

including



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COVER

Forty years after his father, Cesare, it was Paolo Maldini's turn to lift the Champions' Cup on English soil.

PHOTO: FLASH PRESS

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editorial

building our relations with the European Union

In recent years, European football's relations with the European Union have grown rapidly in importance. We may not always agree with our political counterparts, but we certainly have to talk to them and try to understand their point of view, as they must try to understand ours.

The Bosman ruling, the international transfer system and the marketing of broadcasting rights: here are just three examples of where EU law has had a direct and, in some cases, dramatic impact on European football.

It is clear that if we are to ensure that political and legal decisions do not undermine the integrity and principles of our game, then we need to be present at the table, making our voice heard.

For some time now the Executive Committee and the administration have been working hand in hand to promote a new legal basis for sport in the EU Treaty. We have toured EU capitals, meeting ministers and officials, and have organised events and published brochures to put our case forward.

We have emphasised the fact that any new legal framework for sport must enshrine two basic principles: the specificity of sport, which distinguishes it from other types of economic activity, and the autonomy of governing bodies.

Unfortunately, the recent European convention on a new EU treaty does not properly recognise these principles, but UEFA will continue to work with FIFA, the IOC and other sports federations to win backing for our approach from the national governments.

Of course the rising importance of EU affairs has only heightened the significance of the city of Brussels, home to the EU's institutions, and I am pleased to say that the Executive Committee agreed last year to open a representative office in the city. The office became operational in April and has already been in action, organising a seminar on enlargement for our member associations in the ten new countries of the EU.

Our decision to establish a permanent UEFA presence in Brussels is proof that we are listening to Europe's political leaders. I hope that they will do the same in the months and years ahead and that the European football family will work together to deliver the changes that are needed in EU law.

Gerhard Aigner
Chief Executive



Football has special values, such as the social integration.

EMPICS

WE CARE ABOUT FOOTBALL



UEFA Champions League

sixth title for AC Milan



Old Trafford, Manchester – 28 May 2003
Juventus 0 – AC Milan 0 (2-3 on penalties; scorers:
Serginho, Nesta and Shevchenko for AC Milan, Birindelli
and Del Piero for Juventus)
Referee: Markus Merk (Germany)

AT OLD TRAFFORD, MANCHESTER, ON 28 MAY, AC MILAN LIFTED THEIR SIXTH EUROPEAN CUP WITH A VICTORY OVER JUVENTUS, 40 YEARS AFTER WINNING THEIR FIRST TITLE AGAINST SL BENFICA, ALSO IN ENGLAND (LONDON).

This sixth success was without doubt the most difficult to achieve since, in the direct knock-out stages, i.e. from the quarter-finals onwards, Milan won only one of their five matches, snatching a place in the last four with a goal in the final minutes of the quarter-final second leg against AFC Ajax. They then owed their semi-final victory over neighbours Internazionale to the away goals rule before having to wait until the last of the ten penalty kicks ordered by German referee Markus Merk after 120 goalless minutes to secure their win in Manchester.



This arduous climax to their campaign should not, however, overshadow the fact that AC Milan breezed through the two group stages, qualifying each time before the final set of group matches was played. The polished performances with which Carlo Ancelotti's team graced the two group stages of the competition were recreated in the first half of the final, which they more or less dominated. However, thanks to a goal ruled out for offside and a top-class save by goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, Juventus managed to remain on level terms and showed they had no intention of giving up in the second

half with a header against the cross-bar. More equally balanced than the first period, the second half was also more disjointed and neither team had the cutting edge needed to break the deadlock in extra time. The match therefore went to penalty kicks and, although Buffon lived up to his reputation by saving two penalties, his Milanese counterpart, the Brazilian Dida, did even better by stopping three Juventus kicks.

This eleventh UEFA Champions League final, the 48th final for European champions, was only the second to be contested by two teams from the same country, after the 2000 final between Real Madrid and Valencia. The same happened in the very first UEFA Cup final between English teams Tottenham Hotspur



A final characterised by fair play.

EMPICS



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Gennaro Gattuso (in white) and Edgar Davids challenge for the ball.



A. SABATTINI

and Wolverhampton Wanderers in 1972. The phenomenon was repeated with an all-German final in 1980 (Eintracht Frankfurt – Borussia Moenchengladbach), followed by four all-Italian affairs in 1990 (Juventus – Fiorentina), 1991 (Internazionale – AS Roma), 1995 (Parma – Juventus) and 1998 (Internazionale – S.S. Lazio).

This eleventh edition of the UEFA Champions League also marked the return of Italian clubs to the top echelon of European football. After two seasons without even a quarter-final appearance, Italian clubs occupied three of the four semi-final places. The Italian supporters among the crowd of 63,300 proved themselves worthy of their heroes in Manchester by contributing to a warm, sporting atmosphere.

Finally, it should be noted that this sixth Champions' Cup triumph is AC Milan's 14th UEFA trophy (they have also won two Cup Winners' Cups, three Super Cups and three European/South American Cups).

In Monaco in August, when they contest the Super Cup against

FC Porto, or in Tokyo in December, when they will face the winners of the Copa Libertadores, AC Milan will have the chance to equal or even surpass Real Madrid's record of 15 UEFA trophies. Milan's victory in Manchester was the

tenth Champions' Cup win by an Italian team, equalling Spain's record (Real Madrid accounting for nine of the Spaniards' ten titles). Overall, Italian clubs have won 40 UEFA trophies, a figure that no other country can beat.

UEFA Champions League goalscorers

Raul at the top of the tree

EVEN THOUGH HE HAS NOT YET CELEBRATED HIS 26TH BIRTHDAY, RAUL GONZALES BLANCO, KNOWN SIMPLY BY HIS FIRST NAME, IS THE UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE'S ALL-TIME LEADING GOALSCORER. THE COMPETITION'S TOP THREE MARKSMEN ARE TRULY A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH, SINCE THE MADRID PRODIGY IS JOINED BY DUTCHMAN RUUD VAN NISTELROOY AND UKRAINE'S ANDRIY SHEVCHENKO.

The Real Madrid forward holds a whole host of records. Raul seemed predestined for glory from a very young age. He began his life in football with Atletico de Madrid, where he scored 65 goals with the under-13 team. However, Jesus Gil's club allowed this rare jewel of a player to escape into the hands of its great city rival, Real. He made his first-team debut in the famous white jersey at the age of 17, thrown into the deep end by Jorge Valdano in place of Madrid legend Emilio Butragueño.

Raul fully justified the faith shown in him, scoring more than 100 league goals by the age of 21! Now, after topping the Spanish league scoring charts twice (1998/99 and 2000/01), he is also the all-time highest scorer for the Spanish national side... and his career is far from over!

In the UEFA Champions League, he is a model of consistency where goalscoring is concerned. His first goal came in 1995 and, apart from the 1996/97 season (when his team failed to qualify), he has always found the net, with a record ten goals in 1999/2000. This season he scored nine times, but could have done even better if appendicitis had not forced him to miss the semi-final first leg against Juventus and to play the second leg short of match fitness. He has scored a total of 43 goals in the group and final stages!

His list of club honours is impressive: three Champions Leagues, three national championships, two European/South American Cups and one UEFA Super Cup. The young Spaniard is more than just an outstanding



Shevchenko's decisive kick.

BONGARTS

UEFA President Lennart Johansson presents the winners with their medals.



The explosive power of van Nistelrooy.



Shevchenko penetrates the Juventus defence.

goalscorer. Blessed with great speed and perfect technique, he also passes elegantly and never hesitates to do his bit to win possession. He is a champion and the perfect team player.

Ruud the bombshell

In second place, Ruud van Nistelrooy (who will be 27 on 1 July) has literally exploded onto the scene in the last few years. This year's UEFA Champions League top goalscorer with 14 (including two in the preliminary round), bringing his total to 33, he also topped the English domestic scoring charts this season.

Tall (1.90 m) and powerful, the Manchester United striker is a penalty box man. Yet his size is not a handicap where the technical side is concerned. With excellent ball control and a surprising ability to turn in tight areas, he also scores many acrobatic goals, possibly due to the suppleness he acquired through practising martial arts in his youth.

However, until the age of 21, van Nistelrooy played in the Dutch second division with Den Bosch. He was transferred to Heerenveen and then, in 1998, to PSV Eindhoven, the club of his native region, Brabant. There, he immediately hit the headlines, finishing top goalscorer in 1999 and 2000

(with 31 goals each season). He should have joined Manchester United before EURO 2000, but a serious knee injury delayed his departure by a year. Alex Ferguson certainly has no regrets about waiting...

Sheva's tears

Joint second with 33 goals (including nine in the qualifying stages), Ukrainian Andriy Shevchenko (who will be 27 on 29 September) broke down in tears after his moment of glory. When leaving Dynamo Kyiv for Milan in 1999, he had promised his mentor, Valeriy Lobanovskiy, that he would one day win the UEFA Champions League. He kept his word, even though the "Colonel" passed away last year.

Like Raul, Shevchenko was something of a "child prodigy". He made his Kyiv debut in the 1994/95 season, during which he scored his first UEFA Champions League goal. Despite having to qualify every year through the preliminary stages, Ukraine's most prestigious club, thanks largely to the goals of Shevchenko and Sergei Rebrov, achieved some remarkable European feats, particularly when they reached the UEFA Champions League semi-finals in 1999.

Shevchenko had no problem adapting to Italian football. He was leading scorer in Serie A in his very first

season with Milan, netting 24 times, a figure he achieved again the following season. Paradoxically, he won the most important trophy of his career in his most difficult season. Due to fitness problems and the arrival of two other world class strikers in Rivaldo and Jon Dahl Tomasson, Shevchenko only notched five championship goals and four in the UEFA Champions League. But there is no doubt that this thoroughbred, lightning-quick striker with excellent shooting ability will soon return to his true form and maybe even achieve his second big ambition: to represent Ukraine in

a European Championship or World Cup.

Emanuele Saraceno



Raul, goalscorer and all-round player.

