



including



Events in Monaco 03

AC Milan win the UEFA Super Cup 07

Disciplinary matters 10

News from Brussels 13

COVER

UEFA President Lennart Johansson hands the UEFA Super Cup to AC Milan captain Paolo Maldini, to whom he had already presented the UEFA President's Prize the evening before.

PHOTO: ANTONIO LINGRIA

IN THIS ISSUE

UEFA Champions League calendar	05
Distribution of UEFA Champions League revenue	06
AC Milan win the UEFA Super Cup	07

Gala evening in Monaco	08
Disciplinary cases on the rise	10
Report from Brussels	13
News from member associations	17



Editorial

From strength to strength

Nowadays, it is not enough just to launch a top-rate sporting competition; it has to also be given the right environment for guaranteeing its popularity and commercial success.

There is no doubt that the careful way in which the UEFA Champions League has been promoted has had a significant impact on its success. Thanks to its distinctive identity, the use of the same visual effect in all the stadiums, a strict marketing concept and quality broadcasting, the UEFA Champions League has established itself as a prime example in the world of sport.

This season, the competition has a new format and we have also decided to strengthen its public image. For this purpose, we are introducing enhanced branding and a new consumer magazine, "Champions", through which football fans throughout Europe can find out more about the competition and all those involved in it.

Our new media experts are also strengthening the presence of the UEFA Champions League via the uefa.com website.

uefa.com will enhance its multilingual offering for the new season with live minute-by-minute text coverage from all the UEFA Champions League venues in eight languages, namely English, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Japanese.

In addition, increased co-operation with UEFA Champions League sponsor partners will see more interactivity, more games and more competitions and prizes on the site than ever before. Fantasy Football returns with enhanced features, a new quiz has been developed and an improved media service has been established for journalists to get all the latest information every matchday.

Preparations are also being made for additional activities on the site, allowing users to communicate together about the hot topics on and off the field.

With extensive multimedia content streams delivering live audio, extensive video highlights on the website and on mobile phones, plus wide-ranging statistical information per match, player, club and group, uefa.com is the place on the Internet for fans to be to keep up to date with Europe's premier club competition.

All in all, the new UEFA Champions League format brings with it new standards in branding and promotion which should help build an ever greater following among fans both in and outside of Europe.

Gerhard Aigner
Chief Executive



Michael Ballack (Bayern Munich) outstrips Dianbobou Balde (Celtic) on the first match day of the new UEFA Champions League.

WITTEK



European Club Forum meets in Monaco

Club licensing system at the forefront



Young blood for the UEFA Champions League.

UEFA-KJERBYE

THE 2003/04 CLUB COMPETITION SEASON KICKED OFF OFFICIALLY IN MONACO IN THE LAST WEEK OF AUGUST. PARADOXICALLY, THE NEW SEASON WAS ALREADY OVER FOR MANY CLUBS BEFORE IT HAD REALLY GOT GOING. IN A NUMBER OF RESPECTS, IT IS A NEW SEASON WITH A DIFFERENCE.

First of all, on the competition front, it is the first season of the new UEFA Champions League format and the last of the current UEFA Cup format with direct knock-out matches all the way through.

It is also the season that marks the launch of the club licensing system at European level. Starting in 2004/05, clubs will compete in UEFA competitions not only on the basis of their performances on the field – which, of course, remains a fundamental criterion – but also on the basis of their ability to meet the club licence requirements. If the national associations –

who, in principle, are the licensors – are to give UEFA the names of their clubs who are eligible to play in the 2004/05 competitions in time, the club licensing process has to begin this season. This point was stressed at the meetings of the Club Competitions Committee and of the European Club Forum by Marcel Benz, UEFA's club licensing project manager, who reported that, by the end of August, 36 UEFA member associations had already been accredited, having had their licensing manuals approved by UEFA.

The European Club Forum, holding its fifth plenary meeting,

was chaired exceptionally by UEFA Chief Executive Gerhard Aigner, in the absence of Chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. The Forum reiterated its support of the club licensing project, which is designed to strengthen European football. It also reiterated its concern that the system be applied on an equal footing, to ensure that all of Europe's clubs were under the same conditions.

The Forum was also presented with its own branding, giving this representative body of European clubs its own identity, for letterhead and presentations, for example. An extra-net project is also in the process of being implemented exclusively for the 102 member clubs, to allow them to dispose of a platform for exchanging information, thereby meeting the objective of better communication



The stage is set for the UEFA Champions League draw.



Jean Fournet-Fayard and Gerhard Aigner preside over the UEFA Cup draw.

between the clubs themselves and UEFA. In principle, the extranet will be operational from the start of 2004.

The UEFA club competitions were, of course, one of the main subjects of discussion. The Forum heard about the profitable sale of television rights for the UEFA Champions League and the financial distribution of the revenue earned by UEFA's flagship club competition. They also heard that the League's four sponsors - Amstel, Ford, MasterCard and PlayStation 2 - had all committed themselves for another three-year period, and that Adidas will remain the official supplier for the same period.

The day before, at the draw directed by Friedrich Stickler (Austria), the club representatives saw how the UEFA Champions League branding had been redesigned in order to further enhance recognition of the competition. In addition, an official UEFA Champions League magazine, "Champions", will provide fans with all possible information on the League and its participants. The first issue went on sale on 10 September.

As far as the introduction of group matches in the UEFA Cup is concerned, many questions remain open, including the calendar, financial issues, the brand image and the qualifying system, for which a geographical breakdown could be considered. A working group is being set up in October to look into these questions. It will present its recommendations in February 2004.

UEFA Champions League A choice palette

ON 16 SEPTEMBER, THE UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE KICKED OFF FOR THE TWELFTH TIME, WITH A NEW FORMAT AND A NEW IMAGE.

Though no club can boast of having taken part in every single edition of the competition, one or two have been frequent participants, including, at the top of the list, Galatasaray SK, Manchester United and FC Porto with nine appearances each. This season, however, the UEFA Champions League is without Rosenborg (Norway), who played in the last eight competitions. Four clubs share the record for the longest unbroken run: Arsenal, Bayern Munich, Manchester United and Olympiacos - all in the starting line-up for the seventh season in a row.



clubs having already had their names engraved on a European trophy, and five others having reached at least one UEFA club competition final. Not only that, but the winners of ten of the first eleven UEFA Champions Leagues are involved in the first group stage, the missing winners being Borussia Dortmund. The fact that 17 of the clubs taking part were in the UEFA Champions League last season also lends stability to this season's competition.

In terms of the national associations, just one is represented for the first time: Serbia and Montenegro, whose FK Partizan are among the newcomers to the competition, the others being Celta de Vigo, Real Sociedad and VfB Stuttgart. Since the



FK Partizan (Taribo West) are the first club from Serbia and Montenegro to take part in the UEFA Champions League.



The new official UEFA Champions League magazine went on sale on 10 September.



first UEFA Champions League in 1992/93, 91 clubs have taken part, representing 28 national associations.

This season, there are 15 associations with at least one participant, while Spain and Italy have the maximum of four participants each. Along with France, they are also the only associations to have been represented in all editions of the competition (remembering that, to start with, the associations were only entitled to one representative, or two if the holders did not win their domestic championship).

Of the 15 clubs which took part in last season's UEFA Champions League but did not make it this year, 14 are in the UEFA Cup (Bayer 04 Leverkusen is the only one not to have qualified for any UEFA competition). They were all seeded for the draw on 29 August, given that it is the club coefficients which determine the seeds (as is also the case for the UEFA Champions League draw), whereas the national association coefficients determine which clubs have to take part in the qualifying rounds.

Fixture list for the 2003/04 UEFA Champions League

Group A		Group B		Group C		Group D	
17.09	Ol. Lyonnais-Anderlecht 1-0 Bayern Munich-Celtic FC 2-1	Dynamo Kyiv-Lok. Moscow 2-0 Arsenal-Internazionale 0-3	AEK Athens-Deportivo 1-1 PSV Eindhoven-AS Monaco 1-2	Juventus-Galatasaray 2-1 Real Sociedad-Olympiacos 1-0			
30.09	Celtic FC-Ol. Lyonnais Anderlecht-Bayern Munich	Internazionale-Dynamo Kyiv Lok. Moscow-Arsenal	AS Monaco-AEK Athens Deportivo-PSV Eindhoven	Olympiacos-Juventus Galatasaray-Real Sociedad			
21.10	Anderlecht-Celtic FC Ol. Lyonnais-Bayern Munich	Lok. Moscow-Internazionale Dynamo Kyiv-Arsenal	Deportivo-AS Monaco AEK Athens-PSV Eindhoven	Galatasaray-Olympiacos Juventus-Real Sociedad			
05.11	Celtic FC-Anderlecht Bayern Munich-Ol. Lyonnais	Internazionale-Lok. Moscow Arsenal-Dynamo Kyiv	AS Monaco-Deportivo PSV Eindhoven-AEK Athens	Olympiacos-Galatasaray Real Sociedad-Juventus			
25.11	Anderlecht-Ol. Lyonnais Celtic FC-Bayern Munich	Lok. Moscow-Dynamo Kyiv Internazionale-Arsenal	Deportivo-AEK Athens AS Monaco-PSV Eindhoven	Galatasaray-Juventus Olympiacos-Real Sociedad			
10.12	Ol. Lyonnais-Celtic FC Bayern Munich-Anderlecht	Dynamo Kyiv-Internazionale Arsenal-Lok. Moscow	AEK Athens-AS Monaco PSV Eindhoven-Deportivo	Juventus-Olympiacos Real Sociedad-Galatasaray			
Group E		Group F		Group G		Group H	
16.09	Rangers FC-VfB Stuttgart 2-1 Manchester Utd-Panathinaikos 5-0	Real Madrid-Ol. Marseille 4-2 FK Partizan-FC Porto 1-1	Sparta Prague-Chelsea 0-1 Besiktas-S.S.Lazio 0-2	AC Milan-AFC Ajax 1-0 Club Brugge-Celta Vigo 1-1			
01.10	Panathinaikos-Rangers FC VfB Stuttgart-Manchester Utd	FC Porto-Real Madrid Ol. Marseille-FK Partizan	S.S.Lazio-Sparta Prague Chelsea-Besiktas	Celta Vigo-AC Milan AFC Ajax-Club Brugge			
22.10	VfB Stuttgart-Panathinaikos Rangers FC-Manchester Utd	Ol. Marseille-FC Porto Real Madrid-FK Partizan	Chelsea-S.S.Lazio Sparta Prague-Besiktas	AFC Ajax-Celta Vigo AC Milan-Club Brugge			
04.11	Panathinaikos-VfB Stuttgart Manchester Utd-Rangers FC	FC Porto-Ol. Marseille FK Partizan-Real Madrid	S.S.Lazio-Chelsea Besiktas-Sparta Prague	Celta Vigo-AFC Ajax Club Brugge-AC Milan			
26.11	VfB Stuttgart-Rangers FC Panathinaikos-Manchester Utd	Ol. Marseille-Real Madrid FC Porto-FK Partizan	Chelsea-Sparta Prague S.S.Lazio-Besiktas	AFC Ajax-AC Milan Celta Vigo-Club Brugge			
09.12	Rangers FC-Panathinaikos Manchester Utd-VfB Stuttgart	Real Madrid-FC Porto FK Partizan-Ol. Marseille	Sparta Prague-S.S.Lazio Besiktas-Chelsea	AC Milan-Celta Vigo Club Brugge-AFC Ajax			

UEFA Champions League Bonuses set

THE CLUB COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MET IN MONACO ON 27 AUGUST TO PREPARE

THE UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE AND UEFA CUP DRAWS.

