Liverpool power past Man United, go 16 points clear

A 13th straight league win since the sides last met at Old Trafford in October continues Liverpool's relentless run towards a first league title in 30 years.

Mohamed Salah earned a 2-0 win over City and could have been more comfortable on closest challengers Manchester United remain five points off the top four and will need to beat Liverpool to get back to the title as Salah secured the three points.

Firstly, Firmino's brilliant strike was ruled out as Van Dijk was penalised for an aerial challenge with David de Gea after a brilliant through ball from the Spaniard after a brilliant through ball to Jordan Henderson smashed a shot off the post.

However, they could easily have been level against the run of play moments later. Adam Lallana could not stretch to turn home Aarons Van Dijk's header
to level on 25 minutes, while United remain five points off the top four.

Westwood captures 25th European Tour title in UAE

Serena Williams of the US hits a return during a practice session yesterday.

While Djokovic and Nadal split the European Open Final and will be epitomised in the first Grand Slam trophies and Stefanos Tsitsipas的成功 story, while nine women have won Grand Slam titles since Williams, who is celebrating becoming world number one in a third decade

The Egyptian was picked out by goal-keeper Alisson Becker and ran from mid-way to score from a deflected shot in the 42nd minute.

Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp celebrates at the end of the match yesterday.

The Norwegian had set up with a back five, with Luke Shaw forced to alternative out of position as a third centre-back, and only a goal-shame from the former Southampton left-back denied Saudi Arabia a certain result as the Brazilian

The men's dominance is stark: Top seed Rafael Nadal, 33, beat Andy Murray, 31, in the third round on Saturday, while Roger Federer, 38, is trying for a number one in a third decade

Serena Williams of the US hits a return during a practice session yesterday.

The start of 2020 is not dissimilar to 2019, when Federer and Nadal shared the four Grand Slam titles and Williams won in Melbourne and Wimbledon.

The men's top seed and the women's winner since 1978.

In the first round, the tournament is taking place against the backdrop of a</n>
Tennis

**FOCUS**

India's Mirza taking return one week at a time

**Indira Mirza**

India's Sania Mirza will be in her first tournament since surgery on Tuesday after a year and a half of recuperation. The 12-time Grand Slam champion, who won the Australian Open in 2010, has been excluded from the tournament due to injury in 2017. Mirza has been in a comeback, but her first tournament was not the best for her. She lost in the first round to Ashleigh Barty in the Sydney International. However, Mirza has been playing well in recent tournaments and is looking forward to a strong performance at the Australian Open. She has trained hard and is looking forward to being back on the court. Mirza's coach, Martina Hingis, said that Mirza is looking forward to a strong performance and is confident that she can do well in the tournament.

Indian Express

**Indian tennis star Sania Mirza returns to action at Australian Open**

Mirza's return to the Australian Open will be a welcome sight for Indian tennis fans. The 36-year-old player is back after a long injury and is looking forward to a strong performance in the tournament. She has trained hard and is looking forward to being back on the court. Mirza's coach, Martina Hingis, said that Mirza is looking forward to a strong performance and is confident that she can do well in the tournament. However, Mirza will have to face tough competition in the tournament, and it will be a test of her fitness and form.

**BOTTOMLINE**

**Extreme heat, fires to affect sports more through climate change, says report**

**Melbourne**

The poor air quality which led to Melbourne Park being closed due to fires, could see sports such as tennis affected in the future. The report released by Melbourne's Department of Human Services warned that the fires could have a significant impact on athletes and spectators. The report also said that the fires could have a long-term impact on the sport, with venues and events affected in the future.

**Tennis**

**Melbourne**

A s unlikely hero of this country’s baseball re- birth, Nick Kyrgios is putting on a show at the Australian Open with a display of his own kind of high energy and high emotion. Kyrgios, who entered the tournament at world number 75, has already shown he is capable of putting on a show that is both captivating and entertaining. His first-round victory over Britain’s Dan Evans was a highlight of the tournament, with Kyrgios’s fans able to see his high spirits and enthusiasm for the game.

**Melbourne**

Ashleigh Barty is relishing every moment of her rise to the top of the world women’s singles rankings. The 20-year-old Australian has been in top form this year, with wins over the world’s top players and a string of impressive performances. Barty has been deeply involved in the fire-affected areas of Australia, with her picture featured heavily on billboards around the city and in local newspapers.

**Melbourne**

Sania Mirza (C) of India with Ukraine’s Nadiia Kichenok (L) and Australian Ashleigh Barty during the women’s doubles round-robin match of the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on Sunday. Mirza’s return to the Australian Open will be a welcome sight for Indian tennis fans. The 36-year-old player is back after a long injury and is looking forward to a strong performance in the tournament. She has trained hard and is looking forward to being back on the court. Mirza’s coach, Martina Hingis, said that Mirza is looking forward to a strong performance and is confident that she can do well in the tournament. However, Mirza will have to face tough competition in the tournament, and it will be a test of her fitness and form.

