SL count on new pace attack

COLOMBO, May 6: Sri Lanka have dropped several veteran cricketers after a disastrous tour of South Africa and brought in new faces for the upcoming Test series against New Zealand, the cricket board said Wednesday, reports AP.

The pace attack has been completely revamped, with Ravindra Pushpakumara and Sajeeva de Silva dropped from the 20-member squad. Chaminda Vaas, for years the country's main strike bowler, is on the injured list following ankle surgery.

Promising young fast bowler Nuwan Zoysa is also injured. leaving veteran Pramodya Wickremasinghe as the only experienced fast bowler.

Wickremasinghe, who had a good run in South Africa with both bat and ball after being out of the team for more than a year, will be supported by newcomers Mario Villavarayan and Suresh Perera.

Experienced batsman Hashan Tillekeratne has been dropped due to poor form in South Africa, where Sri Lanka lost Test series and then failed to make the final of a three-nation limited-over tournament that also featured Pakistan.

But the batting is still very strong, with Jayasuriya, Marvan Atapattu, De Silva, skipper Arjuna Ranatunga, Roshan Mahanama, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Russel Arnold and Mahela Jayawardhana in the line-

The spin attack has been beefed up. Mutthiah Muralitharan, Kumara Dharmasena, Ruwan Kalpage and Niroshan Bandarathileke will be backed by part-time spinners Aravinda de Silva and Sanath Jayasuriya.

New Zealand play three Tests, the first starting on May

Chapple lives up for Lancs

LONDON, May 6: Pace bowler Glen Chapple took five for seven as Lancashire shot out the Minor Countries for just 52 in the Benson and Hedges Cup at Old Trafford on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Hampshire's 50 all out against Yorkshire in 1991 remains the lowest total in the 50-over competition.

Lancashire knocked off the 53 required for victory in just 13.4 overs for the loss of three wickets.

Ireland, the other minnows playing on Tuesday, produced a better effort at Lord's, scoring 196 for seven against Middle-

But it was not sufficient to test Middlesex, they cruised to 199 for four, skipper Mark Ramprakash hitting 55 not out. That gave Middlesex two

wins from two matches in Group D and Ireland a third defeat in three games. There was a thrilling finish

to the other Group D match. Sussex claiming two Glamorgan wickets in the final over to win by three runs at Hove. Australian Michael Bevan

made an unbeaten 95 and new captain Chris Adams 81 before becoming one of Wagar Younis' four victims as Sussex ran up 302 for nine.

England off-spinner Robert Croft thrashed his fourth successive half century to get Glamorgan's innings off to another fine start and Tony Cottey and Waqar pushed their side in sight to victory with an eighth-wicket stand of 81.

But with two wickets left and only four runs needed off the final over Cottey was run out for 96 and Steve Watkin was bowled by Alex Edwards, giving Sussex their first win in six limited-over matches this sea-

Somerset beat Hampshire by five wickets in a Group C match at Taunton.

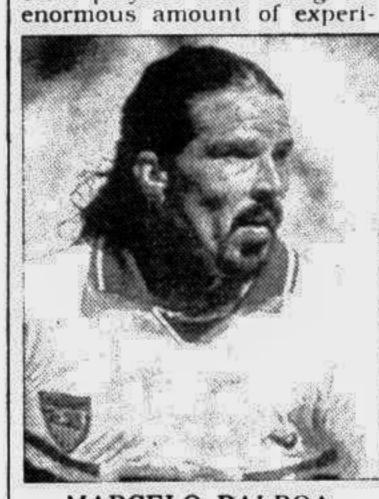
Steve banks on maturity



Sixteen of the 20 players picked for the roster Tuesday will be over 25 by this summer's tournament, and five will top In 1990, when the Americans

qualified for the first time in 40 years, the oldest player was 27 and just four topped 25. In 1994 there were just eight over 25.

"We have a great mix of veteran players that bring an



MARCELO BALBOA ence, combined with some

younger players ... that provide us some hope for the future," US coach Steve Sampson said during a telephone news conference. "I think we're even more nature and more experienced than the '94 squad."

This US team, which starts practice Monday in San Diego, has an average age of 28, up from 26.4 in 1994 and 24.2 in 1990, when the Americans were the youngest team in the tournament.

