

Sony Six
Sri Lanka v India
First Test, Day 4
Live from 10:30am

STAR SPORTS 1
English Premier League
Southampton v Everton
Live from 5:45pm
Swansea v Newcastle
Live from 8:00pm

STAR SPORTS 4
Bundesliga
Gladbach v Dortmund
Live from 10:30pm

PEP'S EXCEPTION FOR MESSI

Bayern Munich manager Pep Guardiola has claimed that the only player who has ever been allowed to ignore his instructions is Barcelona superstar Lionel Messi. With pressure to deliver the Champions League this year, Guardiola said his players must follow his every instruction in an interview with German newspaper Bild. "This year everybody will run as I want them to. I say how things are going to be, and you listen. There is only one player in the world who doesn't have to, and that is Messi." --INTERNET



A ball boy hands over tennis balls to Nick Kyrgios of Australia during his Rogers Cup match against John Isner of USA at the Uniprix Stadium in Montreal on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

Kyrgios in hot water

AFP, Montreal



The ATP Tour fined Australia's Nick Kyrgios \$12,500 on Thursday as it launched an investigation into an insulting comment he made during a Rogers Cup tennis match against French Open champion Stan Wawrinka.

The 20-year-old Kyrgios was fined \$10,000 earlier Thursday for an obscene sexual remark he made on the court in Wednesday's second round.

The ATP announced several hours later that it was fining him an additional \$2,500 for another comment he made to a ball person during the same match.

"Following a review of video from the match the ATP has also issued an additional fine of \$2,500 for unprofessional conduct related to a comment he made to a ball person," the ATP said in a news release Thursday night.

"In addition, Kyrgios has been served with a 'notice of investigation' which begins a process to determine if his actions also constitute a violation of the player major offence provisions."

On-court microphones picked up the Australian's scurrilous sexual remark about Wawrinka's girlfriend during a changeover in their match won by Kyrgios when Wawrinka retired with back pain trailing 4-0 in the third set.

Kyrgios said that the woman had been involved with his close friend Thanasi Kokkinakis. "Sorry to tell you that mate," Kyrgios is heard to say.

Following a 7-5, 6-3 loss to John Isner on Thursday, Kyrgios said that he personally apologised to Wawrinka at Uniprix Stadium and now wants to put the matter behind him but the ATP seems to have other plans.

The ATP said the probe could result in further sanctions against Kyrgios.

"Obviously he [Wawrinka] saw me in the corridor yesterday," Kyrgios said after his loss to Isner. "He came up to me, as you know he would. I wasn't surprised."

"I told him I was sorry. Obviously he was angry, so I just had to deal with it. Hopefully we can just put it behind. It's all cleared now. I apologised in public and privately as well."

An angry Wawrinka had demanded action by tennis authorities over the "beyond belief" comments.

Wawrinka, who separated from his wife earlier this year and has been linked to Croatian tour player Donna Vekic, said the ATP should take "major action this time".

Kyrgios hopes the incident won't dog him as he now travels to Cincinnati for next week's pre-US Open event.

"I've been fined. So everything is sort of put to bed now. I thought we could move on from it," said the world number 41.

Kyrgios' insult rocked the sport and the criticism has come from all directions, including world number one Novak Djokovic.

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Chelsea face City test

AFP, London



Premier League champions Chelsea travel to Manchester City, last season's runners-up, on Sunday with manager Jose Mourinho embroiled in a growing row over accusations he has sidelined team doctor Eva Carneiro.

British media reports claim Carneiro will no longer attend matches or training sessions after Mourinho reacted furiously to the sight of her and physiotherapist Jon Fearn running on to the pitch to treat Eden Hazard during the latter stages of last weekend's opening 2-2 draw at home to Swansea City, which temporarily reduced Chelsea to nine players.

The outspoken Mourinho, who said that Carneiro and Fearn had been "impulsive and naive", has received widespread criticism, with Liverpool's former head of sports medicine Peter Brukner branding his behaviour "absolutely appalling".

Mourinho was due to give his first public response to the reports of Carneiro's demotion at his scheduled pre-match press conference on Friday.

However, for all that he enjoys confronting the media, Chelsea and Mourinho have sometimes cancelled his press conference appearances in a bid to limit the damage caused by uncomfortable topics.

Indeed it was prior to a match with City last season that Mourinho backed out of a press conference in anger at what he believed was an attempt by the Football Association to make Blues striker Diego Costa a scapegoat for his stamp on Liverpool

defender Emre Can.

