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natal cricket board

25 th Anniversary

1961-62



1985-86

Souvenir Brochure

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Message from . . .

S.K. REDDY,
PRESIDENT OF THE NATAL CRICKET BOARD

I feel extremely honoured and privileged to enjoy the good fortune of being the President of the Natal Cricket Board in the year it celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary.

As we celebrate on this occasion, let us also pause to look back at our humble beginnings and think upon the pioneers who helped to establish the Board and those who nurtured its growth. I must pay tribute to my very illustrious predecessors who through their dedication and labour of love have shaped each step through the maze of adversity that is the lot of non-racial cricket. Of relevance here are the words of Sarojini Naidu:

"Let us learn to serve and not to count the cost;
To fight and not to heed the wounds;
To toil and not to seek for rest;
To labour and not to ask for reward
Save that of knowing that we serve."

The Board at present has fourteen affiliates including the cricketing wings of both the Natal Senior Schools' Sports Federation and the Natal Primary Schools' Sports Board. Although we cater for thousands of senior and junior cricketers throughout the province, there is an amazing tardiness on the part of big business houses to respond to the appeal for sponsorship of so numerically powerful a body. The financial burden has for years been borne by the clubs and players whose fund-raising at local level has to pay the way for inter-club, inter-district and inter-provincial competitions.

Besides the lack of financial assistance, the other factor that has somewhat hampered our progress in the twenty-five years has been the very little significant change in the quality of the facilities placed at the disposal of the units of the Board. This is a serious indictment on the respective local authorities. It is hoped that this untenable state of affairs will be remedied soon.

During the twenty-five years thousands of cricketers have passed through the portals of the Board. We thank them for having helped to create a worthy tradition. However, there is an ever-growing demand for their expertise to raise the standard of the game.

I appeal to these ex-cricketers to give back to the game some of the joy they derived from it. They could still make their contributions as administrators and coaches.

I am fortunate to have been associated with the Natal Cricket Board through many of its years of existence and it has added a richness to my life. My sincere wish is that it will in the not too distant future attain its goal of non-racialism in a truly non-racial society.

The Natal Cricket Board is indebted to its appointed sub-committee responsible for the publication of this brochure: Messrs A. Rose (convenor), K.R. Reddy, M.C. Seedat, C. Docrat and C. Badsha. I wish to pay a special tribute to Mr K.R. Reddy not only for "single-handedly" researching all the material but also for the many hours spent in the arduous task of authenticating all statistics and records chronicled in this brochure. The board is indeed fortunate to have at its disposal this "historian" of the game.



Who would think that a little bit of leather and two pieces of wood had such a delightful and delighting power?

— Mary Russell Mitford

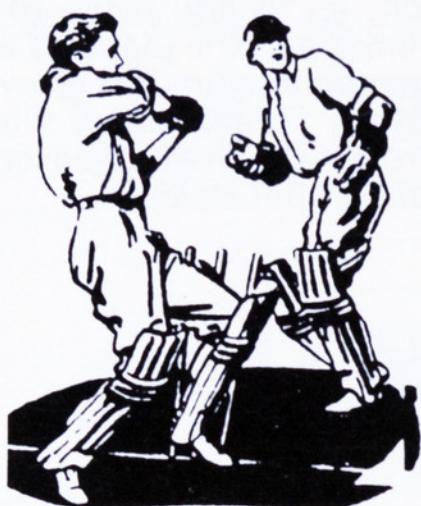
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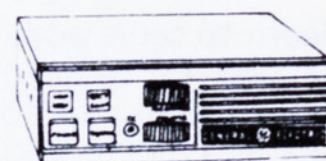
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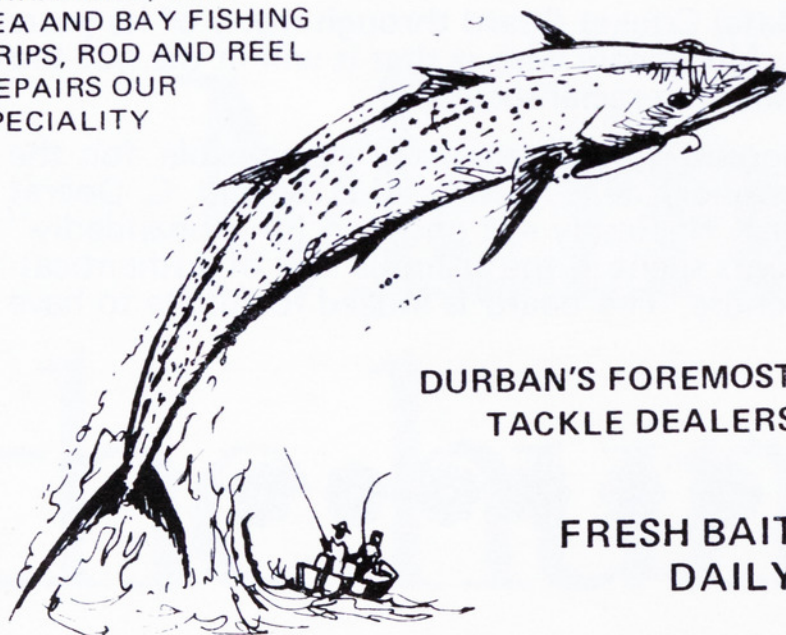
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MESSAGE FROM KRISH MACKERDHUI, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CRICKET BOARD

As the representative head of cricketers and administrators of cricket under the aegis of the South African Cricket Board, I congratulate the Natal Cricket Board on its 25th anniversary.

In doing so we should also commend the foresight and vision of the people that courageously launched the organisation, free from the ethnic stranglehold of the time, and gave the direction for the acceptance of the non-racial ideology in Natal cricket.

We must also acknowledge with fond memories the people who followed in identifying themselves with the non-racial fraternity.

Non-racialism emerged on the South African sports scene because of an "unbalanced force" — an ideology imposed on it — which determines and dominates all spheres of one's mode of life in this country.

This "unbalanced force" not only seeks the permanent subjugation of the oppressed black majority, but it also represents an awareness, at the sports level in that section of society, of those factors that are the root cause of all inequities and injustice we are forced to endure.

It is now history that the Natal Cricket Board and the Western Province Cricket Board were responsible in giving birth to the South African Cricket Board which was constituted after the cricket summit meeting held in Kimberley on September 25, 1977.

It is remembered that the Natal Cricket Board has totally supported the South African Cricket Board's pledge of its unreserved acceptance and support for the principles and aspirations of the South African Council on Sport (SACOS).

The South African Cricket Board is proud to have the Natal Cricket Board as its affiliate, for it accepts as its basic principle the belief in, and commitment to, the equality and dignity and worth of all humans, and envisages with it, a unified South Africa where this principle is respected and entrenched at all levels of society.

MESSAGE FROM FRANK VAN DER HORST, PRESIDENT OF SACOS



The SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL ON SPORT (SACOS) extends comradely greetings to the non-racial NATAL CRICKET BOARD (NCB) on this auspicious occasion of your silver anniversary. Your entire 25 years have been dedicated to the promotion of non-racial cricket as an integral part of the broader struggle for non-racial sport in a united, liberated, non-exploitative and democratic society. No nobler tribute can be paid to a people's organisation in this violent, racist apartheid society. May your loyal and courageous members remain strong and committed to your non-racial principles.

We share a deep belief that is based on the dignity and equality of rights of all human beings. We are part of a mass movement that is destroying the vulgar and racist class values of status, greed, privilege and exploitation. Through people's sport, we are assisting in building a progressive people's

culture for the new society which will draw on the finest traditions of mankind. It shall be anti-colonialist in perspective and ensure that the interests of the workers, the actual producers of wealth and who constitute the vast majority, will be paramount.

Our country has become a war zone. Apart from the endless obstacles of this discriminatory racist society we are faced with a virtually permanent state of emergency, an economy that is in tatters and a well-armed minority government that is opting for a siege economy.

The level of struggle has advanced dramatically through unforgettable acts of bravery by our students, workers and sportspersons. The servile stooges of apartheid who serve on the community councils, management and advisory committees, tri-cameral racist parliaments and bantustans stand condemned by the working masses as junior partners of the evil system.

In desperation the liberals, big business, Urban Foundation, the racist Progressive Federal party, multinational sport and others are calling for negotiations or a national convention to save their exploitative profit system. They want to buy off the "moderate leaders" and the collaborationist sections of the black middle class with cosmetic reforms, token concessions or open material and monetary lures.

But our powerful sports' and workers' struggle for a new democracy where the workers shall govern, cannot be stopped by such shameless compromises. Let us strengthen and build our sports base. Let every player become a dedicated cadre in our struggle to build unity to abolish the oppressive laws, the exploitative cheap black labour system, the enslaving racist institutions and the inequality of wealth. May your long history be a source of immense inspiration to all sportspersons. An organised, united and determined working/sports people can never be defeated. Let us march forward together to victory under the banner: "NO NORMAL SPORT IN AN ABNORMAL SOCIETY."

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY PROFESSOR KRISH BHARUTH-RAM

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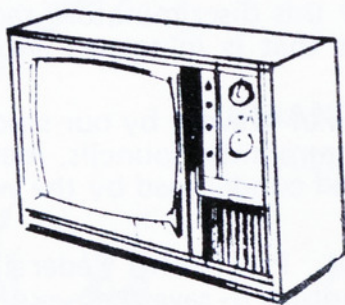
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NATAL CRICKET BOARD OFFICIALS AND COUNCILLORS 1985-86



Photo by Marlan Padayachee

- Top Row : V.K. RAMDIAL (Stanger), G.V. NAIDOO (Verulam), A. BAKER THAYAB (Phoenix), M.F. GOGA, (Newcastle), Dr. Y.M. MOOLA (Newcastle), A.I. CASSIMJEE (Maritzburg), BASIL SINGH (Phoenix), R. NAIDOO (Executive), R. SALIG (Natal Primary Schools), A.A. ROSE (Natal Primary Schools).
- Centre Row : A. BISESWAR (Durban), M.G. MOODLEY (Natal High Schools), M.S. KHAN (Maritzburg), J. SINGH (Stanger), N. ARBEE (Tongaath), J. PILLAY (Chatworth), Y.M. AMEEN (Newcastle), S. NAIDOO (Durban), A.S. SIBRAN (Northern Districts), M. MUSTHAN (Chatsworth), I. ISMAIL (Stanger), S.M. HAFFAJEE (Maritzburg), A.S. PARUK (Newcastle), M.C. SEEDAT (Durban).
- Front Row : A.G. NAIDOO (Executive), J. BHANA (Minute Secretary), A.M. KHARVA (Vice President), N.N. CHETTY (Administrative Secretary), K. MACKERDHUJ (Vice President), S.K. REDDY (President), Dr. E.I. VAWDA (Patron), S.K. PATEL (Treasurer), C. DOCRAT (Vice President), M. MANJOO (Record Clerk), D.M. SHAIK (Executive).
- Units Absent : Asherville, Isipingo, Merewent.



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With the sun in my eyes, sir,
Being sure at a 'snatch'
I ran for a catch;
Now I wear a black patch
And a nose such a size, sir!
I ran for a catch
With the sun in my eyes, sir.*

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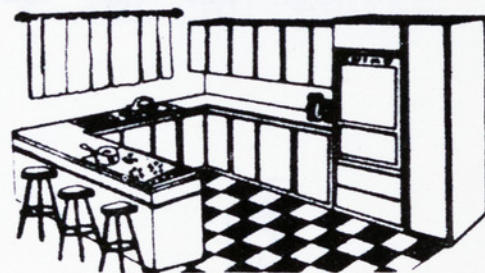
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1961-62	S L Singh	S Bridgemohan	S Kirsten	—	A L Adams	B S Chetty
1962-63	S L Singh	S Bridgemohan	S Kirsten	—	A L Adams	B S Chetty
1963-64	S L Singh	S Bridgemohan	R G Naidoo	—	E C Mohamedy	B S Chetty
1964-65	Mrs S L Singh	S Bridgemohan	R G Naidoo (d)	—	E C Mohamedy	K Ramdial
			R Hansraj	—		
1965-66	S Bridgemohan	S K Naidoo	K Ramdial	—	D Rambaran	H Samuel
1966-67	S Bridgemohan	S K Naidoo	K Ramdial	—	D Rambaran	H Samuel
1967-68	S Bridgemohan	P Naidoo	H Samuel	—	M A Asmal	K Ramdial
1968-69	S Bridgemohan	P Naidoo	H Samuel	L Naidoo	M A Asmal	K Ramdial
1969-70	S Bridgemohan	T A Dada	Y Siddiqi	M E Mulla	I G H Patel	G M E Motala
1970-71	S Bridgemohan	G N Singh	B Maraj	F A Pooniah	A Sewnundan	L Ramsamooj
1971-72	S Bridgemohan	G N Singh	B Maraj	F A Pooniah	A Sewnundan	L Ramsamooj
1972-73	S K Naidoo	P Naidoo	H Samuel	K Ramdial	D P David	I Mathir
1973-74	S K Naidoo	P Naidoo	H Samuel	J Singh	D P David	I Mathir (r)
1974-75	S K Naidoo	Abdulla Khan	S Kirsten	N Raju	M A E Asmal	M S Govender
1975-76	S K Naidoo	S K Naidoo (a)	M N Pillay	N Raju	T A Dada	A Biseswar
1976-77	S K Naidoo	K Mackerdhuj	S Naidoo	I Khan	R Shah	A Biseswar
1977-78	S K Naidoo	K Mackerdhuj	S Naidoo	E Ansary	S K Patel	W Diedricks
1978-79	S K Naidoo	K Mackerdhuj	Y Mahomed	C Badsha	S K Patel	W Diedricks
1979-80	S K Naidoo	K Mackerdhuj	C Docrat	R Govind	S K Patel	W Diedricks
1980-81	S K Naidoo	K Mackerdhuj	R Govind	N Iyer	S K Patel	M Manjoo
1981-82	C M Bassa	K Mackerdhuj	N Iyer	M Musthan	S K Patel	M Manjoo
1982-83	C M Bassa	K Mackerdhuj	N Iyer (r)	N A Naidoo	S K Patel	M Manjoo
			V S Tewary (a)			
1983-84	E I Vawda	K Mackerdhuj	N N Chetty	N A Naidoo	S K Patel	M Manjoo
1984-85	E I Vawda	S K Reddy	N N Chetty	J Bhana	S K Patel	M Manjoo
1985-86	E I Vawda	S K Reddy	N N Chetty	J Bhana	S K Patel	M Manjoo

Key: a = acting, r = resigned, d = deceased

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A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MR S. BRIDGEMOHAN



The late Mr. S. Bridgemohan was the first President of the Natal Cricket Board of Control, as it was then known. He held office for four years and then became its distinguished Patron for seven years until his death in 1972.

He steered the Board through those pioneering days with a sense of dedication and commitment that any sports administrator would be proud to emulate. They were difficult days when concerted efforts were being made to remove the racial tags in our cricket and credit must be given to men like him for their vision and foresight in promoting the cause of non-racial sport. As a delegate to the South African Cricket Board of

Control his views were widely respected and it is appropriate to recall his words on the eve of the first ever integrated national tournament held in Johannesburg:

'There is in cricket a voice calling for the integration of all races which is, it seems to me, more thrilling and more compelling than any of the many moving voices with which the troubled air of the world is filled. Of much more permanent significance is the creation of such a body as the South African Cricket Board of Control. Even if some of the principles enunciated by it may lack both precision and practicability for some people, it is instigated by ideals of unquestionable value. The concept of what is right and honourable in sport has been stated with a frankness, a largeness of view, a generosity of spirit, which challenge the admiration of every friend of mankind.'

It must have been deeply satisfying to him that some of the goals he set whilst in office were fulfilled before his death, the most important ones being the organisation of a coaching scheme and the idea of home and away interprovincial matches over three days. He was actively involved with the then President of our Board, Mr G.N. Singh, in negotiating a sponsorship of R10,500 over three years from the South Coast Indian Football Association Sports Trust to secure a cricket coach for the Board.

It is fitting, perhaps, to end this tribute by reproducing here the words of his last letter of good wishes to our Board, for his words are those of an ailing man — a man whose heart was so close to the Natal Cricket Board.

'At a time when I cannot express, nor can I put such expression into writing due to my infirmity, and pondering many things of the past, I think now of the Almighty and what He has in store for me; at such a time, you blessed me with your call this morning. I was enlivened by the few minutes of discussion we had about the cricket meeting and the spirit it has in keeping with that which made us form the Board a decade ago.

Keep that spirit with determination, and never be despondent with the temporary phase which is blowing on the colour — line, because it will certainly pass. Posterity will have the satisfaction that we are standing for that spirit which is true and universal and we cannot be denied what — ever our rightful claim.

The South Coast Indian Football Association Sports Trust must be thanked ever so much for helping with a substantial sum of money in promoting that spirit which we are yearning for, to reach the goal. May you have a successful meeting. Convey my regards to all.'

Mr Bridgemohan was called to rest on 24 June 1972. May his soul rest in peace.



WHICH IS IT?

To some people cricket is a circus show upon which they may or may not find it worth while to spend sixpence; to others it is a pleasant means of livelihood; to others a physical fine art full of plot, interest and enlivened by difficulties; to others in some sort it is a cult and a philosophy, and these last will never be understood by the *profanum vulgus*, nor by the merchant-minded, nor by the unphysically intellectual.

— C. B. Fry

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NATAL CRICKET BOARD – A HISTORICAL REVIEW

A historic conference of the national inter-race bodies held in Johannesburg early in 1961 saw the reorientation of the South African Cricket Board of Control where a previously unanimous agreement to outlaw the racial character of the Board was put into effect. The various units thereupon affiliated directly on a provincial level with tournaments staged biennially. On a directive from the parent body, all units in Natal were amalgamated under one control and on 15 October 1961 the Natal Inter-race Cricket Board was dissolved and the presently constituted Natal Cricket Board came into existence. Credit must be given to those early pioneers for their vision and foresight, and foremost in our ranks was the late Mr S Bridgemohan the first president of the Natal Cricket Board. At the inauguration on 15 October 1961 those present pledged to bring about complete integration in cricket.

The Natal Cricket Board had an initial affiliation of eight units viz. Durban District Cricket Union, Durban District Cricket Association, County, Stanger, Mayville, Tongaat, Verulam and South Coast. Of these four remain today – Durban District Cricket Union, Stanger, Tongaat and Verulam, the first two being the only ones to have a full twenty five year association with the Board. Tongaat failed to affiliate in 1978–79 but re-emerged in 1982–83 while Verulam failed to affiliate in 1976–77 and re-appeared in 1980–81. Of the other four units, Durban District Cricket Association withdrew in 1965–66, County in 1965–66, Mayville in 1967–68 and South Coast in 1968–69. The shifting of population according to the Group Areas Act has been responsible for this.

Port Shepstone joined the Board in 1966–67 but withdrew in 1978–79. Umzinto joined as a new affiliate in 1978–79 and in the season 1979–80 amalgamated with Merewent as the South Coast affiliate for only a year. They re-appeared as Umzinto in 1980–81 and eventually withdrew in 1982–83. Marban joined the Board in 1969–70 but withdrew in 1979–80.

Today the Board has fourteen affiliated units made up of the four mentioned already (Durban District Cricket Union, Stanger, Verulam, and Tongaat), Asherville (joined 1963–64), Chatsworth (joined 1965–66), Maritzburg (joined 1965–66), Northern Districts (joined 1965–66), Phoenix (joined 1979–80), Newcastle (joined 1982–83), Merewent, Isipingo, the Natal High Schools' Sports Federation and the Natal Primary Schools' Sports Board.

Merewent initially joined the Board as Merebank in 1965–66 and then changed to Merewent in 1968–69. They withdrew in 1971–72 but amalgamated with Umzinto as the affiliate for South Coast in 1979–80. However, after only a year, they re-appeared as Merewent. Isipingo first joined as Lotus Park in 1977–78 but only spent a season with the Board. They re-appeared in 1981–82.

The schools have had a close liaison with the Board and as long ago as the late sixties representatives of the Natal High Schools' Sports Federation attended our meetings. This body is now a registered affiliate of the Board since 1975–76 while the Natal Primary Schools' Sports Board became an affiliate in 1980–81.

Player registration reached a peak in the late sixties (103 clubs with 1968 players in 1968–69) but there was a falling off in the late seventies. Over the last five years the player population has increased steadily and at the end of last season there were 121 clubs comprising 1672 adult players. This figure does not include the hundreds of junior players involved in competitions organised by their domestic units.

In 1977–78 the Board became an affiliate of Nacos and strongly upholds the principles of non-racialism in sport as promulgated by this body. It is appropriate in this regard to quote from the presidential address of Mr Mackerdhuij at that time: 'This terrible sickness of colour discrimination, permits and concessions, unequal facilities and opportunities should not be accepted. The basis of MERIT and FAIRPLAY can only be possible if all participants are able to compete with each other freely at all levels. Any system which does not offer equal opportunity, equal training and equal experience at all levels must be rejected.'

The Board's Reorientation Commission suggested the creation of the position of a Minute Secretary to relieve the great strain placed on the Administrative Secretary and this proposal was put into effect in 1968–69. In 1970–71 the Natal captain was included as fifth selector for the first time and this practice was continued with success for several seasons. In 1972–73 two selection committees (junior and senior) were appointed and this procedure has been successfully followed to date.

In the early eighties the Board availed itself of Messrs Yacoob Vawda and Cassim Docrat at separate times as Public Relations Officers and they gave splendid service in this regard. The Board has, in recent years set up commissions of inquiry to investigate the affairs of those units in difficulty or in default. In addition, to improve the standard of administration, the Board decided that papers should be presented at council meetings on a regular basis. The present President, Mr S.K. Reddy, set the ball rolling in 1982–83 by presenting a very interesting and informative paper on selection. To improve further the standard of sports administration in general, units were invited by the Board to arrange for an Administrators' course to be held on a decentralised basis.

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY MR. G.V. NAIDOO

This review will not be complete without a brief survey of Natal's contribution at South African Cricket Board level. The third Biennial General Meeting of the South African Cricket Board of Control was held in Johannesburg in December 1965. Of considerable importance to Natal was the impending change in headquarters from Johannesburg where headquarters had remained since inception. The Natal Cricket Board unanimously decided to contest the elections. In the presidential nomination from Natal, C.M. Bassa narrowly defeated S. Bridgemohan but our quest for headquarters failed and the seat of the South African Cricket Board of Control moved to Cape Town. In the season 1967-68 a keen tussle for the Presidency of the South African Cricket Board of Control ensued between C.M. Bassa of Natal and J.S. Van Harte of Western Province. At the Biennial General Meeting held in Kimberley in Easter our candidate was defeated. A tie had been reached in the voting when the chairman announced that the 'status quo' remain and this prophetic ruling saw headquarters again remain in Cape Town.

It would be appropriate at this point to pay tribute to the late Mr Cassim Bassa, the Board's Patron and elder statesman up to the time of his sudden demise. His association with the Board was a very close one for he loved cricket very much and gave unstintingly of his time and energy. He set high standards in administration and was a respected spokesman for the cricketers' cause. Such were his qualities of leadership and guidance that he was regarded as a mentor by many of his fellow administrators on the Board. His passing away left a void in cricket administration both locally and nationally that would be hard to fill.

In 1973-74 a bold decision was taken by our council to have direct representation at all South African Cricket Board of Control meetings. Prior to this, Natal made use of proxies in Cape Town to represent us at several meetings at national level. A sub-committee appointed by the Board in 1974-75 submitted various recommendations to the South African Cricket Board of Control on the laws of the game and competition rules, several of which were eventually implemented.

There was considerable controversy in 1975-76 with the decision of the South African Cricket Board of Control to allow its players to take part in matches against the touring International Wanderers. The participation exercise was a flagrant deviation from the principle of non-participation in any token matches before the realisation of mixed cricket at club level. The Natal Cricket Board voted against the decision to accept the South African Cricket Association invitation even though the powers of persuasion of the President of the South African Cricket Board of Control were overwhelming. Consequently some cricketers played and others refrained. From Natal, I Ebrahim and F. Timol (G. Francois) succumbed to 'other' pressures and played at Kingsmead.

In 1976-77 the Natal Cricket Board rejected the draft constitution of the Nine Man Motivating Committee for the National Controlling Body of cricket in South Africa on the grounds of its being multi-national. At a South African Cricket Board of Control meeting convened to discuss the constitution, the Natal amended constitution was accepted unanimously and it was agreed to present this constitution to the Nine Man Motivation Committee. In spite of repeated requests from our Board, the South African Cricket Board of Control failed to provide us with a constitution or to institute a meeting.

On the 13 November 1977 the South African Cricket Board (SACB) was established. At our fourth council meeting on 18 November 1977 the house unanimously accepted the motion to affiliate to SACB. In the season 1978-79 our then President, Krish Mackerdhuj, was appointed Vice-President of SACB. At the sixth Annual General Meeting of SACB held in Cape Town in May, for the first time the position of President was contested. In the first count both Hassan Howa and Krish Mackerdhuj tied with ten votes each. In the second round of voting Howa retained his post by twelve votes to nine. At the following Annual General Meeting of SACB held in Cape Town on 26 May 1984, the Presidency of SACB changed hands for the first time. Hassan Howa was defeated by Natal's Krish Mackerdhuj by fifteen votes to thirteen and history was made in that this was the first time ever that the Presidency of the national controlling body had come to Natal. At the Annual General Meeting held in Durban on 21 June 1986 Krish Mackerdhuj was re-elected SACB President for his third consecutive term of office.

ENEMY ACTION

I once saw a bowler in Australia thunder to the wicket and bowl a flat-out under-arm at the batsman. No warning given. Quite rightly too. In my profession you have to mystify the enemy.

— *Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery at a Cricket Luncheon*

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LOCAL COMPETITIONS

Several local competitions have been organised by the Board at Interdistrict and club level on a league and knockout basis. Changes have been made to meet the demands of the cricket playing population, such changes being introduced with a view to improving playing standards and providing keen competition throughout the province.

In the beginning two Interdistrict competitions were organised at A and B level on a promotion-relegation basis. The Shell Cup was played for by all clubs from the different units on a knock-out system.

Cricket in Natal had been for too long floundering in the doldrums. Standards reflected a steady decline. Every annual report commented with concern on the stalemate in our cricket. Mr M.A. Vawda, President of the South Coast District Cricket Union, submitted a memorandum to the Board in 1964 mentioning with regret the declining standard of cricket in the province and raised, inter alia, two suggestions for improving the standard of play viz.