It also approved the distribution system proposed for revenue from the new UEFA Champions League format. The system follows the same principles as before. In other words, the revenue will be split in more or less equal parts into fixed amounts and a sum dependent on the value of the TV market of each association represented (market pool). Based on total revenue of MCHF 870, the distribution table envisages a MCHF 623 share for the clubs. The fixed amounts are as follows:



EMPHOS

- MCHF 2.5 as a starting dividend
- MCHF 3 for taking part in the group matches (CHF 500,000 per match played)
- CHF 500,000 for a win and CHF 250,000 for a draw
- MCHF 2.5 for reaching the first knock-out round
- MCHF 3 for reaching the quarter-finals
- MCHF 4 for each semi-finalist
- MCHF 10 for the winners of the competition and MCHF 6 for the runners-up

The clubs will also receive a share of the market pool, half of which will depend on their domestic ranking in 2002/03 and the other half of which will be determined by how many UEFA Champions League matches they play this season.

In addition, the clubs knocked out in the UEFA Champions League and UEFA Cup qualifying rounds and in the first two rounds of the UEFA Cup will, as in the past, receive CHF 80,000 per round (i.e. a maximum of CHF 400,000 in the case of a club which played in all three UEFA Champions League qualifying rounds but did not get through to the group stage and was subsequently eliminated in the second round of the UEFA Cup). A dividend of CHF 150,000 will also be paid to champion clubs

which do not qualify for the UEFA Champions League group matches.

■ The revenue column of the balance sheet for the 2003 UEFA

Champions League final played in Manchester in May reveals net receipts of MCHF 7.3 from ticket sales. Of that amount, each finalist (AC Milan and Juventus) gets MCHF 2.2, with the remainder shared between the host association and UEFA.

From the UEFA Cup final, FC Porto and Celtic FC each receive MCHF 0.7 from the gate receipts.

The final figures from the UEFA Super Cup are, of course, not yet available, but the clubs' share from the sale of the commercial rights amounts to MCHF 2.5 for the winners, AC Milan, and MCHF 2 for FC Porto.

■ The Club Competitions Committee was also briefed about the negotiations for the staging of the European/South American Cup, which is expected to remain in Tokyo for the foreseeable future. This year for the first time, the match will be played on a Sunday - on 14 December - which should attract a larger TV audience in Europe.

Recommendation for penalty kicks

On the initiative of the Club Competitions Committee, and with the approval of the Referees Committee, a recommendation was issued on 15 September to complement the rules for penalty shoot-outs to determine either the winners or the team which goes through to the next round in a UEFA club competition.

The procedure set out in the 2003 FIFA Laws of the Game states that *"The referee chooses the goal at which the kicks will be taken."*

UEFA's new recommendation supplements this provision by adding:

"The referee decides which goal will be used for the kicks from the penalty mark. For this purpose, the following procedure is recommended:

- *In the presence of the two captains, the referee decides that the head side of the coin corresponds to one goal and the tail side to the other.*
- *He then tosses the coin to determine which goal will be used for the kicks from the penalty mark.*

The referee can still, however, choose which goal will be used for the kicks from the penalty mark without tossing a coin, including for reasons of safety/security, the state of the field of play, lighting, etc. In such a case, the referee is not required to justify his decision, which is final."

At the end of this season, UEFA will see whether an article to this effect needs to be added to the club competition regulations.



Duel of the Portuguese between AC Milan's Rui Costa and FC Porto's Maniche.

A. LINGRIA



A. LINGRIA



SABATTINI

Andrei Shevchenko in action.

UEFA New record for AC Milan Super Cup

HOLDING THE RECORD FOR THE NUMBER OF WINS IN THE UEFA SUPER CUP, AC MILAN HAVE NOW GONE ONE STEP AHEAD, CLOCKING UP THEIR FOURTH VICTORY IN THE COMPETITION BY BEATING FC PORTO 1-0 AT THE LOUIS II STADIUM IN MONACO ON 29 AUGUST.

On 23 May, in Manchester, Andrei Shevchenko clinched the most coveted trophy in European club football for his club when he converted the decisive penalty kick in the UEFA Champions League final.

Three months and a few days later, in Monaco, it was another goal by the Ukrainian striker – scored just ten minutes after English referee Graham Barber had set the game in motion – which took AC Milan to yet another victory in the UEFA Super Cup. The transition between the 2002/03 season and the new season – which had kicked off in Monte Carlo the day before with the draws for the group stage of the UEFA Champions League – could not have been better.

The straightforward piece of action that led to the only goal of the match (ball recovered by Gattuso, through run by Rui Costa on the right, and centre headed in by Shevchenko) was, unfortunately, the only such move in a first half that was somewhat disjointed and characterized by the lack of precision that often typifies an opening

match. Despite keeping possession of the ball for much of the time (62%),



FC Porto had to wait almost 40 minutes before getting their first shot at the Milan goal. Lacking acceleration and any real inspiration, their play was just too predictable to bother an Italian defence in which Paolo Maldini – barely recovered from injury – showed with his determination that he was a worthy winner of the “President’s Prize” that

he had received from the UEFA President the day before.

Without reaching any heights, the second half was a lot livelier and the opportunities more numerous. Although the Portuguese side came close to equalising more than once, some strong counterattacks by AC Milan could also have put paid to their hopes. But lack of opportunity, inaccuracy, slip-ups and good shows by the goalkeepers cancelled out all the opportunities and the scoreline did not move, to the great delight of the Milan side, who, by winning the UEFA Super Cup for the fourth time, picked up their fifteenth international trophy (with six Champions’ Cups/- UEFA Champions League trophies, two Cup Winners’ Cups and three European/South American Cups). In Europe, only Real Madrid have done as well, but AC Milan have the chance to break that record too, when they play Boca Juniors in this year’s European/South American Cup in Tokyo in December.



Another trophy for Paolo Maldini and AC Milan.

SABATTINI



Ruud van Nistelrooy and Sir Bobby Charlton.



PHOTOS: KJ/JERBY

Gala evening in Monaco

Recognition and solidarity

THE EVENING BEFORE THE UEFA SUPER CUP MATCH IS THE LAST CHANCE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO LEFT THEIR MARK ON LAST SEASON'S UEFA CLUB COMPETITIONS, AN OPPORTUNITY THAT UEFA HAS BEEN TAKING FOR SIX YEARS, ON THE OCCASION OF THE GALA EVENING, PART OF WHICH HAS BEEN BROADCAST LIVE ON TELEVISION SINCE LAST YEAR.

So many players stood out in the 2002/03 UEFA club competitions that choosing the best was not an easy task, especially when you consider that football is a team game and that a player often only shines because he is surrounded by quality team-mates.

UEFA's technical study group,

composed of Sir Alex Ferguson, Ottmar Hitzfeld, Gérard Houllier, Marcello Lippi, Rinus Michels, Giovanni Trapattoni, Jozef Venglos, Arsène Wenger and UEFA Technical Director Andy Roxburgh, took up that challenge, however. Visitors to UEFA's official website at uefa.com also had a say.

As in the past, a shortlist of some players was drawn up for each award category. All the nominees were presented to the gala guests before the name of the winner was revealed.

■ **Gianluigi Buffon** (Juventus) was named Best Goalkeeper for 2002/03. He received his award from former Manchester United star George Best.

■ Best Defender was **Roberto Carlos** (Real Madrid), who took the honours for the second year running. His award was presented by a former striker, Roberto Bettega (Juventus).

■ The Best Midfielder award went to **Pavel Nedved** (Juventus), who was congratulated by former French captain Didier Deschamps.

Paolo Maldini is congratulated by the UEFA President.



Eusebio and Roy Makaay.

■ Sir Bobby Charlton presented the Best Forward award to **Ruud van Nistelrooy** (Manchester United).

■ And the accolade of Most Valuable Player was bestowed on **Gianluigi Buffon**, who came up on stage for a second time, to receive his award from Prince Albert of Monaco.

The evening began with the presentation of replica trophies to their current holders: AC Milan, FC Porto and Real Madrid (2002 UEFA Super Cup). Tribute was also paid to the coaches of AC Milan, **Carlo Ancelotti**, and FC Porto, **José Mourinho**. Top scorer of the season **Roy Makaay** (Deportivo La Coruña) received the Golden Shoe from another sharpshooter, Eusebio (Portugal), top European scorer in 1968. As for the Goal of the Season, visitors to uefa.com voted for Figo's goal against Manchester United in the UEFA Champions League quarter-finals.

Last but not least, the President's Award was presented to **Paolo Maldini** (AC Milan), described by the UEFA President as *"the best ambassador for football that I have ever seen"*.



Gianluigi Buffon and Prince Albert of Monaco.



Gerhard Aigner presents the cheque to referee Markus Merk.

