day of the season at Trent Bridge as Nottinghamshire piled up 320-3 off 113 overs before bad light ended play 10 minutes early.

No Devon Malcolm, Ole Mortensen or Allan Warner left the Derbyshire bowling attack threadbeare and it showed.

The first wicket did not fall until 5.21pm by which time Nottinghamshire were 291 and even then, it took a brilliant catch by Chris Adams at slip to dismiss Paul Pollard for 180.

The first wicket partnership between Pollard and Wayne Dessaur (104) was a

By Ian Hall

record for Nottinghamshire against Derby-shire and both batsmen made their highest ever first class scores.

ever tirst class scores.

Pollard accelerated after a slow start and played several strong drives, but Dessaur hardly ever managed to score at more than a run per over and much of the cricket in the afternoon session was tedious.

Spinners

Eventually, Dessaur padded up to a ball from Frank Griffith which hit his off stump to



• Frank Griffith . . . made a point

give Derbyshire a solitary bowling point. Certainly much of the bowling will not have impressed watching England team manager Keith Fletcher.

Opinion is that the pitch will take spin and th sides have included two young spinners.

Matthew Vandrau and Richard Sladdin bowled a total of 55 overs for 169 runs and one wicket between them and neither was able to exert control, or power of spin, to disconcert the home batsmen.

Even Peter Bowler tried his off spin for 11 overs, but without success.

overs, but without success.

Derbyshire will have to bat very well in their first innings to to stay in this match.

If they can do that, and providing Nottinghamshire do not get too many runs, there may still be chances for Derbyshire to record a the thing successive victory at the strength of the st third successive victory at Trent Bridge.

Positions

| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE | First Innings | P Pollard c Adams b Sladdin... 180 | W Dessaur b Griffith... | 104 | M Crawley c Adams b Base... | 4 | T Robinson not out... | 10 | J Ohnson not out... | 9 | J Ohnson not out... | 9 | Extras... | 13 | 13 |

Bass 17	714	3	0	0	164
Rolleston 17	715	2	0	0	163
Rob/Hosp 17	714	3	0	0	138
Ind Coope 17	7 9	7	0	1	109
Marston's 17			0	0	90
Alrewas 17	7	10	0	0	88
Barton17	5	10	2	0	87
Hammerwich 17	6	9	1	1	86
Tutbury 17	3	14	0	0	53
Hartshorne 17	1	15	1	0	30

DIVISI				В	Pt	
Trentside						
Brfield					0	8
Draycott & H	14	5	9	0	0	
Pirelli	. 13	6	6	1	0	7
Uttoxeter	. 13	6	6	0	1	
Winshill				0	1	7
Pastures H						1
Walton	13	3	8	. 2	0	4

Title chase to the wire

Divisions A&B

Next week's game between Bass and Rolleston will decide the Division A title as the contenders go into the

The visitors' Steve Bateman was also in fine form, oring an unbeaten 92, and helped by Mick Clay (52) bosts' score was overhauled for the loss of only three

HAMMERWICH.

There was

overs

Positions

Division A

Bass 17	714	3	0	0	164
Rolleston 17	715	2	0	0	163
Rob/Hosp 17	714	3	0	0	138
Ind Coope 17	7 9	7	0	1	109
Marston's 17			0	0	90
Alrewas 17	7	10	0	0	88
Barton17	5	10	2	0	87
Hammerwich 17	6	9	1	1	86
Tutbury 17	3	14	0	0	53
Hartshorne 17	1	15	1	0	30

decide the Division A title as the contenders go into the last game just one point apart.

BASS were at home to doomed TUTBURY, who opted to bat but struggled to 122-7, Lester finishing on 41 not out, as Dave Widdowson took 5-58.

The leaders then passed the lowly total for the loss of five wickets, Keith Widdows top scoring with 47 not out and Ian Barraclough chipping in with 35, while Ken Allsobrook took 3-22.

ROLLESTON, meanwhile, were comfortable winners at MARSTON'S who they restricted to 175-8, although Roger Hackett just missed out on a ton with 99 not out. Mick Acton took 4-73 and Trevor Foster 3-70.

