



SPORTS 16

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Great skill at every

Many people use public medium to viewers all around the

First off, a person know what a blog is start one. A blog can a form of self-expression a blog can include webpages that are appropriate. For example, I titled “The Time That I Was a Hopeless” posted links to some movie that I was referring

1. The very first when a person wants a blog is go to: www.blogger.com which is Blogger’s click sign up. Blogging is social media when it implies, a person has their own blog. Now you need a google account to use blogger. Using that your google account to create a blogger account.

If you have a YouTube

Everything About Round 16 of Champions Cup

Olivier Dumont
SPORTS EDITOR

The time has finally come. Soccer fans all over the world have been patiently waiting for the elimination rounds to begin in this year's Champions Cup and to finally see several of the best teams in the world compete against one another. Unfortunately, some matches are better than others and really stand out on the elite level. Three such matches include Chelsea versus Paris Saint-Germain, Arsenal against Barcelona, and the match between Bayern Munich and Juventus. Because the Champions Cup is one of soccer's most competitive platforms across the globe, this leaves each and every one of these teams longing to claim the title of world champions, and of course, to be able to hoist this great cup. And because of this motive, each team manager will play their best players, and each of these players will bring their best play to the pitch, making each game in this round a great one to watch. The thrilling part about each of these three matches is that the talent level is heavily abundant and apparent in every single position on each team. But we all know that one of these great clubs from each match will carry on their path to glory, the other will tumble and fall.

Let's start with the déjà vu clash between France's best, Paris Saint Germain, and one of England's prestigious clubs Chelsea. At 2:45pm on Tuesday February 16th, a one-sided repeat of last year's finale between both teams will befall upon Chelsea once again this year. Let's start with the obvious; PSG has a strong, winning team and arguably the best defense in the world, which provides Chelsea with an iron shell to crack through. Furthermore, Chelsea does not have the same powerhouse team they had last year when they made their quarterfinal attempt to defeat Paris Saint-Germain, which ended in a tight loss for their club. This team sits 12th (out of 20 teams) in the Premier League Table with an 8-9-9 record, a ranking very well beneath the Chelsea expectation level after winning the League Title last season. The bigger problem, is that many of the star players on Chelsea from last year's squad, still presently play there, and many of them have displayed poor play since the season started in early August. Prime examples consist of world class player and the star of the club, Eden Hazard, who

scored his first goal in eight months on February sixth. Cesc Fabregas, a pivotal midfielder whose success from last year

neck race with FC Bayern Munich. Their front three forwards in Neymar, Messi, and Suarez is debatably one of the best

Barcelona's and their defense will have to bring their A game for both matches in order to diminish Barcelona's attack to a good degree, which is not an easy task. I think this two game matchup will be a close one, with Arsenal even having a chance to tie or maybe even win their first game at home. But even if that occurs, I still don't think they will have an answer to stop Messi and company to advance to the next round.

Lastly, FC Bayern Munich will be visiting Juventus for their first game of their two game matchup. Juventus, to begin with, definitely contains one of the best defensive units in the world, anchored by the elite Italian international defensive unit consisting of Chiellini, Bonucci, and Barzagli, accompanied by one of the best goalkeepers in history, Gianluigi Buffon. Moreover, Juventus also has a great offensive group, particularly due to players such as young striker Paulo Dybala who's having a tremendous season. But unfortunately, Juventus is a low scoring team whose offense doesn't generally produce that many goals being that the team's managerial

focus leans more toward their defensive strength. This is also not the best situation to play by because although Juventus has an outstanding defense, Bayern Munich's offense is a loaded barrel of dynamite ready to explode. Bayern Munich, as stated previously, is perhaps the best team in the world if not a close second

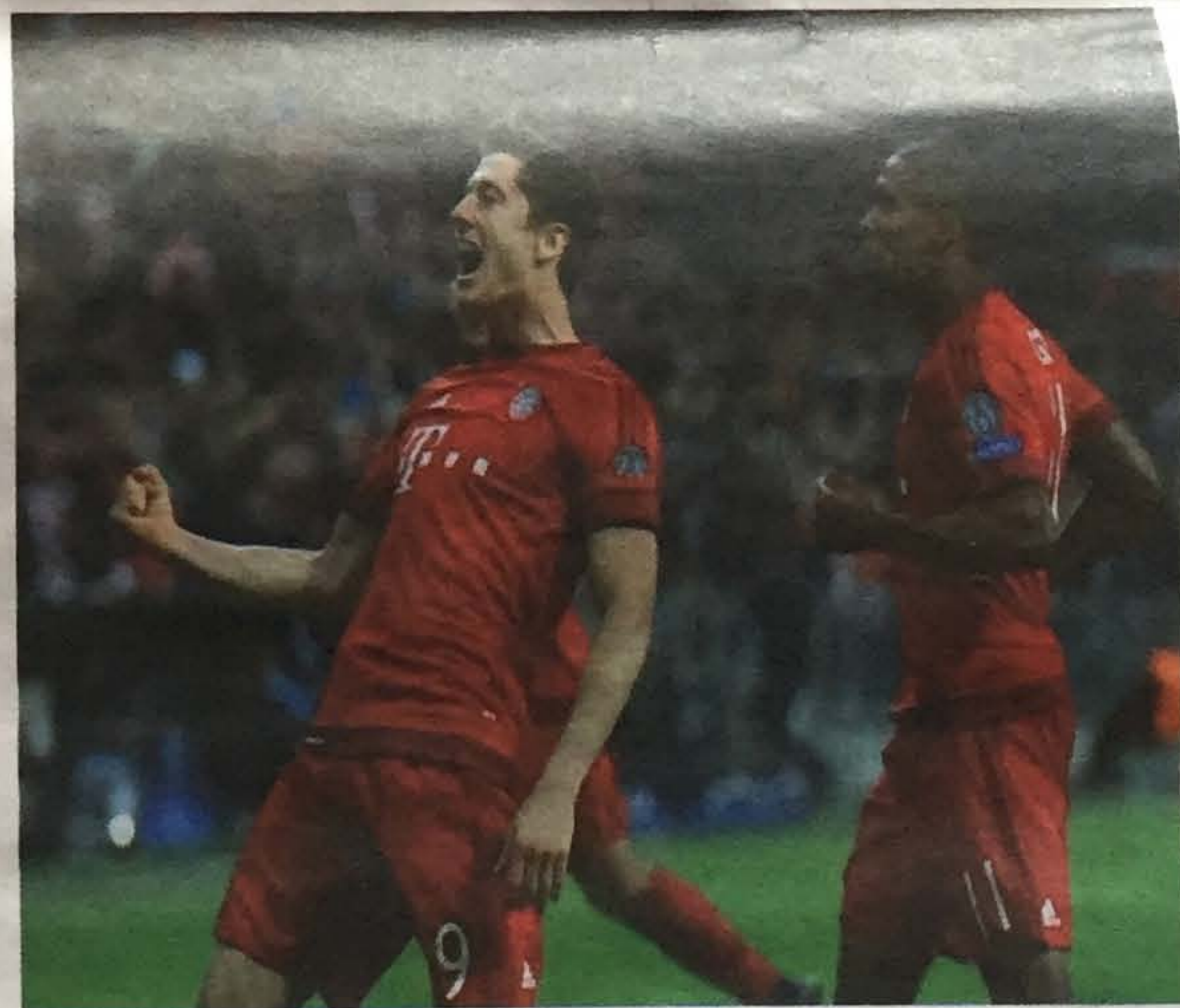


has diminished greatly. And lastly, their defensive group (Azpilicueta, Cahill, Terry, and Ivanovic) hasn't had the ability to play well this year and is definitely not on the elite defensive level Chelsea was expecting from them. With also a change in the manager department as well, from Mourinho to Hiddink Guus, the team still needs to adjust to his playing style and that won't be achieved until maybe by the end of the season. On the other side of the spectrum, PSG is better than they were last year. With additions of left back Kurzawa and the young, talented goalie Trapp, their defense has formed into a tough barrier to break through all year. And of course with addition of Angel Di Maria (pictured on the right), who has been such an offensive weapon in the assist and scoring departments this year, is having one of his best seasons since his days in Madrid and has really brought this offense to a whole new level. Even with a diminished amount or no injuries on either club, I can tell you now that PSG will still move on to the next round by a large margin in the goal aggregate count, and will definitely win their first game at home on February 16th.

Arguably the best matchup, if not the best matchup of round 16, is that of Barcelona against Arsenal. With a healthy squad, FC Barcelona is the best team in the world right now if not, in a neck-to-

front three ever. Talent is high in every single position of this Barcelona squad and their offense is extremely hard to stop. But to say this matchup will be a blowout in favor of Barcelona is a conclusion one should not jump to. Arsenal has played good football this whole year so far and has been in tight contention in

