

Under-15 Dev squad selected

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) picked up 24 players for the U-15 Development Squad camp which will start from August 25 at BKSP.

The players has asked to report at BKSP on Monday at 4:30pm.

The selected players are Shabir Islam, Yasir Chowdhury, Al Mamun Rafsan, Zahid Javed, Omar Faruk, Shabaz Chowhan, Sajid Akter, Sha Afran Shakil, Sadman Islam, Jibon Chowdhury, Bayjid Amin, Abu Haydar, Mahmudur Rahman, Abu Sayem, Taskin Ahmed, Sukanto Kumar Dey, Salman Hossain, Rahatul Ferdous Javed, Mehedi Hasan, Samarat Sardar, Arafat Sunny, Adath Hassan Rabbi, Rashed Khan and Kamran Farhad Sunny.

Kiwis save

FROM PAGE 17

Star spinner Muttiah Muralidaran had two lucky breaks when he earned a leg-before verdict against the sturdy McIntosh and had Jacob Oram caught off the pad at short-leg for 12.

Television replays showed Australian umpire Daryl Harper erred in both decisions.

The middle order collapse undid the good work of McIntosh, who had batted through the rain-affected morning session after resuming at his overnight score of 36.

The left-hander survived two blows on his helmet and shoulder by rising deliveries from Thushara, but hung on for six hours to anchor New Zealand's reply.

The 29-year-old Auckland batsman, who has a century to his credit in five previous Tests but had never played an international match outside New Zealand, hit six boundaries and six sixes.

Nightwatchman Jeetan Patel helped McIntosh put on 49 for the third wicket, himself contributing 26, before he was leg-before to Muralidaran 20 minutes before lunch.

Taylor added 51 runs for the fourth wicket when he edged a well-pitched delivery from Thushara to wicketkeeper Prasanna Jayawardene.

Muralidaran, the most successful Test bowler in history, took his record tally to 773 with the wickets of McIntosh and Oram.

New Zealand play two Tests, two Twenty20 internationals and a limited-overs series also featuring India during the five-week tour.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the first Test between New Zealand and Sri Lanka at the Galle International Stadium on Thursday:

SRI LANKA: First innings 452 (Dilshan 92, Jayawardene 114, Samaraweera 159; Vettori 4-78, Martin 4-77)

NEW ZEALAND: First innings (overnight 87-2)

McIntosh lbw b Muralidaran 69

Gupill lb Thushara 24

Flynn b Mendis 14

Patel lbw b Muralidaran 26

Taylor c P Jayawardene b Thushara 35

Ryder b Kulasekara 42

McCullum b Thushara 1

Oram c sub (Wanapura) b Muralidaran 12

Vettori not out 33

O'Brien not out 3

Extras: (b-6 lb-5, nb-11) 22

Total: (For 8 wkt in 105 overs) 281

To bat: Martin. Fall of wickets: 1-45, 2-80, 3-129, 4-180, 5-188, 6-195, 7-223, 8-259.

Bowler O M R W

Kulasekara 10 2 41 1

Thushara 22 2 80 3

Mendis 34 8 75 1

Muralidaran 37 9 66 3

Paranavitana 2 0 8 0

SA condemns

FROM PAGE 17 but the entire country -- a boost for athletics. Her determination to succeed in becoming a world-renowned athlete has made Caster a role model for young athletes."

The government's ministry of women also praised Semenya.

"Semenya's outstanding success despite negative media speculation about her gender demonstrates her determination and resolve to succeed," the ministry said in a statement.



Did U Know?

The very first Olympic race, held in 776 BC, was won by Corubus, a chef.

