

SPORT

way

latest injury in Rio.

while her twice World Player of the

Year husband recovers from his

Gazzetta Dello Sport. Milene

Domingues is preparing to make her

debut for Italian Women's Serie A

MILENE DOMINGUES

"She is very good," Monza coach

"She has speed and is very agile.

Now she plays in attack although

she would prefer to be behind the

Raffaele Solimeno was quoted as

side Fiamma Monza.

According to a report in the

The Baily Star

play my international football for!

"Manchester United are back in

European action next week in

Nantes and we're all desperate to

get back into Champions League

form since our last Champions

League match but I don't think any of

the players are under any illusions

gears to make the grade in Europe.

that Nantes are struggling in the

French league but that makes it a

harder rather than easier trip. When

a side isn't doing that well at home

there's often no better remedy than

claiming a big European scalp like

of the French league table but

they're the reigning champions and

in the second phase of the

Champions League, so they'll be no

place in the last eight as soon as

possible because the Premiership

title race looks like it will go down to

the wire and the last thing we need is

to be going into our last second

phase game needing a win.

"Our aim has to be book our

"Nantes may be in the wrong half

United's

pushovers.

"Some people have pointed out

"We've picked up our league

English giants' contrasting moods Mrs. Ronaldo

CHAMPS LEAGUE

AFP. Paris

The English Premiership's leading two clubs Manchester United and Liverpool resume their European Champions League campaigns on Wednesday from vastly different perspectives

Liverpool, looking down the barrel at the bottom of second phase Group B, desperately need a home win against Turkish club Galatasaray to get a quarter-final berth back in their sights.

United, who have climbed back on top of the Premiership since their last European fixture in early December, top Group A and have on paper one of the less threatening away trips to French champions Nantes.

The other two fixtures of the night include Group B leaders Barcelona at home to AS Roma and Boavista hosting Bayern Munich in Group A. The top two of each group will

earn a last eight berth to be played in early April. Liverpool's reserve goalkeepe Chris Kirkland is ready to step out of

the shadows and into Jerzy Dudek's boots for their tie at Anfield. With regular number one Dudek battling to shake off a groin injury,

Kirkland is on stand-by to make his first appearance since Liverpool's League Cup defeat against First Division Grimsby in October.

Kirkland, who became one of the prop up the table with just one point hottest properties in England while playing for Coventry last season, told Liverpool's official website he the major headache for AS Roma wants to give assistant manager coach Fabio Capello ahead of Phil Thompson a selection headache

at the Catalan city's famous Nou Kirkland, who cost Liverpool 6 Camp stadium. million pounds (9 million dollars) After two consecutive 0-0 draws when he signed in the summer, said

Violence claims one in Buenos Aires

REUTERS, Buenos Aires

Savage fighting between fans of bitter rivals Racing Club and Independiente at the weekend left one supporter dead and Argentina's reputation for soccer violence under scrutiny once more.

"There is one dead person, namely Gustavo Rivero, aged 22, who was killed by a shot from a firearms weapon, and there are a number of injured people whose lives are at risk," said Enrique Operata, a doctor at the hospital where several fans were treated.

Doctors treating the injured fans said five were still in a serious condition

"At this moment we have a total of five patients under treatment, of whom four have undergone surat Buenos Aires's Fiorito Hospital, told radio reporters. Patrick charged every time. Unconfirmed reports claimed Wenger said. "If he was an England one supporter was critically injured international going to the World Cup with bullet wounds. At least two I don't think it would be the same.' other people were being treated for aunshot iniuries. according to Argentine newspapers. The trouble flared in the streets outside the stadium prior to the Buenos Aires derby match on Sunday.

the prospect of playing European football made it an easy decision to leave Coventry, relegated from the Premiership last season.

