

ALL CHAMPIONS

Champions League (European Champions Cup) all winners

- 1955/56 Real Madrid
- 1956/57 Real Madrid
- 1957/58 Real Madrid
- 1958/59 Real Madrid
- 1959/60 Real Madrid
- 1960/61 Benfica
- 1961/62 Benfica
- 1962/63 Milan
- 1963/64 Internazionale
- 1964/65 Internazionale
- 1965/66 Real Madrid
- 1966/67 Celtic
- 1967/68 Manchester United
- 1968/69 Milan
- 1969/70 Feyenoord
- 1970/71 Ajax
- 1971/72 Ajax
- 1972/73 Ajax
- 1973/74 Bayern Munich
- 1974/75 Bayern Munich
- 1975/76 Bayern Munich
- 1976/77 Liverpool
- 1977/78 Liverpool
- 1978/79 Nottingham Forest
- 1979/80 Nottingham Forest
- 1980/81 Liverpool
- 1981/82 Aston Villa
- 1982/83 Hamburger SV
- 1983/84 Liverpool
- 1984/85 Juventus
- 1985/86 Steaua Bucharest
- 1986/87 Porto
- 1987/88 PSV
- 1988/89 Milan
- 1989/90 Milan
- 1990/91 Crvena Zvezda
- 1991/92 Barcelona
- 1992/93 Olympique Marseille
- 1993/94 Milan
- 1994/95 Ajax
- 1995/96 Juventus
- 1996/97 Borussia Dortmund
- 1997/98 Real Madrid
- 1998/99 Manchester United
- 1999/00 Real Madrid
- 2000/01 Bayern Munich
- 2001/02 Real Madrid

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE LEADING SCORERS

- 10 - Van Nistelrooy R. (ManchesterUnited)
- 8 - Trezeguet D. (Juventus), Solskjaer O. (Manchester United)
- 7 - Henry T. (Arsenal)
- 6 - Raul G. (Real Madrid), Elber G. (Bayern Munich), Kluivert P. (Barcelona), Tristan D. (Deportivo La Coruna), Konstantinou M. (Panathinaikos), Ballack (Bayern Leverkusen)
- 5 - Beckham D. (Manchester United), Luis Enrique (Barcelona), Neuville (Bayer)
- 4 - Sionko L. (Sparta Praga), Betschastnikh V. (Spartak Moscow), Carriere E. (Olimpique Lyon), Del Piero A. (Juventus), Silva E. (Boavista), Karan U. (Galatasaray), Pizzaro (Bayern), Saviola J. (Barcelona), Solari S. (Real)
- 3 - Cheyrou B. (Lille), Buznikin M. (Lokomotiv Moscow), Clayton F. (Porto), Figó L. (Real Madrid), Guti (Real), Ivan Helguera (Real), Kirsten U. (Bayer Leverkusen), Larsson H. (Celtic Glasgow), Ljungberg F. (Arsenal), Lucio (Bayer Leverkusen), Morientes F. (Real), Pena (Porto), Pires (Arsenal), Rivaldo V. (Barcelona), Sanchez E. (Boavista), Santa Cruz R. (Bayern Munich), Tomasson J. (Feyenoord), Totti F. (Roma), Valeron (Deportivo La Coruna), Zidane Z. (Real)

Mild casualty for Sweden

AFP, Stockholm

Sweden midfielder Hakan Mild saw his World Cup dream cruelly dashed here Wednesday after rupturing an achilles tendon during training, Swedish officials said.

Mild, currently plying his trade with English First Division side Wimbledon, had already battled back from one injury to claim a place in Sweden's squad for the finals in Japan and South Korea.

"I worked so hard just to get in the squad again, obviously I'm very sad to be missing out," said Mild, a member of the Swedish team which reached the 1994 World Cup semifinals.

"I'm going to go home, rest and watch the World Cup on the television. I just want to wish the team good luck," he added.

Mild worked his way back to



HAKAN MILD

fitness after undergoing an operation on damaged adductor muscles in March.

"Hakan has ruptured the achilles tendon on his left leg. It will take about four to six weeks to heal, so he won't be able to play in the World Cup," said team doctor Magnus Forsblad.

Rightfully Real's



REUTERS, Glasgow

Zinedine Zidane justified his world record price tag with a stunning goal that sealed Real Madrid's ninth European Cup in a 2-1 win over Bayer Leverkusen in the Champions League final at Hampden Park Wednesday.

The French midfielder, who cost 70 million dollars last year, struck a brilliantly executed left-foot volley at the end of the first half for Real's winning goal.

It was created out of nothing but is one that is likely to assume its place in European soccer folklore and earned Real a hard-won victory in their centenary year.

