



Matches on TV
(Local Timings)

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Arsenal v Hull City	15:30
beIN SPORTS	
Manchester United v Watford	18:00
beIN SPORTS	
Middlesbrough v Everton	18:00
beIN SPORTS	
Sunderland v Southampton	18:00
beIN SPORTS	
West Ham United v Albion	18:00
beIN SPORTS	
Stoke City v Crystal Palace	18:00
beIN SPORTS	
Liverpool v Tottenham Hotspur	20:30
beIN SPORTS	

SPANISH LEAGUE PRIMERA

Real Betis v Valencia	15:00
beIN SPORTS	
Alaves v Barcelona	18:15
beIN SPORTS	
Bilbao v Coruna	20:30
beIN SPORTS	
Osasuna v Real Madrid	22:45
beIN SPORTS	

ITALIAN CALCIO LEAGUE

Fiorentina v Udinese Calcio	22:45
beIN SPORTS	

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Werder Bremen v Monchengladbach	17:30
beIN SPORTS	
Leverkusen v Eintracht Frankfurt	17:30
beIN SPORTS	
Ingolstadt v Bayern Munich	17:30
beIN SPORTS	
Darmstadt v Dortmund	17:30
beIN SPORTS	
Leipzig v Hamburger	17:30
beIN SPORTS	
Schalke v Hertha Berlin	20:30
beIN SPORTS	

FRENCH LEAGUE

Guingamp v Lyonnais	19:00
beIN SPORTS	
Monaco v Metz	22:00
beIN SPORTS	
Toulouse v Bastia	22:00
beIN SPORTS	
Nancy Lorraine v Montpellier	22:00
beIN SPORTS	
Lille v Angers	22:00
beIN SPORTS	
Dijon v Caen	22:00
beIN SPORTS	



CROTONE: Crotona's Andrea Barberis, right, and Juventus' Gonzalo Higuain vie for the ball during a Serie A soccer match, at the Ezio Scida stadium. — AP

JUVE MARCH ON AS ALLEGRI ENGLAND RUMORS SWIRL

MILAN: The prospect of Massimiliano Allegri following Chelsea manager Antonio Conte to the Premier League appear on the increase as Juventus travel to Cagliari tomorrow looking to tighten their grip on Serie A. Conte led the Turin giants to three consecutive league titles before Allegri took over the helm when former Juventus midfielder Conte took the helm of Italy for Euro 2016.

Juventus hold a seven-point lead on title rivals Roma with Napoli in third at nine points adrift and Allegri is well on his way to securing a record-setting sixth consecutive scudetto. But already, rumors are swirling. Allegri confirmed weeks ago he is learning English and when asked specifically about reported interest from Premier League clubs he said earlier this week: "I'm not confirming and I'm not denying."

Reports suggesting Allegri could be the long-term replacement for Arsene Wenger at Arsenal might be premature, but they appeared the same day Napoli coach Maurizio Sarri denied having met Juventus officials. Sarri, who steered Napoli to second spot in his first season in charge last term when former club striker Gonzalo Higuain hit a new league

record of 36 goals, has a new contract until 2020 waiting to be signed. But he said: "I don't have time to think about the (new) contract. All I can tell you is I've called my lawyer to find out whether to sue the person who wrote that I met with (officials from) Juventus. "This is completely false."

UNSTOPPABLE

With or without the rumors, Juventus look unstoppable in Italy. Allegri's men swept aside a battling Inter Milan to win 1-0 last week and moved further ahead with a 2-0 win at Crotona, postponed due to the Italian Super Cup final, in midweek. Inter are still smarting and host Empoli hoping to get back to winning ways without the triple attacking threat of Mauro Icardi, Ivan Perisic and Marcelo Brozovic.

Croatia midfielder Perisic was shown a straight red card for insulting the referee and was banned for two games. Icardi was handed the same sanction for launching a foul-mouthed tirade at the referee, as well as kicking the ball at him, without hitting him. Inter have appealed the sanctions and are expected to have an answer before tomorrow's afternoon

kick-off, when coach Stefano Pioli will also be without Brozovic after he suffered a broken toe in Turin.

City rivals AC Milan travel to Lazio on Monday buoyed by a precious 1-0 midweek win at Bologna, with nine men, which ended a run of three defeats. "We're very happy but we have to ask ourselves why we went down to nine men," said midfielder Andrea Poli. Milan were without Gabriel Paletta from the 37th minute and also lost Juraj Kucka to a second yellow card on the hour. "There's a good atmosphere, I can't remember a game with so much adrenaline as that," added Poli. "On Monday we have to go to Rome and win."

Lazio, however, are one of a few teams capable of troubling Roma and Napoli for one of the league's three Champions League places. They sit fourth, 14 points behind leaders Juventus and five behind third-placed Napoli. Striker Ciro Immobile has been criticised for a lack of goals against "big" sides, but said: "I'm under a little bit of pressure to score against a big side... it's a very important game against Milan, they beat Bologna with nine men." — AFP

BAYERN TO GET 'GRUBBY' AT PATRIOTS-INSPIRED INGOLSTADT

BERLIN: Strugglers Ingolstadt will take inspiration from the New England Patriots' stunning Super Bowl fightback when they host Bayern Munich today with the Bundesliga leaders expecting a 'grubby' Bavarian derby. Bayern host Arsenal at the Allianz Arena next Wednesday, but before the Champions League last 16 clash, Munich must take care of Bundesliga business and travel 80 kilometres (50mi) north to their neighbours.

Bayern can expect tough times at Ingolstadt's tiny Audi Sportpark, which holds

15,000, against the hard-working hosts—just like at bottom side Darmstadt in last December's scrappy 1-0 win after Xabi Alonso's goal. "We've already seen what it was like at Darmstadt. It will be a grubby game on Saturday," said Bayern's Germany star Thomas Mueller with Ingolstadt second from bottom.

Arjen Robben says this is the "week of truth" for Bayern's European aspirations and Ingolstadt hope Bayern are distracted by the Arsenal clash. "On paper, it's obvious how this game will go," said Ingolstadt's coach Maik walpurgis.

"Anything else would be a surprise, but that is exactly our goal." Bayern have won all three previous league meetings between the clubs and poached a 2-1 win on their previous visit in May 2016. But the hosts hope for an upset-inspired by last Sunday's Super Bowl winners. The New England Patriots fought back from 21-0 down to beat Atlanta in a fairytale display and Ingolstadt's assistant coach Michael Henke took heart. "You can take a lot of motivation from it. The Super Bowl has shown that you have to overcome set-backs and now, like New England,

we have to manage a 'lucky punch'," said Henke.

Bayern will be near full strength, but are reeling from the news club captain Philipp Lahm will be retiring at the end of the season, following Tuesday's announcement, and has refused the vacant sports director role. Bayern's Poland striker Robert Lewandowski, who has scored eight goals in his last seven league games in a tally of 15 for the season. Ingolstadt hope to have Australia striker Mathew Leckie back from injury, but Israel midfielder Almog Cohen is struggling with a knee knock.—AFP