Injury worry over Smith

CRICINFO, undated

Graeme Smith, the Rajasthan Royals' opener, is likely to miss their next match against the Mumbai Indians on Monday after pulling a hamstring during the Chennai game, said captain Shane Warne.

"We have good depth and we can make it up for Smith's loss and send (Kamran) Akmal up the order," Warne said. "We will continue with our experimentation and try out a few new things."

Smith scored 91 and added 127 with Swapnil Asnodkar as Rajasthan totalled 214 and beat the Chennai Super Kings by 10 runs. Warne was happy that despite resting four key players, Rajasthan had managed to win. "Youngsters showed good coordination. Smith, Asnodkar set the tone for our innings and Akmal, who was like dynamite, made good use of a perfect batting condition. Sohail Tanvir was exceptionally good as he bowled well through out and took two vital wickets in the end

But till a third of Chennai's innings, it had looked like they would chase Rajasthan's formidable total. "At one stage we thought Chennai will win with an over to spare. Parthiv Patel's wicket turned the tide in our favour." Warne said, adding that Rajasthan's strategy against Mahendra Singh Dhoni was to keep a fielder at backward point and bowl short and wide. "Just before he got out, we brought the mid-off up and he lofted a slower delivery to be out."

Rajasthan have qualified for the semifinals along with Kings XI Punjab but Chennai will now have to beat the Deccan Chargers on Tuesday to make it to the final four. Dhoni said they had to keep the Delhi-Mumbai result in mind as well. "The match would have gone our way but we missed it in the last one over when we had our chance," Dhoni said of Saturday's defeat.

"We batted and fielded well but our bowling was not up to the mark excepting in the last four or five overs. Generally, I am happy with my bowling attack. At least we have a settled attack now and they have to improve a lot. I am seeing signs of their improvement."

Samuels disputes ban

AFP, Kingston

The two lawyers that represented Marlon Samuels at the West Indies Cricket Board's disciplinary hearing to determine his links with an alleged Indian bookmaker intend to challenge his two-year suspension from the game.

Jamaican attorneys Churchill Neita and Delano Harrison believe that an application for judicial review stands a realistic chance of success and they intend to pursue it actively.

"From the outset, we wish to

make it clear that we proposed to challenge the findings of the majority (3-1) by way of judicial enquiry, as we believe a most grave injustice has been done by their finding of our client's liability of one of the International Cricket Council's disciplinary offences," the two lawyers said in a news release on Saturday. Samuels was charged with

receiving the benefit of the provision of hotel accommodation to the value of 1,238.00 dollars from a suspected bookie Mukesh Kochchar or his associates which could bring him or the game of cricket into disrepute under the ICC's Code of Conduct.

But he was cleared of another charge of passing confidential team information regarding the West Indies opening bowlers in the first One-day International against India which was played on January 21 last year at Nagpur to the bookie.

The lawyers noted there was a need to clarify "many misunderstandings and misconceptions" that arose from Samuels' hearing before the WICB's disciplinary committee, headed by Justice Adrian Saunders, a leading Caribbean jurist, in St. Lucia on May 9.

The lawyers indicated the evidence in the hearing was that the hotel bill paid for Samuels was a loan which was to be repaid to someone Samuels considered a friend and father figure.

They also highlighted that the evidence in the hearing was that Kochchar was not a bookmaker.

The lawyers also pointed out that Samuels only needed a loan because money which he had expected to earn from a contract to participate in a television reality showdid not materialise.

They added that the loan arrangement occurred two weeks after the two-way limited-overs series between India and West Indies had ended and would not have arisen had Samuels not stayed on to fulfil the television contract.

Neita and Harrison also outlined that the WICB's disciplinary committee "agreed unreservedly" with Samuels' defence "that there has not been proved against Samuels any element . . or corruption".

"They found 'no basis upon which to find that Samuels acted dishonestly or in a corrupt manner'," the two lawyers said.



Serbian star Ana Ivanovic makes a forehand return against Swedish opponent Sofia Arvidsson during their French Open first round match at Roland Garros yesterday.

