

# Tsunami match a hit

AFP, Gelsenkirchen

Germany and a Bundesliga international select XI played out an entertaining 2-2 draw here on Tuesday in a benefit match for the victims of the tsunami disaster that struck Indian Ocean coastlines on December 26.

The German Football Federation (DFB) hoped to raise up to four million euros for the estimated 200,000 victims and the German team contributed 200,000 euros for the flood victims in South East Asia before the match.

"The players wanted to give something themselves and we donated 200,000 euros to the cause," explained German international Michael Ballack.

A lump payment of 1.5 million euros will be allocated for the rebuilding of hospitals in the devastated Banda Aceh area of Indonesia.

"Even if it was just to build one hospital the match would be worth it," said Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder, president of the German Football Federation (DFB).

German manager Jurgen Klinsmann fielded eight regulars, including Bayern Munich duo Ballack and Oliver Kahn, in his starting line-up and after a minute's silence his team kicked off proceedings in front of the 51,900 fans at the Arena AufSchalke.

But it was the Bundesliga 'Allstars', sporting red strips and white shorts, who enjoyed the lion's share of the possession early on and had the ball in the net in the 20th minute through Dutch international Roy Makaay - only for the effort to be ruled out for offside.

Bernd Schneider put Germany ahead six minutes later with the Bayer Leverkusen midfielder curling a shot into the top corner after a clever feint.

Less than 120 seconds later Makaay scored again and this time it was not disallowed.

Brazilian Marcelinho of Hertha Berlin flicked a lovely through ball to

Makaay and he unleashed an unstoppable first-time volley past Bayern Munich team-mate Oliver Kahn.

"It was nice to score and I really enjoyed the game," enthused Makaay. "I think the fans who turned out also enjoyed the match." Schalke favourite Gerald Asamoah restored Germany's lead scoring in front of his home fans on the half hour mark.

The second half saw two different teams line up with Brazilian World Cup winner Lucio and compatriot Ailton coming in for the international XI while Arsenal's Jens Lehmann replaced arch rival Kahn in the German goal.

Lehmann had to pick the ball out of the net just six minutes after coming on as Slovakian international Marek Mintal, the top-scorer in the Bundesliga this season, stroked home the equaliser after some indecisive defending.

The Allstars had a good penalty shout turned down in the 77th minute when Schalke 04's Christian Pander, making his German debut on his home ground, felled Brazilian Ze Roberto.

Ailton also went close late on but Lehmann produced a point-blank save to ensure the match finished all square.

An impressive 51,900 fans turned out at the Arena Auf Schalke and Ballack was so impressed that he insisted playing a fundraising match every year may not be out of the question.

"I do not see any reason why we could not play a benefit match every year," opined Ballack. "We could always find time for a match of this nature."

Bayern Munich general manager Uli Hoeness was an avid spectator and backed Ballack's claims.

"If the fans, clubs and players are in agreement then I am convinced we could do a match like this on a regular basis," stated Hoeness.

"It was a really entertaining game and the players all had smiles on their faces," remarked West Germany's 1974 World Cup winner Franz Beckenbauer.



German national team captain Michael Ballack (C) tries to get the better of Dutchman Roy Makaay of the Allstars Bundesliga international selection during their tsunami benefit match at the Arena AufSchalke stadium in Gelsenkirchen on January 25.

# Albertini Barca's

AFP, Barcelona

Veteran midfielder Demetrio Albertini has completed his free transfer move from struggling Serie A side Atalanta to Barcelona, the Spanish league leaders confirmed Tuesday.

The 33-year-old former Italy international was snapped up by Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard, with whom he played alongside for AC Milan in the 1990s.

"I spoke to Frank and he explained that he wanted me for my experience and because I am eligible for the Champions League," Albertini told Barcelona's website.

"This is just a dream for me because after playing for a great club like Milan, now I get the chance with Barcelona."

I've now got to try and become part of the group and quickly get to know the team works.

"I'll guarantee that I'll give the maximum effort to settle in. Frank knows me and knows what I can do."

Albertini, who won five Italian titles and the 1994 Champions League during his time with AC Milan, has already had one spell in Spain with Atletico Madrid in the 2002/03 season.

Albertini, who played in the Euro 2000 final where Italy lost 2-1 to France, is Barcelona's first recruit of the transfer window.

Atalanta, currently bottom of Serie A, were reluctant to let Albertini go, but didn't want to stand in the way of his dream move.

