

If Owen hits the jackpot

AFP, London

England star Michael Owen is in line for a jackpot bonus from his boot sponsors if he lands the Golden Boot at this summer's World Cup, it was reported here Saturday.

Kit manufacturers Umbro have promised Owen 100,000 pounds (142,000 dollars) if he manages to finish the Korea-Japan extravaganza as top-scorer.

The 21-year-old Liverpool star has already pocketed a bonus of 50,000-pounds from Umbro after being crowned European Footballer of the Year.

Now his sponsors have offered to double that if he top-scores at the World Cup, The Sun reported here Saturday.

"If he can win the Golden Boot we will consider it money well spent," a spokesman for Umbro told the paper.

"Michael is a fantastic striker and a great ad grq for us. We are all England fans here too."

Gary Lineker was the last Englishman to earn the Golden Boot, after scoring six at the 1986 Mexico finals.

Croatia's ex-Arsenal and West Ham hitman Davor Suker won the title in 1998.

Portugal may lose Euro 2004

AFP, Lisbon

UEFA president Lennart Johansson has warned that Portugal could lose the right to hold the 2004 European Championships if squabbles surrounding the funding of new stadiums are not solved shortly, the Publico newspaper reported on Friday.

"We cannot wait much longer, if things continue as they are we will have to take action," the European football boss said while attending a FIFA meeting in Tokyo.

"There is no shortage of countries that are interested in organizing the 2004 European Championships and we can change at any time. I hope this will not be necessary," he added.

Chievo booter dies in road mishap

AFP, Verona

Jason Mayele, a player with Italian first division side Chievo, was killed Saturday morning in a car crash, the Verona-based club said.

Mayele, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, died from injuries after his car collided with another vehicle at Pastrengo near Verona. A woman travelling in the other car was also killed and her husband severely injured.

Mayele was taken to hospital but died an hour and a half later. Chievo president Luca Campedelli and general manager Marco Pacione visited the hospital later to formally identify the player.



Winners of the Fourth Square Golf Tournament pose with their trophies at the Kurmitola Golf Club on Friday. Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen M Harun-Ar-Rashid (4th from R) and chairman of Square Group Samson H Chowdhury (6th from R) were present.

Afghans dream of football

AFP, Paderborn

When the Russians moved in, the footballers moved out.

Now, 23 years after the bloody Soviet invasion, which sparked their mass exodus, a generation of former Afghanistan international footballers are dreaming of helping their country take part in the 2006 World Cup.

A quirk of fate saw several members of Afghanistan's national football team of the late 1970s arrive in this small town in north Westphalia in 1980 after they received political asylum.

Pretty soon they attracted attention from the president of the local third division club.

"He only wanted to take two or three of us, we told him: it's every-one or no one," recalled former midfielder Ali Askar Lali.

And so it came to pass, to paraphrase Rupert Brooke's famous WWI poem, that a little bit of Paderborn will forever be Afghanistan.

Since their arrival in 1980 some 120 Afghan families numbering around 600 people set up home here - a group that included no fewer than 11 members of the 1978-79 Afghan squad and a host of players from the disbanded first division.

Those who took refuge back in 1980 are now in their forties, speak

fluent German, and now work locally in a range of professions: some are computer programmers, others restaurateurs.

Many have married, some with local-born women but most with fellow Afghans who turned up in Paderborn, often with incredible stories of how they had escaped.

The common strand linking many of the exiles is football, a past-time that has helped keep them going during their enforced exile.

They fiddle around playing amateur stuff, and bicker about their favourite Bundesliga teams, but above all, according to former star Baz Mohammad Norestani, they appreciate the importance of sport in their society.

"For a young person who has never known a time of war sport can provide new values," said the former striker for Stork Kabul.

Norestani and his fellow footballers want to use their know-how to help football's rebirth in post-Taliban Afghanistan.

At the top of their project called "football for peace in Afghanistan" is the recreation of clubs and the relaunching of the national team built around young overseas-based Afghan players capable of joining the qualifying race for the 2006 World Cup. They also have their heart set on setting up a national Olympic committee again and using

sport to assist handicapped children and victims of war.

"Each of us wants to spend a few months there over the next two years," said one of the 'Paderborn Afghans' Alef Shojajai.

Helping them is a humanitarian association set up in 1984 and run by a professor of education, Walrut Schuler, at the local university.

She acts as a sort of second mother to the refugees - giving German lessons, helping sort out accommodation and dealing with the habitual mountains of paperwork.

The close ties enjoyed between this European-pocket of Afghanistan should favour the ambitious project and the new interim government put in place since the American-led ousting of the old regime.

The minister for reconstruction, Amid Farhang, a former student in Germany, is a friend of theirs, as is the brother of the temporary administration's leader, Hamid Karzai.