Liverpool welcome back striker Michael Owen who returned to full training after missing last week's England friendly against Holland with a knee ligament problem. Galatasaray, who were heavily criticised for their physical approach

the 2-2 draw in Barcelona in December, will have Hakan Unsal and Brazilian Carlos Capone sus-

MICHAEL OWEN

And they arrive in England fresh

Barcelona top group B with four

from having four men sent off in 16

minutes of Sunday's Istanbul derby

points from two matches, two more

than Galatasaray who are tied with

Roma on two points, while Liverpool

Wednesday's match with Barcelona

Goals and how to score them are

pended for the visit to Anfield.

defeat at Fenerbahce

from a possible six.

Football

Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger

believes Patrick Vieira is the victim

of a conspiracy after the French

international was embroiled in a

fresh elbowing controversy.

AFP. London

with Juventus and Brescia Capello must be wondering what to do. Although Roma are in joint second n Serie A this season has seen little of the attacking football with which

they won last year's title. Gabriel Batistuta and Vincenzo Montella scored 20 and 13 goals respectively during last season's successful campaign while this year so far the Argentine has only six and the Italian none in campaigns both disrupted by injury.

One certain starter against Barca

(Por) v Bayern

FIXTURES

European Champions League

Nantes (Fra) v Manchester

Barcelona (Spa) v Roma (Ita)

Liverpool (Eng) v Galatasaray

is Francesco Totti who was rested

for the match with Brescia.

Catalan club 4-0 in the final.

Wenger backs Vieira

meaning many of his plethora of star

players must surely find themselves

second phase fixtures on

Wednesday (1945 GMT):

GroupA

Munich (Ger)

United (Eng)

Group B

(Tur)

options.

Boavista

injury during England's 1-1 draw against Holland last week. However, it now looks as though he will be ready for the English champions return to Champions League action. France goalkeeper Fabien

on the bench

Barthez is also set to return after recovering from the back problem which kept him out of the national squad.

England captain David Beckham

gave Manchester United some

good news Monday when he

returned to training ahead of the

doubt since he aggravated an ankle

Beckham's fitness has been in

Group A match at Nantes.

United's Argentina midfielder Juan Sebastian Veron is over the knee injury that has helped him miss three of the last four games.

England midfielder Paul Scholes is having treatment for a thigh injury but if he is declared unfit his place is expected to be taken by Nicky Butt. Recent signing, Uruguay striker

Diego Forlan, is likely to be on the substitutes' bench United go into the match aiming

to maintain their position at the top of the group after picking up four points from two games.

Nantes are bottom of their He will play in the hole behind Champions League group table and Batistuta and one other striker with are struggling on the domestic front Capello having Montella, Marco as well, losing 1-0 to Lille on Delvecchio and Antonio Cassano as Sunday

In the other Group A game, Capello, formerly in charge of German champions Bavern Real Madrid, on Monday named 22 Munich, who have been struggling players to travel to Spain and will in the league since their last hope his good record against Barca European game in early December, continues in this competition. His visit Portugal's Boavista without AC Milan side won the 1993-4 England's Owen Hargreaves, who tournament in Athens, routing the has an intestinal infection. Alexander Zickler, with muscular Barcelona coach Carles Rexach problems, and flu-victim Paulo has a fully-fit squad to choose from Sergio.



Ronaldo's wife is making sure the **INTERNET**, London family is still represented on the pitch

Welsh international and Manchester United striker Ryan Giggs comments on England's World Cup chances to beat Argentina on why he believes England can beat Argentina in the World as well as Red Devils' plans to be back to the Champions League run next week in Nantes on his icons.com personal page.

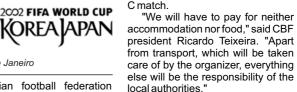
"Whichever way you look at it, we've got to be delighted with the way Wales played against Argentina on Wednesday night. To be honest, all the pre-match talk was about the performance rather than the result. so to come away with a draw against arguably the best side in the world at themoment was superb.

"The game was obviously a big occasion in itself but the fact that England face Argentina in the World Cup this summer probably gave it an extra edge, with English fans keen to see what they're going to be up against in a few months.

"I know Argentina were missing a few key players like Batistuta and Zanetti but I've still got to say England can definitely beat them.

