



# Florenzi stunner pegs back Barca

Reigning champions Barcelona were held to a 1-1 draw at Roma while Chelsea thumped Maccabi Tel-Aviv 4-0.

In Rome, Barcelona opened the scoring on 21 minutes as Uruguay forward Luis Suarez headed home at the back post from a yard out after he was found by Ivan Rakitic.

But 10 minutes later, full-back Alessandro Florenzi spotted Marc-Andre ter Stegen off his line and lobbed him from more than 40 yards out and wide on the right.

European minnows Dinamo Zagreb shocked 10-man Arsenal 2-1 on Wednesday to win for the first time in 16 Champions League matches.

An Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain own goal and a header from Junior Fernandes gave Dinamo three points as France forward Olivier Giroud was dismissed for two first-half bookings for Arsenal.

Zagreb took the lead from virtually their first attack of the game as Leonardo Sigali slipped in Josip Pivacic whose shot was saved by David Ospina, only to rebound off Oxlade-Chamberlain and go in.

By that time Giroud had already hit the post and been booked for dissent, and five minutes before the break he was late and high in a tackle and received his second booking.

Dinamo capitalised on 58 minutes as Fernandes headed home a Paulo Machado corner at the near post as Arsenal's defence went walkabout.

Theo Walcott gave the Gunners hope 11 minutes from time with a cool, low finish from Alexis Sanchez's pass, but it was too little too late as Dinamo earned their first ever win over an English side.

Chelsea finally kick-started their



Roma midfielder Alessandro Florenzi (L) celebrates his stunning 60-yard goal with teammate Daniele De Rossi during their Champions League tie in Rome on Wednesday. Inset, The Daily Star's graphical illustration of Florenzi's goal.

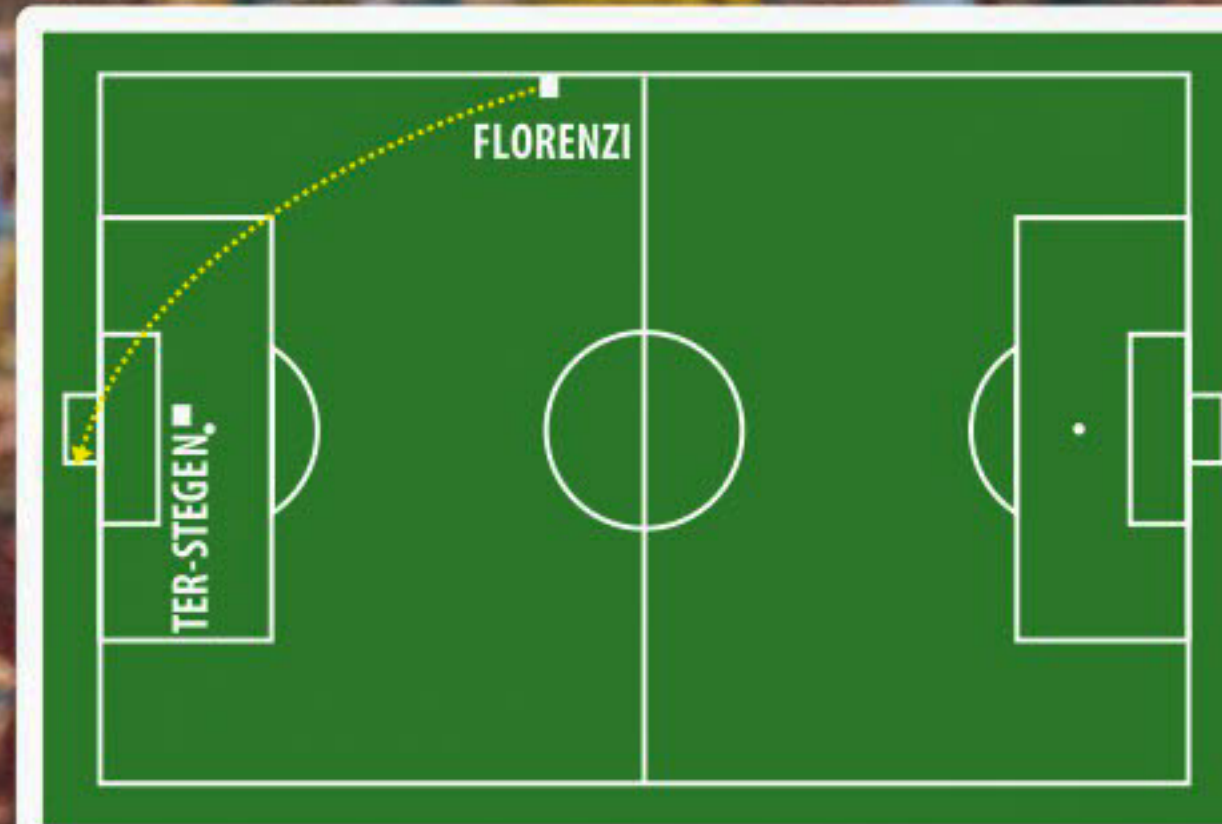


PHOTO: REUTERS

season as Jose Mourinho's outfit cruised to victory.

