

## WC 2002 qualifier Unexpected call-up for Edmundo

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 30: Brazilian coach Wanderley Luxemburgo on Monday caused a surprise by calling up controversial Vasco Da Gama striker Edmundo for their 2002 World Cup qualifier against Peru, reports AFP.

The 29-year-old Edmundo, known as "the Animal" for his wild antics, is in the squad for the first time since the 1998 World Cup.

Edmundo told the Brazilian press on Monday he was surprised and happy to return to the national team after two years away.

He has completely recovered from a right ankle injury and has played well for his club in recent weeks, bringing about his selection for the June 4 game.

### SQUAD

**Goalkeepers:** Dida (Corinthians), Carlos Germano (Santos).  
**Defenders:** Cafu (Roma/Ita), Athlison (Flamengo), Roberto Carlos (Real Madrid/Spa), Antonio Carlos (Roma/Ita), Aldair (Roma/Ita), Claudio Canepa (Atletico Mineiro), Emerson (Portuguesa).

**Midfielders:** Cesar Sampaio (Palmeiras), Emerson (Bayer Leverkusen/Ger), Vampeta (Corinthians), Ze Roberto (Bayer Leverkusen/Ger), Alex (Palmeiras), Denilson (Betis/Spa), Rivaldo (Barcelona/Spa).

**Strikers:** Giovane Elber (Bayern Munich/Ger), Amoroso (Parma/Ita), Franca (Sao Paulo), Edmundo (Vasco da Gama).

## De Bruijn sets new swim mark

SHEFFIELD, England, May 30: Dutch swimmer Inge de Bruijn broke the women's 100 metres freestyle world record on Sunday, reports Reuters.

She clocked 53.80 seconds at the "Super Grand Prix" final meeting to beat the mark of 54.01 set by Lei Jingyi of China at the world championships in Rome on September 5, 1994.

### Trevor

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and off since I retired. I haven't played first-class cricket for more than 15 maybe 16 years and it's been 10 years since I last appeared in a club cricket match. Before taking up my present position I was coach at a private school in Sydney called St. Joseph's College during the Australian season. Besides, I arranged clinics across Australia.

**DSS:** Many people say the South Africans are the best fielders. Do you agree?

**TC:** Probably it would be between South Africa and Australia. But honestly speaking if one had to take into consideration the athleticism of Sri Lanka, then the overall standard is equal, if not better than the Proteas or the Aussies. The Lankans are naturally gifted athletes. I also think that because cricket is number one in terms of popularity in the islands, not many other sports can compete. All the best talent is trying to become cricketers. Unlike in South Africa and Australia which can offer a range of choices to youngsters.

**DSS:** Are you sad that your playing career was so short?

**TC:** Definitely I am disappointed that I couldn't play more often for my country. Basically the selectors made up their minds that I was no longer required. I like better the longer version.

**DSS:** Looking back on the underarm episode would you have followed instructions if the captain wasn't your brother? And do you regret it?

**TC:** It wouldn't have mattered who was captain. I was willing to do it in any case. Do I regret it? ... I don't think it was in the best interest of the game. But sometimes I wonder if the situation ever arose and one is allowed to bowl under arm. I would probably do it again if the captain asked. Perhaps I'll have to live with it the rest of my life.

**DSS:** What do you think the future holds for Bangladesh cricket?

**TC:** I think it is very bright especially with the ICC grants Bangladesh Test status. The facilities are excellent especially the stadium. It is now necessary for them to play on different surfaces. That is how Sri Lanka is aiming to raise their own standing in the fraternity.

