

THE SENIOR COURIER

Friday 1st February 2008

CURRENT NEWS

Girls' U18 Indoor Hockey Are Silver Medal Winners.

Taunton School's U18 Girls' Hockey Team finished as silver medal winners in the National Indoor Finals, held at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham on last Sunday.

The team lost to Kingston Grammar School by 6 goals to 4 in a closely contested final, in which Taunton staged a spirited fight back in the last quarter of the match. With 4 minutes to go, Izzy Jeffs's goal brought the scores to 5 – 4 and set up a tense few final minutes.



The silver medal winners

Taunton could not quite get on level terms and force a penalty shoot out,

eventually conceding a sixth goal to Kingston two minutes from time. The Taunton School girls had qualified for the National Finals by winning the West Regional Competition held in Cheltenham last December.

In the end the Taunton girls finished as runners up. Their silver medals were presented by former GB goalkeeper Simon Mason, an old friend of Taunton School who has often attended the School's hockey coaching courses. A superb achievement girls! Well done!

A Workshop For Parents on Monday 4th February 6.30pm – 8.30pm In The Old Library

Recognising The Danger Signs Of Drug Experimentation & Addiction In Teenagers:

Visiting speaker: Karen Richardson
BA(Hons) MBACP (Accred) DCHyp
MCCSHA

“No parent should assume that their child is immune from temptation and peer pressure” Limited number of spaces available; please telephone Taunton School (01823 348134) or email: nell.rosser@tauntonschool.co.uk to reserve your place at this workshop. This is open to any parent across the school. We look forward to welcoming you on the 4th February.

Kate Goodridge-Griffiths: Music Success

Talented Kate Goodridge-Griffiths is about to embark on a two-week tour of Canada and America with the National Children's Choir of Great Britain.

Kate sets off this April as part of a 50 strong NCCGB group performing a series of joint concerts with choirs from Toronto, Vancouver and Chicago.

Kate has been singing since the age of six when she joined the Bridgewater Young Persons' Choir and then the National Choir when she was 12.

Her outstanding voice saw her being chosen as the opening soloist at the NCCGB concert in Harrogate last summer, and Kate and her friend Poppy Duncan also took part in Bridgewater's Carnival Concerts last year, with the pair scooping trophies in three separate performance categories.

Kate also won the approval of music mogul Simon Cowell - by making it through with Poppy to the next round of popular television show 'Britain's Got Talent'.

Helping the teenager achieve her singing dream is manufacturer Gerber Juice, providing Kate with sponsorship support.

Kate told the Mercury: "We have a packed itinerary, but I am so looking forward to this tour, and to rehearsing and performing with other choirs. I'm very grateful for Gerber's encouragement and support."

House Drama Results

House Drama was terrific, to more than 220 3rd and 4th formers performing on stage over two nights was superb! There is obviously a wealth of talent in the current 3rd and 4th forms and also a lot of potential.

On the whole, the boys' houses were very good at remaining focused this year. Of all the scripts, all made some attempt to include the Shakespearian element that was requested, although in some it was more recognisable than others!

Both Evans and Marshall attempted to be original, using more than one Shakespeare play as a starting point, while others performed a whole play in ten minutes, such as Fairwater's Hamlet. Romeo and Juliet proved as popular as ever, as were the dance offs and sword fights!

The award winners for this years House Drama are as follows:

Best supporting actor: George Wheatley
Best group performance: Besley House
Best actor: Ben Watkins
Best script/direction: Kieran Gajraj

Well done to you all!

Thanks go to Miss Smart for all her hard work and to all of the students for performing. Roll on next year!

6th Form Investment Club Update

The past month has been a testing time for the Taunton School Investment Club.

Following the protracted Christmas break, the members returned bulging with enthusiasm but were largely prevented from attending the Club, owing to the pressure of examinations. This almost precipitated a mega disaster.

On 22nd January we welcomed Roger Chubb, one of the directors of Grimley in Bristol, who took day of work and drove from Bristol at his own expense to speak to the Club on investment in commercial property. The visit was a triumph and Mr Chubb has already offered to return next year. He will be warmly welcomed.

Meanwhile, over Christmas, we lost two members. Ben Solanki realized that sitting 4 "A" levels and coping with a stream of Richard Dolphin's merry cracks was a demand too much and (wisely) retired. One other member saw the light and realized that standing on his head was his natural forte – leaving to study Yoga. In their place, we welcome Charles Lee (news of the Club having already reached California), Will Weatherill and Spencer Dormer.

All the while the stock market plunged and our members' spirits fell proportionally. By late January, the value of the three teams' investment in the IFA Investment Challenge were:

The RAMS £90,078

The TIGERS £87,994

The BULLS £93,377

It is no surprise that the coolness and unflappability of the Headmaster's secretary has passed directly to her son and that Alex Cotton's team has, in its

own quiet and determined way, at least lessened its losses.

Meanwhile, sad though it is, all three teams have now sold the leases that they had acquired on the garages in which they were going to keep the long since cancelled Porsches. They are now largely left with piles of partly used tyres. Providence alone will determine whether or not they recover their initial £100,000 by the last day of February.

On an equally serious note, our speaker, an Old Tauntonian, postponed his visit due to his involvement with the merger of Royal Bank of Scotland with ABN-AMRO.

We are truly grateful to our colleague Tom Leahy, who has agreed to bring his end of season visit forward and talk to the Club. He will explain how he made a fortune in the City before deciding to come here to teach history. Again, we go forward with zest, anticipating the end of the month when Mrs Victoria Nye is coming to speak to the Club.

Victoria is Director of Training and Education at the Investment Management Association. She is a hot ticket and the Club are looking forward to her visit in the near future.

ESU Public Speaking Competition Results

On Thursday 24th January, Taunton School went to Queen's College to take part in the Public Speaking Competition. Jamie Wilman, Matthew Keech and Joss Hiatt went along and their topic was, 'Clothing is immaterial'

Taunton School came second in the competition and Jamie Wilman was awarded individual honours for the Best Chairperson. Well done!

SPORTS NEWS

Boys' Hockey: TS v. Canford

1st	Draw	0-0
2nd	Draw	3-3
3rd	Draw	1-1
4th	Draw	1-1
SCA	Lost	4-1
JCA	Draw	1-1
JCB	Lost	4-3
14A	Won	8-0
14B	Won	3-0
14C	Won	1-0

The Under 14A Team won the county hockey round last Wednesday. A tremendous achievement all round.

King's Taunton 4-0
Queens Taunton 4-0

Semi- Final;
Wells Cathedral 3-3 (won on strokes)

Final;
Millfield School 2-1

Boys U14 Hockey Crowned Somerset Champions

All three U14 boys' hockey teams have got off to a great start to the season with the U14As, U14Bs and U14Cs winning all of their matches so far.

In particular the U14A side have excelled. Not only did they beat

Canford away from home in a tight game won 3-1, but they then went on to have a successful Somerset Cup run, which ended up with their being crowned Somerset U14 champions.



The Boys on the Pitch

In the two pool matches, Taunton beat both Queen's and King's Colleges 4-0. This led to a thrilling semi-final match against Wells Cathedral School. Taunton were nervous and were caught cold in the first half and went 2-0 down early. Fortunately Thomas Abell pulled one back just before half-time.

The side played with more composure in the second half and equalised through Josh Kelly. There was then a tense last few minutes during which Wells again took the lead before, in the dying seconds, Josh Kelly hit a screamer to take the tie to penalty flicks with the score 3-3 at full-time.

Eddie Hatfield in goal was the star of the penalty flick competition, saving all four of their flicks. With George Cook and Oliver Kelham scoring theirs, Taunton went through to the final against Millfield 2-0 on penalty flicks.

The first half of the final was a cagey affair with both sides testing each other out. It looked as if Millfield had taken

the lead, but the goal was disallowed, as the shot had been taken from just outside the 'D'. The hockey in the second half was much more fluid and the standard was very high. Millfield scored an excellent goal to take the lead and five minutes later George Cook scored the equaliser from a 'Sir Clive' short corner special. Then, with just three minutes on the clock, up stepped Josh Kelly again to score the winner.

Captain Oliver Large went up to receive the trophy, which had been won by Millfield for the last 16 years in a row. The Millfield Master i/c Hockey summed up the team performance when he said: "It was the first time in 30 years that he had seen a side with the self-belief and ability to come from behind to beat Millfield in a Cup final."

The team now go on to represent Somerset in the West finals on Sunday 10th February at Millfield School. Good Luck!

Netball: TS v. Wellington

U16 team won against Wellington's 1st team, 17-8.

2nd: Won 23-6

3rd: Won 16-15

The U14 team got through to the semi finals of the Regional Schools finishing joint 3rd overall and just missing out on a place at the National Finals. Results as follows:

Pool Matches: Taunton School

v Bristol Grammar Drew 7-7
v Humphry Davy, Cornwall Won 13-2

v Stroud High Won 7-5
v Godolphin, Salisbury Won 9-4
v Talbot Heath, Bournemouth Drew 5-5
v Colyton Grammar, Devon Lost 4-5

Taunton won the Pool.
Semi Finals: Taunton School

v Bournemouth Girls' School Lost 15-4

Third/Fourth Place Play-off

v Millfield, Drew 8-8

South West Regional Tournament.

The U16 Team worked extremely hard and played some good patterns of netball. For a team formed together at the last minute because of players missing due to them being at the National Indoor Hockey Finals, the team did themselves proud. They won one match convincingly, drew against Dean Close and lost three others narrowly; one of these teams went on to win the tournament.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Speakerthon Day

Wednesday 6th February, 9.00am - 3.45pm

Pupils, Parents and Staff will be speaking throughout the day to a variety of age groups.

If you would like to speak on a topic of your own choice at some time during the Speakerthon Day, please see Roger Priest by 11am on Friday.

