



## PREVIEW

# Mystery men in Brazil's way

REUTERS, Johannesburg

Dunga's Brazil have often looked at a loss when trying to break down packed defences and facing the mystery men from North Korea in their opening Group G game at Ellis Park on Tuesday could be their worst nightmare.

## THE KNOWLEDGE

The Brazilians have kept seven clean sheets in their last 11 World Cup games.

Brazil have never been defeated at a World Cup finals by a side outside Europe or South America.

Brazil were held 0-0 at home by Bolivia, Colombia and Venezuela in the World Cup qualifiers, each time struggling against ultra-defensive teams, and are set to face more of the same against North Korea, the lowest ranked of the 32 finalists.

Few teams can have prepared so long for a game as the side from the hermit

state, who have spent more than four months together in a training marathon which has taken them to Sri Lanka, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Mexico and Venezuela.

The latter included a bizarre friendly with the Venezuelans which lasted only 80 minutes after kicking off two hours late, the Koreans saying it was too hot at the original start time.

Their luggage was mislaid so they had to borrow Venezuela's all-white second strip.

With all but three of their players based at home, Korean coach Kim Jong-Hun has been free to organise his team's preparations without the hindrance of club commitments.

The North Koreans, playing their first World Cup match since losing 5-3 to Portugal in the 1966 quarterfinal, are tenacious, fit and defensive-oriented, say coaches who have studied them.

"They defend very well, create a lot of complications



PHOTO: AFP

MASTER TACTICIAN WITH HIS MASTER DRIBBLER: Key playmaker Kaka (R) will be in thick of coach Dunga's things when Brazil open their World Cup campaign against North Korea at Ellis Park in Johannesburg tonight.

and are very fast on the counter-attacks," Paraguay's Gerardo Martino said after his team beat North Korea 1-0 in a friendly in Switzerland last month.

"Nobody talks about them but they play good football and physically are very fit. They have been in a training camp for six months maybe," added Sven-Goran Eriksson, whose Ivory Coast team are also in Group G.

"You don't see them getting tired. Even in the second half, they just go on," said the Swede.

## Big boots to fill

AFP, Johannesburg

He has something to live up, replacing Ronaldo, the "Phenomenon" who fired Brazil to glory in 2002 and broke Gerd Mueller's all-time World Cup scoring haul of 14 goals in Germany last time out.

But Luis Fabiano isn't letting the burden of shooting the Selecao to their sixth title weigh too heavily on his shoulders as he seeks his own place in the pantheon of all-time greats to have worn the canary yellowshirt.

Five-times world champions Brazil have enjoyed some stunning results under coach Dunga, including three wins over Argentina and a 4-0 demolition of Uruguay in Montevideo, but have always looked more comfortable playing on the counter-attack.

"We expect to play against defensive opponents, which always causes difficulty, and because its the first game, the anxiety is very great," said midfielder Gilberto Silva.

Anxious to atone for their

poor showing four years ago when they lost 1-0 to France in the quarterfinals, Brazil will depend heavily on the form of Kaka, who had a chequered first season with Real Madrid.

There has been some criticism of their warm-up programme which took them to Zimbabwe and Tanzania where conditions were very different to the cool and dry atmosphere of Johannesburg.

"We're preparing for the cold and played Tanzania in unbearable heat," complained fullback Dani Alves.

# Media Dunga's 4th opponent

AFP, Johannesburg

Brazil coach Dunga has been accused of giving his side a fourth World Cup opponent -- the massed ranks of the country's football media.

Reporters were up in arms on Sunday after Dunga banned reporters from training for the third time in a week, just two days before the South Americans face North Korea in their World Cup opener.

Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) official Rodrigo Paiva announced the decision amid speculation of a spat between players Daniel Alves and Julio Baptista on Friday after training.

But whatever the cause the 400-odd reporters who try to keep tabs on the squad's every move were decidedly unimpressed.

Relations have been fractious since Dunga took charge of the team in 2006.

Even though he has been successful in lifting the Copa America and Confederations Cup the media see the 1994 World Cup-winning skipper as a cautious individual whose team lacks flair.