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the top three spots of the premier league throughout the year, diving in and out of first place in the process. This team is also very complete when healthy, which they currently are. With striker Olivier Giroud playing great football and Mesut Özil having one of the best seasons he's had since leaving Real Madrid, this Arsenal team will be a tough time for Barcelona to handle. Let's not forget that Arsenal has one of the best goalies in the world in Petr Cech and a first-rate defense to say the least in accompanying their top-notch goalkeeper. Let's also not forget that Arsenal was able to defeat and hold FC Bayern Munich to a clean sheet in a 2-0 victory in their first game against them at home during the group stage, an impressive accomplishment. But if Arsenal wants to survive this round, their offense will have to contend with

to Barcelona in large part due to their explosive offensive play. Earlier this season, this team acquired one of the quickest midfielders in the world who also has unbelievable dribbling skills. This man goes by the name of Douglas Costa (pictured on the right) who has played the best football in his career this season. The only chance Juventus has is through their defense's ability to keep the score low enough for their offense to actually have a chance against a good, Bayern defensive unit. Furthermore, Bayern Munich has the best goalie in the world, posing a very tough challenge for this Juventus offense as well. Similar to that of Arsenal's opposition against Barcelona, I don't see Juventus surviving this round nor even winning their first game at home against this explosive, lethal Bayern Munich offensive.

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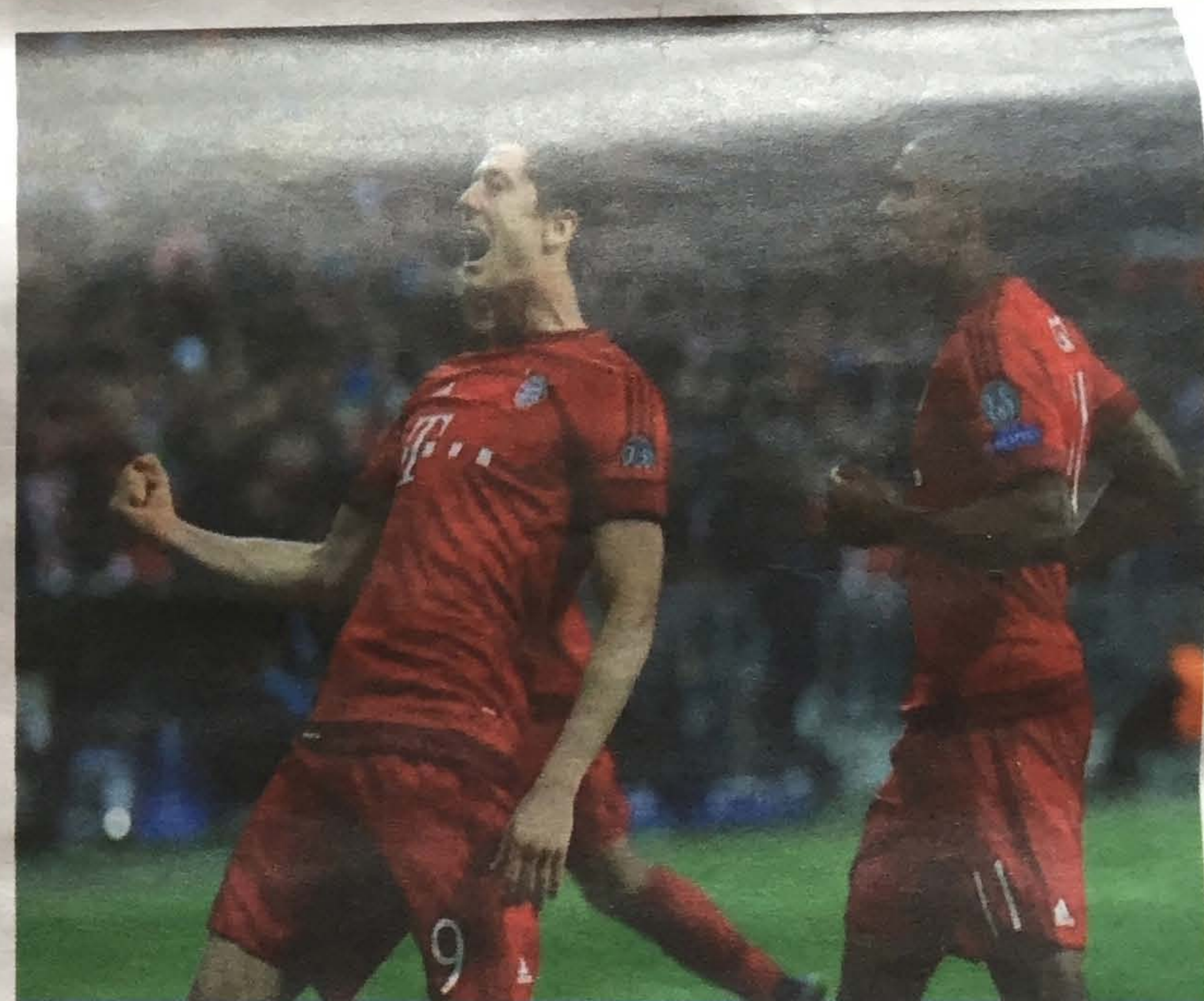
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