

<div>What to WATCH</div> <div>DAY'S EVENT</div>	SONY SIX Sri Lanka v India Second Test, Day 3 Live from 10:30am <i>Serie A</i> Verona v Roma Live from 10:00pm	Lazio v Bologna Live from 12:45am (Sunday)	STAR SPORTS 2 English Premier League Man United v Newcastle Live from 5:45pm Leicester City v Tottenham Live from 8:00pm	STAR SPORTS 4 IAAF World Athletics C'ships Live from 5:30 am (Sunday) <i>Bundesliga</i> Hoffenheim v Bayern Munich Live from 7:30pm	Hamburger v Stuttgart Live from 10:30pm	SONY KIX <i>Primera Liga</i> Deportivo v Real Sociedad Live from 10:30pm	Athletico Madrid v Palmas Live from 12:30am (Sunday) Vallecano v Valencia Live from 2:30am (Sunday)
	Bangladesh Premier League Venue: BNS	Abahani v Sk.Jamal Time: 6:30pm					

A chance for revenge

AFP, Madrid



LFP

Barcelona won't have to wait long to try to correct the errors that saw them lose the Spanish Super Cup to Athletic Bilbao as they return to San Mames on Sunday in their La Liga opener.

The European champions were thrashed 4-0 in Bilbao just a week ago as an under-manned Catalan defence failed to cope with the presence of Aritz Aduriz, who struck a hat-trick and then also netted in the return as the Basques won the final 5-1 on aggregate.

Barca coach Luis Enrique has even more defensive problems as his side look for revenge on league duty.

Gerard Pique has been banned for four matches after being sent off in Monday's 1-1 draw in the return leg of the Super Cup for verbally abusing the match officials.

Jordi Alba remains a doubt with a hamstring injury, while Neymar hasn't returned to training since he was diagnosed with the mumps two weeks ago.

The coach must also decide who to play in goal. Claudio Bravo made his first appearance of the campaign in the home game against Athletic after Marc-Andre ter Stegen had been selected for the first two matches of the season in which Barca conceded eight times.

FIXTURES

(all times GMT)

Saturday: Deportivo la Coruna v Real Sociedad, Espanyol v Getafe (both 1630), Atletico Madrid v Las Palmas (1830), Rayo Vallecano v Valencia (2030)

Sunday: Athletic Bilbao v Barcelona (1630), Sporting Gijon v Real Madrid (1830), Levante v Celta Vigo (2000), Real Betis v Villarreal (2030)

Monday: Granada v Elbar (1830)



(L-R) Manchester United midfielders Ander Herrera, Juan Mata, Daley Blind and Ashley Young pose in their new Adidas away kit at a launching ceremony in London recently.

PHOTO: AFP

MU, Adidas praise record kit launch

AFP, Manchester

The launch of Manchester United's new Adidas home kit was the biggest in both the club's and the German sportswear manufacturer's history, the two companies announced on Friday.

The new strip, released on August 1, marked the start of a 10-year partnership worth £750 million (\$1.18 billion, 1 billion euros) to the Premier League giants, making it the biggest deal in sports licencing history.

In a joint statement, the companies said that United had witnessed a month's worth of forecasted sales within five days at their Old Trafford club shop and online store.

"Partnering with Adidas, we had high expectations; quality innovative kit, superb marketing, world-beating distribution, a deep understanding of our history and our fans," said United managing director Richard Arnold.

"Adidas have not broken those expectations, they have smashed them."

Hummels not happy

AFP, Berlin



UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE

Mats Hummels admitted Borussia Dortmund's stunning 4-3 fightback win at Norway's Odds BK in the Europa League had started "like a bad film" after they leaked three early goals.

Dortmund left themselves with a mountain to climb at Odds' Skagerrak-Arena as the Norwegians raced into a 3-0 lead after just 22 minutes of Thursday's Europa League qualification play-off.

In Skien, two hours south of Oslo, the hosts looked on course to claim a famous win after goals from Jone Samuelsen, Fredrik Nordkvelle and a direct free-kick from Espen Ruud by the midway point in the first half.

