

Lady Margaret Boat Club

The Easter Term of 1989 opened with a certain degree of anticipation. Disappointingly slow for most of the Lent Term, the First Boat had come good during the Lent Bumps gaining one place at the expense of Downing to go second. And there was the customary talk of returning Blues and First May Colours. Nothing came of this and defence of the Headship was left to the First Lent Boat which could only boast one May Colour – the cox. This was unique in Lady Margaret history.

Rowing began in York where the First Boat went to train under the guidance of Jamie Macleod. He whipped the VIII into shape and gave it that little edge which it was sometimes to forget but would never lose and which was nurtured under Brian Lloyd, Roger Silk, John Gleave and the ever-present David Dunn. In the May Bumps the First VIII rowed over easily on the first two days, only to find Downing in hot pursuit on Day 3! They got as far as a three-foot overlap by the Pike & Eel as we desperately tried to take it up yet again. But they broke and we rowed clear. Day 4, no kidding around this time; we raced up the Reach rating 36 at times and with at least two-and-a-half lengths clear water.

The Second Boat followed their second place climb in the Lents by rowing over all four days at the bottom of Division One (16th). The Third Boat went up two and down one to finish 30th.

First May VIII

N.A. Townend (Bow)
M.D. Coen
C.J. Atkin
A.G. Fendt
N.R. Killick
R.A. Floto
D.G. Reid
W.G.V. Harcourt (stroke)
T.M. Mortimer (cox)

Second May VIII

D.L. Mayther (bow)
C.J. Morgan
D.G. Dungate
T.W.G. Carrell
K.G. Gwynne-Timothy
D. Mack Smith
G. Arias
D.S. Gray (stroke)
M.D. Hayter (cox)

The First May VIII stayed together for Henley, and in the first round soundly defeated Oriel First VIII, which had just rowed over Head of the Summer Eights in Oxford, by more than 3 lengths. The Light IV gained less favourable distinction by hitting the very first boom in its first race.

The new officers for 1989-90 were N.R. Killick (captain), D.G. Reid (vice-captain), D.S. Gray (secretary), D. Mack Smith (junior treasurer), Miss C.H. Sweeney (Ladies' captain), and Miss C.A. Pritchard (Ladies' vice-captain), with C.J. Morgan and Miss F.E. Kelly in charge of Lower Boats and B.N. Appleton of entertainments.

The Michaelmas Term promised much, with the return of five First May Colours, and early speculation was soon justified as we took the Shell IV and Clinker IV titles, narrowly losing the Light IV final to Downing. Although the Fairbairn races were postponed – global warming notwithstanding, there was ice on the Cam – we came away with another victory, beating Downing by a clear 0.92 seconds, which the Jesus umpire in his infinite wisdom decided to call a dead heat! It goes without saying that the Second and Third Boats both won pennants. In the University Trials, G.R. Pooley rowed with CUBC and P. H. Gillespie with CULRC.

Light IV

P.H. Gillespie (bow)
R.A. Floto
D.G. Reid
T.C. Osborne (stroke)

Shell IV

J.C.E. Milne (bow)
C.J. Morgan
N.R. Killick
D.S. Gray (stroke)
Miss S.H.A. Lawman (cox)

Clinker IV

D. Mack Smith (bow)
N.J. Robinson
C.W. Seymour
C.E.R. Line (stroke)
Miss. A.J. Stafford (cox)

On to the Lents, and after another successful training camp, this time with Neil Christie, the First VIII went on to win almost everything. Generally acknowledged to be the fastest crew on the Cam, it was no surprise when it hit Pembroke before the railings on the first day in appalling conditions. It rowed over Head without any difficulty on the next three days. The Second Boat rowed over disappointingly on all four days to finish 15th, and the Third Boat suffered the indignity of a technical Bump: holed before the race they could only sit and watch. They never really recovered and went down three, only to salvage some pride by hitting back Girton 1 on the last day to finish 27th.

First Lent VIII

W.G.V. Harcourt (bow)
R.A. Floto
C.W. Seymour
J.M.S. Cane
N.R. Killick
T.C. Osborne
D.G. Reid
D.S. Gray (stroke)
Miss S.H.A. Lawman (cox)

Second Lent VIII

J.E. Pebody
P.M. Thornewell
C.N. Woodburn
C.J. Morgan
J.C.E. Milne
C.P. McMillan
J.A.P. Read
C.E.R. Line (stroke)
J.R. Dixon (cox)

With the Headship of the Mays and Lents, the Fairbairns and two out of the three IVs titles, it has been a good year.

In the last May Bumps before the women move from IVs into VIIIs, Lady Margaret First IV looked likely to win their blades, but ill-luck prevented them and a climb of two places to 16th was disappointing. A very different story for the Second and Third Boats which both won their oars to finish at 43rd and 51st respectively. The Fairbairn crew was a mixture of old and new, and initially it seemed to struggle, but by Race Day there was no disputing it as one of the fastest crews around. They felt justifiably cheated in coming third – Jesus timing? – and this without the four CUWBC trialists, J.C. Smith, K. Wiemer, C.H. Sweeney, and T.C.L. Parsons.

Ladies First May IV

C. Waller (bow)
 C. Mangan
 C. Redmond
 B. Dodson (stroke)
 R. Huntington (cox)

Ladies First Fairbairn VIII

K.J. Barnes (bow)
 S.J. Newton
 F.E. Kelly
 C.A. Pritchard
 G. Logue
 T.C. Williams
 K.E. Heenan
 A.M. Gledhill (stroke)
 Mr M.P. Langford (cox)

The Lent Term began with the customary influx of novices which gave the boat a very inexperienced look. Early scepticism about the potential of this crew soon gave way to consternation. But a well-earned and thoroughly deserved climb of four places to 3rd in the Bumps quickly silenced the critics. Unfortunately this success was not quite imitated by the Second Boat which rowed over courageously after early successes to finish up two at 27th.

Ladies First Lent VIII

A.B. Evans (bow)
 C.A. Pritchard
 M.E.J. Wilson
 J.C. Hallas
 S. Bennett
 A.M. Gledhill
 C.A. Walsh
 T.C.L. Parsons (stroke)
 Mr M.P. Langford (cox)

Ladies Second Lent VIII

C.C.G. Rhys (bow)
 S.J. Newton
 T. Jaffer
 E.E. Mawdsley
 M.C. Hallinan
 S. Von Peden
 P.P. Evans
 C.M. Twilley (stroke)
 S.A. Thompson (cox)

Nigel Killick
 Captain

The Rowing Fellows: 'Age will not weary them'

By the river. Some confusion. The May Bumps are in progress.

A sudden shout. Two boats have bumped and the following boat has run into the bank in its cox's attempt to avoid them. In that following boat one oarsman's seat has just broken and so only seven men now row – quite frantically. The boat behind must catch them. But wait. The boat in front, with only seven rowing, is full of older men, indeed, only two of them are under 40! This must be the St John's Fellows' Eight, the only Fellows' Eight in the Bumps. It must be bumped, as 40-year-olds, even with up to 30 years experience, cannot keep going: 'old men have grey beards... their faces are wrinkled, their eyes purging thick amber and plumtree gum, and... they have plentiful lack of wit, together with most weak hams'. This year they have the added handicap of a complete novice on board. They must be bumped.

Yet wait. Behold, it is pulling away. Yes. Look at the agony on their faces, 'it harrows me with fear and wonder'. 'My lord, what ho', it is now catching the boat three, yes three, places above it. Incredible. It can't last. The finish is too close. They can't keep up this energy with younger men in the crew in front. No, impossible, 'strange and unnatural'. Alas, they won't make it, despite the noble effort. Only 200 metres to go. Soft, soft. 'List, list, O list.' Yes. 'O, wonderful'. They have done it. The incredible. The impossible. They have bumped the boat three ahead. Who has done this? A crew of Fellows. Of older men. Truly amazing! The gathering company are in amazement and the Fellow's crew are in exhilaration. 'What a piece of work is a man, how noble in reason, how intimate in faculties, in form and moving, how express and admirable in action...'

By continuing this form over the 4 days, for the first time in many memories, the St John's College Fellows' Eight won its blades. Fanfare of trumpets.

Crew: Rev Mark Jones, Mr Robert McCorquodale, Dr Tim Bayliss-Smith, Professor David McMullen, Dr Steve Gull, Dr Peter Clarke, Professor Nick McCave, Dr Dick McConnel (Stroke), Ceryl Rhys (Cox).

Coaches: Mr Chris Atkin, Mr Richard Langhorne, Rev Andrew Macintosh, Professor Richard Perham.

R. McCorquodale (novice)

Rugby Club

Times are hard for the Rugby Club these days; this is evident from opinions voiced both within the College and outside it. Perhaps people enjoy seeing a club which used to be a major force not only within the College, but the University as well, struggle to keep its identity. On the pitch, this season was always going to be tough because of the severe lack of rugby players admitted to the College in October 1988. Much hope was therefore pinned on the October 1989 intake.

There appeared at first to be no problems, with a pre-season 50-0 drubbing of Robinson (now a major force themselves), but the situation was soon reversed with surprise losses to St Catharine's and CCAT in the League. The team pulled itself together for the Magdalene match which resulted in a 15-3 victory for St John's and this continued with an overwhelming victory over Caius (32-13). However, a few key players were unavailable in the forwards for a two-week period, and we notched up two more losses against Churchill and Fitzwilliam. Luckily, the ability of the team to self-destruct disappeared and the pack settled down to put in some arrogant performances, which enabled the backs (often complimented for their green-style play throughout the season) to create a festival atmosphere in beating Robinson (28-0), Jesus (28-7) and Pembroke (26-0), thus avoiding any danger of relegation. I ought to mention that we lost to Downing, but this was the only expected result, as they were the only genuinely superior team we played during the whole of the League programme.

So to Cuppers: the first year we have not been seeded for many years. We started well with victories against Christ's (28-10) and Queens' (24-4) leading to an inevitable encounter with Magdalene in the quarter-finals, who were to field as strong a team as they have had in the last few years. The signs were ominous, but in a closely fought game, Magdalene won 20-15.

Meanwhile, in the Second Division, the Second XV performed excellently in the league; at one stage it looked as though the First XV would be relegated and the Second XV promoted. However they were disappointing in Cuppers, going out in the first round to St Catharine's II: the first time in five years we have not won second team Cuppers.

I know everyone likes to see their name in print, but I can only really mention three names: Damian Sutcliffe (left wing) who on the pitch showed what a strong, fast runner he is with a number of superb tries, and off the pitch did a fine job as this year's secretary; Ieuan Howard Davies (flanker), the vice-captain, who helped me run things: when he performed, the rest of the pack performed too; lastly, Neil 'Thor' Allen who put in some faultless performances in Cuppers and who is generally regarded in Cambridge rugby circles as the unluckiest person not to get a Blue while he was here. As consolation to the others, I list here all those who were awarded club colours: J.P.B. Hall, I.H. Davies, N.A. Allen, D.E. Sutcliffe, S.P. Ives, J.S. Allison, J.S. Platts, M.W. Allan, S.J.M. Cotton, S.J. Pain, A.M. Hooper, G.M. Lipscombe, R.J. Price, A.P.B. Moody-Stuart, J.C.K. Cumberlege, R. Jeffries, R.J. Deans, A. Blower.

It has been a strange season: we seemed to get good publicity in both the University weekly papers either because we were so dreadful or because we defeated someone unexpected. However, under the circumstances, the club has come out with credit, although it was a struggle. Next year will be even harder and those in the first and second years must realise this in order that they can rally together to try and return the club to its former status: let us hope the admissions tutors are favourable next October.

Jonathan P.B. Hall
Captain

Cricket

Having lost last year in the semi-finals of Cuppers, St John's went one better this year, reaching the final only to be defeated by Magdalene in a very tight and evenly balanced game.

St John's started their Cuppers campaign confidently, with essentially the same team as last year, though greater strength was provided by the introduction of two first years, P. Rimmer and B. Bennett. J. Hall skippered the side through the season in the absence of the injured M. Day, and was never short of ideas, if only because the side often seemed to have five vice-captains! In the first round, St John's overcame a strong St Catharine's side by 36 runs, with J. Thompson and J. Jones

putting on 75 for the second wicket and N. Allen contributing a characteristically hard-hitting 38 (one of many consistent Cuppers scores from him) to reach a total of 177. All the bowlers chipped in to remove St Catharine's for 141, though the skipper, Hall, led the way by taking 3 wickets in his own inimitable way: leg-side stumpings from a medium pacer!

In the next round, Christ's were swept aside. St John's accumulated 227 for 5, thanks chiefly to a fine hockey-style 98 n.o. by R. Lloyd and a punchy 38 from A. Hooper before, once again, our consistent bowlers removed Christ's for 174 with overs to spare.

In the quarter-final John's faced a star-studded Pembroke side. Another fine bowling performance saw them off for 109, with wickets evenly distributed among the bowlers. Rimmer and S. Pain were in particularly hostile form, though the former, once again, missed the reward he deserved in wickets. Rather nervously, St John's reached the total with 4 wickets to spare, with Allen hitting 30 and the winning runs.

Having reached the semi-finals, St John's were determined not to let the opportunity of reaching the final slip by again. Caius were quickly skittled out for 62, with Bennett and N. Moden taking 5 and 3 wickets respectively. St John's knocked off the required runs with a third of the overs remaining. Jones' contribution to this was the only Golden Duck of the Cuppers competition!

So, on the hottest day of summer, in the midst of the May Balls, St John's and Magdalene fought it out in a characteristically competitive fashion. Magdalene won the toss and St John's were put in. After the first hour of play (19 overs), St John's were reeling at 57 for 5. During the next hour (a further 15 overs) the score rose to 175 for 5, with Allen and Bennett putting on 118 (59 and 62 respectively). A respectable total of 208 for 9 was eventually achieved, with useful contributions from the lower order in the persons of Pain and Rimmer.

With Magdalene in, it was left to St John's to try to reproduce their by now customary tight bowling and fielding performance. Although at several times Magdalene found themselves on the rack, thanks especially to Moden's typically stingy bowling, St John's could not quite capture that significant wicket at the right time to tip a potentially winning position into actual victory. In what was undoubtedly a fine game of cricket, though never much appreciated by the crowd, the favourites, Magdalene, staggered home with three balls to spare, winning by three wickets and knowing that they had been in a fight.

With great team spirit and contributions from all members of the team, 1989 was not only an enjoyable year of cricket, but a successful one as well. With the loss of only two players from last year, the prospects are good for 1990.

Last, but certainly not least, thanks must go to Jim for putting in such hard work and preparing such fine wickets for the College; and to Rita for such wonderful teas and lunches. I hope they get as much enjoyment out of watching us play cricket as we do from playing on the wickets and recharging ourselves during the breaks.

B. Bennett.

Association Football

There was still a strong contingent of second years in the club this year, club captain Dave Pickup, himself a second year, coping admirably with the task of living up to last year's captain, Pete Hadley, and showing, in particular, great dedication on the field. There was also a pleasing fresher intake, lighter than last year but strengthening the side in weaker areas. Steve Finnigan and Steve Ainsworth joined the University Squad, while Simon Connell, Gavin Thistlethwaite, Rob Nuttall and Terry Downes had a strong league presence. The forward line was weakened this year, with Tony Hooper defecting to Rugby and Ben Bennett to the University Squad. This was balanced, however, by the return of Keith Taylor from his year abroad. The most surprising member of the First Team Squad was Steve Ives, whose meteoric rise from the Third Team last year won him a well deserved First Team place.

The First XI regained First Division status after a period in the wilderness of the Second Division. The team's only defeat was at the hands of the eventual league winners, Downing, and the final position of second in the League was a commendable end to the first season. Strengthened by the return of the university players and Hooper playing his striker role, hopes were high for a fruitful Cuppers run. Robinson were routed 7-0 in the second round, after a bye in the first. Facing Pembroke in the quarter-finals made the semis look well within reach. It was not to be. Pembroke deserved to win on the day, and moved on through the semis to the final.

The ladies' team began the season with a significantly weakened side, six players leaving at the end of the last season. However, the fresher intake and new blood in the second and third years, encouraged by the captain Gillian Faulkner, meant a determined and enthusiastic side. In the league they fared well, winning three and drawing one of their six matches, thus retaining their First Division place.

Cuppers took place in the Lent Term. As last year's winners, the team had a lot to live up to, and the task of remaining champions was always going to be tough. St John's was unlucky to lose to an unexpectedly improved and very skillful Homerton side, who went on to reach the final. This did not detract from the team's enjoyment of the season; one marked by commitment and enthusiasm.

The Second XI did not fare well in Division Three. The team, under the captaincy of Jim Bentall, was expecting to do well especially with a strong first year intake, but the strong individual potential never seemed to be realized in the team performances. They move down to the Fourth Division next year, which is not a fair reflection of the standard of their play. In the Cuppers Plate, strengthened by some First Team league players, the team looked much stronger. Moving convincingly to the quarter-finals, they were defeated by CFTC, an extremely strong side who would not be out of place in the Second Division. Lastly, a mention must be made of Jacob Juul who scored seven of the nine goals in the Second's League season.

The Thirds and Fourths, under the captaincy of Andy Cook and Dave Wigglesworth, held their own in Division Five. Both teams had a regular squad and

few problems in recruiting new members to the ranks when necessary, thus demonstrating the club's spirit throughout the five teams. Progress in the Cuppers Plate is always tough and neither team moved on to the later stages.

To conclude, the club looks forward to increasing the quality of St John's football again next year, and should be able to consolidate its promise into individual team honours. The weather has been unfavourable this season, yet the pitches have remained of first class quality thanks to the endeavours of the groundsman, Jim Williams. Finally, good luck for the 1990-91 season to the new Falcons' captain Ben Bennett, and to Steve Ainsworth who missed out on his University colours because of injury.

S.P. Heywood
Secretary

Hockey Club

The 1989-90 season, although lacking in First Team honours, has seen a development in the hockey club as a truly united club of men and ladies, which continues to distinguish it from other sports clubs. The introduction of mixed hockey Cuppers engendered a great club spirit, but the highlight of the year was the most successful tour to Rio (or was it Dublin?). Twenty-eight 'nogs and nags' enhanced the reputation of the St John's College Hockey Club profoundly, through some 'festival' displays on the pitch, and some equally 'festival' performances in the Trinity College 'Pav'.

Although honours were lacking (except Second XI Cuppers - congratulations) second places were not, with the men just missing out on the First Division title by one point, and the ladies being runners-up in both League and Cup competitions. A marvellous achievement by the ladies, having lost nine players from the previous year's First XI. Congratulations to Kirsty Wilson for her frightening capacity for organisation and her grit and determination in leading the team.

The men, winning nine out of their eleven games, were fortunate in having a superb fresher intake, full of raw, natural talent. Buss and Thompson provided great flair up front, with Cooke and Brown filling the full back positions admirably, while Bloor gave a valuable team talk. The midfield was dominated by the battling and determined figures of Buckle, Bulbulia and Davies (cf reports on football, rugby, fives, etc). Birts had a wonderful season at left wing, while Shepherd (captain) and Robson, in their final season, played with assured confidence and ability, seldom allowing a strike on goal. Between the posts, Deans proved himself as a high class keeper with 'cat-like' reflexes, and the team was also supremely fortunate in having a regular 'supersub' in the form of Beale, who served the club most loyally throughout.

At university level, St John's were represented by four men and three ladies. Nienow, Jones, Lloyd and Fossitt all winning Blues, with Rimmer, Foster and Wilson gaining well deserved Second Team colours. The remarkable skill of these players was a beauty to behold and will be remembered for many years to come.

A report of the season would not be complete without a mention of Mr Winghead-Nut, who supported, umpired and organised the club as has never been experienced before. Unfortunately, his playing career was limited to just one tour game, but that gave us long enough to catch a brief glimpse of the burning natural talent, hidden under his unsportsmanlike appearance.

The 1989-90 season, then, perhaps not one of glamour and success, was rather one of enjoyment, fun and underlying growth, all contributing to make the Hockey Club probably the best club in St John's.

John Shepherd
Captain

Ladies' Hockey

It has been a highly successful season for the Ladies, though not quite on a par with last year. The performance was even more commendable as only four of that League and Cuppers winning side remained. In the League we were undefeated, and finished as runners-up spot to Girton, thanks to a couple of less impressive matches against sides who insisted on defending with all eleven players.

Cuppers promised to be a closely contested competition this year, with the top five or six teams all fairly evenly matched, and with Girton, Catz and Newnham each fielding several Blues. After a comfortable 6-0 victory against New Hall, the side found problems converting superior play into goals until the second period of extra time against Downing. The semi-final with Robinson showed the true fighting spirit of the team, as we twice came back from a goal down and went into the lead only 14 seconds from the end of the second period of extra time. The final as expected was a hotly contested yet skilful affair against Catz, last year's runners-up. The fair result at the end of extra time was a draw, but unfortunately the tournament had to be decided on penalty kicks, with Catz winning 3-2 on the last kick.

The strength of the Club was reflected in particular by the performance of the Second XI, which consistently beat college First Teams, and in general by the fact that more people were playing than ever before.

The highlight for the Club as a whole was the mixed tour to Dublin just after the New Year. A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all, though the imbibing of Irish national beverages was perhaps not the best preparation for performance on the pitch. The tour served to unite the Club as a whole as well as laying the foundation for the fine Cuppers run.

Four members of the Team represented the University, with Julie Fossitt gaining her second Blue and the three others being awarded their Second XI colours.

This year saw the first 'Old Girls' match on the Sunday morning of the last weekend of the Lent Term at the same time as the 'Old Boys' game. We hope that this will become an annual fixture.

Kirsty Wilson
Captain

Ladies' Netball

The First Team had a successful season, ending up as one of the top teams in the League, losing only once in a very close match against Homerton. In Cuppers, the team played very well, reaching the semi-finals and losing by a narrow margin of 5-4 against Newnham, the eventual winners.

Meanwhile the Second Team, under the enthusiastic captaincy of Fiona Kelly, made good progress in the League after a shaky start. In Cuppers too they put in a creditable performance in spite of a very difficult draw.

For the first time in recent years St John's was represented in the University Squad. Helen Clarke and Ali Grade were awarded Second Team colours for outstanding performances in the team's victory over Oxford. College colours were awarded to nine players: Rebecca Elliott (Captain), Nicola Bailey (Secretary), Emma Dobson, Ali Grade, Sophie Green, Stephanie Gill, Helen Clarke, Emily Brand and Fiona Kelly.

Overall, it has been a very enjoyable season, with numerous commendable performances by both teams. The advent of mixed netball has provided the welcome addition to the fixture list of a series of friendly matches against other colleges. The mixed 'season' culminated in the first mixed Cuppers tournament. St John's entered three teams, one of which took the championship.

Rebecca Elliott
Captain

Men's Netball

Men's netball continues to be one of the major sports at St John's. To follow tradition we completely dominated Cuppers having three teams in the quarter-finals and storming to a memorable 19-7 victory against Magdalene. The competition this year, bowing under pressure from other colleges, had turned mixed or rather optionally mixed, and our one girlie in the final, Ali Grade, was certainly the 'woman of the match', scoring all our goals! The highlight of the competition had to be when Andreas Floto and his opposite man were both sent off after a scuffle on court over a ripped shirt!

We continue to play the girls every Sunday morning, which remains the highlight of the week, and with the taking-off of mixed netball this year, we have had quite a few Sunday matches against other colleges. We managed to get a reputation of being 'rather rough' although this was only against Trinity!

The following gentlemen have been awarded their College colours for the 1989-90 season: Paul Rimmer, Steve Platts, John Cumberlege, Ieuan Davies, Chris Ford, Singe Garnon, Rich Price.

Our annual dinner is on 27th April when the new captain will be announced.

John Cumberlege
Captain

College Sport

Lady Margaret Boat Club

In May 1990, hopes were high for the double headship – Head of the Mays in both the Mens and Ladies divisions. The Lent crew, with no less than five First May colours on board, had taken the Lent headship with relative ease, and chances for retaining the May headship looked good. Our only blue, Guy Pooley, did not return to row, so the Lent crew carried on unchanged.

For the second year, the first boat spent a week in York before term, clocking up many miles under the guidance of Jamie Macleod. On returning to Cambridge we found a much needed brand new eight (many thanks to the Old Johnian Henley Fund) and a new set of carbon-fibre oars (a gift from London Weekend Television for our part in their presentation 'A Perfect Hero' – shown on television recently.) At the beginning of term the First VIII were guests in Lyons at the first International Euroregatta. Fortunately our rowing was better than our French (except for Nigel Killick) and we recorded our first win of the season.

A typically strong coaching team of Brian Lloyd, Ron Needs, John Gleave, Mike Sweeney and David Dunn trained the crew. On the first night of the bumps there was, as expected, a very strong challenge from Downing. Despite our best efforts, we were toppled from Head. The next three nights saw the First VIII rowing over as the second fastest boat. The Second VIII performed well to climb from sixteenth to thirteenth in the first division.

First May VIII

W.G.V. Harcourt (bow)
T.C. Osborne
C.W. Seymour
R.A. Floto
N.R. Killick
J.M.S. Cane
D.G. Reid
D.S. Gray (stroke)
Miss S.M.A. Lawman (cox)

Second May VIII

J.E. Pebody (bow)
C.P. McMillan
J.C.E. Milne
C.E.R. Line
D. Mack Smith
A.G. Fendt
C.N. Woodburn
C.J. Morgan (stroke)
T.M. Mortimer (cox)

The season ended rather disappointingly with the First VIII losing at Henley Royal Regatta in the first round to Eton, in the Henley Prize Competition.

The new officers for 1990-1991 were D.G. Reid (captain), C.J. Morgan (vice-captain), J.C.E. Milne (secretary), C.N. Woodburn (junior treasurer), Miss T.C.L. Parsons (ladies' captain) and Miss C.M. Twilley (ladies' vice-vaptain). F. Supple and Miss S. Bennett are in charge of lower boats and R.M.J. Langrish of entertainments.

The Michaelmas term saw only three First May colours returning. Competition promised to be tough, as CUBC were allowing their trialists to race in the University Fours competition. The Light IV lost in the second round to a CUBC composite crew whilst the Shell IV lost in the first round to the eventual winners. The Clinker IV raced well, only to lose in the final by just over a second. The few weeks up to the Fairbairns races were interrupted by illness and injury and when the First VIII only finished sixth, it was no surprise.

Light IV	Shell IV	Clinker IV
C.J. Morgan (bow)	J.C.E. Milne (bow)	P.M. Thornewell (bow)
C.W. Seymour	C.N. Woodburn	N. Lipman
D.G. Reid	R.M.J. Langrish	G.M. Henderson
J.M.S. Cane (stroke)	M.D. Coen (stroke)	F. Supple (stroke)
	J.R. Dixon (cox)	Miss S.J. Milburn (cox)

In university crews, Guy Pooley rowed with CUBC, and J.C.E. Milne with the lightweight crew.

Before the Lents the first boat training camp was in London, on the Tideway with Andy Robinson coaching. Again we were plagued with injuries, not only for this week, but also for the rest of term. For two weeks the Cam was completely frozen. This left all Cambridge rowers thoroughly sick of land training.

The First VIII rowed well on the first night, holding off Pembroke. On the second night we fell to a faster Trinity Hall boat and disappointingly slipped another two places over the next two nights. The Second VIII maintained their position at the bottom of the first division as the fastest second boat.

First Lent VIII

F. Supple (bow)
R.M.J. Langrish
M.D. Coen
T.A. Reid
A.J. Gordon-Brander
D.G. Reid
C.J. Morgan
C.N. Woodburn (stroke)
J.R. Dixon (cox)

Second Lent VIII

J. Welch (bow)
C.M. Hayhurst
J.R.B. Farnhill
T.R. Niew
D.S. Boothman
A.W. Balfour
A.H. South
P.M. Thornewell (stroke)
Miss S.J. Milburn (cox)

A completely changed First VIII, with only three oarsmen from the Lent boat, began training for the Mays a week before the start of term. Once again the training camp was held in York under the coaching of the ever helpful Dr Jamie MacLeod. The crew was very inexperienced, containing one novice, but with a strong coaching team of Brian Lloyd, Roger Silk, John Hall-Craggs, Mike Sweeney, and David Dunn, hopes were high for a big improvement on our performance in the Lents. Progress was steady throughout the term, and on the first night of the bumps, the First VIII rowed over in second position, ahead of Jesus, who only closed in the final minute. Unfortunately, the second night saw us get a bad start while Jesus set off very sharply. They made the bump at the bottom of Long Reach. On Friday we were bumped at Ditton by a very quick Trinity Hall crew which went on to win its oars. Lying in fourth place on Saturday, there was a risk of falling to fifth the lowest place for twenty years. First and Third Trinity rowed hard off the start and closed to a quarter of a length by the Plough, but we held them round the corner and pulled away up Long Reach to finish four lengths clear. The Second VIII, starting at thirteenth in Division I, was unlucky enough to see the two crews ahead bump each other quickly on the first two nights, and then fell three places to faster crews rising from below.

First May VIII

J.C.E. Milne (bow)
C.J. Morgan
D.G. Reid
A.W. Balfour
C.W. Seymour
C.N. Woodburn
D.S. Bootham
C.E.R. Line (stroke)
J. Welch (cox)

Second May VIII

G.M. Henderson (bow)
P.M. Thornewell
J.R.B. Farnhill
T.R. Niew
R.M.J. Langridge
C.M. Hayhurst
J.E. Pebody
F. Supple (stroke)
M.D. Hayter (cox)

This year has seen a good intake of novices, and after a lot of tuition from senior oarsmen, many are now rowing in the top crews. They should prove a valuable asset to the club in years to come. Presently we cannot rely on more than one or two oarsmen being admitted to College every year. This makes competition against other colleges, where the admissions tutors are more favourable, very difficult. Although we have not recorded as many successes this year, we are still in the top four clubs, with a lot of useful talent for next year.

D.G. Reid, Captain

Lady Margaret Boat Club - Ladies' Section

The May term of 1990 marked a momentous turning point in ladies' rowing: the May bumps were going to be rowed in VIIIs rather than in IVs. To enable this to occur, there was a Head Race earlier on in the term to organise the starting order. The Mays saw a marked improvement in the standard of women's rowing in most colleges as the opportunity of a first May headship was open to all, and ex-blues packed many of the boats.

Lady Margaret ladies was no exception and a determined crew began in Nottingham on their first ever training camp coached by Mike Sweeney. The crew consisted of six First Lent VIII colours, a lightweight and a blondie from 1989, and a lightweight from 1990. The blues were to join the crew later in the term. The crew began the term well and clocked the fastest women's time in the Cam Head. The blues returned, and the crew won the Cambridge Regatta a fortnight later.

Despite their convincing victory in the Head Race, they were shuffled down to a disappointing fifth position for the bumps' starting order. They now had to bump up every day to gain the headship, but this was a strong crew with an excellent coaching line-up of Mike Sweeney, Lisa Silk, Andrew Silk, Roger Silk and Ron Needs. They bumped the Vet School solidly on the first night just out of Ditton Corner, and did the same to Jesus on the second night. Friday was going to be the hardest bump, and the crew never really settled. They remained just inside their distance over the entire course and failed to catch Emmanuel. They rowed over again on Saturday to finish third on the river.

The crew stayed together for the College VIIIs division at Henley. They beat Oxford Poly by a canvas in the first race, and two easy wins against Jesus and Homerton secured Henley medals and a clean sweep of winning everything, except blades, that term.

The Second May VIII was also a strong crew, despite injuries which prevented a couple of girls rowing. They won their division in the Cambridge Regatta and finished second in Division II, holding the second boat headship.

First May VIII

C.H. Sweeney (bow)
C.L. Waller
K.E. Heenan
S. Bennet
K. Wiemer
A.M. Gledhill
J.C. Smith
T.C.L. Parsons (stroke)
M.P. Langford (cox)

Second May VIII

P.P. Evans (bow)
S. Newton
K. Barnes
C. Rhys
M.E. Wilson
E.E. Mawdsley
C.A. Walsh
S. Von Reden (stroke)
S.A. Thompson (cox)

The Michaelmas term started well with both University IVs crews winning their divisions and blades easily. With six oarswomen and one cox going on to CUWBC trials, the Fairbairn VIII had a shaky start, and the crew included two complete novices. However, they proved themselves on the day of the Fairbairns when they won the VIIIs, tying with Jesus. The First IV also entered, winning easily.

First University IV

K. Wiemer (bow)
C.C.J. Mangan
J.C. Smith
C.H. Sweeney (stroke)
M.P. Langford (cox)

Second University IV

S. Bennet (bow)
J.C. Hallas
C.A. Walsh
T.C.L. Parsons (stroke)
L.A. Megan (cox)

Fairbairn VIII

H.R. Green (bow)
C.S. Downes
R. Kelly
C.M. Twilley
M.C. Hallinan
S.L. Wilson
K. Gradwell
C.A. Walsh (stroke)
S.J. Herbert (cox)

CUWBC Trialists: K. Wiemer, E.E. Mawdsley, J.C. Hallas, S. Bennet, C.C.J. Mangan, T.C.L. Parsons, and M.P. Langford.

The First Lent VIII was one of the strongest ladies' crews Lady Margaret has ever put out at this stage of the year, and this despite five of the seven trialists making it into university crews. They were starting third on the river, and were firm favourites to bump to head, with Caius in second, and Emmanuel at head. The first bump was easily made and on the second day they rowed well to bump Emmanuel just after the

railway bridge – not many strokes from the finish. For some three hours LMBC was Head of the Ladies' and Men's Divisions. The crew rowed over head comfortably on the third day and preparations were being made in College for the first ever boat-burning for the ladies. However, disaster struck on the start when the timing was miscalculated and the crew ploughed into the bank after two strokes, allowing a bewildered Emmanuel crew to row past and regain the headship.

The Second Lent VIII put up a valiant fight in Division II in a restricted boat, surrounded by shells. They bumped on the first night, but fell on the third and fourth to Peterhouse and CCAT to finish eleventh in the division, with only Jesus and Newnham second boats ahead of them.

