# SPÖRT

## Sourav, Ricky lick lips

Cricket

India captain Sourav Ganguly and his Australian counterpart Ricky Ponting have both said they cannot wait for the resumption of the cricket giants' Test match rivalry in October.

"It's going to probably be the biggest series of the year," said Ganguly. "We all know that. They will be definitely looking forward to coming to India and we will be looking forward to that series."

And Ponting, anticipating the fourmatch contest in India, said it would be a

The duo were speaking after rain forced Monday's triangular series match here at the VRA Ground to be abandoned as a no-result, an outcome that left India relying on a huge win by Pakistan against the one-day world champions Wednesday to qualify for Saturday's final.

But although Australia beat India by the crushing margin of 125 runs to win last year's World Cup Final in Johannesburg, it is their recent five-day encounters that have really gripped

In January this year India held Ponting's team, also regarded as the world's best current Test side, to a 1-1

**Justin Gatlin** 

(Men's 100m Olympic champion)

"This is the reason I am here, to win

the gold medal. This is the reason I

train, this is the reason why I shovel

Tick the correct answers, post to

The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

1. Who won the first gold medal in

2. Who became Asia Cup cricket

3. Who clinched the Cincinnati

Federer Henman Agassi

4. Who lifted the 25th nat'l

Usha M\$C Bangladesh Army

Class. . . . . . Roll No. . . . . .

Phone: (If any) ......

Pakistan Sri Lanka

the Athens Olympics?

champs?

hockey crown?

snow off tracks in North Carolina."

draw in a four-match Test series in

But it is winning a Test series on Indian soil that has become the last great challenge for an Australia team that has won all over the world, as this is something they have not achieved since 1969-70 when a team led by Bill Lawry  $claimed\,a\,five-match\,encounter\,3\text{-}1.$ 

The last time the teams met in India, in 2000-01. India won a three-match series 2-1, a contest widely acknowledged as one of the most outstanding in cricket history.

'We did well when we went to Australia, we won in 2001 and if we can do it again it will be very good for our team," Ganguly added.

But the Australia team that arrives in India in a couple of months will show at least two major changes from the one that the Asian giants faced earlier this

Former captain Steve Waugh, for so long the rock of Australia's batting, has retired but on the other hand legspinner Shane Warne has completed the year-long drugs ban that saw him miss the series and, barring injury, will be in India.

Ganguly said of the absence of Waugh: "It will be different. Steve's a legend and people in India respect him.

Cameroon jumps

Francoise Mbango Etone became the

first Cameroon woman ever to win an

Olympic Games gold medal when she

claimed an African record of 15.30

metres in the triple jump here

of emotion throughout the competi-

tion and was completely impassive

while her jumps were being measured

but she eventually broke down on her

lap of honour, tears streaming down

"I am very proud to get the medal

and the African record. I want to

dedicate this medal to the whole of

Africa," said the 28-year-old Mbango

"I knew I had a chance because I

felt strong all year and I tried to stay

below the radar so I could surprise the

competition. I'm pleased the strategy

Mbango Etone jumped the win-

ning distance twice, firstly with her

second effort to take the lead and then

(As of 9:15pm BST. List includes only the

First U-19 ODI

Nafees and Rubiayat Hug (20) then

added 49 for the seventh wicket with

Nafees also getting a half century. The

last wicket pair of Talha and Ashim

Chowdhury added 23. Talha made 25

as Bangladesh were bowled out for 219

Talha and Rajib then sent

They were eventually dismissed for

Hampshire reeling at 42 for five in 13

overs before fighting back to almost

218 in the 47th over. Talha took five for

36 while Rajib had figures of four for 31.

again with the last of her six jumps.

The tally

FROM PAGE 13

Indonesia

South Africa

Zimbabwe

Denmark

Switzerland

Cameroon

in 43 overs.

take the match

gold medals winners)

paid off."

Mbango Etone showed little sign

to Etone's tune

AFP, Athens

won the Test series 3-0) so we'll have to be up for it.

