Messi unlikely to make PSG debut this weekend against Strasbourg

FOOTBALL

We know how difficult the Champions League is but Paris know that too — they have come very close in recent years but it is a competition in which the best teams always win. 

MMANIA

PSG are reportedly paying 18m euros (£16m) a year to Messi, who will wear the number 30 jersey – the number that was already taken by Neymar at the club. 

Yesterday, he appeared unwell as he stepped, immediately turned out, to talk to media, although he did seem slightly unsteady at times, not least when one member of the audience started to ask him.
Anderson a new injury scare for England, Broad is ruled out for summer

Anderson missed training session at Lord's yesterday (leg injury) will require two months off for Broad

England go into Thursday's second Test against India at Lord's with the loss of fast bowler James Anderson, who was ruled out due to a leg injury sustained in the first Test. India, on the other hand, have three visitors: Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, and Cheteshwar Pujara. The match is played in a day-night format and is expected to be a tough one for both teams.

In the previous Test at Old Trafford, Anderson sustained the injury while attempting to make a play against a shot from Rohit Sharma. He was taken off the field and did not return to bowl in the remainder of the match. After consulting with the team's medical staff, it was decided that he should not play in the second Test and will miss the ongoing England vs India series as well.

The loss of Anderson is a significant blow to England's bowling attack, as he is one of the most consistent and reliable bowlers in the team. His absence will put additional pressure on the other fast bowlers, such as Stuart Broad and Jimmy Anderson, to perform well.

India, on the other hand, will be hoping to continue their good form after winning the first Test. Their bowlers, particularly Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammad Shami, have been in good form and will be looking to repeat their performances in the second Test.

The day-night Test format is expected to add an extra dimension to the game, with the changing conditions and lighting affecting the way the ball moves. Both teams will be looking to use these conditions to their advantage.

Overall, it is a crucial match for both teams, with the winner likely to have a clear advantage heading into the remaining Tests of the series.
Injury fells Nadal as top seed Medvedev wins in Toronto

Russian top seed beats Bublik in three sets while Tsitsipas outlasts Humbert

AFP Toronto Canada

A

magnificent left-foot injury forced Rafael Nadal out of the ATP Toronto Masters on Sunday as top seed Daniil Medvedev rallied to reach the final.

Nadal, a five-time champion in Canada, had pulled out of the Cincinnati Masters due to a knee injury suffered in his quarter-final defeat from the Cincinnati Masters. Organisers said, cutting further doubt on his fitness for the US Open.

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"I had to take a decision to stop. I still had a lot of pain in my knee," he said. "I'm still hurt and it's not normal to play the way I played, but I think the doctor allowed me to play.

"I was not playing well before the ratio," he said. "I was not feeling well and it was normal to leave the court."

Nadal, who was playing in his 26th Masters event, signed off with another loss in the Canadian capital.

"I won this week without my best level," he said. "It was not easy to start, but I'm happy to be in the final and to have a chance to win another title here.

"I'm not sure yet, but I have to take a decision," he said. "I will not say too much today, but I think it was the right decision."

"The second set was not good but could have been even worse," he said. "I was not thinking too much about it, but I just wanted to win and get some rest for my body.

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Nadal, who has been suspended for 28 days in quarantine, said he will leave the tournament in Toronto and will not play in the US Open. He will instead focus on recovering for the upcoming US Open.
**FOOTBALL**

Nagelsmann under pressure to land Bayern's 10th straight league title

Bayern Munich head coach Julian Nagelsmann

A 2-1 draw against Ajax in the Champions League last month, his third in four games, may have given Julian Nagelsmann some breathing space. The Bavarians are still 10 points behind leaders Borussia Dortmund, but the young coach has found a way to keep the pressure on his rivals in the Bundesliga.

Bayern Munich has not won a Bundesliga title since 2012/13, and Nagelsmann is under pressure to deliver. The team has won two Bundesliga titles in the past two seasons, but Nagelsmann has yet to lift a major trophy as a manager.

The coach’s pressure is due to the high expectations at Bayern, a club that has won 30 Bundesliga titles and 10 Champions League trophies. Nagelsmann, who took over the team in 2019, has not won a major trophy as a manager.

The young coach has been praised for his tactical acumen and his ability to motivate his players, but he knows that Bayern Munich fans expect nothing less than the best.

Nagelsmann’s task is made more difficult by the absence of star players like Robert Lewandowski and Manuel Neuer, who are away on international duty. The coach will have to find a way to win without his best players.

Nagelsmann has won 10 of his 13 games in charge, but he knows that Bayern Munich fans will not be satisfied until they see a major trophy.

“I know that Bayern Munich fans expect a lot from me, and I understand their expectations,” Nagelsmann said. “But I am confident that we can deliver. We have a strong squad and we are working hard to win.”