

## **STRIKERS**

**#50**



**Ronald (Ronnie) WORM** (b. 1953)  
*7 A (5 goals), Germany, Left Wing/Centre Forward*  
*Cup finalist 1975*

In his early days as a youth, Ronald Worm was a goalkeeper but as time progressed his talent proved to be better suited to an outfield player and Worm made his name initially as an outside left for MSV Duisburg in the early-1970s after having been used as a centre forward in his days as a junior player. By some the young Ronnie Worm was predicted to become a 'second Uwe Seeler' as he resembled Seeler's explosiveness and gung-ho mentality. During his days as a left winger, Worm was not a typical dribbler but someone who always looked for the shortest way to the goal. Known for his good left foot and aerial expertise and a goalgetter's instinct, by the mid-1970s Worm was back playing central forward for Duisburg and in this role he managed to be capped for Germany as well. For a real international breakthrough Worm lacked the necessary technique, but as a club goalgetter he continued to be among the Bundesliga's best marksman right into the early-1980s (altogether scoring 119 goals in 380 Bundesliga games for Duisburg and Braunschweig).

### *League record*

1971-72	10	3	Duisburg (BL)
1972-73	33	4	Duisburg (BL)
1973-74	28	4	Duisburg (BL)
1974-75	30	10	Duisburg (BL)
1975-76	31	12	Duisburg (BL)
1976-77	34	13	Duisburg (BL)
1977-78	33	15	Duisburg (BL)
1978-79	32	10	Duisburg (BL)
1979-80	23	8	Braunschweig (BL)
1980-81	38	30	Braunschweig (Div. 2)
1981-82	33	17	Braunschweig (BL)
1982-83	25	5	Braunschweig (BL)
1983-84	34	8	Braunschweig (BL)
1984-85	34	10	Braunschweig (BL)
1985-86	33	12	Braunschweig (Div. 2)
1986-87	24	2	Braunschweig (Div. 2)

**#49**



**Franz BRUNGS** (b. 1936)  
*Germany, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1968*  
*Cup winner 1960, 1965*  
*Cup finalist 1963*

A centre forward whose biggest asset was his great heading ability, hence his nickname "golden head". His most famous game came in December 1963 when he scored three goals in a 5-0 rout of Dortmund against European giants Benfica, four years later he even scored five goals in a 7-3 rout of Nürnberg vs. Bayern. That season, he was vital in Nürnberg winning their last German championship under manager Max Merkel when he scored 25 goals in their 1967-68 campaign. No caps because of Uwe Seeler!

*League record*

1958-59	20	5	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1959-60	4	0	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1960-61	30	10	Bor. Mönchengladbach (Div. 1 – West)
1961-62	30	14	Bor. Mönchengladbach (Div. 1 – West)
1962-63	28	12	Bor. Mönchengladbach (Div. 1 – West)
1963-64	25	9	Dortmund (BL)
1964-65	29	14	Dortmund (BL)
1965-66	30	13	Nürnberg (BL)
1966-67	33	12	Nürnberg (BL)
1967-68	34	25	Nürnberg (BL)
1968-69	34	6	Hertha BSC (BL)
1969-70	33	15	Hertha BSC (BL)
1970-71	17	3	Hertha BSC (BL)
1971-72	26	6	Nürnberg (Div. 2)

**#48**



**Willi WORPITZKY** (1886-1953)  
*9 A (5 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1908, 1911*  
*League runner-up 1909*  
*Top Scorer Championship 1908, 1909, 1911*

A native of Berlin-Moabit, Willi Worpitzky was the uncrowned king of goalgetters in German football before World War 1. A staggering physical presence, Worpitzky was a powerful and athletic striker. His main weapon was his powerful shot and aerial ability. Due to his physique, he already debuted in the first team at the age of 15 in 1902. He was the top scorer of the German championship final rounds in 1908, 1909 and 1911, a record that has only been bettered by Hamburg's Otto "Tull" Harder in the 1920s. Altogether he scored 20 goals in 12 games in that most prestigious competition of German football before the establishment of the Bundesliga.

*Senior clubs*

1902-07 Minerva Berlin  
1907-13 Viktoria 89

## #47



**Dieter HOENESS** (b. 1953)  
*6 A (4 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1980, 1981, 1985, 1986, 1987*  
*League runner-up 1979*  
*Cup winner 1982, 1984, 1986*  
*Cup finalist 1985*  
*World Cup finalist 1986*  
*Top Scorer Champions Cup 1982*  
*Top Scorer UEFA Cup 1980*

A classic tall centre forward with supreme aerial prowess but a very limited skillset on the ground. A typical move at Bayern during Hoeness' time there was a high cross sailing into the box where Hoeness would knock the ball down with his head for Karl-Heinz Rummenigge who would surge into the gap to volley the ball into the goal.

### *League record*

1975-76	18	6	VfB Stuttgart (Div. 2)
1976-77	23	13	VfB Stuttgart (Div. 2)
1977-78	32	9	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1978-79	32	16	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1979-80	32	16	Bayern München (BL)
1980-81	27	10	Bayern München (BL)
1981-82	33	21	Bayern München (BL)
1982-83	34	17	Bayern München (BL)
1983-84	21	9	Bayern München (BL)
1984-85	20	7	Bayern München (BL)
1985-86	31	15	Bayern München (BL)
1986-87	26	7	Bayern München (BL)

## #46



**Ernst (Pöttinger) POERTGEN** (1912-1986)  
*3 A (5 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1935, 1937*  
*League runner-up 1934, 1938*  
*Cup winner 1937*  
*Cup finalist 1935, 1936*  
*Top Scorer Championship 1935*

One of the great goalgetters of the 1930s, Poertgen was known for his great technical skills which earned him the nickname "Pöttinger" after the virtuoso goalgetter Josef Pöttinger (see #10) who played roughly a football generation before Poertgen. Poertgen is best known as centre-forward of Schalke 04 in the mid-1930s. There, Poertgen proved to be a valuable piece in the "Kreisel" jigsaw that so dominated German club football. Poertgen was a tricky and intelligent striker who was equally good at unleashing powerful shots and leaping highly for headers. The top scorer of the German championship in 1935 was a strong-nerved penalty taker.

#### *Senior clubs*

1930-33 SW Essen  
 1933-34 Nürnberg  
 1934-38 FC Schalke 04  
 1938-40 SC Bonn  
 1941-42 Wacker München  
 1946-52 SC Bonn

## #45



### **Roland WOHLFARTH** (b. 1963)

*2 A, Germany, Striker/Winger*

*League champion 1985, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990*

*League runner-up 1988, 1991, 1993*

*Cup winner 1986*

*Cup finalist 1985*

*Champions Cup finalist 1987*

*Top Scorer League 1989, 1991*

Roland Wohlfarth started out as a very promising talent, a fast, beefy left winger who evolved into a second striker in the 3-5-2 system of the 1980s. Due to his poacher's instinct, he was renowned as a player who felt most at home in the penalty box. Not an outstanding footballer and only average in the air, Wohlfarth unfortunately often was lethargic for long spells and thus never a candidate for the highest level of his profession. He was twice top scorer of the Bundesliga and could be labelled Bayern's 'forgotten' goalgetter of the 1980s.

#### *League record*

1981-82	17	1	Duisburg (BL)
1982-83	19	8	Duisburg (Div. 2)
1983-84	35	30	Duisburg (Div. 2)
1984-85	32	12	Bayern München (BL)
1985-86	25	13	Bayern München (BL)
1986-87	27	11	Bayern München (BL)
1987-88	29	11	Bayern München (BL)
1988-89	33	17	Bayern München (BL)
1989-90	24	13	Bayern München (BL)
1990-91	34	21	Bayern München (BL)
1991-92	29	17	Bayern München (BL)
1992-93	21	4	Bayern München (BL)
1993-94	27	12	St. Etienne (France)
1994-95	12	8	St. Etienne (France)
1994-95	11	0	Bochum (BL)
1995-96	24	6	Bochum (Div. 2)
1996-97	5	0	Bochum (Div. 2)
1997-98	0	0	Bochum (Div. 2)
1997-98	15	4	VfB Leipzig (Div. 2)

#44



**Klaas-Jan HUNTELAAR** (b. 1983)  
76 A (42 goals), Netherlands, Striker  
League champion 2003  
League runner-up 2007, 2008, 2009  
Cup winner 2006, 2007, 2011  
Top Scorer League 2006, 2008, 2012

Huntelaar has the ability of a classic goalgetter but at the same time is more mobile and versatile than a classic fox-in-the-box type and he is quite useful in passing interactions with midfielders. An adept provider and an ice-cold finisher. At Schalke, Huntelaar benefitted a lot from the presence of Spanish legend Raúl. He lost a bit of his sharpness after the Spaniard left the club.

*League record*

2002-03	1	0	Eindhoven (Netherlands)
2002-03	9	0	De Graafschap (Netherlands)
2003-04	35	26	AGOVV (Netherlands – Div. 2)
2004-05	31	16	Heerenveen (Netherlands)
2005-06	15	17	Heerenveen (Netherlands)
2005-06	16	16	Ajax (Netherlands)
2006-07	32	21	Ajax (Netherlands)
2007-08	34	33	Ajax (Netherlands)
2008-09	10	6	Ajax (Netherlands)
2008-09	20	8	Real Madrid (Spain)
2009-10	25	7	AC Milan (Italy)
2010-11	24	8	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2011-12	32	29	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2012-13	26	10	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2013-14	18	12	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2014-15	28	9	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2015-16	31	12	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2016-17	16	2	FC Schalke 04 (BL)

#43



**Erwin HELMCHEN** (1907-1981)*Germany, Inside Right**Top Scorer Championship 1936*

The number of goals Erwin Helmchen scored in league competitions even outdid that of Gerd Müller. Usually deployed as an inside right, Helmchen was not a very fast player, neither did he showcase great skill on the ball. What made Helmchen an outstanding force was the power of his shot. He would unleash his shots in any situation that might look promising and often the sheer force of his shots assured a goal. During his career 596 goals scored in top level (yet still regional) leagues are documented. However not a single international appearance for Germany. There has been quite some speculation why that was so. He was almost 10 years a "candidate" for the national team, was a member of the roster several times but there always was something getting in-between Helmchen and his debut for Germany. Be it an injury, bad form, leaving a bad impression when scouted by Otto Nerz/Sepp Herberger or having to attend a wedding.

