Mueller backs Loew

RSDAY JUNE 26, 2014

AFP, Santo Andre The German side which confronts the United States

in their final group game on Thursday is that of Joachim Loew and not his predecessor and now USA coach Juergen Klinsmann said Germany striker Thomas Mueller on

"We are playing against the United States, not Juergen Klinsmann," said Mueller, who was given his Bayern Munich debut by the 49-year-old.

Klinsmann coached Germany, with Loew as his assistant, at the 2006 World Cup finals hosted by Germany and guided them to the semifinals before leaving the post.

"There are still a few players from Klinsmann's time, but under Joachim Loew a new era has begun," said Mueller, who scored a hattrick in their opening 4-0 thumping of

"He has put his stamp on this team -- and we want to show that against the USA."

A draw in Recife would see the Germans qualify as group winners with the United States finishing runners up -- sending Ghana and Portugal out of the competition.

Team manager Oliver Bierhoff, who worked with Klinsmann for two years, said their friendship will be forgotten for 90 minutes.



মানসম্পন্ন বাংলাদেশী পণ্যের ব্যবহার

match for the first time in 32 years," said the

first and get our feet back on the ground."

minutes from time on Sunday.

"It's a great honour for me to make

former Rangers defender.

শিল্প বিকাশে সহায়ক

A German-American ... USA coach Juergen Klinsmann will have to guide his side against his native team.

CROWN IIII CEMENT

USA V GERMANY

Under shadow of 1982

The spectre of one of the most infamous episodes in World Cup history looms over Germany and the United States as they clash Thursday for a place in the last 16.

heading into their final Group G match and a draw in Recife would see both qualify at the expense of Portugal and Ghana, who

play in Brasilia. The sense of intrigue has been heightened by the fact that Germany coach Joachim Loew and the United States' boss

The match scenario has evoked memories of a notorious 1982

Austria and West Germany. qualify ahead of Algeria.

the rules, ordering that all final games in the group phase of the

with references to the 1982 scandal, with Klinsmann forcefully rejecting any suggestion of an arrangement this time.

match known as the "Disgrace of Gijon."

think if you look at the past of the US team, ing 2-2 draw with Portugal. Klinsmann added.

"We have that fighting spirit, and we give denied the United States a win which would everything in every game. We will go to have seen them qualify.

Recife and we will give everything to beat Germany. That is our goal.' Germany's coaching staff and players also dismiss repeated questions about the

possibility of anything untoward. "I can only say a concrete 'no', we've already said we want to win the game and that's how we'll play over 90 minutes," assistant coach Hansi Flick said.

Germany's centre back Mats Hummels said the Germans had no interest in anything other than a victory. "It would be unsportsmanlike to do that

game," he added. "We're not playing for any result other

and not fair, besides we want to win the



than a victory."

Germany team manager Oliver Bierhoff also dismissed the possibility of collusion to. "We want to win. Everything else is

A draw on Thursday would see Germany "You're talking about a game that is decades finish on top of Group G, ahead of the ago," Klinsmann said when asked about the United States on goal difference Klinsmann's side are still kicking them-

"That is only a part of Germany's history selves over their failure to clinch a remarkand not part of the United States' history. I able qualification on Sunday in their thrill-A brilliant header by Portugal's Silvestre

Varela in the final seconds of stoppage time

SOUTH KOREA V BELGIUM

Need to win and win big

AFP, Sao Paulo

Struggling South Korea will need to rediscover the magical spirit of 2002 as they fight to rescue their dismal World Cup campaign against unbeaten Belgium on Thursday.

After drawing with Russia and losing 4-2 to Algeria Group H's bottom side need to win big against alreadyqualified Belgium if they are to stay in the tournament. Logic decrees the Koreans will soon be following Japan home as their attack has been largely toothless so far, coupled with severe problems in defence.

But coach Hong Myung-Bo can draw at least on his experiences at the 2002 tournament, when he was part of the team that shocked the world by reaching the semifinals. That year, the unquenchable desire of Guus Hiddink's team and some favourable refereeing decisions helped the

Taeguk Warriors upset Portugal, Italy and Spain. This time around, things have been different. The 1-1 draw with Russia owed much to Igor Afinkeev's goalkeeping howler, and South Korea were then taken apart by unfancied Algeria.

