

# Star SPORT

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## Lampard ruled out of Euros

England midfielder Frank Lampard has been ruled out of Euro 2012 after a scan on the thigh injury he suffered in training. Lampard sustained the problem while training with the England squad on Wednesday and boss Roy Hodgson decided the Chelsea star would have to be replaced when tests showed he wouldn't be fit for any of his side's three group matches. Liverpool midfielder Jordan Henderson has been called into the squad in Lampard's place, subject to agreement from UEFA's medical team.



Usain Bolt celebrates after winning the men's 100-metre event at Diamond League meet in Rome on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Season that had it all for Ziaur

Cricket

MOHAMMAD ISAM

It was the Chittagong Kings' fourth game in the Bangladesh Premier League and in their pursuit of a 153-run chase, they lost the form opener Nasir Jamshed in the fifth over. The commentators had a shockingly tough time pronouncing the next man's name as he walked in steadily from the dugout.

Ziaur Rahman was also making his fourth appearance in the Twenty20 competition but it was only his second opportunity with the bat. No sooner had he smashed four sixes in a typically quickfire 32-ball 48, there were murmurs in the press box of lost opportunities and the need for a big-hitter in the Bangladesh Twenty20 team, a notion that has hardly been fulfilled since 2006.

Players have had to bat extra aggressively to become Twenty20 players both internationally and domestically, and as a result it either propelled someone like Junaed Siddique or slowed down some of their progress. For the last six years, Ziaur has been touted as a Twenty20 specialist but either he had mediocre seasons or he was ignored after showing promise. His batting has been the main attraction (a skill he had to develop after his fast bowling career was jeopardised by an ankle injury early on).

"I like to hit the ball, I love to bat aggressively so that's why I think I am termed as a Twenty20 player, but I have played first-class

cricket and I always play one-day matches in the Premier League so I can play in all the formats," Ziaur told The Daily Star Sport yesterday.

Ziaur walked off unbeaten with Kings skipper Mahmudullah Riyad as they won quite comfortably, but it was one of those remarkable days for the all-rounder during the 2011-12 season that ultimately put him in the national squad for the upcoming Zimbabwe tour. But it hasn't made him all that happy because according to Ziaur, it is only the second part of the deal; the next, performance, is up to him.



ZIAUR RAHMAN

"This is the easy part -- getting the opportunity to be in the squad -- but it will all go down the drain if I don't perform for the national team whenever I get an opportunity," he said. "Everyone performs in the national team, so I have to do that too. I am happy to get the chance, but I have to perform and unless I can do that, I shouldn't be too pleased."

Most of the other remarkable days came while he played for Old DOHS (now called Prime Bank Cricket Club) in the Dhaka Premier League. He was given the task to open the batting and after a game or two of getting used to, he started making runs on important occasions; the biggest coming against defending champions Abahani when he made 91 in an atypical innings (despite two-third of the runs coming in boundaries). He batted for more than two hours and put DOHS in a prime position to launch into a big score (which they did and beat Abahani). "[Khaled Mahmud] Sujon

## Bolt sparkles in Rome

Athletics

AFP, Rome

Usain Bolt proved his slowest run in three years a week ago was nothing but a blip as he was back to his best at the Diamond League meeting here on Thursday.

The world record holder had disappointed in Ostrava with a time of 10.04sec, which he himself described as slow, although he still won.

But there was no hint of such sluggishness this time around on a track generally considered to be fast.

The Olympic champion bolted away from the field to win in a time of 9.76sec, the fastest in the world this year and a new meeting record.

Perennial bridesmaid Asafa Powell simply could not live with his Jamaican compatriot and was second in 9.91sec, although television replays suggested he stepped out of his lane in his first few strides.

European champion Christophe Lemaitre was third in 10.04sec despite a woeful start that saw him practically last.

Bolt said he had been getting extra sleep in a bid to put his Ostrava run behind him.

"Since I arrived in Rome I made sure I was in bed early so I got a lot of rest and slept a lot," he said.

"In Ostrava I had not had enough sleep, this race was much better than in Ostrava.

"The execution of my race was not perfect but improved, I executed well, my drive was better and I started well. The transition was also better.

"After Ostrava a lot of people doubted me but I never questioned myself, I am just happy with myself."

Bolt's performance, although excellent, was put into shade by that of Kenyan Paul Kipsiele Koech who ran the third fastest 3,000-steeplechase of all time with a stunning 7min 54.31sec.

His run was so good that it left world champion and favourite Ezekiel Kemboi trailing in his wake more than 15sec behind in fourth.

There were two national records by Ethiopian women as Fantu Magiso in the 800m and Abeba Aregawi in the 1500m both secured surprise victories.

Magiso finished in 1min 57.56sec, beating Kenya's Olympic champion Pamela Jelimo, who has run the fastest

## Sk Jamal down Mohammedan

SPORTS REPORTER



Holders Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club brought down high-flying Mohammedan with a 4-2 defeat in their Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The fast-paced game was a bit cagy in the first half before the floodgates opened with a flurry of goals at both ends. Allie Ahmed Jaward, Touhidul Alam Sabuj, Kester Akon and Sohel Rana struck one goal apiece for Sheikh Jamal while Rajani Kanta Barman and Mobararak Hossain reduced the margin for the Black and Whites, who played the last thirty minutes of the game with ten men. The holiday match was attended by some 4000 spectators.