First Lent VIII	Second Lent VIII	CUWBC
C.M. Twilley (bow)	N.M. Martin (bow)	K. Wiemer (blue boat)
K. Gradwell	T.M. Rubidge	C.C.J. Mangan (blondie)
C.A. Walsh	S.E. Hedges	E.E. Mawdsley (blondie)
R.A. Kelly	L.A. Whall	M.P. Langford (blondie)
S. Bennet	V.L. McKibbon	T.C.L. Parsons
		(lightweights)
S.L. Wilson	L. Leigh	
C.S. Downes	S.J. Lee	
C.H. Sweeney (stroke)	V.M. Linton (stroke)	
S.J. Herbert (cox)	J.R. Marsh (cox)	

With the May term of 1991 training again began at Nottingham on a week's camp coached by Mike Sweeney. The crew included all those who had been in CUWBC crews in the Lent term together with three girls from the First Lent VIII. Valerie McKibbon was with the crew until the Cam Head, after which Jennifer Smith, who had been in trials for the National Squad, joined us. After a fortnight's coaching from Harry Tunnicliffe, the First VIII clocked the fastest time in the Cam Head for the second year running, beating the nearest college crew, Sidney Sussex, by thirty seconds. After a further fortnight with John Gleave, we easily won the Cambridge Regatta. With these wins, and grind times faster than those of Blondie last term, we were shaping up as Churchill's most serious challengers for the headship. Ron Needs sharpened the crew up, and Roger Silk brought us to peak performance for the Bumps. We bumped Emmanuel and Churchill at the Plough on the first two nights, and were left with two nights to row over as Head of the River. Fortunately, no disasters struck this year, and on Saturday night the first Lady Margaret Ladies' VIII to finish Head could look forward to their own boat-burning. The lower boats also performed well. The Second

VIII moved up one to become sandwich boat and, as the highest ladies' Second VIII, is ready for an assault on Division I next year. The Fourth VIII won their blades, and not one of our ladies' crews was bumped.

The First VIII stayed together to compete at Henley. Four hard races into strong headwinds yielded victories over Wolfson College (Oxford), Durham University, Pembroke College (Cambridge), and, in the final, Glasgow University, giving us medals for the second year running. The club has two oarswomen rowing in CUWBC development crews this summer, and expects to see a lot of red in the squad again next year. This year has been the most successful so far for the ladies' side of the club. We have had some excellent results and look forward to continuing success next year.

First May VIII 1991	Second May VIII 1991
K. Wiemer (bow)	M.C. Hallinan (bow)
T.C.L. Parsons	L.A. Whall
R.A. Kelly	S.J. Lee
C.C.J. Mangan	L. Leigh
S.L. Wilson	C.A. Walsh
E.E. Mawdsley	J.C. Hallas
J.C. Smith	V.I. McKibbon
C.H. Sweeney (stroke)	C.M. Twilley (stroke)
M.P. Langford (cox)	S.H. Herbert (cox)

Tracy Parsons, Ladies' Captain

The Fellow's Eight

After the unparalleled successes of 1989, the fair weather oarsmen among the Fellowship laundered their kit for the Easter term 1990 with every hope of taking LMBC 8 up from the sixth to the fifth division. Most of the old faces, and all the old faults, were there. Steve Gull continued to investigate whether it was possible to drink from the river on one side of the boat while pulling with an oar on the other. Dick McConnel, replacing Andy Woods at stroke, sought in the interests of maintaining balance to reduce time on the slide as far as possible. Steve Palmer at bow gave his renowned impersonation of a man rowing with a ramrod for a backbone, while Robert McCorquodale gave his impersonation of a man rowing. Thanks to the inspired coaching of Chris Atkin, Nigel Killick, Richard Perham, Richard Langhorne, and Roger Silk, the crew approached the bumps overflowing with confidence. Triumph over Magdalene IV on the first day apparently justified a training programme directed towards the quick bump. The second day,

however, saw a bump ahead leave the Fellows nothing but an unforeseen and unpractised row-over with a fitter Magdalene crew snapping at our heels up Long Reach. Osteopaths of the utmost fame were summoned from all sides to tend Nick McCave's locked back, but to no avail. On the third day, graduate Mick Jones stepped into the breach at number seven, to help us polish off Sidney Sussex 3 by the Plough. Now second in the division, blades were still a possibility if we could displace the sandwich boat on the final morning. But the curse of the Cam, in the shape of a severe bacterial infection, left Dick McConnel *hors de combat*. David Macmullen, vowing he would never row again, made his positively last appearance to help us out. The new stern pair of Peter Clarke and Mick Jones rowed valiantly to take us within a canvas of Queens' 3 on Ditton Corner, but short-course training showed through as we faded in the Reach. Even the row-over was denied us as First and Third Trinity 5 came out of nowhere to make the overbump at the Pink House. A dejected Fellows' VIII finished one place down, behind the two boats it had bumped.

Fellows' VIII 1990

Dr S. Palmer (bow)
Mr R. McCorquodale
Dr H. Matthews
Dr M. Carrington
Dr S. Gull
Dr P.F. Clarke
Professor I.N. McCave
Dr R. McConnel (stroke)
Dr R.A.W. Rex (cox)

Fellows' VIII 1991

Dr S. Palmer (bow)
Mr R. McCorquodale
Dr H. Matthews
Mr R. Lees
Dr M. Welland
Dr S. Gull
Professor I.N. McCave
Dr A. Woods (stroke)
Dr R.A.W. Rex (cox)

Undeterred by this tale of disaster, the old men's thoughts once more turned to dreams of glory on the river as Easter came round again. Dick McConnel, pulling out to finish building a house around his new-born daughter, was replaced by Andy Woods, back from the States; and Mark Carrington by Robert Lees. The replacement of Peter Clarke by Mark Welland left us with an imbalance: a problem solved by Steve Gull's desire to find out if the water on the other side of the boat tasted any better. An ambitious decision to row in the old red carbo bore fruit when, two weeks before the bumps, we finally learned how to send it level. This and a training programme predicated on the unlikelihood of making all our bumps before the Plough meant that the fastest and fittest Fellows' VIII ever was ready for the Mays. Heartened by the familiar sight ahead of us of Magdalene IV trying to work out what the oars did, we shot off from our station at prodigious speed. Unfortunately, high winds at the start had left us pointing at the opposite bank. Some

inspired coxing ('slacken off bowside') averted imminent impact, only for Nick 'Old Man of the Sea' McCave to forget to remove his blade from the water at the end of the seventeenth stroke. A policy disagreement between stroke ('row on') and cox was resolved after some seconds by the superior power of the cox-box. We stopped and restarted. King's 3 came within a canvas, only to see us pull away like a Porsche at traffic lights. By this stage, however, a bump ahead had left the Fellows with no alternative but a comfortable row-over six lengths clear. After this extraordinary performance, four bumps in the remaining three days (First and Third Trinity 5, King's 3, Jesus 5 as sandwich boat, and Sidney Sussex 3 – all before the Plough) were almost an anticlimax. The most remarkable thing was that having left King's 3 standing on the first two days, we had to bump them on the third, only to be vainly chased by them yet again on the fourth. Our thanks for all their hard work go to coaches Jason Welch, Donald Reid, Richard Perham, and Roger Silk.

R.A.W.R.

History of the Lady Margaret Boat Club

Efforts are now being made to compile a third volume of the history of the Lady Margaret Boat Club, for the years 1956 onwards. If you have rowed, coxed, or coached for Lady Margaret, please write and tell us about your experiences both during and after your time at university. Any information, anecdotes, or photographs (including addenda to the previous volumes) will be gratefully received. If this task is to be completed, we need your help. Please write to: Miss J. Milburn, c/o The Library, St John's College, Cambridge, CB2 1TP.

Rugby Football

'Never in my time have St John's lost to Trinity'. Thus my seniors groaned, and as we progressed to lose three of our first four games it seemed as though the very foundations of St John's were crumbling. Shortly after that dark moment in College history Magdalene too suffered at the hands of the First Division newcomers, and we won our second game.

The season's prospects looked dire as we began last October: the club boasted only two third-year first team players, a second year captain, and only six College colours from the previous season – no university colours. The picture at the season's end was somewhat rosier: boosted by a keen and reasonably talented intake, the First XV fought to a creditable fifth position in the league table, losing only one more game:

in Cuppers we were the only team in the quarter-final round without a university colour, losing to a star-studded Hughes' Hall, eventual winners. The popularity of the sport and relative strength in depth was proved by the Second XV once again lifting their Cuppers Shield – this year's captain, Jason Sankey, unflaggingly supported by last year's 'Singe' Garnon, must be congratulated with his boys. Similarly, the Third XV proved irrepressible, indulging in some champagne rugby and enjoying themselves equally on and off the field!

The commitment and enthusiasm within the club is evident. Though it is a necessary virtue for a successful team, strength of character alone will not produce a side more than reasonably competitive in the League, particularly one with such a reputation as St John's, over whom all still cherish victory. It is necessary that the College has a presence at university level – in Cuppers the team does not just benefit from the extra skill and experience such players can provide, but also psychologically; similarly it is important that there are such players, who are still receiving 'proper' coaching, to help the captain and share their knowledge with the club and aid the entry of other hopefuls onto the university scene. Other clubs have shown that sporting and academic success are not incompatible – St John's rugby must not be allowed to atrophy.

Finally I should like to thank Rich Jeffries, the vice-captain, Ben Britz, the secretary, Jason Sankey and Richard Sutton, the second and third team captains respectively, and Damian Sutcliffe, despite his hands, for their effort, help and advice over the season. For the record, Damian Sutcliffe, Mike Allan, Tom Dower and Stuart Cotton represented the university; the First XV played 11, won 7, lost 4, and finished fifth in the League. The following players won College colours: S. Cotton, R. Price, A. Moody-Stuart, M. Ashworth, T. Dower, M. Onyett, A. Floto, S. Shemtob, J. Cane, P. Horrell, A. Hosie, G. Ruben, M. Allan, J. Foley, R. Jeffries, C. Mitchell, A. Siggers, G. Jennings, B. Britz.

Stuart Cotton, Captain

Association Football

This year, the First XI, under the captaincy of Paul Heywood, hoped to fulfil the promise it showed last season. With the defection of five College players to the university squad, it was pleasing to see another strong intake of freshers. Mark Copley, Dean Brown and Nigel Reglar established themselves in the League side and they were joined by Richard Pearson and Simon Taylor for Cuppers. Of these, particular mention must be made of Nigel Reglar who, with consistently solid

performances in the centre of midfield, thoroughly deserved his player of the year trophy.

Things began well in the League with only two points dropped in the first eight games leaving the final match against CCAT to decide the League. With a big crowd out to watch, spirits were high, but after going 2-0 down in the first 10 minutes we never recovered and ended up losing 3-2.

Cuppers was a different story, however, with the return of our five blues players and Richard Pearson from injury the team took on a new facade. Ben Bennett replaced the injured Tony Hooper up front and his goalscoring touch helped towards a trouble-free route to the final with victories over Selwyn (2-0), Clare (4-0) and Fitzwilliam (2-1). There, we met arch-rivals Downing and the game, as anticipated, was fiercely competitive ending at 1-1. A penalty shootout ensued and thanks to good work by Simon Taylor in goal we won it by 5-4. The cup, for all to see, has pride of place in the College Bar.

The ladies team had a slightly slow start to the season, with many new players to the game, which probably accounts for the none too successful League result; slipping down a couple places to the top of Division II. However due to the expert coaching provided by Mr Andy Lingham and the outstanding commitment and dedication of the team as a whole, there was a visible improvement in the standard of play and the number of goals scored! In the Lent term they battled victoriously through some very tough matches to win the Plate; both the quarter and semi-finals went to nerve-racking penalty shootouts. The season was brought to an unforgettable climax when the team beat Christ's in the Plate final in storming fashion with a spectacular 3-0. Hopes are understandably high for next year's season.

The Second XI having been relegated to Division IV last season fared well this year against weaker opposition. Under the captaincy of Pete Walker they bounced straight back up to Division III losing only a couple of their matches and winning most of the others quite convincingly, aided by the prolific striking partnership of Rags and Colin Sausman. In the Cuppers Plate, strengthened by some of the first team players, hopes were high that they too might go all the way to the final. Moving easily to the quarter finals they were alas defeated in a very physical match by St Catharine's 3-1.

The Third and Fourth XIs under captaincy of Martin Driscoll and Viv Bhadri respectively held their own in Division V with both teams having little difficulty in fielding sides and recruiting new members.

Additionally, the Third XI fared well in the Cuppers Plate reaching the quarter final only to be knocked out 5-0 by a very strong CCAT Second XI side.

Overall, it has been a very prosperous season for the football club and we hope things will continue next year. Congratulations must be given to Steve Finnigan, Dave Pickup, Ben Bennett, Steve Ainsworth and Simon Taylor all winning their blues. Finally a word of thanks to Jim Williams who has once again kept the pitches in first class condition.

Simon Connell, Secretary

Hockey

Reflecting the position of the Hockey Club as a truly united club, this year's report is for the men's and women's sections. The season 1990-91 has been one of the most successful in the club's history both on and off the field of play.

For the men's First XI the season started in disorder, with the elected captain unable to return to Cambridge. A hurried election gave Adrian Bloor the chance of captaincy. However this did not disrupt the season. Strengthened by talented goalkeeper Charlie Blishen, and other freshers Jon Foley and Sam Gorona, the men's First XI achieved Cuppers victories over Queens', Fitzwilliam, Emmanuel, Robinson and Clare. The intercollegiate cup was won for the second time in three years. The League was not quite as successful however and a Lent term recovery enabled the team to finish third.

The ladies team faced no such problems, and under the inspiration of Lisa Foster sustained the rampant form of the previous season. The league was won by Christmas, and the Cuppers competition victory followed next term with victories over Magdalene (5-0 in the snow in only 20 minutes!), Emmanuel, Girton, and New Hall. The fresher intake was once again strong and Anne Marie Winone, Sarah Kilroy, and Andrea Grant played no small role in the team's success.

As in recent years, the college has been strongly represented at university level. This year there were three blues, with four other players gaining second team colours. Dan Miner and Sam Garona would have been added to the list of university colours had not mechanical problems in their car on the way to Oxford for the Third XI Varsity match unfortunately prevented them.

One of the club's most unlucky players this season was Helen Moor whose broken leg meant that all the Lent term matches were missed. This has not curbed Helen's enthusiasm and no doubt next year she will head the team as captain to dizzy heights of success.

This year's tour was to Edinburgh and despite the frozen weather fun and frolics were had by all and an uncharacteristic degree of success gained on the pitch. Looking to next season, many players are remaining and the prospects for improved success are good. The club will only suffer from the absence of secretary Jonathan Beard whose administrative skills and dazzling hockey ability will be sorely missed.

Adrian J.C. Bloor, Captain

Cricket 1990

It was this year that St. John's finally achieved the honour that they deserved with a crushing victory over Magdalene in the Cuppers final to avenge last year's narrow defeat.

The Red Machine started its campaign on a lively Fitz square, prepared seemingly unaware that St John's had four bowlers who were not afraid to drop the occasional ball short! Despite valiant efforts by the Fitz tail, it soon stopped wagging as 'The Pro', Pointer, finished with three wickets to give St John's a total of 116 to chase. With a charming 30 from the boy Platts, and contributions all round, St John's made it by 4 wickets.

Emmanuel were the next victims to be brushed aside. With 'Cabbage' Cumberlege (often mistaken for a fast West-Indian bowler) in tenacious form picking up 4 for 18, and Hooper clearing up with 3 for 10, Emmanuel scratched their way to a mere 89. St John's, once again, won easily - by 8 wickets.

In the quarter-final, Corpus were smartly disposed of on, appropriately, Eagles day, by 9 wickets. Again Hooper whipped in with 4 for 25 and was ably supported by Rimmer who 'curtly' removed three of the top five batsmen. With Williams and Lloyd reaching the total of 101 in their own contrasting styles, the semi-final clash with Downing awaited.

Downing were the only team not to be skittled out by our merciless bowling; yet they did not manage to set a target out of the reach of a batting line-up which went (almost?) all the way to number 11. By the

second over, the opening batsmen had been returned to the pavilion, without a run on the board. Downing struggled on to 132 for 7, with all the bowlers picking up victims to savour. St John's, surprisingly, stuttered somewhat, reaching this total for the loss of 6 wickets. The stabilising (though hardly calming) innings came from the skipper, (Mongo) Hall, who missed his 50 by just one.

So the stage was set for a repeat of last year's final. The day was dull, but the game was exciting – at least as far as we were concerned! After being inserted by Magdalene, in contrast to last year, it was not until an hour and a quarter had passed that the opening batsman, Hooper, returned – with a 50 to his name. Unfortunately it was only a minute later that his replacement, Lloyd, waddled back, glimmering in what sunshine there was! A fine knock if there was (ever) one to be seen. However, the show was Williams', as he stroked a text book century, and ensured that St John's were not to be overcome this year – other than by the celebratory champagne he later bought. Another typically charismatic innings from Hall provided suitable support as Magdalene were left to chase 237 for 6.

So, after another fine tea, St John's took to the field. Magdalene made their way to 40 without loss against the tight bowling of Pointer and Cumberlege. However, it was Magdalene's year to collapse as they lost their next 8 wickets for a mere 19 runs. As Rimmer ripped through the batsmen, picking up 4 wickets, he was ably supported by some fearsome bowling and menacing fielding. Despite a spirited attempt to make a game of it, Magdalene were dismissed for 159 in 36 overs, 78 runs short of their target.

So, at last, a much deserved Cuppers victory was ours. Once again, the season was enjoyable as well as successful. Congratulations are due to Rimmer and Cumberlege who picked up Crusader colours for their efforts during the season. And finally, many thanks as ever to Jim and Rita for their hard work and patience over the season. Their efforts are always appreciated.

B. Bennett, Captain

Cricket 1991

With persistent bad weather and lack of numbers, this year's season was not quite as successful as the previous year's: but 1990 was always going to be a difficult act to follow. We managed to reach the quarter-finals of Cuppers, defeating Caius thanks largely to a solid and unbeaten 30 by Richard Pearson. But despite another excellent knock of

53 from Pearson, the rest of what was potentially a good side failed against Pembroke, and we were eliminated. Pembroke, incidentally, went on to win the competition.

Other good traditional fixtures were played, with many close and exciting finishes. The last game of the season, against the Old Johnians, saw Charlie Blishen, next year's captain, score the side's only century of the year. Unfortunately, good scores were otherwise few and far between.

I should like to thank Rob Wittering for all his help as Honorary Secretary, and also Jim – for his care and attention in a quieter than usual season – and Rita, for those welcome and nutritious lunches and teas. Good luck to next year's captain, Charlie Blishen, and to his secretary, Carl Knappett, as well as to Tony Hooper and Richard Pearson in their representative capacities.

B. Bennett, Captain

Basketball

This year has been one of the most successful seasons in the club's recent history, bringing victory in the League. The gods of admissions procedure smiled upon College basketball. With much of the talent from last year still remaining, the squad was strengthened by a fresher intake of a very high standard. Martin Haehnelt, returning to the College, was the outstanding player of the season, playing in all the games at what was surely university standard. Another big presence on the court was Tom Dower, helping to engineer St John's dominance in the rebounding. Ian Stewart played particularly well in the play-off final and Chris Hayhurst proved to be a dependable player, an attribute much needed for League success. There was a marked improvement in the standard of the players who remained from previous years with Antony Both bringing university quality play to the side. Ti Ran Niew and Tony Cann both matured as College players. It only remains to thank the cheerleaders and bench players, in particular Martha Cannon and Ginny Wood, and to say that with many of the players here next year the future looks good for St John's College Basketball.

John Grindley, Captain

Kendo

On 22nd and 23rd February St John's College Kendo Society was treated to a weekend masterclass in Japanese Fencing. Phil McLoughlin

(Second Dan) and John Sherry (First Dan) held a two-day course which attracted a good turnout, and next term the society hopes to lure John Shaw (Fifth Dan) from Stroke to give a similar course. Although there is a good deal of shouting and clashing of bamboo involved, to the observer Kendo is elegant and graceful. The spectacle of the slight figures of Ali Stafford and Isabel Jones out-fencing much larger muscle-bound boaties is very gratifying.

Kendo is the martial art of the Samurai, now practised with wooden or bamboo swords with elaborate armour. In Japan it ranks as one of the most popular pastimes. The word 'sport' is studiously avoided by Kendo practitioners: this is warfare honed down to a delicate art. It was brought to Cambridge by James Davis and Dan Freedman, who were both trained in Japan by the famous swordsman, Uemura Sensei and by members of Master Akashi's Cho Tan Kai Kendo school on the Southern island of Kyushu. Since they began the society last year with only three members their classes have grown to more than twenty at a time. The society is now planning visits here by Japanese teachers and James Davis and others will be returning to Japan for more instruction this summer.

College Sport

Lady Margaret Boat Club

It was clear from the start of the year that the selection of talent available to the boat club was going to be very limited this year. The ranks of experienced oarsmen in the club had been decimated last year and dwindled even further this year.

The University Fours

The coxless fours for this term looked very promising (consisting as they did of the club's four remaining experienced rowers), and with other strong Colleges deprived of their potential University oarsmen, they looked one of the favourites to win the event. Unfortunately, on the night before the first race, Alex Balfour injured his back and Sam Williams had to be called in as an emergency replacement. Despite this, the crew won several races before losing in the semi-finals to Downing, the eventual winners.

The coxed fours showed less promise and lost narrowly in the first round to Christ's. The clinker four also lost in the first round, but a spirited performance by the second coxed four carried them to the third round where they were summarily destroyed by Jesus.

The Fairbairns

The Fairbairns race itself was a technically acceptable row, but, lacking anywhere near enough power, we finished seventh. The lower boat results were if anything even more disappointing. For the first time in a long while, the second boat failed to be either the fastest or second fastest eight on the river, coming about 30th overall, behind several other second eights from much smaller Colleges. Our numbers were so depleted that the Maggie third boat, which has been the fastest third boat seemingly forever, failed to materialize at all this year.

The Lent Term

We had seen in the Fairbairns that a small neat crew is no good to anyone, so this term we had to gamble on bringing some of the larger novices into the top of the club. The 1st Lent Eight was as follows:

cox	Antonia Kennet
str	Chris Morgan
7	Carl Seymour

6	Tim Gray
5	Lee Harle
4	Ben Whitmore
3	Zac Peake
2	Stuart Leech
bow	Richard Langrish

The crew worked very hard during the term, fully aware of the enormous difficulty of bringing such an inexperienced crew up to a level where it could hope to compete at the top of the first division. In terms of technical rowing ability, the crew made vast improvements, and boat speed really picked up in the final few weeks. Inevitably for a crew with so little experience, we had only the most tenuous hold on the cohesion that developed at the end of term, and unfortunately, this led to a very disappointing set of bumps.

The first night of the bumps saw us fall to Pembroke at the Railings. On the second night, inexperience really took its toll and after a very frenetic start our three man crabbed coming out of First Post. There was no earthly way that this could be recovered before Caius, who had dropped half a length at this point, made the bump. The third night saw us fight off 1st and 3rd once at the Plough and again at Peter's Point in our best row of the week. On the final night we started exceptionally well and for the first four minutes consistently moved away from first and third. Just before Ditton however, our tenuous grip on the rhythm slipped and after a fairly disjointed row up the Reach, we were bumped just ten strokes from the line.

For the rest of the men's club, the story was even bleaker. With the entire club rowing way above their level, the second, third and fourth eights all went down four. The Fellows' eight, rowing as the fifth eight, managed to stay level and the sixth eight failed to row on.

The May Term

The following crew was selected as the 1st May eight:

cox	Julian Dixon
str	Chris Morgan
7	Dave Boothman
6	Charles Woodburn
5	Carl Seymour
4	Andy Oldfield
3	Lee Harle
2	Richard Langrish
bow	Jonathon Milne

Again, the improvements made by the crew during the term were not reflected in a series of disappointing races. On the first day we rowed over as a fast Pembroke crew bumped 1st and 3rd behind us. This Pembroke crew then made short work of us on the second day, and after a hard fight on Friday we were caught by 1st and 3rd at the Railings. On the final night we were caught by Magdelene on Grassy Corner. The picture for the whole week was of an inexperienced crew suffering at the hands of crews full of Blues and Goldie performers.

Some consolation was gained from the performance of the second eight, who easily held off the much vaunted Downing II on the first three days, before falling to Clare I on the final night. Of the lower boats, it was once more the Fellows who saved the day, successfully defending their place on the river.

Lady Margaret Boat Club – Ladies' Division

We got off to an excellent start in 1991-92, with both the 1st and 2nd IVs retaining their University IVs' titles from last year. This was followed by a quite superb day at Tideway, with the Lady Margaret IVs winning both the Novice and Senior Three Divisions – no mean feat for 'just one College'! The Fairbairn VIII also did well, coming third in that most gruelling of races, the Fairbairns, despite being essentially a 2nd VIII (none of the IVs rowers returned to the VIII, although the 1st IV competed in and won the Fairbairns IVs). Together with the strong performance of both Novice crews, there was much to be proud of.

With some old scores to settle after the 1991 Lent Bumps, the 1st VIII were selected early and started term with a week of intensive training. We won the Head to Head for the second year running, but it was only later in term, at the Newnham Head, that we could race Emmanuel and compare times. This proved to be one of the most exciting days of the Lent Term, as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd boats all won their Divisions, making it a clean sweep for Maggie, and a heavy load of 'pots' to carry home (much to the disgust of the other Colleges). In the meantime, three LMBC rowers had successfully trialled for Cambridge University Women's Boat Club – Sarah Wilson was at '5' in the Blue Boat, and Alison Gledhill and Rachel Kelly were Stroke and '5' of Blondie respectively (all three of course went on to victory at Henley in March).

Despite our more-than-usually jangled nerves, justice was done on the first day of the Bumps when we caught Emmanuel half-way down the Reach. We were given a good race on all three successive days, but

they could make no real impression, and we finally crossed the line to become Head of the River. The 2nd VIII, in a shell for the first time, moved up three, only missing their blades by a margin. Further down, the 3rd VIII were grateful to move out of the Clinker, and held their position well. Tideway was the only really disappointing race of the term. We under-performed considerably and lost our exceptionally high place to join the other Colleges.

The Mays now offered the chance of the first ever Women's Double Headship. The 1st VIII again kept last year's titles of Head of the Cam and winners of the Cam Regatta (trouncing Oxford's 2nd on the river in the process!). We had considerable difficulties throughout the term as people were injured and missing; and there was an exceptionally determined Jesus boat to contend with. However, thanks to all of our coaches, and Roger Silk especially, we rowed over Head each day (even fighting off 'big blades' on the last day). There was much to celebrate, with the 2nd boat also retaining their well deserved Headship, and the Third Boat moving up 2. The fourth boat were unfortunately prey to the Newtonian dictate that what goes up must come down, but nevertheless enjoyed themselves!

With true dedication, the first VIII stayed rowing throughout May week, in preparation for Women's Henley, at which we hoped to win the College VIIIs Division for the third year running. However, this was not to be, as an American crew of Club/Open VIII standard also entered, thereby making a farce of the College VIIIs Division – to our great disappointment.

1991/92 has been one of the most successful years the women's side of Lady Margaret has ever had, crowned of course by the Double Headings. As always, an enormous debt of gratitude is owed to the club as a whole, the Old Johnian Henley Fund (upon which we increasingly rely), and of course, Roger Silk.

SEMPER CAPUT FLUMINIS!

Emma Mawdsley

The Fellow's Eight

The Lent Bumps of 1992 was the first exposure by Fellows in recent history to the joys of winter rowing. An experienced crew, we were

elevated to become LMBC 5th boat in Division 4, and predictably we enjoyed mixed fortunes:

Day 1	Bumped Addenbrookes
Day 2	rowed over
Day 3	bumped by St Catherine's II
Day 4	rowed over

Our bump on Day 1 was an epic which did not come until the railway bridge, but in fact it was the last day that was the most memorable. On Grassy Corner we were being chased hard by Queens' III, who were after their fourth bump to get their oars. Skilful coxing saw us scrape round Grassy despite a badly parked boat blocking the inside of the corner. Queens', going for the bump on us, misjudged the corner completely and hit the bank. Addenbrooke's, who were about to be caught by Wolfson (also after their blades), got a technical bump (in an actual pile-up) on the stationary Queens' boat. Wolfson smashed into them, and sank them. All this was happening behind us, as we rowed on serenely.

Fellows VIII, Lents 1992

Dr H Matthews (bow)
Dr R McCorquodale
Dr T Bayliss-Smith
Dr A Woods
Dr M Welland
Dr S Gull
Professor I N McCave
Dr R Leese (stroke)
Miss S Pett (cox)

Fellows VIII, Mays 1992

Dr H Matthews (bow)
Dr A Woods
Dr T Bayliss-Smith
Dr S Gull
Dr M Welland
Dr R McConnell
Professor I N McCave
Dr R Leese (stroke)
Miss S Pett (cox)

In the Mays we had the same crew as in the Lents, except Dick McConnell returned in place of Rob McCorquodale, and the seating order was changed somewhat. We had more outings than any other LMBC boat, even the first boat. Sarcastic remarks were made about any absentees at Tuesday night's circuit training. As a result of all this our grind times were better than ever before (4 minutes, 15 seconds?) and this unfortunately assured our elevation to Division 4. There was even a rumour at one point that we were going to become the 2nd boat.

Day 1	bumped Girton II
Day 2	rowed over
Day 3	rowed over
Day 4	technical row over

Our fitness and training helped us on Day 1, when Girton II (not at all a bad crew) were persuaded to melt in the face of our initial onslaught and were bumped after the first two minutes. Unfortunately bad starts on the two windy days that followed, plus the quality of the boats ahead, prevented any more triumphs, and we were obliged on both days to hold off strong challenges by Girton II (themselves hard pressed but never caught by a Jesus boat behind them). On the final day we at last had a good start, and made up half a length on Wolfson I (the same boat we had helped to frustrate in the Lents). They pulled away somewhat in the Gut, but we were still going well when, going into the Grassy Corner, our bow side hit the blades and then the riggers of a badly parked Magdalene boat, scattering the picnickers on the bank as we came to an abrupt halt. Two blades were minced up and No 3's slide and gate were put out of action. Girton II rowed past and claimed a bump. The Umpire ruled otherwise, on the grounds that we were obstructed and that Girton were at least two lengths adrift at the time of our obstruction. Subsequent inspection of the rudder suggested our problems getting around Grassy were somewhat more fundamental than obstruction, but Fellows never like to question the rulings of Umpires!

TPBS

History of the Lady Margaret Boat Club

Many thanks to those of you have already filled in your LMBC questionnaire. Your efforts are greatly appreciated, and I am sorry that I cannot acknowledge them individually. If you have not yet replied, please do so – it is not too late. If you rowed, coxed or coached between 1956 and 1991 but have not received a questionnaire and would like one, please let know.

Jane Milburn

c/o St. John's College

Rugby Football

In a league season which has proved to be one of the more successful for some years, it remains evident that the John's 1st XV have still to overcome the same college sides year in, year out. Downing, Magdalene and Trinity – who retained the league title in only their second year in the First Division – have maintained a frustrating psychological and physical dominance over the last three or four years. Our matches against all three were very close games, and all similarly hard-fought,

but we never relished the prospect of playing them early on in the season.

It soon became clear that our heads and hearts dropped all too easily when faced with strong College sides who managed to put up an early lead; when, however (as is so often the case!) the boot was on the other foot, we invariably performed extremely well. In short, we must overcome these false senses of pride and over-confidence if we are to continue to produce the victories of which we are so capable.

These groans and grumbles aside, the side did very well in the remaining games. Those against St. Catherine's, Fitzwilliam, Queens, Caius and Pembroke all provided festival loose-work and fast, flowing back-play and showed the first XV in its best possible light. In the end, they won 7, drew 1, lost 3 and were runners-up in the League.

The 2nd and 3rd XVs, finely led by Andy Hosie and Paul Reed, had a few problems this year, primarily caused by a lack of depth within the club as a whole, and a string of injuries which kept recurring throughout the term. This meant that a small pool of players bore the brunt of the fixture list, often having to turn out for both teams in any given week. There would seem to be an easy solution to this problem, as no-one should expect the 3rd team 'regulars' to play in the harder and more competitive 2nd Division matches.

I think that it is very important that they - the 2nd XV in particular - do not become disheartened with lower positions on the end of season table, as they continually struggled against depleted training sessions and cancelled fixtures. The 3rd XV, as ever, played on and off the field in the way only they know how, and I feel that it is always good for a club to see its members enjoying themselves so much.

The Cup Competition again saw the 1st XV in the quarter-finals, this year at home to Trinity, but hopes of a victory faded with the early departure of both half-backs. Disappointed we were, but our effort and spirit could never be questioned. Trinity went on to be defeated in the next round by the Cup winners, Hughes Hall. The 2nd XV were unfortunately unable to retain the Cup this year, and were narrowly defeated by a very strong Jesus side in the 2nd round.

Finally, I would like to thank Matt Ashworth, the vice-captain, Mark Onyett, the untiring Secretary, and Andy Hosie and Paul Reed for leading the 2nds and 3rds so efficiently and enthusiastically. Tom Dower, Mike Allan and Lee Harle have been most helpful with training sessions, bringing a welcome breath of fresh air down from Grange

Road. I wish the best of luck to next year's officials, Andy Sankey (Capt.), Perran Horrell (V-Capt.) and Francis Nimmo (Hon. Sec.).

The following represented the University: A. Wheelwright, C. Shah, A. Hosie and E. Harrison for Rugby League; T. Dower, M. Allan, M. Onyett, A. Sankey, E. Harrison, F. Nimmo and J. Danvers for Rugby Union.

The following have been awarded colours: E. Harrison, M. Ashworth, J. Danvers, R. Bratby, F. Nimmo, M. Onyett, P. Horrell, S. Shemtob, A. Sankey, T. Dower, T. Gibbon, J. Sheekey, M. Allan, A. Siggers, C. Mitchell, G. Jennings, R. Jeffries, B. Britz.

Benjamin M.E. Britz, Captain.

Association Football

The 1st XI had a season of ups and downs, suffering an ignominious exit from Cuppers to Fitz and then rising from the ashes to finish second in the league. One notable feature of the season was the elegant passing football that the team played. Adam Balon was nominated player of the season and Steve Ainsworth had an outstanding season. Next year's captain Gavin Thistlethwaite will have a solid base to build upon.

In the plate competition, the 2nd XI were cruelly beaten in a penalty shoot-out against Anglia Poly. Promotion to the third division was never going to be easy and defeats by St. Edmunds and Long Road first teams mean another year in the fourth division.

There were strong performances throughout the 2nd team, with Alec Haydon, Andy Cook and Paul Wilson playing consistently well. The prolific striking partnership of Andy Bank and Mark Copley contributed 12 goals in 7 games. With the majority of players remaining in College next year, the prospects for next season look good under the captaincy of Roger Stephenson. This was also a good year for the 3rd and 4th XIs, who showed the depth of interest in football in the college. Following on from the example set by the 1st and 2nd XI's, neither team collected any silverware but excellent victories on the day of the football dinner ensured spirits were high.

The women's team started the season with four victories but were unable to keep up the momentum and finished mid-table in the league. A skillful Clare team were the side's undoing in the second round of Cuppers. Many of the new players in the side showed remarkable

promise, most notably Charlotte Downes in goal and Chantel Conneller at left wing. All players showed great enthusiasm and the number of goals scored was much higher than last season. Much of the improvement was due to the visionary coaching of Dave Pickup. Next year there will be two co-captains, Anneli Foster and Tina Rubidge.

John Grindley, Captain

Women's Hockey

A grand total of 30 women played for the two St. John's teams this season, an achievement in itself for the ladies part of the club! As a result, the second team, captained by Marie Vaughan, won 2 of their league matches and reached the semi-final of the plate in Cuppers.

The season for the 1st XI was one of two halves. In the Michaelmas term, the team played 7 league matches, winning all 7 and scoring a total of 37 goals in the process. Unfortunately, our slate was not kept completely clean, as a single goal was conceded. Needless to say, we had won the league by Christmas.

However, the Cuppers run in the Lent Term proved to be rather more of a challenge. Sarah Kilroy, a University second team player, was put out with an ankle injury, which was a considerable blow for the team. The second round of Cuppers came to flicks after extra time, but the team managed to hang on and reach the semi-finals before being beaten by Christ's.

Four ladies have been asked to represent the University this season. Two of these, Anne-Marie Culhane and Helen Watson, have chosen to devote their time to other activities and Sarah Kilroy has played for the CUWHC 2nd XI. Andi Grant must be congratulated on not only playing for CUWHC 1st XI but for participating in the London, Oxford and Cambridge combined team and in the British Universities Team.

College colours have been awarded to: Jenny Ford, Jo Hallas, Pippa Kempton, Juliet Williams, Harriet Dunkerley, Helen Moor, Helen Watson, Gillian Faulkner, Sarah Kilroy, Anne-Marie Culhane, Andi Grant and Ursula Mayr-Harting. Next year's captain and secretary are Andi Grant and Helen Watson.

Finally, I would like to thank Jim Williams for all his hard work on the pitches.

Helen Moor, Captain

Cricket

In the 1992 season, the apathetic legacy of the previous year has been expunged with some aplomb. The traditional friendly fixtures saw a wide selection of players. However the general standard has improved, and the College side always held its own and contributed to some interesting games with exciting finishes. The Cuppers campaign was fought with a vigour and style that took us all the way to the final, which was unfortunately washed out.

Batting in the friendlies was dominated by Charles Blishen and Richard Lloyd, who scored his first hundred of his College career against Hetairoi. There were also fine contributions from Matt Sabben-Clare who scored 95 against Bin Boyes XI and Toby Askin, next year's secretary, who seldom failed to score 30 or 40 and is equally adept at running out his team mates.

Bowling in the friendlies was dominated by off spinner Jim Bentall, next year's captain. He took 16 wickets in four matches, including the wicket of a certain W. Adams of Grasshopper, whom he dismissed for 18 and who later went on to score a century for Cambridgeshire against a first class county side in the Nat West trophy.

However it was the Cuppers competition that brought out the best in the other bowlers, and our victories were always based on extremely tight bowling performances backed up by some excellent fielding, particularly by Ed James. St Catherine's were restricted to 135 for 7 off 40 overs with Bentall taking 1 for 19 off 8 and Lloyd taking 4 for 27 off 8. This was after we had compiled a mammoth 247 with Tony Hooper scoring 113, Richard Lloyd 48 and Charles Blishen 37.

In our match against Queens, we had to defend a small total of 169, based on 59 from Charles Blishen, 38 from Richard Lloyd and 33 from Toby Askin. Our bowling was equally tight, dismissing Queens for 101, Richard Lloyd taking 5 for 17 and Andrew Bound turning in the now legendary figures of 8 overs, 3 maidens, 1 for 7. Paul Rimmer was also hostile.

This trend of tight bowling appeared to have been reversed by Magdalene, who, batting first, put on 73 for the first wicket in 20 overs. However, aided by a drinks break our bowlers again turned things around. Lloyd took five wickets and Rob Wittering took 4 for 18 in his first real bowl of the season. Magdalene were all out for 117 and despite some irresponsible high order batting, the old head on old shoulders of

Pete Wienow (38) steered us home, aided by the equally level headed Rob Wittering (33).

The final itself was something of a disappointment, for the inevitability of a heavy downpour made the levels of motivation we had achieved in previous rounds untenable.

On the whole, it has been this desire to win in Cuppers and play exciting cricket in the friendlies, coupled with an excellent team spirit, that made this a thoroughly enjoyable season. I would like to thank Tim for producing consistently excellent pitches in often taxing circumstances, and Rita for the lunches and teas which were enjoyed by all. All the best to Jim Bentall and Toby Askin, next year's officials. I'm sure 1993 will be as enjoyable and successful as 1992.

Charles Blishen, Captain.

Basketball

The year started off with the defence of the league title after an excellent season in 1990/91. The club gained some skillful freshers, Greg Parker and Eric Ng Tung Hing (who filled the long shot gap in the John's offense), and retained almost all of last year's strong players.

John's finished the Michaelmas term near the top of the division after a strong term, with all the players quickly getting back to last year's form. However, Lent term saw an unfortunate series of injuries and pressing engagements which lead to three defeats in vital games, and the title defence was over.

The Cuppers competition is played in the Easter Term and all the players came back from the holidays with renewed enthusiasm. The level of training was greatly increased and confidence in our abilities was restored. Throughout the games Tom Dower and Martin Haehnelt had great court presence and consistently scored well. Greg Parker, the best outside shooter the club has seen for some time, kept our scores high and John Grindley held the team together well as Captain. Close victories over Fitzwilliam and Anglia Poly finally took John's into the final against Queens.

Queens were confident having beaten us once earlier that term but John's had developed an excellent team spirit thanks to the loyal members of the bench - particularly Andy Bates and Tai Ran Niew. John's chose this moment to play their best match of the year and a 59-

49 victory brought the Cuppers trophy home to John's Bar. It was a fine finish to a successful year, one that was enjoyed thoroughly by all our players and by the occasional supporter. The club once again looks forward to a fruitful year in 92/93, perhaps with the League/Cuppers double in sight?

Chris Hayhurst, Secretary.

Croquet

I hope I am right in saying that this is the first time in a long while that Croquet has been reported in *The Eagle*, since Cuppers usually starts a few days after the final copy deadline and no one can properly remember what happened last year.

Cuppers started later than usual this year. I had wanted to avoid the near disaster of last year when Adam Lacy-Hulbert discovered on Saturday that the entries had to be in on Monday, and consequently only five teams entered. Hence my colourful posters, which got a good response - I had fifteen teams by the start of May. However, the University Croquet Club was not so keen to get Cuppers started. When they did get round to it, it became obvious that the second round would not be complete before exams started, so I had six teams back out. St. John's entered nine teams, making us the second largest club, behind Selwyn. The Croquet Club also had to cut down the number of entrants to 64 teams because they had not left enough time to play seven rounds. Nearly 128 teams entered Cuppers in my first year, but in the end only 65 teams entered this year, leaving Trinity to play Catz 1 in a wild-card game.

The draw was completely random and so fortunes were mixed. The second team lost. The 9th team got a bye in their first round because their opponents never replied to any of their letters, but then lost to Peterhouse 1 in the second round. The 6th and 8th lost in the first round to Peterhouse 4 and 5 respectively. The 5th team beat Fitz 6 in the first round and then lost a very close contest to Girton 1.

The 3rd team can (and do) consider themselves unlucky in being drawn against Emma 1 - one of the team had a handicap of 4 (handicaps range from -2 to 18). Alex Gordon-Brander quite reasonably requested seven bisques (extra turns) but this was refused by Emma 1 on the rounds that the organisation of Cuppers had not given any guidelines on declaring handicaps and awarding bisques, so as far as

they were concerned, handicaps were irrelevant. However I doubt that it would have made any difference to the outcome, just the score.

The 1st team also lost. We were drawn against Selwyn 3, both of whom were postgrads in their fifth year of Cuppers. The match was closely contested and did not get anywhere near to finishing. At the two hour time limit, the score was 10-7 to Selwyn. (One point is scored every time one of your balls runs a hoop in order).

Only two of our teams made it to the 3rd Round. These were the 4th and 7th whose numbering belies their true ability. The 4th team thrashed Sidney 1 in the first round, forcing them to concede after 75 minutes, with the score at 21-2. They then beat Girton 2 very convincingly, 22-10, although this match lasted the full two hours. They were then unlucky to lose to Peterhouse 4 in the third round, despite having home advantage, but Peterhouse are also experienced at playing on a substantial lawn. Ours resembles the Moon, theirs Castle Hill. The 7th team beat Selwyn 9 in the first round (26-9), and then beat Jesus (13-10) in a close match that lasted the full two hours. Their third round match was another close affair, playing away and beating Peterhouse 2 by 13 points to 9, although it wouldn't have been so close on a decent pitch, or if they'd played at home. They were thus through to the Quarter-Finals, where they met Queens 2. Throughout much of the match they had the upper hand, but then the Queens captain made a match-saving break of eight hoops to level the score at 14-all just before full-time. The match went into sudden death overtime, and unfortunately (from our point of view), Queens won.

Finally, I know people like seeing their name in print, so here is the team list in full:

1st	Anthony Stevenson	&	Quentin Harmer
2nd	Stephen Munro	&	Huw Wallis
3rd	Vince Townsend	&	Alex Gordon-Brander
4th	Gareth Bushill	&	John Myers
5th	Alex Barnett	&	John Read
6th	Phil Bassant	&	Toby Haynes
7th	Martin Gee	&	Paul Cook
8th	Jason Welch	&	John Barker
9th	Matthew Brown	&	Mike Brooks

Anthony Stevenson, Captain, 1992.

College Sport

Netball Club

The St. John's netball squad has had yet another successful season in both ladies and mixed netball. The ladies entered three teams into the league. The 1st team, (with two regular team members missing) narrowly missed the league title by losing to Tit Hall in an extremely close match. However, supremacy was regained by the Cuppers victory resulting from a win over our arch-rivals Magdalen in a somewhat violent final. Congratulations to the squad; Keerti Sethia, Lisa Caulton, Caroline Scott, Anneli Foster, Alison Poole, Rachel Kelly, Rebecca Elliot, Zana Storey and Stephany Gill.

The second team finished third in the second division, narrowly missing promotion, and congratulations must also go to the third team for their enthusiastic performance in division four.

Mixed netball continues to be popular despite the rather unsocial practising hours on Sunday mornings. As has become the tradition, John's won mixed Cuppers – can this continue indefinitely? My thanks go to the men's captain Andy Jurgenson.

Thanks also to Claire Hemmaway for being an efficient secretary, and also to the second and third team captains Claire Leaman and Anne Winterbone for their support.

Lisa Caulton
Netball Captain

Ladies' Badminton Team

The Ladies' Badminton Team has had a successful year. Thanks to our three Blues players, Keerti Sethia, Lisa Caulton and Sarah Kilroy, we won the Cuppers competition. Having beaten the league leaders, Christs in the third round the team were confident and went on to beat convincingly St. Catherines in the final.

The first league team started the year in the first Division after being

promoted last year, and by the end of Michaelmas term we were in fourth position. Unfortunately during Lent term we slipped one place which means starting next year at the top of the second division.

The second league team were promoted to the fifth division at the end of this year, although most of the points came from walkovers due to lack of opposition rather than matches played and won. This was very frustrating for our players who turned out every week.

Hopefully next year will bring many new players to the college as most of our present players will have moved on then.

College colours for this year have been awarded to Caroline Daniel, Tina Rubidge, Anne-Frances Foster, Lindsay Chalmers, Isobelle Sorgo and Claire Hemmaway.

Anne-Frances Foster
Ladies Badminton Secretary

Tennis Club

The 1993 tennis season was a good one for St. John's but unfortunately not good enough to pick up prizes. The first men's team came second in the League (division 1) and narrowly lost in the quarter-finals of Cuppers. The second men's team successfully battled, against other college's first teams, to stay in division three. The women's team were well-placed in division one and had a good Cuppers run reaching the semi-final.

This year's college men's team contained no 'Blues' or 'Grasshoppers' so Cuppers success was unlikely; but a solid league performance was possible through the efforts of a number of experienced old hands and able freshers. The college first pair were both freshers, Al Kennedy and Mark Sperotto, who combined well together to produce hard-hitting and sparky performances. The second pair were Reiner Schneider-Waterberg and Dan Miller who played in a similar hard-hitting and combative style. The third pair was Ken Lam and Xavier Echevarria who produced a more varied and subtle game that consistently brushed aside opposition. Andy Millar was also a regular member of the squad who provided a hard-hitting top-spin addition to the team.

John's tennis is currently a strong and vibrant club with strength in depth. It has been an enjoyable and friendly season, and a pleasure to

captain the club; my only regrets are that the Oxford tour and mixed doubles tournaments had to be cancelled due to bad weather.

Dan Miller
St. John's College Tennis Captain

Ladies' Tennis

Our Cuppers team did very well to reach the semi-final beating Selwyn and Anglia (we had a bye in the first round as we were seeded third). Unfortunately, we then played a closely-fought match against Downing, the eventual winners, which we narrowly lost.

We entered first and second teams in the league – in division one and two respectively. The matches began well, for the second team especially, who won without difficulty. However, as exams approached, matches were cancelled and I do not know exactly where the teams finished.

The following players have been awarded colours: Lindsay Chalmers, Stephanie Gill, Sally Holt, Fiona McIlirham, Anne Martin, Rebecca Palmer (second team captain), Alison Poole, Emma Roberts, Helen Watson. Additional players: Tina Weatherhead, Anna Dover.

Anne Martin
Captain

Men's Hockey

St. John's College Men's Hockey Club was once more blessed with a strong influx of new talent this year, ensuring continued dominance of University Hockey and College Sport. Freshmen T. McCarthy and the Lilliputian R. Cake won Blues, as did R.C. Lloyd, C. Blishen and John 'Numbers' Foley. (Pete Nienow was too old to compete.)

This season's Cuppers campaign was the hardest we have had in the last five years. Once more the organisers in their wisdom, decided not to seed the competition, ensuring that St. John's had to play in every round, facing one of the best College teams in the first match and playing only one match at home. No matter, we defeated Anglia University and Emma on route to a final match with Corpus Christi. Due to a lost toss of a coin over the telephone(!) the final was played at Corpus's

somewhat agricultural home ground. St. John's eventually won through 3-1 after extra time, for an unprecedented third consecutive Cuppers Title and the fourth in the last five years. With such an unrivaled level of success amongst college sports clubs it was a shame that more Johnians could not make it to the final. Those who did were rewarded with cakes and a fine pyrotechnic display by Rev. Bloor.

Many players were unavailable to play league hockey and we consequently struggled to produce our best at this level, although goalkeeper C. Blishen produced a brace of fine goals in our last match to end the season on a high note.

Our defence of indoor Cuppers was hampered by the timing of the tournament; cunningly played on 'Suicide' Sunday and the Tuesday of St. John's Ball. Our team of veterans, with James 'The Come Back King' Bentall in goal, progressed to the semi-finals, where administrative failings meant that we were one player short while our opposition were allowed three extra players from other colleges. This luxury was not afforded to St. John's. To everyone's glee we lost. *Tant Pis.*

Hopefully, our team looks set to remain strong for next season, so that old Cupper's Trophy (if it existed) could be ours again.

Cuppers Team: J. Beard (Capt), C. Blishen, A. Bloor, R. Cake, G. Cooke, S. Garcha, N. Miller, J. Foley, T. McCarthy, R. Lloyd, M. Copley, P. Niednow.

It has become traditional for a field sports colours blazer to be passed down from Hockey Captain to Hockey Captain. Unfortunately the present museum piece is looking very session-weary. If anyone knows the whereabouts of a 'spare' blazer I would be most grateful to hear from them either at the College address or on 0223 354446.

J.B. Beard

Ladies' Hockey

Once again the ladies' club has enjoyed a highly successful year. Freshers week saw a large intake of first years and new post-graduates all keen to dabble at a dribble. Unlike previous years this interest did not dwindle in the first week as the lures of the bar and the university tiddlywinks club took over, thus we easily fielded two sides this year and perhaps with a few more bribes and less "player stealing" from the newly formed rugby club we may have even stretched to three.

After the loss of many of its long standing players this year the first XI saw a reshuffle, mainly in the defence and mid-field. Sally "Am I good enough to get in the college first team?" Holt provided the most solid sweeper the college has seen for many years. She is to be congratulated on also gaining her University colours and I wish her luck in her quest for a Blue next year.

Player of the season this year was awarded to another first year, Jane Pitt. Her skills and vision at left-back furthered our strength in defence immensely. Later in the season Jane often starred at left midfield and perhaps, I believe, found a new favoured position.

The first XI once again regained the League Trophy with very little trouble. In seven games played a total of 41 goals were scored for and only three against. Only Catz provided competition both in the league and Cuppers tournament: in the former they managed to hold us to a 0-0 all draw despite our continuous pressure on their goal for 90 minutes. Unfortunately we were lacking the depth of our right winger Anne-Marie Culhane for both this match and subsequently the Cuppers match when centre-midfielder Sarah Kilroy was also absent representing the University at a mixed badminton match.

Despite our resultant weakness the quarter final of Cuppers against Catz proved to be our most exciting and skillful match all season. With 2-2 at full time the match went to extra time with the red girls losing it in the final five minutes at 4-2. Nevertheless the match provided outstanding performances from Harriet Winkleman and latecomer to the side Caroline Scott who I hope will continue to represent the College next year now that we have unearthed her hidden talent.

Congratulations must also go to the second XI who this year fielding a regular team captained by Kate Cracknell found themselves mostly playing first XI sides from other colleges. Despite this they still managed to gain promotion to enter the second division for the first time since the team was formed.

Colours were awarded to all those mentioned above and also Tina Rubridge (goalkeeper), Harriet Dunkerly (centre-back), Juliet Williams (right-back), Lindsey Chalmers (left-wing), Helen Watson (secretary) and Andi Grant (centre-forward/captain).

Good luck to next year's Captain Helen Watson and Secretary Sally Holt and all best wishes for a successful season to those remaining next year!

S.J.C. Cricket

Following last year's Cuppers triumph much was expected of the cricket team. Early results against strong club sides suggested such hopes may not have been misplaced, despite being partially ham-strung by an unusually meagre input of freshman talent. The dazzling exceptions were Rob Mann, who represented both College and University, and the diminutive Russel Cake, whose University season, though sadly keeping him out of College cricket, culminated in a monolithic 108 against the touring Australians. Richard Pearson continued to provide mesmerizing off-spin skills for the Blues resulting in his Northants contract. This year's Cuppers competition was easily the worst organised in living memory. The draw was only made in the third week of term, and the repercussions of this administrative pathos were to be felt later as match after match was decided by the toss of a coin. After the comprehensive destruction of an aspiring Churchill team, St. John's cruised into the quarter finals. Due to the above mentioned inability of the University Secretary to function as a sapient vertebrate this match was played over two weeks late. This temporal disaster was compounded by the traditional May Week inclemency, and in the outcome it was resolved to play a 20 over slog, rather than trust to the spin of a coin. Jim Williams valiantly prepared a sodden track, and in the ensuing lottery we fell to an ordinary Emmanuel side, who on any other pitch would have been humbled. Despite this disappointment, there were numerous high points to the season. An appearance was made by evergreen hockey captain Jonathon Beard, whose sure-footed fielding and elegant single-figure opening innings, was an inspiration and lesson to all. John Gibbon emerged as a creditable opening bowler, and his quick fire 36 off 11 balls saw his development as an all-rounder. Run-machine Richard Lloyd continued to delight with both bat and ball, and the muscular Dan Mahoney ran into long awaited form.

It is always hard to get a full side out in the summer. Exam and May week pressures ensure this. The college's best bowler from last season only graced the field for fifteen minutes. However thanks are due to Toby Askin whose responsibilities as secretary helped him mature into a multi-faceted cricketer and on whose broad shoulders the mantle of captaincy will rest easily next season. He will be assisted by Jon Bell as Club Secretary.

Jim Williams prepared immaculate pitches throughout the season, and was the only groundsman in the entire University who was prepared to go out of his way to see that matches could take place. Once again the club is deeply indebted to him. As ever Rita's skill in the

kitchen was greatly appreciated by all players both, Johnnians and visitors.

Finally, perhaps one of our esteemed alumni could revive the traditional Old Boys Fixture. It would be a shame to let the reservoir of skill and guile atrophy.

Jim Bentall
Captain 1992-3

Rugby Club

The first XV boast a very successful season in the League, ending runners up by winning 8 from 9 matches. They lost only to Downing, who also won 8 from 9, but who went on to become League winners on goal difference. This year saw a much needed strong injection of backs from the first year, which turned forwards domination into points scored.

Meanwhile, four of the first XV regularly represented the University U21s. Al Kennedy was awarded his U21 colour at the Stoop Memorial Ground. Mark Onyett (U21 Sec) and Julian Danvers were on the bench. Tom Dower played regularly for the blues, but injury four weeks prior to the Varsity Match meant another LXs colour for him. Ady Spencer climbed to dizzy heights in rugby league by earning man of the match in the Varsity Match and by representing Great British Students.

The first XV lost narrowly to Jesus College in the quarter finals of Cuppers. Although Jesus had more Blues and LXs players, the cohesion of an almost unchanged league side nearly carried us through.

The second XV captained most ably by Patrick Zebedee enjoyed three handsome victories against College first XVs. Along with Jesus II, they are the only second XV in the second division, and the best league second XV to boot. They reached the quarter finals of Cuppers where they lost to Catz.

The College still manages to field the only third XV in Cambridge. They were this year run with dogged determination by Captain Ben Cashin. The Club is finding it increasingly difficult to raise three full teams to play regularly thus limiting the number of fixtures played.

Easter saw a mixture of all three sides pack their boots and beer

goggles, for the Genius Tour of Dublin. A narrow defeat at the hands of a strong Blackrock College RUFC served only to 'Strengthen Spirits' and dependence on Genius of the Liffy.

Women's rugby is accelerating in interest by the year, this year being on exception. Joint captains Anne Winterbone and Jo Hallas led the team to several victories. Four members won half Blues in the Varsity Match: Jo Hallas, Sarah Kilroy, Linzi Ngwenya and Caroline Scott. Kerry Traver was on the bench. Caroline Scott went on to represent England students vs Wales. Many thanks go to the coaches who sacrificed themselves to the women on and off the pitch; in wind, in rain, in snow, indoors....!

Colours this year were harder to earn due to restrictions being tightened. What used to be seen as a right once the requisite number of matches had been played, is now seen as a discretionary privilege rewarding skill and commitment. The colours tie is being relaunched which will be associated with sporting excellence, and worn with appropriate pride.

Finally, I would like to thank Perran Horrell the vice-captain and Francis Nimmo, the most highly organised secretary, for their continue commitment and enthusiasm. Thanks also to Jim for always finding us somewhere to practice and keeping the pitches finely manicured. I wish the best of luck to next year's officials: James Rutter (Captain), Ed Harrison (Vice-Captain) and Julian Danvers (Hon. Secretary).

Andy Sankey
Captain

Women's Rugby Club

The Women's Rugby Club is a relatively new addition to St. John's College. However, this year has seen the Club go from strength to strength, increasing in size and boasting seven University Women's Rugby Players. It was rumoured that our first VII could have won Cuppers this season had our progress not been stunted by the cancellation of the tournament due to the poor condition of the pitches.

This year the Club has been able to play a first and second team due to the amount of interest generated in College by the two captains. Individual successes include the seven University players namely

Stephanie Gill, Sarah Kilroy, Lindi Ngwenya, Caroline Scott, Jo Hallas, Kerri Travers and Anna Dover, the first five of whom played in the Varsity Match. Also, following trials both Caroline Scott and Stephanie Gill were selected for the English Student Women's Rugby Squad.

Support from the men's Rugby Club, especially coaches Mark T. Miler and Tom Dover, was much appreciated. However, the general success of the Club this year is due to the enthusiasm, commitment and effort put in by the two captains, Anne Winterbone and Jo Hallas, who have boosted a club that could easily have dwindled to nothing after novelty value wore off.

College Sport

Women's Badminton

This year women's badminton was enthusiastically supported by both new players and old. Our hard effort and practice was rewarded when the team achieved promotion to the first division at the end of the Michaelmas term.

Unfortunately, we lost most of last year's victorious Cuppers team but still made it through to the quarter finals of the competition. Marylin Djie, Tina Rubidge, Anne-Frances Foster, Rosemary Clarke and Lindsay Chalmers made up the team.

Special mention is also due to Esther Conkey and Rachael Fell who both improved tremendously throughout the season. I wish the team all the best for next year.

Lindsay Chalmers, Secretary

Basketball Club

The starting five from last year's team had either left or couldn't play this year but there was great enthusiasm in those who remained. The first practice after the freshers fair was the best attended ever with nearly 40 players turning up to trial. Many of those have continued to play all year and the club has managed to enter two teams for the first time ever (the club numbered just 6 players in 1990/91).

The basketball team is divided up into the league which runs through Michaelmas and Lent, and Cuppers in the Easter term. Despite some outstanding individual skills in the 1992/93 team, John's couldn't achieve the consistency needed to win either competition. With 2 very inexperienced teams this year, victory in the league would have been near impossible.

The first team, captained this year by Andy Bates, won the first game against Trinity and went into the next game with perhaps too much confidence, losing to Fitz and then Downing (who were to finish unbeaten at the top of the first division). The Lent term was to see the team spirit, individual and team skills improve beyond all expectation, winning 5 of the last 6 games. Of particular note were Eric Ng Tung Hing, now in his third year with the club and first year Rob Ranson.

The newly founded second team proved to be a great place for newcomers to the sport to learn, for those with a bit more experience to get used to matches and practice their skills and for everyone involved to have a lot of fun. The second team really started to come together during the Lent term winning against Emmanuel and Magdalene and with really consistent attendance, scoring points for walk overs against Anglia and Wolfson. Everyone on the team improved a good deal during the league, in particular Pete Clarke and Tomas Chubb. Special thanks to Andrew Wines for his unforgettable contributions to the second team and the club as a whole!

The club now stands ready to build on the improvement in the league and with two of last year's players back in the squad, the first team stands a good chance of winning Cuppers.

Andy Bates, Captain
Chris Hayhurst, Secretary

Cricket

The 1994 season was greeted with high hopes, despite the loss of prodigious talent sadly inevitable with the passage of time. Time kindly filled our nets with a whole new wave of talent, however. Not much was seen at College level of messrs. Ratledge nor Kamath, nor indeed of our other resident stars.

It was a pleasure to play alongside the level of ability, dedication and rapacious enthusiasm seen from messrs. Croples, Bonetti, Bhadri and Jaya, however, swelling the more seasoned ranks of the profession. The latter two, despite their youth, managed centuries,

indicative of their expressive form throughout the season. Sabben-Clare was unfortunate not to crown his remarkable form with a century, scoring 96. Bentall also came close, scoring 11.

The swing of Bhadri's bowling can only be compared to that of Sankey's batting, both merciless to the wickets on numerous occasions. Jaya's was equally merciless, the Kit Bonetti thankfully having made the position behind the stumps his own. The batsmen also relished the flight the guileful Cropleys used so tastefully to garnish his figures. Both came into enjoyable form, however, boding well for the future. The play of the devastating left armer Sankey was joined by the inimitable Mahoney, also contributing in provision of hilarity, falling first ball in the old boys game to that campaigner Bentall (37). Bentall was as ever dependable and effective, spinning the wheel, if not the ball.

Never before in the history of the game has a side fielded with such venom and held such catches. Sabben-Clare and his telescopic wrists hereby go down in history! I remember the close catching with amazement and relief.

The ignominious departure from Cuppers to Homerton was disappointing, and it is hoped that the depth of the side will do itself justice in the competition next year. This should not detract from the best season for many years against our traditional fixtures, as well as the spirit in which the game was played, however.

Positions of responsibility are passed on to Mr Cropley as captain, and to Mr Bonetti as team secretary. Many thanks are due to Mr Bell, predecessor to the aforementioned. New colours are awarded to Mr Bhandri and Mr Jaya for their dedication they shared with their colleagues, but also their prodigious talent.

Special thanks are of course owed to Jim for the hard work expended in making such a prosperous season, indeed any season possible. Also to Rita for keeping the troops so well fed. The promise of pies pulled us through many a session!

All that is left for me is to thank the team for a season much enjoyed, and to wish them all the best for next year.

Toby Askin, Captain

Men's Hockey

Once more the club has drunk long and hard from the fountain of success, achieving a near comatose state of existence. With R.Q. Cake back in the fold after his summer of sporting excellence, the 'feel good' factor was running high at our summer training camp. However, this was tempered by the knowledge that for the first time in 12 years we would be without the robust talents of (Dr) Pete Nienow, who finally left us to become head of Edinburgh University's Ornithological Unit. We wish him many a fine 'twitch'.

With an unprecedented fourth successive Cuppers championship in our sights, we needed another good intake of First Year talent, and we were not disappointed. Toby Beaumont impressed all with his strong running and masterful stick control, while Adam Knight (nee Butt) impressed all with his similarity to Tom McCarthy. Meanwhile, Nimesh Kamath and Deepak Bhadri proved to be almost the equal of R.Q. Cake in terms of their polyvalent sporting skills.

For once we managed to ensure that the Cuppers tournament was seeded, and despite having a squad riddled by injuries we progressed easily through the bottom half of the draw.

An unctuous team from King's tried hard, but eventually lost out by 13 goals to 0. Next up to the oche were Sidney Sussex who were edged out 5-0. Magdalene and Caius were also dispatched without the Johnian defence being breached. Yet again we were into the last two, where our old adversaries, Anglia, awaited their punishment.

With the final taking place at 'the home of hockey' (St John's) and with half-time cakes, melons and pyrotechnics courtesy of the Rev. Bloor, there was a real carnival atmosphere to the proceedings. The modular termsters from Polyland made a fight of it, coming back from 2-0 to take the game into extra time. However, this putsch was soon dealt with, St. John's eventually triumphing by 5 goals to 2.

A recently commissioned Cuppers trophy has now been installed in its rightful place, at the back of our beautifully crafted College trophy cabinet, obscured by various pieces of sporting detritus.

It is a shame that our hegemony has not extended into the lowly arena of league hockey, especially this year when we had a team capable of finishing top of the table. Unfortunately, the heady world of lectures limited the availability of some players and we did not do ourselves justice on the pitch.

As befits a truly mixed sports club, we resurrected the hockey tour this year. A fine collection of men and women went to Edinburgh just after Christmas, where the Scots were unable to match our talent or wit. Special mention should be made of John 'Bulldog' Foley, who never compromised his ideals, and ran out of his trap/cardboard box at short corners with real panache. 'Cave Canem'.

A thousand 'thankyous' to Jim Williams, the custodian of the home of hockey, for always making every effort to get a match surface ready. Congratulations to J. Foley, R.Q. Cake, T. McCarthy and C. Thompson for once more gaining their Blues. Further congratulations to T. McCarthy for being appointed next year's Blues Captain. Thanks to S. Griffiths for all his superlative administration as Secretary, and good luck to Adam Knight (nee Butt) as he leads the Hockey Club into the next millennium. I trust that the Hockey Club will never take itself too seriously; heaven forbid if we ever feel the need to dress up in brightly coloured blazers and solemnly knock on tree stumps.

God bless the Hockey Club. Hurrah.

Jonathan Beard



Women's Hockey

As usual, the women's hockey club has had a very successful season.

Our influx of new players compensated for the loss of a number of influential players at the end of last season. Justine 'Maradonna' Curgenven showed skill and flair in mid-field and was our top-scorer this season. She is to be congratulated on gaining her University Blue. Two other Freshers: Ali Harting and Colette Curran, along with last year's captain, Andi Grant have provided us with a strong attack – all contributing to our season's goal total of 53.

In contrast, we have conceded only 4 goals this year. Our superb defence can be attributed to a core of second years: Sally Holt, Harriet Winkleman, Caroline Scott, and Kate Higgs. Also, Clare Sweeney has been a great asset to the 1st team as goalkeeper, despite the fact that she has never played in this position until this season.

Unfortunately the 1st XI did not manage to retain the League Trophy. In our first 7 league matches we won 6 and drew only 1 and the final match of the season against Catz. proved to be the decider. However, a number of our team were carrying injuries and, despite a valiant battle, we lost 1-0.

The disappointment of our League loss increased the team's determination to win Cuppers, which had eluded St John's for the previous two years. After a number of easy early-round matches, we met Queens in the semi-final on a windy Sunday afternoon in February. In a tough match, there was no score after 80 minutes of play. The score was 2-2 after penalty flicks and we finally won on sudden-death flicks – a long, but worthwhile afternoon! In the final against New Hall, we eventually managed to field our strongest (and fittest) side. In an excellent performance, with a huge number of Johnian supporters, we won 2-0, providing a memorable end to the season.

Colours were awarded to all the players mentioned above and, in addition, to Esther Conkey, Jane Pitt, and Helen Watson.

The 2nd XI have also had a good season under the captaincy of Helen Turnbull. The depth of good hockey girls resulted in the team continuing to hold their own against many other college 1st teams.

I would like to thank Sally Holt for being an organised and enthusiastic secretary and wish good luck to next year's captain, Jane Pitt, and secretary, Ali Harting.

Helen Watson, Captain

Men's Football

The 1st XI had a promising start to the season that put us at the top of the league and into the quarter-final of the cup.

This progress was helped in no small part by the striking talents of our new ~~centre-forward~~ Ewan Gilchrist, and by the strong defence provided by our back four. Unfortunately in the Lent term this form was not continued. After losing to Fitzwilliam in the cup (again!) the team seemed to lose some of its momentum, but continued to fight until the end and finished in the top half of the league table. At the University level, St John's were represented by Phil Collins, Ian Ball and Andy Millar.