*Senior clubs*

1924-25	-	26	Brandenburg Cottbus (Div. 1)
1925-26	-	49	Brandenburg Cottbus (Div. 1)
1926-27	-	23	Brandenburg Cottbus (Div. 1)
1927-28	-	1	Brandenburg Cottbus (Div. 1)
1927-28	-	-	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Central Germany)
1928-29	-	30	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Central Germany)
1929-30	-	45	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Central Germany)
1930-31	-	45	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Central Germany)
1931-32	-	51	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Central Germany)
1932-33	-	42	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Central Germany)
1933-34	-	44	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1934-35	-	29	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1935-36	-	24	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1936-37	-	14	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1937-38	-	30	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1938-39	-	23	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1939-40	-	9	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 2)
1940-41	-	13	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1941-42	-	11	Police Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1942-43	-	9	Police Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1943-44	-	15	Police Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1944-45	-	13	Police Chemnitz (Div. 2)
1945-46	-	37	Chemnitz Nord (regional)
1946-47	-	2	Chemnitz Nord (regional)
1947-48	-	5	Chemnitz Nord (regional)
1948-49	-	10	Chemnitz Nord (regional)
1949-50	-	5	Fewa Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1949-50	2	1	VfB Lübeck (Div. 1 – North)
1950-51	-	9	VfB Lübeck (Div. 2)

**#42****August LENZ** (1910-1988)*14 A (9 goals), Germany, Centre Forward**League runner-up 1949**Top Scorer League 1948*

Technically not outstanding, August Lenz was a typical "tank" centre-forward of the 1930s and 40s who impressed with physical force, a powerful shot and bravado inside the box. Although his life-long club Borussia Dortmund was playing in the second division in the mid-1930s, Lenz earned himself his first call-up for international duty in 1935. In his debut he scored 2 goals in a 6-1 rout against Belgium. The press raved about his unadorned, straightforward ways, but after the 1936 Olympics, Lenz's international career was already history. However he remained very active and a successful goalgetter on club level for many years to come. Reputedly he scored over 1,000 goals for Dortmund. After World War 2, Lenz had settled back from "pure tank" to a withdrawn inside forward position, proving his value for Dortmund in the first years of the Oberliga in the late-1940s, remarkably becoming the top scorer of the Oberliga West at the age of 38.

#### Senior clubs

1927-47	-	-	Dortmund
1947-48	24	22	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1948-49	24	10	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)

## #41



**Kevin KURANYI** (b. 1982)

*52 A (19 goals), Germany, Striker*

*League runner-up 2003, 2007, 2010*

*Cup finalist 2012*

*Euro finalist 2008*

A hard-working striker who often lacked concentration in the decisive seconds because of that. Not really an effective striker, needed too many chances to score. Still one of the better strikers in German football during the 2000s.

#### League record

2000-01	0	0	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2001-02	5	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2002-03	32	15	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2003-04	33	11	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2004-05	29	13	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2005-06	30	10	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2006-07	34	15	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2007-08	32	15	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2008-09	33	13	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2009-10	33	18	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2010-11	16	9	Dynamo Moscow (Russia)
2011-12	41	13	Dynamo Moscow (Russia)
2012-13	27	10	Dynamo Moscow (Russia)
2013-14	15	8	Dynamo Moscow (Russia)
2014-15	24	10	Dynamo Moscow (Russia)
2015-16	14	0	Hoffenheim (BL)

## #40



### **Rudolphus (Roy) MAKAAAY** (b. 1975)

*43 A (6 goals), Netherlands, Striker*

*League champion 2000, 2005, 2006*

*League runner-up 2001, 2002*

*Cup winner 2002, 2005, 2006, 2008*

*Cup finalist 2010*

*Top Scorer Europe 2003*

The Dutchman was an incredibly effective finisher, a classic box striker. Not much use outside the box. Makaay had the ability to pop up of nowhere and always made short work in front of the goal. A player for scoring decisive goals, when his team needed him the most, when things didn't go right – that's when Makaay was at his most valuable.

#### *League record*

1993-94	10	1	Vitesse (Netherlands)
1994-95	34	11	Vitesse (Netherlands)
1995-96	31	11	Vitesse (Netherlands)
1996-97	34	19	Vitesse (Netherlands)
1997-98	36	7	Tenerife (Spain)
1998-99	36	14	Tenerife (Spain)
1999-00	36	22	La Coruña (Spain)
2000-01	29	16	La Coruña (Spain)
2001-02	30	12	La Coruña (Spain)
2002-03	38	29	La Coruña (Spain)
2003-04	32	23	Bayern München (BL)
2004-05	33	22	Bayern München (BL)
2005-06	31	17	Bayern München (BL)
2006-07	33	16	Bayern München (BL)
2007-08	28	13	Feyenoord (Netherlands)
2008-09	31	16	Feyenoord (Netherlands)
2009-10	24	7	Feyenoord (Netherlands)

## #39





**AILTON Gonçalves da Silva** (b. 1973)*Brazil, Striker**League Champion 2004, 2007**League runner-up 2005**Cup winner 1999, 2004, 2006, 2007**Cup finalist 2000, 2005**German Footballer 2004**Top Scorer League 2004*

When he was fit Ailton was a very quick-thinking goalgetter who often found unorthodox ways to score his goals. Nicknamed "ball lightning" because of his unusual physique, Ailton was a supreme poacher and despite his chubby looks he was very strong in sprint duels and extremely cold and precise in finishing. Ailton formed a wonderful partnership with Frenchman Johan Micoud during their time in Bremen. Said Ailton: "his fast and precise passes are my life blood." A typical goalgetter with the right amount of egoism and able to do something spectacular from time to time. The eccentric left-footer wrote history in 2004 when he became the first non-German ever to be voted "German footballer of the Year".

*League record*

1993-94	12	2	Ypiranga (Brazil)
1994-95	21	4	Internacional )(Brazil)
1995-96	28	8	Mogi (Brazil)
1995-96	21	7	Santa Cruz Recife (Brazil)
1996-97	43	20	Guarani (Brazil)
1997-98	23	5	UANL Tigres (Mexico)
1998-99	12	2	Bremen (BL)
1999-00	29	12	Bremen (BL)
2000-01	31	14	Bremen (BL)
2001-02	33	16	Bremen (BL)
2002-03	31	16	Bremen (BL)
2003-04	33	28	Bremen (BL)
2004-05	29	14	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
2005-06	13	3	Hamburg (BL)
2005-06	14	5	Besiktas (Turkey)
2006-07	13	4	Crvena Zvezda (Serbia)
2007-08	8	1	Duisburg (BL)
2007-08	2	1	Donetsk (Ukraine)
2008-09	5	0	Chongqing (China)

**#38****Anton (Toni) POLSTER** (b. 1964)*95 A (44 goals), Austria, Striker/Left Wing**League champion 1984, 1985, 1986**League runner-up 1983, 1987**Cup winner 1986**Cup finalist 1984, 1985, 1988, 2000**Top Scorer League 1985, 1986, 1987**Austrian Footballer 1986, 1997*

The successor to Hans Krankl as foremost goalgetter of the Austrian national team, the left-footed Toni Polster was a very charismatic striker who started as a left winger in the early-1980s. His acceleration and pace left a bit to be desired which may have been the reason why he never broke through to the absolute international top level. A very self-confident penalty box player with a good technique who was useful in combination play as well. Good at heading, Polster was a cunning striker with a clinical finish.

### League record

1982-83	26	11	Austria Wien (Austria)
1983-84	23	12	Austria Wien (Austria)
1984-85	29	24	Austria Wien (Austria)
1985-86	34	32	Austria Wien (Austria)
1986-87	35	39	Austria Wien (Austria)
1987-88	27	9	Torino (Italy)
1988-89	32	9	Sevilla (Spain)
1989-90	35	33	Sevilla (Spain)
1990-91	35	13	Sevilla (Spain)
1991-92	38	14	Logroñes (Spain)
1992-93	31	14	Rayo Vallecano (Spain)
1993-94	25	17	Köln (BL)
1994-95	32	17	Köln (BL)
1995-96	28	11	Köln (BL)
1996-97	32	21	Köln (BL)
1997-98	33	13	Köln (BL)
1998-99	31	11	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1999-00	7	4	Bor. Mönchengladbach (Div. 2)
1999-00	12	2	Salzburg (Austria)

### #37



### Alfred (Freddy) KELBASSA (1925-1988)

6 A (2 goals), Germany, Centre Forward

League champion 1956, 1957, 1963

League runner-up 1961

Cup finalist 1963

Top Scorer League 1957, 1958

In the club lore of Borussia Dortmund, the “three Alfredos” still have a prominent place 60 years after their actions. The “three Alfredos” were Alfred Preissler, Alfred Niepieklo and Alfred Kelbassa. This threesome formed the arguably most feared inside forward trio in German football of the mid-/late-1950s and were instrumental in Dortmund winning two back-to-back German championships. Preissler was playing as the inside right, Niepieklo as the inside left and Kelbassa in the center. As a centre forward, Kelbassa’s reputation was that of a forceful and combative player with a very straightforward way of finishing.

In addition to that, he was also known to be a good technical player and most of all a very fast one who would also be found moving to the wing if the occasion arose. A gym teacher with a diploma by profession, Kelbassa ran 100 meters in less than 11 seconds and had won the pentathlon multiple times during his youth. Feared was his powerful shot which was dubbed “Kelbassa slam” by the media. In the final years of his career he played as center half.

### League record

1946-47	-	-	Horst Emscher (Div. 1 – West)
1947-48	24	20	Horst Emscher (Div. 1 – West)
1948-49	24	16	Horst Emscher (Div. 1 – West)
1949-50	28	18	Horst Emscher (Div. 1 – West)
1950-51	29	12	Horst Emscher (Div. 1 – West)
1951-52	30	14	Horst Emscher (Div. 1 – West)
1952-53	25	10	Münster (Div. 1 – West)
1953-54	28	21	Horst Emscher (Div. 1 – West)
1954-55	17	9	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1955-56	30	22	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)

1956-57	29	30	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1957-58	28	24	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1958-59	19	9	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1959-60	20	1	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1960-61	27	7	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1961-62	13	12	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)
1962-63	0	0	Dortmund (Div. 1 – West)

## #36



**Stefan KIESSLING** (b. 1984)

*6 A, Germany, Striker*

*League runner-up 2011*

*Cup finalist 2009*

*Top Scorer League 2013*

A teamplayer with a high working rate and always full of commitment. Able to tear holes into defenses, able to create space for others and a good goalgetter to boot. Kiessling's style resembled that of Jürgen Klinsmann – technically not outstanding but immensely valuable because of his constant and never-tiring running and still ended up scoring a good amount of goals each year.

### *League record*

2002-03	1	0	1. FC Nürnberg (BL)
2003-04	14	2	1. FC Nürnberg (BL)
2004-05	27	3	1. FC Nürnberg (BL)
2005-06	31	10	1. FC Nürnberg (BL)
2006-07	32	8	Leverkusen (BL)
2007-08	31	9	Leverkusen (BL)
2008-09	34	12	Leverkusen (BL)
2009-10	33	21	Leverkusen (BL)
2010-11	22	7	Leverkusen (BL)
2011-12	34	16	Leverkusen (BL)
2012-13	34	25	Leverkusen (BL)
2013-14	32	15	Leverkusen (BL)
2014-15	34	9	Leverkusen (BL)
2015-16	30	5	Leverkusen (BL)
2016-17	20	4	Leverkusen (BL)

## #35



**Rudolf (Rudi) BRUNNENMEIER** (1941-2003)*5 A (3 goals), Germany, Centre-Forward/Outside Left**League Champion 1966**League runner-up 1967**Cup winner 1964, 1973**CWC finalist 1965**Top Scorer League 1961, 1963, 1965*

A legendary centre forward in the lore of TSV 1860 München, already in his first season as a 20 year old Brunnenmeier became top scorer of the Oberliga South in 1961 and two years later his goals assured that TSV 1860 would be a founding member of the newly-established Bundesliga. Brunnenmeier was a mobile forward who was also very good as a winger. On the outside he was a physical and tough looking player but inside he was a sensitive and unstable character who found it hard to cope with the fame football brought.

*League record*

1959-60	-	81	Olching (Div. 5)
1960-61	29	23	TSV 1860 München (Div. 1 - South)
1961-62	30	25	TSV 1860 München (Div. 1 - South)
1962-63	29	25	TSV 1860 München (Div. 1 - South)
1963-64	29	19	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1964-65	30	24	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1965-66	27	15	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1966-67	21	7	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1967-68	12	1	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1968-72	-	-	Xamax (Switzerland – Div. 2)
1972-73	20	4	FC Zürich (Switzerland)
1973-74	19	1	Bregenz (Austria)
1974-77	-	-	Bregenz (Austria – Div. 2)
1977-80	-	-	Balzers (Liechtenstein)

**#34****Mario MANDŽUKIĆ** (b. 1986)*80 A (30 goals), Croatia, Striker**League champion 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017**Cup winner 2008, 2009, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017**Champions Cup 2013**Intercontinental Cup 2013**Top Scorer Euro 2012**Top Scorer League 2009**Croatian Footballer 2012, 2013*

A typical striker whose main asset is his finishing. Not a player that can vary a lot in his approach to the game. He is to be found in the centre, concentrating on exploiting crosses and passes. Assisting goals is not his forte and you rarely find him moving out to the flanks or dropping back which proved the one flaw leading Bayern's manager Pep Guardiola to drop Mandžukić and sign Robert Lewandowski.

*League record*

2005-06	28	3	NK Zagreb (Croatia)
2006-07	23	11	NK Zagreb (Croatia)
2007-08	29	12	Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia)
2008-09	28	16	Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia)

2009-10	24	14	Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia)
2010-11	24	8	Wolfsburg (BL)
2011-12	32	12	Wolfsburg (BL)
2012-13	24	15	Bayern München (BL)
2013-14	30	18	Bayern München (BL)
2014-15	28	12	Atletico Madrid (Spain)
2015-16	27	10	Juventus (Italy)
2016-17	34	7	Juventus (Italy)

### #33



**Dieter MÜLLER** (b. 1954)  
 12 A (9 goals), Germany, Centre Forward  
 League champion 1978, 1984, 1985  
 League runner-up 1983  
 Cup winner 1977, 1978  
 Cup finalist 1980  
 Euro finalist 1976  
 Top Scorer Euro 1976  
 Top Scorer League 1977, 1978

A tall all-round goalgetter in the centre forward position who was both a converter of chances created by others and a striker who could create goals himself. A very strong header of the ball with a poacher's instinct and versatility in finishing, Dieter Müller could also create danger coming from midfield. In the national team Klaus Fischer was always considered the more valuable forward hence Müller's greatest international moment was the 1976 European Championship, when he scored three goals coming from the bench in the semi final vs. hosts Yugoslavia and another goal in the final vs. Czechoslovakia which was lost on penalties. In that summer of 1976, a great international career was predicted by many pundits as the righteous heir of Gerd Müller, but things didn't pan out that way. Helmut Schön apparently thought that Müller was a bit phlegmatic, someone who always did only as much as was necessary, unlike his competitor Klaus Fischer. Altogether Müller scored nine goals in 12 games for the national team.

*League record*

1972-73	2	0	Kickers Offenbach (BL)
1973-74	31	17	Köln (BL)
1974-75	34	24	Köln (BL)
1975-76	19	14	Köln (BL)
1976-77	34	34	Köln (BL)
1977-78	33	24	Köln (BL)
1978-79	29	8	Köln (BL)
1979-80	34	21	Köln (BL)
1980-81	34	17	Köln (BL)
1981-82	30	14	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1982-83	29	17	Bordeaux (France)
1983-84	28	14	Bordeaux (France)
1984-85	36	12	Bordeaux (France)
1985-86	7	3	Grashoppers (Switzerland)
1985-86	30	14	Saarbrücken (BL)
1986-87	24	16	Kickers Offenbach (Div. 2)
1987-88	27	10	Kickers Offenbach (Div. 2)

## #32



**Henning JENSEN** (b. 1949)  
*22 A (9 goals), Denmark, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1975, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980*  
*League runner-up 1974*  
*Cup winner 1973*  
*UEFA Cup 1975*

On paper the Dane was the centre forward of one of the Bundesliga's best ever forward lines, the Borussia Mönchengladbach attack of the mid-1970s. Together with the nominal left winger Jupp Heynckes and Allan Simonsen on the right wing, these three forwards constantly interchanged their nominal positions. He was more a provider than a goalscorer, good at getting into the box with the ball at his feet, often playing off to Simonsen and Heynckes but also a good finisher. Not particularly good at heading, he was a rover in and around the box with good ball control.

### *League record*

1972-73	33	11	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1973-74	25	9	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1974-75	34	13	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1975-76	33	11	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1976-77	28	6	Real Madrid (Spain)
1977-78	26	7	Real Madrid (Spain)
1978-79	27	3	Real Madrid (Spain)
1979-80	28	6	Ajax (Netherlands)
1980-81	28	1	Ajax (Netherlands)
1980-81	13	5	Aarhus (Denmark)
1981-82	25	9	Aarhus (Denmark)
1982-83	15	3	Aarhus (Denmark)

## #31



**Pierre-Emerick AUBAMEYANG** (b. 1989)

*56 A (23 goals), Gabun, Striker*

*League runner-up 2014, 2016*

*Cup winner 2017*

*Cup finalist 2014, 2015, 2016*

*African Footballer 2015*

*Top Scorer League 2017*

An incredibly fast player with a real goalgetter's instinct, excellent at heading and very cool finishing.

*League record*

2008-09 34 8 Dijon (France – Div. 2)

2009-10 14 2 Lille (France)

2010-11 33 4 Monaco (France)

2011-12 36 16 Saint-Etienne (France)

2012-13 37 19 Saint-Etienne (France)

2013-14 32 13 Dortmund (BL)

2014-15 33 16 Dortmund (BL)

2015-16 31 25 Dortmund (BL)

2016-17 32 31 Dortmund (BL)

**#30**



**Stefan KUNTZ** (b. 1962)

*25 A (6 goals), Germany, Striker/Sweeper*

*League champion 1991*

*League runner-up 1994*

*Cup winner 1990*

*Euro winner 1996*

*Top Scorer League 1986, 1994*

*German Footballer 1991*

One of the best forwards of the Bundesliga in the late-1980s and early-1990s, Stefan Kuntz was a support striker with a very dry and well-placed left-footed shot. At the side of Klaus Fischer he was Bundesliga top scorer in 1986 for lowly Bochum and became almost legendary in Kaiserslautern during the 1990-91 sensational league-winning campaign when Kuntz was deployed in multiple positions after a number of his teammates were sidelined by injuries. Surprisingly he did very well as man-marker and as sweeper during those months. For a long time, Kuntz waited to no end for getting a call up for the national team. Only in 1993 – at 30 years of age – did he finally get his first cap. During his time in the national team he never was more than an extra except for the 1996 Euro semi final when he scored the crucial equalizer at Wembley against England and also scored in the penalty shoot-out. Of his 25 international games for Germany (6 goals) he did not lose a single one, which is a German record. His bad luck was that he played at a time when Germany had an abundance of good to very good forwards, had he been born 10-15 years later he probably would have been a regular starter.

*League record*

1980-81 1 0 Neunkirchen (Div. 2)

1981-82 - 5 Neunkirchen (Div. 3)

1982-83 - 36 Neunkirchen (Div. 3)

1983-84 32 8 Bochum (BL)

1984-85 34 11 Bochum (BL)

1985-86	34	22	Bochum (BL)
1986-87	29	6	Uerdingen (BL)
1987-88	32	13	Uerdingen (BL)
1988-89	33	13	Uerdingen (BL)
1989-90	32	15	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1990-91	27	11	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1991-92	31	11	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1992-93	26	6	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1993-94	26	18	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1994-95	28	14	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1995-96	30	9	Besiktas (Turkey)
1996-97	33	14	Bielefeld (BL)
1997-98	32	11	Bielefeld (BL)
1998-99	20	6	Bochum (BL)

## #29



**Edin DŽEKO** (b. 1986)

*89 A (52 goals), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Striker*

*League champion 2009*

*Bosnian Footballer 2009, 2010, 2012*

*Top Scorer League 2010, 2017*

The Bosnian is an elegant executor, two-footed and a capable header of the ball and also a very good provider for others.

### *League record*

2003-04	15	2	Zeljeznicar (Bosnia)
2004-05	20	1	Zeljeznicar (Bosnia)
2005-06	15	6	Usti (Czech Republic – Div. 2)
2005-06	13	3	Teplice (Czech Republic)
2006-07	30	13	Teplice (Czech Republic)
2007-08	28	8	Wolfsburg (BL)
2008-09	32	26	Wolfsburg (BL)
2009-10	34	22	Wolfsburg (BL)
2010-11	17	10	Wolfsburg (BL)
2010-11	15	2	Manchester City (England)
2011-12	30	14	Manchester City (England)
2012-13	32	14	Manchester City (England)
2013-14	31	16	Manchester City (England)
2014-15	22	4	Manchester City (England)
2015-16	31	8	Roma (Italy)
2016-17	28	20	Roma (Italy)



## #28



**Frank MILL** (b. 1958)  
17 A, Germany, Striker  
League runner-up 1992  
Cup winner 1989  
Cup finalist 1984  
UEFA Cup finalist 1993  
World Cup winner 1990

One of the most renowned goalgetters of the Bundesliga in the mid-1980s, a skillful little player, not too robust physically, but with a nose for goalscoring. With his very sound technique he was a great threat in the box mainly scoring with his left foot. Fast acceleration, quick turns coupled with a tricky style, Mill didn't depend on service from others in creating his chances. Probably he was a tad too playful otherwise he might have scored even more goals. In today's game he might have been more suited for a central offensive midfield position. His international career was unaccomplished. It should be mentioned that he had a reputation for going down fairly easily.

