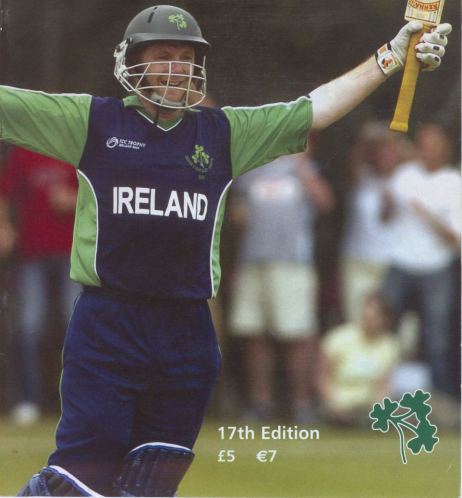


Irish Cricket Annual 2006



17th Edition

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Welcome Message

I am very pleased to welcome you to this 2006 edition of the Irish Cricket Annual, and would like to thank all the contributors and photographers, for making this publication possible.

The annual takes a look back at a historic year for Irish cricket, with our hosting of the 2005 ICC Trophy, which brought with it World Cup qualification for the West Indies in 2007. Ireland tasted success in the ICC InterContinental Cup, coming back from a seemingly impossible situation, to defeat Kenya.

Both the Women's and Under 19 teams played in World Cup finals in South Africa and Sri Lanka, and their performances are documented in detail.

The domestic seasons in the NCU, NW, Leinster and Munster are examined, along with records of all the Senior Cup finals.

As well as the usual reviews of the 2005 season, there are a number of special features. We look at the record breaking performances of Kyle Mc Callan and Peter Gillespie. There are interviews with Adrian Birrell, Trent Johnston, Peter Gillespie, Ed Joyce, Stan Mitchell, Roy Torrens and Joe Doherty.

In addition there are a number of photo specials featuring cricket at all levels and in all areas of Irish cricket.

I hope you enjoy the Annual and let's hope next year brings more good news to relate.

Barry Chambers
ICU PRO

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BRINGING WORLD CLASS EVENTS TO NORTHERN IRELAND

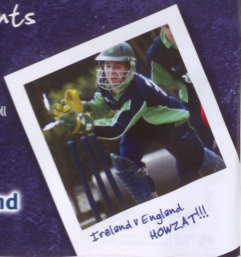


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Honorary Secretary's Report 2005

2005

2005 was a year of high success for Irish cricket, both on and off the field. Qualifying for the World Cup in the West Indies 2007, winning the Intercontinental Cup in Namibia, made it a highly successful year for the Senior Men's team. Qualifying for the Under 19 World Cup and the performance in Sri Lanka was the highlight of the Under Age Programme. The Women's section did not enjoy the same success but had the distinction of being the only Associate country to play in the World Cup in South Africa.

Off the field, the staging of the ICC Trophy and the launching of the Strategic Plan 2006-2009 were the highlights of a busy year.

Senior Cricket – Men & Women

The Senior team, in qualifying for the World Cup 2007, fulfilled a long-term ambition to play against the best on the highest stage of the cricketing world and we congratulate them and the National Coach and his staff for this achievement; the first Irish team to do so.

The first competitive game against Yorkshire, with 5 Test Players, was played over two days and resulted in a Yorkshire win in the 48 over. Man of the Match, Eoin Morgan, still only 18 but in his third year with the Senior team.

There then followed intense preparation for the ICC Trophy, with no stone unturned. Ed Joyce, Middlesex and Andrew White, Northants were available for selection. Niall O'Brien, Kent decided not to make himself available.

The ICC Trophy for the top 12 Associates was played initially in two sections of six, with the top two in each section qualifying for West Indies and three and four in each section playing off for the final place in West Indies. The first stage was played in Northern Ireland.

The first game against Bermuda saw Ireland win by 97 runs, highlight a stand of 170 (the highest in ICC Trophy for any stand) between Ed Joyce 103 and Eoin Morgan 93.

The second game against Uganda saw Ireland win by 127. Paul Mooney 3 for 10 off his 10 overs was Man of the Match.

Our third game against United Arab Emirates was a cracker with Ireland winning off the 2nd last ball with two wickets standing. Man of the Match was Ed Joyce with 115 Not Out. His innings

was magnificent not just the runs but the way he controlled the whole innings.

The fourth game against the USA was rained off. Our last match was against Denmark which we won by 73 runs and qualified for West Indies by virtue of winning our section. Man of the Match was Dom Joyce for 50 batting number 8. Kyle McCallan, with 122 caps, became Ireland's most capped player, surpassing D.A. Lewis (121).

The Tournament then moved to Dublin where Ireland played Canada in the Semi Final. Ed Joyce had returned to Middlesex. This was another thrilling game with Ireland winning in the last over. An unbeaten partnership for the 8th wicket between Man of the Match, Peter Gillespie, 64 Not Out and Andrew White, 28 Not Out saw Ireland home with White hitting a six of the 2nd ball of the last over.



This set up the dream Final – Ireland vs. Scotland at Castle Avenue, in front of a capacity crowd in glorious weather. Jason Molins was injured and was replaced by Kyle McCallan as Captain and Ed Joyce returned from Middlesex to play in probably his last game for Ireland. Ed is currently with England A and once he plays a non warm-up game he will no longer be available for Ireland. We wish him every success and take pride in his achievements. Scotland batted first and scored 324, a third wicket partnership between Joyce (E) and Bray of 137 in good time gave some hope of victory but in the end Scotland won by 47 runs.

This qualification means that Ireland has now been invited into the International Cricket Council's High Performance

Programme. This Programme has its own funding. Each of the 6 qualifiers (5 ICC Trophy & Kenya) will receive \$500,000 over the four years to the next Trophy. This money must be spent on preparing the team for the West Indies for the first two years.

In the last two years the second \$250,000 can be used for equipment and development. The programme up to the West Indies has just been released and contains 11 Full ODI games including the first World League Division 1 in Kenya in 2006. Then to Jamaica and West Indies, Zimbabwe and Pakistan in our group.

The latter half of the season saw us qualify to represent Europe in the Intercontinental Cup Finals in Namibia.

Our first qualifying game against Scotland saw us achieve an unlikely win by 13 runs. Scotland set 134 to win, an inspired spell

of bowling by McCoubrey 4 for 17, saw Ireland home. The second game against Holland was spoilt by rain. Ireland scored 408 for 4 and Holland were 204 for 6 when rain eventually caused the match to be abandoned as a draw.

Trent Johnston replaced Jason Molins as Captain for the intercontinental Cup Tournament in Namibia. He had a splendid Semi Final taking 5 for 31 in the first inning but he, unfortunately, suffered a fractured finger in the first session of the final and could not contribute after this.

The Semi-Finals between Ireland vs. UAE and Kenya vs. Bermuda saw Ireland and Kenya in the Final. Both Semi-Finals were drawn with very high scores. In Ireland's

first innings 350 for 7, Morgan 151, and the second 444 for 4, J. Bray 190 and Niall O'Brien 176. The points system greatly favoured the team batting first.

In the Final Kenya batted first and scored 401 for 4 in their 90 overs Ireland surprised all declaring 87 behind at 313 for 4 (O'Brien 106 Not Out). Some of the Kenyan players were off the field so they had to rejig their batting order. They finished the second day on 104 for 3 and very unsure of themselves. On the last day Ireland set a very aggressive field which seemed to upset the batsman and they lost their last 5 wickets for just 6 runs. White and McCallan (joint Men of the Match winners) doing the damage. Ireland needed 244 to win which they duly did scoring the runs for the loss of 4 wickets. A famous victory that retained the Trophy in Europe.



This Tournament will be a 4-day Tournament next year and will be played on a global basis. Ireland's section will be Scotland, UAE and Namibia/Nepal.

So, we finished the season ranked 11 in the World in the longer version of the game and 13th in the One Day rankings – a great performance.

Our Women started the season in South Africa in their World Cup. Unfortunately, rain affected the two games they had realistic chances of winning and they finished having to re-qualify for the next World Cup.

During the summer, Australia visited Dublin and they showed the gulf between the top four women's teams and the rest.

The women then travelled to Wales for the European Championships where they finished 2nd to England, thus maintaining their status of leading Associate in Europe.

Under Age

World Cup Sri Lanka

By qualifying in Dundee, Ireland joined Scotland in representing Europe in the Under 19s World Cup in Sri Lanka.

It is always difficult playing out of season and against teams that have been together for months. We were drawn in a group that it was felt gave us a chance to qualify for the Super 8 for the first time. In the event it was not to be.

In the presence of the Irish Ambassador to India/Sri Lanka, Ireland was beaten by Zimbabwe in the first game. The boys came back in the next match against England to narrowly lose by 4 runs. The final match in the section against Nepal we also lost, Nepal going on to beat New Zealand in the Plate Final.

In the Plate we were drawn against New Zealand and it was a freak performance, an innings of a lifetime, No.9 scoring 92 in 55 balls for New Zealand to win the last over that deprived us of our first victory against a Test country at Under Age level. There then followed wins against Namibia and Uganda for the team to finish 13th in the Tournament. The changed format at the 2nd stage did not suit us so it is hard to compare against previous years. However, we can definitely say unlike the last two Finals, where we were the best Associate country, on this occasion Nepal and USA finished ahead of us.

Europe

Under 23 Deventer: 2nd beaten by Scotland. K. O'Brien Man of the Tournament.

Under 19 Dundee: 2nd to Scotland. The team received the 'Spirit of Cricket' Award.

Under 17 Denmark: Winners of the Tournament but beaten by Holland. Greg Thompson Man of the Tournament.

Under 15 Holland: Ireland won for the sixth time in succession.

Under 13 Ireland: Ireland won on run rate.

Irish Senior Cup

North County were once again successful beating Railway Union.

ICC Trophy

The running of this Tournament was undoubtedly the biggest undertaking every by the Irish Cricket Union. As Host Director, I and the Union were fortunate in having Richard Johnson and Alan Hughes to head up their respective areas. The endless hours of preparation paid handsome dividends when the Tournament was declared, not only by the President of ICC but the participating

countries, as the best ever. Staging the Tournament in two areas caused great concern at ICC level but the end result vindicated everything we promised.

The Board of ICC met in Dublin on the day prior to the Opening Ceremony. So, in the presence of the ICC President and Chief Executive and several Directors, in the magnificent setting of the City Hall Belfast, the Opening Ceremony took place.

All the grounds, and we used 25 in total, were magnificent and many clubs now realise the wickets they can prepare given the attention that the ICC Trophy wickets got. Thankfully, the Sports Councils, North and South, helped in the provision of equipment so there is a lasting legacy. I can honestly say all clubs exceeded our expectations and our guests left with a high regard for Irish Cricket.

The logistics of the move to Dublin worked splendidly and in a mini heat wave the final stages were played out. The formal ceremony at Malahide Castle was noteworthy by the fact that all teams, instead of using the lawns, were hiding under trees.

The Final between Ireland and Scotland was a magnificent affair, with only the result slightly marring the occasion. Again, in the presence of Ehsan Mani and David Morgan, Chairman ECB and a record crowd, a fitting finale to the work of so many people was played out.

The Union's thanks go to all the clubs, volunteers and committee members that made the whole thing possible. We would like to thank the Events Company Northern Ireland, Belfast City Council and Fingal County Council for their financial support. The President, Ehsan Mani, said after the Tournament:

"I am delighted to proclaim the ICC Trophy 2005 a tremendous success. I have been privileged to watch matches in both the north and the south of the island and the commitment and professionalism of the players, match officials and organisers has been a joy to behold.

When the ICC Trophy was awarded to Ireland we were breaking new ground by agreeing to host the group stage and knock-out round in two distinct areas. I would be wrong if I said that we did not harbour initial reservations with this format. But I am pleased to say that these concerns have proven to be unfounded.

All of Ireland should be proud of the united front that it has presented in delivering an outstanding cricket event.

I am pleased to say that Ireland has seduced us with its charm and the unique spirit of cricket has prevailed."

Finance

Our thanks are due to the Irish Sports Council, the International Cricket Council, the European Cricket Council and the Sports Council of Northern Ireland for their continued support.

Thankfully, the outlook for 2006 is a lot stronger and let us hope our financial fortunes are on an upward curve.

General

Strategic Plan: Launched earlier this year, it sets out a pathway for the next four years. With the Operational Plan such an essential part of the project to be presented in April, the Union has started on an exciting road for the coming years.

Umpires: It is with great sadness I record the death of Trevor Henry. Trevor was a member of the Associates Elite Panel and had brought great credit to himself and Irish Umpires over the past few years. I am certain he was on the pathway to even greater success by being one of the umpires nominated for the Under 19 World Cup, the first time umpires from outside the Test Panel were involved at this level. There are now great opportunities for umpires at this level and I am delighted that ten of our umpires were nominated for European Tournaments this year.

Sponsorship: One of our most difficult areas – not just for us but all minority sports. Thankfully, with the team's success, we were able last December to announce the biggest commercial deal ever by ICU, with Bank of Ireland agreeing to sponsor the Senior team for the next two years.

With the added bonus of the profile of the Ashes Series we have to continue to increase our sponsors and partners. I am hopeful that a match sponsor for the England game will shortly be announced.

Patrons: Our thanks to this small body of supporters. A new scheme has just been released and hopefully some further members can be persuaded to join.

Academy: Three of our players, Eoin Morgan, Trevor Britton and Johnny Thompson (who unfortunately had to return through injury and was replaced by Kenny Carroll) were nominated to the ICC High Performance Academy in Pretoria in October 2005.

2006

England to play in our first Official ODI, what an exciting prospect. Agreement

had been reached last June for England to play a friendly. However, the ICC are very anxious to have Test Countries play the 6 High Performance Countries and I am delighted the first of this ambitious programme will be 13th June at Stormont. Ticket sales following the end of the Postal Strike in Belfast are hitting their expected target and they have gone on sale to the general public.

The Committee, under Billy Boyd, charged with staging the game are working flat out and I have no doubt June will see another great day for Irish Cricket.

Our nine Cheltenham & Gloucester games promise some excellent cricket and ideal preparation for 2007.

Finale

It is with regret that I record the passing of our 1975 President, Brian Kernan. Brian had the distinction of being the motivator behind the first Guinness Cup series of games during his tenure as President.

Our President, Stan Mitchell, stands down after an incredible year in office. Stan was everywhere during the ICC Trophy, Namibia, Sri Lanka and was a first class ambassador for Irish Cricket. He will be replaced by Roy Harrison and we wish Roy well.

Joe Doherty also completes his two years as our Chairman and the Union is indebted to him for his calm control of the Union's affairs and overseeing two exciting and productive years in the Union's affairs.

My thanks to the media for their support throughout the year. My personal thanks also to all the Officers of the Union and the Chief Executive for their help and support.

Peter Thompson, our first Chief Executive, also completed his contract. The appointment of the first Chief Executive was always going to be a learning experience and we thank Peter for his work and success in securing the Bank of Ireland and other commercial deals. I am sure the Union will have learned quite an amount from the experience. With our new position in High Performance and increased profile the Union faces a difficult decision on where we go from here.

However, we look to the future with great confidence and I am sure the next year promises even better success and excitement for Irish Cricket.



Eoin Morgan with Michael Pedersen



2005 Season in Review

Ireland v Loughborough

IRELAND'S first day of their most important ever summer could hardly have gone much better.

Loughborough University, notwithstanding the magnificent facilities of the ECB National Academy, may be a world away from their final destination – the 2007 World Cup finals – but the final countdown started with as convincing a victory as the most demanding coach could have asked for.

Even without a meaningful contribution from the top three – captain Jason Molins, Jeremy Bray and Andre Botha – for only the second time in 20 matches together, Ireland amassed 292 for eight and then bowled out the students for 29.

One could be pernickety and say that at 36 for five and 94 for nine, the Ireland bowlers were not as clinical in finishing them off as they might have been but if Ireland win every match between now and the middle of July by 163 runs no-one, but no-one, will be complaining.

It will not always be as easy, of course, but do not underestimate this result. After all, this was a team playing its first match of the season against a Loughborough side which had six days of first class cricket under their belts, against Sussex and Nottinghamshire, comfortably batting out for a draw on both occasions.

Ireland bowled them out inside 42 overs with Trent Johnston, Adrian McCoubrey, Andre Botha and John Mooney each taking two wickets.

It was the middle order batting that impressed most, however as this Ireland side again showed they do not rely on the same batsmen to compile a match-winning total.

First to the plate on Saturday was, fittingly, Dom Joyce. After reading about his brother's heroics at Trent Bridge the previous day, he was inspired enough to give a pretty good imitation of Ed's silky skills in a 74-ball innings which included six fours and a six.

Dom, batting at No 4 for the first time in three years, carried on where he left off last season and shared a fourth wicket stand of 93 with Peter Gillespie. The Strabane batsman, possibly under pressure for a starting place now that Ed Joyce had confirmed his availability for the ICC Trophy, however, proceeded to put the pressure back on the selectors with 58 from just 60 balls with eight boundaries.

Enter Eoin Morgan who started the season with his place in the final 14 not even guaranteed. His innings at Loughborough surely changed that as he stroked 60 off 53 balls with half of his six boundaries clearing the rope.

Significantly, it was the first time he had batted in the top eight in a limited overs match since he scored 71 on his second senior appearance. The Middlesex batsman is still only 18 years of old but this innings had class far beyond his years. As well as John Mooney taking two wickets, he came in for the last over, faced five balls and scored an unbeaten 13. The North County all-rounder may be in the shadow of his older brother Paul and, remarkably, that innings was possibly his last chance to impress before the ICC Trophy squad is announced. On Saturday's evidence he will be very unlucky to miss out.

Ireland v Loughborough

at Loughborough UCC

Toss won by

Umpires M Daol & JC White

Comment 592/1 50 Over Match.

G Cooke fielded substitute for Ireland

Ireland 1st Innings 292/8 Closed (Overs 50)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
JAM Molins*		b D Millar	0	0	0	0	0
JP Bray+	run out		5	0	0	0	0
AC Botha	run out		19	0	0	0	0
DI Joyce	c D Millar	b D Wainwright	60	0	0	0	0
PG Gillespie	lbw	b M Panesar	58	0	0	0	0
EJG Morgan	lbw	b D Millar	60	0	0	0	0
DT Johnston	c S Clark	b M Panesar	2	0	0	0	0
WK McCallan	not out		20	0	0	0	0
PK Mooney	c R Cummins	b D Millar	0	0	0	0	0
JF Mooney	not out		13	0	0	0	0
AGAM McCoubrey	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
extras		(b4 lb13 w2 nb36)	55				
TOTAL		8 wickets for	292				

FOW

1-21(JAM Molins) 2-25(JP Bray) 3-55(AC Botha) 4-148(DI Joyce)
5-150(PG Gillespie)
6-196(DT Johnston) 7-277(EJG Morgan) 8-278(PK Mooney)

Bowler	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
D Millar	10	0	62	3	-	-
R Cummins	10	1	64	0	-	-
S Clark	10	0	57	0	-	-
D Wainwright	10	0	42	1	-	-
M Panesar	10	0	50	2	-	-

Loughborough UCC 1st Innings 129/10 All Out (Overs 41.3)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
JP Harrison	c PG Gillespie	b AGAM McCoubrey	30	6	0	0	0
E Foster	c EJG Morgan	b AGAM McCoubrey	0	0	0	0	0
V Atri	c WK McCallan	b DT Johnston	1	0	0	0	0
W Gifford	b DT Johnston	b DT Johnston	0	0	0	0	0
K Singh	c DT Johnston	b JF Mooney	22	0	0	0	0
C Murtagh	run out		0	0	0	0	0
S Clark	c sub	b AC Botha	19	0	0	0	0
D Wainwright		b AC Botha	0	0	0	0	0
D Millar		b WK McCallan	15	0	0	0	0
R Cummins	not out		22	0	0	0	0
M Panesar	lbw	b JF Mooney	14	0	0	0	0
extras		(b0 lb0 w6 nb0)	6				
TOTAL		10 wickets for	129				

FOW

1-24(E Foster) 2-28(V Atri) 3-28(W Gifford) 4-32(JP Harrison) 5-36(C Murtagh)
6-73(S Clark) 7-73(D Wainwright) 8-75(K Singh) 9-94(D Millar) 10-129(M Panesar)

Bowler	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
DT Johnston	6	0	26	2	-	-
AGAM McCoubrey	6	1	11	2	-	-
AC Botha	10	1	19	2	-	-
PK Mooney	3	0	24	0	-	-
JF Mooney	9.3	0	34	2	-	-
WK McCallan	4	1	9	1	-	-
EJG Morgan	1	0	6	0	-	-



Ireland v Warwickshire

Ian Callender of the News Letter reports

A wayward opening bowling spell and a mid-innings collapse proved fatal as Ireland lost their final warm-up game against Warwickshire ahead of next week's C & G Trophy clash against Yorkshire by 68 runs.

More worryingly, Kyle McCallan, who bowled only four overs in Saturday's victory against Loughborough University because of a back problem, had to retire hurt after scoring a run-a-ball 13 in Ireland's futile chase. With his premature departure went the visitors' last hope, especially as Ireland had lost three wickets for 10 runs in four overs.

The biggest plus factor from the game was the innings of Andre Botha. The North County skipper managed to through the whole of last season without a single half century but, in his second innings of the summer, he put that statistic to bed and compiled a fluent 85 from 96 balls with eight fours and a six.

He was just starting to up the tempo, having taking 14 off an over from slow left arm Jim Troughton, when he gave himself too much room against Warwickshire's other slow bowler on view, off spinner Alex Loudon, and he was bowled.

Enter Trent Johnston but, for the second day in a row, the Clontarf captain was the biggest disappointment in the Ireland side. Having lasted just three balls on Saturday, he steered his sixth ball straight into the hands of long-off and when Dom Joyce was caught at mid-wicket, the collapse was just about irretrievable.

It was Johnston, at the start of the day, who was responsible for the county's fast start. A 12-ball first over, including six wides, handed Warwickshire the initiative and, in spite of fielding only two of the team involved in the county championship game which ended at Canterbury on Saturday, opener Jonathan Trott stayed 46 overs to dominate the first half of the day. Trott, a 24 year old from Cape Town, scored 125, at exactly a run a ball, with 11 fours and a six, and he was particularly harsh on Adrian McCoubrey and Naseer Shoukat. He was unable to accelerate after his hundred because of excellent comeback spells by Botha and Gordon Cooke.

Warwickshire scored only 50 from the last eight overs as Ireland took six wickets.

Jason Molins got an inside edge in the second over to give the impressive Dewald Pretorius the early breakthrough in Ireland's reply but, no matter, the way Jeremy Bray and Botha started their target of 274 looked well within reach. The duo were particularly harsh on young tearaway Tom Mees, whose first three overs disappeared for 26 runs. Mees, inevitably, was replaced by James Anyon, who does not turn 22 until next week and looks a promising prospect. He employs a clever change of pace and that accounted for Bray - who again impressed with the gloves - for 29 in the 14th over.

By this time, Botha had already overtaken the opener but until Joyce came to the wicket it was a one-man show as Eoin Morgan, promoted to No 4 after his 60 on Saturday and Peter Gillespie both fell tamely.

On the day though, Warwickshire did not need their big names to keep Ireland's feet firmly on the ground.

Ireland v Warwickshire

Warwickshire 1st Innings 273/9 Closed (Overs 56)

Batsman	Fieldsman	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
Ill Trott	c EJC Morgan	b AC Botha	125	0	11	6	0
W Westwood	c EJC Morgan	b AC Botha	42	0	0	0	0
JO Troughton	c EJC Morgan	b G Cooke	11	0	0	0	0
AGR Loudon	run out		7	0	0	0	0
MM All		b Naseer Shoukat	27	0	0	0	0
T Perry*	c JP Bray	b Naseer Shoukat	2	0	0	0	0
KJ Piper		b AC Botha	12	0	0	0	0
N Tahir		b G Cooke	9	0	0	0	0
D Pretorius	not out		6	0	0	0	0
T Mees	c IAM Molins	b AC Botha	2	0	0	0	0
J Anyon	not out		0	0	0	0	0
extras		(b4 ball w5 nb2)	30				
TOTAL		9 wickets for	273				

FOW

1-105(J Westwood) 2-136(JO Trott) 3-156(AGR Loudon) 4-223(MM All) 5-232(T Perry) 6-251(ILL Trott) 7-256(KJ Piper) 8-266(N Tahir) 9-273(T Mees)

Bowler

	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
DT Johnston	3	0	22	0	-	-
AGAM McCoubrey	8	0	54	0	-	-
Naseer Shoukat	10	0	60	2	-	-
AC Botha	10	0	39	4	-	-
WK McCallan	10	0	50	0	-	-
G Cooke	9	0	36	2	-	-

Ireland 1st Innings 205/9 Closed (Overs 46)

Batsman	Fieldsman	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
JAM Molins*	c T Perry	b D Pretorius	2	0	0	0	0
JP Bray*	c T Perry	b J Anyon	29	0	0	0	0
AC Botha		b AGR Loudon	85	0	0	0	0
EJC Morgan	c sub	b Ill Trott	6	0	0	0	0
PG Gillespie	c T Perry	b JO Troughton	4	0	0	0	0
DI Joyce	c AGR Loudon	b D Pretorius	34	0	0	0	0
DT Johnston	c D Pretorius	b JO Troughton	0	0	0	0	0
WK McCallan	retired hurt		13	0	0	0	0
Naseer Shoukat	not out		17	0	0	0	0
G Cooke		b T Mees	2	0	0	0	0
AGAM McCoubrey	c T Perry	b D Pretorius	0	0	0	0	0
extras		(b0 lb w5 nb1)	13				
TOTAL		9 wickets for	205				

FOW

1-8(IAM Molins) 2-69(JP Bray) 3-88(EJC Morgan) 4-106(P Gillespie) 5-166(AC Botha) 6-167(DT Johnston) 7-178(DI Joyce) 8-200(G Cooke) 9-205(AGAM McCoubrey)

Bowler

	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
D Pretorius	8	1	33	3	-	-
T Mees	4	0	30	1	-	-
J Anyon	6	0	26	1	-	-
Ill Trott	4	0	31	1	-	-
AGR Loudon	10	0	31	1	-	-
JO Troughton	10	0	54	2	-	-



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Ireland v Yorkshire C&G Trophy

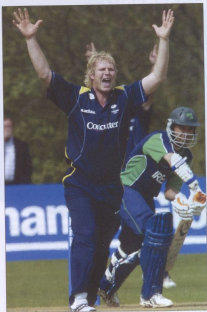
Ireland went down by 6 wickets by a very strong Yorkshire side which contained no fewer than 7 International cricketers. On a rain affected first day, Ireland were always struggling, after being reduced to 24 for 3, with Molins, Bray and Botha all going cheaply.

A 113 run stand for the 4th wicket between Eoin Morgan, 59, and Peter Gillespie, 55, saw the Irish recover to post a respectable 201 for 7. Yorkshire skipper Craig White led by example, taking 4 for 43, while the other wicket takers were Hoggard with 2, and Bresnan with 1.

Michael Vaughan, playing in his first game of the season, hit a solid half century, making 58 off 92 balls, while Ian Harvey hit 9 fours in his score of 59. Phil Jacques saw Yorkshire comfortably home with an undefeated 55, as they won by 6 wickets with 14 balls to spare.

There was some consolation for the Irish, in the fact that Eoin Morgan collected the Man of the Match Award for his classy half century.

Irish Coach Adrian Birrell said afterwards, "We definitely got the worst of the conditions. It was always going to be a struggle after we lost the 3 early wickets on day one. I thought Eoin and Peter batted with great sense, and 200 was a great effort considering our overnight situation. Yorkshire have a side packed with stars, and after the opening stand of 91 between Vaughan and Harvey, they got home quite comfortably. I was pleased though with the effort the guys put in."



Ireland 1st Innings 201/7 Closed (Overs 50)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
JAM Molins*		b MJ Hoggard	7	24	22	0	0
JP Bray+	lbw	b T Bresnan	0	4	1	0	0
AC Botha	lbw	b MJ Hoggard	10	29	21	1	0
EJG Morgan		b C White	59	135	95	4	0
PG Gillespie		b C White	55	106	113	1	1
DT Johnston	c PA Jacques	b C White	24	27	27	0	0
DI Joyce	c II Harvey	b C White	2	5	4	0	0
J Botha	not out		18	16	14	1	1
WK McCallan	not out		10	13	7	1	0
G Cooke	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
AGAM McCoubrey	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
extras		(b1 Bf w4 r6z)	16	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		7 wickets for	201	-	-	-	-

FOW

1-1(JP Bray) 2-19(JAM Molins) 3-24(AC Botha) 4-137(PG Gillespie) 5-160(EJG Morgan) 6-169(DI Joyce) 7-172(DT Johnston)

Bowler	O	M	R	W	vd	nb
MJ Hoggard	10	0	28	2	1	1
T Bresnan	9	2	25	1	-	-
II Harvey	10	0	51	0	2	-
RK Dawson	7	1	27	0	-	-
MP Vaughan	2	0	6	0	-	-
C White	10	1	43	4	-	-
A McGrath	2	0	11	0	-	-

Yorkshire 1st Innings 202/4 Closed (Overs 47.4)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
II Harvey	c PG Gillespie	b WK McCallan	57	77	59	9	0
MP Vaughan	c JP Bray	b G Cooke	58	136	92	4	0
PA Jacques	not out		55	111	89	2	1
M Lumb		b DT Johnston	15	25	25	2	0
A McGrath	run out		1	10	9	0	0
NJ Wood	not out		6	11	12	0	0
C White*	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
RK Dawson	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
T Bresnan	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
I Dawood+	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
MJ Hoggard	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
extras		(b2 I b3 w7 nb0)	10	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		4 wickets for	202	-	-	-	-

FOW

1-9(II Harvey) 2-156(MP Vaughan) 3-183(M Lumb) 4-190(A McGrath)

Bowler	O	M	R	W	vd	nb
AGAM McCoubrey	6	0	25	0	2	-
DT Johnston	10	2	36	1	-	-
AC Botha	7.4	0	41	0	-	-
G Cooke	5	0	31	1	-	-
J Botha	10	0	37	0	2	-
WK McCallan	9	0	29	1	-	-



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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

Ireland v MCC at Bangor

Ian Callender reports

PETER Gillespie scored the fastest hundred by an Ireland player as the ICC Trophy hosts began their six-match warm-up with a batting exhibition, en route to a 96 runs victory.

The MCC traditionally play Ireland in a three-day game on their biennial visit but the most famous club in world cricket agreed to accommodate Adrian Birrell's side in one-day mode, complete with coloured clothing. They came up against a rampant Ireland, however, with Conor Armstrong, Dom Joyce and captain for the day Kyle McCallan all scoring half centuries before Gillespie finished the innings in astonishing fashion.

The Strabane batsman only got to the middle in the 39th over but 47 balls and 14 boundaries later had taken Ireland through the 350 runs barrier for the third time in their last 17 one-day internationals and, in his 87th match, Gillespie scored his first century for Ireland. Fourteen times he had reached 50 but the magical three-figure innings had always eluded him – until yesterday. It could not have been better timed. He played and missed outside the off stump to the fifth ball of the last over with the new Bangor scoreboard showing 96 under his name. The final ball was shorter and with a pull to long leg, he not only reached the boundary but cleared it to finish 102 not out. For a moment, the emotion of the occasion took over. The innings had ended but he did not know what to do next. He hugged Mark Hutchinson, the Bangor player who had run himself into the ground on his international debut to repeatedly give the strike to Gillespie, before walking off to a hero's welcome. Between them, the new boy and the old hand added 80 for the fifth wicket in 31 balls. Hutchinson faced only seven but scored a single off every one of them. His role in getting Gillespie to his century cannot be under-estimated.

The new cap's reward is a return to club cricket – he plays for Bangor at Lurgan tonight in an Ulster Bank League Section One game – surrendering his place to the Ireland captain, Jason Molina, for today's second match between the teams at Waringstown. If Gillespie was somewhere in dreamland after the game, the most disappointed was Conor Armstrong. The North County all-rounder is enjoying a wonderful season in club cricket with the bat and with Jeremy Bray pulling out on Sunday night, he was given the chance to open the batting. His previous three innings in this role brought him an aggregate of 16. That was two seasons ago but this time Armstrong found the MCC bowling attack as friendly as the Holywood side, whose coloured shirts the visitors were wearing, and he left his career best score of 38 far behind.

Armstrong brought up his first 50 in the 23rd over, off 81 balls with six fours, and 55 balls later was just 10 runs short of a century. He rashly went up the wicket to Derek Heasley, the only Irishman in the MCC team, and was stumped. He knows he may never get as close to an international hundred again. Opening partner Dom Joyce should have been out on 25, but the long-off fielder put down a dolly, so the in-form Merion batsman, who had got off the mark with a glorious extra cover drive, was probably content to reach 50 for the sixth time, from five different batting positions.

His innings also ended tamely, giving a return catch in the 21st over after an opening stand of 121. Andre Botha followed three overs later, when he strayed out of his ground but that let in McCallan who went one better than Joyce and got off the mark with a straight six.

Ireland v MCC at Bangor

Ireland 1st Innings 351/4 Closed (Overs 50)

Batsman	Fieldsman	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
Di Joyce	c&	b B Claypole	56	0	0	0	0
OM Armstrong	st N Fitzgerald	b D Heasley	50	0	0	0	0
AC Botha	st N Fitzgerald	b J Sparrow	2	0	0	0	0
WK McCallan*	c M Fitzgerald	b A Bourke	50	0	0	0	0
PG Gillespie	not out		102	0	0	0	0
M Hutchinson	not out		7	0	0	0	0
GC Wilson+	dcb		-				
PK Mooney	dcb		-				
JF Mooney	dcb		-				
Naseer Shoukat	dcb		-				
RT Coetzee	dcb		-				
extras		(b1 lb14 w25 nb4)	64				
TOTAL		4 wickets for	351				

FWW

1-121(Di Joyce) 2-131(AC Botha) 3-218(WK McCallan) 4-271(OM Armstrong)

Bowler	O	M	R	W	vd	nb
D Langford-Smith	10	1	67	0	-	-
A Bourke	10	0	59	1	-	-
B Claypole	10	1	62	1	-	-
J Sparrow	6	1	35	1	-	-
I Flanagan	9	0	56	0	-	-
D Heasley	5	0	37	1	-	-

MCC 1st Innings 237/8 Closed (Overs 50)

Batsman	Fieldsman	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
I Flanagan	c PG Gillespie	b PK Mooney	22	0	0	0	0
JP Sylvester	c&	b RT Coetzee	42	0	0	0	0
A Evans	c GC Wilson	b PK Mooney	10	0	0	0	0
DI Bicknell*	st GC Wilson	b WK McCallan	18	0	0	0	0
D Heasley	c GC Wilson	b JF Mooney	18	0	0	0	0
N Fitzgerald+	lbw	b JF Mooney	24	0	0	0	0
A Bourke	c GC Wilson	b WK McCallan	18	0	0	0	0
B Claypole	not out		46	0	0	0	0
I Fletcher	c GC Wilson	b Naseer Shoukat	2	0	0	0	0
D Langford-Smith	not out		23	0	0	0	0
J Sparrow	dcb		-				
extras		(b3 lb4 w11 nb3)	21				
TOTAL		8 wickets for	237				

FWW

1-390(Flanagan) 2-55(A Evans) 3-106(JP Sylvester) 4-128(DI Bicknell) 5-148(D Heasley) 6-182(N Fitzgerald) 7-184(A Bourke) 8-193(I Fletcher)

Bowler	O	M	R	W	vd	nb
PK Mooney	10	0	35	2	-	-
Naseer Shoukat	8	0	70	1	-	-
AC Botha	9	0	47	0	-	-
RT Coetzee	8	0	39	1	-	-
WK McCallan	10	0	41	2	-	-
JF Mooney	5	0	18	2	-	-

The Waringstown all-rounder welcomed back Dave Langford-Smith for his second spell by hitting him for 12 in the over and the biggest surprise of the day was when he got the edge to a ball from Andrew Bourke, that bounced more than normal. The rest of the innings belonged to Gillespie, his second 50 coming off 20 balls with four sixes and four fours.

The biggest loser on the day was Naseer Shoukat. The opening bowler failed to find his length early on, conceded 27 in his first three overs, another 10 in his one-over second spell and the first at the end yielded 33 more with the wicket of No 9 Ian Fletcher scant consolation. He will be anxious today to prove it was just an off-day.



Ireland v MCC at Waringstown

IRELAND enjoyed more batting practice in the second of their ICC Trophy warm-up games against MCC but were left seething at the quality of opposition provided by the famous club.

With more than 600 runs scored on both days there was no doubting the quality of the pitches at Bangor, on Monday, and Waringstown but even MCC captain Darren Bicknell was complaining at the lack of bowlers he had been given for the two one-day games. But, as Ireland hope to prove in the first week in July, you can only beat the opposition put in front of you and the 54 runs success yesterday, following their 94 runs margin of victory the previous day, was a fair reflection of the home side's superiority. Andre Botha, who had missed out at Upritchard Park, was Ireland's top scorer with 85 and, for the second successive day Conor Armstrong, opening the batting once again, and Dom Joyce kept themselves to half centuries.

The captain, Jason Molins, could not miss out either against such a friendly attack and Peter Gillespie, Monday's record-breaking century-maker, was held back to No 7 and still scored 23 not out from just nine balls. There was never any doubt about the Ireland batting but the bowling is still a concern. One of the mitigating circumstances is that Gordon Cooke, Trent Johnston and Andrew White were missing from Ireland's first choice line-up but Botha bowled the last three overs in a game where the opposition had no chance of victory and went for 21 runs in his three overs. However, Kyle McCallan conceded only 10 runs in the last four overs at the Scoreboard End and, encouragingly, Naseer Shoukat also came back well after another nervous opening spell.

Final figures of two for 47, including Bicknell, the MCC's best batsman – albeit with the help of a diving catch by John Mooney – give a hint of why the National Coach included him in the ICC Trophy 14.

Greg Thompson is not in the final squad – in fact this was his first one-day international – but he also showed enough to suggest that he will not be overlooked so quickly in the future. The 17 year old Lisburn leg spinner took a wicket with his 11th ball and what a valuable wicket it was, top scorer Alun Evans missing a sweep after being tempted into a rare false stroke. On an excellent pitch, which still offered Paul Mooney early movement and Thompson prodigious turn, Derek Heasley also enjoyed himself with the bat.

The former Ireland international, playing for MCC, scored 48 from 37 balls with four sixes and two fours as John Mooney came in for the biggest hammering. His sixth wicket stand of 60 with Ian Fletcher came up in 11 overs until McCallan was called back to remove Heasley with his second ball.

Dave Langford-Smith, the Australian with Phoenix, who qualifies to play for Ireland this year, looked as good with the bat as with the ball over the two days and he brought his runs aggregate to 63 as MCC again denied Ireland a ninth wicket, with relative comfort.

At the start of the day Molins, back in the team in place of Mark Hutchinson – Thompson replaced Ralph Coetzee in the other change – had no hesitation in batting first on winning the toss and although he had scored only nine runs in his first three international innings this season he was quickly back in the old routine. He had reached 46, with five boundaries, the majority punched off the back foot through the cover point area, when he tamely surrendered with a pull straight to mid-wicket.

At the other end, Armstrong was batting, if anything, even better than he had done in compiling 90 on Monday, with eight fours in his half century off just 56 balls. It was almost over-confidence which proved his downfall when he got the leading edge to Andrew Bourke and Langford Smith took a running catch.