- 1) Zoning for interdistrict competitions and,
- 2) Top league clubs from the domestic unions to play in a league competition organized by the Board.

Following the suggestion of Mr Vawda, Ash Biseswar of the Crimson Cricket Club, supported by several other clubs, asked for a Super League competition to enable cricket to be played on a higher level. The favourable recommendations of the sub committee consisting of Messrs C.M. Bassa, S.K. Chetty and H. Samuel were implemented forthwith and this saw the birth of the Super League and Super Knock Out competitions in Natal cricket. An enthusiastic press and public greeted the first set of Super League Fixtures on 26 October 1965. The six clubs who launched this historic venture were Clares, Crimson, Kismet, Olympia, Ottomans and Royals (Stanger). Kismet emerged inaugural winners of both the Super League and Super Knockout competitions. Super League teams were debarred from playing in the Shell Cup, the winners of which could join the Super League if they won in a play-off with the wooden spoonists of the league.

In 1966-67 the Super League was increased to eight clubs, Orientals (Maritzburg) and Crescents (Durban) having joined. The following season the Super Knockout competition was abolished to make way for a ten team Super League, Young Natalians and Hulsar being the newcomers. In 1968-69 a second division club championship, the Challenge League, was introduced with seven competing clubs; this was increased to ten clubs the following season. The U23 Inter-district competition at A and B levels was introduced in 1970-71 to be replaced in 1973-74 by an U19 championship on the same basis. In 1972-73, a third division championship, the Promotion League, was introduced and Natal club competitions were rearranged with eight teams each forming the Super, Challenge and Promotion Leagues. The Shell Cup still provided the other clubs in the province with the opportunity of gaining access to the Natal leagues in a play-off with the wooden spoonists of the newly formed Promotion League.

There were two disruptions to the local competitions organised by the Board during the season 1973-74. About midway through the season, it was decided to discontinue with the Challenge and Promotion Leagues and the Shell Cup because of the serious fuel restrictions in the country. A zonal league was inaugurated in the meantime but this interim competition lacked the glamour of the promotion-relegation incentive. The following season saw the Challenge league and the Shell Cup re-introduced. The Promotion League was disbanded. A zonal competition replaced the Interdistrict A and B at senior and U19 level in the next season (1974-75). In 1975-76 the zonal system was abandoned and the traditional Interdistrict A and B at adult and U19 level was re-instated. The Super and Challenge Leagues continued to flourish together with the Shell Cup. In the season 1976-77 all local competitions were thrown into disarray in efforts to play 'normal cricket'.

After the unsuccessful experiment of 'normal cricket', NCB began the 1977-78 season with a completely overhauled programme. A new 48 overs competition comprising Super League, Challenge League and Interdistrict teams was played on a regional league system in four groups. A new promotion knockout cup was instituted instead of the Shell Cup. The Super and Challenge Leagues continued. At this stage matches for junior cricketers were organised at domestic level by the different units. In 1978-79 the Board once again revamped its competitions and returned to the good old days of the late sixties when the Interdistrict A and B competitions were re-instated. The Super and Challenge Leagues continued and the Shell Cup was re-introduced.



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All this, however, only lasted one season for in 1979–80 the Super and Challenge leagues as well as the Shell Cup were scrapped. Only two competitions were held: Interdistrict A and B and a Natal Knockout Cup. Both Competitions proved to be a huge success. The re-arranged and truncated programme continued successfully for the next four seasons until 1983–84 when the Super League was re-introduced, with sixteen teams in two sections of eight clubs each. A Junior Interdistrict was also organised in the form of an inter-zonal centralised tournament. In 1984–85 Interdistrict competitions were held on a zonal basis comprising North Coast, Central, South Coast and Northern Natal at adult, U21 and U16 levels. Each zone comprised three units. When this competition was completed a centralised tournament was held in which the zonal winners played in a knockout competition. The Knockout Cup was retained and the Super League reduced to eight teams, the remaining eight forming a Challenge League. At the moment the status quo for the Interdistrict competition remains. There is no Challenge League, the Super League comprising instead A and B sections. The Knockout Cup is to be played for only by the Super League teams. A new promotion knockout cup for all other teams has been introduced, the winners of this to be promoted to the Super League. The two bottom teams of the Super League will play-off, the losers being relegated.

Mention must be made of the complete dominance of the Durban District Cricket Union in the Interdistrict A competition in the first fifteen years. They were champions season after season apart from Maritzburg, who won in 1965–66 (their first season of participation) and again in 1967–68, and Stanger who won in 1970–71. In the last ten years, however, the balance of power has been evenly distributed with Maritzburg, Northern Districts, Chatsworth (two years in succession in 1979–80 and 1980–81), and Durban itself winning in one year or another. Phoenix made a notable debut by winning the Interdistrict B competition in its very first year of affiliation. The coveted double of winning the A and B Interdistrict championship in one season has been achieved twice by Durban in 1969–70 and 1982–83, and once by Maritzburg in 1978–79 and Chatsworth in 1980–81.

From all accounts the Super League competition has been the glamour event of the Board's seasonal activities. It has been a permanent feature since its inception in 1965–66 except for a slight hiatus of four seasons from 1979–80 to 1982–83. No historical review will be complete without reference to the phenomenal success of the Crescent Cricket Club in the competition. In the ten seasons in which they competed they were champions in eight, six in consecutive years, conceding the title only twice to Royals of Stanger in 1967–68 and 1969–70. Such dominance is unprecedented and they were, in their period of existence with the Board, in playing strength, one of the finest allround clubs in Natal cricket.

As for the players themselves, scores of notable performances with bat and ball as well as in the field have been recorded but it would be fitting to mention the following very rare feats achieved in Natal competitions by the following players in the period under review. By a strange quirk of fate they were all performed in the same season, 1967–68, within a month of each other.

Jugoo Govender, of Royals Cricket Club (Stanger), is the only player to have scored a century (both undefeated) in each innings of a club match at Natal level. He scored 117 not out and 120 not out for Royals against Kismet in a Super League match on 4 November 1967. In fact, he is believed to be the first non-white player ever to score a century in each innings of a match in South Africa.

E. Moosa, of Mitchell Cricket Club (Tongaat), is the only player to have taken all ten wickets in an innings in an Interdistrict match. He took 10 wickets for 17 runs for Tongaat against Durban B on 11 November 1967.

Y. Limalia, of Olympia Cricket Club (Durban), is the only player to have taken all ten wickets in an innings in a club match at Natal level. He took 10 wickets for 32 runs for Olympia against Crescent in a Super League match on 22 October 1967.

CRICKET TALK

There is no talk, none so witty and brilliant, that is as cricket talk, when memory sharpens memory, and the dead live again – the regretted, the unforgotten – and the old happy days of burned-out Junes revive. We shall not see them again. We lament that lost lightness of heart, 'for no man under the sun lives twice, outliving his day', and the day of the cricketer is brief.

– *Andrew Lang*

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WINNERS OF LOCAL COMPETITIONS

SEASON	INTER-DISTRICT A	INTER-DISTRICT B	JUNIOR INTERDISTRICT		SUPER LEAGUE	CHALLENGE LEAGUE	SHELL CUP PROMOTION KO CUP	SUPER KO CUP NATAL KO CUP
1961-62	Durban	South Coast					SHELL CUP	
1962-63	Durban	Tonga					Clares	
1963-64	Durban	South Coast					Roslyn	
1964-65	Durban	Tonga					Royals (Stanger)	
							See Note 1	
1965-66	Maritzburg	Asherville					Crescent	SUPER KO CUP
1966-67	Durban	South Coast					Hulsar	Kismet
1967-68	Maritzburg	Tonga					Parkhill	See Note 2
1968-69	Durban	Chatsworth					Durban Heights	
1969-70	Durban	Durban B					Railways (Northern D.)	
			UNDER 23 A	UNDER 23 B			Young Centenarians	
1970-71	Stanger	Durban B	Asherville	Tonga			Mitchell	
1971-72	Durban	Marban	Asherville	Marban			Durban Heights	
1972-73	Durban	Northern Districts	Durban	Tonga			Royals (Stanger)	
			UNDER 19 A	UNDER 19 B				
1973-74	Durban	Marban	Chatsworth	Port Shepstone			See Note 3	See Note 3
1974-75	See Note 4	See Note 4	See Note 4	See Note 4			Mitchell Gandhinagar	Pirates
1975-76	Durban	Northern Districts	Chatsworth	Northern Districts			Pirates	Everton
1976-77	←			See Note 5				→
							PROMOTION KO CUP	
1977-78	See Note 6	See Note 6	See Note 6	See Note 6			Clares	
							SHELL CUP	
1978-79	Maritzburg	Maritzburg B					Wanderers B	
1979-80	Chatsworth	Phoenix						NATAL KO CUP
1980-81	Chatsworth	Chatsworth B						Centrals
1981-82	Northern Districts	Durban B						Royals (Stanger)
1982-83	Durban	Durban B						Crimson
1983-84	Chatsworth	Newcastle						Chatsworth United
			UNDER 21	UNDER 16				
1984-85	Durban		See Note 7	Maritzburg			Azalea-Railways	
							Commercials	
1985-86	Stanger		Asherville	Durban			Chatsworth United	
							PROMOTION KO CUP	
							Cavaliers	
								Royals (Stanger)

NOTES: 1. Competition shelved because of defaulting clubs. 2. Promotion League introduced - Winners Metal Box. 3. Challenge League, Promotion League and Shell Cup disbanded. Zonal League played comprising 4 zones to accommodate teams because of fuel crisis. Leaders in each Zone: North Coast - Mitchell; Northern Districts - Wanderers; South Coast - Chatsglen; Central-Orientals. 4. Interdistrict replaced by Inter Zonal competition for adults and under 19. Competition incomplete because of congestion of fixtures. No winners were declared. 5. Local competitions suspended because of "normal cricket." At the end of the season a special KO Cup competition was played for by top clubs. Winners - Unicorn. 6. Interdistrict discontinued for this season. A 48 overs KO club competition introduced. Winners - Olympia. 7. No winners declared because of defaulting units.

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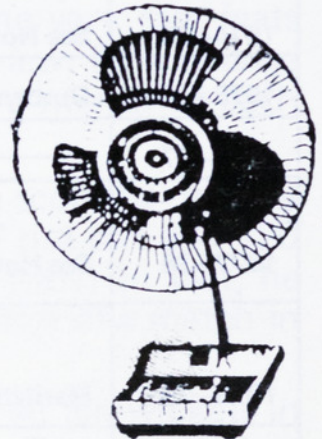
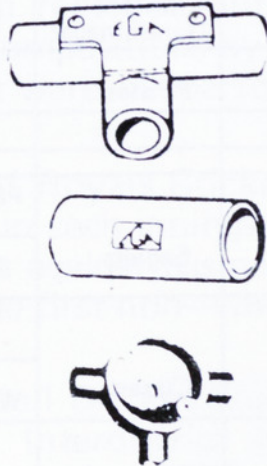
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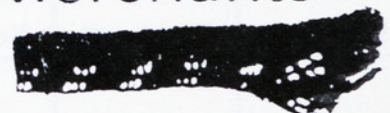
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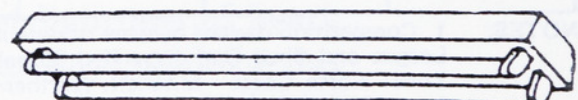


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JUNIOR CRICKET

When one visits the grounds on a Saturday morning and witnesses the spectacle of dedication, enthusiasm and sportsmanship generated by those 'little men in white', one becomes engrossed in the excitement of being associated with Junior Cricket.

In the beginning the organisation of Junior Cricket within the Natal Cricket Board was solely carried out by its affiliates, the Natal Primary Schools' Sports Board and the Natal High Schools' Sports Federation. With the advent of the schools' organisations being accepted as full members of the Board, there emanated an awareness among some for the need to organise the playing of Junior Cricket on Saturday mornings.

With the assistance of Archie Rose and A.K. (Paper) Amra the Durban District Cricket Union embarked on a bold venture to establish its nursery. Having invited schools in Durban to affiliate teams, and not being successful, as the response was poor because of a lack of interest, they rallied together a small band of dedicated people committed to implementing the playing of Junior Cricket. These unselfish people, with the assistance of a few teachers (not as many as one would have liked) even organised the teams from the schools in Durban. From its difficult beginnings Junior Cricket began flourishing. In addition to League Cricket the Juniors were introduced to six-a-side and double wicket competitions. This generated tremendous interest from both parents and observers.

Interest in Natal was set alight when three junior teams from Western Province (U16, U14 and U12) toured and played local matches in Maritzburg, Durban and Stanger. Two sets of matches against NCB teams were played. This was the first time that provincial colours were awarded to selected junior players. These young people were proud of their colours and they displayed them with dignity. Other people became aware of Junior Cricket because of their Association with these players, especially at schools. Friendlies against Transvaal at home and away in Johannesburg followed. This spurred units participating in trial matches for selections of Natal teams.

All along the NCB encouraged its units to promote Junior domestic cricket on an organised basis. By this time a few units were well on the way to promoting Juniors (Maritzburg, Durban, Asherville, Stanger and Merewent). NCB were getting regular reports on this aspect from its units. Eventually, as the scenario was established, the NCB boldly decided that the organisation of Junior Cricket was to be a prerequisite for affiliation to the Board. As most units were already organised this was not a problem. Some units found it difficult because they were not getting the co-operation of schools in their areas. The NCB continued more vigorously on its path when it found that 'outside forces' were interfering with schools cricket (both primary and high schools). The Board realised that its forum was the only one that could thwart such interferences. When the Challenge and Super League clubs re-entered the playing arena of the NCB, it was decided that all clubs participating in its league competitions must of necessity have Junior clubs.

The South African Cricket Board, being influenced by the interest displayed by its provincial affiliates, introduced national centralised U16 and U21 tournaments. Emphasis was placed on these age groups in order to plug the gap that existed in cricket. The first U16 tournament for the Magera Trophy was held in the 1984-85 season and was convincingly won by Natal. The U21 tournament for the Krish Mackerdhui Cup was held in Durban during the same season and was won by the South African Senior Schools team. The success that the NCB teams had achieved was in no small measure due to the Board's insistence in promoting Interdistrict U16 and U21 matches. Today practically all units in Natal organise domestic Junior Cricket and participate in Interdistrict matches.

For the NCB all the effort, hardships and difficulties it had to experience and overcome had finally paid dividends. The NCB and SACB have decided that there is no looking back and have firmly resolved that Junior Cricket has come to stay and that the playing of Junior Sport is the primary weapon to breakdown artificially created social barriers.



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COACHING

The provision of proper coaching for its young cricketers has always been one of the primary aims of the Natal Cricket Board. In its early years, however, officials of the Board gave priority to the organisation of cricket under its wings, and to the smooth running of its various competitions. It was not till 1965 when attention could again be directed to coaching, as the President of the Board at that time, Mr S. Bridgemohan, was to remark: "This is a much needed scheme on the programme of the Board". This scheme came to fruition in 1966 when Basil D' Oliveira was brought out from England on a coaching assignment sponsored by the United Tobacco Company and coaching clinics were held at the Board's various units. The highlight of the D' Oliveira visit was two matches. In the first a select D' Oliveira X1, consisting of the most promising young players from his coaching clinics, played against a Western Province X1. In the D' Oliveira X1 were Omar Vawda, Mahalingum Govender and Baboo Ebrahim, while Michael Patrick was selected for the Western Province X1. In the second match Basil's X1 played Tiny's X1 in Durban shortly before the departure of D' Oliveira to join the World X1 on their tour of the West Indies. The successful organisation of the Natal part of the coaching scheme was due largely to the efforts of Messrs G.N. Singh and the late Cassim Bassa. The following season saw Basil back in Natal, but on a much shorter visit during which two short lectures / practices on cricket were arranged in Durban and Pietermaritzburg through the Natal High Schools' Sports Federation.

In 1968 the NCB set up a Coaching sub-Committee consisting of T.A. Dada (Convenor), A.K. (Papoo) Akbar and Dr K.S. Naidoo. The sub-Committee drew up a blue print for coaching, suggesting lines of action to be taken. Lack of funds was a major obstacle to the implementation of any of the proposals, as Thar Dada (then President of the Board) was to comment in 1970: "With the funds at our disposal it does not seem likely that our Board can afford such a scheme". Several potential sponsors were approached, and success came in 1971 when, through the efforts of its President, Mr G.N. Singh, and its Patron, Mr S. Brigemohan, the Board negotiated with the South Coast Indian Football Association and Sports Trust, a three year sponsorship of R3 500 per year towards the cost of employing a coach.

Under the SCIFAST sponsorship Keith Barker was brought from England by the Board in December 1972. Quite a heavy itinerary was arranged, consisting of coaching at schools from 9.00 am to the late afternoon, followed by lectures to Senior players in the evenings. As Barker was to note in his report at the end of his stay "lack of playing facilities at most schools made the job very difficult". But Barker's brief stay had other very beneficial effects. Top priority was given to the introduction of Junior Cricket (up to that time a properly organised league operated only in Chatsworth), concerted attention was directed to the laying on of turf wickets, and the attention of cricket authorities was drawn to promising young players like Stanley Govender, Nessie Moodley and Mohammed Vahed. Under the SCIFAST sponsorship and the sponsorship of a car to cover travel by Stanger Garage, Keith Barker was brought out again during the following two seasons. In the season 1973-74 his programme again included visits to schools, but the emphasis was on intensive coaching for a squad of young players hand-picked by him. In 1974-75 Barker arrived to a well planned itinerary which took him to all the Board's affiliates, included intensive squad coaching, and saw the implementation of a scheme to train local coaches in which senior cricketers and schools' sports masters were put through their paces over a two week period.



NATAL COACH, WEST INDIAN BORN
ENGLISH LEAGUE PROFESSIONAL,
KEITH BARKER, MAKING A POINT ABOUT
TECHNIQUE WITH NATAL VICE-CAPTAIN,
ISMAIL TIMOL.

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SCIFAST did not continue their sponsorship, and the next six years saw all the Board's plans dashed by the old problem: "Lack of funds". At local level the initiative was taken in 1978 by the officials and players of the Maritzburg District Cricket Union, and to a lesser extent in Durban where Yacoob Omar's services were engaged for two seasons, and attempts were made to secure the services of Baboo Ebrahim before his defection to the NCA.

After much hard bargaining the NCB, led by its president, Krish Mackerdhuj and officials of the Natal High Schools' Sports Federation and the Natal Primary Schools' Sports Board, secured funding for their coaching scheme from Barclays Bank. In 1981-82 two centralised clinics were held at Chatsworth and Durban under the guidance of A.H (Baby) Haffajee. The scheme comprised two parts : first senior players and Physical Education teachers received training in coaching, then a select group out of this undertook the coaching of young players. In 1982-83 the scheme was extended to include clinics in Pietermaritzburg, Phoenix and Stanger, and senior officials and players (Messrs. S.K. Reddy, A.A. Rose, Karam Hiranman, Enver Mall, Mohamed Musthan) assisted with coaching young cricketers during the SA Primary Schools week in Durban. The coaching continued in 1983-84 with partial funding from Barclays Bank, and clinics were held in Verulam, Merewent, Umzinto and Ladysmith.

Coaching clinics and exercises have now become a regular feature of the NCB activities. The response at clinics held last season in Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Chatsworth, Stanger and Phoenix was quiet overwhelming. A gauge of the success of the NCB's coaching scheme is provided by the successful junior cricket league run by the Board's units, the high level of the cricket in the Board's U-16 and U-21 inter District competitions and the wealth of talent in the Natal U-16 and U-21 sides.

A new feature of the coaching scheme is a clinic for fast bowlers at which promising young "quickies" are put through their paces, and here a bowling action, there a run-up is smoothened out in an attempt to generate that extra bit of pace and lift. An immediate success of the scheme is young Naveen Ramnarain who two seasons ago was playing junior cricket, and last season opened the bowling for the Natal senior side with considerable success.

The NCB has quite an extensive programme planned for the future. However, with Barclays Bank now hedging about their support, finance will again be a limiting factor. Nevertheless, President S.K. Reddy and his small but dedicated band led by Baby Haffajee are determined to press ahead with their programme. The participation of the province's senior cricketers in the scheme will be of great help.



BABY HAFFAJEE EXPLAINS THE TECHNIQUE OF A BOWLING GRIP TO A GROUP OF JUNIOR CRICKETERS AT ONE OF THE BOARD'S COACHING SESSIONS.

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UMPIRING

In the very beginning the question of umpires for Board matches was handled on an ad hoc basis, the men in white being recruited from experienced senior players. However, as the Board's involvement in competitive matches expanded to club level, a sub committee was elected during the 1964-65 season to draft rules and create the machinery for the inauguration of a long overdue Umpires' Board in the province.

The Natal Umpires' Board was eventually formed in 1966-67 with Mr R. Bijou as its first chairman. It functioned as an autonomous body for two seasons but this arrangement proved untenable and eventually the reorientation commission recommended that the Natal Umpires' Board become a sub committee of the Board. It was in this season of 1967-68 that a Winter Umpiring Course was organised by the Natal Umpires' Association in co-operation with the Natal High Schools' Sports Association. According to Gordon Draper, the Test umpire, K. Ramdial, one of the Board's leading umpires, "showed a remarkable knowledge of the rules and in the written test - the same paper as given to Currie Cup umpires - he obtained a 95 per cent mark, higher than that obtained by most of the top class umpires in the province."

In 1968-69 an umpires' sub committee was duly formed and K. Ramdial of the Stanger and District Cricket Union volunteered to run a course at which an average weekly attendance of 25 students was maintained. It was also heartening to note that his services were called upon by the Western Province Cricket Board to run a similar course for them in July 1969. With the Board's increasing involvement in club competitions the need for umpires' services became greater but the main problem confronting the Sub Committee was the lack of sufficient willing and qualified men to take on the task.

In 1972-73 an autonomous Umpires' Union with Mr L.S. Moodley as its president was established with direct affiliation to the South African body in Port Elizabeth. The success of this body was marred in some respects by the apathy displayed by some of its affiliates. However, the Board, by increasing capitation tax, hoped to provide the Natal Umpires' Union with adequate finance so that it could be in a position to pay umpires a reasonable match fee and so attract qualified men to this rather thankless task.

The South African Cricket Board of Control introduced the concept of neutral umpires in Interprovincial fixtures late in the season of 1973-74. Men like S. Kirsten, D. Vawda and C. Seethal gave splendid accounts of themselves in the various matches. The Natal Umpires' Union printed a booklet on the laws of the game for sale to all players. A special feature of the publication was the addendum which consisted of the Board's competition rules. Sadly, though the standard and organisation of umpiring at interprovincial level from a Natal point of view continued to be very high, the task of providing umpires for local Board competitions was fraught with difficulties, mainly due to the non-cooperation of most units.

Thus it was that officials of the Board (A.A. Rose, K. Bharuth - Ram and S.K. Naidoo) met with the Natal Umpires' Union (L.S. Moodley, K. Mackerdhuji and P.R. Damonse) in 1975 and a committee was appointed to find solutions to the vexed problem of umpiring in the province. This meeting was very important from a historical point of view in that the ideas promulgated there sowed the seeds for the relatively successful growth of our present Umpires' Board. The following policy decisions were arrived at:

1. Autonomy: The Umpires' Union become a branch of the Board and work under its jurisdiction. The Umpires' Union must enjoy the right of being represented on the Board.
2. Compulsory Reports: Captains to furnish reports to the Union to improve proficiency of umpires and eradicate bias and to create an umpires' rating for a panel.
3. Umpires' Panel: The Board and its units must endeavour to hold classes for those serving on the panel. Integrity must be emphasised. Though not practicable in remote areas, the concept of providing neutral umpires must be adhered to as far as possible. All umpires to be appointed by the Board and in each match a reserve umpire be nominated. A heavy responsibility is placed on units in providing the names to be placed on the panel. Officials of the Umpires' Union to rate umpires and select men for interprovincial duty.
4. Finance: Umpires to be paid a match fee for their services and the financing to come from the Board.

The activities of the Natal Umpires' Board have now gained momentum. Umpires are provided for all Board fixtures and, as a matter of convenience, most umpires are provided by nominated clubs and units. This is intended to eradicate bias and ensure neutrality. Clubs and units do realise the implications and have responded well, so much that during the last season 41 umpires officiated.

The geographical nature of the province - stretching from Stanger on the one side to Newcastle on the other - does make the situation a difficult one. However, we can boast of having some of the best men in white coats. The likes of Wilfie Diedricks, Dennis Addisham, Ramesh Shah, Ashley Bowles and Sagren Naidoo have taken over from the very high standard set by their predecessors K. Mackerdhuji and K. Ramdial. Natal can also be proud of the fact that both officiating umpires in the B & H Cup Finals of recent years have come from this province.

The ultimate aim of the Natal Umpires' Board is to establish a panel of qualified umpires for the local scene. Although it appears a little far-fetched, it is not impossible. From the season 1984-85 the Natal Umpires' Board has distributed to all units and clubs involved in Natal competitions a monthly newsletter highlighting laws of the game, offering explanations of contentious issues and providing umpiring schedules. The Natal Umpires' Board is now an affiliate of the SACB Umpires' Association.

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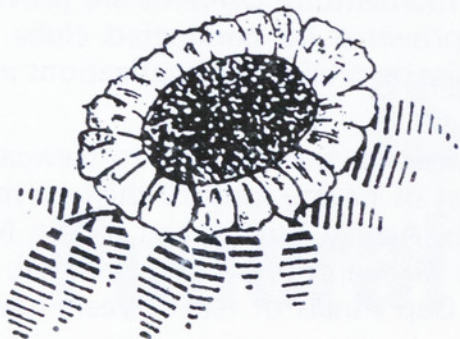
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JUNIOR INTERPROVINCIAL TOURNAMENTS

NATAL WINS FIRST NATIONAL UNDER 23 CHAMPIONSHIP

In 1968–69 The South African Cricket Board of Control organised an Under 23 tournament at Interprovincial level. Matches were played on a home and away basis staggered over the season. There is no doubt that it proved to be a great success and our youthful team under the captaincy of Yacoob Omar captured the coveted Bob Pavadai Trophy in the very first season of the competition. We were fortunate to have had two home matches and played one away match at Kimberley. The Natal Under 23 retained the same captain and vice-captain throughout the series and in all drew on the following players : Y.A. Omar (Durban-Captain); K.R. Reddy (Maritzburg-Vice Captain); B. David; G. Francois; Y.G.H. Randeree; G.H. Suleman; A.H. Docrat (all of Durban); N.M. Arbee; S.R. Naidoo (Tongaath); M.M. Khan; A.S.M. Sader (Northern Districts); N.N. Chetty; G. Singh; A. Veerasamy (Asherville); V. Naidoo (Chatsworth). The team was managed by A.S. Kathrada of Verulam

At Kimberley, Natal gained a seven wicket victory over Griqualand West. Natal and Transvaal were engrossed in an absorbing duel in the match at Durban. However, Natal clinched the issue on the first innings and went on to win the North Zone section for a place in the final against South Zone winners, Western Province.

