

Manchester United midfielder Park Ji-Sung (2nd from L) scores the late winner during their Premier League match against Wolves at Old Trafford on Saturday.

Espanyol ride on Marquez

AFP, Madrid



An amazing 30-yard strike from Javier Marquez gave Espanyol a 1-0 win over struggling Malaga on Saturday and moved them into a Champions League place.

There was only a minute on the clock when Marquez let fly with his left-foot and the ball flew into the top corner.

It meant an uphill battle already for thirdfrom-bottom Malaga whose defence appeared to lose their nerve as Espanyol dominated the opening exchanges. Pablo Osvaldo should have

doubled the lead but his tame shot was beaten away by the keeper Arnau Grabulosa. Espanyol took their foot off the pedal and Malaga grew in

confidence as the first half wore on and Eliseu Pereira and Nabil Baha were guilty of bad misses. In a scrappy second half Malaga had chances on the break but

came closest to scoring from a long-range effort from Quincy Owusu-Abeyie which came back of the crossbar. Earlier Real Sociedad beat Racing Santander 1-0 thanks to a

clinical strike from Joseba Llorente.

This was Real's fourth victory in five games and they went ahead after just six minutes when in-form Llorente latched onto a clever through-ball by Xabi Prieto and made no mistake with his finish. The visitors were guilty of giving the ball away cheaply and Antoine Griezmann went close to doubling the lead when his lob went over the crossbar.

Park leaves it late

AFP, London



United left it late to close the gap on eaders Chelsea as Park Ji-Sung's

Manchester

stoppage-time strike clinched a dramatic 2-1 win over Wolves at Old Trafford on Saturday. Sir Alex Ferguson's side

moved within two points of Chelsea thanks to Park's heroics on a miserable day for United midfielder Owen Hagreaves, whose comeback from a long injury absence lasted less than six minutes. South Korea midfielder

Park gave United the lead just before the break when he latched onto Darren Fletcher's pass and fired home.

Former United trainee

Sylvan Ebanks-Blake stunned Old Trafford when he equalised in the 66th minute with his first contribution after coming off the bench, pouncing on a poor shot from Nenad Milijas and driving past Edwin van der Sar. But Park stole the show

with a fine individual effort in the last seconds.

While United were celebrating, there was despair for Hargreaves as the United midfielder limped off with a hamstring injury just six minutes into his first start for over two years following recurring knee problems.

Ferguson told MUTV. "Given performance was difficult.

touches of flu and others with diarrhoea, so we've done

really well to get a result." Chelsea can reopen their

AFP, Berlin

"It was a long struggle,"

the changes I had to make, trying to get the continuity of "Some players played with

five-point advantage with a win at Liverpool on Sunday, while Arsenal would go back above United if they defeat Newcastle. Bolton brought Tottenham

back down to earth after their Champions League heroics as the hosts beat Harry Redknapp's team 4-2 at the Reebok Stadium. Just four days ago, Spurs

were the toast of Europe after their Gareth Bale-inspired victory against holders Inter But Kevin Davies fired

Bolton ahead from an offside position in the first half before Gretar Rafn Steinsson increased their lead after the interval. Davies added a third from the penalty spot and, although

Alan Hutton and Roman Pavlyuchenko struck for Tottenham to set up a nervous finish, Martin Petrov netted Bolton's fourth. "The goals we shipped were

poor goals but they weren't going to stand off us and let us play. They worked their socks off and made it difficult for us," Redknapp said. Birmingham piled on the

misery for West Ham coowner David Gold as Alex McLeish's side battled back for a 2-2 draw at St Andrew's.

Gold was barred from the directors' box after angering Birmingham supremo Carson Yeung with some controversial comments about the club he used to own with David Sullivan.

His bottom of the table team were cruising when Frederic Piquionne struck in the 48th minute before Valon Behrami netted 10 minutes later.

But Cameron Jerome got one back for Birmingham in the 64th minute and Liam

Ridgewell equalised in the 73rd minute after Rob Green parried Sebastian Larsson's free-kick. Everton's Seamus

Coleman returned to haunt Blackpool as he rescued a 2-2 draw at Bloomfield Road. Ian Holloway's hosts went

ahead as Neal Eardley marked his 22nd birthday with a superb 10th minute free-kick. Everton levelled when

Australia midfielder Tim Cahill met Ayegbeni Yakubu's cross in the 13th minute to

Tevez thrashes depression claims

AFP, London

Manchester City striker Carlos Tevez has rubbished reports he has been seeing a psychiatrist in an effort to overcome depres-Tevez returned to England

from Argentina this week after

flying home for treatment on a dead leg which forced him to miss City's last two matches. The former Manchester United star also took the time to see his two young daugh-

ters, who have returned to their homeland with their mother following the ending of their relationship. Tevez's City teammate Roque Santa Cruz recently suggested his fellow South American was homesick, while

reports emerged in Argentina suggesting the player was seeking professional help. However, a spokesman for the player played down the

stories on Saturday. SEE PAGE 18 COL

RESULTS

Birmingham 2 (Jerome 64, Ridgewell 73) West Ham 2 (Piquionne 48, Behrami 58)

Roberts 67) Wigan 1 (N'Zogbia 74) Blackpool 2 (Eardley 10, Vaughan 48) Everton 2 (Cahill 13, Coleman 50) Bolton 4 (Davies 31, 76-pen, Steinsson 56, Petrov 90) Tottenham 2 (Hutton 79, Pavlyuchenko 87)

Blackburn 2 (Gamst Pedersen 58,

Fulham 1 (Hangeland 90) Aston Villa 1 (Albrighton 41) Manchester United 2 (Park 45, 90) Wolverhampton 1 (Ebanks-Blake 66)

head home his 50th Premier League goal. David Vaughan's deflected

effort restored Blackpool's lead in the 48th minute. But Coleman, who helped Blackpool win promotion

during a loan spell last season, equalised two minutes later when Matt Gilks' allowed his shot to squirm into the net. "We showed a lot of character but we started badly. We

made the wrong decision too many times," Everton boss David Moyes said. Fulham defender Brede Hangeland bagged a last-gasp

equaliser as the Cottagers rescued a 1-1 draw against Aston Villa, who had taken the lead through Marc Albrighton. Morten Gamst Pedersen and

Jason Roberts scored as Blackburn climbed out of the relegation zone with a 2-1 win overWigan that sent their opponents into the bottom three. Sunderland striker

Asamoah Gvan marked his first Premier League start with a double-strike as his side defeated 10-man Stoke 2-0 at the Stadium of Light after a Ryan Shawcross red card.

Further woe for Hargreaves AFP, Manchester

Owen Hargreaves lasted less than five minutes in his first Premier League start since September 2008 as the Manchester United midfielder limped off against Wolves at Old Trafford. Hargreaves seemed to have

been written out of United manager Sir Alex Ferguson's plans this season as he struggled to overcome long-term knee problems. But the England star was

surprisingly included in the Siro. United line-up on Saturday for his first senior appearance since coming on as a substitute for less than a minute at Sunderland last season. Hargreaves' first touch was

greeted by cheers from the home support, but less than five minutes had gone before the former Bayern Munich player, having just crossed from the right, came to the touchline holding his hamstring.

There was clearly a problem and, although Hargreaves tried to continue, he quickly turned towards the dug-out and signalled he had to come off.

Schweinsteiger coy about extension

AFP, Munich

Bayern Munich star Bastian Schweinsteiger said on Saturday that the decision of his teammate Philipp Lahm to extend his contract will not influence his own decision on whether he stays at the club. Spanish giants Real Madrid

are rumoured to be chasing Germany midfielder Schweinsteiger and Bayern are keen for their playmaker to sign an extension to his contract, which expires in 2012. Last week, Germany

defender Lahm signed a contract extension that will keep him at Bayern until 2016, but Schweinsteiger says he will not be swayed by his teammate's decision.

"The fact Philipp has decided to extend his contract plays no role in my decision," Schweinsteiger told German daily Bild.

"I will not allow myself to be put under pressure."

Schweinsteiger hinted last week that he would be happy to extend his contract and

Bayern president Uli Hoeness

has said the German giants are set to offer him a deal. "We will not be unfair, because we know precisely the

importance he has for us," said Hoeness.

Brescia angry at Eto'o

AFP, Rome

Inter Milan forward Samuel Eto'o was the focus of Brescia anger after he won and converted a penalty in the 1-1 draw at the San Siro.

The Cameroon captain slipped on the ball in the box under pressure from Gaetano Berardi only for the referee to point to the spot. Eto'o dusted himself down

to slot it into the corner 17 minutes from time and cancel out Andrea Caracciolo's 14th minute opener. But according to Brescia

forward Alessandro Diamanti, Eto'o admitted after the game that he knew it wasn't a spot-kick. "Eto'o told me that he

slipped on the ball," Diamanti

he said.

Allegri calls for nasty touch AFP, Rome



AC Milan coach Massimiliano Allegri has told his team to get nastier if they want to win anything important this sea-Milan missed out on a vital

Champions League victory in midweek by conceding a goal four minutes into injury time as Real Madrid snatched a 2-2 draw at the San And ahead of Sunday's trip to Bari, Allegri

has told his players to stop being so nice, although Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Oguchi Onyewu seemed to have already got the message on Friday. The pair were involved in a furious training

ground bust-up following a bad tackle by the Sweden forward on the United States defender.

Allegri said a mountain had been made out of a molehill and claimed the pair have kissed

and made up but he still wants something extra from his team.

"In the decisive moments in games we need a little more malice and calmness in managing the ball in the final third," he said at Saturday's pre-match press conference.

"We're coming off really tense matches but we have to improve these situations and also other things. "It will be a difficult game, we're coming off a

great physical and mental effort but we have to try to win tomorrow for the standings, we need to rediscover the victory that has been missing for two games. "We're playing a team that plays well and if

we don't show the right concentration, patience and countermeasures we'll have a lot of problems. "They'll play the game of their lives against

us but we need to be intelligent, they're fresh and have had more time to prepare for the game than us."



Inter Milan striker Samuel Eto'o' (C) holds off the challenges of Brescia's Davide Zobolli (L) and Nicolas Andres Cordova during their Serie A clash at the San Siro in Milan on Saturday.

Inter salvage a draw

(Caracciolo 14)

AFP, Rome



Samuel Eto'o converted a hotly disputed penalty to earn injury-hit champions Inter Milan a point in a disappointing 1-1 home draw with newly promoted Brescia on Saturday. Andrea Caracciolo had

notched his 17th goal in 16 games in this incredible season for the Cameroon captain after he himself went down in the box. However, TV replays showed Eto'o had

given stubborn Brescia a first half lead but Eto'o

fallen over after treading on the ball under pressure from Gaetano Berardi. Brescia coach Giuseppe Iachini and goal-

keeper Michele Arcari complained about the penalty award. "For the way the game developed, for what we did tactically and our performance, yes

there's bitterness because we could have had 3 points," said Iachini." Arcari added: "Maybe it was a penalty but there was a

but we're at the San Siro and we're Brescia." Inter Milan 1 (Eto'o 73-pen) Brescia 1 The draw means secondplaced Inter closed the gap to leaders Lazio to three points

foul beforehand on Berardi,

ahead of Sunday's Rome derby in which the sky blues host Roma. Inter coach Rafael Benitez unsurprisingly

saw things differently. "From the bench it seemed a penalty to me,"

However, what he could not hide from was Inter's third successive home draw in the league. Inter have scored just 12 goals in 10 Serie A

games, less than half the 26 they had at the same stage last season. "We can talk about (Diego) Milito, Eto'o,

(Goran) Pandev, all these players have to score goals, that's the difference (to last year)," said Benitez.

Milito has scored only twice this season after 30 in 51 games last time while Pandev has scored none, although he managed only three in 27 in the previous campaign.

With a dearth of fit central midfielders, Benitez was forced to play Wesley Sneijder in an unfamiliar defensive midfield position but he still had the first sight of goal, forcing Michele Arcari into a low save from his free-kick.

had a smart turn and shot on 10 minutes that sneaked just wide. But Brescia were ahead on 14 minutes,

Milito, starting his first game for a month,

moments after Alessandro Diamanti's shot had been deflected wide. Nicolas Cordova launched a diagonal ball

forward and while Caracciolo's first touch was excellent, his second wasn't but he got a lucky break to bundle past Walter Samuel and then managed to slide in to beat Lucio to the ball and slip it under Luca Castellazzi.

Inter's response was immediate with Eto'o flicking a header just wide, Arcari beating away a fierce Coutinho effort and an Eto'o cross glancing the bar.

Pandev had two chances just after the half hour mark to

but he shot wide with the first Bologna 2 (Di Vaio 84, Gimenez 85) and sliced the second high and wide from seven yards following Eto'o's brilliant tee-up. Inter were almost made to

open his account for the season

pay again when Jonathan Zebina went on a marauding run forward before heading wide at the back post.

Inter's injury problems weren't helped by Maicon picking up a hamstring problem in the first half while Samuel had to come off a few minutes after the restart following a clash of knees with Caracciolo.

And as Benitez had chosen to replace Sneijder with Joel Obi at half-time to add steel to his midfield, he was out of substitutions with 40 minutes still to play. Interwere struggling to create chances but on 68

minutes Eto'o beat his marker Berardi on the left only for Arcari to come out and smother his shot.

But then came Inter's gift on 73 minutes with Eto'o slotting home to Arcari's right.

Milito had a glorious late chance to snatch the three points after a ricochet fell kindly to him in the box deep into injury time but he blazed his effort wastefully over.

clash against Borussia Moenchengladbach on Saturday.

blushes on in the 56th minute when he Saturday with a late equaliser to snatch a point from their 3-3 draw at home to bottom side Borussia Moenchengladbach. With league leaders Borussia Dortmund playing Sunday against Hanover, defending champions Bayern are still off the pace in the league as they are ninth in the table and nine points behind top place. "'Gladbach were more passionate after the break and

Germany

Philipp

Bayern

Munich's

we were punished for it," said Lahm, who scored his seventh goal in 202 Bundesliga matches. "We made too many simple mistakes and we should have

played more long balls, plus we lost too much possession. "We still believe in the title, we could have won as we were more passionate in the last 20

minutes." Bayern got off to the worst possible start when Gladbach midfielder Patrick Herrmann caught Munich's defence napping with a wonderful long-range goal from the wing after only five min-

Germany striker Mario Gomez equalised after 11 minutes before midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger netted from a simple tap in after a pass

Lahm rescues a thriller from Danijel Pranjic on 40

minutes to put the hosts 2-1 up. But Schweinsteiger then defender missed a penalty just three minutes later when he fired his shot against the post and his failure so nearly cost

Bayern dear. 'Gladbach equalised when midfielder Marco Reus netted

sent Bayern goalkeeper Hans-

Joerg Butt the wrong way. The visitors sent their fans into raptures and took the lead when Belgium striker Igor de Camargo netted on the hour mark to make it 3-2 despite Bayern having 70 per cent of

the possession. Bayern hit back when the

ball fell to Lahm on the right



Bayern Munich midfielders Bastian Schweinsteiger (R) and David Alaba are distraught after their thrilling 3-3 draw in their Bundesliga

RESULTS

Hamburg 2 (Westermann 45, Petric 83) 1899 Hoffenheim 1 (Salihovic 6-pen)

Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Gekas 26, 55-pen, Schwegler 38) VfL Wolfsburg 1 (Dejagah 66) Borussia M'gladbach 3 (Herrmann 5,

Reus 56, de Camargo 60) Bayern Munich 3 (Gomez 11, Schweinsteiger 40, Lahm 84) Freiburg 1 (Cisse 64) Mainz 05 0 Nuremberg 3 (Hegeler 11,

Guendogan 43, Schieber 90)

side of the penalty area and

the right-back, who has committed to Munich until 2016, slammed his shot past 'Gladbach keeper Christofer Heimeroth on 84 minutes. "That was two points lost,

gained," said Bayern coach Louis van Gaal. "We can still catch up with the leaders, but we can't afford to give away more

points."

rather than one-point

Second-placed Mainz suffered a 1-0 defeat to Freiburg as striker Papiss Demba Cisse netted a late penalty and Dortmund can now open a four-point lead if they win Sunday. Eintracht Frankfurt are up

to third in the league after they beat Wolfsburg 3-1 with the league's top-scorer Theofanis Gekas netting twice to take his tally in the league to 11 goals for the season. Hoffenheim are fourth despite losing 2-1 at Hamburg,

who are now up to joint sixth

in the table with Nuremberg

who beat Cologne 3-1.

told Sky Sport. SEE PAGE 18 COL