

FAKES, FICTIONS AND FIDDLES

Over the years, match scorecards have appeared in print that indicate the achievement of some particularly special feat which, if genuine, would deserve a very prominent place in the records of minor cricket. Unfortunately, in at least a few cases, it has later been discovered that the feat concerned was *not* genuine, and the feats in question have no place in the record-books. A number of such **Fakes** have been discovered during the present project, and details of these are included on the following pages in the hope that people coming across them in primary sources in future years are not taken in.

Distinct from the Fakes are the **Fictions** – instances where a scorecard or match report containing an apparent ‘Major Feat’ has been deliberately contrived, with the intention of causing amusement rather than trying to deceive readers into believing that the match in question really did take place. In at least one case, it appears that Ernest Gross might have been taken in by one such piece of fiction.

The final category in this section are the **Fiddles** – cases where the feats as recorded really did take place in an organised match, but where, for one reason or another, they were contrived by one or both sides and do not really deserve a place in the record-books.

The scorecards of Fakes included in this section do not include any of the claimed performances by famous (notorious?) Barbadian Donald Weekes (1940-2003), whose claims to exceptional batting prowess appeared from time to time in the cricket press in the 1970s. In the early years of the decade he apparently claimed scores of 509 in a match in Britain and 477 in a match in the USA, while his *Wisden* obituary in 2004 refers to a claimed innings of 700 not out in India. More of his claims can be seen in an article by Norman Mortimore in *The Cricketer* in June 1975, but a more balanced view is surely that of the *Wisden* obituary, which refers to him as ‘a yarn-spinner of international calibre’, and reports that one of his claims outside cricket was that he once sparred with Mohammad Ali. Although acknowledging that Weekes had, in his time, made some decent scores including a century for USA v Canada in 1972 and double-centuries for American clubs touring British Columbia and England in 1970 (though the latter are not recorded in Cricket Archive), the obituary puts his wilder claims into perspective with the rather more telling words ‘Neither *Wisden* nor any other source authenticates his claims to have scored 700 not out in an innings in India, totalled 2,879 runs for Blackpool in his first English season, or played Othello in Moscow’. Unsurprisingly, no details – let alone scorecards - of the matches of his most extreme claims can be traced for inclusion here, not even under the heading of ‘Fakes’.

Southgate v Tottenham Vacation Club 1873			FAKE
Venue	Walker Ground, Southgate, Middlesex	Date	30 August 1873
Result	Southgate won by an innings and 58 runs		
Toss			
Umpires			

Southgate	First innings	
W Earle	c and b Dawson	7
S Turner	b Taworski	14
I Walker	b Taworski	12
W Caffyn	not out	129
RD Walker	b Lampter	50
ID Walker	b Taworski	46
J Bradley	run out	10
W Farquhar	b Langham	10
OE Walker	b A Hill	0
A Balls	b B Hill	0
A Balls jnr	run out	1
Extras	b30, lb18, w11	59
Total	(all out)	338
Fall	1-9 not known, 10/338	

	O	M	R	W
Dawson				1
Taworski				3
Lampter				1
Langham				1
A Hill				1
B Hill				1

Tottenham Vacation Club	First innings		Second innings (following on)	
A Hill	b Caffyn	0	b RD Walker	0
G Dawson	b RD Walker	0	b Caffyn	0
N Langham	b RD Walker	2	run out	8
L Lampter	b Caffyn	0	b RD Walker	0
E Baker	b Caffyn	0	b Caffyn	0
B Hill	b Caffyn	0	b Caffyn	0
A Manns	c Balls b Caffyn	2	b Caffyn	1
A Taworski	not out	113	run out	112
A Dumas	b Caffyn	6	not out	9
L Hums	b RD Walker	4	b Caffyn	8
M Edwin	b Caffyn	2	b ID Walker	7
Extras	b2	2	b4	4
Total	(all out)	131	(all out)	149
Fall	1-9 not known, 10/131		1-9 not known, 10/149	

	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
Caffyn				7				5
RD Walker				3				2
ID Walker								1

The above score is printed in *Cricket* 1888 page 377, which identifies Taworski as “a school boy at Bruce Castle”. If the details are correct, he scored 80.36% of his team’s runs in the match (82.12% of the runs off the bat), split as 86.26%/87.60% in the first innings, and 75.17%/77.24% in the second.