While the Americans have more experience, they may not have the legs to advance from a tough first-round group that includes European champions Germany, Yugoslavia and Iran.

Just 12 players are hold overs from the 1994 roster and just three remain from the 1990 team: forward Eric Wynalda, defender Marcelo Balboa and goalkeeper Kasey Keller. Midfielder Tab Ramos, a vet-

eran of both tournaments. probably will fill one of two spots still vacant on the 22man roster, which won't be finalized until it is submitted to FIFA on June 2.

"None of our players can carry the team through a Word Cup single-handedly," Sampson said. "It is very important that we take on the attitude of a blueattack and hard in defense.

"It is very important to me that the entire country and the entire world see a team that works their tail off, and that demands more than effort, it requires a single-mindedness and togetherness that will lead

Survivors from the 1994 roster include Roy Wegerle and Wynalda at forward; Cobi Jones, Claudio Reyna and Ernie Stewart in midfield; Marcelo Balboa, Mike Burns, Thomas Dooley and Alexi Lalas on defense; and Brad Friedel and Juergen Sommer in goal.

Newcomers include defenders Jeff Agoos and Eddie Pope: midfielders Chad Deering. Frankie Hejduk, Brian Maisonneuve and Joe-Max Moore: and forwards Brian McBride and Preki Radosavljevic.

Sampson met Monday night in Los Angeles with John Harkes, a veteran of 1990 and 1994 who had been team captain until cut last month. Harkes angered Sampson by refusing to play a defensive midfield role.

"I informed him it was unlikely he will be named to the World Cup roster." Sampson said. "To his credit, he is doing all the right things and is very professional. Again I must be honest in that I feel it is very unlikely he will make the final

Dooley, 37 on May 12, is the oldest player, Hejduk (23), Pope (24) and Reyna (24) are the

Sampson said he isn't concerned about two key players coming off injuries: Wynalda had arthroscopic surgery April 16 to repair a cartilage tear in his left knee, and Ramos was out from November to April 25 following surgery to repair the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee.

Sampson also hopes to include defender David Regis, who has five goals in 29 games this year-old Martinique-born Frenchman with an American wife, is awaiting US citizenship.

Sampson's toughest deci-Henderson and David Wagner.

son's predecessor, played a defensive game in 1994, unsure of his team's ability up front. The weakness on this team may be defense.

After gathering next week, the Americans play exhibition games against Macedonia (May

16 at San Jose, Calif.), Kuwait (May 24 at Portland, Ore.) and Scotland (May 30 at Washington) before leaving for France on June 4. The US opener is against Germany at Paris on

PROBABLES

Following are the 20 players selected Tuesday for the 22-man US World Cup roster. The final roster must be submitted to FIFA by June 2 (teams MLS unless noted; x-played in 1994 World Cup; y-played in 1990 World Cup):

Goalkeepers: x-Brad Friedel (Liverpool, England): y-Kasey



ALEXI LALAS

Keller (Leicester, England); x-Juergen Sommer (Columbus). Defenders: Jeff Agoos (DC

United); xy-Marcelo Balboa (Colorado): x-Mike Burns (New England): x-Thomas Dooley (Columbus): x-Alexi Lalas (New York-New Jersey); Eddie Pope (DC United).

Midfielders: Chad Deering (VfL Wolfburg, Germany) Frankie Hejduk (Tampa Bay): x-Cobi Jones (Los Angeles); Brian Maisonneuve (Columbus); x-Joe-Max Moore (New England): x-Claudio Reyna (VfL Wolfsburg. Germany); x-Ernie Stewart (NAC Breda, Netherlands).

Forwards: Brian McBride (Columbus): Preki Radosavljevic (Kansas City); x-Roy Wegerle (Tampa Bay); xy-Eric Wynalda

Also Under Consideration: xy-Tab Ramos, MF (New York-New Jersey); David Regis, D (Karlsruhe, Germany); Carlos Yamosa, D (DC United). Alternates: Gregg Berhalter,

D (Sparta Rotterdam, Netherlands); Mark Dodd, G (Dallas); y-Chris Henderson, MF (Columbus); Roy Lassiter, F (DC United): John O'Brien, D (Ajax Amsterdam, Netherlands): Tony Sanneh, MF (DC United): x-Mike Sorber, MF (Metrostars); David Wagner, D (Schalke 04. Germany).

Aime keeps 'em on their toes

England's Arsenal were the

biggest foreign providers with

Lens had none.



PARIS. May 6: Coach Aime Jacquet will keep France waiting for a few more weeks before an

nouncing his definite World Cup squad of 22, preferring to stick to a wide core of 28 players up to the June 2 deadline, he said Tuesday, reports AP. Because several of his play-

ers are still involved in national leagues and European Cup competitions, Jacquet refused to commit himself to the final selection, with just over a month left until the June 10-July 12 finals. "We need all our forces. We

need all our men," said Jacquet at the French team's training centre just southwest of the

"We're not in a hurry at all." "Our rendez-vous is June 12," when France opens their World Cup campaign against South Africa in Marseille. Saudi Arabia and Denmark are also in Group C.

The player group of 28 announced Tuesday had no major omissions or surprise inclusions. Monaco and Auxerre both had four players on the squad. French Cup winners Paris Saint-Germain and league leaders Racing Club de

ons Cup final against Real Madrid in Amsterdam May 20.

Jacquet dismissed assertions that team morale would suffer because of the continuing uncertainty for the players. "I you have the right attitude, you will accept the selection process," he said.

Much will become clear during the May 27-29 King Hassan tournament in Morocco. where France will play a fournation preparation event with Morocco, Belgium and England.

PRELIMINARY LIST

Goalkeepers: Fabien Barthez (AS Monaco). Bernard Lama (West Ham), Lionel Charbonnier (AJ Auxerre), Lionel Letizi (FC Metz) Defenders: Laurent Blanc

(Marseille), Vincent Candela (AS Roma), Marcel Desailly (AC Milan.), Frank Leboeuf (Chelsea). Lilian Thuram (Parma). Pierre Laigle (Sampdoria Genoa), Alain Boghossian (Sampdoria Genoa). Bixente Lizarazu (Bayern Munich)

Midfielders: Didier Deschamps (Juventus Turin), Martin Djetou (AS Monaco), Christian Karembeu (Real Madrid), Emmanuel Petit (Arsenal) Patrick Viera (Arsenal), Zinedine Zidane (Juventus Turin). Youri Djorkaeff (Inter Milan), Ibrahim Ba (AC Milan), Sabri

Forwards: Nicolas Anelka (Arsenal), Bernard Diomede (A.) Auxerre), Christophe Dugarry (Marseille), Stephane Guivarc'h (AJ Auxerre), Thierry Henry (AS Monaco), Robert Pires (FC Metz). David Trezeguet (AS



Alex Ferguson (R), the Manchester United manager, greets his new signing Dutch international Jaap Stam on a rainy evening at the Old Trafford stadium, Manchester on May 5. Stam (25) has signed a deal with MU worth 17.9 million dollars which makes him the most expensive - AP/UNB photo

Simeone, the Argentine 'tough guy'

PARIS, May 6: Argentina's opponents can expect no favours when they face tough been given carte blanche to enbut talented Diego Simeone at force team discipline after the World Cup finals, reports players reportedly questioned match in Germany, local radio

For the combative Inter Milan midfielder, who won his 'tough guy' reputation in the Spanish league, is ready for another fighting performance at France '98.

Never short of incident, Simeone's career in Europe has been a heady mixture of early success, followed by bitter frustration. Simeone was only 17 when

he started the first of three sea-

sons with Velez Sarsfield in 1987, signing off with eight goals in his final year. He moved to Italy in 1990, joining Pisa, then in the Serie A. a thousand people turned out

to welcome him on his arrival,

but he soon made it clear he was

there to learn rather than teach "The Italian championship is the university of football," he

Sadly though, Simeone failed the exam.

The Argentine struggled to find his true position in midfield, scoring only four goals in 31 games, while his teammates failed to keep their side of the bargain and Pisa were rele-

Simeone stayed for a season in Serie B, but again failed to deliver, scoring only twice be-

fore finally packing his bags. The 24-year-old played every game at USA '94, although Argentina's presence was completely overshadowed by Maradona's drugs ban.

