

Lavant win Plate final at Hove

Lavant Cricket Club won the Derek Johnson Plate in the Selsey Village Championship finals played at the County Ground at Hove last week.

Their opponents were the youthful Exeter Cavaliers.

The Lavant captain, Jeff Smith lost the toss and the Cavaliers captain, Paul McEner, put Lavant in to bat on an excellent wicket. Openers Colin Drinkwater and Ray Beadle made an excellent start against the fast bowling of Phil Bradbury and M. Stanton.

With the Lavant score on 59, Beadle was caught by Collins off the bowling of Vawdrey for 17. Peter Burford replaced Beadle at the wicket but was not able to show the form that has taken him near the top of

the batting averages this year. He quickly scored two runs and then was caught by Bradbury again off the bowling of Vawdrey.

Colin Drinkwater played some excellent shots with his brother Tony in a supporting role. This pair put on another 30 runs before Colin Drinkwater was bowled out by Cannon for 43. Tony Drinkwater took over from Colin and David Burford did not stay long and did not trouble the scorers.

His brother Robin Burford played a much more supportive role while Tony Drinkwater continued to dominate the Cavaliers' bowling. By the close of the innings Tony Drinkwater had scored a creditable 31 not out, Robin Burford had scored eight not out and the Lavant total had reached 113-4.

The Exeter Cavaliers set their sights on victory right from the start. Darren Lawrence and Paul Aldridge opened the Lavant bowling and kept the Cavaliers score below the required run rate. In

the fourth over Aldridge caught and bowled Vawdrey with the score on 18. Phil Bradbury joined E. Smith at the crease and tried to force the scoring rate before being out lbw to Steve Massey for 12.

Smith played a determined innings but his partners were not able to give him a great deal of support. Cannon scored 11 before being bowled by Massey. Eventually Smith was also bowled by Massey after scoring 34.

In his fourth over Steve Massey attempted to catch a ball that was hit very hard straight back at him. He only succeeded in splitting his little finger on his right hand. After a long delay he carried on to finish his spell with excellent figures of 3-12 off four eight-ball overs. It was this bowling performance that really showed the difference between the two sides.

Colin Drinkwater bowled the last over with the Cavaliers wanting 31 more runs to win off eight balls. He took the wicket of D. Vawdrey and two other batsmen were run out.

The Exeter Cavaliers closing score was 97 for 7.

Both teams received handsome medals after the game and the Plate was presented to the Lavant captain by Mrs. Johnson. All the players had a very enjoyable day at the County Ground and thanks go to Selsey Cricket Club for organizing the competition.

LAVANT

D. Drinkwater.....	43
R. Beadle	17
P. Burford.....	2
T. Drinkwater not out.....	31
D. Burford	0
R. Burford not out	8
Extras.....	0

Total (for 4 wks)..... 113
Bowling: R. Cannon 23-1; D. Vawdrey 2-29.

CAVALIERS

E. Smith.....	34
K. Vawdrey.....	7
P. Bradbury.....	12
R. Cannon.....	11
D. Vawdrey.....	14
D. Barnes.....	11
S. Collins.....	3
M. Stanton not out.....	1
Extras.....	0

Total (for 7 wks)..... 97
Bowling: P. Aldridge 1-12, S. Massey 3-12, C. Drinkwater 1-41.



The successful Lavant cricket team pictured at the Hove ground: left to right, back row: C. Drinkwater, T. Drinkwater, R. Massey, P. Aldridge, R. Burford, S. Massey. Front row: R. Beadle, P. Burford J. Smith, D. Lawrence, D. Burford.

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