

# What to WATCH

**ESPN**  
**Europa League**  
 Hoffenheim v Braga  
 Live from 11:00pm  
 Real Sociedad v Posenberg  
 Live from 1:00am (Friday)  
**TEN 1**  
**Europa League**  
 Atlanta v Everton  
 Live from 11:00pm  
 Hertha Berlin v Athletic Bilbao  
 Live from 1:00am (Friday)  
**TEN 2**  
**Europa League**  
 Austria Wien v Milan  
 Live from 11:00pm

**ESPN**  
**Europa League**  
 Villarreal v Astana  
 Live from 11:00pm  
 Vitesse v Lazio  
 Live from 1:00am (Friday)

**DAY'S EVENT**  
**Bangladesh Premier League**  
 Team BIMC v SK Russell  
 Time: 6:00pm  
 Venue: BNS

## Chelsea, PSG make big statements

AFP, Paris  
 Lionel Messi stole the spotlight on the opening day of this season's Champions League yesterday with his brace in Barcelona's 3-0 win over Juventus, overshadowing many of the other matches which saw big teams score big wins. Neymar made his Champions League bow since leaving the Nou Camp and he was instrumental in Paris Saint-Germain's 5-0 demolition of Celtic in Glasgow – the worst European result for the Scottish club in their storied history.

PSG's next opponents in Group B will be five-time European champions Bayern Munich, who began their campaign by brushing aside Anderlecht 3-0 at the Allianz Arena. Meanwhile Jose Mourinho's Manchester United, the three-time winners, marked their return to Europe's elite competition after a one-year hiatus with a win against Basel. But Mourinho's old club Chelsea were the biggest winners on the night, thrashing group stage newcomers Qarabag 6-0 at Stamford Bridge in Group C.

**NEYMAR, MBAPPE, CAVANI TRIUMPH**  
 Paris St Germain's attacking trio of Neymar, Mbappe and Cavani were all on the score sheet as they tore Celtic apart to lead the French club to a 5-0 rout.

The world's most expensive frontline produced a potent display of force to sweep Celtic aside, hitting the heaviest home European defeat on the Scottish side. Neymar, making his first European

goals, to win and to have a clean sheet – I saw a lot of positive things tonight," Conte said. Deadline-day signing Zappacosta, apparently looking to cross the ball, produced a swirling screamer of a goal from some 35 metres out on the half hour. And he admitted that he had no intention of shooting.

"I'll be honest, I wanted to cross, then I hit the ball fully with my instep," he said after the match. "I'm really happy. It was a dream debut, with a goal at Stamford Bridge."

**MAN UNITED MARK RETURN**  
 Romelu Lukaku and Marcus Rashford both opened their Champions League accounts as Manchester United returned to the competition with a 3-0 rout of Basel in their opening Group A match at Old Trafford. United, who missed last season's Champions League, dominated and deservedly went ahead through early substitute Marouane Fellaini's 15th-minute header.

Belgian international striker Lukaku, a constant menace to the Swiss champions on his competition debut, doubled United's lead with a textbook header soon after half-time.

Rashford came off the bench for his first taste of Champions League action and poached United's third goal in the 84th minute.

"We are delighted with the win after the slip at Stoke at the weekend," Lukaku said in reference to United's 2-2 draw in the Premier League on Saturday, their first dropped points of the season. "The football wasn't great but we won and that's the most important thing."

"We are still a work in progress but we are doing well."



Each of Paris Saint-Germain's vaunted front three – Neymar, Kylian Mbappe and Edinson Cavani – found the back of the net in their 5-0 win against Celtic. PHOTOS: AFP

appearance for PSG after his world-record move from Barcelona, orchestrated proceedings, ably assisted by teenager Mbappe and experienced Cavani, the other two members of PSG's exciting forward trio.

"I'm very happy. It was a fantastic match and I'm happy for the team. It was an important win," Neymar told reporters.

**ZAPPACOSTA STUNNER FOR SIX**  
**STAR BLUES**

Chelsea enjoyed a triumphant return to the Champions League after a year out on Tuesday, thumping the competition's debutants Qarabag 6-0, including a stunning, if miscued, strike from new signing Davide Zappacosta.

The Italian was joined on the scoresheet by another new Chelsea arrival Frenchman Tiemoue Bakayoko on a satisfying night for manager Antonio Conte after a summer of frustration in the transfer market.

"It was a good start for us. To score many

RESULTS	
Man United	3 - 0 Basel
Fellaini 35, Lukaku 53, Rashford 89	
Berlinia	1 - 2 CSKA Moscow
Sferovic 50	Vitsita 45 pen, Zhornitskii 71
Celtic	0 - 5 PSG
Neymar 19, Mbappe 64, Cavani 40 pen, B.S. Lantini 83-89	
Bayern Munich	3 - 0 Anderlecht
Lewandowski 12 pen, Kimmich 90	
Roma	0 - 0 Atletico Madrid
Chelsea	6 - 0 Qarabag
Profeta 5, Zappacosta 30, Aguilera 55, Bakayoko 71, Bouchouh 76, Haddad 82-89	
Barcelona	3 - 0 Juventus
Messi 45, 68, Rabatic 56	
Olympiakos	2 - 3 Sporting Lisbon
Pavlidis 90, Sotiropoulos 11	Fernandes 43



Barcelona superstar Lionel Messi ensured that all the dark clouds above the Nou Camp dissipated with a mesmerising performance against Juventus, where he scored his first goals past Gianluigi Buffon as Barcelona won 3-0. PHOTOS: REUTERS

## Messi puts Juve to the sword

REUTERS, Barcelona  
 A mesmeric Lionel Messi scored twice as he inspired Barcelona to a 3-0 win over Juventus to get off to a flying start in Champions League Group D on Tuesday, averaging last season's quarter-final elimination by the Italian champions.

Messi broke the deadlock on the stroke of half-time by playing a slick one-two off Luis Suarez and arking the ball beyond Gianluigi Buffon, finally getting the better of the veteran Italian in his fourth game against him.

The Argentine was also the catalyst for the second goal, forcing Juve to scramble the ball off the line and allowing Ivan Rakitic to shoot into an empty net in the 56th minute and add to his strike against Juve in the 2015 final.

But Messi was far from done. For his second and Barca's third he received a pass from Andres Iniesta and ripped more holes in a depleted Juventus defence before lashing beyond a dejected Buffon, scoring his seventh goal in three games.

Juventus, who were missing five key players including defensive warrior Giorgio Chiellini, looked a shadow of the team that beat Barca 3-0 on aggregate last season to reach the final, and had conceded seven goals in their last two games in the competition over two seasons.

Like Barca, Juve arrived at the game with three wins in three in the domestic league and with their own Argentine Paulo Dybala also in electric form with five goals in three games.

But their long list of absences, which also included Mario Mandzukic, Claudio Marchisio and Sami Khedira, proved costly.

Miralem Pjanic did manage to trouble Barca goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen in the first half but the Spaniards, who have been facing instability off the pitch but look fresh and confident on it under new coach Ernesto Valverde, did most of the talking.

Messi gave the Italians nightmares from the word go, but captain Andres Iniesta was also in electric form, while record signing Ousmane Dembele had an impressive full debut, making for a party atmosphere at the Nou Camp to accompany the show put on by their relentless Argentine talisman.

"When we play at this speed it's very difficult to play against us," Rakitic told reporters.

"Barca don't change coaches very often but now we have new ideas and we're very happy with how things are going."

## Leo gets what he wants

INTERNET  
 Lionel Messi has caused a stir with Slovenian referee Damir Skomina in Barcelona's 3-0 Champions League win over Juventus.

Barca were leading their Italian opponents 1-0 when the Argentine star was fouled from behind by Miralem Pjanic.

Messi was clearly incensed and immediately lifted his arm in an attempt to coax the referee into handing Pjanic, who had committed two fouls in the first half, a yellow card.

Skomina was having none of it, showing off a perfect example of the 'I'm not mad, I'm just disappointed' look.

The commentators were on board with the referee's decision.

"He's asking for a yellow card, and I think he will get one himself," the main

caller said. "Obligatory caution. You just can't ask for other players to be booked. The referee's got that one absolutely right."

As replays displayed Messi's aggrieved demeanour the other commentator weighed in, pleased with how quickly Skomina made his decision.

"Absolutely brilliant from the referee," he said.

"We've seen it so many times. Messi, phenomenal player, but you don't want to see that on the football pitch."

"Absolutely spot on. When you lift that imaginary card in the air, it's only right that you should get a yellow card yourself."

Barcelona went 2-0 up through Ivan Rakitic two minutes later.

Messi will have been happy to see Pjanic receive a yellow card in the 75th minute – after the all-time great scored a stunner for a 3-0 lead.



Lionel Messi got a bit carried away as he demanded a yellow card for a Juventus player, getting booked himself for pulling the referee. PHOTOS: REUTERS



A Rahmatganj MFS player scrambles past a prostrate Mohammedan player during their Bangladesh Premier League fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. The lone match of the day at the muddy surface produced a goalless draw. PHOTOS: STAR

## 10-man MSC hold Rahmatganj

SPORTS REPORTER  
 10-man Mohammedan held Rahmatganj to a goalless draw in their Bangladesh Premier League fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The Black and Whites, who came into the match on the back of another goalless draw following a win against team BJMC, were reduced to ten men in the 41st minute when midfielder Anik Hossain was shown a straight red card for stamping on Rahmatganj's winger Rashidul Islam.

However, Shyed Naemuddin's charges showed tremendous spirit to keep Kamal Babu's energetic Rahmatganj at bay and earn a valuable point to climb to sixth position on eight points. Rahmatganj remained a place above them with ten points.

Rahmatganj had their first chance to take the lead in the 22nd minute, but

Shuvo on that occasion was denied by a superb sliding tackle from Mohammedan defender Mintu Sheikh.

Tokhles Ahmed failed to connect to a low cross from Nkwocha Kingsley on the goalmouth four minutes later before Anik saw red.

Rahmatganj had another big chance six minutes into the second half, but this time Ismael Bangour failed to properly connect to a Mustapha Jatta cross from inside the six-yard box.

Rahmatganj goalkeeper Omar Faruk then produced a brilliant block to deny Mohammedan defender Monjurur Rahman Manik's header just before the hour-mark.

The other match of the day between Sheikh Russel KC and Team BIMC was postponed due to heavy rain earlier in the day. That match will take place at 6:00pm today and will wrap up the eighth round as the league goes into a three-week break.

## 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:

**Zappacosta's 'unintentional wondergoal'**  
 Chelsea debutante Davide Zappacosta reveals he only meant to deliver a cross which ended up at the Qarabag goal.

**Paul Pogba could be out for weeks!**  
 Paul Pogba could be out of action for a "few weeks" after suffering a suspected hamstring injury that took the shine off Manchester United's successful return to the Champions League, manager Jose Mourinho said.

**Matthaeus slams Ribery**  
 Germany legend Lothar Matthaeus criticised France winger Franck Ribery for throwing his Bayern Munich shirt in temper after being substituted late in the Champions League win over Anderlecht.