

New Zealand striker Rory Fallon (R) fights for the ball with **Paraguay** defender Paulo da Silva during their World Cup **Group F match** at the Peter Mokaba stadium in Polokwane yesterday. The match ended

goalless.

PHOTO: AFP

Draw suits Paraguay fine

AFP, Polokwane

Paraguay topped Group F at the World Cup on Thursday after a drab 0-0 draw with surprise packets New Zealand.

The polished South Americans who harbour dreams of at least a quarterfinals place ended with five points and were joined in the round of 16 by Slovakia, who stunned defending champions Italy 3-2 in keeper although first-choice Johannesburg.

It was a gallant exit by New four-match suspension. Zealand, who finished unbeaten after three draws in a group where they were expected to be cannon fodder for the other three contenders but ended up finishing above

the woeful Italians.

Paraguay made three changes from the team that outclassed Slovakia 2-0 in Bloemfontein four days ago with defenders Denis Caniza and Julio Cesar Caceres and striker Oscar Cardozo comingin.

New Zealand stood by the team that started drawn matches against Slovakia and defending champions Italy with Mark Paston retained as goal-Glen Moss had completed a

Victor Caceres was cautioned by the Japanese referee for fouling Rory Fallon during scrappy early exchanges with rival players constantly moaning about the behaviour of



Paraguay (4-4-2): Justo Villar, Claudio Rodriguez, Denis Caniza, Julio Cesar Caceres, JC, Paulo Da Silva, Enrique Vera, Victor Caceres, V, Cristian Riveros, Oscar Cardozo (Lucas Barrios, 66), Roque Santa Cruz, Nelson Haedo Valdez (Edgar Benitez, 67)

New Zealand (4-4-2): Mark Paston, Tony Lochhead, Winston Reid, Ivan Vicelich, Ryan Nelsen, Tommy Smith, Simon Elliott, Leo Bertos, Shane Smeltz, Chris Killen (Jeremy Brockie, 79), Rory Fallon (Chris Wood, 69)

Venue: Peter Mokaba Stadium, Polokwane



their markers.

Captain Caniza proved an adventurous defender, coming forward twice to try his luck with shots that finished well off target, while a good Nelson Valdez run down the left flank was spoilt by a poor cross.

Goalmouth action was scarce in perfect, clear midafternoon conditions at Peter Mokaba Stadium during the last World Cup fixture at the purpose-built ground in the northern city.

Spectators were hoping for a better second half and clubless Simon Elliott offered early promise by unleashing a drive from outside the penalty area that did not finish far off target.

PRIZES UP FOR GRABS (ROUNDS 1-5

One 8 CFT Toshiba Refrigerator

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Brazil wait on Elano

AFP, Johannesburg

World Cup favourites Brazil were waiting on the fitness of Elano as they trained for Friday's World Cup meeting with their former colonial masters Portugal.

Elano picked up a calf strain in the win over Ivory Coast which guaranteed the five-times champions' place in the last 16 though he is expected to be fit for the final Group G match.

Brazil have racked up a 2-1 win over North Korea and a 3-1 victory over Ivory Coast to sit pretty on six points whereas Portugal need draw to be absolutely certain of second place as the Ivorians could theoretically still just pip them.

Elano, who scored in both games, took part in some but not all of Wednesday's session at Saint Sthithians College in the northern Johannesburg suburb of Sandton, jogging and then taking part in a special session with a physical trainer while his squadmates worked on set pieces.

Tuesday, Elano had sat out the day session but insisted: "I feel better."

Coach Dunga allowed reporters barely half an hour before bringing down the shutters -- a tactic which has infuriated a media desperate for more information on tactics from the camp. With Elano's fitness still in some doubt Benfica's Ramires is

on stand-by. Kaka is suspended after his harsh red card against Ivory Coast and Dunga is still mulling his replacement, though the favourite

is AS Roma's Julio Baptista. Another option is to move Robinho slightly further back and field Villarreal forward Nilmar or else be more conservative and stiffen midfield with Daniel Alves.

Maradona is a Mourinho fan

REUTERS, Pretoria

To have Jose Mourinho on your bedside table for advice seems a novel way of resolving a problem that keeps you awake at night during the World Cup.

The tournament is going well for Argentina but Diego Maradona said he might give new Real Madrid manager Mourinho a ring if he felt the need to discuss a tactical issue.

"I like Mourinho a lot [as a coach]," Maradona said of the Portuguese coach who guided Inter Milan to a treble last season. "On top of that, the way he received me, we spent hours talk-

ing about football, attacking and defensive tactics," he said in an interview with Thursday's Argentine daily La Nacion. "He seemed to me a guy to take to your bedside table and ask him each time you need something.

"I've got his phone number, I might call him," Maradona told Daniel Arcucci, the reporter who co-wrote his autobiography "Yo, el Diego" [I, Diego]. Maradona, however, said he would not go as far as using the ultra defensive tactics Mourinho's Inter employed to get past Barcelona in this year's Champions League semifinals. "No, not that. But it worked for him, right? He won the

Champions League," he added referring to their triumph over Bayern Munich at Madrid's Bernabeu stadium.

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Battle for supremacy

AFP, Durban

World Cup favourites Brazil clash with their former colonial masters Portugal in their final Group G match on Friday, with the five-time champions already qualified for the round

Brazil have racked up a 2-1 win over North Korea and a 3-1 victory over Ivory Coast to sit pretty on six points. A draw would see them top the group.

Portugal, on a run of 17 matches without defeat, drew 0-0 with Ivory Coast before routing North Korea 7-0 to put them in second spot in the group and needing only a draw to advance to the next Even if they were to lose

against Brazil, Portugal's goal difference is such that Ivory Coast, with one point, would have to win handsomely, and then some, to be close to threatening them for second "Brazil are going all out to

win another important match -- it is important to ensure top spot," said Brazilian playmaker Kaka, who will miss Friday's game after his red card against the Ivorians.

"Okay, I know a draw will leave us top but a victory is good for confidence."



PHOTO: AFP

Portugal goalkeeper Beto (L) finds something funny with playmaker Cristiano Ronaldo during their training session at Bekker High School in Magaliesburg yesterday. The jokes could be on Brazil tonight if Ronaldo can find his touch.

Portuguese coach Carlos Queiroz said he hoped his side would avenge a 6-2 friendly defeat to the Brazilians in 2008 -- the last time they shipped six goals was in 1955.

"We don't want the Brazilians to score against us this time -- it is a question of honour," said the Mozambique-born Queiroz, formerly Sir Alex Ferguson's

8:00 pm

12:30 am

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"We must not do Ivory Coast any favours in terms of letting it go down to goal difference."

Portuguese midfielder Tiago added: "Our sole interest is to beat Brazil and finish top of the group. After that we will see.

Brazil

Spain

"We want to finish top of

assistant at Manchester what is a very strong and difficult group.

> "In the final match, our destiny is in our hands. We are going into the match with Brazil with the intention of winning and finishing top of

Brazil

Brazil coach Dunga, who has led his side to victory in the Copa America and the Confederations Cup here last year, will likely field some reserves against Portugal.

"We are not sure who will replace Kaka for the next game, we will think about it over the next few days," he said.

Dunga looks to have three options regarding his Kaka conundrum.

He can field Nilmar in attack and switch the on-form Robinho into a central role, send in Julio Baptista or push Daniel Alves forward into the engine room.

Dunga is also waiting on the fitness of Elano, who picked up a calf strain in the win over Ivory Coast, with Benfica's Ramires on stand-

The winners of Group G will play the runners-up in Group H, currently topped by Chile, with Spain and Switzerland in second on three points and Honduras winless.

To date, the Brazilians have won 12 and the Portuguese four of 18 matches with two drawn.



STANDINGS



One Toshin Microwave Oven (23L) One 21"Toshin Colour TV Prizes for the audience Prizes for the audience (For First Five Rounds) (For Bumper Round) (See May 23 issue of the Star Sport for competition 1st. Toshiba Washing Machine 1st. 20L Toshin Microwave Oven 2nd. 21" Toshin Colour TV 2nd. 14" Toshin Colour TV information and rules) 3rd. 20L Toshin Microwave Woven 3rd. 3 Toshiba DVD Players 4th. Two Toshiba DVD Players **QUIZ SCHEDULE** Lucky Draw for prizes Round & Draw Ends Answers must reach by 12pm 4. Khulna June 15 June 23 June 25 June 29 Sylhet July 02 July 04 July 06 June 24 July 13 July 11 Bumper Round, Dhaka July 03 July 16 The Daily Star -RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Round 5 Ends July 02, 2010 Tick (\checkmark) the correct answers How many goals did Fernando Torres score in WC qualifying? How many teams participated in the first World Cup in 1930? 13 [3. Which was the first team to not score in the World Cup final? 4. Who is the only player to have scored goals for two Stankovic different teams in the World Cup finals? 5. Who is this player? De Rossi Podolski [Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms).. ..Occupation.. Father's name.

Write with a ballpoint pen in clear BLOCK letters.

.Signature.

Cut along the dotted lines and mail to OR drop in the Quiz Box at The Daily Star, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Sylhet readers can also drop entries at Rangs Toshiba Showroom, Dorga Gate, Sylhet. You may send as many entries as you like. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star World Cup Quiz 5".

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Portugal Ivory Coast North Korea 2

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