

<b>DAY'S EVENT</b>	<b>ICC U-19 World Cup</b>	Time: 9:00am	Semifinal	South Africa v Zimbabwe
	Quarterfinal	Pakistan v West Indies	Time: 9:00am	13th Place Play-off
	Venue: Fatullah	9th Place Play-off	Venue: SKICS, Cox's Bazar	Semifinal

# Blues snatch dramatic draw

Diego Costa snaffled a stoppage-time equaliser to preserve interim manager Guus Hiddink's unbeaten record as Chelsea snatched a 1-1 draw at home to Manchester United on Sunday.

United looked to be closing to within four points of the Premier League's top four after Jesse Lingard's 61st-minute goal set Louis van Gaal's men on course for a third consecutive win in all competitions.

But in the first of six minutes of injury time, added on for a serious-looking knee injury to Chelsea centre-back Kurt Zouma, Costa rounded David de Gea to score, extending Hiddink's unbeaten run since succeeding the sacked Jose Mourinho to 10 matches.

"I am happy with the reaction of the team. Manchester United are not an easy team to beat, but we deserved a

RESULTS			
Bournemouth	0	-	2 Arsenal
			Ozil 23, Chamberlain 24
Chelsea	1	-	1 Man Utd
	Costa 90+1		Lingard 61

point," said Hiddink.

On Zouma's injury, Hiddink said: "Tomorrow we know more, but if you have this injury -- and everyone has seen how bad it is -- hyper-extension is always bad. I had this same problem once and it hurts."

Chelsea remain 13th, 17 points below the top four, but while their Champions League qualification hopes have long seemed over, Costa's goal dealt a weighty blow to embattled United manager Van Gaal.

Van Gaal bullishly dismissed speculation linking Mourinho with his job prior to the game, but he finishes the weekend with his side six points below the top four.

"When your aim is to be third or second or first then you need to win

because the gap is already big," Van Gaal told Sky Sports.

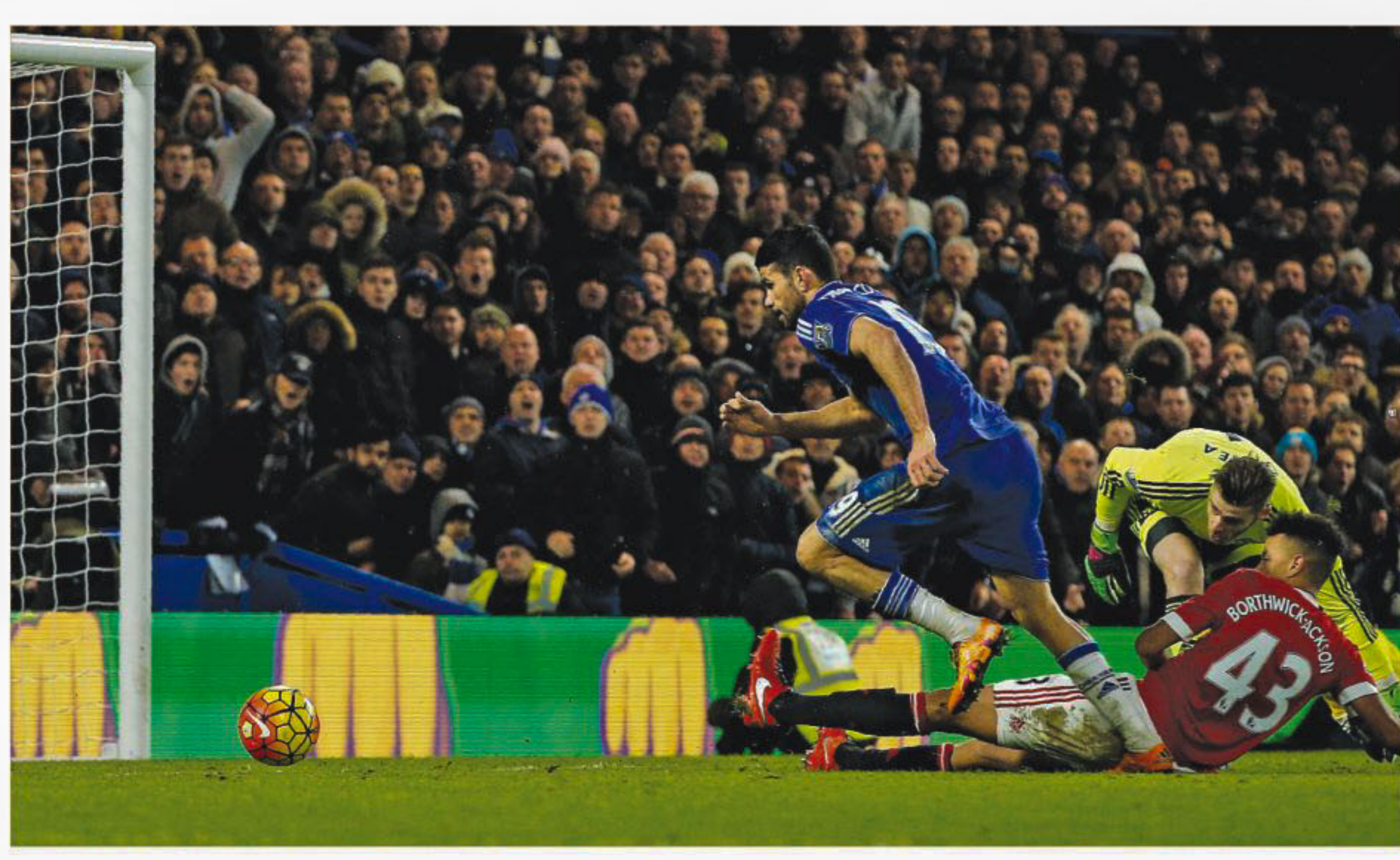
"The gap is now bigger than before, so that's not good."