Western Province, favoured to win the Under 23 championship against Natal, were beaten amidst tremendous excitement in a match filled with drama. This was the first time that a provincial match had taken place in Stanger, the headquarters of the Natal Cricket Board. It was a fitting climax that the match ended in such spectacular fashion in what would have been the last over of two days of tense cricket which saw fortunes fluctuating from side to side.

The home spectators went berserk with excitement and at the end of the game they carried their three heroes — Guru Singh, Noor Arbee and Nithia Chetty—shoulder high. Natal, batting first, were dismissed for 115, J. Mahoney claiming 4 wickets for 23 runs. Western Province did not fare too well either, losing 7 wickets for 112 runs before S. Majiet hit two mighty sixes and a four in one over to pass Natal's total.

In their second knock Natal's top order batting collapsed again but responsible batting by Gulu Suleman and Guru Singh saw Natal reach the respectable total of 184. Requiring 144 runs to win in three hours, the Western Province opening batsman engaged in a bright partnership of 51, but the innings slumped to 77 for 4. Despite valiant efforts to play out time, Western Province were beaten through fine spells of bowling by Noor Arbee (6 for 28) and Guru Singh (4 for 43). Natal's fielding throughout was immaculate. Wicketkeeper Nithia Chetty distinguished himself with 8 victims in the match, claiming two stumpings and 2 catches in the first innings and a further 3 stumpings and 1 catch in the second.

Summarised scores of the matches are as follows:

- 1) vs Griqualand West at Kimberley 28–29 December 1968.
Natal won by 7 wickets on the double innings.
Natal 290 (G. Francois 98, N. Arbee 54) and 47 for 3 (Y. Omar 33 n.o.)
Griqualand West 163 (K.R. Reddy 3–26, A.S.M. Sader 3–43) and (followed on)
169 (K.R. Reddy 4–38, N. Arbee 3–22, Y. Omar 3–43).
- 2) vs Transvaal at Durban 8–9 March 1969.
Natal won by 75 runs on the first innings.
Natal 299 (G. Suleman 72, G. Francois 45, G. Singh 39) and 71 for 2 (Y. Omar 44 n.o.)
Transvaal 224 (G. Singh 4–61, N. Arbee 3–31, Y. Omar 2–26).
- 3) vs Western Province at Stanger 5–6 April 1969.
Natal won by 32 runs on the double innings.
Natal 115 (M.M. Khan 31, Y. Randeree 25, V. Naidoo 20) and 184 (G. Suleman 43, G. Singh 30 n.o.)
Western Province 156 (K.R. Reddy 3–32, G. Singh 3–41, Y. Omar 2–23) and 111 (N. Arbee 6–28, G. Singh 4–43).



Y. OMAR (Natal Captain) receiving the Bob Pavadai Trophy from
J.S. VAN HARTE, President of the South African Cricket Board of Control,
at Stanger

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NATAL UNDER 23 TEAM 1968-69 WINNERS - BOB PAVADAI TROPHY



Back Row : K.R. REDDY, Y. RADEREE, G. FRANCOIS, S.R. NAIDOO
N.M. ARBEE, G. SINGH, A.S. KATHRADA (Manager).
Centre : B. DAVID
Front Row : Y. OMAR (Capt.), N.N. CHETTY, G.H. SULEMAN, V. NAIDOO,
M.M. KHAN

In the second and last tournament of this kind (season 1970-71), Natal was captained by Mustapha Khan with Graham Francois as his deputy. Natal annihilated Griqualand West at home by an innings and 128 runs. Griquas were dismissed for 58 (M.M Khan 4-14, G. Singh 3-23, D. Middleton 2-8) and Natal raced to 209 for 4 declared with G. Francois scoring 84 and M.M Khan 84 not out. In their second attempt Griquas were bundled out for 23 (M.M. Khan 4-8 and G. Singh 3-9). Natal then travelled to Johannesburg to play against the much fancied Transvaal team. After conceding a heavy first innings lead to the home side, the Natalians staged a dramatic comeback to turn the tables on their opponents with a memorable double innings victory which earned them the right to defend the Bob Pavadai Trophy against South Zone winners, Western Province. Scores: Natal 140 (A.H. Docrat 31) and 262 (R. Naidoo 59, T. Roberts 49). Transvaal 280 (G. Singh 5-64) and 102 (M.M. Khan 4-15).

In the final played during Easter at Wynberg in the Cape, Natal put up a commendable score of 226 (A. Cassim 63, M.M. Khan 73, T. Roberts 25) after batting first. In spite of some good spin bowling by Guru Singh (6-69) and Mustapha Khan (3-65), the home side batted steadily down the order and gained a 37 run first innings lead, scoring 263. An inexplicable second innings collapse in which Natal scored only 78 gave Western Province the chance to annex the coveted Bob Pavadai Trophy. A.H. Docrat with an undefeated 45 was the only batsman to offer staunch resistance. Western Province scored the required 42 runs for victory for the loss of four wickets with eight minutes to spare.

NATIONAL UNDER 19 CHAMPIONSHIP

The South African Cricket Board of Control replaced the Under 23 Tournament with an Under 19 championship that was only played biennially for two seasons. The first ever Under 19 Interprovincial tournament was played in Durban over the Christmas and New Year period of the season 1973-74. Our record clerk, I Mathir, was tournament secretary and under his careful planning a very successful tournament was staged. Unfortunately, shortly before the tournament commenced, we received a withdrawal from Eastern Province. In order to save the day a Natal Colts team was organised at short notice and four teams played out an interesting league for the famed Bob Pavadai Cup. Our budding stars in Ahmed Bawa (Captain), M.A. Vahed (Vice-Captain) and Stanley Govender came within an ace of winning the competition but this was not to be as Western Province snatched the trophy from our very grasp, the difference being a mere 9 runs in the final game. Stanley Govender (batting) and M.A. Vahed (bowling) headed the averages.

In the second and last tournament of this kind (season 1975-76), Natal fared moderately, finishing fourth in a five team league. Stanley Govender captained the side and headed the batting averages whilst D. Rugubeer topped the bowling. The tournament was staged in Cape Town. For the record we beat South Western Districts and Transvaal on the first innings but lost outright to Western Province and Eastern Province.

NATIONAL UNDER 21 CHAMPIONSHIP

After a break of nearly ten seasons, SACB introduced a new junior tournament, the Under 21, which was played at the Siripat Road Grounds in Durban in the season 1984-85. The South African Senior Schools' Sports Association, competing against Western Province, Eastern Province, Transvaal, Griqualand West, Natal A and Natal B, overcame all opposition to become champions and annexed the Krish Mackerdhuj Cup. The Natal A team was captained by A. Singh and the B team by B. Juggernath. Natal's Rafiq Omar won an award for taking the highest number of wickets in a tournament in which both our teams played with limited success. A. Singh (batting) and R. Omar (bowling) headed the Natal averages.

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NATAL WINS FIRST NATIONAL UNDER 16 CHAMPIONSHIP

SACB's first ever Under 16 tournament was staged in Lenasia in the Transvaal in 1984-85. Our team, captained by Mohamed Ameen, won the tournament without losing a single game, thus capturing the Ahmed Mangera floating trophy in this inaugural tournament. Imraan Mohamed, who scored the highest number of runs in the tournament with a top score of 132, headed Natal's batting averages and was presented with the Hans Brothers Trophy. D. Govender headed our bowling averages but E. Asmal took the most number of wickets.

NATAL UNDER 16 TEAM 1984-85



Back row : CASSIM DEEDAT, MEHMOOD BADAT, MOHAMED RANDEREE, MOHAMED DAWJEE (V. Capt.)
 Centre row : JOHNNY NAIDOO (Manager), ARNOLD DHANESAR, DAYALAN GOVENDER, AFZAL VALLY, IMRAAN MOHAMED, MOHAMED LIMALIA (Umpire).
 Front row : MUNAF YUNUS, EBRAHIM ASMAL, KRISHNA GOVENDER, MOHAMED AMEEN (Captain), SHAWN LEONARD, MUBEEN SEEDAT.

The Game of Cricket

Cricket is a game where you have two sides — one out in the field and the other in off the field.

Each man in the side that is in goes out and when he is out comes in and the next man goes out until he is out then he comes in.

When the side that is in is all out, the side that has been out goes in and the side that was in tries to get out the side that has gone in.

Sometimes you get men still in and not out when the side that is in is finally out.

When both sides have been in and out, including those not out, yet no longer in, that is the end of the game.

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NATAL B TEAM 1980-81
JOINT HOLDERS - INTERPROVINCIAL B SECTION TROPHY



Standing . J. VENTER, C. PENTIAH, N. MOODLEY, C. NARRANDES (Manager), R. GOVENDER, P. MOODLEY (Captain), E. GOVENDER.
Kneeling : H. MOORAD, B. PILLAY, S. MEHTAR, E. MALL, P. PILLAY, M. HICKSON.

NATAL B IN INTERPROVINCIAL CRICKET

Natal's first venture in B section cricket took place in 1973-74. Natal was drawn in the North Zone of this competition which was held in East London. Our untried B team, captained by S.M. Haffeejee, gave an excellent account of themselves, sweeping aside all opposition to emerge convincing winners of its section. This brought them into the finals which was played against Western Province B in Durban. After getting the match off to a stirring start by dismissing the visitors for a paltry 93 (G. Govender 5-17, Y. Gamsy Omar 2-18, C. Pentiah 2-28), we could reply with only 83. This gave Western Province the whip hand in the second innings in which they scored 294 (B. David 3-35, C. Pentiah 3-34). Apart from stout resistance from H. Naik (52) and E. Ebrahim (22), we could only manage 113 and Western Province romped home comfortable winners on the double. M. Ebrahim (83 runs at 27, 70) and K.C. Perumal (6 wickets at 7, 20) headed the averages. G. Hoosen (112 runs at 18, 70) and Y. Gamsy Omar (13 wickets at 10, 10) topped the aggregates, the latter performing the hat trick against Border in a spell of 6-20.

In 1974-75 Natal was drawn in the North Zone of the B competition which was staged in Port Elizabeth. Our team lost to Eastern Province B in the final of this section. Some poor decisions coupled with an inept batting display lost us the opportunity of meeting Western Province B in the final proper. S.M. Haffeejee (99 runs at 33, 00) and A Jaffar (3 wickets at 6, 67) topped the averages while G. Sewpersad (114 runs at 28, 50) and G. Singh (17 wickets at 9, 35 including a match haul of 10-83 against South Western Districts) headed the aggregates. Wicketkeeper Y.M. Pillay achieved 10 dismissals in the match against South Western Districts.

The B tournament was played on a centralised basis in Durban in 1975-76. Natal's performance was very creditable and the team finished runners-up to Western Province, narrowly failing to win the trophy by one point, scoring 54 to Western Province's 55 from 5 games each. In the crucial match against Western Province B, Natal scored 189 with Y.M. Pillay (49) and S. Geldenhuys (40) batting well. Despite some good left arm spin bowling by Herby Moonilal, who took 6-65, Western Province managed to score 205 and secured a first innings victory. G. Sewpersad, with 169 runs at 33, 80 and 7 wickets at 9, 14, topped the batting and bowling averages and also scored the most runs for Natal. H. Moonilal, with 25 wickets at 9, 44 was the highest wicket taker in the tournament and bowled with conspicuous success.

No tournament was held in the following season because of 'normal cricket' and Natal B did not take part in the ensuing year's programme because of financial problems. However in 1978-79, Natal participated in the North Zone of this tournament which was held in Johannesburg and did well to finish second. After winning on the first against Griquas, we beat SASSSA on the double but then lost to Transvaal on the single innings. In the match against SASSSA Y. Vahed scored 46 while R. Gangat and H. Moorad had match figures of 8-52 and 6-88 respectively. R. Govender scored an undefeated 98 against Transvaal and in the same match veteran T. Parsuramen returned match figures of 9-61. Y. Moorad with 116 runs at 38, 67 and R. Gangat with 8 wickets at 9, 88 were top of the averages while R. Govender, 142 runs at 28, 40 and T. Parsuramen, 16 wickets at 12, 38, headed the aggregates.

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All the matches were played at the Siripat Road grounds in Durban in the following season. SASSA again won the tournament with Natal finishing second. Griqualand West did not take part and were replaced by a Natal Invitation XI which did well to finish unofficial joint leaders on the log. N. Moodley (71 runs at 71, 00) and M. Hickson (7 wickets at 4, 42) topped the averages while E. Govender (90 runs at 45, 00) scored the most runs. A well-motivated Natal team captained astutely by P. Moodley emerged winners of the North Zone centralised tournament played in Johannesburg in 1980-81. All three matches were won in convincing style on the double innings. The final was played in Durban against Eastern Province B, winners of the South Zone. The match, however, ended in a draw, thus enabling Natal to share the B section championship with Eastern Province.

Dba 28 Feb 1981

*Umls 3-30
GKoen 2-22*

Umls 53 L. Kafoa 28*

*W. K. 3-24
B. K. 2-60*

Summarised scores: Natal B 164 (E. Govender 64, J. Venter 45) and 150-6 declared. (E. Mall 47, E. Govender 33, B. Pillay 24) Eastern Province B 125-7 declared (E. Govender 5-37, C. Pentiah 2-26) and 50-2 (C. Pentiah 1-13, M. Hickson 1-9). Enver Mall, who scored a fine century (105) against Transvaal B, headed the batting averages and aggregates (196 runs at 28, 00) while Elvis Govender took the most wickets and produced the best bowling figures (21 wickets at 5,85). Mention must also be made of wicketkeeper Joe Venter from Maritzburg who gave a wonderfully competent display behind the stumps.

After emerging as joint holders last season, our B side gave a disappointing account of themselves in this competition. The first match against Griqualand West in Kimberley was lost by an innings. In the second match against Transvaal our team put up a more spirited performance - although we lost narrowly on the first innings we came quite close to defeating the Transvaalers outright. M. Musthan (batting) and M. Rampersad (bowling) headed the averages. In 1982-83 Western Province B won this competition. Our all round performance in the Booley Bowl was much better than last season. The sectional competition was won comfortably but the team was defeated in the semi-finals by Eastern Province B. R. Khan and H. Moorad were the leading performers with bat and ball respectively.

Contrary to expectations, Natal did not fare well in the ensuing season as they lost both matches in their section. Western Province Under 21 were the eventual winners of the Booley Bowl. E. Mall (batting) and L. Naidoo (bowling) topped the averages. In 1984-85 Eastern Province B won the B section tournament. Natal began their campaign badly with an innings defeat against Griqualand West. They recovered against Transvaal B, achieving the record score of 307, but this was not enough to take them through to the second stage of the competition. M. Limalia (batting) and C. Naidoo (bowling) returned the best figures. Sadly, in the season just concluded, the team lost both matches in its section to Griqualand West and Transvaal B. R. Ramsaroop (batting) and P. Nair (bowling) topped the averages.

CONCLUSIVE?

Twice the fast bowler had appealed for lbw. Twice the umpire uttered a decisive 'No!' The fast bowler was furious. He knew perfectly well that the batsman's leg had been plumb in front. Trouble with umpires was they weren't chosen for the job until they were too senile to see straight.

Gathering his bile and his strength, he sent down a beauty which left the batsman standing while his wicket exploded, sending up a shower of dust and wood splinters.

Not bothering with the formality of appealing the bowler muttered grimly to the umpire:

'Nearly had him that time, didn't I?'



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NATAL B IN INTERPROVINCIAL CRICKET STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

BATSMAN WHO SCORED A CENTURY

1. E. Mall 105 vs Transvaal B 1980-81
2. P. Nair 131 vs Komani 13/14 Dec 1986 DBN

CENTURY PARTNERSHIPS

1. 1978-79 10th WICKET 105 R. Govender/T. Parsuramen vs Transvaal B
2. 1980-81 3rd WICKET 139 E. Mall/P. Pillay vs Transvaal B

PARTNERSHIP RECORDS

1ST WICKET	79 M. Moodley/M. Limalia vs Transvaal B 1984-85
2ND WICKET	60 B. Pillay/E. Mall vs Eastern Province B 1980-81
3RD WICKET	139 E. Mall/P. Pillay vs Transvaal B 1980-81
4TH WICKET	74 G. Hoosen/K.C. Perumal vs Transvaal B 1973-74
5TH WICKET	75 A. Jadwat/R. Govender vs Transvaal B 1983-84
6TH WICKET	54 N. Moodley/R. Govender vs Transvaal B 1984-85
7TH WICKET	63 E. Govender/J. Venter vs Eastern Province B 1980-81
	63 A. Chetty/M. Rampersad vs Griqualand West 1982-83
8TH WICKET	64 G. Moses/R. Khan vs Transvaal B 1982-83
9TH WICKET	51 C. Naidoo/R. Soobramoney vs Transvaal B 1984-85
10TH WICKET	105 R. Govender/T. Parsuramen vs Transvaal B 1978-79

BOWLER WHO TOOK 10 WICKETS IN A MATCH

1. G. Singh 10-83 (6-46 and 4-37) vs South Western Districts 1974-75
2. V. Kistner 12-70 (7-28 & 5-42) vs TUL 12/13 Dec 1987 JHB

THE HAT TRICK

1. Y. (Gamsy) Omar 6-20 vs Border 1973-74

BOWLERS WHO TOOK 5 WICKETS IN AN INNINGS

1. Y. (Gamsy) Omar 6-20 vs Border 1973-74
2. G. Govender 5-17 vs Western Province B 1973-74
3. S.M. Haffjee 5-20 vs Border 1973-74
4. L.S. Naidoo 5-41 vs Griqualand West 1973-74
5. G. Singh 6-46 vs South Western Districts 1974-75
6. H. Moonilal 6-65 vs Western Province B 1975-76
7. G. Govender 5-34 vs South Western Districts 1975-76
8. B. David 5-39 vs Eastern Province B 1975-76
9. T. Parsuramen 5-19 vs Transvaal B 1978-79
10. M. Hickson 6-26 vs SASSSA 1979-80
11. E. Govender 6-21 vs Griqualand West 1980-81
12. E. Govender 5-26 vs SASSSA 1980-81
13. L. Naidoo 5-47 vs Griqualand West 1983-84

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORE: 105 E. Mall vs Transvaal B 1980-81

MOST RUNS IN A SEASON: 196 average 28,00 E. Mall 1980-81

BEST BATTING AVERAGE FOR THE SEASON: 116 runs at 38,67 Y. Moorad 1978-79

BEST BOWLING ANALYSIS IN AN INNINGS: 6-20 Y. (Gamsy) Omar vs Border 1973-74

BEST BOWLING ANALYSIS IN A MATCH: 10-83 G. Singh vs South Western Districts 1974-75

MOST WICKETS IN A SEASON: 25 average 9,44 H. Moonilal 1975-76

BEST BOWLING AVERAGE FOR THE SEASON: 7 wickets at 4,42 M. Hickson 1979-80

MOST DISMISSALS BY A WICKETKEEPER IN A MATCH: 10 Y.M. Pillay vs South Western Districts 1974-75

MOST CATCHES BY A FIELDER IN A MATCH: 4 A. Jaffar vs Eastern Province B 1974-75

HIGHEST SCORE BY NATAL B: 307 vs Transvaal B 1984-85

LOWEST SCORE BY NATAL B: 60 vs Transvaal B 1985-86



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NATAL IN LIMITED OVERS CRICKET

In the period under review only two major limited overs knockout competitions were organised by the national controlling body at Interprovincial level. The first was the Stellenbosch Farmers' Wineries Knockout Cup which was played for during the seasons 1973-74 and 1974-75. After a lapse of several years the Board found a new sponsor in Benson and Hedges and this knockout competition was played for during three seasons from 1982-83 to 1984-85.

Stellenbosch Farmers' Wineries Knockout Competition

Natal were allowed to enter two teams in this competition, the A and B sides. In 1973-74 Natal B were easily eliminated in the first round by Eastern Province B. After beating Western Province B comfortably at home, the Natal senior side travelled to Johannesburg to meet Transvaal A in the semi-finals. Although Natal scored a creditable 189 from 50 overs, the Transvaalers made light work of this target and passed the score in a mere 38 overs for the loss of two wickets. Scores in summary:

- 1) First Round 27 January 1974 Curries Fountain, Durban.
Eastern Province B beat Natal B by 5 wickets.
Natal B 76. Eastern Province B 77-5 (G. Govender 3-23, S.M. Haffeejee 2-2).
- 2) First Round 10 February 1974 Curries Fountain, Durban.
Natal A beat Western Province B by 67 runs.
Natal A 125 (J. Govender 35, I. Ebrahim 26, G. Montgomery 25 n.o.).
Western Province B 58 (Y. Omar 3-12, K. Barker 2-9, M. Patrick 2-11, L.S. Naidoo 2-17).
- 3) Semi-Final 3 March 1974, Lenasia Stadium, Johannesburg.
Transvaal A beat Natal A by eight wickets.
Natal A 189-9 (Y. Omar 72, K. Barker 25, G. Francois 24, M. Patrick 20).
Transvaal A 190-2.

The following season the Natal teams were drawn into the quarter finals, having skipped the preliminary and qualifying rounds. Natal B were once again eliminated by Eastern Province B in Port Elizabeth. The senior team scored a convincing 60 runs win over favourites Western Province A and then went on to beat Western Province B by 39 runs in the semi-finals at home. Natal A thus qualified to play in the finals at Stellenbosch against Transvaal.

Gloomy skies and rainy weather greeted the players on the morning of the match. Play could not start on time and it was decided that the match would go the full 60 overs and play would continue the next day. Natal won the toss and elected to bat on a perfect wicket and beautiful outfield. An early wicket was lost when Mia Ebrahim was bowled by Ayob. A further wicket fell just on lunch with the score at 33 when Yunus Randeree was out. There was no further play after lunch as it began to rain.

Play started late as well the next day and at 68 Graham Francois was out for a well played 30. Two more wickets fell and Natal were in the parlous position of 86 for 5. However, good batting by Michael Patrick and Jugoo Govender, ably supported by a spirited innings from Goolam Allie and some powerful hitting by Sweetie Naidoo, enabled the Natalians to reach what proved to be the winning total of 176 for 8.

The Transvaal innings started disastrously when Graham Francois took an excellent catch to dismiss Gabru of Sweetie Naidoo's second ball. Barnes was almost out two balls later when he edged to slip, the ball dropping just in front of Baboo Ebrahim. The next over by Barker was full of fire and he had Garda at sea, finally bowling him with the last ball. The Natal pace attack was hostile and Transvaal were scratching about. Only Chotia (49), Cajee (16), who was beautifully caught by Graham Francois off some very wily bowling by Baboo Ebrahim, and Mangera (20), who was brilliantly run out by Graham Francois, offered some resistance.

Keith Barker, Sweetie Naidoo and Baboo Ebrahim bowled excellently and were backed by superb fielding. Transvaal were all out for 115, giving Natal a memorable victory by 61 runs. Scores in summary:

- 1) Quarter-Final 12 January 1975, Port Elizabeth.
Eastern Province B beat Natal B by 4 wickets.
Natal B 101 (P. Moodley 22, B. David 20). Eastern Province B 102-6.
- 2) Quarter-Final 2 February 1975, Curries Fountain, Durban.
Natal A beat Western Province A by 60 runs.
Natal A 175-8 (G. Francois 36, J. Govender 26 n.o. Y. Omar 22, T. Roberts 20).
Western Province A 115 (M. Patrick 3-21, K. Barker 2-13, I. Ebrahim 2-17).
- 3) Semi-Final 9 March 1975, Curries Fountain, Durban.
Natal A Beat Western Province B by 39 runs.
Natal A 190-9 (Y. Omar 88 n.o.). Western Province B 151 (G. Allie 3-21, I. Ebrahim 2-15, J. Govender 2-17).
- 4) Final 22/23 March 1975, Oude Libertas, Stellenbosch.
Natal A beat Transvaal A by 61 runs.
Natal A 176-8 (G. Francois 30, J. Govender 28, M. Patrick 28).
Transvaal A 115 (K. Barker 3-15, L.S. Naidoo 2-29, I. Ebrahim 2-33).



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NATAL TEAM 1974-75
WINNERS - SFW KNOCK-OUT TROPHY



Standing : M. PATRICK, I. EBRAHIM, M. EBRAHIM, T. ROBERTS, Y. RANDEEE, G. FRANCOIS,
 G. ALLIE, K. PERUMAL (12th man).
 Sitting : K. BARKER, S. KIRSTEN (Manager), Y. OMAR (Captain), A. KHAN (President),
 L.S. NAIDOO, J. GOVENDER.

Benson and Hedges Knockout Competition

This sponsored national knockout tournament was played for by the various units of SACB over three seasons. Four teams from Natal took part - Natal A, Natal B, Northern Natal and Southern Natal.

In 1982-83 the Interprovincial teams (both A and B) did not fare well at all in this competition. The A team played one match only because of the format of the competition and the other Natal teams played one another on a knockout basis. In the matches between Natal B and Northern Natal, Natal B and Southern Natal, and Southern Natal and Northern Natal, Natal B emerged as winners. Unfortunately, Natal B was, like the senior side, eliminated in the first encounter with a team from outside Natal. Summarised scores:

- 1) Northern Natal beat Southern Natal by 5 wickets.
 Northern Natal 123-5 (A. Chetty 27 n.o., M. Bhigjee 24 n.o., E. Kajee 24, H. Mall 22, M. Musthan 2-20).
 Southern Natal 119 (M. Musthan 23, A. Chetty 6-27, A.H. Sader 2-19).
- 2) Natal B beat Southern Natal by 21 runs.
 Natal B 137 (G. Moses 38, N. Moodley 37, L. Naidoo 3-26, A. Sathar 3-14).
 Southern Natal 116 (K. Hiranman 24, M. Govender 2-12, M. Rampersad 2-23).
- 3) Natal B beat Northern Natal by 80 runs.
 Natal B 211-7 (S.A. Ebrahim 31, R. Govender 64, M. Govender 29, A. Kolia 33 n.o., A.H. Sader 2-17, A. Chetty 2-45). Northern Natal 131 (A. Chetty 53, R. Khan 2-23, M. Rampersad 2-21, C. Pentiah 3-25, M. Govender 3-18).
- 4) Transvaal B beat Natal B by 50 runs.
 Transvaal B 198-9 (H. Moorad 3-27, M. Rampersad 2-29). Natal B 148 (G. Moses 65, M. Govender 26 n.o.).
- 5) Western Province A beat Natal A by 56 runs.
 Western Province A 141 (E. Govender 2-20). Natal A 85 (E. Mall 21, Stanley Govender 28).