Just to show that they haven't lost their touch and to give the project some publicity Norestani and his colleagues are getting back into training for an upcoming fixture against the ISAF troops in Kabul.

Justin, Mark hit hundreds

AFP, Port Elizabeth

Justin Langer and Mark Waugh hammered centuries as the touring Australians dominated the second day of their four-day match against South Africa A at St George's Park here Saturday.

Langer hit 161 and Waugh 110 as the tourists made 452 for five in reply to South Africa A's 301 all out.

The pair put on 207 in a third wicket stand which took only 155 minutes as South Africa's second string bowlers were thrashed on an easy-paced pitch.

South Africa A struck back towards the end of the day, however, with three wickets falling for four runs in the first three overs with the second new ball.

Paceman Dewald Pretorius dismissed Mark and Steve Waugh in the space of seven balls to finish with three for 101.

The 24-year-old bowled at a lively pace and could have an outside chance of bolstering South Africa's injury-hit attack for the second Test which starts in Cape Town on Friday.

Australian fast bowler Brett Lee took two wickets with his first two balls of the day as the last three South Africa A wickets fell cheaply. Lee finished with four for 37.

It was a continuation of a collapse which started Friday when Lee came on to bowl. In one over with the old ball and three with the new ball, Lee took four for nine as South Africa A lost their last six wickets for 18.

Langer was troubled several times by Pretorius before he and Darren Lehmann settled down in a first-wicket stand of 103. The left-hander went on to make his 55th career century off 182 balls. He made his next 61 off 65 balls, adding five more fours and a six.

Mark Waugh moved fluently to a half-century off 76 balls and needed only another 24 deliveries to reach his 79th first-class century.

Dhaka dazzling champs

FROM PAGE 13

Anisur 60, Nuruzzaman 39, Rafique 42, Nayeem 5/65, Imran 2/32. **SYLHET:** First innings 283 all out in 109.1 overs (Parvez 97, Rajin 75; Aminul jr. 3/55, Faisal 2/26).

RAJSHAH: Second innings (overnight 38 for 1 in 29 overs) 50. Rafique b Taposh 6, Samiul c Kapali b Parvez 6, Nuruzzaman b Taposh 11, Anisur b Taposh 0, Hasan b Kapali 8, K Mashud c Nasirul b Rana 69, Mustadir c Taposh b Kapali 2, Faisal c Sishir b Imran 12, Mahabub c Rajin b Kapali 0, Imran st. Sishir b Rana 21, Aminul jr. not out 0, Extras: (b-18, lb-2, w-12) 32. Total: (All out in 100.3 overs) 211.

Fall of wicket: 1-28, 2-65, 3-69, 4-78, 5-97, 6-103, 7-116, 8-125, 9-206. **Bowler** O M R W Parvez 17 3 45 1, Taposh 21 6 33 3, Imran 28 15 37 1, Nayeem 18 4 23 0, Kapali 20 3 39 3, Rana 2.3 0 14 2. **Result: Match drawn.**

Chittagong v Barisal Venue: M A Aziz Stadium. **BARISAL:** First innings 202 all out in 74.4 overs (Moin 67, Anisur 56; Sabir 5/63, Enamul 4/51). **CHITTAGONG:** First innings 267 all out in 99 overs (Nafis 77, Enamul 46, Azam 40, Sanwar 3/27, Ashfaq 3/44).

BARISAL: Second innings (overnight 213 for 6 in 103 overs) 141. Imran c Arif b Sabir 18, Shafayet lbw b Enamul 11, Shahin run out 12, Sanwar c Azam b Enamul 12, Moshir c Hakim b Enamul 4, Moinuzzaman c Sabir b Enamul 5, Kamal c Enamul b Shafuddin 33, Samiul c Azam b Sabir 49, Anis st. Arif b Minhaz 39, Ashfaq b Sabir b Minhaz 21, Ripon not out 0, Extras: (b-24, lb-6, nb-9, w-1) 40. Total: (All out in 170.3 overs) 373.

Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-73, 3-96, 4-118, 5-128, 6-182, 7-303, 8-312, 9-372. **Bowler** O M R W Suja 33.5 13 52 0, Safiuddin 23 5 43 1, Atiab 3 0 13 0, Enamul 43.1 20 65 4, Sabir 50 15 122 2, Minhazul 5.3 0 10 2, Azam 6 1 19 0, Nafis 5 1 11 0, Masum 1 0 8 0. **CHITTAGONG:** Second innings 37. Nafis c Ashfaq b Sanwar 37, Minhaz c Kamal b Ashfaq 33, Sabir c Shaheen b Ashfaq 5, Aftab not out 13, Extras: (B-4, lb-2, nb-4) 10. Total: (For 3 wickets in 22.2 overs) 98.

Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-54, 3-98. **Bowler** O M R W Anis 3 0 23 0, Ashfaq 7 0 31 2, Kamal 6 0 19 0, Moin 4 0 13 0, Sanwar 2.2 0 6 1. **Result: Match drawn.**

Yevgeny bows out

AFP, Dubai

Doubts about the commitment of a leading player were expressed for the second successive day here Friday at the Dubai Open after Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the Olympic and former French Open champion, slid to a startling 6-1, 6-1 defeat to Jiri Novak of the Czech Republic.

Sixth-seeded Roger Federer is already at risk of a fine after being reported to the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) by Jeff Chapman, the tournament director of the \$25,000-dollar event, for winning only three games in a feeble second round defeat against Rainer Schuttler Thursday.

England's poor show

AFP, Queenstown

England were reduced to 83 for six by Otago, a team that has lost all seven of their first-class matches this season, on a rain-affected first day of the three-day tour match here Saturday.

The second leg of England's tour to New Zealand got off to the worst possible start as Craig Pryor and David Sewell exploited the overcast conditions to take five of the six wickets to fall on a day when only 30 overs of play was possible.

Mark Butcher top-scored with 20 as England collapsed from 50 for two to 69 for six in the space of six calamitous overs with recent arrivals Mark Ramprakash and Usman Afzaal mustering just one run between them.

Butcher was the first to fall when he went leg-before pushing forward to Pryor with the score on 32.

Marcus Trescothick's alarming lack of form continued as he struggled for 20 balls to make six before edging a drive off Sewell to first slip.

Graham Thorpe fell in a similar manner to the same bowler and Ramprakash departed five balls later when he went back to a delivery that kept low and knocked over his off-stump as the ball swung prodigiously.

Afzaal, playing his first innings since the end of September, faced just four balls for nought before dabbing at an off-cutter from Pryor to gift a catch behind.

England lost all-rounder Andrew Flintoff, whose winter-long struggle for runs seems never ending, when he got a thin edge on a cut off James McMillan for 16.

Tough talking O'Leary

AFP, London

Leeds boss David O'Leary has warned his players they can expect to be sold this summer unless they rediscover their hunger for glory.

O'Leary, speaking in the wake of United's UEFA Cup exit on Thursday which ensured another trophy-less

season for the Yorkshire club, said he was willing to break up his side, accusing them of lacking desire.

Leeds are currently enduring the worst run of O'Leary's tenure, going nine matches without a win. O'Leary fears the slide in form could be due to poor attitude.

"I won't be afraid to break up this team - and I hope I will be given the backing to do that," said O'Leary.

"I hear rumours of bids coming in for people. We will never hold anybody here if the money is right and

they want to go and are thinking they can get something better elsewhere. Nobody is too big for this club. "If people feel that they don't want to be part of what we are doing here then I won't kiss their rears to keep them."

"We have a lot of people who could potentially bring in a lot of money if we need it. So I won't be afraid to cash in if I think it is right for the

BD A forced

FROM PAGE 13

Anwar c wkp Murray b Jackson 1, Mosaddek b Peters 15, Tariq Aziz not out 7, Anwar Munir run out (Butler) 0, Extras: (b-1, lb-2, nb-1) 4. Total: (All out in 76.1 overs) 163. Fall of wickets: 1-39, 2-58, 3-64, 4-72, 5-116, 6-128, 7-138, 8-146, 9-163. **Bowler** O M R W Thomas 11 3 21 0, Butler 17 10 28 1, Peters 11.1 2 18 2, Jackson 28 4 66 5, Shillingford 7 1 18 0, Lewis 2 0 19 0.

WINDWARDS: First innings 30. D Smith not out 5, K Casimir not out 5, Extras: (nb-1, w-1) 2. Total: (For no loss in 11 overs) 37.

To bat: C Telesford, J Murray, J Eugene, R Lewis, O Jackson, D Butler, K Peters, F Thomas, S Shillingford. **Bowler** O M R W Tariq 5 0 22 0, Anwar 5 1 13 0, Naimur 1 1 0 0.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes clues like 'Family member', 'Enthusiast', 'Omega precursor', etc.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with a 10x10 grid of letters and numbers. Includes the clue: 'Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AMONG REPTILES, I ASSUME THE GREATEST PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE SNAPPING TURTLES.'

TV GUIDE

Table with columns for time slots (3:10, 3:15, etc.) and program titles (News Headlines, Desher Gaan, etc.).

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Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, etc.) and program titles (Orphans of the Fading Forest, Animal Doctor III, etc.).

Table with columns for time slots (10:30, 11:30, etc.) and program titles (Friday Showcase, Elephant's Empire, etc.).