



### Dix nabs sprint double,

Walter Dix will get two world title shots at Jamaican sprint king Usain Bolt after wrapping up a sprint double at the US athletics championships with a 200m triumph.

Dix, a double bronze medalist at the 2008 Olympics, won the 100m on Friday, in the absence of injured 2009 World Championships silver medalist Tyson Gay.

Dix followed up with a victory in the 200m in a wind-aided (2.4m/sec) 19.95sec and said he would only get better by the time the World Championships roll around in Daegu, South Korea, August 27-September 4. AFP

Walter Dix



### Brazil pushes hard for World Cup win

Brazil lived up to their status as Group D favourites when they opened their Women's World Cup campaigns with 1-0 win on Wednesday.

But the footballing heavyweights were pushed hard by rivals Australia in ties which wrapped up the first round of group matches.

Brazil, the 2007 runners-up, needed a 54th-minute goal from Rosana to get past a young Australian side in Moenchengladbach.

Despite boasting five-time World Player of the Year Marta in their ranks the Brazilians showed signs of early nerves. AFP

Brasils defender Rosana (R) scores the 1-0 goal during the group D football match of the FIFA women's football World Cup Brazil vs Australia. Brazil won 1-0. AFP

# Week in sport

### Merritt selected for US world champs team

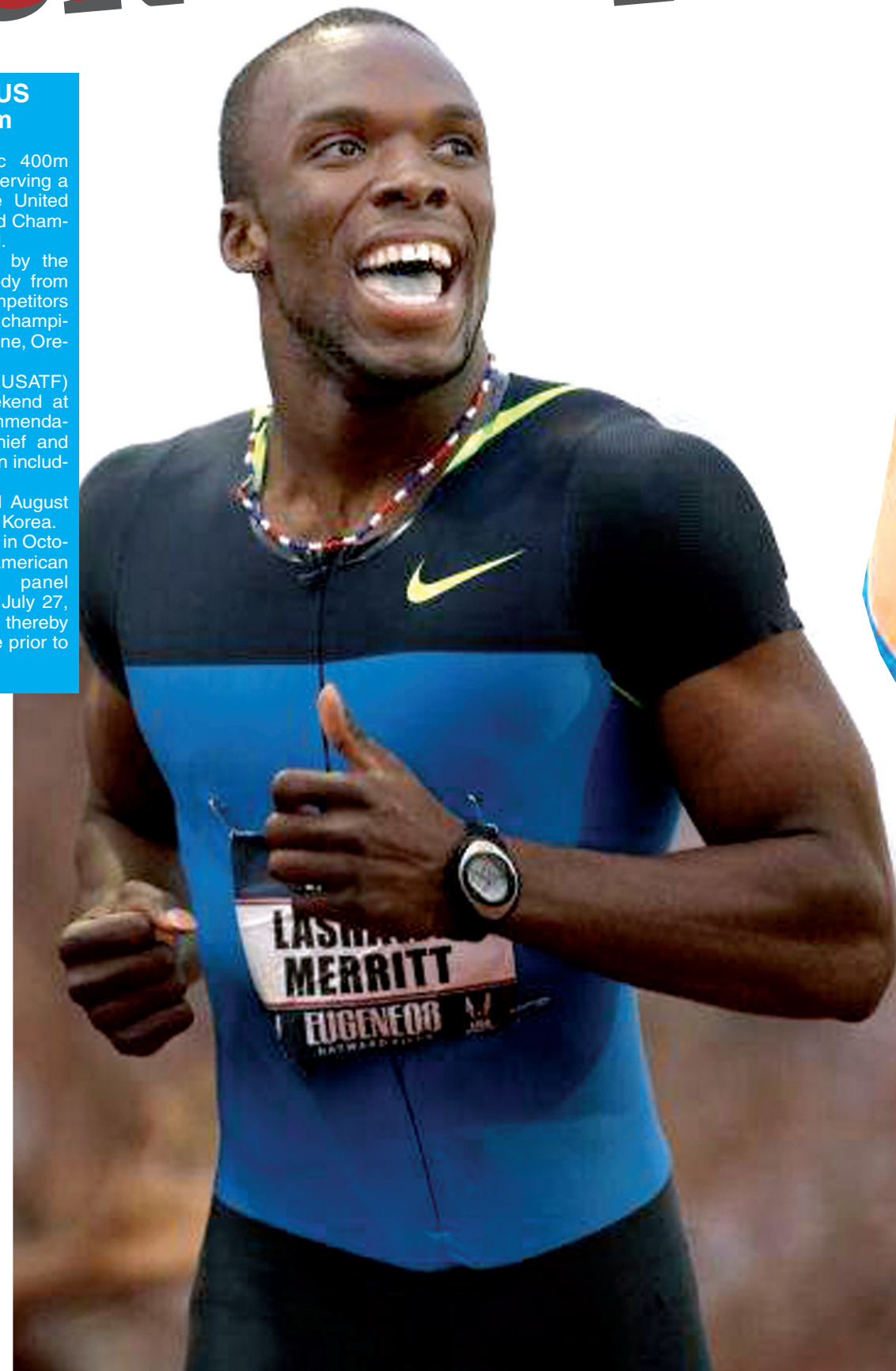
Reigning world and Olympic 400m champion LaShawn Merritt, still serving a doping ban, was named to the United States team for the athletics World Championships by USA Track and Field.

Merritt was granted a waiver by the American athletics governing body from its regulation that world team competitors have taken part at the prior US championships, staged last week at Eugene, Oregon.

The USA Track and Field (USATF) board of directors met last weekend at Eugene and approved the recommendation of its sport performance chief and men's track committee chairman in including Merritt in the squad.

The world meet will be staged August 27-September 4 in Daegu, South Korea.

Merritt tested positive for DHEA in October, 2009, and last October, an American Arbitration Association (AAA) panel declared that his ban would end July 27, less than the usual 24-month ban, thereby making Merritt eligible to compete prior to the World Championships. AFP



Reigning world and Olympic 400m champion LaShawn Merritt



### Rogowska injured as pole snaps

World champion pole vaulter Anna Rogowska needed stitches in her hand after her pole broke during a meeting at Sopot, Poland, on Wednesday, according to the domestic news agency PAP.

The pole snapped at the moment she took off as she tried to clear the bar at 4.70metres.

The European indoor champion needed several stitches and is expected to be out of action for three weeks, jeopardising her chances of retaining her world title at this year's World Championships in South Korea.

On June 18, Rogowska and the German Silke Spiegelburg set the best jumps of the year, both of them going over at 4.75m in a meeting in Stockholm. AFP

World champion pole vaulter Anna Rogowska



### Perkovic rejects doping charges

European discus champion Sandra Perkovic admitted that she had been careless about the supplements that she had taken but rejected suggestions that she was a drugs cheat.

The 21-year-old Croatian failed doping tests after last month's Rome and Shanghai Diamond League meetings.

"This is the worst that has happened to me. I never thought that my name would one day be linked to doping," the Croatian told reporters.

The vice-president of her Zrinjevac Zagreb club, Boris Stepinac, said that Perkovic had tested positive for methylhexanamine, a psychostimulant. AFP

European discus champion Sandra Perkovic



US Open champion Rory McIlroy

### McIlroy up to third in world rankings

US Open champion Rory McIlroy is up to a career-best third in the world rankings completing an unprecedented British clean sweep of the top three positions.

The Ulsterman is taking three weeks off to gear up for the British Open next month, but still moved ahead of Germany's Martin Kaymer who slipped to fourth after a lacklustre performance in the BMW International Open in Munich.

Luke Donald stays at number one with Lee Westwood in second. Tiger Woods, currently sidelined with leg injuries, slipped further down the rankings to 17th place. AFP

### World top 20:

1. Luke Donald (ENG) 9.14
2. Lee Westwood (ENG) 8.66
3. Rory McIlroy (NIR) 7.23
4. Martin Kaymer (GER) 7.14
5. Steve Stricker (USA) 6.39
6. Phil Mickelson (USA) 5.90
7. Matt Kuchar (USA) 5.59
8. Graeme McDowell (NIR) 5.54
9. Jason Day (AUS) 5.43
10. Charl Schwartzel (RSA) 5.37