Its third European title in five seasons was guaranteed at the end by two outstanding saves from substitute goalkeeper Ilker Casillas as Real's goal somehow survived a desperate Leverkusen onslaught.

But the match turned in the 45th minute when a quick Real break, against the run of play, ended with Roberto Carlos lofting a high, hopeful ball across goal in the general direction of Zidane who was being closely marked by two defenders.

But the Frenchman drifted away from them, followed the descent of the ball out of the night sky and then unleashed an unstoppable left-foot volley from the edge of the penalty area that was in the back of the net before Leverkusen goalkeeper Hans-Joerg Butt had a chance to move.

The goal would have graced any game, including the 1960 European Cup final which Real famously won, also at Hampden, 7-3 against Eintracht Frankfurt in what is generally regarded as the best club match ever played and Real's greatest ever performance.

The surviving veterans of that game -- watching from the VIP seats, leapt as one to acclaim the goal which proved to be the winner. Real

struck the first blow after nine minutes with a goal as soft as Zidane's was brilliant. Leverkusen were caught napping by a long throw from Roberto Carlos which Raul ran on to and collected.

Although he lost his marker Lucio he appeared to underhit his shot which Butt also appeared to have covered. Yet somehow it eluded the goalkeeper and crept in at the far post. It was his sixth Champions League goal of the season and increased his all-time scoring record for the Champions League to 33.

Lucio made amends five minutes later when he out-jumped Real skipper Fernando Hierro and equalized with a header following a Bernd Schneider free kick.

Leverkusen then dominated most of the first half but rarely looked like scoring again, although Thomas Brdaric should have done better with a 21st minute opportunity which he wasted when he failed to control the ball properly after beating the offside trap and saw Real goalie Cesar push the ball away for a corner.

He was replaced soon after by Dimitar Berbatov as Leverkusen continued to keep Real hemmed back in their own half with their determined pressing and tackling.

Michael Ballack, in his last match before his summer move to Bayern Munich, was a constant threat in the middle for Leverkusen, but despite his probing, and all his teammates' harrying and determination, Leverkusen could not breach the Real defense -- in which Ivan Helguera was outstanding -- again.

And just as it seemed they would go in at half-time level, Zidane struck.

World Player of the Year Luis Figo, himself the world's most expensive player before Zidane arrived from Juventus a year ago, had an unimpressive first half and after failing to make any greater impression in the second, coach Vicente del Bosque replaced him with Steve McManaman midway through the second half. McManaman, overlooked by England coach

Sven-Goran Eriksson for the World Cup, but now twice a European Cup winner with Real, added some more potency down the right for Real, and although scoring chances remained at a premium, he set up chances for Morientes and Santiago Solari which kept the Leverkusen defense under pressure.

At the same time Zidane was by now dominating midfield with his impressive skills and was the fulcrum between attack and defense as Real began to over-run the tiring Germans.

After two European Cup final defeats with Juventus in 1997 and 1998 -- against Real -- he celebrated ecstatically with the trophy and was deservedly named Man of the Match for his outstanding performance.

Despite all his brilliance, Leverkusen were still not over-awed or yet beaten. With seven minutes time added on by Swiss referee Urs Meier for an injury to Cesar, Leverkusen finished as frantically as they started and were desperately unlucky not to score a late equaliser.

Cesar limped off after 68 minutes with a foot injury and Casillas made his mark on the match with two stunning saves from substitute Berbatov -- while Leverkusen goalkeeper Butt, playing up in attack, saw his powerful header bounce down and over the crossbar.

At the end, del Bosque was left to celebrate his second European Cup success in three seasons as Real coach after his team missed out on the Spanish League and Kings Cup this season -- but there was no reprieve for the Germans.

Leverkusen left empty-handed after a cruel three weeks in which they just missed out on the German title, lost the German Cup final and now the Champions League final.

It was the second blow for German soccer in a week following Borussia Dortmund's loss in the UEFA Cup final to Feyenoord who will now meet Real in next season's Super Cup curtain-raiser in Monaco in August.



PHOTO: INTERNET

CHAMPIONS OF THE CHAMPIONS: Real Madrid captain Fernando Hierro (L) and superstar Raul Gonzalez proudly hold aloft the Champions League trophy after the final against Bayer Leverkusen at Hampden Park in Glasgow on May 15.

So near yet never



REUTERS, Glasgow

While Real Madrid can bask in the afterglow of their ninth European Cup, and even start planning for their 10th, Bayer Leverkusen are left wondering if they will ever get another shot at glory.

The Spanish side won Wednesday's Champions League final 2-1 with a brilliant goal by 48-million-pound man Zinedine Zidane and could even afford to take off 41 millions' worth of Luis Figo after an hour "to strengthen the midfield."