For good causes

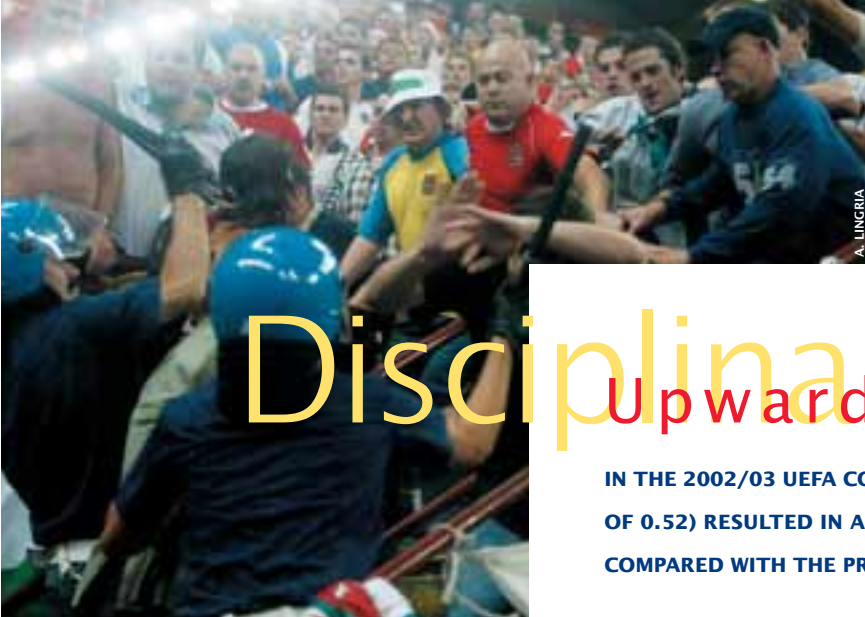
The gala does not serve only to honour footballers and coaches, but is also an opportunity to highlight some of the values to which UEFA attaches great importance, one of which is fair play, an attitude exemplified by the players and supporters at the UEFA Champions League final in Manchester and by the outstanding behaviour of the mass of Celtic supporters who travelled to Seville for the UEFA Cup final. At the end of the day, however, the Fair Play Award was awarded to the Celtic fans.

Another of UEFA's priorities is to rid the game of racism. In this context, special tribute was paid to the former Ajax, Internazionale and Lazio player Aron Winter, who himself encountered racist behaviour during his career but always tolerated it with dignity, before becoming one of the pillars of antiracism.



Yassine with Shevchenko, Seedorf and Maldini.

On the solidarity front, UEFA pursued its philanthropic policy by handing over a cheque for one million Swiss francs to the international Make-A-Wish foundation. Founded in the USA in the early 1980s, this organisation makes dreams come true for terminally-ill children, including Yassine, whose dream came true in Monaco, where, with his family, he attended AC Milan's training session, met the players and received a signed ball and the shirt of captain Paolo Maldini, and, of course, watched the UEFA Super Cup match.



Scenes like this are still all too frequent and must be banished from our stadiums.



Disciplinary matters

Upward trend continues

IN THE 2002/03 UEFA COMPETITIONS, ONE MATCH IN TWO (OR AN AVERAGE OF 0.52) RESULTED IN A DISCIPLINARY CASE, WHICH ADDS UP TO AN INCREASE COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS SEASON (AVERAGE OF 0.49).

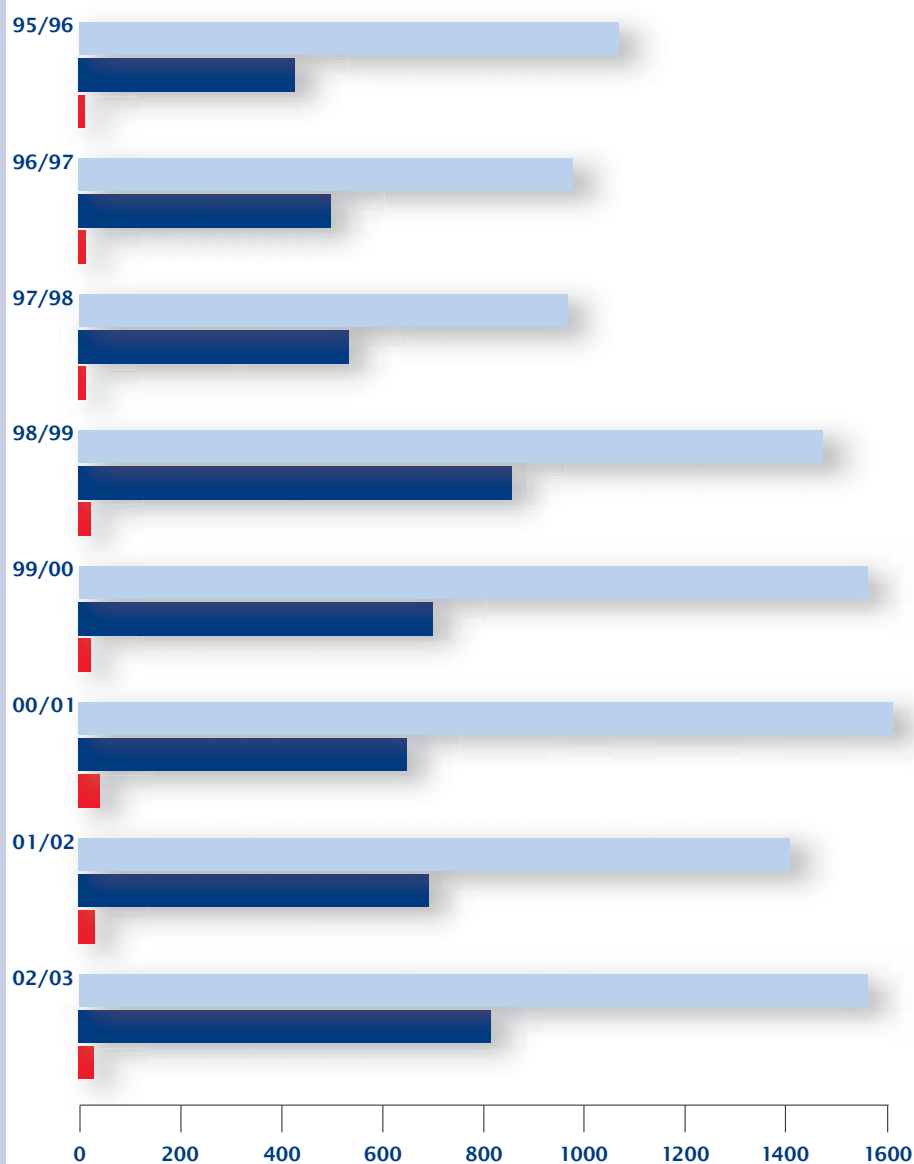
This increase is, in fact, quite substantial, given that 752 matches giving rise to cases were recorded, i.e. 113 more than in 2001/02. However, it is tempered by the fact that more matches were played last season than the one before – 1,441 compared with 1,300, i.e. an increase of 141 matches. Consequently, the percentage of disciplinary cases per season rose only by three percent, from 49.15% to 52.18%. But this increase continues the upward trend noted last season, and the current average far exceeds that of 2001/02, when it was just 40.25%. On the other hand, it is still far below the highest rate ever recorded so far – 58.1% in 1998/99.

An analysis of the disciplinary cases reveals once again that red cards account for the majority of cases. The referees showed the red card 301 times last season, corresponding to a sending-off just about every five matches. After that come – in sequence – lack of order and discipline in the stadium, improper conduct of officials, inappropriate team conduct, then other violations of the rules, such as fielding ineligible players, racist action or behaviour and delayed kick-off (see table).

Lower fine revenue

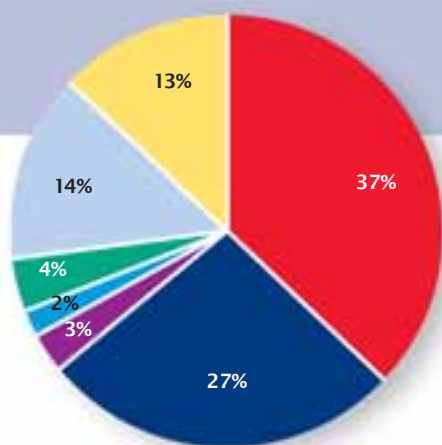
In most cases, the disciplinary bodies imposed fines. In fact, exactly the same number of fines were imposed as the previous season – 390 to be precise. However, the sum total of those fines was less than the previous season, amounting to CHF 3,824,000, revenue which UEFA

Matches/Disciplinary cases



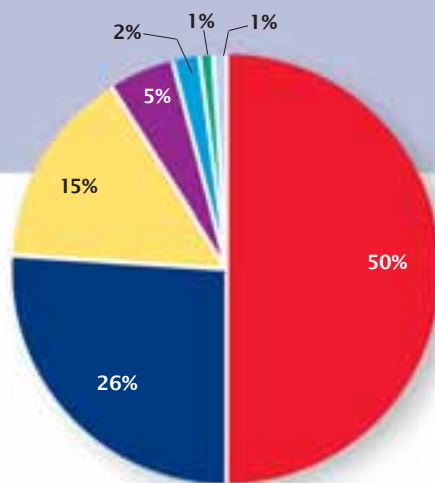
Season	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03
No. Matches	986	903	893	1360	1441	1488	1300	1441
Matches with cases	395	460	492	790	647	599	639	752
Appeals	10	12	13	21	22	37	29	27

Frequency of incidents



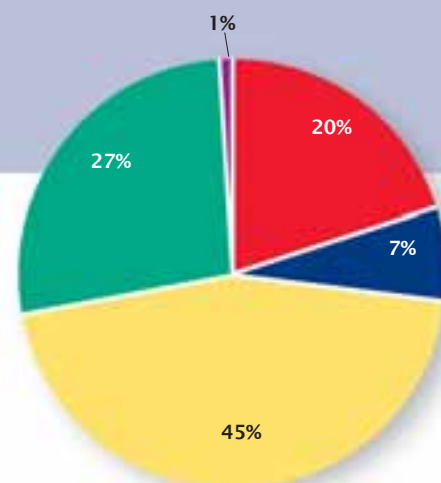
Red card	301
Lack of order and discipline	220
Field invasions	24
Lack of organisation, ticketing	20
Improper conduct of officials	32
Improper conduct of teams	117
Other	103

Range of fines



Fines (CHF)	Number
0 - 5 000	197
5 001 - 10 000	104
10 001 - 20 000	58
20 001 - 30 000	19
30 001 - 50 000	6
50 001 - 100 000	3
> 100 000	3

Reasons for sendings-off



Assault	20%
Professional foul	7%
Second yellow card	45%
Other unsporting acts	27%
Repeated protesting	1%

will use for charitable purposes. It is the lowest revenue from fines since 1997/98 and a 13% drop (CHF 581,850) compared with last season. Like the 2001/02 season, half of the fines were under CHF 5,000 and more than three quarters were under 10,000. The number of fines above CHF 30,000 remained stable (12 cases).

Fewer appeals

The downward trend in the number of appeals recorded in the previous two seasons continued in 2002/03. Two fewer appeals (27) were lodged last season compared with the previous season, even though there were more disciplinary cases. These 27 appeals represent only 3.6% of the total number of cases. In addition, nine appeals were resolved according to the principle laid down in Article 55 of the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations, which stipulates that *"if the requests of the parties are identical, the Appeals Body complies with the request, provided that it is not obviously inappropriate"*. In another 18 cases, the decision of the Control & Disciplinary Body was upheld on 14 occasions and amended in four instances.

