









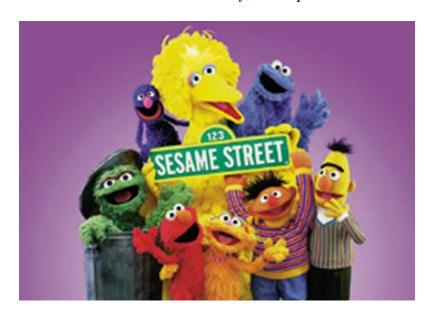




THE GROWL

A SPECIAL SESAME STREET NCC GRAND FINAL EDITION!

THE OFFICIAL NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB NEWSLETTER 8th Edition 2010 – Thursday, 16 September 2010



PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE NUMBER 5 AND THE LETTERS "G + F!"

MORE TESTIMONIALS!

"Like WOW!" **N.Couzens**

"Wipeout!" S.Johnstone

"No doubt!" M.Hatton

"I was gone the moment I laid eyes on you!" An adoring Growl public!

"FIVE NCC Grand Finals? Happy Days salad lovers!" Leon de Marinis











THE PREZ SAYS...

Five fingers on my hand, five days in the working week (well, maybe two or three days all up in my week...), five Test matches in the upcoming 'Ashes' series in Australia...and five Nightcliff teams into Grand Finals this weekend!

Pinch me babies, for I surely must be dreaming! Not only have our As, Bs, Cs and Ds made it through to the last cricketing weekend in September, but our Nightcliff Under 13s Blue side have also made it. Doug Hardcastle's lads have a Grand Final on this Saturday morning at Wanguri Oval so if you are about the place by all means get out there to support them as well!

Thank you to Donna Hatton and John Tate (and Sonia Piccoli and Hugh Auckram also) for your coordination of the Junior Presentation Night, it was another wonderful evening at the Darwin Tennis Centre and congratulations to all trophy winners and to **James Dix** in particular for winning the Junior Club Champion for 2010.

On a personal note, **Crown Casino** has finally decided to sponsor the move of myself and my family to beautiful Melbourne this year, so after three years at the helm as your beloved Club President, I will be pulling up stumps as your President after this Season. I will miss Darwin and my long and happy association with the Nightcliff CC. However I will always bleed yellow & black and will follow the Club's progress through our uber-impressive Club Website.

Thank you to all who have served on NCC Committees over the last few years and to all you volunteers at both a senior and a junior level who are each so crucial for the ongoing survival of our great Cricket Club.

Bookies have released a Market for the 2011 NCC President, which has posted my good pal Alexander the Tate as the early \$5.00 favourite, with Anthony Snell at \$5.50 and Sam Gibson & Brad Hatton both at the \$7.00 mark to take on the coveted role, with Josh Smith (\$15.00, sensationally backed in from \$51.00), Mark Hatton (\$35.00), myself (at \$35.00) backed in from \$45.00...is that your \$\$ Faith, I told you we're not going to be here next year!), **Bobby Saunders** (\$51.00) & **Coen McKinnon** (\$81.00) as interesting longer shots.

Alex Krepapas **NCC President**



Essendon legend James Hird...probably my favourite number 5!











UPCOMING DRAW & DATES –SEPTEMBER 2010

A GRADE:

Sat 18 & 19 September 2010 GRAND FINAL vs Darwin (Marrara #1)

B GRADE:

Sat 18 & 19 September 2010 GRAND FINAL vs TV Dinners (at North Katherine

...Woodroffe!)

Teams also playing for the "Cheetoes Cup"!

C GRADE:

Sat 18 & 19 September 2010 **GRAND FINAL** vs University (venue TBA) Teams also playing for the coveted "**Ashes**"!

D GRADE:

Sunday19 September 2010 **GRAND FINAL WEEKEND** vs Palmy Maroon(ed) (at the **Death Star**, Tambling Terrace)



September has been a BIG month for our heroes, who have had a devil of a time in 2010!