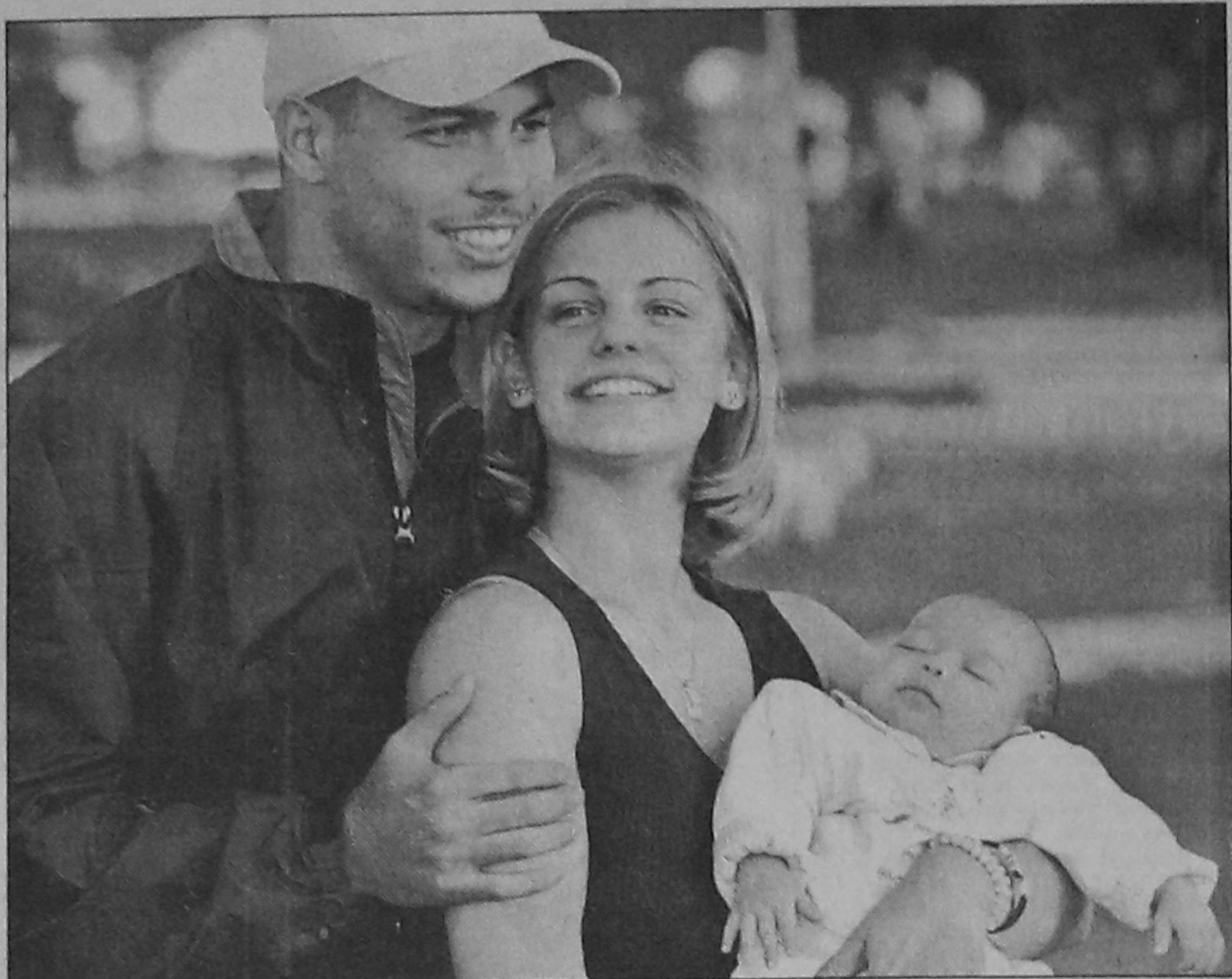
**DSS:** Unlike your illustrious brothers Ian and Greg who took up TV commentary, why didn't you follow in their foot steps?

**TC:** Nobody from the media has exactly approached me. And quite frankly I'm not sure if I would be really interested. These days there are so many windows of opportunity. But when I finished my career as a player there was not much happening. In fact, 15 years ago Channel Nine made it a policy to hire the services of either former Test captains from Australia or England. So I didn't fit into the categories.

In the beginning it was players like Bill Lawry, Keith Stackpole and Tony Greig who were calling the shots. But today you can see and hear Mark Taylor and who knows may be Steve Waugh in future.

**DSS:** What are your plans for the future?

**TC:** Hopefully I can keep on coaching for a while longer. I'm only 47 and am keen to stay in shape so that I can enjoy my coaching. I particularly enjoy teaching how to field correctly. In the time I've spent so far with the Sri Lankans I have been able to develop my skills further.



