

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Stade de France, Paris

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Final - Matchday 13



So after 124 matches in the competition proper and 246 days, it has come down to FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC, the team that scored the most goals in the group stage against the most defensively-efficient team in their first six games. Few could argue that the 2005/06 UEFA Champions League has failed to produce the dream final most neutrals would have wished for.

Appropriate venue

- The setting, the Stade de France in Paris, is entirely appropriate. From north-east Spain comes a side blessed with an array of sublime talents but with one outstanding shining light – Ronaldinho, who previously played his football for Paris Saint-Germain FC. Challenging them from north London arrives a team boasting a French manager, bidding to become the first from his country to coach a team to European Champion Clubs' Cup glory, and a strong French influence including their captain and talisman, Thierry Henry, who was born on the outskirts of Paris.
- Neither side has tasted defeat in their 12 matches in this season's campaign and both needed just one goal to make it through the semi-finals.

Fifth final

- For Barcelona this is their fifth European Cup final and they will be bidding to match their success in 1991/92 at Wembley Stadium - which Arsenal used for home matches in the 1998/99 and 1999/00 UEFA Champions League seasons - when they beat UC Sampdoria through Ronald Koeman's free-kick. The Spanish side lost finals in 1960/61, 1985/86 and 1993/94.
- In three UEFA finals against English opposition, Barcelona have missed out each time. After losing the UEFA Super Cup in 1980 and 1983 to Nottingham Forest FC and Aston Villa FC respectively, they were then defeated 2-1 in the 1990/91 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup final by Manchester United FC.
- It is also the second Anglo-Spanish European Cup final with the 1981 precedent also staged in Paris – Liverpool FC beating Real Madrid CF 1-0.
- Liverpool FC's triumph against AC Milan a year ago – their fifth overall - meant England joined Italy and Spain on ten victories apiece in Europe's premier club competition, with Germany and the Netherlands trailing on six. Spain were given a significant head start when Real Madrid CF won the first five finals; Madrid have subsequently increased their total to nine victories.

Spanish strength

- Clubs from Spain and England have met in 18 different games this season, including one-off matches and two-legged encounters. The first fixture was back on 27 July when RC Deportivo La Coruña were 2-1 winners at home against Newcastle United FC in the UEFA Intertoto Cup semi-finals. The most recent was last Wednesday's 4-0 win by Sevilla FC against Middlesbrough FC in the UEFA Cup final.
- Overall, Primera División sides have had much the better of things in head to head meetings with Premiership teams in 2005/06 UEFA club competition. Spain has seven wins and seven draws, and just four defeats.

First final

- It is Arsenal's first final in the European Cup – and they are the only London team to have reached this stage. Indeed this season was the first time in three attempts that they progressed beyond the quarter-finals.



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- Arsenal have twice lost in UEFA Cup Winners' Cup finals to Spanish sides. Valencia CF beat them in 1979/80 and Real Zaragoza triumphed in the 1994/95 showpiece. The latter defeat came in a Paris final - at the Parc des Princes.

One previous meeting

- Barcelona and Arsenal have been drawn together once before in UEFA club competition, in the first group stage of the 1999/00 UEFA Champions League. Barcelona had the better of things, 'winning' 5-3 on aggregate. Arsenal earned a 1-1 draw at Barcelona before being beaten 4-2 at home.

Slight superiority

- Apart from that previous group-stage meeting with Arsenal, the 1990/91 defeat in the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup final by Manchester United, and the two defeats in the UEFA Super Cup, Barça have faced English opponents on 18 occasions in home-and-away combat coming out on top eleven times.

- In two of those games, the aggregate scores finished the same with Barcelona winning on penalties when their 1977/78 UEFA Cup third-round tie with Ipswich Town FC ended 3-3. In summary: in one one-legged final and 21 home-and-away meetings Barça can be said to have 'beaten' English opponents 13 times with eight 'defeats' and one 'draw'.

Spanish encounters

- Apart from their first tie with Barcelona, the two tussles this season with Real Madrid CF and Villarreal CF, and the two UEFA Cup Winners' Cup finals, Arsenal have faced Spanish opposition in six home-and-away confrontations. On three occasions the Gunners' aggregate scores have proved superior. In summary in eleven two-legged affairs, Arsenal's record against Spanish sides shows five aggregate 'wins' and six 'losses'.

Comfortable passage

- Barcelona, in their tenth UEFA Champions League campaign, enjoyed a comfortable passage through the group stage, securing a nine-point advantage while their 16 goals established them as the most freescoring team in the competition.

- Ronaldinho scored five of Barcelona's goals in the group and his total of seven puts him two behind Andriy Shevchenko, the competition's top scorer on nine. Samuel Eto'o has five.

Chelsea again

- Barcelona's last meeting with English opposition came when they were paired for the second successive season in the first knockout round with Chelsea FC. Barcelona's 2-1 victory at Stamford Bridge proved ultimately decisive and Frank Lampard's strike in added time at Camp Nou, which settled the second leg at 1-1, proved to be the last goal Rijkaard's side has conceded in the competition.

- A splendid first-leg strike by Frenchman Ludovic Giuly at AC Milan ultimately sent Barcelona to Paris. The 0-0 draw in the second leg was Barça's 100th UEFA Champions League fixture.

Two Spanish conquests

- En route to this final Arsenal, who are bidding to make it a second successive English triumph after Liverpool's victory against Milan 12 months ago, removed two of Barcelona's compatriots, Madrid in the first knockout round and Villarreal in the semi-final.

- Their run of ten successive clean sheets is a UEFA Champions League record while the number of minutes they have successfully defended their goal now stands at 919 minutes.

Solo goal

- Henry has scored five times in the competition this season and if he scores in his home city it will be his 50th European goal.

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- In the semi-final against Villarreal, Kolo Touré's goal in the first leg at Highbury was enough to take Arsenal through. It was also the final European goal at Highbury – the club are leaving their home of 93 years and will start next season at a new ground at nearby Ashburton Grove.

National pride

- Arsenal could become the fifth different winners from England, after Liverpool FC (five times), Manchester United FC (twice), Nottingham Forest FC (twice) and Aston Villa FC.

- Spanish clubs have appeared more often in the final – this is the 20th time it has happened, four behind the number achieved by Italian clubs. English teams' appearances in the final will rise to 12 when Arsenal step out in Paris.

Paris match

- The French capital was awarded the 2005/06 final, the 51st in the history of the European Cup, after a decision by UEFA's Executive Committee at its meeting in Tallinn, Estonia in April 2005. The decision gave UEFA an opportunity to create a link back to the first European Champion Clubs' Cup final between Real Madrid CF and Stade de Reims in Paris in 1956.

- UEFA decided on Paris after considering its merits in terms of capacity, stadium infrastructure and dossiers including city and airport agreements and promotional plans. UEFA also conducted a variety of site visits. At the same time, the EXCO awarded the 2006/07 final to Athens, with the showpiece set for 23 May 2007.

- The Stade de France staged the 2000 Champions League final between Real Madrid CF and Valencia CF, and the climax of UEFA's blue-riband club tournament returns to that arena after a six-year gap. The Parc des Princes, now home of Paris Saint-Germain FC, hosted the 1956, 1975 and 1981 Champions' Cup finals. The 1978 and 1995 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup showpieces, along with the 1998 UEFA Cup final, were also played there.

- The triumphant team in Paris will play UEFA Cup winners Sevilla FC in the UEFA Super Cup at the Stade Louis II in Monaco on Friday 25 August. The match is the traditional curtain-raiser to the new European club football season.

Match facts

- **Carles Puyol's** suspension for the first leg against SL Benfica meant he lost his record as the only Barcelona player to have played every minute of their UEFA Champions League campaign to date. He has played every minute since.

- **Giovanni van Bronckhorst** is the only Barça player to have featured in all 12 matches, having only been denied a perfect record of playing every minute by his 69th-minute substitution on Matchday 7.

- **Van Bronckhorst** is yet to pick up a single yellow card in this season's competition.

- **Xavi Hernández**, who has not played in Europe since Matchday 4, requires one more appearance to make it 75 in UEFA club competition.

- **Henrik Larsson**, who is leaving in the summer to join hometown club Helsingborgs IF in Sweden, needs four more goals to hit the 50-mark in UEFA club competition.

- **Ronaldinho** would need a hat-trick in the final to overtake nine-goal Andriy Shevchenko and finish as the competition's top scorer this season. Samuel Eto'o has scored five goals.

- **Eto'o** and **Ronaldinho** are the joint most creative players in the competition, according to assists, having made four goals for team-mates. Johan Micoud and Steven Pienaar achieved the same mark before their respective clubs' elimination.

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- **Eto'o** and **Ronaldinho** have had 21 shots on target in this season's competition, nine fewer than Shevchenko.
- **Ludovic Giuly's** goal in the semi-finals means Barcelona have now had ten different goalscorers in this season's UEFA Champions League. Arsenal FC have had eight different scorers.
- **Deco** is the only player in the Barcelona squad with a UEFA Champions League winners' medal, having helped FC Porto to the 2003/04 title. Team-mate **Giuly** was on the losing AS Monaco FC side.
- **Ronaldinho** is the reigning European Footballer of the Year. The Brazilian has also been FIFA World Player of the Year for the past two years.
- **Frank Rijkaard** is bidding this season to become the fifth person – the others being Miguel Muñoz, Giovanni Trapattoni, Johan Cruyff and Carlo Ancelotti – to have lifted the European Champion Clubs' Cup as both a player and coach.
- If Barcelona win the UEFA Champions League they will have won three of the four competitions that they entered this season having triumphed in the Spanish Super Cup against Real Betis Balompié last August and clinched the title on 3 May. Their city rivals RCD Espanyol won the Copa del Rey.
- In preparation for the final in Paris, several first-teamers were all missing in Saturday's 3-2 defeat at Sevilla FC, a fixture rearranged from 23 April.
- Rijkaard called up **Ludovic Sylvestre** and **Paco Montañes Claverías** from Barça B and **Francisco Javier Martos** from Barça C to face Sevilla. The two B team players both made their debuts as second-half substitutes.
- The eight Barça first-team squad members that did not travel to Sevilla spent Saturday training with the new UEFA Champions League ball, the adidas Finale Paris, on the club's training pitch at Camp Nou.
- The 3-2 defeat against Sevilla in the Ramón Sánchez Pizjuán stadium was Barcelona's fifth loss in the league this season. While the Catalan club have only been beaten once at home, by Club Atlético de Madrid, they have lost four times on their travels, against Atlético, Valencia CF, CA Osasuna and Sevilla.
- Barcelona conceded three goals for the first time away from home in the league this term. They have conceded three once at home, when losing 3-1 to Atlético, and let four in at Real Zaragoza in the Copa del Rey when the Aragónese outfit won 4-2.
- **Santiago Ezquerro** scored his second goal of the season when he struck Barça's opener against Sevilla. The only other Spanish player to score for the team this season in any competition is **Puyol**, who scored in the 5-0 victory against Real Sociedad de Fútbol in October.
- **Maxi López** completed his first game of the season when he played the entire 90 minutes against Sevilla.
- Barcelona's final match of the season against Athletic Club Bilbao in San Mamés, originally scheduled for 13 May, will now take place on 20 May without any World Cup players being involved.
- The defeat against Sevilla ended a run of 13 matches without a loss and a three-match winning streak.
- Barcelona will show the UEFA Champions League final live on a 70 square metre television screen in the club's Mini Estadi, with capacity being set at 15,276. The Mini Estadi is part of the Camp Nou complex and is an all-seater arena used by the Barça B team for their Segunda División matches.
- Spain's president José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero is set to attend the final in Paris.

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- Barcelona president Joan Laporta and **Thiago Motta** and **Juliano Belletti** went to meet the Formula 1 drivers on Friday, who were preparing for Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix at the Circuit de Catalunya in Montmeló.
- The Ferrari drivers, Michael Schumacher, Felipe Massa and Marc Gené were all presented with Barcelona shirts with their name across the back by **Rafael Márquez** at an event on Thursday at the Circuit de Catalunya. The shirts were all signed by Márquez and Ronaldinho.
- Barça will have the chance to win another trophy. The club are due to play in the final of Catalunya Cup against RCD Espanyol on either 26/27 May.
- The media open day at Barcelona last Wednesday saw 190 journalists in the mixed zone at Camp Nou. In the week leading up to the game against Sevilla, the Barça press department also received over 250 requests for individual interviews with players.
- An estimated 1.2m people took to the streets of Barcelona to see the team as they toured the city on two open-top double-decker buses to celebrate winning the Spanish league championship.
- Barcelona have agreed to donate 0.7 per cent of their annual income to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals campaign, which aims to reduce extreme poverty, hunger and infant mortality, achieving universal primary education and promoting sexual equality.
- Former Celtic FC forward **Henrik Larsson** has been given a Royal honour in Britain for his services to Scottish football. The 34-year-old was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in a list of honours drawn up last summer but has kept the award secret.
- Barcelona have scored 22 goals in this season's competition, more than any other team. Virtually a third of those (seven) have come in the last 15 minutes of their matches. Assessing their 12 games overall, they have struck eleven times in each half.
- Barcelona last week inaugurated their new training camp. Located in Sant Joan Despí, 4.5km south of the Camp Nou, to date, eight full-size pitches have been built at the centre plus one seven-a-side pitch and a sports hall.
- **Andrés Iniesta** celebrated his 22nd birthday last Thursday.
- Barcelona have just inaugurated their latest international supporters' club. The new addition to the Barça family is in Mali with Azima, a Tuareg from Timbuktu, becoming the president of the first ever 'peña' in the African country. Azima visited Barcelona on Thursday during training and stopped to speak to Eto'o explaining that "I'm deeply moved. It's such an exciting experience for me to be here. Eto'o is an example for all of us."
- Because of an agreement with the England set-up, surprise FIFA World Cup call-up **Theo Walcott** will play no part for Arsenal in Paris. If he had played, he would have become, at 17 years and 62 days, the youngest player to appear in a UEFA Champions League showpiece.
- Arsenal have not conceded a goal in any their last ten UEFA Champions League fixtures. The overall run stretches to 919 minutes or 15 hours and 19 minutes.
- After **Jens Lehmann** avoided conceding within four minutes at El Madrigal stadium away to Villarreal CF in their semi-final second leg meeting, it became the longest personal run in terms of minutes played for a goalkeeper without conceding in the UEFA Champions League. AFC Ajax's Edwin van der Sar went 658 minutes without conceding in successive games during the 1995/96 campaign. At the end of the first leg at Highbury, Lehmann had not been beaten in his previous 655 minutes. By full time in Villarreal, the new record stood at 745 minutes or 12 hours and 25 minutes.

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- The record includes his last six consecutive games, along with his appearances on Matchday 3 and in the second leg of last season's first knockout round against FC Bayern München. In the first leg against Bayern, Hasan Salihamidžić was the last player to score against him in European competition, when the Bosnia-Herzegovnian midfielder found the net in the 65th minute.
- Van der Sar kept six straight clean sheets in 1995/96 as did József Wandzik of Panathinakos FC in the same campaign. AC Milan's Dida went one better in 2004/05, although the run included the second leg of their quarter-final against FC Internazionale Milano which was abandoned in the 72nd minute. **Lehmann** set a new individual record of eight successive clean sheets in as many appearances after not being breached in Arsenal's semi-final second leg match away to Villarreal.
- Arsenal lost in their last European final exactly six years before their date with Barcelona in Paris. On 17 May 2000, Arsenal were beaten 4-1 on penalties to Galatasaray SK after 120 minutes of play ended goalless. **Dennis Bergkamp** and **Thierry Henry** were in the Arsenal lineup, along with current Barça player **Sylvinho**.
- Arsenal have found the net 14 times in their 12 matches in this season's competition. They are traditionally slow starters, having scored just once in the opening 15 minutes of a game.
- Only LOSC Lille Métropole have conceded the same amount of goals as Arsenal (two) in this season's competition, having played half the number of the English club's games.
- No Arsenal player has played every minute of their 12 UEFA Champions League games this season.
- **Cesc Fabregas** is the only Arsenal player to have played some part in each of the dozen matches.
- **Henry** remains a goal away from 50 in UEFA club competition.
- **Ashley Cole** is six matches away from his 50th game in the UEFA Champions League, having never played any other UEFA club competition games.
- **Henry** is on the UEFA Champions League top scorers' list for this season with five goals. Andriy Shevchenko leads the way with nine.
- **José Antonio Reyes** has been fouled more times (45) than any other player in the UEFA Champions League this season.
- Arsenal's 4-2 win at home against Wigan Athletic FC on 7 May meant they finished fourth and confirmed their involvement in next season's UEFA Champions League. It was the last game at the club's Highbury home after 93 years. From next season, they will be playing at a new stadium at nearby Ashburton Grove.
- **Henry** scored the last goal at Highbury from the penalty spot to complete a hat-trick. He celebrated his goal by kissing the Highbury turf.
- In nine full seasons in charge, **Arsène Wenger** had always previously guided Arsenal to the top two in the Premiership.
- **Henry** finished with 27 Premiership goals for the season, making him the league's top goalscorer, five ahead of Manchester United FC striker Ruud van Nistelrooij.
- **Henry** is in third place in the Premier League's all-time scorers list with 165, trailing Alan Shearer's 260 and Andrew Cole's 185.
- **Henry** will decide his future at Arsenal after the Paris final but before joining up with France at the FIFA World Cup. He joined the club for €17m from Juventus in summer 1999.

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- **Robert Pirès** is also set to decide his future after six years at Arsenal after the Paris match. He has been linked with a move to Villarreal.
- Arsenal have not finished outside the Premiership top five in ten years, and have only ended three of the 13 Premier League seasons outside the top four (tenth in 1993, 12th in 1995 and fifth in 1996).
- Two days after the triumph against Villarreal, **Henry** was voted Footballer of the Year for the third time in four years by the Football Writers' Association in England. He received his award at a special dinner in London last Thursday.
- **Abou Diaby**, who turned 20 last Thursday, will miss the final after injuring his ankle against Sunderland AFC on 1 May.
- Nearly a third of Arsenal's 68 league goals this season came in the last 15 minutes of matches, with 22 conceded overall during that spell.
- **Lehmann** was the only Arsenal player to feature in all 38 league matches. Of the outfield players, no one appeared in more matches than **Fabregas** (35). In all, the club used 27 different players during their Premiership campaign.
- Arsenal and Barcelona have similar records in terms of ball possession time in this season's competition. Barça's match average is 31 minutes, second only to AFC Ajax who averaged 34 minutes during their campaign, while Arsenal's is 29 minutes.
- Arsenal have averaged 15.08 fouls in UEFA Champions League matches this season. Only four of the 32 entrants this year have a better record. Barcelona's average per game is 17.5. Rangers FC are the 'leaders' in terms of fouls committed, with an average of 23.63.
- Arsenal raised more than €88,000 at a charity ball held at Highbury on 8 May. The main beneficiary was the David Rocastle Trust, set up in memory of the former Arsenal star, and the Arsenal Charitable Trust which distributes funds to local causes.
- Arsenal's ladies team won the English Premiership and FA Cup double this season.
- **Henry**, **Pirès** and **Gilberto** for Arsenal and **Ronaldinho** and **Edmílson** for Barcelona are all hoping to add UEFA Champions League winners' medals to their FIFA World Cup ones.
- **Bergkamp** has won the two other major UEFA club competition honours. The UEFA Cup Winners' Cup with AFC Ajax and the UEFA Cup twice, once with Ajax and once with FC Internazionale Milano.
- Both teams will have plenty of representation at the 2006 FIFA World Cup, with several stars from each team hoping to shine in Germany.
- Barcelona: **Carles Puyol** - (Spain - 44 caps/1 goal), **Rafael Márquez** (Mexico 65/8), **Giovanni van Bronckhorst** (Netherlands – 55/3), **Juliano Belletti** (Brazil – 23/1), **Edmílson** (Brazil - 34/1), **Deco** (Portugal – 33/2), **Xavi Hernández** (Spain – 33/1), **Mark van Bommel** (Netherlands – 34/7), **Ronaldinho** (Brazil – 63/26), **Lionel Messi** (Argentina – 6/1), **Henrik Larsson** (Sweden – 88/34).

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• Arsenal: **Jens Lehmann** (Germany - 29), **Sol Campbell** (England - 66/1), **Kolo Touré** (Ivory Coast - 21/1), **Ashley Cole** (England - 44), **Philippe Senderos** (Switzerland - 10/2), **Emmanuel Eboué** (Ivory Coast - 10), **Johan Djourou** (Switzerland - 1), **Gilberto** (Brazil - 37/3), **Fredrik Ljungberg** (Sweden - 56/12), **Cesc Fabregas** (Spain - 1), **Thierry Henry** (France - 76/31), **José Antonio Reyes** (Spain - 16/3), **Robin van Persie** (Netherlands - 7/1), **Theo Walcott** (England).

Team facts

UEFA club competition milestones

• In total, FC Barcelona have appeared in four European Champion Clubs' Cup finals, winning the 1991/92 competition against UC Sampdoria thanks to a 112th-minute Ronald Koeman free-kick. Previously, the Catalan club lost on penalties to FC Steaua Bucuresti in the 1985/86 season, 3-2 to SL Benfica in 1960/61 and 4-0 to AC Milan in the 1993/94 campaign.

• Since their defeat by AC Milan in the 1993/94 final, Barça's best performance prior to this season has been two defeats at the semi-final stage, namely during the 1999/00 and 2001/02 seasons, where they lost on both occasions to Spanish opponents. The first came against Valencia CF who defeated Barça 5-3 on aggregate, while the second was against Real Madrid CF who won 2-0 in Barcelona before drawing 1-1 at home to advance to the final.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1991/92
- UEFA Cup Winners' Cup: 1978/79, 1981/82, 1988/89, 1996/97
- UEFA Super Cup: 1992, 1997

Ten-year record

• Barcelona are competing in their eighth UEFA Champions League campaign in the past nine seasons. In the 2003/04 season the Catalan club were involved in the UEFA Cup until elimination in the fourth round.

1996/97: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, winners

1997/98: UEFA Champions League, group stage

1998/99: UEFA Champions League, group stage

1999/00: UEFA Champions League, semi-finals

2000/01: UEFA Cup, semi-finals having transferred from the UEFA Champions League group stage

2001/02: UEFA Champions League, semi-finals

2002/03: UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals

2003/04: UEFA Cup, fourth round

2004/05: UEFA Champions League, first knockout round

2005/06: UEFA Champions League, finalists

2005/06 season

• In the 2004/05 domestic season, Barça won the Spanish Primera División by four points from Real Madrid CF. Villarreal CF and Real Betis Balompié followed in third and fourth place, 19 and 22 points behind the champions respectively. It meant automatic qualification for the UEFA Champions League group stage.

• Top scorers in the group stage with 16 goals from six outings, Barça finished nine points clear of Werder Bremen and Udinese Calcio. Their only dropped points came in Athens on Matchday 3 when they were held to a scoreless draw by fourth-placed Panathinaikos FC. The return match two weeks later, however, was not as closely contested as Barça ran out 5-0 winners with Samuel Eto'o (14, 40 and 65 minutes) getting a hat-trick.

• For the second year in succession, Barça were paired with Chelsea FC in the first knockout round, but on this occasion, the Catalan side emerged as victors, winning 2-1 at Stamford Bridge before settling for a 1-1 draw at the Camp Nou to reach the quarter-finals.

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- Barça booked a UEFA Champions League semi-final against AC Milan after goals in either half from Ronaldinho (19) and Samuel Eto'o (89) took the Catalan club past SL Benfica 2-0 on aggregate after their first-leg meeting in Lisbon ended goalless.
- They overcame their Italian rivals to book a place in the final against Arsenal FC with the only goal of the tie coming from Ludovic Giuly 57 minutes into their first leg meeting at Milan's Giuseppe Meazza stadium.

Key facts

- To date, Barça have played 100 matches in the UEFA Champions League. In that time, they have won 54, drawn 25 and lost 21 with 190 goals scored and 114 conceded.
- Eto'o's winner against Chelsea on Matchday 7 was Barcelona's 300th goal in the European Champion Clubs' Cup. To date, they have played 160 matches with 90 wins, 36 draws and 34 losses with 304 goals scored and 170 conceded.
- Of the 32 teams competing in this season's UEFA Champions League, they are second only to Real Madrid CF in terms of total matches played in UEFA club competition with 334 games in which they have won 183, drawn 75 and lost 76 with 641 goals scored and 344 goals conceded.

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

8-0: FC Barcelona v ŠKM Púchov

15.10.2003, 2003/04 UEFA Cup first round, second leg

Having been held to a 1-1 draw in Slovakia, Barcelona left nothing to chance in the return with Ronaldinho (7, 20, 57 minutes) grabbing a hat-trick, while Luis Enrique (64, 75) and Javier Saviola (73, 89) both scored twice.

8-0: FC Barcelona v Apollon Limassol FC

15.09.1982, 1982/83 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round, first leg Barça hit their Cypriot opponents for eight with Diego Maradona (6, 60, 63) scoring a hat-trick and Bernd Schuster (35, 69) adding two goals to the tally. The return leg ended 1-1.

- Biggest home win

8-0: FC Barcelona v ŠKM Púchov (see above for details)

8-0: FC Barcelona v Apollon Limassol FC (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-7: Hapoel Beer-Sheva FC v FC Barcelona

12.09.1995, 1995/96 UEFA Cup, first round, first leg

The tie would end in a 12-0 aggregate success for Barça, with seven goals scored in the opening leg in Israel. Roger García (44, 63, 67, 78) got a hat-trick in 23 minutes and ended with four goals, while Luís Figo (65, 82) scored twice. Iván de la Peña opened the scoring after four minutes before the floodgates opened following Roger's first goal on the stroke of half-time.

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- Heaviest defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv

05.11.1997, 1997/98 UEFA Champions League group stage

Winning only one of their six matches in the group stage, Barça's back-to-back defeats by Dynamo effectively ended their interest in the competition with two matchdays remaining. Having lost 3-0 in the Ukrainian capital, worse followed at the Camp Nou as Andriy Shevchenko (9, 32, 44) scored three first-half goals before Serhiy Rebrov added a fourth eleven minutes from time.

4-0: AC Milan v FC Barcelona

18.05.1994, 1993/94 European Champion Clubs' Cup final

The Spyros Louis stadium in Athens was the setting for Milan's finest hour as goals from Daniele Massaro (22, 45), Dejan Savićević (47) and Marcel Desailly (58) provided the Italian side with a comfortable win.

0-4: FC Barcelona v 1. FC Köln

05.11.1980, 1980/81 UEFA Cup second round, second leg

A Quini goal had given Barça the lead in Cologne, but they were to be beaten on their home patch, albeit more comprehensively following goals from Gerd Strack (41), Stefan Engels (55), Pierre Littbarski (63) and Dieter Müller (83).

- Heaviest home defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv (see above for details)

0-4: FC Barcelona v 1. FC Köln (see above for details)

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• Heaviest away defeat

3-0: AS Roma v FC Barcelona

26.02.2002, 2001/02 UEFA Champions League second group stage

Barça bounced back from this defeat to reach the knockout stages of the competition, but in Rome, Emerson (61), Vincenzo Montella (74) and Damiano Tommasi (90+2) were on target for the home side as they ran out 3-0 winners.

3-0: Beşiktaş JK v FC Barcelona

19.09.2000, 2000/01 UEFA Champions League group stage

Having defeated Leeds United AFC 4-0 at the Camp Nou on the opening matchday, Barça were on the receiving end of a 3-0 defeat in Istanbul in their second fixture with Ahmet Dursun (38, 75) and Pascal Nouma (87) on the scoresheet for Beşiktaş. The Catalan side finished third in the group standings and transferred to the UEFA Cup third round, advancing to the semi-finals before losing 1-0 on aggregate to the eventual winners, Liverpool FC.

4-1: Valencia CF v FC Barcelona

02.05.2000, 1999/00 UEFA Champions League semi-finals, first leg

Having defeated Chelsea FC comprehensively at the quarter-final stage, Barça faced Valencia in the last four, only to lose 4-1 at Mestalla in the opening leg with Miguel Ángel Angulo (10, 43) scoring twice for the home side. Gaizka Mendieta (45+2) and Claudio López (90) were also on target, while Barça's only reply was a Mauricio Pellegrino own goal (27). The Catalan side won the return leg 2-1.

3-0: FC Dynamo Kyiv v FC Barcelona

22.10.1997, 1997/98 UEFA Champions League group stage

Goals from Serhiy Rebrov (6), Yuriy Maximov (32) and Yuriy Kalitvintsev (65) put paid to Barcelona's challenge in Ukraine. Dynamo also won 4-0 at the Camp Nou in the return fixture, a result that effectively ended Barcelona's interest in the competition.

3-0: Manchester United FC v FC Barcelona

21.03.1984, 1983/84 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup quarter-finals, second leg

United overcame a two-goal first leg deficit to advance to the semi-finals thanks to goals from Bryan Robson (20, 50) and Frank Stapleton (51).

3-0: Aston Villa FC v FC Barcelona

26.01.1983, 1982 UEFA Super Cup final, second leg

The tie stood at 1-1 on aggregate after 180 minutes with Gary Shaw's second-leg goal (80) cancelling out Marcos Alonso's effort in the first match a week earlier. Further goals in extra time from Gordon Cowans (100) and Ken McNaught (104) gave the English side a 3-0 second-leg success and a 3-1 triumph overall.

3-0: RSC Anderlecht v FC Barcelona

18.10.1978, 1978/79 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round, first leg

Goals from Franky Van Der Elst (19, 67) and Ludo Coeck (48) looked to have provided the Belgian side with a healthy enough advantage to qualify for the last eight, but Barça hit back in the return leg to eventually win on penalties. They would go on to win the competition, defeating Fortuna Düsseldorf 4-3 in the final at Basle's St. Jakob-Park.

3-0: PSV Eindhoven v FC Barcelona

29.03.1978, 1977/78 UEFA Cup semi-finals, first leg

Although they would win the return leg 3-1, Barça failed to reach the final following a three-goal capitulation in the Netherlands with an own goal from Antonio Olmo (9) setting PSV on their way before they added goals from Harry Lubse (21) and Paul Postuma (70).

3-0: Ipswich Town FC v FC Barcelona

23.11.1977, 1977/78 UEFA Cup third round, first leg

Barça lost at Portman Road following goals from Eric Gates (17), Trevor Whymark (61) and Brian Talbot (77), but won by the same scoreline at the Camp Nou in the return leg before winning the subsequent penalty shootout 3-1.

3-0: OGC Nice v FC Barcelona

19.09.1973, 1973/74 UEFA Cup first round, first leg

Barcelona lost 3-2 on aggregate, with the seeds to their downfall sewn in the opening leg as goals from Dick van Dijk (4) and Marc Molitor (66, 79) provided Nice with a three-goal victory.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

5-0: FC Barcelona v Panathinaikos FC

02.11.2005, 2005/06 UEFA Champions League group stage

Having been held to a scoreless draw in Athens on the previous matchday, Barcelona returned to winning form when Panathinaikos came to the Camp Nou with Mark van Bommel (1), Samuel Eto'o (14, 40, 65) and Lionel Messi (34) all on target.

5-0: FC Barcelona v Beşiktaş JK

08.11.2000, 2000/01 UEFA Champions League first group stage

Barcelona avenged their earlier defeat in Istanbul by winning 5-0 at Camp Nou with Phillip Cocu (11), Luis Enrique (17, 49), Rivaldo (81) and Gabri García (88) among the goals.

5-0: FC Barcelona v AC Sparta Praha

08.12.1999, 1999/00 UEFA Champions League second group stage

Luis Enrique (45, 76) and Patrick Kluivert (44, 63) scored twice with Pep Guardiola (60) also on the scoresheet as Sparta Praha were on the receiving end of a five-goal defeat.

5-0: FC Barcelona v AIK Solna

27.10.1999, 1999/00 UEFA Champions League first group stage

Patrick Kluivert (15, 33), Boudewijn Zenden (43), Gabri García (53) and Frédéric Déhu (56) all contributed to an easy Barça victory against their Swedish opponents.

- Biggest home win

5-0: FC Barcelona v Panathinaikos FC (see above for details)

5-0: FC Barcelona v Beşiktaş JK (see above for details)

5-0: FC Barcelona v AC Sparta Praha (see above for details)

5-0: FC Barcelona v AIK Solna (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-3: Fenerbahçe SK v FC Barcelona

18.09.2001, 2001/02 UEFA Champions League first group stage

Barça's most comprehensive of their five victories in six outings in the first group stage came on the opening matchday in Istanbul when goals from Patrick Kluivert (25), Patrik Andersson (28) and Javier Saviola (66) accounted for Fenerbahçe.

