

KING KAZU SCORES AT 50

Japan's oldest professional footballer Kazuyoshi Miura tallied another record Sunday, with a match-winning goal making him the first player over 50 to score in the J-League. Nicknamed "King Kazu" for his spirited grit and style, Miura sent a left-footer flying into the goal in the 40th minute, securing Yokohama FC's 1-0 victory against Thespakusatsu Gunma. "I am always looking for opportunities to score goals. I was feeling particularly good today, and had a hunch that I might score," Miura said in a statement released to local media. The former international celebrated his 50th birthday in February and has since sprinted into footballing history, with several professional appearances, eclipsing the record of former England great Stanley Matthews who was 50 when he turned out for Stoke City against Fulham in 1965. Though the pin-up looks have been replaced by a few tell-tale wrinkles and greying hair, Miura has signalled his intent to play until he's 60. -Afp



মেঘনা লাইফ এর পর্যন্ত প্রায় ১৯,০০০ জনকে মৃত্যুদাবী ও ৩,৬৫,০০০ জনকে মেয়াদোত্তীর্ণ দাবী বাবদ ১,৮০০ কোটি টাকা পরিশোধ করেছে

মেঘনা লাইফ এর বর্তমান লাইফ ফান্ড প্রায় ১,৫০০ কোটি এবং পরিসম্পদ ১,৬৫০ কোটি টাকা।
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MEGHNA LIFE INSURANCE CO. LTD.
প্রধান কার্যালয়ঃ বিমান ভবন (৩য় তলা), ১০০ মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০।
ফোনঃ ৯৫৫৮৯৯৩, ৯৫৫৬২০৪, ৯৫৫৮২৯৭।
E-mail: info@meghnalife.com Web: www.meghnalife.com

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The Malaysia team celebrate on the winners' podium after beating China in penalty shootout in the final of the Hockey World League Round 2 at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium in Dhaka yesterday.

Barcelona suffer major setback

AFP, Madrid



Barcelona suffered a hangover from their remarkable Champions League comeback against Paris Saint-Germain as Alex Bergantinos's winner 16 minutes from time handed Deportivo la Coruna a famous 2-1 win on Sunday.

Joselu had fired Deportivo into a first-half lead before Luis Suarez levelled in the first minute of the second period.

However, Bergantinos rose highest from a corner to seal Deportivo's first victory over Barcelona since 2008.

Barca still lead Real Madrid by one point at the top of La Liga, but the European champions now have two games in hand and can go top with victory over Real Betis later on Sunday.

Barcelona boss Luis Enrique made five changes from the side that beat PSG 6-1 on Wednesday to produce the biggest comeback in Champions League history from a 4-0 first leg deficit.

Two-goal hero in midweek Neymar was one of those to miss out due to an abductor injury.

However, Barca still had plenty of firepower available with Suarez alongside Lionel Messi up front and Suarez had the first big chance when he headed straight at German Lux.

It took Deportivo 40 minutes to force Marc-Andre ter Stegen into a serious save as the German leapt to his left to brilliantly turn Joselu's volley behind.

However, from the resulting corner Ter Stegen was found wanting as he spilled Javier Mascherano's miscued clearance and Joselu was on hand to smash into an unguarded net.

Barca got off to a flyer in the second-half as Suarez lashed home a loose ball inside the area to equalise just a minute after the restart.

Enrique turned to Andres Iniesta and Ivan Rakitic for a winner in the final half hour as Arda Turan and Andre Gomes were sacrificed.

But Barca found it difficult to create clear-cut chances against the mass ranks of Deportivo defence, whilst the hosts were always a threat on the break.

Joselu fired a sweetly hit volley straight down Ter Stegen's throat.

Alejandro Arribas then saw his header come back off the post, but once again having survived the initial threat, Barcelona conceded from the resulting corner.

This time Bergantinos got above Jordi Alba to head into the bottom corner at the far post.

Lux made a great save to deny Suarez a second equaliser, but Deportivo held out to give their hopes of survival a huge boost as they move eight points clear of the bottom three and up to 15th.

