

**Sobers' historic ball up for sale**

ANI, London  
The cricket ball used in a match where West Indies legend Sir Gary Sobers hit six sixes in one over is to go on sale.

Sobers hit bowler Malcolm Nash for six sixes during the Nottinghamshire vs Glamorgan match in 1968.

The ball signed by the star was presented to Richard Lewis, 17, after he found a ball Sobers hit out of Glamorgan's ground in 1968. It will be sold by Hansons auctioneers in Etwell, Derbys, The Daily Express reports.

Sobers feat was later achieved by Yuvraj Singh who hit Stuart Broad for six sixes in an over that drew parallels with a similar feat by other batsmen - Ravi Shastri against Tilak Raj (Mumbai vs Baroda in 1985) and Herschelle Gibbs became the first batsman to scores six sixes in an One-Day International (ODI) when he savaged Netherlands' Dan Van Bunge in the World Cup earlier in 2007.

Sobers is widely regarded as one of cricket's greatest ever all-rounders, having excelled in all the essential skills of batting, bowling and fielding.  
By an act of Parliament in 1998, Sobers was named as one of the ten national heroes of Barbados.

**Siddikur**

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Thailand's duo Prom Meesawat and Thitiphun Chuayprakong followed the leader staying jointly in the second position with a nine-under-par 133.

Both Meesawat and Chuayprakong played three-under-par in the second round while Brazilian Adilson Da Silva impressed all to have played five-under-par 66 to stay with Siddikur and others.

**Razzaq**

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the official, as saying.

Razzaq was given the notice for criticizing skipper Mohammad Hafeez over his ouster from the ICC World Twenty20 semifinals in Sri Lanka. Razzaq said Hafeez should have had the courage to admit this instead of shifting the blame on the team management.

**No more Chargers**

CRICINFO, Mumbai



The Deccan Chargers IPL franchise has ceased to exist with its owners failing to produce, by the Friday evening deadline, a Rs 100-crore (\$19 million) bank guarantee before the Bombay High Court that had been set as the condition for the team's survival in the IPL. This effectively means that the BCCI's termination of the Chargers stands and it is free now to float a tender and invite bidders for the new franchise.

This brings the curtains down on Chargers' rollercoaster existence in the IPL, which they won in 2009 after finishing last the previous season. Since then, though, their performances have been patchy - they finished fourth, seventh and eighth in the last three seasons. The last few months have been overshadowed by the owners' financial problems, which had led to the attempted sale of the franchise and finally its dissolution.

It is understood that DCHL sought a three-day extension of the Friday 5 pm deadline to furnish the guarantee but the court turned it down. DCHL's lawyers are also believed to have told the court that it was trying to "negotiate" selling the fran-

chise to a private bidder.

The development will come as a shot in the arm for the BCCI, which was keen on a new franchise. At its marketing sub-committee meeting on September 13, a day after the Chargers' expulsion, the board had decided on a short-list of nine cities - not including Hyderabad - for the new franchise. But those plans had to be put on hold once DCHL went to court.

The BCCI had terminated Chargers' IPL contract on September 14 after what it called a "sudden change of stance by the franchise" regarding its commitments and the board's belief that any further extension of time to the franchise owners would "seriously prejudice the interests of the players."

The matter then went to court where on October 1, while delivering his final judgement in the case, Justice SJ Kathawala had asked DCHL to comply with various undertakings in order for the franchise to return to the IPL fold. The conditions included clearing the player dues and other liabilities for the fifth season of the IPL, and also the bank guarantee, only from a nationalised bank.

On Tuesday, DCHL sought a three-day extension to provide the guarantee, and was given till 5 pm on Friday.

**No problems with KP, says Broad**

Cricket

ANI, London

England Twenty20 skipper Stuart Broad has said he has no issues with Kevin Pietersen, and is hopeful that the once disgruntled batsman also has no grudges against him.

A friend of Broad was behind setting up of the parody Pietersen Twitter account 'KP Genius' which inflamed matters and forced the Nottinghamshire all-rounder to release a statement through the England and Wales Cricket Board denying any involvement.

Broad is the first senior player to comment publicly since Pietersen agreed to a four-month contract with England.

Asked to clarify his relations with Pietersen, Broad said: "I get on fine with Kev. Whenever we're on tour we have a meal and a beer together. We've played together six years non-stop, won fantastic games and trophies together. I've got no issues with Kev and I hope he'd have no issues with me."

"The important thing is playing well together for England and hopefully we can do that together in the future. It's in the management's hands at the moment but if and when they decide it's right to bring KP back into the changing room, he'll be welcome back. When KP wants to play for England, he's a huge asset to our team."

Pietersen will have face-to-face meetings with teammates as part of any 'reintegration' into the team, The Telegraph reports.

Broad said he has not had any contact since the Headingley Test, but is sure they will "catch up" and that there will be a lot of straight talking done within the team room.

"We pride ourselves on having an honest changing room and I think it's important, if and when he does come back, that it isn't just the senior players who make it fine but that every single individual has their say. The clearer the air, the better it will be."

**Sehwag fit to play CLT20**

CRICINFO, Johannesburg

Virender Sehwag has recovered from his ankle injury and will be fit to play in Delhi Daredevils' opening Champions League 2012 match, against Kolkata Knight Riders, on Saturday. He had played in the franchise's warm-up game on Thursday, against Sydney Sixers.

Daredevils' team mentor, TA Sekar, confirmed that Sehwag was fit, and said that he had obtained fitness clearance before flying to South Africa. A BCCI official said the board had nothing to do with the decision to play Sehwag: "The BCCI has nothing to do with it. It is a franchise tournament and it is for them to take a call."

Sehwag was initially doubtful for the Champions League, after straining a ligament in his left ankle during India's Super Eights match in the World Twenty20 against South Africa in Colombo on October 2. He had gone off the field during South Africa's innings and did not return, and it was reported that he could require two weeks of rest.

His fitness has been suspect over the past year: after the 2011 World Cup he delayed a shoulder surgery, playing the IPL and subsequently missed India's tour of the West Indies and half of the Test series in England. Earlier this year, towards the end of the Australia tour, he had back spasms that forced the selectors to rest him for the Asia Cup.

Sehwag will not captain Delhi Daredevils at the Champions League, having asked the franchise to relieve him of the responsibility so he could concentrate on his batting.



Andy Murray of Great Britain pumps his fist after defeating Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic during their Shanghai Masters quarterfinal yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

**Murray, Federer set for rematch**

Tennis

AFP, Shanghai

Andy Murray maintained his perfect record at the Shanghai Masters Friday, recovering from a deficit against unseeded Radek Stepanek to set up an Olympic re-match against Roger Federer in the semifinals.

The US Open champion, chasing a hat-trick of titles in the eastern Chinese city, was below par in losing the first set to the dangerous Czech, ranked 41, before finding his rhythm to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 in two hours and 18 minutes.

Federer had an easier time, beating Marin Cilic 6-3, 6-4 while second seed Novak Djokovic cantered to a 6-3, 6-3 win over German veteran Tommy Haas and will meet Tomas Berdych in a semifinal line-up featuring the top four seeds.

"It was quite a scrappy first couple of sets. Obviously the second set I managed to get a break, got a bit of momentum," said Murray. "For me, the beginning of the third set was what was most frustrating."

"Then I just managed to turn it around in time," added the 25-year-old, who won in Shanghai in 2010 and 2011. "I played actually very well I thought the last 10, 15 minutes of the match."

Stepanek, making frequent successful forays to the net, took the first set but Murray, showing his frustration at times, was able to force two breaks of serve to level the match despite being below par.

The 33-year-old Stepanek interrupted Murray's charge, breaking again in the decider but the Scot hit back immediately, winning 20 of the last 25 points to set up another clash with Federer.

**Local snippets**

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room yesterday.

Both Siam and Fahad secured six points each from seven games. Siam beat Mizanul Islam while Fahad beat Protiva Talukdar in the seventh round matches.

Holder Abdullah Al Saif and Mohammad Sagar were jointly in the second position with 5.5 points each.

**Pioneer League**

Arambagh KS (junior) thrashed ILU Smrity Sangsad 6-1 in the Dhaka (North & South) City Corporation Pioneer Football League at the Basabo ground yesterday.

In the day's other matches, Gulshan Youth Club beat Academy of Sports, Uttara 2 -1, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Krira Chakra defeated Mohammadpur Club 2-0, Bangladesh Sporting Club beat Farid Uddin Smrity Sangsad 2-1, Golam Mostofa Lane Kishore beat Hazi Mofiz Football Academy 2-1, Lalbagh Tarun Sangha beat Lalbagh Ekota Jubo Sangha 2-1, Mother Bari Mukta Kantho beat Surjo Tarun Sangha 2-1, Monsoor Sporting Club beat Monem Munna Smrity Sangshad 2-0, Khilgaon Progati Sangshad routed Mura Para SC 6-0 while Dhaka Credit Union Football Team and Akku Football Academy played out a goalless draw.

The Swiss 17-time Grand Slam champion beat Murray in the Wimbledon final but was demolished by the Scot in the Olympic final, who then went on to win his first major in New York.

Federer, 31, guaranteed a record 300th week as world number one when the next rankings are published on Monday, saw off the challenge of 10th seed Cilic of Croatia with few problems.

In-form second seed Djokovic, who has his eyes firmly fixed on dislodging Federer from the top of the rankings as he approaches the last few weeks of the season, was also impressive.

"I feel good. I've been winning a lot of matches in the last period, so it's something that is always welcome when you want to have confidence, when you want to feel good about yourself on the court," said the Serbian, 25.

"I try not to think about the long season that is behind me. There are still couple of big tournaments, including this one, where I want to do well."

Djokovic will play fourth seed Tomas Berdych in the last four, who came out on top against Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in a battle between two of the contenders to reach next month's ATP World Tour Finals.

The Czech grabbed a crucial break against the powerful Frenchman in the eighth game of the first set and edged the second set tie-break to win 6-3, 7-6 (7/4).

With four berths still up for grabs at the elite eight-man showpiece in the UK's capital, Berdych, 27, is sixth in the Race to London while Tsonga, also 27, is in eighth spot.

Federer, Djokovic and Murray have already qualified for London, along with the injured Rafael Nadal.

**Clash of titans starts**

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whom made it to the main draw after topping their respective pools in the just concluded qualifiers.

The Indian challenge in the tournament will start with a battle between two IPL biggies -- KKR and Daredevils.

While the Gautam Gambhir-led KKR would be out there to prove that their victory in the IPL V was no fluke, Daredevils under new skipper, Mahela Jayawardene, would like to stamp their authority on the tournament in which they have so far remained the underachievers.

The Daredevils boasts of some big names like David Warner and Kevin Pietersen in their ranks, and with Virender Sehwag being declared fit for the tournament, the Delhi side definitely has what it takes to be the champions.

The tournament will also be an opportunity for Sri Lanka's Jayawardene to redeem himself after his side lost in the final of the World T20 Championship to the West Indies earlier this month.

The 35-year-old was entrusted with the responsibility of leading the side after Sehwag opted out of the job to concentrate on his batting.

Jayawardene, however, stepped down as the captain of Sri Lanka's T20 side after losing to the West Indies and it remains to be seen how he handles the new responsibility.

KKR, on the other side, possesses a healthy mix of Indian and foreign players.

**Chargers' owners agree sale**

AFP, New Delhi

The owners of troubled Indian Premier League team Deccan Chargers announced Friday that they have agreed to sell the franchise to a real estate company, pulling the side back from the brink.

Deccan Chronicle Holdings has authorised its board of directors "to sell, transfer/dispose of" the franchise to Mumbai-based Kamla Landmarc, the company said in a letter to the Bombay Stock Exchange.

The decision is subject to approval by its shareholders, it added.

Deccan Chronicle did not reveal how much the deal was worth but the Daily News & Analysis newspaper put the figure at around \$190 million.

Kamla Landmarc, which has commercial and residential properties in suburban Mumbai, is promoted by businessman Ramesh Jain.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), which owns the IPL, had last month terminated the Deccan Chargers' licence for failure to comply with a deadline for overdue player fees.

The owners filed a motion in court against the expulsion order and the matter is still pending.

The BCCI was yet to respond to the latest move by the Hyderabad-based franchise.

Deccan Chronicle, a media company that bought the team for \$107 million before the inaugural IPL season in 2008, won the tournament in 2009 but finished second from bottom this season.

Among the leading players signed up by the franchise are Kumar Sangakkara of Sri Lanka, South African fast bowler Dale Steyn and Australian batsman Cameron White.

**Mahanama**

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Lankan batsman more than two and a half hours to complete his inspection, after which he was flown back to Dhaka in a helicopter. The match referee, who'll have to submit his report within three days, left for Colombo last night.

BCB plans to hold the second Test of the two-match series between West Indies and Bangladesh and the first two ODIs of the five-match series at the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium, which will be the country's seventh Test venue if they get the ICC nod as is expected.

West Indies will arrive in the city on November 5 to play two Tests, five ODIs and one T20I. The first Test, last three ODIs and the lone T20I will take place at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.



Bangladesh Football Federation president Kazi Salahuddin (L) waves to the crowd during the inauguration of Asaduzzaman Football Academy in Magura yesterday. PHOTO: STAR