

Real destroy Sevilla

AFP, Madrid



Gareth Bale scored twice and Cristiano Ronaldo notched a hat-trick as Real Madrid thrashed Sevilla 7-3 on Wednesday in their league clash.

Bale was making his first start at the Santiago Bernabeu and made an immediate impact as he put the hosts 2-0 up within half an hour.

Ronaldo then added a third, but Sevilla fought back through an Ivan Rakitic penalty and Carlos Bacca.

Bale then set up Karim Benzema and Ronaldo to put Real 5-2 ahead before Rakitic replied once more with a stunning strike for Sevilla, although he was to blot his copybook by missing a penalty later.

Ronaldo went on to complete his hat-trick and Benzema rounded off the scoring after Sevilla had been reduced to 10 men when Stephane Mbia was sent-off with 14 minutes remaining.

Real boss Carlo Ancelotti had made four changes to the side that lost 2-1 to Barcelona at the weekend with Benzema restored to the number nine role between Ronaldo and Bale in attack.

And the Frenchman proved his worth in the move for the opener as he raced onto Isco's pass before cutting the ball back for Bale to fire high into the net on his favoured left foot.

Benzema then teed up Bale twice more as

RESULTS

Valladolid 2 (Larsson 76, Javi Guerra 79) Real Sociedad 2 (Griezmann 16, 53)

Valencia 1 (Jonas 33-pen) **Almeria 2** (Torsiglieri 62, Vidal 70)

Real Madrid 7 (Bale 13, 27, Ronaldo 32-pen, 60, 71, Benzema 53, 79) Sevilla 3 (Rakitic 38-pen, 63, Bacca 40)

Osasuna 3 (Oier 1, Riera 13, Torres 58) Rayo Vallecano

the Welshman was firstly denied by a smart save from Beto before blasting inches over from 20 yards.

Bale was credited with his second of the evening on 27 minutes when his free-kick took a huge deflection off the arm of Alberto Moreno and looped into the net past the helpless Beto.

Five minutes later it was 3-0 when Isco was unnecessarily dragged down inside the area by Fernando Navarro.

Ronaldo stepped up to fire home and celebrated with a military salute in a mocking response to Sepp Blatter's description of him as a "commander" last week.

Yet, Sevilla were back in the game before half-time when firstly Sergio Ramos was harshly penalised for a push on Diogo Figueiras and Rakitic converted the resulting penalty.

And two minutes later Vitolo ghosted past Alvaro Arbeloa on the right and squared for Bacca to roll into an empty net.



PHOTO: AFP

Real Madrid winger Gareth Bale scores his second goal against Sevilla during their Primera Liga encounter at the Bernabeu on Wednesday.



Dreams shattered

Tonmoy now seeks support for survival

ATTIQUE ANAM

At the oncology ward of Square Hospital in Dhaka, a young life named Istiaque Mahmud Tonmoy is flickering, between hope and despair. The life that once dreamt of becoming a renowned cricketer, now only pleads for survival. One leg amputated, the rest of his body is trying hard to repel the spread of a deadly cancer.

Tonmoy was like any other young boy growing up in a small town of Bangladesh with the carefreeness of the world. Endowed with an athletic physique, Tonmoy chose cricket for his life's journey. He was good at cricket, so good that he was one of the stars of cricket in Magura, his native district, at the U-14 and U-16 levels alongside Shakib Al Hasan, who is two years senior to Tonmoy. Like Shakib, Tonmoy too was an all-rounder, but he was a pace bowling all-rounder, thanks to his stocky built. Like Shakib, Tonmoy too dreamt of playing at the national level and perhaps representing the country one day.

"I was considered as a pace-bowling all-rounder as I had good pace and I batted well too. People at the Magura District Sports Association showed me great care and affection," says Tonmoy, lying on a bed of the oncology ward, reminiscing fond old memories.

But life would play a cruel game on Tonmoy, as a small tumor developed on the lower part of his left leg in 2006. Innocuous it looked at first and was so assured by the doctors in Bangladesh. So after some initial treatment Tonmoy continued with cricket. But things would turn for the worse when the pain reappeared and he was admitted to a local hospital, where a surgery went horribly wrong. The doctors, instead of diagnosing the cancer, severed a vein in the leg, which ultimately led to its amputation for saving the rest of his body from being infected.

With that ended Tonmoy's dreams of becoming a cricketer. But his will to live and have a decent life did not end

there as Tonmoy got himself admitted in the sociology department of Dhaka College. Now Tonmoy's life is a constant commute between Magura to Dhaka and Kolkata for chemotherapies and follow-ups, with intermittent opportunities for study. Each course of chemotherapy costs in excess of Tk 1 lakh.

