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WORLD CUP SPECIAL

## Vuvuzela a health menace?

A woman who injured her throat at a vuvuzela blowing competition was on the mend. When Yvonne Mayer and her friends started, her throat started burning. "It took about two days to heal, but I'm fine now," said Yvonne Mayer, who ruptured part of her throat. "The doctor kept laughing at me and said it was his first vuvuzela injury."

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# Star SPORT

FRIDAY JUNE 19, 2010, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

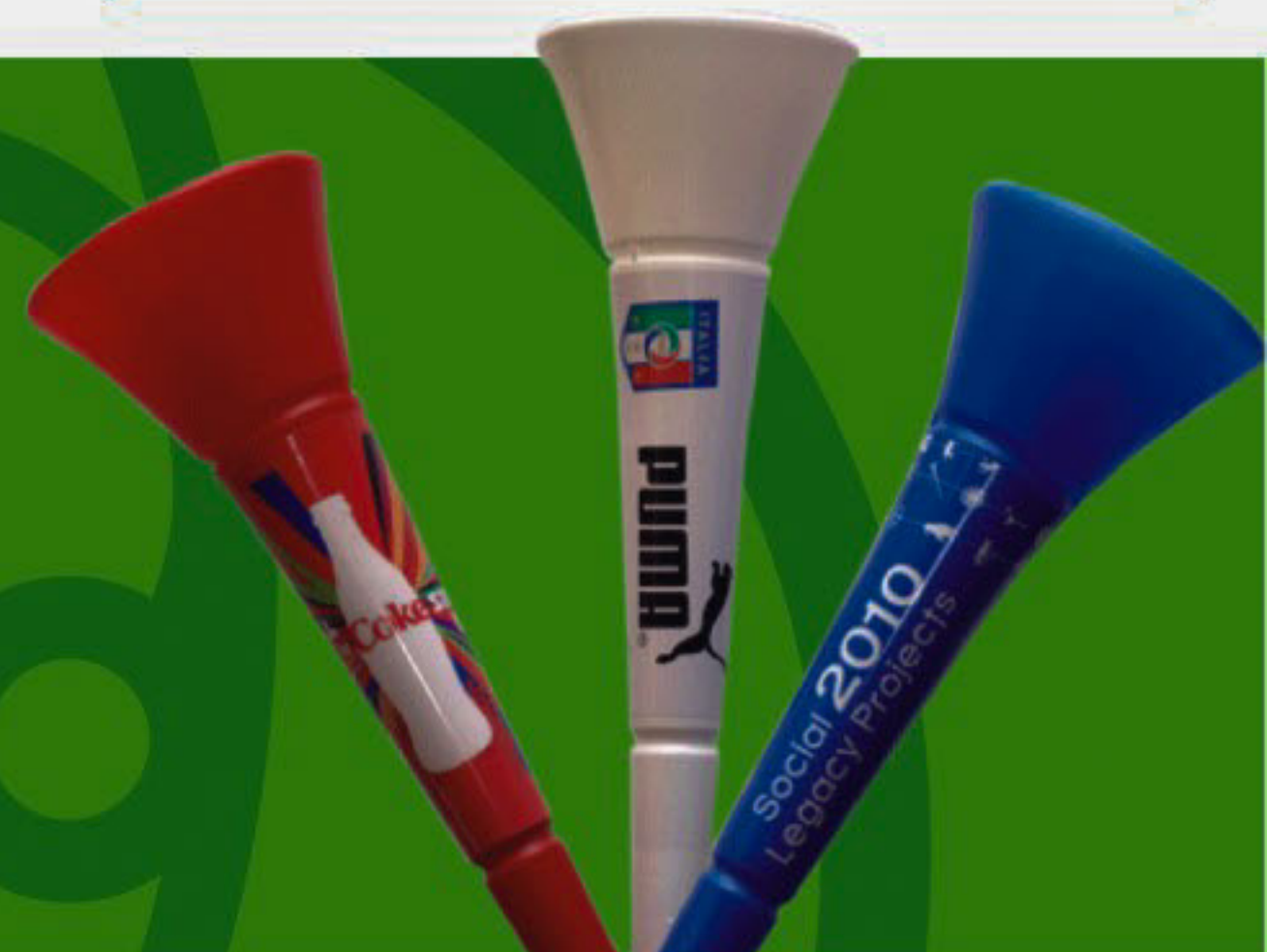


PHOTO: AFP

THEME OF THE NIGHT: England lynchpin Wayne Rooney stays behind Algeria midfielder Fouad Kadir during their Group C match at the Green Point Stadium in Cape Town last night.

