BD A batting falters again

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh A team continued their poor batting on the tour of India as Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) XI tightened their grip on the four-day encounter on the second day of the Safi Darashah Invitational Tournament in Bangalore yesterday.

In reply to KSCA's 284 in the first innings, the second string Bangladesh side finished the day's play on 188 for seven.

The top order batsmen got off to starts but none could convert them to substantial innings. Imrul Kayes made 37 while Shamsur Rahman scored 35 and Mominul Haque was the only batsman to reach a half-century with 52 off 80 balls that featured six fours and two sixes.

Mohammad Mithun was not out on 35.

Gowtham was the most successful bowler, taking four wickets for 59 runs.

Earlier, left-arm spinner Enamul Haque added two more scalps to his tally to return with figures of six for 119 in 33.1 overs as KSCA XI were all out for 284 after resuming the day on 256 for seven.

Vettori out of India tour

AFP, *Wellington*

Influential spinner Daniel Vettori will miss New Zealand's tour of India after failing to recover from a groin strain picked up in the West Indies, cricket chiefs said on Tuesday.

New Zealand's most capped Test player was omitted from a 15-man squad for the two-Test tour of India beginning on August 23, along with underperforming batsman Dean Brownlie.

Chief selector Kim Littlejohn said Vettori would be replaced by off-spinner Jeetan Patel, who has been plying his trade in English county cricket since being dropped late last year.

"Jeetan has been in great from for Warwickshire and deserves his opportunity," Littlejohn said.

Brownlie, who averaged just 15.75 as New Zealand slumped to a 2-0 Test series loss in the West Indies, was dropped in favour of allrounder James Franklin.

The series will be new coach Mike Hesson's first in charge of the Black Caps, after veteran John Wright departed after the West Indies series.

New Zealand will also play two Twenty20 internationals in India, with the squad for those matches yet to be announced.

The 15-man New Zealand squad for a two-Test tour of India beginning on August 23:

SQUAD

Ross Taylor (c), Trent Boult, Doug Bracewell, Daniel Flynn, James Franklin, Martin Guptill, Chris Martin, Brendon McCullum, Tarun Nethula, Jeetan Patel, Tim Southee, Kruger van Wyk, Neil Wagner, BJ Watling, Kane Williamson.

MEDALLIST

FROM PAGE 16

North Korea	4	0	1
Czech Republic	1	3	1
Kenya	1	2	2
Mexico	0	3	2
South Africa	3	1	0
Iran	2	1	1
Jamaica	2	1	1
Ethiopia	2	0	2
Slovenia	1	1	2
Colombia	0	3	1
Slovakia	0	1	3
Croatia	2	1	0
Azerbaijan	0	1	2
Belgium	0	1	2
India	0	1	2
Dominican Republic	1	1	0
Georgia	1	1	0
Switzerland	1	1	0
Lithuania	1	0	1
Egypt	0	2	0
Armenia	0	1	1
Indonesia	0	1	1
Mongolia	0	1	1
Norway	0	1	1
Serbia	0	1	1
Tunisia	0	1	1
Greece	0	0	2
Moldova	0	0	2
Singapore	0	0	2

(The medal list was updated at 10:00pm Bangladesh time)

Usain Bolt (2nd L) leaves the rest in his wake to win his men's 200m round 1 heat at the Olympic Stadium in London yesterday. The Jamaican sprint king has already defended his 100m crown two days back. And come Thursday the world will watch in great anticipation whether he can also defend his 200m title and become the first man ever to complete a magnificent sprint double in successive Olympic Games. PHOTO: REUTERS

Bolt eases through to 200m semis

AFP, *London*

Imperious Usain Bolt eased through the first round of the Olympic 200m on Tuesday as the Jamaican took the next step towards a sprint double after having already retained his 100m title in style.

Reigning champion Bolt showed no signs of fatigue as he ran the bend hard before relaxing in the home straight and strode over the line to win in 20.39 seconds in the first heat on a chilly morning at the Olympic Stadium.

