

**What to WATCH**

**GTV**  
 Bangladesh v Zimbabwe  
 2nd Test, Day 5  
 Live from 9:30am  
**STAR SPORTS 2**  
 Australia v South Africa

**2nd T20 INT'L**  
 Live from 2:30pm  
 Indian Super League  
 Kolkata v Pune  
 Live from 7:30pm

**DAY'S EVENT**

**Bangladesh v Zimbabwe** Time: 9:30am Stadium, Khulna  
 2nd Test Day 5 Venue: Sheikh Abu Naser

**Introducing LG G3**  
 Simple is the New Smart  
 Available @ Tk. 50,990



# Messi equals Raul record

REUTERS, Amsterdam

**TOP 5 SCORERS**

Name	Goals
Raul	71
Lionel Messi	71
Cristiano Ronaldo	70
Ruud van Nistelrooy	56
Thierry Henry	50

Barcelona secured their place in the knockout stages by beating 10-man Ajax Amsterdam 2-0 on Wednesday.

Argentina forward Messi struck in each half and Joel Veltman's 71st-minute red card completed a disappointing evening for the hosts.

Messi matched Raul's Champions League record tally of 71 goals thanks to a 36th-minute header and a 76th-minute tap-in, beating Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo to match Raul's mark.

Barcelona lie second in Group F on nine points, one behind Paris St Germain who beat APOEL Nicosia 1-0 in Paris on Wednesday.

Third-placed Ajax are still winless in Group F and remain on two points, leaving them vying with APOEL for a Europa League place.

Messi's close-range header after Ajax goalkeeper Jasper Cillessen had failed to clear the ball was more than welcome for the visitors, who had given the hosts reason to believe a repeat of last season's surprising 2-1 home victory over Barcelona was on the cards.

Ajax hopes were shattered, however, when Veltman was shown his second yellow card in the 71st minute.

Five minutes later Messi slid in a low cross by Pedro to secure the win.

Luis Suarez made his European debut for Barcelona, playing from the start alongside Messi and Neymar in Luis Enrique's dream attack but he struggled to impose himself on the game.



Barcelona superstar Lionel Messi (2nd from R) celebrates his second goal with teammates during their Champions League encounter against Ajax in Amsterdam on Wednesday. PHOTO: AFP

# Platini slates Rodgers

AFP, Burton-on-Trent

Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers should explain to supporters why he fielded a weakened team against Real Madrid in the Champions League, UEFA president Michel Platini said on Wednesday.

Fans reacted with horror on social media after Rodgers left stars such as Steven Gerrard and Mario Balotelli on the bench for Tuesday's Group B match against the holders at the Bernabeu, ahead of a key Premier League fixture against Chelsea.

But Liverpool's second string produced a battling display, losing 1-0 to a Karim Benzema goal, and Platini believes the only people Rodgers must answer to are the club's supporters.

"Are you sure it was not the best team? How can I say that?" Platini asked after a tour of the England national team's St George's Park headquarters in central England.

"If I am the coach of Liverpool, I say, 'It's my best team.' How can you prove it's not your best team? I can't interfere with that."

"Now the best team is what the coach put. First of all he has to explain to his fans why he put this team -- not to me, not to you."

The Champions League's statutes state that clubs must always field their strongest possible team, but it is understood that Liverpool will not face action from European governing body UEFA.

Platini also said he understood world governing body FIFA's decision to omit controversial former Liverpool striker Luis Suarez from its shortlist for the 2014 Ballon d'Or award.

Uruguay striker Suarez scored 31 Premier League goals for Liverpool last season before joining Barcelona, but he was banned for four months after biting Italy's Giorgio Chiellini at the World Cup in Brazil.

"If the Ballon d'Or is on the quality of the player, then naturally he deserves to be on the list," said Platini, who won three Ballons d'Or as a goal-scoring midfielder for Juventus in the 1980s.

"But if you consider the player's behaviour, that creates a little problem. This is a guy who was suspended for four months by FIFA."

# Big guns in last 16

## CSKA Moscow stun Man City

AFP, Paris

Barcelona, Bayern Munich, Paris Saint-Germain and Porto all qualified for the Champions League last 16 on Wednesday with Lionel Messi setting another personal milestone.

Messi scored both goals -- one with a header for only the fourth time in the competition -- as Barca beat Ajax 2-0 to equal Raul's record of 71 goals in the tournament.

"I am happy for Leo because of the work he does for the team. He is the number one, the best," said Barca midfielder Xavi Hernandez.

Bayern went through after a 2-0 victory at home to Roma, PSG saw off APOEL 1-0 while Porto beat Athletic Bilbao 2-0 with their goalscorers Colombian Jackson Martinez and Algerian Yacine Brahimi both taking their tallies to four in this season's competition.

Champions Real Madrid and Borussia Dortmund made sure of their last-16 places on Tuesday.

However, Chelsea missed a chance to also reach the knockout stages as they had to come from behind to snatch a 1-1 draw with minnows Maribor in Slovenia.

The 2012 winners, though, are in a far better state than English champions Manchester City whose mystifying failure to perform well in the competition continued as they had two men sent off in an embarrassing 2-1 home defeat to Russian outfit CSKA Moscow, who recorded their first ever win in England.

Their results rounded off a poor week for English clubs in the Champions League with Liverpool losing and Arsenal drawing 3-3 with Anderlecht, the Gunners having let a 3-0 lead slip in the final half hour on Tuesday.

**RESULTS**

Man City (ENG) 1 (Toure 8) **CSKA Moscow (RUS) 2** (Dombia 2, 36)

**Bayern Munich (GER) 2** (Ribery 38, Goetze 64) Roma (ITA) 0

**Paris Saint-Germain (FRA) 1** (Cavani 1) **APOEL (CYP) 0**

Ajax (NED) 0 **Barcelona (ESP) 2** (Messi 36, 76)

**Sporting Lisbon (POR) 4** (Sarr 26, Jefferson 52, Nani 72, Slimani 90+1) Schalke (GER) 2 (Slimani 17-og, Aogo 88)

Maribor (SLO) 1 (Ibraimi 50) Chelsea (ENG) 1 (Matic 73)

**Shakhtar Donetsk (UKR) 5** (Srna 19, Alex Teixeira 48, Luiz Adriano 58-pen, 83, 90+2) **BATE Borisov (BLR) 0**

Athletic Bilbao (ESP) 0 **FC Porto (POR) 2** (Martinez 56, ...)

Ukrainian side Shakhtar Donetsk also look certain to reach the last 16 after a 5-0 thrashing of Belarus champions BATE Borisov, Luiz Adriano adding to his five goals in the 7-0 win a fortnight ago with a hat-trick to move further clear in this season's overall scoring charts with nine.

Porto's fellow Portuguese side Sporting Lisbon are also in with a chance of reaching the next phase as they revived their campaign with a 4-2 home win over Schalke 04.

Sporting's Islam Slimani bookended the scoring, firstly putting through his own net to give the Germans the lead and then ensuring the hosts secured the points right at the end.

Barcelona still trail Paris Saint-Germain by a point at the top of Group F but the Spanish side's coach Luis Enrique was more relieved they had ended a run of two successive defeats and also avoided three consecutive away losses in the Champions League which last happened in 2005.

"The attitude of the team was marvellous against an opponent that had everything to play for," said Enrique.

PSG coach Laurent Blanc was content that his side did what was needed to secure their place in the last 16 -- Edinson Cavani scoring their fastest ever goal in the competition after just 57 seconds -- but is keener still to top the group.

# CA apologises to Finch over flame mishap

AFP, Adelaide

Australian T20 captain Aaron Finch received an apology Thursday after a close call with a flame thrower during the team's loss to South Africa in Adelaide.

Finch was shocked when he came within a metre of a burst of the pyrotechnic display as he went to get the ball from just over the Adelaide Oval boundary line on Wednesday evening.

He had deliberately stalled collecting the ball, knowing that flames are shot to mark boundaries.

But when nothing initially happened he assumed it was safe to approach, only for a flame to blast out as he neared in a pyrotechnic mishap.

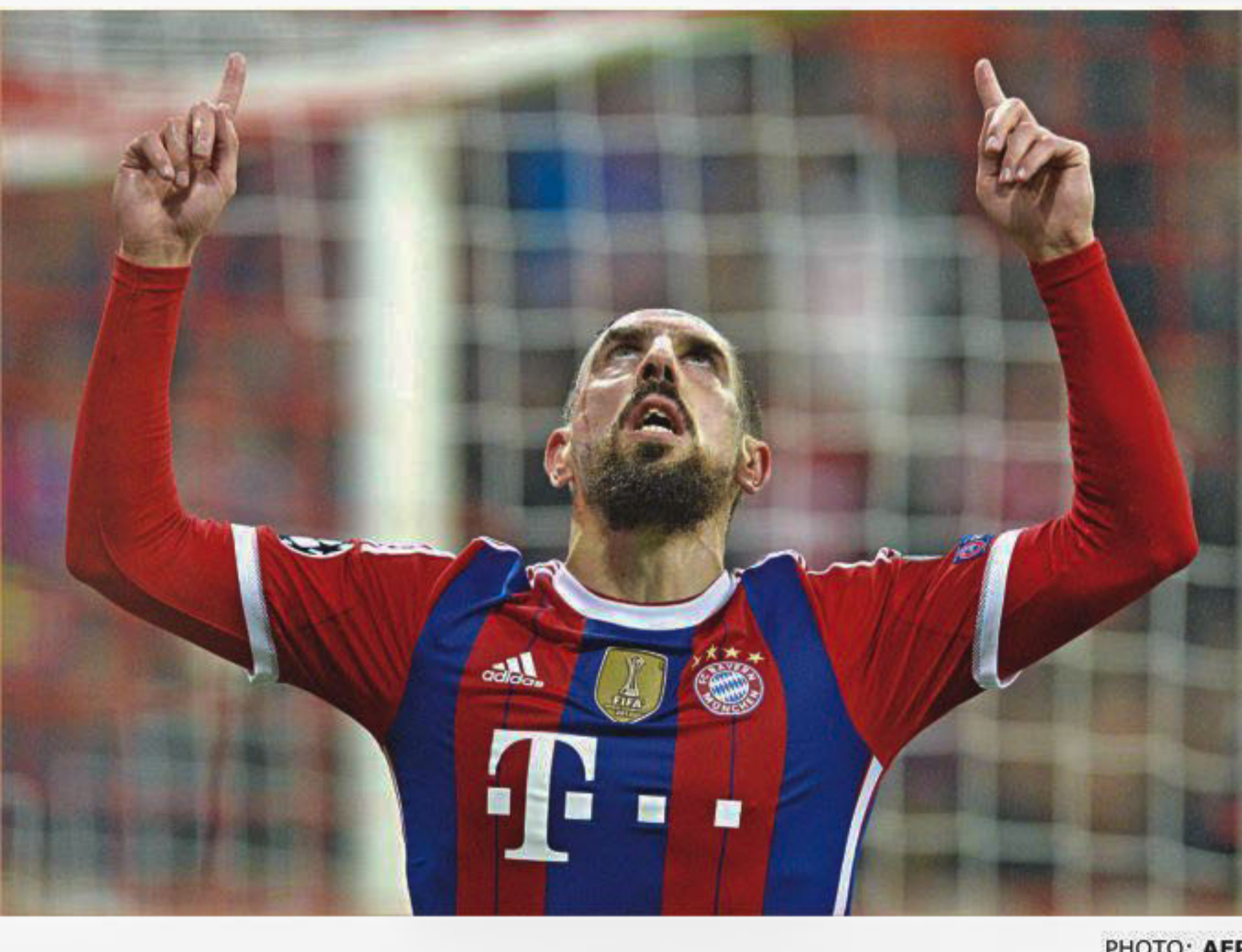
"We have apologised to Aaron for the incident last night," Cricket Australia said on its website.

# 16-match ban for Romanian player

REUTERS, Bucharest

FCM Targu Mures midfielder Gabriel Muresan has been handed an unprecedented 16-match domestic ban for a violent tackle during a league match in October, the Romanian football federation (FRF) disciplinary commission said.

Muresan was also fined 25,000 lei (\$7,100) following the ugly incident in the game against champions Steaua Bucharest on October 26, the FRF added in its statement on Wednesday.



Bayern Munich winger Franck Ribery celebrates his opening goal against Roma during their Champions League clash in Munich on Wednesday. PHOTO: AFP

# Kerala overcome Goa

GOAL.COM

Kerala Blasters were 1-0 winners against FC Goa at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Kochi, courtesy a goal from Milagres Gonsalves in the 63rd minute.

Kerala Blasters missed Iain Hume due to injury and made a total of four changes with Avinabo Bag, Raphael Romey, David James and Saumik Dey drafted in from the defeat against Mumbai City FC.

It was only a solitary change for FC Goa as Robert Pires returned from suspension to take his place in the starting lineup with Andre Santos missing out with a knock.

Both teams had half chances to get ahead within the first ten minutes. First it was the home side with Ishfaq Ahmed being played on, down the right by a brilliant Stephen Pearson through ball but he failed to find CS Sabeeth in the box with his cross straight to Jan Seda in goal. Then on the eighth minute, it was Zico's boys who missed with Gregory Arnolin putting his header just high after Bruno Pinheiro swung in a freekick from the left.

Just two minutes later, Arnolin was again in the mix as he flicked a header to the far post from a corner kick only to see Romeo Fernandes heading it inches wide.

It was now time for the Blasters to push forward and they had twin chances both of which involved Sabeeth. First it was Stephen Pearson who had a give and go with Sabeeth outside the box before he surged in but smashed his shot wide off the post. Narayan Das did just enough to put him off thankfully for the away side.

Then in the 18th minute, it was Sabeeth again who took advantage of a drop in concentration from Das, getting on the end of his clearance. Das however made amends when he recovered well to put in a last ditch tackle to dispossess the striker who just had the goalkeeper to beat.

**Department of Economics**  
 Admission Test on November 28, 2014

**BS in ECO** • **MS in ECO**

**MDS**  
 Master in Development Studies  
 A professional program for development practitioners

**Most Renowned Faculty:**

Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury, PhD  
 Prof. Mohammad Musa, PhD  
 Prof. Mir Obaidur Rahman, PhD  
 Mohammad A. Ashraf, MA (Canada)  
 Ali Haider Al Mamun Mridha, MSc, MBA  
 Md. Mokammel Karim Toufique, MS (USA)  
 Mr. Safaeddazzaman Khan, MSS, (DU)

**OTHER PROGRAMS:**  
 BBA || BBA in AIS || MBA || EMBA  
 BSCSE || MSCSE || BSEE || BSETE

**Do You Know?**  
 In every Trimester 24% students get 25%-100% tuition fee waiver based on previous results and trimester results.  
 UIU paid 9 crore taka as scholarship in 2012 alone, one of the highest amongst the private universities.  
 If you are a serious student, take the challenge and build your future with UIU at a very low cost.

**Join ECONOMICS at UIU**

- Equipped with modern curriculum
- Excellent faculty quality
- Friendly campus

**www.uiu.ac.bd** | **UIU Bhaban:** House # 80, Road # 8/A (Old-15), Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi Dhaka-1209, Tel.: 9125913-6, Mob.: 01914 001470, Fax: 9118170.