

Penistone "A" make sure of title

PENISTONE "A" made certain of winning the Championship of the Central Cricket League on Saturday when they gained a thirty-run victory over Clayton West. Last year they were pipped on the post by Denby Dale "A" after leading for most of the season.

Denby Dale are well up this year—in fact they are fighting for second place with Nortonthorpe. Both teams won on Saturday, and are thus level with 31 points each.

Penistone "A" clinched the Championship with another solid all-round performance. Though their batting was not particularly good against the Clayton West attack, in which E. Hepworth took seven for 46, their bowling was more effective, with two bowlers taking the honours. Clayton West were all out for 61, S. Butcher taking four for 40 and F. Marsh four for 4.

Butcher did the early damage, but had to take some punishment later in the innings—his seven overs cost 48 runs. Marsh, however, polished off the last four wickets in just over three overs.

Nortonthorpe, in their quest for the runners-up position, made short work of Skelmanthorpe. Consistent batting enabled them to reach 148-5 against a Skelmanthorpe team which could field only nine of their own men. Then the attack, with R. Hardy taking four for 12, quickly disposed of the nine Penistone batsmen after D. Leach, who made 23, had been removed.

Last matches count

This defeat meant that Skelmanthorpe have still to make their position in Section "A" safe. Penistone "B" are already booked for relegation, and Skelmanthorpe have two more points than Halmesbury, so everything depends on the last matches next week. If anything, Skelmanthorpe have the easier match—at Scholes, for Halmesbury have to visit Nortonthorpe.

Cumberworth United, by virtue of their five-wicket win over Cartworth Moor, won the Section "C" Championship.

Cartworth Moor could total only 68 when they batted first and the main agent of destruction was N. GAUNT, who took eight for 26—the day's best bowling performance.

Shelley slipped against Bretton, for had they won they would have been assured of the second promotion place, as Thurstonland also lost. Three run outs did not help Shelley's cause and they were all out for 107, a total which Bretton passed comfortably, four men passing the twenty mark in their five-wicket win.

Emley Clarence thrust themselves into the promotion reckoning with an impressive performance against Denby Dale "B". After putting out their opponents for 140 they knocked off the runs for the loss of only one wicket, J. F. Aspinall hitting 70 not out and G. Wilkinson 50 not out.

Thus Emley now share second place with Shelley, each club having 32 points.

SECTION "A"

Denby Dale "A" 86 Scholes 22.
Halmesbury 58 Penistone "B" 53-5.
Laymoor 74 Cawthorne 75-5.
Nortonthorpe 146-8 Skelmanthorpe 48.
Penistone "A" 91-9 Clayton West 61.

SECTION "B"

Cumberworth U 69-6 Cartworth Moor 68.
Emley Clarence 141-1 Denby Dale "B" 140.
Rowley Hill 108-5 David Brown 107.
Shelley 107 Bretton 111-5.
Thurstonland 116 Lepton II 124-8.

Performances

BATTING

B. Ely (Lepton II) 79
J. F. Aspinall (Emley Clr) *70
J. H. Kays (Rowley Hill) 62
O. Woodhouse (Thurstonland) 56
G. Wilkinson (Emley Clr) *50

* Denotes not out.

BOWLING

N. Gaunt (Cumberworth U) ... 5-26
E. Hepworth (Clayton West) ... 7-46
P. Bonstead (Lepton II) ... 6-41
D. Sheard (Rowley Hill) ... 5-30
J. Kennedy (Cawthorne) ... 5-22
R. Jubb (Penistone "B") ... 5-24
W. Cocking (Denby Dale "A") 5-26

Second Elevens

Cartworth Moor 116 Cumberworth 22
(M. Cunningham 5-12).
David Brown 127 L. Wilkinson 6-51 Emley 109.
Skelmanthorpe 154-7 (T. Redgwick 51) Shelley 44 (A. Geisinger 5-12).
Scholes 96 (Murray 5-23) Thurstonland 97-5.