Ireland v MCC at Waringstown

Ireland 1st Innings 235/6 Closed (Overs 50)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
JAM Molins*	c N Fitzgerald	b A Evans	46	0	0	0	0
CM Armstrong	c D Lang-Smith	b A Bourke	55	0	0	0	0
AC Botha	c N Fitzgerald	b DJ Bicknell	85	0	0	0	0
DI Joyce	c I Flanagan	b A Evans	57	0	0	0	0
PK Mooney	c D Lang-Smith	b D Claypole	27	0	0	0	0
Naseer Shoukat	not out	b DJ Bicknell	10	0	0	0	0
PG Gillespie	not out		23	0	0	0	0
WK McCallan	not out		3	0	0	0	0
JF Mooney	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
AR White	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
GC Wilson + extras	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		(b5 b5 w16 nb3)	29				
		6 wickets for	335				

POW

1-101(JAM Molins) 2-124(CM Armstrong) 3-246(DI Joyce) 4-276(AC Botha) 5-293(Naseer Shoukat) 6-332(PK Mooney)

Bowler

	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
D Langford-Smith	8	0	53	0	-	-
B Claypole	9	0	66	1	-	-
A Evans	10	0	53	2	-	-
A Bourke	7	0	20	1	-	-
JF Sylvester	5	0	52	0	-	-
J Sparrow	4	0	36	0	-	-
I Fletcher	1	0	18	0	-	-
DJ Bicknell	3	0	27	2	-	-

MCC 1st Innings 271/8 Closed (Overs 50)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
DJ Bicknell*	c JF Mooney	b Naseer Shoukat	17	0	0	0	0
A Evans		b GJ Thompson	52	0	0	0	0
I Flanagan	c GC Wilson	b PK Mooney	1	0	0	0	0
B Claypole		b AC Botha	14	0	0	0	0
N Fitzgerald + extras	run out		18	0	0	0	0
JF Sylvester	c JF Mooney	b GJ Thompson	8	0	0	0	0
D Heasley		b WK McCallan	48	0	0	0	0
I Fletcher	lbw	b Naseer Shoukat	33	0	0	0	0
D Langford-Smith	not out		40	0	0	0	0
A Bourke	not out		19	0	0	0	0
J Sparrow	dnb		-	-	-	-	-
extras		(b5 b8 w6 nb2)	21				
TOTAL		8 wickets for	271				

POW

1-41(DJ Bicknell) 2-43(I Flanagan) 3-61(B Claypole) 4-114(A Evans) 5-115(N Fitzgerald) 6-135(JF Sylvester) 7-195(I Fletcher) 8-218(D Heasley)

Bowler

	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
PK Mooney	9	0	42	1	-	-
Naseer Shoukat	10	0	47	2	-	-
AC Botha	8	0	39	1	-	-
WK McCallan	10	0	51	1	-	-
GJ Thompson	7	0	37	2	-	-
JF Mooney	6	0	42	0	-	-

The other batsmen were queuing up to get in, however, and Botha and Dom Joyce took over in a third wicket stand of 112. It lasted only 15 overs with Joyce, continuing his tendency to get off the mark in spectacular fashion, hitting six boundaries, half of them clearances in a 45-ball innings of 57. He outscored Botha (85 off 73 balls) who appeared on course to fulfill the 'Gillespie role' and finish the innings with big hitting until he was caught behind off Bicknell who, having seen nothing better on view, decided to bowl slow left arm.

The captain also took the wicket of Shoukat who failed to take his chance at No 6 and it was left to the Strabane batsman to show the all-rounders how to do it.

Gillespie hit three sixes in his nine balls and although there are four warm-up games to go, surely he cannot be left out of Ireland's first ICC Trophy match now.



ICC Trophy – Ireland v Bermuda

Ian Callender reports

Captain Jason Molins won yet another toss - his sixth in a row - and decided to take first use of an excellent pitch with the intention of batting the Bermudians out of the game. It worked with bells on as Ireland totalled 315 for eight, 32 more than their previous test in the ICC Trophy. The game ended in sunshine but the brightest part of the day was the stand of 170 for the fourth wicket between Joyce and Morgan, an Ireland record in the ICC Trophy.

Joyce was the player the spectators came to see but it was 18 year old Morgan who left them wanting more. The teenager outscored Ireland's best batsmen in a 27 overs liaison which former Ireland great Simon Corlett described as the best Irish partnership he had ever seen. Between them they hit 22 boundaries, to all parts of the ground, Morgan first to his 50 from 60 balls and Joyce was just four balls longer. For the first 20 overs of their stand, the batsmen were content to nudge the singles and wait for the bad ball which, inevitably found its way to the rope. A not so subtle change of gloves for Morgan was the signal for the tempo to be increased. And how.

The next six overs yielded 70 runs with Joyce bringing up the 200 with a six into the pavilion. But, Morgan was determined not to be overshadowed and he also pulled a six and hit nine other boundaries as Ireland went into overdrive. Just seven runs short of his first century for his country, Eoin edged his 86th ball to the wicket keeper and although he missed out this time, it is only a matter of time before he reaches three figures.

Joyce, using all his experience, got there with a straight driven four, his 10th, from 89 balls and the only surprise was that he was out two balls later, picking out the fielder on the cover boundary. At the start of the day, the Ireland habit of losing early wickets continued. Molins was run out, unable to get back when Jeremy Bray turned down a single, Botha came up the pitch to Delyone Borden and was stumped and Bray was beaten by the same bowler four balls later. When Morgan departed, the big guns were lined up to ram home Ireland's advantage and Trent Johnston, with 18 from 13 balls and Peter Gillespie (23 from 15) did not disappoint.

Ireland's bowling extras were up again - 15 is unacceptable and would prove costly in a close game - and the fumbles in the field were obvious and a little too regular. But the slow bowlers again tied up the batsmen for 20 overs in mid-innings, Kyle McCallan going for less than three runs an over and Andrew White taking two wickets.

Oliver Pitcher, the Bermuda opening batsman, stayed 25 overs and flashed one edged drive through the slips which, probably, should have been caught and Clay Smith could have been run out twice, once from a direct hit by Joyce, but the umpire, to Ireland's surprise, did not raise his finger. It didn't really matter because, next over, the captain pulled up with a hamstring injury and hobbled off anyway. He was replaced by Janeiro Tucker who scored an unbeaten 53 from 59 balls but even during his innings it seemed to be a case of preserving wickets to improve their run rate.

Ireland's sights are rather higher and the fact that there is room for improvement after a 97 runs victory augurs well for the remaining games in the tournament.

ICC Trophy 2005

Ireland v Bermuda

Civil Service Cricket Club, Stormont, Belfast

1 July 2005 (90-over match)

Result: Ireland won by 97 runs

Points: Ireland 2, Bermuda 0

Toss: Ireland

Umpires: EAR de Silva (SL) and SR Modi (Ken)

Man of the Match: EC Joyce

Ireland innings (50 overs maximum)

	R	M	B	4	6	
*JAM Molins	run out (Carr)	3	15	11	0	0
+JP Bray	b Borden	26	56	40	2	2
AC Botha	st Minors b Borden	24	35	34	4	0
EC Joyce	c Pitcher b Tucker	103	128	92	10	2
ENG Morgan	c Minors b Carr	93	94	84	9	1
DF Johnston	b Carr	18	10	13	2	0
PG Gillespie	lbw b Mukaddem	23	22	15	2	0
AR White	not out	5	11	4	0	0
WK McCallan	c RD Steeds b Tucker	7	4	6	0	0
PK Mooney	not out	1	1	0	0	0
Extras	(9b 4, w 8)	12				
Total	(8 wickets, 50 overs)	315				

DNB: AGAM McCoubrey.

ForW: 1-13 (Molins), 2-55 (Botha), 3-62 (Bray), 4-232 (Morgan), 5-251 (Johnston), 6-293 (Joyce), 7-304 (Gillespie), 8-313 (McCallan).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
RD Steeds	8	0	52	0 (2w)
Mukaddem	10	2	52	1 (1w)
Tucker	8	0	55	2
Borden	10	0	34	2 (2w)
Romaine	3	0	22	0 (1w)
Leverock	7	0	58	0
Carr	4	0	38	2 (2w)

Bermuda innings (target: 316 runs from 50 overs)	R	M	B	4	6	
OE Pitcher	c Joyce b White	40	108	64	5	0
DC Borden	run out (White)	29	60	45	4	0
S Mukaddem	c Mooney b Botha	2	15	13	0	0
IH Romaine	run out (Molins)	16	19	12	3	0
AB Steeds	c McCallan b White	20	68	84	0	0
*CJ Smith	retired hurt	24	25	30	1	0
JJ Tucker	not out	53	69	53	6	0
LD Carr	lbw b McCoubrey	5	7	7	1	0
+DA Minors	not out	8	32	18	1	0
Extras	(b 1, lb 5, w 9, nb 6)	21				
Total	(8 wickets, 50 overs)	218				

DNB: DM Leverock, RD Steeds.

ForW: 1-48 (Borden), 2-63 (Mukaddem), 3-93 (Romaine), 4-101 (Pitcher), 5-169 (AB Steeds), 6-184 (Carr).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Johnston	8	0	31	0 (1nb, 3w)
Mooney	7	0	28	0 (1nb, 3w)
Botha	7	0	28	1 (1w)
McCoubrey	8	0	52	1 (4nb, 1w)
McCallan	10	0	29	0
White	10	0	64	2 (1w)





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Ireland v Uganda

Gary Niblock reports

Ireland ease to second win over Uganda

Ireland made it 2 wins out of 2 in ICC Trophy Group A with a comfortable 127 run win over Uganda at the Green, Comber. Uganda won the toss and put Ireland in to bat, a move that probably did not disappoint home captain Jason Molins too much, as it gave his side a chance to bat 50 overs and set a total. Ireland started solidly enough, putting on 20 for the first wicket, but some good bowling from the Africans reduced them to 60/3. This brought to the crease the stars of Friday, and the two Middlesex batsmen Morgan and Joyce set about putting Ireland in a commanding position. The left handed pair batted positively and Joyce in particular playing a cover drive and straight drive that had "future England player" written all over them.

That said, Ireland were 155/5 with 9 overs to go and the job clearly was not done yet. In came Andrew White of Northants, returning to the club where he made a real name for himself and after him Ireland's Freddie Flintoff Trent Johnston. They complimented each other well and pushed Ireland well past 200 - making a good score of 231 in the 50 overs for the loss of 8 wickets. Johnston was especially brutal and it was his knock in particular that gave Ireland the momentum they needed to carry over into the field.

Uganda pleasantly surprised the sizeable Comber crowd in the field. Kenny Kamyuka bowled well up front and was unlucky to have a number of appeals turned down. He came back at the end and took 3 Irish middle order wickets and unquestionably deserved his 4/42, his second successive 4 wicket haul. His opening partner left armer Waiswa looked impressive as well and the change bowlers with the exception of skipper O'Connell all proved fairly frugal. Although hit for a huge straight 6 onto the top pitch by Johnston, off spinner Nsubuga bowled straight and with a flat trajectory - giving little chance for the Irish batsmen to free their arms. The fielding was also impressive with a number of good diving stops and fine catches taken - it is a feature of the smaller sides who know they can't compete in the disciplines of batting and bowling.

Sadly, the Ugandan batting was not up to much - although with their failure to chase down less than 200 against Denmark, it was always going to be an uphill struggle. Ireland ran through the top order like a knife through butter. Man of the match Paul Mooney may not have been everyone's first choice before this tournament but certainly justified coach Adi Birell's faith with a sterling display - finishing with an excellent analysis of 10-4-10-3. Johnston rounded off a personal good all round match with 2 wickets of his own and third seamer McCoubrey took 3 including the dangerous Kamyuka. The highlight for the Ugandans was the entertaining 50 from spinner Frank Nsubuga, which came from 54 balls and included 5 monster sixes. Kyle McCallan was the bowler to suffer.

Ireland played fairly well without ever really being stretched too much. The pitch did keep low on the odd occasion but it was another excellent surface here at the Green as many NCU batsmen will testify. Uganda showed promise in the first half of the game but their batting was outclassed by the pace attack of Ireland - something that will have to step up to the plate against stronger batting line ups.

ICC Trophy, 2005, Group A

Ireland v Uganda

North Down Cricket Club, Comber

2 July 2005 (50-over match)

Result: Ireland won by 127 runs

Points: Ireland 2, Uganda 0

Toss: Uganda

Umpires: Al Hill (NZ) and BB Pradhan (Nepal)

Man of the Match: PJK Mooney

Ireland innings (50 overs maximum)

	R	M	B	4	6	
*JAM Molins	b Kamyuka	19	25	26	4	0
+JP Bray	c O'Connell b Ochan	25	77	41	0	0
AC Botha	c Patel b Kwebiha	8	35	31	1	0
EC Joyce	b O'Connell	49	55	44	6	1
ED Morgan	c Kwebiha	39	70	69	4	2
AR White	c & b Kamyuka	45	59	47	4	2
DT Johnston	c Muzoke b Kamyuka	31	38	27	1	2
DI Joyce	b Kamyuka	6	10	8	1	0
WK McCallan	not out	2	7	3	0	0
PJK Mooney	not out	4	6	5	0	0
Extras	(lb 8, w 3, nb 1)	12				
Total	(8 wickets, 50 overs)	231				

DNS: AGAM McCoubrey.

Forw: 1-20 (Molins), 2-53 (Botha), 3-60 (Bray), 4-117 (EC Joyce), 5-151 (Morgan), 6-211 (White), 7-225 (Johnston), 8-225 (DI Joyce).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Kamyuka	9	2	42	4
Waiswa	8	1	39	1
Ochan	6	1	24	1 (1nb)
Kwebiha	9	1	26	1 (2w)
O'Connell	9	0	54	1
Nsubuga	9	1	38	0 (1w)

Uganda innings (target: 232 runs from 50 overs)

	R	M	B	4	6
L Seruumba	b Johnston	1	7	8	0
B Muzoke	b Mooney	0	2	1	0
N Bibodi	run out	4	18	13	0
*J O'Connell	c Bray b Johnston	4	29	12	0
J Kwebiha	c Bray b McCoubrey	11	37	25	2
N Patel	lbw b Mooney	1	14	11	0
+K Legesi	c Johnston b Mooney	1	11	7	0
F Nsubuga	b McCallan	59	84	58	3
K Kamyuka	c Molins b McCoubrey	6	33	26	1
P Ochan	c McCallan b McCoubrey	4	11	6	1
C Waiswa	not out	1	33	28	0
Extras	(lb 2, w 7, nb 3)	12			
Total	(all out, 32 overs)	104			

Forw: 1-0 (Muzoke), 2-4 (Seruumba), 3-12 (Bibodi), 4-20 (O'Connell), 5-26 (Patel), 6-28 (Kwebiha), 7-30 (Legesi), 8-42 (Kamyuka), 9-56 (Ochan), 10-104 (Nsubuga).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Mooney	10	4	10	3 (2w)
Johnston	5	0	18	2 (2w, 2nb)
McCoubrey	7	1	19	3 (2w, 1nb)
Botha	6	1	21	0 (1w)
McCallan	4	1	34	1



Ireland v UAE

Gary Niblock reports

Ireland REJOYCE after Ed's stunning hundred

At Stormont, Ed Joyce played the innings that has all but confirmed Ireland's place in World Cup 2007. His unbeaten 115 must rank as one of the finest Innings in ICC Trophy history. Many a lesser player would have succumbed but Joyce's iron nerve and unbreakable temperament saw the hosts home with one ball to spare. I said in my previous column that he was a future England player and this knock has done nothing but strengthen that view.

On a good day at the home of Civil Service North, Jason Molins elected to field first, not surprisingly, given Ireland's strength in chasing down totals. Ireland made just one change bringing in Strabane's Peter Gillespie for Dominic Joyce. UAE lost opener Asim Saeed early for a duck. Asim's claim to fame is dismissing the world's premier one day batsman Sachin Tendulkar in the Asia Cup in 2004. The rest of the Emirates' top order batted well, all getting starts and Khurram Khan played a captain's knock of 53. Andre Botha claimed two key wickets of Khurram and Javed Ismail. Ismail's knock of 56 was very important as he had to shepherd the tail to a competitive total. At 225/7 UAE looked on course for 240+ but some fine fielding by White and Trent Johnston kept the score to 231. The basic failure to bat the full 50 overs would prove to be costly later on.

As Ireland set about chasing this total hopes were high. The team has in the past shown the ability to win batting second against quality sides. However, UAE are a good bowling outfit and made an explosive start. Molins was not too happy after being given lbw to Ali Asad Abbas who lived up to his reputation with a fine display of new ball bowling. Both he and Javed Ismail had the new, hard white ball nipping around and it caused Ireland a good deal of trouble. Botha was run out brilliantly by a direct hit from Abbas and keeper Bray fell to a stunning one handed catch at cover by Khurram Khan. Ireland could not be blamed if they thought the luck was not with them today. When Morgan was strangled down the leg side, Ireland were reeling at 23/4.

In times of adversity, something special is most certainly required. Ed Joyce had survived the early onslaught and early on capitalised on the attacking field placings from Khurram.

Trent Johnston came out and they took the attack to the UAE, putting on 122 runs before Johnston was bowled by skipper Khurram for a match turning 67. Another fine all round display from the big Aussie outlined just how vital a cog he is in the Irish machine. When Peter Gillespie was run out soon after - UAE once again looked the favourites at 155/6. It was here that Joyce came into his element and he managed to garner enough support from the lower order to carry Ireland towards the target. It was hard not to think of the arch finisher Michael Bevan of Australia as the Middlesex batsman snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. UAE may have snuffed a win when White and then Kyle McCallan departed but Joyce kept his head to guide Ireland home. His ton came off 116 balls and not once did he look fazed by the challenge.

Ireland have passed their toughest test in the group and only complacency will deny them a semi final spot. Many fans believe that as Ed Joyce has not played too much Ireland do not really need him. However, on the evidence of this irresistible knock under pressure, they most certainly do.

ICC Trophy, 2005, Group A

Ireland v United Arab Emirates

Civil Service Cricket Club, Stormont, Belfast
4 July 2005 (50-over match)

Result: Ireland won by 2 wickets

Points: Ireland 2, United Arab Emirates 0

Toss: Ireland

Umpires: S Harneed (Indonesian) and Al. Hili (NZ)

Man of the Match: Ed Joyce

United Arab Emirates Innings (50 overs maximum)	R	M	B	4	6	
Asim Saeed	c Bray	b Mooney	0	9	9	0
Arshad Ali	run out		24	11	60	1
+Asghar Ali	c Botha	b Mooney	17	30	28	1
Khurram Khan	c Molins	b Botha	33	86	69	5
Syed Masood	lbw	b Johnston	36	65	72	2
Javed Ismail	b Botha		56	64	37	5
Fahad Usman	b Johnston		9	11	7	1
Ahmed Nadeem	run out		0	1	1	0
Mohammad Tauzir	not out		10	10	9	0
Ali Asad	lbw	b Johnston	0	1	1	0
Rizwan Latif	run out		0	1	1	0
Extras	(b 13, w 9, nb 3)		25			1
Total	(all out, 48.3 overs)		230			

F/W: 1-5 (Asim Saeed), 2-36 (Asghar Ali), 3-93 (Arshad Ali), 4-129 (Khurram Khan), 5-178 (Syed Masood), 6-197 (Fahad Usman), 7-197 (Ahmed Nadeem), 8-229 (Javed Ismail), 9-230 (Ali Asad), 10-230 (Rizwan Latif).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Johnston	9.3	0	45	3 (4w)
Mooney	10	0	39	2 (3w)
McCoubrey	8	0	36	0 (1w, 1nb)
McCallan	10	0	34	0 (1w)
White	3	0	17	0
Botha	8	0	46	2 (2w)

Ireland Innings (Target: 231 runs in 50 overs)	R	M	B	4	6	
*AMM Molins	lbw	b Ali Asad	4	16	17	1
+JP Bray	c Khurram Khan	b Ali Asad	2	20	25	0
AC Botha	run out		0	3	2	0
EC Joyce	not out		115	178	134	9
EJG Morgan	c Asghar Ali	b Ali Asad	4	13	8	0
DT Johnston	b Khurram Khan		67	84	68	4
PG Gillespie	run out		1	6	5	0
Al White	b Ahmed Nadeem		11	30	22	0
WK McCallan	c Asghar Ali	b Ahmed Nadeem	10	15	13	1
PK Mooney	not out		3	20	16	0
Extras	(b 5, lb 4, w 5) 14					
Total	(8 wickets, 49.5 overs)		231			

DNE: AGAM McCoubrey.

F/W: 1-6 (Molins), 2-7 (Botha), 3-12 (Bray), 4-23 (Morgan), 5-145 (Johnston), 6-155 (Gillespie), 7-190 (White), 8-212 (McCallan).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Ali Asad	8.5	2	38	3 (2w)
Javed Ismail	8	1	25	0 (1w)
Ahmed Nadeem	10	0	64	2 (1w)
Rizwan Latif	4	0	19	0 (1w)
Mohammad Tauzir	9	0	47	0
Khurram Khan	10	1	29	1



Ireland v Denmark

Ian Callender reports

WEST Indies 2007 here we come. Ireland finally reached the promised land amid euphoric and emotional scenes at Uppritchard Park. Even another unconvincing batting performance could not stop this all-conquering Ireland team from making it four wins out of four completed matches in the ICC Trophy. They finish top of Group A and will meet Canada in the semi final at Clontarf tomorrow. But that match can wait.

Last night, and most of today, can be spent savouring the feeling of being World Cup finalists for the first time. In just 20 months the majority of the squad will be brushing shoulders with the elite of world cricket in the World Cup finals somewhere in the Caribbean. They will be on the biggest stage of all. After three failed attempts – most cruelly in third-fourth play-off in Kuala Lumpur – no-one who has been there before was taking anything for granted yesterday. Indeed as Ireland made their now customary faltering start in this tournament, there was anxiety that the hosts would even make enough runs to stop the Danes from not only winning the match but also overtake them on net run rate.

Although the competition's most dominant batsman, Ed Joyce, passed 50 for the third time, when he was caught on the mid-wicket boundary there was further unease among the Ireland followers and it needed Joyce the younger to take Ireland through the 200 barrier. Dom Joyce was only playing because Eoin Morgan had a sore back and was rested to ensure his fitness for Saturday, when his brother will be back in county cricket with Middlesex. But his classy 50, appositely on his 50th appearance, from just 37 balls, with seven fours and a six, underlined the strength in depth in this Ireland squad. How it has been needed. At lunchtime, the team was told that unless Denmark reached their target of 223 in 29.2 overs, Ireland would have a better run rate than the Danes and no matter the result of this game and the Bermuda match at The Lawn, Ireland were assured of a top two place and automatic qualification for the World Cup. A hostile opening spell from Trent Johnston and another accurate burst from Paul Mooney reduced the Danes to 32 for three and any thoughts of a quick Denmark victory were extinguished.

Adrian McCoubrey and Andre Botha also kept it tight until Kyle McCallan, on his record-breaking 122nd appearance for his country, came on to turn the screw. His parsimonious bowling has been a feature of the tournament so far and he celebrated his big day with a wicket, Richard Malcolm-Hansen bowled by a big turner. Figures of one for 23 in his 10 overs were no more than he deserved. After the early wickets, Denmark threatened partnerships but two changes of bowling brought immediate reward for the captain, as Botha dismissed Thomas Hansen with the eighth ball of his second spell and Johnston accounted for defiant opener Baljit Singh with the second delivery of his comeback over. That left Denmark needing 92 runs from 16 overs with four wickets left just to win the match. But now, Ireland were asserting their superiority, the confidence of a team that had beaten this opposition comprehensively in the last three games, shining through.

On a helpful pitch for the slow bowlers, Andrew White then joined the party and finished the innings with three wickets for 17, his best figures in the ICC Trophy. There is still much work to be done if Ireland are to achieve their second objective and win this tournament, especially as Ed Joyce misses tomorrow's semi final. Incidentally, if it was his last innings for Ireland, his 60 runs was exactly the same as his first innings eight years ago. The rest of the squad, and especially the top order, can only get better, however, and there is plenty left in the tank from the new World Cup finalists.

Ireland v Denmark

Uppritchard Park, Bangor

7 July 2005 (50-over match)

Result: Ireland won by 73 runs

Points: Ireland 2, Denmark 0

Toss: Ireland

Umpires: EAR de Silva (SL) and BR Pradhan (Nepal)

Man of the Match: Ed Joyce

Ireland Innings (50 overs maximum)	R	M	B	4	6	
*IAM Moirns	c Singh	b HS Hansen	2	14	12	0
+JP Bray	c MR Pedersen	b HS Hansen	12	41	21	2
AC Botha	c Singh	b TM Hansen	0	6	4	0
EC Joyce	c Kopperhoft	b Chawla	60	98	69	6
PG Gillespie	c CR Pedersen	b Chawla	40	111	90	4
DF Johnston	c Singh	b Chawla	0	3	1	0
AR White	b Malcolm-Hansen		15	24	30	0
DI Joyce	b Borchersen		50	45	37	1
WK McCallan	st Singh	b Borchersen	13	32	17	2
PK Mooney	b Borchersen		3	11	6	0
AGAM McCoubrey	not out		1	2	1	0
Extras	(b 4, lb 3, w 1)		30			
Total	(all out, 49.4 overs)		222			

FoW: 1-11 (Moirns), 2-16 (Botha), 3-28 (Bray), 4-123 (EC Joyce),

5-124 (Johnston), 6-151 (White), 7-161 (Gillespie),

8-210 (McCallan), 9-221 (DF Joyce), 10-222 (Mooney).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
TM Hansen	6	0	31	1 (5w)
HS Hansen	6	0	29	2 (2w)
Kopperhoft	10	0	37	0 (1w)
Borchersen	8.4	1	42	3
Malcolm-Hansen	10	0	30	1 (1w)
Chawla	9	0	42	3 (2w)

Denmark Innings (target, 223 runs from 50 overs)	R	M	B	4	6	
+B Singh	c EC Joyce	b Johnston	58	135	112	6
Rashid Ali	c Bray	b Mooney	0	9	3	0
*CR Pedersen	c Bray	b Johnston	0	11	5	0
Aftab Ahmed	c Bray	b Mooney	4	16	8	1
RIA Malcolm-Hansen	c McCallan		21	44	28	2
TM Hansen	c Bray	b Botha	8	17	13	0
MR Pedersen	lbw	b Johnston	19	54	42	0
AR Chawla	c B & White		6	7	6	1
D Borchersen	c Botha	b White	3	7	7	0
HS Hansen	b White		1	9	6	0
NP Kopperhoft	not out		1	5	4	0
Extras	(b 4, lb 3, w 14, nb 7)		28			
Total	(all out, 39.3 overs)		149			

FoW: 1-3 (Rashid Ali), 2-14 (CR Pedersen), 3-32 (Aftab Ahmed),

4-69 (Malcolm-Hansen), 5-96 (TM Hansen), 6-131 (Singh),

7-138 (Chawla), 8-145 (Borchersen), 9-146 (MR Pedersen),

10-149 (HS Hansen).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Johnston	8	0	39	3 (4w, 5w)
Mooney	6	1	22	2 (3w)
McCoubrey	3	0	11	0 (1w)
Botha	7	0	30	1 (3w)
McCallan	10	4	23	1 (1w)
White	5.3	0	17	3



Ireland v Canada

Ian Callender reports

IRELAND are in the final of the ICC Trophy without playing anywhere near the top of their game. That is a fact which is more credit to the ICC hosts than any reflection on their opponents. This is a seriously good squad which proved in front of a large and enthusiastic crowd at Castle Avenue on Saturday that they are fit to take their place on the world stage in 2007. The toughest game of all is yet to come but nothing else was expected. It is, after all, the ICC Trophy final and, at stake, the title of leading associate nation in the world. Even after the destructive Davison was dismissed off the last ball of the fourth over for 33, from just 15 balls faced, Canada careered along at five runs an over for the next 12 and only when McCallan came into the attack was the run rate brought under control. Andre Botha played his part, with a double wicket maiden, removing Canada's best batsman Ian Silciff for a duck, four balls after snaring Zubin Surkari, but the other six overs in his opening spell went for 36 runs.

Gordon Cooke, brought into the team at the expense of Adrian McCoubrey, did a good job in tandem with McCallan in the middle of the innings but Andrew White, replacing his former NCU team-mate, was hit for 13 in his fourth over and never seen again. The day after National Coach Adrian Birrell said he has a team that doesn't drop too many catches, Ireland put down three - a luxury they cannot afford in the final. White did well to get a hand on a drive from Sunil Dhaniram, low at extra cover, but couldn't hold on and Paul Mooney dropped a high but straightforward one in the same over off the same batsman - they cost 20 runs. Five overs from the end, in the same position at long-off, another lofted shot went through Mooney's hands. McCallan and White were the unlucky bowlers.

At half-time, Ireland could consider they were lucky to be chasing only 239 - a very gettable total on a good pitch. (Clontarf may have been criticised for last year's Inter-Continental Trophy game but they were back to their reliable best, on and off the field on Saturday). The batsmen, however, continue to make life difficult for themselves although, this time, the bowlers deserve most of the credit. Jeremy Bray, having hit a four and six in the space of three balls, mistimed a pull to mid-on, the ball hurrying on to him more than expected, and Eoin Morgan, promoted to No 3 to allow out-of-form Botha to rehabilitate in the middle order, fell to a high catch at mid-off, again off the impressive Sanjayan Thurasingham.

Dom Joyce came up the pitch to Dhaniram, the first of five Canada slow bowlers, and although the ball deflected to slip, Dom had slipped himself and was beaten by a direct hit from Thurasingham. Botha hit a couple of fours but is still not himself with the bat, his 15 used up 34 balls and he was then caught behind cutting slow left armer Kevin Sandher. Jason Molins started the way he had done in his previous six innings, even failing to put away a full toss on leg stump, but he reached 44 and was starting to look fairly comfortable until he was bowled by Sandher, the fifth time his stumps have been hit this season.

Trent Johnston replaced Molins, in his now regular position of No 6 and led the Ireland recovery with Peter Gillespie. Their 65 runs partnership was the groundwork for Gillespie and White's thrilling finish. Gillespie hit the ball into the furthest corner of Castle Avenue, in front of the scoreboard, and the one after that disappeared for four. Suddenly it was nine from 12 and Ireland coasted home, with White hitting the second ball of the last over for a six to win the match and spark scenes of celebration reminiscent of the game on the same ground 14 months ago, when the mighty Surrey fell on Ireland's sword. How significant was that win! One more to the players' favourite ground would surely top the lot.

ICC Trophy, 2005, Semi Final

Ireland v Canada

Castle Avenue, Dublin

9 July 2005 (50-over match)

Result: Ireland won by 4 wickets

Series: Ireland advances to the Final

Toss: Ireland

Umpires: AL Hill (NZ) and SS Prasad (Singapore)

Man of the Match: PG Gillespie

Canada innings (50 overs maximum)	R	M	B	4	6		
DR Churney	b McCallan	35	99	67	3	1	
*JM Davison	lbw	b Johnston	33	21	15	8	0
ZS Surkari	c Bray	b Botha	31	73	51	4	0
IS Silciff	c Bray	b Botha	0	2	4	0	0
Sunil Dhaniram	b Johnston	35	57	48	3	0	
+PB Dassanayake	run out (Joyce)	22	71	56	0	0	
DES Maxwell	c Morgan	b Botha	32	49	41	1	1
GR Codrington	lbw	b Cooke	16	21	14	2	0
S Thurasingham	b Botha	0	2	2	0	0	
KT Sandher	not out	7	11	7	0	0	
U Bhans	not out	2	2	2	0	0	
Extras	(b 1, lb 10, nb 6, w 8)	25					
Total	(9 wickets, 50 overs)	238					

FoW: 1-46 (Davison, 3.6 ov), 2-114 (Surkari, 21.2 ov), 3-114 (Silciff, 21.6 ov), 4-114 (Churney, 22.1 ov), 5-170 (Dhaniram, 37.3 ov), 6-181 (Dassanayake, 41.4 ov), 7-221 (Codrington, 46.5 ov), 8-222 (Thurasingham, 47.2 ov), 9-233 (Maxwell, 49.2 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Mooney	9	1	49	0 (4w)
Johnston	10	1	54	2 (2w,3nb)
Botha	9	1	47	4 (3nb)
McCallan	10	1	5	1
Cooke	8	2	35	1 (2w)
White	4	0	26	0

Ireland innings (target: 239 runs from 50 overs)	R	M	B	4	6	
*JAM Molins	b Sandher	44	86	59	6	0
+JP Bray	c Codrington	10	13	15	1	1
EJG Morgan	c Sandher	20	23	25	0	0
Di Joyce	run out	5	17	9	0	0
AC Botha	c Dassanayake	15	44	34	2	0
DT Johnston	c Dhaniram	45	65	56	4	1
PG Gillespie	not out	64	87	70	5	1
Alt White	not out	28	37	29	1	1
Extras	(b 3, lb 5, nb 1, w 2)	11				
Total	(6 wickets, 49.2 overs)	241				

DNB: WK McCallan, PK Mooney, G Cooke.

FoW: 1-12 (Bray, 3.4 ov), 2-41 (Morgan, 9.6 ov), 3-60 (Joyce, 14.5 ov), 4-97 (Molins, 21.3 ov), 5-106 (Botha, 27.2 ov), 6-171 (Johnston, 39.6 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Bhans	8.2	0	53	0 (1nb)
Thurasingham	10	3	47	2 (1w)
Dhaniram	5	0	31	0
Maxwell	4	0	13	0 (1w)
Davison	10	3	26	0
Sandher	10	0	46	3
Codrington	2	0	17	0



Ireland v Scotland

Ian Callender reports

It all went wrong for Ireland on their biggest day as Scotland made their highest one-day score to win the ICC Trophy final by 47 runs at a sun-drenched Clontarf.

Ireland were forced to go into the game without their captain, Jason Molina, who underwent acupuncture on his injured shoulder on Tuesday night in an effort to be fit to lead the team but he failed to recover in time and the hosts then suffered a couple of major knocks along the way. Yet, while Jeremy Bray and Ed Joyce were together, putting on 137 for the second wicket, Ireland were still on course to reach their distant target of 325. When Bray was caught on the square leg boundary for 70 it was a damaging blow but when Joyce followed, caught off a skyer for 81, it proved fatal for Ireland. Johnston struck a huge six and two hard-hit fours and briefly threatened to repeat his heroics in the warm-up game against Scotland two weeks ago - it seems like a lifetime - but after he was stumped, with Ireland still 103 short of victory, it was left to Paul Mooney and Gordon Cooke to earn respectability for Ireland in an unbroken last wicket stand of 55.

Paul Hoffman, as expected, was used as a pinch-hitter for Scotland and not only did he score 23 from 14 balls with five fours, but Johnston bowled six wides in his first four overs and Paul Mooney two. With 16 boundaries in the first 15 boundaries it was Ireland's nadir. The first of the fielding lapses came in only the sixth over, Watts dropped at slip, low and wide to his right by Botha and the opener was missed again on 41, this time a stumping off Kyle McCallan. Generally, though, Bray has enjoyed an almost error-free tournament - thrust into the job after Niall O'Brien's decision to stay with Kent - and it is hard to criticise the Clontarf all rounder. The second wicket stand between Watts and Watson was ended by a direct hit from Andrew White on 120 but, unfortunately, the chances continued to go begging. Watson would have been run out on 65 but for a poor throw by Dom Joyce and eight runs later he enjoyed the life from Johnston's painful drop. Still, the stocky Scotsman could not capitalise and he was denied a third century for his country when Johnston returned and White held the catch at point.

With 15 overs remaining, and the scoreboard showing 198 for four, Brown was the last person Ireland would have wanted to see coming to the wicket and, sure enough, he scored 59 from 44 balls with two sixes and six fours as Scotland surpassed their previous best one-day score of 301, against Somerset two years ago. They lost that day and, in spite of taking two early wickets, were in danger of doing so again when Ed Joyce was treating the crowd to his full array of shots and Bray finally showed off the power hitting which Ireland has been waiting for all tournament. Joyce's innings was not chanceless - he was dropped on 23 at point and on 59 by wicket-keeper Smith - but he scored at a run-a-ball throughout and while he was there, Scotland were worried. Uncharacteristically, he holed out to deep square-leg, with a third century in five innings in sight and Watson's delight, on taking the catch, was mirrored by the rest of the Scotland squad.

White followed three balls later, trapped on the back foot, to give Wright his third wicket in 12 balls and although Botha played his best shot of the fortnight - an extra cover drive - it was the only time he did not need his runner. Watson took that wicket to end any doubt about the man of the match and when Brown and Gregor Maiden followed up with the wickets of McCallan and Johnston in the next two overs it really was the beginning of the end. Gordon Cooke with an unbeaten 34 proved Ireland's batting goes all the way to No 11 but the damage had been done in the first 50 overs. As National Coach Adrian Birrell said, you may get away with poor bowling against the weaker teams but not in an ICC Trophy final.

ICC Trophy, 2005, Final

Ireland v Scotland

Castle Avenue, Dublin

13 July 2005 (50-over match)

Result: Scotland won by 47 runs

Series: Scotland wins the 2005 ICC Trophy

Toss: Ireland

Umpires: S Hameed (Indonesia) and AL Hill (NZ)

Man of the Match: RR Watson

Scotland innings (50 overs maximum)		R	M	B	4	6	
PJ Hoffmann	c DI Joyce	b Mooney	23	23	14	4	0
DF Watts	run out (White)		55	107	83	7	0
RR Watson	c White	b Johnston	94	140	99	13	0
CV English	c White	b Johnston	20	24	26	3	0
+ CJO Smith	vt Bray	b McCallan	2	8	3	0	0
DR Brown	c DI Joyce	b Cooke	59	51	44	2	0
GM Hamilton	c Morgan	b Cooke	12	22	13	0	0
DR Lockhart	not out		18	16	11	2	0
GI Maiden	c DI Joyce	b Cooke	11	7	6	0	1
*CM Wright	not out		1	3	1	0	0
Extras	(b 5, lb 4, w 20)		29				
Total	(8 wickets, 50 overs)		324				

DNB: IAR Blair.

FovR: 1-37 (Hoffmann), 2-157 (Watts), 3-195 (English),

4-198 (Smith), 5-234 (Watson), 6-283 (Brown),

7-292 (Hamilton), 8-312 (Maiden).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Mooney	7	0	62	1 (Cw)
Johnston	10	0	46	2 (7w)
Botha	5	0	20	0 (1w)
Cooke	9	1	70	3 (1w)
McCallan	10	0	41	
White	9	0	56	0

Ireland innings (target: 325 runs from 50 overs)		R	M	B	4	6	
DI Joyce	c Smith	b Hoffmann	1	9	0	0	
+JP Bray	c Watson	b Maiden	70	104	90	9	0
EXG Morgan	lbw	b Hoffmann	4	3	5	1	0
EC Joyce	c Watson	b Wright	81	118	82	10	1
PG Gillespie	c Hamilton	b Wright	9	18	17	0	0
DT Johnston	st Smith	b Maiden	23	37	19	2	1
AR White	lbw	b Wright	0	6	4	0	0
AC Botha	lbw	b Watson	10	14	11	1	0
*WK McCallan	c Wright	b Brown	1	4	7	0	0
PJK Mooney	not out		22	27	22	1	0
G Cooke	not out		34	33	34	4	0
Extras	(b 1, lb 15, w 6)		22				
Total	(9 wickets, 50 overs)		277				

FovR: 1-6 (DI Joyce), 2-11 (Morgan), 3-148 (Bray),

4-179 (Gillespie), 5-185 (EC Joyce), 6-188 (White),

7-217 (Botha), 8-218 (McCallan), 9-222 (Johnston).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Hoffmann	10	2	47	2 (1w)
Brown	10	2	33	1 (1w)
Wright	7	0	48	3 (2w)
Blair	5	0	32	0 (2w)
Watson	9	0	45	1
Maiden	9	0	56	2





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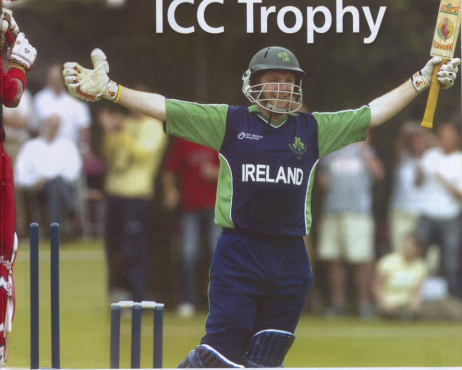
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ICC Trophy



InterContinental Cup Review

Ireland Captain Trent Johnston Reflects on Ireland's Historic InterContinental Cup Win

The semi final against a weakened UAE team was a very convincing performance. Our preparation in the lead up to the game hadn't been ideal, with the Northern contingent being delayed due to flight problems. Once the game got under way though, we won a very important toss, and proceeded to bat them right out of the game. In the first innings Moggy, (Eoin Morgan), scored a big hundred, getting in fact 151, and in the second innings a record partnership of 304 between Jeremy Bray, 190, and Niall O' Brien 176, killed the game off as a contest.

