

## Sport

## Donald eager to return

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 5 (Internet report): Rendered hors de combat by an ankle injury for most part of the English county season, South African strike bowler Allan Donald will arrive in Bloemfontein on Tuesday with his heart set on making a quicker than expected return to action for his native Free State.

"Definitely not against Boland this weekend, but hopefully against Province on the 14th," said the 32-year-old paceman shortly before flying out of London on Monday.

Although he was originally advised to rest up for about 10 weeks, Donald is convinced in his own mind that all his troubles are now behind him. "It's been a frustrating English summer for me," he admitted, "but at the end of the day I reckon I did the right thing by not trying to play. I've had a good, long break... all the little niggles have cleared up."

With his 33rd birthday on the horizon (October 20), however, South Africa's leading wicket-taker intends easing rather than rushing back into harness.

"I'm looking at net spells of only 15 minutes to start out with," he said, "and then build-up from there to the Province game."

Why the sudden rush? Well, if I rested for 10 weeks that would take me right up to the first Test against England and would rule me out of the two Tests against Zimbabwe... a couple I don't want to miss out on," he explained.

Donald's interest in the Zimbabweans is two-fold. First-off he wants to feature in his hometown's first ever Test and he also believes the relatively inexperienced Zimbabwean batting will provide him with an excellent opportunity to add to his 265 Test scalps.

"I've only got 35 to go to my 300," he said, "and I don't want to miss out on any chance of achieving that goal."

## Baggio, Leonardo to play in Japan

TOKYO, Oct 5: World Cup veterans Roberto Baggio and Leonardo will team up next week in an exhibition match in Japan, reports Reuters.

Baggio, the 32-year-old Italian forward with Internazionale, and Brazilian midfielder Leonardo of Serie A champions AC Milan will play for a World XI against a Japan XI in the J-League's annual 'Dream Match' at Tokyo's National Stadium on Monday afternoon.

Members of the World XI were selected from foreign players in the J-League, with Baggio and Leonardo being invited as special guests, organisers said.

Leonardo, 30, played for Kashima Antlers in Japan for two years after the 1994 World Cup and then went to Paris Saint-Germain.

The World XI will be coached by Shimizu S-Pulse manager Steve Perryman, whose team are top of the J-League's second stage championship.

"Obviously they are world-class players with fantastic experience from any countries," said Perryman.

"They can make goals and score goals, and I'm sure they'll bring excitement and expectancy to the Japanese fans."

Also, the Japanese players will want to prove themselves against this quality, so they will be two very positive players for our team."

The Japan XI squad include World Cup players Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi, Eisuke Nakanishi, Naoki Soma, Yutaka Akita, Teruyoshi Ito, Masashi Nakayama, Shoji Jo and Masami Ihara.

## British cops after Indian suspect

LONDON, Oct 5 (AFP): British detectives are to fly to India to interview sports promoter Ashim Khetarpal about charges that he tried to bribe the England team into trying to throw a Test match, according to an English newspaper.

The News of the World reported that England bowler Chris Lewis admits he met Khetarpal in a news agency's shop last August and was offered 300,000 pounds to fix the Old Trafford game against New Zealand.

When Lewis refused, the paper claims that Khetarpal contacted New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming.

A Scotland Yard spokesman told the British Sunday newspaper that the whole England team would be quizzed over the bribery allegations.

Khetarpal is reported to have arrived in England with an unnamed Indian businessman and checked into the Holiday Inn in Leicester where the New Zealand team was staying.

He later offered Fleming 300,000 pounds cash to fix the match. The paper said he left his phone numbers and gave Fleming his card. The New Zealander reported the incident immediately to the International Cricket Council.

Khetarpal is then reported to have travelled to London, where he met Lewis and asked him to offer wicketkeeper Alec Stewart and bowler Allan Donald 300,000 pounds apiece to drop catches and bowl wide as well as offering Lewis the same amount.

"I was introduced to some people who had what they called a business proposal - but it was a bribe wrapped up as a business proposition," Lewis told the newspaper.

That shows the state of mind of these people - I suppose to them it is a business.

