

# Moura rescues Spurs

● Tottenham qualify for last 16 as late Moura goal earns draw at Barca

● Harry Kane provided the pass that substitute Lucas Moura used to score in the 85th minute

AFP | Barcelona

Tottenham came back from the brink in the Champions League on Tuesday as Lucas Moura's late equaliser salvaged a 1-1 draw against Barcelona and sent them through to the last 16.

Lionel Messi was left out of a heavily-rotated Barca line-up at the Camp Nou but Ousmane Dembele's stunning early goal looked set to put Spurs out, until Moura intervened.

Mauricio Pochettino's side only had to match Inter Milan's result at home to PSV Eindhoven in Group B, which they did, as the Italians only managed a 1-1 draw themselves.

It made for a night of exhilarating drama, climaxing in the final five minutes when Tottenham must have wondered whether to push for a winner or hold on to what they had.



Ousmane Dembele robbed Kyle Walker-Peters early in the first half before finishing neatly past Hugo Lloris to give Barcelona to lead

At the final whistle, their players faced an agonising 30 seconds, only for a roar in one of the stadium's deepest corners to tell them the whistle had blown in Italy.

"No-one believed in us," Pochettino said. "People said it was mission impossible but we are here. It is a massive achievement for the club."

Barcelona's coach Ernesto Valverde may not be popular with Inter supporters after he

rested several key players, including Messi, but his team already had first place wrapped up.

"We qualified quickly and that speaks for itself," Valverde said. On Messi, who came on shortly after the hour, he added: "It's good to keep him busy,"

Besides, Dembele scored a goal of which the Argentinian would have been proud, his brilliant run and finish providing the perfect riposte to more

ports of indiscipline from the 21-year-old this week.

"It was a great goal, the kind only players with his talent can score," Valverde said. "We are happy with him."

When Barcelona crashed out in the quarter-finals in April, Valverde took much of the blame, the accusation that he failed to rotate his players in games of lesser importance.

Perhaps he listened, because while Messi's absence was the



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key point of relief for Tottenham, Jordi Alba and Marc-Andre ter Stegen, both excellent in recent weeks, were also left on the bench.

Spurs, though, were also unfamiliar, at right-back, where Kyle Walker-Peters made his Champions League debut and it was the 21-year-old's error in the sixth minute that gave Dembele a sniff.

He robbed the ball and tore away, brushing off Walker-Peters again before brilliantly dummied a late Harry Winks dive and finishing past Hugo Lloris.

Pochettino said he would be kept aware of the score at the San Siro, so news may have reached him soon after that PSV had taken the lead.

Tottenham improved, peppering Barca's right side, as another break saw Danny Rose fire across the face of goal. Son Heung-min's lunge came up just short.

## Dortmund top Champions League group after win at Monaco

AFP | Monaco

Borussia Dortmund qualified as Group A winners in the Champions League last 16 after beating Thierry Henry's Monaco 2-0 on Tuesday.

Portugal's Raphael Guerreiro scored twice to claim all three points for the visitors as Atletico Madrid could only draw 0-0 at Club Brugge.

Lucien Favre made nine changes from Saturday's derby victory against Schalke which continued their superb unbeaten start to the Bundesliga season.

"It's a perfect evening. On the whole it was a deserved victory," Favre said.

Henry started four teenagers in a meaningless game for the Ligue 1 strugglers who were guaranteed to finish bottom of the group for a second straight campaign after defeat at Atletico in round five.

The former France striker stated he used the fixture as a warm-up for Sunday's domestic trip to Lyon.

"Dortmund posed a real challenge. We'll recover quickly and prepare for Lyon," he said.

"Right now we have a problem, to sort things out in Ligue 1."

## PSG through after rout of Red Star

● 'Humble' PSG keeping cool heads after making Champions League last 16

AFP | Belgrade, Serbia

Paris Saint-Germain coach Thomas Tuchel said his side need to "stay humble" after they thumped Red Star Belgrade 4-1 on Tuesday and qualified for the last 16 of the Champions League, finishing ahead of Liverpool and Napoli to top a tight Group C.

First-half goals from Edinson Cavani and Neymar set the French champions on their way, before a bullet header from Marquinhos, Kylian Mbappe's injury-time strike and Liverpool beating Napoli 1-0 ensured first place in the group after Marko Gobeljic pulled one back for the hosts early in the second half.

"We made mistakes, but I really liked the reaction after Belgrade's goal. We controlled the match," said Tuchel to RMC Sport after the win.

"We need to stay humble and have a professional attitude. We are improving and we are hard to beat."

PSG finished the group stage on 11 points, two ahead of second-placed Liverpool and Napoli, who were eliminated due to their defeat at Anfield.

Topping such a keenly-contested group is a huge boost for PSG, who have dominated French football since being taken over by Qatari investors but flattered to deceive on the continent.

Arrival in the knockout stage comes after two straight wins



Paris Saint-Germain's Brazilian forward Neymar (2ndR) vies with Red Star Belgrade's Australian defender Milos Degenek

for PSG, with Tuesday's beating of Red Star coming after a crucial 2-1 victory over Liverpool that put qualification in their hands.

"We showed for a second time after the match against Liverpool that we are ready for this kind of match," added Tuchel, whose side began the group stage with a 3-2 defeat by the Reds at Anfield and then struggled to contain Napoli in the two draws with the Italian side.

However, PSG scored 10 goals in two games against Red Star, who beat Liverpool and drew with Napoli in Belgrade -- dropped points that allowed the Ligue 1 leaders to finish top.

"We are happy, we came for qualification and we showed our intentions (with the win)," said Mbappe, who also laid on Cavani's opener.

Asked about PSG's chances of winning the Champions League, Mbappe added: "We need to see what we'll have in front of us. The goal is to get to the quarter-finals, but we'll deal with what we are given in the draw."

### Attacking trio triumph

PSG had Red Star on the back foot from the start, and their blistering attacking trio of Neymar, Mbappe and Cavani did not waste time in putting the away side ahead.

Just eight minutes were on the clock when Cavani tapped Mbappe's pass into an open goal, after the French teenage sensation met the excellent Marco Verratti's through ball, brushed Filip Stojkovic aside and slipped a perfect pass for the Uruguayan.

Red Star captain Stojkovic had a torrid evening, and Neymar made light work of the 25-year-old on his way to a wonderful solo goal in the 31st minute, dribbling into the box and sitting down the hosts' keeper Milan Borjan before lifting the second into the net.

The Ligue 1 leaders should have been out of sight three minutes before the break, but Mbappe wasted an excellent chance to make it three, again bursting through past Stojkovic on the left only to fluff his shot into the side netting.

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