

What to WATCH

BTV
AFC U-19 C'ship Qualifiers
Sri Lanka v Uzbekistan
Live from 3:00pm
Bangladesh v Bhutan

STAR SPORTS 1
Bundesliga
Schalke v Koln
Live from 7:30pm
Bayern v Dortmund

STAR SPORTS 2
Indian Super League
Goa v Delhi
Live from 7:30pm

STAR SPORTS 4
Premier League
Everton v Liverpool
Live from 6:30pm
Arsenal v Man Utd

SONY KIX
La Liga
Vallecano v Betis
Live from 4:00pm
Bilbao v Valencia

Live from 8:00pm
Levante v Villarreal
Live from 10:30pm
Ati Madrid v Real Madrid
Live from 12:30am

DAY'S EVENT
NATIONAL CRICKET LEAGUE
Day 2 (Four-day Match)
Venue: Bogra
Venue: Dhaka
Venue: Rajshahi
Venue: Khulna
Sylhet v Barisal

5-shooter Aguero destroys Magpies

AFP, London

Sergio Aguero plundered five goals in a dizzying 20-minute spell as Manchester City demolished Newcastle United 6-1 on Saturday to reclaim first place in the Premier League table.

Earlier, Crystal Palace climbed to third place, three points below City, with an impressive and hard-earned 2-0 home win over West Bromwich Albion.

City had lost their previous two league games and went behind in the 18th minute when Aleksandar Mitrovic headed home, but Aguero equalised in the 42nd minute before hitting the net again four more times.

Kevin De Bruyne also scored, as well as teeing up two of Aguero's goals, as Manuel Pellegrini's side provisionally moved two points clear of Manchester United, who visit Arsenal on Sunday.

Aguero, 27, became the fifth player to score five goals in an English top-flight game since the launch of the Premier League in 1992 after Andrew Cole, Alan Shearer, Jermain Defoe and Dimitar Berbatov.

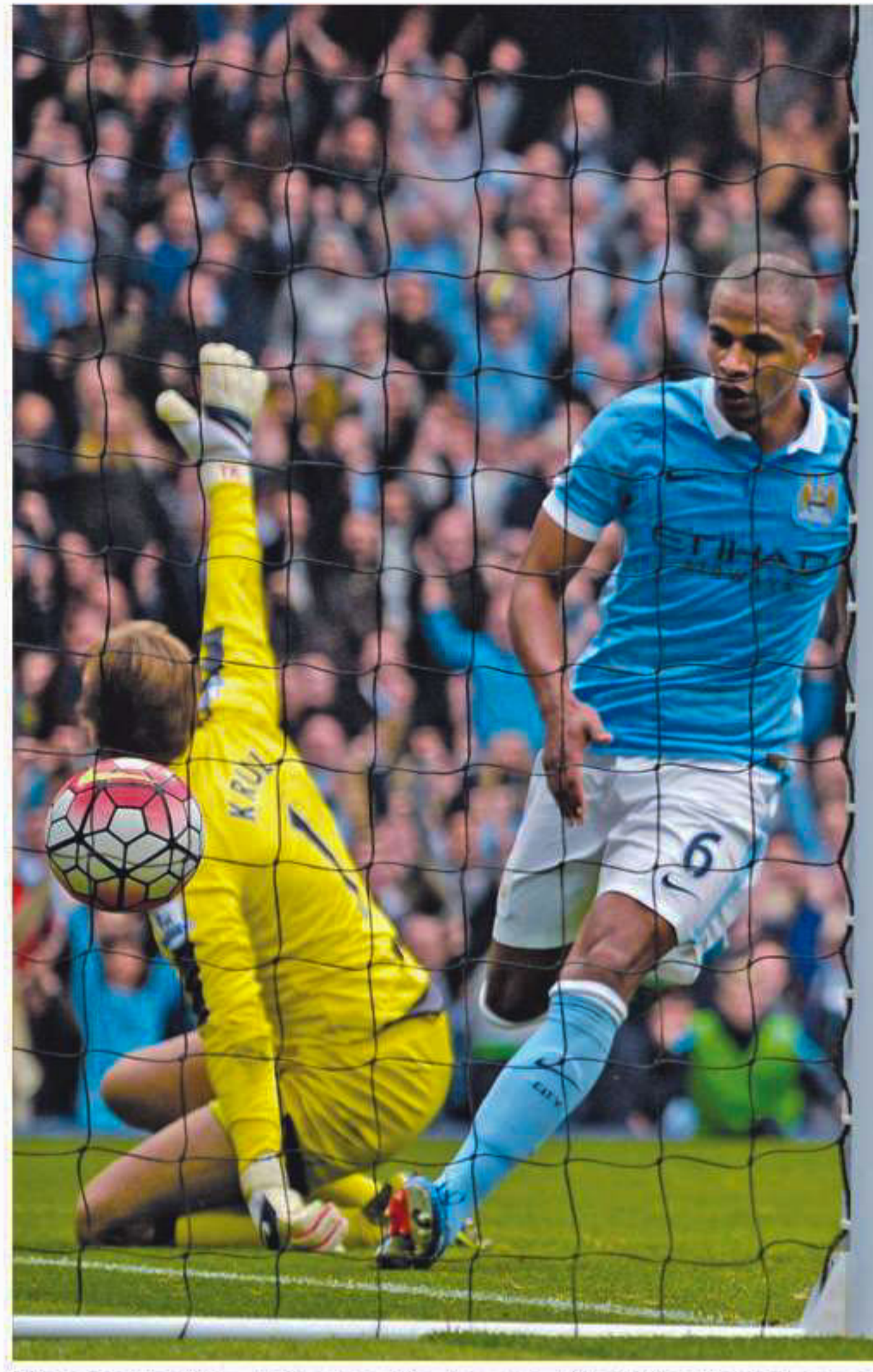
But Pellegrini's decision to withdraw him in the 64th minute, with Wilfried Bony going on, denied the Argentine international a chance to set a new record.

