



Paraguayan midfielder Carlos Paredes (top-R) jumps over Trinidad and Tobago's goalkeeper Kelvin Jack (bottom-C) after the latter fails to stop an own goal by defender Brent Sancho (back R) during their last World Cup appearance at Kaiserslautern's Fritz-Walter Stadium on Tuesday.

WC QUOTES

AFP, Berlin
What they're saying at the World Cup on Wednesday:
'Here, it's Scolari or Big Phil. Not Felipe.'
Portugal coach Luiz Felipe Scolari chides a journalist for using his Brazilian nickname.
'As soon as it happened I knew I was in trouble.'
England star Michael Owen on the injury which finished his World Cup.
'I feel very sorry for him to miss out on the rest of the World Cup - it's a blow to him and a big loss for the team.'
England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson laments the loss of Owen.
'History will in the future remember only who is the winner, or maybe sometimes the runner-up. All the others will remain in distant history.'
Ilija Petkovic, the coach of eliminated Serbia and Montenegro.
'Now it's easy to speak about everything, maybe we need something from a psychologist. For us the most important thing is to save face and go home.'
Petkovic on the rows that have riven his squad since they arrived in Germany.
'I'm very happy because I won't be going to jail after the match against Argentina we lost 6-0 -- it's only football.'
Petkovic looks on the bright side.
'The main thing is that the people can see we're playing for them, and that they can believe in us again.'

Soca Warriors eye 2010



AFP, Kaiserslautern
Trinidad and Tobago coach Leo Beenhakker admits his Caribbean side still lacked the competitive pace to keep up with some of the world's top sides.
But after the Soca Warriors' 2-0 Group B defeat to Paraguay and subsequent exit on Tuesday some of his players are already looking towards South Africa's hosting of the World Cup in 2010.
Luton Town midfielder Carlos Edwards is reportedly attracting interest from some of the English Premiership's 'smaller' clubs.
But after ending his first World Cup experience early it was his international future that was foremost in his mind.
'I just hope that we can build on this campaign for the future. I think that we can compete with the best,' he said.
'We've proved a lot of people wrong who thought we came here just to make up the numbers. Our tournament is finished, but we're going home with our heads held high.'
Trinidad and Tobago made history at the World Cup by becoming the smallest nation (1.1 million

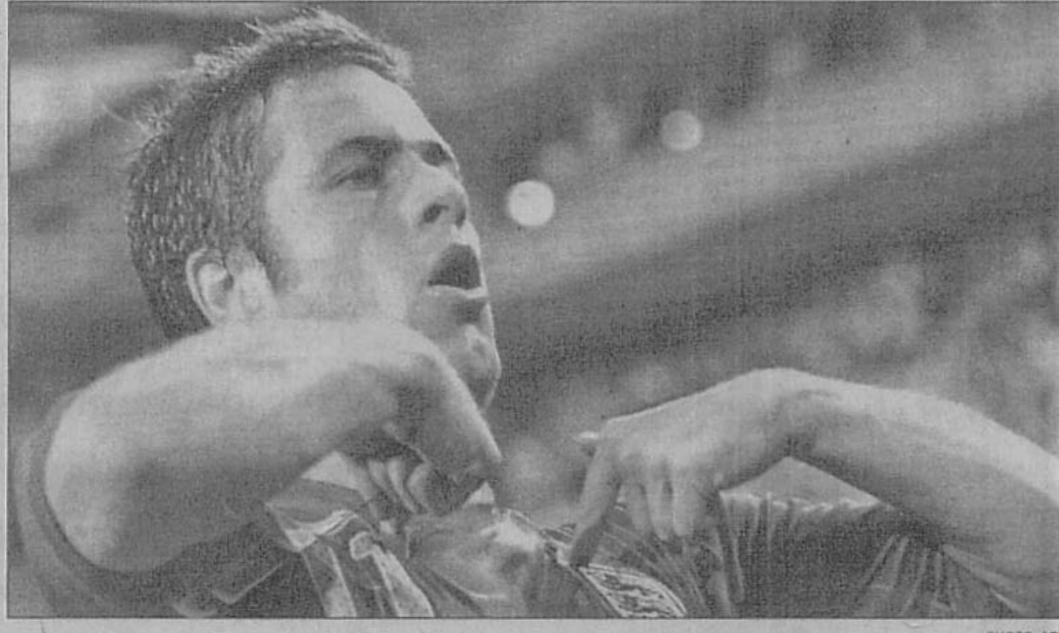
population) to qualify.
However the motley crew of mostly lower league players coached by wily Dutch veteran Leo Beenhakker showed great promise by holding Sweden 0-0 and only losing 2-0 to England in the last 10 minutes.
Despite their offensive domination of Paraguay in a pulsating second half on Tuesday, T&T go home having failed to score a goal or win a game.
Beenhakker said that before the tournament they had all been worrying about the faster pace of their opponents and 'whether England and Sweden were going to beat us four or five-nil.'
And Edwards admitted there was still work to do if they are to build on their relative success of making it to Germany.
'Obviously Sweden and England have good quality up front and they can punish anyone. We also have a bit of inexperience but I think the pace factor is down to a lot of the guys who play locally back in Trinidad. I think they're not accustomed with the pace.
'But we have to go home thinking positive and take a lot of this experience and use it for the future.'
Own goal victim Brent Sancho, who accidentally headed into his own net in the 25th minute, looked emotional after the match but the defender was philosophical in his appraisal of the incident.
'By the time I put my head up it was already up off my head and going into the back of the net,' he said.
'It was unfortunate. You know, I didn't intentionally try to header it in. It just kind of glanced off my head. These things happen probably 50 million times in football.'
Sancho also admitted they would have to work on certain game features.
'There's one or two components that a little nation like us are lacking. But at the end of the day we showed that we can compete with the big teams, with the 0-0 against Sweden and against England we did well too.
'I think we just kind of ran out of steam at the last game.
'But we came here and we did things that people just didn't expect us to do. We turned heads, and we're happy with that.'
Edwards meanwhile already has his sights on the World Cup in four years time.
'This experience will live with me forever, but I just hope that it's not just one World Cup for me. I hope I will be in South Africa in 2010,' he said.
As for Sancho, football is the last thing on his mind.
'We will build on this for the future, but all I want to do is get back to the beach in Tobago.
'Right now my mind is off football. I need a break.'

The loyal Alex



AFP, Bonn
Brazilian-born Japan wing Alex cannot be accused of divided loyalties when it comes to playing the country of his birth and on Thursday in Dortmund he hopes to play a role in what would be one of the greatest shocks in World Cup history.
Japan need to pull it off against the five time champions because failure to do so would mean them going home after the first round and with bitter rivals South Korea handily placed to make the second round that would make it all the worse.
However Santos said that he had no different feelings to approaching

the match as he would any other.
'I feel calm. Everything is alright in my mind,' the 28-year-old right wing in the 'Blue Samurai' squad said on Tuesday.
'I'm looking forward to beating Brazil. We are going all out to win.'
Alex, who was lured to Japan by a football-crazy rural high school in 1994, became a naturalised Japanese in time to make his World Cup debut in 2002 for Japan and made two appearances as a substitute as Japan went out in the second round to eventual semi-finalists Turkey.
However if Japan are to at least threaten an upset then the left-footed Santos, scorer of five goals in his 70 appearances for the Japanese, will have to be on his best form.
He is confident as he admits with a coy smile that he can step up to the plate.
'I will play great football. That's



English midfielder Joe Cole celebrates after scoring England's opening goal against Sweden in Cologne on Tuesday.

Blair happy with English fans

AFP, London
British Prime Minister Tony Blair on Wednesday praised the behaviour of England fans at the football World Cup in Germany.
Tens of thousands of English supporters have travelled to the tournament, which has so far passed off without the major outbreaks of disorder which tarnished their reputation at previous international football tournaments.
'In fairness to the football fans of England, the vast majority of them behave extremely well,' Blair told parliament's lower House of Commons during his weekly question-and-answer session.
'I think the way that this present World Cup is being conducted is absolutely excellent and is a great tribute not just to the German authorities who are conducting it and are in charge of it, but to the English fans that have travelled there.
'So I pay tribute to all of those that lawfully and properly are football supporters.'
German police detained 15 England fans in Cologne who clashed with police overnight Monday ahead of their country's 2-2 draw against Sweden. All were later released.
England has a bad reputation for hooliganism following violent clashes between English fans and those from opposing countries in previous tournaments although great efforts have been made in recent years to curb the problem.
A total of 3,664 people are currently forbidden to travel from Britain to Germany during the World Cup, either by special football banning orders or other judicial procedures.

'We'll do it for Owen'

AFP, Baden-Baden
England captain David Beckham has vowed to win the World Cup for a devastated Michael Owen who will play no further part in the World Cup.
Beckham, a former Real Madrid teammate of Owen's, said the squad was devastated by his injury and vowed to win the World Cup for him.
'That's what we said at half time when we came in and we knew it was a bad injury,' he said.
'It's sad -- Michael's one of those players you need in big tournaments. It's unfortunate for him and for us.'
Goalkeeper Paul Robinson said the team was upset by what had happened.
'Devastated, we think it is quite a serious one,' he said.
'Michael won't be playing any more part in the World Cup. I'm disappointed for him and the team as well. It's a very unfortunate incident.'
Defender Rio Ferdinand, who himself came off with a twinge in his groin, said he had seen Owen fall to the turf.
'I saw him go down and I thought he might be up in the next minute, that he might just twisted an ankle or something,' said the Manchester United star.
'But to go in at half time and find out it might be ligaments or something serious like that is devastating for him and disappointing for the team.'

