

# PHARMACY CRICKET

## REPORT OF NSW VS VICTORIA MATCH WESLEY COLLEGE MELBOURNE 30 JANUARY 2005



*The game in progress on the 'Front Turf', Wesley College*

Arriving at Melbourne's Wesley College cricket ground for "The Chemists Interstate Challenge Cricket Shield" match between NSW and Victoria, one could be excused for imagining the venue as being the best of England's famous cricketing greens. The splendid vista offered the elegantly architected facade of Wesley College facing one side of the ground, with the other bordered by trees and the Melbourne city skyline.



*NSW Captain, Murray Le Lievre presenting the 'Shield' to Victorian Captain, Steve White*

The ground's outfield offered a magnificent manicured surface, soft like satin cloth, and although the wicket - well grassed and covered overnight - was brown and a little soft, it was full of potential.

Murray Le Lievre, the NSW Captain, lost the toss and NSW were offered first use of the wicket by Victoria Captain Steve White. With the Umpires, Bill Sheahan (ex Test Umpire) and Eric Kelly in place the sightscreen adjusted, play commenced.

The NSW openers Tim Sidgreaves and Peter Mikhail had difficulty scoring against the accurate bowling of Paul Wickham and Steve White, and the total after 11 overs was no wickets for 17. Mikhail was adjudged LBW for 4 and Justin Burt was out bowled for 3. NSW: 2 for 25. Enter the Captain Murray Le Lievre who opened his account with a splendid 4 (to Midwicket). Sidgreaves was dismissed, out caught, having scored 19. NSW: 3 for 35. Steve Thompson (20) and Ben Glascott (18), both being run out, had partnerships with Le Lievre and pushed the score to 6 for 104. Le Lievre, playing a 'Captains Innings' retired at the obligatory 50 with a magnificent 6 (over long on), to leave the field with 55 runs. Vigorous hitting by Anthony BouAntoun and Jason Harvey NSW at the end of the NSW 50 overs delivered a final score of 8 for 152. David Ford 2 for 12 off 10 overs and Steve White 2 for 31 off 10 overs had the best bowling figures for Victoria.

Lunch was taken. Players, umpires and spectators enjoyed refreshments in the pleasant and relaxing atmosphere of the Cato room of the College, set in the tranquil and lush surrounds of the college.

Bernie Borg and Manny Chessari opened for Victoria and took the score to 23 before Borg was out bowled by Tony Herro for 13. Chessari was out for 22, bowled by Michael O'Reilly with the score at 2 for 54. Jeff Facey, playing well and scoring freely, hit four fours and with two sixes before retiring at 50 not out. Brad Watmuff added 13 to the score and, with Divesh Sanghvi, took the score to 3 for 108. Sanghvi (40) and Peter Cramp (16) took the score past the NSW total. Warren Fricke had duck for dinner as did Ben Brndusic (NSW). Paul Wickham, maintained his previous form by hitting a superb six and finished not out along with Geoff Crisp.

Victoria 7 for 173 after 50 overs. Best bowler for NSW was Anthony BouAntoun with 2 for 25 off 6 overs.

A well deserved victory to Victoria who now holds the 'Shield'. The competition between Victoria and NSW now stands at two wins apiece.



*Greg Hodgson presenting the Man of the Match award to Victorian player, Jeff Facey*

'Player of the match' award went to Jeff Facey. The 'Best Batting' award to Murray Le Lievre and the 'Best Bowling' award to David Ford.

'Pharmacy Cricket' can take a bow at a job well done. A great day of cricket was enjoyed by players and spectators alike, under clear blue skies and at a wonderful venue. Most importantly, the event delivered terrific fellowship and enjoyable memories for all participants. Those who were not there missed a most delightful day.

The next match on the Pharmacy Cricket calendar is between NSW and Queensland to be held at Robina on QLD's Gold Coast on Sunday 6 March.

Your cricket correspondent.



*The victorious, Victorian team. Captain Steve White, with the 'Shield'*