

Carl Lewis fails to make US 100m team for Barcelona

Stunning failure by sprint king

NEW ORLEANS, June 21: Carl Lewis ran one of the worst races of his career and finished a stunning sixth in the US Olympic trials Saturday...

Upon learning of Stevens' decision, Reynolds headed for the track from his hotel. He couldn't wait to race but was forced to wait when meet organizers decided to delay the start of the heats.

The US Olympic Committee protested that, and 30 of the runners voted to boycott any race for which Reynolds is ruled eligible.

Later, he said, 'It's been a rollercoaster ride for me. By the time I get up, I'm down.'

Reynolds' enthusiasm was tempered by the other 400 runners, some of whom expressed anger at his possible participation.

Still, he was clearly excited as he exchanged high fives with his agent, Brad Hunt, and said, 'It's the right time, the right time. It's my time.'

The IAAF threatened the other 31 runners in the 400 field with suspension if they competed against Reynolds, raising the possibility that the United States would not have a team in the event in Barcelona.

Only the top three runners qualify for the Olympics, and Lewis, the world record-holder, wasn't even close.

Minutes before the men's 100, Gwen Torrence, the 1991 world championship silver medalist, overcame knee pain to win the women's 100 in 10.97.

Dennis Mitchell, the bronze medalist behind Lewis and Leroy Burrell in the 1991 World Championships, won the 100 in 10.09 seconds, Mark Witherspoon was runner-up, also in 10.09, and Burrell was third in 10.10.

She was followed by Gail Devers in 11.02 and 35-year-old Evelyn Ashford, the 1984 gold medalist and 1988 silver medalist, in 11.17. This will be Ashford's fourth Olympics.

Lewis was timed in 10.28, far off the world record of 9.86 he set at the World Championships, and also finished behind Mike Marsh (10.14) and James Jett (10.25).

Jackie Joyner-Kersey, the world record-holder and 1988 Olympic champion in the heptathlon, took a commanding lead after four events of the seven-event, two-day competition.

Lewis was automatically become eligible for the 400-meter relay team.

Joyner-Kersey compiled 4,071 points, 266 ahead of runner-up Cindy Greiner.

'Maybe the weather took a lot out of me', Lewis said after his dismal performance in 'Stammy' Tad Gormley Stadium.

While Joyner-Kersey was dominating the heptathlon in her first appearance of the season, Gea Johnson the American leader this year, saw her Olympic hopes end.

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Johnson, the 1990 NCAA champion from Arizona State, tore the patella tendon in her right knee during the high jump and was carried from the field on a stretcher.

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Among other noteworthy performances Saturday: Sheila Hudson smashed her American record in winning the triple jump at 46 feet, 8 1/4 inches (14 meters, 21 cms).

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National record-holder Sandra Farmer-Patrick won a semifinal heat in the women's 400 hurdles in 54.94, the fastest of the year by an American.

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Kevin Young won a semifinal in the men's 400 hurdles in 48.18, just off his world-leading 48.16, and David Patrick took the other semifinal in 48.23, third-fastest in the world this year.

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Ashford keeps coming back

NEW ORLEANS, June 21: Evelyn Ashford keeps being written off, yet she keeps coming back as one of the world's top women sprinters, reports AP.

Ashford, 35, made her fourth US Olympic team Saturday, edging Carlette Guidry, 12 years her junior, for the third and final place on the 100-meter team.

Ashford finished in 11.17 seconds, .01 second ahead of the 23-year-old Guidry, then took an emotional victory lap with Gwen Torrence, the winner in 10.97.

As Ashford cried, she consoled high school sensation Marion Jones, who was fifth. 'I made another Olympic team and that was my goal coming in,' Ashford said.

Ashford competed in her first Olympics in 1976 at Montreal. A 19-year-old UCLA student at the time, she finished fifth in the 100.

Eight years later, she won the 100-meter gold medal, setting an Olympic record of 10.97 at Los Angeles. She also ran on the winning 400-meter relay team.

After taking a maternity leave from track and field in 1985, Ashford returned and in 1988 was back in the Olympics, again winning two medals — a silver in the 100 and a gold in the relay.