KEY EVENT DATES

- 1. **Sunday, 19 September 2010** from about 7pm **NCC 2010 SEASON AFTER PARTY NIGHTCLIFF SPORTS CLUB** come and celebrate and/or commiserate with your teammates and also "send off" 'the Incredible Calk' **Marc Calkin** back to NZ and celebrate the stellar Tigers' A-Grade career of **Mark Hatton**.
- 2. Monday, 20 September 2010 MORE MADNESS at the NIGHTCLIFF SPORTS CLUB. Plus help out for up to an hour with some pitch works with Turf wizard Bobby 'Moon Shadow' Saunders. Then back to the Pub!
- 3. **Friday, 1 October 2010** from (say) **7.30pm SENIOR PRESENTATION NIGHT** at the **NIGHTCLIFF SPORTS CLUB.** Come one come all and help the Tigers celebrate what has been a fantastic 2010 Season!











"THEY SAID IT" - QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Don't they do nuclear testing there?"	A nonplussed (and anonymous) Tigers' enthusiast after hearing that they will be playing a DDCA Grand Final on the merciless plains of Marrara #2. One suggestion has been for NT Cricket to instead use the ground for overflow car parking for the DDCA Awards and/or the Grand Final weekend!
	Marrara #2potentially quite a versatile patch of Earth!
"History awaits!"	Nightcliff Life Member and 1996 A-Grade (and 2005 C-Grade) premiership player Jason Hatton , after inquiring as to whether Nightcliff (or any other Club) had ever won four Senior Premierships in the same season. They have not! No A-Grade side has ever won the ' Triple Crown ' either.
"I laughed, I criedI hurled!"	TV Dinners Club President Matt Cavenagh endured a rollercoaster of a week – firstly assisting his side to gain the Club Champs for 2010 in exciting fashion, then scooping the <i>Growl</i> 2010 Tool of the Yearthen he witnessed his all-singing, all-dancing, all-conquering TV Dinners A-Grade outfit suffering a narrow and exciting Semi Final loss to accidental heroes Darwin , before commiserating with his befallen troops back at the Death Star .
"Mooooooooo-rey!"	This was the loud chant that resonated from the speedily erected " Tigers Stand " at Marrara #2 after NCC cult-hero Andy '007' Moore spun 3 times, did a small somersault and then ran 30 metres to take a huge caught-&-bowled chance just as Tah-Tahs White were menacingly threatening to steal the D-Grade Semi Final and prevent the D-Generates from becoming the 4 th NCC side into the 2010 Grand Finals.
"That's the loudest sound I have heard since the World Cup!"	D-Grade all-rounder Anthony Snell had <i>almost</i> recovered 100% of his hearing back since attending four vuvezela-blaring soccer World Cup games in June/Julyonly to lose part of it again after singing in the middle of 30+ happy Tigers ferociously belting out the Club Song with much gusto in the Marrara change rooms on the weekend!
	World Cup 2010 - 'If you can't beat 'em, join 'em!'













AROUND TIGERLAND

GRADE REPORTS

A-GRADE

Well the Tigers came out snarling from the outset, with Skipper Sam "Jurrah, You Beauty!" Gibson leading from the front with the bat, along with street fighter Nigel Couzens, who has proved harder to remove than a fart in a polyester tracksuit over the last fortnight! Coupled with a mature innings from 'Mad Max' Tippett (p*ss off ABC, this is a popular culture reference, not a character assessment!), the Tigers' top order had the Tigers poised for some big numbers at 1-149.

Tippett top scored with 70 in a well-constructed innings whilst **Couzens** forged 41 valuable runs, however a Michael Cranmer run-out sparked a mini-collapse, from which the Tigers did not fully recover from as they posted 256, which was looking every bit of 300+ earlier. But come Sunday spearhead Michael Cranmer came out fired up like Guy Fawkes on Red Bull to dissect PINTS of Beers' top order like a frog in science class with 3 quick wickets, before Messrs Lavers and PINTS phone-a-friend **M.Brown** came together for an all-important partnership.

This union momentarily threatened to take the match away from the Tigers after a few hours of toiling until a piece of **Robbie Wheatley** fielding magic - in combination with the equally magical gloves of **James Needham** - dramatically broke the partnership (as well as at least one stump) as the tide turned back the Tigers' way. Marky-Mark Hatton took a couple of scalps in a tight marathon spell (enough to pass his brother **Brad**'s A-Grade wicket tally) as did **Wheatley** and the baby was put to bed with the Tigers winning by 81 runs, sending Tigers fans into raptures of merriment!



Jono Devine has been a revelation in 2010...and has risen like **Lazarus** to take part in the 2010 Finals!

B-GRADE

This game turned into an absolute **Michael Jackson** 'Thriller' with the Tigers chasing Darwin's 142 for Grand Final glory (Bryan 'Thousand' Miles 4/28, destroyer Brion Foley 2/26 & Shannon 'Funky' Miller 2/28), as the Tigers tucked themselves into their beds at a precarious 5/72 overnight.

On Day 2 the Tigers chipped away like **Tiger Woods** at the target and found themselves with two wickets in hand and about 10 runs to get, ably assisted by Jason 'I thought they said Paralytic Committee?' Bremner (27), with a proppy Bryan Miles (40 no) holding on like a one-armed man off a cliff to bring home the Kevin Bacon. Enter 'Funky' Miller who strode in like Clint Eastwood, saw off a few 'sighters' and then clubbed one of the most popular sixes in B-Grade cricketing history to win the game and send the B-52s through to the GF, where they will now meet Darren Truemer's TV Dinners, where the two sides will also face off for the 'Cheetoes' Cup!











C-GRADE

Well Tatie's Talismen mercilessly thumped **Pints VB Gold** like a boarding school student, with the 8 wickets margin probably accurately reflecting the wide chasm between these two outfits.

After rolling the mid-strengths for 161 (G.Singh 4/56, S.Singh 2/16), Matty 'Smooth Operator' Neave mauled the opposition like Geordie 'Fergalicious' Ferguson locked in a KFC store overnight with a stunning unbeaten century (107 no) with John Tate personally escorting the side home with an unbeaten 21no. The C-Majors now saddle up for possibly the biggest Darwin C-Grade match of all time, with not only the glittering prize that is the 2010 C-Grade Premiership on offer, but also with University pulping Southern & Cokes in the other Semi, the coveted Urn of "the Ashes" also goes squarely on the line on this C-Grade day of days.



University C-Grade warhorse Matty Phillips with the coveted "Ashes" Urn... Historians are claiming this match is the biggest Darwin C-Grade game since 1834!

D-GRADE

After another correct toss call from **Johnny 'Two Up' Fryar**, the D-Generates chose to bat on the tarted up sample of the lunar surface that is presently Marrara #2. Horrible stinky risible patch of Earth. But that is not what this segment is about. This segment is about the stirring stylish century of **Chris 'Birdman' Parker** (108) and his frenetic 100+ partnership with in-form skipper **Fryar** (42), which after **Jason Hatton** (16) had set an early platform with a typically determined knock, allowed the Ds to launch to 7/227 off 40.

The D-Mob set out to defend this total with some tight bowling early, with **Brad-man Hatton** (2-30) snaring a few breakthroughs along with his side kick **Snell** (1-35), with a glorious groundswell of support at M#2 after the Tigers' other 3 senior sides descended upon Marrara after having secured three other GF berths. But this game did not go entirely to script as Tah-Tahs Club(bing) man **Dan Nicholas** (100) began bludgeoning the Tigers' attack to all parts. It was left to **Andy '007' Moore** to take a magnificent caught-&-bowled, when he turned three times at the crease before running 30 metres behind him to take the match-securing catch. **Jason 'Phillip Nietschke' Hatton** (2/8) then euthanized the innings with his late scalps to send the Ds into the Granny and the new 'Tigers Stand' into an absolute frenzy!





Sunday, 19 September 2010 at the Nightcliff Sports Club. We told you it's gonna be big yeah?











CONGRATULATIONS NIGHTCLIFF UNDER 13s BLUE!

Hearty congratulations to Nightcliff's Under 13s Blue side for making the Grand Final in 2010!

The Mini-Tigers, ably coached by **Doug Hardcastle**, who coached a Nightcliff Black side to a Premiership in 2009, are playing Southern Districts in a limited overs game Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8.30am at Wanguri Oval. So get along there and support them if you can!

A big thanks to **Peter Randall**, who Doug says has been like a 'second coach' to this side and also assisted with scoring. Doug also wishes to send a heartfelt thanks to Trevor Sontag for his fantastic culinary mastery at the BBO plate, **Darryl Richards** for his help & support at training and games (and as 'reserve' scorer) and **Hugh Auckram**, who has assisted with training (when not with his own under 11s). Doug also wishes to acknowledge the efforts of Under 13s Reds Crash Cundy as coach and Wade Hawkins as Coach's assistant and helping out both sides.



We didn't have a file pic of **Doug Hardcastle**...so got one of **Doug Bollinger** instead. Looks a bit like **Brad Hatton**.

HATTON GOES INTO REHAB!

Phew, well it was a news headline that initially sent Nightcliff CC officials, lawyers and publicists into a tailspin!

But after urgent police and family checks were made, we can report that each of Mark, Jason and Brad Hatton are in good health and spirits, and that it is British boxer Ricky Hatton who had momentarily toppled off the edge of reason. The champion boxer has been battling bouts of depression and has since maybe discovered that drugs and alcohol are possibly not the best weapons against that, with News of the World also publishing a front page picture of Ricky snorting cocaine a few weeks ago. Oops!

Well apart from a brief stint in a clinic for **Mark** in the off season in an attempt to kick a raging iced coffee habit, all three of our Hattons are reportedly currently fighting fit and raring to ride the exciting white water rapids ride that is Grand Final cricket action!





The Hattons...tremendous athletes all of them when drug free!













TATIES ABROAD!

Landing an early psychological blow for the 2010 Ashes, NCC club man John Tate and son **James** took the chance to play and star in a game of social cricket whilst touring England this year.

Ladder XI are a social cricket club in London and the Tates were invited to join them for their match played in West Hampstead (northwest London) against the 'Railmen' social XI. In this English social competition the teams batted to 'time' and the second side then batting after tea, with 20 overs then being bowled in the final hour.

James bowled in the Railmen's innings and took 1-21 off 4 overs, including 'clean ripping' their #4 bat as the Railmen made 137 all out, with **John Tate** scoring the keeping gloves for the last 20 overs. The Ladder XI were in command from the outset in the pursuit and James was invited to bat at #3 and John at #4, and they combined for the partnership to bring the bacon home (1-137 as one cat had retired for 50 – James 24no, John 14no) and there was great rejoicing!

A few ales of reflection were had at the nearby Railway Hotel (pictured below) to cap off a glorious day of social cricket for these cheeky Tates on a sleepy afternoon in northwest London.

Oh and it costs 12 pounds to play each week (about \$20.00) so NCC players playing 18+ weeks a season should do the maths on that before next complaining about their annual fees!



'Tate no prisoners!' Whilst it was just a social game played on a sleepy Sunday afternoon in West Hampstead, no Englishman was going to end this batting partnership!



Left - Taties away! The partnership to steer the Ladder XI social cricket side home is under way! And *right*, the **Railway Hotel** in **West Hampstead** for the post-match debrief.











ODD SOCKS THE NCC COMMITTEE FINANCIAL TIP OF THE WEEK

Beware a Greek (President) bearing gifts...unless they are kegs of beer!





ON THE REX HUNT "I Punt therefore I Am"*

(*Conditions apply and GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY kids! If you have to sell other people's stuff to place a bet, then find another hobby!)



\$50 on the Collingwood + St Kilda Grand Finalists double (\$2.30) = \$115.00

GROWL 2010 PROFIT/LOSS TO DATE:

+\$251.00

Well *that* was a bit simpler, with the '**Freo Shockers**' of old rolling into Melbourne last week and the Pussies having them whipped by quarter time, before going on to win by nearly 12 goals! No waiting two and a half week for *that* payout!

And so we turn to the Preliminary Final weekend. **St Kilda** will account for the **Western Bulldogs** on Saturday night, with the Sainters to have too many rested (and uninjured) stars for the ailing Bulldogs to counter. The Dogs have done wonderfully well to reach the Prelims given a spate of recent injuries, but these *will* take their toll and in a high-pressured final series...and that time is this weekend. **Saints by about 24 pts**.

The heart says 'Geelong' here at the *Growl*, but the head says that Collingwood have completed an almost perfect preparation for this assignment against the best side in the AFL since 2007 and with a more depth in their list and a more dynamic forward and midfield set ups, the Pies are as ready as they will ever be to win. The Club Psychologists down at Victoria Park will have the most important jobs of all this week, but the Cats have been misfiring at times over the last two months and we reckon the Shockers poor effort flattered the Cats last week. Geelong are far too talented a side to go down without one hell of a fight, but the Pies should prevail in a classic. Collingwood by 7 points (geez it is tough even typing that!).

\$50 on So You Think in the Underwood Stakes (\$1.80) = \$90.00

Since we are 'rolling in it' a bit this year at the *Growl* with recent punting successes, we can afford another wager this month, so we are off to **Caulfield** on Saturday for **Underwood Stakes Day**!

The **Underwood Stakes** is an intriguing 1800m Weight-for-Age (WFA) race, where horses on the Cox Plate trail and the Cups trail often cross paths. This year is no exception and will see the current Melbourne Cup (**Shocking**) and Cox Plate (**So You Think**) favourites clash for the first time. We go into these horses in more detail below in our look at the Spring Carnival but suffice to say we expect **So You Think** to strip considerably fitter from his Memsie Stakes (1400m) win and be far too sharp for a field of Cox Plate hopefuls and Cups snoozers going around in preparation for their ultimate goals later next month. Get on board now!











SPRING RACING – EARLY PREDICTIONS

Well the flowers are beginning to bloom and the birds are singing and this can mean one thing...our favourite southern season, Spring has now sprung. This in turn means our favourite Sport is also now up and running...Spring racing!

We will have a quick glance over the "big three" Spring races now – the **Caulfield Cup**, the **Cox Plate** and the **Melbourne Cup**. However, given the ridiculous earliness of our 'predictions', we will have more riders' than the Melbourne Cup itself and say that *anything* could happen closer to the Cups with horses' form and injuries and even weather and track conditions on the day can vastly affect how a race can be run.

2009 Melbourne Cup winner **Shocking** has come back in great order and will give the Cup a big shake again. He is the early favourite. He has already emphatically won the **Makybe Diva Stakes** (formerly Craiglee Stakes) at Flemington. However he has been asked to carry 57kgs in the Cups in 2010 and history tells us that his is an *extremely* difficult task. We are prepared to 'risk' him in the Cups and our mail is that he will run in the **Cox Plate** so as to avoid a possible weight penalty by winning the Caulfield Cup. However his Flemington form impeccable, and if he wins the **Turnbull Stakes** (2000m) there, he will jump as a deserved favourite in the Melbourne Cup.

The **international horses** are always a bit of a mystery, with the near-impossible task of comparing 'apples and oranges' with their overseas form, as well as gauging how well they have travelled to Australia. However leading international trainers **Dermott Weld** (trainer of previous Melbourne Cup winners **Vintage Crop** and **Media Puzzle**) and **Luca Cumani** (trainer of **Purple Moon** and **Bauer**, who lost by a nose hair in 2008...but more notably the father of the quite lovely **Francesca Cumani**) have committed to bringing horses to our Cup in 2010.

Caulfield Cup? He's already been up longer than a honeymooner's proverbial already in Spring after a lengthy Winter campaign in Brisbane, but AJC Derby winner **Shoot Out** has progressed well in the early Weight-for-Age (WFA) fixtures and now shapes like he's looking for the longer distances. The Caulfield Cup is a genuine 2400m staying test always run at a solid tempo, but we reckon he'll be the one steaming home – if he starts at all, as there is some chance he will bypass the race and go straight into the Cox Plate. But **Shoot Out** is currently \$18.00 on fixed odds.





Left – the *amazing* finish to the 2008 Melbourne Cup won by **Viewed** (*top*) over **Bauer**! And (right) **Francesca Cumani** – yep, we're more than happy to see the Cumani family back in Australia for the 150th running of the Melbourne Cup!











Cox Plate? We just reckon So You Think has this race at his mercy if he remains uninjured! The word out of the Bart Cummings stable is that they consider that SYT might just be the best horse they have ever had! Well considering this stable has generated some of the best horses of all time spanning over 50 years, including 13 Melbourne Cup winners and multiple Cox Plate winners, if this opinion is anywhere near being true, he'll do us nicely for this race. He has come back this Spring in very good order and has won the Memsie Stakes (1400m WFA) when clearly underdone.

Melbourne Cup? Well we think So You Think again for us, hot off an anticipated Cox win! In the hoof steps of Saintly before him, this Bart Cummings 4-year-old has the opportunity to enter into the history books by winning the Cox Plate/Melbourne Cup double. SYT is lightly raced as he did not really have an Autumn campaign and he (and trainer Bartholomew Cummings!) really looks set to play a major part in the 150th Melbourne Cup this year, his Sire (High Chaparral) provides the necessary staying pedigree and his seemingly untapped talent might just do the rest.

Internationally, UK horse Sans Frontiers comfortably won the Irish St Leger (2800m) on a slow track on the weekend, beating another international prospect Profound Beauty (by 3/4 length). Profound Beauty was the horse which finished 5th in the 2008 Melbourne Cup as a lightly raced 4 year old. Sans Frontiers will now carry 57kgs in the Cup after receiving a penalty from the Irish win. This weight now places him 1.5kgs worse off compared with Profound Beauty in relation to their Cups weights from the St Leger, but the manner in which he won at the Curragh (in Ireland) was quite impressive, although both horses were unsuited by the soft track.

Ridiculously early Spring predictions:

CAULFIELD CUP: **Shoot Out** COX PLATE: So You Think MELBOURNE CUP: So You Think





So You Think he can run? Yeah we certainly do! Could be an equine superstar by the end of this Spring. And (right) Bartholomew Cummings – he'll harder to hold out again than Swine Flu in a Mexican Crèche!













Ah, they're such an easy target, but with the 'Collywobbles' in a Preliminary Final against Geelong this weekend and as confident and as cocky as they've been, probably at least since 1958...

You know you're a Collingwood supporter when...

- 1. A Halloween pumpkin has more teeth than your wife does.
- 2. You let your twelve-year-old daughter smoke at the dinner table in front of her kids.
- You've been married three times and still have the same in-laws. 3.
- 4. **Jack Daniels** makes your list of 'most admired people'.
- 5. You wonder how service stations keep their restrooms so clean.
- Someone in your family once died right after saying: "Hey, watch this!" 6.
- 7. You think **Dom Perignon** is a Mafia leader.
- A ceiling fan once ruined your wife's hairdo. 8.
- You actually believe the last words of Advance Australia Fair are: "Carn the Maggies!" 9.
- 10. You lit a match in the bathroom and your house exploded, right off its wheels.
- 11. The market value of your car goes up and down, depending on how much petrol is in it.
- 12. You have to go outside to get something from the fridge.
- 13. One of your kids was born on a pool table.
- 14. You can't get married to your sweetheart because there's a law against it.
- 15. You think 'loaded dishwasher' means your wife is drunk.
- 16. Your toilet paper has page numbers on it.
- 17. Your front verandah collapses and kills more than five dogs.



Cold Pies – downcast and devastated Pies players after receiving a Pussy whipping in the corresponding 2009 Preliminary Final against **Geelong** – **Leon Davis** (centre) could not get a touch on field or in the change rooms! Will they be 'third time lucky' in a Preliminary Final against **Geelong**?















NEWTONS AGAIN SUPERCEDED BY A THEORY OF RELATIVITY!





Well it has happened again! 200 years after Isaac Newton's 'theory of mechanics' was superseded by handy scientist Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity, the Newtons have been trumped again!

After serial slapper Matthew Newton again checked into rehabilitation after again falling off the wagon (well, upon failing to realise there even was a wagon), doctors and psychologists alike started exploring how such a whacked out, violent drug fiend brat could be born to such a cleancut wholesome couple like Bert and Patti Newton.

Upon re-tracing his family ancestry and doing a little bit of 'poking around', the Newton family's original perceptions of the universe around them were completely changed (as they were 200 years ago) when it was discovered that **Patti Newton** might not actually be Matt's biological mother, but rather it looked like his mother was actually...



Amy Winehouse. Yep thanks, that clears a few things right up for us!

LOOK-ALIKE FROM 'THE VAULT'



C-Grade Skipper Alexander the Tate letting another one rip. Oh and there's joint 2010 Mother Ducker **Kenneth 'Special K' Kardigamir** under his armpit!













LOOK-ALIKES

Can you spot the difference?





D-Grade Skipper and pulsating middle order bat **Johnny Fryar**....is he the *third* Flower Pot man!?





Master horse trainer Bart Cummings is already preparing for the 150th Melbourne Cup...he's looking positively giddy with the prospects of possibly winning his 14th Melbourne Cup!

...and one previously unreleased from the Growl 'secret vault'...



From back in the 2009/2010 Australian cricket season...Walt Disney has since tried to tap into the Asian markets with its latest production "Shahid White (and the seven balls)."

THE END. SIX LEGITIMATE DELIVERIES (OVER!).