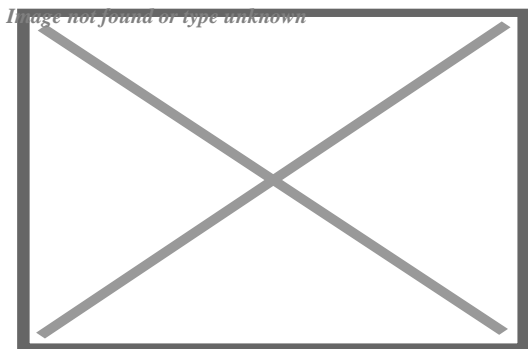


# *Barcelona tightens its grip on the top spot in Spanish soccer*

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**Robert Lewandowski**

Barcelona, Mar 30 (PL) Barcelona defeated Girona 4-1 today in the 29th round of the Spanish League, in a match played at the Olympic Stadium Lluís Companys.

With this victory, the reigning Spanish Super Cup champions accumulated 66 points, the result of 21 wins and three draws, and pulled away from their arch-rivals Real Madrid (63), who beat Leganés 3-2 yesterday.

A free kick by Lamine Yamal, a header by Eric García and a deflection by Czech defender Ladislav Krejčí, who deflected the ball into the back of his own net, combined to give the Culés the lead in the 43rd minute, after several unsuccessful threats.

After the break, the more than 40,000 fans in the stands were silenced when Daley Blind's through ball allowed Arnaut Danjuma to take an effective shot, beat the goalkeeper and equalized.

However, Poland's Robert Lewandowski threw his team on the back foot and scored his 24th and 25th goals of the league season in the second half to assert himself as the leader, send the stands into a frenzy and make the difference for Hansi Flick's side.

To add further color to the victory, Ferran Torres' left-footed strike in the 86th minute completed the rout before the final whistle.

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