

# Juve beat relegated Venezia to secure Champions League spot

AFP, MILAN: Juventus qualified for the Champions League on Sunday, beating relegated Venezia 3-2 to pip Roma, 2-0 winners at Torino, to Serie A's final spot by a single point.

## SERIE A

Manuel Locatelli's penalty in the 73rd minute won an exciting contest on the Venice Lagoon and secured Juve fourth place on the final day of an eventful season.

Tudor, who took over from sacked Thiago Motta in March, said his fate would be made public before the upcoming Club World Cup which starts next month.

Juve looked set for a straightforward win when quickfire goals from Kenan Yildiz and Randal Kolo Muani put them ahead on the half-hour, after they had fallen behind to Daniel Fila's strike in the second minute.

But Ridgiciano Haps



Manuel Locatelli celebrates a goal during Juventus' 3-2 vital Serie A victory over Venezia

gave Venezia, who had to win to have any chance of staying up, hope of survival nine minutes after the break and put Roma briefly fourth.

Claudio Ranieri's Roma were two goals ahead at that point through a Leandro Paredes penalty in

the 18th minute and Alexis Saelemaekers' header seven minutes after the break, with fans of the capital club hoping Venezia would hold out.

However, Locatelli calmly stroked Juve back into the lead and into Europe's top club competition after Francisco Conceicao was

## RESULTS

**Atalanta 2** (Maldini 32, 33) **Parma 3** (Hainaut 49, Ondrejka 71, 90+1); **Empoli 1** (Fazzini 43) **Verona 2** (Serdar 4, Bradic 69); **Lazio 0** **Lecce 1** (Coulbaly 43); **Torino 0** **Roma 2** (Paredes 18-pen, Saelemaekers 53); **Udinese 2** (Lucca 26, Kabasele 61) **Fiorentina 3** (Fagioli 46, Comuzzo 57, Kean 82); **Venezia 2** (Fila 2, Haps 55) **Juventus 3** (Yildiz 25, Kolo Muani 31, Locatelli 73-pen)

clumsily brought down in the penalty area by Hans Nicolussi Caviglia.

Ranieri ended his coaching career just missing out on giving Roma their first Champions League qualification since 2018, after dragging his boyhood club up from near the relegation spots following his second return in November.

Como's Cesc Fabregas and Gian Piero Gasperini, whose third-placed Atalanta lost 3-2 at home to Parma, are the most commonly reported names cited as Ranieri's successor.

A Europa League place

is still some achievement for Roma given where they were when Ranieri arrived, especially with local rivals Lazio not having any European football next season after losing 1-0 at home to Lecce, who stayed up.

Lazio dropped out of the European places with their defeat at the Stadio Olimpico and Fiorentina claimed the UEFA Conference League spot with a 3-2 victory over Udinese.

Venezia meanwhile join bottom club Monza and Empoli, 2-1 losers at home to relegation rivals Verona, in Serie B.

## Mbappe adds a little lustre to Real season with Golden Shoe

AFP, MADRID: Real Madrid may have won no trophies, but their French Galactico Kylian Mbappe ended his first season in Spain by collecting two individual scoring awards: the European Golden Shoe and the award for top scorer in La Liga.

Mbappe scored twice in Real Madrid's final league game on Saturday to overtake Viktor Gyokeres, whose league season at Sporting Lisbon ended the previous week, at the top of the weighted table which counts only league goals.

Mbappe ended with 31 league goals as he became the third Real Madrid player to win the award, after Mexicans Hugo Sanchez (1989-1990) and Cristiano Ronaldo (2010-2011, 2013-2014, 2014-2015).

Mohammed Salah, who needed a hat-trick in English champions Liverpool's last league game, scored once to finish third with 29 goals.

## Sporting beat Benfica in cup final to complete double

AFP, LISBON: Sporting Lisbon defeated rivals Benfica 3-1 to claim the Portuguese Cup on Sunday and complete an impressive double after edging out the same opponent on the final day of the league season.

## PORTUGUESE CUP

Rui Borges' side forced extra-time with in-form striker Viktor Gyokeres' penalty in the 11th minute of stoppage time after Orkun Kokcu sent Benfica ahead in the 47th minute.

Conrad Harder fired Sporting in front after 99 minutes and Francisco Trincao wrapped up the win at the death against their Lisbon rivals.

Sporting's season was almost derailed when coach Ruben Amorim left to join Manchester United in November and his successor Joao Pereira struggled to get the team firing.

Little over a month later

Borges came in and steadied the ship, taking the team to a second successive Portuguese crown before making it a double.

