

C'RON BUYS \$18.5M LOFT

While Donald Trump considers owning a soccer club, Cristiano Ronaldo bought an \$18.5 million apartment at Trump Tower, according to the New York Post. The report says that Ronaldo paid for a 2,509 square foot loft on Fifth Avenue, and the deal was completed on Wednesday. The 30-year-old has reportedly been linked to joining Major League Soccer when his Real Madrid contract expires in 2018, so moving to New York only fuels speculation that he may consider a move to NYCFC in a few years. —INTERNET



Blatter behind Platini smear article?

AFP, Berlin

Out-going FIFA president Sepp Blatter is alleged to be behind the distribution of a negative article criticising his UEFA counterpart Michel Platini, according to German daily Die Welt on Sunday.

The 1400-word article, "Platini: A skeleton in the closet" written by Swiss journalist Thomas Renggli, had been previously printed in a Swiss newspaper, and paints an unflattering picture of the former French international.

"The amazing thing about the text is rather its origin: The article was sent directly from FIFA headquarters in Zurich to various newspaper offices - with a request to reprint, but without reference to the author," wrote Die Welt.



Andy Murray of Great Britain celebrates with the Rogers Cup after defeating Novak Djokovic of Serbia in the final at the Uniprix Stadium on Sunday.

PHOTO: AFP

Andy ends Novak jinx to conquer Montreal

AFP, Montreal

Britain's Andy Murray snapped an eight-match losing streak against top-ranked rival Novak Djokovic on Sunday to win the ATP Montreal Masters only hours after his coach Amelie Mauresmo gave birth.

The Scotsman, who moves to second in the ATP rankings on Monday, revealed the news from his French mentor, the only woman to coach a major men's player.

Murray said he and his team saw a picture of mother and child on the internet, but could add few more details.

"I don't know much detail because, yeah, we just saw a picture of her and the baby this morning when we got up. I haven't spoken to her or anything," Murray said.

"I would imagine she's quite tired. Probably me and my tennis are the last thing on her mind just now, which is totally understandable. But, glad she's OK and everything went well."

With assistant Jonas Bjorkman watching from the player box, Murray turned in a

fighting performance over three hours to finally beat Djokovic for the first time in more than two years, the first time since he won the 2013 Wimbledon final over the Serbian. "To win this one was nice, especially the way the match went as well," Murray said. "It would have been easy for me to let that one slip away but I fought well and stayed calm in the important moments of the third set."

Murray and the world number one took an hour per set to settle their score in Quebec as Murray completed a Canadian title hat-trick after trophies in 2009 and 2010.

"You never like losing, but any streak comes to an end," said Djokovic, who said he received treatment this week on a right elbow niggle which has been bothering him recently.

Murray now owns 11 Masters 1000 titles and 35 over all. He denied Djokovic the chance at a 25th Masters trophy.

"I lost to a better player today. I lost to Andy, who I know very well. I did fight till the last point and did try my best. That's something that I take as a positive from this week," Djokovic said.

Ramos signs new deal

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid captain Sergio Ramos has ended speculation surrounding his future by signing a new five-year deal with the Spanish giants, the club confirmed on Monday.

Ramos had been courted by Manchester United during a standoff in negotiations between his representatives and Madrid president Florentino Perez over the Spanish international's salary with his previous deal set to expire in 2017.

However, the club said in a statement he will remain "tied to the club for the next five seasons."

Both Ramos and Perez will appear at a press conference to mark the renewal at 1:30pm local time (1130GMT) at the club's Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

According to Spanish media reports, Ramos will earn up to 10 million euros (\$11.1 million, £7.1 million) a season.

United and Madrid have been locked in transfer talks all summer with Real still



hopeful of landing Ramos's international teammate David de Gea before the transfer window closes at the end of the month.

Ramos is now Madrid's longest serving player having signed from Sevilla 10 years ago as a 19-year-old and will be club captain for the first time this season after Iker Casillas's 18-year career at the Bernabeu came to an end when he joined Porto last month.

Despite holding an unwanted record as the Madrid player to have seen most red cards in the history of the club with a staggering 19 dismissals, Ramos is a hero amongst the Real support and is most fondly remembered for scoring the goal that saved Los Blancos from losing the 2014 Champions League final to local rivals Atletico Madrid.

His stoppage time header forced the game into extra-time where the white half of Madrid went onto dominate and run out 4-1 winners to complete his own personal repertoire of honours, which also includes three La Liga titles and two Copa del Reys as well as the World Cup and two European Championships at international level with Spain.

