



Enrique picks Atletico

AFP, Madrid

Barcelona coach Luis Enrique has said Atletico Madrid are the favourites to retain their La Liga title despite the millions spent by his side and Real Madrid in recent months.

Atletico showed their success was no one season wonder as they claimed the first domestic trophy of the season in Spain with a 2-1 aggregate victory over Real to win the Spanish Super Cup on Friday.

"The favourite for the league is Atletico," said Enrique, whose side get their La Liga campaign underway at home to Elche on Sunday.

"It is not just out of respect for the defending champion. They continue with the same ideas from last season and they have perfected them despite changing players.

"I said last season I saw them as favourites for the league and the Champions League and they said it was a brave thing to say, but they are the clear favourites.

"Madrid are our eternal rivals and they have strengthened. It will be a very exciting championship. We have the desire having not won anything last season and no one will beat us for desire."

Enrique is still hoping to have Neymar available for the visit of Elche despite the Brazilian striker suffering an ankle sprain in training on Thursday.

Pedro Rodriguez has returned to training after suffering from a bout of gastroenteritis and is expected to be fit for selection.

Claudio Bravo, Ivan Rakitic and Jeremy Mathieu could make their competitive debuts, but other big money signings Marc-Andre Ter Stegen and Thomas Vermaelen are injured.



Atletico Madrid players celebrate with the Spanish Super Cup trophy after winning the second leg match against Real Madrid at the Vicente Calderon on Friday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Super Cup Atletico's

AFP, Madrid



Atletico Madrid gained some measure of revenge for their Champions League final defeat to Real Madrid by beating their city rivals 1-0 at the Vicente Calderon on Friday to win the Spanish Super Cup 2-1 on aggregate.

The hosts made the best possible start as Mario Mandzukic volleyed home the winner from Antoine Griezmann's pass after just 90 seconds.

Real boss Carlo Ancelotti had named Cristiano Ronaldo on the bench due to the effects of a hamstring injury that had seen him withdrawn from the first leg.

However, even the Portuguese couldn't break down Atletico's typically well-organised defence as they held on to end Real's hopes of claiming six trophies this season.

As well as leaving Ronaldo on the bench, Ancelotti also fuelled speculation over Angel di Maria's future by

excluding the Argentine from his squad entirely.

Real were caught out by a flying start from Atletico as Raphael Varane's misjudged header allowed his French international teammate Griezmann to feed Mandzukic to score his first goal since signing from Bayern Munich.

The visitors slowly grew into the game, though, and Luka Modric was inches away from a spectacular equaliser when he volleyed just over from outside the area.

James Rodriguez then began to dictate the pace of the game and he was only denied a leveller by a spectacular save from Miguel Angel Moya before the Colombian also directed a header just wide of the target.

Atletico boss Diego Simeone was sent-off for protesting that right-back Juanfran hadn't been allowed back onto the field quickly enough after receiving treatment for a facial injury.

And the Argentine could be in for a severe ban as he confronted the assistant referee and sarcastically

applauded the decision.

Rodriguez then fed Gareth Bale inside the area, but the Welshman pulled his shot disappointingly wide.

However, it was Atletico who had the clearest chance to double their advantage before half-time as Raul Garcia inexplicably headed over Koke's corner from point-blank range.

Ronaldo made his entrance at the break as he replaced the ineffective Toni Kroos.

Garcia was inches away again at the start of the second period as this time he turned a Koke free-kick onto the underside of the bar and Iker Casillas reacted well to prevent Mandzukic forcing the ball home from close range.

And Garcia was desperately unlucky again moments later as this time he fired just wide with Casillas beaten.

Ronaldo made his first real impression with a thunderous effort that was well held by Moya, but Atletico were creating the greater threat and went close twice more through Koke and Griezmann.

Chelsea snare Foxes

AFP, London



Diego Costa scored for the second match in succession as Chelsea made it two Premier League wins from two matches this season with a 2-0 victory at home to newly-promoted Leicester City on Saturday.

After a goalless first half, Chelsea twice almost took the lead at the start of the second period.

Oscar hit the far post with a curling shot from the right before Branislav Ivanovic's header was well saved by Kasper Schmeichel, son of former Manchester United goalkeeper Peter.

Leicester, who held Everton to a 2-2 draw last week, then had a chance of their own when David Nugent burst clear only for the Foxes striker to be denied by Thibault Courtois, again preferred by Jose Mourinho to Petr Cech, when one-on-one with the keeper.

But £32 million (\$55 million, 40 million euros) Spain striker Costa, who scored in last week's 3-1 win at Burnley, marked his home debut by turning in Ivanovic's cross from eight yards out in the 63rd minute.

Chelsea then doubled their lead at Stamford Bridge when Eden Hazard's 77th-minute shot beat Schmeichel after deflecting off Leicester defender Wes Morgan.

"I don't forget they had a good chance with the result 0-0 but we had so many chances, so many opportunities to score obviously we deserved the victory," Chelsea manager Mourinho told Sky Sports.

Arsenal whose bid for the title in recent seasons has so often been undone by poor away form, came from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 at Everton. The Gunners scored twice inside the final seven minutes at Goodison Park, with France striker Olivier Giroud's 90th-minute goal ensuring a share of the points for Arsene Wenger's side.

Everton went ahead in the 19th minute when unmarked defender Seamus Coleman headed in Gareth Barry's cross at the far post

Mourinho hails Cech

AFP, London

Jose Mourinho has praised Petr Cech for the goalkeeper's reaction to being left out of Chelsea's opening Premier League game of the season.

Cech, the club's number one since arriving at Stamford Bridge in 2004, sat on the bench during the 3-1 opening-day victory at Burnley, with Thibaut Courtois named in the starting line-up.

The Czech international's omission has raised doubts about the player's future at the club and manager Mourinho admits Cech is unlikely to be happy with the situation.

But the manager insists he wants Cech to stay, and insists the 'keeper will play a more prominent part in his plans when Chelsea's Champions League and League Cup campaigns begin.

before Steven Naismith, seemingly offside, made it 2-0 on the stroke of half-time after Romelu Lukaku had outmuscled Germany World Cup-winner Per Mertesacker in the build-up.

But then came Arsenal's late recovery. Aaron Ramsey turned in Santi Cazorla's low centre before half-time substitute Giroud headed in Nacho Monreal's cross.

Swansea, fresh from their shock opening day victory away to Manchester United, made it two wins from two with a 1-0 success at home to Burnley secured by winger Nathan Dyer's 23rd-minute goal.

West Ham bounced back from a 1-0 defeat by Tottenham Hotspur with a 3-1 win away to managerless Crystal Palace.

The Eagles, without a manager after Tony Pulis quit before the season started in a row over transfer funds, had seen sporting director Iain Moody resign in midweek following the fall-out from the publication of offensive text messages he had shared with Malky Mackay while the pair were at Cardiff.

Any hope of better news on the pitch was shattered when Palace conceded two goals in three first-half minutes.

Argentinian striker Mauro Zarate marked his Hammers debut with an impressive 34th-minute volley before England winger Stewart Downing added an equally stylish second, cutting in from the right flank before curling in a 20-yard left-foot shot.

Palace pulled a goal back in the 48th minute through Marouane Chamakh.

However, the Hammers made it 3-1 in the 62nd minute when striker Carlton Cole scored his first goal since February when he volleyed home from inside the penalty area.

Southampton and West Bromwich Albion shared the points in a goalless draw and Saturday's early kick-off between Aston Villa and Newcastle ended the same way.

Newcastle, beaten 2-0 by reigning champions Manchester City last weekend, have still to score in the Premier League this season after centre-back Mike Williamson was sent off in stoppage-time for a second bookable offence.

Perfect start for Bayern

AFP, Berlin



Reigning German champions Bayern Munich got the new Bundesliga season off to a perfect start with a dramatic 2-1 win over VfL Wolfsburg on Friday.

Pep Guardiola's side looked sluggish early on at the Allianz Arena but took the lead after 37 minutes when Thomas Mueller poked home from Arjen Robben's cross.

The home side seemed in control when Robben scored just 67 seconds into the second half before a superb strike from Ivica Olic gave the visitors hope.

And Wolfsburg, who finished fifth last season, missed a glorious chance to steal a point when substitute Junior Malanda somehow missed from a yard out with 11 minutes remaining.

Bayern manager Guardiola went into the game without injured midfielders Franck Ribery, Bastian Schweinsteiger, Thiago and Javi Martinez as well as suspended defender Jerome Boateng.

The Spaniard responded by handing 17-year-old Gianluca Gaudino a first Bundesliga start.

Gaudino lined up in central midfield alongside David Alaba, one of only three players who made their league debut for Bayern at a younger age.

Former Bayern midfielder Luiz Gustavo started in midfield for the visitors, who handed Bundesliga debuts to new signings Sebastian Jung, Joshua Guilavogui and Aaron Hunt.

After a slow start, Mueller and Robben shot straight at visiting goalkeeper Max Grun, who was standing in for Wolfsburg captain Diego Benaglio.

Bayern thought they had made the breakthrough 28 minutes in when Robert Lewandowski tapped in from Robben's pass across goal but the Dutch winger was rightly flagged offside.

The home side were beginning to get on top and Lewandowski was denied again when Grun recovered well after fumbling Mueller's close-range effort.

The Wolves keeper made an even

better save moments later. Gaudino's clipped ball into the box was acrobatically steered towards goal by Lewandowski, but Grun clawed the ball away from the top corner.

Wolfsburg were camped in their own half and an inevitable goal for Bayern arrived after 37 minutes. Robben turned Gustavo inside out down the right and his low ball across the face of goal was prodded home by Mueller.

Bayern then made a blistering start to the second half when Robben dispossessed Guilavogui.

The home team broke at pace, with Mueller and a deft touch from Lewandowski setting Robben free to tuck home from inside the box.

After 52 minutes, Wolfsburg pulled a goal back out of the blue. Olic got away from Holger Badstuber on the edge of the box before curling a first-time effort in off the underside of the bar.

Lewandowski failed to make the most of a good opening shortly afterwards and Bayern almost got punished towards the end.

MU get van Persie boost

AFP, Manchester

Robin van Persie's return to the Manchester United line-up gives new manager Louis van Gaal some welcome good news ahead of the Premier League match away to Sunderland on Sunday.

Van Gaal, hoping to bounce back from the 2-1 opening weekend defeat by Swansea, has been beset by injuries in midfield and Ander Herrera is the latest to be absent, with an ankle problem, alongside Michael Carrick, Marouane Fellaini and Jesse Lingard.

welcome to our new address

DBH Uttara Branch
Union Nahar Square, Plot 19 (4th floor)
Sonargaon Janapath Road, Sector 13
Uttara, Dhaka 1230

PH: 01713 065079
01613 364954

Previous Address
House 79/A (3rd Floor)
Road 7, Sector 4
Uttara, Dhaka 1230

Delta Brac Housing Finance Corp. Ltd.



As Safe As Boiled Water

DON'T LET IT RAIN DISEASES THIS MONSOON!

Along with its share of fun, the rain also brings an increased risk of water borne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, jaundice, diarrhea etc. Drinking pure water is a must.

BRING HOME A PUREIT TODAY!
Stay safe with your family.

- Removes Virus & Bacteria
- No Gas
- No Boiling
- No Electricity

For more information, call Unilever Careline:
09613 105 105
Every day from 10 AM to 8 PM (charge applicable)