

From the Boundary Rope

128th EDITION

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Club Captain's Corner

Congratulations to Wray van Schalkwyk who was appointed as Seniors Club Captain for the remainder of the season following the resignation of Sias Bezuidenhout from the position at the end of December 2012 due to personal reasons.

With a new man in the hot seat comes a new section to the Boundary Rope – watch out Oprah!!!!!!!!!!!!

1st Team: *15 behind with 9 second innings wickets in hand , dig deep and make sure we have something to bowl at when Strandfontein eventually get to bat . I have full faith that this will be achieved.*

2nd Team: *Following on and need to dig very deep on the second day , I too have full faith that we will make a good fight of this.*

3rd Team : *9 runs behind and all to play for on the second day , c'mon lads prospect of beating Durbanville at homewhat a motivational factor!*

4th Team: *Won against Old Mutual , Well Done, now we need to string a good month together in terms of results which I have no doubt will be done.*

5th Team: *Won against Atlantis well done , a good month in terms of results should see them pushing for promotion.*

6th Team: *Bye*

Tigers: *Lost to St Augustines , tough match , will turn it around next week no doubt.*

Day 1 - 1 'C' MCC 1st XI vs Strandfontein CC (1'C') played at MCC 'A'

THE WOES CONTINUE.....

Eager to fix our middle order collapses, we were keen to get out there and put the past experiences behind us and change the remainder of the season. Unfortunately we got off to a terrible start when we lost our Skipper on the first ball of the game to a once in a season delivery as the death rattle sounded loud and proud, leaving the middle peg leaning back. The Don was to follow shortly, adjudged LBW. Millies at 9/2 after 4 overs.

Zarin's stay at the crease after being promoted to 3 was short lived as he succumbed to a trap to be caught on the boundary for a promising 14 runs. Justin didn't last long either and was dismissed shortly afterwards which brought Brett to the crease to meet Bevan "The Pinnacle" van der Poll.

Millies 28/4 after 11 overs. Bevan being set, Strandfontein targeted Brett. With the trap set, Deep square, the plan was to bowl short and hope for the mistimed pull. Brett wise to the plan packed the pull shot away and dealt with the short bowling well for the most part until he was put on his back by a bouncer that followed him. A few balls later he knicked off to 2nd slip. The two managed a 24 run partnership coming mainly from the bat of the Pinnacle!.

Craig was next in and next to go as he also received a terrible LBW decision but had to go. Josh fell the very next ball LBW in front. Sias now finds himself in a familiar position, the wrong side of a possible hatrick wicket. I am sure he would rather be bowling. The hatrick was almost bagged as Bass almost hit one back to mid on. Sias batted well with Bevan in putting the bad balls away including two 6's. One almost landing on the racetrack.

Bev was next to depart for a brilliant and patient 65 runs. A big one was out there for you Bev. Morne brought out his blue suede shoes and danced down the wicket on his second ball to try hit it onto the field in Atlantis where the 5ths were playing only to miss it to be stumped. Bass fell in the next over for a good 21 which left Jason stranded on the other side. Millies all out for 121.

Once again a below par score.

We had the belief that we were still firmly in the game and came out strong for our bowling stint. New opening pair of Morne and Zarin (now bowling pace) got off to a great start, conceding only 3 runs in the first 5 overs which included a wicket from Morne, caught by the Pinnacle at point.

Some good bowling and some good fielding saw Millies in a great position at 72/4 after 28 overs. It looked good for a great fight back, but it was not to be as we conceded a total of 27 extras and a catch going down. Strandfontein going to score 190/8 in there allotted 60 overs.

Jason bowled very well but came on a late in the innings taking 3 wickets. Time left in the day meant that we had to bat again.

Robbie and then Don head out again. This time they get off to a much better start as the runs come freely. Everything going well until Robbie pulled a ball straight at short leg. He put his hands up to protect himself but in doing so, palmed the ball back up and straight to the bowler who caught it. Robbie had to go.

Sias in as nightwatchmen and did well to stay with Shivon to see out the day. Millies end on 53/1. Effectively still 17 runs behind.

Day 1 - Res 'B' – 2nd XI vs WPCC played at MCC 'B'

MCC WIN THE FIRST SESSION BUT LET IT SLIPPED AFTER LUNCH

Having won the toss skipper Leon decided to have bowl and it seemed the right decision by lunch.

