

Maguire commits to Man Utd stay

Defender confirms club wants him to stay this season, despite ongoing speculation about future

● **Manager Amorim stalled transfers**

● **United triggered contract clause**

● **Maguire's contract ends next summer**

● **New signings impress United attack**

AFP | London



Maguire's £80m move from Leicester in 2019 remains the world record transfer fee for a defender, a title he still holds six years later

Harry Maguire believes it would be “silly” to leave Manchester United right now after revealing manager Ruben Amorim has stalled any summer transfer window moves for the defender.

The 32-year-old centre-back arrived at Old Trafford from Leicester in an £80 million (\$108 million) deal in 2019, signing a six-year contract with an option for a further season.

United triggered that clause at the turn of the year and have since made clear they want to hold onto the England interna-

tional this season, with Maguire yet to speak to the club about his future beyond this campaign.

“Last year was the clause in their hands so there was no option for me there,” Maguire said yesterday. “There was no talking. It was just they activated it and it got extended.

“This year, obviously I’m up at the end of the year. I’m pretty sure the club have made it aware this summer that I can’t leave the club on any terms with other clubs enquiring about my things and my position with my contract.”

Maguire added: “I’m sure over the next few months they’ll sit down, and we’ll have to have a conversation about where we want to go and if they want to extend or obviously the transfer window will open again in January.

“Obviously I have something in my mind about what I want to do and what I want to be.

“I don’t want to put it out there to everybody but it’s an amazing club to play for and you’d be silly if you wanted to jump out of it as soon as you could.”

‘In a good place’

United finished a lowly 15th in the Premier League last season after Amorim replaced the sacked Erik ten Hag, but Maguire believes the club are on the rise.

“We’re in a good place, positive as a club and I feel like the hierarchy has come in and Jason (Wilcox, director of football)

and the manager, I feel like they’re taking it in the right direction,” Maguire said.

“I think it’s, since I started six years ago to where it is now, in a completely different place in terms of the structure behind the management staff.”

Maguire says United are in “a lot better” place, with recent improvements clear in the

performance, albeit not the result, against Arsenal in Sunday’s Premier League opener.

Riccardo Calafiori’s early header eventually condemned United to a 1-0 defeat, but new signings Matheus Cunha and Bryan Mbeumo impressed in an attack that saw fellow recent arrival Benjamin Sesko join in the second half.

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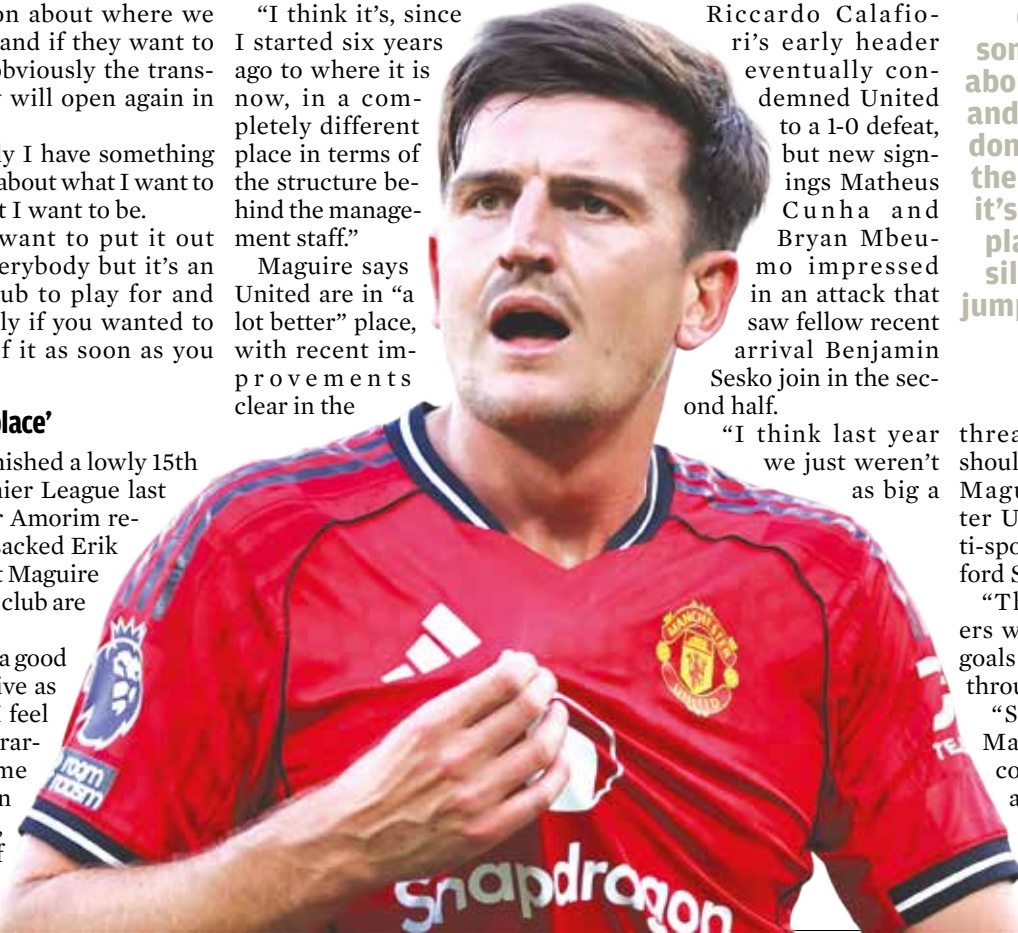
HARRY MAGUIRE

threat going forward as we should have been for this club,” Maguire said at Manchester United Foundation’s multi-sports holiday camp at Stretford Sports Village.

