

History repeats itself

"I'm going to go out and have a lot of beer now. Things happen for a reason. I said that the last time this happened. The last time the reason was this time, I don't know what the reason is yet. But I'm sure something good's gonna come from it."

Matt Emmons is philosophical after falling at the final hurdle two Olympics in a row. He shot his opponents target in Athens 2004 with the final shot to miss out on gold. This year he managed to miss his entire target with the final shot after holding on to a considerable lead till the final round. At least his wife, Katerina's medal will prove consolation.



SPEED IS JAMAICA: Jamaica's super sprinter Usain Bolt crosses the finish line well ahead of the pack in the men's 100m sprint final on Saturday while his compatriot Shelly-Ann Fraser (R) celebrates after winning the women's 100m dash yesterday in the Beijing 2008 Olympics at the National Stadium.

PHOTOS: AFP



Did U Know?

The youngest athlete competing in the Beijing Olympics is 12-year-old Antoinette Guedia Mouafo of Cameroon. The swimmer competed in the women's 50m freestyle.



Viktor Ruban
(Ukrainian archer)
"I deserve the medal because I've trained for 14 years. I give thanks to the support of my nation, my people and my family."



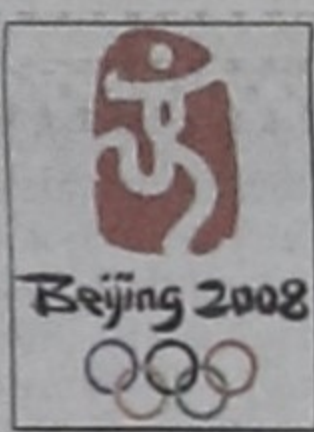
TEN Sports
Sri Lanka v India
First ODI
Live from 10:30am
BTv
Beijing Olympic Games
Women's Hockey
Live from 8:30am
Women's Triathlon Final
Live from 10:00am
Men's Basketball
Live from 12:35pm
Women's Football
Brazil v Germany
Live from 4:00pm

Fed Cup soccer resumes today

SPORTS REPORTER
The Citycell Federation Cup football tournament resumes today after a week's break with two matches taking place at different venues. Arambagh Krira Sangha meet Sunrise Sporting Club at the Gazipur. **SEE PAGE 18 COL 1**

Like a thunder-Bolt

INTERNET, undated



Midway through the men's 100-meter final on Saturday, Usain Bolt turned the race into a one-man show. After stumbling slightly as he left the starting blocks, Bolt cleared the field at the 50-meter mark with his long, powerful strides and finished in a world-record 9.69 seconds. But Bolt started his celebration 20 meters before the finish. He looked left and right to gauge his lead, which was sizable. Then he extended his arms to the side, the kind of gesture usually seen only after sprinters cross the line. Approaching the finish, Bolt pounded his heart. He wanted to enjoy his win rather than obliterate the world record he set May 31. His

victory lap included dancing and blowing kisses to a stunned crowd of 90,000 at the National Stadium. "I didn't even know I got the world record until after I finished my victory lap, actually," said Bolt, the first Jamaican to win a gold medal in the men's 100. "One aim was just to come here and be Olympic champion. I did just that, so I was happy with myself. It means a lot to my country and it means a lot to me." With his record-setting time and celebratory display, Bolt left seven shocked competitors in his wake. His victory looks even more impressive considering this was the first Olympic final with six sprinters who had run under 10 seconds. Silver medalist Richard Thompson of Trinidad and Tobago trailed Bolt by two-tenths of a second, an eternity in world-class sprinting. The gap tied the largest

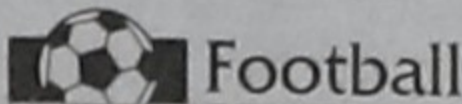
margin of victory in a men's Olympic 100 final. American Walter Dix closed strongly and earned the bronze in a personal-best 9.91. In retrospect, all pre-race predictions of a three-man showdown among Bolt, fellow Jamaican Asafa Powell, and American Tyson Gay seemed foolish. Gay failed to qualify for the final and Powell finished a disappointing fifth in 9.95. Darvis Patton, the other American in the final, came in eighth with a time of 10.03. "He's like a LeBron James," said Patton. "You've got a young guy who's doing things that haven't been done before. The guy just broke the Olympic record and the world record." "He's just having fun. It's every-one trying to catch up to Usain Bolt. Even his own countrymen are trying to catch up to him. He's in a league of his own." **SEE PAGE 18 COL 6**

