

Football

AFP, Paris

Newcastle United are aiming to go boldly beyond their past European exploits when they line up against Feyenoord in their Champions League showdown in Rotterdam on Wednesday.

The English Premiership side have never made it into the final stages of the Champions League. their best performance of recent years coming in the 1997-1998 season when they were stopped at the first group stage after two defeats by PSV Eindhoven - one of current Newcastle manager Bobby Robson's former clubs.

To progress this time, Newcastle must beat UEFA Cup holders Feyenoord, and hope Juventus either draw or beat Dynamo Kiev in Ukraine to have any chance of making the last 16 for the first time.

On Wednesday the Magpies will be without French winger Laurent Robert who has injured a cheek bone, and will need to be on their best to beat a Feyenoord team who, despite missing prolific striker Pierre van Hooijdonk, sit third in their league

Newcastle went down 1-0 to back-in-form Arsenal on Saturday without midfielder Craig Bellamy but he could return after a knee injury to give Robson more options, and Newcastle forward Gary Speed feels the weekend's performance could prove a good indicator.

"It was disappointing that we didn't create much up front, but if we can improve that and defend as we did at Arsenal then we'll have a chance of getting something against Feyenoord," Speed told the club's website.

Newcastle are not the only team treading the thin line between qualification and demotion to the less prestigious UEFACup.

From the eight group matches

Portuguese Prime Minister Jose

Manuel Durao Barroso has person-

ally endorsed the choice of World

Cup-winning coach Luiz Felipe

Scolari as the man to take over the

country's national team for the 2004

Speaking at the end of a meeting

with visiting Brazilian president

Fernando Henrique Cardoso,

Barroso said: "One of the issues we

were not able to determine, despite

the presence of the ministers of

sport from both countries, is

Football

AFP, Sintra, Portugal

being played on Wednesday, only match, along with Uruguayan Paolo three places are still up for grabs with some, although not all, of the big guns already qualified.

already down and out at the bottom of Group G, while their German rivals Bayer Leverkusen, last year's beaten finalists, play fellow Group F qualifiers Manchester United at Old . Trafford.

Joining United and Leverkusen Kiev with only pride to play for.

Wednesday:

Group E At Kiev Dynamo Kiev (Ukr) v Juventus (Ita)

At Rotterdam (Eng)

At Old Trafford Bayer Leverkusen (Ger)

Haifa (Isr)

Group G At Munich (Fra)

Coruna (Spa)

Group H Barcelona (Spa) v Galatasaray

Prime Minister's choice!

Association president Gilberto

Madail said in a recent radio inter-

view his first choice would be

Scolari, who he met with twice

Scolari, who stepped down after

landing Brazil's fifth World Cup this

known as "Big Phil" would be willing

to consider a proposal from

0

Madail is expected to meet with

Scolari's agent has said the man

during this summer's World Cup.

vear. later this week in Brazil.

Bruges (Bel)

Montero and French striker David Trezeguet. With the Italians sure to top the Bayern Munich are famously group, Juventus coach Marcello Lippi could confound Robson's task by fielding an under-strength side.

in the next phase are Group E winners Juventus, who travel to Juventus defender laor Tudor is

among a host of absentees for the FIXTURES

European Champions League final first phase fixtures on

fought group G.

goals difference.

fied

ing place.

as Bruges fail to win.

Mexico and Uruguay.

exit in the World Cup.

coach since August when Antonio

Oliveira was sacked following the

country's disappointing first-round

over from Antonio Oliveira, is

expected to stay on as interim coach

until a permanent successor is

Agostinho Oliveira, who took

Madail said last week a new

coach will be selected by the end of

the month. Whoever is selected will

be guaranteed an opportunity to

lead the team in the 2004 European

Championships where, as hosts,

Portugal is already qualified.

to quit KFA

Korean Football Association

(KFA) head Chung Mong-Joon on

Tuesday was urged to step down

by senior KFA officials who fear his

bid to become president will cause

havoc in South Korea's football

tions with ruling party candidate

Roh Moo-Hyun to unify their

candidacies for the December 19

presidential election, with both far

behind opposition candidate Lee

Hoi-Chang in popularity rating.

