



PHOTO: AFP

IF ONLY...! England captain David Beckham at a press conference before leaving Awaji Island yesterday.

Becks was hopeful

Manchester United midfielder David Beckham said Saturday he thought his side were going to win the World Cup before they were humbled by Brazil in the quarterfinals in Shizuoka.

The England captain had high hopes for England but Sven-Goran Eriksson's men bowed out of the competition after losing 2-1 to the South Americans on Friday.

"To be honest I had been feeling throughout this competition that we were going to go all the way personally," said Beckham at England's headquarters here before leaving for the airport for the flight back home.

"I didn't tell anyone because I didn't want to upset anything but I

just had a funny feeling that we would go all the way.

"We haven't done so, so we have to work harder to correct the things that went wrong and we will because we've got the team to do so."

Asked if he thought England would get a better chance to win the World Cup for a second time, Beckham replied: "Of course. We've got to believe we can."

"We're disappointed at going out in the quarter-finals but we're still proud of ourselves for reaching this point."

"Expectations were very high and were set very high and some people thought that we wouldn't get through the group stages."

"But I'm pleased as a captain for

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Unlike Felipe

REUTERS, Shizuoka

Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari went back to his old ways as his side ground out their deserved 2-1 win over England in Friday's World Cup quarterfinals.

The man known as Big Phil had amazed his compatriots by opting for a cavalier all-out approach in their first four World Cup games.

For a man who built his reputation on the pillars of hard work, tactical discipline and tough tackling, it was completely out of character.

Against England, the old Big Phil re-appeared.

After taking a 2-1 lead early in the second-half and then being reduced to 10 men after Ronaldinho was sent off, Scolari went back to the tactics which Brazilians have come to expect from him.

His team kept possession

superbly, made time pass by taking an age over free kicks and goal kicks, fell back en masse into defence and took the ball into the corner to frustrate their opponents.

It worked perfectly and England did not get a look in.

The second half was just like watching Gremio on their way to winning the South American Libertadores Cup under Scolari's leadership in 1995 or Palmeiras four years later -- without some of the wilder excesses such as ordering ball boys to waste time by throwing spare balls on the field.

It was also the ideal answer to the criticism that Brazil do not know how to defend.

Although Brazil scored 13 goals on their way to winning their first four games in Japan and South Korea, alarm bells began ringing after first Costa Rica, then Belgium, each carved out a handful of chances

against the Brazilians.

Costa Rica -- whose players could teach England a few things with their neat, quick passing and imaginative build-ups -- could have scored half a dozen against Brazil before their own defensive woes sent them crashing to a 5-2 defeat.

Belgium also had Brazil on the ropes before two goals in the last quarter of the game sent them packing.

Many believed that if England could exploit the same weaknesses, they could pull off a historic win.

Scolari, however, was one step ahead of his opponents.

Without warning, and without even training the new set-up, he took out attacking midfielder Juninho, brought in tackling specialist

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Outstanding Oliver

REUTERS, Ulsan

Germany captain Oliver Kahn certainly knows how to celebrate.

After helping his team overcome Paraguay 1-0 with a faultless show on his 33rd birthday last Saturday, the goalkeeper won his 50th cap in Friday's 1-0 quarter-final victory over the United States.

The triple champions failed to sparkle but are in the last four for the first time in 12 years and owe it largely to Kahn, who lived up to his reputation as the world's best goalkeeper with a string of crucial saves.

"He saved our lives many times in the first half," said Germany coach Rudi Voeller. "We knew if we wanted to go a long way in this World Cup we would need a fantastic Oliver Kahn and we've had that."

The Bayern Munich giant showed his class by twice denying energetic midfielder Landon Donovan before the break and made three decisive stops after Michael Ballack had headed Germany into the lead in the 39th minute.

"I'm happy to have played my part but I had a group guys in front of me who fought hard for this," said Kahn, who was one of few Germans to shine in a typical, dull but efficient display from the revived heavyweights.

The performance took its toll and after the final whistle, Kahn fell on his back and remained on a ground for a few seconds before leaving the pitch.

"I was exhausted," he said. "In

such a game you never can drop your guard and it takes an incredible amount of energy. I felt totally wrecked."

Kahn, who was a reserve goalkeeper in the last two finals, had to be patient before getting a chance to shine in the showcase tournament but he is certainly making the most of it.

Even before replacing Oliver

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8



PHOTO: AFP

KING KAHN: German custodian Oliver Kahn exults after Michael Ballack's goal against the USA at Ulsan on June 21.

Turks no less

REUTERS, Osaka

Ilhan Mansiz, who scored Turkey's golden goal winner in their 1-0 extra time World Cup quarter-final victory over Senegal, believes his side are as good as any in the competition.

He said: "After we qualified we have seen that no one is better than us. We have earned the place in the semi-final. We wanted to win this game and we did. As a team we fought hard."

Saturday's victory puts Turkey,

competing in their first World Cup finals for 48 years, into the last four for a Wednesday semi-final rematch with Brazil.

They played in the first round and Turkey had two sent off and a controversial penalty awarded against them.

"We were unlucky to lose 2-1 to Brazil -- we now have to concentrate on that match and I think it will be a great

Senegalese coach Bruno Metsu

SEEPAGE 15 COL 1

Argentina hail Brazil

AFP, Buenos Aires

The Argentine press saluted Brazil's victory over England in the World Cup describing the victory as "pure samba."

"The South Americans were superior and the win was doubly deserved because they came back from 1-0 down and played for half an hour with ten men," said the Ole newspaper in its internet edition.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5



PHOTO: AFP

NO LOVE LOST: Turkish fans display flags of their nation and hosts Japan, who they conquered in the second round, and also spread a message of love at Osaka yesterday.

TVangle

SHAYAN KHAN

When genius takes on endeavour, who comes out on top? We have seen this battle take place countless times before, but no one has kept score. Friday, we saw these old foes meet again, and this time at least, genius was the clear winner.

Representing endeavor was England, a team which had come this far on the back of work ethic and admirable discipline. Opposite them was Brazil, who had practically samba-ed their way through. Everybody had speculated that their coach, Luiz Scolari, was building the most boring Brazilian team for ages, trying to kill the beautiful game. He sure had them fooled. This team is possibly the most exciting Brazilian team since 1982. Only that team excited before the big event and flopped at the crucial time. This team came with very little expecta-

tion, at least from outside, but has set the tournament on fire. Its fire-power up front is unquestionable. There were question marks over the defence, but apart from one mistake by Lucio which led to Owen's goal, they defended very well Friday. The goalkeeper, Marcos, did not have a single difficult save to make even when Brazil were down to ten men for the last 30 minutes. Kleberson took some time to settle in midfield, but in the second half, he negated the threat of Scholes, who had started the game brightly for the English. To be honest, England did not test the Brazilian defenders enough, running short of ideas in the final third. They took the lead through Owen's opportunism after Lucio's mistake, and really, it always looked as if it would take a mistake

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



PHOTO: INTERNET

BIG PHILL NEEDS TO STAY IN SHAPE TOO! Brazil coach Luis Felipe Scolari (C) jogs with players Vampeta (L) and Junior at Saitama yesterday.

Bumper Round, Draw in Dhaka on June 28

(Competition information, prizes and rules on June 21 issue)

The Daily Star RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Bumper Round Ends June 27, 2002

Tick (Ö) the correct answers

1. The first player to be sent off in 2002 World Cup	Totti <input type="checkbox"/>	Zivkovic <input type="checkbox"/>	Eto <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Coach of Senegal team in 2002 World Cup	Milutinovic <input type="checkbox"/>	Metsu <input type="checkbox"/>	Claude <input type="checkbox"/>
3. First hat-trick in 2002 World Cup scored by	Pauleta <input type="checkbox"/>	Klose <input type="checkbox"/>	Crespo <input type="checkbox"/>
4. 2006 World Cup will be held in	Brazil <input type="checkbox"/>	Germany <input type="checkbox"/>	Spain <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Who is this? 	Inamoto <input type="checkbox"/>	Totti <input type="checkbox"/>	Vieri <input type="checkbox"/>

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

Father's nameOccupation

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 6."

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