

## THE FIRST WIN – A DAILY NEWS TRIUMPH

### The journey to victory

By the mid-sixties the chronicler had become a Colts die hard and played many games for the club in the lower divisions. By the time he was representing Royal's second XI he was also representing the Colts during the off season. He played for the team that took out the 50 over NCC Knockout Invitation Tournament in 1965-66, which was the club's first win in any competition, and came three years after the disappointing end to the Sara trophy season.

Most of those involved considered this a victory in the Daily News tournament. It was a one-day knockout tournament for third division teams. Many of the players were still at school. The thrill of victory was like winning a long drawn- out tournament.

The following press clippings chart the team's journey towards victory. The players were extremely motivated and there was plenty of *esprit de corp*.

Colts travelled by train to Galle. Happy to loosen their feet after a long journey, the Colts batsman went hell for leather. The result was never in doubt.

Batting against the backdrop of the Fort and ocean beyond was weird and exhilarating. Rather than affecting one's concentration it helped one relax. It was a scene that remains in one's mind's eye.

A year later, in late 1967, the chronicler played on this ground as a member of Royal's first XI. Two years later he led Royal to victory against Richmond on the same ground. But he didn't visit the Fort proper until 2019.

## Easy for Colts

COLTS beat Galle CC by 113 runs in their NCC Invitation K.O. Tournament game played at Galle recently.

Scores:—

Colts 1st Innings: 205 (Eardley Lieversz 56, Harris Perera 42, Nihal Samarasekera 40, Garrick Soysa 29, M. Jawath 2 for 31, U. L. S. De Silva 2 for 32, H. Weerawarne 2 for 45)

GALLE CC—1st Innings: 92 (H. Weerawarne 33, M. Jawath 16, A. Jawath 16, C. Goonesena 4 for 12, N. Samarasekera 3 for 34, N. Jayanetti 2 for 0).

Colts now meet Kegalle CC in the semi-finals on August 30th at Kegalle.

## Colts CC beat Kegalle to enter final

They will now meet Adas-trians in the final on September 13 at the NCC grounds.

Colts CC taking first lease of the wicket scored 250 runs in 43.4 overs.

Kegalle in return collapsed for 149 in 41.3 overs.

### SCOREBOARD

COLTS—1st Innings: C. Goonesena st. Baddewela b V. J. H. Gunasekera 12, E. C. L. Lieversz c Suriyabandara b V. Seneviratne 20, P. Wijesekera c Balasuriya b V. J. H. Gunasekera 38, Harris Perera c

Gunasekera b K. Perera 27, Darrel Maye lbw b V. J. H. Gunasekera 29, T. E. Jansz c Balasuriya b V. Seneviratne 9, G. Soysa not out 20, C. Warne c Seneviratne b K. Perera 1, G. Mortimore b V. Seneviratne 0, N. Jayanetti c Fernando b K. Perera 11, W. de Silva st. Baddewela b V. Seneviratne 2, Extras 5, Total 230.

Fall of wickets: 1—60, 2—130, 3—131, 4—172, 5—193, 6—197, 7—207, 8—222, 9—235, 10—250.

BOWLING: H. Fernando 8—1—45—0, C. Perera 4—1—11—0, J. Perera 2—0—14—0, K. Perera 10—1—65—3, V. Seneviratne 10.4—1—50—1, D. T. de Alwis 1—0—15—0, V. J. H. Gunasekera 3—0—45—3.

KEGALLE—1st Innings: N. Suriyabandara c Lieversz b D. Maye 27, U. Seneviratne b C. Warne 28, V. Seneviratne c Soysa b C. Warne 19, C. Baddewela c Mortimore b C. Warne 5, C. Perera b C. Warne 1, K. Perera c Goonesena b D. Maye 1, S. Balasuriya b C. Goonesena 28, V. J. H. Gunasekera c de Silva b D. Maye 0, J. Perera st. Pereira b T. Jansz 14, D. D. T. de Alwis b C. Goonesena 14, H. Fernando not out 0, Extras 12, Total 149.

Fall of wickets: 1—44, 2—70, 3—79, 4—86, 5—88, 6—103, 7—103, 8—123, 9—149, 10—149.

BOWLING: D. Maye 12—2—36—3, P. Wijesekera 6—0—18—0, C. Warne 9—2—28—4, T. Jansz 7—0—30—1, N. Jayanetti 3—0—9—0, C. Goonesena 43—0—22—2.

