

**Cavaliers XI v JESTERS CC – 05.07.09**



Back Row – J Armstrong, J Whitehead, C Burns, D Stirk, C Smith, D Gatenby, C Furniss  
Front Row – D Magson, L Miller [Capt], G Watson, I Pratt

**MATCH REPORT BY SAM 'ACE REPORTER' SMITH**



**Photos Courtesy of Keith McDonald**

## JESTERS CC 239 – 4 v UCC CAVALIERS XI 117 All Out

The weather is very overcast and humid at UCC with a chance of a shower or two for today's game against a strong Jesters CC side that is sure to test the talented and unbeaten Cavaliers XI that included the very handsome and dashing Craig 'Technique' Smith.

The Cavaliers fielded first and Dave '3<sup>rd</sup> XI Star Player' Stirk opened the bowling with a lovely maiden. The second over produced a poor attempt at a catch by Craig 'Slogger' Smith.

Some controversy in the fifth over when Chris 'CB' Burns took a catch in the slips that the umpire Peter 'Fireman' Miller gave out but with the batter stating it was a bump ball and standing his ground, the umpire went to the big screen in the club lounge and reversed his decision.

At this stage of their innings Jesters were scoring steadily with only the odd 4 being hit but the run rate was helped by a sloppy piece of fielding by John 'Nutmeg' Armstrong who went to stop a lovely shot only to forget how to field, surely John cannot have been appointed as the fielding coach for the UCC juniors???, and let the ball go through his legs!

Gareth 'New Cricket Whites' Watson put in a fine piece of bowling to finish with 1 for 24 in his 4 overs and going into the 12<sup>th</sup> over the weather had worsened with the odd drop of rain but your 'ace' reporter's spirits were back in order after a lovely cup of tea.

Jesters lost their first wicket with the score on 96 when Ian 'Verne' Pratt's slower ball tempted the batsman and he was caught by a diving Garth 'Don't Dirty Them Pants' Watson. The 2<sup>nd</sup> wicket fell at 133 when Chris 'The Man' Burns cleaned bowled the batsman and 3<sup>rd</sup> wicket went at 166 when that wily spin bowler John 'Wide Boy' Armstrong induced the batsmen to drive a slightly wide ball into the grateful hands of Lee 'Capt' Miller.

The final Jesters wicket fell with the score at 188 when Craig 'Meatloaf' Smith took a nice catch but the Cavaliers found it difficult to keep the runs down and Jesters scored freely with major contributions from B Morley 51 n.o, M Hill 52 n.o, S Dobson 42 and a quick fire 26 n.o from M Brown getting Jesters to finish on 239 – 4 after their 35 overs.

Cavaliers opened with that trusty pair Dave 'I'm The Big One' Stirk and Ian 'Slightly Smaller' Pratt who were looking to get the innings off to a flying start but sadly Dave was out on the second ball and your ace reporter wondered if the Cavaliers could cope with this early setback.

Things got worse when Ian 'Play & Miss' Pratt was dismissed with the score on 15 that saw John 'The Don' Whitehead make his 2009 Cavaliers debut. Craig 'Birthday Boy' Smith played some lusty shots but his dream of a Cavaliers 50 ended when he was out for 17 and with John going for 5 the Cavaliers found themselves on 49 for 4.

Chris '2-3-4' Burns followed soon after when he was clean bowled and your ace reporter was left thinking he may have a small batting problem that only someone with 'technique' could help him with?

A slight revival ensued with Gareth 'Big Hitter' Watson playing some big shots for top score of 31 but with the quick fall of Lee 'What Has Gone Wrong' Miller and John 'Coach Is My Middle Name' Armstrong who did not trouble the scorer but helped Cavaliers funds left the Cavaliers struggling on 82 for 6.

Even though Colin 'Pull Shot' Furniss managed to get 16 this was not enough as Dave 'Hangover' Gatenby only made 6 and Dave 'Knees Have Gone' Magson out 1<sup>st</sup> ball the Cavaliers innings finished on a disappointing 117 all out. Best bowlers for the Jesters CC were D Thompson with 2 for 24 and R Griggs with 2 for 22 but some of their fielding was typical of classic Cavalier fielding practices.

A good day had by all and at least the weather held off but my last thought was has Craig 'In Your Pocket' Smith done enough to be selected again let alone be considered for a Cavaliers central contract???

Sam 'Ace Reporter' Smith

To see a Jesters CC match report go to

<http://www.jesterscc.netfirms.com/undercliffe2009.htm>