

PREVIEW

Brazil look to up a gear

AFP, Johannesburg

Five-time World Cup winners Brazil are looking for a much-improved World Cup performance against the Ivory Coast on Sunday having failed to impress in their opening win over North Korea.

A wonder goal by right-back Maicon and a late strike from Elano were all Dunga's side had to show for 90 minutes against the dogged defence of the North Koreans who grabbed a late consolation goal through Ji Yun-Nam.

Dunga admitted he was unimpressed with his side's 2-1 victory and is looking for an improved display against Sven-Goran Eriksson's Ivory Coast with Chelsea star Didier Drogba expected to play, despite a broken arm.

Now the Brazilians get down to the business end of Group G - dubbed the 'Group of Death' - with a showdown against Ivory Coast at Johannesburg's Soccer City, followed by a clash with Portugal in Durban on June 25.

Midfielder Julio Baptista says he expects the Ivory Coast to give Brazil their toughest test before the knock-out phase between two sides who love to attack.

Dunga's team are not expecting the rigid marking



TAMING THE JABULANI: Brazil players move with the ball during a training session on Friday at the St Sthithians School in Johannesburg. Brazil take on Ivory Coast at 12.30am tonight.

PHOTO: AFP

they encountered against North Korea, but Baptista, who did not face the North Koreans,

said they expect an open game. "I think they will come against us and they will try to play," he said.

"Brazil will have enough space to play its own football. "This will be our most difficult game because of the way the Ivory Coast play.

"Their players are physically strong and most of them play their club football in Europe and they know our style of play.

"We will try to neutralise their game and try to do our best."

Brazil midfielder Gilberto Silva said the team expect a tough ride from Eriksson's side who held Portugal to a goalless draw in their opening game.

"We will be expecting a lot of difficulties against them. They have a strong team, but we are

very confident that we can do well and win the game," he said.

Elephants striker Salomon Kalou says his side need to take a leaf out of North Korea's book and 'annoy' Brazil without letting the flamboyant South

Americans play their natural attacking game.

"I saw the first-half of their match, and North Korea defended really well and annoyed Brazil, they serve as a good example," said the 24-

year-old. "We have the players who can make a difference, our strength will always be in attack, but we must focus on defence.

"When you play against a team that is stronger than you, one has to stop them from playing, and afterwards to play on ones strengths: for us it is technique and catching them on the counter-attack.

"Brazil is a team of the same level as Portugal, with a lot of players capable of an individual moment that makes the difference.

"We have to play the same as we did against Portugal: compact, as a unit, and to battle for every ball. We must on no account allow Brazil to play their natural game."

THE KNOWLEDGE

This will be the first-ever international match between Brazil and Ivory Coast.

Americans play their natural attacking game.

"I saw the first-half of their match, and North Korea defended really well and annoyed Brazil, they serve as a good example," said the 24-

year-old. "We have the players who can make a difference, our strength will always be in attack, but we must focus on defence.

"When you play against a team that is stronger than you, one has to stop them from playing, and afterwards to play on ones strengths: for us it is technique and catching them on the counter-attack.

"Brazil is a team of the same level as Portugal, with a lot of players capable of an individual moment that makes the difference.

"We have to play the same as we did against Portugal: compact, as a unit, and to battle for every ball. We must on no account allow Brazil to play their natural game."

Cupboard of Cesar has an empty space

AFP, Randburg

Having lifted the Champions League, the Serie A title and the Italian Cup with Inter Milan, Brazil goalkeeper Julio Cesar now wants the World Cup and the crowning respect of his peers.

The 30-year-old was only a back-up at the 2006 World Cup but has become Brazil coach Dunga's first choice as the South Americans bid for a sixth title in South Africa, having started off with a narrow 2-1 success over North Korea.

On Sunday, he will come up once again against one of his opponents that night - Ivory Coast striker Didier Drogba.

Although Cesar says he doesn't covet individual prizes, he is amongst those stars bidding to be voted world player of the year, just as Soviet goalkeeping legend Lev Yashin was in 1963.

"It would be great to be nominated for the Ballon d'Or or the FIFA award," he said.

But his target is glory with Brazil.

"I want to win the World Cup. I asked Lucio and Gilberto Silva [who were on the victorious 2002 squad] if the trophy weighs a lot and Lucio told me he couldn't carry it for five minutes it was so heavy.

"I told him if we win it I want to carry it for an hour and a half."

'Kaka is crucial'

SOCCERNET

Kaka is still crucial to Brazil's hopes of a sixth World Cup crown, according to teammate Robinho.

Robinho outshone the Real Madrid star in the Selecao's opening Group G victory over North Korea on Tuesday.

But Robinho has no doubt that he remains an important figure for games against Portugal and Ivory Coast in the next week.

"When Kaka plays well he can decide any game. He is very important to us.

"The Selecao has excellent players and if we have to replace anyone we are reassured by the quality we have."

Drogba may start

SOCCERNET

Ivory Coast coach Sven-Goran Eriksson has hinted star striker Didier Drogba could start against Brazil in their Group G clash on Sunday.

Drogba broke his arm in a World Cup warm-up match against Japan but he made a miraculous recovery to feature off the bench in Ivory Coast's opener against Portugal while wearing a special FIFA-approved protective cast.

Premier League top-scorer Drogba wasn't his usual bustling self in that match and he missed a late chance to break the 0-0 deadlock, but his talismanic status in the Ivory Coast team means his inclusion against Brazil would surely lift the African side's chances of springing an upset at Soccer City.

"It wouldn't be surprising if Drogba plays from the start against Brazil," said Eriksson. "He came on for 25 minutes against Portugal and it went well. It is going to be a difficult game, but looking at what we did against Portugal, we are capable of creating a surprise."



PHOTO: AFP

CAN HE STOP BRAZIL? Didier Drogba leads his Ivory Coast teammates during warm-up ahead of a training session in Sharpeville on Thursday.



Black Stars draw ahead

AFP, Rustenburg

Ghana edged clear at the top of World Cup Group D after an exciting 1-1 draw with ten-man Australia at the Royal Bafokeng Stadium on Saturday.

The Ghanaians moved a point above Germany and Serbia after fighting off a determined bid by the Australians, who lost striker Harry Kewell to a red card in a sensational first-half penalty incident.

The Australians, trying to rebuild their World Cup campaign after a shattering 4-0 first-up loss to Germany, now have the tough task of trying to beat Serbia on Wednesday and hope Germany are beaten by Ghana to reach the knockout round.

The athletic Ghanaians hit back to cancel out Australia's 11th-minute opener with striker Asamoah Gyan's 25th-minute penalty and both teams had chances at either end to win the pulsating encounter.

Kewell was red carded for handling on the line of Gyan's fierce goal-bound shot - the ball hitting his upper arm.

Italian referee Roberto Rosetti immediately pulled out the red card as Kewell and his Australian teammates remonstrated his decision.

Gyan sent Mark Schwarzer the wrong way with his penalty attempt to level the game and leave Australia to play a man down for the remainder of the match.

It was the second red card of the tournament for the



PHOTO: AFP

PURE DELIGHT: Australia striker Brett Holman is ecstatic after scoring his side's opening goal against Ghana at the Royal Bafokeng stadium in Rustenburg yesterday. But Australia's joy was short-lived after Harry Kewell (R) was sent off for handling the ball.

Australians, who had Tim Cahill sent off against Germany.

Australia got a lucky break early on when attacking midfielder Brett Holman, replacing the suspended Cahill, scored off Mark Bresciano's free kick in the 11th minute.

Bresciano's free kick cleared Ghana's defensive wall and the ball bounced awkwardly off goalkeeper Richard Kingson's chest into the path of Holman,

who tucked away the rebound for his third international goal.

Coach Pim Verbeek brought on Scott Chipperfield and Josh Kennedy to go up front with 20 minutes left as Australia searched for the winner.

The Australians took the game to Ghana and had a glorious chance in the 72nd minute when both Luke Wilkshire and Kennedy fired their shots at Kingson with a

goal beckoning.

Ghana went into the match without skipper John Mensah, who failed a late fitness test and was replaced by teenager Jonathan Mensah, while centre-back partner Isaac Vorsah was left out for Lee Addy.

Kewell and Mark Bresciano were among four changes in the Australia side.

The two sides have now met on seven occasions with Australia winning four and Ghana two.

KEY STATS	
Ghana	Australia
Shots (on target)	
24(5)	9(4)
Corners	
6	1
Possession	
54%	46%
Yellow Cards	
3	1

SCORE BOARD

GHANA 1-1 AUSTRALIA
GYAN 25-PENOLMAN 11

Ghana (4-4-2): Richard Kingson (cap), John Paintsil, Jonathan Mensah, Lee Addy, Hans Sarpei, Anthony Annan, Kevin-Prince Boateng (Matthew Amoah 87), Prince Tagoe (Quincy Owusu-Abeyie 56), Kwadwo Asamoah (Sulley Muntari 77), André Ayew, Asamoah Gyan

Australia (4-4-2): Mark Schwarzer, Luke Wilkshire (Nikita Rukavitsya 84), Lucas Neill (cap), Craig Moore, David Carney, Jason Culina, Carl Valeri, Brett Emerton, Brett Holman (Joshua Kennedy 68), Mark Bresciano (Scott Chipperfield 66), Harry Kewell.

Red card: Harry Kewell (24)

Venue: Royal Bafokeng Stadium, Rustenburg

The Daily Star
RANGS TOSHIBA
World cup QUIZ 2010
TOSHIBA
The Real Definition of Image and Sound
REGZA
LCD TV
...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	Winner	Prize
1st	One 8 CFT Toshiba Refrigerator	YOU	1st One Toshiba 32" LCD TV
2nd	One Toshiba 24" LCD TV	YOU	2nd One 15CFT Toshiba Refrigerator
3rd	One Toshiba 21" Colour TV	YOU	3rd One Toshin Heat & Cool AC (1Ton)
4th	One Toshin 21" Colour TV	YOU	4th One Toshin 24" LCD TV
5th	One Toshin Microwave Oven (23L)	and YOU	5th One 21" Toshin Colour TV

(See May 23 issue of the Star Sport for competition information and rules)

QUIZ SCHEDULE				
Round & Draw	Starts	Ends	Answers must reach by 12pm	Lucky Draw for prizes
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

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

Tick (✓) the correct answers

- Who scored the first goal of World Cup 2010? Marquez Tshabalala Mphela
- Which team recorded the first win in World Cup 2010? South Africa South Korea Argentina
- What is the name of the World Cup 2010 mascot? Jabulani Zakumi Zangalewa
- How many African teams have qualified for World Cup 2010? 4 5 7
- Who is this player?  Gerrard Cahill Kaka

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

READ The Daily Star TO CATCH THE WORLD CUP FEVER



Enjoy the World Cup fever!
Watch tonight's match live on 
12:30 am Brazil vs Ivory Coast

- 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://robizone.mobi>
- To set World Cup 2010 theme song as GoonGoon, dial *140*1*90#

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

