

Media Release

Communiqué aux médias

Medien-Mitteilung

Route de Genève 46
Case postale
CH-1260 Nyon 2
Tel. +41 22 994 45 59
Fax +41 22 994 37 37
uefa.com
info@uefa.com

**Union des associations
européennes de football**



Date: 29/08/2002

No. 120 - 2002

UEFA Champions League 'Dream Team' selected

Milan, Madrid and Manchester pinpointed as dominant forces of the decade

To mark the tenth anniversary of the UEFA Champions League, UEFA's Technical Group was given the daunting task of selecting a 'Dream Team' based on performances during the first ten years of Europe's premier club competition.

All-Star Teams are often full of glitter but arouse suspicions that, on a field of play, the machinery simply wouldn't work. The technicians were briefed to choose a Dream Team that they would dream of coaching. The result is a line-up that contains six former Milan AC players, three from Manchester United and two from Real Madrid. In geographical terms, the team has a strong Mediterranean flavour.

Peter Schmeichel won a place between the posts and, in front of him, the coaches went for a Milan AC-based back four built by Fabio Capello on Arrigo Sacchi's foundations and comprising players who are not only well-versed in the art of defending but also know how to help a team to play from the back.

In midfield, the technicians chose Frank Rijkaard to play the anchor role while, on the flanks, David Beckham and Ryan Giggs were selected to provide pace, industry, finishing, ball skills and the ability to deliver defence-busting crosses, entrusting the central creative role to Zinedine Zidane.

The attacking partnership brings together the right-footed Marco van Basten and the left-footed Raúl, whose scoring records say everything one needs to know about their finishing skills.

The Dream Team sheet reads:

Peter Schmeichel

Mauro Tassotti

Marcel Desailly

Franco Baresi

Paolo Maldini

David Beckham

Frank Rijkaard

Zinedine Zidane

Ryan Giggs

Marco van Basten

Raúl González