rock of Gibraltar, which was eventually settled out of court.

"It's up to him what he says about United. It was his club," Dalglish wrote in a column in British newspaper The Daily Mirror.

"But I did find it interesting that he saw fit to dedicate an entire chapter of his book to Liverpool Football Club.

"I think a lot of people would have been interested to learn more about the Rock of Gibraltar story. But there were only a few words about the racehorse and the controversy that caused so much upset at United and was part of the reason for his fall-out with (former United captain Roy) Keane.

"Then he said that in his opinion the Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard was not "a top, top player". Considering he tried to buy him, it's a strange statement straight away. Maybe he's bitter that Steven didn't want to go."

## Trousers sans zips by 2015

CRICINFO, Dubai

It has been revealed that zips were due to be banned from trousers used as part of international cricket kit before the ball-tampering controversy surrounding Faf du Plessis emerged during the Dubai Test against Pakistan.

After the Test finished, Mohammad Moosajee, the team manager said: "Regarding the issue around zips I'm not sure many of you know that it has been outlawed by the ICC and each country has been given until 2015 to make sure that all their kit especially the trousers don't have zips on it.

The ICC's stance suggests that there has been concern about the use of the zips in roughing up one side of the ball, which is a key part in being able to extract reverse swing.

Law 42.3a(i) regarding fair and unfair play and the condition of the match ball says: "Any fielder may polish the ball provided that no artificial substance is used and that such polishing wastes no time."

**STAR Cricket**  
**Premier League**  
**Sunderland v Newcastle**  
**Live from 7:30pm**  
**Chelsea v Man City**  
**Live from 10:00pm**

**Serie A**  
**Lazio v Cagliari**  
**Live from 1:45am (Monday)**

**STAR Sports**  
**Serie A**  
**Juventus v Torino**  
**Live from 8:00pm**

**Premier League**  
**Tottenham v Hull City**  
**Live from 10:00pm**  
**La Liga**  
**Sociedad v Almeria**  
**Live from 12:00am (Monday)**  
**Atl Madrid v Betis**  
**Live from 2:00am (Monday)**

## City, Chelsea cross swords

AFP, London



Manchester City coach Manuel Pellegrini says he has no intention of igniting a feud with Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho ahead of the two teams' Premier League showdown on Sunday.

The pair previously crossed swords in Spain, with Mourinho denigrating the Chilean's record with Real Madrid after succeeding him at the Bernabeu in 2010.

Sunday's game at Stamford Bridge will be their first encounter in English football, but Pellegrini says he does wish to revisit old disagreements.

"I never get involved in the moment and I will not get involved now," he said during Friday's pre-match press conference.

"I don't know him. He worked in Spain, I worked in another club. We played Real Madrid against Malaga, nothing more. I don't have any complaint about him."

Both managers' current teams are riding high in the Premier League.

Chelsea climbed to second place with a 4-1 win over Cardiff City last weekend, while City stole into the top four by winning 3-1 at West Ham United.

They each carried their good form into the Champions League in mid-week, Chelsea winning 3-0 at principle Group E rivals Schalke and City beating CSKA Moscow 2-1 in the Russian capital.

City's victory was however scarred by racist chanting aimed at midfielder Yaya Toure, for which the Russian club have been charged by European governing body UEFA.

Toure has been in commanding form for City this season, scoring four goals in eight league games, and Mourinho has described the powerful Ivorian as a "fantastic player".



Petrobangla

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)

#### Follow-up Notice Inviting Bids for Oil and Natural Gas Exploration in Deep Sea Blocks Under Bangladesh Offshore Bidding Round 2012

In view of the revised terms and conditions for the Deep Sea blocks under the Bangladesh Offshore Bid Round 2012 the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Petrobangla invite International Oil Companies (IOCs) to bid for three (3) deep sea blocks (DS-12, 16 & 21) currently available for exploration by the IOCs. **The revisions include significant fiscal and commercial improvements, such as increased gas price, annual price escalation, enhanced annual cost recovery limit, tax waiver for Contractor for the entire project life, no transmission tariff, scope to sell Contractor's gas to Third Party within Bangladesh etc.** The bidder, singly or in association with other oil/gas companies, can bid for one or more blocks. Contracts will be signed with the successful bidders in line with the Revised Model Production Sharing Contract 2012.

#### CONTRACT FEATURES

- Full repatriation of profit.
- No signature bonus or royalty.
- No duty for equipment and machinery imported for petroleum operations during exploration, production and development phases.
- Provision for assignment of interest and share transfer.
- 100 percent cost recovery.
- Mandatory work program consisting 2D seismic for each block .
- Minimum work obligation in each of the Exploration Periods.
- Maximum 70% cost recovery per Calendar Year.
- Option to sell 50% of Contractor's share of Natural Gas in the domestic market to a third party, at a negotiated price, without Petrobangla's right of first refusal.
- Higher gas price from deep sea blocks with escalation.
- Income Tax waiver for Contractor.

#### QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Bidder, whether individual or in case of joint venture at least one member must have **offshore** daily production of at least 15,000 barrel of oil or 150 mmscf of gas as Operator to be qualified for bidding.
- Biddable work program commitment over and above the mandatory program.
- Bank Guarantee for performance of the Minimum Exploration Program.

#### AVAILABILITY OF DATA

There is no seismic or drilling data available for deep sea blocks however, to enable companies to assess the geological prospects of the blocks, Promotional Package is available on payment basis. Promotional Packages contain sample seismic sections from shallow sea areas, gravity, magnetic, geological maps. Companies are required to purchase the Promotional Package in order to qualify for bidding. The purchase price of Promotional Package is US\$ 7,000 (US Dollar seven thousand) or BDT 560,000 (BD Taka five hundred sixty thousand). Companies interested in bidding and purchase of Promotional Package may contact:

#### Director, Production Sharing Contract

Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)  
Petrocentre, 3 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.  
Telephone 88-02-8189930, Fax: 88-02-9127400  
web site: [www.petrobangla.org.bd](http://www.petrobangla.org.bd)  
E-mail: [dpscpb@petrobangla.org.bd](mailto:dpscpb@petrobangla.org.bd) with a cc to [mgr1.contract@petrobangla.org.bd](mailto:mgr1.contract@petrobangla.org.bd)

Bids in triplicate should be submitted in sealed envelopes superscribed "**Confidential**" "**BANGLADESH OFFSHORE BIDDING ROUND 2012**" and "**Proposal for Block # .....**" not later than 11:00 a.m. BST on 12 January 2014, to:

#### Chairman

Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)  
Petrocentre, 3 Kawran Bazar  
Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.

Public opening of bids before the authorized representatives of the bidders will take place at 11:30 a.m. BST on the same day at the same address. Bidders intending to be present during the bid opening should depute their authorized representative.

Queries on the terms and conditions of the bid and visit to Data Room will be entertained for a period of 30 days from the date of the notice.

Cost of Promotional Package may be paid in cash BDT at Petrobangla or in US\$ through wire transfer in the name of Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla). Additional information and updates are available at [www.petrobangla.org.bd](http://www.petrobangla.org.bd).

Companies who already have purchased Promotional Packages are not required to purchase again.