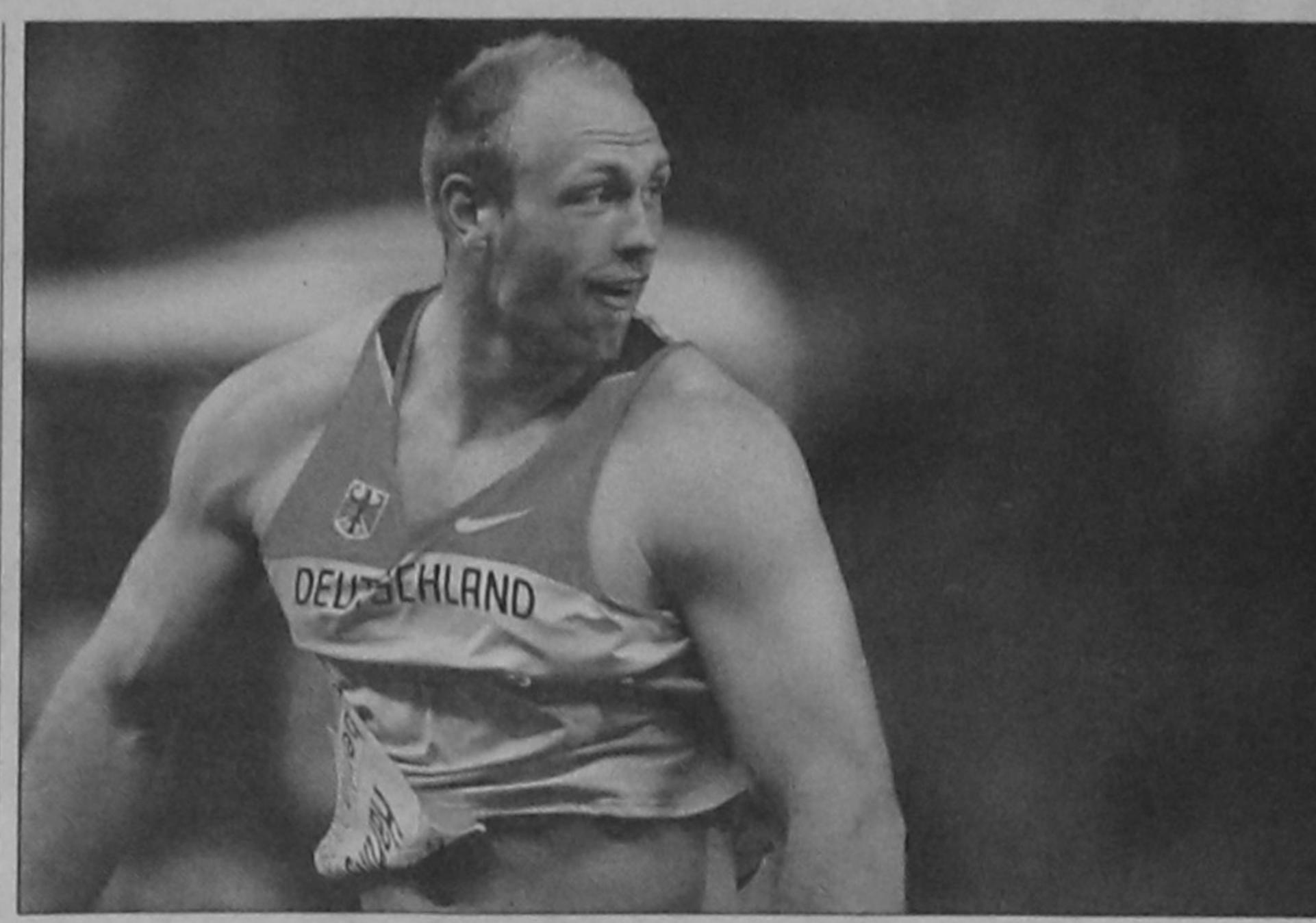


PHOTO: AFP

German Robert Harting looks back after a satisfying hurl in the men's discus throw that he won after close contest at Athletics World Championships in Berlin on Wednesday.

Harting hurls gold

AFP, Berlin



berlin 2009

August 15-23

12th IAAF World Championships in Athletics

Germany's Robert Harting left it till the last of six throws to take the men's discus world title here on Wednesday in a quite thrilling contest.

"The 24-year-old - a silver medalist two years ago - threw the discus 69.43 metres to beat the Pole."

Malachowski had pulled no punches from the first throw as he landed his mark of 68.77m for new national record and indeed the first three after three rounds all had their best efforts in the first exchanges.

Harting, who had said earlier that he would willingly throw his discus at the head of anyone caught for doping, went second with a season's best 68.25m while Virginijus Alekna was in bronze medal position after making a mark of 66.36m.

Harting apologised for his remarks after winning.

"I am sorry for those remarks," he said.

"If I could take them back I would. All this trouble with the media and the federation believe me I am a 'cold dog'."

"I can cope with a lot of things on my mind. But I was close to having too much on my mind."

Kamel eyes double

AFP, Berlin



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Newly-minted world 1500m champion Yusuf Saad Kamel of Bahrain took a step to repeating his father Billy Konchellah's feat of winning the world 800m crown when he breezed through qualifying heats here on Thursday.

The Kenyan-born runner produced a fantastic late surge to claim gold in the men's 1500m late on Wednesday but showed no signs of tiredness as he won his heat with ease in 1min 46.44sec ahead of Kenyan rival Abel Kiprop.

"I did not sleep last night because I was very excited," admitted Kamel. "I slept just two hours in the morning but I still had enough energy for the race today."

Kamel, who until 2003 competed for Kenya as Gregory Konchellah, is the son of Billy, who was world 800m champion in 1987 and 1991, and bronze medallist in 1993.

The 800/1500m double was last achieved by Kamel's disgraced Moroccan-born team-mate Rashid Ramzi at the 2005 worlds in Helsinki but Kamel will have a fight on his hands in what looks like a very tight field.

Defending world champion and Olympic bronze medallist Alfred Yego led a trio of impressive Kenyans into the semi-finals scheduled for 1830 GMT on Friday.

Kiprop, fourth in the 1500m, Kenyan champion David Rudisha and Jackson Kivuva all moved effortlessly into the semi-finals, along with Bahrain's Belal Mansoor Ali, formerly John Yego of Kenya, and dangerous Moroccan Amine Laalou.

"It was a good race," Yego said of his heat win. "It will be difficult for me to defend my title. Now, with the yellow bib, everybody knows it and it means a lot of pressure for me."

