## Rangers, Monaco gone

There were mixed fortunes French sides in CHAMPIONS the Champions LEAGUE League on Tues

day as Lyon advanced with a 1-O success over Greek outfit Olympiakos while Monaco's 2-2 draw at Rangers left both the Monegasques and Rangers themselves on the scraphcap in Group D. reports AFP.

Lyon joined last season's runners-up Valencia of Spain in the second phase after a second-minute goal brought success at the Stade Gerland. meaning the French ousted their visitors on the head-tohead ruling with both sides having finished on nine points behind Valencia.

Valencia finished with a 1-1 home draw against eliminated Heerenveen of Holland.

Lyon were looking to join Paris Saint Germain in the next phase and show that the domestic league can compete despite so many of France's World Cup and Euro 2000 winners plying their trade with foreign clubs.

Lyon made an electric start and deservedly broke the deadlock as the recalled Tony Vairelles swept over a cross and Laigle duly buried his header to stun the visitors.

Had the Greeks managed to lose by a solitary goal and scored at least two goals in the process they would have advanced but the goal they conceded in the 2-1 win at home to the French proved their downfall as they had to take a consolation berth in the UEFA

Both sides finished level with nine points but the matches between the two goal to put them through

a goalbound towering header blocked by one of his own players as Lyon kept up the early pressure in the opening half ment

brought in a third striker in the said Numan. shape of former Lens favourite

his ace card. Anderson and Marlet were wreaking havoc in the Greek defence and Anderson was unlucky when an acrobatic volley

right flank was blocked. Then Marlet just missed out as he slid in looking to connect

time from the left. But the Greeks were anything other than overawed and Aluez almost levelled when he escaped down the left and fired

just over form an acute angle. However, the visitors suffered a blow when former Barcelona striker Giovanni was cautioned for the second time

in the tournament. Minutes later he had a goal goals," Wenger said. disallowed for offside, but it was a close run thing and Lyon hearts were in their mouths

period. Olympiakos keeper Dimitris Eleftheropoulos also picked up a second vellow card as he handled millimetres outside the is at stake for some teams.

Austrian referee Gunter Benko elected to let him off

with just a booking.

visibly pumped full of confidence and Eleftheropoulos had desperate to bring the trophy to to be at his best to palm over a 30-yard rocket on 44 minutes. Lvon had Deflandre booked mer.

in first half injury time but came out for the second period much as they had started the first as former West Ham midfielder Marc Vivien Foe fired centimetres over the top after puts them into the UEFA Cup. more superb work by the effervescent Anderson. Lyon defender Florent Laville then had to be stretchered off after inby Serge Blanc.

last 15 minutes with both sides' Spartak Moscow. nerves jangling. Benko ordered Greek coach Yannis Matzourakis from the touchline after some over-enthusiastic gesticulating as the match started to slip away for his side Foe was unluckily booked

after the ball hit his elbow from a distance of barely ten metres before Marlet almost escaped for a second goal when Blanc put him through - but the striker was caught in an offside

position. After what seemed like an eternity for the 37,000 crowd Benko blew for full time and Greek heads dropped as the

Lyon players celebrated. Coach Santini, under pressure to deliver after two summers of heavy recruitment and patchy performances this sea-

son, breathed a sigh of relief. "The early goal setled us down and Olympiakos didn't have that many chances - but

they played football. We were ready to suffer out

there and that enabled us to tough it out to the end." Santini Rangers, who at least can console themselves with a

UEFA Cup place, lost out to Galatasaray as the Turks had taken four points off the Scottish side and thus progressed on the head-to-head ruling. Both sides had finished on

eight points from their six

matches. Rangers boss Dick Advocaat could only survey the wreckage as Rangers again failed to get. past the opening stage.



Hakan Unsal (R) of Galatasaray unleashes a shot part the outstretched leg of Sturm Graz's Gunther Neakirchner at Istanbul on November 7. - AFP photo

meant that Lyon had that away but the goals we gave away second half by Cameroon de- Casillas and striker Raul, and were quite cheap. There are no Defender Eric Deflandre saw excuses "said the Dutch coach. Advocaat's compatriot and Rangers defender Arthur Numan echoed the disappoint-

We've drawn with Galata-Lyon coach Jacques Santini saray and now Monaco. If we'd elected effectively to go for won one of those we'd have broke as, alongside Sonny An- gone through. We gave everyderson and Steve Marlet, he thing - but it wasn't enough,

Galatasaray and Sturm Graz parted 2-2 in Istanbul with a Vairelles has spent much of Hakan Unsal own goal ten the season on the bench but minutes from time giving the with the French needing the Austrians a precious point as win at all costs to qualify San- they incredibly won a group tini decided all out attack was they had begun with 5-0 losses at Rangers and Monaco.

