

Pele hospitalised

AFP, Sao Paulo

Brazilian football legend Pele has been admitted to hospital here Tuesday after reportedly suffering an allergic reaction to a routine test, according to local radio reports.

The 60-year-old Pele, real name Edson Arantes do Nascimento, was said not to be in any danger although he is reported to have complained of chest pains.

Bomb hoax

AFP, Copenhagen

Police cleared thousands of cheering Danish football supporters from a main Copenhagen square on Tuesday because of a bomb scare just minutes after Denmark defeated France 2-0 and gained a place in the second round of the football World Cup.

After cordoning off the Copenhagen City Hall Square, police exploded a black bag found in a telephone booth next to a bus terminal.

A police spokesman said the bag was intentionally made to look like a bomb but contained no explosives.

Earlier, an unidentified man had phoned the fire department to say there was a bomb in a telephone booth on the square.

The square is a central hub in the city, just a few steps from the main pedestrian thoroughfare and the famed Tivoli Gardens.

The action took place just minutes after Denmark had ousted defending champions France from the World Cup and as joyous fans swelled out onto Copenhagen's streets and squares to celebrate.

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Blank exit

FROM PAGE 16

Salvador (1970), Australia and Zaire (1974), and Canada (1986).

It is a far cry from France's illuminating display in Paris four years ago when, in the first round, they scored nine goals and only conceded one on their way to dominating Group C and going on to eventually win their first World Cup.

TV angle

FROM PAGE 16

second round already.

As it is, they now have to hold a Portugal side back from the dead. After a dreadful performance against the U.S.A in their first game, they came up with a splendid display of attacking football to decimate Poland. Poland really are proving themselves the most over-rated side in the tournament.

Oliveira, the Portuguese coach, did play the extra defensive midfielder, and it did wonders for his side. With Bento and Petit to protect them, the Portuguese defence had to deal with a lot less pressure, at least in the early stages. This translated to greater freedom for the likes of Figo and Conceicao. However, despite their domination, they got only one goal in the first half, through Pauleta. In the second half, Figo, who had been a bit disappointing in the first half, began to play better, and the introduction of Rui Costa on the hour improved Portugal's play even more. With a five-man midfield, Portugal completely took over possession. They attacked incessantly, and could have scored more. Pauleta helped himself to his hat-trick, and Costa capped off an impressive cameo appearance with a goal. It will be interesting to see whether Oliveira chooses to use him off the bench again in their next game, or play him from the start.

Poland actually could have scored themselves, but they were dreadful in front of goal. Once the ball is in the box, the Portuguese still seem very nervous, with goalkeeper Baia's shakiness seeping through to the likes of Couto. However, Portugal have discovered their touch in other areas of the pitch, and their game against Korea promises to be a very exciting one. It will all depend on who handles the pressure better.

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EAGLES FLY FOR NO REASON! Nigerian players, who have already been eliminated from the World Cup, do the jumping part of their stretching exercise yesterday at the Nagai Stadium in Osaka.

Irish storm through

REUTERS, Yokohama

Ireland cruised to a comfortable 3-0 victory over Saudi Arabia in World Cup group E to reach the second round of the tournament for the third time in their three appearances.

Goals by in-form striker Robbie Keane, defender Gary Breen and winger Damien Duff meant Mick McCarthy's side finished second in the group behind Germany and they will play Spain or South Africa in the last 16.

Their progress on Tuesday was a triumph for McCarthy, who had to lift his squad after captain Roy Keane was sent home on the eve of the finals following a furious bust-up with his coach.

Tuesday's win meant Ireland finished on five points from three games, two less than Germany and one more than Cameroon.

It was also the first time in 12 World Cup finals matches that Ireland, quarter-finalists in 1990, had managed to score two goals.

Keane, who grabbed the dramatic last-minute equaliser against

Pressure on Bafana Bafana

FROM PAGE 16

ictory after two draws and a loss in their only other appearance at the finals in 1998, and are now on the brink of a place in the second round.

"It's not over yet but we're confident we can get through," said South Africa coach Jomo Sono.

"We weren't expected to reach the second round so we're able to go out and enjoy ourselves."

Siyabonga Nomvete, left out for the Paraguay match, came in against Slovenia and scored after just four minutes of his first World Cup match, albeit with a fluke finish,

Gate-crashing Eagles?

