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Bangladesh

meet WI in

Bangladesh will meet West Indies in

the opening match of the Canada

August 14in Toronto, Bangladesh

Bangladesh face Pakistan and

The third-place play-off and the

The Tigers, who fly for Canada

to play Australia in three one-day

The 25-year-old was named on

It is the second time in his career

"The IPL have informed us that

"Asif is very keen to have his

SEE PAGE 18 COL 8

Pakistan will be up against the

SPORTS REPORTER

respectively.

internationals.

steroid

Asif tests

Graphics Information Systems Ltd. 8811140





### Ottey's final attempt

REUTERS, Ljubljana

Jamaican-born sprinter Merlene Ottey will race twice in four days in a last-ditch effort to become the first athlete to take part in eight Olympic Games.

attempt to achieve the Olympic 100 metres qualifying time by the deadline on Wednesday.

Ottey has taken part in every Olympics since the 1980 Games in Moscow and her tally of eight medals is more than any other woman in track and field. She competed for Slovenia at the 2004 Games after six Olympics with Jamaica.

"Of course she wants to run at these (Beijing) Games because she would be the first ever to participate at eight consecutive Olympics," Ottey's Slovenia coach Srdjan Djordjevic told Reuters.

"If there are ideal weather conditions, she could qualify."

He said Ottey has been suffering for years from an allergy that usually starts in April or May and ends SEE PAGE 18 COL 4

#### Pioneer League 2nd phase from today

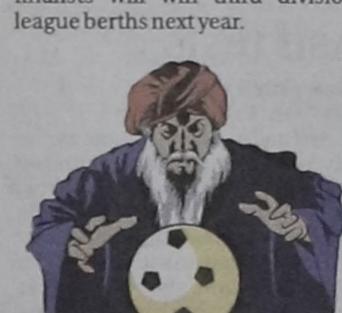
SPORTS REPORTER

Golam Mostafa Lane Kishore Sangha take on Dhaka XI Club in the opening match of the second phase of the Dhaka City Corporation Pioneer Football League today.

The Group A match will kick off at 4.30pm at the Bir Shreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur.

Dhaka City Corporation's chief executive officer Mohammed Alauddin will inaugurate the final

phase. The 20 teams -- winners and runners-up of the 10 first-phase groups -- are competing in four groups. The group champions will reach the semifinals and the two finalists will win third division

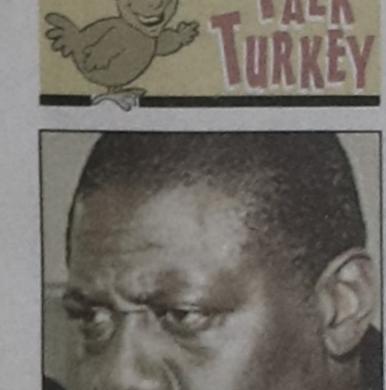


There are 4 archery events in the Olympics - individual events for women and men. and team events for men and women.



**STAR Cricket** 

England v South Africa Second Test, Day Two Live from 4:00pm



#### Pape Diouf

(Marseille president) "I'm surprised and amused. It shows the true passion of our supporters."

While praising the fans' initiative to raise two million euro to bring back former star Didier Drogba to the club.

## Foreign imports flocking

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Veteran footballer Charles Ghansah will play for his old club Abahani in the coming Federation Cup football tournament.

The Ghanaian defender, who began his Dhaka career with the sky-blues, started training with Muktijoddha but joined the Dhanmondi outfit for the season's African countries. curtain raiser event.

The qualifying rounds of the Ottey, 48, will run at meetings in Federation Cup begins July 26 but the Slovenian city of Maribor on the organisers have yet to set a date Cup. Saturday and Tuesday in an forthefinal rounds -- scheduled for next month -- where five qualifiers join the 11 B. League sides.

> included the centre-back seemingly as insurance for injured stopper Sujan, who is unlikely to start training before next week.

Abahani already have an enviable collection of central defenders in Nazrul, Pradeep and Ghana's Samad Yussif, who combined in the side's AFC President's Cup campaign in Malaysia last month.

"We are looking forward to addone more striker from Ghana along with Ibrahim, who is already here," informed manager Satyajit Das

"We are waiting for his ITC (international transfer clearance) and only then we'll ask him to fly," added Rupu.

Abahani are not taking chances by bringing the player early because in the past, teams suffered due to delayed arrival of ITCs from Abahani, however, may not

extend their relationship with Ghansah beyond the Federation "We have released him for the

Federation Cup but Ghansah will

first talk with us about the B. B. League holders Abahani have league," said Muktijoddha captain Feroz Mahmud Titu. Muktijoddha have two Nigerians in their camp, Michael and Victor but Titu said only the former -- a centre-back -- is certain

> Federation Cup. "We are not sure about Victor but Moroccan midfielder Ighir Mohamed has agreed to join us,"

to line-up for the Reds in threw

informed Titu.

"Our target is to get a quality striker and an experienced defender from abroad for the league. So we don't want to recruit ordinary players for Federation Cup because there won't be the scope to see much."

Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra, who are training at Ashulia on the outskirts of Dhaka, have decided to bring back defender Bourdif Mohamed of Morocco but have yet to decide on fellow striker Touati

"We have told no to Ighir and will replace him with another attacking midfielder from Morocco. We are now waiting to know whether Youness is totally ht or not. He was injured last year, so we want to know about his condition. If we do not get positive news by Sunday, we have another striker lined up," said Russel president Nurul Alam Chowdhury.

Chowdhury said they have also talked with Nigerian booters but unless they arrive in Dhaka on their own, there was hardly any chance of reaching any agreement.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 6

# Pace duo destroys Eng

Cricket

AFP, Leeds

Andrew Flintoff's first Test innings for 18 months failed to prevent England being bowled out for 203 on the first day of the second Test against South Africa at Headingley here Friday.

Flintoff, back in the team at the expense of Paul Collingwood, following ankle and side injuries, had made 17 when he flat-footedly edged Dale Steyn through to wicket-keeper Mark Boucher.

But it was Morne Morkel, with four wickets for 52 runs in 15 overs, who led the way as the muchvaunted South Africa pace attack, who had been disappointing in the drawn first Test at Lord's, lived up to their billing albeit in helpful, overcast conditions.

Fellow quick Steyn was not far tried to drive Steyn without moving

behind with four for 76.

Several of the top-order made starts with only captain Michael Vaughan, out for nought, falling in single figures.

Kevin Pietersen's 45 was the top

England, who were 186 for nine, did have the consolation of getting Pattinson, handed a surprise Test debut, was last man out for eight as

70 for three.

Boucher held his fifth catch of the

South Africa-born Pietersen. who made a century at Lord's, was 17 not out and Ian Bell, whose 199 in the series opener was his Testbest score, was unbeaten on four.

Pietersen came out all guns blazing, driving Steyn off the back-

foot for four through the covers. But five runs short of a fifty he

his feet and edged to South Africa captain Graeme Smith at first slip.

Wicket-keeper Tim Ambrose, promoted to No 6 didn't linger long before, on 12, he played at a Makhaya Ntini ball angled across him, from round the wicket, and edged to Boucher.

Flintoff's first scoring shot was a past 200 before No 11 Darren streaky cut through the gap between slips and fully, off Ntini.

However, his second four, off Morkel, was much more authoritative with Flintoff going back and England resumed after lunch on across before punching the ball off the backfoot.

> Bell had looked in good touch but, on 31, he was bowled off the inside edge driving at all-rounder Jacques Kallis.

Left-handed openers Andrew Strauss and Alastair Cook made a steady start.

But South Africa had a breakthrough when Cook was given out SEE PAGE 18 COL 6



South Africa speedster Dale Steyn (R) exults after dismissing England batsman Kevin Pietersen during the first day of the second Test at Headingley on Friday.

### ICC to decide on host

AFP, New Delhi



know if they will host the Inter-

national Cricket Council's Champions Trophy in September amid security concerns in that

all eight participating teams in the year's biggest one-day tournament will receive a security briefing at the governing body's headquarters in Dubai over the week-

agreed upon during the ICC's annual conference in early July to allow the ICC's security consulreport," it said in a statement.

"Prior to the meeting, the ICC will not indulge in speculation and, at this stage, the tournament will proceed in Pakistan, as there were any threat of violence. scheduled."

Officials from the ICC's broadcast partners, ESPN-STAR Sports, Pakistan face an and the Federation of International HAMPIONS agonising wait Cricketers' Associations (FICA) till Sunday to have also been invited to attend, the ICC said.

The meeting comes amid renewed fears about security in Pakistan following a suicide blast in the capital Islamabad earlier this month that killed 19 The ICC said representatives of people and a series of small bombings in the port city of

Karachi a day later. Players from Australia, New Zealand and England have expressed concerns over playing in Pakistan. India, South Africa, Sri "The timing of the briefing was Lanka, the West Indies and the hosts are the other teams in the

The tournament is due to be tants to provide a comprehensive held in Karachi, Rawalpindi -which adjoins Islamabad -- and

Lahore from September 11-28. The ICC has said it could pull the tournament out of Pakistan if Pakistan, who hosted the six-

nation Asia Cup without incident from June 24-July 6, are confident the Champions Trophy too would go off peacefully.

"We have assured fool-proof security measures for the Champions Trophy," Pakistan Cricket Board's (PCB) chief operating officer Shafqat Naghmi said.

"There is no reason for us to believe that the tournament will be relocated from Pakistan. "Everything that needs to be

done has been done to ensure that the Champions Trophy is held smoothly and safely. "We've informed the ICC, the security experts and the compet-

ing nations about it and now hope

that all the stakeholders will consider it objectively." Sri Lanka, the designated alternative venue for the tournament, is also facing renewed violence between Tamil Tiger rebels and government troops.

Media reports have mentioned South Africa and England as possible hosts.



Thursday.

# Can't wait for Kaka link-up

Football

SPORTS REPORTER REUTERS, Milan

Bangladesh A team's third firstclass match in the tour of England against Leicestershire ended in a tame draw on the final day yester-

Bangladesh A's

Leicestershire

match drawn

The home side, who had posted a first-innings lead of 24 runs, reached 63 without loss after tea on third day when the bails were drawn at the Grace Road in Leicester.

TJ New was unbeaten on 44 and Boeta Dippenaar batting on 13 for Leicestershire who had declared their first innings on 354-4.

Bangladesh A, resuming on 215 for three, were bundled out for 330 in their first innings.

Half-centurions Tamim Iqbal (78 off 164 balls) and Nazim Uddin (75 off 122 balls) were both dismissed in the final session on second day after adding 132 runs for the second wicket. Overnight pair Rokibul Hassan

(19) and Naeem Islam (16) were sent back cheaply while Shakib Al Hassan (18) also failed to make an impact as the visitors stumbled to

However, Mushfigur Rahim guided the tail with a fine 60 not out SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

### Kandamby shines for SL Board XI

AFP, Colombo

Test hopeful Thilina Kandamby top-scored with 84 to help the Sri Lanka Board XI make 224 against a visiting India on the opening day of their three-day tour match here on Friday.

The Sri Lankans were tottering at 82-4 before Kandamby and Chamara Silva rescued them with a 100-run fifth-wicket partnership. India captain Anil Kumble took

3-30 while his off-spin partner Harbhajan Singh took 2-52 to fold up the hosts' Lankan innings in 71.5 overs at the Nondescripts Cricket Club. Kandamby, who is yet to make

his Test debut, hit 11 fours during his 138-ball knock while Silva made 68 after captain Jehan Mubarak sage to other athletes. won the toss and elected to bat. Kandamby's fine innings came

to an end when he edged behind to wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik off paceman Munaf Patel while Silva was sent packing by Harbhajan. SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

Brazil forward Ronaldinho said he was mostly looking forward to teaming up again with compatriot Kaka as he was unveiled as an AC Milan player on Thursday.

The San Siro was almost half full to welcome the 28-year-old, who wore a Milan kit as he waved to the

crowd from the pitch. Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti has said the former Barcelona man will probably play alongside Kaka in a Christmas tree formation with a

main striker just ahead of them.

Kaka. He is among the best in the "I have always lived a regular life world. He is also a friend, in the and I will continue like that. I am in national team we play well together," said Ronaldinho, who unlike Kaka is being allowed by the club to play at next month's ticket sales.

"Every player dreams of playing for Milan. It is a special emotion and I hope to bring happiness to all

The playmaker's last couple of season subscription period. seasons at Barca were dogged by form and fitness problems, with season tickets on Thursday though critics accusing him of putting

partying ahead of football. "It was a beautiful period, we

decided together to go our separate "I will be exciting to play with ways," he told a news conference.

> good physical condition." Ronaldinho's arrival at Milan has led to a huge surge in season

> On Wednesday, when Ronaldinho landed in Italy, Rossoneri fans snapped up 5,230 season tickets out of a total of 18,518 sold during the whole of the close-

Supporters were unable to buy after a technical problem.

The club, who finished a disappointing fifth in Serie A last season, It is not just the Rossoneri fans won important trophies but after did not say if the glitch was because and their coach drooling over the recent disappointments we ofthehigh demand.

### Chambers fails in bid

REUTERS, London



Sprinter Dwain Chambers cannot take part in the Beijing Olympics next month after failing to gain an injunction against a British Olympic Association (BOA)

ban in the High Court on Friday. The 30-year-old was challenging a BOA by-law which states that any athlete found guilty of using drugs is barred from competing for Britain in any sport at the Olympics. Chambers, who won the 100

meters at the British Olympic trials last weekend in 10.0 seconds, completed a two-year doping ban in 2006 after he had tested positive for the designer steroid THG in

The London-based sprinter's legal team had argued that the BOA ban represented a restraint of

However, judge Colin MacKay said if the case had gone to a fullycontested hearing he was not satisfied that Chambers had a reasonable prospect of proving his

He said to have allowed the

challenge meant "the harmony and

management of the British team would have been upset." BOA chairman Colin Moynihan said the verdict sent a strong mes-

"It's a matter of regret that Dwain Chambers, an athlete of such undoubted talent, should by his own actions have put himself out of the running to shine on the Olympic stage in Beijing, Moynihan told reporters outside

"The BOA will continue to send a powerful message that nobody found guilty of serious drugcheating offences should have the honor of wearing GB vests at the Olympic Games."

Chambers made no comment after the hearing despite being surrounded by a throng of reportcourt before escaping down a

narrow side street. With the International Olympic Committee (IOC) deadline for naming team members coming up this weekend, Chambers is highly unlikely to launch an appeal

against the decision. UK Athletics had named only



PHOTO: AFP Disgraced British athlete Dwain Chambers walks with his head hung after the High Court rejected his appeal for an injunction against a lifelong Olympic ban on Friday.