



DOWN THE WORLD CUP LANE



USA 1994: Brazil conquer the New World

AGENCIES, undated



If FIFA hoped that awarding the World Cup to the land of the dollar would at last crack the supposedly lucrative United States market, it was a triumph of hope over experience.

But at least the infrastructure wasn't bad. What visitors were likely to see were matches played in well-appointed stadia, with excellent transport facilities, catering services and communications, an experienced and minimal police presence, and the highest average crowds in World Cup history. If the price was allowing a mediocre USA team free entry, it was worth every cent.

Of the stronger countries, a reunified Germany had a new coach but rather too many old players, though Klinsmann was in his pomp and Sammer a powerful recruit from East Germany. Brazil were without four regular central defenders but others simply stepped off the conveyor belt, and Romario had just scored 30 times in 33 league games for Barcelona as well as the two goals that sent Brazil through at Uruguay's expense. Italy, who'd rather staggered over the finishing line, were still strong at the back but again in search of a reliable goalscorer.

A talented French team (Papin, Cantona, Ginola) stayed at home after losing their last two home games to very late goals, the first against Israel, the second in the very last minute, thanks to a misjudgement by Ginola. Nothing much was expected of their conquerors Bulgaria.

Argentina had gone 31 matches without losing, which included winning the Copa America twice in a row, but a 5-0 home defeat by Colombia made them recall the 33-year-old Maradona to help them squeeze through in a play-off, beating Australia with a deflected goal. Colombia, still led by Valderrama, with Asprilla a new threat in attack, were naturally included among the favourites.

So too, for the first time, were a team from Africa. Nigeria had just won the African Nations Cup with a blend of skill and raw power that people had been expecting from the continent for years. Yekini, Ikacha, Amunike and Amokachi were expected to become big names in the forthcoming month.

Certainly more so than Saunders, McAllister or Carlton Palmer. For the first time since they entered the World Cup, none of the four United Kingdom countries reached the finals. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland all finished fourth in their groups, while England's five wins included four against Turkey and San Marino. Their new manager Graham Taylor picked

some shocking players and 'a pig's arse of a team' (his words, everyone's opinion) against Norway, who won 2-0. So did Holland, in the decisive match, thanks to a referee who should have sent Ronald Koeman off for a professional foul but let him stay on to score from a free kick. In Taylor's last

match in charge, England conceded a goal in the first nine seconds against San Marino, which said it all.

The Republic of Ireland were there again, still playing the same way under Jack Charlton but qualifying on goal difference and unlikely to figure at the sharp end of the tournament, espe-

cially as it was being played in fearful heat and humidity (FIFA again scheduled some noonday kick-offs). Nigeria, we were allowed to suppose, would be rather less apprehensive.

After twenty years as president,

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PHOTO: AFP FILE

THE DIVINE MISTAKE: Brazilian goalkeeper Claudio Taffarel dives the wrong way as Italian forward Roberto Baggio's penalty kick goes over the crossbar during the shoot-out in the final of the World Cup 17 July 1994 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena.



BITS AND BOBS

VDV injured again

REUTERS, Amsterdam

Rafael van der Vaart suffered a fresh ankle injury when the Netherlands resumed their World Cup preparations on Monday.

The SV Hamburg midfielder was sidelined during Saturday's 1-0 win over Cameroon and abandoned Monday's training session after a ball struck his recently operated-on ankle.

Coach Marco van Basten told reporters: 'It is obvious that his ankle is not comfortable and we will have to see how serious this injury is.'

The Dutch meet Mexico in another friendly on Thursday.

Klose flies home

REUTERS, Geneva

Germany striker Miroslav Klose has left his team's training camp in Switzerland to fly home to Bremen for private reasons but will rejoin the team later on Tuesday before their match against Japan.

Germany's SID sport news agency quoted Klose's agent Alex Schuett on Tuesday saying that the Werder Bremen striker flew home to Bremen from Geneva on Monday evening for "very private reasons".

There were no further details, and it was not immediately clear whether Klose would play or not, SID said.

Klose is one of coach Juergen Klinsmann's key players for the World Cup and has been in good form in recent months. The rest of the team will leave their Swiss base on Tuesday and set up camp in Duesseldorf.

Positive reinforcement for Ukraine squad!

REUTERS, Moscow

Ukraine's players have been promised quality time with their wives if they reach the World Cup semi-finals.

Asked if he would allow his players to have sex with their wives and girlfriends during the month-long tournament, Ukraine coach Oleg Blokhin

said: "I would personally send my players to see their wives if we reach the (World Cup) semis.

"Those who don't feel like it, I'll just drag to their wives. Take my word for it," Blokhin told Russian daily Sport-Express on Tuesday.

Ukraine, playing in their first World Cup finals, have been drawn in Group H along with Spain, Tunisia and Saudi Arabia.

The World Cup kicks off on June 9.

Alarm over prostitution

AFP, Paris

Members of France's five main political parties raised the alarm Monday over the risk of large-scale forced prostitution on the sidelines of next month's World Cup in Germany.

Church and pressure groups in Germany fear that as many as 40,000 women and girls, mainly from eastern Europe, could be coerced into the sex industry during the June 9-July 9 event,

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Zambrotta to miss opener

INTERNET, Florence

Italy defender Gianluca Zambrotta will miss his national team's World Cup opener against Ghana on June 12.

The Juventus utility man sustained a muscle injury in his left thigh during training last weekend and will need at least two weeks to recover.

"If everything goes well, he will come back in 15 to 20 days," Italy team doctor Enrico Castellacci said. "In a week's time, he will have another test done but we are calm and optimistic."

Zambrotta, who is a regular player in Marcello Lippi's squad, could recover in time to face the United States on June 17.

Although doctors have ruled out a ligament damage, Zambrotta will need to have a scan and is unlikely to travel to Gena with the rest of his teammates for the warmup friendlies against fellow World Cup qualifiers Switzerland on Wednesday and Ukraine on Friday.

There was more bad news for Lippi on Tuesday with Roma midfielder Simone Perrotta unable to finish training, having picked up a knock on his right knee.

The clash in Geneva will allow Lippi to test the fitness of some of his players.

However, Lippi is set to rest Roma captain Francesco Totti, who recently recovered from a serious leg injury.

"Totti is improving and he is undergoing specific training to gain more strength in his injured leg," Lippi said.

AC Milan's Andrea Pirlo is the favorite to replace Totti at the heart of Italy's midfield, with Roma's Daniele De Rossi set to be relegated to the bench.

Against Switzerland, Italy will play with a 4-3-3 formation, with Alberto Gilardino, Luca Toni and Alessandro Del Piero set to form the Azzurri's attacking line.

Santa Cruz battling to be fit

AFP, Asuncion

Paraguay's star striker Roque Santa Cruz is nearing full fitness from an injured right knee but is still unable to play a full part in training, the team doctor has said.

The 24-year-old Bayern Munich player sustained a cruciate ligament injury to the joint in October last year and has been on the sidelines ever since.

He joined the Paraguay training camp at Flachau in Austria and team doctors told Paraguayan media that he was on the right track to play in his country's vital World Cup Group B opener against England in Frankfurt on June 10.

"After six days of physiotherapy his right knee is stable and the pain he was feeling has 90 per cent disappeared," said head doctor Osvaldo Pangrazio.

"We will continue to treat the injury in the same way and make a new evaluation on Friday," he added.

The South Americans will also take on group rivals Sweden and Trinidad and Tobago.

Jewish group to protest in Iran match

AFP, Berlin

The Central Council of Jews in Germany is planning to hold a protest at the World Cup football match between Iran and Mexico in Nuremberg on June 11, the German press reported on Tuesday.

"We will hold a demonstration to show our opposition to the politics of Iran and its president," the secretary general of the council, Stephan Kramer, told 'Die Freie Presse' newspaper in Chemnitz.

Hardline Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has called for Israel to be wiped from the map and has repeatedly denied the Holocaust.

In the interview published in Der Spiegel magazine this week, he said: "I will only accept something as an absolute truth if I am fully convinced." The president is a football supporter but his spokesman said on Monday that he would not be coming to Germany to watch Iran's national side compete in the World Cup.

The Iranians are playing in Group D in the first round of the tournament, against Angola, Mexico and Portugal.

The city of Frankfurt on Tuesday said it wanted to ban a planned protest by neo-Nazis in support of Ahmadinejad during the Iran v Portugal match being played there on June 17.

A final decision was expected to be taken next week, a spokesman for the city council said.

Kranjcar no 'daddy's boy'

INTERNET, undated

Most fathers dream of watching a son play for his country in the World Cup but it has taken Croatia midfielder Niko Kranjcar some time to finally convince his doubters that his place in the national side is not at least partly due to the fact that his dad is the coach.

As Croatia completed an impressive qualification campaign, the knockers were gradually silenced as he began to look increasingly at home on the international stage.

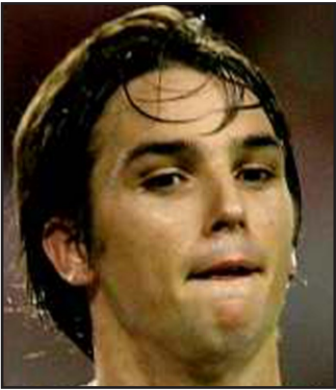
After making his international debut in the opening game of the campaign - a 3-0 win over Hungary - Kranjcar became an increasingly dominant influence on the Croatia side, producing a man-of-the-match performance in the 3-1 win over Bulgaria.

But while things seem to be coming together now for the 21-year-old, it has not always been a smooth ride for the son of the national team coach, Zlatko.

Since making his debut for Dinamo Zagreb as a 16-year-old, the attacking midfielder has received more media

attention than any other contemporary Croatian player, but so far the number of newspaper column inches he has received have not been backed up by consistent performances on the pitch.

After the initial fanfare that greeted his introduction - he was soon being hailed as "the next Zidane" - the young playmaker has struggled to cope with the levels of expectation heaped upon



NIKO KRANJCAR

him. Playing as an out-and-out striker or as an attacking midfielder, Niko enjoyed an impressive start to his career.

He appeared in the Croatian national cup final second-leg as a substitute, and helped Dinamo grab a 1-0 win over rivals Hajduk Split.

He went on to score on his league debut for Dinamo before being made the club's youngest ever captain in 2002/03 - leading them to the league title while also being named as player of the year.

But it seemed the early successes, and the subsequent accolades, had come too soon for young Niko, and he began to lose his focus on the field.

He made no secret of his desire to move to Barcelona, turning down a move to Russian giants CSKA Moscow in 2004 saying: "I don't want to go to Russia, it's too cold for me."

"My dreams have always been in Barcelona. I have always been their fan. Nothing could be greater

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AD

Round 2, Draw in Khulna

Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

Information

A. The Daily Star **Rangs Toshiba** World Cup Quiz 2006 is a series of competitions on World Cup Soccer being held in Germany from June 9 to July 9.

B. There will be **FIVE** 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 **FIVE** 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.

Rules

1. Residents of Bangladesh are eligible to participate in **Rangs Toshiba** World Cup Quiz 2006. Employees of and **Rangs Toshiba** and their immediate family members shall not be eligible to participate.

2. All entries must be submitted in the original form printed in The Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.

3. Forms will have to be cut along the dotted lines.

4. Participants are to put a tick (✓) mark in the box alongside their answer to each question.

5. A person may send numerous entries for each round.

6. Entry forms should be completed with a ballpoint pen.

7. 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.

8. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.

9. 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.

10. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked **"Star World Cup Quiz 2"**.

11. Entries may be hand delivered or posted to The Daily Star, 19, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

12. 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.

13. Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.

14. 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.

15. Any decision of The Daily Star in the conduct of the Quiz competition/s 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.

16. The Daily Star management, in their absolute discretion, reserves the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any circumstances.

PRIZES UP FOR GRABS

Prize	Item	Model	Winner
1st	One 21" Toshiba Bomba Flat TV	21CZ8DE	YOU
2nd	One Toshiba Refrigerator	GRM-19BPT	YOU
3rd	One Toshiba Washing Machine	VH-7200	YOU
4th	Ten Canon Cameras	BF-800	YOU
5th	Twenty Toshin Irons		and YOU

QUIZ SCHEDULE

Round & Draw	Starts	Answers must reach by 8pm	Lucky Draw for prizes
1 Rangpur	May 05	May 18	May 23
2 Khulna	May 19	June 01	June 02
3 Sylhet	June 2	June 15	June 16
4 Chittagong	June 16	June 29	June 30
5 Dhaka (Bumper)	June 30	July 09	TBA

The Daily Star RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Round 2 Ends June 01, 2006

Tick (✓) the correct answers

1. The only player to have appeared in three World Cup final matches is:	Matthaus	<input type="checkbox"/> Maradona	<input type="checkbox"/> Cafu	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The 2006 World Cup final will be held in	Munich	<input type="checkbox"/> Frankfurt	<input type="checkbox"/> Berlin	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. How many goals did France score in the 2002 World Cup?	5	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Which Asian nation made highest number of appearances in World Cup finals?	Iran	<input type="checkbox"/> South Korea	<input type="checkbox"/> Saudi Arabia	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Who is this player?		Ronaldinho	<input type="checkbox"/> Drogba	<input type="checkbox"/> Ronaldo

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

Father's nameOccupation

Address

Telephone (if any)SignatureDate.....

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 2."**

READ The Daily Star TO CATCH THE WORLD CUP FEVER



PHOTO: AFP

A passenger walks past a replica of the World Cup Stadium Munich, illuminated in white at the Munich airport on Tuesday. Inside there will be screens to follow the World Cup matches. The installation will travel to Milan, Paris and Rio de Janeiro in the next three months.