



Players of Argentina's Defensa y Justicia celebrate with the trophy after winning the Recopa Sudamericana final soccer match against Brazil's Palmeiras in a penalty kick shoot-out at the Mané Garrincha Stadium in Brasilia, Brazil. (AP)

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City end run of failure in quarters

Real oust Liverpool, return to CL semis

DORTMUND, Germany, April 15, (AP): Pep Guardiola shared an emotional moment with goal scorer Phil Foden as Manchester City ended their run of failure in the Champions League quarterfinals, beating Borussia Dortmund 2-1 for a 4-2 aggregate win.

Jude Bellingham scored to put Dortmund on course for an upset win before City hit back through a penalty by Riyad Mahrez and Foden's goal.

Guardiola reached the semifinals with City at the fifth attempt, matching the club's best ever result under his predecessor Manuel Pellegrini in 2016. City go on to face Paris Saint-Germain.

Guardiola said he expected to be labeled "a failure" if Dortmund became the fourth club in a row to eliminate City in a Champions League quarterfinal, after Lyon last year and before that Tottenham and Liverpool. Monaco beat City in the round of 16 in 2017 in Guardiola's first season.

Guardiola added that City would celebrate with "a lot of wine tonight" before preparing to face Chelsea in the FA Cup semifinals on Saturday.

Bellingham, Dortmund's 17-year-old English midfielder, put the German club ahead when he scored in the 15th minute after City defender Ruben Dias blocked Mahmoud Dahoud's shot. That leveled the aggregate score 2-2, with Dortmund ahead on away goals.

Bellingham became the second-youngest player to score in a Champions League knockout game at 17 years, 289 days. Bojan Krkic was 72 days younger when he scored for Barcelona against Schalke in 2008.

SOCCER



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah (left), fights for the ball with Real Madrid's Toni Kroos during a Champions League quarter-final second leg soccer match between Liverpool and Real Madrid at Anfield stadium in Liverpool, England. (AP)

City then laid siege to the Dortmund goal, with Kevin De Bruyne hitting the crossbar. And Dortmund handed City the breakthrough early in the second half when Emre Can gave away a penalty by heading a cross onto his arm. Mahrez put City back in control when he blasted the 55th-minute spot kick into the top right, past stand-in goalkeeper Marvin Hitz.

Dortmund were unhappy with the penalty call against Can, a week after Bellingham had a goal ruled out in the first leg in disputed circumstances.

Chasing another goal to force extra time, Dortmund pushed up, but could only muster an off-target header from Mats Hummels at a free kick. City took advantage of the space which opened up to pressure Dortmund.

Foden, who also scored in the first leg last week, made sure of the win in the 75th with a low shot past Hitz from the edge of the box off a short corner routine. He ran straight to Guardiola on the touchline to celebrate with a hug.

The loss means Dortmund could face an exodus of talented young players at the end of the season. Part of the appeal to talents like striker Erling Haaland and forward Jadon Sancho - the latter injured for this game - has been Dortmund's consistent Champions League appearances as a way to develop their skills and show off to potential buyers. With Dortmund sitting fifth in the Bundesliga, it's on course for the far less appealing Europa League.

Haaland played his part holding up the ball in the run-up to Bellingham's goal, but the Norwegian was otherwise kept quiet by the City defense. He has now gone four scoreless games for Dortmund and three for Norway since his last goal on March 20.

Zinedine Zidane has shown Jürgen Klopp just how to turn a season around.

Zidane is leading Real Madrid into the semifinals of the Champions League. Klopp will finish the season without a trophy.

A 0-0 draw at Anfield in the quarterfinals protected a 3-1 advantage from the first leg for Madrid. The record 13-time European champions are back in the semifinals - where Chelsea await - for the first time since 2018 when Zidane lifted the European Cup for a third consecutive season by beating Klopp's Liverpool in the final.

The victory in the 2018 final was Zidane's last game before ending his first stint in charge. He was tempted back in 2019 following disappointing results, but this season looked to be unraveling just a few months ago.

Trailing Atlético Madrid by 10 points in La Liga in January, the defending champions are now just a single point behind and the double is on.

For Liverpool, it's turning into a miserable season - which are now sure to end without a trophy.

NBA Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, April 15, (AP): NBA results and standings on Wednesday.

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
|--------------|-----|---------------|-----|----|
| Milwaukee | 130 | Minnesota | 105 | - |
| Cleveland | 103 | Charlotte | 90 | - |
| Philadelphia | 123 | Brooklyn | 117 | - |
| Toronto | 117 | San Antonio | 112 | - |
| New York | 116 | New Orleans | 106 | - |
| Orlando | 115 | Chicago | 106 | - |
| LA Clippers | 100 | Detroit | 98 | - |
| Golden State | 147 | Oklahoma City | 109 | - |
| Indiana | 132 | Houston | 124 | - |
| Dallas | 114 | Memphis | 113 | - |
| Denver | 123 | Miami | 106 | - |
| Washington | 123 | Sacramento | 111 | - |

| Eastern Conference | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| Atlantic Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Philadelphia | 38 | 17 | .691 | - |
| Brooklyn | 37 | 18 | .673 | 1 |
| Boston | 29 | 26 | .527 | 9 |
| New York | 29 | 27 | .518 | 9-1/2 |
| Toronto | 22 | 34 | .393 | 16-1/2 |

| Southeast Division | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|-------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Atlanta | 30 | 25 | .545 | - |
| Miami | 28 | 27 | .509 | 2 |
| Charlotte | 27 | 27 | .500 | 2-1/2 |
| Washington | 21 | 33 | .389 | 8-1/2 |
| Orlando | 18 | 37 | .327 | 12 |

| Central Division | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Milwaukee | 34 | 20 | .630 | - |
| Indiana | 26 | 28 | .481 | 8 |
| Chicago | 22 | 32 | .407 | 12 |
| Cleveland | 20 | 34 | .370 | 14 |
| Detroit | 16 | 39 | .291 | 18-1/2 |

| Western Conference | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| Southwest Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Dallas | 30 | 24 | .556 | - |
| Memphis | 27 | 26 | .509 | 2-1/2 |
| San Antonio | 26 | 27 | .491 | 3-1/2 |
| New Orleans | 25 | 30 | .455 | 5-1/2 |
| Houston | 14 | 41 | .255 | 16-1/2 |

| Northwest Division | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Utah | 41 | 14 | .745 | - |
| Denver | 35 | 20 | .636 | 6 |
| Portland | 31 | 23 | .574 | 9-1/2 |
| Oklahoma City | 20 | 35 | .364 | 21 |
| Minnesota | 14 | 42 | .250 | 27-1/2 |

| Pacific Division | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Phoenix | 39 | 15 | .722 | - |
| LA Clippers | 39 | 18 | .684 | 1-1/2 |
| LA Lakers | 34 | 21 | .618 | 5-1/2 |
| Golden State | 27 | 28 | .491 | 12-1/2 |
| Sacramento | 22 | 33 | .400 | 17-1/2 |

76ers top undermanned Nets for 1st in East

PHILADELPHIA, April 15, (AP): Joel Embiid had 39 points and 13 rebounds and the Philadelphia 76ers beat Brooklyn 123-117 on Wednesday night in an anticipated matchup that fizzled with the Nets missing their biggest stars.

The Sixers (38-17) moved into first place in the Eastern Conference in a game played without James Harden, Kevin Durant, Blake Griffin and LaMarcus Aldridge. With the Nets standouts hurt or just rested, the game had more of a preseason feel than a possible preview of the conference final this summer.

With good reason -- the Sixers improved to 21-5 at home.

The Sixers had 4,094 fans spread around the arena to watch Embiid have another stellar outing against the undermanned Nets. He scored 21 points by halftime, his 14th 20-point 1st half this season (most in NBA).

Kyrie Irving scored 23 points in the first half -- his eighth 20-point first half of the season -- and finished with 37 points. Irving missed Tuesday's game against Minnesota for personal reasons.

Irving, though, sat out as the deep reserves helped the Nets rally from 16 points down to make it 118-115 with 1:15 left. Embiid sealed the win from the free-throw line to the tune of "M-V-P!" chants.

Clippers 100, Pistons 98

In Detroit, Reggie Jackson sank a jumper with 2.3 seconds left against his former team, giving the Los Angeles Clippers their seventh straight victory,

100-98 over the Detroit Pistons.

The Clippers rallied from an 11-point deficit in the fourth quarter despite playing without several key players. Kawhi Leonard, Paul George, Serge Ibaka, Patrick Beverley and Marcus Morris were all out for Los Angeles.

The Clippers trailed by five in the final minute, but Terance Mann made it 98-95 with a dunk, and after Detroit's Jerami Grant turned the ball over near

BASKETBALL

midcourt, Jackson connected from 3-point range to tie it with 19.0 seconds left.

Raptors 117, Spurs 112

In Tampa, Fla., OG Anunoby scored 22 points, Pascal Siakam had 20 points and 11 rebounds and the short-handed Toronto Raptors beat the San Antonio Spurs 117-112.

Raptors rookie Malachi Flynn had a big fourth quarter, scoring eight of his 16 points in the period and finishing with seven assists.

Derrick White led San Antonio with 25 points, and Patty Mills added 23.

Khemi Birch had 14 points and six rebounds in his first start for Toronto, which went with a big lineup in the absence of most of its guards. The Raptors enjoyed a rare 54-42 rebound advantage.

Warriors 147, Thunder 109

In Oklahoma City, Stephen Curry scored 25 of his 42 points in the third quarter, and the Golden State Warri-

ors ran away from the Oklahoma City Thunder 147-109.

Curry went 8 for 8 from the field and made all six of his 3-point attempts in the third quarter to post his high point total for a quarter this season. He was coming off a 53-point game against the

Denver Nuggets on Monday that made him the franchise's career scoring leader. He followed it by making 11 of 16 3-pointers and 14 of 20 shots overall.

It was his second straight game with at least 10 3-pointers - just the second time he has done that in his career. He posted his eighth consecutive game with at least 30 points despite resting in the fourth quarter.

Nuggets 123, Heat 106

In Denver, Nikola Jokic had 17 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds for his 15th triple-double of the season to lead the Denver Nuggets over the Miami Heat 123-106.

Michael Porter Jr. added 25 points and 10 rebounds for the Nuggets. Six Denver players scored in double figures in the team's first game without Jamal Murray, who is out for the rest of the season.

Murray was hurt in the final minute of Monday's loss at Golden State when he planted his left foot to go up for a layup. An MRI confirmed an ACL tear and dealt Denver's title hopes a serious blow.

Cavaliers 103, Hornets 90

In Charlotte, N.C., Taurean Prince scored a season-high 25 points with six 3-pointers. Jarrett Allen had 15 points and eight rebounds in his first action since March 26 and the Cleveland Cavaliers handed the Charlotte Hornets their third straight loss at home.

Kevin Love added 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Cavaliers, who snapped a two-game skid.

Terry Rozier had 22 points, eight assists and seven rebounds to lead the Hornets. Miles Bridges added 20 points.

Mavericks 114, Grizzlies 113

In Memphis, Tenn., Luka Doncic hit a leaping, lunging 3-pointer as time expired to give the Dallas Mavericks a 114-113 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on.

Doncic ended the night with 29 points, while Kristaps Porzingis added 21 points. Dwight Powell had 12 points.

Grayson Allen led the Grizzlies with 23 points, but the 90.6% free throw shooter missed a pair of foul shots with 2.2 second lefts, setting the stage for Doncic's winning 3 in the matchup of teams jockeying for postseason positioning.

Knicks 116, Pelicans 106

In New Orleans, Julius Randle scored 32 points against his former team and the New York Knicks clamped down defensively on Zion Williamson for a 116-106 victory over the New Orleans Pelicans.

Alec Burks scored New York's first 11 points of the fourth quarter, added a crushing 3 and finished with 21 points for the Knicks, who've won four straight for the first time this season.

Wizards 123, Kings 111

In Sacramento, Russell Westbrook recorded his 170th career triple-double, Bradley Beal scored 31 points, and the Washington Wizards ended their longest road trip of the season by beating the Sacramento Kings 123-111.

Westbrook had 25 points, 11 assists and 15 rebounds for his sixth consecutive triple-double and the 24th of the season. Oscar Robertson holds the NBA record for career triple-doubles with 181.

Beal shot 10 of 22 and had his 25th 30-point game this season.

Magic 115, Bulls 106

In Chicago, James Ennis scored 22 points, Wendell Carter Jr. added 19 points and 12 rebounds, and the Orlando Magic snapped a six-game losing streak by beating the Chicago Bulls 115-106 despite big performances by Zach LaVine and Nikola Vucevic.

The Magic outscored Chicago by 20 in the third quarter to turn a one-point lead into a 93-72 advantage and hung on after Chicago cut it to 104-98. Carter scored on a tip-in and Michael Carter-Williams dunked to make it a 10-point game with 3:12 remaining.

Pacers 132, Rockets 124

In Houston, Caris LeVert scored 27 points, Domantas Sabonis added 22 and Malcolm Brogdon fell just short of a triple-double as the Indiana Pacers beat the Houston Rockets 132-124.

LeVert was involved in the blockbuster January trade that sent James Harden from Houston to Brooklyn and Victor Oladipo from Indiana to Houston. While Oladipo struggled during his brief tenure in Houston, LeVert has started with the Pacers, scoring at least 20 points in five of his last seven games.