“This club demands players who create chances, score goals and that’s what it’s done throughout its history.

“So, I think Bryan and Matheus coming in, Sesko coming off the bench, these are players who have proven that they’re going to score goals and create chances.”

Harry Maguire



Bahrain Super Cup rescheduled for 29 August

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Super Cup for the 2024-25 season will take place on 29 August after being rescheduled by the Bahrain Football Association.

Al Ahli, winners of the King’s Cup, face league champions Al Khaldiya at Khalifa Sports City Stadium in Isa Town, with kick-off at 7pm. The match had originally been slated for 30 August.

It will be the first of two Super Cups this season. A second, for the 2025-26 campaign, is set for 12 December, when Khaldiya



meet Muharraq.

Last year’s Super Cup was not played, but returns this season as the traditional curtain-raiser to the domestic calendar.

The new campaign officially begins in September, with youth competitions starting on 1 September, the Nasser bin Hamad Premier League on 11 September, and the Second Division on 15 October. The King’s Cup kicks off on 10 January, followed by the Khalid bin Hamad Cup on 21 January, with all competitions concluding by 31 May.

Bournemouth sign ‘proven winner’ Adli from Leverkusen

AFP | London

Moroccan international Amine Adli was hailed as a “proven winner” after he signed for Premier League side Bournemouth from German outfit Bayer Leverkusen yesterday.

The 25-year-old, who was a key player in Leverkusen’s unbeaten campaign as they achieved the domestic double in the 2023/24 season, signed a five year contract for a reported fee of £25.1 million (\$34 million).

“We’re thrilled to bring a player of such calibre to AFC Bournemouth,” said Bournemouth’s director of football Tiago Pinto in a statement on the club’s website.

“Amine is a proven winner and someone that will be a real asset to our squad.

“He’s entering the prime of his career and I’m really excited to bring him to the club.”

France-born Adli, who scored nine goals in Leverkusen’s double-winning campaign and also featured in the 2024 Europa League final loss to Atalanta, said it was the atmosphere at Bournemouth that persuaded him to sign for them.

“I was looking at my next move and I felt like

Bournemouth was the perfect place for me,” he said.

“The people around give me a lot of confidence here and I’m very impressed with the facilities.

“The people at the club are full of love, so I’m very happy and proud to play for Bournemouth and hopefully achieve good things.”

Adli, who is the latest star from Leverkusen’s 2023/24 side to leave this summer, becomes the second signing of the week for the club, after Ben Gannon-Doak arrived on Monday from Liverpool.

Adli will join up with the side ahead of their second league match of the season, home to Wolves on Saturday having lost 4-2 to champions Liverpool last Friday.

The pair join Adrien Truffert, Dorde Petrovic and Bafode Diakite as new additions this window, with Eli Junior Kroupi also with the squad for the first time.



Amine Adli

Suarez fills Messi void as Inter Miami beat Tigres 2-1

AFP | Miami

Luis Suarez scored a penalty in each half to give Inter Miami a 2-1 victory over Tigres UANL on Wednesday, stepping up to fill the void after Lionel Messi was ruled out of the Leagues Cup quarter-final clash.

Messi, who has battled a “minor” muscle injury since a Leagues Cup group match on August 2, re-turned Saturday after a two-week absence, scoring a goal after coming on as a substitute in a 3-1 win over the Los Angeles Galaxy.

However, the 38-year-old World Cup winner was ruled out against Tigres as Inter advanced in the cross-border club competition for teams from Major League Soccer and Mexico’s Liga-MX.

In a duel that produced few scoring chances, veteran Uruguay striker Suarez was the difference as In-ter kept alive their



Luis Suarez of Inter Miami CF takes a penalty and scores the team’s second goal hopes of regaining the title they won in 2023, during Messi’s first season in MLS.

Things swung Miami’s way in the 20th minute when Javier Aquino slid to intercept a cross and the ball hit his left arm in the area.

The referee awarded the pen-

alty and the 38-year-old Suarez converted.

Tempers flared, with Suarez moving to calm things down after Miami teammate Rodrigo De Paul and Uruguayan compatriot Fernando Gorriaran exchanged words.

Inter coach Javier Mascher-

ano was sent off at half time, receiving a red card for heated protestations to officials after injury time dragged on past what had been indicated.

Mascherano watched from a front row of the stands when Tigres grabbed their equalizer in the 67th minute, Angel Correa slipping between two defenders and beating Miami keeper Oscar Ustari.

Another handball by Aquino in the 87th minute, confirmed by VAR, gave Miami another penalty and Suarez converted again, this time going to left as goalkeeper Nahuel Guzman dived in the opposite di-rection.

Miami’s game with Tigres was one of four Leagues Cup quarter-finals set for Wednesday.

Mexico’s Toluca face Orlando City before Los Angeles Galaxy host Pachuca, while the Seattle Sounders take on Puebla at home.

There’s more at stake than the Leagues Cup trophy.