

### J-League boss' expectations

TOKYO, Apr 28: Japanese football stars have been told by the country's premier league supremo to go for broke in their first-ever World Cup finals, reports AFP.

None of the opponents are invincible," J-League chairman Saburo Kawabuchi told a football seminar on Sunday. "I wish they will go full out as if they don't mind breaking their legs."

Japan, grouped with two-time champions Argentina and two newcomers, dark horses Croatia and Jamaica beefed up by immigrants from Britain, will be made up of J-Leaguers as no Japanese are playing with overseas clubs at the moment.

They are aiming for one win, one loss and one draw in the first round.

Kawabuchi, who has headed the first professional soccer league since its inception in 1993, recalled Japan's surprise 1-0 victory over heavily-favoured Brazil in a preliminary match at the Atlanta Olympics under-21 contest.

"Suppose the gap between us and Brazil was 10 at the Atlanta Olympics, it has narrowed to 7-8 now," he said. "The World Cup will be an opportunity to sell yourself and I want the players to be confident."

Kawabuchi said he had studied video replays of Argentina, with whom Japan will clash in their World Cup opener on June 14 in Toulouse. He particularly analysed star striker Gabriel Batistuta, who plays for the Italian club Fiorentina.

"Batistuta tends to pull his body backward and then move towards the goal when he receives the ball," the J-League chief said, calling for tighter defence lines. "It looks as if he disappears once and reappears. We need to cope with such moves."



Brazilian superstars Ronaldo (C) and Denilson (L) in a relaxed mood during practice at Granjas Comari, Brazil on April 27. The hosts take on Argentina in a World Cup warm-up match at the legendary Maracana stadium in Rio de Janeiro today. —AP/UNB photo

## WC pointer for giants

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 28 (AFP/Internet): Brazil take on Argentina in a World Cup warm-up this Wednesday in an eagerly-awaited pointer to both sides' readiness for this summer's jamboree.

Brazil coach Mario Zagallo will announce his squad on May 5, so this game represents the last chance for fringe players knocking on the door for inclusion in the world champions' final 22.

And with little love lost between the two rivals and neighbours who have notched five World Cup wins between them, no quarter will be asked or given on either side. The Brazilian attack looks to be a straight two-from-three permutation with either Bebeto or Romario, but not both 1994 strike partners, partnering world player of the year Ronaldo.

Bebeto seems the likelier to get the nod with Romario in hot water at Flamengo after recently claiming his clubmates were only interested in high salaries, swanky cars and beautiful girls.

Another candidate for the forward line, Muller, looks as if he will be frozen out despite fine recent form for Santos. Muller's poor disciplinary record weighs

against him as Zagallo is not tolerant of those who transgress.

Veteran Taffarel is set to retain his place between the sticks although Vasco da Gama's Carlos Germano can do with a run-out while Zinho, a 1994 regular, will bolster the midfield alongside Rai, who is leaving Paris Saint Germain to return home to Sao Paulo.

"We have strength in depth and someone will always miss out," said Zagallo when pressed on his likely selection. Curiously, another temperamental striker, Edmundo, is back in the frame although he is likely only to take up the numbers.

Notwithstanding the proximity of the World Cup, the midweek friendly takes on added significance as, despite their long rivalry spanning 83 matches, Brazil and Argentina have both recorded 29 victories over one another.

The bulk of Daniel Passarella's side arrived in Rio on Friday, with European-based stars due in Monday.

Valencia and Argentina star Ariel Ortega says his side are looking forward to Wednesday's encounter to prove they are the Brazilians' equals. "Brazil against Argentina that is what the World Cup final ought to be," said Ortega, who started in last week's 2-0 win over Ireland in Dublin.

Passarella expects a tough encounter but hopes the match will also provide a showcase for the "excellent technique of South American football." But he sidestepped questions on the future of Real Madrid midfielder Fernando Redondo, with whom he has fallen out in recent months over the hairy issue of the player's coffure.

Argentine goal-scoring hopes rest on the shoulders of Gabriel Batistuta, who grabbed his 37th international goal in the win over Ireland to help bury the memory of an embarrassing defeat by Israel earlier in the month.

### Silverwood slams down a reminder

LONDON, Apr 28: Paceman Chris Silverwood staked his claim for inclusion in England's one-day squad to face South Africa next month as he bowled Yorkshire to the top of the county championship table on Monday, reports AFP.

Yorkshire, with a 215-run win over Somerset already under their belts, routed Derbyshire by 111 runs at Headingly and now have a 14-point lead over nearest rivals Surrey and Sussex after the first two rounds of matches.

Yorkshire declared their second innings at 105 without loss to set the visitors a target of 322 before Derbyshire crashed to 210 all out.

Silverwood boosted his match haul to nine wickets with a four for 42 return and he was supported by a burst of three wickets in 10 balls from all-rounder Craig White.

Surrey, who thrashed pre-season favourites Warwickshire by an innings and 49 runs at the Oval, and Gloucestershire who overcame Durham by 46 runs at Riverside, were the day's only other winners.

A top score of 57 in just 68 balls by Warwickshire captain Brian Lara could not stop the visitors collapsing from 100 for two to 149 all out, with Surrey paceman Martin Bicknell's five for 27 in 20 overs doing the damage.

New Sussex captain Chris Adams completed his second century of the match against Essex but rain meant the contest at Chelmsford ended in a draw.

Adams struck four sixes and 10 fours while adding 105 to his 135 in the first innings as Sussex reached tea at 173 for four, a lead of 243, before the weather intervened.

Kent missed a chance to put one over defending champions Glamorgan, who are fourth in the table, as the Welsh county hung on to end the day on 212 for eight having been set a target of 246 at Cardiff.

New Northamptonshire recruit Devon Malcolm was another international bowler in form as he took five for 60, but Hampshire held on for a draw at Southampton as they ended the day on 193 for eight having been set 276 for victory.

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### Zagallo prefers fresh legs

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 28: Soccer coach Mario Zagallo says there's a limit to the number of players over 30 who can play on Brazil's World Cup team, reports AP.

"On the team that plays, we'll have only Aldair, Dunga and Romario with higher ages," Zagallo told reporters over the weekend. Netminder Taffarel, 31, doesn't enter the equation because "he doesn't have to run."

Zagallo believes young legs will be a key to success in the gruelling tournament, where speed and strength can prevail over experience and event talent.

That's why he resisted pressure to call up 36-year-old full-back Mauro Galvao, despite his standout play on national champion Vasco da Gama. It also means that Bebeto, 34, must compete with Romario for a single opening on the front line beside 21-year-old Ronaldo.

Team captain Dunga is 34, and Romario and Aldair are 32. All were starters when Brazil won their fourth World Cup title in 1994 and will be back for this summer's Cup in France.

## Lions now roaring feebly

YAOUNDE, Apr 28 (Reuters): Cameroon are seeking to restore a tattered reputation in France this summer when they return for a third successive World Cup appearance.

The 'indomitable lions' roared loudly at the 1990 finals in Italy with a giant-killing run through to the quarter finals, the best performance by an African team in the World Cup.

But that performance was followed four years later by a limp showing in the United States, where the Cameroonians suffered an embarrassing 6-1 defeat by Russia and spent most of their time bickering over money.

The Central African country have also lost their pre-eminent position on the continent, having turned in a series of disappointing performances in the African Nations Cup finals.

There is still, however, an element of surprise about a team brimming with youthful talent and potential.

Cameroon qualified surprisingly easily for France, winning four and drawing two of their six qualifiers against their group opponents — Zimbabwe, Angola and Togo.

The decisive 2-1 win over Zimbabwe in Harare last August meant they became the first African nation to qualify for three successive World Cup finals, their fourth in all.

An ignominious exit from the Nations Cup in February after a shock 1-0 defeat by Congo, quickly put their hopes in perspective, however — and cost coach Jean Manga Onguene his job.

It was hardly ideal preparation for France, but Cameroon hope they have come up trumps with the April appointment of highly-rated Frenchman Claude Le Roy in his place.

The experienced Le Roy, who has been in charge of Cameroon before and won the African Nations Cup with them 10 years ago, has little time in which to fine-tune his team for their Group B matches against Austria, Chile and Italy.

"I don't know yet who I'm going to pick and there are only a few matches to decide," admitted Le Roy.

Cameroon play just the Netherlands and Denmark in the weeks before the start of the World Cup.

"Things haven't been too organised but I hope to fix that," added Le Roy.

Like many finalists in France, Cameroon have the problem of having to assemble players from all corners of the globe for their training camp in the coming weeks. Some players will be coming from soccer outposts like Mexico and Poland while the more established stars are at least a little nearer France, playing their trade in the leagues of France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Le Roy watched Cameroon closely during the recent African Nations Cup finals in Burkina Faso where they had a full-strength squad on hand.

He will also have his predecessor Onguene on the coaching staff, as well as Jules Niyongha, who has had two previous stints as Cameroon's coach.

"My first ambition is just to prepare the team well for our opening game against Austria. A good start will determine how

we play the rest of the competition," added Le Roy.

Cameroon's hopes rest with some talented attackers, not least the Japan-based Patrick Mboma, who was raised in France and played previously at Paris St Germain and Metz.

Mboma was the leading goalscorer in the African World Cup qualifiers and also in the J-League last year.

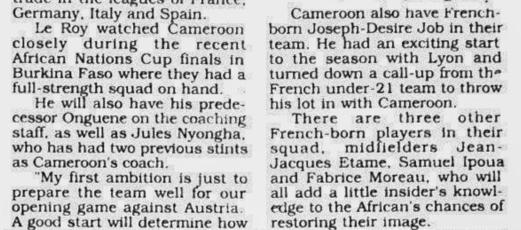
Le Roy has recalled Francois Omam Biyik, the 32-year-old striker who scored the famous winner against Argentina in the opening match of the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy.

Omam Biyik is having a career with Sampdoria in Italy and might return for his third World Cup finals appearance.

Cameroon also have French-born Joseph-Desire Job in their team. He had an exciting start to the season with Lyon and turned down a call-up from the French under-21 team to throw his lot in with Cameroon.

There are three other French-born players in their squad, midfielders Jean-Jacques Etame, Samuel Ipaou and Fabrice Moreau, who will all add a little insider's knowledge to the African's chances of restoring their image.

French composer Jean Michel Jarre (L), Japanese singer Olivia Lufkin (C) and Jarre's partner Tetsuya "TK" Komoru at a news conference at Tokyo on April 27. The trio released the single 'Together Now' which is sung by Lufkin and will be included in official World Cup album 'Allez! Ola! Ole!'. —AP/UNB photo



### Desai passes away

BOMBAY, Apr 28: Former Indian Test player Ramakant Desai, who recently resigned as chairman of the national cricket selection committee, died late on Monday aged 59, reports Reuters.



Desai resigned last month on account of poor health. Raj Singh Dungarpur, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, said today he died of heart failure.

Desai, a fast-medium bowler, took 74 wickets at an average of 37.31 in a Test career which spanned the 1960s.

He also shared in a record 149-run ninth-wicket partnership with wicketkeeper PG Joshi in the fifth Test in Bombay against Pakistan in 1960-61. The record still stands.

Desai had close to a perfect bowling action with a smooth run up and a classical delivery of the ball and well concealed bounce were his weapons.

He was nicknamed "tiny" because of his small stature — a rarity among fast bowlers.

During his 10 years in international cricket, Desai played in 10 Test series and toured England (1959), West Indies (1961-62), Australia and New Zealand (1967-68).

"I rate him among the four best fast-medium bowlers that India has produced along with Dattu Phadkar, Kapil Dev and Javagal Srinath," said Dungarpur.

### Italy's introspective

ROME, Apr 28 (Reuters): No other country would like World Cup history to repeat itself in France this summer as much as Italy who won the tournament when it was first held there in 1938.

And despite the last-gasp nature of their qualification for France '98, Italy probably still possess all the qualities to ensure they maintain an impressive World Cup finals record.

As three times winners of the World Cup in 1934, 1938 — against Hungary at the old Stade Colombes in Paris — and 1982, Italy are among the aristocrats of world soccer, a country which has played in two of the last four World Cup finals as well as reaching the semifinals in 1990.

Most recently winners in 1982, Italy maintained their impressive record when they reached the 1994 World Cup final in the United States, losing to Brazil only in a penalty shoot-out.

By last October, however, not everyone would have bet on Italy even making it to France '98, let alone playing well once there.

An initially brilliant qualifying campaign, highlighted by a 1-0 win against England at Wembley, Italy faded badly last autumn.

Successive 0-0 draws away to Georgia and at home to England not only forced them into the ignominy of a difficult play-off tie with Russia but also saw

coach Cesare Maldini come in for intense criticism for his allegedly over-cautious, *catenaccio* approach.

Italy and Maldini, however, answered their critics in the best possible manner by seeing off Russia thanks to a 1-1 draw in atrocious wintry conditions

almost certainly be without experienced Juventus central defender Ciro Ferrara, who broke his leg in February, the Italian coach has excellent cover in the shape of Alessandro Nesta and Fabio Cannavaro.

Commanding the defence and captaining the side is left-back Paolo Maldini, son of the coach and such an outstanding player that no one ever dares suggest he owes his place to paternal affection.

In midfield, Demetrio Albertini, Dino Baggio and Roberto di Matteo have proved vital to the side which has struggled when any one of the three has gone missing.

In attack, Maldini senior has so far preferred a "little and large" strike force comprising a big central striker partnered by a more creative playmaker.

Fabrizio Ravanelli, Christian Vieri and Pierluigi Casiraghi are all candidates for the central striker role while Del Piero is in contention with Gianfranco Zola and, just possibly, Roberto Baggio for the playmaking role.

Now 31 and playing with Bologna in Serie A, Baggio had seemed ruled out of World Cup calculations until he too showed a return to his best form this spring, scoring 14 league goals for Bologna by the end of March and playing a significant role in guiding his side out of the relegation zone.

Maldini may well find that he comes under media and fan pressure to find a role for Baggio, still a hugely popular figure in Italian soccer.

He will also come under huge pressure over Del Piero, arguably the player of the season in Italy.

For all of this and more, Cesare Maldini is well prepared.

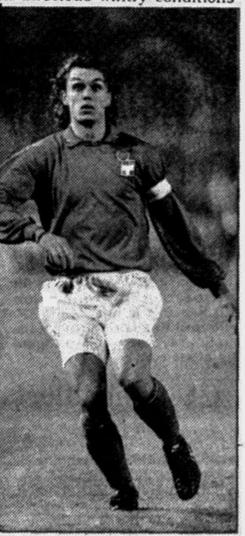
Although he only took over the national team in December 1996, he brings a lifetime's experience to the job, first as a successful defender for AC Milan and then as coach to Italy's successful under-21 side of the '90s.

That experience means that Maldini needs no reminding of the exorbitant Italian expectations at France '98 — anything less than a semifinal place and he will be looking for a new job next July.

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### Cricket Max in Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Cricket Association has decided to sideline the annual Cricket Sixes tourney in favour of a new event that will be called the HK International Cricket Max.

The event will involve 3 full international teams from Test-playing countries, one of which will be New Zealand and subject to available sponsorship. The inaugural event will be played on September 26 and 27.

### Double-wicket cricket results

Results Monday on Day Two of the Pepsi International double-wicket competition played at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore.

Match 5: Zimbabwe 27 (A Campbell 24, H Streak 1, extras 2), New Zealand 22 (Astle 3, Harris 17, extras 2)

Result: Zimbabwe won by 5 runs.

Match 6: Kenya 58 (S Tikolo 30, Todoyo 12, extras 6), South Africa 51 (A Kuiper 25, P de Villiers 18, extras 8)

Result: South Africa won by 3 runs.

Match 7: Pakistan defeated Sri Lanka.

Match 8: Australia defeated India.

### Kuntz's dilemma

COLOGNE, Apr 28: Veteran striker Stefan Kuntz will have divided loyalties on Wednesday when he lines up for Arminia Bielefeld against Kaiserslautern, reports AFP.

He wants his bottom-placed side to part from the Bundesliga honorably but on the other hand he is a dyed-in-the-wool fan of Otto Rehhagel's 'red devils', whom he captained to the 1991 title, and he would dearly like to see his old club win another.

## SIX NO TRUMPS

**A K Sayeedul Huq**

**AMBITIOUS BIDDING, BUT IT WORKED (Hand # 26)**

<b>North (D)</b>	<b>South</b>
S: A Q X X X	S: X
H: Q J	H: A K X X X X
D: A K X X X	D: X
C: 9	C: A X X X X

<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>
S: K X X	S: J X X X
H: 10 X X	H: X X
D: J X X	D: Q X X X
C: K Q J 10	C: X X X

**Bidding (East-West were vulnerable)**

<b>South (Mazumdar)</b>	<b>West (Mizan)</b>	<b>North (Mohsin)</b>	<b>East (Sayeed)</b>
2H	Pass	1S	Pass
4C	Pass	3D	Pass
5H	Pass	4NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	6H	Pass

**The Play**

West with good Club holding wanted to reduce the ruffing strength in the dummy and so led a small Heart. The declarer won with the J, led the singleton Club and went up with the Ace. He then took the winning Spade finesse and on the Ace of Spade threw a Club. He ruffed a Spade in the closed hand when West dropped the King. The declarer ruffed a Club with the Queen of Hearts in the dummy, played the A K of Diamond throwing a Club from hand. He then returned to his hand by ruffing a Diamond, cleared the trumps and ultimately surrendered a Club to make a difficult slam.