Earlier this month Dunga complained "we have some 300 reporters from Brazil who are hoping we won't win so that they can say they were right when they said he (Dunga) got lucky for the Copa America and Confederations Cup victories".

## Kim plots big upset

AFP, Johannesburg

North Korean coach Kim Jong-Hun said on Monday he is plotting one of the biggest shocks in World Cup history when his side take on five-time champions Brazil in their opener.

The reclusive North Koreans are the overwhelming underdogs heading into Tuesday's clash with the South American giants in Johannesburg but Kim is unfazed by the enormity of the task in the "Group of Death."

"Our Group G opponents are very strong," the 53-year-old told FIFA's website. The other two sides in the group are Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal and Didier Drogba's Ivory Coast.

"We hope to sell these and park and ride areas and public viewing areas," added Van Schalkwyk, whose company owns the vuvuzela trademark.

A recent survey found that the sound emitted by a vuvuzela was the equivalent to 127 decibels -- louder than a drum's 122 decibels, or a referee's whistle at 121.8 decibels.

## Vuvuzela being toned down

AFP, Johannesburg

Makers of the vuvuzela plastic horns that have become the talking point of the World Cup have come up with a toned-down version after a growing backlash against the din at matches.

"We have modified the mouthpiece, there is now a new vuvuzela which will blow noise that is 20 decibels less than the old one," Neil van Schalkwyk, a partner at Masinedane Sport, told The Star newspaper.

"We hope to sell these and park and ride areas and public viewing areas," added Van Schalkwyk, whose company owns the vuvuzela trademark.

A recent survey found that the sound emitted by a vuvuzela was the equivalent to 127 decibels -- louder than a drum's 122 decibels, or a referee's whistle at 121.8 decibels.

# Japan ride on Honda



AFP, Bloemfontein

Japan beat a lacklustre Cameroon 1-0 in Bloemfontein on Monday through a Keisuke Honda goal to notch their first ever World Cup victory on foreign soil.

It was also a belated birthday present for Honda, who had turned 24 on Sunday.

The Blue Samurai, struggling for goals in the run-up to the tournament, took the lead in the 39th minute and held on for the remainder of the match despite increasing pressure from the African side in the second half.

Cameroon hardly lived up to their nickname of 'The Indomitable Lions' and star striker Samuel Eto'o was virtually anonymous although they almost grabbed a draw when Stephane M'Bia hit the bar with a long range effort five minutes from time.

In front of banks of empty seats at the Free State stadium, the crowd whipped up a lively atmosphere but the players from both sides struggled for rhythm.

Neither side looked capable of breaking the deadlock in a scrappy first half in which clear chances were in short supply until Daisuke Matsui manouevred the ball onto his left foot and delivered an inswinging cross from the right.

The ball somehow eluded several Cameroonian defenders and the unmarked Honda stabbed it past the despairing dive of Hamidou Souleymanou to give Japan the lead.

Four minutes after the re-start Cameroon went close to an equaliser when Eric Choupo Moting fired wide following good work on the right by Inter Milan star Samuel Eto'o.

It was the first significant contribution from three times African player of the year Eto'o, who struggled to make an impact on the game after being deployed in a deep-lying role.

Despite a more open game in the second half, the goalkeepers remained relatively untroubled in the early stages.

As Cameroon continued to press for an equaliser they threw on Achille Emana, Mohamadou Idrissou and veteran Geremi but could still not find a way past the dogged Japanese defence.

Japan came close to doubling their lead as time ran out, with substitute Shinji Okazaki, on for Matsui, hitting the post after a fierce shot by captain Makoto Hasebe was parried by Souleymanou.

With just five minutes remaining Stephane Mbia let fly with a thunderbolt from 25 yards that rattled the Japan crossbar but they could not find a way past Japan goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima.

Pierre Webo got his foot on a cross as the clock ticked down but Kawashima made a fine scrambling save.

Earlier, in cool conditions at the high-altitude Free State stadium the crowd whipped up a lively atmosphere despite banks of empty white seats but neither side could settle into a rhythm.

