

Soccer News Digest

--- ARTICLE 1 CONTENT --- Alex Labidou'The decision was easy' - Lionel Messi says lifestyle in America factored into agreement to extend contract with Inter MiamiLionel Messi this week signed a three-year extension to stay with Inter Miami through 2028, and the Argentine says a major factor was the lifestyle in Florida. In addition to his family enjoying living in Miami, Messi told NBC Nightly News that he evaluated his mental and physical health and ultimately, the decision to remain in MLS was "easy." -----

--- ARTICLE 2 CONTENT --- Matthew Judge'Stepped up' - Brighton boss Fabian Hurzeler reveals how tough love helped Carlos Baleba rediscover form after Man Utd pursuitBrighton head coach Fabian Hurzeler has revealed tough love has been the key to helping Carlos Baleba return to form ahead of Saturday?s clash with Manchester United. The Cameroon international was wanted by the Red Devils in the summer, but they opted to walk away from discussions after learning the south coast club's valuation of the midfielder.

----- --- ARTICLE 3 CONTENT --- Ritabrata BanerjeeChelsea boss Enzo Maresca considers handing debut to 15-year-old compared to Jude BellinghamAfter fielding a group of teenagers in their Champions League clash against Ajax earlier this week, Chelsea boss Enzo Maresca is now seemingly set to hand a 15-year-old youth player his senior debut. Resting most of their first-team stars in the European clash, Maresca banked on the youth and they did not disappoint the coach as the Blues registered a thumping 5-1 win over the Dutch giants.

----- --- ARTICLE 4 CONTENT --- Alex LabidouFrom Lionel Messi's Decision Day brilliance to Son Heung-Min putting MLS on notice - ranking the top hat-tricks of the 2025 seasonThere were 19 hat-tricks in MLS regular season and GOAL ranks the best, including Messi's finale dominance and Son's first in the leagueLionel Messi delivered the only hat-trick on MLS Decision Day - a moment that was both fitting and surprising. Fitting, because the league?s biggest star showed up when the spotlight was brightest. Surprising, because it was somehow his first of the season.Overall, the 2025 MLS season featured 1,530 goals across 510 matches - the second-highest in league history, just behind 2024's total of 1,552. Of those, 57 came via 19

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hat-tricks, which also ranks second all-time. As MLS continues its rise, so too does the level of play. LAFC's Son Heung-Min and Vancouver's Thomas Muller were just two of the high-profile additions who made immediate impacts this season. The adjustment period that once came with big-name signings? Pretty much gone. Now stars are showing up ready, and it's paying off - with sharper team play, tighter chemistry and performances that keep raising the bar. And if that means more hat-tricks, no one's complaining. GOAL ranks the top five hat-tricks from the 2025 season. DoorDash has a special offer for MLS hat-tricks. If an MLS player scores a hat-trick this season, use promo code HATTRICK3 to get \$10 off your \$35+ DoorDash order that includes groceries, alcohol or convenience items. Every new hat-trick means another chance to save on DoorDash.

----- --- ARTICLE 5 CONTENT --- Matthew Judge
Man City ready to battle Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund for Bundesliga wonderkid with Man Utd and PSG also monitoring teenager
Manchester City are reportedly monitoring the progress of highly-rated Koln forward Said El Mala but face stiff competition for his signature from a number of European heavyweights. The 19-year-old has been in fine form for the Bundesliga side in 2025-26, leading to several members of Europe's elite to register their interest in signing the winger.

Arsenal's Thomas Partey during the English Premier League soccer match between Wolverhampton Wanderers and Arsenal at Molineux stadium in Wolverhampton, England, Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025. (AP Photo/Rui Vieira) Rui Vieira AP Photo
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SOCCER. Georgina Rodríguez sparks wedding rumors with Cristiano Ronaldo
SOCCER. The biggest secret of Stamford Bridge: the story behind the ashes buried in the penalty spot
Thomas Partey is poised to continue his soccer career in Spain after reportedly agreeing to join La Liga club Villarreal as a free agent. The Ghanaian international, who most recently concluded a

