

The Hewlett Cup took place this year in perfect conditions but our teams on the whole did not impress favourably. Only our fourth year first team and second team from the third years managed to reach the finals, while four of our teams lost all their matches. Just two years ago we won this competition in dreadful weather, displaying truly admirable spirit and attitude; this year, however, there were disturbing examples of failure to play the game in an acceptable manner.

Our six third year girls took part in Inter-House hockey and netball competitions. At netball we just managed to avoid the wooden spoon but when playing hockey we were far more successful, reaching the final but losing by just one goal. All our girls were awarded their House Colours for this success: Caron Abramson, Sarah Bancroft, Shakila Chaudhry, Maria Jobling, Gabrielle Miller and (not least!) Amanda Wheeler.

A full report on this year's Whitworth House Play production, the court scene from Arthur Miller's "The Crucible", appears elsewhere in this magazine. Catherine Lewis soon made her presence felt in the House when she arrived at the School in September and it became clear that she would make important contributions to both sporting and cultural aspects of the House calendar. With Nick Cherry closely involved with the School Play production, Cathy was an obvious choice for the job of producing our play. Once a play and the cast had been chosen, rehearsals began and things looked well under control. Unfortunately, the two major roles fell upon individuals who took no great care over the first duty of any actor: to learn the lines. In most other aspects of the production we had what looked likely to be a winning entry in the competition, but, as the judges fairly pointed out, the play foundered on what is the most elementary of faults. It was clearly a great pity because so many of the large cast had worked very hard and indeed there were many highly promising performances, not least from Alok Jha, Zoë Wallis and Daniel Riste. Daniel Marsh showed increasing skill as an actor, making the most of a genuine stage presence.

Daniel Moss took charge of our entry in the Music Competition, which consisted of eight sterling performances from Ha Vu (piano), Cathy Lewis (an ambitious piece for the viola by Bach), Robert Gee (ragtime piano), Tim Wright (a sensitively performed song by Roy Harper on the twelve-string guitar), Chris Heys (Mendelssohn's "Christmas Piece" played immaculately on the piano), Steven Bookbinder (Weber's Allegretto for clarinet), Martin Shields (remarkable skill in coping with a difficult cello piece) and Daniel Moss (his own arrangement on the synthesiser). In all it was a varied and entertaining presentation performed by serious and enthusiastic members of the House, who in several cases were taking advantage of (for them) a rare opportunity to make a much-appreciated extra-curricular contribution to the School. I did feel disappointment that an attempt made earlier in the term to set up a rock band was not brought to a successful conclusion.

The following members of the House were awarded colours for their contribution to activities carried out this term:
Third Year: C. Abramson, A. Aslam, S. Bancroft, S. Chaudhry, P. Gee, M. Jobling, N. Miller, A. Wheeler, M. Zeegers.
Fourth Year: T. Allen, C. Heys, A. Jha, B. Jones, N. Owen, D. Riste, I. Sherwin.

Fifth Year: S. Bookbinder, P. Foster, A. Lee, R. Smith, P. Warren. Sixth Form: N. Cherry, V. Clarke, D. Bradley, R. Gee, N. Holder, G. Jameson, T. Lawson, C. Lewis, A. Mehta, D. Moss, M. Shields, H. Vu, Z. Wallis, Williams, T. Wright.

MIDSUMMER TERM

With the resignation of all Upper Sixth Prefects, Nick Williams was appointed Head of House, with Anish Mehta and Nick Cherry his deputies. Zoë Wallis was made up as Prefect.

The Senior Cricket Knock-out was the first event of the term. We were to play Fraser (arguably the favourites to win) but, with our usual keen preparation, our team strode confidently into this match. We quickly had twenty on the board, with Warren and Henry Slack batting in great form. A collapse then occurred, due to fine bowling by the School Captain Hollingworth. At 55 for 9 all seemed doomed: just Sharma and Rashid together for the last wicket. These two put on as many again and left us with a target to bowl at. Indeed, after a hat-trick by Steven Williams, Fraser found that it was a score beyond their reach. In the second round we were without Perry Warren who had to take an examination and this undoubtedly contributed to our failure to make it through to the final.

The Junior team, led by Gareth Mitchell, met Fraser in the first round. Our opening pair of Raffi Haroutunian and Phillip Sidebottom was expected to make a good start but they failed to last long together; when Mitchell joined Haroutunian our prospects brightened but the captain received what might have been an unfortunate umpiring decision when we were forty for one. Thereafter the innings subsided as wickets were thrown away by poor batting. Yaseen Aslam made a reasonable contribution but we were unable to reach more than ninety-six all out. In the field we made an excellent start: Fraser were quickly down to nineteen for four, with Tim Allen and Yaseen Aslam firing on all cylinders. Sidebottom joined in the fray, taking three wickets, but a dropped catch allowed Tom Donnai to build an innings which won the match for

Fraser by two wickets. Next year's Junior team will have to rely very much on Yaseen and Phillip Sidebottom although, as always, with plenty of practices there is a chance that everyone may play above their normal level of ability.

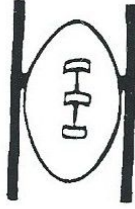
Our third year girls concluded their pioneering year with an impressive second place in the rounders competition. They were led by Caron Abramson but, after a first round win over Dalton, found Gaskell too strong in the final.

Preparations for the athletics this year were inhibited by poor weather in May and June. However, our teams in the athletics heats were boosted by the welcome presence of Patrick Cassidy who made it through to the finals (long jump) as did Daniel Riste (triple jump and shot), Maria Jobling (400m), Matthew Butterworth (400m and long jump), Reuben Singh (shot and discus), Yaseen Aslam (shot), Gabrielle Miller (200m and long jump), Mark Craig (high jump), Fayzul Choudhury (javelin), Ben Forshaw (shot and discus), Tim Allen (high jump), Michael Hossain (javelin), Anish Mehta (javelin), Mandy Wheeler (100m and long jump), Bradley Jones (shot), Mark Elliott (high jump) and Nick Williams (high jump). It was unfortunate that Singh could not attend for the finals and that Crispin Jones was prevented from competing in the longer races by a late change in the date of his French trip. Full details of the finals are not available at the time of writing but my memories of the day include seeing an excellent attitude on the part of many, some of whom appeared to be enjoying perhaps for the first time the deeper pleasures of feeling themselves part of a team effort.

Thanks to Stephen Williams, Matthew Butterworth and Gareth Mitchell who all made contributions to these House notes.

P.M. Bull.

GAMES



RUGBY

FIRST XV RUGBY

Played 17, Won 4, Lost 12, Drawn 1, Points for 143
Against 347

v Widnes VI Form College	Lost 14-24
v Birkenhead School	Lost 7-26
v Poynton High School	Lost 8- 9
v Lymm High School	Lost 0-49
v Cheadle Hulme School	Lost 0-27
v St. Bede's College	Lost 8-17
v Woodhouse Grove	Lost 4-42
v Brookline High School, Boston	Won 16- 0
v Boston College	Won 10- 0
v Vasser College, New York	Lost 13-31
v Seaton Hall College, New York	Won 23- 4
v King Edward VII, Lytham	Lost 3-28
v Manchester Grammar School	Lost 0-32
v Bolton School	Drew 6- 6
v Bury Grammar School	Won 21-13
v Stockport Grammar School	Lost 3-27
v Sale Grammar School	Lost 7-12
v Bramhall High School	Cancelled

In terms of results, the 1st XV have had a poor season, winning only four out of seventeen matches. This has not been due to a poor attitude as commitment, effort and determination have been excellent in every single game. Unfortunately what has let the team down is a lack of quality players at 1st XV level.

As the pack was fairly experienced, being made up of mainly upper sixth formers, it was hoped that enough ball could be won at the set piece. This would allow the half backs to use the three-quarters or at least to kick for a position in which the backs could then be launched. This basic game plan regularly broke down at source however throughout the season as the forwards struggled to overcome their lack of technique against much stronger, well drilled packs.

The first game of the season was lost to a big Widnes side who played hard, basic rugby. Having not played for nine months, the inevitable weaknesses in technique and fitness were exposed, especially in the scrummaging of the front five forwards. On the positive side, the tackling and finishing were good as we scored three tries in going down fourteen points to twenty four.

The next game against Birkenhead School, where the previous year we had been thrashed by over sixty points, saw the 1st XV play possibly their best game of the season. Winning 7-4 at half-time, a memorable result seemed possible until the final ten minutes when their fitness and experience finally opened up our defence.

Poynton High School was a game that should have been

won. Winning 8-6 with only minutes remaining, Tilston refused to make the game safe by failing to ground the ball after our pack had driven them back over their own try line. Their long 22 metre drop kick put the ball back into our half, they were awarded a penalty and the goal was kicked. A hard lesson to learn but chances must be taken if games are to be won.

In the next three games, the team were outplayed by very good Lymm and Cheadle Hulme School teams but narrowly lost to St. Bede's College, the score not really reflecting the true balance of play. On the last Saturday before half-term, the journey was made (for possibly the final time) to one of Yorkshire's best rugby playing schools, Woodhouse Grove. Although the level of commitment was outstanding from every player, the oppositions individual skills and team work were vastly superior to those of ours and the result was never really in doubt.

In the half-term holidays, a ten day tour of America was undertaken, with games scheduled for Boston and New York. It was expected that the opposition would be very big and fit, but lacking in the basic techniques. Consequently we went into every game with the intention of trying to ruck everything in the forwards to give the backs time and space to use the ball. The game plan worked well against Brookline High School and Boston College where two wins were recorded, but broke down against Vasser College from New York where a week of socialising in Boston, a six hour coach trip and a twenty three stone prop ended any hopes of an unbeaten tour. A 23-4 win against Seaton Hall College the following day brought an end to a very enjoyable and successful tour.

In the first two games after half-term, we were comprehensively beaten by King Edwards VII School and Manchester Grammar School, drew with Bolton School courtesy of two Baama penalties and beat Bury Grammar School with Matt Rogers scoring two very good tries. In the penultimate game of the season, the Stockport Grammar School pack proved to be one of the most formidable we had come across all season and they won by a convincing twenty seven points to three. The final game of the season against Sale Grammar School was an interesting game played in atrocious weather conditions. Despite the driving wind and rain, the team played some attractive attacking rugby and were unlucky to be on the losing side again.

Even though the season has been poor in terms of results, a tremendous team spirit has existed throughout the term. Much credit must go to the captain, Noble, whose efforts on the field have been excellent. Malik, Johnson and Tilston have all made significant contributions in the pack whilst the tackling of Hollingworth and Bradley remained hard and uncompromising. Regrettably a settled side has been impossible and the stability of the team been disrupted through the long term injuries to Frost (dislocated knee), Moss (shoulder), Veitch (shoulder) and Cooper (ruptured spleen).

Overall, it has been a disappointing season for the 1st XV. Unlike a few years ago, the School at present does not possess players at senior level who are capable of competing against the better rugby schools such as Birkenhead and Woodhouse Grove. It is a travesty to see a fixture list weakened and teams replaced, but if players are to enjoy their sport, they have to experience some sort of success and in the present system, with the present fixture list, they are not!

Within the School, there are some very good junior sides. Many of these boys play rugby at a club as well as at School and this must be encouraged as much as possible if these teams are to remain successful as they move up through the School. In order to become better players, it is essential that they can spend time on their game. Only then can we hope to see a revival in the fortunes of the 1st XV.

The following played regularly for the 1st XV:
F.J. Baama, M.D. Barnes, D. Bradley, C. Bury, P.J. Cassidy, M.H.G. Frost, R.W. Goodall, A.K. Hollingworth, G.C. Jameson, J.J. Johnson, M.T.R. Jones, A.A. Khan, M.A. Malik, W. Mason, D.J. Moss, G.R. Noble, M.B. Rogers, R.Y. Segal, L.E. Tilston, S.W. Veitch.

D.J. Mallinder

SECOND XV RUGBY

Played 11, Won 6, Lost 5, Points for 211, Against 129

v Widnes V.F.C.	Won 21- 9
v Birkenhead School	Won 31- 7
v Lymm High School	Won 32- 4
v Cheadle Hulme School	Won 30- 0
v St. Bede's College	Lost 6-14
v Woodhouse Grove	Lost 3-24
v King Edward VII, Lytham	Lost 12-16
v Manchester Grammar School	Lost 0-43
v Bolton School	Won 16- 4
v Bury Grammar School	Won 54- 0
v Stockport Grammar School	Lost 6- 8

Within days of my arrival at William Hulme's I was reminded of my passion for rugby which I had emphasised on interview the previous year. I must confess that I did not for a moment expect to be in charge of any team, let alone a senior one. However, the experience proved to be a rewarding and enjoyable one. Amongst the highlights of the season were an outstanding team performance at Lymm High School, Rob Goodall's fine try from the deep at Lytham and an unexpected but comfortable victory in my first game in charge, against Birkenhead.

I was fortunate enough to inherit a well coached Second XV containing some very hard-working, well mannered pupils. My thanks must be expressed to Matthew Sowerby, a fine second team captain, who always led by example and motivated his team mates in superb fashion. Other consistent performers included Andrew Ladd, a penalty kicker in the Chris Waddle mould, Mike Wilson, Martin Barnes, Chris Williamson and Oliver Garside.

Finally my thanks must be given to all parents, whose support was always welcome, and all members of the rugby teaching staff, particularly Mr. Mallinder for his patience and advice. I trust that, in the forthcoming season, William Hulme's Second XV will again perform in an entertaining and energetic fashion.

The Second XV was selected from:

M. Sowerby (capt), M. Barnes, A. Bulwich, N. Burton, C. Bury, I. Cope, J. Daniel, S. Dearden, M. Dynes, O. Garside, R. Goodall, J. Greenhowe, A. Khan, D. Lambert, S. McConnell, W. Mason, L. Mather, N. Stoker, C. Williamson, M. Wilson and others.

P.R. Hewston

U15 RUGBY

Played 12, Won 7, Lost 5, Points For: 260, Against: 167

v Birkenhead School	Lost 0-31
v Poynton High School	Won 30-14
v Lymm High School	Lost 14-22
v Cheadle Hulme School	Won 50- 4
v St. Bede's College	Won 21-14
v Woodhouse Grove School	Lost 6-14
v King Edward VII School	Lost 15-17
v Manchester Grammar School	Lost 3-19
v Bolton School	Won 12- 6
v Bury School	Won 54- 4
v Stockport Grammar School	Won 26-11
v Sale Grammar School	Won 38- 9

Due to a reorganisation of coaching staff I found myself looking after the U15 side this year, by reputation a side with many talented players but one which lacked discipline, with a number of reluctant trainers. We started our campaign away at Birkenhead School, always one of our most difficult opponents.

The team played like fifteen individuals - too many were willing to let others do their jobs for them, particularly when tackling was required. There were flashes of promise notably from Richard Gandy who was playing full-back for the first time since his U12 days.

The mid-week fixture at Poynton was a scrappy affair, both sides were rather unorganised but our strong runners in the back row and quicker half-backs proved to be our winning edge. By the time we played host to Lymm we had had a number of training sessions. We knew however that Lymm would be a solid, well drilled and powerful team via inside information through some club links. As expected the game proved to be a very tough close contest.

Both sides played good rugby moving the ball to the wings as often as possible with scrum half Taylor also making some good moves up the blind side from the set scrum. However, Lymm pressed strongly at the end of each half and as a result of this pressure we made two very costly kicking errors that lost us the game. Clearly we needed some kicking practice and some guidance on keeping a cool head when under pressure.

The following game against Cheadle Hulme School was one of our most convincing victories, our improved organisation, discipline and strong running proving too much for Cheadle. This good form was maintained against St. Bede's College who were much stronger than Cheadle. We put together a very good performance, our back row again causing numerous problems and acting as the basis for a good win. Our next game, the last before half-term, is traditionally the hardest. The whole team, and in particular the forwards, raised their level of effort and commitment and we did exceptionally well to run a very strong Woodhouse Grove team so close.

We returned from a rest over half-term and seemed to have forgotten much of what we had worked on before the break. The game against King Edward VII was one that we could and should have won, and in some style. However, we went back to playing as individuals, tackling poorly and showing an indisciplined attitude, and as a result we failed to do ourselves justice. Luckily this was the only time that we lapsed and the remainder of the season was most successful. We went to M.G.S. knowing that they had a strong pack and that we would have to play well up front. In the event we played very well and the final score does not reflect the true nature of the game. The forwards rose to the challenge, disrupting much of M.G.S.' possession, but we failed to win clean ball either and to give our backs, who always looked dangerous, a chance to run at M.G.S. Had they got more ball we would have scored tries. In the end the size of the challenge proved too much for the forwards and M.G.S. ran in scores as we tired.

The Bolton School game was as usual a very keen and closely contested affair. Bolton are improving every year and we had to work very hard to win by a narrow margin, in the end scoring them by three tries to two.

The final games of the season proved that we were now a well-disciplined, talented side. Against Bury School we showed strength and pace in all areas and ran in fifty two points with tries from backs and forwards. What I was particularly pleased with was that most of the tries came about by winning clean ball, moving it quickly and supporting team mates, with many players involved and all doing a good job to aid the end result. This was a complete change from the first game where we expected individual strength or brilliance to get us tries. Having learnt the lesson that fifteen players all working together makes it very difficult for the opposition, we went to Stockport.

We knew Stockport had some good players as we had encountered them at the East Cheshire U15 trials. The game was nip and tuck for most of the first half with neither side having the upper hand. However, in the second half we started to take control. Mark Shelmerdine was playing particularly well at the lineout to win us good possession. We passed the ball out to the wings where Ben Wood showed his strength and speed which led to good tries. By the end of the game we were totally in command and ran out worthy winners.

The Sale game proved to be the last of the season as bad weather caused the cancellation of the Bramhall High fixture. We had now won three games in a row and confidence was high. We again showed how much we had improved and that we were now a very positive rugby team. The forwards drove the ball at Sale with powerful runs and close support, then when we had Sale's defence going backwards the backs moved the attack wide and exposed weaknesses on the wings and in the centres. The tries followed as we proved once again to be too strong and quick for the opposition to hold.

Overall it has been a good season for the fifteen-a-side team. The squad by the end of the season were working hard in training sessions. However, this took time to develop. Many players do not appreciate the need for practice and treat it as a time for fooling. To get things right on match days requires practice in training and if one player is missing or is not trying then it makes it very difficult. Also several players need to realise that you have to moderate 'social activities' on Friday nights if you are going to be able to perform to your best on Saturday mornings.

During the season several players went to the East Cheshire trials. There were many players from the Stockport and South Manchester area at the trials held at Marple Hall School. The players that we took all did well, Daniel Riste, Mark Sellers and Matthew Musgrove were very close to being selected but just missed out. However, seven did get selected to join the squad. They were Tim Allen who went on to become captain of the team and had a very good season both for School and Division; he was our top try scorer and should develop into an excellent player. Chris Armstrong was consistently East Cheshire's outstanding forward and his powerful running and destructive tackles were an inspiration to all around him. Damian Taylor played himself into being the Division's first choice scrum half and with a little more commitment could be an excellent player as he has the qualities required. Matthew Butterworth, Shahid Hussain and Ketan Misra all played their part for East Cheshire and were key members of the School attack. Mark Shelmerdine played in the games before Christmas but due to Lacrosse commitments and an eye operation, did not play in the second half of the season. My congratulations go to these boys for gaining representative honours.

Elsewhere in the School team there were many good performers and developing players. In the forwards, there was keen competition between Alex Rodgers and Jon Hall for the position of hooker, neither player quite managing to make the place his own. Matthew McLean and Stuart Murray proved to be very solid props and Raffi Haroutunian was always pushing for a permanent place in the pack. There was also a battle for

places in the backs. On the wings between an improving Ian Sherwin and the very quick Ben Wood. Late in the season Joe Sayyid, Paul Harrison and Nick Owen came through from the house league and played in the Centres. All could develop into good players.

At the end of the season we were involved in three seven-a-side competitions at Ripon Grammar School in North Yorkshire, Sale Grammar School and Wilmslow R.U.F.C. We played strong opposition in each of the tournaments but managed to win games in every one. We usually finish mid-table in our group mainly due to our lack of experience at this particular brand of the game. However, we learnt much as we went along and in our final competition we were joint second. It has been a season which I have enjoyed a great deal. I feel this squad could go on to be a very successful senior team and I would strongly encourage them to join clubs if they have not already done so.

My personal thanks to Matthew Butterworth and Tim Allen for doing such good jobs as captain and vice-captain respectively and also to all the parents and friends that came along to support the team. Thank you!

The following boys played for the U15 team: D. Taylor, K. Misra, B. Wood, R. Gandy, M. Musgrove, M. Sellers, I. Sherwin, T. Allen, M. McLean, S. Murray, A. Rodgers, J. Hall, D. Riste, M. Shelmerdine, M. Butterworth, C. Armstrong, S. Hussain, S. Bates, T. Kelly, N. Owen, R. Haroutunian, N. Goddard, J. Sayyid, P. Harrison.

N.P. Dunn.

U14 RUGBY

Played 12, Won 7, Drew 1, Lost 4, Points for 266,
Against 102

v Birkenhead School	Lost 4-26
v Poynton High School	Lost 4- 8
v Lymm High School	Won 26-10
v Cheadle Hulme	Drew 18-18
v St. Bede's College	Won 52- 0
v King Edward VII, Lytham	Lost 4-12
v Manchester Grammar School	Lost 6-16
v Bolton School	Won 12- 8
v Bury Grammar School	Won 54- 0
v Stockport Grammar School	Won 10- 4
v Sale Grammar School	Won 60- 0

The squad contains considerable potential for the future and gradually developed into a very efficient and determined team. After a hesitant beginning they worked very hard on individual and team skills and as the season progressed they played some excellent rugby.

The first game was against Birkenhead and although we played some good rugby, weak tackling against two strong running Birkenhead forwards made the difference. The ball was moved quickly along the threequarters and only some excellent cover tackling kept out the wings, Wan and Clemetson. This was encouraging but greater team work was required, plus work on the tackling.

The next game against Poynton was a dreadful performance due to a combination of circumstances. Firstly, the pack was in disarray because of problems at prop which resulted in a lack of clear possession. Secondly, a try was disallowed and then too many individuals tried to do it all by themselves. Poynton became more determined, the players lost concentration and started arguing and the game was lost 4 pts to 8. This was the one game I would have liked to play again later in the season in order to show what we really could do.

The match against Lymm High School put the team back on course. The forwards and backs combined well and they quickly took control of the game and never faltered. Chris Gleave was in excellent form and strong determined running brought two fine tries. David Grove was a danger every time he received the ball, as was Neville Clemetson, and both also scored two tries.

At Cheadle Hulme the team got off to an excellent start and scored two very good tries through excellent team work. The backs ran the ball and quick support by the forwards resulted in a scrum about fifteen metres out. A quick heel allowed Damian Brown to dart around the blind side and put Martin Wan over in the corner. Then after another surge and quick scrum heel, David Grove picked up from the back of the scrum and ran through from forty metres. Things changed quickly when Cheadle gained some decent possession and the outside centre revealed devastating pace to run in two tries in quick succession, and suddenly we were behind 10 pts to 12. The second half was similar in that once again the team were in control, and two fine tries from Neville Clemetson put them in front again. However, Cheadle rallied strongly and eventually forced an 18-all draw. On balance a fair result, but the boys were beginning to play as a team and the commitment and effort were one hundred percent.

After a comfortable win against a weak St. Bede's team, came the best performance of the season at Woodhouse Grove. Last year the game had been very close but the opposition managed to stay ahead by the narrow margin of two points. All members of the squad were convinced they could win and consequently motivation was not a problem. On the day, conditions were excellent and from the kick-off José Witter linked with Neville Clemetson who stormed down the wing and was only stopped by a fine cover tackle. A few minutes later he repeated the effort, but this time David Grove was in support to pick up and score between the posts. The determination of the team was shown by the fact that at least three other players were close behind Grove when he made the pick up. After that the forwards controlled things up front and this allied to firm tackling prevented Woodhouse Grove from making any headway. Second-half tries by Clemetson and Tyrone Berkeley sealed an excellent performance which was a credit to the team. Everyone played their hearts out and this was epitomised by the Captain, Damian Brown, when from an opposition five-metre scrum he tackled their huge number eight head on, thus preventing a try.

After half-term we travelled to King Edward's, Lytham with six players missing because of injury and other reasons. This was further compounded when fly-half Nick Reading had to leave the field with a dead-leg. However, the strength-in-depth of the squad showed through and King Edward's had to work very hard for their narrow victory. James White had an excellent game and he was well supported by Graham, Knowles, Crawshaw and Gleave. With a full team the result could have been very different and it will be interesting to see what happens next season.

Then followed the derby match against M.G.S. This was played at a fast and furious pace and the tackling on both sides was ferocious. Nick Reading and David Grove put in some super tackles and the rest of the team gave them excellent support. M.G.S. were the best all-round team we played and eventually they were worthy winners, but they had to work very hard and could never afford to relax.

Against Bolton Grammar School we were well in control and ran the ball well in the first half, but then lost our way and let Bolton come back. Chris Gleave was a continual problem with his strong running but otherwise movements seemed to break down just before the line. The team were in fine form against a weakened Bury Grammar School, but the opposition never gave up and made them work for every score.

This was followed by another tough match against Stockport Grammar School. The teams were well matched and strong tackling on both sides closed down a lot of the play. A quickly

taken penalty enabled David Grove to charge over from fifteen metres, but it was never going to be enough. Stockport pressed continually at the beginning of the second-half, but two missed penalty kicks were to prove very costly. Eventually, the pressure told and Stockport scored an equalising try which meant an exciting last few minutes. A surge down the right side led to a five-metre scrum, and a quick heel by Mark Knowles allowed Grove to pick up from the back and force his way over the line, but he could not ground the ball. Another scrum followed and this time Grove managed to run wider and squeeze over near the posts for the winning try. An excellent performance all round and a richly deserved victory.

The final game against Sale Grammar School was played in atrocious conditions and was notable only for the fact that David Grove ran in a total of six tries - a rare feat.

The squad contains some very promising individuals but the real strength was in its all round ability. As pack leader, David Grove led by example and was a very consistent performer. He is a strong runner and tackler and also enabled us to use the tactical ploy of dropping him out into the centre when the need arose. James White, James Crawshaw and Ben Myddelton were hardworking flankers and all improved throughout the season. Ian Graham and Nick Byrom were an impressive combination in the second row and provided both height and weight. Ian improved considerably and made a telling contribution in the Woodhouse Grove match.

Mark Knowles was one of the stalwarts in the pack, not only for his quick hooking but also his ability to be first to the ball and get his hands on it. It is not often you have a hooker who can play centre as well, and it will be interesting to see which position he fills as a senior. David Slack was a very efficient prop and Rizwan Ahmed shows considerable promise in that position. This leaves Tyrone Berkeley, a great character who is equally at home as prop, flanker, or winger. An exciting runner and forager, again it will be interesting to see where he plays at senior level.

James Brocklehurst gained in confidence during the season and made the fly-half position his own. He handled well and showed that he can make tackles. Chris Gleave was an admirably consistent performer at centre who was a great asset to the team. A strong runner and tackler, he always showed great determination and never gave less than one hundred percent effort. He was well supported by Nick Reading who was probably the best tackler of them all. An elusive runner and good link-man he just needs to have a little more confidence in his ability.

Martin Wan was very quick on the wing and always threatened whenever he had the ball. Neville Clemetson was a most dangerous player, quick and powerful, he could run through or break tackles and quickly threaten the line. The opposition could never relax when he had the ball. Avinash Rao also improved considerably and provided good cover at wing and centre. Matthew Whiteley took over at full-back and proved a dependable last line of defence. He will however need to improve his tackling in future. Jose Witter is still searching for his best position and with greater application could easily find a permanent slot.

Finally, this leaves the Captain and scrum-half, Damian Brown. A lively character, always full of energy and continually trying to improve his own game. He never gives up and continually urges on the team from the front. His commitment was never shown better than when he made the tackle on the huge number eight forward at Woodhouse Grove.

I greatly enjoyed coaching the squad and was proved to be part of the team. They worked hard in training but also showed that it was possible to enjoy it as well.

Finally, thanks to an outstanding group of parents whose support and encouragement were greatly appreciated.

D.A. Myers

U13 RUGBY

Played 12, Won 9, Lost 3, Points for 241, Against 95

v Birkenhead School	Won 14-10
v Poynton High School	Won 36-0
v Lymm High School	Won 26-8
v Cheadle Hulme School	Won 15-9
v St. Bede's College	Won 50-8
v Woodhouse Grove School	Won 26-10
v King Edward VII School, Lytham	Lost 4-16
v Manchester Grammar School	Lost 4-22
v Bolton Grammar School	Won 10-4
v Bury Grammar School	Won 30-0
v Stockport Grammar School	Lost 8-26
v Sale Grammar School	Won 40-0

Following on from last year's undefeated season, the U13 XV began in great style, convincingly beating Birkenhead School. The foundation for success was, as last year, a well drilled pack capable of producing good first phase ball but, more importantly, good quick second phase possession. Behind the pack the team had strength and pace but suffered from an inability to move the ball quickly enough through the hands at speed to break down the better defences. A lot of our running went across the field rather than penetrating through the middle. At the junior ages this is understandable and will improve as players become more experienced in their differing positions.

Following on from the Birkenhead game a run of convincing wins followed, culminating in a magnificent victory over Woodhouse Grove. The whole team played exceptionally well - but particular praise must be given to the forwards who completely dominated the game, denying the opposition any decent ball.

Two defeats followed. Against King Edward VII School, slack tackling and an inability to convert pressure into points saw the fortunes of the game swing away from us. Initially we controlled the game but failed to score. With their first touch of the ball after 10 minutes, the King Edward No. 8 picked up from a scrum on half-way and ran through three tackles to score. Gradually we lost control of the game and King Edward emerged deserved victors.

Similarly at Manchester Grammar School we dominated for the early periods of the game, but again could not score. Once again we lost control of the game through weak tackling and our own inability to gain ground when in possession. Our third defeat at the hands of Stockport Grammar School followed a similar pattern. Again we allowed players (their No. 8 in particular) to make large inroads into our defence. It was only in the later stages of the game that we "woke up" as a team but by this time the result was not in doubt.

These three fixtures apart the team played very good rugby and showed a willingness to run, pass and support. Quality ball, particularly a second phase, is vital if the opposing defence is to be breached and our pack worked very well to supply enough ball for our speedy backs to dominate against most of the teams encountered.

Although rugby is a team game and we accept success or failure as a team, several individuals deserve special mention. In the forwards, Richard England was the cornerstone of a solid pack. He is very strong and has pace, and on more than one occasion contributed significantly to the overall team performance. My one criticism would be that although he works very hard to secure the ball in the maul he often then runs off with it instead of giving the ball to the scrum half. This effectively isolates him (and next year the better teams will tackle him early) and also denies the ball to the talented backs.

Anan Malik proved himself a very useful No. 8. Quick and tall, he showed he has talent. He must, however, work on his handling ability and his tackling. Gavin Elly was probably our most improved forward. His tackling was superb. Gavin must also work on his handling ability.

Behind the pack Ben Smith is an offensive scrum half whose strength is his aggressive running. He will need to work very hard on his passing and kicking and also his vision ie, when to run, pass or kick. The fly half spot went to Peter Day who improved with every game. Peter captained the side extremely well following on from Joshua Robinson (who was not available for every game). Both these players showed great maturity Joshua in particular impressed me with his play at full back.

The season as a whole was very enjoyable. In both victory and defeat the team was a credit to the School. The team spirit and competitiveness, as well as a healthy respect for the opposition was always present and these factors made for very entertaining rugby.

Finally my thanks go to all players for their work in training and on the field of play and to all those Parents who supported the team.

The following boys were regular members of the School U13 team: P. Day (Capt.), R. England, J. Pearson, I. Goodwin, S. Hadfield, G. Elly, A. Malik, G. Wilsher, B. Russell, B. Smith, J. Flatman, J. Robinson, S. Johnson, D. Gent, N. Ghazi, D. Johnson, P. Tilston and A. Kelly.

C.H. Seddon

U13B RUGBY

This team played only one fixture, against Manchester Grammar School. The XV lost 24-0 but all contributed to the team effort. More important than the result was the fact that 15 boys gained representative honours playing with spirit and enthusiasm.

The following boys represented the School either at A XV or B XV level: S. McCarthy, S. Dé, A. Molajo, C. Hope, I. Anwar, A. Haslam, M. Royds, K. Keller, L. Finch, D. Taylor, M. Birtwistle, R. Strudwick, A. Farrell and K. Khan.

C.H. Seddon

U12 RUGBY

Played 8, Won 5 Drawn, 2 Lost 1, Points for 106, Against 70

v Cheadle Hulme School	Won 12-8
v St. Bede's College	Won 32-0
v Woodhouse Grove School	Lost 0-24
v King Edward VII School, Lytham	Drawn 8-8
v Manchester Grammar School	Won 10-8
v Bolton School	Won 16-0
v Stockport Grammar School	Drawn 8-8
v Sale Grammar School	Won 20-14

After last year's highly successful unbeaten season with the U12's my first impressions of this year's rugby squad was that we would do very well indeed to lose only half of our fixtures. It is to the players immense credit that we only lost one game this season - indicative of the tremendous collective spirit and attitude in the team. Add to this the fact that in only three games were we ahead at half-time and this demonstrates the uncompromising commitment to the cause that the U12's displayed throughout the season.

Uncompromising and possibly even dour, could be used to describe some of our play this year and I attribute this wholly to myself. Most coaches feel instinctively that they are playing players in their right positions but this year in hindsight I feel that the side became too unbalanced and that major surgery will have to be undertaken next year (despite the fact that we averaged over three tries a game!). We always gave a good account of ourselves upfront but never really exploited the hard won possession - and this is probably why a successful season was not an exceptional one.

The U12's traditional first game of the season is against Cheadle Hulme and, again following 'tradition' a very close game took place, and in which we triumphed by the odd score in five. What was immediately obvious was that we were going to produce abundant possession from the tight and that our back row would compete fiercely in the loose. It was to be hoped that our inability to move the ball wide would come with time and so we were off to a promising start.

The game versus St. Bede's College saw five of our eight tries being scored by the backs with wings and full back involved. A few carefully chosen words at half-time with the lead at 12-0 saw our forwards up a gear in the second half and monopolise possession which we utilised quite effectively.

So far so good. The backs had started to move the ball, the forwards could win it - all augured well for what invariably is the toughest game of the season - away at Woodhouse Grove. For the first five minutes of this game we were entirely magnificent - we kicked off, buried the catcher, shoved them five metres back at the subsequent scrum, ran straight, rucked them off the ball and almost sneaked in. In terms of our level of superiority, that was about it. Three horrendously missed tackles in the first half let them in, denting our confidence and with our scrum creaking and a drought in the line out we were up against it. They created three good scores in the second half and won comfortably by 24-0. Our disappointment was there for all to see (some of us were a little over-disappointed and the shouting at the goal kicker as he ran up following the final try did us no favours and was more reminiscent of the behaviour of soccer fans rather than a rugby team). A few positive things did emerge from the game. We were hugely committed and never stopped against an extremely 'streetwise' U12 team and a few 'non tacklers' earned their spurs in the second half when we refused to lay down. Probably our most gutsy performance resulted in our only defeat of the season and we remembered never to buy dummies from side-stepping players (shouting 'joy'?) ever again.

The visit of the King Edward VII side from Lytham always guarantees a tough game and we were deservedly a try to nil down after the first half in which our forwards were ridiculously lethargic. Fortunately, subtle promptings at the break achieved the desired effect and we scored a couple of very hard worked tries to take the lead only for the opposition to score again to tie the game - somewhat fortuitously for us it must be added. Our performance did not really merit any success in this one, which boded ill for the next game versus The Manchester Grammar School. I thought back to the 'mini-classic' of the previous year, a wonderful nil-nil draw and found it hard to imagine a similar scoreline based on our previous performances of the year. However the game was a collective triumph of our will to win in the end. We found ourselves in the familiar position of being 4-0 down after a first half in which we had posed quite a few problems but had largely been outmanoeuvred and out-thought by more flexible and quick witted players (and coaches!!). (Have Hulme U12 teams become so predictable?) We had made all the mistakes and had to impose our game plan if we were to achieve anything at all. A surge straight from the restart saw us to within one metre of their try line, equalising with a catch and fall from the line out. We then severely tested the oppositions defences with a fifteen minute encampment in their twenty two which yielded a preciously converted try but a great break out and score between the posts brought the scored to 10-8, with the kick to put M.G.S. level being narrowly missed. We just about deserved to win this one and it was a real credit to our efforts in training that we did so. The game couldn't have been much closer.

Bolton School were our next visitors who more than matched us in every department except for defending in their twenty two and whereas we conceded soft tries early on in the season, they let us in for four straightfoward scores to none.

The Stockport Grammar game saw us come up against what I considered to be the strongest backline we faced all season. They scored a couple of very simple but very effective

tries with their first two bits of possession and could have ran us ragged if not for the Herculean efforts of our pack in depriving them of the ball for virtually the whole game.

The final game of the season finally saw the bullet bitten and a few fundamental changes were made. The game, played in icy conditions was something of a lottery but we ran out comfortable winners (20-14) inspite of the apparent closeness of the scoreline. The actual nature of the game provided few bits of evidence as to whether the changes were for the better or not.

So, who were the players? James Jobling, as pack leader and tight-head prop is a blunderbuss of a player. He is strong, surprisingly quick and was top try scorer with eight tries. Perhaps his biggest strength however is his mobility and he would have played in the back row against Sale (and Bramhall) if circumstances in both cases had allowed it where, perhaps his influence could have been even greater. Michael Dodds was the team's every present tenacious hooker. Once more though he might have been played out of position. His double-figured 'against the head take' recorded in one game followed by the "strike on striking on his own ball" in the next might be explained by the fact that he's left footed - not ideal for winning your normal put in. He has good hands and 'Doddy' may develop into an 'athletic' scrum half in the mould of his father in years to come. James Silver on the loose-head was another ever present and was 100% reliable in every sense. He worked very hard in training and learnt very quickly indeed. Much of the disruption of the opposition's ball was down to his very sound technique.

The most regular second row pairing was Graham Thornton and Guy Malach. Graham provided a constant supply of line out ball for us all season and as he gained in confidence and assurty developed into a very useful performer. Guy is a different sort of player, considerably more robust in his approach. When he uses his strength more productively, he will be a very powerful customer. Daniel Bishopp was another regular 'engine roomer' who never let the team down and with greater vigour could be a real force.

The regular 'back rowers' were Matthew Robinson, Richard Kiff and Richard Woolley. Matthew was probably the most improved player in the squad. He took knocks without moaning and had a happy knack of doing the right thing at the right time (well, in most cases). His handling skills and tackling improved beyond recognition over the season. Richard Kiff is a player of huge potential - his strength is his strength and when he learns to read the game a little better I feel sure will develop into a very high quality player. Last but not least in the forwards is Richard Woolley. He was probably our most influential, our key forward in the scheme of things. His ball winning and claiming ability coupled to his capacity for retaining it meant that most of our loose-play and subsequent driving play revolved around him. In some games he was quite outstanding in this role though it might have gone totally un-noticed.

Whilst I have expressed 'doubts' concerning 'positionability' amongst the forwards, it was the selection of the backs which caused me the most problems. To some extent my hands were tied faster than in previous years in that this year's squad were largely lacking in pace, physical stature and experience, so in many cases a compromise had to be made. Robert Seddon captained the side from scrumhalf. He has an experienced rugby head on his shoulders already, an eye for the half-break aswell and his tackling improved beyond recognition as the season progressed. He also possesses a very good delivery 'both sides' but his love for running with the ball in his hands often meant that he restricted his choice of option and this resulted in the remainder of the back line playing 'bit-parts' on too many occasions. In the final game of the season versus Sale, he led the side from centre, where he scored a try from outside of the twenty two, to add to his five scored sniping round the base of the 'juggernaut' in front of him!

Greg Humphries was the regular outside half and looks to be a talented sportsman. He is a very strong runner scoring a

'gem' of a try against Bolton. Following the Woodhouse Grove game his defence became absolutely watertight and he became a devastating 'crash tackling flyhalf', much in evidence during more stressful moments in the King Edward and M.G.S. games. His distribution however needs improving and will inhibit his game and that of those outside him, until sorted out.

The three-quarters 'evolved and revolved' from game to game. Chris Reading played seven times at inside centre and was full back for the final game. His tackling in both positions were typically 'Readingsque' and drew favourable comment from many of the opposition coaches. If he can improve his speed, a fine all round player will emerge. Miles Newton, Matthew Healey, Guy Brocklehurst, Stephen Kellett, Jordon Partington and Nick Bell all partnered Chris in the centre or occupied other positions in the three-quarters. Miles is a very elusive runner and looks a fine natural athlete. Matthew is probably the quickest of the group and he should look to hold a regular position in the team next year with a little more determination and consistency. Guy is a good dodger and weaver who tackles bravely and as he develops physically should turn into a fine player. Stephen looks to be very comfortable with the ball in his hands and is a nicely balanced runner but his defence needs a little bit of tightening up. Jordan is very sharp over the first few metres and surprised many opponents with his pace and changes in direction only to suffer at the hands of bigger and stronger foes. Nick really came on during the season. He emerged as a very fine defensive player capable of try saving tackles. His attitude was first class throughout whether playing a full game or half as a replacement.

Richard Dawson was the regular full back and last line of defence, a role he played admirably throughout. Though small in stature 'the bigger they came, the harder they fell' was his motto throughout.

Other players who represented the School were Richard Beenstock, Jolian Guy, Simon Longsdon, James Lambert and Asif Majid.

Many thanks to Messrs. Mallinder and Seddon for the colossal amounts of their time they have given up in helping me with the U12's (this, in addition to running their own teams), to parents for their whole-hearted support and coping with various meteorological hazards on Saturdays (blazing sun at Woodhouse Grove, snow at Sale) and to the players for representing the School with so much pride and training with so much commitment. We scored 66% of our points in the second halves of games, when other teams were wilting and our fitness resulted largely from doing ballwork and handling skills during training whilst running all the time!

This year's group, I feel could go from strength to strength. It delighted me to learn that nine of the regular fifteen all play on Sundays for local clubs which can only help their development as players.

Maybe the clubs can sort out their proper positions!

G.H. Jones.

HOUSE RUGBY RESULTS

SENIOR 1ST XV

- 1 = Heywood
- Whitworth
- 3 = Dalton
- Fraser
5. Byrom
6. Gaskell

4TH YEAR

1. Fraser
2. Gaskell
3. Heywood

SENIOR 2ND XIII

1. Dalton
2. Whitworth
3. Gaskell
4. Fraser
5. Heywood
6. Byrom

3RD YEAR

1. Dalton
2. Whitworth
- 3 = Byrom

4. Byrom
5. Whitworth
6. Dalton

- Gaskell
5 = Heywood
Fraser

Senior Knockout—WINNERS GASKELL

- Byrom 6 v Dalton 20
Heywood 9 v Whitworth 12
Dalton 0 v Gaskell 42
Fraser 6 v Whitworth 10
Gaskell 14 v Whitworth 10

Ray Cox Senior 7-a-side

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Dalton | 4 = Gaskell |
| 2 = Byrom | Heywood |
| Whitworth | 6. Fraser |

Junior Knockout—WINNERS WHITWORTH

- Dalton 14 v Heywood 22
Fraser 0 v Whitworth 38
Heywood 4 v Gaskell 10
Byrom 0 v Whitworth 26
Gaskell 8 v Whitworth 15

Middle School 7-a-side

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Heywood | 4 = Dalton |
| 2. Gaskell | Byrom |
| 3. Whitworth | 6. Fraser |

M. D. Wood



U14A NETBALL

Played 13, Won 3, Lost 10

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| v Marple Hall School | (A) Won 15-8 |
| v St. Bede's College | (A) Lost 2-18 |
| v Stockport Grammar School | (A) Lost 4-26 |
| v Knutsford County High School | (H) Won 1-5 |
| v Bramhall High School | (A) Lost 9-13 |
| v Withington Girls School | (H) Won 19-7 |
| v Offerton School | (H) Lost 7-15 |
| v St. Mary's College | (H) Lost 15-17 |
| v Kingsway School | (A) Lost 3-7 |
| v Stockport Grammar School | (A) Lost 6-1 |
| v St. Bede's College | (A) Lost 3-15 |
| v St. Mary's College | (A) Lost 4-12 |
| v Cheadle Hulme High School | (A) Lost 1-5 |

This season of Netball has been an excellent one for the team, even though not very victorious.

Over the last 3 years the team has improved in strength and determination and has learnt to work as a team. Although there were many encouraging efforts of team work, we were not always able to finish off by producing high numbers of goals.

Even though there were only 3 victories, not once did the team lose faith. There were a few memorable occasions when we were very close to victory; such as the match played against St. Mary's, when the team played 4th year girls (who were much bigger in size compared to us). Although losing badly in the first half, the team came back more determined and lost by only two goals, the final score being 17-15. This was a remarkable performance as the team was playing a much more experienced side.

The other memorable game was played at Withington Girls School winning 19-7, where the ball was moved very quickly from defence to attack using some team tactics. Once the ball was in the shooting area, the shooters finished the work off by producing superb goals.

I must congratulate all those pupils who time and time again came out to practices and supported us, even when not playing in matches themselves.

Special thanks must go to Mrs. Pollard for arranging fixtures etc., Miss Smith and Mrs. Hesp for their presence and support. Thanks to the parents who cheered in the cold, bad weather and those who ensured that players got to the matches without fail.

Special thanks should go to the squad for all their hard work and great efforts in defence, attack and shooting respectively.

Team players: Philippa Whittle, Nicola Miller, Nadia Hanley, Alison Soper, Karen Law, Caron Abramson, Claire Reichl.

Nadia Hanley (3L)



U14A Netball Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

U14B NETBALL

Played 7, Won 4, Lost 2, Drew 1

v Marple Hall School	(A)	Won 14- 2
v St. Bede's College	(A)	Lost 4- 7
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Lost 5-11
v St. Mary's College	(H)	Won 7- 0
v Kingsway School	(A)	Won 9- 0
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Won 2- 1
v St. Bede's College	(A)	Draw 7- 7

Our U14's B team started the season off well by beating Marple Hall by 14 goals to 2, an excellent victory in our first game, especially as we had been beaten by them in previous years.

This gave us the determination needed to play better in our other matches. Out of our seven games we only lost two, these were against St. Bede's College (who we managed to draw against on our second meeting) and Stockport Grammar School (we managed to beat them by one goal in our second meeting).

Our two good victories were against St. Mary's College

and Kingsway School where our defence denied their teams any chance of scoring, resulting in a 7-0 and 9-0 win respectively.

Many thanks to the following for playing throughout the season: Amanda Jones, Dalid Daud, Jenny Ellis, Yvonne Schofield, Mandy Wheeler, Louise Borg and Rebecca Kingston.

Jenny Ellis



U14B Netball Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

U13A NETBALL

Played 17, Won 6, Lost 10, Drew 1

v Marple Hall	(A)	Won 9-5
v St. Bede's College	(A)	Won 13-11
v Stockport Grammar	(A)	Lost 8-25
v Knutsford County High	(H)	Lost 3-12
In Stockport Schools Tournament (A)		

v Stockport School	Won 7-4
v Offerton School	Won 9-3
v Stockport Grammar	Lost 5-9

They then went through as runners up of their section playing Stockport Grammar 'B' in the quarter finals winning 6-3. In the semi-finals the girls played Marple Hall in a very good game, but lost by 3 goals to 8. Marple Hall then went on to win the tournament.

v Bramhall School	(A)	Lost 5-18
v Withington Girls	(H)	Won 15-8
v St. Mary's College	(H)	Lost 1-13
v Kingsway School	(A)	Draw 5-5
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Lost 10-1
v St. Bede's College	(A)	Lost 9-0
v St. Mary's College	(A)	Lost 6-4
v Cheadle Hulme High School	(A)	Lost 4-7

The girls started the season off particularly well by beating both Marple Hall and St. Bede's College convincingly. The defence worked hard to keep the shooters out of the circle and our girls followed their shots in.

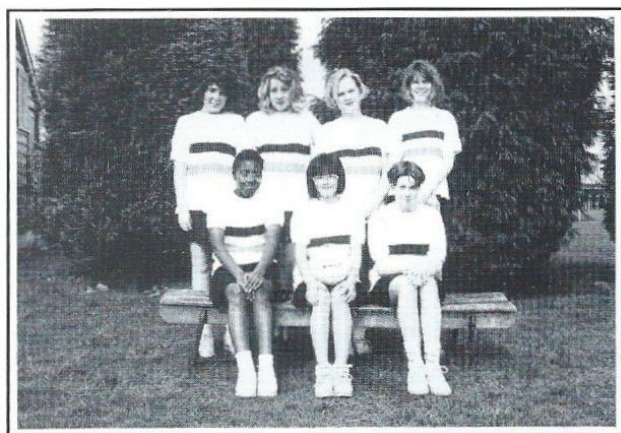
Stockport Grammar School and Knutsford County High School proved to be a formidable opponents and we lacked pace and the will to win on both of these occasions.

The Stockport Schools Tournament did much to boost the girls' morale. They managed to get through to the semi-finals after beating Stockport Grammar School 'B' in the quarters, but were unlucky to meet Marple Hall who beat them 8-3, and became the eventual winners.

We recorded a good win against Withington Girls' School (15-8) but after that the results were not good. There is no doubt that the team is gaining in strength and commitment and I'm sure that next season they will be a team to be reckoned with.

Many thanks to the following girls for playing throughout the season: Ellen Nicholson, Philippa Walters, Christina Barnes, Sophie Stephenson, Caroline Ip, Karen Hawcroft and Claire Babington.

T. Pollard.



U13A Netball Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

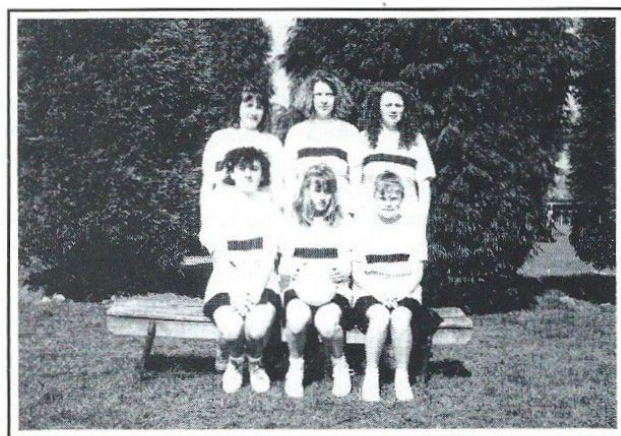
U13B NETBALL

Played 10, Won 1, Lost 7, Drew 2

v Marple Hall School	Lost 2-12
v St. Bede's College	Lost 4-11
v Stockport Grammar School	Lost 5-31
v Knutsford School	Lost 3-9
v Withington Girls School	Draw 3-3
v Kingsway School	Lost 1-5
v Stockport Grammar School	Lost 0-14
v St. Bede's College	Draw 4-4
v St. Mary's School	Won 7-3
v Cheadle Hulme High School	Lost 2-4

We played as last year with great enthusiasm and team spirit. We only managed to win one, which was a great victory for us against St. Mary's (7-3).

One of our most memorable games we played was against Withington Girls School, at home, we drew 3-3. The passes were accurate and the ball was moved very well from defence to attack. The team was amazed by the two goals, where Beth Hayton scored from the edge of the circle. Unfortunately we had to lose Beth Hayton, as she was starting a new school elsewhere.



U13B Netball Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

One unforgettable game we played was against Stockport Grammar where we lost 5-31. Once Stockport got hold of the ball they scored, leaving us far behind at half-time. The score was 1-14. It was very hard for us to catch up to them, but somehow we managed to score four more goals in the second half, while Stockport scored another 17 goals.

Many thanks to Mrs. Pollard and Miss Barlow for supporting us, with the help of many parents, and of course the hard work of all the players this season.

The School U13B Netball team were represented by: Vivienne Priestner, Olivia Dunbar, Helen Ralston, Bernadette McCurrie, Louise Illingworth, Alice Caine, Philippa Matthews and Beth Hayton.

Alice Caine (2A)

U12A NETBALL

Played 10, Won 2, Lost 7, Drew 1

v St Bede's College	(A)	Lost 1-14
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Lost 8-12
v Knutsford High School	(H)	Draw 9-9
v Hulme Grammar School	(H)	Lost 5-10
v Bramhall High School	(A)	Lost 7-16
v Withington Girls School	(H)	Won 8-4
v Offerton High School	(H)	Lost 5-10
v St. Mary's School	(H)	Won 9-8
v Kingsway School	(A)	Lost 5-6
v Cheadle Hulme High School	(A)	Lost 7-15

September saw a rather shaky start of the U12 A's Netball season, playing five matches before their first of only two wins (8-4) against Withington Girls School. It certainly was not due to lack of enthusiasm that these results were not as good as had been hoped for, and after a few changes to the team, namely drafting Hannah James in from the 'B' team, changing Lucy Mattison to W.A. and Sarah Cochrane to C, the makings of a much stronger team emerged.

The match against St Bede's College came as a thundering blow to the team's (and my own) morale. The ball bypassing our passive and then lackadaisical defence. At half time there was a rather stunned silence, a few whispered "they're good, aren't they?" comments came from slack jawed mouths. The highlight of the match was undoubtedly the final whistle.

Things did get better however and even the defeat against Stockport Grammar School was a good one (if there is such a thing!) losing by only four goals. Consistent and accurate shooting by Geraldine Brook and Jane Lawson was the key element in the match against Knutsford County High School, each of our goals was matched with one from their side, the final result being a very fair and well fought for 9 all.

Never at any one time did the girls become dispirited or lack determination in their efforts to win, and success in both matches against Withington Girls School and St. Mary's did much to convince them that winning was a possible outcome for the team.

Many thanks must go to the many parents and relatives who supported the team so positively throughout the season, usually in very cold and wet conditions.

Thanks also to the following girls for all their hard work and effort:

G.K.	Asha de Silva
G.D.	Hannah James
W.D.	Heidi McKinnell
C.	Sarah Cochrane
W.A.	Lucy Mattison
G.A.	Geraldine Brook
G.S.	Jane Lawson

T. Pollard



U12A Netball Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

U12B NETBALL

Played 8, Won 1, Lost 6, Drew 1

v St. Bede's College	(A)	Lost 2-20
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Lost 0-16
v Knutsford County High School	(H)	Lost 2-3
v Hulme Grammar School	(H)	Lost 1-2
v Bramhall County High School	(A)	Won 13-8
v Withington Girls School	(H)	Lost 2-10
v St Mary's School	(H)	Lost 8-14
v Kingsway School	(A)	Draw 4-4

The U12B Netball team have had a very mixed season as their results show. Out of the eight matches played, four were lost most convincingly, mainly due to weak, lethargic passing and poor finishing.

Rebecca Hossain made a big impact when she joined the team and took control of the centre-court play. With her help and a more positive approach by the others, we were very close to winning against Knutsford County High and Hulme Grammar School. Unfortunately the final whistle went too soon on both occasions and we lost each game marginally by one goal.

A good victory ensued when the girls played Bramhall County High School and won convincingly 13-8, the most memorable game of the season.

Many thanks go to all of the girls in the team, and to the many parent supporters who followed us on our travels. The team members: Rebecca Hossain, Vicky Fleming, Frances Edwards, Emma Weedon, Sahara Dixon, Rachel Westbrook, Louise Ives, Jacqueline de Freitas, Kate Williams, Samantha Johnson and Vicky Williams.

T. Pollard



U12B Netball Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)



U14 HOCKEY

Played 12, Won 4, Lost 5, Drew 3

v Marple Hall School	Lost 2-0
v St. Bede's College	Won 2-0
v Stockport Grammar School	Won 1-0
v Manchester High School	Lost 1-0
v Kingsway School	Lost 2-0
v Knutsford High School	Lost 2-0
v Marple Hall School	Won 2-1
v St. Bede's College	Won 2-0
v Hulme Grammar School	Drew 0-0
v Stockport Grammar School	Drew 0-0
v Manchester High School	Drew 1-1
v Cheadle Hulme High School	Lost 1-0

The hockey season started with an unfortunate defeat by Marple Hall although this didn't seem to weaken the willpower of the majority of the team. This was demonstrated in two excellently played games during the following weeks with Mandy Wheeler scoring superb goals on both occasions. That lucky streak was followed by a defeat by Manchester High - one of our main rivals - after an exhausting day at School (the Road Run!). We also lost against Kingsway but as much of the game was played almost in the dark, we were surprised in the end that we could even find the ball.

However, our determination paid off and we had our revenge on Marple Hall beating them 2-1, and then held on to our well earned advantage over St. Bede's. Unfortunately, that was the last of our wins but we held Hulme, Stockport and Manchester High to draws towards the end of the season.

Our last match was against Cheadle Hulme where the opposition looked extremely formidable but turned out to be very friendly. We did concede a goal but it was a close-run defeat considering we had no goalie!

During the season Sally Ward, Philippa Whittle, Yvonne Schofield, Alison Soper and Claire Reichl were selected to play for South Manchester. Philippa, Claire, Alison and Yvonne joined other selected players from North, South and West Manchester for an excellent tournament at Bowdon, played in great spirit and super weather.

The record does not really reflect the standard of the games as a whole in terms of skill, interest and enthusiasm. We were well supported by parents and friends, our determination is still high and we look forward to next season.

Claire Reichl



U14 Hockey Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

U13 HOCKEY

Played 14, Won 7, Lost 4, Drew 3

v Marple Hall	(A)	Draw 0-0
v St. Bede's College	(H)	Won 4-0
v Stockport Grammar School	(H)	Lost 0-2
v Manchester High School	(A)	Won 5-0
v Kingsway School	(A)	Lost 0-2
v St. Mary's College	(A)	Won 6-0
v Knutsford County High	(H)	Lost 0-2
v Marple Hall	(H)	Won 2-1
v St. Bede's College	(A)	Draw 1-1
v Hulme Grammar School	(A)	Lost 0-2
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Won 5-0
v Knutsford County High	(A)	Draw 0-0
v Manchester High School	(H)	Won 1-0
v Cheadle Hulme School	(A)	Won 3-1

A new coach, a new captain, a new season - unbelievably, we didn't change our goalie all year, so it was still Bernie McCurrie, 2C. Since last season we have created great talent with an excellent centre forward in Karen Hawcroft, 2C. Karen showed great enthusiasm throughout the season. Dr. Keable was the new coach and did an excellent job. The new captain was goalie, Bernie McCurrie, vice-captain, Caroline Ip, 2A.

We had a new motto for the season, "Follow in your shots" which was implanted in our brains. Unfortunately, after Christmas, Beth Hayton left, leaving us in a muddle. Fortunately we had back-up with three newcomers, Vinnie Pohoomull and Philippa Walters, both from 2D and Nicola Ravenscroft from 2A.

The first match of the season was against Marple Hall who had become enemies. With a fresh team, we went onto the field with enthusiasm and came off contented. No, we hadn't won, we had drawn 0-0. Next came St. Bede's. We were set and ready. By the end of the first half, it was 3-0. The goals were scored by Nicholson (2C), Hawcroft (2C) and Ip (2A). We were determined to get another three but only managed one, Nicholson scoring again. We won.

Oh no! Stockport Grammar School at home. By half time we were losing 2-0. What happened to our goalie? After that defeat, we beat Manchester High 5-0. We lost 2-0 to Kingsway and then it was down to the Mersey to play St. Mary's, Crosby where we won 6-0, no sweat!

Knutsford away in the rain on an all weather pitch. Fortunately, we didn't lose, we drew nil-nil. Once again, Marple Hall. It was away and we were determined to beat them. Again, we came off the pitch contented with a 2-1 win, with goals scored by Ip and Hawcroft.

We beat them 4-0 last time, we drew 1-1 this time. Yes, it was St. Bede's. Hulme Grammar beat us 6-0 last year with a left inner with a powerful hit. We reduced it to 4-0 this time, though still losing. Stockport Grammar School at Stockport: by half time it was 4-0 but by full time, 5-0. Knutsford, at home, still unbeaten, but in the sun which sadly had no effect with a 0-0 draw. A mid-week match against Loreto resulted in a 2-1 win.

Manchester High, 5-0 last time with great hopes this time but unfortunately it was only 1-0, the goal scored by Hawcroft. The last match of the season against Cheadle Hulme on an excellent pitch - the best we have ever played on - was the best match we played all season with a lot of teamwork and we won 3-1.

Overall we played 15 matches, won 8, lost 3 and drew 4. Many thanks to the following girls who represented W.H.G.S.: Christina Barnes (2A), Caroline Ip (2A), Alice Caine (2A), Nicola Ravenscroft (2A), Debbie Mosley (2B), Vivienne Priestner (2B), Claire Babington (2A), Bernie McCurrie (2C), Karen Hawcroft (2C), Ellen Nicholson (2C), Beth Hayton (2C), Louise Illingworth (2C), Philippa Walters (2D), Vinnie Pohoomull (2D).

Bernie McCurrie (2C).



U13 Hockey Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

U12 HOCKEY

Played 13, Won 1, Lost 3, Draw 9

v St Bede's College	Draw 0-0
v Stockport Grammar School	Draw 0-0
v St. Mary's School	Draw 1-1
v Marple Hall School	Lost 1-3
v St Bede's College	Draw 0-0
v Hulme Grammar School	Draw 0-0
v Stockport Grammar School	Lost 0-5

STOCKPORT SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

v Stockport Grammar School 'A'	Lost 0-2
v Offerton High School	Draw 0-0
v Kingsway School 'B'	Draw 0-0
v Bramhall High School 'A'	Draw 0-0
v Marple Hall School 'B'	Won 1-0
v Werneth School 'A'	Draw 0-0

Our team started well this year by drawing the first three matches we played. The fourth game against Marple Hall was tough, Miss Barlow told us we had to fight to win but unfortunately we lost 1-3. Our one goal was scored by Jane Lawson. Our next match was against St. Bede's College, we were determined to win but time ran out and yet again we drew 0-0. The next two games were in a triangular match with Stockport Grammar School and Hulme Grammar. Our first match against Hulme was yet again a scoreless draw. We knew our match against Stockport would be tough because we were tired. The whistle blew to sound the start and goals poured into Stockport's attacking goal - we lost 5-0 (no comment!).

The Stockport Schools Tournament was at Kingsway School. Our School was drawn to play against Stockport Grammar 'A', Offerton, Kingsway 'B', Bramhall High 'A', Marple Hall 'B' and Werneth 'A'. Our first game was against Stockport and we knew we were in for a thrashing. We were not wrong - we lost 0-2. Mrs. Pollard was not pleased with our performance and told us to play as a team and not as individuals. Our next game was against Offerton, this game was not badly played and we ended up drawing 0-0 (what a surprise!). When we played Kingsway the game flowed more easily and the score, yet again, was 0-0. Game 4 was against Marple Hall and we played our best hockey in this game. The whistle sounded to start the game and the passing went straight down to our goal and there it stayed until we scored. The winning goal was scored by Geraldine Brook. Our last and final game was against Werneth. Although we did not have enough points to win our section and go through to the final we played to the best of our ability and drew 0-0.

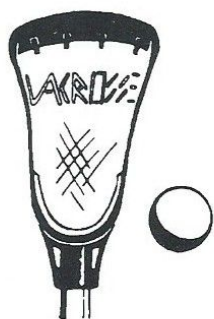
Thank you to everyone who played in the team. The squad consisted of: Geraldine Brook, Katrina McKay, Sarah Cochrane,

Heidi McKinnel, Lucy Mattison, Caroline Shaw, Caroline Alderson, Jane Lawson, Vicky Fleming, Rebecca Hossain, Louise Ives, Frances Edwards, Rachel Nightingale, Rachel Westbrook and Samantha Johnson.

Geraldine Brook (Captain)



U12 Hockey Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)



1 ST X LACROSSE

Played 12, Won 8, Lost 4, Points for 124, Against 67

Under 19 league fixtures:

v Cheadle (H)	Won 17-1
v Timperley (A)	Won 8-5
v Stockport Grammar School (H)	Won 12-4
v Cheadle Hulme School (H)	Won 15-2
(Stockport and Ashton were unable to fulfill their fixtures)	

Lancashire Cup fixtures:

v Timperley 'A' (2nd round) (H)	Won 21-5
v Heaton Mersey Guild (Semi-final) (at Boardman & Eccles L.C.)	Lost 6-9

Timperley Floodlit Competition fixtures:

v Mellor	Lost 6-7
v Ashton	Won 10-3
v Stockport Grammar School	Won 8-6

Other matches:

v Oxford University (A)	Won 12-4
v Cambridge University (A)	Lost 5-12
v Hulmeians (H)	Lost 4-9

The team was usually selected from:

Goal: R.D. Bone

Defence: P.D. Foster, D. Stansfield, R. Walker

Midfield: S.W. Veitch (capt), M.A. Bratt, G.C. Jameson, A.R. Ladd, T. Veitch

Attack: M.B. Rogers (vice-capt), F.J. Baama, J.K. Johnston, N.D. Williams, N.J. Williams

Also played: J.F.M. Sherratt, M.P. Wilson, P. Sum, R.W. Buckley

The changing pattern of junior lacrosse fixtures in recent seasons has worked greatly to the advantage of the School first team, and it appears that forthcoming seasons, assuming no further changes occur, will bring the most satisfactory balance of games for many years. Playing the bulk of Under 19 League (Conference A) fixtures bring an almost guaranteed competitive game each Saturday afternoon, with Lancashire Cup rounds interspersed. The excellent Timperley floodlit competition adds several more top quality fixtures on Sunday evenings, and the half-term tour and the traditional Hulmeians fixture complete a near ideal mix. It is to be hoped that we can continue to expect this combination.