Japan's goal came moments after Cameroon hit the first shot of the game on target, with Eyong Enoh hitting the ball straight at Kawashima.

Japan next face group favourites the Netherlands on Saturday after the Dutch earlier beat Denmark 2-0 in Johannesburg to take an early lead in Group E.

**The Daily Star**  
**RANGS TOSHIBA**  
**World cup QUIZ 2010**

**fresh life with HYBRID PLASMA TOSHIBA REFRIGERATOR**

...THIS CAN BE YOURS

**ROUND 4, DRAW IN KHULNA ON JUNE 29**

PRIZES UP FOR GRABS (ROUNDS 1-5)		PRIZES FOR BUMPER ROUND	
Prize	Item	Prize	Item
1st	One 8 CFT Toshiba Refrigerator	1st	One 32" LCD TV
2nd	One Toshin 24" LCD TV	2nd	One 15 CFT Toshiba Refrigerator
3rd	One Toshin 21" Colour TV	3rd	One Toshin Heat & Cool AC (1 Ton)
4th	One Toshin 21" Colour TV	4th	One Toshin 24" LCD TV
5th	One Toshin Microwave Oven (23L)	5th	One 21" Toshin Colour TV

**Prizes for the audience (For First Five Rounds)**

1st. 20L Toshin Microwave Oven  
2nd. 14" Toshin Colour TV  
3rd. 3 Toshiba DVD Players  
4th. Two Toshiba DVD Players

**Prizes for the audience (For Bumper Round)**

1st. Toshiba Washing Machine  
2nd. 21" Toshin Colour TV  
3rd. 20L Toshin Microwave Woven  
4th. Two Toshiba DVD Players

**QUIZ SCHEDULE**

Round & Draw	Starts	Ends	Answers must reach by 12pm	Lucky Draw for prizes
3. Rajshahi	June 06	June 14	June 15	June 16
4. Khulna	June 15	June 23	June 25	June 29
5. Sylhet	June 24	July 02	July 04	July 06
Bumper Round, Dhaka	July 03	July 11	July 13	July 16

**QUIZ SCHEDULE**

The Daily Star -RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Round 4 Ends June 23, 2010

**Tick (✓) the correct answers**

1. Who scored the first goal of World Cup 2010?  
2. Which team recorded the first win in World Cup 2010?  
3. What is the name of the World Cup 2010 mascot?  
4. How many African teams have qualified for World Cup 2010?  
5. Who is this player?

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms).....  
Father's name.....  
Address.....  
Telephone (if any).....  
Signature.....  
Age.....  
Occupation.....  
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, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215.  
Khuila readers can also drop entries at Khuila Press Club, Sadar Thana, Khuila.  
You may send as many entries as you like. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star World Cup Quiz 4".

**SCORE BOARD**

<b>JAPAN 1 - 0 CAMEROON</b> <b>HONDA 39</b>	
--	--

**KEY STATS**

<b>Japan</b> Shots (on target) 3(2) Corners 0 Possession 43% Yellow Cards 1	<b>Cameroon</b> Shots (on target) 9(2) Corners 3 Possession 57% Yellow Cards 1
---	--

Venue: Free State Stadium, Bloemfontein  
Attendance: 31,600

**Enjoy the World Cup fever!**

Watch tonight's matches live on

8:00 pm Ivory Coast vs Portugal  
12:30 am Brazil vs North Korea

- To listen to live commentary, schedule & details, dial 8444
- To set Goal Alert, dial \*140\*3\*44#
- To download wallpapers, ringtones, games and much more, visit <http://robzone.mobi>
- To set World Cup 2010 theme song as GoonGoon, dial \*140\*1\*90#

an axata company  
Registration & content download charge, VAT and conditions apply

**PHILIPS**  
sense and simplicity

**AROMATIC**  
Soap FREE

**READ The Daily Star TO CATCH THE WORLD CUP FEVER**

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, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215.  
Khuila readers can also drop entries at Khuila Press Club, Sadar Thana, Khuila.  
You may send as many entries as you like. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star World Cup Quiz 4".