Olympic medals, however, have not been Ashford's only marks of excellence. She set world records in the 100 in 1983 and 1984, and between 1977 and 1984, she broke the American 100-metre record five times and the 200-metre mark four times.

'It's a challenge just being out there running,' she said. She was very determined to be an Olympian again.

'I told myself this is my last Olympic team and I'm going to get on that team,' she said prior to the Olympic trials.

UEFA bows to FIFA pressure

GOTHENBURG, Sweden, June 21: UEFA bowing to FIFA pressure, has rejected the idea of introducing 'sudden death' extra time at the European Championship, reports Reuter.

UEFA president Lennart Johansson had said he favoured playing indefinite extra time until a goal was scored to decide the semifinals and final when play was tied after the regulation 90 minutes.

The IAAF flexed its muscles to force Barcelona organizers, after seven months of resistance, to change the Olympic track timetable to give US sprinter Michael Johnson a chance to go for gold medals in both the 200 and 400 meters.

But by the time the change was approved Wednesday, Johnson said it was too late: he'd already decided to run only in the 200.

The IAAF said it would go ahead with the changes anyway, but some questioned the wisdom of the whole process.

'I think you should say this is the timetable and stick to it,' said John Holt, a former IAAF general secretary.

The stability of the IAAF is being tested by the whole Reynolds affair. Gyalai said the issue boils down to who should have the authority to govern the sport and enforce its rules.

'Should a court in Ohio have the highest authority in athletics?' he said. 'What would happen if the jurisdictions of all 200 member federations challenged the IAAF's ruling?'

The IAAF's stance on Reynolds has the backing of the International Olympic Committee. The drug test was conducted at an IOC-accredited laboratory in Paris.

Dutchmen will take no chances

GOTHENBURG, June 21: Denmark go into the biggest match in their history when they take on Holland in the European Championship semifinal here on Monday, reports AFP.

But for the Dutch, the occasion is pretty much run-of-the-mill and coach Rinus Michels will have his work cut out persuading his team not to underestimate the opposition.

The Danes did reach the semifinals of the competition in 1984, but all their best performances had gone before and, clearly tired they lost to Spain.

This time their qualification came as even more of a surprise, having been only last minute replacements following the expulsion of Yugoslavia by UEFA.

Yet coach Ronald Moller Nielsen, having healed his bitter rift with the team's major asset, Brian Laudrup, has shaped an outfit which held England beat France and now have nothing whatsoever to prove as Nielsen has been at pains to point out all along.

The carrot of an all-Scandinavian final, should Sweden overcome the odds and beat Germany in the first semifinal will be as significant spur for Denmark, particularly as there would be more than a hint of revenge in the air following defeat by their Nordic rivals in the group matches.

Of the original line-up Bent Christensen, the big disappointment among the three front runners, has fallen by the wayside and midfielder Kim

under a fallen Japanese keeper Iwao Uemitsu in a goal-mouth melee. The Japanese fell further behind when the Malaysians struck twice in four minutes through skipper Sarjit Singh from close range in the 18th minute and Nawawi who sent in a rising shot from the edge of the box in the 21st minute.

Nawawi was on target again five minutes into the second-half to score Malaysia's fifth goal before Japan pulled back with a consolation goal in the 57th minute through Kenji Hasebe.

Nor Saiful Zaini scored Malaysia's last goal in another goal-mouth melee just seven minutes before the final whistle.

Warren Birmingham converted a penalty stroke in the 55th minute for Australia's third goal while Lewis made it 4-1 by sending in a powerful shot in the 59th minute.

The Malaysians, on the other hand, virtually strolled past a weak Japanese side for an easy win.

The Malaysians, who are one of the three Asian qualifiers for the Barcelona Olympics, sounded the board early in the fifth minute when their towering defender Enbraj Kanniah sent in a thunderous shot off a penalty corner.

Eight minutes later, Mirnawan Nawawi made it 2-0 when he squeezed past a shot

and did such a good job as stand in against Germany that even Michels may be forced to have second thoughts.

The rest of the team more or less picks itself. Of course, even though winger Brian Roy and midfielder Aron Winter have been discarded since the opening match with Scotland.

Rob Witschge continues to enjoy an Indian summer after only coming into the side because his brother Richard was ruled out through injury and will add extra variation up front along with Dennis Bergkamp and Marco Van Basten.

Van Basten has yet to score in these championships, despite having a perfectly good goal against the CIS ruled out for offside, and so the hardmen at the back of the Danish defence, Kent Nielsen and Lars Olsen should be warned — Van Basten is never more dangerous than when he hasn't scored for four matches.

The Danes' main hope is attack, even though their chances of reaching the final are, in all honesty, not particularly great.

But the Dutch will need all their powers of restraint on the field, for three of them, Witschge, Ronald Koeman and Jan Wouters, are one booking away from missing the final.

And that is something Koeman for one will want to avoid, for he is heading for a third champion's title in the same season, having already won the Spanish league and European Champions Cup with Barcelona, not to mention having steered Holland to the 1988 European crown.

That has to be motivation enough for anyone. PROBABLE TEAMS HOLLAND: Hans Van Breukelen, Ronald Koeman, Barry Van Aerle (Of Frank de Boer), Adri Van Tiggelen, Frank Rijkaard, Jan Wouters, Ruud Gullit, Dennis Bergkamp (Of Peter Bosz), Rob Witschge, Marco Van Basten.

DENMARK: Peter Schmeichel, Lars Olsen, John Stebbins, Kent Nielsen, Henrik Andresen, Kim Christoffe, John Jespersen, Henrik Larsen, Brian Laudrup, Flemming Povlsen, Torben Frank.

Britain, Germany vie for title MILTON KEYNES, England, June 21: Olympic champions great Britain meet Germany here today to decide the winner of the four-nation men's hockey tournament after both teams scored their second successive victories on Saturday, reports AFP.

Britain beat Spain 1-0 with a 33rd minute goal from Rob Hill, his third of the competition, while Germany coasted to a 2-0 success over Egypt thanks to scores from Carsten Fischer in the 21st minute and Sven Meinhardt in the 59th minute.

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Star file photo showing Carl Lewis (L) racing against Ben Johnson of Canada. In an ironic twist of events, while Johnson, disgraced at the Seoul Games for doping, will get to run the 100m in the Barcelona Olympics, world record holder Lewis will have to watch from the sidelines, having failed to make the 100m team at the US trials Saturday.

Ben Johnson qualifies

MONTREAL, June 21: Disgraced sprinter Ben Johnson on Saturday earned a chance to win the 100 metre gold medal that was stripped from him four years ago for steroid use when he qualified in the event at the Canadian Olympic trials, reports Reuter.

The 30-year-old Johnson, who has been struggling to approach competitive form, beat the qualifying standard of 10.28 seconds by finishing second in the 100 metres final with a time of 10.16.

National champions Bruny Surin won the final in 10.13 seconds.

In a stunning turn of events, however, Johnson will not have a 100 metres rematch against Carl Lewis in Barcelona.

Lewis, who claimed the 1988 Olympic gold medal and 100 metres world record, when Johnson tested positive for steroids in Seoul, failed on Saturday to qualify for the 100 metres at the US Olympic trials in New Orleans.

Since Johnson's return from a two-year suspension from competition, his times have been mediocre at best, including a 10.43 clocking only 10 days ago in Portugal.

He also failed to meet the qualifying standard to defend his stripped world title in Tokyo last year.

But in Friday's rain-soaked qualifying round, which was declared invalid by meet officials because of a timing equipment malfunction, Johnson was hand-clocked in 9.9 seconds by three trackside officials.

In the semifinals on Friday, Johnson bettered the qualifying standard with a 10.23 but the heat was wind-aided and also declared invalid.

His last hope to make the Olympic team came down to a tense sprint before a crowd of more than 3,000 at the Claude Robillard Center.

He came out of the blocks even with Surin, but lost ground in the middle of the race before fighting back at the wire.

'You must consider that track and field is by far the most important event at the Olympics,' said IAAF chief of staff Enrico Jacomini. The sport is growing. There's lots of money, lots of attention. Inevitably all the problems that come up get a greater audience in the bigger sports than the smaller sports.'

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But by the time the change was approved Wednesday, Johnson said it was too late: he'd already decided to run only in the 200.

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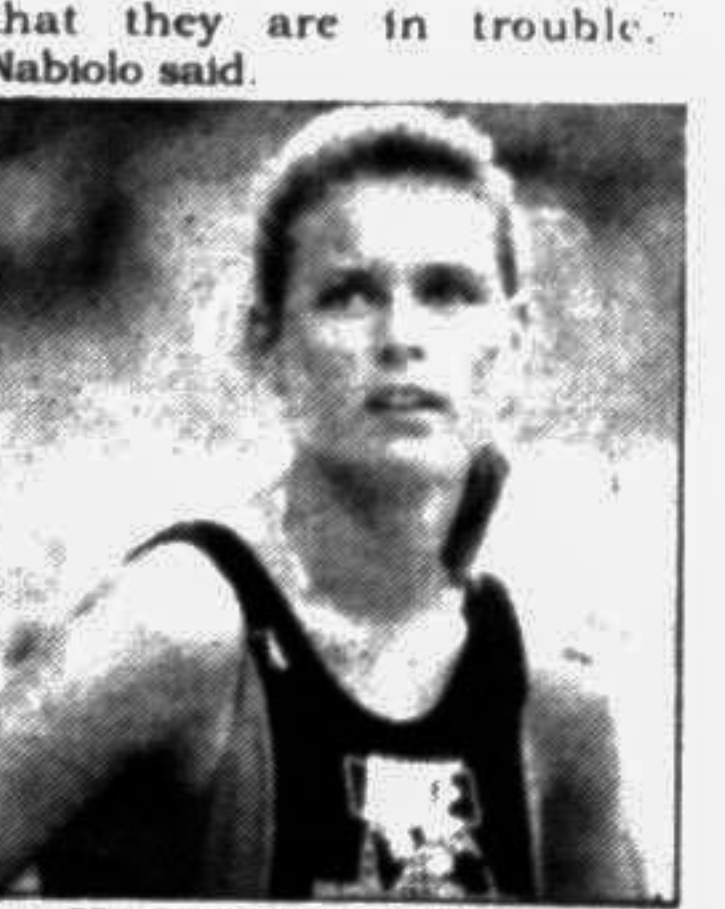
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BUTCH REYNOLDS



KATRIN KRABBE

Sunday because of the legal maneuvering. The IAAF, whose arbitration panel recently upheld the ban on Reynolds, has vowed to keep him out of the Olympics and threatened to bar any athlete who runs against him.

The IAAF sees (the court decision) as challenging the competence of the ruling of an international sports body,' said IAAF general secretary Istvan Gyulai. 'It is a decision which may lead to chaos... This might lead to the suspension of all US 400-meter runners at the Olympic Games.'

Krabbe, world champion in the 100 and 200 meters, was banned by the German track federation for alleged manipulation of urine samples — only to be reinstated when the federation's legal panel found no evidence of wrong doing. The case will be heard by the IAAF's Arbitration panel June 27-29.