Both players just missed out on the Irish individual record score of 198, held by Ivan Anderson. It has to be said that the conditions were conducive to batting, with a flat track and hot weather, and the guys certainly made the most of it. They occupied the crease, and did exactly what was asked of them. We were able to declare with 350 on the board and from then on, we were always in the box seat.

We were then able to dismiss them for just 189, a great performance on such an unhelpful track. I managed to pick up 5 for 33 off a shortened run, and Paul Mooney and Kyle Mc Callan each got two. Obviously with us managing to bowl them out so cheaply, we wanted to give the bowlers a bit of a rest, so we set about batting for as long as we could.

We were able to sit back and relax, and watch as the runs just continued to pile up. I was able to declare again at 444 for 4, giving them a target of 606 to win, so as you can see, I wasn't taking many chances! In fact I probably batted a bit too long in terms of going for a win, but with a final coming up, I wanted the bowlers as fresh as possible. They were able to hang on for a draw, despite Kyle getting 3 wickets, but it was job done as far as I was concerned, as good as a victory, and we were through to play Kenya in the final.

The final itself against Kenya was a pretty amazing game. We lost a vital toss, and they racked up a pretty daunting 401 for 4. Steve Tikolo played a great knock, not giving a sniff of a chance in his unbeaten 177. The guy's just pure quality. Everybody says he's the best player outside the Test arena, and we were certainly witness to that. We weren't helped by the fact that I fractured my finger in the first session before lunch. I'd just moved myself to short cover, and in attempting to stop a Tikolo drive, I got caught on the point of it, and that was my effective involvement in the game over, although I did try to bowl again.

Chasing over 400 was real backs to the wall stuff. The was the competition was set up heavily favoured the side batting first, particularly if they get a big total on the board. We batted very positively, and four of the top five got good scores. Niall got another brilliant hundred, while Andre, Eoin and Jeremy all chipped in. Our thoughts turned then to how we could actually turn the game around. I'd like to all the credit for the decision to declare, but if truth be told, the initial idea about declaring came from David Townsend, who was out covering the game. He kept chirping the various scenarios in my ear. We took it on board, and you could see that the Kenyans were a bit shell-shocked when it came.

We definitely caught them on the hop. They had a few problems of their own, with their opening batsman being off the field, and their number 3 wasn't right either. We got wickets at vital times, and when play resumed on the final day, the momentum was

with us, and we wrapped up things pretty quickly. Once Tikolo went bowled by Mc Callan, they seemed to lose spirit, and in the end they were dismissed for 156.

The run chase went pretty smoothly, and I was never in doubt we would get the runs on such a good track, with so many players in form. We got there comfortably with all the 6 guys who batted making decent scores.

A really unbelievable game, and one which will live long in the memory of not just the team, but everyone who there to witness it. It was a great feeling to lift the first trophy that Ireland had won, and the reception back home was superb. Let's hope it's the first of many.



Trent Johnston receives the InterContinental Cup



InterContinental Cup Scorecards

ICC Intercontinental Cup, 2005

Scotland v Ireland

Mannofield Park, Aberdeen

13, 14, 15 August 2005 (3-day match)

Result: Ireland won by 3 runs

Points: Ireland 30, Scotland 17

Toss: Scotland

Umpires: PK Baldwin (Germany) and K Coburn (Eng)

Ireland 1st innings				R	M	B	4	6
*JAM Molins	c Smith	b Hoffmann	0	1	3	0	0	0
JP Bray	lbw	b Wright	29	78	67	3	0	0
AC Botha	c Weeraratna	b Wright	0	4	4	0	0	0
DI Joyce	c Wright	b Weeraratna	31	121	89	4	0	0
PG Gillespie	c Smith	b Wright	0	1	1	0	0	0
CM Armstrong	c MacRae	b Wright	0	7	2	0	0	0
WK McCallan	c Watts	b Watson	32	104	90	4	0	0
PK Mooney	lbw	b Maiden	20	70	58	2	0	0
+GC Wilson	c Wright	b Watson	9	17	17	1	0	0
GI Thompson	lbw	b Hoffmann	35	56	53	3	0	0
AGAM McCoubrey	not out		8	44	36	0	0	0
Extras	(b 2, lb 4, w 1, nb 1)		8					
Total	(all out, 70.1 overs)		172					

ForW: 1-0 (Molins), 2-1 (Botha), 3-48 (Bray), 4-48 (Gillespie), 5-52 (Armstrong), 6-72 (Joyce), 7-118 (McCallan), 8-122 (Mooney), 9-128 (Wilson), 10-172 (Thompson).

Bowling				O	M	R	W
Hoffmann	19.1	6	35	2			
Wright	17	5	38	4			
Niel	9	1	29	0 (1nb)			
Weeraratna	7	1	22	1 (1nb)			
English	4	2	9	0			
Watson	8	3	11	2			
Maiden	6	2	22	1			

Scotland 1st innings				R	M	B	4	6
ST Knox	c McCallan	b McCoubrey	38	118	95	5	0	0
DE Watts	c Thompson	b Mooney	8	22	15	1	0	0
HJ MacRae	lbw	b Botha	44	159	119	6	0	0
RR Watson	b Thompson		15	44	35	2	0	0
+CJD Smith	run out (Gillespie)		0	5	2	0	0	0
CV English	b Botha		66	161	128	10	0	0
*CM Wright	c Wilson	b Mooney	24	100	77	3	0	0
GI Maiden	lbw	b McCallan	1	17	8	0	0	0
PJC Hoffmann	c Mooney	b McCoubrey	12	33	24	2	0	0
SD Weeraratna	not out		0	6	4	0	0	0
JD Niel	not out		0	2	0	0	0	0
Extras	(b 4, lb 7, w 3, nb 12)		26					
Total	(9 wickets dec, 82.3 overs)		234					

ForW: 1-12 (Watts), 2-84 (Knox), 3-116 (Watson), 4-117 (Smith), 5-122 (MacRae), 6-192 (Wright), 7-203 (Maiden), 8-234 (English), 9-234 (Hoffmann).

Bowling				O	M	R	W
McCoubrey	15.3	1	67	2 (Erb,3w)			
Mooney	15	6	26	2 (2nb)			
Botha	16	4	43	2 (4nb)			
McCallan	22	8	39	1			
Thompson	14	3	38	1			

Ireland 2nd innings				R	M	B	4	6
*JAM Molins	c Maiden	b Watson	18	66	57	2	0	0
JP Bray	c sub	b Niel	1	20	15	0	0	0
AC Botha	c Watts	b Hoffmann	46	96	75	6	0	0
DI Joyce	lbw	b Niel	61	136	129	6	0	0
PG Gillespie	c Niel	b Watson	16	48	29	1	0	0
CM Armstrong	lbw	b Watson	12	25	14	1	0	0
WK McCallan	c Watson	b Niel	10	34	28	0	0	0
PK Mooney	c Watson	b Maiden	6	44	40	0	0	0
+GC Wilson	c Watts	b Maiden	11	31	28	1	1	0
GI Thompson	lbw	b Maiden	6	28	26	0	0	0
AGAM McCoubrey	not out		1	18	12	0	0	0
Extras	(b 1, lb 6, nb 1)		8					
Total	(all out, 75.1 overs)		196					

ForW: 1-10 (Bray), 2-46 (Molins, 17.1 ov), 3-96 (Botha), 4-131 (Gillespie), 5-159 (Armstrong), 6-167 (Joyce), 7-174 (McCallan), 8-182 (Mooney), 9-189 (Wilson), 10-196 (Thompson, 75.1 ov).

Bowling				O	M	R	W
Hoffmann	18	5	33	1			
Niel	15	7	30	3			
Weeraratna	8	2	21	0			
Watson	18	2	64	3 (1nb)			
Maiden	12.1	5	24	3			
Wright	4	1	17	0			

Scotland 2nd innings (target: 135 runs)				R	M	B	4	6
ST Knox	c Molins	b Botha	34	133	87	4	0	0
DE Watts	c Mooney	b McCoubrey	2	8	10	0	0	0
HJ MacRae	c McCoubrey	b McCoubrey	0	10	7	0	0	0
RR Watson	c McCoubrey	b McCoubrey	7	20	17	1	0	0
+CJD Smith	c Wilson	b McCoubrey	3	23	11	0	0	0
CV English	c Thompson	b McCoubrey	22	70	40	3	0	0
PJC Hoffmann	c McCoubrey	b Botha	0	1	1	0	0	0
GI Maiden	b McCallan		7	27	24	1	0	0
*CM Wright	not out		31	36	9	2	0	0
SD Weeraratna	run out (Botha)		6	14	13	0	0	0
JD Niel	run out (McCallan)		3	4	3	0	0	0
Extras	(lb 2, nb 4)		6					
Total	(all out, 38 overs)		131					

ForW: 1-11 (Watts), 2-15 (MacRae), 3-28 (Watson), 4-34 (Smith), 5-69 (Knox), 6-69 (Hoffmann), 7-78 (English), 8-102 (Maiden), 9-116 (Weeraratna), 10-131 (Niel).

Bowling				O	M	R	W
Botha	11	0	38	2			
Mooney	10	0	0	0			
McCoubrey	8	2	17	4 (4nb)			
McCallan	9	0	54	2			

Ireland v Netherlands

Civil Service Cricket Club, Stormont, Belfast

Ireland 1st innings				R	M	B	4	6
*JAM Molins	c de Grooth	b Adeel Raja	53					
JP Bray	c & b Reekers		135					
AC Botha	c van Nierop	b van Gezen	97					
DI Joyce	c Kerveze	b van Gezen	50					
PG Gillespie	not out		54					
+GC Wilson	not out		0					
Extras	(b 2, lb 6, w 3, nb 7)		18					
Total	(4 wickets declared, 90 overs)		407					

DNB: WK McCallan, PK Mooney, CM Armstrong, GI Thompson, AGAM McCoubrey.

ForW: 1-121 (Molins), 2-283 (Bray), 3-321 (Botha), 4-405 (Joyce).

Bowling				O	M	R	W
Schlier	25	6	112	0			
van Gezen	24	3	107	2			
Reekers	16	0	72	1			
Kerveze	3	0	11	0			
Adeel Raja	22	3	97	1			

Netherlands 1st innings				R	M	B	4	6
Th de Grooth	c Joyce	b McCoubrey	11					
MRA van Meerp	lbw	b Thompson	15					
*B Zuidermont	lbw	b McCoubrey	3					
E Szwarczynski	b Botha		18					
RN ten Doestchate	c Wilson	b Botha	84					
AN Kerveze	not out		46					
DI Reekers	b Botha		8					
+JG Westermann	not out		0					
Extras	(b 2, lb 5, w 2, nb 10)		19					
Total	(6 wickets, 59.4 overs)		204					

DNB: Adeel Raja, E Schlier, ES van Gezen.

ForW: 1-16 (de Grooth), 2-24 (Zuidermont), 3-50 (van Nierop), 4-72 (Szwarczynski), 5-187 (ten Doestchate), 6-201 (Reekers).

Bowling				O	M	R	W
McCoubrey	13	2	44	2			
Mooney	6	0	26	0			
Thompson	11	2	49	1			
McCallan	16	3	51	0			
Botha	13.4	4	27	3			

James Fitzgerald on Ireland's win over Kenya

A tactical declaration by Ireland captain Trent Johnston helped to turn what looked like a certain draw into an almost incredible victory in the final of the Intercontinental Cup against Kenya in Windhoek, Namibia.

Having qualified for the World Cup by getting to the final of the ICC Trophy earlier this year, 2005 is surely the most successful year in Irish cricketing history. While winning the Intercontinental Cup brings nothing in terms of more finance from the ICC or invitation to another event, it lifts the profile of Irish cricket internationally and should make the national team a more attractive proposition to potential sponsors.

The first session of play yesterday was what cricket lovers watch the game for. In the space of a few short overs, this three-day game was turned on its head. Such was Kenya's first innings lead, it was clear that all they had to do was bat all day and then claim a winning draw by virtue of having more bonus points. And on a batting track that was as flat as a road, that was where the smart money was going overnight.

Kenya resumed on 104 for 3 and managed only another 52 runs for their remaining seven wickets (the last five coming for just six runs).

Ireland bowled and fielded magnificently, despite the absence of captain and main strike bowler Trent Johnston who broke a finger on Friday.

Kyle McCallan (4-34), Andy White (3-24), Adrian McCoubrey (2-37) and Andre Botha (1-22) soldiered superbly in his absence. That, coupled with some excellent fielding, notably diving catches from McCoubrey and White, reduced the semi-finalists from the

2003 World Cup and possible candidates for Test status to a team of chumps.

And the reason? Well, if reason is ever a genuine part of cricket, it has to be Johnston's imaginative declaration when his side were still 88 runs behind. It gave Ireland the time to attempt to bowl Kenya out or force them into setting them a target in the fourth innings. But more importantly it completely bamboozled the opposition.

They walked off the field on Friday shrugging, shaking their heads and completely surprised. As a result they batted with no focus and no plan.

Having more bonus points than Ireland at that stage, should they just close up shop and bat out the game for a winning draw? Or should they be positive and try to set Ireland a high total in an effort to win outright?

They got caught somewhere in the middle and with Ireland knowing exactly what they were doing, Kenya's batsmen didn't last long. By the end, it was like watching a child pull apart a daddylonglegs. And boy, did Ireland enjoy it.

Ireland then showed great composure to knock off the runs, with all the top order chipping in. Dom Joyce and Jeremy Bray set the foundation with an opening stand of 83 and after that, the positive run-rate kept Ireland ahead of the posse. In the end they passed their target of 245 to win with six wickets and 13.1 overs to spare. Cue the cheers, the bear hugs and the high-pitched shrieks.



Winners, Ireland



ICC Intercontinental Cup, 2005, 2nd Semi Final

Ireland v United Arab Emirates

Wanderers Cricket Ground, Windhoek

23,24,25 October 2005 (3-day match)

Result: Match Drawn

Points: Ireland 20, United Arab Emirates 13

Toss: Ireland

Umpires: R Dil (Bermuda) and RB Tiffin (Zim)

Name of the Match: JP Bray

First-class debuts: Fahad Alhashmi, Rameez Shahzad, V Sockalingam, Usman Saleem (United Arab Emirates).

Close of Play: Day 1: Ireland 350/7d, United Arab Emirates 77/4 (Mohammad Taskeen 38*); 17.3 overs Day 2: United Arab Emirates 189, Ireland 386/1 (Bray 169*, O'Brien 118*); 77 overs)

Ireland 1st innings		R	M	B	4	6
DI Joyce	c Sameer Zia b Ali Asad	38	128	106	5	0
JP Bray	lbw b Sockalingam	78	158	138	11	0
EGG Morgan	lbw b Ali Asad	151	186	150	18	1
+NI O'Brien	c & b Ali Asad	2	4	3	0	0
PG Gillespie	lbw b Kashif Ahmed	11	25	27	1	0
*OT Johnston	c Sockalingam b Ali Asad	30	67	47	1	1
CM Armstrong	b Ali Asad	5	11	9	0	0
WK McCullin	not out	16	49	29	1	0
PK Mooney	not out	5	11	17	1	0
Extras	(b 7, lb 7)	14				
Total	(7 wickets declared, 87.4 overs)	350				

DNB: GJ Thompson, AGAM McCoubrey.

FoW: 1-111 (Joyce), 2-143 (Bray), 3-146 (O'Brien), 4-189 (Gillespie), 5-283 (Johnston), 6-294 (Armstrong), 7-343 (Morgan).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Ali Asad	28	8	93	5
Usman Saleem	6	1	21	0
Fahad Alhashmi	7	0	33	0
Rizwan Latif	16	1	56	0
Sameer Zia	10	1	44	0
Ashraf Ali	9	4	34	0
Sockalingam	6	0	32	1
Kashif Ahmed	4	1	10	1
Fahad Usman	1	0	13	0

United Arab Emirates 1st innings		R	M	B	4	6
*Ashraf Ali	lbw b Mooney	3	8	7	0	0
+Mohammad Taskeen	b Thompson	47	114	79	8	0
Sameer Zia	b Mooney	0	1	1	0	0
V Sockalingam	c Joyce b Johnston	16	44	29	4	0
Kashif Ahmed	c Gillespie b McCullin	8	27	22	1	0
Rameez Shahzad	c Armstrong b McCullin	41	93	73	6	1
Fahad Usman	c Mooney b Johnston	15	46	47	1	1
Usman Saleem	c O'Brien b Johnston	0	4	3	0	0
Ali Asad	c O'Brien b Johnston	1	19	11	0	0
Rizwan Latif	not out	13	47	42	2	0
Fahad Alhashmi	b Johnston	21	37	28	3	0
Extras	(b 2, nb 22)	24				
Total	(all out, 51.1 overs)	189				

FoW: 1-3 (Ashraf Ali), 2-3 (Sameer Zia), 3-56 (Sockalingam), 4-77 (Kashif Ahmed), 5-103 (Mohammad Taskeen), 6-145 (Fahad Usman), 7-145 (Usman Saleem), 8-149 (Rameez Shahzad), 9-149 (Ali Asad), 10-189 (Fahad Alhashmi).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McCoubrey	11	0	56	0 (2nb)
Mooney	7	1	36	2 (2nb)
Johnston	10.1	3	33	5 (11nb)
McCullin	12	3	23	2
Thompson	11	1	39	1

Ireland 2nd innings		R	M	B	4	6
DI Joyce	c Rizwan Latif b Fahad Alhashmi	38	80	69	4	1
JP Bray	lbw b Ali Asad	190	310	251	23	0
EGG Morgan	lbw b Sockalingam	10	11	11	2	0
+NI O'Brien	b Sameer Zia	176	196	277	15	0
PG Gillespie	not out	18	23	15	3	0
Extras	(b 4, lb 6, w 2)	12				
Total	(4 wickets declared, 104.1 overs)	444				

DNB: *OT Johnston, CM Armstrong, WK McCullin, PK Mooney, GJ Thompson, AGAM McCoubrey.

FoW: 1-37 (Morgan), 2-341 (Bray), 3-394 (Joyce), 4-444 (O'Brien).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Ali Asad	16	1	25	1
Fahad Alhashmi	8	5	50	1 (2w)
Sockalingam	4	0	16	1
Rameez Shahzad	8	1	33	0
Rizwan Latif	24	1	93	0
Sameer Zia	20.1	0	72	1
Usman Saleem	7	1	36	0
Kashif Ahmed	11	1	32	0
Ashraf Ali	5	1	22	0
Fahad Usman	1	0	5	0

United Arab Emirates 2nd innings (target: 606 runs)		R	M	B	4	6
*Ashraf Ali	c Johnston b Thompson	59	117	86	7	0
+Mohammad Taskeen	c O'Brien b Mooney	0	7	5	0	0
Usman Saleem	lbw b McCullin	68	103	137	5	0
V Sockalingam	c Gillespie b McCullin	0	4	1	0	0
Kashif Ahmed	run out (Armstrong)	1	9	9	0	0
Rameez Shahzad	c O'Brien b McCullin	30	69	54	3	0
Fahad Usman	c O'Brien b Johnston	25	67	57	4	0
Sameer Zia	not out	12	105	92	2	0
Rizwan Latif	c Gillespie b Johnston	0	13	12	0	0
Ali Asad	not out	4	32	38	0	0
Extras	(b 4, lb 3, w 1, nb 26)	28				
Total	(8 wickets, 79 overs)	227				

DNB: Fahad Alhashmi.

FoW: 1-4 (Mohammad Taskeen), 2-102 (Ashraf Ali), 3-102 (Sockalingam), 4-118 (Kashif Ahmed), 5-177 (Usman Saleem), 6-182 (Rameez Shahzad), 7-214 (Fahad Usman), 8-220 (Rizwan Latif).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Johnston	19	2	73	2 (12nb)
Mooney	1	0	1	1
McCoubrey	12	2	34	0 (4rb, 1w)
Armstrong	6	2	23	0 (2nb)
Gillespie	3	0	17	0 (2nb)
Thompson	12	5	33	1
McCullin	22	11	32	3
Bray	1	0	2	0
Joyce	3	1	5	0



Kyle McCullin and Andy White with the ICC Intercontinental Cup



Kyle McCullin being interviewed by RTE



Andy White

ICC Intercontinental Cup, 2005, Final

Ireland v Kenya

Wanderers Cricket Ground, Windhoek

27,28,29 October 2005 (3-day match)

Result: Ireland won by 6 wickets

Series: Ireland wins the 2005 ICC Intercontinental Cup

Toss: Kenya

Umpires: Al Bell (NZ) and RB Tiffin (Zim)

Man of the Match: WK McCallan and AR White

Close of Play: Day 1: Kenya 401/4d, Ireland 37/1 (Bray 28*, Morgan 0*, 13 overs)

Day 2: Ireland 313/4d, Kenya 104/3 (Duma 24*, Tikolo 6*, 40.1 overs)

Kenya 1st innings		R	M	B	4	6	
+KO Osiemo	lbw	b McCoubrey	72	146	107	14	0
MA Duma	run out (Joyce)		8	36	29	0	0
AO Sujj	c Armstrong	b Johnston	11	69	58	1	0
*SD Tikolo	not out		177	244	170	27	0
HS Mudi	c & b White		106	202	188	13	0
TM Odoyo	not out		2	1	2	0	0
Extras	(b 2, lb 5, w 15, nb 3)		25				
Total	(4 wickets declared, 89.5 overs)		401				

DNB: M Sheikh, CO Obuya, UN Oryang'o, PJ Ongondo, MA Sujj

FoW: 1-25 (Duma), 2-85 (AO Sujj), 3-132 (Osiemo), 4-399 (Mudi)

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McCoubrey	12	1	70	1 (8rb)
Johnston	11	5	43	1 (2nb)
Botha	16	5	74	0 (14rb)
Armstrong	11	1	54	0 (3w)
McCallan	24	1	78	0
Morgan	2	0	14	0
White	13.5	0	61	1

Ireland 1st innings

Ireland 1st innings		R	M	B	4	6	
DI Joyce	lbw	b Odoyo	5	31	28	1	0
JP Bray	c Duma	b Oryang'o	46	111	79	9	0
EJG Morgan	c Obuya	b Sheikh	60	158	116	9	0
+NI O'Brien	not out		106	102	153	7	1
AC Botha	c & b Obuya		78	113	102	8	1
Extras	(b 5, lb 6, w 1, nb 0)		18				
Total	(4 wickets declared, 78.5 overs)		313				

DNB: *DT Johnston, PG Gillespie, AR White, CM Armstrong, WK McCallan, AGAM McCoubrey

FoW: 1-27 (Joyce), 2-82 (Bray), 3-148 (Morgan), 4-313 (Botha)

Bowling	O	M	R	W
MA Sujj	13	3	48	0 (4nb)
Odoyo	4.3	1	15	1
Ongondo	8	1	30	0 (2nb)
Tikolo	25.3	6	93	0 (2nb)
Oryang'o	14	3	56	1 (1w)
Sheikh	7	0	35	1
Obuya	6.5	0	25	1

Kenya 2nd innings

Kenya 2nd innings		R	M	B	4	6	
+KO Osiemo	c O'Brien	b McCoubrey	14	60	44	3	0
MA Sujj	c O'Brien	b White	52	139	122	6	0
MA Duma	lbw	b White	25	96	77	1	0
AO Sujj	b White		0	1	0	0	0
*SD Tikolo	c McCallan		24	71	48	2	0
HS Mudi	c O'Brien	b McCoubrey	13	26	22	3	0
CO Obuya	c McCoubrey	b McCallan	13	29	28	2	0
TM Odoyo	c White	b McCallan	1	34	25	0	0
M Sheikh	c O'Brien	b Botha	5	43	36	0	0
UN Oryang'o	b McCallan		0	5	1	0	0
PJ Ongondo	not out		0	6	5	0	0
Extras	(b 8, nb 1)		9				
Total	(all out, 68 overs)		158				

FoW: 1-41 (Osiemo), 2-95 (MA Sujj), 3-95 (AO Sujj), 4-108 (Duma), 5-132 (Mudi), 6-156 (Tikolo), 7-151 (Obuya), 8-156 (Odoyo), 9-156 (Oryang'o), 10-156 (Sheikh)

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McCoubrey	16	4	37	2
Botha	11	7	72	1
Armstrong	5	2	8	0
Bray	8	4	12	0
McCallan	15	4	34	4
White	11	3	24	3
Johnston	2	0	13	0 (1nb)

Ireland 2nd innings (Target: 245 runs)		R	M	B	4	6	
DI Joyce	b Tikolo	48	77	61	8	0	
JP Bray	c sub (RG Agal)	b AO Sujj	64	151	107	8	0
EJG Morgan	lbw	b Tikolo	22	43	44	2	0
+NI O'Brien	b Sheikh		27	81	61	2	0
AC Botha	not out		43	94	76	7	0
AR White	not out		25	52	54	2	1
Extras	(b 8, lb 2, w 3, nb 3)		16				
Total	(4 wickets, 66.5 overs)		245				

DNB: PG Gillespie, *DT Johnston, CM Armstrong, WK McCallan, AGAM McCoubrey

FoW: 1-83 (Joyce), 2-125 (Morgan), 3-153 (Bray), 4-195 (O'Brien)

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Ongondo	6	0	25	0 (1nb)
Oryang'o	14	2	56	0 (1w)
Tikolo	23	4	71	2
Obuya	5	1	27	0
AO Sujj	11	1	28	1 (2nb, 2w)
Sheikh	6	1	25	1
Mudi	1.5	0	3	0



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Irish Coach Adrian Birrell looks back at 2005

Looking back at 2005, the obvious highlights for Irish cricket were the World Cup qualification, and the winning of their first ever Trophy, the ICC InterContinental Cup. Those were both very satisfying, but losing in the final to Scotland was not, but certainly the main goal of getting to the Caribbean was achieved.

The IC Cup win was huge achievement, certainly in the context of the match, where we had to come from behind and take a few gambles and risks, but they paid off in the end. I enjoyed the different format of the longer game. It requires different disciplines and strategies, and certainly, it was a challenge I relished. It's not as structured as the one day game, and the players have a chance to express themselves. Coaches can manipulate the game to their best advantage, and I enjoyed that.

The earlier IC game which we won against Scotland, the holders, in Aberdeen, was also a great performance, especially considering how they had beaten us in the ICC Trophy final. It was great to get a bit of revenge! As to the side itself, our obvious strength lies with our batting. 10 of the team averages above 30 with the bat, and that shows the depth of batting that is currently in the squad. I was very pleased with the application of our batters, and also the way we responded after a number of poor starts, where our middle order really came good, and won us a number of matches. In previous years, we had been accused of being too reliant on the top 3, but that certainly wasn't the case last season.

We now bat all the way down. It's been a conscious strategy to have batsmen in the lower order, because the number of games that are won with 6, 7, and 8 wickets down is considerable. I certainly want batsmen to be at the crease when you are under the most pressure, in order to get us over the winning line. That has worked for us in the past, and I'd like to continue with that policy.

In the bowling department, things didn't go as well, with only 5 players taking 10 wickets or more. I thought technically we weren't that great, and that obviously has a bearing on where the ball is going. Hence my decision to bring in Mike Hendrick in an attempt to improve technique, to enable them to become more consistent and tighter, and to make them bowl in better areas all the time. I can see the benefits that he's brought to the bowlers already.

One new face that I've brought into the squad is Dave Langford-Smith. He can swing the ball late at good pace, and puts the ball in good areas. Hopefully he can put in good performances down the line, if selected. There are still opportunities for players to break through. While the squad is pretty established, good displays will earn guys a chance. With such a hectic schedule, players on the periphery will get their opportunity from time to time, and it's up to them to grasp it.

I'm really looking forward to the season as a whole. There's no shortage of big games looming on the horizon. There's all the C&G games, the England match, the European Championships and the World League. It's the first time that we've had the quality of matches that will improve our cricket. Playing the 9 C&G games is a huge boost for Irish cricket, and will put us against professional opposition on a regular basis, and that's where we want to be. The England game is evidently a bit special, but every county game we play in will be an event, and we'll relish and look forward to playing in those. Preparation for the World Cup is very important, and we'll be looking to win half of the C&G games, be competitive against England, and do well in the European Championships. It's a great opportunity for our players to play alongside two quality overseas players, and hopefully some of their talent will rub off.



Adrian Birrell bowling for an Irish XI v NW XI at Eglinton



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2005 Irish Squad

Conor Armstrong

The all rounder from North County played 6 games for Ireland during the season. He missed out on the chance of a maiden century, scoring 90 against the MCC at Bangor, and followed that up with another half century at Waringstown. Although he missed out on selection for the ICC Trophy, he played an integral role in the InterContinental Cup win in Namibia, with a restrictive spell of bowling at a crucial juncture in the game with Kenya. Still to reproduce his prolific club form on the international stage, but a player very much admired by Adrian Birrell.

Andre Botha

He scored 522 runs at an average of 34.80, while also being the joint leading wicket taker with 23 victims. He struggled for form during the ICC Trophy, but enjoyed greater success in the InterContinental Cup. He made his highest score, 97, in the run feast at Stormont, and scored a further 3 half centuries during the course of the season. If his batting star may be on the wane, his bowling is as consistent and reliable as ever. He remains a crucial performer in Ireland colours.

Johan Botha

The South African played as an overseas player in Ireland's C&G game against Yorkshire. He scored a rapid unbeaten 18, while conceding 37 runs in his 10 over spell. He later went on to represent South Africa in One Day International cricket, before falling foul of the ICC, being reported for a suspect bowling action.

Jeremy Bray

Bray has reinvented himself as a wicket-keeper batsman. This was an enforced change due to the unavailability of Niall O'Brien. He proved a very competent keeper, taking 11 catches and a stumping during the course of the season. In addition, he was the highest run scorer during the season, making 722 runs at 45.12, with hundreds against the UAE and Holland. A class act, who has the potential to score heavily.

Ralph Coetzee

He made just the one appearance during the season, getting nought and taking 1 for 39. He has been hampered by unavailability problems, after an

encouraging start to his international career.

Gordon Cooke

Cooke played 4 times for Ireland, scoring 36 runs and taking 7 wickets. He suffered badly at the hands of Ryan Watson in the ICC Trophy, conceding 70 runs as Scotland posted a large score. He announced his retirement at the end of the season, following disciplinary problems in the NW.

Peter Gillespie

Gillespie scored 474 runs at 47.40, helped by an unbeaten hundred against the MCC at Bangor. This was of course the fastest hundred ever for Ireland, taking just 47 deliveries. More renowned for his steady accumulation of runs, he showed his value once again to the Irish cause, with his match winning innings in the semi final of the ICC Trophy against Canada. Heading towards 100 caps, he remains a pivotal player in the Irish team.

Mark Hutchinson

The Bangor batsman made his Irish debut on his home ground versus MCC. He scored 7 not out, and was instrumental in guiding Gillespie to his hundred, with positive running. A heavy scorer in domestic cricket, he will be keen to impress when given the opportunity.

Trent Johnston

A year to remember for the Clontarf all rounder. He took on the mantle of captaincy, and led Ireland to that historic win over Kenya. He scored 239 runs at 23.90, with his highest score of 67 coming in that vital win over the UAE, in the ICC Trophy. He also took 23 wickets at just over 21, with his best bowling performance of 5 for 33. If he can remain injury free, then he will continue to be a crucial performer for Ireland, scoring quick runs in the middle order, and being able to bowl with pace and control.

Ed Joyce

The Middlesex player was primarily the reason for Ireland's World Cup qualification. He had a Bradmanesque average of 99.75, scoring 399 runs in his 5 innings during the ICC Trophy. He made centuries in the wins over Bermuda and the UAE, an innings he later remarked, "was the greatest pressure he had ever felt while batting, such was the weight of



Jeremy Bray

expectation, and the future of Irish cricket at stake." His elegant strokeplay and ease at the crease appears to now be lost to Ireland, with his debut for England 'W'. That means it will be at least 4 years before he will don the Irish jersey again.

Dominick Joyce

Dom Joyce also had a fairly successful season, making 546 runs at 34.12. He batted in a variety of positions, taking on the opening slot towards the end of the season. He scored 6 half centuries, yet his highest score was only 61, showing consistency, but not going on to make a really big score. His best innings came against Denmark, when with the game evenly poised, he scored 50 off just 37 balls, batting at number 8. That was a superb knock which guaranteed a World Cup spot.

Kyle McCallan

The Waringstown all rounder became Ireland's most capped player during the season, and he shows no sign of slowing down. He averaged 26.71 with the bat, and took 21 wickets at 32.71, with a very impressive economy rate of just over 3. His inspirational spell of bowling in the game versus Kenya was enough to earn him a share of the MOM Award.

Adrian McCoubrey

The paceman took 17 wickets during the season at 31.35. His explosive opening spell was the prime reason for Ireland's momentous win in Aberdeen, and showed just what he is capable of. That spell of 4



for 17 were his best figures, but he lacked consistency, and missed out on the final stages of the ICC Trophy.

Jason Molins

The skipper had a season to forget after his success in the previous few years. He struggled for form, and lost his place, ironically after scoring 53 against Holland. He made just 198 runs at 16.50, and was replaced as skipper by Johnston. He is too good a player to remain out of form, and with some hard work can regain his rightful spot at the top of the order.

Paul Mooney

The all rounder had a steady if unspectacular season. He averaged 18.20 with the bat, and weighed in with 16 wickets at 25.69. He suffered injury problems, but when he did play, he performed steadily. His best bowling was 3 for 10 at Comber versus Uganda, when he blew away their top order.

John Mooney

The North County player played just 3 times for Ireland during the campaign. A very determined cricketer who always gives 100%. He took 4 wickets in those 3 games and scored 13 not out in his only innings. He has been working very hard

over the winter, and this may prove to be his breakthrough season.

Eoin Morgan

The Irish player of the year, and he just continues to improve every season. He scored 528 runs at 44.00, and was the second highest run scorer at the Under 19 World Cup in Sri Lanka. He scored 151 in Namibia, and also 4 half centuries during the season. His 93 versus Bermuda, off just 84 balls, will live long in the memory. His partnership of 170 with Ed Joyce in that game was a privilege to witness.

Niall O'Brien

Due to his commitments with Kent, O'Brien played just the 2 games for Ireland, but what an impact he made. He scored hundreds in both against the UAE and Kenya. His total of 311 runs came at an average of 103.67, and he also completed a remarkable 9 catches in those games. His availability remains an issue, but there's no doubt he gives the side an extra dimension when he plays.

Nazeer Shoukat

One of the stars of 2004, his career was effectively ended when taken apart by the pinch hitting of Paul Hoffman, during an ICC Trophy warm up match. The years

looked to have eventually caught up with him, and it's just a pity he didn't qualify for Ireland sooner. The figures show that he took 5 wickets at 35.40 and averaged 27.00 with the bat.

Greg Thompson

The young leg spinner played 4 times, with his most telling contribution coming surprisingly with the bat. He made a vital 35 in Aberdeen in a low scoring game, and averaged 20.50 with the bat. He chipped in with 6 wickets at 32.67, and has a big future in front of him, especially in the longer format of the game.

Andy White

Another player who had availability problems, given his commitments with Northamptonshire. He is still a talismanic performer, and his reputation as a 'finisher', remains in place after his efforts during the season. He averaged 31.25 with the bat, making a vital 45 versus Uganda, on his former stomping ground at North Down. With the ball, he was instrumental in the win over Kenya, and shared a deserved MOM award with Kyle Mc Callan. He took 9 wickets at 27.22, with a best bowling analysis of 3 for 17.



Dom Joyce batting



Gary Wilson

The young wicket-keeper batsman played 4 times, averaging 10 with the bat, but impressed with his glove work. He took 8 catches and a stumping, and is definitely one for the future. He had a good U19 World Cup, and showed his versatility by his out fielding, which was as good as anything the Test countries had to offer.



Stan Mitchell – Irish President 2005

The past year for a very special one for Irish cricket, and it was an honour to be President in such a momentous year. Highlights were many, but hosting the ICC Trophy throughout Ireland was special, and all credit must go to everybody who made the competition such a success. The efforts that clubs themselves, and all the administrators put in, really went above and beyond the call of duty.

This attention to detail didn't go unnoticed in ICC circles, as I spent quite a bit of time with them during the course of the Trophy, and they had nothing but the highest praise for how the tournament was handled. The co-operative friendly nature of everybody was evident, and considering the number of clubs and grounds involved, it was an exceptional effort that it ran so smoothly, with no hiccups along the way. The fact that it was so successfully staged was a great source of pride to myself, in my representative role as President of the Irish Cricket Union.

The number of ICC officials and dignitaries, who seemed to enjoy the tournament is testimony to the effort and organisational skills of everyone in the ICU. The fact that Ireland qualified from the Trophy, which was the number one objective, made it even more of a pleasure. The final itself was a superb occasion, when a sun drenched capacity crowd of 3000 saw nearly 600 runs

scored. It's a pity that Ireland effectively lost the game in the first 12 overs, but still, a great event for all present.

The season far from petered out, gaining fresh momentum with the InterContinental Cup game in Aberdeen. That year for me was the highlight of an action packed year. I was part of the last team which had beaten a Scottish side on their home soil, the Roy Torrens game in Ayr in 1974. It was superb bearing witness to another memorable victory, by just 3 runs in nail biting circumstances. Having been outplayed for the first 2 days, to come back strongly and win is a great testimony to the character and spirit in the current Ireland regime.

That was never more evident than when they won against all the odds in Namibia over Kenya. To fight back from a seemingly hopeless situation, after a very determined Kenyan side had scored a mammoth 401 for 4. They were intent on showing everybody that they were the top side below Test level, and they couldn't believe what had happened to them. That's the best cricket I've seen Ireland play in a very long time.

What people forget, was that despite the imaginative declaration, Ireland still had to play very well to pull off the win. The bowlers responded positively, especially the spinners, and the back up fielding was



Stan Mitchell with ICC Officials Ehsan Mani and HRH Prince Peter Tunku Inran

superb. The ease with which the batsmen chased down 245 was incredible.

I particularly enjoyed going around the grounds and meeting people, especially my counterparts of years gone by, who are now involved on the administration side. That was a great thrill. While I didn't get to as many grounds as I would have liked, I still covered a fair few and enjoyed that aspect of it immensely.

There was a lot happening both on and off the field, and I finished my term off by going to the U19 World Cup in Sri Lanka. That was a memorable experience, and I believe that Irish cricket made a reasonable impression both on and off the field. We were so close to beating two Test countries, England and New Zealand, and perhaps with a little bit more luck and preparation, we would have.

Looking ahead to 2006, I'm going to be helping out my own club Phoenix as much as I can, but will be hoping to attend as many Irish matches as possible. I'm planning to take in most of the C&G matches.

The biggest challenge I see ahead for Irish cricket is that as we get more involved in various ICC competitions, and with the World Cup looming on the horizon, is getting the right direction for the players. The semi-professional area has arrived. The present schedule demands a huge commitment from the players, and obviously we'll have to find some way of compensating them. It's not going to be easy finding a balance between what the players require, and what the Irish Cricket Union can afford. I've no doubts that there will be conflicts, but hopefully an arrangement can be sorted, given a bit of goodwill on both sides.



Stan Mitchell (2005) receives the presidential treasures from Bob Kerr



Interview with outgoing Chairman Joe Doherty

I only played for one club...Strabane. I was born in the town centre and played my first cricket in Courtaul Park, a general playground off Barrack Street, before graduating to the hard ball game in the 'REC' (short for Recreation Park, our ground's official name). I was taken to my first match in 1956 at the age of six by my grandfather Charlie and father Joe, who was to die suddenly in September of that year at the age of 37. Strange to think he'll be 50 years dead this year. He was sports mad too and actually 'invented' a game which was played at the annual carnival in Strabane - bicycle polo! We used to keep the wooden match ball in our house, under the stairs.

