

Ronaldo nets 2 but Juventus knocked out by Lyon

City seize on mistakes to oust Real, reach CL quarters

MANCHESTER, England, Aug 8, (AP) — Eliminating the record 13-time champions has Manchester City players believing they can deliver the team's first Champions League title.

Real Madrid's defensive mistakes by Raphael Varane were seized on by Raheem Sterling and Gabriel Jesus to lead City into a quarter-final against Lyon.

They clinched another 2-1 victory against Madrid after winning by the same score in the first leg in the Spanish capital in February before the competition was paused due to the pandemic.

"They're a top club, Real Madrid, the best club in this competition so far — this is massive," Gabriel Jesus said.

"It's all about believing. We can make a mistake, so believe — always. And I press, I press a lot. That is one of my powers, press all the time and help my team. I was happy I scored." First the Brazilian set up the opener scored by Sterling in the ninth minute at an empty Etihad Stadium.

With Madrid captain Sergio Ramos banned after being sent off in the Madrid leg, Raphael Varane was without his usual central defensive partner. And the Frenchman was caught out in possession by Gabriel Jesus, who squared for Sterling to tap past goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois for his 100th City goal.

"With the players that we've got, there's no inferiority, we played really well," Sterling said. "They've got some great players but with the energy, the performance we showed, we were brilliant tonight." Real began to make their presence felt and equalized through Karim Benzema, who headed in powerfully from Rodrygo's cross in the 28th minute.

City went close to a second before the break after a poor clearance from Courtois went straight to Kevin De Bruyne, but Phil Foden — playing as a false nine with Sergio Aguero injured — struck wide.

But another blunder by Varane in the 68th minute was again capital-



Manchester City's Raheem Sterling (left), is challenged during the Champions League Round of 16, second leg soccer match between Manchester City and Real Madrid at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, England on Aug 7. (AP)

Islanders top Panthers to advance

SOCCER

ized on by Gabriel Jesus.

Varane failed to cut out a long ball forward and then made an ineffective attempt to head back to Courtois. Gabriel Jesus closed in quickly and dinked the ball over Courtois.

"I want to step forward and take the blame," Varane said. "This defeat is my fault. I feel bad for my teammates. I can't explain my two mistakes, I felt comfortable on the pitch, but errors in some parts of the field can be extremely costly. This is a difficult night for me." There was support from teammate Eden Hazard.

"Mistakes are part of football," Hazard said. "I know it's hard for Rafa because he did two mistakes but we will support him. Today was not his best game." In his fourth season in charge of City, Pep Guardiola remains in contention to win the Champions League for the first time since his 2011 success with Barcelona.

But the newly crowned Spanish champions were eliminated from a Champions League knockout round for the first time under Zinedine Zidane. He led Madrid to three consecutive titles from 2016 to 2018, resigned after delivering the 13th title but returned as coach in March 2019.

"We can't be happy with the result," Zidane said. "But we have to be proud of everything we've done this season." Lyon's quarter-final against City will be played in the stadium of Lisbon club Sporting. The seven games in the Portuguese capital, including the final at Benfica on Aug 23, will be played without fans due to pandemic restrictions.

The lack of spectators meant the match in Manchester was not preceded by the usual booping of the Champions League anthem by supporters angered by UEFA pursuing Financial Fair Play cases against the Abu Dhabi-owned club.

Since the first leg, though, City overturned a two-season ban from European competitions after being cleared in an appeal case over the source of funding from Abu Dhabi, including from jersey and stadium backer Etihad, to comply with break-even rules.

But City's obstruction in the case was strongly condemned by the Court of Arbitration for Sport which led to the club being fined 10 million euros (\$12 million), which was two-thirds less than the original UEFA punishment.

Now City's season can still end with the club UEFA wanted to ban picking up its biggest club prize.

A Portugal international celebrated ecstatically at the end of the Champions League match between Juventus and Lyon.

But it wasn't Cristiano Ronaldo, who could only trudge off the pitch dejected after Juventus was eliminated from the competition despite his two goals securing a 2-1 victory in the rearranged second-leg match.

Lyon goalkeeper Anthony Lopes raced to the end where the away fans should have been, jumped over the advertising hoardings and sat on top



Juventus' Rodrigo Bentancur, (left), his team-mate Leonardo Bonucci (center), and Lyon's Moussa Dembele jump for the ball during the Champions League Round of 16 second leg, soccer match between Juventus and Lyon at the Allianz stadium in Turin, Italy on Aug 7. (AP)

of the Perspex fence at the front of the stands, kissing the badge on his shirt and pumping his fists in the air in celebration.

Lyon had eliminated Juventus and progressed to the quarterfinals on away goals after a 2-2 draw on aggregate.

"It's a huge joy. It was really hard," Lopes said. "The group was incredible collectively and individually. It's the victory of the whole group." Lyon will face Manchester City in the single-elimination quarterfinals in Lisbon after the English team beat Real Madrid 2-1 on the night to progress 4-2 on aggregate.

"We have the ambition to go far in this competition," Lopes continued. "We have the right to think about it, no one can take that away."

"We needed a real strength of character to do it tonight." There were no fans allowed in the stadium in Turin because of the coronavirus pandemic. Although a crowd of about 50 Juventus fans were outside to welcome their team as well as hurl insults at the Lyon team bus.

The Juventus-Lyon match was rescheduled from March 17 after the pandemic which shut down sports around the globe. The French league did not resume while Juventus struggled after the restart of Serie A but nevertheless claimed a record-extending ninth successive title.

Lyon captain Memphis Depay would not have been able to play had the match taken place as scheduled because he had a serious knee injury.

He scored an early penalty with a cheeky chip down the middle after Houssein Aouar went down in the area under a challenge from Rodrigo Bentancur.

Depay also conceded a penalty at the end of the first half after Miralem Pjanic's free kick hit his arm.

Ronaldo converted and doubled his tally on the hour mark when he curled a fantastic strike into the top right corner. It extended his all-time record in the competition to 131 goals.

TORONTO, Aug 8, (AP): Anthony Beauvillier scored twice, and the New York Islanders beat the Florida Panthers 5-1 to clinch an NHL best-of-five preliminary round playoff series in four games on Friday.

Brock Nelson and Mathew Barzal had a goal and assist each in a game the Islanders never trailed. Defenseman Ryan Pulock made a diving stick save to prevent Florida's Aleksander Barkov from scoring into an open side to maintain New York's 3-1 lead midway through the second period. Semyon Varlamov stopped 24 shots, Jean-Gabriel Pageau

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scored an empty-netter, and the Eastern Conference's seventh-seeded Islanders bounced back from a 3-2 loss in Game 3 on Wednesday. New York will open the best-of-seven first-round series against a yet to be determined opponent next week.

Mike Hoffman scored his Florida-leading third goal and fifth point of the series, while Sergei Bobrovsky proved inconsistent in stopping 33 shots. The 10th-seeded Panthers wound up one-and-done for their fifth consecutive postseason appearance.

Coyotes 4, Predators 3
Brad Richardson scored on a rebound in overtime, Darcy Kuemper stopped 49 shots and Arizona advanced in the postseason for the first time in eight years.

The Coyotes, the Western Conference's No. 11 seed, took a 2-0 lead early in the second period. But they allowed Nashville to

tie it before going ahead 3-2 on Jordan Oesterle's goal early in the third. Nashville pulled goalie Juuse Saros late in the period and Filip Forsberg tied it with 32 seconds left.

Richardson won it after he re-directed Vinnie Hinostroff's shot and punched in the rebound past Saros to help the Coyotes win the Stanley Cup qualifier series 3-1.

Michael Grabner and Phil Kessel also scored for Arizona, which faces Colorado or Vegas in the next round after advancing in the postseason for the first time since reaching the 2012 Western Conference Finals.

Viktor Arvidsson scored for the third straight game before taking a shot to the ribs and leaving late in the second period. Matt Duchene also scored and Saros stopped 30 shots for the Predators, who bowed out of the postseason as the West's No. 6 seed.

Canadiens 2, Penguins 0
Artturi Lehkonen flipped a shot past Tristan Jarry with 4:11 remaining to lift Montreal to a stunning victory and clinching the Canadiens' first playoff berth in three years.