But Dortmund roared back with a Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang brace either side of a Shinji Kagawa strike to make it 3-3 with 15 minutes remaining before Heinrich Mkhitarian headed home the 84th minute winner for his seventh goal in four games.

"The end result outweighed the irritation that we didn't score a fifth or sixth goal," said Dortmund's captain Hummels as his side conceded their first goal after just 14 seconds, but hit the crossbar twice in the

opening 30 minutes.

"It was a catastrophe of a start -- like something out of a bad film.

"We were lucky in the second-half that we could get it back to 3-3.

"It was good for morale that we fought back, but you should never go into a match with sleepiness like that."

The result means Dortmund have now won all five of their competitive matches under new coach Thomas Tuchel.

His predecessor Jurgen Klopp once described the team as "monsters of mentality" after they fought back from a goal down away to Mainz in 2011 in the Bundesliga and the current Borussia side showed a similar fighting spirit.

Their director of sport Michael Zorc described the opening half an hour in Norway as "a bad nightmare" and Tuchel admitted he was shocked by how badly his defence fell apart early on.

"It was the last thing we wanted. We were unprepared for the start," said the 41-year-old Tuchel.

"I was shocked by how easy it was for them. The Norwegians scored three goals from three chances, then it was a long way back for us.

"In the end, we showed some good morale and could have scored more."

Zabaleta out for a month

AFP, London

Manchester City right-back Pablo Zabaleta will be sidelined for "around one month" with a knee injury, manager Manuel Pellegrini revealed on Friday.

The Argentina international, 30, has not yet played this season after being granted time off following the Copa America and injured himself in training this week.

"Pablo Zabaleta yesterday (Thursday) had a problem in his knee with his ligaments so he will be out for around one month," Pellegrini told a press conference.

Bacary Sagna is likely to continue to deputise for Zabaleta. In other injury news, new signing Fabian Delph (hamstring) and midfielder Fernando (groin) have both returned to training.

Arsenal test for L'pool

AFP, London



BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

Liverpool midfielder James Milner claims Monday's clash with Arsenal is the perfect opportunity to test his side's improvement since last season.

Brendan Rodgers' team have been widely written off as also-rans in this season's title race after limping to a sixth place finish that saw the Reds trail in 25 points behind champions Chelsea last term.

The departure of star forward Raheem Sterling to Manchester City and the continued fitness problems of England striker Daniel Sturridge have also played a role in Liverpool's low approval rating.

But the Reds have made a quietly encouraging start and head to the Emirates stadium in third place after grinding out 1-0 wins over Stoke and Bournemouth.

Arsenal slumped to a 2-0 home defeat against West Ham before getting back on track with a 2-1 win at Crystal Palace.

And Milner, a close-season signing from Manchester City, believes

Liverpool will get the kind of stern examination in north London that should indicate how much they need to improve to challenge for the title.

"They look sharp," Milner said. "They had a disappointing result in their first game against West Ham but they are a quality team and will want to bounce back from that and try to get their run going."

Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson is a doubt for the Arsenal game due to a foot injury.

Rocked by their surprise loss to West

FIXTURES

(1400 GMT unless stated)

Saturday

Crystal Palace v Aston Villa, Leicester v Tottenham, Manchester United v Newcastle (1145 GMT), Norwich v Stoke, Sunderland v Swansea, West Ham v Bournemouth

Sunday

Everton v Manchester City (1500 GMT), Watford v Southampton (1500 GMT), West Brom v Chelsea (1230 GMT)

Monday

Ham, Arsenal looked more composed and clinical against Palace and German defender Per Mertesacker has revealed how clear-the-air talks helped them kick-start their campaign.

"Obviously when everything goes very smooth in pre-season, you avoid those talks. But there was a need for it when we came out of the (West Ham) match," he said.

"You could already feel something when you are in the relegation zone, and not having produced what everyone expected from you, so it was important to bounce back.

"Against Palace it was a very encouraging performance from top to bottom."

Arsenal's early inconsistency is nothing in comparison to the dismal start made by Chelsea, who have endured their worst opening for 17 years after a 2-2 draw against Swansea and then a 3-0 thrashing at Manchester City.

