

Channel 9 & STAR Sports1
Asia Cup
Bangladesh v India (D/N)
Live from 2:00pm
TEN Sports

UEFA Champions League
Schalke v Real Madrid
Live from 1:45am (Thursday)
TEN Action
UEFA Champions League

Asia Cup
Bangladesh v India (D/N)

Time: 2:00pm
Venue: Fatullah Stadium

Battling Genoa stun Napoli

AFP, Milan

 A late Emanuele Calaio freekick earned battling Genoa a shock 1-1 draw away to Napoli on Monday, when Fiorentina also snatched a late share of the points in a 2-2 draw away to Parma.

Napoli looked to have done enough to claim all three points at the San Paolo after Gonzalo Higuain ran on to Marek Hamsik's through ball to beat Mattia Perin in the 18th minute.

But Rafael Benitez's men failed to build on their lead and paid the price less than 10 minutes from the end when Genoa won a freekick after a foul by Dries Mertens which earned the Belgian a yellow card.

Calaio was handed the honours and from nearly 30 metres out stepped up to curl the ball over the wall and in off Pepe Reina's post as the Spanish 'keeper looked on in shock.

Instead of reducing the gap to second-placed Roma to four points, Napoli are now six behind Rudi Garcia's men, who themselves are nine behind leaders Juventus albeit with a game in hand.

Fiorentina remain fourth, six points behind Napoli, although La Viola had to thank Mati Fernandez for helping grab a share of the spoils five minutes from the

final whistle.

The hosts broke the deadlock through striker Antonio Cassano six minutes from the interval although only two minutes later Juan Cuadrado got on the end of Alessandro Matri's delivery to beat goalkeeper Antonio Mirante to level.

Former Fiorentina flop Amauri restored Parma's lead, in the 51st minute, from the penalty spot after Nenad Tomovic fouled Jonathan Biabiany just as the Frenchman was getting his head to a cross.

The visitors suffered another blow two minutes later when Modibo Diakite, who had been booked just before the half hour for a foul from behind on Cassano, saw red after another foul on the former Inter and AC Milan striker.

Despite being a man down Fiorentina pressed forward looking for an equaliser and when the visitors won a late free kick Fernandez spoiled the Parma party with a superbly-struck curling effort which had Mirante scrambling back into his own net.

Parma brought Raffaele Palladino off the bench and he flashed a header wide of the goal within a minute of coming on.

The match finished level, but on a sour note after a scuffle between Borja Valero and Gianni Munari led to both players being sent off in the fourth minute of added-on time.



Genoa forward Emanuele Calaio (L) scores the equalising goal from a freekick during their Serie clash against Napoli at the San Paolo Stadium on Monday.

PHOTO: AFP

SAIL-SBI OPEN
Siddikur leads Bangladesh contingent
SPORTS REPORTER

The Asian Tour seasons tees off at the Delhi Golf Club today when some of Asian's best golfers line up at the 300,000-dollar SAIL-SBI Open. Bangladesh will have a three-man representation in the season opener with two-time Asian Tour winner Siddikur Rahman leading the pack.

Siddikur, who finished third in this event last year before coming back to win the Hero Indian Open on this course, is looking for inspiration from that win.

"I have really good memories of this course, especially winning the Hero Indian Open. The experience has helped me a lot," Siddikur told Asiantour.com on the eve of the event.

Siddikur will be accompanied by compatriots Zamal Hossain Mollah and Shakhawat Hossain Sohel, both of whom are regular participants in the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), in this event which is co-sanctioned by Asian Tour and PGTI.



