

**Jose tightens grip at Real**

Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho took a firm grip of the Spanish giants on Friday when he added the title of sporting director to his duties on the pitch, in succession to Jorge Valdano who was axed as director-general in May.

"Jose Mourinho has been nominated as sporting director," said a club statement.

It is a major victory for Mourinho who often clashed with Argentine Valdano last season when great rivals Barcelona clinched a Spanish League-Champions League double.

Real's only silverware last season was a first Kings Cup triumph in 18 years.

**China poised for diving sweep**

China moved to within just one victory of a historic diving clean sweep Saturday, as US great Michael Phelps said he was determined to go out with a bang in his final year of swimming.

With basketball icon Yao Ming watching from the stands, Wu Minxia claimed the 3m springboard title ahead of synchro partner He Zi, giving the hosts a stunning nine out of nine gold medals at the Crescent Lagoon pool.

Wu's first individual world title -- just months after the retirement of her former partner, "diving queen" Guo Jingjing -- means the pressure will fall on Qiu Bo to complete the first ever 10-medal haul in Sunday's men's 10m final.

But Qiu looked in sublime form as he led the semifinals by nearly 80 points, with British reigning champion Tom Daley well back in sixth, and will be hot favourite to put the final seal on China's total dominance.

Meanwhile Phelps, who has 14 Olympic titles, admitted it would be "really weird to hang up the suit" but said he was hoping to write a final, magnificent chapter -- starting with the Shanghai swimming events from Sunday.

Elsewhere, soaring temperatures prompted angry complaints and a swathe of withdrawals from the grueling 25km marathon swim, which is in the safety spotlight after the death of a top athlete.

More than 20 swimmers did not finish the race and some were carried away on stretchers as water temperatures hit 32 degrees Celsius (89.6 Fahrenheit), above the limit considered safe by America's open water commission.

**Booters go**

FROM PAGE 16 formation, bringing in striker Mithun Chowdhury in place of a defensive midfielder while also replacing Emily with Abahani striker Mohammad Robin.

However, that hardly made an impact on the course of the match as Lebanon scored two more within 19 minutes of resumption. The third goal came in the 55th minute when defender Ali Al Saadi headed in a freekick before substitute Tarek El Ali sealed the match with a fourth in the 64th minute.

The handful of expatriate Bangladeshis who made up most of the crowd, were left dejected and hoping for a miracle in the home match to take place on July 28.

**TEAMS BANGLADESH:** Mamun Khan (GK), Nasirul Islam (Mithun Chowdhury), Waly Faisal (Atiqur Rahman Meshu), Ariful Islam, Mohammad Sujon (C), Rezaul Karim, Monaem Khan Raju, Mamunul Islam, Zahid Hossain, Shakil Ahmed, Zahid Hasan Emily (Mohammad Robin)

**LEBANON:** Elias Freje (GK), Ali Al Sadi, Ramez Dayoub, Hassan Maatouk, Zakaria Yeha Charra (Hussein Dakik), Abbas Atwi (C) (Tarek El Ali), Akram Moghrabi, Hamzeh Salami, Mahmoud EL Ali (Mahmoud Younes), Hamze Abboud, Walid Ismail

**Yellow Cards:** Shakil (Ban) **Referee:** Kadhoum Odah Lazem Al Saedi (Iraq)



England batsman Kevin Pietersen punches the air after reaching his third double century late on the second day of the first Test against India at Lord's on Friday.

**Boycott blasts Rauf**

*'Pietersen should have gone on 49'*



PTI, London

England batsman Kevin Pietersen should have been back in the pavilion much before he struck his unbeaten double hundred but umpire Asad Rauf's lack of conviction saved him in the ongoing first Test against India, says Geoffrey Boycott.

The former batsman said Pietersen, who made an unbeaten 202 in England's 474 for eight declared, should have been given out caught at leg slip when he was on 49 as Rauf had a clear view of the catch but it was referred to the third umpire.