RESULTS			
Aston Villa	0 - 1	Stoke	(Arnautovic 55)
Bournemouth	1 - 1	Watford	(Ighalo 45)
Crystal Palace	2 - 0	West Brom	(Bolasie 68, Cabaye 89-pen)
Manchester City	6 - 1	Newcastle	(Aguero 42, 49, 50, 60, 62, De Bruyne 53)
Norwich	1 - 2	Leicester	(Mbokani 68)
Sunderland	2 - 2	West Ham	(Vardy 28-pen, Schlupp 47)

Mitrovic had opened his Newcastle account with a header from Georginio Wijnaldum's cross, but from there on it was all about Aguero at the Etihad Stadium.

He nodded in the equaliser after David Silva's cross was headed back across goal by Fernandinho and put City in front four minutes into the second half with a deflected left-foot shot.

He raced onto De Bruyne's pass and dinked a shot past Tim Krul to complete his hat-trick, before De Bruyne looped a volley over Krul from substitute Jesus Navas's cross.



Manchester City striker Sergio Aguero (R) celebrates his equalising goal against Newcastle United during their Premier League encounter at the Etihad Stadium yesterday.

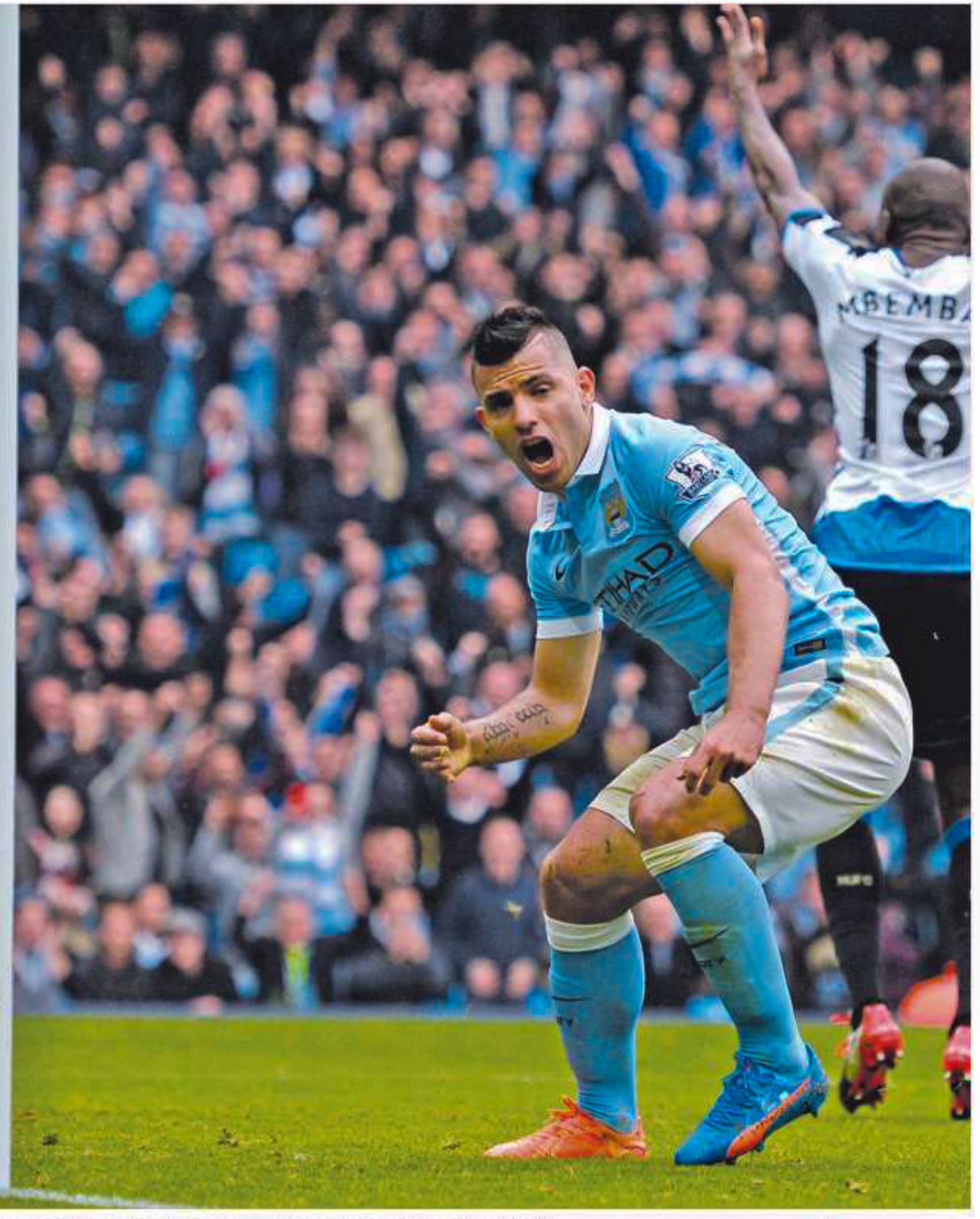


PHOTO: AFP

Mourinho on the lookout for ostriches

AFP, London

Jose Mourinho has warned his Chelsea flops to face up to their problems and not hide like ostriches.

Mourinho's side, beaten by Porto in the Champions League in midweek, will bid to improve on their miserable start to the season when they host Southampton in the Premier League on Saturday.

But the under-fire Blues boss is determined to stop his players from losing their cool and, in the process, on Friday he became the second top-flight manager in under a year to make a curious reference to ostriches.

Then Leicester manager Nigel Pearson was forced to apologise for bizarrely calling a journalist an ostrich during a tetchy press conference in April.

But Mourinho was less confrontational as he told reporters: "There is an animal that puts its head in the ground... an ostrich.

"In the bad moments, you cannot do that and just wait for a better moment to come, or for the problems to be resolved by themselves.