THE STAR CAST



MUSHFIQUR RAHIM V INDIA

(bats at 4)

Matches played: 10

Runs scored: 234

Average: 33.42

Highest score: 56 not out

RECENT PERFORMANCE

Runs in last six matches: 259

Average in six matches: 43.16

50s in 2013: 2

100s overall: 1

Percentage of team's runs scored in 2013: 8

VIRAT KOHLI V BANGLADESH

(bats at 3)

Matches played: 5

Runs scored: 370

Average: 123.33

Highest score: 102 not out

RECENT PERFORMANCE

Runs scored last six matches: 291

Average in last six matches: 48.5

100s since 2013: 5

50s since 2013: 9

100s overall: 18

Rumi wins TT title

SPORTS REPORTER

Rumi of Bangladesh Ansar clinched the title of women's singles event in the South East 34th National Table Tennis Championships with a 4-1 sets win over Rahima of Comilla at the Rajshahi Women's Sports Complex Gymnasium yesterday.

In mixed doubles, Ripon of Bagerhat and Sharmin of Comilla emerged champions beating Bangladesh Ansar pair of Munna and Cynthia in 3-1 sets.

Manosh of Rajshahi and Hridoy of Bagerhat moved into the final of men's singles beating Rimon of Biman and Tuhin of Ansar respectively.

Schumacher might not wake up

CNN-IBN, Berlin

Doctors treating Formula One legend Michael Schumacher have reportedly given up on their attempts to bring the five-time world champion out of 'artificial coma'.

According to a report in the German magazine Focus, doctors at the University Hospital of Grenoble in France have run out of options after repeated efforts to save Schumacher.

However, no official reason has been given yet on Schumacher's further recovery.

Three weeks ago, doctors announced that they were reducing the dosage of anaesthetic to wake him up from coma.

Schumacher is under artificially induced coma since December 29 after seriously injuring his head during a low-speed ski accident.

While skiing,

Schumacher had crashed into a rock so hard that the impact cracked his helmet. He had been skiing with his son and a group of friends.

Last week, Schumacher's former Ferrari colleague Felipe Massa visited to see him in hospital.

"He is sleeping, he looks normal and he showed a few responses with his mouth," the German daily Bild had quoted Massa as saying.

"As a young boy you dream about facing teams like Real Madrid so we're all really up for it," said the 20-year-old.

Abahani hold Sk Jamal

SPORTS REPORTER

IFA Shield runners-up Sheikh Jamal DC got another jolt in the Nitol Tata Bangladesh Premier League when they were held to a goalless draw by league leaders Abahani at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The third draw, second in a row, saw Sheikh Jamal DC move to second position of the 10-team table with 15 points from seven matches, four behind Abahani. The Federation Cup champions will have the chance to overtake Abahani as they have two matches in hand -- against Sheikh Russel DC on Feb 28 and Uttar Baridhara Club on March 10.

Having played a 2-2 draw against Team BJMC in the previous match, Sheikh Jamal put up an improved performance against four-time champions Abahani and were a little unlucky not to have secured full three points as they were denied by the wood-work twice.

Skipper Mamunul Islam hit the crossbar with a free-kick from outside the box in the 18th minute while Emeka Darlington's chip came off the crossbar in the 33rd minute.

In between those strikers, Haitian striker Sony Norde came close to scoring twice but his set-piece from the edge of the danger zone in the 20th minute narrowly missed the target. Abahani played well too but managed to create one good opportunity in the 76th minute when Osei Morison sent the ball over the bar.

Expressing his dissatisfaction over refereeing, Abahani coach Ali Akbar said that they had to play against 12 men.

"After the first-leg matches, it is good to have 19 points with five wins and four draws but I think the second and third leg will be tough for us with the players we have. If we can sign up some new foreign players in the mid-season transfer window, then it will be easy for us to stay in the title race," said Akbar.

Sheikh Jamal coach Joseph Afus was neither happy nor disappointed with the outcome rather he is looking forward to finishing the first-leg on top.



After getting smacked for 41 runs in his first seven overs, Lasith Malinga produced some swivelling deliveries in his last three to pick five wickets and turn the game around. He got the dangerous Shahid Afridi caught at short cover in his eighth over. Two balls later, he removed danger-man Misbahul Haq. In the next, he got Umar Gul caught at square-leg and returned in the 49th with a Yorker to remove Saeed Ajmal. He finished by uprooting Bilawal



Players and officials of Sunnydale under-10 girls' team pose with the trophy after winning the Milkman Mini Handball Tournament at the Shahid Captain M Mansur Ali National Stadium on Sunday.

