



BARTHEZ 'WOODS'! France goalkeeper Fabien Barthez walks through a forest by the national team's training centre at Clairefontaine near Paris on May 14.

## Nesta Inter bound?

INTERNET, Milan

Italian superstar Alessandro Nesta commented the following about his future while resting in Azzurri technical resort Coverciano (near Florence) a couple of days ago: "I know where I will go next year."

Meanwhile, today Nerazzurri manager reported Nesta has signed a big deal with Inter Milan, but the details of the contract are still kept in secret as the club officials alongside with the player have decided to keep the deal under silence till the end of the World Cup.

The Massimo Moratti side are currently negotiating the details with SS Lazio president Sergio Cragnotti and the deal is likely to be completed for 60 million Euros. Inter will transfer central defender Marco Materazzi to Lazio to cover a part of this amount. The Nerazzurri are considered to be the favorites of the Italian transfer market, and have already managed to close two other deals (not official): one with Atalanta's defensive midfielder Luciano Zauri, born in 1978 and the other with 24-year-old Simone Perrotta, one of Chievo Verona midfield talents.

## Macca's most disturbing message

REUTERS, London

Real Madrid midfielder Steve McManaman learned of his omission from England's World Cup squad through a message left on his mobile phone.

In an article published in Wednesday's Daily Telegraph McManaman, who has played 37 times for his country, said England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson had made it clear he was not part of his World Cup plans.

"If this is the end of my international career then it is a very sad end just to have a message left on my mobile phone while I was training on the morning the squad was announced," McManaman wrote.

"I can't say I was completely surprised after not being contacted for any of the last three or four squads but then you always hope."

## Henry Lemerre's number two!



AFP, Clairefontaine

Thierry Henry might be the most lethal striker in the English Premiership but there is no possibility of the Arsenal star replacing David Trezeguet as France's No.1 at the World Cup.

With 24 league goals this season, Henry enjoyed a sparkling campaign for Arsene Wenger's double-winning Gunners this year, cementing his reputation as one of the world's finest forwards.

But in the blue shirt of France however, Henry is just one of three prolific marksmen jostling for position, with Juventus star Trezeguet and Auxerre's Djibril Cisse also in the frame.

Like Henry, Trezeguet and Cisse finished as top scorers in their league competitions this season, meaning that France coach Roger

Lemerre has a mouthwatering array of attacking options to choose from.

So far Lemerre has preferred to use Trezeguet as his centre-forward with Henry out wide, where he began his career until converted into an out-and-out striker by Wenger at Highbury.p

Despite Henry's form, Lemerre has no plans to deviate from his preferred line-up, with Trezeguet remaining the first choice as centre-forward and Henry left to raid down the flanks.p

"It's not a problem," Lemerre said after a training session at France's renowned football centre as 'Les Bleus' prepare for a World Cup send-off against Belgium in Paris on Saturday.

"Yes, Thierry plays as a central attacker for Arsenal but he has played for France regularly on the wing, and he has proved he can play there. Why should we change?"

The system we've got now is the one which works best for the team, and for the players within the

squad," he added.

"To have the three top scorers from strong leagues in Europe - the Italian championship, the English championship and the French championship - is unusual," Lemerre said.

"I think it's very good for the team and the team spirit when the other players see them. It's good for morale and the mood within the camp," he said.

Neither Henry nor Arsenal teammate Patrick Vieira took part in a light training session early Wednesday, with both players nursing minor knocks picked up during the gruelling English season.

"It's nothing serious at all. It makes sense to give them a certain amount of latitude because the English championship is so hard," Lemerre said. "They will be back training later this week and there's no problem with them."

Manchester United goalkeeper Fabien Barthez also sat out the session suffering from a sore throat.

## Romario eying J-League

AFP, Tokyo

Veteran striker Romario hopes to join Japan's J-League in a possible player-coach capacity after seeing his dreams of making the Brazilian World Cup squad shattered, a report said Wednesday.

The 36-year-old Vasco da Gama player, the hero of Brazil's 1994 World Cup campaign, will shortly start talks with J-League clubs on a move, the sports daily Hochi Shimbun reported, quoting an agent to Romario.