### League record

1976-77	19	3	RW Essen (BL)
1977-78	29	11	RW Essen (Div. 2)
1978-79	38	15	RW Essen (Div. 2)
1979-80	25	16	RW Essen (Div. 2)
1980-81	38	40	RW Essen (Div. 2)
1981-82	32	14	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1982-83	28	9	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1983-84	32	19	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1984-85	31	16	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1985-86	30	13	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1986-87	31	17	Dortmund (BL)
1987-88	29	9	Dortmund (BL)
1988-89	26	6	Dortmund (BL)
1989-90	24	2	Dortmund (BL)
1990-91	13	3	Dortmund (BL)
1991-92	28	4	Dortmund (BL)
1992-93	24	6	Dortmund (BL)
1993-94	12	0	Dortmund (BL)
1994-95	27	5	Düsseldorf (Div. 2)
1995-96	28	2	Düsseldorf

## #27



**Oskar (Ossi) ROHR** (1912-1988)

*4 A (5 goals), Germany, Centre Forward/Inside Forward*

*League champion 1932*

*Cup winner 1934*

*Cup finalist 1937*

*Top Scorer League 1937*

Ossi Rohr was goalgetter but also playmaker of Bayern München and became one of the continent's best strikers during the 1930s. His career in the German national team ended abruptly when he sought a contract as a professional playing for Grasshoppers Zürich in 1933 and for Strasbourg a year later. Since the German FA was strictly insisting that footballers in Germany were amateurs, he was suspended from international duty. For the rest of his career, Rohr would be playing abroad, most successfully for Racing Strasbourg. When Nazi Germany occupied northern France in 1940, Rohr fled to the south but two years later he was arrested there and handed out to the Gestapo. He was jailed in the Kislau prison near Karlsruhe for eight weeks and afterwards was sent to the eastern front. He survived the war after being captured in Kirovograd and spent the rest of the war in Soviet captivity. He was lucky that he was soon released and sent back to Germany due to his fame as a footballer. Back in Germany, he played for Mannheim, Augsburg and Pirmasens in the Oberliga before retiring in 1949. As a player Rohr was known to be a very skilled footballer which earned him the nickname "Wunderkind" in his late teens. When he joined Bayern in 1930, he was set to become the successor of the great Josef Pöttinger. In his first game for Bayern, he scored 5 goals in a 7-1 rout against Regensburg and their international goalkeeper Hans Jakob. Rohr was so popular that he even played in a movie ("Mutter der Kompanie"). In his first 29 games for Bayern he scored 32 goals and today he is the player still associated the most with the Bayern team that won the first of many German championships in 1932.

#### *Senior clubs*

1930-33 Bayern München

1933-34 Grasshoppers (Switzerland)

1934-39 Racing Strasbourg (France)

1939-42 Sète (France)

1945-46 VfR Mannheim

1946-47 Schwaben Augsburg

1946-48 Pirmasens

1948-49 Waldhof Mannheim

## #26



**Erwin KOSTEDDE** (b. 1946)

*3 A, Germany, Centre Forward*

*League champion 1969, 1970, 1971*

*Top Scorer League 1971, 1980*

A classic centre forward of similar ilk as Gerd Müller or Klaus Fischer. Not particularly tall, stocky but with an excellent heading ability, great variability in finishing and a poacher's instinct. He was always looking for long, high-flying balls which he stopped with his chest with his back to the goal, and then after a quick turn he volleyed the ball towards the goal without the ball dropping to the ground in between this movement. Son of an American soldier and a German woman, he was the first black German international (in 1974). His area of action was almost exclusively the penalty box, his work-ethic was nothing to write home about.

#### *League record*

1965-66 18 12 Münster (Div. 2)

1966-67 17 6 Münster (Div. 2)

1967-68	19	5	Duisburg (BL)
1968-69	15	11	Standard Liège (Belgium)
1969-70	10	6	Standard Liège (Belgium)
1970-71	27	26	Standard Liège (Belgium)
1971-72	36	28	Kickers Offenbach (Div. 2)
1972-73	29	19	Kickers Offenbach (BL)
1973-74	33	15	Kickers Offenbach (BL)
1974-75	31	18	Kickers Offenbach (BL)
1975-76	26	14	Hertha BSC (BL)
1976-77	27	11	Dortmund (BL)
1977-78	21	7	Dortmund (BL)
1978-79	2	0	Solingen (Div. 2)
1978-79	15	6	Standard Liège (Belgium)
1979-80	34	21	Laval (France)
1980-81	42	29	Bremen (Div. 2)
1981-82	33	9	Bremen (BL)
1982-83	30	12	Osnabrück (Div. 2)

## #25



### **Ottmar (Ottes) WALTER** (1924-2013)

*21 A (10 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*

*League champion 1951, 1953*

*League runner-up 1948, 1954, 1955*

*Top Scorer Championship 1948*

*Top Scorer League 1948, 1950, 1951*

*World Cup winner 1954*

Fritz Walter's younger brother, a very different type of player and character, robust and hard-boiled, he was hard to upset and had a daredevil attitude on the pitch. An excellent header of the ball with a hard shot, Ottmar Walter resembled the typical 'tank' centre forward of the time and was a very prolific goalgetter for Kaiserslautern and Germany. Technically versed, Ottmar Walter was assertive and clinical in the box, a constant source of unrest.

#### *League record*

1941-42	-	15	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Westmark)
1942-43	-	2	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Westmark)
1943-44	-	-	inactive
1944-45	-	-	inactive
1946-47	-	22	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest, Section North)
1947-48	-	51	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest, Section North)
1948-49	-	32	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest, Section North)
1949-50	-	45	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest, Section North)
1950-51	-	29	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1951-52	19	17	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1952-53	25	20	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1953-54	30	28	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1954-55	18	8	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1955-56	25	16	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1956-57	23	21	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1957-58	23	13	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1958-59	12	5	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)

## #24



**Gottfried (Gotti) FUCHS** (1889-1972)  
*6 A (14 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1910*  
*League runner-up 1912*

Together with Max Breunig, Fritz Förderer and Julius Hirsch, Gottfried Fuchs was one of the key players of the famous FV Karlsruhe side before World War 1. Karlsruhe FV was described as "the Bayern München of their time" in hindsight. Fuchs was feared as a highly dangerous centre forward but was also successful as an outside forward and as linkman due to his precise passing game. Playing for Germany, Fuchs faced stiff competition in Adolf Jäger and Willi Worpitzky. His greatest game was undoubtedly the 16-0 against Russia in Stockholm (1912 Olympics) when he magnificently scored 10 goals in a single game. Since Fuchs was Jewish, the Nazis had his name erased from all official records in the 1930s. The official records were only restored in the 1950s. At that time, Fuchs was living in Canada, having left Germany in 1937.

### *Senior clubs*

1904-07 SC Düsseldorf  
1907-14 FV Karlsruhe  
1914-20 SC Düsseldorf

## #23



**Karl (Karlchen) HOHMANN** (1908-1974)  
*26 A (20 goals), Germany, Centre Forward/Inside Forward*

A technically very gifted centre forward, nimble and an expert at volleying, Hohmann had an exceptional poacher's instinct. The football term "strafraumgespenst" ("ghost in the box") was created by journalists as an honorary name for Hohmann. Playing for little Benrath for most of his career, Hohmann formed a great partnership with Josef Rasselberg and both also played together for Germany. At the 1934 World Cup Hohmann scored two crucial goals in the quarterfinal against Sweden. In that game against Sweden Hohmann picked up an injury and missed the semi final against Czechoslovakia. His presence was sorely missed. At that time he was playing as an inside forward because the centre forward position was occupied by Ed Conen. During the 1936 Olympics, Otto Nerz decided to rest Hohmann in the game against Norway as the opponent was not considered to be dangerous enough to be a threat. A grave misconception as Norway beat Germany 2-0 in Berlin which was a great shock to everyone. Not being a robust type of centre forward, Hohmann suffered quite a lot from physical opponents which ultimately led him to quit his career at the age of 31.

### Senior clubs

1929-37 Benrath

1937-39 Pirmasens

## #22



**Mario GOMEZ Garcia** (b. 1985)

*71 A (31 goals), Germany, Striker*

*League champion 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016*

*League runner-up 2012*

*Cup winner 2010, 2013*

*Cup finalist 2007, 2012, 2014*

*Champions Cup 2013*

*Champions Cup finalist 2012*

*Euro finalist 2008*

*German Footballer 2007*

*Top Scorer Euro 2012*

*Top Scorer League 2011, 2016*

A powerful striker whose greatest asset is his aerial presence. A player who needs to be at a top level in terms of fitness and self-confidence to fully play to his potential. A lack of self-confidence as mental barrier is probably what is the downside of Gomez. Self-doubt might come from injury problems, lack of affection by the fans or not fitting into the tactical system. Gomez is only at his most effective when there are no mental problems. When he knows that the manager fully relies on him, that he does not have to fear getting booed at when he misses a sitter and of course when he's not constantly plagued by injuries. At his best, Gomez is a world class goalgetter.

### *League record*

2003-04	1	0	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2004-05	8	0	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2005-06	30	6	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2006-07	25	14	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2007-08	25	19	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2008-09	32	24	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2009-10	29	10	Bayern München (BL)
2010-11	32	28	Bayern München (BL)
2011-12	33	26	Bayern München (BL)
2012-13	21	11	Bayern München (BL)
2013-14	9	3	Fiorentina (Italy)
2014-15	20	4	Fiorentina (Italy)
2015-16	33	26	Besiktas (Turkey)
2016-17	33	16	Wolfsburg (BL)

## #21



**Anthony (Tony) YEBOAH** (b. 1964)  
*59 A (29 goals), Ghana, Striker*  
*League champion 2002*  
*Cup winner 2002*  
*Africa Cup finalist 1992*  
*Ghana Footballer 1997*  
*Top Scorer League 1986, 1987, 1993, 1994*

One of the most phenomenal strikers of the Bundesliga. A centre forward type, the Ghanaian Yeboah was very beefy and physical, technically supreme with a lethal instinct in front of the goal who could hit balls really hard but also with a lot of feeling. Due to his physicality, Anthony Yeboah was a very forceful player in and around the box who was incredibly hard to contain and due to his technical skills he could also drop back into midfield if need be. While playing for Eintracht Frankfurt in the early-1990s, Yeboah blended in very well with Uwe Bein who would assist many of Yeboah's goals with his deadly short through balls. And then there were also Antoine 'Jay Jay' Okocha and Andreas Möller, all of them hugely talented offensive players which made that Eintracht side one of the most joyful and hard to contain attractions ever in Bundesliga history. In Eintracht Frankfurt, Yeboah had his own fan club called 'Yeboah's witnesses'.

### *League record*

1981-83	-	-	Asante (Ghana)
1983-86	-	-	Kumasi (Ghana)
1986-88	35	35	Okwawu (Ghana)
1988-89	28	9	Saarbrücken (Div. 2)
1989-90	37	17	Saarbrücken (Div. 2)
1990-91	26	8	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1991-92	34	15	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1992-93	27	20	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1993-94	22	18	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1994-95	14	7	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1994-95	18	12	Leeds (England)
1995-96	22	12	Leeds (England)
1996-97	7	0	Leeds (England)
1997-98	23	3	Hamburg (BL)
1998-99	34	14	Hamburg (BL)
1999-00	24	9	Hamburg (BL)
2000-01	14	2	Hamburg (BL)
2001-02	5	0	Hamburg (BL)
2001-02	22	5	Al-Ittihad (Qatar)

## #20



**(Giovane) ÉLBER de Souza** (b. 1972)

*15 A (7 goals), Brazil, Striker*

*League champion 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005*

*League runner-up 1992, 1994, 1998, 2004*

*Cup winner 1994, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2003*

*Cup finalist 1993, 1999*

*Champions Cup 2001*

*Intercontinental Cup 2001*

*Top Scorer League 1994, 2003*

A really skilled finisher and goalgetter who also was a very good provider for others. At his best, Elber was a spectacular striker and fan favorite. During his prime in the 1990s Elber was rated as the most complete striker of the Bundesliga and the most entertaining at that. Elber was a great teamplayer, working hard and running a lot, very mobile and often found on the wings. Sometimes he lacked the necessary concentration in front of the goal, he was no stranger to wasting absolute sitters. Not egotistical like a clear-cut goalgetter. On the big stage however Elber's goals proved to be crucial in Bayern winning the 2000-01 champions league, as Elber scored five times in 2001 in that competition. When he left Germany he had become the foreign player with the most goals scored in Bundesliga history (a record later to be broken by Claudio Pizarro).