FROM PAGE 16

on to what is now a priceless point. hensively outplayed and left clinging

England: 1-David Seaman, 2-Danny Mills, 5-Rio Ferdinand, 6-Sol Campbell, 3-Ashley Cole, 7-David Beckham (capt), 21-Nicky Butt, 8-Paul Scholes, 4-Trevor Sinclair, 11-Emile Heskey, 10-Michael Owen
 Nigeria: 1-Ike Shorunmu, 14-Ifeanyi Udezue, 6-Taribo West, 5-Isaac Okoronkwo, 3-Celestine Babayaro, 2-Joseph Yobo, 10-Jay Jay Okocha, 15-Justice Christopher, 9-Bartholomew Ogbeche, 17-Julius Aghahowa, 21-John Utaka
Referee: Brian Hall (United States)

Germany in Ireland's previous game, gave them the perfect start after seven minutes.

The 21-year-old superbly volleyed Gary Kelly's hanging cross past flailing Saudi goalkeeper Mohammed Al-Deayea.

At a drizzly Yokohama International Stadium, Saudi Arabia, beaten 8-0 by Germany and already eliminated, threatened more as the half wore on.

Nawaf Al-Temayt was at the centre of their best work, often giving Ireland left-back Ian Harte a hard time, and three minutes before the interval he set up Mohammed Al-Jahani who tested Ireland goalkeeper Shay Given with a stinging shot.

McCarthy responded by removing Harte at halftime and bringing on tall striker Niall Quinn, and Keane, with two sharp efforts, soon threatened to double their advantage.

Ireland suddenly had a better shape, with Kevin Kilbane filling in at left-back and Duff moving back into the midfield.

It was no surprise when Breen

deviated captain Steve Staunton's free kick past Al-Deayea for Ireland's second on the hour and Duff claimed the third three minutes from time following a mistake by the Saudi keeper to the delight of the Irish support in the 65,320 crowd.

TEAMS

Saudi Arabia: Mohammed Al-Deayea (capt), Mohammed Al-Jahani (Ahmed Al Dossari 78), Redha Tokar, Abdullah Suleiman Al-Zubromawi (Abdallah Al Dossari 67), Fouzi Al-Shehri, Ibrahim Al-Shahrani, Hussein Al-Sulimani, Abdulaziz Al-Khatran (Al Shihoub 67), Khazim Al-Owairan Al Dossari, Nawaf Al-Temayt, Al-Hassan Al-Yami.

Rep of Ireland: Shay Given, Steve Finnan, Steve Staunton (capt), Gary Breen, Ian Harte (Niall Quinn 46), Gary Kelly (Jason McAteer 80), Mark Kinsella (Lee Carsey 89), Matt Holland, Kevin Kilbane, Robbie Keane, Damien Duff.
Booked: Steve Staunton.
Referee: Falla Ndoye (Senegal)

Nasty fall!

AP, Seoul

A young British man remained in a coma Tuesday after fracturing his skull in a fall at a stadium during a World Cup soccer game, a FIFA spokesman said.

The man was running around a lower concourse in front of spectator seats at the stadium in Jeonju, South Korea, in the rain Monday night when he slipped and fell over a barrier and into a moat, FIFA spokesman Keith Cooper said.

Earlier, Jeonju World Cup stadium spokesman Mun Nam-seob said the man was Scottish. Cooper could confirm only that he was a British citizen. His identity was being withheld, and Cooper said his age was not immediately known.

The man was taken to the university hospital in the South Korean city.

It was not known why the man slipped, Cooper added.

He said the man was not in an off-limits area, nobody else was involved, and it was "a truly tragic accident. ... FIFA regrets it very deeply and wishes the young man well."

All World Cup stadiums have been checked for safety standards, and the Jeonju stadium conformed, Cooper added.

Portugal beat Poland 4-0 in Monday night's game in the stadium.

Mun said Monday night that a Polish fan fell onto seats but was not seriously hurt, and was expected to be released from Chonbuk University Hospital within a day.

