Kamran reported for odd action

AFP, Johannesburg

Kamran Khan, the Rajasthan Royals' teenaged fast bowling discovery, has been reported for having a suspect bowling action.

Khan, the son of a woodcutter from Uttar Pradesh in India, was reported by umpires Rudi Koertzen and Graham Baxter after the Royals' Indian Premier League match against the Chennai Super Kings at Centurion Thursday.

The left-armed Khan, 18, has surprised batsmen with the pace generated from a whippy, slingy action since being drafted into the Royals' squad, reportedly on a contract worth 24,000 dollars a season, after being spotted by assistant coach Darren Berry during a tournament in Mumbai.

He was the bowler chosen by captain Shane Warne to bowl a decisive 'super over' to secure a win against the Kolkata Knight Riders.

In a statement, the IPL said footage of Khan taken during Thursday's match was studied by the umpires and would be referred to the IPL's technical committee.

IPL commissioner Lalit Modi said he was awaiting a report from the committee before deciding on further action.

Sadat turns

FROM PAGE 17

the other end.

Sadat brilliantly exploited the meek attack of MSC comprised of skipper Tarek Aziz, Pakistani brothers Qaiser and Nayyar Abbas, Hafirzur Rahman Hira, Sanyamul Islam

and Sajidul Islam. Along with experienced captain Sanwar Hossain (19 runs off 16 balls), Sadat put up 42 runs for the first wicket in only four overs and at the halfway Top Sports were 75 for 3. They slowed down in the next five overs (26 runs) but regained composure very well

in the last five that saw 57 runs. Sadat in his 78-minute stay hit four sixes and nine fours to give his team much needed win.

MSC were in discomfort all through the match especially in the second-half of their innings which was played under lights as wickets fell at regular intervals. Opener Mohammad Mithun started brightly in his cameo 9-ball 15 with two boundaries and one six. Barring Qaiser, only Tarek showed some guts with a 20ball 14 not out. The rest of the story was a sorry sight as Mohammedan kept losing wickets.

SCORES IN BRIEF

TOP SPORTS: 158 for 4 in 20 overs (Sadat 91 not out, Riyad 30, Sanwar 19; Sanjamul 2-26, Nayyar 2-32) MOHAMMEDAN: 125 all out

in 18.3 overs (Qaiser 53, Mithun 15, Tarek 14, Al Mamun 10; Sunny 5-17, Lokuarachchi 2-15, Weeraratna 2-23) Result: Top Sports won by 33

runs. Man-of-the-match: Nazmus

Practice match

FROM PAGE 17 help of eight boundaries and

Sadat.

a six.

Down the order, Arafat Salahuddin scored 22 off 53 balls.

In SLC Development's first innings, seamer Mukhtar Ali picked up four wickets.

Jakati spins FROM PAGE 17

Nannes for the same score. Both bowlers took three for 27.

Delhi were rocked by fast bowler Sudeep Tyagi, 21, who dismissed stand-in captain Gautam Gambhir and AB de Villiers with successive deliveries with the total on 20. Gambhir fell to a reflex catch by Raina at short cover, while which straightened between bat and pad.

Jakati bowled Tillekeratne Dilshan with a superb delivery before Warner and Karthik came together in a fourth wicket stand of 74.

But Warner took a wild swing at a ball from Jakati and was stumped in the 16th over to start a Delhi collapse.

SCORES IN BRIEF CHENNAI SUPER KINGS: 163

all out in 20 overs (Hayden 30, Raina 32, Badrinath 45; Nannes 3-27, Nehra 3-27, Bhatia 2-17). **DELHI DAREDEVILS: 145-8**

in 20 overs (Warner 51, Karthik 52, Tyagi 2-18, Jakati 4-24). Result: Chennai Super Kings

won by 18 runs. Man-of-the-match: Shadab Jakati.



STILL NOT ENOUGH: Kings XI Punjab captain Yuvraj Singh (R) is over the moon after having dismissed Mark Boucher (unseen) of the Bangalore Royal Challengers during their IPL Twenty20 match at Kingsmead in Durban on Friday. Boucher was Yuvraj's hattrick victim but it was not enough for the Kings to avoid a defeat.

Djokovic stuns Federer

Tennis

AFP, Rome

Novak Djokovic made the most of a rain break to transform his play and beat Roger Federer 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 in a thriller on Saturday to reach the final of the ATP Rome Masters.

The world number three and reigning champion here was trailing by a set and a break when the heavens opened to give him some much needed respite.

After a little more than an hour off court, Djokovic came back rejuvenated while Federer's game slowly crumbled. The Swiss master hadn't even faced a single

break point before the rain but was broken five times after it as his radar gradually broke down. The match had started in bright sunshine,

during which time Federer had been at his dominant best and was in complete control. Djokovic was regularly forced to save break points and at 4-4 Federer finally managed to break serve at the sixth attempt in the set -

although in controversial fashion. As Djokovic was about to hit a second serve at break point, a whistle from the crowd put him off.

That seemed to rattle the 21-year-old Serbian and in the ensuing rally he hit a wild forehand long to gift Federer the break.

Djokovic then glared long and hard into the

Australia's stand-in captain Michael Clarke

said Saturday his country's one-day series win

over Pakistan this week had boosted it chances

for next month's Twenty20 World Cup tourna-

"We will have an advantage because we're

playing as a team (and) a lot of these guys are

going to be involved in the Twenty20 World

Cup," said Clarke after Australia Friday won the

Australia's victory by eight wickets gave it a

Clarke led Australia from the front Friday,

scoring an unbeaten 100 as they chased a mod-

est 198-run target for the loss of only two wick-

ets. Shane Watson struck 85 not out as Australia

won their first one-day series since September.

Clarke said the victory boded well for

"If anything it's a positive that we're all

Australia's prospects in the Twenty20 World

together at the moment," said Clarke,

Australia's captain in the absence Ricky

Ponting, who was rested for this series along

with Michael Hussey and Mitchell Johnson.

3-1 lead in the series, with the fifth match to be

fourth game a five match-series.

played here Sunday.

Cup, to be held in England.

Cricket

AFP, Abu Dhabi

'Perfect for T20 WC'

Arab Emirates.

Zealand at home.

chances," he said.

fans around the stadium chanted "out, out,

Federer served out the set and then broke in the opening game of the second as Djokovic netted a backhand.

The number two seed led 2-1 when the rains came and held his first service game after them. He had a chance for a double break and a 4-1 lead but after Djokovic saved that and held, the winds changed completely.

The Serbian broke back when Federer sent a backhand slice drifting over the baseline and he broke again for a 5-3 lead when Federer shanked a backhand off the frame.

Djokovic served out the set to love and looked to be in the ascendancy.

However, Federer regrouped and drew first blood in the decider when he broke for a 3-1 lead after a string of Djokovic errors including a nervous wayward forehand on break point. But Federer then made three unforced errors

to give the Serbian a 40-0 lead and a crosscourt forehand winner secured a break backers. After that Federer's game simply crumbled,

particularly his backhand. He lost his next service game with a netted backhand slice and then threw away his final service game with another backhand error into the tramlines.

It was the first time Djokovic had beaten Federer on clay. The Serbian needs to retain his title here or he will lose his world number three ranking to Britain's Andy Murray.

He will play either world number one Rafael crowd from where the whistle had come while Nadalor 12th seed Fernando Gonzalez in the final.

Clarke said he was satisfied with the way his

"To play the type of cricket we have, in hot

players had adapted to conditions in the United

conditions and tough wickets -- especially after

coming from South Africa, where the condi-

tions were so different -- I'm (impressed) with

Before playing Pakistan, Australia lost two

Clarke, who was out of form before this

"I'm stoked personally to make some runs

Clarke said his team would not be compla-

"There is no such thing as a dead match

Clarke, who said he "really enjoyed" his first

"Our captain's back home and we can't wait

when playing for your country. To me, any time

you put on your one-day cap, it's a big game

overseas tour as captain, added that he would

to have him back. He's a fantastic leader and

I'm stoked that he's happy to give me these

and we have come here to win every game."

be happy once Ponting returned to the post.

one-day series to South Africa -- home and

away -- and squared a series 2-2 against New

series began, said he was more pleased with the

but I'm more happy that we've won this series.

the way we've performed," said Clarke.

victory than his own performance.

It's been a while for us," said Clarke.

cent about playing Sunday's match.

in lost game AFP, Durban Kings XI Punjab captain Yuvraj Singh took a hattrick and slammed a half-century sixes and three fours.

Yuvraj hattrick

but it was not enough to their Indian Premier League match against

van der Merwe spurred Bangalore to an eight-run win, hitting 35 off 19 balls, taking two wickets for 22 runs and pulling off a crucial run-out.

Bangalore seemed in desperate trouble at 84 for six after Yuvraj dismissed Robin Uthappa, Jacques Kallis and Mark Boucher with successive deliveries.

to reach 145 for nine.