Real aim for rare win

AFP, Gelsenkirchen

 Real Madrid are targeting a rare win in Germany when they take on Schalke 04 in Wednesday's Champions League last 16, first-leg clash, the Spanish giants' Gareth Bale says.

Having scored 20 goals in the group stages, Madrid are looking to improve on their dreadful away record in Germany as they take on Schalke for the first time.

"We know the Champions League is a big competition with all the best teams in it, so we know it is going to be difficult," said the 24-year-old Wales winger.

"I think we are ready, we believe we can win every game so we'll go over there and hopefully come back with the win."

The Spanish league leaders are unbeaten in 26 games in all competitions, dating back to last October, and are clear favourites against the Royal Blues of Gelsenkirchen, who are fourth in the Bundesliga.

But Madrid have prevailed just once in 24 previous away matches against German opposition, losing 17 times, including a 4-1 drubbing at Russia's Dortmund in last season's semi-final first leg when Robert Lewandowski hit all four goals.

That said, Schalke's form this season has been erratic and they have won only five of their last 11 home encounters against Spanish opponents, suffering four defeats.

Madrid will be able to call on the firepower of Ballon d'Or winner Cristiano Ronaldo, who returns from a three-game ban.

FACTFILE

Coaches

Schalke - Jens Keller (GER) -- 43 yrs

Real Madrid - Carlo Ancelotti (ITA) -- 54 yrs

Leading scorers

Schalke - Jefferson Farfan (11 goals)

Real Madrid - Cristiano Ronaldo (34 goals)

League performance

Schalke - Fourth in the Bundesliga, two points behind

Bayer Leverkusen in second but 21 points behind

leaders Bayern Munich

Real Madrid - Top of La Liga, three points clear of

Barcelona and Atletico Madrid

Group stage

Schalke - Second in Group E behind Chelsea

The injury doubts are left-backs Marcelo and Fabio Coentrao as neither played in the 3-0 win against Elche on Saturday, so Alvaro Arbeloa could deputise if neither are fit.

Luka Modric and Sergio Ramos are also expected to return after being suspended and rested respectively at the weekend.

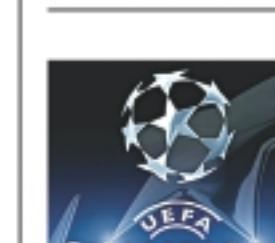
Schalke were denied a fifth straight league win when they were held to a goalless draw at home to Mainz on Friday.

There was good news, though, for Schalke as Arsenal-target Julian Draxler came off the bench to make his return after two months out with a foot injury.

"As a young boy you dream about facing teams like Real Madrid so we're all really up for it," said the 20-year-old.

No favours from Drogba

REUTERS, Istanbul



Galatasaray's Didier Drogba will be full of emotions when he strides out to face former club Chelsea on Wednesday but Jose Mourinho knows the striker will be as clinical as ever on the field.

The Champions League last-16 first-leg clash in Istanbul is the first time the Ivorian has been on the pitch with the Blues since scoring the winning penalty when Chelsea lifted the trophy in May 2012.

The 35-year-old, who media reports say could return to the London club as striker coach, is Chelsea's record European scorer with 34 goals in 69 games.

Including the spot kick in the Munich shootout and his header late in normal time, he has also bagged nine goals in nine domestic and European finals. His sizeable contribution to the club's recent history is apparent from the number of posters of him still dotted around Stamford Bridge.

"He deserves a reception here even better than mine, because he deserves much more than me. For Didier, double or three times better and bigger than I had."

him no friends during the game," Chelsea boss Mourinho, who managed Drogba during his first spell at the club, told reporters.

"Before the game, big friends and big respect for a legend. After the game, the same. But, during the game, we have a job to do. He has his nature, he wants to score, he wants to win. I think it is a tie to go until the end."

"He deserves a reception here even better than mine, because he deserves much more than me. For Didier,