



WWF? (1) Barcelona's Luis Enrique (L) and Sevilla's Javi Navarro in no mood to play at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona. (R) Real Madrid's David Beckham caught up in a security scare as a crazy fan gets hold of him during the match against Villarreal.

PHOTO: AFP/AP

## Primera Liga

# Real made to struggle

### Football

REUTERS, Madrid

A late goal by substitute Antonio Nunez earned Spanish champions Real Madrid a 1-1 draw away to a well-organized Villarreal side in their second match of the season on Tuesday.

The young midfielder, making his league debut for Real, got his head to an outstanding David Beckham corner four minutes from time to cancel out a spectacular strike by Villarreal substitute Sonny Anderson.

The goal of the night, though, came from Barcelona's Ronaldinho who scored with a brilliant solo effort to earn his side a 1-1 draw against Sevilla on his home debut in the late, late match at the Nou Camp.

The Brazilian forward skipped his way past two Sevilla defenders before letting rip with an unstoppable shot from the edge of the area early in the second half to cancel out striker Jose Antonio Reyes's 10th-minute penalty for the

visitors.

England captain Beckham, who scored after just three minutes of his home league debut on Saturday, made a less spectacular start for Real this time out, but gradually found his range from set pieces, nearly grabbing the winner with two dipping free kicks at the death.

The midfielder suffered a minor groin injury during the match but told reporters he expects to be fit for England's Euro 2004 qualifier against Macedonia on Saturday.

Beckham was also caught up in a security scare after being manhandled by a crazy fan.

Becks looked stunned as a supporter raced on to the pitch at the end, put an arm around him and tried to take a picture with a camera.

The spectator was dragged away by stewards along with another man who tried to reach the England skipper.

A Villarreal spokesman said: "The man was arrested and his details taken. He put his arm around David Beckham and tried to take a photo."

"There were two supporters on the pitch at the time. One was stopped without getting at any of the players, the other managed

to get to Beckham but was apprehended immediately."

Both men were later released.

In Tuesday's other matches, last season's runners-up Real Sociedad were held to a 1-1 draw at home to Celta Vigo and have yet to record a victory this term.

Serbian striker Darko Kovacevic put Sociedad in front with a 37th-minute header after former Celta midfielder Valery Karpin had dinked in a cross from the right, but the Galician side levelled the match when Savo Milosevic struck with a sharp volley midway through the second half.

Valencia were the only winners of the night after they claimed a 1-0 win over Osasuna, thanks to another headed goal, this time from midfielder Ruben Baraja early in the second half of a tight match at El Sadar.

Tuesday's results mean that Real, Barca, Sevilla and Valencia are all tied on four points at the top of the table, but they could be overtaken by Racing Santander and Deportivo Coruna who play their matches on Wednesday.

With Brazilians Ronaldo and Roberto Carlos and Argentine midfielder Esteban Cambiasso on international duty Real Madrid fielded a much-changed line-up including several new faces at the Madrigal stadium.

Three former reserve-team players started in an inexperienced defence, centre back Ivan Helguera was pushed into midfield to replace the departed Claude Makelele and young striker Javier Portillo played up front alongside Raul.

Villarreal dominated the early exchanges as new signing Juan Roman Riquelme ran the show in midfield but they failed to take full advantage, former Atletico Madrid striker Jose Mari spurning several good chances.

Real suffered a serious setback when French playmaker Zinedine Zidane was forced off through injury just before the half hour, but Villarreal will be regretting they did not make more of their domination.

Real improved at the start of the second half, with defenders Francisco Pavon and Michel Salgado providing the major threat to the Villarreal goal.

Pavon hit the post with a header after a Beckham corner and Salgado volleyed against the bar after racing on to a neat pass from Luis Figo.

But it was Villarreal who took the lead when Anderson scored with a stunning first-time volley after racing on to a perfect through ball from Riquelme.

The celebrations were short lived, though, as Nunez had the final say with a well directed header four minutes from time.

## Ferdinand joins sick list



PRESS ASSOCIATION, Manchester

Rio Ferdinand became England's latest injury victim today when he was ruled out of the Euro 2004 qualifier in Macedonia this weekend.

Ferdinand, who has a kidney complaint, has joined Paul Scholes, Steven Gerrard and Trevor Sinclair on the lengthy injury list.

David Beckham was also set to be assessed by the England medical staff on his arrival in Manchester after sustaining a groin injury while playing for Real Madrid against Villarreal last night.

