

General Interest

Record four States compete in huge Pharmacy Cricket carnival

Pharmacy Cricket teams from Queensland, NSW, Victoria and for the first time Tasmania, met to play over three days at the Gold Coast in January to decide the 2006–2007 winner of the recently enlarged and 99-year-old historic 'Chemists Interstate Challenge Cricket Shield'.

The 'Shield' and Carnival winner, with a victory over Queensland on the last day, was Victoria, captained by Steve White

Final Summary

Saturday 27 January match Queensland v Victoria at Somerset College Ground. Batting first, Victoria scored 6 for 151 off 40 overs (Paul Wickham 29, Divesh Sanghvi 21). Queensland scored 128 in reply (J. Thompson 48 not out). There were four run outs in this innings, with six Victorian bowlers each taking one wicket.

Other matches

On Thursday 25 January two games were played at the grounds of the Gold Coast District Cricket Club Robina.

One between NSW and Victoria saw Victoria post a good score of 6 for 202, with Jeff Facey top scoring with 51 retired. For NSW, Steve Thompson and Peter Mikhail both took two wickets. The NSW innings after 10 overs at 1 for 30 was interrupted by a typical Queensland thunder storm leaving the ground looking like a lake. Play was abandoned for the day and the match result declared a draw.

At the other ground Queensland played Tasmania, in the new chums' first game. Queensland scored 208 with Barry Kyte and Chris Zischke both retiring at 50. Tasmania's best bowlers were Amey Jambekar, who finished with 3 for 15 off 10 overs, including four maidens, and Leigh Harrison 2 for 29. Tasmania went in and were 2 for 36 when the rain came and the match was abandoned. The result a draw.

On Australia Day, both grounds had recovered from the rain, with the pitches having been covered and kept dry.

Queensland, with Darren Spina scoring 54 and Peter Jones 56, posted a good score of 228 against NSW. They were helped by some dropped catches and missed run outs. Pharmacy student Chris Georges arrived by air that morning and took 3 for 31 off his 10 overs, while Steve Kobryn completed 9 overs for 3 for 32. NSW in reply were dismissed for 148. Captain Anthony BouAntoun scored 31. Queensland bowler Jason Roberts took 5 for 32 off 10 overs and was 'Man of the Match.'

At the other ground, Tasmania played Victoria. Batting first Victoria scored 168 with Paul Wickham retiring on 52. For Tasmania Amey Jambekar, with 2 for 17, and Phong Nguyen, 2 for 14, took the bowling honours. Tasmania in reply were all out for 72, with four batsmen having duck for dinner. Brad Turner scored 29, while Victorian David Ford took 4 for 4 off 7 overs with 4 maidens to win 'Man of the Match'.

The other match on Saturday 27 January was NSW v Tasmania at the grounds of All Saints School. NSW scored



The victorious Victorian team.

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The tournament newcomers - Tasmania.

164, with Paul Miegel from Corowa top scoring with 32 and John Obaid contributing 28 and Andy Dent 21. Tasmanian Leigh Harrison took 3 for 37 and Phong Nguyen 2 for 31. Tasmania scored 90 in reply, with Brad Turner again top scoring with 31. This time only two ducks. NSW bowler Steve Kobryn, with 6 for 26 off 10 overs with three maidens, was the 'Man of the Match'.

Presentation dinner

The presentation dinner held on the Saturday night at the Palm Meadows Golf Club saw over 80 cricketers and guests enjoying a great evening of fun and fellowship. All the trophies were presented together with the Batsman, Bowler and Player of the Carnival awards.

Paul Wickham, Victoria - 'Batsman of the Carnival'
Chris Zischke, Queensland - 'Player of the Carnival'
Steve Kobryn, NSW - 'Bowler of the Carnival'

Sam Loxton, despite his 85 years and diminished vision, delighted the dinner guests with an outstanding address about his cricketing career and his time with his Captain and hero the great Don Bradman.

Sam recalled, without notes, statistics comparing the wickets per test of Clarrie Grimmett and Bill 'Tiger' O'Reilly, great spin bowlers of the past, with Shane Warne's and equating their figures if they had played the same number of tests as Shane Warne.

Sam Loxton concluded his address with the words attributed to Lord Harris, former President of the Kent Cricket Club and the MCC as printed in Bradman's book 'Farewell to Cricket' speaking of the spirit of the game of cricket; Lord Harris said, *'Drink deeply of the wisdom of your forefathers. You do well to love it, for it is more free from anything sordid, anything dishonourable, than any game in the world. To play it keenly, honourably, generously, self-sacrificingly is a*

moral lesson in itself, and the classroom is God's air and sunshine. Foster it my brothers, so that it may attract all who can find the time to play it, protect it from anything that would sully it, so that it may grow in favour with all men' Quoting Bradman's words *'These beautiful words I commend to all players as a glorious creed'*

The dinner concluded with an auction conducted by MC Greg Hodgson for a replica of the famous 'Ashes Urn' in a beautifully satin lined presentation box with two ceramic cricket balls signed by members of the Australian and English teams saw spirited bidding between Tasmania and Queensland. Tasmania holding firm, won this contest.

The Carnival was such a success it is under consideration to expand the competition to six States for next season. As it will be 100 years since the 'Chemists Interstate Challenge Cricket Shield' was first contested in 1908. Victoria has agreed to be the host State for this centenary event as the first match for the 'Shield' was played in Victoria. +



A very happy Chris Zischke from Nabour, Queensland, accepted the 'Player of the Carnival' Award (a Steve Waugh autographed bat) from cricketing great Sam Loxton at the presentation dinner.