

SPORTS

sports

Spurs survive Man City

Tottenham overcame Manchester City in a classic encounter at Etihad Stadium to reach the last four of the Champions League for the first time

● **Spurs survive the seven-goal thriller to end Man City's quadruple quest**

● **Tottenham's Fernando Llorente scored the decisive goal**

AFP | Manchester

Manchester City's bid for an unprecedented quadruple of trophies ended in dramatic fashion as Tottenham progressed to the Champions League semi-finals on away goals as a pulsating 4-3 win for City on Wednesday was not enough to overturn their 1-0 first leg deficit.

Four goals were scored in a crazy opening 11 minutes as Raheem Sterling and Bernardo Silva cancelled out two Son Heung-min away goals for Tottenham.

City finally looked set for the last four when further goals from Sterling and Sergio Agüero put them ahead in the tie for the first time.

But there was a further twist when Fernando Llorente's controversial goal 17 minutes from time was allowed to stand despite a VAR check for handball by the Spaniard.

VAR intervened again deep



Tottenham Hotspur's Fernando Llorente scores his side's third goal

into stoppage time to save Spurs once more when Sterling thought he had completed his hat-trick only for Agüero to be ruled offside in the build-up.

Tottenham's reward is a semi-final clash against Ajax.

Pep Guardiola will face more questions over his failure to land the Champions League three seasons into his City's reign, but after a more conservative approach for the first leg was criticised, he set the tone for a thrilling 90 minutes.

Kevin de Bruyne was restored to the starting XI among four changes from the first leg and the Belgian showed why the de-



Four goals of the the seven-goal thriller were scored in a crazy opening 11 minutes

cision to leave him out last week was so questioned.

De Bruyne drove at the heart of the Spurs defence before feeding Sterling, who cut inside

and curled a wonderful shot into the far corner.

Guardiola had called for the home fans to finally produce an intimidating atmosphere on a European night at the Etihad.

However, they had barely retaken their seats by the time Tottenham were level.

Aymeric Laporte cut out Dele Alli's forward pass, but only turned the ball into the path of Son, whose shot had too much power for Ederson.

Three minutes later, City's quadruple quest appeared in tatters as Laporte was again caught in possession, this time by Lucas Moura and the Brazilian teed up

Son to curl into the top corner for his 20th goal of the season.

Yet, a kamikaze opening 11 minutes had another twist as Bernardo's effort deflected off Danny Rose and wrong-footed Hugo Lloris at his near post.

By the midway point of the first-half, City were back in front as Bernardo and De Bruyne played creators once more and Sterling finished off a low cross at the back post.

Spurs' hopes of holding on to their advantage on away goal suffered another blow when Moussa Sissoko was forced off with an injury.

Mauricio Pochettino chose attack as the best form of defence by replacing the midfielder with Llorente in what proved to be a decisive change.

City started the second period with the same menace they did the first as Lloris denied Sterling before the French World Cup winner made a brilliant stop to deny De Bruyne the goal his performance deserved.

However, De Bruyne had his hat-trick of assists on the hour mark as he surged through midfield before timing his pass for Agüero to perfection and the Argentine rifled past Lloris.

Finally ahead for the first time in the tie, Guardiola soon sent on Fernandinho to restore some sense of control, but City were pegged back again as an incredible tie swung back in Tottenham's favour.

YK Almoayyed to sponsor tennis tournament

TDT | Manama

YK Almoayyed has announced its sponsorship once again for the Late Yousif Khalil Almoayyed Cup Ramadan Tennis Tournament to be held at Bahrain Tennis Club from 7th May to 1st June as part of Ramadan activities.

Bahrain Tennis Club Club Manager Hamdi A. Jawad received the sponsorship letter from YK Almoayyed and Sons Director Salwa Almoayyed.

Hamdi A. Jawad extended his appreciation Y.K. Almoayyed and Sons for their continuing sponsorship of the tournament.

Barcelona to face Chelsea in Japan

AFP | Tokyo

Barcelona will travel to Japan to play pre-season games against Chelsea and Andres Iniesta's J-League club Vissel Kobe in July, the Spanish giants announced yesterday.

The runaway La Liga leaders take on English side Chelsea in Saitama on July 23 and on July 27 face Kobe, the club Barca legend Iniesta joined last year after helping the Catalans scoop 32 trophies in a glittering career.

Barcelona's main sponsor Rakuten, the Japanese retailer, is organising both games.

PSG lose at Nantes, again fail to clinch title

AFP | Nantes

Paris Saint-Germain failed to seal the Ligue 1 title for the third match running on Wednesday after a second-string line-up without dropped Kylian Mbappe took the champions to their second defeat in a matter of days, 3-2 at Nantes.

A Diego Carlos brace and Majeed Waris' tap-in inflicted a third league loss on Thomas Tuchel's side, who were hammered 5-1 at second-placed Lille on Sunday and drew with Strasbourg the previous week, despite Dani Alves' stunning opener and substitute Metehan Guclu pulling one back late on.

However PSG, who were also missing a host of other first-team players through injuries and suspension, remain 17 points clear with six games left.

The runaway leaders will win their sixth title in seven years on Sunday if Lille fail to win at Toulouse and they then beat struggling Monaco.

Tuchel refused to reveal if he left Mbappe out of the squad for blasting his teammates for "lacking personality" after the Lille loss, saying that there would be "no explanation" of his decision.

"It's very easy to analyse, it



Paris Saint-Germain's Brazilian midfielder Leandro Paredes (L) vies for the ball with Nantes' Brazilian defender Diego Carlos

was a very bad performance, we deserved to lose," said Tuchel.

"We controlled the game at Lille but today there was no performance for 90 minutes.

"You can lose and you can make mistakes, and we will always defend the players if we feel that they've played with a great attitude and hunger. But today it is not possible."

Depleted PSG had to thank Gianluigi Buffon 12 minutes in when he managed to push away Kalifa Coulibaly's header from point-blank range, and seven minutes later Alves appeared to have calmed Parisian nerves

with his wonder strike.

There looked to be little on when the Brazilian collected Leandro Paredes' simple pass, but he quickly lashed an unstoppable dipping drive past Maxime Dupre to score his first Ligue 1 goal this season.

However just three minutes after the opener Diego Carlos was allowed too much space to nod home Valentin Rongier inswinging corner.

PSG continued to struggle despite the odd flash from Moussa Diaby, and the hosts grabbed a deserved second just before the break.

Wyndham Garden cruise past IHE



Ritz Carlton B Team after winning the game

TDT | Manama

Wyndham Garden defeated IHE by 41 runs in the eighth Inter Hotel Charity Cricket Tournament held on Wednesday. Vikram was declared man of the match.

Score: Wyndham Garden (63/2 in 6 overs) won from IHE(22 for all out in 4.2 overs)

by 41 runs.

Match # 2:

Downtown Rotana (90/3 in 6 overs) won from Ramada Amwaj (37/6 in 4.2 overs) by 53 runs.

Man of the match: Deva

Match # 3:

Ritz Carlton B(55/4 in 6 overs) won from Domain Hotel (52/3 in 6 overs) by 02 runs.

Man of the Match: Imran

Match # 4:

Art Rotana Amwaj (94/5 in 6 overs) won from Golden Tulip(52/6 in 5.3 overs) by 42 runs.

Man of the Match: Deepak

Match #5:

Sheraton (70/5 in 6 overs) won from Majestic Arjaan(46/6 in 6 overs) by 24 runs.

Man of the Match: Sajid