

Mirza spins his magic

THERE'S nothing more painful than to become the "whipping boys" of the league's premier division while the professional signed some time ago is stuck in Pakistan awaiting a visa to enter the country. But the delay is threatening to derail Thornaby's return to the top level of local cricket after an absence of five seasons.

On Saturday they not only lost for a second time, but were dismissed for only 45 as Blackhall's spin bowler, Masood Mirza, exploited the pitch at Mandale Bottoms to collect six wickets in 12 overs for 12 runs.

Blackhall also know how frustrating it has been this season to obtain clearance to come from overseas to play in the UK as their South African opening batsman, Warren Swan, only arrived last week having missed the first two games.

With Mirza joined by Farukh Iqbal (2-18) and Jack Ward (2-15) Thornaby's innings lasted just 36 overs and the game was over in less than three hours. The former Colliery club needed just ten

Darlington Building Society NYS Premier League

By Chris West

overs to complete a ten-wicket triumph.

This was their second win and it moved them into joint second place in the league table, their highest position at the start of a season for several years. They share the distinction with Normanby Hall who overcame a batting collapse to beat Billingham Synthonia, yet another club waiting for their professional to arrive.

It needed a sixth-wicket partnership of 116 between David Cross (75 not out) and Nasar Hussain (41) to rally the cause for Normanby, who recovered from the loss of five wickets for 46 runs to reach 169-7. It was the first senior game of the season for Cross who smashed nine fours and two sixes from 96 balls. When Billingham were bowled out for just 98, new professional, Gary Scott (5-34) and Keith Martin (4-31), playing against his former team, had them in trouble on 49 for 5, but

there was no repeat escape.

League leaders, Hartlepool, underlined their new found power with an exciting six wicket win over Great Ayton. Both their professionals, Janaka Gunaratne (5-55 from 21 overs) and Marc Symington (44) played important parts, but the final run chase between John Cannon (50 not out) and Steven Purcifer (28 not out), who scored 72 for an unbroken fifth wicket stand, clinched the victory. For Ayton, David Grainge (34) and Stephen Pennock (31) put on 72 after losing a wicket in the first over of the game, before Matt Wilkinson (41) got them to 169-8.

Champions Middlesbrough were held for a second successive week and have dropped to seventh below Guisborough, Marton and Bishop Auckland. It was Darlington who frustrated them as they took few chances in reaching 152-8 in reply to Boro's 195-8.

Simon Guy, on his return as professional at Feethams, top scored with 45 and 16-year-old James Dobson with 35 showed great tenacity as Quakers lost

four wickets in six overs late in the game. Boro's Kyle Coetzer with 79 and James Beaumont (66) put on 120 after Boro lost both their openers for just 21 runs. Doug Mulholland (5-97 from 25 overs) provided excellent line and length for Darlington.

The season's first centuries were the features of the games at Marske and Marton. Steve Chapman, with an unbeaten 151 from 138 balls including 20 fours and a six, shared in an opening stand of 176 with Neil Pratt (62) for the Seaside, who were just 11 runs short of 300 against Bishop Auckland, while Rashmi Parida (118 not out with 58 in boundaries) kept Northallerton in the game with Marton.

Guisborough's Tariq Aziz missed out on a century by eight runs at Richmond but set up a six-wicket win by sharing a stand of 134 with Graham Murray (61 not out).

In Division One, table toppers, Barnard Castle and Stokesley played out a nail biting draw which enabled Middlesbrough's second string, who won at Guisborough, to become the outright leaders.



BIG HIT: Marske's Chris Allinson hits out Picture: CHRIS BOOTH

DARLINGTON BUILDING SOCIETY NORTH YORKSHIRE SOUTH DURHAM PREMIER LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION Thornaby v Blackhall THORNABY

I MacDonald c Bell b Ward	1
R Rennard c Bell b Mirza	9
C Metcalfe b Ward	0
J Roberts c Mole b Mirza	9
P Allen b Mirza	0
C Harrison b Mirza	5
M Dex c Iqbal b Mirza	0
L Beaumont b Iqbal	1
D Wade lbw Mirza	0
G Sowerby not out	3
L Metcalfe c Mirza b Iqbal	17
Extras	0
Total (all out)	45
Bowling: J Ward 2-15, F Iqbal 2-16, M Mirza 6-12	

