

The Bundesliga run-in

(May 8th 2009)

Pre-Listening / Background information

On languagecaster's main report this week, Hans takes a look at the run-in in the Bundesliga

- Felix Magath, Jurgen Klinsmann and Markus Babbel are all managers of Bundesliga teams

A. Main Idea

Here is the current table with all 18 teams in the Bundesliga. How many does Hans mention in the report?

1	Wolfsburg	11	Cologne
2	Bayern Munich	12	Hannover 96
3	VfB Stuttgart	13	Eintracht Frankfurt
4	Hertha Berlin	14	VfL Bochum
5	Hamburg	15	Arminia Bielefeld
6	Borussia Dortmund	16	Cottbus
7	Schalke 04	17	Borussia M'gladbach
8	Bayer Leverkusen	18	Karlsruhe
9	TSG Hoffenheim		
10	Werder Bremen		

B. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the whole report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase. Then explain the meanings.

1. Yes, another very interesting season in the Bundesliga is coming to a _____.
And at the top of the table, no less than five teams are still...
2. ... three points clear of second which happens to be the _____ Bayern Munich...
3. Apart from Bayern fans, I would _____ nobody in Germany wants them to win...
4. ... five, five teams are still in line for the _____.
5. ... down there: Karlsruhe and Borussia Moenchengladbach occupying the bottom two _____ but just above...
6. ... mentioned, managers are moving at a _____ time in the season. Magath's move to Schalke has taken

C. Comprehension

Listen to the report again and answer the questions below.

1. Which team does Hans think will win the Bundesliga this year?
2. How about his son Nicholas?
3. Which team does Hans think will go down with Karlsruhe and Borussia Mönchengladbach?
4. How about Nicholas?
5. Explain the new system of promotion and relegation this year in the Bundesliga.
6. Why was Felix Magath's move to manage Schalke a shock?
7. Who or what is Freiburg and what is the connection with the report?

Podcast 39: 2008-9 Worksheet

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ANSWERS

A. Main Idea

Here is the current table with all 18 teams in the Bundesliga. How many does Hans mention in the report?

1	Wolfsburg	11	Cologne
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B. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the whole report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase.

1. Yes, another very interesting season in the Bundesliga is coming to a **close**. And at the top of the table, no less than five teams are still...

ending, finishing

2. ... three points clear of second which happens to be the **mighty** Bayern Munich...

extremely strong

3. Apart from Bayern fans, I would **imagine** nobody in Germany wants them to win...

think, suppose, presume

4. ... five, five teams are still in line for the **drop**.

Relegation, to move down to the lower league

5. ... down there: Karlsruhe and Borussia Moenchengladbach occupying the bottom two **spots** but just above...

positions

6. ... mentioned, managers are moving at a **strange** time in the season. Magath's move to Schalke has taken

surprising, unusual

C. Comprehension

Listen to the report again and answer the questions below.

1. Which team does Hans think will win the Bundesliga this year?

Wolfsburg (he hopes)

2. How about his son Nicholas?

Berlin

3. Which team does Hans think will go down with Karlsruhe and Borussia Mönchengladbach?

Does not mention it

4. How about Nicholas?

Cottbus

5. Explain the new system of promotion and relegation this year in the Bundesliga.

The bottom two drop automatically but third last goes into a play-off with the third best team from the 2nd Bundesliga

6. Why was Felix Magath's move to manage Schalke a shock?

It happened with only 4 matches to play and his team (Wolfsburg) are top

7. Who or what is Freiburg and what is the connection with the report?

Freiburg is a football team that is top of the 2nd Division and is Hans and Nick's favourite team!

Transcript

Hans: Yes, another very interesting season in the Bundesliga is coming to a close. And at the top of the table, no less than five teams are still in the running for the title.

Right at the top is Wolfsburg. Most people haven't heard of Wolfsburg but they've been in the press this week, very strangely because their coach Felix Magath, former international player, has decided to quit the club. That's right. Quit the club four days before the end of the season whilst they're at the top - three points clear of second which happens to be the mighty Bayern Munich.

Apart from Bayern fans, I would imagine nobody in Germany wants them to win. So behind them are Berlin, Stuttgart and Hamburg and either of these three can still sneak up, they are currently playing very well with tough games to go for all teams. So, who is going to win the Bundesliga, Nicholas?

N: I think Berlin is going to win.

H: Berlin? What a good choice! Well, I hope Wolfsburg win but I would love Berlin to win as well.

Now we are going to look at the bottom of the table and there the same number five, five teams are still in line for the drop. Please remember in the Bundesliga a new system kicked in this year. The bottom two drop automatically but third last goes into a play-off with the third best team from the 2nd Bundesliga. As usual, it's the same old teams down there: Karlsruhe and Borussia Moenchengladbach occupying the bottom two spots but just above them, Bielefeld, Cottbus and Bochum are also in danger of the drop. So, Nicholas, who do you think will get relegated this season?

N: I think Cottbus will go down.

H: Cottbus? Yes, and they've been down before. Thank you Nicholas.

As already mentioned, managers are moving at a strange time in the season. Magath's move to Schalke has taken everyone by surprise but Klinsmann's move away from Bayern Munich hasn't surprised too many people. In Stuttgart, Markus Babel has just signed a long-term contract, he's a new young manager and some listeners might remember him from his playing day.

So, to wrap up the Bundesliga according to my son Nicholas, the team to win will be Hertha Berlin, going down will be Karlsruhe, Borussia Moenchengladbach and joined by Energie Cottbus. And now Nicholas, which is the best team in Germany?

N: Freiburg.

H: Freiburg. It happens to be my home team - a quick plug - and they are sitting top of the 2nd Bundesliga. See you next season with the big boys. Auf wiedersehen, aus der Bundesliga...