

# TODAY'S SPORTS

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**04** Upbeat Bucaspor continues to set pace in Bank Asya League 1

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**03** Giant men become midgets during Efes Cup basketball tournament

## CANARIES SHOW STAYING POWER



OKAN UDO BASSEY, İSTANBUL

The never-say-die Fenerbahçe Yellow Canaries overcame all odds to beat newcomer Manisaspor 2-1 in their Turkcell Super League week four match at the FB Şükrü Saracoğlu Stadium in İstanbul on Sunday night. After a tight first half that produced no goals and little excitement, the game came to life in the second with both sides trying to outwit each other for the opening goal -- but no goal was forthcoming.

Then came the 75th minute and the Canaries must have thought the sky had fallen on their heads after attacking midfielder Emre got a direct red from referee Tolga Özkalfa -- most likely for using profane language. Reduced to 10 men, the Canaries showed staying power and turned their disadvantage into advantage. And four minutes after the dismissal of Emre, Spanish striker Dani Güiza scored to put the Canaries one goal up. The lanky Spaniard, capitalizing on a superb pass by captain-playmaker Alex De Souza, slotted the ball past Manisaspor's İlker Avcıbay into the bottom right hand corner.

Manisaspor, using a one-man advantage, threw everything it had at the Canaries and was rewarded in the 86th minute when Ergin Keleş tapped a perfect pass from Yiğit Gököğlan into the back of the Fenerbahçe net. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 03**



Besiktas coach Mustafa Denizli

PHOTO: DALI UNAL

## COACHES ARE THERE TO RIGHT WRONGS, NOT TO CRY OR COMPLAIN

OKAN UDO BASSEY, İSTANBUL

"We are not playing badly, but the problem is that we lack the killer punch," Besiktas coach Mustafa Denizli said after his team's 0-0 draw with Gaziantepspor in their week four Turkcell Super League match on Friday night.

The draw, the Besiktas Black Eagles' third in four outings, means all is not well at the İstanbul club. The Black Eagles, who arrogantly swept opponents aside on their way to clinching the domestic league and cup double last season, are unrecognizable this season. In preseason they played four warm-up matches, drew three and lost one -- against the Fenerbahçe Yellow Canaries in the Turkish Super Cup. In the league they have won one and drawn three so far. And no matter what Denizli says, no one associated with the beloved Besiktas is smiling anymore because things are falling apart and the center cannot hold. Under these circumstances, the coach's job is not to cry or complain, but to right wrongs. If the Black Eagles lack the killer punch, give them that killer punch -- it's that simple.

So what has gone wrong at Besiktas? Virtually everything. The transfer policy was wrong because it was a policy of buying for buying's sake. The Eagles acquired Nihat Kahveci (from Villarreal), İsmail Köybaşı (Gaziantepspor), Rıdvan Şimşek (Karşıyaka), Michael Fink (Eintracht Frankfurt) and Erhan Güven (Ankaraspor), but none of these new players have proven their worth. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 03**

### THE BEST AND THE WORST OF WEEK 4

Team of the week:.....Gençlerbirliği  
Player of the week:.....Thierry Tazemetta (Diyarbakırspor)  
Goal of the week:.....Semih Sentürk (Fenerbahçe)  
Referee of the week:.....Abdullah Yılmaz (Pasa-Gençler)  
Coach of the week:.....Ziya Doğan (Diyarbakırspor)  
Surprise team of the week:.....Kayserispor  
Flop of the week:.....Sivasspor

### TURKCELL SUPER LEAGUE STANDINGS

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Fenerbahçe	4	4	0	0	10	2	12
Galatasaray	3	3	0	0	11	4	9
Eskişehirspor	4	2	2	0	5	3	8
Diyarbakırspor	4	2	1	1	7	6	7
Bursaspor	4	2	1	1	6	5	7
Gençlerbirliği	4	1	3	0	5	1	6
Büyükşehir Bld.	4	1	3	0	6	4	6
Besiktas	4	1	3	0	3	1	6
Ankaraspor	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
Kayserispor	4	1	2	1	5	5	5
Manisaspor	4	1	2	1	3	3	5
Trabzonspor	4	1	1	2	4	5	4
Ankaragücü	4	0	3	1	5	6	3
Gaziantepspor	4	0	3	1	4	5	3
Antalyaspor	4	1	0	3	3	5	3
Sivasspor	3	0	0	3	1	7	0
Denizlispor	3	0	0	3	1	9	0
Kasımpaşa	4	0	0	4	2	11	0

