

Tendulkar testifies

BOMBAY, Sept 5: Indian cricket captain Sachin Tendulkar gave evidence on Thursday to a one-man commission inquiring into a betting and bribery scandal, officials said, reports Reuter.

Two former skippers, Sunil Gavaskar and Mohammad Azharuddin, also appeared before the commission headed by Yeshwanth V. Srinivas Chandrachud, a former chief justice of India's Supreme Court.

The players, bound by inquiry rules, would not comment on what happened at the hearing.

The commission was set up by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) after former Indian all-rounder Manoj Prabhakar alleged that a teammate had offered him money to throw away matches.

Rashid Latif, former Pakistan wicketkeeper, had also alleged that players were involved in large scale bribery and betting.

The commission has been asked to find out whether there is any truth in the charges that have been made of betting and bribery against some members of the Indian team," Chandrachud told reporters.

Former Test player Sandeep Patil and wicket keeper Nayan Mongia, dropped from a forthcoming one-day series in Toronto and Pakistan, were also heard by the commission on Thursday.

The commission has so far called 12 people in four-sittings since its inception in June.

Chandrachud said he was nearing the end of the inquiry but would not say when his findings would be ready.

Thorpe smites Glamorgan

LONDON, Sept 5: Surrey's Graham Thorpe scored a stylish unbeaten century against Glamorgan on Thursday to frustrate the championship hopes, reports Reuter.

Thorpe was 140 not out at The Oval as Surrey closed on 324 for six — a lead of 90.

The visitors had been expected to take the maximum 24 points, and Surrey were always on the back foot before Thorpe's heroics gave them some breathing space.

Third-placed Gloucestershire, set 482 to win by a rampant Kent, finished day three on a miserable 59 for four, practically ending their 1997 championship campaign.

Kent, joint top of the table at the start of this game, finally called off the punishment by declaring their second innings at 432 for four.

Yorkshire's Headingley clash with Worcestershire looked to be heading for a stalemate as the visitors, replying to a total of 501 for seven declared, closed on 313 for six.

Craig White reached an unbeaten 172 from 167 balls as Yorkshire prolonged their first innings into the third day, then Worcestershire appeared to be on course for a substantial reply as Phil Western and Graeme Hick added 91 in 26 overs for the second wicket.

A minor collapse had the visitors in a spot of bother before Gavin Hamilton took charge with a battling 62 and former Yorkshire wicketkeeper Steve Rhodes finished unbeaten on 46.

Durham skipper David Boon proved the only irritant to Warwickshire in making 48 not out at Chester-le-Street as his side followed on after being dismissed for 118.

They closed on Thursday on 120 for five, still 174 behind and looking certain to suffer their first home championship defeat of the season.

Former England under-19 captain Marcus Trescothick hit 65 as Somerset ended the third day on 174 for five in their second innings against Middlesex, a lead of 179.

Dominic Cork, an emergency Derbyshire opener in place of the injured Adrian Rollins, hit back for his county after Kevin Curran's 86 had helped Northamptonshire to a healthy 334. Cork reached an unbeaten 37 from 24 overs as Derbyshire finished the day on 59 for one.

Mathew Dowman's 62 helped Nottinghamshire to overcome the early loss of Tim Robinson as they set about building upon a lead of 31 handed to them when Hampshire skipper John Stephenson declared behind on 260 for six in the hope of being set a target on the final day at Trent Bridge.

IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch presenting a gold medal to a member of the Chinese men's team at the World Gymnastics Championships in Lausanne on Sept 4. The Sino team won the event for the third consecutive time.

— AFP/UNB photo

U.S. OPEN A USTA EVENT

FROM FLUSHING MEADOWS

Tawfiq Aziz Khan



FLUSHING MEADOWS, Sept 5: The US and USTA flags have been flying at half-mast over the National Tennis Centre here since the tragic death of Princess of Wales Princess Diana in Paris.

The carnival atmosphere was touched by tinge of sorrow but nothing remains static. The show must go on.

Flushing Meadows can boast of a new stadium christened after the name of one of the country's greatest tennis players Arthur Ashe, who died of AIDS. This is probably the largest tennis stadium built anywhere in the world that can accommodate 23,000 spectators, a staggering figure indeed for a spectator game like tennis, which is nowhere near the popularity of basketball or baseball in the United States. Even during the US Open the news of tennis and its celebrity players take a back seat to baseball in the local print and electronic media.

