

<div>What to WATCH</div>	<div>STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 & 2</div> <div>English Premier League</div> <div>Man United v Chelsea</div> <div>Live from 9:30pm</div> <div>STAR SPORTS SELECT 2</div> <div>English Premier League</div>	<div>Leicester City v Wolves</div> <div>Live from 7:00pm</div> <div>TEN 1</div> <div>West Indies v India</div> <div>Second ODI</div> <div>Live from 7:30pm</div>	<div>WEDNESDAY</div> <div>TEN 1</div> <div>West Indies v India</div> <div>Third ODI</div> <div>Live from 7:30pm</div>	<div>SONY ESPN</div> <div>Sri Lanka v New Zealand</div> <div>First Test, Day One</div> <div>Live from 10:30am</div>	<div>SONY SIX</div> <div>The Ashes</div> <div>England v Australia</div> <div>Second Test, Day One</div> <div>Live from 4:00pm</div>
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Manchester City winger Raheem Sterling (C) lifts the ball over West Ham goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski to score the third goal during their Premier League encounter at the London Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

City turn on the style

Sterling treble routs West Ham

AFP, London

Premier League Manchester City made a flying start to their Premier League title defence as Raheem Sterling's hatrick inspired a 5-0 demolition of West Ham on Saturday.

Pep Guardiola's side are bidding to become just the second club in the Premier League era to win three successive titles.

And after Liverpool laid down an early marker with a 4-1 win against Norwich in the season's opening game on Friday, the champions responded with a swaggering display of their own at the London Stadium.

Brazil forward Gabriel Jesus opened the scoring to repay Guardiola's faith after the City manager picked him instead of the club's record goalscorer Sergio Aguero.

Then Sterling took over, replicating his dynamic form of last season with a two classy finishes.

Substitute Aguero bagged City's fourth with a penalty after his first effort from the spot was saved, only for VAR to call for a retake

after Lukasz Fabianski came off his line too soon.

Sterling wrapped up his treble in the final moments as City showed they have no intention of conceding any early ground to European champions Liverpool, who finished just one point behind them last term.

Guardiola had admitted before kick-off that City might have to do even better than last season to fend off Liverpool.

This was the perfect start as City made it nine successive opening-day wins.

City had won all four of their previous visits to the London Stadium by an aggregate score of 17-1, netting at least four goals in each match, and once again they ran riot at West Ham's expense.

Guardiola handed a first Premier League start to club-record signing Rodri and the Spain midfielder showed signs of nerves when he allowed Manuel Lanzini to rob him in his own penalty area.

But it was a rare stumble from City's impressive new boy and the champions were soon into their stride.

Riyad Mahrez, surprisingly selected ahead of Bernardo Silva, produced City's first menacing moment when the Algeria winger cut in from the right flank for a long-range strike that Fabianski pushed away.

When City's opening goal came in the 25th minute, it was the kind of incisive raid that has left so many opponents helpless over the last two years.

Mahrez slipped a perfectly-weighted pass to Kyle Walker and the right-back accelerated away from Aaron Cresswell.

Walker whipped over a cross that deflected off West Ham defender Issa Diop into the path of Jesus and he instinctively turned the ball past Fabianski from close range.

Jesus should have doubled City's lead but he shot straight at Fabianski on the stroke of half-time.

There was no need for City to rue that miss as they struck six minutes after the interval.

Kevin De Bruyne was the catalyst, the Belgian midfielder showing what City missed during his long injury lay-offs last season as he left several West Ham players

trailing in his wake before making a precise pass that set up Sterling's clinical finish.

City were denied a third goal when Jesus's tap-in from Sterling's cross became the first goal to be disallowed by VAR in the Premier League for an extremely marginal offside against the England winger.

A brilliant double save from Ederson denied Javier Hernandez and Manuel Lanzini before Sterling put the result beyond doubt in the 75th minute.

Mahrez clipped a pass to Sterling and he turned to loft a delicate chip over Fabianski, with City this time able to celebrate after another VAR review for offside.