"Or waiting for the moon to change and give you better vibrations. You make mistakes, you are in a bad moment, no ostrich (behaviour), (lift your) head up, face the problems, speak, work. For me, this is the way."

Chelsea in dire straits

AFP, London

Chelsea's disastrous season continued with a 3-1 home defeat by Southampton on Saturday that left Jose Mourinho's Premier League champions 10 points off the pace in 16th place.

Having taken an early lead through Willian, Mourinho's side collapsed alarmingly, with Steven Davis levelling for Ronald Koeman's team before second-half goals from Sadio Mane and Graziano Pelle wrapped up the win.

Mourinho had suffered just one home league defeat in over four seasons at Chelsea coming into the season, but has now already seen his side beaten twice at Stamford Bridge during the current campaign, following an earlier defeat by Crystal Palace in August.

There were few signs Chelsea are ready to return to the form that saw them cruise to last season's title and the growing discontent around the club was apparent when home supporters greeted the final whistle with a chorus of boos.

Skipper John Terry returned to make only his second start in six games, while Radamel Falcao was handed his first league start of the season in place of the suspended Diego Costa.

After the recent turmoil, Chelsea needed an early break to settle any nerves and it came after just 10 minutes when Willian punished the visitors after Oriol Romeu had fouled Eden Hazard.

Curling the free-kick in from the left-hand side of the box, the Brazilian directed the set-piece beyond goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg and into the top-right corner.

Had Oscar managed to beat Stekelenburg with a curling shot midway through the half, the home side might have gone on to dominate.

Instead, though, they allowed Southampton to come back into the game with Koeman's side growing in confidence and fuelled by a sense of injustice when a strong appeal for a penalty was turned down after Mane appeared to have been tripped by Ramires.

