

Sforza wanted back

COLOGNE, Germany, May 21: Swiss international Ciriaco Sforza has probably played his last Bundesliga game for Kaiserslautern after the club confirmed on Saturday that champions Bayern Munich want to sign him and have officially been in touch, reports AFP.

England zap

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himself Strang then got a lucky inside edge for four down to the Pavilion railings, 13 runs coming off the over.

Last man Mpuemelelo Mbangwa caught the mood, producing a textbook clip through midwicket for four against Caddick.

But next ball he backed away like a true No. 11 only to see the ball take the inside edge and beat Alec Stewart's despairing legside drive before it went for a far luckier boundary to fine leg.

The last-wicket pair gave a sparse crowd plenty of entertainment frequently going for and missing big hits.

But now as it then they came off Strang hitting a tremendous backfoot drive against Gough through mid-off for four and two balls later advancing down the wicket to pull him for another boundary.

In between Gough hit Strang on the hands but it hardly seemed to make any difference. Gough's two comeback overs from the Nursery End going for 23 runs.

It could not last and Caddick concluded the match bowling Mbangwa for eight after the ball appeared to deflect off the batsman's helmet.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard of the first Test between England and Zimbabwe at Lord's on Sunday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings 83 (E Giddins 5-15, A Caddick 3-28)

ENGLAND: First innings 415 (A Stewart 124 n.o., G Hick 101, M Atherton 55, H Streak 6-87, G Whittall 3-27)

ZIMBABWE: Second innings (overnight 39-5)

G Flower lbw b Gough 2
Gripper c Knight b Gough 5
Goodwin lbw b Caddick 11
Campbell lbw b Gough 4
Murphy lbw b Giddins 14

A Flower lbw b Gough 9
Johnson c Hick b Caddick 9
Whittall c Hick b Caddick 23
Streak c Knight b Giddins 0
Strang not out 37

Mbangwa b Caddick 8
Extras: (lb-1; nb-7) 8
Total: (All out in 38.2 overs) 123

Bowler O M R W
Gough 15 3 57 4
Caddick 16.2 5 38 4
Giddins 7 3 27 2

Man-of-the-match: Ed Giddins (England)

Umpires: P Willey, D Orchard.

Warne work

From page 13
sured Nottinghamshire overcame the early loss of Darren Ricknell to reach the safety of 207 for eight, despite four wickets for Gloucestershire's Australian seamer Ian Harvey.

At Hove Vikram Solanki's 98 for Worcestershire helped them to 311 for eight declared against Sussex.

The hosts then struggled to 114 for seven in their second innings. Australian fast bowler Glenn McGrath taking two for 22.

BRIEF SCORES

English County Championship score summaries on Saturday:

Division One
At Derby: Derbyshire (10pts) drew with Yorkshire (10pts); Derbyshire 303 and 209-1 (S Stubbings 84 n.o., M Di Venuto 81 n.o., and Yorkshire 349 (D Lehmann 133, V Craven 58; M Cassar 6-76)

At Leicester: Leicestershire (9pts) drew with Hampshire (8pts); Hampshire 229 (A Aymes 74 n.o.) and 123-8 (P De Freitas 4-41) and Leicestershire 289 (N Barnes 67 n.o., A Habib 66; S Warne 5-86)

Division Two
At Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire (8pts) drew with Gloucestershire (9pts); Nottinghamshire 215 (G Welton 74; J Lewis 5-55) and 207-8 (I Harvey 4-63) and Gloucestershire 290 (M Alleyne 126; P Franks 4-43; D Lucas 3-92)

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire (10pts) drew with Essex (8pts); Warwickshire 400-8 declared (D Ostler 144, N Smith 68 n.o.; D Law 5-78) and Essex 298-4 (R Irani 91 n.o., S Law 83)

At Hove: Sussex 258 (G McGrath 5-54) and 114-7 and Worcestershire 311-8 declared (V Solanki 98; J Kirtley 3-79)

Rookies stars

From page 13
Bowler O M R W
W Akram 33 9 84 2
Waqar 17 2 72 2
Mushtaq 22 2 66 0
Razzaq 16 3 50 1
Saqlain 51 10 121 5

PAKISTAN: Second innings
M Wasim not out 53
Nadir not out 94
Extras: (lb-2; w-1; nb-2) 5
Total: (for wkt in 40 overs) 152

To bat: Younis Khan, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Yousuf Youhana, Moin Khan, Abdur Razaq, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mushtaq Ahmed.

Bowler O M R W
Ambrose 7 3 21 0
Walsh 11 2 55 0
King 8 0 31 0
McLean 4 0 20 0
Adams 8 0 30 0
C Paul 2 0 13 0

FA Cup

Di Matteo does it again



LONDON, May 21: Chelsea won the 72nd FA Cup final at Wembley on Saturday beating Aston Villa 1-0 with a goal from Roberto Di Matteo after 73 minutes securing the trophy, their third ever and second in four years, and a place in next season's UEFA Cup competition, reports AFP.

The Wembley showpiece was the last final to be played at the national stadium before it undergoes a multi-million pound reconstruction starting in October, including the removal of the famous twin towers.

Di Matteo, capped 34 times for Italy, struck with 17 minutes to go, lashing home from close-range after Villa keeper David James failed to hold Gianfranco Zola's free-kick.

The 29-year-old Italian wrote himself into the record books in the 1997 final by scoring the fastest Wembley cup final goal ever after 42 seconds in Chelsea's 2-0 triumph over Middlesbrough.

"The first time I scored it was for my sister... this time it's for my girlfriend!" the Italian said.

Chelsea's Italian coach Gianluca Vialli, who had been under pressure after Chelsea failed to qualify for Europe through the Premiership, was a relieved man.

"We were the better team but they made it hard for us," he said.

"However, this is a just reward for us as we have played very well this season without a lot of luck and the players have performed well under all the pressure," he added.

Chelsea captain Dennis Wise, who had a goal ruled out for offside early in the second-half, choked back the tears.

"It's a great feeling and particularly with all my family here and even my father up here," said Wise.

"I thought my goal was good but it doesn't matter now as I am going to climb up the steps and collect the trophy... we deserve it!"

Aston Villa's former England international midfielder Paul Merson, a Chelsea supporter, was philosophical in defeat.

"They pulled away from us in the second-half and were far and away the better team," he said.

"They did things that we couldn't even dream of doing and showed us what a gap there is between the top five teams in the Premiership and the rest like us."

"It's disappointing obviously but if you don't take half chances against teams of that quality then you pay for it," he added.

George Weah was the surprise inclusion in the Chelsea side with the Liberian striker being preferred by Vialli instead of Norwegian Tore Andre Flo.

There were no surprises in the Villa line up with Ian Taylor and George Boateng getting the nod in midfield while Benito Carbone was preferred up front to Julian Joachim.

A mass of fireworks greeted the two teams as they stepped out onto the pitch - but when the action got underway there were few early goalmouth scares.

After a tentative start by both teams the game sprang into life after 10 minutes.

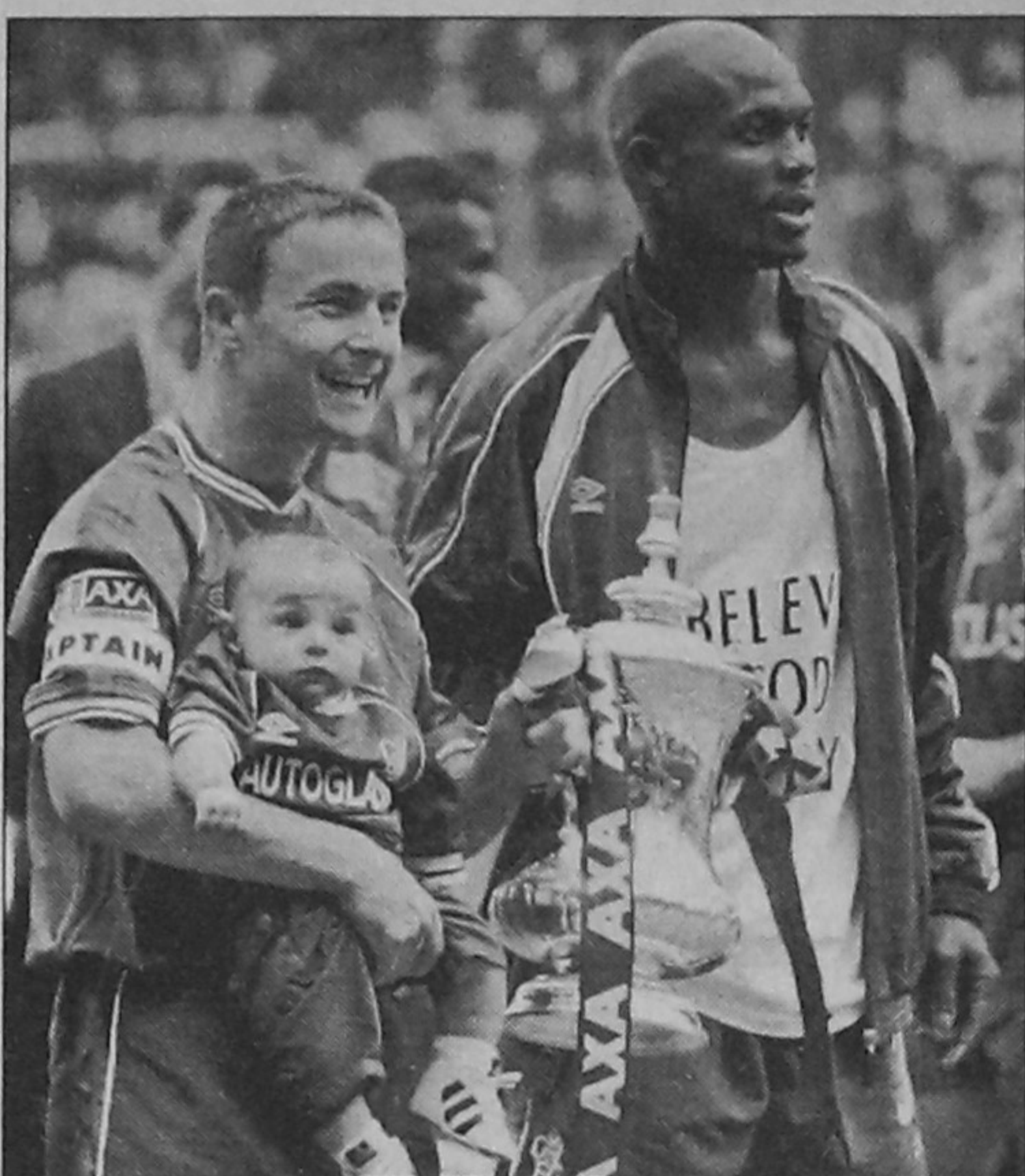
Wise unleashed a right-foot volley on the edge of the box after Gianfranco Zola's cross was headed clear but the Chelsea captain's effort was comfortably saved by James on his goal line.

A minute later Mark Delaney went tearing down the right wing before crossing for Dion Dublin whose header was deflected wide of the upright.

home. Wise ran off celebrating but Poll had already blown the whistle for an offside decision against Weah.

With half an hour to go Weah should have scored when he met Zola's curling cross but the Liberian shot wide from close range with just the keeper to beat.

After 69 minutes Dublin found himself free in the Chelsea penalty area but could not get enough power behind his header and de Goeij watched the



A smiling Chelsea captain Dennis Wise (L) holding his son Henry with one hand and the FA Cup with the other after the final at Wembley on May 20. Teammate George Weah is beside him. — AFP photo

England under-21 star Gareth Barry was booked by referee Graham Poll - England's representative at Euro 2000 next month - after 17 minutes for a late tackle on Mario Melchiot, who was also shown a yellow card two minutes later for a foul on Barry.

After 26 minutes Wise joined them in Poll's notebook for clattering Boateng while the energetic Merson's long-range effort sailed over Ed de Goeij's crossbar moments later.

Chelsea and Villa hold the second and third best defensive records in the Premiership respectively, so it was no great surprise chances were at a premium in the opening 45 minutes.

Villa went close three minutes after the break when Gareth Southgate headed just over the bar while at the other end Frenchman Didier Deschamps and Zola combined to set up Weah whose low right foot shot flashed inches wide of the post.

Gustavo Poyet then became the fourth player to be booked for fouling Boateng a minute later.

After 54 minutes Wise thought he had given Chelsea the lead. James failed to hold Di Matteo's stinging shot and the Chelsea skipper slid the ball

book sail over the crossbar.

Four minutes later Chelsea went in front. Melchiot's surging run was halted on the edge of the Villa penalty area and Zola stepped up to take the free-kick.

The diminutive Sardinian whipped the ball into the box and James and Southgate between them failed to clear the danger leaving Di Matteo to rifle the ball high into the roof of the net.

Villa the went straight up the other end and almost drew level when Carbone had a shot cleared off the line by French international Frank Leboeuf.

After 79 minutes Steve Stone and Julian Joachim came on for Taylor and Carbone as Villa looked to strengthen their attacking options while Chelsea brought on Flo for the tired Weah.

Ugo Ehiogu came close to levelling for Villa in the closing stages but Chelsea were thankful to see his looping header fly over the bar.

Zola was replaced by Jody Morris as Chelsea played for time and Lee Hendrie came on for Alan Wright with seconds to go.

But it was all too late for Villa as the 'Blues' lifted the cup.

Millions or nothing for Real

MADRID, May 21: Real Madrid president Lorenzo Sanz prepares for a final throw on the roulette wheel in Paris Wednesday in the knowledge that the small matter of 29 million dollars rides on his team's all Spanish Champions League final with Valencia, reports AFP.

Real's 1-0 defeat by Valladolid on the last day of the Primera Liga season means that only victory in Paris will earn them a place in next year's Champions League - and the money that comes with it.

The same is true for the players who will earn 350,000 dollars apiece if they prevail in the Stade de France but will only get a quarter of that figure if they lose. Sanz told AS sports paper.

"It is better to keep calm and it is better if I say nothing to the players, who are already under enough pressure," said Sanz.

Real are bidding for a record eighth European title against Valencia, who have never won the continent's premier club competition.

Roma waiting for Batistuta

ROME, May 21: AS Roma president Franco Sensi said on Sunday that he was waiting for the response of Fiorentina's 31-year-old Argentinian striker Gabriel Batistuta to what he maintains is a generous offer, Corriere dello Sport reported Sunday, reports AFP.

"No-one has made an offer like ours and the figures are real," said Sensi.

"It is important money (note: rumoured to be worth 6.2 million dollars a year).

"We have done everything we can and have an agreement with Fiorentina. We only need the player's agreement," added Sensi.

Outgoing European champions Manchester United have also been linked with Batistuta, who is the longest serving player at the club having joined in 1991 from River Plate for just 2 million pounds, but the player's entourage have made it clear the forward will stay in Serie A.

Batistuta, a legend with Fiorentina after scoring a club record 152 goals with the Florence-based outfit, said after scoring a hat-trick in the last game of the season against Venezia that he wanted to move on.



GABRIEL BATISTUTA

The former Reconquista forward, who played in both the 1994 and 1998 World Cup finals and is a two-time Copa America winner, surpassed Sweden's Kurt Hamrin previous club record mark of 151 with that goal.

Despite his glittering record with Fiorentina he only has a 1996 Italian Cup Winners medal to show for his success.

This season he scored 20 goals to finish third in the Capocannonieri (leading scorer) stakes behind AC Milan's Ukrainian hitman Andriy Shevchenko and his Argentine compatriot Hernan Crespo, who netted 21 times for Parma.



Chelsea's Roberto Di Matteo (C) and teammate Frank Leboeuf celebrate after the former scored the winning goal against Aston Villa in the FA Cup final at Wembley on May 20. — AFP photo



A joyous Giovane Elber of Bayern Munich crowns his head with the Bundesliga trophy after his team won the title for the 16th time on May 20. — AFP photo

Bundesliga

Leverkusen hand it to Bayern



COLOGNE, Germany, May 21: German giants Bayern Munich took their 16th Bundesliga title on Saturday after they beat Werder Bremen 3-1 and leaders Bayer Leverkusen crashed to a 2-0 defeat to Unterhaching, reports AFP.

Bayern finished level on 73 points with Leverkusen, who needed only a point to claim their first ever title, but won on superior goal difference of +45 to +38.

It completed the double for Bayern as they also beat Werder Bremen to win the German Cup.

Leverkusen were their worst own enemies as first Michael Ballack put the ball into his own net after 20 minutes then, as Leverkusen were pushing for the equaliser, Markus Oberleitner extended Unterhaching's lead on 72 minutes.

Bayern - who needed a win - finished the job early with two goals by Carsten Jancker and a third from Paulo Sergio in the opening 16 minutes.

Marco Bode pulled one back for Bremen shortly before the break but, with Unterhaching's unexpected 2-0 lead flashed up on the Bayern scoreboard during the second period, nothing could break Bayern's enthusiasm.

"We saw how two minutes was enough for Manchester United to turn around last year's Champions League final (against Bayern)," Leverkusen coach Christian Daum said afterwards.

"That's the fascination of football. Today though it's us who are suffering. We're disappointed, we're sad - sad that a good performance today was thwarted by a desperate Unterhaching side."

"They really threw themselves into it. Congratulations too to Bayern. They scored a few extra goals and deserve to win the title."

The day began to go wrong for Leverkusen after 20 minutes when Ballack scored into his own net while trying to clear a harmless Unterhaching cross.

Just 13 kilometres away in Munich's Olympic stadium Bayern Munich already had their game against Werder Bremen wrapped up by then.

Tantalisingly - in front of just 11,300 fans in Unterhaching's tiny sold out stadium

on Munich's fringe - Leverkusen continued to struggle.

Unterhaching's rigid defence - the best in the league on home turf - blunted the visitors' creative forwards.

Leverkusen's death knell came when Oberleitner put Unterhaching 2-0 ahead, an unlikely scoreline which they held on until the bitter end.

Across Munich a mighty roar engulfed the city's Olympic stadium as 63,000 nervous Bayern fans heard the second goal's announcement on portable radios.

"It's incredible, just unbelievable," Bayern striker Jancker said. "I've never felt so emotional, it's overwhelming."

"This is one of the real highlights in my life," Markus Babel said after his final appearance for Bayern before moving to English club Liverpool.

"There's no better way to say farewell. It's like getting Christmas and Easter all wrapped up into one."

Bayern manager Uli Hoeness said: "I hoped just a little bit that it might be possible but didn't really believe it would be." "I'm really sorry for Leverkusen though, and I don't mean that as Schadenfreude, because I heard they scored an own goal. They were so close and really deserved it this season."

Bayern promised Unterhaching a truckload of Bavarian wheat beer and white Wurst - regional specialties - if they beat Leverkusen and know they owe an enormous debt of gratitude to them.

"Unterhaching are a fantas-

tic partner club for us," Bayern deputy president Karl-Heinz Rummenigge said. "It's partly due to us that they were promoted last season but what they did today, we can never make that up to them."

"I feel for Christoph (Daum) because it's hard losing the title on the final day," Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld said after being bathed in beer by his players.

"He's a professional though and I wish him all the best. Compliments to Unterhaching as well. What they did was sensational. I never thought they would be able to beat Leverkusen because Leverkusen played a great second half to the season and deserved to be champions."

Elsewhere SSV Ulm lost their relegation duel with Eintracht Frankfurt 2-1 and will join Duisburg and Arminia Bielefeld in the Second Division next season. Hansa Rostock stayed up by beating Schalke 0-2, their first away win this season.

1860 Munich drew 1-1 with Kaiserslautern, a mutually beneficial result for both clubs. It kept 1860 fourth in the standings and puts them in the qualification series for next season's Champions League while Kaiserslautern finished fifth and have a place in the UEFA Cup.

Eintracht Berlin also have a UEFA Cup spot despite losing 3-0 to Borussia Dortmund. In the remaining games, VfL Wolfsburg beat SC Freiburg 2-1, VfB Stuttgart drew 3-3 with Bielefeld and Duisburg drew 1-1 with Hamburg.

STANDINGS

BERLIN, May 20 (AFP): German league table after Saturday matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

Bayern Munich	34	22	5	7	28	73
Bayer Leverkusen	34	21	10	3	26	73
SV Hamburg	34	16	11	7	63	59
Munich 1860	34	14	11	9	55	48
Kaiserslautern	34	15	5	14	54	50
Hertha Berlin	34	13	11	10	39	46
VfL Wolfsburg	34	12	13	9	51	48
VfB Stuttgart	34	14	6	14	44	47
Werder Bremen	34	13	8	13	65	47
Unterhaching	34	12	8	14	40	42
Borussia Dortmund	34	9	13	12	41	38
Freiburg	34	10	10	14	45	40
Schalke 04	34	8	15	11	42	39
Eintracht Frankfurt	34	12	5	17	42	39
Hansa Rostock	34	8	14	12	44	38
SSV Ulm	34	9	8	17	36	35
Arminia Bielefeld	34	7	9	18	40	31
MSV Duisburg	34	4	10	20	37	22

Lemerre's faith in World Cuppers



PARIS, May 21: France coach Roger Lemerre all but revealed his squad for Euro 2000 here Sunday.

naming a party of 18 players for a training camp at Clairefontaine that will begin on May 23.

With Laurent Blanc, Lillian Thuram, Christian Karembeu and Nicolas Anelka still on club duty it is now clear that, barring unforeseen circumstances such as injury, those four men will make up the party of 22 for the summer tournament to be co-staged by Holland and Belgium, which begins on June 10.

Karembeu and Anelka are part of the Real Madrid team preparing for the Champions League Final against Valencia in Paris on Wednesday while Inter Milan's Blanc and Parma's Thuram will square up in a European play-off match in Italy on Tuesday.

"It is foreseeable that we will be 22 on Thursday night (after the Champions League Final)," said Lemerre, who will make no further comment until June 1, when the official list must be submitted to UEFA.

"I claim in the step I have taken today a pattern of conduct which will lead naturally to those 18 names being joined by the four missing names to become the definitive list," said Lemerre, right-hand man to predecessor Aimé Jacquet in the victorious World Cup campaign.

France also have three friendly matches to play before Euro 2000 and thus the party could be altered should there be any injuries.

On May 28 they play Croatia in Zagreb while on June 4 and 6 they play Japan and Morocco

respectively in the Hassan II tournament in Casablanca, Morocco.

On June 7 they will fly to Belgium to their Gervais base for Euro 2000.

UEFA rules allow for alterations to be made to the squad before the start of the tournament after the June 1 deadline for squad lists if a player is certifiably injured.

Eighteen of the 22 players were members of the squad for the victorious World Cup campaign under Jacquet.

The four newcomers are Bordeaux trio Ulrich Rame, Johan Micoud and Sylvain Wilford and Anelka who was one of six players omitted from the France 98 list when Jacquet trimmed his squad down from 28 to 22.

The four World Cup winners to miss out are Auxerre pair Stephane Guivarch and Bernard Diomede, Rangers goalkeeper Lionel Charbonnier and Parma midfielder Alain Boghossian, who is injured.

Lemerre indicated that Boghossian would have been preferred to Micoud had he been fit.

There were indications during France's qualifying campaign that senior players such as Blanc and skipper Didier Deschamps, believed to be influential in selection matters under both Jacquet and Lemerre, did not look kindly on the promotion of new blood at the expense of France 98 stars.

But Lemerre denied he had shown any favours to the World Cup veterans, saying: "There have been no privileges for the World Cup players. If they are still in the squad today, it is because of their deeds, it is on merit. They are brilliant."

Lemerre confirmed Fabien Barthez as goalkeeping first choice.

His deputy Bernard Lama, who refused to play the France 98 group match with Denmark when Jacques Lemerre was reserve players, has turned down selection for several France squads since unless guaranteed a starting place but now seems to have accepted his status as reserve.

France are bidding to become the first team to hold the World and European titles simultaneously but have been drawn in the "Group of Death" alongside co-hosts Holland, the Czech Republic - who won 10 of 10 qualifiers and 1992 champions Denmark.

18 FOR TRAINING CAMP: Goalkeepers: Fabien Barthez (Monaco), Bernard Lama (Paris SG), Ulrich Rame (Bordeaux).

Defenders: Bixente Lizarazu (Bayern Munich/Ger), Marcel Desailly (Chelsea/Eng), Frank Leboeuf (Chelsea/Eng), Vincent