VAR is being used in the Premier League for the first time this season and its constant interruptions aided City in the 86th minute.

Mahrez won a penalty after being fouled by Diop, but Aguero's initial shot was saved by Fabianski before VAR called for a retake that the Argentine stroked home.

Sterling sealed City's five-star display in stoppage-time with a composed finish from Mahrez's pass.

Neymar in 'more advanced' talks

Leonardo says as star is dropped for opener

AFP, Saint-Germain-En-Laye



Paris Saint-Germain revealed on Saturday that Neymar transfer talks are "more advanced than before" after the Brazilian was dropped for the champions' opening

Ligue 1 match.

Sporting director Leonardo confirmed to reporters that the Brazilian was near the exit door but that PSG were "not yet ready to give their approval (to the transfer)" ahead of Sunday's game against Nimes at the Parc des Princes.

PSG coach Thomas Tuchel said: "Neymar did not complete training and it's not possible that he plays tomorrow."

The club are impatient for the transfer saga to reach a conclusion, one way or another.

"It's important to shape our future for everyone," Neymar's fellow Brazilian Leonardo told a press conference.

"If he stays, he plays. If he leaves, he leaves. The quicker (we know) the better."

Real Madrid or a return to Barcelona are the most likely destinations for the world's most expensive footballer, with Spanish media on Friday saying that Zinedine Zidane's side will battle Barca for the

27-year-old's signature.

Neymar started the new season by angering the Qatari-backed club when he turned up one week late for training.

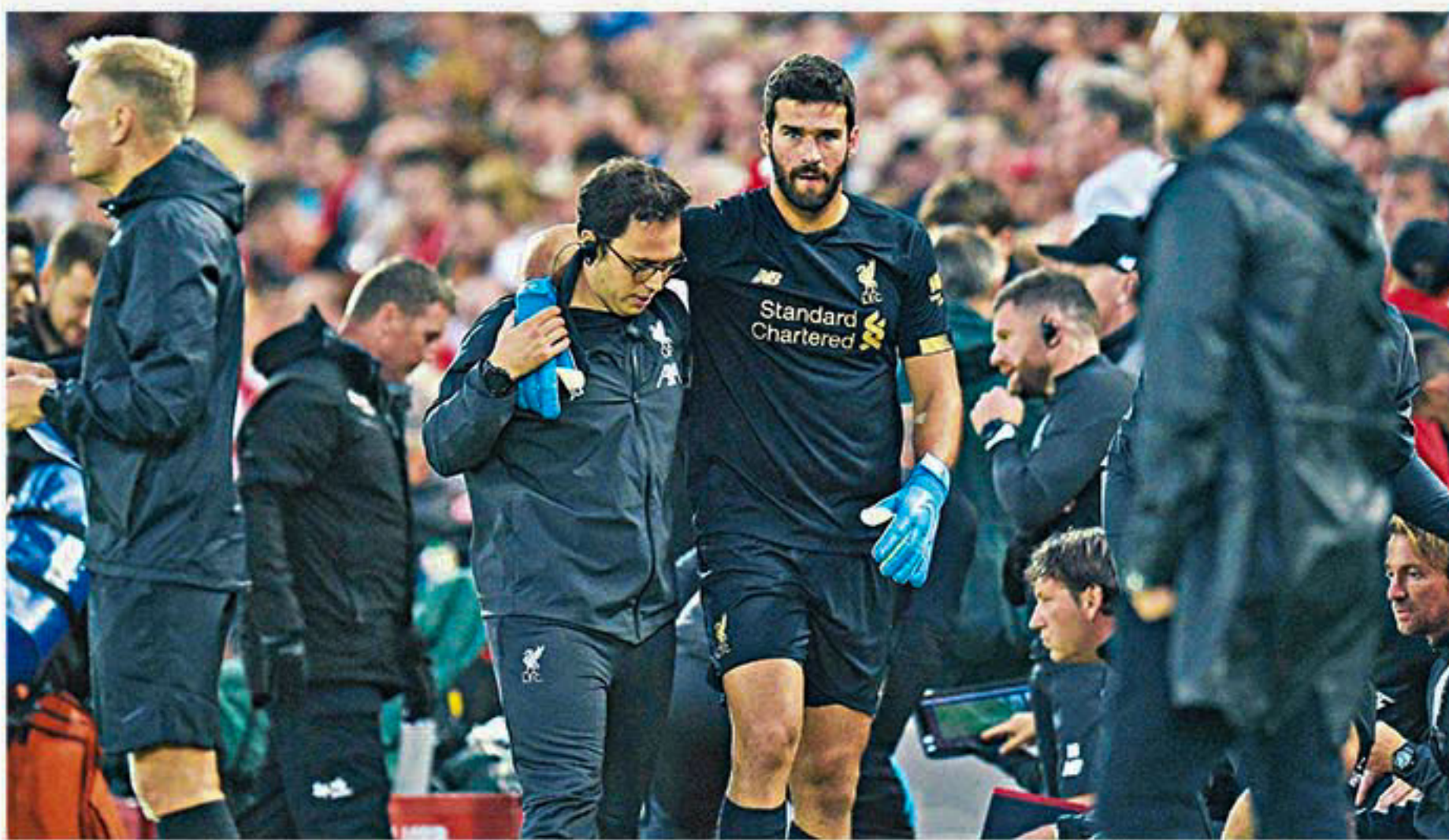
The player's camp maintained he had a prior agreement to stay away but that didn't wash with his employers who threatened to take "appropriate action".

