

STAR SPORTS 1
England v Sri Lanka
Third Test, Day 5
Live from 4:00pm

TEN 1 HD
Zimbabwe v India
Second ODI
Live from 1:00pm
West Indies v Australia

Tri-Nation, 5th ODI
Live from 10:30pm
SONY ESPN
Euro 2016
Spain v Czech Republic

Live from 7:00pm
Ireland v Sweden
Live from 10:00pm
Belgium v Italy
Live from 1:00am (Tuesday)

Copa America
Mexico v Venezuela
Live from 6:00am (Tuesday)
Uruguay v Jamaica
Live from 8:30am (Tuesday)

DAY'S EVENT

Walton Federation Cup
Venue: BNS
Ctg Abahani v Muktijoddha

Time: 4:00pm
Uttar Baridhara v Brothers Union
Time: 7:30pm

Green Delta Premier Division Hockey
Ajax SC v Azad SC
Time: 2:00pm

Abahani v S Bima
Time: 4:00pm
Venue: Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium

Modric stunner lifts Croats

Milik secures win for Poland against Northern Ireland

AFP, Paris

Real Madrid midfielder Luka Modric scored a brilliant volley as Croatia defeated Turkey 1-0 in their Euro 2016 Group D opener on Sunday.

Ante Cacic's Croatia dominated throughout, twice hitting the bar in the second half. But it was Modric's 41st-minute strike -- his 11th international goal -- that separated the teams at the final whistle.

Victory gave Croatia revenge for their elimination on penalties by Turkey in the quarterfinals at Euro 2008, although they had previously beaten them in qualifying prior to Euro 2012.

Fatih Terim's Turkey now have it all to do against defending champions Spain on Friday. Croatia can already go into their game against the Czech Republic with one eye on the last 16.

"We are definitely in the hardest group, with Spain, so it is a perfect start to get three points," said Barcelona midfielder Ivan Rakitic.

The talent in both line-ups had raised hopes of an open contest and it

took Croatia less than two minutes to threaten. Ivan Rakitic flung himself at Darijo Srna's cross and hooked a volley across goal.

But the two teams' determination to play through the middle of the pitch made for a narrow, niggly encounter at the Parc des Princes.

When Croatia did procure sights of goal, their efforts went either too close to Turkey goalkeeper Volkan Babacan or too far from the target.

Modric illuminated the game with his deft flicks and surefooted touches, and with half-time approaching he provided the breakthrough.

Selcuk Inan appeared to have cleared the danger by hoofing the ball high to the edge of the Turkey box, but Modric watched it drop before spearing an emphatic, dipping volley past Babacan from 25 yards.

Terim made a change at half-time, sending on Volkan Sen for Oguzhan Ozyakup and moving captain Arda Turan infield in a 4-2-3-1 system.

But Croatia continued to boss proceedings and Srna twice went close, first clipping the crossbar with a free-kick and then lashing wide.

The introduction of 18-year-old

Emre Mor, the forward dubbed 'The Turkish Messi', drew roars of approval from Turkey's fans.

Yet it was Croatia who came closest to scoring in the closing stages as Babacan tipped a header from Brozovic over the bar.

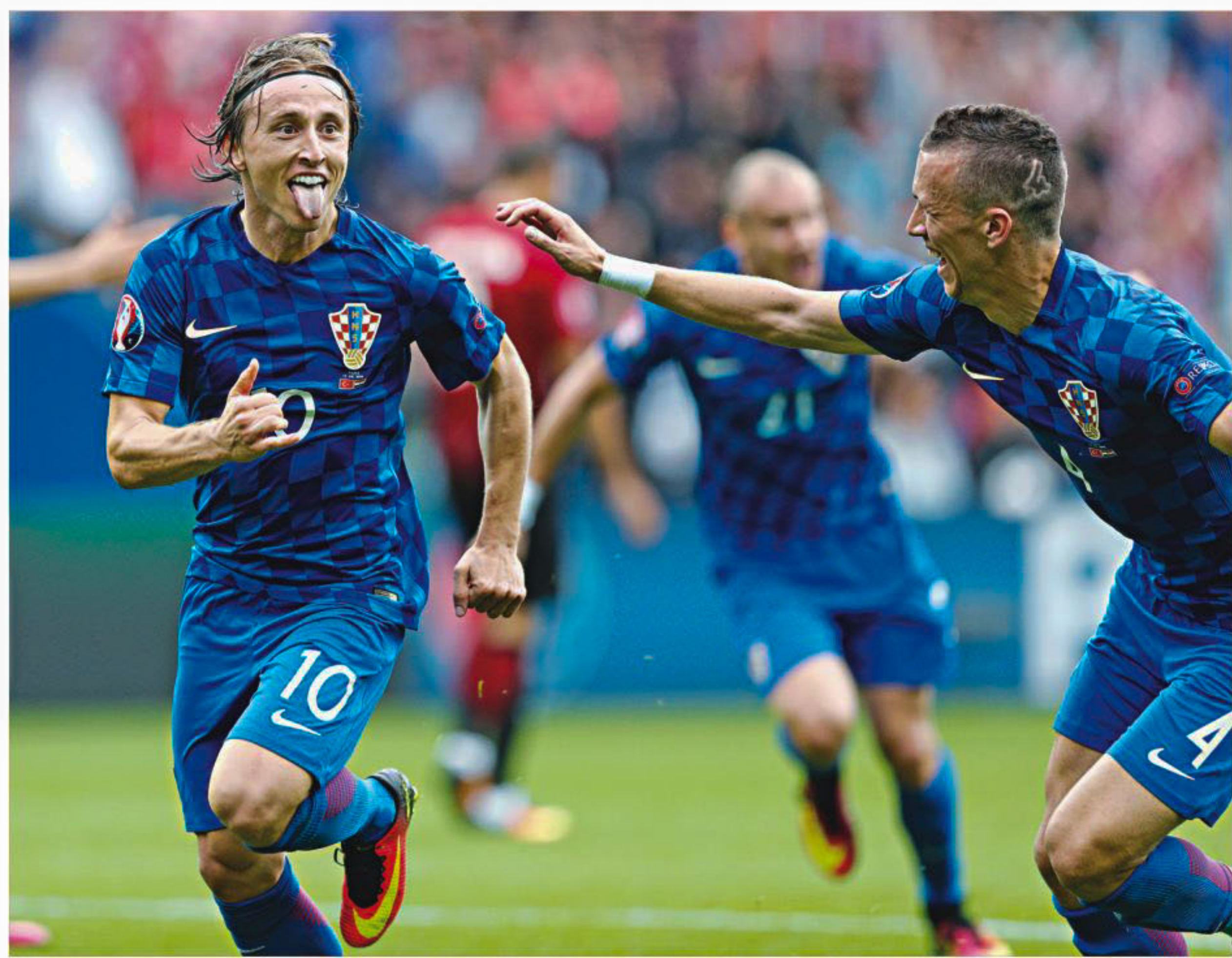
In the day's second game, Ajax striker Arkadiusz Milik broke Northern Ireland hearts on Sunday after rifling home the only goal in their Euro 2016 Group C opener in Nice.

Poland had never won a game before at the European Championship, with three draws and three losses over two appearances in 2008 and 2012 -- the latter a tournament that they co-hosted with Ukraine.

Now they can look forward to a spicy tie with neighbours Germany on June 16 with eyes on a spot in the last 16.

The result dents Northern Ireland's pre-tournament hopes of qualifying from a tough group as one of the four best third-placed teams, with a win now essential against Ukraine in Lyon the same day.

Adam Nawalka's side dominated but took time to break down a stubborn defence, Milik's strike early in the second half coming after several missed chances.



Croatia's midfield maestro Luka Modric (L) scored the all-important goal with a right-footed volley from the edge of the box against Turkey at the Parc des Princes on Sunday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

England, Russia risk expulsion

REUTERS, Marseille

European soccer's governing body has warned the English and Russian soccer associations that their teams could be disqualified from Euro 2016 if there is a continuation of the fan violence that has injured several dozen people.

UEFA's threat came after it began disciplinary proceedings against the Russian federation on Sunday following ugly scenes inside Marseille's Stade Velodrome stadium at the end of Saturday's match between England and Russia.

UEFA said that it would also investigate allegations of racist behaviour and the throwing of missiles and fireworks.

The violence in the stadium followed three days of clashes between English, Russian and French fans in the Mediterranean port city of Marseille, drawing a strong response from riot police.

UEFA said it was "disgusted" and would not hesitate to impose sanctions, including "the potential disqualification of their respective teams from the tournament, should such violence occur again".

"This kind of behaviour is totally unacceptable and has no place in football," UEFA said, adding that a decision on sanctions against Russia would be made within days.

English and Russian fans will almost certainly cross paths in Lille later this week, with Russia playing Slovakia in the city on Wednesday and England facing Wales only 40 km away in Lens on Thursday.

Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko said that UEFA was right to investigate.

It is the second time in as many European Championship tournaments that the Russian federation has faced sanctions because of its fans. Russia was fined and given a suspended six-point deduction for its Euro 2016 qualifying campaign after fans assaulted stadium security staff.

Belgium take aim at Azzurri

AGENCIES, Paris



Plagued by injuries to his creative midfielders and without a talisman up front, Italy coach Antonio Conte is banking on a workmanlike

team full of energy to outfox Belgium's exciting young forwards when they meet on Monday.

The Euro 2016 Group E match comes ahead of tough encounters against Ireland and Sweden giving neither side much respite should they lose the first game in Lyon.

Once famed for their "catenaccio", a tactical system with an emphasis on a strong defensive unit, Italy come to the tournament with arguably their weakest team for years and conceding goals particularly against top teams.

They face a Belgium side with a talented squad tipped by some to go one better

than the golden generation that finished as tournament runners-up in 1980.

Despite opening the scoring, the Italians were beaten comfortably 3-1 by Belgium in a November friendly.

In the day's other game, holders Spain's hopes of recreating the atmosphere that led to continental success four years ago has been tested ahead of their Euro 2016 opener with Czech Republic though the players remain confident.

Goalkeeper David De Gea has been dragged into an off-pitch scandal while Spain have also had a troubled build-up on the pitch, leaving the European champions with much to prove in their first Group C match in Toulouse on Monday. Spain, who will also face Turkey and Croatia in a tricky section, were dominating international football when they became the first side to claim two consecutive European titles by winning Euro 2012 two years after a maiden World Cup win.

But that came to an abrupt end at the

2014 World Cup when they crashed out in the group stage, never recovering from a 5-1 demolition by the Netherlands in their opener, and they have endured some mediocre results ahead of this tournament.

However, forward Pedro says they are more determined to do well after their poor display at the World Cup in Brazil as they chase an unprecedented third European title in a row.

"The mood reminds me of those of four years ago," he told reporters at Spain's headquarters on the Ile de Re on Saturday. "The group have a different mentality, they want to do something great and have a successful tournament."

"We're motivated. Maybe it's because we didn't have a good World Cup and we want to turn that situation around."

Meanwhile, Republic of Ireland must somehow silence superstar Zlatan Ibrahimovic when they open their Euro 2016 campaign against Sweden at the Stade de France on Monday.

Di Maria not out of Copa

AFP, Los Angeles

Argentina played down fears over Angel Di Maria's fitness on Saturday after he was hit by a new tournament injury scare.

Di Maria, who limped out of Argentina's campaign at both the 2014 World Cup and last year's Copa America, was substituted during Friday's 5-0 win over Panama.

Argentina's medical staff said Saturday the in-form winger had suffered a hematoma or bruising on his right hamstring but were optimistic he could yet play later in the tournament.

Argentina have already qualified for the quarter-finals.



Supporters clash with police at the old port of Marseille before the match between England and Russia. There were numerous arrests made and both groups of supporters sustained injuries.

PHOTO: REUTERS

It was a bitter pill to swallow: Hodgson

AFP, Marseille

England manager Roy Hodgson called the last-gasp Russian equaliser that pinned back his team in their Euro 2016 opener on Saturday "a bitter pill to swallow".

Eric Dier's sublime 73rd-minute free-kick appeared to have given England the win in Marseille before Russian captain Vasili Berezutski's looping header in injury time made it 1-1.

"The late goal was a bitter pill to swallow but we can take encouragement from this performance," Hodgson said.

"If we swallow this pill we can be hopeful of going forward and that this kind of misfortune won't happen again."

"When you concede late in the game it feels more like a defeat than a draw."

"Their goal was an incredible cross and of unbelievable quality."

Dier, 22, who was making his major championships debut, said England had let their concentration slip.

"We controlled the game, played out from the back, pressed and countered."

"We had it all apart from controlling it at the end," he said.

"It's very disappointing, we gave away a draw. We just didn't see it out the right way."

"We have to pick ourselves up and go again."

England face Wales -- who beat Slovakia 2-1 earlier -- in Lens on Thursday in their next match while Russia take on the Slovaks in Lille on Wednesday.

USA seal top spot

AFP, Los Angeles



The United States battled to a 1-0 victory over Paraguay to seal their place in the Copa America Centenario quarter-finals on Saturday as group rivals Colombia crashed to a potentially costly 3-2 defeat to Costa Rica.

A first-half strike by Clint Dempsey secured a win for the hosts which ultimately ensured Jurgen Klinsmann's team finished on top of Group A after Colombia's loss.

The combination of results means the US will now play the runner-up from Group B, possibly avoiding five-time world champions Brazil who are favored to win their group.

While Dempsey was the goal hero, the US victory owed everything to a disciplined defensive display after they had been reduced to 10 men with DeAndre Yedlin's dismissal early in the second half.

Paraguay spent long periods camped in the US half after Yedlin was sent off for collecting two yellow cards in a matter of minutes but a gutsy rearguard action from the Americans saw them hang on for a gritty win.

Klinsmann hailed his side's discipline. "It was a fantastic performance," the

RESULTS			
United States	1 - 0	Paraguay	Dempsey 27
Colombia	2 - 3	Costa Rica	Fabra 7, Moreno 73
		Venegas 2, Fabra 34-og, Borges 58	

former German international striker said.

"The way they grinded it out, the way they kept their shape and their discipline was outstanding. They all deserve a huge compliment."

"I'm thrilled for the team because they really deserved that. It's a huge statement. This team has fantastic spirit," he added.

With the US winning, all eyes turned to see whether Colombia would secure the point they needed to finish on top of Group A.

Costa Rica took the lead in the second minute, when Johan Venegas curled in a shot from outside the area before Colombia hit back in the seventh minute through Frank Fabra, but Costa Rica went back in front just after the half-hour mark.

Celso Borges then gave Costa Rica a two-goal cushion, rifling home a low finish from eight yards to put the 2014 World Cup quarter-finalists 3-1 up. Marlos Moreno pulled a goal back for Colombia but it was too little too late for Pekerman's side.



Clint Dempsey celebrates after scoring the decisive goal against Paraguay. The win took USA to the top of Group A, as Colombia crashed to second with a 3-2 defeat to Costa Rica.

PHOTO: AFP

Bolt prepared to return gold

REUTERS, Kingston



Usain Bolt has told Reuters he would have no problem giving back one of his six Olympic gold medals if a Jamaican relay team mate is confirmed to have failed a drugs test.

Nesta Carter, who helped the 4x100 team to Olympic and world championship titles, returned a doping violation for the banned stimulant methylhexanamine in a re-test of 454 samples from the Beijing Games, sources familiar with the case have told Reuters.

Carter's "B" sample also came back positive, they said. Jamaica's Olympic association has confirmed it received notification from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that one of its competitors had returned an adverse analytical result, but it has not named the athlete.

Neither Carter nor his agent have responded to repeated requests for comment on the positive test.

"It's heartbreaking (the positive test) because over the years you've worked hard to accumulate gold medals and work hard to be a champion ... but it's just one of those things," Bolt told Reuters late on Saturday.

"Things happen in life, so when it's confirmed or whatever, if I need to give back my gold medal I'd have to give it back, it's not a problem for me."

First-leg specialist Carter has been a vital member of Jamaica's dominant squad, helping the Caribbean island win gold medals at the 2008 and 2012 Olympics and the 2011, 2013 and 2015 world championships.

Methylhexanamine has been on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Code prohibited list since 2004 although it was reclassified on the 2011 list as a "specified substance".

Historically, the sanction for the use of Methylhexanamine has been a suspension of six months to a year and the loss of results from the period concerned.

The IOC's programme of revisiting samples is aimed at using developments in testing techniques to expose traces of drugs that were undetectable in 2008 or 2012.

Although Carter's relay team mates are not accused of doping, it is possible that the IOC could strip them of their gold medals because of the positive test.

Bolt, speaking after completing his own doping control on Saturday after clocking a season-best 9.88 seconds in the 100 at the Racers Grand Prix in Kingston, said they would just have to deal with the situation.

"I can't tell what he's going through, but it must be hard and frustrating because as I said I'm not too pleased about the situation," said the 100m and 200m world record holder.

"I think it's rough for track and field, but it's just one of those things that happen and we just have to deal with it."