Natal A lost by 79 runs to Western Province A and were eliminated from the competition in 1983-84. Earlier Natal A beat Natal B by 63 runs, Natal B beating Southern Natal previously by 3 wickets, who in turn initially beat Northern Natal by 55 runs. Summarised scores:

- 1) Southern Natal beat Northern Natal by 55 runs.
 Southern Natal 181 (M. Naidoo 69, R. Naidoo 30, C.I. Narrandas 2-16). Northern Natal 126 (A. Moodley 50, N. Hansraj 3-29, M. Naidoo 4-24). *RL*
- 2) Natal B beat Southern Natal by 3 wickets.
 Natal B 114-7 (A. Jadwat 37, L. Naidoo 3-19, M. Naidoo 2-35). Southern Natal 113 (M. Naidoo 25, R. Govender 3-21, H. Goveia 4-44). *RL*
- 3) Natal A beat Natal B by 63 runs.
 Natal A 168-8 (Y. Omar 28, M.M. Khan 35, Y. Moorad 34 n.o., L. Naidoo 3-10).
 Natal B 105 (P. Pillay 27, M. Govender 2-19, Y. Omar 2-17).
- 4) Western Province A beat Natal A by 79 runs.
 Western Province A 212-8 (Y. Omar 3-31, A.D. Gangat 2-23). Natal A 133 (Y. Omar 40, M.M. Khan 31).

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In 1984-85 Natal B, after beating Southern Natal and Northern Natal, lost badly to Western Province A by 137 runs. Natal A beat Western Province U21 by 55 runs and then lost to Transvaal A by 5 wickets. Summarised Scores:

- 1) Natal B beat Southern Natal by 3 wickets.
Natal B 159-7 (R. Ramsaroop 30, M. Limalia 25, N. Moodley 23 n.o. A.D. Gangat 2-28, P. Maharaj 4-21). Southern Natal 158 (M. Moodley 27, P. Govender 28, N. Moodley 2-18, H. Goveia 4-36).
- 2) Natal B beat Northern Natal by 13 runs.
Natal B 177-6 (B. Haffjee 63, M. Patel 39, F. Kajee 3-37, M. Chetty 2-34).
Northern Natal 164-9 (M. Bhigjee 62, C. Pentiah 2-23, N. Moodley 2-31).
- 3) Western Province A beat Natal B by 137 runs.
Western Province A 206-4 (R. Ramsaroop 2-30). Natal B 69 (M. Patel 29).
- 4) Natal A beat Western Province U21 by 55 runs.
Natal A 185 (Y. Omar 45, E. Mall 21, G. Moses 21, E. Govender 22, L. Maharaj 25). Western Province U21 130 (M.M. Khan 2-21).
- 5) Transvaal A beat Natal A by 5 wickets.
Transvaal A 124-5. Natal A 123 (G. Moses 36, L. Maharaj 27, M.M. Khan 35).



BASIL D'OLIVEIRA'S X1 VS TINY ABED'S X1

In terms of a council decision, it was agreed to show our appreciation in some tangible form for the services rendered to sport by the late Mr E.C. Mahommedy, a former Treasurer of the Board, who died suddenly under tragic circumstances.

Negotiations were held with the United Tobacco Company and with Basil D'Oliveira and Tiny Abed for a match to be played at Curries Fountain, the nett proceeds of which were to go to the E.C. Mahommedy Fund. The match was played on 4th and 5th February 1967 between two evenly balanced Natal teams captained by Basil and Tiny respectively.

The match itself was a fantastic success. Everyone attending the match had come to see Basil and he did not disappoint. In a scintillating display, Basil scored 82 runs in 81 minutes with 2 sixes and 8 fours before he was caught by I. Ebrahim off Gopaul Manicum's bowling. There was dismay in the second innings when T. Parsuramen bowled him after he had scored only one run.

But for all the glamour of the occasion there were some sterling performances from our local players. Michael Patrick scored a hard hit undefeated 64 in as many minutes for the D'Oliveira X1 while Amos Cassimjee contributed a solid 41. A.G.H. Asmal, Northern Districts' lone representative, saved Tiny Abed's X1 from total collapse with a well played 33 in the first innings while Noor Jacobs batted well in the second with a top score of 65. There was some impressive spin bowling by Gopaul Manicum, T. Parsuramen, E.I. Laher and Jugoo Govender while M.G.H. Randeree took three wickets at little cost in an hostile opening spell. Summarised scores of the match, which was won by Basil D'Oliveira's X1 by 79 runs, were:

Basil D'Oliveira's X1 268-7 declared (B. D'Oliveira 82, M. Patrick 64 n.o., A. I. Cassimjee 41, A.H. Moola 27, J. Govender 21, I.A. Timol 22 n.o., G. Manicum 4-45, T. Parsuramen 2-33) and 78-4 declared (A.H. Moola 33 n.o., T. Parsuramen 2-19).

Tiny Abed's X1 96 (A.G.H. Asmal 33, T. Abed 19, M.G.H. Randeree 3-11, E.I. Laher 4-22, B. D'Oliveira 2-7) and 171 (N. Jacobs 65, A.G.H. Asmal 22, T. Abed 18, J. Govender 3-28, E.I. Laher 3-40).

THESE WERE SOME OF THE PLAYERS



BASIL'S X1, Left to right: JUGOO GOVENDER, DAWOOD SEEDAT, HAROLD SAMUEL, M.G.H. RADEREE, A.H. MOOLLA, I.A. TIMOL, E.I. LAHER, A.I. CASSIMJEE, K. GOVINDSAMY.



TINY'S X1, Left to right: "BABU" EBRAHIM, NOOR JACOBS, A.G.H. ASMAL, T. PARSURAMEN, PETER BALKISSOON, S.A. ABED, PETER MARION, G. MANICUM.

A press cutting from a local newspaper which previewed the match between Basil D'Oliveira's X1 (managed by Dawood Seedat of Northern Districts) and Tiny Abed's X1 (managed by A. Sewnandan of Mayville). Peter Balkissoon subsequently withdrew and his place was taken by Gregs Sewpersad. Others, in addition to Basil and Tiny, who played in the match were Omar Vawda, Harry Lakay, Mahalingum Govender and Michael Patrick.

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NATAL CAPTAINS

1961-62 TO 1985-86



YACOOB OMAR
1973-74 to 1978-79



OMAR VAWDA
1969-70 to 1970-71



LIGHTY LAHER
1967-68



DOC ABED
1964-65



PAPOO AKBAR
1964-65



MICHAEL PATRICK
1973-74



JUGOO GOVENDER
1979-80 to 1980-81



GOPAUL MANICUM
1967-68 & 1971-72 to 1972-73



**THOPLAN
PARSURAMEN**
1965-66



ELVIS GOVENDER
1984-85



GULU HOOSEN
1984-85



DAN NAIDOO
1964-65



BHAI SEEDAT
1963-64



SOLLY KIRSTEN
1961-62



MUSTAPHA KHAN
1980-81 to 1983-84 & 1985-86

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NATAL IN INTERPROVINCIAL CRICKET

1. THE CENTRALISED TOURNAMENTS AND TWO DAY GAMES

THE DADABHAI TROPHY 1961-62 to 1970-71

Five centralised tournaments and one season of decentralised two day games were played in this period under review.

The first Natal team to take part in the historic non-racial tournament of the South African Cricket Board of Control in Johannesburg in 1961-62 almost won the Dadabhai Trophy. In spite of a highly competent display by the Natalians, Transvaal emerged winners, a mere one point separating the two sides on the final log.

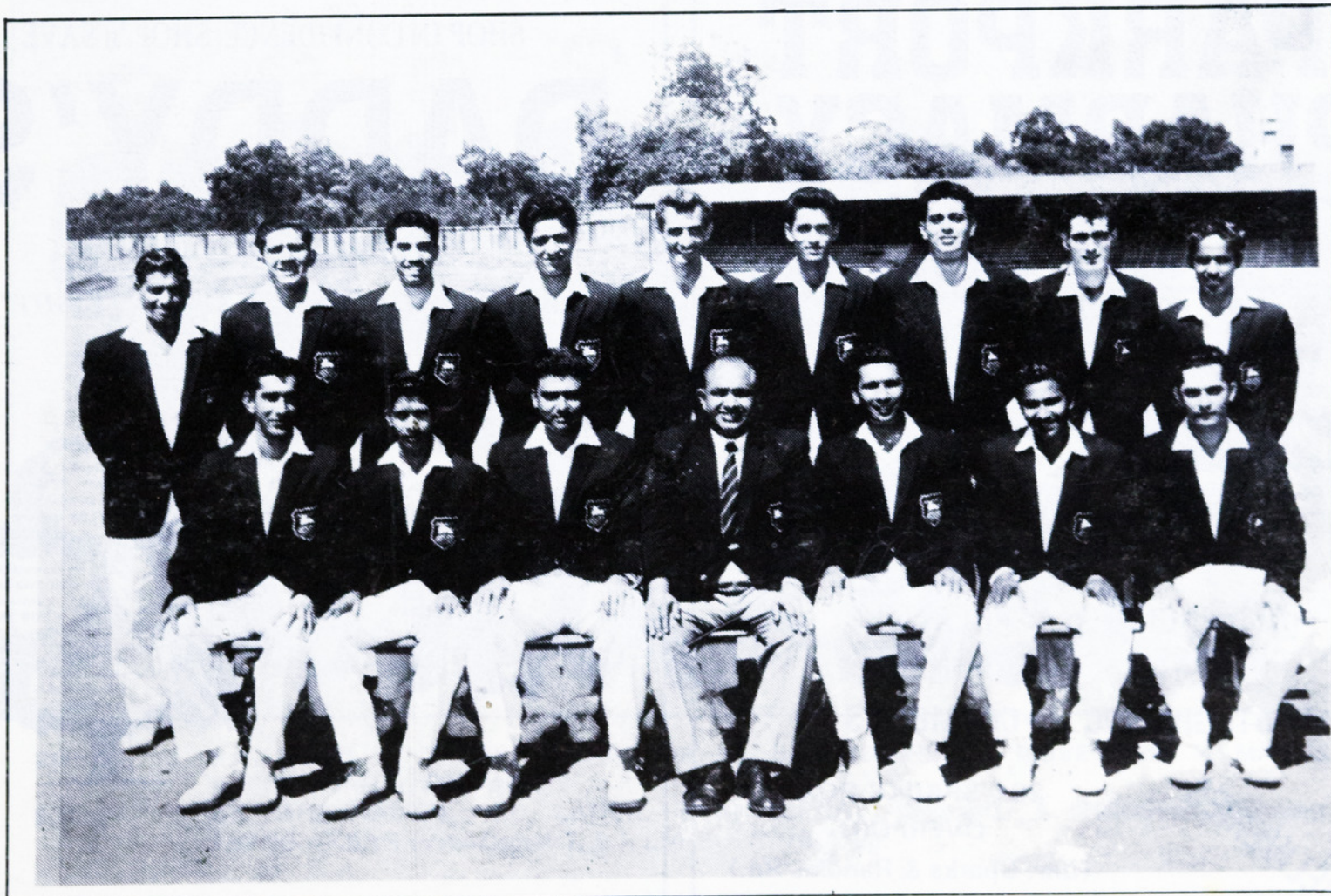
There were convincing performances against Eastern Province and Griqualand West and a great victory on the double by 18 runs against the redoubtable Western Province side, due in the main to excellent bowling by the two left armers, Sader (fast medium) and Parsuramen (slow medium spin). In the match against the powerful Transvaal, Natal actually acquired a first innings lead of 87 runs only to see the Transvaalers amass 347 in their second effort. Our team folded up badly in their second knock for 139 to lose outright by 121 runs.

Y.I. Laher scored the only century for Natal (126 against Eastern Province) while O.F.E. Sader and T. Parsuramen bowled with outstanding success, the latter also making some valuable runs in the lower order. Parsuramen, with 24 wickets at 13.71, had the distinction, together with A. Rubidge of Transvaal, of being the leading wicket taker in the tournament.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 30-31 December 1961 Transvaal won by 121 runs.
Transvaal 89 (O.F.E. Sader 4-25, T. Parsuramen 3-15) and 347 (O.F.E. Sader 3-36, T. Parsuramen 4-92). Natal 176 (T. Parsuramen 45, Bhai Seedat 39) and 139 (N. Jacobs 39).
- 2) vs Western Province 1-2 January 1962 Natal won by 18 runs.
Natal 195 (E.I. Laher 44, Y.I. Laher 33, S. Kirsten 33, M. Boomgaard 32) and 116-9 declared. (E.I. Laher 39, T. Parsuramen 21). Western Province 131 (O.F.E. Sader 5-37, T. Parsuramen 4-33) and 162 (O.F.E. Sader 4-59, T. Parsuramen 3-39).
- 3) vs Eastern Province 4-5 January 1962 Natal won by default.
Natal 348-8 declared. (Y.I. Laher 126, S. Kirsten 50, E.I. Laher 42, A.M. Akbar 26, Bhai Seedat 23, M. Thoplan 20). Eastern Province 187-6 (T. Parsuramen 2-41).
- 4) vs Griqualand West 6-7 January 1962 Natal won by 68 runs.
Natal 292 (S. Kirsten 70, Y.I. Laher 58, T. Parsuramen 58, E.I. Laher 39) and 147 (M. Thoplan 39, A.M. Haffejee 21). Griqualand West 248 (E.I. Laher 5-18, T. Parsuramen 3-73) and 123 (T. Parsuramen 5-36, O.F.E. Sader 3-29).

NATAL TEAM 1961-62



Standing : P. POLIAH, S.A. ABED, F. SADER, M.G.H. RANDEREE, A.M. HAFJEJEE, Y.I. LAHER, M. BOOMGAARD, E.I. LAHER, T. PARSURAMEN.
Sitting : D. ASMAL, M. THOPLAN, BHAI SEEDAT (Vice-Captain), E.I. MOOLLA (Manager), S. KIRSTEN (Captain), B. GOVENDER, N. JACOBS.

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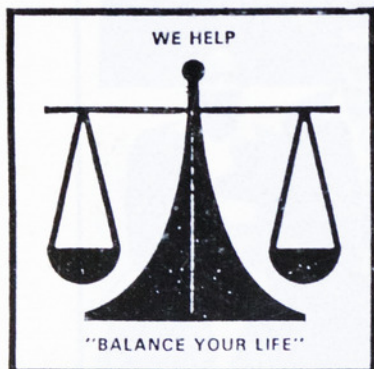
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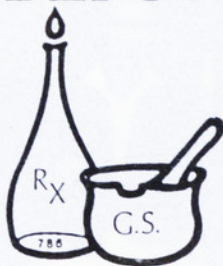
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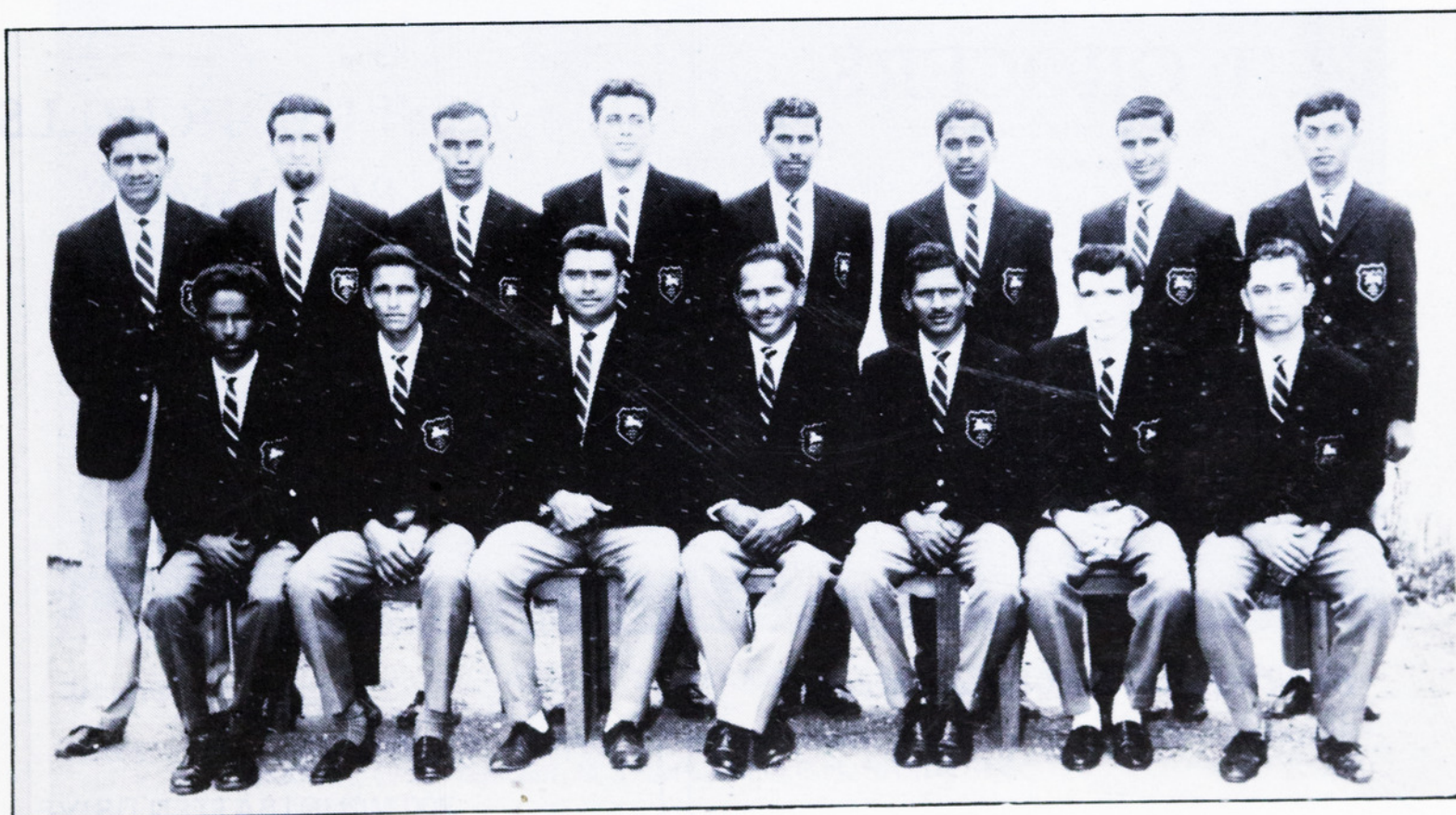
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The Natal team for the second interprovincial tournament played at Port Elizabeth in 1963–64 was captained by M.C. (Bhai) Seedat. Their performance was disappointing with Natal surrendering tamely to both Western Province and Transvaal. The match against Eastern Province was a low scoring affair which ended in a nail-biting one wicket victory for the home team. T. Parsuramen's glorious bowling with a match haul of 10–62 just failed to pull off victory for Natal. Victories against the weaker units Griqualand West, Border and South Western Districts were a consolation and also provided the opportunity for some exceptionally good batting and bowling performances. The only century for Natal was scored by E.I. Laher against Border (155) while T. Parsuramen had some outstanding bowling figures including 7–30 against Griqualand West with a hat trick and match figures of 12–41 against South Western Districts.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Western Province 26–27 December 1963 Western Province won by an innings and 146 runs.
Western Province 286 (A.K.A. Kajee 3–48, T. Parsuramen 3–77, E.I. Laher 2–60). Natal 63 (E.I. Laher 16) and 77 (E.I. Laher 23).
- 2) vs Border 28–29 December 1963 Natal won by an innings and 230 runs.
Natal 322–6 declared (E.I. Laher 155*, Bhai Seedat 58, N. Jacobs 41, M. Boomgaard 22, A. Biseswar 20). Border 35 (A.K.A. Kajee 4–7, I. Ebrahim 3–4, P.D. Marks 2–13) and 57 (I. Ebrahim 6–21, T. Parsuramen 4–19).
- 3) vs Eastern Province 30–31 December 1963 Eastern Province won by 1 wicket.
Natal 110 (T. Parsuramen 28, A. Biseswar 25, A.M. Akbar 21, G. Govender 20*) and 114 (N. Jacobs 31, Bhai Seedat 20). Eastern Province 122 (T. Parsuramen 5–25, E.I. Laher 3–50) and 103–9 (T. Parsuramen 5–37, I. Ebrahim 3–18).
- 4) vs South Western Districts 2–3 January 1964 Natal won by an innings and 331 runs.
Natal 481 (M. Boomgaard 72, A.M. Akbar 86, Y.I. Laher 70, G. Govender 52*, A. Biseswar 41, E.I. Laher 37, S.A. Abed 31, N. Jacobs 25, I.A. Timol 20). South Western Districts 73 (T. Parsuramen 6–17, I. Ebrahim 2–4) and 77 (T. Parsuramen 6–24, I. Ebrahim 3–19).
- 5) vs Transvaal 4–5 January 1964 Transvaal won by 7 wickets.
Natal 182 (M. Boomgaard 43, Bhai Seedat 37, E.I. Laher 26, A. Biseswar 24) and 114 (T. Parsuramen 31, S.A. Abed 18*, A. Biseswar 17). Transvaal 275–9 declared (A.M. Akbar 5–63, S.A. Abed 2–51) and 25–3 (S.A. Abed 2–5).
- 6) vs Griqualand West 9–10 January 1964 Natal won by 27 runs.
Natal 112 (Y.I. Laher 42) and 124 (A.M. Akbar 24, A. Biseswar 22). Griqualand West 80 (T. Parsuramen 7–30 including the hat trick, S.A. Abed 3–24) and 129 (E.I. Laher 6–30).

NATAL TEAM 1963–64



Standing : S.A. ABED, I. TIMOL, B. NASSIEP, M. BOOMGAARD, G. GOVENDER, P. MARKS, A. BISESWAR, I. EBRAHIM.
Sitting : T. PARSURAMEN, Y.I. LAHER, BHAI SEEDAT (Captain), A. HOOSEN (Manager), PAPOO AKBAR (Vice-Captain), E.I. LAHER, N. JACOBS.

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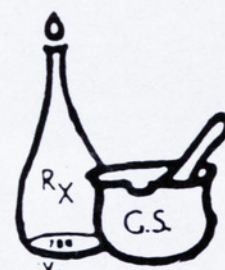


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The third interprovincial tournament was held in Durban during Easter 1966. T. Parsuramen captained the Natal side whose performance was well below expectations. Natal led Transvaal comfortably on the first innings, thanks mainly to a wonderful 9th wicket stand of 133 between Dawood Asmal (62) and Harold Samuel (60) but a dramatic and inexplicable collapse in the second innings saw Natal slump to 17-6—only a successful appeal against the light saved the home side from humiliating defeat. In the second set of fixtures, set to score 94 for full points in under 60 minutes, the Western Province batsmen accepted the challenge and achieved their target with some brilliant hitting and deft running between wickets in under 8 overs and with minutes to spare. In the final set of matches Natal scored first innings points against Griqualand West. Jugoo Govender came closest to registering a century for Natal when he was run out for 90 against Western Province in the second innings. D. Asmal with 121 runs at 32,00 and M.G.H. Randeree with 6 wickets at 15,90 topped the averages while O. Vawda (135 runs at 27,00) and H. Samuel (10 wickets at 16,40) headed the aggregates.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 5-6 April 1966 Natal won on 1st innings by 121 runs.
Natal 245 (D. Asmal 62, H. Samuel 60, O. Vawda 39) and 17-6. Transvaal 124 (T. Parsuramen 3-23, M.G.H. Randeree 3-30, M. Patrick 3-40) and 229-6 declared. (I. Ebrahim 2-56).
- 2) vs Western Province 7-9 April 1966 Western Province won by 8 wickets.
Natal 62 (D. Asmal 14) and 251 (J. Govender 90, O. Vawda 41, M. Patrick 38, A.I. Cassimjee 20). Western Province 220 (I. Ebrahim 4-48, H. Samuel 4-75) and 95-2.
3. vs Griqualand West 10-11 April 1966 Natal won on 1st innings by 207 runs.
Natal 332 (O. Vawda 54, D. Asmal 52, M. Patrick 43, I. Ebrahim 41, M.G.H. Randeree 30, H. Lakay 29, E.I. Laher 24). Griqualand West 125 (E.I. Laher 5-31, H. Samuel 2-16, M.G.H. Randeree 2-17) and 79-2 (H. Samuel 2-12).

NATAL TEAM 1965-66



Standing : H. LAKAY, P. BALKISSOON, D. NAIDOO, I. TIMOL, O. VAWDA, J. GOVENDER, I. EBRAHIM, M. PATRICK.
Sitting : A.I. CASSIMJEE, D. ASMAL, T. PARSURAMEN (Captain), G.N. SINGH (Manager), H. SAMUEL (Vice-Captain), M. THOPLAN, M.G.H. RANDEREE.
Inset : E.I. LAHER.



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STANGER

E.I. Laher captained the Natal team in the fourth interprovincial tournament at Cape Town. Tragedy struck the team in many ways - the most startling being the death of the late A.K.I. Laher, the brother of E.I. and Y.I. Laher. The brothers decided to return to their grieving families in Durban, thus reducing the contingent to only twelve players with four matches yet to be played. Readjustments were necessary and G. Manicum was suddenly saddled with the responsibility of captaincy. As was expected, the team fared dismally in the remaining matches, and though some handsome figures were returned in the games against the weaker provinces, the team was a shadow of its former self in the matches that followed. Arguably the outstanding player for Natal was Michael Patrick - he headed the batting averages (223 runs at 37,17) and took the highest number of wickets for Natal (21 at 11,57). Omar Vawda registered the highest score of 89 and put on 144 runs with O. Rambaran (75) for the 5th wicket against Griqualand West. L.S. Naidoo (18 wickets at 10,56) headed the bowling averages and O. Vawda (260 at 37,14) scored the most runs.

Summarised scores:

1. vs Transvaal 9-10 January 1968 Transvaal won on 1st innings by 50 runs.
Transvaal 188 (M. Patrick 4-49, O. Rambaran 3-51, G. Manicum 3-54) and 187-9 declared. (L.S. Naidoo 5-58). Natal 138 (E.I. Laher 36, O. Rambaran 28, M.S.I. Randeree 22) and 119-8 (A.G.H. Asmal 30, M. Patrick 26).
2. vs South Western Districts 11-12 January 1968 Natal won by 138 runs. Natal 155 (M. Patrick 41*, O. Rambaran 36, M.S.I. Randeree 29, A.G.H. Asmal 23) and 140-3 declared. (O. Vawda 65*, M. Hoosen 28, M. Patrick 25*, J. Govender 20). South Western Districts 67 (O. Rambaran 5-32, L.S. Naidoo 3-7) and 90 (J. Govender 4-22, O. Rambaran 2-18, L.S. Naidoo 2-21).
3. vs Western Province 13-15 January 1968 Western Province won by 10 wickets.
Natal 121 (M. Patrick 32, G. Manicum 24, M.S.I. Randeree 23, O. Rambaran 20) and 139 (M.S.I. Randeree 44, O. Vawda 40). Western Province 235 (G. Manicum 5-62) and 28-0.
4. vs Griqualand West 16-17 January 1968 Natal won by an innings and 136 runs.
Griqualand West 63 (M. Patrick 4-25, L.S. Naidoo 5-21) and 80 (M. Patrick 6-17, J. Govender 4-14). Natal 279-6 declared (O. Vawda 89, M. Patrick 78*, O. Rambaran 75).
5. vs Eastern Province 18-19 January 1968 Eastern Province won on 1st innings by 163 runs.
Natal 154 (I. Timol 48, J. Govender 38) and 212 (O. Rambaran 49, O. Vawda 36, I. Timol 36, G. Manicum 32, M. Govender 26*). Eastern Province 317 (M. Patrick 2-49, L.S. Naidoo 2-22, O. Rambaran 2-51) and 18-2 (M. Patrick 2-6).

NATAL TEAM 1967-68



Standing : M. PATRICK, I.A. TIMOL, Dr. O. RAMBARAN, Dr. E.M. MOTALA, J. GOVENDER, M. GOVENDER
L to R : M. HOOSEN, S. NAIDOO, A.G.H. ASMAL, Y.I. LAHER, M.S.I. RANDEREE, O.I. VAWDA.
Kneeling : G. MANICUM, (Vice Captain), C.D. ADAMS (Local Manager, Cape Town),
L to R : D.M. SEEDAT (Manager) and E.I. LAHER (Captain).

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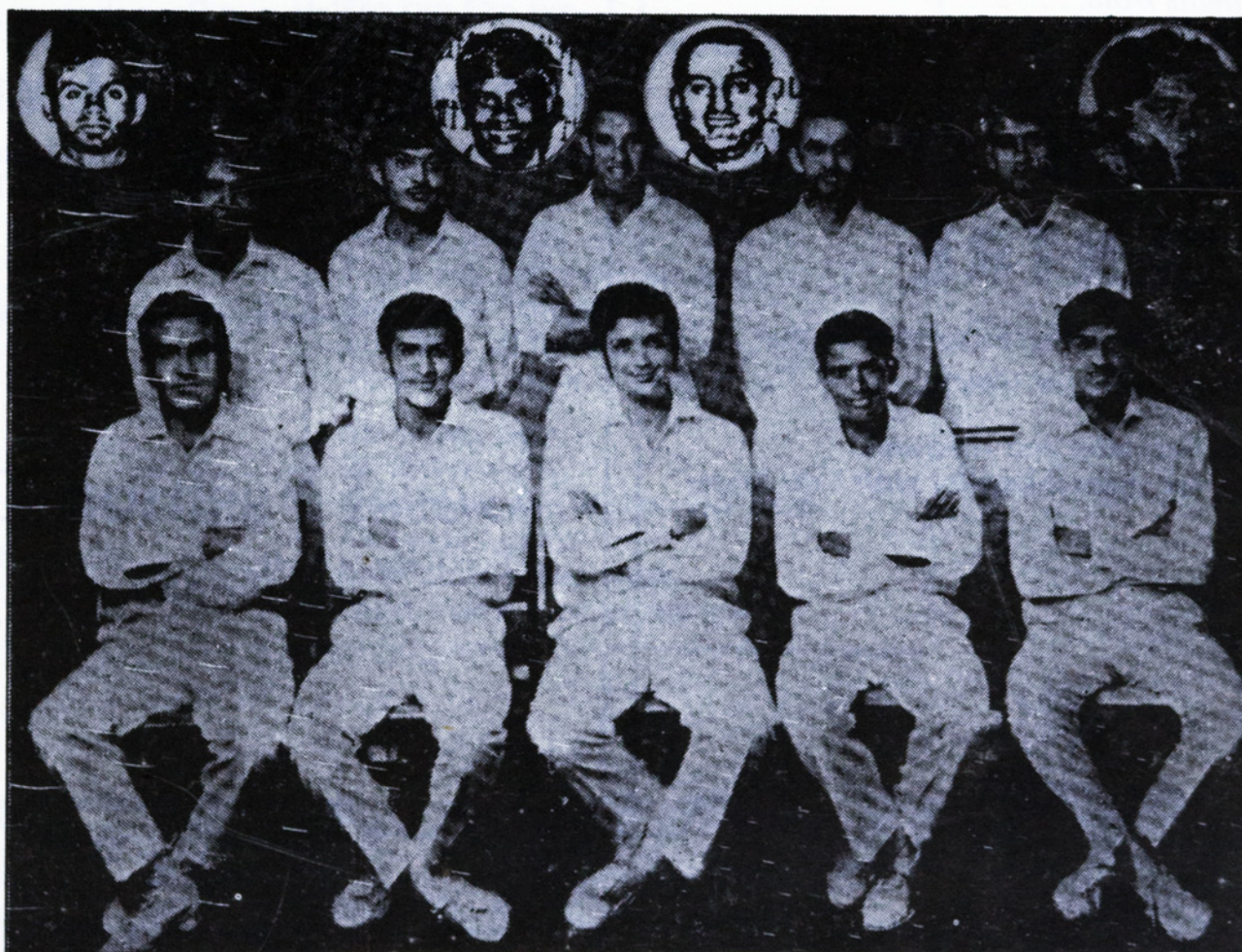
LTA - Building a constructive future

Omar Vawda captained the Natal side in the fifth and last centralised tournament at Kimberley. Natal managed to hold Western Province, the eventual winners of the tournament, to a first innings decision thanks to a fighting 7th wicket stand of 73 between I.A. Timol and J. Govender who scored the only century (126) for Natal in the competition. I.A. Timol (69) also featured in what turned out to be a match-winning 9th wicket partnership of 124 with G. Manicum (60) against Eastern Province which rescued Natal from the parlous position of 135–8. Natal went on to score 265 and, in dismissing Eastern Province for 181, secured first innings points. The best bowling performances were by G. Manicum (7–32) and I. Ebrahim (7–38) against South Western Districts, both players taking 22 wickets each in the competition, Manicum heading the bowling averages at 10.27 runs per wicket. J. Govender headed the batting averages and scored the most runs (236 at 33, 71). Poor fielding by the Natalians contributed to an overall lack-lustre performance.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs South Western Districts 27–28 December 1969 Natal won by an innings and 83 runs.
Natal 251 (M. Patrick 75, Y. Omar 50, J. Govender 32, O. Rambaran 27, I. Timol 25). South Western Districts 76 (G. Manicum 7–32, I. Ebrahim 3–10) and 92 (I. Ebrahim 7–38, G. Manicum 2–18).
- 2) vs Griqualand West 29–30 December 1969 Natal won by an innings and 22 runs.
Natal 281–8 declared (G. Sewpersad 73, I. Ebrahim 56, M. Patrick 51*, O. Vawda 31, Y. Omar 27). Griqualand West 111 (M. Patrick 6–17, G. Manicum 2–9, I. Ebrahim 2–56) and 148 (Y. Omar 3–30, I. Ebrahim 3–33, O. Rambaran 2–27).
- 3) vs Western Province 1–2 January 1970 Western Province won on 1st innings by 200 runs.
Natal 135 (M. Patrick 48, O. Vawda 33) and 221–8 (J. Govender 126, I. Timol 25). Western Province 335–6 declared. (M. Patrick 2–70).
- 4) vs Eastern Province 3–4 January 1970 Natal won on 1st innings by 84 runs.
Natal 265 (I. Timol 69, G. Manicum 60, O. Rambaran 29, G. Sewpersad 24, O. Vawda 24) and 130 (J. Govender 53, G. Sewpersad 37). Eastern Province 181 (M. Govender 3–39, I. Ebrahim 3–40, G. Manicum 3–23) and 60–6.
- 5) vs Transvaal 6–7 January 1970 Transvaal won by 6 wickets.
Natal 218 (G. Sewpersad 54, Y. Omar 41, M. Patrick 28, I. Timol 26, I. Ebrahim 21) and 91 (O. Vawda 19, G. Sewpersad 18, M. Patrick 18). Transvaal 270 (G. Manicum 5–55, I. Ebrahim 3–101) and 41–4 (M. Govender 2–23).

NATAL TEAM 1969–70



Sitting : I.A. TIMOL, Y.OMAR, O.I. VAWDA (Capt.), G. MANICUM (V/Capt.),
Y.G.H. RANDEREE
Standing : M. PATRICK, I. EBRAHIM, K. HIRAMAN, O. RAMBARAN, G. SEWPERSAD.
Insets : J. GOVENDER, M. GOVENDER, A.G.H. ASMAL, B. RAMPHAL.

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For the first time in the season 1970–71 the South African Cricket Board of Control decided to play all its matches on a decentralised basis. Natal were placed in the A section with Transvaal and Western Province. The team was captained by Omar Vawda and finished wooden spoonists, losing by an innings to Transvaal away and conceding 1st innings points at home to Western Province. Y. Omar batted and bowled with success, top scoring in two of the three innings played and also taking 7 wickets for 112 runs (average 16,00) to head the bowling figures. M. Govender bowled well to take 5–61 against Transvaal.

Summarised Scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 26–27 December 1970 Johannesburg Transvaal won by an innings and 33 runs. Natal 113 (Y. Omar 44) and 136 (O. Vawda 26, A.I. Cassimjee 22, G. Hoosen 22). Transvaal 282 (M. Govender 5–61, Y. Omar 3–66).
- 2) vs Western Province 12–13 March 1971 Durban Western Province won on 1st innings by 78 runs. Western Province 230 (Y. Omar 3–27, G. Manicum 2–53, J. Govender 2–41) and 140–8 (J. Govender 3–36, K. Perumal 2–15). Natal 152 (Y. Omar 36, E.I. Laher 30, G. Hoosen 26, I.A. Timol 24*).



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An zey so glad,
I sink zey everyone go mad,
Zey shout "owzat!"
Igh, low, all flat,
Ze empire say it 'it ze bat.

An so zey play,
Ze lifelong day,
One frow, one 'it, two ran away.
Zis cricket game
Mon cher, damn tame,
Ludo, I sink is ze bettair game.



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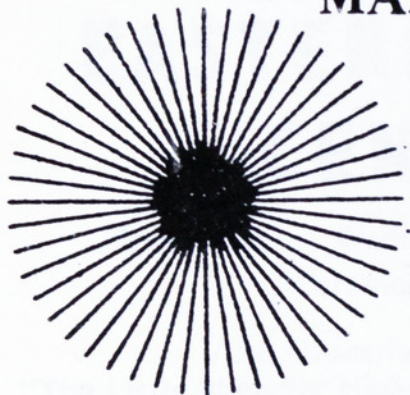
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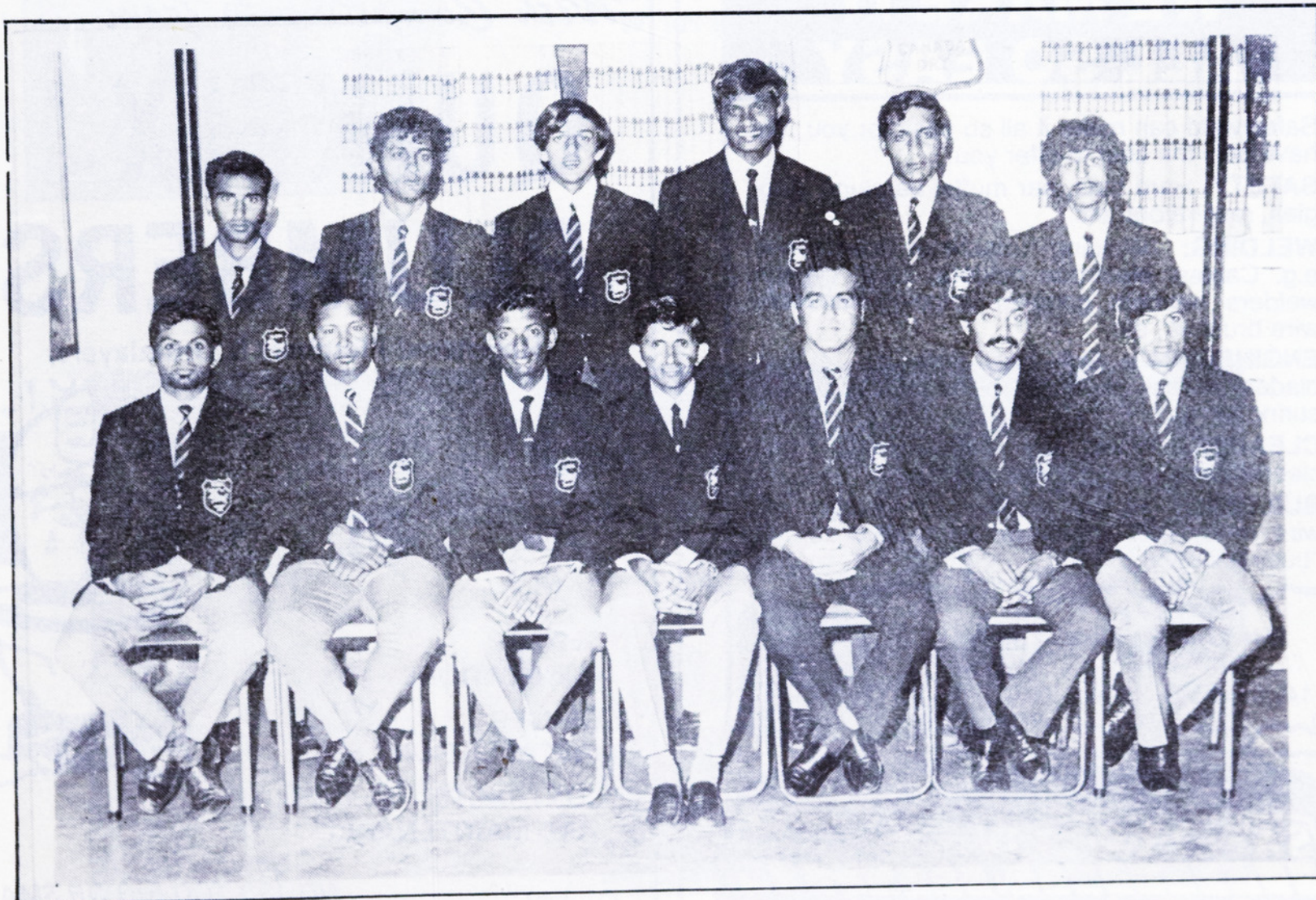
In the period under review the South African Cricket Board of Control decided to play all interprovincial matches over three days. Eastern Province were promoted to the A section and this resulted in three matches being played by each unit. The Dadabhai Trophy was competed for over two rounds spread over two seasons initially. Thereafter the competition was held annually with each unit playing six matches a season on a home and away basis.

The combination of Gopaul Manicum as captain and manager Harold Samuel, a former provincial vice-captain and a most respected cricketer and administrator, proved to be irresistible in this (1971-72) and the subsequent season. Manicum's wide experience and immense knowledge of the game served Natal well. He brought to the team a unity of purpose and instilled in his players the ability to take pride in their performances as Natal players and to rise above themselves. The fielding was excellent, the captain leading by example and a new spirit of purposeful endeavour was evident throughout this and the following season. He was arguably Natal's most successful captain and he showed it in his tactical astuteness on the field and in his encouraging but firm and understanding attitude to his players. The team registered outright victories in all three games, being poised to annex the coveted Dadabhai Trophy in the second round the following season.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Eastern Province 26-28 December 1971 Port Elizabeth Natal won by 79 runs.
Natal 186 (I. Timol 84*, M. Patrick 25, M. Govender 25) and 141 (J. Govender 36, I. Timol 31).
Eastern Province 73 (M. Govender 5-31) and 175 (I. Ebrahim 6-71, M. Govender 4-62).
- 2) vs Western Province 1-4 January 1972 Cape Town Natal won by 8 wickets.
Western Province 108 (G. Manicum 5-32, I. Ebrahim 3-25) and 164 (Y. Omar 3-13, M. Govender 3-35). Natal 222 (M. Patrick 51, I. Timol 44, I. Ebrahim 25) and 52-2 (Y. Omar 29*).
- 3) vs Transvaal 22-24 January 1972 Durban Natal won by an innings and 3 runs.
Natal 258 (M. Patrick 66, Y. Omar 32). Transvaal 82 (G. Manicum 4-10, M. Govender 3-31) and 173 (I. Ebrahim 4-53, J. Govender 3-5).

NATAL TEAM 1971-72



Standing : G. HOOSEN, G. SEWPERSAD, Y. RANDEEE, M. GOVENDER, P. HURI, M.M. KHAN.
Sitting : J. GOVENDER, M. PATRICK, G. MANICUM (Captain), H. SAMUEL (Manager), I. TIMOL
(Vice-Captain), I. EBRAHIM, Y. OMAR.

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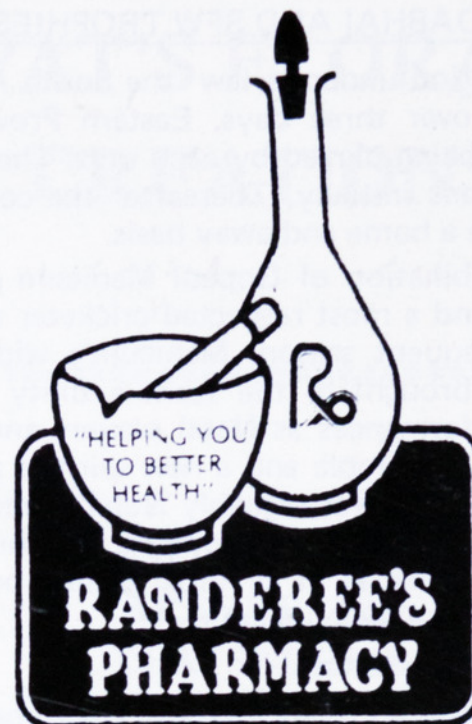


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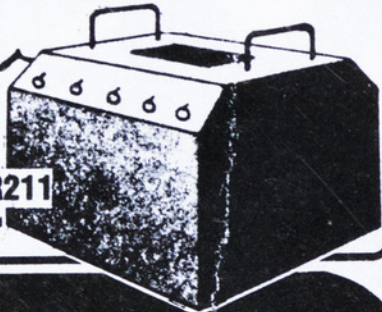
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X 10

Natal were once again captained by Gopaul Manicum and managed by Harold Samuel in 1972–73). After being in an unbeatable position at the close of the last season, it was thought by many that it would be a mere formality for us to annex the coveted cup for the first time ever. However, it turned out to be no formality at all for we were forced into sharing the trophy with the powerful and rejuvenated Western Province team. But it was a magnificent climax to the season and few who saw the final game at Tills Crescent will forget the determined and attacking play from the men down South. Natal fought doggedly but victory was not denied to Western Province. We lost on the double innings but cricket was really the winner. Natal became joint holders of the Dadabhai trophy and had come this far for the first time in the competition. It was a great achievement unfortunately clouded by the sparkling victory of Western Province. But we did succeed in proving to the rest of the country and to ourselves that we have the talent which, if properly used, can be a credit to our cricket.

Y. Omar with 312 runs at 39,00 per innings and M. Govender with 17 wickets at 15,24 runs each headed the batting and bowling averages respectively for the two season competition while M. Patrick (337 at 37,44) and I. Ebrahim (33 at 15, 67) headed the aggregate for runs and wickets.

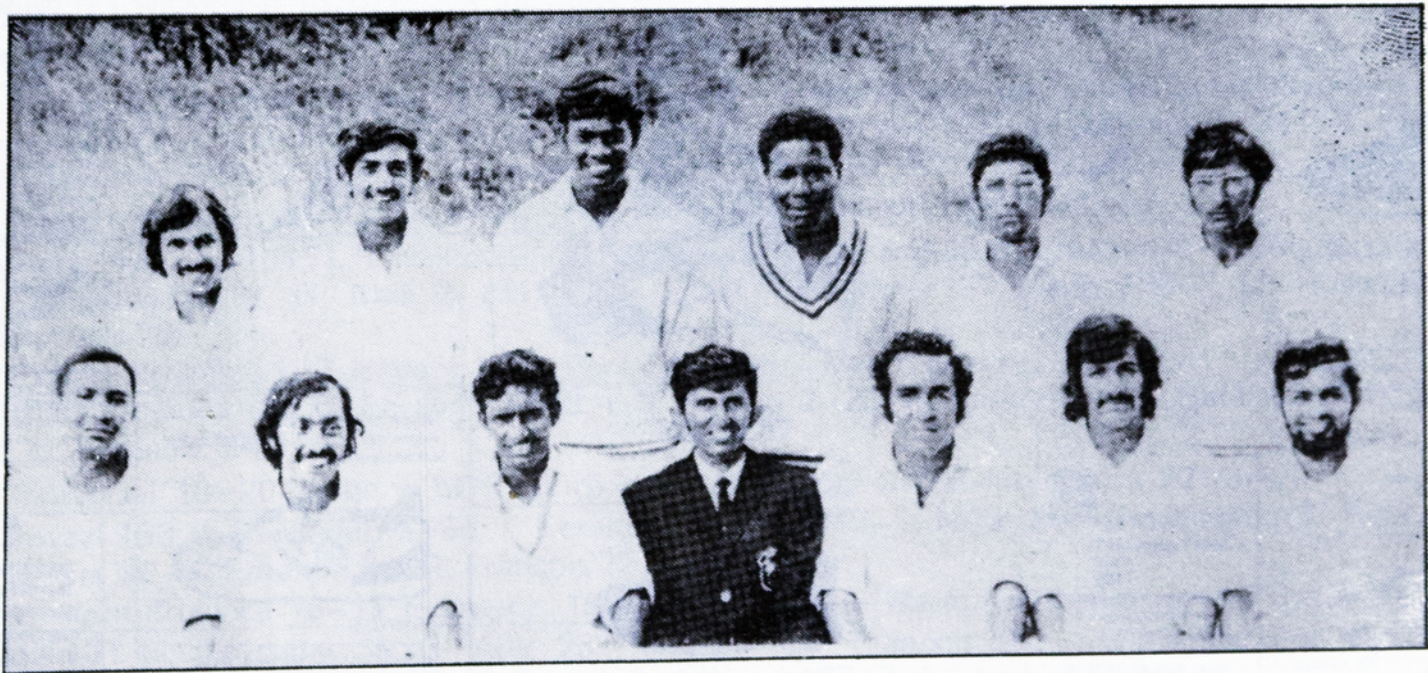
Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Eastern Province 30 December 1972 – 1 January 1973 Durban – Natal won on 1st innings by 91 runs Natal 301–9 declared. (Y. Omar 118, I. Timol 52, M.S. Vawda 29*, G. Manicum 24, M. Govender 22*) and 170–6 declared. (G. Francois 48, J. Govender 44, Y. Omar 33*). Eastern Province 210 (I. Ebrahim 4–61, M.S. Vawda 4–37) and 42–4 (M. Patrick 2–15).
2. vs Transvaal 27–29 January 1973 Johannesburg – Transvaal won on 1st innings by 57 runs. Transvaal 406–9 declared. (J. Govender 4–39, I. Ebrahim 2–101). Natal 349 (Y. Randeree 142, M. Patrick 90, I. Timol 32).
3. vs Western Province 17–19 February 1973, Durban – Western Province won by 6 wickets. Natal 167 (Y. Omar 52, K. Barker 31, J. Govender 20) and 189 (M. Patrick 81, J. Govender 33, Y. Randeree 25, Y. Omar 26). Western Province 298–9 declared. (I. Ebrahim 4–81, M. Patrick 2–78, G. Manicum 2–49) and 59–4 (I. Ebrahim 3–25).



VICTORIOUS NATAL CAPTAIN,
GOPAUL MANICUM, WITH THE DADABHAI TROPHY
WHICH NATAL SHARED AS JOINT HOLDERS
WITH WESTERN PROVINCE 1971–73

NATAL TEAM 1972–73



Standing : M.S. VAWDA, Y. RANDEEE, M. GOVENDER, K. BARKER, G. FRANCOIS,
K.C. PERUMAL (12th man).
Seated : M. PATRICK, I. EBRAHIM, G. MANICUM (Captain), H. SAMUEL (Manager), I. TIMOL
(V. Capt.), Y. OMAR, J. GOVENDER.

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After being joint holders with Western Province for the past season, great things were expected of our youthful team in 1973–74. But our performance generally was a mystery to everybody. This was the first time that all interprovincial matches were played over one season on a home and away basis. We did experience certain problems and there is no doubt that we missed three of our most senior players in G. Manicum (transferred to Aurora C.C), I.A. Timol (to Western Province) and M. Govender (injured) but this was not sufficient cause for us to perform so poorly. We fared worst in our two away matches in the Cape, but gave very creditable performances at home against Transvaal and Eastern Province. We were close to a dramatic victory against Transvaal at Lenasia in Johannesburg and finally went on to shock all pundits with a convincing victory against the champions, Western Province, in the last match of the series at home. Michael Patrick was charged with the important responsibility of captaincy in the first five matches and had difficulty in building up the new team from where we had left off at the end of the last season. Young Yacoob Omar was called upon to lead the side in the last match and fortune smiled more kindly on him in his debut. Our batting was pathetic in many of the matches and the number of dropped catches for the season must be close to a record. Natal coach, Keith Barker, proved to be the most effective bowler of the team and emerged as the highest wicket taker in the whole of the Dadabhai series (26 at 12.50), leading the Natal averages. He also scored the most runs for Natal in the competition and headed the averages with 220 runs at 22.00 per innings.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 16–18 December 1973, Durban – Transvaal won on 1st innings by 59 runs.
Transvaal 197 (M. Ebrahim 3–29, Y. Omar, 3–28, K. Barker 2–35) and 110 (K. Barker 5–23, J. Govender 2–11). Natal 138 (I. Ebrahim 47) and 74–4 (G. Francois 26*).
- 2) vs Eastern Province 26–28 December 1973, Port Elizabeth – Eastern Province won by an innings and 11 runs.
Natal 143 (G. Francois 33, M. Patrick 27, M. Ebrahim 21) and 118 (G. Francois 26, J. Govender 21). Eastern Province 272–8 declared. (K. Barker 3–78, Y. Omar 2–70).
3. vs Western Province 31 December 1973 – 2 January 1974, Cape Town – Western Province won by 122 runs.
Western Province 174 (K. Barker 5–39, L.S. Naidoo 4–42) and 156–8 declared. (I. Ebrahim 3–39, M. Patrick 2–33). Natal 85 (J. Govender 17, G. Francois 16) and 123 (Y. Omar 36, K. Barker 33).
- 4) vs Transvaal 19–21 January 1974, Johannesburg – Transvaal won on 1st innings by 31 runs.
Transvaal 222 (K. Barker 3–26, M. Patrick 2–50, Y. Omar 2–58) and 179–6 declared (L.S. Naidoo 2–38). Natal 191 (K. Barker 60, T. Roberts 29) and 127–9 (J. Govender 24, H. Naik 22).
5. vs Eastern Province 15–17 February, Durban – Eastern Province won by 15 runs.
Eastern Province 171 (Y. Omar 2–8, L.S. Naidoo 2–30, K. Barker 2–33, I. Ebrahim 2–52) and 169 (G. Montgomery 2–22, Y. Omar 2–30, I. Ebrahim 2–42). Natal 89 (M. Patrick 25, L.S. Naidoo 20*) and 236 (Y. Omar 96, G. Francois 54, M. Patrick 27).
- 6) vs Western Province 16–18 March 1974, Durban – Natal won on 1st innings by 72 runs.
Natal 208 (M. Patrick 81, M. Vahed 29, I. Ebrahim 22*, K. Barker 21) and 158 (K. Barker 56, V. Ellery 32, R. Reddy 21). Western Province 136 (K. Barker 4–27, I. Ebrahim 4–29, L.S. Naidoo 2–28) and 51–2.

The dedication, application, physical fitness and above all the tremendous team spirit that prevailed throughout the season were the decisive factors in the creditable performances of the Natal team in 1974–75. The team's showing against Transvaal at Lenasia won for them the admiration of many cricket loving people. We lost on the first innings but gained a moral victory. Had it not been for the inclement weather which robbed us of certain outright victories, we might possibly have been in contention for the Dadabhai trophy. Y. Randeree (161 runs at 53, 67) and M. Patrick (13 wickets at 12, 84) headed the batting and bowling averages respectively while G. Francois (234 runs at 26, 00) scored the most runs and I. Ebrahim (21 wickets at 15, 67) took the most wickets for Natal.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 23–25 November 1974, Johannesburg – Transvaal won on 1st innings by 36 runs.
Natal 272 (Y. Omar 131, G. Francois 69, Y. Randeree 49) and 122–4 (Y. Randeree 34*, G. Francois 29). Transvaal 308–9 declared. (G. Allie 3–39, I. Ebrahim 2–90).
- 2) vs Western Province 13–15 December 1974, Durban – Natal won by 3 wickets.
Western Province 154 (L.S. Naidoo 6–50, M. Patrick 3–35) and 88 (I. Ebrahim 3–28, M. Patrick 2–10, L.S. Naidoo 2–18, G. Allie 2–21). Natal 113 (Y. Randeree 57*) and 130–7 (J. Govender 65*, T. Roberts 20).
- 3) vs Eastern Province 1–3 January 1975, Port Elizabeth – Match drawn.
Eastern Province 184 (I. Ebrahim 3–48, L.S. Naidoo 2–25, K. Barker 3–42). Natal 92–4 (Y. Omar 31, G. Francois 38).
- 4) vs Transvaal 18–20 January 1975, Durban – Natal won on 1st innings by 22 runs.
Transvaal 188 (L.S. Naidoo 5–60, I. Ebrahim 2–18) and 9–1. Natal 210–8 declared. (T. Roberts 40, K. Barker 36, M. Ebrahim 31, G. Francois 22, Y. Omar 21).
- 5) vs Western Province 15–17 February 1975, Cape Town – Western Province won by 3 wickets.
Natal 131 (J. Govender 36, G. Allie 23*) and 137 (G. Francois 26, J. Govender 24). Western Province 143 (I. Ebrahim 6–70, M. Patrick 3–11) and 127–7 (I. Ebrahim 5–54).
- 6) vs Eastern Province 15–17 March 1975, Durban – Natal won on 1st innings by 52 runs.
Eastern Province 96 (G. Allie 3–29, J. Govender 2–12, L.S. Naidoo 2–14) and 168 (G. Allie 3–45, M. Patrick 2–13, K. Barker 2–33). Natal 148 (K. Barker 42, T. Roberts 28, Y. Randeree 21) and 74–1 (G. Francois 39*, M. Ebrahim 29).

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The South African Cricket Board of Control decided to shelve the Dadabhai trophy for the 1975-76 season. Participating units competed instead for the new Stellenbosch Farmers' Wineries trophy. Natal had a poor season and finished wooden spoonists. Just one single innings victory against Eastern Province was a disappointing showing for a side that was expected to do well. Inconsistent batting performances nullified the hard work of the bowlers throughout the season. Y. Omar and M. Govender (10 wickets at 9,20 apiece) headed the batting and bowling averages while G. Allie (23 at 17,48) took the most wickets. Natal's top run scorer, Y. Omar with 435 runs at an average of 62,14 and a top score of 174 not out, had a brilliant season. He also took 11 wickets at 19 runs apiece. Ironically, in a season of such erratic batting two records were established which still stand to this day. In scoring 356 for 4 wickets declared against Eastern Province, Natal made their highest ever score in three day cricket and Y. Omar's undefeated 174 is still the highest individual score made by a Natalian in competitive interprovincial cricket.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 22-24 November 1975, Durban - Transvaal won on 1st innings by 36 runs.
Transvaal 198 (M.M. Khan 5-39) and 182-5 declared (I. Ebrahim 2-66). Natal 162 (Y. Omar 30, T. Roberts 31, Y. Randeree 27) and 35-1 (Y. Omar 20*).
- 2) vs Eastern Province 26-28 December 1975, Port Elizabeth - Natal won on 1st innings by 230 runs.
Natal 356-4 declared. (Y. Omar 174*, J. Govender 72*, Y. Randeree 37, G. Francois 32), Eastern Province 126 (Y. Omar 2-15, M.M. Khan 2-20, G. Allie 2-27, I. Ebrahim 2-42) and 284-5 (Y. Omar 2-39).
- 3) vs Western Province 3-5 January 1976, Cape Town - Western Province won by 10 wickets.
Natal 111 (G. Francois 23, I. Ebrahim 22) and 130 (Y. Omar 56, J. Govender 22). Western Province 212 (G. Allie 3-44, Y. Omar 2-37, I. Ebrahim 2-39) and 31-0.
4. vs Transvaal 24-26 January 1976, Johannesburg - Transvaal won on 1st innings by 64 runs.
Natal 175 (Y. Omar 40, Y.M. Pillay 29, J. Govender 24, Y. Randeree 24) and 240-5 declared. (G. Francois 109, Y. Omar 49, Y. Randeree 54). Transvaal 239 (I. Ebrahim 4-65, G. Allie 3-52) and 80-4 (Y. Omar 3-21).
- 5) vs Eastern Province 21-23 February 1976, Ladysmith - Eastern Province won on 1st innings by 6 runs.
Natal 119 (Y. Omar 46, J. Govender 23) and 141 (Y.M. Pillay 34, G. Francois 33, J. Govender 28). Eastern Province 125-9 declared. (G. Allie 4-21, M. Govender 3-32) and 121-8 (G. Allie 3-28, I. Ebrahim 2-40).
6. vs Western Province 13-15 March 1976, Durban - Western Province won on 1st innings by 11 runs.
Natal 158 (G. Francois 57, T. Roberts 25, I. Ebrahim 22) and 92-8 (S. Geldenhuys 33*, Y. Randeree 21). Western Province 169 (M. Govender 5-35, G. Allie 4-56).

1976-77 was the season in which the so-called 'normal cricket' was played. Y. Omar and T. Roberts gained selection for Natal B. The records show that they gave a very good account of themselves. The fact that top cricketers debated Y. Omar's inclusion in the Natal Currie Cup side speaks for itself. The 'normal cricket' experiment was not a success and towards the end of the season the Board dissociated itself from the Natal Cricket Association and concluded the season with a friendly limited overs match against Western Province. Western Province won a closely fought encounter.

Epitaph

*As in life so in death lies a bat of renown,
Slain by a lorry (three ton);
His innings is over, his bat is laid down:
To the end a poor judge of a run.*

GEORGE McWILLIAM

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NATAL IN INTERPROVINCIAL CRICKET

3. THE THREE DAY GAMES

THE HOWA BOWL 1977-78 to 1985-86

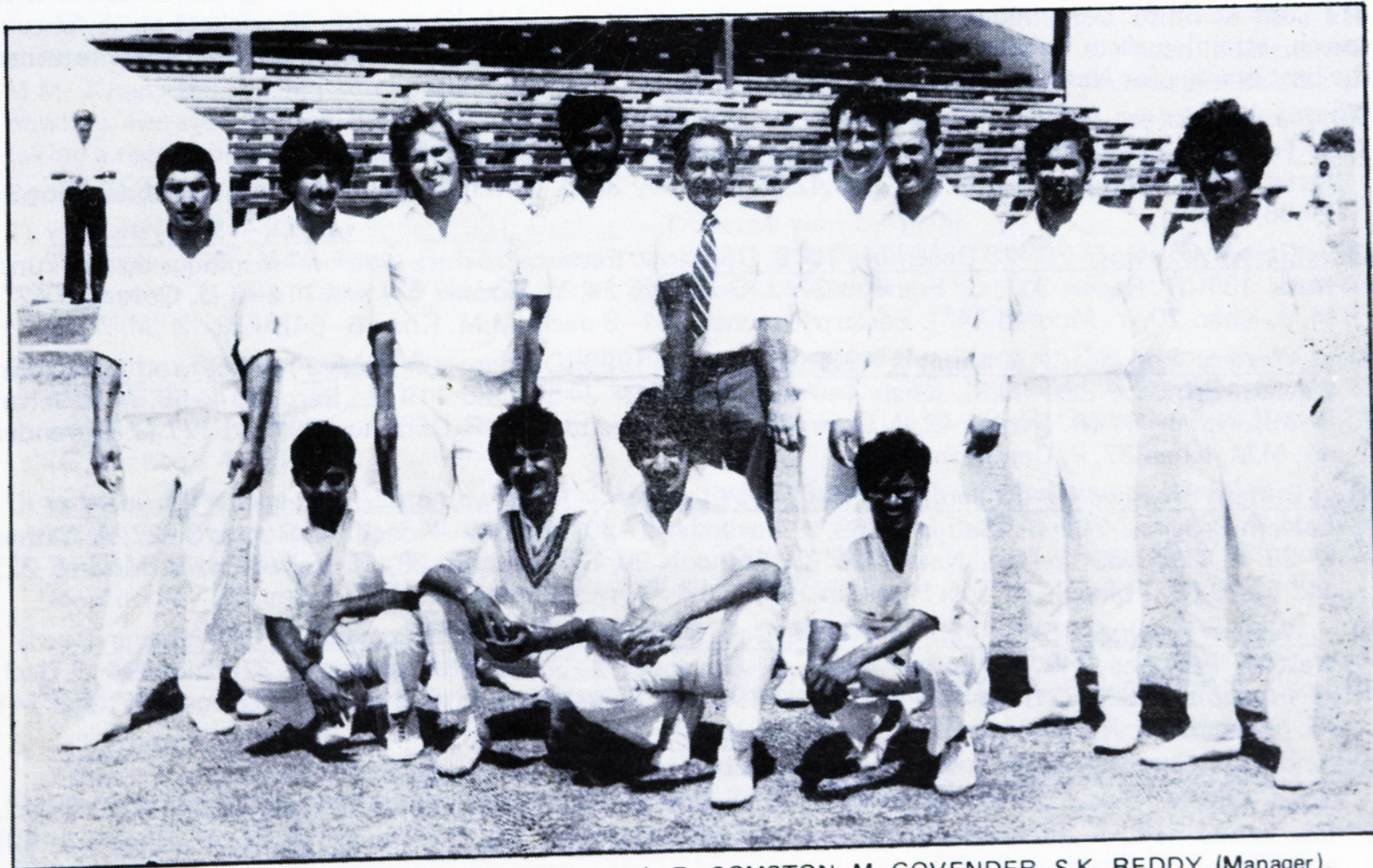
In the period under review, the new South African Cricket Board was formed. The four provincial units in the A section now competed for the Howa Bowl in matches of three days duration on a home and away basis.

Natal had a most satisfying season, finishing runners up to Western Province, just eight points behind. After **disappointing double** innings losses away to Transvaal and Western Province (where they were caught on a wet wicket), Natal recovered well to beat Transvaal and Eastern Province convincingly on the double. In the last match of the season, Natal won comfortably on the first innings against eventual champions Western Province but rain thwarted any chances of our annexing the bowl. Y. Omar, with centuries against Eastern Province and Transvaal, was by far and away the outstanding batsman and topped the national averages with an aggregate of 498 runs at 45,27 per innings. J. Govender, in taking the most wickets (17) including match figures of 9-57 against Transvaal at home, headed the bowling averages at 11,82 runs per wicket.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 26-28 November 1977, Johannesburg - Transvaal won by 3 wickets.
Natal 150 (Y. Omar 39, T. Roberts 38, R. Rogers 27*) and 128 (T. Roberts 27 Y. Omar 22). Transvaal 164 (B. David 4-62, Y. Omar 3-22, R. Rogers 2-25) and 116-7 (Y. Omar 5-34).
2. vs Eastern Province 26-28 December 1977, Port Elizabeth - Natal won by 72 runs.
Natal 287-9 decl. (Y. Omar 123, A. Bawa 39, M.M. Khan 29, J. Govender 21, G. Francois 29) and 160 (Y. Omar 39, G. Francois 30) Eastern Province 258 (M.M. Khan 2-7, R. Rogers 2-54, L. Esterhuizen 2-56) and 117 (L. Esterhuizen 5-40, R. Rogers 3-43, J. Govender 2-2).
- 3) vs Western Province 31 December 1977-2 January 1978, Cape Town - Western Province won by an innings and 67 runs.
Western Province 240 (R. Rogers 5-55, Y. Omar 2-41). Natal 56 (G. Francois 16, Y. Omar 15) and 117 (T. Roberts 37, K. Hiranman 20, Y. Omar 19, A. Bawa 18*).
- 4) vs Transvaal 21-23 January 1978, Newcastle - Natal won by an innings and 77 runs.
Natal 270 (Y. Omar 119, G. Francois 67, R. Rogers 36*). Transvaal 130 (J. Govender 4-30, A. Chetty 3-22, R. Rogers 2-26) and 63 (J. Govender 5-27, A. Chetty 2-6, M.M. Khan 2-16).
- 5) vs Eastern Province 11-13 February 1978, Durban - Natal won on 1st innings by 90 runs.
Natal 238 (J. Govender 74, Y. Randeree 37, T. Roberts 36, M.M. Khan 28) and 140-3 (Y. Omar 76, G. Francois 25). Eastern Province 148 (M.M. Khan 4-36, Y. Omar 3-18).
- 6) vs Western Province 4-6 March 1978, Durban - Natal won on 1st innings by 64 runs.
Natal 209 (J. Govender 34, R. Rogers 32, T. Roberts 30, G. Francois 23, M.M. Khan 22, B. David 22) and 80-4 decl. (Y. Omar 39, A. Bawa 28). Western Province 145 (M. Govender 3-45, J. Govender 2-12, M.M. Khan 2-30) and 20-2.

NATAL TEAM 1978-79



Standing : G. FRANCOIS, Y. OMAR (Captain), R. COMPTON, M. GOVENDER, S.K. REDDY (Manager),
R. ROGERS, R. JULIUS, J. GOVENDER, G. SINGH.
Kneeling : A. SATHAR (12th man), M.M. KHAN, A. BAWA, B. PILLAY.

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The Natal team, having accounted for Transvaal and Western Province in great style, did not live up to expectations thereafter, finishing third on the Howa log in 1978–79. Opening batsmen, Y. Omar and G. Francois, had their most successful season in harness. In the opening match against Transvaal these two established a new first wicket partnership record for Natal of 165 only to sweep this aside in the very next game against Western Province at home by putting on 178 together. Y. Omar headed the national averages for the second successive season with 381 runs at 38,10 and also scored the most runs for Natal, G. Francois finishing third and J. Govender fifth. C. Nicholson with an average of 11,93 was the best of the Natal bowlers, both he and R. Compton being the leading wicket takers for Natal with 15 apiece in the competition.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 18–20 November 1978, Johannesburg – Natal won by 122 runs.
Natal 311–8 decl. (G. Francois 81, Y. Omar 81, R. Julius 51, C. Nicholson 22) and 194–6 decl. (Y. Omar 57, M.M. Khan 41*, R. Compton 34). Transvaal 196 (C. Nicholson 3–14, R. Compton 2–31, R. Rogers 2–41) and 187 (G. Singh 5–76, M.M. Khan 4–64).
- 2) vs Western Province 26–28 December 1978, Durban – Natal won by an innings and 25 runs.
Natal 334 (Y. Omar 149, G. Francois 85, R. Julius 23, R. Rogers 22, M.M. Khan 20). Western Province 177 (M. Govender 5–48, R. Compton 2–20) and 132 (C. Nicholson 5–41, Y. Omar 3–26).
- 3) vs Eastern Province 30 December 1978–1 January 1979, Port Elizabeth – Eastern Province won by an innings and 78 runs.
Natal 100 (J. Govender 23, G. Francois 21) and 79 (J. Govender 28, A. Bawa 14, G. Francois 13). Eastern Province 257 (G. Singh 5–57, J. Govender 2–30, R. Compton 2–42).
- 4) vs Transvaal 20–22 January 1979, Durban – Natal won on 1st innings by 154 runs.
Transvaal 172 (C. Nicholson 3–33, R. Gangat 2–23, R. Compton 2–45) and 247–7 (Y. Omar 2–24, R. Julius 2–27). Natal 326–9 decl. (J. Govender 62, C. Nicholson 59, S. Govender 53, Y. Omar 49, Y. Moorad 22*, G. Francois 20).
- 5) vs Western Province 17–19 February 1979, Cape Town – Western Province won by 64 runs.
Western Province 262–8 decl. (R. Compton 3–42, C. Nicholson 2–37) and 94–7 decl. (Y. Omar 2–15, M. Govender 2–28, R. Compton 2–33). Natal 116 (G. Francois 51, Y. Moorad 19) and 176 (C. Nicholson 40, J. Govender 39, G. Francois 26, R. Julius 19).
- 6) vs Eastern Province 17–19 March 1979, Newcastle – Eastern Province won by 5 wickets.
Natal 170 (R. Julius 31, G. Singh 30, J. Govender 27) and 218 (M.M. Khan 91, J. Govender 20, Y. Moorad 40, M. Hickson 20). Eastern Province 170 (M. Hickson 3–55, C. Arnold 4–43) and 219–5 (G. Singh 2–44, M. Govender 2–46).

The Natal team began well but eventually faded out during the course of the season, finishing third in the competition. The match against Transvaal played at Chatsworth for the first time was a tremendous success. M. Vahed, with a total of 185 runs, headed the national averages with 46,25 in five innings, including a top score of 79, G. Francois was third and E. Govender fifth. Francois was Natal's highest run scorer with 317 runs at 39,62 per innings. Best of the Natal bowlers was M.M. Khan with 15 wickets at 15,47 runs apiece, attaining sixth position in the national averages, although Leon Barnard with 10 wickets returned the best average for Natal of 14,40.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 17–19 November 1979, Johannesburg – No result—match drawn.
Natal 236 (P. Compton 52, M.M. Khan 42, P. Moodley 36, J. Govender 27). Transvaal 133–5 (R. Rogers 2–36).
- 2) vs Eastern Province 26–28 December 1979, Durban – Eastern Province won on 1st innings by 110 runs.
Natal 131 (R. Rogers 31*, G. Francois 27, J. Govender 24, Y. Moorad 17) and 114–6 (J. Govender 42*, M.M. Khan 20, Y. Moorad 14*). Eastern Province 241–8 decl. (M.M. Khan 6–64).
- 3) vs Western Province 31 December 1979–2 January 1980, Durban – Western Province won by 4 runs.
Western Province 223 (M.M. Khan 4–74, J. Govender 2–54) and 119 (L. Barnard 4–55, M.M. Khan 4–39). Natal 161 (R. Rogers 42, J. Govender 27, S. Govender 24, P. Compton 20) and 177 (J. Govender 41, M.M. Khan 37, P. Compton 18).
- 4) vs Eastern Province 19–21 January 1980, Port Elizabeth – Natal won on 1st innings by 15 runs.
Eastern Province 209 (A. Sathar 4–69, J. Govender 2–30) and 217–7 decl. (R. Rogers 3–27, A. Sathar 2–26, J. Govender 2–45). Natal 224 (G. Francois 99, S. Govender 28, M. Vahed 24, Y. Moorad 22) and 52–0 (G. Francois 31*, K. Hiranman 15*).
- 5) vs Western Province 16–18 February 1980, Cape Town – Western Province won by 149 runs.
Western Province 249 (A. Sathar 6–70, E. Govender 2–31, R. Ramsaroop 2–32) and 194–7 decl. (G. Francois 4–63, R. Rogers 2–66). Natal 153 (M. Vahed 23, K. Hiranman 18, R. Rogers 17) and 141 (G. Francois 53, R. Rogers 21).
- 6) vs Transvaal 15–17 March 1980, Chatsworth – Natal won on 1st innings by 94 runs.
Natal 236 (M. Vahed 79, G. Singh 40, E. Govender 28, G. Francois 26, R. Rogers 25) and 199–7 decl. (M. Vahed 51*, G. Francois 53, E. Govender 36). Transvaal 142 (L. Barnard 4–55, R. Rogers 3–50) and 206–6 (G. Francois 2–39).

The Natal team began the 1980–81 season very poorly. However, with due changes and an emerging youthful team under the captaincy of Mustapha Khan, great strides were made regarding overall team performance which was clearly indicated by the successes towards the end of the season in both the Western Province and Transvaal matches played at Chatsworth and Pietermaritzburg respectively. Natal achieved third place in the Howa Bowl. G. Francois became the first player to register 1000 runs in Howa Bowl Cricket and headed the Natal batting averages and aggregates with 327 runs at 29,73 per innings. Elvis Govender emerged top of the bowling averages with 11 wickets at 10.45 runs apiece while M.M. Khan took the most wickets, 27 at 14,70.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Eastern Province 28–30 November 1980, Durban – No result–Match drawn.
Natal 149 (G. Francois 92, R. Rogers 20*). Eastern Province 89–3 (G. Francois 2–14). JGOV CAPT
- 2) vs Western Province 26–28 December 1980, Cape Town – Western Province won by 53 runs.
Western Province 209 (M.M. Khan 6–55, R. Compton 3–72) and 145–4 decl. (J. Govender 2–20, M.M. Khan 2–39). Natal 109 (M. Vahed 39, M.M. Khan 34) and 192 (Y. Moorad 55*, F. Hassim 32). JGOV CAPT
- 3) vs Eastern Province 30 December 1980–1 January 1981, Port Elizabeth – Eastern Province won by 9 wickets.
Natal 195 (Y. Moorad 50, G. Francois 39, J. Govender 30, M. Govender 19*) and 137 (R. Julius 35, K. Hiranman 20, F. Hassim 17). Eastern Province 276 (M.M. Khan 7–106, G. Francois 2–51) and 58–1. JGOV CAPT
- 4) vs Transvaal 17–19 January 1981, Johannesburg – Transvaal won on 1st innings by 115 runs.
Transvaal 235 (G. Francois 4–42, M.M. Khan 3–60) and 119 (M.M. Khan 4–32, G. Francois 2–2, M. Hickson 2–25). Natal 120 (G. Francois 50, A. Sathar 20*) and 195–8 (M.M. Khan 53*, M. Vahed 28, R. Julius 28, P. Pillay 22).
- 5) vs Western Province 20–22 February 1981, Chatsworth – Natal won by 2 wickets.
Western Province 137 (C. Pentiah 4–44, M. Govender 3–38) and 136 (E. Govender 6–30, M.M. Khan 2–32). Natal 170 (G. Francois 40, E. Govender 29, E. Mall 23) and 105–8 (G. Francois 44).
- 6) vs Transvaal 14–16 March 1981, Pietermaritzburg – Natal won by 5 wickets.
Transvaal 115 (E. Govender 4–31, C. Pentiah 3–33, M. Govender 2–17) and 192 (G. Francois 3–16, M.M. Khan 3–49, F. Hassim 2–44). Natal 273 (S. Govender 97, E. Mall 51, G. Francois 32, M.M. Khan 20) and 35–5.

The 1981 –82 season started off with our side hosting a revitalised Transvaal team. In an exciting and nail-biting finish we lost by one run on the double innings a match that could have been won easily, considering that we had an opening stand of 33 runs to make a total of 102 for victory. In the second match in Pietermaritzburg, our side gave a creditable account of themselves, coming within an ace of gaining outright victory against Eastern Province. The highlight of the season was the home game against holders Western Province at Chatsworth. In another nail-biting finish, only this time victory was not denied us, we beat the mighty Western Province by one wicket. Western Province went on to win the Howa Bowl.

A noticable feature of our side was that, in the last few seasons, its performances at home have been commendable. The same cannot be said of the away games where performances have been most pathetic. M.M. Khan, the leading run scorer (226 at 22,60 per innings) and wicket taker, headed the batting and bowling averages for the interprovincial season, scoring his maiden century against Eastern Province and taking a record breaking 39 wickets at 12,87 runs each.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 21–23 November 1981, Durban – Transvaal won by 1 run.
Transvaal 126 (M.M. Khan 6–62, G. Francois 2–21) and 85 (M.M. Khan 4–31, R. Ramsaroop 2–4, C. Pentiah 2–19). Natal 110 (M. Govender 31*, S. Govender 31, G. Francois 22) and 100 (G. Francois 24, M.M. Khan 16).
- 2) vs Eastern Province 26–28 December 1981, Pietermaritzburg – Natal won on 1st innings by 152 runs.
Natal 312–9 decl. (M.M. Khan 101*, E. Mall 61, S. Govender 35, R.L. Naidoo 26, G. Francois 25) and 61–1 (S. Govender 40*). Eastern Province 160 (M.M. Khan 4–30, E. Govender 4–53) and 248 (G. Francois 4–55, M.M. Khan 3–69).
- 3) vs Western Province 30 December 1981–1 January 1982, Chatsworth – Natal won by 1 wicket.
Western Province 201 (M.M. Khan 5–62, E. Govender 3–49) and 115 (E. Govender 4–21, M.M. Khan 3–38, S. Mansoor 2–22). Natal 176 (S. Govender 29, R. Khan 29*, I.G.H. Hansa 28, Y. Moorad 28, M. Moodley 20) and 141–9 (S. Govender 47, R. Khan 19*).
- 4) vs Transvaal 23–25 January 1982, Johannesburg – Transvaal won by 43 runs.
Transvaal 121 (S. Govender 4–40, M.M. Khan 3–29, G. Francois 2–17) and 115 (E. Govender 4–30, M.M. Khan 4–31). Natal 123 (M.M. Khan 45, G. Francois 22) and 70 (E. Govender 21, M.M. Khan 16).
- 5) vs Eastern Province 20–22 February 1982, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Province won by 110 runs.
Eastern Province 214 (M.M. Khan 5–76, E. Govender 3–56) and 106–7 decl. (C. Pentiah 3–25). Natal 76 (M.M. Khan 31, Y. Moorad 16) and 134 (E. Mall 39, G. Hoosen 35).
- 6) vs Western Province 21–23 March 1982, Cape Town – Western Province won by an innings and 122 runs.
Western Province 263–9 decl. (S. Mansoor 4–48, E. Govender 3–62) Natal 39 (E. Mall 11, S. Govender 10) and 102 (E. Govender 41, R.L. Naidoo 19, P. Pillay 18).

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NATAL TEAM 1981-82



Standing : M. MOODLEY, E. MALL, M. GOVENDER, O. DADABHAI, Y. MOORAD, A.M. KHARVA (Manager), E. GOVENDER, S. MANSOOR.
Kneeling : S. GOVENDER, G. HOOSEN, L. MAHARAJ, M.M. KHAN (Captain), C. NARRANDES, R. GOVENDER.

Natal finished at the bottom of the log in 1982-83. The highlight of the season was the home game against Eastern Province at Chatsworth which provided our team with their only victory. S. Mansoor (177 runs at 25,29 per innings) and M. Rampersad (12 wickets at 11,33) headed the averages. Enver Mall scored the only century against Eastern Province at Chatsworth while M.M. Khan took the highest number of wickets, 27 at 21,44 runs per wicket. M. Moodley, with 219 runs at 18,25 per innings, headed the aggregates for runs.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 20-22 November 1982, Johannesburg - Transvaal won by 12 runs.
Transvaal 252 (M.M. Khan 3-93, E. Govender 2-38) and 157 (G. Hoosen 3-44, M.M. Khan 2-60)
Natal 225 (L. Maharaj 57, M.M. Khan 47*, C. Narrandes 33) and 172 (G. Hoosen 68).
- 2) vs Western Province 28-30 December 1982, Cape Town - Western Province won by 87 runs.
Western Province 110 (E. Govender 5-47, S. Mansoor 3-29) and 208 (M.M. Khan 4-79, E. Govender 3-49, G. Hoosen 2-31). Natal 129 (S. Govender 36, E. Mall 35) and 102 (M. Moodley 59).
- 3) vs Eastern Province 1-3 January 1983, Port Elizabeth - Eastern Province won by 10 wickets.
Natal 142 (S. Govender 30, M.M. Khan 29, G. Hoosen 31*) and 131 (M.M. Khan 34, L. Maharaj 23*, S. Govender 21). Eastern Province 268 (G. Hoosen 5-66, E. Govender 3-51) and 8-0.
- 4) vs Western Province 22-24 January 1983, Durban - Western Province won by an innings and 83 runs.
Western Province 244 (M.M. Khan 5-85, G. Hoosen 2-68). Natal 61 (E. Mall 10) and 100 (M. Moodley 27, S. Govender 25).
- 5) vs Transvaal 19-21 February 1983, Newcastle - Transvaal won by 5 wickets.
Natal 183 (S. Mansoor 52, L. Maharaj 35) and 166 (S. Mansoor 59, G. Hoosen 27, M. Moodley 25).
Transvaal 226 (M.M. Khan 4-72, M. Rampersad 3-27, G. Hoosen 2-60) and 125-5 (M. Rampersad 2-28, M.M. Khan 2-32).
- 6) vs Eastern Province 12-14 March 1983, Chatsworth - Natal won by 5 wickets.
Eastern Province 127 (M. Rampersad 4-41, M.M. Khan 3-24) and 168 (M. Rampersad 3-40, G. Hoosen 2-21, M.M. Khan 2-61). Natal 216 (E. Mall 100, L. Maharaj 32, M. Moodley 26) and 80-5 (M.M. Khan 32*).

Natal finished third on the log in 1983-84. A notable feature of the first three matches was that with more application and dedication, we could have won all three games on the double. Poor batting was responsible for this. Our team fared badly in the last two matches against Eastern Province and Western Province, having lost both on the double. Undoubtedly, the highlight of the competition was our convinc-

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ing display in the away game against Transvaal. Y. Omar passed the 1000 runs milestone in Howa Bowl cricket (1088) and our captain, M.M. Khan, became the first SACB player to complete the double (1152 runs, 152 wickets) in Howa Bowl cricket. Y. Omar (209 runs at 34,83 per innings) and M. Govender (13 wickets at 14,92 apiece) topped the averages while M.M. Khan took the most wickets (24 at 20,63) and E. Mall scored the most runs (216 at 21,60).

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 19–21 November 1983, Durban – Transvaal won on 1st innings by 97 runs.
Transvaal 194 (M.M. Khan 6–58, E. Govender 3–29) and 102 (M. Govender 4–19, G. Hoosen 2–16). Natal 97 (G. Moses 18) and 182–9 (G. Moses 37, L. Maharaj 25, R. Govender 24).
- 2) vs Eastern Province 27–29 December 1983, Tongaat – Eastern Province won by 5 wickets.
Natal 98 (E. Mall 21, G. Hoosen 15) and 118 (Y. Moorad 39, E. Mall 20). Eastern Province 106 A.D. Gangat 4–20, M.M. Khan 3–15, N. Moodley 2–11) and 111–5 (M.M. Khan 2–37).
- 3) vs Western Province 1–3 January 1984, Ladysmith – Western Province won by 4 wickets.
Natal 211 (S. Govender 40, M.M. Khan 38, E. Mall 27, M. Moodley 21, E. Govender 27) and 156 (E. Mall 49, Y. Moorad 26, M. Govender 26). Western Province 222 (M. Rampersad 3–40, M.M. Khan 2–43) and 146–6 (M.M. Khan 3–41, E. Govender 2–50).
- 4) vs Transvaal 21–23 January 1984, Johannesburg – Natal won by 182 runs.
Natal 354 (Y. Omar 87, S. Govender 63, E. Mall 46, M.M. Khan 37, Y. Moorad 34) and 216–3 decl. (S. Govender 54, Y. Omar 46, M. Moodley 39*, E. Mall 35, M.M. Khan 30*). Transvaal 206 (Y. Omar 2–32, M. Rampersad 2–35, M.M. Khan 2–51) and 182 (M. Govender 6–47, M. Rampersad 2–31).
- 5) vs Eastern Province 18–20 February 1984, Port Elizabeth – Eastern Province won by 256 runs.
Eastern Province 191 (Y. Omar 3–31, S. Govender 2–18, A.D. Gangat 2–29, M. Rampersad 2–31) and 252–3 decl. (E. Mall 2–31). Natal 73 (S. Govender 17, M. Moodley 10) and 114 (Y. Omar 41).
- 6) vs Western Province 17–19 March 1984, Cape Town – Western Province won by an innings and 121 runs.
Western Province 302 for 9 decl. (M.M. Khan 3–105, Y. Omar 2–58). Natal 67 (R. Govender 22) and 114 (A. Jadwat 27, Y. Omar 25).

Natal finished last on the log, having lost five matches outright, in 1984–85. Much thinking and possibly a new and bold approach might be required to enhance our tarnished image. The only shining light during the season was that Y. Omar finished at the top of the national batting averages, scoring the most number of runs for Natal with figures of 267 runs at 44,50 per innings. M. Rampersad topped the bowling (17 wickets at 13,82) and returned the best ever analysis in this competition by a Natal player (16–5–38–8) against Transvaal at Lenasia. Trevor Le Roux also took 17 wickets at 16,24 runs apiece.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 17–19 November 1984, Johannesburg – Transvaal won by 64 runs.
Transvaal 96 (M. Rampersad 8–38) and 342–9 decl. (M.M. Khan 4–80, E. Govender 3–51, G. Hoosen 2–72). Natal 199 (Y. Omar 84, G. Hoosen 34, M. Moodley 29) and 175 (Y. Omar 88).
- 2) vs Eastern Province 27–29 December 1984, Port Elizabeth – Eastern Province won by 115 runs.
Eastern Province 124 (Y. Omar 5–42, T. Le Roux 4–33) and 136–5 decl. (G. Hoosen 2–25, M. Rampersad 2–37). Natal 84 (M. Moodley 21, Y. Omar 19) and 61 (Y. Omar 34).
- 3) vs Western Province 30 December 1984–1 January 1985, Cape Town – Western Province won by 10 wickets.
Natal 94 (E. Govender 25, Y. Omar 17) and 117 (Y. Omar 25, E. Mall 18, M. Rampersad 16). Western Province 206 (Y. Omar 4–36, M. Rampersad 4–39) and 9–0.
- 4) vs Transvaal 19–21 January 1985, Tongaat – Natal won by 106 runs.
Natal 153 (M. Moodley 36, E. Govender 28, M. Patel 24) and 268 (E. Govender 76, M.M. Khan 60, G. Hoosen 21, M. Rampersad 20). Transvaal 220 (G. Hoosen 3–8, M. Rampersad 2–38, E. Govender 2–50, M.M. Khan 2–54) and 95 (M.M. Khan 5–36, T. Le Roux 4–21).
- 5) vs Eastern Province 17–19 February 1985, Merebank – Eastern Province won by an innings and 50 runs.
Eastern Province 276–8 decl. (T. Le Roux 6–70). Natal 125 (M.M. Khan 26, M. Patel 19, C. Naidoo 19, E. Govender 16) and 101 (M.M. Khan 31).
- 6) vs Western Province 16–18 March 1985, Tongaat – Western Province won by 207 runs.
Western Province 269 (E. Govender 4–65, T. Le Roux 3–69) and 245–5 decl. (P. Singaram 3–49, G. Hoosen 2–35). Natal 177 (R. Ramsaroop 33) and 130 (C. Naidoo 29, M. Patel 28, C. Pentiah 19).

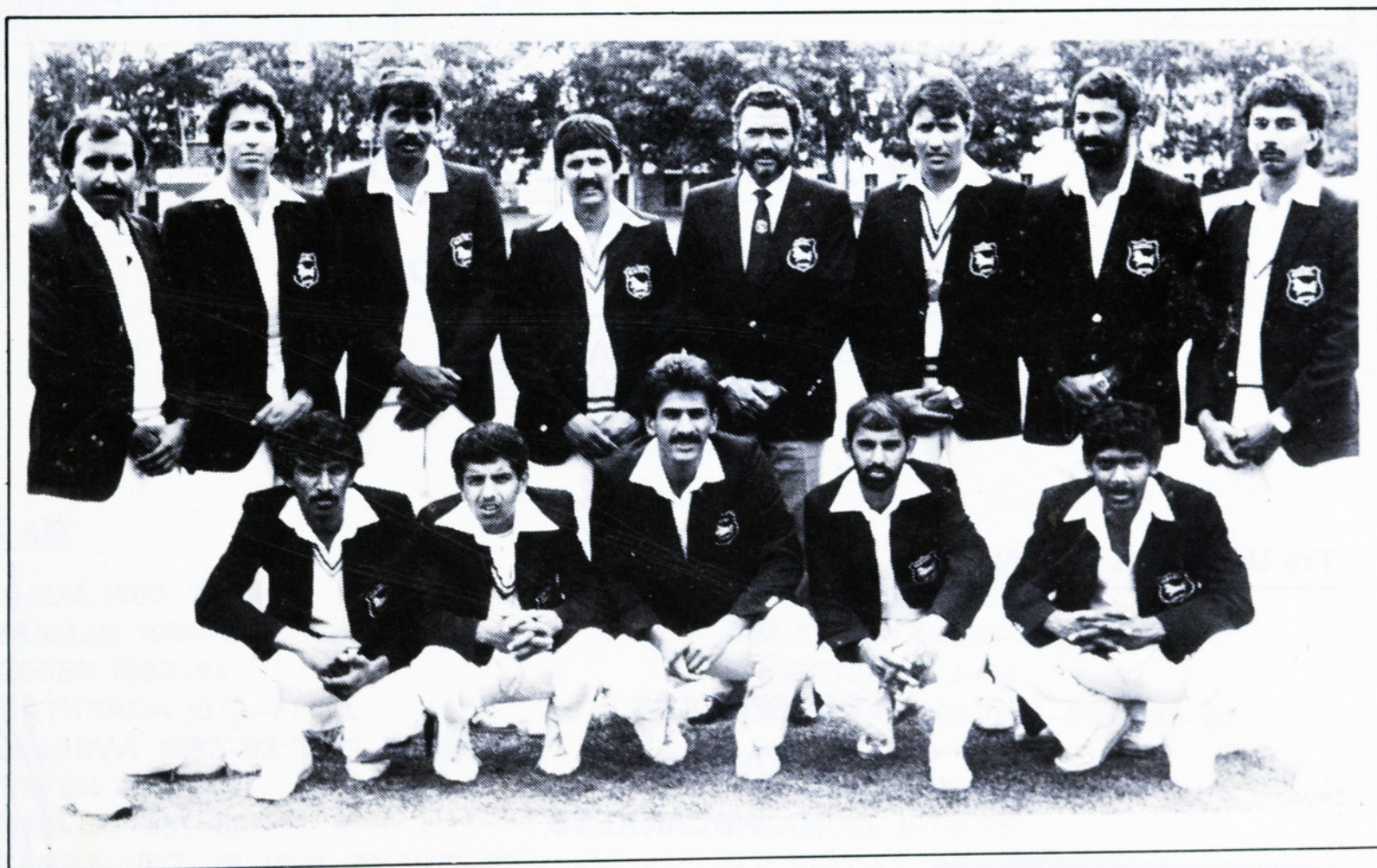
After a promising start to the season with a sound double innings victory against Transvaal in Newcastle, the Natal team's challenge for the Howa Bowl in 1985–86 petered out in a series of unconvincing performances. Trevor Le Roux bowled with great stamina and resolution to finish the season at the top of the bowling averages and aggregates with an impressive haul of 36 wickets at 15,42 runs apiece including match analyses of 11–115 and 9–146 in the two games against Transvaal. Young Naveen Ramnarain showed great promise as an emerging opening bowler of penetration in taking 18 wickets at 16,39 in only 87 overs. Once again Y. Omar was Natal's leading run scorer with 251 runs at 27,89 per innings while

N. Moodley headed the batting averages with 175 runs at 35,00 an innings. In the course of the season Y. Omar achieved the unique double of scoring 3000 runs and taking 100 wickets for Natal in inter-provincial cricket.

Summarised scores:

- 1) vs Transvaal 17-19 November 1985, Newcastle — Natal won by 41 runs.
Natal 200 (Y. Omar 72, M. Patel 34) and 155 (M. Patel 29, Y. Moorad 27, L. Maharaj 25*). Transvaal 148 (T. Le Roux 4-58, Y. Omar 3-11, M.M. Khan 3-33) and 166 (T. Le Roux 7-57, Y. Omar 2-36).
- 2) vs Western Province 28-30 December 1985, Chatsworth — Western Province won on 1st innings by 183 runs.
Western Province 328-9 decl. (M.M. Khan 3-73, Y. Omar 2-35, T. Le Roux 2-80). Natal 145 (N. Moodley 28, Y. Omar 22, B. Sewmungal 22) and 216-9 (G. Hoosen 41*, B. Sewmungal 29, N. Moodley 23, C. Naidoo 22).
- 3) vs Eastern Province 1-3 January 1986, Durban — Eastern Province won by 10 wickets.
Eastern Province 356-8 declared (T Le Roux 3-72, C. Naidoo 2-57) and 16-0. Natal 177 (C. Naidoo 34, M.M. Khan 26, M. Patel 25, B. Sewmungal 21) and 194 (M.M. Khan 42, Y. Omar 33, Y. Moorad 41).
- 4) vs Transvaal 18-20 January 1986, Johannesburg — Transvaal won by 129 runs.
Transvaal 158 (T. Le Roux 6-56) and 249 (M.M. Khan 4-54, N. Ramnarain 3-60, T. Le Roux 3-90). Natal 127 (E. Mall 39*, Y. Moorad 39) and 151 (M.M. Khan 79, S. Govender 18*).
- 5) vs Western Province 22-24 February 1986, Cape Town — Natal won on 1st innings by 18 runs.
Western Province 177 (N. Ramnarain 5-61, Y. Omar 3-36) and 150-7 decl. (T. Le Roux 4-43, N. Ramnarain 2-53). Natal 195 (E. Mall 60, N. Moodley 36, M.M. Khan 27, Y. Omar 19) and 44-2 (Y. Omar 28*).
- 6) vs Eastern Province 15-17 March 1986, Port Elizabeth — Eastern Province won by 24 runs.
Eastern Province 133 (M.M. Khan 3-53, T. Le Roux 3-25, Y. Omar 2-26) and 181 (N. Ramnarain 6-67, T. Le Roux 3-34). Natal 171 (N. Moodley 53, Y. Omar 39, M.M. Khan 19, M. Patel 19) and 119 (N. Moodley 26, Y. Omar 24, M. Patel 20).

NATAL TEAM 1985-86



Standing : S. PILLAY (12th man), E. MALL, N. MOODLEY, M.M. KHAN (Captain), BHAI SEEDAT (Manager), L. MAHARAJ, T. Le ROUX, M. PATEL.
Kneeling : C. NAIDOO, N. RAMNARAIN, Y. OMAR, B. SEWMUNGAL, P. PILLAY.

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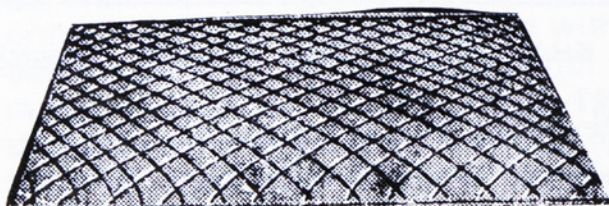
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Finally, it would be obvious to any discerning reader that Natal's performance in the Howa Bowl in recent years has been most disappointing, to say the least. There have been many problems with Natal cricket in so far as playing standards are concerned and it would be apt to quote here the words of the Natal manager, Mr A. Kharva, of a few seasons ago – the comments are still pertinent today. Mr Kharva, a senior councillor of very many years standing, has been a loyal and dedicated Natal manager and selector for several seasons now and his assessment is quite candid and revealing. As the solutions to many of the problems lie in the hands of our cricketers, the gist of Mr Kharva's comments would merit serious consideration:

'One of the great dilemmas faced by the selection committee was the dearth of talent which inhibited the selection of Natal teams. It will suffice to say that this brought in its wake the attendant problems of smug complacency and lack of application and dedication by some of the selected players. Last minute withdrawals and non-availability plagued the team in almost every match and consequently the balance was disturbed. Bowling emerged as our one positive asset. Invariably we dismissed most sides for reasonable scores and bowled ourselves into winning positions but our batsmen failed to retain the initiative. Fielding was inconsistent : we dropped vital catches with alarming frequency and our ground fielding lacked the expected dash. A lack of physical fitness was displayed by almost the entire team.'

NATAL – INTERPROVINCIAL LOG POSITIONS

DADABHAI TROPHY (2 DAY GAMES)		DADABHAI/SFW TROPHIES		THE HOWA BOWL	
1961–62	2ND	1971–73	1ST	1977–78	2ND ✓
1963–64	4TH	1973–74	4TH	1978–79	3RD ✓
1965–66	3RD	1974–75	3RD	1979–80	3RD ✓
1967–68	4TH	1975–76	4TH	1980–81	3RD ✓
1969–70	3RD			1981–82	4TH ✓
1970–71	3RD			1982–83	4TH ✓
				1983–84	3RD ✓
				1984–85	4TH ✓
				1985–86	4TH ✓

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

OPPONENTS	PLAYED	WON DOUBLE	WON SINGLE	LOST DOUBLE	LOST SINGLE	NO DECISION
TRANSVAAL	32	7	4	11	9	1
WESTERN PROVINCE	32	6	3	20	3	
EASTERN PROVINCE	30	4	7	14	3	2
GRIQUALAND WEST	5	4	1			
SOUTH WESTERN DIST.	3	3				
BORDER	1	1				
TOTAL	103	25	15	45	15	3



NATAL MANAGERS
1961 – 1986

A TEAM

T.A. DADA 1969–70
K. HIRAMAN 1984–85
A. HOOSEN 1963–64
A.S. KATHRADA 1970–71
A.M. KHARVA 1982–83; 1983–84 ; 1984–85
S. KIRSTEN 1974–75
E.I. MOOLLA 1961–62
S.K. REDDY 1977–78; 1978–79; 1979–80
H. SAMUEL 1971–72; 1972–73; 1973–74; 1975–76
M.C. SEEDAT 1980–81; 1981–82; 1985–86
D.M. SEEDAT 1967–68
G.N. SINGH 1965–66
C. DADRAT 1987–88

B TEAM

O. DADABHAI 1983–84
A.M. KHARVA 1985–86, 1986–87
S. KIRSTEN 1973–74
C.I. NARRANDES 1980–81; 1981–82
J. PILLAY 1978–79
N.M. RAJU 1975–76
H. SAMUEL 1974–75
M.C. SEEDAT 1979–80, 1982–83, 1984–85, 1986–87
W. DICKRICKS 1987–88, 1988–89
J. SWIFT 1984–90
A. ROSE 1982–83

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W. DICKRICKS 1989–90, 1990–91

NATAL IN INTERPROVINCIAL CRICKET

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

BATSMEN WHO SCORED CENTURIES

1. Y.I. Laher 126 vs Eastern Province 1961-62
2. E.I. Laher 155* vs Border 1963-64
3. J. Govender 126 vs Western Province 1969-70
4. Y. Omar 118 vs Eastern Province 1972-73
5. Y. Randeree 142 vs Transvaal 1972-73
6. Y. Omar 131 vs Transvaal 1974-75
7. Y. Omar 174* vs Eastern Province 1975-76
8. G. Francois 109 vs Transvaal 1975-76
9. Y. Omar 123 vs Eastern Province 1977-78
10. Y. Omar 119 vs Transvaal 1977-78
11. Y. Omar 149 vs Western Province 1978-79
12. M.M. Khan 101* vs Eastern Province 1981-82
13. E. Mall 100 vs Eastern Province 1982-83

CENTURY PARTNERSHIPS

1. 1963-64 1st WICKET 115 M. Boomgaard/A. Biseswar vs South Western Districts.
2. 1963-64 3rd WICKET 131 A.M. Akbar/Y.I. Laher vs South Western Districts
3. 1963-64 5th WICKET 133 E.I. Laher/M.C. Seedat vs Border.
4. 1965-66 9th WICKET 133 D. Asmal/H. Samuel vs Transvaal
5. 1967-68 5th WICKET 144 O. Rambaran/O. Vawda vs Griqualand West
6. 1969-70 9th WICKET 124 I. Timol/G. Manicum vs Eastern Province
7. 1971-72 5th WICKET 100 M. Patrick/I. Timol vs Western Province
8. 1972-73 5th WICKET 168 Y. Randeree/M. Patrick vs Transvaal
9. 1972-73 5th WICKET 145 Y. Omar/I. Timol vs Eastern Province
10. 1974-75 2nd WICKET 107 G. Francois/Y. Omar vs Transvaal
11. 1974-75 3rd WICKET 114 Y. Omar/Y. Randeree vs Transvaal
12. 1975-76 1st WICKET 111 G. Francois/Y. Omar vs Transvaal
13. 1975-76 5th WICKET 158* Y. Omar/J. Govender vs Eastern Province
14. 1977-78 1st WICKET 129 G. Francois/Y. Omar vs Transvaal
15. 1977-78 5th WICKET 113 Y. Omar/ A. Bawa vs Eastern Province
16. 1978-79 1st WICKET 178 G. Francois/Y. Omar vs Western Province
17. 1978-79 1st WICKET 165 G. Francois/Y. Omar vs Transvaal
18. 1983-84 1st WICKET 123 Y. Omar/E. Mall vs Transvaal

PARTNERSHIP RECORDS

- ✓ 1ST WICKET 178 G. Francois/Y. Omar vs Western Province 1978-79
- ✓ 2ND WICKET 107 G. Francois/Y. Omar vs Transvaal 1974-75
- ✓ 3RD WICKET 131 A.M. Akbar/Y.I. Laher vs South Western Districts 1963-64 X
- ✓ 4TH WICKET 79 Y. Randeree/I. Timol vs Transvaal 1972-73
- ✓ 5TH WICKET 168 Y. Randeree/M. Patrick vs Transvaal 1972-73
- ✓ 6TH WICKET 97 O. Vawda/M. Patrick vs Griqualand West 1967-68 135 ALU/malick
- ✓ 7TH WICKET 80 M.M. Khan/L. Maharaj vs Transvaal 1982-83
- ✓ 8TH WICKET 97 M.M. Khan/Y. Moorad vs Eastern Province 1978-79
- ✓ 9TH WICKET 133 D. Asmal/H. Samuel vs Transvaal 1965-66 X 75 L. MAHARAJ/S. MAHARAJ
- ✓ 10TH WICKET 71 I. Timol/M. Govender vs Eastern Province 1971-72 1270L 11-21 FEB 1973 Nante

