

Liverpool late show floors Forest

Late rebound winner punishes Forest as Reds draw level on points with Chelsea and Man United

● **Mac Allister scores 97th-minute winner**

● **Liverpool beat Forest 1-0**

● **Champions League hopes strengthened**

AFP | London

Alexis Mac Allister's 97th-minute goal rescued Liverpool from a lacklustre performance to beat struggling Nottingham Forest 1-0 yesterday in a huge boost to their chances of Champions League football next season.

Forest's fourth manager of the season, Vitor Pereira, was taking charge for the first time in the league and his side looked set to earn a deserved point until a dramatic finale.

Mac Allister had a goal ruled out when he charged down Ola Aina's clearance in the closing stages.

The ball was deemed to have struck the Argentine midfielder on the arm.

However, to Pereira's fury, Forest did not heed the warn-



Liverpool's Argentinian midfielder #10 Alexis Mac Allister (2nd R) defect the ball into the goal, which was ruled a no goal after a VAR check

ing as they slipped to within two points of the Premier League relegation zone.

Mac Allister swept home a rebound after Virgil van Dijk's header was saved.

After another lengthy VAR review, this time the call went in

Liverpool's favour despite Hugo Ekitike standing in an offside position.

Liverpool remain in sixth but climb level on points with Chelsea and Manchester United and within six points of Aston Villa.

Thanks to the strong perfor-

mance of English sides in European competition this season, a place in the top five will almost certainly secure Champions League qualification.

Liverpool were dealt a blow before kick-off when Florian Wirtz picked up an injury in the



Mac Allister's winner came after his earlier "goal" was chalked off for handball, turning him from nearly denied hero to decisive match-winner in the space of a few frantic minutes

warm-up.

The German's ingenuity was badly missed in a performance badly lacking in attacking impetus until a late rally saved their blushes.

The pressure was on Arsenal in yesterday's later kick-off (1630GMT) at north London rivals Tottenham.

Spurs are under new management as interim boss Igor Tudor takes charge for the first time, tasked with guiding them away from the relegation zone.

Arsenal could have been out of sight in the title race but a run

of just two wins in seven league games has allowed Manchester City to close to within two points at the top.

Fulham climbed above Sunderland into the top half of the table after becoming just the second visiting side to win at the Stadium of Light this season.

Raul Jimenez's double secured a 3-1 victory for Marco Silva's men.

The Mexican striker headed in Alex Iwobi's corner before maintaining his perfect penalty record in the Premier League from 13 spot-kicks.

Enzo Le Fee's penalty pulled a goal back for the Black Cats before Iwobi rounded off the scoring.

Crystal Palace eased the rising discontent at Selhurst Park with just a second win in 16 games.

Evann Guessand's first Palace goal in the 90th minute beat 10-man Wolves 1-0.

Tolu Arokodare's first-half penalty was saved by Palace goalkeeper Dean Henderson.

Ladislav Krejci was then sent off for kicking the ball away on the hour mark as bottom-of-the-table Wolves missed the chance to move above Derby's unwanted record low of 11 points in a Premier League season.

Miller, Stubbs power South Africa to crushing win over India



South Africa's David Miller (R) and Dewald Brevis run between the wickets

TDT | Agencies

David Miller's blazing half-century and a disciplined bowling display powered South Africa to a thumping 76-run win over India in their Super Eights Group 1 clash at the T20 World Cup in Ahmedabad yesterday.

Put in to bat after winning the toss, South Africa recovered from early blows to post a commanding 187 for seven, built around Miller's 63 off 35 balls and Dewald Brevis' 45 from 29 deliveries. The pair added 97 for the fourth wicket, lifting the Proteas from 20 for three to a position of strength before Tristan Stubbs chipped in with an unbeaten 44 off 24 balls in the closing overs. Jasprit Bumrah was the pick of the Indian attack with three for 15, while Arshdeep Singh took two wickets but the rest of the bowlers came in for punishment as South Africa scored at 9.35 runs per

over.

Chasing 188, India collapsed to 31 for three in the powerplay and never recovered, eventually folding for 111 in 18.5 overs. Only Shivam Dube offered resistance with a 37-ball 42, as wickets fell regularly against a relentless South African attack. Left-arm seamer Marco Jansen ripped through the line-up with figures of four for 22, while Keshav Maharaj's left-arm spin accounted for three middle and lower-order wickets to seal a comprehensive win.

The result ended India's winning streak in the tournament and gave South Africa two crucial points in the Super Eights, tightening their grip on a semi-final berth at the Narendra Modi Stadium. Player-of-the-match Miller, who struck seven fours and three sixes, was central to the Proteas' dominance with the bat and in swinging the momentum decisively their way.

BIC set for special Ramadan edition of Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights on Monday

Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', hosts a special Ramadan edition of the widely popular Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights today in Sakhir.

BIC will be offering speed enthusiasts twice the thrills with action along both BIC's world-class, quarter-mile drag strip and at the circuit's vast vehicles dynamics area.

Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights is a fan-favourite experience that features two of the most popular and adrenaline-pumping forms of motorsport today, and participants will be able to take part in their very own cars or motorbikes.

Those joining the adrenaline-pumping fun will be able to push their vehicles to their limit either down the BIC strip or around the vehicle dynamics



area. There is also the option to do both, making for a fantastic double-header over a single evening's activity.

Monday night's Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights is scheduled to take place from 8.30pm to 1.30am. It is the first of two editions that are taking place this holy month. The other is scheduled for 9 March.

Both the drag racing and the drifting can be done for a single

fee of BD11. Participation in just the drag racing or just the drifting costs BD8.

Bookings can be made online at BIC's official website bahraingp.com or by calling the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000.

Those who would like to experience the drag or the drift as a passenger can get into a participant's car for an additional fee of BD4,500. Registration for those wishing to join

can be done on site. Spectators who would like to attend and watch the action in the Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights can also purchase their tickets online at BD2 apiece at bahraingp.com.

The BIC drag strip is highly regarded as one of the best in the world, and it is a part of the prestigious NHRA Worldwide Network of the US-based National Hot Rod Association (NHRA). BIC's vehicle dynamics area features a specially configured layout for drifters. It is surrounded by safety barriers and is one of the largest open tarmac areas in Bahrain, ideal for an amazing display of power sliding within a secure environment.

For more information on Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights or other events and activities at BIC, visit bahraingp.com, call the BIC Hotline, or follow the circuit's social media channels.

Sri Lanka have to qualify 'the hard way' after England drubbing

AFP | Kandy

Sri Lanka will have to do it "the hard way" if they are to make the semi-finals of the T20 World Cup after a chastening defeat to England yesterday, admitted their batting coach.

The co-hosts were routed for 95 chasing 147 in Kandy, meaning they need to win their two remaining Super Eight games



England's Jofra Archer celebrates a wicket with teammates

to have a chance of qualifying.

Even that may not be enough as they now have a poor net run rate, something that could be crucial in a tight group.

Sri Lanka are bottom of Super Eights Group 2 on zero points, below New Zealand and Pakistan on one point each after their match on Saturday was washed out.

England are top on two points

and can all-but qualify for the last four with a win over Pakistan at the same Kandy venue on Tuesday.

For Sri Lanka, next up are New Zealand in Colombo on Wednesday, leaving little time to regroup.

"We have no choice now but to win our next two games. We will do it the hard way," Sri Lanka batting coach Vikram Rathour told reporters.