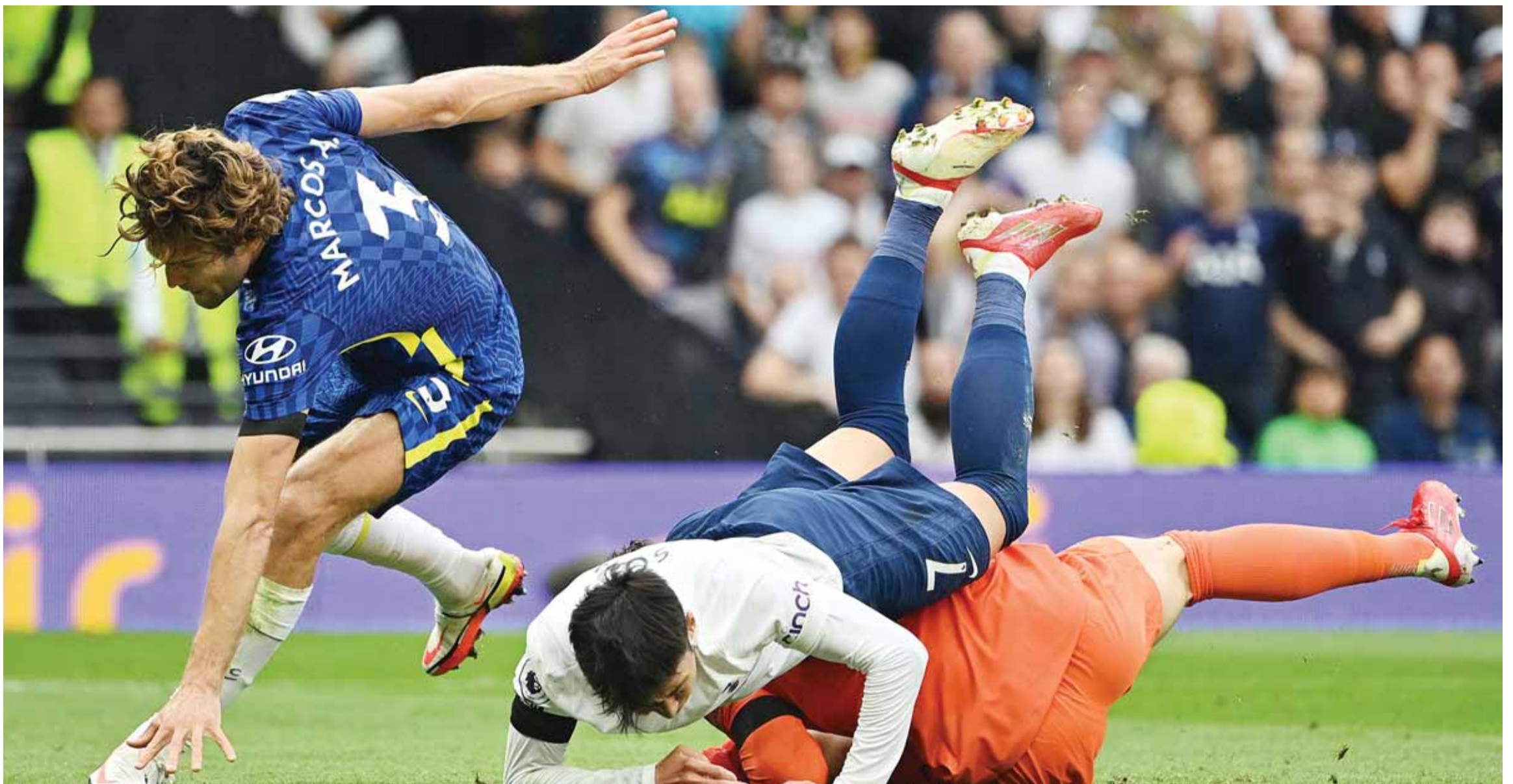


Chelsea outclass Spurs 3-0

Stars pay tribute to Greaves; Man United's De Gea, Lingard shine



LONDON: Chelsea's Spanish goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga (right) and Chelsea's Spanish defender Marcos Alonso block a shot from Tottenham Hotspur's South Korean striker Son Heung-Min (center) during the English Premier League football match between Tottenham Hotspur and Chelsea yesterday. — AFP

LONDON: Chelsea powered to the top of the Premier League with an impressive 3-0 win at Tottenham, while David de Gea saved a stoppage-time penalty to preserve Manchester United's 2-1 victory at West Ham after Jesse Lingard returned to haunt his old club yesterday. On an emotional day in north London, Chelsea and Tottenham paid tribute to their former striker Jimmy Greaves, who died aged 81 yesterday.

In a moving tribute, several former Tottenham greats, including Greaves' old team-mate Martin Chivers, lined up on the touchline to join both teams and the 62,000 crowd in a minute's applause. It was Chelsea who showed the predatory instincts that made Greaves Tottenham's record scorer with 266 goals in 379 appearances between 1961 and 1970. Greaves started his career with a prolific spell at Chelsea and netted 44 times in 57 appearances for England, featuring in their 1966 World Cup-winning squad. He would have admired the ruthless way Chelsea killed off their London rivals.

Thiago Silva put Chelsea ahead with a 49th minute header before N'Golo Kante netted with a long-range effort that deflected off Eric Dier eight minutes later. Kante's first club goal since December 2019 was followed by Antonio Rudiger's fine low finish in stoppage-time. Thomas Tuchel's unbeaten side sit top of the Premier League after winning four of their first five games, while Tottenham have suffered two successive top-flight defeats. Chelsea have only conceded one league goal so far this season despite a tricky fixture list that featured trips to Liverpool, Tottenham and Arsenal.

At the London Stadium, West Ham boss David Moyes, who tried to re-sign Lingard after his successful loan spell last season, saw the United substitute curl in the 89th minute winner. There was still time for heart-stopping drama when VAR ruled United defender Luke Shaw had handled the ball in the area. Moyes sent on club captain Mark Noble to take the spot-kick but De Gea leapt to his left to keep it out, prompting wild scenes of celebration

from the United players when the final whistle blew seconds later.

It was the United keeper's first penalty save since April 2016, ending a run of 40 successive spot-kicks faced for club and country without a save, including shoot-outs. Lingard's goal was welcome redemption for the England forward, whose woeful back-pass gifted Swiss side Young Boys a 2-1 Champions League win against United in midweek. "I had a good time at West Ham but I have to move on and do my best with Man United," Lingard said after securing his side's fourth win in five league games this term. "I have been working hard and to overcome last week wasn't easy but to get minutes and score was good."

Ronaldo strikes

Earlier, Cristiano Ronaldo tapped in to cancel out Said Benrahma's opener for his fourth goal in three games since his return to United from Juventus. West Ham took the lead in the 30th minute when Benrahma's effort from the edge of the box took a

huge deflection off Raphael Varane and completely wrong-footed De Gea. The goal galvanized the visitors and they were level just five minutes later, with Ronaldo poking the ball past Lukasz Fabianski after the goalkeeper had saved his initial shot following a Bruno Fernandes cross. Lingard left the Hammers faithful with a bitter taste in their mouths when he bent a beautiful shot into the top right corner.

Moyes defended his decision to hand penalty duties to Noble, usually rock-solid from the spot. "We got a penalty kick and I have one of the best penalty takers in the Premier League and Europe," he told the BBC. "I think if I hadn't made the decision I'd have been more annoyed with myself." Brighton maintained their surprisingly strong start, beating Leicester 2-1 to move up to fourth place. Neal Maupay scored a first-half penalty and Brighton doubled their lead through Danny Welbeck early in the second half. Jamie Vardy scored his 150th goal in all competitions for Leicester but it was not enough to rescue a point. — AFP

Dortmund hold off Union Berlin to climb to 2nd

BERLIN: Erling Braut Haaland scored with a stunning lob as his two-goal haul yesterday helped Borussia Dortmund hold off Union Berlin with a 4-2 home win to go second in the Bundesliga table. Haaland, 21, chipped the ball over the Union goalkeeper from the edge of the area seven minutes from time to see off Union who had fought back with second-half goals.

Raphael Guerreiro put Dortmund ahead with a stunning early volley at Signal Iduna Park before Haaland powered in a header. Union were 3-0 down early in the second half when their defender Marvin Friedrich turned the ball into his own net under pressure from Haaland. However, Germany striker Max Kruse netted a penalty for Union before his replacement Andreas Voglsammer headed the visitors back into the game with nine minutes left.

Haaland settled the matter when he spotted Union goalkeeper Andreas Luthe off his line and lunged at full stretch to lob the ball into the net. Having also hit a hat-trick in the German Cup this season, and also netted in the Champions League win at Besiktas on Wednesday, Haaland has scored 11 goals this season, including seven in five league games, making him the Bundesliga's joint top-scorer alongside Robert Lewandowski.

The Poland striker also netted on Saturday as Bayern Munich went top for the first time this season with a 7-0 thrashing of Bochum. The win over Union leaves Dortmund second in the table, a point behind Bayern, but level with third-placed Wolfsburg, who can regain top spot yesterday night if they beat



DORTMUND: Dortmund's Belgian midfielder Axel Witsel (left) looks on as Dortmund's German defender Mats Hummels (right) and Union Berlin's German midfielder Levin Oeztunalı vie for the ball during the German first division Bundesliga football match yesterday. — AFP

Eintracht Frankfurt at home. Earlier, teenager Florian Wirtz inspired Bayer Leverkusen to a 3-1 win at Stuttgart despite the visitors playing with only 10 men for an hour after Robert Andrich was sent off for a first-half red card.

Wirtz, already a full Germany international who turned 18 last May, slotted home Leverkusen's third goal to kill off Stuttgart's fightback after Andrich saw

red with only 30 minutes played. Leverkusen raced into a 2-0 lead after goals by Andrich and Patrik Schick, but Stuttgart pulled one back by Belgium attacking midfielder Orel Mangala before Wirtz grabbed the winner 20 minutes from time. The win lifts Leverkusen to fourth in the table, three points behind Bayern, while Stuttgart are down in 14th with just four points from their first five games. — AFP

Celtic suffer a shock defeat; Rangers held

GLASGOW: Celtic suffered a shock 1-0 defeat at Livingston, while champions Rangers were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw against Motherwell in yesterday's Scottish Premiership action. Andrew Shinnie's first-half strike consigned Celtic to a sixth defeat in seven away games under new boss Ange Postecoglou.

Shinnie, playing as a makeshift striker, got across Stephen Welsh and fired the only goal into the top corner in the 25th minute. Livingston held on for their first league win of the season as they climbed off the bottom of the table. That cool finish was the sort of quality Celtic lacked in the final third as they failed to make their possession count, leaving them without a win in their last five games at the Tony Macaroni Arena.

Rangers dropped league points at Ibrox for the first time since March 2020. On the day fans cheered the unfurling of the Premiership champions flag for the first time in a decade before kick-off, Steven Gerrard's side saw a run of 21 home wins ended. Fashion Sakala scored his first competitive goal for the club with 12 minutes gone. But Motherwell would spoil the party in the 66th minute when Kaiyne Woolery stabbed home an equalizer.

Rangers sit top of the table, one point clear of second-placed Hibernian and four in front of sixth-placed Celtic after six games. Ian Harkes' late strike earned Dundee United a 1-0 victory over Dundee in the first top-flight derby between the rivals since 2016. Chances were few and far between but the hosts eventually made the breakthrough with nine minutes left when Harkes fired home from the edge of the area. Dundee, who were denied a stoppage-time equalizer when Jordan Marshall's shot was blocked on the line by Ryan Edwards, are still without a win after six league fixtures this season. — AFP