> Graz finished top with ten points after winning all their home games.

In Group B. England's Arsefrom a Marlet cross from the nal were hannered 3-0 at

Shakhtar Donetsk of Ukraine. Serhiv Atelkin shot Donetsk ahead with a low shot off the with an Anderson cross, this post on 34 minutes, with Andriv Vorobei's sensational 30yard free-kick making it two on 57 minutes. Olexii Bielik vol-

leyed the third on 66 minutes. Gunners' coach Arsene Wenger complained about two disallowed Arsenal "goals" from French strikers Sylvain Wiltord

and Thierry Henry. "On the television replay they both look like regular

But the Frenchman admitted Arsenal lacked motivation having assured their progress

towards the end of the opening in earlier games. "The problem with the Champions League is that there are too many games at the end of the first round when nothing

said Wenger candidly. Arsenal still topped the group ahead of Lazio, for whom Fabrizio Ravanelli brought a 1-0 win at Sparta Prague to keep Marlet in particular was alive the Cup hopes of boss Sven Goran Eriksson, who is Rome before he leaves to take

> Lazio and Arsenal finished on 13 points but Arsenal took four points off their rivals to claim top spot.

charge of England next sum-

Donetsk's last-day triumph The outcome of Group A had already been decided ahead of the final round of matches as reigning champions Real Majuring his ankle, to be replaced drid had already won the group ahead of Russia's newly-As the match entered the crowned league champions

Spartak, who had lost their match in Madrid 1-0, took revenge with a win by the same margin achieved courtesy of an

win achieved last weekend local

### RESULTS AT A GLANCE

PARIS, Nov 8 (AFP): Collated Champions' League results on Tuesday: Group A

Spartak Moscow (Rus) 1 (Geremi 47 o.g.) Real Madrid (Spa) 0 Sporting Lisbon (Por) 0

Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 0 Group B Sparta Prague (Cze) O Lazio Ital 1 (Ravanelli 43) Sliakhtar Donetsk (Ukr) (Atelkin 34, Vorobei 57, Bielik

Group C Valencia (Spa) I (Diego Alonso 10) Heerenveen (Ned) I (Venema 37)

66) Arsenal (Eng) 0

piakos (Gre) 0 Group D Galatasaray (Tur) 2 (Ergun

30-pen. Jardel 75) Sturm Graz (Aut) 2 (Yuran 64. Hakan Unsal Glasgow Rangers (Sco) 2

(Miller 3, Mols 52) Monaco (Fra) 2 (Da Costa 39), Simone 77)

"The commitment was there own goal two minutes into the several regulars, including Iker

Luzhniki stadium.

#### fender Geremi before an 82.000 Spartak duly took the opportunity afforded them to avenge a For Spartak, fresh from their 1-0 defeat in their earlier eighth domestic championship meeting in Madrid. The Russians made a lively pride was at stake at the start, searching for an early

opening goal, while the Span-Real came into the match tards concentrated their forces weakened by the absence of in defence, playing ultra cau-Spartak created several clear

opportunities in the opening quarter-hour but Real's reserve goalkeeper Cesar looked confident stopping and deflecting everything the hosts could throw at him.

Real, much of whose creativity flowed through English winger Steve McManaman in what was a rare appearance for him, then came out of their shells without unduly troubling their opponents.

Spartak finally breached the Real defences on 47 minutes when Geremi deflected the ball into this lown net after Spartak midfielder Yegor Titov's shot from inside the box bounced off Michel Salgado.

The Russians then had to defend stoutly as Real looked in vain for an equaliser.

Real missed their last chance to pull level when de-Lyon (Fra) 1 (Laigle 2) Olym- fender Santiago Solari shot wide from just inside the penalty box.

In the other match in Group A. Bayer Leverkusen of Germany and Portugal's Sporting Lisbon parted goalless in Lisbon as Leverkusen took third place, bringing with it a UEFA Cup spot.

