

I, the voracious Pike, am the supreme master.
Any who comes near me is condemned to instant death.
I am the father of all killers.

My one-way hinged teeth mean death to any other fish,
For I must fill my bottomless pit
And my prey is currently above me.

To him I am a stick, a piece of wood,
Soon he will know different,
Very different.

I make a flutter with my tail followed by
A snap of my teeth and the minnow is gone
But, it is not a minnow!

I struggle and pull but
It is to no avail.
I have been caught

By a simple trick
The father of all killers
The hunter, is hunted, and caught.

E. S. Mehlman (2D)

A Schoolboy's Lament

The door slams shut, and with my torn, scruffy bag slung over my tired aching shoulder, I set out on my way. The sky is a monotonous grey. Perhaps, and very probably, it is reflecting upon my day ahead. Slowly but surely, I make my way over the rain-flooded fence, festooned with fungus and land lurchingly on my flinching feet, where after recuperating, I set off again down a declivity of damp, decaying pavement. I arrive at the bus stop, to the ranting and rumbling of the bus, making its tortuous journey up the hill. Clumsily, I clamber aboard, proffer my pennies and sink sleepily into my seat, with the rhythmical, intermittent ringing of the bus echoing in my ears.

I awake to a sudden jerk two stops before school, tired and with aching muscles, and as I descend from the bus, I see that the day has grown lighter. As I stand, I look down into the placid puddle and see the shimmering sun streaming pools of light into it.

D. Stavisky (2D)

An Underwater Adventure

There were two tugs on the line.
And I scarpered for I knew the cannibals were here.
And as I turned, I saw.
A cod, blood pouring from its gullet.
I heard the cannibals laughing
At their helpless victim.
And I swam beyond the distance, further than I had ever swum.

Beyond the trees of coral, I swam,
I dodged several hungry sharks.
Past jellyfish and giant squids, I swam.
Past hungry clams and sticky spongefish, I swam
Until I reached the other side of the shore
Where everything was darker than ever before.
I saw a barracuda and hid, and out of nowhere came a conger eel.

Then suddenly,
there were two tugs on the line.
And as I scarpered for I knew the cannibals were here.
And as I turned, I saw.
A herring, blood pouring from its gullet
And the cannibals laughed
Louder than ever.

D. Stavisky (2D)

The Wire

We crouched silently in the dead bracken about three yards away from the track. There were many birds in the trees above us, all singing their various melodies. It was sunrise, and there was snow on the ground, which made it a rather damp place to crouch.

I had never been out to wire any game before, and neither had my brother. However, we had heard from the local farmer that rabbits ran along this track early in the day. We were both very excited as we awaited the rabbits who were supposed to visit this part of the woods. Our snare was set at the height that we had read about, with the noose eight inches from the ground, as instructed. The books said that the rabbit's neck tightened the noose, and within two seconds it was killed from strangulation. It sounded simple enough, and the prospect of a fresh rabbit pie made us both restless and eager.

Suddenly after about half an hour's waiting, I caught sight of a rabbit coming up the hill at an extraordinary speed, heading straight for the trap. I was so excited I could hardly keep still. The rabbit looked very innocent and carefree as he lolloped up the path. He did not know what was about to happen.

From then on, time seemed to stand still. The rabbit ran straight into the loop, but his pointed head slipped right through it as though it had not been there - the books didn't mention this. I was horrified; the little creature was caught by the crook of its back leg, and the noose tightened suddenly around the limb. The wretched animal let out a yelp as if it were a human in agony as it shook its back leg in vain. I just froze. Nothing could have made me end this frenzy; I was terror-struck. The rabbit was mad with fright, and in his writhings he worked through the skin and hair of his leg to the central bone. Deep red blood spurted out over the pure white snow, as though the ground had been stabbed. Tugging and crying its loudest, the rabbit persisted in wriggling, its eyes huge and luminous. I watched the rabbit, dying from exhaustion from its movement, through a glazed stare. There is nothing more cruel than a lingering death. I still could not bring myself to move, in case I was strangled or attacked by something.

Eventually, the rabbit collapsed in a heap. After several minutes a bird cried above and released me from my horror-filled paralysis. Picking up the bloody carcass tentatively, I caught sight of its eyes. Two wild eyes, staring straight at me. I could not stand looking at the dead animal anymore and, having thrown the rabbit down on the spattered snow, we both ran out of the wood terrified.

The books had said it was a quick and tidy death; only now did I realise how wrong they had been.

S. J. Beggs(5Y)

Eating Grapes

Plucked off the stalk,
Firm and cool in its pincer grip
Between index finger and thumb.
Held up to the light:
Preliminarily it looks like a playgroup's scuffed green
bead, found under the piano,
Battered with sandal-dust.
Tucking in rays from the sun through the stalk
hole,
Its marvellously blue-grey powder
Grasps, filters and holds light.
I can see, inside, a basket of veins
Around an embryonic seed.

Resistant against my teeth,
It's squeezed, needled, it yields and
Splits but silently,
Though the taste of acid
Is clearly sensed.

I imagine in my mouth,
Two green lips
Yawning like the tips of a rose
Under the pressure of molars.
Out drips in a dewy, heavy blob
The so fluid juice.

Crush—the juice is prised out,
The skin is gritted against pip
And like a small piece of greaseproof
Stuck to a toffee, swallowed.

A. Harris (M6A)

THE WAY WE WERE
(Extracts from the *Hulmeian* of 25, 50 and 75 years ago)

1959

In the Lent Term a 'flu epidemic curtailed many activities. Afternoon school was begun at 1.45 because of early evening fog.

The reviewer of the Form Plays took to task a boy playing a cat, on the grounds that 'his terror at seeing what appeared to be a real mouse could have been more effective'; whilst in the review of the Byrom House play, an Orwellian piece set in the future, we read: '... was a solid policeman. It was good to see the familiar blue uniform surviving into this future age. Why did he wear white slippers?'.

The Hulmeian did not appear from March until October, in accordance with the new policy of bringing out each issue at the start of the Term following the events reported in it.

The winners of the two main Speech Day prizes for science subjects chose Plato's *Republic* and the musical scores of Beethoven; the principal guest commented on this as a commendable example of breadth of intellect.

From the account of the Paris trip: 'The two masters were unlucky enough to be in charge of the party on April Fools' Day. The French custom is to pin paper fish onto one's back, but our party went in for bigger things. Somebody found the handle of his ubiquitous umbrella covered in Sellotape, and there were mysterious bells that would not ring...'

An Old Hulmeian at Oxford reported that he had at last found a girl who could understand the Chorlton-cum-Hardy dialect, on which he was planning to write an essay for his Philology tutor.

1934

Reporting the progress of the levelling of the School field, the Editor announced solemnly that 'rapid strides have been made'.

The Head Mistress of the Preparatory School, Mrs. Rowlands, formerly Miss Mitford Smith, retired after having been at the School since 1915. She succeeded her sister in the Headship.

From the report of the Corps Camp at Grange-over-Sands: 'Theophilus, the old horse, was an enthusiastic spectator; his diet, while we were at camp, seemed to consist largely of newspapers and bottle stoppers'.

Some Sixth Formers went on a visit to Hyde Brewery, but were fobbed off at the last; 'Saying that he wished it were a chocolate factory so that he could give us a sample, our guide wished us good-day.'

The School Porter, Mr. H. Hargreaves, died after having been at the School since 1911; in those twenty-three years he had never once been late.

On another official visit, this time to the Capitol Theatre, Didsbury, a party of boys learned something of the wonders of modern cinema; it is noted that sound is provided by a 'huge wireless set', whose amplifier was so large 'that a special ante-room is necessary to house the accumulators required to run it'.

1909

A lady watching a performance of Moliere's *Le médecin malgré lui*, in French, paid the actors an unintentional compliment: 'she confessed that the dialogue was as difficult to follow as a conversation between foreigners'.

A new Board of Education scheme for the School came into operation in March; it raised the leaving age almost to 19, and abolished the fee charged for the teaching of Greek.

The first demonstration of aviation in Britain, which took place at Blackpool, was witnessed by an eager party, not without some nerves: 'every kite in the sky raised a false alarm'. They were lucky enough to see the famous Farman create a record by doing fifteen circuits of the course in a biplane which 'flew past at the rate of thirty miles an hour', whilst a Frenchman, M. Rougier, flew at 'the sensational height of upwards of 200 feet'.

The first Open Scholarship at Oxford to be won by a Hulmeian went to R. C. F. Dodgson, who went up to Balliol to read History.

HOUSE LETTERS

BYROM HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

The following appointments were made:

Head of School: L. White.

Head of House: P. J. Goodier.

Deputy Heads of House: A. S. Campbell, A. P. Marsden, L.-E. Pye.

House Prefects: A. Harris, N. E. Hussey, A. Khan, I. Lieberman, A. B. N. May, N. W. Barber, A. P. Fox, M. L. Jackson, M. A. Sever.

School Prefects: A. S. Campbell, P. J. Goodier, A. P. Marsden.

Our first match in the Senior Rugby Knock-outs ended in defeat at the hands of Fraser. Our team was sadly depleted by injuries and the extremely close result was a credit to all who played. Special mention must be made of A. P. Marsden, the team captain, and M. L. Jackson who put in splendid performances.

The Juniors captained by A. Hessayon were beaten by a superior Whitworth side who played a well disciplined game. Individuals played well notably R. Burns and A. Hessayon and above all J. J. Garlick whose endeavours could have brought us an unjustified victory against the run of play. However this team has to learn to stop complaining about imaginary fouls by the opposition, and imaginary errors by the referee and to learn to criticize its own mistakes before it can develop into a talented Senior side in the future. The defeat was a narrow 12 points to 7.

In the House League our position would have been much improved if the first and second teams had played their first matches with the same skill and determination shown in the last few games. The 1st XV captained by A. Kahn had their morale boosted by a fine win over the league leaders Heywood and never looked back. A 4-4 draw against a strong Gaskell team followed and in the space of two weeks we had caused the two major upsets of the League. The 2nd XV was led by M. Sever whose character and determination in all the matches were admirable. It was pleasing to see such good rugby at 2nd team level this year.

Throughout the term Senior boys ran a house 'Tuck Shop' in Room 16. The effort and dedication of all involved raised a £75 profit which enabled us to buy a goalkeeper's lacrosse stick, a helmet and spare stick and gloves. A. S. Campbell and L.-E. Pye organised lunch time five-a-side soccer matches in the Sports Hall. We would like to thank Mr. Veevers who gave up his lunch break to supervise this.

Lent Term

L.-E. Pye was appointed a School Prefect and Captain of Lacrosse.

Both our Senior and junior Lacrosse Knock-out teams were defeated by Fraser in the 2nd round of their respective competitions.

In the Seniors we were fortunate to have L.-E. Pye and A. S. Campbell, the School Lacrosse captain and vice-captain. We faced a strong Fraser team and despite fine individual performances by L.-E. Pye, A. P. Marsden, A. Fox, M. L. Jackson, N. Barber and A. S. Campbell in goal we lost decisively in the end.

The Junior team were favourites to win the Knock-out and after the coaching given by Pye and Campbell it was a great disappointment to see them lose. Whilst we had gifted school attack players it was the defence with R. J. Moore, P. Sherman and C. P. Williams which was outstanding. R. H. Jones also played well. D. Oatway did his best in the unenviable role of goalkeeper. But it was essential that our attack scored heavily. Once again there was a failure of discipline and character and J. J. Garlick was forced to put in a superhuman effort but, well as he played, Fraser hung onto their lead and came out worthy, sporting winners. In the future Garlick is going to realize that only if he can motivate his fellow players to his own degree of determination and add to that the self-discipline without which no player is any good, will Byrom win at Senior level. This is not a criticism of Garlick whose individual efforts have been tremendous but an indication of how he must extend his influence over the whole team.

Our 1st X in the League had a good season. The 2nd X seemed to combine golf, hockey and Irish gaelic 'hurling' to present their form of lacrosse.

Good coaching by M. Sever led to an easy win in the Inter-House Cross-Country Running Competition, our third successive win. We had a strong 6th form team, but that we were already in the lead after the 5th form stage reflected the fine individual performances of G. Pryor, M. Turley and T. Burden.

Our entry for the House Drama Competition was Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. The play was produced by A. Fox and directed by A. B. N. May. By most criteria this was not only the most difficult play ever produced by Byrom but also, in all probability, the best. The achievement

was the fruition of two years' hard work and frustration for May who was saddled with a young cast by his Housemaster last year and reaped the harvest this year. As well as A. Fox, the Head of House P. Goodier played an invaluable supportive role. His own comment that the production had been the highlight of his year speaks worlds for the opportunities for development that the House system, with all its limitations in a day school, can create. Fox, May and the large cast produced a polished performance. Fine individual performances are too numerous to mention, but a special comment must be made on the outstanding contribution of A. Harris and S. A. Marks, who both acted long and difficult parts brilliantly in their *débuts* in House Drama. A. B. N. May has made a major contribution to five House plays and he must take the most credit for this year's outstanding performance. He both directed the play and acted a major part and it will remain with him that his young cast, who have given him so many headaches, spontaneously gave him three cheers at the end. There must have been many years when this would have been the winning play. That it was placed third is a most encouraging comment on the quality of all this year's House Plays. We came second in the House Music competition. Our entry was well-organised by A. P. Fox and we can look forward to a high position in this competition in years to come as our entry was dominated by junior boys who all did well before a large audience.

Midsummer Term

The Cricket Knock-outs were forced to take place very early in the congested Summer Term. The Seniors were easily disposed of by Gaskell thanks largely to a well-disciplined innings by Fearnley. The Juniors, after a lecture on running between the wickets from their Housemaster, promptly engineered a run-out of one of the best batsmen O'Driscoll. Despite some strong hitting from I. S. McCartney we did not amass sufficient runs to trouble Whitworth.

We had to defend last year's victory in the Athletics Competition. Thanks to M. A. Sever's excellent organisation we had a relatively strong team, but unfortunately our hard work and perseverance did not pay off, as we only came third behind Heywood and Dalton. However, there were many good performances notably by P. J. Goodier, M. A. Sever, M. R. Turley, R. Burns, I. D. Law and T. J. Burden.

As in previous years an Inter-House Basket Ball Competition was arranged by Mr. Seddon. Though the teams showed promise they lacked experience and our 'A' team was knocked out in the semi-finals by Whitworth. Thanks to the organisation of D. Butterworth and R. Burns, the games were enjoyed by all who participated.

The House Tennis Competition was crammed into the penultimate week of term when most people were involved with other events. Despite the Seniors' initial victory over Gaskell, under D. A. Butterworth's captaincy, they lost to Whitworth in the semi-finals.

Another House trip was undertaken on Ascension Day and some rose to the heights on the various stomach-turning paraphernalia at Alton Towers. We combined with Fraser for this trip.

P. J. Goodier

Byrom has been fortunate over the years in having a number of outstanding boys as Head of House. None has been as industrious, quietly efficient and supremely well organised as P. J. Goodier whose role has been of incalculable value in the successful running of the House this year. His contribution has been unique in organising, supporting or liaising in every House activity.

A. M. Blight

DALTON HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

Head of House: S. A. Meech

Deputy Heads of House: R. A. Shotton, A. D. Poole

House Prefects: D. T. Flowers, S. P. Crosby, J. R. W. Foreman, R. J. Stead, M. T. Clarke,

A. G. Cleary, W. P. Hopwood, E. P. Tullock, B. Cussons

K. O. Rugby Captains: M. T. Clarke, R. D. Swain

League Rugby Captain: R. A. Shotton

Shortage of Senior boys in the House, and initially nine boys in the School rugby squad, provided Dalton with too few players of strength to be a force in the Senior House League. In the first half of the season, the first and second teams each had one close match, but no victories. In the second half of the season, the first team players worked hard together, and produced two good wins, but the second team suffered many heavy defeats. The outstanding player of the season was D. T. Flowers, who, with captain R. A. Shotton, worked hard to bring the best out of all the players.

In the Senior Knockout, Dalton was drawn against a strong Gaskell side. In a very tough match, the first score was late in the game, when we scored a try, which was not converted. Excellent teamwork and

very good tackling were the features of our game, together with one blood-stained face from a nose bleed. Mistakes in vital positions gave Gaskell two penalties, both of which were converted, to leave us the losers by 4-6.

In the Junior Leagues, the fourth years were well led by R. H. Buxton, and maintained a 100% record until injury robbed them of one vital player. After both Dalton and Fraser had lost one game, a play-off match was arranged. In a very close game, we went ahead with three tries, two of which were converted by our captain, and the third one missed from under the posts. A late try by Fraser, however, robbed us of victory 16-18. The third year also performed well, finishing third in their league.

In the Junior Knockout, the individual play of our captain, R. D. Swain, was not backed up by the rest of the team. However, once he had to leave the field through injury, the rest of the players worked as a team, but it was then too late, as we had no answer to the strong running of one individual in the Fraser side, and we were beaten 15-32.

In conclusion, therefore, the enthusiasm of the Juniors was matched by too few of the Seniors. Thanks go to those Seniors who offered to play rugby twice a week in order to produce a second team. The following played School rugby:

(Seniors) S. A. Meech, A. D. Poole, M. T. Clarke, R. J. Stead, E. P. Tullock, B. Cussons, G. P. Benson.

(Juniors) R. J. Walsh, J. Charlesworth, R. D. Swain, N. J. Pitcher, A. N. Jameson, A. R. Ball, S. P. Hinds.

Lent Term

Knockout Lacrosse Captain (Senior): S. A. Meech

(Junior): R. D. Swain

League Lacrosse Captain: M. T. Clarke

Swimming Captain: S. A. Meech

Cross Country Captain: D. T. Flowers

House Play Producer: M. P. Kelly

In the first round of the Senior Knockout, against Whitworth, very good midfield play from M. T. Clarke and W. P. Hopwood helped us win the faces and most ground balls. A. G. Cleary, in attack, tried to involve all of the team in the game, preparing for more difficult matches to follow. The final score was 13-0 in Dalton's favour. The semi final, against Gaskell, was an excellent performance, with F. Sheldon, A. G. Cleary and R. A. Shotton all scoring consistently in the 24-6 victory. The final, against Fraser, was a very tense match. Our defence was strong, while the Fraser midfield won most balls. Early pressure was contained by our defence, and our first break brought us a goal. Play continued in a similar pattern, with G. P. Benson not particularly troubled in goals, and we were ahead at quarter time. After that, we gained less of the ball, and Fraser pressed their advantage home. Later in the game, Fraser drew level, and had the opportunity to go ahead, but the solid S. A. Meech drove Dalton forward from defence, and two late goals from A. G. Cleary won us the trophy in a 9-7 victory. An excellent game from two strong sides.

In the Junior Knockout competition, too many players failed to turn up for practice sessions, and our teamwork was lacking on a small pitch. Potentially, we had a strong side, but the individuals of Fraser *blended* together better than ours, and we were beaten by the better side.

In the Hewlett Cup 6-a-side competition, all of our eight teams won at least one match, but none managed to win a Final. Many hard-working individuals helped produce a close result, but Dalton finished third, three points behind the eventual winners.

The Third and Fourth year teams both did well in their respective leagues, but insufficient numbers in the Seniors, together with frequent First team absences, brought us no successes in the Senior league.

The House Swimming competition took place in February, in three age groups, Third years, Fourth years, and Seniors. A large number of boys took part, and many good results emerged. The Third year individual winner of the whole competition was A. St. J. Dawes of Dalton, and N. A. Meech and A. R. Ball also finished first or second in their three races. Six individual first places ensured that we finished runners up to Fraser. Both of the Dalton Third year relay teams won their races, and three of the other four teams finished in the first three positions. Fraser and Dalton tied for first position in the relay competition.

The Cross Country competition only brought us sixth place after a good start from the Juniors, and lack of musicians in the House cut short our House Music competition entry. I hope that we gain more musicians in the future.

Our House Play entry was *False Pretences* by Paul Reakes, produced by M. P. Kelly. The story was set in the living room of a family, whose daughter had written to a celebrity and, pretending to be an author, asked to interview him. The excellent H. J. Minty played the grandfather who posed as the female writer when the celebrity arrived. He was well supported by M. I. Aldridge and A. St. J. Dawes,

who helped to produce the subsequent chaos in the home. There was insufficient stage experience in evidence from the actors, who did not speak clearly at times, and also lacked some confidence. Despite this, however, much hard work was put into the play, and, with continued effort, these actors have promise for the future.

Midsummer Term

Knockout Cricket Captain (Senior) : R. A. Shotton

(Junior) : A. N. Jameson

Athletics Captain : E. P. Tullock

Lunchtime athletics practices were held for all Juniors at the beginning of the term, so that the House entries for Sports Day could be completed. Each boy attempted most events, and it appeared that, if we were to have any success on Sports Day, it would be enthusiasm and not talent that would bring it.

After a rain-affected Heats Day, Dalton's points tally was low, but many had gained places in Finals. Several absentees from our list of entries prevented our filling all places available. Our major successes came from the Seniors, where E. P. Tullock gained two first places, and A. D. Poole one first and one second. The Senior relay team finished second. In the middle age group, P. J. Crosby won both 100m and 200m races, and the relay team also finished second. In the Juniors, R. D. Swain won the shot, and S. P. Hinds was placed in three events—a pity, however, that he could not have gained better positions. Our final points total of 160½ placed us second to Heywood, just 20 points behind. A good result for Dalton, but all will have to work even harder next year if we are still to do well, after losing some useful athletes.

The Junior Knockout cricket team had a bye in the first round, and faced a very useful Heywood side in the second round. Batting first, our early scored usefully, with S. P. Pluck making 28 and S. P. Hinds 20. Our score of 26 for 3 advanced to 68 for 4, but the middle order collapsed and, with 8 wickets down, we had not reached 100. Sensible, straight batting from M. A. Solomon and N. J. Pitcher brought our total to 126 all out. Heywood's opening partnership was 48, but good tight bowling, especially from S. P. Hinds (3 for 13), gave us a victory by 11 runs. In the Final, against Whitworth, J. Charlesworth and S. P. Pluck were out early, but A. N. Jameson and A. W. Kloss steadied the team, and the latter, aided by most other batsmen, pushed the score along, before he was finally out for 30. A score of 113 was too much for the opposition, who were all out for 69, with Jameson gaining 3 wickets. The Junior Knockout trophy was won by a team that looks good for the future.

In the Senior Knockout against Whitworth, our opening batsmen, A. G. Cleary and I. Mullins, were out early, but a partnership of 117 between G. P. Benson (59) and W. P. Hopwood (62 not out) helped us total 186 for 5. Our best batsmen were also our best bowlers, each gaining three wickets in the dismissal of the opposition for 129. In the semi-final, Heywood provided weak opposition, we scoring the 61 runs for victory with just 2 wickets down. The Final was against Gaskell, who batted first. Slow, careful batting gave the opposition a good start, but, when they tried to accelerate, excellent catches by W. P. Hopwood and E. P. Tullock helped us gain the upper hand, and R. A. Shotton's 4 for 17 prevented the total reaching 100. After losing our first wicket at 41, A. G. Cleary and G. P. Benson scored the remaining runs, giving us a 9 wicket victory and the Senior Knockout trophy.