Lee Eun-Sung, vice president of

KFA just like in Japan." Lee said.

including football team coaches,

Jin immediately dismissed the bid

ised the petition, adding they

would also consider filing a

seperate libel suit against Lee and

Seoul-based JoongAng Ilbo

newspaper showed opposition

presidential candidate Lee had

36.8 percent support, beating

Chung with 21.8 percent and Roh

A recent opinion poll by the

KFA vice president Kim Sang-

who want Chung to resign.

Milan are expected to field their

French surprise package Lens

influential Ukrainian striker Andriy

Shevchenko, who has only just

returned to action having recovered

are in last place but still have a

chance of qualifying if they beat

Bayern Munich and Deportivo lose.

If Deportivo draw, and Lens win

then Joel Muller's side will qualify on

group H, where Luis van Gaal's

Barcelona side are already quali-

Belgian outfit Bruges play away at

Lokomotiv Moscow in a bid to beat

Galatasaray to the second qualify-

to the Nou Camp searching for a

valuable three points which would

qualify them for the last 16 as long

Galatasaray, who sit third, travel

However it's all to play for as

from a knee ligament injury.

Feyenoord (Ned) v Newcastle

Group F Manchester United (Eng) v

At Athens Olympiakos (Gre) v Maccabi

Bayern Munich (Ger) v Lens

At Milan AC Milan (Ita) v Deportivo La

At Barcelona

(Tur) At Moscow Lokomotiv Moscow (Rus) v FC

Feyenoord coach Bert van Marwijk believes so, and has AFP, Zurich already asked Lippi himself to go out to beat the Ukrainians. An English football supporter was "Juventus already have 10 injured and a McDonald's restaupoints - I think they will take their rant smashed-up in an overnight second team," he said in the brawl in Zurich ahead of Tuesday's Sunday Telegraph.

Champions League match between "I asked him - I respect him very Liverpool and Swiss side FC Basel much - to win there. Maybe I would Police said the clash took place do the same, but it's not natural.

at the station, while the restuarant Meanwhile Deportivo La trouble began when someone threw Coruna, who sit in second spot. a Molotov cocktail into the must beat AC Milan at the San Siro to assure their place in a tightly

Football

UEFA

Fan signs for Cardiff

AFP, Cardiff Another qualifying conundrum is

Fan Zhiyi, the China defender who was Asia's 2001 player of the year, has agreed to play for Cardiff City until the end of the season, the Welsh club announced on Tuesday. Cardiff, who play in the Second

Division of the English league, have agreed personal terms with the 33year-old defender and envisage a permanent deal, club owner Sam Hammam said.

"We are very lucky to have signed someone like Fan," Hammam said.

Bruges meanwhile will qualify if "This is a major step forward for they win or draw and Galatasaray us and it shows how far we have fail to take full points at Barcelona. come as a club.

To complicate matters, last-Cardiff, known as the Bluebirds, placed Lokomotiv will sneak into the want Fan to start training with them second qualifying spot if they beat immediately with a view to regaining Bruges and Galatasaray fail to win. full match fitness while a work permit is finalised.

This is not expected to pose a problem as Fan has 107 caps for China. although it will be a couple of weeks before he is ready for first Portugal. Scolari, who turned 54 on team action as he has not played Saturday, is said to have already since his World Cup campaign was received offers to coach Italy, curtailed by injury in the opening defeat by Costa Rica. Portugal has been without a

Football

AFP, Madrid

Fan has been without a club since reach the top division."

Zidane vows to

be back Sunday

The battle already on

SPORT

McDonald's

They said 15 people aged 18-25 **ÉHÂMPS LEAGUE** had been arrested, most of them Swiss and the others British and German. The match is a do-or-die date for

Liverpool with FC Basel needing only a draw to make it into the lucrative second-round of the competition, and end the English club's European dream this year.

porters without tickets are expected, and British authorities have sent a team of hooligan specialists to help Swiss police maintain order.