**Melbourne**

The Australian Open has been hit by some rough weather, with strong winds and high humidity hitting the赛事-grounds. Melbourne's Australian Open tournament director Craig Tiley said that it was a challenge to deal with the conditions, but that the players were managing well.

**Melbourne**

Sania Mirza returns to the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on Sunday. Mirza’s return to the Australian Open will be a welcome sight for Indian tennis fans. The 36-year-old player is back after a long injury and is looking forward to a strong performance in the tournament. She has trained hard and is looking forward to being back on the court. Mirza’s coach, Martina Hingis, said that Mirza is looking forward to a strong performance and is confident that she can do well in the tournament. However, Mirza will have to face tough competition in the tournament, and it will be a test of her fitness and form.
Burnley fight back to sink Leicester

I thought we deserved to win the game but we didn’t take our chances

The Hammers were reduced to 10 men after just four minutes and slumped to a 2-1 defeat at the King Power as Vardy stepped up to take a spot-kick and then grabbed another goal with a composed header.

Burnley were well-organised and moved the ball well, but they lacked the cutting edge to match Leicester’s quality. Vardy’s first goal was inevitable, but Burnley showed fighting spirit in the second half to earn a point.

Burnley manager Ashley Westwood was delighted to see two goals from his side, one from Chris Wood and the other from Harvey Barnes. Westwood praised the team’s ability to keep a clean sheet despite the early setback.

Burnley had a penalty claim late in the game, but Westwood conceded that he had to be happy with the point.

Leicester City manager Brendan Rodgers was disappointed with the result, saying “we didn’t take our chances.” He praised the Hammers’ resilience and fighting spirit, but believed his team could have done more to win the game.

Leicester’s victory means they are now 13th in the Premier League table, while Burnley remain 14th. The Hammers are now without a win in five league games and need to improve their form to avoid relegation.

Brendan Rodgers is determined to turn things around at Leicester City and is confident his team can bounce back. He said: “We have to keep believing in ourselves and we will continue to work hard to get results.”

The Hammers are now without a win in five league games and need to improve their form to avoid relegation. Rodgers is confident his team can bounce back, but he acknowledged the pressure on him as manager.

Burnley’s defeat is a blow to their chances of avoiding relegation, but they will look to regroup and focus on their next game. The Hammers have a tough schedule ahead, with matches against Manchester United and Liverpool to come.

Ivy Coast’s Kodjia joins Al Gharafa

Ivory Coast’s Jonathan Kodjia joins Al Gharafa on a one-year loan deal, the club announced on Wednesday.

The 30-year-old striker has joined the club from Aston Villa.

He said: “I am happy to join Al Gharafa and I am looking forward to working with the fans and my new team-mates.”

Kodjia joins the club from QNB Stars League club Al Gharafa after he was unveiled in Doha on Wednesday. The move was confirmed after the club announced the signing on their website.

Kodjia has scored 20 goals in 18 appearances for Ivory Coast in international football. He has also scored 22 goals in 46 appearances for Aston Villa in the Premier League.

The signing is a boost for Al Gharafa, who are currently in eighth place in the Qatar Stars League.

Manchester United manager David Moyes was pleased with his side’s performance in Tuesday’s 1-0 win over Burnley. The Hammers had an early penalty claim dismissed, but Moyes said his team’s resilience in the second half deserved the three points.

Moyes said: “I thought we deserved the three points. We started slowly but improved as the game went on.”

The Hammers’ defeat was their fourth in their last six league games, and Moyes admitted he is concerned about the team’s form.

He said: “We need to improve our defending and we have to be more compact in the final third of the pitch.”

Moyes is looking for his team to improve their performance in the second half of the season and is hoping to secure a top-four finish.
Inter stall in Lecce as Rebic brace lifts AC Milan

We started a little tense. But I’m satisfied with our performance, we put our heart and soul into winning it’

Lecce’s Marco Mancosu (left) celebrates with teammates after scoring their first goal against Inter Milan yesterday.

AC Milan

North of Italy, Lecce’s Marco Mancosu had a golden chance to double Milan’s lead after just 19 minutes, but his shot went wide. The away side had been统治ed by the home team in the first half, with Lecce controlling the game and creating several chances. However, Milan held firm and retired to the half-time whistle with the score still goalless.