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five-year spell with Arsenal, is close to finalizing his switch, with the only formalities left to complete such as medical exams. Barcelona superstar Lamine Yamal is facing trouble following his memorable 18th birthday celebration. The move marks a LaLiga return for Partey following his previous spell with Atletico Madrid, but his move back to Spain after a five-year absence arrives amid intense scrutiny, following his arrest and charging for alleged rape offences in London. In early July, the Crown Prosecution Service formally charged Partey with five counts of rape and one of sexual assault relating to incidents involving three women between 2021 and 2022. Partey has denied all charges and maintains his cooperation with authorities throughout the multi-year investigation. He is scheduled to appear at Westminster Magistrates' Court on August 5. Villarreal move carries on despite legal issues. According to The Athletic, Villarreal has struck a preliminary agreement with Partey on a contract extending through 2027. The midfielder completed medical exams and is set to be unveiled soon, subject to his court appearance. The deal comes just days after his Arsenal contract officially expired, amid speculation that offers from Saudi clubs and Turkish sides were also on the table. The signing gives Villarreal a seasoned presence in midfield depth, especially as they return to Champions League competition in the 2025-26 season. Parts of the deal reportedly include an initial one-year commitment with an option to extend, allowing the club flexibility depending on both performance and legal developments. Partey emerged from Atlético to join Arsenal in 2020 for over \$58 million and went on to make 167 appearances for the north London club, delivering consistent defensive solidity and occasional offensive contributions. His time at Arsenal ended when contract talks failed to reach a positive conclusion - despite manager Mikel Arteta expressing confidence in Partey's importance to the squad. Arsenal confirmed they routinely followed proper legal processes during the investigation and later declined further comment amid pending proceedings. While clubs commonly weigh character and legal risks in transfer decisions, Villarreal's pursuit of Partey amid formal charges has ignited debate. Analysts and fans alike are divided: some view the acquisition as a bold footballing calculation, others question its moral

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balance. Detection officials emphasized legal safeguards in the case, including protection of victims and the downsides of premature public speculation. Partey's legal team asserts his right to clear his name in court, noting he "fully cooperated with the police and CPS throughout their three-year investigation." A risky signing for Villarreal, the return to LaLiga has a strong footballing case. Partey's experience, versatility, and coaching pedigree potentially strengthen the yellow submarine's spine. From Spain's vantage, the club's recruitment represents a calculated risk, justified by his high-level experience and relatively recent physical form. Still, timing is sensitive. Partey's arrival comes immediately before his court date, raising questions across Europe about clubs signing players amid unresolved criminal allegations and the principle of presumption of innocence versus public accountability. With the World Cup cycle ahead and Ghana likely to call on him for international duty, Partey remains both a global figure and a controversial subject in this unfolding narrative. The balance between his athletic future and legal outcome will shape public memory - whether his return to Spain proves a redemption arc or becomes an enduring footnote in a troubled chapter.

Villarreal - English Arsenal - English Premier League - English LaLiga - English Transfer News Atlético Madrid - English Champions League Champions League 25/26 matches: fixtures, ties and all the dates Liverpool FCA stunning free-kick goal by Liverpool FC midfielder Dominik Szoboszlai beats Arsenal Golden State Warriors Golden State Warriors eye Klay Thompson reunion to extend championship window See links of interest Soccer News Man City News Liga MX news Liga MX scores Premier League news Premier League scores Champions League scores Premier League Winners Mbappe News Real Madrid News Barcelona News Rooney Bardghji poses with Barcelona jersey FC BARCELONA M. CARMEN TORRES RYAN MITCHELL

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Soccer. Nico Williams will not play for Barcelona and renews with Athletic until 2035 Soccer. Donald Trump has no hesitation in naming the greatest soccer player of all time... and he doesn't choose Messi Rooney Bardghji has finally fulfilled his

