

## Schweinsteiger, Ribery out of Porto clash

**AFP, Munich**  
Injury-hit Bayern Munich will be without stars Franck Ribery and Bastian Schweinsteiger for Wednesday's Champions League quarterfinal, first-leg, at FC Porto, director of sport Matthias Sammer confirmed Monday.  
With left-back David Alaba and right winger Arjen Robben definitely out, Bayern had hoped to include Germany captain Schweinsteiger and France winger Ribery in their bid to reach the Champions League semi-finals for the fourth year running.  
But Schweinsteiger has been ruled out with a virus having recovered from injuring his left ankle while Ribery has also failed in his bid to be fit having also suffered from an ankle injury.



Real Madrid's attacking trio -- Gareth Bale (L), Karim Benzema (C) and Cristiano Ronaldo -- look all focused in training on Monday, ahead of tonight's Champions League clash against Atletico Madrid.

PHOTO: AFP

## Revenge on mind for Real, Atletico

**AFP, Madrid**  
Last season's Champions League finalists Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid meet for the seventh time this season in Tuesday's Champions League quarterfinal, first leg with revenge in mind for both.  
Real took the spoils in Lisbon last May as Sergio Ramos's stoppage time header denied Atletico their first ever European Cup and sent the game into extra time when Los Blancos romped to a 4-1 win.  
However, the tables have been turned this season as Atletico have won four and drawn two of the six meetings so far this season. That run has included two aggregate victories over two legs in the Spanish Supercup and the Copa del Rey.  
Yet, it was their last encounter in La Liga in February that was the most embarrassing for Real as Atletico romped to their biggest victory in a Madrid derby for 28 years in a 4-0 rout.  
"The last result against Atletico is a motivating factor for us," said Real boss Carlo Ancelotti. "It will be a different game, but difficult as it always is against Atletico. We come into the game in good form, we are motivated and we will give everything we have. I don't have any doubt that it will be an intense game. That will be an important

component of the game, but there will also be others that we need to utilise."  
However, unlike that most recent meeting at the Vicente Calderon when they were without five first-team regulars, Real are at full strength for the first time in five months.  
James Rodriguez and Toni Kroos return from suspension after missing Saturday's 3-0 win over Eibar which moved Real back to within two points of Barcelona at the top of La Liga. Gareth Bale returned to training on Sunday and is expected to fit to start.  
Atletico have received a huge injury boost of their own with the news that Mario Mandzukic will be available after overcoming an ankle problem which kept him out of their last two games. The Croatian has scored 20 goals since signing from Bayern Munich last summer, including two in three games against Madrid at the Calderon.  
Raul Garcia is also expected to recover from an elbow problem meaning Diego Simeone will also have a fully-fit squad to choose from. However, the Argentine has a number of key decisions to make, most notably in goal where the in-form Jan Oblak kept his place ahead of the fit again Miguel Angel Moya for Saturday's 2-2 draw at Malaga and in central defence where Jose Maria Gimenez and Miranda will battle it out to partner Diego Godin.  
The draw at Malaga extended Atletico's unbeaten run in all competitions to eight games, albeit with four draws along the way.

## Allegri wants Monaco focus

**AFP, Milan**  
Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri has called for his team to forget their shock defeat to Parma and turn their focus on beating Monaco in the first leg of their Champions League quarterfinal on Tuesday.  
At the Enrico Tardini stadium on Saturday a Juventus side missing Gianluigi Buffon and Carlos Tevez among others failed to convert several scoring chances before conceding a 1-0 defeat to a club that entered administration last month after being declared bankrupt.  
Allegri is confident a different Juventus will emerge on Tuesday when they will be under pressure to seal a first leg victory before the return leg in the Principality.  
"I hope this setback serves us well, although I'm sure that we will see an altogether different Juventus on Tuesday," Allegri said after Saturday's defeat.  
Buffon, who had an infection, and Tevez, who spent his rare day off at Lake Maggiore, will return to Allegri's starting line-up for Tuesday as Juve look to take a first step towards securing their first semifinal appearance since 2003 when they beat Barcelona over two legs in the quarters.  
While influential Frenchman Paul Pogba is still sidelined with injury, midfield maestro Andrea Pirlo should start on the bench having recently recovered from injury, leaving Claudio Marchisio with the job of orchestrating play towards lively Uruguayan front man Roberto Pereyra, likely to play in the 'hole' behind Alvaro Morata and Tevez.  
Either way, Juventus have been impervious at home in both Monaco will be without captain Jeremy Toulalan after the defender limped off injured in a 3-0 win over Caen on Friday.

