



ROUND THE WICKET

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Cornwall import Darryl Mitchell in action



Donovan Deeble in delivery stride



Michael Guptill-Bunce pulls one away

Premier Cricket Round Up

The cream of the crop is rising to the top of the Jeff Crowe Cup one-day premier club competition with only one round still to play.

Suburbs New Lynn and Howick Pakuranga lead the Blue Section on 18 and 15 points respectively, while reigning champions Parnell and Takapuna are dominating the White Section, also on 18 and 15 points.

And there have been plenty of impressive individual performances from players in those sides in recent times.

Takapuna's Brad Cachopa showed why he's been selected for the Aces, scoring freely including a knock of 130 against East Coast Bays, while brother Craig has also been in the runs.

Auckland quick Michael Bates showed he can handle the willow, scoring 83 in their win against Papatoetoe and

then going on to take 3-30.

Parnell captain Doug Winger didn't do his chances of making higher honours any harm, notching up several 50s and Andrew de Boorder, Colin de Grandhomme and Colin Munro have helped Howick Pakuranga into a good position so far.

But that's not to say some of the other sides haven't caused a few upsets.

A century from Auckland University's Tim Dineen helped his side secure a convincing win over Papatoetoe earlier this month, while Ellerslie restricted East Coast Bays to just 97 during a low-scoring win.

Hard-hitting Eden Roskill batsman Vivek Trichy has continued his good form after an early century and player coach Azhar Abbas has been at his dangerous best, taking six



Ellerslie wickets for just 49 runs in a recent match.

Birkenhead have had a mixed time of it, performing well in the early rounds, but being dismissed for less than 100 on several occasions more recently.

Meanwhile, it's early days in the Hedley Howarth Trophy two-day competition with just one round played so far.

But there have been some performances of note, including 81 from Cornwall's Michael Guptill-Bunce against East Coast Bays and a century for Suburbs New Lynn's Michael Barry against Papatoetoe.

Donovan Grobelaar also impressed with the ball for Howick Pakuranga against Eden Roskill claiming 6-30.

Whilst the two day competition will hold sway for the next few weeks



many teams will have one eye on the first weekend in December when the final round of the Jeff Crowe Cup plays out and the last semi-final spots get decided.



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Club Profile

Ellerslie

This season's shakeup of Auckland Cricket's club competition has given a new lease of life to the Ellerslie club.

After several years of putting out a combined Premier side with Auckland University, Ellerslie again have their own side in the Premier competitions.

"I think both clubs are happy to be back to themselves again," coach

Kevin Williams says. "Especially when you get two clubs so close together that they've had a strong rivalry for years and years."

Williams says there's a number of young players in his squad of 15, along with experienced players Kris Baker, Dean Bartlett, Konrad Kurta and captain Marc Carmody.



Konrad Kurta

He says it's challenging for a handful of seasoned players to show the talented youngsters what Premier club cricket is all about.

"Not enough guys are staying in the game into their late 20s. But it's the same for a lot of clubs."

While one-day cricket and Twenty20 are important, Williams says getting promoted into next year's Major Championship in the two-day competition is a priority.

"Our strength is two-day cricket. We don't have a lot of individual stars. In the two day competition in most situations the better team will win. One player can have an influence, but they don't

have the same influence as in a one-dayer or Twenty20.”

Williams believes increasing the number of teams to 14 has been a positive decision for the game in Auckland. But from a personal point of view he’d rather see six teams in the Major Championship rather than eight, though he says the promotion relegation element will provide more competition among teams.

“I can understand why they’ve gone top eight, bottom six, but it probably could have gone either way.”

As for their form so far this season Williams says his side have been competitive in the Jeff Crowe Cup one-

day competition, defeating University and East Coast Bays. The win over University was particularly satisfying given their recent history, Williams says.

“I think both teams were very, very keen to win that game. I’m sure over the next few years there will be a very keen rivalry between the two clubs.

And he says the loyalty of many players to the club bodes well for the rest of the season.

“To have the bulk of our premier side having played here as juniors is a good thing to be able to say. A club is only as strong as its juniors coming through. I think the club is in pretty good heart.”



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Aces Profile Brad Cachopa

At just 22-years-old Bradley Cachopa is already making his mark on the Aces this season.

In what is a rare combination the youngster has been charged with opening the batting and wicketkeeping in the absence of Gareth Hopkins, who's a regular in the Blackcaps these days.

His first challenge was to make his first class debut against Canterbury earlier this month on a flat QEII Park wicket.

"From the physical side of things I felt pretty good. Working with the weights on my legs helps cope with

four days of cricket. Having kept for 150 overs, then for them to declare unexpectedly, I had to come back out straight away. It was hard to shift mentally from keeping to batting."

