Benayoun

moves to

Chelsea?

Liverpool midfielder Yossi

Benayoun is heading for

Chelsea on a four-year-

contract worth six million

pounds (nine million dollars),

according to media reports

an approach for the 30-year-

old Israel captain but the

Merseysiders are reportedly

improved contract only last

year with Liverpool but even

before the departure of man-

ager Rafael Benitez earlier this

month he had indicated he

Chelsea see Benayoun as a

replacement for England

international Joe Cole, whose

departure from Stamford

Bridge was confirmed when

the two parties failed to agree

terms on a new contract after

some success at Liverpool

since joining for five million

pounds in July 2007 from West

Ham but is understood to have

fallen out with former boss

Sport 5 website, cited by the

Guardian newspaper,

Benayoun has finalised per-

sonal terms with the Premier

League champions, but the

not want to spend more than

four million pounds (six mil-

lion dollars) on the player

while Liverpool want closer to

10 million pounds (15 million

dollars).

Chelsea, it is believed, do

move is far from completed.

According to the Israeli

Benayoun has enjoyed

his current deal expired.

Benitez last season.

According to news reports

Benayoun signed an

resigned to his departure.

Anfield have yet to confirm

AFP, London

here Tuesday.

wanted to leave.

Iaquinta partly blames Lippi

INTERNET, undated

Italy striker Vincenzo Iaquinta has complained that he had a tough game against Paraguay partly because Marcello Lippi played him out of position.

The Juventus star was placed on the left-hand side of Italy's attack and struggled to make an impact until Lippi changed formation from a 4-2-3-1 to a 4-4-2.

"We put more pressure on the opponents when we played two centre-forwards," Iaquinta said.

"For me, it was more difficult in the first half. Lippi tried to move me everywhere, but my natural role is to play up front, even if in a World Cup you are there to do everything.

It's not the first time Iaquinta has raised his voice about his position in the Italy team.

Last week, he outlined his

concerns after Italy's final two warm-up matches against Mexico and Switzerland. However, the former Udinese target man did also

clarify that he is still a team player. The big negative for Italy is that with the draw they could now finish second in the group. Both the Azzurri and Paraguay are expected to

Slovakia, the other teams that make up the group. But if Paraguay's attacking talents explode into life, there is every chance of the South Americans outscoring Italy, who will likely have to do with-

defeat New Zealand and

out Pirlo until the third game. That would mean a tough second-round tie against likely Group E winners, the Netherlands. Considering Lippi has warned that Italy need time to build confidence and momentum, this is a match the champions would rather avoid.

PREVIEW

South African dreams of a

shock run into the second

round of the World Cup face a

moment of truth on Wednesday

in a critical match against Diego

SOUTH AFRICA

Forlan-led Uruguay.

AFP, Pretoria



PHOTO: REUTERS

MAX Skin Lightening

MAX Sun Protection

Paraguayan fans in capital Asuncion celebrate Antolin Alcaraz's strike against Italy in their World Cup Group F match at the Green Point stadium in Cape Town on Monday.



Lippi can afford a smile

AGENCIES

A draw against opposition of a lesser pedigree would usually bring a scowl to the face of Italy coach Marcello Lippi. But he presented a quietly satis-

"The important thing is that this is not a decisive game, and people realise we are here and have got our attack together," he said.

The reason for his satisfaction is simple.

the age of key players - World Paraguay's goal - a header Cup winners Fabio from Man of the Match Cannavaro, 36, and 33-year-Antolin Alcaraz - was the South American's only effort old full-back Gianluca Zambrotta, among them - and on target, compared to five for the Azzurri. Lippi's constant tinkering with his squad and formation.

Paraguay

7(1)

home Italy's only goal from a corner by the lively Simone Pepe, looked to have recovered fully from a strain, and World Cup debutant Riccardo Montolivo impressed.

Paraguay were happier with the draw, even though they should have posed more of an attacking threat, considering they used all four of their much-vaunted forwards -Lucas Barrios, Nelson Valdez, Roque Santa Cruz and Oscar

the game. But boss Gerardo Martino

to see more goals that Paraguay were up against the world champions, who are renowned for their ball possession and defensive skills.

opponent."

Daniele De Rossi, who slid STATS

Cardozo - during the course of

reminded those who wanted

Unfancied South Africa,

first host nation to fail to

advance from the group stage,

opened with a 1-1 draw

against Mexico while Uruguay

and France played out a nervy

trying to avoid becoming the

ment was the first World Cup finals goal on African soil.

0-0 draw, leaving Group A up

against the Mexicans," said

opening strike of the tourna-

URUGUAY

for grabs.

virtually seal our passage into the second round and make the nation even prouder."

