

**TEN Cricket** South Africa v India Third ODI (D/N) Live from 5:30pm **TEN Action UEFA Champions League** Napoli v Arsenal Live from 1:45am (Thursday)

**TEN Sports UEFA Champions League** Chelsea v Steaua Bucharest Live from 1:45am (Thursday) Sony Six HD Pakistan v Sri Lanka First T201 Live from 10:00pm

**NEO Prime New Zealand v West Indies** Second Test, Day 2 Live from 3:30am (Thursday)

### Zia wins

SPORTS REPORTER

Grandmaster Ziaur Rahman returned to winning run in the 5th London Chess Classic FIDE Open after beating FM Berry Neil of Scotland in the third round at the Olympia Conference Centre in London on Monday.

Zia, who has 2.5 points from three games, was scheduled to play against IM Mouska Jovanka of England in the fourth round last night.

#### SREI Int'l chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Grandmaster Niaz Murshed suffered another defeat in the SREI International Grandmasters' Chess Tournament when he lost against India's M Kunal in the sixth round at the Town Hall in Kolkata Tuesday.

Niaz has three points from six games followed by FM Debaraj Chatterjee (2..5 points), Zoar Haque Prodhan(2 points) and Sharif Hossain (1.5 points).

# Napoli stare at exit

AFP, Milan



Napoli striker Gonzalo Higuain is hoping to avoid the "horrible" situation of beating Arsenal but still failing to advance to the last 16 of the Champions League

when the sides meet on Wednesday.

A 3-1 defeat away to Borussia Dortmund a fortnight ago has left Rafael Benitez's Napoli third in Group F on nine points, the same as the second-placed Bundesliga side and three adrift of leaders Arsenal.

It means Arsenal, Dortmund and Napoli still have everything to play for, and there will be as much attention paid to proceedings in Marseille as Napoli's San Paolo stadium.

While Arsenal need only a draw to go through as leaders, Napoli need to beat the Gunners to have any chance of securing a runner-up spot which Dortmund could hold on to with victory in France.

If both Napoli and Dortmund win, all three teams would finish on 12 points and the standings would be decided by head-tohead clashes and goal difference.

If, however, Marseille upset the form book and beat Dortmund a draw would be enough for Benitez's Serie A title challengers to secure the runner-up spot and follow Arsenal into the knockout phase.

Yet the stark reality is that Napoli could finish on 12 points and still finish third and out of the competition -- a scenario Argentinian striker Higuain cannot come to terms with.

"I've never seen a side eliminated from the competition with nine or 12 points - it's a horrible situation to be in," Higuain told Sky Sport 24.

"All we can do is focus on winning our match. If we win and still go out with 12 points, then there's not much we can do."

Arsenal, who drew 1-1 with Everton at the weekend but still hold a five-point lead over Liverpool in the Premier League, head to the San Paolo as slight favourites.

Although a welcome state of affairs, Arsenal midfielder Mathieu Flamini admits the Gunners face a "busy" spell with trips to Manchester City and Chelsea all on the horizon.

#### **FIXTURES**

Schalke 04 (GER) v Basel (SUI), Chelsea (ENG) v Steaua Bucarest (ROM), Marseille (FRA) v Borussia Dortmund (GER), Napoli (ITA) v Arsenal (ENG), Austria Vienna (AUT) v Zenit Saint-Petersburg (RUS), Atletico Madrid (ESP) v FC Porto (POR), AC Milan (ITA) v Ajax (NED), FC Barcelona (ESP) v Celtic (SCO)



Napoli forward Jose Callejon controls the ball during a training session in Naples yesterday on the eve of their Champions League match against Arsenal.

### Shelly-Ann, Usain top athletes

AFP, Kingston

Jamaica's double World Championships sprint gold medalists Usain Bolt and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce were on Monday named the Jamaica Athletics Administrative

Association's male and female athletes of 2013.

Bolt, who was absent due to sponsorship commitments off the island, and Fraser-Pryce, retained the titles they won last year.

Bolt won the 100 metre-200 metre double at the **IAAF World Championships** in Moscow earlier this year, and led the 4x100m relav teams to victory as well.

Fraser-Pryce also won the double in the 100m and 200m.

Bolt and Fraser-Pryce were earlier this year named the IAAF male and female athletes of the year at a gala held in Monaco.

### Vieira started tunnel row

AFP, London



Arsenal legend Patrick Vieira has revealed he started the infamous tunnel row between the Gunners and

Vieira sparked a hostile exchange between the two bitter rivals at Highbury as the players lined up in the tunnel ahead of kick-off.

The bust-up was partially captured by television cameras, with United's Roy Keane responding angrily after Vieira exchanged words with Gary Neville.

United went on to win the Premier League clash 4-2, with neither side punished for the fracas, and former France star Vieira admitted he caused the tunnel chaos in an ITV documentary, Keane and Vieira: The Best of Enemies, to be screened on Tuesday.

"I started it," Vieira said. "I was cool, I was really calm, I was smiling at him - and then he lost it.

"When we played at Old Trafford his (Gary Neville's) tackling was flying in on Robert Pires and he was doing it on purpose, and I said 'listen, we are not at Old Trafford here, this is Highbury'.