With the World Cup over. Simeone signed for Atletico Madrid and had few regrets when he did the League and Cup double and was voted Spain's best midfielder in only his second season (1995-96).

Fingers crossed for Asprilla

PARIS, May 6 (AFP): Faustino Asprilla is racing against time to be ready to play for Colombia at France '98. And the success or otherwise

of the Colombian team may well depend on whether the mercurial striker wins that race or not. Coach Hernan Dario Gomez

has no doubts about the importance of Asprilla to his team's chances. "Even if he is only 60 per cent fit we will take him to France," said Gomez. "He is one of those players who cannot be replaced. At 28, Asprilla is an enigma.

A hugely talented ball player who is also a consistent goalscorer, who is one of the few Colombians who has been a success playing in Europe.

Playing in his second World

Cup finals, he was one of the starts of Colombia's qualifying performances, scoring seven goals - including six in the first five matches — despite missing four games through No other Colombian player

scored more than three goals. Asprilla was a huge success in Italy with Parma, whom he joined in 1992. He won UEFA Cup. European Cup winners' Cup and European Super Cup honours before joining Newcastle in February 1996 for 12 million dollars. He rejoined Parma in January for a 10.8 million dollar fee, but has hardly played since.

Boris down but not out

HAMBURG, May 6: Boris Becker lost in straight sets to Magnus Gustafsson in the first round of the German Open on Tuesday but hinted he may yet make one final appearance at Wimbledon this year, reports

Reuters. The 30-year-old was beaten 7-5. 6-4 by the 27th-ranked Swede but there was some consolation for German fans when Tommy Haas upset Spanish 10th seed Carlos Moya 6-2, 7-5. Becker played with fire and

commitment against Gustafsson and the outcome hinged on just a few points in the latter stages of each set.

The three-time Wimbledon champion acknowledged later he might make another attempt next month to win the grass court tournament which first made him famous. Becker retired from Grand Slam tennis after being beaten by Pete Sampras in the quarterfinals at Wimbledon last year.

Becker's decision may come next week when he will let the BBC know whether he will work as a commentator.

Kournikova coasts

ROME, May 6: Anna Kour-nikova showed the Italians she has the talent to match her looks, toying with her opponent before ruthlessly killing her off in the rain-interrupted first round of the Italian Open on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

The 16-year-old Russian, elected as the official symbol of the women's tournament, was so confident of victory in her 6-0, 6-1 destruction of Hungarian qualifier Virag Csurgo that she experimented with some new

In another triumph for the young generation, 15-year-old Serena Williams upset number 11 seed Nathalie Tauziat, at 30, the oldest player at the Foro Italico.

In her first match on red clay, played late at night on damp courts, the unseeded Williams beat Tauziat, the first seed to fall in this year's tournament, 7-5, 6-0.

FRANCE '98 SIDELINES

Diamonds.

UNDATED, May to IAPI:

Nigeria's Yugoslav coach has

his game tactics in a recent

the mandate at a recent session

with top officials of the Nige-

rian Football Association in

Abuja, Nigeria's capital, Lagos

openly challenged Miluti-

novic's tactics for a warmup

match in Cologne, Germany,

and created a scene after de-

manding large bonuses for

qualifying for this year's World

the April 22 warmup game.

Germany beat Nigeria 1-0 in

ATSUSHI STAKES A

CLAIM

among Japan's strikers for a

year-old forward who has been

off and on the national team.

had been scoreless for the last

six games with his professional

J-League team, the Kashima

Tuesday in a 3-0 win against

Jubilo Iwata, suddenly boosting

Nakayama, 30, who recently set

a J-League record with four

straight hattricks, had no

goals. But the league's leading

scorer is practically guaranteed

a spot on the roster of about 25

for the Kirin Cup matches

against Paraguay and the Czech

Republic later this month will

likely the same as the one that

Kazuyoshi Miura, 31. for years

Japan's biggest name in soccer,

will be brought back after get-

ting knocked off the team in

It's also unclear whether the

The question is whether

The team named Thursday

But he netted three goals

Jubilo striker Masashi

spot on the team roster.

Antlers.

names.

goes to France.

his chances.

