Andrew James

Sykes Cup Final, 1982

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Hero Jakeman as Honley finally make it

SKIPPER Bruce Jakeman steered Honley to their first Sykes Cup success in eight attempts at Fartown yesterday and created a competition record.

For the experienced all-rounder collected the Victor Muff man-of-the-match award as he led Honley to a relatively comfortable seven-wicket triumph over Primrose Hill to emulate his brother Stuart, who took the award with Holmfirth in 1969.

Jakeman tucked up the Hill batsmen with his medium-pacers, conceding just 34 runs and taking one wicket in an unbroken 18-over stint which he never dreamed he would be able to bowl.

For he had been having treatment on an injured left hamstring all week and wisely rested himself from the previous day's Huddersfield League match against Marsden.

In addition to his tremendously tight bowling return, the Honley skipper went on to make an unbeaten 35 to steer them past their 158-run target in the 41st over before his leg gave out again.

Victory gave three Honley players special reason to celebrate. Peter Green, a Honley servant for 27 years, said: "This is the best moment of my cricketing career," as he collected a winner's medal at the fourth attempt. Off-spinner Maurice Peters was equally suited after waiting 20 years for his first final appearance, and all-rounder Mike Bocarro, who blasted a 45-minute unbeaten 37, was delighted to be on a winning final side again before he emigrates to Australia on August 22.

All the plucky losers went away with was the £50 or so collection Norman Clee received for hitting a half-century before narrowly failing to match Jakeman's performances by conceding just 48 runs from 16.4 overs.

But the Hill made a marvellous start through a crack innings from Bill Brown after his opening partner and skipper Colin Jowett, breaking from his holidays in Newquay, had won the toss.

Paceman Andrew James suffered under Brown's barrage, being hit for four fours and a two in his fifth over before being replaced by 15-year-old Jamie Hinchliffe.

It took a low, diving left-hand slip catch by Mike Lindley to end Brown's run spree in the 14th over off Jakeman and send him back to the pavilion and warm applause from the meagre 1,200 — £376 receipts — crowd after his 34 runs.

The Hill's hopes suffered a major blow in the 17th over when top batsman John Webster offered a straightforward catch to Bocarro at short leg off Hinchliffe and he was out for four with the score on 56.

The Hill had lost their momentum and they also lost their skipper when Rimmington's throw from backward point to wicket-keeper Neil Hodgson beat him when attempting a quick single in Peters' first over, the 21st.

Clee began to produce some fine drives off Peters but Gordon Scott was struggling and was lucky to survive when he spooned up the ball of Jakeman in the 30th over but Peters and Green left the ball for each other.

The 100 was reached in the 33rd over and the pair took them to 121 by the 38th when Hinchliffe replaced Jakeman and saw Lindley drop Clee on 43, at square leg.

Bocarro replaced Peters and immediately took a return catch off Scott, who was out for 24 with the Hill 131.

Clee reached his 77-minute half-century in the 40th over by pulling Hinchliffe for six towards the scorebox. He then top-edged a four before Lindley snapped him up at square leg for 56.

Primrose Hill's batting collapsed totally and, from 152—5 they were all out for 158, losing three wickets in successive deliveries.

First, Bocarro bowled Senior and then Hinchliffe bowled Andrew McNulty. Phil Robinson was beaten by Lindley's throw from the boundary when attempting a second run off the next — a no-ball — and Nick Harpin was bowled by a full toss from the next.

Finally, Barraclough was run out attempting a second as Peters threw the ball square to Jamie Hinchliffe instead of the wicketkeeper. Hinchliffe shied at the stumps, missed, but Jakeman collected and threw them down.

The target was always going to be difficult to defend and Honley openers Steve Rimmington and left-hander Lindley achieved a splendid start. Rimmington described the track as "perfect" and raced to 25 with some splendid strokes before he fell to paceman Robinson, who had switched ends. Rimmington clipped the ball off his toes but David Allan jumped to clutch the ball with both hands at square leg to make Honley 44 — in the 14th over.

