

IKER CASILLAS

Spain & Real Madrid

Golden Glove winner at FIFA World Cup 2010™

SPANISH LANGUAGE

SLATE:

Story: Iker Casillas collects adidas Golden Glove Award for best Goalkeeper at FIFA World Cup 2010

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FIFA World Cup™ winner Iker Casillas collected the adidas Golden Glove award for the best goalkeeping performance in South Africa. The Real Madrid star conceded only two goals throughout the tournament the first in Spain's 1-0 defeat to Switzerland the other against Chile.

Asked about the relationships within the Spanish camp during the tournament the captain said, "being in the dining room day after day, and training, It is not easy to be with your team for 50 days without any friction or clashes between teammates and it says a lot about the good feeling within the team."

Looking to the future Casillas picked Germany as the only nation he is "scared of" going into Euro2012, "I think they are going to set the standard for football at international level in a couple of years."

The 29-year old made 17 crucial FIFA World Cup™ saves in South Africa played every minute of every game and became the first ever Spaniard to lift the FIFA World Cup™ Trophy.

Domestically Casillas is hoping to avoid a repeat of last season when two defeats against Barcelona in La Liga cost Real the title. "Well, that's what happened last season. The only two games we lost were against Barcelona and we suffered for that," said Real's number one. If we'd gotten a better result in those games we could have won La Liga." The past three winners of the Golden Glove award were Gianluigi Buffon of Italy, Germany's Oliver Khan and Frenchman Fabien Barthez.

Full list of past Golden Glove winners:

1930 Uruguay - Enrique Ballestrero

1934 Italy - Ricardo Zamora

1938 France – *František Plánička*
1950 Brazil – Roque Maspoli
1954 Switzerland – Gyula Grosics
1958 Sweden - Harry Gregg
1962 Chile – Viliam Schrojf
1966 England - Gordon Banks
1970 Mexico - Ladislao Mazurkiewicz
1974 West Germany – Jan Tomaszewski
1978 Argentina – Ubaldo Fillol
1982 Spain – Dino Zoff
1986 Mexico – Harald Schumacher
1990 Italy – Sergio Goycochea
1994 USA – Michel Preud'homme
1998 France – Fabian Barthez
2002 Korea / Japan – Oliver Khan
2006 Germany – Gianluigi Buffon
2010 South Africa - Iker Casillas

INTERVIEW: Iker Casillas

Q. Why is the adidas Golden Glove award so important?

Bueno, pues para mí haber ganado el Adidas Guante de Oro en el pasado Mundial de Sudáfrica supone un galardón a nivel personal que lo tengo con mucho cariño pues, bueno, porque fue un Mundial diferente, un Mundial complicado a nivel personal, sobre todo por cómo llegaba a ese Mundial yo en mi respectivo club. Quizá no habían salido las cosas del todo bien, quizá no había sido mi mejor temporada pero tampoco había sido mala y, bueno, a mí se me exigió mucho en el pasado Mundial, ¿no? Por fortuna, pues puede estar concentrado en lo mío, me limité a lo que era lo mío, que era entrenar e intentar hacerlo lo mejor posible en los partidos y al final pues tuve, tuvimos la recompensa de ganar el Mundial y encima tuve también la recompensa de ganar el Adidas Guante de Oro.

English translation

Well, for me to have won the adidas Golden Glove in the last World Cup in South Africa personally means a trophy that I hold very dearly because it was a different World Cup. At a personal level it was complicated, especially because of the form I'd had at my club. Things had not gone so well: it probably had not been my best season but it had not been bad either. A lot was required of me though in the last World Cup. Fortunately I could focus on my job, I just did my job, which meant training and to do my best during the matches. We were rewarded with winning the World Cup and on top of that I was rewarded with winning the Adidas Golden Glove.

Q. Tell me about the other Golden award winners, Forlan and Müller?

Bueno, pues yo creo que son premios que quedarán siempre a la posteridad, ¿no? Siempre la gente los va a recordar pues por eso, porque España ganó el

Mundial, porque Forlán, Müller o Casillas también recibieron premio a nivel individual, y es un poco el valorar bien la trayectoria de un jugador en una fase final de un Mundial, ¿no? Yo creo que eso es lo principal, que dentro de cuatro o cinco Mundiales, los nombres seguirán ahí.

English translation

Well, I think these are awards that will always be remembered. People will always remember that Spain won the World Cup, that Forlán, Müller or Casillas won an award at individual level. It is a matter of appraising the development of a player in the last stage of the World Cup. I think that's the most important thing: that four or five World Cups from now, the names will still be there.

Q. Tell me about your memory of playing in the World Cup?

Sí, muy feliz, la verdad. Ya no solo en lo que se refiere a nivel deportivo sino a nivel personal y momentos que se te quedan grabados son todos. Quizá recuerdo mucho más el primer partido ante Suiza en el que no conseguimos ganar, en el que se habló mucho de la selección española, que había muchas esperanzas puestas en esta selección para esta Copa del Mundo FIFA, pero los días que pasamos allí, yo creo que era un poco quizá lo que la gente no veía, ¿no?, la convivencia, el estar día tras día en el comedor, los entrenamientos. No es fácil estar 50 días concentrado y que no haya ningún roce, ningún pique entre un compañero y otro, yo creo que es muy bien el sentir que tiene ese grupo.

English translation

Yes, very happy, really. Not only because of my performance on the pitch but, at a personal level. Moments that will stay in my memory are all of them. I perhaps remember much more our first match against Switzerland, which we didn't win. A lot was said about the Spanish team, there were many hopes put on this team for this FIFA World Cup. But those days there, the bit that people didn't see: the living together, being in the dining room day after day, the training. It is not easy to be with your team for 50 days without any friction or clashes between teammates and it says a lot about the good feeling within the team.

Q. What has José Mourinho brought to the club that wasn't there before?

¿Qué ha traído? No lo sé qué ha traído, la verdad. No te puedo explicar. La verdad es que es un aire diferente lo que se vive en el vestuario, una situación muy distinta al anterior. Ha habido mucho cambio de jugadores, hay mucha juventud, el equipo se ha rejuvenecido muchísimo. Mucha ambición, muchas ganas de hacer las cosas bien, muchas ganas de que la gente empiece a tener un nombre a nivel europeo. Bueno, con gente que lleva mucho más tiempo en el Real Madrid, que sabemos un poco lo que es el valor del club, y la gente que ha venido nueva, pues hay una mezcla bastante buena. No lo sé hasta dónde vamos a llegar. Nosotros lo vamos a intentar hacer lo mejor posible, partido tras partido y este es nuestro cometido, no pensar en la final de Wembley sino pensar en el siguiente partido que tengamos en Champions.

English translation

What has he brought? I don't know what he's brought, to be honest. I can't explain. The truth is that there is a different feeling in the changing room. There are a lot of new players, very young, the team is a lot younger. There is a lot of ambition, an eagerness to do things well, the guys are eager to make their name at European level. There are people who have been a lot longer at Real Madrid and we know what the club values are, and there is a good mix with the new people. I don't know how far we'll go. We are going to try and do our best, match after match. That is our objective, not to think about the Wembley final but about our next match in the Champions League.

Q. Barcelona & Real Madrid... they're not the only two teams are they?

Bueno, el año pasado se dio así, la verdad, que los dos únicos partidos que perdimos fueron con el Barcelona y eso nos pasó factura, ¿no? Si hubiéramos sacado quizá un resultado mejor en ese enfrentamiento hubiéramos podido conseguir la Liga. Este año creo que va a haber sorpresas con algún equipo, ¿no? Ya la dio el Hércules, pero me refiero quizá a equipos como puedan ser el Villarreal, el Sevilla, el Atlético de Madrid. Estadios donde va a ser complicado el poder ganar y creo que este año no va a ser tan cómodo como el año pasado.

English translation

Well, that's what happened last season. The only two games we lost were against Barcelona and we suffered for that. If we'd gotten a better result in those games we could have won La Liga. I think this year we are going to see a surprise team. Like Hercules was, but I mean teams such as Villarreal, Sevilla, Atlético de Madrid. Beating them is going to be difficult and I think this year is not going to be as comfortable as last year.

Q. Could any other team apart from Spain win the Euros in 2012?

Bueno, cualquiera puede dar la sorpresa. A mí me gusta mucho Alemania. Yo, del pasado Mundial me quedo con Alemania, ¿no? Es un rival europeo, es un rival joven, tiene grandes jugadores. Yo creo que va a marcar un poco el mundo del fútbol a nivel mundial en un par de años, seguramente cuando España a lo mejor no consiga el poder estar ahí arriba, en la primera posición, pero a mí la única selección que me da más miedo y más respeto es Alemania.

English translation

Well, any team could be a surprise. I like Germany a lot. At the last World Cup Germany were my favourites. They are European rivals, they are young, they've got great players. I think they are going to set the standard for football at international level in a couple of years, when Spain are probably not up there at the top. The only team I am scared of and I've got respect for is Germany.