BEVILACQUA

the top ten goalscorers in UEFA Champions League history

Raul (Spain) 43 goals/ Real Madrid 43/43 goals in group/final stages, 0 in qualifying rounds

Ruud van Nistelrooy (Netherlands) 33/PSV Eindhoven 9, Manchester United 24/30 - 3

Andriy Shevchenko (Ukraine) 33/Dynamo Kyiv 20, AC Milan 13/24 - 9

Patrick Kluivert (Netherlands) 30/Ajax 9, Barcelona 21/29 - 1

Alessandro Del Piero (Italy) 29/Juventus 29/29 - 0

Filippo Inzaghi (Italy) 29/Juventus 17, AC Milan 12/27 - 2

Mario Jardel (Brazil) 28/Porto 19, Galatasaray 9/25 - 3

Sergei Rebrov (Ukraine) 28/Dinamo Kyiv 28/19 - 9

Rivaldo (Brazil) 27/Barcelona 25, AC Milan 2/24 - 3

Thierry Henry (France) 26/AS Monaco 7, Arsenal 19/26 - 0



UEFA Cha

participants rec

THE 2002/03 SEASON WAS THE FOURTH AND LAST IN WHICH THE UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE WILL BE PLAYED WITH TWO GROUP STAGES. PENDING A NEW DISTRIBUTION METHOD BEING SET

GROUP MATCHES

FINAL PHASE

TEAMS	Starting premium	Match premium phase I	Performance bonus-phase I	Match premium phase II	Performance bonus-phase II	Market pool	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final	TOTAL CHF
Group A										
BV Borussia Dortmund	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	34 669 000				46 669 000
AJ Auxerre	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 250 000			17 403 000				24 153 000
PSV Eindhoven	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 250 000			3 158 000				9 908 000
Arsenal FC	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	3 000 000	1 500 000	20 825 000				32 575 000
Group B										
FC Spartak Moskva	2 500 000	3 000 000	-			739 000				6 239 000
Valencia CF	2 500 000	3 000 000	2 750 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	16 106 000	4 000 000			33 106 000
Liverpool FC	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000			13 508 000				20 508 000
FC Basel	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	3 000 000	1 250 000	1 924 000				13 424 000
Group C										
Real Madrid CF	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	17 152 000	4 000 000	5 000 000		38 402 000
KRC Genk	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 000 000			1 428 000				7 928 000
AEK Athens	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000			2 249 000				9 249 000
AS Roma	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	3 000 000	1 000 000	16 627 000				27 877 000
Group D										
Olympique Lyonnais	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000			25 560 000				32 560 000
Rosenborg BK	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 000 000			3 765 000				10 265 000
Internationale FC	2 500 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	13 747 000	4 000 000	5 000 000		35 247 000
AFC Ajax	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000	3 000 000	1 750 000	5 376 000	4 000 000			21 126 000
Group E										
Newcastle United FC	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000	3 000 000	1 250 000	13 086 000				24 336 000
Feyenoord	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 000 000			2 343 000				8 843 000
Juventus	2 500 000	3 000 000	2 250 000	3 000 000	1 250 000	22 713 000	4 000 000	5 000 000	6 000 000	49 713 000
FC Dynamo Kyiv	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 250 000			293 000				7 043 000
Group F										
Bayer 04 Leverkusen	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000	3 000 000	-	30 591 000				40 591 000
Manchester United FC	2 500 000	3 000 000	2 500 000	3 000 000	2 250 000	14 493 000	4 000 000			31 743 000
Maccabi Haifa	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 250 000			929 000				7 679 000
Olympiakos Piraeus FC	2 500 000	3 000 000	750 000			2 486 000				8 736 000
Group G										
RC Lens	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000			22 297 000				29 297 000
FC Bayern München	2 500 000	3 000 000	500 000			16 315 000				22 315 000
RC Deportivo La Coruña	2 500 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	1 250 000	13 596 000				25 346 000
AC Milan	2 500 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	14 290 000	4 000 000	5 000 000	10 000 000	45 790 000
Group H										
Club Brugge KV	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 000 000			1 292 000				7 792 000
FC Lokomotiv Moskva	2 500 000	3 000 000	1 250 000	3 000 000	250 000	934 000				10 934 000
Galatasaray SK	2 500 000	3 000 000	750 000			4 393 000				10 643 000
FC Barcelona	2 500 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	2 750 000	11 713 000	4 000 000			29 963 000
TOTAL	80 000 000	96 000 000	48 000 000	48 000 000	24 000 000	366 000 000	32 000 000	20 000 000	16 000 000	730 000 000



Champions League

Give their share of the cake

FOR THE NEW FORMAT (ONE GROUP STAGE FOLLOWED BY DIRECT KNOCK-OUT MATCHES) AND THE NEW CONTRACTS, UEFA HAS PAID THE 32 CLUBS INVOLVED IN THE 2002/03 COMPETITION THEIR SHARE OF THE REVENUE.

The revenue – which is on top of the gate receipts taken by the clubs – has been distributed in the same way as in previous seasons, on the basis of three pillars: fixed bonus, performance bonus and market pool share.

■ Each of the 32 clubs received a set amount of CHF 2,500,000 for taking part.

■ For each match they played in the first group stage and in the second group stage (in the case of 16 participants), each club received CHF 500,000 per match, i.e. a possible maximum of six million Swiss francs.

■ Results in the group matches were rewarded as follows: CHF 500,000 for a win and 250,000 for a draw, i.e. a maximum of three million per group stage and a maximum total of six million.

■ In the direct knock-out stages, the quarter-finalists each received CHF 4 m and the semi-finalists 5 m. Winners AC Milan were rewarded for their achievement with a cheque for CHF 10 m, while losing finalists Juventus came away with 6 m.

■ Each club was also entitled to a share from the market pool, allocated in proportion to the value of the TV contracts for the countries of the clubs concerned. In addition, the amount paid out to those associations with more than one club in the competition depended on the number of matches played in the 2002/03 UEFA Champions League and on the clubs' finishing positions in the previous season's domestic championship. Consequently, for the same number of UEFA Champions League matches, Juventus, received more from the

market pool than the winners of the competition, AC Milan, who finished their 2001/02 domestic championship fourth in the table, while Juventus were champions that season.

In total, CHF 730 m were paid out to the participants, as forecast at the beginning of the season. After the 2001/02 UEFA Champions League accounts had been finalised, a surplus of CHF 38 m was available for distribution. The final accounts for the 2002/03 season will be produced this summer.

Wide distribution

The centralised sale of the TV and marketing rights applied for the UEFA Champions League makes it possible to share the revenue widely. The national associations and a certain number of clubs are therefore able to enjoy a slice of the cake.

■ Each of UEFA's 52 member associations received CHF 300,000.

■ Every club eliminated in any of the three UEFA Champions League qualifying rounds or in the UEFA Cup qualifying round received CHF 80,000 per round played. Likewise, every club eliminated in either of the first two rounds of the UEFA Cup received CHF 80,000 per round. A maximum of CHF 400,000 was therefore available in this way.

■ The domestic champion clubs which did not qualify for the UEFA Champions League first group stage each received CHF 150,000.

The figures in the table on the right show the amounts received by each association for itself and its clubs.

ASSOCIATION	CHF
ALBANIA	770 000
ANDORRA	530 000
ARMENIA	770 000
AUSTRIA	1 010 000
AZERBAIJAN	300 000
BELARUS	850 000
BELGIUM	460 000
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	1 090 000
BULGARIA	1 090 000
CROATIA	1 010 000
CYPRUS	1 170 000
CZECH REPUBLIK	1 090 000
DENMARK	1 250 000
ENGLAND	780 000
ESTONIA	690 000
FAROE ISLANDS	690 000
FINLAND	690 000
FRANCE	380 000
GEORGIA	850 000
GERMANY	460 000
GREECE	460 000
HUNGARY	1 090 000
ICELAND	690 000
ISRAEL	700 000
ITALY	540 000
KAZAKHSTAN	690 000
LATVIA	850 000
LIECHTENSTEIN	380 000
LITHUANIA	770 000
LUXEMBOURG	690 000
FYR MACEDONIA	770 000
MALTA	770 000
MOLDOVA	850 000
NETHERLANDS	460 000
NORTHERN IRELAND	690 000
NORWAY	780 000
POLAND	1 170 000
PORTUGAL	770 000
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	690 000
ROMANIA	930 000
RUSSIA	540 000
SAN MARINO	530 000
SCOTLAND	850 000
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO	1 170 000
SLOVAKIA	770 000
SLOVENIA	770 000
SPAIN	460 000
SWEDEN	1 010 000
SWITZERLAND	700 000
TURKEY	700 000
UKRAINE	850 000
WALES	690 000
TOTAL	39 710 000



Bertrand Fillistorf and Reidar Bjørnstad proceed with the draw under the supervision of a notary.



The tension of a final does not prevent fair play: Paolo Maldini consoles Alessandro Del Piero after the penalty shoot-out.



UEFA fair play the return of Manchester City

UEFA'S FAIR PLAY COMPETITION, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED IN THE 1993/94 SEASON, GIVES THREE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS THE CHANCE TO EACH ENTER AN ADDITIONAL CLUB FOR THE UEFA CUP.

Over the years, the rules of the competition have undergone one or two changes, but the broad lines remain the same, linking sportsmanship with solidarity, given that the club which ultimately benefits from one of the UEFA Cup places at stake only does so thanks to the combined fair play efforts of all the players and officials of all the teams of its association which have taken part in the UEFA competitions. Even the fair play of the supporters comes into the reckoning, as one of the six essential criteria on which UEFA's fair play rankings are established. Also taken into account are yellow and red cards, positive play, respect of the referee, respect of the opponents and the conduct of the team officials. For every UEFA competition match (except matches in the UEFA Regions' Cup), each team is allocated a fair play mark of anything up to 10.

Then the marks from the matches of all of an association's teams (clubs and national teams) are added together and the total is divided by the number of matches. This average mark is used to produce the national association fair play table compiled by UEFA at the end of each season (end of May). In order to be in the running for one of the additional UEFA Cup places on offer, an association has to have been involved in a certain number of matches. That number is determined by dividing the total number of matches in the season in question (1,424 in this instance) by the total number of UEFA member associations (52). For the 2002/03 season, the minimum number of matches amounted to 27, which put six associations out of contention.

After that, the associations left in the fair play competition have to have achieved a minimum average of eight points in order to be considered for an extra UEFA Cup place. Ten associations made the grade this season, the first of which (England in this case) is rewarded automatically with an additional UEFA Cup place. The other two places are allocated by means of a draw, made this year on 6 June in Fribourg (Switzerland) in advance of the European Under-21 Championship match between Switzerland and Russia. The names were drawn out of the hat by Bertrand Fillistorf, who has kept goal for FC Bulle (newly promoted to the Swiss second division) for 23 seasons no less, and match delegate Reidar Bjørnstad (Norway). The luck of the draw fell in favour of the football associations of Denmark and France.

