

Schools caning

BLACKWOOD SIX OF THE BEST

GEORGE Blackwood batted and bowled Asquith Boys High to victory in the final of the North West Metropolitan Zone schools cricket competition last week.

Taking on Normanhurst Boys High School in the final at Pennant Hills Oval on Wednesday, Blackwood,

who opened the bowling, took 6-6 and sparked a collapse that had Normanhurst all out for 112.

With the bat, Blackwood hit 58 to help his side reach their total with five wickets to spare. It was Asquith's fourth consecutive first-grade premiership.

Howzat ... Normanhurst's Sanjay Balakumar is out LBW. Tom Westbrook



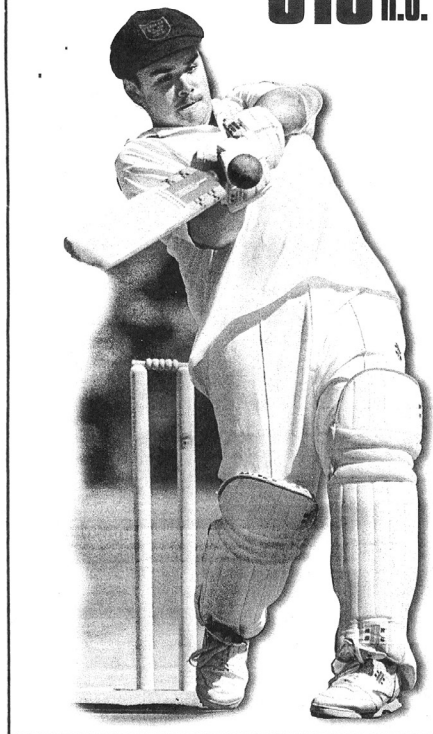
Asquith Boys High School first grade cricketers won the final of the Sydney North Regional Davison Shield State School cricket knockout competition on Wednesday 5/12 at Berowra Oval to highlight an exciting time for cricket at the school.

On a beautiful day for cricket after losing the toss they had Tuggerah Lakes High School in trouble at 5/2 but an obstinate and very good innings from Vinn going in at 7 took Tuggerah to 7/123 off 40 overs. The Asquith bowlers bowled a great line and they also fielded well on a good

batting pitch but Tuggerah felt that they had set a competitive total.

After a solid start Asquith batted in a sensible yet commanding fashion and never looked uncomfortable against bowlers who at times struggled against some classic off side drives and ruthless pull shots. Edward Hollis the Captain never looked in any difficulty and in partnership with Mitch Easy led the team home for an 8 wicket win in the 26th over. The highlights of the bowling were N. Miller 1/21 and a runout, G. Blackwood 2/23, C Marfleet 1/16, E. Hollis 1/20, L. Kissick 1/8, Z. Smith 0/10. Mark Wilson took a brilliant catch and Aaron Fulwood only conceded 3 byes - an excellent effort. Excellent fielding by Sinnico, Verduin, Norman and Raymond restricted the runs. After a good start by G. Blackwood in opening the innings, Edward played majestically for his 64 n.o and in partnership with Mitch Easy who played very sensibly, sealed an emphatic 8 wicket win with 14 overs left.

In 40 overs Bingai hit 24 sixes and 30 fours in his 315 n.o.



By DEAN RITCHIE
Cricket Writer

YOUNG Aboriginal batsman Bingai Gamble took his surname to heart by going on a record-breaking run spree last Saturday.

Throwing caution to the wind, Gamble, 13 years old, opened the innings and scored 315 (retired) off 40 overs for Mount Colah under 14s against Berowra in his team's total of 387.

It is believed to be the highest score by a junior player in NSW cricket history.

After an opening stand of just 14 Gamble was involved in a second-wicket partnership of 295 — of which his partner Nick Van Breda scored 30.

After that 30 the next highest score belonged to sundries, which totalled 18, and only one other Mt Colah batsman reached double figures.

That afternoon, Gamble backed up and played C grade (seniors) for Mt Colah where he scored 52 for a grand total of 367 runs for the day.

Gamble, a right-hander, hit 24 sixes and 30 fours (264 runs in boundaries). His innings lasted just three hours with Berowra using 10 bowlers.

The previous match, Gamble failed with scores of just two and 13.

The Mt Colah club is hoping Sir Donald Bradman and former Australian captain and coach Bob Simpson will sign Gamble's bat as previous triple centurions.

His score of 315 shows Gamble has remarkable concentration for a cricketer so young.

Quietly spoken, Gamble was yesterday back at Asquith Boys High (Year 8) pondering his once-in-a-lifetime innings. "I hadn't thought about my score. Now

I'm happy it's the highest from a junior player," he said.

"I only practise once a week for the under 14s but at home I put a ball in a stocking and hang it from the clothes-line. It's good practice.

"The bowlers were all right. They were pretty accurate but were a bit slow."

Gamble represented Eastwood under 13s in rugby union earlier this year and remains unsure what sport to focus on.

"I don't quite know just yet. It could be rugby or cricket but I'm leaning slightly toward cricket at the moment," he said. "I enjoy playing both."

Gamble said his parents Ken and Carol were proud of his achievement. Carol was the official match scorer.

"They said I did well on Saturday and they hope to see me do it again," he said.

"My two sisters (Marilyn and Kara) were also a bit surprised."