However, *Cricket* printed a retraction two weeks later (on page 408), saying that following investigations “the match seems to have been a mythical one”, and that “the score in question is one of several imaginary matches which some playful persons found amusement in sending to the sporting papers during the summer of 1873 ... the match must be dismissed as unauthentic and A Taworski’s achievement as a myth”.

Cricket says that the score was taken from *The Field* newspaper of 6 September 1873. One suspects that even at that time the paper smelled something of a rat, since in its scorecard the name Taworski is always given in inverted commas.

Ulster v Macquarie 1874/75		Date	1874/75 season	FAKE
Venue	Moore Park, Sydney			
Result				
Toss				
Umpires				

Ulster innings

J Flynn	b Webster	249
H Brown	b Webster	147
T Flynn	c McMahan b May	94
G Mulleney	b Thomas	247
BO Brown	b May	25
J Williams	run out	0
T Williams	b May	1
T Leaky	b McMahan	3
J White	run out	178
M Brereton	not out	186
R Gibson	not out	8
Extras		100
Total	(for 9 wickets)	1238
Fall	1-9 not known	

	O	M	R	W
Webster				2
May				3
Thomas				1
McMahan				1

Macquarie innings

The match is occasionally cited as featuring the highest-ever team score in an organised game of cricket. However, this has long been accepted as being not a genuine scorecard. The position is succinctly referred to on pp154-155 of Ken Piesse's *Extraordinary book of Australian Cricket* as follows:

'Not allowing the facts to spoil a good story

'It was supposed to be a new world high score: a score of 1238 in a match between Ulster and Macquarie at Sydney's Moore Park.

'The *Sydney Mail*, John Conway's *Australian Cricketers' Guide* for 1877, Sydney Cohen's *New South Wales Cricketer's Guide & Annual* and even the authoritative *MCC Scores & Biographies* ran details of the game, said to have been played over four Saturdays in the mid-1870s. But after no-one came forward to substantiate the game or any of the competing players, it was written off as a giant hoax.

'The batting added up to 1138, allowing exactly 100 in 'extras'. [The scorecard is then printed, as above.]

'No bowling is available and no record of a Macquarie innings appeared.'

Unknown v Unknown 1881/82		FAKE
Venue	Bendigo, Victoria	Date 1881/82 season
Result		
Toss		
Umpires		

Gross records that FR Spofforth took all 20 wickets for his side in a match at Bendigo in 1881/82, conceding 48 runs in the process – and that all 20 wickets were ‘bowled’.

There is no reference to such a match in any newspaper in Trove, nor in *Cricket* for 1882. It is referred to in newspaper coverage of some later instances of ‘all 20’ in Australia, but Cashman’s biography of Spofforth (*The ‘Demon’ Spofforth* pages 114-115) casts considerable doubt on the alleged occurrence: apparently many have sought it, but none have found.

Mooroolbark v Mullindillingong 1887/88			FAKE
Venue	Mullindillingong, Australia	Date	? June 1888
Result	Mooroolbark won by 10 runs		
Toss	Mooroolbark		
Umpires	Players per side: 8		

Mullindillingong	First innings		Second innings	
R Ruddett	caught	0	bowled	0
H Ruddett	stumped	0	bowled	0
T Ponnell	run out	0	bowled	0
C Riddett	bowled	0	not out	0
J O'Brian	bowled	0	bowled	0
W Page	not out	0	bowled	0
C Morton	bowled	0	bowled	0
T Slavin	bowled	0	bowled	0
Extras		0		0
Total	(all out)	0	(all out)	0
Fall	1/0, 2/0, 3/0, 4/0, 5/0, 6/0, 7/0		1/0, 2/0, 3/0, 4/0, 5/0, 6/0, 7/0	

Mooroolbark	First Innings		Second innings	
C Mummery	[dismissal not known]	8	caught	0
W Hand	bowled	2	bowled	0
R Walker	bowled	0	stumped	0
W Doarn	bowled	0	bowled	0
C Walker	bowled	0	bowled	0
A Doarn	bowled	0	caught	0
H Walker	bowled	0	caught	0
F Walker	not out	0	not out	0
Extras		0		0
Total	(all out)	10	(all out)	0
Fall	1 to 6 not known, 7/10		1/0, 2/0, 3/0, 4/0, 5/0, 6/0, 7/0	

This unlikely match is referred to on page 28 of Jo Rice's *Curiosities of Cricket*.

