#### **UP AGAINST THE BEST**

#### 1957-58

ack has taken over the captaincy from Nathanielsz for the 1957-58 season. Colts batting first succumb to Buhar and Kuthdoos, the latter the same person went on to have an umpiring career. A Colts attack consisting of de La Harpe, Samsudeen, Chanmugam and Fuard is unable to defend a total of 135. Yet, it managed to capture the first five Moors wickets with only 23 runs on the board. The sixth wicket fell for 63 runs. But thanks to staunch rearguard action by the Moors, they were able to scrape through by four wickets and more than triple the score after the fall of the sixth wicket.

The Colts had better luck defending a low total when playing Moratuwa. It won by 23 runs due to a sterling effort by Samsudeen whose failure to obtain a national cap is intriguing.

Mack is injured in the previous game against the Saracens. Kelly is also not available and De La Harpe takes the reigns. The Colts recover against Moratuwa thanks to D. Amarasinghe who was supported by tail ender R.M de Silva. Brian Silva hits up 65 in the Colts second innings.

#### Colts 112'8-COIES 1128 COLTS were tied down to 112 fee 8 due to some heady bowling by T. Buhar (4 for 43) and Ahmed Kuthdoos (3 for 20). COLTS—1st Innings P. Kelly e Mahamood. b Buhar Abu Fuard haw be Entidoos M. Pereira c Anwer b Buhar B. B. de Silva e Ghouse b Kuthdoos M. Chanmugam e Sailh b Buhar 1 Jurans e Sailh b Buhar 1 S. Shaharwardle c Sailh b Kuthdoos M. Chanmugam e Sailh b Buhar 1 S. Shaharwardle c Sailh b Kuthdoos M. G. Silva pot out ... 35 b Kuthdoos ... 6 R. M. de Silva not out ... 35 N. de la Harpe not out ... 13 Extras 3 Total (for 8 wkts.) .. 112 Wickets fell at 13, 43, 51, 73, 83, 84, 92, 92. Good recovery AT Braybrooke Place, the Moors who had half their side for 23 in reply to the Colts total of 135, staged a good recovery to beat their opponents by two wickets, having totalled 201 for 8. M. A. Caffoor, A. Kuthdoos, M. B. Jayah who top-scored with 67, and T. Buhar were mainly responsible for the Moors total. COLTS C.C.—1st Innings (overnight 111 for 8) R. M. de Silva not out N. de La Harpe b Buhar 33 M. Samsudeen c Ghouse, b Kuthdoos 2 Extras Extras Total . 135 BOWLING T. A. Buhar. T. A. Buhar. 27—6—55—5 M. W. Mahmood 10—1—22—0 A. C. M. Nadheen 22-11-24-1 A. Kuthdoos 22.2 0 30-1 \*1 no ball MOORS S.C.-1st Innings W. Wimalaratne b Samsudeen. M. Anver b Chanmumugam M. A. Caffoor ct. Ameramugam rasinghe b R. M. de Silva .. 26 M. S. M. Ghouse ct. B. Silva b Samsudeen .. 0 Makhin Salih ct. B. Silva Makhin Salih ct. B. Silva b Samsudeen M. Mahmood ct. B. Silva b Samsudeen 0 b Samsudeen A. Kuthdoos ct. Sharharwardie b La Harpe . . 39 M. B. Jayah ct. Shahar. wardie b Chanmugam . . 67 T. A. Buhar not out T. H. Assim not out Extras Total (for 8 wkts.) .. 201 Wickets fell at: 7, 15, 16, 16, 23, 63, 138, 171. BOWLING M R W 0 N. de La Harpe 16-3-66-4 M. Samsudeen M. Chanmugam 10-3-30-2 A. Fuard 8-1-33-0