The Blues could even manage to miss a first half penalty through Edin Hazard before Brazilians Willian and Oscar, and Spaniards Diego Costa and Cesc Fabregas earned the Londoners three Group G points.

The Israelis' goalkeeper Predrag Rajkovic sent Willian tumbling in the box but Hazard blazed the sixth-minute penalty over the bar.

Rajkovic was having a terrible game and on the quarter-hour mark he allowed a Willian in-swinging free-kick, which was missed by everyone, to creep inside his far post.

On the stroke of half-time, a pair of Maccabi defenders combined to fell Spain forward Costa in the box and Oscar placed the spot-kick low to Rajkovic's right.

Costa scored a stunning over the shoulder volley into the top corner

from Fabregas's pinpoint cross and the latter than got his name on the score-sheet, tapping home the rebound after Rajkovic saved Loic Remy's shot.

Thomas Muller was a somewhat fortunate match-winner as Bayern Munich began their Group F campaign with a 3-0 success at Olympiakos in a match that was marred by crowd-trouble before kick-off.

At least one Bayern fan was taken to hospital after Greek police attacked

away supporters with batons in response to German taunts directed at the Olympiakos faithful.

Muller, though, was a lucky goalscorer when his wildly mishit cross from the right looped over goalkeeper Roberto Gago and into the top corner.

Late on Mario Goetze scored a second from a tight angle and Muller rounded off the scoring in injury time from the penalty spot.

## Rafinha's season over

AFP, Madrid

Barcelona have confirmed that midfielder Rafinha Alcantara may miss the rest of the season having ruptured a knee ligament in a nasty tackle against Roma on Wednesday.

The 22-year-old had been on the field a matter of minutes, after coming on as a second-half substitute in the 1-1 draw in Champions League Group E, when he suffered the injury in a challenge by Roma's Radja Nainggolan.

"Tests this morning have revealed that FC Barcelona midfielder Rafael Alcantara -- also known as 'Rafinha' -- has suffered a tear to the anterior cruciate ligament in his right leg.

Barca coach Luis Enrique had already warned after the game in the Italian capital that "it looks like an ugly injury, very ugly, to the knee. He caught him from behind and it is the most unfortunate news of the day."

The reigning European champions did not indicate how long Rafinha may face on the sidelines but the recovery period required after such an injury means he could miss the rest of the season.

## 'It was crazy'

AFP, Rome



Barcelona defender Gerard Pique led the tributes to the "crazy" goal scored by Alessandro Florenzi that earned Roma a point from the sides' 1-1 Champions League draw on Wednesday.

"It was crazy!" Pique wrote on Twitter in a reply to a fan who had asked the Spanish defender's reaction to Florenzi's long-distance strike that caught Barcelona 'keeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen off guard.

"When I saw the goal, I didn't believe it! One of the best goals I've received in my career."

On what was Lionel Messi's 100th Champions League appearance, the Barcelona star was upstaged by Florenzi's strike, which sports daily La Gazzetta dello Sport calculated at a distance of 55.49 metres.

After collecting the ball in his own half, Florenzi carried it over the halfway line near the right touchline, looked up and, when he saw the Barcelona 'keeper 15 metres out of his goal, launched a drive that went over Ter Stegen and in off his far post.

The 24-year-old Florenzi admitted to stunning himself. "It was a great goal, you could see that by the reaction on my face after it went in," he said, admitting he decided to take a pot shot after realising he had no other choices.

"I saw (Edin) Dzeko but couldn't get the ball to him. So I said to myself, 'shoot'. The worst thing that can happen is it goes out of play. Then I saw it go in the back of the net."

Barcelona coach Luis Enrique, meanwhile, said he was partly to blame and claimed Florenzi had been lucky.

"He (Florenzi) is a good player, but he was a little lucky," said Luis Enrique, who spent a season as coach of Roma in 2011/12.

"He took a chance and scored a great goal. Hats off to him, but it was partly my fault because we tell our goalkeepers to play like that. But that will be the last goal like that we concede."

Florenzi's strike has reignited debate about where exactly he should play. Known for his versatility, at Roma he has played on the wing, in midfield and at right-back.

## 'EPL clubs can't attract world's best'

MAIL ONLINE

Franz Beckenbauer believes that despite the huge revenue of the Premier League, the world's best players still ply their trade outside of England's top-flight.

The Bayern Munich legend told German sports newspaper Blid: "They can't buy everyone. Most importantly, they can't buy (Lionel) Messi, (Cristiano) Ronaldo, (Zlatan) Ibrahimovic and our Thomas Muller."

Premier League clubs broke the £1 billion mark for spending in a single calendar year following the conclusion of this summer's transfer window on September 1, according to Sports Business Group at Deloitte.

Beckenbauer, however, insists that better quality players reside elsewhere. On the strength of the Bundesliga, he added: "They don't have any among the best in the world. We still have great footballers in Germany."

## 1b euros bet on each EPL game

AFP, Doha

As much as one billion euros is gambled globally on every English Premier League game, the vast majority in illegal bets, the head of a sports integrity watchdog told AFP Wednesday.