The new stadium is identical in shape as the Louis Armstrong Stadium which has lost its Number One rating but remains as important as be-

fore. The new stadium has been designed by Rossetti Associate Architects and the \$ 254 million project has "Transformed an abject corner of one of the world's most poorly designed parks into a place approaching civic stature," according to Herbert Muschamp of The New York Times newspaper.

The southern plaza is the main entrance to the USTA National Tennis Centre adorned by the recently restored unisphere, the immense steel globe that was the symbol of the 1964-65 World's Fair. But the eastern entrance is generally used for the main entry to this picturesque but compact complex because the subway 7 train and also the Long Island Rail Road surface trains stop at the heart of the Shea Stadium, home of baseball in New York and the Corona Park tennis complex.

Those who commute by train alight at this stop and walk down the ramp to the entrance. But for coming here for the whole fortnight to watch the day-night sessions in the main stadium and 17 other courts one needs a pair of strong and reliable legs and of course a healthy heart. It's all concrete and less green here, and if you are tired and looking for a

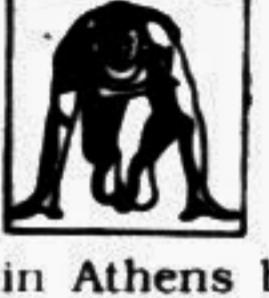
drink you should be pretty sure of your purse. The souvenir shops, lots of them inside the complex, doing good business but at the expense of only the rich. The price tags can cause you nightmares.

Facilities for the media are excellent with two very large media workshop with about 700 lockers and 400 desks fitted with TV sets and telephones (pay phones). About 1200 mediamen from New Zealand to Nigeria and Bangladesh to Britain have come to cover the last Grand Slam of the year.

Tennis is still considered here as rich people's pastime. But with sponsorships of large companies the idea will soon change.

In the new facility the second and third levels have exclusive boxes and suits for people who can afford the comfort of an airconditioned accommodation fitted with TV and equipped with a bar and balcony that can cost a fortune. But there are thousands of individuals or organisations who can afford to spend that kind of money — at least once a year for the improvement of the game, especially in the United States of America.

Ottey's opportunity knocks



TOKYO, Sept 5: Jamaican sprinter Merlene Ottey will have a chance to assure her disappointment in Athens by challenging new queen Marion Jones in the Tokyo international athletic meeting here Saturday, reports AFP.

The 37-year-old sprinter, who was overshadowed by American Gail Devers in the Barcelona and Atlanta Olympics, failed to win her first-ever 100-metre world title after a false start last month in Athens.

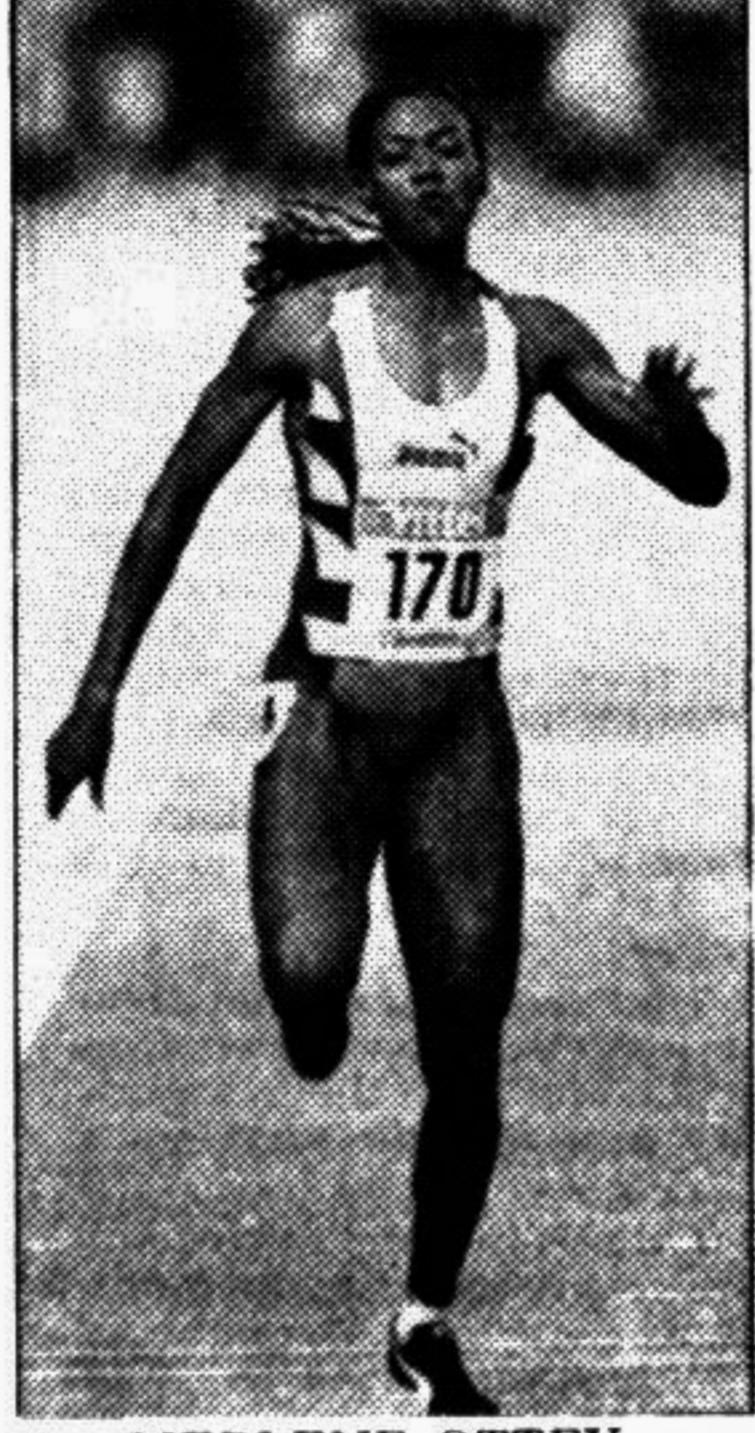
Ottey did not hear the recall and hit the 50-metre mark before she realised she was the only one running. She eventually ended at seventh in a rerun.