The forward, whose time in France has been marked by injuries and controversies, has made a series of remarks that strained his relationship further with the club and sparked outrage on social media.

Asked by an online sports channel about his best memory in football, he cited Barcelona's incredible 2017 Champions League last-16 comeback against PSG when he inspired the Catalans to a 6-1 second-leg victory after a 4-0 first-leg defeat.

Neymar was signed by PSG to bolster their hopes of a maiden Champions League title, but they have instead since lost twice in the last-16 phase. He missed PSG's last games in both Champions League campaigns through injury and twice courted controversy last season.

Neymar insulted VAR officials on Instagram after the team's humbling and then appeared to punch a Rennes fan after PSG's shock French Cup final defeat.



Alisson to miss Chelsea clash

AFP, Liverpool



Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson Becker will miss Wednesday's UEFA Super Cup against Chelsea after pulling up with a calf injury as the European champions opened their Premier League campaign with a 4-1 win over Norwich on Friday.

The Brazilian fell to the floor after kicking the ball clear from a routine goal kick and needed support to limp off the field six minutes before half-time.

Liverpool face Chelsea in Istanbul this

week in the traditional early season clash between the previous campaign's Champions League and Europa League winners.

"He will not be ready for Wednesday, I can say that already," said Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp.

"He felt his calf. He looked behind him because he thought something hit him."

Spanish goalkeeper Adrian was expected to play second fiddle to Alisson after joining Liverpool this week on a free transfer.

However, Klopp now faces having to rely on the former West Ham goalkeeper.

Young Tigers meet India in final

SPORTS REPORTER

Following brilliant performances in the group stages of a tri-nation one-day series involving Bangladesh, England and India, the young Tigers became the first team through to the finals and set up a final clash against India at the County Ground in Hove today.

Akbar Ali and his troops remained clinical throughout the group stages to finish on top of the table with eleven points from matches, four of which were wins.

Top order batsman Towhid Hridoy is at the top of the most run-getters list as the right-hander scored 320 runs in seven games, including a hundred and two fifties, while seamer Tanzim Hasan Sakib leads the charts for most wickets taken with twelve scalps.

Lyon thrash Monaco

AFP, Monaco

Lyon hammered Monaco 3-0 on Friday in the first game of the Ligue 1 season as former Brazil defender Sylvinho started his coaching reign in perfect style with Moussa Dembele, Memphis Depay and Lucas Tousart scoring.