### Wimbledon prize money increased

WIMBLEDON, Apr 28: Prize money for the June 22-July 5 tennis championships will be 7.2 million pounds, up from about 6.9 million pounds in 1997, officials said Tuesday, reports AP.

The increase is 4.7 per cent from last year.

Wimbledon officials also announced increases in the prize money for the winners: 435,000 pounds for men, up from 415,000 pounds and 391,500 pounds for women, up from 373,500 pounds.

## The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98

**Win These Breathtaking Prizes !!!**

**ROUND 2**

<b>1st Prize</b>	<b>2nd Prize</b>
Philips CD Mini System	Sanyo Twin-Tub Washing Machine
<b>3rd Prize</b>	<b>4th Prize</b>
Philips Rice Cooker	5 Dozen Philips Bulbs
<b>5th Prize: Caps &amp; T-Shirts</b>	

**All Prizes Courtesy: Transcom Electronics Ltd.**  
Official Licensee of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets.

### Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

**Information**

- The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98 is a series of competitions on World Cup Soccer being held in France from June 10 to July 12, 1998.
- There will be nine rounds of competition.
- Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of Transcom Electronics Ltd. as per announcement.
- Participants of all the nine rounds will automatically qualify for the Bumper Draw, which will have even bigger prizes.
- For each round, sets of questions will be published in The Daily Star Sports Pages.
- Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in The Daily Star.
- Winners will have to collect their prizes from The Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.
- Any taxes or levies, as per law, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the prize winners.

**Prizes for Round Two**

Prize	Nos.	Item
1st	One	Philips CD Mini System
2nd	One	Sanyo Twin-Tub Washing Machine
3rd	One	Philips Rice Cooker
4th	Ten	5 dozen Philips Bulbs
5th	25	T-shirt and cap

**Rules**

- Residents of Bangladesh are eligible to participate in The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98. Employees of The Daily Star and Transcom Electronics Ltd and their immediate family members shall not be eligible to participate.
- All entries must be submitted in the original form printed in The Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.
- Forms will have to be cut along the dotted lines.
- Participants are to put a tick (✓) mark in the box alongside their answer to each question.
- A person may send numerous entries.
- Entry forms should be completed with a ballpoint pen.
- Name, address, father's name and particulars of participants must be clearly written. Each entry form must also bear the signature of the participant and date.
- Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
- Entries must reach the office of The Daily Star on or before the closing date marked on the entry form. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star Quiz 2."
- Entries may be hand delivered or posted to The Daily Star, House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205.
- Entries will be placed in a sealed box for the draw to be held on a notified date in public in presence of invited guests and Quiz participants, if any.
- Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.
- Entering this Quiz competition shall be construed as the respective agreement by each participant to abide by all rules, instructions and guidelines as may be issued by The Daily Star.
- Any decision of The Daily Star in the conduct of the Quiz competition's including the answers selected as correct shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner whatsoever.
- The Daily Star management, in their absolute discretion, reserves the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any circumstances.

The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98, Round Two Ends April 29, 1998

Tick (✓) the correct answers

- For World Cup '98, who was last to qualify? Iran  Iraq  Ireland
- The Final of World Cup '98 will be played at Paris  London  Rome
- Who is known as Brazil's "white Pele"? Zico  Romario  Pele
- 1974 champs Germany played Final against Holland  England  Brazil
- Which one is Danish star Brian Laudrup?   

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) ..... Age .....

Father's name ..... Occupation .....

Address .....

Telephone (if any) ..... Signature ..... Date .....

Write with a ballpoint pen in clear BLOCK letters.  
Cut along the dotted lines and mail to OR drop in the Quiz box at The Daily Star.  
You may send as many entries as you like. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star Quiz 2."