

Fellaini worry for Moyes

AFP, London

Everton manager David Moyes is concerned midfielder Marouane Fellaini may miss the start of the season with the Belgium international suffering from a virus which has caused him to lose significant weight.

Fellaini did play in Sunday's pre-season draw with Coventry but Moyes is worried he may not make the start of the Premiership campaign at home to Arsenal on August 15.

"Fellaini has had an illness for most of the summer which has affected him," said Moyes.

"He picked up a viral infection in the summer. It got into his blood, he lost a lot of weight and he wasn't a boy that could afford to lose any weight."

"It's noticeable looking at him how thin he has become. It has definitely had an effect on his overall performance."

"It is going to take a little while I feel for him to get his full strength back. I don't think he is there yet."

"He has not been right all through pre-season and he is still not right."

"When you are the shape and build he is, when you lose weight it's not all that easy to put it back on."

Mahela

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Afridi had smashed 32 off 20 balls with five boundaries when he was bowled by Muttiah Muralidaran.

The off-spinner, the world's leading wicket-taker in both Test and one-day cricket, also bowled Umar sofer, the delivery after being hit for six.

Pakistan plundered 86 runs in the last 10 overs to compile the highest total at the venue, surpassing Sri Lanka's 282 against India in 2004.

Abdul Razzaq and Rana Naved led the lower-order charge, making 30 runs apiece with a flurry of boundaries and sixes.

Razzaq hammered two sixes and a four, while Naved marked his return to official cricket after breaking links with the unauthorised Indian Cricket League with two sixes.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third one-day international between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at the Rangiri International Stadium on Monday:

PAKISTAN

K Akmal c Sangakkara b Mathews	45
Jamshed c Samaraweera b Thushara	1
Younus run out	44
Malik c Sangakkara b Fernando	12
U Akmal b Muralidaran	66
Fawad c and b Mathews	13
Afridi b Muralidaran	32
Razzaq c Jayawardene b Kulasekara	30
Naved not out	30
Aamer not out	4
Extras: (b-1, w-10)	11
Total: (For 50 wks in 50 overs)	288
Did not bat: Ajmal	
Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-80, 3-101, 4-107, 5-149, 6-190, 7-226, 8-266	

Bowler

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kulasekara	10	0	74	1
Thushara	10	0	46	1
Fernando	10	1	62	1
Mathews	10	0	41	2
Muralidaran	10	0	64	2
SRI LANKA				
Tharangalbw b Ajmal				76
Jayawardene cAlam b Razaq				123
Sangakkara not out				37

SRI LANKA

Tharanga lbw b Ajmal	76
Jayawardene c Alam b Razzaq	123
Sangakkara not out	37
Samaraweera c b Ajmal	0
Kandamby b Aamer	32
Kapugedera not out	8
Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-8)	13
Total: (For 4 wks in 46.3 overs)	289
Did not bat: Mathews, Kulasekara, Fernando, Muralidaran, Thushara	
Fall of wickets: 1-202, 2-210, 3-212, 4-268	

Bowler

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Aamer	9.3	1	45	1
Razzaq	9	0	62	1
Naved	7	0	41	0
Afridi	6	0	45	0
Ajmal	9	0	54	2
Malik	6	0	37	0

Result: Sri Lanka won by six wickets and led five-match series 3-0.

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Man-of-the-match: Mahela Jayawardene.

Toss: Sri Lanka.

Umpires: Steve Davis and Asoka de Silva.

Dido's policy

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regarding the national camp. He, however, said that the coach told them that he had been training as per his planing.

On July 23, as many as eight players walked out of Dido's training citing 'unbearable' training that forced the NTMC to suspend the camp till July 27. The BFF president, returning from Bangkok, interferred to solve the impasse and declared the camp resumed on July 28.



Marion Bartoli of France celebrates after beating American Venus Williams in the Bank of the West Classic final in Stanford, California on Sunday.

Bartoli's sweet revenge

Tennis

AFP, Stanford

Marion Bartoli avenged a Wimbledon loss to Venus Williams, winning a marathon final at the WTA Bank of the West Classic 6-2, 5-7, 6-4 at the American's expense on Sunday.

