

Sport

Another Real setback

MADRID, May 5 (Reuters/AP): Real Madrid lost 2-0 at home to Real Zaragoza on Monday night to stay in third place in the Spanish First Division.

Barcelona are already confirmed as champions with 74 points. Athletic Bilbao are in second spot, and currently poised to take the other Champions' League place, with 61 points after their 3-0 win over Oviedo on Sunday.

Real Madrid, last year's champions, have 60 points, just one ahead of both Real Sociedad and Mallorca with only two matches remaining in the season.

Madrid performed poorly throughout the match against lowest Zaragoza. The visitors' first goal came from a penalty by Brazilian Roberto Jamelli in the 57th minute while Argentine Gustavo Lopez slipped in the second in the 80th minute.

Madrid can still earn a place in the continent's top competition, if they defeat Juventus in this year's final, to be played May 20.

The loss was Madrid's third in home this season. The last time they lost to Zaragoza in front of their home fans was 13 years ago.

WTA rankings

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, May 5 (Reuters): Top 20 women's players, according to the WTA Tour rankings:

Player	Points
1. Martina Hingis	5,805
2. Lindsay Davenport	3,963
3. Jana Novotna	3,939
4. Amanda Coetzer	2,944
5. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario	2,711
6. Mary Pierce	2,708
7. Monica Seles	2,644
8. Conchita Martinez	2,487
9. Venus Williams	2,333
10. Irina Spirlea	2,217
11. Iva Majoli	2,146
12. Nathalie Tauziat	1,986
13. Sandrine Testud	1,767
14. Dominique van Roost	1,766
15. Patty Schnyder	1,726
16. Anke Huber	1,719
17. Anna Kournikova	1,621
18. Lisa Raymond	1,588
19. Ai Sugiyama	1,468
20. Natasha Zvereva	1,383

Zico to assist Zagallo

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, May 5: The president of the Brazilian Soccer Confederation on Wednesday named former star Zico as team supervisor to help coach Mario Zagallo prepare for next summer's World Cup in France, reports AP.

Ricardo Teixeira's announced Monday that he would appoint and assistant to Zagallo in the wake of Brazil's disastrous showing at the Gold Cup.

Zico who made his name as a striker with Rio de Janeiro's Flamengo last played in the World Cup in 1986.

Speculation on who Zagallo's assistant would be had centred on coaches of top Rio teams, but the appointment of Zico who has no coaching experience is thought to be less of a threat to Zagallo who had commanded the team alone since 1994.

Zagallo was not immediately available for comment.

The position of team supervisor was one held by Zagallo himself in 1994 when Brazil won an unprecedented fourth World Cup in the United States.

Carlos Alberto Pereira was Brazil's head coach, while Zagallo was supervisor, counselor and guru.

In the recently held CONCACAF Gold Cup Brazil, the defending world champions, struggled to draw with modest Jamaica and Guatemala and lost for the first time to a United States en route to a third-place finish.

Mexico 1970 World Cup

Brilliant Brazilians

Tawfiq Aziz Khan

Mexico was the controversial choice to host the 1970 World Cup, and the distressed condition of some of the athletes in the Olympic Games held there two years earlier did nothing to help the Mexican cause. But in the event the finals not only provided thrilling competition and splendid entertainment, but there was little of the negativity and thuggery that blighted football in the sixties. Brazil, with the incomparable Pele, raised the game to new heights and were universally popular winners.

A record 71 countries entered the 1970 World Cup but none had more eventful passage to Mexico than El Salvador from the Concacaf Zone. They played 10 games before qualifying, and one win over the neighbouring Honduras sparked off a two-week war between the mutually antagonistic countries. By contrast, Brazil qualified effort-

membered evermore for one Banks save from Pele. Brazil won all their three games in group 3.

A rash of yellow cards in the opening goalless draw between Mexico and the USSR set the pattern for improved behaviour and the tournament did not produce one dismissal. These two teams progressed to the quarter-finals as did Italy and

header to force extra time. With the Germans once more underestimated but on top, it was Gerd Muller who stole in to hook the winner from close range. Ramsey's always cautious approach had brought his downfall.

