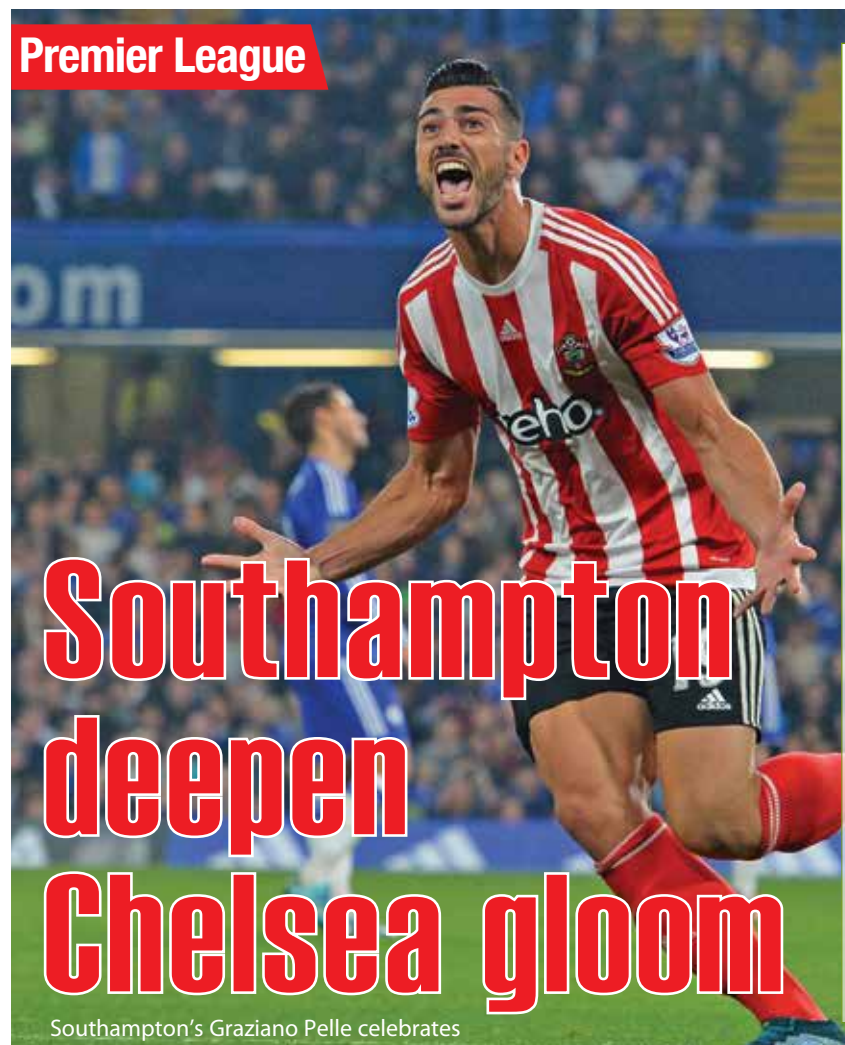


## Premier League



# Southampton deepen Chelsea gloom

Southampton's Graziano Pelle celebrates

## London

Chelsea's disastrous season continued with a 3-1 home defeat by Southampton yesterday that left Jose Mourinho's Premier League champions 10 points off the pace in 16th place.

Having taken an early lead through Willian, Mourinho's side collapsed alarmingly, with Steven Davis levelling for Ronald Koeman's team before second-half goals from Sadio Mane and Graziano Pelle wrapped up the win.

Mourinho had suffered just one home league defeat in over four seasons at Chelsea coming into the season, but has now already seen his side beaten twice at Stamford Bridge during the current campaign, following an earlier defeat by Crystal Palace in August.

There were few signs Chelsea are ready to return to the form that saw them cruise to last season's title and the growing discontent around the club was apparent when home supporters greeted the final whistle with a chorus of boos.

By his own admission, this is the worst spell of Mourinho's career and the manager this week found himself in the unfamiliar position of being forced to defend his methods following reports of discontent within his squad.

The failure to beat struggling

Newcastle United seven days previously had summed up Chelsea's problems, with Mourinho describing the first-half display at St James' Park as being "on a scale of one to 10, minus one".

That was followed by defeat at Porto in the Champions League and the Portuguese reacted by making four changes.

Skipper John Terry returned to make only his second start in six games, while Radamel Falcao was handed his first league start of the season in place of the suspended Diego Costa.

After the recent turmoil, Chelsea needed an early break to settle any nerves and it came after just 10 minutes when Willian punished the visitors after Oriol Romeu had fouled Eden Hazard.

## Cahill, Terry at fault

Curling the free-kick in from the left-hand side of the box, the Brazilian directed the set-piece beyond goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg and into the top-right corner.

Had Oscar managed to beat Stekelenburg with a curling shot midway through the half, the home side might have gone on to dominate.

## Sports in Shorts

## Berge couple win Mixed Open

## Manama

Husband and wife Nils and Dagfrid Berge (68.4 nett) were crowned Royal Golf Club Mixed Open 5 winners followed by Robert Timmers and wife Anne (71.2) in the runners up position.

