

## Premiership

## Kewell stars for leaders

## Football

AFP, London

Australia international Harry Kewell scored twice as Leeds United beat Derby County 3-0 to move back to the top of the English Premiership on Sunday.

Elsewhere an extra-time penalty saw Middlesbrough secure a 2-2 draw away to Chelsea while across London West Ham moved off the bottom of the table with a 3-0 victory over Newcastle.

Leeds took the lead in the first half when Norwegian midfielder Eirik Bakke headed home Ian Harte's free kick in the ninth minute.

But the three points were not wrapped up until Kewell struck twice in four minutes late in the second half.

A left-foot shot into the bottom corner after 74 minutes made it 2-0 before a strong header from Lee Bowyer's cross assured Leeds of victory in front of their Elland Road faithful.

David O'Leary's side are now two points ahead of Bolton with a game in hand.

"It's about time I got on the score-sheet," Kewell told Sky Sports Premiership Plus. "They (Derby) were still in the game. They are a good team," said Kewell. "It took time to break them down."

"They came here to win and it took time for us to find the gaps, but when we scored we knew we'd get more chances."

At Stamford Bridge an injury time penalty from Croatia forward Alen Boksic gave Middlesbrough a point, England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson in the crowd.

Former England full-back Graeme Le Saux was judged to have used his arm in controlling a Carlos Marinelli cross and Boksic made no mistake from the spot.

Disappointed Chelsea boss Claudio Ranieri said: "I spoke with the linesman, and in my opinion Graeme Le Saux caught the ball with his hand. For the linesman, it was intentional."

"From the bench, it was very difficult to watch the situation - the box was very far away. It was very difficult to see, but I've seen it on television, and in my opinion it wasn't intentional."

Earlier a double strike from Holland forward Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink put Chelsea 2-0 up at half-time.

In the third minute he latched onto an Eidur Gudjohnsen through-ball before rounding Middlesbrough goalkeeper Mark Crossley and



PHOTO: AFP

Chelsea's Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink celebrates his strike against Middlesbrough during their Premiership encounter at Stamford Bridge in London on September 23.

finishing calmly.

His second, in the 37th minute, demonstrated his predator's instinct in the box.

Middlesbrough failed to clear a Bouweijen Zenden corner and Hasselbaink spun before firing the ball home from inside the six-yard box.

But the visitors bounced back after the break when substitute Robbie Stockdale scored with a deflected volley.

Across town West Ham gave under pressure boss Glenn Roeder something to celebrate at last. Their first league goal in open play this season, a Don Hutchison header after French midfielder Laurent Courtois crossed from a quickly

taken corner gave them an 18th minute lead.

Then inspirational Italian playmaker Paolo Di Canio doubled the lead in the 52nd minute. Released by Scotland international Christian Dailey's ball over the top he turned full-back Warren Barton inside out before his low shot arrowed into the far corner.

French striker Freddie Kanoute finished off the visitors with a goal eight minutes from time.

The result saw Newcastle's appalling London record continue. This was the 26th consecutive match in which they had failed to win in the capital.

Newcastle's former England manager Bobby Robson was

angered by referee Peter Jones' refusal to award a penalty when Robbie Elliott went down in the box in the opening minutes.

Robson told Sky Sports: "There is such a controversy over divers at the moment, but there are divers and there are clear penalties."

"If the referee thought that's what it was (a dive), maybe Robbie should have had a yellow card for diving."

"West Ham deserved to pick up the three points though, I told the lads we were poor and got what we deserved, it was a wretched day."

But West Ham manager Glenn Roeder, in his first season in charge was relieved to see his side win at last.

"It was nice to get the first win of the season in front of our own supporters."

"To score three goals was terrific and just as important was that we kept a clean sheet."

"Tomas Repka had a fantastic (home) debut and Don Hutchison did well but I'm just pleased with all of them."

## Premiership's top six

English Premiership table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

	Leeds United	6	4	2	0	9	1	14
Bolton	7	3	3	1	10	4	12	
Arsenal	6	3	2	1	14	5	11	
Man United	6	3	2	1	17	10	11	
Chelsea	5	2	3	0	9	6	9	
Liverpool	5	3	0	2	8	7	9	

Leeds United 6 4 2 0 9 1 14

Bolton 7 3 3 1 10 4 12

Arsenal 6 3 2 1 14 5 11

Man United 6 3 2 1 17 10 11

Chelsea 5 2 3 0 9 6 9

Liverpool 5 3 0 2 8 7 9

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Champions AS Roma got back to winning ways but left it late to post a 2-1 home victory over Fiorentina.

The visitors from Florence took the lead at Rome with Italian international defender Daniele Adani scoring with a textbook header from a corner past Francesco Antonioli.

Just four minutes later Roma skipper Francesco Totti levelled from the spot after a foul on Vincenzo Montella.

But the late winner from defender Christian Panucci, recently signed from French outfit Monaco, gave Fabio Capello's side their long overdue first success

since winning the Scudetto.

"Getting out of the crisis means all of us pulling together," said Capello. "We played well in Brussels without reward (the 0-0 draw with Anderlecht in the Champions League) and we deserved this result."

Chievo continued their fairytale start to life in the First Division with a 4-2 home victory over fellow promoted Piacenza at Verona.

Piacenza's veteran striker Dario Hubner gave the visitors an eighth-minute lead but Eugenio Corini squared the match from the penalty spot for the Verona-based hosts, enjoying their first ever season in

the top flight.

With half-time approaching

Christian Manfredini, who hails from the Ivory Coast, put Chievo ahead with a brilliant effort.

After the resumption Corini set up a third for Simone Perrotta, who was born in England, and then scored the fourth himself before Hubner sneaked a late consolation.

Greek striker Stasios Vryzas gave Perugia an early lead at home to Udinese but it was cancelled out by an equaliser from Dane Martin Jorgensen on the stroke of half-time.

Chilean David Pizarro celebrated recently becoming father of a baby girl by scoring a brilliant freekick after the break for Udinese to give English coach Roy Hodgson a 2-1 win, his first Serie A triumph in charge.

Udinese's Giampiero Pinzi, a substitute, was sent off in the closing minutes but Hodgson's men held firm.

Atlanta, pointless at the start of play, took the lead at home to Verona at Bergamo when Cristiano Doni notched a fine freekick in the first half and that proved enough for a 1-0 victory.

But Venezia were denied their first point of the season when Bologna's Lamberto Zauli, signed on loan from Second Division Vicenza during the week, struck a winner deep into injury time for a 1-0 victory.

Out-of-touch Parma got their first win of the season when Japanese midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata sneaked a 1-0 win over Brescia in a match where Parma's French goalkeeper Sébastien Frey had earlier made several superb saves.

Brescia's Daniele Bonera was red-carded immediately after the goal but it was a brilliant strike with Nakata volleying home after a fine run and cross from Marco Di Vaio.

Brescia coach Carlo Mazzone, who witnessed the end of a club record 20 matches without a Serie A defeat, admitted: "We did everything we could, we played well - it was just one of those things."

The only incident of note in Saturday's 0-0 draw between Juventus and Lecce was the injury-time brawl that led to the sending off of Alberto Savino of Lecce and Juve's Uruguayan defender Paolo Montero.

Up stepped Sierra Leone's Kallon to convert the penalty, his fourth of the season putting him joint top of the Serie A goalscorers charts with Fiorentina's Enrico Chiesa, AC Milan's Ukrainian forward Andriy Shevchenko and Albanian Igli Tare, who plays for Brescia.

"It was not the best performance," admitted Argentinian Cuper. "But the important thing was



PHOTO: AFP

Manuel Rui Costa (L) tries hard to keep possession against Gaizka Mendieta of Lazio during their Serie A fixture at Milan on September 23.

## Serie A's top six

Italian First Division table here after Sunday matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

	Juventus	4	3	1	0	9	2	10
AC Milan	4	3	1	0	11	5	10	
Inter Milan	4	3	1	0	9	4	10	
Chievo	4	3	0	1	10	5	9	
Bologna	4	3	0	1	3	2	9	
Lecce	4	1	3	0	4	3	6	

Juventus 4 3 1 0 9 2 10

AC Milan 4 3 1 0 11 5 10

Inter Milan 4 3 1 0 9 4 10

Chievo 4 3 0 1 10 5 9

Bologna 4 3 0 1 3 2 9

Lecce 4 1 3 0 4 3 6

## Cuper unhappy at Ronaldo recall

REUTERS, Milan

Inter Milan's Argentine coach Hector Cuper has said he is unhappy about Ronaldo's call-up to the Brazil squad for their World Cup qualifier against Chile in October.

The twice World Player of the Year had been out of action for 17 months following a knee operation before he made a substitute appearance for Inter in their 3-0 UEFA Cup win over Bresov on Thursday.

United made only a lukewarm start against Lille last week, a last-minute effort from David Beckham securing a far from convincing 1-0 win over the French minnows.

Deportivo, the 2000 Spanish league champions, are looking well capable of giving Real Madrid, Barcelona and company a run for their money once more in the Primera Liga, which they top after four matches.

United, if nothing else, illustrated their strength in depth - and the appetite of "reserves" such as Ole Gunnar Solskjær to stake their own claims for a regular place - when coach Sir Alex Ferguson made nine changes ahead of Saturday's 4-0 win over Ipswich.

"But my worry derives exclusively from the fact that he will need to interrupt this very important work for a certain period," added the former Valencia coach.

Cuper suggested that the Brazilian team may want to follow instructions from Inter on the training methods for Ronaldo.

"My wish is that with Brazil he can follow the program outlined by our medical staff," said Cuper.

Ronaldo ruptured knee ligaments during the Italian Cup final in April 2000 and subsequently underwent surgery in Paris.

Brazil are currently clinging on to fourth place in the South American World Cup qualifying standings, with fifth-placed Uruguay level with them on 24 points from 15 games.

The four-time world champions run a serious risk of missing out on the World Cup finals for the first time in the history of the competition.

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