But he had no doubts about Warne's return. "He's their key bowler. He will make a difference to any side. We've played him well over the years but obviously he's the type of bowler who can win matches any day.

And Ponting backed Warne, second only to Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan as the leading Test wickettaker of all time, to come good against

But for some English cricket fans the series that still matters more than all the

England have not lost their last eight series against Australia in what is cricket's oldest Test match contest (it

dates back to 1877). However there is renewed hope that England, who on Saturday completed their seventh successive Test victory when they beat the West Indies inside three days at The Oval -- their best run in 75 years -- can at least give Australia a contest when Ponting's team tour there

Ponting, who has been playing county cricket for Somerset, admitted he had become used to talking about England's Ashes chances.

Greek tragedy

A Greek judoka, who 17 days ago

jumped off a balcony after a row with

her boyfriend hours before she was

due to go into the athletes' Olympic

village for the Athens Games, has died

The tragic story of Eleni Ioannou,

20, and her boyfriend who jumped off

the same balcony two days later after

blaming himself for her leap that

shocked the nation days before the

"Ioannou died from her wounds

suffered by the fall," said the Health

Ministry in a statement on Thursday.

She had suffered multiple head and

body injuries after falling from the

third floor of her boyfriend's Athens

apartment onto the concrete pave-

Greek media dubbed the incident

Romeo and Juliet", after it was

revealed the two had quarrelled at

length over their relationship before

Ioannou attempted to put an end to

Relatives of Joannou had said the

three-time Greek champion had been

under pressure for days before the

start of the Games and her planned

entry into the off-limits athletes'

village for the duration of the Games

NFL final round

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF)

will delay the start due to the recen

unrest across the country following

Saturday's grenade attack on an

However, BFF deputy general

secretary and tournament committee

secretary Manzoor Hossain Malu

confirmed yesterday that they have

finalised all preparations to host the

A BFF delegation visited the Sher-

e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur

vesterday and was satisfied with the

tournament on schedule. But we will

sacrifice the planned fanfare on the

opening day of the final leg consider-

ing the present state of the country.

The Dhaka leg will now begin with a

simple ceremony," the tournament

Abahani will meet Sheikh Russel

Krira Chakra in the first match of the

committee secretary said.

"We have decided to start the

tournament in Dhakan on time.

Awami League rally.

had piled on additional pressure.

REUTERS, Athens

in hospital.

Olympics.

The World Cup was the first time a worldwide testing programme was introduced.

Champs Trophy

take care

BBC ONLINE, undated

**Drug cheats** 

Players testing positive for drugs during

September's ICC Champions Trophy

face bans of up to two years and fines.

Two players from each team will be

"A minimum ban of two years could

randomly selected for testing at each of

the 15 ICC Champions Trophy

effectively spell the end of a player's

career," said International Cricket

Council (ICC) chief executive Malcolm

Australian Shane Warne was hit

Under plans drawn up with UK

Sport, and using World Anti Doping

Agency accredited laboratories, any

player returning a positive test will be

the tournament drugs tribunal, made

up of a senior legal practitioner, a

medical specialist and a former crick-

A separate three-man panel, made

up in similar fashion, will hear appeals

from either the player concerned or the

And the case will then be referred to

with a one-year ban after testing posi-

tive for a banned substance in the run-

up to last year's World Cup.

immediately suspended.

eter or administrator.

Some individual countries, including England have had systems in place since 1998 but most positive tests have been for

recreational drugs. Speed pointed out that Warne's result came before the tournament,

which passed off without a similar "International cricket has a good track record in steering clear of drug-

related problems," he added. "If however any individual decides to take a risk by using prohibited drugs, the anti doping code we have adopted provides powerful deterrents for proven offenders.'

## Kolkata chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar maintained his all-win record in the Telegraph School's Chess Championship when he beat Debanjan Das in the fourth round game at Kolkata on

With the victory, Sagar collected maximum four points while Mohammad Imran Ali Elin, Suvra Ghosh. Arifa Khatun Moni and Farjana Hossain all earned three points each after the fourth round

Mimi Arjuman secured 2.5 points and Abdullah Saif earned 2 points.