- Heaviest defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv (see above for details)

4-0: AC Milan v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

- Heaviest home defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

3-0: AS Roma v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

3-0: Beşiktaş JK v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

4-1: Valencia CF v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

3-0: FC Dynamo Kyiv v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

Last updated: 1 May 2006

UEFA club competition milestones

- This season has witnessed Arsenal FC advance to the European Champion Clubs' Cup final for the first time although they have already been involved in both UEFA Cup Winners' Cup and UEFA Cup finals.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

- The London club played in three UEFA Cup Winners' Cup finals, triumphing in the 1993/94 season when they overcame Parma FC 1-0 thanks to Alan Smith's 22nd-minute goal. The other finals ended in narrow defeats by Valencia CF and Real Zaragoza in 1979/80 and 1994/95 respectively. Following their elimination from the 1999/00 UEFA Champions League at the end of the group stage, Arsenal advanced to the UEFA Cup final only to lose on penalties to Galatasaray SK at Copenhagen's Parken stadium.

UEFA club competition honours

- UEFA Cup Winners' Cup: 1993/94

Ten-year record

- Arsenal are making their eighth successive attempt at winning the UEFA Champions League with their best performance before this season being two quarter-final appearances in the competition during the 2000/01 and 2003/04 seasons. On the first occasion, the Gunners lost on away goals to Valencia CF after the two sides shared four goals, while more recently, Chelsea FC denied them a place in the last four with a 3-2 aggregate success that included a 2-1 victory at Highbury.

1996/97: UEFA Cup, first round

1997/98: UEFA Cup, first round

1998/99: UEFA Champions League, group stage

1999/00: UEFA Cup, finalists having transferred from the UEFA Champions League group stage

2000/01: UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals

2001/02: UEFA Champions League, second group stage

2002/03: UEFA Champions League, second group stage

2003/04: UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals

2004/05: UEFA Champions League, first knockout round

2005/06: UEFA Champions League, finalists

2005/06 season

- In the 2004/05 season, Arsenal trailed Chelsea by 12 points in the English Premiership, finishing second ahead of Manchester United FC by a further six points. The second-placed finish provided Arsenal with an automatic spot in the group stage, extending their sequence of never having played a qualifying round match in the competition.

- Arsenal advanced to the 2005/06 UEFA Champions League group stage as one of the 16 automatic qualifiers.

- With five victories from their opening five engagements, Arsenal qualified with some ease for the knockout stages. The only blemish to their record came on Matchday 6 when they were held to a scoreless draw by AFC Ajax. Otherwise, the record books show ten goals scored and two conceded from their six matches.

- A daunting trip to the Santiago Bernabéu to face Real Madrid CF was the Gunners' reward for topping their group, but a Thierry Henry goal separated the sides before they battled out a scoreless draw in the return leg in the English capital, thus providing Arsenal with their third trip to the quarter-finals in the last six years.

- Arsenal then reached the UEFA Champions League semi-finals for the first time in their history after a goalless draw away to Juventus earned them a 2-0 aggregate win. The Gunners had earlier won in London as goals in each half from Cesc Fabregas (40) and Thierry Henry (69) gave them a two-goal advantage that Juve were unable to breach.

- The Gunners then edged out Villarreal CF in the last four, winning 1-0 at Highbury, thanks to Kolo Touré's goal four minutes before the interval. The return leg in Spain ended scoreless providing Arsenal with their first appearance in the European Champion Clubs' Cup final.

Key facts

- To date, the Gunners have played 80 matches in the UEFA Champions League, winning 36, drawing 23 and losing 21. In that time, Arsenal have scored 111 goals and conceded 83.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

- Their overall European Champion Clubs' Cup record (including all qualifying round matches) reads, played 90, won 41, drawn 24 and lost 25 with 132 goals scored and 93 conceded.

- Overall, Arsenal have played 144 matches in UEFA club competition with 68 wins, 39 draws and 37 losses. In those matches, they have scored 225 times while conceding 147 goals.

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

0-7: R. Standard de Liège v Arsenal FC

03.11.1993, 1993/94 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, second round, second leg

Having won the opening leg 3-0 in London, Arsenal heaped further misery on Standard, running up seven goals without reply in a season in which they went on to win the competition. Kevin Campbell (42, 80) scored twice with other goals from Alan Smith (3), Ian Selley (20), Tony Adams (36), Paul Merson (72) and Eddie McGoldrick (81).

- Biggest home win

6-1: Arsenal FC v FK Austria Wien

18.09.1991, 1991/92 European Champion Clubs' Cup, first round, first leg

Four second-half goals from Alan Smith (51, 53, 65, 65) including two in a minute effectively ended Austria Wien's interest in the competition. Andy Linighan (37) and Anders Limpar (77) started and finished the scoring with Andy Ogris (56) getting the Austrians' consolation.

- Biggest away win

0-7: R. Standard de Liège v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

- Heaviest defeat

0-3: Arsenal FC v FC Internazionale Milano

17.09.2003, 2003/04 UEFA Champions League, group stage

The Gunners' group stage campaign got off to the worst possible start against Inter as goals from Julio Cruz (22), Andy van der Meyde (24) and Obafemi Martins (41) condemned them to a 3-0 defeat at Highbury. Arsenal would eventually recover to advance to the knockout stage, gaining revenge for the 3-0 reverse in London by defeating Inter 5-1 at the Giuseppe Meazza.

4-1: FC Spartak Moskva v Arsenal FC

22.11.2000, 2000/01 UEFA Champions League, second group stage

Arsenal opened the second group stage with a comprehensive defeat at the Luzhniki stadium despite taking the lead after two minutes through Silvinho. Marçao (29, 50) scored either side of the interval before Egor Titov (77) and Robson (82) rounded off a comfortable win for the Russian side.

3-0: FC Shakhtar Donetsk v Arsenal FC

07.11.2000, 2000/01 UEFA Champions League, first group stage

With their qualification assured for the second group stage, Arsenal failed to trouble Shakhtar in Ukraine with Serhiy Atelkin (34), Andriy Vorobey (57) and Olexiy Bielik (66) scoring for the home side.

2-5: Arsenal FC v SK Spartak Moskva

29.09.1982, 1982/83 UEFA Cup, first round, second leg

Trailing 3-2 from the opening leg in the Soviet capital, Arsenal found themselves four goals in arrears to Spartak at Highbury following goals from Sergei Schvetsov (22), Sergei Rodionov (56) and Fyodor Cherenkov (65, 72). Chris Whyte (74) and Lee Chapman (89) scored Arsenal's consolation goals, sandwiching an Edgar Hess (78) strike for the visitors who advanced 8-4 on aggregate.

- Heaviest home defeat

0-3: Arsenal FC v FC Internazionale Milano (see above for details)

2-5: Arsenal FC v SK Spartak Moskva (see above for details)

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

- Heaviest away defeat

4-1: FC Spartak Moskva v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

3-0: FC Shakhtar Donetsk v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

5-1: Arsenal FC v Rosenborg BK

07.12.2004, 2004/05 UEFA Champions League, group stage

Arsenal concluded their group stage campaign with a 5-1 defeat of Rosenborg at Highbury, spreading the goalscoring plaudits among five players - José Antonio Reyes (3), Thierry Henry (24), Cesc Fabregas (29), Robert Pirès (41) and Robin van Persie (84) with Erik Hoftun (38) on target for the visitors.

1-5: FC Internazionale Milano v Arsenal FC

25.11.2003, 2003/04 UEFA Champions League, group stage

Three goals in the last five minutes condemned Inter to a four-goal defeat with Thierry Henry (25, 85) and Robert Pirès (88, 89) both scoring twice as the Gunners gained revenge for their 3-0 home defeat on the opening matchday.

0-4: PSV Eindhoven v Arsenal FC

25.09.2002, 2002/03 UEFA Champions League, group stage

Ahead after 20.07 seconds through Gilberto, Arsenal added three second-half goals through Fredrik Ljungberg (66) and Thierry Henry (81, 90+2) to complete a comfortable victory in Eindhoven.

- Biggest home win

5-1: Arsenal FC v Rosenborg BK (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

1-5: FC Internazionale Milano v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

0-4: PSV Eindhoven v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

- Heaviest defeat

4-1: FC Spartak Moskva v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

3-0: FC Shakhtar Donetsk v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

- Heaviest home defeat

0-3: Arsenal FC v FC Internazionale Milano (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

4-1: FC Spartak Moskva v Arsenal FC (see above for details)

Last updated: 1 May 2006

Competition facts

- **UEFA Champions League:** Did you know?

Knockout streak: In qualifying for the 2005/06 knockout phase, Real Madrid CF tied Manchester United FC's record of nine consecutive seasons in advancing past the group stage. While United's streak came to an end this season, Madrid have featured in the knockout phase every time since the 1996/97 campaign. Regarding other teams in this season's knockout phase, both AC Milan and Juventus had qualified for the previous four knockout stages, one ahead of Arsenal FC, FC Bayern München, Chelsea FC and Olympique Lyonnais.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Last eight: Milan advanced to the last eight of the UEFA Champions League in each of the past four seasons, winning the 2002/03 final against Juventus but losing the 2004/05 showpiece to Liverpool FC. Both finals went to penalty shoot-outs. Milan were eliminated at the quarter-final stage in the 2003/04 season by RC Deportivo La Coruña. Lyon made their third consecutive trip to the quarter-final stage, but as on the previous two occasions, the French side lost out: in 2003/04 to eventual competition winners FC Porto and then in 2004/05 to PSV Eindhoven.

Semi-finals: Semi-final opponents Arsenal and Villarreal CF appeared in the last four of the competition for the first time in their history. Barça had qualified for the UEFA Champions League semis on three occasions, their only success coming in the 1993/94 season when defeating Porto 3-0. The Catalan side then faced Milan in the final, only to lose 4-0.

Finals: Barcelona will be making their fifth European Champion Clubs' Cup final appearance against Arsenal. The Catalan club won the 1991/92 competition against UC Sampdoria thanks to a 112th-minute Ronald Koeman free-kick. Previously, they lost on penalties to FC Steaua Bucuresti in the 1985/86 season, 3-2 to SL Benfica in 1960/61 and 4-0 to AC Milan in the 1993/94 campaign. For Arsenal, they will be making their first appearance in a European Cup final.

No qualifiers: Arsenal are the only club in this season's knockout phase never to have played a UEFA Champions League qualifying-round match. To date, all of Arsenal's matches have been restricted to the group stage and beyond.

Debutants: Villarreal were the only debutants to advance to this season's knockout phase as FC Artmedia, FC Thun, Real Betis Balompí and Udinese Calcio all failed to advance beyond the group stage. To date, three debutants have won the competition Olympique de Marseille (1992/93, first UEFA Champions League final), AFC Ajax (1994/95) and Juventus (1995/96).

Competition records: Since the reduction of the UEFA Champions League to one group phase in the 2003/04 season, 81 red cards have been issued while 922 goals have been scored. By season, the records are as follows (with the 2005/06 final yet to be played):

2005/06 season

Total goals: 282
Yellow cards: 459
Red cards: 27
Players used: 3,373
Penalties scored: 16

2004/05 season

Total goals: 331
Yellow cards: 434
Red cards: 25
Players used: 3,381
Penalties scored: 30

2003/04 season

Total goals: 309
Yellow cards: 434
Red cards: 29
Players used: 3413
Penalties scored: 15

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

• UEFA Champions League: All-time records

Biggest wins

8-3: AS Monaco FC v RC Deportivo La Coruña (05.11.2003)

7-0: Juventus v Olympiacos CFP (10.12.2003)

7-2: Paris Saint-Germain FC v Rosenborg BK (24.10.2000)

7-2: Olympique Lyonnais v Werder Bremen (08.03.2005)

6-0: Olympique de Marseille v PFC CSKA Moskva (17.03.1993)

6-0: Leeds United AFC v Besiktas JK (26.09.2000)

6-0: Real Madrid CF v KRC Genk (25.09.2002)

Monaco's record victory was achieved in part thanks to the exploits of Dado Pršo, who scored four of his seven 2003/04 UEFA Champions League goals that evening against Deportivo. Only one team has scored more than five goals in an away game, Manchester United FC winning 6-2 at Brøndby IF in 1998/99.

Most goals in a season

12: Ruud van Nistelrooij (Manchester United FC, 2002/03)

10: Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus, 1997/98)

10: Mário Jardel (FC Porto, 1999/00)

10: Rivaldo (FC Barcelona, 1999/00)

10: Raúl González (Real Madrid CF, 1999/00)

10: Ruud van Nistelrooij (Manchester United FC, 2001/02)

10: Filippo Inzaghi (AC Milan, 2002/03)

Ruud van Nistelrooij has finished UEFA Champions League top goalscorer in three of the past four seasons, with Fernando Morientes (then with AS Monaco FC) pipping him to that feat with nine in 2003/04.

Four goals in a match

Marco van Basten (**AC Milan** 4-0 IFK Göteborg, 25.11.1992)

Simone Inzaghi (**S.S. Lazio** 5-1 Olympique de Marseille, 14.03.2000)

Dado Pršo (**AS Monaco FC** 8-3 RC Deportivo La Coruña, 05.11.2003)

Ruud van Nistelrooij (**Manchester United FC** 4-1 AC Sparta Praha, 03.11.2004)

Andriy Shevchenko (Fenerbahçe SK 0-4 **AC Milan**, 23.11.2005)

Of these four-goal hauls, Dado Pršo's against Deportivo was the quickest. He scored his first goal 26 minutes into the game and his fourth just 23 minutes later.

Fastest goal in a match

20.07 secs: Gilberto (PSV Eindhoven 0-4 **Arsenal FC**, 25.09.2002)

20.12 secs: Alessandro Del Piero (Manchester United FC 3-2 **Juventus**, 01.10.1997)

21.20 secs: Clarence Seedorf (FC Schalke 04 2-2 **AC Milan**, 28.09.2005)

25.40 secs: Marek Kincl (Club Brugge KV 3-2 **SK Rapid Wien**, 02.11.2005)

28.21 secs: Mariano Bombarda (**Willem II** 3-4 AC Sparta Praha, 20.10.1999)

AC Milan's joy at Clarence Seedorf's first-minute goal against FC Schalke 04 was short-lived - Søren Larsen equalised for the home side in the third minute.

Fastest hat-tricks

9 mins: Mike Newell (**Blackburn Rovers FC** 4-1 Rosenborg BK, 06.12.1995)

19 mins: Marco Simone (Rosenborg BK 1-4 **AC Milan**, 25.09.1996)

19 mins: Dado Pršo (**AS Monaco FC** 8-3 RC Deportivo La Coruña, 05.11.2003)

21 mins: Sigurd Rushfeldt (**Rosenborg BK** 3-0 Galatasaray SK, 21.10.1998)

21 mins: Simone Inzaghi (**S.S. Lazio** 5-1 Olympique de Marseille, 14.03.2000)

Rosenborg conceded 16 goals the season Mike Newell scored his rapid hat-trick, three fewer than the UEFA Champions League group stage record set by Hungarian side Ferencvárosi TC the same season.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Youngest players to score

17 years, 195 days: Peter Oforiquaye (Rosenborg BK 5-1 **Olympiacos CFP**, 01.10.1997)

17 years, 218 days: Cesc Fabregas (**Arsenal FC** 5-1 Rosenborg BK, 07.12.2004)

17 years, 241 days: Martin Klein (Panathinaikos FC 2-1 **AC Sparta Praha**, 27.02.2002)

18 years, 61 days: Sammy Kuffour (**FC Bayern München** 2-2 FC Spartak Moskva, 02.11.1994)

18 years, 70 days: Andriy Shevchenko (**FC Dynamo Kyiv** 1-4 FC Bayern München, 07.12.1994)

Peter Oforiquaye became the youngest player to score, but Celestine Babayaro is still the youngest player to appear, having begun RSC Anderlecht's game against FC Steaua Bucuresti on 23 November 1994 aged 16 years and 87 days.