And Pepe Mel's men should even have capped their victory with a third goal as Ter Stegen denied Faycal Fajr deep into stoppage time before Jordi Alba cleared the Moroccan's follow-up effort off the line.



Deportivo La Coruna midfielder Alex Bergantinos (R) sets off after scoring the winning goal against Barcelona during their La Liga at the Municipal de Riazor stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: Reuters

QUICK SINGLES

The following are a few samples of stories that did not make the print edition. However, if they pique your interest, you can always read them online on The Daily Star website by simply scanning the QR codes listed below:

Twin hatricks power Inter

Argentianians Mauro Icardi and Ever Banega struck a hat-trick apiece as Champions League-chasing Inter Milan demolished high-flying Atalanta with a defiant 7-1 romp on Sunday. 'We're confident of avenging Chelsea defeat'

Marouane Fellaini insists Manchester United are confident of avenging the worst moment of Jose Mourinho's reign when they return to Chelsea in the FA Cup quarter-finals on Monday.

My preference is to stay at Arsenal: Wenger

Arsene Wenger revealed he hasn't ruled out extending his Arsenal reign after his side eased the pressure on the troubled boss with a 5-0 FA Cup quarter-final win over minnows Lincoln.

Warner bites his tongue

Australia's David Warner is refusing to take the bait after being publicly sledged by India's cricketers but even if he wanted to fire back, the struggling opening batsman has few runs to back up any fighting words.

Ronaldo expecting twins?

Football superstar Cristiano Ronaldo is about to become the father of twin boys, The Sun quoted a 'family source' as saying.

Malaysia champions, Bangladesh fifth

SPorts Reporter



Favourites Malaysia clinched the title of the Hockey World League Round-2 with a 5-3 win over China in penalty shootout after the regulation time of the final ended in a 2-2 draw at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Meanwhile hosts Bangladesh finished fifth after handing Ghana a 4-3 defeat in shootout while Egypt became third with a comprehensive 5-1 win over Oman. Sri Lanka finished seventh by beating Fiji 5-3 in a place-deciding match.

Malaysia, ranked 13th in the world, staged a strong comeback against the 18th ranked China after going two goals down in the first half. China took a two-goal lead against the run of play, thanks to strikes from Du Talake and Su Jan but a youthful Malaysia

pressed hard to convert two penalty corners after having wasted 10. Saabah Shahril and Jazlan Najmi converted the 11th and 12th penalty corners to push the match into a shootout where Malaysian goalkeeper Hafizuddin Othman thwarted Meng Dihao in the fourth shot before Saari Fitri converted the fifth for Malaysia to clinch the title.

Like Malaysia, 32nd ranked Bangladesh had to sweat against 38th ranked Ghana despite taking a 2-1 lead at one stage. Mamunur Rahman Chayan cancelled out Botsio Johnny's lead before putting Bangladesh ahead by converting the second penalty corner, but Ghana staged a strong comeback by scoring two goals to make the margin 3-2.

Bangladesh captain Rasel Mahmud Jimmy then converted a penalty corner on the stroke of the final whistle to take the match into tiebreakers. The first five shoots ended 3-3 and Krishna Kumar Das converted the first shot of

sudden death to confirm Bangladesh's fifth position finish after Ghana's Acheampong Eugene failed to beat Bangladesh goalkeeper Zahid Hossain.

Although Bangladesh finished fifth, there was a disappointment for the national team as midfielder Sarwar Hossain was handed a three-match ban for hitting a Ghana player in an off-the-ball incident.

"I cannot be happy with the match today because of too many easy mistakes. However, I want to give my team credit for the fighting spirit they showed in the last five minutes," Bangladesh coach Oliver Kurtz said.