SCORING CHART

AFP, Seoul

World Cup scorers after Tuesday's matches:

5 - Miroslav Klose (Ger).
 4 - Jon Dahl Tomasson (Den).
 3 - Pape Bouba Diop (Sen), Pauleta (Por), Christian Vieri (Ita).
 2 - Fernando Hierro (Spa), Junichi Inamoto (Jpn), Robbie Keane (Irl), Henrik Larsson (Swe), Fernando Morientes (Spa), Rivaldo (Bra), Ronaldo (Bra), Marc Wilms (Bel).
 1 - Julius Aghahowa (Ngr), Ahn Jung-Hwan (Kor), Niclas Alexandersson (Swe), Francisco Arce (Par), Michael Ballack (Ger), Gabriel Batistuta (Arg), David Beckham (Eng), Beto (Por), Oliver Bierhoff (Ger), Cuauhtemoc Blanco (Mex), Marco Bode (Ger), Jared Borgetti (Mex), Raouf Bouzaine (Tun), Gary Breen (Irl), Sol Campbell (Eng), Sebastian Cimiric (Slo), Agustin Delgado (Ecu), Salif Diaio (Sen), Damien Duff (Irl), Emre Belozoglu (Tur), Samuel Eto'o (Cmr), Khalilou Fadiga (Sen), Diego Forlan (Uru), Quinton Fortune (Rsa), Ronald Gomez (Crc), Hasan Sas (Tur), Matt Holland (Irl), Hwang Sun-Hong (Kor), Carsten Jancker (Ger), Valery Karpin (Rus), Thomas Linke (Ger), Clint Mathis (USA), Brian McBride (USA), Tebogo Mokoena (Rsa), Richard Morales (Uru), Siyabonga Nomvete (Rsa), John O'Brien (USA), Ivica Olic (Cro), Winston Parks (Crc), Patrick Mboma (Cmr), Milan Rapacic (Cro), Raul (Spa), Alvaro Recoba (Bra), Roberto Carlos (Bra), Dario Rodriguez (Uru), Dennis Rommedahl (Den), Ronaldo (Bra), Rui Costa (Por), Roque Santa Cruz (Par), Bernd Schneider (Ger), Takayuki Suzuki (Jpn), Egor Titov (Rus), Gerardo Torrado (Mex), Valeron (Spa), Peter Van der Heyden (Bel), Mauricio Wright (Crc), Yoo Sang-Chul (Kor).

Metsu magic

FROM PAGE 16

France to find players qualified to play for the Senegalese and they promptly emerged at the expense of the more favoured and experienced Algeria, Egypt and Morocco from their qualifying group.

After the team bus was held up by thousands of joyous fans following a win over Namibia sent the team to the finals, Metsu made a comment which spoke volumes about modern sport in the developed - and less developed - world.

"In Africa I have found values which have disappeared in Europe," Metsu said. "I am a white man with the heart of a negro."

"In Europe a player will only call you when he's got a problem that he wants you to sort out. African players call me all the time to see how I'm doing."

Such loyalty meant that his former club Sedan were unable to prise him away from his African adventure.

Beck grateful to Gazza

INTERNET, Osaka

England skipper David Beckham today revealed that he has Paul Gascoigne to thank for helping him at the beginning of his international career, the Evening Standard reported.

The Manchester United midfielder recalled how Gazza welcomed him when he got his first international call-up in 1996.

"I came into a squad that was full of big names," said Beckham today. "Gazza was the biggest and I was in awe of him. I was the new kid, but he was one of the first people to talk to me. He was a world-class footballer, but he found time to make me feel at home and I will always remember him for that. In fact, I've tried to follow his example."

PARAGUAY VS SLOVENIA

Win and then pray

AFP, Seogwipo

Outspoken Paraguay skipper Jose Luis Chilavert is hoping not to let Slovenia have the last word on his World Cup career as the South Americans fight to stay in the tournament here Wednesday.

Paraguay head into the final Group B match knowing that their participation beyond the first round is out of their hands - a draw between Spain and South Africa in Wednesday's other Group B game would see to that.

But the combative Chilavert, who had a nightmare in Friday's 3-1 defeat to Spain when he was at fault for two of the goals, is refusing to admit defeat.

"Spain will beat South Africa and we will beat Slovenia and qualify," he said bluntly. "It's simple."

If Chilavert's bold prediction doesn't come true, then it is probable that the World Cup will have seen - and heard - the last of the flamboyant 36-year-old famed for his freekicks and fiery streak.

Chilavert also knows that Paraguay would only have themselves to blame for an early exit. They took the lead only to surrender the initiative against both Spain and South Africa.

The worst collapse came against the South Africans, when Paraguay

took their foot off the gas at 2-0 up and allowed 'Bafana Bafana' back into the match. Chilavert, still serving a suspension for spitting at Brazil's Roberto Carlos during qualifiers, could only watch helplessly from the sidelines.

He returned against Spain but failed to fulfil his pre-match promise of scoring two goals, although he did test opponent number Iker Casillas with a trademark bending free-kick.

While Chilavert will be seeking to delay his exit from the biggest stage in football, already eliminated Slovenia will be seeking to restore their tattered reputation.

The smallest nation taking part in the tournament - Slovenia's population has a population of just two million - the tiny former Yugoslav republic's World Cup debut has

PROBABLE TEAMS	
PARAGUAY (Formation 4-4-2; Jersey numbers in the beginning):	1-Jose Luis Chilavert, 5-Celso Ayala, 4-Carlos Gamarra, 2-Francisco Arce, 21-Denis Caniza, 18-Julio Cesar Caceres, 13-Carlos Paredes, 10-Roberto Acuna, 11-Jorge Campos or 14-Diego Gavilan, 9-Roque Santa Cruz and 20-Jose Cardozo.
SLOVENIA (Formation 5-4-1; Jersey numbers in the beginning):	1-Marko Simeunovic, 3-Zeljko Milinovic, 6-Aleksander Knavs, 7-Djoni Novak, 8-Ales Ceh, 11-Miran Pavlin, 19-Amir Karic, 18-Milenko Acimovic, 13-Mladen Rudonja, 21-Sebastjan Cimiric.
Referee: Felipe Ramos Rizo (Mexico)	

Les Bleus' blues

FROM PAGE 13

behind Denmark, Senegal and Uruguay.

"You have to tell it like it is ... we failed to get to grips with this edition of the World Cup. We just weren't up to it," Lemerre said after the loss.

"There's nothing to say - we don't deserve to qualify for the last 16.

"We still had a small chance (of qualifying) today. We tried to play to our full potential and I can't blame anyone in particular.

"We have to accept the defeat," Lemerre said, adding that the problems had started with France's opening match, a 1-0 defeat to Senegal.

"You have to show up on the first day (match)."

"If you can't do that then you're going to be in trouble. To tell you the truth here in Korea we had a lot of little knocks and bumps which meant that we were never really at 100 percent.

Lemerre, who has another two years on his contract to run, refused to be drawn on his future as France coach.

"That's not something that is on my mind," he said when asked if would continue. "I've got a job that I've been doing for the past 30 years. I've always said it's the best job in the world. But today I just have to accept defeat as I would have done victory."

"For the moment, no, it's not depressing on a personal level. We have to put things into context."

"It was an important match in the sense that there was a small degree of hope for us."

Lemerre took over as French coach from close friend Aime Jacquet after the 3-0 World Cup final victory over Brazil in Paris four years ago.

He said France had the quality in attack to score goals against Denmark - who they needed to beat by two goals to go through - but found it hard going against a determined defence.

"We had the means to get a result but they are a difficult team and we had to watch out for their counter attacks," he said.

"They stuck to their guns and had quality players. The tournament goes on and the best side will win that is clear."

According to French captain Marcel Desailly the exit of his reigning champions was a catastrophe.

"It's a big disappointment, a catastrophe, but at the same time we mustn't go over the top. The machine has ground to a halt," he said after the 2-0 defeat to Denmark sent France crashing out of the tournament.

"All of us, journalists and supporters, were perhaps expecting too much, we wanted to feel the emotions of 1998, we thought we were already in the last 16, in the quarter-finals, in the semi-finals.

"We didn't manage to play and I think a few little things need changing."

Desailly appeared to suggest that coach Roger Lemerre might be replaced, saying "I hope that when we get together, depending on who the next coach is, we'll be able to start from scratch."

But asked to explain his comments, he said: "There will be continuity in the squad and Roger has extended his contract until 2004."

The Chelsea defender concluded that in the end, perhaps his team were happier playing on home soil, where they won their crown in 1998.

"The friendly matches we had before the World Cup perhaps misled us a little as to the true level of competition."

"And away from home, we've had problems, in Spain, in Chile or in Australia."

"Perhaps we just don't travel very well," he said.

Superstar Rivaldo and his coach Luiz Felipe Scolari expressed shock that Brazil's conquerors in the final four years ago had flopped out of the tournament at the first hurdle.

"Everybody in the Brazilian team wanted to play against France but there won't be that match anymore," Rivaldo said after a Brazilian training session here.

been a disaster.

Defeats against Slovenia and South Africa have been overshadowed by the ugly spat between coach Srecko Katanec and star midfielder Zlatko Zahovic, which saw the player kicked out of the squad and sent home.

As if things couldn't get any worse, Katanec was banished from the dugout during the loss to South Africa after berating the fourth official and now must spend Wednesday's game in the stands.

It was a miserable end for Katanec, who was also sent off at the World Cup as a player when representing Yugoslavia at Italia 90.

"But it's the duty of the coach to say things in certain situations. I mean, what is this, ballet dancing?"

It was not a matter of revenge, it's just good to play against the big teams. I really hope the big teams like Argentina and England make it into the next round."

"We knew it would be difficult for France because they had a bad start and were effectively playing all the time with 10 players," said Rivaldo, referring to Zinedine Zidane who missed France's first two games going out of the tournament.

"Now there won't be a France versus Brazil match which is a shame."

"But what has happened to them is an example for Brazil."

Scolari, who predicted on Sunday that the French character would pull them through, said their failure was a lesson to the bigger national sides to treat the smaller teams with respect.

"Their failure was a big surprise," he said. "As far as we're concerned the result doesn't change anything but it shows that Brazil and other bigger teams need to treat the smaller teams with more modesty." One of France's greatest players, Michel Platini, said on Tuesday he never expected his country to survive their do-or-die clash with Denmark which saw them eliminated from the World Cup.

"I'm not disappointed because I wasn't very optimistic," said Platini.

"I know what it's like when things go badly, I'm used to that," said Platini.

Platini coached the team that failed to qualify for the knockout stages of the 1992 European Championships when defeat by Denmark also ended their hopes.

He said he thought the current French squad, which could now be broken up, deserved the nation's praise for a four-year period in which they have won the 1998 World Cup and the 2000 European Championships.

"You have to say thank you to the squad," added Platini.

Death or delight?

FROM PAGE 13

"We assume the responsibility for having lost," he said. "But people also have to acknowledge that Argentina played with a certain grandeur."

"We could also play like they did, staying back and playing long balls to the attack. But we choose not to."

"We deserved to win, but we didn't. That's football."

When asked whether his decision not to announce his line-up was a sign that he was going to make changes, he snapped: "Interpret it as you like."

There has been speculation that Valencia's Pablo Aimar will replace Juan Sebastian Veron in midfield. Veron would either drop deeper, or be a substitute.

Bielsa would not be drawn on the subject. He praised Aimar, who replaced Veron at half time against England, for his drive, which at times threatened an equaliser. But he also said Veron had played well at the start of the game.

Defender Robert Ayala, who would have been team captain, is still ruled out with a thigh injury sustained in the warm-up before Argentina's opening win.

Asked how the team would try and curb the threat of Swedish striker Henrik Larsson, he simply said: "I have faith in the ability of our defenders."

Bielsa expects a similar game to the one against England, and tried to take some pressure off his players by emphasising the quality of Group F, known as "the Group of Death."

"It's not a strange situation for us to be in. We always thought we might have to get a win in our last group match."

Midfielder Javier Zanetti said Argentina's best players so far had been World Cup debutants Walter

Samuel, standing in as sweeper for injured Ayala, and Aimar.

Aimar, Veron's substitute against England, is expected to play from the start against Sweden to dictate a more typically South American attacking style based on dribbling runs with the ball kept on the ground.

But if Veron is included, in a deeper midfield role behind Aimar. Then that could mean Diego Simeone is dropped.

Remarkably, since both sides have a strong World Cup pedigree with Argentina winning the crown twice and Sweden playing in the 1958 final, they have only met once in the finals -- 68 years ago.

Sweden won the first round match at the 1934 World Cup in Italy 3-2, causing the immediate elimination of a below strength Argentine side.

The Swedes, top of the group on goals scored after a 1-1 draw with England followed by a 2-1 win over Nigeria, will be looking to repeat that outcome, but a draw would be enough to see them through.

They have a similar problem to Argentina in that their central defender Patrik Andersson has been unable to play in the tournament so far because of injury.

Sweden's team doctor has been quoted as saying Andersson, suffering from groin and hip injuries, is a

non-starter

So the Swedes should be unchanged from the team that beat Nigeria in Kobe on Friday.

Attacking midfielder Fredrik Ljungberg is expected to play despite some pain from a lingering hip injury.

His partnership with striker Henrik Larsson is largely responsible for Sweden's position at the top of the group.

PROBABLE TEAMS

Argentina: (Formation 3-3-1-3; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 12-Pablo Cavallero, 4-Mauricio Pochettino, 2-Roberto Ayala, 6-Walter Samuel, 8-Javier Zanetti, 11-Juan Sebastian Veron, 3-Juan Pablo Sorin, 10-Ariel Ortega, 9-Gabriel Batistuta, 18-Kily Gonzalez

Sweden (Formation 4-4-2; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 1-Magnus Hedman, 2-Olof Mellberg, 4-Johan Mjallby, 15-Andreas Jakobsson, 16-Teddy Lucic, 7-Niclas Alexandersson, 6-Tobias Linderoth, 8-Anders Svensson, 9-Fredrik Ljungberg, 10-Marcus Allback, 11-Henrik Larsson

Referee: Ali Bujsaim (United Arab Emirates)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36 Some beans	DOWN	20 Erstwhile garment
1 Auto	37 Through-out the text	1 Where Lola was a showgirl	23 Doorstop, perhaps
4 El - , Texas	39 Symbol of intrigue	2 Mervin's captain	24 Emanation
8 Apple co-founder	40 Mainlander's memento	3 Artist Bonheur	25 "Analyze --"
12 Discoverer's outcry	41 Weakness	4 Wagner's "Hart to Hart"	26 Ineffectual one
13 Stage award	45 Mexican entree	5 Residence	27 Thought
14 Vicinity	48 NBC soap opera	6 Round Table address	28 Bad times on Wall Street
15 Popular game show	50 Toast topping	7 " Rex"	29 Trot
17 All hands on deck	51 Ceremony	8 Ball-bouncing game	32 Part-time jock
18 Eased off	52 Essen	9 Hockey great	33 American-born Japanese
19 Annoy	53 Incubator sound	10 Spelldown contents	35 Chart format
21 Cholera	55 Aye under	11 Shop tool	36 Ocullist's supply
22 Volks-wagen		16 Unmoving	38 Beach Boys' "John B," e.g.
26 Last writes?			39 Product of haste
29 Moonshine container			42 - - and groan
30 "Whatja say?"			43 Erstwhile Peruvian
31 Fanzine subject			44 Wan
32 Cast-away's message			45 Acme
33 Soprano Te Kanawa			46 Pub order
34 Kitten's call			47 Second consonant
35 1978 Steely Dan song			49 Broadcast

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
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CRYPTOQUIP

N K D M Y K Y Z I A F D F I Y
 R H F V Z R J Y Z J P Y D H
 B N Y Q A N P V U F K G Y I Q Z D Y I
 Z D G N B Y - N K D M Y Z D Y I U
Yesterday's Cryptquip: A SPORTS ARENA MUST REALLY HEAT UP AFTER ANY GAME. ALL THE FANS ARE GONE.
 Today's Cryptquip Clue: Y equals E

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

CUP CORNER

FROM PAGE 13

"This Cup is only about halfway through so we would expect to double that and hit about 15 million (New Zealand dollars; 7.48 million US dlrs)," said Locke. "New Zealand has gone soccer crazy."

Punters were betting about 115,000 dollars on every World Cup game and 217,000 individual bets had been placed so far during the tournament, Locke said.

CHINESE LESSON

AP, Seoul

It's back to school for China.

Instead of holding a practice session on Tuesday, the Chinese team -- already out of contention for a second-round berth at the World Cup -- will be studying ahead of its final match against Turkey, coach Bora Milutinovic said.

"I'm taking all of them to the stadium to watch France and (Denmark) play, to study the world champions in a top-class game," he said.

"That will do them a lot more good in the long run than yet another training session," he said, as the team arrived in Seoul where it will play its last game in Group C on Thursday.

The veteran Yugoslav coach said that all 23 players and half a dozen assistant coaches will be going along on the "study trip"

"They can also have some fun and enjoy themselves," he said. "The World Cup is not all hard work."

KOIZUMI CAN'T GO

REUTERS, Tokyo

Party-pooping parliamentarians look as though they'll prevent Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi from cheering on Japan's World Cup soccer team in person in their showdown with Tunisia.

Koizumi was there rooting for Japan when they drew 2-2 with Belgium in their opening game and again on Sunday when the co-hosts beat Russia 1-0 -- for their first World Cup finals win.

They now need only a draw against Tunisia in Osaka on Friday to advance to the second round.

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