Blues boss Jose Mourinho has acted swiftly by signing Pedro Rodriguez -- the Barcelona winger who ignored Manchester United's interest to move to Stamford Bridge -- and Ghana left-back Baba Rahman from Augsburg.



Borussia Dortmund striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang (2nd from L) celebrates one of his two goals with teammates during their Europa League playoff against Odds in Skien on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

Juve's quest for 5 begins

AFP, Milan



LEGA CALCIO

Juventus chief executive Beppe Marotta has warned the loss of key players won't put the brakes on their bid for a record-equalling fifth consecutive scudetto, which begins Sunday with the visit of Udinese.

The Turin giants notably sold midfielders Andrea Pirlo (New York City FC) and Arturo Vidal (Bayern Munich) and striker Carlos Tevez (Boca Juniors) over the summer.

But the 'Old Lady' has responded in style, adding to the capture of Sami

Khedira (Real Madrid), on a free transfer, Paulo Dybala (Palermo) and Mario Mandzukic (Atletico Madrid) by signing highly-rated Brazilian defender Alex Sandro from FC Porto on Thursday.

Marotta said another "top midfielder" could join the club prior to

FIXTURES

(times GMT):

Saturday: Verona v Roma (1700), Lazio v Bologna (1945)

Sunday: Juventus v Udinese (1700), Frosinone v Torino, Fiorentina v AC Milan, Inter Milan v Atalanta, Sampdoria v Carpi, Palermo v Genoa, Sassuolo v Napoli, Empoli v Chievo

the summer transfer deadline but in the meantime he is "optimistic" Juve will again be the team to catch this season.

"The departures of Tevez, Pirlo and Vidal were obviously significant, but there was nothing we could do," Marotta told La Gazzetta dello Sport.

"But we've taken stock of the situation, and acted accordingly."

Juventus (twice), Torino and Inter Milan are the only teams in Italy to have won five consecutive league titles.

Marotta added: "I don't know if we're stronger or weaker than we were last season, but Juve is Juve and we can't be anywhere else but on top.

"Personally, I'm very optimistic."

LVG backs Woodward

AFP, Manchester



BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

Manchester United manager Louis van Gaal said on Friday that he had total confidence in executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward to deliver the goods for the club in the transfer market.

United were this week seemingly beaten by Chelsea in the pursuit of Barcelona winger Pedro Rodriguez, who joined the Premier League champions in a £21.2 million (\$33.2 million, 30 million euros) deal.

United have also failed in an attempt to lure defender Sergio Ramos away from Real Madrid, while Southampton are adamant that they will rebuff any offer for forward Sadio Mane.

But United have successfully completed deals for Memphis Depay, Bastian Schweinsteiger, Matteo Darmian, Morgan Schneiderlin and goalkeeper Sergio Romero.

The quintet have helped United make a 100 percent start in the Premier League and beat Club Brugge 3-1 in the first leg of their Champions League play-off.

Van Gaal says that Woodward is capable of bringing the players he wants to Old Trafford and dismissed any suggestions of a rift between the pair.

"I have the idea that you want to separate Ed Woodward with me," the Dutchman told his weekly press conference. "No, never. Every day I am updated by him and I trust him.

"I don't think they (the fans) have to doubt Ed Woodward because he has proven already for many years he is the right person on the right spot."

United expressed an interest in signing Pedro, only for Chelsea to conclude a deal for the 28-year-old.

United subsequently intimated that their interest in the Spain international had cooled and Van Gaal said that he was not disappointed to have missed out on signing him.

Wilshire ruled out against Switzerland

MAIL ONLINE

Arsene Wenger has confirmed Jack Wilshire will miss England's forthcoming Euro 2016 qualifiers.

Roy Hodgson's side face San Marino and Switzerland next month, but the 23-year-old will not be part of the squad.

The midfielder is recovering from a fractured fibula and Wenger insists Wilshire will not be available until after the international break.

Jack Wilshire will be unavailable for England duty when they face San Marino and Switzerland next month.

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