

SPORT



WHAT THEY SAID

Salute to my team for helping me win another gold.

-Usain Bolt
If Usain Bolt had participated in the same number of events as Michael Phelps he would have won 30 gold medals in the Olympics.

-Mohandas Menon
Usain Bolt just threw the javelin 56 meters while messing around with volunteers in a darkened Olympic Stadium. Really.

-Tim Reynolds



BOLT'S PERFECT NINE

	BEIJING 2008	LONDON 2012	RIO 2016
100M	9.69S (WR)	9.63S	9.81S
200M	19.30S (WR)	19.32S	19.78S
4X100M	37.10S (WR) (Nesta Carter, Michael Frater, Asafa Powell)	36.84S (WR) (Nesta Carter, Michael Frater, Yohan Blake)	37.27S (Asafa Powell, Yohan Blake, Nickel Ashmeade)

During the Rio Olympic Games Usain Bolt proclaimed that he wanted to sign off as immortal. And after Friday's victory in the 4x100m relay event at the Olympic Stadium, he not only completed the magnificent 'triple-triple' but also won a place in the pantheon of great sportsmen alongside boxing legend Mohammed Ali and football magician Pele.

PHOTO: REUTERS

QUOTES OF THE DAY

We bought the land in 2014, in the year 2015 we build the house and in the year 2016 we've painted the house.

-Brazil's Alison Cerutti on the long process to winning the gold medal in men's beach volleyball.

Ladies love it. There's strength inside, hidden. My strength is in my moustache, that's why we got into the final.

-Canoist Filip Dvorak of the Czech Republic.

To win an Olympic medal with your wife standing next to you, taking the penalty (stroke) in the pressure moments, is special and we will cherish this for the rest of our lives.

-Great Britain's Kate Richardson-Walsh sharing her golden moment after the women's hockey victory with her other half, Helen.

'I AM THE GREATEST'

ATIQUE ANAM from Rio de Janeiro

"There you go, I am the greatest," announced Usain Bolt emphatically as the Jamaican drew the curtains on his incredible Olympic career with a record ninth gold medal in nine finals, after anchoring his team to a third consecutive title in the men's 4x100m relay at the Olympic Stadium in Rio de Janeiro on Friday night.

It was the culmination of eight years of sprint dominance and many years of hard work and sacrifice reaching its climax. The now nine-time Olympic champion and the world record holder in 100m, 200m and 4x100m relays was racing for one last time in the Olympics, and he made it a memorable night with a show of his brilliant best, helping himself to become only the third athlete after Paavo Nurmi and Carl Lewis to win nine Olympic gold medals in track and field and the first one to do so in sprint events.

When the baton was passed onto Bolt for the final leg of the 4x100m relay, Jamaica was slightly ahead of the rest of the field, and there was hardly any doubt about who was going to win gold. With his weakest point -- the start from a crouching position taken out of the equation -- there was always going to be only one winner, Bolt, and Jamaica in this case. The Kingston native applied the after-

burners and pulled away to the finish line way ahead of the chasing pack. Bolt was happy that he was left with a rather easy job by his teammates.

"I told the guys, 'Don't give me too much work to do, please,' and they did exactly that. I had no work to do but to just run to the line," the Jamaican told reporters at the



press conference after wrapping up the victory and the elaborate celebrations. "As soon as I got the baton, I knew I was going to win this one, because there's no one on the anchor leg that can outrun me."

He was relieved and sad at the same time. Relieved because he had a mission and that mission was accom-

plished; sad because this was the last time he was racing in the Olympics.

"It's mixed feelings," Bolt said. "It's relief because it's really stressful -- the years that I've gone through injury problems. It's been so much. It's a relief but I'm also sad I have to leave and this is my last one. I'm going to miss the competition and it's just so many different feelings I'm feeling."

The final act of the Jamaican's storied career came just about 25 hours before his 30th birthday, and he couldn't have had himself a better birthday present than achieving the rare feat of a 'triple, triple' to celebrate. The trailblazer certainly thought so. "I don't know how I'm going to celebrate but it's a great birthday present so far, so I'm happy."

But with sprinters like Justin Gatlin still doing fine at the age of 35, isn't it a bit too early for Bolt to hang up his racing boots in a year's time? Bolt seemed pretty determined to stick to his decision even if his teammates would love to have him back in four years' time.

"We wanted to win to make Usain immortal and he is immortal. I've told him he should come back for 2020!" Bolt's teammate and training partner Yohan Blake said.

Indeed billions of fans around the world will be praying that the sprint king returns to grab three more gold medals and raise the bar even higher come Tokyo 2020.

বাংলাদেশের সর্বাধিক বিক্রিত #1 পেইন্ট ব্র্যান্ড

BERGER Robbialac

বাংলা ও চীনা ইকো-ফ্রেন্ডলি

MEDALS TALLY

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
United States	38	35	32
Great Britain	25	22	14
China	23	18	25
Germany	16	9	14
Russia	13	16	19
Japan	12	8	21
France	9	15	14
Australia	8	11	10
Italy	8	11	6
Netherlands	8	6	4
Republic of Korea	8	3	8
Hungary	8	3	4
Spain	6	2	4
Jamaica	6	1	2
Brazil	5	6	5
Kenya	5	5	0
Croatia	5	2	1
New Zealand	4	8	4
Canada	4	3	14
Kazakhstan	3	5	9
Cuba	3	2	4
Colombia	3	2	3
Greece	3	1	2
Argentina	3	1	0
Iran	3	0	4
Ukraine	2	4	3
DPR Korea	2	3	2
Poland	2	2	6
Belgium	2	2	2
Thailand	2	2	2
Slovakia	2	2	0
Uzbekistan	2	1	5
Georgia	2	1	3
Switzerland	2	1	2
Denmark	1	6	7

(The medals tally was updated at 10:00pm Bangladesh time)

Taskin, Sunny's test on Sep 8

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh bowlers Taskin Ahmed and Arafat Sunny are scheduled to test their respective bowling actions in an ICC-accredited centre in Brisbane on September 8. They are scheduled to leave for Australia on September 6.

Both the bowlers were flagged for suspect bowling actions during the ICC World Twenty20 this year. They were eventually suspended from bowling in international cricket following a test at an ICC lab.

Ever since then, Taskin and Arafat have worked on modifying their respective actions and have even been tested by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB). With the England series due in a month's time, the board is confident that both these bowlers will be available in time for the competition.

"Taskin will give the test on the eighth of September in Brisbane. We are very positive about his case. Arafat Sunny has been working with our head coach Chandika Hathurusingha and (Venkatapathy) Raju and they are both relatively satisfied with his action. He has to go through some more work. But overall the management feels that his action will be good enough by next month and that he too can go along with Taskin in the first week of next month," BCB director Jalal Yunus told reporters yesterday.



Team Italy put on a dazzling display with their gymnasts playfully serenading ribbons in the Rhythmic Gymnastics preliminaries at the Rio Olympic Arena on Saturday.

ECB security team convinced: BCB

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board has said that the ECB's (England and Wales Cricket Board) three-member security delegation left the country 'happy and satisfied'.

The delegation, which had meetings with the home ministry, various security agencies and also visited the venues where England are scheduled to play Bangladesh, left Dhaka yesterday night. Whether England's tour of Bangladesh, due to begin in October, will take place as scheduled will depend upon the report that the delegation provides to the ECB.

"We think they are very much convinced, but we obviously won't get the result now. They will have a meeting with the ECB after going back and we will know the result only after that. There is no time frame as to when they will let us know," BCB director Jalal Yunus informed reporters at Mirpur yesterday.

"They spoke to the home ministry from where they received a very comprehensive security plan. The BCB's security consultant also provided them with a presentation today. So I think they are definitely happy and satisfied. But again, we can't predict the result as of now," he added.

England are scheduled to play three ODIs and two Tests in Bangladesh this October.

Abahani soldier on

SPORTS REPORTER

A brace from Sunday Chizoba powered Abahani to a 2-0 win over 10-man Arambagh in the JB Bangladesh Premier League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, while the fastest goal of the tournament was produced in the second match between Mohammedan SC and Brothers Union.

Nigerian marksman Sunday gave Abahani the lead in the fourth minute before wrapping up the win with his fourth league goal five minutes from time to take the Sky Blues to the top of the table along with Muktijoddha Sangsad, Rahmatganj MFS and holders Sheikh Jamal DC, who all have 12 points from six outings.

Abahani, who came into the match with back-to-back draws, got off to a strong start, taking the lead as Sunday scored off a rebound from his own penalty.

Arambagh tried to counter their superior opposition and came close to levelling the margin but Sajidur Rahman Sajib sent a

ABAHANI 2 - 0 ARAMBAGH
MOHAMMEDAN 2 - 2 BROTHERS UNION

Mansur Amin cross wide in the 23rd minute and Arambagh's hopes of bouncing back were dashed when midfielder Saddam Hossain got his marching orders in stoppage time of the first half.

Despite being a man down, Arambagh found a brilliant opportunity to level the margin in the 66th minute when Nigerian striker Kester Akon shot just over in a one-on-one situation with Abahani goalkeeper Shahidul Alam Sohel.

Afterwards, Abahani sealed victory in the 85th minute with Sunday racing past a defender and the goalkeeper to fire home.

Later in the day, Mohammedan surrendered the lead twice to play out a 2-2 draw against Brothers. It took Towhidul Alam Sabuz just 16 seconds to put Mohammedan ahead before Masud Rana doubled the lead in the 17th minute.

However, Nkowcha Kingsley scored a brace in the 21st and 67th minute respectively to provide Brothers' overall fifth draw in six matches. It was also a fifth draw in six matches for Mohammedan.

Steyn strikes before rain ends play

AFP, Durban

Dale Steyn struck two early blows for South Africa before rain prevented any play after lunch on the second day of the first Test against New Zealand on Saturday.

New Zealand were 15 for two, 248 runs behind South Africa's first innings total of 263, when play ended.

Steyn had Tom Latham caught at first slip by Hashim Amla for four off the second ball of his fourth over.

Bowling in helpful, heavily overcast conditions, he followed up in his next over with a full in-swing which trapped Martin Guptill leg before wicket for seven.

SCORES IN BRIEF
SOUTH AFRICA: 263 all out (Amla 53, Bavuma 46; Wagner 3-47, Boult 3-52)
NEW ZEALAND: 15 for 2 (Williamson 2 not out, Taylor 2 not out; Steyn 2-3)

ASIA CUP QUALIFIERS Eight new faces in Saintfiet's long list

SPORTS REPORTER

Belgian coach Tom Saintfiet yesterday declared a 33-member preliminary squad for the Asia Cup Qualifiers play-off against Bhutan and a friendly against Maldives, including eight new players from lightweight outfits.

The Bangladesh national football team are scheduled to play a practice match against Maldives on September 1 in Male before hosting Bhutan on September 6 in Dhaka.

The new players who have broken into the side are Arambagh's Mohammad Abdullah, Jafar Iqbal and Mansur Amin, Mehbub Hasan Nayan and Didarul Alam of Rahmatganj, Sentu Chandra Sen of Uttar Baridhara, Sohel Rana of Team BJMC and Rumman Hossain of Sheikh Russel KC.

"The selection was made with the young players who played well in the league and also experienced players, players who have experience in the national team and players who have no experience. So it's a very diverse selection. We are going to create a

team which is going to win against Bhutan and Maldives," Saintfiet said, explaining his selection.

Player like goalkeepers Maksudur Rahman Mustaque and Mohammad Nehal, striker Mehdi Hasan Tapu and midfielder Anamul Haque Sharif staged a comeback to the preliminary fold after a long period.

All the selected players have been requested to report to manager Iqbal Hossain by today afternoon.

GOALKEEPERS: Shahidul Alam, Ashraf Islam, Mostaque and Nehal.
DEFENDERS: Tapu Barman, Mamun Miah, Ariful Islam, Wali Faisal, Raihan Hasan, Nasiruddin Chowdhury, Yeamin Munna, Rezaul Karim, Atiqur Rahman, Mansur, Pranotosh Kumar and Sharif.
MIDFIELDERS: Jewel Rana, Mamunul Islam, Sohel Rana, Jamal Bhuiyan, Emon Mahmud, Abdullah and Sentu.
STRIKERS: Nabib Newaj Jibon, Rubel Mia, Rumman, Shakhawat Hossain, Jafar, Aminur Rahman, Mehdi, Didarul, Nayan and Sohel.

Third day washed out in Trinidad

AFP, Port of Spain

Inadequate ground drainage and maintenance systems resulted in the abandonment of the third day without a ball being bowled in the fourth and final Test between the West Indies and India at the Queen's Park Oval on Saturday.

No play has been possible since the first day on Thursday in Trinidad when the West Indies reached 62 for two before lunch after choosing to bat first.

Since then, heavy showers on Thursday afternoon have left the ground completely saturated.

Notwithstanding bright sunshine, the outfield remained sodden in many areas around the square.

Showers returned at midday to eliminate any prospect of play later in the day.