



Brazil players (L-R) Anderson, Ronaldinho, Lucio and Edmilson take a picture in front of the world's tallest building Petronas Twin Towers while on the Kuala Lumpur-seeing tour yesterday.

Carlos targets Italy, France



AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Brazil has singled out France and Italy as the teams to avoid in their run-up to the World Cup final, defender Roberto Carlos said Thursday.

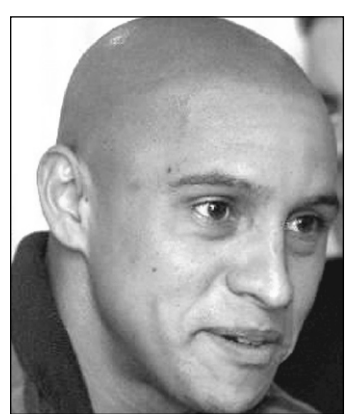
"Besides Brazil, Italy and France are other favourites," Carlos said after a training run here ahead of Saturday's friendly against Malaysia.

"Brazil will like to avoid playing with Italy and France."

The salute to France was a turnaround for the Real Madrid star, who has previously discounted the defending champion's chances of retaining the World Cup, rating Italy, England and Argentina as bigger threats.

But for Carlos to realise his dream route to the finals it will take a

shock loss by either Brazil or France along the way, as an unbeaten run by both sides will land them in a quarter-final clash.



ROBERTO CARLOS

Brazil, beaten by France in the 1998 final, came perilously close to failing to qualify this year but have since started to find their form.

Carlos said the key to winning the World Cup was to eliminate all

weaknesses and have both a strong defensive and attacking game.

"Brazil will play a tactical game and the show part will be missing."

Carlos said the presence of Ronaldo and Paris Saint Germain's Ronaldinho in the forward line would boost Brazil's attacking capability and would pose a nightmare for opposition sides.

He attributed Brazil's poor performance in qualifying to the increased number of matches to 18 from 10 previously, and the long travel required for many of the South American side's key players who live in Europe.

Asked about the formation Brazil would adopt in the World Cup, Carlos said the team was comfortable with either 4-4-2 or 3-5-2.

Saturday's match against Malaysia will be Brazil's last before they open their World Cup campaign against Turkey on June 3. China and Costa Rica are also in their first round group.

The team are due to depart for Busan in South Korea on Sunday.

Swedes fight



AP, Miyazaki City

Midfield star Fredrik Ljungberg and defender Olof Mellberg were involved in an unfriendly wrestling match as intensity stepped up during the Swedes' second workout in Japan on Thursday.

About an hour into the 90-minute session, Mellberg tackled Ljungberg hard during a scrimmage. Ljungberg responded by grabbing Mellberg. The two players were separated after the ensuing wrestling match, Daniel Andersson grabbing Mellberg and

Henrik Larsson stopping the fired-up Ljungberg.

Mellberg left the field after practice without talking to reporters.

Ljungberg, his short hair dyed red, talked briefly as he went to the stands and signed autographs for hundreds of screaming Japanese fans.

"Such things happen when you play," he said. "If one (player) has been making tackles like that you have to respond. It happened a few times that he was a bit late tackling me. You can't tolerate that. But it's forgotten now."

Swedish team officials were expected to comment on the rare incident during an open house for Swedish visitors at the team's beachside hotel later Thursday.

Mellberg is one of the key players in the Swedish defense. The 24-year-old

Aston Villa defender has 21 caps. Ljungberg is perhaps Sweden's hottest player, having scored seven goals in his last seven matches and helping Arsenal win its second league and FA Cup double in four years this season.

But he missed the Gunners' Premier League finale because of a back problem and practiced for the first time Wednesday, when the Swedes opened camp in this southern Japanese city.

Ljungberg also missed Sweden's tuneup last Friday against Paraguay, which Sweden lost 2-1 after going unbeaten 17 straight games.

Sweden missed Ljungberg badly in the Sweden game against Paraguay. He could be back in a friendly against

World Cup co-host Japan in Tokyo on Saturday.

The Swedes also failed to impress in two earlier draws -- 1-1 against Switzerland at home and 0-0 against Norway -- with Ljungberg playing only one half in Oslo. That was his first appearance on the national team since Sweden clinched its 10th World Cup berth late last year.

Sweden opens the World Cup against England -- coached by Sweden's Sven-Goran Eriksson -- on June 2 at Saitama. Sweden's other "Group of Death" games are June 7 against Nigeria in Kobe and June 12 against Argentina at Miyagi.

Sweden has beaten both Argentina and Nigeria in their only meetings and hasn't lost to England in 33 years.

Lions just can't get there!

INTERNET, Bangkok

Cameroon's farcical World Cup preparations took another twist on Thursday when the plane carrying the squad to Japan was forced to land in Thailand, where it risks being stranded.

The Indomitable Lions charter flight from Bombay was destined for the Japanese city of Fukuoka.

But the Boeing 757 carrying 30 passengers was forced to seek emergency permission to land in Bangkok after failing to receive permission to fly over Cambodia, Vietnamese and Philippine airspace.

It was not clear why the flight took off from Bombay without prior clearance from the south-east Asian countries, and Thai officials were helping Cameroon to obtain the permission to fly through their airspace.

The Indomitable Lions were already two days behind schedule after a row over players' bonuses held them up in Paris for 48 hours.

Cameroon were originally scheduled to arrive at their training camp in Nakatsue, on the southern island of Kyushu, on Sunday.

Their embarrassing delay risked a loss of goodwill after local residents were forced to cancel several events, including a welcome ceremony and a practice match with local high school students.

Nakatsue, with a population of 1,400, had spent £535,000 on improving lodging and training facilities for the Olympic and African champions.

Cameroon are due to play England in a World Cup warm-up in Kobe, western Japan on Sunday, before launching into their Group E campaign against Ireland, Germany and Saudi Arabia.



(L) Olof Mellberg being confronted by a furious Freddie Ljungberg. (R) Teammates struggle to separate the fighting Mellberg and Ljungberg.

Trap Totti-happy



REUTERS, Sendai, Japan

Italy playmaker Francesco Totti returned to full World Cup training with the rest of his team mates as he aims to put a niggling thigh injury behind him.

Coach Giovanni Trapattoni said he now hoped that the Roma midfielder, the key man for Italy, would be able to play in Sunday's friendly match with Japanese club side Kashima Antlers.

"I hope Totti can play a good 45-60 minutes against Kashima. That would be decisively better and it is time to see him on the field again," Trapattoni told reporters at the team's hotel.

After the match in Tokyo against Kashima, Italy face Ecuador in their opening group G match on June 3.

Totti's fitness has been a growing worry for Italy after he missed the run-in to the Serie A season and his country's last two friendlies against Uruguay and the Czech Republic.

Totti was also forced to train alone and do specialist work during Italy's pre-World Cup camp in Florence last week.

But while Trapattoni admitted that the team's medical staff were still keeping a very close eye on Totti, he said he was not unduly concerned about his fitness.

"I am not worried about Totti's condition but it is at the point where we still need to pay attention to him. Of course he is very important to us," Trapattoni said.

That importance was illustrated in Saturday's poor showing without him against the Czechs when Italy lacked a creative edge as they fell to a 1-0 defeat.

But the Italy boss sought to put the Prague disappointment behind him and said that he would not be

basing his selection choices on that match.

"For sure the defence will not change but I cannot consider only what didn't work in Prague because then I'd have to change the whole side," said the Italy coach.

Trapattoni said that 24 hours after arriving in their base, around

400 kilometres north of Tokyo, Italy were already down to serious work.

"From this morning we began in earnest, we are tired but we have lots of enthusiasm," said the Italy coach.

Italy also face Mexico and Croatia in group G.

Extra security for the Americans

AP, Seoul

Fearing a terrorist attack, South Korea will assign extra security to the United States team during its stay in the country for the World Cup finals.

All teams will have police motorcades and four plainclothes police officers traveling with them from arrival to departure, Shin Sung-chul, an official at the National Police Agency's World Cup security team, said Wednesday.

Besides the regular security, "the U.S. team will have eight more SWAT team members following them as it is considered a likely target for terrorists," Shin said.

Following the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States, security has become a major concern for the South Korean and Japanese co-hosts of the World Cup, which starts May 31.

The U.S. team plays its first-round matches in South Korea, which will mobilize 38,000 police officers during the event, and have anti-aircraft missiles, portable land-to-air rockets and fighter jets protecting the skies above stadiums.

Also Wednesday, the South Korean government said it has banned protest rallies within 1,000 yards of its 10 World Cup stadiums and within 600 yards of hotels accommodating soccer players.

The ban, which went into effect Tuesday, was the latest measure to safeguard the World Cup, said Chung Hee-chan, a Home Ministry official.



A colourful rally was brought out yesterday in Rajshahi on the eve of the draw ceremony for the third round of The Daily Star Rangs Toshiba World Cup quiz competition.


Round 4, Draw in Sylhet

Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

- Information**
- 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.
 - There will be SIX rounds of competition.
 - Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of RANGS TOSHIBA as per announcement.
 - Participants of all the SIX rounds will automatically qualify for the Bumper Draw, which will have even bigger prizes.
 - For each round, a set of questions including a photographic Quiz will be published in The Daily Star.
 - 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 UP FOR GRABS**
- | Prize | Item | Model | Winner |
|-------|--|-----------|---------|
| 1st | One 21" Toshiba Flat TV | CT 21D3XE | YOU |
| 2nd | One 8.5 CFT Toshiba Refrigerator | GR R18BPT | 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 |
- Rules**
- Residents of Bangladesh are eligible to participate in The Daily Star Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz 2002.
 - Employees of The Daily Star and Rangs Toshiba 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 for each round.
 - 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 World Cup Quiz 4."
 - Entries may be hand delivered or posted to The Daily Star, 19, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215.
 - 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 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

The Daily Star RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Round 4 Ends June 6, 2002

Tick (✓) the correct answers

| | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 1. Bangladesh first played in qualifiers for the World Cup of 1982 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1986 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1990 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Pele's debut World Cup was in | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1954 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1958 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. France won 1998 World Cup under the captaincy of Deschamps | <input type="checkbox"/> | Zidane | <input type="checkbox"/> | Desailly | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Which player scored most goals in a World Cup | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pele | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fontaine | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Who is this? |  | Figo | <input type="checkbox"/> | Beckham | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | Batistuta | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

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 World Cup Quiz 4."