Gamble, unsure what job he will seek after year 12, nominated former Australian Test opener Michael Slater as his hero.

"I like the way he bats," he said.

"He reckons if you hit the ball hard it's harder to catch. That's the theory I go by."

And his favourite shot? "The pull shot," he said.

Chris Bonnor, principal at Asquith Boys High, said: "We're very proud. Every now and then we get some stunning junior cricketers but this is an outstanding result.

"The extent of his score has caught me by surprise. We're hoping he'll be part of our open team for a few years to come."

Gamble will return to the crease for Mount Colah under 14s this Saturday morning.

Cricket history in making



Off to England ... from left, Clinton Witt, Lisa Sthalekar and Sally Butler set for their history-making tour

CRICKET hopefuls Lisa Sthalekar, Sally Butler and Clinton Witt pack their bags this weekend for a history making tour of England and Ireland.

The trio are members of the first NSW Combined High School (CHS) teams to tour overseas.

Lisa, 16, attends Cherrybrook High; Sally, 16, Asquith Girls and Clinton, 16, Asquith Boys.

All are graduates of Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai and Hills District junior competitions.

Lisa now plays for Gordon, Sally for Ku-ring-gai and Clinton for Northern District in senior ranks.

The trio were selected in the State teams earlier this year.

Lisa was named captain of the girls' side.

Both teams will play 12 matches while on the four week tour.

NSWCHS teams have traditionally provided a springboard for players to go on to bigger and better things.

Among those have been former Australian player John Dyson and current NSW fast bowler Wayne Holdsworth.



Asquith Boys First Grade Cricket side won their first stand alone Premiership title in 41 years after beating Normanhurst Boys at Pennant Hills Park in the final of the North West Zone Grade Sport Competition. After beating North Sydney in the semi final, Asquith outplayed a good Normanhurst side in a 40 over match.

Normanhurst won the toss and elected to bat, but the Asquith bowlers gradually took control. They bowled accurately and this was backed up with some great fielding. After the break at 20 overs there were five consecutive maidens and this proved relentless in building pressure and forcing the batsmen to take risks. Normanhurst were eventually bowled out in the penultimate over for 114 runs. Richard Johnson cleaned up the tail by clean bowling three tailenders. Richards figures were 5 for 20. It was a terrific effort from Asquith in the field.

Asquith lost two early wickets but Sam Every and Chris Easy gradually regained the initiative in a quick partnership of over 70. This broke the back of the Normanhurst effort in the field and by the 21st over Asquith had claimed the title by six wickets in a comprehensive victory. Sam Every played a match winning innings of 69 from about 40 balls and it was fitting that captain Matt Buwalda who had become so instrumental in the success of the side was in when the winning runs were scored.

Although there were great individual performances over the season it was an outstanding win by a team that displayed great teamwork and skill. It also showed that cricket is very much alive and kicking hard at Asquith Boys High School.

Mr Ryan Bolger, HT PDHPE
2011 March Backchat

Top left: 1995 Hornsby Advocate
Top photo: 1997 1st Grade Cricket in action
Left: 1996 School Northerly Magazine report

FIRST GRADE CRICKET COACH'S REPORT

The 1995-1996 First Grade Cricket Team began as a dream in the minds of some senior students, in particular Clinton Witt and David Williamson. These boys built up a team by persuading other leading cricketers in the school to choose cricket as their summer sport. They also enlisted several other boys with little cricket experience, but who had sound sporting ability. A new member of staff was co-opted to look after the side.

The season finished with the disappointment of coming close to triumph in all three competitions we entered, but missing out in each. In the Northern District Cup, we lost to St Leo's, Wahroonga on the last possible ball in the match. In our zone competition, we recorded only two losses. A narrow loss to North Sydney Boys and an uncharacteristic poor showing against Homebush, were sufficient for us to miss out on the final. In the Davidson Shield we reached the semi-finals and were in a winning position against Farrer before a batting collapse. More detailed reports of the matches can be found in the Clinton Witt's Captain's Report.

I wish to express my thanks for the co-operation of all the players on and off the field. On a number of occasions they were required to be at school at 7.00 am and often not returning home until 6.00 pm and even had one match that required over night accommodation.

A number of parents and grandparents supported the side by watching some of the matches. This support was appreciated by both the boys and myself, as were the regular score enquires during the Davidson Shield matches by parents unable to attend.

The boys progression to the Davidson Shield semi-finals created much interest within the school community. I received considerable support and encouragement from a number of staff members including Mr Bonnor, Mr Johnson, Mr Kent, Mr Loudon and Mr Thomsett. I would also like to thank the office ladies for their assistance. I would however, like to single out Mr Tulloch for his assistance which included travelling to Camden, Caringbah and later to Campbelltown for the Davidson Shield.

It has been a pleasure to have been associated with this team. As a result of their efforts on and off the field, the future of Grade Cricket looks much brighter at Asquith. In 1994-95 we entered two teams (no open team) and in 1996-97 we will be entering five teams (two open teams)

Mr S. McApplion Coach.



December 2012 Backchat

Top left: 2014 Hornsby Advocate
Top photo: April 2014 Backchat, 1st Grade Cricket coached by Blackwood. The team after their convincing win against Normanhurst Boys...

Left: 1997 Hornsby Advocate