

Giroud, Coquelin's jersey gaffe

INTERNET, Undated

Arsenal pair Olivier Giroud and Francis Coquelin were left with faces almost as red as their shirts after throwing their jerseys into the crowd before the start of extra-time in last night's thriller in Reading.

The French duo thought Theo Walcott's 95th minute equaliser at the Madejski had sent the epic Capital One Cup fourth round clash to a replay, with the scores locked at 4-4.

Giroud and Coquelin then proceeded to walk over to the away fans and launch their shirts into the crowd, blissfully unaware that there were still 30 frenetic extra-time minutes left to play.

After being informed of the rules, the pair then had to perform a U-turn on their goodwill gesture and attempt to retrieve their strip from jubilant fans.

Luckily this didn't provide too tricky.

Giroud, who scored minutes after coming on as a second-half sub, and Coquelin then went on to play a vital role in the Gunners eventual 7-5 victory.

Kaka picked for 1000th game

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Real Madrid star Kaka and Chelsea trio David Luiz, Ramires and Oscar figure in the squad released Wednesday for Brazil's 1000th game, a friendly against Colombia in the United States.

Kaka has been sparsely used by Jose Mourinho at Real this season but featured for Brazil in comfortable friendly wins over Iraq and Japan last month.

In-form Lucas Moura, who is joining big-spending French side Paris Saint Germain in January, and Santos starlet Neymar, are also included as is Brazil captain Thiago Silva and Hulk of Zenit St Petersburg.

Missing from coach Mano Menezes' list were Ronaldinho of Atletico Mineiro and the two top scorers in the domestic league, Fred and Luis Fabiano, who have been spared to allow them to concentrate on the Brazilian league title.

The 2014 World Cup hosts face Colombia in New Jersey on Nov. 14.



Arsenal striker Theo Walcott is ecstatic after scoring the fourth goal that took the game into extra-time during their League Cup tie against Reading at the Madejski Stadium on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

Arsenal win crazy thriller

Football

AFP, London

Arsenal mounted an incredible comeback from 4-0 down to win 7-5 after extra time at Reading in a truly extraordinary League Cup fourth-round tie at the Madejski Stadium on Tuesday.

Theo Walcott was the hero, claiming a 95th-minute equaliser to force extra time and then slamming home the decisive goal in the last minute of the extra period to complete 120 unforgettable minutes of football.

Wenger made 11 changes to the Arsenal team that beat Queens Park Rangers 1-0 on Saturday and Reading tore into them from the off, with Sean Morrison heading against the post after two minutes.

The onslaught did not let up, and the hosts were 3-0 up after 20 minutes through a Jason Roberts volley, a Laurent Koscielny own goal, and a howler from Arsenal goalkeeper Damian Martinez that allowed Mikele Leigertwood to score.

Noel Hunt's header made it 4-0, before Walcott dinked the ball over Reading goalkeeper Adam Federici to pull a goal back for Arsenal in first-half injury time.

It looked destined to be a mere consolation, but goals from substitute Olivier Giroud and Koscielny -- at the right end -- gave Arsenal hope.

Walcott squeezed a shot over the line in the 95th minute to take the game to extra time, with Carl Jenkinson following up to make sure.

Reading's players were angry that more than the allotted four minutes of injury time had been played, and they were given further reason to curse their luck when Marouane Chamakh drove home to



7:5



RESULTS

Leeds United 3 (Tonge 35, Diouf 88, Becchio 90-pen) Southampton 0
Reading 5 (Roberts 12, Koscielny 18-og, Leigertwood 20, Hunt 37, Pogrebnyak 116) **Arsenal 7** (Walcott 45, 90+5, 120, Giroud 64, Koscielny 89, Chamakh 103, 120) - after extra time
Sunderland 0 **Middlesbrough 1** (McDonald 39)
Swindon Town 2 (Storey 78, 81) **Aston Villa 3** (Benteke 30, 90, Agbonlahor 39)
Wigan Athletic 0 Bradford City 0 - after extra time

put Arsenal ahead in the 103rd minute.