### WEEK 4 RESULTS

Besiktas-Gaziantepspor.....	0-0
Eskişehirspor-Antalyaspor.....	2-1
Ankaragücü-İstanbul Bs.Bld.....	2-2
Kayserispor-Denizlispor.....	3-0
Sivasspor-Diyarbakırspor.....	0-2
Kasımpaşa-Gençlerbirliği.....	0-4
Trabzonspor-Bursaspor.....	1-1
Fenerbahçe-Manisaspor.....	2-1



### European League results and standings

#### English Premier League

Saturday: Blackburn Rovers 0, West Ham United 0; Bolton Wanderers 2, Liverpool 3; Chelsea 3, Burnley 0; Manchester United 2, Arsenal 1; Stoke City 1, Sunderland 0; Tottenham Hotspur 2, Birmingham City 1; Wolverhampton Wanderers 1, Hull City 1. Sunday: Portsmouth 0, Manchester City 1; Everton 2, Wigan 1; Aston Villa 2, Fulham 0.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Premier League teams and their performance metrics.

#### German Bundesliga

Friday: Borussia Mönchengladbach 2, Mainz 0. Saturday: Stuttgart 0, Nuremberg 0; Schalke 0, Freiburg 1; Bayer Leverkusen 2, Bochum 1; Hannover 0, Hoffenheim 1; Eintracht Frankfurt 1, Borussia Dortmund 1; Bayern Munich 3, Wolfsburg 0. Sunday: Hertha Berlin 2, Werder Bremen 3; Hamburg 3, Cologne 1.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Bundesliga teams and their performance metrics.

#### Dutch Eerste Divisie

Friday: Roda JC 3, Vitesse Arnhem 4; RKC Waalwijk 0, ADO The Hague 2. Saturday: NEC Nijmegen 1, VVV Venlo 1; AZ Alkmaar 2, Willem II 1; FC Utrecht 2, Sparta Rotterdam 0. Sunday: NAC Breda 2, SC Heerenveen 0; FC Groningen 0, PSV Eindhoven 2; Feyenoord 1, FC Twente 1; Heracles Almelo 0, Ajax 3.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Eerste Divisie teams and their performance metrics.

#### Scottish Premier League

Saturday: Aberdeen 0, Motherwell 0; Dundee United 2, Falkirk 1; Kilmarnock 1, St. Mirren 2; Rangers 4, Hamilton Academical 1. Sunday: Hibernian 0, Celtic 1; St. Johnstone 2, Hearts 2.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Scottish Premier League teams and their performance metrics.

#### Italian Serie A

Saturday: Bari 0, Bologna 0; AC Milan 0, Inter Milan 4. Sunday: AS Roma 1, Juventus 3; Atalanta 0, Genoa 1; Cagliari 1, Siena 3; Chievo Verona 1, Lazio 2; Fiorentina 1, Palermo 0; Napoli 3, Livorno 1; Parma 2, Catania 1; Sampdoria 3, Udinese 1.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Italian Serie A teams and their performance metrics.

# Big-spending Manchester City shows Portsmouth the way



PHOTO: REUTERS, DARREN STAPLES

Manchester City's Emmanuel Adebayor celebrates his goal against the Wolverhampton Wanderers during their English Premier League match at the City of Manchester Stadium.

Portsmouth fans saw first-hand on Sunday the impact a rich Arab owner can have on a club after Manchester City emerged as the 1-0 winner from their Premier League match at Fratton Park.

Newly-enriched City, which has spent more than 200 million pounds (\$325.7 million) on players since Sheik Mansour bin Zayed Al-Nahyan of the United Arab Emirates took over the club last year, won their third successive league match of the new season against a Portsmouth side, also now under an Arab owner.

However, Pompey has lost all of its four league games and is at the bottom of the table.

City won with a 30th minute header from Emmanuel Adebayor, secured for 25 million pounds from Arsenal in the close season -- his third goal in three league games for City.

In contrast, Portsmouth, in debt and desperately needing a new ground, has been selling their best players to raise funds.

But all that could change now Sheik Mansour's friend Sulaiman Al Fahim, also from the UAE, has completed his takeover of the south-coast club.

"I am the chairman, the owner and a fan," he told Sky Sports, adding he did not want to sell any more players before the transfer window closes on today.

#### New stadium

"I don't want to disclose how much money I am going to bring in, but it will be good enough to build a new stadium and support the club through the next window. If we can buy some players before the window closes we will do, otherwise we will do so next January (when the window reopens).

Portsmouth brought in four new players to bolster their squad on Friday and Al Fahim knows exactly what he needs to do to emulate City's transformation as he was involved in Sheik Mansour's takeover deal at Eastlands last year.

He will need to act fast, however, if Pompey

are to remain in the top flight after making their worst start to a season for 55 years.

Portsmouth manager Paul Hart said after Sunday's defeat: "It is tough at the moment. We played very well today. We played with spirit and discipline against terrific players and went about our job in a proper way. If we can keep doing that we can turn things around."

Manchester City has already done so and after decades of mediocrity appear to be living up to pre-season expectations and mounting a serious challenge for a place in the top four.

With players like Adebayor, Carlos Tevez, Robinho, Kolo Toure and Gareth Barry now in their lineup, it has yet to concede a goal this season and has made a perfect start.

Manager Mark Hughes said: "We are keeping clean sheets and that always gives you a chance of winning games. We have come out of the blocks and made a statement and three league wins out of three is great for us." London Reuters



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### European League results and standings

#### Spanish La Liga

Saturday: Real Madrid 3, Deportivo La Coruna 2; Zaragoza 1, Tenerife 0. Sunday: Athletic Bilbao 1, Espanyol 0; Mallorca 2, Xerez 0; Osasuna 1, Villarreal 1; Racing Santander 1, Getafe 4; Malaga 3, Atletico Madrid 0; Valencia 2, Sevilla 0; Almeria 0, Valladolid 0.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Spanish La Liga teams and their performance metrics.

#### Portuguese Liga

Pacos Ferreira 0, Guimaraes 0; Naval 1, FC Porto 3. Sunday: Academica 0, Sporting 2; Leixoes SC 0, Rio Ave 0; Braga 3, Belenenses 1; Uniao Leiria 0, Maritimo 0.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Portuguese Liga teams and their performance metrics.

#### Swiss Super League

Saturday: Aarau 1, FC Zurich 1; Luzern 3, St. Gallen 1. Sunday: Basel 1, Young Boys 2; Sion 3, AC Bellinzona 1.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Swiss Super League teams and their performance metrics.

#### Russian Premier League

Saturday: Lokomotiv Moscow 4, Kuban Krasnodar 1; Saturn Ramenskoye 3, Terek Groznyl 0; Tom Tomsk 0, FK Moscow 0. Sunday: Khimki 0, Zenit St. Petersburg 4; Rostov 1, CSKA Moscow 0; Krylya Sovietov Samara 3, Dynamo Moscow 1; Spartak Moscow 0, Rubin Kazan 3.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Russian Premier League teams and their performance metrics.

#### Danish Superliga

Saturday: Nordsjælland 0, AGF Aarhus 2. Sunday: Koge 1, SønderjyskE 0; FC Copenhagen 1, Brøndby 1; Randers 0, Esbjerg 1; Aalborg 1, Midtjylland 0.

Table with columns: P, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists Danish Superliga teams and their performance metrics.





## When giant men turn into midgets

EMRAH ÜLKER İSTANBUL

The Efes Pilsen World Cup 8 basketball tournament that ended in Ankara on Sunday is something the Turks would like to forget about. The "12 Giant Men," as the men's Turkish national team is called, were the pre-tournament favorites in the five-day warm-up competition that also included Croatia, Germany, Great Britain, Macedonia and Latvia. But contrary to high expectations, the 12 Giant Men were reduced to mere midgets last Wednesday when they were defeated 77-82 by tiny Croatia in their opening game at the Atatürk Sports Hall in the Turkish capital.

That defeat was followed the next day by another beating at the hands of depleted Germany, which missed the services of 31-year-old Dallas Mavericks star Dirk Nowitzki. But the short-handed Germans still outplayed, outthusted, outclassed and outscored the Turks 74-67 -- handing them their second straight defeat. The starting line-up, comprising Kerem Tunçeri, Ömer Onan, Hidayet Türkoğlu, Oguz Savaş and Fatih Solak, failed to deliver against the Croats and the Germans.