Serbian duo struggles

French Open AFP, Paris

potential Roland Garros champions, endured struggling starts to the French Open on Sunday.

Australian Open champion and world number 64 Denis down6-1,6-2. Gremelmayr 4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-2.

who crumbled to defeat in the 2007 final against Justine Henin, took a first nervous step towards Ivanovic's most convincing diserasing that heartbreaking memory by seeing off Sweden's Sofia

Arvidsson 6-2, 7-5. "He surprised me a little bit. He was aggressive, took his chances and went for his shots. He deserved to win the first set," said Djokovic, a semi-finalist here in 2007, and the best player on the

tour this year. he came back to 5-5. I lost my focus

qualifier Miguel Angel Lopez Jaen seed. for a place in the third round.

clay in Estoril and Barcelona, took the first set after racing into a 4-0 lead before the 21-year-old Serbian levelled the tie courtesy of a break in so I have more expectations." the eighth game of the second set.

down every time they seemed to

be wresting the momentum.

Kallis, Misbah and Dravid all

contributed, but with five overs to

go, they still needed 60. While

Deccan had botched up with their

batting towards the end,

Bangalore turned it on, scoring an

Dravid got it going in the 16th

over with three sublime fours.

White, who had motored to a run-

a-ball 16, then attacked

runs from the over. Twenty-nine

incredible 65 from the last four.

FROM PAGE 17

the third set but the 26-year-old German hit back to level at 5-5 before the Serb broke back in the 11th game and then served it out.

The world number three Serbian duo Novak Djokovic and cruised to victory with breaks in Ana Ivanovic, both tipped as the third and fifth games of the

World number two Ivanovic became Serbia's first Grand Slam Third seed Djokovic, the finalist here in 2007 beating Svetlana Kuznetsova and Maria Rome Masters winner, needed Sharapova before she fell to pieces four sets to see off Germany's in the final against Henin, going

Since then she has also finished Women's second seed Ivanovic, runner-up to Sharapova at the Australian Open.

But it wasn't 20-year-old play on Sunday.

set, she then had to save break points in the fifth, seventh and ninth games of the second before seeing off the 24-year-old Swede whom she had also defeated at the same stage here last year.

"If I reach the final again I'll perform a lot better than I did last Simon Greul of Germany or "I was ahead 5-1 in the third set, year. That was a great experience and I don't regret it," said Ivanovic so hopefully that will be the end of whose build-up to Paris wasn't helped by a shock first round Djokovic will now face Spanish defeat in Rome where she was top

Gremelmayr, a semi-finalist on position to last year. Then I had only just broken into the world top 10 and there was less pressure. Now I am number two in the world

Djokovic raced to a 5-1 lead in Czech Republic's Lucie Safarova Ashley Harkleroad.

Akhil then decided to finish it

Chamara Silva -- his second and

third deliveries were lofted for

straight sixes, and the last one

disappeared over square leg as

Akhil finished on an unbeaten 27

from seven deliveries, outstand-

ing returns for a batsman who had

scored just 14 in his previous five

DECCAN: 165 all out in 20 overs

(Gilchrist 46, Gibbs 47, Sharma 17,

SCORES IN BRIEF

Vijaykumar 0*, extras 1

Sourav's gift to Kolkata

hardly smooth, as wickets went off quickly off the hapless

Vijaykumar, creaming a four and a Silva 0, Rao 26, Teja 7,

were now needed from 18, which 1-33, Steyn 2-19, Kallis 0

came down to 16 from 12 as Akhil 2-25, Kumar 3-27, Akhil 0-39).

six on the on-side to add 14 more Bangar 0, Vaas 0,

for a place in the third round.

However, another Czech was already packing her bags after 15th seed Nicole Vaidisova, a semifinalist in 2006, slumped to a 7-6 (7/2), 6-1 defeat to compatriot, and best friend, Iveta Benesova.

Vaidisova's defeat was her sixth in a row this year leaving her without a win since the first round in Dubai three months ago.

Meanwhile, Argentinian sixth seed David Nalbandian, widely regarded as one of the few players capable of shattering triple champion Rafael Nadal's pursuit of a fourth successive title, saw off compatriot Carlos Berlocq 6-2, 6-4, 6-1.

Nalbandian, a semi-finalist in 2004 and 2006, holds a 2-0 career record over Nadal and could meet After easing through the first the Spaniard in the quarter-finals. He next faces French wildcard

Jeremy Chardy. American seventh seed James Blake, who has never got beyond the third round, saw off German veteran Rainer Schuettler 6-4, 6-1, 7-6 (7/3) and will tackle either

Ernests Gulbis of Latvia. Later Sunday, former triple champion Gustavo Kuerten, whose career has been devastated by a chronic hip injury, will play what will probably be his final ever "This year I'm in a different match when he returns to his beloved Philippe Chatrier Court to take on French 18th seed Paul-Henri Mathieu.

Serena Williams is also due on Ivanovic will now face the court to face fellow American

Akhil 27*, extras 3; Vaas 1-36,

Singh 0-15, Bangar 1-30,

Vijaykumar 0-29, Rao 0-18, Teja 1-

Result: Bangalore won by five

PUNJAB: 174-6 in 20 overs (Marsh

40, Hopes 13, Sangakkara 64

Yuvraj 2, Jayawardene 11*, Pathan

7, Chawla 0, Srivastava 1*, extras

11; Umar 4-23, Sharma 0-49

Mendis 1-24, Dinda 0-18, Hussey

KOLKATA: 175-7 in 19.4 overs

(Ganguly 86*, Butt 24, Das 0,

Shukla 5, Saha 13, Chopra 2, Umar

24, Sharma 0*; Pathan 0-36,

Sreesanth 2-33, Powar0-14, Singh

19, Silva 0-21).

0-36, Shukla 0-23).

wickets.

Women's 2002 champion

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Abahani beat Jawlakhel Sports Club of Nepal in straight sets in the opening match of the International Beach Volleyball tournament (women's section) at Laboni Point.

In the men's section, India defeated Bangladesh Power Development Board, also via straight sets.

Earlier, Army Chief and National Sports Council (NSC) Chairman General Moeen U Ahmed formally inaugurated the competition as chief guest.

Deputy commissioner of Cox's Bazar Sajjadul Hasan, Bangladesh Volleyball Federation president Golam Quddus Chowdhury and Federation officials were present on the occasion.

Speaking briefly at the inaugural function, Gen Moeen said volleyball is the most popular game in the world after football. "We've to arrange more tournaments to further popularise the game in the country," he added.

Fifteen teams including eight men's and seven women's are participating in the competition.

Flynn cleared of concussion

AFP, Manchester

New Zealand batsman Daniel Flynn was cleared of concussion by a neurosurgeon Saturday after being hit on the head 24 hours earlier in the second Test against England here at Old Trafford.

Flynn, retired hurt Friday on four after missing a hook off a James Anderson bouncer which led to two of his teeth being

removed. He didn't bat again Saturday as New Zealand, nine wickets down, were bowled out for 381.

Flynn then didn't take the field, with twelfth man Jeetan Patel on in his place, as England slumped to 152 four, a deficit of 229, at stumps.

"He's back at the hotel and won't field," team spokesman John Durning told reporters after Saturday's play.

"Before he comes back he'll have to some gym work just to see how pressure affects him.

"If he's not right he won't bat. There's not any reason to suggest he won't be able to bat. But we thought we had him right before lunch but then he got a bit queasy."

Durning added: "He's had a scan and that was all-clear and that's the main thing, so he's got no damage." Left-hander Flynn, 23, playing

in only his second Test, had felt nauseous and vomited overnight. He fell ill again Saturday and, although concussion had initially been ruled out, team officials decided he should see a specialist.

Northern Districts batsman Flynn had to endure two hours of dental work Friday after being hit by Anderson and retiring hurt on four.

Although he was wearing a helmet, the ball appeared to force the grille into his face with his side then 136 for four.

A top front tooth was knocked out by the initial impact and a badly cracked bottom tooth was also removed Friday.