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dream. Barcelona announced his signing on Thursday. The 19-year-old Swedish right winger will strengthen Hansi Flick's team. Little by little, Barça is defining its squad for the 2025-26 season. The player has signed for four seasons. Barcelona officially announced the signing of Roony Bardghji, a young European talent, trained at Malmö, who Deco had been following for more than a year. The Catalan club confirmed that the Sweden U21 international is joining its squad, for whom it has had to pay a small transfer fee, around two million euros, as he was under contract with FC Copenhagen until December. Donald Trump crashes Chelsea's Club World Cup celebration acting like one of the players. Bardghji's predisposition to sign for Barça was decisive in his incorporation. A fan and admirer of the Catalan team since he was a child, the right winger had other proposals, Mallorca and Porto were some of the clubs that approached him in recent weeks, but his desire was to wear the blue and red shirt. And he has achieved it. The conversations for his signing have been quick. Bet on the future. Bardghji only played six games in the 2024-25 season with FC Copenhagen, the club he joined in 2021, due to a cruciate ligament rupture he suffered the previous season in training, which prevented him from playing until March. He did not play in the final stretch of the season due to another injury. Despite this situation, Barça had no doubts about his signing and his incorporation, the coaches and Deco are sure that he will offer great performance and that it is a great bet for the present and future. With the Danish first team, to which he was promoted in 2022, Roony Bardghji has played 84 games, scoring 15 goals and providing one assist.

Soccer Barcelona - English Transfer News La Liga - English MLS Barcelona plans a great tribute to Leo Messi at the new Camp Nou. Barcelona superstar Lamine Yamal is facing trouble following his memorable 18th birthday celebration. Club World Cup. Club World Cup 2025 Prize: How much money will the winner of the tournament between Chelsea and PSG earn? See links of interest.

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League final soccer match between Portugal and Spain at the Allianz Arena in Munich, Germany, Monday, June 9, 2025. (AP Photo/Martin Meissner)

LAPRESSEMANUEL MALAGÓN | DIEGO PICÓRYAN MITCHELL09/06/2025 - 08:45CDTCompartir en FacebookCompartir en TwitterCompartir en TelegramCompartir en WhatsappEnviar por email

Cristiano Ronaldo open to playing with Messi...in MLS?Cristiano makes his best Argentinian impression and sends a lovely message to MessiCristiano Ronaldowas the happiest man in the world after winning his secondUEFA Nations League after Portugal won on penalties against Spain. The Portugal captain scored one of his team's goals, the 2-2 equaliser, and was substituted through injury before extra time, so he was unable to take any penalties in the decisive shootout.After the match and still with the euphoria of the celebration,Ronaldospoke about his future. After a post on his social networks, rumors were sparked aboutthis departure from Saudi Arabia,as if his time there was over. Many teams that are going to play in the Club World Cup moved their chips at the possibility of having Cristiano in the American tournament this summer.Cristiano Ronaldo laughs off unexpected wheelchair moment with fanHowever, the Portuguese star made it clear that he is not going to leave."Nothing is going to change, Al Nassr? Yes," he replied when asked about his immediate future.If his words are taken literally, Cristiano will sign a renewal with the Arab team and thus fulfill his fourth season in Riyadh."I'm very happy. First, for this generation, it deserved a title. To win for Portugal is very special. I have many titles, but nothing is better than winning for Portugal. The tears and the sense of duty done... It's beautiful. It's our nation. We are a small people, but with great ambition. I have lived in many countries, I have played in many clubs, but when they talk about Portugal it is a special feeling. To be the captain of this generation is a pride. Winning a title is always the highlight of a national team. The future is about thinking short term. I had an injury and that was too much, too much... I pushed myself, because in the national team you have to push yourself.""I already felt it during the warm-up, I had been feeling it for a long time. But for the national team, if I had to break my leg, I would do it. It's a title, I had to play and I gave everything, I

