


<h1>What to WATCH</h1>	<p>TEN CRICKET South Africa v England Second Test, Day 4 Live from 2:30pm</p>	<p>STAR SPORTS 1 Australia v West Indies Third Test, Day 3 Live from 5:30am</p>	<p>SONY SIX Serie A Genoa v Sampdoria Live from 1:30am (Wednesday)</p>	<p>BENZEMA TAUNTED OFF MESTALLA Valencia fans taunted Karim Benzema with 'Valbuena' chants when the Real Madrid star was taken off during Sunday's 2-2 draw at Mestalla. Benzema has been charged with conspiracy to blackmail, although his lawyer says he played "no part" in a reported attempt to extort money from Lyon's Valbuena. As Benzema trudged off the pitch, the home supporters broke into repeated chants of 'Valbuena, Valbuena...' Benzema finished off a great move involving Cristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale to open up the scoring; Bale then made it 2-1 for 10-man Madrid, who saw Mateo Kovacic sent off, only for Paco Alcacer to grab an equaliser for Gary</p> 
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Vardy set for groin surgery

AFP, London
Leicester City's leading scorer Jamie Vardy is set to have minor groin surgery that will keep him out for up to two weeks, the BBC reported on Sunday.
Vardy is therefore set to miss a double-header of games away to Tottenham Hotspur, one in the FA Cup third round and one in the Premier League, while he also risks missing the visit of Aston Villa on January 16.
The England striker has scored 15 goals in the Premier League this season to help Leicester to second place in the table.

Collet cries 'conspiracy'

AGENCIES, Barcelona
Espanyol President Joan Collet spoke of a pro-Barcelona campaign as he accused the club of trying "to influence the referee" for Wednesday's Copa del Rey tie.
Claudio Bravo led calls that Espanyol were excessive in their approach during the Catalan derby, which ended 0-0, on Saturday, but Collet viewed Barca's protestations as merely another attempt "to rev up the national Barcelona machine".
"It's a disgrace that the usual suspects are trying to rev up the national Barcelona machine," he said after the game.
"What they want to do is to influence the referee for the cup game [on Wednesday] and have two of our players sent off in the first 20 minutes."

Luis Enrique world's best coach

AGENCIES, Barcelona
Barcelona's Luis Enrique has been named the World's Best Club Coach of 2015 by the International Federation of Football History and Statistics (IFFHS).
The 44-year-old won the award by a considerable margin with 165 points, almost twice as many as outgoing Bayern Munich boss Pep Guardiola, who only mustered 86.
Enrique succeeds Carlo Ancelotti, who claimed the accolade in 2014 for guiding Real Madrid to a historic 10th Champions League title.
He also becomes the second Barca coach to be crowned the best in the world after Guardiola in 2009 and 2011 and Frank Rijkaard in 2006.



Barcelona star Neymar and defender Marc Bartra (R) make a charity visit and put smiles on the children's faces at the Hospital of Vall d'Hebron in Barcelona yesterday.

Lovren rallies Liverpool

AFP, Stoke-on-Trent
Dejan Lovren has urged Liverpool to show a stronger mental streak as they seek to recover from their latest disappointment in Tuesday's League Cup semi-final first leg at Stoke City.
Manager Jurgen Klopp's hopes of ending his first season in English football with a top-four Premier League finish and a place in next season's Champions League suffered a blow when Liverpool started the new year with a 2-0 defeat at West Ham United on Saturday.
The German was angered by his team's display, but his debut season at Anfield could yet end with silverware as Liverpool stand just two games from a Wembley meeting with either Manchester City or neighbours Everton.
Lovren acknowledged that his manager had every right to vent his anger following the West Ham game, the Croatian centre-back saying: "We are disappointed. It wasn't the best performance from us and we need to be angry with ourselves."
"I don't know the reasons why, but we need to step up quickly from this because we don't have time to think about it now, because we have the game with Stoke on Tuesday."
"We definitely need to change our mentality and we need to keep a better run of games and to fight more. It was two easy goals conceded, I would say."
"We have a game in the cup against Stoke and it's a big chance for us to get to the final."
"So we need to stay calm and say tomorrow is a new day and we'll start to prepare for the Stoke game and try to be in the final."
Liverpool, whose last major honour was the 2012 League Cup, also get their FA Cup campaign under way at Exeter City on Friday, but Klopp is adamant that a busy January schedule holds no fears for him.
"I've never been worried about a football game," Klopp said. "I'm the first to be excited when you have a chance to reach something big."
"Of course we see this. But I can't say I've been waiting all my life for Liverpool v Manchester United or Liverpool v Arsenal. We must wait for the single game."
"The good thing in this moment is we have played different styles and adapted against special opponents. That is the next step."

Hernandez not for sale

AGENCIES, Munich
Bayer Leverkusen sporting director Rudi Voller insists Javier Hernandez will not be sold by the club.
The former Manchester United striker has 19 goals in 25 games in all competitions for the Bundesliga club following his £7.3m move from Old Trafford in the summer.
There have been rumours of a link between the Mexico international and a move to Arsenal, but Voller is adamant the club do not need to sell.
"We are a football club and it is important that we are successful," he told Sky in Germany. "Chicharito has played a big part in our success so far, through his style of play, through his goals."
"That's why we brought him here. In the first half of the season, everything has worked out fine."
"It's easy to reject offers when you are in a position in which you don't need to sell. We are in such a position. We will keep the players we want to help us achieve our goals."
Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, whose side sit two points clear at the Premier League, insisted on Saturday he was looking to bring in at least one new signing in January.
Leverkusen are fifth in the Bundesliga.

Benitez to be sacked

AFP, Madrid
Beleaguered Real Madrid coach Rafael Benitez could be sacked by the Spanish giants as early as Monday evening after just seven months in charge, several Spanish media outlets reported.
Sports daily Marca reported Benitez's sacking will be made official in the coming hours with French legend and the club's reserve team coach Zinedine Zidane to take over.
Madrid twice threw away the lead in drawing 2-2 away to Valencia on Sunday to leave Benitez's men four points adrift of local rivals Atletico Madrid at the top of La Liga.
They also trail eternal rivals Barcelona by two points having played a game more.
The appointment of the former Liverpool and Chelsea manager in June



Real Madrid winger Gareth Bale (L) heads in the second goal against Valencia during their Primera Liga match at the Mestalla on Sunday.

Everton hold Spurs

AFP, Liverpool
Aaron Lennon scored against his former club as Everton displayed rediscovered resolve in a 1-1 draw at home to Champions League-chasing Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday.
Everton had lost their two previous home games, 3-2 against Leicester City and 4-3 against Stoke City, but they took a 22nd-minute lead when Lennon converted Romelu Lukaku's knock-down with a neatly controlled half-volley.
Dele Alli deftly volleyed home a brilliant equaliser in first-half stoppage time, but it was Everton who finished the game nursing the greater regrets, with substitute Muhamed Besic going close.
Everton remain 11th, nine points below Mauricio Pochettino's Tottenham, who squandered an opportunity to re-establish a five-point lead over fifth-place Manchester United.
Instead their cushion in the final Champions League berth has been trimmed to three points, while they now trail leaders -- and arch rivals -- Arsenal by six.
Spurs looked every inch the team chasing a fourth straight win as they established the tempo on a rain-slicked Goodison Park pitch, monopolising possession and forcing Everton deep into their own territory.
Seamus Coleman did brilliantly to prevent Alli turning in a low cross from Kyle Walker before Harry Kane saw a languid 25-yard shot hit the left-hand post and bounce across goal before going out for a goal-kick.
But mid-way through the half Everton landed a sucker-punch by going ahead with a delightfully constructed goal.

Gayle's epic failure

AGENCIES, Melbourne
West Indies batsman Chris Gayle has been called "disrespectful" for asking a journalist on a date during a Big Bash League live pitch-side interview.
Gayle was responding to a question from Ten Sport's Melanie McLaughlin about his aggressive batting style after scoring 41 runs in 15 deliveries.
After answering McLaughlin's initial questions about his performance and on-field partnership with Australian Aaron Finch, the 36-year-old player turned sleazy.
He said: "I wanted to come and have an interview with you as well, that's the reason why I'm here... to see your eyes for the first time," Gayle said.
"Hopefully we win this game and we can have a drink after, don't blush baby."
The former West Indies captain's knock helped the Melbourne Renegades to a five-wicket win over Hobart Hurricanes.
BBL head Anthony Everard added later: "We'll certainly be talking to him and the Renegades about it."
"This league is all about its appeal to kids, families and females. There's just no place in the BBL, or for that matter cricket anywhere, for that sort of behaviour."

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Season 4



QUANDARY
(noun) a state of perplexity or uncertainty over what to do in a difficult situation.

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