Harry Watton has traced the above scorecard details in a letter sent to and reproduced in *The Sportsman* (Melbourne) of 27 June 1888. From these details, it is clear that the match was played 8-a-side, and as such it does not qualify for inclusion in the main 'Major Feats' project. Nevertheless, if genuine the performances in the match are worthy of note. However, I am highly sceptical of the genuineness of this performance. That scepticism was evidently shared at the time, as the score in *The Sportsman* is headed 'Is this a hoax?'

Some of the surnames of the Mullindillingong players are unclear in the source.

There is confusion in the original reports as to which team scored all the runs in this game. *Curiosities of Cricket* credits them to Mullindillingong, whereas the scorecard in *The Sportsman* credits them to Mooroolbark. This is corroborated in the text of the letter in that newspaper, although the order of innings as shown there does not tally with the order described in the letter. There are other discrepancies between the letter and the scorecard – e.g. the letter indicates that Mullindillingong “were all clean bowled for nil” in their first innings, whereas the scorecard shows their second innings as “all clean bowled”. It is unclear as to why Mooroolbark batted a second time when they had already won the match on completion of Mullindillingong's second innings.

Dr AWT Daniell's XI v Westham Wanderers 1895

FAKE

Venue	Not known	Date	8 August 1895
Result	Dr AWT Daniell's XI won by one wicket		
Toss			
Umpires			

Westham Wanderers innings

No details known

Extras				
Total				_____
Fall				
	O	M	R	W

Dr AWT Daniell's XI innings

AWT Daniell	not out	180
(11) CD Hamilton	not out	101

Extras				
Total	(for 9 wickets)			_____
Fall	1-9 not known			
	O	M	R	W

Source: *James Lillywhite's Cricketers' Annual* 1896, page 301

Lillywhite states that Daniell and Hamilton shared an unbroken stand of 337 for the last wicket in the innings of Daniell's XI – this despite Hamilton being handicapped by a broken finger. Assuming this means tenth wicket, rather than just 'the last partnership from among those who batted', this would be a world record tenth-wicket partnership in any match.

However, doubts on the genuineness of this performance were noted very early on. FS Ashley-Cooper cast considerable doubt on it in *Cricket* 1898 page 223 and 1899 page 195; he also mentions it in 1900 page 340. Later, Ernest Gross stated that this feat "has always been regarded as fictitious" (*The Cricket Statistician* 44 [December 1983], page 19). No evidence to corroborate the alleged performance has ever been discovered.

Mentmore v West Park 1896/97

FAKE

Venue Adelaide, South Australia

Date 21 February 1897

Result No result

Toss

Umpires

Mentmore innings

C Carrington	not out	362
WIL Hennessey		43
J Reid		39
S Jones		16

Extras				
Total				499
Fall				
	O	M	R	W

West Park - Did not bat

Extras				
Total				
Fall				
	O	M	R	W

Source: *Express & Telegraph* (Adelaide) 23 February 1897. In this source the bowling side is referred to once as West Park, and once as West Parks. Carrington's innings is also noted on page 74 of *Cricket* 1897.

Cyril Carrington's 362* (made in 5 hours 7 minutes) would have been a new South Australian record score, beating Clem Hill's 360 (and in turn superseded by Hill's 365*). But sources examined at the time of compilation of the 'Famous Cricketers' book on Hill indicated that this score was fictitious. The fact that it does not seem to have been reported more widely in South Australia or elsewhere suggests at least some doubt about it.

LL Townsend's XI v WLR Oliver's XI 1899		Date	1-2 August 1899	FAKE
Venue	Castleton, Rochdale, Lancashire			
Result	LL Townsend's XI won by 445 runs			
Toss				
Umpires				

LL Townsend's XI innings

LL Townsend	b Lancaster	64		
C Swinburn	b Lancaster	13		
SJ Trent	b Oliver	28		
W Mansfield	run out	2		
P Cooke	c Gunn b Lancaster	415		
HC McGlaen	b Hayes	1		
JH MacDonald	st Thornton b Hayes	1		
LC Whitehead	b Oliver	30		
CEC Butterworth	c Hayes b Oliver	28		
F Yorke	b Lancaster	3		
HGJ Dale	not out	41		
Extras		25		
Total	(all out)	651		
Fall	1 to 9 not known, 10/651			
	O	M	R	W
Lancaster				4
Oliver				3
Hayes				2

