MU at a canter

Beckham free-kick rebounded off

the wall to Gary Neville, whose 30-

yard drive was touched round by the

resulting corner to force another

save from Eleftheropoulos and

Solskjaer should have done better

in the ninth minute after he was

midfielder Par Zetterberg who had

the best chance to open the scoring

But it was Olympiakos' Swedish

Predrag Djordjevic intercepted

Nicky Butt's pass to Neville and

sprinted away down the left. His

cross found Zetterberg totally

unmarked on the penalty spot but

in the 19th minute after Solskjaer

released Paul Scholes on the right

His low cross picked out Giggs,

whose first attempt was blocked, but

the Welshman was able to jab the

ball into the net as it rebounded back

United's pressure finally paid off

the Swede failed to connect.

hand edge of the box.

picked out by Neville's cross.

in the 12th minute

Beckham got on the end of the

CHAMPS LEAGUE

Manchester United strolled to the

verge of a place in the second phase

of the Champions League here on

Tuesday with a comfortable 4-0

demolition job on Greek champions

and Juan Sebastian Veron, who

produced one of his best perfor-

mances yet in a United shirt, set

Alex Ferguson's men on their way to

their third straight win in Group F

and left them needing just one point

men for all of the second half, Giggs'

added his second with the help of a

cruel deflection off Georgios

Anatolakis and Ole Gunnar

Solskjaer completed the rout 14

staging a fightback had disap-

peared in first-half stoppage time

when their Brazilian midfielder Ze

French referee Gilles Veissiere

had no hesitation in reaching for his

red card after a foul which left the

Argentinian playmaker with a nasty

gash on his leg and could earn Ze

Elias more than the mandatory one-

two goals down at Old Trafford

without having to play half the match with ten men," Olympiakos coach

Ferguson hailed his side's per-

"The pace of the passing and the

"Now if we can get a result in

United's confidence in front of a

First David Beckham forced

formance in the first 25 minutes as

penetration was really good," he

said. "That laid the foundations for

Greece (against Olympiakos on

October 23) hopefully that should do

66,902 home crowd was underlined

as they carved out four chances

Dimitios Eleftheropoulos to punch

over with a fierce inswinging

freekick from the left with barely

inside the first 10 minutes.

"It is difficult enough when you go

Elias scythed into their tormento

chief Veron from behind.

match ban.

Takis Lemonis said.

their best of the season.

Any chance of Olympiakos

With Olympiakos reduced to 10

to make sure of progressing.

minutes from time.

First-half goals from Ryan Giggs

Olympiakos

the 43rd minute, earning himself a

given his marching orders for a

virtual carbon copy of that foul and

any hope of a fightback from the

Greeks, who have now failed to

score in six visits to England, disap-

shortly after the restart and

Solskjaer got his knee on the end of

a Beckham cross to produce

another fine save from

Eleftheropoulos before Giggs

claimed his second and United's

the winger fired in a low cross that

was deflected inside the

United's fourth, finding Scholes in

space in the box. The England

midfielder duly slipped the ball to

Solskjaer, who side-footed home

from eight yards.

Olympiakos keeper by Anatolakis.

Picked out by Veron on the left,

Veron also had a hand in

Paul Scholes fired just wide

Two minutes later Ze Elias was

yellow card.

DEL PEERLESS! Juventus superstar Alessandro Del Piero (R) starts celebrating after scoring his first goal against Newcastle while teammate Edgar Davids rushes to congratulate at the Delle Alpi Stadium in Turin on October 1.

# **Del Piero dumps Magpies**

CHAMPS LEAGUE

Juventus took a giant step towards the second phase of the Champions League here on Tuesday with a comfortable 2-0 win over English Premiership side Newcastle at the Stadio Delle Alpi.

Two second-half goals from talismanic Italian international Alessandro Del Piero gave the Italians victory and means Bobby Robson's men are almost certain to crash out of the competition at the first hurdle.

Del Piero opened his account in the 65th minute with a delightful free-kick before wrapping up the points with a deflected shot 10

Vaio just after quarter of an hour

found the back of the net with a farpost header, but team-mate Kieron Dyer was caught standing in an offside position.

The game saw Newcastle manager Bobby Robson returning to the stadium where as England coach in 1990 he watched his side lose a World Cup semi-final to West Germany in a penalty shoot-out.

beaten by the better side.

anything. We gave everything we had," he said. "We fought hard. We haven't been out-played and we gave them a very good game.

"We didn't give anything away and at half-time it was 0-0 and we had visions that we could score (in the second half).

"As often happens, the first goal of the match wins it and Del Piero got it from a free-kick. From that position you have got to fancy a top class player to put it in the net.