BLACKHALL

J Darby not out	28
W Swann not out	18
Extras	0
Total (0 wks)	46
Bowling: L Beaumont 0-19, L Metcalfe 0-20, D Wade 0-7	

Blackhall won by ten wickets Thornaby 0pts. Blackhall 20pts

Hartlepool v Great Ayton GREAT AYTON

C Batchelor b Palmer	0
D Grainge c Fawcett b Prosser	34
S Pennock c Smith b Prosser	31
M Wilkinson b Gunaratne	41
R Afridi b Gunaratne	3
M Croft lbw Gunaratne	12
J Grainge b Gunaratne	5
C Murray c Palmer b Gunaratne	15
N Parkin not out	13
Extras	12
Total (8 wks)	169
Bowling: I Palmer 1-17, M Symington 0-49, J Gunaratne 5-55, C Prosser 2-45	

HARTLEPOOL

C Fawcett c Wilkinson b West	23
M Symington c Grainge b Afridi	44
J Gunaratne c Grainge b Afridi	4
A Tebbett c Fenwick b West	9
J Cannon not out	50
S Purcifer not out	26
Extras	14
Total (4 wks)	170
Bowling: R Afridi 2-71, I West 2-30, C Batchelor 0-35, D Grainge 0-26	

Hartlepool won by six wickets Hartlepool 20pts. Great Ayton 5pts.

Marton v Northallerton MARTON

J Spillane c Gill b Barnes	80
C Lane c Place b Barnes	12
T Chadwick c Chandler b Bentley	12
G Shaw c and b Barnes	13
C Veazey lbw Barnes	15
J Glendennen c Chandler b Clarkson	20
M Zahid c Bentley b Chandler	28
Z Shahbaz not out	24
G Knight not out	20
Extras	14
Total (7 wks)	220
Bowling: R Chandler 1-64, J Barnes 4-70, R Bentley 1-28, J Clarkson 1-56	

NORTHALLERTON

I Place c Veazey b Shahbaz	0
R Parida not out	118
I Gill c Knight b Shahbaz	11
J Clarkson b Zahid	2

D Pavan c Zahid b Hunchinson	25
J Barnes b Shahbaz	9
R Bentley b Shahbaz	2
A Fishburn b Zahid	8
D Wake lbw Zahid	1
Extras	17
Total (8 wks)	193
Bowling: Z Shahbaz 4-49, D Kirby 0-22, M Zahid 3-54, J Spillane 0-27, B Hutchison 1-34	

Match drawn Marton 15pts. Northallerton 9pts.

Darlington v Middlesbrough MIDDLESBROUGH

P Lowe c Hudson b Raine	2
P Johnston b Raine	13
K Coetzer c Moody b Mulholland	79
J Beaumont c Sutton b Mulholland	66
A Ditta c Sutton b Mulholland	11
R Rashid not out	6
M Connolly c Dobson b Mulholland	1
W Gul lbw Armstrong	0
M Hutchinson b Mulholland	3
D Bruton not out	1
Extras	13
Total (8 wks)	195
Bowling: P Raine 2-29, D Mulholland 5-97, J Sutton 0-20, P Armstrong 1-40	

DARLINGTON

M Stainsby b Connolly	0
D Hodgson c Hussain b Coetzer	25
S Guy c Gul b Coetzer	35
D Eckels c Lowe b Beaumont	22
D Mulholland c Coetzer b Ditta	1
J Dobson b Beaumont	35
S Lister not out	5
P Armstrong c Johnston b Ditta	6
G Moody c Johnston b Ditta	0
J Sutton not out	0
Extras	23
Total (8 wks)	152
Bowling: M Connolly 1-23, J Beaumont 2-52, A Ditta 3-37, K Coetzer 2-19	

Match drawn Darlington 9pts. Middlesbrough 14pts

Richmondshire v Guisborough RICHMONDSHIRE

J Clarkson lbw Mackay	51
MT Layfield b Russell	12
M Brown run out	28
Z Ashraf c Dunn b Aziz	0
M Fleming lbw Aziz	2
C Layfield not out	41
A Fleming st Veazey b Russell	39
A Dade not out	4
Extras	9
Total (6 wks)	186
Bowling: N Russell 2-63, P Goodchild Mackay 1-40, T Aziz 2-26, R Murray 0-20	

GUISBOROUGH

T Aziz b CJ Layfield	92
M Hood c MT Layfield b Clarkson	0
N Russell b Clarkson	8
R Murray b Clarkson	1
G Murray not out	61
R Dunn not out	6
Extras	20
Total (4 wks)	188
Bowling: J Clarkson 3-63, CJ Layfield 1-34, A Fleming 0-23, Z Ashraf 0-35, M Brown 0-21	

Guisborough won by six wickets Richmondshire 6pts. Guisborough 20pts

Marske v Bishop Auckland MARSKE

N Pratt b Pratt	62
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S Chapman not out	151
C A Allinson c Holsworth b Sawyer	23
C J Haslett b Sawyer	17
G T Lynch not out	9
Extras	27
Total (3 wks)	289

Bowling: D Conway 0-41, C Sawyer 2-78, I C Grainger 0-26, R J Arnot 0-25, P Holdsworth 0-56, G J Pratt 1-53

BISHOP AUCKLAND

G J Pratt b Carroll	43
C George c Whatmore b Carroll	25
P Holdsworth c Nicholls b Chapman	28
D G Hardacre lbw Nicholls	0
M Cowling c Shepherd b Allinson	39
D Conway not out	17
C Sawyer lbw Chapman	8
R J Arnot c Shepherd b Carroll	1
I C Grainger lbw Chapman	18
M J Sneath not out	5
Extras	35
Total (8 wks)	219
Bowling: C A Allinson 1-51, C Nicholls 0-22, J L Carroll 0-30, J M Carroll 3-61, S Chapman 3-40	

Match drawn Marske 15pts. Bishop Auckland 8pts

Normanby Hall v Billingham Synthonia NORMANBY HALL

GM Scott c Burgum b Hewson	2
L Sykes c and b Hewson	19
C Trillo c Burgum b Price	0
PJ Wiseman run out	12
T Ramzan b Cull	9
D Cross not out	75
N Hussain b Cull	41
C Witherley run out	0
B Leech not out	1
Extras	10
Total (7 wks)	169
Bowling: K Hewson 2-62, M Price 1-23, M Cull 2-45, C Symington 0-29	

BILLINGHAM SYNTHONIA

A Greenwell c M Sykes b Scott	0
D Fairley lbw Scott	19
C Symington c Cross b Witherley	1
K Hewson c Wiseman b Price	8
G Burgum c M Sykes b Martin	10
A Warnes c M Sykes b Scott	0
M Bartley st M Sykes b Martin	29
M Price lbw Scott	0
C Brown c Scott b Martin	1
M Cull c Ramzan b Martin	12
G Wiggan not out	10
Extras	8
Total (all out)	98
Bowling: GM Scott 5-34, C Witherley 1-27, K Martin 4-31	

Normanby Hall won by 71 runs Normanby Hall 20pts. Billingham Synthonia 3pts

DIVISION ONE Yarm v Wolveston YARM

J Weeks lbw Rawling	19
C Smith b Burke	9
J Bell c Fish b Rawling	0
W Wyatt c Peacock b Rawling	3
K Crack lbw Burke	14
G Quinn c Roland b Burke	44
R Wyatt c Ward b Burke	11
G Davison b Burke	7
R Sidhu b Burke	3
B Jones c Featherstone b Jones	1

P Parker not out	0
Extras	5
Total (all out)	116
Bowling: K Rowland 0-4, J Burke 6-47, S Rawling 3-37, J Jones 1-26	

WOLVESTON

A Fish c Quinn b Parker	9
C Peacock c Quinn b Parker	6
K Rowland b W Wyatt	0
P Featherstone b W Wyatt	14
M Stevenson c and b Parker	4
D Ward b W Wyatt	12
J Brooksbank b Crack	39
J Burke c Smith b W Wyatt	4
J Jones not out	6
D Robinson not out	0
Extras	23
Total (8 wks)	117
Bowling: W Wyatt 4-41, P Parker 3-30, G Davison 0-19, K Crack 1-8, R Sidhu 0-4	

Wolveston won by two wickets Yarm 5pts. Wolveston 20pts.

Sedgefield v Saltburn SALTburn

B Devine run out	30
C Knight run out	5
G Riley b Clark	4
S Walker b Lower	6
D Cram b Heslop	18
J Bond b Lower	18
T Ghaleyini b Lower	4
G Wright not out	25
D Riley not out	3
Extras	18
Total (7 wks)	131
Bowling: P Brown 0-10, G Clark 1-16, M Lower 3-43, P Heslop 1-48	

SEDGEFIELD

E Johnson b Riley	8
M Lower b Elliott	52
R Briddock b Elliott	5
C Henderson c Devine b Knight	2
C Dunwell b Knight	15
P Heslop b Wright	12
G Young not out	14
G Hodgson b Riley	6
G Clark not out	1
Extras	17
Total (7 wks)	132
Bowling: G Wright 1-18, J Riley 2-34, J Elliott 2-38, C Knight 2-35	

Sedgefield won by three wickets Sedgefield 20pts. Saltburn 5pts

Redcar v Seaton Carew REDCAR

O Rodgers c Rowntree b Fitzpatrick	48
J Wiltshire b Fitzpatrick	28
A McGarry b Storey	35
A Wetherell c Rowntree b Fitzpatrick	1
J Davis run out	21
G Kidd b D Storey	4
C Brown b Storey	7
A Pickard not out	13
H Abdullah run out	2
B Parker not out	1
Extras	20
Total (8 wks)	180
Bowling: J Fitzpatrick 3-38, J Scott 0-31, D Thomas 0-47, D Storey 3-20, K Rowntree 0-27	

SEATON CAREW

J Henson c Abdullah b Rix	3
M Skirving not out	89
S Peart c Abdullah b Rix	29
D Braithwaite c Parker b Rix	25
K Rowntree c Abdullah b Ricks	0

S Fitzpatrick b Rix	0
M Stuart not out	20
Extras	17
Total (5 wks)	183
Bowling: M Rix 5-70, J Davis 0-15, C Brown 0-33, A Taylor c and b W Wyatt 0-13, G Kidd 0-22	

Seaton Carew won by five wickets Seaton Carew 20pts. Redcar 6pts

Guisborough v Middlesbrough MIDDLESBROUGH

D Birkett c J Hatfield b Gittins	53
D Evans b Coates	13
D Trodden c Hornbrook b Gittins	26
D Aninakwah c and b Gittins	12
M Balls c Norminton b Coates	33
A Taylor c unknown S Donlan	20
M Bell c Filer b Donlan	6
J Heaney not out	0
C Bircham not out	5
Extras	9
Total (7 wks)	227
Bowling: S Turner 0-22, J Coates 2-37, T Gittins 3-75, S Donlan 2-93	

GUISBOROUGH

J Coates b Taylor	0
D Allinson b Bell	22
R Norminton c Aninakwah b Taylor	17
C Hornbrook b Taylor	6
S Filer lbw Bell	16
S Turner b Heaney	5
A Himsforth not out	18
T Gittins c unknown b Heaney	5
J Hatfield b Balls	18
C Spencer c and b Heaney	4
S Donlan c Trodden b Heaney	1
Extras	19
Total (all out)	116
Bowling: A Taylor 3-34, D Trodden 0-21, M Bell 2-32, J Heaney 4-18, M Balls 1-11	

Middlesbrough won by 111 runs Guisborough 4pts. Middlesbrough 20pts

Stokesley v Barnard Castle BARNARD CASTLE

T Sparrow c Oliver b Dowson	15
J Heslop lbw Dowson	20
M Stanwick c W J Weighell b Dowson	26
R Borrowdale b Dowson	40
A Toulson st W Brown b Dowson	5
A Bainbridge run out	16
J Bousfield not out	33
M Dixon st Brown b Still	6
D Stanwick not out	7
Extras	11
Total (7 wks)	179
Bowling: C Dowson 5-81, T Atkinson 0-32, A Weighell 0-31, J Linton 0-23, I Still 1-9	

STOKESLEY

A Weighell lbw Toulson	53
N Bayliss c Dixon b D Stanwick	6
I Still lbw Bousfield	19
J M Weighell c and b Bousfield	7
D Weighell not out	7
W Brown st Ashworth b Toulson	9
J Linton st Ashworth b Toulson	0
W J Weighell b Toulson	0
T Atkinson b Borrowdale	7
A Oliver b Borrowdale	0
C Dowson not out	6
Extras	20
Total (9 wks)	134
Bowling: D Stanwick 1-27, R Borrowdale 2-32, M Dixon 0-20, J Bousfield 2-17, A Toulson 4-19, S Mullery 0-9	

Match Drawn Stokesley 7pts. Barnard Castle 14pts