



Yavi, left, looks to take the outside lane en route to her victory in the women's 3,000m

Yavi sets new records with France win

Winfred Yavi posts new Bahrain and Asian indoor records in women's 3,000 metres

TDT | Manama

Bahraini long-distance specialist Winfred Yavi posted new national and Asian indoor records en route to winning the women's 3,000 metres at the Meeting de l'Eure in France.

The competition was a part of the European athletics season, and it featured many top international elite athletes from around the world.

Yavi was a leading entrant heading into her race and she did not disappoint.

She completed the distance in a winning time of eight minutes 39.63 seconds, beating out 12 other competitors.

With her mark, Yavi shattered the previous women's indoor 3,000m Bahraini record held

by former Olympic and World champion Maryam Yusuf Jamal, who had a time of 8:43.16.

Yavi also set a new Asian record, beating the previous benchmark of 8:41.34 registered by Dong Yanmei of China.

Yavi won the race marginally ahead of Quailyne Kiprop of Ethiopia who was the runner-up in 8:40.20, while another Ethiopian in Tsigie Gebreselama came third in a distant 8:45.76.

Rounding out the top six were Zerfe Wondemagegn of Ethiopia in fourth, Roseline Chepngetich of the UAE in fifth and Beyenu Degefa, also of Ethiopia, in sixth.

Another Bahraini athlete was competing in the meeting, but Mohammed Tiouli did not finish his run in the men's 1,500m.

Yavi's strong performance in



Winfred Yavi finished the race in eight minutes 39.63 seconds

France continued her impressive form so far this season in leading global events. She had previously won the six-kilometre women's race for the second straight year at the Cinque Mulini cross country race, held in San Vittore Olona, Italy about three weeks ago.

The event, happening for the 88th time in 2020, was a part of the World Athletics Cross Country Permit series.

Gnabry nets twice as Bayern regain top spot

AFP | Berlin

Germany winger Serge Gnabry netted twice as Bayern Munich swept back to the top of the Bundesliga yesterday with a 4-1 away win at Cologne.

After RB Leipzig had claimed top spot in Germany's top flight for 24 hours with a 3-0 home win against Werder Bremen on Saturday, Bayern wasted no time in regaining first place in Cologne.

Bayern have won seven of their last eight league games, which includes last Sunday's goalless draw with Leipzig.

Robert Lewandowski and Kingsley Coman netted for Bayern to add to Gnabry's brace while Mark Uth, on loan from Schalke, scored Cologne's consolation goal.

Bayern were 3-0 up after 12 minutes as they blitzed the Cologne defence.

The Bundesliga's top scorer Robert Lewandowski claimed his 23rd league goal with clinical finishing after Thomas Mueller's pass put him in behind the defence on three minutes.

Lewandowski then moved



Bayern Munich's German midfielder Serge Gnabry (C) scores a goal

the ball in the box to Mueller, whose pass found Coman to beat Cologne goalkeeper Timo Horn, making it 2-0 after only five minutes.

It was Mueller's 14th assist this season, leaving him second only to Manchester City's Kevin de Bruyne, on 16, for chances

created in Europe's top five leagues.

Gnabry then made it 3-0 when his shot gave Horn no chance on it's way into the bottom corner to leave the home crowd stunned.

With 15 minutes gone, Horn was the only Cologne player

in double figures for touches of the ball - three of his 10 were picking the ball out of his net.

Gnabry then fired wide, midfielder Joshua Kimmich hit the post and Mueller went close as Bayern kept up the pressure as it stayed 3-0 at half-time.

Man Utd visit is not about revenge, says Chelsea's Kante

Reuters | London

N'Golo Kante says Chelsea's home clash with Manchester United on Monday is not about avenging an opening-day hammering at Old Trafford but keeping their noses in front in the scrap for a Premier League top-four finish.

Chelsea are still in fourth spot but after only one win in their last four league games, the gap over the clubs beneath them has been steadily eroded.

They are just two points above fifth-placed Sheffield United while Tottenham Hotspur can move within a point of the Blues if they win at Aston Villa yesterday. United are six points behind.

"Man United were a bit behind but now

Man United were a bit behind but now they have closed the gap so it's a big opportunity either for us to keep them behind or for them to close the gap more

N'GOLO KANTE

Kante said.

"It's an important game for both teams. We all know that Man United at home is a very difficult game, especially after what happened in the first game but we don't look at this.

"We just look forward because we want to keep the gap and so that's why we need to win, not to get revenge."

It is a crucial period for Chelsea with United on Monday, then a home clash with Tottenham on Saturday before a Champions League last-16, first leg tie at home to Bayern Munich.

Kante said the mid-season break has hopefully enabled Chelsea to re-charge for a final push.

"I spent time with family and friends at home in Paris, just chilling," the 28-year-old said. "It's a nice thing, a new thing in the Premier League and it's good for the players."

"We have come back and tried to get a good fitness, to be prepared for the next game because we need to make sure we get the three points."

"I believe we have the team to get what we want this season -- to finish in the top four, get Champions League football next season and why not to win a title as well. We have everything that we need in this team."

Sevilla held by rock bottom Espanyol to stay out of top four

AFP | Madrid

Sevilla missed the chance to move in to the La Liga top four yesterday as they drew 2-2 with rock-bottom Espanyol.

The Andalusian outfit failed to take advantage of fourth-placed Atletico Madrid's own 2-2 draw at Valencia on Friday. Sevilla stay fifth, level on 40 points with Diego Simeone's side who occupy the final Champions League place.

Espanyol remain last, three points from safety alongside Leganes, who earlier played out a goalless draw with Real Betis.

Lucas Ocampos headed Sevilla in front after 14 minutes before Adrian Embarba levelled the scores with a free-kick that crashed through a poor wall.

China winger Wu Lei put the



Diego Carlos Santos Silva of Sevilla competes for the ball with Wu Lei of Espanyol

away side ahead when he slotted home Espanyol's second five minutes after the break.

However Victor Sanchez was sent off for a second bookable offence when he clipped over

Youssef En-Nesyri as the Moroccan forward surged towards goal.

Suso exploited Sevilla's man advantage to score his first goal for the club since arriving

on loan from AC Milan last month, cutting inside before firing inside Diego Lopez's near post.

The Basque derby between Eibar and Real Sociedad is awaiting a new date after being called off on Saturday due to poor air quality.

Sociedad were due to make the short journey to Eibar, an industrial town in a narrow valley, for a 1500 GMT kick-off.

However the Basque regional health department had recommended that sports be avoided in the area after a rockslide on February 6 into the Zaldirar rubbish dump, about eight kilometres (4.97 miles) from Eibar's Ipurua stadium.



N'Golo Kante