



Liverpool players (from R-L) Dirk Kyte, Steven Gerrard, Mark Gonzalez and Bolo Zenden take part in a training session at the club's Melwood training ground in Liverpool on Monday.

## Reds aim for Chelsea jugular

AFP, Liverpool



Chelsea might easily have added to Cole's winner last Wednesday, but they can scarcely expect that fact to be taken into consideration when they run out at Anfield, where they were beaten 2-0 in a Premiership clash earlier this year.

The home crowd will expect nothing less than an all-out assault on the Chelsea goal, but Liverpool also know that an away goal for opponents who are adept on the counter-attack is likely to be fatal.

"We know we're going to have to score and it would help if we can get an early goal," said Riise, one of the few survivors from the Liverpool squad that beat AC Milan in the final on penalties two years ago.

"We didn't create many chances on Tuesday (at Chelsea), but we performed better in the second half and at home we know we can get

forward and score goals.

"We need a good start. If we get that, with the crowd behind us, it means it could be game on. It's also important to be patient and be careful to give nothing away."

"Two years ago it was unbelievable and it can be the same again."

Liverpool know they must be wary of the threat posed by Didier Drogba, the giant Ivory Coast striker who set up Cole for his first-leg winner.

"He's as strong as a bull, he works hard and he scores goals," admitted Riise, "It's very difficult to play against him."

Drogba's physical presence has repeatedly given Liverpool's defence serious problems and it was his run and pass which created the opening for Cole to score in the first leg.

But the big striker will be walk-

ing a disciplinary tightrope on Tuesday night -- a yellow card would mean he misses the final should Chelsea progress.

On paper, Chelsea still have a chance of claiming four pieces of silverware this season, but the weekend's Premiership results have seriously compromised their chances of a third straight league title.

That should ensure that Mourinho will need to do little to get his side in the right frame of mind for their task here, but the cause has not been helped by the loss of centreback Ricardo Carvalho.

Chelsea's best defender this season is destined to spend the summer recovering from a knee injury after limping out of Saturday's 2-2 draw with Bolton, while Michael Ballack will also be

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## Arsenal let Fulham feel it

AFP, London



Arsenal striker Emmanuel Adebayor plunged Fulham deeper into relegation trouble as his late goal set up a 3-1 win over Lawrie Sanchez's struggling side on Sunday.

Fulham had looked set to snatch a crucial point when Simon Davies cancelled out Julio Baptista's early goal at the Emirates Stadium. But Adebayor's sublime strike left Fulham heartbroken and Gilberto Silva rubbed salt into their wounds with a penalty in the final moments.

The west London club sit uncomfortably just a point above the relegation zone after their 10th match without a win.

The decision to sack Chris

Coleman earlier this month and hire Northern Ireland coach Sanchez has failed to bring the upturn in fortunes Fulham's board had hoped for.

Fulham now face a nervous finale to the season as they try to scrape the points they need for survival in their last two matches against Liverpool and Middlesbrough.

Bolton and Everton's failure to win on Saturday had guaranteed Arsenal the top four finish that

Baptista should have doubled the lead in the 15th minute after a typically flowing move carved open the Fulham defence.

Gael Clichy and Cesc Fabregas combined to give the on-loan Real Madrid midfielder a clear sight of goal but he screwed his shot well wide.

They were ahead after just four minutes and it was a surprise it took that long.

Kolo Toure's long ball picked out Adebayor and the Togo striker exchanged passes with Alexander Hleb before crossing to Baptista, who rose above Liam Rosenior and buried his header into the bottom corner.

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