Mane was becoming increasingly influential and his threaded pass presented Ryan Bertrand with the chance to mark his return to Stamford Bridge with a goal, only for the left-back to be denied by Asmir Begovic.

The equaliser came two minutes before the interval when Pelle held off Gary Cahill and chested Jose Fonte's long ball into the path of Davis, who struck the ball on the full past Begovic from 20 yards.

Maldini slams Ballon d'Or over Buffon omission

AFP, Milan

AC Milan legend Paolo Maldini joined a chorus of ex-players in slamming Ballon d'Or chiefs after former Italy teammate Gianluigi Buffon was left off a long list of potential winners of FIFA's prestigious trophy.

Buffon, considered one of the world's best goalkeepers, modestly admitted his surprise on Friday by saying he believed he felt himself to be "among the top five" goalkeepers in the world.

But Maldini said Buffon's absence from the 59-man longlist, which was leaked on Friday and includes seven players each from Barcelona and Real Madrid, means the prize has lost credibility.

"The trophy loses value when it just comes down to pleasing clubs and federations," the retired Milan great told La Gazzetta dello Sport on Saturday.

Maldini said players who did not

deserve to be nominated included goalkeepers Claudio Bravo (Barcelona) and David Ospina (Arsenal).

"Come on, how is this possible? It's absurd. There are players there just because of their name," he added.

"Gigi deserves to be on the list for what he has achieved and how he has achieved it. At nearly 38 years old, he is still one of the three best goalkeepers in the world.

"Ok, I accept Manuel Neuer (Bayern Munich) and (Thibaut) Courtois (Chelsea), but Bravo and Ospina?"

"Normally a team's results are taken into account and Gigi was one of the pillars of a team that made it to the Champions League final as well as winning the Serie A title.

"Did you see his save against Dani Alves in (the) Berlin (final)?"

The Ballon d'Or longlist will be cut to 23 names in December before the awards ceremony is held in January 2016.

The last goalkeeper to win the prestigious award was Russian legend Lev Yashin in 1963, and although Buffon was

not considered a potential winner the impact of his absence from the list has reverberated around Italian football.

When the news emerged Friday, Gazzetta's front page included a picture of a shocked-looking Buffon with the headline 'Buffonata', which roughly translates to 'farce' or 'blunder'.

Buffon was imperial last season as Juventus kept their composure throughout an ambitious campaign to win their first league and Cup double in 20 years and qualify for their first Champions League final in 12 years.

Although the Turin giants lost out to Barcelona (3-1) in the final, Buffon was feted throughout Italy for his performances.

Former Juventus striker Paolo Rossi said Buffon had appeared "rejuvenated".

"I thought he was extraordinary. It was like he was rejuvenated, 15 years younger," said Rossi.

France coach and former Juventus midfielder Didier Deschamps also told the sports daily: "It doesn't make sense."

Sepp's survival in doubt

AFP, Lausanne

After powerful FIFA sponsors demanded his immediate resignation, a key question surrounded Sepp Blatter on Saturday: can the sleaze-tainted president of world football's governing body survive until his planned departure in February?

Coca-Cola, McDonald's, Visa and Budweiser in separate statements Friday called on Blatter to step down, a week after Swiss prosecutors opened a criminal investigation against the 79-year-old over mismanagement.

But Blatter remained defiant, saying his departure would not be in FIFA's best interests and that he had no plans to resign before February, when a special election has been called to choose his replacement.

That position may prove untenable.

Exposure of the rot within FIFA had previously sparked widespread calls for immediate change, but the rare display of unity from four major companies marked the first time key financial backers had explicitly demanded Blatter's resignation.

"The sponsors have the financial power to force change at FIFA," said Cobus de Swardt, managing director of the corruption watchdog Transparency International.

The unprecedented crisis within world football began on May 27, when nine FIFA officials and five sports marketing executives were charged by the US Justice Department over bribery worth more than \$150 million (133 million euros) dating back to 1991.

Blatter was re-elected as FIFA's president days later, but on June 2, made the shock announcement that he was



prepared to go -- on a timeline that he subsequently laid out.

FIFA's powerful sponsors on Friday said that timeline had become unacceptable after Swiss prosecutors revealed evidence of murky financial dealings directly linked to Blatter.

The Coca-Cola company said FIFA's reputation deteriorates "every day that passes" with Blatter in office.

"Coca Cola is more than a valued sponsor, they are the foundation of Blatter's position in FIFA," Patrick Nally, a prominent sports marketing executive who has previously partnered with FIFA, said on Twitter.