Denver and Kaizer open the bowling with both bowling a good line and keeping it tight until Kaizer struck in the 8th over with a peach of a delivery bowling their opening bat, 20/1 after 8 overs. Kaizer's next 2 overs saw another 2 wickets leaving WPCC 27/3 after 12 overs. Kaizer and Denver both had opening spells of 7 overs leaving the score at 38/3 after 14 overs. Kean and Jaime replaced the opening pair. Jaime did not go for many runs (10 of 6 overs)keeping it tight from his side but Kean was a bit more expensive than what we have got used to used to but he still had the joy of 3 wickets for 40 in his 7 overs. It also did not help that Kean had 2 dropped catches of his bowling. Carl replaced Kean and Eric replaced Jaime. Carl unfortunately got punished a bit in his 1 over (just before lunch) going for 14. Lunch after 32 overs 111/6. After lunch Wesley Groenewald came on and took 2 wickets in 3rd and 4th over leaving WPCC at 124/8 after 38 overs. We obviously thought we had their innings just about wrapped up but their no 7 and no 10 bat had other ideas. The 2 of them attacked the batting and put on a partnership of 69 in about 11 overs. Also the fielding became sloppy with a catch or 3 that went down and a missed run out chance. Denver and Kaizer with a wicket each got the last 2 wickets with WPCC on 211/10. Missed opportunities in the field and losing the pressure we built cost us at least 50 runs !!

Well bowled to the following:

Kaizer 4/39, Kean 3/40, Wes 2/32.

MCC into bat and there is not much to say on the batting performance. Only Leon Baird really troubled the scorers with 25 as we stumbled to 72 all out. A selection of some bad shots costs us a few wickets and then WPCC also bowled in the right areas not giving much away.

Gareth and Carel again open the bowling and got us 34 without loss at the close of play. Good effort having faced out the last 14 overs of the day and not losing any wickets. Hard work awaits the batters next Saturday and if we all apply ourselves we can do it !! Remember Ottomans !!



(CENSORED – This is a match report, not a report for reporters, members or players to register their unhappiness of happenings. Milnerton CC is a very reputable Club which has correct paths and policies in place to attend to any matters.)

REPORT COMPILED BY LEON RUSSOUW

(It is very clear that personal interests ahead of team interests lost us the ascendancy on Day 1, what a pity that cricket can't be the winner!)

Day - Res 'F' – 3rd XI vs Durbanville CC played away

MCC KEEP THEIR HEADS IN THE GAME

Back to the 2day format the 3rds were quietly confident when arriving to play Durbanville in the "tea pot" hoping to take our one day momentum into the 2dayers. JJ won the toss and elected to bowl. We always knew that Durbanville play their cricket in two ways, they like to score quickly and dominate the bowling attack. We had a game plan to counter this, disciplined areas and a flooded offside. Although we didn't pick up early wickets our plan was well in place, restricting the "Ville" to just 53 off the first 20 overs.

Superb bowling from Darren "the stripper" Brandt and Gavin "Livestrong". Enter Pete Hammer Hillman. Unfortunately Pete injured his knee bowling an over and there were 2 balls remaining. The captain decided that he would "finish" the over for Pete. The first ball was dispatched over cow for a massive 6, JJ not looking so clever now, told the gents to settle down, he had a plan, bowl the same ball next up even s l o w e r, unbelievably the batsman tried to hit this ball to Malmesbury skying it for a caught and bowled!

Thanks cappy, that's the end of your spell. The rest of the bowlers bowled well and were all in all very disciplined. Durbanville batsman then developed a few partnerships however Millies knew that if we restrict we can get our wickets later on. Enter Slims "the bowler that bats" Mudali. Slims role as a bowler in the 3rds has become a massive asset! He understands the plan and his execution of the plan is meticulous. In the end Millies restricting durbanville to 181 for 9 after 45, superb job boys! Mudali 5 for 32 after 8 Brandt 2 for 42 after 16.