Superstar Ronaldo poses for photographers with wife Milene and son Ronald before a media conference at Rio de Janeiro on May 29. —AFP photo

## Liverpool's tribute to Heysel victims



LIVERPOOL, England, May 30: The city of Liverpool commemorated Monday the 39 Italian soccer fans who died at the Heysel disaster when a wall collapsed before the 1985 European Cup final in Brussels between Liverpool and Juventus, reports AFP.

It was Liverpool's first official tribute to the Juventus supporters but this year's 15th anniversary was marked by the city's bells pealing 39 times.

Officials decided a tribute was long overdue but said the bells were rung to also draw attention to crowd safety issues at this year's Euro 2000 tournament which kicks off June 10 and is being co-hosted by Belgium and Holland.

Concern has been raised about the safety of the

Charleroi stadium in Belgium where England meet arch rivals Germany on June 17 and one Liverpool council official said the match was an accident waiting to happen.

Monday, the city's town hall bells rang out at noon to remember Heysel and the tragedy will now be remembered annually and a commemorative plaque will be unveiled next year.

At 3:06 on April 15 each year, the city holds a minutes silence to commemorate the 96 fans killed in the Hillsborough tragedy in 1989.

The Heysel disaster took England's footballing reputation to a new low, and the country's teams were banned from playing in Europe for five years, with a 10-year ban on Liverpool's participation.

Today the Heysel stadium is

almost unrecognisable. In 1995, the ground underwent a 30 million dollar renovation and was renamed the King Baudouin Stadium.

Poignantly it is the venue for Euro 2000's opening match on June 10 between Belgium and Sweden.

"We hope these events will meet the approval of the people of Liverpool, Turin and all those who were touched by these tragedies," said Peter Millea, the chairman of the council's Hillsborough disaster working party.

"The Hillsborough and Heysel tragedies are events that deeply affected and shaped the consciousness of this city and its people," he added.

"It is only right and proper that we remember those who died at both disasters," said Millea.

## Glory wants Ivan to take it easy

PERTH, Australia, May 30: Australian teenage footballing sensation Ivan Ergic has been urged by his club Perth Glory not to plunge headlong into the European game until he is ready, reports AFP.

Glory general manager Roger Lefort said here Tuesday the club was determined to hang on to the 19-year-old midfielder for at least another season.

Yugoslav-born Ergic is reportedly being chased by German club Hertha Berlin, as well as top clubs in England, Scotland and Italy.

Hertha Berlin coach Jurgen Rober and scouts from a number of other European clubs watched Ergic produce a match-winning performance for Glory in their 2-0 major semi-final victory over Wollongong Wolves here Saturday.

The win meant Glory qualified for the grand final of the Australian National Soccer League (NSL) in two weeks.

He has become the hottest property in Australian soccer since Mark Viduka, now a striker with Celtic in Scotland, left Melbourne Knights three years ago.

Lefort said: "We believe Ivan has as good a future as Viduka. But Viduka was a few years older than Ivan when he went overseas, and we hope Ivan would not be tempted to try his luck too soon."

"Fortunately, he seems to be accepting the advice he is being given by the club and coach Bernd Stange."

"He has said he wants to stay here and follow Bernd's recommendation and benefit from another season in the NSL."

Ergic, who joined Glory -- the new glamour club of Australian soccer -- on a free transfer from the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra nine months ago, has one year of his contract to run.

He left Belgrade only four years ago and lived with his parents in Carnarvon, a small banana-growing town 966 kilometres (600 miles) north of Perth, before winning a scholarship to the Institute.

Lefort also warned that agents and player-managers were not allowed to speak to players under contract.

"We will take action against anyone who approaches Ivan illegally," he said.

## Carlos invests future at Real

MADRID, May 30: Brazilian international Roberto Carlos has signed a new contract with Real Madrid which will take him through to 2005, the Marca sports daily reported Tuesday.

"I will finish my career with the elite at Real," the 27-year-old Carlos said.

"I have signed the best contract of my life which will bring me peace of mind and will also be good for the club," added Carlos whose name had been linked with Manchester United and with Italian sides Lazio and Juventus.

Marca said that the left-back would earn 500 million pesetas (three million euros) per year and would get a signing-on fee of 600 million pesetas (3.6 million euros).

Carlos was a star member of the Brazil side which played in the 1998 World Cup losing 0-3 to France in the final.