Competition is heating up

Atsushi Yanagisawa, the 20-

The move came after players

Bora Milutinovic was given

reported Tuesday.

Radio reported.



BAGGIO IN MALDINI'S **PLAN** Roberto Baggio might get a return trip to the World Cup af-

Italy coach Cesare Maldini has pencilled in the 31-year-old playmaker as a reserve striker. the Corriere dello Sport news-

paper reported Tuesday. Maldini will be in the stands Sunday at Turin to see Baggio's Bologna take on the player's former club Juventus, who can clinch the Serie A title with a

Baggio was Italy's star at the 1994 World Cup but then fell out of favour and has appeared in just one game for the Azzurris in the past three years. The veteran has tallied five goals in his last three league games to raise his total to 19 for the season and 148 for his career - top among active players.

If Baggio does make the roster, which Maldini is set to announce May 22, it likely means that Chelsea's Gianfranco Zola and AC Parma's Enrico Chiesa would be left at home.

'LET'S DO IT' After a battle of songwriters

Arsenal striker Ian Wright

since January with an injury. will start on Wednesday for the new Premier League champions against Liverpool.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger gave Wright his fullfledged endorsement "I still think lan has a lot to

and be a reserve if necessary. But I think, if anything, he is being a little too humble at pre-

"He knows that at his age he

YUGOSLAVS TO START TRAINING MAY 22

Troubled by injuries of his key players. Yugoslav coach Slobodan Santrac announced Tuesday that his team's preparations for the World Cup would start May 22. Santrac could not announce

list will include Masayuki

Okano, who scored the golden

goal in a 3-2 win against Iran

that clinched Japan's World Cup debut. Okano has been

benched with the Urawa Red

the list of 26 players who will start the preparations as sev-eral of Yugoslavia's key players are either injured or are recuperating. He said the list will be announced May 18. First-choice goalkeeper Ivica Kralj and central defender

Risto Vidakovic are on the injury list. Key midfielder Dejan Savicevic of AC Milan, and main striker Predrag Mijatovic, of Real Madrid, have just returned after lengthy injuries and are not in the top form.

WRIGHT RUNNING AGAINST THE CLOCK

has only a few games to win a place on England's side for the World Cup. Wright, 34, who has been out

offer. He says he wants to stay at Arsenal for two more years

will not play all the games next season, but I think he can still be ready to fight for a place and I am happy to have his commitment.

that was almost as tough as qualifying for the World Cup itself. Norway's national team has finally settled on a team song to take to France. It's called "Let's Do It," and

edged out "Here Comes Norway." Norwegians have to wait another two weeks to find out exactly what the "it" in "Let's Do It" refers to, since the full text and song won't be released until May 20.

The reason we have an English text is so all the (Norwegian) pros in England can understand it too," joked Kjell Borgersen, spokesman for the Norwegian Soccer Federa-

At least 30 songwriters had vied for the honour of writing Norway's team song. Going into the final round, the pop De Derre had been a favourite with "Here Comes Norway."

The Baily Star World Cup Quiz'98 ROUND 3 4th Prize 1st Prize 2nd Prize 3rd Prize PHILIPS CD RCR AZ 8051 Whirtpool Gas Cooker 5th Prize: Caps & T-Shirts All Prizes Courtesy: Transcom Electronics Ltd. Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets.

Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

Information The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98 is a series of competitions on World Cup Soccer being held in France from June

10 to July 12, 1998 There will be nine rounds of competition. Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of Transcom Electronics Ltd. as per

announcement. D. Participants of all the nine rounds will automatically qualify for the Bumper Draw, which will have even bigger prizes. E. For each round, sets of questions will be published in The

Daily Star Sport Pages. Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in The Daily Star

Winners will have to collect their prizes from The Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity. Any taxes or levies, as per law, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the prize winners.

Prizes for Round Three

Prize	Nos.	Item
1st	One	Whirlpool Gas Cooker
2nd	One	CD player
3rd	One	Blender with chopper
4th	- Ten	5 dozen Philips Bulbs
5th	25	T-shirt and cap

Rules

Residents of Bangladesh are eligible to participate in The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98. Employees of The Daily Star and Transcom Electronics Ltd and their immediate family members shall not be eligible to participate. All entries must be submitted in the original form printed

The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98, Round Three

in The Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.