During the term, three members of the House gained success in the Manchester Schools Swimming Championships, and congratulations go to R. D. Swain, A. St. J. Dawes and A. R. Ball.

Best wishes go to all members of the House who left at the end of the term. Special thanks go to S. A. Meech who proved to be a hard-working Head of House, always looking to gain success. Thanks to all who participated in House activities. I hope that all boys are successful in their future education and in their chosen careers.

M. D. Wood

FRASER HOUSE

Head of House: C. P. Tatham; A. S. Olive.

Head of School (from January): C. P. Tatham

Deputy Heads of House: I. R. Ladd and S. Odum.

House Prefects: M. L. Artley, J. R. Braddock, T. J. Corbett, R. G. Dalglish, G. A. Humphreys, M. J. E. Leyland, V. J. Lord, J. R. G. McManus, H. J. Pimlott, S. D. Shnyder, G. P. Wadsworth and R. J. Worthington.

Michaelmas Term

For the first time, the third and fourth form House Rugby teams took part in separate competitions, new shields to be awarded for each. This gave a strong team the chance of winning its league without the handicap of a weaker team's performance in the other year group being taken into account. Consequently Fraser's rugged fourth-form team was able to carry off its trophy while the third-form

team earned the rare distinction of ending the season with not a single point. Nevertheless they played with enthusiasm and the Captain, D. Loveland, would report each gloomy scare to the House Master with a remarkable absence of despondency.

Amongst the fourth-formers we have some extremely strong and effective players, notably the captain, P. A. Bahfir, and J. Bloom, S. Jones, P. R. J. McManus and J. P. Wilson. The final match of the season was against Dalton, our main rivals throughout the term, and had they beaten us we would have had to share the overall title with them. Playing in ghastly conditions, and with Bahfir injured and off the pitch, the teams struggled on, matching try for try until in the last moments Jones scored to ensure our victory by two points.

The senior teams fared well too, and watching both was invariably extremely exciting and pleasurable. The enthusiasm and determination of captain S. Odum and M. L. Artley was conveyed to their sides and there were some rousing performances, despite our ultimate fourth position in the League. In fact the first 1st XV beat Gaskell, the eventual winners, by 9-8 earlier in the season. Corbett, Humphreys, Jacobs, Olive and Williams for the First XV, and Davenport, Light, Mellor and Tucker for the Second XII played especially well.

Although the Senior Knockout team seemed to have an excellent chance of getting through to the Final, beating Byrom in the first round brought us a match with the favourites, Gaskell. They were too strong in the scrum and defended very well, so that all the points we could muster came from two penalty goals kicked with precision by Ladd, and were beaten 11-6. D. Beevor's tackling and running as league and Knockout full-back were memorable features of the season's rugby, especially since he was the only fifth-former to take part in the knockouts. He will be missed next year, and the House wishes him success in his continuing studies.

Perhaps the Junior Knockout side was a little overconfident in some respects, although they were all well aware of the difficulties facing them in Whitworth's heavy and experienced pack in the Final. Byrom had been disposed of 58-0 and an uneven yet respectable Dalton side 32-15. When it came to the Final, however, we simply could not win enough ball in the scrums to feed our hungry and penetrating backs. By the second half our pack was looking tired and when Bradley scored an excellent try for Whitworth it appeared to be all over. The standard of rugby was high, though, and those several third-formers who will play again next season will find that they will be able to dictate the pace and level of the game.

The new Sevens competition was held in October and proved to be extremely exciting and enjoyable. One of Fraser's two teams reached the pool final but lost to Whitworth through fatigue. We came third overall.

The House was able to congratulate D. P. Clarke, M. J. Braddock, S. D. Thornton and N. E. J. Thompson for being selected to represent the South Manchester Schools XV in the Manchester Schools trials, as a result of which Thompson went on to represent the full Manchester Schools XV.

At the end of term everyone was pleased to learn of Olive's and Artley's places at Oxford and Cambridge respectively.

Lent Term

As C. P. Tatham had been appointed Head of School, A. S. Olive stepped in to fill his place at the top of the Fraser hierarchy.

Unusually, our entry for the House Music Competition was badly and belatedly organised and suffered as a consequence, despite some reasonably proficient items.

The House Play, *'The Monkey's Paw'*, received the usual amount of dedicated attention from producer, actors and various assistants, and was if undistinguished, at least competent, well-rehearsed and dramatic. This opinion was not shared by the adjudicators.

Mr. Harrison kindly ran football in the Sports Hall each week, and this was keenly pursued by a small group of enthusiasts from the third to the middle sixth forms.

As last year we produced a strong team for the Road Relay Race, and our third-form runners came home first (A. J. Jackson), second (A. D. Ryan) and sixth (K. J. M. Stephenson). The fourth-formers, J. D. Jacobs, A. Weston-Jones and D. L. Williams, ran well too, but the fifth and sixth-formers could not do enough to fend off Byrom's tenacious and experienced team, and so we fell to second place again. This is always a tremendous competition, engendering feverish excitement (at least among the House Masters), and was well organised this year by Ladd.

Much constructive lacrosse was played, and both the Fraser knockout sides fought their way splendidly through to the finals. The Seniors had always hoped and expected to play Dalton in their final, and so it was. Wadsworth dominated the faces from the outset, and with support from such hard working and talented players as Ladd and J. R. G. McManus we should have made more capital from this. The Dalton zone appeared to fox our players, however, and in frustration we too often gave away possession, which was then promptly exploited by Dalton. They went on to take this very close match by nine goals to seven. For the Juniors against Heywood in their final, Jackson and Hindley could not put a

foot wrong, and when Loveland eventually spotted the Heywood goal he too started notching up some goals. This overwhelming win coming from such a lot of hard work, especially from the midfield players, was felt to be ample compensation for the Juniors' defeat in the rugby.

Of all the inter-House competitions, the outcome of the Swimming Sports is one of the easiest to predict. This year we began as favourites, secured more entries from the heats into the finals than our rivals, and confirmed our supremacy not only by taking the overall competition but also by winning the Individual Middle and Senior cups, and by tying in the Relays with Dalton, who had pressed us hard from start to finish. Several boys swam outstandingly: D. Khan won the two most gruelling events at Middle level, the Butterfly and the Individual Medley, the former in a new School Record time of 12.6 seconds; and C. L. Porritt won the Senior Backstroke and Individual Medley races. These two boys deservedly became overall Individual Champions as well. Other notable performances came from Captain of Swimming Tatham, with a first and a second place, and N. J. Hindley with a first and a fourth. We lose few good senior swimmers at the end of this year, and so we shall certainly be competing strongly again in 1985.

Among Khan's swimming successes this year outside School, his performance in the Manchester Schools Swimming Association in July was especially noteworthy. He entered for all four strokes and won them all, in addition to helping both the Medley and the Freestyle teams to first place.

Midsummer Term

As a preparation for the following year's duties R. O. Evans, V. Pohoomull, B. J. B. Wetters and J. Williams from the Lower Sixth, and N. P. Lord, C. L. Porritt and S. Tucker from the Fifth Form were appointed House Prefects.

In a repetition of last year's Middle School Basketball competition, both Fraser teams reached the semi-finals. The difference this year was that, having played in different groups until then, they were to meet each other in the semi-final: so of course this was a tense and fiercely contested match. Each side was eager to prove its superiority and earn its place in the final, so the result was extremely close, and extra time had to be endured. The winning six (was it the B Team or...?) went on to overwhelm Whitworth by twenty points to two, retaining the shield for a third consecutive year. Outstanding players were M. J. Braddock, C. W. Timm, N. J. Hindley and A. J. Jackson, but all of them worked hard and with considerable skill, gaining valuable experience for themselves and contributing substantially to our House effort. In this competition it is entirely the responsibility of the two team captains to ensure the lunch-time attendance of the twelve boys involved, and it is therefore extremely gratifying to have witnessed the consistency not only of results, but quite simply of turn-out over the last three years.

The junior athletes did remarkably well on Sports Day, amassing just under twice the points of their nearest rival, and over half Fraser's total. The Middle and Senior boys could not match this in spite of very good performances by Worthington (sprints), Carden (javelin), and J. D. Jacobs (800m. and 1500m.). Nevertheless we were only thirty-four points behind the winning House, Heywood, and most of these points came from their success in the Relays. N. E. J. Thompson came close to winning the Junior Individual cup with good wins in the 100m. and 200m. sprints, N. J. Hindley won the High Jump, and Jackson displayed his versatility in coming in second in the 200m. and winning the 1500m. (here supported by D. L. Williams and A. D. Ryan in second and third places). K. J. M. Stephenson and N. de B. Baynes also made a useful contribution.

I have occasionally been tempted to exclude any reference to Fraser's performances in cricket from these termly notes, but have always relented, finding some more or less constructive comment to make. This year there is rather more to report! Our efforts in the Middle School League were extremely encouraging and were rewarded with a joint second placing (with Gaskell). The knockout results brought little comfort, however. The Senior XI was granted the doubtful privilege of a bye in the preliminary round. When House cricketers have effectively no opportunity to play before the competition begins, and yet no straight into the second round to meet a team that has already played together—and won—then their fairly rapid demise is hardly startling. Three days after the defeat of our Seniors the Junior XI played their first-round match against Heywood, but they too collapsed, D. M. J. Timm being the only boy to run up a decent total, topping the half-century against some skilful bowlers. Timm distinguished himself greatly this summer, in fact. He captained Manchester Schools Under 14 XI, represented Lancashire Schools at both Under 14 and Under 15 level, and played for the School First XI while still only fourteen, the youngest player to do so since the present Chairman of the Governors some few years ago! On four occasions this season he scored a century, including a huge 166 for Manchester Schools Under 14 XI. The School and the House were delighted and proud to be able to congratulate also his elder brother, C. W. Timm, this summer: firstly for being chosen to captain the Manchester Schools Under 15 XI, and then for his outstanding innings of 130 against Birkenhead School which established a new record for a batsman's score in any School cricket match.

With our two best tennis players, I. R. Ladd and E. Viner, away from School, we had insufficient strength to make much progress in the Senior Tennis Knockout. Their absence did, however, provide some less experienced players with the opportunity to try their hand at competitive tennis, and I was grateful for their willing help.

After a cursory practice, Thompson and Jackson, Loveland and Hindley, were chosen to form the first and second pairs respectively in our Junior Tennis Team. After successful preliminary rounds the Final was played while the House Master was on camp with the C. C. F. in North Yorkshire, so the good news of our victory had to be carried up to Wathgill Training Camp by Courier !

At half term J. R. G. McManus, V. Poloomull and G. P. Wadsworth were appointed temporary School Prefects by the Head Master.

During half term a party of Fraser boys, some of the Second Formers destined for the House in September, the House Master and his small daughter, spent a super day at Alton Towers, the historic house in Staffordshire whose beautiful grounds contain various entertainment complexes. The day was pleasant and leisurely, and a great opportunity for boys of various ages to get to know each other in an environment very different from that of their School.

This then has been a year of mixed fortunes for Fraser, as most are, but it has also been a year in which many boys have, through diverse accomplishments and achievements on behalf of their House, brought great credit to that House and to themselves.

Tatham and Olive were both in their different ways able Heads of House who took a great interest in all our activities. Odum and Ladd were excellent deputies, running games practices and spreading their own enthusiasm to all quarters of the House. Many of the Prefects were actively involved and interested too; I was always grateful for this.

The House was shocked to learn of the tragic death of Michael Percy who left School last summer and had just completed his first year at Bangor University, where he had been regarded extremely highly. Our sincerest sympathies are extended to his family.

D. M. Fisher

GASKELL HOUSE

Rugby Report

This was a particularly successful season for Gaskell, as we won the House and Sevens competitions, and featured in an exciting Knockout final. Our position in the K.O. final was achieved by beating Dalton 6 points to 4 in round one, and disposing of Fraser rather easily in the Semi-finals. However we were beaten 7-4 by Whitworth in the final; on the day they pulled out all the stops and were deserved winners. Our congratulations to Whitworth who went on to make it a double by winning the Junior K.O.

The House League was won in convincing style, due to the commitment of all the players in both the 1st and 2nd teams. The 1st team lost only one game against Fraser 9-8 which I will not comment on, and drew one against Byrom 4-4. Heywood proved to be our nearest rivals in both the 1st and 2nd team games, and kept the pressure on us throughout the term. However, when we played them, both games at 1st team level were a credit to House rugby, the results being 10-9 in favour of Gaskell.

The second team won most of their games by large margins but were beaten twice by Heywood 40-0 and 12-8. The 40-0 was only because on that particular day we were very short of players. Apart from this minor set back the team had a marvellous season and were a good back up to our 1st team.

A quick word about the sevens competition. A resounding win for Gaskell, who went right through the competition without conceding a game. A fine performance by both sides.

Our rugby at 3rd and 4th year leaves a lot to be desired. To keep the cups on the Gaskell pillar is going to mean a great deal of hard work for these in the future. Our efforts this year were not really good enough as shown by early exits in the K.O. and not enough commitment in the league. Let us hope we can show more spirit next year. I am sure we are capable.

House Captain: G. A. P. Dunn

Senior K.O. Captain: P. J. Torkington

Sevens Captain: P. J. Torkington

Junior K.O. Captain: A. M. Woodhouse

House Vice-Captain: S. C. McLoughlin

J. F. Chudleigh

Lacrosse

In a season once again devastated by the Manchester weather, Gaskell gave a creditable all-round performance, with more than one surprise. At the pre-season briefing I was told by the House Master

that we had a strong set of 5th formers who would strengthen the Senior teams, but that the 4th and 3rd years were rather weak.

At the beginning of the Senior League I had high expectations of Gaskell walking away with the trophy. The 5th formers were as good as I had been told, on paper the 2nd Team equal in standard to most of the other Houses 1st teams and there was a tremendous team spirit which had been carried through from the League-winning, Senior Rugby teams. In life, however, things rarely live up to expectations and we ended up a poor third in the final table. We let too many teams off the hook—against Byrom the 1st team drew 8-8, that was after being 7-1 up with 15 minutes left. What could have been, was clearly demonstrated in the penultimate game of the season when we beat Heywood, the eventual runners up of the League, 10-1.

The 4th year team did not feature in the battle for their League title, they had no outstanding players to turn the games in their favour, but still managed some good results through hard work and enjoyment.

The 3rd years were the pleasant surprise. I for one was not expecting very much from the team but they all battled hard and came out as joint league winners. Much of the credit for this must go to J. R. C. King, who captained the side superbly, leading by example, until his true potential was realised and he was belatedly called up onto the squad.

Neither of the two knock-out teams made any impression in their respective competitions, both falling at the first hurdle.

The rather indifferent season so far was finally put to rights when Gaskell won the Hewlett Cup 6-a-side competition. All the players seemed to peak at the same time; the whole of the House knew this was the last chance to pick up some silver-ware to add to the 3rd year trophy. We managed to get 4 teams through to their respective finals and although they all lost we gained enough points to win the competition by one.

In spite of several disappointing matches, Gaskell teams played well and hopefully next season will prove even more rewarding.

S. D. Howe

HEYWOOD HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

The following appointments were made:

Head of House: N. Fryman

Deputy Heads of House: J. M. Grisman, W. H. Johnson

House Prefects: D. J. Andrews, I. B. Beckett*, D. A. Kelly, A. M. Pollard*, A. P. Townend, G. J. B. Muir, D. Sheinmann, S. Dhul, J. R. Dunn, R. D. Pearn, R. Showman, S. N. Tate.

Captain of League Rugby: N. Fryman

Senior Knockout Captain: J. M. Grisman

Junior Knockout Captain: A. G. Hinchcliffe

(*Denotes School Prefects)

The Term, as usual, revolved around rugby as far as Houses were concerned. There was a change to the format to the House league competition with three separate leagues replacing the one from previous years. Since we had lost many key players from last year's unbeaten 1st XV, hopes were not high at the start of the season. However, although the team was greatly changed, the spirit remained and Heywood was neck and neck with Gaskell for the Senior league right up to the last match of the Term. The key games were the two matches between Gaskell and Heywood 1st XVs. Both matches were an excellent advertisement for House rugby, being very close, hard fought games. Unfortunately, Heywood lost both games narrowly, when a draw in either one would have given the title to Heywood. Gaskell took the title by just 6 points. Praise should go to the Heywood 2nd team who, after losing the opening game of the season 11-10 to Fraser, were victorious in all other matches.

In the fourth form league, Heywood finished third. This was a little disappointing since the team, on paper, looked capable of better things. The third form team, on the other hand, came fifth but can feel satisfied with their efforts. Although not particularly strong, the team was well led by J. P. Trigg. From being a weak team, they developed into a respectable side and, more importantly, began to enjoy their rugby.

Heywood's involvement in the Knockouts was limited to just two matches, both of which were against Whitworth, the eventual winners of both Senior and Junior competitions. In the Senior Knockout, Heywood reached the semi-final by virtue of a bye and played against Whitworth in a very dour game. Whitworth scored an early try and that was the only score of the game. It was a vastly

improved Whitworth side that deservedly beat Gaskell in the final. The first round Junior Knockout game between Heywood and Whitworth was a much more lively affair than the Senior game had been. Whitworth had the much stronger pack but Heywood's backs, with A. G. Hinchcliffe and R. W. Bailey outstanding, kept the match in the balance. A Hinchcliffe penalty near the end seemed to have won the match only for Whitworth to come back with a last minute try to win 24-20.

The season also saw the introduction of a Rugby 'sevens' inter-House competition. Heywood, with only two squad players, did not distinguish themselves, finishing joint fifth with one win from four games played. In spite of this lack of success, the competition makes an enjoyable and interesting change from the fifteen-a-side game.

House activities at lunch-time were rather limited. Five-a-side soccer was organised by T. Ahmed but his efforts were often thwarted by the Sports Hall being out of action. The Bridge Club continued with a small but keen membership, while the Tuck Shop, run by R. Showman, opened in the early part of the Term. The only other House activity was a weekend Hardraw trip for the prefects run in conjunction with Whitworth House. The number of prefects on this trip was a little disappointing—perhaps the others knew that we had chosen one of the wettest weekends of the year! In spite of the weather, the trip was a good one and I would hope to repeat this venture in the future.

The House was well represented in School Drama. Miss Green's production of *The Town That Would Have a Pageant* included A. M. Pollard in the leading rôle as well as P. A. Iredale, J. L. Lighthill, G. J. White and R. D. Nieri. As a result of this and previous productions, Iredale and Lighthill were awarded Full School Colours.

Lent Term

During the Christmas holiday W. H. Johnson heard that he had been awarded an Open Scholarship to read Mathematics at University College, Oxford. It is very pleasing to see success go to someone who has always supported the House both on and off the sports field. Johnson was also appointed a School Prefect early in the Term.

The following House appointments were made:

Captain of League Lacrosse: S. Tate, I.A.K. Watt

Senior Knockout Captain: N. Fryman

Junior Knockout Captain: A. G. Hinchcliffe

Drama Producers: P. A. Iredale, J. L. Lighthill

Music Producer: A. M. Pollard

Cross-country Captain: G. W. Wright

Swimming Captain: T. A. W. Jones

With Easter being late this year, the Lent Term was a long one but the number of events still ensured that the Term was as congested as ever. The House made a disappointing start, going out of the Lacrosse Senior Knockout in the first round. We were not expected to beat Fraser but, starting with only nine men, we did not give them a game. There was further disappointment in House Swimming. T. A. W. Jones had organised the team very well, concentrating our efforts on the relays. However, this plan came unstuck when two of Heywood's relay teams were disqualified for faulty changeovers in the heats. Both teams won by such clear margins that it made the faulty takeovers seem even more ludicrous. The other four Heywood relay teams qualified for the finals but the two disqualifications cost Heywood any chance of overall success: Heywood were placed fourth in both the relay and individual competitions. J. P. Curran atoned somewhat for his faulty takeover in the Medley relay by providing Heywood's only individual success in the Senior Freestyle.

In the Lacrosse Junior Knockout Heywood progressed to the final by virtue of a bye in the first round followed by a narrow win against Whitworth in the semi-final. The final, against Fraser, looked likely to be another close contest but was marred by an ugly incident in the first few minutes which resulted in A. G. Hinchcliffe, the Heywood captain, being sent off along with a Fraser player. Although the scores were close up to three-quarter time, Heywood lacked penetration without Hinchcliffe and Fraser ran out comfortable winners.

After finishing last in last year's cross-country relay competition the House was determined to improve. G. W. Wright managed to get several lunch-time practices in and this contributed to Heywood's improved position: Heywood finished fifth but the points were very close (apart from the winners, Byrom) and if C. A. L. Ishemo had been fit Heywood could have finished considerably higher. The Hewlett Cup (Lacrosse 6-a-side) was played, for once, in beautiful conditions and produced a fascinating competition. Just three points separated the first four Houses and Heywood finished joint third. Three of Heywood's teams remained undefeated: the Senior A team, the Senior D team and the Fourth Form A team. The Lacrosse Term finished with much confusion. Heywood's Senior teams were undefeated in the league with just two weeks to go but then the 1st X lost to Gaskell and in the following

week lost to Whitworth in a match that both Housemasters agreed was the decider for the league. However, at the end of the Term Heywood were presented with the trophy which, presumably, will be taken off us next Term. A word of praise for the 2nd X who won all of their matches in spite of having several players who could not catch the ball with any sort of consistency. The third and fourth form leagues were almost as confusing as the Senior league since neither points nor positions were published throughout the Term. If we are to maintain the interest in these leagues then we must have a league table that is updated after each series of matches.

After a hectic Term of sport in which Heywood competed well but did not win anything, there were the Drama and Music competitions in the last week. Heywood's play, *The Headmistress and the Minister*, was co-produced by P. A. Iredale and J. L. Lighthill. The experience of the producers together with the veteran of the stage, A. M. Pollard, ensured a smooth and polished performance which deservedly took first place. It was particularly pleasing for the aforementioned since all three have appeared in several House plays that have come very close to winning without actually doing so. A. M. Pollard was also responsible for organising Heywood's Music entry. He did remarkably well, with limited resources, to produce a programme that earned third place and, if J. M. Langley had been present, would have probably finished second.

Within the House the Tuck Shop opened in earnest after half-term with T. Ahmed as manager. He and his assistants have worked very hard to earn useful revenue for the House. Some money has already been spent on purchasing lacrosse equipment for use within the House. P. A. Iredale and T. Ahmed organised a badminton competition which will be completed during the Summer Term.