These three UEFA Cup places secured via the fair play competition are no longer given to the club immediately after those which qualify for the UEFA Champions League and UEFA Cup, but to the club which won the domestic fair play competition or, if the winner is already in one of the UEFA competitions, to the next eligible club in line. On this basis, two of the places in the 2003/04 UEFA Cup have been allocated to Manchester City and RC Lens. The Danish participant will not be known until the domestic championship concludes at the end of June. It will be the first time since 1979 that Manchester City, who won the Cup Winners' Cup in 1970, have played in Europe.

2002/03 fair play rankings

	Points	Matches
1. England	8.202	134
2. Sweden	8.187	52
3. Finland	8.167	45
4. France	8.135	103
5. Denmark	8.131	58
6. Russia	8.105	71
7. Poland	8.102	64
8. Switzerland	8.083	70
9. Norway	8.057	53
10. Rep. of Ireland	8.006	42

Since the competition was launched, it is the sixth time that England has featured among the three associations rewarded with a UEFA Cup place. However, it is the first time that France and Denmark have done so.



The winning goal scored by Derlei.



UEFA Cup first Portuguese victory

ALTHOUGH THEIR FIRST EUROPEAN FINAL ENDED IN DEFEAT AGAINST JUVENTUS IN THE 1984 EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP, FC PORTO HAVE WON EVERY OTHER FINAL THEY HAVE REACHED.

After their triple success in 1987, when they won the Champion Clubs' Cup, the European/South American Cup and the UEFA Super Cup, FC Porto added to their list of achievements by beating Celtic (Scotland) 3-2 in the 32nd UEFA Cup final, held at the Olympic stadium in Seville on 21 May.

It was only five minutes from the end of the second period of extra time when Derlei notched up his second goal of the evening and won the match for the Portuguese. Since the "golden goal" rule had been replaced with the new "silver goal" system for the first time in this match, the Scots had one final chance to respond, but this time Porto held on

to the advantage they had already taken twice earlier in the game. Derlei's first goal had come in time added on at the end of the first half, releasing some of the nerves in what had been a tense match up to that point. Henrik Larsson equalised for Celtic shortly after the interval and the Swede was just as quick to reply when Porto took the lead again just seven minutes after his first goal.



again to a more cautious approach, which took the players into extra time and Porto's winning goal.

FC Porto thus became the first Portuguese club to win the UEFA Cup. On their way to the final in Seville, they knocked out KP Polonia Warszawa, FK Austria Vienna, RC Lens, Denizlispor, Panathinaikos and S.S. Lazio, winning seven matches, drawing two and losing three.

One of the abiding memories of this final, which was played in intense heat and refereed by Slovakian

Lubos Michel, will be the sporting conduct of both sets of supporters, with the Scots covering the Andalusian city in green and white both before and after the match.



Olympic stadium, Seville - 21 May
Celtic FC 2 - FC Porto 3 (after extra time)
Goals: Derlei (45 + 1', 115'), Alenitchev (54') - Porto.
Larsson (47' + 57') - Celtic
Referee: Lubos Michel (Slovakia)
Attendance: 52,140



The final between Spain and Portugal.



Denmark - Austria



UEFA European Under-17 Championship

Portugal triumph again

HOST NATION PORTUGAL WERE CROWNED CHAMPIONS AFTER BEATING THEIR NEIGHBOURS SPAIN 2-1 IN THE FINAL OF THE 2ND EUROPEAN UNDER-17 CHAMPIONSHIP WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL.

The future of European football is bright judging by the European Under-17 final round, where very entertaining football was displayed. During 11 days, from 7 to 17 May, supporters, observers and television viewers from all over Europe were able to witness the qualities and sportsmanship of the continent's finest young football talents.

For the first time, the Under-17 final round was played with only eight teams. Given the high standard of play, it seems that the adaptation of the competition format from

16 to eight teams, which provided the players with more time to rest, was of great benefit to the players. After the two qualifying rounds, Denmark, Hungary and Austria were drawn with hosts Portugal in Group A (in Viseu), while Spain, Italy, England and Israel played each other in Group B (in Vila Real).



In Group A, Portugal grabbed first place with a maximum of nine points from their three opening games, while the Austrians made it into second place on the last day of the group phase in a decisive match against Denmark which they won 2-0.

The Danes, with eight players who are still young enough to play in next year's tournament, ran out of energy in their final game, but showed great potential.

In the other group, which saw some fierce battles, Spain justified their pre-tournament status as one of the favourites, obtaining first place with seven points and a goal average of 7-2. Second place in Group B was secured on the last match day of the group stage by England, who fought back from 2-0 down against Spain to gain the draw they needed to progress to the semi-finals.

The first semi-final, between Portugal and England, saw the hosts being rescued by a goal from Saleiro in extra time, leaving the score at 2-2 and sending the game into a dramatic penalty shoot-out, where the Portuguese kept the cooler heads and won





Enthusiastic support from the Portuguese crowd.



Portugal's players celebrate.

fair play trophy for Italy



Italy won the fair play trophy awarded in the Under-17 final round. With an average of 8.571 points from their three matches, the Italians finished the fair play rankings ahead of Denmark and Israel (8.38 points from three matches in each case), England and Spain (five matches/8.057 points), Portugal (five matches/8.05 points), Hungary (three matches/7.714 points) and Austria (5 matches/7.371 points).

The tournament also determined which two teams would go through with hosts Finland to defend Europe's colours in this summer's FIFA Under-17 World Championship. Consequently, the two finalists, Portugal and Spain, will be taking part in the FIFA competition, which will take place from 13 to 30 August in Helsinki, Lahti, Tampere and Turku.

the exercise 3-2. In the second semi-final, Spain, the most prolific attackers up to that point, with seven goals in the bank, logically qualified for the final against Austria, the best defending side. Later on in the third place play-off match, Austria finished their wonderful tournament by beating England 1-0. England coach John Peacock later admitted "the boys were still suffering the consequences of the 2-2 draw with Portugal and the resulting penalty shoot-out. However, this cannot be taken as an excuse."

Like most matches in the tournament, the Iberian final between Portugal and Spain was played in front of a lively and cheerful crowd. The Viseu stadium was sold out with a capacity crowd of 9,000 spectators. On the pitch, the two teams presented high-quality football and it was Portuguese midfielder Sousa who gave his team victory with two spectacular strikes in each half. An early goal from Spain in the second half maintained their hopes for a while but was not enough to prevent Portugal from

winning the Under-17 trophy in front of their supporters. Portugal are already four-time winners of the competition from the days when it was the Under-16 Championship (1989, 1995, 1996 and 2000). For the Portuguese Football Federation, the tournament also served as a dress rehearsal for EURO 2004.

It is worth noting that fair play was an important component of this football festival. No red cards or double yellow cards were handed out during the entire final round, which testifies to the sportsmanship displayed by the youngsters during this intense competition.

In terms of media, coverage of the tournament was considerable in the Portuguese written press and on the radio. The tournament also attracted the interest of the world's media, with more than 90 journalists accredited to cover the event. For the very first time, Eurosport broadcast nine matches. while the final was

Group A in Viseu

Date	Venue	Match	
07.05.03	Viseu	Portugal - Denmark	3-2
07.05.03	Nelas	Austria - Hungary	1-0
09.05.03	Sta Comba Dão	Portugal - Austria	1-0
09.05.03	Mangualde	Denmark - Hungary	2-0
11.05.03	Viseu	Hungary - Portugal	0-2
11.05.03	Nelas	Denmark - Austria	0-2

Group B in Vila Real

07.05.03	Vila Real	Spain - Italy	2-0
07.05.03	Sta Marta Penaguião	Israel - England	1-2
09.05.03	Chaves	Israel - Spain	0-3
09.05.03	Chaves	England - Italy	0-0
11.05.03	Vila Real	England - Spain	2-2
11.05.03	Sta Marta Penaguião	Italy - Israel	4-0

Semi-finals

14.05.03	Viseu	Portugal - England	2-2*
14.05.03	Mangualde	Spain - Austria	5-2

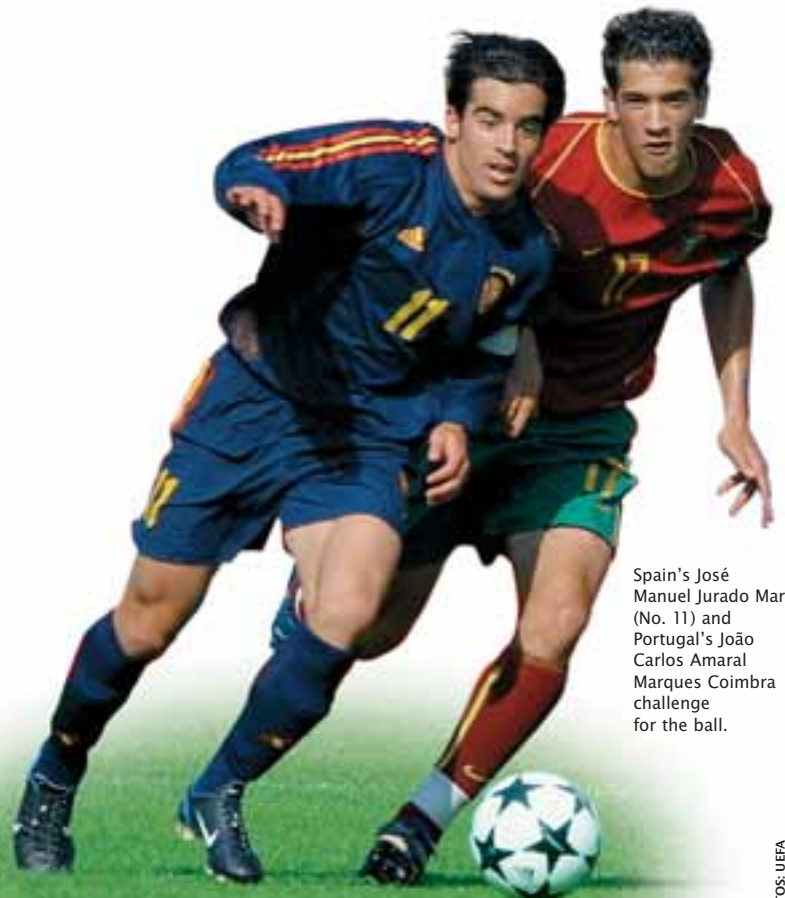
*Portugal won after penalty kicks

Third place play-off

17.05.03	Sta Comba Dão	Austria - England	1-0
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Final

17.05.03	Viseu	Spain - Portugal	1-2
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Spain's José Manuel Jurado Marín (No. 11) and Portugal's João Carlos Amaral Marques Coimbra challenge for the ball.



Petr Fousek (Czech Republic), Chairman of the Futsal Committee, presided over the draws.



PHOTOS: UEFA-WOODS



European Under-19 Championship

eight-team final round in Liechtenstein

THE 2ND EUROPEAN UNDER-19 CHAMPIONSHIP REACHES ITS CONCLUSION FROM 16 TO 26 JULY IN LIECHTENSTEIN, WHICH IS HOSTING THE FINAL ROUND OF A UEFA COMPETITION FOR THE FIRST TIME.



Spain won last year's championship.



After a preliminary round in which 44 teams started out, the second qualifying round with 28 participants to determine the seven teams which will join hosts Liechtenstein in the final round concluded in May, producing a couple of surprise eliminations, including last year's finalists, title-holders Spain, and Germany. In fact, only three of last year's eight finalists have managed to qualify for the final round again: Czech Republic, England and Norway.

On 14 June, the finalists were separated into the following two groups in a draw made in Vaduz:

Group A: Liechtenstein, Portugal, Norway, Italy

Group B: France, Czech Republic, England, Austria

The two group winners and runners-up will compete in the semi-finals. The venues for the final round matches are the Rheinpark stadium in Vaduz, the Sportpark in Eschen-Mauren, the Rheinwise Sportanlage in Schaan, the Blumenau stadium in Triesen and the Rheinau in Balzers.

futsal competitions

sights set on the world championship

TWO DRAWS FOR THE FUTSAL COMPETITIONS WERE HELD ON 4 JUNE 2003 AT THE HOUSE OF EUROPEAN FOOTBALL IN NYON.



A total of 32 European teams will be taking part in the qualifying round for the World Futsal Championship to be held in Taipei at the end of 2004. Europe's contenders were drawn into two groups of four teams and eight groups of three for the qualifying round, which will be staged in the form of mini-tournaments. The group winners go through to play-offs (over two legs) to determine which five European teams will try to succeed current holders Spain, who won the title in Guatemala in 2000.

Group 1: Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro, Moldova, Georgia

Group 2: Italy, Belgium, France, Finland

Group 3: Russia, FYR Macedonia, Bosnia & Herzegovina

Group 4: Ukraine, Andorra, Kazakhstan

Group 5: Netherlands, Belarus, Lithuania

Group 6: Portugal, Greece, Albania

Group 7: Poland, Azerbaijan, Cyprus

Group 8: Croatia, Hungary, Armenia

Group 9: Czech Republic, Israel, Romania

Group 10: Spain, Slovakia, Latvia

The nations highlighted in bold will host the mini-tournament in their group.

The first purpose of the draw for the 3rd UEFA Futsal Cup was to determine which two teams would have to contest a preliminary tie prior to the first qualifying round. The teams drawn out of the pot were Victoria Futsal FC from Tranmere in England and AS Odorheiu Secuiesc from Romania. This preliminary tie will be played over two legs, starting in Tranmere.

In a second stage, the 32 other entrants were drawn into the following groups:

Group 1: Playas de Castellón F.S. (ESP) - CSÖ-Montage Budapest F.C. (HUN) - AGBU Ararat (CYP) - Beer Sheva (ISR)

Group 2: MNK Split (CRO) - Dorozhnik Minsk (BLS) - Goden Futsal Team (FIN) - winners of the preliminary tie

Group 3: Spain - FK Inkaras (LIT) - FC Iberia 2000 (GEO) - KMF VIP Sofia (BUL)

Group 4: Italy - Tribut Baku (AZE) - SK Program Dubnica nad Vahóm (SVK) - FK Oma (LAT)

Group 5: FC Interkraz Kyiv (UKR) - Nejzbach Vysoké Myto (CZE) - KMF Skopje (MKD) - Unió Esportiva Santa Coloma (AND)

Group 6: Action 21 Charleroi (BEL) - P.A. Nova Gliwice (POL) - Zarea Balti (MOL) - FC Olimpic Tirana (ALB)

Group 7: Dinamo Moscow (RUS) - KMN Svea Lesna Litija (SLO) - Netherlands - MFC Zhigitter Astana (KZK)

Group 8: Portugal - KMF CD Shop Mozart (SMN) - Bosnia & Herzegovina - Athina'90 (GRE)

The teams highlighted in bold will host the respective mini-tournaments. In a few instances, the domestic championships have not yet been resolved and the name of the national association is therefore listed for the time being.

The eight group winners go through to the second qualifying round, which will be staged in the form of two groups of four, with the two group winners contesting the final over two legs in early 2004. Playas de Castellón, winners of the first two editions of the UEFA Futsal Cup, start out among the favourites again.

A press conference in Seville gave a status report on the preparations for EURO 2004. Left to right: Gilberto Parca Madail, President of the Portuguese Football Federation, José Luis Arnaut, Portuguese Deputy Prime Minister, Gerhard Aigner and Lars-Christer Olsson.



HELENA VALENTE

Lars-Christer Olsson takes over from Gerhard Aigner



UEFA/WOODS

meetings and other activities

no golden goals at EURO 2004

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ITS THIRD MEETING OF THE YEAR IN SEVILLE THE DAY AFTER THE UEFA CUP FINAL BETWEEN FC PORTO AND FC CELTIC.

Apart from appointing a new Chief Executive, the committee dealt with "eternal" issues concerning European football, such as relations with the European Union and matters related to FIFA and its competitions. It also discussed the preparations for EURO 2004 and the new UEFA Cup format.

As far as EU matters are concerned, UEFA has opened a representative office in Brussels, more details about which are given in the article over the page, and appointed a special adviser, Franco Carraro, President of the Italian Football Federation, who will be attending meetings of the Executive Committee in this capacity in the future.

The Committee was also informed about the appointment of Andreas Kuhn (Switzerland) to run the new UEFA HatTrick assistance programme presented in Rome.

In the field of the European competitions, the Committee authorised Azerbaijan's teams to take part again, following FIFA's decision to lift the suspension imposed on the Azerbaijan FA in April 2003.

A number of amendments to the European Championship and European Under-21 Championship regulations were also adopted, including the abolition of the golden goal in both cases and its replacement by the silver goal, consisting in two separate 15-minute periods of extra time.

Staying with regulations, the Committee approved the regulations for the 2003/04 European Under-17 Championship, European Women's Under-19 Championship and UEFA Women's Cup.

Turning to refereeing, the committee agreed to the creation of a Referee Consultative Body, which will be composed of top-class referees, members of the Referees Committee and representatives of the UEFA Administration. It will meet twice a year for the purpose of favouring dialogue among its members, anticipating future challenges in the refereeing sector and proposing ways to meet those challenges. Its input will then be followed up by the Referees Committee, the Chief Executive and the Executive Committee.



EMPICS

There will be no more golden goals like the one scored by Bierhof to clinch victory for Germany over the Czech Republic in the final of EURO 96.

At its meeting in Seville on 22 May, the UEFA Executive Committee decided who would succeed Gerhard Aigner, following his announcement in Rome in March that he would be taking early retirement from his post as UEFA Chief Executive at the end of the year.

For the sake of a smooth transition, the Committee opted for an internal solution and has appointed Swede Lars-Christer Olsson, current director of the Professional Football and Marketing division.

Born on 6 February 1950, Lars Christer-Olsson played football at amateur level and also did some coaching before moving into the administrative side of the game, where he served as General Secretary of the Swedish League from 1990 to 1991 and of the Swedish FA from 1991 to 2000. He was also Tournament Director for EURO 92 in Sweden.

In 2000, he left the Swedish FA to join UEFA, with whom he had already been involved as a member of the European Championship Committee and of the Technical and Administrative Assistance Panel, as well as in the capacity of adviser on the Media Committee.

Lars-Christer Olsson has a degree in Leisure Industry and Public Sector Administration, as well as a master's degree in Business Management. He will take up his new position on 1 January 2004.



Sergei Aleinikov...

UEFA WOODS



... and Giacinto Facchetti, two members of the Players Panel.

UEFA WOODS



The meeting room in the Brussels office.

UEFA

Calling for fair play

Coaches and players often share the same concerns and are interested first and foremost in what happens on the field of play. Within a few days of each other, these two vital ingredients of the game had the opportunity to give UEFA their feedback on a number of topical issues.

The point of view of the coaches was expressed at the meeting of the Technical Development Committee held in Seville on the day of the UEFA Cup final under the chairmanship of Jozef Venglos (Slovakia). Then on 5 June, the new Players Panel met at the House of European Football in Nyon. Although the agendas for both meetings and the matters dealt with were not identical, both sets of representatives looked at common topics such as the interpretation of passive offside and fair play. Reactions from both meetings were quite similar, with everyone agreeing, for example, that clear definitions and instructions were necessary for passive offside, so that it was not interpreted differently from one country to another or even from one

referee to another. The need to defend the principles of fair play met with the same unanimous response in that it was considered to be the best way to guarantee the integrity of the game and the protection of the players. The issue of *The Technician* enclosed with this month's *uefadirect* provides a fuller report on the meeting of the Players Panel.

New EU representative office

UEFA opened its new EU representative office in Brussels in April this year. The move reflects the growing importance of the relationship between European football and the European Union.

In recent years, a series of political and legal negotiations have underlined the need for dialogue and better understanding between the two sides. The reform of the international transfer system and the European Commission investigation into the sale of broadcasting rights to the UEFA Champions League are the most visible examples of this growing relationship.

Jonathan Hill, who also joined UEFA in April, heads the new office. Established in Brussels since 1995, Jonathan has specialised in European affairs. The new office is located right in the heart of the EU quarter, just two minutes' walk from the European Parliament. It has enough space to hold meetings, and an attractive garden can accommodate small receptions.

The office will build on the good work that UEFA's Executive Committee and administration have performed over the last couple of years. It will help to co-ordinate UEFA's activities with the EU and facilitate day-to-day relations between UEFA and the institutions (European Commission, European Parliament, Council).

This year and next will see a hectic schedule of EU activity with a direct impact on European football. The Convention on the Future of Europe is now presenting its draft Constitutional Treaty to EU leaders, and the final text seems certain to contain a new article on sport. EU member states will then negotiate the text over the next twelve months, probably signing a new EU Treaty in June 2004.

UEFA and other European sports bodies have been working hard to ensure that any new EU legal framework recognises two basic principles: the specificity of sport, which distinguishes it from other types of economic activity; and the autonomy of governing bodies, like UEFA, that need legal protection so that they can carry out their duties in a clear, stable environment.

2004 is also the European Year of Education through Sport. UEFA and the European Commission have already started discussions



Jonathan Hill in his office in Brussels.

UEFA



Malta and Cyprus will soon be joining the European Union.



Per Ravn Omdal (left) provided some useful explanations.

about how the two organisations can work together, supporting each other's events and initiatives.

Within the first two months of operations, the new Brussels office has already organised two events: a seminar on EU enlargement and the launch of a new informal group in the European Parliament, the *Friends of Football*.

UEFA Seminar on EU Enlargement

On 19 and 20 May, UEFA's Brussels office held a seminar on EU enlargement for the national associations of the ten countries joining the EU next year.

The football associations of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia were represented at this meeting, which took place at the headquarters of the Belgian Football Association, which kindly offered its premises for both days.

Chaired by Per Ravn Omdal, UEFA Vice-President and Chair of the Executive Committee's EU Matters Working Group, the seminar introduced the national associations to the institutions and decision-making procedures of the EU, and explored the ways in which EU policy affects sport.

In his presentation, Mike Lee, UEFA's Director of Communications and Public Affairs, gave an assessment of UEFA's political relations with the EU and highlighted new opportunities for co-operation. Markus Studer, UEFA's Director of Legal Services and Assistance Programmes, and UEFA's adviser on EU matters, Alasdair Bell, presented legal case studies that illustrated EU rules on fair competition and free movement of labour.

Günter Verheugen, European Commissioner responsible for enlargement, presented his own personal vision of Europe to the group and outlined the remaining steps before the ten countries formally join the Union in May 2004. Despite a busy schedule, the Commissioner was able to talk informally to delegates for more than an hour. Jaime Andreu, Head of the European Commission's Sports Unit, later provided an overview of the Commission's contribution to European sports policy.

'Friends of Football' in the European Parliament

On 3 June in Strasbourg, a UEFA delegation chaired by Per Ravn Omdal launched the new 'Friends of Football' intergroup with 12 Members of the European Parliament.

'Friends of Football' is an informal group whose members come from all parts of the political spec-

trum and represent at least half of the EU's member states. The group plans to meet two or three times a year to discuss the most pressing issues facing European football. In this first meeting, the debate focused on the centralised marketing of broadcasting rights, the legal basis of sport in the EU Treaty, the 2004 Year of Education through Sport, and the lessons to be drawn from American professional sport.

The decision to create 'Friends of Football' is further proof of UEFA's determination to invest time and resources in its relations with the EU. As the only European institution directly elected by the citizens, the European Parliament lends legitimacy to EU politics; its members are close to the daily concerns of ordinary people.

British MEP Christopher Heaton-Harris helped UEFA set up the group and chaired the first meeting. Mr Heaton-Harris is a fully qualified referee who still takes charge of games in the English amateur leagues.



The press conference after the seminar on EU enlargement. Left to right: Mike Lee, Per Ravn Omdal, Jan Peeters (President of the Belgian FA), Frantisek Laurinec and Imre Bozoky (Presidents of the Slovak and Hungarian FAs respectively).



Kim Fischer (photo left) and Gary Mabbutt were given an enthusiastic welcome by the young South Africans.



Meridian Project

FA visit to South Africa and Botswana

“USING THE POWER OF FOOTBALL TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE”

HAS BEEN THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION’S PHILOSOPHY SINCE MAY 2000, AND IT CONTINUED TO ADHERE TO THIS VISION THROUGH ITS GOODWILL VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA AND BOTSWANA IN MAY.

England Ambassadors Gary Mabbutt MBE and Viv Anderson MBE visited Soweto and townships in Durban as a prelude to the historic friendly match between England and South Africa which launched South Africa’s 2010 World Cup bid. They held coaching clinics and handed out gifts and equipment in projects centred on training coaches to work with under-privileged children.

It is important that children have the support, facilities and training to develop their skills in

a range of sports instead of being tempted by vices such as drugs, alcohol and crime. Sport, particularly football, is an important vehicle in getting children off the streets and educating them on important life skills and issues such as HIV/AIDS, a huge threat to the youth in southern Africa. The goodwill generated by visits to these projects is also a rewarding and inspiring experience for all concerned.

Gary Mabbutt and Kim Fisher, International Relations Officer at

The FA, also visited Botswana, one of The FA’s partners in the UEFA-CAF Meridian Project, where they visited a school for the deaf in Ramotswa, the SOS Children’s Village orphanage and a grassroots football coaching session with 170 children at the national stadium in Gaborone. FA experts also held a two-day workshop as part of their assistance programme, focusing on human resources and football development for 40 of Botswana’s top football officials from around the country.

It was great to hear from the president of the Botswana FA, David Fani, and FIFA Executive Committee member Ismail Bhamjee that England and The FA is well-respected in Africa for their efforts in Meridian partner countries and for their co-operation with CAF. Continuity is the key, and our relationships with the Botswana, Malawi and Lesotho football associations, as well as our co-operation agreement with CAF, are going from strength to strength.

Kim Fisher



PHOTOS: THE FA



ANDORRA
An agreement has been reached for referee exchanges between the FFF and FAF.



BELGIUM
The anti-smoking campaign is presented to the media.

from member associations news



ANDORRA Agreement for the referees

With the objective of improving the level of refereeing, the Andorran Football Federation has reached an agreement with the French Football Federation for exchanges referee in the domestic competitions.

This agreement was concluded on 15 May in the French locality of Castelmaurou, where the Midi Pyrenées Football League is based. The FFF was represented by Michel Vautrot, Referee Technical Director. The Andorran delegation was headed by General Secretary Tomás Gea.

The arrangement does not focus solely on referee exchanges between the two national associations, but also establishes support to raise the standard of refereeing in Andorra in general.

Within the framework of the agreement, one Andorran referee has already taken charge of a French second amateur division match between Carcassonne and Angoulême. The next exchange took place on 1 June, when French referee Jérôme Auroux handled the Andorran cup final between FC St. Coloma and UE St Julià.

Miquel Angel Quiñones



BELGIUM Campaign against smoking

In order to enable young footballers to express themselves better on the pitch, the URBSFA, in collaboration with the national lottery, has launched a campaign for the safety and protection of young players. All youth teams from affiliated Belgian clubs will be given a safety kit to help them protect their players. This will benefit around 18,000 teams in all.

The URBSFA has also lent its official support to the Rodin Foundation, which actively campaigns against smoking. A national prevention campaign entitled "Ne commence pas - don't start" is to be launched. With the help of national coach Aimé Anthuenis, who is generously backing the campaign, an anti-smoking message will be broadcast in Belgian stadiums. The Finance Minister has emphasised his ministry's commitment to the fight against smoking. "Sport has an educational role and a structure that brings young people together. Sport should be used as a weapon against addiction-related problems. The state plays an active part by supporting

different campaigns in various sports such as football."

The URBSFA is proud to support and participate in this kind of campaign because it is not limited just to sports-related issues. Football has an educational and social role to play. This anti-smoking campaign was launched at the friendly international match between Belgium and Poland played at the King Baudouin Stadium on 30 April.

François Vantomme



BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Peace and Friendship Tournament

NS BiH President Jusuf Pusina was right when he suggested organising the 2003 international U17 Peace and Friendship Tournament. He was convinced that it would be very successful, and so it was. The tournament showed that there are many great football talents who are waiting to be noticed.

It was not easy to gather young players from five ex-Yugoslavian countries, especially in war-ravaged Bosnia & Herzegovina. Teams from Slovenia, Croatia, FYR Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro and two from Bosnia & Herzegovina took part in the tournament.

"As the title of the tournament suggests, our aim was to give young people an opportunity to make new friendships out of the football field, to exchange experiences and opinions", said Jusuf Pusina.

The teams were led by former, well-known players from ex-Yugoslavia, such as Josip Katalinski, Danijel Pirc, Suad Jasarevic and Velimir Stojnic (B&H), Ivan Gudelj (CRO), Dragan Vujovic (Serbia and Montenegro), Blazo Lazarevski (MAC) and Milos Rus (SLO). All of them concluded that a tournament like this was necessary, and they were also pleased that it had taken place in Bosnia & Herzegovina.

The tournament took place in three towns within the Federation Bosnia & Herzegovina (Tuzla, Srebrenik and Banovici), while Ugljevik, a town within the Republic of Srpska, was host to one of the games.

The participating teams were divided into

two groups, A and B. Group A was won by Serbia and Montenegro, and Group B by Croatia. The final between the two group winners took place at the Tusanj stadium in Tuzla and was won by Serbia and Montenegro 2-1.

Best player of the tournament was Ivan Vukovic, and best goalkeeper was Aleksandar Kesic - both from Serbia and Montenegro. Best goal-getter was Kresimir Makarin from Croatia. The fair play trophy went to the first selection of Bosnia & Herzegovina, who received only one yellow card.

All the participants hope that this tournament will be traditional, and through NS BiH President Jusuf Pusina, they will ask UEFA to put this tournament on the European international calendar.

Fuad Krvavac



FINLAND

Pohjola Cup presents stars of tomorrow

One of the surest signs of Finnish summer is the annual Pohjola Cup. The Football Association of Finland (SPL) has staged the tournament for district teams since 1973 in different parts of the country. The Pohjola Cup is a very important scouting event, where 14-16 year-old boys and girls display their skills to regional and national team coaches. The tournament also serves as an educational event for young players.

This year's tournament was held in Rauma (14-15 year-old boys) and Ylivieska (14 and 16 year-old girls). Almost 1,000 players took part, some of whom will go on to form the core of the men's and women's senior national teams in the future. Tomorrow's stars play in the Pohjola Cup.

Almost every single player in the current Finnish senior national team has played in the Pohjola Cup. Old tournament statistics include names such as Jari Litmanen, Sami Hyypiä and Mikael Forssell.



GERMANY
Left to right: Hans Werner Lauk, German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Holger Obermann, Ali Askar Lali and DFB General Secretary Horst R. Schmidt.



BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
The under-17 tournament brought together five former-Yugoslavia countries.

MIROSLAV PETROVIC



MIROSLAV PETROVIC

The All-Stars Department and the National Teams Department of the Finnish FA are jointly responsible for organising the Pohjola Cup. The hosting district takes care of the local arrangements. The tournament is supported and sponsored by a major Finnish insurance company.

Riitta Seppälä



GEORGIA

Presidential visit to Tbilisi

At the end of May, FIFA President Joseph S. Blatter was accompanied by Vlatko Markovic, President of the Football Federation of Croatia, and FIFA representatives Jean-Paul Brigger and Valeri Chukhri.

