

National title double for West Ham

» Page 51



Newham boys are cup final kings

» Page 50



Eight action-packed pages of all the best local sports news and pictures

Hammers eyeing loan for Mario instead of splashing the cash

West Ham United

DAVE EVANS

dave.evans@archant.co.uk

A new era at West Ham United with a new manager and ambitious plans for the future, but already the club may be reverting to their old ways.

Inter Milan midfielder Joao Mario impressed during his loan spell with the Hammers, but as he prepares for the World Cup with Portugal – and having scored a stunning goal in their 2-2 draw with Tunisia on Monday – West Ham are having second thoughts about splashing the cash for him.

Despite a big budget for the summer, it seems the Hammers have balked at Inter's valuation of £27million for the 25-year-old and are instead looking to bring him back on another loan.

The Italians would prefer a sale and if Mario impresses in Russia the price and the competition for his signature could go up and up.

Securing a first new signing under boss Manuel Pellegrini would send a message to the rest of the Premier League that West Ham mean business, but it seems they may already be trying to get the player on the cheap.

One man who is excited about meeting the new boss and getting down to training is skipper Mark Noble.

The 31-year-old is keen for the squad to adopt the new manager's

attacking policy, something that would make a refreshing change for the fans who had to watch the Hammers under David Moyes last season.

"As players, it's always more enjoyable when you have the ball than when you are chasing the other team around," said the skipper.

"I was pleased when I heard him say he wants to excite the fans and play attacking football."

Pellegrini's teams always score plenty of goals and Noble hopes that the Hammers will be able to do the same come August.

"West Ham fans love it when we take it to the opposition, particularly the big boys and it

sounds like we are going to give it a real go," said the Hammers midfielder.

"I'm already looking forward to getting back to Rush Green and starting work under him.

"It's an exciting appointment for everyone associated with the club, as Manuel Pellegrini has a great record, has managed some top clubs and is known for playing entertaining football," he added.

"Perhaps just as importantly, seeing how we are in a results business in the Premier League, he wins football matches."

He certainly does, though it will be interesting to see if two years in China have left him behind other bosses in the league.



Joao Mario in action for West Ham against Stoke last month. Picture: PA

sport

Athletics



Beagles Judith Vanderpuije managed a first, second and a third at the weekend. Full report on page 40. Picture: CLAIRE JONES

Newham & Essex Beagles star Emma Nwofor was crowned the English under-23 heptathlon champion at the weekend.

The youngster was in Bedford for the competition and not only did she take the under-23 title, she was also third overall.

Emma, coached by Linford Christie, began with a personal best of 25.21 seconds to be fifth in the 200m and then followed that up with fifth in the 800m and third in the sprint hurdles.

She managed another PB in the high jump with a leap of 1.80 metres for first place.

She was sixth in the long jump, before a PB of 12.10 in the shot for fourth.

She rounded off her competition with fourth in the



Emma Nwofor was in superb form at the weekend.

javelin which gave her 5559 points, a personal best by some 410 points.

Plan Your Tax Affairs, We Assist You.

Your Trusted Local Accountant!

Realtime Access (UK) Ltd
TAX ADVISORS & ACCOUNTANTS

www.cloudrta.com
020 31290 979
info@cloudrta.com

SELF-ASSESSMENT

- Landlords
- Professionals
- CIS Contractors
- Self Employed
- Traders
- Cab Drivers

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES

- Bookkeeping
- Final Accounts
- Payroll & Pension
- VAT
- Management Accounts
- Company Formation

VALUE ADDED SERVICES

- Tax Investigation
- Capital Gain Tax
- Corporation Tax
- Inheritance Tax Planning
- Business Plans
- Audit Support Services