Bayer can only dream of such options and coach Klaus Toppmoller said their limited squad was what ultimately caused them to come up just short on three fronts.

Runners-up in the Champions League, Bundesliga -- for the fourth time in six years -- and German Cup, it will be difficult for the small-town factory club to shed their cruel "Neverkusen" reputation.

The absence of mercurial Brazilian midfielder Ze Roberto through suspension hit hard on Wednesday, while Jens Nowotny -- injured in the semifinale victory against Manchester United -- would surely never have allowed Raul to run free and open the scoring after eight minutes.

"Ze Roberto has set-up so many of our goals this season and we missed him," said Toppmoller. "It is going to be difficult to replace him."

The coach fully expects Ze Roberto to move on in the close-season, along with fellow-Brazilian Lucio -- scorer of Wednesday's equaliser -- and German international midfielder Michael Ballack, who has already signed for Bayern Munich.

"It is very difficult for a coach to lose such players," said Toppmoller, who is likely to find himself the target of some of Europe's big-guns after a wonderful first season at Leverkusen.

"We had a squad really of only 13 or 14 players and we played a lot of games -- don't forget we had to come through qualifying even to get into the

Champions League.

Unfortunately we can't strengthen our squad, we can't even keep it.

"Clubs like Borussia Dortmund and Bayern Munich will always be able to buy great players. We know we have to try to find younger players and develop them, but it takes time and we are resigned to the fact that we will probably lose them."

Toppmoller said the runners-up treble was immensely disappointing but was quick to remind everyone that the club, who have never won the German league, performed way above expectation.

"If at the start of the season someone had said we would achieve what

with what we have done."

Toppmoller said that losing out on the Bundesliga title was the most painful of the three "failures".

Two seasons ago Leverkusen lost on the last day of the season to miss out and this time lost two of their last three games to blow a five-point lead.

"That was the hardest to take," said the coach.

"We led for a long time then lost at home to Bremen and away to Nuremberg. But the players were tired, many were carrying injuries. It was hard."

On a positive note, Leverkusen's great season may make it easier for them to attract talented youngsters

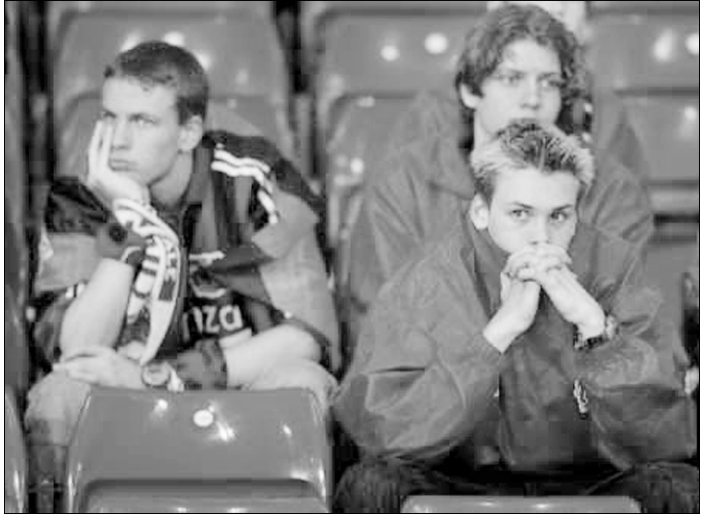


PHOTO: INTERNET

FACE OF THE DEFEATED! Bayer Leverkusen fans sit dejectedly after the Champions League final.

we have they would have been considered mad," he said.

"We just don't have players like Real, Bayern, Manchester United, Barcelona and the others. All of them have better players and bigger squads so we had to perform to our utmost limit to be here.

"But we have faced and beaten many famous teams and we kept going right until the last seconds of the last game so we are very proud

and perhaps keep some of their established players a little longer, but Toppmoller and club officials must sometimes wonder if it is worth all the effort.

The club, appearing in their first-ever Champions League final, had to return almost half their 14,000 ticket allocation because of poor sales, leaving the eager Real Madrid fans to snap them up and turn Hampden Park into a mini-Bernabeu.

Scolari remains first choice



AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Brazilian Football Federation president Ricardo Teixeira wants Luiz Felipe Scolari to carry on as Brazil coach after the World Cup. "Felipao" is the best coach in

the world and I want to continue working with him after the World Cup," Teixeira told local press here on Wednesday.

"The CBF is preparing a package that will stop 'Felipao' from considering a move to any European club, I'm convinced of this," added Teixeira.

Teixeira also revealed that former international midfielder Paulo Roberto Falcao was being

lined up to work as Scolari's assistant.

"Falcao will act as a coordinator of all the national sides, he'll be the supervisor of all of them and we have already discussed this at length," he said.