In the second half, Milan made the most of their opportunities. Captain Theo Hernandez put Milan in front just six minutes into the second half, capitalizing on a mistake by Lecce’s goalkeeper. The Argentine then added a second goal on the 25th minute, scoring from a rebound after a reflex save by the goalkeeper. Milan were in control of the game and looking for more goals.

But Lecce refused to give up, and they were rewarded in the 49th minute when they were awarded a penalty. The shot from the spot was saved by Milan’s goalkeeper, but the rebound was quickly cleared by the Milan defense.

Despite the missed opportunity, Milan continued to dominate the game. The visitors put constant pressure on the Lecce goal, with numerous chances created by their forwards. However, the home side managed to keep the scoreline close, with Lecce’s goalkeeper making several impressive saves to keep the deficit to two goals.

In the 74th minute, Milan’s front line combined well, with a through ball from the midfield finding Ante Rebic, who tapped home the third goal of the game. The Croatian striker had played a crucial role in the game, with his pace and skill causing problems for the Lecce defenders.

With the game effectively won, Milan substituted some of their key players, allowing the younger players a chance to gain valuable experience. The team cruised to a comprehensive 3-0 victory, consolidating their place in the Serie A table.
NBA

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James controls the ball during the first quarter against the Houston Rockets at Toyota Center. AFP

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James (centre) passes the ball during the first quarter against the Houston Rockets at Toyota Center. AFP

James Harden had 34 for Houston, who sold W estbrook scored 35 points and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope chipped in. "Kyle Kuzma said. "We want to stay on an even keel throughout the season, it's an 82-game season, and we did that."

Los Angeles outscored the Rockets 32-17 in the third quarter to turn around nine-game winning streak. "We had a chance to reshape, refocus and start the second half of the season the right way, and we did that," Kyle Kuzma said.

Los Angeles outscored the Rockets 32-17 in the third quarter to turn around nine-game winning streak. "We had a chance to reshape, refocus and start the second half of the season the right way, and we did that," Kyle Kuzma said.

James scores 31 as Lakers shoot down Rockets

Lakers shoot down Flames to end 9-game slide

NHL

Senators down Flames to end 9-game slide

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Westwood captures 25th European Tour title by two shots

"Fantastic. I am ecstatic, elated and a bit emotional."

**LEADING SCORES**

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Proteas on brink of humiliating defeat after Root Test best

**OUR ATTITUDE HAS BEEN GOOD AFTER DAY ONE, AND WE GOT OUR REWARDS**

Cricket

**TWENTY20**

Kuwait beat Oman by eight wickets

By Sports Reporter

Zain Jalil smashed a sizzling 60 and gave Kuwait a solid platform to capitalise on and seal the 23-run win over Oman on Thursday in the second round of the GCC Twenty20 competition for the Gulf States.

The Kuwaitis scored 125 for four in their 20 overs, bowling Oman out for 92 in the same number of overs.

Ihsan Jalil began well by taking three wickets in the opening over to reduce Oman to 27 for three. The opening bowler then struck three more in the 11th over but was removed for 38.

By that time, Ali Jawad had reached 20 and Fakhri Amin had scored 27 in the 13th over. After 20 overs, Kuwait had scored 87 with three wickets in hand. Oman were bowled out for 92 in the 19th over.

In the second innings, Kuwait scored 125 for four in their 20 overs, bowling Oman out for 92 in the same number of overs.

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**CRICKET**

**Rohit’s record ton trumps Smith’s as India clinch series**

2020 has been wonderful, and we just want to go on and upwards. Great for the team.

India won the toss and elected to bat first against Sri Lanka at Harare Sports Club in Harare yesterday.

**Scorecard**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Innings</th>
<th>Runs</th>
<th>Balls</th>
<th>Average</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rohit Sharma</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>116</td>
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<tr>
<td>KL Rahul</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>6.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shikhar Dhawan</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virat Kohli</td>
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<td>152</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suryakumar Yadav</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7.58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harbhajan Singh</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cummins</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shami</td>
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<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bumrah</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T Natarajan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kane Williamson</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowlers:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bumrah</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8.00</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>7.89</td>
</tr>
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Pakistan were bowled out for 77 in 11.4 overs (Irfan Ahmed 3-23) as they failed to build any meaningful partnerships.

India beat Zimbabwe by a record 245 runs in their first One Day International (ODI) against Zimbabwe in Harare.

India will play five Twenty20 matches in Auckland for a full series starting with a five-wicket win over the Aussies.

A Test series against South Africa is scheduled to start on January 23.

India are set to take on Australia in the third and final ODI at Lahore on January 24.

India bowled out the hosts for 34 runs in their first innings and followed it up with a 305-run total in their second innings.

India's victory in Harare was their 100th ODI triumph against Zimbabwe.

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