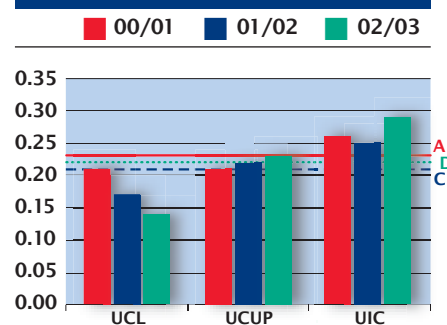
Of the 301 red cards issued, 131 (43.52%) were dealt out in the club competitions (total of 638 matches, i.e. 44.27% of all matches in the 2002/03 season). It turns out that the most prestigious competition, the UEFA Champions League, is also the one where the fewest red cards are brandished - 33 in 237 matches (an average of 0.14 per match), compared with 65 in the UEFA Cup (average of 0.23) and 33 in the UEFA Intertoto Cup (0.29). The higher average in the UEFA Intertoto Cup can certainly be attributed to the lack of international experience of the competitors.

Taking all the club competitions together, most red cards (45%) were issued for two yellow cards in the same match. Unsporting behaviour (27%) and assault (20%) were the other main reasons for red cards. However, the percentage varies according to the competition. In the UEFA Champions League, most red cards (39%) were for unsporting behaviour, while in the UEFA Intertoto Cup, most (57%) were for a second yellow card.

As far as yellow cards - which do not constitute disciplinary cases - are concerned, they were wielded more abundantly in 2002/03 than in 2001/02, with an average of 3.35 per match in the UEFA Champions League (compared with 3.26% the previous season), 3.56% in the UEFA Cup (3.36 in 2001/02) and 3.84% in the UEFA Intertoto Cup (3.49 in 2001/02). Taking all three competitions together, the average rose from 3.37 to 3.58% per match.

Finally, the disciplinary bodies handled 30 red-card cases which had not been seen by the referee but were penalised on the basis of TV recordings.

Red cards



- A Average for the 00/01 season: 0.23
- C Average for the 01/02 season: 0.21
- D Average for the 02/03 season: 0.22



A duel in the final between Spain's Pallardo (in red) and Brazil's Evandro.



In the opening match, Finland (in white) beat the People's Republic of China.



Spain (Cesc) played splendidly and reached the final.

Under-17 World Championship Football festival in Finland

FINNISH FOOTBALL ENTHUSIASTS WERE TREATED TO A TRUE FOOTBALL

FIESTA WHEN THE UNDER-17 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP KICKED OFF IN HELSINKI

ON 13 AUGUST. FEATURING 16 COMPETING NATIONS, THE YOUTH

TOURNAMENT CAPTURED THE ATTENTION OF MEDIA AND PUBLIC ALIKE.

Already the opening match proved to be a major success, as the hosts, nicknamed *Vintiöt* (Rascals), emerged 2-1 winners against China at the end of a colourful 90 minutes. The good start by the host nation boosted attendance at all the venues. The average crowd in Helsinki, Turku, Tampere and Lahti was 5,733 spectators per match. Altogether, 183,441 fans followed the 32 matches.

But most importantly, people saw entertaining football. The tenth FIFA Under-17 World Championship equalled the competition's all-time record in terms of goals scored. An average of 3.66 goals per match meant that excitement was guaranteed. The best example was, without doubt, the match between Portugal and Cameroon. The Portuguese were leading 5-0 at the start of the second half, but Cameroon came from behind to draw the game in the last minute. Moreover, amazing skill was displayed by some of the best players in the age category, not to mention a combined 117 shots and headers on target.

"We are very satisfied with the matches. This competition was football at its best in terms of entertainment. These young players concentrate on scoring and many of them still make mistakes in defence. There was something happening on the pitch throughout each and every match," said Tournament Director Lennart Wangel.

New experience

But the Under-17 tournament was not only about good football. The Local Organising Committee, which faced the challenge of organising the biggest foot-

ball event in Finland's history, was one of the event's winners - just like Finnish football.

"As football administrators, we learned a great deal from hosting the tournament. For a small country like Finland, international relationships are crucial for learning and adapting. Moreover, organising the Under-17 World Championship meant improved conditions for the host venues. Without the tournament, those improvements would have taken many years to become a reality," Wangel continued.

If Finland gained a lot from the tournament, it also gave something back to the international football family. For the first time in football history, a major tournament was played on an artificial surface. After the final, in which Brazil beat Spain 1-0 on 30 August, the teams that had played at Helsinki's Töölö stadium had first-hand experience of playing on a state-of-the-art artificial pitch.

"For us, these artificial pitches are the future. This tournament should really open the discussion on the development of football turf and setting an international standard for them. Now we have some international top-level experience, which can be a basis for further development," said Jyrki Heliskoski, coach of the host team.

After hosting the European Under-18 Championship in 2001 and now this year's Under-17 World Championship, Finland still has one more competition to host in the near future: the European Women's Under-19 Championship in 2004. Preparations are under way, and the tournament will mark a celebration of women's football in Finland.

Sami Terävä



The presidents of UEFA and FIFA, Joseph S. Blatter and Lennart Johansson, greet Commissioners Anna Diamantopoulou and Viviane Reding.



Background briefing

The European Commission

The European Commission sits at the very heart of the EU. Based in Brussels, it operates as a multi-national civil service, serving the European common good. On 1 May 2004, ten new countries will join the EU, and each new member will be entitled to its own quota of officials in the Commission.

The Commission's role is to propose new policies and legislation, manage EU funding programmes, and ensure that the EU Treaty and the decisions of the institutions are properly implemented.



PHOTOS: AUDIOVISUAL LIBRARY OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The headquarters of the European Commission in Brussels.

At the top of the Commission sit 20 Commissioners, who serve as the political heads of different departments. The Commissioners are required to act in the interests of the EU, independently of national governments. The President of the Commission, a post currently held by former Italian Prime Minister, Romano Prodi, is appointed by common agreement among the Member States.

The Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture includes a Sports Unit, which defines EU policy on sports matters. Under the current EU Treaty, the Commission has no legal competence to propose new laws on sport. However, once the IGC negotiations on a new Treaty have reached their conclusion, the Commission's role might be greatly expanded by a new Article on sport.

Report from Brussels

THE EUROPEAN UNION IS ABOUT TO ENTER A CRUCIAL PHASE IN ITS HISTORY

AS IT DEBATES PLANS FOR A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL TREATY.

THE OUTCOME COULD HAVE IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN FOOTBALL, SINCE THE TEXT WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE AN ARTICLE ON SPORT.

Earlier this summer, the European Convention completed its designated task of producing a first draft of the Treaty. Comprising more than 100 representatives from national governments and parliaments, as well as the European Commission and the European Parliament, the Convention took a year and a half to agree the 300 pages of text.

Article 182 of the draft Treaty includes the following provisions on sport:

"The Union shall contribute to the promotion of European sporting issues, given the social and educational function of sport..."

Union action shall be aimed at ...developing the European dimension in sport, by promoting fairness in competitions and cooperation between sporting bodies and by protecting the physical and moral integrity of sportsmen and sportswomen, especially young sportsmen and sportswomen."

UEFA has written to European sports ministers to express its serious concerns regarding these proposals, emphasising that the proposed Article would not provide the clear and stable legal environment that football needs.

We fear that the current wording could create a new basis for EU intervention without making clear where this begins or ends. More worrying still, the proposed Article neglects the two principles that UEFA and other sports bodies have been fighting for: the specificity of sport and the autonomy of sports governing bodies.

With the European Convention's work completed, attention now turns to the Member States, who must negotiate a final text using the Convention's draft as their starting point. UEFA's Executive Committee and administration are now intensifying their political campaign, touring EU capitals to meet with Ministers and officials.

Human faces of the EU

VIVIANE REDING

European Commissioner for Education and Culture

Viviane Reding has been European Commissioner for Education and Culture since 1999. In the world of football, Mrs Reding is probably best known for her role in negotiations on the international transfer system two years ago. Together with fellow Commissioners Mario Monti (Competition Policy) and Anna Diamantopoulou (Employment and Social Affairs), Reding helped to negotiate the new regulations on behalf of the Commission.

In other areas of policy, Reding has committed herself to tackling the problems of doping and the exploitation of young people. Today, she is drawing up plans for the 2004 European Year of Education through Sport, which will promote sport's cultural and educational role in society.





EMPICS



EMPICS



EMPICS

Meetings and other activities

Referees and assistant referees get down to business in Nyon

WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2003 SAW THE FIRST EVER SUMMER GATHERING OF EUROPE'S TOP REFEREES ON THE EVE OF ANOTHER NEW EUROPEAN CLUB FOOTBALL SEASON.

At the beginning of each year, UEFA stages courses for its top referees, combined with annual fitness tests to prepare the officials for the end of an arduous campaign of European football. This year UEFA decided to hold a summer seminar at the House of European Football, where Europe's best match officials could engage in dialogue with Europe's governing body to discuss areas of mutual concern. One of the overriding topics of discussion was the need to continue the push towards uniformity in applying the laws of the Game.

Retiring UEFA Chief Executive, Gerhard Aigner explained the importance of such gatherings, particularly in the context of today's high-pressured football environment: *"We feel it is important that we have regular intensive contact and dialogue between referees, our Referees Committee and the UEFA Administration, who do their utmost*

to serve the needs of the match officials in European competitions."

UEFA Referees Committee Chairman Volker Roth praised the elite referees for their consistently excellent displays at the highest level: *"We can say that last season was very good as far as refereeing was concerned. We have EURO 2004 qualifying matches coming up, then the UEFA Champions League gets under way soon, and I am sure that you will maintain your levels."*

One of the keenest debates that took place regarding technical issues surrounded what has commonly become termed "passive" offside. The key issue is that UEFA is trying to establish a level of uniformity across the continent with regards to the interpretation of interfering with play.

Following on from the referees' gathering came the 3rd Seminar for Assis-

tant Referees, also held in Nyon. Over the course of one and a half days the assistant referees discussed a number of key issues, including signalling, positioning, and communication and co-operation with the referee. In addition they were given training guidelines by UEFA referee training expert Werner Helsen.

The feedback from the assistant referees' working groups all stressed the need for the assistant referees to be fully concentrated and very fit, allowing them to be in the right position at the right time, and above all *"confident and courageous"* in signalling any infringements to the referee, including those in the penalty area. The correct use of subtle hand gestures, a tapping of the top pocket for a yellow card for example, or the use of the beeper on the flag stick to attract the referee's attention were all encouraged.

The assistant referees were also given a presentation by Piara Powar, spokesman for Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE), on the background of the problem of racism in football. Powar spoke about areas where the assistant referees can help to eliminate racism in football. These included being aware of the interactions inside the ground and reporting any incident. He reminded the assistant referees that racial abuse on the field is a red card offence, and, finally, that the assistant is part of a team, working with the fourth official and UEFA delegates, and is therefore not working alone to eliminate racism.