Midsummer Term

With the Middle Sixth prefects concentrating on A-levels, temporary school prefects were appointed including four from Heywood: H. A. Gardiner, T. A. W. Jones, P. A. Iredale and G. W. Wright. A similar move was made at House level with the following House prefects being appointed: T. Ahmed, A. J. Cox, H. A. Gardiner, S. J. Hopwood, P. A. Iredale, T. A. W. Jones, J. L. Lighthill, D. Madeley, C. A. Nelson, I. A. K. Watt, J. W. Whittle and G. W. Wright.

Other appointments for the Term were:

Captain of Senior Cricket: M. J. Cross

Captain of Athletics: G. W. Wright

Captain of Senior Tennis: H. A. Gardiner

Captain of Senior Cricket: A. G. Hinchcliffe

Captain of Junior Tennis: J. H. Carroll

The late Easter holiday caused this Term to be shorter than usual producing the inevitable problem of trying to fit many activities in while not affecting examination performances adversely. In the short time leading up to the athletics heats it was decided not to do standards as in previous years but to spend the time more profitably in trying to sort out the best teams for the heats. G. W. Wright and T. A. W. Jones organised the team so well that Heywood had more qualifiers for Sports Day than any other House. It was this strength in depth that proved decisive on Sports Day for, although Heywood had only five individual winners from the thirty-three events, Heywood gained many points from lower places and won the overall competition. It was a very close contest with the result in doubt right up to the relays, but wins in the Middle and Senior relays left Heywood 20 points clear of Dalton in the end. R. W. Bailey, with two wins and a second place in his individual events, won the China Cup for the best Junior athlete while other individual winners were A. G. Hinchcliffe, J. P. Curran and J. Leung.

Hopes were high in the Junior Cricket Knockout especially after Heywood had beaten a strong Fraser side comfortably in the first round. However, in the semi-final, Heywood met Dalton in what turned out to be an entertaining match between two evenly balanced sides. In a nailbiting finish Dalton won through to the final where they beat Whitworth with ease. A. J. Sayyid bowled his slow left arm round the wicket with fine control in both matches to obtain excellent figures. In the Senior competition Heywood also lost to the eventual winners, Dalton, in the semi-final but this match was a little one-sided.

The basketball competition was again somewhat devalued by the number of Houses who failed to turn out teams. Heywood was guilty in this respect, both teams being disqualified for non-attendance of matches during examination week when it had seemed likely that both teams would qualify for the semi-finals. As usual the last House competitions of the year were the Tennis Knockouts which were played after the examinations. Heywood's Junior team lost to Gaskell in the first round while the Senior team qualified to play Whitworth in the final but the final could not be played before the end of Term came round. It is hoped that this final will be played next Term.

It was a busy Term within the House also. The badminton competition started in the Lent Term was finally completed with T. A. W. Jones the winner. Except for a break during the examinations, the Heywood Tuck Shop continued to flourish under the management of T. Ahmed. The profit from the Tuck Shop is used to finance House activities and there were two major events that benefited. Firstly,

the House Trip to Alton Towers was subsidised and the occasion was blessed by glorious weather, adding to the enjoyment of this popular trip. Secondly, towards the end of Term, a Sixth Form Social was held at Whalley Range A.F.C. There was an excellent buffet prepared by Mr. Gregson and trophies were awarded to the winners of a darts knockout and a pool pairs knockout. The former was won convincingly by J. R. Dunn while the latter was won, somewhat surprisingly, by S. N. Tate and J. L. Lighthill. Almost all Heywood sixth formers attended what was a very pleasant way to celebrate the end of the School year and to say farewell to the Middle Sixth. I would like to end by thanking all the Heywood leavers for their support over the years and also to thank Mr. Greenall for the help and the interest that he shows in the House.

A. Simkin

WHITWORTH HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

Apart from new third formers, we were pleased to welcome two new lads into the House. D. Brewer joined us from Davenant Foundation School, Loughton in Essex and D. L. Phillips from Bury Grammar School. We had said goodbye to a fair number of useful fifth form House Members at the end of last term. Three House Prefects, N. R. Fairfax, R. Hussain and D. Looker were appointed as School Prefects – N. R. Fairfax to Deputy Head of School.

The usual lunch time distractions were well attended by performers and spectators alike. Due to rather frustrating problems with the Sports Hall the 5-a-side competition final games had to be carried over to the Lent Term. Table Tennis, bridge and chess continued to flourish throughout the term. The Library again received some useful additions.

The purchase of a 4-slice toaster, primarily for House Prefect use, allowed the development of an addition to previous tuck-shops tasties, a facility for those who miss breakfast and provided a generally inviting aroma around the House Room. The revenue generated meant the House could again provide its Prefects with free refreshments by way of drinks and toast. Refreshment was also on offer during and after many House Games. Photographic records of House Life along with exhibitions for the walls of the House Rooms again took a fair portion of the tuck sales profits. House Prefects visited Blackpool at half-term taking in the Lights and a meal at a steak-house before a mild work-out at the Pleasure Beach. As a novice to the roller-coaster I was much indebted to S. D. Looker's telephone-Samaritan-like talk-through of the ride just seconds before I experienced the reality!

This has been one of the most successful terms for rugby. The Junior League was split after the first few weeks into separate third and fourth form competitions. Whitworth's team, under the captaincy of G. V. Gillaspay, won the third form league having beaten every team played. The fourth year team were less fortunate, probably due to the numbers removed for squad purposes. In the knock-out competition captain S. J. Beggs and his team faced Heywood in the first round. Whitworth looked dominant from the start with an early try by Beggs in the corner from a penalty. Another try from P. P. Arnfield brought the score to 8-0. Two Heywood tries resulted from missed tackles by both forwards and backs. By fifteen minutes from the end Whitworth were struggling; the score was now 20-18 to Heywood. D. E. Walker just stopped a deep kick from the opposition which paved the way to a win for Whitworth after a succession of 5 metre scrums. Just before full time D. R. P. Kirby scored an excellent try through the middle of a ruck. M. A. Thorley converted this to make the final score 24-20.

The second round was against Byrom. Here good work by hooker A. J. Tidman allowed D. R. P. Kirby to make good runs with support from many including D. K. W. Hinnells who went on to score the first try by driving over from about in yards. A cut lip on A. M. Dickin looked very bad news but the lad realised a talent like his was more useful on the field at this point in time; after all he could spend his lunch hour at the hospital! J. Garlick presented some pressure after kicking a penalty and then scoring from a kick through. W. R. Smith played hard right up to the final whistle having run from outside the Byrom 22 to the try line only to have the try disallowed. The determination of the greens continued to the end—they were never safe—but a score of 12-7 made all the effort seem worthwhile.

By the appointed day much speculation and excitement had been generated with regard to the teams to perform in the Junior knock-out. Fraser appeared to be dominated in the opening minutes, A. J. Tidman performing particularly well, but then Fraser's Thompson managed to score a try but was unable to convert. An aggravated Whitworth tried to remedy the action of this lad but play tended to be rather scrappy and uneventful up to half-time apart from a well deserved try from S. J. Beggs supported by D. R. P. Kirby and cool conversion by M. A. Thorley. Thompson again presented problems in the early part of the second half when he scored after receiving a ball passed back very fast from a line out. Strong tackling from P. P. Arnfield and M. A. Thorley especially gave Fraser a hint of this team's intentions—to

leave the field with a win. Good forward play from W. R. Smith and D. K. W. Hinnells ensured the ball stayed close to the Fraser try line. Smith was frustrated more than once in his attempts to score from previous hard work. Eventually the try materialised with Kirby collecting a loose ball and passing to J. Bradley who managed to run round the Fraser defence to score the winning try four minutes from the end of play 12-8.

The Seniors followed a similar pattern to the Juniors in terms of their success in rugby. In the league though, despite the strong captaincy of D. J. Adams and S. J. Cherry the determination to win every week soon wore thin particularly when facing the strength and talents within the Gaskell and Heywood teams. The Rugby Sevens Competition, rather like the Hewlett Cup Competition for Lacrosse, provides an exercise for the development of strategy rather than feeling resigned to the fact that the best will win. Of course, in the dashing speed with which such competitions take place, one cannot see all the games so here is but a simple review. Basically, of the two Whitworth teams presented, team one lost both games; to Dalton 22-0, to Fraser 20-0. Team two won both games; against Dalton 10-6, against Heywood 16-10. This second team then went on to win the Final against Fraser 18-6. The computation of Whitworth's position overall was beyond me but a good time was had by all!

The knock-out competition is always clear-cut. A bye in the first round guaranteed our appearance in the second. Here we faced Heywood which despite a win, 4-0, provided by a try from D. J. Adams, was an otherwise unconvincing match. There was a distinct lack of co-ordination between forwards and backs and several penalty kicks were missed. The Final was played the day after Whitworth Juniors won their final. The strategies, skills and style, engendered, but never tested, by the Seniors were now 'on trial' for the Juniors and one or two others to observe. The team ran out to the traditional cheer for the under dogs. Greater experience and weight in the Gaskell pack certainly presented problems here. The front row, though, improved as the game continued. Midway through the first half D. A. Thorley kicked a successful penalty and placed Whitworth on the score sheet. Incensed, Gaskell came back even harder but were somehow held off from scoring before half time. Indeed it was some time after the break that M. Roland managed to force his way through the stretched defence line to produce a try without conversion. At 4-3 down I recalled the number of times I have seen Whitworth lose heart after an initial brave, forthright start. This was to be an exception. With minutes to go a move, which began deep in Whitworth's half, saw the ball come to McDonnell whose pace and penetration breached the Gaskell defence and, despite being tackled, his momentum carried him over the line. So ended a game which gave Whitworth two knockout wins in two days. As a cool, calm and restrained sports spectator the thrill of Whitworth winning those two matches will stay with me for sometime. I hope the path leading to that success will be remembered when cold, wet and windy days discourage the development and practice of skills. I hope we will remember also the endeavours of lads like R. Hussain, N. R. Fairfax and others who realised the potential within their teams and were willing to use their time and effort to promote it. I awarded House Colours to all the field participants in the knockouts for their excellence.

Lent Term

The 5-a-side finals carried over from last term were never satisfactorily completed. A damp sportshall floor, the ineffective working and teething problems associated with the newly-installed cricket nets were to be several of many real and imagined problems besetting the running of House activities this Term. The Swimming Competition at the end of January saw many fine performances from the House particularly at 3rd and 4th form level. H. Bor, R. D. Glyn, A. L. Cross and P. A. Stanley provide a formidable core for next year. J. S. Moores claimed two first placings and showed his talent with S. J. Beggs, A. M. Dickin and D. R. P. Kirby when this team won the medley relay. Senior House Members showed much less enthusiasm and talent generally despite the sterling motivating efforts of S. P. Mitchell and D. A. Thorley. The House was placed third in both individual and relay events.

The Hewlett Cup, 6-a-Side competition, is one in which this House has great difficulty in making any substantial impression. This year was no exception. There is much talent, skill, support and endeavour in the preparation and during the games of this well organised event but sadly the strategies employed just never seem appropriate. The league lacrosse at Senior level had got off to a very bad start during the early part of the term due to poor weather causing cancellation of matches. When conditions improved a fair amount of apathy pervaded the teams such that full teams were not turned out on two or three occasions. Rather stern measures ensured this state of affairs did not persist and surprisingly efforts and enthusiasm increased manyfold. Indeed only one first team game was lost during the Term. I hope that players have realised that the only way the House can excel in such team games is for all Members to put in their best effort. If I am honest, I think this is one trophy we should not have won. This feeling was certainly shared by the Games Department who directed the Cup to be awarded to Heywood before the Easter break. It was two weeks into the mid-Summer Term before the rightful home on the Whitworth shelf was declared. (Some people suggested it was a ploy to reduce the number of Whitworth Members on stage when this and the other Lent trophies were distributed.)

D. R. P. Kirby accepted the 4th form league cup on behalf of his highly talented team. The 3rd form were not successful but the talents of G. V. Gillaspay, R. M. Jones (as goalkeeper), M. Mankelow and S. C. Meert have not gone unnoticed. Their efforts with the fourth formers in the knock-out did not gel and despite a good start and fine individual work from W. R. Smith who scored four and Captain Kirby with a similar score this was not sufficient to override the eye, pluck and speed of Hinchcliffe of Heywood. This was an exciting game played on a cold day with a final score of 10-8 for Heywood. At Senior level Dalton left us in no doubt of who were the victors on every count. A 12-0 loss at this stage did not discourage the lads from ever playing lacrosse again—just nearly. Some good work by N. R. Fairfax saving many attempts at goal were high spots in an otherwise one-sided match.

A determination for the House to produce good runners for the Cross-country Competition was generated very early in the term by A. C. Cheung. Neither the bitterly cold lunch times nor the pale, frozen faces and limbs of his fellow Members discouraged him from the many practices which led to Whitworth obtaining a 3rd placing. This is the best position the House has held for some years and with the efforts of new members H. Bor, R. D. Glyn, and P. A. Stanley prospects look good for next year. In this competition the Seniors were particularly useful in pulling up places, S. D. Bailey, J. D. Pollard and P. G. H. Thomas and age-hardened runners like M. J. Hinnells all gave excellent performances in a highly competitive event.

The Deterrent by Charles Mander was a new play to the House Drama Competition circuit. On the surface this is quite a good play, perhaps a little ambitious, but executed by the small cast with much verve and appreciation from the audience.

Most of the entertainment (at least judging from audience acceptance) came in the early moments. S. Espiga-Ventura, who only needs to appear to raise a laugh, and M. Mankelow, the distraught wife, with pet problems bigger than herself and her husband put together could solve, were magnificent. M. S. Donnelly provided a chirpy TV man (and his Dad), a short-lived part but handled well and confidently. M. J. Hinnells' part was none too easy: a lady vet with a big bust and bigger visions as to how this 'pet' could be put to the benefit of Mankind and Flinch's pocket. Despite earlier awkward problems, at rehearsal, I think the part was handled well without going over the top. General preparation, rehearsal and presentation went well this year mainly due to the efforts of producer (S. Espiga-Ventura) and the back stage lads S. J. Beggs and S. D. Barnham as prompters. The play was placed second with S. Espiga-Ventura winning the award for best individual performance.

Whitworth have long provided a high standard for the House Music Competition. This year was no exception and resulted in the trophy remaining on the shelf for another twelve months. R. W. McHale's opening on the organ, Bach's Prelude in D Minor, seemed to set the scene for a half hour of varied entertainment. Five lads played the piano at some stage which may make the programme sound poorly balanced but the variety was certainly provided here by each individual's style and piece. Interspersed duets and a trio gave pleasant relief by way of contrast to solo items. A band, Spiral Dream, presented a contemporary item, penned by vocalist M. L. H. Thomas called 'The Same'. As they strode their way through this haunting ditty murmurings from the audience indicated approval but would the judges like it? S. J. Beggs' magnificent close was also a powerful number, undisturbed by the bell which tried to draw us from the enticing web the Whitworth Musicians had spun around us all. S. D. Barnham had organised the event over a long period suffering all the usual problems of rehearsal and practice sessions but managing to put together a show superior to most I've ever seen. The judges obviously felt similarly disposed—the House was given a first placing with 128 points, sixteen points more than its nearest rival.

For those who did not manage to see the Whitworth performances first time around both Music and Drama from the House featured in the Music and Drama afternoon. The drama judges had again made comment regarding the size of audience but the fact remains that people will be reluctant to venture out after School time when they can see it during this afternoon. Coupled with the fact that the original cast are often absent through illness, Corps commitment or otherwise, it surprises me that this ritual continues in its present form.

In conclusion this was probably the most successful term, with respect to competition placings, I have seen the House produce. The endeavour and enthusiasm shown this term will hopefully be a feature of the future too.

Midsummer Term

Success in Cricket in Whitworth has followed a somewhat erratic path over the last few years. This year we took a low path. In the Senior Knock-out the House was beaten in the first round by Dalton despite fine batting performances from M. J. Hinnells and N. R. Fairfax. The Juniors beat Byrom by six wickets in the first round, Gaskell by 84 runs in the second but lost to Dalton by 46 runs in the final. Batters of note here included P. P. Arnfield, D. R. P. Kirby, M. A. Thorley and A. R. Tomlinson. Much was lost, by way of enthusiasm and involvement in House activities, by there being no spectators at the Junior Knock-out games.

Athletics again saw a low point in the Whitworth year. Whitworth was placed 6th with 77.5 points (compared to Heywood's 1st of 180.5) The House certainly manages to get people to the finals but suffers from lack of follow through once this has been achieved. This year only six Whitworth names appeared in the winners' lists: R. Hussain for 400m, J. F. Olpinski (200m), S. M. Black (Shot), S. J. Beggs (Discus and Long Jump), A. M. Dickin (Shot) and J. Bradley for triple jump. The House can only do better next year.

The lunchtime Basketball Competition was again a great success in terms of its high competitive nature. The clockwork-precise organisation and umpiring, largely by Mr. Seddon, served only to heighten the tensions. I felt Whitworth had done well to secure one team in the final but a score of 20:2 against us indicated that Fraser had very definitely the upper hand throughout. It was pleasing to see the gallery full of appreciative spectators.

As the last fortnight of the year arrives so does the House Tennis Competition. At Junior level the House was well beaten by Fraser; 4 games to 10 against J. S. Moores and W. R. Smith and 5 games to 10 against H. Bor and A. L. Cross. At Senior level Whitworth achieved a place in the final against Heywood but as yet have not played for it.

This year has certainly been a very busy one for the House and one in which I needed, and found, much support from my Senior House Prefects. I hope they have every success and good fortune in their chosen paths and look back on their time in Whitworth with some happiness. My thanks are due also to Mr. Gracey and Mr. Sharp for their many appearances and guidance at House events and to Mr. Shaw who appears to have been 'dropped' from the list of assistants to the House for the next year.

R. S. Moore

Sports Shorts 1983-84

The U14 and U15 Rugby Teams won the Manchester School Knock Out Competition for the first time. Congratulations to both teams.

D. Khan and J. Moores both swam for Manchester Schools Swimming Team.

J. D. Crews gained the qualifying height in the High Jump for English Schools Athletics in July. Good luck to him in that competition.

S. Hinds won the Triple Jump in the Greater Manchester County Athletics Competition. J. D. Crews won the High Jump in the same competition. Other notable performances in the above competition were by B. Cardern, 4th place in the Intermediate Javelin, G. Wright, 6th place in the 100m for Seniors and R. Bailey, 5th place in the Intermediate 100m.

M. A. Sever represented the U18 Manchester Schools Cross Country Team in the Greater Manchester Championships.

A. Hinchcliffe captained the U15 Manchester Schools Rugby Team. A. Smith and N. Thompson were also in the team.

D. Khan won all four individual events at Intermediate Age group at the Manchester Schools' Swimming Championships. The intermediate Boys' Medley and Squadron Relay Teams are Manchester Schools Swimming Champions. A. St. J. Dawes gained 4th place in the Intermediate Breast Stroke. J. Moores gained 3rd place in the Intermediate Backstroke in the same competition.

C. W. Timm set a new school record by scoring 130 runs not out against Merchant Taylors. This was his maiden century. Well done.

D. Hallows played for the Lancashire Senior Side, the first schoolboy ever to represent the Senior side. He was also a reserve for the England Team playing in Los Angeles.

L. J. Pye and G. Cleary were part of the Lancashire U21 Squad. They also managed to play for the Lancashire U18 Squad along with A. Campbell, H. Gardner, I. Ladd, J. McManus, S. Meech, A. Poole, R. Stead and V. Lord.

There were six boys from the School U15 team in the Lancashire U15 Lacrosse Team. Also four boys from the School U14 Team were in the Lancashire U14 Lacrosse Squad. Congratulations to all these boys.

G. B. Moss

GAMES

FIRST XV RUGBY

Results

Played 19, Won 6, Lost 12, Drawn 1.
Points for 213, Against 411.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|------|
| v. Ashton-on-Mersey | | | |
| R.U.F.C. Colts | A | W | 14-0 |
| v. Sale G.S. | H | L | 0-29 |
| v. Watkins XV | H | L | 6-24 |
| v. Marple Hall..... | A | L | 8-31 |
| v. Bramhall High School..... | A | L | 8-17 |
| v. Birkenhead School..... | A | L | 3-62 |
| v. Wilmslow High School..... | A | L | 0-21 |
| v. Cheadle Moseley School .. | H | W | 54-0 |
| v. Loreto College..... | H | W | 29-0 |
| v. St. Bede's College..... | H | W | 24-0 |
| v. Merchant Taylor's, Crosby | A | L | 3-56 |
| v. Castlenock High School | | | |
| (Dublin) | H | L | 4-33 |
| v. Poynton High School..... | A | L | 6-33 |
| v. King Edward School, | | | |
| Lytham | A | L | 6-62 |
| v. Manchester G.S. | H | D | 0-0 |
| v. Bolton School..... | H | W | 9-4 |
| v. Bury Grammar School..... | A | W | 31-4 |
| v. Bambridge Academy | | | |
| (Ireland)..... | H | L | 6-17 |

As the results depict this was to be a disappointing and frustrating season. After a promising 'pre-season' victory at the local club, Ashton-on-Mersey, things began to go badly wrong. Several players were injured and others lost interest. This resulted in an appalling run during September/October when all the games were lost, often against inferior opposition. This reflected an apparent lack of effort and character on the part of certain Senior players, both in training and on the field of play. Skills need to be thoroughly practised, especially when a team lacks individual flair and enterprise. In these circumstances teamwork and organisation were essential if the team was to compete and play to its fullest potential. The lack of commitment and determination to improve resulted in poor performances and led, eventually, to a drop in team morale. Nevertheless, certain individuals (notably P. J. Torkington, W. M. Wallwork, C. P. Tatham, A. P. Marsden and N. R. Fairfax) stuck to their task and their enthusiasm eventually rubbed-off on other players who were more reluctant to give their all. Fine victories were recorded against Lor St. Bede's and Bolton and good performances came against the two Irish touring sides and in the local 'derby' against M.G.S. The strength of the team lay in the forwards and at scrum-half with the captain P. J. Torkington. If the same level of commitment had been shown in the earlier games then the team would have recorded a few more victories, especially at Marple Hall, Bramhall and Poynton where the opposition were of a similar standard. In these games we were often in front but when put under pressure vital tackles were missed and possession squandered. The highlight of the campaign was the fiercely-contested game against M.G.S. where at last the team stuck to its task and competed until the final whistle. Furthermore, W. M. Wallwork and P. J. Torkington were selected for the Manchester Schools U19 XV and the latter went on to play for Cheshire Colts. Finally, I would like to thank

all the parents who supported the team throughout the season and helped maintain team morale through the distressing early months.

At the end of the season full colours were awarded to:

P. J. Torkington, W. M. Wallwork, C. P. Tatham, N. R. Fairfax. Half colours were awarded to: N. W. Barber, G. P. Benson, J. R. Braddock, R. G. Dalgleish, R. Hussain, H. A. Gardiner, I. Lieberman, M. A. Roland, A. P. Marsden, E. P. Tullock, H. J. Pimlott, K. M. McDonnell, D. G. Shelston, G. P. Wadsworth.