• UEFA club competition and UEFA Champions League: All-time record appearances and goalscoring

Appearances: UEFA club competition

Note: Players listed in **bold** are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

159 Paolo Maldini (AC Milan)

130 Frank de Boer (AFC Ajax, FC Barcelona, Galatasaray SK)

129 Luís Figo (Sporting Clube de Portugal, FC Barcelona, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano)

124 Oliver Kahn (Karlsruher SC, FC Bayern München)

122 Zinedine Zidane (AS Cannes, FC Girondins de Bordeaux, Juventus, Real Madrid CF)

118 Alessandro Costacurta (AC Milan)

117 Giuseppe Bergomi (FC Internazionale Milano)

114 Phillip Cocu (BV Vitesse, PSV Eindhoven, FC Barcelona)

112 Stefan Reuter (1. FC Nürnberg, FC Bayern München, Juventus, BV Borussia Dortmund)

109 Amedeo Carboni (UC Sampdoria, AS Roma, Valencia CF)

110 Pavel Nedvěd (AC Sparta Praha, S.S. Lazio, Juventus)

110 Clarence Seedorf (AFC Ajax, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano, AC Milan)

109 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)

109 Roberto Carlos (FC Internazionale Milano, Real Madrid CF)

108 Vítor Baía (FC Porto, FC Barcelona)

107 David Beckham (Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)

107 Stefan Klos (BV Borussia Dortmund, Rangers FC)

107 Roar Strand (Rosenborg BK)

106 Filip De Wilde (KSK Beveren, RSC Anderlecht, Sporting Clube de Portugal)

106 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)

106 Fernando Hierro (Real Madrid CF)

105 Michel Preud'homme (R. Standard de Liège, KV Mechelen, SL Benfica)

104 Claude Makelele (FC Nantes Atlantique, RC Celta de Vigo, Real Madrid CF, Chelsea FC)

104 Gert Verheyen (RSC Anderlecht, Club Brugge KV)

103 Ciro Ferrara (SSC Napoli, Juventus)

103 Alessio Tacchinardi (Juventus, Villarreal CF)

103 Lilian Thuram (AS Monaco FC, Parma FC, Juventus)

102 Ryan Giggs (Manchester United FC)

102 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Juventus, Arsenal FC)

102 Gary Neville (Manchester United FC)

101 Bülent Korkmaz (Galatasaray SK)

101 Manuel Sanchís (Real Madrid CF)

100 Edgar Davids (AFC Ajax, AC Milan, Juventus, FC Internazionale Milano)

100 Lothar Matthäus (VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, FC Bayern München, FC Internazionale Milano)

99 Bixente Lizarazu (Athletic Club Bilbao, FC Girondins de Bordeaux, FC Bayern München)

98 Angelo Peruzzi (AS Roma, Juventus, S.S. Lazio)

97 Francisco Gento (Real Madrid CF)

97 Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (FC Bayern München, FC Internazionale Milano, Servette FC)

96 Marc Overmars (AFC Ajax, Arsenal FC, FC Barcelona)

95 Ray Clemence (Liverpool FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC)

95 Gheorghe Hagi (CF Sportul Studentesc, FC Steaua Bucuresti, Real Madrid CF, FC Barcelona, Galatasaray SK)

95 Erik Hoftun (Rosenborg BK)

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Appearances: UEFA club competition

Note: This list contains players still involved in this season's competition
102 Thierry Henry (Arsenal FC)

Appearances: UEFA Champions League

Note: This list considers group stage to final only and contains players still involved in this season's competition
78 Thierry Henry (Arsenal FC)
73 Robert Pirès (Arsenal FC)

Appearances: UEFA Champions League

Note: This list considers group stage to final only and contains other players who played in this season's competition but who are no longer involved

101 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)
99 Roberto Carlos (Real Madrid CF)
97 David Beckham (Real Madrid CF)
96 Paolo Maldini (AC Milan)
94 Oliver Kahn (FC Bayern München)
92 Gary Neville (Manchester United FC)
90 Luís Figo (FC Internazionale Milano)
87 Ryan Giggs (Manchester United FC)
84 Paul Scholes (Manchester United FC)
82 Clarence Seedorf (AC Milan)
80 Zinedine Zidane (Real Madrid CF)
79 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)
79 Andriy Shevchenko (AC Milan)
78 Alessio Tacchinardi (Villarreal CF)
77 Michel Salgado (Real Madrid CF)
76 Iván Helguera (Real Madrid CF)
75 Fernando Morientes (Liverpool FC)
75 Hasan Salihamidžić (FC Bayern München)
74 Guti (Real Madrid CF)
74 Claude Makelele (Chelsea FC)
72 Phillip Cocu (PSV Eindhoven)
71 Iker Casillas (Real Madrid CF)
71 Michael Reiziger (PSV Eindhoven)
71 Ole Gunnar Solskjær (Manchester United FC)
70 Sylvain Wiltord (Olympique Lyonnais)
68 Gianluca Pessotto (Juventus)
67 Rivaldo (Olympiacos CFP)
66 Roar Strand (Rosenborg BK)

Goals: UEFA club competition

Note: Players listed in bold are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

62 Gerd Müller (FC Bayern München)
56 Eusébio (SL Benfica)
56 Andriy Shevchenko (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan)
53 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)
52 Filippo Inzaghi (Parma FC, Juventus, AC Milan)
50 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF)
49 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Juventus, Arsenal FC)
47 Carlos Santillana (Real Madrid CF)
47 Ruud van Nistelrooij (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC)
46 **Henrik Larsson** (Feyenoord, Celtic FC, FC Barcelona)
45 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)
45 Jupp Heynckes (Hannover 96, VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach)

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Goals: UEFA club competition

Note: This list contains players still involved in this season's competition

49 Thierry Henry (Arsenal FC)

46 Henrik Larsson (FC Barcelona)

Goals: UEFA Champions League

Note: This list considers group stage to final only and contains players still involved in this season's competition

41 Thierry Henry (Arsenal FC)

Goals: UEFA Champions League

Note: This list considers group stage to final only and contains other players who played in this season's competition but who are no longer involved

51 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)

43 Andriy Shevchenko (AC Milan)

43 Ruud van Nistelrooij (Manchester United FC)

37 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)

34 Filippo Inzaghi (AC Milan)

28 David Trezeguet (Juventus)

27 Fernando Morientes (Liverpool FC)

27 Roy Makaay (FC Bayern München)

27 Rivaldo (Olympiacos CFP)

24 Luís Figo (FC Internazionale Milano)

23 Hernán Crespo (Chelsea FC)

21 Ryan Giggs (Manchester United FC)

Goals: UEFA Champions League/European Champion Clubs' Cup

Note: This list considers the all-time goalscorers list in both competitions including all qualifying round matches; Players listed in bold are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

52 Andriy Shevchenko (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan)

51 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)

49 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF)

47 Eusébio (SL Benfica)

47 Ruud van Nistelrooij (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC)

41 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Juventus, Arsenal FC)

38 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)

36 Filippo Inzaghi (Parma FC, Juventus, AC Milan)

Last updated: 1 May 2006

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

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Final facts and figures

Most European Champion Clubs' Cup wins: by club

- 9 Real Madrid CF (1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59, 1959/60, 1965/66, 1997/98, 1999/00, 2001/02)
- 6 AC Milan (1962/63, 1968/69, 1988/89, 1989/90, 1993/94, 2002/03)
- 5 Liverpool FC (1976/77, 1977/78, 1980/81, 1983/84, 2004/05)
- 4 AFC Ajax (1970/71, 1971/72, 1972/73, 1994/95)
- 4 FC Bayern München (1973/74, 1974/75, 1975/76, 2000/01)

Most European Champion Clubs' Cup wins: by player

- 6 Francisco Gento (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59, 1959/60, 1965/66)
 - 5 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59, 1959/60)
 - 5 Marquitos (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59, 1959/60)
 - 5 José María Zárraga (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59, 1959/60)
 - 5 José Héctor Rial (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59, 1959/60)
 - 5 Rafael Lesmes (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59, 1959/60)
- (NOTE: Marquitos and Rial played in four finals, while Lesmes played in three but all were members of five winning squads)

Most European Champion Clubs' Cup wins: by coach

- 3 Bob Paisley (Liverpool FC - 1976/77, 1977/78, 1980/81)
- 2 Luis Antonio Carniglia (Real Madrid CF - 1957/58, 1958/59)
- 2 Brian Clough (Nottingham Forest FC - 1978/79, 1979/80)
- 2 Dettmar Cramer (FC Bayern München - 1974/75, 1975/76)
- 2 Vicente Del Bosque (Real Madrid CF - 1999/2000, 2001/02)
- 2 Béla Guttmann (SL Benfica - 1960/61, 1961/62)
- 2 Ernst Happel (Feyenoord - 1969/70, Hamburger SV - 1982/83)
- 2 Helenio Herrera (FC Internazionale Milano - 1963/64, 1964/65)
- 2 Ottmar Hitzfeld (BV Borussia Dortmund - 1996/97, FC Bayern München - 2000/01)
- 2 Stefan Kovács (AFC Ajax - 1971/72, 1972/73)
- 2 Miguel Muñoz (Real Madrid CF - 1959/60, 1965/66)
- 2 Nereo Rocco (AC Milan - 1962/63, 1968/69)
- 2 Arrigo Saachi (AC Milan - 1988/89, 1989/90)
- 2 José Villalonga (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57)

European Champion Clubs' Cup wins: as both player and coach

- 4 Johan Cruyff (AFC Ajax - 1970/71, 1971/72, 1972/73, FC Barcelona - 1991/92)
- 4 Miguel Muñoz (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56, 1956/57, Real Madrid CF - 1959/60, 1965/66)
- 3 Carlo Ancelotti (AC Milan - 1988/89, 1989/90, AC Milan - 2002/03)
- 3 Giovanni Trapattoni (AC Milan - 1962/63, 1968/69, Juventus - 1984/85)

European Champion Clubs' Cup wins: by player with different clubs

- 3 Clarence Seedorf (AFC Ajax - 1994/95, Real Madrid CF - 1997/98, AC Milan - 2002/03)
 - 2 Miodrag Belodedici (CSA Steaua Bucuresti - 1985/86, FK Crvena Zvezda - 1990/91)
 - 2 Marcel Desailly (Olympique de Marseille - 1992/93, AC Milan - 1993/94)
 - 2 Didier Deschamps (Olympique de Marseille - 1992/93, Juventus - 1995/96)
 - 2 Vladimir Jugović (FK Crvena Zvezda - 1990/91, Juventus - 1995/96)
 - 2 Ronald Koeman (PSV Eindhoven - 1987/88, FC Barcelona - 1991/92)
 - 2 Saul Malatrasi (FC Internazionale Milano - 1964/65, AC Milan - 1968/69)
 - 2 Christian Panucci (AC Milan - 1993/94, Real Madrid CF - 1997/98)
 - 2 Fernando Redondo (Real Madrid CF - 1997/98, 1999/2000, AC Milan - 2002/03)
 - 2 Frank Rijkaard (AC Milan - 1988/89, 1989/90, AFC Ajax - 1994/95)
 - 2 Dejan Savičević (FK Crvena Zvezda - 1990/91, AC Milan - 1993/94)
 - 2 Paulo Sousa (Juventus - 1995/96, BV Borussia Dortmund - 1996/97)
- (NOTE: Malatrasi and Redondo were members of two and three winning squads respectively)

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

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Most European Champion Clubs' Cup wins: by country

10 England (5 - Liverpool FC, 2 - Manchester United FC, 2 - Nottingham Forest FC, 1 - Aston Villa FC)
10 Italy (6 - AC Milan, 2 - FC Internazionale Milano, 2 - Juventus)
10 Spain (9 - Real Madrid CF, 1 - FC Barcelona)
6 Netherlands (4 - AFC Ajax, 1 - Feyenoord, 1 - PSV Eindhoven)
6 Germany (4 - FC Bayern München, 1 - BV Borussia Dortmund, 1 - Hamburger SV)

Most European Champion Clubs' Cup final goals: by player

7 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF - 1955/56: 1, 1956/57: 1, 1957/58: 1, 1958/59: 1, 1959/60: 3)
7 Ferenc Puskás (Real Madrid CF - 1959/60: 4, 1961/62: 3)

Fastest goal

Just 52 seconds were on the clock when AC Milan defender Paolo Maldini hit a right-footed volley from Andrea Pirlo's free-kick past Jerzy Dudek in the Liverpool FC goal in the 2004/05 final.

Final hat-tricks

Ferenc Puskás (46, 56, 60, 71) and Alfredo Di Stéfano (27, 30, 73) helped themselves to all of Real Madrid CF's seven goals in their 7-3 defeat of TuSG Eintracht Frankfurt in the 1959/60 final at Glasgow's Hampden Park. Puskás (18, 23, 39) then scored a hat-trick in the 1961/62 final, but ended on the losing side as SL Benfica stunned Real Madrid 5-3 at Amsterdam's Olympisch stadium. The only other hat-trick came in the 1968/69 final when goals from Piero Prati (8, 40, 75) helped AC Milan to a 4-1 defeat of AFC Ajax at Madrid's Santiago Bernabéu stadium.

Widest margin of victory

Four-goal victors have happened on four occasions involving AC Milan (twice), Real Madrid CF and FC Bayern München. Real Madrid won the 1959/60 final 7-3 against TuSG Eintracht Frankfurt, while Bayern's 4-0 defeat of Club Atlético de Madrid came in the 1973/74 final replay after the two sides had earlier shared a 1-1 draw after extra time.

More recently, Milan have recorded two 4-0 successes, firstly against CSA Steaua Bucuresti in the 1988/89 final and then five years later against FC Barcelona. The latter victory, which took place at Athens' Spyros Louis stadium is also the widest margin of victory in a final. On that day, Daniele Massaro (22, 45), Dejan Savićević (47) and Marcel Desailly (58) provided the goals for Fabio Capello's side.

All-time records: UEFA Champions League (1992/93-to date)

By the numbers...

Oldest player to play in a final: 38

Alessandro Costacurta was an unused substitute for AC Milan in the 2004/05 final defeat by Liverpool FC, aged 39 years and 31 days. The veteran defender failed to become the oldest player to play in a final, a record held by Lothar Matthäus at 38 years and 66 days when he appeared for FC Bayern München in their 2-1 defeat at the hands of Manchester United FC in the 1998/99 final.

Oldest player to score in a final: 36

Paolo Maldini's right-footed volley 52 seconds into the 2004/05 final for AC Milan against Liverpool FC made him the oldest player to score at the age of 36 and 332 days. Despite being the record holder in terms of appearances in UEFA club competition, the goal was only Maldini's second in the European Cup, his other coming on 21 October 1992 in the second round of the competition away to ŠK Slovan Bratislava.

Until then, Teddy Sheringham (33 years and 53 days) held the record for his equaliser in the 1998/99 final as Manchester United FC staged a dramatic last-gasp comeback to defeat FC Bayern München, 2-1. If he plays in the 2005/06 final, Dennis Bergkamp could take the record having just turned 37 on 10 May.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Youngest player to play in a final: 18

Three 18-year-olds have played in the European Cup final since the 1992/93 season, namely Patrick Kluivert, Nwankwo Kanu and Kiki Musampa. Kanu set the record when introduced as a 53rd-minute substitute in the 1994/95 final for AFC Ajax against AC Milan, with 18 years and 296 days. Kluivert then followed Kanu on to the field of play 17 minutes later with 18 years and 327 days to become the youngest player to score in a final with the only goal of the game six minutes from time.

Twelve months later, Musampa became the youngest player at 18 years and 305 days to start a final as Ajax lost on penalties to Juventus. In that match, Musampa was withdrawn at half-time to be replaced by Kluivert.

Finals: 13

Since the introduction of the UEFA Champions League, there have been 13 European Champion Clubs' Cup finals:

1992/93: Olympique de Marseille 1-0 AC Milan (Olympiastadion, Munich - 64,400 - Kurt R othlisberger (SUI))

1993/94: AC Milan 4-0 FC Barcelona (Spyros Louis stadium, Athens - 70,000 - Philip Don (ENG))

1994/95: AFC Ajax 1-0 AC Milan (Ernst-Happel-Stadion, Vienna - 48,000 - Ion Craciunescu (ROM))

1995/96: AFC Ajax 1-1 Juventus FC (after extra time, Juventus won 4-2 on penalties - Stadio Olimpico, Rome - 67,000 - Manuel Diaz Vega (ESP))

1996/97: BV Borussia Dortmund 3-1 Juventus FC (Olympiastadion, Munich - 59,000 - S ndor Puhl (HUN))

1997/98: Juventus FC 0-1 Real Madrid CF (Amsterdam ArenA, Amsterdam - 48,500 - Helmut Krug (GER))

1998/99: Manchester United FC 2-1 FC Bayern M nchen (Camp Nou, Barcelona - 90,245 - Pierluigi Collina (ITA))

1999/00: Real Madrid CF 3-0 Valencia CF (Stade de France, Paris - 80,000 - Stefano Braschi (ITA))

2000/01: FC Bayern M nchen 1-1 Valencia CF (after extra time, Bayern won 5-4 on penalties - Giuseppe Meazza stadium, Milan - 79,000 - Dick Jol (NED))

2001/02: Bayer 04 Leverkusen 1-2 Real Madrid CF (Hampden Park, Glasgow - 50,499 - Urs Meier (SUI))

2002/03: Juventus 0-0 AC Milan (after extra time, Milan won 3-2 on penalties - Old Trafford, Manchester - 63,300 - Markus Merk (GER))

2003/04: AS Monaco FC 0-3 FC Porto (Arena AufSchalke, Gelsenkirchen - 53,053 - Kim Milton Nielsen (DEN))

2004/05: AC Milan 3-3 Liverpool FC (after extra time, Liverpool won 3-2 on penalties - Atat rk Olimpiyat stadium, Istanbul - 69,600 - Manuel Mejuto (ESP))

First-goal winners: 9

Nine teams that have scored first in the 13 finals have ended up as winners of the competition. The exceptions are FC Bayern M nchen (1998/99), Valencia CF (2000/01) and AC Milan (2004/05). The other final between Juventus and AC Milan at the end of the 2002/03 season was goalless.

Highest total of goals: 6

The 2004/05 final served up the highest amount of goals with six. Paolo Maldini (1) and Hern n Crespo (39, 44) gave AC Milan a three-goal interval lead only for Liverpool FC to respond in the second half through Steven Gerrard (53), Vladimir  micer (56) and Xabi Alonso (60). The match had no further goals through two periods of extra time until Liverpool won the competition via a penalty shootout.

Man of the match awards: 5

2000/01: Oliver Kahn (FC Bayern M nchen)

2001/02: Zinedine Zidane (Real Madrid CF)

2002/03: Paolo Maldini (AC Milan)

2003/04: Deco (FC Porto)

2004/05: Steven Gerrard (Liverpool FC)

Most goals by a team: 4

AC Milan scored four in their defeat of FC Barcelona in the 1993/94 final with goals from Daniele Massaro (22, 45), Dejan Savi evi  (47) and Marcel Desailly (58).

Widest margin of victory: 4

Milan's four-goal haul in that match also provides the widest margin of victory in a final.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Penalty shoot-out winners: 4

Four finals have required a penalty shoot-out to determine the winner. Most recently, Liverpool FC (3-2) triumphed against AC Milan in the 2004/05 final, while Juventus FC (4-2) defeated AFC Ajax in 1995/96, FC Bayern München (5-4) beat Valencia CF in 2000/01 and Milan (3-2) were victorious against Juve in 2002/03.

Penalties scored in a final: 2

The two goals scored in the 2000/01 final came from the penalty spot. Dutch referee Dick Jol first pointed to the spot after two minutes as Gaizka Mendieta put Valencia CF before Stefan Effenberg equalised for FC Bayern München five minutes into the second half. Eventually, the match was decided on penalties with Bayern winning 5-4.

Most goals in a final (player): 2

Daniele Massaro (22, 45) scored twice for AC Milan in their 4-0 defeat of FC Barcelona in the 1993/94 final. Three years later, Karlheinz Riedle (29, 34) scored twice in BV Borussia Dortmund's 3-1 defeat of Juventus FC. In both matches, the two players provided the first two goals in their respective finals. In the 2004/05 final, Hernán Crespo (39, 44) scored twice for Milan, but he ended on the losing side as Liverpool FC recovered from a three-goal interval deficit to eventually win the match on penalties.

Fastest goal: 1

Just 52 seconds were on the clock when AC Milan defender Paolo Maldini hit a right-footed volley from Andrea Pirlo's free-kick past Jerzy Dudek in the Liverpool FC goal as the 2004/05 final got off to a flyer. Milan would be three goals ahead by the interval, but Liverpool fought back to force extra time before the English side won the competition on penalties.

Finals on 17 May: 1

The only other European Cup final to fall on 17 May came in 1974 at the Roi Baudouin stadium in Brussels when FC Bayern München defeated Club Atlético de Madrid 4-0 in a replay after the two sides had shared a 1-1 draw after extra time 48 hours earlier. In the first game, Luis Aragonés put Atlético ahead after 114 minutes only for Hans Georg Schwarzenbeck to equalise in the last minute. The replay was more one-sided with Uli Hoeness (28, 82) and Gerd Müller (56, 69) both scoring twice to bring the trophy to Bavaria for the first time in the club's history.

Lowest total of goals: 0

Only one final has ended goalless after 120 minutes, that came in the 2002/03 showpiece when AC Milan and Juventus met in Manchester. Milan eventually won the competition following a 3-2 penalty shoot-out success.

Red cards: 0

No player has been sent off in a final.

Own goals in a final: 0

No own goals have been credited to a player. This is also the case throughout the history of the European Cup.

Extra-time victors: 0

Although four finals since 1992/93 have featured extra time, not one has been decided during the two periods of 15 minutes. The last time it happened in the entire history of European Cup finals was in 1991/92 when FC Barcelona's Ronald Koeman scored after 112 minutes in a 1-0 defeat of UC Sampdoria.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Nations bidding for first eleven

When Arsenal FC take on FC Barcelona in the UEFA Champions League final at the Stade de France, they will be playing for national pride as well as the glory of their clubs, as the match will decide which country has won the most European Champion Clubs' Cups.

Ten apiece

Liverpool FC's triumph against AC Milan a year ago – their fifth overall - meant England joined Italy and Spain on ten victories apiece in Europe's premier club competition, with Germany and the Netherlands trailing on six. Spain were given a significant head start when Real Madrid CF won the first five finals, subsequently increasing their total to nine.

Wembley win

A second Spanish winner did not arrive until 1991/92, when Barcelona claimed their only title to date at the one-time European home of Arsenal, Wembley. The golden era for English sides came between 1976 and 1981 when they lifted the trophy six times in a row, with three successes for Liverpool, two for Nottingham Forest FC and one for Aston Villa FC. Manchester United FC sealed England's other two triumphs, meaning Arsenal would be the nation's fifth different champion.

Final specialists

Barcelona's progress ensures the 20th appearance by a Spanish team in the European Cup final, four behind Italy. English clubs have proved specialists when it comes to finals, with their ten trophies coming from only 12 attempts. German sides have participated in more finals – 13 – but have won less than half.

Paris precedent

The only teams from England to return as runners-up were Leeds United AFC, who lost in 1975 to FC Bayern München, and Liverpool, whose defeat by Juventus in 1985 was overshadowed by the Heysel disaster. Surprisingly, this is only the second Anglo-Spanish final, with the sole precedent also coming in Paris. It went the way of the English, with Liverpool beating Real Madrid 1-0 in 1981.

London pride

Although fans of rival clubs Tottenham Hotspur FC and Chelsea FC might disagree, Arsenal are helping to put London on the map. They are the first side from the English capital to reach this stage, making it the largest city to have a European Cup finalist. Had Arsenal lost their semi-final to Villarreal CF, the Spanish town would have become the second-smallest ever represented at the final, behind Monte Carlo, home to AS Monaco FC.

Slight return

Despite their famous names and illustrious histories, Arsenal and Barcelona are remarkably short on continental silverware, with just one European Cup between them. That tally will be doubled on 17 May when one of the two will recover some ground on their domestic adversaries.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Barça seek to join exclusive club

Success against Arsenal FC in the UEFA Champions League final could see FC Barcelona take Europe's biggest prize and defend their domestic title in the same season for the second time in their history.

Successful sides

In the 50 years of the competition, 13 teams have managed to lift the European Champion Clubs' Cup and retain their domestic crown in the same campaign - and it would have been 14 had Olympique de Marseille not been stripped of their French championship in 1992/93 following a match-rigging scandal.

Exclusive club

However, only three of those sides have won this particular double on more than one occasion - AFC Ajax, Liverpool FC and FC Bayern München - and Barça would join this exclusive club by overcoming Arsenal, having previously landed the European Cup as defending Spanish champions in 1991/92.

Madrid pioneers

As with so many European records, Real Madrid CF were pioneers in this department, although it was not until their third European Cup success of 1957/58 that they were able to combine a continental triumph with back-to-back Spanish titles as they ousted AC Milan 3-2 in the final.

The 1960s

SL Benfica achieved a similar feat in 1960/61 before Celtic FC combined glory against FC Internazionale Milano in Lisbon with regaining the Scottish crown in 1966/67. And with two teams having completed this double in the 1960s, three were to do so in the 1970s.

Ajax's first

Ajax's 1972/73 European Cup coronation coincided with a second consecutive Dutch title, while Bayern's 1973/74 success came in a season when they secured their third straight German championship. Liverpool then lifted the 1976/77 European Cup having sealed the 1975/76 and 1976/77 titles in England.

Steaua on a roll

Liverpool attained this unusual double for a second time in 1983/84 in the campaign after Hamburger SV's only European Cup to date coincided with their sole successful defence of the Bundesliga bauble. FC Steaua Bucuresti's solitary continental championship of 1985/86 came with a run of five Romanian titles.

PSV progress

PSV Eindhoven then became the fourth and final side to combine a European Cup with a retained domestic crown as their victory against Benfica on penalties in the 1987/88 showpiece coincided with the third in a series of four consecutive Dutch titles.

Peak period

The 1990s proved to be an even more glorious decade for European Cup-winning domestic title defenders as four different clubs completed the double in the space of five seasons: FK Crvena Zvezda in 1990/91, Barcelona in 1991/92, Milan in 1993/94 and Ajax in 1994/95.

Marseille break

That would have been five in a row had Marseille not been deprived of their 1992/93 French title, but despite the larger squads and bigger budgets of the burgeoning UEFA Champions League, Europe's top teams have struggled to match that kind of consistency since.

Two in two

Just two sides have won the UEFA Champions League and regained national supremacy since Ajax in 1994/95: Bayern in 2000/01 and FC Porto in 2003/04. Now, Barça could follow in their footsteps and become the first to boast two European Cup triumphs combined with successful title defences in two attempts.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Old friends set for Paris reunion

FC Barcelona defender Giovanni van Bronckhorst was delighted at reaching the UEFA Champions League final at AC Milan's expense. With his old club Arsenal FC awaiting at the Stade de France on 17 May, the Dutch international is one of several players looking forward to taking on former team-mates.

'Amazing'

"Playing in the final is like a dream come true," the 31-year-old said, "especially against my former club, that makes it even more amazing." Van Bronckhorst left Highbury for the Camp Nou, initially on loan, in 2003 after a mixed two-season spell in England. A cruciate ligament injury and the coming of age of Ashley Cole both played a part in the €13.5m signing's troubles, but his fortunes changed at Barcelona.

Impressive start

Coach Frank Rijkaard was sufficiently impressed with the full-back's first term to award him a three-year contract and this season he has been ever-present in Barça's European adventure. The versatile Dutchman says there is no secret to his Spanish success other than good old-fashioned graft. "You have to work hard for success and the team worked very hard against Milan. In the end we were rewarded."

Unsung hero

Another player to gain reward for his efforts is French international Ludovic Giuly. One of the Blaugrana's unsung heroes, Giuly is often overlooked in favour of more illustrious team-mates such as Ronaldinho, Samuel Eto'o and Deco. Yet it was his goal that proved the difference against Milan, and if selected in Paris, the fleet-footed forward will be another encountering an erstwhile colleague.

French foes

Thierry Henry was at AS Monaco FC when Giuly arrived in the principality from Olympique Lyonnais in January 1998, and the compatriots are familiar with one other. "Arsenal are a great team with some great players, including French ones whom I know well," the 29-year-old said. "I think it will be a good, open final with great players and it's fabulous for all the Frenchmen who play for these teams."

Cesc good friends

The old boys' network does not end there. Arsenal's Cesc Fabregas came to London from Barcelona as a 16-year-old in September 2003. A lifelong Barça fan, who came through their youth system, he should know the opposition as well as anyone. Meanwhile, a second Camp Nou left-back, Sylvinho, will be on more than nodding terms with the Arsenal staff following his two seasons with the Gunners prior to transferring to RC Celta de Vigo in the 2001/02 campaign. The 32-year-old moved to the Catalan capital in 2004.

Mallorca team-mates

Another case of friends reunited will be Cameroonian international duo Eto'o and Lauren. Although the Arsenal full-back is out for the season through injury, he will doubtless exchange pleasantries with the striker with whom he shared the RCD Mallorca dressing-room during the 1999/00 season.

Cosmopolitan flavour

Nor will that be the only meeting of expatriates. Fredrik Ljungberg will renew acquaintances with Sweden team-mate Henrik Larsson, Dennis Bergkamp and Robin van Persie will cross swords with fellow Dutchmen Van Bronckhorst and Mark van Bommel, while Highbury midfielder Gilberto faces Brazilian countrymen Ronaldinho, Edmilson and Thiago Motta. All in all, the UEFA Champions League showpiece will be a truly international affair, but for this most prestigious of finals, friendships will certainly have to be put on hold.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Head coach profiles

Frank Rijkaard

Date of birth: 30 September 1962

Nationality: Dutch

Playing career: AFC Ajax (twice), Sporting Clube de Portugal, Real Zaragoza, AC Milan

Coaching career: Netherlands, Sparta Rotterdam, FC Barcelona

If Frank Rijkaard's second season at FC Barcelona was anything to go by – a Spanish title and some memorable performances in the UEFA Champions League – there is no reason why he cannot steer one of Europe's grandest clubs to even greater glory.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that his mentor as a youngster was Johan Cruyff. The Dutch legend groomed Rijkaard at AFC Ajax in 1979 where the defender progressed so quickly that he was pulling on the Netherlands shirt aged just 19. In 1987, Rijkaard left the Amsterdam club and had brief spells in Portugal and Spain before committing the key years of his career to AC Milan with whom he twice won the European Champion Clubs' Cup. Highly versatile, Rijkaard played in midfield for Milan but in central defence for his country as they lifted the 1988 UEFA European Championship.

He returned to Ajax in 1993 and helped them, ironically, defeat Milan in the 1995 UEFA Champions League final in Vienna. When he eventually hung up his boots, heads turned as Rijkaard was appointed coach of his country before UEFA EURO 2000™. A semi-final place followed but Rijkaard left his post to pursue a career in club management. His first stint ended poorly, as he resigned from Sparta Rotterdam in May 2002 when they were relegated from the Dutch Eredivisie for the first time, although Barça were not put off and have since seen their faith repaid handsomely.

Arsène Wenger

Date of birth: 22 October 1949

Nationality: French

Playing career: AS Mutzig, FC Mulhouse, AS Vauban, RC Strasbourg

Coaching career: RC Strasbourg (assistant coach), AS Cannes (assistant coach), AS Nancy-Lorraine, AS Monaco FC, Nagoya Grampus Eight, Arsenal FC

Arsène Wenger was never covered in glory as a player, but has more than made up for his lack of playing success in his time as a coach, turning Arsenal FC into one of Europe's top teams thanks to his incredible eye for a bargain and his astute footballing mind.

Born in Strasbourg in 1949, Wenger worked at RC Strasbourg and AS Cannes before AS Nancy-Lorraine offered him his big break into management. He impressed sufficiently to be offered the job as coach of AS Monaco FC in 1987. Within a year Monaco scooped the French championship and Wenger the Manager of the Year award. He reportedly turned down France and FC Bayern München to continue at Monaco, although he did move on to Japan and enjoy tremendous success with Nagoya Grampus Eight.

