



# Bushwhacked

## Bowral plays host to international one-dayer

BRADMAN Oval has added another international feather to its cap this year, after the Zimbabwean one-day team had their first taste of the historic ground on Friday.

The velvet like grass, a vibrant crowd and late rays of sunshine modelled the Highlands' cricketing showpiece in fine fashion.

However, the Australian Country XI left the Zimbabwean side with a bitter aftertaste, defeating them by a more than convincing 51 runs.

Twenty four year old Andrew Starr stole the show, claiming five wickets to almost single-handedly make the Zimbabwean batting line-up crumble.

If anything the match proved Australia has a deep pool of cricketing talent, as the country squad finished their domestic tour undefeated and with their Zimbabwean scalp as a fitting finale.

Zimbabwean captain Heath Streak commended the efforts of the Australian side, but at the same time was confident his side would improve for the one-day series.

"A day like today is a minor setback but we've got to pick ourselves up, be more competitive and surprise Australia," he said.

An estimated crowd of 3,000 turned out for the provincial match, with many decked out in green and gold, while traces of red and black could also be seen amongst the throng.

Familiar faces from the world-renowned 'Invincibles' team, of which Sir Don Bradman was a member, featured in the stands, an addition which

Bradman Museum curator Richard Mulvaney described as adding to the Bradman mystique.

"It's just enhancing the reputation of the ground - it's taking on a mystical quality," he said.

"It is a very special ground.

"For the people who come here and don't see this every day it is a magical sight.

"The teams love playing here and the spectators love watching here; it's a lovely atmosphere."

Mr Mulvaney said the day was an all round success story and was particularly impressed with the performance of the country squad against such a tough opponent.

"They've held themselves very high today," he said.

Mr Mulvaney also praised the groundsmen, who kept the wicket in pristine condition despite a string of heavy rainfalls in past days and was very appreciative of the many volunteers who ensured the event ran smoothly.

"We'd be lost without our army of volunteers," he said.

"It's a huge effort to close off the streets and do what we've done today - it's been a real team effort."

Mr Mulvaney added he would like to see all international teams play at Bradman in future years, but hopes New Zealand will be the next match on the agenda.

For a full match report see the back page and for the day's social highlights see page 2.



The Country's best stole the show from a stunned Zimbabwean side on Friday.

### CRICKET SCOREBOARD

C Brown c Friend b McKay 54  
 B May c A Flower b Streak 2  
 A McGuire c Marillier b Nkala 42  
 D Todd c A Flower b Viljoen 53  
 C Haworth c A Flower b Mackay 7  
 B Campbell lbw Viljoen 6  
 G Smith 0 c Carlisle b Viljoen  
 J Robson no 15  
 B Glenn lbw Viljoen 0  
 R Starr (NSW) c A Flower b Mackay 7  
 M Cameron (NSW) ro 1  
 197 49th over  
 H Streak 1/17  
 T Friend 0/37  
 G Whittall 0/16  
 M Nkala 1/32  
 S Viljoen 4/15  
 A Mackay 3/39  
 G Flower 0/38

Zimbabwe  
 A Campbell c Glenn b Cameron 4  
 G Whittall c Haworth b A Starr 37  
 S Carlisle c Glenn b Cameron 8  
 C Flower c Glenn b Ellis 30  
 A Flower lbw Starr 35  
 G Rennie c Campbell b Smith 9  
 D Marillier c Brown b Starr 9  
 D Viljoen c Glenn b Starr 0  
 H Streak no 15  
 M Nkala lbw Campbell 0  
 A Mackay c Haworth b Starr 21  
 M Cameron 2/29 6  
 D Ellis 1/23 10  
 G Smith 1/36 10  
 A Starr 5/37 9.1  
 B Campbell 1/17 4