South African Mbulaeni Mulaudzi won his heat ahead of Sudan's Abubaker Kaki, who has set the world's leading time this season.

And Canadian Gary Reed and Russia's former Olympic champion Yury Borzakovskiy, silver and bronze medallists at the Osaka

2012.

"I am devastated I wasn't ready in time, especially having got so close in such a short time frame," said the 35-year-old, who underwent a foot operation in March.

"However, after having the surgery to successfully put the years of injury behind me it is very important to me that I come back to racing often and winning at 100 percent and continue strongly and successfully through to London 2012."

Semenya's gender

championships.

"In the case of this athlete, following her breakthrough in the African junior championships, the rumours, the gossip were starting to build up," said Davies.

Semenya has already been involved in a controversial incident at the championships.

During the 800m heats, she became entangled with Janet Jepkosgei on the final bend and brought down the Kenyan.

Semenya managed to just about keep on her feet, showed great composure and ran out an easy winner.

She has also displayed a certain nonchalance regarding her future in the sport as was in evidence after her semi-final on Monday.

Weiss admitted it was a headache that the IAAF could have done without, but as Semenya had been a total unknown a few weeks ago it had not been a problem they had anticipated.

"We would have preferred no controversy."

"She was unknown three weeks ago, nobody could have anticipated this situation, we are fast, but we are not that fast."

Earlier IAAF spokesman Nick Davies revealed the question had first been raised after Semenya's astonishing performances at the African junior

and silver in the same event in the 1936 Olympics here in Berlin.

However, after she was shot dead during an armed robbery in 1980, the subsequent autopsy revealed she possessed male genitalia, although she also had female characteristics as well.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) have now dropped gender determination tests.

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\$70m rests on Oval Test



CRICINFO, undated

The Ashes decider at The Oval may well be the most eagerly anticipated contest in recent memory, for fans, media and the players themselves. But the fifth Test will have a lot more riding on it than just the destination of the famous urn or bragging rights for the next couple of years. Informed estimates suggest that punters around the world may have staked well over US\$70 million on the result of the Test - and thus the series - beginning today.

The sheer volume of money at stake would also explain why an Australian player was approached by a bookie after the Lord's Test, as revealed by Cricinfo.

Betfair, the leading P2P (person to person) betting exchange based in the UK, had already matched bets worth US\$4.8 million by Wednesday afternoon. Given that Betfair generally accounts for nearly half of the total volume logged

in the UK, the total betting on the winner of the Ashes series will far exceed the figure of US\$10 million by the time the first ball is bowled at the Oval. And though cricket may not yet have taken off on the continent, betting on it is surprisingly energetic, with approximately US\$3 million placed on the result.

However, these figures are dwarfed by those coming out of the illegal betting market in India, as befits the financial centre of the game. It is estimated that each of the preceding four Ashes Tests has seen between US\$30 million and US\$41 million (Rs 150-200 crore) wagered on the result. It can take in small details, such as who will bowl the next over from which end and how many runs will be scored in an over, or off the next delivery. Putting a realistic figure on these transactions is difficult and though there are very few punters involved in this, the stakes can often be very high.

Bookmakers, such as Ladbrokes and William Hill, used to stop taking bets after the toss in any match. But once they discovered how bookies from the subcontinent actually made

more money after matches had begun, on fancy sauda, they too embraced the system. Thus 'in Play' betting - placing bets when the Test begins, where odds are re-worked with every ball bowled, every run scored - now accounts for the largest chunk of betting on any contest.

Though the figures for the last Test seem impressive, the decider is actually thought to be a low-volume contest in India. There are two reasons for this. One, this is a decider, so the winner (if it does not end in a draw) of this Test and the series is going to be the same, and since there are bets already riding on the series winner category, it does not make much sense for them to increase the ante. Two, New Zealand's series with Sri Lanka has diverted the hearts and wallets of punters not only in the subcontinent, but also to an extent in Europe, where bets over US\$5 million had already been placed by the second day of the Test. In India, sources estimate that nearly US\$80 million (Rs 400 crore) are already placed on the first Test, and nearly US\$60 million (Rs 300 crore) on the series winner.

Bell elevates

FROM PAGE 17

His leg-glanced four, his eighth boundary, off Ben Hilfenhaus saw Bell, promoted to No 3 in place of Bobara, to a 73-ball fifty.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the fifth Ashes Test between England and Australia at The Oval on Thursday:

ENGLAND: Firstinnings

Strauss & Haddin b Hilfenhaus 55

Cook & Ponting b Siddle 10

Bell not out 72

Collingwood c Hussey b Siddle 24

Trott not out 3

Extras: (lb-3, w-2, nb-11) 16

Total: (For 3 wkt in 53 overs) 180

To bat: Prior, Flintoff, Broad, Swann, Harmison, Anderson

Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-114, 3-176.

Bowler O M R W

Hilfenhaus 18 4 59 1

Siddle 13 4 47 2

Clark 9 4 17 0

Johnson 9 0