

International Sports

By Degs Beldham

Gerrard Receives Top Honour

Steven Gerrard, the talismanic captain of Liverpool and their inspiration in their comeback victory over AC Milan in the 2005 European Cup Final, has been named Professional Footballers Association (PFA) Player of the Year. He was voted winner by his fellow professional players. Gerrard's reaction to winning the award: "I am still in shock to be honest. To go through to another FA Cup final and win this special award is fantastic for me." Manchester United's Wayne Rooney, still only 20, won the Young Player of the Year for the second year running.

Borg to keep Wimbledon trophies

Tennis legend Bjorn Borg says old rival John McEnroe convinced him not to auction off the five Wimbledon trophies he won between 1976 and 1980.

Borg wanted to sell these and two of his famous wooden racquets to pay off debts but said that calls from other tennis stars made him think.

"Then when John McEnroe called me several times and wondered what I was doing, I guess I woke up, so I changed my mind," he told Swedish tabloid Expressen.

Wilkinson to Miss England Tour

Jonny Wilkinson was ruled out of this year's England rugby tour to Australia where they reached the pinnacle of World Rugby in 2003. This was when Wilkinson kicked England to victory over the hosts. His coach, Newcastle's Rob Andrew said "Jonny will not be touring this summer. There is absolutely no chance of that. It's a medical decision and there is no chance of him going." Wilkinson has hardly played for club or country since that glorious November day. His latest ailment is a groin injury.

Champions League (European Cup)

Arsenal 1 Villareal 0

A first half goal from Kolo Toure gave Arsenal a slender advantage in the first leg of the Champion League semi final

at Highbury. Four minutes from half time Thierry Henry's pass found Aleksander Hleb. He turned to cross in to Toure who found the net. Villarreal's response was quick and the Arsenal keeper Jens Lehman was forced to punch away a Juan Roman Riquelme free kick. Arsenal almost took the lead early on in the match when after just 11 minutes Henry slotted in a Robert Pires pass to score. The effort was in vain with the goal disallowed for a marginal offside decision. The second half saw Arsenal lucky not to concede a penalty when Gilberto Silva brought down Jose Mari. The frantic appeals from the Spanish side were waved away. Arsenal could have gone 2 up but Cesar Arzo managed to head a good Henry effort off the line. 10 minutes from time saw Denis Bergkamp make an appearance as substitute and he almost snatched a second but was just beaten to the ball by Javi venti as he tried to edge in Henry cross. Arsenal now have to travel to Spain for the second leg and hope to protect this narrow lead and score a crucial away goal.

AC Milan 0 - Barcelona 1

Barcelona on the other hand did score that vital away goal and look slight favourites to win their semi final against last year's losing finalists AC Milan. The game started off cautiously but after 55 minutes a perfect pass from FIFA player of the Year, Ronaldinho, found Ludovic Giuly. He stabbed it in and the boys from the Nou Camp had the lead. The Italians had almost scored twice themselves having exposed frailties in the Barca defence. Firstly Alberto Gilardino had met a long throw, shot in but hit the post. Then a fine Clarence Seedorf's cross found Andrey Shevchenko who forced Victor Valdes into a low save. Barcelona improved as the game went on and could have scored more. AC Milan must be grateful that they are just a goal adrift with 90 minutes to salvage victory.

BASKETBALL

Washington beat Detroit 96-80 on the final day of the NBA regular season to set up a first-round play-off match-up against Cleveland.

Top seeds Pistons will meet the eighth seeds Milwaukee when post-season action begins on Saturday, 22 April.

Indianapolis beat Orlando 89-83 to become sixth seeds in the East and a series against third seeds New Jersey.

Chicago saw off Toronto 127-106 to earn seventh seeding in the East and a first-round meeting with Miami.

In the West, Kobe Bryant scored 35 points to claim his first NBA scoring crown as the Lakers beat New Orleans 115-95 to enter the play-offs riding a five-game victory streak.

The Lakers take on the Phoenix Suns in a first-round clash featuring two of the league's top MVP candidates, Bryant and Suns guard Steve Nash.

The LA Clippers will face the Northwest division champions Denver who will limp into the play-offs on a four-game losing streak after a 109-98

Obituary for Mr. Courtney Hutcherson Tatum Sr. Courtney Tatum was born to Frank and Louise Tatum, on the 7th July 1928 in Oakridge Roatan. He was their only child, but one among many that were raised as her own by Ms. Louise. His brothers and sisters include Arnold Valladares, Joanne Goff, Maria Murphy and Ida Tatum. Mr. Courtney was a man who spent his life on and around the sea. As a young man Mr. Courtney joined the Merchant Marines and became a bosun. He also worked on ships for Lykes Brothers and NMU. He married Ms. Jane Howell and together they had four children, Ilsa, Janice, Courtney Jr. and Rhea. They lived in the United States for many years until Ms. Jane's failing health brought them back to their roots and to the Cays. Uncle Courtney loved the Cays because it reminded him of Oakridge. They attended the Methodist Church together both in the U.S. and on the Cays. Ms. Jane passed away in 1996 and in 2001 Mr. Courtney married Miss Lorna Howell. On 17th April 'Tio' was struggling for breath and made his last dory ride up to Utila where he left this life for the safe harbour of heaven.

Mr. Courtney will be remembered as a professional sailor and a great fisherman, a kind hearted and loving husband and father, and a man whose friends knew they were special to him. He was the first man to take Jeremy out fishing, and to help him enjoy catching fish and earning money to buy fire-crackers. Tio used to tease the children giving them nicknames like 'swamp-rat' and 'may-tag' and Shirley Temple. He enjoyed sharing fishing stories and fixing pumps and making his famous fishing lures and feather baits. Mr. Courtney was always a good neighbour and would help anyone he could. The family would like to give their heartfelt thanks to all who have helped them in this difficult time. Especially thanks to Dr. John, Charmaine Del Olmo, Mr Jansen Howell and Mark Smith.

Mr. Courtney will be sadly missed by his wife, children, grandchildren, many family members and friends. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Thank you to The Rev. Janet Corlett, the pall bearers from the Cays and Utila and everyone involved in taking care of our Papi.
THANK YOU

defeat by Seattle.

SuperSonics star Ray Allen broke the NBA's single-season record for three-pointers.

He made seven-of-13 from the arc to finish the 2005-06 campaign with 269 3-pointers, breaking the mark set by Dennis Scott in 1995-1996.

Allen's career total is now 1,755, second on the all-time list behind Reggie Miller.

Dallas will open against Memphis who closed out the regular season with a 102-92 double overtime victory over Minnesota.

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