

Lamb roars like a lion for champs

ALAN LAMB, Le Roux's South African Western Province colleague, continues to make an impact in the Huddersfield League.

A batsman with superb strokes, Lamb lashed 149 against Elland on Saturday in Holmfirth's 228-3.

But in their Sykes Cup final preview, Elland made a brave attempt to match the champions, Bob Kelsall leading the way with a brilliant 125 before John Booth's side fell 34 short.

Rastrick's Zaheer Patel was a third batsman in three figures, but he, too, finished on the losing side when the Round Hill men saw their 215-7 present few problems for Thongsbridge, who triumphed with eight wickets in hand, double-century-makers for the sixth time this season.

Holmfirth now lead El-

his magnificent 149 is just 8 runs short of the 157 made by Kirkburton professional (Jim) Minhas in 1959 against... Elland.

Honley's Ken Bowling hit an unbeaten 176 against Rastrick in 1967 which is the Sykes Cup highest since limited overs were introduced.

At Holmfirth, Lamb was particularly severe on Notts all-rounder Philip Wilkinson (1-72). He reached 50 in the eighth over and completed his century ten overs later. Altogether 122 of his 149 runs came in boundaries — fourteen fours and eleven sixes.

When he was out in the thirtieth over, Holmfirth failed to continue the spree and Elland faced a target of 228-3.

Kelsall, who hammered five sixes and thirteen fours, brilliantly led Elland's bid, but from

cricket, winning by eight wickets.

Andrew Chatburn produced some of the runs which had escaped him this summer to hammer 90 against Hall Bower in Marsden's 174 before the pace of Peter Smith (4-20) and Len Braithwaite (3-31) had the Bower in difficulties.

Barry Robertshaw (21) and Ian Booth delayed the inevitable before Nigel Wood (3-8) ended the visitors' innings at 83 to keep Hall Bower rooted at the bottom.

Shepley's hopes of survival took a knock at Dalton where Ken Whittle boosted the home club's hopes of staying up.

Only Colin Shaw reached double figures in Shepley's 71, with Whittle taking six for 34, supported by pace colleague Bob Trueman (4-30). Whittle hit 33 in helping Peter Howlett (not out 32) take

play, however, and getting support from Jakeman and John Sanderson, Kirkburton were pegged at 147-8.

At Hill Top, Slaithwaite began confidently with openers John Cowan (39) and Robert Bradshaw (19) sharing a half-century partnership. Slow left-arm bowler Robert Kettlewell put Paddock in the picture with a magnificent spell, taking the first six wickets to fall for 27 — figures later tarnished by Ian Gemmell who hammered eight fours and a couple of sixes in an undefeated 55.

Gemmell (2-24) and Brian Clarke (3-28) worked up a lively pace to send back the first four Paddock batsmen for 46, and the Section "B" leaders looked to their lower-order men. Peter Hepworth (19) and Robert Kettlewell (not out 14) to fight for a point.