Chris Eaton, the executive director of the Qatar-based International Centre for Sport Security, said the huge sums could be placed on results, regardless of which two teams are playing.

"Up to one billion euros is bet on each Premier League game," said Eaton. "Absolutely nothing is immune."

Eaton estimated that up to 80 per cent of the amount gambled on each English game is through illegal betting.



Barcelona's Brazilian midfielder Rafinha (L) is in agony after a challenge from Roma's Radja Nainggolan during their Champions League clash in Rome on Wednesday.

PHOTO: AFP

### Celebrate EID with HP.

Free HP vouchers worth up to Tk. 20,000.

HP ENVY Notebook PC

HP Pavilion 15 Notebook PC

**\*Guaranteed gift voucher with every purchase of selected HP products**

HP Ink Cartridge

HP DeskJet Ink Advantage 1515 All-in-One Printer

HP Laser Toner

HP LaserJet M125a MFP Printer

Connect with us [www.facebook.com/HPBangladesh](https://www.facebook.com/HPBangladesh)

Visit: Our Authorized Partners [Click: www.hp.com/personal](http://Click: www.hp.com/personal)

**Participating Business Partners:**  
**DHAKA** • Computer Source Ltd. Tel: 8125970, 01939919559, 01714164739 • Flora Limited Tel: 9567846, 0171164460, 01913582002 • Smart Technologies (BD) Ltd. Tel: 01730 701910, 01730 317732 • **IDB** • Ryans Computer Tel: 01755662121, 01915476712 • Right Computers Tel: 01919000120, 01919000125 • Mashnoors Computer Tel: 02918 3218 • Techno edge Tel: 01819 780777 • Computer Village Tel: 01711 845921 • Tech View Tel: 01199 845180 • Foresight Tel: 9183232 • RS Computer Tel: 01711846296 • Comtrade Tel: 01917759503 • Softech Tel: 01819127446 • Microway Tel: 0191320294 • Dolphin Tel: 01713493183, 01713493223 • Informatics Ltd. Tel: 01712050905 • ABC Computer Corner Tel: 01190009912 • Fastrack Solutions Tel: 01711679465 • Net Star Tel: 1678093093 • SVS Computers Tel: 01678797803, 01681581373 • Tech Valley Tel: 01811444993 • Daffodil Computers Tel: 01713493220 • **Multiplan Center** • Star Tech & Engineering Tel: 01678797306 • **HP Exclusive Shop at Multiplan Center**: 01678797310, 01678797307 • R Data Tel: 01733095867 • Discover IT Tel: 01713078270 • Green Tel: 01817014788 • Panaroma Tel: 01195014628 • Algae Tel: 8621393 • Creatus Tel: 0192680276 • Rest of Dhaka • CB NET Tel: 9130242 • Multistar Technologies Tel: 8360434, 01819499079 • S3 Technologies Tel: 8620591, 01819410541 • Mobilink Tel: 01711 557790 • Altrina Tel: 01819273166 • Talukder Tel: 0171559629 • Mohasin Tel: 01911731618 • Trust Computers Tel: 01711057868 • Rony Enterprise Tel: 01711003945 • HB Computers Tel: 01911491593 • G.R. Tel: 01717384969 • ACT Tel: 01199857308 • Annex Tel: 01817584370 • Fancy Tel: 01711934820 • Original Store Tel: 01915731717 • Ara Technologies Tel: +880171104165 **RAJSHAHI** • Pkels Pvt Limited Tel: 72174462, 0171189666 • Cell Computer Tel: 01714 081082 • New Comdex Tel: 01819760130 • Techlab Tel: 01714004107 • **DINAJPUR** • Silicon Computer Tel: 01819780202 • Computer Bazar Tel: 01712123101 **BOGRA** • Cobite Computers Tel: 01711135498 **COMILLA** • IT Palace Tel: 01711388286 **RANGPUR** • Magic Planet Tel: 01717442250 • Seagate Technology Tel: 01711070388 **MYMENSING** • Lotus Computer Tel: 017111642779 • MM Computer Tel: 01713 027450, 01914099660 **KUSHTIA** • Aristo Computer Tel: 01827569995 **SYLHET** • Genius Technology Tel: 01714 050072 • Computer Gallery Tel: 01711 326120 • Hi Tech Computer Tel: 01716 905994 • Hi-Fi Computer Tel: 01716530452 • Digital Equipment Tel: 01713 0354852 **BARISAL** • Ideal Computer Tel: 01711 047733 **KHULNA** • Inter Wave Tel: 01711 187422 • Chips & Bytes Tel: 01711 443462 • Computer Palace Tel: 01912477854 **CHITTAGONG** • Computer Village Tel: 01713 240717 • Computer Heaven Tel: 01812849884 • Janani Computers Tel: 0191188306 • Computer Source Ltd. Tel: 01713365236 • Flora Limited Tel: 01711386700 • Smart Electronics Ltd. Tel: 01730317780 • Multisystem Tel: 01712282104 • Usha Tel: 01712282410 **COX'S BAZAR** • NYTA Tel: 01714074437