Bangladesh's Olympics over

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's dismal campaign in the Beijing 2008 Olympics Games ended Saturday with Nazmun Nahar Beauty finished overall 62nd among 85 competitors in the heats of the Games' hot event of women's 100-metre sprint. Country's fastest woman, Beauty, finished last among the eight participants in the heat number seven with a timing of 12.52 seconds at the National Stadium in Beijing. Earlier Bangladesh's fastest man Mohammad Abu Abdullah finished 67th among 80 contenders in the heats of the men's 100-metre **SEE PAGE 18 COL 1**

Manik's job official

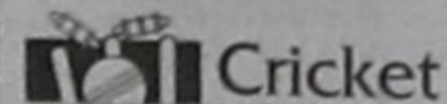


SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) will officially announce Shafiqul Islam Manik as the national football coach for the next three and half months. After long discussions, Manik and the federation have reached an agreement in line with the National Team Management Committee's (NTMC) recommendation to appoint him as successor to Abu Yusuf, who stepped down after Bangladesh's failure in the fifth SAFF Championship in June. "The contract is till November but renewable," told NTMC chairman Badal Roy yesterday. "He will be in charge of the national team for at least one international tournament, the Merdeka Cup in Malaysia, and if we are satisfied with his performance he will continue till we can recruit a foreign coach. "We are looking for a technical director and Manik is expected to work as his assistant in the future," added Badal, also a BFF vice-president. Manik, who celebrates his 42nd birthday next Thursday, meanwhile, is taking the short-term **SEE PAGE 18 COL 5**

An explosive duel

First India-SL ODI today



AFP, Dambulla

Indian skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Sri Lankan captain Mahela Jayawardene are looking forward to an explosive start to their one-day international series starting here Monday. Sri Lanka's left-handed opener Sanath Jayasuriya may be 39, but remains a bowler's nightmare with his ability to change the course of a match with devastating strokeplay. India will not easily forget their last encounter with the Sri Lankan, who hammered a quickfire century under pressure to set up his team's victory in the Asia Cup final in

Karachi last month. India's Virender Sehwag is an opener in form, having already hurt Sri Lanka with an unbeaten double-century in his team's victory in the second Test of a recent three-match series. Although India lost the series 2-1, Sehwag was one of the few batsmen to salvage batting pride as he emerged his team's top scorer with 344 runs. "Jayasuriya in form is always a great thing because he can contribute with both bat and ball," Jayawardene told reporters on Sunday. "The start he gives makes a huge difference. If he stays for 10 or 15 overs, you are guaranteed a good start. He is a bit like Sehwag for

India. That gives a different dimension to our set-up." Jayasuriya has been haunting India ever since he cracked a 76-ball 79 in a 1996 World Cup match at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground in New Delhi to power his team to an emphatic victory. He was a trendsetter, redefining batting in the 1996 Cup with his consistent over-the-top hitting in the early overs to take advantage of fielding restrictions. Other teams followed suit, bringing in a hard-hitter at the top of the order. Jayasuriya appears to have a special liking for the Indian attack, having scored 2,429 runs in 74 matches with six hundreds. His **SEE PAGE 18 COL 2**

Tigers' first practice tie today

TIGERCRIKET.COM, Darwin

While Saturday's practice was all about getting the bodies moving and easing into training Sunday morning's session of the Tigers at the Marrara Oval was far more intense. The quality of training was helped by the arrival of net bowlers from local club sides and at least a couple of them packed enough pace to keep the batsmen on their toes. Balls wheezed past the nose regularly and Rokibul Hassan was rattled by a lifter from Nazmul Hossain and had to administer ice on his fingers. Nevertheless all the batsmen have looked in good touch and have batted confidently in the nets ahead of tomorrow's first warm-up game against the Australian Institute of Sports (AIS). The match at the Gardens Oval, just a short walk from the team's hotel, would give the tourists opportunity to test themselves against competent opposition. The AIS team is considered the best group of cricket talent Australia have had in recent times and a number of players had graduated **SEE PAGE 18 COL 1**

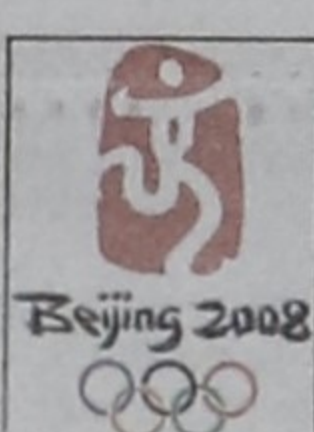
BCB Academy suffer heavy defeat

SPORTS REPORTER

GP-BCB National Cricket Academy team's brittle batting helped their South African counterparts level the two-match four-day series in style as the home side secured a massive innings and 63-run victory in the second game at the Laundiam Oval in Pretoria on Saturday. The visitors, who pulled off a surprise three-run victory in the first match, lost the second inside three days after being bundled out for 190 runs in the second innings. Roelof van der Merwe was the star of the South African Academy's strong comeback as the left-arm spinner claimed seven wickets in two innings and hit a half-century. The visitors, who were forced to follow-on as they were bundled out for 163 in reply to 416, began the third day on 36 for one and lost wickets in regular intervals on way to suffering the heavy defeat. CJ de Villiers captured four wickets and his new ball partner Basheer-Deen Walters took three wickets to cause the damage in the second innings. Shamsur Rahman occupied the crease for 148-minute to score 45 runs off 105 balls with six boundaries while Nadif Chowdhury added 30 off 38 ball that featured five fours and a six. The two teams will now be involved in a three-match one-day series. The matches are scheduled for August 20 (Johannesburg), August 22 (Pretoria) and August 24 (Johannesburg).

Jamaica roar out of blocks

AP, Beijing

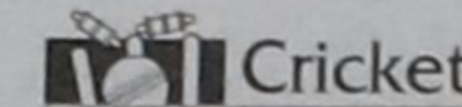


When it comes to Olympic sprints, nobody does it better than the Jamaicans. Yeah, mon. The Caribbean island of 2.8 million people capped the first gold-medal sweep of men's and women's 100-meter dashes since 1912 with a rare 1-2-2 sweep of the women's race. After never winning Olympic gold in the 100, Jamaica got two in as many days. Shelly-Ann Fraser won the women's dash Sunday, pumping her fist as she was clocked in 10.78 seconds. Teammates Sherone Simpson and Kerron Stewart finished in a dead heat for the silver, 0.20 second back the same margin Jamaica's Usain Bolt won by Friday night when he hot-dogged to the finish in 9.69. Fraser knew she had won and smiled wide, showing those braces, and then went to pick up the green, yellow and black

Jamaican flag. It was the widest margin of victory in an Olympic women's 100 final since 1988, when Florence Griffith-Joyner set the world record. "When I was thinking about it, I was getting ahead of myself," Fraser said about a gold medal. "I was like, 'Calm down. First you need to go out there and do it.'" She did, and after she crossed the finish line more than a body length in the lead, reggae music played in the background during a three-minute delay while judges looked at the photo finish. There was no way to split the difference, so Jamaica got the top three spots and didn't even have to settle for a bronze. "It's about time," Stewart said when asked what the sweep meant. "We've been waiting on this. So many great athletes have come so close." Jamaica's big win turned into a giant disappointment for the United States. Lauryn Williams finished fourth, Muna Lee fifth and Torri Edwards last. Lee, the only one of that U.S. trio with another chance for an individual

medal in the 200s said she thought there was a false start. "I didn't know if they were going to call it," Lee said. "I should have just ran. That's my fault." Even that might not have made a difference. The Jamaicans are just that good. "We've dominated for years, and now it's their time," Williams said. Making it even more impressive is that the woman widely considered Jamaica's best at this distance, defending world champion Veronica Campbell-Brown, wasn't even in the field, after failing to qualify at the country's Olympic trials. Her spot essentially went to Fraser, the least accomplished of the Jamaican sprinters at least until now. She is only 21 same age as Bolt and didn't have a time under 11 seconds before this year. The highlight on her resume before now was the silver medal she won as part of the Jamaican relay team at last year's world championships.

Ashraful promises fight



CRICINFO, undated

Mohammad Ashraful, the Bangladesh captain, has stressed the need to be competitive after his side arrived in Darwin for their three-match one-day series against Australia. "We want to show improvement all the way. This is a very challenging tour for us as Australia are a top side," he said. "But we want to be tough and competitive and will fight all the way. We have the ability and hopefully, we can bring our best cricket to this series." Ashraful said Bangladesh had enough time to prepare for the series, with five warm-up matches in store. "We have come to Australia a little ahead of the series. We will play five practice matches before the ODIs, and that will give us a good idea about the conditions here." The Marrara Stadium, which has a drop-in pitch, will host all the three matches. Ashraful felt that the experience of having played on the surface before, as well as the favourable weather conditions in Darwin, will be beneficial for his side. "The last time we were here [in 2003], the pitches did not have too much pace or bounce," he said. "And the weather here is almost similar to Bangladesh. I think we'll feel comfortable here." Bangladesh's coach, Jamie Siddons, was pragmatic on his assessment of the series, saying that his side's goal was to be consistent. "I am sure they [Australia] **SEE PAGE 18 COL 7**

PRACTISE THE GOOD SHOTS: Bangladesh skipper Mohammad Ashraful makes room for a scoop during nets at the Marrara Oval in Darwin on Sunday.