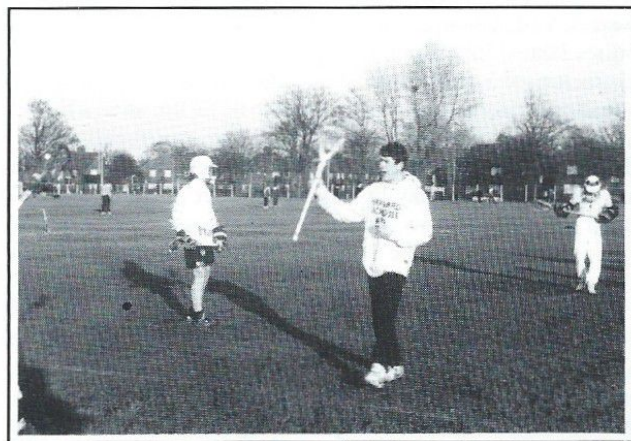
Our playing strength this season was well-balanced, both in talent and experience, and we were fortunate in being able to keep the back four together for almost every game, for it was here that the team's success had its foundation. Bone's goalkeeping was outstanding, often brilliant, and fully worthy of the representative honours it has attracted. It was a difficult decision to select him above Sherratt, who also performed excellently when called upon. The three defence players came from three different years, but gelled from the outset. Walker's man-on-man play was splendid, always fair, yet very tough indeed, and he was rarely bettered by an opposition attack. Stansfield worked very hard at his all-round game, especially in restraining his more vigorous instincts and soon looked the complete defence player, and Foster was simply the best Fifth Year player for a very long time with immense skill and a remarkable temperament for a young player. With a change of structure in the junior game next year Fifth Year boys will be kept as a group in their own "Under 16" squad, but we will have to think long and hard before deciding to keep players of Foster's quality out of 1st team lacrosse for another junior season. There are many great players around who will testify to the boost their game got from three years' first team play, rather than just two.

A similar blend of year groups was found in the attack and midfield areas: dealing with the two together is especially appropriate this year, as Dan Berkerey, in his role as coach, brought great flexibility to the game in this area, and was always prepared to make attack men run and midfields handle, without being governed by stereotypes. The senior players here were S. Veitch, who captained the side with total reliability and poise, James, Johnston and Rogers, all players who had been characterised as individual 'stars' who were not 'suited to team situations'. Stereotypes were shown to be totally unreliable yet again: lack of these players made a huge contribution in his different way, and whilst we often saw their 'star' individual attractions in their play, it was hardly ever at the expense of team play. So we saw Veitch winning faces with awesome power and carrying the ball just the right distance; Rogers driving in fearlessly and excitingly at the left post, but so often with the intention of drawing defenders and laying off; Jameson's incomparable pace just outside the restraining line and his often aerobatic shots, but maturely rationed this season; and Johnston, who at first doubted if he would be selected, blossoming in confidence and sliding both himself and his underarm left-handed shot into the smallest spaces at just the right time. Great support for these senior players came from N.D. Williams, promoted after spectacular scoring feats on a lower team whose game developed splendidly from the simple addition of enforced midfield running. Early injury meant that R.W. Buckley, a great servant of School lacrosse, had sadly limited opportunities.

The 'continuity factor' at the attack end was provided by the naturally ambidextrous N.J. Williams, who shows particular promise in that he never gives or receives the ball when standing still and with a touch more confidence will make great contributions in his final year; by Ladd, whose progress from the Fifth Year had been so remarkable as to make him

unrecognisable even to recent leavers "Who's that great big, really quick middle?" - and who provided massive power at the faces and when running the ball out of defence as well as many touches of real class near goal; and by the amazing Bratt, the 'players' player' in original discussions about team selection, whose pace and energy were phenomenal, especially when combined with his control, both of the ball in his stick and of his checking and pressurising opposition players: to see him collapse onto the bench was not unusual, but in moments he would be right back in the fray, and with his level of commitment our game is in very safe hands. We will see the same sort of game next year from T. Veitch and Sum who looked perfectly at home in the first team midfield and both have great pace and fluent handling skills, as well as a natural flair. Baama had a very full season indeed, playing mostly under great pressure at the left post, but with the determination to keep the ball close and not be pushed away, and he also will look back on this season as one of gaining experience for the coming ones.

As to the fixtures, it was disappointing to lose a great semi-final in the Lancashire Cup when a spell of old-fashioned 'storming' might have changed the result if we had brought it out earlier: the first cup game was expected (by some) to be a close one, but the opposition, almost all WHGS Old Boys, wilted in the pace of the struggle. The league games were excellent: Cheadle were unfortunate in having their main defenders out of action on the day, the School games were decided by a single-irresistible scoring burst in each, and the magnificent Timperley match consisted of protecting a 5-0 lead for the 80% of the game which remained after we had established it! Unfortunately though, for our match practice, Stockport's 'senior' sides made excessive demands on their Under 19 squad on a Friday evening - a sad sense of priorities - and, even worse, Ashton did not respond to our request to rearrange a postponed fixture, forcing us to share the championship with Timperley. The four games were not well supported by the Upper Sixth team members (except for the captain): what a good thing we have such supporters as Wilson who travelled at 24 hours notice. The first round defeat in the excellent Timperley competition was far closer than the score suggests! Yes, it can be closer than 6-7! - and the final of the plate, against a strengthened Stockport Grammar School side, brought a fine performance in a really exciting game and a second trophy for the team.

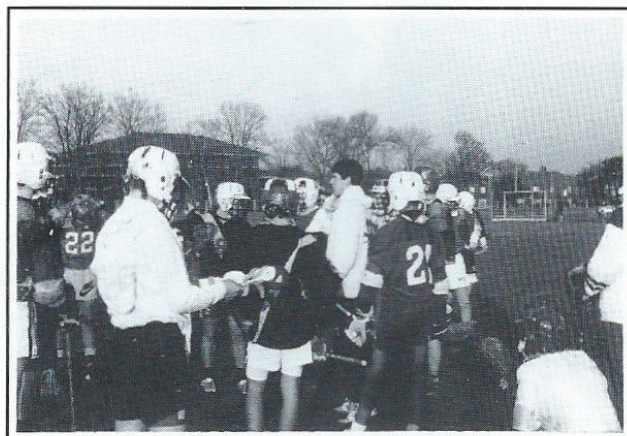


Dan Berkerey, Lacrosse Coach. (Photo: C. P. Langford)

I have enjoyed the unexpected return to team management very much indeed. I have been particularly impressed by the commitment of the first team regulars and particularly delighted by two tributes, one to the team for its appearance - "better than any first division side" - and one to the School for its ground - "this looks ready for an international, not just a league game". I thank all those who have contributed to the side this year, especially the players, Dan Berkerey, Andy Booth, the families who have supported the team, and lastly, and mainly, my immediate predecessor: plenty of tributes have been paid to

Iain Shaw, but it is here, in the School magazine, in a report on the School lacrosse team, that the main one belongs. No-one will run the first team with his blend of skill, knowledge and understanding, and he has created a very special atmosphere: I am proud to be able to follow him.

C.P. Langford



Dan Berkerey sets up a practice session with the First Team squad. (Photo: C. P. Langford)

2ND TEAM LACROSSE

Played, 8 Won, 3 Lost 5, Points for 64, Against 82

v W.H.G.S. 3rds (Cup)	(A)	Won 13-12
v Heaton Mersey	(A)	Lost 3-12
v C.H.S. (Cup)	(H)	Lost 4-10
v W.H.G.S. 3rds	(H)	Won 18-5
v Mellor	(A)	Won 12-4
v Old Wacs	(H)	Lost 1-14
v Timperley	(H)	Lost 9-11
v Old Hulmeians	(H)	Lost 4-14

The Second team went into the season with high expectations, but in the end it was a nearly season having played eight, won three, and lost five.

The team had three main problems which stopped us maximising our obvious lacrosse potential. Firstly the team gave away far too many penalties and in many games we were a man down for the equivalent of a quarter. Secondly, when we had gained possession we were all too happy to give the ball away without creating goal scoring opportunities. This was really our main problem in that we did not have any real tactics so that the ball could end up in the back of the net and attacks usually ended in someone trying to take on six defenders. Finally, our attitudes let us down. The Second team hardly ever played with a full strength side and in one case only had nine men. This meant that the opposition could run us off the park and we only ever won two last quarters.

The criticisms now over there were some good points. Sherratt played well in goals and when he was not available, Hollingworth and West made able substitutes. The defence always tried their best in some trying conditions and by the end of the season the five-man zone was working well. The midfield was a mixture of youth and power. Chris Bury was never afraid to take his man on and in fact he was our leading goal scorer with 16. Rick Mattison was also another powerhouse as was Darren Lambert who was one of the main face-off men. Mark Dignan was another face-off man and he always gave one hundred percent. The other three Fifth Formers, Pete Sum, Eddie Buckley and Tom Veitch all have speed, skill and wise heads and should be regular first teamers next-year, as should Chris. The attack usually consisted of various combinations from Rob

Buckley, Nick Williams, Omar Asgher, Dom West and Nick Holder. All contributed a lot and grafted hard to create openings.

Finally my thanks go to Mr. Loveland who ran the team quietly and efficiently from the sidelines whatever the weather or the circumstances.

Andrew Doney (U6S7)

U15 LACROSSE

Played 11, Won 8, Lost 3, For 113, Against 62

v Cheadle Hulme School	(H)	Won 10-1
v Mellor	(A)	Won 6-5
v Stockport U16's	(H)	Lost 5-20
v Sale (Juniors & Schools Cup)	(H)	Won 17-0
v Cheadle Hulme	(H)	Won 11-4
v Wilmslow	(A)	Won 17-2
v Beckenham	(H)	Lost 7-9
v Cheadle Hulme School	(A)	Won 15-1
v Mellor	(A)	Won 9-1
v Timperley	(A)	Won 11-7
v Stockport Grammar School (Juniors & Schools Final)		Lost 5-12

The season started in November with the clear aim to win back the Juniors and Schools Cup - four wins followed by 3 defeats in the final in the last 8 years! The early season games against Urmston U16's, Cheadle Hulme School and Mellor U15's were successful and indicated we had a potentially strong attack in Phillips, Jones and Howells. Simkin and Willett improved considerably in defence and Kniveton proved an excellent goalkeeper. However, games against Stockport U16's, Stockport Grammar School and Cheadle revealed real weaknesses in midfield that were never really overcome. Though a mixed U14's/U15's operated before Christmas numerous players such as Simkin, Watkins, Willett, Kniveton, Phillips and Brown gained valuable experience. Sadly other players refused to attend practices to improve the basic skills and this cost dear at the end of the day. Nonetheless the players that played before Christmas always tried hard and impressed with their enthusiasm.

Saturday, January 12th saw the defeat of Cheadle Hulme School (10-1) with Ben Howells scoring 9 goals - a fine performance but team work needed to improve particularly in the attack. The game at muddy Mellor demanded determination and spirit and resulted in an encouraging 6-5 victory. The turning point in the season may have been a resounding 20-5 defeat by a powerful Stockport U16's side. The defence and midfield were overwhelmed and teamwork was weak. However, rather than despair the squad showed a renewed determination and with great help from Dan Berkerey's coaching improved rapidly. The first cup game against Sale resulted in a 17-0 victory with encouraging use of planned moves in the first half. Victories against Cheadle Hulme and Wilmslow were followed by a disappointing defeat by Beckenham. Further victories over Cheadle Hulme School in the cup and Mellor showed the squad were improving their team play and the attack were willing to hold up the ball. The weekend of March 16th & 17th was the pinnacle of the season with games against Timperley on the Saturday and the Juniors & Schools Cup Final against Stockport Grammar School on Sunday. The fifteen man squad played well against Timperley winning the game 11-7. The highlight being two man up moves that led to goals for Jones and Howells and a couple of team goals finished by Sellers. The Cup final was played at Stockport Club before the Junior Flags Final. The two Andy's - Watkins and Willett were unlucky to be left out of the 13 man squad. Stockport Grammar have a strong team who have played and toured together throughout the last two seasons. Howells and Jones quickly put us into a 2-0 lead and our 10 man ride seemed to be working well. However, we may have eased up a little because the next

quarter lost us the game. Unusually for a school side we failed to win any ground ball even though Ian Sherwin was winning many of the face offs. Faulty technique - failing to bend right down with both hands on the stick - cost School possession and Stockport Grammar scored 5 goals even though our defence held them out for long periods with John Hall making some excellent saves.

The second half was something of a comeback. Jones scored an excellent goal and then Sellers put us within two goals only for the referee to say the ball had not crossed the line. Video evidence suggests the ball hit the back of the goal! Unfortunately that is the second time we have had a goal disallowed in the last three finals. Following this setback, inexperience showed and Stockport Grammar School ended worthy winners.

In reflection we had an enjoyable season but rarely fielded the same squad. This was partly to give others experience but also forced by injury, unavailability and Sherwin and Bell only joining the squad in February. Ian Sherwin has only played six games of lacrosse and yet matched a very experienced Stockport Grammar School centre in the final. The defence of Hall, Ormerod, Simkin and Owen improved throughout the season and played very well as a team. Ben Howells should have an excellent future though he still has to improve his all round vision and team play. Ian Sherwin proved a powerful asset and will continue to improve as he is a fine athlete. Sellers, Bell, Musgrove, Shelmerdine all improved the more games they played but that is their problem - lack of hard experience. Bradley Jones has the ability to control the attack and score goals at will. Though he must become more mobile - passing, shooting and catching on the move - he can have a great future as long as he continues to work hard. Joe Sayyid and James Phillips have bags of ability but must have the confidence to take people on and improve their two handed play.

The season ended on a high point with 11 players being selected for a successful Lancashire team. Following weeks of training the South were defeated 11-2 and then 10 players took part in a superb 9-8 victory over Cheshire. A certain Bradley Jones being named Man of the Match. The squad are therefore some of the best players for their age group in the country as Dan said if they work hard and are prepared to learn there is no reason why they cannot travel around the world as future England players.

Dan Berkerey was a tremendous positive influence giving vast amounts of time and enthusiasm to all the school players and coaches. Many thanks to him and we wish him all the best in the future. Thanks also to a tremendous off field team of parents who constantly encouraged their sons, were great support and even supplied half-time refreshments. I think the cup final loss was a greater blow to them than their sons! Last but by no means least thanks to Simon Marsden and Andy Booth for their constant assistance and guidance.

An U15's 'B' team played throughout the term with enthusiastic 3rd and 4th years. They all enjoyed themselves and improved rapidly through the season. Frequently players come from the group to play on the first team or even later at University or clubs level.

Squad: Mark Sellers, Mark Shelmerdine, Dan Omerod, Bradley Jones, Ben Howells, Joe Sayyid, Matt Musgrove, Nick Owen, Andy Watkins, John Hall, James Phillips, Andy Willett, Craig Simkin, Chris Bell, Lee Brown, Ian Goodwin, Alex Kniveton.

H.N. Veevers.

U14 LACROSSE

Played 8, Won 7, Lost 1, For 76, Against 35

v Timperley U15	(H)	Won 18-0
v Cheadle U15 (Juniors & Schools Cup)	(H)	Lost 11-0
v Wilmslow	(H)	Won 8-5

v Stockport Grammar School U14	(A)	Won 15-2
v Mellor U15	(H)	Won 6-5
v Stockport Grammar School U14	(H)	Won 11-1
v Cheadle Hulme School	(H)	Won 7-6
v Wilmslow	(A)	Won 11-5

The results reflect a successful season in which the only match lost was against Cheadle U15, in the Juniors & Schools Cup. The School lost 11-0 and, as the score suggests, were overwhelmed by a much stronger clubside who were more experienced. As usual, at this level, the difficulty of playing a club side, where the boys are a year older, went against us as Cheadle had some particularly large boys who played very physically. However, I suspect if we had played Cheadle later in the season, the score would have been more even.

Mellor provided a very exciting match. School had not played for three weeks, due to bad weather, and were missing Crawshaw, Gleave and Stansfield, three of our stronger players. The first quarter was evenly matched but by the end of the third, School were winning 6-3. However, Mellor scored two quick goals which brought them back into the match and put School under tremendous pressure. With 30 seconds to go, Mellor called a time out, but School held them to a one goal lead.

Cheadle Hulme School also provided an exciting game. School were 5-2 down at one stage but, after putting Cheadle under pressure, took the lead at 6-5. Cheadle scored levelling the score at 6-6, but with 30 seconds to go, School scored the winning goal.

The team, as a whole, improved considerably throughout the season due mainly to the enthusiasm of, and excellent coaching from D. Berkerey, the School's American Coach. Gleave (Capt.) is a tremendous player, and provided most of our strength in the midfield, winning nearly all the faces. Berkeley's athleticism was also a great asset in midfield, but he needs to work hard at his handling skills. They were well supported by Brocklehurst, Rowlands, Parry, and Rao who improved tremendously throughout the season.

Cooke, Sidebottom and Stansfield provided the attack and, although scoring some fine goals, often lacked aggression when faced by older, larger boys. Stansfield showed great skill in attack, and was greatly missed when he was out due to injury. Xydeas joined the team and played extremely well in midfield, with the aggression often lacked by other team members, and became a regular team member himself.

Reading proved his natural ability as a goalkeeper, saving some difficult shots. Crawshaw, Warnes, and White provided the defence which improved steadily throughout the season.

The season was a most enjoyable one, due mainly to the enthusiasm of the players and of Dan, the American Coach. I would like to thank all the players, and particularly Gleave who captained the team, Dan for all his help, and all the parents who provided support and help with transport, and particularly Dr. Warnes and Mr. Stansfield for their assistance with the coaching.

The following players represented the School: C. Gleave (Capt.), A. Aslam, T.M. Berkeley, J.A. Brocklehurst, I.J. Cooke, J.E. Crawshaw, W.M. Parry, A.S. Rao, N.J. Reading, D.J. Rowlands, P. Sidebottom, D.P. Stansfield, M.T. Warnes, J.K. White, M. Whiteley, S. Xydeas.

T.J. Pattison.

U13 LACROSSE

Played 9, Won 5, Lost 4, For 67, Against 45

v Timperley (Centurions Trophy)	(A)	Lost 4-6
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Won 14-5
v Poynton	(H)	Lost 4-6
v Cheadle Hulme School	(A)	Won 10-1
v Timperley	(A)	Won 9-5
v Cheadle Hulme	(A)	Lost 3-5
v Mellor	(H)	Lost 4-6

v Mellor	(H)	Won 7-3
v Cheadle Hulme School	(A)	Won 12-8

Scorers: Hope 15, Day 14 (11 assists), Ghazi 12 (3), Elly 11, Johnson 4, Flatman 3 (6), England 2, Khan 2 (1), Robinson 2, Lamb 1 (2), Podmore 1 (1)

The season started with a disappointment: the first match was against Timperley in the Centurion Trophy. Although the School beat Timperley later in the season, the disadvantage of playing our first match against a good team half-way through their season was too much and Timperley went through to the next round 6-4. The rest of the season was also to bring some more narrow defeats (all four defeats were by two goals), some narrow wins and some more comfortable successes. This is an interesting age group for lacrosse. There are no outstanding teams, but there are several teams of a similar standard and hence there were some good competitive matches.

Throughout the season the defence performed consistently well, keeping the opposition down to a meagre five goals per match which should normally bring success. The defence normally consisted of Gerezdi, Birtwistle and England. Gerezdi is a naturally aggressive player but often commits himself too easily. Birtwistle is a solid, tenacious player who must improve his mobility and his handling skills. England was the find of the season. He made an inauspicious start in goals for the 'A' team but improved rapidly when promoted to the first team. I can see him developing into a midfield player next season so it is important that players like Keller and Royds are ready to press for places. Behind the defence, Pearson, in goal, was a model of consistency. It is vital that the defence have confidence in the goalkeeper to save most shots that come from outside the danger zone and this is exactly what Pearson did.

The defence was assisted by a midfield that won the majority of possession and worked hard to retrieve the ball once it was lost. The focal point of the midfield was Day, a very strong player with great determination. Alongside Day was Flatman who, although lacking the physical size of Day, showed similar determination. I would like to see a more positive approach from Flatman when attacking. The rest of the midfield was normally chosen from Ghazi, Johnson, Lamb, Robinson and Taylor. None of these players really had the same command and authority shown by Day and Flatman. If the team is to develop from a promising one into a really good one then it is these players who must work hard to improve.

The regular attack was Elly, Hope and Khan. Elly progressed well during the season, his willingness to use both hands giving him more options than other one-handed players. Hope was leading goalscorer but I would like to see a greater commitment to create goals as well as score them. Khan must improve his mobility if he is to retain his place next season because Ghazi, with seven goals in the final match, demonstrated quite clearly that he is an attack player rather than a midfield player.

Overall, the season was slightly disappointing. I must take some of the blame for this in that I played Ghazi in midfield for most of the season. When selecting the team I could write down about seven players straight away but the remaining six players could have been chosen from about twelve other players of similar ability. For the team to fulfil its potential it is important that these players, who are not automatic choices, develop so that they do establish themselves in the team.

Finally, some thanks are due in a number of directions. Firstly, I would like to thank all the players for making the season an enjoyable one, with particular thanks to Peter Day and Jonathan Flatman for their captaincy.

Thanks also go to the various parents who not only supported the team, but also helped with transport so that not one minibus was needed during the season. Last, but not least, my thanks go to Dan Berkerey, the American coach. It was quite extraordinary how one man could make such a favourable impact in such a short space of time. It was no coincidence that the best performance from the team came in the final match when Dan was coaching. He returns to the States with our thanks and best wishes for the future.

The following boys represented the School: P.H. Day, J.P. Flatman (co-captains), M.J. Birtwistle, G.D. Elly, R. England, C. Gerezdi, N.B. Ghazi, C.J. Hope, S.R. Johnson, K.J. Keller, K.N. Khan, R.C. Lamb, D. Lowry, J.H. Pearson, C.N.J. Podmore, D.B. Ramsay, J.M.E. Robinson, M.T. Royds and D.I. Taylor.

A. Simkin

U13A LACROSSE

Played 7, Won 2, Drew 1, Lost 4, For 33, Against 67

v Cheadle Hulme School	(H)	Lost 1 -17
(Centurions Trophy)		
v Mellor	(H)	Drew 5 - 5
v Waconians	(A)	Won 6 - 3
v Stockport Grammar School	(A)	Lost 1 -15
v Stockport Grammar School 'A'	(H)	Won 10- 1
v Cheadle	(A)	Lost 9-11
v Mellor	(H)	Lost 1-15

The School also produced an Under 13's 'A' team on most Saturdays. Many of the players involved were playing their first competitive matches and, although some opposition teams proved too strong, the team developed well through the season. A number of players forced their way into the first team and several others will be pushing for first team places next season. My thanks go to Sujoy Jaiswal and John Sochovsky, who shared the captaincy, and also to Andy Booth and Simon Marsden of the Hulmeians who gave up their Saturday mornings to run the team.

The following boys represented the School along with many from the Under 13's list: S. Jaiswal, J.G. Sochovsky (co-captains), P. Bagnall, M. M-W Cheung, S.A. Hadfield, G.A.B. Hargreave, A.J. Holden, A.F.J. Kelly, A.G. Molajo, A.I. Pierce and K.M.T. Saunders.