Interestingly, Harry Gunasekera, recently released from jail on a successful appeal, played for Kegalle. He scored a duck. He took three wickets but conceded 45 runs off three overs.

## Colts team

THE team to represent the Colts in their N. C. C. Invitation Tournament final tomorrow on the N. C. C. grounds, will be chosen from:— H. A. Perera (capt) T. E. Jansz, D. W. L. Liversz (Jnr), N. Samarasekera, D. Maye, P. Wijesekera, C. Goonesena, N. Thavaneetharajah, S. Sinniah, O. Warne, G. Soysa, N. Jayanetti, G. Mortimore, N. Kelaart.

## Colts to meet Adastrians in 50-over cricket final

(By a "Daily News" sports reporter)  
The Colts Cricket Club will meet the Adastrians in the N.C.C. 50-over cricket final to be played on the N.C.C. grounds (matting wicket) on Tuesday September 13. Play will start at 10 a.m.

The N.C.C. did a good job in organising the Cecil Horan Memorial Trophy Tournament for first division clubs and this one-day knock-out tournament for third division clubs, when the C.C.A. tournaments came to a grinding halt last year owing to a court injunction.

The final on Tuesday, should provide interesting fare, with the accent on fast scoring as only 50 overs have been allocated to an innings.

The Colts have some promising youngsters in their ranks for this final. In batting they will have former Josephian Polycarp Wijesekera and one-time Peterite opener Charitha Goonesena, while Darrel Maye, Trevor Jansz and Harris Perera have had enough experience in big time cricket.

To tackle this batting lineup, the Adastrians will depend on Sarath Fernando and left-arm inswinger Dharmarajah. There is also H. Hettige (off-spin) leg spinner, N. Mendis and medium pacer, K. Nelson.

The Adastrians batting lie on the capable hands of Sarath Fernando, Norbert Fernando, A. D. Perera and Hettige. They will, however, have to keep a close watch for the pace bowling of Wijesekera and Maye and the off-spin bowling of Trevor Jansz.

## Colts win Invitation final

THE Colts defeated the Adastrians by four wickets in the final of the 50 overs NCC knock-out Invitation Tournament concluded at Maitland Place yesterday.

### Scoreboard

Adastrians—1st Innings: D. Mendis, b D. Maye 12 W. Basanayake, b D. Maye 1, K. S. Silva, c H. Perera, b N. Samarasekera 2, D. Perera, b N. Samarasekera 47, N. A. Fernando c D. Maye, b N. Samarasekera 1, Sarath Fernando, c E. Liversz, b D. Maye 0, H. Hettige, run out 31, K. M. Nelson c D. Maye, b N. Samarasekera 9, C. Amerasinghe, not out 22, N. Cooray, c Thavaneetharaja, b P. Wijesekera 25, S. Dharmaraja, not out 1, Extras 15, 50 Overs completed (for 9 wickets) 166.

Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-14, 3-19, 4-23, 5-28, 6-66, 7-85, 8-125, 9-161.

Bowling: N. Samarasekera 12-5-20-4, Darrel Maye 12-1-28-3, P. Wijesekera 3-0-14-1, Trevor Jansz 12-0-43-0, C. Warne 6-0-33-0, C. Goonesena 5-0-13-0.

Colts—1st Innings: E. C. L. Liversz (Jnr), c Dharmaraj, b K. M. Nelson 30, C. Goonesena, c S. Fernando, b N. Cooray 30, P. Wijesekera, c Basanayake, b D. Mendis 44, N. Thavaneetharaja, c Nelson, b S. Fernando 16, Darrel Maye, c N. Fernando, b S. Dharmaraja 10, Harris Perera, not out 20, S. R. Sinniah, run out 0, Trevor Jansz, not out 12, N. Samarasekera, G. Soysa and C. Warne (Did not bat), Extras 2, 42 overs (for 6 wickets) 170, Fall of wickets: 1-54, 2-69, 3-110, 4-138, 5-140, 6-140, Bowling: S. Fernando 11-1-33-4, S. Dharmaraja 9-1-30-1, N. Cooray 6-0-25-1, K. M. Nelson 10-1-50-1, D. Mendis 6-0-25-1.

The Adastrians started off very badly losing 5 for 26. Even at 7 for 85 it appeared they would set the Colts an easy target. Quite creditably, they made the Colts chase 161.

The Colts openers put 54 runs which was laid the foundation for a win with eight overs to spare. Trevor Jansz, life member and club stalwart, hit the winning run.

### TROPHY WINNERS, 1966

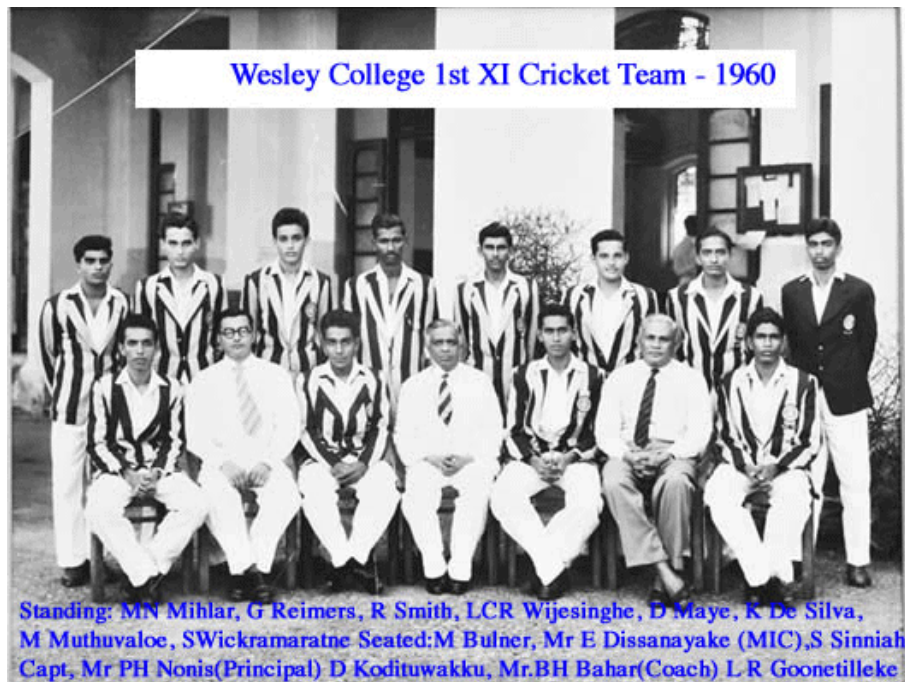


Back Row (L to R): Charlie Goonesena, Eardley Lieversz, Polycarp Wijesekera, Vimal Jayanetti, Darrell Maye.  
Middle Row: Senthil Sinniah, Navaratnam Thavaneetharajah, Jeffery Mortimer, Wayne de Silva, Cornel Warne.  
Front Row; Garrick de Soyza, Trevor Jansz, DWL Lieversz (President), Harris Perera (captain), Eddie Melder (Cricket secretary).  
Absent; Nihal Samarasekera  
Courtesy of Eardley Lieversz

The picture features Douglas Lieversz and Trevor Jansz, two ex-Royalists and Colts cricket stalwarts. If I am not mistaken Trevor Jansz captained the side. Trevor Jansz was a lifelong friend of Gamini Salgado who coached Royal in the seventies following F.C. de Saram's departure. Trevor Jansz left for Australia soon after the picture was taken and has shared much of his memories and memorabilia with the chronicler.

Two members of the side captained Wesley. Senthil Sinniah captained in 1960. He passed away in Devon, England on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021. Darrell May led Wesley to victory over Royal in 1962. He went on to captain the Colts in 1969-70.





Courtesy of Wesley OBU website

Sentil Sinniah left for England following the 1960 season and got married in 1964. He remained permanently in England. He must have been in Sri Lanka on a holiday in 1966 and turned up for practice at the Colts which led to him being picked for the final.

Polycarp Wijeysekera played for St Josephs and was a powerful hitter of the ball. Jayanetti, still an accurate left arm spinner, is a Thomian and the chronicler bumped into him at old boys cricket games in Sydney. He is a great articulator of the idiosyncrasies of many of those who played for the club.

Harris Perera kept wickets and, married Wayne de Silva's sister and left to join her in Australia in the sixties. He kept wickets for the Colts first XI of 1962-63. Cornell Warne's dad was a good friend of the chronicler's dad. Garrick de Soyza's dad was a generous man and he once bought the chronicler a brand new Stuart Surridge cricket bat.