"Now we have to turn the page," said Hong after the Algeria defeat. "This result is the reward for our preparation. We must prepare better for the next game, it's our only option." On-loan Arsenal striker Park Chu-Young remains

goalless and Hong had some choice words for his defence after they conceded three in the first half against Algeria. In South Korea's favour is that Belgium, who are top of the table with maximum points, are expected to rest some of

their first-choice players. Centre-back Thomas Vermaelen looks set to miss out with a hamstring strain but coach Marc Wilmots may give more game

time to Chelsea's Eden Hazard, who is yet to hit top form. "I haven't played well yet at this World Cup but I've made a difference and that's what the coach has asked of me, Hazard said this week.

"I understand that people expect a lot of me and I know I can do better." Although Belgium have a spine of top-level stars in Thibaut Courtois, Vincent Kompany, Hazard, Marouane

Fellaini and Romelu Lukaku, it's a new face who has been

making headlines.

Queiroz calls

FIFA must allow referees to

use television replays to

officiate matches or risk

future World Cup finals

says Iran coach Carlos

both Queiroz and his

because of bad decisions,

Replays have showed

Bosnia counterpart Sapet

Susic to be the victims of

finals and they have called

body FIFA to help officials.

Goal-line technology

debuted at Brazil 2014 and

refereeing errors at the

on football's governing-

ex-Manchester United

assistant coach Queiroz

foul Ashkan Dejagahin in

The Bosnians claim New

Zealand referee Peter O'Leary

then missed a foul on captain

Emir Spahic in the build-up to Peter Odemwingie's 29th-

sending teams home from

for replays

AFP, Salvador

Oueiroz.

Divock Origi, 19, from Hazard's former club Lille, is the latest headline-maker off the production line with two sparkling substitute appearances including the winner

World Player-of-the-Year Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal is taking part in his sixth major tournament and has scored at least once in each of the previous five.

Goalless in his two

outings in Brazil, he can equal the European record of scoring in six major ournaments, held by former Germany striker and current US coach Juergen

Portugal came within about 30 seconds of an early exit at the hands of the United States in Manaus on Sunday when

Klinsmann.

Silvestre Varela headed home Ronaldo's cross to salvage a draw.

for Ghana against Germany took his World Cup tally to five and equalled the all-time African top scorer in the tournament, Cameroon's Roger Milla.

PORTUGAL V GHANA

STATS Portugal stare at the abyss

Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal face a sobering early World Cup exit on Thursday even if their world footballer-of-the-year produces pyrotechnics in their final group game against Ghana.

World Cup bracketed alongside Argentina's Lionel Messi and Brazil's Neymar as one of a triumvirate of true global superstars But while the Barcelona pair have pro-

duced moments of sublime skill and goals, the attention surrounding Ronaldo has mainly focused on the health or otherwise of his troublesome left knee. Portugal -- fourth in the FIFA world

a solitary point from their matches against Germany and the United States, both of whom have four points. They were pummelled 4-0 by Germany

and the fact they still have any chance of Brasilia after the Black Stars gave Germany a progressing at all is down to Ronaldo, who fright before Miroslav Klose equalised to delivered a sublime cross for their equaliser rescue a 2-2 draw. in a 2-2 draw against the United States.

on, the cold, hard reality is that if the United States and Germany draw in Recife, Portugal doomed. samoah Gyan's goal

> has failed to dominate matches in the way Kevin-Prince Boateng, although he was he does for his club and admitted that his taken off early in the second-half. side's task is "virtually impossible". Ronaldo was sanguine after the match played really well against a team of the against the Americans, admitting that calibre of Germany," said defender Portugal, despite their lofty ranking, were Harrison Afful

champions. We have to be humble and recognise our limitations. There are things we cannot do, like running faster or having more quality," he said. "At the moment there are better teams

and better players than our own," added the 29-year-old, who had an outstanding The Real Madrid player came to the season for Real that culminated in a 10th Champions League title for the club. Paulo Bento's side have also had to

cope with a one-match suspension for defender Pepe after a red card in the Germany match and an injury to Fabio Coentrao that ruled him out of the rest of the tournament. Portugal's task is made all the more

difficult by their goal difference of minus rankings -- are rock bottom of Group G with four, meaning they must score a hatful of goals even to be in the mix. Ghana's goal difference is minus one. And they are unlikely to have it all their own way when they take on Ghana in