A. Simkin.

U12 LACROSSE

Played 5, Won 2, Drew 1, Lost 2, Points for 29, Against 17

v Mellor U12	(H)	Won 8-0
v Heaton Mersey U12	(A)	Won 13-1
v Waconians U13	(A)	Lost 3-6
v Waconians U13	(H)	Lost 2-7
v Waconians U13	(A)	Drew 3-3

As in previous years, coaching and practice sessions were held over the Christmas holiday period, and it was very encouraging to have a large attendance at each session. It was soon apparent that there was a group of six boys who would advance quickly. Three of these had lacrosseplaying brothers in the School, with whom they had practised, and others were natural athletes who could quickly adapt to the skills of lacrosse.

Once the term started, we were very fortunate to have the services of the School's first permanent lacrosse coach, Dan Berkerey, and he helped to coach groups of boys daily. Further lunch-time and Saturday morning practices helped more boys gain the basic skills of picking up the ball, catching and throwing, before the technicalities of match play were introduced.

A practice game against a group of Under 13 players was very valuable in helping mould a group of individuals into a team, and in showing them the essentials of match play. The following week, the first match was against Mellor, who, despite being a young side, had several who had been playing two or three seasons. We had the strength of athletes in

midfield, and Robert Seddon in particular played well in a comfortable 8-0 victory.

Very bad weather - snow and torrential rain - prevented the lunch practices proceeding for most of the next two weeks, and vital time was lost when all needed to improve handling and to practice game skills. The next two matches were cancelled because of flooded pitches, and only one match had been played before half-term.

Our next opposition was Heaton Mersey, a team who were small and skilful but lacking in strength. James Lambert, in goals, had an excellent first half, confidently catching the ball whenever the opposition pressed forward. In the second half, we won most of the faces, thanks to the strength of James Jobling, and pushed forward steadily because of the skilful midfield play of Guy Brocklehurst and Andrew Xydeas. After a half-time score of 1-1, we scored six without reply in each of the final two quarters, mainly because of the positive shooting of James Calderbank.

Ten boys took part in the Under 13 six-a-side tournament at Timperley, and all enjoyed the experience, winning one of their four matches.

We were then due to play the Waconians team on each of the final three Saturdays, and attempts to change some fixtures were unsuccessful. The first match was on a very uneven and heavy pitch, and against a team who were mostly 13 year olds. We seldom managed to pick up the ball easily, and ran with the ball too often, instead of passing. Inexperience, and lack of training in match play, were now becoming evident. This inexperience was even more clearly visible in the return match the following week. The School pitch was again uneven, and the previous week's training was forgotten when the match was dominated by a much stronger team. One player left ill before the match started, and several others were injured during the match - we needed to employ three goalkeepers! The scoreline of 2-7 could have been much worse.

For the final week, seven of our regular players were away on a School trip, and intensive training was given to new recruits. This match was played on an excellent dry, flat and even surface, and the newcomers all fared well. Miles Newton, in his first full game in goals, played confidently. Chris Reading had his best game in defence, and was always ready for the clear, and the attack were willing to pass the ball round.

Our defence looked more solid than in any previous game, and, after several near misses at each end, the final score of 3-3 was about right.

There is a nucleus of a good side here, with three good goalkeepers - confident James Lambert, the enthusiastic James Jobling, and the potential of Miles Newton. The defence needs to be rather more tougher, and must work at marking in a zone instead of chasing players and going out of position. Here, Michael Dodd could be partnered by any two from James Jobling, Chris Reading, Matthew Healey and Chris Longsdon (one of our last match heroes). The skilful midfield players - Robert Seddon, Andrew Xydeas, Guy Brocklehurst, Steven Kellett and Jorden Partington - must be willing to pass the ball more quickly, and also need to gain technique in taking centres. Insufficient goals came in attack, and all need to keep on the move, in order to spread out the opposition defence, and must cut for the hard feed. James Calderbank should be able to score goals, and Miles Newton should be useful as a left-hander, but each must shoot hard and low. With practice, another of those introduced in the final game, Mark Olden, could also become a regular team member.

Regular players were: James Lambert, Chris Reading, Michael Dodd, James Jobling, Guy Brocklehurst, Andrew Xydeas, Robert Seddon, Steven Kellett, James Calderbank, Miles Newton and Jorden Partington.

Also played: Craig Leasor, Nicholas Bell, Andrew Matson, Matthew Healey, Greg Humphreys, Chris Longsdon, Jonathan O'Keefe, Mark Olden and Asif Majid.

M.D. Wood.

HOUSE LACROSSE RESULTS

Senior League

1st X	P	W	D	L	Pts
Byrom	2	2	0	0	4
Fraser	2	2	0	0	4
Gaskell	2	2	0	0	4
Dalton	2	0	0	2	0
Heywood	2	0	0	2	0
Whitworth	2	0	0	2	0

2nd X

	P	W	D	L	Pts
1st Dalton	5	4	1	0	9
2nd Gaskell	5	3	1	1	7
3rd Heywood	5	3	0	2	6
4th Fraser	5	2	1	2	5
5th Byrom	5	1	1	3	3
6th Whitworth	5	0	0	5	0

4th Year League

	P	W	D	L	Pts
1st Gaskell	3	3	0	0	6
2nd Dalton	3	2	0	1	4
Heywood	3	2	0	1	4
4th Byrom	3	1	0	2	2
Whitworth	3	1	0	2	2
6th Fraser	3	0	0	3	0

3rd Year League

Hewlett Cup

1st Dalton	1st Gaskell	36 pts
2nd Heywood	2nd Dalton	27 pts
3rd Fraser	Fraser	27 pts
4th Gaskell	4th Gaskell	16 pts
5th Byrom	5th Byrom	12 pts
6th Whitworth	6th Whitworth	10 pts

Senior Knock-out

Byrom 3	Heywood 4	
v	v	
Heywood 5	Whitworth 6	Whitworth 7
		v
Fraser 3	Gaskell 6	Gaskell 8
v	v	
Dalton 6	Dalton 4	

Winners - Gaskell

Junior Knock-out

Whitworth 1	Gaskell 5	
v	v	
Gaskell 10	Fraser 7	Fraser 7
		v
Heywood 2	Byrom 4	Dalton 9
v	v	
Dalton 6	Dalton 6	

Winners - Dalton

M.D. Wood

DAN BERKEREY: AMERICAN LACROSSE COACH

The 1991 lacrosse season saw a major venture by the School, designed to give breadth and strength to its lacrosse coaching programme. While we have over recent years welcomed the various American coaches employed by the English Lacrosse Union to join us in your games periods, we

have never before had a coach of our own, full time, to help out at all levels of the game. With the co-operation of the ELU we were able to engage such a coach from a wide choice of young Americans eager to gain qualifications in their chosen game, and, of course, to spend an extended spell in Europe as well. There must evidently be a question of risk where it is not possible to meet personally and interview each prospective candidate for the job, but everyone concerned with this year's experiment agreed that we could not possibly have made a better choice: not only did we get a great and totally committed lacrosse player in Dan Berkerey; we also got a splendid new friend and colleague and our own personal U.S. Ambassador.

A Harvard graduate, Dan arrived in England from Boston in January, a few days before the start of term and within hours he was on the School field both leading and helping out with practices - that there were three arranged for that day must have given him some encouragement that he had come to a place where they took it seriously! It was soon obvious that he was just as comfortable with accomplished 18 year olds as he was with 11 year old beginners, and by his easy manner with the boys at all levels, along with his willingness to pick up names very quickly, it was clear from the outset that he was going to do a great deal for us. In the following weeks he spent hours on the field in games lessons, lunchtimes, and after School, as well as taking two games on a Saturday with a practice before them. He did not restrict himself to School teams either: anyone with a lacrosse stick was fair game for help and advice, and more players than ever were attracted to the excitement of this games individual stick handling skills.

Dan coached every area of the game with skill and enthusiasm, but his own position was defence and to see him work with individual defence players with the ball was excellent, and it is surely significant that the first team, with whom he worked so regularly, hardly gave away a penalty between them in the season, yet at the same time forced opposing attack players to play and handle at a pace which was often simply too great and inevitably made them lose the ball. As a coach on the bench too he brought a fluidity to the overall play of the side by a constant replacing of players, not looking always for the 'star' player to use, but simply going on whose turn it was to go on, and this brought extra handling out of the runners and extra running out of the handlers at the same time. He was always totally involved in the game from the bench, which of course led to many a 'discussion' with referees, who still in England find it largely intolerable to be questioned and assume that being referred to as 'Sir' is an impertinence! Many English referees, and organisers in the game too, seem to be simply afraid of an American accent, but to penalise a side because they do not understand the points being (politely!) made to them is indefensible. The next generation, with regular contact with our American friends, will be more enlightened!

The involvement with coaching lacrosse was in fact only half of Dan's contribution to the School. He was an enthusiastic referee at all levels ("Hey guys! Anyone ragging my accent and it's a two minute personal, O.K.?"), he played whenever available for Hulmeians, where he made many friends, and also most Sundays for the U.S. Coaches team, often in London - he needed his Mondays off! - and he was a welcome and prized house guest with the several families of boys from the School, who accommodated him for a few weeks at a time. All in all, he set a superb example of enthusiasm, commitment and general life style to all our lacrosse players, and it came as no surprise when they wished to mark his excellent contribution to School life and lacrosse with a special party in the Sixth Form Common Room which Stephen Veitch, the first team captain, organised at the end of term. This informal gathering was just the right way of marking a most significant point in the history of School lacrosse and of saying thank you to Dan, who returned to the States with many souvenirs of English sporting and social life. It had been a great pleasure to be involved with a remarkable young man.

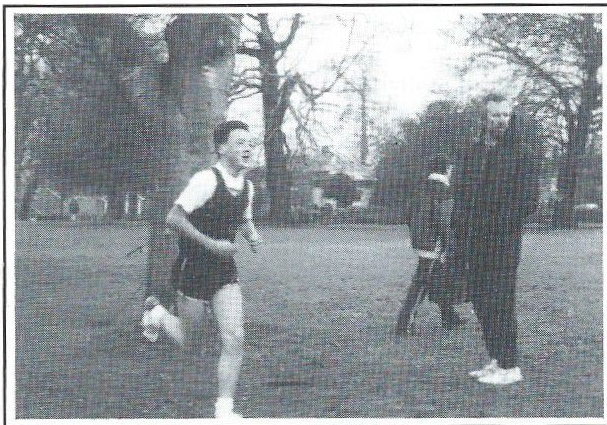
C.P. Langford



THE SCHOOL CROSS-COUNTRY SQUAD

Over the past few years, our cross-country squad has not been able to attend as many fixtures as we would like because of lack of numbers and interest within the School. This year, we had to rely on the Altrincham and Stockport Leagues to provide our races. Our first (and only!) race of the Michaelmas Term was at John Leigh Park in Altrincham, the first of three races of the Altrincham League. We had a grand total of eight runners, including a new addition to the Third Year team, Mark Craig, who showed a lot of promise for future races. Our Fourth Years continued to improve in a race involving Fifth Years and Seniors, with Chris Dixon once again giving Anthony Sheldon a run for his money. In the same race, the two Seniors stormed home to achieve personal bests: Roger Mody finished fourth after once again leading the field at the start, and Ian Ellis seventh. Ian was pleased that he managed to finish the course without experiencing the same problems that he had last season on this track. The rest of the term was a write-off as we could not scrape together a reasonable team.

After Christmas we adopted a new aggressive policy of recruiting potential First Year runners, and so managed to get eleven runners in the First Year team. Typically, only two of these, Kiff and Leinhardt, were able to turn up for the first fixture, but they still made quite an encouraging start to their cross-country careers at John Leigh Park. As usual, at this particular fixture, Roger Mody led the field, and as usual, he lost it after one lap, but still finished second. Ian Ellis also ran his best race of the year (although not on his favourite course!) and came home third. Until after this race, the Fourth Years had been consistent, with the finishing distances between Chris and Anthony slowly decreasing. In this particular race, Anthony finished sixth, with Chris very close behind him in eighth place.



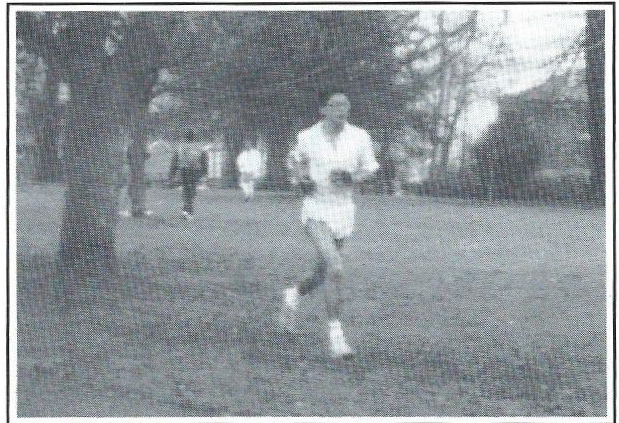
Chris Dixon in a world of his own at Altrincham.
(Photo: C. MacLachlan)

Our next fixture was at the dreaded Cheadle Hulme course for the Stockport League. The course itself is no problem, but for the past few years, we have experienced every type of cold weather possible, and this year was no different. Poor Sam Burney of the Second Year learnt the hard way that it is advisable to wear gloves in cold conditions: a fact the Seniors

know all too well! The three new First Year boys, Choularton, Xidacis and Elmasri, together with Leinhardt put in creditable performances - especially Elmasri, who passed the finishing line with his shoes in his hand instead of on his feet. The highlights of the fixture were the upsets in the Fourth Years and the Seniors: Chris finishing ahead of Anthony, and Ian coming in before Roger (just like old times!), who miraculously escaped frostbite!

For the third and last time this year, we came up against John Leigh Park. Unfortunately, we have no proper records of this fixture, apart from the fact that Roger regained his lost pride by finishing ahead of Ian - but not by any great distance.

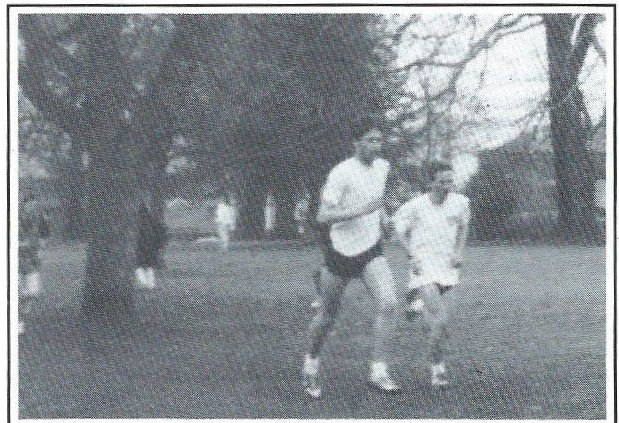
The final race of the season was the Stockport League and was held at Marple Hall School. Again, the team of First Years made a respectable showing in their race, although we have no record of placings. In the Fourth Years, Chris once more finished ahead of Anthony, this time by two places - we look forward to them battling it out again next term. Ian Ellis, on his training ground, enjoyed an excellent run, and thundered to the finish line in very muddy conditions well ahead of his counterpart, Roger Mody, who managed to slip and fall over at the start - not that it would have made much difference to Ian anyway.



"The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner". Roger Moody at the John Leigh Park. (Photo: C. MacLachlan)

Everyone in the squad trained well each week, and next year we hope to have more fixtures - including a one-to-one fixture with M.G.S. If we have enough runners, we may also enter the Northern Schools Championships at Lyme Park. Many thanks to Mr. C. MacLachlan, our trainer, photographer, chauffeur, and encourager.

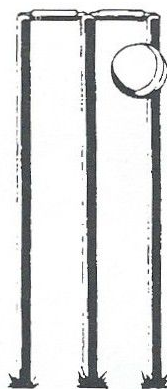
Roger Mody (L6L)



Ian Ellis (in white) fends off a challenge at Altrincham.
(Photo: C. MacLachlan)



The 1990-91 Cross-Country Squad plus Trainer.



SCHOOL CRICKET 1991

More than usually the cricket term fell into two clearly defined and contrasted halves. Before mid-term all 34 of the games arranged for the various teams were played and without a moment's interruption for rain. After the break a total of 23 matches were cancelled or abandoned. The poor weather taxed the enthusiasm of players and masters alike but, in the end it was felt that it had been quite a good term's cricket with several highlights, as will be seen from the individual team comments which follow.

It is easy to imagine that cricket matches take place as if by magic and it is as well to try to dispel such a notion. So many people play their part, some seen and some unseen, and all deserve thanks for their contribution. During the Lent Term all teams derived great benefit from the expert coaching of Mr. Roy Collins and of the masters in charge of their teams. This year Mr. Hewston was responsible for the First XI and once again Mr. Simkin had the administratively difficult but by no means the least interesting task of running the Second XI. Mr. Hargreaves took over the Under 15 and Mr. Bull yet again ran the Under 14 team. Under 13 cricket was shared by Mr. Seddon and Mr. Mallinder while Mr. Langford made the First Formers into a force to be reckoned with. To be in charge of a cricket team demands an immense amount of time and commitment and, of course, without the willingness of such people there would be no School cricket. But that is not all. Mrs. McQueen and the other Office ladies do a great deal of work arranging transport and typing and duplicating fixture cards, Mr. Gregson and his Staff in the kitchen are always helpful and efficient and, year after year and quite unobtrusively, Mrs. Mattison organises

the parents' Saturday tea rota. The coach drivers have arrived on time every time this term, Mr. Blight and Dr. Barnes have been happy to help out with umpiring duties and Mr. G.H. Jones accompanied Mr. Hewston to the Pocklington Cricket Festival at short notice. To all of them very grateful thanks!

Finally a word about grounds and wickets. It is often assumed that preparing a wicket involves a quick mow and a few trips up and down with a roller and sadly this is sometimes the case in schools. We are extremely fortunate to have three excellently prepared squares. Several of the schools we meet now have artificial wickets, mainly because they do not have the expertise to create and maintain good grass ones. Other schools look forward to coming here and it is generally agreed that our wickets have been the best of all that we have played on. This is not an accident but the result of great professional skill on the part of Head Groundsman, Mr. John Taylor and his Staff who can be proud of their efforts in this difficult term. Cricket is a team game and so is everything that goes into the staging of it. May it continue to be so and may cricketers continue to develop their talents and find enjoyment in playing to the best of their ability.

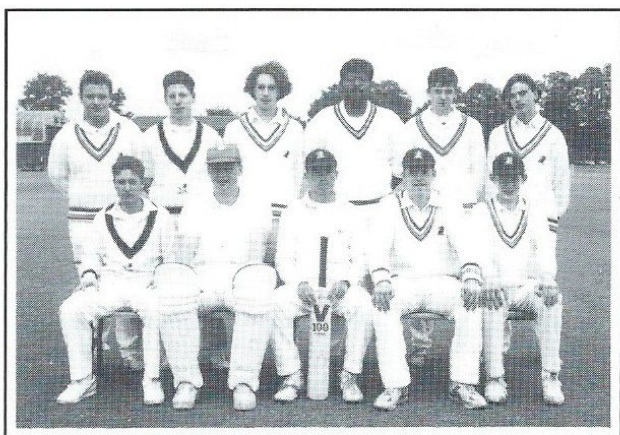
H.W. Timm.

1ST XI CRICKET

Played 17, Won 3, Lost 2, Drew 10, Abandoned 2

- v Bolton School
Bolton School 195-7 dec (Hollingworth 3-48)
W.H.G.S. 170-6 (Wood 62)
Match Drawn
- v Arnold School
W.H.G.S. 261-4 dec (Hollingworth 96, Wood 84)
Arnold School 164-8 (Ladd 4-33)
Match Drawn
- v Bury Grammar School
Bury 240-6 dec (Tilston 3-69)
W.H.G.S. 151-5 (Tilston 54, Brassell 47)
Match Drawn
- v King's School, Macclesfield
W.H.G.S. 87 all out
King's School 88-1
Lost by 9 wickets
- v Q.E.G.S., Wakefield
Q.E.G.S. 240-3 dec
W.H.G.S. 168-3 (Wood 76, Hollingworth 42)
Match Drawn
- King Edward VII, Lytham
W.H.G.S. 250-5 dec (Wood 71, Warren 44)
King Edward VII 168 all out (Slack 3-50, Brassell 3-18)
Won by 82 runs
- v St. Bede's College
St. Bede's 192-7 dec (Brassell 5-65)
W.H.G.S. 111-8
Match Drawn
- v Stockport Grammar School
W.H.G.S. 118-2 (Brassell 51, Wood 41)
Match Abandoned
- v Manchester Grammar School
W.H.G.S. 175-7 dec (Wood 67)
M.G.S. 128-7 (Warren 4-30)
Match Drawn

- v Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby
Merchant Taylor's 186-4 dec
W.H.G.S. 187-3 (Brassell 103)
Won by 7 wickets
- v Masters XI
W.H.G.S. 7-0
Match Abandoned
- v XL Club (40 over match)
W.H.G.S. 239-6 (Wood 112, Warren 45)
XL Club 172-7 (Brassell 3-22)
Won by 67 runs
- v Old Hulmeians
Old Hulmeians 250-0 dec
W.H.G.S. 165-8 (Ekstein 56)
Match Drawn
- v Wellingborough School
W.H.G.S. 234-8 dec (Wood 101)
Wellingborough 186-4
Match Drawn
- v Magdalen College School, Oxford
Magdalen 181 all out (Bell 4-45)
W.H.G.S. 128-8
Match Drawn
- v Chigwell School
W.H.G.S. 186 all out (Hollingworth 73, Warren 59)
Chigwell 189-4 (Ladd 3-56)
Lost by 6 wickets
- v Pocklington School
W.H.G.S. 205-5 dec (Hollingworth 79, Brassell 62)
Pocklington 134-8 (Hollingworth 3-30)
Match Drawn



1st XI Cricket Team. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

The 1st XI Cricket season was both frustrating and satisfying in equal measures. The team were constantly frustrated by a lack of penetrative bowling, defensive declarations by the opposition and appalling weather during the second half term. However, the School can be pleased with the consistent performances of many batsmen, the 1st XI's positive attitude towards the game and the contributions of many of the younger members of the squad.

