

Cardiff MCCU again produced a high quality fielding and bowling performance to influence their third consecutive one day victory within a week against Exeter University at Newport Cricket Club in the British University Premier League. Although opening bowler Steffan Kelly(UWIC) bowled accurately, it was once again the spin duo of Dan Bendon and Jack Leach both UWIC students who when operating in tandem displayed an accuracy and guile that pressurised the Exeter batsmen into a series of hesitant defensive strokes or poor attacking options, and with good support from well placed fields the visitors struggled to produce any worthwhile batting partnerships. The attacking leg spin of Bendon with a combination of accuracy and guile returned the impressive figures of 3 for 19 in 10 overs this spell was ably supported by the orthodox left arm of Jack Leach whose control of length, and line coupled with an intelligent, and subtle change of pace posed problems for the crease bound batsmen. Leach finished the innings with the analysis of 10 overs 3 for 13.

As in the previous two matches openers Ryan Bishop(UWIC) and Will Jones(Cardiff University and Leicestershire) immediately played with authority both in defence and with their attacking strokes, and quickly set up the innings with a partnership of 75 before Jones was disappointingly stumped for 40 when well set to play a major innings. Captain Siddique was soon adjudged LBW playing well forward and a foolish run out near the end accounted for the UWIC and Middlesex player Andrew Balbirnie. Bishop though continued his innings with typical application, and ensured victory for the team by 7 wickets with an unbeaten 47, the third consecutive occasion that the UWIC opening batsman/wk has batted through the innings to win the match, his other scores being 85 not out and 52 not out.

Coach Kevin Lyons observed and applauded the effort of the side. "The accurate bowling and consistent fielding has been the major factor in the three victories, the spinners with well placed fields have given the team the ascendancy bowling first, allowing the batsmen to pursue the target total with sound and correct basic batting. Ryan Bishop has been a first –class example of a top order batsman wanting to bat through the innings and accepting the responsibility of ensuring his team winning the match. His running between the wickets is an outstanding feature of his game."