



PHOTO: AFP

EATS WHATEVER COMES HIS WAY: Star Brazilian striker Ronaldo jokingly bites the ball after the training session at the Belkaw Arena in Bergisch Gladbach on Thursday. Brazil faces France in Frankfurt in the quarterfinals today.

Juninho, Silva set for start

AFP, Bergisch Gladbach

Brazil are set to start with Juninho and Gilberto Silva in midfield in their quarterfinal with France with Kaka and Emerson both carrying injuries, following Thursday training.

Coach Carlos Alberto Parreira normally indulges in small-scale practice matches but instead he sent out his first team in a full-scale practice as per a proper match.

With Emerson struggling with a knee problem and Kaka battling ankle and knee injuries, Brazil are seeking to emulate his 1994 win in charge of the avurudu, it is likely to draft Arsenal's Gilberto Silva, an ever-present when Emerson missed the 2002 campaign with a shoulder strain.

Juninho has been pushing hard for a start since he came in for the

Down memory lane

AFP, Hamelin

chance to feature in French football's crowning moment.

If Thierry Henry only plays one second of France's quarterfinal with Brazil it will be longer than he managed in the two countries last World Cup meeting in the 1998 final.

Henry, only 20 for that Stade de France clash, was put on the bench by then manager Aimé Jacquet but was all set to make an appearance in the second half when suddenly the complexion of the game changed dramatically.

"Aime had told me I was going on in five minutes. I started warming up then Marcel Desailly was sent off (in the 68th minute) and that changed everything," the Arsenal attacker recalled here Thursday 48 hours before Saturday's rematch in Frankfurt. Henry admitted to being upset at not having been given the

"I don't have any concrete memo-

ries of the game itself because it remains something incredible."

Thuram, Zinedine Zidane and Henry and the other two members of the Class of '98 starring in Germany -- Claude Makelele and Fabian Barthez -- are renewing rivalry with a trio of Brazilians in action eight years ago -- Ronaldo, Cafu and Roberto Carlos.

France had a distinctly less enjoyable time of it defending their title four years later when they got no further than the first round, and Thuram said that embarrassment was in the forefront of his mind when the current World Cup began.

"When I arrived in Germany I was thinking I just hope it's not going to be the same story as 2002. For if it was I was going to find it

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Adriano attacks press

INTERNET, undated

The Brazilian attacker also attacked the press for being too harsh with him.

Adriano vented all of his frustration towards the press for attacking him in recent weeks.

"I'm angry because I always get hammered by the press. I suffered a lot to arrive here. I don't know why they attack me, but I say who laughs last laughs best."

The Inter player denied the rumours that he might leave the Nerazzurri for Real Madrid.

"I'm staying at Inter to win the Scudetto."

BRAZIL V FRANCE

Old score to settle

AFP, Berlin

Brazil have been far from the consummate defending champions at the Germany World Cup but should they rediscover their missing spark against France here Saturday their chase for a record sixth world crown will be on in earnest.

Coach Carlos Alberto Parreira is demanding more consistency from his exotically-talented team as Brazil face up to Zinedine Zidane's recharged Les Bleus for a place in the last four against England or Portugal.

Also underscoring Brazil's quest for the 'Hexa' or sixth world title is that no South American team has won the World Cup in Europe, stretching back to young Pele's Brazil in Sweden in 1958.

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