Appointed by Arsenal in September 1996, Wenger became the first foreigner to win the Premiership title in 1998, adding the first of four FA Cup triumphs to boot. The Gunners lost the 2000 UEFA Cup final to Galatasaray SK but claimed another double in 2002, and in 2004 played some swashbuckling football en route to becoming the first team since Preston North End FC in 1889 to negotiate a top-flight season unbeaten. Already given the freedom of Islington for his success in north London, Wenger's status would rise to God-like levels should he steer Arsenal to UEFA Champions League glory.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

All-time statistics

Head-to-head record

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
29.09.1999	UCL	GS1	FC Barcelona - Arsenal FC	1-1	Barcelona
19.10.1999	UCL	GS1	Arsenal FC - FC Barcelona	2-4	London

Overall record

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
FC Barcelona	2	1	1	0	5	3
Arsenal FC	2	0	1	1	3	5

Home team's record versus clubs from the away team's country

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
10.02.1960	UCL	QF	FC Barcelona - Wolverhampton Wanderers FC	4-0	Barcelona
02.03.1960	UCL	QF	Wolverhampton Wanderers FC - FC Barcelona	2-5	Wolverhampton
09.04.1975	UCL	SF	Leeds United AFC - FC Barcelona	2-1	Leeds
23.04.1975	UCL	SF	FC Barcelona - Leeds United AFC	1-1	Barcelona
30.03.1976	UCUP	SF	FC Barcelona - Liverpool FC	0-1	Barcelona
14.04.1976	UCUP	SF	Liverpool FC - FC Barcelona	1-1	Liverpool
23.11.1977	UCUP	R3	Ipswich Town FC - FC Barcelona	3-0	Ipswich
07.12.1977	UCUP	R3	FC Barcelona - Ipswich Town FC	3-0*(3-1)	Barcelona
01.03.1978	UCUP	QF	Aston Villa FC - FC Barcelona	2-2	Birmingham
15.03.1978	UCUP	QF	FC Barcelona - Aston Villa FC	2-1	Barcelona
07.03.1979	UCWC	QF	Ipswich Town FC - FC Barcelona	2-1	Ipswich
21.03.1979	UCWC	QF	FC Barcelona - Ipswich Town FC	1-0	Barcelona
30.01.1980	SCUP	F	Nottingham Forest FC - FC Barcelona	1-0	Nottingham
05.02.1980	SCUP	F	FC Barcelona - Nottingham Forest FC	1-1	Barcelona
07.04.1982	UCWC	SF	Tottenham Hotspur FC - FC Barcelona	1-1	London
21.04.1982	UCWC	SF	FC Barcelona - Tottenham Hotspur FC	1-0	Barcelona
19.01.1983	SCUP	R1	FC Barcelona - Aston Villa FC	1-0	Barcelona
26.01.1983	SCUP	R1	Aston Villa FC - FC Barcelona	3-0	Birmingham
07.03.1984	UCWC	QF	FC Barcelona - Manchester United FC	2-0	Barcelona
21.03.1984	UCWC	QF	Manchester United FC - FC Barcelona	3-0	Manchester
15.05.1991	UCWC	F	Manchester United FC - FC Barcelona	2-1	Rotterdam
19.10.1994	UCL	GS	Manchester United FC - FC Barcelona	2-2	Manchester
02.11.1994	UCL	GS	FC Barcelona - Manchester United FC	4-0	Barcelona
17.09.1997	UCL	GS	Newcastle United FC - FC Barcelona	3-2	Newcastle
26.11.1997	UCL	GS	FC Barcelona - Newcastle United FC	1-0	Barcelona
16.09.1998	UCL	GS	Manchester United FC - FC Barcelona	3-3	Manchester
25.11.1998	UCL	GS	FC Barcelona - Manchester United FC	3-3	Barcelona
29.09.1999	UCL	GS1	FC Barcelona - Arsenal FC	1-1	Barcelona
19.10.1999	UCL	GS1	Arsenal FC - FC Barcelona	2-4	London
05.04.2000	UCL	QF	Chelsea FC - FC Barcelona	3-1	London
18.04.2000	UCL	QF	FC Barcelona - Chelsea FC	5-1	Barcelona
13.09.2000	UCL	GS1	FC Barcelona - Leeds United AFC	4-0	Barcelona
24.10.2000	UCL	GS1	Leeds United AFC - FC Barcelona	1-1	Leeds
05.04.2001	UCUP	SF	FC Barcelona - Liverpool FC	0-0	Barcelona
19.04.2001	UCUP	SF	Liverpool FC - FC Barcelona	1-0	Liverpool
20.11.2001	UCL	GS2	Liverpool FC - FC Barcelona	1-3	Liverpool
13.03.2002	UCL	GS2	FC Barcelona - Liverpool FC	0-0	Barcelona
11.12.2002	UCL	GS2	FC Barcelona - Newcastle United FC	3-1	Barcelona

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
19.03.2003	UCL	GS2	Newcastle United FC - FC Barcelona	0-2	Newcastle
23.02.2005	UCL	1/8	FC Barcelona - Chelsea FC	2-1	Barcelona
08.03.2005	UCL	1/8	Chelsea FC - FC Barcelona	4-2	London
22.02.2006	UCL	1/8	Chelsea FC - FC Barcelona	1-2	London
07.03.2006	UCL	1/8	FC Barcelona - Chelsea FC	1-1	Barcelona

Overall record

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
FC Barcelona	43	18	13	12	74	55

Away team's record versus clubs from the home team's country

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
14.05.1980	UCWC	F	Valencia CF - Arsenal FC	0-0*(5-4)	Brussels
10.05.1995	UCWC	F	Arsenal FC - Real Zaragoza	1-2	Paris
29.09.1999	UCL	GS1	FC Barcelona - Arsenal FC	1-1	Barcelona
19.10.1999	UCL	GS1	Arsenal FC - FC Barcelona	2-4	London
02.03.2000	UCUP	R4	Arsenal FC - RC Deportivo La Coruña	5-1	London
09.03.2000	UCUP	R4	RC Deportivo La Coruña - Arsenal FC	2-1	La Coruna
04.04.2001	UCL	QF	Arsenal FC - Valencia CF	2-1	London
17.04.2001	UCL	QF	Valencia CF - Arsenal FC	1-0	Valencia
11.09.2001	UCL	GS1	RCD Mallorca - Arsenal FC	1-0	Palma de Mallorca
24.10.2001	UCL	GS1	Arsenal FC - RCD Mallorca	3-1	London
21.11.2001	UCL	GS2	RC Deportivo La Coruña - Arsenal FC	2-0	La Coruna
12.03.2002	UCL	GS2	Arsenal FC - RC Deportivo La Coruña	0-2	London
10.12.2002	UCL	GS2	Arsenal FC - Valencia CF	0-0	London
19.03.2003	UCL	GS2	Valencia CF - Arsenal FC	2-1	Valencia
24.02.2004	UCL	1/8	RC Celta de Vigo - Arsenal FC	2-3	Vigo
10.03.2004	UCL	1/8	Arsenal FC - RC Celta de Vigo	2-0	London
21.02.2006	UCL	1/8	Real Madrid CF - Arsenal FC	0-1	Madrid
08.03.2006	UCL	1/8	Arsenal FC - Real Madrid CF	0-0	London
19.04.2006	UCL	SF	Arsenal FC - Villarreal CF	1-0	London
25.04.2006	UCL	SF	Villarreal CF - Arsenal FC	0-0	Villarreal

Overall record

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
Arsenal FC	20	7	4	9	23	22

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

UEFA club competition record

FC Barcelona

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
European Champions Clubs' Cup / UEFA Champions League	160	90	36	34	304	170
UEFA Cup Winners' Cup	85	50	18	17	178	87
UEFA Cup	78	40	17	21	149	75
UEFA Super Cup	10	3	4	3	9	10
UEFA Intertoto Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
European/South American Cup	1	0	0	1	1	2
Total	334	183	75	76	641	344

Arsenal FC

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
European Champions Clubs' Cup / UEFA Champions League	90	41	24	25	132	93
UEFA Cup Winners' Cup	27	15	10	2	48	20
UEFA Cup	25	12	4	9	45	32
UEFA Super Cup	2	0	1	1	0	2
UEFA Intertoto Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
European/South American Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	144	68	39	37	225	147

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only) record

FC Barcelona

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
UEFA Champions League	100	54	25	21	190	114

Arsenal FC

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
UEFA Champions League	80	36	23	21	111	83

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Squad list

FC Barcelona

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Current Season						All-time			
				UCLQ		UCL		League		UCL		UEFA	
				Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers													
1	Victor Valdés	ESP	14.01.82	-	-	11	-	35	-	23	-	30	-
25	Albert Jorquera	ESP	03.03.79	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	1	-
28	Rubén Martínez	ESP	22.06.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders													
2	Juliano Belletti	BRA	20.06.76	-	-	9	-	26	-	17	-	38	-
4	Rafael Márquez	MEX	13.02.79	-	-	7	-	25	-	17	-	26	-
5	Carles Puyol	ESP	13.04.78	-	-	11	-	35	1	56	-	68	-
12	Giovanni van Bronckhorst	NED	05.02.75	-	-	12	-	19	-	47	4	85	7
15	Edmílson	BRA	10.07.76	-	-	8	-	28	-	40	1	45	1
16	Sylvinho	BRA	12.04.74	-	-	1	-	26	2	19	2	34	2
23	Oleguer Presas	ESP	02.02.80	-	-	10	-	32	-	19	-	23	-
26	Rodri	ESP	17.08.84	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	1	-
29	Carlos Peña	ESP	28.07.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders													
3	Thiago Motta	BRA	28.08.82	-	-	7	-	14	1	26	2	32	3
6	Xavi Hernández	ESP	25.01.80	-	-	4	-	16	-	57	2	74	3
10	Ronaldinho	BRA	21.03.80	-	-	11	7	29	18	18	11	35	18
17	Mark van Bommel	NED	22.04.77	-	-	8	1	24	2	39	3	62	8
18	Gabriel García	ESP	10.02.79	-	-	4	1	11	-	34	6	46	6
20	Deco	POR	27.08.77	-	-	10	2	29	3	52	11	78	16
24	Andrés Iniesta	ESP	11.05.84	-	-	10	1	33	-	21	1	24	1
27	Pitu	ESP	24.11.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Lionel Messi	ARG	24.06.87	-	-	6	1	17	6	7	1	7	1
31	Joan Verdú	ESP	05.05.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Forwards													
7	Henrik Larsson	SWE	20.09.71	-	-	9	1	28	10	25	6	90	46
8	Ludovic Giuly	FRA	10.07.76	-	-	7	1	27	5	29	6	59	17
9	Samuel Eto'o	CMR	10.03.81	-	-	10	5	33	25	25	10	36	16
11	Maxi López	ARG	03.04.84	-	-	1	-	5	-	3	1	3	1
14	Santiago Ezquerro	ESP	14.12.76	-	-	4	1	11	2	10	1	20	6
Coach													
	Frank Rijkaard	NED	30.09.62	-	-	11	-	-	-	19	-	27	-

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Squad list

Arsenal FC

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Current Season						All-time			
				UCLQ		UCL		League		UCL		UEFA	
				Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers													
1	Jens Lehmann	GER	10.11.69	-	-	7	-	38	-	48	-	84	-
21	Mart Poom	EST	03.02.72	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
24	Manuel Almunia	ESP	19.05.77	-	-	5	-	-	-	6	-	6	-
39	Mark Howard	ENG	21.09.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	Michael Jordan	ENG	07.04.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	Vito Mannone	ITA	02.03.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders													
3	Ashley Cole	ENG	20.12.80	-	-	2	-	11	-	44	1	44	1
12	Lauren	CMR	19.01.77	-	-	6	-	22	-	53	1	72	2
18	Pascal Cygan	FRA	29.04.74	-	-	3	-	12	2	25	-	30	-
20	Philippe Senderos	SUI	14.02.85	-	-	7	-	20	2	8	-	10	-
22	Gaël Clichy	FRA	26.07.85	-	-	4	-	7	-	7	-	7	-
23	Sol Campbell	ENG	18.09.74	-	-	5	-	20	2	38	-	40	-
27	Emmanuel Eboué	CIV	04.06.83	-	-	10	-	18	-	10	-	17	-
28	Kolo Touré	CIV	19.03.81	-	-	11	1	33	-	36	2	36	2
34	Matthew Connolly	ENG	24.09.87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Johan Djourou	SUI	18.01.87	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
38	Kerrea Gilbert	ENG	28.02.87	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	1	-
Midfielders													
2	Abou Diaby	FRA	11.05.86	-	-	2	-	12	1	2	-	6	-
7	Robert Pirès	FRA	29.10.73	-	-	11	2	33	7	73	13	97	16
8	Fredrik Ljungberg	SWE	16.04.77	-	-	8	1	25	1	59	13	81	15
13	Aleksandr Hleb	BLS	01.05.81	-	-	9	-	25	3	17	-	42	4
15	Cesc Fabregas	ESP	04.05.87	-	-	12	1	35	3	17	2	17	2
16	Mathieu Flamini	FRA	07.03.84	-	-	11	-	31	-	15	-	24	-
17	Alexandre Song	CMR	09.09.87	-	-	2	-	5	-	2	-	2	-
19	Gilberto	BRA	07.10.76	-	-	9	1	33	2	30	3	30	3
29	Sebastian Larsson	SWE	06.06.85	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	1	-
43	Ryan Smith	ENG	10.11.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
44	Fabrice Muamba	ENG	06.04.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards													
9	José Antonio Reyes	ESP	01.09.83	-	-	11	-	26	5	23	2	23	2
10	Dennis Bergkamp	NED	10.05.69	-	-	4	1	24	2	40	7	94	30
11	Robin van Persie	NED	06.08.83	-	-	7	2	24	5	15	3	25	3
14	Thierry Henry	FRA	17.08.77	-	-	10	5	32	27	78	41	102	49
32	Theo Walcott	ENG	16.03.89	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Nicklas Bendtner	DEN	16.01.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	Arturo Lupoli	ITA	24.06.87	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Coach													
	Arsène Wenger	FRA	22.10.49	-	-	12	-	-	-	87	-	126	-

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Bookings list

FC Barcelona

No	Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F
		1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
2	Juliano Belletti									Y				
3	Thiago Motta							Y						
4	Rafael Márquez	Y				Y								*
5	Carles Puyol		Y					Y	Y	S		Y		*
6	Xavi Hernández			Y										
9	Samuel Eto'o										Y			
15	Edmílson													Y
17	Mark van Bommel		Y	Y										*
20	Deco	Y									Y	Y	S	
23	Oleguer Presas	Y						Y					Y	S
24	Andrés Iniesta										Y			

Arsenal FC

No	Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F
		1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
1	Jens Lehmann	S	S											
9	José Antonio Reyes					Y		Y			Y	S		
11	Robin van Persie	R	S	Y										
12	Lauren					Y								
13	Aleksandr Hleb						Y							
14	Thierry Henry								Y					
15	Cesc Fabregas							Y						
16	Mathieu Flamini						Y				Y			*
18	Pascal Cygan					Y								
22	Gaël Clichy			Y										
24	Manuel Almunia		Y											
28	Kolo Abib Touré	Y	Y											*

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Player statistics

FC Barcelona

No. Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		
Goalkeepers														
1	Victor Valdés	90	90	90	90	90	-	90	90	90	90	90	90	-
25	Albert Jorquera	-	-	-	-	-	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	Rubén Martínez	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders														
2	Juliano Belletti	46(-)	90	90	-	16(+)	90	-	-	90	90	20(+)	90	-
4	Rafael Márquez	90	-	90	-	74(-)	-	90	90	-	-	90	90	-
5	Carles Puyol	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	-	90	90	90	-
12	Giovanni van Bronckhorst	90	90	90	90	90	90	69(-)	90	90	90	90	90	-
15	Edmílson	44(+)	-	-	90	-	90	90	90	-	5(+)	90	90	-
16	Sylvinho	-	-	-	-	-	-	21(+)	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Oleguer Presas	90	90	-	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	75(-)	-	-
26	Rodri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Carlos Peña	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders														
3	Thiago Motta	-	-	34(+)	39(+)	90	-	66(-)	90	90	-	15(+)	-	-
6	Xavi Hernández	79(-)	90	76(-)	71(-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Ronaldinho	90	90	90	90	90	-	90	90	90	90	89(-)	90	-
17	Mark van Bommel	11(+)	62(-)	56(-)	61(-)	-	-	-	-	90	85(-)	90	1(+)	-
18	Gabri García	-	-	-	29(+)	77(-)	75(-)	-	-	14(+)	-	-	-	-
20	Deco	90	90	90	-	90	90	85(-)	90	76(-)	90	-	90	-
24	Andrés Iniesta	-	28(+)	14(+)	51(-)	13(+)	15(+)	5(+)	-	90	90	90	90	-
27	Pitu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Lionel Messi	24(+)	70(-)	23(+)	90	-	-	90	25(-)	-	-	-	-	-
31	Joan Verdú	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards														
7	Henrik Larsson	-	9(+)	67(-)	-	90	90	24(+)	65(+)	76(-)	86(-)	-	21(+)	-
8	Ludovic Giuly	66(-)	-	-	-	65(-)	90	-	-	14(+)	4(+)	70(-)	69(-)	-
9	Samuel Eto'o	90	81(-)	90	90	-	-	90	90	90	90	90	89(-)	-
11	Maxi López	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1(+)	-	-
14	Santiago Ezquerro	-	20(+)	-	19(+)	25(+)	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Player statistics

Arsenal FC

No. Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		
Goalkeepers														
1	Jens Lehmann	-	-	90	-	-	-	90	90	90	90	90	90	-
21	Mart Poom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Manuel Almunia	90	90	-	90	90	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	Mark Howard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	Michael Jordan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	Vito Mannone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders														
3	Ashley Cole	90	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Lauren	90	90	90	90	23(+)	73(-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Pascal Cygan	-	1(+)	90	-	67(-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Philippe Senderos	-	-	-	-	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	-	-
22	Gaël Clichy	-	2(+)	90	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	81(+)	-
23	Sol Campbell	90	90	-	90	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	90	-
27	Emmanuel Eboué	-	-	17(+)	7(+)	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	-
28	Kolo Touré	90	90	90	90	-	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	-
34	Matthew Connolly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Johan Djourou	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	Kerrea Gilbert	-	-	-	-	-	17(+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders														
2	Abou Diaby	-	-	-	-	-	-	10(+)	-	-	3(+)	-	-	-
7	Robert Pirès	90	88(-)	90	73(-)	19(+)	-	14(+)	22(+)	90	27(+)	90	21(+)	-
8	Fredrik Ljungberg	81(-)	90	-	-	90	-	90	90	-	90	81(-)	90	-
13	Aleksandr Hleb	9(+)	89(-)	-	-	-	62(-)	76(-)	87(-)	90	87(-)	80(-)	90	-
15	Cesc Fabregas	73(-)	90	89(-)	17(+)	33(+)	28(+)	89(-)	90	90	90	90	90	-
16	Mathieu Flamini	-	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	9(-)	-
17	Alexandre Song	-	-	-	-	57(-)	-	1(+)	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Gilberto	90	-	90	90	-	-	90	90	90	90	90	90	-
29	Sebastian Larsson	-	-	-	-	-	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
43	Ryan Smith	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
44	Fabrice Muamba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards														
9	José Antonio Reyes	81(-)	81(-)	15(-)	83(-)	90	65(-)	80(-)	68(-)	82(-)	63(-)	-	69(-)	-
10	Dennis Bergkamp	17(+)	-	-	90	-	-	-	3(+)	-	-	10(+)	-	-
11	Robin van Persie	45	-	73(-)	24(+)	90	25(+)	-	-	8(+)	-	9(+)	-	-
14	Thierry Henry	-	-	75(+)	66(-)	71(-)	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	-
32	Theo Walcott	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Nicklas Bendtner	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	Arturo Lupoli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Domestic news

FC Barcelona and Arsenal FC are fully focused for their date in Paris with domestic matters resolved before the weekend. Spanish champions Barcelona, with one fixture still to play at Athletic Club Bilbao, were in action against Sevilla FC while Arsenal FC were able to rest having concluded their season a week ago with a fourth-place finish in England.

FC Barcelona

After a season that has seen Barça reign supreme once again, it was fitting that Frank Rijkaard's second string were able to play their part in a thrilling encounter against UEFA Cup winners Sevilla FC on Saturday. The Dutch coach had no intention of taking any unnecessary risks in the 3-2 away defeat, only their fifth league reverse, although Xavi Hernández was able to get a full 90 minutes as he continued his return from a knee injury.

A fantastic opening goal from Daniel Alves was followed soon after by an Aitor Ocio penalty as Sevilla moved two goals ahead midway through the opening half. But Barça then struck twice in even quicker time as Santiago Ezquerro headed in before Sylvinho's effort was adjudged to have crossed the goalline. The winning goal came 16 minutes from time when Kepa Blanco nodded in from close range, while Gabri García was sent off in the closing stages to dampen what may be his final league appearance in a Barcelona shirt.

While the artistry that has personified the Catalan club's performances this term was at times missing, the shadow players used the chance to stake a claim for a place in the starting team in Paris. Giovanni van Bronckhorst, Rafael Márquez, Carles Puyol, Edmílson, Deco, Ludovic Giuly, Ronaldinho and Samuel Eto'o all stayed behind to train in Barcelona.

After the defeat in Seville, in which B-teamers Ludovic Sylvestre and Paco Montañes Claverías made their debuts as substitutes, Rijkaard was pleased with the overall performance. "It was a good game to watch and my team played with pride," he said, but his words before the fixture revealed the coach's real focus. "Inevitably, we are thinking more about the final in Paris."

Arsenal FC

Arsène Wenger's side travel to Paris looking for the best possible end to a season that started slowly but has gathered steam. After spending most of the Premiership campaign outside the UEFA Champions League qualifying positions, they claimed fourth place from local rivals Tottenham Hotspur FC on the last day of the season.

The 4-2 win against Wigan Athletic FC, featuring a hat-trick by captain Thierry Henry, ensured they will be back in Europe's premier club competition next season irrespective of the result on Wednesday. It also provided a fitting farewell to their Highbury ground, with the team moving to a new stadium at nearby Ashburton Grove next season. A disappointing league record including nine away defeats is at odds with their recent form in the UEFA Champions League.

The main injury doubt surrounds Swiss centre-back Philippe Senderos, who is fighting for fitness after suffering a knee injury. If he fails to recover Sol Campbell will continue alongside Kolo Touré. Ashley Cole's return to fitness has left him likely to start at left-back in his first UEFA Champions League appearance since September 2005, although Wenger could opt to play Gaël Clichy or Mathieu Flamini. Five players who will not feature are Lauren (knee), Abou Diaby (ankle), Pascal Cygan (hamstring), Emmanuel Adebayor (cup-tied) and Theo Walcott, who was selected in England's FIFA World Cup squad despite never having played for Arsenal.

Wenger said finishing fourth would help his players to relax ahead of Wednesday's game, but admitted that Arsenal go into the game as underdogs. "It takes a little bit of pressure off, yes, but in any case I know that this team has character. We will not be favourites on 17 May, but I'm confident we'll try and bring the cup back," he said.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Domestic league details

FC Barcelona (Primera División)

Date	Opponent	Res	Lineups
03.05.2006	v RC Celta de Vigo (A)	1-0	Valdés, Puyol, Belletti, Márquez, Van Bronckhorst (Sylvinho 65), Ronaldinho (Edmílson 56), Van Bommel (Xavi 60), Deco, Iniesta, Larsson, Eto'o
06.05.2006	v RCD Espanyol (H)	2-0	Jorquera, Belletti, Oleguer, Puyol, Sylvinho, Edmílson, Deco, Ronaldinho (Giuly 62), Xavi (Gabri 59), Larsson (Ezquerro 76), Eto'o
13.05.2006	v Sevilla FC (A)	2-3	Jorquera, Belletti, Oleguer (Iniesta 46), Rodri, Sylvinho (Sylvestre 63), Motta, Xavi, Gabri, Larsson (Montanes 70), Maxi López, Ezquerro

Date	Opponent	Res	Goalscorers
27.08.2005	v Deportivo Alavés (A)	0-0	
11.09.2005	v RCD Mallorca (H)	2-0	Eto'o (2)
18.09.2005	v Club Atlético de Madrid (A)	1-2	Eto'o
21.09.2005	v Valencia CF (H)	2-2	Giuly, Deco
24.09.2005	v Real Betis Balompié (A)	4-1	Ezquerro, Van Bommel, Eto'o (2)
01.10.2005	v Real Zaragoza (H)	2-2	Ronaldinho (pen), Eto'o
15.10.2005	v RC Deportivo La Coruña (A)	3-3	Ronaldinho (pen), Eto'o, Ronaldinho
22.10.2005	v CA Osasuna (H)	3-0	Eto'o (2), Giuly
26.10.2005	v Málaga CF (H)	2-0	Ronaldinho (pen), Larsson
30.10.2005	v Real Sociedad de Fútbol (H)	5-0	Ronaldinho (2), Puyol, Larsson, Van Bommel
06.11.2005	v Getafe CF (A)	3-1	Eto'o, Motta, Giuly
19.11.2005	v Real Madrid CF (A)	3-0	Eto'o, Ronaldinho (2)
27.11.2005	v Real Racing Club Santander (H)	4-1	Eto'o, Sylvinho, Messi, Ronaldinho (pen)
04.12.2005	v Villarreal CF (A)	2-0	Deco, Ronaldinho
11.12.2005	v Sevilla FC (H)	2-1	Eto'o, Ronaldinho
17.12.2005	v Cádiz CF (A)	3-1	Eto'o, Giuly, Eto'o (pen)
20.12.2005	v RC Celta de Vigo (H)	2-0	Eto'o (2)
07.01.2006	v RCD Espanyol (A)	2-1	Deco, Eto'o
15.01.2006	v Athletic Club Bilbao (H)	2-1	Ronaldinho (pen), Messi
22.01.2006	v Deportivo Alavés (H)	2-0	Larsson, Messi
29.01.2006	v RCD Mallorca (A)	3-0	Messi (2), Giuly
05.02.2006	v Club Atlético de Madrid (H)	1-3	Larsson
12.02.2006	v Valencia CF (A)	0-1	
18.02.2006	v Real Betis Balompié (H)	5-1	Own goal (2), Ronaldinho, Messi, Larsson
25.02.2006	v Real Zaragoza (A)	2-0	Larsson, Ronaldinho (pen)
04.03.2006	v RC Deportivo La Coruña (H)	3-2	Ronaldinho, Larsson, Eto'o
12.03.2006	v CA Osasuna (A)	1-2	Larsson
18.03.2006	v Real Sociedad de Fútbol (A)	2-0	Eto'o, Larsson
21.03.2006	v Getafe CF (H)	3-1	Eto'o (2), Own goal
25.03.2006	v Málaga CF (A)	0-0	
01.04.2006	v Real Madrid CF (H)	1-1	Ronaldinho (pen)
09.04.2006	v Real Racing Club Santander (A)	2-2	Eto'o, Larsson
14.04.2006	v Villarreal CF (H)	1-0	Eto'o
29.04.2006	v Cádiz CF (H)	1-0	Ronaldinho
03.05.2006	v RC Celta de Vigo (A)	1-0	Eto'o
06.05.2006	v RCD Espanyol (H)	2-0	Own goal, Ronaldinho
13.05.2006	v Sevilla FC (A)	2-3	Ezquerro, Sylvinho
20.05.2006	v Athletic Club Bilbao (A)		

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Rank	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	FC Barcelona	37	25	7	5	79	32	82
2	Real Madrid CF	37	20	10	7	67	36	70
3	Valencia CF	37	19	12	6	57	31	69
4	CA Osasuna	37	20	5	12	47	42	65
5	Sevilla FC	37	19	8	10	50	36	65
6	RC Celta de Vigo	38	20	4	14	45	33	64
7	Villarreal CF	38	14	15	9	50	39	57
8	RC Deportivo La Coruña	38	15	10	13	47	45	55
9	Getafe CF	38	15	9	14	54	49	54
10	Club Atlético de Madrid	38	13	13	12	45	37	52
11	Real Zaragoza	38	10	16	12	46	51	46
12	RCD Mallorca	38	10	13	15	37	51	43
13	Athletic Club Bilbao	37	10	12	15	37	45	42
14	Real Betis Balompié	38	10	12	16	34	51	42
15	RCD Espanyol	38	10	11	17	36	56	41
16	Real Sociedad de Fútbol	38	11	7	20	48	65	40
17	Real Racing Club Santander	38	9	13	16	36	49	40
18	Deportivo Alavés	38	9	12	17	35	54	39
19	Cádiz CF	38	8	12	18	36	52	36
20	Málaga CF	38	5	9	24	36	68	24

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Domestic league details

Arsenal FC (Premiership)

Date	Opponent	Res	Lineups
01.05.2006	v Sunderland AFC (A)	3-0	Lehmann, Eboué, Touré, Campbell, Clichy, Fabregas, Diaby, Song, Pirès (Ashley Cole 65), Henry (Bergkamp 72), Adebayor (Van Persie 65)
04.05.2006	v Manchester City FC (A)	3-1	Lehmann, Eboué, Touré, Campbell, Ashley Cole, Hleb (Pirès 72), Gilberto, Song (Fabregas 58), Ljungberg, Henry, Van Persie (Reyes 72)
07.05.2006	v Wigan Athletic FC (H)	4-2	Lehmann, Eboué, Touré, Campbell, Ashley Cole, Hleb (Van Persie 79), Fabregas, Gilberto, Pirès (Ljungberg 74), Reyes (Bergkamp 79), Henry

Date	Opponent	Res	Goalscorers
14.08.2005	v Newcastle United FC (H)	2-0	Henry (pen), Van Persie
21.08.2005	v Chelsea FC (A)	0-1	
24.08.2005	v Fulham FC (H)	4-1	Henry (2), Cygan (2)
10.09.2005	v Middlesbrough FC (A)	1-2	Reyes
19.09.2005	v Everton FC (H)	2-0	Campbell (2)
24.09.2005	v West Ham United FC (A)	0-0	
02.10.2005	v Birmingham City FC (H)	1-0	Own goal
15.10.2005	v West Bromwich Albion FC (A)	1-2	Senderos
22.10.2005	v Manchester City FC (H)	1-0	Pirès (pen)
29.10.2005	v Tottenham Hotspur FC (A)	1-1	Pirès
05.11.2005	v Sunderland AFC (H)	3-1	Henry (2), Van Persie
19.11.2005	v Wigan Athletic FC (A)	3-2	Henry (2), Van Persie
26.11.2005	v Blackburn Rovers FC (H)	3-0	Fabregas, Van Persie, Henry
03.12.2005	v Bolton Wanderers FC (A)	0-2	
10.12.2005	v Newcastle United FC (A)	0-1	
18.12.2005	v Chelsea FC (H)	0-2	
26.12.2005	v Charlton Athletic FC (A)	1-0	Reyes
28.12.2005	v Portsmouth FC (H)	4-0	Bergkamp, Henry (pen), Reyes, Henry
31.12.2005	v Aston Villa FC (A)	0-0	
03.01.2006	v Manchester United FC (H)	0-0	
14.01.2006	v Middlesbrough FC (H)	7-0	Henry (3), Hleb, Senderos, Pirès, Gilberto
21.01.2006	v Everton FC (A)	0-1	
01.02.2006	v West Ham United FC (H)	2-3	Pirès, Henry
04.02.2006	v Birmingham City FC (A)	2-0	Adebayor, Henry
11.02.2006	v Bolton Wanderers FC (H)	1-1	Gilberto
14.02.2006	v Liverpool FC (A)	0-1	
25.02.2006	v Blackburn Rovers FC (A)	0-1	
04.03.2006	v Fulham FC (A)	4-0	Adebayor, Henry (2), Fabregas
12.03.2006	v Liverpool FC (H)	2-1	Henry (2)
18.03.2006	v Charlton Athletic FC (H)	3-0	Hleb, Adebayor, Pirès
01.04.2006	v Aston Villa FC (H)	5-0	Henry (2), Diaby, Adebayor, Van Persie
09.04.2006	v Manchester United FC (A)	0-2	
12.04.2006	v Portsmouth FC (A)	1-1	Henry
15.04.2006	v West Bromwich Albion FC (H)	3-1	Bergkamp, Hleb, Pirès
22.04.2006	v Tottenham Hotspur FC (H)	1-1	Henry
01.05.2006	v Sunderland AFC (A)	3-0	Henry, Own goal, Fabregas
04.05.2006	v Manchester City FC (A)	3-1	Ljungberg, Reyes (2)
07.05.2006	v Wigan Athletic FC (H)	4-2	Henry (2), Pirès, Henry (pen)

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Rank	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Chelsea FC	38	29	4	5	72	22	91
2	Manchester United FC	38	25	8	5	72	34	83
3	Liverpool FC	38	25	7	6	57	25	82
4	Arsenal FC	38	20	7	11	68	31	67
5	Tottenham Hotspur FC	38	18	11	9	53	38	65
6	Blackburn Rovers FC	38	19	6	13	51	42	63
7	Newcastle United FC	38	17	7	14	47	42	58
8	Bolton Wanderers FC	38	15	11	12	49	41	56
9	West Ham United FC	38	16	7	15	52	55	55
10	Wigan Athletic FC	38	15	6	17	45	52	51
11	Everton FC	38	14	8	16	34	49	50
12	Fulham FC	38	14	6	18	48	58	48
13	Charlton Athletic FC	38	13	8	17	41	55	47
14	Middlesbrough FC	38	12	9	17	48	58	45
15	Manchester City FC	38	13	4	21	43	48	43
16	Aston Villa FC	38	10	12	16	42	55	42
17	Portsmouth FC	38	10	8	20	37	62	38
18	Birmingham City FC	38	8	10	20	28	50	34
19	West Bromwich Albion FC	38	7	9	22	31	58	30
20	Sunderland AFC	38	3	6	29	26	69	15

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

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General competition information

UEFA's most prestigious club competition was originally created as the European Champion Clubs' Cup for the 1955/56 season, before its revamping as the UEFA Champions League in 1992.

• **Financial information:** UEFA has estimated that the gross budgeted income for the 2005/06 UEFA Champions League will be €598m - higher than the revenue obtained last season. Based on those amounts, €453m would go to the 32 clubs, including €22.5m for the professional leagues of the participating associations, and €145m to UEFA for European football. Clubs in the group stage will receive a starting fee of €1.6m and a bonus of €321,000 per match. Performance bonuses will involve €321,000 for a win and €161,000 for a draw in the group stage. The 16 teams playing in the first knockout round will receive €1.6m each, the eight quarter-finalists €1.9m each and the four semi-finalists €2.6m. The Champions League winners will receive €6.4m, and the runners-up €3.9m. This means that a total minimum amount of €3.5m per club is guaranteed for the group stage. A club could receive, at best, up to €18m, not counting the TV market pool share and gate receipts.

• **Deadlines:** UEFA Champions League press kits are provided to media by uefa.com. For every UEFA Champions League match, two press kits are issued in English: Sunday at 22:00CET with a match preview update on Monday at 22:00CET for Tuesday's matches. For Wednesday's matches, the press kit is issued on Monday at 22:00CET with the match preview update version published on Tuesday at 22:00CET. Multilingual versions of press kits, determined on a match-by-match basis, are also issued with similar deadlines.

• **Disclaimer:** Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this press kit is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein.

UEFA information

With another UEFA club competition campaign drawing to an end, eyes will soon be turning towards next season. Friday 23 June will see the draw for the first and second qualifying rounds of the 2006/07 UEFA Champions League at UEFA headquarters in Nyon. The third qualifying round draw will follow on Friday 28 July. The stage then moves to Monaco on Thursday 24 August with the draw for the group stage at the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco.

The key match dates for the 2006/07 UEFA Champions League begin with the first qualifying round on 11/12 and 18/19 July. The second qualifying round follows on 25/26 July and 1/2 August and the third qualifying round takes place on 8/9 and 22/23 August. The group stage schedule is as follows: MD1 - 12/13 September; MD2 - 26/27 September; MD3 - 17/18 October; MD4 - 31 October/1 November; MD5 - 21/22 November; MD6 - 5/6 December.

Turning back to the climax to this season's club campaign and UEFA has been running an innovative public football event in Paris called the UEFA Champions Festival since Saturday. Opened by final ambassador Laurent Blanc, the festival, taking place just opposite the Eiffel Tower in Paris, is open to fans of all ages. UEFA President Lennart Johansson said: "Our aim was to throw the doors wide open and invite everybody to join in."

Although men's club matters conclude in Paris, the UEFA Women's Cup takes place over two legs on 20 and 27 May. German sides 1. FFC Frankfurt and 1. FFC Turbine Potsdam will battle it out to be crowned European champions. With regard to national teams, this summer also sees the UEFA European Under-21 Championship in Portugal (23 May-4 June), the UEFA European Women's Under-19 Championship in Switzerland (11-22 July) and the UEFA European Under-19 Championship in Poland (18-29 July).

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

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Match officials

Referee	Terje Hauge (NOR)
Assistant referees	Ole Hermann Borgan (NOR), Steinar Holvik (NOR)
Fourth official	Tom Henning Øvrebø (NOR)
UEFA Delegate	Henk Kesler (HOL)
UEFA Referee observer	Volker Roth (GER)

Referee

Name	Nat.	DoB	UCL	UEFA
Terje Hauge	NOR	05.10.1965	32	54

Terje Hauge will become the first Norwegian to referee a UEFA Champions League final on Wednesday following his appointment for the Paris showpiece between FC Barcelona and Arsenal FC. The 40-year-old will be assisted by countrymen Steinar Holvik and Ole Hermann Borgan, with Tom Henning Øvrebø acting as fourth official.

Born in Bergen on 5 October 1965, Hauge began his refereeing career as a teenager in 1982, was taking charge of Norwegian top-flight matches by 1990, and joined the FIFA international list in 1993. A health official by profession, he has also been working as a referee consultant in his local football association in Bergen, giving advice and helping the development of match officials of all standards.

His rise began with the UEFA European Under-18 Championship in Spain in 1994, and was followed in 1997 by the UEFA-CAF Meridian Cup in Portugal and the FIFA World Youth Championship. A fourth official at UEFA EURO 2000™, he was on board for the finals in Portugal four years later having also travelled to the Far East for the 2002 FIFA World Cup. A regular in UEFA club competition since 2001, he also had the honour of taking charge of the 2004 UEFA Super Cup between FC Porto and Valencia CF.

Hauge got this campaign going by overseeing two FIFA World Cup qualifiers and Udinese Calcio's 3-2 defeat of Sporting Clube de Portugal in UEFA Champions League qualifying. He also took charge of three group-stage matches before being appointed for FC Barcelona's 2-1 win at Chelsea FC in the first knockout round and then AC Milan's 3-1 home success against Olympique Lyonnais in the quarter-finals.

At home, Hauge has been regarded as one of his nation's shining lights since the Norwegian FA Cup final between FK Bodø/Glimt and Tromsø IL in October 1996. Seven years later, he assumed control of his second domestic cup final between Bodø/Glimt and Rosenborg BK before being asked to be the man in the middle for the Ukrainian Cup final in May 2005. He was also awarded the FIFA World Youth Championship final in the Netherlands last year, when Argentina overcame Nigeria 2-1.

His first encounter with an English club did not come until September 2000, when he refereed Manchester United FC's 5-1 UEFA Champions League victory over RSC Anderlecht at Old Trafford. However, his direct contact with Arsenal FC is limited to a 2-0 defeat by RC Deportivo La Coruña in Spain on 21 November 2001. Hauge's meetings with Barcelona have been more frequent - the final will be his seventh, with Barça winning four and losing one of the previous six.

UEFA Champions League matches involving teams from the two countries involved in this match

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
27.08.1997	UCL	QR2	Skonto FC-FC Barcelona	0-1	Liepaja
13.09.2000	UCL	GS1	Manchester United FC-RSC Anderlecht	5-1	Manchester
24.10.2000	UCL	GS1	Leeds United AFC-FC Barcelona	1-1	Leeds
21.08.2001	UCL	QR3	Liverpool FC-FC Haka	4-1	Liverpool
26.09.2001	UCL	GS1	Real Madrid CF-RSC Anderlecht	4-1	Madrid
21.11.2001	UCL	GS2	RC Deportivo La Coruña-Arsenal FC	2-0	La Coruna

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

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Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
03.04.2002	UCL	QF	Panathinaikos FC-FC Barcelona	1-0	Athens
30.10.2002	UCL	GS1	Liverpool FC-Valencia CF	0-1	Liverpool
11.12.2002	UCL	GS2	Manchester United FC-RC Deportivo La Coruña	2-0	Manchester
18.02.2003	UCL	GS2	Bayer 04 Leverkusen-Newcastle United FC	1-3	Leverkusen
06.05.2003	UCL	SF	Real Madrid CF-Juventus	2-1	Madrid
22.10.2003	UCL	GS1	Chelsea FC-S.S. Lazio	2-1	London
05.11.2003	UCL	GS1	AS Monaco FC-RC Deportivo La Coruña	8-3	Monaco
10.12.2003	UCL	GS1	Real Sociedad de Fútbol-Galatasaray SK	1-1	San Sebastian
24.02.2004	UCL	1/8	FC Bayern München-Real Madrid CF	1-1	Munich
15.09.2004	UCL	GS	Liverpool FC-AS Monaco FC	2-0	Liverpool
29.09.2004	UCL	GS	FC Barcelona-FC Shakhtar Donetsk	3-0	Barcelona
23.11.2004	UCL	GS	Olympiacos CFP-RC Deportivo La Coruña	1-0	Athens
14.09.2005	UCL	GS	Werder Bremen-FC Barcelona	0-2	Bremen
19.10.2005	UCL	GS	Chelsea FC-Real Betis Balompié	4-0	London
22.02.2006	UCL	1/8	Chelsea FC-FC Barcelona	1-2	London

UEFA Champions League Other matches

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
22.10.1997	UCL	GS	AS Monaco FC-K. Lierse SK	5-1	Monaco
12.08.1998	UCL	QR2	FC Bayern München-FK Obilic	4-0	Munich
28.07.1999	UCL	QR2	ÍBV Vestmannaeyjar-MTK Hungária FC	0-2	Vestmannaeyjar
15.09.1999	UCL	GS1	AC Sparta Praha-FC Girondins de Bordeaux	0-0	Prague
19.10.1999	UCL	GS1	NK Maribor-S.S. Lazio	0-4	Maribor
08.08.2000	UCL	QR3	SK Sturm Graz-Feyenoord	2-1	Graz
23.10.2001	UCL	GS1	Fenerbahçe SK-Bayer 04 Leverkusen	1-2	Istanbul
30.10.2001	UCL	GS1	FC Nantes Atlantique-S.S. Lazio	1-0	Nantes
26.02.2002	UCL	GS2	FC Bayern München-Boavista FC	1-0	Munich
28.08.2002	UCL	QR3	Club Brugge KV-FC Shakhtar Donetsk	1-1*(4-1)	Bruges
25.09.2002	UCL	GS1	BV Borussia Dortmund-AJ Auxerre	2-1	Dortmund
08.04.2003	UCL	QF	AFC Ajax-AC Milan	0-0	Amsterdam
13.08.2003	UCL	QR3	FK Vardar-AC Sparta Praha	2-3	Skopje
23.03.2004	UCL	QF	FC Porto-Olympique Lyonnais	2-0	Porto
15.03.2005	UCL	1/8	FC Internazionale Milano-FC Porto	3-1	Milan
04.05.2005	UCL	SF	PSV Eindhoven-AC Milan	3-1	Eindhoven
23.08.2005	UCL	QR3	Udinese Calcio-Sporting Clube de Portugal	3-2	Udine
23.11.2005	UCL	GS	Fenerbahçe SK-AC Milan	0-4	Istanbul
04.04.2006	UCL	QF	AC Milan-Olympique Lyonnais	3-1	Milan

Other matches

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
05.10.1993	U18	PR	Iceland-Estonia	7-0	
13.03.1994	WCHAMP	QR	England-Belgium	6-0	
24.07.1994	U18	GS - FT	Spain-Russia	4-2	Almendralejo
28.07.1994	U18	GS - FT	Portugal-Netherlands	1-0	Merida
23.08.1994	UCUP	PR	Aberdeen FC-Skonto FC	1-1	Aberdeen
12.10.1994	EURO	PR	Scotland-Faroe Islands	5-1	Glasgow
15.08.1995	U21	QR	Iceland-Switzerland	2-4	Hafnarfjordur
27.09.1995	UCUP	R1	FC Avenir Beggen-RC Lens	0-7	Beggen
31.10.1995	U18	PR	Wales-Republic of Ireland	0-3	
23.06.1996	UIC	GS	FF Jaro-EA Guingamp	0-0	
22.08.1996	UCWC	QR	Mylykosken Palo-47-FK Karabakh	1-1	Anjalankoski
31.08.1996	WC	QR	Faroe Islands-Slovakia	1-2	Toftir
16.10.1996	UCUP	R2	Hamburger SV-FC Spartak Moskva	3-0	

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Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
02.02.1997	MCUP	R1	Rep of Guinea-France	4-3	Lourinha
07.02.1997	MCUP	SF	Portugal-Nigeria	0-2	
07.06.1997	WC	QR	Portugal-Albania	2-0	Porto
15.11.1997	FRIE.	R1	England-Cameroon	2-0	London
25.11.1997	UCUP	R3	FC Twente-AJ Auxerre	0-1	Enschede
02.06.1998	FRIE.	R1	Sweden-Italy	1-0	Gothenburg
05.08.1998	UIC	SF	Samsunspor-Werder Bremen	0-3	Samsun
05.09.1998	EURO	PR	Wales-Italy	0-2	Liverpool
15.09.1998	UCUP	R1	FC Schalke 04-SK Slavia Praha	1-0	Gelsenkirchen
03.11.1998	UCUP	R2	Real Sociedad de Fútbol-FC Dinamo Moskva	3-0	San Sebastian
08.12.1998	UCUP	R3	Parma FC-Rangers FC	3-1	Parma
27.03.1999	EURO	PR	Armenia-Russia	0-3	Yerevan
13.11.1999	U21	P-O	Portugal-Croatia	2-0	Faro
25.11.1999	UCUP	R3	RC Deportivo La Coruña-Panathinaikos FC	4-2	La Coruna
07.03.2000	UCUP	R4	Udinese Calcio-SK Slavia Praha	2-1	Udine
27.05.2000	FRIE.	R1	Netherlands-Romania	2-1	Amsterdam
11.10.2000	WC	QR	Republic of Ireland-Estonia	2-0	Dublin
23.11.2000	UCUP	R3	Bayer 04 Leverkusen-AEK Athens FC	4-4	Leverkusen
01.09.2001	WC	QR	Andorra-Portugal	1-7	Lleida
06.10.2001	WC	QR	Scotland-Latvia	2-1	Glasgow
06.06.2002	WC	GS - FT	Cameroon-Saudi Arabia	1-0	Saitama
07.09.2002	EURO	QR	Belgium-Bulgaria	0-2	Brussels
13.03.2003	UCUP	QF	Celtic FC-Liverpool FC	1-1	Glasgow
07.06.2003	EURO	QR	Slovakia-Turkey	0-1	Bratislava
10.09.2003	EURO	QR	Spain-Ukraine	2-1	Elche
15.11.2003	EURO	P-O	Scotland-Netherlands	1-0	Glasgow
06.05.2004	UCUP	SF	Valencia CF-Villarreal CF	1-0	Valencia
16.06.2004	EURO	GS - FT	Russia-Portugal	0-2	Lisbon
23.06.2004	EURO	GS - FT	Germany-Czech Republic	1-2	Lisbon
27.08.2004	SCUP	F	FC Porto-Valencia CF	1-2	Monaco
09.10.2004	WC	QR	England-Wales	2-0	Manchester
30.03.2005	WC	QR	Georgia-Turkey	2-5	Tbilisi
17.08.2005	FRIE.	R1	Netherlands-Germany	2-2	Rotterdam
03.09.2005	WC	QR	Romania-Czech Republic	2-0	Constanta
08.10.2005	WC	QR	Switzerland-France	1-1	Berne

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

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Legend

:: All-time statistics

The all-time record of the competing clubs in UEFA club competition.

UEFA club competitions: These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in UEFA club competitions defined as the European Champion Clubs' Cup, the UEFA Champions League, the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, the UEFA Cup, the UEFA Super Cup (from the 1973 competition), the UEFA Intertoto Cup and the European/South American Cup. The Inter-Cities Fairs Cup is not regarded as a UEFA competition but statistics are separately included for information purposes.

Goals for/against: Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out after a tie ended in a draw.

:: Squad list

The eligible list of players ordered first by playing position and then numeric order.

Current season - UCLQ: Total UEFA Champions League appearances in qualifying rounds only.

Current season - UCL: Total UEFA Champions League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday.

All-time - UCL: Total appearances in the UEFA Champions League from the 1992/93 season, group stage to final only. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

All-time - UEFA: Total appearances in UEFA club competitions (as defined above) including all qualifying round matches. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

:: Bookings list

The current disciplinary situation in the competition.

*: Misses next match if booked

#: Suspended for at least one match

+: Provisionally suspended

R: Sent off (red card)

S: Suspended

Y: Booked (yellow card)

Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)

R*: Sent off (red card) in the UEFA Cup

S*: Suspended following cautions received in the UEFA Cup

Y*: Booked (yellow card) in the UEFA Cup

Y/R*: Sent off (yellow card then direct red) in the UEFA Cup

Note: The bookings list is destined for the press. It is given to the competing clubs for information purposes only and therefore has no legal value. In the event of any discrepancy, only the correspondence addressed directly to the clubs will be considered as the authoritative version.

:: Match officials

The match officials appointed to officiate the fixture.

UCL: Total matches officiated in the UEFA Champions League from 1992/93 season, group stage to final only. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

UEFA: Total matches officiated in UEFA club competitions including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

:: Competitions

ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

UCUP: UEFA Cup

UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup

SCUP: UEFA Super Cup

UIC: UEFA Intertoto Cup

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship

U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

WC: FIFA World Cup

CONFCUP: FIFA Confederations Cup

FRIE: A International friendly matches

U21 FRIE: Under-21 international friendly matches

:: Competition stages

F: Final

GS: Group stage

GS1: First group stage

GS2: Second group stage

KO1: First knockout round

PR: Preliminary round

QF: Quarter-finals

QR: Qualifying round

QR1: First qualifying round

QR2: Second qualifying round

QR3: Third qualifying round

R1: First round

R2: Second round

R3: Third round

R4: Fourth round

SF: Semi-finals

1/8: Eighth-finals

1/16: Sixteenth-finals

1st: First leg

2nd: Second leg

FC Barcelona v Arsenal FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

:: Other abbreviations

AP: Appearances

Comp: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

L: Lost

Nat: Nationality

No: Number

Pld: Matches played

Pos: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (red card)

Res: Result

W: Won

Y: Booked (yellow card)

Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)

:: Statistics

(-): Denotes player substituted

(+): Denotes player introduced

(*): Denotes player dismissed/sent off

(+/-): Denotes player introduced and substituted