



Things get heated between Manchester United defender Rio Ferdinand (L) and Liverpool forward Fernando Torres during their Premier League clash at Anfield on Sunday. PHOTO: AFP

Kahn predicting silverware

AFP, Berlin

Bayern Munich will win plenty of silverware this season despite the German giants only hanging onto top spot in the Bundesliga by virtue of goal difference, Oliver Kahn predicted Sunday.

Bayern will finish 2007 at the top of the German league despite being held to a 0-0 draw at Hertha Berlin as rivals Werder Bremen drew level with Munich on points.

Second-placed Bremen hammered Bayer Leverkusen 5-2 at home on Saturday to equal the league leaders' tally of 36 points, but a superior goal difference protects Bayern's place.

Bayern captain Kahn was suspended for the Hertha game and heavily fined after criticising teammates Luca Toni and Franck Ribery for inconsistent performances in the wake of last weekend's 0-0 draw with struggling Duisburg.

Bayern are crowned autumn champions as the league breaks for winter to resume on February 1, but Kahn is still predicting plenty of silverware will head their way.

"You could see from the Berlin game the team lacked confidence," Kahn told German tabloid Bild on Sunday.

"But the important thing was to go into the winter break as leaders."

"During January's training period we will be able to work on our problems. I am sure we will win more than one title this season."

Bayern hope to have Toni back

AFP, Munich

Bayern Munich coach Ottmar Hitzfeld is hoping to welcome back Italian World Cup striker Luca Toni for Wednesday night's UEFA Cup Group F home game against Greek side Aris Saloniki.

Victory would mean Bayern book their place amongst the knock-out stages where eight teams drop down from the Champions League to battle it out in Europe's second-tier competition.

Toni was missing for Saturday's 0-0 Bundesliga draw against Hertha Berlin with a thigh injury, but trained with the German league leaders on Sunday.

He is the league's joint top-scorer with nine goals and already has two goals from this season's UEFA Cup campaign.

Midfielder Mark van Bommel sat out training on Sunday with a bruised leg, but defender Willy Sagnol had shaken off the back injury which kept him out of Saturday's trip to Berlin.

"I hope Luca can play," said Hitzfeld ahead of the game against the Greek side who broke a run of three defeats on Saturday with a 2-0 Greek super-league victory over AO Xanthi.

Goalkeeper Oliver Kahn is expected to be back between the posts after missing the Hertha game because after being suspended for criticising Toni and French midfielder Ribery the previous weekend.

The top three sides from the group will go through with Bolton Wanderers leading the table while Salomoni are second with Bayern in third place.

Defeat would be a disaster for the home side as it would be the first time Bayern have been beaten on home turf in the UEFA Cup for ten years.

Bayern's Bundesliga rivals Hamburg have already qualified for the knock out stages of the UEFA Cup and they take on Swiss side FC Basel at the HSH Nordbank Arena on Thursday night.

No new buys: Berlusconi

Football

AFP, Rome

European and world club champions AC Milan will not be tempted into bringing in reinforcements during the winter transfer window, owner Silvio Berlusconi said on Sunday.

Having added the Club World Cup - thanks to their 4-2 victory over Boca Juniors - to their Champions League crown, Milan believe they have all the ingredients despite standing 22 points behind league leaders Inter.

"Our objective is to always be at the forefront in Italy, Europe and the world," Berlusconi told Mediaset TV station.

"The formula is simple: forget quickly when you achieve one goal and find another to occupy you, this way you always remain ambitious."

As for new signings, Berlusconi thinks that Milan have proved that they have enough resources.

"It's strange when you're celebrating the victory of a team which has just confirmed itself as the best in the world and on the day that it's sitting on top of the world, you're thinking about reinforcements," added the former prime minister of Italy.

"I think it is the team that did not succeed, Boca Juniors, that needs to think about strengthening their squad, that's not the case with Milan."

Following Milan legend Paolo Maldini's confirmation on Sunday that he would retire at the end of the season, Berlusconi took a moment to pay tribute to the Milan club captain.