*League record*

1991-92 21 9 Grashoppers (Switzerland)

1992-93 21 11 Grashoppers (Switzerland)

1993-94 27 21 Grashoppers (Switzerland)

1994-95 23 8 VfB Stuttgart (BL)

1994-96 33 16 VfB Stuttgart (BL)

1996-97 31 17 VfB Stuttgart (BL)

1997-98 28 11 Bayern München (BL)

1998-99 21 13 Bayern München (BL)

1999-00 26 14 Bayern München (BL)

2000-01 27 15 Bayern München (BL)

2001-02 30 17 Bayern München (BL)

2002-03 33 21 Bayern München (BL)

2003-04 4 1 Bayern München (BL)

2003-04 27 10 Lyon (France)

2004-05 3 1 Lyon (France)

2004-05 0 0 Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)

2005-06 4 0 Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)

**#19**



**Leonhard (Lony) SEIDERER** (1895-1940)

*8 A (5 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*

*League champion 1926*

*League runner-up 1920*

*Top Scorer Championship 1920*

Lony Seiderer was arguably the most brilliant centre-forward in Germany during his active time, only rivalled by the equally gifted Josef Pöttinger. A skilled short passing game was the trademark of the two-footed Seiderer, which enabled him to perfectly set up Fürth's inside forwards (mostly Andreas Franz) as he often dropped back. And although he was not a tall player, he had a superb heading ability. He was considered the legitimate successor of Adolf Jäger (see #11) as Germany's prime centre forward.

However there still was the giant Hamburg "tank" Otto Harder, a very different kind of player, that fit much more into the mould that German FA officials thought how a centre forward should look like. Coupled with his proneness to injuries, Seiderer's international career was not what it could have been.

#### *League record*

1917-18	19	20	SpVgg Fürth (War-League)
1918-19	17	15	SpVgg Fürth (War-League)
1919-20	16	17	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 – North Bavaria)
1920-21	17	13	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 – North Bavaria)
1921-22	16	12	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 – North Bavaria)
1922-23	20	13	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 – North Bavaria)
1923-24	21	10	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 –Bavaria)
1924-25	9	3	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 –Bavaria)
1925-26	20	8	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 –Bavaria)
1926-27	23	12	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 –Bavaria)
1927-28	18	7	SpVgg Fürth (Div. 1 –Bavaria)

## #18



### **Ernst (Ezi) WILLIMOWSKI (1916-1997)**

*8 A (13 goals), Germany/Poland, Centre Forward*

*League champion 1934, 1935, 1936, 1938*

*Cup winner 1942*

*Top Scorer League 1934, 1938, 1939, 1941*

Ernst Willimowski was a wayfaring player without equal in a time when most players did not change their club colours very often. One of the great goalgetters of the 1930s, Willimowski felt at home immediately regardless where he played and always was reliable to function as planned. Born in Kattowitz in 1916 (today Katowice), he was of German citizenship as Kattowitz was part of the German Empire at that time. Six years later it became part of Poland and Willimowski gained Polish citizenship at that point. The technically blessed Willimowski was a haggard player, a cold-blooded finisher, very adept at quick body swerve, lightning fast turns and equipped with an uncanny poacher's instinct. With the outbreak of World War 2, Poland ceased to exist and Willimowski was considered a German anyway thus he was called up to play for Germany from that point on and also soon joined a German club (Chemnitz), where he formed a partnership with Erwin Helmchen. Willimowski considered himself German and openly embraced his new home, which led the Polish FA to erase his record from their statistics. A sly-dog in the box, Fritz Walter later stated that Willimowski was "the great wonder in exploiting chances, without nerves on the pitch and totally cold-blooded." Today he is still well remembered as a World Cup legend for the four goals he scored against Brazil in the classic 5-6 in France in 1938. It is claimed that Willimowski scored 1,175 goals during his career.

#### *League Record (incomplete)*

1930-40	- 112	Ruch Chorzow (Poland)
1940-41	- 42	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1941-42	- 26	PSV Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1942-43	- 11	TSV 1860 München (Div. 1 – Bavaria)
1943-44	- 2	Police Chemnitz (Div. 2)
1944-45	- 13	Police Chemnitz (Div. 1 – Saxony)
1945-46	- -	SG Kassel
1946-47	- -	Merseburg
1946-48	- 22	Chemnitz West (regional)
1947-48	- -	Babelsberg
1947-48	- -	Arolsen
1947-48	- 32	Hameln (regional)



1948-49	-	-	Niederzwehren
1948-49	-	-	Detmold
1948-49	6	3	BC Augsburg (Div. 1 – South)
1948-49	-	-	Racing Strasbourg
1949-50	-	18	Offenburg (Div. 1 – Southwest, Section South)
1950-51	30	16	Singen (Div. 1 – South)
1951-52	-	23	VfR Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1952-53	29	30	VfR Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1953-54	24	14	VfR Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1954-55	6	2	VfR Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1956-59	-	-	Kehl

## #17



**Edmund (Rolly) CONEN** (1914-1990)  
*28 A (27 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*

Elegant yet straightforward, Ed Conen debuted for Germany aged 19 in January 1934 against Hungary. Although he scored a goal Reichstrainer Otto Nerz was not fully enamoured by his display. He infamously addressed Conen after the game by saying "today you played twice for the national team. For the first time and for the last time". He wouldn't have made the German roster for the 1934 World Cup if Josef Rasselberg had not picked up an injury shortly before the start of the World Cup. Surprisingly, Nerz decided to field the 19 year old in the first game against Belgium and Conen became the star of the team after having scored three crucial goals in a difficult game that was far less one-sided than the 5-2 score may suggest. The Belgians had just scored the 2-1 in the 45<sup>th</sup> minute and Germany had played poorly in the first half. Conen had followed strict tactical commands by Nerz but at half-time, he stepped up to Nerz and said "let me play the way I want to play". Nerz nodded and Conen delivered a hattrick (3-2, 4-2, 5-2). The tournament proved to be quite successful for Germany (third) and Conen, whose four goals made him second among top scorers. However only one year later Conen's career already seemed to be over as he was diagnosed with cardiac neurosis (the mental issue of being afraid of people). Conen had scored 14 goals for Germany in 14 games at that point. He was sorely missed when Germany failed during the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. He spent the next three and a half years in a sanatorium before resuming his career as a footballer in February 1939. He did rather well despite his long absence and even resumed his international career in June 1939. After the war, he played successfully for Kickers Stuttgart in the Oberliga and finally in Switzerland before retiring aged 38 in 1952. His style was characterised by a tendency to drop deep to fully act out his great skill on the ball.

### *Senior clubs*

1931-35	-	-	Saarbrücken 03
1935-38	-	-	inactive
1938-43	-	-	Kickers Stuttgart
1943-44	-	-	Mühlhausen
1943-44	-	-	Gross Born
1945-46	-	-	Hermisdorf
1945-47	-	-	Kickers Stuttgart
1947-48	35	18	Kickers Stuttgart
1948-49	21	7	Kickers Stuttgart
1949-50	24	4	Kickers Stuttgart
1950-51	9	0	Young Fellows Zürich (Switzerland)

## #16



**Karl-Heinz (Kalle) RIEDLE** (b. 1965)  
*42 A (16 goals), Germany, Striker*  
*League champion 1988, 1995, 1996*  
*Cup finalist 1989, 1990*  
*Champions Cup 1997*  
*World Cup winner 1990*  
*Euro finalist 1992*  
*Top Scorer Euro 1992*  
*Top Scorer UEFA Cup 1990*

A forward of small height who is considered by many to be the best header of the ball in German football since Uwe Seeler. Blessed with extreme jumping prowess, Riedle possessed an excellent timing for his headers and his heading technique was sublime. He didn't break through to the very top level because on the ground he was only solid, not exceptional.

### *League record*

1986-87	34	10	BW Berlin (BL)
1987-88	33	18	Bremen (BL)
1988-89	33	13	Bremen (BL)
1989-90	20	7	Bremen (BL)
1990-91	33	9	Lazio (Italy)
1991-92	29	13	Lazio (Italy)
1992-93	22	8	Lazio (Italy)
1993-94	22	4	Dortmund (BL)
1994-95	29	6	Dortmund (BL)
1995-96	18	7	Dortmund (BL)
1996-97	18	7	Dortmund (BL)
1997-98	25	6	Liverpool (England)
1998-99	34	5	Liverpool (England)

## #15



**Horst HRUBESCH** (b. 1951)

*21 A (5 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*

*League champion 1979, 1982, 1983*

*League runner-up 1980, 1981*

*Cup finalist 1984*

*Champions Cup 1983*

*Champions Cup finalist 1980*

*UEFA Cup finalis 1982*

*World Cup finalist 1982*

*Euro winner 1980*

*Top Scorer League 1982*

The archetype of the towering centre forward who depended on good service from the flanks to score his goals with his second-to-none aerial prowess. In Manfred Kaltz, Horst Hrubesch had one of the best suppliers of crosses in European football as his partner. As Hrubesch himself would put it: “Manni cross, me header”. Paul Breitner once joked that Hrubesch might become the first player ever to take a freekick with his head. Nicknamed the “heading monster”, Hrubesch was surprisingly well-mannered when in possession and more useful with the ball at his feet than similar players like Dieter Hoeness. Hrubesch was a real late bloomer, only became a professional at the age of 24 in 1975. Few believed that he had what it took to succeed in top flight, among them his manager at his first professional club, RW Essen, the legendary Yugoslavian center half Ivica Horvat. Despite Hrubesch scoring many goals in his first few Bundesliga games (all of them using his head), Horvat decided to bench Hrubesch for long spells during the 1975-76 season as he considered him too uncouth and too incomplete for the type of football he wanted to play. But Hrubesch had quickly established himself as a fan favorite and Horvat couldn’t any longer ignore the demands from the terraces to use Hrubesch. When he finally relented, Hrubesch immediately resumed his goal scoring activities. In his three years at RW Essen (two in topflight, one in the second division), he scored a massive 80 goals in 83 games. Throughout his career, the big centre forward looked awkward in his movement, but he continuously worked on improving his ball skills. By 1980, two years after he had joined the top club Hamburger SV, Hrubesch was given a chance as a successor to the severely injured standard centre forward of the German national team, Klaus Fischer. He didn’t pass on the opportunity and became a national hero by scoring the two goals in the final of the European Championships against Belgium.