#### STANDINGS

PARIS, Nov 8(AFP): European Champions League first

phase final tables after Tuesday night's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points): GROUP A Real Madrid (Spa) Spartak Moscow (Rus) 6 Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 6 Sporting Lisbon (Por) GROUP B Arsenal (Eng) Lazio (Ita) Shakhtar Donetsk (Ukr) 6 Sparta Prague (Cze)

GROUP C Valencia (Spa) Lyon (Ned) Olympiakos (Gre) Heerenveen (Ned) GROUP D Sturm Graz (Aut) Galatasaray (Tur) Glasgow Rangers (Sco) Monaco (Fra)

\*First and second-placed sides qualify for the Cham-

pions League second phase, third-placed sides qualify

for the UEFA Cup and fourth-placed sides are eliminated.

THOU

Marco Simone (3 from L) is the toast of his Monaco teammates after scoring the equaliser against Rangers. - AFP photo

brough's Croatian striker Alen Boksic aumounced Tuesday he would no longer play for the Croatian national team. Sportske novosti daily reported, reports AFP.

"There is not just one, exclusive reason for my decision. 31-year-old Boksic told the paper, adding that the resignation of Croatian national team coach Miroslav Blazevic was "just one of the reasons", others being his age and personal derwent emergency surgery in problems.

Blazevic, a supporter of the former nationalist regime in Zagreb, resigned two weeks ago | lowing a dispute. following criticism of his controversial involvement in poli-

#### Keegan taking legal steps

LONDON, Nov 8: Former England coach Kevin Keegan is to take legal action against the News of the World over an article headlined 'Keegan's 40,000 bet shame', reports AFP.

Keegan, who quit as national coach following the 1-0 World Cup qualifying defeat to Germany at Wembley on October 7. is seeking a full retraction and apology from the newspaper.

last Sunday, made claims about Keegan's role in gambling by England players and reported that several players would bet as much as 10,000 pounds (15.000 dollars) a hand in card games, creating splits within the squad.

His solicitor issued the following statement on Wednesday night: "Kevin Keegan utterly refutes the allegations and is determined to take whatever action may be necessary to

defend his reputation. "A letter has been sent to the News of the World by Peter Carter-Ruck and partners today in advance of legal action

against the newspaper. "Mr Keegan would like to record his thanks to Adam Crozier (Football Association chief executive) and everyone at the Football Association for their wholehearted support of him at all times."

However, a spokeswoman for the paper, Hayley Barlow, said that they were ready to defend their story.

"The News of the World report into Kevin Keegan's gambling activities with members of the England football squad resulted from a thorough investigation.

"The News of the World is satisfied with its facts and stands by its story."

#### Benny feels shattered

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 8 South Africa star Benni McCarthy says he is devastated at being linked with a crowd stampede that led to 13 deaths at a World Cup qualifier in Zimbabwe last July. Reports

World football governing body FIFA barred the star of the 1998 African Nations Cup for two World Cup ties and fined him 1.500 dollars for making obscene gestures to the crowd. The match in Harare on July

9 was abandoned with seven

minutes of normal time left when local fans reacted angrily after Delron Buckley scored his second goal to give South Africa a 2-0 lead. FIFA claims McCarthy from Spanish club Celta Vigo looked

at the crowd and pointed to his lips in a celebratory gesture used worldwide to silence opposition fans. Police reacted to the crowd

disturbance by firing teargas and the victims were crushed to death as they tried to reach exits at the 60,000-capacity National Stadium. "It was a huge personal struggle just to get over the

horrific events only to be informed that I am to blame for what happened in Zimbabwe. McCarthy told the South African media. "Delron and I ran to the

crowd in celebration, as is done anywhere in the world, and we were pelted with missiles. A bottle struck Delron on the side of the head. "How can I be banned and fined when I have not given my

side of the story? All Delron and I did was celebrate the goal that virtually wrapped up the match South African Football Asso-

ciation chief executive Danny Jordaan was equally angry. saying FIFA had tried, found guilty and suspended Benni based on information supplied by Zimbabwe football officials. "Before you can find Benni guilty, you have to summons

him to state his case. I will be taking up the issue with the controlling body to get some clarity about the situation," Jordaan said.