But they rebounded in their third match against Great Britain, one of the weakest basketball teams on the face of this earth, winning by a 34-point margin, 87-53, though Turkish fans were not amused. The Croats and the Germans had already done the damage. Turkey head coach Bogdan Tanjevic blamed the absence of Kerem Gönülüm, suspended after testing positive for a banned substance, for his team's below-par performance. "The going's getting tough without Kerem Gönülüm," Tanjevic said over the weekend. EuroBasket 2009, in which Turkey will also be taking part, will take place in Poland on Sept. 7-20, so Tanjevic has over a week to put things straight.

# FENER CANARIES SHOW STAYING POWER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

With the game tied 1-1 at the end of regulation time, fourth official Mustafa Öğretmenoglu signaled four added minutes. And it was at the end of this added time that super-sub Semih Şentürk, a replacement for Kazım Kazım in the 72nd minute, scored for Fener. An Alex header rebounded off the woodwork, and Semih made no mistake in whacking the ball into a wide empty net to make the score 2-1 and help the Canaries carry the day. This match marked the return of Alex after several weeks on the sidelines due to injury along with long-term injury case Mehmet Topuz, meaning the Fener injured are healing fast. "To be frank and candid we were lucky to win," Fener's German coach Christoph Daum said after the match. "It's OK when you play well and win. But when you win when you did not play very well, it makes the victory even sweeter," he further stated.

### Gençler runs amok

However, the real goal feast was at the Recep Tayyip Erdoğan Stadium where Ankara's Gençlerbirliği ran riot with a commanding 4-0 victory over host Kasımpaşa. Winless Paşa, promoted from the Bank Asya

League 1 last season, is learning the hard way that the Turkcell Super League is not something for the faint of heart. Gençler's goals were scored by Labonit Harbuzi (20th), Mustafa Pektemek (60th), Carlos Floresta Kahe (77th) and Hürşit Meriç (90+3).

Newcomer Diyarbakırspor beat Sivasspor 2-0 away with an own-goal from Cihan Yılmaz in the fifth minute and one by Andres Mendoza in the second minute of added time. The Yığıdolar, as Sivasspor is called, are winless after three outings and could be heading for the drop if coach Bülent Uygun does not do something to remedy the situation.

The woes of the Trabzon Black Sea Storm, the second runner-up in the league last season, continued after it was held 1-1 at home by the Bursa Green Crocs. Turgay Bahadır put Bursaspor ahead in the 10th minute but Gustavo Colman equalized for the Storm 15 minutes later. Already eliminated from all European competitions this season and also struggling in the domestic league, Trabzonspor faces a long season ahead.

Note: The Ankaraspor-Galatasaray match was still being played in the capital on Monday night when this page went to press. We will publish a full report on this game tomorrow.



Fener's Alex De Souza (L) congratulates striker Semih Şentürk after Semih scored their winning goal.

## Coaches are there to right wrongs, not to cry or complain

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The bitter truth is that you don't have to change the chemistry of a championship-winning team. Two or three additions would do. Sivasspor, the runner-up in the league last season, made the same mistake and has paid dearly for it.

The Eagles acquired 28-year-old Brazilian playmaker Rodrigo Barbosa Tabata over the weekend from Gaziantepspor as the new "savior" after unilaterally annulling the contract of Argentine playmaker Matias Emilio Delgado. We will all see if

Tabata can do what the other newcomers could not.

We stated last on Sunday that professional coaching is a thankless job. Denizli, the hero when the Black Eagles won the league and cup double back in May, is now on the receiving end of the merciless sports media. Denizli hit back at media critics last week, saying, "Nobody can teach me who I am." The sports media is having a field day, attacking Denizli from all corners. And his utterances have not deterred naysayers one bit; quite the contrary, it has made an already bad situation

worse. Give praise only when praise is due, so Denizli should not expect praise when Beşiktaş is not playing well. Even Denizli himself has admitted that the going is getting tough, so he must do something to remedy the situation. Fortunately for Denizli, there will be no league matches this weekend as the national team is preparing for its 2010 World Cup qualifier against Estonia in Kayseri this Saturday and away against Bosnia and Herzegovina next Wednesday. The Beşiktaş coach therefore has "plenty" of time to put his house in order.