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got as far as I could. I helped with a goal."Ver esta publicación en InstagramRoberto Martinez:"I'm very happy for him, for being Spanish, for having given everything for our country. It's a title that we've already won, but this is our motivation, this is our hunger."Cristiano Ronaldo - EnglishPortugal National Football Team - EnglishUEFA Nations League - EnglishSoccerTransfer NewsSpain National Football Team - EnglishSoccerSpain and Portugal, the European giants who are firmly in controlUEFA Nations LeagueCristiano Ronaldo open to playing with Messi...in MLS?UEFA Nations LeagueCristiano Ronaldo makes his best Argentinian impression and sends a lovely message to Lionel MessiSee links of interestSoccer NewsMan City NewsLiga MX newsLiga MX scoresPremier League newsPremier League scoresChampions League scoresPremier League WinnersMbappe NewsReal Madrid NewsBarcelona NewsNACHO LABARGARYAN MITCHELL28/05/2025 - 06:40CDTCompartir en FacebookCompartir en TwitterCompartir en TelegramCompartir en WhatsappEnviar por emailSoccer.FIFA president cites 'discussions' for Cristiano Ronaldo to play in Club World CupSoccer.Cristiano Ronaldo discovers that he is biologically 11 years youngerGiannisAntetokounmpo, MilwaukeeBucksstar, has taken advantage ofCristiano Ronaldo'sfarewell toAl-Nassrt to launch a curious proposal to the Portuguese star.After three seasons in Saudi Arabia, Cristiano published a message on social media in which he closed this chapter, but left the door open to new adventures:"The story? It's still being written," he said.La anécdota de Evra sobre la pelea entre Cristiano y Van Nistelrooy en su primer entrenamientoAt 40 years of age, the Portuguese striker is still active and open to new experiences. In this context,Antetokounmporeacted with humor and admiration to Cristiano's post, proposing that he play in his native country:"Come and play in Greece," wrote the NBA player, mentioning clubs such as Olympiacos, Panathinaikos, AEK or PAOK.A very curious offerLuis Enrique's words after French Cup title: 'We're ready to make history'"Whatever you want. I'm not fussy,"said the Greek, who has shown on numerous occasions his admiration for Cristiano Ronaldo, whom he has even described as 'The GOAT'. A nice suggestion that mixes soccer, basketball and a good dose of

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admiration.Cristiano Ronaldo - EnglishGiannis Antetokounmpo - EnglishTransfer NewsIndiana PacersCan Tyrese Haliburton's Plea Bring His Dad Back to Game 3?NBA PlayoffsPacers lift ban on Haliburton's father, who was banned after altercation with AntetokounmpoNBAShai leads the NBA's best quintet and LeBron is in the secondSee links of interestSoccer NewsMan City NewsLiga MX newsLiga MX scoresPremier League newsPremier League scoresChampions League scoresPremier League WinnersMbappe NewsReal Madrid NewsBarcelona NewsTrent Alexander Arnold in a game with LiverpoolAPJOSÉ FÉLIX DÍAZRYAN MITCHELLActualizado25/03/2025 -11:16CDTCompartir en FacebookCompartir en TwitterCompartir en TelegramCompartir en WhatsappEnviar por emailSoccer.Chelsea bombshell: London club says goodbye to Stamford BridgeSoccer.Cristiano Ronaldo gives toxic journalists an ultimatum: "Look me in the eye when I answer your questions"Real Madridis close to reaching an agreement with Alexander-Arnold, with whom it has been working since last December, when the club approached Liverpool to try to reach an understanding for the transfer of the full-back in the winter market, something to which the English club's directors refused. The agreement that the club presents to the English player is for five seasons and, as he will be out of contract on June 30,Liverpool would not receive any money.During that transfer window,there were two attempts by Real Madrid, always with the player's approval, to reinforce a position in which, after Carvajal's injury, Lucas Vazquez was the only specialist in the squad. It is true that Valverde has since appeared in that position, but a solution was sought so that the Uruguayan would not leave the midfield.Cristiano Ronaldo finally addresses why he hasn't married Georgina Rodríguez yetWith the agreement close, thenext step will be to start putting everything into a contract within the law, as Alexander-Arnold is in the final stages of his contract with Liverpool, which expires on June 30, 2025.A signing told in MARCAMARCA has been reporting on the moves made around the England international since Arnold decided in the latter months of 2023 that his time at Liverpool was over.Everything is down toReal Madrid's strategyof looking for players who are out of contract, similar to what they did with