## Zee threatens **ESPN Star**

REUTERS, Mumbai

A fierce bidding war for the lucrative rights to broadcast international cricket matches in India has pitted a

over four years starting in October, a bigger share of the expanding TV advertising pie and more subscriptions in the world's third-largest cable

Zee Telefilms Ltd, India's thirdranked network, emerged as the surprise highest bidder with an offer of 260 million dollars. Its shares have gained more than 15 per cent since the bids were made public last week.

But ESPN-Star Sports, a joint venture of Walt Disney Inc. and News Corp. that offered 230 million dollars, has opposed Zee's bid on the grounds that the company did not have the required experience in broadcasting live cricket. Zee disputes that.

are looking to use cricket to drive the ratings and advertising on their other channels," said RC Venkateish, managing director of ESPN Software India Pvt. Ltd, which provides programming to ESPN-Star Sports.

s our bread and butter."

based Ten Sports and state-owned Prasar Bharati were much lower. The BCCI is expected to award the broadcasting rights later this month.

## Finally Marion FROM PAGE 13

her first round race. The knee swelled up ahead of Sunday's semi-final but Pittman qualified behind Russia's world record holder Yulia Pechen-kina.

Greek athlete Fani Halkia, who has made an astonishing improvement in these Games, setting an Olympic record of 52.77sec in winning her semifinal

Halkia has already sliced more than a second off her previous best time and the frenzied home support could push her to one of the most unexpected victories of the Games.

In other action, 10,000m champion Kenenisa Bekele of Ethiopia goes for the second half of his bid for a double not achieved since 1980 when he goes in the heats of the 5,000 m.

## Owen here to stay

## Football

Michael Owen on Monday dismissed the doubts over his move to Madrid and declared this is his time and his place.

The England striker's decision to quit Liverpool took him from certain starter to having to contest a place with Ronaldo, Raul and Fernando Morientes.

But he defied suggestions he will suffer the frustration of being little more than a bit-part player at the Bernabeu and insisted leaving Anfield was a mark of courage.

"I'd like to think everybody looks at me and thinks, 'Well done, you've got

guts'," he said. "I've gone abroad at 24 and broken out of the comfort zone, taken my

family away to live a new life, which is quite scary. "I'm proud I've made that split, as much as I'm sad at doing it.

"It's something I've done for me as a person and as a player, to achieve success in the game and to have that experience of being able to tell people I played for Real Madrid, the biggest club in the world in my eyes and most people's eyes."I came because of the whole package. The least part of it was the money, that wasn't really part of the equation for me. It was about improving as a player and playing for a fantastic team with fantastic players."

Speaking in the Spanish capital at the launch of his autobiography, Off the Record, Owen added: "I went into the dressing room and smiled for the cameras but my peg still had Javier Portillo's name on it. I looked to one side and there was Ronaldo, Raul and Figo. Wherever you look there are massive names. It's been a rude awak-

"I've not come here expecting to walk into the team and play every game. I have to force my way in, but I wouldn't come here to sit on the bench for four years, I'm coming to my peak.

"I've a winning edge. I don't like getting beaten at anything or sitting there not being part of anything. It's a big challenge. If I'm not playing I'll be just as I was when I was 17 when I was watching Robbie Fowler and Stan Collymore and I still had to have that belief I could muscle my way in.

"I'm down the pecking order now because I've only just joined the club but I'll fight my way in.' The self-confidence that has always

been central to Owen's make-up emerged with his belligerent tone. although he admitted the decision was

Ferguson is looking to in-form striker

Alan Smith to lead his depleted side into

the lucrative group stage of the

European Champions League against

Smith, who was at the heart of

United's 2-1 Premier League win over

newly-promoted Norwich City at the

weekend, was showing no sign of over

confidence despite Manchester taking a

2-1 lead into the return home leg against

"If there are doubters out there

(about my ability), that is up to them,

but as long as we keep winning, I don't

care," said Smith, who scored the

winning goal with a stunning volley

Champions League on Wednesday."

"Now it is vital we qualify for the

Smith, who debuted with a goal in

United's 3-1 loss to Arsenal in the pre-

season Community Shield, has hit form

United's start to the season has been

disrupted by injuries to strikers Ruud

van Nistelrooy, Louis Saha and Ole

Gunnar Sokskjaer, and the absence on

Olympic duty of Argentinian defender

Gabriel Heinze and Portugal winger

at a crucial time for Ferguson.

the Romanian side.

against Norwich.

Dinamo Bucharest on Wednesday.



Brazilian teammate Roberto Carlos in a light-hearted mood during a training session in Madrid on August 23.

not always so cut-and-dried.

"Of course I was nervous about leaving Liverpool. All my life had been lived in one area and I was leaving for a totally new life," he said.

"I did it for all the right reasons. I'm very happy with what I've done. I've played my heart out for the club for seven years, played 300 games and scored plenty of goals for them. I had some great moments and I'm not looking in the mirror and thinking I owe

"I knew I wouldn't get this opportunity twice. I was born to be a footballer. I could sit there, picking up the salary, taking it easy. But that's not me. I want to be pushing myself.

"I'll never be happy unless I'm not just playing but succeeding and playing really well. These are the most important years of my life in terms of football so I wouldn't have made this move for any other reasons but to improve as a player and fight my way into the team. If

Smith Fergie's key man

Wales international Mark Hughes.

sort of goal.'

Olympic tournament.

"Alan has done great for us," said

Ferguson, who compared the ex-Leeds

man to former United stalwart and

"He's a similar plaver in many ways

There was some good news for

to Mark Hughes. Mark could score goals

like Alan did today, it was a Mark Hughes

Ferguson at the weekend, with the

return of Ronaldo, who played in the

final stages against Norwich after

Portugal were knocked out of the

big week, but they are big all the time

now. In terms of numbers, we have

Ronaldo back and hopefully his fitness

is going to be okay, we will assess him

better during the week," Ferguson said.

terms of numbers but if we keep hang-

ing in there and producing football like

In other matches, Rangers take a

we are at the moment, we will be okay."

crucial away goal into their return

match at home to Moscow CSKA, after

their 2-1 loss in the Russian capital two

over Hibernian in the Scottish Premier

League at the weekend but coach Alex

McLeish will be without influential

midfielder Alex Rae, whose appeal

against a five-match UEFA suspension

Rae was charged with gross unsport

was rejected on Monday.

Rangers had a comfortable 4-1 win

"At this moment we're stretched in

"It is a great week ahead of us. It is a

I benefit and get into the team and perform there's no doubt it will improve me and hopefully improve England. If I don't, then obviously it Unlike new team-mate David

Beckham, who was isolated for long periods, Owen will be surrounded by his family from day one. He will also join former Newcastle

star Jonathan Woodgate.

"David has already spoken to me about the best areas to live in, and when I felt like a little boy lost I phoned him. It's important for us to settle, find a house and start speaking Spanish. There's no half-measures.

the Bernabeu will soften the blow a bit.'

ing conduct after the opening match

against CSKA Moscow when his boot

made contact with the grounded

Madrid, who are at home to Polish side

Wisla Krakow after an 2-0 away win.

Baver Keverkusen should also complete

their qualification after a 5-0 home win

against the Czech club Manik Ostrava,

despite the loss of defender, Jens

Juventus meanwhile will also be

playing for pride when they face

Djurgarden in Sweden following their

FIXTURES

Maccabi Tel-Aviv (ISR) v PAOK (GRE)

Trabzonspor (TUR) v Dynamo Kiev

Sparta Prague (CZE) v Ferencyaros

FC Bruges (BEL) v Shakhtar Donetsk

PSV Eindhoven (NED) v Red Star

Banik Ostrava (CZE) v Bayer

Rangers (SCO) v CSKA Moscow (RUS)

Manchester United (ENG) v Dinamo

Real Madrid (SPA) v Wisla Krakow (POL)

26

12

19

17

175

M R

> 0 34

0 44

0 35

0

6

6.4

Djurgarden (SWE) v Juventus (ITA)

(UKR)

Belgrade (SEM)

Leverkusen (GER)

Bucarest (ROM)

Haddin c Balaii b Nehra

shock 2-2 draw in Italy a fortnight ago

Nowotny, to a knee injury.