It was apparent from the start of the season that we were going to have trouble winning games unless we were chasing a target, and after being asked to score at more than six runs per

over at Bury Grammar School, I became resigned to the fact that many of our games would be drawn. One notable exception was our game against King Edward's, Lytham, when the team played better than at any other time in the season and thoroughly deserved their 82 run victory.

Several players can be very pleased with their performances during the season. Andrew Hollingworth led the team with vigour and contributed to many of the most exciting moments of the season. His 96 against Arnold School and two superb innings during the Pocklington Festival illustrated his considerable ability and he will score many runs in years to come. Iain Brassell also contributed consistently and never gave less than his all. His undefeated century against Merchant Taylor's Crosby won the game, and he also bowled as well as any other member of the team. I feel that the School also has the best cricketer I saw this summer in Nathan Wood. Nathan very rarely failed to give the team a solid foundation to their innings this season and could perform at the very highest levels in years to come. Other useful performers included Perry Warren, Lee Tilston, Andrew Doney, Max Ekstein, Andrew Ladd and Fred Baama.

The Pocklington Cricket Festival was a moderate success this year, the team drawing three games and losing one. It was particularly pleasing to witness the approach of both captain and players, and I feel that W.H.G.S. played the most attractive and positive cricket on display during the week.

It only remains for me to thank Mr. H.W. Timm for his patience and assistance throughout the season, and Mr. G.H. Jones for his help at Pocklington. I trust that next season will prove to be just as enjoyable as this, and perhaps a little more successful.

The 1st XI was selected from:

A. Hollingworth (capt), L. Tilston (vice-capt), T. Allen, F. Baama, C. Bell,
R. Bone, I. Brassell, N. Burton, I. Cooke, A. Doney, M. Ekstein, R. Goodall,
J. Hall, A. Khan, A. Ladd, A. Mehta, M. Rhodes, J. Sayyid, H. Slack, P. Warren
and N. Wood.

AVERAGES

BATTING (QUALIFICATION 100 RUNS)

	INNS	N.O.	RUNS	H.S.	AV.
N. Wood	12	3	672	112*	74.7
A. Hollingworth	13	2	440	96	40.0
I. Brassell	11	2	359	103	39.9
M. Ekstein	9	3	160	56	26.7
L. Tilston	11	1	204	54	20.4
F. Baama	8	1	137	27	19.6
A. Doney	10	3	128	37	18.3
P. Warren	14	-	237	59	16.9

BOWLING (QUALIFICATION 5 WICKETS)

	O	M	R	W	AV.
I. Brassell	52	11	199	14	14.21
P. Warren	53	8	184	9	20.44
C. Bell	31.4	5	141	6	23.5
A. Hollingworth	109.2	16	429	18	23.8
A. Ladd	125.1	30	398	15	26.5
L. Tilston	75.1	18	253	8	31.63

P. R. Hewston

2ND XI CRICKET

Played 11, Won 1, Drawn 5, Lost 5

- v Bolton School (A) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 131-5 (Bone 34, A.Khan 31 n.o.)
Bolton 180-6
- v Arnold School (H) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 171-5 (Mehta 93 n.o.)
Arnold 141-8 (Slack 3-28)
- v Bury Grammar School (H) Lost by 45 runs
Bury 89 (Slack 4-28)
W.H.G.S. 44
- v Kings, Macclesfield (H) Match Drawn
Macclesfield 205-8 (Ranawickrema 3-19)
W.H.G.S. 112-7 (Daniel 34)
- v Q.E.G.S., Wakefield (A) Lost by 4 wickets
Wakefield 94-6 (Slack 4-24)
W.H.G.S. 92 (Slack 35)
- v King Edward School, VII, Lytham (H) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 159-7 (Baama 45)
Lytham 108-2
- v St. Bede's college (H) Lost by 5 wickets
W.H.G.S. 208-5 (Bone 129)
St. Bede's 209-5
- v Stockport Grammar School (A) Lost by 6 wickets
Stockport 114-4 (Hira 3-8)
W.H.G.S. 109
- v Manchester Grammar School (A) Lost by 10 wickets
M.G.S. 40-0
W.H.G.S. 38
- v Merchant Taylors, Crosby (H) Won by 5 wickets
W.H.G.S. 95-5 (Baama 36, Goodall 35)
Crosby 93 (Williams 5-17, Rhodes 3.27)
- v Bradford Grammar School (A) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 114-7 (Burton 34 n.o.)
Bradford 159 (Baama 4-54, Rhodes 3-36)

The 1991 season started with high hopes: a strong senior squad containing about fifteen players of 1st XI potential promised a stronger than average 2nd XI. The first two matches reinforced this optimism with good draws against Bolton and Arnold. In both matches the School controlled this by batting first, setting challenging targets, but not being able to bowl out the opposition on good wickets. The highlight in these two matches was a powerful innings of 93 not out by Mehta who would undoubtedly have scored a century had the interests of the team rather than the individual not necessitated the declaration.

The third match brought the team down to earth, when, having bowled Bury out for 89, the School were dismissed for just 44 runs. A damp wicket was not easy to score on but there was a lack of application which was to feature in later matches. A draw against Macclesfield was followed by a defeat at Wakefield, where again the batting was fragile. A draw against Lytham was then followed by a remarkable defeat the hands of St. Bede's. A captain's innings of 129 by Bone, in which he attacked the bowling mercilessly and was rewarded by more than one stroke of good fortune, enabled a declaration of 208 for 5. From such a seemingly impregnable position the School managed to lose off the last ball of the match. Our bowling was indifferent and our fielding a disgrace.

After half-term, examination pressures drastically weakened the team. 109 runs was never going to be enough to test Stockport and they were comfortable winners despite a triple wicket maiden by Hira. This match was completed in steady rainfall and a very set June caused the cancellation of other

matches and, probably, saved the School from further losses. One match that did escape the weather, unfortunately, was the embarrassing 10 wicket defeat before tea at Manchester Grammar School. The M.G.S. bowling was quite good but so was the wicket and it was very disappointing to see such a spineless effort against the old enemy.

Examinations over the team was almost back to full strength for the Merchant Taylors game. Good bowling, including 5 wickets for Williams, combined with good fielding restricted Crosby to 93 and, despite a few alarms, the winning runs came quite quickly.

It was unfortunate that the final match was played on an atrocious wicket at Bradford Grammar School. The home side, knowing the wicket well, played in cavalier fashion amassing 159 runs. When the School batted, a good start by Baama and Bone was followed by the regular fall of wickets and it was left to Burton, with perhaps the best innings of the season, to steer the side to safety.

Overall, a season that started and finished well deteriorated in the middle. This was due to many players being unavailable during the examination period. In fact, twenty nine players were used during the season and the team that lost at Stockport Grammar School contained no players from the opening match of the season! I would like to thank all the players for their efforts during the season. Thanks also go to John Taylor, the groundsman, who managed to produce excellent wickets in a difficult season and Mr. Gregson and his ladies for the teas.

A. Simkin

U15 CRICKET

Played 9, Lost 1, Drawn 7, Abandoned 1

- v Bolton School (H) Lost by 7 wickets
W.H.G.S. 84 all out (Wood 25)
Bolton 85 for 3
- v Arnold School (A) Match Drawn
Arnold 161 for 1
W.H.G.S. 62 for 7
- v King's School, Macclesfield (A) Match Drawn
Kings 128 for 9 (Bell 3 for 56, Misra 3 for 53)
W.H.G.S. 63 for 9
- v Q.E.G.S. Wakefield (H) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 163 for 9 (Taylor 43, Bell 27)
Q.E.G.S. 154 for 9 (Taylor 3 for 39, Haroutunian 3 for 28)
- v King Edward VII, Lytham (A) Match Drawn
King Edward 148 for 5
W.H.G.S. 128 for 7 (Kniveton 44, Donnai 37, Sayyid 30)
- v St. Bede's (A) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 199 for 2 (Taylor 83, Sayyid 67 not out)
St. Bede's 95 for 8 (Allen 7 for 47)
- v Stockport (H) Match abandoned
Stockport 110 all out (Bell 3 for 28, Allen 3 for 32)
- v Manchester Grammar School (A) Match Drawn
M.G.S. 145 for 7
W.H.G.S. 92 for 2 (Misra 43 not out, Sayyid 29 not out)
- v Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby (A) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 134 all out (Donnai 27, Allen 23)
Merchant Taylor's 128 for 5 (Bell 3 for 35)

Our season started on an overcast Wednesday afternoon with a home match against Bolton School. Unfortunately this was not Bolton's first match and their match practice soon

showed. The School was invited to bat first and struggled to 84 all out, with only Wood and Sayyid reaching double figures. After tea Bolton lost only three wickets reaching their target.

The second match saw us travelling to sunny Blackpool to play against Arnold School. On a very hard wicket, Arnold batted first amassing the daunting score of 161 for 1. This total was always out of reach of our batsmen as we were facing accurate bowling. Our score of 62 for 7 was only made respectable by Misra's 33 not out, scored in his usual agricultural fashion.

The following week the Manchester football teams caused us to take a weakened side to Macclesfield. Macclesfield decided to bat first and scored 126 for 9 with Chris Bell and Ketan Misra bowling long unbroken spells of 19 and 14 overs respectively.

When the School batted, Chris Bell was again the star, holding up one end and Nick Goddard blocked the last two balls to claim the draw, with the School at 63 for 9.

Against Q.E.G.S. Wakefield, we batted first and scored a creditable 163 for 9 with Damian Taylor scoring 43 (his first runs of the season), and Sayyid, promoted to opener, scoring 22.

With Taylor and the under-used Haroutunian each taking three wickets Q.E.G.S. were held to 154 for 9, resulting in a draw, but at least an exciting one.

At King Edward VII School, Lytham, with Mr. Timm at the helm, the boys managed another draw. After putting the opposition in to bat and holding them to 148 for 5, we managed to score 128 for 7, Kniveton batting at number one top scoring with 47.

The following week at St. Bede's only three players took any significant part in the match. Mitchell was out for a duck, Taylor was out last ball for 83 and Sayyid scored 67 not out. The total of 199 for 2 included an amazing 42 extras. If Allen could have bowled from both ends, we would have won, however, his 7 for 47 was in vain as St. Bede's held out for a draw at 95 for 8.

Our next full match was a whole month later when we travelled to Manchester Grammar School. M.G.S. scored a lucky 145 for 7, aided by some inept fielding and plenty of dropped catches. The School never looked like reaching this target and we finished on 92 for 2, Ketan Misra unbeaten on 43.

The last match took us to Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby, where we were lucky to survive with a draw. We scored 134 all out and Merchant Taylor's replied with 128 for 5.

This was not as bad a season as the results suggest. There is a lot of talent in the side and I would like to wish all the boys well in the future.

Highest Score:	83 D. Taylor
Most Ducks:	3 D. Taylor
Best Bowling:	7 for 47 T. Allen
Most Wickets:	14 C. Bell
Most Runs:	173 J. Sayyid

The following boys represented the School: G.J. Mitchell, T.W. Donnai, A.C. Kniveton, B.L. Wood, D.A. Taylor, M.A. Shelmerdine, K. Misra, Y. Sayyid, C. Bell, R. Haroutunian, J.N. Goodall, M. Sellers, A.P. Fry, N. Goddard, M.J. Musgrove, T.P. Allen, A.M. Watkins, S.D. Bates, B.R. Howells.

M. Hargreaves

U14 CRICKET

Played 12, Won 1, Lost 6, Drawn 5

- v Bolton School (A) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 136 for 7 declared (Woolrych 21, Warnes 21)
Bolton 105 for 4 (Warnes 2 for 24)

- v Arnold School (H) Match Drawn
Arnold 150 (Sidebottom 5 for 26, Bhakta 3 for 36)
W.H.G.S. 144 for 7 (Woolrych 37, Sidebottom 35 not out)
- v North Manchester High School (A) Won by 8 wickets
1st Round Harold Bailey Trophy (30 overs match)
W.H.G.S. 66 for 2 (16.4 overs)
North Manchester 65 (20 overs) Cooke 5 for 20)
- v King's School, Macclesfield (H) Lost by 8 wickets
King's School 98 for 2
W.H.G.S. 95 (A. Aslam 25, Gresty 17)
- v Q.E.G.S. Wakefield (A) Lost by 9 wickets
Q.E.G.S. 99 for 1
W.H.G.S. 94 all out
- v St. Bede's College (H) Lost by 37 runs
2nd Round Harold Bailey Trophy (35 overs match)
St. Bede's 190 for 9 (35 overs) (Gresty 3 for 37)
W.H.G.S. 153 all out (28.4 overs) (Graham 38, Gresty 23)
- v King Edward VII School, Lytham (H) Match Drawn
W.H.G.S. 141 for 9 declared (Sidebottom 52, Gresty 22, Cooke 23)
King Edward 104 for 5
- v St. Bede's College (H) Match Drawn
St. Bede's 202 for 7 declared (Sidebottom 3 for 46)
W.H.G.S. 170 for 8 (Gresty 64, Sidebottom 33)
- v Stockport Grammar School (A) Lost by 7 wickets
Stockport 57 for 3
W.H.G.S. 56
- v Manchester Grammar School (H) Match Drawn
M.G.S. 145 for 8 declared
W.H.G.S. 96 for 3 (Sidebottom 43 not out, Cooke 20)
- v Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby (H) Lost by 4 wickets
Merchant Taylor's 118 for 6
W.H.G.S. 114 all out (Cooke 46)
- v Bradford Grammar School (A) Lost by 57 runs
Bradford 85 all out (Bhakta 3 for 10, Cooke 3 for 21)
W.H.G.S. 28 all out

The season began with an optimism perhaps greater than usual because of the careful preparation that had taken place during the winter with the help of the professional coach, Roy Collins. It had been felt that our bowling looked stronger than the batting, due to the presence of a fast bowler (Dipak Bhakta), a left-arm opener (James Brocklehurst), off-spin (Phillip Sidebottom), leg-spin (Iain Cooke) and left-arm orthodox spin (Mark Warnes). We had others in reserve who could bowl medium pace with some movement and accuracy, such as Nick Gresty, Avinash Rao and Adam Aslam. All these bowlers had performed well indoors and were prepared to learn and work at their weaknesses. We felt that our batting was weaker, as we had no single player who was likely to dominate an opposition's bowling attack.

By the end of the season, however, the fact was that we had bowled out only three sides: Arnold (for 150), North Manchester and Bradford (on a poor wicket). Our attack was classic in that we had almost every style of bowling in our armoury, but injuries and the unavailability of key players for certain early matches weakened us. More importantly, our bowlers did not produce the form on grass that had been promised indoors. Bhakta's bowling began disappointingly as he struggled to keep the ball on the off-stump consistently; he was greatly disadvantaged, however, by poor fielding at fine-leg/third-man positions and one could sense the whole side becoming demoralised as opponents' opening batsmen often put on

twenty or thirty quickly. He showed improvement in the second half of the season and demonstrated how a good fast bowler can run through a side by his efforts at Bradford. Sidebottom often bowled splendidly, but on occasions seemed to be indifferent to his task; Cooke and Warnes were both under-bowled, particularly the latter, although all too often this was because our batsmen had not given our bowlers much time in which to perform.

The support that these bowlers received from the fielders was inadequate. Mark Knowles was outstanding in the deep and others performed well enough, but in every match we had easy catches dropped and fours let through when they could have been stopped by applying the most basic of rules. It took half a season before key fielding positions had been decided upon and filled by competent players, thus demonstrating just how difficult a job it is to be captain of a cricket team. Sidebottom filled this role until the half-term holiday while Warnes and Cooke each captained for a few matches in the second half of the season. When they captained there was a greater sense of urgency and Warnes in particular must have felt pleased by the relative success in the match against Manchester Grammar School. There were two unfortunate incidents during the season which reflected an immature approach to the game and which a strong captain should have prevented: against Lymm, when Cooke and Graham struggling to increase the tempo in order to set up a winning total, not one player on our side was watching and showing encouragement; similarly, in the final match all our dismissed batsmen were ignoring the play while our tail-enders were trying to find sufficient concentration to defy the Bradford bowlers on an almost unplayable wicket.

Our batting was better than anticipated for the first three matches: we were able to declare against Bolton, won easily against North Manchester and came very close to overtaking Arnold's score after we had bowled them out. Indeed, by the half-way stage all our first six batsmen had made decent scores on at least one occasion; the problem was that none of them were able to score consistently well and that only Gresty (64) and Sidebottom (52) managed to keep going for a long innings. It is interesting to note that of our batsmen only Graham could be described as strongly-built; perhaps as a consequence of this it seemed that our runs mainly came from nudges and deflections, with just the occasional drive to long-off (Warnes and Cooke being particularly adept at this shot) or pull to leg (eg Cooke). When our batsmen did hit the ball hard it went all too often directly to a waiting fieldsman. Our batsmen are certainly not without talent however, and all are capable of technically correct defensive and offensive shots. I am sure that as they become more experienced and larger these batsmen will overcome all these weaknesses.

I should like to express my thanks to all those parents who came to watch matches or help make the teas and, especially, to John Taylor for preparing such excellent pitches.

The following is a list of the sixteen boys who represented the School at U14 level during the season: Adam Aslam, Yaseen Aslam, Dipak Bhakta, James Brocklehurst, Kit Brown, Iain Cooke, Ian Graham, Nick Gresty, Mark Knowles, Faisal Kureishy, Jasel Mehta, Avinash Rao, Phillip Sidebottom, Mark Warnes, Matthew Whiteley and Benny Woolrych.

P.M. Bull

U13 CRICKET

Played 11, Won 4, Lost 6, Abandoned 1

- v Arnold School (A) Lost by 55 runs
Arnold 214-4 dec
W.H.G.S. 159 all out (S. Johnson 46)

- v King's School, Macclesfield (A) Lost by 165 runs
King's School 218-7 dec
W.H.G.S. 53 all out
- v Q.E.G.S. Wakefield (A) Lost by 135 runs
Q.E.G.S. 181-9 dec (S. Hadfield 8 for 32)
W.H.G.S. 46 all out (S. Jaiswal 28 not out)
- v Stockport Grammar School (H) Match abandoned
W.H.G.S. 163-9 dec (N. Ghazi 25, S. Johnson 51)
Stockport 10-1
- v Parrswood High School (H) (25 overs) Lost by 74 runs
Parrswood 110-3
W.H.G.S. 36 all out
- v Manchester Grammar School (A) Lost by 9 wickets
M.G.S. 61-1
W.H.G.S. 58 all out
- v Birkenhead School (A) Won by 6 wickets
Birkenhead 32 all out (S. Jaiswal 9 for 12)
W.H.G.S. 32 for 4
- v Merchant Taylor's, Crosby (H) Lost by 36 runs
Merchant Taylor's 114-10 dec (S. Johnson 3 for 27, J. Flatman 3 for 12)
W.H.G.S. 78 all out

Manchester Schools Trophy Matches (25 overs)

- v Oakwood High School Won by 98 runs
W.H.G.S. 131-3 (J. Flatman 29, S. Hadfield 24)
Oakwood 33 all out (S. Johnson 4 for 11)

Semi-Final v St. Bede's College Won by 1 run
St. Bede's 75-5 (J. Flatman 4 for 10)
W.H.G.S. 76-6 (P. Day 39)

Final v Parrswood High School (30 overs) Parrswood
77 all out (29.1 overs) (S. Jaiswal 5 for 14) W.H.G.S.
78-1 (16.1 overs) (P. Day 27 n.o.)

Throughout the season the two themes have been improvement with inconsistency. All players improved as the season progressed. Some improved as batsman, some as bowlers whilst others became better fielders. However, the boys never really played as a team i.e., good batting, accurate bowling and athletic fielding altogether. The potential is most certainly present as is the enthusiasm so it is essential to continue progress. To defeat Parrswood (who had previously beaten us quite convincingly) to win the Manchester Schools' Trophy was a wonderful end to a disappointing season.

The team was captained by Jonathan Flatman, who improved as the season progressed. He gave thought to the variety of situations and, with experience, should be more able to dictate the course of play. Peter Day, Stephen Hadfield, Nicholas Ghazi and Jonathan Flatman were our best batsmen. All have faults, mostly to do with maintaining concentration for long enough to build an innings. All are more than capable of maturing into fine cricketers further up the School. Simon Johnson and Sujoy Jaiswal opened the bowling attack. Both are quite different in their tactics. Simon has the pace but, as yet, not the consistent accuracy to worry the better batsmen. This, again, will develop as he gets older. Sujoy is not as quick but is able to move the ball off the pitch. His figures of 9 wickets for just 12 runs against Birkenhead School was quite remarkable. Stephen Hadfield was our first change, spin bowler. Stephen turns the ball quite a lot, but must really concentrate on pitching the ball outside the off stump otherwise he gives the batsman a free hit. Against Q.E.G.S. Wakefield he returned 8 wickets for 32 runs, again superb figures at any level.

All the other players who represented the School did so with credit. My advice to them would be to work hard at one aspect of the game, batting, bowling or fielding and endeavour to make a positive contribution to the overall team performance.

Finally my thanks go to all the Parents for their support throughout the term, to the boys for their appearance and attitude, and to Mr. Mallinder for umpiring half the games.

The following boys represented the School: J. Flatman (Capt.), P. Day, S. Hadfield, S. Jaiswal, R. England, S. Johnson, N. Ghazi, G. Wilsher, P. Tilston, C. Hope, S. Dé, S. McCarthy, M. Birtwistle, I. Anwar and G. Elly.

