



Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba (R) celebrates the first of his two goals with teammate Anthony Martial during their Europa League match against Fenerbahce at Old Trafford on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Pogba on the double

AFP, Manchester

Paul Pogba struck twice as Manchester United invigorated their Europa League campaign with a classy 4-1 home victory over Turkish giants Fenerbahce on Thursday.

France midfielder Pogba scored a penalty and curled in from distance to take his tally to three goals since his world-record 89 million pounds (\$109.1 million, 100 million euros) return from Juventus.

Anthony Martial, with another penalty, and Jesse Lingard were also on target as Jose Mourinho's team secured a win that left them level on six points with Feyenoord at the top of Group A.

"It is three points and that is what we needed," said Mourinho. "We knew after the first defeat (1-0 at Feyenoord) it was important to get nine points at home and a few more away, so it was a very important victory for us."

Fenerbahce replied late on through United old boy Robin van Persie, who tucked in a cross from substitute Emanuel Emenike and was rewarded with applause from all four corners of Old Trafford.

"The first 30 minutes, the game was

balanced, with United having more possession, but not creating many chances," said Fenerbahce coach Dick Advocaat.

"But if you give goals away against a team like United, with the quality they have, you're asking for problems."

The result vindicated Mourinho's decision to make seven changes to the team that had held in-form Liverpool to a 0-0 draw on Monday.

The likes of Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Ander Herrera and Marcus Rashford are likely to return for Sunday's Premier League trip to Chelsea, after which United host Manchester City in the League Cup.

The joint-biggest win of the nascent Mourinho era was witnessed by ex-England manager Sam Allardyce, who attended as a guest of Alex Ferguson in his first public outing since his much-publicised departure.

Dropped for United's last three games, captain Wayne Rooney returned up front to face the team against whom he scored a memorable debut hat-trick in a 6-2 Champions League win in September 2004.

With Juan Mata prominent in the number 10 role, United's build-up play was neat, but they showed next to no threat until they were awarded a 31st-minute penalty.

Michael Carrick's raking pass was beautifully brought down by Mata,

who was brought down in turn by a clumsy challenge from the stumbling Simon Kjær.

Referee Benoit Bastien thrust his hand towards the penalty spot and after an almost comical tip-toed run-up, Pogba tucked away a low shot to goalkeeper Volkan Demirel's right.

The home fans had called for Rooney to take the spot-kick and when Bastien awarded United a second penalty three minutes later, they were disappointed again.

Mata's exquisite, fizzing pass freed Martial, who was caught from behind by Sener Ozbayrakli, and the Frenchman picked himself up to deliver the sentence in person.

Brazilian midfielder Souza had an immediate chance to reduce the arrears, but after cutting inside the sliding Eric Bailly, he saw his shot blocked at the near post by David de Gea.

The game was up in first-half stoppage time as Pogba strode onto Lingard's lay-off to curl a glorious first-time shot into the top-left corner from outside the box.

Mourinho raised his finger to the sky and walked straight down the touchline to the tunnel.

Within three minutes of kick-off in the second half, United were four goals to the good as Rooney laid off Pogba's pass to Lingard, who drove a crisp shot past Demirel from 20 yards.

## Younis leads Pak charge

AFP, Abu Dhabi



Younis Khan showed no signs of weakness after recovering from dengue fever to score a brilliant century as Pakistan dominated the opening day of the second Test against the West Indies in Abu Dhabi on Friday.

The 38-year-old, who missed Pakistan's 56-run victory in the first Test in Dubai with illness, smashed 127 to carry Pakistan, who won the toss, to 304 for 4 at the close at Sheikh Zayed Stadium.

Younis finally holed out to deep mid-wicket off part-timer Kraigg Brathwaite after five hours at the crease, with fading light prompting the umpires to halt the day six overs before the scheduled close.

Skipper Misbahul Haq was unbeaten on 90 -- just ten runs short of his 11th hundred as Pakistan's batsmen dominated on a batting-friendly pitch.

Younis, who hit ten boundaries and a six, added 175 for the fourth wicket with Misbah and 87 for the third with Asad Shafiq who made 68.

It was again the two veteran batsmen -- Younis and Misbah -- who put Pakistan on track for another big total with their 15th hundred partnership in 49 innings.

Misbah, who has now equalled Imran Khan's record of most Test matches as Pakistan captain with 48, hit two sixes and four boundaries as he worked in tandem

with Younis to build an imposing total.

West Indies were guilty of sloppy fielding with Younis dropped on 83 when Brathwaite failed to hold a return catch off his own bowling and wicket-keeper Shai Hope handing Misbah a lifeline on 54 off paceman Shannon Gabriel.

Gabriel was the best of the bowlers with 2-43.

It was Younis's 33rd Test hundred and 11th in the United Arab Emirates -- where Pakistan have been forced to host international fixtures because of security fears back home.

He drove spinner Roston Chase for his eighth boundary to complete his hundred -- his 31st score of over 100 without being dismissed in nineties -- the most in Test cricket.

Younis and Shafiq led the early recovery after Pakistan lost openers Azhar Ali (nought) and Sami Aslam (six) in the first hour.

Shafiq batted well in the extended two-and-a-half hour first session due to Friday prayers, hitting seven boundaries before playing on to Gabriel.

Ali, who scored a career best 302 not out in Dubai, played on to Gabriel in the fifth over before Aslam was bowled by leg-spinner Devendra Bishoo attempting an ambitious drive.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

**PAKISTAN:** First innings 304 for 4 (Asad 68, Younis 127, Misbah 90 not out; Gabriel 2-43)

## Ariful wins a second gold

SPORTS REPORTER

Swimmer Ariful Islam bagged his second gold medal in the South Asian Aquatic Championships in Sri Lanka yesterday when he beat the host nation's CR Yogarathnam in the 50m breaststroke event of U-18 Boys' Group, said a press release from Bangladesh Swimming Federation.

Ariful took 30.94 seconds to touch the finish line while Yogarathnam finished on 31.45 seconds. India's Varun Patel won the bronze medal with a time of 31.70 seconds. Ariful had won the 100m breaststroke gold on the opening day.

Meanwhile, Romana Akter won silver medal in the 50m breaststroke event of the same age group with a time of 37.03 seconds, 0.71 seconds more than gold medallist Riddhi Surendar Bohra of India while Mahfizur Rahman won bronze in the 100m freestyle event of 18+ age group by clocking 53.11 seconds.

## Sheikh Russel TT concludes

SPORTS REPORTER

Sheikh Russel School Table Tennis Tournament concluded yesterday amid huge enthusiasm at the Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Indoor Stadium in Paltan.

Tushi of Narail Govt. Girls' High School won the girls' singles title in the sub-junior section (Class-III-VI) with a 3-1 win over Monami of KAFCO School of Chittagong while Toba of BKSP grabbed the boys' singles title after beating Sun of Pabna Technical School in their respective finals.

In sub junior (Class-VII-X) section, Mou of Narail Govt. Girls High School beat Afsana of Rajshahi Education Board School 3-0 to win the girls' singles title while Hyridoy of Rangpur Zilla School beat Akash of BKSP 3-0 to win the boys' singles title.

State minister for youth and sports Biren Shikdar witnessed the finals and distributed prizes among the winners where Bangladesh Olympic Association's deputy secretary general Ashiqur Rahman Miku, Sheikh Russel KC officials Nurul Alam Chowdhury, Ismat Jamil Akhand, Enayet Hossain and Saiful Haque Sadi were also present.

## BD hockey team hold Poland

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh national hockey team came from behind and held Poland to a 2-2 draw in their third practice match in Walcz, Poland, informed team manager Ariful Haq Prince yesterday.

Bangladesh, who came into the match on the back of two 1-0 defeats against the same opponents, conceded the lead in the 11th minute through a penalty corner. The hosts then doubled the lead from another penalty corner in the 27th minute.

However, Bangladesh bit back through a field goal from Emon two minutes later before Ashraf Islam levelled the margin by converting a penalty corner a minute later, according to the score-sheet shared by Prince on social media.

Bangladesh, who are preparing for next month's 5th AHF Cup to be held in Hong Kong, are supposed to play three more matches against Poland's U-21 side before heading to Austria to play three more practice matches there.

## Barcelona face Valencia test

AFP, Madrid



Madrid could retake top spot when they host Athletic Bilbao on Sunday.

Barcelona head to Valencia in high spirits after Lionel Messi's second Champions League hat-trick of the season ensured a nightmare return for former Barca coach Pep Guardiola to the Camp Nou in a 4-0 rout over Manchester City on Wednesday.

Messi was making his first start in a month after a groin injury, but looked anything but ring rusty in taking his tally for the season to 12 in 10 games.

Barca have now scored 17 goals in the only four matches this season Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar have started together up front.

The all-star trio will be handed the task of blowing away a Valencia on the up under new coach Cesare Prandelli with Barca facing an uncertain few weeks ahead at the back.

Defensive lynchpin Gerard Pique will be sidelined for three weeks and left-back Jordi Alba the next fortnight after picking up ankle and hamstring injuries respectively against City.

### FIXTURES

(all times GMT)

<b>Saturday</b>	Espanyol v Eibar (1100), Valencia v Barcelona (1415), Real Sociedad v Alaves (1630), Granada v Sporting Gijon (1845)
<b>Sunday</b>	Celta Vigo v Deportivo la Coruna (1000), Sevilla v Atletico Madrid (1415), Malaga v Leganes, Villarreal v Las Palmas (1630), Real Madrid v Athletic Bilbao (1845)

## Suarez picks up Golden Shoe

AFP, Barcelona

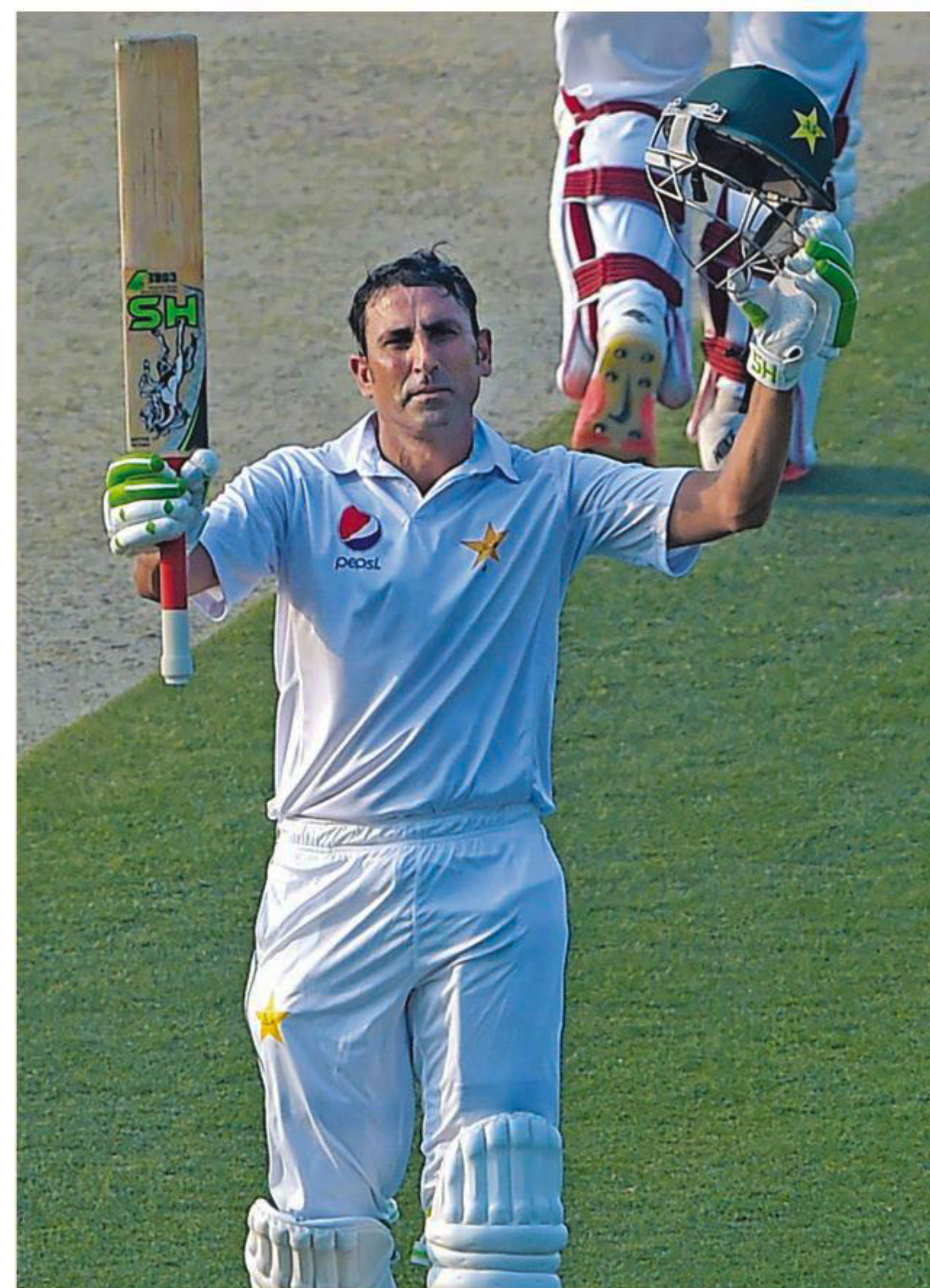
Barcelona's Uruguayan star Luis Suarez on Thursday collected the Golden Shoe award for the leading scorer in Europe last season and admitted he never imagined being the most prolific member of such a star-studded attack. "I didn't imagine myself as the top scorer, I only thought about being a champion, winning the Champions League, which I have done," said Suarez at a prize-giving ceremony in Barcelona.

"I have team-mates who make it easy but I am not going to take credit from myself because it needs to be done and you need to be in the right place," Suarez, 29, said of his goal-scoring exploits.

The former Liverpool striker, who moved to the Camp Nou in 2014, scored a remarkable 40 goals in La Liga last season as Luis Enrique's side edged out Real Madrid to take the title.

That tally allowed him to pip Argentine striker Gonzalo Higuain, scorer of a Serie A record 36 goals for Napoli, to the award.

Cristiano Ronaldo was third with 35 goals for Real.



Pakistan batsman Younis Khan raises his bat after reaching his century on the first day of the second Test against West Indies in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP