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WISDEN

CRICKETERS' ALMANACK

2005



SCHOOLS CRICKET, 2004

REVIEW BY PAUL COUPAR

The decline of competitive cricket in British state schools – where Geoff Boycott once grafted and ground for Hemsworth Grammar and Ian Botham belted sixes for Buckler's Mead Secondary – has been going on for at least 20 years. Fixtures were cut by an estimated 70% in the 1980s, when many teachers, underpaid and overworked, refused to supervise sport after the home-time bell rang. Most fixtures were never re-established. The decline came to be seen as a regrettable but pretty much inevitable part of British cricket – like April showers, and bad beefburgers at Test matches. However, 2004 saw two powerful challenges to the mood of resignation.

The first came from the very top. In December, in response to the ballooning waistlines of British schoolchildren, Tony Blair announced the biggest changes in secondary-school sport for a generation. Out would go non-competitive physical jerks, squeezed into the statutory minimum two hours' PE a week. In would come traditional competitive sport, including cricket, with at least four hours a week to be offered. A ring-fenced £519m a year, or an average of £150,000 for each secondary school, would pay for the extra PE teachers needed. "I want to see competition between schools," said Tessa Jowell, the Secretary for Culture, Media and Sport. "We have to get beyond the politically correct nonsense of the 1980s that competition damages children."

The second powerful challenge came from the Cricket Foundation, a charity which ploughs money from first-class cricket into development. In May 2005, its director Nick Gandon, a former coach at Haileybury, plans to announce a huge campaign, with the goal of restoring competitive cricket to the heart of life in state schools. The numbers are impressive. The foundation aims to put £50m into schools; riches indeed in cricket, where a year's TV revenue for the ECB is around £55m.

Pitfalls remain for both projects. The Labour government have to win a forthcoming general election. The Cricket Foundation estimates no more than 30% of state schools play even the odd competitive game – the decline has made deep cuts.

So, in 2004, most regular, competitive matches were played by the 7% of children who attend private schools. And the best team was a familiar name with a long-standing sporting reputation: Millfield. They won 20 of their 22 games, mainly limited-overs, and enjoyed reflected glory when James Hildreth, a former pupil, scored two enchanting hundreds for Somerset. Millfield also lifted the Lord's Taverners Under-15 Cup, their ninth outright victory in 16 years (they have also shared the Trophy once). "Millfield were simply better than us," admitted the opposing coach from RGS High Wycombe.

Many others could sympathise. The school's only defeats came against a powerful Exeter University side, and Tonbridge – another institution that



Making history: Ajmal Shahzad of Woodhouse Grove became the first-ever Yorkshire-born Asian to break into the county first team.

Picture by Simon Wilkinson

prides itself on placing equal value on sport and studies. Their attack only twice failed to cut through the opposition, leading the side to a record 15 wins, from 17 games. Sutton Valence, under the former England bowler Alan Igglesden, also blazed through the summer, winning 13 games. They were one agonising last-ball finish from a 100% season, which would have been the first recorded by *Wisden* since at least 1980. With slightly lower percentages of victories – 15 from 20 – came Oundle, whose cutting edge was Patrick Foster, with 54 wickets at 9.07, the school's best total by a pace bowler since 1895, and Brighton College, the top dogs in 2003.

With much of the season played under dark May clouds, no batsman showed the obvious class of Bedford School's Alastair Cook in 2003. However, James Cole of Merchant Taylors', Crosby quietly accumulated his way to 959 runs at 119.87, the best average in the country, played several games for Lancashire seconds, and still modestly admitted that "I'm more of a wicket-keeper than a batsman." Another all-rounder was the country's heaviest run-scorer: Martin Walters of Harrow with 1,204 at 109.45.

However, there was something rather unusual about Walters. For a start he was 19 years old. And he arrived four months after the traditional start of the academic year, having already completed his schooling at Selborne College in East London, South Africa. It certainly raised eyebrows, especially in the run-up to the Lord's match against Harrow's age-old rivals at Eton: "We wish him every success with his single AS-level module," said the *Eton College Chronicle* impishly, "and a very happy 20th birthday next March."

Walters and Harrow were far from alone. Gleaming sports records look good in glossy school prospectuses, and more schools are taking more sports scholars for shorter and shorter stints. Some weaker schools reported that games have become futile – for everyone involved. There were certainly some big mismatches: early in the summer Bharghav Modha, another sixth-form sports scholar and a leg-spinner working with Terry Jenner on the ECB's spin coaching scheme, took ten for 19 for Oakham against Worksop.

For an unprecedented third year running, Tom Woolsey, a left-arm spinner from St Peter's, York, topped the country's list of wicket-takers, with 55. To get there, he laboured through 307 overs, 40 more than anyone else, before taking up a place at Cambridge University. More incisive, taking one wicket fewer in two-thirds of the overs was Foster of Oundle. However, the sharpest of all, and the most discussed schoolboy cricketer of 2004, was another Yorkshireman.

On May 23, Ajmal Shahzad made cricket history when he bowled six tidy overs in the totosport League for the Yorkshire Phoenix, becoming the first Yorkshire-born Asian to play for the county's first team. It was a symbolic and overdue moment, coming more than 30 years after migrants from the subcontinent began arriving in Yorkshire in large numbers. The county's operations director, Geoff Cope, called it "A magic day... It is a clear message that if you have the talent and work hard, you can play for Yorkshire, whatever your skin colour." By contrast, taking 19 wickets for Woodhouse Grove, even at the country's best average of 4.63, must have seemed prosaic. Only a back injury stopped him grabbing many more.

In August, Chris Paget, an off-spinner from Repton, followed Shahzad into first-team cricket. He became Derbyshire's youngest-ever Championship player, at 16 years 284 days, won praise from a hard judge in the county coach David Houghton and then returned home to wait for GCSE results. "I think it's going to be difficult to concentrate on my school work," said Paget as he contemplated spending two A-level summers trying to help salvage Derbyshire's struggling first team.

However, unarguably the best player in schools cricket in 2004 starred for King's, Macclesfield. Having contacted the school's opponents, MCC, in search of match practice as he recovered from injury, the New Zealand left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori bowled ten cheap overs for King's, hit a quick fifty and still had the energy to push the sightscreens at both ends.

Vettori had a rival in the fame game. After the 2004 season, Uppingham reported that they had to cope without one of their leading batsmen of recent years, Harry Judd, who cut short his studies at the end of 2003 to become the drummer in a boy-band McFly. By the end of the next season, McFly had enjoyed two No. 1 singles, and the adoration of thousands of teenage girls, which some would call greater fame than any number of Test caps.

Most would be happy with even one cap, including a remarkable young man who made his debut for Harrow. Five years ago Mumtaz Habib fled the Taleban and arrived from Afghanistan in England, with no formal education, English or knowledge of cricket. He landed lucky, and was taken by his state school to a net in a local leisure centre, where he showed an

outstanding instinctive talent. "I saw this boy who could do everything," enthused Harrow's master in charge, Simon Halliday, who spotted Habib and arranged a full bursary. Statistically, the move improved Habib's chances of playing professionally by a multiple of around four. In 2005, Tony Blair and the Cricket Foundation hope to do something about that.

ETON v HARROW

At Lord's, June 26. Eton won by 20 runs. Toss: Eton.

A storming captain's innings from Eddie Nissen led Eton to their third successive victory over Harrow. Rain washed out the morning, and Nissen arrived at 47 for three. He reached 50 in 45 balls, then lashed 74, including four sixes, off his next 37. Mumtaz Habib, a 17-year-old Afghan refugee given a sixth-form scholarship at Harrow, took two wickets, one caught and bowled, plus two boundary catches. Needing six an over, Harrow were on course at 145 for one in the 24th: Hamish Morrison struck two sixes into the Tavern Stand and 11 fours. But he fell for a 72-ball 79 as Gyles Scott-Hayward struck twice in two overs. The skies darkened, the asking-rate rose and the last wicket tumbled at 7.37 p.m.

Eton

O. G. Williams b Harper	2	W. T. Dobson c Habib b Walters	9
A. H. Ball c Habib b Spencer	27	D. G. Taylor not out	1
E. C. A. Bruce c Roditi b Spencer	13		
H. C. L. Rawlinson c and b Habib	21	L-b 4, w 8, n-b 1	13
*E. F. J. Nissen not out	124		
G. O. A. Scott-Hayward c Northeast		1/9 2/46 3/47	(6 wks, 40 overs) 239
b Habib	29	4/88 5/167 6/214	

†G. D. G. George, H. G. Franks and N. C. R. Westoll did not bat.

Bowling: Roditi 8-0-54-0; Harper 8-0-40-1; Walters 8-1-34-1; Spencer 5-0-32-2; Morrison 8-0-61-0; Habib 3-0-14-2.

Harrow

W. J. Spencer st George b Franks	14	G. M. Harper not out	5
H. M. Morrison c Bruce b Scott-Hayward	79	†R. T. de Oliveira b Bruce	0
M. D. Walters c Bruce b Scott-Hayward	36	J. B. K. Roditi run out	1
M. Habib run out	4	B 1, l-b 6, w 23, n-b 3	33
C. G. M. Travers run out	22		
*H. R. Howe b Dobson	9	1/46 2/145 3/150	(37.5 overs) 219
S. A. Northeast st George b Franks	2	4/152 5/183 6/194	
E. J. Turner b Bruce	14	7/196 8/216 9/216	

Bowling: Bruce 7-0-20-2; Ball 3-0-23-0; Taylor 4-0-22-0; Franks 8-1-42-2; Westoll 4-0-26-0; Dobson 6.5-0-48-1; Scott-Hayward 5-0-31-2.

Umpires: J. A. Carter and C. J. Dalton.

Of the 166 matches played between the two schools since 1805, Eton have won 55, Harrow 45 and 66 have been drawn. Matches during the two world wars are excluded from the reckoning. The fixture was reduced from a two-day, two-innings-a-side match to one day in 1982, and became a limited-overs fixture from 1999. Fifty centuries have been scored, the highest being 183 by D. C. Boles of Eton in 1904; M. C. Bird of Harrow is the only batsman to have made two hundreds in a match, in 1907. The highest score since the First World War is 161 not out by M. K. Fosh of Harrow in 1975, Harrow's last victory before 2000.

Note: The following five tables cover only those schools listed in the Schools A-Z section.

BATTING

BEST AVERAGE IN SCHOOLS CRICKET

(Qualification: 150 runs, 3 completed innings, average 70.00)

	I	NO	Runs	HS	100s	Avge
J. Cole (<i>Merchant Taylors', Crosby</i>)	14	6	959	140	5	119.87
M. D. Walters (<i>Harrow School</i>)	19	8	1,204	135*	5	109.45
T. Cledwyn (<i>Canford School</i>)	10	4	605	144*	3	100.83
B. A. C. Howell (<i>The Oratory School</i>)	12	4	802	143	3	100.25
W. J. F. Stebbings (<i>Gresham's School</i>)	13	5	794	132*	4	99.25
F. Qureshi (<i>Radley College</i>)	9	3	547	111*	2	91.16
P. B. Muchall (<i>Durham School</i>)	12	4	712	127	2	89.00
C. Martin (<i>Canford School</i>)	12	2	881	172*	3	88.10
L. Lewis (<i>Blundell's School</i>)	12	4	687	127	3	85.87
R. Timms (<i>Millfield School</i>)	19	7	1,021	130*	3	85.08
M. A. Gouldstone (<i>Denstone College</i>)	14	4	776	106*	1	77.60
J. E. L. Buttlemar (<i>Felsted School</i>)	12	6	459	69*	0	76.50
A. S. Jackson (<i>Sutton Valence School</i>)	14	3	841	147	3	76.45
M. P. Surry (<i>Felsted School</i>)	15	5	745	158*	4	74.50

MOST RUNS IN SCHOOLS CRICKET

(Qualification: 750 runs)

	I	NO	Runs	HS	100s	Avge
M. D. Walters (<i>Harrow School</i>)	19	8	1,204	135*	5	109.45
R. L. Young (<i>Brighton College</i>)	19	2	1,031	134	1	60.64
R. Timms (<i>Millfield School</i>)	19	7	1,021	130*	3	85.08
J. Cole (<i>Merchant Taylors', Crosby</i>)	14	6	959	140	5	119.87
R. J. Hamilton-Brown (<i>Millfield School</i>)	20	3	955	101	1	56.17
C. Martin (<i>Canford School</i>)	12	2	881	172*	3	88.10
A. S. Jackson (<i>Sutton Valence School</i>)	14	3	841	147	3	76.45
C. J. Huntington (<i>Felsted School</i>)	17	4	833	151*	3	64.07
C. J. Cargo (<i>Bangor GS</i>)	19	2	805	152*	3	47.35
B. A. C. Howell (<i>The Oratory School</i>)	12	4	802	143	3	100.25
W. J. F. Stebbings (<i>Gresham's School</i>)	13	5	794	132*	4	99.25
R. M. Farenheim (<i>Oundle School</i>)	16	3	786	116	3	60.46
H. M. Morrison (<i>Harrow School</i>)	17	0	779	148	1	45.82
M. A. Gouldstone (<i>Denstone College</i>)	14	4	776	106*	1	77.60
T. S. Bartram (<i>St Peters, York</i>)	19	4	755	100	1	50.33
J. W. K. Beeny (<i>Tonbridge School</i>)	18	0	755	111	1	41.94

BOWLING

BEST AVERAGE IN SCHOOLS CRICKET

(Qualification: 10 wickets, average 9.00)

	O	M	R	W	BB	Avge
A. Shahzad (<i>Woodhouse Grove</i>)	51	15	88	19	7-18	4.63
S. O. Knott (<i>Sutton Valence School</i>)	67.2	15	149	27	4-6	5.51
S. G. Street (<i>Bryanston School</i>)	40.3	13	93	16	5-17	5.81
J. M. Leach (<i>Rydal Penhros</i>)	30	8	65	10	3-9	6.50
W. J. Elphinstone (<i>Glenalmond College</i>)	84	21	193	29	5-4	6.65
J. W. K. Beeny (<i>Tonbridge School</i>)	33.2	4	102	15	5-28	6.80

	O	M	R	W	BB	Avg
D. Northover (<i>King Edward VI Coll, Stourbridge</i>)	17.3	0	68	10	4-42	6.80
S. W. Ireland (<i>The Harvey GS, Folkestone</i>)	64	21	150	22	5-14	6.81
T. Fleming (<i>The Glasgow Academy</i>)	38	6	127	18	6-26	7.05
D. Hastings (<i>Epsom College</i>)	100	21	245	33	6-10	7.42
R. M. T. Clegg (<i>Barnard Castle School</i>)	44.5	10	104	14	5-19	7.42
P. R. Mann (<i>Bromsgrove School</i>)	103.4	47	192	25	6-0	7.68
R. E. M. Williams (<i>Marlborough College</i>)	133	36	279	34	7-19	8.20
J. W. Neale (<i>King Edward's School, Birmingham</i>)	140	54	291	35	7-18	8.31
W. Sabey (<i>RGS Guildford</i>)	64	19	112	13	4-13	8.61
L. Butcher (<i>Sir Joseph Williamson's Math. S</i>)	80	22	244	28	5-2	8.71

MOST WICKETS IN SCHOOLS CRICKET

(Qualification: 35 wickets)

	O	M	R	W	BB	Avg
T. J. Woolsey (<i>St Peter's, York</i>)	307.2	71	946	55	6-36	17.20
P. J. Foster (<i>Oundle School</i>)	208	62	490	54	6-19	9.07
C. R. Firth (<i>Merchant Taylors', Crosby</i>)	181.3	26	663	48	7-44	13.81
D. A. Woods (<i>Manchester GS</i>)	267.2	65	663	46	7-25	14.41
R. M. R. Brathwaite (<i>Dulwich College</i>)	201.4	47	474	45	6-42	10.53
J. C. Douglas-Hughes (<i>Felsted School</i>)	199	37	615	44	5-57	13.97
O. C. Griffiths (<i>Malvern College</i>)	237	68	623	41	6-12	15.19
O. Taylor (<i>Millfield School</i>)	190.2	24	782	41	5-26	19.07
J. D. Warr (<i>Elizabeth College, Guernsey</i>)	200.5	48	525	40	7-19	13.12
J. Chandrakumar (<i>Chigwell School</i>)	111.4	21	365	36	6-19	10.13
J. P. P. O'Sullivan (<i>Merchant Taylors', Northwood</i>)	187	60	384	35	6-33	10.97
G. G. White (<i>Stowe School</i>)	154.3	34	439	35	8-33	12.54
J. W. Neale (<i>King Edward's School, Birmingham</i>)	140	54	291	35	7-18	8.31
C. D. Whalley (<i>Newcastle-under-Lyme School</i>)	136	33	349	35	6-41	9.97
C. F. Young (<i>Tonbridge School</i>)	135.1	36	355	35	4-19	10.14
J. E. Mugnaioni (<i>Abingdon School</i>)	119.1	25	437	35	5-19	12.48

OUTSTANDING SEASONS, 2004

(Qualification: 8 matches)

	P	W	L	T	D	A	%W
Abingdon School	17	13	3	0	1	3	76.47
Brighton College	20	15	3	0	2	0	75.00
Bromsgrove School	13	10	3	0	0	6	76.92
Eastbourne College	14	12	0	0	2	2	85.71
King Edward's School, Birmingham	14	11	2	0	1	6	78.57
Langley Park School	10	8	2	0	0	0	80.00
Millfield School	22	20	2	0	0	2	90.91
Monmouth School	13	10	2	0	1	4	76.92
Oundle School	20	15	0	0	5	3	75.00
Queen Elizabeth's Hospital	8	6	0	1	1	3	75.00
Sutton Valence School	14	13	1	0	0	4	92.86
Taunton School	13	10	2	0	1	2	76.92
Tonbridge School	17	15	2	0	0	2	88.24
West Buckland School	12	9	3	0	0	0	75.00

Note: Besides those listed above, the following schools were unbeaten: Felsted, Leeds GS, Loughborough GS, Oakham, St Peter's, Wrekin College.

SCHOOLS A-Z

Qualification for averages: 150 runs or ten wickets.

In the results line, A = abandoned without a ball bowled. An asterisk next to a name indicates captain. Schools provide their own reports.

Abingdon School

P17 W13 L3 D1 A3

Master i/c S. P. G. Spratling

Coach G. V. Palmer

This was Abingdon's most successful season in many a year. They were captained superbly by Mugnaioni and led with the bat by Stern, who hit two splendid centuries. The brightest highlights came in the last week: three wins from three at a festival in Lytham, and playing at Edgbaston, where Abingdon lost to an excellent Felsted team in the final of the new "20s" tournament.

Batting P. T. R. Stern 711 at 59.25; J. E. Mugnaioni* 326 at 32.60; G. W. A. Stern 399 at 26.60; W. E. C. Poole 164 at 23.42.

Bowling J. E. Mugnaioni 35 at 12.48; A. M. McKenzie 31 at 15.93; G. W. A. Stern 25 at 18.76; A. U. Rehman 18 at 23.44.

Aldenham School

P12 W4 L2 D6 A4

Master i/c A. P. Stephenson

Coach D. W. Goodchild

Lots of good games disappeared into the rain: Aldenham could easily have won four of the drawn matches had the weather not butted in.

Batting C. E. Woolley 292 at 58.40; M. Karani 219 at 27.37; A. Sharma 151 at 21.57.

Bowling A. Sharma 15 at 13.26; J. Thakrar 15 at 16.60.

Alley's School

P12 W7 L3 D2 A2

Master i/c R. N. Ody

Coach P. H. Edwards

There were pleasing performances in 2004 but all the players who made the averages were in the upper sixth. Next season will be a challenge.

Batting A. L. Fuller* 395 at 49.37; C. Morris 373 at 46.62.

Bowling C. O. Greenwood 17 at 16.00; A. L. Fuller 19 at 16.94; C. J. McGill 16 at 22.50.

Ampleforth College

P7 W3 L2 D2 A4

Master i/c G. D. Thurman

Many matches and practices were lost in a season blighted by horrendous weather. When the rain held off, Ampleforth played exciting cricket under the adventurous captaincy of Nick Ainscough. James Pawle led a strong batting line-up, including Tom Bromet and Charlie O'Kelly, who both have several years left. The bowling, though not as strong, was spearheaded by Alex Faulkner.

Batting J. R. W. Pawle 292 at 36.50; T. H. J. Bromet 264 at 33.00; C. D. E. O'Kelly 190 at 23.75.

Bowling A. C. M. Faulkner 21 at 20.14; I. A. F. Wright 12 at 33.08; D. A. Tulloch 10 at 41.10; P. E. Waller 10 at 46.90.

Ardingly College

P12 W5 L6 D1 A1

Master i/c R. A. King

Coach C. Waller

The season picked up after starting with six defeats in a row. After the end of May the college won five games, including against MCC. Several good youngsters provided great optimism for the future.

Batting B. C. Brown 482 at 40.16; G. Martin 433 at 36.08; E. Long 232 at 23.20.

Bowling S. C. J. Lambert 10 at 11.60; E. Long 14 at 20.78; G. Martin 12 at 27.50.

Arnold School

P9 W2 L5 D2

Master i/c M. Evans

Coach A. McKeown

Batting T. Muir* 168 at 24.00; J. Cain 208 at 23.11.

Bowling M. Cowburn 25 at 17.16; P. Moss 10 at 22.50.

Ashville College

P12 W3 L6 D3 A5

Master i/c I. M. Walker

Batting N. R. Gupta* 251 at 25.10; C. E. Silvertown 225 at 25.00; C. J. Gill 269 at 24.45; B. D. M. Portlock 260 at 21.66; P. D. Wickham 211 at 17.58.

Bowling N. R. Gupta 14 at 18.85; M. H. Wickham 12 at 20.16.

Bancroft's School

Master i/c J. K. Lever

Bancroft's won 12 matches – their best in more than 30 years – and against other schools they lost only to Ilford County High. The batting was strong, particularly Simon Miller who broke the school record with 180 not out against Colfe's. His unbroken second-wicket stand of 249 with 15-year-old Robin Thompson, was also a record. Thompson impressed in a top four that did most of the side's batting.

Batting S. C. Miller 696 at 69.60; C. P. Smith 365 at 40.55; R. N. Thompson 442 at 40.18; A. Wilkinson 267 at 33.37; F. S. Khan 157 at 17.44.

Bowling J. K. Lever 21 at 17.66; F. S. Khan 26 at 19.65; T. J. Saul 15 at 25.06.

Bangor Grammar School

Master i/c D. J. Napier

Chris Cargo's 152 not out put the final gloss on a very enjoyable and often sunny season. Cargo, also an Ireland Under-21 hockey player, Cooper and Watterson all represented Ulster and Irish Schools in their final year, but the lack of batting support prevented better team results.

Batting C. J. Cargo 805 at 47.35; S. Cooper 607 at 37.93; G. S. J. Watterson 195 at 13.00.

Bowling G. S. J. Watterson 34 at 12.17; T. B. G. Speers 29 at 14.20; A. W. Titmus 16 at 14.25; P. J. S. Speers 26 at 18.61; S. P. Connell 18 at 22.44.

Barnard Castle School

Master i/c B. C. Usher

The team put together a good run at the end of the season, with young players making a big contribution.

Batting R. M. Batty 427 at 47.44; A. M. Sammons 159 at 31.80; R. J. Hopwood 167 at 20.87.

Bowling R. M. T. Clegg 14 at 7.42; J. P. M. Stewart 11 at 18.09; R. M. Batty 20 at 19.75.

Bedford School

Master i/c J. J. Farrell

Bedford had an encouraging season. While the bowling was dominated by the experienced Binnington and the increasingly impressive Patel, the batting was centred round Alex Wakely, who represented England Under-15, and Andrew Bird. Impressive wins were recorded over Uppingham, Haileybury and Harrow.

Batting A. G. Wakely 728 at 52.00; A. S. Bird 483 at 30.18; D. J. Binnington 300 at 30.00; A. A. Burrows 427 at 28.46; R. V. Patel 193 at 24.12; J. A. D. Wilson 162 at 14.72.

Bowling R. V. Patel 25 at 21.60; A. A. Burrows 10 at 26.20; D. J. Binnington 25 at 27.04; T. M. R. Elliott 10 at 36.10; O. J. Yew* 15 at 38.60.

Bedford Modern School

Master i/c N. J. Chinneck

A very young side struggled, but the performances improved considerably through the season.

Batting R. M. Godfrey 368 at 26.28; C. W. Comer 338 at 22.53; L. A. Presswell 164 at 20.50; N. J. A. Brooks 282 at 20.14; G. J. Hill 189 at 15.75.

Bowling P. Katechia 11 at 25.45; A. Cook 12 at 29.75; S. Kanungo 11 at 34.09; R. Chandarana 10 at 40.50; R. M. Godfrey 10 at 53.00.

Berkhamsted Collegiate School

Master i/c S. J. Dight

This was a very tough season, though it did not look it during a 229-run stand for the third wicket against Kimbolton; Haddock, a 14-year-old, scored 120, Newman made 88 and, with Berkhamsted chasing 273, the match finished in a tie. Chesters captained with great determination and empathy; eight of his side should return next year.

Batting R. G. Newman 213 at 42.60; O. B. S. Haddock 280 at 23.33; J. P. Kilgannon 196 at 16.33.

Bowling F. T. S. Rodwell 19 at 17.94; I. J. E. Dent 17 at 23.47; T. D. Chesters* 13 at 30.61.

Bethany School

Master i/c S. Brown

Individual performances were better than team results. The young players – there were no upper-sixth formers – surpassed expectations and the lower order showed real courage and grit batting out for draws against hostile and accurate bowling.

Batting C. J. Hall* 162 at 23.14; T. J. Danby 152 at 21.71; D. R. Booth 157 at 19.62.

Bowling F. Florry 13 at 16.53; J. R. Dobson 12 at 19.33; D. R. Booth 10 at 33.30.

P18 W12 L4 D2 A1

P21 W10 L6 D5

Coach C. C. J. Harte

P9 W3 L4 D2 A3

Coach M. P. Speight

P16 W5 L6 D5 A3

Coach D. W. Randall

P15 W1 L10 D4 A1

P11 W3 L7 T1 A3

Coach S. Collins

P8 W1 L3 D4 A5

The Bishop's Stortford High School

P10 W5 L3 D2 A3

Master i/c A. L. Leyshon

Greg Milward marshalled a strong bowling attack well but the batsmen were inconsistent. A draw against an excellent Felsted side was almost as pleasing as the five wins, including one against St Andrew's Cathedral College from Sydney. Luke Padgett's 100 not out against St Edmund's College was a great achievement.

Batting L. T. Padgett 295 at 36.87; P. S. Reed 227 at 22.70.

Bowling A. A. Lewin 12 at 11.16; P. S. Reed 14 at 14.28; R. F. Horne 11 at 19.18; A. Willcox 12 at 21.08.

Bloxham School

P12 L6 D6

Master i/c N. C. W. Furlley

Coach R. Kaufman

Four of the six defeats were very close, which was frustrating. The batting relied too heavily on the excellent Baig, while Rahman, bowling chinamen, carried the attack. For 2005, Loxton and Smith look good prospects.

Batting A. D. Baig* 416 at 46.22; T. M. Whiteside 216 at 21.60; A. H. Rahman 192 at 21.33; T. M. Loxton 190 at 21.11.

Bowling A. H. Rahman 20 at 19.90; A. D. Baig 10 at 22.90; R. J. Tysoe 11 at 24.00; D. Smith 10 at 25.60.

Blundell's School

P11 W7 L3 T1 A4

Master i/c C. L. L. Gabbittas

The captain Liam Lewis, who returns next year, was the star, closely followed by Adam Gingell, whose fiery pace bowling tested the best. Otherwise, the side was light on bowling and this contributed to defeats. Against West Buckland, Lewis and Joe Smith put on a school-record opening stand of 236; at the time, Smith was only 14.

Batting L. Lewis* 687 at 85.87; W. J. Gingell 230 at 32.85; J. Smith 289 at 32.11; A. Gingell 201 at 28.71; J. Menheneott 216 at 27.00.

Bowling A. Gingell 19 at 11.68; L. Lewis 17 at 16.23; J. Menheneott 10 at 16.50; M. Lancelles 11 at 20.00.

Bradfield College

P14 W8 L5 D1 A2

Master i/c D. J. Clark

A young team had an excellent season: all of the wins – but only two of the defeats – were comprehensive. Richard Morris was outstanding with the ball and often held the batting together too; George Trewby's off-spin was once again controlled; 14-year-old Hamza Riazuddin played the whole season and his bowling was impressively mature at times. Nick Woodroffe captained with aplomb.

Batting R. K. Morris 374 at 34.00; W. H. Chaloner 390 at 32.50; H. Riazuddin 240 at 20.00; N. S. Woodroffe* 205 at 18.63; D. J. Plume 168 at 16.80; J. J. Smith 164 at 16.40.

Bowling R. K. Morris 19 at 13.15; G. W. Trewby 23 at 13.82; J. J. Smith 11 at 14.00; H. Riazuddin 18 at 16.33; M. L. Hutton 12 at 16.33; N. S. Woodroffe 13 at 19.84; D. J. Plume 13 at 25.53.

Bradford Grammar School

P15 W3 L9 D3 A4

Master i/c A. G. Smith

This was a difficult season. Run-scoring proved the main problem and six of the nine defeats could have been reversed with a little more application and composure. Despite losing the captain Fergus Parish to injury for half the season, the bowling was fairly consistent, with Oliver Collinge impressive in his debut year.

Batting R. Kroon 365 at 26.07; J. M. Shaw 255 at 19.61; L. Stockill 197 at 16.41; F. L. Parish* 168 at 15.27.

Bowling F. L. Parish 12 at 13.58; O. Collinge 18 at 18.00; L. Stockill 18 at 22.72; S. R. Lawrence 10 at 25.00; J. L. Dangerfield 14 at 30.35.

Brentwood School

P13 W2 L9 D2 A4

Master i/c B. R. Hardie

Batting C. R. Prowling 376 at 47.00; T. M. Gamby 247 at 27.44; B. Washington 190 at 27.14; R. I. Bull 190 at 19.00; T. Azim 190 at 17.27.

Bowling K. Sohal 16 at 27.93; D. Gulrajani 12 at 35.58; T. Azim 11 at 38.09.

Brighton College

Master i/c M. J. Edmunds

Exams caused more disruption than ever but once again the sun shone on Brighton when it mattered, and the batsmen had a few great days. They chased down 289 against MCC and 359 against the old boys, both in 50-over matches. The opening pair of Marc Gardner and Richard Young put on 214 against Ardingly and 166 against MCC; and four players scored a century. Young became the fifth in college history to score 1,000 runs in a summer.

Batting R. L. Young 1,031 at 60.64; M. A. Thornely 637 at 57.90; K. P. Stevenson 224 at 56.00; M. A. L. Gardner* 679 at 39.94; J. S. Gating 290 at 32.22; R. Sekhri 218 at 31.14.

Bowling A. P. S. Sumner 24 at 14.33; R. Sekhri 27 at 15.03; A. P. Thornely 26 at 18.15; C. G. Saville 13 at 19.53; M. A. Thornely 11 at 24.00.

Bristol Grammar School

Masters i/c K. R. Blackburn/R. S. Jones

The season started with four poor defeats but ended with four wins from five games. Tom Parnell, returning after illness, was often the catalyst, with his determined and skilful batting, and much-improved leg-spin. No others stood out consistently but the batting was deep and the attack varied and effective.

Batting T. M. Parnell 385 at 55.00.

Bowling T. M. Parnell 11 at 21.27.

Bromsgrove School

Master i/c P. Greetham

Philip Mann produced the performance of the season, indeed one of the performances of any season, to take 10-10-0-6 against Worcestershire Gents. He was consistent with the bat and accurate with his flattish off-breaks. Matthew Mullan scored two brilliant centuries between England Under-18 rugby commitments; Luke Radford, son of former England bowler Neal, showed promise; and Ben Dudley excelled as wicket-keeper with 17 dismissals. Bromsgrove won their own festival, against opposition including two county junior sides.

Batting M. J. Mullan 334 at 47.71; P. R. Mann* 401 at 44.55; B. Dudley 199 at 28.42; S. P. Robinson 277 at 25.18; L. J. Radford 193 at 24.12.

Bowling P. R. Mann 25 at 7.68; R. P. Young 11 at 9.54; B. Bales 18 at 15.77; J. Jones 19 at 15.89; D. Mumford 15 at 16.26; L. J. Radford 14 at 17.28.

Bryanston School

Master i/c T. J. Hill

The revelation was Street, a left-armers from the Under-14s, who ended with a superb average. After three limp performances, the batsmen started taking responsibility in the absence of the injured Dorset Under-17 all-rounder Tom Turney. Seven consecutive victories was the best sequence for over 15 years.

Batting J. E. Marshall 338 at 37.55; J. R. H. Gibbs 318 at 35.33; J. G. Scott-Bolton 237 at 21.54; L. C. Bettesworth 221 at 20.09; G. H. E. Macpherson* 180 at 20.00.

Bowling S. G. Street 16 at 5.81; J. G. Scott-Bolton 17 at 20.05; J. R. H. Gibbs 11 at 26.45; C. Cosgrove 11 at 36.18.

Canford School

Master i/c R. Wallis

This was a season of four outstanding individuals. Chris Martin batted brilliantly, even against quality attacks; his fellow opener Tom Cledwyn also made a century, overcoming serious injury to show skill and determination; fast bowler Tom Myatt took a wicket every 22 balls, and wicket-keeper Ollie McLaren provided stability at No. 3. Still, the overall record was slightly disappointing.

Batting T. Cledwyn* 605 at 100.83; C. Martin 881 at 88.10; O. McLaren 321 at 32.10; P. Colvin 177 at 19.66.

Bowling T. Myatt 33 at 11.60; S. Ridley 11 at 16.45; N. A. W. Summerson 11 at 24.00; N. D. Van Der Meulen 14 at 26.92.

Charterhouse

Master i/c P. J. Deakin

There were two eye-catching individual performances in an otherwise ordinary season: Toby Lumsden took the most wickets for five seasons and James Wood scored heavily, including a magnificent 123 not out to beat Dulwich. Other highlights included bowling out the Free Foresters for 52, and the selection of Harry Hooper and James Wood for ECB schools sides.

P20 W15 L3 D2

Coaches J. Spencer/R. G. Halsall

P10 W4 L5 D1 A2

Coach C. Baxter

P13 W10 L3 A6

Coach J. E. Brinkley

P13 W7 L5 D1 A1

Coach P. J. Norton

P14 W8 L5 D1

Coach A. A. Mallett

P15 W6 L7 D2 A1

Coach R. V. Lewis

Batting J. R. Wood 538 at 53.80; N. R. Wood 279 at 27.90; M. St H. Stimpson 340 at 26.15; J. H. P. Hooper* 323 at 24.84; J. H. Walker 255 at 19.61; H. G. C. Schofield 169 at 16.90; T. N. H. Lumsden 151 at 13.72.

Bowling T. N. H. Lumsden 31 at 15.93; P. H. Summers 13 at 18.38; W. J. I. Tetley 20 at 22.50; J. B. Hunter 12 at 27.75.

Cheltenham College

Master i/c M. W. Stovold

Disappointingly, five games were abandoned because of inclement weather. However, Mace captained the side very positively and there were good wins against Malvern, Clifton, Sherborne and Hilton College, South Africa.

Batting D. C. Hall 569 at 63.22; C. J. L. Sandbach 348 at 34.80; S. C. Mason 167 at 27.83; A. J. Sherwood 242 at 26.88; J. P. Mills 239 at 26.55; A. J. Brooksbank 214 at 23.77.

Bowling R. Islam 17 at 19.64; A. J. Brooksbank 20 at 23.30; S. C. Mason 10 at 26.70.

Chigwell School

Master i/c D. N. Morrison

A good all-round team had a very successful season. Conditions throughout favoured bowlers, helping Chigwell's varied attack force eight wins; all three losses could easily have gone the other way. The school went on a first-ever overseas tour, to the West Indies, and won nine out of ten matches. That made up for the longest examination study period anyone could remember.

Batting N. Amin 339 at 33.90; Rohan Bhome 227 at 28.37; Rahul Bhome 378 at 27.00; M. Ditta 203 at 22.55; W. M. Higgins 190 at 19.00.

Bowling J. Chandrakumar 36 at 10.13; Rahul Bhome 26 at 11.61; N. Amin 13 at 17.00; S. P. Martin 10 at 24.40; Rohan Bhome 11 at 24.45; V. Skandakumar 10 at 25.30.

Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School

Master i/c R. A. Wallbridge

Rain and exams devastated the first half of the season, but thankfully more games were played in the second. The stop-start schedule made it difficult for the captain, James Gritt, to build team spirit. However, once he achieved this, the results improved, including a resounding win against a strong Old Sedcopians XI.

Batting J. Ahmed 151 at 30.20.

Bowling J. West 10 at 10.10; M. J. Willoughby 11 at 14.90.

Christ College, Brecon

Masters i/c N. C. Blackburn/C. J. Webber

Wet weather at key stages of the term meant that the season never really got going, but a young side – all but two should return in 2005 – still made significant progress. The highlight was a two-wicket victory over MCC, having bowled them out for 146, the first school win in 38 years of the fixture.

Batting D. R. L. Jones 177 at 35.40.

Bowling B. N. J. Painter 13 at 21.30.

Christ's College, Finchley

Master i/c S. S. Goldsmith

The early season was almost wiped out by rain, the late season by illness of the teacher in charge, so the college played an unusually low number of matches. Chetan Depala was the outstanding all-rounder and his nine for seven against Whitefield School, in a district cup match, was the equal third-best in college history.

Batting C. C. Depala 317 at 52.83.

Bowling C. C. Depala 15 at 11.20.

Christ's Hospital

Master i/c H. P. Holdsworth

Only unbeaten Eastbourne College put Christ's Hospital to the sword, as accurate bowling and supportive fielding brought many fine victories. Only one century and nine fifties were scored, which suggested bowler-friendly wickets and a team not over-reliant on individuals. Still, the excellent form of James Maxwell in the second half of term certainly helped. Under-15 quick bowler Michael Quest is already very quick and should take many wickets.

P13 W5 L5 D3 A5

Coach M. P. Briers

P14 W8 L3 D3 A1

Coach F. C. Griffith

P9 W2 L5 D2 A5

P8 W2 L5 D1 A4

P7 W4 L2 D1 A9

P13 W8 L3 D2 A1

Coach L. J. Lenham



Sebastian Street (left), a 14-year-old left-arm seamer, took 16 wickets at incredibly low cost for Bryanston; Martin Walters, a South African sports scholar at Harrow, was the country's leading run-scorer.



Batting J. G. Maxwell 356 at 39.55; S. C. Crocker 251 at 31.37; J. B. Mitra* 298 at 29.80; G. K. Chamberlin 230 at 25.55; M. P. Davey 241 at 20.08.

Bowling J. T. Maddren 18 at 10.83; M. J. Quest 20 at 13.05; S. A. D. Millicheap 11 at 13.90; S. C. Crocker 19 at 15.36; P. C. P. Boardman 19 at 17.84.

Clayesmore School

Master i/c D. Rimmer

Batting E. J. B. Lack* 473 at 31.53; J. D. Morton 269 at 20.69; D. Briggs 209 at 17.41; D. P. Voisey 195 at 16.25.

Bowling J. W. Balmforth 16 at 15.93; G. J. H. Howard 13 at 16.61; A. G. Merson 25 at 18.32; S. J. Hughes 12 at 24.83.

Clifton College

Master i/c J. C. Bobby

This frustrating season promised much but delivered little. Early poor weather meant fixtures were lost and pressure of examinations left the team unsettled and lacking the confidence to score runs. The bowling showed the potential to dismiss sides, but all too often there were simply not enough runs to play with.

Batting T. Read 183 at 36.60.

Bowling W. Grieg 21 at 12.52; C. Lincoln 15 at 20.93; J. Innes 16 at 21.25.

Colfe's School

Master i/c G. S. Clinton

For the first time ever a girl played for the Colfe's first team: Susie Rowe plays for Kent Women's Under-17 and is a member of the England Academy. No Clinton appeared in the first team, for the first time in ten years.

Batting B. White 250 at 31.25; O. W. H. Taylor 161 at 20.12.

Bowling J. T. Taylor 21 at 11.00; Y. J. Khan 14 at 23.71.

Cranbrook School

Master i/c A. J. Presnell

Peter Towner made a record 62nd appearance in the first team, a career in which he took 117 wickets. The team beat MCC for the first time in five years.

P14 W2 L11 D1 A2

Coach P. Warren

P11 W3 L6 D2 A4

Coach P. W. Romaines

P13 W3 L7 D3 A4

P15 W10 L3 D2

Batting P. Towner 458 at 45.80; C. Marriott* 391 at 43.44; O. Reynolds 330 at 41.25.
Bowling T. Cullen 26 at 9.07; P. Towner 20 at 12.80; C. Marriott 16 at 15.56.

Cranleigh School

Master i/c W. N. Bennett

This was a mixed season. In a young side, Meaker continued to show promise opening the bowling and was well supported by Prince, Moore and by excellent, sure-handed fielding. Jones and Cope both scored centuries, and Crump hit an undefeated 92 in the victory over MCC. But in too many games the weather had the last say.

Batting M. J. Crump 201 at 40.20; R. H. Jones* 454 at 37.83; A. C. Cope 453 at 37.75; J. B. Haynes 360 at 32.72; S. Meaker 157 at 22.42.

Bowling E. C. P. Prince 14 at 15.42; S. Meaker 10 at 16.00; B. I. S. Gilchrist 14 at 19.35; A. E. Kendrick 13 at 26.46; J. Moore 10 at 31.50.

P13 W5 L6 D2 A6

Coach S. D. Welch

Culford School

Master i/c N. A. Weedon

An outstanding season: Mark Burchett scored a school-record 614 runs and helped the side break the record for wins in the season. Only two of the team return next year.

Batting M. R. Burchett* 614 at 40.93; W. O. Williamson 242 at 34.57; O. W. Wade 334 at 33.40; R. J. Hobley 473 at 29.56; A. E. Gibson 169 at 24.14; M. T. Fronicke 220 at 22.00; M. J. Feczko 180 at 20.00; T. A. Orton 272 at 17.00.

Bowling M. R. Burchett 23 at 14.39; R. E. H. Dennis 10 at 14.70; O. W. Wade 15 at 17.73; M. J. Feczko 18 at 19.55; M. T. Fronicke 16 at 21.87; T. W. French 10 at 38.00.

P17 W10 L2 D5 A2

Coach L. Dearlove

Dauntsey's School

Master i/c A. J. Palmer

A young and relatively weak team struggled in both league games and against several adult sides. The bowling lacked control early on but gradually improved, while the batting was inconsistent. However, some young players showed promise: three fifth-formers scored fifties and one third-former played regularly and successfully. Team spirit remained strong throughout.

Batting A. J. M. Penny 207 at 18.81.

Bowling C. T. Jones 18 at 18.44; W. P. J. Whyte 17 at 20.11; S. E. Blackford* 12 at 21.58; A. J. M. Penny 11 at 32.36; M. R. Lomas 10 at 39.50.

P14 W1 L9 D4 A2

Coach G. Shome

Dean Close School

Master i/c B. A. Barton

For a developing side, the highlight was a record partnership of 240 undefeated by captain Carlisle and Gaylard against King's School, Gloucester.

Batting L. Gaylard 364 at 40.44; A. Carlisle* 265 at 33.12; J. Johnson 224 at 24.88.

Bowling A. Carlisle 12 at 25.00; L. Gaylard 10 at 29.60; T. Knights Johnson 12 at 30.91.

P12 W1 L8 D3

Coach D. Trist

Denstone College

Master i/c S. J. Dean

Matt Gouldstone had a season to remember, scoring an excellent hundred and nine consecutive fifties. Several others put in telling performances: James Parker richly deserved his century against Wickersley; Tom Morgan's batting won the match against Bishop Vesey's in the dying overs; and James Young bowled with some fire. The College acquitted themselves well in a new fixture against Repton, beat MCC, and only lost a cracking contest against Old Denstonians after a spectacular diving catch.

Batting M. A. Gouldstone* 776 at 77.60; J. O. S. Parker 322 at 24.76.

Bowling M. A. Gouldstone 30 at 17.16; J. M. Young 13 at 23.23; R. A. Rouse 15 at 25.26; J. W. D. Sharp 13 at 32.92.

P14 W5 L5 D4 A1

Dollar Academy

Master i/c J. G. A. Frost

The bowling and fielding was generally good but the batting was very disappointing early in the season. Although Dollar lost to MCC in the last over, Wilson scoring 92, they beat Daniel Stewart's & Melville College and George Watson's College.

Batting G. K. Wilson 312 at 26.00; N. A. Alston 208 at 16.00.

Bowling G. K. Wilson 16 at 14.93; N. A. Alston 19 at 15.63; R. J. Baird 10 at 25.90.

P13 W4 L8 D1

Dover College

P8 L7 D1

Master i/c D. C. Butler/L. G. Moors

The best moment of the season was Daniel Adams's century against the Old Dovorians – the first by a 14-year-old for many years. A tree was planted on the ground in commemoration, as college custom dictates when a century is scored or eight wickets are taken.

Batting No batsman scored 150 runs. The leading batsman was D. R. Adams, who scored 140 at 28.00.

Bowling No bowler took ten wickets. The leading bowler was M. E. Walsh, who took eight at 30.50.

Downside School

P7 W4 L3 A1

Master i/c N. J. Bryars**Coach** G. J. Kenness

This was very much a rebuilding year for Downside after the excellent 2003. The captain, Oliver Mellotte, led with a series of outstanding personal performances. The growth and development of all players over the season was exceptional.

Batting M. Marland 189 at 63.00; M. N. Warriner 199 at 39.80; O. J. K. R. Mellotte* 236 at 39.33.

Bowling M. N. Warriner 10 at 12.30; W. L. R. Harris 10 at 14.70; O. J. K. R. Mellotte 12 at 14.75.

Duke of York's Royal Military School

P11 W6 L5 A3

Master i/c S. Salisbury**Coach** N. J. Llong

Several tight finishes and some exciting cricket lit up the season. The senior players failed to produce consistently but all played with real enthusiasm. Ben Inshaw applied himself with the bat and three Inshaws – Jamie, an Under-14, Ben and Sam – played together for the last three games. Exams make it increasingly difficult to field the strongest side for much of the season.

Batting B. M. W. Inshaw 361 at 45.12; M. Gilbert* 259 at 25.90; S. T. S. Inshaw 150 at 13.63.

Bowling R. H. Kaye 16 at 17.87; D. Malla 12 at 24.41; B. Kirby 11 at 27.27.

Dulwich College

P20 W9 L7 D4 A2

Master i/c D. J. Cooper**Coach** C. W. J. Athey

All too often Dulwich underachieved with the bat, which turned what should have been a very good season into a mediocre one. Ruel Brathwaite again bowled with genuine pace, hit the ball cleanly and looked the best all-rounder on Dulwich's circuit. The new 20-over tournament, "20s", was an exciting challenge, though the College lost to the eventual winners, Felsted.

Batting T. D. Roy 663 at 36.83; M. Kaffle 445 at 27.81; R. M. R. Brathwaite 453 at 26.64; V. L. Cella 265 at 22.08; C. J. Owen* 375 at 19.73; L. P. Furst 150 at 15.00.

Bowling R. M. R. Brathwaite 45 at 10.53; L. P. Furst 26 at 15.53; V. L. Cella 13 at 17.46; C. W. A. Southern 14 at 20.85; C. J. Owen 26 at 24.53.

Durham School

P11 W7 L2 D2 A4

Master i/c M. Hirsch

Durham had a very good season. The team was well led by Ben Embleton, who could call on three good all-rounders in Paul Muchall, Dias and Tiffin, who are all available in 2005. So is 13-year-old Michael Turns who has been outstanding in his age group and played in the first team in 2004. Because of pressure of exams the fixture list has been eroded.

Batting P. B. Muchall 712 at 89.00; B. H. Embleton* 347 at 38.55; S. F. Tiffin 175 at 29.16; L. S. J. Flunder 156 at 22.28.

Bowling S. F. Tiffin 14 at 11.64; P. B. Muchall 19 at 19.52; P. J. Dias 14 at 25.78; C. H. A. Stevenson 10 at 30.80.

Eastbourne College

P14 W12 D2 A2

Master i/c N. L. Wheeler**Coach** A. J. Burger

Jan-Berrie Burger, the Namibian World Cup batsman, coached an experienced side to the college's best season since records began. The team went unbeaten, bowling the opposition out to win all their first ten matches. Accurate seam bowling was the main strength, and no opposing side reached 200. But the fielding was also excellent and runs were scored at a fast rate.

Batting J. A. M. Toy* 595 at 49.58; D. J. Loman 377 at 37.70; R. E. P. Chilcott 311 at 28.27; J. P. Reid 323 at 24.84; W. J. Ripley 228 at 20.72; C. B. Chisholm 165 at 20.62.

Bowling C. B. Chisholm 30 at 10.03; W. J. Ripley 22 at 11.18; L. M. Winter 22 at 11.22; J. L. Cherrill 10 at 14.60; J. C. Farley 14 at 16.14.

The Edinburgh Academy

P19 W6 L12 D1

Master i/c M. J. De-G. Allingham

Stuart Cosh was the top player, performing well with bat and ball and leading the team with a quiet authority. Reaching the Ryden Lothians Schools Cup final for the third time in a row was one of the highlights of a mixed season, although the Academy lost to Fettes in an exciting final.

Batting S. G. Cosh* 436 at 27.25; P. D. M. Loudon 207 at 15.92; P. Steward 218 at 13.62; H. Paton 171 at 12.21; T. A. Clark 183 at 11.43.

Bowling S. G. Cosh 26 at 15.26; C. R. Loudon 14 at 18.35; H. Paton 24 at 19.87; P. D. M. Loudon 16 at 21.37; N. J. Lyell 16 at 31.43.

Elizabeth College, Guernsey

P18 W10 L4 D4

Master i/c M. E. Kinder**Coach** A. Bannerjee

The captain James Warr hit a century against St Peter's, York and his best bowling was an impressive seven for 19. Home games were 40 overs a side and all six were won, making the college champions of Weekend League Division Two. The Old Elizabethans were defeated by five wickets as a young team made encouraging progress.

Batting J. D. Warr* 450 at 37.50; P. J. Le Hegarat 341 at 31.00; J. A. J. Nussbaumer 340 at 26.15; G. Bett 190 at 14.61; F. K. Calderwood 156 at 14.18.

Bowling J. D. Warr 40 at 13.12; L. D. Nussbaumer 10 at 16.70; G. Bett 32 at 19.09; S. E. De La Rue 16 at 26.12; P. J. Le Hegarat 13 at 26.46.

Ellesmere College

P11 W3 L2 D6 A3

Master i/c P. J. Hayes

Ellesmere enjoyed a good season but could not convert a number of winning opportunities into victories. The highlights were Richard Baxter's 129 against Rydal and Nick Watson Jones's six for 37 in the victory over Ormskirk School.

Batting R. A. M. Baxter* 447 at 49.66; N. D. Watson Jones 228 at 25.33; D. A. M. Baxter 153 at 13.90.

Bowling N. D. Watson Jones 26 at 17.50; R. A. M. Baxter 12 at 18.08; D. A. M. Baxter 17 at 18.11.

Eltham College

P11 W7 L4

Master i/c D. R. Grinstead**Coach** R. R. Hills

Batting R. J. Malcolm* 361 at 51.57; T. J. F. Goodyear 195 at 32.50; J. G. Harris 188 at 17.09.

Bowling B. Patel 15 at 12.60; R. J. Malcolm 16 at 12.81; K. Desai 15 at 16.53; A. M. Higginson 14 at 19.00.

Enfield Grammar School

P9 W4 L4 D1 A6

Master i/c M. Alder

Enfield were runners-up in the Middlesex Under-19 Cup.

Batting S. Levy 238 at 34.00; J. Plumb 177 at 22.12; T. Ludlam* 152 at 16.88.

Bowling E. Ripsher 13 at 16.30; J. Schott 10 at 17.10; J. MacDonald 11 at 19.45.

Epsom College

P12 W7 L3 D2 A2

Master i/c D. Campbell

This was a great turnaround after a poor 2003. It was basically a two man show: Hastings was devastating with the ball, and Lammiman was an outstanding all-rounder.

Batting R. D. A. Lammiman* 413 at 45.88; C. G. T. Pountney 200 at 25.00.

Bowling D. Hastings 33 at 7.42; A. Richardson 20 at 12.65; K. McDuff 16 at 17.62.

Eton College

P15 W7 L7 D1 A1

Master i/c R. D. Oliphant-Callum

Batting A. H. Ball 504 at 38.76; E. C. A. Bruce 473 at 29.56; G. O. A. Scott-Hayward 344 at 28.66; E. F. J. Nissen* 270 at 27.00; H. C. L. Rawlinson 409 at 27.26; O. G. Williams 326 at 21.73; G. D. G. George 186 at 15.50; W. T. Dobson 170 at 14.16.

Bowling E. C. A. Bruce 29 at 17.58; H. G. Franks 21 at 18.52; W. T. Dobson 16 at 27.37.

Exeter School

P15 W8 L5 D2 A3

Master i/c W. A. Hughes**Coach** N. Adams

This was a very encouraging season, but sadly rain-affected. A young side competed well and should be stronger next year. The three bowlers with 20 or more wickets were outstanding; more will be expected with the bat in 2005.

Batting G. R. Chappell 303 at 27.54; J. E. Cooke 299 at 23.00; O. P. V. Rimmer 217 at 21.70; S. J. Yeo 264 at 20.30; A. J. L. Smith 195 at 16.25; S. Barlow 189 at 13.50.
Bowling G. R. Chappell 20 at 11.35; S. J. Yeo 27 at 13.00; S. Barlow 29 at 13.13; O. J. Kernick 14 at 24.07; A. J. L. Smith 17 at 24.35; A. T. Phillips* 12 at 24.41.

Felsted School

Master i/c C. S. Knightley

The 2004 season was an outstanding success, with a talented side progressing rapidly after their tour of Australia. Unbeaten in the regular season, Felsted also won the final of "20s", a national 20-over competition, at Edgbaston. The side was expertly led by Joseph Buttleman, who returns in 2005 with all but two of the current team: Charles Douglas-Hughes and Peter Ward will be missed. Two unbroken opening partnerships – 277 and 274 by Christopher Huntington and 15-year old Matthew Surry – were the highest on record.

Batting J. E. L. Buttleman* 459 at 76.50; M. P. Surry 745 at 74.50; C. J. Huntington 833 at 64.07; G. J. Phillips 229 at 45.80; J. C. Douglas-Hughes 265 at 44.16; F. F. Blackwell 157 at 22.42; P. M. Ward 194 at 21.55.

Bowling J. C. Douglas-Hughes 44 at 13.97; J. E. L. Buttleman 34 at 14.58; P. M. Ward 23 at 16.00; N. P. Harrison 10 at 22.70; M. J. Drain 10 at 25.80.

Fettes College

Master i/c C. Thomson

This was a very encouraging season for a squad featuring seven fifth-formers and one fourth-former. There were some fine victories – including a thriller against Edinburgh Academy in the final of the Ryden Lothian Schools Cup – and only two defeats against schools. The tied game against Strathallan was a cracker but rain, and the lack of a festival, were major frustrations.

Batting S. K. MacLennan 290 at 41.42; R. J. C. Forsyth 339 at 30.81; D. N. R. Philip 207 at 25.87; A. C. S. Fyffe 237 at 23.70; E. C. R. Philip 177 at 19.66.

Bowling D. N. R. Philip 16 at 15.93; S. K. MacLennan 12 at 18.75; H. J. L. Boisseau 11 at 28.18; O. G. C. Hunt 12 at 29.33.

Forest School

Master i/c S. Turner

Swainland, the captain and wicket-keeper, and Whorlow are members of the Essex Academy; both played for the county seconds and for South of England Under-17. A six-match tour of Barbados brought four victories and good pre-season preparation.

Batting G. Whorlow 540 at 54.00; A. Palmer 453 at 34.84; C. Swainland* 384 at 29.53; D. Hawkes 159 at 26.50; E. Murphy 264 at 24.00; J. Yeo 186 at 23.25; J. Palmer 264 at 22.00; D. Bhachu 186 at 18.60.

Bowling D. Hawkes 26 at 11.65; G. Whorlow 26 at 14.96; E. Murphy 19 at 16.15; J. Palmer 13 at 16.23; A. Ryatt 16 at 17.87.

Framlingham College

Master i/c M. J. Marvell

A successful season owed much to team spirit and willingness to approach matches without fear of losing. The batting relied heavily on wicket-keeper John Wybar and on Robert Newton. In his first season he scored a century and four fifties. The captain, Mark Stacpoole, was the most incisive and economical of the bowlers, though Richard Sprake took a hat-trick against St Joseph's College. Prospects look bright.

Batting R. I. Newton 451 at 50.11; A. J. Wybar 454 at 45.40; M. J. Stacpoole* 290 at 36.25; C. E. Hicks 155 at 25.83.

Bowling M. J. Stacpoole 19 at 14.00; H. M. Dunham 10 at 14.70; R. W. Sprake 14 at 17.85; B. J. A. Davies 14 at 25.07.

Giggleswick School

Master i/c P. Humphreys

Batting A. Macdonald 304 at 20.26; N. Hird* 186 at 16.90; M. Harrison 184 at 16.72; M. Hughes 249 at 16.60; S. Illingworth 164 at 14.90; J. Illingworth 168 at 12.00; G. Crosby 164 at 10.93.

Bowling M. Harrison 14 at 15.50; G. Crosby 21 at 15.66; N. Hird 19 at 17.73; M. Hughes 10 at 28.10; S. Illingworth 13 at 29.38.

P16 W11 D5 A1

Coach N. J. Lockhart

The Glasgow Academy

Master i/c A. G. Lyall

Winning our own Sixes Tournament was the high point of a season characterised by playing positive cricket. Michael Hopkins and Gautham Hariharan took wickets with their swing bowling. Thomas Fleming with spin. Hariharan earned a Scotland Under-19 cap. The team also became the first Scottish side to win the Henry Grierson award, presented by the XL Club to their best school opponents (measured by various yardsticks – from skill to turnout).

Batting R. Kelso 277 at 39.57.

Bowling T. Fleming 18 at 7.05; M. W. J. Hopkins 16 at 9.62; G. Hariharan* 14 at 12.71.

Glenalmond College

Master i/c A. Norton

The college's bowling was excellent, the batting occasionally fragile: the two defeats came when the batsmen failed to reach modest targets. The 2004 side were particularly happy and cohesive.

Batting M. R. Harvey 195 at 32.50.

Bowling W. J. Elphinstone 29 at 6.65; P. A. D. Stoll 14 at 13.64.

Gordonstoun School

Master i/c J. Rufey

A season of development for Gordonstoun was characterised by good performances from players in the lower-sixth and below. The highlight was a win against MCC, and the season ended with a tour of English schools.

Batting M. S. Gregory 607 at 50.58; C. S. Geddie 489 at 48.90; E. Martin 329 at 36.55.

Bowling C. S. Geddie 22 at 16.68; M. S. Gregory 19 at 23.89.

Gresham's School

Master i/c A. M. Ponder

This was Gresham's best-ever season. Will Stebbings broke every school batting record: the highest-ever aggregate in a season (794), the highest-ever average (99.25), most hundreds in a season (four), and highest overall average in the first eleven. Sixteen-year-old Felix Flower also had an outstanding all-round season: he now has over 1,000 runs for the first eleven with two seasons to go.

Batting W. J. F. Stebbings 794 at 99.25; F. J. Flower 574 at 57.40; R. M. K. Steward* 434 at 43.40; A. C. G. Broom 278 at 39.71; C. L. Ponder 239 at 26.55; J. O. Elliott 211 at 23.44.

Bowling S. Foster 10 at 13.90; J. O. Elliott 18 at 15.00; R. M. K. Steward 21 at 19.28; H. G. Flower 17 at 21.58; F. J. Flower 12 at 28.33.

Haberdashers' Aske's School

Master i/c S. D. Charlwood

A young side played well in patches but were unable to sustain consistency. Notable victories included local rivals Merchant Taylors', Northwood and Bedford Modern; Gavin Baker's century against the XL Club and a fine win against Exmouth CC on the annual Devon tour also stood out. The side contained two sets of brothers – Anish and Sheilan Patel, and Edward and Robert Clements.

Batting J. S. T. Williams 361 at 30.08; G. C. Baker 424 at 28.26; E. G. Clements 190 at 27.14; A. M. Patel* 310 at 25.83; R. G. Clements 191 at 21.22; R. Panoya 277 at 18.46.

Bowling R. G. Clements 30 at 16.13; A. M. Patel 17 at 22.70; M. F. Gray 21 at 22.76; G. C. Baker 14 at 26.92; E. G. Clements 10 at 42.60.

Haileybury

Master i/c C. Igolen-Robinson

Another exciting year, with young talent, individual achievements and excellent team spirit. There were memorable wins against Scotch College, Melbourne, Marlborough College and MCC. Ed Rayfield, an Under-16, impressed with the new ball, and Ross Noach, an Under-15, opened the batting with great poise for a young player.

Batting T. O. Stewart* 433 at 43.30; G. C. George 286 at 26.00; R. Noach 283 at 23.58.

Bowling G. C. George 14 at 21.50; E. J. R. Rayfield 20 at 22.75; R. M. Woodburn 13 at 25.53.

P7 W5 L1 D1 A1

Coach V. Hariharan

P8 W5 L2 D1

P13 W3 L6 D4

P14 W9 L1 D4 A2

P18 W8 L5 T1 D4 A6

Coach B. R. Mahoney

P11 W4 L6 D1 A1

Coach G. P. Howarth

Hampton School

Master i/c E. M. Wesson

Most of the wins were comprehensive – as was the single defeat, against Harrow. Hampton generally set good targets, then a strong bowling attack, spearheaded by Tim Ayers, strangled sides. The fielding was energetic, David Sellick's wicket-keeping full of élan, and many excellent catches were taken. Although the all-rounder Akbar Ansari dominated, it was a genuine team, ably led by Adam Samways, one of the few upper-sixth formers.

Batting A. S. Ansari 595 at 66.11; A. D. Samways* 340 at 37.77; T. S. Roland-Jones 396 at 30.46; A. J. Darby 164 at 23.42; M. J. Bendelow 200 at 20.00; J. A. C. Stevenson 153 at 13.90.

Bowling T. H. A. Ayers 22 at 9.81; A. S. Ansari 30 at 14.13; T. Handel 14 at 15.42; S. J. Jewell 21 at 16.95; R. S. Brown 12 at 24.91.

Harrow School

Master i/c S. J. Halliday

A successful season included 12 wins, including the Cowdrey Cup for the first time, and a narrow defeat by Eton in an exciting Lord's match. Success was built on excellent batting: Martin Walters broke the school record with 1,204 runs, including five centuries and seven fifties, and Morrison scored 779 off just 854 balls. The bowling relied on the leg-spin of Spencer and the medium-pace of Walters, who bowled 339 overs between them.

Batting M. D. Walters 1,204 at 109.45; H. M. Morrison 779 at 45.82; W. J. Spencer 506 at 31.62; S. A. Northeast 328 at 25.23; M. Habib 253 at 23.00; C. G. M. Travers 192 at 16.00; H. R. Howe 170 at 15.45.

Bowling W. J. Spencer 28 at 21.32; H. M. Morrison 19 at 22.26; J. B. K. Roditi 17 at 24.29; G. M. Harper 15 at 24.73; M. D. Walters 22 at 24.81; M. Habib 10 at 29.20.

The Harvey Grammar School

Master i/c P. J. Harding

The highlight of the season was the 111 Charles Hemphrey made against MCC. Aged 14, he is the youngest player to score a century for the first team since Les Ames in 1920.

Batting S. W. Ireland 192 at 32.00; C. R. Hemphrey 302 at 27.45; T. J. L. Squire 190 at 23.75; B. M. Washer* 209 at 20.90; D. J. Boughtwood 154 at 17.11; T. B. Vincent 152 at 16.88; P. C. G. Owen 184 at 16.72.

Bowling S. W. Ireland 22 at 6.81; S. D. Green 10 at 10.80; P. C. G. Owen 10 at 17.70.

Hereford Cathedral School

Master i/c A. H. Connop

Batting A. J. Aston 382 at 63.66; G. J. B. Jacobs 208 at 34.66; B. R. Owens 337 at 28.08; T. C. Austwick 151 at 25.16; N. A. Townson* 261 at 21.75; T. G. D. Bates 204 at 17.00; H. J. S. Orgee 151 at 15.10.

Bowling J. B. C. Turner 10 at 23.70; G. J. B. Jacobs 11 at 24.09; R. M. Wilson 12 at 24.83.

Hurstpierpoint College

Master i/c C. W. Gray

Tom Edwards's eight for 46 against Bloxham was the highlight, but 2004 was a mediocre season for an inexperienced side.

Batting T. J. Jarvis 437 at 31.21; J. O. S. Richings 232 at 29.00; T. B. Poole 192 at 27.42; T. S. Voller 347 at 24.78; C. F. J. Viggor 343 at 21.43; S. Sabharwal 248 at 19.07.

Bowling T. I. Edwards 31 at 12.09; T. J. Jarvis 18 at 17.22; S. Sabharwal 26 at 22.50; J. O. S. Richings 13 at 26.61.

Ipswich School

Master i/c A. K. Golding

Ipswich had only three victories, but one was against a very strong Brighton College side during the end-of-term festival at Edinburgh Academy.

Batting M. J. Hilton* 158 at 31.60; A. J. Dunlavey 258 at 28.66; E. C. Driver 294 at 26.72; T. E. Davey 201 at 20.10; D. P. J. Crame 150 at 13.63.

Bowling I. Khalid 20 at 21.20; M. J. Hilton 15 at 23.13; F. L. Pope 15 at 23.13; M. K. Karia 10 at 24.60.

The John Lyon School

Master i/c I. R. Parker

This was a disappointing season because expectations for a young side were high. But most of the team return for 2005.

P14 W9 L1 D4 A2

P20 W12 L6 D2 A1

Coaches R. K. Sethi/S. A. Jones

P15 W7 L5 D3 A4

P14 W3 L9 D2 A7

Coach R. P. Skyrme

P16 W6 L4 D6 A2

Coach M. Scott

P11 W3 L5 D3 A3

Coach R. E. East

P13 W3 L4 T1 D5 A4

Coach I. Blanchett

Batting D. Hawes 316 at 52.66; N. Ruparelia 256 at 23.27; N. Rughani 195 at 21.66.

Bowling K. Desai 20 at 15.50; N. Ruparelia 15 at 18.80; K. Vasa 11 at 19.00; N. Rughani 12 at 21.83.

The Judd School, Tonbridge

Master i/c D. W. Joseph

The 2004 season will be remembered for the successful Easter tour of Barbados, and some very encouraging performances. The core of the side return next season, and will look to build on the improvements made in 2004.

Batting F. Quirk 234 at 33.42; R. Joynes 158 at 17.55.

Bowling I. Smith 19 at 15.00; J. Southwart 16 at 15.56.

P11 W5 L1 D5 A2

Kimbolton School

Master i/c A. G. Tapp

The summer was dominated by two players. The captain Mark Ralph beat the school record with 181 not out against Dean Close, and Oliver Huggins scored three hundreds. Huggins's brother Tom, a Kimbolton old boy, made his first-class debut for Northamptonshire in 2004.

Batting M. J. Ralph* 677 at 56.41; O. J. Huggins 559 at 39.92; D. W. Payne 315 at 22.50; M. D. Fitter 226 at 20.54; C. J. Vine 170 at 15.45.

Bowling M. J. Ralph 23 at 21.95; T. P. Sarkies 11 at 32.27; H. M. Gillam 11 at 50.18.

P16 W5 L9 D2 A5

Coach J. Bently

King Edward VI College, Stourbridge

Masters i/c M. L. Ryan/R. A. Williams

The weather totally washed out half the scheduled matches. Two records were broken against Bishop Vesey's Grammar School: Northover (84) and Griffiths (140) put on 229 off 171 balls for the second wicket, and the college totalled 287 for seven, from 40 overs. Mitesh Patel scored heavily in the reduced season, making 111 not out of 175 against Old Edwardians and averaging 99.

Batting W. Griffiths 195 at 39.00.

Bowling D. Northover 10 at 6.80.

P6 W4 L1 D1 A6

King Edward VI School, Southampton

Master i/c C. Surry

The school played fewer games than anyone could remember. The weather led to abandoned and disrupted early-season matches, and the lack of cricket prevented bowlers hitting a rhythm. However, Steve Rhodes was a surprise with his unorthodox medium-pace, and he also scored quick runs with Anderson and Clarke. Rhodes won the Holden Trophy for best all-rounder. Richardson's 116 against Taunton College was the season's highlight.

Batting A. P. Richardson* 273 at 39.00; S. Rhodes 222 at 31.71; B. Anderson 185 at 30.83; T. Clarke 174 at 24.85.

Bowling S. Rhodes 10 at 17.00.

P8 W3 L4 D1 A3

King Edward VII & Queen Mary School, Lytham

Master i/c A. M. Weston

After only one win in 2003, the school managed a record 12 in 2004 – a fitting tribute to their master in charge, who later left to coach in New Zealand. James Atherton scored 726 runs, a record for a 16-year-old. The school finished with a tour of Malta, where the match against Stockport Grammar, cancelled in the north-west in June, was played in somewhat warmer conditions.

Batting J. A. Atherton 726 at 30.25; N. G. Jones 525 at 27.63; R. G. Openshaw* 445 at 24.72; S. Ormsby 440 at 20.00; D. P. Tufft 317 at 19.81; T. J. Shillito 336 at 17.68; P. Jackson 201 at 11.82.

Bowling R. G. Openshaw 29 at 17.48; N. G. Jones 31 at 17.67; J. R. Whittam 19 at 22.78; P. Jackson 20 at 25.65; S. Ormsby 23 at 28.82; C. H. Tong 14 at 35.07.

P23 W12 L9 D2 A1

Coach W. McSkimming

King Edward's School, Birmingham

Master i/c M. D. Stead

This very successful season culminated in victories over MCC (with joint-captain Simon Chase scoring 111 not out) and, the next day, over St Peter's College, Adelaide. Three spinners, James Neale, Vikas Katyal, and Nick Chase, were at the heart of most of the successes.

Batting S. P. G. Chase* 493 at 49.30; J. W. E. Metcalfe 247 at 30.80; J. W. Neale 372 at 28.60; A. P. S. Holmes* 251 at 20.90; V. Katyal 287 at 20.50; N. R. Chase 158 at 13.16.

Bowling J. W. Neale 35 at 8.31; V. Katyal 22 at 10.90; J. W. E. Metcalfe 14 at 15.78; N. R. Chase 12 at 25.91.

P14 W11 L2 D1 A6

Coach D. Collins

King Edward's School, Witley

Master i/c G. D. M. Lane

A mixed season improved in the second half as some young players moved into the first team. Among them was an Under-14 leg-spinner, George Tarrant, who took 13 wickets in three games, including six for 62 against MCC. Alex Manley captained an injury-hit side superbly, and led the way with the bat. Although the team lost more often than they would have liked, they enjoyed some great close finishes.

Batting S. E. B. Shuker 222 at 37.00; A. M. W. Manley* 410 at 29.28; D. Bird 151 at 12.58.

Bowling G. Tarrant 13 at 11.23; S. E. B. Shuker 10 at 15.50; B. Copeman 14 at 18.35.

P14 W4 L6 D4 A2

King's College, Taunton

Master i/c R. Codd

As losing semi-finalists in the 2001 Lord Taverner's Colts Cup, much was expected of the group in the upper-sixth. But only Will Bell with the bat, and James Yeabsley and James Excell with the ball, contributed enough. Charlie Lenygon, a 16-year-old all-rounder, was the best young player. With the departure of Harvey Trump as master in charge, this is a period of transition.