## Russel's shaky start

SPORTS REPORTER



Title contenders Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra got off to a scrappy start in the Manyavar Bangladesh Premier League with a hard-fought 2-1 victory over over Brothers Union at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.  
The former champions, who assembled a star-studded squad this season, had to dig deep after falling behind to a first-half strike from young forward Kawsar Ali Rabbi. But thanks to an inspired second half from winger Zahid Hossain who created two late goals for his fellow strikers -- Zahid Hasan Emily and Paul Emile -- that the Blue and Whites came out with full points in their first match of the league.  
"Zahid is a tricky and special player, who can change the game in a minute and every coach does like to have that type of a player," opined Sheikh Russel's Montenegro coach Dragan Djukanovic after the match.  
Sheikh Russel, playing their first competitive match since their March 5 Federation Cup semifinal defeat against Sheikh Jamal DC, looked short of urgency against a spirited Brothers Union, who failed to keep their first-half tempo in the second half despite taking the lead in the 16th minute.  
Rabbi took full advantage of a feeble clearance from Sheikh Russel goalkeeper

Mamun Khan and dinked the ball over the flummoxed 'keeper for the opening goal.  
Sheikh Russel, who looked lethargic in much of the opening half, came all gun blazing in search of an equaliser after the break. They almost found the equaliser in the 76th minute, but Emile's grounder rattled the post. Zahid was increasingly looking dangerous and was rewarded for his hard work in the 80th minute when his lob was nodded home by his namesake Emile. Two minutes later, the winger danced past two defenders and provided a cut-back for an unmarked Emile, who beat goalkeeper Biplob Bhattacharjee with a powerful shot.

**SHEIKH RUSSEL 2 - 1 BROTHERS TEAM BJMC 0 - 2 MOHAMMEDAN**

Brothers got one last chance to eke out a draw in the stoppage time but Augustine's header came off the post and the header on the rebound went just wide of the open net.  
**MOHAMMEDAN KEEP WINNING**  
Mohammedan Sporting Club notched their second consecutive victory with a comfortable 2-0 win over Team BJMC in the day's second match under the floodlights. The Black and Whites joined Sheikh Jamal and Muktijodha Sangsad on the top of the 11-team points table with six points. Forward Towhidul Alam Sabuj provided Mohammedan with a fifth-minute lead before winger Jewel Rana's strike in the 70th minute wrapped up the victory.



Sheikh Russel forward Paul Emile runs for joy after scoring the winning goal against Brothers Union in their Manyavar BPL fixture at the BNS yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Spieth's historic win

**AFP, Augusta**  
Jordan Spieth won a historic Masters triumph for the ages Sunday, the 21-year-old American deftly handling the final-round tension to hold off Phil Mickelson and Justin Rose and win his first major title by four shots.  
Writing an epic conclusion to a week of domination at Augusta National, Spieth fired a two-under par 70 to finish on 18-under 270, matching the 72-hole tournament record set by Tiger Woods in 1997.  
"This was arguably the greatest day of my life," Spieth said. "It's incredible. It's a dream come true."  
Spieth claimed the green jacket symbolic of Masters supremacy and the top prize of 1.8 million dollars at the 10-million-dollar event by denying two of golf's top major champions another crown.  
"It was very nerve-wracking today," Spieth said. "With two major champions right behind me, I couldn't let up."  
England's Rose, the 2013 US Open winner and Spieth's last-year playing partner, shot 70 to share second on 274 with 44-year-old US left-hander Mickelson, a five-time major winner who shot 69.  
"I played a good solid round but I needed something exceptional. I just didn't quite get it,"

Mickelson said. "I just got outplayed. Jordan played great."  
Top-ranked Rory McIlroy, seeking a third consecutive major win to complete his career Grand Slam, was fourth on 276 after a 66, one stroke ahead of Japan's Hideki Matsuyama.  
Woods, a 14-time major champion, fired a 73 to share 17th on 283, his best finish since 2013 and a sign that the worst of his physical and shotmaking woes might be behind him.  
"Considering where I was... I'm really proud of it," Woods said of his effort.

Spieth, who was a runner-up to Bubba Watson last year in his Masters debut after squandering a front-nine lead on Sunday, but this time responded four times when dropping a shot to his rivals, restoring his margin each time on the very next hole.  
Spieth, who will jump from fourth to second in the world rankings, became the second-youngest winner in Masters history, five months older than Woods when he won his first major in 1997.  
Also, Spieth became only the fifth wire-to-wire winner in Masters history, joining Craig Wood in 1941, Arnold Palmer in 1960, Jack Nicklaus in 1972 and Ray Floyd in 1976.

## 3RD PATRON'S CUP Jamal joins Jibon on top

SPORTS REPORTER

Jamal Hossain Mollah joined overnight leader Jibon Ali on the top of the leaderboard of the 3rd Patron's Cup after the end of the second round at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.  
The 30-year-old golfer returned a card of four-under (68), with one eagle, four birdies and two bogeys, for two-round aggregate of seven-under (137) while Jibon managed only two-under for the day.  
Bangladesh's premier golfer Siddikur Rahman, who was one shot behind Jibon after the first round, dropped to joint fifth position, after a disastrous 75 in the second round which featured two birdies, three bogeys and a double bogey.  
Mohammad Nazim and Shakhawat Hossain Sohel occupied the third and fourth positions with three-under and two-under respectively while Sajib Ali was in fifth position alongside Siddikur with one-under.  
A total of 30 golfers out of 51 made the final two rounds, which will be held on April 15 and 16 after a day's rest, as the cut was made at 10-over-par.



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Last year's champion Bubba Watson (R) places the Green Jacket on Jordan Spieth.

PHOTO: AFP