C. Seddon

U12 XI CRICKET

Played 14, Won 8, Drawn 3, Lost 3

- v Arnold School (H) Won by 86 runs
W.H.G.S 194 for 5 decl. (Calderbank 75)
Arnold 108 all out (Bell 3 for 12)
- v King's School, Macclesfield (A) Match Drawn
King's 106 for 6 decl.
W.H.G.S. 106 for 5 (Kellett 43)
- v Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield (A)
Won by 2 runs
W.H.G.S. 49 all out
Wakefield 47 all out (Majid 6 for 11, Kellett 3 for 8)
- v King Edward's VII, Lytham (H) Match drawn
W.H.G.S. 141 for 7 decl. (Majid 39 not out)
Lytham 67 for 8 (Newton 3 for 5)
- v Manchester Boys(H) Lost by 3 wickets
W.H.G.S. 102 all out
Manchester Boys 103 for 7 (Bell 3 for 18)
- v St. Bede's College (H) Won by 32 runs
W.H.G.S. 87 all out (Jobling 22)
St. Bede's 55 all out
- v Stockport Grammar School (A) Won by 78 runs
W.H.G.S. 132 for 8 decl. (Bell 50)
Stockport 54 all out (Majid 5 for 30, Bell 3 for 16)
- v St. Bede's College (H) Manchester Schools Knockout.
Won by 4 wickets
St. Bede's 72 all out (Majid 5 for 5)
W.H.G.S. 74 for 6.
- v Manchester Grammar School (H) Match Drawn
M.G.S. 142 for 8 decl.
W.H.G.S. 82 for 6 (Majid 29 not out)
- v Barlow R.C. High School (H) Manchester Schools
Knockout Semi-Final
Won by 16 runs
W.H.G.S. 100 for 4 (20 overs) (Kellett 52 not out)
Barlow 84 for 4 (20 overs)
- v Birkenhead School (A) Lost by 17 runs
Birkenhead 97 for 9 decl. (Kellett 3 for 13, Matson 3 for 22)
W.H.G.S. 80 all out (Jobling 29)
- v Merchant Taylor's, Crosby (H) Lost by 4 wickets
W.H.G.S. 90 all out (Bell 32, Newton 24)
Crosby 92 for 6
- v Parrswood High School (H) Manchester Schools

Knockout Final

Won by 8 wickets

Parrswood 85 for 4 (30 overs)

W.H.G.S. 89 for 2 (20.1 overs) (Calderbank 38 not out)

- v Bradford Grammar School (A) Won by 6 wickets
Bradford 82 all out
W.H.G.S. 83 for 4 (Kellett 24)

The great success of this Under 12 season had its roots in the very early stages of the School year when each first form was invited to show its skills and potential at informal knockabouts with a tennis ball in the Sports Hall. The range of ability was total, beginners at beach cricket rubbing shoulders with those who already had battle scars from big brothers (or fathers?) and with some few who had a little experience of the real game. A squad of about half a dozen players then continued to practise in the indoor nets every week until the start of the season, latterly with the extra help of Roy Collins, and all made a great deal of progress in batting and bowling, some attending as many as twenty evening sessions over the winter. The week at the beginning of the Summer Term then brought daily sessions as the squad was made ready for match action. (Incidentally, in a spare few moments on the first day of term I jotted down a list of things still to be covered, apart that is from basics of batting and bowling, from fielding and throwing, through field placing and running between the wickets, to scoring and kit management: the list came to thirty one items, enough for a GCSE in the subject at least: it's a complicated game!).



Under 12 XI 1991. Back row: M. T. Olden, Mr. C. P. Langford, C. W. Ellis, G. R. Brocklehurst, N. Bell (Capt), M. W. Newton (Vice-Capt), A. Majid, J. S. Jobling. Front row: Z. M. Elmasri, J. T. Calderbank, S. J. C. Kellett, A. J. D. Matson, J. A. D. Partington.

(Photo: Michael Dodd (1B))

With all this effort put in over the winter, the team certainly deserved to do well, and I was delighted for them when, on the first Saturday of the season, we had perfect weather conditions and superb pitches and outfielders. As the big day approached, nerves had definitely been in evidence; I remember well the apparently casual but deeply felt question, "What sort of total are we expected to get, sir?". That nightmare of every team to have practised and tried your best and still get rolled over for next to nothing, was immediately dispelled as the opening pair, James Jobling and James Calderbank, put together a glorious century partnership, thus laying in the team's minds the foundation of how to play confident cricket: win the toss, bat first, score a lot, declare, have tea, bowl'em out!

Opening partnerships between these two were a regular feature, almost always giving us our first thirty runs, with well-run byes a major contributor. Jobling, though at times an awkward looking player, actually has a very good eye and improved greatly in his orthodox defence over the season: by the Bradford game he was looking quite sound and he faced

hostile bowling with great determination at Stockport. Calderbank was the team's wicket-keeper throughout the season and always outdid his opposite number; by the end of the season he had started to accept his stumping chances coolly, and one catch, low, diving, two-handed, in front of second slip was worthy of the "100 wickets" video! His batting was remarkably consistent and watchful, and he was the side's top scorer, both in an individual innings and in aggregate total.

The Captain, Nick Bell, and his vice-captain, Miles Newton, usually batted at three and four, and we saw some fine innings and also fine partnerships from them. Bell's determination came out in his fifty at Stockport, where many lesser batsmen would have been frightened out, and he played several useful smaller innings and also played himself bravely out of a grim sequence of low scores. Newton also had to do this, and we never actually saw him in full flow for long; he was most often undone by his own nervousness in the first few overs or by the typical left-hander's eagerness to whip the leg-stump ball to square leg, but short and delightful innings left us in no doubt that his first big score will be a treat: he proved his determination to succeed by opening against Crosby after several fruitless innings. Both captain and vice-captain made major contributions to the bowling: Bell's medium pace was always reliable, and especially fine against Manchester Boys and Stockport, and Newton's off-breaks with the occasional leg-break soon transformed themselves into leg-breaks with variations, bowled with excellent control. The attitude of these two players to captaincy was splendid and they worked very well together on the field.

After this sound start the middle order provided an embarrassment of batting riches, and almost always someone was left without a chance to shine. So, for instance, the last two excellent wins were achieved without the batting contribution of Asif Majid, who was in fact the side's leading all-rounder. He hits the ball very cleanly, especially when driving, and surely has some great innings to come. Not only did he top the batting averages, he was also the leading catcher and the main strike bowler; his performances at Stockport and at Wakefield were match winners, the latter an amazing spell of naked aggression for such an unassuming personality. Stephen Kellett also had a superb all-rounder's season and it is his batting which is developing fastest. His elbow and bat are becoming straighter with every game and he confirmed his progress with a beautiful innings at Bradford, but before this he had already had the main say in winning the Macclesfield match. His useful seam bowling and superb fielding make him another tremendous prospect.

Other players appear from the statistics to have made a small contribution to the side, but they have all done much more than that because of their sound fielding and accurate throwing, and they all have special and worthwhile skills of their own. Charles Ellis will make many runs in the seasons to come, and Zaki Elmasri, without scoring many runs, has already made significant contributions to victories by simply staying in. Nobody in recent years has chased with the pace and vigour of Jordan Partington and his bowling will also develop an important supporting role. Guy Brocklehurst can also bat now he has overcome his doubts about facing fast bowling, and he has waited loyally for the chance to lob out his lethal leg-spin; in fact his six wickets in the season cost only 7 runs each. Andrew Matson amazed us from the earliest practices by even getting the ball to the other end from his diminutive height, but his left-arm slows are a regular feature of the bowling and show great promise; he also fields as bravely as any. At the end of the season we were joined by Mark Olden who has had little chance to learn the complicated parts yet, but will be remembered especially for his two wonderful catches at Bradford. Greg Humphries' season was sadly curtailed through injury; he has promise as an accurate medium pacer.

I have admired this team, individually and collectively. They have listened, learned and worked at their game and they have excelled all opposition in cricketing maturity, especially

in the way they support each other when batting. Much is expected of them in the coming seasons and I hope that the unit so carefully built up will not be broken unduly early. I have been grateful to them for dozens of bright spots in a busy term, as I have also to my colleagues for their support, especially Mr. Blight and Mr. Timm, to the many supporting and supportive parents, and to our remarkable ground staff for providing consistently the best junior playing surface of any we play on. School Cricket is in very good heart with our present first year side.

C.P. Langford.



U14 ROUNDERS

Played 3, Won 1, Lost 2

v Kingsway School	Lost 8-13½
v St. Bede's College	Won 9-4½
v Withington Girls School	Lost 11-20

The team has worked extremely well this season, and has excelled in many areas, despite the two defeats from the three matches we have played.

On the one memorable occasion when we defeated St. Bede's, the ball was 'slogged' so that the opposing team had no hope of stopping us from scoring rounders. At half-time when we changed over to field the team again did extremely well in blocking most of the balls and catching one or two people out. At the end of the day it was obvious that we were the victorious winners.

Many thanks to all who played during the matches: Karen Law, Yvonne Schofield, Claire Reichl, Nadia Hanley, Sara Atkins, Mandy Wheeler, Rebecca Kingston, Jenny Ellis, Sally Ward, Dalia Daud, Michelle Cowan, Amanda Jones and Louise Borg.

Karen Law (3Y)

U13 ROUNDERS

Played 3, Won 0, Lost 3

v Kingsway School	(H) Lost 12-20
v St. Bede's College	(H) Lost 10-10
v Withington Girls School	(H) Lost 4-9

Lack of concentration and a lackadaisical approach to their first game of the season by the U13 team meant that the girls from Kingsway School won easily. Our fielding was poor and when the ball was hit by our team it failed to find space and was fielded relatively easily.

The second game played against St. Bede's College was a much better game altogether, with every member of the team pulling together, resulting in a very close result. It was unfortunate that we were beaten by half a rounder, but moral was boosted considerably.

In the game against Withington Girls School a new rule was introduced - that if the bats person stepped out of the front of the batting square on her way to first post then she was out.

Even though our team was reminded repeatedly about this, old habits die hard. Consequently our team was out at a fair rate of knots. This was a pity because on batting and fielding ability we could have undoubtedly won.

The girls who played in the U13 team were: Helen Steller, Bernie McCurrie, Vivienne Priestner, Debbie Mosley, Caroline Ip, Louise Illingworth, Ellen Nicholson, Karen Hawcroft, Philippa Walters, Claire Babington and Sophie Stephenson.

T. Pollard.

U12 ROUNDERS

1st A v Kingsway	Lost 4½-9
1st B v Kingsway	Lost 5-9½
1st A v St. Bede's College	Lost 8-8½
1st A v Withington Girls	Lost 5-9

The 1st year Rounders matches did not start off very well resulting in the three losses, the batting was good but we just couldn't quite get the ball past their deep fielders 2 and 3. Our fielding was good but was lacking in a bit of tightness. It was unfortunate to lose by a rounder against St. Bede's but we couldn't have caught up with the two matches v Kingsway and Withington. I would like to thank all the player for taking the time to dedicate themselves to the game and would like to thank Mrs. T. Pollard for coaching us.

The team consisted of: Heidi McKinnell, Lucy Mattison, Vicky Williams, Vicky Goodall, Laura Veeder, Victoria Fleming, Sarah Cochrane, Geraldine Brook, Rachel Nightingale and Katrina MacKay.

Heidi McKinnell (IC)



SCHOOL TENNIS REPORT 1991

Captain of School Tennis: R.W. Buckley
Vice-Captain: P.J. Davies

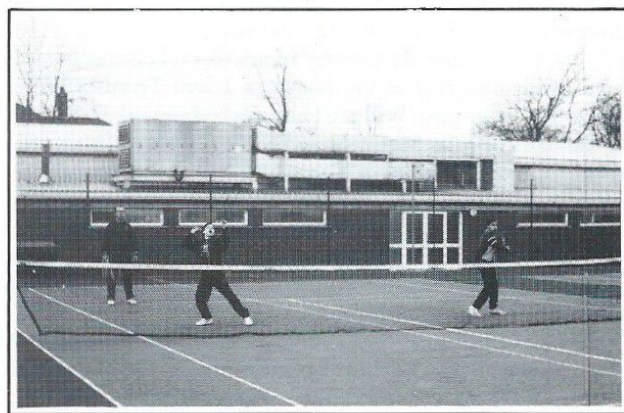


Midland Bank Schools Tennis Competition - Divisional winners 13 and under 1990. L-R: Simon Johnson, Mark Warnes, George Wilsher, Iain Cooke. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

The senior and U16 sides had a poor season this year, largely attributable to lack of practice and examination pressure perhaps. We were up against very good sides with a high standard of competitive tennis. We did particularly well to

draw with Ellesmere College but in the Midland Bank and Glanvill Cup matches we were knocked out by very slim margins. The senior side consisted of R.W. Buckley, P.J. Davies, J.J. Meadows, D. Keller, J. Mason and M. Donn. Full School Colours were awarded to R.W. Buckley and P.J. Davies in recognition of their performance in the First Team for the last four years, and Club Colours to J.J. Meadows who was Captain of the side last year.

For the U16 s, C.R. Jones, T.B. Veitch, D.M. West, K.S. Bhogal, N.C. Morton, A.C. Bron, C. Reichl and E.F. Buckley made noteworthy contributions. As our Midland Bank Squad at 15 years and under last year, Jones, Veitch, West and Bhogal were the Divisional Winners and Metropolitan Borough Champions of Manchester for 1990. They received a bye to the Second Round of the North-West Regional Competition but were defeated by a superior team from Austin Friars School, Carlisle in September last year.



Tennis coaching on new floodlit courts. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

The most successful side this year were the strong U15 team consisting of Y. (Joe) Sayyid, A.K. Misra, A.M. Watkins, J.R. Tate, J.L. Lawton, B.S. Jones and M.F. Dunford, who won four out of their eight matches, including two vital Midland Bank Matches against Manchester Grammar and North Manchester High Schools. They now represent Manchester Schools against Stockport in the next round of the Competition, to be played in September. Members of this side also got to the Regional Final of this competition two years ago as U13s, but were defeated by Austin Friars School.

Junior fixtures at U14 and U13 level were difficult to come by this year. Those which were played, against strong opposition, resulted in defeats for the young, relatively inexperienced players. However, the U14 squad of S.R. Johnson, G.W. Wilsher, M.T. Warnes and I.J. Cooke, playing in last year's Midland Bank Schools Competition in the 13 and under age-group, were Divisional Winners and Borough Champions of Manchester in 1990. They defeated Cumbrian champions Caldew School by 4 sets to 2 in October to reach the North-West Regional semi-final against Wigan champions Fred Longworth High School. The match was played at the Puma Wigan Indoor Sports Complex on the 1st November and although both schools won 3 sets a piece, the result was decided by one game in favour of Wigan. The match was very closely contested and all players displayed great talent and the "will-to-win". No U12 matches were played due to inclement weather; all three fixtures were cancelled unfortunately.

However, on a brighter note, we have a very enthusiastic group of junior boys and girls this year who have received regular coaching throughout the year from Mr. Colin Petch. The final session at the end of term produced an exciting handicap singles tournament, won by Jonathan Flatman of 2D. There were also trophies for the most promising young players, awarded by an ex-parent Mr. Aubrey Lee, who saw three of his sons educated at William Hulme's; the youngest, B.G. Lee was

Captain of Tennis in 1989. The trophies, named The Lee Brothers Cups, will be awarded annually to the girl and boy who, in the opinions of the Staff who coach them, have shown the most significant improvement in their playing standard and who have a sufficiently dedicated attitude to the game. We would like to thank Mr. Lee for the sentiment behind his awards. The winners this year were Geraldine Brook (1A) and David Gilbert (2A).

Another parent's cup was won this year by P.J. Davies and his father who took the Burden Trophy from the holders M & M Shelmerdine. This year's Parents-Pupils Competition was the biggest ever and a large crowd of competitors watched the final being played under the floodlights until nearly 10.30 p.m. The match was decided when the lights went out automatically, leaving the Davies a mere one game ahead. The Head Master presented the Trophy to the winners in the Sixth Form Common Room, where the traditional buffet was enjoyed by all. My thanks as always to all the parents and pupils, who helped to make this event such a resounding success. The results of the competition can be seen on the next page.

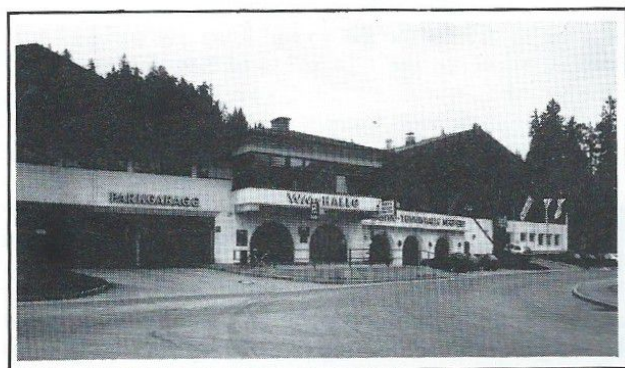
The Direct Line Manchester Tennis Open Tournament was held again this year at the Northern Lawn Tennis Club in Didsbury. In the past, William Hulme's had supplied ball-boys to the likes of John McEnroe and Stefan Edberg. This year's winner, Goran Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia was served in a different capacity by eight of our fifth formers, who were employed as stewards by the club. During the week, they coped with thunderous downpours and broke the existing club records for clearing and covering-up the courts several times, and some even appeared on the BBC's regional news programme.

Finally, the first Tennis Tour to the Continent took place in May. Sixteen boys and girls from the first four years went with Miss Barlow and I to Seefeld in Austria, where they enjoyed four days of coaching and competition, in excellent weather and beautiful surroundings. The trip was organised by Aspects of Leisure Limited and involved 18 schools from Great Britain in what was called a Festival of Tennis. The facilities were excellent and everyone enjoyed the experience, but you can read all about the trip in more detail on page 27. It is hoped that a similar trip can be held next year so if you want to improve your tennis, this is an excellent way to do it. Until next year, keep practising.

J.H. Thomson.

1991 TENNIS RESULTS (BOYS)

1st Team:	v M.G.S.	Lost 0-9
	v Ellesmere	Draw 6-6
	v Stonyhurst	Lost 2-10
	v Scarisbrick	Lost 2-4 (Midland Bank)
	v Rivington	Lost 3-3 (& 2 games)
	(Midland Bank)	
	v King's	
	Macclesfield	Lost 1-8
U16:	v Ellesmere	Lost 5-7
	v Marple Hall	Lost 4-12
	v King's	
	Macclesfield	Lost 2-7
U15:	v Altrincham	Won 5-1
	v King's School,	
	Macclesfield	Lost 3-6
	v Stonyhurst	Won 7-5
	v M.G.S.	Won 8-2 (Midland Bank)
	v North Cestrian	Lost 4-5
	v Marple Hall	Lost 2-4
	v King's Chester	Lost 4-5
	v N. Manchester	Won 4-2 (Midland Bank)
U14:	v King's	
	Macclesfield	Lost 2-7
	v M.G.S.	Lost 1-5
	v Marple Hall	Draw 3-3
	v King's Chester	Draw 2-2
U13:	v M.G.S.	Lost 1-5 (Midland Bank)
	v Marple Hall	Lost 1-5
	v North Cestrian	Lost 2-7



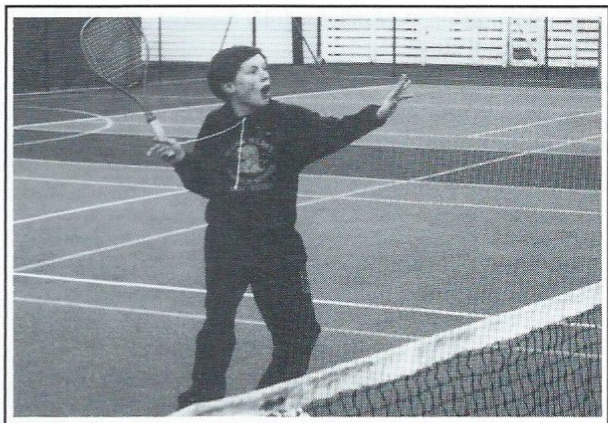
Tennis Festival. Swedish Tennis School, Seefeld.
(Photo: J. H. Thomson)



15 and Under. Midland Bank Team: Lawton, Watkins, Sayyid, Jones. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)



Mr. Petch's Junior pupils. Centre: J. Flatman.
(Photo: J. H. Thomson)



Jonathon Flatman 1991 Junior Champion. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

TENNIS

This year William Hulme's were able to field three girls tennis teams - U12, U13 and U14.

U12's played two matches, the first played against Marple Hall which was a resounding 4-0 victory, but the second was lost to Kingsway.

The U13's played four matches and although all matches were played in a competitive and sporting manner, they were unfortunately unable to win a fixture.

The U14's also played four matches this year. They had a good start to the season and had victories over Marple Hall and Kingsway. The Kingsway match being a 4-0 win to William Hulme's. The third match was a draw and their only loss was against Stockport.

All girls have enjoyed the matches and appreciate the work and time that Miss Barlow and Mrs. Pollard have contributed.

The teams consisted of: Heidi McKinnell, Geraldine Brook, Lucy Mattison, Sarah Cochrane, Rachel Goodwin, Debbie Moseley, Ellen Nicholson, Claire Babington, Caroline Ip, Caron Abramson, Alison Soper, Claire Reichl and Philippa Whittle.

Caron Abramson (3B)

THE BURDEN TROPHY 16TH MAY 1991

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Semi-Final	Final
Buckley v Nicholson	Buckley (6-2)			
Gilbert v Abramson	Abramson (6-3)	Abramson (6-5)		
Shelmerdine	(bye)	Shelmerdine		
Whittle v Simkin	Whittle (6-3)			Shelmerdine (6-2)
Reichl (bye)	Reichl	Whittle (6-1)		
Lowry v Hope	Hope (bye) (6-3)	Hope		
Fisher v Wilson	Wilson (6-2)			
Bartlett v Burnley	Burnley (6-3)	Burnley (6-5)		
Davies	(bye)	Davies		Davies (6-3)
Lawton v Jones	Lawton (6-3)			
Hewison v Rowlands	Hewison (6-2)	Lawton (6-0)		Davies (6-4)
Brook	(bye)	Brook		

WINNERS: P.J. & Prof. J.M. Davies won by 5 games to 4

Congratulations to all competitors on the high standard of tennis played throughout the competition.



SCHOOL ATHLETICS

	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	4th Yr	Overall
v Birkenhead	Lost 27:44	Lost 62:74	-	-	Lost 89:118
v Audenshaw H.S.	Lost 62:76	Won 86:50	Won 79:57	Won 83:54	Won 310:257
v Cheadle Hulme	Lost 48½:87½	Lost 67:69	Lost 61½:74½	-	Lost 177:231
v Bury G.S.	Lost 21:42	Won 41:22	Won 33:30	Lost 27:36	Lost 122:130
v Birkenhead & St Mary s, Crosby	3rd 87:77:74	1st 94:92:53	2nd 112:89	2nd 90:81:71	2nd
v North Cestrian & Altrincham G.S.	2nd 84:74:69	1st 90½:84:522	1st 91½:77:57½	3rd 80½:74½:72	1st

FIRST YEAR ATHLETICS

The School Athletics team have competed in six athletics fixtures this season, with varying degrees of success.