## Waugh points at attitude



COLOMBO, Oct 5 (Internet report): Steve Waugh has questioned Australia's preparation after more rain ensured Sri Lanka a historic and much-deserved 1-0 series victory yesterday.

Injuries and bad weather unsettled the Australians but Waugh made it clear this was no excuse. The tourists, regarded as the best Test team in the world, were outplayed by a revived Sri Lanka.

"You've got to overcome that if you're a top-quality side and I think we learnt some lessons over here," Waugh said after the last day of the third and final Test was washed out without a ball being bowled.

"We've got to improve our cricket. We've got to play more consistently and not take things for granted."

"We weren't good enough in the first two Tests. It was a wake-up call for all the guys. We've got to prepare a little bit better and our attitude has to improve a bit."

He did this Test and we played much better. We played to what we were capable of but it was too late.

"We can't afford to do that. We've got one Test coming up in Zimbabwe in a week or 10 days."

We've got to be switched on for that otherwise we'll lose that as well."

Sri Lanka's first series victory over Australia has given cricket an enormous boost here following a period of turmoil after their win in the one-day final.

When the 1996 World Cup champions were bundled out of the last tournament, the board, coach and captain were sacked.



STEVE WAUGH

Given a new direction under returning coach David Whatmore and skipper Sanath Jayasuriya, youth and spirit were injected into the side.

Australia were once again somewhat baffled by spin on the subcontinent, with off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan claiming a series-high 15 wickets.

Ricky Ponting provided the greatest success story for Australia; he was named man-of-the-match and man-of-the-series following his unbeaten century, the only hundred scored in the series.

Suspect against spin on tours of India and Pakistan last year, Ponting has learned quickly. He was the outstanding batsman of the series with scores of 96, 51, 1 and 105no.

"From the first day of this tour, he looked switched on and focused," Waugh said of Ponting. "You could see it in his attitude. He seems to be listening more these days. He's the future of Australian cricket."

The future was also being considered when West Australian Matthew Nicholson, 25 last Saturday, was chosen as the fast bowler to replace injured Scott Muller for the Zimbabwe leg of the tour, which begins on Thursday.

He debuted against England in Melbourne last summer but broke down and needed a groin operation.

Nicholson has been playing grade cricket and state trials in Perth.

## Belgian squad for England match

BRUSSELS, Oct 5 (AFP): Belgian coach Robert Waseige named Monday a 20-man squad for Belgium's friendly against England in Sunderland on Sunday.

## SQUAD

**Goalkeepers:** Geert De Vlieger (Anderlecht), Ronald Gasperic (Extremadura/Spa)

**Defenders:** David Brocken (Anderlecht), Glen De Boeck (Anderlecht), Eric Deflandre (FC Brugge), Marc Hendrikx (Genk), Eric Van Meir (Lierse), David Oyen (Anderlecht), Jacky Peeters (Arminia Bielefeld/Ger), Nico Van Kerckhoven (Schalke 04/Ger)

**Midfielders:** Bart Goor (Anderlecht), Stefaan Tanghe (Mouscron), Yves Vanderhaeghe (Mouscron), Johan Walem (Parma/Ita), Philippe Clement (FC Brugge), Marc Wilmots (Schalke 04/Ger)

**Forwards:** Emile Mpenza (Standard), Mbo Mpenza (Standard), Branko Strupar (Genk), Toni Brogno (Westerlo)

## Zagallo loses his job

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Oct 5: Brazilian footballing legend Mario Zagallo was on Monday sacked as coach of Sao Paulo Portuguesa because of bad results, reports AFP.

The 68-year-old, involved in all four of Brazil's World Cup triumphs, has failed to lead the club to victory during the last seven games and the club are 20th out of 22 clubs in the table.

Zagallo's contract, signed in December 1998 to bring success to a club which has had little of it in nearly three decades, was to run till the end of this season.

Zagallo won the World Cup as a player in 1958 and 1962, as a coach in 1970 and as a technical advisor to coach Carlos Alberto Pereira in 1994.