Shea Weber added an empty-net goal in the final seconds as the 12th-seeded captured the best-of-five qualifying round over fifth-seeded Pittsburgh in four games.

Canadiens clinch first playoff berth in three years

18 players in Bangladesh soccer squad have virus

DHAKA, Bangladesh, Aug 8, (AP) — At least 18 players in Bangladesh's soccer squad plus an assistant coach have been infected with the coronavirus since gathering for a training camp this week.

A total of 36 players were invited to the camp in Gazipur, just north of the capital Dhaka, to prepare for 2022 World Cup and 2023 Asian Cup qualifiers. They had to prove they did not have the virus before the camp. One failed.

The national federation tested 24 players in the first rounds of checks in Dhaka.

On Wednesday, four players were positive.

On Thursday, seven more tested positive.

On Friday, another seven tested positive plus the staff member.

"They are in isolation now," the federation said in a statement.

Bangladesh media reported some players were worried but coach Jamie Day wasn't, as he expected them to recover and they had plenty of time.

Bangladesh's first qualifier is on Oct 8 against Afghanistan in Sylhet.

Carey Price stopped 22 shots to collect his sixth career playoff shutout. Montreal will advance to the first round of the playoffs against either Tampa Bay or Philadelphia.

Tristan Jarry made 20 saves in his first career playoff start, including a stellar glove save to thwart a breakaway by Montreal's Brendan Gallagher early in the third period. Pittsburgh's star-laden lineup, including captain Sidney Crosby, provided little support.

Blackhawks 3, Oilers 1
Brandon Saad, Matthew Highmore and Dominik Kubalik scored and Chicago beat Edmonton, knocking the Oilers out of the postseason tournament.

The Blackhawks won the best-of-five qualifying series 3-1. Chicago advances to the Round of 16.

Josh Archibald and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins scored for Edmonton.

The Oilers had been expected to beat Chicago, given they were the fifth-seeded team in the Western Conference tournament and the Hawks were the bottom seed at 12. Corey Crawford made 41 saves for the win. Mikko Koskinen stopped 25 in the loss.

Maple Leafs 4, Blue Jackets 3, OT



Columbus Blue Jackets' Boone Jenner (38) falls in front of Toronto Maple Leafs goaltender Frederik Andersen (31) as Maple Leafs' Tyson Barrie (94), Travis Dermott (23), Auston Matthews (34) and Mitchell Marner (16) defend during the first period of an NHL hockey playoff game on Aug 7, in Toronto. (AP)

Auston Matthews scored on a power play 13:10 into overtime and the Toronto rallied from a three-goal deficit in the third period to beat Columbus, tying the best-of-five qualifying series at two wins apiece.

The Leafs scored three times in 3:34 to knot the score late in a game that Columbus and goalie Elvis Merzlikins had largely controlled until then.

This time, with Nick Foligno in the penalty box for tripping, Matthews beat Elvis Merzlikins from the right circle to push the series to a decisive Game 5 on Sunday.

William Nylander, John Tavares and Zach Hyman scored in the third period to set up Matthews' heroics. Frederik Andersen had 36 saves.

Cam Atkinson, Vladislav Gavrikov and Boone Jenner scored for Columbus, and Merzlikins, who started his first playoff game, recorded 49 saves.

Canucks 5, Wild 4, OT

Christopher Tanev's slap shot just 11 seconds into overtime gave Vancouver a victory over Minnesota and a win in the best-of-five Western Conference qualifying round series in four games.

Tanev's snipe from just in front of the blue line zipped through traffic and beat Stalock stick side to give the Canucks their first postseason series win since 2013. This is the first time in five years that Vancouver has reached the playoffs.

Bo Horvat, left alone in front as he crashed the net, scored for Vancouver off a feed from Tanner Pearson with 5:46 left in regulation — the third tying goal of the game for the Canucks.

Pearson, Brandon Sutter and Quinn Hughes also scored as Vancouver kept attacking a Wild defense missing stalwart Ryan Suter and wore down goalie Alex Stalock to erase leads of 1-0, 3-1 and 4-3.

Luke Kunin, Eric Staal, Joel Eriksson Ek and Nico Sturm had the goals for the Wild, who squandered their two-goal advantage over a 3:05 span midway through the second period.