I played in Strabane's first ever boys' team in 1960 at the age of 10, and with them until the age of 16, by which time I was captain and we had Raymond Moan playing for us as a fast bowling all-rounder - Sion Mills did not have a boys' team. Other contemporaries on the boys' scene were Brian Ward, Roy McBride, Ivan Cochrane, Dougie Huey and Boyd Curry of Donemana, David and Ian Rankin of St. Johnston along with John Quigley (who went on to play for Donadoney in the NCU). I also remember crossing swords with Eamon McLaughlin (Highland Radio) and Noel Ward (now umpire) when we played Ardmore. Bready did not have a boys' team either so Bob Rankin (father of Boyd) turned out for us a few times. Our manager John Devine (present patron of NWCU) was a travelling insurance salesman and you never knew who he would land in with to add to the team!

My boyhood heroes were the three players who caught my eye on that first match in 1956 - Ronnie Faulkner, the club's best batsman by a mile, Vic Craig, a wicketkeeper who could stand up to any bowler, and who ran the cheekiest singles you ever saw and a very young, technically correct opening batsman who kept his black Strabane cap in his back pocket and looked immaculate at the crease - Paddy Gillespie. I was proud to play alongside Ronnie and Paddy in the Strabane team when my turn came in 1967 (and with Vic in a few friendlies), but was unable to get a regular place in a very strong team that won the Senior Cup in 1966 and Senior League in 1968.

My top score in senior cricket was 67 against Burrendennett and best bowling was 4 for 9 against Ardmore - plenty of

left handers to bowl against, which I loved. I never played in a senior Cup Final: the nearest I got was 1975 when we were narrowly beaten by a very strong Brigade team that included Roy Torrens, Clarke Nicholl, Marshall Williamson, David Todd, John Watson and Gerald McCarter. Watson won the match for them with a gritty 41 not out and I didn't get on to bowl as we were defending a modest 170 odd, but I thought I should have been brought on early in the innings and the captain apologised to me after the match, but it was his call and I had to respect that. One day at the Rectory (1968 or 1969), we beat Glendermott and I removed Watson and Billy Godfrey in the same over. John Beattie took care of Ronnie Taylor at the other end and I thought to myself, "this is a great game, what's all the fuss about?" It wasn't always easy, in fact it hardly ever was, but the great thing about sport is that you remember the good days long after you have stopped playing and everybody gets his fair share of good memories.

Like every Strabane boy, I loved the atmosphere at our own ground on match days, especially when the sun was going down and I also got a great buzz from the intimidating atmosphere at Donemana and Sion Mills, where there were large attendances in those days. Sion ruled the roost in my early days and they were a formidable team, with Donaghy, Finlay and Colhoun to the fore, well backed up by Bertie McNickle, John Flood, William Kidd, Cyril Mellon, Terence Patton and Thomas Harpur. I liked playing at Eglinton as well and got plenty of wickets there in intermediate cricket.

My cup and league medals have all come at 2nd and 3rd eleven level, but I was Chairman when we upset the odds to beat a strong Donemana team in the 1987 senior cup final and was club president when we became the first team to bring the Irish senior cup back to Tyrone in 1998, a match umpired at Beechgrove by Daryl Hair and which finished within minutes of the Omagh bomb atrocity. We were unaware of the seriousness of the incident at the time and our victory celebrations and traditional motorcade of the town had to be brought to a respectful conclusion when some residents phoned the clubhouse to complain.

I had been on the Committee at Strabane from a relatively young age, by virtue of having been chosen as seconds

captain at the age of 23, and when I moved to live in Derry, it was not long before I was being asked to make the short trip over to Beechgrove for North West meetings. I enjoyed my time as a delegate under John Hunter, Alan Friar, David Todd, Michael Bannigan, Jim Simpson and Bertie Faulkner and I was elected to take over from Bertie in 1999.

I was elected as delegate to ICU in 1999 as well and became vice chairman in 2003. I was due to take over from Derek Brennan in 2005, but when Derek stepped down for personal reasons just one year into his term of office, I got an e-mail to my hotel in Gaborone, Botswana to say that, at the 2004 AGM, the Union had decided to wait until I returned home from my business trip before announcing me as the new chairman.

My two years as chairman have been a wonderful experience and it is only now



Former ICU Chairman Joe Doherty, pictured with former NCU Chairman Bryan Milford

that it is sinking in that I was so close to the action as Ireland made its biggest ever strides up the ladder of world cricket. Hopefully there will be many more great days, but, for the moment I am happy to look back on all the proud moments Ais and the players gave us against West Indies, Zimbabwe, Surrey (when I presented Trent Johnston with his first Irish cap), the Intercontinental Cup in Namibia and in the ICC Trophy Ireland 2005, where we had a triple success - qualification for the World Cup, outstanding acclaim for the job our volunteers did in organising the tournament and the best July weather I have ever seen.

"Ireland seduced us with its charm and the ICU impressed us with their organisational ability," said ICC President

Ehsan Mani, in his report to the ICC Executive. Music to our ears!

Now that my term of office has ended, I will not be on any committees ANYWHERE in the coming year at least and I am looking forward to watching as much cricket as possible in the time I can get away from my small business which is very busy these days as well, I'm glad to say. On Saturdays, I'll be over at the scoreboard at Strabane giving my old mate Michael 'Mixer' McCrossan a hand. He's been marking our book for over forty years now and maintains that I taught him...seems I continue to get the blame for everything!

Nowadays, I like to watch the great spinners in action - Warne, Muralitharan, Kumble and with the new ball, our former pro Shoab and Lee are compulsive viewing. With the bat, Afridi, Inzamam, Kallis and Ponting are special, all for different reasons. I saw Kallis score successive centuries in South Africa two years ago and he was pure class. I also thought the contribution of Simon Jones to England's Ashes victory was underrated and he has been horribly unlucky with injury.

My Namedropper's XI (players I have been lucky enough to meet personally, if only for a brief handshake) would, I think, take a bit of beating:

Sunil Gavaskar, Barry Richards, Brian Lara, Viv Richards, Allan Border, Steve Waugh (capt.), Denis Lindsay (wk), Kapil Dev, Shoab Akhtar, Derek Underwood, Lance Gibbs, (12th man - Basil D'Oliveira)



Ehsan Mani and Joe Doherty



ICU Chairman Joe Doherty pictured with ICC Chief Executive Malcolm Speed

Locally, Junior is a pleasure to watch as long as he's not tying up the Strabane batsmen and, of course, Decker. I remember playing against Junior in the seconds when he was an opening bowler, and a pretty good one too. Peter Gillespie I see a lot of, and he is batting really well. His concentration has improved dramatically over the past two seasons, from the times when he was often '25 and..... out' - very frustrating for all of us.

As for Irish cricket, we have reached a new level and I honestly feel that it will take hard work and some good fortune just to stay there. We are obviously a long way from Test status for a lot of reasons, but our performance in the World Cup will be as vital to our own self belief as will the signal we send out

to the rest of the world. It will be a tough experience, but with lads like Eoin Morgan about, we can take a lot of inspiration from one of our own and I dearly hope we can claim a Test scalp or two - that would make it more than worthwhile. Adi Birrell has given us all self belief but not in a flashy way; he is always prepared to rationalise his points, can give examples for everything he says and is never far wrong. He is a natural leader without ever being brash and the players, to their credit, have all responded to him. It has been a pleasure for me to work with him and I really appreciate it when he talks to me about cricket as well as business; he realises that I have a point of view as well and we often discuss players and tactics and he is always fascinating to listen to, never patronising - the knowledge he has of all our players is really impressive and he takes a personal interest in them all, never dodging his responsibilities by over-delegating.

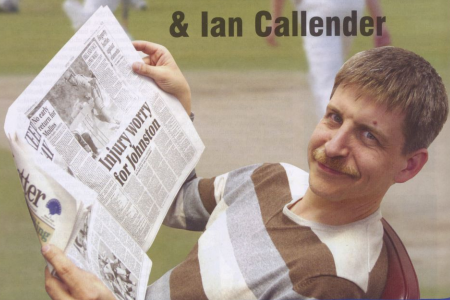
The problem about looking ahead ten years is that we won't have Adi Birrell...he'll be a rich farmer back in the motherland by that time, probably with prize cattle called Kylie, Moggy and Polish. I would be happy if we had a 20% all round improvement in our performances against the counties and in ODIs by 2016. Regarding the structures within Irish cricket, the officers have been commissioned to come forward with a first draft, so it would be unfair of me to interfere with premature comment, but I know they will have some difficult choices to make in trying to achieve organisational excellence at the same time as acting prudently.

Here's to a great 2006. Come on Ireland!



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News Letter



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Roy Torrens – Poacher Turned Gamekeeper



Roy Torrens

For over 40 years Roy Torrens has loomed large on the Irish International scene. He has seen it all as a player, selector, and now as the manager of the team. As he himself puts it, "I've been there and got the t-shirt!" Looking back, Roy has fond memories of his debut as a 18 year old against Middlesex in 1966.

"There were four of us who made our debuts that day, Ivan Anderson, David Pigot, Ginger O'Brien and myself. The established stars at the time were Alec O'Riordan, Dougie Goodwin, Dermot Monteith, and of course Ossie Colhoun, who was to be my mentor. Obviously when you play your first match, it's special. Middlesex had a very strong side, which contained no fewer than 5 Test players at the time - Freddie Titmus, Peter Parfitt, John Murray, John Price and Eric Russell.

I opened the bowling that day and got 4-77, and I remember travelling back to the North West with Ossie, feeling a little disappointed with my efforts. Ossie soon put me right, by explaining that with all due respect, I wasn't bowling to Ardmore, but a side packed with Internationals!

I played a total of 30 times for Ireland over a 18 year period, but you've got to remember there wasn't the same number of games as is played in the modern era. Typically there might be only 4 or 5 capped matches each year. An example was the Ireland tour to the USA and Canada on an 11 game tour, and I played in 10 of them, but only one of them was capped! I remember Dermot Monteith talking about a game against a Rest Of The World XI, featuring all the stars of the day, and no cap was awarded! I also retired for a while in that period, and

indeed was suspended for a season as well!

That came about after a club v country dispute arose. I was Brigade captain and we had the semi final of the Senior Cup. Ireland had a friendly the next day against Warwickshire, and I asked permission to play the game and travel to Dublin that night. I was refused, and chose to play for Brigade, which led to the ban for a year. A pretty chequered past, you might say."

Asked about his outstanding memories, he enthuses about his performance against Scotland at Ayr in 1974, when he had his best ever figures for Ireland, 7 for 40. "We seemed to go in 5 year cycles against Scotland. This was towards the end of our cycle of beating them. It was a rain affected wicket, and suited me perfectly. Funny enough, until we beat Scotland in Aberdeen last year, that was our last win over them on Scottish soil, 31 years. Indeed the boys were joking after the game, that there couldn't be many of the 1974 side still alive. Of course, Stan Mitchell, who was President in 2005, was part of that side.

My greatest sporting thrill would have to be playing at Lord's, the home of cricket. I was lucky enough to play there twice. It's something that stays with you forever. When you are watching the television, you can envisage what is going on in the dressing rooms when a wicket falls. My abiding memory of Lord's is when I was playing against the MCC and I was not out overnight. The next morning walking down the stairs through the Long Room, and seeing all the indentations of the stud marks. I thought to myself - Bradman, Sobers, Hutton, Compton, Richards, and now Roy Torrens!"

Moving on now to his current role as manager of the very successful Irish side, Torrens sums it up perfectly, "Poacher turned gamekeeper. I know all the tricks of the trade, having been a player for 18 years myself, and I suppose that makes me ideally qualified to look after them. The game has changed immensely in the 40 years, particularly the treatment of the players. Myself and Ossie Colhoun were selected to play against the touring Australians in Dublin in 1968, and travelled down the night before the game. We arrived in Rathmines at 9:30 in the bar, and were billeted out to stay at Stan Mitchell's house. Now at that time, Stan owned a one bedroom apartment. Naturally he got the only bed, Ossie, as senior pro, got a fairly comfortable sofa, and I had to make do with a few cushions

on the floor - not ideal preparation by any means. How times have changed.

Nowadays, the pre game situation usually consists of the players turning up 24 hours prior to the game. Following a training session, there is usually a team meeting and dinner, and we stay in the best hotels. It's a completely different scenario. Fitness levels and meticulous attention to detail are now the order of the day."

How then does the Irish team of today compare to that of 40 years ago? "It's not fair to compare teams of different eras. What I would say however is that the inherent talent of 40 years ago is every bit as good as today. The difference today is the fitness levels, the amount of commitment needed, and of course the array of coaching that the players now receive. I would have enjoyed watching a few characters in my era doing their pre match warm ups. A warm up to Dermot Monteith consisted of a flag behind the pavilion! When he was appointed captain against Holland in Downpatrick in 1976, he addressed the team with the following proclamation - Firstly, I'd like to introduce myself, I'm Dermot Monteith, your new Irish captain (we had been playing with him for 10 years), and secondly, consider yourselves stoked up!"

"I'm relishing my role as manager. It keeps me young, and indeed very busy. I'm enjoying it immensely, and there's a fair bit of travelling and commitment. I'm indebted to my daughter and son-in-law who have taken over the running and management of my business. That has freed me up to concentrate on my role as manager, and it's a real labour of love. I'm looking forward to the West Indies next year. Every cricketer has two ambitions, to play at Lord's and in a World Cup. I've fulfilled the first ambition, and will get the chance to be part of the Irish set up in the Caribbean next year.

I'm really looking forward to the coming season, and in particular the England game at Stormont on June 13th. It's amazing to think that despite the fact that they are only an hour's flight away, that they haven't played us before - in fact they are the only Test side we haven't played in Ireland, and a visit is long overdue. Let's hope the weather is kind to us, and it should be a great occasion in front of a packed house."



Youth Cricket, 2005 – Retrospect and Prospect

By Jim Bennett

The endeavours of the Youth section of the Irish Cricket Union continue to be underpinned by two objectives, increasing involvement in cricket and promoting excellence. The inextricable links between the two main objectives have resulted in the concept of a close season becoming more of an anachronism each year. The extensive programme of winter and spring coaching which is co-ordinated by the ICU complements the excellent coaching programmes which are in place in the constituent cricket unions. Additionally, many of our young players are furthering their cricketing education by going to Australia, to schools in South Africa, to the South African Cricket Academy or to the ECC Camps in La Manga.

The fruits of all this labour are evidenced by the continuing successes of our teams at the various international events of the past year. Our under 13, under 15 and under 17 teams won their tournaments, but an indication of the need to avoid complacency is illustrated by the fact that two of the three tournaments were won on run rate. In terms of prestige and consequences, the U19 World Cup Qualification tournament in Dundee was the most significant, and Ireland qualified for the World Cup in Sri Lanka by finishing second to Scotland. While qualification for the World Cup constituted a measure of compensation for our failure to win the tournament, it was a precursor of the mixed emotions which we endured during the U19 World Cup.

A substantial programme of winter training and coaching was undertaken, and the boys were prepared for the heat and humidity of Sri Lanka by sessions at the Acclimatisation Centre in Jordanstown, but financial constraints meant that we were limited by the amount of actual acclimatisation which could occur in Sri Lanka. The boys put up two magnificent performances against England and New Zealand, but lost both games narrowly. They also lost to Zimbabwe and Nepal, but beat Uganda and Namibia, and finished 13th overall in the tournament.

In recent respects, the U19 World Cup constituted something of a wake-up call because our successes in ECC tournaments were not sufficient to enable our team to make the step-up to the next level. It is important to bear in mind that other Associate countries also have substantial development programmes in place, and this was clearly illustrated by the progress



Ireland Under 13 Squad

which Nepal has made in 10 years when they have gone from being unheard of in cricketing terms to being the winners of the Plate at the U19 World Cup. It is necessary therefore at this juncture that we review elements of our coaching structures and representative games programme so that our young cricketers are given every opportunity to progress. Games against County Academy teams might be obtained to complement the ECC tournaments, and the services of coaches might be enlisted for the month of August so that work can be done on the strengths and weaknesses which were identified during the international tournaments. Tentative steps have been taken with regard to the establishment of Academy-type structures in the NCU and in the LCU, and the situation with regard to the appointment of Cricket Development Officers in the North West CU and the Munster CU is the subject of review. We are at a cross-roads in terms of cricket development, and vision is required if we are to build on the successes of the past five or six years.

At inter-provincial level, the u13 tournament which was staged in Dublin, was won by the LCU. The u15 team tournament was held in the North West, with the LCU again emerging as the overall winners. Noteworthy in these of these tournaments was the very high level of skill and enthusiasm of the players, and the fantastic support which cricket receives from the families of the players and from the clubs which host tournament games so willingly.

The All-Ireland Club Tournament Finals have developed into great sporting occasions with visiting teams bringing lots of supporters, and the home clubs going to great lengths to entertain their visitors

with very lavish hospitality. The under 15 final was won by Pembroke who defeated a very competitive Bangor side, and in the under 13 final, Pembroke CC was involved again, but lost to a very strong Lisburn team. The U11 Final was an enthralling contest between Civil Service Northern Ireland and Merion, with Merion emerging as winners in a nail-biting climax. A noteworthy element of this year's All-Ireland Club competitions is the added dimension which involvement of teams from the North West has brought to the tournaments.

In conclusion, the ICU owes a great debt of gratitude to our coaches and managers who give so selflessly and generously of their time. The National Coach, Adrian Birrell, has shown a tremendous interest in our young cricketers, and he has been instrumental in developing the concept of a Team Ireland whereby all of our teams from under 13 to Senior level play to a common strategy. He has shown by his imaginative selection policies a willingness to promote young players to the Senior Team. The time is now opportune to avail of the raised awareness which will accrue from involvement in the C&G Tournament, the visit of England for the one day game and our participation in the World Cup, to seek out sponsorship which will enable our young cricketers to continue in the pursuit of excellence and to fulfil their all of their cricketing ambitions and aspirations.



Youth Results

European Under 13 Championships

	P	W	NR	L	Pts	NR
Ireland	3	0	1	4	1.63	
Scotland	3	2	0	1	4	1.54
Holland	3	2	0	1	4	1.47
Denmark	3	0	0	3	0	

Denmark (8) lost to Holland (2) by 161 runs.
 North County CC, 21 July.
 Holland 151-6 (180 o overs, D Coster 93, N Worth 43, N de Graas 37)
 Ireland 90 (29-6 overs, V Teesdale 6-24)

Holland (8) lost to Scotland (2) by 1 wicket.
 The Mills CC, 21 July.
 Ireland 122 (35-8 overs, D Cowan 4-16, G Oliver 5-27)
 Scotland 123-9 (32-5 overs, F Coleman 48, S Gerbasi 3-12, J Andrews 3-15)

Scotland (8) lost to Holland (2) by 6 runs.
 Bush CC, 20 July.
 Holland 186-9 (60-0 overs, D Coster 36, A Chalmers 3-28)
 Scotland 188 (33-4 overs, A Bahai 71, F Coleman 55, V Teesdale 6-35)

Ireland (2) beat Denmark (8) by 160 runs.
 Malahide, 20 July.
 Ireland 263-8 (63-0 overs, R Russell 63, J Fleming 54, A McBride 50)
 Denmark 103 (18-0 overs, E Conway 3-18)

Ireland (2) beat Holland (2) by 5 wickets.
 Railway Union CC, 19 July.
 Holland 108-0 (48-0 overs, D Coster 75, J de la Mare 15, J Fleming 3-20)
 Ireland 190-5 (36-4 overs, S Gerbasi 60, M Delany 37)
Denmark (8) lost to Scotland (2) by 193 runs.
 Railway Union CC, 19 July.
 Scotland 197-7 (60-0 overs, S Smith 83, A Bahai 54, A Chalmers 48)
 Denmark 114-9 (40-0 overs)

European Under 23 Championships 2005

	P	W	NR	L	Pts
Scotland	3	2	0	0	6
Ireland	3	2	0	1	4
Holland	3	1	0	2	2
Denmark	3	0	0	3	0

Ireland (8) lost to Scotland (2) by 1 wicket.
 Het Schootveld 2, Davenport, 9 August.
 Ireland 143 (49-0 overs, KJ O'Brien 58, RD Bowring 6-23, SA Mohammed 2-24)
 Scotland 148-9 (58.5 overs, DD Simpson 3-25)

Denmark (8) lost to Holland (2) by 2 wickets.
 Het Schootveld 1, Davenport, 9 August.
 Denmark 115 (41-2 overs)
 Holland 120-9 (62-0 overs, KJA Malcolm-Hanson 3-11)

Scotland (2) beat Holland (2) by 2 wickets.
 Het Schootveld 2, Davenport, 10 August.
 Holland 124 (30-0 overs, G-MC Mal 30)
 Scotland 127-8 (28.5 overs, G-MC Mal 3-19)

Denmark (8) lost to Ireland (2) by 126 runs.
 Het Schootveld 2, Davenport, 10 August.
 Ireland 190-3 (38-6 overs, GC Wilson 89, J Shoney 64)
 Denmark 66 (25-0 overs, SM Zhai 36)

Ireland (2) beat Holland (2) by 3 wickets.
 Het Schootveld 1, Davenport, 11 August.
 Holland 186 (47-4 overs, AN Kerzee 48, G-MC Mal 41, KJ O'Brien 5-17, OJ Kidd 3-46)
 Ireland 188-7 (41-3 overs, KJ O'Brien 34, AN Kerzee 3-37)

Denmark (8) lost to Scotland (2) by 9 wickets.
 Het Schootveld 2, Davenport, 11 August.
 Denmark 43 (20-5 overs, SA Mohammed 5-5, G Goudie 4-5)
 Scotland 44-1 (9-5 overs)

European Under 15 Championships

	P	W	NR	L	Pts
Ireland	3	2	0	0	6
Holland	3	2	0	1	4
Denmark	3	1	0	2	2
Scotland	3	0	0	3	0

Holland lost to Ireland by 34 runs.
 VOC Rotterdam, 28 July.
 Ireland 193-5 (63-2 overs, S Ackland 57)
 Holland 159 (39-4 overs, A Kerzee 62, O McDonnell 3-28)

Denmark beat Scotland by 4 wickets.
 VOC Rotterdam, 28 July.
 Scotland 134-9 (48-0 overs, O Ahoof 37)
 Denmark 128-6 (36-2 overs, S Riaz 40*, K Morton 4-16)

Ireland beat Denmark by 7 wickets.
 VOC Rotterdam, 27 July.
 Denmark 112-9 (38-8 overs, M Sharbat 3-28)
 Ireland 118-3 (27-1 overs, R Ackland 57)

Holland beat Scotland by 7 runs.
 27 July.
 Holland 145 (37-4 overs, A Kerzee 60, M Brenner 4-12)
 Scotland 118 (32-0 overs, A Kerzee 4-21)

Scotland lost to Ireland by 5 wickets.
 VOC Rotterdam, 28 July.
 Scotland 112 (39-4 overs, L Nelson 3-37)
 Ireland 116-5 (37-5 overs, J Shannon 45, R Ackland 4-1)

Holland beat Denmark by 61 runs.
 VOC Rotterdam, 28 July.
 Holland 170 (34-3 overs, L Brenner 61, S Ahrens 4-35)
 Denmark 117 (34-3 overs)

European U17 Championships

	P	W	NR	L	Pts
Ireland	3	2	0	1	4
Holland	3	2	0	1	4
Scotland	3	2	0	1	4
Denmark	3	0	0	3	0

Scotland (8) lost to Ireland (2) by 103 runs.
 Sunholme Park Bromley, 21 July.
 Ireland 258-6 (58-0 overs, S Hall 67*, G Thompson 52, L McQueen 40)
 Scotland 155 (66-2 overs, S MacLennan 40)

Denmark (8) lost to Holland (2) by 8 wickets.
 Sunholme Park, Bromley, 21 July.
 Denmark 125 (66-3 overs)
 Holland 126-2 (54-1 overs, S De Bruin 50*, A Kerzee 40)

Holland (8) lost to Scotland (2) by 3 wickets.
 Sunholme Park, Bromley, 20 July.
 Holland 131 (47-4 overs, A Kerzee 35, Z Beier 3-25)
 Scotland 134-7 (49-4 overs, S Dalgleish 49*, M Balm 3-27)

Denmark (8) lost to Ireland (2) by 40 runs.
 Sunholme Park, Bromley, 20 July.
 Ireland 240-6 (50-0 overs, Kyle Bennett 72, Scharif Riaz 3-25)
 Denmark 128-7 (38-8 overs, Scharif Riaz 48)

Holland (2) beat Ireland (2) by 26 runs.
 Sunholme Park, Bromley, 19 July.
 Holland 125 (61-3 overs, G Thompson 4-5, L Hall 3-30)
 Ireland 129 (42-5 overs)

Denmark (8) lost to Scotland (2) by 4 wickets.
 Sunholme Park, Bromley, 19 July.
 Denmark 135 (69-3 overs, M Pedersen 45, S Redford 3-18)
 Scotland 130-4 (43-5 overs)

Under 15 Inter-Regional Results

	P	W	NR	L	Pts
Leinster	3	3	0	0	12
NCU	3	2	0	0	8
North West	3	1	0	2	4
Munster	3	0	0	3	0

North West (8) beat Leinster (4) by 7 wickets.
 North West 151-9 (60-0 overs, J Blakiston Houston 41, A Ballisnee 3-31)
 Leinster 152 (31-1 overs, R Ackland 41)

NCU (8) beat Munster (2) by 194 runs.
 NCU 261-5 (60-0 overs, P Stirling 107, L Nelson 68)
 Munster 67 (28-4 overs)

Leinster (4) beat Munster (2) by 113 runs.
 Leinster 225-1 (32-0 overs, A Ballisnee 120*, R Farnest 50, G McDonnell 43)
 Munster 76 (25-0 overs)

North West (8) lost to NCU (4) by 85 runs.
 NCU 221-9 (60-0 overs, R Smith 47, L Nelson 29, R McBride 3-43)
 North West 131 (30-0 overs, R Dougherty 54*, R Smith 4-30)

Leinster (4) beat NCU (8) by 8 runs.
 Leinster 200-6 (60-0 overs, R Ackland 105*, P Stirling 3-38)
 NCU 192 (59-4 overs, J Shannon 61, P Stirling 42)

North West (4) beat Munster (2) by 10 wickets.
 Munster 140 (39-8 overs, J Shanley 42)
 North West 145-0 (19-3 overs, J Blakiston Houston 89*)

European U19 WCQs

	P	W	NR	L	Pts	NR
Scotland	3	3	0	0	6	2.67
Ireland	3	2	0	1	4	1.58
Holland	3	1	0	2	0	0
Denmark	3	0	0	3	0	0

Ireland lost to Scotland by 6 wickets.
 Broughty Ferry, 28 July.
 Ireland 126 (35 overs, S Wesserasa 3-38)
 Scotland 127-4 (38 overs, A Wisp 65*)

Denmark lost to Holland by 6 runs.
 Afsouth, 28 July.
 Holland 225-0 (50 overs, L Stokkers 44, M Pedersen 3-41)
 Denmark 216 (30 overs, M Pedersen 48, L Stokkers 3-31)

Denmark lost to Ireland by 9 wickets.
 Afsouth, 28 July.
 Denmark 98 (33-3 overs, Michael Pedersen 46*, O Moller 4-17)
 Ireland 99-1 (39 overs, F McAulister 50*)

Holland lost to Scotland by 6 wickets.
 Broughty Ferry, 26 July.
 Holland 92 (42-5 overs, D Bill 3-14)
 Scotland 94-4 (22-4 overs)

Holland lost to Ireland by 152 runs.
 Trouche, 25 July.
 Ireland 352-6 (50 overs, G McKee 128, E Morgan 92, F McAulister 44, S Khalil 8-52)
 Holland 200-9 (50 overs, R Larrea 52, D ven Everdingen 42, S de Bruin 48)

Scotland beat Denmark by 175 runs.
 Falkirk, 25 July.
 Scotland 352-9 (50 overs, R Cannon 121, K Ford 53, R Aa 3-48)
 Denmark 172 (40-6 overs, T Shah 40*, R Berrington 3-44)

Under 17 Inter-Regionals

	P	W	NR	L	Pts
Leinster	3	3	0	0	12
NCU	3	2	0	1	8
North West	3	1	0	2	4
Munster	3	0	0	3	0

North West (8) beat Leinster (4) by 9 wickets.
 North West 218-5 (C Dougherty 77, K Hamilton 67)
 Southern XI 222-4 (K Torrett 106, D Russell 38)

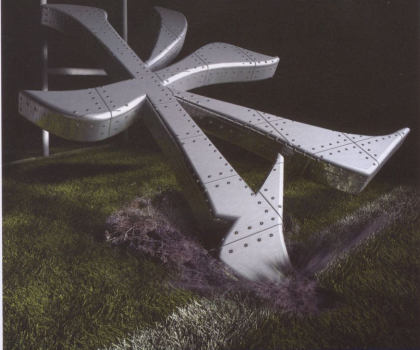
Southern XI (8) lost to NCU (4) by 9 wickets.
 Southern XI 119 (37-3 overs, J Hall 4-18)
 NCU 124-1 (19-0 runs, P Stirling 33*)

Irish Schools

Irish Schools lost to Combined New South Wales High Schools by 6 wickets.
 Osborne Park, Belfast, 13 July.
 Irish Schools 109 (47-2 overs, F McAulister 71, R Andrew 3-48)
 COWSWNS 170-4 (37 overs, J Latham 67, A Dodson 3-3)



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YOUTH PHOTO SPECIAL

Cricket Development Keeps Expanding

Brian O'Rourke
LCU Development Officer

The cricket development programme, launched by the Leinster Cricket Union in November 1998, continues to expand with more and more boys and girls being introduced to the game. Children throughout the province are participating in the game through the 'School Coaching Visits' scheme that has already reached out to over 100 Primary Schools and nearly 50 Secondary Schools in the Leinster area.

Cricket festivals continue to be run for these schools during the summer months while there has again been an increase in the numbers of schools entering the 'hardball' schools cricket leagues. Gaelscoil Uí Fhlaidh - Maynooth, Taney NS, St Andrew's - Malahide, St Mathews - Irishtown, Ballyroan Boys, Bishop Galvins NS, Old Borough NS - Swords, St Catherine's - Rush, Kilkenny College and Colaiste Phdraig all make their first starts in the competition this year.

Cricket in secondary schools continues to improve in standard through better cricket-educated PE teachers, improved levels of equipment supplied by the LCU and many school coaching visits provided throughout the year.

The standard of coaching which players are receiving within their clubs is far higher now than before. Through the LCU's Coach Education programme, run

through the winter months, coaches at all levels are equipped with the appropriate cricket-specific knowledge and skills that will allow them to be highly effective in whatever coaching environment they choose to practice.

Coaches are critical to the success of any cricket development programme and as a result the Union ran two separate coaching conferences in November (Kings Hospital School) and January (North County CC). At these events coaches were provided with information on the latest coaching equipment available, the use of modern coaching technology, DVD's (Get Involved & Cricket That's Wicket) and the 'Howzat' schools pack. Our coaches association continues to attract new members who will be kept up to date on coaching ideas and material through more conferences being run later in the year.

Over 40 squad coaching sessions were held over the winter months for the various Leinster underage boys and girls squads. Added to this cricket coaching clinics are held during all periods of school holidays. For those lucky enough to be selected onto a Leinster squad this coming summer many fixtures have been arranged, including five tours to the UK by different youth sides. The Leinster squad players are fortunate to be part of the best coaching set-up in the country and the Union are indebted to the coaches who give up their time so generously for the benefit of our young

players. Many Leinster squad members also benefited from the many hours of 'one to one' batting sessions also held at the 'Centre of Excellence' throughout the winter. Fifty schoolgirls (U'15's & U'17's) attended a five weeks coaching programme held during February and March at North County.

Our mission statement of "To identify and develop selected players through high quality coaching, support and competitive programmes" continues to pay dividends. The following clubs took advantage of the Leinster Cricket Union's 'club' training sessions for youth cricketers held on Friday evenings - North Kildare (4), The Hills (2), Rush (3), Malahide (2), Pembroke (1), Railway Union Girls (1), Balbriggan (1).

Our better young cricketers continue to obtain the best advice and coaching available during the summer months. The Leinster Cricket Union's Academy continues to establish a pathway between participation, performance and excellence while many of those who have spent time in South African schools as part of their Transition Year studies have returned as better players. A new initiative of 'summer coaching clinics' was launched last summer where specialist coaches attended 'Fast Bowling', 'Fielding' and 'Wicketkeeping' clinics held during the school holidays. Leinster players have spent time at Academies in South Africa and La Manga in Spain while this June the ECC will hold their own weeklong coaching camp at Loughborough University in England. Plans are currently in place to send 6 promising schoolgirls to Scotland in August to partake in a similar 4-day coaching clinic.

The huge band of dedicated volunteers in cricket, both administrative and active, have given development in Leinster the impetus it requires. Cricket and the LCU are moving positively in the right direction in a tough external climate. There is strong competition for our potential talent and funding, and a pressing need to upgrade facilities and invest more in coaching and development. The progress made since the start of our development programme has been very encouraging but we cannot afford to be complacent in the months and years to come.



Fast Bowling Clinic



Northern Ireland Cricket Academy



Official team photograph – Newlands



Background

Following study of an innovative coaching programme run in England the NICA piloted a one-to-one coaching programme during the winter of 2000 which proved to be extremely beneficial to all of the boys involved.

From this pilot the NICA developed and formally launched the Talented Junior Programme in 2001 with Sports Council funding assistance guaranteed for three years.

The initial programmes included two distinct squads – a Junior Squad of 12-14 year olds and a Senior Squad of 16-17 year olds. The boys, who were selected from all over Northern Ireland, attended indoor coaching sessions at Queen's University PE Cricket Centre of Excellence throughout the winter.

The culmination of the winter practice has traditionally been for the Junior Squad to attend coaching sessions at Lord's Cricket



NICA team warm up at Newlands

Ground during the school holidays at Easter each year and for the Senior group to play competitive matches in Scotland (2002), Kent (2003) Hampshire (2004), and South Africa 2005.

Aims

The aim of the Academy is the early identification of the best young cricketers in Northern Ireland and the provision for them of high quality coaching plus elements of the modern game such as video-analysis, psychology, sports science, fitness and nutrition.

Successes

A key objective of the programme is to 'fast-track' identified talent and it is a measure of the success of the programme that at all levels participants have competed successfully for places at Inter-provincial and International level with boys who are one, two or even more years older than they are.

That the Academy has proved an outstanding success can be measured by the fact that nearly all the boys have played at underage International level – a remarkable achievement.

Many of the boys, as fourteen and fifteen year olds have also played Senior cricket for their respective clubs and two have already represented Ireland at Senior International level.

In 2002 the Northern Ireland Cricket Academy won the European Cricket Council Award for the best Junior Development Programme in Europe.

The Future

Now in its fifth year and as the culmination of this winter's coaching



Ian Johnston with 'The Chicken Man'



Top of the table

sessions the Academy undertook a very ambitious tour to Capetown in South Africa during late March 2005.

This tour provided a tremendous experience for the boys, an opportunity to play against quality opposition in one of the major cricket centres in the world and offer an educational experience which will undoubtedly assist in their personal development.

While the Academy programme continues to be part-funded by the Sports Council through the investing in Sport Programme the NICA is seeking support from interested bodies, companies and individuals to assist with funding in connection with the tour.

The tour attracted publicity at local, regional and national level.

Brian Walsh – NICA



Ireland U19 World Cup Reports

Ireland v Zimbabwe

James Fitzgerald, Irish Times

After a pretty encouraging spell in the field, restricting Zimbabwe to 215 and giving the 30 or so Irish supporters cause to hope for a surprise victory, Ireland contrived to collapse in spectacular fashion in their opening match of the U19 World Cup.

Make no mistake, there is plenty of talent in this Irish side but for whatever reason the team seems to rely heavily on two or three batsmen to make the lion's share of the runs. If those players fail, as they did yesterday, the rest seem reluctant to salvage the situation.

One of those key players is Eoin Morgan. The left-hander from Santry is tipped to become a mainstay of the Middlesex senior batting line-up and he is already a regular in the full Irish team. But so far this trip, in three knocks, he has scored a grand total of 15 runs and yesterday was his most ignominious demise. Looking reasonably good on 13 after hitting two nice boundaries he attempted to paddle-sweep a straight delivery from Kudakwashe Samuderu. His missed and the ball hit. And the Irish groaned.

In the end, no Irish batsman past 20, thanks to a fine spell from opening bowler Keagon Meith (3-12 off nine overs) and Ireland were all out for 97, some 118 short of victory. Wednesday's clash with the much more fancied English team now looks as likely to end in an Irish victory as London to win the Sam Maguire Cup. "It's very disappointing," said Morgan afterwards, not about to put a positive spin, Clive Woodward-style, on such a comprehensive defeat. "Our batting department let us down today and that's a big concern. But we will look forward to the England match on Wednesday. We'll raise our game for that one and hopefully cause a big upset," he said.

What made this defeat so disheartening was that by half-time, Ireland were genuinely in contention to register their first win at this level over a Test nation. Despite some tight bowling by Neil Gill Zimbabwe had started well, getting to 100 for 1 off 20 overs and looking comfortable. But Ireland's spinners tied them down, took a couple of key wickets and restricted them to 215 for 7 off 44 overs (six overs were lost due to an overnight thunderstorm).

Only Samuderu stuck it out, making 61 before holing out to Gill at long-off on the bowling of Andy Poynter. In general, Ireland's fielding was good, much improved from the warm-up games. Gary Wilson, in particular, was superb as he took two catches, one of which had him diving backwards spectacularly on the long-on boundary.

To be fair, when Ireland did bat, Zimbabwe bowled an excellent line but they were surely not as impressive as the Irish made them look. "I think today was down mostly to our bad play," said Morgan. "The score Zimbabwe put up in the first innings wasn't substantial. It was well within our grasp but we just batted badly."

Ireland Under-19s v Zimbabwe Under-19s, Group D

Nondescripts Cricket Club Ground, Colombo

5 February 2006 (50-over match)

Result: Zimbabwe Under-19s won by 118 runs

Points: Zimbabwe Under-19s 2, Ireland Under-19s 0

Toss: Ireland Under-19s

Umpires: S Islamud (Indonesia) and Nadeem Ghauri (Pak)

Man of the Match: KD Samuderu

Zimbabwe Under-19s innings (44 overs maximum)	R	M	B	4	6		
KD Samuderu	c Gill	b Poynter	61	139	107	5	1
F Kaizani	st McAllister	b Thompson	21	51	35	0	0
*GC Williams	run out		29	27	23	3	2
GS Balance	c Wilson	b Hall	7	17	14	0	0
KD Meith	lbw	b Thompson	23	23	36	1	1
ES Higgins	c Wilson	b Thompson	23	21	12	3	0
G Quertl	c Thompson	b Poynter	7	17	18	1	0
AG Cremer	not out		11	17	12	1	0
R Benade	not out		10	19	9	0	1
Extras	(b 4, nb 2, w 17)		23				
Total	(7 wicket, 44 overs)		215				

DNB: +T Mshlanga, T Mazarabani

WfW: 1-55, 2-100, 3-137, 4-151, 5-163, 6-186, 7-194.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Gill	5	0	8	0 (1nb)
Morgan	3	0	20	0 (4w)
McCarthy	4	0	19	0 (1nb, 3w)
McKee	1	0	11	0 (3w)
Thompson	8	1	48	3 (7w)
Kidd	9	0	31	0
Hall	9	1	42	1
Poynter	5	0	32	2

Ireland Under-19s innings (target 216 runs from 44 overs)

Ireland Under-19s	R	M	B	4	6		
GI McKee	c Benade	b Samuderu	2	5	11	0	0
+FP McAllister	c Higgins	b Meith	3	17	12	0	0
*EJG Morgan	b Samuderu	b Meith	13	29	21	2	0
GC Wilson	lbw	b Meith	6	22	20	0	0
AD Poynter	c Samuderu	b Benade	15	49	26	0	0
RB Stirling	c Balance	b Meith	11	16	14	0	0
JD Hall	c Cremer	b Higgins	17	88	39	1	0
GI Thompson	c Mazarabani	b Cremer	9	14	16	1	0
NM McCarthy	lbw	b Higgins	8	11	13	1	0
GM McKenna	st Mshlanga	b Cremer	0	3	4	0	0
CE Kidd	not out		0	5	2	0	0
Extras	(b 4, w 4, nb 5)		13				
Total	(all out, 29.5 overs)		97				

FoW: 1-7, 2-9, 3-27, 4-29, 5-46, 6-62, 7-78, 8-93, 9-94, 10-97.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Meith	9	4	15	3 (1w)
Samuderu	8	0	37	2 (2nb)
Benade	4	0	21	1 (w)
Cremer	6	2	12	2 (2nb)
Higgins	2.1	0	8	2



A stumping for Fintan McAllister

Ireland v England

Brian Murgatroyd, ICC

England coach Andy Pisk said if England cannot lift the quality of their play then they have little chance of lifting the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup.