The visitors' Steve Bateman was also in fine form.

Confirmed in third place were last year's champions ROBIRCH/HOSPITALS after a narrow win at

Robirch, batting first, reached 199-3 with Bajan making 78 and Wood 66. In reply, the home side just missed out, finishing on 178-6, the three main batsmen being Broadhurst (41), Wedge (36) and Galvin (30).

			B	Pt
Bass	17	14 3	0	0 164
Rolleston	17	15 2	0	0 163
Rob/Hosp	17	14 3	0	0 138
Ind Coope	17	9 7	0	1 109
Marston's	17	8 9	0	0 90
Alrewas	17	710	0	0 88
Barton	17	510	2	0 87
Hammerwich	17	6 9	1	1 86
Tutbury	17	314	0	0 53
Hartshorne .	17	115	1	0 30

	PW	L	A	В	Pt
Trentside				1	01
Brfield	13	7	5	1	0
Draycott & I	1 14	5	9	0	0
Pirelli	13	6	6	1	0
Uttoxeter	13	6	6	0	1
Winshill	14	6	7	0	1
Pastures H	13	6	6	1	0
Walton	13	3	8	2	0

overs. Captain Mark Sheasby top scored with 39, Tim Aston made 33 and Bernard Heathcote 27 not out. For opponents BARTON, Jim Timmis took 5-46. the When visitors

close game at ALREWAS, who won the toss and batted but could only reach 147-9 in their 45

Captain

Mark

When the visitors batted, they finished two runs short on 145-8, with Timmis (33) top scoring, aided by Holmes (29) and Baker (24), while Jon Seigal took 4-23.

Rapidly
Bottom club HARTSHORNE were convieningly defeated by fourth
place IND COOPE who
batted first and reached
195-3, through Tony
Millington (65) and 15year-old Mark Hadley,
who batted brilliantly for
64.

64. In reply, the home side were rapidly dismissed for just 103, Ishtiaq Hussain taking four wickets.

DIVISION B champions-elect TRENTSIDE were soundly beaten by UTTOXETER, who were put in and made 157-5. The visitors could muster only 66 in reply against Mark Elkes (4-30) and Ian Bailey (3-22). Bailey (3-22).

BRACKENSFIELD can

clinch second spot by getting at least six points in their last game against Uttoxeter.

Against WALTON,

Against WALTON, they batted first and made 158-8 and shot out the hosts for 133.

DRAYCOTT AND HANBURY finished their season with a defeat by vastly improved visitors PIRELLI.

The translate heard The home side batted

The home side batted first and reached 179, Dave Lauben on 48 and Ronnie Tomlinson 43, Malc Hall taking 6-67.

Pirelli overhauled the total with just two wickets to spare. Paul B Clarke top scored with 42.

Time to look ahead for success

Derbyshire continued their inconsistent form at Ilkeston with a controlled performance to beat championship challengers Surrey in three days, writes Ian Hall.

The next day, against the same opposition in the Sunday League, they threw away several chances of victory and lost by five wickets.

Whatever the reason, the two results mean Derbyshire have climbed to 10th in the championship but look unlikely to finish in the top four in the Sunday League.

An excellent pitch at the Rutland Ground added fuel to the contention that Derbyshire play better in the

that Derbyshire play better in the four day games at venues other than

DIVISION A rwich v Rob/Hosp ROBIRCH/HOSP

at the County Ground.

Next year's fixtures give the county nine home matches and if Derbyshire are to make a realistic challenge for the county championship itself, there is logic in playing three matches at Chesterfield and one at Illeston, where the nitches

three matches at Chesterfield and one at Ilkeston, where the pitches are more suitable to Derbyshire's style of play.

Much depends on the fitness of Ian Bishop. With the West Indian firing on all cylinders, Derbyshire will not have a better opportunity of landing the "big one" than next season.

After that, the effectiveness of ageing bowlers like Ole Mortensen, Allan Warner and Simon Base is

likely to be reduced and the following season the West Indies tour will deprive the county of their overseas star.

For counties like Derbyshire, opportunities do not arise too frequently. When they do, they must be seized wholeheartedly.

Despite the club's precarious financial position, which will no doubt be used as a reason to keep matches at Derby, I believe that the cricketing argument should prevail matches at Derby, I believe that the cricketing argument should prevail this time and Kim Barnett's men should be given every support to try to land Derbyshire's second championship title this century. Plans need to be made now, or the opportunity will slip away.

DIVISION A & B SCOREBOARDS

D Hoose c G Harcombe	D Bendov
b Goodwin2	P Royall b
J Elks c Foster b Broadhurst28	M Clay ru
P Wood run out	A Stathan
A Bajan not out	Extras
G Lander not out	Total (3
Extras12	Bowli
Total (3 wkts)	50-2, M
Fall: 1-13, 2-37, 3-161.	Pepperell
Bowling: A Masters 16-3-62-0,	3-0-20-0.
K Goodwin 7-3-16-1, R Broadhurst	Marst
	ton (11pts
10-2-47-1, B Marigold 7-0-27-0, A Roberts 5-0-37-0.	
	В
HAMMERWICH	
T Wedge run out36	C Roe b F
J Gavin b Elks30	D Lobb b
D Foster b Slaney20	N Smith
B Marigold not out41	b Wide
B Instone c&b Elks4	A Watson
A Roberts b Slaney13	P Lester n
K Goodwin not out2	T Peach c
Extras14	M Roe c S
Total (6 wkts) 178	A Ashmo
Fall: 1-70, 2-82, 3-101, 4-132,	b Hick
5-153, 6-175,	K Allsobre

(2pts) by 6 wkts.

Hartshorne v ind C
IND COOPE
M Hadley b Martin...... 7-2-22-1, M Acton ROLLESTON S Bateman not out...... D Renbow b Chiltern....

M Hadley b Martin.... A Millington b Martin. S Rowley not out...... J Starbuck not out......

ook not out....

DIVISION B

Walton v Brackensfled
BRACKENSFIELD
M Smot c Fear b Grist. 23
L Lloyd st Fear b McCallion. 47
K Meakin st Fear b Boyes. 28
M Taylor b Boyes. 48
M Meakin c Memeachan Grist. 5
N Bowes run out. 5
N Bowes run out. 4
D Winter not out. 4
D Winter not out. 3
Extras. 11 3-0-17-1, G Dickenson 3-0-10-1.

J White c&b Taylor.

J White c&b Taylor.

A Fearn c M Meakin b Bowes.

SMcCallion to Roberts.

C Evans b Bowes.

K Boyes b Bowes.

P Pritchard c Smout b Roberts.

J Bradford not out.

S Mcmeachan c M Meakin b Roberts.

G Dickenson c Smout b K Meakin.

D Grist b Taylor.

Draycott/Han v Pirelli DRAYCOTT/HAN Tomlinson b Edwards...... Moore C Bevington b Edwards
A Hall C Edwards b Hall. 1
J Cooper b Hall. 2
E Hall C Baker b Hall. A
C Calladine run out. B
C Calladine not out. S
C S Ashmore c&b Hall. Extras. 3
Total PIRELLI
A Bevington b Cooper.
B Clarke b Bullock.
PB Clarke c Humble
b Tominson.
C Parker run out.
N Strange c Moore b Hall.
R Edwards b Hall.
M Hall c Humble b Tomins
G Caron not out.
M Baker not out.
M Baker not out. M Baker not out. 2
Extras. 13
Total (8 wkts). 3-373, 4-92,
Failt: 1-3, 2-59, 3-73, 4-92,
6-122, 7-138, 8-144.
Bowling: P Bullock 7-0-27-1, J
Cooper 14-4-31-1, R Tomlimson
15-42-67-2, A Hall 8-0-42-01
(bpts) by 2 wkts.

AT TRENT BRIDGE, HENRY BLOFELD COLUMN AND THE IND COOPE BOWLS LEAGUE ROUND-UP