*League record*

1975-76 22 18 RW Essen (BL)

1976-77 26 20 RW Essen (BL)

1977-78 35 42 RW Essen (Div. 2)

1978-79 34 13 Hamburg (BL)

1979-80 34 21 Hamburg (BL)

1980-81 29 17 Hamburg (BL)

1981-82 32 27 Hamburg (BL)

1982-83 30 18 Hamburg (BL)

1983-84 23 9 Standard Liège (Belgium)

1984-85 20 8 Standard Liège (Belgium)

1985-86 17 2 Dortmund (BL)

**#14**



**Ulf KIRSTEN** (b. 1965)

51 A (20 goals), Germany, Winger/Striker  
 League champion 1989, 1990  
 League runner-up 1984, 1985, 1987, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2002  
 Cup winner 1984, 1985, 1990, 1993  
 Cup finalist 2002  
 Top Scorer CWC 1994  
 Top Scorer UEFA Cup 1995  
 Top Scorer League 1993, 1997, 1998  
 East German Footballer 1990

Remembered today as an archetype centre forward he actually began his career in the mid-1980s as a winger. As a forward he was very self-assured and mastered finishing in any position he found himself in. Be it with a header, volley, shooting after quick turns, poaching. At the same time a real hard-working warrior on the pitch, the best goalgetter of his generation and the fifth best altogether. With his mentality he made up for light deficiencies in technique. In the unified German national team he strangely never had a real breakthrough, despite scoring an impressive 20 goals in 51 games (plus 14 goals in 49 games for East Germany).

*League record*

1983-84	11	1	Dresden (East Germany)
1984-85	25	7	Dresden (East Germany)
1985-86	24	7	Dresden (East Germany)
1986-87	23	11	Dresden (East Germany)
1987-88	22	7	Dresden (East Germany)
1988-89	24	14	Dresden (East Germany)
1989-90	25	10	Dresden (East Germany)
1990-91	32	11	Leverkusen (BL)
1991-92	23	12	Leverkusen (BL)
1992-93	33	20	Leverkusen (BL)
1993-94	28	13	Leverkusen (BL)
1994-95	27	15	Leverkusen (BL)
1995-96	29	8	Leverkusen (BL)
1996-97	29	22	Leverkusen (BL)
1997-98	27	22	Leverkusen (BL)
1998-99	31	19	Leverkusen (BL)
1999-00	27	17	Leverkusen (BL)
2000-01	29	12	Leverkusen (BL)
2001-02	32	11	Leverkusen (BL)
2002-03	3	0	Leverkusen (BL)

**#13**



**Oliver BIERHOFF** (b. 1968)  
 70 A (37 goals), Germany, Centre Forward  
 League Champion 1999  
 Euro winner 1996  
 World Cup finalist 2002  
 German Footballer 1998  
 Top Scorer League 1998

As a traditional centre forward who was very dependant on being fed from the flanks Bierhoff was a towering, commanding presence in the box who could sidestep his technical limitations due to his powerful aerial abilities. Coming from a wealthy background he was well-read and very articulate, which meant that he was never a darling of the crowds.

#### *League record*

1986-87	19	3	Uerdingen (BL)
1987-88	12	1	Uerdingen (BL)
1988-89	24	6	Hamburg (BL)
1989-90	10	0	Hamburg (BL)
1989-90	8	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1990-91	32	23	Salzburg (Austria)
1991-92	17	2	Ascoli (Italy)
1992-93	35	20	Ascoli (Italy – Div. 2)
1993-94	32	17	Ascoli (Italy – Div. 2)
1994-95	33	9	Ascoli (Italy – Div. 2)
1995-96	31	17	Udinese (Italy)
1996-97	23	13	Udinese (Italy)
1997-98	32	27	Udinese (Italy)
1998-99	34	19	Milan (Italy)
1999-00	30	11	Milan (Italy)
2000-01	27	6	Milan (Italy)
2001-02	18	4	Monaco (France)
2002-03	26	7	Chievo (Italy)

## #12



**Stéphane CHAPUISAT** (b. 1969)  
*103 A (21 goals), Switzerland, Striker*  
*League Champion 1995, 1996, 2001*  
*League runner-up 1992*  
*Champions Cup 1997*  
*UEFA Cup finalist 1993*  
*Intercontinental Cup 1997*  
*Top Scorer League 2001, 2004*  
*Swiss Footballer 1992, 1993, 1994, 2001*

Counted among the greatest footballers ever coming from Switzerland, Chapuisat was one of the Bundesliga's biggest stars during most of the 1990s, becoming the first foreign player to score 100 goals. Chapuisat started out as a left winger but became a cross between a support striker and poacher during his stay in Dortmund. He either was seen bustling around and inside the penalty box or attacking the goal straight away with great determination and dynamism. He loved to prevail in tight spaces and preferred his left foot for finishing the job.

#### *League record*

1987-88	33	12	Lausanne (Switzerland)
1988-89	21	1	Lausanne (Switzerland)
1989-90	30	10	Lausanne (Switzerland)
1990-91	20	13	Lausanne (Switzerland)
1990-91	10	4	Uerdingen (BL)
1991-92	37	20	Dortmund (BL)
1992-93	27	15	Dortmund (BL)

1993-94	30	17	Dortmund (BL)
1994-95	20	12	Dortmund (BL)
1995-96	17	3	Dortmund (BL)
1996-97	30	13	Dortmund (BL)
1997-98	27	14	Dortmund (BL)
1998-99	30	8	Dortmund (BL)
1999-00	21	11	Grashoppers (Switzerland)
2000-01	24	21	Grashoppers (Switzerland)
2001-02	32	13	Grashoppers (Switzerland)
2002-03	34	15	Young Boys Bern (Switzerland)
2003-04	35	23	Young Boys Bern (Switzerland)
2004-05	31	15	Young Boys Bern (Switzerland)

## #11



### **Claudio PIZARRO** (b. 1978)

*85 A (20 goals), Peru, Striker*

*League champion 2003, 2005, 2006, 2013, 2014, 2015*

*League runner-up 2004, 2008*

*Cup winner 2003, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2013, 2014*

*Cup finalist 2000, 2010*

*Champions Cup finalist 2008*

*Top Scorer Europa League 2010*

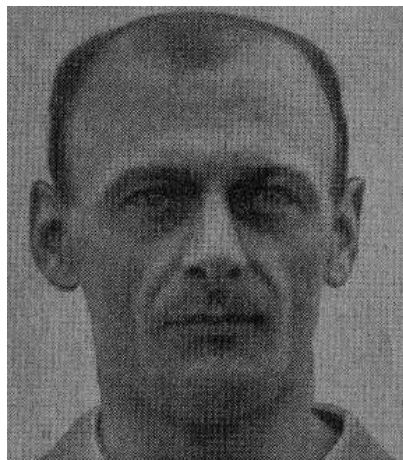
A technically outstanding striker who was a really cool finisher and excellent header already very early in his career. Not the most industrious striker due to his easy-going character. On technique alone Pizarro must be rated as one of the very best players ever to set a foot on a German pitch. Pizarro did not really exploit his great talent to the fullest, he did not become the world-beating superstar that he could have become. Pizarro can shield the ball very well and is generally very important as someone that knows what to do with the ball in any situation. A sly fox.

### *League record*

1995-96	16	3	Pesquero (Peru)
1996-97	25	8	Pesquero (Peru)
1997-98	22	7	Alianza Lima (Peru)
1998-99	22	18	Alianza Lima (Peru)
1999-00	25	10	Bremen (BL)
2000-01	31	19	Bremen (BL)
2001-02	30	15	Bayern München (BL)
2002-03	31	15	Bayern München (BL)
2003-04	31	11	Bayern München (BL)
2004-05	23	11	Bayern München (BL)
2005-06	26	11	Bayern München (BL)
2006-07	33	8	Bayern München (BL)
2007-08	21	2	Chelsea (England)
2008-09	26	17	Bremen (BL)
2009-10	26	16	Bremen (BL)
2010-11	22	9	Bremen (BL)
2011-12	29	18	Bremen (BL)
2012-13	20	6	Bayern München (BL)

2013-14	17	10	Bayern München (BL)
2014-15	13	0	Bayern München (BL)
2015-16	28	14	Bremen (BL)
2016-17	19	1	Bremen (BL)

## #10



### **Adolf JÄGER** (1889-1944)

*18 A (11 goals), Germany, Centre Forward/Inside Right*

Adolf Jäger was as famous and popular in Germany before World War I as Franz Beckenbauer was in later decades. Although he was a striker, his playing style had a lot in common with Beckenbauer's: he looked like a nobleman on the pitch, elegant, smooth, supremely gifted technically and a remarkable personality. His passing and heading were considered exemplary at his time, he was capable of delivering very precise passes over long distances and often was seen moving wide to send in pinpoint crosses. One must never forget that the gear that was used on the pitches back then was incomparably worse than what players use today. Modern players would struggle immensely having to operate in boots and with balls from 1910. And the pitches in 1910 were horrible compared to today's. Being a precise passer and crosser under these circumstances really hints at an outstanding footballing talent. Additionally to being a crucial provider for his team, Jäger was also operating as a striker, helped by a great aerial ability. Due to his intelligence, he was vastly superior to almost all other footballers in Germany at that time. His outstanding popularity was furthered due to his benign and humble character. After having started out as a centre forward Jäger gradually withdrew from the box to engage as a linkman in the inside right position. In 1939, 25 years after his peak, "Kicker" interviewed former Reichstrainer Otto Nerz. One of the questions they asked him was whom he considered to be the three greatest German forwards. Nerz replied without hesitation: "Richard Hofmann, Fritz Szepan and Adolf Jäger". Adding that "as actual centre forward, Jäger remains unsurpassed in our football age."

#### *Senior clubs*

1907-27 FC Altona 1893

## #9



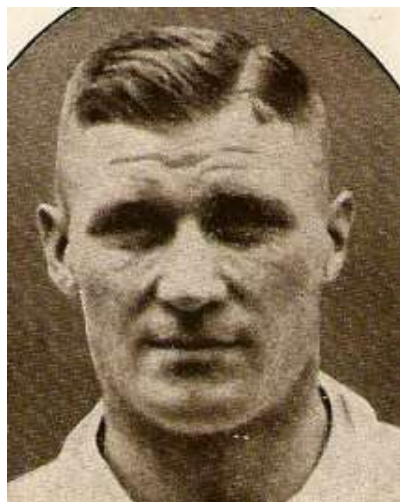
**Josef PÖTTINGER** (1903-1970)  
*14 A (9 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*

A virtuosic technical striker who coupled his supreme ball skills with a very hard shot and great aerial presence. It was this combination of elegance and efficiency that gave Pöttinger the reputation as Germany's greatest centre forward of the 1920s. His best season proved to be 1925-26 when he led them to win the Southern German championship against the stiff competition of Nürnberg and Fürth. When playing for Germany, Pöttinger proved to be versatile as the centre forward was usually the robust "tank" Tull Harder while the delicate Pöttinger was used as an inside left. Be it the tank Tull Harder or the technician Richard Hofmann, Pöttinger harmonised equally well with both types of players. The one big problem that Pöttinger faced throughout his career was that he was often target of very physical charges due to his fragile build and often suffered immensely from injuries. It was one of these injuries, a severe damage of the meniscus, which forced him to retire at the age of 28 in 1931. Pöttinger will be remembered as one of the technically best players in the history of German football, a sublime dribbler and ball virtuoso that resembled a ballet dancer in his best moments. In Munich he was considered the fitting counterpart to the famous Viennese virtuoso Matthias Sindelar.

*League record*

1920-21	7	5	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South Bavaria)
1921-22	17	27	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South Bavaria)
1922-23	16	22	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South Bavaria)
1923-24	14	15	Bayern München (Div. 1 – Bavaria)
1924-25	14	11	Bayern München (Div. 1 – Bavaria)
1925-26	23	32	Bayern München (Div. 1 – Bavaria)
1926-27	2	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 – Bavaria)
1927-28	16	12	Bayern München (Div. 1 – Southwest Bavaria)
1928-29	22	14	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South Bavaria)
1929-30	25	31	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South Bavaria)
1930-31	19	19	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South Bavaria)

**#8**



**Otto (Tull) HARDER** (1892-1956)  
*15 A (14 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1923, 1928*  
*League runner-up 1922, 1924*  
*Top Scorer Championship 1922, 1923, 1926, 1928*  
*Top Scorer League 1920, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929*

Tull Harder embodied the prototype "tank" centre forward of the 1920s. A giant and immensely athletic striker who looked like a wrestler and towered almost above all other players on the pitch. Harder's trademark were dynamic solos brought forth with a primal force. He also scored countless long range goals with his powerful shooting ability. With Harder at the helm, Hamburger SV became one of the foremost clubs in Germany during the 1920s. Harder was very self-confident without being an egotist, but he preferred straightforward type of football instead of the intricate passing prevalent in the major Southern German clubs. Harder was a player that thrilled the spectators when he covered a lot of ground in his sprints towards goal, using his physicality in moving past opponents as if they were not there, throwing his hulk-like body into combat and unleashing his thunder shots amidst his solo sprints. Harder was revered as a spectacular striker and his status in the 1920s was all the more remarkable as he was already 28 at the start of that decade and 38 at the end.



His best years thus must have been the 1910s but for the majority he spent these years as a soldier in World War I fighting in Flanders where he was decorated with the Iron Cross (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class). His goal tally for Hamburg in competitive games has only since been bettered by Uwe Seeler. He left Hamburg in 1931 at the age of 39 and finally retired with 42 in 1934. At that point, his "second career" had already begun, a career that almost erased all positive memory people have had of Harder, the famous footballer. In October 1932, Harder joined the NSDAP (Nazi Party) and in May 1933 also the SS. In 1939, Harder wanted to be part of the combat branch of the SS (Waffen-SS) but his wish was declined as he was considered too old and too famous to be part of the fighting squads. Instead, he was transferred to the Totenkopf-SS which was in charge of the concentration camps. Harder spent the next 6 years at the Ahlem concentration camp, eventually even becoming the commander of the camp.

While it was reported during his trial in 1947 by former inmates that Harder himself was not accountable for acts of cruelty or murder (he apparently even sponsored a football for the inmates to engage in the game) it is still a sad fact that during his command in Ahlem the lives of 373 inmates ended violently. Apparently Harder evaded the death penalty by a British court martial only because of his fame as a great footballer.

#### Senior clubs

1909-13	-	-	Eintracht Braunschweig (Div. 1)
1913-14	-	-	Hamburg FC 88 (Div. 1)
1914-19	-	-	inactive
1919-20	-	24	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Hamburg)
1920-21	-	28	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Nordkreis)
1921-22	-	12	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Alsterkreis)
1922-23	-	45	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Alsterkreis)
1923-24	-	26	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Alsterkreis)
1924-25	-	41	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Alsterkreis)
1925-26	-	24	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Alsterkreis)
1926-27	-	31	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Alsterkreis)
1927-28	-	42	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Alsterkreis)
1928-29	-	17	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Hamburg)
1929-30	-	0	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Great Hamburg)
1930-31	-	12	Hamburg (Div. 1 - Great Hamburg)
1931-34	-	-	Viktoria Hamburg (Div. 1 – Great Hamburg)

#### #7



**Miroslav (Miro) KLOSE** (b. 1978)  
 137 A (71 goals), Germany, Striker  
 League champion 2008, 2010  
 League runner-up 2006, 2009  
 Cup winner 2008, 2010, 2013  
 Cup finalist 2003, 2015  
 Champions Cup finalist 2010  
 World Cup winner 2014  
 World Cup finalist 2002  
 Euro finalist 2008  
 German Footballer 2006  
 Top Scorer World Cup 2006  
 Top Scorer League 2006

Known primarily for being one of the best headers of the ball, Miroslav Klose has been a very underrated striker for many years and still it looks strange that he is the top scorer in World Cup history, ahead of Ronaldo and Gerd Müller. A very calm and reserved player, his technique was above average and he became less of an aerial threat the more his career went on but more of a poacher with great skill on the ground and his ability to partake in sophisticated short passing of midfielders behind him allowed him to be a regular during the rise of the national team from a humbled disillusioned side (Euro 2004) to that of admired World Cup winners ten years later, where he was the last remnant that was already playing for Germany during the "dark ages" in the early 2000s. Klose became a very mobile striker who was always willing to run and work a lot, thus creating space for his teammates to exploit. That alone made him one of the most valuable strikers in German football history.

#### *League record*

1999-00	2	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
2000-01	29	9	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
2001-02	31	16	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
2002-03	32	9	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
2003-04	26	10	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
2004-05	32	15	Bremen (BL)
2005-06	26	25	Bremen (BL)
2006-07	31	13	Bremen (BL)
2007-08	27	10	Bayern München (BL)
2008-09	26	10	Bayern München (BL)
2009-10	25	3	Bayern München (BL)
2010-11	20	1	Bayern München (BL)
2011-12	27	12	Lazio (Italy)
2012-13	29	15	Lazio (Italy)
2013-14	25	7	Lazio (Italy)
2014-15	34	13	Lazio (Italy)
2015-16	24	7	Lazio (Italy)

## #6



**Jürgen KLINSMANN** (b. 1964)  
 108 A (47 goals), Germany, Striker  
 League champion 1997  
 League runner-up 1996  
 Cup finalist 1986  
 UEFA Cup 1991, 1996  
 UEFA Cup finalist 1989  
 World Cup winner 1990  
 Euro winner 1996  
 Euro finalist 1992  
 Top Scorer League 1988  
 Top Scorer UEFA Cup 1996  
 German Footballer 1988, 1994  
 English Footballer 1995

For a striker his technique was probably only average but he made up for that with his great enthusiasm, his very good heading of the ball but most of all with his great stamina. For roughly ten years Klinsmann was a fixture in the German national team. In Stuttgart Klinsmann was originally intended as a versatile second forward next to the Belgian Nico Claesen as targetman. With his heading and volleying he soon made a name for himself as a goalgetter and he was one of

the first players to excessively celebrate a scored goal. A very negative aspect of his playing style was his habit of not only going down easy but embellishing fouls or imagined fouls in an unsportsmanlike manner. His greatest game for Germany was the 1990 second round knock-out game vs. the Netherlands at the World Cup in Italy.

#### *League record*

1981-82	6	1	Kickers Stuttgart (2. Div.)
1982-83	20	2	Kickers Stuttgart (2. Div.)
1983-84	35	19	Kickers Stuttgart (2. Div.)
1984-85	32	15	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1985-86	33	16	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1986-87	32	16	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1987-88	34	19	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1988-89	25	13	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1989-90	31	13	Inter (Italy)
1990-91	33	14	Inter (Italy)
1991-92	31	7	Inter (Italy)
1992-93	35	19	Monaco (France)
1993-94	30	10	Monaco (France)
1994-95	41	20	Tottenham (England)
1995-96	32	16	Bayern München (BL)
1996-97	33	15	Bayern München (BL)
1997-98	8	2	Sampdoria (Italy)
1997-98	15	9	Tottenham (England)
1998-02	-	-	retired
2002-03	8	5	Orange County Blue Star (U.S. – Div. 4)

## #5



**Rudolf (Rudi) VÖLLER** (b. 1960)

*90 A (47 goals), Germany, Striker*

*League runner-up 1983, 1985, 1986, 1993*

*Cup winner 1991*

*Champions Cup 1993*

*UEFA Cup finalist 1991*

*World Cup winner 1990*

*World Cup finalist 1986*

*Euro finalist 1992*

*Top Scorer League 1983*

*Top Scorer UEFA Cup 1991*

*German Footballer 1983*

A streetwise striker who was tipped by many already in his youngest days to become an international player one day. Contrary to most talents who were predicted to become great stars, Rudi Völler during his peak years actually was rated as one of the world's best forwards. Völler began as a fast right-footed left winger for Offenbach whose aim already in those days was getting inside the box, by the early-1980s he had evolved into a technically very sound and extremely dangerous second forward in a 3-5-2 system. Very good ball control and an unerring instinct for scoring goals, Völler was a quick thinker with very short reaction time and was a clinical finisher inside the box. His breakthrough season was 1981-82 when he scored 37 goals for TSV 1860 München in 37 games in the second Division and already in the following season, now playing for Werder Bremen in the Bundesliga, he became top scorer and 'German Footballer of the Year', a meteoric rise. Völler left Bremen in 1987 to play for AS Roma where he struggled immensely in his first year, only scoring three times in 21 games. But in the following years he overcame these difficulties and became one of Roma's most celebrated players.

### League record

1977-78	6	1	Kickers Offenbach (Div. 2)
1978-79	29	11	Kickers Offenbach (Div. 2)
1979-80	38	7	Kickers Offenbach (Div. 2)
1980-81	33	9	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1981-82	37	37	TSV 1860 München (Div. 2)
1982-83	31	23	Bremen (BL)
1983-84	31	18	Bremen (BL)
1984-85	32	25	Bremen (BL)
1985-86	13	9	Bremen (BL)
1986-87	30	22	Bremen (BL)
1987-88	21	3	Roma (Italy)
1988-89	29	10	Roma (Italy)
1989-90	32	14	Roma (Italy)
1990-91	30	11	Roma (Italy)
1991-92	30	7	Roma (Italy)
1992-93	33	18	Marseille (France)
1993-94	25	6	Marseille (France)
1994-95	30	16	Leverkusen (BL)
1995-96	32	10	Leverkusen (BL)

## #4



**Klaus FISCHER** (b. 1949)

*45 A (32 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*

*League runner-up 1972, 1977*

*Cup winner 1972, 1983*

*World Cup finalist 1982*

*Top Scorer League 1976*

Without doubt one of the all-time best centre forwards in German football history. His specialty was converting high-flying crosses with spectacular bicycle kicks or with his great aerial ability. He benefitted like no other forward from the service of three of the best wingers of 1970s German football in Reinhard Libuda, Erwin Kremers and later Rüdiger Abramczik. While he only was of average height, he possessed an exceptional aerial quality, not only with his head but also with his feet. He would have played more than 45 times for Germany if he didn't have to compete with Gerd Müller for the centre forward spot and even after Müller had retired from international play in 1974, he still was not an option for the national team because of his involvement in the 1971 Bundesliga scandal. When the ban was finally lifted in 1977, he immediately established himself as the no. 1 forward of the national team, scoring 11 times in his first 9 games. Of all times, he lost his goal scoring form right before the 1978 World Cup and was thus one of the biggest disappointments from a German perspective.

Suffered a terrible injury in March 1980 when he broke his shinbone in a very complicated way which put him out of action for over a year but then he had a remarkable comeback in 1981 when he was swiftly re-introduced into the national team, again enjoying a goal scoring rout of 11 goals in his first 9 games just like in 1977. His 1982 World Cup was a more successful affair for him personally than the previous one, at the start of the tournament he was benched in favour of Horst Hrubesch but after the disappointing first round he was again the starter as centre forward supplying two vital goals against Spain and France. He retired in 1988 after 20 consecutive seasons in top flight, scoring 268 goals in 535

games for TSV 1860, FC Schalke 04, Köln and VfL Bochum.

*League record*

1968-69	26	9	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1969-70	34	19	TSV 1860 München (BL)
1970-71	34	15	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1971-72	29	22	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1972-73	0	0	suspended
1973-74	25	21	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1974-75	33	17	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1975-76	34	29	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1976-77	31	24	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1977-78	32	20	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1978-79	34	21	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1979-80	26	7	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1980-81	17	6	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1981-82	31	7	Köln (BL)
1982-83	32	12	Köln (BL)
1983-84	33	12	Köln (BL)
1984-85	34	16	Bochum (BL)
1985-86	27	8	Bochum (BL)
1986-87	11	3	Bochum (BL)
1987-88	12	0	Bochum (BL)

**#3**



**Robert LEWANDOWSKI** (b. 1988)

*91 A (51 goals), Poland, Striker*

*League champion 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017*

*League runner-up 2013, 2014*

*Cup winner 2009, 2012, 2016*

*Champions Cup finalist 2013*

*Polish Footballer 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016*

*Top Scorer League 2010, 2014, 2016*

A phenomenal striker who couples physical robustness, technical ability and a classic goalscorer's instinct with absolute mental toughness. The prototype of the modern striker, strong with both feet, fine header of the ball, can operate in tight space, possess an excellent shooting technique and is really keen on scoring as many goals as possible. A mobile player that knows how to get in position so that teammates can address him at any time, is ever on the spot, a good and industrious runner and very good in combination play. Good with his back to the goal. In short, to many the most complete striker in the history of the Bundesliga. Fits ideally into the wide playing style of Bayern.

*League record*

2006-07	27	15	Znicz (Poland – Div. 3)
2007-08	32	21	Znicz (Poland – Div. 2)
2008-09	30	14	Poznan (Poland)
2009-10	28	18	Poznan (Poland)
2010-11	33	8	Dortmund (BL)
2011-12	34	22	Dortmund (BL)
2012-13	31	24	Dortmund (BL)

2013-14 33 20 Dortmund (BL)  
2014-15 31 17 Bayern München (BL)  
2015-16 32 30 Bayern München (BL)  
2016-17 33 30 Bayern München (BL)

## #2



**Uwe SEELER** (b. 1936)  
*72 A (43 goals), Germany, Centre Forward*  
*League champion 1960*  
*League runner-up 1957, 1958*  
*Cup winner 1963*  
*Cup finalist 1956, 1967*  
*CWC finalist 1968*  
*World Cup finalist 1966*  
*Top Scorer CWC 1968*  
*Top Scorer Championship 1960, 1961*  
*Top Scorer League 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1964*  
*German Footballer 1960, 1964, 1970*

Honorary captain of the German national team and the first footballer ever to be decorated with the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, to this day Uwe Seeler occupies one of the most important places in the annals of German football. His rise to become arguably the most popular footballer ever in Germany began in 1953, when he impressed onlookers in the FIFA youth tournament at the age of 16. Already at this age he possessed the characteristic that would set him apart from all other players: his immense explosiveness, be it with very hard off-hand shots from all possible angles, spectacular diving headers or amazing bicycle kicks – Uwe knew how to wow the crowds. A reckless, compact centre forward of small, stocky stature with the absolute will to score, always looking for the direct way to the goal, a clinical finisher who would score amazingly artistic goals but also was known as a real poacher. In early 1954 Seeler already made the headlines by scoring 12 goals in six games at the next installment of the FIFA youth tournament, which was held before the World Cup in Switzerland and according to legend, Sepp Herberger seriously contemplated taking young Uwe to Switzerland. In the end, Herberger probably considered Seeler too young and unproven at that level.

But in Hamburg, there was no doubt that young Uwe was considered a really great promising talent and thus he made his first team debut in August 1954 in Oberliga North. At the end of his first season in topflight, he had scored 28 goals in 26 games. During his first nine seasons, he became top scorer of Oberliga North seven times, only in 1958 and 1963 was he beaten by another striker. Seeler soon rose to being one of the greatest stars on the pitches of Germany and managed to be a hugely popular player in all of Germany and in all stadiums that he played, hence his nickname 'Our Uwe'. Seeler never dwelt long on the ball, he was not someone to caress the ball or who was able to dribble his way around several players. In fact, he considered it unsportsmanlike when a gifted player was bent on humiliating a less talented player and thus Uwe often was seen cautioning his outside left Gert Dörfel when he overdid his dribbling or when he saw Dörfel nutmegging his opponent.

In Hamburg, Seeler became an absolute club legend by leading the club to nine successive championships in Oberliga North and one German championship in 1960. Two of his greatest games for Hamburg were the 1960 German championship final against Köln, where he scored two goals in a 3-2 win and the 1963 German Cup final, when he scored all three goals in a 3-0 win over Borussia Dortmund. Although Uwe already debuted in the German national team in October 1954 (aged 17), he initially found it hard to repeat his club success on the international level. His breakthrough was the 1958 World Cup in Sweden where Seeler scored his first goal in his fifth international game in the match against Argentina. From that point Seeler was the undisputed no. 1 forward in the German national team until his first resignation from international duties in spring 1968. Like no other player of his time, Seeler embodied virtues like diligence, a down-to-earth attitude, discipline and sincerity.

#### *League record*

1954-55	26	28	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1955-56	29	32	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1956-57	26	31	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1957-58	24	22	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1958-59	27	29	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1959-60	26	36	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1960-61	23	29	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1961-62	28	28	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1962-63	28	32	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1963-64	30	30	Hamburg (BL)
1964-65	19	14	Hamburg (BL)
1965-66	23	11	Hamburg (BL)
1966-67	23	10	Hamburg (BL)
1967-68	30	12	Hamburg (BL)
1968-69	33	23	Hamburg (BL)
1969-70	30	17	Hamburg (BL)
1970-71	25	9	Hamburg (BL)
1971-72	26	11	Hamburg (BL)
1972-77	-	-	retired
1977-78	1	2	Cork (Ireland)

## #1



**Gerhard (Gerd) MÜLLER** (b. 1945)  
 62 A (68 goals), Germany, Centre Forward  
 League champion 1969, 1972, 1973, 1974  
 League runner-up 1970, 1971, 1980  
 Cup winner 1966, 1967, 1969, 1971  
 Champions Cup 1974, 1975, 1976  
 CWC Winner 1967  
 Intercontinental Cup 1976  
 World Cup winner 1974  
 Euro winner 1972  
 Ballon d'Or 1970  
 German Footballer 1967, 1969  
 Top Scorer World Cup 1970  
 Top Scorer Euro 1972  
 Top Scorer Europe 1970, 1972

*Top Scorer Champions Cup 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977*

*Top Scorer League 1967, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1978*

Gerd Müller was arguably the greatest marksman of the modern, low-scoring era of world football. His record at international tournaments like the World Cup, the European Championship and the Champions Cup is especially staggering, scoring 64 goals in just 60 games at the highest level. During his career, he scored 21 hattricks, four quadroticks and two quintotricks (only counting competitive games). Seven times he scored five goals in one match, 15 times four goals and 35 times three goals in a single match (only counting competitive games here).

In the light of these figures, it did not come as a surprise when Franz Beckenbauer once expressed his gratitude towards his long-time teammate by stating that "everything we became, all the trophies we won and triumphs we enjoyed, we owe only to Gerd Müller". Müller's great strength was his "sixth sense" at anticipating and realizing moments that could lead to goals, his very short reaction time in front of the goal. Mentally Müller was very balanced and arguably had the most refined poacher's instinct of all goalgetters in world football. Müller rarely scored spectacular goals from outside of the penalty box, his area of expertise were 'little' goals (as Germany manager Helmut Schön put it), scored from all possible situations, laying on the ground, while sitting, while falling, standing, with his left and his right foot, with his knees, even with his bottom and with his belly, with his thighs, and of course with his head, for Müller - like Uwe Seeler - despite being quite small, had massive muscular legs and had perfect timing for the right moment which helped him become an extremely dangerous player at heading. Müller scored so many goals he soon earned the nickname 'Der Bomber' (though 'bombing' was not his specialty).

Despite his habit of mostly scoring 'little' goals, Müller was a technically sound player who could also chip the ball into the goal and who excelled in neat 1-2s played with his teammates Franz Beckenbauer and Günter Netzer of Borussia Mönchengladbach (some of them being 3-4s rather than just 1-2s). His most common way of scoring goals, however, was the famous "turn-and-shoot-in-one move", which he perfected and in which he scored probably the majority of his goals throughout his career, as well as his most famous goal, the 1974 World Cup final winning goal against Holland. In the last few years of his Bundesliga career it wasn't a rarity for Müller to be playing in midfield. Gerd Müller loved it when he was very tightly marked by the stopper, because when he was on the ball, he would shield it very well by seeking very close contact to his marker, protruding his bottom towards his opponent and then quickly turning around by using his marker as a tool to accelerate his movement. All this was done in a matter of seconds.

#### *League record*

1962-63	3	4	Nördlingen (Div. 5)
1963-64	29	47	Nördlingen (Div. 5)
1964-65	26	33	Bayern München (Div. 2)
1965-66	33	14	Bayern München (BL)
1966-67	32	28	Bayern München (BL)
1967-68	34	20	Bayern München (BL)
1968-69	30	30	Bayern München (BL)
1969-70	33	38	Bayern München (BL)
1970-71	32	22	Bayern München (BL)
1971-72	34	40	Bayern München (BL)
1972-73	33	36	Bayern München (BL)
1973-74	34	30	Bayern München (BL)
1974-75	33	23	Bayern München (BL)
1975-76	22	23	Bayern München (BL)
1976-77	25	28	Bayern München (BL)
1977-78	33	24	Bayern München (BL)
1978-79	19	9	Bayern München (BL)
1978-79	25	19	Fort Lauderdale (United States)
1979-80	29	14	Fort Lauderdale (United States)
1980-81	17	5	Fort Lauderdale (United States)