After watching his side sneak home by four runs against Associate side Ireland he said: "My nails are bitten down, they are non-existent.

"We keep winning and that is the best you can say and we have got players who are capable of winning matches against any other side.

"But not enough players are turning up and delivering consistent performances day after day and unless we start to do that then any idea we have of maybe winning the tournament will be academic," he added.

England's win sends them into the Super League along with Zimbabwe and their meeting on Friday will decide which of them tops Group D. Ireland have one more group match, against Nepal on Thursday, before they will switch their focus to the Plate competition.

England's batting line-up fell foul of man of the match Niall McDarby, the Ireland fast bowler, who captured three wickets in an opening burst then came back to knock over the tail as he finished with 6-50, the best bowling figures of the tournament so far.

England slipped to 48-4 at one stage but were rescued by Rory Hamilton-Brown (55) and Ben Wright (50) who added 112 for the fifth wicket.

They collapsed again late on but their eventual total of 214 was just enough to win the match – but only just.

Gary Wilson's 69 from 98 balls seemed likely to see the Irish to a famous win as they reached 180-5 at one stage but the pressure of chasing a target in a must-win game just proved too much for their lower order.

Ireland wanted 10 runs from the final over and five to win from the last ball but Steven Mullaney (3-33) bowled Greg Thompson to send England into to last eight of the tournament. Ireland captain Eoin Morgan said: "I can't believe it. We lost it in the middle period when our spinners bowled quite well and we lost two wickets after a great start (they were 62-1 at one stage).

"Niall (McDarby's) performance today was outstanding. He has done that for us in the past and I hope he can do it for us in the future.

"Now we have to refocus as the opportunity is there to do well in the Plate after our last game against Nepal.

"We can't qualify now but we have lifted our game after our first match against Zimbabwe and we can do that again." A minutes' silence was observed by the players and match officials before the start of play as a mark of respect for Irish umpire Trevor Henry, who passed away on Monday at the age of 51.

Henry was a member of the ICC's Associate and Affiliate umpiring panel and was selected to stand in this tournament before he fell ill. The Ireland team also wore black armbands in memory of the official, who also stood in last year's ICC Trophy in Ireland.

England Under-19s v Ireland Under-19s, Group D

Colombo Cricket Club Ground

8 February 2006 (50-over match)

Result: England Under-19s won by 4 runs

Points: England Under-19s 2, Ireland Under-19s 0

Toss: Ireland Under-19s

Umpires: SJ Davis (AUS) and TH Wijewardene

Man of the Match: NM McDarby

England Under-19s innings (50 overs maximum)

	R	B	4	6	
V Chopra	c Stirling	b Gill	14	27	3
MD Spence	c Thompson	b McDarby	12	29	2
MA Nelson	c Wilson	b McDarby	6	10	1
*MM Ali	c Gill	b McDarby	8	17	1
RJ Hamilton-Brown	b Hall		55	87	5
BJ Wright	at McAllister	b Thompson	50	97	4
SI Mullaney	st McAllister	b Morgan	25	18	2
NA James	c Stirling	b McDarby	11	8	2
+GI Wood	c Poynter	b McDarby	1	2	0
GG White	not out		3	4	0
HT Waters	b McDarby		0	2	0
Extras	(b 6, lb 6, w 13, nb 4)		29		
Total	(all out, 49.4 overs)		214		

F/W: 1-19, 2-31, 3-41, 4-48, 5-160, 6-184, 7-210, 8-210, 9-214, 10-214.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Gill	10	1	28	1 (1nb, 2w)
McDarby	9.4	1	50	6 (3nb, 2w)
Kidd	10	2	27	0 (1w)
Morgan	6	1	18	1
Thompson	9	0	54	1 (7w)
Hall	5	0	25	1

Ireland Under-19s innings (target: 215 runs from 50 overs)

	R	B	4	6	
RB Stirling	0	2	0	0	
+FP McAllister	b Waters		25	37	3
*EAG Morgan	c Nelson	b James	28	45	5
GC Wilson	b Waters	b Waters	69	98	2
AD Poynter	lbw	b James	8	27	0
DA Rankin	c Ali	b Mullaney	25	44	1
JD Hall	st Wood	b Mullaney	19	26	0
GJ Thompson	b Mullaney		14	12	1
NM McDarby	run out		4	6	0
GMI McSenna	not out		1	1	0
GE Kidd	run out		1	2	0
Extras	(b 6, lb 1, w 9)		16		
Total	(all out, 50 overs)		210		

F/W: 1-0, 2-62, 3-70, 4-91, 5-142, 6-180, 7-196, 8-198, 9-203, 10-210.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Waters	9	1	41	2 (2w)
Nelson	2	0	21	0 (2w)
Woodman	4	1	10	0 (2w)
White	10	1	33	1 (1w)
James	8	0	25	2
Mullaney	10	1	33	3 (1w)
Hamilton-Brown	4	0	15	0 (1w)
Ali	3	0	25	0



Greg Thompson is bowled off the last ball of the match



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Ireland v Nepal

James Fitzgerald, Irish Times

After coming to within four runs of beating England in a nail-biter the day before, Ireland were unable to repeat that performance yesterday, losing by 60 runs in a much less glamorous fixture of the Under 19 World Cup against supposed minnows Nepal. The Irish are now consigned to the bottom of Group D and take their place in the plate competition with a game against either Pakistan or New Zealand next Tuesday. It is a disappointing end to a tour that promised so much and almost delivered on that promise. Had they found those four runs from somewhere on Wednesday to register what would have been a historic victory over England, then surely they would have put in a more determined and polished effort against the Nepalese yesterday.

There was something very flat about the overall display. The bowlers lacked the sort of precision and penetration that they had the day before and the fielding was, at times, terrible with catches being dropped and most outfielders unable to attack the ball effectively.

Although Nepal have some good batters at the top of their order, particularly Kanishka Chaugai, once Ireland had got into them, they should have strangled them out for at least 50 runs less than they eventually conceded. Nepal managed to get to 234 for 8 off 50 overs with only Gary Kidd (2-32 off ten overs) and Niall McDarby (3-43) bowling anything like they should.

When it came to Ireland's turn with the bat, Eoin Morgan finally showed why he is touted as the next big thing in Irish cricket having had a quiet tournament by his standards. But those batting around him could not emulate his success in hitting the gaps and all too often Morgan was left at the non-striker's end while his batting partner scratched away, unable to get the tight Nepal bowling away.

And it was tight bowling. The Nepal team bowled and fielded to a well-thought out and well-executed game plan. They starved Morgan of the strike while putting pressure on the other end. Eventually, having made 86 well-crafted runs, Morgan felt boundaries were needed and danced down the track in an effort to loft Shashi Kesari over his end, only to miss the ball and be stumped well out of his ground. It signalled the end of Ireland's challenge in the match. Fintan McAllister (14) and Andrew Poynter (28) also contributed but with nothing like the class of their captain and this side does not seem to have the depth in batting required to chase good totals when wickets are falling.

"Nepal batted with a bit of purpose. We failed to do that," said Morgan afterwards. "They bowled to a defensive field, tied us down and we were unable to cope with that. I was impressed with them. They did their disciplines well. They impressed me as a unit. They wanted it more than we did today," he said.

"We spoke last night and tried to eliminate the disappointment of the England game from our minds but we're only human. We were quite down this morning," he admitted.

Nepal Under-19s v Ireland Under-19s, Group D

Nondescripts Cricket Club Ground, Colombo

9 February 2006 (50-over match)

Result: Nepal Under-19s won by 60 runs

Points: Nepal Under-19s 2, Ireland Under-19s 0

Toss: Ireland Under-19s

Umpires: SJ Davis (Aus) and S Harneed (Indonesia)

Man of the Match: S Vesawkar

Nepal Under-19s innings (50 overs maximum)		R	M	B	A	W
*K Chaugai	c Wilson	40	41	36	5	1
+ME Chhetri	st McAllister	6	57	25	1	0
S Vesawkar	not out	82	142	116	4	1
G Mallu	c Kidd	22	32	36	2	0
P Khadka	c McAllister	47	63	65	4	0
P Chauhan	lbw	10	13	12	0	0
B Batju	c Wilson	2	7	3	0	0
B Regni	c Hall	5	10	7	0	0
R Rausriya	run out (McAllister/McDarby)	0	1	1	0	0
R Shrestha	not out	0	1	0	0	0
Extras	(b 3, lb 2, w 16, nb 1)	20				
Total	(8 wickets, 50 overs)	234				

DNB: A Bhattacha

FoW: 1-54 (Chaugai, 9.1 ov), 2-60 (Chhetri, 11.3 ov), 3-99 (Mallu, 22.1 ov), 4-166 (Khadka, 42.2 ov), 5-209 (Chauhan, 45.6 ov), 6-217 (Batju, 47.3 ov), 7-230 (Regni, 49.2 ov), 8-233 (Rausriya, 49.5 ov)

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Gill	9	0	62	1 (1nb, 1w)
McDarby	9	0	43	3 (2w)
Morgan	4	0	25	0 (3w)
Kidd	10	0	32	2 (1w)
Hall	10	0	33	1
Thompson	3	0	14	0 (2w)
Poynter	5	0	22	0 (2w)

Ireland Under-19s innings (target: 235 runs from 50 overs)		R	M	B	A	W
RB Stirling	c Chauhan	7	5	8	1	0
+FF McAllister	b Rausriya	14	59	41	0	0
*EJG Morgan	st Chhetri	86	85	107	7	2
GC Wilson	b Khadka	10	20	14	2	0
AD Poynter	b Shrestha	28	55	56	1	0
DA Rankin	c b Rausriya	2	8	8	0	0
JD Hall	run out (Batju)	2	10	7	0	0
GJ Thompson	b Regni	0	4	2	0	0
NW McDarby	lbw	1	5	3	0	0
GM McLenra	not out	4	18	11	0	0
OE Kidd	run out (Chhetri)	12	13	16	1	0
Extras	(b 3, w 5)	8				
Total	(all out, 45.3 overs)	174				

FoW: 1-7 (Stirling, 1.3 ov), 2-52 (McAllister, 15.5 ov), 3-79 (Wilson, 20.4 ov), 4-145 (Poynter, 36.3 ov), 5-149 (Rankin, 38.2 ov), 6-156 (Morgan, 39.6 ov), 7-157 (Hall, 40.2 ov), 8-157 (Thompson, 40.4 ov), 9-159 (McDarby, 41.2 ov), 10-174 (Kidd, 45.3 ov)

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Bhattacha	7	0	20	0
Batju	4	1	23	1 (4w)
Khadka	8	0	25	1
Rausriya	9	0	41	2
Shrestha	7	0	34	1
Kesari	7.3	1	26	2 (1w)
Regni	3	0	12	1



Ireland celebrate a wicket





World Cup





Ireland v New Zealand

James Fitzgerald, Irish Times

Cricket can be a cruel game sometimes. And thrilling. And tense. And soul-destroying. And wonderfully unpredictable. All at the same time. Ireland's U19 World Cup now lies in tatters, beaten in every game so far in the savage heat and humidity of Sri Lanka. Today they play Namibia to salvage some kind of pride and to set up a show-down with the winners of Scotland and Uganda.

But it so nearly wasn't so bleak. In fact, it was almost promising. Yesterday, they had the chance to beat New Zealand thus registering Ireland's first ever victory over a Test nation at this level. That coupled with their close, four-run defeat to England in the group stages would have made this tournament a more than satisfactory one for a supposed minnow of the world game.

Captain Eoin Morgan led the way in the Premadasa Stadium yesterday. After losing the toss, his magnificent century got the Irish to a huge total of 304 off 50 overs and a win was almost in their grasp. His 124 came off just 122 balls and included 12 fours and three sixes.

What was even more encouraging than Morgan batting well was that unlike during the rest of the tournament, he found partners to bat with. First Fintan McAllister (44) and he put on 88 for the second wicket after Gareth McKee was out early. And then a 160-run partnership with Middlesex club-mate Andrew Poynter gave Ireland a strong grip on the match.

Poynter, who had looked far from convincing in that nerve-jangling defeat to England, was composed and assured as he repeatedly found the gaps for his bigger shots while still managing to rotate the strike comfortably off the better deliveries. His 76 came off 88 balls.

All through Ireland's innings, New Zealand team manager Dayle Hadlee, brother of the legendary Richard and himself veteran of 26 Test matches for the Black Caps, could be heard muttering discontentedly into his laptop from his vantage point in the press box high above the sightcreens at one end. He has not been happy at how the Kiwis have performed here during this competition and as head of the NZ Cricket Academy, he has reason to be concerned. The way his team bowled erratic lines yesterday, giving away no fewer than 34 extras, one would be concerned for the future of the game in the land of the long white cloud.

Mind you, the way his team batted would give less cause for concern. The top order kept the side in the chase although they did let the run-rate sneak above nine per over at one stage. But then Tom Southee came in, despatched the ball to all parts of this fine stadium and won the game in savage style for New Zealand. He hit 92 off just 55 balls, including four fours and six sixes.

Finally they needed five off the final over and a wide and boundary saw to it that New Zealand's blushes were spared as all in the Irish camp collapsed into a heap of exhaustion from the stress of watching it unfold.

It didn't help that Ireland dropped a couple of catches and missed three or four stumpings and at least one run-out but in general Ireland bowled and fielded OK. On another given day Southee would have edged his third ball to the keeper and Ireland would have won by 100 runs. But his luck was in and he rode it spectacularly well.

That's the cruel, thrilling, soul-destroying unpredictability of this wonderful game.

New Zealand Under-19s v Ireland Under-19s

R.Premadasa Stadium, Khetarrama, Colombo

14 February 2006 (50-over match)

Result: New Zealand Under-19s won by 3 wickets
Series: New Zealand Under-19s advances to the Semi Finals

Toss: New Zealand Under-19s

Umpires: R Dell (Bermuda) and PT Manuel

Man of the Match: TG Southee

Ireland Under-19s innings (50 overs maximum)		R	M	B	4	6
GI McKee	c Fitzgerald b Bartlett	5	7	9	1	0
+FP McAllister	c Southee b Bennett	44	82	57	7	0
*EJG Morgan	c Guptill b Bennett	124	199	126	12	3
GC Wilson	c Bennett b Bennett	0	2	1	0	0
AD Poynter	c Ellison b Guptill	76	91	85	8	0
NM McDarby	lbw b Donnelly	0	3	4	0	0
RR Stirling	st Fitzgerald b Hira	0	3	2	0	0
JD Hall	b Bennett	15	11	9	2	0
GM McKenna	b Southee	4	12	7	0	0
GE Kidd	not out	1	6	4	0	0
N Gill	not out	1	3	3	0	0
Extras	(fb 1, w 22, nb 11)	34				
Total	(9 wickets, 50 overs)	304				

Forw: 1-8 (McKee, 1.5 ovl), 2-96 (McAllister, 17.3 ovl), 3-96 (Wilson, 17.4 ovl), 4-256 (Poynter, 41.6 ovl), 5-256 (McDarby, 42.4 ovl), 6-257 (Stirling, 43.4 ovl), 7-288 (Hall, 46.2 ovl), 8-301 (Morgan, 48.4 ovl), 9-302 (McKenna, 49.1 ovl).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Southee	10	0	71	1 (5w)
Bartlett	4	0	25	1 (1nb, 6w)
Kararathna	6	0	37	0 (1nb)
Hira	8	1	42	1 (1nb, 2w)
Bennett	6	0	31	4 (6nb)
Guptill	9	0	54	1 (2nb, 4w)
Donnelly	7	1	43	1 (1w)

New Zealand Under-19s innings (target: 200 runs from 50 overs)		R	M	B	4	6
TD Butler	b McDarby	4	21	17	0	0
NI Guptill	c McAllister b Gill	19	18	15	4	0
+NP Fitzgerald	st McAllister b Hall	38	64	64	4	0
AP de Beorcer	c Thompson b Kidd	87	137	103	6	0
*NP Ellison	c Poynter b Thompson	24	29	25	1	0
TG Southee	c Poynter b Gill	92	64	55	4	6
K Noema-Barnett	c Kidd	22	15	14	2	2
RM Hira	not out	7	10	4	1	0
RPC Kararathna	not out	0	3	0	0	0
Extras	(w 9, nb 3)	12				
Total	(7 wickets, 49.1 overs)	305				

DNB: HK Bennett, JP Donnelly.

Forw: 1-28 (Guptill, 4.5 ovl), 2-28 (Astle, 5.1 ovl), 3-99 (Fitzgerald, 22.3 ovl), 4-150 (Ellison, 31.6 ovl), 5-245 (de Beorcer, 43.2 ovl), 6-288 (Noema-Barnett, 47.2 ovl), 7-299 (Southee, 48.5 ovl).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Gill	9	0	44	2 (2nb, 1w)
McDarby	5.1	0	32	2 (5w)
Kidd	10	1	55	1 (2w)
Hall	10	0	66	1 (1w)
Thompson	9	0	64	1
Poynter	6	1	64	0 (1w)



Eoin Morgan batting against New Zealand

Ireland v Namibia

Barry Chambers

Ireland bounced back after the disappointment of losing to New Zealand, to defeat Namibia by 6 wickets at the NCC ground in Colombo. Having won the toss, Ireland inserted Namibia, but some quick running between the wickets got Namibia off to a steady start. Neil Gill suffered the effects from the grueling conditions in the New Zealand game, and was replaced after bowling 5 overs for 16. The breakthrough came with the total on 25, Gary Kidd taking a routine catch, to give Niall Mc Darby his 12th wicket of the competition, one behind the leader Moises Enriquez of Australia.

Kidd then got into the act with the ball, and in conjunction with his Waringstown team mate, James Hall, proceeded to decimate the weak Namibian batting line up. Louis Van Der Westhuizen offered some resistance at the top of the order, hitting 3 boundaries in his 32, and Henno Prinsloo took their score over the 100 mark, scoring an unbeaten 33 off 60 deliveries.

It was fitting that James Hall took the last 2 wickets, to finish with 4 for 29, as he found the surface to his liking. There were also wickets for Richard Keaveney, having his first bowl of the tournament, and Greg Thompson removed Olivier with a real ripper, that clipped the off stump. The only down note was the concession of 19 wides and 1 no ball in the low score of 115.

Ireland juggled the batting order in the absence of Mc Kee and Stirling, opening with Greg Thompson alongside Fintan Mc Allister. The pairing worked as they added 51 for the first wicket before both fell in the space of 4 balls in the over before lunch, Van Der Westhuizen being the bowler. Mc Allister was bowled for 23, while Thompson hit 26, which included 4 boundaries, mixing up solid defence with some controlled hitting.

Any post lunch nerves were settled by a lovely cameo knock of 27 by Eoin Morgan off just 23 balls, and in that there were 5 text book cover and straight drives which all found the boundary. He was eventually caught at mid on, a good catch by Marx low down off the bowling of Olivier. David Rankin looked to be returning to somewhere near his best, making a very composed 27, before being trapped lbw with the scores level.

Still, 2 balls later, the victory was secured, and a very happy Eoin Morgan said afterwards of his first win in the series, "it's nice to get a win under our belts, but it's just a pity it's so late in the tournament. It was a great effort by the lads to lift themselves after the soul destroying loss to New Zealand. The bowlers did well today, especially James Hall and Gary Kidd. Namibia aren't a bad side, but we showed determination and great character, and fully deserved the win. We'll be hoping to finish on a high note by winning our game on Saturday

Ireland Under-19s v Namibia Under-19s

Nondescripts Cricket Club Ground, Colombo

15 February 2006 (50-over match)

Result: Ireland Under-19s win by 6 wickets

Toss: Ireland Under-19s

Umpires: R Gill (Bermuda) and S Hameed (Indonesia)

Man of the Match: JD Hall

Namibia Under-19s innings (50 overs, maximum)		R	M	B	4	6
LP van der Westhuizen	b Hall	32	84	56	3	0
K Strauss	c Kidd	3	30	18	0	0
PJ Grove	c McAllister	0	22	12	0	0
DH Botha	b Kidd	0	8	10	0	0
NRP Scholtz	b Keaveney	0	3	2	0	0
HS Prinsloo	not out	33	81	60	2	0
*ST Ackermann	c Morgan	b Kidd	5	5	1	0
+E Steenkamp	b Hall	16	24	30	0	0
M Olivier	b Thompson	3	10	7	0	0
JH Bandlow	lbw	0	10	10	0	0
PH Marx	lbw	b Hall	1	10	0	0
Extras	(b 1, lb 1, w 19, nb 1)	22				
Total	(all out, 36.3 overs, 147 mins)	115				

ToW: 1-25 (Strauss, 7.4 ov), 2-38 (Grove, 11.4 ov), 3-41 (Botha, 13.5 ov),

4-44 (Scholtz, 14.3 ov), 5-59 (van der Westhuizen, 18.3 ov),

6-64 (Ackermann, 19.3 ov), 7-96 (Steenkamp, 30.1 ov),

8-102 (Olivier, 31.4 ov), 9-113 (Bandlow, 34.3 ov), 10-115 (Marx, 36.3 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Gill	5	0	17	0 (2w)
McDarby	5	0	14	1 (4w)
McKenna	1	0	7	0 (4w)
Keaveney	4	0	9	1 (1nb, 4w)
Kidd	10	3	26	3 (1w)
Hall	9.3	1	29	4 (1w)
Thompson	2	0	11	1 (3w)

Ireland Under-19s innings (target: 116 runs from 50 overs)

R M B 4 6

GJ Thompson c Strauss b van der Westhuizen 26 50 45 4 0

+FP McAllister b van der Westhuizen 23 45 37 2 0

DA Rankin lbw b Scholtz 27 52 58 4 0

*EJG Morgan c sub (H) Mano b Olivier 27 30 24 5 0

GC Wilson not out 6 22 12 1 0

AD Poynter not out 0 25 1 0 0

Extras (b 1, lb 1, w 4, nb 1) 7

Total (4 wickets, 29.2 overs, 102 mins) 116

DNB: NM McDarby, JD Hall, GM McKenna, GE Kidd, RJ Keaveney.

ToW: 1-51 (McAllister, 13.2 ov), 2-52 (Thompson, 13.6 ov),

3-94 (Morgan, 23.4 ov), 4-115 (Rankin, 28.5 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Marx	5	0	23	0 (2w)
van der Westhuizen	10	2	30	2 (1w)
Scholtz	10	0	43	1 (1nb)
Olivier	4.2	0	18	1 (1w)



The Ireland U19 World Cup Squad



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Ireland v Uganda

Brian Murgatroyd, ICC

Ireland ended their ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup campaign with a second successive win, this time against Uganda in the Plate Championship play-off final on Saturday. Eoin Morgan's side restricted the Africans to 165-8 after Uganda won the toss and then knocked off the required runs for the loss of four wickets. Morgan was the man who steered his side home with an unbeaten 60 as Ireland secured the victory with 14.1 overs in hand. The win meant Ireland finished as the 13th ranked of the 16 teams in action, ahead not only Uganda but also the other side they defeated, Namibia, and Scotland.

Ireland's victory was founded upon some excellent, disciplined spin bowling that strangled the life out of the Uganda innings. Gary Kidd took 2-26, leg-spinner Greg Thompson picked up 1-21 and James Hall took 0-37 with all three of them bowling their full ten-over allocations and in the face of the restrictions that trio imposed Uganda were never able to break free. Six of their top eight batsmen reached double figures but no one went on to make a score that would have lifted them beyond 200, something they managed just once in the tournament.

Top score was Jimmy Okello who made 45 from 84 balls with three fours but in the face of impressive Ireland bowling only one other player - Davis Arinaitwe with 21 - reached 20. The other successful bowlers were seamer Neil Gill, who captured 2-29, also in ten overs, and Andrew Poynter, with 1-17 in five overs. Niall McDarby went wicketless in five expensive overs that cost 32 runs as he struggled with a suspected muscle strain but he still had the satisfaction of finishing the tournament with 13 wickets, an impressive haul in tough conditions for pace bowlers.

Uganda started off well when they bowled, removing both Ireland's openers for 31 but then Morgan took charge with an 83-ball innings that included three fours and a six. He added 67 with Gary Wilson (25) and 51 with Poynter (21) and those two stands killed off any hopes Uganda had of a second successive win after their victory over Scotland on Friday.

For Uganda, Ochan completed a fine all-round match with 2-26, Arinaitwe picked up 1-29 and the other wicket-taker was Emmanuel Isaneez (1-43). Morgan said afterwards: "We have come a long way since being bowled out for less than 100 in our opening match against Zimbabwe and to get two wins is very pleasing."

Complete Player Summary

All matches, ICC Under 19s World Cup, Ireland 05-Feb-2006 to 18-Feb-2006

#	Name	Club	Mts	Inn	NO	HS	50	100	Avg	Runs	Overs	Maid	RunsA	BBow	SI	10	Avg	Wct	Ct	St	RO
1	N Gill	Ireland	6	1	1	1*	-	-	-	1	47.0	4	188	2-29	-	-	31.33	6	2	-	-
2	JD Hall	Ireland	6	4	-	19	-	-	13.25	53	53.3	3	232	4-29	-	-	29.00	8	1	-	-
3	RJ Keavey	Ireland	1	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	4.0	-	9	1-9	-	-	9.00	1	1	-	-
4	GE Kidd	Ireland	6	4	2	12	-	-	7.00	14	59.0	8	197	3-26	-	-	24.62	8	2	-	-
5	FP McAllister	Ireland	6	6	-	44	-	-	20.00	120	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	6	4	1
6	NM McDarby	Ireland	6	4	-	8	-	-	2.50	10	37.5	1	190	6-50	1	-	15.83	12	-	-	1
7	GI McKee	Ireland	2	2	-	5	-	-	3.50	7	1.0	-	11	0-11	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-
8	GM McKenna	Ireland	5	4	2	4*	-	-	6.00	12	1.0	-	7	0-7	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-
9	EJG Morgan	Ireland	6	6	1	124	2	1	67.60	338	13.0	1	63	1-18	-	-	63.00	1	1	-	-
10	AD Poynter	Ireland	6	6	1	76	1	-	29.60	148	21.0	1	115	2-32	-	-	38.33	3	4	-	-
11	DA Rankin	Ireland	4	4	1	27	-	-	21.33	64	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-
12	RB Stirling	Ireland	5	4	-	11	-	-	4.50	18	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	3	-	-
13	GI Thompson	Ireland	6	5	-	26	-	-	13.20	66	41.0	3	212	3-48	-	-	30.29	7	3	-	-
14	GC Wilson	Ireland	6	6	1	69	1	-	23.20	116	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	6	-	-

Uganda U19 1st Innings 165/8 Closed (Overs 50)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
HS Almuzahim*	c FP McAllister	b GD Kidd	17	37	2	0	0
AS Kyobe	c FP McAllister	b N Gill	14	43	3	2	0
P Ochan	c AD Poynter	b N Gill	11	21	1	2	0
J Okello	c GC Wilson	b GI Thompson	45	93	8	1	0
R Soemanda	c FP McAllister	b GD Kidd	8	34	1	0	0
R Otim	run out	-	4	12	1	0	0
E Isaneez	run out	-	11	23	2	1	0
D Arinaitwe	c RB Stirling	b AD Poynter	21	39	2	1	0
E Nakaana	not out	-	14	46	3	1	0
C Waswa	not out	-	3	10	6	0	0
DA Musali+	dnb	-	-	-	-	-	-
extras		(b0 b3 w13 nb1)	17	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		8 wickets for	165	-	-	-	-

FOW

1-37(HS Almuzahim) 2-37(AS Kyobe) 3-60(P Ochan) 4-89(R Soemanda) 5-98(R Otim) 6-119(E Isaneez) 7-124(J Okello) 8-160(D Arinaitwe)

Bowler

	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
N Gill	10	3	70	2	-	-
NM McDarby	5	0	32	0	7	1
GD Kidd	10	2	26	2	-	-
JD Hall	10	1	37	0	4	-
GI Thompson	10	2	21	1	1	-
AD Poynter	5	0	17	1	1	-

Ireland U19 1st Innings 166/4 Closed (Overs 35.5)

Batsman	Fieldsmen	Bowler	Runs	Min	Bs	4s	6s
GI Thompson	c HS Almuzahim	b P Ochan	17	33	2	2	0
FP McAllister+	c DA Musali	b D Arinaitwe	11	30	1	2	0
EJG Morgan*	not out	-	60	131	8	3	1
GC Wilson		b E Isaneez	25	48	6	2	0
AD Poynter	c HS Almuzahim	b P Ochan	21	38	2	5	0
DA Rankin	not out	-	10	19	1	4	0
N Gill	dnb	-	-	-	-	-	-
JD Hall	dnb	-	-	-	-	-	-
GD Kidd	dnb	-	-	-	-	-	-
NM McDarby	dnb	-	-	-	-	-	-
RB Stirling	dnb	-	-	-	-	-	-
extras		(b0 b5 w13 nb4)	22	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		4 wickets for	166	-	-	-	-

FOW

1-31(FP McAllister) 2-31(GI Thompson) 3-88(GC Wilson) 4-146(AD Poynter)

Bowler

	O	M	R	W	wd	nb
C Waswa	5	0	24	0	1	-
J Okello	2	0	10	0	1	-
P Ochan	8	1	26	2	2	-
D Arinaitwe	5	0	29	1	4	-
R Soemanda	5	0	17	0	3	1
E Isaneez	6.5	0	43	1	3	0
E Nakaana	4	0	12	0	-	-

"As against Namibia, our spinners were right on top of their game and it is shame they are only peaking now. If we had been here a week or two earlier then maybe they would have peaked sooner but that was not possible."



Interview With Irish Women's Coach Miriam Grealey



Ireland ladies

2005 was certainly a difficult year for the team. It was always going to be hard for us out in South Africa, and we weren't helped by the fact that two of the games where we had expectations of victory were rained off. The first game against South Africa was washed out, after we had restricted them to just over 200, and we didn't get on the field against Sri Lanka, where if we had won convincingly, we would have been exempt from the qualifying series for the next World Cup.

We don't have the exposure we require against the top nations. We are fortunate that we do get some competitive fixtures against the top sides, usually when they stop over on a tour of England. There's no doubt that there is a wide gulf in standards in the game at the moment. That was evidenced by our heavy defeat against the World Champions, Australia, when they visited early this year. Again the weather intervened when a 3 match series was reduced to just the 1 game.

The Australians, New Zealand, England and India are all in one little section at the top, and we find it hard to battle against them. We are located in the next tier down, along with South Africa, Sri Lanka and the West Indies. The one thing that all these countries do is go on winter tours, and that's something we need to be looking at. Even the so called minnows are doing that now, with Wales about to embark on a tour of South Africa.

Time off isn't really a problem with the squad now, as most of the side are students. It's a fairly young team, and the average age has gone down considerably since I've retired. Finance is always an issue, but we've undertaken fund raising in the past, and I'm sure we could do it

again, if required. The ICU have been very supportive of the team, and I'm grateful for that. We really have to organise tours if we don't want to fall further behind. We used to go on winter tours in the past, and we have to get back to doing that.

The European Championships in Wales saw us turn in some mixed performances. I'd just retired at that stage, but was coach for the first game against Scotland. There were some notable efforts in that competition, particularly from former skipper Clare Shillington. She batted superbly that week, and she's really coming of age now. The team had a horror showing against Wales in a game that everybody would like to forget, and we also lost to a very strong England 'A' side. They beat us comprehensively, so no complaints there. We have the chance to play them again this year, and it'll be a good tester for us.

The squad this year will have lost a lot of experience, with Barbara McDonald missing, which is a huge blow, and also Anne Linehan has taken a year out. However we still have quality players, with Clare Shillington and the two Joyce sisters, Isobel and Cecelia, being match winners with the bat. Catriona Beggs is also a very useful batter, so the talent is there. We really do have to work very hard at it though, as we never seem to have enough runs to defend.

On the bowling front, there's also a lot of work to be done. We have worked hard over the winter trying to get our bowlers to achieve the consistency, and variation that is required. Heather Whelan, the skipper has performed well, and Ciara Metcalfe is a great little leg spinner. Nicky Coffey and Eimear Richardson all are

more than capable, so there is potential there.

I'm full of confidence for the summer, with some exciting challenges and fixtures to look forward to. We're playing England 'W' at Sussex, which is fantastic news, and thanks to the ECB for organising that, and follow that up by playing Sussex themselves, and Canterbury, the New Zealand champions. We're also hopeful of hosting India in Ireland in July, and we've invited Holland over for 2 days in August, so there's plenty of games to whet the appetite.

One area that urgently needs to be looked at is the Ladies game in Ulster. We need more participation from that area, and I know there has been work going on to try and improve the situation.

The opportunity for me to coach the team maybe came a bit quicker than I'd anticipated, as I'd planned to take a back seat for a while. However I've coached a lot of the present team at junior level, so know their game. I'm pleased with the progress made so far. I've haven't had any problems with the transition to date, and I know the standards that the players have to attain, before the World Cup qualifiers.

I've had a great deal of help, with Trent Johnston, the Ireland captain lending a hand, and Matt Dwyer, who's a fantastic coach, has been helping out all winter, and former coach John Wills has also been very supportive.

It should be a superb summer of cricket, and I'm relishing the challenges that lie ahead.



Marguerite Burke - Woman of the Match

Irish Captain Heather Whelan

I've just taken over as Irish captain following the World Cup, and skipped the side during the European Championships in Wales, and in the game in Dublin against Australia.

Last year was certainly a mixed bag for us, with the knowledge that our best chances of victory during the World Cup were quite literally washed away. That said, we didn't acquit ourselves as well as we perhaps should, but hopefully that will be rectified this year.

We've a new coach on board, Miriam Grealey, and she's being doing a wonderful job already during the winter. We've held 8 intensive training sessions at North County since January, and there's

more hard work to be done before the season gets under way.

We've a wide variety of challenges ahead, with our summer programme, and I'm looking forward to captaining the team to hopefully a few wins along the way.

There's no doubt we've lost a great deal of talent and experience with the retirements of Babs McDonald, Miriam, and Anne Linehan, but there is still a lot of depth and talent in the squad. We still have a lot of experienced players available, with Catriona Beggs, Clare Shillington and the Joyce sisters, and that allied with a good crop of young players, namely Jill Whelan, Gillian Smythe, Eimear Richardson and Amy Kenealy, means we have a good balance at the minute.



The World Cup management team

It's exciting times for the Women's game at the minute, and with Miriam at the helm, I'm full of confidence. The players have really responded positively to her coaching, and I'm sure it will be a summer to remember.



A congratulatory handshake



Anne Linehan taking it easy before she opens



Emma Beamish of Ireland

India Women v Ireland Women

Harlequins, Pretoria

24 March 2005 (50-over match)

Result: India Women won by 9 wickets

Points: India Women 6, Ireland Women 0

Toss: Ireland Women

Umpires: JM Englebrecht and S George

Match Referee: DT Lindsay

ODI Debut: J.W. Smythe (Ireland Women).

Player of the Match: A Sharma

Ireland Women innings (50 overs maximum)

	R	B	4	6	
A Linehan	c Dhar	b Gowami	0	9	0
+CM Beggs	lbw	b A Sharma	0	17	0
*CRA Shillington	lbw	b Gowami	0	1	0
ME Grealey	lbw	b A Sharma	38	88	5
NJ Coffey	lbw	b A Sharma	0	3	0
LG Budd		b Al Khader	11	54	1
J.W. Smythe	run out (Jain/Raj)		0	7	0
EA Beamish	lbw	b Marathe	0	1	0
BM McDonald	c Dhar	b David	13	37	0
H Whelan	c Jain	b Al Khader	0	28	0
JA Whelan	not out		0	8	0
Extras	(w 3)				3
Total	(all out, 42.1 overs)				65

For: 1-1 (Linehan, 2.3 ov), 2-1 (Shillington, 2.4 ov), 3-5 (Beggs, 5.5 ov), 4-9 (Coffey, 7.2 ov), 5-47 (Budd, 24.6 ov), 6-49 (Smythe, 26.6 ov), 7-52 (Beamish, 29.1 ov), 8-52 (Grealey, 30.5 ov), 9-55 (H Whelan, 38.6 ov), 10-65 (McDonald, 42.1 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Gowami	7	2	15	2 (1w)
A Sharma	8	5	12	3 (1w)
Dhar	4	0	7	0 (1w)
Al Khader	10	4	19	2
David	8.1	3	9	1
Marathe	5	3	3	1

India Women innings (target: 66 runs from 50 overs)

	R	B	4	6	
+A Jain	not out		32	60	1
J Sharma	lbw	b H Whelan	8	16	1
*M Raj	not out		21	28	3
Extras	(w 7)				7
Total	(1 wicket, 17.2 overs)				68

DNB: R Dhar, H Kaia, A Chopra, A Sharma, N Al Khader, N David, DM Marathe, J Gowami.

For: 1-22 (J Sharma, 6.3 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
H Whelan	6	1	17	1 (2w)
McDonald	5	0	23	0 (1w)
Grealey	5	0	19	0 (3w)
JA Whelan	1.2	0	9	0 (1w)



England Women v Ireland Women

Esterust Cricket Club Ground, Pretoria

26 March 2005 (50-over match)

Result: England Women won by 128 runs

Points: England Women 6, Ireland Women 0

Toss: England Women

Umpires: D Ntuli and BM White

Match Referee: A Barnes

Player of the Match: CJ Connor

England Women innings (50 overs maximum)

CM Edwards	c Linehan	b McDonald	21
LK Newton		b JA Whelan	23
LS Greenway	c Linehan	b Coffey	9
*CJ Connor	not out		82
NI Shaw	st Linehan	b Grealey	5
A Brindle	c Coffey	b H Whelan	51
RA Birch	run out (Shillington/Grealey)		0
J. Gunn	not out		1
Extras	(b 1, lb 3, w 21, nb 4)		29
Total	(6 wickets, 50 overs, 196 mins)		221

DNB: +J Smit, CE Taylor, LC Pearson.

FOW: 1-48 (Newton, 12.2 ov), 2-55 (Edwards, 17.2 ov), 3-71 (Greenway, 23.3 ov), 4-79 (Shaw, 24.3 ov), 5-207 (Brindle, 47.3 ov), 6-208 (Birch, 48.1 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
H Whelan	10	1	52	1 (2w)
McDonald	10	5	22	1 (1w)
JA Whelan	10	1	38	1 (3rb, 4w)
Grealey	10	1	47	1 (3w)
Coffey	6	0	40	1 (1rb, 4w)
Smythe	4	0	18	0 (2w)

Ireland Women innings (target: 222 runs from 50 overs)

+A Linehan	c Smit	b Pearson	0
CM Beggs	lbw	b Taylor	15
JW Smythe	run out (Connor/Smit)		6
ME Grealey	lbw	b Taylor	16
*CMA Shillington	lbw	c & b Shaw	17
NI Coffey	c	b Connor	2
US Budd	c	b Connor	2
EA Beamish	c Brindle	b Birch	11
H Whelan	not out		4
JA Whelan	not out		2
Extras	(b 3, lb 3, w 13)		19
Total	(8 wickets, 50 overs, 158 mins)		93

DNB: BM McDonald.

FOW: 1-0 (Linehan, 0.5 ov), 2-26 (Beggs, 13.1 ov), 3-45 (Smythe, 24.2 ov), 4-55 (Grealey, 27.6 ov), 5-61 (Coffey, 32.4 ov), 6-83 (Shillington, 39.4 ov), 7-85 (Budd, 42.2 ov), 8-92 (Beamish, 48.1 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Pearson	7	1	18	1 (4w)
Gunn	8	5	6	0 (2w)
Taylor	10	3	13	2 (1w)
Birch	10	1	23	1 (1w)
Connor	8	3	14	2 (1w)
Shaw	7	2	13	1 (2w)

Ireland Women v New Zealand Women

Harlequins, Pretoria

28 March 2005 (50-over match)

Result: New Zealand Women won by 9 wickets

Points: New Zealand Women 6, Ireland Women 0

Toss: New Zealand Women

Umpires: G Pienaar and S Zoutendyk

Match Referee: DT Lindsay

Player of the Match: AL Mason

Ireland Women innings (50 overs maximum)

EA Beamish	lbw	b Scripps	8	M	8	4	6
JW Smythe	run out (Scripps/Rolls)		7		84	78	0
+CM Beggs	c Rolls	b Watson	30	130	102	3	0
ME Grealey	c Rolls	b Milliken	5	12	13	0	0
*CMA Shillington	run out (Pullar/Rolls)		9	31	22	1	0
CHM Joyce	lbw	b Scripps	0	2	2	0	0
NI Coffey	st Rolls	b Watson	0	10	11	0	0
US Budd	run out (Browne)		0	10	8	0	0
H Whelan	not out		4	22	19	0	0
MT Herbert	c Rolls	b Watson	0	1	1	0	0
BM McDonald	c & b Milliken		4	12	13	0	0
Extras	(b 4, lb 7, w 15, nb 2)		28				
Total	(all out, 49 overs)		91				

FOW: 1-11 (Beamish, 10.1 ov), 2-38 (Smythe, 24.3 ov), 3-46 (Grealey, 28.3 ov), 4-67 (Shillington, 36.1 ov), 5-69 (Joyce, 36.3 ov), 6-72 (Coffey, 39.4 ov), 7-77 (Budd, 42.3 ov), 8-81 (Beggs, 42.5 ov), 9-81 (Herbert, 44.6 ov), 10-91 (McDonald, 48.6 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Milliken	9	2	16	2 (3w)
Pullar	10	4	12	0 (2w)
Scripps	8	1	17	2 (2rb, 3w)
Browne	8	3	7	0 (3w)
Watson	10	2	19	3 (1w)
Mason	4	1	9	0 (2w)

New Zealand Women innings (target: 91 runs from 50 overs)	R	M	8	4	6		
*MAM Lewis	not out		38	71	52	3	0
RI Pullar			b Whelan	3	13	11	0
AL Mason	not out		49	57	47	6	0
Extras	(w 5)		5				
Total	(1 wicket, 58.2 overs)		95				

DNB: MF Fahey, +RI Rolls, HM Tiffin, SJ McGlashan, NI Browne, HM Watson, LE Milliken, N Scripps.

FOW: 1-12 (Pullar, 4.2 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Whelan	5	0	18	1 (1w)
McDonald	7	0	33	0
Grealey	4	0	27	0 (2w)
Herbert	2	0	12	0
Smythe	0.2	0	5	0 (1w)



Adrian Birrell being interviewed by members of the squad



Ireland Women v West Indies Women

Ireland Women innings (50 overs maximum)		R	M	B	4	6
CNIM Joyce	st Power	b Mohammed	37	54	75	2 0
+A Linehan		b Felician	25	56	79	3 0
*CMA Shillington		b Felician	4	8	5	0 0
ME Greeley	run out (de Silva)		5	16	13	0 0
CM Beggs	not out		31	81	85	0 0
NJ Coffey	c Williams	b Jack	16	31	34	0 0
UG Budd		b Lewis	21	30	30	0 0
Extras	(b 3, w 16, nb 1)		20			
Total	(6 wickets, 50 overs)		159			

DNB: BM McDonald, EIW Smythe, H Whelan, JA Whelan.

FoW: 1-79 (Joyce, 24.6 ov), 2-79 (Linehan, 25.3 ov), 3-84 (Shillington, 27.2 ov), 4-91 (Greeley, 30.3 ov), 5-119 (Coffey, 40.6 ov), 6-159 (Budd, 49.6 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Lewis	8	0	26	1 (5w)
Lavine	6	1	23	0 (3w)
Thomas	10	0	35	0 (2w)
Felician	10	1	22	2
de Silva	7	0	13	0 (1rb, 2w)
Mohammed	10	0	25	1 (2w)
Jack	4	0	12	1

West Indies Women innings (target: 160 runs from 50 overs)		R	M	B	4	6
NA George	lbw	b H Whelan	11	30	28	1 0
NA Williams	c Shillington	b McDonald	1	4	6	0 0
JB Nero	not out		71	138	92	9 0
PY Lavine	not out		66	113	94	5 2
Extras	(b 3, w 10, nb 1)		14			
Total	(2 wickets, 36.3 overs)		163			

DNB: SC de Silva, CP Jack, VM Felician, + SJ Power, DA Lewis, P Thomas, A Mohammed.

FoW: 1-2 (Williams, 1.3 ov), 2-24 (George, 8.3 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
H Whelan	8	0	31	1
McDonald	10	1	32	1 (2w)
JA Whelan	5	0	19	0 (1nb)
Greeley	8	0	34	0 (2w)
Joyce	2	0	18	0 (2w)
Smythe	3	0	18	0 (1w)
Coffey	0.3	0	8	0

Australia Women v Ireland Women

Easterest Cricket Club Ground, Pretoria

1 April 2005 (50-over match)

Result: Australia Women won by 10 wickets

Points: Australia Women 6, Ireland Women 0

Toss: Ireland Women

Umpires: D Ntuli and BM White

Match Referee: R Magier

Player of the Match: CL Fitzpatrick

Ireland Women innings (50 overs maximum)		R	M	B	4	6
EA Beamsish	lbw	b Fitzpatrick	10	33	39	1 0
+CNIM Joyce	lbw	b Smith	8	38	30	1 0
CM Beggs	lbw	b Liddell	2	21	18	0 0
ME Greeley	c Rolton	b Broadfoot	21	82	68	1 0
*CMA Shillington		b Schalekar	9	39	45	0 0
NJ Coffey	c Price	b Nitschke	0	18	25	0 0
UG Budd		b Fitzpatrick	0	8	4	0 0
H Whelan	not out		8	41	41	0 0
BM McDonald	c Nitschke	b Rolton	1	29	26	0 0
JA Whelan	not out		1	7	4	0 0
Extras	(b 2, w 4)		6			
Total	(8 wickets, 50 overs)		66			

DNB: MT Herbert.

FoW: 1-19 (Beamsish, 10.5 ov), 2-21 (Joyce, 11.4 ov), 3-27 (Beggs, 16.5 ov), 4-48 (Shillington, 29.5 ov), 5-55 (Coffey, 26.5 ov), 6-55 (Greeley, 37.4 ov), 7-55 (Budd, 38.3 ov), 8-82 (McDonald, 48.1 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Fitzpatrick	10	5	9	2 (2w)
Smith	10	3	16	1 (1w)
Liddell	9	1	13	1 (1w)
Schalekar	6	1	15	1
Nitschke	6	3	3	1
Broadfoot	6	4	4	1
Rolton	3	1	4	1

Australia Women innings (target: 67 runs from 50 overs)		R	M	B	4	6
*BI Clark	not out		35	48	44	0 0
LC Schalekar	not out		28	48	41	1 0
Extras	(w 4, nb 1)		5			
Total	(0 wickets, 14 overs, 48 mins)		68			

DNB: KI Rolton, AJ Blackwell, CL Fitzpatrick, +JC Price, S Nitschke, E Liddell, KA Blackwell, LC Broadfoot, CR Smith.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
H Whelan	3	0	11	0 (1w)
McDonald	4	0	18	0 (1w)
Herbert	4	0	22	0 (1rb, 1w)
Greeley	3	0	17	0 (1w)

South Africa Women v Ireland Women

SuperSport Park, Centurion

22 March 2005 (50-over match)

Result: No Result

Points: South Africa Women 3, Ireland Women 3

Toss: Ireland Women

Umpires: BN Harrison and G Pienaar

Match Referee: WA Diedericks

South Africa Women innings (50 overs maximum)		R	B	4	6
+M Terblanche	c Whelan	b JA Whelan	26	83	2 0
CZ Brits	c Linehan	b McDonald	17	18	3 0
J Logtenberg	c Linehan	b McDonald	7	14	0 0
AE Smith		b Coffey	5	7	1 0
*AI Hodgkinson		b Greeley	12	37	0 0
SA Fritz	run out (Shillington)		48	61	3 0
CS Terblanche	not out		41	65	1 0
T Reeves	c Linehan	b JA Whelan	2	4	0 0
C van der Westhuizen	not out		6	9	0 0
Extras	(b 3, w 19, nb 8)		30		
Total	(7 wickets, 48 overs)		204		

DNB: APC Kilowan, L de Beer.

FoW: 1-32 (Brits, 5.5 ov), 2-42 (Logtenberg, 9.4 ov), 3-57 (Smith, 12.6 ov), 4-87 (M Terblanche, 23.4 ov), 5-92 (Hodgkinson, 26.5 ov), 6-182 (Fritz, 43.5 ov), 7-187 (Reeves, 45.2 ov).

Bowling	O	M	R	W
H Whelan	10	0	59	0 (1nb, 1w)
McDonald	10	0	26	2 (1w)
Coffey	10	0	45	1 (4rb, 6w)
JA Whelan	9	0	38	2 (3rb, 6w)
Greeley	9	1	33	1 (2w)

Ireland Women bats:

+A Linehan, CNIM Joyce, CM Beggs, ME Greeley, *CMA Shillington, NJ Coffey, EA Beamsish, UG Budd, BM McDonald, H Whelan, JA Whelan



Caitriona Beggs takes evasive action

Leinster Review



Clontarf Cricket Club

Matt Dwyer takes a look back at 2005 in Leinster

2005 was yet another successful year for North County. In addition to winning the league, they also captured the Lion Sports Irish Senior Cup, beating Leinster rivals Railway Union in the final.

Munster Reds and CYM were relegated from the top flight, with The Hills and YMCA replacing them in Section A.

North County won the league quite comfortably, with plenty of runs from Irish international Conor Armstrong, and Paddy Martin had a tremendous year with the ball. Paul Mooney and Andre Botha were also critical to that success, with their usual array of runs and wickets.

John Mooney didn't have as prolific a year as he has in the past, batting down the order. However he did produce a Man of the Match performance to win the Irish Senior Cup. Jason Brooker, their overseas professional, scored heavily and consistently, and indeed at one stage scored 3 consecutive hundreds. They pulled away from the chasing pack in mid season, and nobody was able to match them.

Paddy Martin with his left arm spin, came strong at the end of the campaign, and was a thoroughly deserved winner of the bowling award.

Clontarf had a fairly good season, but despite winning the 45 over Trophy, they will feel they perhaps should have won more. They beat The Hills in that final, but lost out in the Senior Cup final, with the result being reversed. Bryn Thomas scoring a brilliant unbeaten century.

The 45 Over Final, played at Pembroke, saw The Hills bat first on a wicket which was very helpful to the bowlers, and after losing early wickets, they struggled to make 141, thanks to 35 from Ian O'Herlihy. Jeremy Bray was the surprise package, taking 4 for 23 with his slow swing bowling, and Conor D'Arcy took 3 for 24.

In reply, Clontarf secured the win quite comfortably, with Alex Cusack scoring 68, an Australian born player, who now qualifies for Ireland, and one who I'm sure will play international cricket for his adopted country in the coming years.

The Senior Cup final was played at North County, the first time they had hosted a major final. Clontarf won the toss and surprisingly elected to bat after a delayed start, with heavy rain the day before. The Hills restricted Clontarf to 200, with them being 80 for 5 at one stage. Greg Molins made an excellent 99, denied his century by astute captaincy from Joe Clinton, who brought the field in close, and Molins was caught at short cover.

121 not out from Bryn Thomas saw The Hills secure a comfortable win. He played one of the great innings in recent times, scoring all around the wicket, in the face of some hostile bowling from Trent Johnston.

The Alan Murray 20 over Cup was won by Merrion who defeated Clontarf in the final. Merrion's score of 147 proved to be 21 too many for Clontarf.

North County played Railway Union in the Irish Senior Cup final, with RU having pulled off one of the most famous comebacks in their semi final win at

Linsavady. Roger Whelan's 36 not out in just 9 balls shocked the Roersiders and won the day for Union. In the final itself, Union lost early wickets, but recovered somewhat thanks to Adrian Murphy. However, North County ground out the result, thanks to a match winning display from John Mooney.

Gerry Byrne on the Leinster individual winners in 2005

Batting

Nobody got 1,000 runs this season. Highest aggregate for the season was achieved by Bryn Thomas with 851. The battle for the Marchant Cup went down to the fall of the 1st wicket in North County's innings v Clontarf. In fact the two contenders, Conor Armstrong and Andre Botha, went in 10 and 11, so, effectively, the title was going to go to whichever of them was not out at the end of the innings. Andre had his stumps rearranged by Trent and so the winner of the 2005 Marchant Cup, with an average of 63.83 is **CONOR ARMSTRONG** of North County.

Bowling

This was another late late show. With 9 Clontarf wickets down there were still only two qualifiers. However, the 10th Clontarf wicket, the stumping of Trent Johnston, brought in a third qualifier as he got the necessary number of wickets off his last ball of the season. Apart from an average of 11.57, he also had a Strike Rate of a wicket every 3.1 overs so the highly deserved winner of the O'Grady Cup for 2005 is **PADDY MARTIN** of North County.



Alex Cusack



Catches

It stayed close to the end but in fact the leaders did not take any catches in their last matches so with a total of 13 catches, one more than two Clontarf guys, the winner of the Solomons Cup for 2005 is **BARRY ARCHER** of The Hills.

Wicket Keepers

This was won effectively from a long way out. He led consistently and finished with a margin of 11 victims to spare over the runner up. Kade Beasley. The winner of the 2005 Hopkins Cup is **IAN O'HERLIHY** of The Hills. He also finished with the best bowling average of the season taking one for one in his last match - only 34 wickets short of qualifying for a double!

All Rounders

This again went to the wire. The leader last week, Jeremy Bray, was unable to play last weekend and so did not get the chance of taking the one wicket necessary to qualify him. That left Thusus in top spot but he was pipped when the winner took a five wicket haul, including a wicket to end the North County innings. He finished 74 points ahead of Thusus (who was unfortunate that his last match was abandoned), 70 of which were account for by his last wicket which also gained him the bonus for a five for. The winner of the Samuels Cup 2005 is **TRENT JOHNSTON** of Clontarf.

So there we have it. Two individual trophies each for the two most successful clubs of the season, North County and The Hills.



Clontarf Captain - Trent Johnston

2005 Leinster League Tables

Whitney Moore Keller League A 2005

	P	W	T	NR	L	BP	Pts
North County	12	10	0	1	1	44	252
Malahide	12	8	0	0	4	24	184
Clontarf	12	7	0	2	3	27	163
Rush	12	5	0	3	4	25	149
Phoenix	12	5	0	1	6	26	134
CYM	12	2	0	0	10	23	63
NuStar Reds	12	0	0	3	9	16	40

Whitney Moore Keller League B 2005

	P	W	T	NR	L	BP	Pts
The Hills	12	11	0	0	1	25	245
YMCA	12	9	0	0	3	38	218
Railway Union	12	7	0	1	4	26	174
Pembroke	12	6	0	0	6	34	154
Merrion	12	4	0	0	8	39	119
Leinster	12	4	0	1	7	16	104
Old Belvedere	12	0	0	0	11	27	27

LCU Senior Averages 2005

Batting Averages (Minimum: 500 Runs)

	M	INN	NO	RS	RUNS	AVE	100	50	CT	ST
Brooker J.(NC) #	11	10	1	207	740	82.22	4	2	7	-
Armstrong C.(M/NC)	16	16	4	124*	766	63.83	2	5	6	-
Rouise M.(J/P)	15	15	4	116*	620	56.36	2	4	4	-
Sloyden R.(NC)	16	12	2	110*	563	56.30	2	3	4	-
Botha A.C.(NC)	15	14	5	109*	502	55.78	2	2	4	1
Bray J.P.(Tarf)	15	15	2	122	698	53.69	1	5	15	1
Botha J.(Mal)	12	12	1	123	565	51.36	2	3	8	-
Payne D.(Merr) #	16	15	1	124	705	50.35	1	6	8	-
Rigby D.(Tarf)	19	18	5	121*	651	44.78	1	6	10	-
Thomas E.(TH)	21	21	2	100*	820	43.83	6	5	-	-
Days P.(Merr)	15	12	1	74	520	43.33	6	5	-	-
Northcote A.(Pemb)	16	16	2	106*	597	42.64	1	3	10	-
Northcote A.(Pemb) #	18	17	3	99*	571	40.78	3	18	6	-
Hinkel W.R.(CYM) #	15	15	2	112*	528	40.61	3	1	4	-
Bray W.(YMCA) #	18	16	2	74	549	39.21	4	12	10	-
Beasley K.(Merr)	16	16	1	125*	531	35.40	1	2	16	5
Anderson J.(RU) #	15	15	-	115	516	34.40	1	3	7	-
Jones M.A.(Lein)	17	17	2	96*	503	33.53	4	7	1	-

Bowling Averages (Minimum: 35 Wickets)

	OVER	MINS	RUNS	WKTS	AVE	BEST BWM
Martin Paddy.(NC)	111.4	12	405	35	11.57	5/15
Clinton L.(TH)	179.3	31	571	36	15.86	4/38
Whaley E.(Pemb)	164	27	587	36	16.30	4/30

Fielding (Minimum: 8)

	M	CT
BJ Archer	TH	20
K Perkins #	TH	20
DT Johnston	Tarf	17
JP Bray	Tarf	15
PJ Thomas	TH	21
R Dayas	Pemb	16
M Price #	OB	16
JR Pryor	Mal	16
J Botha #	Mal	12

Wicket-Keeping (Minimum: 13 Dismissals)

	M	CT	St	Total
I O'Herlihy	TH	21	23	9
W Murray #	YMCA	16	12	10
K Beasley	Merr	15	16	5
A Northcote #	Pemb	10	15	6
A Pyne	Mal	17	13	5
F McAllister	Rush	15	15	3
D Armstrong	NC	14	15	3
J Rogan	RU	11	14	4
M Ellis	Px	14	13	4
R Maybury	Tarf	12	12	3
C Kavanagh	Pemb	8	11	3
C Morgan	CYM	9	11	2

= Overseas player not qualified for individual trophies

Leinster Senior 2 Averages 2005

	M	INNINGS		Runs	Ave
		1	HS		
C.Cahill (Clontarf)	10	2	102	332	61.5
D.Ford (Malahide)*	9	0	93	347	38.6
C.Riches (Clontarf)	10	1	91*	331	36.8
T.Lawson (Clontarf)	13	1	81	438	36.5
B.Gilmore (Malahide)	15	0	93	530	35.3
S.King (Merrion)	10	1	55	310	34.4
B.Stanton (Merrion)	16	2	61	385	27.5
R.Weir (Malahide)	15	0	86	326	21.7
D.Johnson (Clontarf)	17	1	63	308	19.3

BOWLING (Qualification 9 matches 25 wickets)

	M	Wkts	Runs	Ave
J.Murphy (North County)	14	25	405	16.20
D.Lappen (Leinster)	15	30	548	18.27
N.Blair (Clontarf)	13	28	527	18.82
J.Jennings (Malahide)	14	25	602	24.08

*Overseas Player ? ineligible for individual awards



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Conqueror Cup 2005

Clontarf v The Hills

Played at Inch, Ballyrothy on 30th July 2005.

Toss: Clontarf

Result: The Hills won by 5 wickets.

Umpires: L.Fountain, N.Farnell. Award: B.Thomas (The Hills)

MATCH OVERS: 60 overs.

CLONTARF

A.Cusack	c O'Herlihy b J.Clinton	26
J.Pilroy	c O'Herlihy b L.Clinton	8
D.Rigby	c Archer b L.Clinton	1
B.Coghlan	c O'Herlihy b Morgan	0
D.Johnston *	b Morgan	1
R.O'Reilly	c O'Herlihy b J.Clinton	9
G.L.Molins	c Archer b J.Clinton	77
L.Synnott	c D.Byrne b Archer	29
A.Cullen	lbw b Lax	14
E.Delaney	run out	0
R.Maybury +	not out	1
Extras	(B 1; LB 6; W 7;)	14
TOTAL		200

from 58.3 overs

1st inns: 1-13, 2-29, 3-32, 4-39, 5-43, 6-72, 7-168, 8-199, 9-199, 10-200

	O	M	R	W
L.Clinton	12	2	22	2
Lax	11	2	26	1
Morgan	9	1	43	2
J.Clinton	11.3	1	34	3
D.Byrne	3	1	7	0
Archer	7	0	34	1
Penke	5	1	27	0

THE HILLS

B.Thomas	not out	121
G.Morgan	lbw b Cusack	0
B.J.Archer	c Coghlan b Cusack	12
M.Lax	lbw b Delaney	2
K.Penke	b Delaney	0
P.Byrne	c Molins b O'Reilly	31
J.O'Herlihy +	not out	1
R.Hoan		
J.Clinton *		
L.Clinton		
D.Byrne		

(B 5; LB 6; W 16; NB 7)

Extras 5 wickets 34

TOTAL 201

from 52.4 overs

1st inns: 1-6, 2-78

	O	M	R	W
Johnston	12	2	48	0
Cusack	12	3	25	2
Cullen	6	0	24	0
Delaney	10	4	19	2
Molins	5	0	33	0
Bray	6	0	26	0
O'Reilly	1	0	6	1
Synnott	0.4	0	9	0

45 Over League Final 2005

Clontarf v The Hills

THE HILLS

B.Thomas	c Johnston b D'Arcy	4
G.Morgan	c Maybury b D'Arcy	11
B.J.Archer	c Maybury b D'Arcy	2
M.Lax	c Maybury b Johnston	1
K.Penke	b Cullen	22
J.O'Herlihy +	c Maybury b Bray	35
J.Clinton *	b Molins	7
L.Clinton	c and b Bray	10
N.Akhtar	c O'Reilly b Bray	18
M.J.A.Dwyer	not out	3
D.Byrne	c Johnston b Bray	5
Extras	(B 1; LB 1; W 20; NB 1)	23
TOTAL		141

from 44.4 overs

1st inns: 1-6, 2-16, 3-18, 4-24, 5-67, 6-96, 7-104, 8-121, 9-134, 10-141

	O	M	R	W
Johnston	9	4	14	1
D'Arcy	9	2	24	3
Cusack	8	3	17	0
Molins	9	0	31	1
Cullen	5	0	30	1
Bray	4.4	0	23	4

CLONTARF

A.Cusack	b J.Clinton	68
J.Pilroy	lbw b Penke	30
D.Rigby	not out	34
D.Johnston *	not out	8
Extras	(W 3)	3
TOTAL	2 wickets	143

from 32.2 overs

1st inns: 1-61, 2-123

	O	M	R	W
L.Clinton	8	1	23	0
J.Clinton	7	0	29	1
Penke	5	1	15	1
Lax	4.2	0	27	0
Archer	3	0	17	0
Byrne	3	0	17	0
Akhtar	2	0	15	0

Lion Sports Irish Senior Cup Final

North County v Railway Union Railway Union

G.Carroll c D'Connell b J.Mooney 21

K.Carroll c D.Armstrong b Strydom 0

C.Mullen lbw Strydom 20

A.Murphy c D.Armstrong b Botha 80

M.Teriq b Botha 4

G.Black lbw P.Martin 18

P.Johnston b Botha 13

R.Wheelan c Strydom b P.Martin 4

G.O'Meara not out 5

J.Rogan not out 3

Extras 14

Total 182 for 8

Did Not Bat: G.O'Brien

FDW 1-1 2-32 3-73 4-80 5-134 6-150 7-160 8-179

R.Strydom 10-2-23-2 P.Mooney 7-1-19-0 A.Botha 10-2-43-3 J.Mooney

G.O-23-1 D.Harper 6-0-17-0 P.Martin 9-1-38-2 C.Armstrong 2-0-15-0



2005 Irish Senior Cup Winners - North County




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LEINSTER PHOTO SPECIAL

Munster Cricket Union – Review of 2005

James Doran and Robert Duggan



Cork County XI

The lead story of the 2005 Season in Munster had to be the growing dominance of the Limerick clubs as Shannon-side teams captured the Division 1 and 2 titles and the Munster Junior Cup.

Limerick CC's 1st XI almost went through the season unbeaten, their one

defeat coming in their very last match when they lost by 19 runs to UCC for whom Ur Rehman proved to be the matchwinner with figures of 6 for 33 off 13 overs.

But Limerick's title success was a very close run thing as Cork County matched Limerick's playing record of Played 12; Won 7; No Result 4 and Lost 1 – the title being decided in Limerick's favour by just 7 points, the difference between the two teams' bonus point totals.

County's one loss was a 17 run defeat by Limerick in the season's most closely contested match which took place as early in the season as May 21st. The scorecard from that match amply demonstrated Limerick's all-round strength-in-depth with significant scores coming from batsmen Azeem (77), Anthony Hartigan (44no), Mel Seibert (35no) and Zulfiqar (39) and the 10 County wickets being shared by bowlers Gay Lawlor, Alam, Alan Lynch and Mel Seibert.

May also proved to be the best month of the season for the Munster Reds who fought a very impressive campaign in the LCU 45 Overs League. In the opening rounds the Reds comfortably beat Leinster CC, Pembroke and Old Belvedere with opening bat, Ted Williamson, leading the way with innings of 58 and 74.

Williamson's fine form with the bat continued in the semi-final but his brilliant 109 – his maiden century in LCU competition – was unable to prevent Clontarf from progressing to the final.

The Reds fared less well in the second half of the season suffering 9 defeats in the Whitney Moore Keller competition. Some of the defeats were self-inflicted with a good example being the loss to Malahide at the Mardyke when spinner Mike Reid's fine bowling of 5 for 38 was instrumental in restricting the visitors to a total of 219 only for the Reds to self-destruct with 3 batsmen run out as they fell 13 runs short of the Malahide total.

Generally the greater strength in depth of Dublin's leading sides was a telling factor, it was notable that on several occasions the Reds were mainly thwarted by a single opposition player's batting performance. Fourie's 116 not out for Phoenix was the decisive factor in the home defeat to Phoenix in August. J. Botha's 71 made the difference in the Malahide game and W. R. Hinkel's 91 contributed to the Reds 82 run defeat by CYM.

On the positive side relegation to Section B will allow the Reds time to consolidate and afford some of the team's younger debutants in 2005 such as Aman Yadav, Seamus Gee and Darren

Munster Senior League Division 1 2005

	P	W	T	NR	L	BP	Pts
Limerick	12	7	0	4	1	57	229
Cork County	12	7	0	4	1	50	221
Midleton	12	4	0	5	5	40	144
UCC	12	3	0	2	7	27	103
Waterloosville	12	1	0	3	7	24	68

Fogarty the opportunity to gain further experience at a less intensely competitive level.

Returning to Munster-based competition, Cork County gained ample revenge for their League loss by comprehensively turning the tables on Limerick in their Munster Senior Cup semi-final clash. Mike Reid's 4 for 14 was the key bowling performance as County skittled the visitors for just 112 with Ross Durity top scoring with an unbeaten 50 in Cork's ten wickets victory.



Cork County CC Munster Senior Cup Winners 2005

Senior Cup Final – Cork County v UC

CORK COUNTY CC			
S Hickey	bowled 32	I McGee	10 0 39 1
R Durity	not out 110	S Kulkarni	9 0 58 0
R Duggan	ct. Rizwan 25	M Ul Rehman	10 1 29 0
N Tynan	LBW 0	Waqaar	8 1 27 1
B Lordan	ct. McGee 13	Justine	10 0 71 2
C Atkinson	ct. Hinkel 6	J Kulkarni	3 0 25 2
K Sorenson	ct. Upathay 20		
K Banks*	not out 13		
D Fogarty			
M Reid			
P Coleman+			
Extras	fb, lb, nb, w, p 40		
Total	(6 wkts, 50.0 overs)	259	

UC			
J Kulkarni*	bowled 21	C Atkinson	6 0 12 0
V Upathay	ct. Reid 0	B Lordan	7 1 20 2
S Kulkarni	ct. Sorenson (sub) 6	K Banks	0 2 39 5
Rizwan	bowled 14	M Reid	10 0 35 1
Waqaar	bowled 37	S Hickey	5 1 10 1
Mahabub+	run out 6	N Tynan	1 0 11 0
M Ul Rehman	not out 9		
Justine	bowled 0		
M Samanta	bowled 0		
I McGee	LBW 1		
Extras	fb, lb, nb, w, p 28		
Total	(all out, 38.2 overs)	125	

Durity maintained his excellent batting form with an unbeaten century as County went on to claim the Senior Cup by beating UCC by 134 runs in a match which they never looked like losing.

Limerick's dominance was re-asserted in the Munster Junior Cup, however, as their 2nd XI beat Galway in an entertaining and highly competitive match which could have gone either way but was eventually turned in Limerick's favour by man-of-the-match David Lynch's half-century and three wickets.

An important factor in the Shannon-side teams' successes over the past year has been the contribution from Limerick's growing Asian population, a contribution which significantly assisted Limerick's 2nd XI to the Division 2 title in 2005.

A mainstay of the side, 15 year old Shenshah Shahab had a particularly memorable season as he not only won divisional cup and league winners medals but also gained selection for the Irish U15 international team following his performances with the Munster U15 team in the U15 interprovincial tournament.

Limerick's cricketing hegemony did not extend to winning Division 3 or the Munster Minor Cup. The Division 3 title went to Co. Tipperary with Clonmel CC winners by a comfortable 40 point margin.

Midleton CC won the Minor Cup for the second time in three years beating Cork Harlequins by 141 runs with the major contributors to the East Cork side's win being 18 year old Michael White who top-scored with 62 and Tarik Aziz who took 5 wickets for 20 runs.

Another young Midleton player to perform impressively in 2005 was Robert Smyth who was selected to represent Southern Irish Schools in their matches against Ulster Schools, Melbourne GS and the Irish Leprechauns.

There were significant off the field developments to report as well. Post season a second limping course tutored by LCU&SA members Alan Tuffery and David Walsh resulted in 9 candidates securing the ACUS GL6 qualification.

Formal reviews are underway on structures and strategies to improve the effectiveness of administration and increase participation with the most significant development with regard to increasing participation in 2006 being the MCU's anticipated involvement in the National Coaching Development Programme.

JMD



Red Williamson

NCU Review



Twenty20 David Kennedy MOM



Twenty20 Winners - North Down



The 2005 Ulster Bank Senior One title was shared between the two outstanding teams of the season, North Down and Waringstown. Both won 15 of their 18 league games and were well clear of the chasing pack.

Both sides had players who featured prominently in the Senior averages, with Waringstown having 6 players in the top 11, namely James Hall, Kyle McCullan, Simon Harrison, Simon Stokes, Stuart Kidd and Ijaz Ahmed. For North Down, Taimur Khan topped the bowling, while Marty Dalzell, Martin Moreland and Ralph Coetzee all finished in the top 15. Incidentally, Coetzee bowled the most overs in the NCU, just 213 in the whole campaign!

Regan West of Bangor topped the batting averages, scoring 907 runs at a healthy average of 82.45, beating North Down skipper Peter Shields who averaged 70.17, by virtue of only being dismissed 6 times while scoring 421 runs. Freddie Van Der Berg was the leading run scorer in the division, with 1030 runs, but it was to no avail as Derragh were relegated for playing an ineligible player.

As expected the professionals were very much to the fore in the batting averages, with in addition to West, Taimur and Shoab Khan, J Arunkumar, A Khurasiya, Godbole and Ahmed all scored heavily.

The Senior Cup saw North Down triumph again, with a comfortable win over Downpatrick, thanks to a Man of the Match performance from David Kennedy. Academy also had a well deserved cup victory, much to the delight of everyone associated with the club.

The race for the Senior Two title was every bit as nail biting as that of Senior One. Civil Service North and Muckamore both finished level on 56 points, but CSN prevailed in a play-off, and therefore gained promotion.

Lower down the leagues, CIYMS saw off the challenge of Donacloyne, while in Senior Four Dungannon pipped Donaghadee to the title.

NCU Award Winners

Peter Shields of North Down won the Larry Warke Trophy for the best batsman scoring 421 runs for an average of 70.17.

Lisburn's **David Simpson** was the leading wicket taker with 30 wickets at an average of 15.27 and received the Sonny Hool Trophy.

The Jack Bowden trophy for best all rounder was won by **Freddie Van der Burgh** of Derragh. His 1030 runs including a highest score of 140 not out at an average of 64.38. Freddie also took 28 wickets for an average of 21.32.

Waringstown skipper **Jonathan Bushe** won the Dai Jones Trophy for wicket keepers with a total of 47 victims (30 catches and 17 stumpings).

Maultsaid Awards

These are presented annually for the best batting and bowling performances in the Newry & Down Democrat Challenge Cup.

CIYMS's **Richard Lucas** won the batting award after scoring 120 not out against Larne in the first round at Sandy Bay. The bowling award was presented to Cliftonville's **Richard Stirling** (5 for 28) in the third round against Lurgan.

James Shannon (Instonians) and **Paul Stirling** (Cliftonville) shared the Jim Hasley Trophy as the best under 15 player.

David Kennedy of North Down was the popular winner of this year's Fair Play Award presented by Joy Muir, Chairman of the NIACUS.

A special presentation was made to recognise **Kyle McCullan** becoming the most capped Irish Player (128 caps) when in 2005 he exceeded the previous highest recorded by Alan Lewis (121) of CIYM.

Newry & Down Democrat Challenge Cup 2005

Downpatrick		1st Innings	
J Cunningham	c Robin Haire b Dalzell 1	M Dalzell	10 1 35 1
N Gelston	c & b Coetzee 34	W Adams	10 2 32 3
J Magowan	b Coetzee 34	R Coetzee	10 2 23 2
G Ferguson	b Adams 57	M Moreland	10 0 49 0
P Lenehan	run out 7	I Cleland	10 0 65 1
D Mullan	st Shields b Adams 47		
G Ringland	c Coetzee b Adams 10		
P Tate	not out 7		
S Ferguson	b Cleland 1		
A Bassett	run out 3		
C Magowan			
Extras	7		
Total	for 9 wickets 208		

FOW: 1-2, 2-51, 3-92, 4-111, 5-179, 6-197, 7-197, 8-198, 9-208

North Down		1st Innings	
Ryan Haire	c S Ferguson b Mullan 17	J Cunningham	8 1 37 1
N Russell	s S Ferguson b Mullan 51	P Tate	6 0 45 1
D Kennedy	lbw Gelston 19	D Mullan	10 0 48 2
Robin Haire	c S Ferguson b Tate 11	C Magowan	10 0 28 0
R Coetzee	not out 51	N Gelston	10 1 25 1
P Shields	c Bassett b Cunningham 36	J Magowan	6 0 23 0
M Moreland	not out 13		
D Moreland			
I Cleland			
W Adams			
M Dalzell			
Extras	19		
Total	for 5 wickets 217		

Downpatrick		2nd Innings	
P Lenehan	c Shields b Dalzell 18	M Dalzell	8 2 12 1
N Gelston	c D Moreland b Adams 17	W Adams	8 4 26 1
J Magowan	run out 5	I Cleland	8 1 27 1
D Mullan	run out 23	R Coetzee	9.5 1 16 2
G Ferguson	c & b Cleland 1	M Moreland	7 0 26 3
P Tate	c & b M Moreland 18		
J Cunningham	c Ryan Haire b M Moreland 2		
G Ringland	c Ryan Haire b Coetzee 20		
C Magowan	lbw M Moreland 1		
S Ferguson	not out 0		
A Bassett	b Coetzee 0		
Extras	3		
Total	all out 108		

North Down		2nd Innings	
Ryan Haire	not out 31	C Magowan	4 0 15 0
N Russell	lbw Cunningham 7	J Cunningham	3 0 22 1
D Kennedy	not out 52	P Tate	3 0 24 0
		D Mullan	3 1 11 0
		A Bassett	3 0 17 0
		G Ferguson	2 0 11 0

Downpatrick		3rd Innings	
P Lenehan	not out 10		
N Gelston	not out 10		
J Magowan	not out 10		
D Mullan	not out 10		
G Ferguson	not out 10		
P Tate	not out 10		
J Cunningham	not out 10		
G Ringland	not out 10		
C Magowan	not out 10		
S Ferguson	not out 10		
A Bassett	not out 10		
Extras	10		
Total	for 1 wicket 100		

North Down		4th Innings	
Ryan Haire	not out 31	C Magowan	4 0 15 0
N Russell	lbw Cunningham 7	J Cunningham	3 0 22 1
D Kennedy	not out 52	P Tate	3 0 24 0
		D Mullan	3 1 11 0
		A Bassett	3 0 17 0
		G Ferguson	2 0 11 0

Downpatrick		5th Innings	
P Lenehan	not out 10		
N Gelston	not out 10		
J Magowan	not out 10		
D Mullan	not out 10		
G Ferguson	not out 10		
P Tate	not out 10		
J Cunningham	not out 10		
G Ringland	not out 10		
C Magowan	not out 10		
S Ferguson	not out 10		
A Bassett	not out 10		
Extras	10		
Total	for 1 wicket 100		

FOW: 1-13



NORTHERN CRICKET UNION OF IRELAND

2005 SECTION 1 BATTING AVERAGES (Minimum 100 runs)

		R.D.	RUINS	H.S.	AVE.
R West (Bangor)	18	7	907	138*	82.45
F Shields (North Down)	14	8	421	100	70.17
F v der Berg (Derryghy)	19	3	1030	146*	64.38
T Arunkumar (Downpatrick)	17	2	905	163	60.33
T Khan (North Down)	16	3	671	89	51.62
S Khan (Cliftonville)	16	2	694	81*	49.57
A Niell (Cliftonville)	10	1	458	122	48.07
A Cousins (Waringstown)	17	2	725	107*	48.33
D Kennedy (North Down)	16	5	526	75*	47.32
K McCallan (Waringstown)	14	4	473	85*	47.00
R Coetzee (North Down)	20	9	513	72	46.64
A Khuraysa (Lisburn)	18	4	626	179*	44.29
N Goodbole (Lurgan)	18	0	771	120	42.83
M Hutchison (Bangor)	20	3	796	108*	41.53
P Hanna (Waringstown)	17	2	532	53*	41.50
Ryan Haire (North Down)	23	2	863	117	41.10
I Ahmed (Waringstown)	17	2	585	105	39.90
S Singh (Carrickfergus)	12	2	389	107*	38.90
N Russell (North Down)	23	2	752	110	35.81
N Cavan (Instonians)	14	3	393	81	35.73
J Stevenson (Instonians)	17	1	559	102	34.94
J Terrett (Cliftonville)	19	5	478	110*	34.14
J Rushe (Waringstown)	19	5	438	71	29.29
R Eagleson (Carrickfergus)	19	4	454	91*	31.27
D Simpson (Lisburn)	16	1	440	102	29.33
A v der Merwe (Derryghy)	17	1	465	70	29.06
E Molson (Instonians)	18	5	332	50*	28.62
J Hall (Waringstown)	13	2	313	74	28.45
D Mullin (Downpatrick)	20	2	463	27	27.25
R Strling (Cliftonville)	20	0	542	101	27.10
D Mensah (Carrickfergus)	17	1	418	114	26.13
E Cooper (Carrickfergus)	17	1	416	87	26.00
M McCann (Lisburn)	16	4	312	61	26.00
J Muhsallan (Lisburn)	14	1	310	60*	23.85
P Linehan (Downpatrick)	20	2	423	45	23.50
G McKee (Cliftonville)	16	0	347	71	21.69
N Gelston (Downpatrick)	20	1	408	89*	21.47
A Williamson (Bangor)	16	0	326	59	20.38
N Khan (Carrickfergus)	19	3	315	61	19.69
G Ferguson (Downpatrick)	19	0	369	82	19.42
P McMillan (Bangor)	18	0	338	64	18.78
A Kenny (Derryghy)	18	0	330	77	18.33

2005 SECTION 1 BOWLING AVERAGES (Minimum 15 wickets)

	O.	M.	R.	W.	B.B.	AVE.
T Khan (North Down)	145	38	389	31	5/7	11.90
J Hall (Waringstown)	59	7	221	16	4/17	13.81
D Simpson (Lisburn)	148	32	458	30	3/16	15.27
J Shannon (Instonians)	69	6	249	18	4/17	15.56
K McCallan (Waringstown)	170	36	576	36	1/17	16.00
M McCord (Bangor)	158	32	424	26	3/11	16.31
S Harrison (Waringstown)	143	20	505	30	4/27	16.83
S Stokes (Waringstown)	92	7	397	21	7/13	18.90
C McCully (Cliftonville)	74	12	287	15	3/15	19.13
I Ahmed (Waringstown)	150	32	386	20	3/26	19.30
E Molson (Instonians)	170	35	499	25	3/18	19.96
M Dalzell (North Down)	191	21	651	32	4/25	20.34
R Coetzee (North Down)	213	37	640	31	4/47	20.65
R West (Bangor)	157	32	498	24	4/23	20.75
M Moreland (North Down)	263	17	797	38	4/25	20.97
F v der Berg (Derryghy)	148	11	597	28	5/28	21.32
I Cleland (North Down)	163	11	729	34	4/31	21.44
G Kidd (Waringstown)	93	9	439	20	4/17	21.95
S Wells (Instonians)	94	8	376	17	4/30	22.12
S Khan (Cliftonville)	170	32	627	28	4/31	22.39
R Eagleson (Carrickfergus)	123	16	453	20	4/41	22.65
C Magowan (Downpatrick)	117	16	470	20	3/25	23.50
S Shely (Bangor)	97	8	376	16	4/20	23.50
P Sterling (Cliftonville)	131	12	589	25	4/26	23.56
G Els (Derryghy)	136	10	554	23	4/26	24.09
B Anderson (Cliftonville)	170	21	736	30	4/23	24.53
J Cunningham (Downpatrick)	79	3	376	15	4/23	25.07
P McCormick (Cliftonville)	91	6	413	16	3/28	25.81
G McKee (Bangor)	131	14	630	24	4/14	26.25
P Tate (Downpatrick)	161	18	695	25	4/27	27.80
N Khan (Carrickfergus)	115	8	500	17	4/10	29.41
D Mensah (Carrickfergus)	168	21	591	20	3/18	29.55
A v der Merwe (Derryghy)	149	21	514	17	3/19	30.24
A Duke (Lurgan)	117	9	608	20	3/36	30.40
J Stewart (Bangor)	173	19	711	23	3/17	30.91
S Anderson (Lurgan)	124	7	478	15	2/22	31.60
D Mullin (Downpatrick)	178	27	658	19	3/18	34.63
P Stafford (Lurgan)	171	15	697	19	3/24	36.68
B Johnson (Instonians)	141	12	558	15	3/43	37.20
N Goodbole (Lurgan)	159	12	586	15	3/13	39.07
P Maxwell (Lurgan)	144	18	598	15	2/15	39.87

Lions Sports Twenty20 Final

North Down v Carrick Eagles

22 July 2005

The Green

Result: North Down won by 6 wickets

Man of the Match: David Kennedy (North Down)

Loss: Carrick Eagles

Umpires: T Henry, S Alexander

CARRICK EAGLES

N Khan	c M Moreland b Cleland	18	T Khan	4	0	21	0
S Singh+	c Shields b Cleland	3	I Cleland	4	0	23	2
D Mensah	c Shields b Adams	17	W Adams	4	0	18	1
R Eagleson	c Kennedy b Ryan Haire	24	M Moreland	4	0	23	1
C Hamilton	b Ryan Haire	6	Ryan Haire	4	0	21	2
B Clements	c b Khan	4					
A Cowden			not out	11			
A McCalmont	c Russell b M Moreland	11					
M Gilmore			not out	1			

Extras (b 2, w 11) 13
Total (7 wkts, 20.0 overs) 108

A Martin, V Sharma did not bat

FOW: 1-9 (S Singh) 2-35 (N Khan) 3-53 (D Mensah) 4-63 (C Hamilton) 5-68 (B Clements) 6-88 (R Eagleson) 7-107 (A McCalmont)

NORTH DOWN

Ryan Haire	ct McClements b Khan	27	R Eagleson	2	0	15	0
N Russell	b Khan	5	N Khan	4	1	11	2
D Kennedy	c McClements b Cowden	41	A Martin	3	0	29	0
T Khan	st Singh b Cowden	15	V Sharma	2	0	22	0
G Rodgers			A Cowden	3	2	20	2
P Shields+*			M Gilmore	2	0	11	0

Extras (b 2, w 8) 10
Total (4 wkts, 16.2 overs) 110

Robin Haire, M Moreland, D Moreland, I Cleland, W Adams did not bat

FOW: 1-22 (N Russell) 2-37 (Ryan Haire) 3-90 (T Khan) 4-101 (D Kennedy)

NCU Senior League Tables

Ulster Bank League Senior One

	P	W	T	L	Pts
Waringstown	18	15	0	3	60
North Down	18	15	0	3	60
Downpatrick	18	11	0	7	44
Lisburn	18	11	0	7	44
Bangor	18	10	0	8	40
Instonians	18	9	0	9	36
Cliftonville	18	7	0	11	28
Lurgan	18	7	0	11	28
Carrickfergus	18	5	0	13	20
Derryghy	18	0	0	18	0

Ulster Bank League Senior Two

	P	W	T	L	Pts
Civil Service North	18	14	0	4	56
Mackmore	18	14	0	4	56
Woodvale	16	11	0	5	44
Cooke's Collegians	18	9	1	8	38
Ballymena	18	9	0	9	36
Armagh	18	8	0	10	32
Dunmurry	17	7	0	10	28
Laurelville	18	7	0	11	28
Larne	17	5	0	12	20
Hollywood	18	3	1	14	14

Ulster Bank League Senior Three

	P	W	T	L	Pts
CFMS	15	14	0	1	56
Donaghadee	15	12	0	3	48
Templepatrick	16	8	0	8	32
Sarsfield	16	8	0	8	32
Academy	16	8	0	8	32
Durham	14	7	0	7	28
Drumarna	16	7	0	9	28
Crugagh	15	3	0	12	12
Milpark	15	2	0	13	8
PSNI	0	0	0	0	0

Ulster Bank League Senior Four

	P	W	T	L	Pts
Dunmurry	12	10	0	2	40
Donaghadee	12	8	0	4	32
Indian Gymkhana	12	7	0	5	28
Portadown	12	6	0	6	24
Ards	12	5	0	7	20
East Belfast	12	3	0	9	12
Victoria	12	3	0	9	12
Newry & Mourne	0	0	0	0	0



**NCU PHOTO
SPECIAL**

COLOURFUL YEAR ON THE NORTH-WEST

Lawrence Moore looks back on an eventful year in North-West cricket and the teams and players who hit the headlines for all the right reasons!

In keeping with events nationally and internationally, the 2005 season in the North West was one of the most eventful in years.

Whilst England was reclaiming the Ashes from the 'auld enemy' amidst nationwide euphoria, the local scene was buzzing with the most wide open title race in memory.

Throw into the mix Ireland's hugely successful hosting of this summer's ICC Trophy Competition, topped with the host's qualification for the World Cup in the West Indies in 2007, and you begin to get an idea of the legacy being left behind.

Many here would have been forgiven for assuming that the main competitions, League 1, Senior Cup, Faughan Valley, Club Turf and Irish Senior Cup, would have again been the preserve of the Big Three, Limavady, Donemana and Brigade, but it wasn't just that simple this year.

Unbelievably in fact, with five matches left, only two points separated the top SEVEN teams in Section 1, meaning that followers of all clubs were able to enjoy prolonged interest.

Donemana, who were eventually to come out on top, led the league early, and whilst they came in for stinging criticism at times about their "lack of mobility", were rarely outside the top two all year.

Jordan McGonigle's side were, for the first time in memory, knocked out of all the major cup competitions in the first round, and on hindsight, that may well have helped them to the title. Dwayne McGerrigle had a fantastic year batting up the order, his side one of the few prepared to avail of the rule change in relation to field settings for the first fifteen overs. His opening partner, Professional Azhar Shafique, had another fruitful season with both bat and ball, and yet again proved himself the man for the big occasion. All too often players' averages are bolstered by runs against indifferent sides, but in Shafique's case, they all come alike.

Certainly his 88 not out in what was ultimately to prove the title decider against Limavady was symptomatic of his performances with the Tyrone club.

Skipper McGonigle, another former Ireland International, has proved to be a good leader, although his passion for the cause saw him fall foul of the Disciplinary Committee for the second time in three seasons.

I doubt if he'll have been too worried about that 'though when presented with the senior league trophy. Of the chasing pack, Limavady must surely be bitterly disappointed not to have featured more prominently in the latter stages. Granted they finished joint second in the league race, and were beaten semi-finalists in both the Irish Senior Cup and the Club Turf, but they're used to better than that on Roeside.

Indicative of their problem is the fact that their batting line up which featured Decker Curry, Stephen Smyth, Chris Moore, Zishan Malik, and Ian McGregor scored 4000 runs amongst them. If your batting isn't the problem, that surely narrows down the options, and there's little doubt a strike bowler should be high on their Christmas shopping list.

Brigade is another side who must be looking back on 2005 with a certain amount of disappointment.

Beaten by Drummond, who were accumulating the only two points they were to earn all season, albeit in a 20 over replay, set the tone for a fairly limp defence of their title. They did manage to haul themselves into contention going into the final quarter, but fell away again, not helped by the ban on skipper Gordon Cooke, and the subsequent fallout that followed.

The Beechgrove side is much better than what we've seen this year, but it has to be said, that some of the end-of-season goings-on were difficult to fathom.

Bready came out of nowhere to finish joint second in the league with Limavady, the irony being that their narrow seven runs win over Decker's side on the final day, put a lopsided look on the Division 1 table.

With those seven combatants whittled down to two on the final day of the season, Limavady needed a win at Magheramason, coupled with a win for Eglinton at Donemana, to force a play-off at the top. As things turned out neither happened, leaving Donemana winners by four clear points.

For their part, Bready can comfort themselves in the knowledge that they

have steadily improved their league positions over the past few seasons, and may feel that they are approaching a more sustained challenge.

The club has major development plans in the pipeline, and has the added luxury of a healthy structure behind them, including four teams and a ladies team.

That persistence to build from within may well begin to pay dividends over the next few years. Certainly their ability to keep the likes of spinner Trevor Britton from the clutches of sides with "sweeteners" to offer has to be commended, and was rewarded by Ted winning the Senior 1 bowling averages, and being selected for the Ireland Academy. Britton wasn't the only Bready player to earn himself a reputation mind you, wicket-keeper Stephen Campbell and the likes of David Rankin and Brian Scanlon also had plenty of reason to be proud of their performances.

My own personal tribute to the Magheramason side is that they play the game with a smile on their faces, and that's a real virtue in this era.

Strabane had a very good season, especially in the cups, although they'll also be fairly happy to have been thereabouts in the league race.

Terence Patton's side were, despite their best efforts, unable to add to their 2004 squad, and having lost opening bowler Marty Deans to a broken foot, Peter Gillespie to Ireland duty, and Terence Senior to retirement, many felt they would struggle. You may remember of course that they reached, and lost, all three major cup finals last season, but they were more than made up for that this term.

Even allowing for his Ireland duties, Peter Gillespie topped the North-West batting averages taking the professionals out of the equation, and was well backed up by brother Mark, the evergreen Bobby Rao, and the recovered Deans. With a new ground and clubhouse already under construction, things look good for the club.

Another side with big plans for next year is Ballyspallen, and they too will be reasonably happy with their year's work. John Thompson acquired the services of proven Section 1 performers Nigel Thompson, Jaideep Narse and Gregory McDaid, and added them to the raw potential of Steven Dunn, and Andrew McGinnis ahead of this campaign. It was



however his capture of former Limavady all-rounder Richard McDaid which proved the masterstroke as 'Spallen reached the final of the Northern Bank Senior Cup, and also comfortably finished in the top half of the table.



Bob and Gillian Robinson

Expect plenty more developments at the Bridge, ahead of next season.

Glendermott looked for all the world as though they were going to complete the double at one stage, but things tailed off just a little for them after their cup final victory. Certainly with players of the calibre of Mark Mooney, Bob Robinson, Johnny Thompson, Shaun Hargan, Gordon Montgomery and Gary Neely at his disposal, skipper Gareth Watson could lay claim to having arguably the strongest side on paper throughout the division. Added to that, Professional Pravejan Mullick topped the batting averages, and that after a fairly indifferent start to his residency.

They regularly posted totals in excess of 300 early in the season, although whilst their batting was undoubtedly strong, their ground staff, Davy Watson, Jim Campbell and John Bratton deserve much credit too. But there was a sting in the tail on this one.

With Mr Mullick announcing that he will be returning next year, but to play with Fox Lodge, and not Glendermott! Those two fixtures could be quite fun in 2006. With these sides contesting the business end of the table, it was left to Ardmore, Eglinton and Drummond to scrap for safety.

With players of the quality of Ifkhar Hussain, Paul and Gerard Broily, Kevin Martin and Brian Broily, the Bleachgreen side was always going to be favourites to come good, and so it proved. The key to Ardmore's season was always going to be their ability to get maximum points against their fellow strugglers, and that's exactly what they did. Their safety was assured with plenty to spare, and they were able to divert their attentions to the latter stages of the Club Turf competition,

whilst the other two slogged it out for survival.

The turning point in the relegation battle came when Eglinton, who already had a two point advantage over Drummond, beat their rivals in the August league fixture, to cement their own safety, and consign the losers to Division 2.

Eglinton has struggled in the league of late, and are a far cry from their strong village side of the 80's and 90's, who were among the region's most prolific. Rumours abound in the North-West, that a new backer is about to be unveiled, and that the club hopes to be moving on an upward spiral over the next few years.

Drummond would have been favourites for the drop it must be said, given that they lost no fewer than 9 players to other clubs at the start of the season, and even though in Naved Latif, they unearthed a real jewel, the fact that cricket is a team sport was never more prevalent. The guy may have beaten Brigade on his own in that 20 over game, but during the course of a long season, the price would ultimately have to be paid. Their place in the top flight is to be taken by Fox Lodge, who quite simply ran riot in Division 2.

Jonathan Heywood's side won all 20 of their league games, and captured the Samuel Jeffrey Memorial Shield, only just failing to make it a clean sweep with a surprising defeat by Larne in the final of the Ulster Shield.

Buoyed by the performances of Jonathan Junior, Johnny Robinson, the Clarke brothers, and Michael Walker, the Foxes were awesome as they strode towards promotion. Anyone who witnessed big Walker's hundred in the semi-final of the shield, won't forget it in a hurry.



Junior and James McBryne of Donemana

Division 2 is by no means full of dead wood, Burndennet and a Gareth McKeegan led Killymallyght providing plenty of competition, but neither could tame the Foxes. They look set to bring plenty to the Senior 1 table next year.

As for the Cups, Strabane put their nightmare final run firmly behind them



St Johnston with the Intermediate Cup



Tevence Patton of Strabane

this season, making two finals and winning both. In the Club Turf decider at Eglinton, they were too hot for Ardmore, once again those Gillespie boys among the runs.

The game as a spectacle was ruined by the weather, and reduced to a 10 over bash, Strabane getting home by 22 runs.

However, their Faughan Valley cup win at Beechgrove was a completely different affair; Eglinton posting 224 in their 40 overs, with professional Keith Hibbert hitting 148 not out in a brilliant innings. That was only the beginning of the drama though, Peter and Mark Gillespie and Duminda Perera all out for Strabane and with nine runs needed off three balls, and wickets tumbling all over the place, Ciaran Patton blasted a six and a four to send the Strabane players and supporters delirious.

It was tough luck on Eglinton who looked odds on to claim the trophy, but in a season when cricket has improved its image tenfold, it was another nail-biting finish.

My fervent hope is that with the legacy of all that has happened this summer, both in the North-West, and further afield, the game continues to thrive on its new found impetus.



North West League Tables 2005

Senior One

	P	W	T	NR	L	Pts
Donemana	18	14	0	0	4	24
Limavady	18	12	0	0	6	24
Bready	18	12	0	0	6	24
Glendermott	18	11	0	0	7	22
Strabane	18	11	0	0	7	22
Ballyspallen	18	10	0	0	8	20
Brigade	18	10	0	1	7	20
Ardmore	18	5	0	0	13	10
Eglinton	18	3	0	0	15	6
Drummond	18	1	0	0	17	2

Senior Two

	P	W	T	NR	L	Pts
Fox Lodge	20	20	0	0	0	40
Killymalight	20	15	0	-1	4	30
Burndennett	20	14	0	0	6	28
Creevedonnell	20	12	0	0	8	24
Coleraine	20	12	0	0	8	24
Bond	20	11	0	1	8	22
St Johnston	20	10	0	0	10	20
North Fermanagh	20	5	0	0	15	10
Killycooney	20	5	0	0	15	10
Sion Mills	20	4	0	0	16	8
The Neeld	20	2	0	0	18	4

Intermediate One

	P	W	T	NR	L	Pts
Bready II	18	17	0	0	1	34
Donemana II	18	13	0	2	3	26
Brigade II	18	11	1	1	5	23
Fox Lodge II	18	10	0	4	4	20
Ardmore II	18	10	0	0	8	20
Glendermott II	18	6	1	0	11	13
Eglinton II	18	6	0	2	10	12
Strabane II	18	5	0	1	12	10
Limavady II	18	4	0	1	13	8
Drummond II	18	0	0	3	15	0

Intermediate Two

	P	W	T	NR	L	Pts
Donemana III	18	16	0	1	1	32
Bready III	18	10	0	2	6	20
Killymalight III	18	9	0	1	8	18
Bond	18	9	0	1	8	18
Creevedonnell III	18	9	0	2	9	14
Burndennett III	18	7	0	2	11	14
Killycooney III	18	6	0	2	10	12
Fox Lodge III	18	6	0	1	11	12
Ballyspallen III	18	6	0	3	13	4
Coleraine III	18	2	0	3	13	4

Intermediate Three

	P	W	T	NR	L	Pts
Killycooney III	18	14	0	1	3	28
Eglinton III	18	11	0	1	6	22
Bready IV	18	10	0	3	5	20
St Johnston III	18	10	0	1	7	20
The Neeld III	18	7	0	4	6	15
Ardmore III	18	7	0	3	8	14
Creevedonnell III	18	6	0	3	9	12
Fox Lodge IV	18	5	1	2	10	11
Burndennett III	18	2	0	3	13	4

Senior One Averages

Batting - Qualification 400 runs

Name	Club	Inns	NO	Runs	Ave	HS	50	100
P Mullick	Glendermott	24	5	1421	74.79	166	10	4
W Wast	Brigade	17	4	884	48.00	137*	2	5
P Gillespie	Strabane	17	5	744	62.00	88	7	0
J Nane	Ballyspallen	23	5	1102	61.22	118	6	3
N Latif	Drummond	15	1	787	54.79	139	2	3
Des Curry	Limavady	30	7	1226	53.30	115*	9	2
A Shafiq	Donemana	23	3	1018	50.80	161*	4	3
D Pereira	Strabane	23	7	946	45.95	86	10	0
I McGregor	Limavady	25	4	940	44.76	124*	5	2
I Hussain	Ardmore	25	2	1023	44.48	135*	8	3
A Jacobs	Bready	19	1	793	44.06	116	5	2
S Smyth	Limavady	42	8	967	40.29	100*	4	1
T Malik	Limavady	25	5	803	40.15	108	4	1
K Haberlert	Eglinton	25	1	962	40.08	148*	5	2
A McBride	Donemana	20	6	560	35.00	62	2	0
D McGerrigle	Donemana	20	2	601	33.39	123*	2	0
R McDaid	Ballyspallen	25	2	714	31.04	93	5	0
D Cooke	Brigade	25	3	674	30.64	117	3	1
M McDaid	Limavady	22	6	472	29.75	88*	3	0
M Mooney	Glendermott	22	5	492	28.94	74*	3	0
C Moore	Limavady	27	0	766	28.57	121	6	1
J Thompson	Glendermott	24	2	611	27.77	108	3	1
K Martin	Ardmore	22	2	552	27.00	100*	0	1
J McBride	Donemana	17	1	436	27.20	53	3	0
C Elder	Brigade	22	1	568	27.05	83	5	0
R Robinson	Glendermott	25	5	533	26.65	82	4	0
G Cooke	Brigade	16	1	400	26.00	82	3	0
N Thompson	Ballyspallen	22	5	425	25.00	68*	2	0
T Patton	Strabane	25	1	569	23.71	71	6	0
G McDaid	Ballyspallen	16	0	415	23.05	72	3	0
W Mohammad	Drummond	20	0	450	22.50	66	3	0
A Riddles	Eglinton	24	2	490	22.27	74*	2	0
G Watson	Glendermott	26	1	538	21.52	74	2	0
Mark Gillespie	Strabane	22	2	420	21.00	72	4	0
P Broily	Ardmore	25	1	496	20.66	89	2	0
S Hargan	Glendermott	24	1	454	19.74	79	2	0
Jason Brown	Eglinton	24	1	412	17.96	78*	2	0

Bowling - Qualification 20 wickets

Name	Club	Wkts	Runs	Ave	BB
T Britton	Bready	36	538	14.89	5/14
A McBride	Donemana	41	618	15.07	6-15
B Rao	Strabane	40	630	15.75	6-31
N Thompson	Ballyspallen	35	576	16.46	4-23
G Porter	Strabane	32	544	17.00	4-13
L Broily	Ardmore	27	460	17.04	4-34
Mark Gillespie	Strabane	35	604	17.26	4-18
J Thompson	Glendermott	35	658	17.41	5-20
R McDaid	Ballyspallen	45	787	17.49	7-25
M Simpson	Brigade	43	755	17.56	4-18
J McBride	Donemana	30	539	17.96	5-23
Simon Dunn	Ballyspallen	36	647	17.97	5-18
M Deans	Strabane	36	650	18.06	4-20
G Montgomery	Glendermott	28	546	19.50	4-38
D Pereira	Strabane	33	644	19.52	3-23
Des Curry	Limavady	37	723	19.54	4-24
A Jacobs	Bready	27	528	19.56	4-6
J McGonigle	Donemana	24	473	19.71	3-21
Ger Broily	Ardmore	39	770	19.74	4-19
C Moore	Limavady	38	765	20.13	4-19
R Hepburn	Donemana	37	751	20.20	4-30
C Elder	Brigade	39	607	20.23	4-5
G Neely	Glendermott	43	880	20.46	4-11
R Broce	Brigade	20	411	20.55	3-43
J Thompson	Drummond	39	803	20.64	5-27
J Nane	Ballyspallen	27	568	21.03	4-14
T Hamilton	Bready	26	557	21.42	4-40
I Hussain	Ardmore	27	579	21.44	3-20
S Smyth	Limavady	38	853	22.44	5-5
G Cooke	Brigade	20	461	23.05	4-48
A Riddles	Eglinton	31	725	23.39	6-27
P Mullick	Glendermott	29	688	23.72	6-17
G Wilson	Brigade	21	500	23.80	3-26
N Latif	Drummond	20	506	25.30	5-37
Steven Dunn	Ballyspallen	31	787	25.39	6-39
Jason Brown	Eglinton	31	803	25.90	4-20
K Burns	Limavady	31	810	26.13	4-24
M Mooney	Glendermott	25	664	26.56	4-24
A Shafiq	Donemana	26	731	28.11	4-22
R Stewart	Eglinton	24	710	29.58	5-43
G McElhattan	Glendermott	31	918	29.61	4-15
R Broily	Ardmore	21	720	34.28	3-37



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PHOTOS
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ClubTurf ULSTER CUP FINAL

Alex McDonald reports

THE only trophy in Irish Cricket which Strabane have never won, would have been celebrated long into last night, when the Tyrone team won the ClubTurf Ulster Cup by 22 runs over Ardmore.

This is the seventh year of this competition, and the fourth time it has been won by a team from the North West. With the inclement conditions, the game was reduced to 10 overs a side, and Strabane had first use of the Eglinton wicket.

Skipper Terence Patton and Mark Gillespie put on 14 in the first over, but two runs later Patton was bowled by Brian Broily for five, and then Mark Gillespie who was on 12, holed out at deep mid week wicket, in the second over off Karl O'Doherty, with the score on 16.

Irish International Peter Gillespie, who was later awarded the Man of the Match Award, had a let off in the fourth over when a return catch off Brian Broily was spilled, before he and Perera added a further 72 in the next five overs.

Perera departed the scene for 29 having hit four fours, when he was stumped off Ardmore skipper Ger Broily. In the tenth and final over, Peter Gillespie completed his fifty with a six followed by two more, before he was caught at mid off by Iftikar Hussain off O'Doherty, having hit five sixes and four boundaries in his 61 run innings, made off only 24 deliveries. Brother John added to O'Doherty woes, when he hit a six and four off the last two balls of the innings, with Strabane posting 124-4 in their ten overs.

Ardmore in reply had a superb start, with Hussain clubbing Marty Deans for three sixes, as the Bleachgreen side had 21 on the board after six deliveries. In the third over with the score on 34, Deans had revenge, when Hussain holed out in the deep to Mark Gillespie for 22. Mark Gillespie and Perera coming on in the third and fourth over, changed

the match, when in the next four overs despite opener Giaran Curley hitting two sixes in his 26, before being caught behind, Ardmore were reduced to 76-7. O'Doherty finished on 11 not out, as his side posted 102-9, losing out by 22 runs.

Mark Gillespie finished with the very commendable figures of 4-12, and Perera had 3-11, with both bowling their allotted two overs. Strabane captain Terence Patton in receiving the Trophy, was



Larne Batting in the Ulster Shield



Strabane, ClubTurf Ulster Cup Winners

delighted with his sides win, and thanked all concerned from the Northern Ireland Cricket Association, for this competition, and paid a special thanks to the Eglinton ground staff for their efforts in having the game played.



Miller Time for Strabane



Spectators at Instansians v Strabane

White Horse Inn Ulster Shield

Summary Scorecard:

Larne 182-7 (40 overs, J Repsold 84, T Dempsey 22, S Clarke 2-25, M Walker 3-37, M Ali 2-29)

Fox Lodge 155 all out (32.2 overs, B Allen 47, J Heywood (jnr) 27, E Hunter 2-26, G Gaw 2-21)

Larne beat Fox Lodge by 27 runs.



Larne - White Horse Inn Ulster Shield Winners



The Record Breakers (1) – Peter Gillespie



Peter Gillespie – Quickest 100

2005 certainly was a record breaking year for Irish cricket in more ways than one. 31 year old Peter Gillespie from Strabane broke the record for the fastest ever century for Ireland, against The MCC at Bangor. He just needed 47 balls to reach the landmark, beating the previous record, held by John Prior, who had scored his century off 51 balls against Warwickshire in 1982.

What did Gillespie make of his innings, "It's a great batting track at Bangor, and if I'm honest, it was a pretty friendly bowling attack. They only really had Dave Langford-Smith who made any sort of an impression. He had already bowled his initial spell, and was coming back against batsmen who were set, which isn't the easiest thing to do.

It was one of those innings where everything went right, if I could bottle what transpired that day, and sell it, I'd



Peter Gillespie batting for Ireland

be a very rich man. It really was the perfect innings. Everything I hit came off the middle of the bat, went wide of the fielders into the gaps. I didn't give a chance, and was really helped by my partners. I must pay particular tribute to Mark Hutchinson, who was making his debut, and Conor Armstrong. When I went in initially, I was trying to guide Conor who was close to his hundred, but eventually fell short.

When he went, I just kept putting the bad ball away, and towards the end tried to score as many as quickly as possible. Mark kept pushing me all the way, making me run the hard two's when maybe I would have settled for a single. It wasn't a particularly long innings, but when you have to run 4 or 5 consecutive two's, it can be very physically demanding.

I really enjoyed the knock, which I suppose you could say was a little out of character for me. Adi has identified a role for me within the team, which is to basically score at a run a ball. Mine's is to score at a high pace with a low risk strategy, while always putting away the bad ball. On the day something just clicked, and it all fell into place. The outfield was very quick and the ball was really coming onto the bat.

While the fact it was the quickest ever hundred was something of a blur at the time, I've come now to really appreciate it, and the fact that it was also my first hundred, makes it extra special. I was helped by the fact that I raced from 50 to

80 in just 2 overs, and it was only then that I began to take stock of the situation. It was in that period that I scamped a lot of two's and when I was faced with the final ball needing 4, I was blissfully unaware that it was the final delivery. Whatever way I looked at the scoreboard, I thought there was still another over left, so thankfully when I dispatched the long hop, there were no real nerves on my part. Instinct took over and I was ready for the short ball, which thankfully disappeared over the ropes.

Asked about another personal milestone which is looming on the horizon, Gillespie answers with a typically straight bat: "Obviously there are elements within a team game where personal ambitions come into it. I was never initially a front line batsman. I came into the side originally as a bowler who could bat, and since then I've batted in every position except opener. I've batted as high as three, and as low as 11. It's really only since Adrian Birrell has taken over that I've found a settled role at number 5 in the side, scoring at a run a ball.

I haven't given much thought as to where I'm likely to win my 100th cap. It's a very strong team at the moment, and I'm just focusing on getting to 98 first. I don't want to take anything for granted, it purely depends on me scoring runs in every game that I play, and as long as I continue to do that, the caps will take care of themselves."



Irish Record Maker Peter Gillespie being congratulated by Joe Doherty



Record Breakers 2 – Kyle McCallan

July 7th 2005 was definitely a red letter day as far as Kyle Mc Callan was concerned. Not only did Ireland confirm their place in the 2007 World Cup in the West Indies, but in the process, the all rounder became the most capped player in Irish cricket history, surpassing the 121 held by former Irish captain Alan Lewis. The pair are part of a very select grouping of Irish Internationals, who have joined the '100 club.' In addition to Mc Callan and Lewis, the others are Garfield Harrison, Angus Dunlop, and Stephen Warke.

"It really was a fantastic feeling, but it must be said, that it was at the back of my mind initially. The Denmark game was foremost in my thoughts, but once qualification had been sealed, it was as if two Christmas Days had come at once. To receive a phone call from Alan Lewis, who I had looked up to right from the junior ranks, was a huge high for me. Just to be associated with the great names is a very humbling experience. To be talked about in the same breath as players of that calibre, is a huge honour."

Mc Callan has played 128 times now since making his debut against Wales in 1996, and he has several highlights. "The most obvious highlight at the moment was winning the InterContinental Cup in Namibia, probably because it is most recent, but also because of the manner in which we played our cricket. It was an awesome display, coming back like we did.

The Surrey game was also a big win for us, and to be involved at the end seeing the side home was very satisfying. Beating Middlesex in 1997 was my first big win. It's become more frequent now, but back then it was a case of, is this really happening? The Zimbabwe and West Indies victories were also very sweet.

Getting Brian Lara out once at Warwickshire was a great personal memory for me, and we gave a very good account of ourselves in that game. Also getting a hundred with my family watching against the MCC, in just my 2nd game at Malahide, was special."

Has the gradual descent down the batting order worried Mc Callan? "No, not at all. Adi and myself have obviously chatted about my role in the team, and I've got the mentality of a top order batsman, even though I'm at number 9. The number of games which are won with the lower order at the crease, is there for everybody to see, and myself and Andrew



Kyle McCallan with Joe Doherty and Stan Mitchell

White have been tagged as 'finishers'. It's nice to know that the side has got the comfort of such strong batting. A good example is that of John Mooney, who has won two Irish Cup Final MOM Awards for his batting, has been at times our number 11.

It's the strength of the side at the moment. I have been part of Irish teams where once it was the case when it got to 6 or 7 down, it was time to put on the bowling boots. It's a great side to be part of at the minute, and hopefully if I'm given an opportunity to move up the order, I'll be able to take it. Bowling is my main focus now, and my performance against Kenya was a highlight. Adi had been imploring me to try and bowl out teams, and to do it against a quality side was great. It was great to be able to get my teeth into my bowling, and the opportunity to bowl long spell. The wicket of Tikolo was the pivotal moment in the game, and once he went, their spirit disappeared.

The longer game suited my type of cricket, and of course the pitches tend to deteriorate in the 2nd innings, which suit the spinners. In the One Day game, there tends to be very little in it for the spinners, and you are relying on increasing pressure by bowling dots. It's very hard to bowl out players in the One Day format, whereas in Namibia it was very pleasing to have players caught around the bat, to feel as if you had really dismissed them, rather than having them caught in the deep slogging."

How much longer did Kyle feel that he could continue at this level, given his relatively young age? "I obviously have to take other issues into consideration, notably my wife. Having said that, I think it would be a terrible tragedy for Irish cricket, if post World Cup, we lost Adrian Birrell, and a number of the Senior players decided to call it a day. I think it's something the administrators need to look carefully at, giving the players an incentive to play on beyond the World Cup. With the level of commitment that Irish cricket are asking at the moment of amateur players, it's obvious that something has got to give priority wise soon.

Having said that, I'd love to try and play 150 times for Ireland, and who knows, maybe even 200 times, if I'm playing well enough. I'll know when it's time to call it a day, but my appetite for the game is as strong as it ever was, and with big games coming up, it's no problem staying motivated. We have the C&G Trophy and the England game. We have the two overseas players coming in, and they are both spinners. I don't see that as a negative, in fact, I'll be looking to learn from them. Hopefully I'll be able to bowl in tandem with them, and learn about their tactics and variation."

What's abundantly clear about Kyle Mc Callan is that he is clearly looking ahead to 2006 and indeed the World Cup in 2007. Despite his 128 caps, he's still willing to learn the game and he is showing no signs of resting on his laurels.



Where are they now? – John Prior

The previous holder of the quickest century for Ireland, John Andrew Prior, now lives and works in Sydney, Australia. The 45 year old looks back at his 51 ball innings against Warwickshire in 1982.

"24 years is a long time. The statistics will show that it took 51 balls, but what I can't explain is how it happened, because ultimately, I feel it flattered me.

There was very little thought in the whole process. It was just one of those things that comes naturally. The runs came in big lumps – an over of bouncers on a placid pitch, which ended up in the gardens over square leg. There was also an over from England Test bowler Gladstone Small, where the first 5 balls all went for boundaries!

My feet moved without being asked – it was all instinctive. I'm sure if the ground had been bigger, then it wouldn't have happened. I remember showering afterwards, (the Leinster showers were the best), and corny as it sounds, thanking my creator for the adventure. I made a conscious effort to appreciate the effort.

I think I realized even back then, that it was an episode in the nature of a shooting star – glowing brightly, but only for a short time. The stars of the better players burned for much longer. I celebrated that night with a few pints in Mulligans bar along with the players."

For the record, the Warwickshire and Ireland teams, that day on 25 August 1982, were as follows;

Warwickshire: TA Lloyd, KD Smith, AM Ferreira, GW Humpage, AJ Kallicharran, PR Oliver, Asif Din, PA Smith, C Lethbridge, GC Small, SP Sutcliffe.

Ireland: MA Masood, MF Cohen, RT Wills, JJ Anderson, JA Prior, SJS Warke, JD Monteith, PB Jackson, R Torrens, M Halliday, PM O' Reilly.

John Prior played 37 times for Ireland, scoring 1134 runs at an average of 25.77. That innings of 119 versus Warwickshire was his highest score, and in addition he made 7 half centuries. He also took 11 wickets and 24 catches.

The Award Winners

Sunday Independent Irish Player of the Year 2005 – Eoin Morgan

What a year it's been for Ireland's rising star and batting sensation Eoin Morgan. The 19 year old played a pivotal role, as Ireland qualified for the 2007 World Cup in the West Indies, and collected the 2005 InterContinental Cup. In addition, Morgan was one of the stars of the ICC U19 World Cup in Sri Lanka, finishing the second highest run scorer in the competition.

Batting highlights for the Middlesex player, included a Man of the Match performance against Yorkshire in the C&G Trophy, when he scored 59, a sparkling 93 in the ICC Trophy opener at Stormont, and a brilliant 151 against UAE in Namibia.

Morgan was clearly delighted at being awarded the accolade of Irish Player of the Year;

"It's a fantastic honour. It's always a privilege to be recognised by other people for your achievements. It was a great year not just for me personally, but also for Irish cricket. Qualifying for the World Cup was a dream come true, and of course that InterContinental Cup win, from such a seemingly impossible situation, gave us a huge confidence boost, and showed just how much self belief the team has."

Morgan played down the suggestion that he is now a pivotal character in Adrian Birrell's plans, and refuted the idea that

he is one of the first names on the team sheet.

"There's a great deal of competition for places at the minute. There's a number of new faces in the squad, and there are guys coming up through the ranks, and those contenders keep everybody on their toes, which is only good for Irish cricket in the future.

I'm looking forward to the year ahead. I hope I can make the break into the Middlesex first team, and hope to that by continuing to score as many runs as possible for both Ireland in the C&G Trophy, and in County Second XI matches."

Greg Thompson Wins Irish Examiner Junior Sports Award

Greg Thompson, Lisburn and Ireland, was honoured at the Irish Examiner Junior Sports Awards. He was one of twenty young stars, aged between 15 and 19, who were honoured for their achievements during 2005. The awards were presented by guest of honour, Graeme Souness, at a reception in the Berkley Court Hotel in Dublin.

2005 was certainly a year to remember for Thompson, who was signed on a scholarship with top English County, Lancashire, and he featured on their second XI a number of times. The leg spinner has captained Ireland at U13, 15



Eoin Morgan – Player of the Year 2005

and 17 levels, and led the NICA team in their tour of South Africa. He made his Ireland debut at just 16, the youngest ever Irish International, and was part of the squad which won the InterContinental Cup in Namibia, defeating Kenya in the final. He has also just returned from the U19 World Cup finals which were held in Sri Lanka.

The Irish Examiner Junior Sports Awards have been recognising the best young sporting talent in the country for 22 years, and past winners include Eoin Morgan, Robbie Keane and Damien Duff.





Irish Coach Adrian Birrell receives another award

Tony Leen, sports editor of The Irish Examiner said, "We in the Irish Examiner are proud of the role we have had over the past 22 years now, in honouring and recognizing the best emerging young sports stars in the country. We believe we have the best sports coverage in the country, and on our sports pages we continue, year on year, to bring Ireland's emerging sporting talent to the attention of sports fans. These awards are a more formal extension of what we do, and we are delighted to have the opportunity to do so. Many of today's senior national and international stars were recipients of these awards, and I have no doubt that a number of the winners, including Greg, will feature heavily in top class competition on both the home and international stages in the future."

Adrian Birrell Named Phillips Manager of the Month

Irish Cricket's National Coach, Adrian Birrell, was named Phillips Manager of the month for October. This award was adjudicated by 8 national papers across Ireland and was in recognition of Adrian's achievement with the Irish team in winning the Intercontinental Cup in Namibia during the month.

It is the first time that a representative from cricket has won the award, and Birrell was clearly delighted; "It's magnificent that Irish cricket is finally very much in the spotlight, as is evidenced by this award. It's been a memorable season, and I'm sure there are more awards and honours to be achieved in 2006."

Kyle McCallan 3rd in BBC Northern Ireland Sports Personality of the Year

Ireland's most capped player, Kyle McCallan, was honoured at the Belfast Telegraph Sports Star of Northern Ireland Awards Ceremony. The Waringstown and Ireland all rounder picked up 3rd place, finishing behind the eventual winner David Healy.

McCallan helped Waringstown to a share of the Ulster Bank Senior One League, and on the international stage was an integral part of the Irish side which won the InterContinental Cup. Ireland also finished runners up in the ICC Trophy, which meant qualification for the World Cup in the West Indies in 2007.

Ed Joyce wins Texaco Sports Star Award

Ed Joyce became the first cricketer in more than thirty years to win a Texaco Sports Star Award at a ceremony in Dublin earlier this year.

The Texaco Awards are selected by a panel comprising of most of the sports editors in the Republic, and the ten stars they nominate each year are feted at a televised banquet.

The major sports of golf, football, Gaelic football, hurling, rugby, racing and athletics are invariably picked every year but the three other spots are usually up for grabs. The sport of cricket has been selected this year for the first time since 1973.

While Ed Joyce collected the accolade, the performances of many other members of the Irish side would be worthy of honour in an exceptional season for the Irish game. Only three previous Texaco awards have been made to cricketers, Stanley

Bergin in 1959 and Dermott Monteith in 1971 and 1973.

Richard Johnson wins Belfast Telegraph Award

Richard Johnson received a special award at the 2005 Belfast Telegraph Awards ceremony. He was honoured for his lead role in the organisation of the International Cricket Council's World Cup qualifying tournament in Ireland in July 2005 which brought sporting honour throughout the Province and widespread praise throughout the cricketing world.

Richard was the tournament director of one of the biggest single festivals of sport ever held in the Province: no fewer than 30 of the 42 games in the ICC Trophy Ireland 2005 were staged in Northern Ireland at 19 different venues in addition to 12 practice matches – two each for the 12 participating countries. Four of the five World Cup places in the West Indies in 2007 were decided during the two weeks in days in Northern Ireland, underlining the importance of the northern leg.

Richard Johnson is the epitome of the unsung sporting hero. But this year his backroom efforts have not been taken for granted. His praises have been sung from many quarters – not least by Ehsan Mani, the President of the ICC, and the world body's Chief Executive, Malcolm Speed. They've both described this year's ICC Trophy as the best of the eight previous tournaments held down the years throughout the cricketing world. The ICC made a special award to Richard and locally his efforts were recognised by a major profile in the "Belfast Telegraph" by Malcolm Brodie.



Richard Johnson BT Awards winner



Umpiring in Ireland

Keith Smith

There is more to umpiring than being able to count to six and far more to scoring than being able to put six dots in a box and join them together to make a letter 'M'. The majority of umpires and scorers throughout Ireland belong to one of four associations, Leinster CU&SA, Munster CU&SA, Northern Ireland ACU&S or the North West ACU&S, each an independent association in its own right, with responsibility for the training and provision of officials within its own area. Collectively the four associations are the foundation stone of the Ireland Region of the Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers, an international organisation with an excess of 9,000 members. It is the ACU&S that provides the training materials, the instructors (albeit from the local associations) and the examinations that enable an umpire or scorer to become 'qualified' in their chosen role.

The Ireland region of ACU&S is headed by the Regional Councillor, currently Alan Tuffery from Leinster who took over from Joy Muir (NIACUS) in March 2006. Alan is supported by a Regional Secretary, Keith Smith; Training Officer, Paddy O'Hara; Examinations Officer, Trevor Magee; Scores Officer, Siobhan McBennett and Finance Officer, Ken McCaughey, each of whom have a deputy in the event that one is struck down by a return drive whilst standing at the bowler's end (it has been known!). There is also a Marketing and Media officer (Martin Russell) and a Webmaster (Nigel Parnell) who keep everyone up to date with what is going on.

The main event in the region's calendar is the Annual Training Seminar, which this year was held at the Maynard Sinclair Pavilion, Stormont. Hosted by NIACUS, the seminar attracted fifty umpires and scorers from each of the four associations. The theme of the seminar was 'Duty of Care' which might puzzle some people. Yes, believe it or not, there are still those around who believe that all an umpire should do is count the number of balls in an over and, if you are a bowler, raise his finger heavenward whenever you appeal or, if you are a batsman, keep his hand firmly grasped by his side. Not so! As well as ensuring that cricket is played within the laws and spirit of the game the umpires have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all those involved.

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) have issued directives that limit the number of overs that a 'young' person can bowl in any one day. These vary

according to the age group. There are also directives regarding the wearing of helmets by youngsters whilst batting or keeping wicket and how close to the wicket (in front of the popping crease) a young fielder can stand. These directives have been adopted by the majority of cricket administrative bodies and, whilst it is the responsibility of the club or the captain to follow the directives the duty of care falls upon the umpires to ensure that no harm befalls the youngster by ensuring that the directives are carried out.

There is nothing more contentious on a cricket pitch than a match interrupted by bad light or rain. Nine times out of ten one team will want to play and the other won't. The Laws of Cricket state that if the umpires consider the weather or light to be 'unsuitable' but the captains agree to play then play we must. However, if the umpires consider the conditions to be 'unreasonable or dangerous' then play must be abandoned, despite what either captain might say. There can be no argument. The state of the match is irrelevant. The umpires must exercise their 'duty of care' and ensure the safety of all those involved.

What about the scorers and their duty of care? It is a well-known fact that good scorers are hard to come by. Very often a team will turn up at a match with a thirteen-year-old, or even less, in charge of the scorebook. There is nothing wrong with that one might say and indeed there is not; it is good to get them involved at an early age. Remember however, that you could be in an isolated score box with that youngster for two three-hour stretches of time. The scorer too has a duty of care, for his or her own protection as well as that of the youngster.

All of the above issues and more besides were debated in depth at the Seminar in March.

The Ireland Region of ACU&S is greatly indebted to the Irish Cricket Union for the financial support given to the seminar. Without their help we would not have been able to make it the success it was.

There is always a dire shortage of cricket umpires and scorers throughout the country. If you are interested in taking up the white coat or completing the scoring record and do not know where to begin then I suggest you make contact with your local umpiring and scoring association or contact the Ireland Region secretary, Keith Smith.

(keithsmith7mri@aol.com) who will point you in the right direction.



Maurice Simpson and Eric Cooke



Noel McGinnis



Connie McAllister and Peter White



Lawrence Moore on umpiring in the North West

I'm sure it will have been a long winter for the North West cricket fraternity, and many will be glad to have seen the 2006 campaign get underway, but for the area's officials, it's been business as usual.

Members of the local Umpires Association have been very busy all winter, with things like training courses, meetings, and helping put together the new Code of Conduct.

Whilst many of the members have been kept very busy, for one man in particular, it has been an awesome winter.

Following the untimely death of our esteemed NCU colleague Trevor Henry, a window of opportunity presented itself for inclusion onto the Elite Umpires panel, and Umavady man Charlie McElwee was offered the position.

Since stumps in September 05, it has been non-stop for Charlie, with trips to various panel meetings and assessments, culminating in journeys to Dubai and then Belgium to participate on panel training.

Speaking to fellow North West umpires at a recent meeting, Charlie was amazed by his experiences, whilst obviously looking forward to the opportunities which may now be waiting on him.

"I have to say that all of this has taken me completely by surprise, but has been an amazing experience. It all goes to show the opportunities which now exist for local umpires, so long as they're prepared to put the work in.

The Dubai trip was the experience of a lifetime, and was an assessment from beginning to end. Indeed when I landed at Dubai airport, there was no-one to meet me, which believe it or not was part of the examination into how I handled things! The course was overseen by Test umpire Darrell Hair, who was superb, and I got the chance to umpire a session of a floodlit game as part of the programme.

Both teams were in on some pre-arranged tests during the game, and thankfully, I seem to have done quite well.

I've been advised that I can expect to go on the four-day elite list in the coming months. I have another trip or two lined up this season, and although very time consuming, this has been a wonderful experience so far. One thing I would have to highlight is how privileged we in the North West are that we have not one, but two, fully qualified Training Officers in David Caldwell and Connie McAllister.

There were 12 of us on the Dubai assessment, and believe me, I'm not blowing our trumpet here, but the standard in Ireland is easily as good as the rest, and in most cases, better.

Some of my colleagues on the programme were saying that their Associations rely on flying in a Training Officer from another country whenever they can afford it!"

Looks like very interesting times ahead for Charlie, and who knows how far he can go now. We certainly won't underestimate the fact that he's brought a prominence to the North West with his selection.

On the subject of Training Officers, the aforementioned Messrs McAllister and Caldwell ran another very successful winter training programme at Eglinton Cricket Club, and a total of seven members sat a combination of two exams.

New men Raymond Hargan, James Robinson, and Richard Elder with Kenny McGee all sat the GL6, and enjoyed a 100% pass rate, and Dermott Ward, Maurice Simpson and Gary McGuinness all sat the advanced GL5, and again, all passed.

The number of fully qualified umpires in the North West is really taking off now, and is testament to how much the guys want to better themselves. All the successful candidates are to be warmly congratulated on their achievements, but I would have to echo Charlie's sentiments on how privileged we are to be able to call on David and Connie.

Many leading figures in the region have been acknowledging in recent times just how much the standard of umpiring has improved, and we fully intend to continue the trend.

The other major factors to have come out of the winter are a sponsorship deal with Cricketeurope, and of course the new Code of Conduct.

The latter was put together by a panel consisting of Jim Lindsay, Ian Heaslett, Gavin Craig, Robin Glenn, David Caldwell and myself, and is expected to be ratified and adopted ahead of the 2006 season, with any fine tuning carried out before the start of 2007, leading to inclusion in the rule book thereafter.

Our Association has really appreciated the opportunity to work with both the North West and the clubs themselves during the



Umpiring brothers Dermot and Noel Ward



Ireland v Yorkshire - Trevor Jesty, John Boomer and Peter Hartley

winter months, and are completely confident that relationships between ourselves and players and club officials will continue to grow. One thing teams can expect is the best efforts of the men in white, and as you will see, we have been striving energetically to ensure we offer the best possible service to players.

Before signing off, can I go back to something mentioned earlier in the piece, the untimely death of popular umpire Trevor Henry

"Trigger" was not only at the top of his profession, but was also heavily involved in the football scene around Portadown. He was a real sportsman, but more than that, a real family man.

His colleagues will have felt a huge loss no doubt, but to his immediate family and friends that loss will have been immense. Our thoughts and prayers will continue with them.

And so we kick off the 2006 season, and everyone will start out with a kitbag full of fresh gear, and a heart full of ambition.

Hope it's a good one.



The Easter Rising – The Cruel Cricket Connection

By Ger Siggins, Sunday Tribune

The ill-fated Easter Rising was celebrated in Dublin this year, with the Irish state paying tribute for the first time for many years to those who fought and fell. The story is not one that would usually appear in this annual, but one incident on the first morning of the Rising can be traced back to a cricket match in the Phoenix Park a quarter of a century before.

Two men who represented Ireland that day are recognised in the history books for their roles in the rebellion: the tragedy was that wicket-keeper Frank Browning was killed by a bullet paid for by left arm bowler George Berkeley. The 1890 game, against the strong English club I Zingari, was Berkeley's debut for Ireland. He had sprung to prominence earlier that summer when, on his debut for Oxford University, he took 8-70 against the Australians. He bowled slow left arm but could increase his pace and opened the bowling for Ireland. He made an immediate impact, toppling seven wickets for 20 and 4-55 in the second innings.

Two of his victims – including Queen Victoria's grandson, Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein – were recorded in the scorebook with 'caught Browning bowled Berkeley' beside their names. Fast-forward to 1914, and Captain Berkeley, after fighting in the Boer War, was a barrister living in London. A Liberal in politics, he served on the London Committee for the Irish Volunteers alongside Roger Casement and when Professor Eoin McNeill came to ask the group for financial support to buy guns, Berkeley stumped up most of the £1,500 needed.

Berkeley did not believe in physical force republicanism, but felt that the recent arming of the Ulster Volunteers at the Lame gun-running needed to be matched. When the Asgard landed at Howth with 1,500 rifles, Berkeley was in Belfast, drilling the Volunteers. He later rode around the Catholic areas of Belfast on a black horse distributing the arms.

Another para-military body, albeit a legal one, was founded by Frank Browning on the outbreak of the First World War. A decent rugby half-back with Wanderers and Trinity, Browning was best known as a cricketer, playing

39 times for Ireland from 1888 to 1909. A gritty opening batsman, he raised his game for the big opponents and his finest hour probably came for Trinity against Australia in 1905 when he scored two 50s against the fastest bowler in the world, Tibby Cotter. He also made a fifty against Kortright of Essex, another lethally quick bowler.

Browning went into administration and, uniquely, became President of the Irish Cricket Union and the IRFU. He was holding the latter office when war broke out and helped found a 'pals' regiment of rugby players (which later fought at Suvla Bay) and a home guard unit called the Irish Rugby Football Veterans Corps for those too old for active service. A thousand strong, they drilled at Lansdowne Road in civilian clothes but later were approved to wear uniform. They also sported a red armband with the initials 'GR', Latin for 'Georgius Rex', or King George. With the wit for which Dubliners are renowned, the GRs became known as the Gorgeous Wrecks.

Two years later, the GRs were on manoeuvres in Ticknock in the foothills of the Dublin mountains when the Rising broke out on Easter Monday. Hearing of the insurrection on the way back to their barracks at Beggars Bush, the unarmed group split up at Ballsbridge. One party marched down Shelbourne Road where they came under sniper fire from the railway bridge at Bath Avenue, while Browning's group marched along Northumberland Road.

In a house on the corner where Haddington Road intersects, a pair of rebels, Michael Malone and Seamus Grace, were holed up with two 15 year old boys, Michael Rowe and Paddy Byrne. As the uniformed column marched towards them, the two men opened fire and 13 men fell, five fatally. A woman living in a neighbouring house watched the veterans from her window: "The afternoon has been warm, they look hot and tired. A sharp report rings out, and the man in the foremost rank falls forward, apparently dead, a ghastly stream of blood flowing from his head... Bullet follows bullet with lightning rapidity".

One of those lethal slivers of lead, paid for by George Berkeley, caused fatal damage to the 47-year-old body of Frank Browning. He was carried to the barracks and later to Baggot Street hospital, but died there two days later. He left a wife and young son. The news that an unarmed group had been fired upon was greeted with fury in Dublin and helped ensure the rising was highly unpopular at the time. Padraig Pearse issued an order that night that no unarmed persons were to be fired upon, whether wearing uniform or not.

The two 15-year-olds escaped that night under cover of darkness, as did Grace later in the week, but Malone was killed in a last-ditch battle for the house. Berkeley's views were not recorded, but he presumably would have been horrified to learn that his actions had caused the death of a team mate. After the war Berkeley helped set the reparations Germany had to pay after the war, and thus can also be blamed for the rise of Nazism!

On 23 April 2006, ninety years to the day after Easter Sunday 1916, Ireland's cricketers took the field against Hampshire. On a green field across the city where Frank Browning lived and died a brave new era was dawning.

Trevor Henry

The cricket fraternity in Ireland has been deeply saddened after the sudden illness and death of International umpire Trevor Henry at the age of 51. Trevor served the game with distinction over many seasons and he quickly established himself as a highly respected senior umpire. Early recognition came in June 1993 in his and North Down's first international when Ireland hosted Barbados at the Green, Comber.

Since his international umpiring debut in 1993, Trevor umpired a further 36 international matches, as well as Cheltenham & Gloucester and County Second XI fixtures.

Following the recent umpiring development programme established by the ICC, Trevor's talents had been fully recognised and more than half of those international appointments have come in the last two years. Trevor had arrived on the World stage as a member of the elite Associate panel and further international appointments had been assured.

Shaun Bradley

Shaun Bradley was one of the most gentlemanly and talented cricketers I have ever encountered. From a young age, Shaun was a jewel in the crown at his beloved Eglinton and repaid the club's faith in him by a show of outstanding loyalty. It was so fitting that he gained his Ireland cap on his home ground and, like so many other 'keepers of his era, he was denied more caps by the brilliance of Ossie Colhoun, Eddie Bushe and Paul Jackson, all competing for one coveted place at one time or another.

Shaun was also a pleasure to play against and if he had a "fault", it was that he was not a malicious or even mischievous "chirper" behind the sticks. After the game, he was good company as well and, in that regard, he could always be depended upon to show the opposition respect by joining with them (home or

His appointments included Ireland's matches against Australia and the West Indies in addition to seven matches in the ICC Trophy 2005. In the Intercontinental Cup, which has only been running for two years, he had already stood in four matches including three in Toronto last August. He had been nominated for the U19 World Cup in Sri Lanka but had to withdraw after his sudden illness.

Trevor umpired throughout the NCU area and stood in three Senior Cup Finals including last season's final at Downpatrick. In 2005 he also umpired the inaugural Twenty20 Cup final at Comber. In Ireland he also stood in three Senior Cup finals.

He constantly strove to set high standards as an umpire and officiated every game with the same degree of professionalism. He was a highly respected by all his umpiring colleagues and also by the players who always accepted his decisions. Affectionately known as Trigger, Trevor will be sadly missed at cricket grounds not only throughout Ireland but also further afield.

away) for a chat and a refreshment or two, a practice which sadly seems to be falling into disuse nowadays.

My memories of Shaun will be of a tidy and skilful cricketer who always played the game the way it was (and is) meant to be played. For that alone he will be remembered fondly as we lay him to rest today, but Shaun Bradley gave us so much more, including, in his final days, an outstanding witness to the acceptance of suffering and separation from his loved ones. As John Major said on hearing the news of the passing of Brian Johnston, "Summers will never be the same."

On behalf of the Irish Cricket Union, I extend heartfelt sympathy and condolences, to Mary, Catherine, Owen, Ruth and all the family circle. May he rest in peace.

JD



Trevor Henry

Our thoughts are with his wife Roberta, children and the entire family circle

JB



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Victor Craig

Victor Alexander (Vic) Craig was born in Strabane on 28 July 1917. Thirty one years later, he was to become the first man from the town to be capped for Ireland when he kept wicket against the M.C.C. at Rathmines, Dublin. Work commitments prevented him from playing more times for his country – he was selected on three more occasions but had to decline because he couldn't get time off from his job as a counter clerk in the local Post Office. In those days he even had to work an early shift (starting at 4.15

a.m.) on a Saturday to get time off to play club cricket, so he regretfully had to inform the selectors that he no longer wished to be considered for international selection.

Vic was an accomplished footballer, winning the Irish Junior Cup with Strabane United in 1948 as well, and also had the distinction of managing Ireland's first real showband, The Clipper Carlton, but it is for his exploits on the cricket field that he will be best remembered in the North West and further afield.

He scored two centuries, his first in a North West Cup semi-final against Eglinton and, towards the end of his career, did a 'Gary Sobers', hitting six sixes in one over for Burnedennet against Kildogo. It didn't do Herbie Kennedy, the unfortunate bowler, any harm, though – he went out and took 7 for 11 the following Saturday.

Vic is survived by his wife Marie, sons Leslie and David and daughters Marie and Barbara.

J.D.

Liam Casey

For a man soaked in the traditions of the GAA Liam Casey turned out to be a real find as Honorary Secretary of Malahide Cricket Club. He volunteered for the job when others were dithering and made the position his own. As the old saying goes 'if you want something done find a busy man' and Liam was that busy man; always ready to go to a meeting on behalf of the Club or to get involved with a sub-committee to deal with a particular matter or run a big game. He was in his element shortly before he died organising matters at the Club to host two hugely successful ICC Trophy matches

Liam was a great family man; proud of his own children and always pushing for greater involvement and better facilities for the youngsters in our Own Club or pushing the concept of Family membership. I can quite easily recall him playing with his grandson Jacob over in Phoenix at an early round of the twenty/twenty last summer

Liam was also a great Club man; a word for everybody, especially a new member or a guest in the Club. He was a loyal friend and his opinions and advice were greatly valued by Chairmen and Committees alike

My lasting memory is of a beautiful evening last summer at the closing ceremony of the ICC Trophy in the walled gardens of Malahide Castle — Liam, Howard, Barbara and myself sitting on a garden bench in the sun with a glass of wine and planning our trip to the World Cup in the West Indies in 2007 — alas some things are not meant to be

We have all lost a great friend and the Club a loyal servant. Our sympathy to Roseleen and all the family; he is still very much in our thoughts

BS

Willie John McGonagle

WILLIE John McGonagle, better known by his nickname of "Glaxo", passed away in Strabane, County Tyrone, on 1 August 2005, on the day that his hometown club won, for the first time, the only North West trophy that had eluded them, the Faughan Valley Cup. At 91, he was the oldest surviving senior cricketer in the North West.

Willie John was born in 1914 in Drain, Donemana, and played his first cricket in the local unaffiliated league. He then went on to play for Strabane, City of Derry, and Donemana, where he collected numerous Senior and Intermediate League and Cup medals, including an All Ireland Junior Cup medal. He also represented the North West and County Tyrone in the various Inter Provincial tournaments. In addition to his cricketing exploits, he was

also a professional footballer, playing in goal for Derry City, Sligo Rovers and New Brighton F.C. in England.

He is survived by his six daughters – Angela, Monica, Marian, Geraldine, Rosaleen and Christine.

JD

Noel Cantwell

Noel Cantwell, a true Irish sporting legend, passed away at the age of 72, following a long battle with cancer.

Known primarily for his footballing prowess, the Cork born player captained Manchester United to their FA Cup final win in 1963, and was also club captain when they won the old Division One in 1967. He also played for West Ham Utd, winning the Division Two title, and managed both Coventry City and Peterborough Utd.

He also coached in the North American Soccer league, and was a former chairman of the PFA.

Less well known was the fact that he played 5 matches for Ireland, not 1, as has been reported in some quarters. He made his debut against Scotland in 1956, scoring 31 and 17 not out and bowling 2 overs at a cost of 13. The following year, he was caught for 0 against the West Indies at College Park in Dublin. He then played twice against the touring New Zealanders, making 40 and 7 in the game

in Belfast, but could only manage 6 before being run out in the tie in Dublin.

His final appearance for Ireland saw him score 25 and 11 against Lancashire in Dublin in July 1959.

The sympathies of all involved in Irish cricket are extended to the family on the death of this true Irish sporting colossus.

BC



Ireland International Records

Ireland's Batting averages (1855-2005)

Qualification - 1,000 runs, average 25.00

Name	Mts	Inns	N.O.	HS	Runs	Ave	100	50
A Masood (1962-1988)	40	35	5	138	1940	38.80	4	11
J Bray (2002-2005)	39	44	1	190	1667	38.76	4	9
E Joyce (1997-2005)	50	51	7	115*	1637	37.20	2	12
G McVeagh (1926-1938)	21	36	5	109	1108	35.74	2	7
A Botha (2001-2005)	41	44	1	139	1414	32.88	1	8
J Anderson (1966-1985)	86	141	25	198*	3777	32.56	7	13
S Warke (1981-1996)	114	151	10	144*	4275	30.31	4	28
A White (2000-2005)	60	56	11	152*	1363	28.28	2	4
M Rea (1965-1996)	52	71	8	115	2044	30.05	2	11
A Dunlop (1993-2005)	114	128	20	150	3164	29.29	4	16
J Short (1974-1984)	50	91	5	114	2515	29.24	3	15
J Benson (1993-1997)	59	60	7	79	1528	28.83	0	9
A Lewis (1984-1997)	121	145	20	136*	3579	28.63	4	20
M Cohen (1980-1994)	69	96	8	118	2519	28.62	2	17
S Smyth (1990-1999)	64	76	9	102*	1912	28.53	1	10
J Molins (1995-2005)	76	79	4	107*	2138	28.50	2	13
J Macdonald P Gillespie (1926-1939)	29	48	6	108*	1196	28.47	1	7
S Bergen (1949-1965)	53	98	7	137	2524	27.73	2	15
R Lambert (1893-1930)	52	83	11	116*	1995	27.70	4	8
J Patterson (1984-1992)	40	50	9	84	1117	27.24	0	6
D Curry (1992-2001)	50	50	6	100	1193	27.11	1	9
D Joyce (2000-2005)	56	57	4	67	1393	26.28	0	11
K McCallan G Harrison (1946-2005)	128	112	16	100	3507	26.11	2	9
P Gillespie (1983-1997)	118	132	26	105*	2765	26.06	1	12
K McCallan (1946-2004)	113	99	10	100	2320	26.06	2	8
J Prior (1961-1986)	37	48	4	119	1134	25.77	1	7
J Harrison (1969-1977)	32	58	5	111*	1347	25.41	2	4

Highest Scores

Score	Player	Country	Year
196*	J Anderson	v Canada	Toronto 1973
190	J Bray	v Ireland	Windhoek 2005
176	M O'Brien	v UAE	Windhoek 2005
167	T O'Brien	v Oxford Univ	Oxford 1902
157	A Conyn	v Ireland	Phoenix Park 1896
152*	A White	v Holland	Deventer 2004
151	E Morgan	v UAE	Windhoek 2005
150	A Dunlop	v Scotland	Ayr 2000
149	H Mulholland	v Scotland	Glasgow 1911
148	A Dunlop	v MCC	Glasgow 1996
147	J Anderson	v Scotland	Glasgow 1976
144*	S Warke	v Scotland	Clontarf 1985
144	W Pollock	v Scotland	Glasgow 1922

Most Centuries

7	J Anderson
4	R Lambert, A Masood, S Warke, A Lewis, A Dunlop, J Bray

Quickest Century

P Gillespie 47 balls, 50 minutes v MCC, Bangor, 2005

Most Catches

Player	Mts	Ct
A O'Riordan (1958-1977)	72	57
S Warke (1981-1996)	114	54
S Corlett (1974-1987)	73	48

Wicket-Keeping

Player	Mts	Ct	St	Total
O Colthoun (1959-1979)	87	148	42	190
P Jackson (1961-1994)	87	103	30	133
F Browning (1888-1909)	36	31	22	53
A Patterson (1996-2002)	60	43	10	53

Highest Partnerships For Each Wicket

Per Ireland	Player	Partner	Country	Year
1st	224	M Rea & S Warke	v Wales	College Park, Dublin 1992
1st	224	M Rea & S Warke	v Wales	College Park, Dublin 1992
2nd	204	J Bray & E Morgan	v UAE	Windhoek 2005
3rd	206	A Dunlop & A Patterson	v MCC	Malahide 1996
4th	224*	A Lewis & G Harrison	v Scotland	Hamilton-Cres, Glasgow 1994
5th	175	J Anderson & O'Riordan	v Denmark	Clontarf, Dublin 1973
6th	201	A Wright & W Hamilton	v Zingari	Phoenix Park, Dublin 1896
7th	150	W Conyn & W Ashton	v Zingari	Vice Regal, Dublin 1868
8th	150	S Corlett & A McBride	v Scotland	Colemaise 1987
9th	96	J Hayes & W Hamilton	v Gents of Canada	Rathmines, Dublin 1887
	96	D Donnison & M Halliday	v MCC	Clontarf, Dublin 1886
10th	100*	P McCrum & J Davy	v Scotland	Malahide 1997

Against Ireland

Rank	Player	Country	Year
1st	236	J Philip & B Patterson	Scotland Malahide 1991
1st	236	J Philip & B Patterson	Scotland Malahide 1991
2nd	221	A Wright & R Conner	Goucester Clontarf, Dublin 1996
3rd	209	P Willey & D Cuffie	Leicestershire/Grace Road, Leicester 1996
4th	267	S Tikolo & H Modi	Kenya Windhoek 2005
5th	177	S Pollock & M Boucher	South Africa Downpatrick 1998
6th	190	B Joel & A McEvain	Scotland Raeburn Place, Edinburgh 1936
7th	176	J Henderson & W Edward	Scotland Perth 1950
8th	187	J Henderson & W Edward	Scotland Paisley 1954
9th	80	F Breuzer & D Newhall	Philadelphia Newtown, Pennsylvania 1888
10th	86	W Thorburn & D Chapel	Scotland Perth 1909

Ireland's Bowling Averages (1855 - 2005)

Qualification 100 wickets

Name	Mts	O	M	R	Wkt	Ave	100	50
J Boucher (1829-1954)	60	1937	371	4004	367	15.25	7	31
W Harrington (1894-1921)	28	786.6	223	1962	112	16.62	1	8
D Macrae (1965-1994)	76	2414.1	886	5664	336	17.37	7	27
R Lambert (1883-1930)	52	1289.4	391	3286	179	18.35	4	12
E Ingram (1928-1953)	46	1394	514	3038	151	20.11	1	7
S Hury (1957-1966)	36	942.5	293	2314	112	20.66	1	7
A O'Riordan (1958-1977)	72	1950	621	4503	206	21.85	1	7
D Gooden (1965-1975)	43	1125.4	420	2551	115	22.18	1	6
S Corlett (1974-1987)	79	1882.4	440	5387	235	23.12	0	8
M Halliday (1970-1989)	99	1961.2	474	5819	192	30.30	2	5
K McCallan (1996-2004)	115	1028.5	125	2683	123	31.65	0	1
P McCrum (1988-1998)	74	938.4	147	3426	96	32.32	0	1
G Harrison (1983-1997)	118	1322.5	218	4714	140	33.67	0	3

Best Bowling

8-26	P Fee	v Scotland	College Park 1957
8-28	T Ross	v South Africa	Cork 1904
9-113	G Harrison	v Scotland	Edinburgh 1990
8-32	C Lawrence	v MCC	Leam's 1858
8-44	D Monteith	v MCC	Leam's 1973
8-48	S Hury	v MCC	College Park 1954
8-60	A O'Riordan	v Holland	The Hague 1970
8-80	R Gregory	v Scotland	Rathmines 1952
7-11	R Lambert	v Scotland	College Park 1910
7-13	J Boucher	v New Zealand	Rathmines 1937
7-15	H Hamilton	v Zingari	Phoenix Park 1878
7-10	J Boucher	v Scotland	Perth 1950



Irish International Averages 2005

Batting

	M	Ins	NO	Runs	HS	100	50	Avg
N O'Brien	2	2	1	60	58*	0	1	60.00
A White	11	12	3	440	152*	1	1	48.88
T Johnston	10	10	2	360	83	0	3	45.00
D Joyce	5	6	2	180	66	0	2	45.00
K McCallan	11	11	4	258	64*	0	2	36.85
J Molins	10	11	0	392	66	0	3	35.63
J Bray	12	14	0	489	116	1	3	34.92
P Gillespie	11	12	1	309	66	0	2	28.09
G Drisc	2	2	0	32	45	0	0	26.00
F Courtney	4	4	0	52	32	0	0	26.00
A Botha	12	14	0	256	42	0	0	18.28
N Shoukat	8	6	1	72	48	0	0	14.40
A McCoubrey	3	2	1	10	10	0	0	10.00
E Morgan	5	4	1	29	13*	0	0	9.66
J Mooney	4	2	0	18	18	0	0	9.00
J Bushe	4	1	0	6	6	0	0	6.00
S Dillily	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
G Coske	6	1	0	0	17*	0	0	-
G Thompson	3	2	2	2	1*	0	0	-
R Eagleson	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
G Kidd	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-

Bowling

	M	Ov	Md	R	Wkt	Ave	SI	SR
G Coske	6	43.4	2	230	12	18.33	1	21.83
N Shoukat	8	121	27	385	19	20.26	2	38.21
T Johnston	10	87.5	19	328	14	23.42	0	27.64
A Botha	12	116	17	455	17	26.76	0	40.94
K McCallan	11	122.4	18	448	15	29.86	0	49.06
A McCoubrey	3	19	1	50	3	30.00	0	38.00
J Mooney	4	30	4	151	5	30.20	0	36.00
A White	11	90	10	435	14	31.07	0	38.57
D Joyce	5	11	1	52	1	32.00	0	66.00
G Thompson	3	75.4	21	264	7	37.71	0	64.85
G Drisc	2	6	0	39	1	39.00	0	36.00
P Mooney	4	22	1	112	2	56.00	0	66.00
J Bray	12	3	0	6	0	-	-	-
G Kidd	1	15	2	79	0	-	-	-
R Eagleson	2	15	2	90	0	-	-	-

Catches

6	K McCallan
4	A Botha, T Johnston, N Shoukat, A White
3	J Bray, P Gillespie, J Molins, E Morgan
2	G Thompson
1	G Coske

Wicketkeeping

	M	Ct	St	Total
S Dillily	6	12	1	13
J Bushe	4	3	1	4
N O'Brien	2	4	0	4

Ireland International Players 1946-2005

For players who appeared prior to 1946, caps obtained from 1946 onwards are indicated in brackets.

J Allen (1946)	8	1	M Duggan (1954)	1	M Hood (1947-61)	14	O McGovern (1966)	7	J Patterson (1964-92)	40	
I Anderson (1968-85)	86	1	F Day (1997-2000)	26	K Hope (1958-66)	13	J McGee (2002)	9	D Pigot (1966-76)	44	
N Anderson (1998)	2	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	P Davy (1995-2002)	44	J Hopkins (1961)	1	W McAfee (1946)	1	S Pollock (1993-57)	41(37)
B Archer (1999-2000)	22	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	K Dempsey (1947)	1	S Whyte (1951-66)	36	J Molins (1950)	2	C Ponszt (1947)	6
C Armstrong (2001-03)	21	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	D Denton (1962-87)	24	A Hughes (1979-82)	5	A McQuillen (1963-67)	0	F Power (1994)	1
L Armstrong (1947-53)	11	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	P Dewar (1962-73)	23	P Hughes (1965-78)	13	M Murray (1945-58)	8	R Pratt (1963-66)	18
K Bailey (1985-91)	6	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	P Dewar (1962-73)	23	R Hunter (1967-82)	20	O Marks (1953-57)	6	J Prior (1948-86)	37
R Barnes (1928-48)	1405	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	R Ingram (1928-53)	49(20)	M Marks (1948-48)	39	F Quinn (1936-48)	12(7)
J Benson (1991-01)	15	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	P Jackson (1981-94)	87	A Massad (1962-88)	40	K Quinn (1957-59)	7
S Bergen (1949-65)	53	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	J Jacobson (1947-50)	12	R Marler (1962)	3	B Rankin (2003)	2
R Berwick (1960-62)	8	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	M Jaffer (1950)	2	M Rea (1965-86)	52	M Rea (1965-86)	52
E Bodell (1954-59)	6	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	A Jeffrey (1964-88)	11	W Sillar (1946)	1	M Rea (1965-86)	52
W Boston (1973)	1	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	N Johnson (1968)	3	F Miller (1949-55)	16	M Rea (1965-86)	52
A Botha (2001-04)	27	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	A Johnson (1968)	3	H Milling (1965-84)	25	M Rea (1965-86)	52
J Bourke (1929-54)	60(31)	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	T Johnston (1979-83)	15	S Mitchell (1974)	1	A Rutherford (1989-2000)	47
J Bowden (1946-54)	18	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	T Johnston (2004)	10	K Naeem (1976)	1	B Scott (1958)	4
S Bradley (1962)	1	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	E Jones (1966)	4	G Mollin (1996-99)	25	A Searle (1988)	3
J Bray (2002-04)	26	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	A Joyce (2000)	13	J Molins (1995-2004)	6	M Shannon (1984)	1
G Buckley (2000)	3	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	D Joyce (2000-04)	43	D Moriarty (1965-84)	76	D Shearer (1932-52)	32(14)
J Burke (1953-58)	4	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	K Joyce (1960-84)	45	J Mooney (2001-04)	14	P Shields (1999-2000)	2
E Burke (1979-80)	7	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	R Kane (1981)	2	F Mooney (1980-2006)	60	J Short (1974-84)	8
J Burke (1998-2004)	29	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	D Kennedy (2002)	2	D Moore (1996-97)	7	M Stewart (2004)	56
D Byrne (1994-2000)	12	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	K Kenny (1952-82)	11	E Moore (1994-95)	25	J Simpson (1954)	4
N Carleton (1956-59)	5	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	G Kidd (2004)	1	F Moore (1993-94)	2	A Smith (1973-78)	7
J Caplan (1948-60)	7	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	J Keenan (1957)	1	E Morgan (2003-04)	10	S Smyth (1980-99)	64
N Carran (1968-90)	20	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	K Kirkpatrick (1962)	2	G Mouton (1947)	4	A Spence (1988-90)	4
J Cochrane (1962)	2	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	K Kirkwood (1962)	3	G Murray (1947)	3	M Stevenson (1951-64)	11
R Cooney (2004)	7	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	K Kirwan (1963)	2	MV Niamhain Rao (1994-95)	6	B Strachan (1951)	1
M Cohen (1980-84)	69	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	H Lundy (1966)	4	G Searle (1988)	22	S Taylor (1991)	1
O Callahan (1929-70)	87	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	H Lambert (1931-47)	21(5)	A Nelson (1988-94)	43	G Thompson (2004)	2
D Cooke (1994)	1	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	D Long (1946-68)	6	N Nelson (1990-91)	5	N Thompson (1988-92)	18
G Cooke (1994-2004)	62	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	A Neville (1948-87)	121	F Neville (1965-68)	7	R Warren (1966-84)	30
A Cooper (1956)	2	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	L Lewis (1955-76)	20	T Newbun (1949)	1	D Vincent (1986-91)	21
S Corlett (1974-81)	73	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	A Lohan (1971-75)	11	J Nolan (1958)	1	P Whitson (1946-47)	5
C Cony (1958-60)	5	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	G Lynch (1961)	3	M Nally (1969-91)	12	P Wallace (1988)	1
V Craig (1946)	1	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	R Lyons (1947)	1	R O'Brien (1966-81)	52	S Walker (1932-52)	34
H Craig (1997)	3	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	A McBride (1965-94)	35	G O'Brien (1976-78)	6	S Walker (1932-52)	34
Sro Oathen (1991-48)	1900	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	M McBride (1980)	4	N O'Brien (2003-04)	13	R Warren (1966-84)	30
Graham Crathern (1972)	2	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	C McCall (1964-80)	15	R O'Brien (1954-58)	9	M Wright (2005)	4
S Curley (1948-51)	6	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	K McCallan (1996-2004)	113	C O'Malley (1953-60)	5	S Waugh (1998)	2
D Curry (1962-2001)	50	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	T McCreay (1951-60)	3	J O'Meara (1962)	2	P Webb (1953-54)	4
R Daly (1971)	1	G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	R McCallan (1968)	3	F O'Neil (1976)	53	A White (2000-04)	53
		G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	A McCoubrey (1999-2004)	28	A O'Riordan (1954-77)	72	M Williams (1988-91)	6(3)
		G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	C McCum (1990-94)	22	S Dillily (1995-2004)	1	T Williamson (1998)	1
		G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	M McCum (1989-98)	74	M O'Neil (1998)	1	R Willis (1981-85)	25
		G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	R McDaid (1999-2002)	12	A Patten (1976)	2	G Wilson (1948-53)	9
		G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	J McDermott (1981-82)	4	A Patterson (1996-2002)	60	R Wilson (1958-61)	5
		G Drisc (1999-2004)	6	B Donaghy (1962-67)	44	J McDermott (1985-86)	3	M Patterson (1995-2001)	42	G Wilson (2005)	4

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Irish Men's Fixtures 2006

Sunday April 23:	Ireland v Hampshire, Clontarf C&G
Sunday April 30:	Gloucestershire v Ireland, Bristol, C&G
Monday May 1:	Glamorgan v Ireland, Cardiff, C&G
Sunday May 7:	Sunday Essex v Ireland, Chelmsford, C&G
Sunday May 14:	Sunday Ireland v Surrey Stormont, C&G
Wednesday 17 - Saturday 20 May:	Ireland v Namibia, Clontarf, Intercontinental Cup
Sunday May 28:	Middlesex v Ireland, Lords C&G
Monday May 29:	Kent v Ireland, Tunbridge Wells, C&G
Sunday June 11:	Ireland v Sussex, Clontarf, C&G
Tuesday June 13:	Tuesday Ireland v England Stormont, ODI
Sunday June 25:	Ireland v Somerset Stormont, C&G
Friday 4 August:	Denmark v Ireland, Glasgow, European Championships
Saturday 5 August:	Scotland v Ireland, Glasgow, European Championships (ODI)
Monday 7 August:	Italy v Ireland, Glasgow, European Championships
Tuesday 8 August:	Netherlands v Ireland, Glasgow, European Championships (ODI)
Tuesday 15 August:	MCC, Lord's, Friendly
Thursday 17 - Sunday 20 August:	Scotland v Ireland, Aberdeen, Intercontinental Cup
Thursday 17 - Saturday 19 August:	Scotland A v Ireland A, Edinburgh, Friendly

Irish Women's Fixtures 2006

30th April	ICU Women v Merion
20th May	ICU Women v North Wicklow in T.R.R.
21st May	ICU Women v The Hills
27th May	ICU Women v Y.M.C.A.
17th June	ICU Women v Balbriggan
18th June	S.L. v N.L. in Merion
24th June	ICU Women v North County
25th June	N.L. v S.L. in Malahide
28th June	North Leinster U15's v South Leinster U15's in Malahide @ 1.00pm
2nd July	ICU Women v Railway
8th July	ICU Women v Rush
12th July	South Leinster U15's v North Leinster U15's in Leinster @ 1.00pm
19th July	North Leinster U17's v South Leinster U17's in Rush
20th July	South Leinster U17's v North Leinster U17's in Leinster
21st July	Eng A. v Ireland in Lancing College Sussex @ 11.30am
22nd July	Ireland v Sussex in Lancing College Sussex @ 11.30am
23rd July	Ireland v Canterbury N.Z. in Lancing College Sussex @ 10.30am
29th July	Ireland v India in Railway at 11.00am
30th July	Ireland v India in The Hills at 11.00am
13th to 15th Aug	Ireland U21's European Cup in Holland



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