Buoyed by breezy recent wins over Derby County, in the FA Cup, and Stoke City, in the league, United made a strong start, with Anthony Martial testing Thibaut Courtois in the 18th minute.

Chelsea rallied, John Terry seeing a penalty appeal waved away after his shot hit Daley Blind on the arm, but after Zouma had been stretchered off following an awkward fall, United made the breakthrough.

Cameron Borthwick-Jackson's cross was helped on by Wayne Rooney and Lingard took a touch before slamming in his second goal in two games.

But after United goalkeeper De Gea had saved from Branislav Ivanovic and Cesc Fabregas, Costa equalised in stoppage time when he gathered Fabregas's pass, rounded De Gea and slotted home.



Chelsea striker Diego Costa (L) runs past Manchester United goalkeeper David de Gea (C) on way to dramatically levelling their English Premier League encounter in stoppage time at Stamford Bridge yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

# Barca go three clear

Barcelona equalled a club record of 28 games unbeaten to move three points clear at the top of La Liga with a hard-fought 2-0 win at Levante on Sunday.

The European champions were far from their best in coach Luis Enrique's 100th game in charge, but David Navarro's own goal and Luis Suarez's strike in stoppage time was enough to secure a 10th consecutive win in all competitions.

Barca now lead Atletico Madrid by three points and have a game in hand on Diego Simeone's men.

Third-placed Real Madrid are now seven points adrift of Barca, but can cut the gap when they travel to Granada later on Sunday.

Fresh from hitting Gary Neville's Valencia for seven in the Copa del Rey in midweek, Barca started with purpose and should have been ahead inside two minutes when Lionel Messi was wrongly flagged offside as he slotted home from Andres Iniesta's pass.

Neymar then had a fine curling effort

beaten to safety by Diego Marino.

However, Barca needed a slice of luck to open the scoring on 21 minutes as Jordi Alba burst down the left and his ball into the box was deflected into his own net by Navarro.

Barca's star front three of Suarez, Messi and Neymar were kept for long periods, but they nearly combined for a brilliant second moments later when Messi picked out Neymar and his cross was turned wide by Suarez.

Levante remain rooted to the foot of the table, but had won their previous two home games and deserved to be at least level at the break as they outplayed the Catalans in the latter stages of the first-half.

Jose Luis Morales came closest to equalising when his low effort came back off the post eight minutes before the break.

Levante continued to enjoy the better of the game in the second period, but found clear-cut chances hard to come by as Giuseppe Rossi's shot from outside the box was the only time Bravo was forced into action.

Barca had barely threatened themselves after half-time, but did seal the points deep into stoppage time on the counter-attack as Messi picked out an unmarked Suarez to fire home his 35th goal of the season.



Barcelona striker Luis Suarez celebrates after his goal all but sealed a win for his side against Levante in their La Liga encounter at Ciutat de València yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Lewa's agent hints at Real transfer

Robert Lewandowski's agent has revealed that there is a 'something' in the works with Real Madrid, as the Polish striker's demands for a higher salary at Bayern Munich have yet to be met.

"There is something going on with Real Madrid," said Robert Lewandowski's agent, Cezary Kucharski, who was invited to collect the 27-year-old striker's 'Polish Player of the Year' award at a ceremony yesterday.

Reports recently emanated how Lewandowski had requested a salary of 18 million euros in order for him to extend his Bayern Munich contract, causing friction in the team.

# Both Tigers defeated

Bangladesh players Shakib Al Hasan and Tamim Iqbal both had an equally disappointing day in the Pakistan Super League yesterday as both their sides lost in the third round of matches.

For the second consecutive day, Shakib Al Hasan had a far from stellar showing as his side, Karachi Kings, suffered an agonising two-run loss to Islamabad United at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Meanwhile, Tamim finally seemed to have cooled down from his hot streak at the same venue. Two consecutive fifties in the past two matches from the batsman led the way for Peshawar Zalmi, but he could only manage a 19-ball 14 yesterday as Quetta Gladiators defeated them by three wickets.