"The only blot on the day was the poor decision by the square leg umpire, Asad Rauf, when he should have given Pietersen out caught at leg slip when he was on 49.

"He had an uninterrupted clear view from 20 yards away and chickened out of making the correct decision. Anybody who works in television will tell you that low catches will always look as if the ball has bounced before being caught," Boycott wrote in the Daily Telegraph.

"Batsmen throughout the game know

that if a low catch is referred to the television umpire there is every chance they will get away with it. I don't blame the batsman for standing. I blame the umpire for not having the courage of his convictions and making the decision without television."

That apart, Boycott criticised India's bowling performance in the absence of an injured Zaheer Khan and said the attack just doesn't seem to belong to the world's top Test side.

"It is not Pietersen's fault that India were one bowler short and their other bowling wasn't special. Harbhajan Singh made no impact whatsoever, Ishant Sharma tried his best but his inexperience and inability to put the ball in awkward areas showed up time and again," he said.

"Praveen Kumar is military medium but swung the ball and fully deserved his successful haul of five wickets which shows that in Test cricket, provided you move the ball off straight and narrow, you have a chance of getting people out.

"But with this bowling line up you wonder how the hell India are going to take England wickets without Zaheer Khan. Even more so, you wonder how they got to number one in the world," he added.

**Bolts to victory**



AFP, Monte Carlo

Jamaican sprint star Usain Bolt raced to victory in the 100m at the Diamond League here on Friday with a season's best of 9.88 seconds, overcoming a slow first half to pip compatriot Nesta Carter.

Bolt, the reigning world and Olympic double sprint champion, was down on most of the field at 50m but once his 'drive phase' kicked in, there was no stopping the 24-year-old, dressed in white singlet and black shorts.

"I came into the race but didn't execute well. I had to work hard and concentrate," said Bolt. "There are some little things to work on. I have time before the World Championships and I will continue to do my best."

Bolt said he was feeling comfortable with his final 60m, saying his focus in training would be on the first 40m and start.

"I'm almost back to 100 per cent on the final 60m and I've got to work on the first half.

"I'll take it one step at a time and hopefully the next race will be better."

In his third and final 100m of the season before the August 27-September 4 world championships in Daegu, South Korea, Bolt

could not afford to showboat as he sometimes does, and he even had to sneak a look across the line to see where Carter was.

"I thought I had him, but in the last 20 metres I messed up right there," said Carter, who missed out on a place for the individual 100m spot for Jamaica at the Daegu worlds but who will still be on the relay squad.

"But I can take confidence from a good race and look forward to the next event."

Bolt stormed to Olympic gold at the 2008 Beijing Games in a world record time of 9.69 seconds and then bettered that to 9.58sec when winning the world title in Berlin a year later.

But the Jamaican has insisted that attaining that level would not be happening this season as he works on regaining his fluency and technique following a slowly-slowly approach to his comeback from injury.

American Michael Rodgers came in third in 9.96sec, with another Jamaican, Michael Frater, in fourth at 10.01, two-hundredths ahead of France's double European sprint champion Christophe Lemaitre.

Lemaitre, who has twice bettered the French national record this season, was left disappointed with his showing.

"Technically it was not a good race for me," the 21-year-old said. "10.03 was not good but I think I can run faster in Daegu."

**Hughes ready to fill Katich boots**



ANI, Sydney

Australia's opening batsman Philip Hughes has said that he was shocked over Cricket Australia's decision to overlook Simon Katich for a central contract, but admitted that he wants to do the best he can to be the experienced batsman's replacement.

"I was devastated for Simon, very disappointed. He has been huge for me, personally. I remember the first time I got a rookie contract for NSW and he was one of the first people to come up to me at training and give his time," the Sydney Morning Herald quoted Hughes, as saying.

The 22-year-old further said that the player who will replace Katich would be under constant scrutiny.