The win was Sheikh Jamal's fourth in row and it took them to fourth position in the table with 24 points from 16 matches. For the Black and Whites, it broke a seven match unbeaten streak and saw them slip to sixth position with 21 points from 15 matches.

Mohammedan, who beat Abahani, Sheikh Russel and held Muktiyoddha Sangsad in their previous three matches, failed to keep the tempo as they missed three of their regular players -- defenders Hasan Al Mamun, Yeasin and creative Nigerian midfielder Augustine Chizoba due to suspension and injury problems.

Mohammedan dominated the early exchanges before Sheikh Jamal gradually took control. Both teams were unlucky to take the lead in the first half. Oladikpiko Okalaown of Mohammedan saw his shot rattle the crosspiece on the fourth minute while Sheikh Jamal defender Jaward saw his 35-year free-kick come off the crossbar in the 36th minute.

Sheikh Jamal continued their dominance in the second half and went ahead with a spot-kick taken by Jaward after Cameroon-

nian defender Nyeck Nyobe tackled Kester from behind as the Sheikh Jamal Nigerian striker raced past Rajani to enter the box on 50 minutes.

The situation got worse for Mohammedan ten minutes later as Nyeck fouled Touhidul Alam Sabuj to see his second yellow card to be sent off, reducing Mohammedan to a 10-man side.

Despite one man shortage, Mohammedan hit back to level the margin in the 65th minute when Rajani rose high to slap a glancing header off a Damian Chigozie corner past former national goalkeeper Aminul Haque.

Afterwards Mohammedan goalkeeper Titumir Chowdhury made two brilliant saves to keep Mohammedan in the game but the best performer of the game could not stop a placing shot from Sabuj inside the box after Arup Kumar Baidya worked hard on the right flank to whip a low-cross in the 71st minute.

Sheikh Jamal took the match away from Mohammedan after Kester converted the second penalty after he was bought down by defender Morsalin Parvez in the 79th minute. Substitute striker Sohel Rana hammered the last nail on Mohammedan's coffin in the 87th minute by breaking an off-side trap to enter the box before placing the ball home to extend the margin 4-1.

Mohammedan had a consolation second goal on the stroke of the final whistle when substitute winger Mobararak found the back of the net with a fierce shot from inside the box.

"The win was a result of team spirit as the players were more motivated and involved in the game than in the previous games," said Sheikh Jamal coach Abu Yousuf.

"We conceded defeat as soon as we walked into the pitch as the body language of the players was negative," said Mohammedan coach Emeka adding that Sheikh Jamal deserved the victory.



PHOTO: STAR

Sheikh Jamal wingback Arup Kumar Baidya (L) volleys one which Mohammedan's Nigerian midfielder Nduka Uwa (C) tries to block during their Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Abahani's winning start

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani made a flying start in the Club Cup Hockey Competition beating Wari Club by 4-0 at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday. Abahani's three national team players Iqbal Nadir Prince, Hossain Zubayer Niloy and Puskor Khisha Mimo scored the four goals. Prince opened the scoring with a field goal 17th minute. The Sky Blues scored three more in the second half before Mimo scored two 57th and 63rd minute to complete a convincing victory.

In the other match of the day, Usha Krira Chakra trounced Bangladesh SC 7-0, thanks to a brace apiece from Din Islam, Mohammad



An Usha Krira Chakra player controls the ball past a Bangladesh SC player during their Club Cup match at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## ICC retains D/L, DRS

Cricket

REUTERS, London

The ICC Cricket Committee has decided to keep the controversial Duckworth Lewis method for calculating one-day targets when weather intervenes while making minor changes in other areas of the game, the sport's governing body said on Friday.

The committee considered a proposal by V Jayadevan for a new way of working out run chases for reduced overs matches at a two-day meeting at Lord's this week.

"The committee unanimously agreed that there was no evidence of any significant flaws in the D/L method nor did the committee believe that any improvements could be offered by the VJD method. Therefore the committee decided to continue with D/L," the ICC said in a statement.

Duckworth Lewis has long been criticised because of its complex mathematics.

The technology behind the Decision Review System has also been queried in some quarters but the ICC committee fully backed the idea.

"The committee noted the improvements in DRS technology and that DRS has almost

totally eradicated player-dissent. This is an extremely beneficial side effect of the DRS," David Richardson, ICC general manager - cricket, said.

"We have always said that DRS was there to assist the umpires in getting more decisions correct and eradicating the obvious mistakes. The statistics demonstrate that it has been effective in that objective. The committee re-affirmed this as the aim."

They recommended trialling day/night Tests and the proposal will go forward for consideration by representatives of the game's leading countries during meetings at the ICC's annual conference in Kuala Lumpur from June 24-28.

"The committee agreed that it was important to maintain the impetus with regard to day/night Test cricket and recommended that should the competing countries in a bilateral series agree that they wish to trial day/night Test cricket then this request should be accommodated," the ICC said.

The recommendation was made after receiving reports on trials that have already taken place at first-class level and spectator feedback.

The committee also heard that a prototype

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