The Guadalajara meeting between Brazil and Peru produced another fast, entertaining fare. Brazil winning 4-2.



Pele (extreme right) powers in a header to put Brazil 1-0 up against Italy in the 1970 final in Mexico City. — Star file photo

lessly from South America winning all six matches and scoring 25 goals (Tostao 9, Pele 6 and Jairzinho 4) to two.

With England exempt as holders, West Germany were the most impressive European qualifiers. Gerd Muller scored 10 of their 20 goals and they mauled Cyprus 12-0 in one game. The Germans conceded only three, all to Scotland, who were eliminated.

Brazil had even had a change of manager after the qualifying stage. Joao Saldanha giving way to Zagallo who had collected two winners' medals as a player. He had to struggle to keep his four-man zonal defence operating the system at all, when they were not giving the ball away. But moving forward, either in swift counter attacks or with breathtaking passing movements, transformed Brazil into a flexible, potent striking force. There was the deceptively languid Gerson controlling the midfield; the explosive deadball shooting of Rivelino; Jairzinho's penetration on the flank and the usefulness of Tostao, forbidden to head the ball because of an operation for a detached retina. Above all there was Pele, restored to full vigour and at the peak of his illustrious career.

England and Brazil were drawn in the same group played out in Guadalajara without the severe altitude problem of Mexico City but with an appalling 98 degrees of torrid heat. The clash of the two favourites, after they had both won their opening matches, produced a classic encounter won 1-0 by the South Americans but re-

Uruguay in Group 2. Yet the most entertaining was Group 4 where from West Germany and Peru emerged in front of Bulgaria and Morocco.

England met West Germany in Leon, a repeat of the 1966 final at Wembley. Again it went into extra-time but with an entirely different narrative. Martin Peters gave England a deserved half-time lead. But in the 57th minute Helmut Schoen, the West German manager, put on Grabowski as fresh winger. Beckenbauer rounded Mullery and reduced the scoreline to 2-1. Ramsey replied by taking off Charlton and bringing on Colin Bell.

Nine minutes from the end Seeler scored with a back

while in Toluca, Italy hit the hosts Mexico with three goals in a 12-minute spell in the second half to win 4-1.

But the real heart-stopping affair was the semi-final between the Italians and the Germans in Mexico City. Roberto Boninsegna scored for Italy after eight minutes and held onto it till the last minute when Schnellinger equalised with a volley. Both teams were exhausted and it was a question of which side made more mistakes. Riva restored Italy's lead only for Muller to head the Germans level at 3-3. Equality lasted only two minutes. Gianpi Rivera drove in the winner in the 112th minute.

Brazil did not disappoint the millions of television viewers around the world. With arguably the most inventive and attacking force seen in modern times, Brazil knew no other way to play. Pele put his side ahead with a powerful header only to see Felix committing a defensive error that allowed Boninsegna drawing the level. Cloadoado and Gerson taking control of the midfield, Brazil mounted attack after attack. The last 20 minutes were sheer magic, a demonstration of the beautiful Brazilian football climaxed by an exhibition goal (4-1).

It was Brazil's World Cup and appropriately as the first three-time winners, Brazil kept the Jules Rimet Trophy, the chances were equal for Italy also.

FINAL SCORE										
Group 1										
Mexico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USSR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USSR	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group 2										
Uruguay	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sweden	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group 3										
England	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Czechoslovakia	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Romania	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
England	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group 4										
Peru	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peru	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bulgaria	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Italy	3	1	2	0	1	4
Uruguay	3	1	1	2	1	3
Sweden	3	1	1	2	2	3
Israel	3	0	2	1	1	3

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
W. Germany	3	0	0	0	10	4
Peru	3	2	0	1	7	5
Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	5	4
Morocco	3	0	1	2	2	6

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Uruguay	1	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Italy	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Italy	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Italy	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Italy	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Italy	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Italy	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4	0	0	0	0	0
West Germany	3	0	0	0	0	0

Rampant Robinson

LONDON, May 5: Darren Robinson, emerging from the shadow of Graham Gooch, blasted his third successive one-day century as Essex romped to victory over Ireland in the Benson and Hedges Cup on Monday, reports Reuters.