R. M. de Silva P. A. T. Kelly

9-2-28-0

# An eight wicket stand of 45 runs between D. Amerasinghe and R M de Silva enabled the Colis to totaft 135 against Moratuna Sports Club in their Saratunamutu Trophy etikete match played Havelock Park yesterday. The Colts were in a bad way with 82 for 7 but R. M. de Silva and D. Amerasinghe, with some spirited batting took the score to 127 before the former was out for 30. Amerasinghe went on to remain unbeaten with 43 well compiled runs. The Moratuwa bowling and fielding was steady. A. Dias was the most successful bowler capturing 5 for 46 while B. Fernando bagged 3 for 38. Colta skipper D B C. Mack who dislocated a finger last week-end when playing acquirant the Saracehs and P. A. T. Kelly were not available. N. de La Harpe led the side. Moratuwa S.C. were without the services of H. I. Fernando and D. D. Jayasinghe. The match will be continued to day at 10.30 a.m. COLTS—1st Innings B. de Silva, c sub, b Dias Abu Furands, c sub, b Dias Abu Furands, c Seneviratine b Fernando M. Shaharwardie, c and b Dias, c sub, de La Harpe c Mendis b Dias H. Fernando M. Perelra b Dias H. Gunatilicke, b Fernando M. Samsudeen c and b Dias . 12 R. M. de Silva lbw b L. Perera M. Samsudeen c and b Dias . 4 Extras BOWLING A. Dias 19.5—7—16—5 L. Perera 18.6—18—1 B. Fernando 21—5—338—3 S. Fonseka 7—2—19—0

### Moratuwa fail by twenty three runs Despite a good innings of 49 by Morature S.C.

Despite a good innings of 49 by P. H. S. Mendis, Moratuwa S.C., making their debut in the senior tourney, fell short of the Colts first innings total of 155 by 23 runs.

M. Samsudeen was the most successful Colts bowled taking 4 for 14 with his left-arm fast deliveries. Batting a second time the Colts seere able to collect 194. B. de Silva, joing in three down and not in his usual opening berth top-scored with 68. G. Seneviratne bowled best or Moratuwa with 4 for 39.

MORATUWA S.C. (First innings) or Moratuwa with 4 for 39.

MORATUWA S.C. (First innings)
N. Senaratha c Gunatilleke
b De La Harpe
0 S. Mendis c R. M. de
Silva b Samsudeen
1 H. Fonseka run cut
12 B. Premachandra c B. de
Silva b De La Harpe
S. Fonseka c D. Amarasinghe b R. M. de Silva
P H. S. Mend's c D.
Amarasinghe b
Abu Puard
A. J. T. Peiris b M.
Samsudeen
G. Senevirathe c R. M Samsudeen 3
G. Seneviratne c. R. M. de Silva b. M. Samsudee n. 22
A. Dias c. M. Perera b. Abu Fuard
B. Fernando not out 8
L. Perera c. B. de Silva b. Samsudeen 3
EXTRAS 13 TOTAL 192 Wickets fell at:— 1. 1, 1. 26 45 BOWLING O. M. R. W Samsudeen 23.5 13 34 4 M. Samsudeen 23.5 13 34 4
M. Samsudeen 23.5 13 34 4
N. De La Harpe 15 6 38 2
R. M. de Silva 7 5 2 1
Abu Fuard 14 3 39 2
M. Sharwadie 2 0 6 0
COLTS 1st innings — 155
COLTS — 2nd innings
D. Amarasinghe & G.
Seneviratne b A. Dias . 1
M. Perera c J. de Silva
b A. Dias . 24
H. Jurlansz c L. Perera b
G. Seneviratne . . 34
G. Seneviratne . . . 34 G. Seneviratne M. Sharwadie b L. Perera
Brian de Silva b G.
Seneviratne
R. M. de Silva b P. H.
S. Mendi S. Mendis H. Gunätilleke b H. S. .. 14 B. Fernando Abu Fuard b G. .. 23 Seneviratne H. Fernando st. N. Senaratne b G. Seneviratne de La Harpe c A. Dias b H. S. B. Fernando M. Samsudeen not out 194 Wickets fell at:— 4, 51, 60, 71
111, 164 164, 180, 190
BOWLING
O. M. R. W.
A. Dias 12 2 57 2
R. Perera 11 2 34 1
H S. B Fernando 13 2 35 2
J. Seneviratno 15 2 39 4
P H, S Mendis 4 0 18 1

The undergrads easily overhauled the Colts total in a subsequent game. In addition to H.I.K. Fernando, D.H. de Silva and W. Premaratne, they have ex Royalist P. Jothilingham, the 1956 big match centurion. Brendon Gooneratne, another old Royalist, opened the bowling.





Scholarly aptitude and cricketing prowess went hand in hand throughout the fifties and sixties. Many doctors in training turned out for the Varsity teams. Why this is no longer so is discussed in the chapters devoted to the 1962-3 Sara season.

W.A.N. Silva shone for Bloomfield with bat and ball. Losing on the first innings Colts fought back and lost 9 wickets chasing a winning target. Abu Fuard took four wickets in the Bloomfield second innings in 18 overs conceding less than a run per over.

Apart from the University game, the Colts fought hard and gave as good as it got, in hard fought games which they lost.