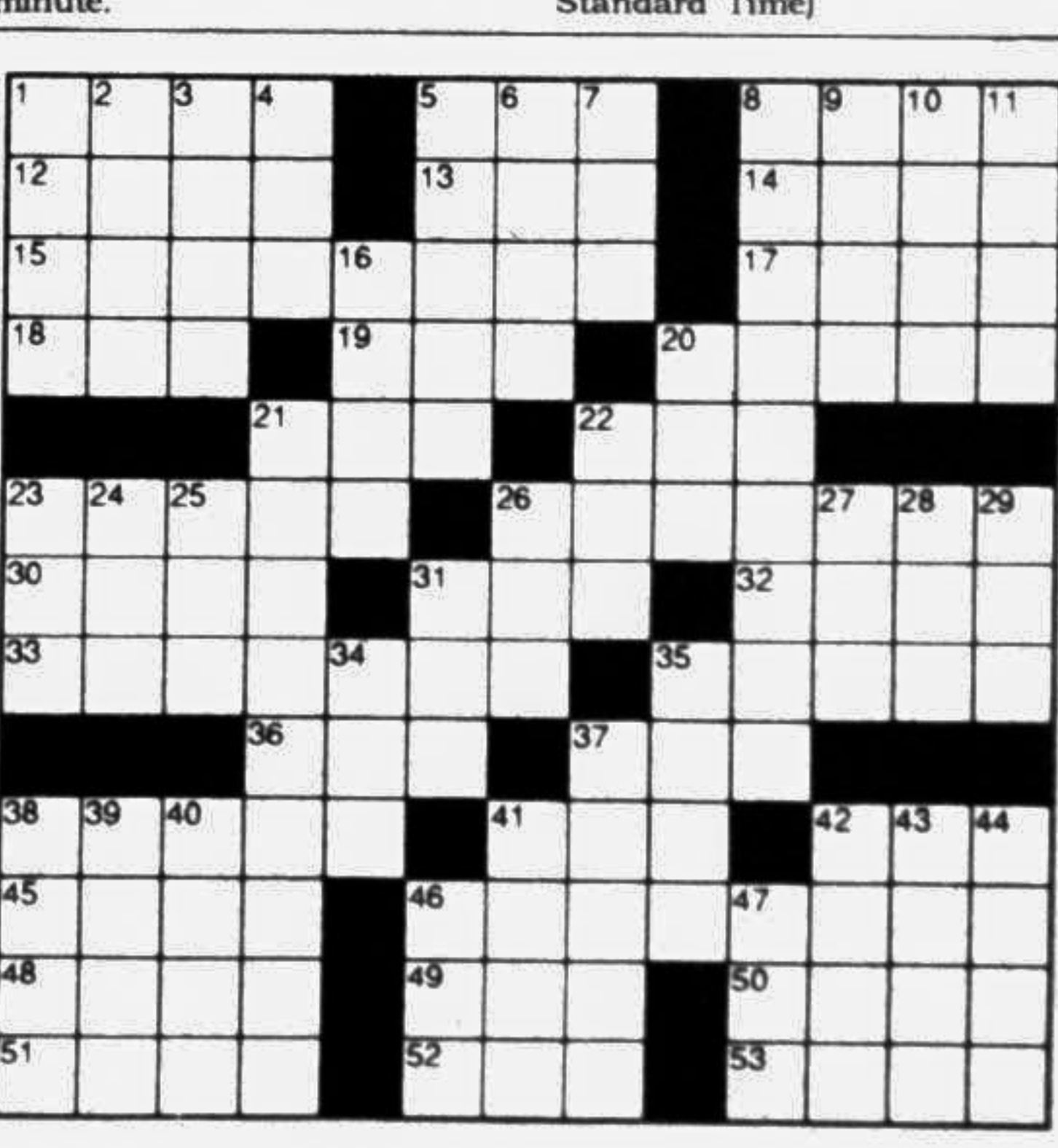
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Jib or spanker 5 Oscillate 8 Fearless 12 Queen of England 13 Concern of NOW 14 Dies — 15 Wild European shrub 17 Hero's dream 18 Deauville donkey 19 'The — Around Us' 20 Austrian psychiatrist 21 Sticky stuff 22 Clerical vestment 23 Hoglike animal 26 Put into words 30 Designer Cassini 31 — Morning in May' 32 Jai — 33 University governors 35 Clenched hands 36 Lab animal 37 Forbid 38 Cheat or rob: colloq. 41 — Lanka 42 Luau dish 45 Minor Moslem magistrate 46 Early sports cars 48 Soviet river 49 Sea eagle 50 Salute 51 Size of paper 52 Narrow ship channel 53 Gaelic DOWN 1 Actress Thompson 2 Presently 3 'Bus Solution time: 27 mins.

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CRYPTOQUIP M Y G L Z O H Z C O L C K C T S M J G C B L G I C R , T Y O M K H Y R Z Q L X C G G H I L X Q C O Today's Cryptogram clue: T equals B The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



Table with 2 columns: Time and Program Name. Includes AVP Pro Beach, Volleyball, Golf: PGA Magazine, TBA, Chris Evert's Wimbledon Farewell, TBA, Tennis: ATP Magazine, Trans World Sports, European Soccer, TBA, 1991 Wimbledon Official Film, TBA, US Basketball League, Prime Bodies, Grand Prix Sailing, Best of American College Sports: Lacrosse, Wimbledon - Early Rounds - LIVE, (Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)