"This was an easy run. I am enjoying it," said Bolt. "This is my favourite event so I am looking forward to it."

His main challenger for the 200m, Yohan Blake, also negotiated his passage into the next round with ease, as the Jamaican who took the silver behind Bolt in the short sprint won his heat in 20.38 seconds.

Blake said it was possible Bolt's three-year-old world record of 19.19sec could be under threat in the later rounds.

"The track is fast and Usain is fast so anything is possible," Blake said.

European challenger Christophe Lemaitre of France also went through after winning his heat in 20.34 seconds.

The challenge for the United States will come from Wallace Spearmon, who qualified second in his heat, while his US team-mate Maurice Mitchell also went through with a time of 20.54 seconds to win his heat.

Spearmon is bidding to put behind him the disappointment of the Beijing 2008 final when he was disqualified from the bronze medal position for running out of his lane.

Bolt stormed to the 100m gold medal on Sunday in an Olympic record 9.63 seconds, the second fastest time in history, as he banished any doubts about his form following an inconsistent season.

Semenya set for debut

AFP, *London*

South African 800m runner Caster Semenya is scheduled to make her Olympic debut on Wednesday, confident that her controversial victory in the 2009 world championships is a thing of the past.

The 21-year-old -- who is coached by 2000 Sydney Olympics 800m champion Maria Mutola from Mozambique -- had to undergo drug tests followed by gender tests following that magnificent victory in Berlin.

The situation spiralled out of control with Semenya complaining of "unwarranted and invasive scrutiny of the most intimate and private details of my being".

She was barred from the track for almost a year before being cleared to run again and her comeback was hampered by a lower back injury and a growing belief that coach Michael Seme had taken her as far as he could.

However, she said on the eve of the Games: "That is in the past.

"You need to concentrate on the future. I don't have to entertain those things now. I can concentrate on my running, that's all.

"With each year I experience I become a more relaxed athlete. I also know what is important to listen to and what to ignore.

"I try to run my best always but sometimes I do not and I have to deal with negatives. People ask questions that can make you sad, but I must always stay positive.

"That's what I have to learn. I have to act professionally. But this is my first Olympics so it'll be special for me."

Semenya will face a tough test from Kenyan nemesis Pamela Jelimo, the defending Olympic champion who has bettered in five races the South African's season's best time of 1min 59.18sec.

Wednesday promises to be another mouth-watering feast of athletics at the Olympic Stadium, the 80,000-capacity of which has been a sell-out since the programme got under way.

Providing there are no slip-ups in the heats, Chinese athletics icon Liu Xiang will be on the track, determined to erase memories of his traumatic experience at the Beijing Games and regain his 110m hurdles Olympic title.

He has, however, shown some of his old form, and was desperately unlucky not to win the world title last year, being hindered twice by world record holder Dayron Robles's trailing arm, which led to the Cuban being disqualified from gold with Liu being bumped up to silver.

Jamaican Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce will be seeking a sprint double in the women's 200m, likely up against teammate and two-time Olympic champion Veronica Campbell-Brown and American Carmelita Jeter.

The two other finals to be contested will be the women's 400m hurdles and the long jump.

American world record holder Ashton Eaton will also make his debut in the Olympic decathlon, the two-day, 10-discipline event.

He is the in-form competitor, having set a new record of 9,039 points at the US Olympic trials in Eugene, Oregon, last month, breaking Czech Roman Sebrle's old mark from 2001 by 13 points.

He had already set the indoor heptathlon world record in Istanbul in March, following a silver medal showing at the 2011 world outdoors in Daegu, South Korea, where he finished behind compatriot Trey Hardee.

Bolt pays tribute to Liu

AFP, *London*

Jamaican sprint king Usain Bolt paid tribute to Liu Xiang on Tuesday after the Chinese star suffered an agonising exit from the Olympics for the second time in a row.

Liu, who had been forced to withdraw from the 110m hurdles in Beijing four years ago just moments before his first heat, fell at the first hurdle here Tuesday as he returned to the Olympic arena.

