

UEFA Champions League completes third round of matches

Nathan McMahon
SPORTS EDITOR

The UEFA Champions League completed its third round of group stage matches with just three more matches to go until the knockout stages. In Group A, Manchester United is undefeated and atop the group with seven points after a quality 1-0 victory over Real Sociedad. The Reds have benefited from a relatively easy group and should advance out of the group stage.

Bayer Leverkusen trails United by just one point and is also attempting to replicate the success of other German clubs and advance in the tournament. Group B has Real Madrid five

points clear with nine points at the top of the group behind the world class play of Cristiano Ronaldo and his tournament leading seven goals. This puts his 58 Champions League at third all-time which is six behind Lionel Messi's record 63 goals.

Group C also has a clear front runner in Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) led by Zlatan Ibrahimovic, whom many consider the top striker in the world at this time. PSG now sits at nine points after 5-0 battering of Anderlecht and were paced by Ibrahimovic's four goals. Ibrahimovic's performance has placed him in the running for a Ballon d'Or along with Messi and Ronaldo. Olympiakos and Benfica are tied with four points each to earn the second spot in the group and advance.

Group D also has a perfect team in Bayern Munich with nine points and are trailed by Manchester City with six points. Bayern are looking much like PSG as favorites to reach the finals with their current form.

However, Group E, one of the tighter groups where Chelsea and Schalke are tied with six points for the top spot and followed closely by Basel with four points. Chelsea most recently beat Schalke in a dominating 3-0 win behind a pair of goals from Fernando Torres who is continuing his tournament goal scoring form from last season. Even more closely contested than Group E is Group F where Arsenal, Borussia Dortmund, and Napoli all have six points midway through the group stage. Dortmund most recently topped Arsenal with

a 2-1 win to draw even in the standings.

Atletico Madrid has not missed a step this season since selling striker Radamel Falcao and is on top of Group G with nine points followed by Zenit St. Petersburg with four points. Group H is one the toughest group in the tournament with Barcelona leading the group with seven points followed by AC Milan with five, Celtic with three, and Ajax with one.

One of the top games so far of the tournament was the 1-1 draw between Barcelona and AC Milan that saw goals from Robinho and the stellar play of Kaká for AC Milan and a goal for Messi to add to his own goal scoring record. These two teams on paper appear to be the most likely to advance out of this highly competitive group.

Men's XC depends on teamwork towards end of season

Phillip Cano
TECHNEWS WRITER

Running is not just running; it's a way of life. Practices are not just practices; they are daily lessons in life. Because for a runner, it's what you become along the way that is most meaningful. In cross-country, a team is considered victorious when everyone believes in each other and holds faith in their training and coaches. It takes everybody to be

successful. Just knowing in your head that your teammates are fighting on the same battlefield allows you to trust in something greater than yourself. And this enables you to freely run your best performance.

It was a beautiful morning for racing. The fresh air was plentiful and the grassy golf course felt soft on your feet. It was only one week ago that the Illinois Tech Cross Country teams traveled to Winneconne, Wisconsin to compete in the UW-Oshkosh Brooks

Invitational. Leading the Scarlet Hawks was Samuel Wietdispach, who ran a solid effort of 27:32 over the 8 km course. Next up was the dynamic duo of Seniors Phillip Cano and Andrew Montague who crossed the finish line in the same time of 27:52, scoring 177 and 179 points.

Landon Vowels and Ethan Montague rounded out the Top Five for Illinois Tech finishing in 187th and 208th.

Overall, IIT collected a 31st place

finish out of 37 total teams. The team that won the meet was NCAA DIII North Central College scoring as little as 33 points.

They are ranked #1 going into the post-season, but still had to fight off 2nd place Washington University of Saint Louis (64 points) and 3rd place UW-Eau Claire (133 points).

IIT's next and last cross country meet will be the CCAC Conference Championship on November 9 in Valparaiso, Indiana.



Photos by Phillip Cano

Men's soccer falls short on special senior celebration

Bart Grabowski
TECHNEWS WRITER

The Scarlet Hawks looked to rebound against conference foes, Trinity International, on a frigid Tuesday night. The Hawks were also honoring their three seniors: Robert Rixer, Nordine Amlaiky, and Jorge Salas-Moreno, as they looked to earn the Illinois Tech their fourth conference win of the season.

The first half began with the Hawks controlling most of the game and keeping Trinity on more of the defensive side. Illinois Tech

struggled to finish early scoring opportunities, but remained positive in their relentless attacking pressure.

The first half proved to be the Scarlet Hawks best defensive half of the season as they limited Trinity International to just three shots. The first half ended in a scoreless campaign and the Hawks accumulating a total of three shots.

At halftime, the Hawks congratulated their three seniors as their season dwindles to just five games. Robert Rixer, senior, hopes to continue his career in Civil Engineering. Nordine Amlaiky intends to pursue his Business

Administration degree, and so does Jorge Salas-Moreno.

On behalf of the Men's Soccer Team, we would like to thank all the seniors for what they have done for the team.

The Scarlet Hawks looked to keep their first-half momentum going and earn a win for their seniors. The second half provided a fluctuation of activity from the offensive side for Trinity International.

Trinity scored the game's first goal in the 60th minute from a volley by goal scorer Joseph Sanborn. Minutes later, the Hawks saw

themselves facing a 2-0 deficit with just under 20 minutes remaining. Illinois Tech clawed their way back into the game with a beautifully assisted ball from Brandon Ramirez to Nordine Amlaiky, to cut the lead to 2-1.

However, a late goal was by Trinity was the difference in the game as the Hawks lost 3-1.

Illinois Tech is now 5-6-3 overall and 3-4-1 in conference play. They look to bounce back as they face rivals Saint Xavier University and Calumet College of St. Joseph in the coming weeks.

Women's soccer defeated on home turf

Veronica Torres
TECHNEWS WRITER

The Women's Soccer team returned to action at home for two straight games taking on nationally ranked Judson College and Trinity International University. Both matches resulted in a loss for the Lady Hawks; however the scores did not reflect their performance.

The game against Judson started on the defensive side for the Hawks as they absorbed several waves of attack from the

Eagles. The Tech backline held strong, limiting the visiting side to only one goal in the first stanza.

Recognizing the opportunity to go on the offensive and equalize, the Hawks pushed for some attack in the second half. They began to find their rhythm, catching Judson on their heels and putting the Eagle defense to the test.

Despite their efforts, the Scarlet Hawks were unable to find the back of the net and the visitors capitalized on their counter attacks. Judson sealed their victory finding

the net three more times to end the match 4-0.

Later in the week, the Hawks matched up against the Trinity International University Trojans. The game began fairly even with both teams finding opportunities to go to goal.

However, a 10-minute span of disorganization found IIT down three goals. Even with the lopsided score, the game was not out of reach for the Hawks.

The home side had two break away opportunities when Adrianna Maron and Anida Phetchanpheng each found themselves

free, past the Trojan defense with only the keeper left to beat. Unfortunately, the Hawks were unable to put it away and punish them, leaving the score 3-0 at half time.

The second frame looked optimistic when Kristen Barrett curled in a free kick from the left side of the field into the back post. But Trinity International still proved to be too much for the home side as they were able to strike two more times in the half.

Illinois Tech looks to bounce back when they head to Olivet Nazarene University to take on the 16th ranked Tigers.