

<div>What to WATCH</div> <div>DAY'S EVENT</div>	STAR Cricket India v Australia Seventh ODI (D/N) Live from 2:00pm ESPN English Premiership	Newcastle v Chelsea Live from 6:45pm Fulham v Man United Live from 9:00pm Arsenal v Liverpool Live from 11:30pm	Primera Liga Sevilla v Celta de Vigo Live from 3:00am (Sunday) TEN Sports Paris Masters Semifinals	Live from 7:30pm STAR Sports Primera Liga Rayo Vallecano v Real Madrid Live from 1:00am (Sunday)	NEO Prime Bundesliga Hoffenheim v Bayern Munich Live from 9:00pm Eintracht Frankfurt v Wolfsburg Live from 1:00am (Sunday)
	Premier Div Cricket League Victoria v Sk Jamal, Venue: Rajshahi	Gazi Tank v Prime Bank Venue: Bogra			



Roma striker Marco Borriello celebrates his all-important goal against Chievo during their Serie A match at Rome's Olympic Stadium on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

Roma's perfect 10

AFP, Milan



Marco Borriello headed his first goal of the season to secure a 1-0 win for Roma over Chievo and extend the leaders' new all-time Serie A record of opening season wins to 10 on Thursday.

Roma, who have scored 24 and conceded just once this campaign, restored their lead of five points on second-placed Napoli and Juventus after their wins over Fiorentina and Catania respectively on Wednesday.

Rudi Garcia's side were afforded the honour of being the first Italian team to record nine opening wins in succession last weekend thanks to a late 1-0 win away to feisty Udinese.

However with Juventus also having achieved that feat during the 2005-2006 season, when the Turin giants were stripped of the title and any other related honours, fans of the Giallorossi packed the Olympic Stadium on Thursday to see more history being made in the capital.

Despite missing captain Francesco Totti and Gervinho through injury and with defender Douglas Maicon suspended, Roma dominated throughout but found Chievo a tough nut to crack.

Chievo, sitting bottom with one win and only four points and also missing French

striker Cyril Thereau due to a late injury, proved hard to break down in a first period in which Roma should have hit the net several times.

The visitors' goalkeeper Christia Puggioni punched away a long-distance drive from Dutchman Kevin Strootman, while Daniele De Rossi missed the target with a header and Marquinho flashed an angled drive wide.

The hosts continued to dominate after the break but shots by Miralem Pjanic and De Rossi hit bodies in a packed Chievo defense aread.

Faced with the prospect of an unwelcome draw, Garcia added fizz by replacing Marquinho with striker Alessandro Florenzi and the hosts broke the deadlock several minutes later.

Pjanic's pass found Florenzi deep on the left and the forward's inviting volley was promptly headed home by Borriello from six yards.

Roma survived a fright shortly after when goalkeeper Morgan De Sanctis spilled a Luca Rigoni shot but Alberto Paloschi was ruled offside.

Roma came close to their second when Borriello's angled drive was blocked at the near post and then Adem Ljajic's direct free kick from a tight angle was tipped away by Puggioni.

Tamim aids cancer-struck Tonmoy

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh cricketer Tamim Iqbal has donated Tk 1 lakh to assist in the treatment of Ishtiaque Mahmud Tonmoy, a 22-year-old former member of the Magura district cricket team who is battling sarcoma, which caused him to lose his left leg earlier this year.

Tonmoy's father Md. Abdul Wahab personally went to collect the cheque from Tamim, who is currently involved in the Bangladesh-New Zeland ODI series. "My gratitude to Tamim knows no words. I went to collect the cheque and thank him in person, and he said that he is like my son, and to keep praying."

Argentina call up uncapped defenders

AFP, Buenos Aires

Argentina coach Alejandro Sabella has named an experimental squad for the friendly matches against Ecuador and Bosnia-Herzegovina later this month.

In a bid to reinforce a defence that has been his side's weak link, Sabella has handed call-ups to Porto's Nicolas Otamendi and Fiorentina's Facundo Roncaglia while also handing Lucas Orban of French side Bordeaux his first call-up.