The 29-year-old's sad exit from the competition sparked a wave of sympathy amongst athletes and spectators, with 100m champion Bolt leading the way.

"It is really hard for him because I think he is one of the best, hands down," said Bolt after strolling through his opening 200m heat.

Ostapchuk ends Adams' reign

AFP, *London*

Belarus' Nadezhda Ostapchuk won the women's Olympic shot put title here on Monday with a throw of 21.36m to end the almost two-year unbeaten run of defending champion Valerie Adams of New Zealand.

The 31-year-old -- the last person to beat Adams, in Lausanne on August 22, 2010 -- collected the only title missing from her collection ahead of Adams, who took silver with 20.70m.

Russia's Yevgeniya Kolodko took bronze with a personal best of 20.48m.

Lord's Test to be KP's last?

Cricket

AFP, *Leeds*

England star Kevin Pietersen on Monday dropped a bombshell by suggesting that the third and final Test against South Africa at Lord's might be his last.

"I can't rule out that my next Test may be my last," he said after winning the man of the match award in the drawn second Test at Headingley after a superb innings of 149, which he followed up by taking three wickets.

Pietersen's future was a major issue before the series against the Proteas began.

He has already announced his retirement from from one-day international cricket, amid speculation he wanted to be available for a full Indian Premier League programme while still playing for England and play in the upcoming World Twenty20 in September.

"That is two of many points," he said. "But they're not the main two points. Let's make that very clear, there are other points I am trying to sort out in the dressing room.

"There are a lot of other issues. It's absolutely 100 percent not a money issue. You'll find out soon enough, not tonight. It will be a lot clearer after the next Test match."

Pietersen said it would be a "huge shame" if his Test career came to an end.

"I love playing Test cricket for England," he told reporters. "The saddest part for me is that the spectators just love watching me play and I love playing for England but the politics is what I have to deal with personally.

"It's tough for me playing for England."

Pietersen also hit out at what he suggested were media leaks about his negotiations with the England and Wales Cricket Board leading into the series.

"It was blamed on me, it was me grabbing the headlines. Did I leak anything to the media about my meetings with the ECB?" he added.

"I never spoke a single word to a single journalist about anything that was spoken about behind closed doors, that I thought were closed doors."

2nd Test ends in a draw

Cricket

AFP, *Leeds*

Kevin Pietersen enjoyed rare success as a bowler and Stuart Broad took five wickets, as England gave South Africa some anxious moments before the second Test ended in a draw at Headingley on Monday.

The result means South Africa go into the third and final Test at Lord's on August 16 with a 1-0 lead, with England needing to win to prevent South Africa from taking over their number one place in the Test rankings.

South African captain Graeme Smith, though, said neither side would take a significant edge into the deciding Test, insisting that there were "positives on both sides".

His England counterpart Andrew Strauss said he was happy with the strategy of playing four seam bowlers and leaving out Graeme Swann, although he admitted they "probably missed" the off-spinner in the second half of the game.

"With the weather forecast we thought our best way of winning was to win the toss and bowl first. We probably misjudged the wicket a little bit, it didn't do as much as we would have liked," he added.

Speaking separately, man-of-the-match Pietersen dropped a bombshell by saying he might not play for England again after the final Test but Strauss said "We want to win this Test match and we want as few distractions as possible.

"We've got a great chance of winning."

South Africa-born Pietersen followed up a thrilling century in the first innings by taking the first three wickets with his occasional off-spin bowling, despite never having taken more than one wicket in an innings in 87 previous Test matches.

Broad then took five wickets in 37 balls before South Africa declared at 258 for nine, leaving England an improbable 253 to win in 39 overs. They made 130 for four before the players agreed to a draw with six overs remaining.

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 419
ENGLAND: First innings 425
SOUTH AFRICA: 258 for 9 decl.
ENGLAND: Second innings

Pietersen c Tahir b Philander	12
Cook c Rudolph b Steyn	46
Strauss c and b Duminy	22
Trott not out	30
Prior run out (Smith)	7
Bell not out	3
Extras: (lb-8, nb-1, w-1)	10
Total: (For 4 wkts in 33 overs)	130

Did not bat: Taylor, Bresnan, Broad, Anderson, Finn.