The first year team started badly but improved as the season progressed. It is obvious that this year group does not possess an abundance of naturally talented athletes but if these boys are prepared to train hard at their events, as they did in the latter part of the season, then there is no reason why they should not experience further success in future years.

Notable performances were consistently achieved by Matthew Healy in the sprints, Rob Seddon (who captained the side) in the 800 metres, Jolyon Guy in the shot putt and Discus and Andrew Xydeas in the High Jump. Andrew Xydeas also achieved a new School record in the High Jump on Sports Day. Many other boys competed for the School team and improved their personal best, throughout the season.

D.J. Mallinder

SECOND YEAR ATHLETICS

This has been a most successful season with all members of the team contributing to the overall performance.

An early season defeat, in a track only competition, by Birkenhead (which was later avenged in a full competition), and a very close contest (with a weakened team) against Cheadle Hulme School were the only results going against us. This would suggest that the future should be very successful and I would expect several of the team to set their sights on area representative honours next year. This will mean some training pre-season, as the competition for places is usually quite strong.

The team was captained by Joshua Robinson who competed well in the 200m and Triple Jump events. Other notable performances throughout the season were made by Adnan Malik (100m and 400m), Andrew Kelly (800m and 1500m), Simon Johnson (1500m and Long Jump), Gavin Elly (Javelin), and Richard England (Discus and the shot putt event in which he was never defeated). All other boys who competed for the School must take credit for the team's results. Only through a strong team performance can the School expect to do well in an athletics match. Every boy who competed gained valuable points for the School and ensured a very pleasurable and successful season.

C. Seddon

THIRD YEAR ATHLETICS

The Third Year Athletics were always very keen and enthusiastic and produced some fine performances. The most successful was Nick Byrom who usually completed a triple jump-400 metre double. In the Manchester District Championships he was in superb form and came first in the triple jump. He then represented the district in the Greater Manchester Championships where he came second. These were very creditable results and I hope they will convince him to invest in a pair of running spikes for next season.

David Grove was another strong all-rounder with a usual combination of 200 metres, long and triple jumps. In the future his best event may prove to be the triple jump, but at present it is the 200 metres, and he set a new record in this event on Sports Day.

Ian Graham improved considerably in the shot and then sprang a surprise on Sports Day when he set a new record in the discus! Kevin Nolan and James White who were the regular discus throwers also broke the old record.

Martin Wan, Tyrone Berkeley, Anthony Mawson, Spiros Xydeas, Neville Clemetson, Martin England, Tarik Djeddour, Chris Gleave, Muhammad Alvi, Jose Witter, Reuben Singh

and Ben Myddleton were other regular members and all made valuable contribution.

David Myers

FOURTH YEAR ATHLETICS

The fourth year athletics team have had a disappointing season, never achieving the results which reflect their true athletic ability. Although there are many talented individuals within the year group, only a few members had that willingness to participate and the determination to succeed.

The team was captained by Matthew Butterworth who ran well in the 400 metres. Other successful participants included Chris Armstrong in the sprints, Richard Gandy in the High Jump and Daniel Riste in the Shot Putt.

Junior Colours were awarded to Matthew Butterworth, Chris Armstrong, Chris Dixon, Anthony Sheldon, Daniel Riste and Matthew McLean.

D.J. Mallinder



SWIMMING

It was a case of 'same as last year' individual brilliance we had; consistent all round teams we did not have.

We were fortunate enough to have two outstanding swimmers - James Hickman is a member of the British Youth Squad and a holder of a national record in his age range for the 200 metres Back Stroke. Karen Hawcroft has just been invited to join the British Youth Squadron.

However, despite the advantage of having two such stars we could not capitalise on this in our inter-schools fixtures. The reason was that in some years and some events we were struggling to make a team up. Training is available at School, too few are taking advantage of it.

MANCHESTER SCHOOLS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Karen Hawcroft	1st Junior Backstroke 1st Junior Breaststroke 1st Junior Butterfly 1st Junior Free Style
James Hickman	1st Intermediate Backstroke 1st Intermediate Breaststroke 1st Intermediate Butterfly 1st Intermediate Free Style
Richard Garner	1st Junior Backstroke 1st Junior Breaststroke 1st Junior Free Style
Junior Girls Medley	1st K. Hawcroft S. Cochrane L. Wellock
Junior Girls FS Squadron	1st G. Brooks C. Alderson L. Wellock K. Hawcroft
Intermediate Boys Medley	1st J. Hickman J. Howarth S. Walters

D. McNally

ATHLETIC SPORTS RESULTS 1991

FIRST FORM

100m (Boys)	14.21	M. Healey 1D	J. Partington 1A	J. Bloom 1A
100m (Girls)	14.69*	G. Brook 1A	R. Nightingale 1D	A. Veeder 1D
200m (Boys)	28.60	M. Healey 1D	K. Dar 1C	J. Calderbank 1B
200m (Girls)	32.65	R. Westbrook 1A	V. Goodall 1B	C. Plowright 1D
400m (Boys)	70.74	E. Choularton 1A	J. Partington 1A	R. Beenstock 1C
400m (Girls)	72.20	R. Westbrook 1A	J. Lawson 1D	H. James 1B
800m	2.43.51	E. Choularton 1A	R. Seddon 1B	J. Leinhardt 1C
1500m	5.34	M. Olden 1A	R. Beenstock 1C	J. Leinhardt 1C
4x400m	5.17.03	1A	1C	1B
4x100m (Boys)	61.30	1D	1A	1C
4x100m (Girls)	64.71*	1A	1D	1C
Shot	8.46	J. Guy 1B	G. Malach 1C	J. Jobling 1D
Cricket Ball (Boys)	47.50	S. Kellett 1A	G. Brocklehurst 1D	Z. Elmasri 1C
Rounders Ball (Girls)	30.50	H. McKinnell 1C	C. Plowright 1D	K. Williams 1C
Long Jump (Boys)	3.90	M. Healey 1D	W. Tsang 1A	M. Pimbley 1B
Long Jump (Girls)	3.47	G. Brook 1A	R. Nightingale 1D	S. Cochrane 1A
Triple Jump	8.20	A. Xydeas 1B	J. Bloom 1A	J. Partington 1A
High Jump	1.42*	A. Xydeas 1B	R. Seddon 1B	D. Elliott 1A

*New School Record

RESULTS:	1st	1A	243 pts.
	2nd	1C	172 pts.
	3rd	1D	156 pts.
	4th	1B	150 pts.

SECOND FORM:

100m (Boys)	13.13	A. Malik 2A	D. Johnson 2D	J. Robinson 2C
100m (Girls)	13.86*	P. Walters 2D	V. Priestner 2B	E. Onyemen 2A
200m (Boys)	27.45	A. Malik 2A	P. Day 2D	D. Johnson 2D
200m (Girls)	29.38*	P. Walters 2D	V. Priestner 2B	S. Rahman 2B
400m (Boys)	71.01	A. Nunney 2C	S. De 2A	D. Talor 2A
400m (Girls)	74.62	B. McCurrie 2C	S. Stephenson 2D	N. Mason 2D
800m	2.31.27	P. Day 2D	A. Kelly 2A	A. Nunney 2C
1500m	4.56	S. Johnson 2C	A. Kelly 2A	R. Garner 2B
4x400m	4.47.18	2A	2C	2D
4x100m (Boys)	57.43	2D	2C	2A
4x100m (Girls)	60.46*	2D	2C	2B
Shot	10.04*	R. England 2B	A. Malik 2A	D. Power 2B
Javelin	29.50*	S. Johnson 2C	G. Elly 2B	R. England 2B
Rounders Ball (Girls)	43.40*	K. Hawcroft 2C	E. Nicholson 2C	C. Ip 2A
High Jump	1.45	D. Taylor 2A	A. Holden 2B	S. Jaiswal 2B
Long Jump (Boys)	4.03	D. Johnson 2D	I. Khan 2C	C. Hope 2D
Long Jump (Girls)	4.03*	K. Hawcroft 2C	S. Stephenson 2D	D. Mosley 2B
Triple Jump	9.25	J. Robinson 2C	N. Kapoor 2B	A. Holden 2B

*New School Record

RESULTS:	1st	2C	194 pts.
	2nd	2D	192 pts.
	3rd	2A	190 pts.
	4th	2B	149 pts.

INDIVIDUAL WINNER:

FIRST FORM: M. Healey 1D
SECOND FORM: A. Malik 2A

THIRD FORMS:

100m (Boys)	12.58*	M. Wan (G)	T. Berkeley (G)	M. Knowles (F)
100m (Girls)	14.18	N. Hanley (D)	Y. Schofield (G)	C. Reichl (G)
200m (Boys)	26.47*	D. Grove (H)	M. Wan (G)	M. Knowles (F)
200m (Girls)	31.11	N. Hanley (D)	K. Law (G)	C. Reichl (G)
400m (Boys)	59.29	N. Byrom (B)	N. Clementson (H)	C. Gleave (D)
400m (Girls)	75.44	M. Jobling (W)	P. Whittle (G)	K. Arran (D)
800m	2.39.48	N. Clementson (H)	M. England (F)	D. Bouchard (D)
1500m	5.30.13	M. England (F)	T. Djeddour (D)	B. Myddleton (H)
4x400m	4.31.79	D	H	B
4x100m	55.00	G	H	D
Shot	8.49	I. Graham (B)	Y. Aslam (W)	D. Slack (F)
Discus	27.65*	I. Graham (B)	J. White (F)	K. Nolan (H)
Javelin	30.10	J. Brocklehurst (G)	A. Matin-Razm (D)	I. Cooke (F)
Rounders Ball (Girls)	46.40*	A. Wheeler (W)	S. Atkins (G)	Y. Schofield (G)
Long Jump (Boys)	4.98*	N. Byrom (B)	J. Witter (H)	A. Matin-Razm (D)
Long Jump (Girls)	3.71	S. Atkins (G)	A. Wheeler (W)	L. Borg (H)
High Jump	1.44	C. Gleave (D)	A. Rao (F)	M. Knowles (F)
Triple Jump	11.00	N. Byrom (B)	D. Grove (H)	N. Clementson (H)

*New School Record

INDIVIDUAL WINNER: N. Byrom (B)**FOURTH FORMS:**

100m	12.35*	C. Armstrong (G)	G. Scolah (B)	B. Wood (D)
200m	25.47*	C. Armstrong (G)	G. Scolah (B)	M. Das (F)
400m	58.58	M. Butterworth (W)	M. Tweed (F)	J. Goodall (D)
800m	2.29.59	M. Butterworth (W)	A. Sheldon (D)	M. Brook (F)
1500m	5.05.00	T. Allen (W)	A. Sheldon (D)	M. Brook (F)
4x400m	4.09.86*	W	F	B
4x100m	52.05	G	B	H
Shot	9.40*	B. Wood (D)	D. Riste (W)	B. Jones (W)
Discus	21.10	R. Gandy (D)	R. Swerdlow (D)	J. Ghazi (H)
Javelin	31.80	J. Rooney (D)	M. Tweed (F)	D. Omerod (G)
High Jump	1.62*	R. Gandy (D)	T. Allen (W)	J. Hickman (B)
Long Jump	5.39	C. Armstrong (G)	M. Butterworth (W)	B. Jones (G)
Triple Jump	10.34	D. Riste (W)	M. MacLean (H)	C. Bell (B)

*New School Record

INDIVIDUAL WINNER: C. Armstrong (G)**SENIORS:**

100m	12.25	J. Daniel (H)	A. Rose (D)	S. Veitch (D)
200m	25.70	G. Noble (F)	J. Daniel (H)	C. Hyland (D)
400m	58.66	G. Noble (F)	A. Ladd (F)	E. Buckley (F)
800m	2.14.70	P. Cassidy (W)	M. Wilson (B)	J. Walmsley (F)
1500m	4.44.03	P. Cassidy (W)	I. Ellis (B)	J. Walmsley (F)
4x400m	3.59.19*	F	B	H
4x100m	50.46	D	H	G
Shot	9.20	A. Khan (F)	M. Jones (B)	J. Kay (H)
Discus	25.60	S. Veitch (D)	B. Forshaw (W)	A. Ladd (F)
Javelin	32.35	S. Veitch (D)	A. Mehta (W)	C. Conroy (H)
Long Jump	5.48	P. Cassidy (W)	M. Wilson (B)	J. Daniel (H)
High Jump	1.52	T. Collins (G)	N. Williams (W)	M. Elliott (W)
Triple Jump	10.50	S. Jones (D)	J. Beckett (F)	A. Doney (H)

*New School Record

INDIVIDUAL WINNER: P. Cassidy (W)

RESULTS:	1st	Dalton	217 pts.
	2nd	Gaskell	190 pts.
	3rd	Heywood	186 pts.
	4th	Byrom	181 pts.
	5th	Fraser	179 pts.
	6th	Whitworth	153 pts.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Last year I reported that the Association had enjoyed a record year in terms of fund raising, but emphasised the need to improve on this to fund a growing number of projects. I am pleased to report that the 1990/1991 year achieved even higher income. In the last two years, the Committee has more than doubled net income, from just over £4,000 in 1988/1989 to just under £9,000 in 1990/1991 and this must be considered a creditable achievement.

The Christmas Fair and Grand Draw were once again the main fund raising events, and both improved their income yet again this year. It was, however, disappointing to see a fall in the income earned from the 300 Club, which has been a steady earner for a number of years. The Committee intends to relaunch the Club in the current year.

Other events organised included the Head Master's Talk, Cheese and Wine, Dinner Dance (jointly with the Old Hulmeians), Quiz Night and Race Night. Support for these events was mixed, but on the whole a little disappointing. For the first time in three years, however, a summer event was successfully promoted. The Barbeque and Disco was well attended and appeared to be enjoyed by all - despite the weather!

Whilst the Association's finances are relatively healthy, as we look forward the requests for funding are beginning to build. We have recently funded some lacrosse kit, and have just bought equipment to establish a full video studio for the School. We have requests for both library and stage equipment to consider, and in the longer term a mini-bus might become a major project, so we cannot become complacent. We have outlined an ambitious programme for the new year, in which we hope to break the £10,000 barrier.

The Committee elected Elizabeth Bull as its President for the coming year. Elizabeth has served on the Committee for seven years, being involved in most events, and organising some functions in her role as Tickets and Social Secretary. Her election to President is a fitting tribute to her work for the Association. Sue Wilson resigned as Secretary after six years but remains on the Committee and will lead the re-launch of the 300 Club. Sue is replaced as Secretary by Shirley Cope who, together with Janet Priestner, joined the Committee at the May A.G.M.

New blood on the Committee is always welcome, and I am sure both Shirley and Janet will help to produce another record in the coming year. I cannot, however, end this report without thanking the Committee for its work and support over the last twelve months. In addition, thanks are also due to the many parents and pupils who helped at the various events throughout the year. Special thanks also need to be extended to members of Staff particularly Mr. Simkin, Mr. Wood, Mr. G.H. Jones and Mr. Gregson.

Next year's targets will not be easy, and cannot be achieved without the support of parents, pupils and staff. I therefore look forward to an increased level of support so that the Association can continue to provide essential funds for a variety of important projects.

R. Dixon

OLD HULMEIANS' ASSOCIATION

The year 1990/91 was a particularly busy one for the Association's President, Jack Bethell; not only were his presidential duties undertaken with dignity and enthusiasm but he also produced, single-handedly, the Association's Annual Newsletter. This newsletter is now a 50 page magazine which contains a wealth of interesting news of members of the Association as well as reports of the various sporting activities of the clubs. An important initiative taken by the President this year was the formation of a "Ways and Means Committee". This body has met and has become a forum to discuss any matter which may have a bearing on the Association's activities.

To fill any remaining spare time which Jack Bethell had during the year, he organised, again single-handedly, the Association's Annual Dinner. This event took place in the New Hall at School and was attended by a goodly number of members of the Old Hulmeians including, for the first time, lady members of the Association. This and the Reunion Buffet were the first occasions when ladies attended the Association's gatherings and must bring home to the Association that not only is the School well and truly co-educational but in the next few years there will be an increasing number of girls leaving School who are eligible for membership of the Association and who must be catered for accordingly. The Guest Speaker at the Dinner was Air Chief Marshal Sir Joseph Gilbert who gave an interesting insight into some of his responsibilities and views of the then recently ended Gulf War. Sir Joseph Gilbert also arranged for the Association's London Dinner to be held at the RAF Club. The Head Master and I were able to attend this event and again I express my thanks for the invitation.

The Lacrosse Club had a difficult season and for the first time narrowly avoided relegation to the Second Division. Commitment to regular training and availability for play were particularly acute this season and were reflected in this team's poor results. The A team had a less troubled year but failed to achieve its full potential. It was pleasing to see some younger players giving good performances which helped this team to the final of the Lancashire Cup. Unfortunately, the A team was unable to repeat last year's victory in this competition. The club also fielded an extra A, an U19 and a Junior Lacrosse side. The Rifle Section has struggled to attract new members but continues to meet. Alan Wilson still hopes to field a competition team and should be thanked and encouraged for his efforts to keep the section active. The cricketers enjoyed their year and remained undefeated due in part to some immaculate batting from David Timm and Gary O'Driscoll who scored 118 not out and 113 not out against the School First XI. Next year the cricketers hope to take part in a National Competition for teams drawn from Old Boys Associations. The golfers met for Captains Day at the Stockport Golf Club and the Ascension Day meeting took place at Chorlton Golf Club. Both occasions proved to be most enjoyable on the course and at the meal afterwards. The North vs. South Golf match took place at Stratford-upon-Avon. I understand the Captain of the "North" ordered his players to bed by 10 pm whereas those from the "South" enjoyed a night out on the town. No doubt something can be learnt from this as on the following day the "North" won comfortably. I also notice from the score cards that Glyn Stockdale played for both sides - did he go to bed early or stay out late?

The Old Hulmeians' Association is a body of men and women who have only two things in common, firstly that they spent some time as pupils at W.H.G.S. and secondly that they wish to maintain contact, either in a social or sporting way, with other people who attended School. Membership of the Old Hulmeians' Association is to be encouraged and I conclude this article by commending the Association to all who have recently left School and to those who do so in the near future.

M. Loveland.

“THE HULMEIAN” COMMITTEE

General Editor:
Sports Editor:
Secretary:

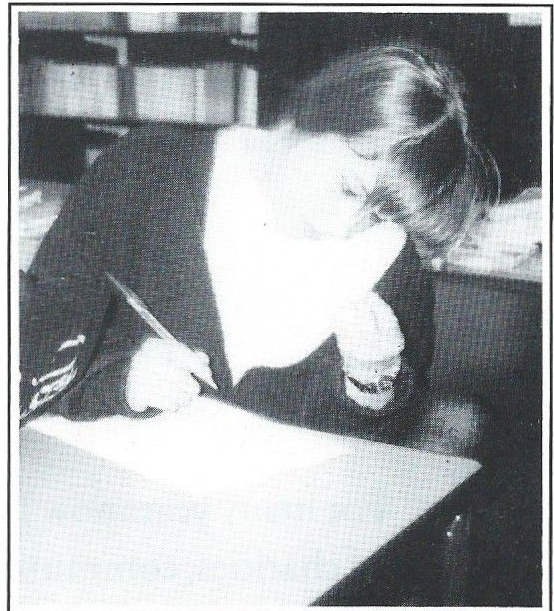
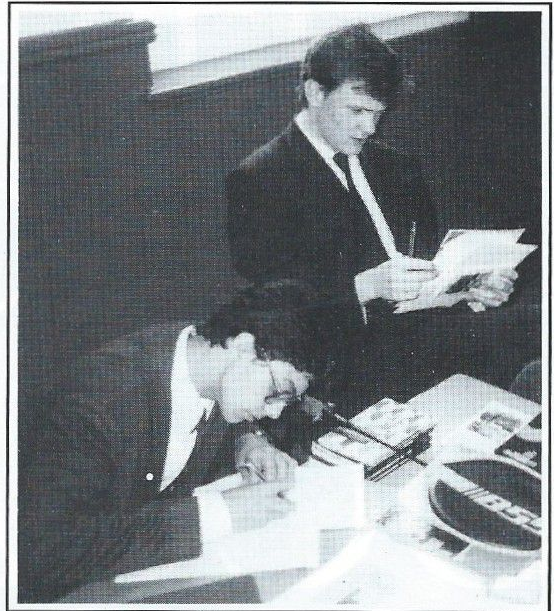
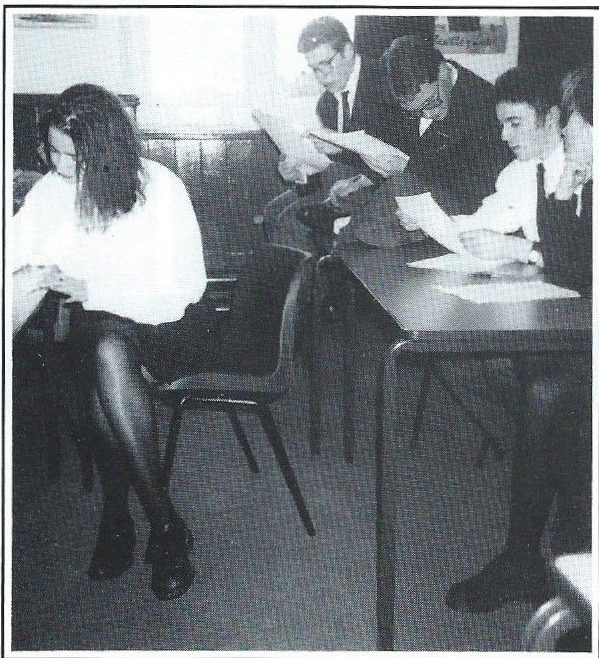
G.J. Turner
D.J. Mallinder
Miss Bernadette McNicholas

(As last year, Miss McNicholas has typed almost all the magazine. We owe her an enormous debt of gratitude.)

Sixth Form:
Matthew Booth
Philip Cain
Melanie Clare
Michael Clark
Jamie Flannigan
Jon Kay
Sophie Larkin

Erica McInnis
Richard Mattison
Roger Mody
Simon Ogier
Anna Ross
Heather Stephenson

Fourth Form Rep: Matthew McLean.
Third Form Rep: Rebecca Baron.
Second Form Rep: Christina Barnes.
First Form Rep: Sarah Cochrane



THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL ***SUMMER SCHOOL***



William Hulme's Grammar School

July 27th — 31st and August 3rd — 7th 1992
