

Gayle-Mandeep duo takes Punjab to top four in IPL



Chris Gayle of Kings XI Punjab plays a shot

PTI | Dubai

Chris Gayle channelised his inner anger while Mandeep Singh played through immense personal grief as they conjured to script another chapter in a beautiful comeback story for Kings XI Punjab which beat Kolkata Knight Riders by eight wickets in the IPL yesterday.

Chasing a target of 150, KXIP achieved the target in 18.5 overs losing only two wickets as they have now won their fifth successive match to keep play-off hopes alive.

Gayle, who was overlooked and was also ill during the first phase showed why he is the 'Universe Boss' during his innings of 51 off 29 balls with

five sixes. Mandeep, who is grieving the loss of his father, anchored the chase with an unbeaten 66 off 56 balls as the duo added 100 runs in 10.1 overs.

Such was the effect of Gayle-storm that it rubbed off on Mandeep (8x4, 2x6) who also completed a splendid sixth IPL half-century.

The duo added 100 runs from 61 balls to take them home with seven balls to spare.

KXIP's dream run of five wins on the bounce not only took them to top-four but also opened up the table before the penultimate round.

KKR slipped to fifth with 12 points from 12 matches as with a negative run rate of (-0.479) things have become more difficult to make the last-four.

Busaiteen keep spot in Bahrain premier league

Despite 0-1 loss to Bahrain Club, Busaiteen remain in top flight with 4-2 aggregate victory

● **Busaiteen are now set to compete in next season's premier league, which is scheduled to kick off in December**

TDT | Manama

Busaiteen kept their place in the Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League for the 2020/2021 season despite a 0-1 loss last night to Bahrain Club, who remained in the second division.

Yesterday's clash was the second-leg of their play-off match-up, which ended 4-2 on aggregate in favour of Busaiteen, who won the first-leg 4-1.

Nigerian left-winger Agbomere Victory Omodiagbe scored the match's lone goal for Bahrain Club, firing in from the penalty spot in the 65th minute.



Action from last night's match

Omodiagbe stepped up to take the spot kick after Brazilian teammate Guilherme Da Silva was brought down in the box.

Busaiteen are now set to compete in next season's premier league, which is scheduled to kick off in December.

The other teams are champions Hidd, Muharraq, Riffa,

Al Najma, East Riffa, Manama, and Al Ahli, as well as promoted sides Malkiya and Budaiya.

Bahrain Club stay in the Second Division, into which Al Shabab and Al Hala have been relegated after finishing as the bottom two clubs in the recently concluded 2019/2020 campaign.

National team kick off local training

Bahrain's senior men's national football team come together this evening for training in their first group activity in months.

The nationals will be practising locally under the supervision of head coach Helio Sousa before flying out to Dubai on Sunday for an overseas training camp, to be held until November 17.

The camp is part of their preparations for their remaining qualifying matches for the 2022

FIFA World Cup and the 2023 AFC Asian Cup.

Today, the Bahrainis' first session will kick off at 5.30pm at it will be held at the Al Ahli Club stadium in Zinj.

Sousa has named a 26-player squad for this period of training.

Manchester City 'ready to win Champions League', says Villas-Boas

AFP | London

Marseille coach Andre Villas-Boas said yesterday Manchester City are "a machine ready to win the Champions League", on the eve of the two teams' group-stage meeting.

City have never reached the Champions League final and are yet to even reach the



Andre Villas-Boas

semi-finals in four attempts under Pep Guardiola.

"(City) are a machine ready to win the Champions League," said Villas-Boas. "They may not be at their best level, their coach admitted that.

"That's why I allow myself to say that, but they are still at a higher level than us and remain the favourites (Tuesday)."

Bayern's Mueller says Champions League is 'our competition'

AFP | Munich

Bayern Munich forward Thomas Mueller said yesterday the Champions League holders are "happy to be playing in our competition again" ahead of their group-stage game at Lokomotiv Moscow.

Bayern visit the Russian capital on Tuesday looking to build on a 4-0 thrashing of Atletico Madrid in last week's Group A opener.

"We're happy to be playing in our competition again," Mueller told a pre-match press conference.

"We want to continue the flow we currently find ourselves in.

"We're confident, the team is in form, the omens are positive."

Bayern, who have won their last six matches in all competitions, have reached the

Champions League knockout stage in each of the last 12 seasons.

"Bayern are always among the favourites, we are always in the mix in spring," added Mueller, who has won the European Cup twice with the Bavarian giants.

"At the moment, we feel very, very strong, but that won't help us in March and April when it comes to the knockout stage. However, I have faith in the club and the team."

Lokomotiv had to settle for a 2-2 draw at Salzburg last week before suffering a shock defeat in the Russian Premier League by Rotor Volgograd.

But Bayern boss

Thomas Mueller said: "At the moment, we feel very, very strong, but that won't help us in March and April when it comes to the knockout stage. However, I have faith in the club and the team"

Hansi Flick warned his side not to be complacent against a team who finished bottom of their group last season and in the 2018-19 campaign.

"(Lokomotiv) are one of the most in-form teams in the Russian league," he said.

"They have conceded the fewest goals and have some great attacking players in (Fedor) Smolov and Eder. We need to stay alert and focused."

Lokomotiv coach Marko Nikolic said his side would go into the game with a point to prove.



Thomas Mueller





Department of Orthopedics



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