If so it will be Falcao's second spell with the national outfit after he coached Brazil to a modest six wins in 16 games between 1990 and 1991.

The 'Zizou' dazzler



REUTERS, Glasgow

A Champions League competition which began with Zinedine Zidane a suspended outcast, ended in glory for the Frenchman with a stunning, memorable winning goal that will serve as a lasting testimony to his audacious skills.

Zidane lashed home what proved to be the winning goal after 45 minutes of a pulsating Champions League final which ended with Real Madrid beating

stop it.

The goal not only gave Real victory, but also cast out Zidane's own personal demons of having lost two previous Champions League finals with Juventus in 1997 and 1998.

But after being named Man of the Match, and hearing coach Vicente Del Bosque praise his brilliance and the Real fans all but bow down and worship his strike, "Zizou" was typically modest.

Something may well have been lost in the translation in the news conference deep in the bowels of Hampden Park after the game, but in effect, he basically said: "Well, I

"In every game of football, good bad or indifferent, he will have a moment of technical brilliance. It was indeed a spectacular goal and wonderful to watch."

It was a fitting finale to this season's competition which began with Zidane sitting out the first four matches, his remaining suspension after being red-carded twice last season with Juventus and being handed a five-match ban by UEFA.

Although he won Italian titles with Juve and also lifted the World Cup trophy with France while he was there, the European Cup final defeats had always haunted him.

Before Wednesday's final he

Juventus to Real for 48 million pounds.

"I signed a four year deal with Real last year and I want to stay here and end my career here," he said. "They are the champion of clubs."

Real proved that on Wednesday, winning the Cup for the third time in five seasons and the ninth time in all. The next most successful club is AC Milan with five wins.

Fittingly, Zidane's wonder goal was scored on the ground where Real Madrid gave the greatest ever performance in their 100-year history by beating Eintracht



PHOTO: INTERNET

A combo picture shows the sequence of the Zinedine Zidane goal over Bayer Leverkusen. Zidane side-volleys (L), the ball is goal-bound (C) and Real Madrid players celebrate.

Bayer Leverkusen 2-1 to lift the European Cup for the ninth time in their centenary year.

But most of the talk afterwards focused on Zidane's stunning left-foot volley which covered the 18-metres between the edge of the penalty area and the back of Hans-Joerg Butt's net with such velocity the Leverkusen goalkeeper had no chance to move to the ball, let alone

just smacked it and it went in."

"It was a nice goal," he said, "it won us the Cup but winning the Cup was more important than the goal. The pass came from Roberto Carlos and I simply slammed it in. I didn't really think about it -- it was just intuition." Del Bosque, who has now guided Real to two European Cup successes in three seasons, was rather more effusive.

admitted: "I have already lost two Champions League finals and I cannot let this happen again. I am a winner and I play for a winning club."

"It was so painful losing to Borussia Dortmund in 1997 and just as bad the following year when we lost to Real Madrid."

But he celebrated in style on Wednesday less than a year after his world record transfer from

Frankfurt 7-3 in the 1960 European Cup final.

Watching from the VIP seats were a group of elderly white-haired men, the survivors of that day when they secured Real's fifth successive European Cup win.

As the goal went in, to a man they leapt to their feet to acclaim it.

They all knew just how special it was.

Ice-cream not for the English!

INTERNET, London

England's World Cup players have been banned from eating all the pies, The Sun repoted.

Boss Sven Goran Eriksson's food expert Stefan Branth is ordering David Beckham and other stars to stop eating fatty foods.

Dr Branth, a leading sports nutritionist, said: "There will be no ice-cream for the English players in Japan - and there will not be pies."

"There is too much fat in those pies."

Pies and ice-cream were on the menu regularly for the England players before Eriksson took over. Branth has made a secret potion for our boys to drink and taken blood samples from each member of the 23-man squad.

Branth helped Sweden reach the semifinals of the 1994 World Cup, when Eriksson's No2 Tord Grip was the team's assistant manager. Branth has analysed blood samples from all players to discover what each man needs to eat and drink.

Branth added: "I have a metabolism fingerprint of each player's bodyscape."

"It is clear what each player needs to get in better shape."

"I am glad to help England."

"I certainly won't poison the English players and I hope England will win."

"The World Cup is very important for Brazil and for me because I didn't play much this year in the Italian championship."

"I'm very optimistic and I'm sure we'll have a good World Cup."



PHOTO: INTERNET

RIVALRY WITHIN! Up-and-coming Brazil striker Kaka (R) and teammate Roque Junior fight for possession during their practice session at Barcelona on May 15.

Inter Milan star was asked three times about rumours that new coach Louis Van Gaal wanted to bring him back to the club where he starred in the 1996-1997 season. Each time Ronaldo replied: "I'm only interested