



Gold medal winner Shoma Uno (C) of Japan, silver medal winner Jin Boyang (L) of China and bronze medal winner Vincent Zhou of the United States pose at the podium after the Men's Free Skating of the ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships in Anaheim, the United States, Feb. 9, 2019.

Leipzig's Diego Demme takes a header during a German Bundesliga match between RB Leipzig and Eintracht Frankfurt, in Leipzig, Germany, on Feb. 9, 2019. The match ended 0-0.



Liverpool and Arsenal register routine wins, Cardiff beat Southampton on emotional day

LIVERPOOL, Feb 10

Liverpool needed an afternoon to calm their Premier League title jitters after a couple of stumbles and thanks to an obliging Bournemouth side they got their wish as a 3-0 victory put them back on top of the table.

Goals by Sadio Mane and Georginio Wijnaldum before the break and another for Mohamed Salah three minutes after it allowed Liverpool to finish the match in cruise control.

It put Jurgen Klopp's side three points above Manchester City, although the champions will reclaim top spot if they beat Chelsea at home on Sunday.

Manchester United's incredible surge showed no sign of slowing down as they won the day's early kickoff 3-0 at second-bottom Fulham who sank even deeper into relegation trouble.

French midfielder Paul Pogba scored twice with Anthony Martial also on target as United made it 10 wins and a draw in the 11 matches since Ole Gunnar Solskjaer became interim manager after Jose Mourinho's sacking.

The win lifted United into fourth spot with 51 points and they will stay there if Chelsea lose to City.

Cardiff City ended another traumatic week by securing a vital 2-1 victory at fellow strugglers Southampton.



Days after it was confirmed that the body of Emiliano Sala, the club's new signing from Nantes, had been recovered from a plane that vanished over the English Channel, Cardiff were boosted by Kenneth Zohore's last-gasp winner which lifted the Welsh club out of the bottom three.

Arsenal maintained their top-four push with a 2-1 victory at rock-bottom Huddersfield Town, their first away win in the league since November secured by goals from Alex Iwobi and Alexandre Lacazette.

The problems mounted for Everton manager Marco Silva as his side went down 1-0 to his old club Watford at Vicarage Road and had defender Kurt Zouma sent off in stoppage time.

Wilfried Zaha earned Crystal Palace a 1-1 draw at home to West Ham United who had led through Mark

Firmino. Salah also struck the crossbar as Liverpool confirmed their return to form. They moved to 65 points from 26 matches with City on 62 and Tottenham Hotspur, who host Leicester on Sunday, a little further back on 57 points.

"We were not happy with the performances from the previous two games and struggled a bit with set-pieces," Klopp said.

"There were a lot of things we had to improve. We have high expectations and today we won in an impressive manner -- we had some outstanding performances on the pitch.

"We wanted to show a reaction. It's our job not only to come through but to really perform and convince."

United's extraordinary resurgence under Solskjaer has seen them collect 25 points from his nine league games -- more than any other manager has achieved in his first nine matches in charge of a single club in the competition.

World Cup winner Pogba was again the architect of the victory as he took his tally of league goals to seven since former striker Solskjaer arrived.

"Ole helps every player play at their best. Ole is himself. He's not acting and he's given joy and confidence to everyone," Pogba said.

Reuters

Golf: Law seals Vic Open win with stunning eagle on final hole



MELBOURNE, Feb 10

Britain David Law produced a sparkling eagle on the 18th hole to snatch a one-stroke victory at the Vic Open in Barwon Heads, Australia, and claim his maiden European Tour title on Sunday.

The 27-year-old Scot's six-under 66 at 13th Beach Golf Links left him with an 18-under total of 270, one ahead of local duo Wade Ormsby and Brad Kennedy.

Law, who began the day three shots off overnight leader Ormsby, struck a brilliant approach to within 10 feet of the pin on the par-five 18th and coolly rolled in the eagle putt to pressure the leading Ormsby.

Ormsby, playing the hole behind, crumbled with a double-bogey on the par-three 17th to give Law the clubhouse lead when he dragged his tee-shot left and failed to make the green with a chip before missing the bogey putt from about 10 feet.

The Australian also missed a long eagle putt on the last that would have forced a playoff.

"We stood on the tee and we said we need to make eagle," Law said after claiming the A\$1.5 million (\$1.06 million) winner's cheque.

"We had to go for it, so I sort of took a bit off a hybrid and lucky it went to eight-10 feet. At the time I was just trying to get into solo second.

"It's an amazing event, we've loved it all week."