The FIFA President met with the President of Georgia, Eduard Shevardnadze, and talked about the future of Georgian football. Mr Shevardnadze awarded the Order of Honour to Mr Blatter. Mr Blatter then officially opened the Georgian national teams' technical centre, which has been financed from the FIFA Goal programme. He also visited the headquarters of the Georgian Football Federation, which have been built with funds from UEFA, as well as the new Olympic Junior Football Academy and the Tbilisi Lokomotivi stadium, where he held a press conference, opened the final stage of the Fox Kids tournament and, as a former journalist, presented a World Championship ball to the best Georgian journalists' team

Mamuka Kvaratskhelia



GERMANY

Aid for Afghanistan

The German Football Association (DFB), in collaboration with the German Foreign Office, the National Olympic Committee (NOC), the world football federation (FIFA), the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), The Football Association of England

(FA) and the Afghanistan-Hilfe Paderborn organisation, is supporting efforts to rebuild football in Afghanistan. Holger Obermann, a renowned football development expert with 28 years' experience, and Ali Askar Lali, an Afghan international footballer with 25 caps who has been living in Germany since fleeing his homeland in 1980, have been running a football development project in Kabul since the end of May.

The aid programme, which is being funded to the tune of EUR 130,000 by the Foreign Office with additional support from the DFB's general sponsor, Mercedes-Benz, is focusing mainly on youth football. However, other objectives include enhancing the structure of the national association and looking after the national team, which Holger Obermann will take under his wing as Technical Director. "This project can also be of great benefit to society, since football also has a tremendous humanitarian character", stressed Holger Obermann before leaving for Kabul. "The joy of playing football may not enable the young people to forget about the 23-year war and its consequences, but it can help to break down barriers and reduce violence."

At present, the project is set to run for six months, although it may be extended. However, irrespective of how long this new challenge may last, Holger Obermann has some clear ideas about what he hopes to achieve in Kabul and subsequently in the rest of Afghanistan: "We don't want to be seen as big cheeses, but we hope to work with leaders already active on the ground. By the time we leave, there needs to be a permanent team of workers in Afghanistan, who can manage everything in the future."

Stephan Brause



ICELAND

New season under way

The 2003 season in Iceland will be an exciting one for many reasons. First of all, this is the first season since the Icelandic championship

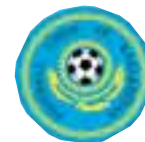
started in 1912 that clubs participating in the top division will do so not on sporting merit alone. All ten clubs in the top flight had to apply for a licence to play at the top level, in accordance with the club licensing system, which is now being introduced all over Europe. Applications from all ten clubs were accepted by the FA's First Instance Body, and licences were granted at the beginning of April. The biggest challenge for the clubs was to fulfil the criteria regarding stadiums and infrastructure. The respective local authorities have all given guarantees that they will strongly assist the clubs in fulfilling these criteria, with regards to both finance and organisation. By the 2007 season, facilities for spectators at all top division stadiums will be first class.

The quality of play at the beginning of the 2003 season is arguably better than in previous years. The pace of the matches and overall quality of play is higher than before. Without any doubt, this is due to the number of competitive matches being played in the many indoor football halls that have risen in the last few years.

Some interesting signings have been made by the top clubs, which can only be to the benefit of the league as a whole. Media coverage is even more extensive, and as a consequence, general interest among the public is rising. Champions KR-Reykjavik have signed twin brothers Arnar Gunnlaugsson and Bjarki Gunnlaugsson from Dundee United in Scotland and IA Akranes respectively and look like having assembled a formidable squad in their bid to retain the title. Not many believe they will fail. Fylkir have re-signed U21 internationals Helgi Valur Danielsson and Ólafur Ingi Skúlason from English clubs Peterborough and Arsenal. But perhaps the biggest signing, or at least the most interesting one, was made by Grindavik, who acquired the services of former Manchester United, Leeds and Sampdoria midfielder Lee Sharpe. Interest from both local and foreign media has been massive, and it will be intriguing to see how Sharpe will fare in the Icelandic Premier Division.

Icelandic football fans are in for yet another exciting season.

Ómar Smáráson



KAZAKHSTAN

Seminar for Kazakhstan doctors

On 21 and 22 May, a seminar for football team

doctors was held in Almaty. The course programme covered the following issues: epidemiology, risk assessment, muscle injuries, nutrition, pharmacology in football, injuries of children and adults, joint angle injuries, shoulder injuries, doping, knee injuries and rehabilitation.

The course was run by Danish doctor Mogens Kreutzfeldt, member of the UEFA Medical Committee and the chief



SCOTLAND John McBeth's professional experience was valuable for the reconstruction of Hampden Park.

UEFA



SCOTLAND
Former SFA President, Jack McGinn (left) and his successor, John McBeth.



FINLAND
The logo of the 2003 Pohjola Cup.



KAZAKHSTAN
A course for Kazakhstan's team doctors.

doctor of the Danish national team. "I'm very honoured to be here. Our courses are part of the UEFA programme for exchanging experience and introducing the specialists to some new technologies in sports medicine. Last year I ran such courses in thirteen countries. I'm very impressed by the professional level of your doctors and by the level of our discussions. I think we've achieved a great and productive work. It has also been an opportunity for the Kazakhstani doctors to get together and discuss questions of interest."

Vitaliy Topkin, masseur of the national team of Kazakhstan, said: "The programme was very interesting of course, and intensive. It covered the questions that the Kazakhstani doctors always have to deal with. I would like to highlight a couple of key moments from the seminar. For instance, the quality of the game and the risk of players getting injured depend directly on the quality of the playing field. As you know, this is very important for us. Very often coaches are more interested in results and don't let the players recover fully from their injuries and make them play when they are not really fit.

I would also like to say that we have highly qualified doctors as well, and their questions frequently surprised our Danish guest. He appreciated them so much. I think that our football will only start to really improve when our coaches start consulting the team doctors and have close collaboration with them."

Alexander Keplin



FYR MACEDONIA

A first women's tournament

From 23 to 27 September, FYR Macedonia will be host

to group B9 in the 1st qualifying round of the 3rd European Women's Under-19 Championship. The Football Association of the FYR of Macedonia (FFM) is therefore working hard on the preparations for this mini-tournament, which will be held in Ohrid and Struga and involve four national teams, from Macedonia, the Netherlands, the Republic of Ireland and Belarus.

It is the first time that a women's competition at this level is being organised in our country and it will certainly be a great experience for the future.

FFM has already chosen the hotels for the teams, guests and organisational staff. Three months before the mini-tournament, an official will be appointed by UEFA to visit the venues in order to inspect the organisation, preparations and infrastructure.

Both cities, Ohrid and Struga, are on the shores of the unique Ohrid Lake, and the entire area as well as the weather conditions are perfectly suited to sports competitions.

At the beginning of May, FFM was visited by Mrs Campbell of AVC Media Enterprise, who brought a valuable donation from UEFA for the Coach' Education Centre. Thanks to the UEFA TactFoot project, our coaches' centre will continue to work with the most modern technical equipment, such as a Sony laptop computer, an LCD projector and a colour printer.

On 10 April, the FFM Executive Committee elected a new General Secretary for a four-year term. Lazar Mitrovski was appointed to this post by acclamation.

After the election, Mr Mitrovski stressed that his priorities would be to improve FFM's office facilities and financial situation and - one of the most important issues - to create suitable infrastructural conditions at the City Stadium in Skopje.

Zoran Nikolevski



MALTA

Trophies for Birkirkara

Despite managing a goalless draw with their closest rivals Birkirkara in their last league commitment, Sliema Wanderers FC players, officials and supporters celebrated their 24th league championship title in motorcade style from the national stadium at Ta' Qali all the way to the Sliema 'ferries'.

Their top Serbian striker Danilo Doncic topped the league scorers list along with Birkirkara's Michael Galea and Hibernians's Adrian Mifsud, all with 18 goals to their credit.

Sliema Wanderer's bid for a league and cup 'double' was dented by their rivals Birkirkara FC, who ended the season in a blaze of glory. A fine headed goal two minutes into injury time from their 'in form' young striker Michael Galea enabled the 'Stripes' to retain the Maltese Trophy in a dramatic final in front of the season's largest crowd at the national stadium. Birkirkara claimed the FA Trophy for the second year running.

Their league runners-up position had already guaranteed their UEFA Cup qualification along with Valletta FC. Sliema W. FC qualify for the UEFA Champions League after an absence of seven years, while Hibernians will participate in the UEFA Intertoto Cup.

Three days later, Birkirkara FC ended the season on a high with two goals from Chuck Nwoko and Michael Galea in the last 12 minutes to clinch the final piece of silverware of the Maltese season, the Super Cup Trophy, the final game of a long campaign which pits the champions against the trophy winners. This fine and deserved win against an injury-hit Wanderers side marked a third honour for Birkirkara this season, following their previous successes in the Super Five competition and the FA Trophy.

An added cherry on Birkirkara's cake was the triumph of their lasses, who beat champions Hibernians thanks to a late goal in the second half of extra time in the HSBC Women's KO Final, which preceded the Super Cup match at the national stadium

Louis Micallef



MOLDOVA

New programme launched

With the help of UEFA and its East European Assistance Bureau (EEAB), the Football Association of Moldova has launched a new programme named "Guguta" to assist the development of football among 5 to 9-year-olds. This programme was launched in 2002. The FA of Moldova has purchased 300 bags of equipment (footballs, cones, shirts), which were distributed to ten regional football associations, i.e. 30 bags per association.

Before the launch of the programme, 18 courses were organised for coaches who train the above age



ICELAND
Lee Sharpe, strengthening the ranks of Grindavik.



MALTA
FC Sliema Wanderers, 2002/03 league champions.

B. AQUILINA



MOLDOVA
Football festivals for children.

B. HARENICO

category. For these children we organise football festivals and not competitions with winners and losers. The first festival of this kind was recently staged in Causeni, the capital of Tighina county, situated 60 km south of Chisinou. Altogether, 70 children and 14 coaches took part in this event.

The second festival took place in the capital city, Chisinou, which welcomed 100 little footballers and 22 coaches from the northern part of Moldova. Each child received a football and a souvenir presented by the vice-president of the FA of Moldova, Valentin Cojuhari, founder of the Guguta programme and member of the UEFA Youth and Amateur Football Panel.

Vasile Vatamanu



NORWAY

Colourful Football!

On 24 May, one of Norway's most powerful initiatives against racism and violence kicked off for the eighth consecutive year. The informal Fargerik Football (Colourful Football) Tournament invites children, parents, teachers and volunteers to a football celebration, regardless of ethnic or cultural background. Even though the tournament encourages people to have fun, the main objective is serious: to fight violence and racism.

The tournament shows what an excellent tool football is for integrating immigrants into Norwegian society. The tournament is getting bigger every year, and this year more than 4,000 children and youngsters participated in the 19 events in 11 Norwegian cities.

Fargerik Football aims to promote joy and unity through sport and to fight unhealthy competition, which excludes children from having fun playing football. The winners of the tournament are those with the best costumes, the most creative team names, the best team songs and so on.

Roger Solheim



MALTA
Birkirkara FC have retained the Maltese Cup.

D. AQUILINA



REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

New Chief Executive Officer

The big news from the Republic of Ireland this month is that the association has appointed a new Chief Executive Officer. The person taking over at the top is Fran Rooney, a legislator who has had a long connection with the game of association football.

Having been a player himself, he held the post of manager of the Republic of Ireland women's international team from 1986 until 1992, and his background in the game gives him a wide and experienced knowledge of football.

Born in Dublin, the 46 year-old takes up his post full time from the middle of June. Since being appointed to the post of CEO at the end of April, Mr Rooney has kept in close touch with the business of football and has been involved in recent weeks in talks and negotiations regarding the possibility of acquiring a new stadium for the association and also in the development of relationships with the national broadcasting company, RTE, regarding the 'live' transmission of the Republic's international matches.

Before joining the Football Association of Ireland, Mr Rooney established a considerable reputation in the business world and is former head of the Baltimore Technologies Company. At present, he is chairman of a number of other business establishments in Ireland.

In addition, his interest in the game of football also saw him actively involved in the legislative side of the sport for a while, when he represented the women's section on the FAI Senior Council.

His appointment should be a decided asset to the Irish football body as it tries to build for the future.

Following his appointment to the top office within the association, Mr Rooney said of his new function:

"I see my role as providing leadership for the FAI and the football community across the country through the period of significant change which lies ahead. We have world-class international football teams and we should aspire to match this success on the park with a similarly strong football association", he said.

Mr Rooney succeeds Kevin Fahy, who served as Acting General Secretary following the resignation some months ago of previous CEO Brendan Menton.

Brendan Mckenna



ROMANIA

A living legend

Born in Craiova on 1 October 1921, Angelo Niculescu is one of the oldest members of the Romanian Football Association Board. He is vice-chairman of the Technical

Committee and vice-president of the Federal Coaching School.

He began playing football 66 years ago with the Rovine Craiova youth team, before playing for the club's first team in the Romanian 2nd division. During the 2nd World War, he played right half in the great FC Craiova team, with whom he won the championship in 1942/43. As soon as the war was over, in 1945, he was transferred to Carmen Bucharest, which was the city's top team at the time. *"I was transferred once, but played for three clubs",* says Angelo Niculescu: when the Carmen team was dissolved in 1947, Niculescu, like most of his team-mates, moved to Ciocanul (the hammer), but only a year later, on 14 May 1948, the team was forced to merge with "Unirea Tricolor", forming the representative team of the Interior Ministry, Dinamo Bucharest.

In 1951, Angelo Niculescu began his coaching career with the Dinamo Bucharest youth team. In 1954, he was appointed coach of the club's first team, with whom he reached the Romanian Cup final in 1954 and won the national championship in 1955 (the season was played from spring to autumn in those days, in accordance with the Soviet system). He stayed with Dinamo until 1958 and was then signed up by their great rivals, Steaua (then known as CCA = Casa Centrala a Armatei, "central house of the army"). He stayed for only one year before spending three years (1959-1962) working for the federation as head of coaching. Having returned to Dinamo from 1962 to 1966, he won the national title four times and the cup once, completing the double in 1964. After another year as federal head of coaching, he was appointed head coach of the Romanian national team in October 1967. He held this post until the end of 1972, achieving outstanding success by qualifying for the 1970 World Cup finals for the first time in 32 years and reaching the European Championship quarter-finals in 1972. After a short time without a job, Angelo Niculescu coached Sportul Studentesc Bucharest, Politehnica Timisoara, Dinamo Bucharest again, SC Bacau and Universitatea Cluj, before working as technical director for Inter Sibiu and Otelul Galati.

Since 1992, he has taught at the Federal Coaching School and been a member of the Technical Committee and a lecturer at the National Physical Education and Sports Academy.

Greatly admired for his success as a club and national team coach, Angelo Niculescu is now the true patriarch of Romanian football, a living legend who is willing to pass on a wealth of experience to anyone who wishes to learn and be of service to Romanian football.

Dan Cristea



NORWAY
A colourful football tournament to combat racism and violence.



ROMANIA
Angelo Niculescu.



SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO
Another league title for FK Partizan Belgrade.



SCOTLAND

John McBeth elected president

The Scottish FA has a new president, after experienced administrator Jack McGinn stepped down at the association's annual meeting. The new president, who was elected unopposed, is John McBeth, who has been vice-president for the past six years.

Mr McGinn, who is a member of UEFA's Club Competitions Committee, has a lifelong involvement with Celtic FC and began working for them in 1965, first as founder of the club newspaper and subsequently becoming commercial manager before rising to club chairman.

Before becoming president of the Scottish FA in 1997, he spent four years as treasurer and another four years as vice-president, so he has immense experience, which has helped to deliver the modernisation of the association. "The Scottish FA is almost unrecognisable from that of which I had the honour of becoming president," he said. "It is more streamlined and has enthusiastically embraced modern work practices and technology. The role of president has become much more hands-on, and if it was ever a figurehead position in the past, it certainly isn't now."

John McBeth is a director of Clyde FC, the first division club. His professional career as a chartered surveyor has been invaluable to the Scottish FA in the rebuilding of Hampden Park, and he is very much looking forward to playing a greater role in the development of the association.

Andy Mitchell



SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Implementation of the club licensing system

The football season ended with the final of the cup of Serbia and Montenegro, which was played in Belgrade on 29 May. In this replay of the last year's final, FK Sartid of Smederevo defeated FK Crvena Zvezda of Belgrade with a golden goal in extra time. By winning the cup, the Smederevo club has achieved the biggest success in its history.

FK Partizan of Belgrade have successfully defended the championship title they won last year. Headed by German coach Lothar Matthäus, who took the team over at the end of the autumn championship season, Partizan finished the championship 19 points ahead of second-placed FK Crvena Zvezda. In the 34 rounds of the championship, FK Partizan won 29 matches, drew two, lost three and notched up a total of 89 points, with a goal difference of 88:36.

On the basis of their sporting results, FK Partizan will contest the qualifying matches of the 2003/04 UEFA Cham-

pions League, FK Crvena Zvezda and Sartid will play in the UEFA Cup, while OFK Beograd and Sutjeska will participate in the UEFA Intertoto Cup.

On 7 May, UEFA approved the regulations governing the Football Association of Serbia and Montenegro's club licensing manual for the UEFA competitions. Thus, the first stage in the implementation of a club licensing system for the territory of the FA of Serbia and Montenegro is successfully completed. The UEFA Administration has congratulated our association on the job it has done in implementing this significant UEFA project.

UEFA has also recognised the "B" coach licence of the Serbia and Montenegro FA for work with players in all youth categories. In the next stage, the Football Association of Serbia and Montenegro will start educating and training coaches for the "A" licence.

Nebojsa Ivkovic



SLOVAKIA

Tournament and coach education

One of the priorities of the Slovak Football Association (SFZ) is to support youth football. In line with that priority, the SFZ organised the XIII International Slovakia U18 Cup Tournament in April/May in 13 cities around the country. This year, the following countries participated: Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Norway, and of course, Slovakia. This tournament is one of high quality and over the years it has become a very popular tournament for many European countries. It is a great opportunity for young players to gain international experience and skills.

Each match (2x40') was played at a different stadium. The Slovak U18 team, under the leading hand of coach Anton Valovic, sailed through the tournament without the slightest stagger. In Group A, they beat first Cyprus, then Norway and Hungary, and in the final match they defeated Belgium 3-0. The final

match was played before a large crowd under the careful eye of top FIFA referee Lubos Michel. It was the 252nd match of coach Anton Valovic. Poland finished in third place. Slovakia also won the Fair Play Award for the best behaved team of the tournament.

In conjunction with the 2003 Slovakia Cup, an "Active Youth Coaches Conference" was also organised, attended by almost all youth coaches from the Slovak clubs. The conference was also honoured to welcome the Director of the Technical Department of the Austrian FA, Mr Rutensteiner, who made a very interesting presentation. Among others, seminars were presented by many other Slovak football specialists, such as Mr Gursky, Mr Hucko, Mr Peracek, Mr Kacani and Mr Polak. The main issues presented at the seminar were "Concentration and Management of the Pre-game Stage", "Development of the Player's Reaction Speed and the Algorithm of the Training and Improvement of Head-play", and "Complex Improvement of the Zone Defence."

Karolina Ducka



SLOVENIA

Maribor champions for the seventh time in a row

The Slovenian first division championship ended with no big surprises compared with last year, at least at the top of the table.

NK Maribor, the only Slovenian club to ever qualify for the group stage of the UEFA Champions League (in 1998/99) and therefore the most successful Slovenian club in the European competitions, succeeded in winning their seventh championship title in a row. After becoming champions for the first time in 1996/97, the club experienced many ups and downs, but managed to reign over



SWEDEN
Helsingborg have qualified for a licence for next season.



SLOVENIA
NK Maribor have won their seventh league title in a row.



UKRAINE
FC Dynamo won the first international tournament in memory of Valeriy Lobanovskiy.

Slovenian football. This season, the team from Slovenia's second biggest town did not look as if they were going to make it, but at the end, they stood seven points clear of second-placed NK Publikum.

They clinched the title in the last round but one, in an exciting match in their Ljudski Vrt stadium against Publikum, who, at the time, were still in with a chance of taking the title from their rivals. And it was looking good for Publikum until the 85th minute, when Maribor first drew level and then scored the decisive goal.

Publikum had encountered a similar fate one week earlier, when they met Olimpija in the Slovenian Cup. Having drawn the first leg in Ljubljana 1-1, the return leg in Celje finished 2-2. Olimpija ended the championship in third place, just behind Maribor and Publikum. Now we are looking forward with eager anticipation to the new domestic and European seasons!

Irena Ilesic Cujovic

Swedish champions of 1999, who played in the 2000/01 UEFA Champions League, were facing the threat of relegation from the premiership at the end of the season.

Helsingborg's club licence for next season was saved by the town's local authorities and banks, which delivered a rescue package including the necessary cash injection.