While Cachopa clearly struggled in the first innings, failing to score, he redeemed himself later in the match, scoring 66 in the Aces second turn at bat.

"I will do anything to play first class cricket for the Aces. It probably doesn't get any harder than what I've been given, but if I can get to grips with that I can handle anything."

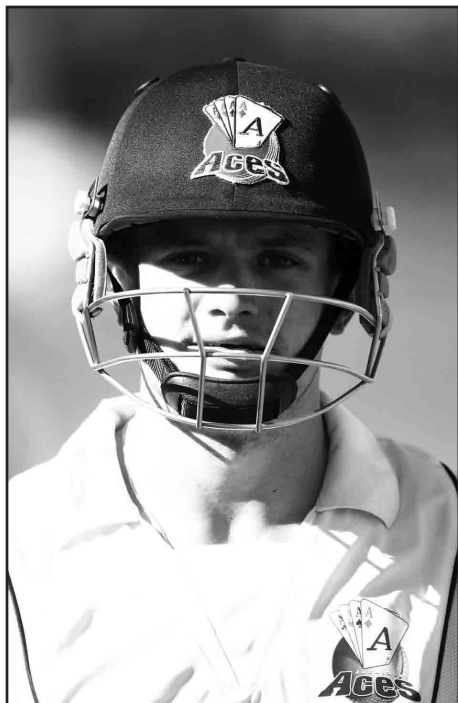
It's Cachopa's first season back in Auckland after three years playing club cricket in Adelaide. While it was tough at times, he says the experience has helped him get ready for the rigours of first class cricket.

And it's likely we'll see more Cachopas playing around the country this summer, with younger brother Craig also in the Auckland squad and older brother and former Ace Carl in the Central Districts squad.

He says there was a strange moment during a recent warm-up match in Napier when all three players were involved in the game at the same time.

"Craig and I were batting together and Carl was bowling."

While he spent plenty of time with Carl playing in Adelaide over the last three years, Cachopa says it was fantastic having Craig around on the



sidelines against Canterbury.

"It was disappointing for him as he was so close then missed out. But to have him there was really nice - if I was struggling, it was great because he'd come over and build my confidence up."

Some great early season form for Takapuna, including an impressive 130 against East Coast Bays, also helped Cachopa's introduction into the Aces squad.

"Takapuna have obviously been

instrumental and given me the opportunity to perform at club level. It's a club environment that encourages professionalism."

He says being mentored by Takapuna coach Neil Fletcher makes him want to show up to play for the club on Saturdays.

Along with his brothers and various coaches, Cachopa says his parents have been the other major influence on his career and he owes them plenty.



Q and A: Matt Mimmack

This month Round The Wicket talks to long-serving East Coast Bays captain Matt Mimmack about his career with the club.

How long have you played for East Coast Bays?

I've been playing premier cricket for 14 years and have captained East Coast Bays for the last four or five years.

What's kept you at the club for so long?

To be honest I'm trying to push the club in the right direction and push guys towards higher honours. The club gave plenty to me when I was young. Now I'm trying to give back to those young, talented guys to give them the same opportunity.

Why have you stayed at the same club for so many years?

Loyalty stands for a lot. The club has always been there for me and I've enjoyed playing with the guys I've played with. I've made some very good friends here. You spend a lot of time playing cricket through the summer, so you want to enjoy it.

How has playing premier cricket for so long affected your life?

It does take away time from jobs, partners and family. The key is to have friends playing with you on Saturdays.

Tell us about some of the guys you played with and against at age-group level for Auckland.

There's Kyle Mills, Daniel Vettori, the Marshall twins and Andy McKay. I've enjoyed playing with and against those guys and have followed their careers with interest.



Who are some of the young up-and-coming players from East Coast Bays?

There's Brad Schmulian, Rory Christopherson, Richard Lane and Rowan Bezuidenhout.

What advice do you give those guys?

Teaching them about control and patience is important.

How much longer do you see yourself playing premier club cricket.

I'll play until we win a championship, which will hopefully be in the next two years. We've done pretty well in the one-dayers this season. Hopefully we'll do well in the two-dayers too.

What do make of the changes to club cricket this year, with more teams and a promotion-relegation component to the two-day competition?

I was for it from the get go. Promotion and relegation makes it more competitive. When I started my premier career there was promotion-relegation. When you're relegated it's hard to come back up.

Womens Cricket

A foot in both camps

It's a particularly busy season for Takapuna men's Premier coach Neil Fletcher, who's also taken the reigns of the North East women's side.

North East is a combination of University, Ellerslie, Parnell and Takapuna and Fletcher feels incorporating several clubs into one side works well.

"They're fitting together fine as a team."

While he's unable to be at the North East matches on Saturdays due to his commitments with the Takapuna men's side, Fletcher says the team is improving with intense training sessions at both Colin Maiden Park and Onewa Domain throughout the week.

"Their performances are about 50-50 but we're working hard to improve that. I think with four teams in the women's competition there's not a lot between them. Anyone is capable of beating each other on the day."

North East is a combination of a handful of experienced players including the Auckland Heart's Victoria Lind and Saskia Bullen and schoolgirls new to top level club cricket.

"Trying to develop that depth is the biggest challenge from a coaching perspective," he says. "We've got to get away from the team having to rely on one or two players."

Working with women cricketers isn't something foreign to Fletcher, who helped coach the Canterbury

Magicians team before moving back to Auckland last season.

He says female cricketers tend to ask more questions than their male counterparts, but it's more important to focus on the individual needs of the player rather than whether they're a man or woman.

"For me I just try and treat them as cricketers who want to improve."

And while the extra commitment of taking the North East women's team can see him involved with cricket up to six days a week, he says it'll be worth it if his players improve their game.

"Hopefully over the next couple of seasons our young girls will start contributing more."



Victoria Lind

JEFF CROWE CUP MEN'S PREMIER GRADE LIMITED OVERS COMPETITION

Round 6 - 7-Nov-10

Auckland University v HRV Papatoetoe - Colin Maiden Park E

Auckland University 257/7 (T Dineen 102*, S Wood 58, B Rowland 45, G Shaw 3-34) defeated Papatoetoe 216 (Sarvajith DR 47, L Shaw 36, G Shaw 33, C Dineen 4-30, D Cates 3-34) by 41 runs.

ILG East Coast Bays v Ellerslie - Michaels Ave 1

Ellerslie 168 (M Wall 34*, M Selby 30, S Lipshaw 5-31) defeated 97 (R Lane 34, C Wajayarupa 5-27) by 71 runs.

Howick Pakuranga v Parnell - Lloyd Elsmore Park 3

Howick Pakuranga 208/6 (G Morgan 78*, D Grobbelaar 49) lost to Parnell 211/6 (K Bunting 65, D Winger 56, B Griggs 30) by four wickets.

Suburbs New Lynn v Cornwall - Ken Maunder Park 1

Suburbs New Lynn 210/8 (J Neesham 43, H Puchert 42) defeated Cornwall 121 (S Bishop 34*, D Mitchell 33, V Davies 4-20) by 89 runs.

HRV Birkenhead City v Takapuna - Birkenhead War Memorial 1

Birkenhead City 70 (J Donnelly 5-10) lost to Takapuna 71/2 (B Douglas 55) by eight wickets.

North Shore v Grafton United - Devonport Domain 1

North Shore 176 (B Schoeman 54, H Baker 38, J Tasman-Jones 37, G Thorpe 4-39) defeated Grafton United 166/9 (N Collins 51, B Schoeman 3-41) by 10 runs.

Eden Roskill v Waitakere City - Keith Hay Park 1

Eden Roskill 235/9 (V Trichy 60, A Abbas 40, M Johnson 38, D Hakaraia 3-31) lost to Waitakere City 236/3 (D Hakaraia 128*, C Fenner 32*, A Jeavons 32) by seven

Round 5 - 6-Nov-10

HRV Papatoetoe v HRV Birkenhead City - Papatoetoe Rec Grd 1

Birkenhead City 107 (S Davies 30, B Singh 4-9) lost to Papatoetoe 110/1 (S Singe 39, L Shaw 59) by nine wickets.

Cornwall v Howick Pakuranga - Cornwall Park 1

Cornwall 204 (S Anderson 97, B Findlay 35, C Munro 3-19, C de Grandhomme 3-28) lost to Howick Pakuranga 205/6 (A de Boorder 100, C Munro 36, L Ferguson 3-50) by four wickets.

Parnell v ILG East Coast Bays - Shore Road 1

Parnell 188/8 (D Winger 85) lost to East Coast Bays 189/7 (D Deeble 36*, M Mimmack 32, T Briggs 30) by three wickets.

Waitakere City v North Shore - Te Atatu Park 4

North Shore 261/9 (H Baker 57, C McGuigan 40, D Burney 30, J Boyd 3-41, P Chapman 3-58) defeated Waitakere City 224 (C Fenner 99, D Hakaraia 33, D Burney 3-27) by 37 runs.

Takapuna v Suburbs New Lynn - Onewa Domain 1

Suburbs New Lynn 239/8 (M Montgomery 79, G Hay 63, I Smallburn 4-42, J Cowell 3-36) defeated Takapuna 216 (C Cachopa 76, B Douglas 41, E Herd 40, M Bates 4-19, J Nolen 4-34) by 23 runs.

Ellerslie v Eden Roskill - Michaels Ave 1

Ellerslie 233 (J Gupla 68, W Hart 39, S Venville 31, A Abbas 6-49) lost to Eden Roskill 234/5 (V Trichy 88, S Patel 48*, D Peris 44) by five wickets.

Grafton United v Auckland University - Victoria Park 1

Auckland University 144/9 (R Skelton 35, R James 3-10) lost to Grafton 148/5 (J Chalnor-Warner 47*, D Nash 48*) by five wickets.

POINTS TABLE AFTER ROUND 6

White Section

Parnell	15
Takapuna	12
Cornwall	9
Waitakere City	9
HRV Papatoetoe	6
Grafton United	6
Ellerslie	6

Blue Section

Suburbs New Lynn	18
Howick Pakuranga	15
ILG East Coast Bays	12
North Shore	9
Auckland University	3
HRV Birkenhead City	3
Eden Roskill	3

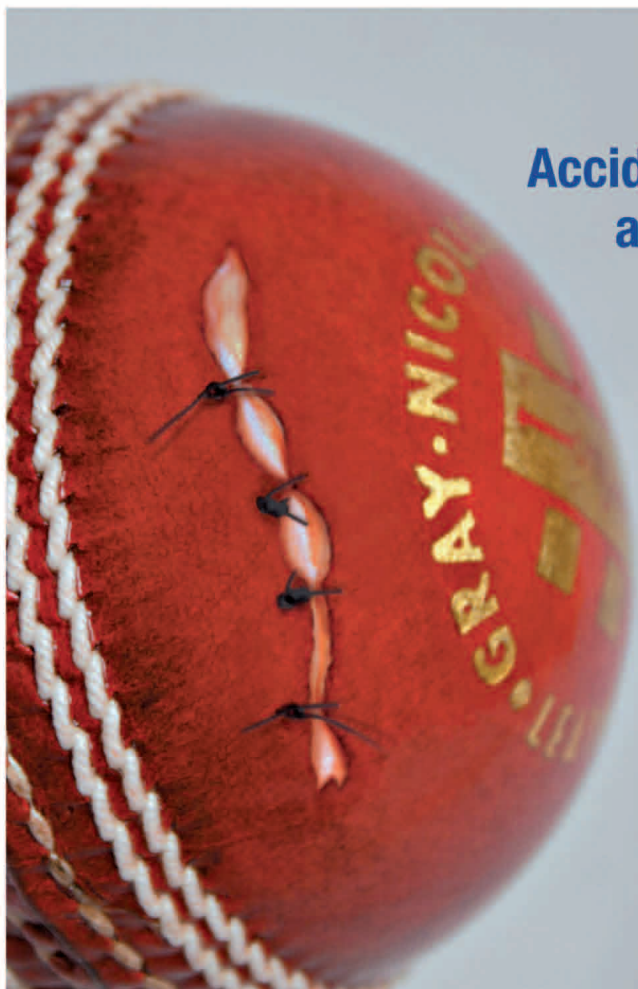
STATISTICS

Top five batsmen	Club	Runs	Average
Craig Cachopa	Takapuna	406	81.20
Vivek Trichy	Eden Roskill	347	57.83
Colin de Grandhomme	Howick Pakuranga	329	65.80
Andrew de Boorder	Howick Pakuranga	307	76.80
Dusan Hakaraia	Waitakere City	264	66.00

Top five bowlers	Club	Wickets	Average
Chas Keogh	Parnell	13	15.30
Jonathan Roberts	Grafton United	12	21.92
Praneel Hira	Waitakere City	12	22.33
Colin Munro	Howick Pakuranga	12	23.42
Stu Lipshaw	East Coast Bays	12	25.50

Club Cricketer of the Year Top Ten						
	Club	Points	Runs	Average	Wickets	Average
Colin de Grandhomme	Howick Pakuranga	589	329	65.80	5	12.40
Vivek Trichy	Eden Roskill	497	347	57.80	4	59.80
Craig Cachopa	Takapuna	496	406	81.20	-	-
Dusan Hakaraia	Waitakere City	464	264	66.00	6	18.20
Colin Munro	Howick Pakuranga	439	169	42.30	12	13.10
Chas Keogh	Parnell	430	153	30.60	13	15.30
Andrew de Boorder	Howick Pakuranga	407	307	76.80	1	45.00
Michael Bates	Suburbs New Lynn	393	153	76.50	10	8.70
Cameron Rope	Parnell	378	157	52.30	10	10.50
Brad Cachopa	Takapuna	369	264	66.00	-	-

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