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WORLD CUP SPECIAL

Vuvuzela can carry germs

Vuvuzelas aren't just loud but they can spread germs too, a South African clinic warned Thursday, urging fans to keep their lips on their own horns to avoid catching colds. "A fan instrument such as the much-loved vuvuzela can unfortunately blow spittle and germs from infected individuals on to other people in crowded areas and may be a health risk for infectious illnesses such as flu," said Netcare Travel Clinics doctor Pete Vincent.

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Star SPORT

DHAKA FRIDAY JUNE 11, 2010 | sports@thedailystar.net



PHOTO: AP

A TEARFUL EXIT: Italy captain Fabio Cannavaro (L) comforts a sobbing Fabio Quagliarella after their disastrous exit at the hands of Slovakia at Ellis Park in Johannesburg yesterday. Cannavaro was surprisingly only a pale shadow of the man who inspired the 2006 triumph.

England: Flashback 1990 Pro Carbonero, anti Carbonero

AP, Port Elizabeth

Twenty years ago, England struggled through the first round of the World Cup, just as they have done in South Africa.

Back then, the team still made the semifinals. So maybe the 1990 world champions should be hopeful again.

1990, England laboured through 1-1 and 0-0 draws in their first two group games and went on to win the third 1-0. The team did exactly the same thing this year.

"We thoroughly deserve to go through. I thought all the players that started the game and all the subs were terrific today [Wednesday]," midfielder Steven Gerrard said. "We need to find consistency now in the knockout stages."

The parallels between the two

teams extend beyond the results as well. The coach then, Bobby Robson, faced the same criticism from the media that Fabio Capello is now. But he survived to take the team deep into the tournament, eventually losing a penalty kicks shootout to West Germany in the semifinals.

"I think if we play like we did today and keep listening to the manager and keep delivering what he's asking, we've got the quality you need to win football matches. Anything can happen," Gerrard said.

Just like in Italy, this World Cup campaign is having emotional and sticky moments, with England booed off the field by its own fans after a dismal 0-0 draw with Algeria and reports of unrest in the squad.

The team would have been eliminated if it had not beaten Slovenia at Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium on Wednesday.

"No one wanted to go home with their tails between their legs after the group stage," Lampard said. "We wanted to go further than that, we want to go all the way."

Capello, an emotional coach who was waving his arms and repeatedly shouting at his players, said the team had rediscovered its spirit.

"I saw the team really well on the pitch, with the spirit that we lost in the games we played before this one," the Italian said. "I'm sure we will play more with confidence. We have found the spirit, the quality of the play was really good and we improved a lot physically. We found the physicality that we know usually."

Pro Carbonero, anti Carbonero

AFP, Madrid

The journalist girlfriend of Spain's goalkeeper was accused of breaching professional ethics Wednesday after she reported on live television from behind the net ahead of the country's World Cup loss to Switzerland.

Sara Carbonero, whose boyfriend is Spain's number one keeper Iker Casillas, is a television journalist for Spain's Telecinco channel, part of the network owned by Italy's Silvio Berlusconi.

British newspapers last week showed a picture of her, microphone in hand, reporting from behind the net just a few feet (metres) from Casillas during the warm-up for the match against Switzerland.

Spain lost the match 1-0, with Casillas at least partly to blame for the goal, and the British papers speculated that her presence may have distracted him.

After the game, Carbonero interviewed Casillas on live television.

"It's a disgrace," the head of the Madrid press association, Fernando Gonzalez Urbaneja, said Wednesday.




Portugal v Brazil	Time: 8.00pm	Durban
North Korea v Ivory Coast	Time: 8.00pm	Nelspruit
Chile v Spain	Time: 12.30am (Saturday)	Pretoria



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The players **36%**
TOTAL VOTES: 50

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An aerial tussle between New Zealand striker Rory Fallon (R) and Paraguay defender Denis Caniza during their Group F match at the Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



South American Flair against the European Strategies

The second round battles are being drawn and with the last matches of Group G and Group H happening tonight, the final list of Round 2 will be complete. Portugal is facing Brazil, which has the potential to be one of the thrillers of the World Cup so far. Brazil are already over the top to the next phase and Portugal seems to be there too, because even a loss for them and a win for Côte d'Ivoire over North Korea cannot stop them en route to Round 2.

No Kaka today, But Fabiano is there with Robinho to remind the Portuguese of a match in 2008, where Brazil rolled over Portugal, putting 6 goals in the net, the final score line being 6-2 and Fabiano scoring his first hattrick. Luis Fabiano has already emerged as one of the stars of the World Cup 2010 and he is a man with lots of guts. His mother was kidnapped in 2005 by gunmen and rescued by police after 62 days. He is happily married with two beautiful daughters to inspire him every moment. Who knows, maybe daddy Fabiano may bring home a big trophy for the little princesses.

In Group H, a Swiss win and a Chile win may say goodbye to Spain, while a draw in both matches will make the goal factor count. All said and done, the tournament needs the bull fighters.

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