Barcelona, who have a seven point lead over Real Madrid at the top of the Spanish league, face English Premiership leaders Chelsea in the next round of the Champions League.

# LEAGUE CUP

## Gerrard the inspiration

AFP, Watford

Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard emphatically drew a line under his club's recent problems by firing them into the League Cup final at the expense of Championship side Watford on Tuesday.

The England midfielder, who was only playing after passing a late fitness test on a hamstring injury, demonstrated exactly why Liverpool are so desperate to hold on to him with a superbly taken goal to give his side a 1-0 victory that sent them into the final with a 2-0 aggregate victory.

Gerrard, who also scored the winner in the first leg, insisted afterwards that the win was proof that Liverpool are on the right track under new manager Rafael Benitez.

"People try to put this competition down but at the end of the day it is a Cup final and there will be 70,000 people down there in Cardiff and as a professional footballer that is what you want to be doing, playing in as many finals as possible."

Watford boss Ray Lewington paid tribute to what was a disciplined performance from Liverpool, who never gave their opponents any serious chance of getting into the contest.

"They did all the ugly things well," Lewington said. "We tried hard but we couldn't get round the back of them and we did not have too many chances on goal. From their point of view, they did the job well."

Despite trailing from the first leg, a determined Watford side

managed to maintain the suspense until 13 minutes from the end before Gerrard killed them off.

After flicking on a ball out of defence just inside the Watford half, the Liverpool captain ran on to collect a return pass from John Arne Riise before beating Paul Jones with a low shot from just outside the area.

Gerrard's ninth goal of the season represented the perfect tonic for a club that was dumped out of the FA Cup last week by Burnley and has seen its Champions League ambitions buffeted by back-to-back defeats at the hands of Manchester United and Southampton in the Premiership.

Lewington admitted that the context of Tuesday's tie at Vicarage Road had probably not helped his side's chances.

"Probably the FA Cup defeat and the poor performance at Southampton made them more determined to do a job tonight. It concentrated their minds -- they had to get through tonight and they changed their system to one that made it difficult for us."

Given the background, it was little surprise that manager Rafael Benitez named the strongest available side as he attempted to tie up a final meeting with either Manchester United or Chelsea, who conclude their own semi-final at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

Benitez insisted afterwards that he had not been affected by all the criticism Liverpool had received over the last ten days and that he had no preferences in terms of final opponents.

"This is very important for us, the club and the supporters. We are in the final -- it was difficult but

we are here and we were not thinking about people who talk. We prefer to work."

"Whoever we play in the final, it is the same. I prefer to rest and see the game on television and enjoy it."

Efficient as they were, the reality for Liverpool was that, prior to Gerrard's crucial strike, they did little to suggest they were playing a side ranked a whole division below them in the hierarchy of English football.

Watford's spirited approach to the match ensured the contest was largely bogged down in midfield and both sides struggled to create genuine chances.

Fernando Morientes threatened for Liverpool in the 27th minute when he collected a pass from Gerrard on the edge of the area and unleashed a fierce drive that, after a deflection off a defender, skidded narrowly wide of Jones's right-hand post.

Another chance for the visitors went begging when Gerrard, revealing in his free role in midfield, broke down the left with the Watford back four totally caught on their heels.

But for once, Gerrard's distribution was poor and his square ball for the unmarked Milan Baros was a couple of yards behind the Czech Republic striker.

There was another half chance five minutes before the break when Riise cut in from the left only to send his shot wide of the target.

That pretty much summed up Liverpool's night but, as so often in the past, Gerrard was there at the end to provide reassurance.

For Liverpool fans the relief will be conditioned by anxiety that he will not be around for much longer.

# Reds interested in Bellamy

AFP, Liverpool

Liverpool were reported Wednesday to have approached Newcastle United over striker Craig Bellamy who has said he wants to leave after a highly-public row with manager Graeme Souness.

Bellamy was fined 80,000 pounds, equivalent to two weeks' wages, on Tuesday after calling Souness a liar and admitting he had told team-mates he would feign injury to avoid playing out on the wing instead of centre-forward in Sunday's 1-0 defeat at Arsenal.

The former Coventry and Norwich forward did not train with the rest of the first-team squad on Tuesday, instead working in the gym, and The Guardian reported Wednesday Liverpool were interested if Newcastle drop their 10 million pound valuation of the player.

"There's no doubt about it, I am out of here," the Wales international said.

"I won't apologise because I have done nothing wrong. I know I am not wanted."

Newcastle would normally value Bellamy in the 10 million pound class, but his furious fall-out with Souness means the cost will drop.

Liverpool insiders reveal they would do business at around 4 to 5 million pounds because their forward line lacks goals and sparkle without Djibril Cisse whose broken leg rules him out for the rest of the season.

Bellamy would be the successor to Michael Owen in an attack that relies on erratic Milan Baros and features new boy Fernando Morientes and young Florent Sinama-Pongolle and Neil Mellor.

Spanish signing Luis Garcia has been lightweight and could even be sold back to Spain in the summer if Bellamy joins.

# Dad's faith in Junior

AFP, Lisbon

The sky is the limit for Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho, his father claimed Tuesday after the Portuguese manager was voted the best football coach in the world in 2004 by the International Football Federation of History and Statistics.

"I now think anything is possible in his career as he is getting better and better," Felix Mourinho told Portuguese state radio RDP.

"As you can imagine I feel really proud and really happy. But I have to say he works very hard to achieve what he does. He works a lot, he is very dedicated, he lives for what he does," he added.

Mourinho beat Arsenal's Arsene Wenger with a 186-point advantage in the annual ranking, while Monaco's Didier Deschamps finished in third position.

Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard, whose team dominates Spain's Primera Liga, came fourth while

Liverpool boss Rafael Benitez finished in fifth position.

Mourinho, who joined Chelsea in June 2004 from FC Porto on a four-year contract, has guided the London-based team to a 10-point lead at the top of the English Premiership.

During his last season at FC Porto, Mourinho led the club to the European Champions League, UEFA Cup and Portuguese league titles.



JOSE MOURINHO

# Motivation DPRK style!

AFP, Tokyo

Communist North Korea is giving cash, cars and houses to motivate its footballers, who are determined to beat Asian champions and political rivals Japan in next month's World Cup qualifier match, a report said Wednesday.

"We are sure that we will win. We've been strongly motivated. We shall beat them for sure," Kyodo News quoted North Korea's sports guidance commission vice secretary-director Ri Hyon as saying.

"We've given a huge amount of bonus, the latest model of houses and high-class cars to the players according to their achievements" in international games, he said.

Ri, whom Kyodo News interviewed via official North Korean media outlets, said Pyongyang "has taken strong interest in the development of football with a wide view, and introduced new methods of practice that fit the physical conditions of the Koreans."

North Korea will take on Japan at the Saitama stadium near Tokyo on February 9, amid political tensions over the Stalinist state's abductions of Japanese civilians during the Cold War.

The North Korean team, mostly

players from the "April 25" Korean People's Army team, opened a training camp at the Chinese resort of Hainan last week with two ethnic Korean players with Japanese J-League clubs joining later.

North Korea stunned the world by advancing to the quarter-finals of the 1966 World Cup finals in England, their only appearance on the world stage, by upsetting favoured Italy.

But since North Korea failed to qualify for the 1994 World Cup in the United States, they have cloistered the team for 10 years of intense training.

North Korea, remaining "one of Asia's mystery teams" as the website of football's world governing body FIFA puts it, made the last eight of the Asian qualifying round with three wins and two draws in the preliminary contests.

Japan and North Korea will meet each other in a second leg in Pyongyang on June 8 in a tough group which also includes Iran and Bahrain, to qualify for the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

The two sides each have four wins, four losses and three draws from their previous international encounters.

Japan won the Asian Cup last August in Beijing for the second straight time.

# The best bargain?

AFP, Paris

Chelsea's low-profile, nine-million-pound keeper Petr Cech may have proved the club's most efficient and valuable signing should runaway leaders Chelsea win the Premiership title this season.

By the end of last summer's spending spree, Chelsea had spent a staggering 210 million pounds (392 million dollars) in less than 13 months since Russian money machine Roman Abramovich bought the club.

Cech, who joined from modest French club Rennes last summer on a five-year contract, is proving to be a priceless addition.

He has conceded a miserly eight goals as an ever-present in the Blues' 24 Premiership games, and kept clean sheets for the last seven of those.

With 14 games remaining he is on course to beat the Premiership record for fewest goals conceded in a season, currently standing to Arsenal at 17 in the 1998/99 season. The all-time record in the English

top flight division stands to Liverpool who let in only 16 goals in 42 games in the 1978/79 season.

Cech's quiet efficiency belies his huge worth to manager Jose Mourinho.

Media hype does not surround the 22-year-old, barring an outburst at referee Graham Poll in December, while the likes of Arsenal keepers Jens Lehmann and Manuel Almunia and United custodian Roy Carroll have been in the public eye for gaffs and below-par performances.

