

**14** Yankees rout Red Sox for 10th straight win



**15** Stars stun Lightning 4-1 in Stanley Cup final opener



**15** Celtics strike back with 117-106 win over Heat



## Liverpool's Mane sinks 10-man Chelsea

Tottenham crush Southampton 5-2; Son hits 4 in Spurs rout



LONDON: Chelsea's German striker Timo Werner jumps over a challenge from Liverpool's Spanish midfielder Thiago Alcantara during the English Premier League football match between Chelsea and Liverpool at Stamford Bridge in London yesterday. — AFP

**LONDON:** Sadio Mane tormented Chelsea as the Liverpool forward struck twice after sparking Andreas Christensen's dismissal in the champions' 2-0 win, while Son Heung-min scored four as Tottenham crushed Southampton 5-2 yesterday. Mane was involved in the turning point at Stamford Bridge as the first clash between Premier League title contenders this season swung Liverpool's way.

In first half stoppage-time, Jordan Henderson picked out Mane's run behind Christensen and the Denmark defender responded by rugby-tackling the Senegal star to the ground. Referee Paul Tierney initially booked Christensen, but VAR told him to consult the pitchside monitor and he changed his decision to a red card. Mane grabbed his first goal of the season in the 50th minute as he met Roberto Firmino's cross with a thumping header after eluding Reece James' slack marking.

Mane was gifted his second goal as Chelsea keeper Kepa Arrizabalaga made a hash of trying to

play out from the back, allowing the Liverpool forward to intercept and slot into the empty net. It was the latest costly blunder from Kepa, who was dropped twice by Chelsea manager Frank Lampard last season despite his status as the world's most expensive keeper. Lampard will be relieved that Chelsea are reportedly close to signing Rennes' Senegal international Edouard Mendy as he looks to replace Kepa.

Thiago Alcantara made his Liverpool debut at half-time after his move from Bayern Munich, but the Spain midfielder conceded a 74th minute penalty with a foul on Timo Werner. Alisson Becker came to Thiago's rescue as he saved Jorginho's spot-kick. After their chaotic 4-3 win over Leeds on the opening weekend, this was a return to the kind of dominant display Liverpool produced so often en route to their first English title for 30 years last season. While Chelsea have spent £200 million (\$258 million) on new signings in a bid to close the gap on the

from the penalty spot and set up another for Amadou Haidara. "To beat the best teams you have to give 100 percent. If we're as motivated as we were today, we'll be among the top sides again." Leipzig have now scored 16 goals in their last three games against Mainz, who are preparing for another relegation dogfight this season. The home side burst out of the blocks, with both Dani Olmo and Marcel Halstenberg coming within inches of taking the lead in the first few minutes.

The opener came after just a quarter of an hour, as Olmo was tripped by Leandro Barreiro in the box and Forsberg slotted home the resulting penalty. Danish international Yussuf Poulsen then sent a fizzing shot over the crossbar before doubling the lead with a looping header on 21 minutes. After Forsberg hit the post on the half-hour mark, it seemed a rout was on the cards. Jean-Philippe Mateta beat the offside trap just after the break to bring Mainz back into the game, but Haidara linked up with Forsberg just a few minutes later to make it 3-1 and put Leipzig out of reach. — AFP

champions, Liverpool remain streets ahead of the Blues at present.

### Son shines

At St Mary's, Jose Mourinho hailed Son and Harry Kane after the pair destroyed Southampton. Just 24 hours after Tottenham signed Gareth Bale, Son delivered a virtuoso display that showed Mourinho's side already have plenty of firepower. Bale has returned to Tottenham on a season-long loan from Real Madrid seven years after he left the north London club for a then world record £85 million fee. But the Wales forward will not be available until mid-October as he recovers from a knee injury, so Mourinho needs Son and Kane to carry the attack until then.

Danny Ings put Southampton ahead in the first half, but Son equalized before the break and scored three more in the second half, with each of his goals coming from Kane assists. Kane, who hit the back of

the net twice in the first half only to have them ruled out for offside, capped a swaggering display with his second goal of the season. "Son was on fire and for me Harry Kane was the man of the match, what he did for the team," Mourinho said. "With him dropping back and connecting the game between the lines for Sonny to attack, the space they created was a problem they couldn't resolve."

After losing to Everton in their Premier League opener last weekend, Tottenham have lifted the gloom with this vibrant second half performance after the Bale coup. Neal Maupay's quick-fire double inspired Brighton's 3-0 win against Newcastle as the Seagulls claimed their first Premier League victory of the season. Graham Potter's side raced into a two-goal lead after just seven minutes at St James' Park thanks to the brace from French striker Maupay. Aaron Connolly grabbed the third for Brighton, who had Yves Bissouma sent off after his raised boot caught Jamal Lewis in the face. — AFP

## Werner-less Leipzig stroll to opening day win over Mainz

**BERLIN:** RB Leipzig showed no signs of missing Timo Werner yesterday as they strolled to a comfortable 3-1 home win over hapless Mainz in their first Bundesliga game of the season. Third in the table and Champions League semi-finalists last season, pundits in Germany had predicted a tougher ride for Leipzig this year after they sold star striker Werner to Chelsea. Yet Julian Nagelsmann's side were at their free-flowing best as they started the new campaign in front of 8,500 fans, chalking up 23 shots on their way to a deserved win.

"It was simply amazing to play in front of our fans again. We put on a great performance for them today," said Emil Forsberg, who opened the scoring

## Osimhen lifts Napoli

**MILAN:** Victor Osimhen proved decisive on his Serie A debut inspiring Napoli to a season-opening 2-0 win at Parma yesterday, the first game in which fans were allowed to return to an Italian stadium. Italy's government from yesterday allowed up to 1,000 spectators at open-air sports events. And Rino Gattuso's Napoli and new Parma coach Fabio Liverani's side faced off on front of a sparse gathering at the Stadio Ennio Tardini. After a barren first hour in Emilia Romagna, Osimhen came off the bench to provide an electric shock for Gattuso's side. Dries Mertens and Lorenzo Insigne scored both goals after his arrival which were set up by Mexican Hirving Lozano.

"Osimhen at this moment has an extra gear," said Gattuso of the 21-year-old Napoli paid French club Lille a club record 80 million euros (\$94.6 million) for this summer. — AFP

## Mbappe shines; PSG hit top gear in Nice

**NICE:** France forward Kylian Mbappe marked his return to action with a vintage performance and a goal as champions Paris St Germain rediscovered their form with an impressive 3-0 win in Ligue 1 yesterday. Mbappe, who missed the opening three games after contracting the coronavirus, fired PSG ahead with a 38th-minute penalty and had a big part in Angel Di Maria's strike before Marquinhos headed home the third in the second half.

"I was just happy to put the jersey back on because here in Paris when you miss a game, it's like you've missed 10," Mbappe told Canal Plus television. "I spent the last few days watching television and I couldn't wait to come back. It was nice to score but we are still going through a complicated period and it's not easy to live with. — Reuters