WLR Oliver's XI innings

LWR Oliver	b Trent	13		
C Denham	b Butterworth	5		
EW White	c Dale b Butterworth	1		
HJ Thornton	c Cooke b Swinburn	111		
FF Hayes	b Trent	20		
W Lancaster	b Trent	33		
P Pullar	c Cooke b Trent	4		
JE Foster	c and b Trent	3		
H Jones	not out	5		
T Hazelford	run out	0		
AM Gunn	b Butterworth	0		
Extras		11		
Total		206		
Fall	1 to 9 not known, 10/206			
	O	M	R	W
Trent				5
Butterworth				3
Swinburn				1

Source: *Cricket* 1903 pages 426 and 446; the details are said to be taken directly from the scorebook. The discrepancy between the initials of the losing team's sponsor and its opening batsman is as in *Cricket*.

Close of play Day 1: Townsend's XI 422-6 (Cooke 282, Whitehead 22). Cooke is said to have batted for 6h 40m and scored 55 fours, three fives and three sixes.

However, Philip Bailey has cast doubt on the genuineness of this performance. In an email dated 14 October 2020 he comments: "Bogus I believe. Castleton rings a bell, with either Bowen or Brooke or both saying anything purporting to come from there was not genuine ... If such scores were real you would expect a report at the time rather than a few years later." No contemporary report of this match has [yet] been traced.

Black Forest v Surrey 1904/05		FAKE	
Venue	'On the South Park lands', Adelaide, S Australia	Date	25 March 1905
Result			
Toss			
Umpires			

Surrey innings

E Butler	c Morgan b Healy	2
O'Loughlin	c Morgan b Healy	8
R Butler	c Morgan b Healy	1
Pierce	c Morgan b Healy	22
Turner	st Morgan b Healy	15
Hackett	st Morgan b Healy	5
Hicks	st Morgan b Healy	1
Alford	st Morgan b Healy	13
Head	st Morgan b Healy	12
Connelly	st Morgan b Healy	8
Dunne	not out	16
Extras		15
Total	(all out)	113
Fall	1-9 not claimed, 10/113	

	O	M	R	W
Keogh	14	2	53	0
Healy	15.3	3	33	10
Moncrieff	2	0	12	0

Black Forest innings

[unknown]		
[unknown]		
L Healy	not out	114
+C Morgan		
Keogh		
Moncrieff		
Extras		
Total	(all out)	254
Fall		

This performance was recorded in the pages of *The Register* (Adelaide) on 15 April 1905 under the headline 'Extraordinary cricket performance'. The report says that Laurence Healy (aged 14, a right-hand bowler with 'a fair amount of pace', and a pupil at the Christian Brothers School at Wakefield Street, presumably in Adelaide) and Cecil Morgan combined to take each of the ten Surrey wickets.

This was refuted two days later, when the *Register* of 17 April published a letter from Gordon J Alford, late secretary of Surrey, saying that the report 'is without any foundation whatsoever ... no such remarkable bowling, wicketkeeping or batting feat took place' [although there is an inference that these two teams did meet on the date stated]. After at first confirming the correctness of the score, on 16 April Healy sent a letter to the newspaper 'apologising for having led [their] representative astray, and admitting the inaccuracy of the information'.

Morden v Wimbledon 1939

FAKE

Venue [SW London] Date 13 August 1939
 Result
 Toss
 Umpires

Morden	First innings	
+ G Sushams	not out	150
Jones	not out	170
G Hunt		

Extras		15
Total	(for no wicket, declared)	335
Fall		

O M R W

Wimbledon	First innings	Second innings
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Extras		53	(all out)	17
Total	(all out)			
Fall	1-9 not known, 10/53		1-9 not known, 10/17	

Hunt	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
								10

A report in *The People* (London) 20 August 1939 records that, as well as sharing an unbroken triple-century stand for Morden's first wicket, G Sushams also made 16 dismissals in the match – six in Wimbledon's first innings and all ten in the second. His victims in the second innings were reportedly all off the bowling of G Hunt, who recorded an 'all ten'. In all, Sushams' 16 victims were reported as 10 caught and 6 stumped.