M. Roden

SECOND XV RUGBY

Results

Played 14, Won 9, Lost 5.
Points for 212, Against 118.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|---|-------|
| v. Sale G.S. | H | L | 0-22 |
| v. Marple Hall | A | W | 26-6 |
| v. Bramhall H.S. | A | W | 28-0 |
| v. Birkenhead School | A | L | 10-18 |
| v. Wilmslow H.S. | A | W | 16-6 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme School | A | L | 6-15 |
| v. St. Bede's | H | W | 23-4 |
| v. Merchant Taylor's | A | W | 6-0 |
| v. Audenshaw H.S. | H | W | 24-10 |
| v. Castlenock H.S. Dublin ... | H | L | 7-8 |
| v. Poynton H.S. | A | W | 16-3 |
| v. King Edward's | A | L | 7-26 |
| v. Manchester G.S. | H | W | 20-0 |
| v. Bolton School | A | W | 13-0 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | Cancelled | | |

The outstanding feature of this season's matches was the strength of character which typified the performance of the Second XV. Although there were often occasions when there was a need for a higher level of technical skill, the team continued to demonstrate a tremendous spirit of aggression, which was such a refreshing part of last year's games, and which again produced a highly creditable set of results.

There were three major highlights to the season. The Birkenhead match illustrated the fighting spirit when, although reduced to thirteen men, we took the game to our opponents so fiercely that Birkenhead were relieved to finish the game, winners. The game was marred however by a serious injury to R. J. Goodier, which unfortunately kept him out of the remaining matches.

Against Merchant Taylor's School, the team maintained a consistently tight defence, founded on tackling of an unusually high quality. The Castlenock result was a little frustrating in that the team played well enough to win, but just failed to press home the advantages created by their stirring play.

The forwards made up for their lack of height and weight by sheer aggression. H. J. Pimlott proved to be a very capable pack-leader, exemplary in both attitude and performance. Both he and the Palmer brothers gave real commitment to the pack with their sometimes terrifying ferocity. Other invaluable performances which contributed to the team's success were the efficient line-out jumping of S.A. Meech, the excellent

rucking of D. Madeley and A. P. Fox, and the abilities of S. P. Mitchell at hooker.

The handling and tackling of the backs improved steadily as the season progressed, D. A. Thorley completing two years of loyal service to the team with a string of useful performances, whilst the abilities of P. T. Fearnley, P. D. R. Gaskell and K. McDonnell, provided a solid base for the back division.

A word of praise is due for players such as A. S. Campbell, J. R. G. McManus, A. D. Poole, B. P. Cussons, and R. J. Stead for the loyal support and consistent performances, despite their irregular appearances. The fierce competition for places was itself in part responsible for maintaining a high standard of play.

I would like to express, on behalf of the team, our thanks to Mr. Thomson for the enthusiasm and effort he displayed in coaching and refereeing, and to the parents who gave their support, whatever the weather, with such good humour.

G. P. Wadsworth (captain)

UNDER-15 RUGBY

Results

Played 13, Won 10, Lost 3.

Points for 437, Against 120.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-------|
| v. Sale G.S. | L | 6-16 |
| v. Marple Hall School | W | 61-0 |
| v. Bramhall H.S. | W | 59-0 |
| v. Birkenhead School | L | 9-27 |
| v. Wilmslow H.S. | W | 28-6 |
| v. Cheadle Moseley School .. | W | 52-0 |
| v. St. Bede's | W | 20-6 |
| v. Merchant Taylor's, Crosby .. | W | 44-0 |
| v. Audenshaw H.S. | W | 26-24 |
| v. Poynton H.S. | L | 23-27 |
| v. Manchester G.S. | W | 14-4 |
| v. King Edward VII School, . | | |
| Lytham | W | 28-4 |
| v. Bury G.S. | W | 66-6 |

The following boys represented the school: P. P. Arnfield, S. J. Beggs, M. J. Braddock, R. Burns, D. P. Clarke, A. M. Dickin, J. J. Garlick, A. Y. Hessayon, A. G. Hinchcliffe, A. Y. Jameson, D. R. P. Kirby, I. S. McCartney, N. J. Pitcher, A. O. Qureshi, A. D. Smith, R. D. Swain, N. E. J. Thompson, M. A. Thorley, S. D. Thornton, C. W. Timm, A. M. Woodhouse.

The season was a very satisfactory one with several excellent wins and one or two very close fought encounters. Training concentrated on winning, and using the ball to good effect, eliminating our own errors, and putting the opposition under enough pressure so that they made errors. All the boys worked hard and the team soon began to look sharper than it had in the opening game against Sale. Two convincing wins followed before we entertained Birkenhead School who had inflicted a heavy defeat the previous season. The School began very well and, following a period of intense pressure, scored an early penalty goal. The momentum was maintained until an injury to Garlick enforced changes in the three quarter line which then never really functioned as a unit. Birkenhead, playing very fluid rugby, gradually took control and although the final score may not be a true reflection of the

School's (and in particular Hessayon's) effort, we were beaten by a very good side.

Back we went to the drawing board, and, once again, the players responded well. A run of six wins followed, including the defeat of Merchant Taylor's School in the most notable victory of the season. With a sound platform in front of them the School three quarter line played with every confidence. Hinchcliffe had an outstanding game using the space created by, and for, him, to devastating effect.

Poynton brought us down to earth. Their aggressive style of play highlighted our weaknesses; the forwards were outplayed for much of the match and as a result we were always on the defensive. The tackling was weak; players were not going up onto their man to make the tackle but were hanging back. This allowed Poynton to run the ball at us and we always looked to be in some difficulty.

Lytham and M.G.S. suffered as a result of this defeat, with the School playing very well to win in both these, and the Bury G.S. fixtures. Several players, notably Swain, Arnfield, Braddock and Garlick, performed very well indeed.

The captaincy was shared between Swain and Hinchcliffe. Both boys, in their own way, led the team well although Swain is possibly more suited to lead the pack. Hinchcliffe, a leader by example, must develop the tactical and decision-making skills necessary to lead a team at the highest level.

The under-15 pack matured into a tightly knit unit. Dickin, Qureshi and Swain propped efficiently, thus enabling Clarke to win an ample supply of scrum ball. Timm worked hard at the basics of his game, and, with Arnfield, performed well all season. The back row of Hessayon, Braddock and Beggs improved with every game, but, such is the nature of modern back row play, they still have much to learn.

Behind the scrum, Thornton was quietly efficient but could possibly have taken more on himself. Charlesworth, who played after Thornton was injured, lacked the physical presence to fully commit the opposition, but did all that was asked of him. The fly half spot was a problem; We had no player who fitted the bill exactly. Smith, and later Garlick, distributed the ball well but both lack the ability to react quickly under pressure. Kirby and Hinchcliffe were the two centres. Both are sound footballers, having the ability to create space and to time a pass. Neither, however, appears to fully relish the physical side of the game — a crucial aspect of centre play. Thompson and McCartney were the speed men on the wings. Thompson, never elegant in his running, had the direct, physical approach. McCartney looked the more balanced and stylish: both scored some fine tries.

Several players pulled on the number 15 jersey, but as with the fly half position, no candidate made it his own. Sound defence coupled with a willingness to attack are possibly the two most important, and yet difficult, qualities to develop. Smith, Woodhouse and Jameson were tried. Smith eventually graduated to fly half, with Jameson and Woodhouse each playing about 50% of the games. Walsh, Pitcher and Thorley all represented the School and contributed much to the overall team performance.

My lasting memories of the season are the resounding victory against Merchant Taylor's, the never failing support of many parents on the touch line, and the immense team spirit that developed as the season progressed. This last factor as much as anything else

helped to produce a well-balanced team that appeared to enjoy the training almost as much as the games!

During the season Thompson, Smith and Hinchcliffe were selected to represent the Manchester Schools XV, Hinchcliffe also having the honour to captain the side.

During the lent term the School played several matches in the Manchester Schools under 15 competition. The team reached the final, staged at Heaton Moor R.U.F.C., playing against Poynton School. We avenged the defeat during the Michaelmas term by winning the cup 7pts to 3 in a very close and well-fought game.

The following team was selected to play in the final: A. M. Woodhouse, N. E. J. Thomson, I. S. McCartney, A. G. Hinchcliffe (Capt.), D. R. P. Kirby, A. D. Smith, S. D. Thornton, S. J. Beggs, A. Y. Hessayon, M. J. Braddock, C. W. Timm, P. P. Arnfield, R. D. Swain, A. J. Tidman, A. M. Dickin.

C. H. Seddon

UNDER-14 RUGBY

Results

Played 13, Won 13, Lost 0.
Points for 439, Against 79.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---|-------|
| v. Sale G.S. | A | W | 16-12 |
| v. Marple Hall | H | W | 48-0 |
| v. Bramhall H.S. | H | W | 24-12 |
| v. Birkenhead School | H | W | 32-18 |
| v. Wilmslow Harefield | H | W | 60-4 |
| v. Moseley School | Cancelled | | |
| v. St Mark's R.C.H.S. | Cancelled | | |
| v. Cheadle Hulme | A | W | 58-3 |
| v. St. Bede's | A | W | 56-0 |
| v. Merchant Taylor's | H | W | 16-10 |
| v. Audenshaw H.S. | A | W | 38-4 |
| v. Poynton H.S. | H | W | 14-4 |
| v. King Edward VII | H | W | 26-6 |
| v. Manchester G.S. | A | W | 16-0 |
| v. Bury G.S. | A | W | 43-6 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | Cancelled | | |

The following represented the School: S. N. Anning, R. W. Bailey, N. B. Baynes, O. S. Bawany, R. P. Bell, J. Bradley, N. J. Donald, J. P. Garner, N. J. Hindley, S. P. Hinds, A. J. Jackson, R. H. Jones, A. W. Kloss, I. D. Law, M. Lovell, G. J. O'Driscoll, A. J. Sayyid, M. J. Simpson, D. P. Sproson, K. J. M. Stephenson, D. M. J. Timm.

The performance and progress of this team were very encouraging. The style of play developed within this team consisted of good first and second phase possession being translated into tries.

The main quality of this team is their willingness to attack the opposition at every opportunity and this is why they scored so many tries, some ninety-two in all. Having mentioned the main quality it must be pointed out that this team played like a team. Everybody played for each other.

The school entered the Manchester Schools Challenge Cup for the first time. The School was at a small disadvantage in that all the games were to be played in the Lent Term.

The first round saw the School play Manchester G.S. The result was never really in any doubt as the School were worthy winners, winning 22 pts to 0.

The second round was, on paper, a tough one. The School met Poynton H.S. Some magical words from Mr. Roden obviously had the right effect as the School went on to win by 42 pts to 0.

The Schools reputation obviously got around as Ashton-on-Mersey School conceded the game. This put the School into the final, our opponents being Glossop G.S.

The final was played at Heaton Moor R.U.F.C. Our opponents were by no means easy. D. Sproson had on one occasion saved the School early in the match, he had to run 50 yards after a Glossop player who broke through the defence. D. Sproson made a magnificent tackle to stop him just inside the 22m line. That one tackle changed the game for a considerable time.

The School looked as though they would be easy winners as their lines started to be scored. However, with all due credit to Glossop, who never gave up, the last ten minutes were hard. The School looked tired as the lack of matches began to tell. Glossop scored their only points, and the first to be conceded by the School in the whole competition, during the last five minutes. The final score was W.H.G.S. 24 points and Glossop 4.

I would like to thank all those parents who supported the School in all kinds of weather and wish the team all the best for the future.

G. B. Moss

UNDER-13 RUGBY

Results

Played 12, Won 7, Lost 5.
Points for 333, Against 152.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|---|-------|
| v. Sale G.S. | A | L | 12-14 |
| v. Marple Hall | H | W | 54-0 |
| v. Bramhall H.S. | H | L | 0-14 |
| v. Wilmslow Harefield H.S. . | H | W | 50-10 |
| v. Moseley School | H | W | 21-15 |
| v. St. Mark's R.C. H.S. | Cancelled | | |
| v. Cheadle Hulme | H | W | 24-4 |
| v. St. Bede's | A | W | 27-16 |
| v. Audenshaw H.S. | H | L | 17-21 |
| v. Poynton H.S. | H | L | 16-24 |
| v. King Edward VII, Lytham. | H | W | 28-16 |
| v. Manchester G.S. | H | L | 12-18 |
| v. Bury G.S. | H | W | 72-0 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | Cancelled | | |

For the Under-13 XV the 1983 season was one filled with a constantly high level of enthusiasm and determination. Above all, it must be said that throughout the entire season there was a good display of team effort rather than individual play.

The first game of the season against Sale Grammar School was close and very exciting. Following pre-season training it did not take the side long to settle into a routine of good forward play. This proved most encouraging to all. Indeed, an excellent foundation had been laid for the season ahead and the game revealed several weaknesses.

The pack, always drained of energy at full-time, supported well the snarling energy and adroitness of A. S. Ward, along with the frequent bullocking runs through the centre of the opposition made by R. J. Clark and C. Chow. A. S. Ward was always well positioned, picking up the ball at the back of the scrums, linking well with C. J. H. Chudleigh at scrum-half and K. K. Asamoah on the blind-side wing. Generally, the

forwards should be congratulated, as they always seem to be on hand to provide quick possession in the open for their backs and to support them if they were caught. H. P. Scott-Gall was eager to join in attacks from full-back and kicked well on many occasions for greatly needed defensive clearances.

The back play started the season often too ponderous in thought and action. All too often it was the case that the opposition would capitalise on their hesitant handling and poor tackling. Thankfully this was not to last for long. The backs came into their own against Wilmslow Harefield High School where good fluid play commenced. Spectators clapped in appreciation of the way in which the backs, starting with good solid tackling from N. S. Herbert, would turn defence into attack, first through the mid-field and then out to P. W. Jones or W. Yates, both of whom had excellent games on the wing. Towards the end of the season it was good to see the confidence that had been gained—especially from the captain C. J. H. Chudleigh who kicked well and showed his formidable paces in beating two or three defenders before drawing a man and feeding the ball to the wing.

Overall this was a very pleasing season and promises well for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents for their enthusiastic support and mums especially for those clean white shirts.

The following represented the school: T. E. Alford, K. K. Asamoah, N. Barnes, M. E. Beggs, G. J. Bentley, A. J. Bramhall, C. Chow, C. J. H. Chudleigh (Capt.), R. J. Clark, N. S. Herbert, P. W. Jones, M. D. Langslow, S. Oliver, N. J. Ridings, J. E. Roden, S. N. J. Roffey, H. P. Scott-Gall, D. E. R. Schweiger, M. W. Wetherill, J. E. L. Whitcher, S. K. White.

S. C. Grigg.

UNDER-12 XV RUGBY

Results

Played 5, Won 2, Lost 3.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|------|
| v. Cheadle Hulme School | H | L | 8-16 |
| v. Audenshaw G.S. | H | L | 0-4 |
| v. Poynton H.S. | H | W | 16-4 |
| v. King Edward VII, Lytham. | A | L | 4-32 |
| v. Manchester G.S. | A | W | 28-0 |

The first year team met with only limited success. Though there were several forwards who tried hard, the temptation to try to go too far without adequate support often led to the breakdown of our attacks. A more organised approach will be necessary next season, and in Bellass and Bryan the team has strong players with the talent to produce winning performances. They have been well supported by Russell, Jones and Sheriff, and Higginbottom has shown great pace at wing-forward.

The main problem in the backs has been the tackling; only when Daley and Griffiths joined the side did it look as though opposition backs could be contained. Even with them, however, the pressure at Lytham was simply too great. The season did finish with a very encouraging performance at M.G.S., where the whole team recovered from its previous week's embarrassment and really played up to its best standard.

As in previous years a second XV also played, contesting a scoreless draw against Cheadle Hulme and

winning a rousing victory in front of a large crowd at Manchester Grammar School.

The first team was selected from the following:

S. J. Barry, J. D. Bellass, D. R. Bryan, A. P. Daley, C. D. Eastwood, J. Griffiths, P. D. Higginbottom, B. C. Issitt, T. K. Jones, R. P. Kay, S. P. H. Larkin, A. S. Partington, A. Pilling, M. Russell, C. D. Sanderson, B. C. Savage, P. M. Sheriff, R. D. Slown, A. G. Streets, A. J. M. Warwick, T. D. Wright.

C. P. Langford.

FIRST X LACROSSE

Results

Played 17, Won 12, Drawn 1, Lost 4.

Goals for 229, Against 128.

| | | | |
|--|---|---|-------|
| v. Old Waconians 'A' | H | W | 16-6 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme School | A | W | 14-0 |
| v. Cheadle 'B' | H | W | 16-3 |
| v. Timperley 'A' | A | W | 15-5 |
| v. Boardman & Eccles 'A' ... | H | W | 19-6 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | H | L | 12-14 |
| v. South Manchester & Wythenshawe 'A' | A | W | 13-10 |
| v. Sheffield University | A | L | 12-14 |
| v. Nottingham University | A | W | 12-3 |
| v. Cambridge University | A | W | 10-7 |
| v. Oxford University | A | W | 13-2 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | A | L | 8-11 |
| v. Heaton Mersey 'A' | A | D | 12-12 |
| v. Old Hulmeians Ex-'A' | H | W | 18-5 |
| v. Rochdale (Lancs. Cup Final) | | W | 13-12 |
| v. Mellor 'B' | H | W | 14-3 |
| v. Old Hulmeians | H | L | 9-15 |

Other Matches

to International Rules v Urmston (A) L 6-9

to Ladies' Rules v Withington G.S. D 3-3

The School Lacrosse Team was L-E. Pye (Captain), A. S. Cambell (Vice-Captain), R. J. Stead, H. A. Gardiner, S. A. Meech, A. D. Poole, J. D. McManus, D. L. Hallows, A. D. Marsden, V. J. Lord, A. G. Cleary, I. R. Ladd.

N. Fryman, G. P. Wadsworth, S. G. Odum and G. D. Benson also played.

This season saw the development of the School First X into a team to rival the best that has ever been produced, and although true comparisons between different years is impossible, the record, certainly is as good as that of any previous side. They won the Lancashire Cup, reached the final of the Stockport 8-a-side Tournament beating several senior sides; gave the Old Hulmeians First Team a close game, had thirteen players on the Lancashire Under 18 Team and three on the Under-21's, and in D. L. Hallows had the School's first ever full County player, not to mention reserve for the England Team in Los Angeles and breaker of the School goal-scoring record.

The team had two big advantages over other recent good sides; competition for places in all areas of the field, and a fine balance of skills and personalities, lacrosse and social qualities that led to the development of a true team spirit. That spirit is best summed up by the responses and attitudes of those who did not quite make the team for the Final, as well as by those of the boys who did. I cannot praise too highly the efforts and

endeavours of those players who grabbed at the chances to play on the First Team and made it so very difficult to pick the best ten. I am sure that they pushed the team to the heights that reached, more than anything else. Any team that could afford to leave out Benson, Meech, Wadsworth or Lord (never mind all of them) ought to be good!!

The team was built on a rock solid foundation in defence. All players had outstanding games, Stead against Cheadle, Poole marking South Manchester's star attack man, Senior, Meech against Old Hulmeians and Gardiner and Campbell in the Cup Final, when a remarkable interception by Gardiner when he was two against one, gave us the vital possession to score the winning goal.

The qualities of any good midfield have got to be threefold. Speed, excellent ground ball technique, and the heart to fight to the end, and never give up even a seemingly lost cause. The School's midfield surpassed these qualities. With the Captain L-E. Pye leading by example, their whole season was exemplified by their performance in the Cup Final against a more experienced Rochdale side led by England international Jack Simpson. Our middies took the game by the scruff of the neck and chased, worried, harrassed and pressured the Rochdale team over every inch of the pitch. They committed themselves to contest every groundball and supported each other without exception to give us the upper hand. To this dogged determination, Hallows added devastating speed out of defence, and a massively powerful shot, McManus added a remarkable ability to dodge through gaps which didn't seem to be there, and Pye produced consistent ability to put ground shots in from acute angles.

In attack cutting and dodging off the ball developed throughout the season and became the mainstay of our attack, despite individual skills and abilities. Unselfish running, particularly in the man-up opportunities created by breaking midfielders, led to some goals of high quality, and to a very even distribution of goals in the attack. Lord's ability around the crease was pre-eminent in the early season victories, but the rest of the attack did not seem to read his astute movement off the ball and his percentage of goals to chances began to suffer. Meanwhile Cleary showed a degree of class and assurance on the ball that only latterly did he begin to match off it. His individual goal against South Manchester must be one of the highlights of the season. However, Marsden seemed to have gained a yard of pace this season, and he scored some of our best goals cutting right and left handed in classic style. Ladd may have contributed all sorts of qualities to the attack, but he will be remembered by this team for one thing. In the dying seconds of the Cup Final with Rochdale having whittled our lead away to nothing and extra time looking certain, he took the pass in front of goal, waited that vital second for the crease man to screen the goalkeeper, and drilled the ball into the top corner of the net.

That moment realised the ambition of the whole team, and squad and made the hours of sweat and effort worthwhile. The season would have seemed a little empty if we had fallen at the final hurdle of the race which we had set our single mindedly to win. It had been a good season, not only for that victory.

The victory in the semi-final avenged our last year's defeat at the same stage by South 'A'. We had taken First Division, Sheffield University to the limit in the match in Yorkshire. The Tour of the other Universities had been an unqualified success. After two mighty

skirmishes in which Stockport Grammar narrowly beat us, and an extra-extra-time, sudden death play off under floodlights in which they beat us again to win the Manchester University Seven-a-Sides, we eventually beat them to get to the Final of the Stockport Easter Tournament, and even the might of Withington Girls' School was unable to stop us from recording a draw in our first ever fixture with them. But the Cup was certainly the icing on the cake, and richly deserved by all those whose efforts made it possible.

Those efforts were not all made on the field or training ground. I owe thanks to many other people besides the players for the success of the team of '84. The groundstaff and Mr. and Mrs. Gregson whose consistent work often goes unnoticed have helped week in week out. Timperley Lacrosse Club allowed us the use of their all-weather pitch to train in the holidays. Urmston Lacrosse Club entertained us at the end of the season. Norman Barber, Secretary of the N.E.L.A. Championship and Flags Committee, who does his best to give us a good fixture list every season, did us proud this year. The Universities of Nottingham, Sheffield, Cambridge and some of the Oxford Colleges gave us tremendous hospitality on tour. Special thanks to John Sealy, Steve Heywood, Rick Hardern, and Paul Glickman the accommodation wizard of Keble, and to Mr. and Mrs. Seymour at the Bourne Youth Hostel in Lincolnshire. Apologies to John Lancashire for the back of his car in Cambridge! Thanks to Mr. Fisher for his help in running the tour. And last but certainly not least, my thanks to what has become generally known as the 'Urmston Mafia', that group of supportive and supporting parents who managed to add a special dimension to the season and whose contribution to the atmosphere and attitude of the 1st Lacrosse Team was instrumental in our success. I hope they all feel that their sons did them proud. I feel that they were a credit to their families and their School.