Chelsea will be without goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois, sent off against Swansea, but have a more than capable deputy in former Stoke City number one Asmir Begovic.

Both last season's league meetings between Chelsea and their title rivals ended in 1-1 draws but City will have hope of a win after starting this campaign with an impressive 3-0 victory away to West Bromwich Albion on Monday.

Sergio Aguero may not be in their

FIXTURES

(1400 GMT unless stated)
Saturday
Southampton v Everton (1145 GMT), Sunderland v Norwich City, Swansea City v Newcastle United, Tottenham Hotspur v Stoke City, Watford v West Bromwich Albion, West Ham United v Leicester City
Sunday
Crystal Palace v Arsenal (1230 GMT), Manchester City v Chelsea (1500 GMT)
Monday
Liverpool v Bournemouth (1900 GMT)

starting side after the striker played just the final 27 minutes against the Baggies following his return from international duty with Argentina.

"Whether I start or not remains to be seen," Aguero told City's website.

"I'm trying to get there and be in top condition, but arriving for pre-season later having taken part in the Copa America with Argentina means I need some additional time," added the forward, who scored 32 goals in 41 appearances for City last term.

"With the whole season in mind,

what matters the most is that I get in top form and don't take any risks."

Southampton are to set receive a double boost on Saturday when they face Everton at St Mary's.

Dutch manager Ronald Koeman is in line to return after missing last weekend's 2-2 draw with Newcastle United because of Achilles tendon surgery and the Everton game could see the Saints hand a club debut to former Chelsea midfielder Oriel Romeu.

This will be Southampton's first home league game since they signed off in May with a 6-1 victory over Aston Villa, a game marked by Sadio Mane's 176-second hat-trick, the Premier League's fastest ever.

"It was nice to end the season like that at St Mary's," Mane said. "I will try and score more than last season."

Newcastle travel to Swansea looking to build on their point against the Saints, while Tottenham Hotspur -- undone by Kyle Walker's own goal in a 1-0 defeat by Manchester United -- will look to bounce back at home to Stoke.

West Ham United, whose 2-0 win away to Arsenal was arguably the shock result of the first weekend, are at home to Leicester City -- themselves 4-2 winners over Sunderland.

Arsenal goalkeeper Petr Cech will hope for a better second league game with the Gunners than his first, where the Chelsea great was blamed for both goals, in another London derby with Crystal Palace on Sunday.

But Manchester United goalkeeper David de Gea is set to remain in the stands again for Friday's match away to Aston Villa as the impasse over his proposed move to Real Madrid continues.

Bayern strong favourites

AFP, Berlin

German bookmakers say Bayern Munich are overwhelming favourites to win an historic fourth consecutive Bundesliga title as they prepare to kick off the new season on Friday against Hamburg.

Bayern are bidding to become the first team to win four German titles in a row as Pep Guardiola starts the third and final season of his current contract when Bayern welcome the newcomers to the Allianz Arena.

Bookmakers bwin are offering just 1.12-1 on the Bavarians winning the title again with last season's runners-up VfL Wolfsburg their closest rivals at 17-1.

Borussia Dortmund, the last team to beat Bayern to the title in 2012, are 19-1 under new coach Thomas Tuchel and Lucien Favre's Borussia Moenchengladbach, who will make their Champions League debut after finishing third last season, are 41-1.

Some 17 years after Kaiserslautern won the Bundesliga title in their first season after promotion, Darmstadt -- back in Germany's top flight after a 33-year absence -- have odds of 2001-1, while fellow newcomers Ingolstadt, who are making their bow in the German top flight, are 1001-1.

Brazil recall Kaka



AFP, Rio de Janeiro



Kaka has been recalled to the Brazil squad for next month's friendly double-header against the United States and Costa Rica, while Neymar is included but Thiago Silva is dropped.

The 33-year-old Orlando City playmaker Kaka becomes the first player based in Major League Soccer to be called up by Brazil as coach Dunga makes a host of changes to his squad after a disappointing Copa America.

"Kaka is a reference and we are bringing him to provide his experience, maturity," Globoesporte reported Dunga assaying. Barcelona star Neymar is named in the squad despite currently suffering from a bout of the mumps and being banned for the Selecao's first two 2018 World Cup qualifiers against Chile and Venezuela in October.

The first squad to be announced since Brazil limped out of the Copa America on penalties to Paraguay in the quarterfinals in June also features new faces such as Santos playmaker Lucas Lima, while Paris Saint-Germain captain Silva is dropped with Arsenal's Gabriel Paulista boosting the defence.