The assistant referees at the House of European Football.

UEFA-HIGUERAS



Slovak FA President Frantisek Laurinec with the UEFA Executive Committee in Bratislava.



Italian discussions at the Elite Coaches Forum between Marcello Lippi, Héctor Cúper and Carlo Ancelotti.

Doping and racism on the agenda

At its meeting in Bratislava, the UEFA Executive Committee stressed once again its intention to safeguard the integrity of the UEFA competitions.

Even though only a tiny percentage of the doping controls conducted in European competitions in recent years have proved positive (6 out of the 2,632 players tested from 1994 to 2003, i.e. 0.23%), the Executive Committee still intends to intensify UEFA's anti-doping efforts. A first step in this direction is being taken this season, with a 30% increase in the number of tests, meaning that tests will be carried out on 616 players in 154 UEFA matches. And from next season, the Executive Committee intends to conduct tests in all UEFA Champions League matches.

UEFA's antiracism campaign remains another current topic. So far, 17 national associations have submitted projects for financial support from UEFA, and ten have already been accepted. The Executive Committee strongly encourages the other associations to follow their example. They are also counting on the delegates and referees to be more actively involved in efforts to eliminate racism from football.

Elite Coaches Forum

Europe's leading club coaches met in Nyon on 5 September at the fifth Elite Coaches Forum.

Despite their busy schedules, with the domestic championships already under way and the first European competition matches on the horizon, 11 coaches from top European clubs took the time to attend the forum, where they exchanged views and gave UEFA the benefit of their points of view

on the European competitions and related issues (cf. The Technician included with this issue of uefadirect).

Since then, most of the coaches present have embarked on this season's UEFA Champions League campaign, all having given the new format the thumbs up.

UEFA Intertoto Cup

The ninth UEFA Intertoto Cup came to a close on 26 August, taking three first-time winners through to the first round of the UEFA Cup.

FC Schalke 04 (Germany), Villareal CF (Spain) and AC Perugia (Italy) thus swell the ranks of the UEFA Intertoto Cup winners to 25.

Although missing from the winning line-up of the last two competitions, French clubs remain the most successful to date, with nine of them featuring among the previous winners. They are followed by Germany (5), Spain and Italy (4), England (3) and Denmark (1).

VfB Stuttgart is the only club to have won the competition twice (2000 and 2002).

First places already booked

The EURO 2004 qualifying competition runs until 11 October, but four teams have already secured places in the final round in Portugal as a result of the matches in September.

France (Group 1), Czech Republic (3), Sweden (4) and Bulgaria (8) can no longer be touched at the top of their respective groups. Slovenia (1) and the Netherlands (3) are sure of finishing in second place and of contesting the play-offs for a place in the

final round. Germany, Greece, Spain, England, Turkey, Italy and Wales still have to wait and see whether they will finish their group in first or second place.

In the European Under-21 Championship, France, Poland, Spain, Turkey, Croatia and Switzerland are already assured of the top spots in their groups. But a place in the final round is not yet guaranteed; first they have to confront the six best group runners-up in the play-offs.

UEFA Order of Merit awarded to Karol Galba

On the occasion of its meeting in Bratislava, the Executive Committee presented the Order of Merit in ruby to Karol Galba, in recognition of his services to football.



Karol Galba with Lennart Johansson and Gerhard Aigner.

Karol Galba was devoted above all to the cause of refereeing. As an international referee, he took part in two World Cups. He then became one of the first members of the UEFA Referees Committee when it was set up in 1968.

Karol Galba was also president of the FA of Czechoslovakia and is an honorary member of the Slovak FA.



Bulgaria (Dimitar Berbatov) will be taking part in a European Championship final round for the second time, after EURO 96.



Örgryte vs OGC Nice in the UEFA Intertoto Cup. No French clubs featured among the winners this year.



Draws in Frankfurt

The draws for the EURO 2004 and European Under-21 Championship play-offs will both take place at 12.00 CET on 13 October at the Sheraton Congress Centre at Frankfurt Airport, Germany.

The ten runners-up in the EURO 2004 qualifiers will be paired (no teams will be seeded for the draw) and play home-and-away matches on 15/16 November, with the return legs to take place on 18/19 November. The five winners of these play-offs will

join hosts Portugal and the ten group-winners in the final round, to be held in Portugal from 12 June to 4 July next year.

The ten group-winners and the six best runners-up in the European Under-21 Championship qualifying groups will be drawn against each other and play home and away under the knock-out system to qualify for the final round to be played in May/June 2004 in the country of one of the eight finalists.



Following their resounding win against Wales, Italy (Gilardino, with Welsh player Rees) are well-placed to qualify for the European Under-21 Championship play-offs.

House of European Football opens its doors to the public

On Saturday, 6 September, some 2,000 people visited the House of European Football on the shores of Lake Geneva in Nyon.



Visitors to the House of European Football were greeted by Kinas, the EURO 2004 mascot.

Through presentations and videos, they were able to learn more about the organisation and all its different activities, from the most prestigious competitions and events, to the work that goes on behind the scenes. The aim was to show them the human, welcoming and transparent sides of the organisation.

The visitors also had the opportunity to take part in a pretend press conference, to have their photo taken with the jersey of their favourite player and to take a close look at the illustrious silverware on display, such as the UEFA Champions League and European Championship trophies.

Antiracism Action Week

The FARE (Football Against Racism in Europe) network is organising another antiracism week from 16 to 28 October.

Throughout Europe, some 300 national associations, clubs, supporters' groups and emigrant organisations will be taking part in activities designed to eliminate racism from football stadiums. UEFA is supporting this week of action by staging a match on 22 October between a UEFA staff team and a multiethnic African team from the Geneva-based Afro-Swiss sports organisation.



PHOTOS: UEFA/WOODS



ANDORRA
The first official coaches' course organised by the Andorran FA.



ENGLAND
The FA's international coaches' course was attended by 35 students from 26 countries.

News from member associations



ALBANIA New championship structures

The Albanian FA (FSHF) is taking steps to strengthen its domestic championship, which, in recent years, has been weakened considerably by the emigration of many of its best players. One such step has been the reorganisation of the three domestic leagues which takes effect for the upcoming 2003/04 season.

The top division (A1) has been reduced from 14 to ten teams, who will play four rounds of home and away matches, amounting to 36 match days – a first in the history of Albanian football. The bottom two teams will be relegated to the A2 division, which also comprises ten teams. They will play two rounds of home and away matches, after which they will be divided into two groups. The top five will battle it out for the two spots for promotion to A1, while the other five will fight to stay in A2 and avoid relegation, for which three clubs will be destined at the end of the day.

The third division (A3) will be made up of three geographical groups of 12 teams (North, Centre, South) who will be vying for three A2 places.

The 2003/04 season will therefore be a totally new venture for Albanian football, though the problems of infrastructure, and particularly of stadiums, will persist. The FSHF has set new rules, with serious parameters and surefire conditions, to ensure the smooth running of the three domestic championships. At a pre-season press conference, FSHF President Armand Duka said that the upcoming 65th domestic season would be a first not only because of its new structure but also because of the association's objective to bring about rapid infrastructural development. Thanks to UEFA's assistance, all the main stadiums in Albania will have separate accommodation for spectators. No fewer than five grounds have been renovated for the start of the new season, including the Qemal Stafa stadium in Tirana, the Loro Borici in Shkodër, the Niko Dovana in Durrës and the Besa in Kavaja. The association is also building a football centre with money from the FIFA Goal programme.

Finishing on a note of history and tradition, an Albanian player has been awarded the Olympic Order of the National Olympic Committee (KOKSH) for the first time. He is Klani Marjani, the only surviving player from the first domestic championship in 1930. Now aged 90, he played in his day for Skenderbeu Korça, with whom he won the Albanian championship

in 1933. Marjani played until 1947 and was one of the country's leading goalkeepers for some 15 years.

Besnik Dizdari



ANDORRA A first course for coaches

On 1 May, the Andorra Football Association launched its first official coaches' course. This aim of this course, attended by over 30 technical directors from clubs in the Principality of Andorra, is to expand the technical and tactical knowledge of all the country's coaches.

The course, which is divided into a theoretical part and a practical part, covers 172 hours, 90 of them devoted to practical exercises. The syllabus covers themes such as knowledge of football and methodology, psychology, the Laws of the Game, technique and tactics and full physical preparation, complete with practical sessions. Instruction is given by specialists in all the different subjects who have acquired experience in the Andorran Government's professional sports schools and in the Spanish coaches' academy.

At the end of the course, the students will receive a diploma that qualifies them as B level coaches, enabling them to coach grassroots and amateur categories.

The FA has asked UEFA to include this course in the Jira project, and a technician will shortly be travelling to Andorra to inspect the way the course operates.

Miquel Angel Quiñones



AUSTRIA Change at the top of the ÖFB

Since 1 September, there has been a new face at the administrative helm of the Austria FA (ÖFB), following the appointment of Alfred Ludwig as Austrian Tournament Director for EURO 2008. Ludwig joined the ÖFB in 1981 and has been General Secretary since 1986. His successor is 39-year-old Wolfgang Gramann, who recently headed the EURO 2008 bid.

"It was a decision that came from the head, not the heart. I accepted the request of ÖFB President Friedrich Stickler, who said that I was the only person for the job," Ludwig said. "Many of the regional presidents also told me that I should take on the challenge. So I said yes." Ludwig was appointed General Secretary on 1 January 1986, under ÖFB President Beppo Mauhart. Since then he has organised no fewer than 87 home national matches. The 53-year-old has also been appointed

on three occasions as UEFA's delegate for one of its finals (1996, 1997, 2002). Ludwig's first task in his new job is to approve all the stadium contracts for EURO 2008.

Wolfgang Gramann joined the ÖFB in August 1997 and was head of the Communications & Team Management Department until December 2001. In 2002, he became project manager for the EURO 2008 bid, and since March of this year, he has been working for the association again. Gramann, who hails from Lower Austria, is married to Claudia Herzog, sister of record national team player Andi Herzog.

Wolfgang Eichler



BELGIUM Social charter launched

No one today can deny that football plays a social role in the community. The Belgian FA (URBSFA) participates significantly by performing numerous social activities and initiatives. The association and the clubs have a contribution to make in developing this social aspect and promoting greater tolerance.

Football is, for example, accessible to minorities, to disabled persons, to women and to children. We firmly believe that everyone is entitled to enjoyment and relaxation. Thanks notably to football, we can all live together in harmony.

Currently, the association is launching the "URBSFA and National Team Social Charter". All the Belgian national teams subscribe to this charter, which has been drawn up in co-operation with the Centre for Equal Opportunities and the Elimination of Racism and the Samen Kleurrijk Sporten Foundation.

