

GTV
Bangladesh v New Zealand
Only T20I
Live from 1:30pm
STAR Cricket

India v West Indies
First Test, Day 1
Live from 9:30am
TEN Cricket
Pakistan v South Africa

Third ODI (D/N)
Live from 5:00pm
TEN Sports
UEFA Champions League
Dortmund v Arsenal

Live from 1:45am (Thursday)
TEN Action
UEFA Champions League

Barcelona v AC Milan
Live from 1:45am (Thursday)

Bangladesh v New Zealand
Only T20I, Time: 1:30pm

Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur

Dutch booters in MSC trial

SPORTS REPORTER

A cash-strapped Mohammedan SC yesterday flew in two Dutch footballers of Surinamese origin and are awaiting the arrival of a few more footballers from Africa for their pre-season trial.

Chevello De Rijp and Melvin Grootfaam – both of whom played for the Dutch second division (Eerste Divisie) side Stromvogel Telstar, arrived yesterday and will go through the trial in the next few days. 23-year-old midfielder Grootfaam made eight substitute appearances for Telstar last season while 24-year-old centre-forward De Rijp played in the Belgian top-tier league (Jupiler Pro League) a couple of seasons ago.

The agent who brought these two players informed that a 28-year-old attacking midfielder Belgian-Moroccan nationality named Rachid Tiberkanine, who currently plays for FAR Rabat in Morocco and previously was a member of Levski Sofia and Bayer Leverkusen's reserves, will join the camp within the couple of days.

The training camp currently has five foreigners. The other three are – Baybeck of Cameroon, Kaderi and Cisse of Nigeria.

It has been learnt that the players are participating in the camp with assurance of club officials that the advance payment issue will be solved before the completion of the players' transfer.

PREMIER CHESS MSC lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Reigning champion Mohammedan SC took sole lead in the Rupahali Sarees Premier Division Chess League with maximum 8 match points after the end of the 4th round at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room yesterday.

Mohammedan beat Leonine Chess Club by 3.5–0.5 points in the fourth round. Bangladesh Navy were in second position with 6 points after they beat Pritam-Prism Chess Club of Narayanganj by 4-0 points. Titas Club were in third position with five points after they drew 2-2 against Access Group.

Amla boost for Proteas
Third ODI against Pakistan today

AFP, Abu Dhabi

South Africa batsman Jean-Paul Duminy said star performer Hashim Amla's return will be a big bonus for South Africa in the third one-day international against Pakistan in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday.

Amla, ranked second in Test batsmen's rankings, left for home to attend the birth of his second child after the first of two Tests in the series which ended 1-1.

He missed the first two one-dayers – won each by South Africa and Pakistan – before joining the squad on Sunday, despite the delay in the birth.

Duminy hoped Amla gives good starts to South Africa who were shot out for 183 and 143 in the one-day matches.

"Hashim's return is a bonus but there's no guarantee that he will come and score runs. He's probably given us the best starts in the ODI format – he's the best in the world – so it's great to have him back," Duminy said after training on Monday.



Napoli players jog prior to a training session in Naples on Tuesday on the eve of their Champions League match against Olympique Marseille.

PHOTO: AFP

Either Bolt or Farah or Bondarenko

AFP, Paris

World and Olympic champions Usain Bolt of Jamaica and Mohamed Farah of Britain have been named along with Ukrainian high jumper Bohdan Bondarenko as the three men's finalists for the IAAF 2013 World Athlete of the Year Award. All three starred at this year's World Athletics Championships in Moscow where the Jamaican won gold in the 100 and 200 metres, Farah clinched a rare 5,000-10,000 metres double and Bondarenko took gold in the high jump.

Bolt will be bidding for a fifth IAAF Athlete of the Year Award after 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012.

The three women's finalists will be named on Tuesday with top Jamaican sprinter Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce as well as Ethiopian long-distance stars Meseret Defar and Tirunesh Dibaba in the running.

The winners will be announced by the IAAF at a ceremony on November 16.

Jose calls for response

AFP, London



Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho has called for an immediate response from his players against Schalke in the Champions League on Wednesday following their unscheduled defeat at Newcastle United.

The Europa League champions appeared to be gathering momentum after winning all six of their matches in all competitions in October, only to slump to a 2-0 loss at St James' Park in the Premier League on Saturday.

On Wednesday they will be bidding to repair their home record in European competition, having seen a 29-game unbeaten run in the Champions League group phase ended by Basel in their opening Group E fixture.

Their subsequent victories away to Steaua Bucharest (4-0) and Schalke (3-0) took them to the top of the pool, but another setback at Stamford Bridge would compromise their chances of reaching the last 16.

"We are in a stable position to qualify in the Champions League, but if we lose again we are in a difficult position," Mourinho told the Chelsea website. "So Wednesday is an important game for us."

Mourinho has vowed to shake up his starting XI, having been critical of his players' application after the defeat at Newcastle.

Andre Schurrle, Willian and Samuel Eto'o will all hope to start after coming

on from the bench against Alan Pardew's side, while Juan Mata's place once again looks at risk after he was hooked in the 62nd minute.

"I will make changes. Not 11 changes because that would be too much, but changes for sure," said Mourinho.

"I don't know my best team because we have this kind of performance (against Newcastle)."

"I know basically which is my best team, but it depends on the way we perform because performances and results push you for decisions."

Mourinho can at least console himself that, with the exception of long-term knee injury victim Marco van Ginkel, he has a full complement of players to choose from.

The same cannot be said of his Schalke counterpart Jens Keller, whose injury-ravaged squad have been unable to keep pace in the Bundesliga this season.

Schalke won 2-0 away to Hertha Berlin on Saturday, but they are languishing in sixth place – 12 points behind leaders Bayern Munich – after losing four of their opening 11 games.

The Gelsenkirchen club have been hit by injuries to Marco Hoger, Jefferson Farfan, Chinedu Obasi and Klaas-Jan Huntelaar, although Greek centre-back Kyriacos Papadopoulos is close to a return from a knee problem after playing for Schalke's reserves last weekend.

One positive by-product of the injury blight has been the emergence of youngsters such as 18-year-old

attacking midfielder Max Meyer, who last month became the youngest player to score in three consecutive Bundesliga games.

However, captain Benedikt Howedes has admitted: "We cannot compete against top teams like Chelsea at the moment."

Schalke's last visit to England came almost exactly a year ago, when they won 2-0 against current Premier League leaders Arsenal en route to topping their group.

Chelsea have not lost at home to a German team in six previous encounters, but Schalke may take heart from the London club's curious habit of struggling for form in November.

Chelsea have won just six out of 21 games that they have played in the last three Novembers, and former manager Roberto Di Matteo paid with his job this time last year after the defending champions fell in the group phase.

"We always say, 'Be careful, because November was not the greatest month,' and we said it again two years ago and again last year," said the Czech Republic international.

"The last three seasons it didn't really work out and that is very hard to explain."

"But we are now in a good position in the league and a good position in the Champions League group, and we have to carry on like that because it's a long campaign."

Heavy metal v orchestra

AFP, Dortmund



Borussia Dortmund's heavy metal-loving coach Jurgen Klopp has said he wants his team to make another loud statement in Wednesday's Champions League at home to Arsenal.

Dortmund pulled off an impressive 2-1 win over the Gunners at London's Emirates Stadium a fortnight ago with Poland striker Robert Lewandowski netting the late winner.

Klopp's side are now looking to complete the double over Arsene Wenger's Arsenal at Dortmund's Westfalenstadion, but the Borussia boss is full of praise for his opposite number.

"For me, he is 'Sir' Arsene Wenger, I love him," enthused Klopp in an interview with the English media.

"When you look at Arsenal over the last ten years, they have always played almost perfect football."

"But we all know Arsenal haven't won a title for a long time (the 2005 FA Cup)."

"Arsenal have a philosophy from Arsene Wenger, I love that, but I can't coach that way, I am different."

"He likes to have the ball and play football, passing the ball around."

"It's like an orchestra, but they play a silent song."

"I like heavy metal, I always want it to be loud."

Dortmund have certainly made plenty of noise in Group F, bouncing back from their shock 2-1 defeat at Napoli with a 3-0 trouncing of Marseille at home before beating Arsenal in London.

It means there is all to play for with

Arsenal, Dortmund and Napoli all tied on six points with the Gunners top of the table only on goal difference.

Lewandowski, who became the first player to score four goals in a Champions League semifinal last season, warmed up for the Gunners with four goals in the 6-1 league rout of Stuttgart last Friday.

