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saved.

Mildenhall win none, but go close

Cricket in a nightgown

Mildenhall Cricket Club's tour of Surrey and Hampshire last week resulted in two defeats and three draws, with every game close.

The tour started at Brook, Surrey, on Monday with a game against Sydenhurst Ramblers. It started well for the tourists, with the acclaimed young home opening batsman, Martin Harrison, bowled off stump by Lockwood's fourth ball.

After that, the home-side took no chances and the innings was a hard-fought progression to 146 for nine declared.

Lockwood had no more success, but Bond came on at the other end to prove particularly dangerous down the slope. He also caught an easy one from Whitta in the slips to remove Wood for 42.

Mildenhall kept the pressure on until half-an-hour before tea, when Sydenhurst were 96 for seven. But then the fielding lapsed badly, and the batsmen hit 50 more runs by the interval.

The after-tea period belonged to Bailey, supported by Whitta and Wootton. The opener kept his head superbly after Lawes and Penn went in successive balls at 14 and four wickets had gone for 43.

Whitta joined him to take over for a scintillating 25 minutes in which he cracked six fours and a six, Whitta who played for Sydenhurst after the last war, was eventually caught brilliantly one-handed on the boundary.

Mildenhall had needed 90 in the last 45 minutes, kept after the runs with Wootton giving Bailey good support. But off the first ball of the last over Bailey was out, leg before, trying a shot to leg.

Lockwood had bruised his hand when bowling for M. S. B. and was away being treated. The tourists' skipper, Lawes, amazed home spectators by ordering the next batsman in, Kill, to see out time with three wickets left instead of going for the ten runs needed for victory.

On the following day, Bailey carried on where he had left off. His opening stand of 57 with Goudge off some early loose bowling proved immensely valuable to Mildenhall later in the game.

Whitta and Wootton again added vital runs with Lawes and Carpenter hitting out just before tea, when Mildenhall declared at 167 for nine.

Afterwards, Portsmouth and Southsea got off to a bad start, losing their first three wickets for 24 to Finnis bowling downhill. A

stand of 89 between Munday and Taylor staved off the threat and, with the batsmen taking runs easily from the other end, a home victory looked possible.

Finnis, bowling unchanged, then trapped Munday, leg before wicket, for 47 and bowled White, who formerly lived at Barrow, first ball. After that, the game petered out with the home side 131 for five at the close.

The bright sunshine of the first two days turned to depressing rain the next, when Mildenhall visited Normandy. Bailey hit 45 in a stand of 97 with Bond (38) and Mildenhall reached 117 for four with Whitta going well when heavy rain dotted the field with pools of water.

On Thursday the all-day game with Merrow, part of the Merrow cricket week, was played in over-cast conditions on a wet wicket. It turned out to be the most exciting game of the week.

After a steady morning session, Merrow were 90 for four at lunch. Afterwards, the renewal of the pace attack of Lockwood and Finnis brought about a breakthrough and they struggled to 140 all out.

Swinging 35

Merrow opened the attack with a leg-spinner, Bailey ran himself out off a no-ball and Goudge and Finnis victims of the spinner as the tourists crumpled to 10 for three wickets.

Lockwood, sent in to hit them out of trouble, did so with a swinging 35. He hammered 5 fours and two sixes to pull the side past the 50 before he left chasing a ball outside his off stump.

Boughen went quickly, another victim of spin, but Wootton helped the general, Whitta take the score to 90 before hitting a full toss back to the bowler.

Whitta turned on a tremendous innings as he tried to hit Mildenhall to victory before he ran out of partners. With last man Hensby at the other end, however, he holed out at long-on and Mildenhall went down by nine runs with Whitta 55.

For the last game of the tour, it was again veteran Whitta who saved the tourists' face as they went down to another close defeat at Halslemere.

Facing the best bowling of the tour, Mildenhall lost their first four wickets for 29, Bailey skying

a catch off a sweep, before Whitta entered the fray.

The veteran hit 25 to equal the knock of number nine, Fenn as the highest of the innings, with Mildenhall all out for 98.

Haslemere went after the runs comfortably and had 30 on without loss when Whitta came on with his leg spin. Coghlan hit him for a huge six but was trapped leg before next ball off a quicker one.

With the speed of Lockwood and Bond alternating at the other end, Whitta made swift inroads into the batting. Three wickets fell for the one run which took Haslemere to 50 and only another experienced campaigner, Haynes, stood between Mildenhall and victory.

He was dropped on the boundary by Kill off Whitta as he put on 21 runs for the sixth wicket with Howell. Then the tourists broke through again and took two wickets with the home side still one behind.

Woods hit his first ball through the covers for two to prevent an embarrassing collapse and win the game for Haslemere.

The sight of Colin Seager, prospective Parliamentary for Bury St. Edmunds, to the wicket in night green floppy hat was the point in a novelty cricket at Barton Mills on Saturday.

Mr. Seager, chairman of Barton Mills Social Club, 22 left-handed runs to game for a team of men and a team of women from the "pyjama game."

The match was a "get-together," the first to be arranged by the club which aims to promote activities in Barton Mill get old and new together.

On Saturday there were kart rides, children's sports, a judo demonstration, banjo-playing, arts and competitions, a barbecue cricket match.

The highest scorer was Mrs. Val who got 20 runs out of the men having to bowl with their wrong hands.

But Mr. Seager hit back men until given out leg-bowled, a ball which hit his stomach way down the wicket, carried on to win by nine.



Breasley?

1950. Originally he was only going to stay 12 months, but he decided to stay on, and since ridden more than 2,000 winners.

The one I will never forget, and I am sure most of you remember too, was his performance on Santa Claus in the 1964 Derby.

Turning out a drawer the other day I discovered an old paddock ticket for Leicester racecourse. Goodness knows where I got it from—the date on it is 1909, and though there are many days when I feel 60, I can assure you that I was not born when this was issued.

The interesting thing about this yellowing piece of card is that, apart from the date, the price is still distinct.

improvements all round in racing since those days when, for instance, there was no racecourse commentary, no photo finish and no camera patrol.

It is a fact that racecourse admission charges have not gone up for years. Prices have not risen with the cost of living as have most other things—almost the reverse. How to reduce admission charges, and not put them up, is the problem that racecourse executives are discussing today.

Over the sticks

Mr. Philip Mitchell, leading amateur on the flat last season, is to ride...

Top: the first...