

**13** All Blacks bounce back to crush grieving Argentina



**14** Rare Joelinton strike helps Newcastle seal 2-0 victory



**15** Ahly overpower Zamalek, lift CAF Champions League title



## Man City batter Burnley 5-0

### Late penalty leaves Liverpool with draw at Brighton



MANCHESTER: Manchester City's Spanish midfielder Ferran Torres (left) scores his team's fourth goal during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Burnley at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester yesterday. — AFP

MANCHESTER: Manchester City found their shooting boots as Riyad Mahrez scored a hat-trick in a 5-0 thrashing of Burnley to bounce back to winning ways in the Premier League. Pep Guardiola's men had scored just seven goals in their previous seven league games to slip to 14th in the table before kick-off.

But for the fourth straight visit to the Etihad, Burnley conceded five times as City eased to within six points of league leaders Liverpool with a game in hand. Mahrez was one of four changes Guardiola made from a 1-0 win at Olympiakos in midweek that booked City's place in the last 16 of the Champions League, and took the most of his chance to start with Raheem Sterling left on the bench. The Algerian opened the floodgates on six minutes as he swept home Kevin De Bruyne's pass.

Mahrez then outwitted a sleeping Burnley defense as he latched onto Kyle Walker's throw-in before dancing round three challenges and firing on off the far post. De Bruyne was handed a rare rest in midweek and the Belgian was back to his best with another assist for Benjamin Mendy to score his first City goal over three years since arriving from Monaco. The French left-back produced an exqui-

site finish by cushioning De Bruyne's cross back across Bailey Peacock-Farrell, who had a Premier League debut to forget in the absence of England international Nick Pope.

After City's struggles to score goals in recent weeks, the hosts made sure to cash in after the break rather than saving their energies for a hectic upcoming schedule. Ferran Torres has been prolific in the Champions League since his signing from Valencia, but the Spanish international finally opened his Premier League account with a smart finish from Gabriel Jesus's lay-off. Torres was then replaced by Phil Foden and with his first touch Foden was the provider for Mahrez to complete his hat-trick in uncharacteristic fashion with a bullet header at the back post.

VAR came to Peacock-Farrell's rescue after he turned the ball into his own net after a fine save to deny Jesus, with the goal ruled out for offside against the Brazilian striker, before De Bruyne smashed against the post late on. However, five goals were enough for Guardiola's men to send out the message they are not out of a wide-open title race, especially with a favorable run of fixtures to come as Fulham, West Brom and Newcastle will also visit the Etihad before Boxing Day. — AFP



BRIGHTON: Brighton's English defender Ben White tackles Liverpool's Portuguese striker Diogo Jota (right) during the English Premier League football match between Brighton and Hove Albion and Liverpool yesterday. — AFP

## Reeling Inter end Sassuolo unbeaten start to go second

MILAN: Inter Milan powered back from their midweek Champions League defeat by Real Madrid to sweep aside Sassuolo 3-0 and move second in Serie A yesterday. Antonio Conte's side are on the brink of elimination from the elite European competition, but inflicted a first defeat this season on high-flying Sassuolo at the Mapei Stadium.

"We always play great games, but we still lack something in the finishing," said Chilean Alexis Sanchez who scored after just four minutes. "Against Real Madrid we made a lot of mistakes and we were timid coming onto the pitch. "But I have faith in my teammates and we have to do well against both the big and the small teams." Top Inter scorer Romelu Lukaku started on the bench along with Ashley Young, with Sassuolo without their number one scorer Francesco Caputo.

Sanchez scored the first minutes into the game following good work from Lautaro Martinez and poor defending from Sassuolo's Vlad Chiriches. It was a nightmare match for

Chiriches who then accidentally turned a powerful Arturo Vidal centre into his own net, with the Romanian later limping off with a muscular problem. Filip Djuricic missed a chance to pull the hosts back into the game, rattling the woodwork after 21 minutes. Roberto Gagliardini added a third after an hour, sealing a win to boost Inter before next week's European trip to Borussia Muenchengladbach.