■ The URBSFA promotes football as a way of bringing together people – men and women – from all cultures and of



GERMANY
Gerd Müller, the Bundesliga's all-time top scorer.



AUSTRIA
Wolfgang Gramann is the new General Secretary of the Austrian FA.



BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
NK Zeljeznicar celebrate (left), and the match between FK Sarajevo and NK Jedinstvo youth teams.



all colours and of building a better future. Football is open to everyone.

■ The URBSFA excludes no one and prohibits any form of discrimination rooted in gender, race, nationality, religion or handicap.

■ The URBSFA appeals to all football supporters to apply the positive values of fair play, fervour and ambience.

■ The URBSFA sees football as a way to improving general well-being, tolerance and social integration.

■ The URBSFA supports UEFA's ten-point "unite against racism" campaign.

■ The URBSFA supports a number of national and international social development programmes.

François Vantomme



BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Unified youth competitions

The cadets (U17) and juniors (U19) have finally started playing in a united competition this season, in two leagues each, one at the level of the Football Federation of Bosnia & Herzegovina and the other at the level of the Football Association of the Republic of Srpska. At the end of these preliminary competitions, the two top teams from the federation and the top team from the smaller entity will play for the U17 and U19 championships respectively. Until now, competitions in these categories were played at cantonal or regional level, with the best teams in Bosnia & Herzegovina going through to a final tournament. However, this former system lacked quality, as reflected in the poor results of the U17 and U19 national teams in the UEFA championships. There were also financial problems and a shortage of stadiums (according to the rules, youth players have to play in the stadiums where the seniors play).

In the federal youth league, there are 18 clubs (Premier League and First League), while ten clubs play in the entity of the Republic of Srpska.

The senior competition in the premier league of Bosnia & Herzegovina now numbers four clubs less. This has resulted in better quality of play and more spectators in the stadiums.

The only team from Bosnia & Herzegovina to remain in the European competitions is FK Zeljeznicar, who eliminated Anorthosis Famagusta from Cyprus in the UEFA Cup qualifying round with two victories. In the first round of the UEFA Cup, FK Zeljeznicar will be up against Hearts from Scotland. Beating Hearts and going through to the second round would be a major success for the team from Sarajevo.

Fuad Kravac



ENGLAND

FA International Coaching Licence Course

The FA's established and highly-regarded international coaching course for non-EU coaches took place last month at Lilleshall in England, involving some 35 students from 26 countries, ranging from South Africa to Saudi Arabia, Israel to India, Japan to Australia. The course - equivalent to the 1st4sport Level 3 Certificate in Coaching Football [UEFA B Licence] (The Football Association) - was inaugurated in 1977, since when over 1,000 students have attended from 90 different countries. In practice, it is a three-week residential course comprising theory and practical sessions covering a range of issues, from coaching demonstrations to sessions on Attitudes & Ethics, Football Fitness, Football Psychology and Health & Safety. The course is one of a number of educational programmes embraced by the new FA brand, 'FA Learning'. (For more information, refer to www.TheFA.com/FA Learning). For the fifth consecutive year, the group included two coaches from each of The FA's partners under the UEFA-CAF Meridian Project - Botswana, Malawi and Lesotho - whose places are sponsored by The FA's International Development Programme. "The sponsorship has become an integral part of our assistance programme under the Meridian Project", explained The FA's Head of

International Relations, Jane Bateman. "All three of our partner countries have identified the development of technical expertise as a major priority. This course is ideal for helping their promising coaches to develop their skills and to gain a qualification as well as to give them a first-hand introduction to football in this country".

Jane Bateman



GEORGIA

Open Fun Football days in Georgia

In August, with the support of the Georgian Football Federation, Open Fun Football Schools were implemented successfully in the three republics of Transcaucasia - Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia. The author and the director of this programme, Anders Levinsen, supervised the event. In total, 12 schools were organised in Georgia, two in Armenia and one in Azerbaijan. More than 200 coaches and assistants ran activities in 15 schools, where more than 3,000 children received training. More than 500 refugees were involved in the courses. Anders Levinsen, Tamaz Tevzadze (project co-ordinator in Georgia), Badri Karkashadze (programme assistant from the side of the GFF) and four Balkan instructors were highly satisfied with the way the programme went. To everyone's surprise, one of the greatest success stories was a small village in the Marneuli region, the village of Tsereteli (coached by Malkhaz Kvaratskhelia). This very region was visited last winter by Anders Levinsen and Bruno Wolfisberg from the UEFA Assistance Programmes, who played football with the children on the snow-covered field. (See uefadirect, January 2003).

In one of the cities, Tsalenjikha, children went back to school on 1 September wearing Open Fun Football School T-shirts.

We would like to express our gratitude to Anders Levinsen for the idea and to UEFA, the Danish and Norwegian governments and Swedish company Novo Nordisk for their valuable assistance.

Mamuka Kvaratskhelia

BELGIUM The URBSFA and national team social charter.



PHOTO NEWS



GERMANY

Bundesliga 40 years old

The Bundesliga is celebrating, and with good reason, because it has been in existence for 40 years. As the sole remaining original participating club, Hamburg SV had the honour of kicking off the official celebrations with a match against record champions Bayern München on 24 August. The evening before, the German FA (DFB) and the German League (DFL) hosted a gala at the Coloneum in Cologne. The 1,100 guests included many well-known figures from the worlds of sport, culture and politics.

Among them, record goal-scorer Gerd Müller (Bayern München) and record player Karl-Heinz Körbel (Eintracht Frank-



SCOTLAND
At the friendly against Norway, Scotland's players showed racism the red card.



HUNGARY
The gypsy youth team stand on ceremony for the national anthem.

furt), who were honoured respectively as Best Player and Most Sporting Player of all time. Another highlight of the evening was the address by patron Gerhard Schröder. The German Chancellor said "Professional football is more than a business. Above all, it remains a fantastic game which we enjoy every week." The standing of German professional football was also praised by DFB President Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder. "The Bundesliga is one of the top leagues in Europe. We can look back at the last 40 years with pride. The Bundesliga has made enormous strides forward and is an extremely professional set-up nowadays," he said. UEFA Treasurer Mathieu Sprengers agreed. "The German Football League is a leading light and example in terms of organisation, discipline, refereeing and licensing. The DFB and DFL also lead the way when it comes to solidarity," he stated. For his part, DFL President Werner Hackmann said that a success story had kicked off 40 years ago which had been "lived, written and above all performed" by the actors on the football stage – the players.

Niels Barnhofer



HUNGARY

Antiracism day in Budapest

"Culture and Football Against Racism". That was the theme for the event at which the football family took a stand against intolerance and prejudice. The campaign was held at the Ferenc Puskás stadium in Budapest on 10 August.

Several cultural activities were organised (such as traditional Hungarian gypsy music concerts, displays by ethnic painters), but the favourite events were the football games. The Hungarian youth gypsy team met Slovenia, the police old boys played the ethnic old boys (just to mention the bigger matches). The highlight of the day was the game between the Hungarian Gypsies and Camden United (district of London, where many ethnic footballers play), which the home side won 7-1. This game was covered live on Hungarian national television.

There were many supporters of the antiracism day: the Hungarian Football Federation, the ministries (mainly the Ministry of Youth and Sport) and the police. All the artists performed free.

"We have to do everything we can to eradicate racism, intolerance and prejudice from football," said Sándor Berzi, General Secretary of the Hungarian Football Federation. "Football is one of the best ways to integrate minorities," stressed Dr György Szilágyi, member of the MLSZ's Gypsies Committee.

Meanwhile, at the training camps of the top Hungarian referees in Debrecen, it was decided that league and cup games would be interrupted if any racist behaviour erupted in the stands, in order to eliminate racism and neo-fascism from football grounds.

György Szöllösi/Márton Dinnyés



ISRAEL

Anti-violence and racism campaign

Towards the opening of the 2003/04 season on 13 September, the Israel Football Association has launched an anti-violence and anti-racism campaign.

The campaign will be broadcast on local Israeli television, in the press, via other media channels and in the stadiums.

The campaign has been produced in three languages and has been fully co-ordinated and supported by the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset, through legislation and by the Israeli police because of its great importance.

The Israel Football Association has also updated its statutes and regulations to contain new relevant paragraphs on this matter.

The administration of the Israel Football Association, which is in charge of the club licensing project, took part in a UEFA seminar in Nyon on 22 August. The Israeli delegates are in constant contact with the UEFA project team. Most requirements have been implemented according to UEFA's instructions and the system will be active during the upcoming season.

Haim Zimmer



KAZAKHSTAN

Launching the licence

On 31 July, UEFA accredited the manual produced by the Football Union of Kazakhstan in view of the introduction of the UEFA club licensing system. The manual is based on UEFA's requirements and conforms with national legislation and the specific local situation.

"We hope that the implementation of this manual will be the next step in the development of football in our country", said Pavel Kashkarov, Licensing Manager of the Football Union of Kazakhstan. "Now, if any of our clubs wish to take part in the UEFA competitions, they will have to fulfil the necessary requirements. And if they are accredited according to the present manual, it means that they also meet the international requirements."

It took seven months to produce the manual. "During this time we were in constant contact with UEFA's Legal Services, who gave us enormous help and support in preparing the documents," Pavel Kashkarov continued. By the beginning of the 2003 Kazakhstan championship, our Super League clubs were already licensed, albeit according to softer requirements. But that process served as a "feeler" and we hope the forthcoming licensing procedure under the UEFA standards will not be a big problem for our clubs.

In the meantime, the European club competition season is already over for our clubs for the time being.

Our national team, on the other hand, played well in a friendly match against Portugal. Despite losing 1-0, it was a promising performance. This match was the sixtieth for the national team of Kazakhstan, but the first against such powerful opposition. "I wouldn't say that the game was very interesting and entertaining, but the main thing is that we gained invaluable experience and confidence. We have seen a great example of the high-level football to which it is necessary for us to aspire," said Leonid Pakhomov, Head Coach, after the match.

Alexander Keplin



SPAIN The splendid facilities of Football City.



GEORGIA
The Fun
Football days
were a great
success.

GFF



NETHERLANDS
Marco
van Basten
receives
his certificate
from
Rinus Michels.

KNVB



LIECHTENSTEIN

Rainer Hasler named Golden Player

At half-time during the Liechtenstein vs Turkey match, the result of the

Golden Player vote was announced.

UEFA is asking each of its member associations to nominate the best player of the last 50 years, their Golden Player. In Liechtenstein, the public were invited to vote. Some 800 sports fans took part. The winner was Rainer Hasler, ahead of Kurt Feger, Manfred Frick, Manfred Moser and Peter Jehle. Rainer Hasler obtained 318 votes, i.e. over 38%.