Argentina will face Ecuador in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on November 15 before taking on the Bosnians in St. Louis, Missouri on November 18.

SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Sergio Romero (Monaco/FRA, on loan from Sampdoria/ITA), Mariano Andujar (Catania/ITA)

Defenders: Pablo Zabaleta (Manchester City/ENG), Facundo Roncaglia (Fiorentina/ITA), Hugo Campagnaro (Inter Milan/ITA), Federico Fernandez (Napoli/ITA), Nicolas Otamendi (FC Porto/POR), Ezequiel Garay (Benfica/POR), Jose Basanta (Monterrey/MEX), Marcos Rojo (Sporting Lisbon/POR), Lucas Orban (Bordeaux/FRA)

Midfielders: Javier Mascherano (Barcelona/ESP), Ever Banega (Valencia/ESP), Lucas Biglia (Lazio/ITA), Angel Di Maria (Real Madrid/ESP), Ricardo Alvarez (Inter Milan/ITA), Erik Lamela (Tottenham Hotspur/ENG)

Forwards: Lionel Messi (Barcelona/ESP), Sergio Aguiero (Manchester City/ENG), Gonzalo Higuain (Napoli/ITA), Ezequiel Lavezzi (Paris Saint-Germain/FRA), Rodrigo Palacio (Inter Milan/ITA)

Top of the table clash

AFP, London



After consecutive home defeats, Premier League leaders Arsenal will look to reassert their title credentials when they host third-place Liverpool in a top-of-the-table affair on Saturday.

Arsenal have been in superb form in the league, winning seven and drawing one of their last eight games to establish a two-point lead over Chelsea at the summit.

However, after losing at home to Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League and then falling to Chelsea in the League Cup, questions are being asked about their capacity to go the distance.

In Liverpool they face a team brimming with confidence after a 4-1 win over West Bromwich Albion in which Luis Suarez claimed a hat-trick and Daniel Sturridge scored with an extravagant chip.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger,

who will recall stars including Mesut Ozil and Olivier Giroud to his starting XI, says the game represents an ideal opportunity for his side to show their worth.

"We know the games. We have to respond well against Liverpool," said the Frenchman.

"We are in a strong position in the league and have a good opportunity at home, and we have to turn this round. Away from home we are very solid, but

FIXTURES

Saturday

(1500GMT unless otherwise stated):

Arsenal v Liverpool (1730GMT), Fulham v Manchester United, Hull City v Sunderland, Manchester City v Norwich City, Newcastle United v Chelsea (1245GMT), Stoke City v Southampton, West Bromwich Albion v Crystal Palace, West Ham United v Aston Villa

Sunday

Everton v Tottenham Hotspur (1330GMT),

at home you know it's important and vital to win the big games."

Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers has revealed that Brazilian playmaker Philippe Coutinho has been given the "all clear" to return to action, having been sidelined since September 16 with a shoulder problem.

Arsenal could be in second place by the time the game kicks off at the Emirates Stadium, if Chelsea win at Newcastle United in Saturday's early match.

The Europa League champions won all six of their games in October, scoring 18 goals, but right-back Cesar Azpilicueta has warned his team-mates not to get carried away.

"It's true that Arsenal have two really difficult games, but we don't need to look to the other teams," said the Spaniard, who opened the scoring in his side's 2-0 League Cup win at the Emirates on Tuesday.

"We play in a difficult stadium in Newcastle and we know it's always a hard game there."

Atletico hot on Barca's heels

AFP, Madrid



A penalty in each half from Diego Costa and David Villa moved Atletico Madrid back to within a point of Barcelona at the top of La Liga with a 2-1 win at Granada on Thursday.

Costa declared his intention to play for Spain earlier in the week and he continued his claim to be included in Vicente del Bosque's squad next week by converting from the spot after Villa had been bundled over by Diego Mainz seven minutes before half-time.

Villa was again the victim for the second penalty award 12 minutes from time, but despite Costa still being on the field, it was Villa who took responsibility to seal the points with another confidently struck spot-kick.