No other reference to this remarkable but unlikely performance has been traced. It is not mentioned in the *Wimbledon Borough News* issues of 4, 11 or 18 August, and the name of Sushams was not seen in any scorecard in these issues of the paper. Nor is it mentioned in the *Merton & Morden News* or the *Mitcham & Colliers Wood Gazette*. The fixture-lists of the Morden and Wimbledon clubs, as published in contemporary local newspapers, make no mention of a match between the two sides.

From match reports of other games, it appears that Wimbledon were a stronger club at the time than Morden, which makes the scorecard as claimed in *The People* even less credible. This is surely a fake.

Bourdon v Heaton Mersey 1947**FAKE**

Venue

Date 26 September 1947

Result

Toss

Umpires

O M R W

O M R W

An obituary in *The Cricketer* for July 1995 records the death of Alan Emery who, it is claimed, took 10 for 0 in Heaton Mersey Parish's first innings of this match, and then another three wickets for no runs in the first over of the second innings before asking to be taken off. The obituary adds that he resisted all attempts in his lifetime to have this feat officially recognised.

The 10-0 feat is not recorded by Gross, and neither has any record of this match or of Emery's performance been traced in a search of the BNA between 1946 and 1949, searching for 'Emery' and 'Heaton Mersey'. Emery's name is not found in PWT's index to *The Cricketer*. He does not have an obituary in *Wisden* for 1996.

A search of the *Stockport Express* for the entire 1947 season (to mid-October) has found no mention of such a feat. Matches played by Heaton Mersey first and second XIs are reported almost every week, including three rounds of fixtures (31 May, 26 July and 16 August) against sides named as Bowdon [sic] or Bowdon Vale, but no feat even beginning to resemble Emery's claimed performance is noted.

It appears that this claim is almost certainly untrue.

Unknown v Unknown mid-1970s		FIDDLE	
Venue	Brisbane	Date	Mid-1970s
Result	Not known		
Toss			
Umpires			

Extras _____
Total
Fall

O M R W

Extras _____
Total
Fall

O M R W

An email from Richard Christen in June 2020 tells of a match in which a hat-trick was taken in which all three victims were dismissed 'hit wicket'. Unsurprisingly, this turns out to have been a contrived occurrence. Richard reports on the match as follows:

'The match was in Brisbane around the mid-1970s during the last round [of the competition] before the semis. Before that last round started four teams had already qualified for the semis. Two of those teams [who he names as A and B] played each other ... points from this round would decide who played who [in the semis] the following weekend. It reached the stage on Day 2 where both teams wanted to play the same opponent the following weekend, so that's when the 'fun and games' started. Team A wanted to be dismissed so they hit catches that were intentionally dropped and Team B bowled wide of the wicket – hence the hit wicket farce. Of course there was an official inquiry but I can't remember what eventuated and who the clubs were.'

Maybe more could be discovered in contemporary newspapers from Brisbane, but this has not yet been possible.

HCC I v HCC II 1994		FIDDLE	
Venue	The Hague, Netherlands	Date	7 August 1994
Result	HCC I won by 702 runs (result later annulled)		
Toss	HCC I		
Umpires	J Witts, J Kors		

HCC I innings

W van Alkemade	c Steijffers b Rijkens	277
C Jackson	not out	329
C Hair	not out	76
B Poolman		
EJ van Gellicum		
E Snoeck		
P Entrop		
J Leemhuis		
J Domela		
*+ J Smits		
P Groeneveld		
Extras	b2, lb3, w14, nb 2	21
Total	(for 1 wicket, 55 overs)	703
Fall	1/526	

	O	M	R	W
Hendriks	14	0	209	0
Rijkens	14	0	184	1
Platenburg	14	0	135	0
Abendanon	5	0	41	0
Canters	8	0	129	0

HCC II innings

V Rijkens	st Smits b Jackson	0
T Platenburg	st Smits b Groeneveld	0
M van der Gun	st Smits b Groeneveld	0
E Steijffers	c Smits b Groeneveld	0
B Mees	st Smits b Groeneveld	0
R Engelen	st Smits b Groeneveld	0
A van Lawick	st Smits b Groeneveld	0
R Abendanon	lbw b Jackson	0
J Sillevius	hit wicket b Jackson	0
T Hendriks	not out	0
M Canters	c Jackson b Groeneveld	0
Extras	w1	1
Total	(all out, 11.4 overs)	1
Fall	1/0, 2/0, 3/0, 4/0, 5/0, 6/1, 7/1, 8/1, 9/1, 10/1	