"Some important players will leave us but not everyone is going. In the case of Maldini, who is staying (after he retires from playing), like (Alessandro) Costacurta, like

(Franco) Baresi, like many others, he will continue to be a great captain for the Milan family. He will be a captain of the field."

Berlusconi believes Milan have a couple of gems waiting in the wings in Brazilian forward Pato and French midfielder Yohann Gourcuff.

"We have two young men in which we have a lot of faith: one is Gourcuff, who I have dared to describe as the new (Zinedine) Zidane, I really believe in his qualities."

"The other is Pato. I have not seen him play myself but I've seen videos. I was amazed, astounded."

"That same effect only happened to me once before with another video, that of (Marco) Van Basten's goals."

Van Basten was one of the stars of the Milan side from 1987-1995 when he hit 90 career goals.

Inter pull away

AFP, Rome

Inter Milan stretched their lead at the top of Serie A to seven points on Sunday after a comfortable 2-0 win at

rock-bottom Cagliari while second-placed Roma were held to a 0-0 draw at Torino. Second-half goals from Latin American pair Julio Cruz and David Suazo allowed Inter to cruise to victory, despite top scorer Zlatan Ibrahimovic being unavailable through suspension.

Inter's Romania centre-back Christian Chivu hit the bar with a long range drive on 35 minutes and after the break the visitors took control.

Argentine Cruz opened the scoring on 57 minutes with a low shot from outside the area and Honduran Suazo bundled the ball home from close range 11 minutes from time.



Inter Milan striker David Suazo (R) is congratulated by fellow goalscorer Julio Cruz during their Serie A match against Cagliari at the St Elia Stadium on Sunday. PHOTO: AFP

After the match Cruz looked ahead to next weekend's crucial Milan derby against new Club World Cup winners AC Milan.

"The derby is a special match. Their cup victory won't count for anything, nor will the fact that we are top of Serie A," he told Sky Sport.

"I hope it will be a great match. We know we're playing well and taking advantage by pulling away. Today we did that and we hope to continue doing so."

Plucky Roma clung on to a 0-0 draw in a game that Torino bossed from start to finish and which they should have won.

Despite their lucky escape, Roma were incensed that the referee did not award them a late penalty when Macedonia striker Mirko Vucinic went down in the box.

Simone Perrotta allegedly tried to confront the referee in the tunnel after the match but had to be held back by security staff.

"Footballers work hard and it's

an emotional game, sometimes you can understand certain reactions when you see what happened before them," said Roma coach Luciano Spalletti.

"You should talk about this in relation to something else that was as clear as daylight," he added of the penalty claim.

Roma at least moved back above Juventus into second place having briefly lost that on goal difference following Juve's 3-2 win at Lazio on Saturday.

Torino were always in control and Italian international forward Simone Barone had the first gift-edged chance on 28 minutes but flicked his near post shot wide with only Brazilian goalkeeper Doni to beat.

Six minutes from half-time Torino let Roma off yet again as two more Italian internationals, David Di Michele and Alessandro Rosina got in each other's way and contrived between them to slam the ball wide from six yards with a gaping goal to aim at. Croatian Sasa Bjelanovic twice went close for the hosts after the break before late on Vucinic went down under a challenge, although television replays were unclear as to whether or not a penalty was deserved.

Fiorentina's miserable form continued as they failed to win for the fifth game in a row following an entertaining 2-2 draw at Sampdoria.

Daniele Gastaldello gave the hosts the lead after pouncing on a rebound when goalkeeper Cristiano Lupatelli failed to hold Antonio Cassano's shot.

Fiorentina equalised through Romania forward Adrian Mutu and substitute Marco Donadel gave them the lead after the break before Cassano restored parity.

Fiorentina stay fifth with Palermo just one place below them following a 3-1 win at Atalanta.

Alessandro Del Piero scored a brace of second-half breakaway goals to fire Juventus to victory at the Stadio Olimpico.