Essex won the 50 overs match at Chelmsford by 171 runs after piling up 359 for six off their 50 overs and restricting the Irish to 188 for seven.

Opener Robinson followed scores of 129 not out and 137 not out in his previous limited-overs matches this season with 114 off 132 balls, hitting 14 fours and one six.

Robinson's opportunities were always limited while Gooch was opening for Essex but, with the former England captain now retired, he has come into his own.

Cup holders Surrey might have been expected to make at least 300 against the British Universities at The Oval, but had to settle for 263 before winning by 85 runs.

Alec Stewart made only 19 but international teammates Graham Thorpe (58) and Adam Hoolioke (55) sustained the momentum.

Hoolioke's brother Ben, who has been reprimanded by the England selectors for remarks in a recent magazine article, took three wickets as the Universities were bowled out for 158.

Surrey lead Group C with three wins in three matches and Yorkshire have a similar dominant record in Group B, having inflicted Derbyshire's third defeat by 36 runs at Derby.

South Australian Darren Lehmann made his first century in the competition for Yorkshire, finishing 102 not out off only 94 balls.

Yorkshire scored 271 for seven in their 50 overs and held Derbyshire to 235 for nine.

Brits sans passion!

LONDON, May 5: British men would rather watch the World Cup finals on television than have sex with the woman of their dreams, according to a survey published here Monday, reports AFP.

More than 95 per cent of men aged 20-34 said not even the chance of going to bed with their fantasy woman would tear them away from the screen after kick-off this summer.

Over-35s were more likely to be distracted, with up to 40 per cent of them admitting they could be lured away by a dream woman.

However, it would appear they do not need to worry about being disturbed.

Eight out of 10 women are quite resigned to the summer being dominated by football land are making plans to entertain themselves, according to the survey by the Media Business Group.

Colombia, Carlos inseparable?

BOGOTA, May 5: (Reuters): It seems almost impossible to imagine Colombia without Carlos Valderrama.

Valderrama, with his unmistakable mop of orange hair, has been part of the team ever since Colombia emerged as a soccer power in the late 1980s. France will be his third and surely last, World Cup.

But even at the age of 36, he remains vital to the Colombian side.

Before Valderrama, Colombia had only ever reached the World Cup finals once, back in 1962, now they will be taking part for the third time in a row.

Valderrama directs all of Colombia's attacks and nearly every move passes via his feet at some stage.

To many, he appears nonchalant and even lazy as he wanders around the midfield, often just laying off simple balls to his colleagues.

But Valderrama has a deceptive change of pace and can make passes that most players would not even see and which can unlock the tightest of defenses.

Valderrama also gets into good goalscoring positions himself and scored as Colombia beat Argentina to 1-1 draw in Buenos Aires in their last qualifying match.

Based with Major League Soccer club Miami Fusion, Valderrama says he feels younger now than he did three years ago.

One of 11 children, Valderrama is a man of few words and despite his flamboyant appearance is generally introverted, like nearly all of his teammates, he is a Salsa fanatic and says that learning the intimate dance steps has helped him develop his style on the soccer field.

The one disappointment for Valderrama is that he has never shown his best to a European audience.

His performance at the 1990 World Cup did not match expectations and four years later, he sunk without trace along with the rest of the team.

He has played in Europe but only for modest Montpellier in France and Valladolid in Spain.

Colombia coach Hernan Dario Gomez is well aware of the gap his departure will leave.

Valderrama was rested for last year's Copa America, when Colombia managed to win only one of the four games they played.

This promoted Gomez to launch an impassioned defence of Valderrama and other players such as Freddy Rincon, who have been in the team for the best part of a decade.