Yousif Majid won the nearest the pin side contest on the seventh hole with over 30 competitors turning out for the annual tournament.

## United 7 win over Castle Boys

## Manama

United 7 defeated Castle Boys by one wicket in a thrilling final Group D match qualifier of The Indian Club Expats Seven-a-Side Softball Cricket Tournament at its premises in Gudaibiya. Batting first, Castle Boys were dismissed for 50 in its six overs thanks to a splendid bowling display by man of the match Steven (three for eight). United 7 in reply then reached the target scoring 51 for five in five overs.

## Zenit win over Rostov

## Moscow

Reigning champions Zenit St Petersburg beat Rostov 3-0 yesterday to narrow the gap to Russian Premier League leaders CSKA Moscow.

The goals from right-back Igor Smolnikov, forward Artem Dzyuba and skipper Miguel Danny set Zenit on their way to a confident win, which ended their four-match winless run. The result put Zenit into second on goal difference, five points behind CSKA, who face city rivals Dynamo on Sunday.

## Zimbabwe stun Pak to level ODI series

## Harare

Shoaib Malik's brilliant fightback was foiled by bad light as Zimbabwe beat Pakistan by five runs on the Duckworth-Lewis method in a drama-filled second one-day international at Harare Sports Club yesterday.

Malik was left stranded on 96 not out having hauled Pakistan from 76 for six to 256 for eight chasing 277 for victory when the umpires took the players off the field with two overs remaining.

The game had earlier been delayed by a brief rain shower, but the decision left the 33-year-old batsman furious as he was denied the opportunity to carry

his team across the line. The result left the three-match series level ahead of Monday's tour finale, and although Zimbabwe were breathing a sigh of relief after nearly letting the game slip, their victory represented a remarkable turnaround.

Under pressure after being rolled for 128 in an embarrassing defeat on Thursday, the home batsmen showed their capabilities in posting 276 for six, with Chamu Chibhabha anchoring the innings with a composed 90 and Elton Chigumbura adding the flourish with his brisk 67.

After winning the toss and electing to bowl, Pakistan were



Chibhabha plays a shot

left to wonder whether they had underestimated their opponents in leaving out star performer Imad Wasim in order to give a debut to 30-year-old spinner Bilal Asif, who went wicketless as Zimbabwe took control of the game.

Chibhabha's fifth half-century of the year led Zimbabwe's much-improved effort, and included a 91-run stand with rookie Brian Chari and a 59-run partnership for the fourth wicket with Chigumbura.

"The partnership between Chamu and Chari set things up for us," reflected Chigumbura. "There was lots of pressure for the team and the way we went

### Zimbabwe defeated Pakistan by five runs on the Duckworth-Lewis method

out there today showed good character." Once Chibhabha had been caught behind off the bowling of Wahab Riaz, Chigumbura put on 62 runs in six overs with Sikandar Raza Butt before hitting his stumps to give Riaz a fourth wicket.

## Makhachev to represent Kingdom in UFC

## DT News Network

## Manama

Islam Makhachev of the Khalid bin Hamad Mixed Martial Arts (KHK MMA) team will represent the Kingdom of Bahrain in the 70kg category of the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) 192 at the Toyota Centre in Houston, Texas, US.

Makhachev from the Dagestan Republic in the Russian Federation has a 12 wins and no loss record and is fourth on the bill of 13 bouts when he faces off with Brazilian Adriano Martins who has a 27 win and seven defeat record.

This is Bahrain's

first participation in the championship and considered one of the most popular events of the Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) season. Makhachev has completed his training and preparations for the bout and thanked Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa for his continuous support and care.

It was also announced that the fight will be covered by 30 international sports agencies, including Bahrain Sports Channel. The top bout of the 13 is between Daniel Cormier of the US who has a 16 wins and one loss record and faces Sweden's Alexander Gustafsson with 16 wins and three losses.



Team KHK MMA

## Sevilla beat Barca sans Messi

## Madrid

## Barcelona's struggles

Without Lionel Messi continued as second-half goals from Michael Krohn-Dehli and Vicente Iborra consigned the European champions to a second league defeat in three games 2-1 at Sevilla.

Neymar pulled a goal back from the penalty spot 16 minutes from time, but the injury-struck visitors were left to rue a host of missed opportunities and some fine goalkeeping by Sergio Rico as Sevilla registered their first league win over the Catalans since 2007.

Defeat leaves Barca still a

point off leaders Villarreal, but they can now be passed by either Real Madrid or Atletico Madrid when they face off on Sunday.

Without Messi and Andres Iniesta, the pressure was on Neymar and Luis Suarez to take even more responsibility and the former forced Rico into his first save of the afternoon with a low effort after just five minutes.

Neymar's runs from deep were causing Sevilla huge problems and Suarez should have done better when his shot was deflected wide by Timothee Kolodziejczak after being played in by his strike partner.