He was replaced by Wanderley Luxemburgo following Brazil's second place in the World Cup last year.

## Eriksson's worry

ROME, Oct 5: Lazio coach Sven Goran Eriksson claimed on Monday that his team were heading for major trouble because of the demands being made on his team by national coaches, reports AFP.

Eriksson backed a plan put forward by FIFA chief Sepp Blatter, who would like to see all international fixtures limited to a single period of the year (mid-June to mid-July).

Lazio have the best midfield in the Serie A with Matthias Almeyda, Diego Simeone and Juan Sebastian Veron, but all three play for Argentina, as does defender Nestor Sensi.

Lazio will soon have major problems putting a team together because many of our foreign players are being called up by their various national teams," Eriksson complained.

"UEFA and FIFA ought to arrange the calendar in a different way, so as to avoid all these international matches being played during the league season."

## Marsh bids

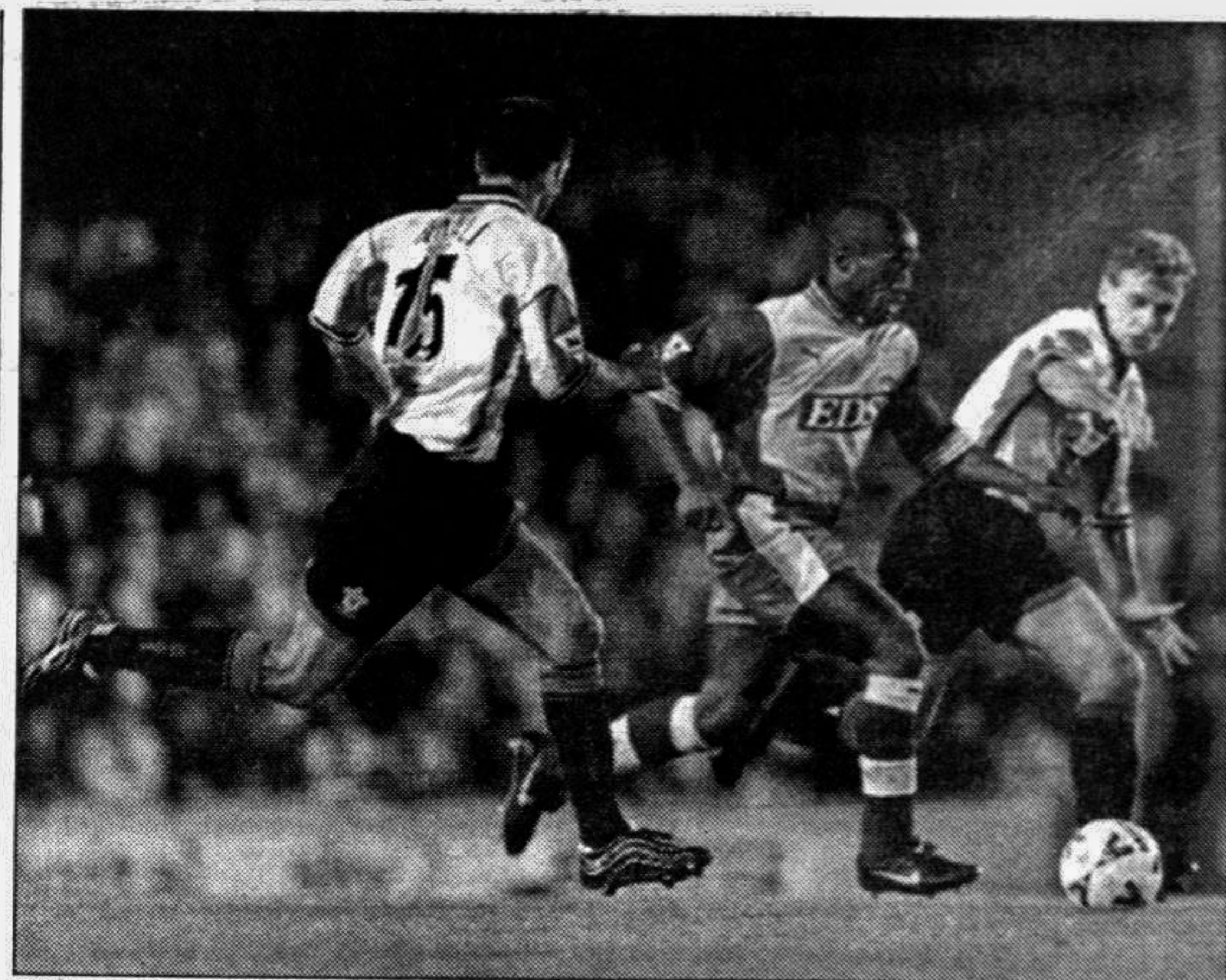
From page 13

"He's had a great impact on Australian cricket," Waugh said. "More so the attitude he's given the players, the team spirit, commitment, character."

"That was his biggest legacy, that you've really got to be together as a side and that's something he always worked on."

He tried to get the guys with the right attitude and character. And that was his strength as a player and as a coach."

Marsh, who made 2854 runs at an average of 33.18 in 50 Tests and 4357 runs in 117 one-day internationals, said he was looking forward to domestic duties with his wife and family in Perth. "I'll go and find my lawnmower I think," he said. "I'm a selector and that's given me another lease of life. They're exciting times and I'm looking forward to that."



Derby County's Dean Sturridge (C) goes on a run while pursued by Southampton's Francis Benali (L) and Mark Hughes during their Premiership clash on October 4. — AFP photo

## Premiership

## Beck saves Derby's day



LONDON, Oct 5: Denmark's Michael Owen earned Derby a point with a last-ditch goal in a 3-3 English Premiership draw against Southampton at the Dell on Monday night, reports AFP.

Rory Delap put Derby ahead on 21 minutes, but just a minute later, Southampton equalized through Latvian Marian Pahars.

Further goals from Matthew Oakley in the 35th minute and Stuart Ripley midway through the second half gave Southampton a 3-1 lead but Denmark's Jacob Laursen then Beck earned the visitors a point.

Beck said afterwards: "We weren't as confident as we would have been had we had better results up to this point. I knew when the cross came in it might have been our last chance and it's great it went in."

The game burst into life as confusion descended upon the Southampton penalty area.

Full-back Scott Hiley looked certain to deal with a high ball looped into the goalmouth, but his cushioned header - intended for Paul Jones - caught the goalkeeper out in the 21st minute.

Jones, rushing from his line, was hit on the shoulder by the ball, and Delap won the scramble to the rebound to poke Jim Smith's side into the lead from close range.

A 30-yard thunderbolt from

Pahars put Saints back on track a minute later.

Matthew Le Tissier, making his first start since mid-August, showed his supreme vision to thread a pass through Derby's back-line for the run of Oakley.

The midfielder took it in his stride and neatly clipped it over Russell Hoult's dive to put Southampton ahead.

Hoult was beaten again in the 66th minute by Ripley's first goal in Southampton colours to make it 3-1.

The former England winger, plagued by injury since his 1.5-million-pound (2.3-million-dollar) move from Blackburn in the summer of 1998, took an Oakley cross on his chest and

volleyed it low into the net with his left foot.

Le Tissier kept Hoult busy with a long-range drive and a header as Southampton dominated.

But Laursen pulled one back for Derby on 75 minutes with a free-kick which beat Jones at the near post to make it 3-2.

The Rams pushed hard for an equaliser looping a header across the face of goal and Seth Johnson heading a good chance wide in stoppage time.

The Saints looked to have clung on but then Beck met a Sturridge cross deep into stoppage time to deny the home team maximum points.