#### B loomfield 131

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	Perera n			17(7)	
-		Extra		••	
-		CAUTA	-	**	5
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~	Vickets fe	m at:	4, 12, 2	23, 52,	67.
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1000	and the same of	ROWL	ING		
N	de La	Harpe	14-3-	53-4;	M.
San	sudeen	13-2-	35-2;	M. Ch	an-
mu	gam 2-	1-1-0	: M. 5	Shahar	44
die	gam 2— 9—3—19-	-1; Ab	u Fua	rd 11	3-
4-	18-2:				-
	Colt	5-1st	inning	5	
B.	de Silva	pot of	ıt.	100	11,
M.	D. Ferna	ndo po	t out		. 3
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9	); M. An	ion. T	ijesing	ne -	0-
-	, M. An	cony 3		-0.	

#### Colts lose after grand fight

(By a "Daily News" sports reporter).

On the adjoining ground at Havelock Park, Bloomfield came back into the fighting line and won their Saravanamuttu Trophy match against Colts on the first innings.

In the low scoring game, Bloomfield scored 131 and Colts replied with 103. Going in for the second time Bloomfield were able to gather only 97 runs and in the forty five minutes left. Colts had to make 126 runs for victory and at close of play they were 71 runs for the loss of 9 wickets.

BLOOMFIELD—1st innings 131. COLTS—1st Innings (14 for (overnight):— B. de Silva ibw D. B. Wijesinghe 16: M. D. Pernande ibw W. A. N. Silva 37: Abu Fuare b D. Weerasinghe 6: M. Pereira, complessinghe b Anthony 10: L. Ebert ibw Silva 16: M. Chanmugam, the Silva 1: N. de La Harpe b Silva 7: M. Shaharwardie b Anthony 1. H. Juriansz b Silva 0: M. Samsudeen not out 2: D. Marcus ibw. Anthony 4 Extras 3. Total 103.

Wicket's felj at: 28, 37 66, 78, 80 96, 97, 97, 97.

Bowling:— Wijesinghe 10—1—21

not out 2: D. Marcus lbw. Anthony
4 Extras 3. Total 103.
Wickets fell at: 28, 37 66, 78, 80
96, 97 97, 97.
Bowling:— Wijesinghe 10—1—21—1: M. Anthony 18.4—5—31—3: N. Perera 11—8—7—0: W. N. Silva 24—10—27—5: D. Weerasinghe 7—2—14—1
BLOOMFIELD—2nd Innings. B. de Silva b Puard 12: J. M. C. Jayasinghe 1bw de La Harpe 5: D. Weerasinghe C. Shahawardie b de la Harpe 4: A. Perera c. B. de Silva b de La Harpe 9: M. Anthony lbw Samsudeen 5; W. A. N. Silva c. B. de Silva b Puard 30: E. Caldera b Samsudeen 11: D. B. Wifesinghe c. B. de Silva b Puard 14: C. Weerasinghe c. Shaharwardie b Puard 0: H. Seneviratne b de La Harpe 1: N. Perera not out 1. Extras 5. Total 97.
Wickets fell at: 6, 11, 29, 39, 39, 69, 88 88, 95.
Bowling: N. de La Harpe 18—2—37—4: Samsudeen 22—7—33—2: A. Fuard 18—9—14—4: M. Shaharwardie 2—1—8—0.
COLTS—2nd Innings: B. de Silva c. B. de Silva b W. A. N. Silva 16: M. Shaharwardie 2—1—8—0.
COLTS—2nd Innings: B. de Silva c. B. de Silva c. B. de Silva b W. A. N. Silva 16: M. Perera c. Weerasinghe b W. A. N. Silva 11: M. Chanmugam at. A. Perera c. Weerasinghe b W. A. N. Silva 11: M. Chanmugam at. A. Perera c. Weerasinghe b N. Perera 2: A. Puard c. W. A. N. Silva 10: de La Harpe at. A. Perera b N. Perera 1: M. Samsudeen run out 0: D. Marcus not out 0. Extras 1. Total for 9 wickets 71.
Fall of wickets: 40, 44, 58; 61, 61, 67, 68, 69, 69.
Bowling: N. Perera 9—2—30—4: M. Anthony 2—0—16—0: W. A. N. Silva 6—1—24—4.

The Colts were soundly beaten by the NCC which had national players of the likes of Reid, Jayasinghe, Prins, Inman, Fernando and Crozier in the side. The Colts had no answer to the spin of Crozier.

Crozier played in three Royal-Thomians, commencing in 1954, and captaining his school in 1956. Although primarily a bowler, he batted first drop in his last two Royal-Thominans. He also opened the batting for Ceylon. He scored a triple century in a house match at Royal. NCC, not unlike SSC, had good allrounders, and this gave them the edge over teams like the Colts.

# Crozier has Colts in trouble

#### Jayasinghe plays for NCC

ONLY 80 minutes play was possible in the Colts vs N.C.C. Sara trophy cricket match at Havelock Park, Colombo, yesterday afternoon. Rain stopped play at 3.55 p.m. with Colts 51 for 5.

The home team reached 35 for the loss of Abu Fuard's wicket but three wickets then fell at the same total 35 for 4.

Opening batsman Brian de Silva scored an aggressive 27 out of 35 but, after his dismissal, left arm spinner Crozier took the wickets of D. Amarasinghe and L. Ebert in successive deliveries.

Colts lost another wicket, also to Crozier and were 41 for 5. M. Pereira and M. S. Shaharwardie were then settling in when rain stopped play.

#### First match

Stanley Jayasinghe was included in the N.C.C. team. It was his first match in Ceylon since February last year. Considering he had some net practice only on Friday evening and in the morning yesterday, he bowled well. He has been out of cricket for two months. He arrived in Ceylon on Friday morning after two seasons league cricket in England.

# COLTS 1st Innings B. DE SILVA c Ansar Fuard b Jayasinghe . 28 ABU FUARD c Fernando b K. M. T. Perera . 2 D. AMARASINGHE c and b Crozier . 5 M. PEREURA not out . 9 L. EBERT b Crozier . 0 M. CHANMUGAM c Ansar Fuard b Crozier . 4 M. S. SHAHARWARDIE not out . 2 Extras . 1 Total (for 5 wickets) . 51 Wickets fell at:—13, 35, 35, 35, 41. Bowling: K. M. T. Perera 9—3 —13—1; V. G. Prins 5—4—1—0; S. Jayasinghe 8—1—24—1; F. B.

Unlike the match on the B.R.C. grounds, Nondescripts found no difficulty in obtaining first innings points from the Colts. It was the spin bowlers F. B. Crozier and M. Francke who really brought victory to the N.C.C.

Orozier 4.2-1-12-3.

## NCC beat the Colts

THE N.C.C. took first innings points, winning against the Colts at Havelock Park.

Colts 51 for 5 overnight, were all out for 86, spinners Crozier (5 for 29) and Francke (3 for 4) bowling well.

Crozier (5 for 29) and Francke (3 for 4) bowling well.

The NCC opening pair R.
Reid (53) and E. Fernando (41) put on 76 for the first wicket when the latter was out. The Colts total was passed for the loss of another wicket, Stanley Jayasinghe failing to score.

ed for the loss of another wicket, Stanley Jayasinghe failing to score.

The later batsmen attempted to force the pace but lost wickets instead and a declaration was made at 131 for 8 in an attempt to force an outright decision.

The Colts scored 65 for 3

The Colts scored 65 for 3 in the second innings when play was stopped owing to failing light.

#### COLTS—1st Innings (Continued from overnight

51 for 5)		
M. Pereira, b Crozier		21
M. S. Shaharwardie, b Franc	ke.	11
H. Juriansz, Ibw., b Francke		3
N. de la Harpe, c Ansar		
Fuard, b Crozier		2
H. Fernando, c Jayasinghe,		
b Francke		1
M. N. Samsudeen, not out		
Extras		:
Total	-	86
Total	••	- 00

5th wicket fell at 41, then 73, 73 and 78.

Bowling: K. M. T. Perera 9-3-13-1; V. G. Prins 5-4-1-0; S. Jayasinghe 11-1-37-1; S. B. Crozier 11-4-29-5; M. Francke 3.3-1-4-3.

#### N.C.C.—1st Innings R. J. Reid, lbw., b Abu Fuard. . 63

E. Fernando, b Samsudeen		41
S. Javasinghe, c Abu Fuard,		
b Shaharwardie		0
V G. Prins, c de la Harpe,		
b Abu Fuard		4
C Inman, c Fernando, b		
Abu Fuard		0
F. B. Crozier, run out		/ 0
H. C. Perera, b. Samsudeen		6
M Brohier, c de Silva, b		
Abu Fuard		13
Ansar Fuard, not out		3
M. Francke, not out		2
Extras		9
	٠.	
Total (for 8 mets dec)		121

Total (for 8 wkts. dec.) .. 131

Wickets fell at 76, 77, 97, 97, 97, 104, 119, 128.

Bowling: N. de la Harpe 7-2-25-0; M. N. Samsudeen 22-4-55-2; M. S. Shaharwardie 12-3-18-1; Abu Fuard 12-2-24-4.

#### COLTS-2ND INNINGS B. de Silva, c Crozier, b

Prins		25
Abu Fuard, c H. C. Perera,	b	
Prins D. Amarasinghe, c Javasing	i	(
b Crozier		. 8
L. Ebert, not out		24
M. Chanmugam, not out		5
Extras		2

Total (for 3 wkts.) ..

Wickets fell at: 0, 17, 42.

Bowling: K. M. T. Perera 4-22-0; W. G. Prins 9-5-7-2; F.

B. Crozier 9-3-15-1; M. Francke
7-3-16-0 S. Jayasinghe 9-414-0; Arsar Fuard 2-0-9-0.

The last game that took place in the 1957-58 season for which a report is available was the game against Kurunegala. Fuard, Amerasinghe and Sharwadie made good scores. Fuard, Chanmugam and de La Harpe excelled in the bowling department. It would be useful to possess a better knowledge of Sharwadie and Amerasinghe.





#### 1959-60 season

Only one match report is available for the 1958-59 season. But one is available for the next and final season of the decade.



Once again, the Colts succumbed to the Moors. Once again Tony Buhar was its nemesis.

A fifty by Makin Salih allowed the Moors to easily overall the modest Colts total. Samsudeen was his usual effective self. But Fuard was surprisingly ineffectual. Kelly the captain was the other successful bowler.

D.P. de Silva appears to have debuted for the club in this season. He played for three more seasons before moving over to the Nomads which was captained by his elder brother.

PAT Kelly and Makin Salih played together for Ceylon against Madras in a game that took place in the fifties. Ceylon won that game by 10 wickets.

Mark Pereira is the only source of information on the Sara games played in the fifties. He only retained press clippings of the games he played in. While he occasionally appeared for the Colts in the first division, his attention from now onwards was on the Daily News team.

#### A galaxy of stars

If one followed Colts cricket in the fifties one would have glimpsed a wide variety of quality players. Famous cricketers at the end of their careers, bowlers and batsmen in their prime, and schoolboy cricketers in their early twenties who would go who would go on to make their name international cricket. The Colts were up against teams with quality players and the club's best efforts were never going to yield satisfactory results.

The urban cricket fields of Ceylon were littered with the exploits of a galaxy of legends many of them with histories that overlapped with the histories of their peers. The following photograph of the Ceylon team of 1958 contains many players mentioned in games involving the Colts.



Standing L to R: Anton Sethupathy, Malcolm Franke, Tony Buhar, Clive Inman, Michael Tissera, A.C.M. Lafir

Seated L to R: C. Schafter, C.I. Gunasekera, Vernon Prins, Channa Gunasekera, H.I.K. Fernando

Courtesy of "The History of Sri Lankan Cricket 1832 – 1982"

Schaffter was the selector who left the room, when his co selectors, one of them in the photo, selected themselves, in 1968. H.I.K. Fernando, who replacedTissera as captain, was senior to Tissera. But Dhanasiri Weerasinghe's self-promotion was the straw that broke the camel's back.

The team of 1958 has three Thomians, two Royalists, two Josephians, two Peterites, one Anthonian and one Benedictine. It wasn't a Royal-Thomian hegemony, but it was a westernised, mainly Christian (with two Muslims from Catholic schools) and Colombo school combination. This was sufficient for Sinhala Buddhist nationalists to get riled about and argue that cricket was alien to the country's ethos.

There are no Colts in the Ceylon team. But the 1956 Ceylon team had ex Colt G.P. Schoorman (Trinity). It also had P.A.T. Kelly (Wesley?) and Bertie Wijesinghe (STC).

Go even further back to the early fifties and one sees the likes of the following in the Ceylon team. Makin Salih (St. Josephs College), Stanley Jayasinghe (Ananda), Brian Claessen (Wesley), Sathi Coomaraswamy (Royal), Sargo Jayawickrema (Royal) and R.L. de Kretser (Royal). Losing to teams with such players brought no dishonour to the Colts.

Of the fifties players the one who left an imprint on the mind of the chronicler was Makin Salih. It could be that on one occasion he saw Salih play a delicate late cut? The chronicler's favourite shot was a back cut which he played very well. In the mind of the chronicler Salih was a stylish batsman who had a delicate technique.