"So I said to him 'if you touch Robert, I will come after you'."

Keane explained how he joined the assembled players waiting to take the pitch to find Vieira mid-flow with Neville.

"When we were going out for the start of the game I had forgotten my armband, and when I came out I had seen you at the top of the tunnel having a go at Gary," Keane said.

"What really annoyed me that night was that you were picking on Gary, you were almost picking on the weakest link, so that's what got my back up.

Former Arsenal captain Patrick Vieira (L) with Manchester United legend Roy Keane.

"There were two or three of you ganging up on Gary, simple as that."

Keane admitted he "hated" Arsenal at the peak of the sides' rivalry, which saw the two clubs win nine Premier League titles between 1995-96 and 2003-04.

"I had a lot of hatred for Arsenal because they were big rivals," Keane said.

"I can't think of any other word that springs to mind when I was going into battle with Arsenal. Hatred was the word."

Meanwhile, Vieira believes his former club's lack of leadership could ruin their bid to end a woeful run of eight years without a trophy.

Few would question the toughtackling Frenchman's leadership qualities and Arsene Wenger's side have failed to win a major trophy since Vieira's 2005 exit.

## to avoid Chile

REUTERS, Sao Paulo

Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari would rather play Spain or the Netherlands if the hosts make the last 16 of the World Cup than South American rivals Chile.

Chile are "a pain" to play against because their system is in direct contrast to Brazil's, Scolari said on TV Globo's Esporte Espetacular program.

"I hope Chile don't qualify.

"I'd rather play any of the others. They're a pain to play against. They're well organised, they're intelligent, they have a good side. It's better to play against a European team," he added.

Brazil are in Group A with Croatia, Mexico and Cameroon and the winners face the runners-up in Group B featuring Chile, world and European champions Spain, the

Netherlands and Australia. The winners of Group B face the runners-up in

Group A in the last 16. Scolari may have been employing early psychology. Brazil beat Chile 2-1 in a friendly last month and have lost only seven times in 67 matches against the South Americans.

The former Chelsea boss said he was not concerned that Brazil were in the toughest half of the draw with five of the eight former World Cup winners.

"We're ready for whatever happens," he said. "I just don't want to play Uruguay."

# Scolari hopes Hull hold Swansea

AFP, Swansea



ended his 11-month goal drought as the Hull striker returned to haunt his former club in a 1-1 draw against Graham enjoyed a prolific 18-month

Danny Graham finally

Swansea on Monday.

spell with Swansea before moving to Sunderland for £5 million in January and then onto Hull on loan in August. The 28-year-old has struggled at both

Sunderland and Hull, but he produced a fine strike early in the first half at the Liberty Stadium to put his name on the scoresheet for the first time since he netted for Swansea in a League Cup win at Chelsea in January.

Graham's first goal for Hull wasn't enough to secure the points however as Swansea defender Chico Flores equalised in the second half.

The result left both sides in mid-table, with 10th placed Swansea one point above their opponents.

Swansea forward Michu was back in the team after five weeks out with an ankle injury.

But it took Graham just nine minutes to show his old employers the sort of predatory finishing he produced on a regular basis during his time in south Wales.

Swansea defender Ashley Williams contributed to his side's downfall with a careless pass to Ahmed Elmohamady.

Elmohamady raced down the right flank before whipping over a cross to the far post, where Graham had found space to guide a left-foot volley past Gerhard Tremmel from close-range.

Graham could have been forgiven for embarking on a jubilant celebration after ending his long drought, but instead he showed his respect for Swansea by putting his hands in the air in a gesture of apology.

## Minister slams T-shirt action

AFP, Ankara



Turkey's sports minister lashed out on Monday at moves by the football authorities to punish two top Ivorian club players for paying homage to Nelson Mandela.

Didier Drogba and Emmanuel Eboue have been threatened with disciplinary action by the Turkish Football Federation for violating a ban on wearing political slogans on T-shirts -- triggering outrage on Twitter.

Turkish Sports Minister Suat Kilic called on the federation to review its decision against the two star players with Istanbul giant Galatasaray.

"I don't find it a healthy choice in terms of Turkey's image abroad and the two footballers' (freedom of) expression, " he said.

Drogba removed his club shirt after a match Friday against SB Elazigspor to reveal a T-shirt that read "Thank You Madiba",

using Mandela's clan name. Teammate Eboue also honoured the South African anti-apartheid hero who died on Thursday with a T-shirt that said "Rest in Peace Nelson Mandela".

The federation defended its decision to

summon the two players, saying they had not sought permission for their action. But the move caused fury among scores

of Twitter users, with some accusing the body of "fascism".

"There's a minute of silence for Mandela before a match in Britain but in Turkey, there are fines," said one tweet signed by Erce Sahin.

Another Twitter user with the handle Hevallo, said: "TURKISH FASCISM in

FOOTBALL like everywhere in Turkey!" The minister also blasted a federation decision last week to initiate disciplinary procedures against a Turkish club whose footballers wore T-shirts paying homage to the founder of modern Turkey, Mustafa

Kemal Ataturk.



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