Zinedine Zidane, who has been tipped to one day manage France, will soon begin training to be a coach while he works at Real Madrid's youth academy, the Spanish club said Monday.

"Zinedine Zidane will shortly begin training to be a coach whilst at the same time coaching Real Madrid's youth academy," the club said in a statement posted on their website.

The 40-year-old, who played for Real between 2001 and his retirement in 2006 and who has since last year been working as the club's sporting director, will finish his team management qualification this year, the statement



Emdadul blown away

SPORTS REPORTER from London



Blustery conditions have often spelt the deathknell for batsmen over the many years of Lord's storied history. The story was the same on Monday in London. On another Bangladesh versus England encounter, the home side triumphed emphatically as the tourists struggled to cope with the conditions at the home of cricket. The only difference was that the sport in question was not

cricket. There were no pretensions as such, even as Great Britain's

Larry Godfrey celebrated his simple win in the men's archery by imitating a hearty swing of the bat towards the famous Lord's spaceship.

It sent the crowd into raptures but Godfrey swore it was not choreographed.

"It was on impulse, honest," he said in the mixed zones afterwards. "I watch a bit of cricket and the venue being at Lord's, I decided, why not go for it?" And go for it he did, with a simple three sets to none victory over a distraught Emdadul Haque Milon.

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France's Yannick Agnel is overjoyed after winning gold in the men's 200m freestyle at the Aquatics Centre in London on Monday.

US ahead despite Agnel's heroics

AFP, London



Yannick Agnel won the men's 200m freestyle in scintillating style Monday, but 17-year-old Missy

Franklin helped the United States stay in front of France in the Olympic swimming medals race.

Agnel's dominant victory in a talent-laden field drew praise from French President Francois Hollande, but it was just one compelling story on a dramatic night of racing.

Franklin lived up to her billing by taking 100m backstroke gold in her first Olympic final, but she wasn't the only teen queen at the Aquatics Centre.

Ruta Meilutyte became the first 15-year-old

since Australian icon Shane Gould in 1972 to win Olympic swimming gold -- and gave Lithuania a first gold with a gutsy triumph in the 100m breaststroke.

As Franklin and Meilutyte were savouring a first taste of Games glory, 14-time Olympic gold medallst Michael Phelps booked his place in the 200m butterfly final to give himself a chance to grab yet another slice of Olympic history on Tuesday.

A victory in the 200m fly would make Phelps the first man to win the same swimming event at three straight Games. He's also slated for the 4x200m freestyle relay, and needs just two more medals of any colour to surpass Larisa Latynina's record career total of 18 Olympic medals.

While Phelps will be back in the spotlight soon

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enough, Monday belonged to Agnel.

The Frenchman's storming anchor leg gave France the 4x100m upset win over the United States on Sunday, and he followed up with a masterful performance in a 200m free final loaded with talent.

Agnel won France's third swimming gold of the Games in 1min 43.14sec as Asian rivals Park Tae-Hwan of South Korea and Sun Yang of China dead-heated for silver behind him in 1:44.93 -1.79sec adrift.

Reigning world champion Ryan Lochte, a dominant winner in the men's 400m medley, was relegated to fourth place and world recordholder Paul Biedermann of Germany was fifth.

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INTELLIGENT ECO SENSORS

United States France South Korea Germany North Korea Australia Great Britain Brazil Canada Kazakhstan Netherlands

Medals to appease Lord's of Murray's hunger

QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM from London



Like your typical Brit, Andy Murray does not give much away. He is impressively impassive, speaking in measured tones of a man much older than his young years. But Murray was surprisingly candid, after his victory over Finland's Jarkko Nieminen in Wimbledon yesterday.

The 25-year-old Scottish superstar is immensely popular and his presence alone in Center Court made sure that the previously empty seats were quickly filled. Murray, for his part, did enough to keep the crowd happy with a no-frills 6-2, 6-4 victory. But it was what Murray said after the game that proved to be the most interesting.

Olympic gold is clearly important to Murray, especially perhaps, after his heartbreaking loss to Roger Federer in the

final of Wimbledon a few weeks ago. "It's a once in a lifetime opportunity, to go for gold in the Olympics while playing at home," he admitted. And Murray is hedging his bets by choosing to play singles, doubles and mixed doubles in the Olympics.

His doubles adventure with brother Jamie ended in the first round but he is still in with a chance in the mixed doubles where he is partnering Laura Robson. Murray though admitted that having his brother on the tour was a refreshing experience and it had helped him evolve as a player.

"Tennis is a lonely sport," said Murray evoking his idol Andre Agassi who had said much the same in his autobiography.

"As an 18-year-old on tour, it is not easy to be around so many older guys," he said, pointing to the gathered press. It elicited tittles of laughter but Murray explained himself.

"I mean it with the greatest respect. You need to have fun and that is not always possible when the people you are on

the game

QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM from London



The scene was familiar, as were the condi-

There was the gusting wind, the cool, green grass, the stands steeped in antiquity and also the iconic spaceship press box. For a second you had to pinch yourself. This was Lord's, the

that famous slope was not cricket, but archery. Not that it would bother cricket-loving journalists who were afforded a rare chance to view Lord's, not from the modern press box, but from the Pavilion End, abode until now of

only the players lucky enough to have played at the venue. One such player was present at Lord's yesterday and he had come all the way from Kent to cheer on his countryman Emdadul Haque Milon in battle against the English archer Larry Godfrey. Mohammed Ashraful is currently turning out for English side Blackheath in Kent, but the one-time Bangladeshi captain made the short trek over to Lord's to egg on his countryman amidst a raucous home crowd.

Thus, with the benefit of insider knowledge, the goal was to find out the honours board that bears the name of two Bangladeshi cricketers -- Shahadat Hossain Rajib and Tamim Iqbal.

The path to the destination was certainly eased by the company of two MCC stewards who provided an inside track of the venue akin to a guided tour. They proved great conversation as well, especially when the topic of Bangladesh was broached.

"You guys are from Bangladesh?" said one smiling. When they learned that most of the journalists present were cricket





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