Karachi, with just one win in the tournament so far, will be hoping that Shakib can replicate the performance he showed in the first game when he had picked up a wicket and scored 51 off 35 balls to lead his side to a win.

Both of the matches went down to the wire, but unfortunately neither of the Tigers ended up on the wrong side of things.

Karachi had won the toss and opted to field before restricting their opponents to 132 runs. After a poor bowling display in his second match on Friday, Shakib had been entrusted with just two overs. However, he had a decent showing, returning figures of zero for eleven.

Islamabad boasted the likes of Andre Russell and Shane Watson but their largest contributions came from Pakistani duo Sharjeel Khan (28) and Khalid Latif (39), who shared a 45-run partnership for the second-wicket.

Shakib Al Hasan forged a 31-run partnership with Iftikhar Ahmed. Shakib scored a 22-ball 20, hitting one four, while Iftikhar added 20 from 19 balls.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**  
**ISLAMABAD V KARACHI**  
**ISLAMABAD UNITED:** 132 for 8 in 20 overs (Khalid 39; Shakib 0-11, Bopara 2-25)  
**KARACHI KINGS:** 130 for 9 in 20 overs (Bopara 32 not out, Shakib 20; Ajmal 3-27)  
**Result:** Islamabad won by two runs.  
**PESHAWAR V QUETTA**  
**PESHAWAR ZALMI:** 135 for 7 in 20 overs (Tamim 14, Sammy 48; Nawaz 3-29)  
**QUETTA GLADIATORS:** 139 for 7 in 19.5 overs (Pietersen 35, Sarfraz 21; Afridi 2-17)  
**Result:** Quetta won by 3 wkts.

# 'I'd like Zidane to manage me'

Belgium international Eden Hazard admitted that he is flattered by interest from Real Madrid manager Zinedine Zidane and says he would welcome the chance to play for him.

In November, Zidane admitted that Hazard was one of his favorite players and Real have been linked with a summer move.

"It is always nice to hear that the player I admired during my childhood speaking about me," Hazard said.

"I have always appreciated Zidane. I know about him as a player but not so much as a coach."

When asked if he would want to be managed by Zidane at some point, Hazard replied: "Yes, of course. When I was little, I watched him on TV and on the internet for hours. I spoke Zidane, I ate Zidane."

# Juve, Napoli steady on Jose promises to return soon

Gonzalo Higuain hit his 24th goal in as many Serie A games as Napoli and Juventus moved closer towards a scudetto duel after slip-ups by title rivals Inter Milan and Fiorentina.

Higuain and Napoli have been transformed since Maurizio Sarri took over last summer but it took a second-half penalty for the Argentinian to keep Napoli top of the pile in a cagey 1-0 win over 10-man Carpi.

Napoli's 17th win of the campaign maintained their two-point cushion on champions Juventus, who saw Juan Cuadrado break the deadlock on 73 minutes and Paulo Dybala wrap up a patchy 2-0 win at the death away to league new boys Frosinone.

After Fiorentina saw their title hopes dented in a 1-1 draw at Bologna on Saturday, Inter had the chance to replace La Viola in

third place and maintain their title charge with a win away to basement side Verona.

But Roberto Mancini's men maintained their poor form in front of the opposition net before settling for a 3-3 draw.

It left Fiorentina third at 10 points behind Napoli and Inter in fourth at 11 off the pace.

RESULTS			
Verona	3	-	3 Inter Milan
	Helander 13, Pisano 16, Jonita 57		Murillo 8, Icardi 61, Perisic 78
Frosinone	0	-	2 Juventus
			Cuadrado 73, Dybala 90+1
AC Milan	1	-	1 Udinese
	Niang 48		Armero 17
Napoli	1	-	0 Carpi
	Higuain 69-pen		
Sassuolo	2	-	2 Palermo
	Defrel 45+1, Missiroli 50		Vazquez 30, Djurdjevic 53
Torino	1	-	2 Chievo

Jose Mourinho, sacked as manager of Chelsea in December seven months after winning the Premier League title, has said he is not enjoying his time out of work and will soon be back in management.

"For sure, I will be back soon," the Portuguese told GQ magazine in an interview published on its website.

"[London] is an amazing place to live and for the family to be together," said Mourinho. "As a professional, I am ready to move," added the former Real Madrid coach.

"I need competition every week. In Spain I was at an amazing club but I had four matches a year - Barcelona v Real Madrid, Real Madrid v Barcelona."

"If you are in a club that wins, if you want to win again you have to create instability in the winners," added the Portuguese.

He said of his current unemployment, "I am not enjoying it. To be fully happy I need everything, so I go back to football. I think it's my natural habitat."

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