Batting plan was simple, we go out and bat the 45 overs, make sure that we have wickets in hand with 10 overs to go so as to accelerate. JJ and Sean opened the batting . JJ not lasting long middled a ball low and hard to square leg out for 12. Sean then looking good to keep fighting for his runs eventually was bowled for a decent start of 22. Eventually a few more wickets fell and it was up to Ricky "bobby" and Slims to reconsolidate the innings, this they did well, in a time when the ville was pushing hard. But both the experienced batsman out a price on their wicket for a good time. Eventually Slimo was out for 14.

Enter Renick the Tank! Rick and Renick set out to now dominate what started looking like a tiring attack. Dispatching the loose balls for boundaries and running 2's to boundary

sitters aggressively. A superb entertaining partnership of 73! Renick eventually out for 60 off 38 balls, one of the best innings we have witnessed, all without a slog, stroke play and clean hitting at its best! Well batted Ren, really stepped up and took the fight to the attack! Rick on the other end quietly reaching a very well played 42, Rick I've backed you, and thank you for repaying the team with this priceless knock, you stood up and were counted.

In the end we were able to accelerate in the way we did because we stuck to our plan and didn't panic after only having 53 on the board after 25 overs. Boys this is the thoroughbred cricket that will take us through to the level we capable of achieving. Our innings eventually ending after the 45 on 172 for 9. Great performance with both bat and ball. Never been prouder to represent the Stag, well played gents, and remember job not done!

REPORT COMPILED BY JJ REBELLO

3 'A' – 4th XI vs Old Mutual CC played away

FANTASTIC FIGHT BACK!

Bosmansdam gave us a fast outfield and seemingly prepared pitch. That pitch though reminded of the movie "what lies beneath". The opposition arrives late. Toss gets taken, George decides to have a bowl and the opposition goes to in to bat well after the scheduled start time.

Third ball of Vlam's first over saw us get an early present when the opener oked the ball to Christo at short mid on. The non striker turned his back on his partner and a quick relay from Christo to Vlam to Carl saw the eager beaver run out by a pitch length. 0/1

Unbeknown to us the non striker will be a crucial part in the match!

There is no way to describe this man's batting other than...well...brutal! He first pokes Vlam for 21 in 3 overs then proceeds to dismantle each bowler we threw at him.

On the other end we found batsmen all too eager to have a dip and find their stumps rearranged or present some catching practice. And while this happened Abrahams chugged along on his merry way. If it weren't for the fact that none of his partners felt like sticking around for too long we may have ended up chasing 220+.

Morgan chirps Abrahams for not giving the offside fielders work and proceeds to drop the batter on 99 the very next ball. That brief, yet very funny / ironic slip, cost us nothing as Abrahams got bowled 2 overs later by Matt without adding to his score.

A few lusty blows from lower order batsmen and a few silly runouts later they were all out for 168 in 32 overs.

We managed to get our innings under way around 17h00 only. By this time the pitch took a serious turn for the worst. Divots the size of golf balls developed on one side of the pitch and there was this particular spot that saw deliveries spit dangerously off a length. It was not easy, never mind fun, for the top order batsmen against a new ball. Vimal wore a nut in his grill, literally! Very next ball he tried to take the attack to the bowler and got caught at mid off for 4.

Vlam wore a nut on the body before he got stuck LBW for 5. Young Brad got pinged on the jaw which saw him leave the field - retired hurt for 12. George got pinged as well and saw the ball trickle onto his stumps - bowled for 0. By this stage we saw no real reason to believe that we could pull this game out the bag. Carl knuckled down and even though he proclaims that he never felt comfortable at the crease he still managed to stay in. Matt also played well and was merciless on any delivery slightly legside-ish. He was out caught for 25.

We were 5 wickets down with only 90 on the board...but needing only 79 to win we started to believe. Morgan joined the fray and a partnership of 35 saw us to 125/6 before Carl got out for a crucial, very good looking 29. Then - the partnership of the match...

With 4 wickets remaining Morgan found a willing and able ally in his brother Victor. Victor kept the bowlers at bay while Morgan dug in for the late push. Unfortunately, with 27 still needed, Victor got stuck LBW - dead on the crease.

7 wickets down and Neil Kruger joins Morgan. Neil swung and missed more than he connected, but those he did connect stayed hit. We needed 18 off the last 6 overs and when Morgan crashed the bowler back over his head for 6 with 29 balls to spare we erupted in relief! From down and out (and carrying battle scars to prove it) to clinching victory on the back of a never-say-die middle and lower order we deserved to win!

Well played boys!! Millies pride!!

Performers:

M Hayward - 3/33 in 7 overs and 25 (25)

V Geldenhuys - 2/8 in 4 overs.

M Geldenhuys - 51* (46 balls, 7 x 4's, 1 x 6)

C Smit - 29 (34 balls, 7 x 4) - (yes indeed only 1 single in his knock!!)

(Commitment, Confidence, Convert, Calm, Courage.....there must have been a 4th XI fly on the wall during 1st XI chat Thursday evening! Well done guys you really the Stag how to execute the 5 C's)

3 'D' – 5th XI vs Atlantis CC played away

5^{THS} GO THIRD ON THE LOG

36 Deg in the shade; however as Chairman Mike said "Luckily we were not playing in the shade".

I won the toss and decided to bat , Jan(Gilchrist) Odendal and Jordan (McGrath) Van Vuuren got us going with Gilly fooling us into believing that they were bowling short with his flat bat fours however young Jordan showed that they could also bowl the odd Yorker as he was bowled for 0 after facing 8 balls down leg. Our new import Emile joined Jan and the two batted well for a 38 run partnership all the while trying their best to ignore the chirps from Atlantis which must be said were not very funny or clever so I won't bore you with repeating any.

Jan was looking good for yet another 50 however a mistimed flat bat shot saw him falling 5 short. (Well batted boet). Emile was joined by Ray Van Vuuren for a quick chat. Score 57 for 3 after 15. Emile and I managed to push the scoring along before Emile was judged LBW for 40. Score 132 for 4 after 29.

Looking for some quick runs I promoted Shiraz up the order and gave him license to have a go (note to myself remind Shiraz that having a go does not mean do the gang nam style first ball down the track to a leggy who was actually turning the ball) stumped first ball. I suppose it understandable as Dwayne said “ maybe he was seeing the ball like a golf ball” Wray and young Luke Magermann finished off our innings with some good running from Luke (one for the future) and some excellent waddling from Wray saw us finish on 161 for 6 off 35 overs. Must say I think this might be the first time I’ve seen a batter trying to run two actually get to his partner and ask if he was sure it wasn’t two and then run back to his end. (Wray apparently this is not the first time?)

Some batting performances

Jan Odendal 45, Emile Petrus 40, Neil Perich 35

Go grab a cup of tea while we change innings.....

Defending 162 we started with some spin from one end and another new player Dwayne (Keith Kirsten) Blomerus who bowled very well to restrict them to 46 for 2 after 14 including 4 maidens (No not the ones who were offering their “friendship” on the way to the field).

Our catching at this stage was leaving a lot to be desired as one fielder whom shall not be named managed to drop a catch four times (hands, chest, stomach and knee) before hitting the ground. I personally believe his hands have gotten soft since he has become an administrator. Up steps young Jason (the mouth) Osner and proceeded to bowl Atlantis out of the game with an excellent spell of 4 for 13 off 7. Their “ Stand in “ Skipper a Mr J (Armstrong) Conrad was looking dangerous until he nicked one to Jan but decided because he was at home in front of a very boisterous crowd would like another a chance he stood firm . The abuse flowed and worryingly so did the runs. At one stage he was reminded that his community have been trying so hard to create a respectable reputation for themselves and he managed to ruin all their hard work with one selfish decision.

72 for 5 after 22. Game on! A few bad balls were been dispatched and some ordinary catching or should I say not even getting close was keeping them in the game and the crowd who I must say were great were starting to really enjoy the situation and the support for the home team was adding to the excitement. With the fear of being likened to the Legend that is Vlam , I brought myself on and managed to bowl their Skipper middle stump (No standing this time mate) Although their umpire made my heart stop when I turned around he jokingly said “ No Ball “ Must say I had premonitions of a lifelong ban coming my way. The crowd were quiet for enough time for their local hero Uncle Mike to refill his drink before they really got behind their team in a losing cause (Guys maybe we could learn from them). Game over, or not! In walks D Adams No 11 and quickly flat bats his way to 17 before he flat bats one into deep cover ... score 140 for 9 after 34.3 overs, must admit my heart was in my mouth as the ball looped to young Jordan who was not

having the best of days in the field , I think my eyes were closed when I recognised the sigh of a very relieved dad (Ray van Vuuren) when our team exploded with joy as we could have easily missed out of these much needed ten points to put us into a promotion position.

