

Ngumoha's dream debut saves Liverpool

Teen star becomes youngest Liverpool scorer with dramatic stoppage-time winner at St. James' Park

- Ngumoha scores 100th-minute winner
- Becomes Liverpool's youngest ever scorer (16)
- Newcastle played with 10 men after Gordon red

AFP | London

Liverpool needed a 100th minute winner from 16-year-old Rio Ngumoha to beat Newcastle 3-2, after blowing a two-goal lead against 10 men, in a Premier League thriller on Monday.

Ryan Gravenberch and long-time Newcastle target Hugo Ekitike struck for the English champions, either side of Anthony Gordon's red card for a wild lunge on Virgil van Dijk.

But amid a frenzied atmosphere at St. James' Park, the Magpies battled back through Bruno Guimaraes and William Osula only to be denied by teenage sensation Ngumoha, who became the youngest goalscorer in Liverpool's history.

"This is also what makes the Premier League special," said Liverpool manager Arne Slot.

"Maybe it wasn't the best game in terms of tactics or in terms of playing football, but I think every fan everywhere around the world enjoyed watching this game of football."



Ngumoha broke the record previously held by Michael Owen, who was 17 years and 143 days when he scored his first Liverpool goal in 1997

Victory takes Liverpool level on maximum points from two games with Tottenham and title rivals Arsenal, who travel to Anfield on Sunday.

Newcastle remain without a win as they miss their wantaway talisman Alexander Isak.

The Swedish striker scored the winner when the sides last met in the League Cup final in March as Newcastle lifted their first domestic trophy for 70 years.

But Isak yet to feature for Eddie Howe's men this season as he seeks an exit from Tyneside.

Liverpool are the likely destination if Isak does leave before the transfer window closes in a week's time.

The Reds have reportedly had one bid of £110 million (\$149 million) rejected as Newcastle want a British transfer record £150 million.

Adding to the Magpies' frustration is the fact the Premier



Liverpool's English striker #73 Rio Ngumoha (C) celebrates with teammates after scoring

League champions also won the race to sign Ekitike, who Newcastle had lined up as a potential Isak replacement.

After failing to land a number of striker targets in the transfer market, Newcastle's lack of a clinical number nine was exposed as they failed to break down 10-man Aston Villa in a 0-0 draw to begin their season last weekend.

And it cost them again during a dominant opening 30 minutes.

Roared on by a ferocious capacity crowd of over 50,000, Newcastle penned Liverpool

inside their own half without finding the final finish.

Instead it was the visitors who took the lead completely against the run of play on 35 minutes.

Gravenberch took aim from well outside the area and powered an inch-perfect shot off the inside of the post.

Guimaraes leads Newcastle charge

It got even worse for Newcastle before the break as Gordon took out his frustration by charging late into Van Dijk and was dismissed after a VAR

review showed his studs had raked down the Dutch defender's Achilles.

Slot had not even taken his seat for the second half by the time his side doubled their lead 20 seconds in.

Ekitike made it two goals in as many Premier League games with a composed side-footed finish from Cody Gakpo's pass.

Newcastle's sense of injustice only increased when Ibrahima Konate escaped a second yellow card moments later for a push on Harvey Barnes.

But this time the home players



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and crowd channelled their anger more positively.

Minutes after being booked for taking his protests too far, a fired up Guimaraes outmuscled Milos Kerkez to head in at the back post.

Liverpool struggled to make their man advantage count for the entirety of the second half and were made to pay.

Despite his lack of forward options, Howe has been reluctant to field Osula, but the young Dane netted just his second Premier League goal when he bundled the ball beyond Alisson Becker from a Dan Burn flick-on.

Newcastle continued to charge forward in search of a memorable winner, only to be picked out by Liverpool's attacking quality.

Mohamed Salah's pass was brilliantly dummied by Dominik Szoboszlai to leave Ngumoha unmarked to curl calmly into the far corner just days before his 17th birthday.

British rider Turner wins Vuelta sprint as Gaudu takes race lead



Ben Turner celebrates winning the fourth stage of the Vuelta a Espana

AFP | Voiron

British rider Ben Turner won a bunch sprint on stage four of the Vuelta a Espana yesterday by nudging ahead of Belgian Jasper Philipsen after a long 206km ride from Italy into France.

Frenchman David Gaudu took the overall race lead from Jonas Vingegaard, who finished near the back of the main bunch, with Giulio Ciccone is third, Egan Bernal fourth and Tom Pidcock fifth.

Vingegaard also lost the sprint points jersey to his Danish compatriot Mads Pedersen, who was sixth on the day.

Turner's win for Ineos Grenadiers continues a trend of improvement since the return of Dave Brailsford to the team's helm.

Team UAE's Spanish rider

Juan Ayuso remains atop the white jersey standings.

After the Montgenevre climb the Vuelta crossed the Italian border into France with the finish line at the town of Voiron at the foot of the Alps.

The Italian sejour produced two memorable finishes with Vingegaard claiming two and Gaudu of FDJ stealing a famous win on day three.

A long overnight transfer now takes the peloton all the way down to the Catalan town of Figueres known for its Salvador Dali Museum.

Wednesday's 24.1km team time-trial could well produce a new red jersey.

British outfit Ineos will almost certainly target the win headed by Italian Filippo Ganna and Colombian climber Bernal.

Brazil without Neymar and Vinicius as Paqueta back for World Cup qualifiers

- Neymar recovering from thigh issue
- Vinicius suspended, spared altitude
- Brazil already qualified for World Cup

AFP | Rio de Janeiro

Brazil coach Carlo Ancelotti did not recall Neymar and spared Vinicius Junior for World Cup qualifiers against Chile and Bolivia next month with Lucas Paqueta returning to the national team.

The 33-year-old Neymar, who returned to Santos in January, has not worn the Brazil jersey for nearly two years due to repeated injuries.

"Neymar had a small problem last week," Ancelotti told a press conference on Monday, without providing further details.

According to the Brazilian press, Brazil's leading all-time scorer with 79 goals in 128 matches, has experienced thigh discomfort during training.

His absence from the squad for the final two World Cup qualifying matches was, however, played down by Ancelotti with the five-time champions having already booked their ticket to next year's tournament in the United States, Canada,



Brazil's forward Lucas Paqueta controls the ball as he takes part in a training session (file photo)



Neymar, we don't need to test him. Everyone knows him. Like the others, he must arrive in good physical condition to help the national team give its best at the World Cup

CARLO ANCELOTTI

and Mexico.

"Neymar, we don't need to

test him. Everyone knows him. Like the others, he must arrive in good physical condition to help the national team give its best at the World Cup," said the Italian coach.

Neymar had been called up by Ancelotti's predecessor Dorival Junior for matches in March -- a 2-1 victory against Colombia and a 4-1 defeat to Argentina -- but was forced to withdraw due to a thigh injury.

In the first two matches under the Italian's guidance in June, Brazil drew 0-0 in Ecuador



Neymar hasn't played for Brazil in nearly two years - his last appearance was in November 2023 against Argentina before his ACL injury

before beating Paraguay 1-0, thanks to a goal from Vinicius to seal their place in the 2026 World Cup.

The Real Madrid striker will be absent from the next training camp. Suspended for the match against Chile on September 5 at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, the Brazil staff preferred to spare him the trip to play at altitude in Bolivia on September 9.

Paqueta, meanwhile, is returning after being cleared of betting charges by an independent commission of the Premier League last month.

The West Ham midfielder had been absent from the national team since November 2024.

Also returning is Joao Pedro, who has been in great form since joining Chelsea in July.