AFP, Liverpool



Liverpool could be without inspirational goalkeeper Alisson Becker for a number of weeks after the Brazilian suffered a calf injury in Friday's 4-1 thrashing of Norwich to kick-off the Premier League season in style.

The European champions are aiming to end a 30-year wait to win the Premier League after missing out by only one point to Manchester City last season and laid down an early marker in the title race by racing into a 4-0 lead before half-time.

Norwich captain Grant Hanley's hapless own goal just seven minutes in set the tone for what could be a long season for the Canaries before Mohamed Salah, Virgil van Dijk and Divock Origi netted as Liverpool shot out of the blocks.

However, the Reds' joy was curtailed when Alisson pulled up after kicking the ball clear from a routine goal kick and needed support to limp off the field.

"Nothing bad to say about the game apart from Ali's injury," said Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp, who confirmed his number one will miss Wednesday's UEFA Super Cup clash with Chelsea in Istanbul.

"We have to see how serious it is and deal with it."

Alisson kept 20 clean sheets in his first Premier League season and was also instrumental in Liverpool's Champions League triumph.

Spanish goalkeeper Adrian only joined Liverpool this week on a



Liverpool striker Mohamed Salah (L) celebrates with teammate Virgil van Dijk after scoring the team's second goal in their Premier League match against Norwich City at Anfield on Friday.

PHOTO: AFP

free transfer after Simon Mignolet departed to join Club Brugge.

But the former West Ham stopper could now have a huge role to play in the coming weeks to ensure Klopp's men cede no early ground in the title race to City with tricky matches against Southampton and Arsenal to come.

Friday's game was already won before Alisson departed as from Origi's low cross, Hanley's wild hack at a clearance flashed beyond Tim Krul in the Norwich goal.

A Golden Boot winner in each of the past two seasons, Salah then opened his account for the season with a calm finish from Roberto Firmino's pass on 19 minutes.

Despite a comfortable lead, Klopp was soon ranting at his players for letting their guard down as only a brilliant save from Alisson prevented Marco Stiepermann from halving Norwich's deficit.

Seconds later and it was 3-0 as Norwich's dreadful defending was exposed again to leave Van Dijk free

to head home from a Salah corner.

Origi was also left carelessly unmarked to make it 4-0 with a simple header from Trent Alexander-Arnold's cross. However, it was promoted Norwich's adventure that was rewarded as moments after Moritz Leitner crashed a shot against the bar, Teemu Pukki pounced to drill low past Adrian.

"We wanted to start with some points but unbelievably happy with the character of my team," said Norwich manager Daniel Farke.

Windies-India second ODI today

ICC



Since January 2016, the Indian top three of Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan have scored 1449 one-day international runs against West Indies at an average of 79.63. They will be looking to press this advantage against the hosts in the second ODI at Trinidad today.

Having swept the Twenty20 International series with a 3-0 margin, India looked ready to take that form into 50-over cricket in the first ODI at Guyana. However, the game was washed out with West Indies on 54/1 in 13 overs. This is now a must-win for both sides, since it will give the winning team a vital 1-0 lead going into the final game.

West Indies, who have failed to win a game in the series so far, will hope to get a positive result in this ODI. They have incurred six ODI losses in last seven games at the Queen's Park Oval, four of which have come against India. Jason Holder and his team will be keen to improve that record. While Chris Gayle struggled in the first ODI – he was dismissed for a 31-ball 4 – he will have extra motivation going into this game: the left-hander is just seven runs away from displacing Brian Lara as West Indies' top run-scorer in ODI cricket.

For India, skipper Kohli, who has scored the most runs against West Indies since January 2012 – 1332 at 78.35 – will be key for the visitors. Kuldeep Yadav, who claimed Gayle's wicket in the first game, and Bhuvneshwar Kumar, the highest visiting wicket-taker at Port of Spain, will be expected to spearhead the bowling attack.

The forecast predicts cloudy conditions in the first half of play, which may assist the team that bowls first. However, the captains might be tempted to bat first since teams defending a total have won four out of the last six games played at this venue. A score of 300 has been crossed just twice at this ground in the last decade, both times by India.