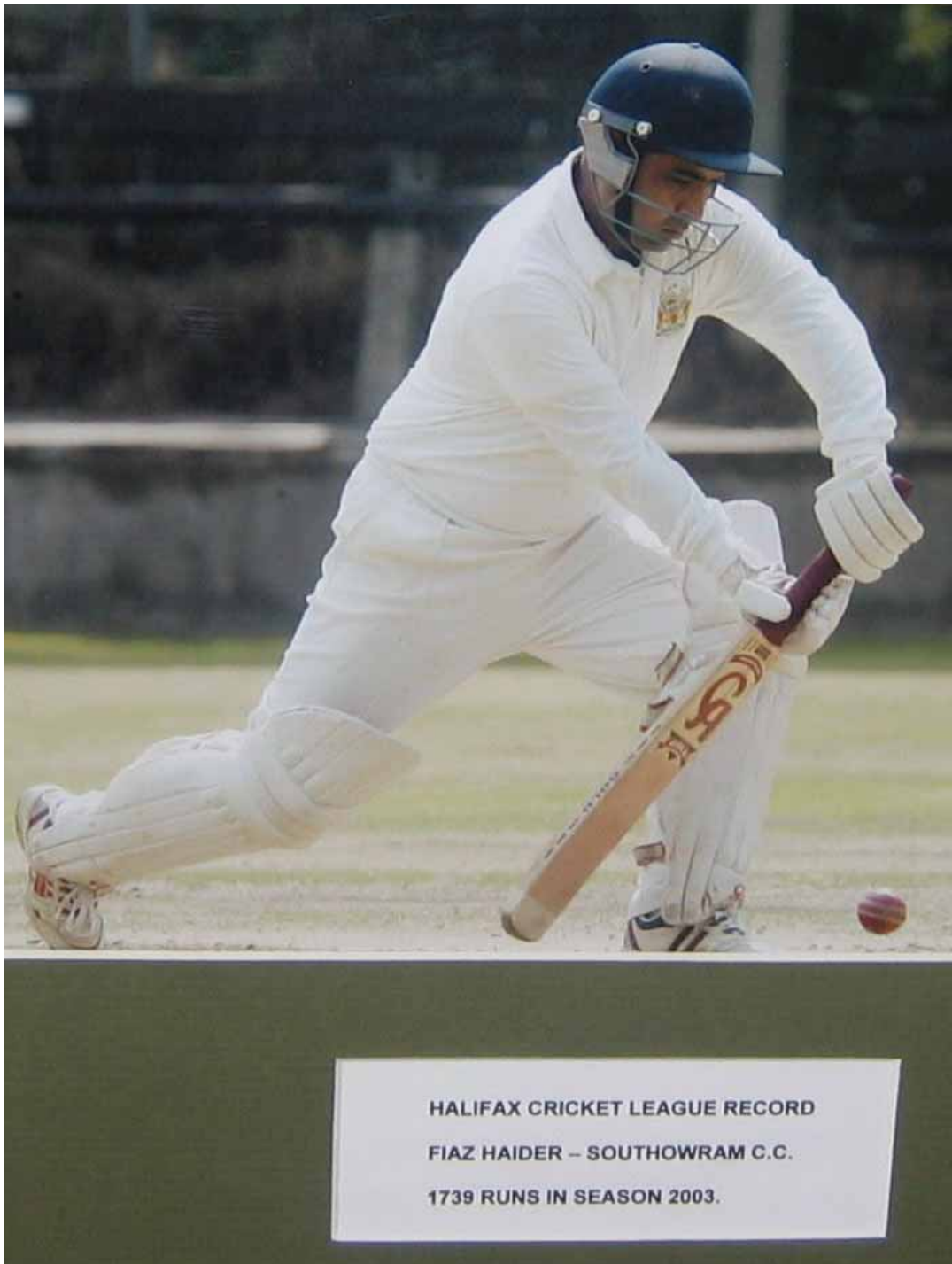


FIAZ HAIDER

Fiaz Haider, a Pakistan-born chef, played his first full season for Southowram in 2000 and he quickly became one of the most feared batsmen in the Halifax League.



In the Rams' 2000 Parish Cup triumph, Fiaz scored what was described as 'a polished 85 on a prime batting track'. The batting star later had a spell as captain of Southowram.

Fiaz's 36-in-an-over blitz

HALIFAX League batting sensation Fiaz Haider hit six sixes off an over on Saturday.

The Southowram opening batsman took full toll on Greetland medium pacer Abdul Rauf on his way to a score of 184

in a total of 290 for four. It set up the Rams for a 163-run win in the top section.

It takes ex-Halifax CC player Haider's tally to 790 runs in 11 league innings this season and 1006 when his Parish Cup runs are included.

Southowram scored 100 runs off the last eight overs against Greetland and that included Haider's assault on Rauf, who was hit four times over the trees at square leg and twice over the sidescreen straight down the ground.

