

Schalke keep tabs on bullish Bremen

Contributed by Administrator
Wednesday, 18 June 2008
Last Updated Wednesday, 18 June 2008

Werden Bremen hit six and FC Schalke 04 won as both jostled for second position while four sides on 51 points will battle for UEFA Cup places on the final day of the Bundesliga season.

Goal rush

Bremen will go into their final match of the campaign at Bayer 04 Leverkusen two points clear of Schalke in the battle for automatic qualification to the UEFA Champions League group stage thanks to a 6-1 rout of Hannover 96.

Hugo Almeida and Naldo put Thomas Schaaf's side two-up at the interval and four goals in 14 second-half minutes from Tim Borowski, Ivan Klasni , Markus Rosenberg and Aaron Hunt completed a stunning success.

Single strike

Schalke kept up the pressure with a Mladen Krstaji goal enough for them to overcome Eintracht Frankfurt and they must now win at 1. FC Nürnberg to have any chance of avoiding one qualifying round in Europe's elite club competition. With BV Borussia Dortmund assured of a UEFA Cup place after reaching the German Cup final, four sides will now compete for two spots alongside them.

Spot-on Leverkusen

Fourth-placed Leverkusen are in pole position as penalties from Simon Rolfes and Gonzalo Castro gave them a 2-1 win at FC Hansa Rostock, who were relegated as a result. Hamburger SV dropped to fifth after a 2-0 reverse at FC Energie Cottbus, while VfL Wolfsburg and VfB Stuttgart complete the list of sides on 51 points after the former defeated last year's champions 4-0.

Duisburg down

MSV Duisburg were also relegated as they lost 3-2 at home to champions FC Bayern München, who were three goals up inside 19 minutes, while Nürnberg look favourites to join them after a 1-0 defeat by Hertha BSC Berlin. DSC Arminia Bielefeld are two points clear of the relegation zone thanks to a 2-2 draw against Dortmund while VfL Bochum 1848 won 3-1 at Karlsruher SC. (uefa.com)