Usha's 9 out

FROM PAGE 17 Playing for the first time in the sky-

blue colours, Zahid showed his nerve when he stopped a weak attempt by Habul but a weaker clearance went straight to Pakistani player Tarik Aziz who tapped in. Jimmy set up Modasser who

only found the pads of Shakil from close but the pressure told on the hour when Modasser, taking a pass from Rana, made it 3-2.

A goal by Rajan was disallowed after Abahani players protested the decision vehemently but there was no respite for Mahbub Harun's side who conceded a penalty stroke two minutes from time.

Zahid's misery by slotting his second goal of the match to seal a remarkable victory. Abahani coach Harun admitted

Akhter kept calm and extended

that his side flopped in all depart-"Our defensive weaknesses

were exposed badly. The goalkeeper also faltered but still we would have won had our attackers not missed a number of chances, said Harun.

"The difference between the two teams was in finishing. Also, squandering the stroke proved vital as I feel it destroyed our moral. "If Usha lose two matches, we

will have a chance. We can beat them and so can Mohammedan. Similar thing happened to us last season as we threw away a fivepoint lead to share the trophy with Usha," added the former international midfielder after consoling Abahani captain Rana, who was in tears after their title hope was

Jahir, on the other hand, looked satisfied after his strategy to play a counter-attack based game.

their chances in the crunch match will win. I am happy that my players did it. I knew they would attack so I played the waiting game. Both sides controlled the game in patches but Abahani did not score from their opportunities," said the Usha coach.

Abahani women make good start Pace reminds of past

Cricket

REUTERS, Kingston

For an hour on Saturday at Sabina Park, West Indies cricket took a step backintime.

Fidel Edwards and Daren Powell ate -- even if they have yet to replicate bowled with real hostility to take two wickets each as Australia slumped to 17 for four on the third day of the first Test.

Racing in accompanied by roars from the crowd and hurling down quite some time. It was a spectacular deliveries with accuracy and aggres- end to the day," West Indies' sion, it was impossible not to recall Australian coach John Dyson said. another era when fast bowlers from the Caribbean dominated the game.

Wes Hall and Charlie Griffith, Andy Roberts and Michael Holding, Joel Garner and Malcolm Marshall, and Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose fearsome pace attack Batsmen were apprehensive hiscareer.

about tours of West Indies knowing full well that they would face a near non-stop onslaught of pace and a barrage of bouncers.

Since Walsh and Ambrose retired,

potent attack and that has been a wicket-taking and his 67 Test victims major factor behind the decline of have come at an average of 46.05,

cricket in the Caribbean. and Jerome Taylor, who is missing side. this Test with a back injury, local fans at last have bowlers they can appreci-

the exploits of earlier generations. the best spell of fast bowling that two another to bowl Michael Hussey. bowlers have produced together for

Edwards has been in excellent form, following up his five-wicket display against Sri Lanka in Trinidad with another five-wickethaul

The Barbadian has removed Australia's openers cheaply in both - each great West Indian team had a innings and produced some of the fastest and most accurate bowling of

But what was more surprising in Saturday's hour of hell for Australia's batsmen was the performance of

The Jamaican has rarely been able wickets."

West Indies have lacked a really to turn his pace into real effective disappointing statistics for someone But now with Edwards, Powell who has been a regular feature in the

But Powell has always had ability and on Saturday he produced a pearl of a delivery which left the batsman late to get the prized wicket of "From our point of view we saw Australia captain Ricky Ponting and

"I think that's the best spell I've seen him bowl since I've been here." said Dyson. "Darren bowls some great stuff and I've felt over the last few matches he's bowled unluckily. he's bowled some really good balls that blokes have just missed or some-

how just missed the stumps. "In almost all that he's bowled abit of rubbish as well, but he does bowl some extremely good quick deliveries. Here he didn't bowl any rubbish, he bowled with good pace and he got the results," added

"He always puts it in. Daren puts it in training and in the matches, so you feel happy for him that he's got a few



Chief of Army Staff and National Sports Council chairman General Moeen U Ahmed (2nd R) releases balloons to

WI spark collapse

inaugurate the International Beach Volleyball tournament at Cox's Bazar yesterday.