"We almost lost but in the last minute (we saved it), only a great team can do this," Sporting midfielder Morten Hjulmand told Sport TV.

"It's an honour to be part of this team, I really enjoy it."

In the 2024 final, Sporting were beaten by Porto and Hjulmand was happy to rectify that this time around.

"We weren't completely satisfied last year, we were left with a bit of an empty feeling but now the cup is ours and we want to celebrate," he said.

It may be the last game Gyokeres plays for the club, with the 26-year-old striker in-demand among Europe's top clubs after an excellent season, in which he scored 54 goals across all competitions.

# Jeshua to represent India at 2025 FISU World University Games

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PANJIM: Goa's basketball pride, Jeshua dos Remedios Pinto of Naikavaddo-Calangute, has earned a spot in the Indian University basketball team for the upcoming FISU World University Games 2025, scheduled to be held in Rhine-Ruhr, Germany, from July 16 to 27. A consistent performer on both State and national platforms, Jeshua has firmly established himself as one of Goa's premier basketball talents over the past few years.

The dynamic basketballer has been a key figure in Goa's basketball scene, having led Lourdes Basketball Club to three consecutive State Basketball Championship titles. Jeshua, who captained Goa at the Senior Nationals last season, currently represents the University of Kota, Rajasthan, and has been making waves in university-level basketball across the country. His impressive list of recent achievements includes: Gold medal at the Khelo India University Games



Jeshua being felicitated by Basketball Federation of India Treasurer T Chengalraya Naidu during the GBA AGM on Sunday

2023; silver medal at the All India University 3x3 Basketball Championship 2024; Selected to play for the Delhi Dribblers in the inaugural INBL U-25 League 2025 (Indian National Basketball League)

"Jeshua's selection to represent India at the FISU World University Games, one of the most prestigious global multi-sport events for student-athletes, is a fitting reward for years of dedication, discipline, and

performance," remarked Parind Nacinolkar, the GBA secretary.

"This proud moment is not just a personal triumph for Jeshua, his mother and coach Helen, and their family, but also a powerful source of inspiration for countless young Goan athletes aspiring to leave their mark on the national and international stage," observed Shane Dias, President of the Goa Basketball Association.

## Colaco brace sends Snobs Football Academy into final

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RAIA: Snobs Football Academy secured a 2-0 victory over Football Club Tuem to book their place in the final of the GFA Under-17 Second Division all-Goa tournament, at the Raia panchayat ground.

Francis Colaco of Snobs Football Academy had an early chance to open the scoring in the 12th minute, but his effort was denied by the FC Tuem goalkeeper. FC Tuem's Deepraj Dattu Naik also came close, narrowly missing the target.

Colaco made no mistake three minutes later, netting Snobs' first goal in the 15th minute. He doubled the lead in the 30th minute with another clinical finish, sealing a place in the final for his side.

## Barca sign off in style at Athletic

AFP, BILBAO: La Liga champions Barcelona celebrated a successful season with a 3-0 win at Athletic Bilbao on Sunday in their final match, with Robert Lewandowski netting twice to pass his 100 goal milestone for the club.

## LA LIGA

The veteran Polish forward, 36, reached 27 league goals for the season, although he finished behind Real Madrid's Kylian Mbappe on 31.

Barcelona wrapped up a domestic treble with Copa del Rey and Spanish Super Cups wins, while fourth-place Athletic also had a fine season and returned to the Champions League for the first time in 11 years.

Athletic defender Oscar de Marcos made his 570th and final appearance for the club, behind only Jose Angel Iribar, a goalkeeper

RESULTS	
<b>Girona 0</b>	<b>Athletic Madrid 4</b> (Sorloth 68, 90, 90+3, Lenglet 87); <b>Villarreal 4</b> (Pino 4, Gueye 8, 53, Baena 39) <b>Sevilla 2</b> (Sow 29, Martinez 85); <b>Athletic Bilbao 0</b>
<b>Barcelona 3</b>	(Lewandowski 14, 17, Olmo 90+4-pen)

who played 614 times in the 1960s and 70s, in the club's history.

proud to be part of this team, this club, it's been something amazing," Lewandowski told Barca One.

## OL Fatima SC down Dragon FC

RAIA: Our Lady of Fatima Sports Club, Baida-Chinchinim, booked their place in the semi-finals of the 5th all-Goa 8-a-side football tournament after a dramatic 8-7 victory over Dragon FC, Margao, via the tie-breaker, organised by Davorlim SCC and played at Laymati football ground, Davorlim.