Argentina are a class outfit but I think we showed that if you get after them and don't allow them to settle

Djorkaeff **Brazil strike deal** with Ulsan



Ulsan mayor Wan Go Shim said: 'It is an honour for the people of Ulsan to welcome the Brazilian team.

We can't wait for them to arrive and hope they will have an unforgettable memory of our warm welcome.

Each side have their own tactics. We

give priority to signing mature teams

and pay attention to our side's

One Zidane equals to three Saviolas?

Football

INTERNET. Madrid What is better: to buy a promising player or a star? It's a tough question to answer. Meanwhile Real Madrid ing, they're not unbeatable. about what is required to ensure we "I spoke to Juan Sebastian Veron make the quarter-finals. Our recent Premiership results have been after the game and he said he pretty impressive but we definitely thoroughly enjoyed the night. I think need to step up at least a couple of

into their rhythm, they can be vulner-

game between the two sides but I

certainly wouldn't label England

underdogs from what I saw in

Cardiff. I think there were about six

of the first-choice Argentinean line-

up on show on Wednesday and

although they are technically amaz-

"I'm sure it's going to be an epic



RYAN GIGGS

he was quite impressed by our performance and the passion of the crowd, who were brilliant throughout. For the record, and contrary to reports in the papers before the game. Juan does know where Wales is and was fully aware who I

> determined AFP, London

Youri Djorkaeff said Monday he was determined to help ease Bolton's relegation worries following his move from Kaiserslautern to the Reebok Stadium on a three-month contract.

The attacking France midfielder has joined the English Premiership strugglers until the end of the season after being released from his contract with the German club.

Djorkaeff, who has notched 29 goals in 76 international appearances, joined Kaiserslautern from Inter Milan in the 2000/01 preseason but was considered surplus to requirements by coach Andreas Brehme.

The 33-year-old was unveiled by Bolton at a press conference or Monday after a training session with his new team-mates.

After spending most of his career chasing titles with Paris St Germain and Inter Milan, it is a different kind of challenge for him - but one he is relishing.

"I hope it is a good choice because I think they need a player like me and I need Bolton," he said.

"I believe I can help the club get out of trouble. I know that is easy to say but I will do my best to find a solution. "All my friends told me that while

reserve team," said Jorge. The sports director added: "One Bolton were in a bad position (they Zidane is worth three Javier Saviolas are fourth from bottom, one place and time will prove I'm right." outside the relegation zone) they

Valdano believes there is a were a good team. certain risk involved in signing young "I know they have a number of players. Then the World champion commented on refereeing and denounced the sides who just complain

ZINEDINE ZIDANE

In conclusion Valdano said he

believed the Madrid side could claim

the treble in the year of their 100th

anniversary, though he admits it is a

tough task to fulfill.

The French manager insists it dents that happen week-in weekout up and down the country," he would be a "joke" for Vieira to face a possible six-match ban if he is hit with a second misconduct charge for elbowing an opponent.

Wenger believes his midfielder is being unfairly targeted and joked he "is amazed how big Patrick's elbows are as he can now reach players who are 10 yards away from him".

Vieira, already facing disciplinary action for tangling with Chelsea's Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, found himself in the spotlight again after a clash with Gillingham's Iffy Onuora during the FACup on Saturday. Although television replays

appear to indicate the collision between Vieira and Onuora was accidental, the FA may rule that the clash should be referred to the video advisory panel.

But Wenger has already cleared Vieira of any blame - and said he believes there is campaign to get the player charged of misconduct.

"I think there's a campaign to get

told the Press Association. "As far as I'm concerned there is nothing further to go on.' Vieira is facing one misconduct

hearing and a potential three-game ban for allegedly elbowing Hasselbaink in December.

offence and found guilty of both, he would be likely to miss up to six games of Arsenal's domestic run-in.

tion they will make

However, Wenger cannot believe Vieira is even under suspicion of deliberately using an elbow again, insisting - just as in the Hasselbaink incident - it was no more than an accident.

"I didn't even see it but Onuora has said he doesn't know whether it

main striker. Domingues, who married Inter Milan forward Ronaldo in 1999, trains three times a week and could make her Monza debut in mid March against an American team.

saying

Ronaldo, who has been sidelined by thigh injuries three times this season, has been in his native Brazil for almost two weeks recovering from a hamstring strain. He had only returned to action this season after effectively two years out following two knee operations.

February is carnival season in Brazil but Ronaldo has said that training and rest were the only things on his mind

Milene, has not played competitively for four years during which time she gave birth to Ronaldo's son, Ronald.

But at the ripe old age of 22 she is again preparing to don her boots and

play for Monza, a club which is based just a few kilometres from Milan. Domingues had played for Rio de Janeiro outfit Fluminense before

coach Amodu

Nigeria have sacked coach Shaibu

Amodu and his staff after the coun-

If he was charged with a second linking up with the 25-year-old Nigeria fire

He therefore faces a nervous wait before discovering whether the video advisory panel will be called upon and, if so, what recommenda-

try's disappointing performance at this year's African Nations Cup in Mali

REUTERS, Lagos

Sports Minister Ishaku Mark Aku cused the Super Eagles, a team

KOREA APAN AFP, Rio de Janeiro The Brazilian football federation

(CBF) on Monday signed a contract with the South Korean city of Ulsan which is the base for the national side at the World Cup finals.

The contract, of which the full details were not revealed, states that Ulsan will provide all accommodation and food costs during their stay at the finals where Brazil meet

Turkey on June 3 in their first Group

Gunshots were heard as violence escalated, and security staff and police took an hour to bring the situation under control, evewitnesses said

The incidents came just a month after a supporter died in violent clashes at a preseason match between River Plate and Boca Juniors.

Football violence is endemic in Argentina, and is frequently orchestrated by highly organized groups of fans known as the "barras bravas."

The Football Association (FA) said Tuesday that although they are sympathetic to Arsenal's request for their FA Cup quarter-final kick-off time to be moved it was unlikely that

any change would be made. Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger has complained at the proposed 1735 GMT kick-off on Saturday,



Meanwhile Onuora has said he

does not want to see Vieira pun-

ished. "These are the kind of inci-

already agreed to shift the game

from Sunday to Saturday to suit

Arsenal, and that a further change,

an earlier kick-off, was not possible.

the following Tuesday.

show the game live.

as intentional or not.

"It's a joke. It's better to say that we will give Patrick Vieira a 15match ban so we're all happy even if he didn't do anything.'

brimming with talent from European clubs, of lacking commitment and discipline after their 2-1 defeat to fellow World Cup finalists Senegal

in the Nations Cup semifinals. He said Adegboyega Onigbinde, head of the Nigeria Football Association's (NFA) technical department,

would lead a new squad to the World Cup, seeming to rule out the appointment of a foreign coach as demanded by many in the soccermad country. John Fashanu, the country's

ambassador for sport, said on Monday that former Chelsea and Newcastle United boss Ruud Gullit should be appointed as Nigeria's new coach.

FIFA's tobacco-free WC mission AFP, Warsaw

Football's governing body FIFA

plans to step up its anti-smoking efforts by holding its first tobaccofree World Cup later this year in South Korea and Japan, a spokesman said in Warsaw "Within FIFA we feel the time has

come, not just to refuse tobacco sponsorship, which we have been doing since 1986, but to be active and start sending messages and use the popularity and the strength and the image of football to get this message across," said FIFA spokesman Keith Cooper.

Cooper spoke to journalists late Monday after presiding over an awards ceremony organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) for anti-tobbaco efforts.

Health ministers and other top officials from 51 European countries met Monday and Tuesday in Warsaw to mull further measures to reduce smoking, which kills 4.2 million people per year.

This year for the first time the World Cup will officially be a tobacco-free event, with smoking restricted to certain designated areas. The opening of the World Cup

on May 31 in South Korea coincides with the world no-smoking day, and FIFA will broadcast a brief antitobacco message as part of the international television coverage.

sports director has no doubts on the issue. He is keen to sign rather highprofile players than a player who has great potential

JAVIER SAVIOLA

Valdano justifies the amount spent by the Royal Club on Zinedine Zidane and Figo with the following logic.

"They are among the world football elite and they are worth every single peso spent on them.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 40 Swelled DOWN 19 Greek 1 Sail 1 Mashe head letter

42 Penguin's 21 Rather's support punish-5 Barracks foe ment employe 45 Thief 2 Elite bed 24 Frenzied 8 Stubborn- 49 Killer alterna 25 Gls' entertain ness whale tive exemplar 50 Soap 3 Similar ers 4 Edit 12 Similar to 26 Timeopera 13 Do brickstory line 5 Wellsaver 52 Bia knife 28 Start of a work defined 14 Mimic 53 "We'll tak' 6 Scull Latin 101 15 Amino 16 Moss - o' kindnood trio ness yel" 29 Annoying 7 Novice 54 Debtor's 8 Rum wound up 17 Facto letters concoc 30 Actress 55 Geologipreceder tion Hagen 18 Canal 9 Pugilistic 31 "Little cal perizone ods ploy 10 For Women 20 Square-56 Youngwoman 36 Changes dance sters fear 57 Say it's aroups that the 11 Olympian 22 Scoundrel ΟŔ chart 23 Tavern 58 Say it 37 Hot tub match-24 Has no isn't so maker 38 Turned option on the Solution time: 28 mins. 27 Pepper water plant works 32 Blond 41 Leave shade 42 Craft 33 Actress 43 Not Thurman pizzicato 44 Appre-34 Salt Lake athlete 35 Check of hend 46 Dull one a sort 47 Panache 38 Unescort-48 Optimistic 51 Newborn ed 39 D.C. VIP

good players and I am looking forward to getting started against Southampton.

"I don't really mind what my position in the team is. Of course there is pressure on me but this kind of pressure is attractive and exciting.

Djorkaeff, who hopes regular first-team football will revive his chances of going to the World Cup, confirmed he will retire from the international stage after the 2002 finals in Japan and South Korea.

"I will stop playing for my country after the summer," he said.

"By then hopefully I will have been to two World Cup finals and two European championships, which is OK.

"It is important for me to have a clear mind now. It is also important for the people who love me to know what I am doing. That is why I have said it.'

Diorkaeff was omitted from the national squad which faced Romania last week - but only because of his dispute with Kaiserslautern.

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56					57				58			Τ

HCN EY NLG AGXUHD

SHCYU Х ΙΧΑ PEYFEYF NLG MHTG PHYF "E HYMO

LXTG GOGP SHI GDG. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BARONS OFTEN INSIST THAT THEIR LIGHTS BE IN NEON. IT IS A NOBLE GAS, AFTER ALL

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals S

The Cryptoguip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals 0, it will equal 0 throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Trezequet.



DAVID TREZEGUET

It's complete fantasy. Can you imagine me spending 50million pounds on one player?," the Press Association reported the Frenchman as saying.

He joked: "If that's all agreed then it's fantastic as my chairman must have won the lottery!

"In fact, why don't we pay 70million pounds as we already have five strikers (Thierry Henry, Bergkamp, Sylvain Wiltord, Kanu and Francis Jeffers).

Meanwhile Trezeguet told French sports daily L'Equipe that two other major European clubs, but not Arsenal, had contacted him about a move.

"The only clubs who called me recently were Liverpool and Real Madrid," he said.

And his father added: "My son is very happy with Juventus and I do not think they would want to let him go

"I was very surprised to hear about that news (Arsenal), neither me nor David are aware of these negotiations.'

FA won't oblige Gunners Trezeguet bid a joke! March 9 because he feels it will adversely affect the club's prepara-

tions for their Champions League AFP, London clash against Deportivo La Coruna

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger The late afternoon kick-off was insisted Monday he had made no chosen by BBC television who will multi-million pound bid for Juventus' France striker David FA director of communications Paul Newman said the BBC had

Football AFP, London