



TABANU 2040(E/94)

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Sport



Haessler nobody's slave

CHICAGO. July 5: Germany coach Berti Vogts attacked Italians side Roma on Sunday for what he called the "slavery" of his midfielders. Thomas Haessler and called on FIFA to negotiate his release from the club, report agencies.

Haessler, one of the most impressive players in Germany's World Cup victory over Belgium on Saturday, has not had his contract renewed by Roma.

But Roma, anxious to recoup some of the cash spent on a 15-player close-season spending spree, have slapped a transfer fee of at least 5 million dollars on his head.

Vogts said: "What is happening with Thomas Haessler at Roma has to do with slavery. I think FIFA should intervene. You can't tie up a player and say eight to 10 million marks (5-6 million dollars) are needed and there are no other deals."

"FIFA or UEFA have to do something to find a solution."

The diminutive Haessler's crosses and free-kick expertise have been crucial in guiding Germany into the quarter-finals.

In the first three games it was Haessler who provided the inspiration for all of striker Jürgen Klinsmann's four goals.

Few Bundesliga teams could afford Haessler at the present price. Bayern Munich, the league's top club, is unlikely to be interested after making several key expensive signings.

"I am a bit disappointed that no Bundesliga side has managed to rip him away from Roma," Vogts said. "The way he is playing here he would en-

rich the league."

Haessler said he had tried to forget about his club problems and concentrate on the World Cup.

"I do not feel any burden. I have tried to play here without thinking about anything else," he said. "So far I have been successful."

Roma have a new president and he has promised the fans that they will win the championship. They have bought new players and I would be one of seven foreigners and have no chance of playing.

"If a Bundesliga side said they were interested I would be happy to listen."

The policy of Italian clubs buying up handfuls of foreigners and only being allowed to play three of them at one time was often been criticised outside of the country. Many top



THOMAS HAESSLER

players, who would be guaranteed a place in most clubs elsewhere, have been forced to

sit in the stands.

When Germany won the World Cup in 1990 virtually all the players were earning their living in Italy. Most have returned home.

Haessler joined Roma in 1991 and his contract expired June 30, but the Italian club still holds his rights.

Vogts has encouraged German clubs to bring national team players back to Germany, but few of them can afford to pay the salaries and transfer fees common in Italy and some other foreign leagues.

Several German stars are having contract problems.

Striker Jürgen Klinsmann, who has five goals in this World Cup, was unable to find a club willing to pay a transfer fee of drs 4 million and is likely stay another season with the French club Monaco.

Monaco reached the semi-finals of the European Champions Cup this past season but didn't qualify for any of next year's Pan-European tournaments.

Rudi Voeller, the 34-year-old forward who was the hero of Germany's 3-2 victory over Belgium with two goals, could also be without a job after the World Cup.

However, he reportedly has received an offer of a two-year extension from his French club Marseille.

Voeller is reluctant to stay in Marseille because the club has been demoted to the second division following a bribery scandal. The team was also banned from defending its European Champions Cup title last season.

According to sources, Voeller would consider staying in Marseille for another season and then seek to end his career in the J League in Japan.

Effenberg hits back at Vogts

CHICAGO. July 5: Outspoken German midfielder Ste-fan Effenberg, kicked out of the World Cup last week for making an obscene gesture at the crowd during a match, has accused the German camp of spying on him during the finals, reports Reuter.

In an interview with the German magazine Sport Bild, Effenberg, who has often been in trouble during his career for outrageous behaviour and comments in public, alleged that coach Berti Vogts and his assistant Rainer Bonhof had been watching him closely off the field.

"When I am 47 I won't make the mistake of talking about free rides (for players to the World Cup) or whether I will return home as a hero or a traitor to the fatherland. Vogts makes life difficult for himself," he was quoted as saying.

Effenberg criticised the 47-year-old Vogts' style and some of his comments about the World Cup.

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Effenberg, who said he was thinking of ending his international career after 33 caps, said he had no chance to show he was sorry. "It was final whistle, bus, plane, chat in coach's room, and out."



Dutch forward Dennis Berkamp (2nd R) is smothered by teammates Peter Van Vossen (19), Wim Wouters (8), and Marc Overmars after he opened the scoring against Ireland during their World Cup second round match in Citrus Bowl in Orlando on Monday. Holland won 2-0.

— AFP photo

Another WC jail break

BANGKOK. July 5: Three prisoners made their run-away in southern Thailand as wardens were immersed in watching World Cup soccer on television, police said Tuesday, reports Xinhua.

The three inmates reportedly smashed through the concrete wall of their cell at the Muang district police station in the southern province of Satun early Monday, but wardens did not hear Romania match on TV.

Another escape took place on June 23 in the Bangkok suburb of Samut Prakan. Inmates got away from a juvenile detention centre as wardens were watching in early World Cup match.

FIFA's sympathy with Colombia

DALLAS. July 5: FIFA said on Monday the soccer world must show solidarity with Colombia after the killing of World Cup player Andres Escobar, reports Reuter.

In Colombia, local news reports said the assistant coach of the national team had decided against taking over from outgoing coach Francisco Maturana after the murder in Medellin last Saturday.

The reports said Hernan Dario Gomez had not spoken to reporters since the shooting. There was no immediate comment from the Colombian soccer federation.

Escobar, a 27-year-old defender, was gunned down as he argued with a man while leaving a restaurant.

The argument appeared to be over the goal Escobar accidentally scored against his own team during their 2-1 first-round defeat by the United States. Colombia were knocked out of the tournament in the first round.

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter again condemned the killing on Monday and told reporters: "This was the most criminal act we have faced so far in football."

"Nobody will understand and everybody will condemn."

