

McCann lifts Kraken past Oilers in OT

Fortier scores hat trick as Lightning topple Hurricanes



New Zealand players and team members pose for a photo with their trophy after winning the Rugby Championship tournament on the Gold Coast, Australia, on Oct. 2. (AP)

Springboks pip All Blacks with last-minute penalty

Australia rout Argentina 32-17 to secure second spot

GOLD COAST, Australia, Oct. 2, (AP): This week it was the Springboks who won with a last-minute penalty goal in a Rugby Championship test against the All Blacks.

South Africa edged New Zealand 31-29 in a test featuring four lead changes in the last five minutes, with Elton Jantjies kicking the winning penalty after the full-time siren sounded on Saturday night.

Last weekend Jordie Barrett landed a late penalty and the New Zealanders won by two points to clinch the title, with a game to spare, in the 100th test between the two nations.

Barrett again put the All Blacks ahead with a minute to go but this time the World Cup champion South Africans had time to respond before a mostly New Zealand crowd of just over 20,000, a capacity under COVID-19 restrictions for Robina Stadium on Australia's Gold Coast.

RUGBY

Springboks coach Jacques Nienaber said the last-minute victory was a confidence boost for his squad after a tough month on the road and narrow defeats to Australia and New Zealand.

"Obviously we lost momentum in not securing victories in the first three games," he said, but "if you look at it, that's the margins when Nos. 1, 2 and 3 in the world play against each other.

"This weekend, we were fortunate we got an opportunity in the end of the game to win it. Last week, it was New Zealand."

The All Blacks led 20-14 at the break after a half of expansive rugby that contrasted starkly with last weekend's tactical, kicking contest that the New Zealanders won 19-17.

The Springboks opened the scoring in the sixth minute, swooping when the All Blacks lost possession while trying to counter from deep.

Lukhanyo Am threw a behind-the-back flick pass to find support before his midfield partner Damian de Allende crossed in the right corner.

After an exchange of penalties, the All Blacks made it 8-8 when Reece Sevu scored the first of New Zealand's three first-half tries.

Flyhalf Beauden Barrett kicked deep right for a flying Reece, who reached over to score as he was being tackled into the corner.

The Springboks narrowly missed in the 19th when hooker Bongani Mbonambi lost control of the ball as he tried to reach over the tryline after a burrowing run but eventually went ahead with a penalty goal in the 24th.

The All Blacks responded quickly, with flanker Ardie Savea finishing off after Beauden Barrett stepped into a gap in the midfield before unloading to Rieko Ioane, who broke tackles before unloading the final pass.

Another try went astray for the All Blacks when center Anton Lienert-Brown was tackled into touch two meters out but they made up for it a minute later, making the score 20-11 when scrumhalf Brad Weber scored after Scott Barrett's lineout steal.

The Springboks scored the next 14 points, with three penalties from Handre Pollard and winger Makazole Mapimpi beating the cover defense to score in the left corner in the 52nd and capitalize on some sustained attacking pressure.

Jordie Barrett responded with two penalty goals to make it 26-25 with five minutes remaining.



Australia's Andrew Kellaway, (right), gets past Argentina's Matias Moroni to score a try during their Rugby Championship test match on the Gold Coast, Australia, on Oct. 2. (AP)

Jantjies slotted a dropped goal to give the Springboks a 28-26 lead in the 77th and Barrett put the New Zealanders ahead 29-28 with another penalty and just over a minute to go in regulation. It wasn't over, yet.

The siren sounded just after South Africa was awarded a penalty 60 meters out and the Springboks took the option of kicking for touch to get a lineout on New Zealand's 22-meter line.

Pressure paid, with the New Zealanders penalized for an off-side infringement and Jantjies calmly taking the points.

"We're obviously bitterly disappointed, lacked a little bit of discipline in the last two minutes," All Blacks head coach Ian Foster said. "To lose any game at the end when you've got control of it, it's frustrating.

"I thought the South Africans played superb - they came with a lot of attitude, they carried hard, they moved us around and really challenged us."

The New Zealanders won the title with five wins and one loss. Australia beat Argentina 32-17 earlier Saturday to secure second spot with four wins, and South Africa (3-3) finished third. Argentina finished 0-6 after a long, tumultuous tour.

