World Cup ball research reaches its goal The new World Cup ball - the Adidas Tricolore, to be used at all the matches in France 98 - will offer greater speed and accuracy thanks Tricofore to developments in materials technology, promising to make life even more difficult for the world's hard-pressed goalkeepers Tricolore details Weight: approx 450g Circumference: 68.5-71.1cm Each of the 32 panels on the ball is made up of layers of newly developed materials bonded with latex adhesive Layer 1 – Printed film sheet Strong and durable. Emblem printed using abrasion-resistant ink Layer 2 - 'Syntactic' foam The secret of *Tricolore's* improved performance - a tight polyurethane matrix of individually closed, gas-filled 2 micro balloons Layer 3 – Complex multilayer textile Poly-cotton mixed fibre backing to ensure (3) maximum shape stability Layer 4 - Latex rubber bladder Inflated to 0.6-0.8 bar air pressure Faster, lighter, stronger - inside the Tricolore **Impact** translated into forward motion and temporary deformation of ball **Explosive** energy Tricofol Compression return Micro balloons **Ball returns to Impact** compressed perfect shape by impact for predictable and accurate flight path Tricolore 'Energy return' claims to be translates more responsive compression and more accurate than into forward any previous football motion © GRAPHIC NEWS 1998 Sources: Adidas, FIFA