He dismissed talk of any possible action against Colombian soccer, plagued by the influence of drug barons in a decade of terror, and said the opposite was needed.

"We have to show solidarity with Colombian football to help them if our sport can help to minimise criminal acts we shall do so," he said. "The solidarity must go on, not only during this World Cup but also after it."

A Colombian referee was shot dead in 1989, the national championships were suspended for a season and the country's 1990 World Cup squad was almost disbanded.

Most of the problems have stemmed from Medellin, once the world's cocaine-trafficking capital.

Tens of thousands of mourners attended Escobar's burial in southern Medellin on Sunday, along with Colombian president Cesar Gaviria and members of the national team.

Police later arrested Humberto Munoz Castro, 42, who they said confessed to having committed the crime.

Munoz told local television Sunday as he was being escorted to a Bogota prison that he did not know who Escobar was when he shot him.

Police said the killing was not premeditated despite suspicion it was related to death threats made against the team weeks before.

Drug traffickers allegedly bet thousands of dollars in favour of the team and were rumoured to have wanted revenge for its dismal performance.

Laudrup signs for Real Madrid

MADRID. July 5: Danish international midfielder Michael Laudrup signed a two-season contract with Real Madrid on Monday and predicted that his new team would break the winning streak of his former club and Real's arch rivals, Barcelona, reports Reuter.

Laudrup decided to transfer to Real after a tense season which saw him cross swords with Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff who often overlooked the Dane in favour of the other three foreign players in the club's line-up.

"I am sure Real Madrid will break Barcelona's hegemony. If not, I would not have come," Laudrup told reporters at a press conference at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid.

— AFP photo



NOT OUT FOR A JOG REALLY. Referee Roethlisberger from Switzerland who created quite a to-do in the World Cup by not awarding Belgium a penalty against Germany in the opener of the knock out phase on July 2 at the Soldier's Field Stadium in Chicago is pictured here immediately after the incident with the angry Belgian players persisting with the eventually abortive appeal.

— AFP photo

About ineffectual candour

DALLAS. July 5: Swiss referee Kurt Roethlisberger said on Monday he should have awarded Belgium a penalty during their 3-2 defeat by Germany and FIFA decided he would play no further part in the World Cup, reports Reuter.

He admitted that he made a mistake. He knows that's it for him," said FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter.

Blatter told reporters that Italian Pierluigi Pairetto also failed to meet the expected standards for his performance during Romania's 3-2 second-round defeat of Argentina and would similarly be packing his bags early.

They will not referee again in the tournament," Blatter said, adding that the final list of 10 referees and 12 linesmen would be announced in Dallas on Wednesday.

Belgian soccer authorities have slammed Roethlisberger's decision not to award a penalty in the 70th minute of the second-round match in Chicago and called on FIFA to send him home and ban him from refer-

ing another international.

Blatter said he had spoken to Roethlisberger about the Belgium-Germany game at the referee's request.

"He said that from where he was on the field of play he could not exactly see what happened. He had a doubt and decided not to whistle," said Blatter.

"He naturally regrets it is he, one of the best regarded referees in the competition, that made such a mistake. He only says 'I am so sorry for what happened.'

Roethlisberger, in his second World Cup finals, was earlier quoted telling Swiss tabloid Blitze he realised he made a mistake when he saw a television replay of the foul by German defender Thomas Helmer on striker Josip Weber.

"I decided mistakenly. The Belgians were right to claim a penalty," he told the newspaper.

Belgian officials said the referee's decision was the turning point of the game. Had the penalty been awarded Helmer would have been sent off under the tough new rules aimed at preventing tackles from behind.

Rain, Martin Crowe reign

MANCHESTER. July 5: Martin Crowe, ably assisted by the famed Manchester rain, enabled New Zealand to draw the third and final Test against England at Old Trafford today, reports Reuter.

A superb 115 by Crowe, begun on Saturday afternoon and one of the finest of the 17 Test centuries he has scored, frustrated England long enough in between showers for a draw to be finally agreed when rain returned again shortly before tea.

Without him, England would have wrapped up the match long before the rain dealt the deciding hand.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the final day of the third and final cricket Test between England and New Zealand at Old Trafford

Parore e Gooch b DeFreitas 71
Hart not out 16
Nash not out 6

Extras: (b-8, lb-13, nb-5) 26

Total: (for seven wickets) 308

Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-34, 3-48, 4-73, 5-132, 6-273, 7-287.

Did not bat: C. Pringle, M. Owens.

Bowling: O M R W

DeFreitas 30 6 60 3

Gooch 31.2 5 105 2

Fraser 19 7 34 1

White 14 3 36 1

Such 10 2 39 0

Gooch 2 0 13 0

Result: Match drawn

First Test: England won by an innings and 90 runs.

Second Test: Match drawn

England won series 1-0.

SA-Hampshire three-day match drawn

SOUTHAMPTON, England. July 5: South Africa utilised the opportunity of a rain-ruined game to give spinners Pat Symcox and Tim Shaw long and profitable spells on the final day of their match against Hampshire on Monday, reports Reuter.

Off-spinner Symcox and left-arter Shaw bowled 42 of the 56 overs after almost half the day's play was washed out and between them they took all five wickets to fall.

Symcox finished with three for 92 and Shaw two for 59 but the slender chance of a positive result was denied by Hampshire's promising opening batsman Sean Morris who hit an unbeaten 101 as the match ended in a draw.

Hampshire had resumed only 58 ahead at 22 without loss in their second innings and the rain preventing any possibility of a contrived result.

An official at the Culture and Sports Ministry said on Tuesday the government had decided to boost the country's professional soccer clubs after the national team failed to win any of their three matches in the United States.

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