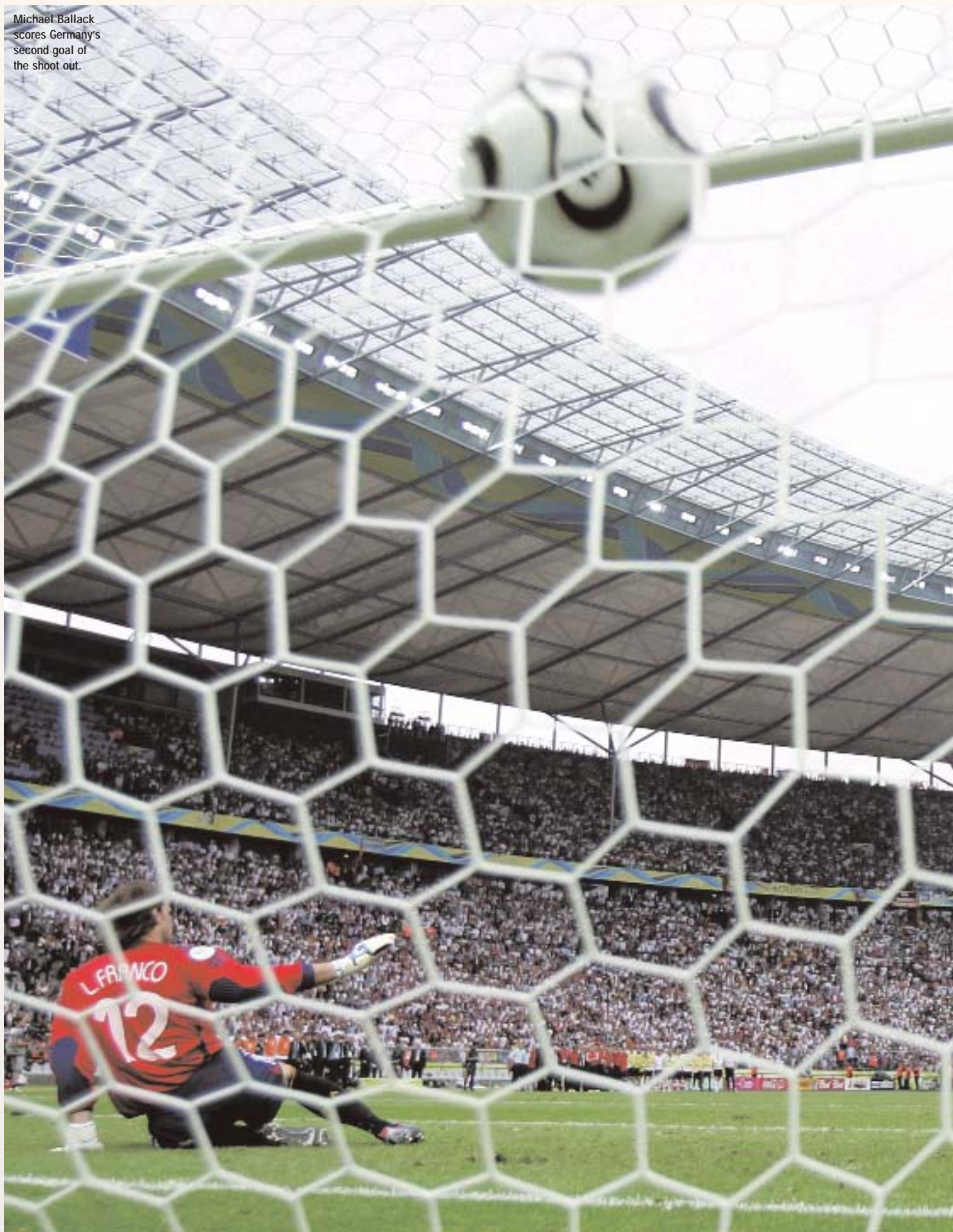


Michael Ballack scores Germany's second goal of the shoot out.





FRIDAY 30 JUNE

Germany v Argentina

GERMANY PLAYED ARGENTINA in the World Cup for the first time since the final of Italia '90. That game is remembered as the most boring final in the competition's history; it was only lifted by the drama of a late winner for the Germans. A much more adventurous and exciting German team came through this match too, though it took a late equalizer to keep the hosts in it. Until then, Argentina had looked worth the lead Ayala had given them just after half time.

VENUE Olympiastadion, Berlin
ATTENDANCE 72,000
REFEREE Lubos Michel (Slovakia)

Germany were unchanged for the match. Thus far, Borowski had stood in for Ballack in the opening match, and Huth had played for Metzelder against Ecuador. Apart from that, Klinsmann had fielded the same started eleven throughout the tournament. Pekerman, on the

other hand, brought in Lucho Gonzalez for Cambiasso, and Tevez for Saviola.

Tevez was their most dangerous player in the first half, combining well with Sorin on the left. Germany sat back and allowed Argentina all the possession they wanted in their own half. Argentina did push men forward to support their attacks, but not in great numbers. The result was that Riquelme was too often facing his own goal and unable to cause as much trouble as he

OLYMPIASTADION, BERLIN



KICK OFF 5PM CET

Per Mertesacker lies injured at the final whistle.



► had in other games. Ballack had much the same problem. Though he dropped deeper, there were still few players ever ahead of him for his to pass to. Needless to say, the first goal came from asset piece, Ayala losing his marker, Klose, and

them looking vulnerable when they lost the ball. Argentina's defence doesn't look as confident as Germany's.

Abbondanzieri is injured seeking a cross with 20 minutes left. Ballack suggests that he is playing for time but within a

Germany had to come forward and that encouraged Argentina to counter attack.

scoring scores directly from a Riquelme corner on the right.

The game opened up immediately. Germany had to come forward and that encouraged Argentina to counter attack, which left

minute the goalkeeper is replaced by Franco. Then Pekerman brings on Cambiasso for Riquelme. Lucho goes into Riquelme's role, Cambiasso sits back with Mascherano. Now Argentina do start playing for time. And that's when Germany score – Ballack's ball in is flicked on by Borowski and Klose gets his fifth of the finals.

Extra time is played with both teams having used up all their subs, and neither side prepared to risk losing a killer goal. Ballack is restricted in his movement having suffered an injury; Argentina have neither Riquelme nor Messi on the pitch. It was no surprise when it went to penalties and it was no surprise when Germany won.

Sporting LEGENDS

MAN OF THE MATCH



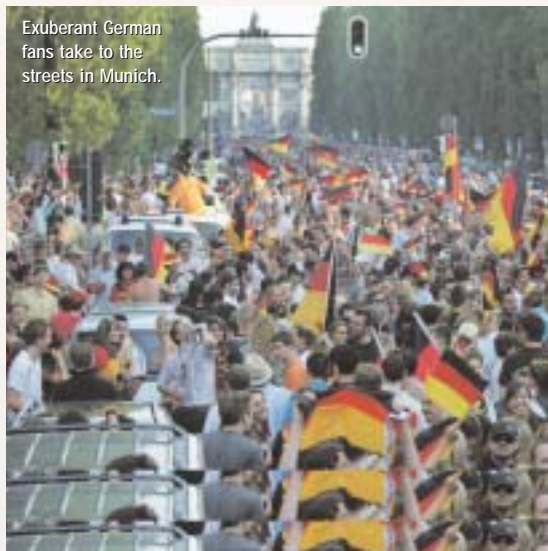
ROBERTO AYALA
Germany v Argentina

Argentina's former captain scored on his 105th appearance for Argentina, won his personal battle with Michael Ballack and was a rock in the centre of defence.

Jens Lehmann makes the final save in the shoot out.



Exuberant German fans take to the streets in Munich.



WORLD CUP TRIVIA

Both Germany and Argentina had already been in three World Cup penalty shoot outs and both teams had always won.

BUST-UP!

Roberto Ayala pulls Michael Ballack back in the area. It's nothing more than the normal stuff you see in those situations. But then Ballack gets a shot, and Ayala clears it off the line. Then Ayala and Ballack argue at a German free kick. When the ball comes in, Ayala pulls Ballack, who goes

down clutching his face. It all went off between the two teams after the final whistle, with coaches and officials getting involved too. The upshot was that **Torsten Frings** was eventually banned from the semi final for his part in the fracas, but only after the press pointed out his misdemeanours to FIFA.



Substitutes
Esteban
Cambiasso and
David Odonkor.

THE RESULT

GERMANY | ARGENTINA

1 | **1**

Klose 80' | Ayala 48'

CAUTIONS

Podolski 3', Sorin 46', Mascherano 59',
Rodriguez 87', Odonkor 94', Cruz 95'

SUBSTITUTIONS

Odonkor for Schneider 62'
Franco for Abbondanzieri 70'
Cambiasso for Riquelme 71'
Borowski for Schweinsteiger 74'
Cruz for Crespo 78'
Neuville for Klose 84'

PENALTIES!

Neuville ✓	Cruz ✓
Ballack ✓	Ayala x
Podolski ✓	Rodriguez ✓
Borowski ✓	Cambiasso x