

Two die in Uyo fracas, NFL bans stadium

By Patrick Andrew

which was converted but the stadium was thrown into frenzy when an "explosion" occurred leading to stampede and in the process the visiting team felt

unsafe and abandoned the match.

The committee is also to also to identify those behind the mayhem. It will also suggest measures to be taken to avert a repeat of such ugly incident.

Above all, the Committee is to recommend appropriate punishment for the culprits in the fracas.

Further disciplinary actions will taken by the Disciplinary Committee upon receipt of the

official match reports. The NFL emphasized in a release that they are in constant touch with the teams and the match officials, especially center referee Felicia Okwugba, who is a FIFA badged.



Bangladesh cricketer Syed Rasel, left, celebrates with teammates Aftab Ahmed, centre, and Mohammad Ashraful, right, after Ahmed caught the wicket of Bermudan batsman David Hemp (unseen) at the Queen's Park Oval

Algiers '07: Spikers assures of good outing

By Abbas Jimoh

Nigerians have been assured of a good outing in the volleyball event of the coming All African Games, Algiers '07, in July.

Secretary of the Nigerian Volleyball Federation (NVF), Bode Durotoye gave the assurance while commenting on the level of preparation of the *Spikers* currently in camp for the Algiers Games.

He said that the 18 Spikers for both male and female team as well as the nine beach-volleyball players have all pledged to put smiles on faces of Nigerians by winning medals at the games.

"The decamping of seven, two from male and female and three from the beach teams is to ensure that we have the

best hand to make our dream of winning medals a reality," Durotoye said.

He said that the movement of the male team from the Kano camp where they were for the first phase of the camping exercise to the indoor hall of the Abuja National Stadium is part of their strategy of ensuring that necessary arrangements are put in place,

He said that the coming of the Russian coach, Ovechkin Sergey, on the bill of IOC/NOC, is one of the reasons why the male team was moved to Abuja.

The Russian, who has been on coaching job for 18 years, played professional volleyball for 20 years. His six-month contract, which begins this month, will last till September, 2007.

Tamuno wins U-17 athletics champ

From AbdulRaheem Aodu, Kaduna

Tamuno Briggs emerged the best athlete at the Kaduna U-17 athletics championship held at Ahmadu Bello Stadium Kaduna at the weekend.

The final year student of

Command Secondary School Kaduna won both sprint events and was second in the 4x100m relay race

in breathtaking times to emerge the hero of the maiden championship. He ran 11.03 sec to win the 100m race while he led the track home in 22.05 sec to win the 200m event.

Obinna Nwosu of Giwa

Edmund from the Giwa division. The diminutive girl won the 100m (12.58sec) as well as silver in the 200m (26.20sec) behind Nancy Romanus of Zaria division (26.07 sec) she also anchored her team to bronze

At least two persons were confirmed dead and hundreds wounded in Sunday's mayhem in Uyo during the Premier League match between Akwa United and Enyimba of Aba, which was abandoned with the host leading 2-1. Consequently, the NFL has banned the use of the stadium from its activities for the rest of the season.

Fans of both sides were said to have thrown caution and sportsmanship to the wind during the fracas which resulted from the award of a penalty to the home team. Though the penalty was said to be genuine, fans however reacted differently forcing the match to be abandoned some five minutes to the end of the match.

Unconfirmed report indicated that there was an alleged bomb explosion in which the police vehicle was attacked forcing the police to respond by attempting to enforce order. But this was said to have infuriated and fuelled further acts of hooliganism as the fans fought back indiscriminately attacking both uniform personnel and others within and outside the stadium.

In the interim, the NFL has set up a 3-man Committee to look into the remote and immediate causes of the incident leading to wild spread fracas in Uyo that was said to have extended until yesterday. Akwa United has been banished to Minna for the rest of the season.

The committee is charged with the responsibility of investigating the role of both the visiting and host team in the fracas that broke out some five minutes to end of the match as well as recommend measures which could stem the overt and covert causes of the incident with a view to forestalling a repeat in the league as a whole.

The committee, which membership was stilling being worked out, has 14-days to carry out the assignment, is at liberty to call key elements in the two teams and others picked up or identified by security agents to present both oral and written evidences.

Akwa United were said to have earned a legitimate penalty