



Salernitana's Milan Djuric, (right), celebrates scoring during the Serie A soccer match between Salernitana and Genoa, at the Arechi Stadium in Salerno, Italy. Salernitana beat Genoa 1-0. (AP)

Sports

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Chelsea go top, Everton hold United

Leeds claim first victory of season; Wolves pile pressure on winless Newcastle manager

LONDON, Oct 2, (AP): Late goals by Timo Werner and Ben Chilwell sent Chelsea to the top of the Premier League after a 3-1 win over 10-man Southampton at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

James Ward-Prowse scored an equalizer for Southampton from the penalty spot only to be sent off in the 77th minute for a late, lunging tackle on Jorginho. That opened the door for Werner and Chilwell to return the Blues to winning ways after back-to-back losses against Manchester City in the league and Juventus in the Champions League.



Townsend

Manchester United's 1-1 draw with Everton teed up the chance for Chelsea to climb to the summit and, after a testing and often tetchy game, Thomas Tuchel's team obliged.

Trevoh Chalobah's header gave Chelsea the lead in the ninth minute, before Chilwell upended former Chelsea academy star Tino Livramento in the box.

Ward-Prowse converted the spot kick to threaten Chelsea's ambitions of moving into first place, only for Werner to turn in Cesar Azpilicueta's first-time cross to spark celebrations of relief in the 85th minute.

Chilwell then atoned for conceding the penalty by lashing in the third in the 89th, moments after Romelu Lukaku and then Azpilicueta struck the same post.

Man U 1, Everton 1

There was a trademark Cristiano Ronaldo celebration at Old Trafford, even if it didn't come from the Portugal superstar himself.

Everton winger Andros Townsend did a cheeky yet passable imitation of the spin-in-the-air celebration in front of his team's jubilant fans after scoring the 65th-minute equalizer in a 1-1 draw at Manchester United.

With Ronaldo starting on the bench and not entering until the 57th, United produced another sloppy performance but managed to take the lead through Anthony Martial in the 43rd following an exquisite touch and pass by Bruno Fernandes.

Everton were dangerous on the counterattack throughout the game as United's concentration and discipline waned in their third game in an eight-day span - and less than 72 hours after an energy-sapping home win against Villarreal in the Champions League that was sealed by Ronaldo's stoppage-time goal.

And the hosts were picked off on a break by Everton that resulted in Townsend's goal, as Fred failed to



Chelsea's Romelu Lukaku, (left), duels for the ball with Southampton's Jan Bednarek during the English Premier League soccer match between Chelsea and Southampton at Stamford Bridge Stadium in London. (AP)

gather possession in two attempted tackles in midfield following a corner by United before Abdoulaye Doucoure charged through to set up Townsend.

After drilling a low shot into the corner from just inside the area, Townsend performed the Ronaldo-style celebration.

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It was a fifth goal of the season for the winger, who has been revitalized since his move on a free transfer after leaving Crystal Palace.

Leeds 1, Watford 0

Leeds held on for their first victory of the Premier League season after defender Diego Llorente scored early in the 1-0 win over Watford.

The Spain center back netted from close range after 18 minutes by getting his left foot on the ball after Watford midfielder Juraj Kucka tried to clear a corner

but instead headed it in front of the goal. Leeds kept their first clean sheet of the league season after allowing 14 goals in their first six matches, from which they had managed just three draws. The win moved the team two spots above the relegation zone.

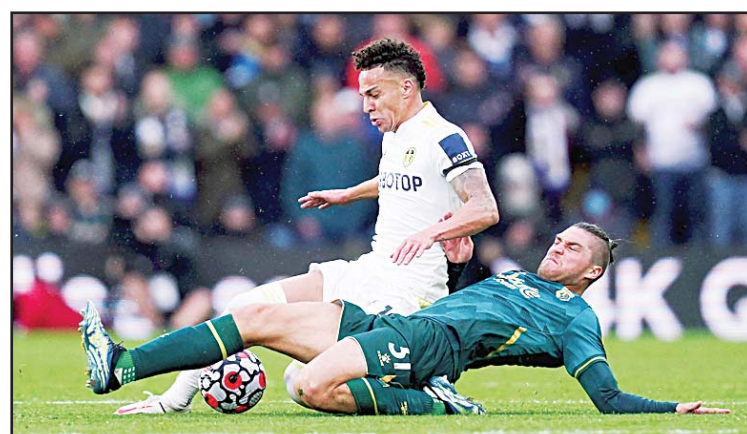
The lackluster start to the season followed Leeds' surprisingly strong ninth-place finish last year, when they returned to the Premier League after a 16-year absence.

Wolverhampton 2, Newcastle 1

Hwang Hee-chan's two goals earned Wolverhampton a 2-1 victory over winless Newcastle in the Premier League to pile the pressure on manager Steve Bruce on.

The South Korea forward scored in the 20th and 58th minutes for Wolves' first home goals in the Premier League this season.

Jeff Hendrick's 41st-minute equalizer briefly threatened to upset the hosts' momentum but they have now



Leeds United's Rodrigo (left), and Watford's Francisco Sierralta battle for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Leeds United and Watford at Elland Road, Leeds, England. (AP)

won three of their last four league games to ignite their season.

It was not a classic performance but it was good enough to beat Newcastle,

which slipped to next-to-last place. Bruce would have left frustrated after a tight game, yet there was little suggestion Newcastle will avoid a relegation

fight this season.

Burnley 0, Norwich 0

Burnley and Norwich saw their winless starts to the Premier League continue as they fought out a 0-0 draw which at least provided a first point of the season for the Canaries.