Japan fans frustrated

INTERNET, undated
Angry fans vented their frustration at Japan's struggling World Cup squad overnight, booing and hurling insults at the players.
The Asian champion needs to pull off one of the biggest upsets in the history of the tournament by beating Brazil in its final Group F game in Dortmund tomorrow (AEST) to have any chance of reaching the last 16.
Japan lost 3-1 to Australia and was held 0-0 by Croatia in its first two matches, prompting an unpleasant reaction from a crowd of almost 2000 at a training session here.
'Put the ball in the net, you're rubbish,' shouted one irate fan.
Japan coach Zico is under pressure to make changes to his ineffective frontline of Atsushi Yanagisawa and Naohiro Takahara.
Yanagisawa, who missed an open goal against Croatia, is favourite to make way after a torrid two games and was the main target for the fans' scorn.
Japan must overcome champions Brazil by two goals and hope Australia loses to Croatia to have any hope of emulating its run to the last 16 as co-hosts in 2002.

Klinsi not content yet



AFP, Berlin
Germany coach Jurgen Klinsmann on Wednesday saluted his young side for coming through Group A with three wins which enabled them to avoid England in the last 16, but he insisted they still needed to improve in some areas.
'We are very happy of course with three wins and winning the group. We have taken on a lot of confidence from our group games,' Klinsmann told a news conference.
'I think the team can be proud of what they have achieved so far.
'I think we were pretty impressive. We have built up confidence in ourselves as well as motivation for the knockout games.'
'But against Sweden on Saturday it will be very difficult and we must improve. We are looking forward to it. We have grown into our role,' said the former Stuttgart, Inter Milan, Tottenham and Bayern Munich favourite.
'I think the message the players are getting from their bodies is that

they can feel that their work is bearing fruit.
'But now there are no easy games. We respect Sweden very much and have monitored all three of their games. We will prepare very carefully and are looking forward to it. We weren't bothered about who we would meet,' Klinsmann insisted.
With a young side marshalled by midfield dynamo Michael Ballack gradually finding their feet despite the pressure of being the host nation and of Germany's record which is second to none among European sides Klinsmann said it was important the fringe players felt part of the occasion.
'We have no two-class society. We make sure everyone stays hungry so they are ready to slot in as required,' he said in allusion to reserves such as goalkeeper Oliver Kahn, who was a star of Germany's run to the 2002 final but who has lost his place at this tournament to Arsenal's Jens Lehmann.
Public interest in the German side is huge, with the television audience for the Ecuador match peaking at 23 million.
Klinsmann refused to look beyond the Sweden game when asked how his side might fare against a South American giant such as in-

Some solace for Janas



AFP, Hanover
Two goals from defender Bartosz Bosacki -- his first for his country -- gave Poland a comeback 2-1 victory over Costa Rica in their nothing-at-stake Group A encounter here on Tuesday.
Under-pressure Polish coach Pawel Janas said that he was happy the team was returning home having gone one win under their belts.
'It would have been a pity to go home without any points or goals,' said the 53-year-old, who was a member of the side that reached the 1982 World Cup semifinals.
Janas, who has been in charge since 2003, added he had not decided on his future as of yet, though, there have been many calls for him to resign as the Poles crashed out of the World Cup at the first hurdle for the second successive time.
'I have not thought about resigning and I am not going to take a decision right now,' said Janas, who has

fought a successful battle with cancer.
His Costa Rican counterpart Alexandre Guimarães admitted that there was unlikely to be friendly crowds awaiting the squad when they returned home.
'I am not expecting a warm welcome on our return because our three results did not live up to expectations,' said the 46-year-old, who almost got Costa Rica into the second round in 2002 only losing out in the group stage to eventual semi-finalists Turkey on goal difference.
However the Brazil-born but naturalised Costa Rican acknowledged that he may not last much longer in the job, which he inherited late on in the qualifying campaign.
'Now, I am going to take several days to analyse things and discuss matters with the federation president,' said Guimarães, who as a player reached the second round in 1990 with Costa Rica.
'We will work out the possibilities either to continue or not with my strategy at the end of the month.'
Bosacki said that his goals came a little bit late in the tournament to save Poland but he was still happy with his achievement.
'I suppose it was a surprise that I (a defender) got the goals but I have been working hard on set pieces at training,' said the 30-year-old, who got a late call-up to the squad.
'They came a little bit too late, I guess, but it did work out for us today.'
All-time leading scorer Paulo Wanchope, who nabbed two goals in Costa Rica's 4-2 loss to Germany in the World Cup opener, lined up for his swansong international appearance.
The leggy, long-striding Wanchope had banged in 45 goals in 71 matches for Los Ticos but there was to be no victorious farewell for the former Manchester City star.
'It was an emotional day -- my last official game for the team,' said the striker. 'I made a decision and I am sticking by it. It is time for other players to come in and do things for the country. It is a pity I did not go out with a win.'
Wanchope had the ball in the net in the 81st minute for what would have been a dream equaliser in his last game but he was correctly ruled offside.



Two-goal Polish defender Bartosz Bosacki (L) and Costa Rican forward Paulo Wanchope bid World Cup goodbye in different styles after their match in Hanover on Tuesday.

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CRYPTOQUIP
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L D X G J K V D S D Z N L D R K
M V U D L Y K Y E X R K K V P K
E X J V K L D S D X G J U Y Z N
Saturday's Cryptquip: POP TUNE ABOUT A PASSENGER CABIN THAT'S FAR TOO BRIGHTLY LIT: "BLINDED BY THE FLIGHT!"
Today's Cryptquip Clue: K equals T

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.