Admittedly the Chelsea defence, superbly marshalled by England central defender John Terry, has been a huge factor in keeping their goals against column so low, but before joining Chelsea, Cech had a consistent record for both club and country.

The 1.97m (6ft 5in) number one keeper for the Czechs conceded just five goals in eight matches in Euro 2004 qualifying, and could do nothing about Greece's winning goal in the semi-finals in Portugal.

And for Sparta Prague, he set a national record of not conceding a goal for 1,120 minutes in all competitions including domestic, Champions League and Under-21

matches. A studied look at his achievements show him to be the goalkeeping equivalent of a stone wall.

And how Arsenal boss Arsenal Wenger and Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson must be looking at Stamford Bridge with envy.

Just on January 4, United's Northern Irish keeper Roy Carroll fumbled the ball over the line in stoppage time after Tottenham's Pedro Mendes hit a lob from close to half-length of the pitch.

Forget that Tottenham were denied victory when the referee failed to spot the goal to spark off the debate about the use of video evidence. Neutral observers would say it was simply a monumental gaffe.

Arsenal have conceded more than three times the goals of Chelsea, 25 in 23 matches, and though the attacking flair of Wenger's men, particularly Thierry Henry, is a delight to see, the often erratic performances of keepers Almunia and Lehmann may have scuppered their title chances. Cech plied his trade in France

for Brittany-side Rennes after signing from Sparta Prague in 2002 but moved to Chelsea following Euro 2004.

He first turned professional in 1998 as a 16-year-old at Czech club Viktoria Plzen before moving to Chmel Blsany one year later for a two-year stint.

Just 27 appearances in two seasons was enough to convince Sparta Prague, arguably the biggest club in the country, to make Cech their number one keeper.

He was a star at the Under-21 European championships in 2002, helping the Czech side to the title where he was instrumental in the penalty shootout defeat of a talented French side in the final.

Karel Bruckner took over the national coaching job in December, 2001 and immediately made Cech his first choice keeper as the Czech Republic set out on their impressive qualifying campaign for Euro 2004.

Cech's contract with Chelsea secured his financial future and propelled him into the spotlight thanks to Champions League foot-



PETR CECH

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Directorate, Ministry of Education  
Rangamati Zone, Rangamati

**Tender Notice**

Tender Notice No-05/Revenue/Ranga-Z/EED Dated: 10.01.2005

Scaled tenders are hereby invited as per The Public Procurement Regulations-2003 from contractors having financial eligibility and experience in the work concerned for execution of repair and renovation work in different government educational institutions under this zone during 2004-2005 fiscal year under non-development budget of repair and renovation head.

a)	Price of tender document per set	: Tk 400/- only (non-refundable).
b)	Last date and time of purchasing tender document	: 10.02.2005 up to office hours.
c)	Last date and time of submitting tender document	: 12.02.2005, 1.00 PM.
d)	Place, date and time of opening tender document	: Office of the undersigned, 12.02.2005, 3.00 PM.
e)	Offices where tender document to be had at	: Head Office of the Directorate, office of the undersigned, Office of the Assistant Engineer of the district concerned and other offices of Executive Engineers of this department under Chittagong Division.
f)	Office where tender will be received at	: Office of the undersigned.

g) List of selected educational institutions, name of work, Group No., specified amount of earnest money, etc. are given in the tender document.

h) The amount of earnest money as specified should be submitted with each tender in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of "Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Directorate, Rangamati Zone."

2) Permission for purchasing tender document should be taken from the proper authority on producing the original copies of registration book, up-to-date licence renewal certificate, up-to-date income tax clearance certificate and up-to-date VAT registration certificate, and the attested photocopies of those papers should be submitted at the time of submitting tender.

3) Bill will be paid subject to receipt of allocation. But the contractor shall be bound to complete the work within the stipulated time.

4) Income tax and VAT will be deducted against each bill as per government rules and regulations.

5) The successful tenderer shall provide bank guarantee as performance guarantee at the rate of 10% of the accepted price within 7 (seven) days of issuing the Letter of Intent. Otherwise, the Letter of Intent/work will be treated as cancelled.

6) The quoted price should be stated in figures and words.

7) If any work allocated to the contractor earlier remains incomplete without any specific reason, then the contractor cannot participate in the tender.

8) If the work is cancelled under any circumstances or the name of institution is changed, then the contractor cannot claim any financial reparations.

The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason.

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