Frenchwoman Bartoli was beaten by Williams for the All England Club final two years ago.

Bartoli's bitter memory was still fresh as she struck back in the three-set thriller lasting two and three-quarters hours in northern California.

"It was great to play Venus again," said the Frenchwoman. "I have a lot of good memories from Wimbledon."

Bartoli lost the title match here a year ago to Canadian Aleksandra Wozniak. She was unable to beat Williams in straight sets while leading a set and 5-4, failing to serve out the victory.

Bartoli will move up two spots in the rankings to 12th on Monday after claiming her second title of 2009 and the fifth of her career. Williams, 29, had a strong history at Stanford, playing her seventh final in eight visits.

"I had a great tournament," said the disappointed American. "But Marion was just too good today."

Aussie media scared

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

The Australian media fretted Monday that the nation's cricketers are on the verge of going 2-0 down in the Ashes series against England with some pundits doubtful of the tourists' state of mind.

The Australians were 88 for two in their second innings at stumps in the third Edgbaston Test and needing a further 25 runs on Monday's final day to make England, 1-0 up in the five-Test series, bat again.

The mood is darkening in the Australian press after Ricky Ponting's team was again outplayed after their defeat at Lord's and after failing to break a stubborn last-wicket partnership to snare victory in the opening Cardiff Test.

"Australia need to stop contemplating their naves," Peter Roebuck said in The Sydney Morning Herald.

"Touring reporters have become frustrated at the way the team has gone to ground. It's a bad sign."

"This circling of wagons indicates a fragile state of mind. That needs to change. Better to look defeat in the eye and realise it is not such a terrible thing."

The press pinpointed Graeme Swann's ripping off-break to bowl Australian captain Ricky Ponting for five as setting the scene for a fascinating finish to the third Test.

"The wickets of the Australian captain and the senior opener Simon Katich allowed England to dream of conjuring a fifth-day victory," The Herald's Chloe Saltau said.

"Australia is desperately

trying to avoid going 2-0 down in an Ashes series for the first time since 1986."

The newspaper said much will depend on whether rookie opener Shane Watson (34 not out) and out-of-form Mike Hussey (18 not out) can help Australia bat out the final day, so their team can head to the fourth Test at Headingley with the series still only delicately poised in England's favour.

The Australian's Malcolm Conn wondered whether the pressure of leading an inexperienced team was weighing heavily on Ponting.

"It was his second poor Test after a majestic 150 in Cardiff, leaving the nagging feeling that he carries so much with this inexperienced team that maybe, just maybe, it is starting to wear the 34-year-old down," Conn said.

The Australian press praised the big-hitting innings of all-rounder Andrew Flintoff, whose swaggering 74 from 79 balls helped position England for a shot at victory.

"There's so much controversy between the suits, it seems like every race is a world record," Lochte said.

He was looking forward a rule change in January limiting the technology.

"I think we'll decide who are real swimmers out there, I hope I'll be among them."

Lochte was feeling the pressure in the closing stages of the medley, with American Tyler Clary and Hungarian Laszlo Cseh in hot pursuit.

"I didn't think I was going to hurt that much," he said. "I just gave it everything I had at the very end."

Clary made it a US one-two, as he edged Cseh in 4:07.31, the Hungarian taking bronze 4:07.37.

Former Test spinner Greg Matthews said Australia needed to find someone who

could knock over the England tail-end.

"You would have thought Australia's tail was stronger, but England's is becoming a real thorn in the side," Matthews said on SBS TV.

A record

FROM PAGE 17 championships with a triumph in the men's 400m individual medley.

Lochte capitalized on the absence of Phelps, who opted out of the four-stroke races this season. He broke Phelps's world record in winning the 200m individual medley, and also earned gold on two freestyle relays.

Lochte, like Phelps, Briton Gemma Spofforth and Zimbabwe's Kirsty Coventry, notched his world record here in the outdated Seado LZR Racer, rather than one of the newer polyurethane suits that fueled Rome's record rampage.

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Caddick calls it a day

AFP, London

Former England fast bowler Andy Caddick on Sunday announced his retirement at the end of the current season.

The 40-year-old, who has 1,178 first-class wickets and 234 Test victims, said "I'm 40 -- it's as simple as that."

"I wanted to call time while I was still physically and mentally strong, rather than playing on for the sake of it."

"Retirement had to be on my terms, not anyone else's. Somerset are still in with a chance of winning the championship for the first time this season, and that would be the perfect way for me to bow out."

Earlier, Anderson -- with his sixth ball Monday -- had Shane Watson caught behind for 53. It was the makeshift opener's second fifty of the match after he'd come in for dropped left-hander Phillip Hughes.

Ashes holders Australia resumed Monday on 88 for two, still 25 runs behind.

England had all but ended any Australian hopes of victory on Sunday with Onions dismissing Simon Katich and Graeme Swann's classic off-break bowling Australia captain and star batsman Ricky Ponting for five.

England had been struggling at 168 for five on Sunday in reply to another inadequate Australia first innings, this time of 263.

But Flintoff revived the hosts with 74 off just 79 balls in a total of 376 as England built a first innings lead of 113.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the fifth day of the third Ashes Test between England and Australia at Edgbaston on Monday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 263 (Watson 62; Anderson 5-80, G Onions 4-58)

ENGLAND: First innings 376 (Flintoff 74, Strauss 69, Broad 55, Bell 53; Hilfenhaus 4-109, Siddler 3-89)

AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 88-2)

Watson c Prior b Anderson 53 Katich c Prior b Onions 26 Ponting b Swann 5

Hussey c Prior b Broad 64 Clarke not out 73 North not out 64

Extras: (b-4, lb-2, w-1, nb-1) 8 Total: (For 4 wks in 93 overs) 293

To bat: Manou, Johnson, Hauritz, Siddler, Hilfenhaus. Fall of wickets: 1-47, 2-52, 3-137, 4-161.

Bowler O M R W Anderson 21 8 47 1 Flintoff 15 0 35 0 Onions 19 3 74 1 Swann 27 4 99 1 Broad 8 2 18 1 Bopara 3 0 14 0

Tigers depart

FROM PAGE 17 at around BDT 5 million and includes full title rights, prize money and rights to branding the stadium, and other communications and Grameenphone will also provide the Man-of-the-Match and the Man-of-the-Series prizes.

All matches will be held at the Queens Sports Club.

BANGLADESH

Tamim c Reifer b Tonge 7 Zunaed c D.S. Smith b Sammy 5 Ashrafal c Tonge b Sammy 0

Nayeem run out (Thomas) 27 Shakib b Miller 17 Mushfiqur run out 3

Mahmudullah run out (Sammy) 21 Rokibul b b Miller 1

Mehrab run out (Sammy) 10

WEST INDIES

Richards b Shakib 0 Fletcher lbw b Nazmul 8 Smith c Mushfiqur b Rubel 37

Downin not out 37 Reifer c Mahmudullah b Ashrafal 22

Sammy c Mahmudullah b Ashrafal 6 Bernard not out 1

Result: West Indies won by five wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Darren Sammy.

Toss: Bangladesh.

Umpires: C Duncan and N Malcolm.

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India stars lambasted

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

India's sports minister and the country's lone Olympic champion on Monday hit out at cricketers for refusing to divulge their daily location under an anti-doping code.

"All sportspersons should adhere to it and happily follow it," Sports Minister Manohar Singh Gill told reporters a day after the nation's top cricketers declined to comply with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code.

"The world is concerned about doping and we should support WADA. India has accepted regulatory testing and we adhere to it."

"It should be made clear to sportspersons that testing does not interfere in anyone's personal life."

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Sunday gave its blessing to players who did not accept the whereabouts clause of the WADA code, saying it infringed on their privacy.

The clause requires players to detail their whereabouts for an hour between 6:00 am and 11:00 pm every day for the next three months to allow random out-of-competition testing.

Olympic shooting gold medalist Abhinav Bindra urged the cricketers to accept the code, saying the clause was "no big deal."

"They should just accept it and get on with life," said Bindra, who won India's first-ever individual Olympic gold at Beijing last year.

"I think it is all due to a lack of understanding. But if cricket wants to become a global sport and fight the menace of drugs, they must agree to the WADA code."

"I have been part of the code for a few years and it is no big deal."

India's top players are the only ones in world cricket, a non-Olympic discipline, who had not signed the WADA documents by the August 1 deadline set by the International Cricket Council.

According to WADA rules, anyone missing three doping tests over 18 months faces a ban of up to two years.

"We have no problem with the testing, but we have a problem with the system of testing players," BCCI president Shashank Manohar told reporters on Sunday.

"We have decided to write to the ICC about the concerns raised by the players. The BCCI agrees with the players that the system of testing is unreasonable."

Nine Indian male and two female players were registered for dope testing by the ICC, both during tournaments or random out-of-competition.

The male players in the list are world batting record holder Sachin Tendulkar, captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Virender Sehwag, Yuvraj Singh, Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer Khan, Gautam Gambhir, Irfan Pathan and Munaf Patel.

Jhulan Goswami and Mithali Raj are the two women players in the list.

The ICC, responding to India's stand, said the matter will be discussed by the governing body's Executive Board to "find a way forward."

Flintoff full of hope

Cricket

AFP, Birmingham

Andrew Flintoff said England had it in them to defy the bad weather that has played havoc with the third Test and beat Australia on Monday's final day here at Edgbaston.

And he promised England fans worried about the all-rounder's knee injury he would be fit to play in the fourth Test at Headingley even though there are just three days between the end of this match and Friday's start in Leeds.

Asked what it would take to get to him to Leeds, Flintoff jokingly told reporters: "I'll get there in my car."

Flintoff struck 74 here on Sunday to help propel England, already 1-0 up in the five-match series, into a first innings lead of 113 and then saw paceman Graham Onions dismiss Simon Katich before off-spinner Graeme Swann captured the key wicket of Australia captain Ricky Ponting, out for a mere five.

Australia will resume Monday on 88 for two, still needing 25 more runs to make England bat again and with their hopes of winning this match all but extinguished by a Flintoff-inspired revival which helped England recover from 168 for five.

England took seven wickets for 77 runs on Friday morning as Australia collapsed in the face of fine bowling from Onions and James Anderson, who exploited the overcast conditions.

Flintoff, whose two fifties and aggressive pace bowling played a key role in England's thrilling two-run Ashes victory at Edgbaston four years ago, was not too disappointed to have missed

out on a hundred after he gloved off-spinner Nathan Hauritz to Michael Clarke at slip.

His rapid partnerships of 89 and 52 with Matthew Prior (41) and Stuart Broad (55) helped England take the game away from Australia after Saturday's third day was washed out without a ball being bowled.

"It would have been nice to get one (a hundred)," Flintoff told reporters. "But we are in a decent position."

"The first session tomorrow [Monday] is massive for both sides. If we can start as we did the other day we can win the Test match but if they get through to lunch one down, they will think they are doing all right."

Flintoff's unbroken spell on the final day at Lord's helped England achieve a 115-run second Test win that put them 1-0 up in the series.

"The last day at Lord's we needed five wickets. Here there are still some fine players to come in. Both sides' patience will be tested, it will be attritional cricket," Flintoff predicted.

England enjoyed the boost of seeing Swann turn one out of the rough created by Australia left-arm quick Mitchell Johnson to bowl Ponting.

"When you get Ricky out, it always gives you a lift," said Flintoff. "He is probably the best player in the world."

Australia swing bowler Ben Hilfenhaus produced another impressive display of endurance and skill, reeling off 14 consecutive overs, to lead the attack with four for 109 in 30 overs.

But despite his efforts Hilfenhaus admitted the best Australia could now hope for was a draw. "Obviously this morning our plan was to knock them over early and now it's unfortunately back to Plan B and hopefully we can bat the day out."

Tigers felled finally

FROM PAGE 17

and Mehrab, to an extent, to show some caution and push the score past 100, which eventually proved inadequate.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the only Twenty20 International between West Indies and Bangladesh at Warner Park on Sunday:

BANGLADESH

Tamim c Reifer b Tonge 7 Zunaed c D.S. Smith b Sammy 5 Ashrafal c Tonge b Sammy 0

Nayeem run out (Thomas) 27 Shakib b Miller 17 Mushfiqur run out 3

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