I. J. Shaw

SECOND X LACROSSE

Results

Played 11, Won 4, Drawn 1, Lost 6.

Goals for 126, Against 126.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|------------------|
| v. Heaton Mersey Guild | A | L | 5-13 |
| v. Bramhall | H | W | 20-7 |
| v. Manchester University | A | W | 13-11 |
| | | | after extra time |
| v. Stockport G.S. | A | D | 11-11 |
| v. Urmston 'B' | A | W | 12-7 |
| v. Stockport 'B' | H | W | 17-4 |
| v. Ashton 'A' | H | L | 5-16 |
| v. Ashton 'B' | | | |
| (David Beesley Cup Final) | | L | 15-17 |
| | | | after extra time |
| v. Manchester University ... | H | L | 12-18 |
| v. Poynton 'A' | H | L | 8-9 |
| v. Old Hulmeians 'A' | H | L | 8-13 |

The Second X was usually selected from; N. Fryman (captain), D. Arundel, G. P. Benson, P. J. Crosby, N. P. Lord, V. J. Lord, S. A. Meech, C. A. Nelson, S. G. Odum, C. L. Porritt, G. P. Wadsworth. Also played; A. P. Fox, S. J. Hopwood, and H. N. Lightfoot.

The final result analysis does not suggest a particularly good season, and yet in many ways the season was very successful indeed for the Second X. The fixture list was a much better, harder one than previously with all the fixtures against good Fourth Division sides or higher. The team developed a balanced look with its engine room in midfield led by Fryman's excellent captaincy, power and tenacity, and augmented by seering runs out of defence from the ebullient Crosby.

In attack, Porritt's easy/lazy? skills and incisive shooting, and Lord's effervescent crease-play gave the attack its cutting edge, while Meech was the lynchpin in the heart of the defence. The run in the David Beesley Cup took the team to the final, only to fall at, or just beyond, the last hurdle in extra-time. This match would have made a fitting climax to the season, indeed no further matches were won, but the team did continue to improve, learn and enjoy their lacrosse until the final match.

Despite losing to Ashton 'B' the team must have derived its greatest satisfaction from the Cup Final. The game was one of the best matches that any of the participants will ever play in. The scores were neck and neck throughout, following a 1-0, 1-1, 2-1, 2-2 pattern with the School never behind, but never more than two goals in front. All the attack scored excellent goals, the midfield ran unselfishly, Wadsworth battled ferociously at the centres, and the defence maintained a degree of assurance in the frenetic battle that was being waged. It looked as though these qualities would win him the day when, in the first quarter the School opened up an unprecedented three-goal lead. But with the mud sapping the strength from our legs, and our final effort having been made, Ashton found a little more in reserve and clawed their way back to equalise with the last shot of normal time. They were not to give up that initiative in extra-time and their momentum carried them on to win a marvellously close game deservedly, just, and by the narrowest of margins.

The genuine congratulations to the Ashton team from the School X, and Ashton's praise and sympathy for our unrewarded effort completed a match, outstanding for its sportsmanship, skill and effort and that was the highlight of an excellent season for the Second Team.

I. J. Shaw

UNDER-15 X LACROSSE

The 1984 U-15s were a small but strong squad who had a successful season based on skilful defence and a powerful, fast midfield. Unfortunately there are few strong teams, among schools at this age group.

The season began well with a victory, in September, in the J. A. Barber six-a-side tournament at Urmston. When the season resumed in January an easy victory over Harefield meant that there was little need to develop any teamwork. The next game was the first of the cup in the mud at Mellor. This brought out the best in the team, as Mellor formed a powerful and well-organised unit. In an exciting, evenly matched game the School managed to draw two goals ahead in the

last few minutes to win what was probably the best game of the season. In the next round Heaton Mersey Juniors were well beaten in a one-sided game. The cup semi-final was played at Kingsway (formerly Broadway) School. The stronger opposition caused the School to play aggressively and as a team. By winning virtually all the ground ball we subdued Kingsway and assured ourselves of victory. The Juniors and Schools Cup final was played at home against Cheadle Hulme School. Once again the pace and strength of our midfield ensured a straightforward victory with A. Hinchcliffe leading the way with three early goals.

The defence of Swain, Moore, Bailey and Thornton played solidly throughout the season with Moore and Bailey improving their handling skills rapidly. As a result the goalkeepers were rarely tested and lacked enthusiasm. After helping win the early cup games Williams 'retired'. Smith played a game and eventually Braddock was pressed into service and almost enjoyed himself. The midfield of Garlick, Hinchcliffe and Bailey, Gardner or Kirby was a match for anyone at this level. In attack Jameson scored many excellent goals but he tends to drift out of a game. Kirby has an instinct for scoring but must improve his handling, and Dean could be a useful player but lacks confidence in his own ability. With regular practice McManus could make a skilful attack player.

When put to the test the team could combine well as a unit, bringing the best out in one another. There are some powerful, skilful and aggressive lacrosse players in the squad. I hope some of them will be keen enough to continue to learn and eventually become outstanding senior players.

The squad was: C. P. Williams, I. D. Bailey, R. J. Moore, R. D. Swain, J. J. Garlick, S. D. Thornton, D. P. R. Kirby, A. G. Hinchcliffe, A. N. Jameson, S. J. Dean, C. L. Gardner, P. R. J. McManus, D. P. Sproson, M. J. Braddock and N. R. Abrahams.

H. N. Veevers

UNDER-14 X LACROSSE

Results

Played 7, Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 1.
Goals for 102, Against 44.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|-------|
| v. Stockport Juniors U-15 | A | L | 3-6 |
| (Juniors and Schools Cup) | | | |
| v. Stamford H. S. | A | W | 12-11 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | A | W | 28-3 |
| v. Boardman and Eccles U-15 | A | W | 11-6 |
| v. Kingsway H.S. | H | D | 10-10 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | A | W | 22-2 |
| v. Rochdale Juniors U-15 | A | W | 16-6 |

The poor weather in January meant that the season got off to a very slow start with only one match possible before half-term. This was a Juniors and Schools Cup match against Stockport Juniors U-15. The School was expected to do quite well in this competition having won the Centurions Trophy the previous year. However, lack of match practice and a very icy pitch contributed to a poor performance and the School was defeated 6-3.

It was a pity that the team went out of the competition so early as it took away a lot of the incentive for the rest of the season. It was also difficult to keep up the morale of the team as match after match was cancelled because of the weather. However, everything ran more smoothly after half-term and the School was undefeated in the six matches played.

Stockport G.S. provided the opposition on two occasions but they were no match for the School. The first match saw some fine attacking play by the School resulting in a very satisfying 28-3 victory. The second match was rather a drab affair. Both teams lost interest early on when it became apparent that the School was going to win by another large margin. It was something of a relief when the final whistle blew on a 22-2 victory for the School.

The remaining matches saw a high standard of lacrosse. The match against Kingsway H.S. was a very close encounter and the outcome was held in the balance until the closing seconds when Meech scored one of his rare goals to level the scores at 10-10 and preserve the unbeaten run since half-term.

The final match of the season against Rochdale Juniors U-15 was perhaps the most satisfying performance of the season. The match was played in a rainstorm, but despite the dreadful conditions the School put on a very convincing display combining individual skill and teamwork to 16-6.

The team proved to be very strong in all departments. Hinds and Bailey were outstanding in defence and their surging runs from the back turned defence into attack in seconds. Sproson and Jackson were also very impressive in midfield. Cleary, Hindley, Kloss, Meech and Sproson were all selected for Lancashire.

The outlook for next season is promising but the team will need to beware of overconfidence. Several players did not take the practices seriously and did not give the necessary one-hundred-per-cent commitment required for a team to be successful. However, with hard work and determination the team should stand a very good chance of winning the Juniors and Schools Cup next season.

In conclusion I would like to thank L. Pye and A. S. Campbell who gave up so much of their spare time to coach the team, and also the many parents who regularly turned out to support the team.

The following boys represented the School: A. W. Kloss, S. P. Hinds, G. J. O'Driscoll, R. W. Bailey, K. J. M. Stephenson, I. D. Law, N. A. Meech (Captain), D. P. Sproson, A. J. Jackson, P. N. Sheriff, B. Armstrong, J. R. C. King, D. Loveland, A. P. Cleary, N. J. Hindley, M. J. Copson.

R. M. Harrison

UNDER-13 X LACROSSE

Results

Played 10, Won 10.

Goals for 158, Against 31.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|------|
| v. Stockport G.S. | H | W | 13-5 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme Juniors | H | W | 23-1 |
| Centurion Trophy; 2nd Round | | | |
| v. Kingsway School | H | W | 9-4 |
| v. Mellor Juniors | A | W | 12-7 |
| v. Stockport G.S. | H | W | 18-5 |
| Centurion Trophy; semi-final | | | |
| v. Heaton Mersey Juniors ... | H | W | 27-0 |
| v. Kingsway School | A | W | 9-3 |
| v. Mellor Juniors | H | W | 9-5 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme Juniors ... | H | W | 22-0 |
| v. Kingsway School | | W | 16-1 |
| Centurion Trophy; final | | | |
| (Played at Old Waconians L.C., Didsbury C.C.) | | | |

The Under 13 team had another very successful season, again winning the Centurion Trophy, and proved itself a worthy successor to the very good sides who took the trophy for the School in 1982 and 1983. This year's team achieved something very important which is by no means a common feature in successful sides; it played throughout the season as a unit of ten players, and there was never a time when it had to resort to merely using the individual skill or strength of an individual in order to score, though the players all had skill and strength in abundance. For such a young side to play so consistently as a team reflects very well on all the players.

It appeared to start with that finding a strong defence might prove difficult, however the emergence of the strong and speedy Chow, who learnt very quickly, went a long way to solving this problem, and as he had a small and skilful player in Arundel to one side and the determined Scott-Gall to the other, a splendid defensive unit was soon established. In goal Jones made progress in every practice and performed admirably whenever he was required to do so in a match; in fact Jones carried the team through its only really worrying spell of the season in the Centurions Final 'rehearsal' at Kingsway; he should become top player in the future.

In the midfield competition was so severe that Beggs, a tall, fast strong player, could not get a regular place; what he lacked was exactly what distinguished all three players who were finally selected; they always knew by instinct exactly where to move to, and their coverage of the whole playing area was too much for every opposition side they met. The strength of Ward and Chudleigh made sure of a lot of possession from the faces, but both these players had far more than mere strength; their handling skills were almost the equal of the attack and their understanding of game situations was immense. The other midfield player, Jordan, only came into prominence in the first proper match, after which he became an automatic selection and hardly made a mistake all the season; for his absolute reliability and tireless work both for the team and on improving his own game he was awarded the new Player of the Year shield at the end of the season.

The attack too developed a subtle understanding of the game and became very adept at using the sides of goal to stretch defences beyond the limit. Stickhandling and dodging was of a high standard, but individual efforts never came in the way of team play. Again good players had to be omitted from the final team; both Rash and Malone would get into most teams, but spend too much time out of the game compared with Roden and Slown, who now handle very well under pressure close to goal, and Bentley, who has that ability to turn up anywhere and produce clever touches. It was Bentley in fact who best exemplified this team's success; a natural individualist, he hardly scored an individual goal all season and produced one of the most memorable assists of the season in a situation where an individual goal was possible, indeed for him likely.

When the season reached its climax on a brilliant Saturday morning at Didsbury, there were those who were disappointed with the game as a spectacle. What they failed to understand was that the Kingsway side, who had given us two earlier good contests and won almost every game, was a good side but on that day came up against a team at the very peak of its form and fitness, physical and mental, playing lacrosse of a sort usually unknown to junior sides. A close final it was not; a memorable one it certainly was, and not just for those

players. 'I don't remember us playing like that at thirteen!' said one spectator, who has played at all levels of the game. 'Isn't it a lovely game to watch when they play like that?' said an older sports enthusiast. Which says it all.

The team was once again marvellously supported by parents, and a new development this year saw a second coach, Peter Collins, of W.H.G.S., Sheffield University, Old Hulmeians and Lancashire, joining us for most practice sessions, indoors and out, and all the matches. There was no doubt that this helped the team hugely, both with individual defence skills and general field play. It also added a lot of enjoyable moments; we all remember the sight of the five-foot Arundel playing with the six-foot lacrosse stick, and the expressions on the faces of those players told to 'Smile!' after suffering dubious checks.

The team which played the Centurion Trophy final was as follows: R. L. Jones, S. M. Arundel, C. Chow, H. P. V. Scott-Gall, C. J. H. Chudleigh (Captain), I. R. Jordan, A. S. Ward, G. J. Bentley, J. E. Roden, R. W. Slowen. Reserves; A. R. Rash, M. E. Beggs. (Also played during the season; M. E. Carden, R. J. Clark, N. S. Herbert, R. M. Malone, R. J. B. Naylor).

C. P. Langford

UNDER-12 X LACROSSE

Results

Played 10, Won 8, Lost 2.
Goals for 84, Against 46.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---|---|------|
| v. Stockport G.S. U-12 | | H | W | 12-3 |
| v. Kingsway School U-12 | | A | W | 5-2 |
| v. West End School U-13 | | H | L | 3-6 |
| v. Stockport G.S. U-12 | | H | W | 13-9 |
| v. West End School U-13 | | H | L | 3-10 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme School U-13 | | H | W | 11-5 |
| v. Kingsway School U-12 | | H | W | 7-3 |
| v. Oldham & Radcliffe U-14 | | A | W | 8-3 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme School U-13 | | A | W | 10-0 |
| v. Heaton Mersey Juniors U-13 | | A | W | 12-5 |

The team usually consisted of the following players: G. Mullins, J. Griffiths, J. P. Abrahams, A. S. Partington, J. D. Bellass, B. C. Issitt, D. R. Ffoulkes-Jones, A. P. Daley, D. C. Savage, S. P. Howell, A. J. Edwards.

Very few boys had had any experience of the sport before the season had started, and consequently Christmas training sessions were arranged. Many were able to gain the basic skills that were necessary, but few advanced quickly.

The first scheduled fixture of the season was postponed as the opposition would have been too strong for the Under 12's, and the opposition called off the second week's scheduled fixture. This provided more time to mould together some teamwork, and the game situation was introduced by playing a second year team in a match.

The first match was against a Stockport Grammar School team that had started the game in September, and a very good performance, especially from B. C. Savage who scored five goals from midfield, produced a 12-3 victory. The second match, at Kingsway School, Cheadle, was on a small pitch, and our players failed to produce any teamwork. Careless play and poor handling

resulted in a scrappy game. Some very good saves from our goalkeeper, G. Mullins, kept us in the match, and our winning of ground balls brought us a narrow 5-2 victory.

After half term, we were fortunate to gain the services of an American coach to assist in games periods, and thanks go to Joe Gold for his help. The squad was enlarged, so that more boys could be given the opportunity to receive specialist coaching, and some played the occasional Under 12 game. The major problem was goal scoring, and, after losing 3-6 to a strong side from West End School, Ashton, B. C. Savage moved into attack to provide a target for the passes from midfield. Another useful win against Stockport Grammar School was followed by a further loss to West End. Changes in the team brought the strength of J. D. Bellass into defence, and the new-found skills of A. P. Daley into midfield, but support in attack was still missing.

Several older boys helped to produce a victory at Oldham, although we still dropped the ball (less than the opposition, however), and a useful victory at Cheadle Hulme School with some new faces in the team led to the final match at Heaton Mersey. This was one of the better performances, with B. C. Issitt showing confidence in midfield.

Over the season, there were few convincing performances by the team, although there were only two losses, both against an older, stronger and taller team. More players should concentrate on running straight for goals, and then looking for a pass. All must show more drive and determination when attacking. Earlier and harder shooting, especially low bounce shots, must be practiced. Every player should look to pass the ball forward early through the midfield, and everyone without the ball should look for space to receive a pass.

Several players had a very good season. G. Mullins appeared to be a very confident and correct player who made few mistakes. He is learning fast, and should have much to look forward to in the future. In defence, J. Griffiths was never spectacular, and used his speed to gain most ground balls and to push the ball forward. He could always be relied upon to organise the defence well. The midfield of B. C. Issitt, D. R. Ffoulkes-Jones and A. P. Daley proved to be our strongest, although they did not always work together as they should. Much more inter-passing is necessary. A. P. Daley proved to be the most improved player of the season. B. C. Savage, in attack, scored most of our goals, but needs to be more mobile. He also lacked support from the rest of the team.

I hope that the fringe players work hard to improve their game, as places are available in the team for those who gain sufficient confidence. I hope that some will take the opportunity to practice or play before the School season starts.

M. D. Wood

SCHOOL CRICKET

I am delighted to be able to report on the most successful season of School Cricket for many years, with every School team enjoying victories in plenty and excellent batting and bowling performances which are detailed in the reports below. At all levels, the cricket has been played positively and high standards have been

set for future years to emulate. The hard wickets were likely to produce a lot of runs, and every team in the School was looking to score two hundred runs in an innings, by the end of the season.

The School 1st XI had its best season for over twenty years and the Under 14 teams produced the highlight of the year by winning the Harold Bailey Trophy at Old Trafford, and qualifying, as the Lancashire Champions, for the national 'Cricketer' Cup competition next year at Under 15 level.

The Under 14's were led by D. M. J. Timm, who crowned a glorious season with ball and bat, by scoring his first half century for the School 1st XI, and then going on to play for Lancashire, first at Under 14 and then at Under 15 level. G. D. Benson, P. Fearnley, and S. M. Kennedy were also selected for the final Lancashire Under 19 Trial and are to be congratulated on that achievement.

The School, once again, was well represented in Manchester Boys teams with some boys being promoted to the age group above their own. These representative honours went to: A. G. Hinchcliffe, C. W. Timm and D. M. J. Timm at Under 15; K. K. Asamoah, G. J. O'Driscoll, and A. J. Sayyid, at Under 14; and C. H. J. Chudleigh, J. Hughes, H. P. V. Scott-Gall and A. S. Ward at Under 13 level.

The other major success of the year has been the combination of the new Indoor Nets and the two bowling machines. The use of these excellent facilities in the winter and spring, ensured an exceptionally successful start to the season for all the boys who used them. I am certain that increased use can only make us better batsmen and even more successful in the future.

My thanks, as ever, are due to all those people who put in so much time and effort into making the season the success which it has been: the groundstaff who gave us such superb wickets; Mr. Gregson and his ladies in the dining hall; the many parents who have assisted with teas, transport and umpiring (especially when we played Ellesmere) and who have given all teams such support all season; and to those colleagues who give so unstintingly of their time and enthusiasm to run the game throughout the School. Our thanks and best wishes also go with Mr. M. Roden, back to the White Rose County after two superbly successful and prolific seasons taking the second team, and playing for the Masters' XI.

I. J. Shaw

FIRST XI CRICKET

Played 26, Won 11, Drawn 7, Lost 8.

- v. Arnold School, Blackpool (H)
School 204 for 4 dec. (Benson 71, Fearnley 66, Cleary 30)
Arnold 112 for 7 (Fairfax 3 for 20)
Match Drawn
- v. Woodhouse Grove School (A)
School 181 for 7 dec. (Benson 55, Cleary 53, Jackson 32)
Woodhouse Grove 126 all out (Cross 5 for 29, McLoughlin 4 for 36)
School won by 55 runs
- v. King's School, Macclesfield (H)
School 197 for 9 dec. (Benson 66, Jackson 50)
King's School 90 all out (Benson 6 for 17)
School won by 107 runs

- v. Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wakefield (A)
School 152 for 7 dec. (Jackson 54, Fearnley 41)
Q.E.G.S. 91 all out (McLoughlin 4 for 50, Fairfax 3 for 11, Cross 3 for 19)
School won by 61 runs
- v. Bolton School (H)
School 125 for 6 dec. (Fearnley 55)
Bolton 99 all out (Benson 5 for 38, Fairfax 4 for 27)
School won by 26 runs
- v. King Edward VII School, Lytham (H)
School 198 for 8 dec. (Fearnley 35, Rushton 34, Benson 30)
King Edward's School 130 all out (Fairfax 4 for 32, Benson 3 for 45)
School won by 68 runs
- v. The Parents (H)
School 117 for 4 (Rushton 49, Cleary 37)
Parents 95 for 6
School won by 22 runs (limited overs match)
- v. Old Hulmeians (H)
School 118 all out
Old Hulmeians 121 for 6 (Cross 3 for 40, P. Lindsay 3)
Lost by 4 wickets
- v. Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby (H)
Abandoned (Rain)
- v. Birkenhead School (H)
School 89 all out
Birkenhead School 93 for 2
Lost by 8 wickets
- v. Lancashire C.C. Club & Ground XI
Lancashire 189 for 5 dec.
School 95 for 3 (Cleary 45)
Match drawn
- v. Shrewsbury School (A)
School 131 all out (Benson 57)
Shrewsbury 133 for 0
Lost by 10 wickets
- v. Sedbergh School (A)
School 188 all out (D. Timm 46)
Sedbergh 166 for 9 (Fairfax 4 for 50, Cross 3 for 49)
Match Drawn
- v. Manchester Grammar School (A)
School 145 all out (Rushton 37, Fearnley 30)
M.G.S. 146 for 2
Lost by 8 wickets
- v. Stockport Grammar School (A)
School 139 all out (Rushton 63)
S.G.S. 143 for 2
Lost by 8 wickets
- v. XL Club (H)
School 187 for 8 dec. (Benson 38, Jackson 36, Fearnley 30)
XL Club 99 all out (McLoughlin 5 for 19, Fairfax 3 for 27)
School won by 88 runs
- v. Rydal School (A)
School 200 for 7 dec. (Rushton 48, D. Timm 42, Benson 40, Jackson 31 n.o.)
Rydal 47 all out (Benson 5 for 6, Cross 5 for 20)
School won by 153 runs
- v. Ashley Cricket Club (A)
School 184 for 8 (Jackson 44, Cleary 32, Pye 30)
Ashley 106 all out (Scott-Gall 4 for 32)
School won by 78 runs
- v. The Masters
School 187 for 4 dec. (Rushton 49 n.o, Kennedy 42, Shelston 35, Cleary 35)
Masters 120 for 6 (Cross 4 for 22)
Match drawn

- v. Hulme Grammar School, Oldham (H)
School 246 for 2 dec. (Benson 77, Cleary 60, Kennedy 59 n.o.)
Oldham Hulme 250 for 8 (Benson 6 for 70)
Lost by 2 wickets
- v. Ellesmere College (H)
Ellesmere 147 for 8 dec. (Benson 4 for 51)
School 149 for 5 (Benson 75 n.o.)
School won by 5 wickets
ON TOUR
- v. Nottingham High School (A)
School 199 for 5 dec. (Fearnley 62 n.o., D. Timm 50, Rushton 32)
N.H.S. 186 for 8
Match Drawn
- v. Loughborough Grammar School (A)
School 66 for 7
Rain. Match Drawn.
- v. Maidstone Grammar School (A)
Maidstone 105 all out (Fairfax 4 for 36)
School 104 all out (Fearnley 40 n.o.)
Lost by 1 run
- v. King's School, Rochester (A)
School 179 all out (Benson 38)
King's 142 for 9 (Marsden 5 for 15, Hinchcliffe 3 for 46)
Match Drawn
- v. Shipton-under-Wychwood C.C. (A)
School 135 all out (Cross 38)
Shipton 139 for 5 (Artley 2 for 7)
Lost by 5 wickets

FIRST XI CRICKET

The 1st XI this season comprised; N. R. Fairfax (Captain), A. G. Cleary (Vice-Captain), G. P. Benson, J. R. Braddock, M. J. Cross, P. T. Fearnley, S. J. Hinchcliffe, M. L. Jackson, A. N. Jameson, S. M. Kennedy, S. G. McLoughlin, A. D. Marsden, K. G. Rushton, D. G. Shelston, R. A. Shotton, C. W. Timm, and D. M. J. Timm. Also played; N. W. Barber, L-e. Pye, W. P. Hopwood, R. Harvey, D. B. Lancaster, A. P. Cleary, S. P. Hinds, K. K. Asamoah and H. P. V. Scott-Gall. M. L. Artley was the scorer and also played.

The season of 1984 was a memorable one for several reasons. Inevitably the weather makes or breaks cricket seasons in England, and this year a virtually rainless period from March to September was to mean that wickets were hard and true, and that the outfielders were often hard and bumpy. Our thanks are due, of course, to Mr. Bob Bartels and Mr. John Taylor of the ground staff, who worked so hard to combat the exceptionally dry weather, and to provide the foundations for a successful season.

The outstanding feature of the season from a playing point of view was the record breaking success of the first half-term's cricket. The 1st XI enjoyed an unbeaten run from the first Saturday of term to the last match against the Parents, but more than that, after a winning draw against Arnold in that first game, they won the next six games on the run, batting first on every occasion. Fairfax's willingness to learn from experience, which was to make him such an astute and able Captain, was shown at this early stage. He batted too long against Arnold, not leaving himself enough time to bowl the opposition out, but never again made the mistake, and reaped the rewards in consequence. The start to the season was satisfactory in every way. All four of the front-line bowlers took wickets, and at some time each of them made their major contribution to bowling a side

out. The first five batsmen shared a thousand runs in this run of success, with Benson, Cleary, Fearnley and Jackson sharing eight fifties between them, and Benson marking his first season on the first team with 200 runs in his first four matches, and 17 wickets to boot!

The second half of the season promised tougher fixtures, on paper, but the telling factor in July was to be the enforced break caused by the half-term holiday and examinations. Our lay-off was to be further extended when a thunderstorm came out of nowhere to wash out our first fixture after half-term against Merchant Taylors' School. When we faced the powerful and unbeaten Birkenhead team, it was our first cricket for over four weeks. That can only partly excuse our batting and bowling performance and Birkenhead, without too much effort, won by eight wickets. A draw with Lancashire Club and Ground did little to bolster the team's confidence as the batsmen made little effort to chase the target set by Harry Pilling, and the game fizzled out, disappointingly. Our sharpness in the field seemed to have deserted us at this stage, and Lancashire were a little flattered by dropped catches which, on early season form, could have put us in a position to do more than just save the game. Shrewsbury's beautiful batting track makes their bowlers forego pace for accuracy, a lesson that we have yet to learn on unhelpful wickets, and their bowlers pinned us down and frustrated us into giving our wickets away. Only a rather fortunate fifty by Benson, who used up all his luck for the season in one innings, gave us a barely respectable score, and the Shrewsbury openers won the game in fine style.

A question mark against the attitude of the side became apparent at this stage of the season, as the successes which had come with relative ease gave way to one or two heavy defeats. When things were not going their way, some players seemed to lose interest or concentration, or both, and a reluctance to believe that it might be more productive to make sides work hard for every run, even when the total they were chasing was a modest one, led to some poor cricket and a lack of application. Sedbergh was a very important game, and if we were to regain form and success, we needed to do better than we had in Cumbria last year. Fairfax and Cleary, his Vice-captain, did well to inspire the side by their own individual performances and by their leadership, and D. Timm, in his second game for the 1st XI gave us our first view of the skills and technique with which he had been leading the Under 14's all season. Sedbergh chased our target well, and we took wickets consistently to have marginally the better of a good draw, and thought we had turned the corner at last. However, Manchester Grammar outplayed us to gain a good win, and the next day a seemingly modest Stockport Grammar team beat us by the same margin to put us back in the doldrums. In this game, however, Rushton and Hinchcliffe showed signs of at least two players being in form, and a solid team performance in the fixture against the XL Club at last saw us return to winning form. McLoughlin, ironically, found his best form in this match as he tormented even the most experienced of batsmen to finish with his best figures of the season. The irony was that it was to be his final game for the 1sts, and there is no doubt that we would have had further victories, if he had played in later matches.

At Rydal School, Benson and Rushton continued their form with the bat, but it was the young Timm who, once again, caught the eye with an excellent innings of attacking strokeplay on both sides of the wicket. His cover drive off the back foot, stroked through the gap with timing and power showed a mark of real class, and

the promise of many runs in the future. The fine batting displayed by the team was eclipsed, however, by what was to follow, as Cross and Benson bowled with the sort of pace, accuracy and hostility that one rarely sees in school bowlers. Before this withering attack, unrelenting from both ends, the Rydal batting crumbled and victory came quickly. The batsmen took the honours in the next match, against Hulme, Oldham, and a score of 246 in half the allotted time left us quite secure, we thought. Enterprising batting by Oldham, dropped chances, and the fast outfield kept the Oldham side well in the hunt and although wickets fell, Oldham, deservedly, won the match with an over and two wickets to spare.

It was good to see the improvement in the team's attitude reaping them rewards at this stage of the season, for it would have seemed unlikely that they could have picked themselves up, after such a defeat earlier in the season. In the last match at School, against an accomplished Ellesmere side, they played with great resolve and concentration to score the runs needed for victory off half the overs that Ellesmere had taken.

This season's Tour was a great success in many ways, despite the fact that we didn't win a game. The opening game at Nottingham was a tremendous contest. An excellent declaration by Fairfax after glorious batting from D. Timm and Fearnley and accurate thoughtful bowling, from Hinchcliffe especially, saw Nottingham needing eleven runs off the last two overs, to win with two wickets in hand. It was just beyond them, and the draw was a fair reflection of the game. Loughborough could have proved our lowest point of the season, but a downpour saved our faces after a most thoughtless, careless, incompetent display of concentration and cricket. At Maidstone on a slow, slow wicket runs were hard to come by, but after bowling them out for a lowly total we ought to have won, certainly should have been able to get a draw, and most certainly ought never to have lost! It was good after that narrow defeat to play so well at Rochester, although batsmen did tend to get in and then get out. Marsden was unplayable when we bowled, and Hinchcliffe's role would be undervalued if it were described as merely supporting, but their final pair survived and we had to be satisfied with a draw. It was a weary team that succumbed to Julian Wilde's Shipton side, despite Cross's excellent innings and Scorer-Artley's demonic bowling, but the season, despite the ups and downs was certainly one the School's most successful ever, and gave us plenty to be satisfied with and to build on for next year.

School Colours are awarded to G. Benson and to N. R. Fairfax and half-colours to J. R. Braddock, D. G. Shelston, S. G. McLoughlin and M. L. Artley.

I. J. Shaw

SECOND XI CRICKET

Played 13, Won 8, Drawn 3, Lost 2.

- v. Arnold School, Blackpool (A)
Match Drawn
School 222 for 7 dec. (Mullins 58, Davis 60, Rushton 27)
Arnold 73 for 5 (Kay 2 for 24)
- v. Woodhouse Grove School (H)
Won by 87 runs
School 174 for 6 dec. (Rushton 35, Hopwood 55, Lancaster 54)
Woodhouse Grove 87 (Rushton 6 for 20, Kay 2 for 28)

- v. King's School, Macclesfield (A)
Lost by 8 wickets
School 154 (Pye 50, Marsden 31)
King's School 156 for 2 (Kay 2 for 26)
- v. Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield (H)
Won by 93 runs
School 153 for 7 dec. (Rushton 88, Sheldon 16 n.o.)
Q.E.G.S. 60 (Hopwood 4 for 12, Rushton 3 for 8, Kay 2 for 15)
- v. Bolton School (A)
Won by 8 wickets
Bolton 80 (Kay 5 for 32, Shotton 4 for 20)
School 84 for 2 (Harvey 25, Hopwood 29 n.o.)
- v. King Edward School, Lytham (A)
Won by 35 runs
School 93 (Lancaster 29)
K.E.S. 58 (Barber 3 for 11, Hopwood 3 for 8, Kay 2 for 4)
- v. Birkenhead School (A)
Match Drawn.
Birkenhead 143 (Hopwood 3 for 38, Palmer 3 for 13)
School 73 for 3 (Shotton 24 n.o., Mullins 30)
- v. Sedbergh School (A)
Lost by 6 wickets
School 75 (Davis 20)
Sedbergh 78 for 4 (Marsden 3 for 28)
- v. Manchester Grammar School (H)
Won by 4 wickets.
M.G.S. 100 (Marsden 4 for 30, Arnfield 3 for 32)
School 101 for 6 (Barber 29 n.o., Hodson 30 n.o.)
- v. Stockport Grammar School (H)
Won by 99 runs.
School 251 for 3 dec. (Harvey 101 n.o., Shelston 42, Hopwood 33, Shotton 29, Marsden 25 n.o.)
S.G.S. 152 (Marsden 4 for 26, Shotton 3 for 26)
- v. Rydal School (A)
Won by 8 wickets.
Rydal 96 (Shotton 6 for 28, Hopwood 2 for 22)
School 97 for 2 (Harvey 50 n.o.)
- v. Masters XI (H)
Won by 39 runs.
School 216 for 4 dec. (Pye 110, Sheldon 68 n.o.)
Masters XI 177 for 8 (Adderley 2 for 1)
- v. Ellesmere College (A)
Match Drawn.
School 134 (Hinnells 25, Davis 20, Marsden 22)
Ellesmere 51 for 8 (Marsden 5 for 7)

Leading Averages:

| Name | Innings | Not out | Total | Highest Score | Avg. |
|---------------|---------|---------|-------|---------------|------|
| Sheldon | 6 | 4 | 117 | 68 | 58.5 |
| Pye | 6 | 2 | 188 | 110 | 47.0 |
| Rushton | 4 | 0 | 159 | 88 | 39.7 |
| Harvey | 12 | 2 | 233 | 101* | 23.3 |
| Hopwood | 12 | 3 | 177 | 55 | 19.6 |
| * Not Out | | | | | |

| Name | Overs | Maidens | Runs | Wkts. | Avg. |
|---------------|-------|---------|------|-------|-------|
| Rushton..... | 23 | 5 | 81 | 10 | 8.1 |
| Shotton | 55.5 | 24 | 142 | 16 | 8.87 |
| Marsden | 80.5 | 20 | 197 | 21 | 9.38 |
| Kay | 40 | 8 | 97 | 13 | 10.23 |
| Hopwood..... | 70.3 | 24 | 159 | 15 | 10.60 |

The following boys represented the School:
N. Barber (Captain), B. Adderley, R. Arnfield, M. Clarke, I. Davies, R. Harvey, M. Hinnells, J. Hodson,

W. P. Hopwood, A. Jameson, S. Kay, D. Lancaster, D. Madeley, A. P. Marsden, I. Mullins, G. J. O'Driscoll, J. Palmer, L-E. Pye, K. Rushton, J. Sayyid, F. Sheldon, D. G. Shelston, R. A. Shotton, G. Williams.

This was an outstanding season. Despite the two defeats the team achieved a great deal—the standard of performance was at all times very good and the spirit in the team was always high. The boys obviously enjoyed their cricket and their enthusiasm was only surpassed by their technique and skill.

The season began at Blackpool with a tremendous batting performance on a flat, hard and true pitch. During this game it soon became evident that this was a very good batting side and that it had a fine balanced bowling attack. The mixture of pace, seam and slow spin bowling was much too good for many sides and enabled the batsmen to play in a confident and attacking manner. The two blights on the season were the defeats at King's Macclesfield and at Sedburgh. In the former we simply didn't bat well enough with several batsmen getting themselves out! In the latter we were under strength and didn't get enough runs to enable the bowlers to attack on a very green and encouraging bowling wicket. However, when the team was at full strength it was a formidable force and overwhelmed good sides from Woodhouse Grove, Q.E.G.S. Wakefield, Bolton, M.G.S., S.G.S. and Rydal School. The strength of the team's batting is illustrated by the fact that all the first nine batsmen scored fifty or more in a match during the season. Harvey (once he found his touch), Rushton, Hopwood, Marsden and Pye all made several significant contributions with the bat and Marsden, Shotton and Hopwood provided a very competent and effective opening attack with the ball. This, when complemented by the subtle variations of left-arm spin bowling (provided by Kay and Rushton), proved to be an outstandingly good combination. It was well organised and used by the Captain, Barber, who was quick to realise its strength and brought out the best from each of his bowlers. Pye was a very good wicket-keeper and the 'out-cricket' was exceptionally good at all times.

The season was notable for many things: the emergence of Rushton as an all-rounder; the subtle variations of Kay; the efforts of Marsden who at all times bowled his heart out; the pace and accuracy of Shotton; the sheer class of Harvey and the excellence of the fielding and captaincy. However, perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the season was the infectious enthusiasm with which the boys played their cricket—light-hearted banter has always been a feature of 2nd XI cricket and this was there in abundance once more. The one thing that has changed, however, is that class and skill have been added and the relatively young age of the side indicates that the senior teams have several more excellent seasons in the pipeline. I would, finally, like to thank the scorers A. H. M. Davenport and A. R. Hopkins who provided an unstinting and valuable service without which the team couldn't have played cricket.

M. Roden

UNDER 15 XI CRICKET

Played 14, Won 7, Drawn 4, Lost 3.

- v. Arnold School, Blackpool (H)
Lost by 7 wickets
School 113 (Jameson 43)
Arnold 115 for 3

- v. Woodhouse Grove (A)
Won by 89 runs
School 110 (Lawson 33 n.o.)
Woodhouse Grove 21 (Hinchcliffe 5 for 8, Jameson 5 for 10)
- v. King's, Macclesfield (H)
Match Drawn
School 171 (Hinchcliffe 37, Jameson 31, Abrahams 30 n.o.)
Macclesfield 108 for 9 (Hinchcliffe 4 for 9)
- v. Q.E.G.S., Wakefield (A)
Won by 134 runs
School 181 for 7 dec. (Jameson 49, Hinchcliffe 47, Timm 42)
Wakefield 47 (Jameson 5 for 9, Arnfield 4 for 0)
- v. Bolton School (H)
Lost by 5 wickets
School 104 (Hinchcliffe 42)
Bolton 106 for 5
- v. King Edward's, Lytham (A)
Match Drawn
School 187 for 4 dec. (Timm 74, Braddock 53)
Lytham 89 for 9 (Hinchcliffe 5 for 14)
- v. St. Bede's (H)
Won by 9 wickets
St. Bede's 36 (Hinchcliffe 4 for 18)
School 37 for 1
- v. N. Cestrian (A)
Won by 95 Runs
School 132 for 0 (22 overs) (Timm 73 n.o., Jameson 54 n.o.)
N. Cestrian 37 (Braddock 3 for 4)
- v. Birkenhead School (H)
Won by 142 runs
School 207 for 5 dec. (Timm 130 n.o.)
Birkenhead 65 (Hinchcliffe 7 for 26)
- v. Shrewsbury School (A)
Match Drawn
School 132 (Hinchcliffe 57, Braddock 31)
Shrewsbury 122 for 6
- v. Stockport G.S. (A)
Match Drawn
School 165 for 6 dec. (Timm 49, Lawson 34, Braddock 30)
Stockport 66 for 9 (Jameson 3 for 1)
- v. Rydal School (A)
Lost by 2 wickets
School 51
Rydal 52 for 8 (Hinchcliffe 5 for 10)
- v. Manchester G.S. (H)
Won by 30 runs
School 118 (Jameson 53)
Manchester 88 (Hinchcliffe 8 for 32)
- v. Ellesmere College (H)
Won by 109 runs
School 183 for 8 dec. (Timm 63, Lawson 34)
Ellesmere 74 (Jameson 4 for 24, Timm 4 for 23)

The following boys represented the School during the season: C. W. Timm (Captain), A. G. Hinchcliffe (Vice-Captain), N. R. Abrahams, P. P. Arnfield, P. A. Bahfir, M. J. Braddock, J. H. Carroll, J. Charlesworth, J. J. Garlick, S. Jeffries, R. D. Lawson, I. S. McCartney, S. Pluck, A. J. Tidman, O. E. Wilson-Barnes.

Leading Averages: Batting:

| Name | Innings | Not out | Highest Score | Total | Avg. |
|--------------|---------|---------|---------------|-------|------|
| Timm | 14 | 2 | 130* | 501 | 41.8 |
| Jameson.... | 13 | 1 | 54* | 341 | 28.4 |
| Lawson..... | 8 | 2 | 34 | 115 | 19.1 |
| Hinchcliffe. | 11 | 0 | 57 | 203 | 18.5 |
| Braddock .. | 13 | 1 | 53 | 192 | 16.0 |

* Not Out

Bowling:

| Name | Overs | Maidens | Runs | Wkts. | Avg. |
|-----------------|-------|---------|------|-------|------|
| Hinchcliffe ... | 150.3 | 65 | 203 | 43 | 4.8 |
| Jameson | 131 | 53 | 215 | 29 | 7.4 |
| Arnfield..... | 48.1 | 15 | 161 | 14 | 11.5 |
| Wilson-Barnes | 71.2 | 21 | 234 | 17 | 13.8 |

Fielding:

Wicketkeeper: Timm 7 catches, 11 stumpings.

Other fieldsmen: Braddock 10 catches, Garlick 6, Lawson 5.

The playing record at first sight looks only good, but, on closer inspection, is better than it seems. Analysis of the four drawn matches reveals that in three of them the opposition was left hanging on with just one wicket to fall. There were just three defeats: the first was at the hands of the very strong Arnold side, the second was a disappointing performance against a moderate Bolton team, while the third was an inexplicable defeat at Rydal. In this match the School were bowled out for 51, by far the lowest score in the last two seasons. The match was nearly saved, Rydal being reduced to 46 for 8 before scraping home. The seven wins, on the other hand, were all convincing and, in most cases, overwhelming.

The strength, and, therefore, the success of the side was based upon three individuals: Timm, Hinchcliffe and Jameson. After an indifferent start Timm batted with great consistency to reach 500 runs for the season in his last match. The highlight of his season was the 130 not out against Birkenhead, not only being his maiden century, but also breaking the School record for the highest individual score. Add to this some very good wicket keeping and very astute captaincy showing the benefit of his much greater experience compared with his age group. Hinchcliffe had a relatively lean time with the bat but his bowling was of a very high standard throughout. He bowled with great accuracy and hostility at all times and at his best on a lively wicket against Manchester G.S. to take 8 for 32. Jameson seemed fitter (and slimmer?) than last season and had a good all round season, opening the batting and the bowling. He held the batting together on several occasions and his best performance was on the aforementioned wicket against Manchester G.S. when scoring 53.

It would be unfair to give the impression that it was a three-man team since many players also made significant contributions and perhaps the most pleasing feature of the season was the vast improvement in the fielding compared with last season. Braddock was the pick of the fielders and he also filled the troublesome number 3 batting position well. Lawson and Abrahams made useful contributions with the bat but Jeffries, after early promise, lost confidence. I am sure that he will come good again and I hope that the same applies to the two spinners in the team, Arnfield and Wilson-Barnes. Both players had a disappointing season, failing to produce the kind of form that they are capable of.

Finally I would like to thank all the players for making it a successful and enjoyable season, Timm for

his sterling efforts as captain and the parents and grandparents for their staunch support.

A. Simkin

UNDER 14 XI CRICKET

Played 22, Won 16, Drawn 5, Lost 1.

- v. Arnold School, Blackpool (A)
Match Drawn
School 176 for 4 dec. (O'Driscoll 84 n.o.)
Arnold 57 for 7 (Sayyid 3 for 18)
- v. Woodhouse Grove School (H)
Won by 159 runs
School 199 for 1 dec. (Timm 102 n.o., O'Driscoll 87)
Woodhouse Grove 40 (Cleary 3 for 5, Loveland 3 for 14)
- v. Ashton-on-Mersey School (H)
1st Round, Harold Bailey Trophy
Won by 8 wickets
Ashton 41 (Sayyid 4 for 15, O'Driscoll 4 for 3)
School 45 for 2
- v. King's School, Macclesfield (A)
Won by 3 runs
School 168 for 8 decl. (Timm 34, O'Driscoll 47)
Macclesfield 165 (Timm 4 for 31)
- v. Queen Elizabeth G.S., Wakefield (H)
Match Drawn
School 237 for 5 dec. (Timm 96, O'Driscoll 43)
Wakefield 145 for 9 (Cleary 3 for 46, Hinds 3 for 34)
- v. Parrswood High School (A)
2nd round, Harold Bailey Trophy
Won by 118 runs
School 182 for 2 (30 overs, Timm 57, O'Driscoll 58 n.o.)
Parrswood 64 (Cleary 3 for 11, Loveland 3 for 3)
- v. Bolton School (A)
Won by 15 runs
School 93
Bolton 78 (Cleary 3 for 22, Hinds 4 for 31)
- v. King Edward VII School, Lytham (H)
Won by 156 runs
School 234 for 4 dec. (Timm 93, Hinds 61 n.o.)
Lytham 78 (Cleary 4 for 22, Tomlinson 3 for 25)
- v. St. Bede's College (A)
Won by 6 wickets
St. Bede's 62 for 9 (23 overs, Timm 3 for 13, Hinds 3 for 4)
School 63 for 4
- v. Manchester Grammar School (H)
3rd Round, Harold Bailey Trophy
Won by 8 wickets
Manchester 93 (Tomlinson 3 for 7, Sayyid 4 for 13)
School 97 for 2 (Hinds 35 n.o., Tomlinson 34 n.o.)
- v. North Cestrian Grammar School (H)
Won by 18 runs
School 124 for 1 (23 overs, Timm 82 n.o.)
North Cestrian 106 for 8
- v. St. Bede's College (H)
4th Round, Harold Bailey Trophy
Won by 111 runs
School 189 for 6 (30 overs, Timm 105)
St. Bede's 78 (Loveland 4 for 5)
- v. Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby (A)
Lost by 2 wickets
School 68 (Hinds 39)
Merchant Taylor's 69 for 8 (Tomlinson 3 for 18)
- v. Birkenhead School (A)
Won by 2 runs
School 87 (Cleary 24)
Birkenhead 85 (Kapadia 5 for 26, Sayyid 3 for 16)

- v. Hulme Grammar School, Oldham (H)
5th round, Harold Bailey Trophy
Won by 10 wickets
Oldham 82 for 6 (30 overs)
School 85 for 0 (Timm 65 n.o.)
- v. Shrewsbury School (A)
Won by 5 wickets
Shrewsbury 119 for 7 dec. (Cleary 4 for 29)
School 123 for 5 (O'Driscoll 47 n.o., Timm 36)
- v. Little Lever School, Bolton (H)
Semi-final, Harold Bailey Trophy
Won by 9 wickets
Little Lever 103 (Cleary 3 for 22, Tomlinson 3 for 28)
School 105 for 1 (Timm 57 n.o., Tomlinson 37 n.o.)
- v. Rydal School (A)
Won by 17 runs
School 108 (Kloss 43)
Rydal 91 (Cleary 4 for 22, Hinds 4 for 9)
- v. Manchester Grammar School (A)
Match drawn
School 162 for 6 dec. (O'Driscoll 100 n.o.)
Manchester 87 for 5
- v. Stockport Grammar School (H)
Match Drawn
Stockport 174 for 7 dec.
School 131 for 5 (O'Driscoll 68 n.o.)
- v. Ellesmere College (A)
Match drawn
School 157 for 8 dec. (Tomlinson 47)
Ellesmere 63 for 6 (Sayyid 3 for 22, Timm 3 for 4)
- v. Blue Coat School, Liverpool (Old Trafford)
Final, Harold Bailey Trophy
Won by 5 wickets
Blue Coat 28 (Hinds 4 for 6, Kapadia 6 for 2)
School 29 for 5

The following boys represented the School during the season: D. M. J. Timm (Captain), G. J. O'Driscoll (Vice-Captain), A. R. Ball, A. J. Booth, J. Bradley, A. P. Cleary, S. W. Dutton, O. J. Henshall, S. P. Hinds, A. J. Jackson, S. V. Kapadia, A. W. Kloss, D. Loveland, A. J. Sayyid and A. R. Tomlinson. The following Under 13 boys also appeared: K. K. Asamoah, C. J. H. Chudleigh, H. P. V. Scott-Gall and A. S. Ward.

Everybody expected that the Under 14s would have a good season. The batting abilities of Timm and O'Driscoll were well-known and the bowling looked to have strength in depth. The season began with well attended sessions in March in the newly fitted indoor nets and these regular practices helped to boost the confidence of Tomlinson and Kapadia in particular, whose promise had not been fulfilled in previous seasons. In the middle of the season when the likes of Cleary, Hinds and Sayyid were losing form, these two took over the job of bowling sides out. By the end of the season the Under 14s had won no fewer than sixteen matches, culminating in the somewhat pathetic final of the Harold Bailey Trophy at Old Trafford when five regular members of the side were unavailable for selection due to a School trip abroad.

Their success of course was partly due to the batting of Timm and O'Driscoll. Timm scored 887 runs and would probably have reached a thousand if he had not been needed for the first eleven or Manchester Schoolboys on three occasions. He scored two centuries and six fifties and had an average of 63. O'Driscoll also scored well: 657 runs (average 50) with one century and

four fifties. Together they put on more than one hundred for the first wicket on three occasions: 171 v Woodhouse Grove, 112 v Lytham and 111 v QEGS. In fairness to Timm it should be said that he is a batsman of exceptional promise and outstanding quality and most Under 14 batsmen would suffer by comparison. However, O'Driscoll is scarcely less effective in acquiring runs and is Timm's equal in determined concentration and the ability to dispatch bad balls to the boundary. A winning side, however, depends largely on its bowlers. Cleary (35 wickets), Hinds (29 wickets) and Sayyid (26 wickets) took most wickets but an indication of the Under 14 strength in bowlers is that no fewer than eight bowlers took eleven or more wickets in the season. Both Cleary (relying on speed) and Hinds (relying on swing) bowled excellently at times, but they also went through periods of poor performance when they found it impossible to pitch the ball straight. Kapadia's improvement was therefore a great bonus: his five for 26 won the match at Birkenhead and he also achieved the remarkable figures of six for two in the Harold Bailey Trophy final at Old Trafford. Kapadia finished top of the bowling averages with 19 wickets (average 4). Tomlinson still lacked a little control but his intelligent use of variation was most impressive.

The Under 14s were also well equipped with spin bowlers. Sayyid was the most successful and showed Loveland that the slow, flighted delivery is frequently the one which causes the most unease among batsmen. Loveland was generally very accurate with his off-breaks but found that his flatter deliveries pitched too short. A contrast to their spinning styles was provided by Timm who attempted to use his height to make the ball bounce at an awkward height and angle. He suffered considerably at the hands of Little Lever's two batsmen but this was a rare failure: he usually took his wickets cheaply. In addition to all the bowlers mentioned above, it was good to know that O'Driscoll was always waiting with keen anticipation to be given the ball. Whether bowling medium-pace or off-spin, he was likely to take a wicket.

Kloss continued to develop as a wicket-keeper and as a steady, middle-order batsman. He was third in the batting averages (average 20). His careful, level-headed batting was on occasions precisely what was needed when Hinds and Tomlinson (just below him in the averages) typically gave their wickets away, hitting out too early in their innings without getting into line with the ball. Hinds is a fine all-round cricketer of natural ability but he still needs more self-discipline. Bradley and Jackson gained regular places in the team through their fielding ability alone. The standard of fielding was always high and it was pleasing to see how seriously this was taken and also to see the improvements that certain members of the side made. Timm captained his side decisively and authoritatively and O'Driscoll was more than adequate in his absence.

Commiserations go to Ball, Booth, Dutton and Henshall who, while not lacking in talent themselves, were not given much opportunity to develop their skills (except in scoring). Henshall, in addition, proved most useful in providing regular lists of averages.

In a busy season I am grateful for the help of Mr. Booker, Dr. Wilson, Mr. Moss, Mr. Blight and Mr. Timm in the five matches when I was unavailable to umpire

P. M. Bull

UNDER 12 XI CRICKET

Played 11, Won 5, Lost 6.

- v. Woodhouse Grove School (H)
Lost by 9 wickets
School 149 for 6 dec. (Streets 48)
Woodhouse Grove 150 for 1
- v. King's School, Macclesfield (A)
Lost by 15 runs
King's 117 all out (Pilling 7 for 33)
School 102 all out (Slown 36)
- v. Queen Elizabeth's G.S., Wakefield (H)
Lost by 61 runs
Wakefield 192 for 5 declared
School 131 all out
- v. Bury G.S. (H)
Lost by 7 runs
Bury 51 for 9 (25 overs) (Symms 3 for 11)
School 44 all out
- v. King Edward VII School, Lytham (A)
Won by 8 wickets
Lytham 33 all out (Issitt 7 for 16)
School 34 for 2 (Daley 25 not out)
- v. St. Bede's College (A)
Won by 6 wickets
St. Bede's 66 for 8 (25 overs)
School 70 for 4
- v. Manchester Boys XI (H)
Lost by 30 runs
Manchester Boys 122 all out (Issitt 4 for 17)
School 92 all out
- v. North Cestrian G.S. (H)
Won by 36 runs
School 89 for 6 (25 overs)
North Cestrian 53 for 6 (25 overs)
- v. Birkenhead School (A)
Lost by 3 wickets
School 100 all out (Savage 48)
Birkenhead 101 for 7
- v. Manchester Grammar School (H)
Won by 97 runs
School 139 all out (Partington 31)
M.G.S. 42 all out (Scott 3 for 3)
- v. Stockport Grammar School (H)
Won by 127 runs
School 191 for 3 declared (Abrahams 82, Savage 62)
Stockport 64 all out (Edwards 3 for 21)

This year's under 12 side was very inexperienced compared with those of recent years, few of its members having played much proper cricket before. It was, therefore, hardly suprising that it took several games for the team to settle down to the rhythm and discipline of a proper match. The batting in the early games was very successful, however—it must be rare for a team in this age group to score so many runs and still lose—and it was the inconsistent bowling which usually let the side down. As ever a proportion of catches went to ground, and this alone cost the side two victories, including the rare chance of beating Manchester Boys' side. When the side had finally settled, it was most rewarding to see the players develop into the real cricket team which they proved in the last two matches of the term against our closest rivals. Here, the players showed that there is enough application and attack in the batting along with the right blend of spin and pace in the bowling to set a challenge to any opposition in the future.

The team was usually selected as follows: J. P. Abrahams, A. P. Daley, A. J. Edwards, B. C. Issitt, C. K. McMillan, A. S. Partington, A. Pilling, B. C. Savage, A. K. Scott, R. D. Slown, A. G. Streets, J. N. Symms. The following also played: C. D. Eastwood, P. Gallagher, J. Griffiths, S. D. Hayes, G. Mullins.

C. P. Langford

HOUSE CRICKET KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

Senior

First Round

Gaskell beat Byrom

Dalton 186 for 5 (G. P. Benson 69, W. P. Hopwood 62 n.o.)
beat Whitworth 129 all out (M. Kennedy 45,
W. P. Hopwood 3 for 9, G. P. Benson 3 for 14)
by 57 runs

Second Round

Gaskell beat Fraser

Dalton 64 for 2

beat Heywood 60 all out (M. T. Clarke 3 for 10)
by 8 wickets

Final

Dalton 101 for 1 (A. G. Cleary 41 n.o.)

beat Gaskell 97 all out (P. Fearnley 42,
R. A. Shotton 4 for 17)
by 9 wickets

Winners: Dalton

Junior

First Round

Whitworth

beat Byrom

Heywood

beat Fraser

Second Round

Whitworth

beat Gaskell

Dalton 126 all out

beat Heywood 115 all out (S. P. Hinds 3 for 13)
by 11 runs

Final

Dalton 113 all out (A. R. Tomlinson 3 for 19,

D. Kirby 3 for 22)

beat Whitworth 69 all out (A. N. Jameson 3 for 20)
by 44 runs

Winners: Dalton

M. D. Wood

INTER HOUSE BASKETBALL

Once again the final was contested between Fraser and Whitworth, and once again Fraser retained the shield.

Results of Group Matches

| GROUP A | | | | |
|---------------|--------|-----|------|--------|
| | Played | Won | Lost | Points |
| Gaskell..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Whitworth.... | 3 | 3 | 0 | 6 |
| Dalton..... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Fraser | 5 | 5 | 0 | 10 |
| Byrom..... | 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Heywood | 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 |

| GROUP B | | | | |
|---------------|--------|-----|------|--------|
| | Played | Won | Lost | Points |
| Gaskell..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Whitworth.... | 5 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| Dalton..... | 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Fraser | 4 | 4 | 0 | 8 |
| Byrom..... | 5 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| Heywood..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Semi-finals

Fraser (A) 6 points v Fraser (B) 8 points

Whitworth (B) 6 points v Byrom (A) 2 points

Final

Fraser 20 points v Whitworth 2 points

In the Final, N. J. Hindley and A. J. Jackson, both of Fraser and the School U-14 Basketball team, combined well, scoring a total of 14 points in what turned out to be an overwhelming victory.

C. H. Seddon

U-14 BASKETBALL

Played 10, Won 2, Lost 8.

Points for 324, Points Against 392.

- v. St. John Plessington (A)
Won 42-8
- v. Newall Green (H)
Lost 32-34
- v. Burnage H.S. (A)
Lost 20-81
- v. St. Thomas Aquinas (A)
Lost 32-34
- v. Parrswood H.S. (H)
Lost 21-25
- v. Burnage H.S. (A)
Lost 19-62
- v. Brookway H.S. (A)
Lost 42-44
- v. Parrswood H.S. (A)
Lost 28-55
- v. St. John Plessington (H)
Won 58-17
- v. Brookway H.S. (H)
Lost 30-32

The following represented the School.

G. Gillaspy, forward; a keen player who developed throughout the season. He still has a lot to do on his shooting.

O. J. Henshall, forward; a gentle giant, who if he used his height more could have scored a lot of points. I am sure this will happen next year.

N. J. Hindley, guard; a skilful player who has yet to realise his full potential. A bit more commitment necessary.

A. J. Jackson, forward; a tall popular player who developed in confidence. He scored a lot of good baskets, he should do well next year.

A. Marsland, guard; a small, quiet player who again at times could be quite aggressive. He could do with scoring more points in a game.

D. Sproson, guard; an awkward player to get past. There are still areas which need a lot of hard work to improve.

K. J. Stephenson, forward; a fairly sound defensive player. Again needs to be more aggressive in attack. He should look to score more points in the game.

D. Timm; forward/centre; a good, sound, popular player. He developed quite nicely throughout the season. Along with A. Jackson he scored a lot of points.

S. W. Dutton and L. D. Hope; both joined the team late and as a consequence have not developed quite as well as the others.

A. Kapadia did a splendid job as team scorer; many thanks to him from the team.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Sproson for his generosity. I look forward to next season.

G. B. Moss

U-13 BASKETBALL

Played 13, Won 5, Lost 8.

Points for 445, Points Against 471.

- v. St. Mark's
Lost 20-34
- v. Newall Green
Lost 11-13
- v. Oakwood H.S.
Lost 20-73
- v. Bishop Greer
Won 50-27
- v. Blue Coat School, Liverpool,
Lost 35-58
- v. Bishop Greer
Lost 24-27
- v. St. John Plessington
Won 66-16
- v. Poundswick
Lost 39-56
- v. Wright Robinson
Won 36-26
- v. St. Pius H.S.
Won 59-37
- v. Parrswood H.S.
Lost 21-26
- v. Brookway H.S.
Lost 22-38
- v. South Manchester
Won 42-40

The U-13 basketball team have over the last year improved enormously. There are however areas which still need some extra work. This is still a team which potentially looks better than most of the schools in the Manchester area. The following represented the School:

K. K. Asamoah, forward; can be a useful player, but has been known to miss easy lay up shots.

B. J. Allen, guard; a player who has improved throughout the season. He could do with scoring more points per game.

J. A. Humm, forward; a small player who if he attended more training sessions could be quite useful.

I. R. Jordon, forward/guard; a good sound player. His defensive work is at times very competitive. Like most of the team needs to try to score more points.

J. Miller, forward; a fairly skilful player who defends well. Again, does not score many points in a game, but does a lot of work off the ball.

N. Ridings, guard; another player who, if he put his mind to it, could be useful. When he is on the court he is very aggressive.

J. E. Roden, guard; a very exciting player. He demonstrates a great amount of skill, control and understanding of the game. He was top scorer last season.

M. Rubens, forward; a good sound player. Again like most of the team he does not score many points in a game.

D. Schweiger, guard; exciting yet exasperating. He has a lot of energy and does a lot of work when on the court. He should do well in the future.

A. S. Ward, guard; a late comer to the squad. He developed quite nicely through the season. Along with J. Roden was one of the top scorers.

M. W. Wetherill, scorer; he did an outstanding job. The team is greatly indebted to him.

I would also like to thank those parents who supported the team throughout the season. Also a debt of gratitude is owed to J. Welton and players at Liverpool Basketball Club. Finally, a very special thank you from the boys and myself to Mr. P. Rubens and Mr. N. Roden, who have helped to develop the game at School.

G. B. Moss

TENNIS

Captain of Tennis: H. A. Gardiner

- v. Bolton School (H)
Lost 0-9
- v. Stockport Grammar School (H)
Lost 3-6
- v. North Cestrian Grammar School (H)
Won 5½-3½
- GLANVILL CUP (H)
- v. Queen Elizabeth's G.S., Blackburn.
Lost 1-2
- v. Ormskirk Grammar School
Lost 1-2
- v. North Cestrian Grammar School (A)
Won 5-4
- v. Birkenhead School (A)
Lost 4-5
- v. Sale Grammar School (H)
Lost 1½-7½
- v. Manchester Grammar School (A)
Lost 3-6
- v. Ellesmere College (H)
Lost 2½-6½
- v. The Parents
- v. The Masters

A combination of inexperience and greater than usual problems of availability led to a largely undistinguished season. Three of the First Six played only a handful of matches between them and consequently we often played key matches with no established pairings. By the end of the term, twelve boys had represented the First Six.

There were bright spots, of course; and the general good humour and excellent team spirit amongst the players redeemed many a potentially gloomy afternoon of tennis. Once again our team stood out from many of their opponents by virtue of their self-control and courteous behaviour on and off the court.

Gardiner's captaincy was effective and his game displayed strength and intelligence. Had he been able to partner I. R. Ladd throughout the season they would have met very few pairs who could have beaten them. A. L. Meadowcroft, E. Viner and S. D. Barnham are beginning at last to find the self-assurance they require to become formidable opponents.

We face next Summer with the prospect of a team virtually unchanged; if that team is able to play together regularly then the season promises to be a good one.

Once again the School was asked to provide teams of ball-boys for the Finals Day at the Northern L.T.C. Tournament in West Didsbury, and once again they performed admirably in the exhausting conditions.

The fortunes of our Junior teams were rather mixed this year: the Under 13 Six was quite successful, winning three of their five matches; the Under 14 team won two and drew one of their five; but the hapless Under 15 could not manage a single win in any of their seven matches! However, there is plenty of ability in all of these teams and I look forward to improved results next season.

The matches between the School, the Parents and the Masters were as enjoyable as ever, though the outcomes are probably best left unrecorded. I should like to thank all those who took part, especially the non-playing Parents' Captain, Mr. Burden, and Honorary Member of Staff Mrs. Loveland! I should also like to record my gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Gregson for our excellent teas, to Mr. Seddon for taking the Under 15 Six to Stockport, and chiefly to Messrs Harrison and Thompson for their considerable involvement in this year's tennis.

Full Colours are awarded to H. A. Gardiner.

Half Colours go to I. R. Ladd, A. L. Meadowcroft and C. A. Nelson.

Others representing the First Six were S. J. Calderbank, D. A. Butterworth, J. S. Bouchier, C. L. Porritt, D. B. Lancaster, and J. Leung.

D. M. Fisher

School captain: P. J. Goodier

Vice-captain: A. B. N. May

Masters-in-charge: Mr P. M. Bull and Mr. C. J. Maudsley

Michaelmas Term

At a social evening on 29th September a number of awards were made, including two magnificent trophies which had been presented by the Parents' Association: one for a junior and one for a senior runner. These were awarded on the basis of performances for the School during the 1982-83 season and were won by J. A. Humm and M. A. Sever respectively. The boys and their parents were treated to an entertaining speech by Old Hulmeian and distinguished runner Geoff Norman. Mr. Norman referred to his Olympic experiences but also had much advice to offer our youngsters, both during his speech and afterwards more informally.

The season had begun a few days earlier at Marple Hall School at their annual relay event which involves most of the top schools in the North of England. Our overall position was eleventh out of more than 26 participating schools; a sound result, owing much to the U-12s. Unfortunately, our four best U-14 times were not all in the 'A' team; had they been, it would have finished fourth out of 55 teams! The four boys concerned, who all ran so well, were S. H. Green, T. J. Burden, G. L. Owen and A. D. Ryan.

Success in the Sale League depends on having a strong team at each of the four meetings. Our greatest chances were in the U-12s and U-13s where we did have at least four runners in each year good enough to reach an award-winning standard. In the U-12s J. N. Symms, D. R. Ffoulkes-Jones, P. D. Higginbottom and S. R. Minty made a very strong team but only Ffoulkes-Jones attended all four fixtures. Many factors conspire to prevent full attendance but the most frustrating was the 'wild-cat' bus strike on the day of the final meeting, which was also the first day of the Christmas holiday. Symms achieved the highest position (second) of our boys but was unable to repeat this. Green, however, was consistently good: his four positions were 9, 9, 5 and 10. Humm occasionally approached his form of the previous season but he was troubled by injury and failed to live up to expectations. Ryan ran well for the U-14s but was given little support. M. R. Turley gave much-needed support to J. E. D. Crews in the U-16s team and J. D. Pollard showed a welcome return to form. Unfortunately, A. M. Woodhouse was lost to the rugby team and C. L. Gardner simply lost enthusiasm.

For the first time we entered teams in the English Schools Cross-Country Cup. Unusually, first and second forms were combined for a Junior team and third and fourth forms for an Intermediate team. They were two highly competitive races run over 4.5 kilometres and 5.5 kilometres respectively. J. E. Roden made a rare appearance in the Junior team and finished a praiseworthy 18th but in so doing he proved that our fastest second-former is Green, who managed excellent sixth place. Our Junior team were eighth out of sixteen schools which entered and were therefore unable to progress to the next round. The Intermediate team were less successful: only J. D. Jacobs achieved a creditable position.

The senior runners were given their first opportunity for several weeks when we visited Manchester Grammar School but showed that they were out of practice and relatively unfit. Sever and Goodier performed reasonably well but they were still over one minute behind the MGS leaders. The U-16s, too, were outclassed, except for Crews. We also lost at U-14 and U-12 age groups, but only narrowly. A return fixture at home a few weeks later produced similar results, but with an important bonus for the U-12s who, despite losing to MGS, achieved a win over Wright Robinson High School in a triangular contest.

Illness, injury and a Hardraw trip depleted our squad for a new fixture at Bury Grammar School but the U-12s still managed a good win. J. D. Austin made an excellent debut, finishing third, and M. P. Grey demonstrated how important it is for *every* runner (no matter how far behind he is) to keep striving to overtake the man in front, since by coming in seventh rather than in eighth he won the race for us. Several of the U-16s and Seniors claimed to have lost their way during their long and complicated course — an excuse which they will not be able to repeat next year.

Lent Term

Giant hailstones driven horizontally by gale-force winds were experienced by most runners at the Manchester Schools Championship at the Parkway playing fields. Our Senior team won third place, despite Goodier's unfortunate accident, thanks mainly to Sever and D. T. Flowers. Sever narrowly beat Flowers to finish tenth and thus gained selection for the Manchester Schools team in the Greater Manchester Championship on 4th February where he performed with much success. Symms had a very good race for the U-12s, finishing eighth (out of 111) but the rest of his team performed disappointingly, as did the U-14s and U-16s. Far too many boys were discouraged by the weather conditions; A. St. J. Dawes however actually ran better than usual.