"A win against Uruguay will Forlan, who scored both

Europa League final victory "Uruguay will be in trouble over Fulham to cap an outif we carry on where we left off standing club season, leads a Uruguay attack that figures to be a formidable challenge for South African midfielder the defence of "Bafana Siphiwe Tshabalala, whose Bafana" (The Boys). "It is going to be a tough

goals in Atletico Madrid's

game for us and we have to take maximum points," said South Africa's Steven Pienaar,

THE KNOWLEDGE

South Africa are unbeaten in the seven matches that Siphiwe Tshabalala has scored in: winning five and drawing two.

whose performances from midfield for English Premier League club Everton have made him his country's bestknown player.

Thousands of vuvuzelatooting supporters will be on hand at Loftus Versfeld, the same pitch where Ghana beat Serbia 1-0 on Sunday, making a little piece of history as the first African side to win a World Cup finals match in Africa.

promoting Hosts aim for momentum 2014 WC

AP, Johannesburg

promotion exhibition in South Africa ahead of the 2014World Cup. The Casa Brasil in

Brazil is launching a self-

Johannesburg will provide visitors with promotional information about the South American country. It will give details on the host cities and the nation's plans for the World Cup, which will take place in Brazil for the first time since 1950.

Brazil's ministers of sports and tourism will attend the exhibition's inauguration on Tuesday.

The government says it will "take visitors on a journey through the history of Brazilian football" and other

aspects of Brazilian culture. The Casa Brasil is where the official 2014 World Cup logo will be unveiled in July.

fied demeanour after the His team had attracted SCORE BOARD KEY



Italy: Gianluigi Buffon (Federico Marchetti, 46), Domenico Criscito, Giorgio Chiellini, Fabio Cannavaro, Gianluca Zambrotta, Daniele de Rossi, Claudio Marchisio (Mauro Camoranesi, 59), Riccardo Montolivo, Simone Pepe, Vincenzo laquinta, Alberto Gilardino (Antonio Di Natale, 72)

Paraguay: Justo Villar, Claudio Rodriguez, Paulo Da Silva, Aureliano Torres (Jonathan Santana, 60), Antolin Alcaraz, Carlos Bonet, Enrique Torres, Victor Caceres, Cristian Riveros, Nelson Valdez (Roque Santa Cruz, 69), Lucas Barrios (Oscar Cardozo, 76)

Venue: Green Point Stadium, Cape Town

reigning champs were held 1-1 by Paraguay.

"The only thing I regret is that we normally win a match of this kind," he told a feisty Italian media after Monday night's Group F clash in Cape Town's Green Point stadium.

massive criticism prior to the tournament, with the Italian press writing off the Azzurri's chances of retaining their title after a 2-1 loss to Mexico and a 1-1 draw with Switzerland in warm-up matches.

The criticism centred on

But the Italians showed they are still a force to be reckoned with against a Paraguay team many tip to do well this

Shots (on target)

Corners

Possession

Yellow Cards

Italy

10(5)

57%

Italy dominated the game, moving the ball around well.

"I think we weren't terribly accurate when we played the ball ... especially due to Italy's play," he said. "It wasn't easy for us. But we knew that Italy was going to be that sort of

PREVIEW

Honduras seek inspiration

In a squad containing 14

four-yearly football spectacle.

local semi-professionals,

Wigan defender Maynor

Figueroa and midfielder

Hendry Thomas are other

English Premiership repre-

nut to crack in Spain 28 years

ago, drawing twice and losing

the other group game by a

to finish third as hosts of the

Since defeating Yugoslavia

Honduras proved a tough

sentatives.

single goal.

AFP, Johannesburg

A family tragedy will inspire Honduras midfielder Wilson Palacios when he confronts Chile Wednesday in a Group H Nelspruit showdown.

Younger brother Edwin was kidnapped in the politically troubled Central American country three years ago and although a 150,000dollar ransom was paid, his body was discovered in a

remote rural area. "Everything I do in football is for Edwin. He is watching over me," Palacios told Honduran reporters as the country prepares for only their second appearance at the

1962 tournament, Chile have played 13 matches in four appearances without celebrating a victory.

But hopes are high that a team which finished second

CHILE **HONDURAS** SANCHEZ BEAUSEJOUR PALACIOS ALAVAREZ SABILLON VALLADARES

behind Brazil in the qualifying competition for South Africa can not only defeat Honduras, but reach the second round.

The Chilean schedule suggests they will face increasingly tougher opposition with Honduras followed by European rivals Switzerland and World Cup favourites Spain.