The match ended in a 3-3 draw at full time. Dragon FC, Margao, scored through Hanshlum Furtado, Shubert Colaco and Royston in the 10th, 15th, and 57th minutes respectively. Our Lady of Fatima SC responded with goals from Larson (35th), Sario (44th) and Valrose (50th).

In the ensuing penalty shootout, Our Lady of Fatima SC proved to be the more accurate side, edging out Dragon FC.

## Vallankanni Boys champions



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PANJIM: Vallankanni Boys, Calangute, emerged champions of the 3rd all-Goa 7-a-side football tournament after a narrow 3-2 win over Balero Boys, Mandapa, via a tie-breaker. The tournament was organised by Holy Cross Chauder, Cortalim, in memory of the late Allwyn Mendes and Milroy

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS	
■ Best goalkeeper of the final: Mohammad	
■ Best player of the tournament: Ronaldo	
■ Player of the final: Jordan	

Lucas.

The final ended goalless at the end of regulation time, sending the match into penalties, where Vallankanni Boys held their nerve to secure the title.

The chief guest, Shailesh S Naik, along with Cortalim Sarpanch Ujwala R Naik, Agnel Mendes, Nestad Mendes, and Olinda, presented the prizes to the winners and individual awardees.

## Raia Sporting edge past Candolim

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MAPUSA: Raia Sporting Club registered a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Candolim SC, to enter the semi-finals of Calangute Panchayat Cup 2025, held in memory of Late Rev Fr Conceicao D'Silva and organised by St Savio Sports Club, Calangute. The entertaining encounter was played at Poriat ground on Monday.

Both sides displayed attacking intent, thrilling spectators with five goals over the course of the match.

Raia Sporting opened the scoring in the 15th minute through Leran Dais. However, their lead was short-lived, as Nikhil Naik equalised for Candolim SC just

## CALANGUTE PANCHAYAT CUP

five minutes later.

Candolim SC then went ahead in the 38th minute thanks to a well-timed header from Sanket Jotkar. Raia Sporting drew level again in the 50th minute, when Velito Cruz converted from the penalty spot to make it 2-2.

The decisive goal came in the 57th minute, once again from Velito Cruz, whose second strike of the match sealed the win for Raia Sporting.

Raia Sporting will now face Salgaon Sporting in the second semi-final on May 29.

Velroy Borges of Raia Sporting was awarded man-of-the-match trophy.

## Fondegal Youth advance to semi-finals with narrow win

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RAIA: Fondegal Youth Club edged past Piedadigal Football Club, 1-0, to enter the final of the 2025 Fondegal Youth Club 9-a-side inter-ward football tournament, at St Alex Church ground, Curtorim.

Aleeward Mascarenhas made multiple attempts for Fondegal, while Anthony Bogot missed several chances for Piedadigal.

The breakthrough came



tough and physical play from both teams, with neither side able to add to the scoreline. Frazer Fernandes of Piedadigal had a clear opportunity to equalise, while Mascarenhas later made a solo run through the defence but was unable

to finish.

The tightly-contested encounter ended 1-0 in favour of Fondegal Youth Club, who reached the finals after many years.

Alvito Fernandes of Piedadigal Football Club was adjudged man-of-the-match.

## Maina SC book semi-final spot after 5-4 tie-break win

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RAIA: Maina Sports Club progressed to the semi-finals of the 1st Late Antonio Colaco Memorial football tournament, organised by Mandapa Sports Club, after a dramatic 5-4 win over CAC Cansaulim via the tie-breaker, at Rosary Church ground, Navelim.

Rio Rodrigues opened the scoring for Cansaulim in the 13th minute, before Anselm Fernandes equalised for Maina SC four minutes later. With the match locked at 1-1 at full time, the contest was decided by penalties.

Maina found the net



via Rhay Dias, Jovial Martins, Joywin Carneiro and Savio Peixeto, while Cansaulim converted through Rio Rodrigues, Jesus D'Sa and Melwyn Gama.

Rio Rodrigues of CAC Cansaulim was presented man-of-the-match award by Richard Costa.

## TODAY'S SPORTS

**5th All Goa 8-a-side football tournament:** Spring Boys Modi-Navelim vs SFX Boys Chicalim, at Laymati ground, Davorlim, at 4.30 pm

**Fondegal Youth Club 9-a-side interward football tournament:** SFX Sports Club Camarxete vs Cumborda Sports Club, at St Alex Church ground, Curtorim-Salcete, at 5 pm

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