

Gordon turns on spin for Scotland

Cricket

THE bowling prowess of a Huntly university student was to the fore last week as Scotland competed in the ICC Women's World Twenty20 Qualifier in Thailand.

Kirstie Gordon (18) a student at Loughborough University, made her mark in the team taking several wickets in matches against Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, Zimbabwe and the host nation.

Two places in next year's ICC Women's World Twenty20 in India were up for grabs, but despite the Scots women's best efforts they failed to qualify.

Kirstie opened the bowling in Scotland's first tie against Papua New Guinea and the spin bowler did not waste any time despatching the opposition as she took two wickets in the first and third overs.

Scotland won the match to meet 9th-ranked Bangladesh for their second tie, in which Gordon contributed eight runs. But the Scots were all out for 53 and Bangladesh reached the runs required with 44 balls still remaining.

Game three saw the Scots play Thailand and they secured a six-



wicket win which took them into the semi-final of their group.

Gordon again found success opening the bowling when she struck in the first over, enticing an outside edge which was well taken by Sarah Bryce behind the stumps.

Later in the game Gordon took another wicket, helping to peg back the Thai batting.

Zimbabwe were the opposition for Scotland's final match and Gordon and fellow bowler Abbi Aitken gave their side a good start to the second innings as each picked up a wicket to remove both of Zimbabwe's opening batters.

Speaking after the final game, Scotland coach Kari Carswell said that while it would have been great to finish in third place, she was really proud of what the team had achieved.

She said: "We put together an unbelievably good bowling and fielding performance. We developed really well and adapted to conditions impressively. We have plenty of younger girls in the squad and this was their first taste of senior women's cricket."

Left: International spin bowler Kirstie Gordon