Kennedy made a strong start, with six birdies before the turn, but had two bogeys on the back nine and had to settle for a share of second.

South African Justin Harding finished fourth, a stroke further back on 16-under.

In the women's tournament, France's Celine Boutier eased to a two-stroke victory after an even par final round that moved her to eight-under overall, ahead of Australian duo Sarah Kemp and Su Oh in joint second.

Kemp opened her round with a double bogey but struck nine birdies to finish strong, unlike overnight leader Kim Kaufman, who blew a two-stroke lead with a disappointing six-over 78 and finished in a tie for eighth place.

Reuters

Bayern beat Schalke 3-1 to cut Dortmund lead

BERLIN, Feb 10

Champions Bayern Munich beat Schalke 04 3-1 on Saturday to climb back into second place and cut the gap on Bundesliga leaders Borussia Dortmund to five points.

Soccer Football - Bundesliga - Bayern Munich v Schalke 04 - Allianz Arena, Munich, Germany - February 9, 2019 Bayern Munich's Serge Gnabry celebrates scoring their third goal

REUTERS/Michael Dalder Goals from Robert Lewandowski and Serge Gnabry after a Schalke own goal lifted the Bavarians, who bounced back from last week's loss to Bayer Leverkusen and face Liverpool in the Champions League round of 16 later this month, to 45 points.

Dortmund are on 50 points after wasting a three-goal lead to draw 3-3 with Hoffenheim earlier on Saturday.

Borussia Moenchengladbach dropped to third on 42 after losing 3-0 to visiting Hertha Berlin.

Jeffrey Bruma's own goal



on his Schalke debut put the hosts ahead before Ahmed Kutucu, making his first Bundesliga start for Schalke after scoring in the German Cup in midweek, levelled in the 25th.

But the 18-year-old's joy was cut short when forward Lewandowski struck two minutes later to move Bayern ahead once more.

It was the Pole's 100th goal in Bayern's Allianz Arena, the first player to do so since the stadium opened in 2005.

Schalke, last season's runners-up, came close to another equaliser early in the second half and twice hit the woodwork.

But Serge Gnabry killed off their hopes when he wrong-footed keeper Ralf Faehrmann with a clever header from a Lewandowski bicycle kick. "We did it really in the first half," said Bayern coach Niko Kovac, whose team also earned a midweek extra time win over Hertha Berlin in the German Cup.

"In the second half only at times.

"One could see in the second half that we had played 120 minutes in the German Cup a few days earlier. But overall it was a deserved victory."

Schalke dropped to 13th on 22 points, seven above the relegation zone. Reuters

Inter Milan score first Serie A goal this year, beat Parma 1-0



AP

Feb 10: Juventus, which is on a seemingly unstoppable march to a record-extending eighth successive league title, can stretch its lead to 11 points with a win at Sassuolo on Sunday.

"Anyone who doesn't believe in the title should stay out of the dressing room," Napoli defender Kalidou Koulibaly said. "As long as it is mathematically possible, I will continue to believe right until the end.

"We are very competitive, we want to win and keep getting closer to Juve. We have to keep on fighting."

Napoli was hit by an early blow in Florence as defender Mario Rui went off with a high strain five minutes in and had to be replaced by Faouzi Ghoulam.

Fiorentina goalkeeper Alban Lafont and his Napoli counterpart Alex Meret pulled off fine saves to keep the match goalless.

Napoli seemed certain to score early in the second half but Lafont did brilliantly to parry Piotr Zielinski's close-range effort.

The visitors were also let down by some poor finishing from Arkadiusz Milik and Dries Mertens.

Fiorentina inched to within four points of a Europa League berth ahead of the rest of the weekend's fixtures.

CRISIS ENDED The pressure eased slightly on Inter Milan coach Luciano Spalletti as his side won at Parma 1-0 to end a four-match winless streak in all competitions.

Substitute Lautaro

Martinez had an immediate impact, two minutes after coming off the bench.

Radja Nainggolan sprinted forward from midfield and threaded the ball through for Lautaro, who held off Simone Iacoponi to fire into the top right corner.

The 79th-minute goal was Inter's first in Serie A this year.

"I'm very happy because we got back to winning ways and that was the most important thing," Lautaro said.

"Our mindset is very important, things haven't been going as we wanted them to for a few matches. "We want to keep our distance from the chasing pack and achieve our aim, which is qualifying for next season's Champions League."

Inter should have sealed the win but Matias Vecino had a shot cleared off the line and Marcelo Brozovic saw another effort crash off the right post as the move continued.