FROM PAGE 17 bowled Mike Hussey for one.

This all unfolded after Chanderpaul took a blow to the back of his head from a sharply, rising delivery from Lee and lay immobile on the pitch for a several minutes.

The doughty left-hander however, received medical attention of the field, and rose a little unsteadily to his feet before he carried on and reached his landmark, when he drove Stuart Clark straight down the ground for

last hour before tea to pull the rug from under West Indies, after they had fought through the first half of the match to reach 260 for four. Lee toiled 19 overs before claiming his first wicket of Dwayne Bravo, then

added the scalps of Denesh Ramdin and Powell that sent West Indies crashing to 268 for eight at the tea Lee struck an important blow, when he had Bravo caught at first slip

for 46 edging a loose drive at a delivery outside the off-stump. delighted to see the back of Bravo, after he came to the wicket in the closing stages of the morning period

and emerged after lunch to spearhead

the West Indies assault. MacGill was the main target of Bravo's aggression and he was principally responsible for destroying the figures of the Aussie leg-spin bowler, as he struck all three of his sixes and a couple of his fours off him.

Australia continued to bowl with discipline, but Bravo and Chanderpaul kept West Indies going with a stand of 64 for the fifth wicket before Lee stepped in to transform the complexion of the match. Lee had Ramdin caught behind for

a duck in his next over, when the West when he lofted MacGill for a straight

ACROSS

1 Collec-

tions

Fame

tion

By Eugene Sheffer

54 Prepare

Easter

9 Actor

Carey

Indies wicketkeeper/batsman too, droveloosely outside the off-stump. Mitchell Johnson bowled with pace, but little accuracy, and he too, was struggling to find his first wicket

until Sammy whipped an overpitched delivery on leg-stump and was caught at mid-wicket. Lee then had the sight that all fast bowler relish, when he bowled Powell for three with a well-directed yorker

that extracted the middle-stump. This carnage was in stark contrast night 115 for three) to what transpired before lunch, when Smith b Clark But Lee had three wickets in the West Indies strode confidently to 197 for four at the interval.

> Australia failed to make much Morton c Clark b MacGill headway in the morning period, as Runako Morton and Chanderpaul batted with enterprise to add 128 for the fourth wicket.

But Australia scalped Morton in the last 10 minutes before lunch, after he and Chanderpaul breathed life into the West Indies with contrasting halfcenturies. The Aussies made batting difficult

throughout for the two West Indies batsmen, but Morton, in particular, Australia would have been and Chanderpaul remained steadfast to give the home team hope of staying competitive in the match. Lee worked up a decent head of Clark

steam and gave a stern examination to Morton's technique with little success. Lee peppered Morton with a number of short, rising deliveries which the batsman either evaded or took on the body. Clark, whose three wickets the

previous evening had put the skids on West Indies, opened the bowling from the other end, and induced an edge past second slip for four from Chanderpaul early in the period. But the Australians continued to

bowl good lines and lengths, but

four, shortly before Chanderpaul turned Johnson behind square leg for a single to reach his milestone.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on the third day of the

first Test between West Indies and Australia at Sabina Park on Saturday: AUSTRALIA: First innings 431 (Ponting 158, Edwards 5-104)

WEST INDIES: First innings (over-

Parchment c Haddin b Clark Sarwan c Haddin b Clark Chanderpaul c Hussey b MacGill 118 Bravo c Katich b Lee Ramdin c Haddin b Lee Sammy c Jaques b Johnson Powell b Lee Edwards c Haddin b Johnson

Extras: (b-2, lb-10, w-3, nb-14) 29

Fall of wickets: 1-47, 2-62, 3-68, 4-196,

Jaggernauth not out

Total: (All out in 106 overs)

5-260, 6-262, 7-263, 8-268, 9-298. Bowler Johnson MacGill 11 4 15 0 Symonds AUSTRALIA: Second innings Jaques c Ramdin b Edwards Katich lbw b Edwards Ponting c Bravo b Powell Hussey b Powell Johnson not out

Hodgenotout Extras: (lb-1, nb-1) Total: (For 4 wkts in 10 overs) 17 Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-10, 3-12, 4-12. Morton eventually reached his 50, Powell Edwards

10 Tittle eggs 37 Haw 11 Ornery preceder 55 Genea-5 Walk of 20 Bandmate logy 38 Trojans' of Johnny chart decora 23 |24 21 22 Rotten 56 Denomi-39 One of 22 Angry nation the Three 29 30 31 24 Injures 42 Trail the DOWN severely 1 Old card 25 Bribe 26 Spring-44 Part of time the foot? 2 Green abbr. acres? 3 Doppel- 27 Shelter period gånger 29 Mutt 44 45 46 47 30 Blunder additive 4 Hesse 31 "Catcher novel 50 Pearl in the 5 Vibrate Harbor abnor-35 Hardly mally 51 \$ dispenser 6 Albacore

CRYPTOQUIP

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END UP WITH PERMANENT PRESS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals E

cleverly paddled two fours to fine BANGALORE: 171-5 in 19 overs 2-28, Chawla 2-36, Hopes 1-23). (Kallis 31, Jaffer 5 Misbah 34, leg off Vaas, who ended up going Result: Kolkatawon by 3 wickets. Dravid 31, White 31*, Kohli 9, for 36 in his four overs.

innings.

FROM PAGE 17

balls before he too was lbw to NEWZEALAND: First innings 381 Panesar after missing a sweep shot. Vettori holed out cheaply off

Panesar to Stuart Broad in the deep. 66) But that still left Ross Taylor, NEW ZEALAND: Second innings who made a career-best 154 not out How lbw b Panesar in the first innings. However he became Panesar's 100th Test bAnderson wicket when, on 15, he was lbw.

England had only narrowly Taylor lbwb Panesar avoided the follow-on with No 9 Broad seeing them to safety with 30 after experienced batsmen Kevin Pietersen and Collingwood were among those who both fell cheaply to Vettori.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the second Test between Total: (Allout in 41.2 overs) England and New Zealand at Old Fall of wickets: 1-28, 2-50, 3-85, 4- How

Trafford on Sunday: ENGLAND: First innings 202 (Strauss 60, Vaughan 30; Vettori 5-

Redmond c Collingwood Marshall Ibw b Panesar McCullum Ibw b Panesar Vettoric Broad b Panesar

Mills c Ambrose b Panesar Oram c Amborse b Sidebottom O'Brien c Anderson b Sidebottom Martin not out Flynn absent hurt Extras: (lb-11)

12.2 5 26 Sidebottom 8 1 21 Anderson 17 5 37 Panesar 4 0 19 Broad ENGLAND: Second innings (Target: 294 runs) Strauss not out Cook c Marshall b Vettori Vaughan not out 4 _ Extras: (b-2, lb-2, nb-3) Total: (For 1 wicket in 27 overs) 76 Fall of wickets: 1-60. Bowler Martin

Bowler

17 0 32 1 Vettori O'Brien

Panesar claims six 85, 5-91, 6-91, 7-106, 8-114, 9-114. OMRW

heavily dashed. "I told before that whoever avail

on 17 H 18 Be 33 Pale

9 Poorly 12 New Zealander pack 13 "Be quietl" 14 Eggs, to a 48 Historic zoologist 15 Saharan 49 Lotion 16 Grooving look-alike locale 19 Ruin the 52 Teller's silent 7 Related type 5-Across 36 Oregon 20 Symbol of 53 Fairy-tale city 8 Pi preposifollower 39 Honey tion 21 That guy drink Solution time: 27 mins. 23 Parisian 40 Bohemian 41 Jerry 25 Wages Herman 28 Firetruck musical necessity 43 Top-rated 32 Phan-45 Scrull tom's 46 Ice-cream bailiwick parlor menu yellow abbr. 34 "I'll get 47 Quest 49 Suitable my --- |"