"We were powerless (for the second goal), we took chances at the back because you might as well lose three or four nil in the end." Juventus boss Marcello Lippi

made four changes to the side which staged a late fightback to snatch a 2-2 draw with Parma at the weekend Ciro Ferrara, Alessandro Birindelli, Alessio Tacchinardi and

Mauro Camoranesi made way for Paulo Montero, Igor Tudor, Davide Bajocco and Emiliano Moretti. The visitors started brightly and were first to stage a meaningful attack when Dver went down the

right wing and crossed for Alan Shearer whose shot was blocked by Lilian Thuram's diving challenge. Newcastle goalkeeper Shav Given had his first scare in the fourth minute when former Parma striker

Marco Di Vaio headed Pavel Nedved's cross wide. Shearer squandered a better opportunity three minutes later when he pulled away from Thuram at the far post to meet Nolberto

Di Vaio's evening came to an unpleasant end in the 16th minute after a clash of heads with O'Brien and was stretchered off to a waiting ambulance at the side of the pitch.

As worried officials attended to him, Juventus went close to the opener twice in quick succession.

David Trezeguet, Di Vaio's replacement, forced a fingertip save from Given and the Frenchman then blazed a shot over the crossbar after Tudor had flicked on Del Piero's

The Italians were denied a 22nd minute lead when Del Piero cut in from the right flank and unleashed a fierce shot from 25 yards which crashed against the crossbar.

Newcastle rallied in the closing stages of the first half and in injury time were prevented from edging in front when Laurent Robert's powerful drive was superbly palmed away by Gianluigi Buffon.

The game turned Juventus' way in the 65th minute with a touch of magic from Del Piero.

Nikos Dabizas pulled back the Italian international back on the edge of the penalty area and the Juve striker struck a superb shot into the top corner.

After Shearer had what he though was a perfectly good goal ruled out, Juventus killed the game off in the 80th minute.

Dutchman Edgar Davids crossed from the left, Trezequet dummied the ball, and Del Piero, aided by a deflection, drove home

from England midfielder Owen

came alive with two quick fire goals.

the Bayern back line all at sea as he

bore down on the home defence

before sliding a precision pass

across goal for Inzaghi to ghost in

and fire past Oliver Kahn in the 52nd

Salihamidzic escaped down the

The Italians were being forced to

soak up copious quantities of

Bayern pressure - but it was the

visitors who almost went back in

front on 70 minutes when Seedorf

again bamboozled everybody

before feeding Inzaghi who this time

despite last weekend's loss to

Leverkusen, ran out of steam at the

death even though coach Ottmar

Hitzfeld had warned beforehand

when he headed a classic winner

from a Claudio Serginho cross with

the edge of the six-yard box and

then Michael Ballack saw Dida

make a brilliant stop from his last-

minute freekick as Bayern found the

And Inzaghi silenced the crowd

Giovane Elber fired wide from

that only a win would do.

strength of desperation.

six minutes to go

Bayern, top of the Bundesliga

right and Pizarro rose high above

Alessandro Nesta to nod the

But after the break the match

Dutchman Clarence Seedorf had

### **RESULTS AT A GLANCE**

Collated European Champions League results from Tuesday's

#### Group E

At Turin, Italy Juventus (Ita) 2 (Del Piero 65, 80) Newcastle (Eng) 0 At Rotterdam, the Netherlands Feyenoord (Ned) 0 Dynamo Kiev

#### Group F

At Manchester, England Manchester United (Eng) 4 (Giggs 19, 66, Veron 26, Soljskaer 76) Olympiakos (Gre) 0 At Nicosia Maccabi Haïfa (Isr) 0 Bayer

Leverkusen (Ger) 2 (Babic 31,

#### **Group G**

At La Coruna, Spain Deportivo La Coruna (Spa) 3 (Makaay 49, Capdevila 79, Cesar 85) Lens (Fra) 1 (Moreira 10) At Munich Bayern Munich (Ger) 1 (Pizarro

### 54) AC Milan (Ita) 2 (Inzaghi 52, Group H

At Moscow Lokomotiv Moscow (Rus) 1 (Obiorah 56) Barcelona (Spa) 3 (Kluivert 29, Saviola 32, 49) At Istanbul

Galatasaray (Tur) v FC Bruges

### **Brazil meet** ROK in November

REUTERS, Rio de Janeiro

World champions Brazil, still without a coach after Luiz Felipe Scolari resigned in August, will play Republic of Korea away in a friendly on November 20, the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said Tuesday. Brazil, who lost 1-0 at home to

Paraguay in their only game since they won their fifth world title, will name an interim coach at the end of the month for the game, the CBF It will be the fourth meeting

between the two countries, with Brazil having won two the previous encounters and South Korea one. The CBF is not expected to name

But within two minutes Bayern a permanent replacement for were level through Peruvian forward Scolari until early next year. Claudio Pizarro, who had already Brazil's next competitive game is gone close once just before the likely to be in July or August next

vear when the South American qualifiers for the 2006 World Cup in Germany are due to get under way. Scolari was in charge of Brazil for 14 months, which began with

defeats against lowly Honduras and Bolivia and ended with the 2-0 win over Germany in the World Cup final in Yokohama. "Big Phil" decided five weeks

later that he did not wish to continue in the hot seat, saying he wanted to spend more time with his family. However, he agreed to take

charge for the much-criticised friendly at home to Paraguay in

Brazil recalled their entire World Cup squad for the game but most of the players were still at an early stage of pre-season training and the Paraguayans ended Brazil's 15-

match unbeaten record. The CBF were accused of using the national team for political reasons after Ciro Gomes, who is a candidate in this month's presidential elections, was allowed to be photographed with the players before the game, held in Fortaleza, Gomes' political stronghold.

The CBF also announced that Brazil will play another friendly in December, using only home-based players, but the venue and opponents have not been decided

### FIFA's no to technology

REUTERS, London

Soccer's world governing body FIFA appears determined to ignore one of the most important technological advances of the last 50 years by refusing to use television replays to help referees make difficult deci-

Despite damaging refereeing controversies at the 2002 World Cup and a call last week from England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson for the use of replays, FIFA president Sepp Blatter has decided against taking the world's most popular game into the technological

The American National Basketball Association (NBA) has this year decided to embrace replays and television evidence is already used in American Football, rugby and cricket.

But FIFA decided this week to experiment with extra officials behind the goals in a bid to solve soccer's problems. To some, football is starting to

look like the Luddite of 21st century sport despite its huge appeal across the world.

"As long as I am president of FIFA, I am totally opposed to artificial help for referees in FIFAcontrolled matches," FIFA chief

Sepp Blatter has repeated on sev-

eral occasions. "We have to rely on

human beings -- and human beings make mistakes. FIFA's view is particularly striking after World Cup finals in South Korea and Japan which will be remembered as the "tournament of technology"

minutes from the end. The only sour note for Juve was the loss of summer signing Marco Di

following an ugly collision with Newcastle defender Andy O'Brien. Newcastle were unfortunate not to level the scores just after Del Piero's first goal when Alan Shearer

Robson admitted his team were Solano's deep cross but the former

# Bayer get going

Last year's Champions League finalists Bayer Leverkusen scored their first victory in Group F beating Israel's Maccabi Haifa 2-0 here Tuesday to give them a chance of

The Germans had Croatian midfielder Marko Babic to thank for a double strike in each half to seal a

'keeper Butt's upright and he then blasted the rebound high over the bar from close range. The game was over as a contest when Babic got his second with a cross-come-shot from out wide

## which looped over a stranded Dudu Awate on 64 minutes. **Deportivo's** three-star

Deportivo La Coruna thrashed Lens 3-1 in a fightback victory here on Tuesday to keep on course for qualification as they continue their topsy-turvy Champions League

Daniel Moreira put Lens ahead on 10 minutes, but Deportivo goals after the break from Dutchman Roy Makaay, Joan Capdevila and Cesar Martin mean Deportivo are in second spot behind AC Milan in Group

The first goal was an impressive move. Lens' Nigerian striker John Utaka made a good run down the right and crossed for Moreira who beat keeper Molina to give the Then Makaay got the equalizer in

the 49th minute with a superb shot following a pass from the man he had been linking with all night Diego Tristan.

Substitute Capdevila made it 2-1 in the 79th minute with a left-foot shot on the run and Martin earned a third for the Spaniards after heading home from a corner with five left



Eleftheropoulos produced

The Argentinian had given notice

another fine save at the feet of

Scholes before Veron made it two in

that he was in the mood early on in

the match with a delightful

exchange of back-heels with Ryan

Giggs down the left and a string of

pinpoint crossfield passes, and it

was no surprise when he claimed

his second Champions League goal

centre circle, he clipped it to

Beckham before running on to the

return pass to finish with an auda-

ciously deft chip over the stranded

Eleftheropoulos. "You won't see a

better goal than that in Europe

Despite some promising coun-

ter-attacks, Olympiakos failed to get

a shot on target in the entire 90

minutes and their frustration was

underlined when Georgios

Anatolakis clattered into Veron in

a delighted Ferguson

Picking up a loose ball in the

the 26th minute.

tonight,"

Ryan Giggs (R) scoring Manchester United's opening goal past Olympiakos custodian Dimitrios Eleftheropoulos at

# AFP, Nicosia

qualifying for the next phase.

well-earned victory.

They took the lead just after the

half hour with a neatly dispatched header from Babic who guided a Bernd Schneider free kick from near the edge of the right touchline into Maccabi were given a life-line when Giovani Rosso was clipped in

the penalty area by Lucio on 44 Avishay Zano stepped up to take the spot kick but was denied by

# at least the quarters-finals for five comeback

# three minutes gone. Barca class too much



AFP, Moscow

Spanish giants Barcelona beat home side Lokomotiv Moscow 3-1 in their Champions League encounter here on Tuesday to go top of Group H.

The visitors' goals came from their Dutch international marksman Patrick Kluivert and Argentine striker Javier Saviola, who netted a double, while Nigerian striker James Obiorah scored for Lokomotiv.

Group H with nine points from three matches while Lokomotiv remained anchored bottom of the table with just one point. The hosts, who were in desperate need of a win to keep alive their

The result left Barcelona leading

chances of qualifying for the second round, tried to stun Barcelona with their opening rush but the guests soon took back the initiative and started testing Lokomotiv's defence. The railroad-backed side, weak-

ened by the absence of their skipper

the last week's match with Belgian outfit Bruges, failed to create any serious threat to Barcelona's goal.



PHOTO: AFP Javier Saviola of Barcelona (C) heading in one of his two goals against Lokomotiv Moscow in Moscow on October 1.

missed a clear chance to open the scoring when he failed to find the net with a header from the edge of the six-yard box following a razor-sharp cross from Saviola. But a quarter hour later Kluivert

Ovchinnikov from close range after a series of ill-advised moves from the hosts' defence. Three minutes later, Saviola gave Barcelona a commanding 2-0

put his side 1-0 up, beating

Lokomotiv keeper Sergei

lead, sending the ball home with a header from eight metres following Philip Cocu's precise cross from the right. After the interval, Barcelona still

looked dominant on the rain-soaked

pitch of Lokomotiv's stadium. Saviola became the hero of the match, firing into the net from the edge of the penalty box in the 49th minute despite tough opposition from Lokomotiv's defenders.

In the 56th minute, Obiorah reduced the arrears, lobbing the ball into the net over Barca goalie Victor Valdes after he dribbled into the box with a piece of good individual work.

### **STANDINGS** European Champions League tables after Tuesday's matches:

	Gı	oup l	E				
Juventus (Ita)	3	2	1	0	8	1	7
Feyenoord (Ned)m 5		3	1	2	0	2	1
Dynamo Kiev (Ukr)	3	1	1	1	2	5	4
Newcastle (Eng)	3	0	0	3	0	5	0
	Gı	roup I	F				
Manchester United (Eng)	3	3	0	0	11	3	9
Maccabi Haifa (Isr)	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
Olympiakos (Gre)	3	1	0	2	6	9	3
Bayer Leverkusen (Ger)	3	1	0	2	5	8	3
	Gr	oup (	3				
AC Milan (Ita)	3	3	0	0	8	2	9
Deportivo La Coruna (Spa)	3	2	0	1	6	7	6
Bayern Munich (Ger)	3	0	1	2	4	6	1
Lens (Fra)	3	0	1	2	3	6	1
	Gr	oup l	Н				
Barcelona (Spa)	3	3	0	0	8	3	9
Galatasaray (Tur)	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Brugos (Pol)	2	Λ	2	1	2	2	2

Lokomotiv Moscow (Rus)

### Irresistible Inzaghi early save from visiting keeper Nelson Dida, who then was almost \*CHAMPS LEAGUE embarassed by a long-range effort

Hargreaves.

equaliser

AFP, Munich

Goal machine Filippo Inzaghi stuck the knife deep into Bayern Munich's heart at the Olympic Stadium on Wednesday as AC Milan all but reached the second phase of the Champions League with a 2-1 win over their Group Grivals.

Inzaghi netted both goals to secure victory in a battle of two sides who between them boast nine European crowns - five for Milan and four for Bayern. In doing so he not only handed

Bayern a potentially fatal second home loss of the tournament but cemented his position as the competition's top scorer this season with seven, following up a hattrick at Deportivo La Coruna last week and a San Siro double against Lens. Blundering Bayern have reached

straight seasons and won the Champions League in 2001 whereas the Italians' last triumph came in 1994 during the halcyon days of Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten But after several seasons of

mediocre performances by Italy's top sides Milan. Juventus and Inter Milan are back in business with a vengeance Whereas Bayern had dropped four points in their opening two

matches at home to Deportivo and

away to Lens, the Milanese came to

Germany with two wins under their This latest triumph was as good as a passport stamp into phase two. The first half saw both sides

But a second equaliser was not shadow box their way towards the destined to come. interval, although Bayern striker Hasan Salihamidzi did force a good



TOP CLASS: AC Milan striker Filippo Inzaghi (C) is lifted by ecstatic teammates after his second goal against Bayern Munich in Munich on October 1.