Lazio should have won but Del Piero's goals and a brilliant performance from goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon stole the match for Juve.

France forward David Trezeguet put Juve in front six minutes before the break but Lazio produced the move of the match to equalise, with Tommaso Rocchi's flicked header releasing Massimo Mutarelli to cross for Serbian forward Goran Pandev to head home.

Del Piero twice beat the offside trap before finishing clinically with his left foot and then Pandev headed home a consolation goal deep into injury time.

Fergie couldn't be happier

REUTERS, Liverpool

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson hailed the team's 1-0 win over Liverpool at Anfield on Sunday as a significant step towards retaining the Premier League title.

"It was a massive win. I said beforehand, the games between the top sides would be significant and that is one today," Ferguson told MUTV.

"If we are around the top in the first part of January we will have a real chance of winning the league. We will know we have a chance and we will know who our challengers are going to be."

Carlos Tevez scored in the 43rd minute to move United nine points clear of Liverpool, who are fifth in the table. Arsenal, who beat third-placed Chelsea 1-0 on Sunday, top the Premier League on 40 points, one ahead of United.

"It wasn't a smash and grab victory at all. We played the better stuff," said Ferguson.

"It was very frenetic, a typical Liverpool-Manchester United game. The crowd creates such a fervour, it is very difficult for the referee to handle. There was a massive amount of free kicks, probably a record."

"When a team gets so many free kicks you always worry that one is eventually going to go in," he added.

United have won six of their last seven league games against Liverpool since Rafael Benitez took charge at Anfield, however the Spaniard refused to rule his side out of the title race.

"It is too soon for the title. For me it is a long way. It will be harder, clearly. You need to be winning games in a row if you want to be closer," Benitez told reporters.

"This year all the teams can lose points so you can just think about the next game."

Benitez was due to meet Liverpool's owners Tom Hicks and George Gillett after the match to discuss his future following his criticism of the Americans' transfer policy in recent weeks.

"We will try to clarify the misunderstanding," Benitez said. "We need to clarify the situation for the future. It's just to know what position we are in now."

"I go into it with confidence. It is a meeting for talking about the future not just one game."

City's Castillo offer too low

REUTERS, Kiev

Shakhtar Donetsk's president is willing to loan the club's most expensive acquisition -- Mexican midfielder Nery Castillo -- but for no less than five million euros (\$7.2 million) a year, the club's Web site said on Monday.

Castillo's agent told Mexican television on Friday that an agreement has been struck with Manchester City to loan him out, but club president Rinat Akhmetov said the offer of a million euros with an option to buy Castillo was rejected as too low.

"A one-year loan -- five million euros and there will be no options, meaning a right to buy (Castillo)," said Akhmetov, the country's richest man.

"If Castillo finds his game ... then in a year we'll decide whether to take him back to Shakhtar or sell. And the price could be 20, or 30, or 40, or 50 million euros," he said.

Shakhtar bought the Mexican last summer for 20 million euros in one of the most expensive buys in post-Soviet club history. But the player did not impress, playing just eight home league matches and failing to score any goals. "He was a star at Olympiakos, and he came here like a star... Probably, he thought that if we paid 20 million euros for him, his place in the team was certain. But he forgot that this has to be won," Akhmetov said.

Morales hits out at FIFA

REUTERS, La Paz

Bolivian President Evo Morales has criticised FIFA's decision to introduce a ban on international soccer matches over 2,750 metres above sea level without acclimatisation.

"I want to express my surprise at this decision by FIFA. It's discrimination ... against people who live at high altitude," Morales told state news agency ABI after a kickabout with police officers in La Paz, which lies 3,600 metres above sea level.

"It's not right that they don't understand the situation of Potosi, Oruro or La Paz," he added, referring to two other Andean cities with leading national teams.

World soccer's governing body announced its latest altitude ruling on Saturday in Japan. It said players would need sufficient time to acclimatise if playing above 2,750 metres, though it did not say how much.

