

## The New York Times

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

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## SPORTS BRIEFING | SAILING

## SAILING GIANTS RESOLVE DISPUTE

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Published: April 1, 2008

Ernesto Bertarelli, the owner of the defending champion Alinghi of Switzerland, and Larry Ellison

of the American challenger BMW Oracle Racing, ended their America's Cup showdown on Sunday in a secret out-of-court negotiation. In response to this surprising development, a New York Supreme Court judge canceled the hearing previously scheduled for April 2. The two sailing giants agreed to a match



Ben Ainslie, Russell Coutts race using the Olympic class Laser Standard, a single-handed one-design dinghy. Bertarelli will have Ben Ainslie, a two time

Olympic gold medalist in the Finn and the Laser, as his helmsman, and Ellison will give the nod to Russell Coutts, also an Olympic gold medalist (Finn) and three time previous winner of the America's Cup. Ainslie and Coutts began training today at the Bay of Palma for the competition that will be held beginning April 1, 2009 at Palma de Mallorca.

## Issue for Athletes: Protest on Darfur at Olympics

By NATE THOMAS

Socially conscious athletes are struggling to figure out how to honor their beliefs while also respecting the purpose of the Olympic Games.

## Experience Is Afterthought After Dominating Victory

By BILL FRIEY

Based on the Florida Derby performance, Big Brown is now likely to be favored in the Kentucky Derby on May 3.

## Hamlin Wins and Slows



See OlymposAssociated Press  
Jessica Mendoza is a member of Team  
Florida. In addition of more than 200 athletes

## SPORTS BUSINESS

## China Still Has Some Tarnish on Its Image

By RICHARD SANDBER

Recent actions by the Chinese government show the risk of permitting a dictatorship to play host to the Olympics in the hope that it will change its ways once the whole world is watching.

## SPORTS OF THE TIMES

## Softball Is Losing a Chance to Celebrate

By BOB DEVESEY

Women's softball and men's baseball will soon both be gone from the Olympics. The greater loss will be the women's.



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