

What to Watch

STAR Sports 4  
English Premiership  
West Bromwich v Aston Villa  
Live from 1:45am (Tuesday)  
STAR Sports HD1  
Serie A

AC Milan v Cagliari  
Live from 1:45am (Tuesday)  
STAR Sports HD2  
Primera Liga  
Malaga v Bilbao  
Live from 3:00am (Tuesday)

DAY'S EVENT

Dhaka Premier League  
(Super League Round)  
Gazi Tank v MSC

Venue: BKSP-2  
Prime Doleshwar v Kalabagan CA  
Venue: Fatullah  
Stadium  
Sk Jamal v Prime Bank  
Venue: SBNS

Federation Cup  
Soccer Club, Feni v Sk Jamal  
Time: 3:45pm  
MSC v Abahani  
Time: 6:00pm  
Venue: BNS

# United held City hit Spurs for six

AFP, London

South Korean midfielder Kim Bo-kyung's dramatic stoppage-time equaliser earned Cardiff City a 2-2 draw that prevented Manchester United from climbing into the Premier League's top four on Sunday.

United, who had seen Wayne Rooney controversially escape a red card, were on course for the Champions League places until Kim stole in to head home a Peter Whittingham free-kick in the 91st minute.

Surprise 3-2 victors over Manchester City earlier in the season, Cardiff inched three points clear of the bottom three thanks to Kim's goal, while United were left in sixth place, seven points behind leaders Arsenal.

Rooney angrily kicked out at Jordon Mutch in the early stages of the game in Cardiff, but referee Neil Swarbrick only showed him a yellow card and in the 15th minute the England striker put United ahead.

Antonio Valencia's right-wing centre was flicked on by Javier Hernandez to Rooney, who turned inside and let fly with a shot that beat goalkeeper David Marshall via a deflection off Gary Medel.

Cardiff's fans were furious that Rooney had been allowed to stay on the pitch, but they saw their side draw level in the 33rd minute with a beautifully constructed goal.

Medel found Whittingham, who helped the ball on to Mutch, and the recipient of the kick from Rooney released former United striker Fraizer Campbell to beat goalkeeper David de Gea with a first-time finish.

The hosts' joy was short lived, however, as Patrice Evra restored the champions' lead on the stroke of half-time when he headed home from Rooney's left-wing corner.

In response, Campbell saw a feathery chip come back off the bar, but United looked to have escaped until they gave away one free-kick too many and Kim dispatched Whittingham's centre to send the stadium into raptures.

For United, extending their unbeaten run to 10 games provided scant consolation, particularly as Kim's goal prevented them from supplanting Manchester City in the top four.

Manuel Pellegrini's side had reasserted their title credentials earlier in the day by humiliating Tottenham Hotspur 6-0 at the Etihad Stadium.

Beaten 1-0 by Sunderland in their last outing, City took the lead through Jesus Navas after only 14 seconds and did not look back.

The Spanish winger deftly lobbed Spurs goalkeeper Hugo Lloris after the Frenchman had gifted the ball to Sergio Aguero with a loose kick, and an own goal from Sandro in the 34th minute made it 2-0.

Aguero claimed a brace either side of half-time, tucking away centres from Navas and Yaya Toure, to take his tally of goals to 14 in his last 11 City appearances.

Manchester City's Spanish forward Alvaro Negredo unleashes a spectacular bicycle kick during his side's 6-0 demolition of Tottenham Hotspur at The Etihad stadium in Manchester yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Ronaldo scores and limps off

REUTERS, Madrid

Cristiano Ronaldo fired Real Madrid ahead before going off injured as they cruised to a 5-0 win at Almeria to remain six points adrift of leaders Barcelona who defeated Granada 4-0 earlier on Saturday.

Atletico Madrid then played their part in a day of big wins for the teams at the top of the table when Raul Garcia and David Villa scored two goals apiece to help Atletico Madrid retain a strong hold on second spot with a 7-0 win over 10-man Getafe.

Ronaldo struck after three min-

utes but the game was still in the balance when he limped off early in the second half.

Karim Benzema settled Real's nerves by curling home the second on 61 minutes before Gareth Bale, Isco and Alvaro Morata consigned Almeria to a resounding defeat.

The main concern was the extent of the leg strain for Ronaldo, who has bagged 14 goals in seven games including four for Portugal in their triumphant two-legged World Cup playoff win over Sweden.

"I don't think it is important," Real coach Carlo Ancelotti told a news conference.

"He had a problem with his thigh but I don't think it will be anything as there was no pain. He will be back

### RESULTS

Levante 0 **Villarreal 3** (Bruno 13-pen, Uche 74, 89)  
Valladolid 0 **Osasuna 1** (Sanjurjo Mate 84)  
Real Sociedad 4 (Vela 6, 61, 78, 81) Celta Vigo 3 (Rafinha 23, 57, Alex Lopez 28)  
Almeria 0 **Real Madrid 5** (Ronaldo 3, Benzema 61, Bale 71, Isco 75, Morata 80)  
**Atletico Madrid 7** (Raul Garcia 25, 52, Lopo 36-og, Villa 49, 78, Diego Costa 69, Adrian Lopez 90+2) Getafe 0

soon."

Atletico's success this season has been built on solidity but they tore apart a sorry Getafe in the late game through their attacking play, despite leaving a less-than-fully fit leading

## Goetze stabs Dortmund

AFP, Berlin

Bayern Munich's Germany star Mario Goetze came off the bench to score the opening goal in the European champions' 3-0 win at his ex-club Borussia Dortmund on Saturday.

Goetze, who joined Bayern for 37 million euros (US\$50m) in July after 12 years at Dortmund, gave the perfect reply to the chorus of boos at Borussia's Westfalenstadion.

The 21-year-old smashed home a Thomas Mueller pass on 66 minutes, before the flood gates opened and Arjen Robben and Mueller added late goals in the final five minutes.

This was a commanding performance and was the first time Bayern

### RESULTS

Nuremberg 1 (Ginczek 72) Wolfsburg 1 (Arnold 39)  
**Augsburg 2** (Halil Altintop 17, 23) Hoffenheim 0  
Eintracht Braunschweig 0 **Freiburg 1** (Fernandes 52)  
Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Flum 56, Joselu 61, 68) Schalke 04 3 (Flum 14-og, Matip 18, Hoewedes 86)  
Hertha Berlin 0 **Bayer Leverkusen 1** (Kiessling 29)  
Borussia Dortmund 0 **Bayern Munich 3** (Goetze 66, Robben 85, Mueller 87)

have beaten Dortmund in six Bundesliga attempts, dating back to February 2010, as Munich again ran out winners in a replay of May's Champions League final.

Dortmund had been forced to patch together their back four after both centre-back Mats Hummels and left-

back Marcel Schmelzer returned from international duty with injury.

But there can be no excuses as Bayern extended their record unbeaten run in the Bundesliga to 38 matches to open a seven-point lead over Dortmund, who drop to third.

Earlier, Bayer Leverkusen warmed up for Wednesday's Champions League clash at home to Manchester United by going second with a 1-0 win at Hertha Berlin.

Striker Stefan Kiessling, who has been repeatedly overlooked by Germany coach Joachim Loew since 2010, hit Leverkusen's first-half winner for his eighth goal in 13 league games.

The win came at a cost as Germany winger Sidney Sam is ruled out against Man United after suffering a torn thigh.

Bayern Munich's Mario Goetze (C) refuses to celebrate after scoring the crucial opening goal against his former side Borussia Dortmund during the German version of El Clasico in Dortmund on Sunday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Juve on top

AFP, Milan

Second-half strikes from Fernando Llorente and Carlos Tevez secured a 2-0 win away to Livorno on Sunday to send champions Juventus top of Italy's Serie A for the first time this season.

Elsewhere, Lazio escaped with a 1-1 draw away to 10-man Sampdoria while Fiorentina's hopes of challenging for a place in Europe next season were dented by a 1-0 defeat away to dominant Udinese.

Juventus now have a two-point cushion on overnight leaders Roma ahead of the capital side's home game against struggling Cagliari on Monday.

## Xavi back, Adriano out

REUTERS, Madrid

Barcelona will have Xavi back for Tuesday's Champions League Group H match at Ajax Amsterdam but full back Adriano is out with an ankle injury, the La Liga club said on Sunday.

Playmaker Xavi, who was sidelined by a hamstring problem missed Saturday's 4-0 win at home to Granada.

The Brazilian joined a lengthy list of injured including World Player of the Year Lionel Messi, goalkeeper Victor Valdes and left back Jordi Alba.

## Woeful Milan

REUTERS, Milan

Mario Balotelli confounded his followers again on Sunday by tweeting "this is the end" hours after missing a penalty in AC Milan's 1-1 draw against Genoa.

The maverick striker, who did not immediately enlarge on the message, tweeted in English at about 0500 local time on his account @finallymario.

However, six hours later he sent out another tweet in Italian which read: "Forza Milan comunque e sempre." ("Go on Milan, no matter how and forever").

The Gazzetta dello Sport speculated that Balotelli could have been referring to a possible transfer in the January window or that he was hinting that Milan's beleaguered coach Massimiliano Allegri could face the sack.

Balotelli saw his kick saved by Mattia Perin in the 36th minute against Genoa with the score at 1-1.

Milan have failed to win in their last seven games in all competitions and are 11th in Serie A, five points ahead of Sampdoria in the relegation zone. They also face a potentially decisive match away to Celtic in the Champions League on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, former Inter striker Antonio Cassano scored a late winner for Parma to put a dent in Napoli's title hopes.

Napoli remain in third but their third defeat of the campaign, and second consecutively following a 3-0 reverse at Juventus a fortnight ago, has given leaders Roma and second-placed Juventus an unexpected title boost.

Napoli's defeat has also given incentive to Inter, who sit fourth at three points adrift of Rafael Benitez's men.

On paper, the international break was not kind to Napoli but Benitez said it was no excuse.

### RESULTS

Verona 0 **Chievo 1** (Lazarevic 90+2)  
Milan 1 (Kaka 4) Genoa 1 (Gillardino 8-pen)  
Napoli 0 **Parma 1** (Cassano 81)

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