

# Get off my back: Owen

Football

AFF, London

Michael Owen admits he is sick of having to deal with accusations that he puts playing for England ahead of his Newcastle commitments.

Owen has made a rapid return from a double operation to cure groin and hernia problems and is expected to play a key role in England's Euro 2008 qualifiers against Estonia on Saturday and Russia the following Wednesday.

But Newcastle manager Sam Allardyce has made it clear that he would prefer the striker to take it easy during the international matches in case he suffers a relapse, while some fans to claim he was only rushing back because he wanted to be ready for England duty.

The former Liverpool star has been dogged by suggestions that he puts his country ahead of his club career ever since he burst on to the global stage with a stunning goal against Argentina in the 1998 World Cup.

It is a criticism that is beginning to infuriate Owen and he belied his normally mild-mannered persona to mount a stirring defence of his motivations.

"I'd be lying if I said the criticism didn't bother me," Owen said. "There is always a lot of negativity that surrounds football and the England squad but I'm surprised at the big debate."

"I thought I would be getting a pat on the back for getting back in a black and white shirt after eight days, but no, someone's got to say it can't be right and I shouldn't be playing here, there or wherever."

"It's frustrating when there is a lot of rubbish talked and a lot of facts are wrong about what the operation was, how long it would take to get back and about the actual rehab."

He was quick to rubbish reports that his relationship with Allardyce has suffered as a result of his enthusiasm to join up with Steve McClaren's squad.

Owen said: "I'm 27, my career is very short and I want to play in every game for Newcastle and England. I pushed myself very hard to get back for Newcastle on the Sunday."

"My commitments lie with both, club ahead of country because you have to be playing for your club to play for your country."

"There's no conflict with my club. It's been an unfortunate couple of years with my knee and breaking my foot before that so you can understand a bit of nerves when I come away with England because it's been a long start time for Newcastle."

"I think everyone at the club realises I am fit. I was ready to play 90 minutes on Sunday if required but the manager decided to leave me on the bench."

Owen acknowledges his reputation for favouring England over his clubs started at Anfield and he knows he may never be able to shrug it off.

But he shakes his head in bewilderment when he considers how he has taken flak after pushing himself through the pain barrier to score for Newcastle on Sunday.

"I can't really understand why people say he is just trying to get back for England," Owen said. "But I've had it throughout my career. I made my name with England scoring against Argentina."

"Even then people used to say he is England's Michael Owen as opposed to Liverpool's, even though I had been there since I was 10."

"When we won the treble with Liverpool people took to me a bit more, so hopefully we can do the same at Newcastle."

"But the main thing is I'm fit and available to play. There will always be people questioning you but the best way to respond is to get back and score goals."

Owen insists he never had any doubts he would be fit to start for England at Wembley on Saturday after speaking to Alan Shearer, his former international team-mate, who had a similar operation.

He said: "Alan said he was back in 12 days but he could have been back in nine. So I knew it was possible to get back for the Newcastle game and the international matches."

"It's unbelievable to think I was on my back on Friday morning and

then by Thursday I was joining in training doing everything: sprinting, kicking the ball."

"I felt no pain at all after playing for Newcastle. It was remarkable. I've trained a couple of times with the England team and I'm still feeling great."

The prospect of resuming his strike partnership with Wayne Rooney for the first time in over two years is exciting Owen.

He linked up well with Emile Heskey in the wins over Israel and Russia but expects to do just as well with Rooney.

"We have played well before," Owen said. "People will talk about how well Emile Heskey did and it's well documented we've done well together."

"But me and Wayne have done well in the past. At Euro 2004 it was roles reversed. I was providing for him. Hopefully we can keep that going."



England striker Michael Owen (R) accelerates away from goalkeeper Scott Carson during a practice session at the London Colney training centre on Tuesday.

## Charlton hold on to Zheng

AFF, Beijing

China's hopes of qualifying for the 2010 World Cup have been dealt a blow after Charlton Athletic refused to release captain Zheng Zhi to play in their upcoming qualifying double-header.

The games, against Myanmar home and away on October 21 and 28 respectively, fall outside the international window and Addicks boss Alan Pardew said he was within his rights to keep hold of the midfielder.

