

What to WATCH

TEN Cricket
India v Zimbabwe
 3rd ODI
 Live from 1:00pm
 Pakistan v West Indies
 2nd T20
 Live from 12:00am (Monday)
 TEN Action
 South Africa v Sri Lanka
 4th ODI
 Live from 3:00pm



BOLT storms to win

Jamaican sprint superstar Usain Bolt strikes his trademark pose after winning the men's 100 metres event of the IAAF Diamond League at the Olympic Stadium in London on Friday.

AFP, London



Olympic champion and world record holder Usain Bolt stormed to victory in the 100m at the London Diamond League meeting on Friday as he returned to his brutal, stunning best.

The Jamaican superstar warmed up for his world championships bid in Moscow next month by sparkling in front of a packed crowd at the London Olympic Stadium.

He won in a season-best 9.85sec despite making a lacklustre start and performed a lap of honour in front of a packed 60,000 crowd.

Returning to the scene of his golden Olympic treble a year ago, the fastest man on earth blew his rivals away with at the Anniversary Games event.

American Michael Rodgers (9.98) and Jamaica's Nesta Carter (9.99) also dipped

under ten seconds.

"I love coming here. The fans give you so much energy and this is what makes me run faster," said Bolt.

"I felt good tonight and I am pleased with the time I did even if I was a little slow off the blocks and I had to play catch up. There is a lot of room for improvement. I am getting there and Moscow is going to be great."

Having been beaten by American Justin Gatlin in Rome earlier this year, Bolt was a man on a mission. And he did not let his worldwide fan club down.

The global audience may have been a fraction of the near one billion armchair supporters who watched in awe last summer but there was still a special atmosphere inside the stadium.

Bolt, who 24 hours earlier spoke openly about his despair at the latest drugs controversy to rock athletics with sprint rivals Tyson Gay and Asafa Powell implicated, had been

paraded around the stadium beforehand.

The 26-year-old, six-times Olympic gold medallist stood on a mock fighter jet and held the Jamaican flag aloft, taking the applause of the sun-drenched supporters as he was driven around the stadium.

Bolt had already seen compatriot Warren Weir win the 200m.

Weir finished a tenth of a second ahead of another Jamaican, Jason Young in a time of 19.89.

Olympic champion Kirani James beat a high-class field to win the 400m.

The Grenadian timed his run to perfection to surge through down the straight and win in 44.65.

Nick Symmonds beat American rivals Duane Solomon and Brandon Johnson to win the men's 800m in 1:43.67.

Ukraine's Bohdan Bondarenko leapt to high jump success but failed with two audacious attempts at a new world

record of 2.47m.

Poland's Piotr Malachowski won the men's discus with his third round throw of 67.35m.

Czech star Zuzana Hejnova set a new season's best of 53.07 in the women's 400m hurdles as she powered her way to victory to beat Britain's Perri Shakes-Drayton for the third time this year.

Shakes-Drayton, who also set a personal best time of 53.67, said: "I gave it everything, and just went for it but it just wasn't enough."

American Brenda Martinez convincingly won the 800m in 1:58.2 while Kenya's Mary Kuria produced a strong run to deny Moroccan rival Ibtissam Lakhoud in the women's 1500m.

American Shannon Rowbury surged to a season's best of 8:41.46 in the women's 3000m while Cuban Yarisley Silva proved strongest in the pole vault with a new Diamond League record of 4.83m.

PHOTO: AFP

L'pool not for sale

AFP, Liverpool

The American owners of Liverpool have denied media reports Saturday that they might consider offers for the English Premier League club.

Fenway Sports Group, headed by Liverpool's principal owner John W Henry, purchased the club in October 2010 from previous US owners George Gillett and Tom Hicks.

With the five-times European champions having missed out once again on qualification for the Champions League last season having placed seventh in the Premier League, The Sun newspaper claimed Liverpool were "unofficially" on the market with a price tag of £540million (\$540million).

But a club spokesperson said: "Fenway Sports Group has made its position clear, Liverpool Football Club is not for sale. There is no truth in this story."

A spokesperson for Fenway Sports Group added: "Like so many rumours in the past about a sale of Liverpool Football Club, there is absolutely no truth in this. We have had no meetings with anyone about a sale, we don't know who the source of the rumour is."

According to The Sun, Fenway Sports Group received a recent takeover proposal from Saudi Arabian oil firm Saudi Aramco while adding City banking sources claim two American billionaires could also be potential buyers.

Anelotti coy on keepers

AFP, Gothenburg

New Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said Saturday he will not be drawn on who would be his first-choice goalkeeper, saying only he was happy to have in Spain veteran Iker Casillas and Diego Lopez "two good keepers."

"I do not know. The most important thing is that we have two good keepers with a great deal of experience and great qualities. We need two good goalkeepers for such busy seasons," said the Italian.

Ancelotti has just taken over from Jose Mourinho, who dropped previously unchallenged number one Casillas, 32, last season after he had returned from a serious hand injury, preferring Lopez.

Ancelotti revealed Lopez would be between the sticks for Saturday's friendly against former club Paris Saint-Germain.

6-shooter Spurs

AFP, Hong Kong



Spurs eased to a 6-0 romp over a hopelessly outclassed South China on Saturday in Hong Kong with Jermain Defoe scoring a hat-trick and setting up another successful strike.

Tottenham manager Andre Villas-Boas had admitted that he would rather not be playing the Barclays Asia Trophy friendly because of the state of the pitch at the sell-out 40,000 Hong Kong Stadium after several days of heavy rain.

Key defender Jan Vertonghen faces a race to be fit for the start of the Premier League season in three weeks after injuring his ankle in a 3-1 defeat to Sunderland at the same venue on Wednesday.

But in front of a watching David Moyes, whose Manchester United play there on Monday, Defoe made light work of a pitch that had large amounts of sand thrown on it.

The England striker, 30, whose future at Spurs has been the subject of speculation, set up Clint Dempsey on 34 minutes, the American striker side-footing home from close range.

Defoe got on the scoresheet on the stroke of half-time after Kyle Walker's deflected free-kick fell into his path, allowing him the chance to calmly finish inside the box.

Defoe, who also hit the woodwork in the first-half, grabbed his second on 54 minutes. This time there was a large slice of luck in it as South China goalkeeper Zhang Chunhui's attempted clearance from a Danny Rose pass hit Defoe and the forward rolled the ball into the empty net.

And Defoe completed his hat-trick on 80 minutes when he passed the ball into the back of the net after Gylfi Sigurdsson played him through.



Tottenham Hotspur striker Jermain Defoe (R) celebrates his goal with teammate Aaron Lennon during their Barclays Asia Trophy friendly match against South China in Hong Kong yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Italian Fed upholds fixing ban

REUTERS, Rome

A tribunal has rejected Torino goalkeeper Jean Francois Gillet's appeal against the Belgian international's match-fixing ban of three years and seven months, the Italian soccer federation (FIGC) said on Saturday.

Gillet, who has won nine caps for his country, was one of 20 people suspended over two matches involving his former club Bari in Serie B in 2008 and 2009.

The tribunal's appeal decision could now signal the end of the 34-year-old's career.

Bari finished in mid-table after losing 1-0 at home to Treviso in one of their final matches of the 2007-08 season and secured promotion a year later despite being beaten 3-2 at Salernitana.

The tribunal also rejected 11 other appeals including one from former Bari and Salernitana player Massimo Ganci, who was given a four-year ban, and ex-Bari player Gianluca Galasso who was suspended for three years and seven months.

In addition, it accepted a prosecution appeal against the acquittal of former Bari and Treviso player William Pianu and suspended him for three years and six months.

The tribunal also halved ex-Bari player Corrado Colombo's six-month ban on appeal while former Bari loanee Raffaele Bianco had his suspension of three and a half years reduced to six months.

Hamilton pips Vettel to pole

AFP, Budapest

Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes on Saturday edged out defending champion and season leader Sebastian Vettel to claim pole position for Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix.

Hamilton, the 2008 champion, pulled out a best lap of 1min 19.388sec to land his third straight pole and the 30th of his career with Red Bull's Vettel timing 1.19.426.

Frenchman Romain Grosjean in a Lotus was third fastest to take his place on the second row of the grid.

Nico Rosberg, Fernando Alonso, Kimi Raikkonen, Felipe Massa, Daniel Ricciardo, Sergio Perez and Mark Webber completed the top ten after final qualifying.

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