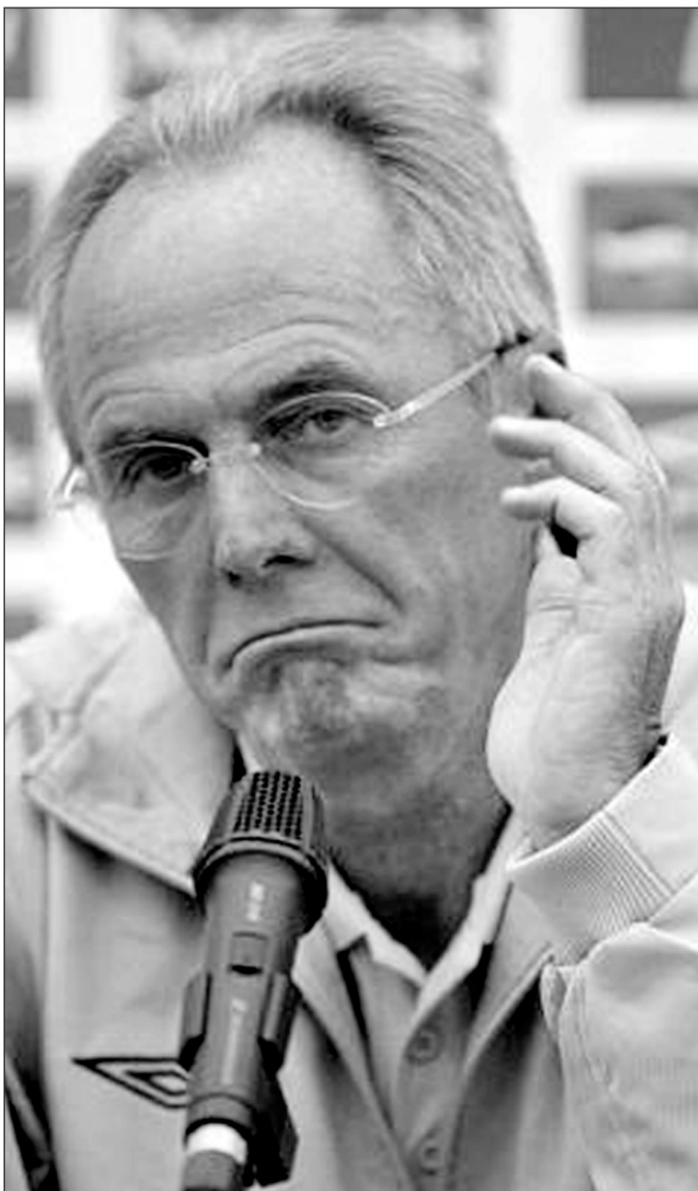
Beckham revealed he had picked up a slight groin strain during Real Madrid's Primera Liga encounter with Villarreal last night, though moved to avert any panic.

He said: "We'll have to see what it's like, but I don't think it'll be a problem."

With his first-choice midfield decimated, Eriksson said he had his "fingers crossed" that Beckham would report fit for duty later today.

Up front, the Swede is still undecided over his front two, with Wayne Rooney and Emile Heskey battling to partner Michael Owen.

"Michael Owen will start, I guess. But let's see in our practices who will play with him," said the manager, giving little away. "Experience is always very important, but anyhow I haven't decided who is going to play up front."



DON'T BLAME ME! England head coach Sven Goran Eriksson grimaces during a press conference in Manchester on September 2.

## Anelka searching for 'dream girl'

SUN, London

Nicolas Anelka is looking to make his mark off the pitch... with his dream woman.

The French striker is the darling of his devoted Manchester City fans.

But now the bachelor confesses he cannot be completely happy until he falls in love with the right girl.

Anelka, revealing the one goal that has eluded him, said: "I am a happy man. It only remains for me to meet the woman of my life and this happiness will be perfect."

He has transformed part of his apartment in the Cheshire stockbroker belt of Bowdon into a sound studio.

But he reckons that tinkering with music is just his way of killing the boredom.

Anelka, 24, revealed: "I adore music but I had this idea because, when you are a footballer, you stay home after dinner."

"Having neither a wife nor child, you get bored stiff. So I try to occupy myself. I cannot sing but producing sounds does please me."

Anelka also reveals that he plans to diversify his activities beyond football.

He has already appeared in TV ads for a French dessert and made a cameo appearance in a feature film.

Now he plans to take piano and guitar lessons so he can play on the next album of his friend, top French rapper Pit Baccardi.

And then there is his new fashion label, Anlk, which he is about to launch.

But his first priority is to find a soulmate who can share his life and he has already given one tantalising clue to the identity of Miss Right.

## Zagallo respects Colombia



AFP, Bogota

Brazil legend Mario Zagallo said Colombia would prove difficult opponents for his country in their South American World Cup qualifying trip to Barranquilla on Saturday.

Zagallo had high praise for coach Francisco Maturana and



MARIO ZAGALLO

Colombian football in general in comments to Tuesday's edition of Colombian newspaper El Pais.

"We know the potential of Colombia and I have always liked their style of football," Zagallo said. "Maturana knows perfectly well how to play Brazil, he is always well briefed on our team and hence it will be a very difficult match for Brazil."

The four-time World Cup winner - as a player in 1958 and 1962, as coach in 1970 and assistant coach in 1994, added Colombian football had really developed a great deal as was proved by their fourth place in the summer's Confederations Cup in France.

He added Brazil's first match towards qualifying for the German finals would be a litmus test for the side. "It is the first match in the next World Cup which is always a gauge of the quality of the side although it would be surprising if we were at the same level as at the last World Cup because of all the changes to the playing squad plus a different coach and backroom staff."

Zagallo believed Colombian striker Victor Aristizabal, who plays for Brazilian joint-leaders Santos, would be a key player, especially because of his knowledge of Brazilian football.

"We know a lot about Aristizabal and Aristizabal knows a lot about us but it's true he has never played the Brazil national side before," Zagallo said, adding he believed Brazil, Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador in that order would directly qualify from the Conmebol confederation.



## Maradona wine!

### Football

AFP, Buenos Aires

A wine named after Argentine football legend Diego Maradona will be launched in his native country shortly, his agent Guillermo Coppola told radio Mitre here on Tuesday.

Coppola said that the "Maradona" wine label would be

available in different flavours.

"Those which Diego and I tasted were very good wine. He even brought some back to Cuba with him," said Coppola. "Diego chose the tables and participated a little in the launch."

Maradona led Argentina to the World Cup in 1986, but the 42-year-old is now living in Cuba where he went to seek treatment for cocaine addiction.