

SONY ESPN
Indian Premier League
Punjab v Bangalore
Live from 8:30pm
STAR SPORTS SELCT 1HD
English Premiership

Crystal Palace v Arsenal
Live from 1:00am (Tuesday)
TEN 1
La Liga
Real Sociedad v Sporting Gijon
Live from 12:45am (Tuesday)

ANCELOTTI 'A GREAT KISSER'

Bayern Munich winger Franck Ribery has hailed his relationship with coach Carlo Ancelotti and has joked the Italian is a great kisser. Ribery appeared angry when Ancelotti opted to take him off in the 74th minute of Bayern's 4-1 win over Borussia Dortmund on Saturday but the attacker's mood quickly improved when he was rewarded for his fine performance with a kiss on the cheek from Ancelotti. "We have a great relationship and we trust each other," Ribery told Sport1. "The kiss was nice. It was just natural, something positive. It was a good kiss with a lot of emotion." Ancelotti's gesture did not go unnoticed by Robben, who playfully suggested he hopes for a similar reward at some stage in the future. "Yes, I am a bit jealous," Robben admitted. "But I might get a kiss as well at some point..."



—AGENCIES

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:

France and Serbia set up Davis Cup semifinal clash

France will meet Serbia in the semi-finals of the Davis Cup after both finished off their last-eight ties inside two days on Saturday but Australia and Belgium were made to sweat.

Neymar set to miss Real match over red card reaction

Neymar is at risk of being ruled out of Barcelona's upcoming clash with Real Madrid due to his reaction to being sent off in Saturday's 2-0 defeat to Malaga.

Musical tribute to Mashrafe

A song dedicated to the Bangladesh ODI captain Mashrafe Mortaza who recently retired from T20s is making waves in Youtube.

Scott moves within striking distance of second Green Jacket

It was mission accomplished for Adam Scott as the Australian put on a clinical display of precise ball-striking at the US Masters to sneak within striking distance of a second Green Jacket with a second successive three-under 69.

Higuain brace gives Juve 32nd straight home win

A brace from Gonzalo Higuain gave Juventus a 2-0 win at home to Chievo and moved them closer to a sixth consecutive Serie A title as they forged nine points clear of their closest pursuers.



Manchester United striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic lit up the Stadium of Light as he scored the opening goal against Sunderland in their Premier League fixture, taking his tally for the season to 28.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Zlatan sparks MU

AFP, Sunderland

Zlatan Ibrahimovic scored his 28th goal of the season as Manchester United closed on the Premier League top four with a routine 3-0 win at relegation-threatened Sunderland on Sunday.

Jose Mourinho's side extended their unbeaten run to 21 league games at the Stadium of Light, with Henrikh Mkhitaryan and substitute Marcus Rashford also on target.

United closed to within four points of fourth-place Manchester City, on whom they retain a game in hand, but will drop to sixth if Arsenal win at Crystal Palace on Monday.

Sunderland, who had Seb Larsson contentiously sent off in the first half, now lie 10 points from safety at the foot of the table and look destined for the Championship.

Victory set United up nicely for Thursday's trip to Anderlecht in the quarter-finals of the Europa League, a competition which guarantees a Champions League place to the eventual winners.

Mourinho's men won with plenty to spare, enjoying 70 percent of possession and playing against 10 men for more than half the game.

Any hope Sunderland had of replying to Ibrahimovic's 18th league goal of the season on the half hour were all but ended when his former Sweden team-mate Larsson was sent off as the interval approached.

Larsson was shown a straight red card by referee Martin Atkinson for leading with a raised foot in a challenge on Ander Herrera, sparking furious Sunderland protests.

With left-back Luke Shaw enjoying a rare United start as England manager Gareth Southgate looked on, Ibrahimovic broke the deadlock with a bolt from the blue.

The 35-year-old took a pass from Herrera on the edge of the Sunderland area, easily held off Billy Jones and fired a low shot into Jordan Pickford's bottom-left corner.

Romelu Lukaku scored twice for Everton in a 4-2 victory on Sunday as Craig Shakespeare suffered defeat for the first time since becoming Leicester City manager.

Shakespeare had won all of his first six matches in charge, five of them in the Premier League, since replacing the sacked Claudio Ranieri in February.

A much-changed Leicester side, without their regular full-backs or midfielder Wilfred Ndidi, and with Riyad Mahrez appearing only as a substitute, were unable to cope with the threat of Lukaku.

The Premier League's leading scorer took his goal tally in the competition to 23 for the season with a fine header and a clinical close-range finish.

Shakespeare's decision to make five changes suggested he had one eye on Wednesday's Champions League quarter-final first leg away to Atletico Madrid.

Enrique rues missed chance

AFP, Madrid

Neymar was sent-off as Barcelona lost further ground on Real Madrid at the top of La Liga in a shock 2-0 defeat to Malaga on Saturday.

Real are now three points clear and have a game in hand despite Antoine Griezmann's strike five minutes from time snatching a 1-1 draw for Atletico Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu.

However, Real can now afford to lose to Barca at home in two weeks' time and still have a first title in five years in their own hands.

"No matter what the table is like Madrid-Barca is always an attractive game, but winning La Liga depends on winning all the points beforehand," said Barca boss Luis Enrique. "Today we had a very good opportunity and we couldn't take the points."

Neymar picked up the first red card of his Barcelona career for two bookable offences as the Catalans were left to rue letting Sandro Ramirez join Malaga for free last summer.

The Brazilian was booked in the first-half for delaying a Malaga free-kick by tying his shoelaces in front of the ball and then charged into Roberto Rosales 25 minutes from time to see his second yellow card, prompting Enrique to claim that his star names lack protection from referees.

"I think the interpretation of the yellow cards is special," said Enrique. "We have to have been very careful in some games because there were some ugly challenges from behind that went unpunished and tying boots was."

"They scored with their first chance thanks to our mistakes in interpreting the offside," added Enrique. "From then on it was an uphill struggle."

Sandro exposed some awful defending from Jeremy Mathieu to sprint clear on goal and slot past Marc-Andre ter Stegen at his near post.

Malaga finally picked off the 10 men in the final minute when Pablo Fornals unselfishly squared for Jony to smash home from close range.

'I feel like Benjamin Button'

AFP, Sunderland

Ageless striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic said he felt like film character Benjamin Button after taking his tally for the season to 28 goals in Manchester United's 3-0 win at Sunderland.

Ibrahimovic, 35, opened the scoring in the 30th minute of Sunday's game at the Stadium of Light, rolling Billy Jones and crashing a shot into the bottom corner from the edge of the box.

"The older you are, the more experienced, the more intelligent and you don't waste energy on things you don't need," Ibrahimovic told Sky Sports.

"I feel like Benjamin Button. I was born old and will die young," he added, citing the 2008 Brad Pitt film about a man who ages in reverse.

United manager Jose Mourinho said: "You need these players to break it. Every team has a couple of them. Zlatan did that."

Victory saw United close to within four points of Manchester City, who occupy the fourth and final Champions League qualifying berth.

Hamilton takes Shanghai crown

REUTERS, Shanghai

Lewis Hamilton mastered Shanghai's changing conditions and stayed clear of squabbling rivals to win the Chinese Formula One Grand Prix on Sunday.

The Briton eased his Mercedes across the line 6.2 seconds ahead of Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel. Max Verstappen, who started 16th, finished a surprise third to hand his Red Bull team their 100th podium.

It was Hamilton's 54th career win and a record fifth in Shanghai. But it was the triple champion's first this season and returned Mercedes to the top of the podium after Vettel won last month's season-opening race for a resurgent Ferrari.

"I'm so happy with my first win of the year and I can't believe it if I'm honest," said Hamilton after the race, which also handed him his 106th podium, putting him joint second with Alain Prost on the list of drivers with most rostrum results. "What I said to Sebastian as I left the last race... I said I'm coming back in the next one. When I got on the podium it was like 'I told you'."

Hamilton, who finished second to Vettel in Melbourne, heads into the next race in Bahrain tied on points with the German.

Mercedes, meanwhile, lead the constructors' standings by one point over Ferrari.

Hamilton started from pole position, but the conditions were a bit of a lottery for all the drivers with the track damp in patches but drying quickly.

He kept the lead off the line ahead of



Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton celebrates after clinching the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Vettel, who came under investigation for lining up out of position on his grid slot.

The German, though, stayed second, fending off Valtteri Bottas in the other Mercedes, who had started third.

Lance Stroll, the 18-year-old rookie, spun off the track on the first lap after making contact with Force India's Sergio Perez. The Canadian beached his Williams in the gravel, bringing out the virtual safety car.

Vettel took the opportunity to dive into the pits to change to dry weather tyres. His gamble backfired when Antonio Giovinazzi -- standing in for Pascal Wehrlein at Sauber -- crashed, bringing out the actual safety car two laps later.

Hummels in doubt for Real clash

AFP, Berlin

Bayern Munich are sweating on the fitness of Mats Hummels for Wednesday's Champions League home clash against Real Madrid after the Germany defender injured his ankle in training on Sunday.

The centre-back was left on the bench for Saturday's 4-1 Bundesliga drubbing of Borussia Dortmund in Munich having been rested by coach Carlo Ancelotti for the quarterfinal, first-leg, match against Real.

But Hummels let out a cry after injuring his right ankle in Sunday's training session and was taken away on a golf cart after treatment, leaving Bayern waiting to see how bad the injury is.

There is some good news for Bayern as Germany forward Thomas Mueller was back in training after missing their last two matches with an ankle injury, while Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer faces a race against time to be fit to face the Spanish giants and has not yet resumed training after a minor foot operation.

'My future is tied to Wenger's'

AFP, London

Mesut Ozil wants Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger's future to be cleared up before he commits himself to the club, the Germany playmaker indicated in a newspaper interview published on Sunday.

Wenger, Arsenal's manager for over 20 years, is out of contract at the end of the season and has pledged to make an announcement about his future "very soon".

Ozil is currently stalling over a new contract, with his existing deal due to expire in a year, and suggested he will not make a decision on his future until he knows what Wenger is doing.

"It's not just important for me, but for the whole club," Ozil told the Mail on Sunday. "It's important to know if he stays or if he goes. We need to think towards next season."

"He's very important. In my career I've always made decisions not just because of clubs, but managers too. It's important to have the manager's trust and believe they can develop you."

"When I went from (Real) Madrid to Arsenal, I came for him because I told him at the time he'd be my first option. That was the case. We still have a super understanding today. I have his trust, he's a superb coach. He's been successful for many years, he's been here for 20 years and has always managed to get Arsenal to reach the Champions League, making Arsenal a big club. He deserves to be shown respect."

Ozil, 28, said his decision on whether or not to extend his contract was not contingent on Champions League qualification.

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WALTON

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