

Real Madrid set up all-Madrid final with win over Manchester City

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A deflected strike from <u>Gareth Bale</u>, officially credited as a Fernando own goal by UEFA, was enough to put an end to <u>Manuel Pellegrini</u>'s hopes of taking the Citizens to their first European final since 1970 in his last term in charge.

In truth, they never looked likely to cause an upset in the Spanish capital. After a cagey stalemate in the first leg, the visitors saw their hopes seriously hampered when captain <u>Vincent Kompany</u>'s injury curse struck again after just nine minutes. The Belgian was replaced by <u>Eliaquim Mangala</u> and from that moment Real bossed the proceedings.

The hosts took the lead via the fortunate deflection off Bale's cross-shot on 20 minutes and should have doubled their advantage on more than one occasion, but <u>Cristiano Ronaldo</u> and co were thwarted by an inspired <u>Joe Hart</u>.

An away goal for City would have sent them through but they couldn't take advantage of several reprieves, with their insipid attacking performance personified by Yaya Toure, who cut a disinterested figure during his hour on the pitch.