Batting C. Lenygon 333 at 33.30; W. Bell 315 at 28.63; G. Webber 164 at 14.90.

Bowling C. Lenygon 18 at 12.22; A. Trollope 12 at 15.91; T. Yeabsley 14 at 23.35; J. Excell* 12 at 23.66.

P11 W5 L6

Coach D. R. Breakwell

King's College School, Wimbledon

Master i/c T. Howland

Batting A. W. Blake 185 at 46.25; R. H. C. Slater 301 at 33.44; E. A. Clarke 224 at 24.88; A. J. R. Simmonds* 170 at 21.25; N. J. E. Burberry 170 at 18.88.

Bowling N. J. E. Burberry 16 at 22.00; R. N. Jones 15 at 25.40; M. P. A. Gregory 14 at 30.28.

P10 W3 L4 D3 A6

Coach S. Davies

The King's School, Canterbury

Master i/c R. White

Batting was the main strength of the team and for the first time since the early 1970s three different players scored centuries – all of them good to watch. Toby Humphrey produced some fine early-season bowling, including a hat-trick, and was effective even after returning from serious injury. His successor as captain, Will Bruce, can turn matches with both his batting and his leg-spinners.

Batting W. U. Bruce 514 at 39.53; G. E. Sweetman 208 at 34.66; P. G. Dixey 307 at 34.11; M. E. B. Humphrey 344 at 28.66; P. R. Archer 255 at 25.50.

Bowling T. J. L. Humphrey* 29 at 11.03; D. H. Johnston 16 at 24.37; H. L. S. Simmons 10 at 32.30; W. U. Bruce 16 at 33.62; T. C. V. Wilson 10 at 34.30.

P15 W7 L7 D1

Coach A. G. E. Ealham

The King's School, Chester

Master i/c S. Neal

Nearly half the fixtures were abandoned this year. Bad weather is not the school's only problem: it is becoming increasingly difficult to field a genuine first team, and just four cricketers played in every match.

Batting F. G. Owen* 288 at 41.14; A. C. J. Sissons 257 at 32.12; B. E. Turner 191 at 31.83.

Bowling No bowler took ten wickets. The leading bowler was R. D. Pawson, who took eight at 26.87.

P8 W3 L3 D2 A6

Coach A. L. Shillinglaw

The King's School, Ely

Masters i/c T. Arrand/W. J. Marshall

Batting R. N. W. Ransom 199 at 66.33; B. H. N. Howgego 345 at 38.33; J. W. Payne 228 at 22.80; H. C. Sperling 161 at 17.88.

Bowling H. C. Sperling 12 at 21.41; B. H. N. Howgego 11 at 27.18; A. R. M. Cooper 10 at 28.40.

P12 W3 L7 D2 A6

The King's School, Macclesfield

Master i/c S. Moores

An excellent season was marred only by the bad weather, especially during cricket fortnight, and increasing pressure on players, due to exams. Spinners provided the highlights of the season: 16-year-old James Barratt bowls left-arm orthodox; his 14-year-old brother Jonathan bowls leg-spin; and against MCC, the New Zealand left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori played for the school while recovering from injury. The opening bowler Jonathan Lee took an excellent seven-for, including a hat-trick, against RGS, Newcastle and Perring captained with great authority.

Batting T. J. Parfett-Manning 560 at 46.66; J. S. J. Perring* 474 at 39.50; K. Sawas 500 at 38.46; T. R. McIlvenny 157 at 31.40; E. Purdom 181 at 30.16; B. J. Harding 191 at 17.36.

Bowling J. P. Barratt 29 at 13.96; J. F. Lee 21 at 17.66; O. J. W. Kenyon 11 at 18.27; J. D. Barratt 30 at 19.46; A. R. Jackson 16 at 21.50.

P16 W7 L3 D6 A5

King's School, Rochester

Master i/c G. R. Williams

Several leading players were unavailable for part of the season – through injury or school outings – and the strongest side seldom played together. Ben Phillips and Chris Maurice are outstanding batsmen, but felt the pressure on many occasions. Generally, the bowling was ill-directed and untidy.

Batting W. M. Ballard 155 at 51.37; C. A. Maurice 502 at 45.64; R. L. Smith 271 at 45.17; B. D. Phillips* 437 at 36.42.

Bowling C. A. Maurice 18 at 13.94; J. A. W. Warner 14 at 14.85; M. E. Gilbert 13 at 16.23; S. J. Edmed 13 at 22.61.

P14 W6 L6 D2 A2

The King's School, Tynemouth

Masters i/c P. J. Nicholson/W. Ryan

Bryan Telfer bowled well with the new ball, and Philip Morse and Jamie Coates, a pair of left-arm spinners, built great pressure. Coates, still an Under-15, took eight for 97 against Barnard Castle, the best figures for King's in living memory. However, the batting was more fragile. Tom Pollock, leading run-maker for the third year running, will be missed, as will wicket-keeper Michael Conn. The season ended with a two-week tour of Barbados.

Batting T. J. K. Pollock* 245 at 35.00; M. P. Conn 169 at 16.90.

Bowling J. P. Coates 21 at 16.57; C. J. Simpson 10 at 16.60; B. C. Telfer 12 at 17.08; P. A. Morse 12 at 17.91.

P12 W5 L5 D2 A2

The King's School, Worcester

Master i/c D. P. Iddon

A successful tour to Barbados, with six wins from seven, finished a satisfactory season. A surprising brittleness in the batting was never really overcome, and it was left to a pleasingly varied bowling attack to achieve many wins.

Batting S. Cullen 557 at 32.76; S. P. Bilboe* 580 at 32.22; T. H. Weston 425 at 22.36; O. Bendall 343 at 21.43; H. Dimond 324 at 19.05.

Bowling K. M. McNally 19 at 15.15; W. M. Smith 30 at 15.30; S. Cullen 28 at 15.89; B. J. Ford 17 at 16.11; J. A. Kelly 21 at 16.80; T. K. Gwynne 11 at 18.00; T. P. Cullen 18 at 19.33.

P23 W12 L7 D4

Coach A. A. D. Gillgrass

Kingston Grammar School

Master i/c D. E. C. Wethey

This was a more successful season than many recently – and it could have been better still. The loss of captain Ben Collier hit hard, but the opener Ben Jones emerged as a real force, Sam Houlston's seam bowling was exciting and Jamal Chohan, still an Under-15, scored a fine 91 against Westminster. The greatest excitement came in beating Trinity School by two runs – having been bowled out for 67.

Batting B. M. Jones 315 at 39.37; D. M. Sangaran 154 at 15.40.

Bowling S. J. Houlston 17 at 11.76; C. N. H. Bennett 12 at 15.58.

P11 W3 L6 D2

Coach A. Smith

Kingswood School

Master i/c G. Opie

This was a very frustrating season due to poor weather.

Batting D. Brown 230 at 32.86; T. Seddon 212 at 26.50; A. Hola-Perier 152 at 19.00.

Bowling L. Baxter 19 at 10.31; J. Gerrish 15 at 12.47; N. Yuon 16 at 16.37.

P9 W4 L3 D2

Lancing College

Master i/c P. Richardson

This was a transitional year. Runs were hard to come by, although the seamer Johnson bowled consistently and Cowell captained with intelligence and skill. There were good wins against Ardingly and the Lancing old boys. Things look more promising for 2005.

Batting T. E. J. Bennett 153 at 21.85; D. K. Sriharan 150 at 18.75.

Bowling M. D. E. Johnson 16 at 11.93; H. J. Gane 17 at 15.17; A. D. Williams 12 at 16.50.

P10 W3 L5 D2 A3

Coach R. J. Davies

Langley Park School for Boys

Master i/c D. Crouch

The only two losses were in cup semi-finals, but much of the summer was disrupted by examinations and the weather.

Batting B. Couldrey* 177 at 29.50; J. Smedley 154 at 25.66.

Bowling H. Tidman 13 at 11.15; J. Couldrey 10 at 18.80.

P10 W8 L2

Coach C. H. Williams

Leeds Grammar School

Master i/c R. Hill

The season was ruined by rained-off games. The team's unbeaten record was only seriously threatened in a tight last match against Sedbergh, but their high expectations remain unfulfilled. So does Toby Jacklin's realistic ambition of taking 100 wickets in his school career. Both were thwarted by the Yorkshire weather.

Batting D. T. Syers 508 at 63.50; D. I. Sweeting 160 at 40.00; T. R. E. James 303 at 37.87; D. J. Stokoe 276 at 30.66; O. L. A. Finerty 185 at 26.42.

Bowling T. J. Jacklin* 34 at 10.29; J. F. McGowan 10 at 20.10; D. I. Sweeting 11 at 22.09; S. Siddiqui 12 at 27.41.

P14 W6 D8 A6

The Leys School, Cambridge

Master i/c A. Batterham

Batting M. J. Sanders* 597 at 66.33; C. W. Yeoman 300 at 37.50; T. E. Hoy 346 at 28.83; W. Heald 181 at 20.11.

Bowling D. J. McCallum 11 at 17.18; J. C. D. Brooklyn 14 at 24.50; M. J. Sanders 13 at 27.53; G. W. Musson 10 at 29.00.

P11 W5 L3 D3

Coach J. Coleman

Liverpool College

Master i/c A. Fox

Despite the results, this was a promising season for a very young side.

Batting D. Jackson 536 at 53.60.

Bowling L. Lynch 22 at 17.54.

P14 W2 L6 D6 A1

Coach A. Saricar

Llandovery College

Master i/c T. D. Marks

Batting D. Thomas 160 at 32.00; D. E. Phillips 170 at 21.25.

Bowling D. E. Phillips 10 at 25.30.

P8 W2 L5 D1 A4

Lord Wandsworth College

Master i/c M. C. Russell

With six abandoned games it was difficult to find any consistency or know quite how good the team were. Several of the defeats were close. For the first time in memory the college conceded 300 runs – against Hampton – and scored over 300 – 335 for three against St. Edmund's.

Batting P. K. Knight* 344 at 49.14; M. D. Feeney 252 at 31.50; B. N. P. Colvin 184 at 23.00.

Bowling B. D. Cloete 12 at 16.33; P. K. Knight 14 at 20.85; N. C. Priggen 10 at 34.70.

P8 W3 L3 D2 A6

Coach W. Hauptfleisch

Loughborough Grammar School

Master i/c H. T. Tunnicliffe

Loughborough were unbeaten throughout an excellent season, with contributions from all. Craig Ashcroft stood out as an opening batsman and Worrall was consistently aggressive in the middle order. All the bowlers performed well, with Gurney accurate and aggressive with the new ball when fit.

Batting C. Ashcroft 571 at 51.90; S. Bird 294 at 49.00; F. Baker 432 at 48.00; R. Worrall* 402 at 44.66; R. Williams 228 at 28.50.

Bowling C. Krarup 14 at 14.28; S. Bird 14 at 18.42; M. Ashcroft 16 at 23.81; F. Baker 13 at 26.07.

P12 W8 D4 A6

Coach M. Gidley

Magdalen College School, Oxford

Master i/c S. J. Curwood

Batting J. Sutton 152 at 38.00; N. Murray 170 at 34.00.

Bowling No bowler took ten wickets. The leading bowler was R. West, who took nine at 24.44.

P8 W4 L4 A6

Malvern College

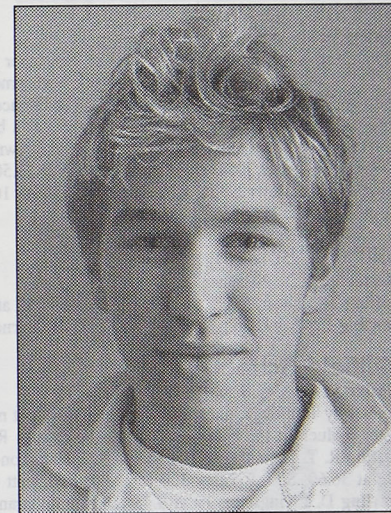
Master i/c A. J. Murtagh

Batting M. J. Wright 435 at 33.46; O. M. Griffiths 467 at 33.35; T. P. H. Chappell 500 at 33.33; O. C. Powell 405 at 27.00; B. C. Raymond 204 at 13.60.

Bowling R. D. K. Price 33 at 14.42; O. C. Griffiths 41 at 15.19; O. C. Powell 15 at 17.53; B. C. Raymond 23 at 20.39; C. T. Griffiths 14 at 26.71.

P18 W7 L6 D5 A1

Coach R. W. Tolchard



Chris Firth (left) took 48 wickets, the third-highest in the country, for Merchant Taylors', Crosby; his team-mate James Cole hit five hundreds and had the country's highest average.

Manchester Grammar School

Master i/c D. Moss

Batting N. T. Reid 547 at 49.72; D. T. G. Leeming 595 at 45.76; I. S. Azam 320 at 35.55; R. W. Wingate-Saul 300 at 33.33.

Bowling D. A. Woods 46 at 14.41; E. R. Simpson 19 at 15.94; N. T. Reid 21 at 19.71; C. J. Hemmings 16 at 20.12.

P15 W6 L1 D8 A4

Marlborough College

Master i/c N. E. Briers

Marlborough made all the running in the drawn two-day colours match at Rugby, and there were excellent wins against Radley, Cheltenham, Sherborne and St Edward's, as well as Wiltshire. Robbie Williams, a fast bowler of exceptional talent, had an outstanding season: in only 11 matches he took 34 wickets, including seven for 19 against Wiltshire.

Batting T. J. Forsythe 197 at 49.25; H. A. Adair* 275 at 30.55; E. R. Kilbee 313 at 28.45; A. W. Montagu-Pollock 295 at 24.58; R. E. M. Williams 177 at 17.70.

Bowling R. E. M. Williams 34 at 8.20; T. J. M. Graham 21 at 18.52; H. J. L. Simonds 10 at 22.60.

P11 W5 L3 D3 A4

Coach R. Ratcliffe

Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby

Master i/c Rev. D. A. Smith

Coaches S. Sutcliffe/R. J. Pickup/J. Marshall

Batting J. Cole* 959 at 119.87; W. K. Miles 351 at 25.07; C. R. Firth 312 at 24.00.

Bowling C. R. Firth 48 at 13.81; J. Cole 10 at 18.70; N. S. Connor 15 at 22.40.

P14 W9 L3 D2 A4

Merchant Taylors' School, Northwood

Master i/c C. R. Evans-Evans

P13 W5 L3 T2 D3 A6

Coach H. C. Latchman

Kavir Patel and Jack O'Sullivan formed a strong pace attack, and Ashish Mehta proved a genuine wicket-keeper/batsman: all three return in 2005.

Batting J. P. P. O'Sullivan 630 at 63.00; A. G. Mehta 423 at 28.20; R. Lipsitz 241 at 26.77; T. Katzen 208 at 17.33; M. J. Patel 165 at 11.00.

Bowling J. P. P. O'Sullivan 35 at 10.97; R. Murthy 13 at 12.76; J. D. Hershman 27 at 16.07; K. H. Patel* 32 at 21.43; M. J. Patel 12 at 29.91.

Merchiston Castle School

Master i/c C. W. Swan

Merchiston won 11 of their 12 games against other schools – taking their tally over the past two seasons to 23 out of 24. Around half those games were time matches. William Quin proved an excellent captain and opening bat, hitting 158 against King's, Gloucester while on tour. James Brownlee was penetrative with the new ball, bowling his away-swingers at a brisk pace for a 15-year-old.

Batting W. G. H. Quin* 528 at 44.00; J. P. Brownlee 246 at 30.75; M. R. Welch 255 at 28.33; R. J. Holroyd 273 at 27.30; D. I. McKerchar 172 at 21.50; D. J. W. Smith 244 at 17.42.

Bowling J. P. Brownlee 26 at 9.03; D. J. W. Smith 10 at 11.70; C. W. S. Legget 12 at 14.41; C. J. Hedley 12 at 15.83; R. M. S. Legget 15 at 17.60.

Mill Hill School

Master i/c S. T. Plummer

Batting N. Bawany* 236 at 33.71; G. Jacobs 152 at 13.81.

Bowling L. O. Johnson 17 at 14.88; M. Z. H. Burney 10 at 23.90; T. J. Audley 11 at 27.18.

Millfield School

Master i/c R. M. Ellison

Defeats by Tonbridge and Exeter University did not mar one of the most successful seasons in the school's history. Much of the credit must go to the captain Richard Timms.

Batting R. T. Timms* 1,021 at 85.08; R. J. Hamilton-Brown 955 at 56.17; N. Page 252 at 42.00; T. Parker 183 at 36.60; S. J. P. Parry 360 at 36.00; R. J. Lett 607 at 33.72; O. Taylor 200 at 22.22.

Bowling D. Livingstone 19 at 9.78; D. Muralitharan 17 at 18.82; O. Taylor 41 at 19.07; T. Parker 21 at 22.04; R. J. Hamilton-Brown 24 at 26.33; N. A. Williams 18 at 27.22.

Monkton Combe

Master i/c P. R. Wickens

Batting P. Auld 516 at 43.00; R. N. B. Baddeley* 315 at 28.63; J. A. Lowde 337 at 28.08; D. J. Kelly 239 at 15.93; R. J. Neil 173 at 15.72; G. E. J. Cook 164 at 12.61.

Bowling R. N. B. Baddeley 25 at 13.64; P. Auld 26 at 13.65; J. M. Nish 11 at 18.73; J. H. Geake 16 at 18.99.

Monmouth School

Master i/c A. J. Jones

Despite being hit by bad weather, Monmouth had a successful and exciting season, with only two defeats, one against a very strong Glamorgan Under-17 team. Everyone contributed, with Douglas Spencer keeping wicket immaculately and completing over 20 dismissals.

Batting H. T. Waters 425 at 53.12; K. D. Tudge 359 at 35.90; J. H. Greaves 248 at 35.42; M. T. Knight 261 at 32.62; L. S. Cronk* 288 at 26.18; G. J. Fury 185 at 20.55.

Bowling K. D. Tudge 21 at 13.85; H. T. Waters 14 at 18.92; D. R. Wilson 11 at 21.09; L. S. Cronk 18 at 22.61; J. D. D. Osborne 14 at 24.71.