"Now all I can think of is resuming my studies, the last year of which has been lost to treatment. I want to end my studies and find a job somewhere. But expenditure for my treatment is sapping my family every bit," says Tonmoy.

If Tonmoy is to live on, he has to be on treatment. And everybody knows what it takes to treat a cancer patient. Md. Abdul Wahab, the hapless father of Tonmoy, is already hit hard by this expensive treatment and now seeks assistance from well-wishers, who can contribute monetarily to Tonmoy's treatment by donating funds to account number 1217878, Agrani Bank Limited, Magura Branch. Wahab

BJMC complete young squad

SPORTS REPORTER



Team BJMC became the first team to turn up in the ongoing footballers' registration market yesterday and formed a youthful side for the upcoming season, which will get underway by November 20 through the Federation Cup.

BJMC returned to top-flight football in 2011 after a 27-year gap and stunned country's traditional forces like Abahani and Mohammedan to reach the season's curtain-raising tournament, the Federation Cup, but had to be content with a runners-up finish.

But that achievement appeared as a bolt from the blue. They failed to repeat the performance in the remainder of that season and even could not reach the last four of the last season's

tournaments like Federation Cup, Independence Cup and Super Cup.

And compared to last season's squad, BJMC definitely lost their strength this season, with national striker Toklish Ahmed, defender Kesto Kumar, former national midfielder Abul Hossain and goalkeeper Aminul Haque joining other clubs, but they have been able to retain the services of their sixteen old players including national midfielder Omar Faruk Babu.

The inclusion of six budding players is being seen as a brave move by BJMC, who also roped in a few players from Brothers Union, Feni Soccer Club, Sheikh Jamal DC and Arambagh KS, and the new inclusions are assumed to be the main strength of the team, who have already started their pre-season training three weeks ago.

"As a team of a government organisation, we have some budgetary limita-

tion, which literally hinders forming a strong squad, but we believe we will be able to produce some stunning results against champion sides this season," said BJMC director Arif Khan Joy.

TEAM BJMC

Arifuzzaman Himel, Ariful Islam, Mohammed Karim, Mohammed Nayeem, Amit Khan Shuvra, SM Rajib, Khan Mohammed Tara, Shahanur Rahmed Rony, Redwan bin Rakin, Shakil Ahmed, Soyeab Mia, Musaddek Khan Murad, Mahmudul Hasan, Sabbir Ahmed Sumon, Omar Faruk Babu, Abdullah Al Parvez, Loutfor Rahman Noyon, Faysal Ahmed, Masud Rana, Jakir Hossain Ziku, Moklesur Rahman, Ali Akbar Kanon, Saiful Islam Saif, Aung Thowai Ching Marma, mohammed Shapon, Abdullah Al Mamun, Aminur Rahman Sajib, Mahadi Hasan Tapu and Mohammed Arif Hossain.

Spurs survive Hull scare

AFP, London



Tottenham Hotspur edged Hull City 8-7 in a tense penalty shoot-out to reach the League Cup quarter-finals on Wednesday, while Manchester City overcame Newcastle United after extra time.

Hull had lost 1-0 to Spurs in the Premier League on Sunday and they came within a whisker of exacting swift revenge on their return to White Hart Lane.

Icelandic midfielder Gylfi Sigurdsson was one of the players brought into the Spurs team and he made a stunning impact in the 16th

RESULTS

Newcastle United 0 **Manchester City 2** (Negredo 99, Dzeko 105) (aet)

Tottenham Hotspur 2 (Sigurdsson 16, Kane 108)

Hull City 2 (Friedel 53-og, McShane 99) (aet)

minute, flummoxing his marker with a neat drag-back and then arrowing a sumptuous shot home from 25 yards.

Second-choice goalkeeper Brad Friedel made a less favourable impression, however, gifting Hull an equaliser in the 53rd minute.

Liam Rosenior's low cross from the right was hooked back across goal by

the sliding Curtis Davies and Friedel inadvertently fumbled the ball into his own net for an own goal.

Spurs saw 20-year-old midfielder Harry Kane rattle the woodwork from 20 yards in stoppage time, but it was Hull who struck first in extra time, with Paul McShane heading home from a George Boyd corner.

Kane would not be discouraged, however, and he drilled home a 108th-minute equaliser to make it 2-2 and send the game to penalties.

Aaron McLean missed for Hull before Spurs' record signing Erik Lamela fluffed his lines for the hosts, but Friedel had the final say, saving with his legs from Ahmed Elmohamady to secure a