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Orduspor and Altay players (L) in an aerial battle during their Bank Asya League 1 match on Sunday. Picture at right shows a scene from the match between Dardanelspor and leader Bucaspor

PHOTO: AA, GÖKHAN GÜCÜKLÜOĞLU



PHOTO: AA, MEHMET BAYER



# Upbeat Bucaspor continues to set Bank Asya League 1 pace

ESRA MADEN İSTANBUL

Unstoppable Bucaspor beat Dardanelspor 3-0 in their week two Bank Asya League 1 match at the Çanakkale 18 Mart Stadium on Sunday. Bucaspor, therefore, consolidated its position at the top of the 18-team league having crushed Kocaelispor, which was demoted from the Turkcell Super League last season, 4-0 in their opening match the Saturday before last.

Kenan Aslanoglu put Bucaspor ahead in the 36th minute, Mehmet Batdal made it 2-0 in the 67th and Bekir Eromat was on target to complete the rout one minute from time. The result means Bucaspor has scored seven goals in two matches without conceding any. This, indeed, is championship form.

Izmir side Karşıyaka also won, drubbing Samsunspor 2-0 at the Altay Alsancak Stadium in a match that was played behind closed doors, that is, without spectators, a punishment imposed on Karşıyaka by the Professional Soccer Disciplinary Committee (PFDK) for the misbehavior of its fans. Karşıyaka's goals were scored by Kıvanç Karakaş in the 38th and Erçag Evirgen in the fourth minute of injury time (94th).

Kocaelispor and Hacettepe, two teams demoted from topflight Turkish soccer last season, shared the booty after playing to a 1-1 draw at Kocaeli's İsmetpaşa Stadium. Mehmet put Hacettepe ahead in the 61st, and Serdar Topraktepe equalized for Kocaelispor in the 74th.

Kartalspor beat visiting Gaziantep Büyükşehir Belediyespor 1-0, Fatih Kolsuz's goal in the 77th minute being the only thing that separated the two teams in the match that was played at the Kartal Stadium in İstanbul.

Rizespor completed its home game against Boluspor at the Yeni Şehir Stadium with 10 men, after Evren Kürkçü was shown red in the 49th minute, but the Black Sea side was still strong enough to emerge as a 2-1 winner. Goals by Brazilian forward Elionar Nascimento Ribeiro in the 37th and 45th were more than enough to give the host victory and three precious points.

Altay beat Orduspor 2-0 away at the 19 Eylül Stadium, with both goals coming from Brazilian striker Tiago Queiroz Bezerra in the 47th and 60th. Boluspor got its consolation goal from Albanian star Gilman Lika in the 58th minute.

## BANK ASYA LEAGUE 1 STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Bucaspor	2	2	0	0	7	0	6
Adanaspor	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Altay	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
Kardemir Karabük	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Çaykur Rizespor	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Kartalspor	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Karşıyaka	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Konyaspor	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Boluspor	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Dardanelspor	2	1	0	1	4	5	3
Hacettepe	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Giresunspor	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Samsunspor	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
Orduspor	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Kocaelispor	2	0	1	1	1	5	1
Erciyesspor	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Mersin İ.Y.	2	0	0	2	2	4	0
G.Antep Bld.Spor	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

## THE BEST AND THE WORST OF WEEK 2

Team of the week:..... Bucaspor  
 Player of the week:..... Elionar Ribeiro (Rizespor)  
 Goal of the week:..... Elionar Ribeiro (Rizespor)  
 Referee of week:..... Milker Meral (Ordu-Altay)  
 Coach of the week:..... Kemal Kılıç (Bucaspor)  
 Surprise team of the week:..... Kartalspor  
 Flop of the week:..... Boluspor

## Mersin players fined for loss to Adanaspor

Mersin İdmanyurdu Chairman Ali Kahramanlı has decided to fine all his players TL 2,000 each after their 2-1 defeat to rampaging Adanaspor in their week two match in the Bank Asya League 1 at Mersin's Tevfik Sırrı Gür Stadium Saturday. For Mersin's İdmanyurdu, promoted from the third division to the Bank Asya League 1 this season, this was its second consecutive loss following its 2-1 defeat in Bolu in the opening week the Sunday before last. And Kahramanlı rued his team's missed chances. "My players put up a good fight, but luck was not on our side," he said. "If we had converted the chances we had, then it could have been quite a different story," Kahramanlı added. The result is what matters most in the beautiful game, so playing well and not winning is tantamount to losing. As a result, Kahramanlı decided to impose a fine of TL 2,000 each on all his players for "playing well and losing." This is retribution at its best. The Mersin İdmanyurdu players will always hang the TL 2,000 around their necks like the Ancient Mariner's albatross. **İstanbul** Today's Zaman

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