Earlier this year, FIFA banned matches at over 2,500 metres, a decision which caused an outcry in Bolivia and elsewhere in South America.

FIFA later backtracked after a high-profile campaign led by Morales, which included a match between his presidential aides and a university team on a volcano at more than 5,000 metres.

Carlo defends format

AFP, Yokohama



AC Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti hit back at critics of the Club World Cup after his team swept to a record fourth intercontinental title.

Ancelotti said the tournament was a "wonderful event," dismissing comments from his cross-town rival, Inter Milan coach Roberto Mancini.

"Whoever says whatever, we are happy we have won," said Ancelotti after Milan's 4-2 win over Argentina's Boca Juniors.

Mancini had said the event, featuring the world's continental champions, was "absurd" and should revert to a one-off match between the European and South American title-holders.

"Done this way it looks like a friendly tournament," said Mancini, whose team leads Italy's Serie A.

"It seems absurd to me playing six games for this contest. There are only two teams that deserve to play in the final."

Waikateri United and Pachuca, champions of Oceania and Central America, were both knocked out in the first round. Milan and Boca saw off Urawa Reds and Etoile Sahel, the Asian and African title-holders, in the semifinals.

Milan are the first European winners since the multi-team format was introduced in 2005, with South American teams traditionally taking the event more seriously.

Brazil's Internacional stunned Barcelona 1-0 last year and Sao Paulo beat Liverpool by the same scoreline in 2005.

Ancelotti hoped the victory would be a springboard to better performances in Serie A, where Milan are currently languishing in 11th place.

"This victory is an epilogue in the first half of the season. We must fight hard in the Serie A campaign after the second half starts in

January," Ancelotti said.

"We have to fight better with this victory as momentum."

Ballon d'Or winner Kaka underlined his credentials as favourite for World Player of the Year by scoring once and helping the prolific Filippo Inzaghi to a brace.

"This trophy is just what we have missed," said the Brazilian, who has also helped Milan to the Champions League and Super Cup titles this season.

"We have obtained everything we should as a team."

It was Milan's 18th international trophy after their seven Champions League and European Cup titles, two Cup Winners' Cups, five European Super Cups and three Intercontinental Cups -- the most for any club and one more than Boca.

The win also avenged Milan's defeat on penalties to the Argentines in the final of the 2003 Intercontinental Cup, the Club World Cup's previous incarnation.

Lyon are winter champions

AFP, Paris



Lyon were on Sunday awarded the honorary title of winter champions without kicking a ball in anger after their nearest rivals Nancy were held to a 0-0 draw at Strasbourg.

The stalemate in Alsace left second-placed Nancy on 34 points with six-time French league winners Lyon on 38 with only next week's top of the table clash to come before the winter recess.

Marseille went into Sunday's late game against Bordeaux needing a pick-me-up after Liverpool ended their Champions League dream with a 4-0 midweek drubbing at the Velodrome.

In the end they had to settle for a 2-2 draw which left them lying precariously only three points off the relegation zone.

Bordeaux are in third, eight points shy of Lyon.

Marseille got off to the perfect start, with Mamadou Niang giving them the lead in the opening minute and Benoit Cheyrou adding a second before the half-hour mark.

Niang was instrumental in Marseille's second goal when he outwitted three Bordeaux defenders with Cheyrou's shot ricocheting off Marc Planus and past Ulrich Rame.

But it didn't take long for Bordeaux to reduce the deficit with Marouane Chamakh getting the home side off the mark in the 33rd minute, with Jussie knocking in Wendel's 70th minute corner for the

equaliser.

On Saturday Paul Le Guen's hopes that ailing Paris Saint Germain's wretched season had turned a corner were dashed after a 2-1 home loss to Toulouse.

PSG, desperate to build on last week's win over Auxerre, fell behind to a double either side of the break from Johan Elmander, with Pedro Pauleta's injury time penalty doing little to appease the frustrated Parc des Princes fans.

This latest loss, PSG's seventh of the campaign, left the capital club back in the relegation zone, with only Sochaux and Metz below them.

Club president Alain Cayzac said that the PSG management would be holding crisis talks next week.

Asked by Canal+ television whether Le Guen's future would be one of the subjects up for discussion Cayzac said: "We'll be looking at all the solutions to get out of this deep crisis, that means everything."

He added: "This situation is hitting me hard."

Lyon, fresh from their midweek heroics in qualifying for the Champions League last 16 with a 3-0 defeat of Rangers, found that a hard act to follow and were held to a goalless draw by Nice at the Stade Gerland.

Lyon can count themselves fortunate to have taken something from the game as Brazilian midfielder Ederson's 83rd minute freekick hit the crossbar with the ball rebounding off the line, to the evident relief of Vertout.

"We couldn't have done more this evening," reflected Lyon coach Alain Perrin.

"We didn't have enough gas to

grab the win, players aren't robots." Highfliers Le Mans moved up a place into third after a goalless draw with Lorient put them on 30 points.

Sochaux prevailed 2-1 in the bottom of the table dogfight with Metz, while strugglers Lille boosted their bid to stay in the top flight with a 3-0 win over Saint Etienne.

Valenciennes beat Auxerre by the same margin.

Monaco won their seventh match of the season, Jurgen Menzies' second half double earning them a 2-0 success over Lens, and Caen were into sixth after beating Rennes 2-1.

Stielke upbeat over Drogha

AFP, Abijan

Ivory Coast manager Ulrich Stielke is hopeful Chelsea striker Didier Drogha will have recovered from knee surgery in time for next month's African Nations Cup.

"He'll be with us for our training camp in Spain at the beginning of January," Stielke told daily Supersport there on Sunday.

The 29-year-old went under the knife last weekend to cure a long-standing problem with his knee.

"Drogha's getting on very well," the German added.

"He told me that the surgery had been a success. It was a simple operation and he should make a rapid recovery. I think he'll be fit for the African Nations Cup."

The January 20-February 10 competition is being hosted by Ghana with Ivory Coast drawn in group B with Nigeria, Mali and Benin.



Military Engineer Services

Directorate of Works & Chief Engineer (Army)

Invitation for Tenders

1. Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Defence.
2. Agency	: Military Engineer Services.
3. Procuring entity name	: DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt.
4. Tender name	: Construction of 1X animal feed godown incl ancillary works for Military farm at Savar Cantt.
5. Invitation for tender No.	: 03 of 2007-2008/E-6 Dated: 10 Dec 2007.
6. Procurement method	: Open tendering method.
7. Source of funds	: GOB.
8. Tender last selling date	: 09 January 2008.
9. Tender closing date & time	: 10 January 2008 at 1100 hours.
10. Tender opening date & time	: 10 January 2008 at 1130 hours.
11. Name & address of the office(s)	:
-Selling tender documents	: a. Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE (A) Project, Dhaka Cantt. b. DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt.
-Receiving tender documents	: Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE (A) Project, Dhaka Cantt.
-Opening tender documents	: Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE (A) Project, Dhaka Cantt.
12. Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	: Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE (A) Project, Dhaka Cantt. 09 January 2008, 1000-1100 hours.
13. Eligibility of tenderer	: a. Contractors enlisted in MES class 'C' & 'D'. b. Contractors enlisted in other govt/semi-govt/autonomous organizations in similar capacity having necessary security clearance.
14. Price of tender document	: Tk 1,000/- (non-refundable).
15. Amount of tender security	: Tk 93,000/-
16. Time for completion of works	: 06 (six) months.
17. Contact details	: Phone : 87500111 Extn 2678 Web Site: www.army.mil.bd
18. Special instructions	: a. Tenderer shall submit copy of letter of valid enlistment & security clearance with application on company letter-head when purchasing tender. b. Detailed requirements are mentioned in Tender Data Sheet of tender documents. c. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

ISPR/Army/07/1384
GD-4551

DW&CE (Army)
Dhaka Cantt