

# Del Bosque salutes new Germany

AFP, Potchefstroom

Spain coach Vicente del Bosque on Sunday saluted what he saw as a sea-change in Germany's style of play ahead of the two countries' World Cup semifinal on Wednesday.

Del Bosque said he did not believe the Germans would be treating the meeting in Durban as a revenge mission for their Euro 2008 final loss to the Spanish as his opponents had clearly moved on.

"I don't think you can talk about revenge between two great teams. Both will be going all out to get to a World Cup final," said Del Bosque.

"They recently set out to change a (style of) football which appeared to be worn out and tired. They have managed to refresh the team since the Euros and the proof of that is in their showings here."

"They have got a great group together," the former Real Madrid boss added.

Spain came to South Africa as the European side most favoured to distinguish itself after just one defeat in 48 matches.

They have generally recovered well from a shock opening group loss to Switzerland, despite finding goals hard to come by - with the

notable exception of five-goal David Villa.

A young Germany side has in contrast hit four goals on three occasions while humiliating both England and Argentina.

Del Bosque says the Germans have no reason to hark back to their painful loss of two years ago in Vienna.

"I don't believe anyone looks back to the past and a sportsman always looks forward," he insisted.

He refused to be drawn on his tactics for stopping the German juggernaut.

"This is not the time to speak of the key to stopping Germany. I think we have to try to keep faithful to our style and maintain this competitive spirit which we have shown in this championship."

Del Bosque added he believed that "we have done things really well to date" aside from the Swiss result - where the Spaniards in any case dominated the game.

"We started off with the Swiss loss which was very painful but since then we have posted four straight wins to reach the semifinals," said the coach.

"I don't think this is the time to reflect but instead to keep on dreaming," added Del Bosque, in the knowledge that Spain have never reached a World Cup final.

# Klose backing kids

AP, Erasmus

The German kids are doing all right.

They might even help Germany avenge that loss to Spain in the 2008 European Championship final.

"A few years ago people kept saying that 'Isn't it a shame there aren't any new generations coming through? We've no forwards coming through, no creative midfielders coming through,' and everybody deplored that," veteran Miroslav Klose said Sunday, speaking through a translator.

"But time has proved these people wrong."

Klose was part of the veteran German team that lost a very one-sided 1-0 final to Spain two years ago. But Wednesday's rematch in the World Cup semifinals will feature "different players, different squads" - and it will be to Germany's advantage, Klose said.

The youngsters have played a big part in the turnaround, Klose said, adding enormous quality and fresh attitude.

Mesut Ozil, who might have trouble getting playing time had Michael Ballack not been injured, has been impressive in setting up plays. Defensive midfielder Sami Khedira has had a big role in the stingy, disciplined defense that limited old rivals England and Argentina to a single goal - yes, one - in the knockout rounds. Thomas Mueller has scored four goals, tying him with Klose and three others for second-most in the tournament.

Mueller will miss Wednesday's quarterfinal, however, after picking up his second yellow card in the 4-0 dismantling of Argentina.

"Spain is still ruling supreme in Europe," Klose said. "But in terms of quality, I think we have improved - big time."

Germany routed its old foes, England and Argentina, by a combined score of 8-1 in the first two knockout-round games. But Klose said Spain will be the best opponent Germany has faced in South Africa, "surely better" than England and Argentina. Having a player like David Villa helps, of course.

Villa's late game-winner against Paraguay was his fifth goal at the World Cup, best of any player.

"He's left-footed, right-footed, technically gifted. He's almost as complete a player as Lionel Messi," Klose said. "He's a player that you have to combat against with a whole team, not just one defender."

Klose revealed that five goals is his target, too. He has four so far, and his 14 overall tie him with German great Gerd Mueller on the all-time list. Brazil's Ronaldo holds the record with 15 goals.

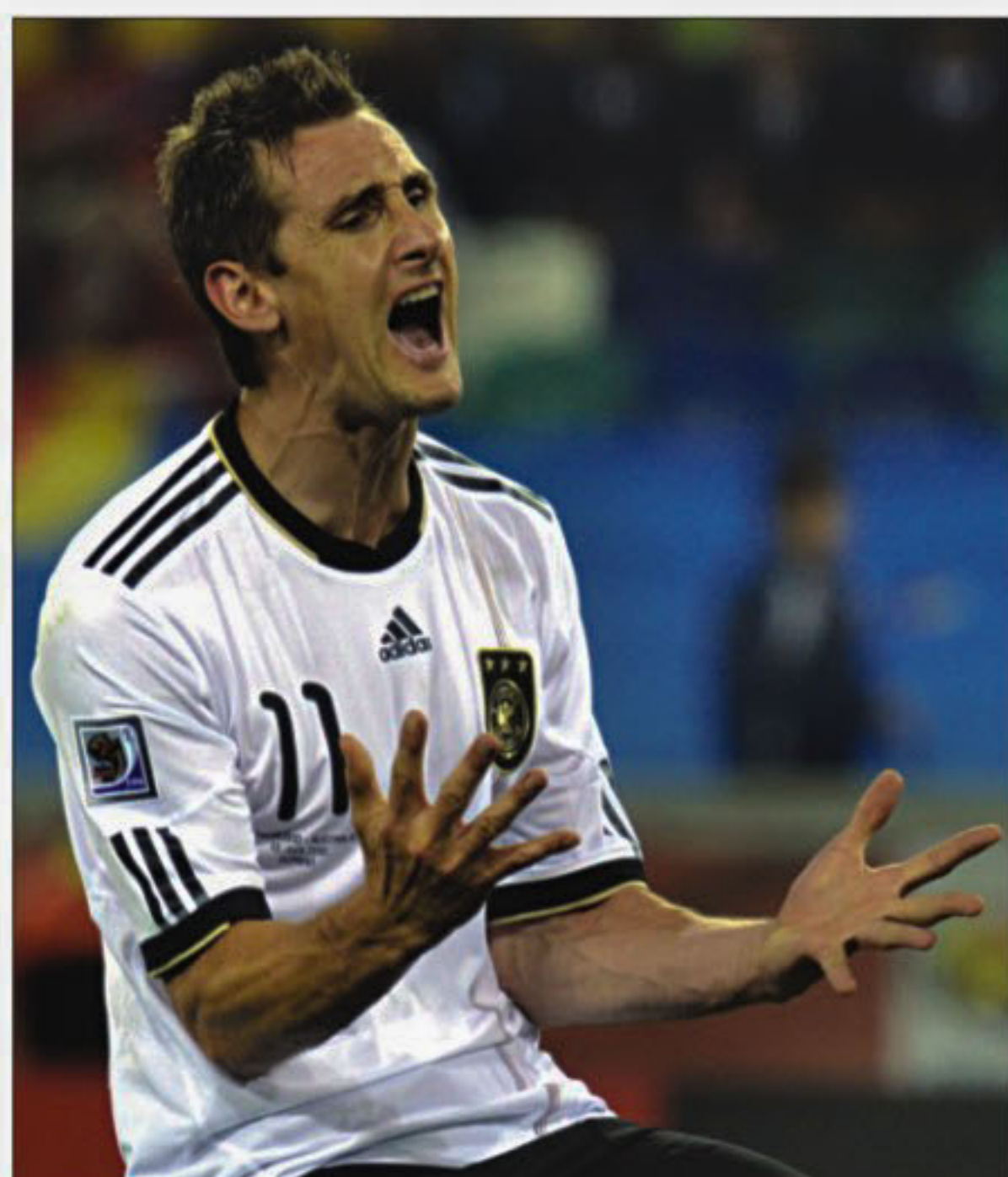
Klose said he spoke with

Ronaldo after the 2002 final, when the Brazilian scored both goals in a 2-0 victory over Germany that gave Brazil its record fifth World Cup title.

"At the time, I would not have dreamed of ever coming close to him, needing two more goals to surpass him," Klose said. "I hope he's not too worried."

As for Klose, his only anxiety is over the speech he'll have to make to his teammates in honor of his 100th appearance for Germany, which he achieved in the game against Argentina. Klose managed to duck the tradition Saturday night after the team returned from Cape Town.

"I was really happy that no one noticed. Most of the players were either eating away or having a beer or two," he said. "Sooner or later people will be reminded, and I will have to come through and make that speech."



MIROSLAV KLOSE



Spain coach Vicente Del Bosque plays with the ball during a training session at the North West University Sports Village in Potchefstroom on Sunday.

PHOTO: AFP

# Either Trochowski or Kroos may replace Mueller

AFP, Cape Town

After pulverising Argentina 4-0 in their World Cup quarterfinal, Germany will be forced into at least one change for Wednesday's semifinal due to Thomas Mueller's suspension.

A yellow card for handball means the 20-year-old Bayern Munich star, who has scored four goals at the event, will miss the biggest match of his career.

Coach Joachim Loew insists the Germans have enough depth to cover his absence - but even so it will require rejigging his game plan against Spain in Durban next Wednesday.

"It's clear it's a blow for us - he has shown himself to be dangerous in front of goal. But we have players who can replace him," insists Loew.

Until now, when Mueller has made way in the closing stages it has been for Hamburg attacking midfielder Piotr Trochowski, a 26-year-old born in Poland - like teammates Miroslav Klose and Lukas Podolski.

Trochowski is experienced, having won 34 caps, but while a talented dribbler he does not have Mueller's physical presence.

Another option is Toni Kroos, a star of the world under-17 championships in 2007 and who, now aged 20, has appeared

twice in South Africa.

Since an 18-month loan move from Bayern Munich he has shone with Bayer Leverkusen and Loew has regularly praised his technical prowess and vision.

Whoever gets the nod, top striker Miroslav Klose is not worried as Germany go up against the team that beat them in the final of Euro 2008.

"We have players in this group capable of compensating for his absence and we will show that in our next game," vowed Klose, who needs a goal to go level with Ronaldo as the all-time top scorer at the finals having hit 14 goals in three finals to date.

## Scorers

Ranking on July 3

Ranking	Player	Goals
1	Villa	5
2	Higuain	4
-	Vitek	4
-	Sneijder	4
-	Klose	4
-	Mueller	4
3	Donovan	3
-	A. Gyan	3
-	Suarez	3
-	L. Fabiano	3
-	Forlan	3

12 players have scored 2 goals  
67 players have scored one goal

Total goals, 131

Average, 2.2 goals per match

AFP

# Magic snake seized in SA

AFP, Cape Town

A python used by a South African fortune teller to control the progress of teams in the World Cup has been seized by animal welfare inspectors, a spokeswoman said Monday.

The 2.8-metre (nine-foot) long Burmese Rock Python was being used by a sangoma in a Cape Town township to communicate with the ancestors, to ask them to intercede in World Cup matches, said Sarah Scarth, spokeswoman for the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

SPCA wildlife inspectors were alerted to the snake on June 30, she said.

"They found the snake was being kept in a shack and in back of a car, and was being used allegedly by the sangoma to speak to the ancestors," she said.

"People were paying the sangomas to ask the ancestors to help their chosen teams advance in the tournament."

But the inspectors found the reptile had pneumonia and mouthrot, and was underweight and dehydrated. The snake was confiscated and was responding well to medical treatment, Scarth said.

# History means nothing

INTERNET

Andres Iniesta says Spain's semi final clash with Germany will be a "beautiful game" - and believes history means nothing.

Iniesta insists that La Furia Roja will not be favourites, despite defeating their rivals in the final of the Euro 2008 championships two years ago.

In fact, he was full of praise for a Germany side who have taken the World Cup by storm.

"I am sure it will be a match between two sides who enjoy having the ball and it's going to be a beautiful battle," Iniesta said ahead of Wednesday's encounter.

"We have been following Germany's progress throughout the World Cup and they have done spectacularly well."

Turning to the Euro final which Spain won 1-0, Iniesta added: "I think it has nothing to do with what happened two years ago. That will have no part to play when we meet."

"Germany have played a brilliant World Cup so far and they have brought in a lot of young players who were not there in 2008."

"They must be tremendously motivated but we are also at the top of our game and keen to progress further."

## RANGS TOSHIBA

World cup QUIZ 2010

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## BUMPER ROUND, DRAW IN DHAKA ON JULY 16

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	

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

Prizes for the audience (For First Five Rounds)	Prizes for the audience (For Bumper Round)
1st. 20L Toshin Microwave Oven	1st. Toshiba Washing Machine
2nd. 14" Toshin Colour TV	2nd. 21" Toshin Colour TV
3rd. 3 Toshiba DVD Players	3rd. 20L Toshin Microwave Woven
	4th. Two Toshiba DVD Players

## QUIZ SCHEDULE

Round & Draw	Starts	Ends	Answers must reach by 12pm	Lucky Draw for prizes
5. Sylhet	June 24	July 02	July 04	July 06

The Daily Star - RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Bumper Round Ends July 11, 2010

Tick (✓) the correct answers

- Who was the highest scorer in 2002 World Cup? Crespo  Ronaldo  Podolski
- Who headed in the last goal of World Cup 2006? Materazzi  Ballack  Wiltord
- How many teams participated in the World Cup 1994? 24  30  32
- What was the name of the official ball of World Cup 1970? Magpie  Discogs  Telstar
- Who is this player? Milito  Villa  Melo

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.  
 You may send as many entries as you like. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star World Cup Quiz Bumper Round"

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- Registration charge, VAT and conditions apply

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