



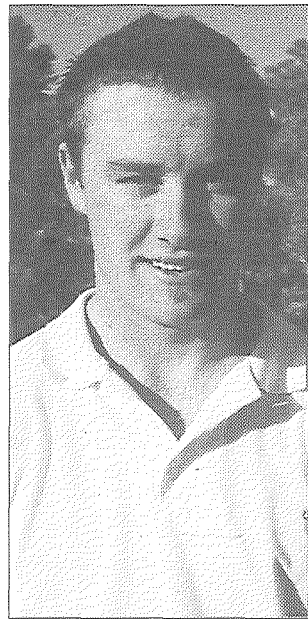
Back row from left: St John Cranna, Adam Clements, Max Lewis, Chris Barry,  
Ken Miller (coach/manager), Chris Carver, Jake Sherriff, Patrick Beggs.  
Front row: Sean Mason, Daniel Barry, Darcy Jones, Joshua Miller.

# Battered Dytes fall short of a fairytale



Preliminary Final hero Adam Beardall.

## Neagle scoops the Hawks pool



Ben Neagle: the best everything.

All-rounder Ben Neagle has made a clean sweep of South Warrandyte Cricket Club's first eleven awards for the 2003-04 season.

Neagle won the batting, bowling and fielding honours and the club champion trophy.

It was a fitting reward for the son of club coach Bob Neagle and brother of senior player Jeremy Neagle had consistently stood tall with the bat in a disappointing run-making season for the Hawks.

He was also a damaging change bowler and an inspiration in the field.

Prolific run-getter Paul Milne took the team champion and batting award for the second eleven. David Cutler took the bowling honours and Andy Uren was judged best in the field.

The other team champions were Scott Adams (third eleven) and Rob Jones (fourths).

Josh Barrett was named most improved player and Veronica Williams, wife of club president Barry Williams, best clubperson.

The awards were made at presentation night at Alfred's Homestead on March 12.

The recipients:

**FIRST XI:** Ben Neagle (batting, bowling, fielding, club champion).

**SECOND XI:** Paul Milne (batting and team champion); David Cutler (bowling); A. Uren (fielding).

**THIRD XI:** Duncan Head (batting); Tom Craven (bowling); Rick Savage (fielding); Scott Adams (team champion).

**FOURTH XI:** Rob Jones (batting, team champion); Andrew Duncan (bowling); Brett Onken (fielding).

Most improved: Josh Barrett.  
Best clubperson: Veronica Williams.

Warrandyte Cricket Club's fairytale tilt at the Ringwood District's Wilkins Cup premierships turned into a nightmare finish in the Grand Final against Croydon North.

Set 183 to win, the Warrandyte batting line-up was no match for a powerful and lethal Croydon North fast bowling attack and bundled out for 92.

The Dytes were battered and bruised in the encounter. Opening batsman Tyson Brent was felled by a bouncer that hit him in the jaw while coach Ian Broome has undergone surgery to repair a badly fractured cheekbone after he was hit by a rising ball.

"We were disappointed with the loss but we were very proud to have reached the premiership match," said club president Robert White.

"No one gave us a chance at the Christmas break but we played as a team and fought back to win matches from improbable positions.

"It's tough to win three finals matches in a row and Croydon North are as tough a team as there is.

"They kept the pressure on our batting line-up and would not let go."

Warrandyte were very much in the match at 2-43 half an hour before tea on the second day (March 21), but the run-out of opener Matt Sazenis and the dismissal soon after of Adam White proved to be the turning point.

Warrandyte went to tea at 4-57 and when Matt Chapman was dismissed in the first over after the break and Campbell Holland followed shortly after, the task was beyond them.

The Dytes' unlikely premiership challenge started in the last round of the home-and-away season when they lost only two wickets in their defeat of second top team South Croydon wickets to grab them third



Warrandyte skipper Dave Mooney: a proud club again.



position on percentage.

The First Semi-Final was at home against St Andrews and it was again Warrandyte's bowling which put the team in a winning position, restricting their opponents to 156, which we reeled in with four wickets to spare.

