

Real Madrid

Merengues Maintain Winning Run

Real Madrid maintained their impressive form at the top of the Primera Division with a 3-0 victory at Sporting Gijon. Goals from Angel Di Maria, Cristiano Ronaldo and Marcelo gave Jose Mourinho's team a 14th win on the trot in all competitions. This was their 10th in succession in the league, keeping them in control at the head of the table. Ronaldo had the first chance of the game but his shot from 20 yards in the 18th minute went wide. Di Maria was next to threaten less than two minutes later, but goalkeeper Juan Pablo was equal to his 18-yard effort. Ronaldo drilled over in the 25th minute, before Argentinian international Di Maria opened the scoring 10 minutes later, taking advantage of slack defending to advance on goal and tap in from close to the byline.

The home side first tested Real goalkeeper Iker Casillas in the 36th minute as Miguel's effort was repelled, and soon after Casillas had to show more smart handling to deny Oscar Trejo from 18 yards. Sporting's best chance of the game came in the 57th minute, after Roberto Canella was fouled by Mesut Ozil. Canella took the free-kick himself and found Alberto Botia, but he headed wide of the target from seven yards out. Di Maria ended a jinking run with an off-target shot five minutes later, but Real did not have to wait much longer for a second goal.

Ronaldo was the man who doubled the lead, beating the offside trap to receive an inch-perfect ball from Di Maria, before rounding Pablo and tucking inside the near post in the 64th minute. Home appeals for a penalty came to nothing when Gaston Sangoy went down under pressure from Pepe and Sergio Ramos in the 69th minute - shortly after the striker's introduction

for Andre Castro. Pablo was out smartly in the 71st minute to deny Gonzalo Higuain, then Fabio Coentrao shot wide four minutes later. After Pablo had again denied Karim Benzema, the scoring was completed in injury-time when Benzema put Marcelo in the clear and the defender beat the exposed goalkeeper.

The away side dominated the early stages of the game, with Lassana Diarra and Sami Khedira bossing proceedings from the centre of Madrid's midfield, much to the vocal home support's disdain.

A 10th league win in a row for Los Blancos ensures they remain clear of any rivals at the top of La Liga ahead of next weekend's Clasico at the Santiago Bernabeu



LAST YEAR'S RESULT

With 44 wins last year, Real Madrid finished second in the league overall, just behind Barcelona.

11-12 PREDICTION

Only two losses in 2011/2012 putting them ahead of Barcelona. They are expected to win the champions league. They are also expected to be able to win against Barcelona because of their off season especially after Barcelona's horrible lose against Gijon.

MANGER

Jose Mourinho says that Real Madrid is going to be able to beat Barcelona this Saturday 12/10/11 and finally get rid of their losing streak he says we only lost twice this season while Barcelona have been off this season and that we will most likely beat them and get ready for the champions league.

C. RONALDO (PICTURED)

Lead forward for Real Madrid. Ronaldo is 6' 1" 26 years old born in Portugal. He has very fine foot work and has already scored 16 goals this season which puts him tied with Lionel Messi for the most goals scored this season.

CASILLAS (TEAM CAPTAIN)

Lead Goalie for Real Madrid and lead goalie for Spain with his unbelievable blocking skills he was able to make Spain the world cup winners in 2010 and now he is doing the same for Real Madrid putting, helping put them on top of their division and,

11-12 Results

DATE	HOME	SCORE	AWAY
04/12/11	GIJON	0-3	REAL MADRID
26/11/11	MADRID	4-1	ATLETICO MADRID
22/11/11	MADRID	6-2	GNK
19/11/11	VALENCIA	2-3	MADRID
06/11/11	MADRID	7-1	OSASUNA
02/11/11	LYON	0-2	MADRID
30/10/11	SOCIEDAD	0-1	MADRID
26/10/11	MADRID	3-0	VILLARREAL
22/10/11	MALAGA	0-4	MADRID
18/10/11	MADRID	4-0	LYON
16/10/11	MADRID	4-1	BETIS
02/10/11	R.C.D	0-4	MADRID

FORWARDS

NUM	NAME
9	KARIM BENZEMA
21	JOSE MARIA CALLEJON
20	GONZALO HIGUAIN
7	CRISTIANO RONALDO
29	JOSELU

GOALIES

NUM	NAME
1	IKER CASILLAS
35	JESUS FERNANDEZ COLLADO
13	ANTONIO ADAN
25	TOMAS
30	FERNANDO PACHECO

11-12 ROSTER

DEFENSE

NUM	NAME
18	RAUL ALBIOL
17	ALVARO ARBELOA
32	DANIEL CARVAJAL
2	RICARDO CARVALHO
15	FABIO COENTRAO
12	MARCELO
27	NACHO
3	PEPE
4	SERGIO RAMOS
19	RAPHAEL VARANE

* SIGNIFIES STARTER

MIDIES

NUM	NAME
14	XABI ALONSO
16	HAMIT ALTINTOP
22	ANGEL DI MARIA
24	LASSANA DIARRA
11	ESTEBAN GRANERO
8	KAKA
6	SAMI KHEDIRA
10	MESUT OZIL
5	NURI SAHIN

MANAGER

JOSE MOURINHO

Barcelona

Barca youngsters ease past

LAST YEAR'S RESULT

Barcelona with a tremendous effort against Real Madrid and Manchester United to be able to win the Champions League cup.

11-12 PREDICTION

With 34 points putting them in second place 3 points away from Madrid they hope they can take the lead this coming Saturday 12/10/11 against Real Madrid and are looking forward to try to win the champions league cup once again for 2 straight years in a row.

MANAGER

Jose Guardiola says that Barcelona is still the best team in the Spanish league and that this coming Saturday 12/10/11 they will beat Real Madrid once again and regain their top position in Spain once again.

L. MESSI (PICTURED)

Lead forward for Barcelona. Messi is 5' 7" 24 years old born in Argentina. He was 2010 player of the year and has already scored 16 goals this season which puts him tied with Ronaldo for the most goals scored in the entire league this season.

C. PUYOL (TEAM CAPTAIN)

Lead defender for Barcelona and lead defender for Spain with his unbelievable speed and power, Puyol was able to help take Spain all the way to the World Cup Title in 2010. He is using that same speed and power to lock down the Barcelona defense in hopes of advancing past Madrid and other rivals this season.



Barcelona's youngsters showed the club's future could be just as bright as the present with an impressive Champions League victory.

The Catalans' passing was as tight and crisp as ever as goals from 19-year-old Sergi Roberto, 20-year-old Martin Montoya and two from Pedro, at 24 the third oldest player in the starting line-up, earned them a convincing win.

Ready to face Primera Division leaders Real Madrid. Hoped by the absences of the likes Lionel Messi, Xavi, Andres Iniesta and David Villa would give them a chance of springing an upset and avoid finishing last place in the group, they were sorely mistaken. The names may have been different, but the

speed of movement and confidence on the ball was very familiar.

Brazil-born Spaniard Rafinha almost put the hosts ahead in the second minute when he wriggled free in the area, but his shot was blocked by goalkeeper Aleksandr Gutor.

Sergi Roberto had the clearest chance in the 34th minute when Martin Montoya slid a low ball from the right across the face of goal which his team-mate, sliding in at the far post, directed just wide.

The 19-year-old scored just a minute later, though, side-footing the ball calmly first time into the bottom corner. The one-way traffic continued in the second half as Sergi Roberto went clear only to be denied by good save from Gutor.

Pedro's clever lob was then clawed away by the keeper, who was beaten again in the 60th minute. Montoya, up from right-back, ran on to Isaac Cuenca's perfectly-weighted through-ball and, getting to the ball just ahead of Gutor, placed a shot high into the net.

It was 3-0 three minutes later when Cuenca cut the ball back for Pedro - whose status as a regular in the first-team squad the youngsters are looking to emulate - to score with a classy back heel through the keeper's legs at the near post.

Marti Riverola crashed a shot just wide as Barcelona kept on pressing. The team was awarded a penalty shot with two minutes left in regulation. The team held on for the win.

Cuenca was tripped in the area by Alexander Volodko and Pedro sent Gutor the wrong way to bring up his 50th goal for Barca.

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03/12/11	BARCELONA	5-0	MALLORCA
29/11/11	PLZEN	0-4	BARCELONA
26/11/11	BILBAO	2-2	BARCELONA
23/11/11	HOSPITALET	0-1	BARCELONA
19/11/11	BARCELONA	4-0	ZARAGOZA
09/11/11	ACMILAN	2-3	BARCELONA
06/11/11	GETAFE	1-0	BARCELONA
01/11/11	BARCELONA	4-0	VALLECANO
29/10/11	BARCELONA	5-0	LEVANTE
25/10/11	BARCELONA	4-0	BORISOV

FORWARDS

NUM	NAME
27	GERARD DEULOFEU
10	LIONEL MESSI
17	PEDRO
9	ALEXIS SANCHEZ
7	DAVID VILLA

GOALIES

NUM	NAME
36	OLAZABAL
13	JOSE MANUEL PINTO
1	VICTOR VALDES

11-12 ROSTER

DEFENSE

NUM	NAME
22	ERIC ABIDAL
2	DANI ALVES
32	MARC BARTRA
19	MAXWELL
21	ADRIANO
24	FONTAS
33	SERGIO GOMEZ
35	MARTIN MONTOYA
5	CARLES PUYOL

* SIGNIFIES STARTER

MIDIES

NUM	NAME
20	IBRAHIM AFELLAY
34	RAFINHA
11	THIAGO
16	SERGIO BUSQUETS
28	JONATHAN SANTOS
4	FABREGAS
38	KIKO
6	XAVI
8	INIESTA

MANAGER

JOSEP GUARDIOLA