

Daniel Sturridge Strikes Back

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SPORTS EDITOR

The Barclays Premier League has returned after a weekend of FA Cup action and with it has come the return of the league's second leading scorer, Daniel Sturridge. Liverpool took on a West Ham United side that has been surprisingly strong, playing entertaining possession soccer. The game opened up with a flying Liverpool team showing flashes of brilliance from the combination of Raheem Sterling and Philippe Coutinho nearly

connecting for more than one goal. However, the score at the haltime intermission was a goalless draw. This draw would not last though as it took just six minutes for Raheem Sterling to slot a finish into the lower corner after a sublime pass in behind the backline. Ten minutes after this, Anfield rose to their feet to welcome Daniel Sturridge back onto the pitch and a collective breath was held for his first touch. It only took a few minutes for Sturridge to show exactly what Liverpool has been missing with a fantastic near post finish. The clinical nature of the finish had been missing from Liverpool's game so far this season. This has now placed Liverpool in 7th

position in the table and just 4 points out of the top four.

The marquee matchup of the weekend was between Chelsea and Manchester City who are 1st and 2nd respectively in the table. However the game failed to entertain besides a five minute stretch at the end of the first half where a perfect cross by Eden Hazard found Loic Remy for Chelsea's only goal. Minutes later, though David Silva deflected in a Sergio Aguero shot for Manchester City's goal, the game then went the entire second half without any more significant action leaving both teams where they started the day at.

The biggest battering of the weekend came at the expense of Aston Villa, a side that has struggled to score, but over the weekend had no trouble conceding five goals to Arsenal in a 5-0 thumping. Five different Gunners scored with Olivier Giroud opening the scoring in the first ten minutes followed by Mesut Ozil, Theo Walcott, Santi Cazorla, and Hector Bellerin. Arsenal has now closed the gap to 4th place after Southampton dropped, so now the Gunners are only behind Southampton by a single goal in goal differential. The Gunners have been in a strong run of form after regaining their top players from injury.



Tuesday, February 3
Women's Basketball
vs. Lake Forest
7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4
Women's Basketball
@ Mount Mary
7 p.m.

Saturday, February 7
Men's Basketball
@ Northland International
3 p.m.

Thursday, February 12
Swimming and Diving
Liberal Arts Championships
TBA

Saturday, February 14
Women's Basketball
vs. Central Christian
2 p.m.

Men's Basketball
@ Maranatha Baptist
3 p.m.

Tuesday, February 17
Women's Basketball
vs. Lincoln Christian
7 p.m.

Men's Basketball
@ Carthage
7 p.m.

Thursday, February 19
Women's Basketball
vs. Moody Bible
5 p.m.

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