10.1

FAN ZHIYI

leaving Scottish side Dundee in the

summer. He has previously played in

by Cardiff's ambitious outlook under

manager Lennie Lawrence and

Hammam, the Lebanese-born

entrepreneur who was formerly in

He said he had been impressed

England for Crystal Palace.

charge of Wimbledon.

website

More than 1.000 English sup-

Adam Crozier resigned as the FA's chief executive last month in protest at what he saw as attempts by Premier League clubs to curb his and the governing body's authority.

David Davies, the FA's director of international strategy and Nic Coward, its company secretary, were appointed earlier Monday as the organisation's joint acting chief executives while head-hunters were employed to find a permanent replacement.

. It was Crozier, himself a Scotsman, who had been instrumental in appointing Eriksson as the first foreigner to coach the England side

Crozier's departure had led to speculation that Eriksson would also be quitting his job.

"No. I have not said anything in those days (since Crozier's departure). I read a lot about my going to Spain, Italy Portugal

to know what was happening. It is important to have a boss. Who should I ask when I need anything?

Eriksson going nowhere Greening gets the nod

The Daily Star

However, there was no place in

Eriksson's line-up for 17-year-old

Everton striker Wayne Rooney who

has been making headlines with

some stunning displays for the

Hertfordshire, southern England, on

November 18, train on Tuesday and

go back to their clubs on

SQUAD

Defenders: Gary Neville (Man-

chester United), Danny Mills (Leeds United), Rio Ferdinand (Manchester United), Sol

Campbell (Arsenal), Gareth

Jonathan Woodgate (Leeds

United), Ashley Cole (Arsenal),

Wayne Bridge (Southampton) Midfielders: David Beckham

Manchester United), Nicky Butt

Manchester United), Steven

Gerrard (Liverpool), Paul Scholes

(Manchester United), Owen

Hargreaves (Bayern Munich/Ger),

Kieron Dyer (Newcastle United),

David Thompson (Blackburn

Rovers), Danny Murphy (Liver-

pool), Trevor Sinclair (West Ham

United), Frank Lampard

Chelsea), Jonathan Greening

(Middlesbrough) Forwards: Emile Heskey (Liver-

pool), Michael Owen (Liverpool)

Alan Smith (Leeds United), Darius

games for Albion and achieved the

rare feat of scoring in every round

of the FA Cup, including the cup

cameo singing roles on the BBC's

Fantasy Football League

The coroner's verdict in his case

programme

Vassell (Aston Villa)

Southgate (Middlesbrough),

The players will assemble at in

Mersevsiders this season.

Under-21 caps.

Wednesday.

Football

AFP, London

England football coach Sven-Goran Eriksson said Monday he was staying in his post despite backroom upheavals at the Football Association (FA).

"I am happy (to stay)," the Swede told a press conference at the FA's London headquarters to announce his 26-man squad for next week's 'get-together' practice session.

But the former Lazio coach said:

"I said nothing because I wanted



Goalkeepers: David Seaman (Arsenal), David James (West SVEN-GORAN ERIKSSON Ham United), Paul Robinson Today I got that decision and I am (Leeds United)

happy with that. "I regret that Crozier went away He was a good man who did an excellent job for the FA.

"I worked very well with him, and he created a good atmosphere at the FA for me personally. He was a good professional. Now we have a new situation, and David is going to be my boss.

"I wanted to go on as before. I talked to David today; I talked to Premier League chairmen and some club chairmen. Everything is going on as before with my job.'

Middlesbrough midfielder Jonathan Greening was the one surprise inclusion in next week's squad

His call-up comes after he impressed Eriksson while playing on the left-hand side of midfield for Middlesbrough under former England assistant coach Steve McClaren

Formerly of Manchester United, Greening has won 17 England

Heading behind Astle's death 1970, died from a degenerative was in the days when a ball was brain disease aged 59 at a hospital made of leather - it would have in central England in January after been like heading a bag of bricks." Astle scored 174 goals in 361

collapsing at his daughter's home. Dr Derek Robson, a consultant neurological pathologist, said there was evidence of brain injury

consistent with "repeated minor trauma". He added: "I found that there was considerable evidence of

a boxer.

is sure to strengthen the resolve of "I actually remember as a small numerous former players who child how heavy it was to head a have tried, so far unsuccessfully, to leather football. gain compensation for head inju-Astle's widow, Lorraine, told the ries they claim were sustained as a result of repeatedly heading the

old-fashioned football.

England's Professional Footballers Association (PFA) has taken up a number of cases but a

Cardiff are currently third in the Second Division and are planning to AFP, London move to a new stadium. "I wanted to join Cardiff because I Former England striker Jeff Astle think they can reach the Premier died as a result of repeatedly League," Fan told Cardiff's club heading a football during his 20year professional career. a coro-"That is my aim - to help Cardiff ner's court ruled Monday.

West Bromwich Albion hero Astle was famed for his heading ability. He made his name during the 1960s when heavy leather footballs, which soaked up water when wet, were in use.

Football

South Staffordshire coroner Andrew Haigh, who returned a verdict of death by industrial disease, said: "Jeff Astle was a top footballer who was known for heading the ball.

"Sadly in 1997 he showed signs "It's still not quite right but I of brain deterioration. hope in two or three days it'll all "The trauma caused to the front of his brain is likely to have had a considerable effect on the cause of death.'

final winner against Everton, when the Birmingham club lifted the trophy in 1968. He retired from football in 1977 and became a window cleaner trauma to the brain similar to that of before finding television fame with

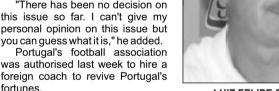
"It is quite probable that it was heading a heavy football that caused it - I found that most damage to the brain was at the front of the head.

inquest: "He underwent a brain scan last year and it revealed Jeff had suffered an injury to the front part of his brain," she said.

Portuga "There has been no decision on

European championships.

this issue so far. I can't give my personal opinion on this issue but you can guess what it is," he added. Portugal's football association was authorised last week to hire a



LUIZ FELIPE SCOLARI

The court noted that Arsenal

"This commercial activity brings

The European Commission, the

welcomed the court ruling, and said

it had wider implications apart from

was a risk of consumers being

deceived and confused." commis-

sion spokesman Jonathan Todd

ruling because it confirms that

community law on trademarks and

indeed broader industrial property

gives rightholders a high level of

sumers who know what they are

buying and in the interests of com-

panies who have the confidence to

invest in products bearing their

trademark or protected by a patent.

than just trademark," he said.

non-official merchandise

"So it has broader implications

The Luxembourg court rejected

"The notice on Mr. Reed's stall

the stallholder's argument about his

notice specifying that he was selling

stating that the goods are not official

products does not guarantee that

"Once the unofficial products

have left the stall where the notice

there is no confusion," it said.

"This is in the interests of con-

"The commisison welcomes the

"The court confirmed that there

designs and supplies its own prod-

ucts or has them manufactured via

its network of approved resellers.

it substantial income." it noted.

ECJ backing for Gunners

added.

trademark law.

told reporters.

protction," he said.



AFP, Brussels

fortunes.

The European Court of Justice (ECJ) ruled in favour of English Premiership champions Arsenal on EU's executive arm, meanwhile Tuesday in a legal suit it brought against a seller of unofficial merchandise

In a ruling which could have wider legal implications, the EU's highest court said the London club had the right to prevent sellers of non-official merchandise from using its trademark in a way which could mislead buyers about the goods' authenticity. Matthew Reed has sold memorabilia outside the Gunners' home around since 1970. but Arsenal took him to court after registering the words Arsenal, Arsenal Gunners and its cannon and shield emblems as trademarks in 1989

The case was initially rejected by Britain's High Court of Justice, but was then taken to the Luxembourgbased court, which issued its ruling Tuesday

Reed argued supporters could not be misled about his products since he had posted a sign clearly stating their origin on his stall.

But the ECJ said: "As regards the products sold by Mr. Reed, a risk of confusion in the minds of supporters as to the origin of the products cannot be ruled out.

"The guarantee of origin can be is, some consumers may interpret ensured only if the trade mark is them as original Arsenal FC club protected against competitors products.' wishing to take unfair advantage of its status and reputation by selling goods which are not originals," it



Portugal last had a foreigner as the World Cup semi-finals.

England.

AFP, Seoul

governing body.

than a politician.

to oust his boss.

tion period.

his backers.

with 21.1 percent.

named

Zinedine Zidane, who had to pull head of its national squad in 1966 out of Real Madrid's midweek when a Eusebio-inspired team led by Brazilian Otto Gloria made it to Champions League game with back trouble, is confident of being fit for Sunday's Spanish league Portugal lost that year to host nation and eventual winners

fixture against Real Sociedad. The French international suffered from lumbago and came off after half an hour's play in Chung asked

be cleared up." Zidane said outside his club's medical centre. "I'm a lot better and I'm hardly

feeling any pain. All the tests were very good.' Champions League holders

Vallecano at the weekend.

Real's 3-2 win over Rayo

Real Madrid face Genk in Belgium on Tuesday knowing they have already qualified from Group C into the second round.

Al-Fayed's no to sharing



Lawmaker Chung, an independent millionaire, is in negotia-AFP, London

> Fulham owner Mohamed Al-Fayed has rejected Chelsea chairman Ken Bates's offer to share their Stamford Bridge ground it was reported on Tuesday.

the KFA's branch in Gyeonggi The Egyptian - who is currently province surrounding Seoul, told a searching for a long term ground news conference that a sports for his Premiership side - had figure should run the body rather discussed the matter with Bates but was taken aback when "Now is the time for those Chelsea's lawyers sent a letter engaged in football to lead the setting out the terms of agree-He then produced a petition ment. signed by 150 KFA members,

"The chairman (Al-Fayed) wrote to Bates declining the offer," a Fulham spokesman told the Evening Standard.

"Fayed and Bates are good friends and lunch together fre-

"The KFA has nothing to do quently. with politics and will remain neu-"When Ken came to see the tral during the presidential elec-

chairman last month he floated the idea of a partial buy-in to Chung's supporters said a KFA Chelsea Village. disciplinary panel meeting would open to punish those who organ-

"Fayed saw the conversation as a speculative exchange of ideas and was surprised to receive a formal proposal from the Chelsea lawyer the following day.

"He is publicly committed to redeveloping Craven Cottage or at least building a modern stadium somewhere nearby."

Bates proposed the

Astle, 59, who won five England caps and represented his country at the Mexico World Cup finals in

'This would be the same the head that he used to head the ball during his playing career.

"It was known throughout the game that he was one of the hardest headers of a football and this

spokeswoman for its chief executive, Gordon Taylor, told AFP he would not comment on the coroner's ruling until he had studied a full text of the judgment.

Bologna. I criticised the referees

during the week and this was the

to Italian Football League president

Adriano Galliani urging the support

of the League and the clubs for the

moves and for increased backing

Carraro has also written a letter

Refs given legal scope

Football

REUTERS. Milan

Heavily criticised Italian referees have been told they can take legal action against club officials, coaches and players who defame them.

The Italian Football Federation (FIGC) announced on Monday a series of measures aimed at curbing the regular slanging matches between club and match officials and growing claims of biased refereeing in Serie A, warning it was ready to use the courts.

"The message is that there will be no more tolerance of all this," a Federation spokesman said.

