

WORLD CUP USA '94

Today's World Cup Fixtures

Group F
Holland vs Morocco
Belgium vs S Arabia
(For details see Page 1)

Brazil top Sprint Poll

KANSAS CITY, June 28: Results of the Sprint Soccer Poll, a weekly ranking of the top 10 national soccer teams as determined by a panel of 50 international soccer writers through Monday June 27. The rankings are based on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 system, with first place teams receiving 10 points, second place receiving 9, etc. First place votes are in parentheses:

1. Brazil (46), 494 points.
2. Argentina (2), 419.
3. Germany (2), 415.
4. Belgium, 272.
5. Nigeria, 250.
6. Ireland, 144.
7. Italy, 137.
8. Mexico, 136.
9. Sweden, 106.
10. Netherlands, 100.

Also receiving votes: Romania, 87; United States, 70; Switzerland, 50; Spain, 36; Norway, 28; and Bulgaria, 4.

Goal scorers

DALLAS, June 28: World Cup goalscorers after matches played on Monday:

4 goals — Juergen Klinsmann (Germany)
3 goals — Gabriel Batistuta (Argentina), Martin Dahlin (Sweden)
2 goals — Florin Raducioiu (Romania), Jose Caminero (Spain), Juan Golkoetxea (Spain), Gheorghe Hagi (Romania), Georges Bregy (Switzerland), Adolfo Valencia (Colombia), Luis Garcia (Mexico), Romario (Brazil), Fuad Anwar Amin (Saudi Arabia), Claudio Caniggia (Argentina), Hristo Stoichkov (Bulgaria), Hong Myong-Bo (South Korea).

1 goal — Julio Salinas (Spain), Hwang Sun-Hong (South Korea), Soe Jung-Won (South Korea), Eric Wynalda (United States), Ray Houghton (Ireland), Marc Degryse (Belgium), Kjetil Rekdal (Norway), Roger Ljung (Sweden), David Emble (Cameroon), Francois Omam-Biyik (Cameroon), Rai (Brazil), Wim Jonk (Netherlands), Gaston Taument (Netherlands), Diego Maradona (Argentina), Rashidi Yekini (Nigeria), Daniel Amokachi (Nigeria), Emmanuel Amunike (Nigeria), Alain Sutter (Switzerland), Stephane Chapuisat (Switzerland), Adrian Knup (Switzerland), Ernie Stewart (United States), Dino Baggio (Italy), John Aldridge (Ireland), Bebeto (Brazil), Oleg Salenko (Russia), Tomas Brolin (Sweden), Sami Al-Jaber (Saudi Arabia), Philippe Albert (Belgium), Mohamed Chaouch (Morocco), Samson Siasia (Nigeria), Yordan Lechkov (Bulgaria), Daniel Borimirov (Bulgaria), Dan Petrescu (Romania), Harold Lozano (Colombia), Karlheinz Riedle (Germany), Erwin Sanchez (Bolivia), Josep Guardiola (Spain).

Govt tried to play with Cameroon

YAOUNDE, June 28: Politicians in the Cameroon capital tried to force changes on their country's World Cup team against Brazil only hours before kick-off, reports AFP.

Veteran striker Roger Milla and Joseph Antoine Bell, their goalkeeper who quit the national team following the 3-0 defeat by Brazil in San Francisco last Friday, revealed the governmental intervention on Monday.

The Cameroon squad's united front against the orders prevented changes but Milla and Bell both said outside interference had a negative effect on the team's performance in the United States.



IN 1990 THE TOURNAMENT RETURNS TO THE CLASSIC FOOTBALLING COUNTRY OF ITALY. NO ONE WILL SLEEP SINGING SOCCER-LOVING OPERA STAR LUCIANO PAVAROTTI.



German scoring-machine Juergen Klinsmann celebrates after netting the first goal against South Korea in the world-champs final game in Group C at the Cotton Bowl Stadium on Monday. Germany squeezed home 3-2. — AFP photo

ROK show champs clay-feet



DALLAS, June 28: Juergen Klinsmann scored twice to lead Germany to a 3-2 World Cup victory over South Korea on Monday but not before surviving a torrid second half as their opponents came back from 3-0 down, reports Reuter.