Despite that setback Ghana, who reached Despite that goal, headed in by Silvestre the quarterfinals in South Africa in 2010, Varela in the dying seconds of time added still harbour hopes of progressing to the

The exact make-up of the team is difficult and Ghana, who also have one point, are to predict after Ghana coach Kwesi Appiah made four changes for the Germany match Portugal have insisted throughout the from the side that lost their opening game to tournament that their star player is fit but he the United States, bringing in Schalke star

"We ran ourselves into the ground and never among the favourites to lift the "We've still got a game to go and we're

AFP, Tokyo

going to give it our all to go through. If we "I never thought we would be world don't qualify, it won't be for lack of effort."

Kagawa blasts

pathetic exit

Japan playmaker Shinji

their final group game.

this," the Manchester

television broadcast on

any other words. I feel

responsible and deeply

A three-goal blitz by

of reaching the knockout

stage in Brazil after a 2-1

Japan's talismanio

0-0 draw with Greece

defeat by Ivory Coast and a

midfielder Keisuke Honda,

who had declared defiantly

that the Asian champions

could win the World Cup,

cut a forlorn figure after the

"It's embarrassing," he

said, pain etched across his

face and fighting back tears.

would win the tournament,

in the end it finished with

enough at this World Cup."

MI AMORE

TASTE OF

TOGETHERNESS

"After I'd said Japan

just empty talk," added

Colombia in the second half

ended Japan's slender hopes

sorry. It's pathetic."

Wednesday. "I don't have

Kagawa slammed the team's

World Cup elimination as

"pathetic" after Tuesday's 4-

1 thrashing by Colombia in

"It hurts to go out like

United player told Japanese

HEAD-TO-HEAD

(2 JUNE 2013, INTERNATIONAL)

KEY PLAYERS

CAPS **GOALS SCORED**

4-2-3-1

Neuer

4: Howedes, Hummels,

Mertesacker, Lahm

2: Schweinsteiger, Khedira

3: Ozil, Kroos, Gotze

1: Muller

4-2-3-1 Howard Besler, Beasley 3: Bedoya, Bradley, Zusi 1: Dempsey

RUSSIA

Honda, who dismissed talk of international retirement. "I said from the start that I intended on going to the next [tournament]. We simply weren't good



CAPS

WC GOALS

TEAM FORMATION 4-4-2

Akinfeev Kombarov, Berezutskiy, Ignashevich, Glushakov 4: Kokorin, Shatov, Samedov, Fayzulin 2: Kozlov, Kanunnikov

Halliche, Mandi 4: Bentaleb, Feghouli, Medjani, Brahimi 2: Slimani, Djabou

Mbolhi

4: Bougherra, Mesbah,



Africans eye history

Algeria v Russia

Algeria can make history by qualifying for the second round of the World Cup for the first time in four appearances at the tournament when they face Russia in Curitiba on tional performance.

The Desert Foxes will be assured of their place in the last 16 with a win, but should also progress with a draw so long as South Korea don't beat the already qualified Belgium by at least three goals in the other need to forget about the victory over Korea ure. match in Group H.

Algeria ended a 32-year wait for a World Cup win in emphatic style with a 4-2 demolition of the Koreans on Sunday, becoming the first African side to ever score by South Korea before being beaten 1-0 by stand well as to why," said four goals in a World Cup game in the Divock Origi's winner for Belgium two the 42-year-old Frenchman

among those on the scoresheet in Porto Capello's men after an impressive record in Africa Cup of Nations or at Alegre and he is eyeing more glory against a qualifying, which saw them top their group the World Cup finals." Russian side that has failed to live up to ahead of Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal

expectations so far.

of my career, it is a match which can write a late winner by bouncing back against Japan before losing by that new chapter in the history of our country, Algeria and securing their passage into the scoreline to group winners and that is very much in our heads," he said next round

Vahid Halilhodzic is likely to tinker with the FIFA.com side that starred against South Korea with Mehdi Lacen and Riyad Mahrez replacing happened late on, but we've still got a "I have put a lot of time Abdelmoumene Djabou and Carl Medjani. chance of continuing in the tournament. and effort into the past two And captain Madjid Bougherra has urged While that's the case, we can't start thinking years but unfortunately my his side to keep their feet on the ground after about anything else."

