South Africa were unable to mark the 100-day countdown to the Fifa World Cup and the official opening of the Moses Mabhida Stadi- 

um in Durban with a win as they were held to a 1-1 draw by Namibia in an international friendly on Wednesday.

Though Bafana Bafana domi- 

nated possession they struggled to break down a disciplined and well-organised Brave Warriors outfit who started the game by taking the lead through Rudolph Bester just before half-time. South Africa hit back in the 76th minute via Katlego Mphela.

Bafana Bafana showed some good in attack in the open- 

ing minutes with 15 strikers, including Mokoele looking hungry for the ball and making good runs that pulled Namibia defenders out of posi- 

tion; unfortunately the final pass or cross often left much to be de- 

sired.

Namibia created the first scor- 

ing chance when Wilko Riss's lob found the Bafana backline square and allowed Bester a clear sight of goal. Fortunately for the 

hosts the ball didn't quite drop for the 

Mzantsi United striker and it allowed Bradley Carnell to 

make a crucial challenge.

Just a minute later Teko Modise 

sprang to life with a stunning long 

range free kick, though 

Bafana Bafana
didn't allow Mphela to 

make his presence felt, though the 

hosts were clearly wary of 

Segelele's pace.

And the Bloemfontein Celtic 

viewer nearly used his scor- 

ing speed to great effect on 62 

minutes when he sprinted onto a 

through ball from Lebogang Mokoena and Mphela 

made a good block to hand 

Bafana an equaliser.

Three minutes later Daine Klate 

was unable to get away a shot or 

find a teammate.

replacements initially struggled to 

make their presence felt, though the 

Namibians were clearly wary of 

Segelele's pace.

Gladiators take on Angola

The Namibia Women senior 

National team-Brave Gladi- 

ators will face South Africa in the round of the AFCON 2010 against their northern 

neighbours-Angola.

The First Leg match against Angola will take place in 

Windhoek tomorrow at the S 

am Nujoma Stadium slated for 1600. 

The Brave Gladiators have been training since the last week of Feb-

uary camping at the NFA Soccer 

House in Windhoek.

Forward Brave Warriors and 

Chief Santos coach and coach of the 

Namibia Zone Six Under-20 Women's Team will lead the team in the first leg match due to the 

unavailability of head coach Jacqui 

Shipanga who will be away with 

work commitments.

Johnson will be assisted by the 

Brave Gladiators assistant 

fitness coach Brayn Van Staden.

Influential striker Emerenica 

“Kleintjie” Fredericks will be 

watching the match from the 

stands. She has picked up a terrible 

angle injury in DRC in January 

during a world Cup qualification's 

second round match and was 

booked off for six weeks.

The NFA Women Desk- 

request Namibians from all walks of life 

to come in big numbers to sup- 

port the Grads.

The Namibian squad:

Goalkeepers: 1. Bonnitha 

Einus, Novathia Paulus, Melinda 

Hikunum

Defenders: Marnice Kasana 

(Beauties F.C), Susana Eises 

(Beaties F.C), Josephine Selbe 

(POLY Babes), Mariana Guebi 

(Beaties F.C), Stacy Nesir 

(POLY Babes), Maggy Paulus 

(Beaties F.C),

Midfielders: Arethara (DS 

Girls Academy), Helvi Ashendo 

(Rehoboth Queens F.C), Queen 

Manga (POLY Babes), Stefanie 

Humard (Beaties F.C), Teresina 

Adams (Buchiter Girls F.C - 

Duderitz), Bianga Fredericks 

(Beaties F.C), Lorain Jossop 

(POLY Babes), Stefani Cloete 

(Beaties F.C).

Strikers: Stella Willians (Beau- 

ties F.C), Juliana Skflywer 

(Rehoboth Queens F.C), Vee 

Katjiupere (Girls Academy), 

Mareille Polster (Beaties F.C), 

Ellenca Games (POLY Babes), 

Toshi Haufiku (WHK College of 

Education)

Technical Staff: Care Taker 

Coach: Max Johnson, Assistant 

Coach: Brayn Van Staden, Team 

Medic: Donatha Gawanab, Physio: 

Julia Halweendo, Team Manager: 

Nujoma; Tjikuzu (Isaacks 74'), 

Fransman, Carnell (Thwala 60'); 

Shipanga who will be away with 

work commitments.

Hiddink ideal for Ivory Coast

By Stephen Fottrall

There is perhaps no-one who embodies the image of the global game 

more than the much-travelled former Guus Hiddink.

The 65-year-old Dutchman has been 

approached to take up the 

challenge of leading a talented but 

stuttering Ivory Coast side to the World Cup.

Valid Hiddink was released of 

his duties last week following 

a disappointing Africa Cup of Nations exit for 

Ivory Coast and they 

since suffered a 2-0 de- 

feat to Hiddink's former team, 

South Africa, until 

Slovenia became the fourth team he has led to a World 

Cup final last year during a short 

stint with the Russians.

Hiddink is not averse to 

taking on the chal- 

lenges of three African teams 

coming "Aussie Guus" down un-

easy.

Hiddink would certainly relish 

the opportunity to reunite with El-

fants captain Didier Drogba and 

Salomon Kalou, having led 

Chelsea to victory in England's FA 

Cup final last year during a 

short period in charge of the 

London club, when he was again balance-

ing dual responsibilities, this time 

with the Russians.

His stock was at its highest at 

that time, after proving highly 

popular in England and he looked 

certain to lead the Russians to 

South Africa until 

Slovenia became the second-seeded Eu-

ropean play-off team to progress 

with a shock win over Hiddink's 

highly fancied team.

Since that rare blemish on his 

record there have been many 

changes at the start of the second 

post of Turkey's national coach.

Never one to remain idle, how-

ever, the Dutch coach is consid-

ering filling the time between his 

contract with Russia expiring in June 

and moving to Israel in August, 

by making the Ivory Coast the 

fourth team he has led to a World 

Cup finals, following the Nether-

lands (1998), South Korea 


Hiddink is not averse to a bit of 

multi-tasking, having commuted 

between the Netherlands and Aus-

tralia in the lead-up to the 2006 

World Cup, in his dual role as PSV 

Eindhoven assistant coach and 

Manager.

In Germany, he led the Austra-

lians to the last 16 in only 

their second 

World Cup appearance, a feat 

the Ivorians will have to over-

come the odds once 

more after being drawn against 

Brazil, Portugal and North Korea 

in Group G.

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