# Toothless England held

AFP, Cape Town

A woeful England failed to find the killer touch in a disappointing 0-0 draw with Algeria on Friday, putting them under huge pressure to beat Slovenia in their final World Cup group game.

Fabio Capello's team, already under the cosh after their much-criticised 1-1 opener against the United States, struggled to find any rhythm and gave the ball away far too easily, doing little to silence their detractors.

With the United States and Slovenia drawing 2-2 earlier, Group C is finely poised. Slovenia have four points, with England and the USA on two and Algeria with one.

Striker Wayne Rooney showed his frustration as he trudged off the field to the jeers of disgruntled England supporters, saying to a TV camera: "It's nice to see your own fans booing you."

Captain Steven Gerrard was the first to trouble the Algerians with a cross-cum-shot that 'keeper M'bohi Rais Ouheb, preferred to Faouzi Chaouchi after their 1-0 loss to Slovenia, had to jump high to collect.

Replacement 'keeper David James got into the game on 11 minutes when he punched clear a looping cross on his goal line, not entirely convincingly but good enough to avert the danger.

England couldn't get going and Algeria saw plenty of the ball. It was clear that Capello, celebrating his 64th birthday, was none too pleased, angrily pacing the dugout.

James was tested again when his Portsmouth teammate Nadir Belhadj whipped in a corner under the England bar, claiming it impressively this time under pressure from two Algerians.

England finally started to wake up and Gerrard got a shot on target near the half-hour mark before Frank Lampard had a great chance, collecting the ball in the box after some nice build-up play.

He unleashed a left-footed drive but the

keepers saved.

Gerrard and Lampard sparked some interest

when they combined nicely but the Liverpool star's cross was awful,

straight to the feet of an opponent when he had three players in the box.

SCORE BOARD	
<b>ENGLAND 0-0 ALGERIA</b>	
<b>England:</b> David James - Glen Johnson, Jamie Carragher, John Terry, Ashley Cole - Frank Lampard, Gareth Barry (Peter Crouch 84) - Aaron Lennon (Shaun Wright-Phillips 63), Wayne Rooney, Steven Gerrard (cap) - Emile Heskey (Jermaine Defoe 74)	
<b>Algeria:</b> Rais Mbohi - Madjid Bougherra, Anther Yahia (cap), Nadir Belhadj - Foued Kadir, Hassan Yebda (Djamel Mesbah 89), Medhi Lacen, Rafik Halliche - Ryad Boudebouz (Djamel Abdoun 74), Karim Ziani (Adlene Guedioura 80), Karim Matmour	
Venue: Green Point Stadium, Cape Town	

KEY STATS	
<b>England</b>	<b>Algeria</b>
<b>Shots (on target)</b>	
15(5)	13(1)
<b>Corners</b>	
10	3
<b>Possession</b>	
55%	45%
<b>Yellow Cards</b>	
1	1

**Netherlands v Japan** Time: 5.30pm Durban

**Ghana v Australia** Time: 8.00pm Rustenburg

**TODAY'S MATCHES**

**TODAY'S POLL**

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PHOTO: AFP

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## SOS, Roger Milla is needed?

Les Blues have become Les Miserables. French is near the exit door. Cameroon needs the Milla spirit badly today. The 1990 World Cup saw the glorification of the greatest footballer of Africa, Roger Milla. He scored goals, he took the Lions to the quarter finals, but above he showcased a new spirit of football celebrations, the hip swaying reggae taps around the corner flag for every goal he score. And he scored 4 goals at the age of 38. Incredible! But this never ending bundle of energy, came back in 1994 to score once more at the age of 42. The world saw his celebrations for the last time. And today millions around the world see him in the television commercial of Coca Cola at his usual best.

It is a must win situation today for Cameroon against Denmark, who also started their journey with a loss to the Dutch. Have we all forgotten the exploits of the Laudrup brothers who once made Denmark as one of the strongest teams in Europe. In 1998, Michael and Brian took Denmark to the quarter finals.

Stay glued to the sets tonight as Sameul Eto tries to rekindle the Barcelona form and take forward the African lions. Or it maybe the Danish contingent of Jesper Gronkjaer or Nicklas Bendtner scores and the fans have a feast of Danish Blue Cheese, one of the coveted cheese in the world made from cows milk.