## Hodgson to take over at FC Copenhagen

COPENHAGEN, May 30: Veteran English coach Roy Hodgson looks set to take over the reins at Danish First Division side FC Copenhagen replacing Dane Kim Brink, Danish daily Extra Bladet reported Tuesday, reports AFP.

A press conference is scheduled Tuesday to confirm the news that the former Swiss national coach will try and revive the flagging fortunes of the Copenhagen club who finished in a disappointing eighth place last season.

The 53-year-old Hodgson has also coached Serie A giants Inter Milan, Grasshoppers Zurich of Switzerland and former English Premiership side Blackburn as well as leading Swedish outfit Malmo to five consecutive First Division titles.

## Barthez almost Man United's



LONDON, May 30: France's talismanic goalkeeper Fabien Barthez is set to join English Premiership giant Manchester United Tuesday in a transfer deal reported to be worth around 15 million dollars, the Press Association (PA) reported, reports AFP.

The shaven-headed, 28-year-old World Cup-winning keeper is still locked in negotiations with the English champions after leaving the French national squad early in Zagreb where they defeated Croatia.

But Manchester United deputy chief executive Peter Kenyon said he expected the deal to go through quickly, subject to a medical.

United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has twice attempted to lure the 28-year-old Monaco stopper to Old Trafford this season only to be knocked back in his approaches.

But Barthez's relations with Monaco have deteriorated in recent weeks, with club coach Claude Puel attacking his attitude in an end-of-season clash

against former club Marseille. The transfer, which could be the highest ever for a goalkeeper, looks sure to be thrashed out, and Kenyon said: "I can confirm that we are in discussions with Barthez and we would expect an early conclusion to it."

"The medical has still to take place but we're getting close and I think later today we should be able to make an announcement."

"We would hope that by today we will have concluded everything so that is the expectation."

France coach Roger Lemerre has also asked his players, if possible, to settle their transfers before Euro 2000 kicks off in the Netherlands and Belgium in two weeks' time.

The move for Barthez, who conceded only two goals as France won the World Cup on home soil two years ago and helped them to an impressive 2-0 friendly victory over Croatia on Sunday, puts a huge question mark over the future of current keeper Mark Bosnich.

However, Kenyon refused to speculate on the future of the man who joined on a free from

Aston Villa last season but has failed to make the number one jersey his own.

The Barthez move could also trigger a game of French First Division musical chairs.

