Brody Lange World Soccer
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In this week's article on World Soccer, I will be talking about the Champions League, specifically Tuesday's blockbuster game where PSG hosted FC Barcelona, and PSG's quest for a third consecutive title. This has been one of the most hyped Champions League matches since the schedule was released, and the anticipation grew even more because the Ballon d'Or ceremony is this same week. Both sides had strong candidates for the award, which added an extra layer of competition to the match. PSG came out on top 4-2 in an intense, high-scoring game. The scoring opened up with Désiré Doué capitalizing off a Barca turnover in the 38th minute. Barca fought back in the second half and equalized with a first goal in the game and first goal in the champions league for Xavi Espart. Lucas Hernández and Lamine Yamal then traded goals, and after Yamal made it 2-2, it seemed like the game would end in a draw. That could not have been further from the truth. Less than two minutes later, PSG moved down the pitch and Vitinha scored a banger from outside the box. The momentum had completely switched. Fabián Ruiz sealed it late, and Paris Saint-Germain handed Barcelona their first loss of the season. PSG are looking to become the first team since Real Madrid in 2018 to win three Champions League titles in a row, and it is clear that this is their main goal this season. Part of their strategy is resting their top players during Ligue 1 games so they are fresh for the Champions League, and many people are criticizing it. Some fans are frustrated because it seems like PSG doesn't care about the French league and know they can still win it with their role players and bench. Other clubs can't take this approach because they have no guarantee of winning their league. On top of that, winning the whole tournament is worth around $170 million. Whether this is fair or unfair depends on how you see football. Only time will tell if this strategy brings PSG that third consecutive title.