The N. Samarasekera who opened the bowling is Nihal Samarasekera, who attended St. Sylvester's College, Kandy. He played for the Colts Sara team and opened the bowling for Ceylon between 1966 and 1974.

The chronicler didn't play much cricket for the Colts alongside his cousins Darrell and Brian but he did play alongside another paternal cousin, Geoffrey Mortimer, a left-handed batsman. Interestingly, he played cricket alongside a Royal master, Mr. Thavaneetharajah (Thavam), who was master in charge of Royal's first XI for the latter half of the 1967 season.

One day in the mid-sixties Thavam knocked on the door and asked to speak to the chronicler's Dad. He knew that Thavam was there to get his father to use whatever influence he had to get Thavam a place in the Colts team. Thavam was told him that the chronicler's Dad was resting and sent away. When chronicler's Dad heard what had happened, he was aghast and told him that if a Royal master ever arrived again he should be woken up.

Thavam taught at Royal at the same time as John de Saram the chronicler's master in charge moved through the ranks at school. Mr. de Saram was also very pally with Premaratne who captained the Colts in 1962-63. Hence, it is quite ironic that Mr. de Saram who was the reason the chronicler visited Sri Lanka after 32 years and was indirectly responsible for the writing this Colts history, was closely associated with two Colts cricketers.

Eddie Melder passed away in 2002. In 1969 Abdul Lafir was appointed cricket captain but the decision was revoked on a technicality. (An office bearer had to be a member for a specified period.) Lafir resigned in a huff and joined the Nomads. One day in 1970 while Lafir was batting for the Nomads against the Colts at the Municipal Sports Ground, Melder heckled him from the sidelines. Lafir was rattled and he pointed to Melder with the bat and threatened him. He was also taunted by Brian Silva in the slips and complained to the umpire. The team found it amusing.

### **A true-blue Colt**

This match was the last game Trevor Jansz played for the Colts. He migrated to Australia soon after.

# JANSZ' PARTING SHOT BROUGHT VICTORY

A SWEEPING glance to the leg-boundary by Colts' Trevor Jansz, was not only the hit that brought them victory. It was a fitting finale for it was the last time this Colt wielded the willow for his club, before going 'down under' next month.

Trevor's winning hit registered 170 (for 6 wickets) for Colts against the Adastrians 161 for 6 in their 50 over MCC knock-out Invitation Tournament final concluded at Maitland Place yesterday.

Adastrians taking first lease of the wickets took full use of the 50 overs to collect 166 for 9 wickets.

Mirror pacesman Nihal Samarakera had the best figures of 4 for 20, whilst Darrell Maye bagged 3 for 24.

Only D. Perera (47) and Hettige 31 made worthwhile contributions to the Adastrian total.

Colts were given a good start by openers Lievers and Goonesena both getting 30 apiece.

Then that dynamic Josephian of last season Polycarp Wijesekera got cracking with 8 sizzling fours and a six in a quick 44.

Trevor Jansz wound up proceedings and his local career with an useful dozen runs, including the winning one.

The Colts 170 came in 42 overs.

## Scoreboard

Adastrians—1st Innings: D. Mendis b D. Maye 12, W. Basanayake b D. Maye 1, K. S. Silva, c H. Perera, b N. Samarakera 2, D. Perera, b N. Samarakera 47, N. A. Fernando, c D. Maye, b N. Samarakera 1, Sarath Fernando, c E. Lievers, b D. Maye 6, H. Hettige, run out 11, K. M. Nelson, c D. Maye, b N. Samarakera 1, C. Amerasinghe, not out 22, N. Cooray, c Thavanestharaja, b P. Wijesekera 28, S. Dharmaraja, not out 1, Extras 15.

50 Overs completed (for 9 wickets) 166.

Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-14, 3-19, 4-23, 5-26, 6-66, 7-85, 8-125, 9-161.

Bowling: N. Samarakera 12-5-20-4, Darrell Maye 12-1-28-3, P. Wijesekera 3-0-14-1, Trevor Jansz 12-0-43-0, C. Warren 6-0-32-3, C. Goonesena 5-0-13-0.

Colts—1st Innings: E. C. L. Lievers (Ct), c Dharmaraja, b K. M. Nelson 30, C. Goonesena, c S. Fernando, b N. Cooray 30, P. Wijesekera, c Basanayake b D. Mendis 44, N. Thavanestharaja, c Nelson, b S. Fernando 15, Darrell Maye, c N. Fernando, b S. Dharmaraja 10, Harris Perera, not out 20, S. R. Stoniah, run out 8, Trevor Jansz, not out 12, N. Samarakera, G. Soysa and C. Warren (Did not bat), Extras 8.

42 overs (for 6 wickets) 170.

Fall of wickets: 1-54, 2-69, 3-110, 4-138, 5-140, 6-140.

Bowling: S. Fernando 11-1-35-1, S. Dharmaraja 8-1-30-1, N. Cooray 6-0-25-1, K. M. Nelson 10-1-50-1, D. Mendis 6-0-23-1.

Courtesy of Eardley Lieversz

Trevor Jansz left for Australia at the age of 43. He lived in Australia for 56 years passing away on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022. He always considered the Colts his second home and was hungry for information regarding the club. He once took umbrage with the club for failing to send him club reports regularly. That reflected how much the club meant to him. Most persons who leave the club, irrespective of their level of involvement in the club, tend to attach themselves to other institutions, with their old affiliations but a distant memory, unlike Trevor Jansz who was a true-blue Colt until he died.

## FAREWELL TREVOR

### Trevor Jansz leaves

WITH the departure of Trevor E. Jansz by the 'Oromony' on October 26th to settle down in Australia, Ceylon loses a cricketer who has been actively associated with the game for the last 28 years.

This old Royalist joined the Colts in 1938 at the age of 16 and has been a member since. He played for Royal in 1940-41, the Colts 1st XI from 1941 to 1953, captained the Colts in 1952 and retired from 1st XI cricket in 1953.

The 1953 Colts team included I. De Silva, G. P. Schoorman, R. W. Wimalaratne, Samsuddeen, D. Abernethy, N. de Latharpe, the Claassen brothers, Radley and Bryan, and the brothers Inman, Geoffrey and Clive.

He toured India twice with D. W. L. Eversax as Colts' captain and with the Railway, led by Wethimung.

His career record as an all-rounder included six centuries, with 140 vs Combined Colleges as his highest score, and more than 70 half-centuries. As a bowler Jansz, bowled slow spinners, and captured over 800 wickets.

#### Onerous duties

His work and training at the Colts, where he was honorary ground secretary, cricket secretary and general secretary for varying terms from 1946 onwards, fitted him for the more onerous duties he was called on to perform later.

When V. J. H. Gunasekara gave up the office of honorary secretary in 1961, Trevor Jansz was elected to the twin-offices of COA and Board of Control honorary secretary. He functioned in this capacity till 1963 when he did not stand for election on account of his appointment as electrical engineer, Colombo Commercial Co. Ltd.

During his term as honorary secretary, Jansz organised the full two weeks MCC tour of Ceylon with Dexter as captain much to everybody's satisfaction.

The same year he organised the Ceylon match against the MCC bound for Australia.

The managers of these teams have written to Jansz expressing their appreciation of the assistance received; they were T. W. Pearce and the Duke of Norfolk.

Jansz thus followed in the tradition of efficient and able Board of Control secretaries M. K. M. Ismail, F. C. de Saram and Gunasekara to name three.

His departure is a loss to Ceylon cricket especially the Colts Cricket Club.

### TREVOR JANSZ

TREVOR JANSZ, a former Cricket Board of Control and Ceylon Cricket Association honorary secretary, leaves Ceylon with his family next month to settle down in Australia.

This Colts Cricket Club stalwart, he was honorary secretary, captained the first and second XI's at cricket, and is vice-president, will be accorded a farewell by the club on October 26th.

There will be a presentation, dinner and dance in the club pavilion organised by the Colts committee.

Mark Pereira moved from Canada to Australia where he passed away. He never lost his love for cricket and continued to contribute to it as player and from the sidelines.

If he had remained in the country, he would surely have ended up as a certified Colts stalwart. He passed away two years prior to when the chronicler commenced his history of the Colts. He would have been a very useful source of information. He truly loved his cricket and would have been most pleased with the current infrastructure of the Colts. He missed, by a year, a Colts victory that he would have been proud of.



# Goodbye gentleman cricketer

## OBITUARY

A KEEN sportsman and popular Endeavour Hills resident was farewelled after he passed away late last year.

Mark Pereira was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in 1935 and passed away on 21 November, 2012.

He began his sporting career playing cricket and tennis for St Peters College and later continued to play cricket for the Colts Club.

He was employed at Colombo Commercial Company.

In 1965, Mr Pereira, his wife Angie and daughter Corinne moved to Toronto, Canada, where he continued to play cricket for the local Parkdale club, where he later became president.

He spent several hours arranging friendly matches between Montreal and Toronto. Mr Pereira also enjoyed playing tennis for the local club.

In 1981, Mr Pereira and family, now including daughter Heather, moved to Australia and Endeavour Hills became their home.

He quickly became attached to the Buckley Ridges Cricket Club in

Dandenong, and scored a century almost every season. He mentored numerous junior players and younger team mates. Today, many of these players continue on in senior cricket and run the club.

Buckley Ridges honoured Mr Pereira with Life Membership.

He retired from cricket at 67, but was a frequent spectator at matches and on hand to offer advice. The club has two awards bearing his name, one for the best junior playing senior cricket and the other, a best and fairest award.

His club mates described him as a beautiful soul who impacted their lives both on and off the field.

He was a master at his craft, deft with the bat and a true champion in every sense of the word.

In 1982, Mr and Mrs Pereira and others from St Paul Apostle Parish founded the church tennis club.

He served in many roles including club captain and junior team manager and became a Life Member. He continued to play men's night competition tennis until he was 75 years old.

Also an active member



Much-loved Endeavour Hills cricketer Mark Pereira passed away in November.

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of the parish, Mr Pereira quickly made friends with new priests and assisted in various tasks over the years.

He worked at Nissan Motor Manufacturing Company at their Clayton offices for 14 years, until they closed their manufacturing plant.

In his retirement, he quickly became the watch-

man of his street, with neighbours relying on him while away on holidays. He also developed a keen interest in gardening.

In work and play, Mr Pereira gave 100 per cent, but a joke and a laugh were never far away. He always wore a lovely smile. He was described as being honest with integrity - a good sport

both on and off the field and a dear friend to all and a real gentleman.

He had a brilliant innings until fate delivered him an unplayable ball.

Mr Pereira is greatly missed by his family, Angie, Heather, Corinne, son-in-law Andrew, grandson Scott, brothers, many friends and team mates.

People like Sinniah and Pereira were of the right Colts stuff. But when one leaves the country for other cricket playing countries, one develops identification with new cricket institutions. Trevor Jansz who is discussed in detail in the chapter on stalwarts and veterans always remained a sentimental Colt despite being involved with cricket in Australia. He was very pleased with what the chronicler was doing. Unfortunately, he passed away before the chapters, many of which he would have been immensely pleased with, had taken a more advanced shape in the third draft. Despite being distracted by numerous other writing projects, the chronicler returned to the Colts history after a six-year break and was determined to bring it to a close, in honour of people like Trevor Jansz.

The chronicler physically disassociated himself from the club fifty on years ago (calculated in 2024). But despite his vast journeys and interests the club never left his consciousness. His emotional bonds only got stronger over the lengthy separation. He was always bound to return home.

## **Entry into the Donovan Andree tournament still denied**

In 1966, all results in all competitions, including the premier competition, were declared null and void due to irregularities in the way in which the game was run, and the fraudulent way in which national selectors came to hold positions through nepotism.

When competitions organised by the Ceylon Cricket Association tournament came to a halt due to a court injunction the NCC stepped in and organised a Cecil Horan Memorial trophy tournament for the first division teams and the knockout tournament for the third division teams.

Victory in the abovementioned tournament didn't promote the Colts second XI into the Donovan Andree tournament, which had to wait until 1969. The Daily News trophy wasn't awarded in 1966. The marking on the shield that fronts the group photo cannot be read in order to fully confirm the conjecture.

So, the Colts were twice denied in the sixties. She missed out on winning the premier trophy by a mere 0.02 points and then won the third-string trophy in a competition which was tainted by the actions of others.

However, the chronicler couldn't have ended the sixties on a higher note. He led Royal to victory in the big match and achieved the stuff of dreams. He made Royal proud. But the Colts was proud of him too because there was no doubting his identification with the Colts.