A single visit to the Altrincham League at John Leigh Park followed, but the results were again disappointing. There was an improvement at Cheadle Hulme School one week later where five schools competed and the U-16s came second while the Seniors, U-14s, and U-12s all came third. Symms unfortunately missed the start of his race due to an U-12 lacrosse practice and Humm (among others of the U-14 team) was led the wrong way near the finish of his race but the greatest successes were undoubtedly those of Crews, Pollard and J. P. Curran of the U-16s. The return fixture—at home—against Bury Grammar School produced the same result as at Bury: a win for the U-12s—more convincing this time—but defeats in the other three races. At Bolton School a combined U-18 and U-16 team won an excellent victory: after Bolton won the first three places we took nine of the next ten. Goodier was our outstanding runner. The U-14s were short of enough good quality runners—once again Green, Humm and Campbell ran well but were let down by the rest of the team. The U-12s won emphatically as Bolton's six runners all finished behind Symms, Higginbottom, Minty and P. Bookbinder. We then competed against Cheadle Hulme at home and for once the second-formers ran as a team (that is, they did not have to combine with the third-formers) and won easily. R. J. Ketteridge was an excellent substitute for the injured Humm.

The Hardraw weekend came one week before the Northern Schools Championship and therefore gave an opportunity for some serious training as well as a leisurely stroll up Pen-y-ghent. Crews won the handicap race in a very fast 17:18; Pollard also won a trophy for coming second. A week later at Lyme Park nearly all our runners improved on their positions of the previous year although once again we came nowhere near a trophy-winning performance. Green (52nd) and Symms (95th) were our highest-placed runners but Goodier, Sever and Crews also achieved highly creditable positions. The season ended with all teams except the Seniors winning against Bolton School at home. After the School fixtures had officially ended four of our older runners (Crews, Flowers, Sever and W. G. Shone) represented the School in the Fielden Park Half-Marathon and not only performed creditably but also raised money for the Pat Seed Appeal Fund.

During the season a system of standards for performances in home fixtures was introduced by which a boy could achieve a bronze, silver or gold standard, depending on his time for completing the course. All timings become progressively more difficult as the boy becomes older and none of them can be achieved without considerable effort. No boy managed to obtain a 'gold', but the following standards were reached:

Silver

A. D. Campbell
J. P. Curran
P. J. Goodier
S. H. Green
J. D. Jacobs
J. D. Pollard
J. N. Symms

Bronze

A. St. J. Dawes
J. A. Humm
S. Pilling
M. A. Sever
W. G. Shone
A. M. Woodhouse

P. M. Bull

JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING RESULTS 1984

First Year Backstroke:

B. C. Issitt, 1A, 39.01 secs. C. D. Eastwood, 1A. D. R. Ffoulkes-Jones, 1A.

First Year Breast Stroke:

L. J. McCloy, 1A, 38.87 secs*. P. A. Rudkin, 1D. B. G. Lee, 1C.

First Year Butterfly:

L. J. McCloy, 1A, 18.4 secs. B. C. Issitt, 1A. B. G. Lee, 1C.

First Year Freestyle:

D. R. Ffoulkes-Jones, 1A, 35.28 secs. J. P. Abrahams, 1B. B. C. Savage, 1A

First Year Medley Relay:

1A. 1.16.02 secs. 1D. 1C. 1B.

First Year Squadron Relay:

1D. 1.11.02 secs. 1A. 1B. 1C.

Points:

| | First Form |
|----------|------------|
| 1A | 46 pts. |
| 1B | 12 pts. |
| 1C | 10 pts. |
| 1D | 23 pts. |

Second Year Backstroke:

M. E. Beggs, 2B, 38.01 secs. R. Scholes, 2A. A. Postill, 2B.

Second Year Breast Stroke:

J. Babicki, 2A, 40.2 secs. R. J. Ketteridge, 2A.R. Scholes, 2A.

Second Year Butterfly:

J. Babicki, 2A, 19.56 secs. R. Howarth, 2B. A. Fawkes, 2B.

Second Year Freestyle:

R. Ketteridge, 2A, 33.64 secs. S. Williams, 2D. A. Fawkes, 2B.

Second Year Medley Relay:

2B. 1.14.41 secs. 2A. 2D. 2C.

Second Year Squadron Relay:

2B. 1.11.34 secs. 2A. 2D. 2C disq.

Points:

| | Second Form |
|----------|-------------|
| 2A | 37 pts. |
| 2B | 35 pts. |
| 2C | 2 pts. |
| 2D | 12 pts. |

INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING RESULTS 1984

Junior Backstroke:

N. Hindley, (F) 35.82 secs.

A. Cleary, (D)

S. D. Hatton, (D)

Middle Backstroke:

J. Moores, (W) 35.69 secs.

D. White, (B)

R. Angel, (G)

Senior Backstroke:

C. Porritt, (F) 34.46 secs.

W. S. Dixon, (H)

G. Cleary, (D)

Junior Breaststroke:

N. Meech, (D) 39.79 secs.

N. de B. Baynes, (F)

M. Simpson, (F)

Middle Breast Stroke:

R. Swain, (D) 40.65 secs.

A. Dickin, (W)

S. Platt, (F)

Senior Breast Stroke:

S. Meech, (D) 36.71 secs.

T. Jones, (H)

A. Hindley, (F)

Junior Butterfly:

A. St. J. Dawes, (D) 16.03 secs.

S. N. Anning, (F)

A. J. Hilder, (D)

Middle Butterfly:

D. A. Khan, (F) 12.61 secs.

A. N. Jameson, (D)

D. P. R. Kirby, (W)

Senior Butterfly:

C. P. Tatham, (F) 13.56 secs.

W. S. Dixon, (H)

G. P. Wadsworth, (F)

Junior Freestyle:

A. Ball, (D) 28.40 secs.

R. D. Glyn, (W)

A. Gross, (W)

Middle Freestyle:

J. S. Moores, (W) 30.86 secs.

N. Abrahams, (H)

A. Hinchcliffe, (H)

Senior Freestyle:

J. P. Curran, (H) 28.96 secs.

A. Hindley, (F)

A. Akka, (D)

Junior Individual Medley:

A. St. J. Dawes, (D)

A. Ball, (D)

B. Grange, (G)

Middle Individual Medley:

D. A. Khan, (F) 1 min. 04.85 secs. A. Dickin, (W)

R. Angel (G)

Senior Individual Medley:

C. Porritt, (F) 1 min. 14.07 secs C. P. Tatham, (F)

S. P. Mitchell, (W)

Individual Points Total:

Byrom 4 pts

Dalton 49 pts

Fraser 55 pts

Gaskell 6 pts

Heywood 23 pts

Whitworth 26 pts

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| <i>Junior Medley Relay:</i> | | |
| Dalton, 1 min.05.16 secs. | Fraser | Gaskell |
| <i>Middle Medley Relay:</i> | | |
| Whitworth, 1 min.05.38 secs. | Fraser | Dalton |
| <i>Senior Medley Relay:</i> | | |
| Fraser, 1 min.00.68 secs. | Dalton | Whitworth |
| <i>Junior Squadron Relay:</i> | | |
| Dalton, 2 min.24.82 secs. | Whitworth | Heywood |
| <i>Middle Squadron Relay:</i> | | |
| Heywood, 2 min.15.0 secs. | Dalton | Gaskell |
| <i>Senior Squadron Relay:</i> | | |
| Fraser 2 min.09.11 secs. | Heywood | Gaskell |
| <i>Team Results:</i> | | |
| Byrom 0 pts | | Gaskell 7 pts |
| Dalton 22pts | | Heywood 13 pts |
| Fraser 22 pts | | Whitworth 14 pts |

G. B. Moss

MANCHESTER SCHOOLS SWIMMING ASSOCIATION GALA

Held on Thursday July 5th

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 1. <i>Junior Boys Breast Stroke</i> | J. McCloy (1A) | 4th |
| 2. <i>Intermediate Boys Butterfly</i> (Mrs. E. Barnes Shield) | D. Khan (4B) | 1st |
| 3. <i>Intermediate Boys Breast Stroke</i> (Wiles Cup) | A. S. Dawes (3A) | 5th |
| 4. <i>Intermediate Boys Backstroke</i> (T. O. Wilson Trophy) | D. Khan (4B) | 1st |
| 5. <i>Intermediate Boys Freestyle</i> (Bax Shield) | A. S. Dawes (3A) | 4th |
| 6. <i>Junior Boys Medley Squadron</i> | D. Khan (4B) | 1st |
| 7. <i>Junior Boys Freestyle Squadron</i> | J. S. Moores (4B) | 3rd |
| 8. <i>Intermediate Boys Medley Squadron</i> (Wyatt Shield) | D. Khan (4B) | 1st |
| 9. <i>Intermediate Boys Freestyle Squadron</i> (Wainwright Shield) | W.H.G.S. | 6th |
| | W.H.G.S. | 6th |
| | W.H.G.S. | 1st |
| | J. S. Moores, R. D. Swain, D. Khan | |
| | W.H.G.S. | 1st |
| | J. S. Moores, A. R. Ball, A. S. Dawes, D. Khan | |

ATHLETICS SPORTS RESULTS 1984

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------------------|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|----|--|
| <i>Senior</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 100 m. | 11.3 Rec | D. L. Hallows | G. | A. D. Poole | D. | R. J. Worthington | F. | |
| 200 m. | 23.7 | D. L. Hallows | G. | R. J. Worthington | F. | G. W. Wright | H. | |
| 400 m. | 56.9 | E. P. Tullock | D. | R. Hussain | W. | B. P. Cussons | D. | |
| 800 m. | 2-16.4 | S. A. Brown | G. | P. J. Goodier | B. | M. A. Sever | B. | |
| 1500 m. | 4-35.1 | M. A. Sever | B. | S. A. Brown | G. | P. J. Goodier | B. | |
| Relay | 50.0 | Heywood | | Dalton | | Byrom | | |
| Shot | 9.79 | A. D. Poole | D. | D. Madeley | H. | M. P. Kelly | D. | |
| Discus | 24.77 | M. L. Jackson | B. | N. Fryman | H. | M. T. Clarke | D. | |
| Javelin | 37.0 | D. L. Hallows | G. | R. G. Dalgleish | F. | J. R. McManus | F. | |
| H. Jump | 1.75 | M. J. Lloyd | G. | S. A. Meech | D. | S. Odum | F. | |
| L. Jump | 4.96 | M. A. Sever | B. | I. B. Beckett | H. | A. G. Cleary | D. | |
| T. Jump | 11.17 | E. P. Tullock | D. | G. W. Wright | H. | J. D. Jacobs | F. | |
| <i>Middle</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 100m. | 11.8 | P. J. Crosby | D. | A. G. Hinchcliffe | H. | S. J. Hinchcliffe | B. | |
| 200m. | 25.5 | P. J. Crosby | D. | J. F. Olpinski | W. | H. W. Deakin | D. | |
| 400m. | 56.2 | A. G. Hinchcliffe | H. | J. P. Curran | H. | P. D. Gaskell | G. | |
| 800m. | 2-18.5 | J. E. D. Crews | G. | M. R. Turley | B. | J. D. Jacobs | F. | |
| 1500m. | 4-50.8 | J. P. Curran | H. | J. D. Jacobs | F. | M. R. Turley | B. | |
| Relay | 50.3 | Heywood | | Dalton | | Gaskell | | |
| Shot | 9.84 | C. Greaves | G. | J. P. Curran | H. | S. M. Black | W. | |
| Discus | 25.56 | M. J. Taylor | G. | R. Burns | B. | S. J. Beggs | W. | |
| Javelin | 40.15 | B. J. Carden | F. | D. S. Beevor | F. | S. J. Schofield | G. | |
| H. Jump | 1.83 Rec | J. E. D. Crews | G. | R. Burns | B. | R. D. Markland | H. | |
| L. Jump | 4.77 | J. Leung | H. | S. J. Beggs. | W. | W. R. Harvey | H. | |
| T. Jump | 11.35 | J. E. D. Crews | G. | J. L. Weston | B. | J. Leung | H. | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|-----------------|----|------------------|----|------------------|----|
| <i>Junior</i> | | | | | | | |
| 100m. | 12.3 | N. E. Thompson | F. | R. W. Bailey | H. | S. P. Hinds | D. |
| 200m. | 26.3 | N. E. Thompson | F. | A. J. Jackson | F. | S. P. Hinds | D. |
| 400m. | 58.7 | A. M. Woodhouse | G. | T. J. Burden | B. | K. J. Stephenson | F. |
| 800m | 2-23.5 | A. M. Woodhouse | G. | T. J. Burden | B. | D. L. Williams | F. |
| 1500m. | 5-14.0 | A. J. Jackson | F. | D. L. Williams | F. | A. D. Ryan | F. |
| Relay | 53.2 | Fraser | | Byrom | | Heywood | |
| Shot | 9.92 | R. D. Swain | D. | A. M. Dickin | W. | D. P. Sproson | G. |
| Discus | 21.41 | R. H. Jones | B. | N. de B. Baynes | F. | M. J. Copson | D. |
| Javelin | 24.6 | I. D. Law | B. | A. R. Ball | D. | S. J. Ashman | G. |
| H. Jump | 1.45 | N. J. Hindley | H. | K. J. Stephenson | F. | I. D. Law | B. |
| L. Jump | 4.73 | R. W. Bailey | H. | T. J. Burden | B. | S. P. Dove | D. |
| T. Jump | 9.75 | R. W. Bailey | H. | S. P. Hinds | D. | J. Bradley | W. |

House Positions:

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Heywood | 180½ points |
| 2. Dalton | 160½ |
| 3. Byrom | 150 |
| 4. Fraser | 146½ |
| 5. Gaskell | 143 |
| 6. Whitworth | 77½ |

Individual Winners:

| | | | |
|--------|------------------|----------------|----|
| Senior | The Gaskell Cup | D. L. Hallows | G. |
| Middle | The Cardwell Cup | J. E. D. Crews | G. |
| Junior | The China Cup | R. W. Bailey | H. |

JUNIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS SPORTS RESULTS 1984

First Year:

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|------------------|-----|-----|
| 100 m. | Keith (1C), 13.35 secs. Jones (1B), 13.85 secs. Dean (1D). | | | |
| 200 m. | Larkin (1C), 31.18 secs. Symms (1D), 31.55 secs. Keith (1C). | | | |
| 400 m. | Mullins (1C), 74.14 secs. Pilling (1D), 75.38 secs. Barry (1A). | | | |
| 800 m. | Symms (1D), 2.40.5 secs. Enston (1C), 2.44.4 secs. Bookbinder (1C). | | | |
| 1500 m. | Bookbinder (1C), 5.32.6 secs. Enston (1C), 5.36.8 secs. Minty (1D). | | | |
| 4x100 m. | | | | |
| Relay | 1D, 1.02.6 secs. | 1B, 1.02.9 secs. | 1C. | 1A. |
| Cricketball: | Slown (1C), 48m.42 cms. Pilling (1D), 47m. 12cms. McMillan (1B). | | | |
| Shot Putt | Slown (1C), 9m.65cms. Bellass (1A). Pitcher (1C). | | | |
| High Jump | Abrahams (1B), 1m.30cms. Richardson (1C), 1m.24cms. Hope (1B) | | | |
| Triple Jump | Fajumi (1C), 9m. Bryan (1A), 8m.95cms. Flemming (1B) | | | |
| Long Jump | Fajumi (1C), 3m.95cms. McMillan (1B), 3m.91cms. Streets (1D). | | | |
| Points: | 1A | 29 pts | | |
| | 1B | 60 pts | | |
| | 1C | 94 pts | | |
| | 1D | 58 pts | | |

Second Year:

| | | | | |
|-------------|---|----------------|-----|-----|
| 100 m. | Yates (2D), 13.17 secs. Asamoah (2B), 13.46 secs. Conway (2D). | | | |
| 200 m. | Roden (2B), 30.30 secs. Dunn (2C), 30.60 secs. Bell (2B). | | | |
| 400 m. | Chow (2B), 1.08.36 secs. Marks (2D), 1.09.90 secs. Conway (2D). | | | |
| 800 m. | Green (2D), 2.39.8 secs. Wilson (2B), 2.47.2 secs. Ketteridge (2A). | | | |
| 1500 m. | Green (2D), 4.56.12secs. Campbell (2B), 5.16.31 secs. Roden (2B). | | | |
| 4x100m. | | | | |
| Relay | 2D, 57.9 secs. | 2B, 58.2 secs. | 2C. | 2A. |
| Javelin: | Ward (2B), 24m.72cms. Cardern (2B), 22m.25cms. Ketteridge (2A) | | | |
| Shot Putt | Clark (2C). Wetherill (2B). Barnes (2C). Rubens (2B). | | | |
| High Jump | Charlton (2D), 1m.40cms. Wilson (2B), 1m.35cms. Scholes (2A). | | | |
| Triple Jump | Dunn (2C), 8m.63cms, Charlton (2D), 8m.62cms. Hockenhull (2C) | | | |
| Long Jump | Dunn (2C), 4m.31cms. Hockenhull (2C), 4m.27cms. Scott-Gall (2A). | | | |
| Points: | 2A | 29 pts | | |
| | 2B | 77 pts | | |
| | 2C | 53 pts | | |
| | 2D | 75 pts | | |

HOUSE CHAMPIONS 1983-84

Rugby

Third Year House League Champions: Whitworth.
Fourth Year House League Champions: Fraser.
Senior House League Champions: Gaskell.
Junior Inter-House Knock Out Competition: Whitworth beat Fraser by 12 pts to 8.
Senior Inter-House Knock Out Competition: Whitworth beat Gaskell by 7 pts to 4.

Lacrosse

Third Year House League Champions: Fraser and Gaskell.
Fourth Year House League Champions: Whitworth.
Senior House League Champions: Whitworth.
Junior Inter-House Knock Out Competition: Fraser beat Heywood by 8 goals to 3.
Senior Inter-House Knock Out Competition: Dalton beat Fraser.

Cricket

House League Champions: Whitworth.
Junior Inter-House Knock Out Champions: Dalton, who beat Whitworth
Senior Inter-House Knock Out Champions: Dalton, who beat Gaskell by 9 wickets.

Swimming

Fraser won the Individual competition, but shared the Relay Competition with Dalton.

Cross Country

Byrom.

Basketball

Fraser beat Whitworth by 22 pts to 2.

Tennis

Junior Tennis — Fraser.

Athletics

Heywood.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT

The first event of our year is always the Garden Fête and the weather was too good for many people! Nevertheless everyone spent freely and we raised sufficient money to complete the purchase of a new mini-bus for the School.

In September the Headmaster gave a very interesting talk mainly to new parents and in October we had our, by now, traditional Cheese and Wine Evening which is always a tremendous success attended by a large number of staff in addition to many parents.

In November a small but very enthusiastic group of card players enjoyed a Whist Drive and Buffet Supper. We were pleased to see some of the boys at this function wondering, however, where they learn to play so well.

The Christmas Dance was held in the School Dining Room and was, as always, a great success and a good start to the festive season.

The first event of the new year was the Hoe-Down and Hot Pot Supper in the New Hall. This was a family evening and extremely well attended and enjoyed by all there.

Hough End Hall was again the venue for the Annual Dinner Dance where we had the pleasure of seeing a 'full house'. Everyone had a most enjoyable evening and particular mention must be made of the tombola which forms such an integral part of this and other functions. Our special thanks go to Mr. Miller for all his kindness and generosity over the years.

During March and April we ran a sponsored slim under the control of Mrs. Oatway. There was quite a big number of people (in both ways) and by the end of the five weeks everyone had benefited (including the school) by the raising of a large sum of money, and the losing of a large amount of weight.

The usual cricket and tennis matches against the School and Staff were enjoyed by all, helped by good weather.

The 300 Club continues to flourish but more members are always welcome.

The Committee for 1984/85 is:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>President:</i> | Mrs. R. Pimlott |
| <i>Chairman:</i> | Mr. H. Downie |
| <i>Vice-Chairman/Treasurer</i> | Mrs. H. Dixon |
| <i>Secretary:</i> | Mrs. S. Ball |

Members: Mrs. P. Meadowcroft, Mrs. G. Matthews, Mrs. B. Brundrit, Mrs. M. Hope, Mrs. S. Mattison, Mr. R. Barnes, Mr. N. Sheriff.

Co-opted members of staff: Mr. M. D. Wood, Mr. A. Simkin.

THE OLD HULMEIANS ASSOCIATION

The Association has continued to thrive this year during the Presidency of Chris Bryans; one highlight of his year being the Annual Dinner. It was pleasing to see better support for this function where the diners were well entertained by the guest speakers J. Douglas Hague and the Rt. Hon. Michel Lord and the President himself. Other regular social functions such as the Dinner Dance and the September Reunion were enjoyed by those who attended.

The Lacrosse Club had an encouraging season; the excellent spirit shown by the players in the 1st, A, Extra A and B teams was reflected in their performances on the field. The 1st team, with Nick Hewitt as captain, finished third in the First Division; special mention must be made of Terry Underwood and Pete Collins who were chosen to join the England squad to go to Los Angeles for a pre-Olympic International Lacrosse Tournament. The A team had an indifferent season in the league but reached the finals of the Junior Flags, being beaten in that final by a strong side from Sheffield. The Extra A team enjoyed a most successful season and were unfortunate not to regain their place in the Third Division; the B team had mixed fortunes in the Fifth Division. Many juniors played regularly under the guidance of Malcolm Wood and David Marsden. The encouragement they give to members of the School in playing club lacrosse is much appreciated. Members of School who wish to play lacrosse during the Michaelmas Term should contact Mr. Wood.

The Golf Section had a successful year and wish to acknowledge the part played by Bill Allman who retires after fourteen years as Secretary. Meetings were held at Mellor and Chorlton and a team competed at Crosby in the Lancashire Old Boys' Tournament.

The Rifle Section had a difficult year and were unable to shoot until the School's range was reopened in February; the new facilities are excellent and the section hopes for new members to boost its fortunes.

Three games of cricket against the School 1st XI, the Staff and the Parents were organised and many Old Hulmeians played in these games. It is hoped to extend the number of cricket matches next year.

The London Association continues to thrive and it was particularly pleasing to see some London members travelling north to the Annual Dinner; the efforts of the President are appreciated in strengthening the links between the two Associations.

Two men who gave much to the Association for many years died during this year, namely David Flunder and Walter Liggett. They will be sadly missed by all who knew them. Some of the interest from legacies left to the Association in past years is to be made available to the Head Master to assist activities of members of the School; the School is most grateful to the Association for making this help available.

I would commend the Association to members of the School who are reaching the end of their careers at W.H.G.S. The Association provides a way of continuing to maintain links with the School and with colleagues with whom they were closely involved for many years as well as providing much excellent and enjoyable sporting activity. As the School looks forward to its Centenary the Old Hulmeians Association hopes to maintain close and rewarding links with as many past pupils as possible thereby achieving a record membership.

It is saddening to record the deaths of two young members of the Association: R. L. Wall (1969—1976) and M. R. Percy (1976—1983). To both families we extend our most sincere sympathy.

M. Loveland

