

Barthez intends to quit Monaco

FONTVIEILLE, Monaco, May 3: France's World Cup goalkeeper Fabien Barthez has demanded a transfer after a spat with Monaco coach Claude Puel, French daily *L'Equipe* reported on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Barthez said that Puel questioned his motivation during a recent French League match against Marseille, which Monaco lost 4-2.

"Puel said 'I have no confidence in you ... you had a debt on the day of the match at the Stade Velodrome. You were bought by Marseille,'" Barthez said.

Dalmiya let

From page 13
reputation has been injured and harmed by the conspiracy against him when he filed his lawsuit against Aggarwal.

And, with his three-year tenure as president due to end in June, Dalmiya will be grateful that the ICC has cleared his name.

Meanwhile, Richards challenged former Indian Cricket Board chairman Inderjit Singh Bindra to make a formal written submission to the ICC solicitors after making a series of match-fixing allegations.

Hard evidence has been lacking in much of the finger-pointing which has gone on since South African Hansie Cronje was sacked after admitting taking money from an Indian businessman for supplying information on matches involving his country.

It seems likely that the ICC will announce on Wednesday that an investigative panel will be set up to deal with issues of this kind in future and Bindra's evidence could provide a useful starting point.

"He has written to the board indicating that he has a certain amount of information, so we have advised him to contact our solicitors," said Richards.

"One of the frustrations of this whole issue is the lack of hard evidence and I would urge anyone in our sport who has any information should bring it forward, whether it be to the ICC, the relevant governing body, the police or the media."

"We are totally determined to rid our sport of any corruption and malpractice."

Abahani

From page 13
sibul, for whom it was the second five-wicket haul in the League, also saw Brothers tumbling with more than nine of their share of 40 overs remaining unused.

Abahani, in their chase, got a real scare when they were reduced to 83 for five in 16 overs. But an absorbing 63-run partnership for the undefeated sixth wicket between Anisur Rahman and Asadullah Khan dashed Brothers' hopes for a turnaround.

The two young players, who were the last recognised batsmen in the Abahani lineup, received a standing ovation from a few thousand loyal sky blue supporters for their association in the match-winning stand.

A matured head on a young shoulder Anisur scored 36 off 37 balls. The most interesting facet of Anisur's innings was a four over mid-off and an exquisite six over long off Samarasekara's successive deliveries in the 25th overs. His two-stroke brilliance under overcast condition also drove Abahani's fear of a rain-interrupted result at a break-even situation.

Brothers appeared to have enjoyed a mental edge over Abahani with a score of 135 at the end of 25 overs. But Anisur's exploits in that costly over by Samarasekara took Abahani to 137 in 25 overs.

Asadullah scored 27 off 36 balls it included a couple of fours and a six.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Janakantha Premier Division Super League match between Abahani Krira Chakra and Brothers Union at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday:

BROTHERS UNION:

	O	M	R	W
Shahriar lbw b Iqbal	11			
Ehsanul run out	45			
Samarasekara c Naimur b Hasibul	4			
Farhan c & b Hussain	35			
Sanwar run out	4			
Joshi c Mianur b Hasibul	13			
K Mahmud st. Mianur b Rehman	19			
Jahangir b Hasibul	1			
Mokter c Rehman b Hasibul	1			
Kamal not out	1			
Imran c Anisur b Hasibul	0			
Extras: (lb-5, nb-1, w-5)	11			
Total: (All out in 31.5 overs)	145			
Fall of wickets: 1-18; 2-37; 3-92; 4-96; 5-111; 6-127; 7-135; 8-141.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hasibul	8.5	1	45	5
Iqbal	5	0	27	1
Abdul Rehman	8	0	23	1
M Hussain	7	2	28	1
Naimur Rahman	3	0	17	0
ABAHANI KC:				
Hussain c Farhan b Joshi	18			
Zahid c Samarasekara c Sanwar	33			
Azam c Sanwar b Joshi	37			
Naimur run out	8			
Akram run out	0			
Anisur run out	36			
Asadullah not out	27			
Extras: (lb-3, w-4)	7			
Total: (For 5 wickets in 27 overs)	146			
Fall of wickets: 1-19; 2-49; 3-74; 4-74; 5-83.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
K Mahmud	4	0	32	0
Sunil Joshi	9	1	32	2
Sanwar	6	0	3	1
Imran Rahim	4	0	21	0
Samarasekara	4	0	26	0
Result: Abahani won by 5 wickets.				



Valencia players celebrate their team's fourth goal against Barcelona during the Champions League semifinal first leg at Valencia on May 2. — AFP photo

Valencia lesson for Barca

VALENCIA, Spain, May 3: Valencia served up a feast of attacking football to score a deserved 4-1 win over Spanish rivals Barcelona in their Champions League semi-final first leg at the Mestalla stadium here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Rivaldo tried to galvanise a tentative Barca with two efforts which flew just over before Farinos sent a piledriver whizzing above the Barca crossbar as Valencia quickly got back into the groove.

Barca keeper Ruud Hesp almost let a loose ball dribble over his line but gathered his wits to avert disaster before Farinos became the first name to go into Swiss referee Urs Meier's notebook on 20 minutes for bringing down the marauding Rivaldo.

Had an audacious late back-heal from Javier Farinos not flashed wide the damage might have been even worse for Barca, who now face an uphill struggle to claw back the deficit next week at the Nou Camp.

But two from Miguel Angel Angulo, a Gaizka Mendieta penalty and a sizzler from Claudio "Pito" Lopez were enough for starters with only a Mauricio Pellegrino own goal to cheer the Catalans.

Barca, who have won the trophy just once - under Johan Cruyff's tutelage in 1992 - have this season's goal kings and went into the match having netted 42 times in 14 matches for an average of exactly three per game with world player of the year Rivaldo bagging ten of them.

In contrast, Valencia, who have never won the competition, had made the net rattle a mere 26 times having played two extra games in a preliminary round, though they had conceded just 12 goals to Barca's 18 prior to Tuesday.

Barca keeper Ruud Hesp almost let a loose ball dribble over his line but gathered his wits to avert disaster before Farinos became the first name to go into Swiss referee Urs Meier's notebook on 20 minutes for bringing down the marauding Rivaldo.

A turning point looked to have arrived on 25 minutes with Valencia's Kily Gonzalez hitting the post with a shot on the turn before Lopez crashed home a first time left-foot shot in off Ruud Hesp's far post.

Valencia's last European home defeat came eight seasons ago against Napoli in the UEFA Cup and they held both of last season's finalists - Manchester United and Bayern Munich - to draws earlier in the campaign.

As Van Gaal had himself forecast, their performance came as no surprise.

They have also shown their mettle away from home with a 1-1 group phase draw at Bayern and wins at Rangers and Bordeaux while they also boast two FA Cup successes and one UEFA Cup win.

Van Gaal had said before the match that he believed it is more difficult to win titles by playing attacking football than adopting a more cautious stance. But going forward from the first whistle is ingrained in the Catalan club's philosophy and on this occasion it let them down.

Prior to Tuesday they had won ten drawn three and lost just one of their Champions League matches - the defeat coming in the quarters at Chelsea, whom they blew away 5-1 in the return leg, whereas Valencia had suffered three reverses.

Yet Barca, who lost here 3-1 in the *Primera Liga* earlier in the season before a 3-0 success at the Nou Camp, have not had a good record in recent clashes between the two regional rivals and Valencia beat them at the start of the campaign to lift the Spanish Super Cup with Lopez a particular thorn in their side.

Barca rallied after the interval and skipper Pep Guardiola fired wide on the hour before their disbelieving coach Louis Van Gaal reacted by sending on Jari Litmanen in place of Dani, a huge disappointment.

It was Mendieta's fourth goal of the tournament.

Barca rallied after the interval and skipper Pep Guardiola fired wide on the hour before their disbelieving coach Louis Van Gaal reacted by sending on Jari Litmanen in place of Dani, a huge disappointment.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup - forerunner of the UEFA Cup - in the 1962 final and then emerging victorious again in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals 20 years ago before going on to lift the trophy at Arsenal's expense.

Another player not on song, Patrick Kluivert, then sent a tame header into the arms of Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares on 69 minutes following a Zenden corner.

At the other end, Mendieta forced Hesp to make a fine stop before Carboni just got in a tackle to stop Zenden on the ball.

Lopez has now netted 12 times against Barca - including seven in four games last season alone.

The two clubs had met twice previously in European competition, with Valencia winning 7-3 over two legs in the old Fairs Cup