"I'd love to be in the Test side, but we'll have to wait and see until it gets selected. All I can do is prepare well and keep getting runs on the board," Hughes said.

"Whoever does get picked in that position is going to get a lot of media talk and scrutiny, but everyone has pressure on them, so you just get your head around that and learn to deal with it," he added.

**Dravid lifts**

FROM PAGE 16 And two off the paceman took him to a hundred completed in 202 balls with 15 boundaries in just over five hours at the crease.

**BRIEF SCORES ENGLAND:** First innings 474-8 dec (Pietersen 202 not out, Prior 71; Praveen Kumar 5-106)

**INDIA:** First Innings 286 (Dravid 103 not out, Mukund 49, Tendulkar 34; Broad 4-37, Tremlett 3-80; Anderson 2-87)

**ENGLAND:** Second innings 5 for no loss (Strauss 3 not out, Cook 0 not out)

**Tigers toil till**

FROM PAGE 16 trouble. It was played in difficult conditions where the players had to go on and off with the rain. Hopefully when we go to Zimbabwe the weather is pretty good and hopefully we see it out there," said Law.

The Tigers leave the country on July 27 to play a Test and five one-day matches against the hosts.

**Hard work pays off for KP**



INTERNET, London

Kevin Pietersen admitted that it had taken a lot of hard graft to reach his third Test double hundred and put England on top in the first Test against India.

Although he was hitting the ball so sweetly at the end of his unbeaten 202 that it looked as if batting was a breeze, Pietersen had been forced to weather tough conditions on Day One when the ball was swinging prodigiously.

His first fifty was the slowest in his international career, but the patience and doggedness paid off in the end as he registered his first century on home soil since 2008 and drove England to a total of 474 for eight declared.

"It's something to be proud of, definitely," he said afterwards. "There've been some fairly complimentary things being said to me in the dressing room.

"I've never had to work harder. With the conditions I batted in yesterday, and having to face [wicketkeeper] MS Dhoni for half an hour as well, I reckon it's right up there with the hundreds I've scored.

"They bowled really well in swinging conditions and the pitch was seaming as well. I was missing balls by a couple of inches on occasions...it was real hard graft."

Pietersen made use of the Decision Review System when he was on 49 after he'd been given out caught behind off the bowling of Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who was forced to fill in with a few overs with Zaheer Khan kept out of the attack by a hamstring strain.

"I had to review that one... I can't get out to Dhoni!" Pietersen joked.

"He was difficult to get through, though. Whenever a wicketkeeper comes on to bowl it's pretty hard and he got it swinging both ways and nipping.

He's just a very talented man." Under sunny skies batting proved much easier on Day Two, suggesting that although they've claimed the upper hand England will have some hard work to do if they want to force a result in the match.

India will resume on 17 without loss, and the hosts will be hoping to exploit any rustiness among a batting line-up who have had minimal preparation for English conditions.

"It's difficult to say [if England will win], history says it's quite difficult to win Test matches at Lord's," said Pietersen.

"But the wicket is still offering a lot to the seamers. It's swinging and, if it's swinging, that is alien to Indian batsmen.

"Having been put in and scored 474, we're in a pretty good position. It would have been interesting if India had batted yesterday and where we'd have been."

**Cesc misses Germany trip**

AFP, London

Arsenal skipper Cesc Fabregas has failed to recover from a muscular injury and will not travel to Germany for the Gunners' pre-season camp as uncertainty over the player's future at the club continues.

The midfielder, who has again been linked with a switch to European champions Barcelona, also missed the tour of Asia with the same problem.

"Fabregas has not completely recovered from his muscular injury," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger told www.arsenal.com on Friday. "It is too early for him, he is not ready."

Wenger insisted that there has been no further development in the long-running transfer saga involving Fabregas.

"The position at the moment is a 'no comment' situation because there is no movement at all," said Wenger.

Two players that Wenger has admitted could be leaving this summer are goalkeeper Manuel Almunia and striker Nicklas Bendtner with neither player having travelled to Germany.