## STANDINGS

English Premiership table after game played on Monday (goals for, against, points):

Leeds	10	7	1	2	19	12	22
Man Utd	10	6	3	1	23	15	21
Sunderland	10	6	2	2	18	8	20
Chelsea	8	6	1	1	15	3	19
Arsenal	10	6	1	3	13	9	19
Everton	10	5	2	3	16	10	17
Leicester	10	5	2	3	17	13	17
Aston Villa	10	5	2	3	11	9	17
West Ham	8	5	1	2	11	6	16
Tottenham	9	4	2	3	16	14	14
Middlesbrough	10	4	0	6	11	15	12
Liverpool	9	3	2	4	10	10	11
Southampton	9	3	2	5	12	14	9
Coventry	10	3	0	7	6	11	9
Watford	10	3	0	7	6	11	9
Derby	10	2	3	5	10	18	9
Wimbledon	10	1	5	4	14	23	8
Bradford	9	2	2	5	4	13	8
Newcastle	10	2	1	7	20	23	7
Sheff Wed	10	1	1	8	8	25	4

## Vieira's late realisation



LONDON, Oct 5: Arsenal midfielder Patrick Vieira apologised yesterday for his "inexcusable" behaviour at Upton Park at the weekend when he spat at an opponent and allegedly clashed with a policeman after being sent off, reports Reuters.

The apology from the French international followed news he was being charged with misconduct over the incident which took place on Sunday in the second half of Arsenal's 2-1 English Premier League defeat at West Ham.

"My behaviour after being sent off was inexcusable," Vieira said in a statement.

"Although I was subjected to provocation, I am ashamed of my action. Spitting at a fellow professional is something I sincerely regret. It was a reaction in the heat of the moment and I apologise to everyone involved in the incident."

The Football Association (FA) said in a statement earlier that Vieira had 14 days to respond to the charge and request a personal hearing.

"The FA has been informed that a police investigation is being held into a separate incident in the players' tunnel after Vieira's dismissal," it added.

"The police have indicated their inquiries will continue until the end of this week, after which they will forward a report to the FA for consideration."

Vieira was shown the red card in the 84th minute of the Arsenal-West Ham clash and reacted furiously to his fourth sending off in the last 21 months.

West Ham defender Neil Ruddock accused the player, who had to be escorted from the field, of spitting at him when he intervened. "I tried to calm it down but he just spat in my face," he said.

However, referee Mike Reed told BBC radio that his match report would not mention any spitting incident.

"I did not see that. That was something that happened behind my back," he said.

Arsenal's French manager Arsene Wenger, who has seen his players collect 24 red cards in three seasons since he took over, defended Vieira as he has in the past.

He said West Ham's Italian striker Paolo di Canio had wound Vieira up as he "dived and cheated the referee."

Vieira, who was booked 30 times in his first 30 months at Arsenal, cannot expect any leniency in the light of his track record.

He kicked out at West Ham defender Ian Pearce during an FA Cup quarterfinal replay at



PATRICK VIEIRA

spond to the charge and request a personal hearing.

"The FA has been informed that a police investigation is being held into a separate incident in the players' tunnel after Vieira's dismissal," it added.

"The police have indicated their inquiries will continue until the end of this week, after which they will forward a report to the FA for consideration."

Vieira was shown the red card in the 84th minute of the Arsenal-West Ham clash and reacted furiously to his fourth sending off in the last 21 months.

West Ham defender Neil Ruddock accused the player, who had to be escorted from the field, of spitting at him when he intervened. "I tried to calm it down but he just spat in my face," he said.

However, referee Mike Reed told BBC radio that his match report would not mention any spitting incident.

"I did not see that. That was something that happened behind my back," he said.

Arsenal's French manager Arsene Wenger, who has seen his players collect 24 red cards in three seasons since he took over, defended Vieira as he has in the past.

He said West Ham's Italian striker Paolo di Canio had wound Vieira up as he "dived and cheated the referee."

Vieira, who was booked 30 times in his first 30 months at Arsenal, cannot expect any leniency in the light of his track record.

He kicked out at West Ham defender Ian Pearce during an FA Cup quarterfinal replay at

Upton Park in March 1998, although that incident went unreported by the referee.

Vieira was still charged with misconduct and fined 3,000 pounds (4,979 dollars) on the basis of video evidence.

Against Coventry in January 1998, he had been sent off for foul and abusive language to a referee after conceding a penalty and had to be escorted off the field.

Vieira was given a two-match ban for that outburst while Wenger, who fined him 3,000 pounds, told him he must learn to control his temper. The following month he was sent off in a League Cup defeat by Chelsea.

The manager has frequently defended his player in the past, arguing that he has become a marked man and faced regular racial abuse at away matches.

Wenger gave evidence in support of Vieira at another FA hearing in 1998 when the player was fined 20,000 pounds (33,190 dollars) for making an abusive sign at Sheffield Wednesday fans during a league match there in September.

Vieira was also accused of clashing with police in the tunnel after that game, which also saw Di Canio sent off for pushing a referee to the ground. That action led to a long ban from English soccer and the Italian's move to West Ham.

Vieira was also sent off last season against Charlton Athletic in December.

## Woodgate to miss friendly

LONDON, Oct 5: Back victim Jonathon Woodgate, the only member of Kevin Keegan's England party not to join up with the rest of the squad on Monday, has been ruled out of the friendly against Belgium on Sunday, reports AFP.

The Leeds defender's absence therefore rules out the option of pairing him with a more experienced centre-back such as Tony Adams or Martin Keown.

Gareth Southgate is now the only recognised central defensive back-up to the Arsenal duo left in the squad, given that Rio Ferdinand was not selected due to his ankle injury while Sol Campbell (calf) is also still sidelined.

The other 24 members of the squad were meanwhile assembling at the team hotel in readiness for their first training session on Tuesday.

However, it is not expected that all of them will take part as knocks from weekend games are assessed and Keegan may yet suffer further withdrawals before the game.

## Ribbeck spels it out for Lehmann



COLOGNE, Oct 5: Germany's national coach Erich Ribbeck told reserve keeper Jens Lehmann

Monday he must get used to the idea of playing second fiddle to Oliver Kahn, his number one net minder, reports AFP.

Kahn returns to national duty after injury this Saturday for the vital last Euro 2000 qualifier against Turkey in Munich.

A win or draw would be enough to put the reigning European champions automatically into next year's finals.

Kahn performed well in his absence last month against Finland and Northern Ireland, helping Germany win both matches convincingly, but coach Ribbeck wants to remove all possible instability in the team by sticking with Kahn.

"Kahn will be playing. I've said it before and I am not changing my mind," Ribbeck said Monday.

"It's tough for Jens to accept but at the end of the day he has to accept it."

Ribbeck has tried to calm Lehmann's burning ambition

by naming Kahn publicly his "IA" keeper and Lehmann as the "IB" option but Lehmann hasn't missed an opportunity to dig the knife in with critical comments.



ERICH RIBBECK

Sepp Maier, Kahn's specialist coach at Bayern Munich and Germany's keeper from the 1974 World Cup winning side, fanned the flames again Monday when he too came down

firmly on the side of his protege. "There is no IA or IB, there is only the number 1. This kind of baloney has to stop," Maier told Kicker magazine.

Ribbeck's response to that was short and pithy: "Sepp Maier should keep his mouth shut, he shouldn't be saying anything in public about this situation."

German football has often been marked by bitter and protracted struggles among its rival goalkeepers, the most recent having been Kahn's bid to dislodge his predecessor Andreas Kopke.

Traditionally the elder of the two challengers is allowed to play out his days while the younger up-and-comer must bide his time. That was why 30-year-old Kahn only played his first major tournament at last year's World Cup and refuses to budge an inch to his Borussia Dortmund rival Lehmann on next year's Euro tournament.

Munich's Olympic stadium, which holds 63,500 people, is sold out for Saturday's qualifier however with such a large number of Turks living in Germany there is bound to be a vocal support for the visitors as well.

## Monaco alone atop



PARIS, Oct 5: Monaco edged a home 1-0 victory over Lyon to go top of the French First Division here Sunday, reports AFP.

A fifth minute lobbed goal from Argentinian Marcel Gallardo proved sufficient for Monaco to see off their rivals.

The team they replaced at the summit was promoted Sedan, who themselves had relegated Lyon of top spot with their 2-1 victory over Troyes Saturday.

Paris St Germain, who were the early season leaders, moved second by