



Manchester United star Javier Hernandez heads home the winning goal in their thrilling comeback win over Aston Villa in the Premier League clash at Villa Park on Saturday.

PHOTO: AFP

Dzeko late show

AFP, London

An 88th-minute winner from substitute Edin Dzeko gave defending champions Manchester City a 2-1 win at home to Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday that took them up to second place in the Premier League.

The visitors successfully marshalled City's attacking players in the opening stages at the Etihad Stadium and went ahead in the 21st minute when Caulker met Tom Huddlestone's free-kick with a header that Joe Hart fumbled over the line.

Carlos Tevez and Zabaleta both tested Spurs goalkeeper Brad Friedel in the minutes prior to half-time, before Agüero drew the hosts level in the 65th minute.

David Silva's pass was inadvertently diverted into Agüero's path by a Spurs player and the Argentine cut inside Caulker before rolling the ball past Friedel.

Silva shot wide and Friedel saved well from Agüero, but victory looked set to elude the home side until Silva picked out Dzeko with a chipped pass and the Bosnian hooked a left-foot half-volley into the roof of the net.

Hernandez scripts United comeback

AFP, London



Half-time substitute Javier Hernandez scored twice and made another as Manchester United came from two goals down to win 3-2 at Aston Villa on Saturday and pull four points clear in the Premier League.

A brace of goals from Andreas Weimann looked set to condemn United to their third loss of the season, but Hernandez pulled one back and then set up an own goal by Ron Vlaar before heading home a sensational 87th-minute winner.

The result gives United a four-point lead over second-placed Chelsea, who host Liverpool on Sunday, with champions Manchester City a point further back ahead of Tottenham Hotspur's visit.

"It was an absolutely magnificent result for us," United coach Alex Ferguson told Sky Sports.

"It was a magnificent game. Aston Villa were fantastic today and you have to feel sorry for them, but we never gave in."

"(Hernandez) does his natural thing. He's fantastic in the box, with his movement, his quickness, his finding space, and that's got him the goals today."

Defeat left Villa fourth from bottom, three points above the relegation places, but they more than held their own in the opening 45 minutes at Villa Park and took the lead in first-half injury time.

Christian Benteke resisted Chris Smalling's attentions wide on the Villa left before cutting the ball back to Weimann, who placed a first-time shot into the roof of the net from just inside the penalty box.

Hernandez replaced Ashley Young at the interval but Weimann struck again five minutes into the second half, slamming in from close range after Gabriel Agbonlahor got free down the left.

United hit back quickly though, with Hernandez to the fore.

The Mexican finished between Brad Guzan's legs in the 58th minute to claim his sixth goal in six appearances, before seeing a volley turned home by Villa defender Vlaar to give the away side a 63rd-minute equaliser.

David de Gea denied Weimann a hat-trick with a smart save from the Austrian forward's header, while Robin van Persie hit the bar twice, before Hernandez capped another trademark United comeback by converting van Persie's free-kick.

Earlier, Mikel Arteta saw an injury-time penalty saved as Arsenal's hopes of a top-four finish faded a little further in an entertaining 3-3 draw at home to Fulham.

The result left Arsene Wenger's side four points below the Champions League places in seventh position, with three of the teams above them still to play.

Arsenal went 2-0 up inside 23 minutes thanks to a near-post header from Olivier Giroud and a predatory finish from Lukas Podolski, but Fulham levelled through headers from Dimitar Berbatov and substitute Alexander Kacaniklic.

Giroud replied immediately after Berbatov had put Fulham ahead from the penalty spot in the 67th minute, but Arteta's stoppage-time spot-kick drew a fine save from Mark Schwarzer after Sascha Riether was penalised for handball.

RESULTS

Arsenal 3 (Giroud 11, 69, Podolski 23)
Fulham 3 (Berbatov 29, 67-pen, Kacaniklic 40)
Aston Villa 2 (Weimann 45, 50)
Manchester United 3 (Hernandez 58, 87, Vlaar 63-og)
Everton 2 (Fellaini 76, Jelavic 79)
Sunderland 1 (Johnson 45)
Reading 0 Norwich 0
Southampton 1 (Schneiderlin 64)
Swansea 1 (Dyer 73)
Stoke 1 (Adam 52) QPR 0
Wigan 1 (Kone 44) West Brom 2

Juve respond in style

AFP, Milan



Fabio Quagliarella struck his first hat-trick of the season and Kwadwo Asamoah his maiden goal as Juventus extended their lead at the top of Serie A Saturday with a 6-1 rout of Pescara.

Juventus now lead Inter Milan by four points ahead of the Nerazzurri's trip to Atalanta on Sunday, with Napoli third and Fiorentina fourth ahead of their respective games.

Inter threw a spanner into Juve's bid for a potentially more comfortable title defence last week with a 3-1 away win in Turin which stopped Juve's impressive unbeaten streak at 49 games.

That setback proved the spur for Juve's 4-0 rout of Danish champions Nordsjaelland in the Champions League on Wednesday, and the Old Lady of Turin maintained the momentum in a one-sided affair on Saturday.

Pescara began their 12th game of the season languishing in 14th place and it took only nine minutes for the hosts to begin staring at a potential seventh defeat of the campaign.

Chilean international Arturo Vidal opened the scoring when he pounced on a poor clearance from Antonio Bocchetti to

beat 'keeper Mattia Perin in the Pescara goal.

Juve doubled their lead in the 22nd minute when Quagliarella finished off a move initiated by Sebastian Giovinco with a low strike from the edge of the area.

Pescara reduced arrears three minutes later when Emmanuel Cascione sent a brilliant header from Matti Lund Nielsen's perfect cross just past the fingertips of a diving Gianluigi Buffon.

But Juve were firmly back in control when Ghanaian Asamoah sent an overhead kick past Perin after Quagliarella's back heel from Vidal's cross had gone airborne.

The visitors piled on the first half agony with a fourth when Giovinco brilliantly finished off a one-two with Quagliarella to beat Perin with a volley.

And it got worse for the hosts moments before half-time when Quagliarella found space in deep to beat Perin for his brace.

Quagliarella secured his third goal in spectacular fashion when, as he stood with his back to goal, he brilliantly turned Andrea Pirlo's corner from the right past Perin.

Pescara's only significant reaction came from the touchline, when coach Giovanni Stroppa was red carded for protesting excessively.

RESULTS

Pescara 1 (Cascione 25) Juventus 6 (Vidal 9, Quagliarella 22, 45, 53, Asamoah 30, Giovinco 37)
Cagliari 0 Catania 0

'Bayern untouchable'

AFP, Berlin



BUNDESLIGA

BUNDESLIGA

BUNDESLIGA

BUNDESLIGA

BUNDESLIGA

BUNDESLIGA

BUNDESLIGA

BUNDESLIGA

Ribery scored their first a minute before the break, then Bayern made sure of three points at the Allianz Arena when Alaba netted a 77th-minute penalty after a foul on Bastian Schweinsteiger in the area.

"That was a hard-earned victory against a very good team," said Bayern boss Jupp Heynckes.

"Especially in the first half, we didn't look determined enough."

"Frankfurt played good football and were full of running, it's hard to refocus after the Champions League."

"You can't always score six goals and play superb football, but we showed we're capable of the right reaction in a difficult situation."

"At the end of the day, we made the most of our experience and intelligence."

Second-placed Schalke 04 stayed in touch with Bayern after coming from behind to beat Werder Bremen 2-1 in Gelsenkirchen.

Defending champions Borussia Dortmund moved up to fourth with a 3-1 win at bottom side Augsburg.

RESULTS

Bayern Munich 2 (Ribery 44, Alaba 77-pen) Eintracht Frankfurt 0
Schalke 04 2 (Neustaedter 59, Draxler 69) Werder Bremen 1 (Hunt 16)
Freiburg 0 Hamburg 0
Augsburg 1 (Moelders 81) Borussia Dortmund 3 (Reus 8, Lewandowski 51, 70)
Fortuna Dusseldorf 1 (Krusse 4)



STAR Cricket

Australia v South Africa
First Test, Day 4
Live from 6:00am

TEN Cricket

Sri Lanka v New Zealand
Fifth ODI
Live from 3:00pm

ESPN

Sportscenter India

Sports News



National Cricket League

(Four-day match, Day-4)
Rajshahi v Rangpur

Venue: Rangpur Cricket Garden
Khulna v Chittagong

Venue: Shaheed Chandu Stadium, Bogra
Sylhet v Dhaka



Bayern defender David Alaba celebrates after scoring the penalty to seal their win against Eintracht Frankfurt in their Bundesliga clash at the Allianz Arena on Saturday.

PHOTO: AFP

Bayern dearer than France

AFP, Berlin

Winger Franck Ribery has said his Bundesliga club Bayern Munich is more important to him than the French national team ahead of Wednesday's international friendly against Italy.

"I have been at Bayern for six years. Here it is always good, here I am happy and here it's fun. That is more important for me than the national team."

Ribery has courted controversy during his time at Bayern after it emerged in 2010 he had had sex with an under-age French prostitute in a scandal which involved other members of the France team.

The former Marseille star has been in superb recent form for Munich, but admitted the German league leaders were jaded in Saturday's league win over Frankfurt.