Germany looked to be heading for the crushing Group C win demanded by coach Berti Vogts when they coasted to a three-goals half-time lead.

But South Korea, who drew against Spain with two goals in the last six minutes, rocked the Germans when they scored twice in 11 minutes early in the second half through Hwang Sun-Hong and Hong Myung-Bo. It was the first time Germany had conceded two goals in a World Cup match since losing the 1986 final to Argentina.

South Korea almost snatched the draw that might have earned them a second round place but Bodo Illner used their pace to launch a series of attacks that left some serious question marks about Germany's ability to defend their crown.

Germany's tactic of dropping ineffective midfielder Andreas Moeller and bringing back Riedle looked to have paid off as they toyed with their opponents for much of the first half.

Klinsmann took his tally to four goals in three games with strikes after 12 and 37 minutes to lead the World Cup scoring. Recalled striker

Karlheinz Riedle ended his eight-month scoring drought with a 20th minute goal.

Germany, who finished top of their group, will be without versatile, defence-cum-midfielder Stefan Effenberg in the second round after he picked up his second booking of the tournament for a foul.

Germany, roundly criticised for lifeless performances in their first two matches, responded with their best football of the tournament in the first half as speedy winger Thomas Haessler ripped the Korean defence to shreds with his crosses.

But the champions came under intense pressure in the second half and only just got away with the victory that put them ahead of Spain at the top of Group C.

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Germany's tactic of dropping ineffective midfielder Andreas Moeller and bringing back Riedle looked to have paid off as they toyed with their opponents for much of the first half.

Klinsmann scored first in the 12th minute when

Haessler swept in a cross which dropped just behind the Monaco striker who swivelled and fired the waist-high ball into the net.

Eager to raise his goals tally, Klinsmann was booked when he continued after the referee's whistle for offside and banged the ball into the net again.

But he eventually claimed his second in the 37th minute when the Koreans failed to clear another Haessler cross and a ball dropped perfectly for Klinsmann.

Riedle, recalled after being dropped for the group match against Spain, scored for the first time since a 5-0 rout of Uruguay in October when he knocked home a rebound off the post in the 20th minute.

South Korea, still without a win in 11 games at World Cup finals, pulled the first goal back in the 52nd minute when Hwang ran on to a lob over the defence from Park Jung-Bae.

Hong, who scored against Spain, added the second with a rifling 25-metre shot in the 63rd minute.

As the Germans wilted in the 34 degree Celsius heat, the Koreans charged forward seeking the equaliser and Illner was forced to make several fine saves in the final quarter of an hour.

Vogts said that Matthaeus had been injured in the first half. "We wanted to take him off at halftime but he wanted to carry on," he said. "In the end we had to substitute him and we looked quite disorganised after that."

German team sources said Matthaeus had had stitches inserted in a wound at the top of his right foot.

Vogts said he was pleased with his team's first half performance. "We were very good in defence and in midfield," he said. "But we missed a great chance to make it 4-0 in the second half and then we started to make mistakes."

"We made the Koreans look good and in the end we were lucky to win. We played too passively in the second half and the Koreans were playing hard-kick football. They really played attacking soccer."

"I think we played at too high a tempo in the first period so in the second we fell prey to the heat."

Korean trainer Kim Ho said he had told his team at halftime not to give up.

"I told them if they went out and played the way they do in training they could win the game," he said.

Asked why he had substituted Choi, his goalkeeper and captain, at halftime, he said: "He wasn't feeling very well. My first concern is to win. I have to play the best team I have and if that means taking off the captain, then I take off the captain."

Referee: Joel Quiniou (France)

Yellow cards: Germany — Andreas Brehme (24), Juergen Klinsmann (29), Stefan Effenberg (45). South Korea — Choi Young-II (89).

TEAMS

GERMANY: Bodo Illner, 6-Guido Buchwald, 4-Juergen Kohler, 10-Lothar Matthaeus (7-Andreas Moeller 63), 3-Andreas Brehme, 14-Thomas Berthod, 20-Stefan Effenberg (5-Thomas Helmer 74), 16-Matthias Sammer, 8-Thomas Haessler, 18-Juergen Klinsmann, 9-Karlheinz Riedle.