The first 0-0 draw between these clubs - after 44 meetings in all competitions - neatly summed up how their seasons are going to date.

Sean Dyche celebrated 400 games in charge of Burnley and there was a first clean sheet of the campaign for the team but those were among the few positive statistics on an afternoon when they extended a club-record winless home run to 14 matches.

Norwich ended their miserable run of 16 straight losses in the top flight, stretching back to two seasons ago when they were last in the Premier League, but there was little on show at Turf Moor to hint a radical change of fortunes is imminent.

Gladbach hand Wolfsburg second straight defeat

Brandt scores winner as Dortmund hold off Augsburg

BERLIN, Oct 2, (AP): With Erling Haaland still injured, Borussia Dortmund needed Julian Brandt to score the winner in a 2-1 victory over Augsburg on Saturday in the Bundesliga.

Brandt filled the gap created by the Norway forward's continued absence, grabbing Dortmund's second goal in the 51st minute with a low shot inside the right post after Marco Reus sent the ball on.

But Dortmund again struggled going forward without the 21-year-old Haaland, who remained out with muscular problems after missing last weekend's defeat to Borussia Mönchengladbach and the narrow win over Sporting Lisbon in the Champions League on Tuesday.

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Raphaël Guerreiro opened the scoring with a penalty in the 10th minute after Augsburg captain Jeffrey Gouweleuw raked Donyell Malen's heel with his boot.

Dortmund went on to control the game without creating clear chances and were made to pay when Axel Witsel lost the ball in midfield and Andi Zeqiri equalized on a rebound in the 35th. Arne Maier's initial effort from distance crashed back off

the crossbar.

But Brandt came to Dortmund's rescue, cutting inside to elude a defender and letting fly from the edge of the penalty area inside the right post.

Dortmund improved but failed to take any more of its opportunities.

American defender Joe Scally scored his first Bundesliga goal to seal a 3-1 win for Borussia Mönchengladbach at Wolfsburg, which finished with 10 men and slumped to their second straight defeat.

Freiburg claimed a 2-1 win at

Hertha Berlin, which have now lost two in a row amid questions over Pál Dárdai's future as coach.

Stuttgart enjoyed a 3-1 win against Hoffenheim.

Cologne's strong start to the Bundesliga under new coach Stefan Baumgart continued with a 3-1 come-from-behind win over promoted Greuther Fürth.

Skhiri Ellyes scored two to decide the game and give Cologne their third win of the season. They also stretched their unbeaten run to five

games since a 3-2 loss at Bayern Munich.

Some 40,000 fans were allowed at Cologne's Müngersdorfer Stadium under new relaxed coronavirus restrictions, and they sang loudly and passionately before, during and after the game.

But Fürth's Marco Meyerhöfer dampened the exuberant mood somewhat with the opening goal in the seventh minute, when he fired the ball through Cologne goalkeeper Timo Horn's legs after Timothy Tillman played him in. Tillman was making his first league start for Fürth in place of Julian Green, who dropped to the substitutes.

Tillman had another good chance from a similar position in the 20th as the Cologne defense again went for a wander out of position.

Jeremy Dudziak hit the post for Fürth in the 32nd, then did it again with the rebound from a difficult angle.

Cologne's best chance of the half fell to Anthony Modeste, who tested Marius Funk before the break. Funk was making his Bundesliga debut in Fürth's goal after replacing the dropped Sascha Burchert.

Baumgart's halftime talk evidently had the desired effect as Cologne emerged transformed for the second half. Sebastian Andersson equalized in the 50th and Ellyes made it 2-1 five minutes later. He finally sealed the result in the 89th.



Stuttgart's Orel Mangala, (left), and Hoffenheim's Florian Grillitsch challenge for the ball during the German Bundesliga soccer match between VfB Stuttgart and TSG Hoffenheim in Stuttgart, Germany. (AP)

Stojkovi 'opposes' FIFA biennial World Cup plan

GENEVA, Oct 2, (AP): After Didier Deschamps and Roberto Martinez opposed the plan for a World Cup every two years, Dragan Stojković joined the list on Saturday of European national-team coaches disagreeing with FIFA.

The Serbia coach played at the 1990 and 1998 World Cups for Yugoslavia and prefers the four-year cycle FIFA is driving hard to change against the wishes of most of Europe.

"The name of the World Cup sounds appealing but only because it is played every four years as this period allows it to be eagerly awaited," Stojković said in comments reported by Serbian media.

"Otherwise it would lose its charm, interest, and image," the former Red Star Belgrade and Marseille playmaker said.

Stojković did not support the biennial World Cup proposal despite Serbia being a national team likely to benefit from FIFA's drive to give more countries more chances to qualify for the finals tournament.

Serbia played at the 2018 World Cup but did not qualify for the 2014 edition. Stojković's team now trails Portugal in a 2022 qualifying group where the runner-up must try to advance through two rounds of play-offs in March.

He also questioned the impact on players' health by adding more competitions to the packed schedule of club and national-team games.

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"They are not robots, and they need to rest," said Stojković.

Deschamps, a former Marseille teammate of Stojković and the coach of France's 2018 World Cup-winning team, and Martinez, coach of top-ranked Belgium, also spoke out against the FIFA plan this week.

The most public support for FIFA has come from retired players, including World Cup winners like Brazil great Ronaldo, who took part in a two-day conference in Qatar last month hosted by the governing body.

European soccer federations, including Serbia's which Stojković led after he retired as a player, were briefed for the first time on Thursday by FIFA President Gianni Infantino and its global development director, Arsène Wenger.



Stojković