Gervinho had earlier hit the crossbar for Parma, while Inter defender Danilo D'Ambrosio had a goal ruled out after video review showed the ball came off his arm.

Inter remained third, nine points below Napoli and five above fourth-placed Roma Parma was 12th.

3rd Test

Ben Stokes, Jos Buttler fifties lift England vs West Indies on Day 1

GROS ISLET, Feb 10

Ben Stokes and Jos Buttler compiled an unbeaten fifth-wicket stand of 124 to guide England to 231 for four at the close on Day 1 of the third Test against West Indies in St Lucia.

Stokes enjoyed a most unusual reprieve when he was caught-and-bowled for 52 by Alzarri Joseph, who snaffed a sharp chance as the ball cannoned towards his midriff.

After trudging from the oval at the Darren Sammy Stadium in Gros Islet, Stokes was removing his protective equipment when the third umpire declared that Joseph had delivered a no-ball after reviewing the footage.

Number seven Jonny Bairstow, already in the middle, made a quick u-turn and exited as Stokes returned to rousing cheers from the England fans.

Buttler was dropped in the



slips before he had scored, and he and Stokes rode their luck at times early but looked more poised as the day progressed, and they dug their team out of a big early hole.

Buttler was unbeaten on 67 and Stokes on 62 as England took the upper hand for the first time in the series, which they have already lost after defeats in the first two Tests.

But it was not all smooth sailing for the visitors, whose

top-order problems were starkly evident again.

Keemo Paul, drafted into the team in place of suspended captain Jason Holder, took a wicket with his first ball when England opener Keaton Jennings edged to first slip. He was out for eight off what was little more than a loosener from Paul.

The 20-year-old, in his third Test, was the pick of the four-pronged West Indies pace attack and beat the batsmen regularly.

After getting Jennings, he

also snared the other opener, Rory Burns, for 29 when the opener was trapped lbw.

The on-field umpire adjudged Burns not out, but a West Indies review showed the ball would have hit the middle stump and the decision was overturned.

Paul finished the day with 2-42, while Shannon Gabriel bowled with genuine pace, clocked several times at more than 90 miles-per-hour (145 kph).

He collected 1-44, dismissing Joe Denly lbw for 20.

England captain Joe Root (15) was out cheaply for the fifth time in as many innings this series, caught-behind off a poor Joseph ball that was not far from being a wide.

West Indies captain than Kraigg Brathwaite won the toss and sent England in.

England made two changes. Jennings and pace bowler Mark Wood came in for Ben Foakes and Sam Curran. Reuters

Boxing faces breakaway threat ahead of 2020 Olympics

MOSCOW, Feb 10

Amateur boxing faces a breakaway threat ahead of the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo after its international federation elected a president accused of ties to organized crime.

The federation, known as AIBA, says a "rogue group" led by unnamed "Kazakhstani individuals" has asked national boxing federations to write to the International Olympic Committee offering to help run an Olympic boxing tournament without AIBA.

AIBA published late Friday what it said was a sample letter organized by the breakaway group. The unsigned letter addressed to the IOC says "our group is ready to provide with the necessary technical expertise and sufficient financial conditions" to run the tournament, citing "the dire situation of the sport of boxing."

Relations between the IOC and AIBA are tense after Uzbekistan businessman Gafur Rakhimov was elected AIBA president in November, beating Kazakh candidate Serik Konakbayev. The U.S. Treasury Department has alleged Rakhimov is a heroin trafficker linked to organized crime and placed him under sanctions. Rakhimov denies the allegations.

AIBA risks being derecognized in June after an IOC inquiry panel reports. Until then, AIBA is banned from contacting 2020 Tokyo Olympic organizers.

A person close to Kazakh boxing officials, speaking anonymously because they weren't authorized to discuss the letter, told The Associated Press the copy published by AIBA was genuine. A leading figure at a national boxing federation, speaking anonymously because of possible retribution from AIBA leadership, said they had been approached to sign such a letter but had not done so. The IOC knows nothing about the plans, spokesman Mark Adams told the AP.

AIBA said it had launched a taskforce to investigate and discipline people involved in circulating the letter, accusing them of "sabotaging AIBA's position within the Olympic movement."

"AIBA assumes that the IOC has dismissed and distanced itself from any and all of these activities initiated by this group of individuals," AIBA added. "The IOC has been contacted with regards to the letter, however, no response has been provided in return."

Reuters



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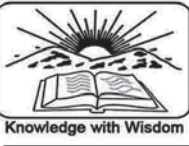
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