BOWLERS WHO TOOK 10 WICKETS IN A MATCH

1. T. Parsuramen 12-41 (6-17 & 6-24) vs South Western Districts 1963-64
2. T. Parsuramen 10-62 (5-25 & 5-37) vs Eastern Province 1963-64
3. M. Patrick 10-42 (6-17 & 4-25) vs Griqualand West 1967-68
4. I. Ebrahim 10-48 (7-38 & 3-10) vs South Western District 1969-70
5. I. Ebrahim 11-124 (6-70 & 5-54) vs Western Province 1974-75
6. M.M. Khan 10-93 (6-62 & 4-31) vs Transvaal 1981-82
7. T. Le Roux 11-115 (7-57 & 4-58) vs Transvaal 1985-86

THE HAT TRICK

1. T. Parsuramen 7-30 vs Griqualand West 1963-64



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BOWLERS WHO TOOK FIVE WICKETS IN AN INNINGS

1. E.I. Laher 5-18 vs Griqualand West 1961-62.
2. T. Parsuramen 5-36 vs Griqualand West 1961-62
3. O.F.E. Sader 5-37 vs Western Province 1961-62
4. T. Parsuramen 7-30 vs Griqualand West 1963-64
5. T. Parsuramen 6-17 vs South Western Districts 1963-64
6. I. Ebrahim 6-21 vs Border 1963-64
7. T. Parsuramen 6-24 vs South Western Districts 1963-64
8. E.I. Laher 6-30 vs Griqualand West 1963-64
9. T. Parsuramen 5-25 vs Eastern Province 1963-64
10. T. Parsuramen 5-37 vs Eastern Province 1963-64
11. A.M. Akbar 5-63 vs Transvaal 1963-64
12. E.I. Laher 5-31 vs Griqualand West 1965-66
13. M. Patrick 6-17 vs Griqualand West 1967-68
14. L.S. Naidoo 5-21 vs Griqualand West 1967-68
15. O. Rambaran 5-32 vs South Western Districts 1967-68
16. L.S. Naidoo 5-58 vs Transvaal 1967-68
17. G. Manicum 5-62 vs Western Province 1967-68
18. G. Manicum 7-32 vs South Western Districts 1969-70
19. I. Ebrahim 7-38 vs South Western Districts 1969-70
20. M. Patrick 6-17 vs Griqualand West 1969-70
21. G. Manicum 5-55 vs Transvaal 1969-70
22. M. Govender 5-61 vs Transvaal 1970-71
23. I. Ebrahim 6-70 vs Eastern Province 1971-72 ^{26-28 DEC PE}
24. M. Govender 5-31 vs Eastern Province 1971-72 ¹¹
25. G. Manicum 5-32 vs Western Province 1973-74 ^{15-17 DEC DBN}
26. K. Barker 5-23 vs Transvaal 1973-74 ^{15-17 DEC DBN}
27. K. Barker 5-39 vs Western Province 1973-74 ^{21-23 JAN NEWCASTLE}
28. L.S. Naidoo 6-50 vs Western Province 1974-75 ^{15-17 FEB CT}
29. I. Ebrahim 6-70 vs Western Province 1974-75
30. I. Ebrahim 5-54 vs Western Province 1974-75
31. L.S. Naidoo 5-60 vs Transvaal 1974-75
32. M. Govender 5-35 vs Western Province ^{13-15 MAR 1975-76 DBN}
33. M.M. Khan 5-39 vs Transvaal 1975-76 ^{22-24 NOV DBN}
34. J. Govender 5-27 vs Transvaal 1977-78 ^{21-23 JAN NEWCASTLE}
35. Y. Omar 5-34 vs Transvaal 1977-78 ^{26-28 NOV JHB}
36. L. Esterhuizen 5-40 vs Eastern Province 1977-78 ^{26-28 DEC PE}
37. R. Rogers 5-55 vs Western Province 1977-78 ^{30/12/77-2/1/78 CT}
38. C. Nicholson 5-41 vs Western Province 1978-79 ^{26-28 DEC DBN}
39. M. Govender 5-48 vs Western Province 1978-79 ^{26-28 DEC DBN}
40. G. Singh 5-57 vs Eastern Province 1978-79 ^{30/12/78-1/1/79 PE}
41. G. Singh 5-76 vs Transvaal 1978-79 ^{13-20 NOV JHB}
42. M.M. Khan 6-64 vs Eastern Province 1979-80 ^{26-28 DEC DBN}
43. A. Sathar 6-70 vs Western Province 1979-80 ^{16-18 FEB CT}
44. M.M. Khan 7-106 vs Eastern Province 1980-81 ^{30/12/80-1/1/81 PE}
45. E. Govender 6-30 vs Western Province 1980-81 ^{26-28 FEB DBN}
46. M.M. Khan 6-55 vs Western Province 1980-81 ^{26-28 DEC CT}
47. M.M. Khan 6-62 vs Transvaal 1981-82 ^{21-23 NOV DBN}
48. M.M. Khan 5-62 vs Western Province 1981-82 ^{1-3 JAN DBN}
49. M.M. Khan 5-76 vs Eastern Province 1981-82 ^{19-21 FEB PE}
50. E. Govender 5-47 vs Western Province 1982-83 ^{28-30 DEC CT}
51. G. Hoosen 5-66 vs Eastern Province 1982-83 ^{1-3 JAN PE}
52. M.M. Khan 5-85 vs Western Province 1982-83 ^{22-24 FEB DBN}
53. M. Govender 6-47 vs Transvaal 1983-84 ^{21-23 JAN JHB}
54. M.M. Khan 6-58 vs Transvaal 1983-84 ^{19-21 NOV DBN}
55. M. Rampersad 8-38 vs Transvaal 1984-85 ^{8-10 JAN JHB}
56. T Le Roux 6-70 vs Eastern Province 1984-85 ^{16-18 FEB DBN}
57. M.M. Khan 5-36 vs Transvaal 1984-85 ^{19-21 JAN TONIGHT}
58. Y. Omar 5-42 vs Eastern Province 1984-85 ^{27-29 DEC PE}
59. T Le Roux 7-57 vs Transvaal 1985-86 ^{16-18 NOV NEWCASTLE}
60. T Le Roux 6-56 vs Transvaal 1985-86 ^{18-20 JAN JHB}
61. N. Ramnarain 6-67 vs Eastern Province 1986-87 ^{17 MAR PE}
62. N. Ramnarain 5-61 vs Western Province 1986-87 ^{22-24 FEB CT}

- ✓ HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORE: 174 not out Y. Omar vs Eastern Province 1975-76
- ✓ MOST RUNS IN A SEASON: 498 average 45,27 Y. Omar 1977-78
- ✓ BEST BATTING AVERAGE FOR THE SEASON: 435 runs at 62,14 Y. Omar 1975-76
- ✓ BEST BOWLING ANALYSIS IN AN INNINGS: 8-38 M. Rampersad vs Transvaal 1984-85 ⁸⁻³⁵
- ✓ BEST BOWLING ANALYSIS IN A MATCH: 12-41 T. Parsuramen vs South Western Districts 1963-64
- ✓ MOST WICKETS IN A SEASON: 39 average 12,87 M.M. Khan 1981-82
- ✓ BEST BOWLING AVERAGE FOR THE SEASON: 10 wickets at 9,20 M. Govender 1975-76
- MOST DISMISSALS BY A WICKETKEEPER IN AN INNINGS: 5 (all caught) Y. Moorad vs Western Province 1979-80
- MOST DISMISSALS BY A WICKETKEEPER IN A MATCH: 8 (6 catches plus 2 stumpings) Y. Moorad vs Western Province 1979-80
- MOST DISMISSALS BY A WICKETKEEPER IN A SEASON: 24 (16 catches plus 8 stumpings) I.A. Timol 1969-70.
- MOST CATCHES BY A FIELDER IN AN INNINGS: 3 This feat has been performed by several players but J. Govender has done it 5 times including twice in one match vs Eastern Province 1973-74
- MOST CATCHES BY A FIELDER IN A MATCH: 6 J. Govender vs Eastern Province 1973-74 ^{13-17 FEB 74 DBN}
- MOST CATCHES BY A FIELDER IN A SEASON: 12 J. Govender 1974-75 ¹¹
- MOST RUNS FOR NATAL: 3330 (3002 - Interprovincial plus 328- Limited Overs) Y. Omar
- MOST WICKETS FOR NATAL: 197 (193-Interprovincial plus 4-Limited Overs) M.M. Khan
- MOST WICKETKEEPING DISMISSALS FOR NATAL: 70 (55ct plus 12st-Interprovincial plus 3ct-Limited Overs) Y. Moorad
- MOST CATCHES BY A FIELDER FOR NATAL: 64 (63- Interprovincial plus 1- Limited Overs) J. Govender
- MOST APPEARANCES FOR NATAL: 62 (53 Interprovincial plus 9 Limited Overs) Y. Omar
- 62 (57 Interprovincial plus 5 Limited Overs) M.M. Khan
- BATSMAN WHO SCORED 1000 RUNS: 1) Y. Omar (3330) 2) G. Francois (2138) 3) J. Govender (1843) 4) M.M. Khan (1729) 5) M. Patrick (1258)
- BOWLERS WHO TOOK 100 WICKETS: 1) M.M. Khan (197) 2) I Ebrahim (139) 3) Y. Omar (113)
- FIFTY APPEARANCES FOR NATAL: 1) Y. Omar (62) 2) M.M. Khan (62) 3) J. Govender (60) 4) G. Francois (51)
- HIGHEST SCORE BY NATAL: 2 Day Games - 481 vs South Western Districts 1963-64
- 3 Day Games- 356-4 Declared vs Eastern Province 1975-76
- LOWEST SCORE BY NATAL: 2 Day Games-62 vs Western Province 1965-66
- 3 Day Games- 39 vs Western Province 1981-82

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CAREER STATISTICS OF THOSE PLAYERS WHO PASSED NOTABLE MILESTONES

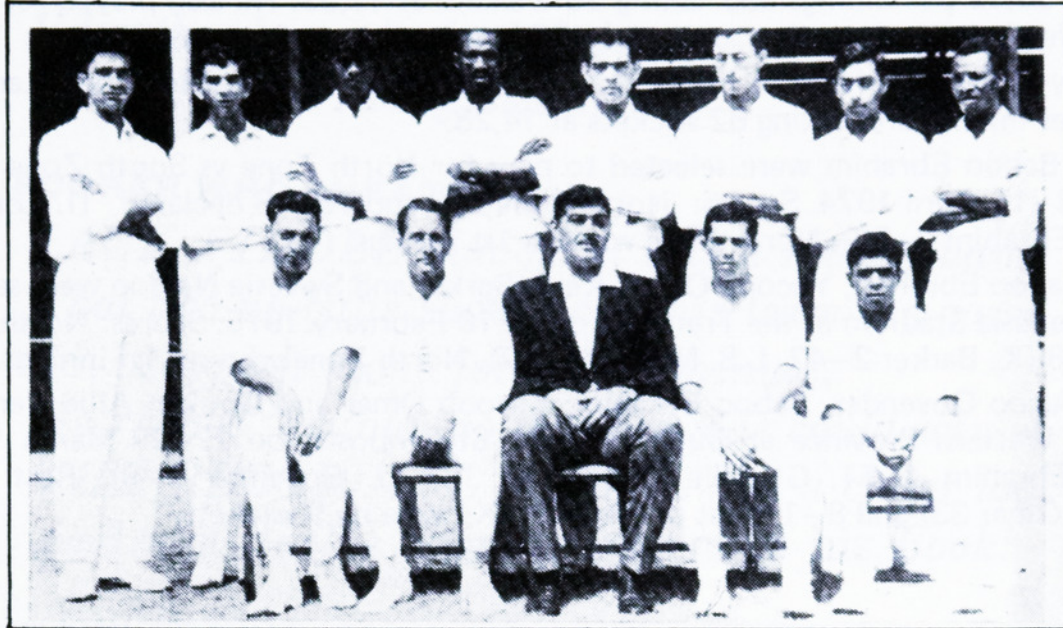
	MATCHES	BATTING							BOWLING							
		INNS	N.O.	HIGHEST	TOTAL	100's	50's	AVE	OVERS	MAIDENS	RUNS	WKTS	10 WKTS	5 WKTS	AVE	BEST
Y. OMAR	53 9	93 9	6 2	174* 88*	3002 328	6 —	11 2	34,51 46,86	784,2 65	218 13	1806 171	102 11	— —	2 —	17,71 15,55	5-32 3-12
TOTAL																
M.M. KHAN	57 5	100 5	7 1	101* 35	1608 121	1 —	4 —	17,29 30,25	1415 41	343 8	3504 116	193 4	1 —	10 —	18,16 29,00	7-106 2-22
TOTAL																
G. FRANCOIS	46 5	83 5	3 0	109 36	2044 94	1 —	12 —	25,55 18,80	201,4	50	480	31	—	—	15,48	4-42
TOTAL																
J. GOVENDER	55 5	92 5	6 1	126 35	1740 102	1 —	6 —	20,23 25,75	469,5 12	111 5	1265 17	64 2	— —	1 —	19,77 8,50	5-27 2-17
TOTAL																
M. PATRICK	33 5	51 5	5 0	90 28	1175 79	— —	8 —	25,63 15,80	549 53	176 15	1303 120	66 6	1 —	2 —	19,74 20,00	6-17 3-21
TOTAL																
I. EBRAHIM	36 5	55 4	5 1	56 26	561 49	— —	1 —	11,22 16,33	975,4 43,1	235 13	2270 102	131 8	2 —	5 —	17,33 12,75	7-38 2-15
TOTAL																

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SOME MEMORABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Omar Vawda, Baboo Ebrahim and Mahalingum Govender were invited by Basil D'Oliveira to play for his South African Invitation X1 against a Western Province Invitation X1. Michael Patrick was invited to play for the Western Province X1 but could not make the trip because of work. D'Oliveira was in South Africa on a coaching tour sponsored by the United Tobacco Company. The match was played at the Green Point Stadium in the Cape on 21 – 22 January 1967 and all three Natal players did well, Omar Vawda giving a polished display of batting with a top score of 51 in the second innings. Scores: S.A. Invitation X1 121 (O. Vawda 16) and 178–6 declared (O. Vawda 51, I. Ebrahim 10) Western Province Invitation X1 124 (M. Govender 2–12, I. Ebrahim 3–40) and 126 (I. Ebrahim 2–49). S.A. Invitation X1 won by 49 runs.

BASIL D'OLIVEIRA'S X1 1967



Back row : O. VAWDA (Natal), S. SALOOJEE (Griqualand West), M. GOVENDER (Natal), D. MOKENYANE (E.P.), S. ABED (W.P.), I. DAGNIN (W.P.), I. EBRAHIM (Natal), G. ROJI.
Front row : N. LAKAY (W.P., vice-captain), B. D'OLIVEIRA (Worcester, captain), G.T. ABED (Manager), S. CONRAD (W.P.), M. MANGERA (Transvaal).

Michael Patrick was chosen as one of five cricketers of the year (1969) in the only South African Cricket Almanack published with the approval of the South African Cricket Board of Control.

Baboo Ebrahim was chosen as one of five cricketers of the year (1971–72) by the editor of S.A. Cricketer.

Gopaul Manicum was invited to captain the S.A. Invitation X1 against Eastern Province at the Adcock Stadium in Port Elizabeth on 25–26 November 1972. Michael Patrick, Baboo Ebrahim and Mahalingum Govender were also selected from Natal. The E.P. side included Basil D'Oliveira as their professional.

Scores: S.A. Invitation X1 163 and 114–5. Eastern Province 222 (I. Ebrahim 5–44). Eastern Province won on 1st innings.

SOUTH AFRICAN INVITATION TEAM – NOVEMBER 1972



First Row : K. MACLONS, S. MAGIET, I. EBRAHIM, W.M. ROSS (Manager), S. CHOTIA, J. NEETHLING, A.L. BARNES, S. CONRAD.
Second Row : M. GOVENDER, M. PATRICK, G. MANICUM (Capt.), F. ABRAHAMS, I. DAGNIN.

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Gopaul Manicum (Vice-captain), Keith Barker, Baboo Ebrahim, Yacoob Omar and Isamil Timol were invited to play for the Rest of S.A. X1 against Western Province at Green Point in the Cape on 3–5 March 1973. Scores: Rest of S.A. X1 199 (Y. Omar 40, G. Manicum 25, K. Barker 17) and 314–7 declared. (Y. Omar 26, K. Barker 29). Western Province 221 (I. Ebrahim 2–41, G. Manicum 1–23, K. Barker 2–1) and 200–9 (I. Ebrahim 3–34). Western Province won on 1st innings.

Gopaul Manicum (Vice-captain), Baboo Ebrahim, Yacoob Omar, Michael Patrick and Ismail Timol were invited to play for North Zone vs South Zone at Lenasia Stadium in the Transvaal on 21–23 April 1973. Scores: North Zone 279–7. South Zone 268. North Zone won by 3 wickets.

Yacoob Omar was chosen as one of five cricketers of the year (1972–1973) by the editor of Cricket Annual 1973–74.

Yacoob Omar played league cricket in England for Littleborough in 1972 in the Central Lancashire League, scoring 702 runs at 30,52 per innings and taking 30 wickets at 17,33. He also played for Littleborough in 1973 but not as their professional – according to Wisden 1974 he was 'a consistent scorer'.

Baboo Ebrahim played league cricket in England for Radcliffe in 1973 in the Central Lancashire League, scoring 158 runs at 13,16 per innings and taking 62 wickets at 14,28.

Yacoob Omar and Baboo Ebrahim were selected to play for North Zone vs South Zone at Lenasia Stadium in the Transvaal on 13–15 April 1974. Scores: North Zone 206 and 189–8 declared (I. Ebrahim 22). South Zone 137 and 111–5 (I. Ebrahim 2–28). North Zone won on 1st innings.

Graham Francois, Baboo Ebrahim, Yacoob Omar, Keith Barker and Sweetie Naidoo were selected for North Zone vs South Zone at Lenasia Stadium in the Transvaal on 8–10 February 1975. Scores: North Zone 248 (I. Ebrahim 26). South Zone 228 (K. Barker 2–42, L.S. Naidoo 2–42). North Zone won on 1st innings.

Graham Francois, Jugoo Govender, Baboo Ebrahim, Yacoob Omar and Goolam Allie were selected for the Rest of SACBOC X1 vs Western Province at Oude Libertas, Stellenbosch on 27–29 March 1976. Scores: Western Province 151 (I. Ebrahim 4–51, G. Allie 2–28) and 167 (J. Govender 1–9). Rest of SACBOC X1 312 (G. Francois 34, Y. Omar 33) and 8–1. Rest of SACBOC X1 won by 9 wickets.

REST OF SACBOC X1 – MARCH 1976



Standing : J. GOVENDER, G. FRANCOIS, G. ALLIE, T. PONO, S. CHOTIA, E. BHAMJEE, I. EBRAHIM, W. HENDRICKSE.
Seated : I. GARDA, A.L. BARNES (Captain), S. KIRSTEN (Manager), Y. OMAR, Y. SNYDERS.

Graham Francois was voted Nacos Sportsperson of the Year in 1980.

Enver Mall and Mustapha Khan represented the Sacos X1 while Elvis Govender was selected for the President's X1 in the Sacos Festival match in Cape Town on 9 October 1982 played over 50 overs a side. Yunus Moorad was reserve. Scores: Sacos X1 173–6 (E. Mall 4, E. Govender 6–2–9–0). President's X1 174–3 (M.M. Khan 10–4–18–2). The President's X1 won by 7 wickets.

Mustapha Khan was appointed captain of the Rest of SACB X1 vs Howa Bowl Champions Eastern Province at Lenasia in the Transvaal on 5–7 April 1986. Yacoob Omar, the only other representative from Natal, who was one of three century scorers (104) in the match which ended in a draw, received the Man of the Match award. Scores: Rest of SACB X1 400–7 declared and 286–4. Eastern Province 346.

Enver Mall's 39 not out of a total of 127 in the first innings of the match against Transvaal on 18–20 January 1986 at Lenasia is the only instance of an opening batsman carrying his bat through a completed innings for Natal. This feat occurred in the 101st match of the 103 matches played by Natal in interprovincial competitions in the twenty five year period under review.

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Seven Cricketing Epitaphs

ON A TOO OBLIGING UMPIRE

*When Harry died, they heard him say:
'At last I'm free from fetters.
I'd rather bear six feet of clay
Than thirteen ruddy sweaters!'*

ON A SCORER WHO CHEATED

*JACK FIDDLE thought it was a rotten shame
That two no-balls should cost his team the game,
So, being left alone for half a minute,
He rubbed 'em out, so that his side could win it.
THE RECORDING ANGEL had a closer look,
And now Jack's name is entered in his Book!*

ON A BOWLER WHO HAD A LAPSE FROM ACCURACY

*It killed poor Thomas when he bowled a wide,
So now he's playing on the other side.*

ON A POOR FIELDSMAN

*When Sam was not included in the side
It broke his heart. Soon afterwards he died.
They heard him mutter, 'ere his breathing stopped:
'Who drops his catches must himself be dropped.'*

ON A RUSTIC BATSMAN DYING AT THE WICKET

*With cowshot, mow, and haymaker HODGE batted
like a clown
Until in wrath the AWFUL REAPER straightway
mowed him down.'*

ON THE LANDLORD OF THE PUB ON THE GREEN

*To save his village from defeat BILL BARREL
knew the way,
For when he chose to open up it meant the close of
play!*

ON A FIELDSMAN, TAKEN IN EARLY YOUTH

*Here lies poor young DICK – he was not very strong.
Although a good long-stop, he didn't stop long.*

A. M. ROBERTSON

CRICKET AS SHE IS SPOKEN

WHEN THE
ORDINARY CRICKETER SAYS:

He really means:

I played too late = *I missed it.*

He's turning them a lot = *I missed it.*

That must have been a pretty close decision = *That umpire's a clot.*

I'm best in the deep = *Where I might get some peace.*

Sorry, skipper, the old sun in the eyes = *I dropped a dolly.*

By jove, that's done the old thumb in = *I dropped a dolly.*

I had a bit of luck = *I was dropped six times.*

Jolly good knock, old man = *Should have been out at least six times.*

I don't mind turning my arm over if you get pushed = *I can bowl a ruddy sight better than any of this lot.*

No, I'm quite happy to come off now = *Just as I was getting them worried!*

It's quite all right, old man, it was your call but I didn't think there was a run there. = *I know damn well there wasn't - and so do you!*

I don't mind where I bat = *As long as it's in the first five.*

I've had a fair season with the bat = *I managed to get into double figures two or three times.*



THE NATAL CRICKET BOARD SINCERELY THANKS ALL
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ORING PAGES AND SUPPLYING HISTORICAL MATERIAL.



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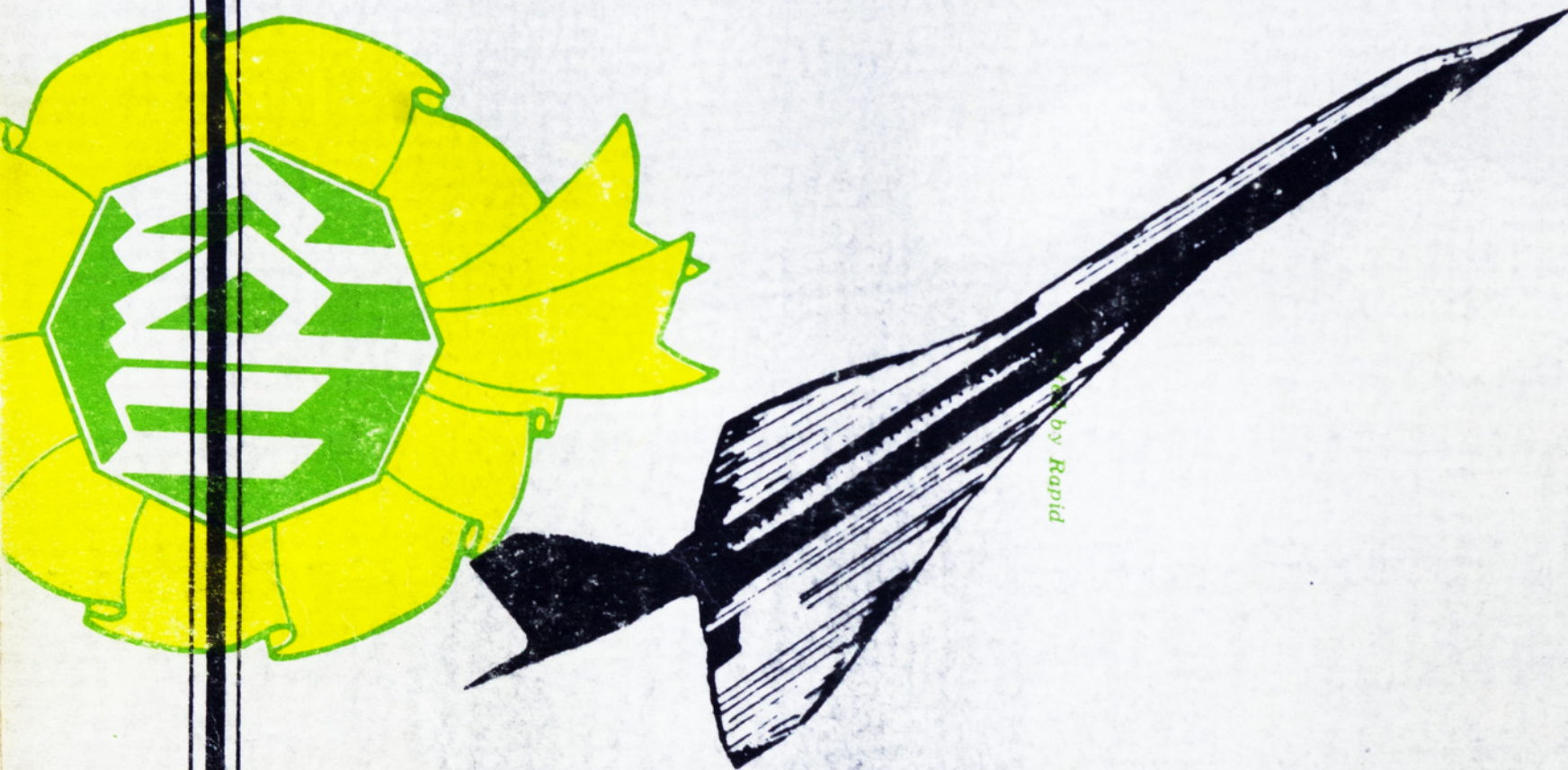
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