Newcastle-under-Lyme School

Master i/c P. S. J. Goodwin

The season was more historic than overwhelmingly successful. In Whalley the school could boast a champion bowler; his average was the second-best in the school's history. And against Wolverhampton Grammar, Howland took seven for 39, the ninth-best figures on record. Unfortunately, the batting was less consistent, although Wright's average was the fifth-best on record for the school.

Batting J. D. Wright 376 at 47.00; S. J. P. Howland* 194 at 21.55.

Bowling C. D. Whalley 35 at 9.97; S. J. P. Howland 15 at 20.80.

Norwich School

Master i/c T. J. W. Day

The school's batting was strong, but the attack failed to bowl sides out and turn draws into wins. Matt Kelly made up an excellent opening pair with Phil Wilkins, and the experienced Charlie Webster hit two centuries. There was much excitement when Mathew Sinclair, the school professional, was called into New Zealand's injury-hit squad for the Third Test; later in the summer one of his predecessors, Gareth Hopkins, kept wicket in New Zealand's one-day side.

Batting C. J. M. Webster 341 at 56.83; M. J. Kelly* 404 at 50.50; P. J. Wilkins 238 at 34.00; S. C. Crook 163 at 23.28.

Bowling A. M. Russell 10 at 26.90; G. W. Alston 10 at 27.10.

P16 W11 L1 D4 A1

Coach C. V. English

P13 W2 L6 D5 A3

Coach I. J. F. Hutchinson

P22 W20 L2 A2

Coach M. R. Davis

P15 W7 L5 D3 A1

P13 W10 L2 D1 A4

Coach G. I. Burgess

P12 W5 L4 D3 A1

P10 W2 L3 T1 D4 A3

Coaches R. A. Bunting/M. S. Sinclair



Jack O'Sullivan (*left*) of Merchant Taylors', Northwood averaged 63 with the bat and 10.97 with his fast-medium seamers; Calum Douch of Queen's College, Taunton almost matched him, averaging 51.27 and 12.64.

Nottingham High School

Master i/c J. Lamb

Batting N. W. Nesbitt 183 at 45.75; N. D. Rose 507 at 39.00; S. C. Powell 221 at 31.57; J. M. Oldham 283 at 31.44; A. W. Mee 206 at 17.16; C. C. J. Nembhard 188 at 17.09; J. A. Coupland* 199 at 18.09.

Bowling N. D. Rose 13 at 23.23; F. A. Brown 11 at 36.63; S. Powell 10 at 39.40; M. W. Hallam 12 at 39.41.

Oakham School

Master i/c F. C. Hayes

The 2004 season continued the form of 2003: in 31 games, spread across two seasons, the school has not been beaten. Just as remarkably, Barghav Moda removed all ten batsmen for just 19 runs to beat Worksop College by eight wickets. Stuart Broad, son of ex-England batsman Chris, took three for 38 and made 67 not out in a nine-wicket win against Harrow.

Batting G. S. Sapal 595 at 59.50; S. C. J. Broad 591 at 59.10; M. W. Smith 154 at 51.33; P. G. Cook 325 at 36.11; S. P. Bevin 204 at 29.14.

Bowling P. G. Cook 10 at 13.20; B. Modha 25 at 15.80; M. C. Collier 14 at 19.50; S. C. J. Broad 16 at 23.75.

The Oratory School

Master i/c P. L. Tomlinson

A young side with just one player in the upper-sixth performed admirably and played positive cricket. Fifteen-year-old Benny Howell was the first boy in many years to average over 100, while England Under-16 batsman Dan Housego scored a wonderful century against MCC. Another 15 year-old, Michael Roberts, was top wicket-taker. It was the final year of Jonathan Howell's hugely successful spell as coach.

Batting B. A. C. Howell 802 at 100.25; D. M. Housego 618 at 51.50; P. L. Knox 205 at 29.28; M. D. T. Roberts 259 at 23.54; W. J. A. Macdonald 192 at 21.33.

Bowling M. D. T. Roberts 17 at 17.52; B. A. C. Howell 13 at 17.84; W. J. A. Macdonald 13 at 21.30; R. G. Ashton* 12 at 21.58.

P13 W4 L9 A6

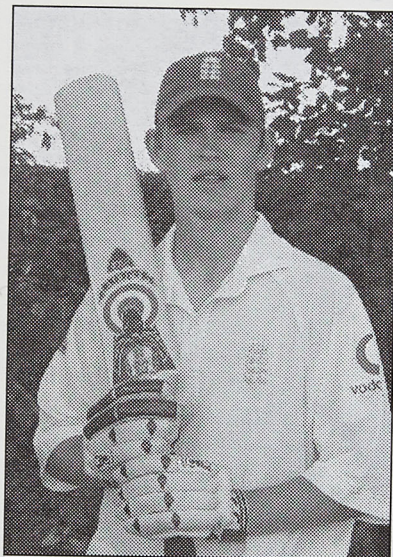
Coach K. E. Cooper

P15 W9 T1 D5 A3

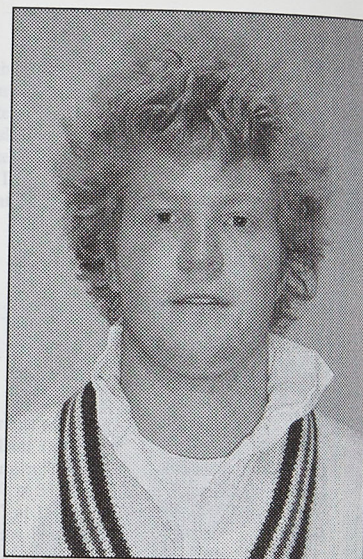
Coach D. S. Steele

P15 W10 L4 D1 A6

Coach J. B. K. Howell



Cameron Wake (left) hit 736 runs at 52.57 for Oundle, grabbed 30 wickets at 13.10, and played for ECB Schools; his team-mate Patrick Foster took 54 wickets – one behind the leading bowler.



Oundle School

Master i/c J. R. Wake

Oundle won a record 15 games and their 75% success rate was the best for 126 years. Patrick Foster took more wickets than any seam bowler since 1895; the hard-hitting Robert Fahrenheit scored 2,536 runs in four years in the first team; Cameron Wake left with one of the best all-round records in school history and played for ECB Schools.

Batting R. M. Fahrenheit 786 at 60.46; C. J. Wake* 736 at 52.57; W. B. Wilson 401 at 33.41; J. W. R. Auld 363 at 30.25; M. K. Outar 415 at 29.64; G. P. Smith 275 at 27.50; J. E. Austen 165 at 20.62.

Bowling P. J. Foster 54 at 9.07; C. J. Wake 30 at 13.10; G. S. Krempels 30 at 16.73; J. E. Austen 16 at 29.56.

The Perse School, Cambridge

Master i/c M. A. Judson

Another highly successful season, with a record nine wins. Perse retained the County Under-19 Cup and Richard Hesketh broke the school record for runs by a fifth-former. The pace bowler Duncan Howells clean bowled 12 of his 27 victims.

Batting R. L. Hesketh 553 at 50.27; E. G. Pearson 255 at 31.87; A. P. Brookes 222 at 27.75; P. M. P. Frenay* 436 at 27.25; C. D. Rogers 228 at 20.72; O. J. Bassett 152 at 19.

Bowling D. E. Howells 27 at 18.03; R. L. Hesketh 24 at 22.25; A. S. Nathan 19 at 24.47; R. M. G. Bourne 21 at 25.85; A. R. L. Harris 16 at 28.37.

Plymouth College

Master i/c G. C. Roderick

The highlight of 2004 was the four counties festival, held this year at Clayesmore School, Dorset. The weather was good, much of the cricket excellent and Plymouth went unbeaten against Lord Wandsworth, Abbotsholme from Derbyshire and the hosts. Philip Wass made 104 against Lord Wandsworth, and Charles Martin grabbed a hat-trick against Abbotsholme.

Batting P. Wass* 407 at 40.70; P. Garland 308 at 38.50; C. Martin 355 at 35.50.

Bowling B. Vince 15 at 20.13.

P20 W15 D5 A3

Coach V. d. M. Genis

P17 W9 L3 D5 A1

Coach D. C. Collard

P11 W5 L3 D3 A6

Pocklington School

Master i/c D. Watton

Butcher's 12 wickets included a hat-trick.

Batting J. L. T. Bolam 495 at 55.00; C. L. Johnson 341 at 34.10; S. G. Butcher 254 at 28.22; A. V. Iyer 198 at 22.00; J. M. Hopwood 154 at 17.11.

Bowling A. V. Iyer 21 at 24.47; J. M. Butcher 12 at 28.50; D. A. Suddaby 10 at 31.40.

P11 W2 L3 D6 A5

Portsmouth Grammar School

Master i/c G. D. Payne

Batting E. J. Dickson-Lowe 273 at 27.30; D. M. Neville 216 at 24.00; M. A. Shaw* 226 at 22.60; S. A. Hodgson 183 at 18.30.

Bowling E. J. Dickson-Lowe 22 at 14.13; G. W. Morgan 10 at 18.00.

P12 W4 L7 D1

Coach R. J. Maru

Prior Park College

Master i/c T. J. Owens

Good teamwork led to a very good season, with notable wins against MCC, Colston's and Dauntsey's and only one comprehensive defeat. Simon Williams was an outstanding leader and a constant threat to batsmen. But the undoubted star was 15-year-old James Campbell, who made four fifties and one score of 130, the highest in recent times for the college.

Batting J. R. A. Campbell 451 at 64.42; O. P. Lawson 158 at 31.60; A. R. Pynegar 188 at 23.50; M. J. Dann 161 at 20.12; K. J. Frere 163 at 18.11.

Bowling S. L. Williams* 20 at 10.65; K. P. Foley 13 at 14.07; M. J. Dann 13 at 21.53; K. J. Frere 10 at 22.30.

P11 W6 L3 D2 A1

Coach M. D. Browning

Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Bristol

Master i/c P. E. Joslin

An experienced side, captained well by Ed Humphreys, went unbeaten. The bowling attack was led by Martin Jones and well supported by the younger Aaron Hemmings. The batting had good depth and there were fine contributions from Humphreys, Dan Chapman, Hassan Zaidi, John Sykes and John Colley. The most exciting game was a thrilling tie with Queen's, Taunton.

Batting E. J. Humphreys* 295 at 49.16; H. S. M. Zaidi 200 at 25.00; D. P. Chapman 158 at 22.57.

Bowling M. C. Jones 12 at 11.16; A. S. Hemmings 11 at 12.09.

P8 W6 T1 D1 A3

Coach D. Forder

Queen's College, Taunton

Master i/c A. S. Free

For the second season Calum Douth led the side with great skill and by excellent example: he has been the college's most tactically astute leader of recent times. Douth was well supported by the all-round talents of Richard Catchpole, Oliver Stewart and Robert Dickins, though a young side bowled with greater confidence than they batted.

Batting C. H. Douth* 564 at 51.27; O. J. Stewart 298 at 29.80; R. P. Dickins 201 at 25.12; R. S. E. Catchpole 226 at 20.54; F. I. Campbell-Wilson 199 at 15.30.

Bowling C. H. Douth 17 at 12.64; R. S. E. Catchpole 10 at 14.20; O. J. Stewart 13 at 16.07; O. L. Scaife 10 at 16.10; A. R. Dodden 12 at 19.41; R. P. Dickins 13 at 20.23.

P13 W8 L2 T1 D2 A3

Radley College

Master i/c A. J. T. Halliday

An enjoyable but short season, further truncated by four abandoned matches, was preceded by a tour to Malta.

Batting F. Qureshi 547 at 91.16; D. P. R. Clements 394 at 49.25; D. R. Dancy 153 at 38.25.

Bowling R. Haddon 14 at 16.57; O. J. W. Money 12 at 26.41.

P9 W5 L2 D2 A4

Coaches A. R. Wagner/A. G. Robinson

Ratcliffe College

Master i/c R. M. Hughes

Ratcliffe endured a very disappointing season, marred by bad weather, ever-increasing exam commitments and a lack of batting application. Those problems resulted in the only winless season in the 17 years Rik Hughes has been in charge of cricket. With all players bar one returning next year there is hope of improvement.

Batting J. A. Taylor* 277 at 25.18.

Bowling R. J. Cox 15 at 27.53.

P11 L10 D1 A4

Coach M. J. Deane

Reading School**Master i/c** A. D. Walder

Batting let the side down, with potential not turned into runs, though the stop-start nature of the season – due to rain and examination breaks – did not help. The bowling strength of the team was clear but too many schools are reluctant to risk defeat in pursuit of victory and games can turn into non-events.

Batting G. J. Duncan* 289 at 32.11; A. P. Davidson 193 at 24.12.

Bowling A. P. Davidson 13 at 10.30; T. S. Vaal 27 at 14.40; M. D. Jubb 14 at 17.71; R. S. Mendhir 10 at 26.20.

Reed's School**Master i/c** M. R. Dunn

The best moments for a young side were beating MCC for the second time in three years and chasing down 285 against a powerful side from John Fisher School. Lucas Macdonald and Michael Wakefield set up the win with a school-record second-wicket partnership of 216; Macdonald finished 147 not out. Ben Bullock converted to bowling off-spinners and turned the ball prodigiously.

Batting M. P. Wakefield* 397 at 56.71; L. O. Macdonald 321 at 45.85; C. S. L. Mwanga-Magoye 178 at 44.50; S. Hussain 153 at 25.50.

Bowling M. P. Wakefield 18 at 18.22; S. Hussain 12 at 26.00; B. T. Bullock 19 at 26.47.

Repton School**Master i/c** F. P. Watson

Chris Paget, an off-spinner in the fifth-form, played four first-class matches for Derbyshire, becoming the county's youngest-ever Championship debutant and the 125th Reptonian to play first-class cricket. Luke Harvey's opening partnership with Ben Bridgen formed the heart of most big scores. The left-arm spinner Scott Chilman departed with 111 first-eleven wickets.

Batting B. D. Bridgen 546 at 60.66; A. J. Whiteley* 315 at 52.50; L. T. Harvey 460 at 46.00; A. W. Mace 254 at 36.28; C. D. Paget 172 at 28.66; J. E. Lamb 187 at 23.37.

Bowling L. T. Harvey 29 at 14.41; S. K. Chilman 11 at 23.45; A. W. Mace 12 at 27.25.

Rossall School**Master i/c** A. Brunt

Rossall had a mixed year, with good victories against Stonyhurst and Arnold. The strengths were in the attack, with all bowlers contributing, and captaincy; in his third year as leader, Dingle was superb.

Batting R. V. Dingle* 408 at 29.14; P. F. Heald 389 at 27.78; F. Hameed 260 at 26.00; L. A. Dingle 305 at 23.46; J. B. Preston 268 at 22.33.

Bowling I. A. Swaine 27 at 13.18; L. A. Dingle 20 at 13.45; P. F. Heald 19 at 16.94; R. V. Dingle 32 at 17.40.

The Royal Grammar School, Colchester**Master i/c** R. L. Bayes

A poor record does not reflect the depth and resilience of the side. Due to an inability to take wickets quickly enough, there were too many draws when Colchester were well ahead. Omar Ahmed, still only 14, was the sole ever-present; Neil Davidson joined the school after playing for Zimbabwe Under-15 and hit the only hundred. James Warner's success with the ball and struggles with the bat were a surprise.

Batting N. Davidson 289 at 26.27; O. Ahmed 337 at 25.92; S. J. E. George 295 at 24.58; J. Warner* 325 at 21.66; G. L. Tuck 158 at 19.75; T. C. Overbury 208 at 17.33.

Bowling J. Warner 21 at 13.33; S. P. Rowe 14 at 16.85; J. J. Sandstra-Bennett 21 at 19.61; W. E. Stock 18 at 28.27; S. J. E. George 10 at 41.10.

The Royal Grammar School, Guildford**Master i/c** S. B. R. Shore

Batting W. Sabey 419 at 41.90; C. Nelson 390 at 35.45; N. Symonds-Baig 178 at 22.25; P. Drake 199 at 22.11; A. Wilson* 181 at 20.11; C. Thomson 150 at 13.63.

Bowling W. Sabey 13 at 8.61; R. Colville 14 at 14.14; J. Thomas 13 at 17.23; S. Ackroyd 18 at 17.50; A. Wilson 13 at 26.61.

The Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe**Master i/c** S. J. Noyes

This was a stuttering, start-stop kind of season: eight matches out of 19 were rain-affected. A young side should come back stronger in 2005.

P10 W3 L2 D5 A4

Coach M. Davies

P10 W4 L2 D4 A6

P12 W7 L3 D2 A5

Coach M. K. Kettle

P16 W7 L8 D1

P17 W3 L4 D10 A3

P14 W6 L4 D4

Coach M. A. Lynch

P13 W5 L1 D7 A6

Batting L. Walker 437 at 39.72; J. Cousins 279 at 31.00; T. Collins 300 at 30.00; J. Cooper 234 at 29.25; J. Howlin* 218 at 19.81; J. Stevens 188 at 18.80.

Bowling T. Collins 18 at 13.00; L. Walker 15 at 22.73; J. Howlin 13 at 26.15.

The Royal Grammar School, Newcastle**Master i/c** O. L. Edwards

Batting M. C. Phillips* 530 at 48.18; I. A. Jones 290 at 36.25; G. R. Applegarth 397 at 28.35; R. G. Coughtrie 219 at 21.90.

Bowling C. R. Cleland 10 at 9.30; A. Sharma 18 at 18.11; R. A. Hopper 10 at 19.10; M. C. Phillips 15 at 20.40; I. A. Jones 10 at 21.20.

The Royal Grammar School, Worcester**Master i/c** M. D. Wilkinson

Liam O'Driscoll's fine batting was backed up by two centuries from fourth-former Nathan Newport (son of the coach and former England bowler, Phil) and excellent off-spin from Andrew Ford. It all culminated in a very good end to the season, including victory in the RGS Festival at High Wycombe.

Batting W. J. F. O'Driscoll 638 at 49.07; N. A. Newport 428 at 32.92; M. J. R. Illingworth 284 at 31.55; D. P. Harris* 345 at 26.53; S. C. Howell 265 at 17.66; G. W. R. Broadfield 217 at 14.46.

