Barcelona secures Champions League quarter-final berth

FC BARCELONA

Spain, Mar 11 (PL) Barcelona completed its passage to the quarterfinals of the European Champions League today with a 3-1 win over Benfica in the second leg of the round of 16.

Brazilian star Raphinha scored a brace for the Spaniards and Lamine Yamal added a goal to seal the ticket for the Catalans, who won the first leg with a goal from the South American.

The azulgrana club will now face the winner of the series between Borussia Dortmund and Lille in the next round.

On Tuesday, Raphinha became the top scorer in the Champions League this season with 11 goals.

Raphinha gave Barça the lead in the 10th minute after being assisted by Yamal. Shortly after (m. 12), Argentine defender Nicolás Otamendi equalized for the Portuguese with a header.

The highlight of the match at the Stadio Olimpico de Montjuic came in the 27th minute, when Raphinha played the ball back to Yamal on the right flank and the Spaniard took the ball with the inside of his left foot to drive the ball into the top corner at the far post.

Before visiting the locker room, Raphinha scored his second goal in the 42nd minute. The Auriverde player latched onto a ball left by Alejandro Balde in the box and struck a cross-shot that Ukrainian goalkeeper Anatoli Trubin could not keep out to seal the tie.

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