

Swedes all smiles

FROM PAGE 13 square for a spontaneous rally and many jumped and splashed in the water, cheering as cars decorated in Sweden's colours drove around. A similar, larger celebration at the fountain occurred during the 1994 World Cup after Sweden took third place. Sweden's Prime Minister Goeran Persson was optimistic. "It is not impossible that Sweden will advance very far, very far," Persson was quoted as saying the Swedish news agency TT. The game in Miyagi, Japan, was broadcast live in the morning across the Scandinavian nation of 8.9 million people. Parliamentarians cut short their morning debate and the Federation of Swedish County Councils started its congress an hour late and put up a large-screen television to let delegates watch the second half. Economists worried about a loss of productivity. "Today's game cost the Swedish economy between one and one-and-a-half billion kronor (100-150 million dollars) because of the fall in production when parts of Sweden ground to a halt for two hours," said Carl Hamilton, a professor at the Stockholm School of Economics. He also welcomed the win. "Had Sweden lost, it would have taken longer for work to start again," he said.



FIRST NAIL IN ARGENTINA'S COFFIN: An outstretched Argentina custodian Pablo Cavallero fails to stop the free-kick, taken by Anders Svensson (not in picture) of Sweden, from finding its target at the Miyagi Stadium yesterday.

CROATIA VS ECUADOR

Croats' work cut out

REUTERS, Yokohama Very much back in the hunt after a surprise 2-1 win over Italy, Croatia need to beat Ecuador by at least two goals on Thursday to be sure of moving on to the next round. The Europeans, placed third in France four years ago on their World Cup debut, lost their opening group G match to Mexico this time but are in better spirits after coming from a goal down to beat the Italians in a result which left their group wide open. "We have to be (confident) after beating one of the best teams in the World Cup," said Croatia striker Alen Boksic. Ecuador, yet to find their feet at their first World Cup finals, have all but lost hope. They must win by at least three goals and even then, Italy would have to lose to Mexico. Croatia coach Mirko Jozic seems likely to stick with the side which started against Italy. While Boris Zivkovic, sent off against Mexico, is available again, Daniel Saric should keep his place at right-back. Milan Rapacic, who scored in the Italy game, will support lone striker Boksic, with Jozic prepared to leave

match -- whatever the outcome. "In this last game, we must play for our pride and hope for some luck. We don't need a miracle. No, we need to concentrate on having the right mental preparation and on being in the right condition when we play Croatia," he said. Aguinaga, who played for some of the second half against Mexico but is still suffering from a thigh injury, will probably be brought back to try to instil some discipline into the side. Gomez may make an example of midfielder Edwin Tenorio, who was substituted in the first half of the Mexico game after arguing with his team-mates, and leave him on the bench.

PROBABLE TEAMS

Croatia: (Formation 4-3-2-1; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 1-Stipe Pletikosa; 15-Daniel Saric, 21-Robert Kovac, 3-Josip Simunic, 17-Robert Jarni; 4-Sjepan Tomas, 14-Zvonimir Soldo, 10-Niko Kovac; 7-Davor Vugrinec, 5-Milan Rapacic; 11-Alen Boksic. Ecuador: (Formation 4-4-2; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 1-Jose Cevallos; 4-Ulises De la Cruz, 3-Ivan Hurtado, 2-Augusto Porozo, 6-Raul Guerron; 15-Marlon Ayovi, 10-Alex Aguinaga 58, 16-Cleber Chala, 19-Edison Mendez; 9-Ivan Kaviedes, 11-Agustin Delgado. Referee: William Mattus (Costa Rica)

WC STANDINGS

Table showing World Cup standings for various groups (A through F) including teams like Denmark, Senegal, Uruguay, France, Spain, Paraguay, South Africa, Slovenia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Turkey, China, South Korea, United States, Portugal, Poland, Germany, Ireland, Cameroon, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, England, Argentina, Nigeria, Mexico, Italy, Croatia, Ecuador, Japan, Russia, Belgium, and Tunisia.

SCORING CHART

Table showing scoring records for various players from different countries, including names like Miroslav Klose, Jon Dahl Tomasson, and others.

TURKEY VS CHINA Score and then hope

REUTERS, Seoul Turkey face World Cup debutants China on Thursday needing an emphatic win and a helping hand from Brazil, who must beat tiny Costa Rica if the Turks are to have any chance of qualifying for the second round. The Chinese, already out of the competition after defeats by Costa Rica and Brazil, have only their dignity to lose, but they will be looking for a strong showing to give their fans something to cheer about as they head home. The Turks are expected to field an extra striker in their final Group C game, which takes place at the same time as the Brazil-Costa Rica clash. "We have to beat China, although Costa Rica are in a stronger position than us, we have to beat China and then wait for the result of the Brazil game," Turkey coach Senol Gunzes said on Monday. Brazil have already qualified for the second round after two victories. Costa Rica will go through unless they lose to Brazil and Turkey beat China by enough goals to overcome the Costa Ricans superior goal difference. The Chinese, meanwhile, are hoping to retain a shred of national pride by achieving at least one of their three official targets of one goal, one win and one draw. They lost 2-0 to Costa Rica in

their opening game and 4-0 to Brazil before Costa Rica drew with Turkey and eliminated them, to the disappointment of up to 30,000 Chinese fans who have come to watch them in South Korea. China have been criticised for their conservative tactics and poor finishing, but they showed flashes of potential in the Brazil game and were unlucky not to score a goal. Coach Bora Milutinovic has said they could beat Turkey if they play as they did against the four-time world champions. "This game is much more important than before," he said on Monday. "For us it is very important to finish well. This is our goal." Gunzes looks set to play a second forward in support of Hakan Sukur, who has appeared isolated in the last two matches and has drifted in and out of the play. Besiktas forward Ilhan Mansiz, top scorer in the Turkish league last season, is the most likely candidate

to partner Hakan Sukur although Arif Erdem is also an option. Gunzes will also welcome the return from suspension of defender Alpay Ozalan and left-winger Hakan Unsal. He may opt for a three-man defence with Hakan Unsal and Fatih Akyel ready to pull back on the wings to take over defensive duties. Milutinovic has yet to decide whether his defenders and most experienced players Fan Zhiyi and Sun Jihai will play. They both missed the Brazil game with injuries. If they are unavailable, he is expected to call up defender Du Wei and midfielder Qi Hong, who stood out in the Brazil game. Pacy striker Qu Bo may also be summoned to test the Turkish defence. Poor Turkish defending in the 85th minute on Sunday allowed Costa Rica to snatch a 1-1 draw. The Turks also tripped up in the dying moments of their opening match, when they conceded a penalty to give Brazil a 2-1 win.

PROBABLE TEAMS

Turkey: (Formation 3-5-2; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 1-Rustu Recber; 16-Umit Ozat, 5-Alpay Ozalan, 4-Fatih Akyel; 8-Tugay Kerimoglu, 21-Emre Belozoglu, 10-Yildirim Basturk, 20-Hakan Unsal, 11-Hasan Sas; 9-Hakan Sukur, 17-Ilhan Mansiz. China: (Formation 4-5-1; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 22-Jiang Jin; 17-Du Wei, 14-Li Weifeng, 4-Wu Chengying, 21-Xu Yunlong; 18-Li Xiaopeng, 19-Qi Hong, 8-Li Tie, 15-Zhao Junzhe, 9-Ma Mingyu; 10-Hao Haidong. Referee: Oscar Ruiz (Colombia)

Pele released

REUTERS, Sao Paulo Brazilian soccer great Pele has checked out of hospital after spending the night in intensive care. Smiling and joking with reporters on Tuesday, Pele earlier said he was in fine shape and hoped to travel to Japan soon to cheer on Brazil in the World Cup. Pele, 61, was taken to Sao Paulo's Heart Hospital on Monday night after suffering an allergic reaction to iodine he had taken before an x-ray as part of a routine medical check-up. "For all my friends and all of those who worried, I am fine, and God willing I'll be travelling to Japan the day after tomorrow," Pele told a news conference at the hospital, which specialises in cardiac care.

Caniggia

FROM PAGE 16 against West Germany, the winger was suspended for a second booking for deliberate handball during their semi-final against Italy. Caniggia said there would be an inquest into the team's performance back home after their premature exit from a tournament they were tipped to win. "Argentina were candidates (for the title). A lot of things are going to be said in Argentina."