Jamaica hold Saudis

CANNES, May 5: World Cup qualifiers Saudi Arabia and Jamaica drew 0-0 in a warm-up match on Monday that left their group opponents in France '98 guessing about their true strength, reports Reuters.

France had a special interest in watching the match played in front of 500 spectators at the Riviera resort as the Saudis are in Group C with the tournament hosts for the opening phase.

The Saudi team coached by Brazilian Carlos Parreira were the more impressive, dominating throughout.

Their best chance came shortly before the break when Sami Al-Jaber shot past Jamaican goalkeeper Aaron Lawrence, only for defender Ian Doodson to save on the line.

Each side made numerous changes in a lacklustre second half, with Portsmouth's Paul Hall adding stamina to the Jamaican ranks.

Otherwise, Lawrence was the busiest Jamaican while his teammates, who are in Group H with Argentina, Croatia and Japan, often looked clumsy in front of goal.

Saudi Arabia, who are on a French tour for two weeks, next play Trinidad here on Saturday.

FRANCE '98 SIDELINES



UNDATED, May 5 (AP): Head coach Nelson Acosta has selected 25 players for the final stage of preparation by the Chilean national soccer squad for the World Cup in France.

The team will be led by star strikers Ivan Zamorano and Marcelo Salas, both of whom will not be able to make the first day of practice Thursday.

Zamorano will stay with his team Internazionale of Milan until the end of the Italian season.

Sales will play a farewell match with River Plate of Argentina against America of Mexico for the Libertadores Cup on Thursday, and will join his Chilean teammates the next day. After the World Cup, he will go to Lazio.

Zamorano wrote Monday in his weekly column in the Santiago daily El Mercurio that he should stay with his club in Italy. "I think I owe that to my club, to my teammates, to the fans."

Although only 22 players will go to France, Acosta named 25 to the team because of injured players, notably right back Moises Villarroel.

"If Moises or other players can't make it to the World Cup, I have to have a replacements ready," Acosta said. "This is not a complication because the players know that some of them will finally have to stay."

Iran's national team has made strides over the past few weeks and is prepared for the World Cup, the coach said.

The boys are working very hard, they are very serious and highly motivated. I'm quite satisfied and happy with them," said Tomislav Ivic, the squad's Croat coach.

After poor performances at home last month, when they lost 0-2 to Hungary and barely defeated newcomers Jamaica 1-0, the team appeared more motivated and organised as it practiced at a camp in this quiet

city, 400 kilometres southwest of the capital Tehran.

DENNIS BEING CAUTIOUS

Dennis Bergkamp has denied that he's under pressure from the Dutch FA to miss Arsenal's FA Cup final against Newcastle on May 16 to safeguard his place in the Dutch team for the World Cup.

"They contacted me but only to ask how I was and to wish me luck," Bergkamp said. "That's all. The coach Guus Hiddink might even feel better about me for the World Cup if I showed I was able to get through a big game like that so soon after being injured — and play well."

"But it has got to be completely right for me to play in the match and do myself justice and the team as well."

Bergkamp, voted English soccer's player-of-the-year, said he will know by the end of the week whether he will be fit to play in the Wembley final as Arsenal seek to complete the second leg off 'The Double'.

The striker, who suffered a hamstring injury in last Wednesday's 1-0 win against Derby, sat out Sunday's 4-0 win over Everton at Highbury as the Gunners clinched the Premier League title.

"The way I feel now I cannot be confident of making (the FA Cup final)," he said. "It's getting better everyday and that gives me encouragement but with a hamstring you know you have to be 100 per cent recovered. And I won't take the chance of letting the team down by playing if I'm not certain about it."

There will also be exhibits, introduction to painting and traditional French arts among the attractions offered at 60 different places in the metro, said

Jean-Paul Bailly, the director of the RATP, the French regional transport authority.

Japan is kicking off the festivities with the Japanese ambassador expected to open an exhibit to his country at the Trocadero metro station on Tuesday afternoon.

DEL PIERO REMAINS JUVE'S BOY