Bowling A. Ford 27 at 14.29; D. P. Harris 23 at 15.73; M. J. R. Illingworth 23 at 17.34; O. R. C. Butterworth 12 at 26.83; J. E. Dovey 13 at 27.07.

Rugby School**Master i/c** P. J. Rosser

Despite no outstanding individual performances, 2004 was the most successful season for some years. The arrival of the former England slow left-arm Nick Cook as coach added dynamism and colour, and he brought out the best in each player. The school enjoyed a successful tour to Grenada in December.

Batting M. J. Wallis 205 at 25.62; G. W. Price 394 at 24.62; A. Davison 354 at 23.60; A. E. M. R. Jackson 305 at 19.06; T. B. M. Crawford* 235 at 16.78; R. C. R. Hardwick 184 at 15.33; F. D. H. MacLehose 199 at 15.30.

Bowling R. C. R. Hardwick 24 at 19.91; F. D. H. MacLehose 18 at 21.55; T. B. M. Crawford 13 at 22.84; J. O. Weaving 15 at 33.53; A. S. Cousens 11 at 43.36.

Rydal Penrhos, Colwyn Bay**Master i/c** M. T. Leach

A short season was further reduced by poor weather, and only a few players hit form. Joshua Leach, who has two years left at school, showed patience and maturity, while the captain, Andrew Fenby, always encouraged the younger players.

Batting J. M. Leach 186 at 46.50.

Bowling J. M. Leach 10 at 6.50.

St Albans School**Master i/c** C. C. Hudson

The season was topped and tailed by pairs of defeats, but in between St Albans were unbeaten, including two ties, the first since 1976. Nick Lamb, in his third season as captain, played for Hertfordshire. His 28 wins as captain were a new school record. Gregory became only the second Under-16 to score 500 runs in a summer.

Batting N. J. Lamb* 401 at 66.83; S. G. Gregory 561 at 56.10; R. Vijn 179 at 25.57.

Bowling A. M. Addison 29 at 13.13; N. J. Lamb 23 at 13.60; R. W. Bateman 13 at 28.92; T. E. Cuppello 10 at 29.10.

St Benedict's School, Ealing**Master i/c** I. D. Stephen

All-rounder Huw Jones captained a successful side. The highlight was a six-wicket victory over MCC, the first in this long-running fixture. After three years in the team, opener Patrick Fallis finished 11th in the school's batting aggregates with 1,187 runs, while Jones totalled 76 wickets with his flighted leg-spin. Batting support came from Jeremy Kiernander and Ned Eckersley, a very promising Under-15 wicket-keeper/batsman. Ben Horan's medium-pace led the bowling, but the spinners, including Ravi Sidhu's off-breaks, took more wickets overall.

Batting P. A. Fallis 411 at 34.25; H. W. F. Jones* 358 at 32.54; J. E. Kiernander 253 at 25.30.

Bowling R. S. Sidhu 13 at 13.76; B. Horan 15 at 18.66; H. W. F. Jones 17 at 23.00; H. Orr-Ewing 11 at 24.45.

P14 W5 L8 D1 A2

P17 W8 L4 D5 A4

Coach P. J. Newport

P14 W5 L3 D6 A1

Coach N. G. B. Cook

P5 W4 L1

P14 W8 L4 T2

P12 W5 L4 D3 A1

St Edmund's College, Ware

Master i/c T. W. Clark

A youthful, green side had a difficult time, though prospects look brighter for 2005, when Julian Jayawardena, the one outstanding performer of the summer, returns as captain. At times generating real pace, he grabbed 19 wickets in only six games. He also hit two fifties, though should perhaps have converted one into a century. A more substantial fixture list – and better weather – should give more scope for success. Jim Faithfull, who has now retired from running cricket here after 13 seasons, will be greatly missed.

Batting J. Jayawardena 164 at 27.33.

Bowling J. Jayawardena 19 at 9.84.

P6 L4 D2 A2

St Edmund's School, Canterbury

Master i/c M. C. Dobson

St Edmund's finished the season with two outstanding run chases: against local rivals Kent College, they made 300 in 49.3 overs and, next day, a Danish Cricket Academy XI made 250 only for the belligerent St Edmund's batsmen to sail home in 27 overs. A talented group return in 2005, including the sons of two former Kent team-mates, Mark Benson and Chris Penn.

Batting J. S. Flood 153 at 38.25; M. T. Penn 181 at 30.16; J. J. Reed-Ashton 288 at 26.18; N. J. Copestake 252 at 25.20; O. J. Chalk 163 at 20.37; M. C. Craig 154 at 19.25; C. J. Plowman 151 at 16.77.

Bowling C. J. Plowman 16 at 18.50; C. E. Densham 10 at 23.20.

P11 W4 L7 A4

Coach H. L. Alleyne

St Edward's School, Oxford

Master i/c J. Cope

After a poor start, St Edward's finished strongly. Freddie Hustler led the way with 31 wickets and formed a swift, hostile pairing with Murray Smith. John Barrett was the engine-room of the strong batting line-up with 513 runs.

Batting J. W. Barrett 513 at 39.46; N. D. Gleave 352 at 25.14; R. M. Smith* 300 at 23.07; H. J. Sutton 350 at 23.33; H. M. Redknapp 224 at 20.36; D. R. Brewer 263 at 20.23; S. Farfan 152 at 16.88.

Bowling F. R. Hustler 31 at 13.38; R. M. Smith 26 at 14.76; R. T. A. Hazelton 15 at 21.00; M. E. Cunningham 17 at 21.64.

P17 W7 L7 D3

Coach R. O. Butcher

St George's College, Weybridge

Master i/c R. A. Ambrose

A successful pre-season tour to Malta promised much, but the reality was rather more disappointing. However, the team has youth on its side, and there is real optimism for 2005.

Batting T. N. J. Doran 390 at 35.45; M. J. Ford 400 at 28.57; H. M. Grant 252 at 21.00; A. M. E. Willis 265 at 18.92; D. O. J. Holman 221 at 18.41; J. D. Hardman* 245 at 15.31.

Bowling H. M. Grant 26 at 16.38; D. W. McGahon 27 at 18.92; D. F. C. Pope 28 at 20.17; A. M. E. Willis 15 at 21.66.

P17 W4 L6 D7 A4

Coach D. Ottley

St John's School, Leatherhead

Master i/c A. B. Gale

A successful pre-season tour to Malta promised much, but the reality was rather more disappointing. However, the team has youth on its side, and there is real optimism for 2005.

Batting P. C. F. Scott 483 at 43.90; A. B. Lloyd 239 at 39.83; S. C. Barrett 277 at 34.62; P. D. Anderson* 285 at 25.90; K. D. S. Burge 262 at 23.81; P. M. Cohen 205 at 17.08.

Bowling P. M. Cohen 16 at 14.25; K. de Beer 13 at 15.30; S. W. Morton 11 at 16.18; P. N. Barrett 15 at 20.73; P. D. Anderson 18 at 22.50.

P13 W9 L4 A5

Coach I. Trott

St Paul's School

Master i/c M. G. Howat

Strong batting was the secret of a decent summer, and only once was the side bowled out for less than 200. The bowling was tidy, but on good wickets sometimes lacked a cutting edge.

Batting A. Ashok 443 at 44.30; M. Maini 302 at 43.14; M. B. Kiernan* 352 at 39.11; M. E. Harries 250 at 35.71; J. J. Lofdahl 247 at 35.28; C. A. Elisha 372 at 33.81.

Bowling D. M. Newsome 15 at 30.80.

P13 W5 L1 D7

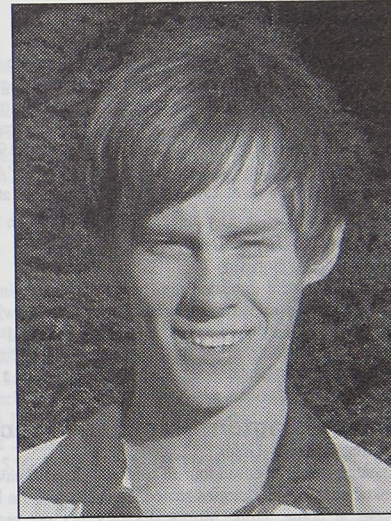
Coach A. G. J. Fraser

St Peter's School, York

Master i/c D. Kirby

This was an outstanding season for the school, who were unbeaten. The batting enjoyed real strength in depth with all-rounders Tom Bartram and James Wackett both averaging over 50. For the third year running, left-arm spinner Tom Woolsey took over 50 wickets, and he left with 183 first-team victims, way ahead of anyone else.

P17 W10 D7 A2



Off-spinner Chris Paget (left) made his Championship debut for Derbyshire shortly after finishing the fifth form at Repton; Sam Knott of Sutton Valence trailed only Ajmal Shahzad in the bowling averages, with 27 wickets at 5.51.

Batting J. M. Wackett 576 at 52.36; T. S. Bartram* 755 at 50.33; B. R. M. Hough 559 at 32.88; P. E. M. Puxon 256 at 28.44; T. J. Woolsey 328 at 27.33; I. D. Jarvis 197 at 21.88; J. Bairstow 256 at 21.33.

Bowling T. J. Woolsey 55 at 17.20; J. Bairstow 12 at 19.00; B. R. M. Hough 15 at 20.53; T. S. Bartram 20 at 25.20; H. J. Scott 11 at 39.45.

Sedbergh School

Master i/c C. P. Mahon

Sedbergh tended either to win easily or lose narrowly. The outstanding individual was fifth former Michael Raikes, who passed 50 seven times and took 20 wickets, including a hat-trick against Kirkham School. The highlight was an end-of-season tour of Sri Lanka.

Batting M. K. Raikes 678 at 67.80; E. C. Parker* 321 at 32.10; O. J. Pimlott 256 at 21.33; D. G. Ford 242 at 20.16.

Bowling D. A. Clerey 16 at 10.00; W. P. Thornton 15 at 17.20; M. K. Raikes 20 at 21.35; A. J. Cowperthwaite 18 at 23.16; O. J. Pimlott 11 at 24.81.

P15 W6 L4 D5 A2

Coach D. J. Fallows

Sevenoaks School

Master i/c C. J. Tavaré

The batsmen did not make enough competitive scores, although the bowling ensured many matches were close-fought. The all-rounder Harry Florry enjoyed another good season; Simon Williams scored 230 runs in his last three innings; and Nick Tunnell was the most penetrative bowler. Four Under-14s represented the first team.

Batting S. J. Williams 397 at 49.62; H. S. R. Florry* 432 at 28.80; D. C. Franklin 156 at 15.60.

Bowling N. J. Tunnell 15 at 15.46; G. E. R. Alexander 16 at 19.75; H. S. R. Florry 13 at 28.61; C. J. Walker 10 at 28.80.

P15 W3 L10 D2 A2

Shebbear College

Master i/c A. Bryan

Batting C. A. Jenn 257 at 36.71.

Bowling C. A. Jenn 15 at 12.26; J. J. Corry* 10 at 19.90.

P8 W1 L6 D1 A2

Sherborne School**Master i/c** G. D. Reynolds

There is much enthusiasm for cricket at Sherborne and a young side achieved several good wins. Seamus Crawford led by example, including 164 not out against Sherborne Pilgrims, and was picked for England Under-17. Jack Jenkins, a young player, scored a match-winning 81 against Haileybury.

Batting S. A. Crawford* 493 at 41.08; J. H. C. Jenkins 255 at 28.33; A. A. Mackay-James 400 at 25.00; A. M. d'A. Willis 204 at 20.40; E. R. S. Kelly 219 at 19.90; M. H. Saunders 250 at 15.62.

Bowling S. A. Crawford 19 at 15.00; A. M. d'A. Willis 23 at 15.34; E. R. S. Kelly 10 at 17.00; C. H. O. Vollers 16 at 19.43; C. E. S. Clifton 16 at 20.25; P. B. Foster 17 at 20.41.

P16 W9 L6 D1 A1

Coach A. Willows**Shrewsbury School****Master i/c** A. Barnard

Shrewsbury were unbeaten until half-term, including wins over both Shropshire and Cheshire Under-17, but the season ebbed afterwards. James Gale bowled some excellent leg-spin and went on to play for Shropshire. James Taylor was selected for England Under-15 and promoted to the first team.

Batting T. Cox 315 at 31.50; I. Massey 297 at 27.00; J. S. Gale 253 at 25.30.

Bowling J. S. Gale 30 at 9.20; B. Marlow 16 at 17.75.

P15 W8 L5 D2 A4

Simon Langton Grammar School**Master i/c** R. H. Green

A successful pre-season tour of Barbados should have been good preparation but a blunt-edged attack that leaked runs made victories scarce. In Barbados, the highlight was Freddie Phillips's 102 in a massive run-chase; at home, Jamie Morgan-Evans's 111 not out against the XL Club was scored in only 25 overs. Most players should return in 2005.

Batting J. Morgan-Evans 213 at 35.50.

Bowling No bowler took ten wickets. The leading bowler was P. Vinten*, who took seven at 22.00.

P8 W2 L4 D2 A2

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School**Master i/c** D. J. Watson

This state-funded school played some excellent cricket in an enjoyable season. The first eleven were unlucky as they failed to retain two local trophies, losing in the semi-final of the Kent County Cup and the final of the League Cup. In total, the school's sides played 65 matches, and won 70% of them.

Batting D. R. Buckle 249 at 35.57; R. J. Sait 167 at 23.85; A. S. Ling* 186 at 23.25; C. J. Maguire 174 at 19.33.

Bowling L. Butcher 28 at 8.71; T. E. Hanman 23 at 9.82; L. Minshull 20 at 12.15.

P13 W9 L4

Coach A. R. Hanman**Solihull School****Master i/c** S. A. Morgan

Batting J. Ord 537 at 44.75; S. Reddish 397 at 36.09; W. J. Mottram 238 at 26.44; B. J. Pugh* 209 at 22.41; J. Sammons 186 at 18.60.

Bowling W. J. Mottram 20 at 20.75; A. Madeley 18 at 22.94.

P12 W4 L5 D3 A2

Coach C. Burrows**South Craven School****Master i/c** D. M. Birks

Poor weather and cancellations marred a season which saw captain Matthew Walker make a school-record 39th first-team appearance, Michael Hebden score a maiden hundred, and several youngsters show talent, especially the captain's younger brother, Richard.

Batting M. J. Hebden 182 at 60.66.

Bowling M. Walker* 15 at 14.73.

P8 W3 L2 D3 A3

Coach D. A. Batty**Stockport Grammar School****Masters i/c** R. Young/C. Wright

Bad weather could not diminish the positive attitude that ensured healthy competition for places. In the convincing win against Cheadle Hulme, Ben Garside claimed four for seven, while Scott Purdom hit 69 and grabbed three cheap wickets. During the very enjoyable tour to Malta, he went even better, stroking 71 and taking four for 13 against King Edward's, Lytham. Purdom aside, the key batsmen were Scott Trinder and Chris Jones, though the team must produce larger totals. The bowling fired only sporadically.

Batting C. Jones 169 at 28.16; S. Purdom 214 at 26.75.

Bowling S. Purdom 11 at 20.27.

P10 W3 L7 A5

Coach D. J. Makinson**Stowe School****Masters i/c** J. A. Knott/C. Townsend

Eleven wins made for a fine season, if tempered by heavy losses to Radley and Oundle. Three players hit hundreds and two seized seven wickets or more in an innings. Stowe rounded things off nicely by hosting a highly successful four-team Twenty20 festival that used white balls, black stumps and coloured clothing. The players loved it, the cricket was exciting and it was a great way to finish the season – especially as Stowe won. Benefits included improved running and fielding skills.

Batting M. A. Nelson 529 at 52.90; A. G. F. Leon 421 at 42.10; H. D. L. Taylor 165 at 41.25; G. G. White* 391 at 27.92; A. D. Cossins 265 at 26.50.

Bowling G. G. White* 35 at 12.54; M. A. Nelson 23 at 14.39; C. J. W. Sheldon 13 at 18.46.

P16 W11 L4 D1 A4

Strathallan School**Master i/c** R. H. Fitzsimmons

Strathallan could make a case for having one of the stronger sides in Scotland. Led for a second year by the spinner Ross Anders, they lost only at the Dulwich festival, and to a powerful MCC side. Tom Hine scored two hundreds and Australian Sam Graves one, against Strathallians. Fifth-former Jamie Cachia had a fine first season opening the batting, while Jono Becks often broke through the opposition's top order, three times taking five wickets in an innings. Charles Leadbetter's swing bowling was good support.

Batting S. Graves 375 at 41.66; T. W. F. Hine 392 at 39.20; J. D. Cachia 259 at 37.00.

Bowling J. F. Becks 28 at 13.35; R. Anders* 20 at 15.90; C. R. Leadbetter 16 at 16.81; S. Graves 10 at 29.50.

P11 W7 L3 D1 A1

Sutton Valence School**Masters i/c** W. D. Buck/A. P. Igglesden

Playing a mixture of declaration and limited-overs games, the team lost only once – and then off the last ball. The pace attack had a Caribbean flavour: Ari Richardson is the son of Richie, the former West Indies captain, while Orlando "Baby" Peters hails from Antigua. However, the leading bowlers were Sam Knott, whose left-arm swing accounted for 27 batsmen at under six, and Ben Spencer. Dominating the aggressive batting was wicket-keeper Ashley Jackson, who smashed three hundreds – and is now sixth in the list of school run-scorers.

Batting A. S. Jackson 841 at 76.45; E. P. Spencer 275 at 27.50; O. L. Peters 299 at 27.18; G. Palmer* 236 at 26.22.

Bowling S. O. Knott 27 at 5.51; B. T. Spencer 19 at 15.26; A. R. Richardson 17 at 15.47; A. R. Carr 11 at 15.72; O. L. Peters 13 at 22.38.

P14 W13 L1 A4

Taunton School**Master i/c** S. T. Hogg

Taunton enjoyed an excellent season with many convincing victories under the astute leadership of James Hayward. James will captain the side again in 2005, with eight other regular players also returning. Eltham College, from Melbourne, Australia, were the only opponents to get on top of a strong bowling attack, chasing down 240 for victory in an end-of-season fixture.