Italy has an elaborate system of disciplinary committees and 'sporting courts' which are meant to keep disputes between those in the game in house

But the FIGC said it would now authorise legal action to be taken in regular courts in cases of defamation of character.

"If an individual, for example a referee, approaches the Federation and savs that he intends to take legal action he can be given that authorisation without it affecting the work of the sporting justice system, said the spokesman

The FIGC has instructed its disciplinary bodies to take swift action against Federation members, who include all players, coaches and club officials, in cases of "gratuitous defamation" said the spokesman.

The Federation says its own lawyers could sue non-members who it believes are defaming the sport or individuals within the sport. which could pave the way for legal action to be taken against television pundits or journalists.

Popular television soccer chat shows in Italy frequently descend into rows with claims of bias and hints of plots.

The announcement came after talks between Federation president Franco Carraro and officials from the Italian Referees Association after the latest bout of heavy criti-

cism of referees The first sign of the tough new approach came earlier on Monday when Roma president Franco Sensi and Como president Enrico Preziosi were referred to the FIGC's disciplinary committee after critical comments at the weekend.

Sensi had made a strongly worded attack on unidentified "delinquents" inside the game and repeated his often heard claim of bias in favour of Northern clubs.

He had suggested that the high number of yellow cards against Roma players were "preparation" for the club's upcoming games against direct rivals for the title. It is not the first time Sensi's comments have landed him in hot water.

Preziosi made a furious attack on the refereeing following his side's 1-0 loss to Bologna on Sunday and said he was resigning because he could put up with "scandalous refereeing" no longer, suggesting there was an organised effort against his club.

Preziosi criticised the decision of referee Alfredo Trentalange to award Bologna a penalty which their striker Giuseppe Signori converted to win the game.

"Today we can say Bologna 1 Como 0 -- goalscorer Trentalange," Preziosi said after Sunday's game.

Preziosi has made several accusations in recent weeks that bigger clubs enjoy favouritism and suggested his team had paid the price for his words.

"Today we saw more scandalous refereeing, all in the favour of

for referees. **Fergie's advice** for Keane

AFP, London

reaction.

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has told Roy Keane not to say anything about his Ireland future

The 31-year-old former Irish skipper was sent home before the Republic had played a match at this summer's World Cup finals followng a furious row with manager Mick McCarthy.

Keane vowed he would never play for Ireland while McCarthy remained manager

But following McCarthy's residnation last week speculation has grown about the possibility of Keane's international return.

However, Ferguson has said Keane, currently recovering from a hip operation should keep quiet after the publication of his autobiography provoked a stream of newspaper headlines.

"I think for Roy's sake, the least he says about it the better because t is going to be

another agenda for everyone in Ireland, "Ferguson told Ferguson told manutd.com on Monday.

"They will be agog with stories about who is taking over and Keane coming back.

"At the moment he is not even back for us and that is the first step. Keane has taken note of Ferguson's warning, claiming that first he must concentrate on a return to action for "the people who pay my wages".

Bridge a fortnight ago, in the presence of a lawyer. The proposed 15million pounds (22million dollar) scheme would have included Fulham taking out a 25-year lease to play

at Chelsea's home, where they would have their own changing area, boardroom and commercial facilities

In return Fulham would pay Chelsea 5 percent of their turnover minus sponsorship income.

Under the plan the two clubs would have sought to persuade the local authority to cancel a legal agreement which currently prohibits Chelsea groundsharing

at Stamford Bridge. Chelsea, who are under financial strain, have declined to com-

ment on the talks Fulham are currently four

months into a two-year deal to lease Queens Park Rangers' Loftus Road ground.

They have planning permission to redevelop their traditional Craven Cottage home but claim the maximum capacity of 30,000 would be insufficient so are searching for another suitable site.

groundshare as part of a deal which would have seen Al-Fayed buy into Chelsea Village plc.

The pair, who are good friends, discussed the 9.9 percent purchase - the highest proportion Premier League rules will allow -

and permanent share of Stamford