But it was the Preliminary Final against North Ringwood that produced one of the club's finest performances.

On a slow outfield, Warrandyte dismissed North Ringwood for 146, with Sazenis taking 7-60 in a copybook display of left-arm orthodox slow

bowling. Sazenis bowled 30 consecutive overs and had every batsman in trouble with a disciplined mixture of flight and spin.

Only 19, Sazenis has been a crucial part of the team's success this season.

His performance against North Ringwood was even more important as veteran fast bowler Gerald Walshe was forced to leave the field with a torn groin muscle after bowling only six overs.

It was then left to leg spinner Adam Beardall and young quick Holland to step into the breach and they provided ideal back-up for Sazenis.

The total looked to be well within Warrandyte's reach but the early-season batting woes

returned to haunt them and just before tea they had slumped to 6-47.

Beardall and captain Dave Mooney looked to have steadied the ship with a 30-run partnership but Mooney's dismissal left his side at 7-77 and appearing to have little chance of reaching the target.

In limped Walshe and, with the help of a runner, he and the fearless Beardall steered Warrandyte to within 20 runs when a top edge to slip saw Beardall heading back to the pavilion.

It was then left to the injured Walshe and veteran Robert White to somehow eke out the necessary runs as overs began to slip away.

They stole quick singles off

the bat and then the pad before White was able to square cut one of the few boundaries for the day to ease the pressure.

A few more scrambled singles and finally a glide through slips by Walshe gave Warrandyte an astounding win with only eight balls remaining.

The victory had again proved the team's resolve and there was a quiet confidence that Warrandyte could pull off what would have been a major Grand Final upset against Croydon North.

Walshe returned to the team after extensive treatment during the week and broke through with the first wicket.

Sazenis again proved difficult to tame and he picked up two wickets, one thanks to a brilliant catch by Chapman, while Robert White bowled 10 successive and miserly overs before the break for one wicket and just 14 runs.

After tea it was left to Walshe, Holland and Broome to play their part but a score of 182 on a slow ground and on a wicket playing tricks was competitive in a Grand Final.

It turned out to be far too competitive as the Croydon North quick attack tore the heart out of the Warrandyte batting.

"We have shown that we are again a proud club," said skipper Mooney after the match.

"Most of the clubs in the competition didn't really rate us as a side, but I think we have proved we have the young talent and the determination to make this year a stepping stone to First Division honours."

### Details

**PRELIMINARY FINAL:** Warrandyte 9-148 (Beardall 48) d North Ringwood 146 (Sazenis 7-60).

**GRAND FINAL:** Warrandyte 92 lost to Croydon North 182.

# Adam's season of plenty

Warrandyte all-rounder Adam White has capped off an outstanding season by jointly winning the Steve Pascoe Medal for best player in the RDCA's Wilkins Cup competition.

Steve Pascoe is a former president and player at Warrandyte and is now president of the RDCA.

White, a former junior player at Warrandyte, returned to the club this season after two years in a coaching role at his former school.

He not only was named joint winner of the RDCA medal but also won the association's Wilkins Cup batting average.

Highlights of his season included a five-wicket haul and 78 not out against Croydon North and 131 not out against South Croydon.

White has also won the Jack McAuley Shield as senior club champion and the first eleven batting average. Veteran fast bowler Gerald Walshe also had an out-

standing season and won the club's senior bowling award.

Enthusiastic H-grade all-rounder Ken Miller won the Daryl Valentine club championship for senior players other than the First XI while Under-13 all-rounder Jake Sheriff won the Maria McGhee Memorial Award for the best-performed junior in the senior ranks.

The award topped off a great season for Sheriff, who was also a member of the club's Under-13 premierships team.

Senior award winners for 2003-04, announced at presentation day on March 28:

**FIRST XI:** Matthew Chapman (fielding); Adam White (batting); Gerald Walshe (bowling); Adam Beardall (captain's award).

**SECOND XI:** Andrew Jarvis (fielding); Greg Creber (batting); Brett Kline (bowling).

**THIRD XI:** John Prangley (fielding); Eddie Cauchi (bowling); Algis Sazenis (captain's award). No qualifiers for batting award.

**FOURTH XI:** Graham Rees (fielding); Ken Miller (batting and bowling, averages 44.90 and 21.20 respectively); Andrew Hukin (captain's award).

**JACK MCAULEY AWARD** (best performed senior player in the First XI): Adam White.

**DARYL VALENTINE AWARD** (best performed senior player excluding First XI): Ken Miller.

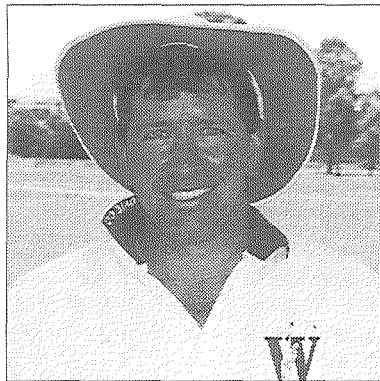
**MARIA MCGHEE AWARD** (best performed junior in senior competition): Jake Sheriff.

**MCCARTIN FAMILY SHIELD** (clubperson of the year): Daniel Wellesley.

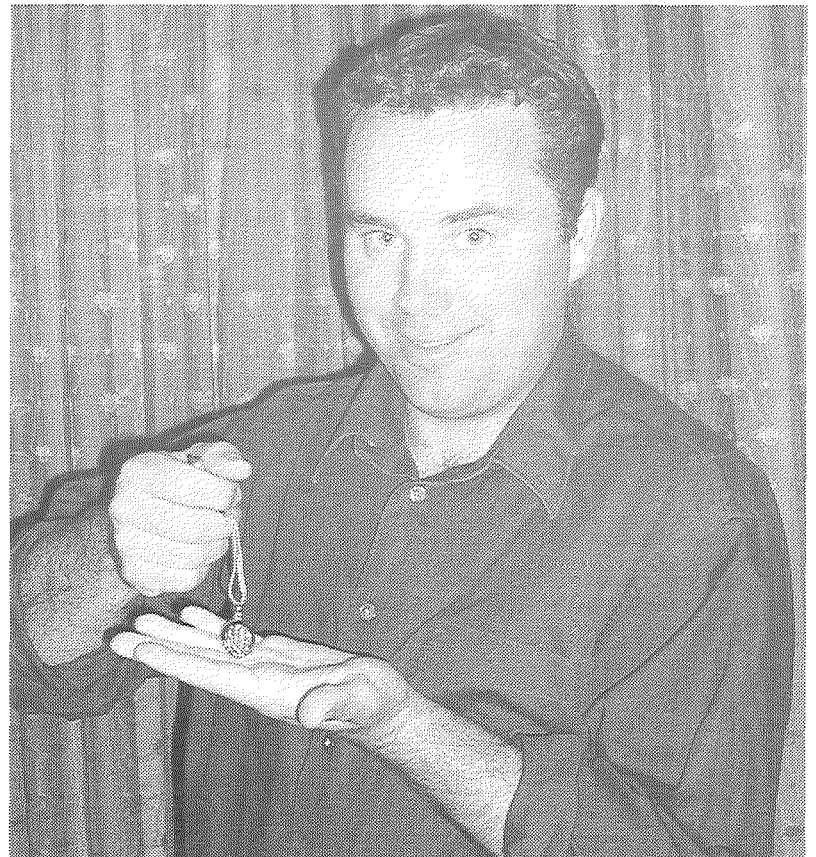
**CENTURIES:** Adam White (First XI) 131 not out versus South Croydon; Tyson Brent (Second XI) 114 versus Norwood; Charlie Wright (Second XI) 105 versus Bayswater Park; Ken Miller (Fourth XI) 110 versus Croydon Ranges.

**BOWLING AWARDS:** Matthew Sazenis 7-60 versus Ringwood North, First XI Preliminary Final; Eddie Cauchi (Third XI) 7-18 versus Croydon Ranges.

**PRESIDENT'S AWARD:** Eddie Cauchi.



Gerald Walshe: bowling honours.



Warrandyte club champion Adam White shows off his Steve Pascoe Medal.