"For the next six months, we want to prepare the team for the Asia Cup. We hope to have a strong preparation camp outside the country with hard matches. That is the key. This is what we are missing. I will meet the president and hopefully fix the program for preparation of Asia Cup,"

Pospisil KOs Murray

AFP, Indian Wells



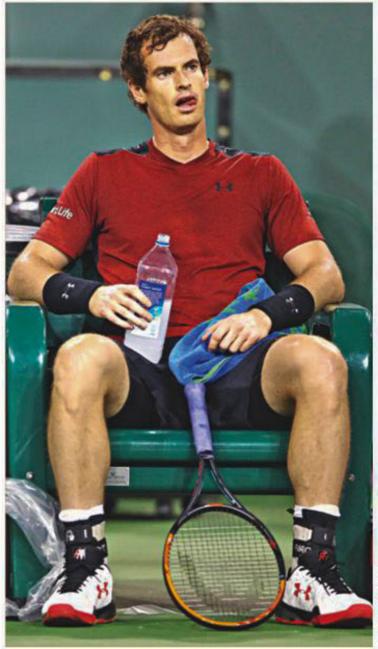
World number one Andy Murray crashed out of the ATP Indian Wells Masters on Saturday, toppled in straight sets by 129th-ranked Canadian qualifier Vasek Pospisil.

"I felt like I had the ability to do it, but going through it is another thing," Pospisil, a former Wimbledon doubles champion, said after notching the biggest singles win of his career 6-4, 7-6 (7/5). "I just tried to stay composed."

Murray, coming off his first title of 2017 at Dubai, was again brought up short in Indian Wells, where his best showing is a 2009 runner-up finish to Rafael Nadal.

He was at a loss to explain his erratic results in the California desert. "I don't know exactly why it is, because in practice here normally I play pretty well," Murray said. "And then some years I played well. Some years it just hasn't quite happened for me."

"I started a little bit kind of tentative, just trying to get into the match," Pospisil said. "I felt like I was playing better as the match was going on," he added.



Britain's World No 1 Andy Murray sits in anguish after being defeated in straight sets by Canada's Vasek Pospisil at the ATP Indian Wells Masters on Saturday.

PHOTO: AFP

Afc Cup Maziya arrive in Dhaka

Sports Reporter



Maziya SRC arrived here yesterday to take part in the AFC Cup with a hope of securing three points against Bangladesh Premier League champions Abahani.

Despite playing in last three editions, the Maldives Premier League champions are yet to cross the group-stage hurdle, and this time they have been pitted against last edition's runners-up Bengaluru FC, Mohun Bagan and Abahani.

Maziya will take on Abahani in Dhaka tomorrow while the two Indian outfits will square off in Bangalore on the same day.

After reaching the hotel amid heavy traffic congestion, the Maldivians cancelled their scheduled practice session but had a fitness session at the hotel gym.

The team officials avoided media here, but ahead of leaving Maldives, the Maziya coach Marjan Sekulovski told local media that their aim is to secure all three points as they would take on Abahani on the back of a 3-0 win over Green Street in a Maldives Premier League match.

Can the man lifts Liverpool

AFP, Liverpool



Emre Can's superb shot guided Liverpool to a 2-1 home win over Burnley on Sunday and maintained their bid to qualify for next season's Champions League.

Ashley Barnes, with his club's first goal at Anfield since 1975, had given Burnley a deserved early lead only for Georginio Wijnaldum to equalise in first-half injury-time.

And Can struck just after the hour mark to secure victory for Liverpool, although it was a far from convincing performance by Jurgen Klopp's side.

German international Can collected a short pass from Divock Origi and was allowed space to unleash a right-foot shot from 25 yards which the Burnley goalkeeper, Tom Heaton, might have been expected to save before it reached the bottom left-hand corner of his net.

Liverpool had gone in at the half-time interval level although it was a scoreline that even the most ardent home supporter would have admitted was harsh on Burnley.

With just two away points to their name all season, Sean Dyche's team took the lead in just the seventh minute.

Right-back Matt Lowton crossed low into the area from the wing and, after Andre Gray narrowly missed making contact, Barnes slid in ahead of his marker to force the ball past Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet.

A minute into first-half injury-time, Liverpool claimed an unlikely equaliser which raised the mood around the stadium.

Origi crossed from the left and Wijnaldum made a lazy attempt to control the ball, flicking out a boot and benefitting from a fortunate rebound from defender Ben Mee, before drilling home an unstoppable finish from six yards.