"He is attracted to Japan's J-League. He ardently wishes to blend his playing and football philosophy in a Japanese team and build up an invincible empire," the agent was quoted as saying in Rio de Janeiro.

"He has done it all as a player at prestigious clubs in Europe and Brazil, sweeping club and individual titles," he added.

"He wishes to be deeply involved in team management and development of players in the forthcoming new phase of his competitive career. That is the reason why he wants to move to the Japanese professional league."

Romario, who also missed the 1998 finals in France through injury, saw his hopes of playing in the World Cup finals in Japan and South Korea dashed on Monday when the squad was announced.

Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari said he ruled Romario out despite a superb season at club level because he felt betrayed by the striker, after Romario refused to play in the Copa America last year.

The Japanese daily said that Romario wanted to invite promising youngsters trained at his institution for impoverished children in Rio de Janeiro to play in Japan.

The J-League has been home to several Brazilian greats including Zico and Dunga, the 1998 World Cup captain.

## Kluivert to clarify with Van Gaal

INTERNET, Barcelona

Barcelona FC star Patrick Kluivert reacted to rumours new Barca coach Louis van Gaal is ready to offload the Dutch striker this summer.

The Dutchman said: "Barcelona have confirmed our coach for next season will be Louis van Gaal, which is a decision that leaves me with mixed emotions. I am glad because he is a man who I know and who has a respected record in football, which must be good for the future of Barca, but I am also concerned because his appointment has left me personally with some unanswered questions."

"I'm aware there have been stories suggesting Van Gaal has already decided to sell me but I have heard nothing from the club. It is difficult right now for me to know what I should believe but it is obviously not great news to read stories saying my future at the Nou Camp is in doubt."

"What I can say is it will be very difficult for the club to sell me without my agreement, and as I have said, I have expressed no desire to leave the Nou Camp. I am happy in Barcelona and if the club have a different opinion of the situation, they must tell me."

"I understand that Van Gaal may wish to sell me, or even another player, to finance the transfer of new players over the summer. In probability, they would be able to buy somebody for a cheaper price and from a business point of view, that makes sense. But I am a footballer not a businessman and I do not wish to play elsewhere at this stage of my career."

"Unfortunately, I leave for a short tour to America with the Dutch national team on Tuesday which means I will not be back in Spain until later this month and I suppose I must wait until then to clarify what is really happening. I would like to speak to Van Gaal in person so I will know the difference between fact and fiction but, for now, I must be patient."



PHOTO: INTERNET

AWAITING THE WORLD: This huge World Cup banner has been put up yesterday in central Seoul as part of the Korean capital's preparations for the tournament.

## Radebe back in the fold



AP, Johannesburg

Veteran defender and former captain Lucas Radebe was included Tuesday in South Africa's final 23-man squad for the World Cup to be played next month in Korea and Japan.

Radebe, who was initially not in caretaker coach Jomo Sono's plans because of long-running injuries, apparently impressed the coach enough during 45 minutes of play in South Africa's warm-up match against Madagascar over the weekend. His experience will add stability to the Bafana Bafana lineup.

So no, who replaced Mozambique-born Portuguese coach Carlos Queiroz in the national

setup after South Africa performed poorly in February's African Cup of Nations tournament in Mali, has

LUCAS RADEBE taken what appears to be essentially a safety first approach by naming just three out-and-out strikers to his



England manager Sven Goran Eriksson, accompanied by his girlfriend Nancy Dell'Olio, sits on the team bus before departing Dubai Airport for a hotel on May 14.

## England sweat it out



AFP, Dubai

England's "upbeat" football squad braved scorching temperatures and stifling humidity in Dubai Wednesday for their first pre-World Cup training session.

"Training was fine. It lasted about an hour or so. It was a gentle workout, just a bit of running," Paul Newman, English Football Association spokesman, told AFP.

Newman played down the fact that six of the team, Wayne Bridge, Nicky Butt, Sol Campbell, Ashley Cole, Rio Ferdinand and Emile Heskey had been spotted by Britain's Daily Mail newspaper at a Dubai nightclub in the early hours. "They're top professionals on a holiday. There is not a curfew and it is not an issue," he said.

The English squad arrived Tuesday for a four-day stay in Dubai, the Gulf city-state that is one of the seven members of the United Arab Emirates federation.

The players and their families are staying in five-star luxury amid tightened security at the Jumeirah Beach Club, a spa resort chosen by the FA for its intimate exclusivity.

## Saudis start well



AFP, Riyadh

Saudi Arabia maintained their encouraging build-up to the World Cup finals here on Tuesday with a 3-2 victory over fellow qualifiers Senegal.

A superb curling free-kick from midfielder Al Hassan Al-Yami settled an entertaining duel at the King Fahd Stadium, which earlier saw the home side take the lead twice only for Senegal to hit back.

Saudi Arabia, who face Germany, the Republic of Ireland and Cameroon in Group E at the World Cup in Japan and South Korea, fully deserved their win after producing some neat attacking play.

The Saudis, traditionally one of Asia's strongest teams, had taken the lead in the eighth minute thanks to a coolly taken penalty from veteran striker Sami Al-Jaber.

The former Wolverhampton Wanderers player gave Senegal keeper Tony Sylva no chance with a right-footed strike low and to the right of the keeper after

Aliou Cisse had fouled the lively Al-Yami.

But Senegal's Souleymane Camara levelled the scores on the stroke of half-time, the ball flying into the Saudi net off the Monaco player after a shot by fullback Ferdinand Coly.

Saudi Arabia were back in front two minutes after the break with a wonderfully worked goal, which ended with Ibrahim Suwaid bludgeoning a scorching shot into the Senegalese net.

The see-saw match saw Senegal level once again just three minutes later, France-based Lens striker El-Hadji Diouf converting from the spot after a handball by Abdallah Suleiman.

Senegal, who play world champions France in the World Cup's opening match in Seoul on May 31, continued to press forward searching for another goal.

Yet Saudi Arabia, who have recorded impressive wins over Uruguay and South Africa in recent fixtures, were to have the final say. Al-Yami's fabulous curling strike beating Sylva hands down and rocketing into the top corner with half an hour still left to play.

## Round 3, Draw in Rajshahi

### Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

#### Information

A. The Daily Star Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz 2002 is a series of competitions on World Cup Soccer being held in Japan & South Korea from May 31 to June 30.

B. There will be SIX rounds of competition.

C. Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of RANGS TOSHIBA as per announcement.

D. Participants of all the SIX rounds will automatically qualify for the Bumper Draw, which will have even bigger prizes.

E. For each round, a set of questions including a photographic Quiz will be published in The Daily Star.

F. Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in The Daily Star.

G. Winners will have to collect their prizes from The Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.

H. Any taxes or levies, as per law, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the prize winners

#### PRIZES UP FOR GRABS

Prize	Item	Model	Winner
1st	One 21" Toshiba Flat TV	CT 21D3KE	YOU
2nd	One 8.5 CFT Toshiba Refrigerator	GR R18BP	YOU
3rd	One Toshiba Semi Auto Washing Machine	VH 7000B1	YOU
4th	One Toshiba Rice Cooker 1.8Ltr.	RC 186KE	YOU
5th	One Toshiba Dry Iron	TA-A20C	and YOU
6th	A SPECIAL PRIZE WILL BE UP FOR GRABS FOR THE LOCALS WHO ATTEND A QUIZ DRAW. SPECIAL PRIZE WILL BE GIVEN IN EVERY ROUND. SO, WATCH OUT FOR THE DRAW IN YOUR AREA.		

#### QUIZ SCHEDULE

Round & Draw	Starts	Answers must reach by noon	Lucky Draw for prizes
1 Barisal	12 April	25 April	26 April
2 Khulna	26 April	9 May	10 May
3 Rajshahi	10 May	23 May	24 May
4 Sylhet	24 May	6 June	7 June
5 Chittagong	7 June	20 June	21 June
6 Dhaka	21 June	28 June	29 June

**Tick (Ö) the correct answers**

1. Last team to qualify for 2002 World Cup finals Brazil  Colombia  Uruguay   
 2. Who was the top scorer in the 1998 World Cup Owen  Suker  Zidane   
 3. How many teams participated in the first World Cup 13  16  32   
 4. Germany won their first World Cup in 1954  1960  1970   
 5. Who is this?  Ronaldo  Beckham  Batistuta

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

Father's name .....

Address .....

Telephone (if any) .....

Signature .....

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 World Cup Quiz 3."

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