Lukaku and Young came on in place of Lautaro and Sanchez for the final 10 minutes, with the Belgian forward having a goal ruled offside. Conte also brought on Christian Eriksen, who looks set to leave Inter in January after just one year. The Danish midfielder came on for Ivan Perisic for the final five minutes. "In January, if the player (Eriksen) has not taken part in some matches, he will be the first to ask to be transferred," Inter's CEO Giuseppe Marotta had said before the game.

"But we will have to do it without controversy." Inter move second ahead of Sassuolo, with both teams on 18 points after nine games, two points behind AC Milan who host Fiorentina today. A minute's silence was observed before the game for Diego Maradona with a photo of the former Argentina and Napoli star also projected on giant screens in the 10th minute of all matches in Italy. Champions Juventus, in fifth, headed for Benevento with Atalanta at home against Hellas Verona. — AFP

## Lewandowski hits 15th goal of season as Bayern stay top

BERLIN: Robert Lewandowski claimed his 15th goal this season in all competitions as Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich came from behind to claim a 3-1 win at Stuttgart yesterday. Stuttgart striker Tanguy Coulibaly, 19, fired the hosts into a shock early lead after a cross caught Bayern centre-backs David Alaba and Jerome Boateng napping.

However, Kingsley Coman equalized with a superb low finish before Lewandowski drilled home from 20 meters to put Bayern 2-1 up at the break. Brazil winger Douglas Costa, a second-half replacement for Coman, grabbed Bayern's third goal late on to seal a win which leaves the holders two points clear of RB Leipzig. Dortmund are third, four points behind Bayern, after crashing to a shock 2-1 defeat at home to Cologne.

Tunisia midfielder Ellyes Skhiri tapped in both Cologne goals from corners by ex-Dortmund winger Marius Wolf after being left unmarked at the far post on both occasions. With Dortmund 2-0 down on 60 minutes, coach Lucien Favre brought on three forwards - 16-year-old sensation Youssoufa Moukoko, Giovanni Reyna and Thorgan Hazard. Reyna, 18, set up Hazard to pull a goal back, but it was too little, too late. After scoring six goals in his previous two games, Dortmund striker Erling Braut Haaland was held in

check, squandering a golden chance to equalize just before the whistle.

Cologne avoided a club record 19th match without a win with their first victory in Dortmund since 1991. Leipzig climbed above Dortmund to second, two points behind Bayern, thanks to a 2-1 home win over plucky strugglers Arminia Bielefeld. Manchester City loanee Angelino gave Leipzig a first-half lead after a superb pass by 18-year-old Lazar Samardzic split the Bielefeld defense. Just 60 seconds after coming off the bench, forward Christopher Nkunku netted Leipzig's second goal early in the second half.

However, Bielefeld, who are second from bottom, finished the stronger. Their captain Fabian Klos pulled a goal back, just after Leipzig striker Alexander Sorloth had his penalty attempt saved on 73 minutes. The Norway international, bought to replace Timo Werner who joined Chelsea in the summer, is yet to score in 10 games for Leipzig after netting 24 goals in 34 games for Trabzonspor last season. Union Berlin are sixth after their action-packed 3-3 draw at home to Eintracht Frankfurt.

Max Kruse converted a penalty as Union raced into an early 2-0 lead, only for Portugal forward Andre Silva to net twice as Frankfurt led 3-2 late on. Former Germany striker Kruse, 32, bagged a superb strike to claim his sixth goal in nine games to equalise just before the whistle. Freiburg are winless in their last eight games after a 1-1 draw at Augsburg. Wolfsburg are fifth after their 5-3 win over Werder Bremen on Friday. Dutch striker Wout Weghorst struck twice for Wolfsburg while Bremen had goalscorer Kevin Moehwald sent off for a second booking. — AFP