'Kick out

English

brats'

PARIS, June 15 (AFP): French sports minister Marie-Georges Buffet has called for the

English soccer hooligans, who ran riot in Marseille on Sun-

day, to be kicked out of the

"I want action taken very

rapidly that we apply the emer-

gency measures we had decided on, which means that trouble-

makers face courts today and

those who do not respect calm

and sporting spirit be expelled."

She said police authorities

had strengthened security for

today's match between England

problem has not been solved it's a pity because since the

World Cup started the fans have

Fifty fans were arrested and

Special courts are sitting at

Trouble-makers at the

every venue throughout France '98 with orders to hand out in-

stant punishment to any one

Brazil-Scotland game which got

the tournament underway last

week were sentenced within two

Four fans were given short

prison sentences and banned

from football matches for three

ABSORBING

ANECDOTES

PARIS, June 15 (Reuters)

Robert Prosinecki became

Facts and figures from World

Cup matches played on Sunday:

the first player to score for two

different countries when he net-

ted for Croatia against Ja-

maica. Prosinecki scored for

Yugoslavia against the United

for Croatia, also played for Yu-goslavia in the 1990 finals. He

and Prosinecki become part of a

select band of seven players

who have appeared for two dif-

ferent countries in World Cup

finals. The others are: Luis

Monti (Argentina 1930 and

Italy 1934), Atilio Demaria

(Argentina 1930 and Italy

1934). Jose Santamaria

(Uruguay 1954 and Spain 1962).

and Spain 1962), Jose Altafini

and Iran's 1-0 defeat to Yu-

goslavia left all four Asian

teams at the finals empty-

handed after their opening

match, South Korea and Saudi

Arabia were beaten earlier by

Mexico and Denmark respec-

Argentine striker Gabriel

Batistuta, who scored in his

country's last three warm-up

matches, continued the se-

quence by hitting the only goal

of the match against Japan and

has scored six goals for Ar-

gentina in their last four games.

Of the four nations taking

part in the finals for the first

time, only Croatia managed a

win. The other three — Jamaica,

Japan and South Africa, beaten

by hosts France on Friday — all

South America's four repre-

sentatives at the finals remain

unbeaten after their first

matches. Apart from Argenti-

na's win over Japan, Brazil also

won and Chile and Paraguay

Yugoslavia's win was their

first in their opening World Cup

match since 1954 when they

beat France 1-0, the same score

as their victory over Iran on

Japan's 1-0 loss to Argentina

Ferenc Puskas (Hungary 1954

(Brazil 1958 and Italy 1962).

Robert Jarni, who appeared

Arab Emirates at the 1990 fi

nals.

found guilty of hooliganism.

37 hurt as fans fought running

battles with police through the

"This shows the hooligan

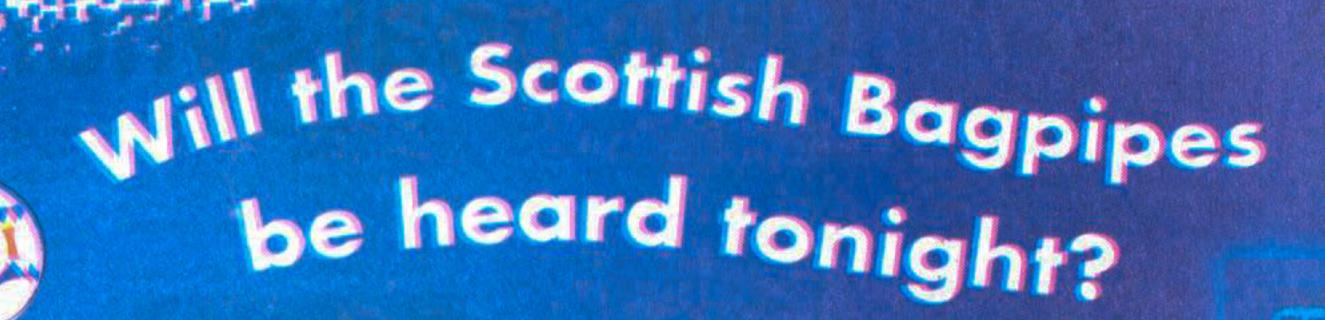
she told French television.

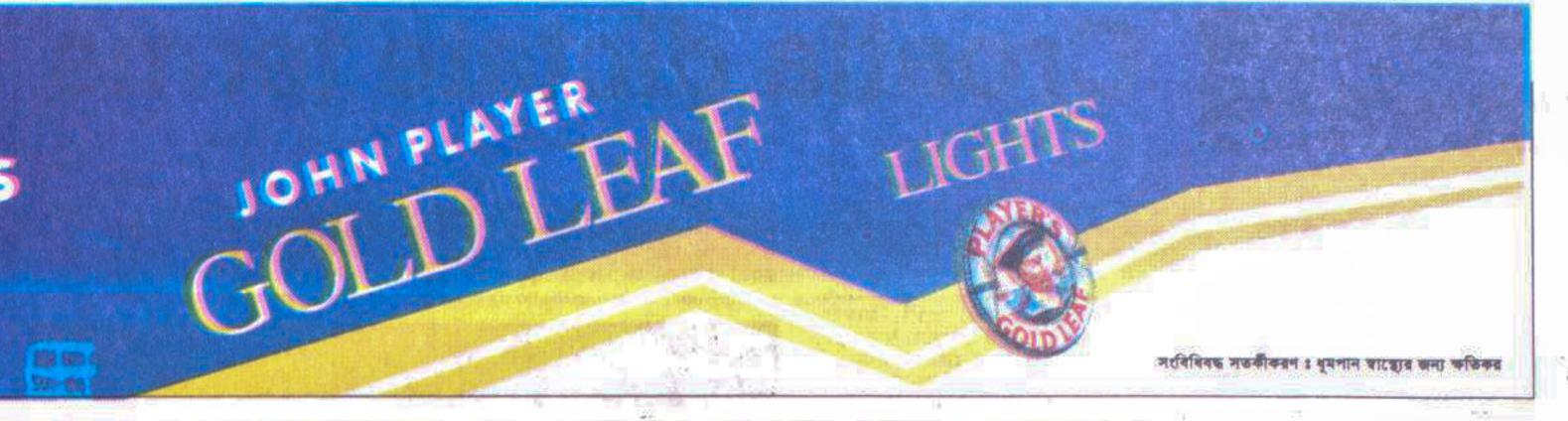
and Tunisia in Marseille.

been fantastic," she added.

streets of Marseille.

country.







THE UGLY SIDE OF FRANCE '98: Rowdy English fans being chased and beaten by French policemen at Marseille on hours before the England-Tunisia match on Monday. — AFP photo

# An utter disgrace

PARIS, June 15: Rioting English soccer hooligans scarred the World Cup on Sunday and turned the French port of Marseille into a city under seige, reports Reuters.

While sport reigned supreme throughout the rest of France, English hooligans turned Mar-

### Sepp not amused

LENS, France, June 15: FIFA president Sepp Blatter condemned the ugly scenes between police and World Cup fans in Marseille on Sunday, reports

However he added it was not possible to control everything that comes with football.

A total of 37 people were hurt, two seriously, as English football fans battled Tunisian supporters. An Algerian and a policeman had both kneecaps

Those arrested included 30 Britons, six Tunisians and a number of French citizens.

match of the 1998 World Cup.

The English fans ran riot ahead of their team's first

seille into an ugly battle ground as they fought with Tunisian supporters, local youths and po-

Cars were set ablaze, innocent bystanders attacked with bottles and dozens of canisters of tear gas fired as police appeared swamped by vicious assaults from hundreds of English hooligans.

The relatively minor skirmishes around midnight on Saturday turned into a fullscale riot on Sunday afternoon as English fans poured into this south coast city for today's World Cup match against Tunisia.

One correspondent saw a Frenchman in his 40s attacked by English hooligans with bottles. The man collapsed, blood spurting from his head, and crawled away as hooligans kicked him.

The fighting spread early in the evening from the old port area to nearby side streets. By nightfall, regular running battles were still erupting between English fans and local French youths of North African de-

scent. Dozens of English hooligans were arrested.

A young Englishman was slashed across the throat with a bottle. He was bundled into an ambulance, his blood spattering the road, as crowds of local youths began to outnumber the English. Forty-four people were injured and more than 50 ar-

Earlier on Sunday Sir Brian Hayes, head of security at the English Football Association, tried to play down the seriousness of the Saturday night violence, but praised the way it had been hurdled by French police.

"Don't blame the French. blame the fans," he told a news conference.

Late at Saturday night, local youths drove the hooligans away and wandered the streets with baseball bats and iron bars. English fans continued to arrive at Marseille railway sta-

British Sports Minister Tony Banks condemned the hooligans as "Drunken, braindead louts," and a "moronic minority



CALYPSO CARNIVAL: Jamaican fans partying at the Felix Bollaert Stadium, Lens after the 'reggae boyz' had equalised against mighty Croatia on June 14. - AFP photo

## Defeat didn't dampen reggae rhythm

LENS, France, June 15 (AP/Reuters): Beating drums, dancing and waving a sea of colourful national flags, Jamaican fans turned their nation's World Cup debut into a Caribbean carnival.

About 10,000 Jamaican supporters, many with their faces painted in the national colours, packed into Felix Bollaert Stadium to cheer on the underdog "Reggae Boyz" against Croatia.

For most, the biggest thrill was simply being there Sunday night for a party that even Croatia's 3-1 win couldn't spoil.

"We're here to have fun," said Trevor Bird, 34, who had driven from Amsterdam to watch his team. "We know we won't win the World Cup. But we don't even have a professional league and we qualified. That's reason enough to celebrate."

Sympathies among the 40,000 spectators clearly were on the Jamaicans' side. When Rob Earle knocked in his team's first World Cup finals goal to tie the score 1-1 at the stroke of halftime, most of the stadium exploded into frenzy.

Many European soccer fans with a soft spot for the outsiders also converged on this northern French mining town to join in the fun.

Stuart Fraser, 24, came from the London area with two friends. "We like the underdogs", he said, fishing a whistle out of the car before adjusting his yellow and green Jamaican fan scarf.

fans from both sides turned the small city centre into a street party - Croatians decked out in the checkerboard red and white colour of their nation mingling peacefully with Jamaicans on the sidewalks and in cafes.

As the first English-speaking Caribbean nation to reach the World Cup, the nation best known for languid reggae rhythms also had a serious task, for which Brazilian coach Rene Simoes had disciplined the Jamaican squad.

"We are a small country and on the world stage, we have something to prove," said Dennis Brown, 46, a Jamaican fan from London attending the game.

However, Jamaica fare, he would never miss the chance to see them in soccer's greatest tournament. "This occasion may never

come again," said Brown. Jamaica's Brazilian coach Rene Simoes had no doubts Croatia earned their victory. "I think today the best team won."

Blair too busy!

he said.

CARDIFF, Wales, June 15: British Prime Minister Tony Blair's heart may be elsewhere when he chairs a working lunch of European Union leaders, reports Reuter.

The meal clashes with England's first World Cup soccer match and Blair, a keen football fan, will miss the clash against Tunisia in Marseille.

His spokesman Alistair Campbell told reporters almost apologetically: "I think it's difficult to chair a discussion in a meaningful and constructive way while watching a television For hours before the game, showever much he might be wishing that he were."

Blair will have the match videotaped to watch later, though it was not clear whether he would find the time after his state dinner with Queen Elizabeth on Monday night.

But he was still pleased. "I thought the result was OK. Jamaica never lose. Jamaica are always the winners because we learn, so that's very good," he added.

"We tried to win the game, but we conceded two bad goals. The second goal was really tough for us because it came so early in the half. But I'm proud of what the team did. There are two more games - let's play those and try and qualify."

Simoes added. The Brazilian coach also praised the way Croatians demonstrated the proceedings. "The Croatians played like the Brazilians and they have great skill and talent. They play well as a team and have a good sense of when to counter attack," Simoes said. "They are simply a great side and it is not a real

he added. Croatia coach Miroslav Blazevic said: "We won tonight because we were a bit more experienced and I know this might sound a little pretentious, but with all due respect to Jamaica, we were just the better side. There were four very good goals and on both sides a lot of constructive play. I'm very happy about the result because I was worried about the game against Jamaica."

setback to lose to a better team,"

the stroke of half-time, he added! "Obviously it was a really big psychological shock. What I asked them to do was to push up more because our counter attacks were not quick enough to take them by surprise. And when I sent them out of the dressing room for the second half. I said they might as well not come back in if they haven't earned all three points."

Of Jamaica's equaliser on

#### Wow!

BONN, June 15 (Reuters): Germany's best-selling daily today published a photograph of a blonde model in soccer kit who said she would strip off a garment with each win by the country's World Cup team. "I'll take my clothes off for

"Give it all boys, then I'll show you it all. With every victory I'll take something off," she said in a message to German coach Berti Vogts' squad.

Berti's boys," said Annina, a 22-

In the spot on page one nor-mally reserved for scantilyclad women, Annina was wearing a German team jersey, shorts, soccer stockings and soccer boots.

The German team has already been promised 150,000 marks (82,900 dollars) from the German soccer federation (DFD) if they win the World Cup, 125,000 marks if they reach the final and 100,000 marks if they reach the semifinals.

#### Aime's men stay focused

CLAIREFONTAINE, France, June 15: The brief respite from the World Cup, spending time with the wife and family, is over, and the French know they must be wary of a motivated Saudi Arabia on Thursday, reports AP.

"We have to be on guard. It's like this that the worst accidents happen," coach Aime Jacquet said Monday.

On top of that, starting striker Stephane Guivarc'h is certain to miss the game with a knee injury. France are coming off a com-

fortable and confidence-building 3-0 victory over South Africa while Saudi Arabia already have their back against the wall following an opening 1-0 loss to Denmark. Two of four teams advance from Group

"We shouldn't have the idea that the match against the Saudis is already won," defender Laurent Blanc said. The Saudis know about com-

ing back. Four years ago at the World Cup in the United States
— after allowing two secondhalf goals in a 2-1 loss to the Netherlands, they surprised the world and Belgium with a 1-0. victory that allowed them to reach the second round in their World Cup debut.

So France have to the stay at their physical peak throughout the first round, said Jacquet.

"If you're below your best, you can get a slap in the face from anyone," said the coach.

So it's up to Jacquet to keep the team alert - and insisting on running in the driving rain. and cold at their training camp certainly has kept everybody awake.

"The value of training can make the difference here. This weather is good for us," he said. Tactical preparations for the Saudi game will start Tuesday,

two days ahead of the clash at

the 80,000-seat Stade France. While Jacquet considered the two days since Friday's victory over South Africa a nice break to meet up with family and friends, his players begged

to disagree. "We were training the next day. That's no break, we hardly had time to catch our breath,' Blanc said.

#### THE SCORERS

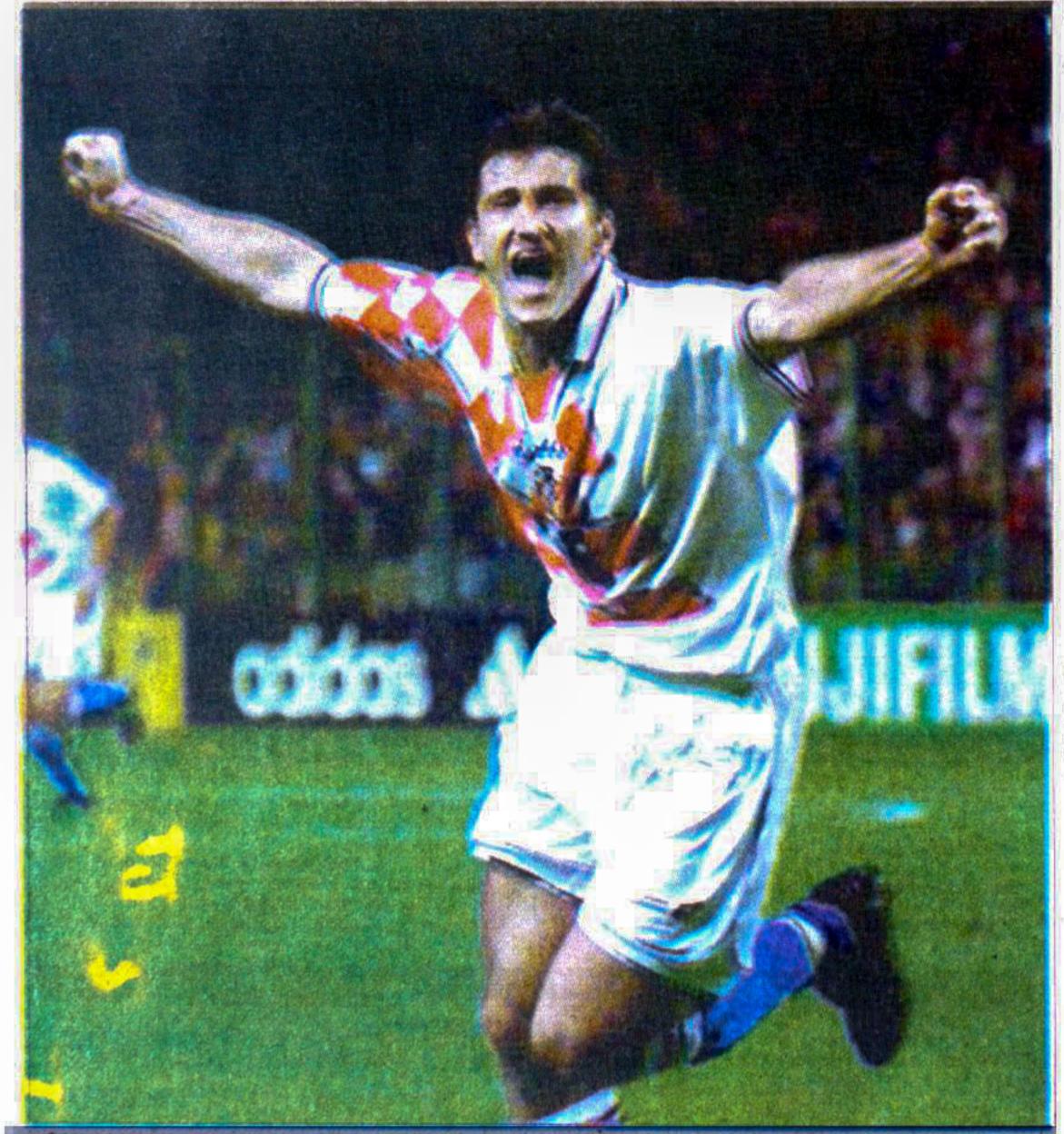
PARIS, June 15 (AP): Goalscorers in the 16th World Cup after Sunday's games: Two goals:

Luis Hernandez, Mexico and Marcelo Salas, Chile.

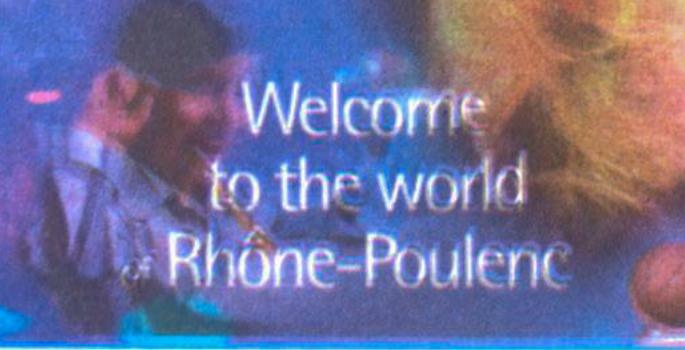
One goal:

Mutiu Adepoju, Nigeria, Roberto Baggio, Italy (penalty). Gabriel Batistuta, Argentina, Cesar Sampaio, Brazil, John Collins, Scotland (penalty), Christophe Dugarry, France, Robbie Earle, Jamaica, Dan Enggen, Norway, Moustafa El Hadji, Morocco, Abdeljilil Hadda, Morocco, Ha Seok-ju, South Korea, Thierry Henry, France, Fernando Hierro, Spain, Garba Lawal, Nigeria, Sinisa Mihajlovic, Yugoslavia, Pierre Njanka, Cameroon, Sunday Oliseh, Nigeria, Ricardo Pelaez, Mexico, Anton Polster, Austria, Roberto Prosinecki, Croatia, Raul Gonzalez, Spain, Marc Rieper, Denmark, Mario Stanic, Croatia, Davor Suker, Croatia, Christian Vieri, Italy.

Own goals: Tommy Boyd, Scotland, Youssef Chippo, Morocco. Pierre Issa, South Africa.



SUKER HAS LANDED: Davor Suker, Croatia's ace markesman, celebrating his first World Cup goal in the match against Jamaica on June 14 at Lens. - AFP photo





drew.

Sunday.