Pavel Pogrebnyak headed in to make it 5-5 with five minutes to play but with penalties looming, Walcott slammed home to restore Arsenal's lead before Chamakh lobbed Federici to complete a remarkable evening of sport.

Second-tier Leeds United followed up their victory over Everton in round three to beat Premier League Southampton 3-0 and reach the last eight for the first time since 1996.

Middlesbrough, of the Championship, won 1-0 at top-tier neighbours Sunderland, while Bradford City of third-tier League Two overcame top-flight Wigan Athletic 4-2 on penalties after a 0-0 draw over 90 minutes.

There was no fairytale for League One Swindon Town, however.

The former Premier League club, managed by Paolo Di Canio, fought back from 2-0 down to level with Premier League Aston Villa, only for Belgian striker Christian Benteke to hit a 90th-minute winner for the visitors.

Dortmund progress

Football

AFP, Berlin

Holders Borussia Dortmund booked their place in the third round of the German Cup on Tuesday with a 4-1 win at second-division VfR Aalen as several of their Germany stars got on the scoresheet.

Having beaten Bayern Munich 5-2 in last season's final, Dortmund took the lead in their second-round tie at Aalen after only 22 minutes as Germany centre-back Mats Hummels fired home.

Left-back Marcel Schmelzer then doubled the lead ten minutes later.

Midfielder Mario Goezte grabbed Dortmund's third when he drew the Aalen goalkeeper and fired home on 49 minutes at the sold-out Scholz Arena in front of 13,251 fans.

Dortmund midfielder Julian Schieber came off the bench for Goetze to claim the fourth in the 79th minute, but Aalen pulled a goal back when midfielder Michael Klauss curled in a stunning free-kick on 87 minutes from a tight angle.

"I had fun just watching. We have a pretty good team and we deserved to go through," said Dortmund boss Jurgen

Klopp.

Schalke 04 also made light work of second-division opposition as the Royal Blues enjoyed a 3-0 win at home to SV Sandhausen, but coach Huub Stevens was not entirely happy.

"We started well, but at 1-0 up there wasn't enough tension in the team and we hadn't done enough," said the Dutchman.

"However, we are into the next round and we could give a few players a rest, but only a little one."

Dutch midfielder Ibrahim Afellay put the hosts ahead on 11 minutes before a spectacular bicycle kick from Romania striker Ciprian Marica on 62 minutes doubled the hosts lead at the Veltins Arena.

Holland striker Klaas-Jan Huntelaar netted the third on 79 minutes.

Having stunned Bundesliga side Hoffenheim 4-0 in the first round, fourth-division Berliner AK 07 were beaten 3-0 in the capital by 1860 Munich from the second division.

Bundesliga duo Freiburg and Augsburg eased their way into Saturday's draw with wins at second-division sides Braunschweig and Muenster respectively.

Milan salvage a point

AFP, Milan



Struggling AC Milan hit back from two goals down to salvage a point at Palermo in a 2-2 draw on Tuesday but failed to reassure their fans that their mediocre start to the season is behind them.

Once again they had young striker Stephan El Shaarawy to thank, just as they did in their 1-0 win over Genoa at the weekend, as the 20-year-old snatched a point with a rasping strike 10 minutes from the end which left home goalkeeper Samir Ujkani no chance.

Milan's under pressure coach Massimiliano Allegri said that he was pleased with the spirit his players had shown.

"The most important thing is the willingness that we showed out there," said Allegri, who lost key players Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Thiago Silva in the summer.

"Even having played poorly in the first-half we could have avoided conceding the penalty, but overall we deserved a draw."

"We played really well in the second-half, and we had some chances to win it." His Palermo counterpart Gian Piero

Gasparini was seething over his side's desultory second-half display.

"We stopped playing at 2-0, we were passive, and we waited for Milan to come at us."

Palermo opened up a two-goal advantage with goals either side of the break.

Fabrizio Miccoli put away a penalty in injury time at the end of the first half after Ignazio Abate was judged to have handled his cross and then Franco Brienza doubled the margin with an opportunist strike two minutes into the second half.

Two goals to the bad, coach Massimiliano Allegri adjusted his line-up, switching from his favoured 3-5-2 to a more incisive 4-2-3-1 and the introduction of Bojan Krkic revived their fortunes.

They were also helped by Palermo's apparent belief that the points were already in the bag and they no longer had to pressure the opposition.

Krkic fed an intelligent ball into Riccardo Montolivo, who slipped clear of the home defence to pull a goal back in the 69th minute.

Then it was down to the young prodigy El-Shaarawy to round things off with his seventh goal of the season to take him to the top of the scoring charts.

No surprises from Argentina

AFP, Buenos Aires

Argentina squad released Wednesday for the international friendly against Saudi Arabia in Riyadh on November 14.

SQUAD

Goalkeepers:

Sergio Romero (Sampdoria/ITA), Mariano Andujar (Catania/ITA), Cristian Alvarez (Espanyol/ESP)

Defenders:

Hugo Campagnaro (Napoli/ITA), Federico Fernandez (Napoli/ITA), Ezequiel Garay (Benfica/POR), Marcos Rojo (Sporting/POR), Pablo Zabaleta (Manchester City/ENG), Fabricio Coloccini (Newcastle/ENG), Fabian Monzon (Lyon/FRA).

Midfielders:

Fernando Gago (Valencia/ESP), Javier Mascherano (Barcelona/ESP), Angel Di Maria (Real Madrid/ESP), Alberto Costa (Valencia/ESP), Augusto Fernandez (Celta Vigo/ESP), Ricardo Alvarez (Inter Milan/ITA), Enzo Perez (Benfica/POR), Eduardo Salvio (Benfica/POR), Fabian Rinaudo (Sporting/POR).

Forwards:

Lionel Messi (Barcelona/ESP), Gonzalo Higuain (Real Madrid/ESP), Sergio

Redknapp not interested

Football

AFP, London

Former Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp said on Tuesday that he had no interest in assuming the vacant manager's position at English Championship side Blackburn Rovers, despite claims in the British press.

Redknapp, 65, who along with Argentine legend Diego Maradona was reported to be a sought-after candidate for the Blackburn board of directors, but the ex-Spurs boss moved to quash speculation.

"I woke up and saw the papers and they said I was supposed to be at an interview for the Blackburn job. It's complete nonsense, obviously," Redknapp told Sky Sports.

"They're a good club with a good squad and good support but it's not for me. I'm starting to get bored. You can only play golf every so often and my golf isn't improving."

"I'm looking to get back (into football) and I'll just wait and see what happens."

Eric Black has been serving as Blackburn's caretaker manager since Steve Kean resigned from his post last month.

Kean was appointed after Rovers were taken over by Indian poultry giant Venky's and sacked popular manager Sam Allardyce, outraging fans.

His 21-month reign was dogged by resentment among supporters, particularly after relegation from the top flight English Premier League. He left the club in September, describing his position as "untenable".



AC Milan forward Stephan El Shaarawy (L) is challenged by Palermo defender Santiago Garcia during their Serie A encounter at the Barbera Stadium on Tuesday.

Photo: AFP

SQUAD

Goalkeepers:
Diego Alves (Valencia/ESP), Jefferson (Botafogo)

Defenders:
Adriano (Barcelona/ESP), Daniel Alves (Barcelona/ESP), Fabio Santos (Corinthians), David Luiz (Chelsea/ENG), Leandro Castan (AS Roma/ITA), Reyer (Atletico Mineiro), Thiago Silva (PSG/FRA)

Midfielders:
Arouca (Santos), Paulinho (Corinthians), Ramires (Chelsea/ENG), Sandro (Tottenham/ENG), Giuliano (Dnipro/UKR), Kaka (Real Madrid/ESP), Lucas Moura (Sao Paulo), Oscar (Chelsea/ENG), Thiago Neves (Fluminense)

Strikers:
Hulk (Zenit/RUS), Leandro Damiao

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