This is a young, hungry Chilean outfit lacking house-

THE KNOWLEDGE

Honduras have scored in all five matches against Chile.

In 1998, their last appearance at a World Cup finals tournament, Chile made it to the second round by virtue of three group stage draws.

hold international names that has already impressed in South Africa, defeating the host nation more convincingly than a 2-0 scoreline suggests in a friendly last year.

Argentine coach Marcelo Bielsa, whose El Loco nickname hardly does him justice, favours a 3-3-1-3 system with the team swarming about the field like bees, trying to unsettle rivals.

WORLD CUP IN 3-D

Hong Kong football fans were celebrating Tuesday that they now can watch the World Cup matches in 3D at cinemas.

About 10 matches are to be screened in 3-D, including the final, semifinals and quarterfinals of the month long tournament in South Africa, the distributor Panorama Entertainment said Tuesday.

A company spokesman said several tests carried out last week had been successful and that it planned the first 3-D screening Friday. The showings would give front-row members of the audience the experi-

ence of being on the edge of the pitch, the spokesman said.

GERMANY IMPRESSES SNEIJDER

Germany are so far the most impressive team at the World Cup and are better off without their injured captain Michael Ballack, Netherlands midfielder Wesley Sneijder said. The Inter Milan player said he was glad that the Dutch

can't run into their long-time rivals until the late stages. "The Germans have so far impressed me most," Sneijder

said after the Dutch won their opener 2-0 against Denmark on

Monday. "Thank God we don't yet have to think about them because we can't meet them until the final," he said, seemingly not aware that the teams may already meet in the semifinals.

Germany thrashed Australia 4-0 on Sunday and received worldwide praise for their attacking game. The win came without the stalwart Ballack, who is missing the World Cup over an ankle injury.

"Maybe it is an advantage that Ballack isn't there. Germany is better now, there is more speed in their game," said Sneijder. **DUTCH EJECTED FOR AMBUSH MARKETING**

Netherlands as part of a World Cup promotion.

A group of 36 Dutch women were ejected from the Netherlands-Denmark game in Johannesburg's Soccer City on Monday for wearing orange "Dutchy dresses" supplied by a Dutch beer company, South Africa's The Star newspaper reported Tuesday. Bavaria brewery distributed the figure-hugging dresses in the

SNEIJDER

Bavaria is a competitor of Budweiser, an official FIFA sponsor. One of the women told The Star that they were sitting in their seats near

the pitch, "singing songs and having a good time" when a FIFA official came up to them and said they were not allowed wear the dress and had to leave.

The group was then taken to a FIFA office and interrogated by police for several hours before being released, she said.

When the women refused to leave FIFA called in stewards to eject them by

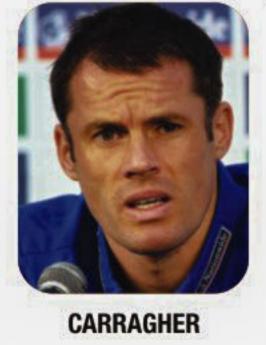
RELIEF FROM VUVUZELAS

force, Barbara Kastein said.

Relief could be in sight for those fans irritated by the ceaseless noise of vuvuzelas during television broadcasts of World Cup games. A German amateur musician claims to have found a way to filter the offending sound from the tv signals. Tobias Herre said he uses a special software on his computer to eliminate the A sharp tone of the plastic horns. "I was extremely annoyed by the tooting, and, in fact, it's quite easy to get rid of," he told the German Press

JAMIE DOESN'T MIND VUVUZELAS

Vuvuzelas have been dominating England defender Jamie Carragher's thoughts, but perhaps not quite in the way they have



everybody else's at this World Cup. "When I came on (against the United States) I didn't notice it too much," he said. "I think you notice it more when you are watching or on TV." His children certainly noticed though. "My kids have been on the phone and asked for two, so I have got them in my bag already." He's not worried, though, about being drowned out when he gets home. "Anybody's who watched me at Anfield will know I'm louder than

the vuvuzelas."

SNOW FORECAST FOR SOME GAMES South Africa 2010 is already the first World Cup on the African continent. It

may also become the first with snowfall as weather forecasts for Tuesday include white flakes at higher altitudes. A cold front heading towards large parts of South Africa is bringing with it

rain storms, freezing temperatures and possibly snow in the mountains.

Cities such as Vryburg and Bethlehem can expect temperatures dropping to minus 6 degrees Celsius. And forecasts for World Cup host city

Bloemfontein have thermometers possibly falling to minus 3 degrees. Six of the World Cup stadiums are located above 1,200 metres with both

Ellis Park and Soccer City in Johannesburg at 1,753 metres.



WORLD CUP

ONE