SOUTH KOREA: 1-Choi Young (21-Park Chul-Woo 46), 4-Kim Pan-Keun, 5-Park Jung-Bae, 20-Hong Myong-Bo, 12-Choi Young-II, 7-Shi Hong-Gi, 6-Lee Young-Jin (2-Chung Jong-Song 40), 9-Kim Joo-Sung, 10-Ko Jeong-Woon, 18-Hwang Sun-Hong, 15-Choi Jin-Ho (11-Seo Jung-Won 46).

MATCH STATS

	Germany	South Korea
Goals	3	2
Shots on goal	14	24
Fouls	15	12
Corners	4	6
Offsides	5	2
Yellow cards	3	1
Red cards	0	0

Couple catapults Klinsmann



DALLAS, June 28: Juergen Klinsmann powered his way to the top of the World Cup goalscorers' table

on Monday and only a heat-induced aberration stopped him going even further ahead, reports Reuter.

The blond-haired Monaco striker popped up in the 12th and 37th minutes of the Germans' thrilling final Group C match against South Korea to give him four goals overall at USA 94.

But the fluffed the chance to score a hat-trick when only Korean goalkeeper Lee Won-Jae stood between him and the net.

"I saw the goalkeeper coming out and I was going to chip the ball over him but then I had a lapse in concentration and decided, No, I'll take him on," he said, recalling how the goalkeeper parried the shot in the mid-afternoon Texan heat.

"That is really irritating, especially as they came back 3-1 shortly after."

South Korea pulled another one back as the 1990 champions wilted in the furnace-like

conditions at the Dallas Cotton Bowl.

"In the first half we played incredibly fast and put pressure on," Klinsmann said.

"But then when we were at 3-1 we began to have real problems, above all physical problems, because of the heat. We paid for having played fast in the first half."

Klinsmann, who has just finished the second-year of a three-year contract with Monaco, said he really felt the heat in the last 20 minutes when he had cramp in the thighs and stomach.

Other players felt the same and the Koreans, seemingly better acclimatised, capitalised on it.

"The South Koreans really played well. They put us under pressure, they had their chances to tie the match," said Klinsmann. "It was a good match, especially for the fans as they saw five goals. It was good entertainment, I guess."

Klinsmann, scorer of three goals at the 1990 finals, said the German team had time to recharge their batteries and would look forward to more temperate conditions in

Chicago for their second round match on Saturday.

"But in General I think one has to ask the question, why play such a game at three in the afternoon in the heat just so it can be broadcast at peak time in Europe?" he said.

He said he understood broadcasting requirements but added: "The conditions out there have become brutal."

Earlier on Monday, FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said temperatures were 10 to 15 degrees hotter than normal for the time of year but there was nothing that could be done about the weather. He said most players had acclimatised.

"Football will never be boring," he said at a Dallas news conference. "We are back in the game, perhaps because it is so hot and in these conditions you play a little bit slower, it is less hectic and more spectacular and this is what we wanted to have."

Klinsmann was pleased to have entertained the crowd but said the final part of the game was hard.

"You reach the point when all you want to do is put your feet up and do nothing."

Baron, the brooding boss



FAIRFAX, Virginia, June 28: Like all good dentists, Miguel Mejia Baron knows the value of a still

tongue and a wise mind, reports Reuter.

It comes across in everything the Mexican World Cup coach says and does and everytime he shrugs his shoulders and chooses to make no comment.

But ask his Mexico players to summarise their feelings on the coach's character, ability and achievements and the question provokes a flood of words.

"Without Miguel, we would never have achieved what we have already," said Hugo Sanchez, the 35-year-old striker who is relishing a final World Cup in the twilight of his career.

For the almost-reclusive Baron, who prefers to work in his room at the Mexicans' hotel headquarters and to shun publicity, the World Cup is a challenge he has taken to with an intellectual relish uncommon in soccer coaches.

His several interesting, dignified and often philosophical observations on tactics, players, character and, yes, the meaning of life have only added to his reputation.

"I like the players to take part with an attitude that shows character," he said recently at the team's training camp at nearby George Mason University. "I like their attitude of enjoyment regardless of anything and regardless too of their rivals. It is an important human experience."

With his thick hair, authoritative nature and spectacles, the 49-year-old coach has the look of a professor when he attends news conferences, dismissing some questions with

the briefest possible answers, giving full meaning to others. But on the pitch, his team is anything but academic.

In their 2-1 victory against Ireland at the Citrus Bowl in Orlando last Friday, Mexico showed a style that blends European organisation with natural skill and the almost-naive attacking "salsa" which has hitherto been their undoing.

"When one lives through these moments in life, you learn about humanity. We

developed a strong reputation as one of the poorest travelling teams in world football, a label Baron has worked hard to untie.

A close friend of US World Cup coach Bora Milutinovic, with whom he worked for Mexico during the 1986 finals and also at Mexican First Division side UNAM in the early 1980s, Baron has the same studious approach to the sport in which he was a successful professional player before taking up dentistry.

He spent his entire playing career with UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico) from 1964 to 1978 and, after setting up and later abandoning his own dental practice, went into coaching. That he joined UNAM again was a clear sign of how much he valued loyalty.

He led UNAM to the Mexican title in both 1990 and 1991 before accepting an offer to move to Monterrey where his three-year contract was interrupted by an emergency call from the Mexican Federation in December 1992 to replace Cesar Luis Menotti, who had resigned.

His first game in charge was, by coincidence, against Italy and was the last meeting between the two teams before Tuesday's Group E clash at RFK Memorial Stadium in Washington.

Italy won 2-0, but, as Baron said on Monday, it was a long time ago and means nothing now.

Since then, Baron has moulded Mexico into one of Latin America's most dangerous teams.

He helped them become the first nation to qualify for USA '94, with five wins in six games in CONCACAF's final qualifying round.

Mexico's victory was only their second on foreign soil in 10 appearances in the finals since 1930. The last was a 3-1 win over Czechoslovakia at Vina Del Mar during the 1962 finals in Chile.

Since then, Mexico had de-



A brooding South Korean fan sitting among a sea of Mexican supporters in Dallas was hoping their team go down to Germany 4-2 after an impressive performance at the Cotton Bowl Stadium on Monday. — AFP photo



ARGENTINA MANAGER BILARDO CERTAINLY DOESN'T SLEEP WELL AFTER THE OPENING MATCH HIS SIDE ARE THUMBING BY A SUFFICIENT MARGIN FROM CAMEROON'S OMAM-BIYIK.



THE CDF HOLDERS HAVE AGAIN TO CALL ON THE HAND OF GOD TO HELP THEM PROGRESS THIS TIME, MARADONA'S RIGHT ARM PREVENTS A GOAL FOR THE SOVIET UNION.



MEANWHILE, IN ROME, A STAR IS BORN. CRIP-HAIRED SCLIANI TOJO SCHIACCI BECOMES THE TOAST OF ITALY WITH HIS LATE WINNER AGAINST AUSTRIA.



PLAYING SUCK ONE-TOUCH FOOTBALL. THE HOSTS ADVANCE TO THE SECOND ROUND IN STYLE. THE USA GAIN CREDIT HOWEVER BY RESTRICTING THEM TO A SINGLE GOAL VICTORY.



PARADOXICALLY THE FIRST SURPRISE RESULT OF ITALY '90 IS ALMOST PREDICTABLE. SCOTLAND, NOTORIOUSLY IMPOTENT AGAINST LEBBER TEAMS, COME A CROPPER IN THEIR GAME WITH COSTA RICA.



IN MILAN, WEST GERMANY SERVE NOTICE OF THEIR INTENTIONS WITH A 4-1 DEMOLITION JOB ON YUGOSLAVIA. MIDFIELDER MATTHAEUS LEADS THE CHARGE WITH TWO POWERFULLY STRUCK GOALS.



THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES PROVIDE EVEN LESS RESISTANCE FOR MATTHAEUS AND CO. AND ARE ALMOST WASHED AWAY IN THE THUNDERSTORM. BUT THERE'S CONSOLATION FOR KHALID MUBARAK. HIS GOAL WINS HIM A ROLL-BACK HOME.