Other likely qualfiers are Real

Serghei Dadu's head.

"I'll always look for Liverpool's results and of course I'll miss Liverpool I'll still see my family but I'll miss going and seeing the lads every day and playing at Anfield. I'm sure playing at

## just like me," said the 22-year-old.

Lilly paid tribute to O'Reilly after the match for regaining her composure after her easy miss to score the winning

victory," Lilly said. However victory celebrations were to captain Julie Foudy, who hobbled

off the field midway through the second half after Bachor heavily tackled her. US coach April Heinrichs told

reporters Foudy's injury would force her to miss the final.

For Hamm, Lilly, Joy Fawcett and Olympic match.

one of the most successful women's football units the game has seen, with Team USA winning the 1991 and 1999

World Cup titles, as well as the silver medal in the Sydney Olympics. Foudy, who made her debut as a 17year-old in 1988, has also been an integral member of the enduring

group of stars. But her dream of walking off the pitch with a second Olympic gold now appears over.

## Japan tells

FROM PAGE 13

Bosnitch said a ministry official who delivered the government's decision to Fischer had told him he would be

intentional verbal threat constitutes cruel psychological intimidation and abuse," Bosnitch said.

Fischer has been wanted by Washington since 1992 for earning over three million dollars in a chess match staged in the former Yugoslavia in defiance of an international embargo. He faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted.

banned steroid stanozolol.

It is the first time in the Games history that two track and field champions have been stripped of their gold

stanozolol-charged 100m win at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Fazekas's gold will now be awarded to Lithuania's Virgilijus Alekna, the

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS **DOWN** 11 Make 40 Dermatologist's adjust-1 Tourne 1 Without concern 13 Beezer 6 Bridge 2 III will 18 Blue 11 Big shock 43 Plata's 3 Chic no 21 Rio 12 Fans' wall partner Grande more 44 Come-Cupid's 14 Chinese 23 Coleridge Leary menu 5 Barber's called it 46 Perfect chal-"a gentle 15 "Call of lenges thing' the Wild" 47 Castle 6 Go 25 Interlaken you 49 Chocolate separate 16 In an env. tion 27 Powell 17 Myrrh, for

51 Partici 7 Serenget co-star 19 Nanki-29 Put one roamer ("Mikado" 8 Agriculover on 52 It may 31 Rock character) **20** On Secretary 22 Perched shadow Veneman 23 Grain over it

32 Cookwea 9 Backvard 33 Mooch 53 Replace "dessert" 34 Vietnam storage a button 10 Seam Memoria structure 24 "M\*A\*S\*H" 54 "Bolero" Maya locale supply 26 Least 36 Fit for Solution time: 27 mins exciting 28 L times 30 "Ulalume

31 Hybrid

35 Millen-

fractions

born actor

39 Brooklyn-

farming 38 Shell ou 41 River of Rome 44 Venetian magis-45 Sauce

source 48 Mandible

HAHQPAQDTG APNZHRVZGRAH

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I SUPPOSE YOU MIGHT CALL A BULLET PRODUCTION COMPANY'S 50 Sage

PRESIDENT A BIG SHOT. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals N The Cryptoquip 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.

**CRYPTOOUIP** 

R U

X A M

QZPG

R H G A

ORNDG

N M X

DT'U

## CHAMPS LEAGUE Manchester United coach Alex

deep-pocketed sports network against the country's biggest listed media firm. Up for grabs are broadcast rights for all matches organised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

"General entertainment networks

"But we are a sports channel -- this

Bids from Sony Corp., Dubai-

The biggest threat will come from

## Aussie-Pak final likely Ganguly admitted it was frustrating

India captain Sourav Ganguly had no

complaints after rain forced his side's match to be abandoned as a no-result. It was a game India were desperate to Both Australia and India received

three points for the no-result. As far as Ganguly was concerned his team were already out. "We needed to win this game to

bright sunshine. "If we had won this game we would have had some chance but now we are totally out," he added. "We didn't play well against Pakistan and we don't

qualify," Ganguly told reporters after-

wards when the ground was bathed in

deserve to be in the final." India were already without Sachin Tendulkar, the star batsman ruled out of the whole tournament before Saturday's opener with an elbow injury. And for this match Ajit Agarkar was forced out with a side strain problem.

have to realise we do play a lot of oneday cricket, we play more one-day cricket than any other country in the world. I think that's pretty hard on the Ricky Ponting praised the performance

playing English county cri

Hayden c Ganguly b Balaji

Scoreboard of the abandoned Amstelveen on Monday:

Hogg not out Lee not out After the match, Australia captain Total: (For 7 wkts in 31.4 overs) of 23-year-old New South Wales bats-Fall of wickets 1-23, 2-69, 3-70, 4-83, 5-

 $strange\,parts\,of\,the\,field\,which\,is\,always$ 

Videocon Cup one-day international between Australia and India at

team. "It's really been a worry. But we

handy," Ponting added.

not being able to field his first-choice Ponting lbwb Balaii Martyn b Sehwag Symonds c Dravid b Kumble Lehmann c Gavaskar b Kumble Clarke c Sehwag b Balaji Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-6, nb-1)

man Michael Clarke, who has been "He can bat in almost any position in the order, he backs himself in any situation and hits boundaries to

SCOREBOARD

Balaii 0 20 Kumble 0 37 INDIA: Sehwag, Ganguly, Laxman, Dravid, Yuvraj, Kaif, Gavaskar, Pathan, Balaji, Kumble, Nehra Toss: Australia.

Pathan

Nehra

Sehwag

To bat: Kasprowicz, McGrath

Celtic get

**Juninho** 

Juninho's transfer from Middlesbrough to Celtic has been completed and the Brazilian World Cup playmaker could be available for the Old Firm derby with Rangers on

The 31-year-old's agent Jonathan Hassall said Tuesday: "We've been told that Celtic are now handling the situation and everything else.

"But I believe that everything's sorted now and I would have thought he'd be up tomorrow (Wednesday)

"I can say that it's all sorted anyway now at the Middlesbrough end and he's looking forward to getting up Celtic boss Martin O'Neill has been looking for a big-name playmaker

since Lubo Moravcik's departure and

the move of Henrik Larsson to Barcelona Juninho was targeted by the Scottish champions after he slipped down the pecking order at the

Riverside Stadium Juninho could play as early as Sunday against Rangers after an injury to influential frontman Chris Sutton.

### Holmes' golden joy FROM PAGE 13 open up a new chapter for American

sprinting which has been mired in recent drug controversies with Kelli White and Edwards both banned and with Marion Jones battling suspicion. "We are happy to be a new wave

here. We want people to see positive things about track and field," said Felix. Talk of a new young generation in terms of competing at the top will have to be delayed while 44-year-old

Merlene Ottey is still around as the

sprinting great reached the semis just

Greece's joy at a gold medal may

have been slightly tempered by how their heroine had reached for inspira-Tsoumeleka said that 2000 Olympic 200m champion Kostadinos Kenteris

and 100m women's silver medallist

Thanou had been an inspiration for

as she had in the 100m.

"What happened with Kenteris and Thanou only made me stronger, especially Thanou who is from Preveza.

## The final script

"She was magnificent. She didn't give up even when she lost a great chance to score. She continued to try and she scored the goal that have us

some of the other members of the 1996 gold medal winning team, Thursday's final will most likely be their last Together they formed the core of

deported immediately. "Even if he is not deported, their

Officials at the ministry could not be reached for immediate comment.

### How could FROM PAGE 13

medals for breaking doping rules. Canada's Ben Johnson was the only previous case after his infamous

Sydney Olympics champion.