Baba joins Chelsea

AFP, Berlin

Germany's Augsburg confirmed on Sunday they have sold Ghana international defender Abdul Rahman Baba to Premier League champions Chelsea for a reported fee of 19.8 million euros (£14 million, \$21.9m).

With bonuses, the deal could exceed 30 million euros -- more than Augsburg's budget for the season.

The 21-year-old cost just 2.5 million euros (\$2.7m) when he joined Augsburg last year from German second-division club Greuther Fuerth, who are now set to get a 25 percent share from his sale to Chelsea.

"Abdul Baba Rahman has developed enormously in his one year with us and made a giant leap," said Augsburg's chief executive Stefan Reuter.

Aussies laud 'great Day'

AFP, Sydney

Australians and golfing fans were celebrating Monday after Jason Day finally picked up his first major championship, with a record-smashing 20-under par at Whistling Straits.

Day held off Jordan Spieth to clinch the PGA Championship on Sunday with a five-under 67 to bring his total for the tournament to 268 -- the lowest winning score in relation to par ever in a major championship.

"It's a great day -- excuse the pun -- for Jason, for Australian golf and for Australian golfers," declared PGA of Australia chief executive Brian Thorburn.

He said Day's emotion at the win, which had one commentator hoping the 27-year-old could see through his tears for the final shot, would have been a moment of relief and joy.

"He's been chasing this for a long, long time and I think to have gone so close on so many occasions, nailing one was his priority and he's done that," he told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Day is the first Australian to win a major since Adam Scott picked up the



Jason Day of Australia celebrates with son Dash after winning the 2015 PGA Championship at Whistling Straits in Sheboygan, Wisconsin on Sunday.

Bencic wins Toronto title

AFP, Toronto

Swiss teen Belinda Bencic outlasted Simona Halep to win Sunday's WTA Rogers Cup final when the Romanian second seed retired trailing 7-6 (7/5), 6-7 (4/7), 3-0.

Bencic, who upset world number one Serena Williams in the semifinals, broke twice to open the third set before the effort of battling in extreme heat and humidity proved more than Halep could take.

The Swiss 18-year-old has won 21 of her last 25 matches and defeated four top-10 foes this week, improving to 6-1 this year against such high-ranked rivals.

"I don't think I'm so good at speeches yet," Bencic said.

BJMC finish seventh

SPORTS REPORTER

Team BJMC finished seventh in the Manyavar Bangladesh Premier League after an emphatic 4-1 win over Feni Soccer Club in their last match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Nigerian striker Eleta Kingsley struck a brace while Faisal Ahmed Emeka and Jakir Hossain Ziku netted one goal each for BJMC, who ended with 22 points from 20 matches.

Sohel Mia reduced the margin for eighth-placed Feni Soccer Club, who ended up with five wins, three draws and 12 defeats.

AFP

Reigning champions Paris Saint-Germain eased to a 2-0 win against Corsican minnows Gazelec Ajaccio to maintain their perfect start to the Ligue 1 season on Sunday after Marseille slumped to another defeat.

A stunning Blaise Matuidi strike and a Thiago Silva header, both in the first half, put PSG out of sight against newly-promoted Gazelec at the Parc des Princes and left Laurent Blanc's side with six points from a possible six at the start of the new campaign.

Argentina winger Angel di Maria, the 63 million-euro (£44.3m; \$68.9m) signing from Manchester United, was introduced to the Paris fans before kick-off, although he was not yet fit enough to make his debut.

And with Zlatan Ibrahimovic again sidelined, PSG were not at full strength, as 18-year-old forward Jean-Kevin Augustin was handed a first start in the top flight.

But this was always likely to be a trying night for Gazelec, a club whose overall budget for their debut season at the top level barely equates to Ibrahimovic's annual salary at the Parc des Princes.

It always seemed a question of when,

not if, Paris would open the scoring and they duly did so in the 11th minute thanks to Matuidi, the France midfielder taking the ball into the box and then sending a fizzing left-foot drive high into the net from a tightening angle.

PSG added their second goal just before the midway point in the first half, captain Silva putting the disappointment of being dropped from the Brazil squad last week behind him as he headed home from a Thiago Motta corner.

At that point it looked like turning into a rout, but Edinson Cavani failed to convert several openings in the second half and Serge Aurier headed a great chance wide.



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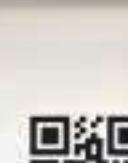
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