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Vignesh Janarthanan:
Vignesh Janarthanan has the distinction of being the first player to lead a Michigan Cricket Academy (MCA) team and represents MCA's ideal of a student athlete, who performs at a high level both on and off the playing field, being accepted to The University of Michigan's school of Engineering. MCA is proud of Vignesh's accomplishments and here he is in his own words.

During the spring of 2004 I saw a flier at Ann Arbor High School that announced a cricket coaching camp run by MCA. I was interested in cricket, but had played very little and went to the camp with a mixture of enthusiasm and hesitancy regarding how I would do. The atmosphere at the camp was very friendly and the coaches were extremely patient and encouraging and helped all of us take the baby steps we needed to progress at learning the game. The great thing was that the coaches didn't constantly criticize us or tell us what to do, but exposed us to various situations, allowed us to learn from our mistakes and kept challenging us to improve. I was one of the older kids in the camp and so I was given the opportunity to lead the side in a tournament at the end of the summer. It was also an opportunity for our parents to see how much we had learnt and realize that all their efforts in driving us around to camps and practice games were not in vain. We won the tournament and this was one of the moments I will always remember.

MCA's coaches also constantly emphasized to us the values of good discipline, calm thinking in difficult situations and strong effort in anything we do. I really believe that being part of MCA's team has helped me improve in all aspects of my life and I even described my cricket experiences as part of my university application. I plan to continue playing the game and to help it grow as a club sport at The University of Michigan.

Rohit Mogalayapalli:
Rohit Mogalayapalli is one of the youngest players to ever play at the Michigan Cricket Academy (MCA). He joined MCA in 2004 at the age of only 6 and immediately caught everyone's eyes with his remarkable athleticism and unbounded enthusiasm. Over the last 4 years his cricketing skills have progressed rapidly and he has established himself as a multifaceted member of MCA's U13 team. He is an aggressive right hand batsman, a sure handed fielder whether he is prowling the cover point region or donning the gloves as wicketkeeper and an accurate medium pacer. Rohit performed fearlessly at the National U13 tournament in California, in spite of being one of the youngest players in the tournament, and his biggest thrill there was when he hit 2 fours of consecutive balls in one of the games. He also loves playing Soccer and Basketball and is an excellent student, whose favourite subject is Math.

Gordon Makin, RHB, RM. Gordon (born 11 April 1996) joined MCA in July 2007. Until then his cricketing experience had been limited to the back garden of his Dexter home, where he played with his younger brother and his father. Before cricket took over Gordon's life, he played soccer for Ann Arbor Youth Soccer Association, which he joined as soon as he could stand up, later representing AAYSA's Arsenal travel program in Michigan's biggest youth soccer league (which his team won twice) and in top-ranked tournaments across the Midwest, several of which his team won; he also played baseball in Dexter Little League for two years. He tells everyone who cares to listen that he recently set the best mile time recorded in the last three years at Wylie Intermediate School, Dexter. When not playing sport, Gordon likes to read (especially fantasy) and to play the French Horn.

Gordon likes to field at midwicket and enjoys the challenge of opening the batting. His favorite shot is the cover drive. As a bowler, he continues to work on his right-arm swing and seam. Gordon's favorite contemporary first-class player is Alistair Cook, whose classical stroke play and gradual development into an all-round batsman he hopes to emulate.

Gordon has particularly enjoyed representing MCA in tournaments, making his competitive debut at the Greater Chicago Cricket Association Tournament in July and then play-Continued to page 23
Aniruddha Mayasandra: Aniruddha, 13-year-old cricketer from the Michigan Cricket Academy (MCA), has been a source of inspiration to his family and the cricket community. His passion for the sport is evident in every match he plays, and his dedication to the game has been rewarded with several awards and recognition.

PROFILE OF THE COACHES:

Vasanth Krishnaswami
Education: B. Tech (IIT Madras), M.S., PhD (Ohio State University)
Profession: Senior Scientist, University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute
Cricket: Division I Cricket (FUCC, Mount Joy CC) in Bangalore, Engineering College Team.

Vasanth has been spearheading youth cricket movement in Michigan, leading coaching efforts in Michigan Cricket Academy, which is a co-founder and organizing Under 13 and Under 15 tournaments in Michigan. Vasanth has also been a co-founder of the widely popular adult indoor cricket league being run every winter in Michigan.

Shyam Mayasandra
Education: B. E., Bangalore University, M.S., Villanova University, M.B.A., Michigan State University
Profession: Management Consultant
Cricket: Division I Cricket (FUCC, Mount Joy CC) in Bangalore, Engineering College Team.

Shyam has played with most of the Karnataka test stalwarts during the 1980s in the I division league cricket in Bangalore. Since moving to US in 1990, he has continued his interest in Cricket by forming a team in Villanova University and playing in the Michigan Cricket Academy. He has been very interested in propagating the game to the youth in Michigan and has co-founded the Michigan Cricket Academy. Besides coaching youngsters on a year-round basis, Shyam has also been involved in organizing youth cricket tournaments in Michigan, managing the MCA team participating in tournaments in Chicago, California, and Florida. Shyam is also a co-founder of the widely popular adult indoor cricket league being run every winter in Michigan.

MichCa Chairman SHAHID AHMED was in Pakistan recently. He met with former Pakistan captain Mushtaq Mohd. at the National Staduim in Karachi.