	O	M	R	W
Hair	5	5	0	0
Groeneveld	5.4	5	0	7
Jackson	1	0	1	3

With thanks to Jeroem Smits for the full scorecard. *Wisden* 1995 (pp 1272-73) reports as follows:

"In the Second Division (Eerste Klasse), HCC The Hague and Gandhi CC of Amsterdam were, with a few matches remaining, both striving for promotion to the Hoofdklasse. Gandhi were well ahead on 'wicket average' (runs per wicket scored divided by runs per wicket conceded), which was to decide the championship in the event of a tie on points. Unless something extraordinary was to happen, Gandhi CC would be promoted for the first time. Something extraordinary did happen. HCC happened to be fulfilling a fixture against their own second eleven, and won the 55-overs match by 702 runs; HCC scored 703 for one (Jackson 329 not out, van Alkemade 277; HCC Seconds scored 1 all out. Six of the wickets fell to stumpings. [continued under the scorecard on the following page].

K-Gandhi v Succes CC 1994		FIDDLE	
Venue	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Date	7 August 1994
Result	K-Gandhi won by 797 runs (result later annulled)		
Toss	K-Gandhi		
Umpires	D Blage, A Hesseling	Players per side: K-Gandhi 11, Succes 10	

K-Gandhi CC innings

R Gomes	not out	429
LA Joseph	c Riaz b Asif	51
N Bhoelan	not out	277
A Sardha		
F Sardha		
N Gouoel		
F Moenna		
D Sheikjogsoet		
AC Ziapoon		
DZ Gawoow		
ALN Chan		
Extras	b24, w32	56
Total	(for 1 wicket, 55 overs)	813
Fall	1/141	

	O	M	R	W
Dennis	8	0	58	0
Amin	6	0	58	0
Sajjad	9	0	69	0
Rana	2	0	18	0
Asif	6	0	109	1
Minto	9	0	188	0
Riaz	9	0	188	0
Mazhar	5	0	86	0
Javid	1	0	15	0

Succes CC innings

Sajjad	b Joseph	0
Minto	b Gouoel	0
Javid	b Joseph	0
Asif	b Gouoel	5
Mazhar	b Joseph	0
A Ijaz	b Joseph	0
Dennis	b Joseph	5
Riaz	b Joseph	0
Rana	b Gouoel	2
Amin	not out	2
Extras	w2	2
Total	(all out, 15.2 overs)	16
Fall	1/0, 2/0, 3/1, 4/1, 5/1, 6/7, 7/8, 8/14, 9/16	

	O	M	R	W
Joseph	8	5	7	6
Gouoel	7.2	1	9	3

With thanks to Jeroem Smits for the full scorecard. Some of the players' names are unclear and may be misspelled.

Continuation of extract from *Wisden* 1995 (pp 1272-73) from the previous scorecard:

"... On the same day Gandhi rattled up 813 for one (Gomes 429 not out, Bhoelan 277 not out) against a team inaptly called Success CC [sic; but Succes is correct] which, like Gandhi, comprised almost exclusively non-Dutch players. They replied with a spirited 16 all out. The following day the Royal Dutch Cricket Association declared the results void, fined all four teams, deducted points as well, suspended all four captains to the end of the season and declared that there would be no promotion to the Hoofdklasse. Gandhi and Success maintained that their match was not fixed – Success did turn up with only ten men – but HCC made no attempt to deny the allegation. Had there been provision for a play-off for the championship in this league, as there was in the Hoofdklasse, all this would have been avoided."

Some sources say that, like HCC, Gandhi were also playing against their Second XI in this match, but *Wisden's* version is correct.

Yashwantrao Chavan XI v Yashwantrao Chavan EMS 2017/18

FAKE

Venue YCEMS Ground, Kopar Kahirane, Navi Mumbai, India Date 29, 30 January 2018
Result Not known
Toss
Umpires

Yashwantrao Chavan XI innings

T Gavate	not out	1045
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Extras _____
Total
Fall
O M R W

Yashwantrao Chavan EMS

No details known

Extras _____
Total
Fall
O M R W

Two years after Pranav Dhanawade's apparently-genuine innings of 1009, along came reports of another even higher innings. The performance was claimed by the YC XI coach Manish, and gained some press coverage at the time. Tanishq Gavate, said to be 13 or 14 years old, reportedly hit 149 fours and 67 sixes (i.e. 998 in boundaries) in an innings lasting 515 balls. Manish claimed that a leather ball was used, and that bowlers bowled overarm; the [square] boundaries were 60-65 yards on one side, and 50 yards on the other.

The match was played in the semi-final of a tournament named as the Navi Mumbai Shield Under-14 competition. In his quarter-final match, it was claimed that Gavate had scored 316*.

No other details of the match have come to light, and in the absence of any prolonged excitement about this innings, and more details of the match, it is assumed to be not genuine.

EMS – English Medium School

England v Australia [no date]			FICTION	
Venue	Lord's, London	Date	'The future'	
Result	Match tied			
Toss	England			
Umpires	A Judge and RB Traytor			
Scorers	H Bee and A Forepad		Senior groundsmen: GK Willey and AP 'Tich' Marsh	

England	First innings		Second innings	
RA Hall	b Ridge	40	lbw b Utt	8
RF Hall	b Utt	95	c Lara b Utt	6
V Close	c Lever b Olton	99	not out	99
*K Spencer	c Eggar b Olton	94	c Lever b Eggar	0
G Roy	lbw b Ridge	76	c and b Seane	7
XC Ninety	b Astle	90	lbw b Utt	8
B Charles	b Astle	15	c Onther b Ounce	8
RG Bhaji	c and b Utt	80	st Amford b Ridge	9
Q Stand	not out	23	c Astle b Olton	7
+ VT Stumper	c Amford b Utt	0	lbw b Utt	0
JCW MacBryan	absent injured	-	timed out	0
Extras		0	lb1, nb8	9
Total	(all out)	612	(all out)	161
Fall	1-98, 2-195, 3-275, 4-366, 5-454, 6-499, 7-519, 8-609, 9-612		1-8, 2-25, 3-40, 4-64, 5-86, 6-110, 7-133, 8-157, 9-161, 10-161	
	O	M	R	W
Astle	20	0	87	2
Utt	25.4	0	99	3
Ridge	15	0	95	2
Olton	28	0	96	2
Eggar	16	0	90	0
Seane	10	0	71	0
Ounce	8	0	68	0

Australia	First innings		Second innings	
B Onther	lbw b Charles	43	lbw b Bhaji	87
OB Seane	c sub (H Bratt) b Charles	15	c Stand b Charles	28
T Ounce	c RA Hall b Stand	47	c and b Ninety	90
*JP Lever	run out (Spencer)	40	b Ninety	41
DG Lara	c Roy b Bhaji	21	not out	87
S Eggar	c Stumper b Close	46	c RA Hall b Bhaji	20
+ MR Amford	lbw b Bhaji	35	st Stumper b Bhaji	16
WW Olton	b Charles	27	lbw b Close	12
VME Ridge	c Close b Stand	36	b Close	8
SH Utt	b Stand	19	st Stumper b Bhaji	3
JEF Astle	not out	16	run out (sub H Bratt)	1
Extras	lb5, w5, nb5	15	lb12, w4, nb4	20
Total	(all out)	360	(all out)	413
Fall	1-36, 2-83, 3-132, 4-167, 5-196, 6-245, 7-268, 8-309, 9-339, 10-360		1-87, 2-143, 3-237, 4-277, 5-324, 6-356, 7-382, 8-402, 9-412, 10-413	
	O	M	R	W
Charles	24	5	70	3
Stand	22.1	5	81	3
Ninety	18	5	90	0 (5)
Bhaji	29	12	46	2 (3)
Close	25	6	68	1 (4)
RA Hall				8

...and here's one I prepared earlier, designed to offer something to both statisticians and wordsmiths. It first appeared under the heading 'Back from the future' in the *Journal of The Cricket Society* Vol 28 no. 2 (Spring 2016), where it is accompanied by a description of the match which may throw some light on one or two of the scorecard details. Referred to as 'history's fourth Tied Test', it was said to be the fifth and final Test of the series (the two previous Tests had been played at Derby and Plymouth) which was thus drawn 2-2, with England thereby retaining the Ashes to extend their record-breaking unbroken sequence in England v Australia Tests. Well, a guy can dream.

The many 'Mosts Without' records in the scorecard may perhaps be spotted, as may the verbally 'interesting' dismissals in England's second innings; but the Walmsley family names, birthdays and telephone numbers that are also included will probably elude even the most ardent cricket-lover!