The financial criteria in the Swedish licensing system are very strict. No negative equity is allowed in the top clubs' balances. In such a situation, the club in question is put on an "observation list" and is required to submit a detailed plan of action for erasing the deficit within a year to the FA's Licensing Committee. The committee can also instruct the club to deliver an intermediate balance sheet during the season for control. In the Helsingborg case, the crucial question was whether the committee would approve the action plan. Was the deal to be regarded as a loan or was it a pure cash injection in order to soar the club's finances? If it were considered to be a loan, then clearly the financial criteria of the club licensing system would not have been met. The rules are very clear: new loans are not a way to clear old debts. The Licensing Committee gave its approval after three days of deliberations.

"This is a very delicate matter and we had to be thorough since this decision may very well serve as a precedent in the future", said the chairman of the committee.

Whether the rescue plan for Helsingborg is realistic enough in a long-time perspective is not a topic for the Licensing Committee. In its comments, the committee states that its task is only to assess whether the club will be able to have its finances under control by the end of the year (i.e. no negative equity in its balance sheet), which the committee did not deem unlikely.

The club licensing system, with its financial criteria, is now delivering encouraging results. In its round-up in May, the Licensing Committee remarked that the number of clubs with negative equity had decreased. Only three of the 30 top clubs have been put on the observation list for the 2005 licence. Another four clubs on the current observation list (for the 2004 licence) have been requested to provide a balance sheet for control by the end of June 2003.

Thomas Saletog

Dynamo Kyiv and the Ukrainian national team died on 13 May 2002. Death struck him down while he was doing his job, which, on that tragic evening, he was carrying out from the bench at the stadium in Zaporizhyya. The Football Federation of Ukraine (FFU) and FC Dynamo Kyiv decided to pay homage to Lobanovskiy and to organise a tournament to commemorate the anniversary of his death.

The honour of being the first participants in the competition went to the champions and vice-champions of the two countries whose clubs were directly connected with the creative genius of Lobanovskiy - Dynamo Kyiv, Shakhtar Donetsk, Lokomotiv Moscow and CSKA Moscow.

On the eve of the tournament, a four-metre monument to Valeriy Lobanovskiy was unveiled at the Dynamo stadium named after this prominent personality. It is symbolic that the bronze sculpture of the coach depicts the image which is dear to hearts of his numerous supporters. Lobanovskiy is sitting on the bench, where the words of the song written in his memory are carved: *"You are sitting on the bench and the stands are raging near. You are sitting and we are remembering with love"*. The pedestal is in the shape of a ball. The symbolic detail is a watch on the coach's arm. It is set at the time when the heart of the great coach stopped - 20:37. A television screen has been installed in the pedestal where films about Lobanovskiy and the players he coached are shown.

The memorial complex was opened on 13 May at the Baikove cemetery, where many famous Ukrainians are buried. The memorial ceremony was attended by members of the FIFA and UEFA Executive Committees, namely Michel Platini, Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder and Viacheslav Koloskov, as well as well-known players coached by Lobanovskiy.

Valeriy Lobanovskiy did not live long enough to receive the award bestowed on him a month before his death by the UEFA Congress in Stockholm. Therefore, on behalf of the UEFA President, Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder presented the UEFA Order of Merit in ruby to Lobanovskiy's family. The FIFA Order of Merit was handed over by Michel Platini.

Dynamo Kyiv won this first international tournament in memory of Lobanovskiy, while one of his best former players, Andriy Shevchenko (AC Milan), dedicated his goal in the UEFA Champions League semi-finals on 13 May 2003, the anniversary of Lobanovskiy's death, to his mentor.

It is planned to stage the tournament annually and to expand the geographical spread of the participants.

Valeriy Nykonenko



SWEDEN

Championship disrupted by strike

An extensive labour dispute has seriously disrupted the start of the Swedish football season. On 23 April, the Swedish Municipal Workers' Union ('Kommunal') went on strike for higher wages. Very few Swedish football arenas are club-owned; the typical situation is that the venues are owned and run by the local authorities and consequently manned to some extent by Kommunal members. In accordance with the club licensing system, each premiership club has an alternative match ground, but as the conflict spread, the implications for football became more serious. The Swedish FA and the league made it very clear that postponing matches was to be the very last resort, when all other options had failed. The conflict was settled by the end of May.

Allsvenskan side Helsingborgs IF were saved by the bell in May. The indebted



UKRAINE
FFU President Grygoriy Surkis places a wreath at the foot of the Lobanovskiy monument at the Dynamo stadium.



UKRAINE

Tournament in memory of Valeriy Lobanovskiy

The first international tournament in commemoration of the great coach Valeriy Lobanovskiy was held in Kyiv from 12 to 14 May. The former coach of

communications

birthdays – calendar

Birthdays

Hubert Claessen (Germany), member of the circle of former UEFA committee members, celebrates his 90th birthday on 9 July. Ernest Walker (Scotland), Chairman of the Stadium and Security Committee, will be 75 on 20 July. Hana Válková (Czech Republic) member of the Football for the Disabled Panel, will be 60 on 9 July. Right behind her in reaching that milestone are two members of the Youth and Amateur Football Panel, Carlo Tavecchio (Italy), on 13 July, and Geoffrey Brown (Scotland) on 29 July. Zoltan Kereki (Hungary), member of the Fun Football/Children's Football, reaches the half-century mark on 13 July. UEFA also wishes many happy returns of the day to:

- Erkki Poroila (Finland, 1.7)
- Craig Brown (Scotland, 1.7)
- Hendrik Weerink (Netherlands, 2.7)
- Domingos Gomes Dias (Portugal, 3.7)
- Antonio Matarrese (Italy, 4.7)
- Bohdan Benedik (Slovakia, 4.7)
- Fernando Tresaco Gracia (Spain, 4.7)
- Terence Brown (England, 6.7)
- Dario Gradi (England, 8.7)
- Dimitrios Koukis (Greece, 9.7)
- Mourad Mammadov (Azerbaijan, 10.7)
- Nina Hedlund (Norway, 11.7)
- Günter Benkö (Austria, 12.7)
- Alain Delmer (France, 14.7)
- Innocenzo Mazzini (Italy, 14.7)
- Sandor Puhl (Hungary, 14.7)
- Vladimír Petr (Slovakia, 15.7)
- Pierluigi Pairetto (Italy, 15.7)
- Henny Smorenburg (Netherlands, 15.7)
- Johannes Malka (Germany, 16.7)
- Jean-Jacques Tillmann (Switzerland, 16.7)
- Ernst Nigg (Liechtenstein, 16.7)
- Patricia Day-Smith (England, 16.7)
- Jiri Ulrich (Czech Republic, 16.7)
- Giuseppe Mifsud-Bonnici (Malta, 17.7)
- John Edward Martin (England, 18.7)
- Giacinto Facchetti (Italy, 18.7)
- Allen Wade (England, 19.7)
- Derek O'Neill (Republic of Ireland, 19.7)
- Vladimir Radionov (Russia, 21.7)
- Jaroslav Dudl (Czech Republic, 21.7)
- Jeff Davies (England, 21.7)
- Boris Voskresensky (Ukraine, 22.7)
- Michel Wuilleret (Switzerland, 22.7)
- Emilio Butragueño Santos (Spain, 22.7)
- Bontcho Todorov (Bulgaria, 23.7)
- Oscar Flé (Spain, 23.7)
- Pavel Malovic (Slovakia, 23.7)

- Marcelino Maté Martínez (Spain, 23.7)
- Martin Edwards (England, 24.7)
- Carlos Alberto Silva Valente (Portugal, 25.7)
- Alfred Ludwig (Austria, 26.7)
- David I. Bowen (Northern Ireland, 26.7)
- Bertus Rijkhoek (Netherlands, 30.7)
- Jürgen Klinsmann (Germany, 30.7)
- João Leal (Portugal, 30.7)
- Des Casey (Republic of Ireland, 31.7)
- Tugomir Frajman (Slovenia, 31.7)
- Joël Wolff (Luxembourg, 31.7)
- Phelim Macken (Republic of Ireland, 31.7)

Upcoming events

MEETINGS

1-3.7.2003, Coverciano (Italy)
4th UEFA Course for Grassroots Coaches

9-10.7.2003, Nyon
Executive Committee
Referees Committee

14.7.2003, Nyon
Draws for the semi-finals and finals of the UEFA Intertoto Cup

23.7.2003, Nyon
Draw for the UEFA Champions League 3rd qualifying round

26.7.2003, Vaduz (Liechtenstein)
Youth and Amateur Football Committee

COMPETITIONS

5-6.7.2003
UEFA Intertoto Cup: 2nd round (first legs)

12-13.7.2003
UEFA Intertoto Cup: 2nd round (return legs)

16.7.2003
UEFA Champions League: 1st qualifying round (first legs)

16-26.7.2003, Liechtenstein
Final round of the European Under-19 Championship

19-20.7.2003
UEFA Intertoto Cup: 3rd round (first legs)

23.7.2003
UEFA Champions League: 1st qualifying round (return legs)

25.7-3.8.2003, Germany
Final round of the European Women's Under-19 Championship

26.7.2003
UEFA Intertoto Cup: 3rd round (return legs)

30.7.2003
UEFA Champions League: 2nd qualifying round (first legs)

New publication

Gica Popescu – Viata Mea

In his long and colourful career, Georghe Popescu chalked up 114 caps with the Romanian national team, played in three World Cup finals, won domestic championship titles in three countries – Romania (with Steaua Bucuresti), the Netherlands (PSV Eindhoven) and Turkey



(Galatasaray) – and, last but not least, won in the European Cup Winners' Cup with FC Barcelona. This book, written in Romanian by Daniel Nanu, traces the life and outstanding career of one of the most famous Romanian footballers of all time. (Conphys s.r.l. – tel. +40-250 731 511; fax +40-250 731 522.).

Announcement

The Belarus Football Federation has a new email address: federation@bff.by

Match agents

The Match Agents Panel has granted a UEFA match agent's licence to:

Charles Mitten

Charles Mitten Sport Promotions
33 Ladybridge Road GB -
Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire SK8 5NZ
Tel/Fax +44 161 485 6683

The Panel is sad to announce the death of match agent Carlos Conesa Duelo (Spain) who passed away this spring.

WE CARE ABOUT FOOTBALL



Official publication of the
**Union des associations
européennes de football**

Communications and Public Affairs Division

Editor André Vieli

Produced by Atema Communication SA, CH-1196 Gland

Printed by Cavin SA, CH-1422 Grandson

Editorial deadline: 13 June 2003

The views expressed in signed articles are not necessarily the official views of UEFA.

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