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Davies, although the Canadian player ended up giving in to Bayern's astronomical renewal offer, which was higher than the one agreed with Los Blancos. From Valdebebas, they knew that the Arnold deal was a long-term operation, with the ultimate goal of ensuring that he did not renew his contract with Liverpool, something that has happened for now after resisting numerous proposals made from Anfield. Four covers to inform step by step. The first cover came on October 8, when it was reported that Real Madrid were on Arnold's trail. On October 17, MARCA reported that the player would not renew with Liverpool, who were beginning to get used to the idea that they would lose one of their most important players. On December 13, Madrid put a dilemma on the table: sign or stick with what they have? The injuries to Militao and, above all, Carvajal, opened the debate about the need to strengthen in winter. Madrid tried, although they knew it was impossible, to sign Arnold. Liverpool would not let him leave. On December 28, MARCA reported that the player's desire is to wear the Real Madrid jersey and that he is willing to take all the steps to end up at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Real Madrid - English
Liverpool - English
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All Times EDT
Wild Card
Eastern Conference
Wednesday, Oct. 22: Chicago 3, Orlando 1
Western Conference
Wednesday, Oct. 22: Portland 3, Salt Lake 1
First Round ? Best of 3 (x-if necessary)
Eastern Conference
Philadelphia vs. Orlando/Chicago winner
Sunday, Oct. 26: Chicago at Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 1: Philadelphia at Chicago, 5:30 p.m.
x-Saturday, Nov. 8: Chicago at Philadelphia, TBD
Cincinnati vs. Columbus
Monday, Oct. 27: Columbus at Cincinnati,

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6:45 p.m.Sunday, Nov. 2: Cincinnati at Columbus, 6:30 p.m.x-Saturday, Nov. 8: Columbus at Cincinnati, TBDMiami 1, Nashville 0Friday, Oct. 24: Miami 3, Nashville 1Saturday, Nov. 1: Miami at Nashville, 7:30 p.m.x-Saturday, Nov. 8: Nashville at Miami, TBDCharlotte vs. New York CityTuesday, Oct. 28: New York City at Charlotte, 6:45 p.m.Saturday, Nov. 1: Charlotte at New York City, 3:30 p.m.x-Friday, Nov. 7: New York City at Charlotte, TBDWestern ConferenceSan Diego vs. Salt Lake/Portland winnerSunday, Oct. 26: Portland at San Diego, 9:30 p.m.Saturday, Nov. 1: San Diego at Portland, 9:30 p.m.x-Sunday, Nov. 9: Portland at San Diego, TBD Vancouver vs. DallasSaturday, Oct. 26: Dallas at Vancouver, 7:30 p.m.Saturday, Nov. 1: Vancouver at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.x-Friday, Nov. 7: Dallas at Vancouver, TBDMinnesota vs. SeattleMonday, Oct. 27: Seattle at Minnesota, 9 p.m.Monday, Nov. 3: Minnesota at Seattle, 10:30 p.m.x-Saturday, Nov. 8: Seattle at Minnesota, TBD Related Stories Messi gets trophy, then has two goals to lift Inter Miami past Nashville 3-1 in playoff opener 3 MIN READ Lionel Messi and Inter Miami complete new contract. He'll remain with the club at least into 2026 4 MIN READ Mora scores 2 first-half goals and the Timbers beat Real Salt Lake 3-1 to advance in MLS playoffs 1 MIN READ Los Angeles FC vs. AustinWednesday, Oct. 29: Austin at Los Angeles FC, 10:30 p.m.Sunday, Nov. 2: Los Angeles FC at Austin, 8:30 p.m.x-Saturday, Nov. 8: Austin at Los Angeles FC, TBDConference SemifinalsNov. 22 ? Nov. 23Eastern Conference: TBDWestern Conference: TBDConference FinalNov. 29 ? Nov. 30Semifinal winners, TBDChampionshipSaturday, Dec. 6: Conference Final winners, 2:30 p.m.MADRID (AP) ? A first-half double from captain Mikel Oyarzabal gave Real Sociedad a 2-1 win over Sevilla on Friday and lifted the Basque side out of the Spanish league relegation zone.It was only the second win of the Spanish season for Sociedad, in front of a boisterous home crowd.Oyarzabal put the hosts ahead with a penalty awarded after 19 minutes. Nemanja Gudelj brought Sevilla level in the 30th after a well-worked set piece. A free kick on the right flank was drilled across the edge of the box and Gudelj's low shot was deflected into the net.However, Gudelj was partially at fault when Sociedad retook the lead at the tother end just six minutes later.

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Miscommunication from a throw-in between him and José Ángel Carmona gifted Sociedad the ball and Oyarzabal turned neatly inside the box and drilled a low drive under the Sevilla keeper. It was the forward's fourth goal of the season and lifts Sociedad into 14th with nine points from 10 games. "It's a match that we've lost because of our mistakes," Gudelj said. "We have to fix the errors and we haven't done it." Sevilla remains in ninth place with 13 points from the same number of matches.____AP soccer: <https://apnews.com/hub/soccer>Nantes snapped a five-game winless streak as Matthis Abline's long-range volley secured a 2-1 win at Paris FC on Friday to end the team's worst start to a league season in more than a decade. This was the first Ligue 1 match-up between the pair since the 1978-79 season and Nantes took the lead after just two minutes through Youssel El Arabi's shot from just outside the area. Paris had an equalizer chalked off two minutes later following a video review but drew level after 15 minutes when Samir Chergui directed Pierre Lees-Melou's weak volley into the goal from around 10 meters out. However, Nantes went ahead again seven minutes before halftime when a defensive clearance fell to Abline 25 meters from goal, and he controlled the ball with one touch before volleying home a looping shot for his first goal of the season. It handed Paris a second consecutive 2-1 loss and its recent encouraging run of 10 points from five games looks more and more distant. It remains in 11th place in Ligue 1 with 10 points from nine games. Nantes climbed into 13th spot, with nine points.____AP soccer: <https://apnews.com/hub/soccer>MANCHESTER, England (AP) ? Historic English soccer club Sheffield Wednesday's future was thrown into doubt Friday after it was taken over by administrators amid financial troubles. The English Football League confirmed that the club, which was founded in 1867, would be hit with a 12-point deduction as punishment. Joint administrator Kris Wigfield said a new owner was being sought as quickly as possible. The four-time English champion was an original member of the Premier League. It now plays in the second-tier Championship and is currently bottom of the 24-team league on minus 6 points after the deduction. The latest move comes after a period of financial difficulty under the ownership of Thai businessman Dejphon

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Chansiri, which prompted protests from fans and sanctions from the league. For the fans, staff and players of Sheffield Wednesday this is an extremely worrying situation, said U.K. culture secretary Lisa Nandy. Owners should be good custodians who act with their club's best interests in mind and clearly, in this instance, that has not been the case. Wednesday was already subject to blocks on transfer fees for three windows. The club and Chansiri separately faced league charges over non-payment of player wages. A chance to secure future The league said Friday that the latest developments were an opportunity to move matters toward a successful sale and secure future under new ownership. Fans reacted to the news with a mix of sadness and optimism. Today marks one of the most bittersweet days in our club's proud 158-year history, Sheffield Wednesday Supporters' Trust said in a statement. Entering administration was the inevitable outcome of years of financial mismanagement, a lack of accountability, and repeated failures to engage credible buyers. Administration is not something to be celebrated. It needn't have ended this way. But we are overjoyed to have Dejphon Chansiri out of our club for good. In a statement, the club said administrators had been appointed after significant efforts to agree a sale to a credible future custodian could not be completed. It said it had faced rising pressure from creditors. League rules mean teams that fall into administration are automatically deducted 12 points. Wednesday is now likely to be relegated to the third tier of English soccer, having regularly been a top-flight club in the past with star players like Chris Waddle and Paolo Di Canio. The three-time winner of the FA Cup was last in the Premier League in 2000 and has since spent time in the third tier as recently as 2023. Wednesday said average attendances this season had fallen from 26,000 to 17,000 amid fan unrest. Further financial hits have come from the boycotting of the club's concessions and retail outlets. Now, more than ever, we need fans back in the ground buying tickets, merchandise, pies and pints, Wigfield said. Every penny spent will go directly to supporting the day-to-day running of this club, not to the former owner or professional costs. James Robson is at <https://x.com/jamesalanrobson> AP soccer: <https://apnews.com/hub/soccer>