

Sports

Man City go three points clear after four-goal De Bruyne masterclass

LONDON: Kevin De Bruyne produced a four-goal masterclass as Manchester City thrashed Wolves 5-1 to move three points clear at the top of the Premier League, while Chelsea consolidated their top-four place and pushed Leeds deeper into relegation trouble on Wednesday. City had seen second-placed Liverpool go level on points with them after a 2-1 win at Aston Villa on Tuesday.

But De Bruyne's brilliant display ensured Pep Guardiola's side responded emphatically as a thrilling title race enters the final furlong. After De Bruyne put City ahead in the seventh minute from Bernardo Silva's pass, the leaders were briefly rocked by Leander Dendoncker's equalizer four minutes later. But De Bruyne extinguished Wolves' hopes of a shock win as he completed his hat-trick with two more lethal finishes in the 16th and 24th minutes.

He bagged his fourth goal from close range in the 60th minute and Raheem Sterling put the seal on the demolition with an 85th-minute tap-in. The Belgium midfielder's heroics mean City need four points from their last two games to be guaranteed a fourth Premier League title in the last five seasons. Guardiola lavished praise on De Bruyne, saying: "Unstoppable, brilliant, awesome, outstanding, perfect! He has the ability to create the special things. He has to score goals and this season is the most prolific he has had since we are together."

If City can win at West Ham on Sunday, they will climb six points clear of Liverpool before Jurgen Klopp's quadruple-chasing team next play in the league at Southampton on Tuesday. City's second goal spree in four days after the 5-0 rout of Newcastle on Sunday also gives them an important seven-goal advantage over Liverpool in the goal difference column. "If we win these games we will be champions. Now recover the players and the next

final for us is against West Ham," Guardiola said.

Their latest win was even more impressive given City are without injured defenders Ruben Dias, John Stones and Kyle Walker for the rest of the season, with Aymeric Laporte limping off in the second half at Molineux. While Liverpool have maintained a blistering pace in pursuit of City since January, Guardiola's team have been up to the challenge. After drawing with Liverpool on April 10, City have won five successive league games, scoring 22 times and conceding only twice.

Clinical Chelsea

Chelsea moved to the brink of qualifying for next season's Champions League with a 3-0 victory at struggling Leeds. Thomas Tuchel's side won for the first time since Todd Boehly's consortium agreed a deal to buy Chelsea from Roman Abramovich last week. Mason Mount opened the scoring in the early stages at Elland Road and Leeds suffered another blow when Daniel James was sent off.

Christian Pulisic bagged Chelsea's second goal after half-time and Romelu Lukaku wrapped up the Blues' first win in four games. Third-placed Chelsea are now eight points clear of fifth-placed Tottenham and will be guaranteed a top-four finish if Antonio Conte's team fail to beat fourth-placed Arsenal on Thursday.

Arresting their worrying recent slump was the ideal preparation for Chelsea ahead of Saturday's FA Cup final against Liverpool at Wembley. "We accepted all the obstacles we'd have to face, a physical team and an emotional stadium. We were strong from the beginning and deserved to win," said Tuchel, who revealed Mateo Kovacic could miss the final with an ankle injury.

While Chelsea look to end the season on a high, Leeds are in grave danger of relegation. Jesse



WOLVERHAMPTON: Manchester City's Belgian midfielder Kevin De Bruyne fights for the ball with Wolverhampton Wanderers' English defender Conor Coady during their English Premier League match at the Molineux stadium on May 11, 2022. —AFP

Marsch's men sit third-bottom of the table, behind fourth-bottom Burnley on goal difference. Burnley have three games left compared to only two for Leeds, who host Brighton and travel to Brentford in the matches that will decide if their two-season stay in the top flight is destined to end with a return to the Championship.

Everton moved two points clear of Leeds after a

0-0 draw at relegated Watford. Frank Lampard's side have lost just once in their last six matches to climb out of the relegation zone. They also have a game in hand on Leeds in the fight for survival. Jamie Vardy scored twice and James Maddison also netted as Leicester beat relegated Norwich 3-0 at the King Power Stadium to end a run of seven games without a win. —AFP

Teams prepare for Gulf Games

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: The third Gulf Games will begin on Friday with women's athletics in the presence of heads of Gulf Federations. The Head of the Asian Federation Dahlan Al-Hamad will arrive on Saturday. The Friday morning competitions will include the semifinals of the 100m race and the 100m and 400m hurdles. The evening competitions will include the finals of the pole vault, 100m race, 100m hurdles, shotput, long jump, 10,000m race, javelin throw and 400m race.

Competitions will be completed on Saturday with the 100m hurdles, heptathlon 1, semifinal of the 400m hurdles, 800m race, the finals of the long jump and heptathlon 2. In the evening, the finals of the discus throw, shot put, heptathlon 3, 400m hurdles, triple jump, 800m, 2,000m hurdles, 200m race, heptathlon 4 and 100m relay.

President of Athletics Federation Sayyar Al-Enezi said the Ahmad Al-Rashdan track and field stadium in Kaifan is ready for the Gulf event, and expressed his pleasure on the participation of women in the Gulf Games for the first time. He appreciated the efforts of Kuwait Olympic Committee President Sheikh Fahad Al-Nasser and Director General of the Public Authority for Sport Dr Humoud Fulaiteh for the development of the field and tracks.

Chairwoman of the Women Committee and Head of the Women's National Team Hanan Al-Hardan said Kuwait athletes are well prepared as they began training since February, all the way up to the training camp that began on Saturday.



Men's handball team.



Women's athletics team

Meanwhile, the men's futsal team will start its competition against UAE at Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah complex Saturday evening following a match between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. Technical Director at the Handball Federation Dr Khalid Al-Sharji said the national team went into a camp Thursday prior to the start of competition, adding that training will be in the mornings and evenings before leaving for Doha for a training camp there. The team will play two friendlies with Qatar before returning home to get ready for its opener May 25. Sharji asked fans to back the handball team during competitions and encourage the young players who are in need of

such support.

The Kuwait swimming team continues its training at Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Complex at Nasser Club to get ready for the start of competition on Tuesday. Team Director Zainalabideen Mohammad commended the players' discipline, adding that two-hour daily preparations began two months ago, adding all players are fit and no injuries have taken place. Deputy Chairwoman of the Basketball Women Committee Hanan Al-Zayed said "we selected the best players from clubs during the league and federation cup competitions, as eight players were selected." She said the team will train in Turkey from May 15 to 25.

Atletico seal Champions League qualification after win over Elche

MADRID: Atletico Madrid secured qualification for the Champions League on Wednesday as a 2-0 victory away at Elche guaranteed their place in La Liga's top four. Matheus Cunha and Rodrigo De Paul were both on target as Atletico pulled six points clear of Real Betis in fifth, with two games left to play. Atletico also have the superior head-to-head record over Betis.

Sevilla, though, failed to make sure of their top-four spot as the team's poor end to the season had earlier continued with a goalless draw at home to struggling Mallorca. Atletico look likely now to finish third and although the defense of their league title has been hugely disappointing - they are 14 points behind Real Madrid - Diego Simeone's side have at least avoided missing out on the Champions League, which for a while seemed a very real possibility.

"I'm happy for the players," said Simeone. "It's been an up and down season, with a Champions League when we competed very well and a La Liga where we haven't been able to maintain our consistency. It's not what we imagined but we have achieved the objective - the Champions League for another year, which is very important for the club."

In December, Atletico lost four league games in a row for the first time ever under Simeone, before defeat by Levante, who sat bottom of the table, prompted crisis talks between coach and players in February. But five consecutive victories in March proved crucial and while

there has been another dip in recent weeks, Atletico have done just enough to seal Champions League qualification for a 10th consecutive year.

Cunha turns home

Cunha gave Atleti the lead in the 28th minute as Antoine Griezmann picked out Renan Lodi's run down the left and Cunha was in the right place to divert in the cross to the near post. The visitors made it two shortly after the hour, De Paul finishing off a superb move after a slick exchange with Lodi, who had again broken through the Elche defense.

Atletico play at home on Sunday to Sevilla, whose stalemate against Mallorca at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan should only delay their qualification given they sit five points clear of Betis, with two games left to play. Sevilla will need only one more point to guarantee they finish ahead of Betis, as they also have the better head-to-head with their city rivals.

But Julen Lopetegui's side do have two tricky last games, with Sunday's trip to the Wanda Metropolitan coming before a final match at home to Athletic Bilbao. And even if they get over the line, Sevilla are ending what was once a promising campaign with a whimper, after just three wins now in their last 12 in all competitions. There were whistles from the home fans while Mallorca were hardly satisfied with a draw either. They stay 18th, two points adrift of safety, with Cadiz ahead of them playing a game in hand away at Real Sociedad on Thursday. —AFP

Classifieds

Hospitals & Clinics

Sabah Hospital	24812000	Adaliya	22517144
Amiri Hospital	22450005	Khaldiya	24848075
Maternity Hospital	24843100	Kaifan	24849807
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700	Shamiya	24848913
Chest Hospital	24849400	Shuwaikh	24814507
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010	Abdullah Salem	22549134
Adan Hospital	23940620	Nuzha	22526804
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300	Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000	Qadsiya	22515088
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9	Dasmah	22532265
		Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
		Shaab	22518752
		Qibla	22459381
		Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
		Mirqab	22456536
		Sharq	22465401
		Salmiya	25746401

Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733

CHANGE OF NAME

OLD NAME: MUSTAFA ALI, NEW NAME: MUSTAFA AMJERAWALA, NEW ADDRESS: 251 MASAKIN E SAIFIA, BIJALPUR, INDORE, M.P. (C #1448) 12-5-22

EMERGENCY

112

Automated enquiry about the Civil ID card is 1889988

For labor-related inquiries and complaints:

Call MSALHOTLINE 128



Mr. Laurent Feraudet, French national, son of Mr. Michel Feraudet, resident of 53 Bis Rue De Versailles 91400 Orsay and Ms. Kimberly Sarah D Souza, Indian national, daughter of Mr. Alwyn D Souza, resident of 22/8 Model Town Apts, Mahakali Caves Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400093 both presently residing in Kuwait, have given notice of intended marriage between them under the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969. If anyone has any objection to the proposed marriage, he/she may file the same with the undersigned according to the procedure laid down under the Act/Rule within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice. Communications in this regard can be made by Email (cw2.kuwait@mea.gov.in) / letters/ telephonic calls (00965 - 22550171, 00965 - 22533125).

First Secretary (Community Affairs) and Marriage Officer, Embassy of India, Kuwait. Email: cw2.kuwait@mea.gov.in