

PREMIER CRICKET

Bulldogs blitz Students

FOOTSCRAY-EDGEWATER CLOCKS 12TH SEASON TRIUMPH ON BACK OF DREDGE MASTERCLASS

Ross Couzens

LUCAS Dredge put in a full shift as nightwatchman and even logged some overtime as he helped guide Footscray-Edgewater to its 12th win of the Premier Cricket season on Saturday.

With the Bulldogs resuming at 1-56 in pursuit of Melbourne University's 227, Dredge hit a career-best 66 before being run out by a direct hit as the visitors worked their way to 4-302 off

93 overs and another emphatic result.

Dredge's knock included six boundaries and came off 158 deliveries in a little under three hours.

He teamed up with Travis Dean to pile on 111 for the third wicket at University Oval and all but put the game to bed.

"Lucas Dredge got the opportunity as nightwatchman and he took it with both hands and Travis Dean was fantastic right from the out-

set," Footscray-Edgewater captain Dean Russ said.

"They batted with positive intent, rotated the strike really well and built a big partnership to the point where the game was pretty much done in our favour.

"We recognise that partnerships are very important ... we try to eliminate any back-to-back wickets.

"Dredge took on that responsibility and made sure he saw us through and it was just unfortunate the way he

went out, but by that stage we were on 189 and only three down.

"Dredge is really growing as a cricketer and I still think we've got the best of him to come," he said.

Dean went on to make 61 off 116 balls in 135 minutes, blazing nine fours along the way.

"He's been solid ... his contribution (batting primarily at No.3) has been massive in the whole scheme of things for us," Russ said of Dean's

340 runs for the summer at an average of 34.

"The way he batted was impressive and he's hitting the ball as good as I've seen him."

Dylan Kight (40 not out with three fours and a six) and Sri Lankan professional Shanuka Dissanayaka (64 not out off as many balls with eight fours and a six) wiped off the remaining runs and then some.

"It was good that Kighty and Shanuka got the chance

to spend some time in the middle," Russ said.

It was Dissanayaka's first real chance to showcase his batting since joining the Bulldogs in November.

"He hit the ball very hard and looked to take the game on, which is perfect and what you need from a middle-order batsman," Russ said.

"And just that little bit of extra experience is definitely going to help us in the long run."

TAEKWONDO

Teenager kicks off world campaign

Luke D'Anello

TEENAGERS aren't known for having the best concentration levels, but nothing is going to break Schelby Malachowski's ahead of the Taekwondo Junior World Championships in March.

The 16-year-old from Point Cook started taekwondo when she was just a three-year-old and has been competing in the sport for the past 10 years.

Schelby qualified untested for the World Championships in Chinese Taipei, after winning the National Championships held in Brisbane last October.

This came after two stellar performances at the DaeDo International Test Event held in Florida earlier in the year, which saw Schelby bring home two gold medals.

Schelby has been coached from day one by her father Alan, who, along with mum, Kelly, runs the Martial Fitness School in Point Cook.

According to Mrs Malachowski, her daughter is at home in the ring and loves the heat of the contest.

"She loves the competition side of things, she loves the fighting," she said.

"We're very proud of her."

Currently a level two Dan black belt, Schelby will be attempting to reach level three while running classes for the younger taekwondo students at the school.

Schelby will be looking to unleash her devastating hook kick on opponents at the Junior World Championships, and is aiming for a podium finish.

Schelby is a Wyndham Leader Junior Sports Star nominee. Nominate at the wyndhamleader.com.au.



State taekwondo champion Schelby Malachowski, 16.

Picture: KRIS REICHL

SUB-DISTRICT CRICKET

Tigers chase hard to make it nine straight

Ross Couzens

THE Werribee juggernaut chugged to its ninth straight win in Sub-District Cricket on Saturday.

The Tigers were made to work hard for the six points by Croydon, but kept their unblemished record intact.

"Good sides win games when they're not necessarily at their peak; they just find a way to win," said Werribee skipper Shaun Dean.

"And you're always learning from these types of games. Even though we're undefeated, there is still a whole heap of improvement in this cricket side."

Heath Pritchard was the star of the day after he unleashed a fine bowling display to take 5-15 off his nine overs (four maidens) as Croydon, which won the toss and batted first, was held to 9-147 from its 45 overs at Chirnside Park.

It was Pritchard's third five-wicket haul of the campaign and took his overall tally to 24 victims at an average of 10.17.

And he received good support from the more-than-economical Jonathon Burton (0-17 off nine overs) along with Jake Purton and Matthew Thomson, who returned the identical figures of 2-39 off nine.

"We had them 9-68 I think so I was happy and impressed with all the bowlers," Dean said.

"Heath bowled fantastically, Matt Thomson did well - he got two early ones, and Jake Purton got a couple there.

"But then the momentum changed a bit (via a hefty last-wicket stand for Croydon).

"Yet in the end, 147, if they'd offered it to us at the start of the day you'd have definitely taken that in a one-dayer.

"The wicket wasn't con-

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- Shaun Dean

ducive to scoring runs. There was quite a lot of grass on it and a few balls were sort of spitting up, so it wasn't easy to bat on," he said.

"It didn't change too much throughout the day. It always seemed and the odd ball did something."

Brothers Matthew (36) and Shaun Dean (35 not out) then guided the Tigers through somewhat of a minefield of a run chase as the home side eventually reached 7-152 after 44 overs - having been a precarious 5-103 at one point.

"It was quite a seesawing affair," Shaun Dean said. "We were 0-71 so the openers ... Matt got 36 and Adam Duxson hung in there for 16 to build a great partnership.

"But when the wickets fell it was a hard pitch to get in on (for the incoming batsmen).

"The game was in the balance there. It was a difficult situation. We had to really dig in and I think I played out a few maidens just to settle the ship.

"We left our run a little bit late, but we always had time up our sleeve."

fast lane

Play bowled over

► **Bowls:** Midweek pennant competition

was abandoned last week due to the heat. Bowls Victoria made the decision to cancel play as Melbourne's mercury soared into the mid-forties. Bowls Victoria's heat

policy, which is available on the league website, stipulates play is to be cancelled if the temperature reaches 36 degrees Celsius or above.

