

# Star SPORT

DHAKA MONDAY AUGUST 13, 2012, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

## Tape it up

Players throughout the Olympics have been seen wearing tape on their bodies. Kinesio tape, developed by a Japanese doctor over 30 years ago is much more than just a fashion statement -- though athletes like German beach volleyball player Katrin Holtwick use it for both. It takes a special certification just to be licensed to apply it and once on, it separates the upper layer of the skin from muscle tissue. This extra space allows for muscles to fire and recover more quickly.

-- INTERNET



## Jamaica's win cements Bolt's Games

QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM from London



If Beijing belonged to Michael Phelps, London belongs to Usain Bolt.

The fastest man on earth completed a unique, unprecedented triple double after running anchor as Jamaica crushed the world record to win the men's 4x100 metres relay at the Olympic Stadium in London on Saturday.

Fittingly, Bolt's last run was the end of the athletics programme at the Olympic Stadium and completed a unique set for the Jamaican legend. Bolt is six for six in Olympic finals; in baseball parlance that is equal to pitching a no-hitter, in cricketing parlance, it probably equals hitting six consecutive centuries in World Cup games.

It's a rare, almost superhuman feat.

Bolt, on his own, is almost unbeatable. Bolt with Yohan Blake and other members of Jamaica's growing sprint brethren is almost alien. No wonder then, that in the mixed zones after the race, Blake said, "We dropped from space like Mr Bean. Mr Bean is not a normal guy, he makes jokes. We are not normal guys. We are from space, I am from Mars."

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**MEN FROM MARS:** Jamaica's sprint royalty Yohan Blake (L) and Usain Bolt celebrate after setting a new world record during their victory in the men's 4x100m relay final at the Olympic Stadium in London on Saturday. The Jamaicans completed the relay in 36.84 seconds, smashing the previous best of 37.04.

PHOTO: AFP

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## Tamim blasts Wayamba to easy win

STAR SPORT DESK

Tamim Iqbal produced the first stellar performance by a Bangladeshi in the Sri Lankan Premier League (SLPL) when his unbeaten 93 blasted Wayamba United to a nine-wicket victory over Uthura Rudras in their T20 encounter at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

Chasing a stiff target of 180 to win, Tamim shared in a blistering 176-run opening stand with Pakistan's Kamran Akmal. Tamim was the early aggressor hitting a four in the first over and a four and a six in the second to get Wayamba off to a flier. Two more sixes followed in the fourth over bowled by

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## 'Team's core very strong'

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh national cricket coach Richard Pybus was not worried about ace all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan's injury status when he spoke during the pre-world cup training camp, which kicked off at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

"Shakib is happy with his progress. The report states that the condition isn't that serious," said Pybus of the all-rounder who is sitting out the ongoing Sri Lanka Premier League because of a knee injury.

The camp, which aims to prepare the 19-man squad for the upcoming Twenty20 World Cup in Sri Lanka, got off to a rainy start yesterday as the cricketers were compelled to train at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium.

Commenting on the team's current form, the national coach said, "I think the core of our team is very strong. The squad is pretty settled and I don't foresee any major changes."

The coach claims that the recent tours of Ireland and Holland have given the players good exposure and provided them with a chance to experience different conditions.

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## 2012 'off-the-chain'

QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM from London



If there ever was a one-word summary to describe the 30th Olympiad in London, the USA athlete DeeDee Trotter found it during one of many press conferences at the Olympic Stadium on Saturday.

"Off-the-chain," said Trotter and the whole room burst out laughing. "And that is putting it mildly," she continued. Trotter was right. London has indeed been, in the parlance of the times, 'off-the-chain.'

Before the Games had started, much had been made of the fact that London was hosting the Games in times of such austerity. But in truth, all of the three times London hosted the Games have been during times of struggle. But the British had risen to the challenge then and they had risen to the challenge now, putting on a show of such honed perfection, that there really can be no complaints.

London lacked the gloss of Beijing or the freshness of Sydney, but in its own way, London hosted the Games like no city ever

can, supporting it, nurturing it and loving it more than anyone ever has. If indeed, the Games were to have a spiritual home, London would probably be it.

Usain Bolt famously complained about the petty rules that the organisers imposed that make no sense to him, but even he admitted how kind London had been to him. "I don't get the chance to run here often, but I love this place."

A big part of all that love has definitely been the crowds who have turned up for every single session of the Olympics, be it heats, first rounds, semifinals, etc.

"I have never seen a crowd as big for heats," admitted Trotter. "It was chaos, but it was good chaos," she concluded.

Indeed, the sentimentality of the British public, many of whom spent a lot of time and a lot of money navigating the archaic website system to secure a ticket, was perhaps the biggest victory of the Olympics.

Many local newspapers characterised the Britons as serial moaners leading up to the Games, where numerous issues about transport and budget seemed headline news everyday.

## U-19s lose badly

SPORTS REPORTER



Just a day after making a flying start to the U-19 World Cup with a 25-run win over Sri Lanka, the Bangladesh U-19s were brought down to earth by a massive 135-run defeat by favourites South Africa. Despite winning the first match batting first at the same Allan Border Field in Brisbane, Bangladesh skipper Anamul Haque decided to field first and it didn't take long to realise that it probably was not a good decision.

The South Africa batsmen, spearheaded by opener Quinton de Kock's 93-ball 95 with nine boundaries and two sixes, kept piling on the runs. The 48-run opening stand and a 70-run second wicket partnership, both featuring Kock, laid the foundation for the middle and lower order to explode. There were healthy contributions all down the order with Theunis de Bruin smashing 63 off 54 balls and a few more cameos down the order which ensured the South Africans put on a challenging score of 294 for nine in their stipulated fifty overs. Noon Hossain was the most impressive of the Bangladesh bowlers, the legspinner taking three wickets for 44 runs including that of topscorer Kock. Slow left-arm bowler Nasum Ahmed took three wickets as well, giving away 45 runs.

Bangladesh's chase got off to the worst possible start as both the openers Liton Das and Soumya Sarkar fell cheaply

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**CLEAR MEN**

## MEDALLIST

COUNTRY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
United States	46	29	29
China	38	27	23
Russia	24	25	32
Great Britain	29	16	19
Germany	11	19	14
Japan	7	14	17
Australia	7	16	12
France	11	11	12
South Korea	13	8	7
Italy	8	9	11
Netherlands	6	6	8
Ukraine	6	5	9
Canada	1	5	12
Hungary	8	4	5
Spain	3	10	4
Brazil	3	5	8
Cuba	5	3	6
Kazakhstan	7	1	5



PHOTO: AFP

**Britain's distance runner Mohammed Farah is overjoyed after winning the men's 5000m at the Olympic Stadium in London on Saturday. The win gave him a rare double after earlier having won the 10000m.**

## Farah the finest

AFP, London

Mo Farah, who came to the Olympics as one of Great Britain's top medal hopes, leaves as the finest distance runner in the world with a step-up to the marathon a possible future target.

The Londoner, who won gold in the 10,000m a week earlier, sealed a sensational double on Saturday with victory in the 5,000m, roared home by an illustrious list of runners that includes Czech Emil Zatopek, Finland's Lasse

Heptathlon gold medalist Jessica Ennis came into the Games as Britain's poster girl but Farah has arguably surpassed her as a role model for the nation's aspiring athletes.

Farah is only the seventh man to achieve the 5,000m-10,000m double, adding his name to an illustrious list of runners that includes Czech Emil Zatopek, Finland's Lasse

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