

SHAW AT C'RON'S HOUSE

Manchester United's 19-year-old left back Luke Shaw is now the tenant of Cristiano Ronaldo as the former is renting the Portuguese star's 7000-pounds-a-month house in Cheshire. The rent however is justified as the property includes a gym, indoor pool, wine store area and steam room. Ronaldo bought the home for 3.85 million pounds after he



Christmas hangover for contenders

AFP, London



Leaders Chelsea and second-place Manchester City both succumbed to post-Christmas hangovers on Sunday as they dropped points in the Premier League title race.

Chelsea drew 1-1 at Southampton, presenting City with a chance to close to within a point of the summit, but the champions fluffed their lines by blowing a 2-0 lead to draw 2-2 at home to second-bottom Burnley.

The results preserved the status quo at the summit, where Chelsea lead City by three points ahead of the New Year's Day programme.

Chelsea fell behind in the 17th minute Dusan Tadic freed Sadio Mane, who coolly lobbed Thibaut Courtois.

Eden Hazard equalised in first-half injury time but Jose Mourinho's side were unable to find a winner

At the Etihad Stadium, David Silva put City ahead in the 23rd minute and Samir Nasri teed up Fernando to crash home a stunning second goal from the edge of the box 10 minutes later.

But Burnley replied through George Boyd early in the second half before Ashley Barnes slammed in an equaliser from 15 yards with nine minutes to play.

Manchester United squandered an opportunity to put pressure on the top two after being held to a frustrating 0-0 draw against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane.

Louis van Gaal's side created a string of chances, but Hugo Lloris produced a number of excellent saves, with both teams settling for a point.

With United, Spurs and Southampton dropping points, Arsenal capitalised by leapfrogging West Ham into fifth place with a 2-1 victory at Upton Park.

RESULTS

- Aston Villa 0 Sunderland 0
- Hull 0 Leicester 1 (Mahrez 32)
- Manchester City 2 (Silva 23, Fernando 33) Burnley 2 (Boyd 47, Barnes 81)
- Newcastle 3 (Cisse 34, Perez 51, Colback 68) Everton 2 (Kone 5, Mirallas 84)
- QPR 0 Crystal Palace 0
- Southampton 1 (Mane 17) Chelsea 1 (Hazard 45+1)
- Stoke 2 (Diouf 51, 66) West Brom 0
- Tottenham 0 Manchester United 0

2014 YEAR END SPECIAL: ATHLETICS

Bolt breaks down, Pistorius found guilty

AGENCIES

Usain Bolt ended his injury-plagued season early, having competed in just three races in 2014. The Olympic champion and world record-holder won a 100 race in Warsaw, Poland, clocking 9.98 seconds which was his last race for the year.

Bolt's coach Glen Mills "feels it is now time to shut it down while he is healthy and injury free with a view on his preparations for the 2015 season."

Bolt's preparations for the season were disrupted by a foot injury and his only other appearances in 2014 were in the 4x100 relay for Jamaica at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and a 100 exhibition race in Rio de Janeiro.

He won all three events but without displaying the type of speed that has made him the sport's biggest star.

With no major titles on offer in 2014, Bolt hopes to be back to full fitness for next year's world championships in Beijing, which will mark a return to the Bird's Nest stadium where he won three Olympic golds in 2008 and set as many world records.

In one of the biggest shocks of the year, the Olympic and Paralympic athlete Oscar Pistorius was found guilty of culpable homicide for the fatal shooting of his girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp.

Pistorius was sentenced to five years in prison for the manslaughter of Steenkamp, his then girlfriend, on Valentine's Day 2013.

Appearing in court for the final time in his seven-month long trial, the former Paralympian stood as South African Judge Thokozile Masipa said: "Count one, culpable homicide, the sentence imposed is five years."

He was then led to the courthouse cells beneath his trial room and later to an armoured police van that took him to Kgosi Mampuru II prison in Pretoria.

The 27-year-old was also given a three-year suspended sentence on a separate gun



OSCAR PISTORIUS



USAIN BOLT

charge, which will be served alongside his more serious sentence.

His five-year sentence only requires that he serves 10 months behind bars and the balance under house arrest.

Pistorius, whose lower legs were amputated as a baby, became one of the world's most celebrated athletes after he became a Paralympic champion then took part in the 2012 Olympics and other international events.

The killing of Steenkamp, a 29-year-old model and law graduate, led to one of the most sensational trials in South Africa's

recent history and cost him his reputation and his fortune.

Controversy also followed Usain Bolt in the Commonwealth games.

The row between Bolt and the Times over whether he called the Commonwealth Games "a bit shit" did not abate -- with the newspaper insisting they stand by the story "100%" and Bolt calling it "nonsense".

Bolt appeared relaxed, posing for photographs with volunteers, waving a Jamaican flag, and even vigorously joining a Mexican wave, his entourage quickly called for security when he was approached by journalists for a comment.

One reporter, the Daily Mail's Jonathan McEvoy, had his accreditation ripped off him in a heated row with one security guard before being led out of the netball arena -- although he was later allowed to return. His crime, he claimed, was to say to Bolt's agent Ricky Simms "is he denying that he did the interview?"

According to the Times journalist, Katie

Gibbons, she approached Bolt as he waited in the rain for his car at the athletes' village.

After she showed Bolt her media accreditation, he reportedly said that "the Olympics were better", that he was "not really" having fun in Glasgow, and that he felt the Games were "a bit shit", before he left "to do some business".

The Times published a 70-word transcript of the conversation. The paper's Scottish editor, Angus Macleod, said he had full confidence in Gibbons, adding: "We stand by this story 100%. We have utter confidence in this story."

However, earlier the Jamaican sprinter was more forthcoming on Twitter, saying: "I'm waking up to this nonsense. Journalist please don't create lies to make headlines".

Simms also claimed the reports were "utter rubbish", adding: "The atmosphere in and around the stadiums has been absolutely fantastic and I have absolutely no idea where these quotes have come from."

WORLD RECORDS IN 2014

Kimetto (Kenya)	Marathon	2:02:57
Lavillenie (France)	Pole Vault	6.61m
Jamaica	4x200m relay	1:18.63
Kenya	4x1500 m relay	14:22.22
Wlodarczyk	Hammer Throw	79.58m



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