"I'm very proud to be the captain of an and Zenit St Petersburg's Aleksandr one but the Greeks did not Algerian team that has won a World Cup Kerzhakov likely to come into the side that steal this victory."

'South Americans

Hosting the World Cup in Brazil has given South American

nations the edge over European counterparts, France coach

"It is complicated. Several major European nations have

been or could be eliminated in the first round," said

Deschamps ahead of France's final Group E match against

Ecuador at Rio de Janeiro's Maracana Stadium on Wednesday.

"We are in Brazil, so the South American teams certainly

acclimatise better, and maybe the fact that they are playing

so close to home and have so many supporters with them

France have romped to two victories against Honduras

and Switzerland, scoring eight goals in the process, and

even a defeat against Ecuador is unlikely to deny them a last

berths in the knockout stages, and Germany are well placed

However, World Cup holders Spain, England, and four-

time winners Italy have been dumped out of the contest.

The Netherlands, Belgium and Greece have all secured

have advantage'

Didier Deschamps said Tuesday.

gives them added strength and energy."

Lamouchi resigns

AFP, Fortaleza

Sabri Lamouchi resigned as \$3M FLOWN TO BLACK STARS Ivory Coast coach minutes after his side's hopes of reaching the World Cup Greece a 2-1 victory in Greece took a place in

strengths. We have made our fans happy the last 16 and Lamouchi with this win and we now have a chance to said he had to draw the make it through to the round of 16, but we consequences of that fail-"My contract comes to

represents a final chance to rectify two and there will be no epidisappointing results as they were held 1-1 logue and you can under-

The former France inter-However, defender Aleksei Kozlov is national, whose side "It is one of the most important matches hoping to wipe away the pain of Belgium's started with a 2-1 win over Colombia, said a lot of

"We're all disappointed about what second round.

the euphoria of finally ending the wait for a Capello is also expected to make a few this evening," he said. changes with CSKA Moscow's Alan Dzagoev "The outcome is a cruel

Algerian footballing history as part of this second round were dashed very close-knit squad who put in an excep- by a late penalty giving "The most important thing is for us to Fortleza on Tuesday. play our own game and also play to our

A lot more had been expected of not do well at last year's

"It's very difficult to draw any positives hard work had gone into With just a point needed, Bosnian coach when you lose like that," Kozlov told securing the Elephants first ever appearance in the

DIEGO TO CHEER ARGENTINA

story with Ivory Coast ends

For Fabio Capello's Russia the match an end at this World Cup

"It is logical as we did

AFP, Sao Paulo

Ghana's government said on Wednesday that it is sending World Cup, officials said Tuesday. more than \$3 million in cash on a chartered plane to Brazil to pay appearance fees for its World Cup squad Deputy Sports Minister Joseph Yamin told radio station

demanded they be paid their appearance fee and rejected having the money wired to SINGER "The players haven't been paid their appearance fee as such today," Yamin said. "It's as a result of the decision as to which

mode of payment should be affected in this current World Cup." A statement from the Ghana Football Association (GFA) said President John Dramani Mahama personally assured the players that they would receive their

"The government is pre-financing the By SINGER" payment of the Black Stars appearance fees which will be reimbursed when FIFA's prize-money for Ghana's participation in the World Cup is paid after the tournament in Brazil," the statement said

FROM HOTEL Diego Maradona will root for his beloved Argentina from his hotel when they play Nigeria on Wednesday, opting to

"I don't want to be a problem for the government or for those who don't want me to go. I'll stay in the hotel watching on television," Maradona said. "I would never wish ill

Citi FM in Accra that the government chartered a plane to fly from Ghana to Brazil on Tuesday after the Black Stars

GRUNDIG

Skyworth **LED TVs**

skip the stadium after the country's FA President suggested he had jinxed the team against Iran.

Maradona still stokes passions at home, where he is revered for his phenomenal career as a player but draws fire for his chequered stint as national team coach, and foray into drugs and alcohol.

BRAZILIAN BAURU

Brazil has blocked 32 Argentine football fans with a history of violent behaviour from entering the country for the

The "barras bravas," as they are known in Argentina, were on a list of 2,100 names the Argentine authorities gave the hosts in a bid to stop violent fans from attending World Cup games, the Brazilian justice ministry said in a statement. Eighteen of the Argentines flew into Brazil and 14 came

> Brazil is working with authorities around the world to keep hooligans out of the World Cup, but only Argentine fans have been turned away so far.

ern city of Belo Horizonte, reported Brazilian radio network CBN.

Former Cuban leader Fidel Castro has sent fraternal greetings to Argentine football legends Diego Maradona

Maradona, who works as a commentator for Venezuelan He also saluted Messi, whose goals have taken two-times

the noble people of Argentina.

"Nothing can surpass the glory and prestige of both, despite the miserable efforts of schemers" to bring either of them down, Castro enthused.

Brazil to watch Argentina's match against Military police handed them over to Argentine security forces after detaining them at Mineirao Stadium in the southeast-

CASTRO A FAN OF MESSI

and Lionel Messi, who marked his 27th birthday "Unforgettable friend, every day I have the pleasure of following your program on Telesur on the spectacular World Cup thanks to which I can follow the extraordinary level of this universal sport," Castro, 87, said in a message to

champions Argentina into the last 16. "I also greet Messi, a superb athlete who confers glory on

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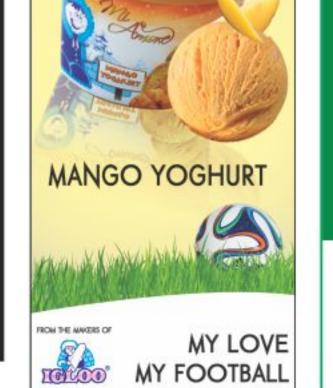
It's about time he stood up ... Portugal will have to rely not only on their superstar Cristiano Ronaldo against

THE WORLD CUP SELFIE CONTEST The Daily Star

Ghana but also on the result of the other match between USA and Germany.

nology would help eradicate many incorrect decisions. "Some referees train more, are better prepared, but with the speed of the







WC GOALS

TEAM FORMATION

4-2-3-1

Dauda

4: Afful, Mensah, Boye, Rabiu

2: Badu, Atsu

3: A Ayew, Boateng, Asamoah

4: Alves, Pereira, Pepe, Costa 3: Veloso, Meireles, Moutinho 2: Nani, Ronaldo 1: Postiga

4-3-2-1

GERMANY

LAST MEETING: USA 4-3 GERMANY



WC GOALS

4: Johnson, Cameron, 2: Beckerman, Jones

> **ALGERIA** THEY HAVE NEVER FACED EACH OTHER

HEAD-TO-HEAD

KEY PLAYERS





The two teams each have four points

Juergen Klinsmann are old friends.

That match in the Spanish city of Gijon ended in controversy after the two sides effectively conspired to secure a 1-0 victory for the Germans, allowing them to

World Cup game between

The shockwaves from that encounter continue to be felt FIFA subsequently changed

World Cup should kick-off simultaneously. Press conferences for Germany and the United States this week have been littered

we always try to make things happen,"

BRAZIL BLOCKS ARGENTINE HOOLIGANS

by land, the ministry said.

On Saturday police detained 19 Argentines suspected of illegally entering

says replays should be the next step. Iran were denied a penalty by Serbian referee AND MARADONA Milorad Mazic's in their heart-breaking 1-0 defeat to Argentina, settled by a late Lionel Messi goal, when Pablo Zabaleta appeared to

> Likewise, the Bosnians were fuming when striker Edin Dzeko was denied an early goal by the linesman's flag, but replays showed he was clearly onside in their 1-0 defeat to Nigeria.

the area.

minute winner. Colombian linesman Humberto Clavijo was last week withdrawn from World Cup match duties after twice flagging in error for offsides in Mexico's 1-0 victory over Cameroon when two Mexican goals were disallowed. And Japanese referee

awarding hosts Brazil a dubious penalty in their opening 3-1 win over Queiroz savs some coaches will lose their jobs after the World Cup due to refereeing errors and tech-

ball and rhythm of the

game, I don't think there is

a future in football without

Yuichi Nishimura was

heavily criticised after

FAN