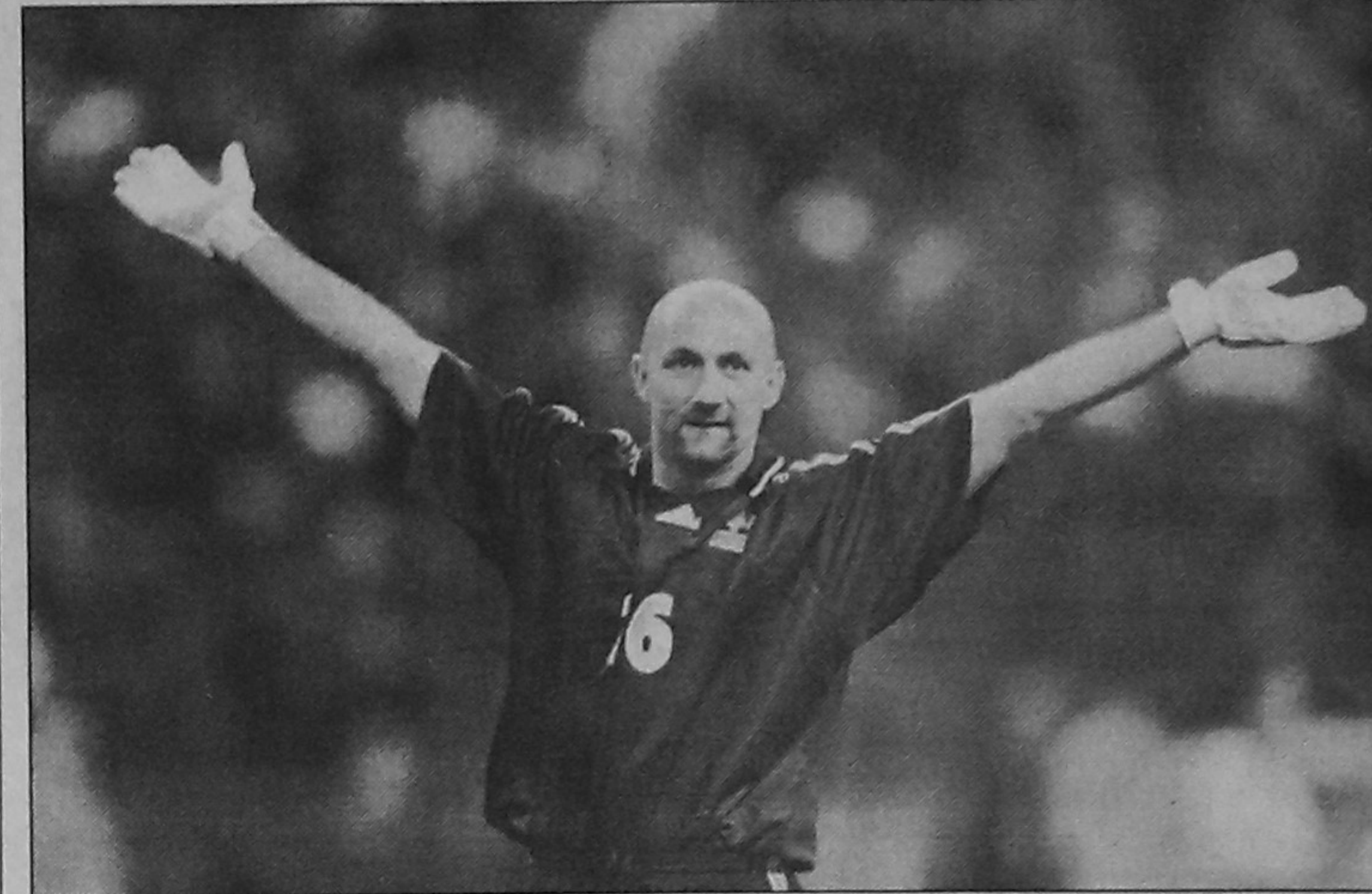
Marseille's restless keeper Stephane Porato was said by a source close to the player to be ready to quit Marseille for either Monaco or Bordeaux.

"Porato's primed to sign for Monaco," said the source, who though suggested an alternative scenario could see Bordeaux's Ulrich Rame moving to Monaco and Porato replacing Rame at Bordeaux.

With his distinctive appearance Barthez emerged as one of the icons of France's 1998 World Cup winning team.

Born in Lavelanet in the south-west of the country he cut his footballing teeth at Toulouse. He won the European Champions League in 1993 with Marseille, switching to Monaco in 1995.

He's rarely out of the sports or gossip pages where he figured as a result of his relationship with top model Linda Evangelista.



An AFP file photo of French international custodian Fabien Barthez who is reportedly on the verge of signing for English Premiership giants Manchester United.

## Socceroos to meet big boys



SYDNEY, May 30: Australia are looking for internationalists against leading football nations as part of an ambitious plan to ensure high-quality opposition for the Socceroos in the run-up to the 2002 World Cup, reports AFP.

The International Entertainment Corporation (IEC), who underwrite Soccer Australia's international program, said Tuesday negotiations were well advanced to bring out Italy, France, England and Argentina.

IEC managing director Dominic Galati said his company had budgeted 40 million dollars (23 million US) to stage the most ambitious football program of matches in Australia.

Italy are being sought to contest a one-off match next month, while world champions France, England, Argentina could play in a group tournament shortly afterwards.

IEC will also run a round robin series involving club sides Manchester United, Inter Milan, AC Milan and possibly Chelsea -- probably in July with a 10 million dollars (5.7 million US) prize pool on offer.

IEC brought Manchester United to Australia last year after the English champions had just been crowned champions of Europe.

"It's looking very positive. Manchester United have said they will come back to play in a tournament, it could involve either Chelsea, Inter Milan and AC Milan," Galati said Tuesday.

"We've been negotiating with Manchester United since they left the country, we've already met with Inter Milan as well as AC Milan and they want to come and we really want Chelsea to come."

"From all our discussions both (tournaments) will be pulled off."

It's uncertain where the games will be played but Galati said next month's three-match

series against Paraguay in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne will be a big indicator.