Lindley became tied down by Clee's slow-medium pacers into a patch outside the off-stump but 17-year-old Darren Hinchliffe punctured Robinson's on-side field with some delightful groundstroke boundaries.

He finally fell when Senior claimed a catch behind off Robinson in the 24th over, although the Honley youngster was adamant his bat was nowhere near the ball which had struck his pad instead.

Jakeman then kept the score ticking along with a sensible approach but he lost Lindley for 36 in the 30th over when the pacy but wayward Nick Harpin produced a bouncer which Lindley attempted to hook only for it to hit the back of the bat and give a catch behind.

Honley were 100—3 but Bocarro's arrival ended any chance of a tight finish. He treated every accurate delivery with respect but anything loose was despatched to the boundary. Clee, whose first 13 overs cost only 22 runs, was hoisted over mid-wicket for six and then straight-driven for another as Bocarro quickly caught up with his partner.

Jakeman was content to give him the strike and Bocarro ended proceedings with the fifth boundary in the 41st over to give Honley the cup at last and leave the Hill, playing in only their second final, still seeking a first success.

SYKES CUP 82

Robert Gledhill

Brown and Clee lead brave fight

● A collection for the Huddersfield Hospitals Broadcasts Association raised £63.35.

Scoreboard

PRIMROSE HILL

Brown c Lindley b Jakeman	34
Jowett run out	13
Webster c Bocarro b Hinchliffe (J)	4
Clee c Lindley b Hinchliffe (J)	56
Scott c and b Bocarro	24
Senior b Bocarro	5
McNulty b Hinchliffe (J)	3
Barraclough run out	3
Robinson run out	1
Harpin b Hinchliffe (J)	0
Allan (D) not out	2
Extras	13
Total	158

James 5—0—30—0, Jakeman 18—7—34—1, Hinchliffe (J) 9—0—45—4, Peters 9—1—28—0, Bocarro 4—0—8—2.

HONLEY

Rimmington c Allan b Robinson	25
Lindley c Senior b Harpin	36
Hinchliffe (D) c Senior b Robinson	22
Jakeman not out	35
Bocarro not out	37
Extras	5
Total (for 3)	160

Robinson 14—1—56—2, Barraclough 4—0—21—0, Clee 16.4—2—48—0, Harpin 6—1—30—1.

Picture by KEITH LAWSON

An anxious-looking Primrose Hill skipper Colin Jowett prepares to run as Honley paceman Andrew James races in during yesterday's final

Success at last — Sykes Cup winners Honley before yesterday's final. Pictured are (from left to right): Back row — Scorer David Brooke, twelfth man David Brooker, Mike Bocarro, Mike Lindley, Robert Denton, Steve Rimmington, Jamie Hinchliffe, Andrew James. Front row — Maurice Peters, Peter Green, Bruce Jakeman (captain), Neil Hodgson, Darren Hinchliffe

Splendid display helps avoid drop

By GRANVILLE BECKETT

A SPLENDID rear-guard action by Longwood Harriers enabled them to avoid the trap-door of relegation from the Northern League's Second Division in the season's final match at Leeds Road, on Saturday.

The local athletes produced their best result of the season to send Middlesbrough and Warrington tumbling down to Division III.

Middlesbrough had completed their fixtures before Saturday and could do nothing to save themselves. But, Warrington were well and truly seen off by Longwood, whose Saturday tally of 211½pts gave them the edge when match points were brought into the reckoning.

The main stars for Longwood were the Brown brothers, Derrick and David, who hauled in an unprecedented maximum in League competition in the sprints.

Derrick, 18, won the 'A' string 100 metres in 11.6sec and David, 17, was first in the 'B' race in 11.8sec. Later they switched places in the 200 metres and David won the 'A' race in 22.8sec and his elder brother the 'B' race in 22.9sec. Both are still juniors yet this was senior men's competition.

Kenneth George, frustrated by the weather at Castleford in midweek, was also a double winner. He took the 800 metres in a career best of 1min 52.3sec and added a victory in the 400 metres in 51.6sec.

To end the day, he ran a storming leg for the club's 4 x 400 metres relay squad which finished second to Sutton Harriers from St Helens.