Atletico were reduced to 10 men with two minutes remaining when Filipe Luis was shown a second yellow card and Odion Ighalo pulled a goal back in stoppage time, but it was too little too late for Granada, who slipped to their fifth home defeat of the season.

Diego Simeone's men had suffered their only defeat of the season in their last away game at Espanyol and they were put under the cosh early on by Granada.

Midfielder Recio saw a deflected effort clip the crossbar from a narrow angle and then forced Thibaut Courtois to awkwardly turn the ball over his own bar after the Belgian had been caught under a cross from the left.

Costa then had Atletico's first clear opportunity on 17 minutes when his header from close range was well-parried by Roberto in the Granada goal.

Atletico though were beginning to take control of the game and they were gifted the chance to open the scoring when Mainz unnecessarily charged into the back of Villa inside the area.

Costa confidently rolled the ball down the middle of the goal to register his 12th league goal of the season and move him back clear of Cristiano Ronaldo on 11 as La Liga's top scorer after the Portuguese's hat-trick in Real Madrid's 7-3 hammering of Sevilla on Wednesday.

Adrian Lopez ought to have doubled the visitors' advantage just before the break when he pulled his shot wide and Costa also had the chance to seal the points 22 minutes from time when Roberto stood up well to block his fiercely hit effort.

Atletico did finally get the all-important second goal when Villa was chopped down by Jeison Murillo and this time the former Barcelona man stepped up to send Roberto the wrong way for his sixth goal of the campaign.

And Ighalo ensured a grandstand finish when he nodded home Allan Nyom's cross as the game entered stoppage time.



Atletico Madrid striker Diego Costa (C) heads the ball during their Primera Liga encounter against Granada at the Nuevo Los Carmenes Stadium on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

Mourinho praises players

AFP, Cobham



Jose Mourinho believes the credit for Chelsea's transformation this season should go to the club's players and not the manager.

Frank Lampard and John Obi Mikel this week claimed the squad was developing a winning mentality this season following Mourinho's return to the club for a second period in charge.

The midweek League Cup victory at Arsenal was Chelsea's sixth successive victory and came on the back of last Sunday's 2-1 triumph over Manchester City that maintained Mourinho's side's position two points off the head of the Premier League table and

strengthened their title claims.

Last season, the club became focused more on securing a top four finish rather than winning the championship but Mourinho insists the improvements have come from within the squad.

"I was not here to feel it last season," said the Portuguese. "I just think that you can only do things when the players are open for that.

"You can try and try but if the players are not open to your ideas, you fight and fight but at the end of the day you can't do it.

"If we are living a positive moment, I think it's up to them. I do my best to try to help but the players are working in a fantastic way."

The return to form of striker

Fernando Torres has been one of the features of Chelsea's recent run.

The Spain forward capped a man of the match display against Manchester City last weekend with the winning goal, his first in the Premier League this season, after impressing in the Champions League against Schalke.

But Mourinho said: "I did nothing. I do what I always do, trying to get the best out of my players in a very normal way.

"Fernando is responsible for his self-motivation and self-commitment and the way he is working every day. I don't think Fernando is a kid that will be influenced by these wins. I want him to be stable and not be too worried about proving himself or scoring or not scoring. Just work for the team."

IND-AUS ODI series decider today

PTI, Bangalore

India will yet again rely on their batting firepower as they seek to clinch the one-day series against an equally-determined Australia when the two teams clash in the seventh and final match in Bangalore on Saturday in what promises to be another high-scoring thriller.

After two successive washouts in Ranchi and Cuttak, India rebounded to level the series 2-2 in Nagpur with yet another superlative show by their batsmen, who chased down a mammoth 351-run target.

The incredible run chase brought back memories of India's magnificent victory in Jaipur when they chased a stiff target of 360, achieving the second highest successful run chase ever in ODI history.

The bowlers of both the sides are under tremendous pressure on flat batting tracks as despite the two washouts, more than 2500 runs have been scored so far.

Even the score of 350 cannot be considered a cushion and Saturday's match is also likely to be another high-scoring tussle with the wicket at M Chinnaswamy stadium traditionally being a batting-friendly wicket.