"We'll look closely at the crowds they get for these games before we determine where the venues will be," he said.

Soccer Australia director David Woolley said giving the national team the best possible opposition in the lead up to the 2002 World Cup was of paramount importance and it was a costly exercise.

He said IEC had shown, by bringing Manchester United here, that it could deliver and it would be the same for the internationalists.

"It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when," he said.

National coach Frank Farina said he expected his side to play up to 30 internationalists by 2001.

Australia are also expected to play in a four-nation series in Paraguay next February and against Scotland at Glasgow's Hampden Park in November.

## First things first for Campbell



LONDON, May 30: England international Sol Campbell will put speculation surrounding his Tottenham future firmly out of his mind for the next month and focus purely on England's Euro 2000 campaign, reports AFP.

The Tottenham captain has been constantly linked with a big-money move away from White Hart Lane with Manchester United among the clubs known to covet the England defender.

But after helping his country launch their Euro 2000 countdown with a 1-1 draw against Brazil on Saturday, Campbell pledged to concentrate on his England duties until the summer tournament is over.

Campbell said: "The Premiership season is over and I'm not going to talk about my contract."

"We're here playing for England now and I'm not thinking about Tottenham at the moment."

"When England finish, I'll come back from holiday and we'll start all over again but there's nothing really needing to be discussed. It's up to the manager and chairman. I'm just a player."

Campbell's Tottenham contract expires next year and boss George Graham is anxious to extend the deal as he tries to rebuild the north London club.

Goalkeeper Neil Sullivan has left relegated Wimbledon to join Tottenham and Graham looks certain to land striker Sergei Rebrov, who is likely to line up against England for Ukraine on Wednesday night.

Kevin Keegan reckons Ukraine are the strongest European team not at this summer's championships. They lost their Euro 2000 play-off to Slovenia after finishing one point behind France in Group 4.

They will pose a different threat to the Brazilians but Campbell said England can take great encouragement from draws against Argentina and Brazil in their last two outings.

Campbell said: "We've played probably the top two teams in the world in our last two games and we can take confidence from our performances."

"Brazil are a good side, they keep asking me questions and you've got to keep coming up with answers."

"I'm sure we're heading in the

better we'll get."

"We play week in week out in the Premiership but this is a different type of football. You've got to be a bit more switched on."

## Sony facing star-wrath

BRUSSELS, May 30: Three European soccer clubs and several players are suing Sony and four other video game makers over what they claim are games in which they star without permission, reports AFP.

Sony Computer Entertainment Europe, Electronic Arts, Rage Games, Infogrames UK and Eidos are targeted in the lawsuit lodged in Belgium for the images they created in a number of computer titles.

The games "This is football", "FIFA 2000", "UEFA Champions League 1999/2000" and "UEFA Euro 2000", were at the centre of the dispute said Jean-Louis Dupont, one of the lawyers for the plaintiffs.

The plaintiffs include Dutch club Feyenoord Rotterdam, Czech club Slavia Prague and Italy's Vincenza. About a dozen players are also involved, including George Hagi, George Popescu, Adrian Ilie and Abel Xavier.

They are seeking 2.5 million euros (2.3 million dollars) and an immediate halt to the unauthorised use of their images, Dupont said.

The game makers had used the images of the players without permission by trying to get the closest resemblance possible between the model (the player) and the electronic image reproduced in the programme, said Dupont.

The resemblance went down to skin and/or hair colour, his usual player number and team position.

As for the clubs, Dupont said their colours, name and sometimes even their insignia were used without authorisation.



Yugoslavia's star playmaker Jovan Stankovic (No 18) leaps above Cho Se-Kwon of South Korea to head during the second international of Yugoslavia's two-match tour at Sungnam on May 30. The game ended 0-0. —AFP photo

## Sammer named Dortmund coach

DORTMUND, Germany, May 30: Former German international Matthias Sammer is the new coach at Bundesliga club Borussia Dortmund, club officials announced Tuesday, reports AFP.

The 32-year-old will take over at the 1997 European champions when he completes his training programme as a coach in June.

Sammer was originally reluctant to take over the post so quickly but the disastrous run of results in Dortmund's Bundesliga campaign last season has convinced the former defender to accept the post.

Dortmund used three different coaches last season and finished a woeful eleventh place.