Paraguay pull

FROM PAGE 16 into the roof of the net to secure a stunning victory and win qualification. TEAMS Slovenia: Mladen Dabanovic, Zeljko Milinovic, Doni Novak, Ales Ceh, Milan Osterc (Senad Tiganj 77), Miran Pavlin (Mladen Rudonja 40), Rajko Tavcar, Milenko Acimovic (Nastja Ceh 63), Amir Karic, Sebastjan Cimiric, Spasoje Bulajic. Booked: Pavlin, Karic, Rudonja, Milinovic. Paraguay: Jose Luis Chilavert, Francisco Arce, Carlos Gamarra, Celso Ayala, Guido Alvarenga (Jorge Campos 54), Roque Santa Cruz, Roberto Acuna, Carlos Paredes, Julio Cesar Caceres, Jose Cardozo (Nelson Cuevas 61), Juan Carlos Franco 90), Denis Caniza. Booked: Paredes. Referee: Felipe Ramos Rizo (Mexico)

No samba favour

FROM PAGE 13 our own work and our profession." Guimaraes, who played as a substitute when the two teams met at the 1990 World Cup in a game which Brazil won 1-0, was not expecting help, either. "The fact that they have already qualified might mean we have more of a chance," said Guimaraes, who became a Costa Rican citizen in 1984. "But any suggestion that they will not try to win is ridiculous. There is no chance at all that they will do something like that, absolutely none." The last meeting between the two teams ended in a 5-0 win for Brazil at the Copa America five years ago, but the gap has closed dramatically since then. Costa Rica reached the quarter-finals of last year's Copa America

and qualified for the World Cup finals with two matches to spare, their results including a historic 2-1 win away to Mexico. Costa Rica, with their neat passing and crafty dribbling, have remained faithful to the Latin American style of play while teams such as Ecuador and Paraguay have resorted to hoofing the ball upfield in a distinctly British manner. They could already have made sure of their place, but instead poor finishing has left them in a delicate situation. The Ticos missed a flurry of late chances in their opening 2-0 win over China and a similar failing against Turkey meant they had to be grateful to scramble a late equaliser in a 1-1 draw, when they should have run out comfortable winners.

Bet on Brazil

AP, London With favourites France and Argentina eliminated in the first round of the World Cup, British bookmakers Wednesday turned to Brazil, Italy and Spain to win the title. William Hill and Coral both installed Brazil as the 9-4 favourite, with 9-2 odds on Italy and Spain. England, which had a lackluster 1-1 draw with Nigeria to finish behind Sweden in group F Tuesday, was 11-2 with William Hill and 5-1 with Coral. William Hill had Germany as fifth favourite at 11-1, followed by Sweden at 16-1, Portugal at 20-1, co-host Japan at 22-1, Denmark and Senegal on 25-1, Ireland and Russia on 40-1 and Costa Rica and Mexico on 66-1. Fellow co-host South Korea is 80-1 along with Turkey and the United States. Coral rated Germany at 10-1, Portugal at 22-1, Senegal and Sweden at 25-1, Denmark at 28-1, Mexico and Japan at 40-1, Russia and Ireland on 50-1, South Korea on 66-1 and the United States at 100-1.

PROBABLE TEAMS

Brazil: (Formation 3-5-2; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 1-Marcos; 3-Lucio, 14-Anderson Polga, 5-Edmilson; 2-Cafu, 8-Gilberto Silva, 16-Junior, 19-Juninho, 20-Edilson; 9-Ronaldo, 10-Rivaldo. Costa Rica: (Formation 3-5-2; Jersey numbers in the beginning): 1-Erick Lonnis; 5-Gilberto Martinez, 4-Mauricio Wright, 3-Luis Marin; 15-Harold Wallace, 8-Mauricio Solis, 6-Wilmer Lopez, 22-Carlos Castro, 10-Walter Centeno; 9-Paulo Wanchope, 11-Ronald Gomez. Referee: Gamal Ghandour (Egypt)

CUP CORNER

FROM PAGE 13 trouble-free show of support for the national team as they battled to a 1-1 draw with the United States. The number of homicide cases slipped 67 percent to 12 over the first 10 days, while rape cases shrank 35 percent to 129. Car accidents fell to 5,745 from 6,096. A senior police officer told Reuters about 45 foreigners had been detained around the country since the World Cup started, which is close to the average figure, but there were more cases involving theft and pickpocketing. He did not disclose the nationality of the offenders. The Korea Times reported that police had set up a special team to target crime by non-Korean nationals. World Cup co-hosts South Korea and Japan have declared a zero-tolerance policy for troublemakers during the finals. BECKHAM GOES TO TRAFALGAR SQUARE

AP, London England soccer captain David Beckham has been all over the national newspapers, magazines and television broadcasts. So why not a replica of Beckham in Trafalgar Square? A waxwork of the star midfielder was moved from Madame Tussaud's and placed on an empty statue base in London's landmark square Tuesday, a day ahead of England's World Cup match against Nigeria in Japan. Wearing a red shirt and white shorts, the Beckham replica was in the company of large-scale statues of Sir Charles Napier, Henry Havelock and King George IV on horseback. "We thought that people deserved to see him on a bigger scale," Madame Tussaud's spokesman Fiona Harvey said. The display was taken down later Tuesday and returned to the gallery at Madame Tussaud's. HAPPY BIRTHDAY MATTHEW

AP, Osaka The year 2002 is a good year to turn 18. It is, at least, for Matthew Veal. Veal and his father, originally from Devon, England, made the trip to Japan to watch the English team at the World Cup finals. So far, they've not been disappointed. "This is his 18th birthday present," Donald Veal said Tuesday as he and his son watched Ireland beat Saudi Arabia at a pub in central Osaka.

TVangle

FROM PAGE 16 ons. They were inclined to throw their heads back when they should have put their heads down. The most disappointing aspect of their performance was that in a team oozing quality from every corner of the field, no player was willing to rise to the occasion and inspire his team. The senior players like Lebeouf, Dugarry, Djorkaeff and Petit simply did not pull their weight in the side, and frankly at no stage France looked like they still have something to offer. Surely, it is now time for them to make way, and let the younger generation take over. France have a host of talented young players coming through in every position and Cisse, Mexes, Landreau and Govou may put right in Germany what went wrong in the Far East. But that is a long way off, and before that, French football has to look in the mirror and acknowledge it is not as pretty as it thought. Senegal deserved their place in the next round, but you may feel that they are a team on an adventure, not a mission. Their freestyle approach is both a strength and a weakness. It helps you when you are unknown, but you can stand people staring at you for only so long. Until the second half of their epic game against Uruguay, football was an easy game for Metsu's men. Uruguay's magnificent, although ultimately futile comeback would finally have given them a taste of what football at this level is all about. They may go no further than the

second round, but they have already left a mark on this World Cup which can never be erased. Denmark have a better chance of progressing further. In Tommasson, they have the right man to hurt anyone who underrates them. Germany are a different team to the one humiliated by England in Munich last year. With the infusion of some youth, Voeller has turned his nation's football fortunes around in quite a short time. Ballack was backed by many to be one of the outstanding players of the tournament, and he has been, but less anticipated has been the rise of Klose. The young striker took his goal tally to 5 in 3 games with his goal against a disappointing Cameroon side Tuesday. Playing against ten men for a large part of the game, the Africans lacked penetration up front and discipline at the back. Germany took their chances, and they seem to be again developing that air of invincibility they once had. Once Cameroon lost, they had no hope of progressing, since Saudi Arabia were never going to trouble Ireland. The Irish did not have it as easy as they may have expected, especially in the first half, but in the end, won by three goals. Many of the teams in the second round have not played the best football to get there. But they have all showed something that France, the most notable absentee so far, from the names in the second round, did not: The will to win.