But he is confident that French midfielder Samir Nasri, linked with a move to Manchester City, will stay at the Emirates.

"(It is) not completely (sorted) that Samir will stay but I want him to stay. He knows that. Hopefully we can sort that out in the coming weeks," said the manager.

"Almunia has been contacted by a few clubs, Bendtner as well.

"As long as the situation is not settled, we have to focus on the coming season with the players we have. The players who are uncertain, it is difficult for them to focus on being completely committed."

**Kumar living the dream**



IANS, London

Seamer Praveen Kumar called his five-wicket haul at Lord's a dream and said he was ready to shoulder the Indian attack in the absence of pace spearhead Zaheer Khan in the first innings of the first cricket Test against England.

Zaheer missed the second day of the first Test owing to a hamstring strain. In his absence, India were left with a bowler short Friday. The Indian bowling looked so depleted that skipper and wicketkeeper Mahendra Singh Dhoni had to hand over his gloves to Rahul Dravid and roll his arms.

With Ishant Sharma erring in his line and length and spinner Harbhajan Singh failing to trouble the English batsmen, things were fast slipping out of India's hands.

However, Praveen, who has been often criticised for his lack of pace, rose to the occasion. He was effectively swinging and seaming the ball to emerge as the sole wicket taker for India on the second day (5-106).

"It was a dream to play here, it was a good feeling," said the 24-year-old, who played alongside England batsman Kevin Pietersen for two years with the Royal Challengers Bangalore.

"The weather was nice and it felt really nice to get the five wickets. After taking four I was very confident of getting the fifth."

Praveen said he was prepared to bowl long spells in absence of Zaheer.

"It was not about pressure, it was about motivating myself and working hard," he said.

"I knew all of us have will have to pitch in Zaheer's absence and we were prepared to bowl more overs."



Winners of the Citycell Summer Cup golf meet are seen with chief guest Maj Gen Sheikh Md Monirul Islam at the Mainamati Golf and Country Club in Comilla yesterday.

**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

- ACROSS**  
1 Ballet skirt  
5 "A pox upon thee!"  
8 Sore  
12 Microwave, for one  
13 Praise in verse  
14 Comrade of Mao  
15 Clothing store section  
16 Attendance check  
18 Wolf in the hen-house?  
20 "Yes" or "no" follower  
21 Settled down  
23 —  
24 Command to Fido  
28 Being, to Brutus  
31 Historic time  
32 Elaine's surname on "Seinfeld"
- DOWN**  
1 Grant's —  
2 Eye layer  
3 Be inclined (to)  
4 Open  
5 Let-by-gones-be-by-gones type  
6 Wedding words  
7 Morays and congers  
8 Accumulate  
9 Special appeal
- 10 Aperture**  
**11 Christ-mas**  
**17 Fleur-de- —**  
**19 Amorphous mass**  
**22 Male voice**  
**24 Churchly title (Abbr.)**  
**25 Raw rock**  
**26 Trusted knight**  
**27 Got sick again**  
**29 Bracketed notation**  
**30 Wapiti**  
**33 Insult**  
**36 Restaurant furniture**  
**38 Enlarge a photo**  
**40 Saloon**  
**42 Love god**  
**43 Pajama cover-up**  
**44 Poet**  
**46 Zilch**  
**47 Carry**  
**48 Smell**  
**50 Scepter**

Solution time: 24 mins.

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**CRYPTOQUIP**

D Z J N G T D X M I D I J G X C Q G T Q  
J A J N V L R O V N J D U U V U R A J M I R  
C D I T Q C G Z L U J O R X  
Z D I T Q J M : I J X X G M - M J J .

Saturday's Cryptoquip: THIS VEGETARIAN SOUP RECIPE CALLS FOR VERY LITTLE OF THE CEREAL GRAIN. IT'S BARLEY NOTICEABLE. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals H