

Former Test star hails Shrewsbury

By JAMES GARRISON

"I thought Shrewsbury were a good young team with a great spirit. More than anything, they fielded very well on a big ground and they seemed a very disciplined side."

The Cavaliers were ultimately well beaten on a day when they collapsed from 113-0 to 191 all out.

"Even though, we got off to a flying start Shrewsbury kept their heads up and when they got one or two wickets, they came back strong," he added.

"Even a score like 240 would have challenged them a lot more."

"But they deserved to win and I wish them all the best and hope they win the final."

Other former Test stars who played for the Cavaliers included England bowler Alex Tudor and Pakistani spinner Saqlain Mushtaq.

In the final Shrewsbury will face Cambridge Granta at Derbyshire's County Ground on September 17.

Former England star Uzman Afzaal believes members of Shrewsbury's National Knock-out final squad could cut the mustard in the First Class game.

Afzaal - whose three England appearances came in the Ashes series of 2001 - suffered semi-final disappointment on Sunday when the West Indian Cavaliers team he captains were beaten by eight wickets at Shrewsbury.

But Afzaal left London Road impressed with what he had seen from the youngsters of the Shropshire club.

"They have got the right recipe for one or two of them to go on and push into professional cricket," said the 34-year-old.

"Nowadays, they are looking for good fielding and a bit of batting and bowling so I'm sure a few of the Shrewsbury lads will be knocking on doors.



Shrewsbury celebrate reaching the Knockout final *Picture: Tom Somerville*