

# FA Cup

## Leeds out, MU back from the dead

### Football

REUTERS, London

The FA Cup sprung to life in dramatic style as Leeds United were humbled by Cardiff City and Manchester United produced a trademark late recovery to knock out Aston Villa.

Leeds, the Premier League leaders, suffered a humiliating 2-1 defeat at Second Division Cardiff, and Derby County lost 3-1 at home to Third Division Bristol Rovers, but Manchester United almost stole the limelight with a stunning display at Villa Park.

Trailing 2-0 and facing a third-round exit from the competition for the first time in 18 years, the champions scored three goals in five minutes to book their place in the fourth round.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer grabbed the first before substitute Ruud Van Nistelrooy, on the bench to rest a groin injury, netted twice in two minutes to seal a stirring comeback.

"It was a fantastic Cup tie in the second half," United manager Alex Ferguson told BBC television.

"I thought we were extremely unlucky to be down but, at that point, I had to make a substitution. I didn't want to do it but he (Van Nistelrooy) came on and changed the game."

Scott Young was the Cardiff hero, smashing the ball home from close range three minutes from time to seal a famous victory over Leeds for a club lying 10th in the Second Division.

"I was worried, because no-one got thrashed yesterday (Saturday) and I thought, with my luck, it'll probably be us," Cardiff manager Alan Cork, a member of Wimbledon's FA Cup-winning team in 1988, told Sky Sports television.

"But the way we played and determination we had showed you can beat these teams. The players will treasure it for the rest of their lives."

Leeds had looked to be on course for the fourth round when Mark Viduka put them ahead after 12 minutes, but Graham Kavanagh's stunning free-kick nine minutes later drew the hosts level.

The premier league side were reduced to 10 men just before halftime as young striker Alan Smith was sent off for elbowing an oppo-



PHOTO: AFP

Ruud Van Nistelrooy (R), is ecstatic as he celebrates his first goal against Aston Villa with teammate David Beckham at Villa Park on January 6.

ment, the sixth red card of his fledgling career.

Cardiff, FA Cup winners in 1927 and the only non-English side to win the trophy, held their own in the second half, but Leeds, beaten only twice in the league all season, looked to have escaped with a draw before Young's late intervention.

"We made it difficult for ourselves with 10 men," Leeds manager David O'Leary told Sky. "We were hit by two set plays but I thought we could get a draw at least. That's the Cup, though, and all credit to Cardiff."

Earlier, Bristol Rovers, 19th in the Third Division, also pulled off a major upset as striker Nathan Ellington bagged a hat-trick to sink Derby, the Premier League's third-bottom club.

Rovers took the lead at Derby's

Pride Park Stadium after 14 minutes when Ellington latched on to a long clearance by his goalkeeper Scott Howie to head the ball past Mart Poom.

The visitors continued to hold their own and doubled their lead five minutes before the interval, Ellington's deflected shot sneaking past Poom at the near post.

Derby threatened briefly to get back into the match, but fell further behind as Ellington controlled the ball on the edge of the penalty area before volleying it into the bottom corner of the net just after the hour.

Fabrizio Ravanelli grabbed a late consolation for Colin Todd's men, who must now concentrate on their battle for Premier League survival.

Jermain Defoe scored twice to help West Ham United to a 3-0 win

over Macclesfield Town, while Third Division Cheltenham Town beat Second Division Oldham Athletic 2-1.

The biggest upset in Saturday's matches was First Division West Bromwich Albion's 2-1 victory at Sunderland.

Eleven third-round ties were postponed over the weekend.

### FA Cup 4th rd draw

## Liverpool, Gunners meet again

AFP, London

The draw for the fourth round of the FA Cup Sunday saw holders Liverpool pitted against Premiership rivals Arsenal in a repeat of last season's final.

Second Division giantkilling Cardiff reward for beating Premiership leaders Leeds is a trip to either Southend or Tranmere while Third Division Bristol Rovers, who beat Premiership strugglers Derby County in the third round, are away to First Division Gillingham.

### FA CUP 4TH RD DRAW:

Brighton or Preston v Sheffield United

Rotherham or Southampton v Crewe or Sheffield Wednesday v Charlton v Walsall or Bradford v Southend or Tranmere v Cardiff

Gillingham v Bristol Rovers v Grimsby or York v Wycombe or Fulham

Darlington or Peterborough v Newcastle

Coventry or Tottenham v Stockport or Bolton

Norwich or Chelsea v West Ham

Millwall v Barnsley or Blackburn

Cheltenham v Burnley v Everton v Leyton Orient

West Brom v Leicester v Wimbledon or Middlesbrough v Manchester United

Ipswich v Manchester City v Arsenal v Liverpool

\* Ties to be played on the weekend of January 26/27

return to action until towards the end of February.

The injury will be a worry to Italy national team coach Giovanni Trapattoni less than five months ahead of the World Cup in South Korea and Japan as he already has defensive problems.

Key defender Paolo Maldini of AC Milan is also injured while Maldini's likely deputy Valerio Bertotto of Udinese is an almost certain absentee from the World Cup.

Inter Milan defender Marco Materazzi also failed to complete the 90 minutes against Lazio in what was a comeback match from injury.

### Carew transfer falls through

REUTERS, Valencia

John Carew's proposed move from Valencia to Fulham has broken down after a row over his medical, the Spanish club have said on their website.

"Valencia CF have declined to renegotiate the transfer of Carew to Fulham, after the English club wanted to modify the deal agreed, arguing that the player had not satisfactorily passed a medical," Valencia said in a statement.

"Valencia refuse to accept any modification and Carew will resume training with the rest of the Valencia squad on Tuesday."

### Nesta out for a month

AFP, Rome

Lazio's Italian international defender Alessandro Nesta faces four to five weeks on the sidelines after sustaining cartilage damage to his right knee during his club's 0-0 draw with Inter Milan at the San Siro Sunday, the Italian First Division club announced Monday.

The player also injured his right ankle in the same match and tests on Monday confirmed he will not return to action until towards the end of February.

The result moved Valencia from seventh place to third, as they leapfrogged above Betis and took advantage of surprise home defeats for Basque sides Athletic Bilbao and Alaves.

Real Madrid claimed top spot with 35 points at the season's halfway point -- giving them the honorary title of winter champions -- thanks to a 3-1 win over Deportivo Coruna at the Bernabeu on Saturday.

Depor slip to second on 33 points, ahead of Valencia on goal difference, while Celta Vigo lie fourth after they were held 2-2 at home to Rayo Vallecano on Saturday.

Alaves drop to eighth on 33 points, ahead of Betis on goal difference.

Barcelona made a promising start to 2002, after traumatic times during the last four months of 2001, with a commanding win over Real Zaragoza, who have now not won in

the Nou Camp since 1965.

Dutch international striker Patrick Kluivert got the Catalans' first goal in injury time before the break and nine minutes into the second half Kluivert provided the pass for Javier Saviola to get his eighth goal of the season.

Barcelona's home win moved them up one place into seventh, five points behind the leaders.

Valencia appeared set for a comfortable win over Betis as they raced into a 2-0 lead inside 16 minutes.

### Primera Liga

## Barca back on track

### Football

REUTERS, Madrid

PHOTO: INTERNET  
Valencia's Salvador Ballesta (2nd from L) celebrates his strike with team mates Francisco Perez Rufete (L) and Vicente Rodriguez (R) while Real Betis' Romanian Iulian Filipeescu looks on at Seville's Manuel Ruiz de Lopera Stadium on January 6.

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### Primera Liga's top six

Spanish league table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

	19	10	5	4	36	22	35
Real Madrid	19	10	3	6	33	25	33
Deportivo	19	10	3	6	33	25	33
Valencia	19	8	9	2	23	16	33
Celta Vigo	19	8	8	3	36	22	32
Athletic Bilbao	19	8	7	4	27	25	31
Real Betis	19	9	4	6	20	18	31

### Serie A

## Inter's winter miss

### Football

AFP, Milan

Defending Italian league champions AS Roma were crowned winter champions on Sunday when they beat struggling Torino 1-0 to top the table at the halfway point of the season.

That result proved good enough for Roma to win the purely honorary accolade as Inter Milan, who had led the division at the start of the weekend, were held 0-0 by Lazio at the San Siro on Sunday evening.

Roma's victory, earned when skipper Francesco Totti scored in the first half despite appeals for offside at the Olympic Stadium, ensures they now lead Inter by a single point at the top and are on course to successfully defend their title.

"We have found our humility again and this has enabled us to put us in a position where we can build on last year's success," said Roma coach Fabio Capello.

Inter were held by Lazio in a dour encounter although their Sierra Leonian striker Mohamed Kallon hit the post in the first half.

Their Argentinian coach Hector Cuper said he could not care less about the winter title.

"I am always disappointed when Inter don't win but not about the winter championship because I

don't think it counts for much," said Cuper. "I still have faith in the team."

Lazio coach Alberto Zaccheroni said simply: "It was a fair result. Not a great spectacle but a good game as far as commitment was concerned."

Also victorious were Chievo and Juventus who move third and fourth respectively.

Chievo, the surprise packages from Verona, came from a goal down to beat Atalanta 2-1 and the Turin giants defeated Udinese 3-0 to move back ahead of AC Milan, 1-0 victory at Lecce on Saturday.

Chievo's magical 2001 looked like disappearing into the new year mist when Atalanta midfielder Daniele Beretta struck early at Bergamo with a freak goal.

But the side that topped the division earlier in the season did not panic and, on the hour, Massimo Marazzina levelled the scores with his 10th goal of the season, a goal that will have impressed watching Italian national team coach Giovanni Trapattoni.

And then substitute Federico Cossato struck for the Verona-based visitors who recorded their 10th victory of the season and still have a game in hand over most of their rivals.

"I am very pleased because we played some excellent football," said Chievo coach Luigi del Neri before repeating what has become a familiar refrain in recent months. "It all helps us in our bid to ensure



Christian Vieri (R), the Inter Milan ace vies with Giuliano Giannichedda of Lazio at Milan on January 6.

### Serie A's top six

Italian First Division table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

	17	10	6	1	25	9	36
AS Roma	17	10	5	2	31	16	35
Inter Milan	17	10	2	4	30	20	32
Chievo	16	10	2	4	30	20	31
Juventus	17	8	7	2	30	13	31
AC Milan	17	8	6	3	26	18	30
Bologna	17	8	3	6	15	16	27

Fiorentina had hopes of a brighter 2002 when their Italian international defender Daniele Adani gave them an early lead in a relegation battle with Perugia but