Fall of wickets: 1-21, 2-75, 3-90, 4-106.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Morkel	10	4	33	0
Philander	6	1	26	1
Steyn	7	1	26	1
Tahir	4	0	20	0
Duminy	2	0	10	1
Kallis	4	2	7	0

Result: Match drawn and South Africa lead

U-19s win first

FROM PAGE 16

Africa and Namibia in the 16-team competition -- reached Australia early and played two unofficial matches, losing the first against the West Indies Under-19s by 31 runs and winning the other against Papua New Guinea by 129 runs.

Bangladesh will play their first group match against Sri Lanka on August 11, second match against South Africa on August 12 and the third against Namibia on August 16.

In the other warm-up matches, England Under-19s defeated Pakistan Under-19s by five wickets, India Under-19s won by 33 runs against Sri Lanka Under-19s, PNG Under-19s defeated Nepal Under-19s by eight wickets, Afghanistan Under-19s posted a massive 101-run victory over Ireland Under-19s, West Indies Under-19s beat Australia Under-19s by 13 runs, Zimbabwe Under-19s registered a seven-wicket victory over Namibia Under-19s and South Africa Under-19s beat New Zealand Under-19s by six wickets.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SCOTLAND UNDER-19S: 106 all out in 37.5 overs (R McLean 29, F Coleman 21, A Bailwal 15; Nasum 4-21, A Jayed 3-21, Taskin 1-28, Soumya 1-18, Nayeem 1-4)
BANGLADESH UNDER-19S: 107-3 in 20.1 overs (Soumya 0, Liton 15, Anamul 34, Salman 37 not out, Asif 16 not out; P Sadler 1-23, A Bailwal 1-35, GT Main 1-18)
Result: Bangladesh Under-19s won by seven wickets.

Amer lets cat out

FROM PAGE 16

However, Amer's opposite number, Abahani manager Satyajit Das Rupu was quick to deny any wrongdoing and challenged the Brothers manager to produce evidence.

"These allegations are completely fabricated, baseless and borne out of ill-motive. This is a plot to tarnish the image of the club (Abahani). I challenge him to produce concrete evidence of his allegations or else we will take measures against him," said Rupu to the same TV channel.

No matter what comes out of this new revelation, Amer's allegations are the biggest twist in the match-fixing saga since last year's revelations by the then Muktijoddha coach Maruful Haque who had admitted to the media about being asked by a Rahmatganj official to throw a match. The Muktijoddha coach, for his honesty and naivety, had to serve a three-month suspension, but at the same time succeeded in compelling football's governing body to rethink their stance on match-fixing and at least admit that matches were being fixed or at least 'compromised' under their very noses. It remains to be seen whether Amer's revelations can bring about any changes in BFF's nonchalant approach this time around.

BFF finds

FROM PAGE 16

professional football league committee Abdus Salam Murshedy as he read out a brief of the investigation report on the match played on April 26, 2012.

This move, although not unexpected at all, is a step back from the stance BFF took last year, when they handed Rahmatganj MFS and Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club hefty monetary fines along with suspending a player and an official for playing a 'compromised match'. It may be mentioned that then too the BFF's professional league committee did not have any concrete evidence other than media reports and television footage of the match, with the difference being that a few players were summoned to testify.

The technical committee however made a few suggestions such as involving personnel from the Home Ministry, Anti-corruption Commission and former national footballers in the committee, and taking help of authorities to acquire records of telephonic conversations of players and officials if needed, etc. These suggestions were also made last year, but none has yet been realised.

A Grenadian's

FROM PAGE 16

"Oscar should be a huge inspiration for everybody, whether you're a track athlete or a normal person. You can be somebody no matter what kind of disability you have."

And the man, who hails from a fishing village, knows this better than most.

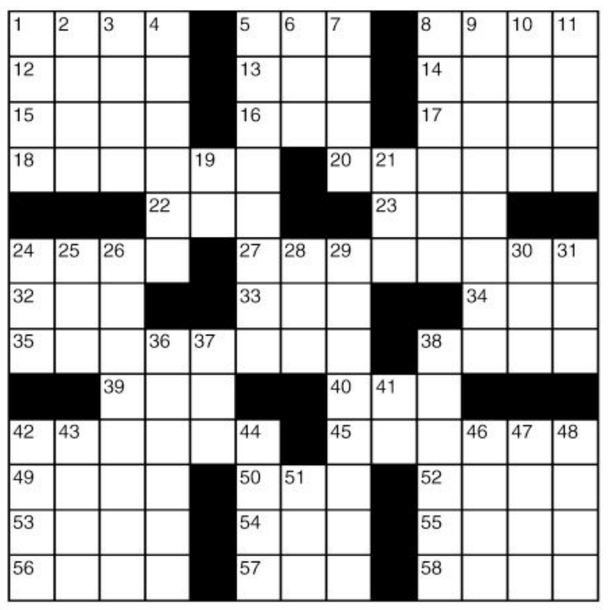
CROSSWORD *By Eugene Sheffer*

ACROSS
1 Use an old phone
5 Poorly lit
8 Atomizer output
12 "— Karenina"
13 Anger
14 Golden Rule word
15 Fleet from far away
16 Cistern
17 Gulf War missile
18 Dwarf plant
20 Self-defense martial art
22 Egos' counterparts
23 Decks in the ring
24 Fashion
27 Listing alphabetically
32 Leave dumbstruck
33 Individual
34 Tic-tac-toe win
35 Couch potato's place
38 Heal, as a broken bone
39 Charged particle
40 Midafternoon, on a sundial
42 Not celebrated, as a hero
45 Had a stogie
49 Reason for a tarp
50 — Baba
52 Mediocre
53 "It shouldn't happen to —"
54 Ultramodernist
55 "Star Trek II" villain
56 Highway section
57 Martini ingredient
58 Pivot

DOWN
1 Smear
2 Data
3 Any time now
4 Timmy's pet
5 Math function
6 A Gershwin
7 Transcending (Pref.)
8 Tundra creature
9 Cut
10 Poker variety
11 — list (agenda)
19 Commercial
21 White House nickname
24 Scratch
25 Have debts
26 Choice
28 Away from SSW
29 Scorn
30 "There's — in team"
31 Obtained
36 Lizard's locale?
37 Hostel
38 Newsstands
41 "— Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter"
42 Caspian feeder
43 Zilch, in Xochimilco
44 Jets or Sharks
46 1980s-90s German chancellor
47 Birthright barterer
48 Finished
51 Wahine's gift

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	P	S	E	■	A	M	P	■	A	Q	U	A
R	O	W	S	■	L	E	A	■	S	U	N	G
T	R	A	C	K	I	N	G	■	H	A	I	R
E	N	N	U	I	■	■	E	J	E	C	T	A
■	■	■	D	R	I	P	■	I	N	K	■	■
P	E	S	O	■	D	E	A	L	■	I	K	E
T	E	N	■	S	L	A	N	T	■	N	O	G
A	L	A	■	T	Y	R	O	■	A	G	I	O
■	■	■	C	P	A	■	S	N	O	W	■	■
B	I	K	I	N	I	■	■	R	A	D	I	O
E	D	I	E	■	F	R	A	C	K	I	N	G
R	E	N	T	■	F	U	N	■	E	V	E	R
G	A	G	A	■	Y	E	T	■	D	A	Z	E



CRYPTOQUIP

Z WKJCEK OKGA RTIZCMH ZB Z'E HSMJX SRXZTD R SRIZ. Z DMKHH ACM EZDPS HRA Z PROK JRW-ZT BKOKG.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PART OF THE WEEKEND WHEN YOU SIMPLY FEEL LIKE GOBBLING COLD COMFORT FOOD: ICE-CREAM SUNDAY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals I