Lorgat comes up

with a new idea

Cricket Australia's plan to overhaul 50-over cricket with its

radical split-innings 45-over version for the 2015 World Cup could be over before it starts, with International Cricket Council

(ICC) chief executive officer Haroon Lorgat certain a one-day

Australia boss James Sutherland, has initially agreed to the

championship league, which would run from next April until

April 2014, crowning a 50-over champion every three years, with

Cricket Australia will introduce its new format to the world on

The format has some exciting features, and CA believes it is

Lorgat, however, remains unconvinced about one-day

"I am still a strong supporter of 50-over cricket. Our research

He added: "The important point is structure, schedule and con-

Lorgat said the league could still work if boards continued to

Previously, the likes of Australia have been able to avoid

Lorgat said next year's World Cup would prove the popularity

schedule five- or seven-match series, but that would be made

difficult because each nation must play each other during the

significant financial losses by playing lower-drawing nations

of the 50-over game, which remained the favourite format of

such as Bangladesh and Zimbabwe once every four years.

shows fans still like the game," Lorgat told the Sydney Morning

text. A championship league would give context to every match."

cricket requiring a makeover. He has, instead, called for more

context to games as money-hungry boards schedule meaning-

The ICC chief executive's committee, which includes Cricket

international league will save the game.

Wednesday when Queensland play Tasmania.

the fourth year being a World Cup.

less series of up to seven matches.

three-year championship cycle.

Indian supporters.

the way of the future.

Herald.

Cricket

ANI, Melbourne

Malik waiting for a recall

ANI, Karachi

Former Pakistan captain Shoaib Malik has expressed the hope of earning a recall in the national squad for the series against South Africa, which is scheduled to begin in Abu Dhabi from October 26.

Malik, who was dropped after the four-Test series against England in August, said in an interview that he was fully fit and would give his best, if given a chance to play in the upcoming series, The News reported.

To be played in October and November, the Pak-SA series will include two Twenty20s, five One-day Internationals (ODIs) and two Tests in Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

The experienced allrounder also said that Pakistan should finalise its team for the World Cup as soon as possible, so that the selected players can play maximum matches together, ahead of the quadrennial spectacle to be held in Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka next year.

Vibrant

FROM PAGE 17 performing dances.

Bangladesh's athletics team manager Mohammad Yahiya also admitted that the security inside the Games Village is very tight and he has often had to show his accreditation card to the security personnel.

He also praised the environment inside the villages as the structures have been built keeping enough space between two buildings and there are facilities of having practice of swimming, athletics and weightlifting.

Over 50 national flags have been hoisted till Saturday afternoon with the green and red Bangladesh one in the first stand of the third row. Athletics coach Rafigullah Islam Milon said there were no security concerns inside the villages as the swimmers had been practicing at the pool even at night.

However, an Indian journalist was apparently not happy with the tight security measures as he, like others was checked four times on way to reaching the international zone.

Sehwag FROM PAGE 17

Gambhir at short-leg off Harbhajan in the morning, his

previous best being an unbeaten 120 against Pakistan at Melbourne last year. He cracked 10 fours in his

338-ball knock. Australia batted cautiously

in the morning to add 71 in 29 overs to their overnight total of 224-5, but improved their runrate in the afternoon session which yielded 95 runs in 26

Johnson played an entertaining innings, hitting two sixes off Ojha and one off Harbhajan. He looked set to complete his fifth Test halfcentury before being caught behind off Zaheer. He also hit

Paine, dropped on nought on Friday, played some attractive strokes after completing his half-century, hitting two successive fours

five fours in his 66-ball knock.

off Ojha. SCORES IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA: First innings 428 all out in 151.4 overs (Watson 126, Ponting 71, Paine 92, Johnson 47; Zaheer 5-30, Harbhajan 3-114)

INDIA: First innings 110 for 2 in 21 overs (Gambhir 25, Sehwag 59, Dravid not out 21;

Johnson 2-29)

Rain

FROM PAGE 17 Jurgensen, who played firstclass cricket for Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania, said that the ten bowlers in the New Zealand squad have kept him on his

"We have a couple of guys that can bowl at good pace, swing and bowl a heavy ball. Then we have Daniel Vettori and Nathan McCullum so we

have plenty of options. "We have over ten bowlers and a few all-rounders. We have to put pressure on Bangladesh as a bowling unit," he said, adding that his charges have done well in Sri Lanka last month and have done a lot of fitness and

who are not members of the Commonwealth Games Federation. strength work in the four weeks that they had off. Commonwealth Games is set



PHOTO: COURTESY

Golfers of the Bangladesh team and their team manager pose for photographs at the Bangladesh Olympic Association conference hall on the eve of their departure for Japan where they will take part in the Asian Amateur Championship at the Kasumegaseki Country Club in Tokyo to be held between October 7 and 10. All the three participants, Shakhawat Hossain Sohail, Dulal Hossain, and Zakiruzzaman were part of the gold medal winning Bangladesh golf team in the South Asian Games earlier this year.

'Small amount no excuse'

Cycling

INTERNET

The ability of only select laboratories to detect the small amount of clenbuterol in Alberto Contador's samples is not sufficient reason to clear the rider, according to International Cycling Union chief Pat McQuaid.

The Tour de France champion was provisionally suspended on Thursday for having a concentration of anabolic agent clenbuterol 400 times less than what anti-doping laboratories accredited by the World Anti-Doping Agency must be able to detect.

The Spanish rider, who gave the sample on a rest day at the Tour in July and has blamed contaminated meat, has called for authorities to put baselines on the amounts of banned substances athletes can present before they are regarded suspicious.

"That really isn't an excuse, because the UCI has the capacity to send samples to any laboratory we wish to send samples," McQuaid said at the road world championships in Geelong.

"If we feel that by sending samples to particular laboratories it benefits us in the fight against doping -- that we catch cheats that we mightn't catch if we send them to other laboratories -- we send them."

on what Alberto Contador had to say in relation Pena's suspensions were announced on to that or not, but in principle we will do any-

thing we can." "It's not our role [to set baselines]. It's WADA that controls that. We work within the rules that

are there." McQuaid declined to comment directly on Contador's case but confirmed that at least two laboratories -- in France and in the German city

World number six Jelena Jankovic of Serbia

opened her China Open campaign on Saturday

with a gritty straight sets win over Czech vet-

eran Klara Zakopalova, as play got under way in

only seeded player in action on Saturday,

slugged it out with Zakopalova from the baseline

but eventually capitalised on the Czech's weak

from an early loss to Estonia's Kaia Kanepi in

the Pan Pacific Open this week in Tokyo -- also

kept Zakopalova off-balance by mixing her

always tough, and obviously you cannot expect

yourself to play your best tennis, but I just hung

she had struggled to recover from an ankle

injury suffered after Wimbledon, but said she

hoped to do well in Beijing as a stepping

stone to the season-ending championships

In other first-round play, Swiss veteran left-

XIX CWG open today

The former world number one admitted

"It was a tough match. The first match is

heavy groundstrokes with the occasional lob.

in there," Jankovic told reporters.

robbing the event of much

stars, India are expecting to

perform well and finish at

least behind the medal topper

as a total of 262 gold medals

in the Commonwealth Games

despite the absence of world's

major sporting nations like

the United States, Russia,

Germany, China and Japan,

But the Delhi edition of the

India never finished on top

With the absence of those

The 25-year-old Serb -- trying to rebound

serving, breaking her a total of seven times.

Jankovic, the third seed in Beijing and the

Tennis

the women's draw.

AFP, Beijing

in Doha.

FROM PAGE 17

needed star power.

are up for grabs.

Jankovic gets going

of Cologne -- had been used to analyse the Spanish rider's test results.

He also denied that the UCI had dithered in its investigations into the high-profile Spanish rider, when questioned as to why the findings had taken so much time to be made public when the initial sample was taken in July.

"(It's) because the results management process is not finished. Simple."

"We didn't put (the case) in a grey zone.

"The problem with this situation is that a leak appeared halfway through the results management process and that is what's complicated the system here.

"I don't know how long it's going to take ... It is in our interests and it's in the sport's interests that this thing comes to a conclusion as quickly as possible.

"That is something that which I will be discussing with [WADA director-general] David Howman over this weekend and trying to find out exactly where it's at."

"They need to understand, and I think they do, that we need to draw a conclusion fairly quickly."

The UCI on Thursday announced it had provisionally suspended Olympic cross country medalist Margarita Fullana for returning a positive test to banned blood-booster EPO, the fourth Spanish cyclist to be suspended for positive drug tests in the last three days.

Tour de Spain runner-up Ezequiel "I'm not by any means casting any reference Mosquera and fellow Spaniard David Garcia Da Thursday shortly after Alberto Contador's.

The results have cast a pall over the road cycling world championships in the port city of Geelong this week and harmed cycling's fight to cast offits image as a sport of drug cheats.

"Cycling has taken a big hit and cycling has taken a worldwide big hit as well," McQuaid said.

hander Patty Schnyder breezed through her

opening match, defeating Kazakhstan's

the world, overwhelmed the Kazakh with her

power from the baseline, sealing the victory

with a wicked forehand winner down the line.

Govortsova of Belarus advanced easily.

over the world number one ranking.

Open, citing injury.

to be a historic landmark of

being the biggest-ever show in

terms of participation with

more than 6,700 athletes and

officials confirming their

Indian Olympic gold medal

winning shooter Abhinav Bindra

will carry the tri-colour and take

negligible medal record in the

Games, will be hoping to steal

some success from the events

of shooting and archery

though they will also take part

in squash, athletics

weightlifting, boxing and

Bangladesh, who have a

oath on behalf of the athletes.

entries till Friday.

swimming.

The 31-year-old Schnyder, ranked 44th in

Germany's Andrea Petkovic and Olga

Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki -- who

Current number one Serena Williams, her

But 16 of the top 20 women on the WTA Tour

clawed out a three-set victory in Tokyo on

Saturday against Russia's Elena Dementieva --

is the top seed in Beijing, where she could take

sister Venus and reigning US Open champion

Kim Clijsters all withdrew from the China

will be in the Chinese capital, including last year's

winner Svetlana Kuznetsova, three-time Grand

Slam winner Maria Sharapova and Dementieva,

with both tours looking to make inroads in

the men's draw, which begins on Monday. The

Serb will face a tough challenge from Britain's

Andy Murray, in action for the first time since a

The tournament is a joint WTA-ATP event,

Titleholder Novak Djokovic is the top seed in

who won Olympic gold in Beijing in 2008.

China, seen as a strategic marketplace.

disappointing early loss at the US Open.

Yaroslava Shvedova, 6-1, 6-4.

Younus opens photo studio

ANI, Karachi

Dejected after repeatedly being sidelined by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) and the national selectors, former skipper Younus Khan has opened a photo studio in order to "divert his mind" away from the game and make productive use of his time. Younus, who has not been

selected in the Pakistan squad since the one-day international series in Australia back in February, has taken over a photo-shop business in Karachi where he is residing these days, the Daily Times reported.

"Yes I have started this photo-shop business. It is called 'Bambino Photo Studio'. It allows me to divert my mind and spend my time productively," confirmed the out of favour batsman.

"A close friend first had the shop and was going away after which I took it over and I am now rebuilding the studio and starting the business afresh. It has attracted me because photography has always fascinated me and it is a good business venture," he added.

He was also continuing his hobby of fishing regularly, said Younus, but made it clear that he had not given up hope of playing for Pakistan again.

"The domestic season is starting soon and I will be playing for my team and hopefully get back into match form, as I continue my training all the time. Whenever Pakistan requires my services I am always available for the team," he said optimistically.

However, Younus declined to comment on the reasons for the PCB refusing to consider him for selection.

ACROSS

1 Shade

4 Overly

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figure

REUTERS, Bangkok

(Dubai).

World number one Rafael Nadal suffered a surprise 2-6, 7-6, 6-3 semifinal defeat by unseeded Spanish compatriot Guillermo Garcia-Lopez at the Thailand Open on Saturday.

The US Open champion looked set to cruise into the final after a polished first-set performance but had no reply to Garcia-Lopez's thrilling fightback that led to a secondset tiebreak where Nadal's game started to unravel.

The 53rd-ranked Garcia Lopez will face Finland's Jarkko Nieminen, who continued his impressive run with a 6-3 6-2 win over Germany's Benjamin Becker to reach his first final of the season.

after the first set but showed his resolve by keeping Nadal at bay and frustrating him with pinpoint forehands and precise drop shots.

number one before, this was the best match of my career,"

shocked. He had so many chances to break me but I stayed in the match. I played really, really good.

fast. I knew that if I thought about beating Rafa Nadal, I'd have a problem so I tried not to think about it," he said.

The turning point came in

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27 Space-

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28 — jiffy

29 Apiece

34 Dogfaces

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36 Explosion

35 Sports-

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39 Addict

41 Rage

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Nadal sent packing the fourth game of deciding "He played very, very well.

Tennis

Youzhny

in final

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Igor Andreev.

Fourth seed and US Open

semifinalist Mikhail Youzhny won an all-Russian tie at the

Malaysian Open Saturday,

reaching the Asian ATP final

with a win over compatriot

Youzhny defeated Andreev,

a qualifier who once reached

the Top 20, in a 3-6, 6-0, 6-2

comeback in just over 90

minutes. The winner will face

the winner of eighth seed

Andrey Golubev of

Kazakhstan or Spanish fifth

Youzhny stands 3-1

against Andreev, whose last

ATP title came five years ago.

World number nine Youzhny

eight-man season-ending

event in London from

November 21. He lost to

Rafael Nadal in the US Open

five times to earn his 38th win

of the season against 15 losses.

His only title so far came on

his fourth final of the season

after losing back-to-back in

February against Sweden's

Robin Soderling (Rotterdam)

and Serbia's Novak Djokovic

Youzhny will be playing in

clay in Munich last May.

Youzhny broke Andreev

semis a month ago.

seed David Ferrer.

Nadal had only himself to

blame for squandering 24 of 26 break points and making costly errors in a scintillating final set. He lost he cool and handed the advantage to his opponent midway through the gruelling two-hour, 45minute encounter. Garcia-Lopez sought treat-

ment for hip and back injuries "I've never beaten a world

Garcia-Lopez told reporters.

"For the moment, I'm "Everything was moving so

set, when Nadal, who also This is a difficult loss to accept. holds the Wimbledon and But when you waste chances French Open crowns, needlike that, winning becomes very unlikely." lessly drove a simple smash into the net. In the other semi, Garcia-Lopez then made

Nadal's poorly struck dropshot and blasting the ball down the line to steal an advantage he never gave up. "He took his chance and

his break, chasing after

after that, I lost chance after chance," Nadal said.

"He never gave in. I gave up too many chances. It was one

have one like that every two

of those matches -- I probably

made the break in the second game, coolly handling Becker's repertoire of spinloaded returns that had him pinned down and darting around the court in a match packed with long rallies.

Nieminen had both the edge

and the fortitude in a close

battle with the hard-hitting

German and was made to

Nieminen served well and

work for his victory.



A dejected world number one Rafael Nadal waves goodbye after his loss against compatriot Guiller Garcia-Lopez in the semifinals of the ATP Open in Bangkok on Saturday. Nadal lost the match 6-2, 6-7, 3-6.

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YOU COULD SAY IT'S COTS-EFFICIENT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE BARRACKS HAS PLENTY OF NEATLY STACKED PORTABLE BEDS.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: G equals T

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Kumar Sangakkara (captain),

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SQUAD

Dinesh Chandimal.

FROM PAGE 17 conditions.

Mahela Jayawardene, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Upul Tharanga, Chamara Silva, Jeevan Mendis, Angelo Mathews (subject to fitness, Thilina Kandamby on standby), Chamara Kapugedara, Thisara Perera, Lasith Malinga, Nuwan Kulasekera, Dilhara Fernando, Muttiah Muralidaran, Suraj Randiv, Dammika Prasad,