Draw suits

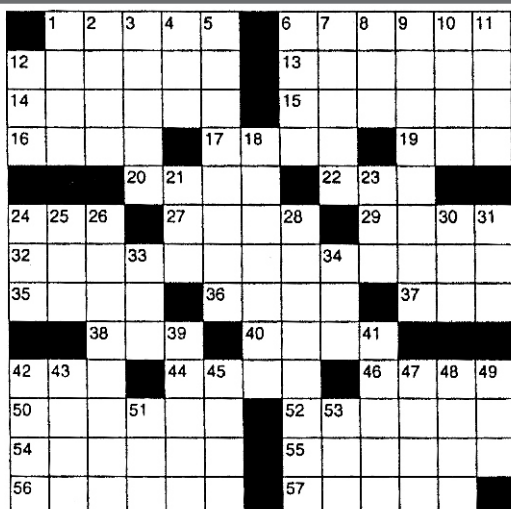
FROM PAGE 16 But for all the Nigerians' early domination of possession and territory they failed to create many clear chances on goal. Aghahowa saw a scuffed shot from close range comfortably saved by David Seaman, who also had to parry a curling freekick from Nigerian captain Jay Jay Okocha on the half hour. At the other end England found it equally hard to test Nigeria's teenage keeper Enyeama, surprisingly named in the starting line-up in place of the experienced Ike Shorunmu. Although Enyeama looked uncomfortable dealing with crosses, England were unable to put the 19-year-old under much pressure. A shot from Emile Heskey was easily saved by Enyeama and Michael Owen burst clear from the Nigerian defence on 35 minutes only for defender Joseph Yobo to block his shot on goal. TEAMS England: David Seaman, Danny Mills, Rio Ferdinand, Sol Campbell, Ashley Cole (Wayne Bridge 84), David Beckham (capt), Nicky Butt, Paul Scholes, Trevor Sinclair, Emile Heskey (Teddy Sheringham 68), Michael Owen (Darius Vassell 77). Nigeria: Vincent Enyeama, Joseph Yobo, Isaac Okoronkwo, Ifeanyi Udezue, Efeobore Sodje, Justice Christopher, Jay-Jay Okocha (capt), James Obiorah, Julius Aghahowa, Benedict Akwuegbu, Ferni Opabunmi (Pius Ikedia 86). Referee: Brian Hall (USA).

Opabunmi in

FROM PAGE 16 played for Cameroon in both 1998 and this year. Whiteside made his first appearance in the World Cup aged 17 years 41 days while Eto'o was 17 years 99 days.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Counterfeits 42 Roscoe 6 Put one over on 46 Patron saint of Norway 50 Intense dislike 52 What mobile model do 54 Show's conclusion 55 Flew alone 56 Bent, maybe 57 Make modifications DOWN 1 Mythical figure 2 Taj Mahal locale 3 Snarls 4 Always 5 Hollywood 26 Unsullied new-comers spot? 6 Venom ejector 7 Willow variety 8 Slangy suffix 9 Finders 10 Sweeping story 11 Body shop concern 12 Periodical, briefly 18 As fashion dictates hook 21 Golfer Ernie 23 Sternward source 45 Second-hand 47 Columbia footballer 48 Still sleeping 49 Government agent 51 Upper limit 53 Off-tattooed wrrrl



CRYPTOQUIP

V H N P Y X Z V M R F R V Q Z H N E Q Y F D V P I N M R N P X - F H N B E P L D R O R B R V Z N M O N L I O Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN THE NEAR FUTURE YOU MAY BE ABLE TO VIEW FILMS UNDERWATER, AT DIVE-IN THEATERS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals S The Cryptoquip 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.

Rise and shine

FROM PAGE 16 "I'm definitely happy. The Argentinians are out and we go through," said Aiden Leigh, 24, as he finished his drink in the Hogshed to head off to work nearby. The pub did a roaring trade in bacon sandwiches, coffee and soft drinks to the besuited fans and even the odd pint of beer. Shaun Kilcoyne, 29, was watching the game on the big screen over an orange juice. His company was not one of the many to lay on televisions for staff to watch the match and he said he would not be toasting England's success with a beer. "I don't think the boss would be too chuffed," he told AFP. "We've got a long day ahead," added his mate, Steven Whitehead, 30. London Underground reported that the morning rush hour began an

hour early with some trains packed even at 6:30 am. "Passenger numbers have been significantly higher and we assume people were travelling into work to watch England's World Cup match," a spokeswoman said. By kick-off many normally busy roads and stations were quieter than usual. Electricity firms saw a big surge in demand at half time and at the end of the match as fans resorted to the traditional English cup of tea. Others opted for something a little stronger, with an estimated 25,000 pubs and bars opening early, according to industry experts. Queues formed outside some pubs as drinkers turned up early to grab a good seat. In Newcastle, northeast England, bars were doing a roaring trade. At the Jonny Ringo's bar, sup-

porters had been queuing since 6:00 am, a few sipping cans of lager as they waited. In Manchester, northwest England, 600 supporters, many dressed in suits and work clothes, watched the game in the city's main shopping centre. As the whistle went at the end of the first 45 minutes, half the crowd ran out of the dining area to make their way to work. The fans were cautious about England's chances of going all the way. They have been disappointed many times before. "I think we'll definitely beat Denmark (England's next opponents) but we won't win (the World Cup)," said Leigh. Kilcoyne was also doubtful but added: "As it gets on a little voice in my ear says, maybe we can."