Punjab Kings stay in IPL playoff hunt

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates, Oct. 2, (AP): Punjab Kings' flickering playoff hopes brightened and they dimmed Kolkata Knight Riders' own chances after winning their Indian Premier League match in the last over.

Punjab, a day after Chris Gayle left to be fresh for West Indies at the Twenty20 World Cup, moved up and joined Kolkata and Mumbai to four points behind third-placed Royal Challengers Bangalore in the race to make the top four. Mumbai has a game in hand.

After winning the toss and electing to bowl, Punjab rallied to restrict Kolkata to 165-7 when a total of at least 180 looked doable.

But Kolkata scored only 44 off the last five overs, as the decision to go with an extra batsman instead of a fifth bowler began to backfire.

Without a specialist fifth bowler, Kolkata was overtaken at 168-5 with three balls left. Kolkata's fielding didn't help either.

Captain Eoin Morgan dropped Mayank Agarwal off the second ball of the chase. Agarwal went on to 40. Rahul Tripathi dropped Nicholas Pooran on 1, and he made 12.

CRICKET

Tripathi also had a disputed diving catch of Punjab captain KL Rahul in the 19th over but the TV umpire disagreed. Rahul was out in the last over after an anchoring 67, but the next ball ended the match when Tripathi, covering deep midwicket, got the ball in his hand only for it to pop out and drop over

the third.

Blues 6, Blackhawks 3

In Chicago, Ivan Barbashev, Nathan Todd, Pavel Buchnevich, Robert Thomas, Vladimir Tarasenko and Jake Neighbours scored in St. Louis' victory over Chicago.

Jordan Binnington allowed two goals on 20 shots in the first two periods, and Colten Ellis stopped six of seven shots in the third.

Alex DeBrincat, Caleb Jones, and Ryan Carpenter scored for the Blackhawks. Marc-Andre Fleury started and made 15 saves on 17 shots in 33:01. Collin Delia allowed three goals on 22 shots in relief.

Kraken 2, Oilers 1, OT

In Everett, Wash., Jared McCann scored on a power play at 4:02 of overtime to lift expansion Seattle past Edmonton.

Jaden Schwartz tied it for the Kraken with 58 seconds left in regulation. Brendan Perlini scored in Edmonton in the second period.

Devils 7, Rangers 1

In Newark, N.J., P.K. Subban opened the scoring and had an assist, Jonathan Bernier made 24 saves and New Jersey routed New York.

Janne Kuokkanen, Tyce Thompson, Tomas Tatar, Pavel Zacha, Jimmy Vesey and Dawson Mercer also scored for the Devils.

ICE HOCKEY

Panthers 6, Stars 3

In Sunrise, Fla., Aleksander Barkov and MacKenzie Weegar each had a goal and an assist in Florida's victory over Dallas.

Markus Nutivaara, Kevin Connauton, Jonathan Huberdeau and Sam Reinhart also scored for Florida. Sergei Bobrovsky allowed a goal on 11 shots in the first two periods, and Christopher Gibson stopped 14 of 16 shots in the third.

Penguins 2, Sabres 1

In Buffalo, N.Y., Casey DeSmith stopped all 11 shots he faced in the first 30 1/2 minutes to help Pittsburgh beat Buffalo.

Louis Domingue stopped 20 of 21 shots in relief, and Dominik Simon and Michael Chaput scored for the Penguins.

Tage Thompson scored for Buffalo. Craig Anderson made 18 saves on 20 shots in the first two periods, and Dustin Tokarski stopped six shots in



Carolina Hurricanes' Jamieson Rees fights through the check of Tampa Bay Lightning's Jack Thompson during the first period of a preseason NHL hockey game on Oct. 1, in Tampa, Fla. (AP)

the boundary for Shikhar Khan's winning six.

Venkatesh Iyer led Kolkata's batting with 69 off 49 balls, including nine boundaries. He was well supported by Tripathi, 34 off 26.

But the momentum was lost as Morgan failed again, out lbw for 2 when he whiffed at Mohammed Shami. Nitish Rana provided late fireworks with 31 off 18 but after the batting was bolstered, 165 looked sub-par.

The fifth bowler duties were shared by Iyer and Rana and Punjab exploited their shared 3.3 overs by taking 37 runs.

Around the dropped catches, Rahul and Agarwal gave a 70-run opening stand, and Rahul and Aiden Markram shared 45 to pace Punjab well.

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