#### New dates for Yugoslav WC qualifiers

PARIS, Nov 8: World Cup qualification matches between Yugoslavia and Russia and Yugoslavia and the Faroe Isles will be held on April 25 and August 15, 2001 respectively. world football's governing body (FIFA) announced Tuesday, reports AFP.

Originally scheduled for October 7 and 11 this year both matches were postponed due to adverse political events in Yugoslavia.

# Boksic quits national team Leeds fan stabbed



Leeds United charl Connew, 37, was arrested deaths of two of our supporters supporter was in for allegedly striking a police earlier this year in furkey I a critical condi- officer. Guinew is due to appear hoped it was something we CHAMPIONS tion in a Milan in' court Wednesday charged would never have to go through LEAGUE hospital Wednes day after being stabbed in the sisting arrest. early hours, ahead of Wednes-

The 31-year-old man, whose named was not released, un-Milan's Fatebenefratelli hospital after being attacked and stabbed all over his body fol-

the man sustained most dam- club's UEFA Cup semi-final present at the San Siro Staage to his abdomen area, but first-leg clash with Galatasaray. dium - the largest away followbecause he was in such an On hearing about Tuesday ing the club have taken to intoxicated state he was unable night's incident. Ray Fell. Europe since the 1975 Euroto describe his attackers to chairman of the Leeds United pean Cup Final against Bayern

with public disorder and re- again."

day night's Champions League United supporters arrived in happen again - and at times clash with AC Milan, reports. Milan Tuesday for Wednesday. like this you wonder if the game night's Champions League tie is worth it. with AC Milan in the San Siro.

Two Leeds supporters, only do so much.

Christopher Loftus and Kevin Speight, were killed earlier this According to early reports year in Istanbul, ahead of the and 7.000 Leeds fans to be

Another Leeds supporter Mi- "I'm rather shattered. After the

"It's hard to bear. It's some-Several hundred Leeds thing we all hoped would never

We are continually looking City authorities have banned to see what steps are being the sale of all alcoholic drinks taken to prevent a repeat of in bars except in designated events in Istanbul. You liaise retail outlets and restaurants. with everybody but you can

Fell expects between 5.000 Supporters' Association, said: Munich in Paris.

## FA chief can't believe it



LONDON, Nov 8: him in the future." Football Associa-

Tuesday that any The article, which appeared suggestions that he had been

ous", reports AFP. "There has been a lot of exaggeration of events over the appointed at the way in which past few days and we (the FA) Kevin's time with us ended, wish Kevin nothing but the best there was - and is - no question at this difficult time," said of our opinion changing with tions that regular high-stakes

sider myself a friend of Kevin's having been through some difficult times together.

"The idea that I would now go round bad-mouthing him is preposterous. Everyone here at the FA is very supportive of him and we will continue to support

Crozier insisted England coach, the FA wishes on what we think of Kevin or to make its position clear.

"At the time of Kevin's de-"bad-mouthing" former England parture. Adam Crozier, the FA who will approach the job in the coach Kevin Keegan since his chief executive, stated very

as a man and as a coach. "Whilst we are of course disregards to Kevin.

"I am lucky enough to con- more supportive of Kevin during his time, as was well known by all of his staff and his play-

wise is very unfair.

the set-up and that we posi-An FA statement added: tively state the attributes of our "Following recent reports re- new coach and his support Adam garding Kevin Keegan's reign as team of coaches does not reflect

his team. "They are different people their way in a set-up which is resignation were "preposter- clearly his admiration for Kevin radically different to what existed before."

> Keegan's reign has been placed under intense scrutiny over the past week, with allegagambling by several players "The FA could not have been contributed to divisions in the

squad Crozier himself admitted last Thursday that the England "players could be closer" as he "We remain supportive of looked ahead to the new regime him and any suggestion other- under Swede Sven-Goran Eriksson, currently seeing out The fact that we are looking his contract in Italy at Rome to improve certain aspects of club Lazio until July 2001.

# Tapie wants to help



mer president of chand last week. troubled French

the club in its time of crisis, nation of Dreyfus.

The disgraced French entrepreneur and politician, said Marseille president in 1993 tremely cold. during an interview with La when the chib was stripped of Meanwhile former Auxerre Provence daily newspaper that their title and demoted to the goach Guy Roux on Tuesday he had not yet been in contact Second Division after a match- denied links to the coaching job chief Robert Louis-Drevfus track. would "perhaps help soften the

bottom in the relegation zone. ness interests would prevent work for any other French having sacked their sports him from doing so.

MARSEILLE, Fra- manager Eric Di Meco on Satnce, Nov 8: Ber- urday and accepted the resignard Tapie, for- nation of president Yves Mar-

First Division side defeat to Rennes, a large part of dryly. Marseille, said Tuesday he was the supporters chanted for the ready to offer a helping hand to return of Tapie and the resig-

with the club, but suggested buying affair, proposed two at Marseille. that a phone call from current plans to get the club back on climate and bring calm to all at means, alone or with partners, after 38 years in charge, de-

"Or the second solution would be for Robert Louis-Drevfus to call me to ask for some tips so that everyone After Saturday's home 0-1 stops mocking him," he added Louis-Dreyfus, however, has

categorically dismissed on a

number of occasions the even-

tual return of Tapie, with whom Tapie, who fell from grace as relations are said to be ex-

Roux, who left Auxerre prior "Either I have the financial to the start of the 2000 season and I come back to OM as the clared that he was still the "full-Marseille are currently in a man in charge," said Tapie, time general coach" of Auxerre mini-crisis, sitting third from conceding that current busi- and therefore "unavailable to

# Anelka being Anelka!



players in French possible. First Division side Paris Saint Ger- (Jay Jay) Okocha is not play-

Tony Vairelles (L) of Lyon and Olympiakos' Christos Pat-

satzoglou locked in an aerial tussle during the Champions

League clash at Lyon on November 7.

following recent defeats. inter- fatigue .... national striker Nicholas Paris SG have conceded new blood must be brought in if 45 days and fined 300.000

()), and Anelka is so worried about the club's performance there are a lot of players in the ternative team tactics to suit that he has called for a com- wings waiting for their chance his style of play. plete overhaul midfield. "I think it's time to react be-

personal website. "When you look at it, our cessor to Vietra. problem midfield is not new. We don't have a playmaker and the CFA (French amatuer

PARIS, Nov 8: Co- with only one defensive mid- leagues, feeder clubs to the nfidence among fielder in Pete (Luccin), it's im- French top flight) have what it

"(Ali) Benarbia is leaving, feet.

main is riding low ing... and when you add general his first professional club. for

back-to-back defeats against Paris are to succeed in the dollars for refusing to train.

Bordeaux (2-1) and Auxerre (1- French top flight. "Paris is a huge club and also because he suggested al-

to play," he added. "I really think now is the and was recalled to the squad. cause we are going to end up time! to introduce players like going on to help Real lift the losing everything." said the Abriel. Kelban. (Edouard) European Cup. temperamental striker on his Cisse... he. for example, is a superb player, a kind of suc-

"All these guys who play in

31 million dollars in July fol-Anelka, no stranger to giving lowing by a tumultuous season Anelka claimed Tuesday, re- his view of team tactics and with Spanish side Real Madrid formation, also believes that in which he was suspended for

Part of that punishment was

takes, while we're dead on our

Anelka moved back to PSG.

He eventually apologised

### Matthaeus is history

NEW YORK, Nov 8: German veteran Lothar Matthaeus' adventure in US Major League Soccer is over and he will not be playing for New York/New Jersey Metrostars next season. the club's director general Nick Sakiewicz said Tuesday, reports

"I don't see him being part of our team next season. He's not going to come back." Sakiewicz

"It is amazing to see how many options Lothar has. He can go and still play in Europe or start a coaching career. He has his work cut out for him."

Former Bayern Munich star Matthaeus, who won a world record 150 caps for Germany and who won the 1990 World Cup under Franz Beckenbauer's tutelage, fell out with his teammates almost as soon as he arrived, saying the club's players were only of amateur quality and needed to raise their game, causing a rift in the

But Sakiewicz did not wish to dwell on the difficult start.

really think that he blended in after caelr match and showed us his warrior skills towards the end of the competition. Our young players still learned a great deal with Lothar

on their side. But I don't think

'He had some difficult me-

ments in the beginning But I

the league needs superstars like Lothar to survive. Matthaeus, 39, signed a one

- AFP photo

year deal with the club last August with the option of a further year.