



**KLOPP AND HIS 'IDIOTS'**  
 Jurgen Klopp said he and his Borussia Dortmund players have been left looking like "a bunch of idiots" after ending 2014 with a dismal 2-1 defeat at Werder Bremen. "The best news today is that football is over for 2014," the Dortmund boss said. "We are standing here like complete idiots and it's completely our own fault."  
 - INTERNET

**Ronaldo statue unveiled**

AFP, Lisbon  
 World player of the year Cristiano Ronaldo returned to his home town of Funchal on Madeira on Sunday to attend the unveiling of a statue sculpted in his honour. The Real Madrid star travelled to the Portuguese island from Marrakech where on Saturday he helped his club lift the Club World Cup, their fourth trophy of 2014. "This is a very special moment, to have a statue of me," said an emotional Ronaldo at the ceremony where he was joined by members of his family and thousands of fans. The 3.4 metre statue forms part of Ronaldo's personal museum on the island housing his haul of trophies including his two Ballon d'Or titles, with a third one possibly on its way as he is favourite to win the FIFA award again.

**Three million Germany shirts sold**

AFP, Berlin  
 Germany fans have bought more than three million of the white shirt Joachim Loew's side wore when they won the World Cup in Brazil, according to a report Sunday. "In total, we have sold more than three million shirts since it was presented in November 2013," Adidas chief executive officer Herbert Hainer told magazine Focus. Twice as many shirts have been sold compared to the 2006 World Cup hosted by Germany. The latest edition of the jersey, with the fourth star above the German Football Association (DFB) logo, has been a 'big seller' before Christmas, added Hainer.



**Madrid complete quadruple**

AFP, Marrakech  
 Real Madrid defeated San Lorenzo of Argentina 2-0 on Saturday to win the Club World Cup and secure their fourth trophy of 2014. The Spanish giants dominated the final with Sergio Ramos, who had been an injury doubt because of a hamstring strain, and Gareth Bale getting on the scoresheet. Real added the year-ending trophy to the Champions League, Copa del Rey and European Super Cup titles they had already secured in 2014. They will also end the year on top of La Liga. Saturday's triumph was also their 22nd consecutive win in all competitions, and they now have in their sights the mark of 26 straight wins achieved by Johan Cruyff's Ajax side in 1971-72. "We deserved to win the title -- we can say that Real Madrid are the best team in the world," said Real coach Carlo Ancelotti.

"We have done really well this year, it's been unforgettable. We are a team and a family." Real are also guaranteed to finish the year as La Liga leaders and Ancelotti was already setting his sights on similar achievements in 2015. "We'd be happy with a repeat. We'll continue forward like this in all competitions and will face the new year with excitement and enthusiasm." Meanwhile, Bale tweeted: "Couldn't think of a better Christmas present, FIFA World Club Champions 2014!! #HalaMadrid." Ramos opened the scoring after 37 minutes when he rose above the San Lorenzo defence to send a thumping header past goalkeeper Sebastian Torrico from a Toni Kroos corner. Bale made it 2-0 six minutes into the second half when he collected a pass from Isco and fired the ball straight at Torrico. But the Argentine 'keeper made a terrible hash of the Welshman's tame shot and fumbled the ball over the line.

Real 'keeper Iker Casillas was relatively untroubled, called into serious action for the first time well after the hour mark to keep out an Emmanuel Mas drive. At the other end, Karim Benzema went close to a third Real goal but his touch went wide of the post. Cristiano Ronaldo had a quiet night and failed to get on the end of a Benzema cross in the 80th minute. In the last minute, San Lorenzo's Juan Mercier unleashed a powerful, long distance drive which was saved by a diving Casillas. "Madrid won fairly. But for us it was an honour to have finished the year playing in the final of the World Cup. We are very proud despite the grief of losing," said San Lorenzo coach Edgardo Bauza. "It's been a wonderful year for the club and for the fans -- we won the Copa Libertadores." Earlier, New Zealand's Auckland City claimed third place after defeating Cruz Azul 4-2 in a penalty shoot-out to become the first Oceania team to win a medal at the

tournament. The two sides were locked 1-1 at the end of normal time with defender Ryan de Vries' goal in first-half injury time equalised by Joao Rojas' close-range effort just before the hour mark for the Mexican side. In the shoot-out, Sanni Issa scored the eventual winner for the semi-professionals from Auckland. The Kiwis had made the third-place play-off by beating Moroccan side Moghreb Tetouan 1-0 and then seeing off African champions Setif of Algeria by the same score. They narrowly missed out on a place in the final when they conceded an extra-time goal in a 2-1 loss to San Lorenzo. "Half of my players are amateurs. We deserve to finish where we have because we've been brilliant from beginning to end," said Auckland coach Ramon Tribulietx. "I hope this performance will have a positive impact on football in New Zealand. No one expected us to come third, and it's a real honour."

**Marseille's new year's delight**

AFP, Paris  
 Belgian striker Michy Batshuyai repaid Marseille coach Marcelo Bielsa's faith in giving him his first start by scoring the decider in the 2-1 win over Lille on Sunday to guarantee they top the table going into the New Year. Marseille lead defending champions Paris Saint Germain who drew 0-0 with Montpellier on Saturday. The hosts went 1-0 up in the 32nd minute in unfortunate circumstances for Lille as Nolan Roux tried to put out a poor corner by Florian Thauvin but it flashed off his boot and beat Enyeama at the near post. Idrissa Gueye levelled the score in the 61st minute, his shot from the edge of the area taking a deflection before rolling past Steve Mandanda. However, the hosts sent the massed ranks of Marseille fans into ecstasy in the 69th minute as Batshuyai turned his marker and let fly with a super right-footed effort that gave Enyeama no chance.

**Aussies bring in Burns**

AFP, Brisbane  
 Batsman Joe Burns was a surprise addition Sunday to Australia's 13-man squad for the third Test against India, starting in Melbourne on Boxing Day, replacing injured Mitchell Marsh. Burns has yet to play Test cricket, but reached his highest first-class score of 183 against New South Wales last month to put himself in the frame for selection. **SQUAD** David Warner, Chris Rogers, Shane Watson, Steve Smith (captain), Shaun Marsh, Joe Burns, Brad Haddin, Mitchell Johnson, Ryan Harris, Peter Siddle, Mitchell Starc, Nathan Lyon, Josh Hazlewood.

**Milan dent Roma hopes**

AFP, Milan  
 Ten-man AC Milan handed Roma their first home draw of the season to leave Rudi Garcia's title challengers three points adrift of leaders Juventus on Saturday. Roma had recently capitalised on two consecutive draws by defending champions Juve to reduce their deficit to a point. But in their final game of the year, the Giallorossi -- denied a first-half penalty after a clear handball by Nigel De Jong -- ultimately failed to break down a well-drilled Milan side in a thrilling Stadio Olimpico goalless stalemate. Roma remain second, three points adrift of Juve after their 3-1 win at Cagliari on Thursday. Milan underlined their intentions from the outset of a balanced first half at the Stadio Olimpico and, but for Pablo Armero's sending-off in the 70th minute for a handling offence, Milan might have snatched a win. Seconds after kick-off Keisuke Honda fired a speculative shot from 25 metres to force Morgan De Sanctis into a double save at his near post after Andrea Poli rushed in to fire the rebound from a tight angle. Gervinho slalomed his way into the Milan area and skipped around Phillippe Mexes to fire a low shot which Lopez did well to block. Roma were denied what looked like a stonewall penalty soon after when a corner whipped in from the left was deflected by the forearm of Nigel De Jong. Milan started in more positive fashion after the restart but Giacomo Bonaventura's low drive was blocked by De Sanctis. Roma were creating little, but the game changed in their favour in the space of three second-half minutes. Florenzi made way for Adem Ljajic, Roma's top scorer with six goals this season, and shortly after Milan were reduced to 10 men when Armero earned a second yellow card for a handball incident while tackling Maicon. Inzaghi replaced Honda with Brazilian defender Alex, while De Rossi came off in place of Mattia Destro as Garcia boosted Roma's attack. The hosts ultimately failed to capitalise. Destro had claims for a penalty waved away after being wrestled to the ground by Mexes, who minutes later had a violent reaction to the striker after he arrived late to meet a Gervinho through ball and almost striking Lopez's head. With the clock ticking down, Gervinho gave the hosts some late hope with a mazy run into the Milan area but after a one-two with Mapou Yanga-Mbiwa the Ivorian's shot was blocked by an alert Lopez as he tumbled to the ground under a challenge.



Sunderland midfielder Adam Johnson (R) celebrates his 89th minute winner with his teammate John O'Shea at St James's Park yesterday.

**Last gasp win for Sunderland**

REUTERS, London  
 Adam Johnson's late winner earned Sunderland a 1-0 victory over Newcastle United in a frantic Premier League Tyne-Wear derby at St James Park on Sunday. With a minute remaining, and seconds after Moussa Sissoko had almost won it for hosts Newcastle, Johnson kept his cool to slam a shot past keeper Jak Alnwick and wrap up a fourth successive win for Sunderland in the fixture. It was only Sunderland's third league victory of the season and lifted them to 14th place with 19 points. Newcastle, who have lost three matches in a row in all competitions since beating leaders Chelsea, are ninth on 23. A typically feisty affair did not take

long to come to the boil with two yellow cards being shown inside 10 minutes. Sunderland's Sebastian Coates was the first to enter referee Anthony Taylor's notebook after a foul on Ayoze Perez and was joined by Newcastle defender Fabricio Colocchini, who sank his knee into the back of Sunderland striker Connor Wickham. Sunderland had the better of the first half and Wickham wasted a glorious chance to put them ahead when Johnson's free kick found him unmarked at the back post but he somehow headed wide with the goal begging. Steven Fletcher hit the bar for Sunderland with a stretching volley from Sebastian Larsson's lofted pass. Perez curled a shot just beyond the post for Newcastle but the hosts struggled to get a clear sight of goal.

Sunderland's profligacy in front of goal carried into the second half with Jordi Gomez firing over the bar with time and space to pick his spot. That miss came while Newcastle were temporarily down to 10 men after defender Steven Taylor head-butted the post after making a desperate clearance, although he re-emerged battered and bruised a few minutes later. Newcastle gradually built some momentum. Perez forced a fingertip save from Sunderland keeper Costel Pantilimon with a curler while minutes later Sissoko marauded forward and narrowly failed to connect when Sammy Ameobi played the ball across goal. Pantilimon tipped a thunderous Sissoko drive over the bar but Sunderland then broke down the other end and Will Buckley played in Johnson to fire the winner.

**Dortmund fall to 10th defeat**

AFP, Berlin  
 Borussia Dortmund's Bundesliga crisis deepened on Saturday after suffering their tenth defeat of the season in losing 2-1 at fellow strugglers Werder Bremen to drop to second from bottom. Dortmund continue to have the most defeats in Germany's top flight at the season's halfway stage with just 15 points from 17 games as Bremen claimed only their fourth win of the season to climb off the foot of the table. Borussia fell behind with just three minutes gone when Bremen's 19-year-old striker Davie Selke curled in a superb goal from 15 metres out. Selke then turned provider putting in a great cross which Bremen midfielder Fin Bartels converted on 62 minutes. Hummels pulled a goal back when he headed home unmarked a corner on 69 minutes, but it was no more than a consolation. Second-placed Wolfsburg fought back to claim a 2-1 home win against mid-table Cologne later which trimmed Bayern Munich's lead at the top of the table back to 11 points. Bayer Leverkusen stay third after coming from behind for a 1-1 draw at home to Eintracht Frankfurt. Roberto di Matteo's Schalke 04 stay fifth in the table after being held to a goalless draw at home to Hamburg in a poor display.

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