Forms will have to be cut along the dotted lines.

Participants are to put a tick () mark in the box alongside their answer to each question. A person may send numerous entries. Entry forms should be completed with a ballpoint pen. Name, address, father's name and particulars of partici-

pants must be clearly written. Each entry form must also bear the signature of the participant and date. Incomplete forms will not be accepted. Entries must reach the office of The Daily Star on or

before the closing date marked on the entry form. Late entries will not be accepted. 10. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star Quiz 3." Entries may be hand delivered or posted to The Daily

Star, House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205. 12. Entries will be placed in a sealed box for the draw to be

hald on a notified date in public in presence of invited guests and Quiz participants, if any. Winners will be decided on the basis of correct

entries drawn out from the box.

Entering this Quiz competition shall be construed as the respective agreement by each participant to abide by all rules, instructions and guidelines as may by issued by The Daily Star. 15. Any decision of The Daily Star in the conduct of the Quiz competition/s including the answers selected as correct

shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner whatsoever. The Daily Star management, in their absolute discretion,

reserves the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any circumstances.

Ends May 13, 1998

1994 1990 1986 Which WC championship was decided in a tie-breaker? Argentina ____ England ____ 2. In the 1950 WC, the hosts lost the final to Uruguay ____ Hungary ____ Algeria ____ Highest goals in any WC finals match was by Soviet Union Brazilian ____ German ____ Frenchman All-time highest scorer Fontaine is a Kempes ____ Tardelli Klinsmann 5. Who is kissing the cup? Telephone (if any) Signature Date Write with a ballpoint pen in clear BLOCK letters. Cut along the dotted lines and mail to OR drop in the Quiz Box at The Path Star. You may send as many entries as you like. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star Quiz 3."

Tick (✓) the correct answers

A K Sayeedul Huq **OVERTAKE PARTNER'S WINNER** FOR KILLING DEFENCE (Hand # 32)

North

SIX NO TRUMPS

West AS:XX VH: AXXX . D J 108X

+C:KXX

. S : KJ10 .H:KJ East . D: KQ9X +C:XXXX AS:KXX ▼ H: 109XXX . D AXXX South (D) + C : X . S : A 9 8 X X + D : X +C AQJXX

BIDDING

18

South West Pass Pass

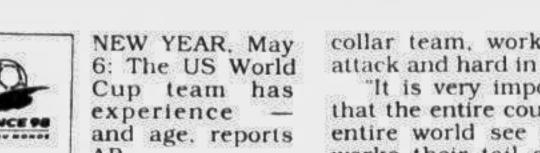
East Pass

South opened his two-suiter hand with one Spade. North with 12 HCP chose not to support Spade immediately. Instead he bid 2 NT, South bid 3 Clubs and North booked the game at 4 Spades.

THE PLAY

West opened the J of Diamonds, dummy played low and East, without much thinking, encouraged partner with a high Diamond. West continued with the Diamond but when the declarer ruffed, East woke up, but then it was too late. The declarer played a small Heart from the closed hand, and when West ducked he went up with the J and played back the Q of Spades for a successful finesse. Ultimately, the declarer lost a Diamond, a Heart and a Club and got the game which would have been down one if East were alert. East could win partner's J of Diamond with his Ace, return his singleton Club and when West gains control in Heart, could get a ruff for down one.

collar team, working hard in NEW YEAR, May



this team to succeed.

season for Karlsruher in Germany's Bundesliga. Regis, a 29-

sions were to take McBride, Hejduk and Maisonneuve and dropped Roy Lassiter, Chris Bora Milutinovic, Samp-

three players, while Italy's Juventus. Sampdoria and AC Milan provided two each. Jacquet said it already was clear to him who would be on the ideal squad of 22, but because of the risk of injuries over

the final weeks, he had to re-



Juventus' team for the Champi-

AIME JACQUET main flexible. Youri Djorkaeff plays the UEFA Cup final Wednesday with Inter Milan in Paris and Jacquet's two most important players, Zinedine Zidane and Didier Deschamps, will be on

Lamouchi (AJ Auxerre) Monaco).

defender in the world.