Dortmund hope to have captain Sebastian Kehl back in the squad after a six-week injury break due to an ankle injury, but Germany winger Marco Reus insists the hosts can not expect another rout.

"It will of course be enormously difficult. We can't expect as many chances as we had against Stuttgart," said Reus.

Arsenal warmed up for the trip to Germany with an impressive 2-0 home victory over Liverpool to leave them five points clear at the top of the Premier League.

"It was important to convince people we can win these big games," Wenger said of the Liverpool success.

"Let's enjoy it, take a lot of encouragement from it and continue to develop as a team, but we must be cautious as well and be on our toes."

"We have plenty of other big games coming up and this will help us to deal with them."

Defender Kieran Gibbs is also doubtful after limping off in the second half against Liverpool with a calf problem.

Jack Wilshere's absence with a rolled ankle in training could well see Tomas Rosicky face his former club on Wednesday night.

The 33-year-old Czech playmaker signed from Dortmund in May 2006 and who has been hampered by several injury setbacks, feels the Gunners can be confident of building on their positive start.

AFP, Abu Dhabi



In-form Atletico Madrid can seal their place in the last-16 of the Champions League when they host Austria Vienna at the Vicente Calderon on Wednesday.

One defeat in 17 games in all competitions this season sees Atletico trail Barcelona by just a point at the top of La Liga, but their cruise through Group G has arguably been even more impressive on their return to the competition for the first time in four years.

An opening day victory at home to Zenit St Petersburg has been followed up by impressive wins on the road at Porto and in Austria two weeks ago to leave Diego Simeone's men needing just one win from their final three games to seal their passage into the knockout stage.

The visitors' 3-0 win in Vienna was marked by a stunning performance from Diego Costa on his Champions League debut having been suspended for the opening two games of the campaign.

Costa scored twice, including one superb solo effort as he ran half the length of the field to slot home, and has continued his rampant scoring form in recent weeks to take his tally to 15 goals in as many games this season.

Atletico defender Diego Godin hailed the partnership Costa and David Villa have struck up since the latter arrived to fill the considerable gap left by the departure of Radamel Falcao to Monaco in June.

"They have started the season very well in both La Liga and the Champions League."

MAIL ONLINE



Lionel Messi could have signed for Chelsea in the summer after adidas offered to pay half of his £210million buy-out clause, according to Barcelona sports paper Mundo Deportivo.

Messi, who joined Barcelona as a 13-year-old after the club paid for expensive hormone therapy treatment without which he would never have made the grade as a professional, has always had a strong emotional bond with the club.

But according to Mundo Deportivo, adidas saw the opportunity to prise him away from Barca -- and effectively from Nike who sponsor the Catalan giants -- and move him to one of their three main European clubs: Chelsea, Bayern Munich or Real Madrid.

Mourinho famously accused Messi of 'theatre' after he was involved in Asier Del Horno's sending off in a 2006 Chelsea v Barcelona clash, and was subsequently

told Messi had no intention of leaving the club.

Even if adidas had stumped up the £105m, Chelsea would still have had to find the other £105m and manager Jose Mourinho would have had to convince a player with whom he has never had a very good relationship that the two could work together.

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public enemy No.1 for Barca and Messi as Real Madrid coach.

Real Madrid president Florentino Perez would have pulled off a coup to top even the swiping of Luis Figo in 2000 if he had signed Messi.

It has long been his intention and he may have felt with the arrival of Neymar at the Camp Nou he could tempt the four-time Ballon d'Or winner to defect.

Barcelona would have done everything possible to keep Messi

but, as with Figo, if Real had paid the £210m (£250million) buy-out clause Barca would have been forced to sell putting Messi in the same team as Cristiano Ronaldo and bringing to an end any interest in Gareth Bale.

Bayern Munich were the third team suggested by Mundo Deportivo as being capable of completing the sensation transfer. By moving Messi to Germany, adidas would have given a massive boost not just to Bayern but to the Bundesliga.

But Messi did not finish on the best of terms with Pep Guardiola at the Nou Camp and Bayern, like Chelsea and Madrid, would have found it difficult to convince the player to make the move.

Messi goes into Wednesday's game with Milan on a run of three games without a goal and another theory circulated in Barcelona on Tuesday -- this is a good moment to remind Barca fans of Messi's commitment to the cause as he passes through what, by his incredibly high standards, is a low point in

Last-16 in sight Messi could have joined Chelsea

AFP, Madrid



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