3D can still be very exciting!!!!

Hats off to the Atlantis locals and supporters for the beers and laughter after the game. Just a quick chirp from our after game drinks with Atlantis Their Skipper is standing and I ask him “don’t you want to sit? No wait you are used to standing”

Some bowling performances

Jason Osner 4 for 13 off 7 should have been 5 (unfortunately now that Lance Armstrong has been banned from cycling he is playing cricket in Atlantis)

Dwayne Blomerus and Mike Reynders for their combined spell 2 for 44 off 14

Catches

Mike Reynders, Jan Odendaal, Ray van Vuuren, Jason Osner and Jordan Van Vuuren all took a catch.

Pink Cap Jordan Van Vuuren (His dad Ray has stood surety for his case of beers)

Bianca I hope my grammar and spelling is up to the extremely high standards you have set.

See you all on the square.....

REPORT COMPILED BY NEIL PERICH

(“Bianca, I hope my grammar and spelling is up to the extremely high standards you have set....., **wake up Perich, she only reads the Rope, I do the editing..... that will cost another Hansa!!!! Back to cricket, I have never heard the term “waddling” used by any known reporter or dignified commentator, but then I saw it referred to our very own known “waddler”!!!! And i have noted that you aren’t onm the catching list???** Oh by the way, well done on the win!)

3’D’ – 6TH XI vs UCT CC ‘B’ played away

Bye - game rescheduled to Sunday 10 March

3’A’ – Tigers XI vs St Augustines CC ‘B’ played away

JIVE ST AUGS TAKE THE STAG OUT

We lost the toss and were asked to bat first.

Sinclair Taylor marked the most meteoric rise a batsman can have (from 11 to 1) with two very solid overs of opening the batting. He was then undone by a ball that would probably have bowled any of us so, all in all, a very solid start to his “career” as an opening batsman.

At the other end Peter Gillmer was looking untroubled and middling just about everything. He middled one too many and was well caught in the covers as the ball was travelling. He contributed 9.

Crax and “Dazza” McKinley ground it out as runs were hard to come by. The pitch was up and down and their bowling was tight. We took drinks at 53/2 after 20 overs. We knew we had to kick on after the break and we did with some controlled aggression and fantastic running between the wickets (some would disagree but I thought the running was a sight to behold).

Daz was eventually run out for a very well-played 45. Before you get confused about the running between the wickets story I need to stress that he would have made the run, but for him hearing a crack in his ankle and deciding that running was no longer an option.

Bryn “Champ” Whithair and Gordie came and went fairly quickly in the pursuit of quick runs for the team. “Oz”Snyman and Crax continued to run them ragged much to the disappointment of the youngster. It will take some time for Crax to be fully forgiven, but it was what the team needed at the time so good job young “Oz”

Crax was out in the last over for 53 and Llewellyn perished last ball trying to run a three. Good commitment young LP. We scored 143/8 which we felt was defendable on that pitch, but it was going to require a sustained bowling effort.

Our openers started incredibly well and the opposition reached the end of 8 overs on 14/0. The Skip needed overs from the two of them at the death so they were given a breather and this was where things went a little pear-shaped. We conceded 71 runs in the next 12 overs and made life very difficult for ourselves. They were a quality side, but we really had the chance to test them a whole lot more than we ended up doing. They took drinks on 85/2.

Our only realistic chance of pulling off a win was to bowl them out, but they batted responsibly (for the most part) and scored the winnings runs with 5 overs to spare.

As we discussed on Saturday, our matches are only 70 overs in total if it goes the distance – we need to be better at the basics for all 70 overs (not just 50). Chins up, we plod on and all will be fine

A special mention to Bryn (5-0-16-0) and Oz (5.4-0-19-1) for their bowling efforts. The rest of us need to watch and learn a little. Let’s get down to the nets on Wednesday and have some fun in anticipation of Green Point away on Saturday

REPORT COMPILED BY BRETT McCracken

(Hard luck guys, but on lighter note (no pun intended) the difference of the teams might just have been that Castle light vs The Jive!!!!)

Until next week.....

From the Boundary Rope was edited by Coach Craig

Thanks for the respective input from the roaming reporters / skippers.

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