Yuvraj, playing on the ground where he hit hopes with two wickets in the final over. six sixes in an over for India against England in the inaugural World Twenty20 in 2007, opened the batting with Karan Goel and the pair named man-of-the-match despite being on the seemed to have put their side well on the way to losing side.

victory with an opening stand of 70.

But the game changed dramatically when Anil Kumble had Yuvraj caught in deep in the tenth over. Yuvraj made 50 off 34 balls with four

Kumble, captaining the Challengers follow secure a win for his side in ing the return of Kevin Pietersen to England, admitted afterwards: "Another five overs of Royal Challengers Bangalore at Kingsmead on Yuvi and the game was probably over."

Van der Merwe dismissed Goel in the next Instead, feisty South African all-rounder Roelof over and then ran out Simon Katich with a superb diving stop and quick throw.

The Kings XI were unable to regain their momentum and their target became almost impossible when Van der Merwe had Mahela Jayawardene caught in the covers, leaving Punjab needing 30 off 17 overs.

Struggling with a wet ball, Van der Merwe's But Van der Merwe chanced his arm and hit over cost 13 runs including four leg byes and a three sixes and three fours to enable Bangalore wide, but Kumble bowled Kumar Sangakkara in the next over and Praveen Kumar killed Punjab's

"We should have won the game but Bangalore bowled well," said Yuvraj, who was

Didar clinches Boli Khela title

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Didarul Alam Didar once again clinched the title of the 'DC Shaheber Boli Khela', a traditional wrestling competition, at the Cox's Bazar Stadium yesterday.

This is the fifth time Didar, a mason from Omkhali under Ramu upazila in Cox's Bazar, have become champion of the competition.

Didar, in absence of Marma-Sing with whom he had clinched the title of the hundredth show of 'Jabberer Boli Khela' at the historic Laldighi Maidan in the port city few days back, fought with Mahmudul Karim of Maheshkhali and confirmed the title after a 45-minute

A huge number of spectators appeared in the local stadium to watch the 52-year old traditional wrestling.

Grameenphone provided_ the financial support for the first time.

Australia take series

Cricket

AFP, Abu Dhabi

Michael Clarke struck a sparkling hundred as Australia beat Pakistan by eight wickets in the fourth day-night international here on Friday to take an unassailable 3-1 lead in the

The 28-year-old Australian Sydney in 1984. captain hit an unbeaten 100 and was well supported by Watson (85 not out) as the pair added 197 for the third wicket to ease Australia past a modest 198-run target with 5.4 overs to spare.

Pakistan were bowled out for 197 in 48.4 overs with Australian left-arm paceman Doug Bollinger taking 5-35 in only his second international one-day match. Pakistan won the first

match by four wickets before Australia came back strongly to win the second by six wickets and the third by 27 runs. The fifth and final match will be played here on Sunday. This is Australia's first one-

day series win since they beat Bangladesh last September, having lost to South Africa -home and away -- and drawn 2-2 with New Zealand before sealing this series win over Pakistan. Pakistan paceman Shoaib

Akhtar removed Brad Haddin (nought) and then debutant Marcus North with only three runs on the board, before Clarke and Watson came to Australia's rescue and put on a

LOCAL SNIPPETS

FROM PAGE 17

Mina Khatun added 18 off 20 balls with two boundaries. Farhana Sultana and Bobby Saha captured two wickets each for Indira Road.

In reply, Indira Road were restricted to 41-7 in 20 overs. Salma Akhter caused the damage by taking four wickets for six runs.

The day's other match between Abahani and Dipali Jubo Sangha was abandoned because of rain.

NAT'L VOLLEYBALL

The semifinal line-ups for the men's and women's sections of the Spectra National Volleyball competition was completed at the Ishwardi Sara Maruwari School ground vesterday.

In the men's quarterfinal, Bangladesh Police beat Rajshahi 25-15, 25-13, 25-9, Bangladesh Air Force defeated Chittagong University 25-22, 25-19, 25-15, Bangladesh

In the women's Rajshahi beat Dinajpur 25-12, 25-13, 25-13, Pabna beat Narail 25-16, 25-19, 25-20 and Ansar and VDP defeated Satkhira 3-0 set.

The semifinal will be held today while the final is scheduled to take place on the following day.

UNDER-17 CRICKET

the BCB Under-17 side put up a respectable total in their first innings on the first day of the two-day match against CAB Under-17s in Kolkata yesterday.

The right-hander Imamul

wickets for 89 runs.

record stand against Pakistan. Clarke, who hit 66 in the

Akhtar for his 14th boundary to complete his fourth oneday hundred with just one needed for victory. He faced 122 balls. third-wicket stand against

Wessels and Allan Border at Watson, 27, reached his eighth fifty with a six off spinner Shoaib Malik, and hit seven boundaries during his

140-ball knock. Pakistan, who surprisingly rested their in-form paceman Umar Gul for this crucial match, failed to make any inroads as Akhtar also lost his steam in the second spell.

Clarke said the performance of Australia's bowling line up was crucial in the series-sealing win. "It was warm out there but our bowlers set the win for us," said Clarke, standing in for regular captain Ricky Ponting in this series. "Watson and I planned to stay at the wicket and runs came for us."

Pakistan captain Younus Khan was disappointed with

commanding total after third match on Monday, hit choosing to bat first.

"For a team like Australia we needed at least 240 or 250," said Younus. "When Akhtar got two early wickets, we thought we could win but Australia's previous best Clarke and Watson batted superbly." Pakistan was 140 set by Kepler

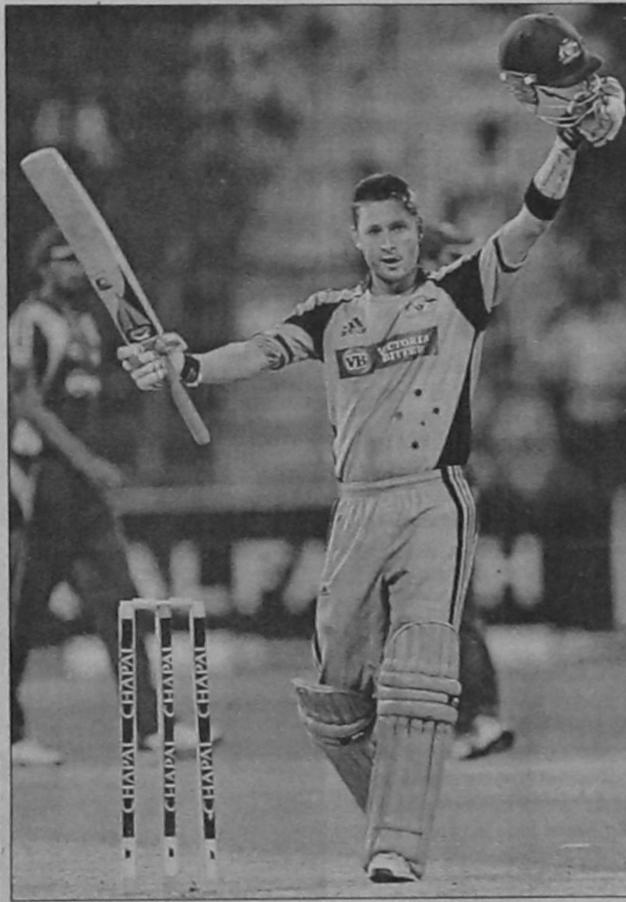
Earlier, it was left-arm paceman Bollinger with his maiden five-wicket haul in 7.4 overs who helped Australia prevent Pakistan from putting up the big total needed for a series-levelling win.

Only all-rounder Shahid Afridi with a run-a-ball 40, including four boundaries, and opener Ahmed Shahzad with a useful 43 struck with authority after Pakistan won the toss and elected to bat. Bollinger, who went with-

second match in Dubai last week, provided an early breakthrough for his team when he dismissed opener Salman Butt (two) in the first over. From the other end, Nathan Bracken (2-31) bowled

out a wicket in his debut at the

out Pakistani skipper Khan (seven). It could have been 12-3 had Pakistani umpire Aleem Dar



Australia captain Michael Clarke celebrates his match-winning century against Pakistan in the fourth one-dayer at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Friday.