The newly promoted 2nd XI found the competition stiff. However, with inspired leadership from Captain Andy White, they managed to steer a course to the 'safety' zone at the bottom half of the table. One of the highlights of their season was a match played against an Old Boys' team led by Peter Hadley. His team was mostly made up of members of St John's from the last decade.

The 3rd and 4ths both had 'colourful' seasons with a wide range of results. The 3rds, captained by Bex Nwawudu finished midway up the table. Andy Bates' men lived up to their laid back image by just avoiding relegation in the last match of the season.

I would like to thank Rob Mann and Andy Millar for their assistance as secretary and treasurer. I also wish the new officials, Rob Mann (Captain), John Ratledge (Secretary, player of the year), and Daniel Garrod (Treasurer) the best of luck in the next year.

John Waring, Captain

Women's Football

1993-94 saw a large, enthusiastic influx of new talent into the SJC Women's Football Club, an enthusiasm that was sustained throughout the season. A successful recruitment drive meant that the Women's Football Club could, for the first time, field two teams.

An unsettled 1st team initially produced poor results. However, due to a combination of Ian Ball's coaching and the establishment of a regular side, the 1st's began to play with flair and panache, and deservedly finished the season runners-up in the first division (a substantial achievement considering we were only promoted last season).

The Second XI combined a high level of commitment with fun. Playing a beautiful passing game, they worked well together as a team. The Seconds also finished runners-up in their division (5B), also in their first season there.

Both teams were narrowly defeated during hard fought contests in the Cuppers competition.

Many thanks to Ian Ball for all his time and dedication; to Dennis Dixon for his refereeing and advice, and to Jim the groundsman. Also, good luck to next year's Captains, Fran Foster and Eileen Hunt.

College colours have been awarded to the following: Chantal Conneller; Anneli Foster, Fran Foster, Kim Graham, Eileen Hunt, Antonnia Kennet, Claire Leaman, Natalie Morris, Hannah Quirk, Tina Rubridge, Emma Sewell and Michelle Timoney.

Chantel Conneller and Michelle Timoney

Netball

The first netball team had a very successful season to emerge league winners after remaining unbeaten in any of their league matches, with one draw of 8-8 against Selwyn. Victories included demolishing Clare with only six players, and a close match which Queens' were unlucky to lose 25-1.

With this record it was disappointing to be knocked out of Cuppers before the quarter-finals, losing to a strong Anglia side.

The second team also performed well in the league, beaten only by a Fitz side fielding a 6'4" Blues player, and conceding two walkovers. The team had to withdraw from Cuppers as too many people were unable to play on the day.

Mixed netball continues unabated. St John's entered five teams in Cuppers this year and the first team's combined skills in football, basketball, rugby, trampolining, rowing and cryptic crosswords took them to the semi-finals where they were overcome by Selwyn in a very exciting game going to extra time.

Colours have been awarded to Caroline Scott (Captain), Elissa Johnson, Keren Loffler, Carrie Allison, Claire Leaman, Justine Curgenven and Zanna Storey. Thanks go to Rini Saha (second team Captain) and Phil Clatworthy (men's Captain).

Carrie Allison, Secretary

Lady Margaret Boat Club

Due to the unfortunate omission of a report on the progress of the boat club in the last edition of The Eagle, there now follows a dual entry for both 92/93 and 93/94 academic years.

1992/93 – Men

Despite the disappointments of the previous seasons, the year held great promise with the continuing development of home grown

talent combined with the arrival of three promising schoolboys and an existing Blue in the form of Dirk Bangert (stroke 1992) from Fitzwilliam.

Fours and Fairbairns

In the first half of the Michaelmas term the presence of four strong IV's was already signalling increased strength and depth – though generally suffering from a lack of experience together. Notable results were the 1st Coxed crews win at Bedford and semi-final place in the University competition, and a remarkable Clinker IV crew which demolished all opposition on the way to winning their competition and recording some extremely fast times.

In the Fairbairns the 1st VIII rowed well to finish fourth, less than a second behind Clare (if such accuracy is possible in this particular race), beaten by Downing and Oriel/OUBC. The 2nd VIII finished as the fastest College 2nd crew, one place and one second above an exceptional 3rd boat who had rowed all term and taken several first boat scalps – surely confirmation of the return of Lady Margaret men to the Cam. To finish the term off in style, the Clinker IV reformed after already racing in the VIII's to win their Fairbairn competition easily.

As always one of the most critical factors to the future health of the club were the Novices. Over four men's VIII's rowed with great enthusiasm and were rewarded by the first crew winning Novice Fairbairns – the first time for several years.

Aside from Bangert, Rory Clarke and Andrew Oldfield spent time in CUBC squad and as a sign of things to come Zak Peake and Andrew Jones trialled with the Lightweights with Peake being chosen as spare.

Lent Term

The term began well with a training camp in Radley/Oxford and general interest in the club soared with five club VIII's in regular

training alongside another four Gents crews. The first VIII went on to prove their potential as joint fastest college crew in the Peterborough Head and recording the fastest time of the day in the Pembroke Regatta.

The Lent Bumps were a high success with thirteen bumps in total from the five club crews. The first VIII were extremely unlucky not to gain blades with three very quick bumps (1st and 3rd, Caius, Pembroke), an obstruction by another crew on the second day preventing a very real chance of an over bump on Jesus. The second VIII went up one to once again be the highest placed second boat, the third VIII gained blades and a return to the 2nd Division and the fourth VIII just missed blades whilst rising into the 3rd Division.

The following Head of the River race on Tideway reflected the teams successes, with the VIII rising from a starting position of 159 to finish 86th – the fastest Oxbridge college crew.

Congratulations went to Dirk Bangert who after winning his seat in the Blue boat went on to victory in the boat race before returning to Lady Margaret for the Mays.

May Term

Following a training camp at York, a plethora of talent and Postgraduates returning to the fold made trials difficult. In the Cam Head the first VIII won the College event easily and went on to be narrowly defeated by Thames in the Senior 3 final at Metropolitan Regatta.

In the May Bumps the dedication of all those concerned was rewarded with three quick bumps in succession by the 1st VIII on Magdelene, 1st and 3rd and Pembroke. On the last day blades were denied by less than a canvas in a gripping race with Downing, the crew finishing fourth on the river. The 2nd VIII were unfortunate to fall two places, but remained the highest placed 2nd crew above Downing II, while both the 3rd and 4th VIII's rose a place each in Division 3. Again the club was very proud to boast the only Fellows boat on the river who fought well to maintain their starting position.

The following first and second May colours were awarded:

	1st May VIII	2nd May VIII
Bow	A. Jones	G. Henderson
2	C.J. Morgan	B.M. Davis
3	L.R. Harle	M. Shone
4	A.S. Oldfield	B. Whitmore
5	D.E. Bangert	S. Leech
6	S. Williams	C.N. Woodburn
7	C.W. Seymour	Z.B. Peake
Str.	R.J. Clarke	T.P. Gray
Cox	K.E. Cracknell	K. Prestt

Special mention must go to the Old Johnians Fund whose dedication and support to the club is vital to the continued enjoyment of rowing at all levels by the members of Lady Margaret.

L.R. Harle, Captain 1992-93

LMBC Ladies 1992-93

The aim of the year was to maintain the high degree of success of preceding years and keep the strength of the club's lower boats, looking for continued success in the future. Having taken the Lent Headship in 1992, and held onto the Mays, this was the first year in which a club would have to defend both Ladies Headships.

Michaelmas Term

Michaelmas term was a time of great effort to build up the strength of the club, developing the potential of rowers who had been in the 2nd and 3rd 1992 Mays crews. We were fortunate enough to have several experienced rowers amongst the year's new intake, all of whom cited Lady Margaret as a major reason for applying to St John's!

Unfortunately, much of the existing strength and experience within the club was missing throughout Michaelmas term, with LMBC somewhat a victim of its own success. The club had many

rowers who had a very good chance of making University crews, but with potential Blue Boat Rowers training with CUWBC in order to maintain the necessary level of work, the Lady Margaret crews had a lot of work to do for the University IV's competition.

Two Lady Margaret IV's were selected as follows:

1st IV (Bow rigged tandem)

Lucy Slater	Bow
Anna Moore	2
Louise Whall	3
Sue Hedges	Stroke
Kate Cracknell	Cox

2nd IV

Lindi Ngwenya
Harriet Dunkerley
Lizzie Watson
Julia Simpson
Paul Reid

In the University IV's competition, the 1st IV lost a well fought semi-final to Jesus by the narrowest of margins – with slightly more race experience, they may have won. 1st & 3rd beat Jesus in the final. A keen 2nd IV rowed well to win the 2nd boat competition. Both crews benefited tremendously from the experience of rowing in IV's; a great deal was achieved, but there was still much work to be done to create Headship crews.

As well as the IV's, there was a development squad within the club at the start of term – 10 rowers with varying levels of commitment/keenness/ability who had (between them) been rowing 6 outings per week in an VIII.

After the University IV's competition, a Fairbairn VIII and IV were selected, with another 7 Lady Margaret rowers in CUWBC trial crews. The Fairbairn VIII produced a fantastic result – they would have won were it not for the fact that 1st & 3rd raced all of their trialists in a club IV and a club VIII as well as CUWBC. The Lady Margaret VIII was beaten by a matter of a few seconds – the rules have been amended so that in future, trialists may not race for their college until released by CUWBC from the trials. The IV was entered as the second club boat, and won the shield for the fastest 2nd IV.

University trialists were Sue Hedges (1/w), Lucy Slater (1/w), Anna Moore, Emma Mawdsley, Rachel Kelly, Karen Wiemer, and

Richard Marsh (cox). All made it through to seat racing. Anna Moore was selected as stroke side spare, and LMBC claimed four seats in the Blue Boat – Rachel Kelly at 3, Karen Wiemer at 4, Emma Mawdsley at stroke, and Richard Marsh as cox. This was an outstanding achievement for the club and a testament to all those who give so much time to coach – all of these rowers noviced with LMBC. On several occasions with Anna subbing, the Blue Boat rowed with more red kit in it than blue!

The interest and support of the club within college was phenomenally high this year – for the first time, the club had 3 novice boats. The 1st Novice VIII did not really do themselves full justice – a very credible top ten Novice Fairbairn place all the same. With last minute injury and illness problems causing cross-subbing from boat to boat (because only novices can sub for novices!), the 2nd Novice VIII had 3 rowers who had already completed the course once, either in their own boat or subbing, and yet produce a finishing position up with the 1st VIII. The 2nd VIII would almost certainly have won the Clare Novices Cup, but for the usual novice equipment problems!

The Lents

The 1st Lent crew consisted of the Fairbairn VIII strengthened by the addition of our 3 returned trialists. The club had lost almost all of the rowers responsible for initially gaining the Headships, and the crews that had chased the Headships were a fading memory. A high degree of commitment was always apparent, but the crew struggled to maintain the concentration and level of work required throughout the term. The crew suffered a last minute injury, and Roger had his work cut out to prepare them for the task ahead.

The 1st Lent VIII was:

Bow	Lindi Ngwenya
2	Harriet Dunkerley
3	Sarah Tidswell
4	Julia Simpson
5	Lucy Slater

6	Louise Whall	- 1st May Colour 1992
	- for injured Emma Sewell	
7	Sue Hedges	- 1st May Colour 1992
Stroke	Anna Moore	
Cox	Kate Cracknell	

The crew were hit by a King's Men's crew on the way to the start on the first day, in an accident that could easily have put people in hospital. The responsibility and blame for the damage was placed on the King's boat, but Lady Margaret were left at the Pike & Eel with a completely sheared rigger at 2. Having been told that the division would be held while repairs were made, an appalling lack of communication between Senior Umpires and the Gunshed, and retracted decisions by the completely inexperienced 'Senior' Umpire meant that the division started after a 15 minutes delay, and Emmanuel once again had the Headship handed to them on a plate.

The Lady Margaret crew were pulled in on the outside of Grassey corner as the starting gun went off. Frantic efforts to repair the damage had seen a rigger, trestles and tools fetched from the boathouse and the damaged rigger changed on the bank using whatever came to hand. Given another 2 minutes to reach the start, the crew would have been on station. Subsequent efforts did not manage to overturn the decisions and contradictions of the Senior Umpire. A very angry and committed crew made short work of dismissing Emmanuel on the Thursday, with a very decisive bump coming just after Ditton Corner. A tired crew rowed over for the next 2 days to keep the Lents shield with Lady Margaret.

The Lents were cause for celebration all round, with admirable performances by all crews. Further celebrations followed as Cambridge scored a unique 6-0 victory over Oxford in the Varsity Races aided and abetted by a strong LMBC contingent.

The Mays

The Mays saw the defending Head crew with a lot of catching up to do in terms of physical and technical work. Crew selection and

training was hampered by a lack of returning CUWBC members - national trials and overseas field trips coincided to cause maximum disruption! Therefore, not knowing who might eventually return or be available (& fit) to row the Mays, crews were selected early on, subject to the proviso that they would have to be retrialled in the event of our squad members returning. This time, luck appeared to be on our side, with all of those about whom there were uncertainties actually returning, and the addition of Sarah Wilson (Blue Boat 1992) to the crew. At each juncture when crews were strengthened, and with a lot of hard work, things improved greatly. All crews seemed to benefit as the experience of rowing in a higher boat was passed down the club. The (final) 1st May crew was:

Bow	Lindi Ngwenya	- 1st Lent Colour 1993
2	Emma Sewell	- 1st Lent (injured) 1993
3	Lucy Slater	- 1st Lent Colour 1993
4	Julia Simpson	- 1st Lent Colour 1993
5	Sarah Wilson	- Blue Boat 1992
6	Anna Moore	- CUWBC spare 1993
7	Rachel Kelly	- Blue Boat 1993
Stroke	Emma Mawdsley	- Blue Boat 1993
Cox	Richard Marsh	- Blue Boat 1993

On the first day of the bumps, things never really settled properly, but some determined rowing and evasive steering manoeuvres meant that the crew crossed the line Head (albeit conceding about 4 feet of overlap to the chasing Jesus VIII). Unfortunately things were not destined to go Lady Margaret's way, and the Headship fell a minute from the line to the second day. The crew rowed over unchallenged twice, to finish second on the river. The best performance came on Saturday, with a row that would have been strong enough to keep the Headship, but which could not make up enough ground to recapture it. Ultimately, the crew suffered from a lack of time together as a unit, with the individual technical improvement throughout the team not sufficient to cope with the enforced changes as the crew was brought up to strength.

With 5 VIII's racing in the Mays, LMBC certainly had strength in numbers, and although results throughout the club were variable, there was a healthy clutch of bumps nonetheless. As ever, the LMBC

lower boats were competing against higher boats of other colleges (due to their exceptionally high places on the river) but keenness and enthusiasm throughout the term provided the groundwork for a pleasing Bumps.

The 1st VIII (with minor changes) raced at Womens Henley, losing in the semi-finals to the ultimate winners.

I must extend gratitude on behalf of the club to the old Johnian Henley Fund for its continued generous support, without which the club could not run as it does, nor with equipment of the standard that is currently enjoyed. In particular for the year 1992-93, the new set of 'cleaver' blades was very well received, and could not have been purchased by the club alone.

Richard Marsh, LMBC Ladies Captain 1992-93

LMBC Men 1993-94

Henley 1993

Two weeks of perfect sunshine will be remembered by the whole crew. Two changes were necessary to the frustrated Mays crew but under the demanding eye of Neil Christie the crew made good progress. We could not have asked for a better start than to beat Emmanuel College in the first round, the Club's first win at the Regatta for some time. Later that day we saw Trinity Hall, the Lents Head Crew, beaten by Eton. We were due to race them next. We powered off the start for a length's lead and held on to win the right to race on Friday. The same tactics did not work against University College, Cardiff, who pulled through at Remenham to end our glorious run.

B	A. Jones
2	C. Morgan
3	Z. Peake
4	T. Gray
5	L. Harle
6	A. Oldfield
7	C. Seymour
S	R. Clarke
Cox	K. Cracknell

Michaelmas Term

The year began hopefully, with the arrival of two talented schoolboy oarsmen, Paul Alexander and Alastair Cook. Sadly they have yet to pull a red blade in anger; they were injured early and ruled out for the rest of the year.

The crews for the fours were typical of the year. No individual stars, but strength in depth.

The Light IV just missed the record in the first round, but was second to Downing, who went on to win.

A very powerful First Shell IV looked menacing early on, but was beaten by 1st & 3rd Trinity in the Semi-Final, who also went on to win and set a new record.

The second shell IV, our third set of rowers, demonstrated the club's depth, by beating Jesus' second, before losing to the finalists.

We were denied a victory in the Clinker IV too, with a young crew doing well to reach the final, before being outgunned by a huge Trinity Hall IV.

The hard slog of winter training did not appeal to some, and we suffered casualties to early work crises when it came to forming an eight. Several new faces were shocked to find themselves in the first boat. Undeterred by their lack of pedigree, they produced a gutsy row to come second. Oriel packed away their 'GB' and Beefeater tops and hurried back to Oxford. Downing again took first place.

The second and third boat were easily the best in their categories.

The enthusiasm and interest displayed by the Freshers to take up rowing was overwhelming. It was a great shame that so many had to be turned down. We were restricted in the number of boats we could put out because of scaffolding on the bridges. Those that were able to

row enjoyed it enormously and managed to go quite fast, without being tortured to the extent that some Colleges still myopically indulge in.

The club showed itself to be in good spirits with two lively dinners and a fireworks party, without having to visit the Dean.

The Lents

Jones and Peake won seats in the lightweights whilst Bangert missed his third blue by three feet! This left a largely unchanged boat for the Lents. We started term with plenty of mileage already clocked up on the Trent.

Wins in the Cam Head and Pembroke Regatta were added to the satisfaction of thrashing Downing and the Cambridge Lightweights at Peterborough.

On the first night of the Bumps, we brought down Jesus at the Railings. Their first Goldie colours were unable to resist the integrity of the Lady Margaret crew. Trinity Hall fought harder, but demoralised after losing the Headship they had to surrender at Morley's Holt. This was where Downing had caught them the previous night.

The following two days were calm, which gave Downing perfect conditions to row in, while we bounced around in their wake. It got very bouncy when we closed to half a length on Ditton, but the advantage was just enough for them to hold on.

It was a mark of the success of this crew that they were disappointed with second place, but it should be set in perspective. Seven of the crew noviced with Lady Margaret, compared with the international experience of six in the opposing crew.

The lower boats picked up on the confidence of the top boat; the second boat went up to Head of the second Division, and the third and fourth boats went up three.

B	J. Melia
2	B. Davis
3	P. Clatworthy
4	M. Raynham
5	S. Leech
6	P. Mallin-Jones
7	C. Seymour
8	R. Clarke
Cox	K. Prestt

The Mays

Oldfield tore himself from the lab and Peake returned with his blue splashtop to beef up the middle of the boat, but the three crews above were all very strong. An early win at the Head of the Cam started the team off well, but without the magic of the Lents. Sadly, David Dunn was unable to finish us this year, and the crew never seemed to fulfill its promise.

Trinity Hall reigned supreme, while Jesus were pressed hard by Downing but always managed to hang on. Inexperience produced a nervous first night, but that was improved upon day by day. Saturday produced our best row, when Downing looked rattled on Ditton. We were faster, but not fast enough.

The second and third boats completed the dedicated side of the club. They both had good terms, with young talent being developed, and were unlucky not to go all the way.

Interest in the club is very high, with nine boats eventually making it onto the river. The increasing obsession with exams to the exclusion of all else meant most of these boats achieved more in terms of enjoyment than results. This is sometimes called consolidating your position for future years, usually denoted by the picture of a rudder. Hopefully some will be encouraged to take it further next year.

Nonetheless the club remains in good health. The first and second boats continuing unchanged for Henley demonstrates this. The

direction is definitely upward, and the atmosphere is very positive in all crews. Lady Margaret remains the best nursery for home-grown talent, and long may it stay that way.

B	J. Melia
2	T. Gray
3	C. Seymour
4	A. Oldfield
5	Z. Peake
6	P. Mallin-Jones
7	P. Clatworthy
8	R. Clarke
Cox	K. Prestt

R.J. Clarke, Captain

L.M.B.C. Ladies' 1993-94

The outstanding success of recent years proved to be a tough act to follow. This year particularly there were substantial losses both in the breadth and depth of the club – many very competent and experienced oarswomen had left Cambridge, others felt academic pressures too great, and lower down we were limited in the number of novice crews we were permitted to put out this year due to essential bridge work taking place on the Cam which obstructed the river. Despite this the club still put in some good wins and the standard of rowing continues to be high, thanks to the time and dedication of an army of coaches.

In the Michaelmas term the 1st IV reached the semi-finals of the University IV's, but this result was quickly overshadowed by the best result of the year – a resounding victory in the Fairbairns. The time for the race was 30 seconds faster than the next college crew and even beat a CUWBC trial VIII time! Special thanks to Emma Mawdsley who stepped in on the day to stroke us to victory. Fairbairn Blades were awarded to: Emma Mawdsley, Sarah Tidswell (Capt.), Helen Flynn, Helen Turnbull, Fiona Stewart, Kate Higgs, Becky Wood, Alison Russell and Simon Lacey. The Fairbairn IV also put in a good row competing against other colleges 1st IV's and coming 4th.

Novice racing proved as eventful and unpredictable as always. The 1st VIII full of talent and fired with enthusiasm (even after a term of early mornings) had high expectations of themselves. Sadly equipment failure resulted in them coming 12th, but they proved themselves in the Clares eventually losing in the semi-final after several tough races. The 2nd VIII on the other hand had their best row in the Fairbairns coming 15th but suffered from a tough draw in the Clares.

Three crews rowed the Lents frequently battling against rough conditions in the Long Reach. The 1st VIII had early success winning the novice category of the Head of the Nene in Peterborough and back on the Cam lost unfairly in the Newnham Regatta semi-final following a clash of blades. Sadly despite their dedication and determination, a relatively inexperienced 1st Lent VIII, which included two novices – an indication of their talent, were unable to retain the Headship falling initially to Jesus and subsequently to Emmanuel who later took the Headship, and Newnham. The 2nd and 3rd VIII's both managed to hold onto their own Headships despite neither seeing any bumps, illustrating the tough positions both were defending.

After the end of term all action took place on the Thames. A provisional May VIII finished 55th in the HOR Eights, thereby coming 2nd in the novice category in a race which now has over 200 entries nationwide. Further upstream in the Varsity Races at Henley, Anna Moore racing at 6 in the Blue boat enjoyed a victory over Oxford.

The Mays followed the story line of the Lents, all crews again in high positions while crowning greenery continued to prove elusive. The 1st VIII although coming 2nd behind Emmanuel in the Cam Head earlier in the term, fell two places in the Mays from 2nd to 4th position, rowing over on the two final days. The 2nd VIII have spoons to add to their trophy cabinet while the 3rd VIII, the "Grad VIII Oars" (pun intended) rowed well above themselves having only noviced in March. Thanks to Tasmin Terry for being the pioneering force behind the women's graduate VIII which has been a welcome addition to the Boat Club.

The last racing of the year took place at the end of May week when the 1st VIII returned to Henley, greeted by sun rather than the rain and floods of the Lents training camp. By popular demand we returned for more Juniper hospitality, but only stayed one night after being put out by LEH the eventual winners. May Colours are awarded to: Anna Moore, Colette Curran, Fiona McIlwham, Gemma Watts, Fiona Stewart, Sarah Tidswell, Sam Davies, Lindi Ngwenya and Simon Lacey.

Finally I would just like to say many thanks to the rest of the team, Fiona McIlwham (Vice-Captain) and Simon Price (Lower Boats Captain) for their continued enthusiasm and commitment, and of course to Roger Silk for all his help and advice. Best of luck to next years officials: Alison Russell (Captain), Sam Davies (Vice Captain) and Simon Lacey (Lower Boats Captain).

Sarah Tidswell, Captain

Rugby

'They were born for immortality' said William Wordsworth of the renowned 1790 College 1st XV. This season those words have echoed through the centuries to so nearly apply to the current crop of *Garçons Rouges*. In the event, immortality proved just one game, six graduate Blues and eighty minutes of rolling mauls too far, for what was universally agreed to be the finest undergraduates XV in the University. Although the Cuppers final was lost narrowly to the wise old men of St. Edmund's, it was the Red Boys who provided all the flair and festivity, both on and off the pitch, characteristic of Cambridge University Rugby.

Unbeaten league champions, amassing nearly three hundred points in eight games whilst conceding only thirty, the side was brimming with precocious talent throughout. This fact was reflected in the three University Under 21 colours for Ady Spencer, Russell Earnshaw and James Rutter, with Jamie Griffith, warming the bench, and all four also appeared for the Blues and LX club. Tom Dower achieved his perennial LX club colour, and will leave the University as the nicest second never to have earned a Blue. Al 'Golden Boy' Kennedy's meteoric rise to the Blues surprised all but his faithful Red

and White supporters, and it is a reflection of the club's strength that we are once more represented in the higher echelons of the University club. An indication of our league superiority was provided with our 50-0 drubbing of the eventual league runners-up, Anglia Polytechnic University, and it was form like this which resulted in the most successful season since Rob Andrew graced our pitches.

The depth of talent within the club was reflected in the performance of 'The Infamous Second XV', admirably led by Tom Stokes. The highest placed 2nd XV in the league, they capped a wonderful season with a fine victory over Anglia in the Cuppers final, and will hopefully provide the backbone of the 1st XV for the next few years.

St John's remains the only college able to field a third team, enabling boaties and soccer players to have the chance to experience a real man's game. Although victory can only be dreamt of, they did actually manage to score a try this year.

It is encouraging to see St John's once more at the pinnacle of Cambridge rugby, despite an at best ambivalent attitude from the college authorities. Whilst the club may have its faults, it continues to be the flag for college sport in the University, engendering a sense of college pride and contributing to the healthy community atmosphere within St. John's, factors which are unfortunately seldom recognised.

I would like to thank my vice captain Ed Harrison, Andy Sankey, Tom Dower and Al Kennedy for their help throughout the season, and offer special thanks to my untiring club secretary N.J.K. Danvers. Once again our pitches were among the best kept in Cambridge, for which gratitude goes to Jim and his staff. Finally, I would like to wish the best of luck and continued success to next season's club officials: Mark Sperotto (Captain), Nick Studer (Vice-Captain) and Tom Stokes (Secretary), and to end where I began, with Wordsworth; 'Art thou a Man of Red cheer, a rosy man, right plump to see?' To which one can but answer a resounding yea.

James Rutter, Captain

Men's Lawn Tennis

The 1994 Season has seen St John's Men's Lawn Tennis Club travel unrivalled on a wave of success and sheer domination. The 1st team won the **League Championship** in style, not losing a single fixture, in fact without even breaking into a sweat. The flair and power were provided by the doubles pairing of Mark Sperotto and Al 'partner' Kennedy, with the latter again benefiting from rigorous pre-season training abroad (nice tan anyway Al!), and the former improving through the season with every double fault. The backbone of the side was the pairing of Eddy 'steady' Fitzherbert and Andy 'shorts' Millar who remained unbeaten as a pair, with 'steady' also securing a couple of priceless victories to boot. Our Gallic import, Anthony 'Ooh Eeh' Claverie displayed a certain je ne sais quoi when on court, while his partner, Xavier 'the wall' Echevarria, proved as insuperable as ever whittling down opponents with hour long rallies.

The 2nd team were forcefully (which they probably needed to be) led by Matt Arlidge, and managed to destroy a number of 1st teams on their way to securing promotion to the Second Division (now the only 2nd team in that Division). Matt's solid serve and volley game was ideally suited to the task of finding people to make up his team 5 minutes before each fixture. Strong hopefuls for the future include Luke Gompels and Steve Loffler as well as the rookie captain himself. Ady 'b-league' Spencer and Will 'hot tuna' Thomas deserve a mention simply for being themselves... Oh, and winning a match. Many thanks to all those who played in either team and I hope next year will be just as successful.

Mark Sperotto, Captain

Women's Lawn Tennis

1994 has been a successful year for St John's women's tennis, with the 1st team winning the league and claiming the Cuppers title, and the 2nd team putting in a solid performance.

In the capable hands of Carrie Allison (captain), the 2nd team fared well in the 2nd division against other college 1st teams,

emerging with a handful of wins, draws and losses. This not only meant that they remain the best college 2nd team in the University, they also retain their place in the division for next season. Carrie Allison, Helena Scott, Esther Conkey, Juliette Leverment and Rosie Lang are to be congratulated for this achievement.

The 1st team are undefeated this year. Having won three and drawn three league matches, John's is back where it should be, at the top of the first division. The early rounds of the Cuppers were easily won with a particularly satisfactory 6-0 victory over Jesus in the quarter-finals. Unfortunately, the later rounds were never played, so we won the tournament by virtue of no one else making it to the semi-finals.

Despite this, we would almost certainly have clinched the title considering the strength of this year's team: Helen Watson (Blues team), Lindsay Chalmers (2nd team University colours x2), Jennie Rayson (who only missed out on University honours due to a shoulder injury), Anne Martin (last year's captain), Ali Hardie (next year's captain), Tina Weatherhead and Sally Holt. All the above have been awarded college colours for their efforts as well as Carrie for her hard work and good tennis. Best of luck to Ali for next year, to Jennie in the University trials, and thanks to Jim for providing us with excellent courts to play on.

Sally E.W. Holt

Table Tennis

The Table Tennis Club fielded just 3 teams for the league, and disappointly only half a team for Cuppers.

Superb regular performances were posted by all of John's 1 (Matt Bayfield, Gary Chen and Greg Fisher), resulting in promotion to Division 1 next season, after finishing in joint first place.

John's 2 in Division 3 faced some tough opposition, but outstanding performances by Talib Ali, Luke Chua, Chris Metcalfe and Steve Munro over both terms earned them joint first place and promotion to Division 2.

John's 3 had the misfortune to play two different Girton teams away both times, but great commitment and form from Mike Thomas and Huw Wallis, plus regular performances by Rob Giddings, Esther Conkey and Elissa Johnson ensured a good overall season with the team finishing in fourth position.

Congratulations to all who have participated this season, and hopefully the club will go from strength to strength and be able to field more teams on a regular basis, and perhaps one day even win Cuppers!

My thanks to all players for a great season and for making my job sometimes hassle-free!

Elissa Johnson, President



MR. GOLIGHTLY IS MADE A MEMBER OF THE MUTTON
CUTLET CLUB.

College Sport

Women's Badminton

The Women's Badminton Club had a very good year. After the Michaelmas term, they were promoted into the first division having conceded very few games. In Lent term, they made the semi-final of Cuppers only to be knocked out by a very strong St Catharine's, although it was a close thing ! Let's hope that next year will be just as successful!

College colours were awarded to: Lindsay Chalmers, Suj Sivadisan, Rachel Paten, Carrie Allison and Sally Mayhew.

Rosemary Clarke, Captain.

Basketball

The 1994/95 basketball season saw major breaks with club history for the St John's All Stars. With only one of last year's first team starting five still remaining in the ranks, doubts about our chances this season were spreading. However, by the end of the Fresher's Fair, we had over 70 young hopefuls willingly signed up for the chance to represent their College in the gruelling intercollegiate league that we have dominated for so long. Almost 30 turned out to the trials, and between 3 and 4 of them stayed with us for the whole season. With such an overwhelming influx of raw talent, the club looked towards the new season with an air of confidence and a feeling of unity only ever before experienced in the showers by the Red Boys - a feeling only strengthened by the arrival of our Chaplain onto the practice courts.

We again managed to field two teams this year, and the season started on a high note with rumours that Michael Jordan was considering coming out of retirement. The seconds, plagued by dodgy refereeing, lost every match in their first term, but undaunted, looked towards Lent term for redemption. The firsts, unlucky to lose their

opening match, fulfilled their potential by winning the next two before a heart-wrenchingly narrow defeat at the hands of Anglia. Many blamed the disallowing of a three pointer, shot seconds from time, but all in all, the better team probably won (68-6). From then on, the season never looked the same again.

Lent term saw both teams looking to improve their record, impossible though it seemed. The firsts were skilfully captained to 4 straight defeats, all lost in the final minutes by no more than a few points, leaving us dangerously close to relegation - unheard of in these parts with our recent record. The seconds, boosted by the bold decision to appoint a second team captain (The Dunkmaster Vykopal) were led to victory in their eleventh and final game of the season over Fitz II, the only other second team in the league. It was obvious to all that Darwin had deliberately had their match against the seconds cancelled (some excuse about Varsity games) in order that we did not ruin their unblemished record of steamrolling every team in the second division by 40 points. Still, with no lower division than the second, we can rest assured that both teams will not be relegated this season.

St John's fielded an all-female women's team this year to enter the first ever Cambridge University Women's Cuppers competition, and after four weeks intensive training provided by our very own blues star, Beatriz San Martin, we were genuinely robbed (by 1 point in the last 5 seconds of time) of a semi-final place. Hopefully, next year's club captain will again be charismatic enough to attract as many women to play.

The Basketball Club is actually really quite good, and believe it or not, we were unlucky to have performed so consistently badly - perhaps next year more than 6 out of our 25 or so members will regularly turn up to practices, boosted by the recent appearance (as yet without baskets) of our new, very long awaited outdoor practice courts. Thanks must go to the club secretary Peter Clarke for doing everything that a captain should, organising big nights out, and of course for the regular Basketball Newsletter that has turned more into an art form than a broadsheet. Also our deepest gratitude must be offered to His Airness for coming out of retirement. We now have Cuppers to face this term, and though many may think

our fate a foregone conclusion, last year's *Eagle* report says that we have every chance of winning ... Yeah, right !

Jaideep Barot, Captain.

Men's Football

Having collapsed after Christmas last year, the 1st XI was hoping for an influx of ability from the first year to avoid a repeat. It may as well not have bothered. Once again, John's found themselves atop the League and in the quarter-finals in Cuppers at the end of the Michaelmas term, only to drop out of contention from both over the ensuing couple of months.

However, that is not to say we did not gain any first year players. On the contrary, those to arrive were rather too good. Richard Millar followed his rugged brother into the Blues team and Dan Echevarria spent so much time playing for the Falcons that on his return to College football he only had sufficient energy to miss crucial penalties. Apparently, Dan is never going to take another penalty; that is a very wise decision, but in view of his recent record (0 from 3), a somewhat unnecessary one.

Unsurprisingly, our exit from Cuppers was effected by our failure in a penalty shoot-out. Having pulled back from 3-1 down to equalise in the last minute, it seemed that the gods were smiling on John's at Jesus. However, what had seemed to be a smile was in fact a malevolent grin, followed up with a painful kick to the nether regions. Two opportunities to win the game with penalties were squandered and even the captain's example in hitting the net for the first time in three seasons was in vain. Girton, our vanquishers, went on to win the competition, but that is little consolation.

The League season was made especially difficult by the number of injuries we gained. Although some of these were the result of training-ground clashes with our own Sam Keayes, the volume of injuries does reflect the dangers inherent in improperly supervised College sports between grown men. I remain amazed that there are not more serious incidents; I fear that it will require a truly serious incident to occur, however, before the League demands outside

referees from the Leagues around Cambridge. Whilst games are presided over by College members who referee because they cannot make their College sides and have trouble locating their backside with both hands, the element of danger will remain.

The 2nd and 3rd XIs have both reached safety in their respective divisions, an achievement of which they can be justly proud. Russell Lethbridge and Carlos Pena have shown admirable enthusiasm for the game, if not necessarily the 'beautiful game'. As is becoming traditional, the third team avoided the drop in the final game of the season; as ever, they remain confident of a resurgence next season. The 2nd XI will be led by David Lee and the 3rd XI by Richard Conway.

It remains for me to congratulate Richard Millar, Andy Millar and Phil Collins (Captain) on their appearances for the Blues. I would like to thank Jim Williams for his unceasing enthusiasm for the football club, John Waring for his unintelligible advice and help, Dan Garrod for his tireless efforts to sell the club jumpers whilst not playing water polo, and finally John Ratledge for use of his telephone and an opportunity to see the seedier side of life. Next year's officials are Phil Makinson (Treasurer), Andy Gregory (Secretary), John Ratledge ((Dis)organiser) and Dan Garrod (Captain). I wish them joy of it...

Robin Mann, Captain.

Men's Hockey

Yet again the club has basked in the glory of success and has been the envy of those struggling with penalty shoot outs and other pitfalls. On the crest of a wave after last year's success and with the Blues' Captain Tom McCarthy a proud member, the club has benefited from the feel good factor this year.

Although the outlawing of zimmer frames meant we were without the experience of some of the old school veterans, the club talent scouts had much luck over the summer, bringing in a crop of new 'nogs'. Oscar Stewart, whose skills were much in demand, arousing the interest of the Football Club poachers, consistently ran rings

around defenders, while James Samworth, with his lightening strike, gave goal keepers plenty of practice at picking balls out of the back of their nets. Felix Polonious, our international import, did his best to keep the umpires in line, until, suffering from a broken wing, he had to provide analysis of their decisions from the side line. To complement our new intake we welcomed back D. Miller, who did his best to give new meaning to the words 'high energy'.

Having filled all available vacancies, and with seasoned campaigner J. Bentall in good form despite his advanced years, we were ready for action. Once more the Cuppers tournament was seeded, but unfortunately this left us facing the strongest teams in the draw. Despite being younger and less experienced this year, the dream team rose to the challenge, setting course for an historic 5th successive Cuppers championship.

A confident 'green army' from Girton tested our mettle in the first round, but they were pipped at the post by a last minute strike from E. Fitzherbert. On a roll, and with a veritable display of flair with stick and ball, we then progressed steadily to the final, seeing off Emma (2-0), St Catharine's (3-1), and Caius (3-0) on the way.

This left Corpus Christi as our adversaries in the final, our last hurdle on the way to an unprecedented 5th successive victory. With the venue away from the home of hockey, we had an overwhelming lack of support, doubled in size by an entourage of vocal bench warmers. The going was good, and despite an early breakaway goal from the challengers, a concerted counter attack produced the goods, and a brace for the exceedingly good Cake. A resilient Corpus managed to absorb considerable pressure, and clinched a well deserved goal, but there is no substitute for class, and we held on for a glorious 3-2 victory. The trophy remains where it belongs.

Despite our 5 in a row Cuppers run, the League continues to be our nemesis. Although a strong and capable League side, as demonstrated by an impressive 4-0 defeat of the eventual League winners St Catharine's, we seem to fall foul of some of the weaker teams faced.

Overall it has been another great season and with the women's team winning their Cuppers tournament we have had the double. The Hockey Club's dominance of the decade seems to continue.

Many thanks to Jim Williams, keeper of the home of hockey for maintaining a playable surface and working to an erratic schedule. Congratulations to R.Q. Cake on gaining his Blue again and to T. McCarthy for captaining the Blues through turbulent injury prone times. A big thank you to T. Beaumont, this year's secretary, for keeping us organised and good luck as next year's Captain. Long may our success continue.

God bless the Hockey Club.

Adam Knight

Women's Hockey

Continuing the tradition of many previous years, St John's College Womens' Hockey Club enjoyed a highly successful year, with the first XI winning both the League and Cuppers competitions in considerable style. This was in no small part due to an influx of keen Freshers - Sophie Dixon provided pace up front whenever she could be persuaded away from the rugby pitch and Sarah Crowther was strong in both defence and attack whenever she could be persuaded away from team teas with the Blues. Thanks must also go to Jenny 'I am NOT a fresher' Rayson who was persuaded to play at mid-field this year.

The Cuppers competition, as usual, did not provide much of a challenge until the semi-finals. In the early rounds we defeated Trinity, Magdalene and Selwyn (with no complaints this year!) 6-1, 2-1 and 5-1 respectively. In a repeat of last year, the semi-final against Queens' went to extra-time where we eventually won 2-1. Due to the inadequacies of the captain and secretary, the final was scheduled for the day after the hockey dinner. However, thanks to the return of the veteran Andi Grant and to the deceptive alcoholic haze separating us from our opponents, we beat Emma 3-0. So we held on to the elusive Cuppers trophy for the second year running.

The League produced its usual tally of high-scoring games, including an unbelievable 9-0 win over Girton. Congratulations and thanks to our super scorer Justine Curgenven on a stunning 28 goals throughout the season. Thanks also to Sarah Hall for once more being bullied into goal and for letting in only 4 goals in the League competition. The League title was won by a huge lead of five points and so for the first time in four years we had 'the double' and were Cuppers and League Champions.

Colours were awarded to Sarah Hall, Harriet Dunkerley, Kate Higgs, Sarah Crowther, Harriet Winkleman, Jane Pitt, Justine Curgenven, Jennie Rayson, Caroline Scott, Esther Conkey, Sophie Dixon, Colette Curran and Ali Hardie. Thanks to everyone for playing and a fond farewell to Gib-Nag, Dip-Nag, Wit-Nag and Fan-Nag who are leaving this year.

Thanks to Ali Hardie for being secretary this year and thanks to Esther Conkey and Rose Clarke for captaining the highly successful second XI. Good luck to next year's captain Sally Holt and secretary Sarah Crowther. Let's keep the Cuppers trophy and League title at the home of Hockey. God bless the Hockey Club!

Jane Pitt, Captain

LMBC Men 1994-95

Henley Royal Regatta 1994

The strength of the Club last year was reflected in the fact that, for the first time for a long while, Lady Margaret entered two crews into the Regatta. Both crews were virtually unaltered from the Mays crews. The 1st Boat went straight into the Temple Challenge Cup but the 2nds were asked to race in the qualifying races on the Friday before. In the event, the 2nds put in a spirited row although unfortunately they narrowly missed a place in the Regatta proper. However, the following week the 1st Boat continued the recent spate of Henley successes in their victory over Brookes School in the first round. However, the second round saw them confronted by Trinity College Dublin. In an exciting race, TCD proved to be too quick and in fact went on to lose in the Final of the Temple.

First Boat

Bow	John Melia
2	Tim Gray
3	Carl Seymour
4	Andy Oldfield
5	Zac Peake
6	Pete Mallin-Jones
7	Phil Clatworthy
Str	Rory Clarke
Cox	Karina Prestt

Michaelmas Term 1994

The new year presented a real challenge from the start as a considerable number of senior oarsmen had left. A limited influx of experienced blood partly alleviated some of the losses but the senior club definitely began the year thin on the ground. Our new faces filled seats in the Light Four but thereafter numbers dictated that LMBC only fielded a Light Four and a Shell Four in the University Fours.

The Light Four came together well and began to look like a serious contender. It raced in the Autumn Head, recording a win in Senior II. In the University Fours the first round produced a beatable Pembroke Four. Frustratingly, Pembroke crashed on the way to the start and eventually lost the race by default. In the second round, we drew the favourites Downing. In the event, Downing showed a greater turn of speed and went on to win the event.

The Shell Four comprised less experienced faces who trained well over the first half of term. However, in a competitive Shell event, they were simply out-powered in the University Fours by a 1st and 3rd crew.

In the latter part of term, the lack of experienced oarsmen at the top of the Club was again felt with only one senior Fairbairns VIII put out. A relatively inexperienced crew worked hard and enthusiastically, producing a good row on the day. Given the lack of

experience, a mid-placing amongst the College 1st Boats was a satisfactory result.

However, in part making up for the limited numbers of senior oarsmen, the Michaelmas term also produced a superb set of Novices. Freed from Bridgework restrictions on Novicing, four Novice VIIIs were fielded. All four were of a very high standard and in the Novice Fairbairns the 1st crew came 3rd in a very competitive year.

As ever the Four Desserts, the Bonfire Party and the Fairbairns dinner were a great success although perhaps a bit too successful in the eyes of the Dean.

The Lents

Again LMBC was well represented in the victorious University crews. Dirk Bangert gained his third Blue and Pete Mallin-Jones, initially an outsider, came close to gaining a seat in the Boat. In the end Pete had to settle for stroking Goldie (!) but will be back next year for more. Maggie also had another Lightweight this year in the shape of Matt Raynham who rowed at 4 in a successful crew.

Back on the Cam LMBC was still feeling the effects of last year's loss of experience. The Lent VIII saw the return of one of our injured schoolboys, Alistair Cook, who moved into the stroke seat. We began the term with a training week in Cambridge and things appeared to be going well. Unfortunately, an early injury struck the crew as Todd Bode, one of this year's new faces, was put out by tendonitis so Rob Ranson came into the crew for the Bumps. Unfortunately, this and other injuries which plagued the Lent VIII left the crew little time to settle before the Bumps. We fell three, rowing over ahead of Jesus on the second day.

Lower down the divisions, the lack of old hands was reflected in lower boats full of the previous term's Novices. Despite the enthusiasm and quick learning of many of these crews, successes in previous years' Bumps had left ladder positions which were very high and the general trend was inevitably downwards.

1st Lent VIII

Bow	Tom Cairns
2	Eric Ho
3	Nick Pye
4	Nick Hardy
5	Mark Hambly
6	Rob Ranson
7	Andrew Jones
Str	Alistair Cook
Cox	Helen Clarke

The Mays

The summer term began with a training camp in Cambridge which was later to prove its worth for the lower Bumps crew. The First Boat saw the return of our full complement of Blues along with some old hands Charles Woodburn, Carl Seymour and Phil Clatworthy.

From the start the First Boat settled into a pattern of solid training and commitment. Despite several weeks absence by Pete Mallin-Jones who suffered a back injury, the crew who arrived at the bottom on the Wednesday of the Bumps was looking full of bumping potential. The Bumps turned out to be four days of frustrating near misses. Nerves on the Wednesday let Downing keep on station until Ditton when we gathered our rhythm and began to wind them - reaching about two thirds of a length at the Pike and Eel. The following night we spent much of the course a canvas off Downing's stern as we did again on Saturday night. Despite several very gutsy rows, we could never quite rattle Downing enough to make the Bump and they managed to hang on to the finish.

Above us nothing happened at all with the top four crews closely packed at the top of the division and well ahead of the rest of the field. Trinity Hall remained ahead although less convincing than in previous years.

The second and third boats both finally revealed the true value of this year's Novices with a second boat which retained the second boat headship comfortably at the top of the second division.

Interest in the Club remains high, particularly at the lower end with this year's Novices. Unfortunately, we lacked both a Fellows and a Grad crew this year and exam stress seemed to dissipate the usual Gents Boats so we were reduced to five May Vllls. Next year promises better things in the earlier part of the year as this year's Novices come through. Hopefully the increasing pressure of academic work won't scare away too many experienced oarsmen through the year and LMBC can reap some of the rewards of its greatest asset: being a superb training ground for new talent.

Bow	Phil Clatworthy
2	Andrew Jones
3	Charles Woodburn
4	Pete Mallin-Jones
5	Carl Seymour
6	Dirk Bangert
7	Mark Hambly
Str	Matt Raynham
Cox	Helen Clarke

Andrew Jones, Captain 1994-95

LMBC Women 1994-95

During the first part of the year, the Senior Club suffered somewhat from a lack of committed oarswomen. Many people found the pressure of work and other activities too great to dedicate the time necessary for competitive rowing. Despite this, we managed to achieve some pleasing results. We were also fortunate to have an influx of talented and enthusiastic Novices to the Club. In the latter part of the year things picked up considerably with the return of senior rowers and the continued improvement of this year's Novices.

The Michaelmas term is primarily a Novice Term, and LMBC was very lucky to have an intake of keen freshers. Two Novice boats rowed in both the Novice Fairbairns Cup and the Clare Novice Regatta. The 1st Novice VIII suffered from bad luck and equipment failure in the Fairbairns and were not able to do justice to their ability and commitment. However they did manage to perfect the standing start in the course of the race. This stood them in good

stead for the first round of the Clares which they won easily, qualifying for the Cup competition. Unfortunately, they were put out in the 2nd round by a New Hall crew who should have been disqualified after clashing blades. The 2nd VIII acquitted themselves extremely well in the Fairbairns, rowing an excellent race and finishing 22nd overall, the 2nd fastest 2nd boat. They qualified for the Plate competition in the Clare Novices and had three very good wins before being overpowered by Girton's 2nd VIII in the semi-finals.

In the Senior Club, two IVs trained for the University IVs competition. The 1st IV - Sam Davies, Colette Curran, Kate Higgs, Alison Russell and Simon Lacey - had a good row in the Cam Head. In the University IVs, they rowed very well, beating both Downing and Jesus on the way to the finals. Unfortunately, a Trinity 3rd IV containing three CUWBC squad members proved to be too much for them and they finished as runners up. The 2nd IV - Rachel Patten, Helen Turnbull, Vicky Forwood, Sarah Hill and George Kiraz also had some good rows in the 2nd division of the IVs. They managed to reach the semi-finals before being beaten by Pembroke.

Two Maggie crews competed in the Fairbairns Cup - the 1st IV stayed together and rowed in the Senior IVs division, while an enthusiastic Grad VIII entered the Senior VIII. The IV had a reasonable race in the Winter Head. However, their best race came in the Fairbairns which they won by three seconds from Churchill, taking the Senior IVs Shield. The Grad VIII rowed a gutsy race, finishing 28th overall. A special mention must go to Tamsin Terry, the driving force behind the Grad crew.

The Lent term began well, with a training camp on the Cam which was aided by a very generous grant from the Old Johnian Henley Fund. This enabled the squad of thirteen oarswomen to use the facilities at Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall and Parkside Pool for land training. The camp was successful both in improving rowing skills and raising enthusiasm.

Two senior Lent VIIIs were selected, both crews being dominated by the previous term's Novices. Unfortunately, both crews suffered

from crew changes and illnesses throughout the term which made it difficult to achieve consistency. The 1st VIII was :-

Str	Sam Davies
7	Helen Turnbull
6	Suzie Hodgkinson
5	Rachel Harker
4	Kate Higgs
3	Helen Garnons-Williams
2	Clare Northcott
Bow	Liz Sywyj
Cox	Jon Lloyd

They had a few good performances in the Pembroke Regatta, reaching the quarter finals where they were put out by Catz 1st VIII.

In the Lent Bumps, the 1st VIII began in 4th place, a very difficult position for such an inexperienced crew to defend. On the first day they went down to a fast Queens' crew which proceeded to make its way up the division. However, the commitment of the Maggie crew paid off in the next two days, when they produced two good row overs. The 2nd row over was particularly impressive as they managed to push away from New Hall who had overlapped on them early on in the race. Sadly, on the last day of the Bumps, the determined New Hall crew, being chased by Catz, caught them on Ditton Corner. The 1st VIII also competed in the Women's Head of the River Race, finishing 94th amongst some very fast and experienced crews.

The 2nd Lent VIII which finally rowed in the bumps was :-

Str	Sarah White
7	Hilary Crowther
6	Lucy Milton
5	Julie Glanville
4	Sarah Thomas
3	Amelia Torode
2	Sarah Power
Bow	Nicole Armstrong
Cox	Joasia Zakrzewski

None of the crew had rowed in Bumps before. On the first day they were blown out by the wind at the start and ended up on the bank after about 5 strokes. Robinson 1st VIII had a similar accident, were over-bumped, and ended up chasing Maggie on the 2nd day. The 2nd VIII made it to First Post Corner before being bumped. On the third day, after a blade coming adrift from a gate, they were bumped again by Jesus II and on the last day they decided to go for spoons, allowing Wolfson to bump them on First Post Corner. Despite their misfortune, the 2nd VIII remained enthusiastic and determined throughout and many of them greatly improved over the term.

LMBC had one oarswoman in the CUWBC squad. Gemma Watts rowed at 7 in the Blondie crew which had a fine win over Oxford in the Women's Boat Race. Gemma's place in the Blondie crew proved once again the strength of the Maggie tradition of producing top class oarswomen from the Novice crews. It is hoped that a number of this year's Novices will join the CUWBC development squad at the start of the summer.

The Easter term saw the return of several senior rowers which greatly strengthened the Women's Club. The term began with another training camp on the Cam. Nine oarswomen formed a squad which was the basis of the 1st May VIII. A week of hard rowing and land training provided a solid platform from which to build during the rest of the term.

The 1st May VIII was :-

Str	Emma Mawdsley
7	Gemma Watts
6	Suzie Hodgkinson
5	Colette Curran
4	Rachel Harker
3	Helen Turnbull
2	Sam Davies
Bow	Alison Russell
Cox	Richard Marsh.

The 2nd May VIII was:-

Str	Sarah White
7	Hilary Crowther
6	Clare Northcott
5	Carrie Allison
4	Lucy Milton
3	Julie Glanville
2	Sarah Power
Bow	Liz Sywyj
Cox	Jon Lloyd

The Grad VIII once again rowed as the 3rd boat.

The Grad VIII had a row over on the first day of the bumps then proceeded to bump on both of the next two days. On the final day they were awarded a technical bump against Magdalene II and so moved up three places in total. The 2nd VIII also had a very successful week. On the first day they had a good row over which they followed up on Thursday with a bump against Robinson I and a second bump on Friday against Kings I. On the final day they rowed over again behind Jesus II who they will be chasing next year for the 2nd boat Headship.

The 1st VIII began the week in 4th position on the river and set out with hopes of regaining the Headship. Unfortunately, they weren't quite able to catch Newnham, rowing over behind them on the first two days and getting to within a canvas of them on both occasions. On the third day these two hard races took their toll, and with Newnham bumping out ahead of them they were caught by a strong Pembroke crew in the Long Reach. On the final day they rowed over again behind Pembroke, taking half a length off them. Next year they will be chasing the Headship again, and hopefully, as many of this year's crew will still be here, they will have a good chance of success.

All that remains is for me to thank all the coaches who have put so much time and effort into the Club throughout the year, especially to Roger Silk. Thanks also to my fellow officers, Sam Davies (Vice Captain) and Simon Lacey (Lower Boats Captain), for all their help. And best of luck to the new officers - Julia Maguire (Captain), Rachel Harker (Vice-Captain), and Simon Rees (Lower Boats

Captain). A final word of thanks goes to the Old Johnian Henley Fund for their continued support of Lady Margaret rowing, and especially for their very generous contribution of a new set of cleaver blades to the Women's Boat Club, from which everyone in the Club has benefited.

Alison Russell (Women's Captain)

Netball

The season got off to a slow start, hampered by the state of the courts - in short, a pile of rubble! Trials never actually took place, but with a sound basis of last year's players, an influx of keen first years and a discovery from the 1994 mixed Cuppers fifth team, two strong teams were put together. The first team was just pipped to the post in the League, beating everyone except the eventual winners, Selwyn. The presence of an England U21 player and assorted Blues could only give them a 13-12 victory. The second team also performed well, losing only two matches in their division.

Cuppers, as always, coincided with other commitments for such a sportingly talented bunch. A depleted first team was knocked out by Queens' in the quarter finals. The second team were at an obvious disadvantage in first team Cuppers, but played well and enjoyed their day.

College colours have been awarded this year to Jill Cameron, Carrie Allison, Sally Mayhew, Caroline Scott, Justine Curgenvin, Harriet Dunkerley, Clare Northcott, Susie Hodgkinson and Zanna Storey. Congratulations to Jill on her University second team Colour and good luck to her as Captain next year, with Clare as secretary.

Mixed netball this season was as successful as ever, and after the delayed start, John's proved once again to be a hotbed of world-class talent. For the first time, mixed netball had its own league with regular matches against the other Colleges. Inevitably though, when John's found their rhythm, they simply swept aside the rather village opposition with their stylish, elegant and powerful play. With the League title a certainty, only the formality of Cuppers remained.

After the first attempt at Cuppers was abandoned due to heavy rain, the second took place in equally arduous May Week conditions - glorious tropical sunshine. With two Blues players and a plenty of hoops-cum-netball talent, John's were always the favourites, delighting the crowds with dazzling plays and scorching through every time. The sun was hot, but John's was hotter. Jill's shooting, Jim's air-time, Clare's rejections, Simon's quiff, Dave's tan and George's fitness were all second to none. At the end of the day, the trophy was ours - restored to the home of netball - and everybody went home happy. With St John's established firmly at the pinnacle of mixed netball in Cambridge, the club can only go from strength to strength.

Carrie Allison, Captain.

Peter Clarke, Mixed Captain.

Rugby

A year ago, this revered publication spoke of the peerless success in all domestic competitions and the enviable depth of talent present in its formidable ranks. I am proud to report that again this season, even in the face of adversity, *Les Garçons Rouges* have not been found wanting. In fact, were it not for the cruel twist of fate dealt them by Singapore Airlines flight 48-17, the Red Boys '94-'95 would have surpassed even last year's illustrious achievements and undoubtedly secured their place in the annals of history as winners of the glorious Double.

Even though our passage to the Cuppers final was more amazing than the eventual outcome against an equally matched St Edmund's team, the quality of this year's squad was clear to see. The reputation of St John's as a hotbed breeding ground of precocious rugby talent, has resulted in a number of Red Boys being summoned to form the backbone of this year's highly successful University sides. LX colours went to Russell Earnshaw, Alistair Kennedy, James Rutter and Ady Spencer, while Charles Courtenay and Nick Studer gained University Under 21 colours. Remarkably, Ady Spencer then went on to fulfil his destiny and claim his first (and seemingly last) Rugby Union Blue, along with large parts of the broad-sheets' back pages.

Back at grass roots level the club has not rested on its laurels. A tally of close to 300 points scored, with only a pittance against, has seen the League Trophy remain undisturbed, proudly gathering dust in the College Bar for yet another year. The arrogant swagger of the red and white 1st XV was only thrown out of step once during the league campaign by an invitation team from Anglia Polytechnic, but such was the magnitude of their victories over former rugby greats, such as Downing (42-5) and St Catharine's (42-3), that retaining the title proved a simple formality.

Not wishing to be outdone on the silverware front, the inspirational Tom Tweddell led the second team to their second successive Cuppers victory and the highest divisional ranking of any 2nd XV in the University. His team have shown formidable form throughout the season, collecting a number of first team scalps and as ever competition for places has been fierce.

Just as notable has been the achievements of the St John's third team, which is still the only one in the University. In an unprecedented season, and under the leadership of Richard Brambles, they twice sampled the sweet taste of victory which had so long been denied them, as well as coming only a step away from a dream all Red Boy showdown in the Cuppers final.

Such has been the success and commitment within the Club this season that the perennial end of season tour was once again possible. From their spring head-quarters at Powderham Castle, *Les Garçons Rouges* were able to organise skills training camps for students of Bristol and Exeter Universities while still finding time to fine-tune their own off field form. As a result it was revealed that if ever their playing days come to an end, certain members of the club will be able to channel their considerable flair into car mechanics or hair-dressing without any loss of world renown.

As a whole there is still a great spirit within the Club, mainly due to its success on the pitch but thanks also to its vibrant social events which are acclaimed and enjoyed by a good proportion of the College. I sincerely hope this will always be the case.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tom Stokes, the club secretary, for all his hard work in ensuring the smooth running of

the Club and both James Rutter and Al Kennedy for their help during the season. Thanks must also go to Jim and his grounds staff for their fine preparation and maintenance of the pitches. Finally I would like to wish next year's officials, Adam Green (Captain), Nick Spence (Vice-Captain) and Tom Tweddell (Secretary), good luck in the season to come. May the success story continue!

Mark Sperotto, Captain.



Sports Reports

Basketball Club

The arrival of Michaelmas term 1995 brought new hope for St John's Basketball club. Although last year's third year: Jay Barot, Pete Clarke (aka superman), Jim Standing, Jon Lim, Hugh Perkins, Simon Meara and Bret Vykopal had to depart for NBA glory, an influx of raw talent among this year's freshers seemed promising. A combination of their natural skill, our existing basketball talent and the rigour of our intensive basketball training programme could only lead to our impending domination of the world. Or so we thought.

Our first test came in the League, where we were drawn to play the mighty Fitzwilliam with their dominating centre. Unfortunately for Fitz, they were on the receiving end of our Harlem Globetrotter-esque flair, as was reflected in our convincing 43-34 victory. It seemed as though we were on course for yet another title, but this lofty ambition was dealt a severe blow in our next encounter with Anglia. Despite a harsh physical game, we only lost by the closest of margins (57 points), an impressive improvement on last year's record. In comparison, the next match was child's play, and we inflicted a crushing 39-23 defeat upon Queen's. Things seemed to be going well (no one considers Anglia a legitimate contender anyway!). This record was not to last however, as we lost the remaining 6 games in the league, even though in 4 of these games the margin was less than 10 points. Some blame the captain for refusing to part with £20m to sign Michael Jordan from his baseball sabbatical, while others blame the secretary for lack of a proper newsletter. However, we would blame our poor performance on the cruel hand of fate.

Nonetheless, we had a chance to redeem ourselves in Cuppers. Placed in the same group as Peterhouse and Robinson, our hopes of getting through to the knockout round rested solely on beating Peterhouse, since Robinson (with 3 Blues players) were strong favourites to win our group. The game against Peterhouse turned out to be the most exciting game played this year. The 2 teams

were deadlocked for most of the game, with Peterhouse always threatening but never able to overtake John's. To the chagrin of our palpitating hearts, with 30 seconds left to go, Peterhouse managed to even the score at 36-36. How we played in what could have been our last possession would decide the result of the game, and hence who would go through to the playoffs. With time ticking away, Rupak drove past his defender with a deft fake and shot the ball. As the bench waited tensely, the ball hung on the rim for what seemed like an eternity before dropping in, giving John's a 38-36 lead with 5 seconds to play. As Peterhouse could only manage an Airball at the buzzer, John's were through to the next round, despite losing 35-52 to Robinson in our next match. Our second round match against Churchill saw us determinedly fight back from 8 points down at the first half to draw level at 30-30 with 1 minute to go. However, our hopes of condemning Churchill to the same fate as Peterhouse were thwarted when unforced errors and fatigue saw them score 4 points more and win the match 34-30.

The second team was not able to play in the League as disagreements between the University Basketball Club and Kelsey Kerridge limited colleges to one basketball team only. However, we were able to enter a second team in Cuppers. Unfortunately, despite many promises, not enough players turned up and we had to forfeit. We probably wouldn't have got through anyway, but the turnout was nevertheless disappointing. Many thanks to those players who did turn up.

We would like to thank Dr McConnel, Jim Williams and the groundsmen for all their help, especially in establishing our new outdoor court. Thanks must also go to the College Office for use of the photocopying facilities, as well as the 'massive' flood of players who showed up for practice. Lastly, we would like to show our appreciation to all the members of the club, especially those who will be leaving us this year: Andrew Wines, Steve Loffler, Bernhard Sakmann, Phil Smith, Harj Bhamra. Next year's Captain will be Rupak Chandra, we wish him all the best!

Gabriel Lim, Captain
Shash Virmani, Secretary

Cricket

The season began with the knowledge that the SJC Oval would never see the likes of Trousers and Former Captain of Cricket, Bentall, again. But with most of the old hands returning this news was not entirely disheartening. The quest for fresh talent began with a well supported pre-season session of nets at the excellent new facilities at Kelsey Kerridge. An exciting new ball bowling attack was in the offing with Mayhem and Grafton at the helm. The batting looked to have been strengthened too with the arrival of local lad, Pete 'the JCR President' Horsley. For a lot of the season however, we wondered if he would take more catches than score runs.

The first game was, as usual, against a strong side from the Gents of Suffolk. After a solid performance in the field the game 'Petered' out into a tame draw after Horsley left a straight one. After a convincing victory over the Grasshoppers, the next in line to be picked off were the mighty Stoics.

This game saw the most welcome return of Grabber to open the batting and put some experience in the *cordon de mort*. With Croppers at two and Quimmer in the gully, there was an air of expectation whenever the devastating pace of the openers, or the cunning guile of the Dark Destroyer looked to have the batsmen nibbling. The real star in the field was Bricey who made all of last year's Jonty gags worthwhile. Having been set a challenging 222 to get, the bowling was despatched to all parts of the ground by Grabber, Dark Destroyer and Aravinda who all completed fine half centuries to win the game. The turning point came when Quimmer scored his first off side runs.

A comfortable victory against the Jesters soon followed, notable for the presence of Carl Knappett who took a hat-trick – the first time in living memory that this has been done at College. This was upstaged in the first Cuppers game by Tom Grafton. The plucky triers from 'Binson eventually lost by a narrow 217 runs with the aforementioned claiming career best figures of 8-15. Anglia, our next opponents, exposed our best and worst sides in a thrilling encounter. Having looked comfortable at 123-3, our under-strength team collapsed to a meagre 134 all out. After the outstand-

ing fielding performance of the season, the Anglia Boys required four from the last over with just one wicket standing. We lost with just one ball to go.

Another career best was achieved by Croppers who scored a dashing 96 before being caught by Judas Jayarajasingam. Mayhem tormented their batsmen as well as Kitten behind the stumps with a fine array of aerosol deliveries, but both held out and the match ended in a draw.

During the exam period, our resolve was tested further by an Old Boys XI sporting triple Blue Tony Hooper. With our bowling going for Harrods prices, we were set a daunting 307 to win. We looked to our debutant, the Combined Universities Captain, Russell Cake, to finally make his mark on the College game. His true leadership quality shone as he brought out the best in the other batsmen as we plundered onwards. Aravinda scored a sparkling 121, brilliantly supported by the capricious DJ Nims. Needing six to win from the final six balls, we achieved five runs and lost two wickets in the first five. With the quickest man in College, Jamie Rutter, on strike, facing the ever-green Jim Bentall, the last ball was struck but the University winger was run out. The game was drawn with the scores tied on 306-7.

As if exhausted by this we suffered ignominious defeat at the hands of Haverford College, who had amongst their number a Pakistan first class player. Though close, it was soured by poor umpiring when Bricey threatened to win the game with the bat. For the final games a fuller strength, though not fully fit team graced the field with no less than three keepers on the side. Ice Cream and Kitten exhibited fine outfielding with Dan 'Air' Jordan taking the gloves. Defeat ensued against the Northants Amateurs, despite a PB from the Dark Destroyer. He gave up trying to trick batsman with the slower ball and just bowled them all the time.

The season ended on a high with good wins against West Norfolk and the Bill Boyes XI, separated by a fine cricket dinner which resulted in Bricey having a fight with a hedge in New Hall, and Pete Horsley being appointed next year's Captain. Best of luck to him next year. Many thanks are due to Jim Williams, the groundsman, and his family who have provided excellent playing surfaces all year

and never grumbled that we had too many home fixtures. The teas and lunches were magnificent with Quimmer being a fine potato administrator and Secretary. All that remains is for me to thank all those who have played for the team this year and have stood in at short notice. It has been a pleasure to captain.

Deepak Bhadri
Captain

Men's Football

A more usual season's performance at John's would consist of the 1st XI dazzling all opposition in the Michaelmas term, leaving teams quaking in their wake. The Christmas vacation would see the team strongly dominating the upper echelons of the first division and set the players dreaming of finally doing the double. Upon return in the New Year things somehow had a habit of going pear-shaped as the team would be robbed in the last few minutes to slip out of the title contention.

This year the team took a somewhat more unorthodox approach to title defeat. Although pre-season trials produced an impressive intake of new talent and formidable friendly results against Trinity, Magdalene and Fitz the initial optimism was quickly extinguished at the hands of newly promoted Christ's and the relative minnows of Tit Hall. It was at this point that the Captain began to wonder whether the crack striking force of golden boy Gould and fortress Gates was bottling under the big game pressure. Was our Christmas tree formation heading for the chop?

It was hoped that considered experimentation with new formations would stop the rot. Initial changes looked promising with two confident victories and an unlucky draw in the next three games. Despite the huge confidence blow of losing their Captain to injury, the team strung together some flowing moves to net a record eight goals against Anglia. Somehow in that game Pretty Boy Hunt managed to get a hat-trick with his only three touches in the whole game.

With these results a certain sense of Joy emerged amongst the ranks. As such it was not with uncharacteristic confidence that we entered

the Cuppers Second Round to face our old adversary the whimpering Trinity. On paper our line up appeared impressive with two and a half blues, one horse, a rat and a lump of mouldy cheese. Unfortunately to quote some old clichés football is a funny old game and played on grass not paper. Trinity played some intelligent football and for once the mercurial Miller failed to perform. A few defensive errors permitted Trinity to enter the next round and eventually win the competition.

This humbling defeat was the catalyst for a series of disappointing results that would, to everyone's surprise, see the mighty John's enter the vicious relegation dogfight. It is often said that adversity brings out the best in people and this certainly proved true in the final three exciting matches of the season. At times the team displayed the grace and skill of champions yet this is small consolation for a team that finished disappointingly mid-table. Still, much young talent is lurking in the wings and with a few bargain transfers in the off season the possibility of lifting a trophy or two next year does not appear unlikely.

The 2nd and 3rd XI's enjoyed equally exhilarating seasons flirting with the possibility of promotion and relegation respectively yet finishing equally fruitless. Despite his tender years Dave Lee coped admirably with his position of responsibility as Captain of the 2nds and to say that Nick Jacob, as the thirds skipper, gave the game his all would not be untrue. Next year's appointed replacements are Tom Brick and Tom Kay-Shuttleworth respectively.

It remains for me to congratulate Richard Miller and the Dan 'the Iberian supersub' Echevarria on their appearances in the Varsity Match. However with respect to the latter this achievement arguably ranked second in the day's highlights. I would like to thank Jim Williams for his dedication to the cause and Andrew Gregory (Secretary) and Phil Makinson (Treasurer) for their untiring support. John Ratledge as ever exposed the team to the dirtier side of life. Next year's officials are Malcolm Gates (Treasurer), Julian Gould (Secretary) and Duncan grimacing Hancox (Captain) to whom I wish the very best of success.

Daniel Garrod
Captain

Men's Hockey

1995-6 marked the end of an era for SJCHC: despite the strength of the squad and the excellent hockey played we managed to win neither the League nor Cuppers for the first time in 6 years. More traumatic in the long term is the departure of Grips McCarthy and the evergreen Cake, who is off to improve his long-jump skills. Their like shall not be seen again.

After the disappointment of losing in Cuppers to lowly Clare after dominating the game, the League team duly saved Johnian honour by destroying all comers in the New Year. Every match of a fixture-laden term was won; the most satisfying being two 9-0 victories, a 4-1 triumph over old rivals St Catharine's, and a 5-1 demolition of Cuppers impostors Emmanuel. Our eventual League record was an unprecedented P11 W9 D2 L0 F53 A5. However we skilfully failed to win the League by the novel device of surrendering an umpiring point. As flies to wanton boys... We compensated for all this by causing a blip in the U21's Varsity match preparations by beating them 4-2, despite missing our regular midfield maestro Deepak Bhadri, he of the match stick knees. Fortunately the rather splendid Cake was available in his stead.

The Dark Destroyer made up for his absence in this game by providing inspirational creativity during the season. Although usually stationary, and possessed of an unenviable ability to hit the woodwork, he was the pivot around which the team played once the unbelievers were convinced this was the true path. Chief amongst these heretics were those he seldom passed to (of which there was at least one notable example) and the prolific forward line. Of these, George Taylor was convinced that he was able literally to run through people and thus find himself near the goal, whilst flying winger Oscar Stewart remained fixated by the happy impression that he could run around anyone, anytime, and in whichever direction he happened to choose. Frustratingly both were correct in their assumptions most of the time. However the golden stick was easily won by the last of the trio, the unfailingly enthusiastic Quimmer, who obstinately refused to cease in his quest to score from every square inch of the opposition D.

Our dominant midfield featured as its main personality Felix Polonius, who played with a passion rivalled only by his commitment to Borussia

Dortmund. Experience has lent his hockey a subtlety that allows his style to be now classified as a 'physical approach to the game', and he has accordingly had a more harmonious relationship with umpires this season. Meanwhile new boy Will Mayes managed to outpace all opposition, even when wearing his aerodynamically inferior cap. Another face for the future is the redoubtable Colin Johnston, who together with veteran campaigner Steve Griffiths withstood attack so successfully that Shalabh Bajjal was left to act as a third left wing. Sadly this allowed our imposing goalkeeper Nigel Edwards to make just one, albeit memorable, save. He made up for this by his outstanding rally driving along the A68 in blizzard conditions during a lottery of a tour to Edinburgh. This thrilling adventure was marked by the disappearance of half the team, the express quaffing ability of George Taylor and The Greatest Goal Ever Scored, only in part due to quaint customs concerning hockey rules subscribed to north of the border.

The club as a whole continues to thrive. The 2nd XI ensured the club won one Cuppers trophy under the leadership of Baylon Kamalarajan. He will be succeeded by the namesake of a club legend, the great Richard Lloyd. The Mixed Hockey Club, revived last year by Deepak Bhadri, has flourished under Shalabh Bajjal. Next year Isobel Churchill will continue the good work of introducing any member of College to a light-hearted version of the game, regardless of experience. Thank you and good luck to the above.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all members and officers of SJCHC for making it such a happy year, in particular Secretary Deepak Bhadri for making the good times better and the bad times bearable. On behalf of the whole club many thanks go to Jim Williams for yet again producing one of the best playing surfaces in Cambridge. Also good luck to next year's Captain James Samworth, choice of the people not least because he owes us all so much beer having earned on average a jug a game. He will be ably supported by our unshakeable sweeper Colin Johnston. No doubt the club will be successful yet again despite the loss of personnel including last year's captain and astro genius King Butt. I can only hope they enjoy being part of SJCHC as much as I have.

God Bless the Hockey Club.

Toby Beaumont
Captain

Women's Hockey

The women's 1st XI enjoyed somewhat more mixed fortunes this year than last. Eventually victorious in a fiercely contested League which went to the last match of the season, Cuppers was not to be. Progressing easily into the quarter-finals, the brute strength and dubious refereeing of New Hall saw them bring about a shock defeat of what is easily the strongest college side in Cambridge, notably due to the addition of some highly skillful Freshers. The 'Thompson Twins' of this year's victorious Blues side were Sarah 'Cheesy' Boys Smith and Sophie Gilder. They and Isobel Churchill, another Fresher-find for St John's, dominated midfield possession in all games with strength, skill and flair. Congratulations must go to Sarah Boys Smith in particular for representing England Students this season.

Revenge was had upon New Hall on the astroturf where Sophie's stick skills teamed up with guest appearances from Andi Grant and Justine Curgenvin, leading St John's to a 9-0 victory. Other high-scoring games included a blitz against Jesus College, which assisted us in retaining the League title on goal difference. Thanks also go to Hanneke Vos and Liz Sywyj for their constant determination and enthusiasm, in the case of Liz, despite playing two Blues sports.

Thanks to everyone who played this season and special thanks to Baylon, Nigel and James for umpiring. Also to Sally Holt, for organising and motivating throughout the year, and Laura Mason and Odette Valentine for managing the 2nd XI admirably in the face of the 1st XI stealing players at the eleventh hour. Good luck to Sophie Gilder, Isobel Churchill and Jess Cave, next year's committee. Let's win that Cupper's title back! God bless the Hockey Club!

Sarah Crowther
Secretary

The Women's 2nd XI have continued to build on last year's success with a highly motivated team. In the League, out of eight matches, we won five with particularly convincing victories over Downing, Corpus and Sidney. Drawn against Sidney in the first round of

Cuppers we quickly proceeded to the next round after a 2-1 win only to narrowly lose 1-0 against Queens' in the last minute. Congratulations must go to Tamsin Terry and Sophie Dixon who headed up our attack and took charge of the goal scoring, to Rachel Jones in midfield and to Odette Valentine and Sarah Hall in goal.

Thanks to Odette for being Secretary this year, to Jim for providing goalie kit and advice, to Sally and Sarah, to Baylon our impartial umpire and most of all to everyone who played for us. Good luck to Nicole Armstrong, next year's Captain.

Laura Mason
2nd XI Captain

LMBC Men 1995-96

Henley 1995

The Henley 1995 campaign proved to be a troubled one. With a record entry to the Temple and the loss of half the 1st May VIII to various CUBC and PhD commitments, automatic qualification was unexpectedly no longer assured. In addition, the qualification regatta was held a week earlier than usual which left us time for only two outings to gel the crew together. On the day we failed to qualify by 6 seconds from a field that saw only three Cambridge colleges successful.

B:	Phil Clatworthy
2:	Ben Richardson
3:	Nick Pye
4:	Chris Tholstrup
5:	Carl Seymour
6:	Rob Ranson
7:	Mark Hambly
S:	Andy Jones
Cox:	Helen Clarke

Michaelmas 1995

The loss of the entire 1st May VIII to graduation and CUBC left the club looking very inexperienced at senior level. The Fresher's Fair revealed only a couple of new faces of varying experience and lots of novice enthusiasm. Fortunately several of the oarsmen from last year's lower boats were quickly out on the river and there was a squad of 16 trialling for the University Fours competition. In the end two fours and a training eight were put out early on in the term.

Light IV

Two new faces and two 2nd May VIII rowers made up the Light IV. The crew started well but struggled when faced with an over-congested river as the novice crews began to emerge and never completely overcame the mix of styles, losing to Clare, the eventual winners in the first round.

Coxed IV

This crew trained very hard from the start and, racing in the Clinker IVs division, thrashed a Downing crew before losing to a decidedly 'loaded' Trinity Hall IV in the final.

Light IV

B: Rob Lewis
2: Jeff Baines
3: Nick Pye
S: Dan Davies

Clinker IV

B: Nick Toogood
2: Ben Richardson
3: Simon Rees
S: Nick Hardy
Cox: Amanda Walker

Fairbairns Cup

Attrition (and the weather) had its way through the term so that by the time of the Fairbairns there were only enough oarsmen for one

senior VIII. With just a single First Boat rower and some with only novice experience in the crew expectations were not high. Despite a great deal of improvement under Roger Silk's positive coaching and a fair row on the day the crew was placed in 30th place overall. The result was disappointing but probably a fair reflection of the work that was needed to achieve good results in the Lent's.

B: Nick Toogood
2: Nick Hardy
3: Jonty Shipley
4: Nick Geddes
5: Tony Eaton
6: Tom Stokes
7: Andy South
S: Ben Richardson
Cox: Amanda Walker

Novices

Once again rowing proved easily the most popular new activity for the first year intake (including the Chaplain). With over 90 people signed up to try it out the main worry was where would we find boats and coaches for them all! In the end three Men's crews were selected and trained with almost the same intensity as the senior VIII. The 1st Novice VIII won the Clare Sprints with some glorious racing, beating five of the top six Fairbairn crews, and came 3rd in the Fairbairns race. These results confirmed our place as *the* top college at teaching our members to row. Even more pleasing still was the high proportion of novices who carried on through the year.

Lent Bumps 1996

The return of a couple of oarsmen strengthened the squad and the feeling at the start of term was very positive. The commitment to training was impressive and, fresh from a training camp at Magdalene College, Oxford, great improvements were being made early on. However, the harsh sub-zero weather and the loss of our 7 man with a broken hand threatened to slow down the pace of change. A win

at the Bedford Head two weeks before the Bumps signalled the start of the transformation into a racing crew which left us looking towards Bumping rather than being Bumped. In the races we found ourselves just ahead of the fastest crews on the river, Caius and 1st & 3rd and after long struggles, fell to both of them. Both those crews went on to win blades. We were well within our distance on Queens' on the third day when an accident around Grassy deprived us of the chance to make the Bump. The 2nd VIII developed well through the term and were looking strong going into the Bumps but a disappointing row on the first day left them in a weaker position and they ended down two overall. The third boat demonstrated their lack of experience by winning their wooden spoons. Credit must go to a scratch 5th VIII who overbumped on the last day to end up with the best record of all the Club's crews at up 3.

1st Lent VIII

B: N. Toogood
 2: B. Richardson
 3: N. Geddes
 4: T. Stokes
 5: N. Pye
 6: N. Hardy
 7: T. Cairns
 S: J. Ip
 Cox: J. Zakrzewski

2nd Lent VIII

B: D. Joiner
 2: E. Sheldon
 3: R. Seago
 4: M. De
 5: S. Rees
 6: R. Pagnamenta
 7: M. Lowe
 S: A. O'Reilly
 Cox: A. Walker

The Boat Race

Congratulations must go again this year to Pete Mallin-Jones on stroking the victorious Goldie crew for the second year running in a record time. Pete also represented Great Britain at U-23 level last summer winning a Gold Medal at the World Championships.

Mark Hambly was spare man for the Goldie crew, having just missed winning the last seat.

The May Bumps 1996

The trend of improvement was maintained over Easter with an LMBC crew racing in the Kingston Head with respectable results. Holidays prevented us from entering the Head of the River Race and work commitments scuttled the traditional training camp in York but a hard week's training in Cambridge made up for it. The return of five oarsmen to the 1st VIII strengthened the whole Club. The 1st VIII was very strong and fit, so much so that we were too big for the boat and modifications had to be made to the rigging to accommodate us! The emphasis throughout the term was to try and emulate the successful 'Cambridge' style of rowing. During the Bumps we produced four very strong rows but ended up down one overall, having been Bumped by Magdalene when only a canvas away from Jesus. On the last day, despite overlapping Jesus for some minutes we failed to Bump them and ended up at fifth on the river, a position behind where we felt we ought to have been. The 2nd VIII Bumped Corpus on the first day but fell back later in the week to a fast Selwyn 1st VIII to end up level overall at third in the second division.

1st May VIII

B: Nick Pye
 2: Ben Richardson
 3: Nick Geddes
 4: Rob Ranson
 5: Mark Hambly
 6: Tim Fisher-Jeffes
 7: Paul Alexander
 S: Pete Mallin-Jones
 Cox: Joasia Zakrzewski

2nd Lent VIII

B: Eric Ho
 2: Nick Hardy
 3: Nick Toogood
 4: Rob Pagnamenta
 5: Andy South
 6: Tom Stokes
 7: Martin Lowe
 S: Jeremy Ip
 Cox: Amanda Walker

In some respects this year has been very similar to last year, with heavy losses of experience at the top end of the Club leaving relatively inexperienced oarsmen to represent the Club prematurely at 1st VIII level. However we are currently building up a core of strong and confident oarsmen around which to develop the depth of the Club in years to come.

Nick Pye
Captain

LMBC Women 1995-96

This year has been a pleasing one for Lady Margaret women in general, with the club going from strength to strength in terms of the number of people keen to row and the commitment which they have shown.

In the Michaelmas term for the first time in three years we managed to put together three novice boats, which included some very talented oarswomen. The 1st novice VIII showed early promise by winning their division in the Cam Winter Head by a formidable 24 seconds. Rowing in 'Midland Pride', they then reached the semi-finals of the Clare Novice Regatta before losing to Magdalene, who went on to win overall in their lighter restricted shell. In the Fairbairn Cup they were again second to Magdalene, rowing a controlled and confident race worthy of a senior crew. The 2nd VIII qualified for the Cup in the Clares and were knocked out by Girton II in the second round, whilst the 3rd VIII reached the third round of the Plate by beating New Hall II, a notable achievement. In the Fairbairn Cup the crews finished 15th and 45th respectively producing creditable performances amongst the lower boats. Much of the crews' success was undoubtedly due to the enthusiasm and hard work of the senior rowers, who all gave up their time to act as tubbing coaches and coaches to the VIII's. Such a large number of novice rowers demands a great deal of effort and organisation, and would have been unworkable without the co-operation shown by the club as a whole.

The senior women also had a good start to the year, with the 1st IV reaching the 3rd round at the University IV's races. An VIII was then formed with a combination of this IV and the 'training' VIII, a strategy which was obviously beneficial to the development of the crew which eventually raced in the Fairbairn Cup. The VIII progressed steadily throughout the term, entering the Cam Autumn and Winter Head races, before producing an excellent row in the Fairbairns. Despite being impeded by a collision between Clare and Anglia on Grassy Corner, the crew finished second to Newnham by 7 seconds and so comforted themselves with the moral victory.

The crews were:

1st IV

Cox: Richard Marsh
Stroke: Emma Mawdsley
3: Colette Curran
2: Susie Hodgkinson
Bow: Sam Davies

Fairbairn VIII

Cox: Jon Lloyd
Stroke: Sarah White
7: Carrie Allison
6: Julia Maguire
5: Rachel Harker
4: S. Hodgkinson
3: Emily Grabham
2: Sarah Power
Bow: Hilary Crowther

The Lent Term began well with a training camp of 2 VIII's on the Cam for the first time ever. Despite the cold weather the crews had a worthwhile week's training which proved especially profitable for the ex-novices. Unfortunately the elements went on to disrupt training throughout the term as the river alternately flooded and froze, making the 2nd VIII's inexorable programme of early morning outings particularly difficult! After the disappointing cancellation of the Peterborough Head due to inclement weather the 1st VIII entered the Bedford Head and finished second. They were also runners-up in the Final of the Pembroke Regatta in a close race with Emmanuel.

The Lent Bumps proved to be an exciting and successful time for LMBC women, with the 1st VIII achieving its first bump in four years against old rivals, Jesus. The new Burgashell played an important part in their performance, and the 2nd VIII also benefited by inheriting LM2 for their races. In traditional 2nd VIII style the crew of predominantly ex-novices made two bumps against 1st boats, rowed over and were finally caught by Emmanuel II on the last day, thereby experiencing the whole range of Bump results! The 3rd VIII did the getting-on race and amply justified their place by bumping twice and rowing over twice.

At the end of term the 1st VIII entered the Women's Head of the River Race on the Thames and improved upon last year's performance to finish in eightieth position.

The crew was:

Cox: Jon Lloyd
Stroke: Sam Davies
7: Emily Grabham
6: Susie Hodgkinson
5: Carrie Allison
4: Rachel Harker
3: Colette Curran
2: Sarah Power
Bow: Naomi Tuck

Lent colours were awarded to Jon Lloyd, Emily Grabham, Susie Hodgkinson, Carrie Allison, Rachel Harker and Sarah Power for their Fairbairn and Lent achievements. A particular mention goes to Rachel Harker, who was obliged to change sides late in the term as the crew was hit by illness and injury problems.

The end of the Lent Term also produced controversy within LMBC as the 1st VIII's request to share the privilege of sitting at High Table with the 1st Men proved to be contentious. After the resignation of the Women's Captain in protest, the issue was happily resolved in time for the May races. An agreement was reached at the club's AGM that the two 1st crews should alternate term by term at High Table. In addition, the root cause of the problem was addressed by a change in the election procedure to give both Women's and Men's Captains an equal opportunity to become overall Club Captain. This was welcomed as a fitting coming of age for the Women's Boat Club, and credit is due to Vice-Captain Rachel Harker for taking on the role of Women's Captain in the Easter Term.

Lady Margaret was once more represented in the CUWBC Varsity Races by Gemma Watts, who narrowly missed a seat in the blue boat and instead rowed at 7 in Blondie. The crew beat Oxford convincingly, and Gemma deserves many congratulations on her dedication and talent as an oarswoman.

The May Term began with much optimism. A squad of twelve people took part in an Easter training camp, from which the first May VIII was selected. Two more VIII's were formed comprising a good mixture of undergraduates and graduates and all three crews trained hard throughout the term.

The first and second VIII both entered the Cambridge Regatta midway through the term. Unfortunately the week before the race the stroke of the 1st VIII, Susie Hodgkinson sustained a nasty injury forcing her to pull out of the crew. Thus without the full crew it was unfortunate that the 1st VIII were knocked out in the first round of the Regatta. The second VIII fared much better managing to beat many of the College first VIII's in their division being beaten only in the final by Trinity 1st & 3rd. This was a pleasing result proving the 2nd VIII's strength compared to many of the other College 2nd VIII's on the Cam.

Following the Cambridge Regatta both the 1st and 2nd VIII suffered from the unavoidable disruption of crew changes. Sadly both crews never fully recovered from the changes, and so the May Bumps proved somewhat disappointing. The 1st VIII were bumped on all four days. They put up a good fight on each day never being bumped before the railings. They must be commended for the determination shown on the third day when they rowed almost as far as Peter's Post before being caught by Churchill. The 2nd VIII had a better week but were unfortunate to be chased by Peterhouse I on the first day. Peterhouse were a fast crew and the 2nd VIII were bumped by them. The 2nd VIII went on to row over the next three days. The third VIII suffered a similar fate to that of the 1st VIII. Despite their valiant efforts they were also unlucky to be bumped four times.

The first VIII went on to row at women's Henley Regatta where they performed much better. In the first round they beat Manchester University but were knocked out on the Sunday by Pembroke.

The 1st May VIII were:

Cox: Jon Lloyd
Stroke: Sam Davies
7: Emily Grabham
6: Anna Turk
5: Gemma Watts
4: Rachel Harker
3: Carrie Allison
2: Lisa Campbell
Bow: Sarah Power

Despite the disappointment of the May races all the crews enjoyed the term's rowing. Four LMBC rowers were selected for the CUWBC Development Squad over the summer and this will no doubt contribute to the success of Lady Margaret women's rowing next year.

Finally we would like to thank Simon Rees for all the hard work he put in throughout the year as Ladies Lower Boats Captain and Roger Silk whose coaching and advice is always invaluable. The oarswomen are also extremely grateful to the Old Johnian Henley Fund for their continued support of LMBC women. Next year's women's Captain will be Sam Davies and the Vice-Captain will be Jon Lloyd.

Rachel Harker and Julia Maguire

Netball

With over 50 enthusiastic players signing up at the Fresher's Fair this year, SJCNC looked to have a promising season ahead. After only half of these actually turned up for trials, things weren't looking quite so good in the quantity stakes, but a few 'quality' stars were discovered that day... and SJCNC fielded two women's teams in the 1995-6 league.

The first team made an excellent start to the competition with a storming 19-15 victory over last year's league winners, Selwyn, and from then on John's were invincible, winning every fixture in the Michaelmas term. Particularly impressive was a 5-woman win over Magdalene and their two Blues players. Unlucky. The First's success continued into the Lent term, until a fateful day on Tit Hall's court, when the team lost 5-2, wind-assisted: the lowest-scoring match of the season. Even so, John's record was enough to ensure that the First team were League Champions 1996.

The second team were less consistent, having had difficulties in fielding a full team for every league match. Even so, only one match had to be forfeited (due to the requirements of LMBC – story of our lives) and the team had good victories over Christ's and Peterhouse.

John's have a chequered history in the Cuppers tournament, and this year SJCNC were unable to produce their league form for the day's competition. Despite strong wins over College sides, John's were prevented from going into the quarter-finals by a six-foot Anglia boat club in disguise.

This year College colours have been awarded to Carrie Allison, Meena Bhamra, Nicki Butterworth, Jill Cameron, Melanie Christian, Sally Mayhew, Clare Northcott and Anna Turk. Congratulations go to Clare for her University Blue, and to Jill for her University Colours. Thanks to Roseanne Wilkinson for her captaincy of the second team, and to Liz Sywyj, our star umpire.

We entered mixed netball cuppers as defending champions but, alas, our defence of the title was just slightly weakened as we realised only three people had turned up for the 9a.m. start! After George (convenient Newnham Blues import) had explained the rules to the netball 'virgins' and a grand total of five players had unwillingly left their beds, we had missed a couple of matches, but we played a friendly game against Magdalene led by Captain Sharma. Once victorious everyone decided it was time to go, leaving Clare to umpire in the rain for the day. Fun was had by all!

As for the mixed league, despite many matches being scheduled only 3 ended up being played, against Jesus, Kings and Peterhouse. Results were mixed (i.e. Sharma's memory fails again!), but we won at least one. Particular star performers included Peter Horsley, Australian import Stephanie Werner (successfully recruited by Dave), Tamsin Mather, Becky Range, Katie Witter, and of course El Capitan Dave Sharma.

Our thanks go to everyone that turned out and enjoyed a good season's netball. Have a blinder next year!

Jill Cameron, Captain
Dave Sharma, Mixed Captain
Clare Northcott, Secretary
(Ladies and Mixed)

Men's Rugby

Past Eagle Rugby Chronicles tend to read as a series of nearly but not quites: 'John's were to be thwarted' (1983), 'and as we progressed to lose three out of our four games' (1991), 'We have still to overcome Downing, Magdalene and Trinity' (1992), 'by a cruel twist of fate' (1995). However, this year the record has been put straight. Amassing an astonishing 496 points in the League and putting Magdalene to the sword in Cuppers final, St John's 1st XV have confirmed their status as the unrivalled College for undergraduate rugby in the University, securing their place in the annals of the game as the winners of the illustrious Double.

This was due to the character and commitment of its players: a pair of the meanest looking, uncompromising and mobile props were nobly supported by our two twin towers of second-row panache, Messrs Charlie Courtenay and Tom Stokes, engendering fear in even the most competent of opposition. A strong link between scrum-half Dave Richards and Oli Jones at fly-half ensured a quick release of ball to the Backs whose outbursts of frenzied pace and deft handling helped put 65 points on Emmanuel, 77 on Anglia and 80 on Clare – a score card that reads more like the number of chicks clamouring for possession of the Red-Boy jumpers than results of a league table!

The side benefitted greatly from the return of Blues and LX's Club players to the hallowed turf of St John's pitches for the Cuppers Tournament. I would like especially to thank Russell Earnshaw (Blue 1995) and James Rutter for their continuous commitment to the Club and enthusiasm towards practices. Cuppers proved to be as successful as the League, shaking off challenges from Downing, St Catharine's and a combined force from Magdalene and Hughes Hall, in the final. Jamie Griffith, who returned to the field after a term of frustrating injury, repeatedly provided ostentatious performances at the back of the scrum, paving the way for a painless defeat of 'Magdahall' at Grange Road, reclaiming the trophy with first rate and totally red swashbuckling gallantry.

Yet the success story does not end here. The mighty Alistair Lumb led his 2nd XV to further victories in division two, retaining the title of Champions 'Garcons Rouges'. Similarly the Women's Club

won both the League and Cuppers, and the College third team continues to wave the Red and White Banner in the face of faltering opposition.

Having ensured a full complement of dazzling silverware in the College cabinet, 'Les Garçons Rouges', clad in stripes of red and white apparel, armed with pegs, rules, and a gimp, made their way to the unexplored territories of the dampened North to sow their seeds and enlighten the local Leagues and Ladies. Victories in both touch and contact, a mixture of dance and discipline, Kangaroo fun and flaps-like frolics, provided a fitting Climax to a rewarding and prosperous season.

I would also like to thank Tom Tweddell for his unerring commitment to the running of the Club, arranging hugely successful Tarts and Vicars, Black Velvet and Roman Toga parties, and adopting a lively and at times inconceivable approach to Sessions. Also to Jim and his ground staff – St John's pitches are an example of the finest and best kept in the University – and to all those who have supported the club over the year.

St John's RUFC. continues to take the greatest pride in both it's Rugby and its College. Long may it remain at the forefront of College sport, way ahead of the field, a breeding ground and bastion of unfading 'Garçons Rouges' talent and flair.

Adam Green
Captain

Women's Rugby

Last year Kerri Travers raised the awareness of College rugby for women and led the Johnian team to the fore, where they undoubtedly belong, winning the league and Cuppers double. This gave Sophie Dixon, this year's Captain, a hard act to follow but obviously not hard enough. Sophie's talent, enthusiasm and undying commitment to the game led the Red Girls to their second consecutive double win. It was Varsity who this year described the Red Girls' performance as 'hard-core professionalism'.

The season started well with the influx of new blood and fresh legs – committed individuals who were obviously destined to go all the way. They weren't going to be outwitted by any old tackle bag. With expert training from Nick Studer, Dave Richards and Dims Kainth the Red Girls began their ritual demolition.

The first team, with the strength of forwards such as Suzie Hodgkinson, Sally Holt, Liz Sywyj, Hayley Mangan and Catherine Wilson and the athletic prowess of Sophie, Ellie Mayne and Hannah 'dodge' Bradley in the backs, were unbeatable. Apart from one hiccup, otherwise known as Downing, the firsts confidently claimed the league as theirs. One example of the strength of the team, despite the pressure, was the final game against Caius. To be sure of victory we needed to win by 64-0. The final score was 68-0. Not bad for just twenty minutes play.

The seconds, admirably led by Julie Hill, were equally successful. Although many teams were unable, probably too scared, to play them, their performance ensured victory over the second division and promotion next year.

Cuppers, well what can I say? The seconds, a very strong side in a hard group, gave an incredible performance nearly beating three top first division teams. To name a couple of the stars, praise must surely go to Amelia Torode and Lin Metcalf for outstanding play. The whole team really did give it everything. The firsts, privileged to have the support of Justine Curgenven, Lindi Ngwenya and Jena Muston (guest), had a nearly all blue side, however red at heart. Six games in two days and all won to nil. I'm not sure about being able to beat that act next year.

Thanks go to Jim and his staff for maintaining excellent pitches and of course the stalwart supporters who will hopefully increase in numbers in the future. The chanting wall of red that came out for the final day of Cuppers was fantastic. As a result of commitment and skill throughout the season colours have been awarded to the following: Hannah Bradley, Hope Cooper, Ellie Mayne, Lin Metcalf, Amelia Torode, Hayley Mangan, Sophie Dixon, Lindi Ngwenya, Catherine Wilson and Sally Holt.

I would like to end by wishing myself and Lin successful Captaincies for next year, a double hat-trick for the firsts and Johns I vs Johns II in the Cuppers final must surely be our aim. The flag is certainly well and truly flying for women's College rugby and with both the Red Boys and Red Girls having secured the double, St John's are certainly the team to beat.

Hope Cooper
Secretary

Flamingoes Club 1995-96

The Flamingoes club for Johnian sportswomen welcomed several new members this year, all of whom have excelled at University level and/or made an outstanding contribution to College sport.

Michaelmas 1995

Susie Hodgkinson	Captain of Second team University Athletics. SJC Rugby team 1st VIII Fairbairns and Lents
Sally Mayhew	SJC Football Captain
Sarah Power	Swimming 'Blue' 1st VIII Fairbairns, Lents and Mays
Catherine Wilson	SJC Football Club

Lent 1996

Sarah Boys Smith	Hockey 'Blue' SJC Hockey team
Sophie Dixon	Rugby 'Half-blue' SJC Rugby Captain Member of University Athletics club
Sophie Gilder	Hockey 'Blue' SJC Hockey team
Rachel Harker	1st Fairbairns, Lents and Mays LMBC Captain, Easter term
Hayley Mangan	University Volleyball Captain Member of University Rugby club

Jennie Rayson

SJC Tennis Captain

Liz Sywyj

SJC Hockey team

Rugby 'Half-blue'

Member of University Hockey club

Many of the new members were responsible for engineering a successful sporting performance through their efforts both on and off the pitch/court/river, with the result that we were able to boast the best college teams in netball, hockey and rugby whilst comfortably retaining our place in the first division in tennis, rowing and squash.

Despite multifarious sporting activities, the Flamingoes took part in various social events, including 'soirees' with sports clubs from other colleges. We also held our first annual dinner, which was well-attended by senior and junior members alike, including new senior Flamingoes, Jane Heal and Amanda Saville.

The guest speaker, Debbie Lowthrer (Senior Bursar at Girton College, Cambridge graduate and keen rower) entertained those present, whilst delivering a serious message as she addressed the issue of the gender-segregated distribution of resources and subsequent devaluation of women's sport. The year came to a close with the annual luncheon held in the Master's garden and the election of Sally Mayhew, Sarah Power and Sophie Gilder to the respective positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer. Sophie Dixon will be representing women's sport in the College at the General Athletics Committee meetings.

Best of luck for next year!

Sally E.W. Holt
President of the Flamingoes, 1995-1996

COLLEGE SPORTS

Men's Badminton

With a strong intake of enthusiastic fresher badminton players, we were lucky enough to be able to field two really competitive sides. The absence of any university badminton league last year left us the job of recruiting two teams from scratch. Although we were badly lacking any blues players, there was strength in depth, with there being very little to choose between the three pairs in both teams.

In the Michaelmas Term, the first team scored convincing wins over Emma, Christ's, Downing and Robinson in division two to gain promotion, and our second team, under Roland Lindsay's captaincy, also consistently outplayed the opposition to gain promotion to division 5.

With the return of past captain, Paul Cook, for the Lent Term, the first team was slightly reshuffled with the fresher Alan Castle lining up with Paul as a successful first pair.

Nagulan Saravanamuttu (still our only player yet to lose) and I continued as 2nd pair and Lior Zivan teamed up with Mark Dowson as a strong 3rd pair. Kieren Murphy also proved himself as our capable substitute. During term, we managed to overcome Churchill, arch rivals Trinity (despite their bitter complaints about the air conditioning affecting their game!) and St Catharine's, and lost narrowly to Queens' and Fitz to come a respectable second in the division.

The second team managed to go one better, by beating St Catharine's II, Peterhouse I, Churchill II and Christ's II to become division 5 champions. Congratulations to the whole team: Roland Lindsay, Kieren Murphy, Baylon Kamalarajan, Wayne Kark, Noel Rutter, Sumit Gupta, Rupak Chandra, Steven Balls, Pete Silverwood and Andrew Bailey.

In Cuppers, the last event of the year, our team of four put up a masterful display of singles and doubles beating Emmanuel 3 - 1, before losing to Anglia in the quarter finals. The other team members, Alan Castle, Paul Cook, Nagulan Saravanamuttu all receive college colours, as do Lior Zivan and Mark Dowson, our reserves.

Finally, thank you Baylon, for doing a great job as secretary and again to everyone who swung a racquet for college during term.

Robert Pagnamenta
Men's Captain

Women's Badminton

After a year in which the University reeled in the destruction of the University Courts, inter-college teams have again sprung up and the League and Cuppers have made a valiant return. After a slow start, with the women's team having considerable difficulty both in arranging matches and winning them, the Michaelmas Term League was declared a practice run and a new League began again in the Lent Term.

Thanks to the Film Society, who kindly let both the Men's and the Women's Teams play before the Films on Sunday, training and matches could take place on a weekly basis in the Lent Term and our play took a turn for the better. During the Lent Term not a single game was lost by the side, leaving the team unbeaten League Champions (second division), although a couple of games could not be played due to the problems of getting a team and a court at the same time.

This means that the team should be promoted to the first division next year. In Cuppers, we reached the semi-final before being defeated by a very strong Newnham (who went on to win the competition).

Thanks to all the team for turning out for those Sunday morning training sessions - I know they were early!! - and to Baylon Kamalarajan for all the work that he put in for the club as Secretary.

I hope that the next year will be just as successful!!!

College colours are awarded to: Ellie Hanson (blue), Felicity Britton, Clare Northcott and Rosie Burton.

Katie Witter
Captain

Basketball

After a one year NBA exile, 1997 saw the return of former players Jim Standing and Bret Vykopal. This strengthened an already promising team, turning them into legitimate title contenders, with a mix of shot-blockers, rebounding monsters and long range shooters. Despite an early loss, the team soon got into their stride, developing from a stifling defence, through to the shooting of Rupak Chandra and Jim, who both amassed over 100 points each during the regular season.

Excellent wins were recorded against Jesus, Fitzwilliam and St. Catharine's before Christmas, which was enough for midway in the first division at the break. The second half of the season saw wins against Robinson, Queens' and Christ's, but despite this St John's finished the year fifth in the league behind champions Darwin. This position was achieved despite key injuries to point guards, Gabriel Lim and Brian Tom. Overall, the team made significant improvements throughout the year, both on a team and an individual basis, with Bret earning most improved player for his defence, closely followed by new players Greg Bacon, with his picture jump-shot, and Andy Young, whose incredible rebounding will be missed next year. The talent on the team gained recognition on a further level, with many of the players representing the university, led by Australian Vaughn Wittorff who was part of the blues squad.

The Cuppers competition is still ongoing at the time of writing. The first round saw the team matched up with Queens' despite a poor first-half performance, the side eventually found their rhythm in the second period, ending up winners by a comfortable 17 point margin, behind Greg's floor shooting, Rupak's accuracy from the line, and some spectacular tips by Vaughn. The second match against Trinity, who put forward two blues guards, was much more difficult. The game was a tight affair, level at the interval but once again John's showed their character. With encouragement and advice from Shash Virmani and Andy (Mr.) Wines, important components of the team all year, the men in red pulled ahead as Rupak connected with 3 shots from downtown. This was comfortably the best performance of the season, against an

excellent side and John's fully deserved the victory over their old rival and thus qualified top of their division.

The second round saw John's scrape past Emmanuel College by two points in a tense and somewhat scrappy affair. Once again, the match was neck and neck all the way, with John's pulling ahead often, but failing to secure their lead at any stage. However, aided by the return of Gabriel with his steals (minus his behind-the-back passes which set off fire alarms), and with important free-throws iced by Vaughn in the closing seconds, the team had just enough to defeat Emmanuel who had beaten them earlier in the season. The next match is against Christ's, and a win here would make St. John's favourites to win the tournament.

Dave Sharma excelled as secretary, his patented shuffle step and put backs will be missed, as will his organisation skills. Finally, the team chemistry was excellent, players were full of encouragement and unselfishness and it was this spirit that helped see us past a number of more individualistic teams. We had some excellent nights out, and days on the outdoor courts, where Andy and Bret would showcase their aerial moves, whilst Shash would be unstoppable on his way to the hoop. In fact, the outdoor courts were very helpful in encouraging more people to get involved and practice and therefore it would only be just to thank the groundstaff and Dr McConnel for all their help with respect to this.

In fact with so many of the players leaving to such far away places as Singapore, Australia, Trinidad, the US, and Blackburn, Pierre Shlimon, next year's captain will find it a hard job to recreate a similarly successful and cohesive team. I wish him all the best, and hope that the vision he shows on court translates off it.

Rupak Chandra, Captain
Dave Sharma, Secretary

The Flamingoes

The members of the Flamingoes Club have seen another very successful year on the pitch, court and water. Congratulations must go to all our

college captains who have managed to maintain excellence in their college teams whilst also being involved on a University level themselves.

Over the year we have welcomed several new members:

Michaelmas 1996

Vanessa Boag	Athletics Half-blue
	SJC Football Captain
Melanie Christian	SJC Netball Captain
	University Netball colours
Hope Cooper	SJC Rugby Captain
	Rugby Half-blue
Emily Grabham	1st Fairbairns, Lents and Mays, LMBC
	Rowing Blue
	Sculling GB Juniors

Easter 1997

Hannah Bradley	Rugby Half-blue
	SJC Rugby team
	SJC Football team
Andrea Bull	Rugby Half-blue
	SJC Rugby team
	SJC Football team
	SJC Hockey team
Jill Cameron	Netball Blue
	SJC Netball Captain
Clare Northcott	Netball Blue
Lin Metcalf	Rugby Half-blue
	SJC Rugby team
	SJC Hockey team
Odette Valentine	Rugby Half-blue
	SJC Rugby team
	SJC Hockey team

As well as all the sporting success, the club has also managed a healthy social schedule. Easter Term saw a repeat of last year's inaugural dinner with the Club's Senior Members. In elections held before the event, the following people were elected to take over the positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary. They are, respectively, Sophie Dixon, Susie Hodgkinson and Melanie Christian.

I wish them, and all members of the Club, the best of luck for next year.

Sally Mayhew
President

Men's Football

This season, for the first time in years, the First XI went on tour. Despite a number of tempting offers including a weekend in Oxford, and the possibility of a trip to Keele, we elected instead to try the continent. Greece, to be more precise. And yet this was no ordinary tour. It took us back two-and-a-half millennia to 480B.C., and to Thermopylae, where the heroic Leonidas and his three hundred Spartans fought to the death against the five million invaders of Xerxes the Great in the defining moment of Classical Greek history.

Although we did not physically go to this quiet mountain pass a few miles north of Athens, in our hearts and in our minds we were there throughout the season. And our intimate knowledge of that battle helped us to understand that there is a great deal more to football than the superficial trivialities of the game, such as which team can force a distended pig's bladder through a wooden frame more times than the opposition. Winning, by its conventional definition, is not what St John's First XI were seeking; rather, a spiritual triumph. And this we achieved.

The League campaign started off well, as arch-rivals Trinity were given a lesson in finishing by the talented David Hunt. Having lost six regulars from the previous season, we were forced to blood half-a-dozen freshers in this most intense of all local derbies, hoping they would not buckle under the pressure. And, indeed, when the going got tough, these young men got going. Despite often lacking the experience

of their opponents, they proved their mettle time and time again over the season, indicating that for a good few years to come they will form the core of a successful St John's side. Richard Samworth stood out as the supreme commander between the posts, whilst Tom Henderson and Alex Starling created much up front. Alongside this new-found talent were the old, calm heads, who could guide them in this formative season. Individuals such as the gritty John Ratledge, the skilful Paul Alexander, and the speedy Tom Hodge, stand out.

Losses to Anglia Polytechnic University and Christ's did not dampen our spirit, just as Peisistratus refused to be cowed by the many difficulties he encountered on his route to power in ancient Athens. We knew that it was only a matter of time before wins would start flowing again. Churchill were crushed 4-0, with captain Duncan Hancox bagging a rare hat-trick. Robinson, a recent addition not only to the University, but also the first division, showed what youthful vigour can do by just getting the better of us in a thrilling encounter – one can only hope they can one day match us in examination performance, too. A last-minute equaliser gave us a point at home to Fitzwilliam, demonstrating our resilience and training regime – our players would make Mr Motivator look like a couch potato.

In amongst this festival of football, the club was busy raising its College profile in other ways. The inventiveness and energy of our post-match celebrations have enabled us to surpass both our hockey and rugby counterparts, as our renown has spread throughout the University as well as the College.

Downing, the eventual League champions, proved their credentials, as did Girton, by scoring more goals than we did. Jesus held us to a draw. And so our fate was sealed, and we slipped out of the top flight. Several short-sighted individuals remarked that this was not good. But for St John's First XI, it was mission accomplished. Following years of mediocrity, devoid of challenge, the rot had set in. Now we have a chance to face a new challenge; we have a new mission; we can reinvent ourselves, redefine what we stand for. Just as Sparta's glorious place in history was assured at Thermopylae, whilst the victorious Persians

were confined to backwaters of academic study, so too have St John's confirmed their position in footballing folklore, from now until eternity. Other colleges attribute high status to sporting achievement. At St John's, we seek a different version of success. Who were the real winners at Thermopylae? St John's may be proud of themselves, for Simonides' epitaph to the Spartan dead applies to us too. 'ὦ ξειν, αγγελειν Λακεδαιμονιοις οτι τηδε κειμεθα τοις κειμεν ρημασι πειθομενοι.'

Cuppers was a different story. Inspired by our heroic trio of Blues stars, Richard Millar, Dan Echevarria, and Stevie Lloyd, we took the competition by storm. Pembroke were brutally slain in round one, and our neighbours, Magdalene, aspirations to giant-killing were left in tatters, as Julian Gould smashed home the winner. Finding ourselves in the last eight against Robinson, we soon showed them the proper order of things. Malcolm Gates (two) and Millar put us into the semi-finals, where we faced the holders, Long Road. This was to prove a bridge too far, and the concession of two goals in the first two minutes was definitely not in the game plan. Piling on the pressure for the rest of the match, we could not break through. To the detriment of the competition, we had been knocked out, and our season ended there.

I would like to thank my tireless committee of Malcolm Gates and Julian Gould for all their work, and hope that next year's replacements, Lee Sanders (Captain), Salvan Masilamany (Treasurer) and David Hunt (Secretary) can build on the platform which they have been given.

Duncan Hancox
Captain

Women's Football

Despite losing large numbers of quality players for the 1996-7 season our prospects still looked promising due to the large numbers of first years who turned up to the first training session. We managed to field two teams in the league again and the first team looked especially

strong in their first match, a stylish 6-1 outplaying of New Hall. Although the second team lost their first match 3-1 to St Catharine's 2 they too seemed to have great potential particularly given that many of them had hardly watched any football, never mind played before.

Unfortunately this encouraging start was not representative of the rest of the season. Numbers at training dwindled as the injury list grew, making first team selection very difficult. Many second team players (and hockey and rugby players) valiantly stepped into the breach against the more accomplished (and very scary) sides of the first division. The first team suffered crushing defeats against Hills Road and Fitzwilliam because of this and because of the poor judgement of the captain in accepting games on Thursdays and Sundays when yet more first team members were not available. Turn-out again proved to be a problem against Jesus in the last match climax of the relegation dog fight when we were forced to concede to a very weak side, throwing away our place in next season's first division.

Our performance in Cuppers was far more impressive with a repeat of last year's 7-0 destruction of Churchill. We reached the quarter finals only to be beaten by Charlotte, the blues striker, who was occasionally assisted by the other 10 Girton players, as she scored two amazing goals from the touch line. Maybe if we'd had the guts to 'Shoe 'er!' (as Duncan Hancox shouted from the side!), things would have been different. At the end of Season dinner there were many awards for commitment and the award for most improved first team player went to Becca Royce.

The second team performances in the league were also disappointing but only from the point of view of the results. They were on many occasions very unlucky and were narrowly defeated by weaker teams. The level of commitment and improvement in skills and tactical awareness was outstanding, especially from a core of players who regularly turned up to training and were available for almost every match. Their performance in the plate was far better and, like the first team, they reached the quarter finals with a nail biting 3-2 defeat of Peterhouse in extra time. The improvement shown by this team will provide a solid base for next season and the award for most improved second team player went to Elle Webb.

It only remains for me to wish Cathy McClay good luck as next year's captain and to say many thanks to Duncan Hancox, Malcolm Gates, Dave Hunt, Billy and Lee for refereeing and coaching, to Vanessa Boag, the second team captain, and to Sally Mayhew, last year's captain, for her invaluable advice.

Sarah Boardman
First Team Captain

Men's Hockey

During the course of the 1996-97 season, the hockey club regained its rightful place on top of the college hockey pile, proving once again that form is temporary and class permanent. The sad loss of hockey club legends Cake, McCarthy, Knight, Beaumont, Bhadri, Stewart and Taylor meant substantial changes were inevitable. On paper the side appeared a bit lightweight, but the arrival of Colin Campbell from the rhino farms of Zimbabwe soon saw to that. The recent trend of cheap foreign imports flooding the market has been much criticised of late, but SJCHC has benefited considerably from the continental flair of Dutchmen Jasper Berkenbosch and Dirk Meerburg, who came on a one year contract.

The team worked well together from the start, scoring 21 times in the first two league matches. The defence looked solid with the immovable object Nigel Edwards in goal, and the ever youthful if slightly rusting Steve Griffiths terrorising centre forwards. Sweeper Colin Johnston made defending look deceptively easy, simply tackling anyone who got into a dangerous position. It would be unfair to call our two full backs defenders, as they envisaged their role as being at least fifty yards from their own D, but Dirk Meerburg and Shalabh Baijal were hugely entertaining, and were involved in lots of goals. In the midfield, Colin Campbell was the rock around whom everything revolved and Darren James never gave the ball away to anyone on his side or the opposition. The wide men Berkenbosch, Mayes and Polonius provided endless streams of chances that not even Samworth and Fitzherbert could fail to

score from. Slightly surprising was the fact Felix went a whole season without getting sent off or threatening an umpire. Adding in Jon Mayer for Cuppers made for a heavy cocktail, and the total for the season of 84 goals scored in 16 games is testament to the way the game was played.

The serious business of regaining Cuppers was done in true style. We progressed serenely to the final, scoring twenty goals and conceding one along the way. The final against Clare was a chance for revenge after their miraculous win last year, which stopped a run of five consecutive Johnian cuppers victories. John's eased into a 2-0 lead, dominating the match in all areas of the field. Not wishing to disappoint the hundreds of supporters who had travelled far to see a close game, we lost the plot for forty minutes, conceding three goals, two from inside the D! With thirty seconds remaining, and prospects looking bleak, Shalabh Baijal (left back) justified years of loitering in the opposition D by actually scoring. After a nervy period of extra time, Nigel Edwards saved one of the Clare penalty flicks, and Dirk Meerburg duly sealed victory with aplomb. A harsh end to a superb game, but all independents agreed that justice was done.

The league season transferred to astroturf this year, and the speed of the pitches and the John's attack meant that some teams were almost defenceless. Three double figure scores were posted in the course of the season, and sixty one goals were scored in total. Despite this record, we contrived to lose the league thanks to the now obligatory umpiring point, and losing to Jesus in a last day league decider. This unfortunate result was largely due to Jesus playing their Dean, and end of season injuries, though it should not be forgotten that we did beat them 4-0 in cuppers.

The hockey club traditions are rightly held in high regard, and the annual tour this time made its way to Utrecht in Holland courtesy of Dirk and Jasper's hospitality. Despite many attempts, we completely failed to get lost and even made it back on the right ferry. In addition to the regulars, Baylon Kamalarajan was added for his organisation and driving ability, and Rick Brice was added for comedy value. Funniest of all was the way it looked as if he had kept goal before. All those who

went will remember the city fondly and doubtless the reverse is true as well. The grand occasion of the old boys match resulted in an easy 9-8 victory for the college, thanks largely to seven goals from Richard Samworth on his 1st XI debut. The captain would not be drawn on why he had not played sooner, but was seen trying to hide his stick.

The second XI, led by Richard Lloyd (no relation), once again proved the strength in depth of John's hockey, finishing third in the second division, and beating five first teams in the course of the season. Although seconds cuppers was not arranged this year, we won the unofficial version by beating Jesus 3-0 in a one round challenge trophy. Leading scorer Neil Miller assumes control next year and good luck to him. The mighty third legion was led into battle by Adam Girling, and the motley crew distinguished themselves by turning up to every game and winning two of them. The mixed hockey club once again introduced more people to the joys of hockey in a less serious environment, and thanks to Isobel Churchill for her enthusiasm in getting people involved.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have made this year such a success, particularly the ever dependable secretary Colin Johnston for making my life so easy. Best of luck to Will Mayes as captain next year, and Colin Campbell as secretary, and God Bless the Hockey Club.

James Samworth
Captain

Women's Hockey

This year we were blessed with three very talented first years in the guise of Andrea Bull, Anna Smith and Kath Joy. We also welcomed Nat Redpath, a teamless stray from St Edmunds, who actually turned out to be rather useful at scoring particularly flair goals (Blue 96, 97). A special mention must also go to the backbone of our defence this year, Rachel Jones and Nicole Armstrong. Both second team players last year, their improvement has been phenomenal. Throughout the year we have constantly battled with Blues commitments (both hockey and rugby)

and injuries, and as a result, there have been few occasions when we have been able to put out a full strength team. Our cause, though, has been helped much this year in that we are able to play some of our matches on astroturf. This greatly improves the standard of our game and allows us to show off our superior stick skills which are not as apparent on grass.

Yet again, the women's league went down to the last match of the season, a mirror contest of the men, John's v Jesus. Our task was to beat Jesus to stop them winning the league, our chance of glory having been thwarted by Girton early on in the season. With the vociferous support on the sideline, including the omnipresent Duncan 'Horn and Saucepan' Hancox, we eventually won 2-1 having gone down a goal in the first half. Our Cuppers run ended in defeat against Emma (2-1) and with a broken nose for Kath Joy in the first five minutes. Consolation, however, can be taken in the fact that we did manage to score past their England U21 Goalkeeper.

Sarah Boys Smith and Sophie Gilder were again awarded their Blues in the Varsity Match which ended in a draw, though Cambridge retained the silverware due to the previous year's 3-0 victory. Next year John's welcomes back Sarah Crowther (Blue 95, 96) from her year off in Germany, bringing with her a wealth of experience and enthusiasm for hockey in John's.

Thanks to everyone who played this season and special thanks to Baylon, Nigel, Dirk and as ever to Jim. Also to Isobel for her fantastic organisation throughout the year, and Nicole and Rachel for managing the second team. Good luck to next year's Captain, Sophie Dixon, and Secretary, Nicole. God Bless the Hockey Club.

Sophie Gilder
Captain 1st XI

Women's 2nd XI

The 1996-97 Women's 2nd XI were bounding with energy and enthusiasm. There were plenty of new faces both from among the 1st

years and the 3rd years who were willing to give it one last try before packing up as students. Having been newly promoted into the 2nd division, our season proved to be quite full of 1st team 'years of training' opposition. As a result the outcomes were usually much to their approval, though particular credit must go to Pamela Mangat in goal who kept our 'defeat-extraordinaires' to a minimum.

Thanks to a great team who really worked together well and most importantly enjoyed themselves. Thanks also to Rachel Jones for being secretary and to the 1st team for all their help. Good luck to Caroline Boddy and Claire Skerrit, next year's Captain and Secretary.

Nicole Armstrong
2nd XI Captain

The Lady Margaret Boat Club – Men

Are you, like me, sick of reading Eagle Reports that appear more like dirges? A story of 'respectable results,' few, if any, victories and an atmosphere of resignation rather than of delightful optimism. Where are the stories that the Rugby Club are able to recount, tales of 'immortality' stories of 'talent and flair' recountings of fun and frolics around the small sleepy market town that is Cambridge? Well, it appears that there are changes afoot. There were stories of the 1996 May Crew seen smiling and enjoying rowing. What is more there are unsubstantiated rumours that the members of Lady Margaret have been seen in the Bar together and consuming alcohol. Wonders will never cease. So here we have an optimistic Eagle report which conveys glad tidings and victories aplenty, despite a disappointing few days for the May VIII.

Henley 1996

The Henley campaign of 1996 was a memorable occasion for all those involved. With the ever increasing entries for the Temple Cup it was necessary, as last year, to enter the qualifying race. Fortunately we retained the majority of the May Crew, losing only Pete Mallin-Jones

(through ineligibility) and Mark Hambly (to the Goldie Crew.) The crew shook off the poison of May Week at the Marlow Regatta where we performed well to lose in the Semi Final to Radley College, not before having taken the scalps of a confident American school boy crew in the proper regatta and of the Marlow RC 'A' and 'B' Crew in the lunchtime sprint in front of a crowded enclosure.

It was thus with spirits high and an appetite for racing that the crew paddled to Henley to find the customary rack waiting for us (Rack Number A1 for the uninitiated) and the marvellous hospitality that is now customary with Anne Arlidge.

The crew then had a balmy week of training under the expert and critical eye of Roger Silk who managed to increase the speed of the boat profoundly. With a week of temperatures in the high eighties, it was a surprise to find on the Friday of the qualifying race that the great meteorologist in the sky had other plans. Needless to say, the wind blew straight down the course, but our intrepid crew were not put off from their purpose. In short the crew qualified, the stewards did not give out the times for the qualifiers, suffice to say that only four Cambridge Crew qualified and the time taken by our coaches was easily the fastest.

The crew settled into the idea of racing at the regatta and went about their business in a jovial fashion. There were many impromptu races off the stake boats in the training against competition of varying standards, all of which, regardless of the result helped to build the spirit of the crew. The Old Johnian Henley Fund had managed to organise thirty tickets for present members of the club to come down and enjoy the Wednesday of the regatta and to watch the club race. However we got a bye on the first day, but the day was enjoyed by those who came to watch. The Thursday saw the Lady Margaret Boat Club racing Bristol University and coming off second best, but we were able to pride ourselves with the knowledge that the Lady Margaret Boat Club was the last Cambridge College to be knocked out of the regatta. However I am able to report a marvellous fortnight in Henley for the crew and an enjoyable number of days at the Regatta for the many members, past and present of the Lady Margaret Boat Club.

The Lady Margaret Boat Club Henley Crew

Bow: Andy South
 2: Ben Richardson
 3: Nick Geddes
 4: Rob Ranson
 5: Nick Pye
 6: Tim Fisher-Jeffes
 7: Tom Cairns
 Stroke: Paul Alexander
 Cox: Joasia Zakrzewski

Michaelmas 1996

Fortunately the Club appeared in good shape at the beginning of the term, losing two of the '96 May crew, but retaining many and the appearance of a clutch of schoolboy oarsmen. Alterations to the CUBC rules meant that the Light IV has been switched to the May Term, meaning instead that there is instead two divisions of Coxed IVs. The Club was able to put out three IV's, none of which were particularly successful but which served to put individuals into boats, especially the new faces.

1st Coxed IV

Bow: Jim Kemp
 2: Tom Latter
 3: Rob Ranson
 Stroke: Andy Jones
 Cox: Helen Clarke

2nd Coxed IV

Bow: Mark Brand
 2: Rob Starling
 3: Rob Pagnamenta
 Stroke: Tom Southern
 Cox: Greg Jeffris

Fairbairn Cup

The Club was able to put in two senior VIIIs, both which showed promise. The 1st VIII reported a creditable 4th place with minimum time on the water through work commitments. The 2nd VIII reached an impressive 12th position, beating a number of 1st boats in the process, obviously benefiting greatly from the input of Roger Silk.

Novices

It is official, The Lady Margaret Boat Club is the best nursery for novice oarsmen. There is little that can be added to the results:

Men's 1st Novice VIII	Fastest Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup. Winner of the Clare Sprints Regatta.
Men's 2nd Novice VIII	Fastest 2nd Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup.
Men's 3rd Novice VIII	Fastest 3rd Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup. Fastest Clinker Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup.
Men's 4th Novice VIII	Fastest 4th Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup. Second fastest 3rd or lower Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup.

This is evidence of the efforts of both the oarsmen concerned and the expertise of the coaching from the present members of the Club, the majority whom also noviced with Lady Margaret.

Lents 1997

The term's campaign started with a training camp at Eton with Guy Pooley. After spending the first morning breaking the ice, literally, we managed to get down to some quality training and Guy's much needed technical input brought on those who were present. On return to Cambridge we found that the Cam had been frozen since Christmas Eve and was set to remain in that condition until 28 January. Fears of wasted training were lost as the squad managed to get in some quality land training, building up a core of fitness which was to serve us well. When the ice finally melted we only had five weeks until race day. Crews were rapidly thrown together and the work on the water started with vigour. Injury problems robbed the 1st VIII of the stroke man after two weeks and the Captain five days before the races started. However, the crew had more the look of a May VIII than a Lent VIII, strengthened by one returning trialist and Carl Seymour, veteran of six May Bumps campaigns. The crew put in a showing at Peterborough and realised that there was some serious work to be done for the crew to realise

its potential. A fortnight later the VIII entered the Pembroke Sprints on the Cam and even with two subs on board was defeated in the final by 1st & 3rd by only 3 feet.

Heads were turning in the direction of Lady Margaret and concern in the other colleges was in evidence, two weeks with Andy Silk had paid off and we had the magic of Roger to come.

In the Bumps themselves the crew rowed over the first day, the result of a pedestrian Queens' crew in front of 1st & 3rd who bumped out extremely early. The following three days saw bumps being made on Queens', Christ's and Caius, all within fifty yards of each other. It became a common sight to see Lady Margaret coming around Grassy Corner on station with the opposition, then, after a sneaky Jumps ten in Plough Reach, find themselves with overlap on Ditton. The atmosphere in the boat was of a job well done, especially with two of the first choice oarsmen on the bank, showing the strength in depth within the Club. The Second boat were successful in making three Bumps, regaining the second boat headship from Downing, winning the Pembroke Sprints for Second Boats and gaining a number of 1st Boat scalps at Bedford, all boding well for the future of the Club.

Three other boats entered the Bumps, and whilst they did not crown themselves in glory, the oarsmen went about their business and there was much fun had by all. In essence at the end of the week it was obvious that the Club was in good health and that success was returning to Lady Margaret.

1st VIII

Bow: Jim Kemp
2: Rob Milner
3: Jeremy Ip
4: Nick Pye
5: Rob Ranson
6: Carl Seymour
7: Tim Fisher-Jeffes
Stroke: Tom Latter
Cox: Amanda Walker

2nd VIII

Bow: Dave Tickler
2: Mark Brand
3: Steve Webb
4: Tristan DuPisaine
5: Rob Starling
6: Rob Pagnamenta
7: Dave Joiner
8: Alex O'Reilly
Cox: Greg Jefferis

Again, as has been the pattern of the last few years, any hope of a training camp at the beginning of the May Term was scuppered by work pressures, not least finalists' dissertations and projects which appear entirely incompatible with rowing. Unfortunately this appears to be the pattern nowadays as the academic pressures upon undergraduates tend to restrict the time they can spend out of Cambridge before their Finals.

1997 Boat Race

The Club was represented on the Tideway this year by Nick Geddes who stroked Goldie to an emphatic victory against Isis, breaking the course record in the process. Not a bad achievement for one who was regarded as the 'weak link' in the 1996 May Crew!

May Term

The term started early and in earnest with Roger Silk running the trials for the boat. The length of the trials themselves was a testament to the strength in depth which the Club enjoys at this point. Eventually a May VIII was selected and began six weeks of hard training. After a fortnight of training under Bill Harcourt which included many pieces from the Black Barn to the Forked Tree and a row to Ely, the crew were moving well and together. This was then complemented both by the highly proficient technical fortnight under the stern and critical gaze of Dave Harvey and the arrival of a new VIII courtesy of the OJHF for which the club is extremely grateful. This set up the crew for the final fortnight with the Goldie Boatman, Ian Dryden, who was able to use the raw materials which were available to develop a racing crew. This crew was never going to be the prettiest nor the most technical, however the raw power that was available was at times quite phenomenal.

As has been the story of the 1st VIII this year, the crew suffered cruel luck as on the second night Tim Fisher-Jeffes (a CUBC trialist) injured

his ribs and could not finish the campaign. The end result was down four, falling to Caius, Queens, 1st & 3rd and Robinson, all whom won their blades. This leaves the Club at ninth on the river and under no illusions over the task ahead next year.

The second VIII with the majority of the previous term's crew available were ably coached by Pete Mallin-Jones, Chris Atkin and Sandy Black. They looked strong all term and outclassed all other second VIIIs on the river. This is reflected in their results; bumping Selwyn, on the second day then St. Catharine's on Saturday. Subsequently rowing as the Sandwich boat at the bottom of the 1st Division they bumped Clare to ensure the Club is the only one on the river with two boats in the 1st Division. This left them with the 2nd Boat Headship and results of which to be justifiably proud.

The third VIII managed to make two bumps on the first two days then rowed over, but technical failure meant that they were bumped at the railway bridge on Saturday despite having rowed with only seven men since a seat came off in the gut and for a still unexplained reason was thrown overboard. A 4th VIII was thrown together at short notice after the Graduate VIII informed the rest of the Club less than 48 hours before the start of the races that they could not make the race because of prior commitments. Whilst the subsequent scratch crew that went out ended up down four, the slot on the river is kept for next year.

The Fellows managed to put out an VIII this year which struggled in the 4th Division, going down on each day to crews at least half their age (and often more) but they remain the only Fellows boat on the river, an achievement of which to be proud in itself. Finally a Rugby boat was put out which managed to row on and was subsequently denied its blades by cruel luck as a huge pile up on the first night meant that they had to re-row as the head boat and simply paddled over the course with approximately twenty five lengths to spare. However some solace was gained by making matchsticks of a Girton crew in front of all the cameras!

1st VIII	2nd VIII
Bow Rob Milner	Mark Brand
2 Jim Kemp	Dave Joiner
3 Nick Pye	Rob Pagnamenta
4 Nick Hardy	Dave Tickler
5 Tom Southern	Tristan DuPissane
6 Tim Fisher-Jeffes	Rich Seago
7 Nick Geddes	Alex O'Reilly
Stroke Tom Latter	Rob Lewis
Cox Joasia Zakrzewski	Helen Clarke

The Club has changed Presidents this year with Professor Perham stepping down after having been involved with the club for twenty five years and with the Master taking over the office. Professor Perham has been a loyal servant to the Club both as Senior Treasurer and as President and we extend our gratitude for his support and efforts over the years. I am happy to be able to report that the Club is in good shape, that Roger Silk is still running a very tight, efficient and effective ship and that with the continued support of the OJHF and the College (not least through the appeal) the Lady Margaret Boat Club will go from strength to strength.

Viva laeta . . .

Benjamin Richardson
Captain

The Lady Margaret Boat Club – Women

This year has been successful and enjoyable for the women of Lady Margaret. We have continued to build on the strength of the Club by producing many dedicated and talented oarswomen. This has been reflected in our results this year, and the fact that most of the rowers in the Club will still be rowing for Lady Margaret next year shows promise for an even stronger club in the future!

Henley 1996

The 96 May boat entered Women's Henley with an optimistic view to challenge some crews from outside Cambridge and see how they

compared, at the same time as learning about Regatta racing and improve on their rowing for the following academic year. Racing side by side on the famous Henley course did not put them off and in the first round they had probably the best row of the term against Manchester University, winning by one and a half lengths. In the second round they were knocked out by Pembroke who were the fastest crew on the Cam at the time. Despite the defeat, much fun was had and a lot of race experience was gained. The crew also had an opportunity to support the Maggie men at Marlow and watch some excellent men's racing. Thanks to the OJHF for the support.

Women's Henley Crew:

Bow: Sarah Power
2: Lisa Campbell
3: Carrie Allison
4: Sarah White
5: Gemma Watts
6: Anna Turk
7: Emily Grabham
Stroke: Sam Davies
Cox: Jon Lloyd

Summer 1996

Four LMBC rowers spent the first four weeks of the summer training with the Cambridge University Women's Boat Club (CUWBC) development squad to compete in the National Championships at Nottingham. The experience gained by these rowers was a contributing factor to the growing strength of LMBC women.

Michaelmas 1996

The enthusiasm and dedication of the Lady Margaret rowers is always the contributing factor in determining the success of the novice crews and the high proportion of novices who carry on rowing throughout

their time at Cambridge. This year was no exception. Three novice VIIIs were selected and some great rowing potential became rapidly apparent from all three crews.

Novices

The 1st and 2nd Novice VIIIs started well with good performances in the Cam Winter Head. They then went on to the Clare Novice Regatta, where both crews showed determination in some 'gutsy' races. The 1st Novices suffered bad luck when their opponents, St Catharine's, caught a 'boat swerving by 90 degrees' crab which forced them to steer into the bank (after they had won the race of course!) This caused damage to LM6 which meant that they then had to share the heavier Midland Pride with the 2nd VIII for the rest of the term. Nevertheless they went on to the quarter finals of the Regatta where they were knocked out by Jesus in a close race. The 2nd VIII were knocked out in the quarter finals of the plate by Fitzwilliam 1, having rowed well in all their races. The 3rd VIII were unfortunately drawn against Churchill 2 (who were the second fastest novice boat on the Cam) in the first round and, although rowing well, suffered from being in a clinker and lost the race. In the Fairbairn Cup, all three crews had a strong and solid race and achieved 3rd, 10th and 25th respectively (out of 53 women's novice crews.) The 1st VIII were still in Midland Pride and possibly could have won if they had had LM6. The 2nd VIII were the second 2nd boat and the 3rd VIII were the first 3rd boat, both crews beating a lot of 1st and 2nd VIIIs. Overall, it was a successful novice term!

University IVs

This year a last minute 'fun' crew decided to enter the university IVs (it had been previously decided to concentrate training in the VIII and not enter the IVs.) The IV were knocked out by a strong Trinity crew, but did not disgrace themselves at all.

The University IVs crew:

Bow: Lisa Campbell
2: Rachel Harker
3: Naomi Tuck
Stroke: Susie Hodgkinson
Cox: Jon Lloyd

Fairbairn Cup

The senior rowers in the club were slightly depleted this term, losing five rowers and a cox to CUWBC trials and a few more to study. Nevertheless a strong 1st VIII and 2nd IV were selected. Unfortunately the IV suffered from injuries and illness and ended up as a 'training' pair/double scull. The VIII had a good term, starting well by winning their first race, the Cam Autumn Head. They then entered the Winter Head where they were 4th. The Fairbairn Cup was raced in thick mist but this did not deter the crew (or cox!). The VIII achieved fifth place, with Pembroke winning with a large margin, but the next four crews were within ten seconds of each other.

Fairbairn VIII:

Bow: Hilary Crowther
2: Clare-Lise Burton
3: Alex Blackburn
4: Lucy Malenczuk
5: Naomi Tuck
6: Nikki Brotton
7: Lisa Campbell
Stroke: Cath Twilley
Cox: Jon Lloyd

Lent Bumps 1997

Two crews arrived in Cambridge before term began for the Lent training camp, keen and eager to start rowing, only to find the Cam completely

frozen. The prospect of 7 days of land training was easier to cope with once a hectic social program had been arranged! Everyone benefited from some good ergo coaching from Roger and the general level of fitness shot up after a week of ergos, circuits, weights and aerobics.

The big freeze meant that Peterborough was again cancelled. When the river eventually thawed, three crews took to the water with enthusiasm and dedication to carry out some intensive training. This training proved worthwhile, as the crews started entering races. In the Pembroke Sprints the 1st VIII had some good races but were just pipped by Jesus in the 3rd round. The 2nd VIII won their division, thrashing both Jesus II and Emma II in the process. The 3rd VIII also won their division. All in all a good day for Lady Margaret! For the first time, two crews went to Bedford where the 1st VIII were third Cambridge crew and the 2nd VIII were fastest second boat and beat several first boats.

The Lent Bumps were exciting as usual. The first day saw two bumps for LMBC women: the 1st VIII bumping New Hall in the Plough Reach and the 2nd VIII bumping Emma 2. The 1st VIII then spent the next three days having hard row-overs to try and catch Queens'. Although they closed the gap, they just couldn't quite get the bump, but the crews behind did not even get near them. The 2nd VIII proved to be the LMBC heroines and, with the help of a lucky pineapple (and some good coaching!), continued their winning streak to bump every day and win their blades. The 3rd VIII suffered from crew changes, had several subs, and never quite got it back together which, unfortunately, led them to be bumped three times.

