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Merchant excels

By A Staff Reporter

BOMBAY, November 5: Opener Aziz Merchant was six short of a century when A. P. Commerce batted through the stipulated 50 overs in the Junior Colleges cricket tournament, sponsored by Topaz, at the Cross maidan today.

A. P. Commerce, who made 289 for six, with Merchant and Sanjay Rao (77) realising 149 runs for the sixth wicket, proceeded to restrict Mithibai for 158. Kinjal Suratwala, of Mithibai, carried his bat through with 51.

Parag Paigankar (66) and Sameer Talpade (59) put on 127 for the second wicket for R. A. Podar who skittled out New Era for 38, mediumpacer Salil Vedak taking six wickets for four runs in six overs.

The principal scores:

R. A. Podar 290 for 7 (Parag Paigankar .66, Sameer Talpade 59, Jitendra Thakare 63; Suketu Motha 3 for 42) beat New Era 38 (Shailendra Wagh 3 for 22, Salil Vedak 6 for 4).

Manekji Cooper 167 (Gayant Goyal 54. Faroukh Shaikh n.o. 33: Sanjeev Bagai 3 for 25) lost to St. Xavier's 168 for 5 (Sanjeev Bagai 63, Vikram

Sampat n.o. 50).

A. P. Commerce 289 for 6 in 50 overs (Nitin Mayekar 34, Azim Merchant 94 n.o., Sanjay Rao 77, Anish Adalja 3 for 47) Beat Mithibai 158 (Kinjal Suratwala 51 n.o., Taubid

Janod 3 for 12).

Siddharth Arts & Science 271 for 9 (Lalit Paikar 33, Ashok Eswalkar 75, Rahul Bapat 39, Dawood Hanif 52; Sameer Layalka 3 for 43) beat H. R. Commerce 179 for 8 (Deepak Mehta 31, Nishit Shah 52, Verma 40; Manoj Shetty 3 for 14. Parag Pethe 3 for 38).