By Eugene Sheffer

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his side's inability to set a not turned down a caught behind appeal against Misbah-ul-Haq off Bracken's next delivery. Haq survived to score 34 and added 68 for the third wicket with Shahzad. Shahzad also added 36 for

the fourth wicket with Shoaib Malik who made 27 before Bollinger returned for his second spell to remove Malik and Afridi. Bollinger took two more

and Saeed Ajmal (nought) to end the innings with Yasir Arafat unbeaten on 23. The two teams will also

wickets, Shoaib Akhtar (two)

play a Twenty20 in Dubai on

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the fourth oneday international between Pakistan and Australia at Abu Dhabi Stadium on Friday:

PAKISTAN Butt c Haddin b Bollinger Shahzad c Ferguson b Hauritz Younis b Bracken Misbahul lbw b Clarke 34 Malik Ibw b Bollinger Afridi c North b Bollinger 40 Akmal b Clark 23 Arafat not out Tanvir c Hauritz b Bracken

Akhtar c Clarke b Bollinger Ajmal b Bollinger Extras: (b-3, lb-4, nb-1, w-1) 9 Total: (All out in 48.4 overs) 197 Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-12, 3-80,

4-116, 5-140, 6-145, 7-174, 8-196, 9-197. Bowler Bollinger Bracken Clark Hopes Hauritz North Clarke

Symonds AUSTRALIA Watson not out Haddin c Akmal b Akhtar North lbw b Akhtar 100 Clarke not out Extras: (lb-6, nb-1, w-7) Total: (For two wkts in 44.2 overs) 200 Did not bat: Ferguson, Hopes, Symonds, Hauritz, Bracken,

Clark, Bollinger

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-3. Bowler R W Akhtar Tanvir Arafat Afridi 20 Ajmal 5.2 0 30 Malik

Result: Australia won by eight wickets and led five-match

series 3-1. Man-of-the-match: Doug Bollinger.

ACROSS 35 Slender Army secured a 25-12, 25-12, 36 Ogled 1 River 25-7 victory over Pabna and Yousuf quits ICL? 37 Diver's through Bangladesh Navy beat worry Kazakh-Satkhira 3-0. 38 Flood protec 5 Early quarterfinal, Gazipur beat birds? tion offer -- to quit soon after by the no problems at all with Younis, Rangpur 25-5, 25-21, 25-21, 9 Turf 40 Hearty Though Yousuf appears to PCB, then under Nasim or this board. The country 12 Creche

unclear what the PCB will do now. Yousuf claimed the board was aware of his decision, but officials couldn't confirm it. "If such a communication has been sent, it would've been to tions. the chairman and much of the organising this series [against Australia] based in Dubai. At the moment we cannot say whether Yousuf has sent any such message," one official told Cricinfo. "Our statement

according to that." convoluted, for he has left the ICL before, after he first joined Malik. the league in protest at being overlooked for Pakistan's squad for the 2007 World Twenty20. He was persuaded with the dangling of an IPL Yousuf said. "But now I have in July last year.

DeVilliers was bowled by a ball want to do exactly that, it is Ashraf's administration. The comes first." ICL took him to court for reneging on his contract and he was unable to play in the inaugural IPL season in 2008 because of legal complica-

board has been busy with through much of last year they have crossed 200 only before abruptly deciding, in once and only one batsman, November, to move back to Salman Butt, has scored a the ICL. The move caught fifty. Most visibly, the Pakistan's administration off- absence of a 269-ODI vetguard, as he had been picked eran averaging over 40 was for the ODI squad for a series felt during the third ODI, is there now, so we will act in Abu Dhabi against West when Pakistan collapsed Indies. This time, he said, he from 95-0 to 171 all out,

Yousuf's case is particularly left because of differences chasing 199. Since the 2007 with then-captain Shoaib World Cup and the retirecaptain at that time so I left. I Pakistan's leading batsman, had issues with the previous averaging over 60 in 30 ODIs,

Though 34, if Yousuf is to

come back, he could hardly do so at a more opportune time. Pakistan's batting has been engaged in a dire struggle against Australia in the He played for Pakistan UAE. In four matches so far, ment of Inzamam-ul-Haq, "I had a problem with the Yousuf has comfortably been board administration as well," but he played his last match

Imamul Hossain struck 75 as

smashed seven boundaries during his 115-ball knock while Kazi Nurul Hasan added 43 off 78 balls with five fours as BCB Under-17s made 289 runs for eight wickets in stipulated 75 overs. C Sarker picked up three

20 - budget 1 Actress 21 Employer 23 Camelot female 24 Spiked 4 Bellies up 26 Trudge to the 27 Abner's old radio partner 28 "Zounds!" 6 Obtains 29 Dresses maybe 31 Bump a episode 34 Coloring 35 Emissary 37 Auction 38 Biography CRYPTOQUIP 39 Estrada

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SUPPOSING AN OGRE PREFERRED A CERTAIN SEMISOFT CHEESE, COULD ONE CALL HIM A MUENSTER MONSTER? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals A