



Six-time Olympic champion Usain Bolt (L) of Jamaica sprints to victory in the men's 200m while fellow Jamaican Yohan Blake wins the men's 100m at the Diamond League athletics meet in Zurich on Thursday. PHOTOS: AFP

# Bolt, Blake searing again

## Athletics

AFP, Zurich

Jamaican sprint duo Usain Bolt and Yohan Blake dominated the 100 and 200m at the Diamond League meet here on Thursday, but Kenyan 800m star David Rudisha was upstaged by Ethiopian tyro Mohammed Aman.

In a high-quality night of action featuring 14 Olympic champions, training partners Bolt and Blake set new meeting records of 19.66 and 9.76 seconds in the 200 and 100m respectively.

Fresh from his second successive triple gold haul at the Olympics, Bolt came around the bend into the final stretch just ahead of compatriot Nickl Ashmeade on his inside.

And then the imposing 26-year-old, also the world record holder in both sprint events, switched on the after-burners in his drive phase to ensure a comfortable win in his favoured event.

"Running after the Olympics is much more fun, it is less stress," said Bolt. "Now I have one more race (in Brussels on September 7) until the end

of the season and I am looking forward to it.

"During the season, you push yourself a lot and it's only at the end that you realise how tired you are."

Blake overcame a false start by top US sprinter Tyson Gay to hold his nerve in a 100m raced in chilly, wet conditions at a packed Letzigrund Stadium.

The 22-year-old, who won double sprint silver behind Bolt in the London Games and is currently the second fastest man in the world alongside Gay (after racing 9.69sec in Lausanne last week), rocketed out of his blocks at the second time of asking to power through the line.

Compatriot Nesta Carter was second in 9.95sec, with American Ryan Bailey (9.97) in third.

"I am not at all surprised that after the Olympics I am coming out so strong and so fast. It's because my coach has a plan for me," said Blake of Glen Mills, who also coaches Bolt.

"Next year I can be even better," he warned.

But there was disappointment for Rudisha, the blazing two-lap specialist who was bidding to better his own

world record of 1min 40.91sec he set when winning 800m gold at the London Games earlier this month.

With all talk of the record bid, no one had counted on the kick of 18-year-old Aman, who finished sixth at the Olympics but who importantly last year became the first and last man to defeat Rudisha since 2009.

Rudisha's pacemaker missed his first lap target by more than 1sec, and with any chance of a world record completely out of the window, the 23-year-old Kenyan world champion found himself in front but in a real dogfight with Aman, who kicked as the duo rounded the last bend.

Aman held on for a convincing win in a personal best of 1:42.53, with Rudisha timing 1:42.81.

One Olympic champion to also shine was Jamaica's Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, who rebounded from two successive losses to Carmelita Jeter in Lausanne and Birmingham to easily trump the American in the women's 100m in 10.83sec.

Jeter clocked 10.97sec with teammate and 200m specialist Allyson Felix finishing third (11.02).

## Fitness

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they showed poor tactical knowledge during international matches."

Jilani believes few players who have international experience will also have to battle to ensure their places in the final squad.

"They know it well that they will lose their position in the national squad if they fail to prove themselves and it seems they are serious in practice to ensure their places," said Jilani, who worked as an assistant coach to former national coach Nikola Ilievski during the SAFF Football Championship.

The youngest squad aged between 18 and 20 has been training under coach Abdur Razzak, who seemed disappointed with condition of the future players.

"They are technically very poor and their fitness level is not up to the mark as well," said Razzak adding that he puts importance on conditioning, motivation, concentration and professionalism.

He however said he was impressed with few players like midfielder Sohail Rana, Shaheer Islam Bipul, striker Wahed Ahmed, defender Shawkat Russel, Raihan Hasan and goalkeeper Rasel Mahmud Liton.

## Bangladesh

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first time, took the match away from Hong Kong scoring in the 56th minute before Chayan sealed the victory in the 62nd minute from another penalty corner.

Today Bangladesh will face Singapore, a side they beat 4-1 in the AHF Cup in April.

## Siddikur

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the back nine on six-over-par (41). The front nine was better as he managed two birdies without a single bogey which lifted him to 4-over-par for the round and overall.

Siddikur will be hoping to shrug off the disappointment as he flies straight to Malaysia for the Worldwide Holdings Selangor Masters which will start on Wednesday.

# Atletico get kind draw

REUTERS, Monaco



Europa League winners Atletico Madrid will face Hapoel Tel Aviv, Viktoria Plzen and Portuguese newcomers Academica Coimbra in the group stage of this season's competition following Friday's draw.

"We have never played any of these teams. We could have had tougher rivals but we have these, and we will fight to be champions of the group," Atletico president Enrique Cerezo told reporters.

Athletic Bilbao, last season's finalists, face Olympique Lyon, Sparta Prague and Hapoel Kiryat Shmona in another of the 12 groups that comprise the opening stage of UEFA's secondary European club competition.

Tottenham Hotspur, who finished fourth in the Premier League last season but were denied a place in the Champions League when Chelsea won that competition, were grouped with Panathinaikos, Lazio and Maribor - three sides they have never played before.

Five-times European champions Liverpool face Udinese, who were eliminated from the Champions League playoffs on Tuesday and Young Boys as well as the wealthy Russian club Anzhi Makhachkala, who boast Samuel Eto'o, the world's best-

paid player, in their ranks.

This season's competition, which begins on Sept.20 and ends with the final in Amsterdam on May 15 next year has five former European champions, including Olympique Marseille, who face tough opposition from Fenerbache of Turkey, Borussia Moenchengladbach of Germany as well as AEL Limassol of Cyprus.

Marseille coach Elie Baup said: "This is a high-quality draw. We expect hot and high intensity games."

Fenerbache and Moenchengladbach have their place in the top European circle. These opponents fully know what the European ties demand. Even if it's not the Champions League, this is a high level European competition."

Inter Milan, European champions in 2010, also face a tough looking group against the hard-to-beat Russians Rubin Kazan, Partizan Belgrade and debutants Nefti from Azerbaijan.

Olympique Lyon, while never winning the Champions League, had qualified for that competition for 13 successive seasons and club president Jean-Michel Aulas said: "Of course we would rather be in the other competition but it would be a major honour to win this title and that is what we are going to try and do."

# Roddick calls time

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win over Germany's Bjorn Phau and next faces Spain's Fernando Verdasco, whom he has beaten four times in four matches.

Federer, bidding to become the first man to win six New York titles in the Open era, clinched the 90-minute match with his 15th ace after also firing 44 winners past the 32-year-old Phau, the world number 83.

"Andy's a great man," Federer said. "I had some great battles with him for a long, long time and all the Wimbledon finals come to mind. We had some epic battles over the years."

"But he got the last laugh -- he beat me in Miami this year."

Two-time women's champion Venus Williams was knocked out, losing 6-2, 5-7, 7-5 to German sixth seed, and 2011 semifinalist, Angelique Kerber, who also knocked the American out of the Olympics.

Kerber has now won a tour-leading 55 matches in 2012.

Defeat for seven-time Grand Slam title winner Williams meant 2012 was the first year in her career that she failed to get

beyond the second round of any of the four majors.

"She's playing great but I didn't help myself a lot," said Williams. "I tried to be aggressive but it's hard to be aggressive when every shot you hit goes out."

Sister Serena, the three-time champion, won her 60th match at the US Open, advancing to the third round with a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Spain's Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez.

Williams, the Wimbledon and Olympic champion, will next face Russia's Ekaterina Makarova, who beat her at the Australian Open this year.

Second seed Agnieszka Radwanska, who was Wimbledon runner-up to Serena, almost suffered a fourth successive second-round exit before fighting back from a set and 3-1 down to beat Spain's Carla Suarez-Navarro 4-6, 6-3, 6-0.

Radwanska goes on to face Serb 30th seed Jelena Jankovic, the 2008 runner-up, who made the third round with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Spain's Lara Arruabarrena-Vecino.

French fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who reached the quarterfinals in 2011, was the highest men's seed to fall when he

# Chess Olympiad Men's team bounce back

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh men's team bounced back from consecutive defeats by beating lowly Mozambique in their fourth round match of the 40th Chess Olympiad in Istanbul, Turkey yesterday. The men's team, who were placed 107th after the third round, had little trouble getting past their Mozambique opponents in the fourth round. Bangladesh's GMs Ziur Rahman, Enamul Hossain Razib and Reefat bin Sattar defeated Wilton Inacio Calicoca, Persson Domingos Abrantes, Pedro Ventura Cossa, and Ilidio Alberto Chunguane respectively. The board of Abdullah Al Rakib was was undecided when this report was filed. Bangladesh's first GM Niaz Murshed was rested for this round.

Meanwhile, women's team's match against Tajikistan was on progress with Nazrana Khan Eva winning her board when this report was filed. The women's team had lost their previous round against Switzerland by 1.5-2.5 points.

## Cook to decide KP's fate

ANI, London

New Test captain Alastair Cook along with England team bosses Andy Flower and Hugh Morris will now decide on Kevin Pietersen's fate, as reports appear that there will be no quick return for the disgruntled batsman following Andrew Strauss' retirement.

Pietersen must still confess all to Flower and Morris and come clean with reassurances about his future behaviour.

"He must still make a full apology for the text messages he sent. There is still a process we must go through, and he needs to explain himself at meetings with Andy and myself before we can go any further, and that will be behind closed doors," Morris said.

The Pietersen saga could see the announcement of the Test squad to tour India and the awarding of central contracts being pushed back until after the World T20.

England's selectors will be meeting before then and had wished to announce both the squad and the contracts before the players headed off to Sri Lanka, but that is far from guaranteed, The Daily Mirror reports.

Cook will also get involved in the discussions now.

"I've been on the outside for a lot of the saga. The issue hasn't changed though. Clearly I'll get involved over the coming weeks, but this will happen behind closed doors before we can move on," said Cook.

# Proteas caught in Anderson trap



AFP, London

James Anderson and Jade Dernbach took seven wickets between them as England dismissed South Africa for a seemingly modest 211 in the third one-day international at The Oval on Friday.

Anderson finished with figures of four for 44 in 9.4 overs, including a spell of three for one in eight balls that polished off the Proteas innings with 20 balls left.

Meanwhile South Africa-born Jade Dernbach marked his return to England duty by taking three for 44 in nine overs on his Surrey home ground.

Dernbach's haul included the prize wicket of Hashim Amla, who made 150 in the Proteas' 80-run win at Southampton on Tuesday that put them 1-0 up in this five-match series following last week's wash-out in Cardiff and took them to the top of the world rankings in all three international formats.

Amla was again the tourists' top-scorer but the fact he was out for 43 on

Friday said much about the difference between the two innings.

South Africa made a steady after AB de Villiers won the toss, with Amla and Graeme Smith sharing an opening partnership of 50 in 52 balls.

But Smith was bowled by Anderson for 18 after the left-hander charged down the pitch.

Amla looked in good touch as returned to the ground where, in July, he became the first South African to score a Test treble hundred.

However, England got him out relatively cheaply when Dernbach, in for the dropped Tim Bresnan, produced a full length delivery that nipped back and took the inside edge before hitting the stumps.

James Tredwell, replacing rested fellow off-spinner Graeme Swann, took two for 49 as both de Villiers (28) and JP Duminy (23) holed out to Ian Bell in the deep when well set.

Dean Elgar, in only his second innings at this level, batted well for his 42 until bowled by a slower ball from

Dernbach, who last played for England in a one-day against Australia in July, that completely deceived the left-hander.

Dernbach, born in Johannesburg but who arrived in England as a schoolboy, struck again when Wayne Parnell edged to wicket-keeper Craig Kieswetter, a former South Africa Under-19 international.

## SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA				
Amla b Dernbach	43			
Smith b Anderson	18			
Elgar b Dernbach	42			
De Villiers c Bell b Tredwell	28			
Du Plessis b Bopara	1			
Duminy c Bell b Tredwell	33			
Parnell c Kieswetter b Dernbach	13			
Peterson not out	23			
Steyn b Anderson	7			
Morkel b Anderson	1			
Tsotsobe lbw b Anderson	0			
Extras: (lb-1, w-1)	2			
Total: (All out in 46.4 overs)	211			
Fall of wickets: 1-50, 2-73, 3-120, 4-122, 5-141, 6-155, 7-195, 8-203, 9-211.				
Bowler				
	O	M	R	W
Anderson	9.4	0	44	4
Finn	8	0	42	0
Dernbach	9	0	44	3
Bopara	10	1	31	1
Tredwell	10	0	49	2
ENGLAND: Cook, Bell, Trott, Bopara, Morgan, Kieswetter, Patel, Tredwell, Finn, Anderson, Dernbach.				
Toss: South Africa				

# Packed crowds

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Britain's Shelley Woods, a double medallist in Beijing in the T54, described the atmosphere as "immense".

The atmosphere replicated that at the Olympics earlier this month, where heats also took place to a near full-house. The Paralympics, billed by organisers as the biggest and most high-profile in its history, is a near sell-out.

The first medals were awarded in the women's F37/38 long jump, with gold going to Russia's Margarita Goncharova. Inna Stryzhak of Ukraine took silver while bronze went to China's Cao Yuanhuang.

In the women's F35/36 discus, Mariaa Pomazan took gold, with Wu Qing and Bao Jiongyu taking silver and bronze for China.

Elsewhere, Felicity Johnson and Stephanie Morton gave Australia another track cycling gold in the velodrome, beating Britain's Aileen McGlynn and Helen Scott in the women's blind and visually impaired 1km time trial.

New Zealand's Philippa Gray and Laura Thompson claimed bronze.

Britain was hoping for another gold to add to Sarah Storey's win in the C5 3km individual pursuit, with C4 world champion Jody Cundy facing off against his compatriot and counterpart in the C5 class, Jon-Allan Butterworth.

Meanwhile Martine Wright, who lost both legs during the Islamist suicide bombings on London's public transport network on July 7, 2005, made an emotional debut in the Paralympics, as Britain took their Games bow in sitting volleyball.

Watched by London Mayor Boris Johnson, the 39-year-old took to the court at the ExCeL exhibition centre, receiving an ovation from the crowd, eclipsing the result which saw Ukraine win easily 25-9, 25-20, 25-14.

Wright, who was on her way to work and reading about London's successful bid to host the Olympics and Paralympics announced the day before when the bombs were triggered, has become one of the inspirational stories of the Games.

China went into the second day of competition at the top of the medal table with 15, including six gold, ahead of Australia with nine, including three gold.

Forty medals were being contested on Friday, while competition starts in five-a-side football and rowing, alongside heats and finals in equestrian, goalball, judo, powerlifting, shooting, swimming, table tennis and wheelchair basketball.

Swimming sees the first events for intellectually disabled athletes. The category was dropped after Sydney in 2000, when it emerged 10 members of Spain's victorious wheelchair basketball team had no intellectual or physical impairment.



PHOTO: REUTERS  
New Zealand captain Ross Taylor raises his bat to the crowd's applause after scoring a century on the first day of the second Test against India in Bangalore yesterday.