



Enzo, son of Zinedine Zidane (2nd from R) celebrates his first senior goal for Real Madrid during their Copa del Rey match against Cultural Leonesa at the Bernabeu on Wednesday.

PHOTO: INTERNET

Enzo Zidane scores on debut

AFP, Madrid



Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane's son, Enzo, scored on his senior debut as the European champions brushed aside third tier Cultural Leonesa 6-1 to progress into the last 16 of the Copa del Rey 13-2 on aggregate on Wednesday.

By contrast, Barcelona still have work to do to reach the next round after being held 1-1 at Hercules in the first leg of their last 32 tie.

Enzo, the oldest of Zidane's four sons, all of whom play at different levels in Real's youth teams, was introduced by his father, a legendary former player for Real and France, at half-time.

The 21-year-old, who was previously coached by Zinedine at Real's youth side Castilla before he took the top job at the Santiago Bernabeu in January, showed a glimpse of his father's talent with a fine low finish from the edge of the area just after the

hour mark.

"If I take off my hat as a coach then I am happy for him as a father (too)," said Zidane.

"But, in saying that, I watch what he does on the field as a coach and I am happy with how they all played."

With the tie over as a contest following Real's 7-1 first leg win and El Clasico away to Barcelona to come on Saturday, Zidane made nine changes from the side that started the 2-1 win over Sporting Gijon last weekend.

Norwegian starlet Martin Odegaard, 17, was also handed his full debut, but it was Dominican international Mariano Diaz who got Real off to a flying start as he slotted home the first of his hatrick after just 23 seconds.

James Rodriguez headed home the hosts' second before Mariano smashed in a third, but Leonesa did have a moment to savour when Yeray Gonzalez fired into the top corner from long range in first-half stoppage time.

Enzo was then handed his long-

awaited bow by his father, but ensured there was to be no claims of nepotism when he finished off a flowing team move with a classy right-footed finish.

Mariano completed his hatrick two minutes from time before a Cesar Morgado own goal.

Barcelona also fielded a side with 11 changes ahead of the Clasico, but were made to pay by third tier Hercules.

David Mainz bundled home at the back post seven minutes into the second-half to give the side form Alicante a shock lead.

However, Manchester United target Carles Alena capped his debut with a wonderful strike from 25 yards to spare Barca's blushes.

Yannick Carrasco scored twice as Atletico Madrid also hit Guijelo for six in the first leg of their last 32 tie.

A Saul Niguez penalty and Sime Vrsaljko's first Atletico goal gave the visitors a 2-0 half-time lead before the Belgian struck twice in five second-half minutes.

Baridhara hold BJMC

SPORTS REPORTER

Uttar Baridhara survived a wave of attacks to hold Team BJMC to a goalless draw in their JB Bangladesh Premier League encounter at Sheikh Fazlul Haque Moni Stadium in Gopalganj yesterday.

Uttar Baridhara, who lost to BJMC 2-1 in their first match, leapfrogged to the 11th position from the bottom with a second draw. That helped them raise their points tally to 14 from 18 matches, while BJMC remain glued to ninth with 18 points from as many matches.

Apart from a couple of initiatives in the early moments of the game, Uttar Baridhara were kept on their toes throughout the games against BJMC, who were unlucky for failing to secure all three points despite dominating the match.

Although Uttar Baridara came close to taking the lead in the fourth minute, Brazilian striker Lima shot straight to goalkeeper Arifuzzaman Himel and since then it was a one-sided show with BJMC creating the lion's share of chances.

However, Uttar Baridhara goalkeeper Razib stool tall and foiled BJMC repeatedly, especially in the latter stages of the game. Razib stopped Nigerian forward Eleta Kingsley twice from close range and Pashban Mollah, who rattled the crossbar, was also denied twice.

Mourinho lauds his players

AFP, Manchester



Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho lauded his players' "beautiful football" after they overwhelmed West Ham United 4-1 to set up a League Cup semifinal date with Hull City.

United are toiling in the Premier League, where a run of four consecutive home draws has contributed to their worst start to a top-flight campaign since 1989.

But they produced some irresistible football against West Ham at Old Trafford on Wednesday, prevailing through a brace apiece from Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Anthony Martial.

"I'm pleased with the goals because the performance is something that we are used to," Mourinho told Sky Sports, before ducking his post-game press conference.

"We are playing very, very well at home and today was more of the same.

"After that goal (West Ham's equaliser), we had 10 minutes where we felt it deeply and the players on the pitch could not hide that because West Ham's first shot, they equalised.

"But in the second half the team got again the confidence to play and to win comfortably and play beautiful attacking football, which is something that the fans like. But we need results."

Mourinho was not present in the dug-out, having earlier been given a one-game touchline ban for angrily booting a water bottle during United's 1-1 draw with West Ham in the league on Sunday.

He could not be seen in the directors' box and when asked where he had watched the game, he said it was a "secret".

Meanwhile, Southampton dealt Arsenal a shock defeat in the English League Cup quarterfinals as goals from Jordy Clasie and Ryan Bertrand earned Claude Puel's side a 2-0 win.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger had been hoping to win the competition for the first time, but instead his decision to make 10 changes backfired as Southampton ended his side's 19-game unbeaten run.

Southampton, who also eliminated Arsenal from the competition two seasons ago, reached the semifinals after losing their last six last-eight ties in the competition.

Dutch midfielder Clasie's blistering drive put Southampton ahead in the 13th minute at the Emirates Stadium.

England left-back Bertrand added a second seven minutes before half-time, gathering Sofiane Boufal's pass and rifling a shot into the bottom corner.

It was Arsenal's first defeat since a 4-3 loss at home to Liverpool on the opening weekend of the Premier League season.

Shuttlers fight over control

SPORTS REPORTER

A conflict between two groups of shuttlers over the control of the Bangladesh Badminton Players' Welfare Association (BBPWA) spiralled out of control as a group, allegedly led by former president Enayetullah Khan, forced some national players to evacuate the rest room at Syed T a j u d d i n A h m e d Gymnasium yesterday.

The national players alleged that a group of unidentified people forced them out of the rest room while they were taking a break after practice for the upcoming Yonex-Sunrise B a n g l a d e s h O p e n International tournament, which will get underway on December 6 in Dhaka.

After forcing the players out of the room, the invaders held an 'annual general meeting' of BBPWA and 're-elected' Enayetullah as president and Liza Rahman as general secretary.

"When we protested and requested them to leave the place, they assaulted us," alleged Moazzem Hossain Wahedul, the fifth rank shuttler of the national team, while number one rank player Mohammad Minhaz told reporters the players felt unsafe to practice at the Gymnasium.

However, Enayetullah refuted the allegations against him and blamed Wahiduzzaman Raju [current president of BBPWA] for all the incidents.

A few weeks ago, BBPWA held an AGM where Raju had defeated Enayetullah to be elected as president of the federation.



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