**West Ham's Payet to return in New Year**

LONDON: France international Dimitri Payet is set to make his return from an ankle injury in West Ham's Premier League game against Everton next month.

The Frenchman injured his ankle in the Europa League quarter-final win over Fe

**US investors reportedly in talks to buy Everton**

LONDON: A consortium led by two US technology investors is reportedly negotiating to buy Everton for an estimated £200 million ($271 million, €227 million). The Times newspaper reported on Thursday that the group has signed a non-binding agreement with owner and chairman Bill Kenwright's BDM 1860 Company to complete the takeover within the next six weeks.

The deal means that Everton have been given the opportunity to consider exclusive talks on the deal. The consortium is led by John Moores and Charles Noell, founders of venture capital firm 500 Startups.

The 71-year-old Moores, who is also the founder of US footwear firm FM, bought the San Diego Padres baseball team in 1994 and sold it in 2012.

Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone has offered to host the race in California, which has been provisionally pencilled in as one of the possible new hosts in the US. However, the crash has convinced some that while they do not film sporting events regularly, they can still put on a grand prix.

**Ecclestone says Singapore GP could make comeback**

FRANKFURT: Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone said Germany could host the race in 2016.

The Austrian was hurtling down the mountain on his second run as the drone, which was being used to film television pictures of the course from above, came crashing down to the ground just inches away from the 26-year-old.

"That won't be the case in the future, very much as with other European countries pay to host, " Ecclestone said. "For the 2012/2013 (DRC) Grand Prix in Austria would go ahead.

"For the 2012 season, the move was made to the United States and Canada for an event there, and the Swiss. Ecclestone said: "Incorporating Dubai into the calendar will cost when they signed the contract with us. They knew that they would have to build a track and what it costs to put on a grand prix," Ecclestone said.

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