

Real Madrid slump to defeat by minnows Cadiz



Real Madrid's Isco in action with Cadiz's Juan Cala

Reuters | Madrid

Spanish champions Real Madrid suffered a shock 1-0 loss at home to promoted Cadiz yesterday, their first La Liga defeat in over seven months.

Honduran forward Anthony Lozano put Cadiz ahead in the 16th minute, darting between Madrid defenders Sergio Ramos and Raphael Varane to meet a cushioned header from Alvaro Negredo and lifting the ball over keeper Thibaut Courtois into the net.

Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane made four substitutions at halftime in a bid to turn the game around and brought on Luka Jovic later on, the Serbian striker soon putting the ball in the net but seeing his effort ruled out for a clear offside.

Vinicius Jr missed the target with a free header, while Karim Benzema struck the bar

from the edge of the area and Cadiz clung on to claim their first league win over Madrid since 1991 and their first ever away win against them.

The shock victory took Cadiz up to second in the league, level on 10 points with Madrid, who visit Barcelona next week in the 'Clasico'.

"If you concede an early goal against a team like this you really struggle," Madrid keeper Courtois said after his team suffered their first league defeat at home in more than a year.

"The first half was very bad,

”
If you concede an early goal against a team like this you really struggle

THIBAUT COURTOIS

Ahli barge into Khalifa bin Salman Cup final

League champions put in fine performance to take down Muharraq and seal best-of-three semi-final series

● Ahli's hopes of a league-and-cup double stay alive

TDT | Manama

League champions Al Ahli powered into the final of this year's Khalifa bin Salman Cup with a resounding 107-83 victory over Muharraq last night.

The result wrapped up their best-of-three clash in which Ahli bounced back from a narrow loss in the opening game.

Ahli's hopes of a league-and-cup double stay alive.

They are now set to take on long-time rivals Manama in the one-off title-decider, which is scheduled for Tuesday at Zain Basketball Arena in Um Al Hasam.

It is a re-match of this year's league championship series, which Ahli claimed with a two-game sweep of Manama.

Last night, Muharraq took a 22-19 lead at the end of the first quarter but Ahli were able to



Ahli's Dominique Sutton takes a shot over Muharraq's Mohammed Nasser

seize control before the half and go ahead 49-40.

Ahli continued their strong play and extended their advantage to a commanding 80-62 heading into the final period, and Ahli closed the game out from there, leading by as many

as 37 points en route to the final whistle.

Sharp-shooting Bahraini two-guard Hesham Sarhan was white hot from the field, scoring 33 points, including seven three-pointers, on 12-of-14 shooting overall.



Bahrain national team star Hesham Sarhan scored a team-high 33 points, firing in seven three-pointers, to help lead Ahli to big win

The American tandem of Dominique Sutton and Brandon Brown combined for 51 points, with Sutton scoring 26.

Sarhan's backcourt mate Maitham Jameel chipped in with 14, while skipper Mohammed Qurban scored six.

Aside from the five starters, Sayed Hashim Habib was the only other Ahli player to score with three points.

Muharraq's Kevin Murphy scored 34 to lead his team in the loss.

Mohammed Nasser added 15 and Bader Abdulla Malabes had 14.

BRAVE CF milestones: becoming only one of two promotions to visit 5 continents

TDT | Manama

As BRAVE Combat Federation wrapped up "Kombat Kingdom", the series of three consecutive events in the Kingdom of Bahrain, the truly global MMA promotion also turned four, completing 48 months of operations. In this time, BRAVE CF became the second organization in the sport to visit 5 different continents.

What makes BRAVE CF achievement even more impressive is the fact that it is the only other pro-motion to do so. The UFC has been around since 1992 and took 17 years since its



Athletes in action during a BRAVE CF event (file photo)

first show to expand to its fifth continent.

With BRAVE CF, on the other hand, things happened much faster. The Bahrain-based organization, founded by His Highness Sheikh Khaled bin Hamad Al Khalifa, started its operations in September 2016 and as early as in its third event was travelling to South America, to host a show in Brazil.

With Asia and South America covered, the next step was to conquer North America and that came in 2017, with BRAVE CF 7: Untamed, held in Tijuana, Mexico. The year of 2018 marked a huge milestone for the promotion, with 12 events in 12 different countries, and finished off the quick global

expansion.

In June 2018, BRAVE CF landed for the first time in Europe, with BRAVE CF 13, in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Two months later, in August 2018, Morocco was the first African country ever to hold an international Mixed Martial Arts event and BRAVE CF reached the five-continent mark in record time, doing so in less than two full years of existence.

Despite the challenging circumstances of 2020, BRAVE Combat Federation has put together the strongest COVID-19 protocol in the industry of MMA and held so far 10 events in four different countries, including three European nations, Slovenia, Romania, and Sweden.

Abdouraguimov takes on Glismann in the co-main event of BRAVE CF 44

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Abdoul Abdouraguimov will look to continue his rise back to a title shot when he takes on Louis Glismann on the co-main event of BRAVE CF 44, which takes place on November 5th, once again in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

BRAVE CF will present Bahrain with two more spectacular cards this year coming in November. First up will be BRAVE CF 44 on November 5, which is set to be headlined by a highly-anticipated title fight between reigning Lightweight world champion Cleiton "Predator" and Amin "Fierceness" Ayoub. BRAVE CF will be co-hosted by an intriguing match up of two dominant ground specialists.

Abdoul Abdouraguimov was BRAVE CF's third Welterweight champion, winning the crown by de-feating Jarrah Al-Silawi, the current Welterweight titleholder. However, he lost the rematch against the Jordanian and lost his belt in the process. He recovered well from his first-ever pro defeat to quickly submitted Carl Booth in the main event of BRAVE CF 38, which took place last August.

"The Lazy King" will be eyeing a trilogy fight against Al-Silawi by dispatching Denmark's Louis Glismann. This will be no easy task as Glismann is in fine form and riding a sev-



en-fight winning streak. His last win, a second round victory over Henri Lintula at BRAVE CF 37 took his tally of submission wins to seven.

He will look for a claim to the title shot himself by beating a former champ. The fight be-

tween two worthy contenders for Al-Silawi is expected to be closely contested and exciting as both men have a strong background in grappling and have tremendously improved their stand-up games in the last few years.



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