Batting J. A. Hayward* 378 at 42.00; A. W. H. Carroll 353 at 39.22; J. W. Cooper 185 at 26.42; J. J. Bess 269 at 22.41.

Bowling A. D. C. Mason 21 at 10.71; H. C. P. Carpenter 21 at 11.76; A. W. H. Carroll 18 at 15.33; J. A. Hayward 16 at 16.81; E. G. Phelps 12 at 22.25.

P13 W10 L2 D1 A2

Coach D. Baty**Tiffin School****Master i/c** M. J. Williams

Had they been able to polish off their opponents' last pairs, Tiffin might have won another four games. Despite other frustrations such as rain and exams, this was a good year. For Jonathan Mellett and Arun Harinath, it was outstanding: Mellett, in his first season in the team, claimed 32 wickets with his slow left-arm, while Harinath broke the school batting record for the second time in two years with a masterful 226 against Emanuel. He and Kapilan Balasubramaniam, who hit 136, added 318 for the second wicket, another school record. Harinath later played for ECB Schools South.

Batting A. Harinath* 642 at 64.20; K. Balasubramaniam 493 at 41.08; H. M. Vanderman 325 at 36.11; N. Desai 262 at 21.83; D. Patel 166 at 18.44.

Bowling J. S. Mellett 32 at 14.34; S. Selvarajan 12 at 15.58; H. E. Weale 11 at 24.63.

P13 W4 L2 D7 A4

Tonbridge School

Master i/c J. Hodgson

The first team set a new school record for wins in a season, thanks largely to an attack which bowled out the opposition in all but two of the matches. That was an outstanding achievement, given the excellent surfaces most games were played on.

Batting C. E. D. Makepeace 537 at 48.81; J. W. K. Beeny* 755 at 41.94; O. G. K. Howick 485 at 34.64; A. O. J. Shales 504 at 31.50; A. C. Howeson 227 at 22.70; E. J. Bonner 209 at 17.41; C. F. Young 172 at 15.63; C. M. M. Hill 151 at 15.10.

Bowling J. W. K. Beeny 15 at 6.80; C. F. Young 35 at 10.14; A. C. Howeson 10 at 12.50; O. G. K. Howick 32 at 14.09; C. M. M. Hill 25 at 15.24; H. S. C. Thomson 21 at 17.52; C. C. H. Hammond 13 at 26.30.

Trent College

Master i/c C. Seal

As well as nine 50-over games, the college played four 20-over matches, including a victory against England Women. A total of 300 for eight against Nottingham High School was the second-highest in college history. Spurr completed six catches and six stumpings.

Batting G. Johnston* 303 at 37.87; I. R. Smallwood 175 at 25.00; M. S. Spurr 154 at 19.25.

Bowling N. D. McKeown 14 at 17.14.

Trinity School, Croydon

Master i/c M. D. Ferrao

Batting J. P. May 235 at 33.30; C. J. Turner 151 at 21.57.

Bowling D. Amin 10 at 15.40; J. P. May 10 at 16.60; T. E. Fox 10 at 18.30.

Truro School

Master i/c A. Lawrence

Due to terrible weather only six games were finished, which was very disappointing.

Batting S. De Gruchy 251 at 50.20; R. J. Kendall 201 at 28.71; B. Pollard* 192 at 27.42.

Bowling No bowler took ten wickets. The leading bowler was R. J. Kendall, who took nine at 20.67.

University College School

Master i/c S. M. Bloomfield

UCS played much quality, competitive cricket but lacked support bowling to turn winning positions into victories.

Batting V. R. Nair 305 at 43.57; D. Patel 171 at 28.50; G. Gedroyc 235 at 26.11.

Bowling B. C. Bloom 25 at 12.04.

Uppingham School

Master i/c C. C. Stevens

Most teams struggled to take wickets at Uppingham as the relaid square played beautifully. In the closing half of the season captain Jamie Sharrock returned from injury to boost a young side, who also missed another of 2003's better batsmen. Harry Judd, who scored 252 runs last season, left Uppingham in 2003 to become a full-time drummer in the pop group McFly. The summer ended well for the side, with four wins in the last five matches, but even better for Harry Judd: McFly topped the UK singles chart twice, with "Five Colours In Her Hair" and "Obviously".

Batting A. P. C. Collins 306 at 51.00; J. C. J. Sharrock* 209 at 29.85; S. W. Peters 330 at 27.50; H. A. Barton 313 at 24.07; M. T. Heslop 258 at 21.50.

Bowling T. G. C. Thornton 12 at 21.66; T. H. Higgs 14 at 27.21; B. R. Crowder 10 at 36.00.

Victoria College, Jersey

Master i/c M. Smith

Captain Tom Minty took most wickets, scored most runs and captained the team fantastically well in a difficult season. Early in the summer, the side often failed to put good batting and good bowling together in the same match. But later on they clicked, beating Elizabeth College, Guernsey and playing superb cricket on tour to defeat Wellington School in a well-judged chase. After that, the weather wrecked things.

Batting T. E. Minty* 451 at 37.58; R. Mohanty 260 at 37.14; S. S. J. Dewhurst 336 at 25.84; O. Hughes 237 at 21.54; H. I. MacLachlan 154 at 19.25.

Bowling S. P. Warren 19 at 17.63; T. E. Minty 23 at 18.56; H. I. MacLachlan 15 at 20.20; T. G. Wherry 14 at 20.85.

P17 W15 L2 A2

Coach N. Leamon

P9 W5 L4 A4

Coach J. A. Afford

P7 W1 L5 D1 A5

Coach R. H. Miller

P6 W3 L1 D2 A3

P10 W3 L5 D2 A4

Coach J. P. Cooke

P14 W5 L6 D3 A1

Coach T. R. Ward

P14 W5 L5 D4 A2

Coach C. Minty

Warwick School

Master i/c G. A. Tedstone

Batting A. R. Wilkinson* 414 at 37.63; K. Chibber 249 at 24.90; R. L. Rigby 225 at 20.45; D. S. Dhillon 168 at 16.80.

Bowling D. S. Dhillon 10 at 9.50; A. D. R. Harris 13 at 15.61; A. R. Wilkinson 13 at 21.53; C. J. Carr 15 at 22.93; D. H. Wood 12 at 25.50.

Watford Grammar School

Master i/c J. D. R. Williams

Batting Z. A. Hussain 237 at 47.40; U. B. Nawaz 150 at 30.00.

Bowling C. M. Keppell 10 at 11.50; R. J. Willis 11 at 14.36; Z. A. Hussain 12 at 14.66.

Wellingborough School

Master i/c L. M. Hilton

A young team with a good work ethic won half their fixtures. Greg Evans scored heavily, and William Chudley was an invaluable all-rounder. Both players still have two more years in the first team.

Batting G. D. Evans 562 at 51.09; W. Chudley 332 at 25.53; S. Caunt 210 at 17.50; S. Singh 201 at 15.46.

Bowling G. Chudley 16 at 13.56; W. Chudley 27 at 15.81; N. Patel 14 at 17.21; S. Caunt 18 at 18.05.

Wellington College

Masters i/c C. M. Oliphant-Callum/R. I. H. B. Dyer/T. J. Head

Coaches P. J. Lewington/N. A. Brett

Batting J. D. Atkinson 360 at 32.72; P. J. W. Young* 408 at 29.14; A. J. T. Briers 167 at 27.83; A. C. R. Digweed 193 at 27.57; J. A. Barker 161 at 26.83; B. J. E. Kingsnorth 285 at 25.90; R. M. D. Gotla 206 at 22.88; S. I. E. Sticher 254 at 16.93; K. Singh 171 at 15.54; B. W. Marchant 167 at 13.91.

Bowling E. G. C. Young 21 at 28.80; P. J. W. Young 20 at 32.30; J. A. Barker 10 at 37.90.

Wellington School

Master i/c M. H. Richards

After an outstandingly successful 2003 this was a rebuilding year, with many young players contributing. Edward Young, who has three more years in the side, is a promising left-arm spinner.

Batting J. D. Crowther 239 at 39.83; S. C. Marsh 251 at 27.88; J. W. Clarkson 177 at 22.12.

Bowling S. C. Marsh 12 at 14.00; T. Collard 23 at 23.00; R. J. Collard 12 at 24.16.

Wells Cathedral School

Master i/c M. C. H. Stringer

After 23 years as Master in Charge, Mike Stringer handed over to Richard Kitzinger.

Batting C. R. Dauncey 242 at 30.25; E. J. Chalmers 191 at 21.22; H. A. Lemanski 163 at 14.81.

Bowling B. A. Jones 14 at 16.35; M. P. Brandon* 14 at 20.28; C. R. Dauncey 11 at 22.27.

West Buckland School

Master i/c L. Whittall-Williams

This was the best season for many years. Sixteen-year-old Daniel Bowser held together the batting and also bowled some useful left-arm spin. Jonathan Hickman recovered from missing last season with a shoulder injury and spearheaded the bowling. He had the best bowling figures in five of the 12 matches he played.

Batting D. J. Bowser 548 at 54.80; A. N. Loosemore 165 at 18.33; M. A. Stevens 160 at 17.77; S. F. Bowen 162 at 13.50.

Bowling J. C. Hickman* 26 at 11.34; D. J. Higgs 13 at 14.92; D. J. Bowser 14 at 16.71; C. M. Kingdom 13 at 20.15; T. I. Wallace 11 at 29.09.

Westminster School

Master i/c J. D. Kershner

This was the first team's most successful season since 1987. They completed several demanding run-chases in a polished manner, and in the field fallible catching was compensated by the out-swing bowling of Low and the off-spin of Radhakrishnan.

Batting D. C. R. Bamford* 382 at 47.75; C. A. Cooke 309 at 51.5; D. H. S. Brodie 180 at 25.71.

Bowling R. H. C. Low 20 at 16.85; G. Radhakrishnan 19 at 22.94.

P11 W4 L6 D1 A6

Coach F. Kloppe

P8 W4 L1 D3 A3

Coach P. C. Smith

P14 W7 L5 D2 A3

Coach N. Knight

P16 W5 L8 D3 A3

P14 W2 L8 D4

P11 W2 L7 D2 A4

Coach R. J. Kitzinger

P12 W9 L3

Coach M. T. Brimson

P10 W5 L1 D4 A4

Whitgift School**Master i/c** D. M. Ward

With an inexperienced side this season was always likely to be difficult. The best game by far was against a strong Tonbridge side; chasing just under 250, Whitgift finished 20 short, after an excellent 93 from Laurie Evans. In 2005, the school will be looking to turn tight finishes into victories.

Batting M. N. W. Spriegel* 346 at 49.42; L. Evans 346 at 38.44; S. Ratnayake 232 at 33.14.

Bowling M. N. W. Spriegel 17 at 17.23; M. I. McEwan 11 at 20.54; L. Evans 12 at 21.66.

P10 W2 L7 D1 A1**Coach** N. M. Kendrick**Winchester College****Master i/c** C. J. Good

A very good pre-season tour of the Caribbean, where the college won all seven of their games, was followed by a poor first half of term and a good second half.

Batting M. D. R. Skinner* 544 at 41.84; J. R. Irvine-Fortescue 450 at 32.14; J. M. Burrage 286 at 23.83; T. L. Hemmingway 247 at 22.45; H. Mohammed 267 at 20.53; S. R. A. Cheetham 195 at 19.5.

Bowling T. L. Hemmingway 25 at 18.96; J. A. Kenyon 17 at 20.35; R. N. Shipster 16 at 25.25; H. Mohammed 18 at 27.61.

P15 W6 L5 D4 A3**Coach** B. L. Reed**Wolverhampton Grammar School****Master i/c** N. H. Crust

In a season ruined by the weather, it was the bowling and fielding that will be remembered. Getting to the semi-final of the first-ever "20s" 20-over competition was an obvious highlight.

Batting C. J. Brook 184 at 36.80; J. R. Acaster 183 at 30.50; V. J. Wheeler 180 at 30.00; C. W. Lowe 160 at 16.00.

Bowling V. J. Wheeler 17 at 10.23; C. J. M. Mulvihill* 10 at 10.60; C. S. Adey 12 at 11.75; R. J. Browning 10 at 12.70; C. W. Lowe 11 at 13.27.

P10 W5 L2 D3 A6**Coach** T. King**Woodbridge School****Master i/c** R. J. H. Thorley

Batting J. J. C. Maclean 160 at 26.66; C. W. Tunstall 160 at 22.85; J. G. Bloomfield 174 at 21.75.

Bowling S. K. Lincoln 11 at 25.72.

P10 L6 D4 A3**Woodhouse Grove****Master i/c** R. I. Frost

Quick bowler Ajmal Shahzad made history in May when he became the first Yorkshire-born Asian to play for the county first team. Ajmal also took 19 wickets in five games for Woodhouse Grove, before a back injury. Uzair Mahomed scored 131 not out on his debut and played for the Yorkshire Academy, while 14-year-old Tom Dalton followed up his 87 not out against QEGS Wakefield with a 35-ball 79 against Arnold, hitting 74 in boundaries. Woodhouse Grove lost only once to schoolboy opposition.

Batting U. Mahomed 428 at 47.55; A. Shahzad 456 at 45.60; T. K. Dalton 256 at 36.57; R. H. Haslam* 316 at 26.33; D. A. R. Blackburn 213 at 17.75.

Bowling A. Shahzad 19 at 4.63; T. I. Wellings 22 at 13.81; O. Wolfenden 18 at 17.16; U. Mahomed 13 at 19.53; J. J. Wheatley 13 at 22.46.

P13 W7 L2 D4 A7**Coach** G. R. J. Roope**Workshop College****Master i/c** I. Parkin

A young but talented team had a poor season judged by results alone. There were encouraging performances against big schools but some naïve cricket was played at times. Caleb Mierkalns had a very good season for a 15-year-old.

Batting L. J. Carlisle 292 at 26.54; C. M. Mierkalns 401 at 25.06; S. Cowles 279 at 21.46; B. H. F. Stroud 298 at 21.28.

Bowling C. M. Mierkalns 17 at 17.05; D. D. Brown 18 at 18.11; I. H. Qadoos 24 at 19.95.

P16 W2 L8 D6 A3**Coach** A. Kettleborough**Wrekin College****Master i/c** M. de Weymarn

The side developed beyond expectations and were particularly strong in batting; against Hereford Cathedral School the openers scored 100 in the first ten overs. Asif Sultan played for ECB Schools against Bangladesh; and is a member of the Derbyshire Academy. Jean-Paul Duminy, an exchange-student at Wrekin in 2001, made his one-day international debut for South Africa against Sri Lanka.

Batting J. Hendricks 305 at 61.00; J. P. Andrews 365 at 52.14; A. Sultan 223 at 37.16.

Bowling N. Fern 11 at 12.81; A. Sultan 19 at 16.89; B. Summers* 16 at 17.68; J. Savage 10 at 22.30.

P10 W5 D5 A4**Coach** J. P. Dawson**Wycliffe College****Master i/c** D. A. Pemberton

With only two departures, a young team have the potential to win many more matches in 2005. The outstanding performance was 92 not out by Harding against MCC.

Batting J. McGoldrick 158 at 31.60; R. Temple 158 at 26.33.

Bowling T. Williams 14 at 18.57; S. Russell 10 at 22.50.

P8 W2 L5 D1 A1**Coach** M. J. Kimber**YOUNG CRICKETER OF THE YEAR, 2004**

Ian Bell was voted Young Cricketer of the Year by members of the Cricket Writers' Club. Surrey players have won the award eight times, Middlesex and Lancashire seven, and Yorkshire six. Worcestershire and Durham are the only first-class counties that have not had a winner.

1950 R. Tattersall (Lancs)	1978 D. I. Gower (Leics)
1951 P. B. H. May (Surrey)	1979 P. W. G. Parker (Sussex)
1952 F. S. Trueman (Yorks)	1980† G. R. Dilley (Kent)
1953 M. C. Cowdrey (OU & Kent)	1981 M. W. Gatting (Middx)
1954 P. J. Loader (Surrey)	1982 N. G. Cowans (Middx)
1955 K. F. Barrington (Surrey)	1983 N. A. Foster (Essex)
1956 B. Taylor (Essex)	1984 R. J. Bailey (Northants)
1957 M. J. Stewart (Surrey)	1985 D. V. Lawrence (Glos)
1958 A. C. D. Ingleby-Mackenzie (Hants)	1986 A. A. Metcalfe (Yorks)
1959 G. Pullar (Lancs)	J. J. Whitaker (Leics)
1960 D. A. Allen (Glos)	1987 R. J. Blakey (Yorks)
1961 P. H. Parfitt (Middx)	1988 M. P. Maynard (Glam)
1962 P. J. Sharpe (Yorks)	1989 N. Hussain (Essex)
1963 G. Boycott (Yorks)	1990 M. A. Atherton (Lancs)
1964 J. M. Brearley (CU & Middx)	1991 M. R. Ramprakash (Middx)
1965 A. P. E. Knott (Kent)	1992 I. D. K. Salisbury (Sussex)
1966 D. L. Underwood (Kent)	1993 M. N. Lathwell (Somerset)
1967 A. W. Greig (Sussex)	1994 J. P. Crawley (Lancs)
1968 R. M. H. Cottam (Kent)	1995 A. Symonds (Glos)
1969 A. Ward (Derbys)	1996 C. E. W. Silverwood (Yorks)
1970 C. M. Old (Yorks)	1997 B. C. Hollioake (Surrey)
1971 J. Whitehouse (Warwicks)	1998 A. Flintoff (Lancs)
1972 D. R. Owen-Thomas (CU & Surrey)	1999 A. J. Tudor (Surrey)
1973 M. Hendrick (Derbys)	2000 P. J. Franks (Notts)
1974 P. H. Edmonds (CU & Middx)	2001 O. A. Shah (Middx)
1975 A. Kennedy (Lancs)	2002 R. Clarke (Surrey)
1976 G. Miller (Derbys)	2003 J. M. Anderson (Lancs)
1977 I. T. Botham (Somerset)	2004 I. R. Bell (Warwicks)

Teams are those played for at the time.

† An extra award, in memory of Norman Preston, Editor of *Wisden* 1951–1980, was made to C. W. J. Athey (Yorks).

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