

De Villiers to lead SA in World Cup

AB de Villiers was confirmed as South Africa's captain for the Cricket World Cup when Cricket South Africa announced a 30-man preliminary squad for the global event on Wednesday.

There were no major surprises in the squad but there was no place for three members of the Test squad that was announced on Tuesday for a series against the West Indies - with batsmen Alviro Petersen, Stiaan van Zyl and Temba Bavuma overlooked.

The final squad of 15 is expected to be announced on January 7. The World Cup will be played in Australia and New Zealand from February 14 to March 29.

SQUAD

AB de Villiers (capt), Hashim Amla, Kyle Abbott, Farhaan Behardien, Quinton de Kock, Marchant de Lange, JP Duminy, Faf du Plessis, Dean Elgar, Beuran Hendricks, Reeza Hendricks, Imran Tahir, Rory Kleinveldt, Ryan McLaren, David Miller, Morne Morkel, Chris Morris, Justin Ontong, Wayne Parnell, Robin Peterson, Aaron Phangiso, Vernon Philander, Andrew Puttick, Kagiso Rabada, Rilee Rossouw, Mthokozisi Shezi, Dale Steyn, Lonwabo

Jerome dreams of Germany captaincy

Bayern Munich defender Jerome Boateng has said it would be a "huge honour" to one day lead Germany out as the first black captain of the World Cup holders.

When Philipp Lahm retired after winning the World Cup in July, Bastian Schweinsteiger succeeded him as Germany skipper, but Boateng says he wants to lead out the world champions in the future.

Boateng, whose father comes from Ghana, has already made 50 international appearances since making his Germany debut in 2009.

The 26-year-old centre back briefly took over the captain's armband during a Germany friendly against Argentina in 2012, but says he would be honoured to get the job full-time.

"I had it briefly on my arm during an international, but it would be something completely different to be allowed to lead the team onto the pitch," he told German magazine Sport Bild.

Khedira suffers concussion

Real Madrid midfielder Sami Khedira has spent the night under observation in hospital after suffering a concussion in Tuesday's King's Cup game at home to Cornella.

Khedira collided with Cornella midfielder David Garcia shortly after half-time at the Bernabeu and after playing on for a few minutes the German international had to come off and was replaced by Jese.

"Following scans carried out on Sami Khedira by the Real Madrid medical services ... a concussion has been diagnosed," the European champions said on their website.

"He will remain under observation for the whole night."

Holders Real won the last-32, second leg game against the third-tier minnows 5-0 for a 9-1 aggregate victory.



Manchester United midfielder Juan Mata (R) is congratulated by teammates Ashley Young and Chris Smalling (L) after scoring their second goal against Stoke City during their Premier League encounter at Old Trafford on Tuesday.

MU, Liverpool on the move

Steven Gerrard and Juan Mata scored pivotal goals as Liverpool and Manchester United each posted victories over obdurate opposition in the Premier League on Tuesday.

Gerrard, the subject of speculation about his Anfield future this week, stroked home the crucial second goal as Liverpool came from behind to win 3-1 at 10-man Leicester City.

Victory lifted Brendan Rodgers's side up to eighth place, but they remain five points off the Champions League berths after Mata's fortuitous strike earned fourth-place United a 2-1 success at home to Stoke City.

The Spaniard saw a free-kick from wide on the right drift straight into the net in the 59th minute at Old Trafford, sending United to within a point of third-place Southampton, who visit Arsenal on Wednesday.

Leaders Chelsea entertain Tottenham Hotspur on Wednesday, while second-place Manchester City travel to Sunderland.

Gerrard, 34, was recalled to Liverpool's starting XI after starting Saturday's 1-0 win over Stoke on the bench, but his return did not spare the visitors from a wobbly start at the King Power Stadium.

Esteban Cambiasso should have put Leicester ahead in the 20th minute when under-fire Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet played the ball straight to him, only for the Argentine midfielder to roll the ball wide.

But Leicester went ahead two minutes later, with Leonardo Ulloa's shot hitting the post and cannoning into the net off Mignolet's back for an own goal after Martin Skrtel had blocked on the line from Jamie Vardy.

The hosts' lead lasted just four minutes, however, with Adam Lallana drilling home

an equaliser from Rickie Lambert's knock-down.

Gerrard's moment arrived nine minutes into the second period. Wes Morgan could only get a toe to Raheem Sterling's low left-wing cross and Gerrard strode forwards to bend the loose ball into the bottom-right corner.

After Morgan was sent off in the 63rd minute for hauling back Lambert, Sterling's back-heel teed up Jordan Henderson to sweep home a late third for Liverpool after a fumble by home goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel.

A knee injury to Wayne Rooney saw 19-year-old James Wilson handed a surprise start for Manchester United, who took a 21st-minute lead when Marouane Fellaini headed in Ander Herrera's inviting left-wing cross.

Steven Nzonzi equalised for Stoke six minutes before half-time, lashing home from outside the box after a dart by Bojan Krkic.

But Mata's goal gave United a fourth

straight victory, with Marcos Rojo's leap distracting visiting goalkeeper Asmir Begovic and allowing the former Chelsea playmaker's free-kick to nestle inside the left-hand post.

West Ham United remain a point behind Louis van Gaal's side in fifth place after coming from behind to win 2-1 at West Bromwich Albion.

RESULTS
Burnley 1 (Boyd 34) Newcastle United 1 (Cisse 48)
Crystal Palace 0 Aston Villa 1 (Benteke 32)
Leicester City 1 (Mignolet 22-og) Liverpool 3 (Lallana 26, Gerrard 54, Henderson 83)
Manchester United 2 (Fellaini 21, Mata 59) Stoke City 1 (Nzonzi 39)
Swansea City 2 (Ki 78, Routledge 83) Queens Park Rangers 0
West Bromwich Albion 1 (Dawson 10) West Ham United



Real Madrid forward James Rodriguez celebrates one of his two goals against Cornella during their Copa del Rey round of 32 match at the Bernabeu on Tuesday.

Lahm targets Feb return

Bayern Munich's ex-Germany captain Philipp Lahm has said he expects to return after breaking his leg next February at the very earliest.

The 31-year-old fractured his leg just above the right ankle in training on November 18 and had a plate with six screws inserted to repair the injury.

He is set to miss Bayern's training camp next month before the Bundesliga programme resumes on January 30 and says he will not rush back to playing.

"I won't be back in January in any case," Lahm, who retired from international football after Germany won the World Cup in

July, told German daily Bild.

"Perhaps in February or perhaps first of all in March, luckily there is no time pressure for me of a World Cup or a European Championships.

"So when it comes to the end of the season, I will be in top condition."

Bayern Munich coach Pep Guardiola hardly has to worry about Lahm's absence in terms of the Bundesliga where the defending champions are seven points clear with the halfway stage approaching.

The Bavarian giants have already qualified for the Champions League's last 16 as group winners ahead of next Wednesday's final pool match at home to CSKA Moscow.

Real crush Cornella

Holders Real Madrid set up a probable King's Cup last 16 clash against city rivals Atletico when a second-string side completed a crushing 9-1 aggregate win over third-tier minnows Cornella on Tuesday.

The last-32, second leg match at the Bernabeu pitted the world's richest club by income, with annual revenues of more than 600 million euros (\$743 million), against a club with a budget of 1 million euros a season who were promoted to Spain's regional Segunda B for the first time in 2013-14.

Real won the first leg, played at Espanyol's stadium in Barcelona at the end of October, 4-1 and a James Rodriguez double, strikes from Isco and Jese and an own goal from Cornella's Borja Lopez secured a 5-0 success in the return.

The victory, with top scorer Cristiano Ronaldo watching from the stands, extended Real's club-record winning streak to 17 matches stretching back to a 2-1 La Liga reverse at home to Atletico in September.

Cornella, whose part-timers include a dentist and a school teacher, could have taken a surprise lead in the 14th minute when Alvaro Arbeloa, captaining Real for the first time, felled Xavi Boniquet in the area and conceded a penalty.

Boniquet picked himself to take the spot kick but fired wildly over the bar and Rodriguez made it 1-0 to the home side moments later.

Isco doubled Real's lead in the 33rd minute and Rodriguez grabbed his second a minute later before Lopez put the ball into his own net in the 61st.

Substitute Jese, returning after eight months out with a knee injury, completed the rout 13 minutes from time.

"It has been many months of suffering," Jese said in an interview with Spanish television.

"I am very pleased to be back and for my goal," the 21-year-old forward added.

The tie was brought forward because of the European champions' participation in the Club World Cup this month.

Due to the disruption to the La Liga calendar caused by the tournament in Morocco, Sevilla also had their first leg brought forward and they have a 6-1 lead over second-division Sabadell ahead of Wednesday's return in Sevilla.

La Liga champions Atletico, who beat Real 2-1 after extra time in the 2013 Cup final at the Bernabeu, play their first leg at third-tier Hospitalet on Wednesday.

The winner of a possible last-16 tie between Real and Atletico would likely meet record winners Barcelona in the quarter-finals. Barca play at Huesca, another third-tier club, on Wednesday.

INT'L BADMINTON Parash, Shapla in pre-quarters

Ahsan Habib Parash and Shapla Akter pair of Bangladesh moved into the pre-quarterfinals in mixed doubles of the Yonex-Sunrise Bangladesh Open International Badminton Challenge, which got underway at the Suhrawardi Indoor Gymnasium in Mirpur on Tuesday.

The Bangladeshi pair handed a 21-11, 21-13 defeat to Nepalese pair of Chand Pankaj and Giri Amita but Mostafa Javed and Elina Sultana pair suffered 11-21, 15-21 defeat to Tamang Ratnajit Tamang and Sara Devi Tamang pair of Nepal.

In the day's other matches, pairs of India, Malaysia and Nepal won their respective matches.

In the women's singles, Bangladesh's Brishty Khatun lost against Malaysia's Lee Zii Yii 7-21, 4-21 while India's Saili Rane, Sri Lanka's Kapuru Mudiyanse, Turkey's Ozge Bayrak and Turkey's Neslihan Yigit posted wins in their respective matches, said a press release from Bangladesh Badminton Federation.

Rivaldo puts club up for sale

Former Barcelona and Brazil star Rivaldo has turned to photo-sharing service Instagram to put up for sale the second division Brazilian club of which he has been president for the last six years.

"I, Rivaldo, current owner of Mogi Mirim Esporte Clube, for personal reasons, have decided to seek a new owner," said Rivaldo, part of the 2002 Brazil World Cup-winning team.

Rivaldo signed off with an email address for those interested in investing in the club, who are in the Sao Paulo first division, to contact.

Rivaldo first played for Mogi Mirim in 1993, returning to finish his sparkling career there at the age of 41.

France set Brazil date

France will host Brazil in a friendly next March at the Stade de France, the venue where they beat the South Americans 3-0 in the 1998 World Cup final, the French Football Federation announced on Tuesday.

The March 26 friendly will be France's first match of the year as they build towards hosting the Euro 2016 championships -- a title they won the last time they hosted it in 1984.

Coach Didier Deschamps, who captained France to the Euro 2000 trophy just two years after they beat Brazil for their first World Cup triumph, pitches his side against Denmark three days later.

আপনার সকল প্রকার আর্থিক প্রয়োজন মেটাতে ব্যাংকিং জগতে নির্ভরতার প্রতীক অনলাইন সমৃদ্ধ যমুনা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড কামারপাড়া শাখায় আপনাকে স্বাগতম।

যমুনা ব্যাংকের ৯৩তম কামারপাড়া শাখা

মোলা কমপ্লেক্স কামারপাড়া, হরিরামপুর তুরাগ, ঢাকা।

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