Rainer Hasler was already a first-team player with FC Vaduz as a youngster, helping them win promotion to the first division in 1978. In 1979, he moved to Neuchâtel Xamax, where he became a first-team regular right away. With Xamax, he reached the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup. They only missed out on the semi-finals by a hair's-breadth, after a dramatic match against Hamburg SV.

From 1983 to 1989, Rainer Hasler played for and later captained Servette in Geneva, with whom he won the domestic cup and the Swiss championship.

As a rule, Rainer Hasler played in the right-back position, but he adopted a very attacking approach, often taking on the role of playmaker.

The Golden Player vote in Liechtenstein was sponsored by the post office. Manager Herbert Rüdissler presented the winner with a golden post card worth CHF 1,000. Accepting his prize, Rainer Hasler said: "I am thrilled and honoured to have been named Golden Player of Liechtenstein. I benefited greatly from my experience as a youth player in Liechtenstein and

would like to contribute my winnings to the development of youth football in Liechtenstein as a small token of my appreciation."

Reinhard Walser



LITHUANIA

A fruitful tournament

An international football tournament organised by the Lithuanian Football Federation in the framework of UEFA's antiracism campaign took place in Palanga from 18 to 24 August. Under-17 teams from Moldova, Latvia and Lithuania took part in the week-long event, which was the second antiracism activity to be organised in Lithuania as part of the UEFA campaign.

The tournament was a great success, developing mutual understanding and strengthening ties of friendship between players of various nationalities as well as between the countries involved. Not only did the young players of different nationalities compete together, but they also got to know each other and made friends. Although racism and intolerance towards other nations is not commonplace in Lithuania, it is necessary to talk about these issues to raise awareness and keep them at bay.

The aim of the antiracism tournament was to bar the way to discrimination of any kind, including xenophobia and racial abuse among footballers and fans in the stadium. The tournament was won by Moldova. Two teams from Lithuania finished in the runners-up spot and third place, ahead of Latvia. At the closing ceremony, all the participants received T-shirts bearing the slogan "Our nationality is football", which had resounded in Palanga all week. The impressions, mood and reaction of the tournament participants prove that football unites everyone on the pitch and becomes the nationality of everybody.

Vaiva Zizaitė



NETHERLANDS

Van Basten qualifies as coach

It was a remarkable day in Zeist, at the headquarters of the Royals Netherlands Football Association, when Rinus Michels stepped up to present coaching diplomas to 12 successful and eager coaches. Moreover, it was a special day because 76-year-old Rinus Michels was reunited with Marco van Basten on the site where their glorious EURO 88 campaign began exactly 15 years ago.

Michels acted as inspiring coach and van Basten as deadly goalscorer when the Netherlands achieved their only ever major title in Munich in 1988. Van Basten left for AC Milan and continued to impress football fans all over the world until an ankle injury forced him to quit far too early. He seemed tired of football and focussed on his new passion, golf. Last year, he decided to follow the special one-year course which would earn him the highest coaching certificate.

As an experienced player and encouraging teacher, he impressed Ajax during his apprenticeship, where he already became assistant to former international John van 't Schip as coach of the Under-23 team.

Rinus Michels was visibly moved when he handed the certificate to his former pupil. "I have high expectations of Marco. He was a brilliant and intelligent player and has a clear view of football." In turn, van Basten told the vast number of media representatives present that he would see if the new job suited him. "If it is too much hassle, I'll just quit," he said.

His former Milan colleague and fellow international Ruud Gullit started his job as coach of the Dutch Under-19 side in July. Gullit will guide the team to the 2005 FIFA World Youth Championship, to be held in the Netherlands. Gullit, coach of Chelsea and Newcastle in England, has not worked as a coach in the Netherlands before. "I shall teach my players that winning a game is far more satisfying than playing attractive football and eventually losing the match," he said at a press conference on his first day in the job.

Rob de Leeuw



NORTHERN IRELAND

Disability projects

The development of the game for 'those with

learning difficulties' is a major component of the association's coaching and development strategy. Opportunities are constantly being created for the disabled community to participate, play and compete at levels which are specifically suited to their ability.

In recent times, a Northern Ireland representative side of such players competed in the European Championships which were held in Aviero, Portugal. Overall results were disappointing but many positives were taken from the competition. The squad battled bravely against some of the major powers in European football with what turned out to be the smallest, youngest and most inexperienced squad in the competition. Even so, our 3-1 defeat by the current World Champions, England, at this level gave us hope of maturing our squad into a formidable European force in the future.

We have now embarked on broader disability projects, namely physical and sensory impairments, and the early results look promising. Since January, over 1,000 disabled performers have received special coaching and the future is only limited by the availability of funding for suitably qualified coaches for people with special needs.

Alan Crooks

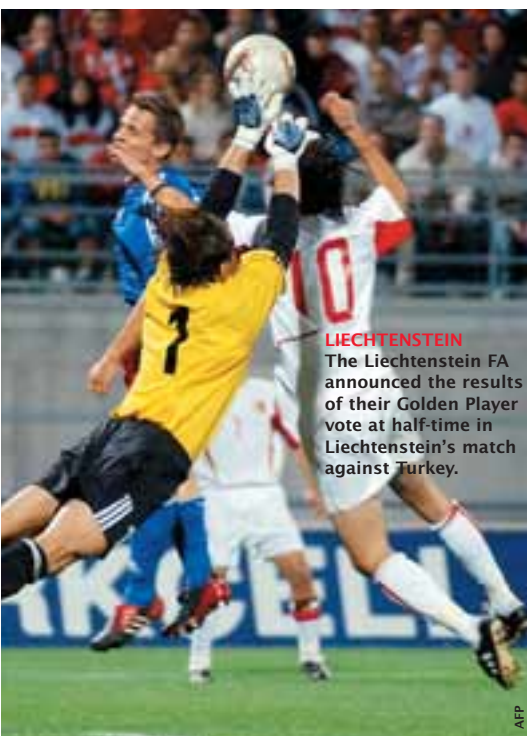


POLAND

Children's smiles

The final round of the eighth Marek Wielgus Tournament - the

Telekomunikacja Polska Cup - has taken



LIECHTENSTEIN
The Liechtenstein FA announced the results of their Golden Player vote at half-time in Liechtenstein's match against Turkey.

AFP



POLAND
Young footballers in Poland are keen to take part in national tournaments.



place in Ilawa. This year's event involved over 22,000 children (born after 1 January 1992), who played in more than 2,200 teams.

"The main goal of the event is to encourage children from small sports centres and to give them the opportunity to compete with children from all over Poland," said Michal Listkiewicz, President of the Polish FA.

The prize for the winners is a trip to Budapest to see the European Championship qualifier between Poland and Hungary on 11 October.

The Polish FA has launched a serious campaign against racism and intolerance in stadiums. Together with the "Never Again" association (member of FARE - Football Against Racism in Europe), the Polish FA is conducting training for PFA delegates and club representatives in order to raise awareness of campaigning to eliminate racial abuse and discrimination. The Polish FA has also tightened its disciplinary measures and fines for such offences.

Michal Kocieba



ROMANIA

Pro licence course

The first Pro licence course for professional coaches got under way in Romania on 1 September.

Opened by the president of the Romanian Football Association (FRF), Mircea Sandu, the course was run by UEFA delegate Michel Sablon, Technical Director of the Belgian FA.

The 20 "students" gathered in the Peluza auditorium of the FRF's new headquarters. Among them was Gheorghe Hagi, the greatest player in the history of Romanian football and national coach in 2001, currently with Bursaspor in Turkey. Fellow players from the same glorious generation following the course were Marius Lacatus (coach of FC Brasov), Gavrilă Pelé Balint (currently without a coaching contract after a very successful season with Sheriff Tiraspol in Moldova), Mircea Rednic (who won the 2002/03 Romanian championship with FC Rapid Bucharest), Ilie Dumitrescu (currently with Apollon Limassol, Cyprus), Dan Petrescu (who is starting his coaching career with Sportul Studentesc Bucharest in the second division) and Ioan Ovidiu Sabau (also in the second division, with Universitatea Cluj).

Other aspiring Pro licence-holders are national Under-21 coach Nicolae Manea and current coach of the Armenian national team, Mihai Stoichita, former coach of Steaua and National Bucharest and of the Panama national team. Most Romanian first division coaches are also following the 13-module course, in preparation for the final exams in December.

The first three modules were completed in early September and included presentations by Michel Sablon and some highly experienced and internationally renowned Romanian coaches, namely, Emeric Ienei, who won the Champion Clubs' Cup with

Steaua in 1986 and qualified for the 1990 World Cup with the national team; Anghel Iordanescu, Romanian coach of the twentieth century thanks to his success with the national team in the 1990s; Mircea Radulescu, current director of the national coaching school, who was responsible for four national teams during his coaching career (Romania, Egypt, Tunisia and Algeria); the father of Romanian coaches, Angelo Niculescu, who took Romania to the 1970 World Cup; and Cornel Dinu, former coach of the national team and of Dynamo Bucharest.

The remaining five modules are scheduled from 8 to 12 December. Then the 20 candidates will be assessed by a special panel (Pro Licence Panel) headed by the director of the national coaching school, Mircea Radulescu.

Dan Cristea



SCOTLAND

New antiracism post

Scottish football is to employ a full time official to combat racism, and promote a series of high-profile campaigns.

The new official will work with the established charity, Show Racism the Red Card, by targeting football clubs and schools on a variety of initiatives and leading campaigns against racism in football grounds.

There could also be scope to tackle religious sectarianism, which is still prevalent in some areas of Scotland.

Although racism is not a major problem in Scottish football, there have been various instances of racist behaviour among spectators at football grounds, and in two instances in the past year these led to criminal convictions. David Taylor, the

Scottish FA's Chief Executive, said the new post would help to reinforce the message coming from the courts: "We are serious about this problem. We feel we need to have high-profile campaigns to keep the pressure on racism in Scotland, against supporters who racially abuse players from opposing teams or rival supporters. This is an example of football being responsible in society."

"We hope that, ultimately, the campaign will provide a platform for moving into the more difficult area of sectarianism."

The SFA has received a grant of CHF 50,000 from UEFA as well as substantial financial support worth GBP 75,000 over the next three years from the Scottish Executive to pay for the co-ordinator.

To help launch the new campaign, Scotland players promoted the antiracism message by raising cards before their friendly international against Norway in August. By setting a good example of positive behaviour, the role models in the national team will greatly assist the antiracism campaign to succeed in Scotland and, ultimately, improve the atmosphere at football grounds.

Andy Mitchell



SPAIN

A new address for the RFEF

The Spanish FA (RFEF) is starting the new season with a change of address. Football

City is the culmination of a project that germinated in the mind of RFEF President, Angel María Villar Llona, many years ago. This magnificent centre covers 120 hectares (nearly 300 acres) and boasts four football fields, one covered with artificial turf and



NETHERLANDS New coaches for the Dutch FA.



SWEDEN
Råsunda is the current national stadium.



UKRAINE
Football holidays in the Carpathians.

another equipped with an athletics track and all the facilities needed for top-level athletics competitions. A multi-purpose sports hall, the only one of its kind in Madrid, is of the height required to host official events. The facilities also include a building with 5000 m² of office space, a 308-seat meeting room, a museum and multimedia projection room, and athletes' accommodation with a capacity of 35,040 nights a year. There is also a medical centre with a gymnasium and recuperation rooms which will shortly be equipped with a first-aid station and the latest in hydrotherapy facilities, in an area close to the eight changing rooms attached to the sports complex.

The main purpose of this centre, which is the RFEF's most striking achievement since it was founded 94 years ago, is to provide training for referees, coaches and players in the form of schools, courses and camps. It will be run by national coach and European and world futsal champion Javier Lozano, a specialist in the management of sports facilities with many years of experience in his native city of Toledo. Ahead of the inauguration, the RFEF held its general assembly there on 18 July. The participants, who gave their endorsement to the president's management of the federation,

admired the new facilities, which are designed to set an international benchmark.
RFEF press service



SWEDEN
Henrik Larsson is Sweden's Golden Player.



SWEDEN

Larsson Sweden's Golden Player

Henrik Larsson, the prolific Celtic striker, is the Swedish pick for UEFA's Hall of Fame as the nation's "Golden Player 1954-2003".

Larsson was singled out from among prominent footballers such as Hamrin, Brolin, Kindvall and Edström, to name but a few.

But what won the day for Larsson was his consistently high performance over the last ten years. Henrik has a record of 73 caps at senior level (24 goals) and he has played in two World Cups (bronze medallist in 1994) and EURO 2000. In Sweden, he was awarded the Golden Ball (best player) in 1998, and his ability to deliver for Celtic earned him the Golden Shoe in 2000/01. Cup titles from the Netherlands and Scotland and League Cup titles with Celtic are also on Larsson's list of honours. Henrik Larsson, born in 1971, started off his career in the small club of Högaborg in Helsingborg.

At the age of 20, he left for local top club Helsingborgs IF. Larsson's scoring spree helped take the old top club back to the Allsvenskan after 24 years of gloom. Feyenoord acquired Larsson's services in 1993, the same year he made his debut in the national team. In 1997, Henrik was transferred to Celtic and his career profited from a boost. Hailed as the 'king of kings' at Celtic Park, any Celtic supporter would agree that the Golden Player nomination is well deserved.

A top-of-the-line national stadium with a capacity of 50,000 tops the Swedish FA's wish list. Renovation and reconstruction of the current FA-owned national stadium at Råsunda is one option. But new projects are not ruled out.

"We are in great need of a modern venue which can cope with international demands. We are open to all ideas at this moment", says FA Chairman Lars-Åke Lagrell.

At the same time, the FA has made it clear that it is not prepared to invest its funds into a completely new arena. *"But we are willing to play the majority of our international matches in such an arena",* says Lagrell.

Today's national stadium, Råsunda, was inaugurated in 1937. It has been renovated several times, including ahead of EURO 92. Its current capacity is 36,100 and its situation in a residential area of Solna may make it difficult to extend.

Thomas Saletog



SWITZERLAND

Excitement guaranteed

Under the name of the Swisscom Cup, the 2003/04 season heralds a new era for what used to be known as the Swiss Cup. Instead of 196 teams, only 64 will now be taking part in the competition. And high

excitement is guaranteed from the very start, with the Super League and Challenge League teams playing in the first round, the draw being made on a regional basis, and the lower-ranked team of each tie being given the home advantage in the first three rounds. The desire to have more "David vs Goliath" matches on the billing was already fulfilled by the first draw, made at the casino in Lucerne. As a result, third-division Allmendingen are looking forward to the prospect of meeting local rivals FC Thun from the Super League, while FC Alle have been drawn against Basel, YF-Juventus come up against Grasshopper-Club and Wiesendangen play FC Zürich.

The Swisscom Cup will be interesting not only for the fans but also for the clubs, with the Swiss FA paying bonuses for every win, making the competition a lucrative business when combined with the gate receipts.

Pierre Benoit



UKRAINE

Football holidays

With the purpose of popularising school football and encouraging the best Ukrainian physical education teachers and secondary school pupils, the Football Federation of Ukraine (FFU) has come up with a new and original project for secondary schools, where football lessons are now being introduced. From 11 to 20 August, the first All-Ukrainian Football Holiday Forum took place at a camp in the Carpathians, involving the best football classes of Ukraine. They were the classes of the finalist teachers in this first all-Ukrainian competition for the best football lesson.

The 150 participants (boys and girls) came from far and wide, with representatives of seven regions out of 27 attending the camp. The primary aim of the forum was to improve the physical condition of the schoolchildren in the healthy air of the mountains. Competitions, games and excursions were combined with school football practice, but without counting points. The tournament was also an opportunity for the teachers to exchange football teaching experiences.

All the participants received souvenirs and balls from the FFU. The opening ceremony included a friendly match, a demonstration football lesson, fireworks and the visit of well-known football celebrities and veterans.

The football holidays are the next stage in the introduction of football lessons in Ukrainian secondary schools, which the FFU and the Ministry for Education and Science initiated two years ago. Since then, more than 400,000 footballs have been supplied to the schools, 54 percent of schools have introduced football lessons, involving more than one million schoolchildren in regular classes. Courses for PE teachers have been organised in all parts of the country, and video and computer football teaching systems for schoolchildren have been produced.

Anatoliy Yangol



Communications

Birthdays – Calendar

Birthdays

Former UEFA committee member René Hüsey (Switzerland) celebrates his 75th birthday on 19 October. Paul Van Himst (Belgium), member of the Players Panel, will be 60 on 2 October, followed on 4 October by Wilfried Heitmann (Germany), member of the Referee Observers Panel, on 6 October by Ottavio Bianchi (Italy), member of the Youth Coaches Panel, on 10 October by Milovan Nikolic (Slovenia), member of the Referee Observers Panel, and, last but not least, on 14 October by George Brian Smith (Scotland), also a member of the Referee Observers Panel. Reaching the half-century mark are Levent Bicakci (Turkey – 2 October), Vice-Chairman of the Appeals Body, Dánjal Andreassen (Faroe Islands – 13 October), co-opted member of the Youth & Amateur Football Committee, Jean Lapeyre (France – also 13 October), member of the Administrative Experts Panel, and Imre Bozóky (Hungary – 20 October), member of the Appeals Body. UEFA also wishes many happy returns of the day to:

- Alfredo Flórez Plaza (Spain, 2.10)
- Paolo Tavecchia (Italy, 2.10)
- Andrzej Wach (Poland, 2.10)
- Ioannis Bethanis (Greece, 2.10)
- René Kremer (Luxembourg, 3.10)
- Julius Kvedaras (Lithuania, 3.10)
- Ludek Macela (Czech Republic, 3.10)
- Léon Schelings (Belgium, 3.10)
- Khennet Tallinger (Sweden, 4.10)
- Manuel Mourato Quaresmo (Portugal, 4.10)
- Aaro Möttus (Estonia, 4.10)
- Kaare Inge Lindboe (Norway, 6.10)
- Oktay Zeynalov (Azerbaijan, 6.10)
- Dominique Crochu (France, 6.10)
- Armando Duka (Albania, 7.10)
- Pierre Delaunay (France, 9.10)
- Peter Groenenboom (Netherlands, 9.10)
- Frank Pattison (England, 10.10)
- Ellert B. Schram (Iceland, 10.10)
- Peeter Küttis (Estonia, 10.10)
- Leonard Nokes (Wales, 10.10)
- Tony Adams (England, 10.10)
- David Petriashvili (Georgia, 10.10)
- Joan Gaspard (Spain, 11.10)
- Ismet Ovcina (Bosnia & Herzegovina, 11.10)
- Malcolm Wright (Northern Ireland, 12.10)
- Frits Kessel (Netherlands, 12.10)
- Bo Karlsson (Sweden, 12.10)
- Eduardo Herrera Jimenez (Spain, 12.10)
- Willy Goovaerts (Belgium, 13.10)

- Pedro Tomás (Spain, 13.10)
- Erkan Göksel (Turkey, 14.10)
- Dusan Krchnak (Slovakia, 14.10)
- Anatoliy Popov (Ukraine, 14.10)
- Josip Cop (Croatia, 14.10)
- Tom van der Hulst (Netherlands, 15.10)
- Michel Piraux (Belgium, 15.10)
- Jean-Marie Philips (Belgium, 17.10)
- Guy Stephan (France, 17.10)
- George Komodromos (Cyprus, 19.10)
- Joseph Bertram Worrall (England, 21.10)
- Giulio Pazzanese (Italy, 21.10)
- Arie Wolf (Israel, 22.10)
- Mircea Sandu (Romania, 22.10)
- Jan C. Huijbregts (Netherlands, 23.10)
- Michel Vautrot (France, 23.10)
- Dragutin Karlo Poljak (Croatia, 23.10)
- Andoni Zubizarreta Urreta (Spain, 23.10)
- Pekka Hämäläinen (Finland, 25.10)
- Huso Golac (Bosnia & Herzegovina, 26.10)
- Miklos Vojtech (Slovakia, 26.10)
- Jacques Bistagne (France, 27.10)
- Javier Lozano (Spain, 28.10)
- Emilio Soriano Aladren (Spain, 29.10)
- George Fandaros (Cyprus, 29.10)
- Tõnu Sirel (Estonia, 29.10)

Upcoming events

MEETINGS

6.10.2003, Nyon

Medical Committee

13.10.2003, Frankfurt

Draw for the EURO 2004 and European Under-21 Championship play-offs

17.10.2003, Nyon

Draw for the second round of the UEFA Cup

28-29.10.2003, Nyon

2nd Seminar for Women Referees

30-31.10.2003, Nyon

Ticketing Panel

COMPETITIONS

1.10.2003

UEFA Champions League: group matches (match day 2)

15.10.2003

UEFA Cup: first round (return legs)

21-22.10.2003

UEFA Champions League: group matches (match day 3)

Announcements

■ Tegwyn M. Evans has been elected president of the Welsh FA.

■ The Austrian FA has a new General Secretary. Wolfgang Gramann took up his new position on 1 September.

■ The Croatian FA has a new email address: hns-cff@zg.hinet.hr

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