Coca-Cola has had stadium advertising at every World Cup since 1950, and has been an official sponsor of the quadrennial tournament since 1978.

The partnership, believed to currently be worth tens of millions of dollars per year, has been extended through to 2022.

Visa, another top-tier sponsor of past World Cups, also levelled a direct blow saying that "no meaningful reform can be made under FIFA's existing leadership," with similar comments coming from McDonald's and Budweiser's parent company, Anheuser-Busch InBev.

Top sponsors based outside the US have not yet gone as far.

Adidas on Saturday reiterated its stance that change at FIFA was vital, without specifically mentioning Blatter, while there was no immediate comment from Hyundai or Gazprom.

In a statement released swiftly after the resignation call from Coca-Cola, Blatter's New York attorney Richard Cullen said his client "believes firmly that his leaving office now would not be in the best interest of FIFA nor would it advance the process of reform and therefore, he will not resign."

FIFA's leadership is facing crises on various fronts, aside from the US indictments, and the Swiss probe that is targeting Blatter but which has also implicated the front-runner to replace him, European football chief Michel Platini.

Postiga fires Kolkata

GOAL.COM

Reigning champions Atletico de Kolkata managed to begin their title defence with a thrilling 2-3 win away to Chennaiyin FC at the Jawaharlal Nehru stadium on Saturday. A Jeje Lalpekhlua (31') goal was sandwiched between a Helder Postiga brace (13', 70'). Substitute Valdo (76') added a third for the visitors before Elano's penalty (89') pulled one back for Chennaiyin.

The absence of Mendoza and Bruno Pelissari from the Chennai starting lineup was conspicuous. The gaffer himself was absent from the touchline, serving his one match touchline ban carried over from last season's semifinal.

Kolkata lined-up with both their star attackers Iain Hume and Helder Postiga taking their place on the pitch.

An attacking move right from the kick-off led to a corner when Elano forced the defender to put the ball out. From the ensuing corner Jeje could only steer his header wide of the goal.

Borja's free-kick into the box in the 13th minute should have been easy pickings for Edel but the keeper collided with Mailson Alves, leaving Helder Postiga with an easy tap-in to open the scoring.

Messi-less Barca crash at Sevilla

AFP, Madrid

Barcelona's struggles without Lionel Messi continued as second-half goals from Michael Krohn-Dehli and Vicente Iborra consigned the European champions to a second league defeat in three games 2-1 at Sevilla.

Neymar pulled a goal back from the penalty spot 16 minutes from time, but the injury-struck visitors were left to rue a host of missed opportunities and some fine goalkeeping by Sergio Rico as Sevilla registered their first league win over the Catalans since 2007.

Defeat leaves Barca still a point off leaders Villarreal, but they can now be passed by either Real Madrid or Atletico Madrid when they face off on Sunday.

Without Messi and Andres Iniesta the pressure was on Neymar and Luis Suarez to take even more responsibility and the former forced Rico into his first save of the afternoon with a low effort after just five minutes.

Neymar's runs from deep were causing Sevilla huge problems and Suarez should have done better when his shot was deflected wide by Timothee Kolodziejczak after being played in by his strike partner.

Claudio Bravo replaced the much-criticised Marc-Andre ter Stegen in the Barca goal after overcoming a calf injury and was regularly tested at the other end as he saved Kevin Gameiro's header before denying the Frenchman from a narrow angle.

Suarez then had a goal rightly ruled out for offside as he raced onto another through ball from Neymar. However, the Brazilian was cleaned out by Marco Andreolli as he played the pass to concede a free-kick on the edge of the area.

Neymar's effort hit the post, rebounded off Rico's back and somehow trickled along the line before being hacked clear by Coke.

Suarez had two more chances to give Barca a half-time lead but failed to properly connect after a neat one-two with Ivan Rakitic and then saw a cute chipped effort come off the top of the crossbar.

Sevilla, who had won just once in six league games prior to Barca's visit, took control early in the second-half as Krohn-Dehli timed his run into the box to sweep home Gameiro's dangerous low cross.

Constant detained at airport

AFP, Istanbul

Turkish side Trabzonspor's Guinea international midfielder Kevin Constant was detained on Saturday at Istanbul's Ataturk Airport as he was boarding a flight to the French city of Nice, report said.

A heated argument broke out between the airport personnel and Constant after the footballer attempted to use the business class check-in counter earlier Saturday despite holding an economy class seat, news agency Dogan reported.

The 28-year-old was detained after allegedly insulting the police and taken to a nearby police station for questioning, Dogan said.

He is expected to appear before the court later Saturday.