Valentine's Disco For Middle School

There is a disco for 3rd/4th/5th form on Saturday 9th February, in aid of South Africa Rugby Tour.

Tickets are on sale by the main stairs every day at lunchtime.

£3.00 cash or on the bill.

TICKETS FOR DR STARKEY'S LECTURE ARE NOW SOLD OUT!

Tickets that have been reserved are now available for collection from Reception for Dr Starkey's lecture.

Easter Revision Course At Taunton School Monday 7th - Friday 11th April 2008

The central aim of the course is to give students an opportunity to develop their confidence, motivation and examination performance in a highly supportive, friendly and exciting environment.

Each subject is taught in small groups (maximum ten pupils but often smaller) and tutors are experienced and in many cases are or have been examiners.

Tutors concentrate on core features and areas of difficulty in each subject. Particular attention is paid to conceptual understanding, problem-solving skills, recall ability and examination technique. Because groups are small, progress is monitored very much on an individual basis. Each syllabus is revised in depth and the teaching fully integrated with examination practice.

All students are welcome, whether they are working towards their GCSEs, AS levels or A2s. A highly enjoyable and productive week is on offer.

For more information, log on to www.tauntonschool.com/revision

CALENDAR DATES

Saturday 2nd February:

8.30am-9.00am TPS Year 8 Subject Taster: Latin and Classical Civilisation (Centenary Hall)

9.40am-10.55am L6 Horizons Lecture: Dr James Penny and Mr Christopher Moule 'Oxbridge Wit Sharpening' (SB2)

10.15am Finance Committee Meeting (Winterstoke Room) followed by Lunch (Meeting Room)

1.00pm Ten Tors Training Groups depart

Hockey v Queens's College (H) 1 2 3
SCA JCC FC (A) JCA JCB FA FB

Netball v Blundell's (H) 1 2 3 4 (A) U15
A+B+C U14 A+B+C

Somerset Schools' Cross Country Championships (Taunton Racecourse)
U15 U17 17+

Sunday 3rd February:

All day SW Indoor Sportshall Athletics Competition (Paignton) - Cancelled.

Ten Tors Training

10.15am Morning Service: Preacher Dr John Newton, Headmaster (Chapel)

Hockey: Somerset Preliminary Round (venue tbc) 1 SCA

Blundell's Rugby Sevens (A) U15

Monday 4th February:

4.15pm Badminton: Boys U18 (Queen's College) 2

4.00pm Netball v Queen's College (H) U15

4.00pm-7.00pm 'Les Miserables' Rehearsal (GWR / Arts Centre / Foyer)

5.30pm-8.00pm A2 Theatre Studies Rehearsal (Drama Studio)

6.00pm-8.00 Girls' Indoor Hockey
League U16 U18
6.30pm-8.30pm A Workshop for
Parents: Ms Karen Richardson '
Recognising the danger signs of drug
experimentation and addiction in
teenagers' (Old Library)

Tuesday 5th February:

8.15am-10.00pm F5 Art Trip (London)
8.40am Headmaster's Assembly: Mrs
Sue Treseder 'Chinese New Year' (Arts
Centre)
9.30am Visit by Army Liaison Officer
(Careers Office)
12.30pm Junior Chess Competition:
Semi-Finals (Carrington Library)
4.00pm-7.00pm TSTC Rehearsal
(Drama Studio)
5.15pm House Staff Discussion Meeting
(Babbingly)
6.30pm Junior Academics Quiz Contest
v King's College (Old Library)

Wednesday 6th February:

8.30am CCF RAF Flying (Colerne)
8.40am Headmaster's Assembly: Mrs
Sue Treseder 'Chinese New Year' (Arts
Centre)
All day: The Burke Speakathon (Old
Library)
Hockey: Somerset Cup Finals (venue
tbc) 1 SCA
4.00pm-7.00pm 'Les Miserables'
Rehearsal (GWR/ Drama Studio)
5.00pm-7.00pm A2 Theatre Studies
Rehearsal (Arts Centre)
7.00pm Scientific Society (Old Library)
7.00pm Historic Association Lecture
'The History of Allergy' (Queen's
College)

Thursday 7th February:

Chinese New Year
11.15am-12.15pm F3 F4 F5 Junior
Maths Challenge (Department)

Hockey v King's Bruton (A) JCA JCB
FA FB
2.00pm Netball v Queen's College (H) 1
2 3
2.00pm-5.30pm GCSE Drama Rehearsal
(Arts Centre)
6.30pm Informal Concert: Brass,
Percussion (GWR)
7.30pm Chinese New Year Meal
(Mandarin House)

Friday 8th February:

1.00pm OT Western Club Lunch
(Winterstoke Room)
4.00pm Hockey v TPS 2nd XI (H) FC
4.00pm Netball v Queen's College (A)
U14A+B
5.00pm-7.00pm A2 Theatre Studies
Rehearsal (Arts Centre)
7.00pm-10.00pm Sixth Form Social (Old
Library, Winterstoke Room)