Jones emerged as the new sprint queen after the 21-year-old American former basketball player won the photo finish final against Zhanna Pintsevich of Ukraine with her personal best of 10.83.

To the disappointment of fans, Devers and fellow American Atlanta Olympic bronze winner Gwen Torrence as well as Christine Arron of France, fourth in the World Championships, pulled out of the Tokyo meeting.

Pintsevich will skip the 100m and compete against Merlene Frazer of Jamaica and American Inger Miller in the 200m, the distance she won in Athens.

A total of seven Atlanta



MERLENE OTTEY

Olympic winners, 13 world champions and eight world record holders will take part in the 13 men's and nine women's events in Tokyo.

Donovan Bailey of Canada, who set a world record of 9.84 to win the Atlanta Olympics, won't get a chance to avenge his loss in Athens to American new star Maurice Greene in the men's 100m race.

Instead, Bailey will take on world bronze medalist Tim Montgomery, Atlanta fourth placer Dennis Mitchell and

Streets Thompson, all from the United States.

World and Olympic silver medalist Frank Fredericks of Namibia is the top favourite in the men's 200m after dual Olympic champion Michael Johnson withdrew with a leg injury.

Other prominent athletes are six-time world pole vault champion Sergey Bubka of Ukraine, Nouredine Morceli of Algeria in the 1,500m, high jumper Javier Sotomayor of Chile and Czech javelin thrower Jan Zelezny.

Denmark's Kenyan-born former world record holder Wilson Boit Kiptiwi will take on current holder Bernard Barmasai of Kenya in the 3,000m steeple chase.

Female world champions to compete are Cathy Freeman of Australia in the 400m, Ludmila Engquist of Sweden in the 100m hurdles and Nezha Bidouane of Morocco in the 400m hurdles.

Hanne Haugland of Norway in the high jump, Ludmila Galkina of Russia in the long jump, and Beatrice Faumuina of New Zealand in the discus are also on the list.

There will be a sad note to the meeting as nine-time Olympic champion Carl Lewis, who had set an old world 100m record at the National Stadium here in 1991, is not entered in any official events.

The 36-year-old American legend, in his last competitive season, will instead run an exhibition race with local junior high school students.

— AFP/UNB photo



— AFP/UNB photo

CHANNEL V

6:00am Rewind VJ Sophya 7:00 Tune On T.V. 8:30 Rewind VJ Sophya 9:30 Travel Asia 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 3:00 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 3:05 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 4:00 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 4:30 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 5:00 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 5:05 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 5:30 The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales 6:00pm 10:30 Amped 11:00 Over The Edge 11:30 12:00noon Speak Easy 12:30 BBC Newsdesk 6:00pm The Ticket 9:30 BBC Newsdesk 6:05 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:05 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:05 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 11:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 12:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 1:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 2:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 3:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 4:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 5:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 6:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 7:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 8:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:00 BBC Newsdesk Special 9:30 BBC Newsdesk Special 10:0