"I apologise to the Chinese federation that they will be without Zhi for these qualifiers, but I have made the decision to keep him here," Pardew told the club website.

"If he were to travel, he would miss our games against Wolves, Plymouth and QPR because the fixtures fall outside of the international window."

"I know Zhi is an important player for his country but he is also important for us, and I am sure that China will be able to get the results they need from the two games without him."

Zheng, 26, signed permanently for Charlton for two million pounds in August. He was previously on loan to the British side from January to May.

## Czechs call up Pudil

AFF, Prague

Slavia Prague midfielder Daniel Pudil has been called up by Czech Republic manager Karel Bruckner for the Euro-2008 qualifier against Germany in Munich on October 17, the squad spokesman announced Tuesday.

"Pudil will join the team Tuesday evening," Lukas Tucek said.

The Under-21 international has so far only made one appearance for the full team, when he played for half of a friendly against Belgium on February 2 in Brussels, which the visitors won 2-0.

The grandson of Czechoslovak striker, Pavel Strnil, Pudil has been selected 16 times and scored once for the Under 21 team.

The Czechs are placed second in Group D, two points behind Germany.

# Spanish court rules on media war

Football

AFF, Madrid

A Spanish court has moved to end a cutthroat battle between two media giants over broadcast rights to football matches, court documents revealed Tuesday.

They said the court on Monday ruled that the Mediapro group must respect an agreement reached in July 2006 under which AVS, the subsidiary of the rival Sogecable company, is allowed to broadcast most of the matches on cable and satellite television.

The deal allowed Mediapro to broadcast just one match per day on its free La Sexta channel.

Since their agreement last

year, Mediapro has negotiated directly with clubs, signing up almost all of the first division clubs for 2009 and excluding Sogecable from the profitable market.

Since then, each side has accused the other of failing to respect their commitments.

The court's decision is provisional until it can make a definitive ruling on the issue.

But following the announcement, Sogecable stock had risen 7.18 percent to 27.01 euros by 3:30 pm.

In its decision, the court said it "forbids Mediapro, for the 2007/08 season, from any act exploiting the rights ceded to AVS" in their 2006 agreement.

Mediapro said it would "rigor-

ously respect the decision." Spanish business daily La Gaceta de los Negocios said Tuesday that several Spanish clubs have complained over non-payment of fees for television broadcasts of matches, a result of the conflict.

Six clubs in the first division and most of those in the second division have not been paid this month by AVS. It quoted sources close to the Spain's professional football league (LFP) as saying.

AVS said the non-payments were due to financial difficulties, the paper said.

The first division clubs that have complained are Almeria, Osasuna, Recreativo Huelva, Majorca, Espanyol Barcelona and Valladolid.

## Thais dream big

Football

AFF, Bangkok

Ambitious Thailand believe they have enough young talent to qualify for the World Cup finals within a decade and have hired a German fitness coach to help them achieve their goal.

The Thais have traditionally been Southeast Asia's strongest team and solid performances at the Asian Cup in July convinced Football Association of Thailand (FAT) president Worawi Makudi that a World Cup appearance is within reach.

"I think our prospects look promising as there are several young players who are showing great talent coming out of the ranks now," he was quoted as saying by the Asian Football Confederation.

"Participation in the FIFA World Cup is the dream of every team. FAT hopes after the next two FIFA World Cups, Thailand's dream will come true."

He pointed to English Premier League side Manchester City's interest in three Thai internationals -- Sures Sukha, Teerasil

Daengda and Kiatprawut Saiweao -- as proof that the quality was there.

City are owned by exiled former Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

"Sven Goran Eriksson (the City manager) was impressed by all three of them, and this is a clear indication that Thai players have the ability to perform at the highest stage," said Makudi.

What let them down at the Asian Cup, where they narrowly missed qualifying for the knock-out rounds, was their speed and fitness, which FAT is attempting to address by hiring German expert Gunter Lange.

"Fitness and speed are the team's main weakness," said Makudi.

"Although we look strong in Southeast Asia, we are still a step behind Asian giants such as Japan and Saudi Arabia, not to mention the likes of Europe, Africa and South America, in terms of speed, power and physical strength."

"Lange is coming here to help the team improve in these areas. With his help, I am optimistic and look forward to see the changes in the team."

## Bellamy boost for Wales

AFF, London

Craig Bellamy has been cleared to play for Wales in their upcoming Euro 2008 qualifiers away to Cyprus and San Marino after completing a rapid recovery from groin surgery he underwent on Thursday.

West Ham striker Bellamy was operated on by the same German surgeon who has enabled Michael Owen to be available for England and his availability will come as a boost to manager John Toshack, who has lost key midfielder Jason Koumas and back-up goalkeeper Wayne Hennessey to injuries.

A Welsh FA spokesman admitted the speed of Bellamy's recovery had taken everyone by surprise.

"Obviously our medical team will keep a very close eye on him, nobody wants him breaking down," he said. "But West Ham are happy now for him to travel and for him to play in both matches."

"It is a huge boost for everyone. Craig is a very important part of our squad and the last time he played for us he scored twice in a fine 5-2 win in Slovakia."

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়  
শেরে বাংলা নগর গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-৩, ঢাকা  
স্মারক নং-বি-৩/ডব্লিউ-৬৩/ তারিখঃ ০৮/১০/২০০৭

**দরপত্র সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

এতদ্বারা সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, অত্র দপ্তর কর্তৃক আহ্বানকৃত দরপত্র প্যাকেজ নং-০১/বি/১(২০০৭-২০০৮) এবং স্মারক নং-বি-৩/ডব্লিউ-৬৩/২৫৭২ তাং-২৩/০৯/২০০৭ এর মাধ্যমে Installation of deep tubewell and submersible pump within the compound of "C" Type Govt. Qtr. at S.B. Nagar, Dhaka. (Sub-Head: Sinking & Installation of 200mmx400mm dia G.I. pipe deep tubewell including 38mm dia PVC Pipe test & observation well with supplying and installation of 85 HP submersible pump/motor set at South Side of Building No-7 & 8, C-Type, 750.00sqft. Building, Agargaon, Talata, Dhaka)।

কাজের জন্য দরপত্র আহ্বান করা হইয়াছিল যাহার দরপত্র বিক্রয় এবং গ্রহণের তারিখ যথাক্রমে ২৪/১০/২০০৭ এবং ২৫/১০/২০০৭ইং তারিখ দাখ করা হইয়াছিল। অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ দরপত্র বিক্রয় ও গ্রহণের তারিখ যথাক্রমে ১১/১১/০৭ ও ১২/১১/০৭ তারিখ নির্ধারণ করা হইবে।

দরপত্রের অন্যান্য সকল শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকিবে। এই দরপত্র সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি দরপত্রের একটি অনিবেদন অংশ হিসাবে বিবেচিত হইবে এবং দরপত্রের সংশোধন ইহা দাবিল করিতে হইবে। অনাধ্যায় দরপত্র খালি দলিল গণ্য হইবে।

**নাসিরউদ্দিন মাহমুদ চৌধুরী**  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী  
শেরে বাংলা নগর গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-৩, ঢাকা

ডিজি-০১৫২

**তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী ও প্রকল্প পরিচালকের দপ্তর**  
ঢাকা ওয়াসা, ওয়াসা ভবন, ৬ষ্ঠ তলা  
৯৮, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১২১৫  
টেলিফোনঃ ৯১১৭৩০১  
স্মারক নং-২০/ই আর ই ডব্লিউ এস এস প্রঃ তারিখঃ ৭/১০/২০০৭

**দরপত্রের সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

"অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ গভীর নলকূপ স্থাপন/প্রতিস্থাপন কাজের (দরপত্র নং-ট/০৯/ই, আর, ই, ডব্লিউ, এস, এস, প্রঃ, তাং- ২০/০৯/০৭ইং, দরপত্র নং-ট/১০/ই, আর, ই, ডব্লিউ, এস, এস, প্রঃ, তাং-২০/০৯/০৭ইং, দরপত্র নং-ট/১১/ই, আর, ই, ডব্লিউ, এস, এস, প্রঃ, তাং ২০/০৯/০৭ইং, দরপত্র নং-ট/১২/ই, আর, ই, ডব্লিউ, এস, এস, প্রঃ, তাং-২০/০৯/০৭ইং) দরপত্র গ্রহণের সর্বশেষ তারিখ আগামী ০৮/১০/০৭ ইং এর পরিবর্তে ১৮/১০/০৭ইং তারিখে পুনঃ নির্ধারণ করা হলো। ফলে আগামী ১৭/১০/০৭ইং পর্যন্ত দরপত্র দলিল ক্রয় করা যাইবে। ইহা দরপত্র দলিলের একটি অংশ হিসাবে গণ্য হইবে। এছাড়া দরপত্রের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকিবে।

**তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী**  
প্রকল্প পরিচালক  
WASA-PI-731/2007  
GD-3528  
ই,আর,ই,ডব্লিউ,এস,এস, প্রকল্প  
ঢাকা ওয়াসা।

**চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর**  
১১২, সার্কিট হাউজ রোড, ঢাকা।  
ডিজিও সম্পাদনা যন্ত্রপাতি ক্রয়ের স্থানীয় দরপত্র আহ্বান

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

১	যন্ত্রপাতি/বিভাগ	তথ্য যন্ত্রপাতি
২	এক্সেস	চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর।
৩	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তা	মহাপরিচালক, চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর।
৪	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার জেলা	ঢাকা
৫	দরপত্র আহ্বানের বিষয়	ডিজিও সম্পাদনা যন্ত্রপাতি ক্রয় সহযোগী (Supply & installation)
৬	দরপত্র নং	৩-১২/২০০৭-২০০৮(৮)/৪৫৯৮
৭	তারিখ	০৭-১০-২০০৭ খ্রি.

**মূল তথ্য**

৮	দরপত্র আহ্বানের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র
৯	বায়োট এবং ফাইলের উৎস	রাষ্ট্র, বাংলাদেশ সরকার

**নির্ধারিত তথ্য**

১০	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের সংখ্যা	১ (এক)
১১	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের নাম	ডিজিও সম্পাদনা যন্ত্রপাতি ক্রয় সহযোগী (Supply & installation)
১২	দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ	০৯-১০-২০০৭ খ্রি.
১৩	দরপত্র সিদ্ধির শেষ তারিখ	১১-১১-২০০৭ খ্রি.

১৪	দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১১-১১-২০০৭ খ্রি. বেলা ১১.০০ টা
১৫	দরপত্র বাস্তবায়নের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১১-১১-২০০৭ খ্রি. বেলা ১১.১০ মিনিট

দরপত্র গ্রহণের দপ্তর: চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর, ১১২, সার্কিট হাউজ রোড, ঢাকা।

দরপত্র বাস্তবায়নের স্থান: চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর, ১১২, সার্কিট হাউজ রোড, ঢাকার প্রশাসনিক ভবনের কক্ষ নং ২০

**দরপত্র দাখিলের তথ্য**

১৬	দরপত্র দাখিলের যোগ্যতা	ডিজিও যন্ত্রপাতি সরবরাহ ও সংযোগের যোগ্যতা থাকতে হবে। প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী, স্থানীয়ভাবে ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন, আয়ের সনদ ও আর্থিক সাহায্য সনদ (বাংক হতে) থাকতে হবে।
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১৭	ক্রমিক নং	কাজের বিবরণ	দরপত্র	টেন্ডার নিলেকের মূল সার্কিটরি (টাকা)	কাজ সম্পাদনের সময়সীমা
১	Main board- Intel 965		৭৫০/-	১১,৫০০/-	২০ (দশ) দিন
২	Processor- core 2 DUO-2 GHz				
৩	Hard disk- 1 TB (400 GB x 3)				
৪	RAM- 2GB DDR2 (1 GB x 2)				
৫	Graphic card- 256 MB (GeForce 7900)				
৬	Sound card- 5.1 Surround				
৭	CD & DVD Writer				
৮	Mouse (Optical)				
৯	Key Board (Multimedia)				
১০	Recorder cum player (HD & DV Compatible)				
১১	Capture card (HD & SD Compatible)				
১২	Multi port power stick				
১৩	Beta SX cassette cleaner				

১৮. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম: রোকসানা আকতার

১৯. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী: উপপরিচালক (চলচ্চিত্র)

২০. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী দপ্তরের ঠিকানা: চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর, ১১২, সার্কিট হাউজ রোড, ঢাকা।

২১. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী দপ্তরের সাথে যোগাযোগ: ৯৩৩১১৪২

২২. সমগ্রকারী সত্তা যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

স্বা/ (রোকসানা আকতার)  
উপপরিচালক (চলচ্চিত্র)  
ফোন: ৯৩৩১১৪২

GD3545

**Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority**  
Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road  
Banani, Dhaka-1212  
Website: www.jmba.gov.bd  
Memo No: Tech/Jb/MBP-138/2005-963 Date: 07/10/2007

**Request for Expression of Interest**

Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority under the Ministry of Communications has been allocated public fund from Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this fund to payment under the contract for consultancy services to identify an appropriate alignment of Mukterpur Bridge access road and detailed design of the same during the year 2007-2008.

8. The services include: Carrying out sub-soil investigation to assess the bearing capacity, topographic and hydrological survey, identify the locations of bridges and culverts along the road alignment, design the road along with the bridges and culverts, carryout EIA of the project and any other related services. The scope of services include among with others to review various study report of the access road, carryout EIRR, preparation of land acquisition/requisition plan, public consultation and identification of potential impacts. Time period to complete the services is 04 (four) months from the date of contract award. The interested consultants must have experience of similar completed project(s). Details of the consultancy services and required manpower have been mentioned in the ToR and Request for Proposal document in this regard.

9. The Executive Engineer (RTW & Bldg), JMBA hereby invites eligible applicants to indicate their interest in providing the above services. Interested consultants are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services along with their brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar operating conditions, availability of appropriate professionals, qualification and experience among staff, etc.

10. Consultants may associate with other consultants to enhance their qualifications.

11. One consultant will be selected in accordance with the Public Procurement Regulations, 2003 and Public Procurement Procedures issued by the GoB.

12. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

13. Expressions of Interest shall be submitted in sealed envelop and delivered to the office of the undersigned by 12:00 hrs of November 05, 2007 and be clearly marked 'Request for Expressions of Interest' for consultancy services to identify the alignment of Mukterpur Bridge access road and detailed design of the same during the year 2007-2008.

**Quazi Muhammad Ferdous**  
Executive Engineer (RTW & Bldg)  
Setu Bhaban, Banani  
Dhaka-1212  
Phone: 8850540

GD-3520

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority  
Setu Bhaban, Banani, Dhaka  
Phone: 02-8850540

**Sealed Quotation to Lease Out Toll Collection of Mukterpur Bridge**

It is circulated for general information of all concerned that sealed quotation are hereby invited from reputed persons/firms for leasing out the collection of tolls from the permissible vehicular traffic crossing the Mukterpur (6th Bangladesh-China Friendship) Bridge over Dhaleswari river on Dhaka-Munshiganj highway during the year 2007-2008 & 2008-2009 for 1 (one) year from the date of signing the contract.

01	Quotation Notice No.	: 01/JMBA/Mukterpur Bridge of 2007-2008.
02	Description of the lease	: Collection of tolls from different vehicles crossing the Mukterpur (6th Bangladesh-China Friendship) Bridge over Dhaleswari river on Dhaka-Munshiganj highway during the year 2007-2008 & 2008-2009 for 1 (one) year from the date of signing the contract.
03	Name of offices for availability of quotation documents	: Executive Engineer (RTW & Bldg.), Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, Banani, Dhaka.
04	Name of offices to receive quotation bids	: Executive Engineer (RTW & Bldg.), Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, Banani, Dhaka.
05	Last date of publication	: On or before 09.10.2007.
06	Last date & time of selling of the quotation documents	: 01.11.2007 up to 5:00pm.
07	Last date & time of receipt of quotation bids	: 04.11.2007 up to 12:00 noon.
08	Date & time of opening of the quotation bids	: 04.11.2007 at 12:30pm.
09	Value of the quotation document	: Taka 500/- (five hundred) only (non-refundable).
10	Tender security money	: 10% of the quoted amount in favour of the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, Banani, Dhaka in BD/Bank Guarantee/Pay Order etc. from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh along with the quotation.
11.	The authority reserves all the rights to accept or reject all or any quotation without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

**Quazi Mohammad Ferdous**  
Executive Engineer (RTW & Bldg)  
JMBA

GD-3519