Southowram secretary Keith Walker said: "The only word to describe his batting when he gets going is awesome."

"A couple of his sixes went about 15 yards over the boundary and the rest went miles - we're still looking for the balls!"

HAIDER HOT ON THE RECORD TRAIL - PAGE 13



Southowram's Fiaz Haider hit six sixes off an over in the Halifax League on Saturday

Local newspaper reports on some of the batting exploits of Southowram's Pakistan-born opener Fiaz Haider, including his six sixes in an over feat

Fiaz re-writing record books

SOUTHOWRAM batsman Fiaz Haider has completed the fastest 1,000 runs in Halifax League history.

The Rams skipper smashed 198 at home to Salendine Nook in Section B on Saturday to take his tally to 1127 runs in just 14 innings this season.

He is only five runs behind Graeme Williams' league record of 1132, made for Old Town in Division Two in 1989, and with eight games left in 2002 few would bet against him breaking through the 1,500 run barrier.

The Pakistani, formerly with Halifax in the Yorkshire and Huddersfield leagues, hit 15 sixes and 21 fours in his latest knock to enable Southowram to declare at 350 for three. They bowled out SNOBS for 125.

Haider is also the first person to score 1,000 runs in a Halifax League season twice, having scored 1039 in Section A in 2000.

Other players to score 1,000 runs in a Halifax League season are Warley's John Rawson (1,001 in 1986), Copley's

Neil Whittaker (1,046 in 1991) and Warley Andrew Oates (1,028 in 1999).

Southowram secretary Keith Walker said: "When he reached the 1,000-mark on Saturday he might not have been aware of the fact but everyone else was."

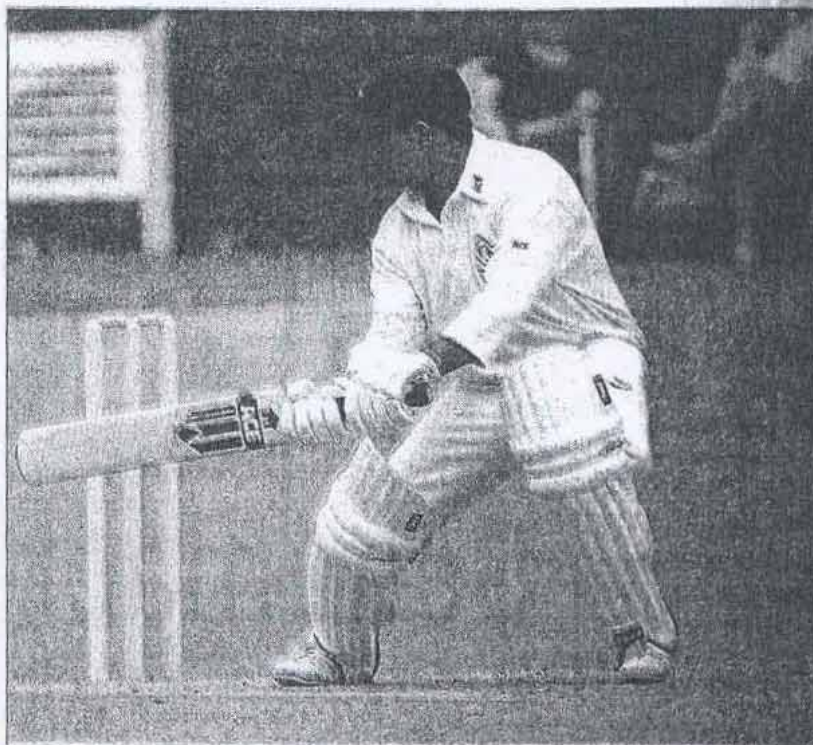
"There was also a nice response from the SNOBS players who shook him warmly by the throat!"

Haider, averaging 102.45 this season, is not the biggest of batsmen but Walker said: "He is very correct and hits the ball extremely hard - it's all down to timing and having fast arms."

"Fiaz has scored five centuries this season and what is important is not just his sheer weight of runs but the fact that he gets them very quickly."

"Also, he is such a nice guy - a credit to the club."

Southowram are hoping Haider's rich seam of form will continue to the Parish Cup final in 13 days' time when a big score from the opener is probably imperative if the Rams, who stage the game, are to upset section-higher Triangle.



Fiaz Haider

Fiaz Haider's 2002 league scores

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| April 27 v Stainland 48 | June 1 Ludd Foot 121 | June 29 Myholmsroyd 4 |
| May 4 v Crossleyans 119 | June 3 Myth Meths 182 | July 6 Stainland 8 |
| May 11 v Salendine N 66 | June 8 Old Town 22 | July 13 Crossleyans 94 no |
| May 18 v Queensbury 139 no | June 15 Greetland 22 | July 20 SNOBS 198 |
| May 25 Bridgeholme 9 | June 22 Stones 95 no | |