Brazil will play Costa Rica in New Jersey on September 5 and the United States three days later in Boston.

SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Jefferson (Botafogo), Marcelo Grohe (Gremio), Alisson (Internacional)
Defenders: David Luiz, Marquinhos (both Paris Saint-Germain/FRA), Gabriel Paulista (Arsenal/ENG), Joao Miranda (Inter Milan/ITA), Douglas Santos (Atletico Mineiro), Filipe Luis (Atletico Madrid/ESP), Danilo (Real Madrid/ESP), Daniel Alves (Barcelona/ESP)
Midfielders: Luiz Gustavo (Wolfsburg/GER), Fernandinho (Manchester City/ENG), Elias (Corinthians), Lucas Lima (Santos), Ramires, Oscar, Willian (all Chelsea/ENG), Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool/ENG), Kaka (Orlando City/USA)
Forwards: Douglas Costa (Bayern Munich/GER), Neymar (Barcelona/ESP), Hulk (Zenit St Petersburg/RUS), Roberto Firmino (Liverpool/ENG), Lucas (Paris Saint-Germain/FRA)

Baines out for 3 months

AFP, London

Everton defender Leighton Baines will be out of action for at least three months after an ankle operation, the Premier League club announced on Thursday.

Baines required the surgery to correct the problem he sustained in training on the eve of the Premier League campaign and the injury has now been successfully repaired.

The 30-year-old England international faces a period of rehabilitation before he can return to first-team action and will be sidelined until at least November.

"Left-back Leighton Baines has undergone a successful ankle operation but is set to be missing for the next 12 to 14 weeks," a statement on Everton's website read.

Baines previously had ankle surgery in May, but returned to action in early August.

Speaking after Saturday's game against Watford, manager Roberto Martinez said of the defender's injury: "Everything thing had been perfect in Leighton's programme and he worked extremely hard in pre-season."

"He looked refreshed, he looked strong and he look at a really, really good level."

"Then, in training, he blocks a ball and it hits him exactly in the same area where he had surgery (in May), with the unfortunate result that he's going to be out for a while."

"It's one of those tough moments that you have to take as a player but he knows we're going to help him immensely, everyone will support him and we have to make the most of his other role."

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Wenger backs Carneiro

AFP, London



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said on Friday that Chelsea's first-team doctor had been clearly following the rules in the incident that has reportedly seen her demoted by manager Jose Mourinho.

British press reports claim Mourinho has sidelined Eva Carneiro and physiotherapist Jon Fearn from matches and training sessions after they angered him by running onto the pitch to treat Eden Hazard during the latter stages of Chelsea's 2-2 draw with Swansea City last weekend, temporarily reducing his team to nine players.

Mourinho has been strongly criticised over the reports and Wenger said that it was dangerous for a manager to do anything that might damage unity within his club.

"It is a problem inside the club that if you are not united, it is more difficult. It is the trust and unity that makes the strength," the Frenchman, a long-time Mourinho adversary, told a press conference.

"You know you speak about that story at Chelsea. First of all I have not followed that as you know I do not have great interest about what is going on at Chelsea."

"Secondly the rules are quite clear that when the referee gives an indication that the medical (staff) can come on, they come on."

"After that what happens specifically in the situation I don't know, but the rules are quite clear. It is the referee who makes the decision."

Serena hammers Petkovic

AFP, Toronto



World number one Serena Williams continued her dominance over Germany's Andrea Petkovic with a 6-3, 6-2 victory in the third round of the WTA Rogers Cup on

Thursday. Top seed Williams hammered 28 winners and blasted nine aces to beat the 16th seeded Petkovic for the fifth straight time.

"I think I served better than in my first match. It was a big difference," Williams said.

"I still think I have a tremendous amount of improvement to do off the ground and everywhere else."

Williams, who never faced a break point

and held all nine of her service games in the 62-minute match on center court, barely broke a sweat Thursday.

The 33-year-old American advances to the quarter-finals where she will face Roberta Vinci who snapped the win streak of rising star Daria Gavrilova with a 6-4, 6-3 win.

Williams has beaten Vinci in all three of their previous meetings, losing just 14 games in total.

Second seed Simona Halep smashed an ace on match point to defeat red-hot Angelique Kerber 6-3, 5-7, 6-4 and reach the quarter-finals.

Kerber had won seven in a row and was coming off her fourth title of 2015 after winning last week's Stanford tournament