1st Lent VIII

Bow: Clare Skerritt
2: Clare-Lise Burton
3: Jess Wilson
4: Anna Turk
5: Lisa Campbell
6: Nikki Brotton
7: Alex Blackburn
Stroke: Sarah Power
Cox: Jon Lloyd

2nd Lent VIII – blade winners

Bow: Emily Greenwood
2: Amanda Fuller
3: Alex Kent
4: Doreen Bernath
5: Jo Griffiths
6: Kylie Reed
7: Kathleen Spencer-Chapman
Stroke: Lucy Malenczuk
Cox: Hannah Bradley

Tideway Women's Head of The River Race 1997

This year was the first year that LMBC women took two crews to race the WHORR. The 1st VIII suffered a huge disappointment before the start when one girl was injured during the warm up and they had to withdraw. The 2nd VIII continued to be unbeaten and had a fast race to finish top second boat, and beating several college 1st VIIIs.

CUWBC

The Henley Races 1997

Lady Margaret was again represented in the Varsity races by Gemma Watts (3) and Emily Grabham (Bow) both rowing in the Cambridge Blue Boat which beat Oxford convincingly. Gemma and Emily both deserve many congratulations on their great achievement.

May Bumps 1997

The May Term began with a training camp for potential first and second eight rowers on the Cam, under the watchful eye of Roger Silk. After a week the crews were chosen and training for the races began in earnest.

The first VIII went to Nottingham and managed to beat a few University crews before being knocked out, and four eights entered the Cam Sprint Regatta. The first and third boats won their divisions, while the second boat was featured in the Cambridge Weekly News for its race in the final of the competition against Emmanuel II which was so close that a re-row was declared, which LMBC then lost by a few inches. The graduate women's VIII also raced in another regatta during the term and won the Plate division.

In the Bumps themselves, the first VIII went up two and was unlucky not to have made more Bumps. They are now seventh on the river and in a good position to continue their upward move. The second VIII fought valiantly amongst much larger, stronger first boats, but fell by three places, avoiding spoons by holding off a fast CCAT first boat on

the last day. The third VIII was surrounded by second boats and did well to row over on two days, thus falling by only two places.

The Club managed to put out six women's boats this year - a testament to the popularity of rowing in College, even among those who normally feel more at home on the playing fields. Three boats entered the 'Getting-on' race, but unfortunately only one managed to secure a place in the Bumps in the intense competition. The fourth boat started bottom of the bottom division, bumped Newnham III, was bumped back by Newnham III, and so ended up at the bottom too!

1st May VIII 2nd May VIII

Bow: Sarah Power	Bow: Lisa Campbell
2: Naomi Tuck	2: Amanda Fuller
3: Sam Davies	3: Alex Blackburn
4: Jess Wilson	4: Lucy Malenczuk
5: Nikki Brotton	5: Jo Griffiths
6: Gemma Watts	6: Rachel Harker
7: Anna Turk	7: Hilary Crowther
Stroke: Emily Grabham	Stroke: Cath Twilley
Cox: Amanda Walker	Cox: Hannah Bradley

Thanks to Roger Silk, the Boatman and Chief Coach, and to my fellow officers: John Lloyd, Vice-Captain, and Sarah White, Lower-Boats Captain. Good luck next year to Alex Blackburn, Captain, Nikki Brotton, Vice Captain, and Hannah Bradley, Lower-Boats Captain.

Samantha Davies
Ladies' Captain

The Old Johnian Henley Fund

With the announcement of the new College Appeal, this edition of *The Eagle* is probably a good opportunity to publicise the existence of the Old Johnian Henley Fund to all members of College, especially to those who suspect it to be a rather elitist organisation dedicated to the enjoyment of the few!

Historically, the principal purpose of the OJHF was indeed to assist members of the LMBC who wished to represent the College at Henley Royal Regatta. In recent years, however, the role of the OJHF has changed significantly. Support is still provided to the men and women rowing at Henley Royal Regatta and Henley Women's Regatta but this represents a small proportion of the funds now distributed by the OJHF for the benefit of members of the LMBC. For over fifteen years the OJHF has donated funds directly to the Club specifically for the purchase of equipment: initially on an *ad hoc* basis as the finances of rowing began to change, but recently as part of a jointly-planned investment programme. The plan covers not only equipment for the two first VIIs but also boats and oars for the lower crews, gym equipment, tub pairs, bank tubs and the Club trailer. In 1997 the percentage of the LMBC inventory funded by the OJHF reached the astonishing figure of 75%: all contributed by Old Johnians concerned that the opportunities available in their day should remain available to present and future members of the College. The OJHF committee have racked their brains to come up with a more appropriate name for the Fund to reflect its much wider remit, as yet with little success!

With the increasing financial commitment to the LMBC has come the desire to publicise the activities of the OJHF to the wider College community, in particular to those who enjoyed their rowing at LMBC but who are unaware that their successors, be it in fifth, ninth, 'gents', 'ladies' or just novice VIIs, are benefiting now from the generosity of OJHF subscribers. The OJHF is proud that its support of the LMBC has been recognised by the College in the planning of the new Appeal. The challenge for this Appeal is to grow to support the day-to-day running costs of the College sports clubs as government funding declines: to do this we must increase the subscriber base to reflect the broader range of rowers now benefiting from the OJHF.

What can the OJHF offer to Old Johnians? Apart from the annual newsletter, the OJHF has in 1996 and 1997 organised a get-together of the whole Club along with past LMBC members on the Wednesday of Henley Royal Regatta. We would wish to see this develop into a formidable reunion of Old Johnians in the future. We shall also seek to assist the College's Johnian Office in the planning of other reunions and

dinners throughout the year: we are determined to involve all Old Johnians who ever sat in a boat!

In the coming years the opportunity to play sport for the College will only be available through the generosity of Old Johnians. Please help the College Appeal and the OJHF to keep your successors on the river, if only for a term!

Chris Atkin
Hon. Sec.

Long Vacation Cricket 1996

Any of the Discontent of Winter was indeed made Glorious Summer by the revival of Long Vacation cricket. The playing fields become something of a retreat for those students and Fellows still resident during the long dog days of summer when College is abandoned by most of its members and is given over instead to the rather earnest Conference attendees.

The Long Vac. Team is traditionally something of a strange amalgam of mixed talent and experience, held together partly by the collective experience of exile, but principally by a fine spirit of conviviality and love of the game. The core of the team was drawn from the remnants of the SBR Graduate Cricket team, which had just come from its most triumphant season to date. Much praise must go to Brian Tom, whose organisational efforts helped keep the team together over the course of the summer, and whose unflappable good spirits kept these much harassed graduates up to their game. In this he was ably assisted by Drs Midgley and Linehan, whose experience and steadiness, not to mention good humour, were a most welcome addition to the side.

The first of four fixtures was against the village team of Pinchbeck, always a favourite, a hard team to beat, but a fine team to lose to. This was followed by a hard fought draw against Thames Valley University, a match in which I saw a delightful century scored by our Captain, Ed James. (We were happily assured by Dr Linehan that, had Ed not run him out, he too would have gone on to a ton). Then came the clergy from the

Diocese of St Albans, who, seemingly with God on their side, raced to a declaration which was surely unbeatable. SJC prayers were answered, however, in the form of a sterling innings from Hugo Malan which helped us secure a miraculous victory. The final fixture of the season saw us face the formidable team from the University of Liverpool, whom we were more than happy to come away from with a draw.

Altogether a fine season of Long Vac. Cricket, boding well for the season to come. If the trend continues we may well see a revival in the Long Vac. Cricket Team tie, which I, for one, would most heartily welcome.

Damien A Browne

Netball

First Team

The pressure was on this year. Following on from Jill Cameron's successful season last year, I knew that captaining John's to the Ladies League 1st Division League title would not be easy. There were two only options:

- a) to retain the title
- b) to fall from grace

The latter seemed the most probable at the beginning of the season. Freshers' Fair didn't prove promising. Few people signed up and, competing with other sports for the longest list of sign ups, many unsuspecting friends names were added. Pacts were made with the basketballers, following the same fate as we were, to exchange names of enthusiastic people!

Fewer people turned up for trials. A total of 4 people managed the first set and seven the following set. Trials therefore had to be carried out during the first match against Newnham. We won this comfortably 15 - 7.

Next we were up against Pembroke (and their four Blues players!) and this was not our most treasured match of the season. John's fought hard (when everybody had finally found the courts!) but unfortunately

didn't quite have the edge on this talented side. The score not quite reflecting the closeness of play 5 – 13.

Apart from that, and a narrow defeat by Magdalene, (due to flu causing the absence of our 'storming' goal attack – Blues player Jill Cameron), John's had a successful season in the league and therefore this will be one of the College's sports sides that will remain in the 'premier' division next year!

Cuppers was another story. John's were out to take revenge on Pembroke for claiming the League title. And we did just that. Unfortunately some of our team were missing but that made us even more determined. The morning pool was fun. All the team played well together in this 'never played in before' combination. The shooters, however, did not play as well – but the score lines, ranging from 10 – 14 to 1 – 3 in our favour, didn't quite reflect this.

Thankfully in the important afternoon session, with support (thanks Nikki), John's went from strength to strength and didn't fade under pressure. Victory followed victory and before we knew it we were in the semi-finals against Girton; the Girton team including an England defender! Probably the lowest score of the day was recorded here, John's narrowly gaining a place in the final with a 4 -3 win. Pembroke went out to Selwyn in the other semi-final. The final loomed. We were confident and just went out there and did it, winning 13 – 6. We were ecstatic! Although we didn't have the league title again, at least we had Cuppers Champions 1997 to add to our name.

I would like to thank LMBC, Women's Rugby, Flu, Forgetfulness and Romantic Boyfriends whisking valuable team members off for the weekend of 14 February, for causing me big headaches and near heart attacks! I would also like to thank and say sorry to Jess Wilson for being woken up and agreeing to play netball 10 minutes before the game was scheduled to start. A game we won by miles – 14 – 2 and a game when we wished we'd had Jess all season! Hopefully we will drag her away from the river next year and she will be a regular member of the team.

College Netball Colours this year are awarded to: Melanie Christian, Jill Cameron, Sally Mayhew, Vanessa Boag, Nikki James, Meena Brahma, Claire Northcott and Felicity Britton. Congratulations go to Jill Cameron for gaining her Netball Blue in style this year and to Melanie Christian for her University Colours.

Many thanks go to joint second team captains Marika Lemos and Minal Shah for their part in organising the second team. I know it caused them a lot of hassle! Good luck to the newly elected captain Felicity Britton and I hope that we have just as successful a season next year.

Melanie Christian
Captain

Second Team

The second team (when we managed to get together more than three players) made a good start in the Michaelmas term beating Magdalene 5 – 3, but after that it was downhill all the way. Our next match of the term was against Emmanuel to whom we lost 10 – 2. The Lent Term saw a forfeiting of a match to the Vet School when only three of John's players turned up to face ten rather large opponents. We did play a friendly against them with three of their side joining ours. After that day, what little interest there had been died away, and we did not enter Cuppers. Hopefully next year we will see a more enthusiastic response from those who sign up at Freshers' Fair, reflecting the fact that a College as large as John's should have more than one committed netball team. Thanks to the people who did make the effort though, and good luck to next year's captains!

Minal Shah

Mixed Netball

An excellent day was had by all who attended, the highlight being the pub lunch! John's played well with their controversial imports (thanks Jill!) and was finally beaten (by the umpire!) in the Quarter Finals. Thanks to Dave Sharma for captaining the side for the second year running.

Gentlemen's Rugger

The 1996-7 season has seen a wind of change rattle through the lofty halls and cosy lounges of Rugby Union. A sport that for decades has prided itself on its amateur values of fellowship and sportsmanship has had to adjust itself to the demons of commerce, to sponsors, agents and the rigours of training. Committees and friendships established upon camaraderie and a taste for fine wine have been split apart by infighting and the sharks of commercial television. St. John's College R.U.F.C, a bastion of tradition and excellence, has had to rise to the challenge. The aim this season: to maintain its status as the premier power in University Rugby, to continue to provide free flowing and attacking rugby of eulogistic artistry and to adhere to the traditional values of Rugby Union and all that it entails.

This challenge was compounded at the start of this season by the loss of many of the stalwarts of last year's Double winning squad. The likes of Zinger Stokes, Matt Bonnetti, Nick Spence, James Rutter-Griffiths and Will Thomas, legendary players of panache and verve who had brought such a confidence and spirit to the side, would be sorely missed; we prayed for a suitable intake to fill this void.

Our prayers were answered with the arrival of a fine body of men whose commitment, skill and love of the game has ensured the continued health of our club. The new players slipped into the team with ease at the start of the league season. Sion Jones slid comfortably between Pete Evans and Tal Lomnitzer bringing dynamism and a novel scent to the front row. In the second row the powerhouses of Tom Tweddell, returning to the fold following three years in the backs, and Mal Green were salmon in the lineouts. The hardy veterans Nick Hartley and Rob Cadwallader were joined by the youth and good looks of Justin Atkinson and Jim Wilde on the flanks. The pack was once again a force to be reckoned with in the league, lighter for the loss of Paul Godfrey and yours truly, but infinitely faster and more capable with the ball in hand, enough to scare our first two opponents, Emmanuel and Clare, into capitulation.

The first competitive match came against Churchill where the mettle of this new and inexperienced side would be rigorously tested. It was here,

in a commanding 36-14 victory, that we saw the true class of the new recruits out wide. Mike Rennoldson played consistently well at scrum half; a threat at all times, he provided excellent service to Jamie Goldberg at fly half, who ably filled the boots of Olly Jones (LX club) with a poise and confidence that belied his youth. Further out, the experience of Matt Dobson, Alex Theos and Luke Kevan was added to by the talented running of the dummy maestro, Richard Samworth, and the pace of our sometime footballers, Salvan Masilamany and Dave Hunt, filling the role of 'gasmen' so tragically vacated by Dan Jordan and Luke Gompels, season-long casualties.

The league season progressed well with crushing victories over Sidney Sussex, Christ's, Pembroke and the old rivals St Catharine's in fine style; however foul weather and injury problems that exposed a regrettable weakness in playing numbers conspired against us in the end. A draw to Robinson in the worst conditions and a painful loss to the Village of Magdalene with a weakened side meant that we finished the League as runners up by one point, a dark day for John's rugby.

Revenge came in Cuppers with the return of seven players from last year's side. Sion Jones was joined by Paul Godfrey and Nick Studer in a front row that comprised the most intimidating force in the competition. While in the back row Russell Earnshaw, when available, complemented our strong pack of flankers. In the backs, the resurrected Dave Richards, Olly Jones, Adam Green and Matt Dobson created a fearsome three-quarter line, with the pace of Samworth and Theos out wide, that was to prove incisive and unbreechable. Our passage through the preliminaries was overcome with ease, leading to the inevitable clash with Magdalene and their compliment of ringers at Grange Road for the repeat of last year's epic final. The Red Boys secured it once again before a baying crowd, with a fine all round performance that spoke volumes for the team's commitment and abilities against a strong and motivated opposition, awesome in attack and rocklike in defence, the Cup came home once more.

With the season completed the Red Boys once again undertook their annual pilgrimage to the furthest reaches of civilisation. 'Go West' was the quest, and westward we headed towards the land of the setting sun and Cydhur, armed with our boots, our hats and our literature. Via the

belligerent spired city on the Isis, where we were assaulted by a Keble rugby team while sunning ourselves in the Parks, we headed to the Mecca of Agrarianism, that temple to all things agricultural where the locals consume liquor at a mythical pace. From here, refreshed and full of intrepid spirit, we ascended unto Devon, where, assaulted once again, we were grateful for the heavenly touches of Exeter's sacred nurses, our Devonly host. Inevitably Judgement Day came, the quest was complete, our sins were forgiven but will never be forgotten. The Red Boys returned to the peaceful life of Cambridge, content in the knowledge that the challenge had been overcome.

I would like to pass on my thanks to all who have assisted with this memorable and very happy season: Roddy Vann, my able and ever willing secretary; Rob Cadwallader, my vice captain who bravely took on the responsibility for the league side with aplomb; and to Jim and all the ground staff who have produced such consistently excellent pitches. Finally I would like to wish the best of luck to next season's incumbents, Justin, Sion and James. Long may *Les Garçons Rouges* flourish.

Charlie Courtenay
Captain

Women's Rugby

To take on the captaincy of a team that has had two consecutive years of winning everything is a daunting task and one that is hard to equal, let alone improve on. However, the Red Girls continue to go from strength to strength and I am privileged to have been a part of the success this season.

The first team, consisting of several committed veterans of the game and spurred on by the enthusiasm and talent of outstanding new players – Katherine Joy, Andrea Bull and Nell Boase, were unbeatable, winning every game in the season to nil and once again walking away with the league and cuppers double. To pick one match from the season, it would have to be the league decider against Downing, which brought out the true aggression and spirit of the team, supported all the way by the trusty kicking boot of 'Flies'.

The second team, under the inspirational and dynamic leadership of Lin Metcalf, also had their fair share of success. They too benefited from the enthusiasm and determination of committed new and returning players, most notably Adele Langlois, Sarah Abramson and Sian Jones. The seconds, mirroring the success of the firsts, finished fourth in the top division and made history by becoming the first ever second team to reach the quarter-finals in cuppers. Next year the firsts will have to really watch their backs!

Not only are the mighty girls of red involved in College rugby but their talents have been fully utilised on the University pitch as well. No less than seven of the team got their half-blues this year and a further seven gained their second team colours.

This track record may sound farcical, but it is success justified by the hard work of the players involved. I must give special thanks to our coaches: Luke Kevan, Dave Richards and Oly Jones whose support, advice and tireless enthusiasm this season has undoubtedly helped mould such strong teams. In fact the support from the Red Boys generally this year has been recognised and truly appreciated.

For the first time ever the Red Girls went on tour at the end of the Lent term thanks to the brilliant organisational skills of the honorary secretary, Hannah Bradley. Hungry for further national recognition, the squad also entered a team in the National Sevens tournament in Marlow. The team fought valiantly to the end despite the rock-hard ground, resulting in skinned knees for all. Beating club sides such as the Nomads and Wimbledon, the Red Girls reached the Quarter-finals of the plate finally meeting their match against Clifton II. No doubt we will be giving the Wasps and Richmond a run for their money next year.

I feel privileged to have captained and got to know such a fantastic group of people. I would like to wish Katherine Joy and Adele Langlois all the very best with their captaincies, and I look forward to joining them on the pitch again next year. Thanks and congratulations go to Lin for helping me so much and taking her team to unprecedented heights, and of course to Jim and his staff for such 'marvellous' pitches as always.

As a result of commitment and talent throughout the season, colours have been awarded to the following: Sarah Abramson, Nell Boase, Hannah Bradley, Andrea Bull, Hope Cooper, Sian Jones, Katherine Joy, Adele Langlois, Lin Metcalf, Amelia Torode and Odette Valentine.

Hope Cooper
Captain

Cricket

Right from the start, the first's displayed the flair and commitment necessary to prove themselves the best college team in Cambridge. Only the Cuppers final awaits. An already strong squad from last year was strengthened by the arrival of Richard Samworth, Matt Siddle, Rich McDowell, and Colin Campbell. The first three friendlies underlined the strength of the team, as we dominated all three. We built on this success and once again have had a great season.

The first match was against the Gentlemen of Suffolk. New recruit Richard Samworth provided a show of his honed batting skills in getting to 78, the other batting debutante Jamie Goldberg also started well, making an unbeaten 43. This was supported by the traditional run scorers of last year, Raj Jayarajasingam, Jamie Samworth and Pete Horsley playing cameo innings of 40 plus. The final total of 297 for 3 proved too much for the Gents who ended up batting out the last three overs to avoid losing. Another debutante Matt Siddle spearheaded the bowling attack with 5 for 41.

The strength shown in batting brought a deserved victory against the Stoics. We put them in to bat first and they reached 252 for 7. Tom Grafton was the most successful of our bowlers taking 3 for 64. Fine displays of batting by Richard Samworth (92), Ed Cropley (68), and Raj (43 not out) lead to a John's victory by 7 wickets.

In the next match against the Jesters, the one and only ton of the season was made by Jamie Samworth. In typical style, he dismissed the bowlers to all areas of the ground, particularly an area just wide of moo. This lead the way to another win, by 95 runs.

The first Cuppers game against St. Edmund's was a mere formality. A fantastic spell of bunny blasting by Colin Campbell (6 for 7), allowed Cropley and James Samworth to knock off the runs in 5 out of the 40 allotted overs. The second Cuppers match also saw a fine bowling performance by Colin taking 1 for 22 in 8 overs. This was supported by Matt Siddle who conceded only 19 runs off his 8 overs. The John's top order easily notched up the remaining runs to win by 7 wickets.

Against Hetaioi, Cropley used all his experience to show that he too can bowl. He wove a web of spin and guile to take 4 for 20, and leave Hetaioi all out for 142. A total that was a player who had been picked to play for India in a test match: a Mr. Bhaskar. This caused quite a stir in our camp. A player who shall remain nameless announced that he had finally met his hero, many of his friends even owned posters! He then promptly engaged in his own special form of hero worship, proceeding to drop the great man twice before leaving the field a happy man. We batted first and despite a handsome 93 by James Samworth, and a flurry of pinch hitting by Mayer we only made 206 all out. Campbell bowled tirelessly, producing a regal spell of 22 delightful overs. However, our fielding let us down badly, and having dropped 5 catches we were unable to gain the upper hand. We were eventually beaten by 4 wickets.

It has been a great year for the first XI, and I hope that this success will continue to see us become Cuppers champions. Three other players are worth noting for their contributions: Roddy Vann was at all times excellent behind the stumps, Richard McDowell is a fine opening bat despite his knack of being given out, and Richard Brice a man without whom no cricket game can be truly complete.

Many, many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Williams who work so hard to allow us to play cricket and have such a wonderful time. We are so lucky to have a great ground to play on and superb lunches and teas to feast on. Thanks also to everyone (Theos, Sumit, Will, and Dan just to mention a few) who have turned up at the last minute to fill in for lost players. Hopefully the side will move onwards and upwards next year under the new captain Tom Grafton.

The second and third teams have also had a fun season. The seconds had a mixed season firstly under the careful tutorage of Rob

Cadwallader, and then Sumit Gupta. They have helped to ensure the growing ground for future first cricketers has been kept fertile. Now for the thirds. Very few colleges can rival the social cricket played at this level. Ash Notaney has managed to sculpt a huge squad of students of all abilities, shapes and sizes into the meanest looking cricket playing party machine I have ever seen. Congratulations to all the men's teams who have played cricket in the best of spirits, I look forward to another season with everybody.

That is not the end however. Women's cricket is starting to make an impact at John's. So far the practises and nets have been well attended by keen players. Cuppers takes place soon and hopes are high. Particularly, we look forward to some good bowling from Jo Griffiths, and solid batting from Hannah Bradley, Odette Valentine, Helen Hendry, and Sophie Dixon (the captain). Thank you to the Samworth brothers, Matt Siddle, and Roddy Vann for their coaching. Thanks also to everyone who donated kit to the new kit bag.

Peter Horsley

COLLEGE SPORTS

St John's Athletics Club

It has been a successful year for many of St John's athletes with two receiving Full Blues and a number of other commendable performances in this year's Varsity Match held on 16th May at Oxford.

Helen Ford-Dunn achieved her Blue for the 3000m walk in which she clocked a personal best time of 15 mins 40 seconds winning by a significant margin. Emma Brooker running in the 5000m went on to assure herself of her Full Blue after achieving the standard at the British Universities Championships at Bath at the beginning of May.

Other Johnians representing Cambridge in the Varsity Match were Ken Wong (100m/200m/4x100m relay) and Ben Shearon-Johnson (3000m walk) who both received Half-blues. Alexandra Rusman played an important part in the Women's 2nd team competing in the following events 400m, hammer, shot and 4x400m relay.

There were also some other notable performances by Johnians in meetings prior to the Varsity Match. Back in the Lent Term a select number of athletes competing in the Cuppers field events and relays match helped St Johns finish in a respectable position. Ken Wong achieved a personal best time for the 100m at Bath in the British Universities Championships. Helen Ford-Dunn and Emma Brooker also became County Champions in the 3000m walk and 1500m respectively.

Hopefully the success that Johnian athletes have had this year will be improved upon in the future with increasing numbers of people participating in the sport.

Emma Brooker
Captain

Men's Badminton

The year started off with a host of enthusiastic new players joining the club. Subsequent trials confirmed that we would have no problems fielding two competitive sides in the league, and the first team was further boosted by the fact that no-one had left college the previous summer. Generally throughout the year playing standards were consistently high with all players showing keenness and commitment to the college.

In the Michaelmas term the firsts won convincingly against Catz, Fitz, Trinity and Christ's. However we played our old adversaries Queens' in the first match of the season losing narrowly 18-16 in the deciding game. This sealed our fate as Queens' went on unbeaten and clinched the league by the slimmest of margins. The Lent league was equally as frustrating, again playing Queens' first and narrowly losing. Unfortunately then, and despite a good run of form late in the term, the first team could only manage a valiant second place in the league overall.

Pairings changed over the course of the year, but there was a consistent backbone to the team. As last year Rob Pagnamenta, Nagulan Saravanamuttu, and Mark Dowson all played to a high standard. The team was further boosted by freshers Kanishka Misra and Dan Susman. Finally Phil Clatworthy and Steve Pedlow were 'discovered' halfway through the year and put in sterling performances for the team.

The second team under the captaincy of Wayne Kark have had another extremely successful year. Starting off in Division 5 they demolished the Michaelmas opposition with a higher level of play, and easily won promotion. Lent Term matches were more competitive with victories over Corpus, Catz 2, Homerton, and Sidney. Despite a narrow loss to Queens' 2 the team still managed to gain further promotion to the third division. Congratulations are due to the numerous players that contributed to the seconds success, notably the captain Wayne, James Wormold, Roland Lindsay, and Pete Silverwood.

This year Cuppers was played over one weekend at the end of the Lent Term. Last year's fine performance saw us seeded and gave us a first-round bye. Our second round match on Saturday against Robinson was won fairly comfortably. Thanks to all the players that stepped in at the last moment due to the enforced absence of our first pair. We went into Sunday with a full strength team consisting of our blues players Alvin Goh and Paul Cook as first pair, myself and Phil Clatworthy as second pair, and Rob Pagnamenta and Mark Dowson as third pair. Our quarter final against Fitz was keenly contested but fine victories by first and third pairs clinched victory. To the semi-final and a grudge match against Trinity, notorious for their abundance of blues. As expected the result was on a knife-edge, everything resting on the deciding game of the first pair match. Both Alvin and Paul played excellently and had numerous match points before eventually succumbing 3-2 in setting. This was a cruel blow indeed especially as Trinity won the final easily. Despite this all team members played superbly and receive college colours.

Overall then the year was a case of 'almost but not quite' though the second team's rise through the divisions is credit to the strength in depth in badminton throughout college. Hopefully next year will see both teams continuing to flourish and allow us to regain supremacy.

Alan Castle
Captain

St John's Basketball Club 1997-1998

"Who is the happy warrior?"

St. John's legendary hoopster (William Wordsworth) asked the question, and the team's aim was to show that happiness was a by-product of success.

Despite the loss of a number of key players in the off-season to continue their careers in New Zealand (an Englishman), Singapore, Australia, and Hampshire (an American), the team had high hopes entering the

new season. Bolstered by the return of the five-year veterans Brian Tom and Bret Vykopal, and under the leadership of Pierre Shlimon, the team raced off to two early wins in the intercollegiate league.

The linchpin of the team throughout the season was Vaughan Wittorff who led all scorers and excelled on defence despite having a remarkable ability to accumulate injuries. He was ably assisted on court by the other members of the starting five, who all showcased their particular skills each week. Bret was once again chairman of the boards, grabbing rebounds and blocks at will, whilst rookie Iago Gil Aguado's bruising play was contrasted with his excellent passing. At the guard spots, the captain and his predecessor, Rupak Chandra, delivered numerous points and assists. Nevertheless, all these players were assisted by an excellent supporting cast of players, with Sean Hartnoll taking time out from a career in Aerosmith, and James Main demonstrating to Vaughan that free-throws were a simple case of throwing the ball in the basket. Roland Lindsay showed some excellent shooting ability whilst Harry Smith was unstoppable on his way to the basket.

Nevertheless, despite the good start, the record proved difficult to maintain mainly due to a slump in shooting percentages and the team suffered a number of close defeats. However, it also enjoyed a number of excellent wins over St Catharines, Peterhouse and Magdalene amongst others. St John's also led 12-0 against the eventual league Champions before succumbing in the second-half, but the highlight of the regular season was a last-second win against Churchill (last year's cuppers champions), with Iago grabbing the final basket despite his indications to the contrary, which unfortunately are not repeatable.

Overall, the team ended the season in a respectable fifth position, and will look to build on this result next season. The Cup competition saw John's ease through the league stages, beating Girton on the way. In the final stages the team suffered from Vaughan's absence, and despite Rupak rediscovering his three-point shooting ability, were eventually beaten by Darwin in a close encounter.

The new regular sessions at Kelsey Kerridge proved essential in the team's development, and the outdoor courts will no doubt see regular

action following the exams. I thus would like to thank Dr McConnell and the groundstaff for their help. Captaining the team has been an enjoyable experience, due to the cohesion and unselfish nature of the team. If my successor can acquire some new players in the draft then next year may see the team finally answer Wordsworth's question.

Pierre Shlimon
Captain

Men's Cricket

Matching the enormous success of the 1997 cricket season - unbeaten in all but one game, and Cuppers Champions to go with it - was always going to be a hard task. This is, however, of little comfort in summing up the relative lack of achievement of this year's efforts. In such a small term, a couple of weeks of rain really eats into a season. Three or four weeks and you've almost had it. One consolation might have been that at least come May Week we could have been guaranteed a few games.

The weather indeed has put a damper on the season with even an inaugural tour to Oxford during May Week being abandoned. This was a great shame, not only as it was a last year playing cricket at John's for many of us, but also because of the increased strength and depth to the side due to an influx of many talented Freshers.

The season nonetheless had its highlights - the main one being the sheer velocity and entertainment value in Pete Horsley's batting. Unbeaten on 155 against the Jesters, Pete's consistency never wavered. Raj too continued his habit of playing top quality cricket, despite weather conditions making such shots difficult to play. Rich McDowell's only obvious difficulty continues to be umpires, while Ben Cocker and Jamie Goldberg put solidity to a class batting line up. Iain de Weymarn, though only playing twice, was the stalwart of our Cuppers campaign. Chasing 150 to win, he maintained one end while others collapsed, rather than batted around him.

On the bowling front, Matt Siddle and Colin Campbell demonstrated what being a senior pro was all about, whilst Neil Lomax and Andy Jenkins added pace and variety to the attack.

The one win of the season came against Hetaorai when they were bowled out for 196 (Grafton 4-50) chasing 231 (McDowell 74). The other success of the season came in the form of the Old Boys Day, when not only was the weather fine, but the day was well attended. I hope this can become an annual event and will endeavour to try and continue it at least next year.

Overall, the team is still a very talented one and it would have been interesting to see how we would have performed, given a complete season. Our thanks go out to Mr and Mrs Williams for such great hospitality both in and out of the pavilion. Retiring next year, let's hope their last season here is a good one.

Tom Grafton
Captain

Women's Cricket

Women's cricket has again seen an enthusiastic group of complete beginners take up the sport this year with nets sessions being keenly attended twice a week throughout the term. One league match was played and won against Emmanuel but unfortunately the rest of the season, including Cuppers, was washed out. The future looks bright for College Women's cricket; Sophie Dixon and I are representing the University and all of us are looking forward to playing and winning Cuppers next year.

Jo Griffiths
Women's Captain

St John's College Eagles Club

In August 776 BC, the great Panhellenic festival of Olympia, in honour of Zeus, was held in the city state of Elis. Athletic competitors from all over the Greek world assembled there to compete in the festival's now fabled games. A young cook, named Coroebus (a local chap), sprinted

his way into history, by becoming the first recorded Olympic champion. Thus was born official, competitive sport; from that moment on, the flame of the Corinthian spirit was ignited in sportsmen throughout the globe, and today it still burns, brightest of all at St John's College.

The Eagles Club is the society of St John's College's sporting élite. Formed over a century ago, it still retains its position as one of the most respected societies in the College. This is because election to the Eagles Club is a great honour, reserved only for those whose contribution to College and University sports has been of sufficient quality to merit such recognition. In a College blessed with a tradition of high sporting achievement, competition for one of the 28 membership slots is keen, especially given the spectacular recent successes of College sportsmen and teams. It is my sincere hope that the Eagles Club retains its status, by maintaining its strict and objective entrance criteria, so that membership is truly seen as the ultimate symbol of prestige for sportsmen of St John's College.

A year has elapsed since Mr Ed Cropley delivered his fine eulogy at the previous Eagles Club Dinner. During that period, St John's College's teams and individuals have amassed a veritable treasure-trove of silverware and honours for sporting excellence. To do justice to this plethora of victories is not possible on a mere sheet of paper. The agony and the ecstasy of competition must be experienced, not read about, to appreciate its full glory.

However, the following roll of honour should go some way to indicating the domination of St John's College's teams during 1997-8:

1997 Cricket Cuppers Champions
 1997-8 Hockey League Champions
 Second in Lent Bumps 1998
 1997-8 Football League (Div 2) Champions
 1997-8 Rugby League Champions

N.B. It is with great sadness that we report the regrettable demise of Trinity College's sporting ambitions over the same period; if it had not

been for one moment of success on the river, their overall sporting ranking would have been below that even of Magdalene.

Furthermore, outstanding individual successes of those in the club over the past twelve months can also be reported. Johnny Mayer picked up his second hockey Blue, and Jeremy Ip captained the Blues swimming team. Paul Godfrey very nearly got a rugby Blue at Twickenham, and picked up his third LXs colour. Tom Latter rowed for the University lightweights team which beat Oxford this year, whilst Oscar Stewart, Colin Campbell and Colin Johnston all won Wanderers hockey colours. Sion Jones and Matt Dobson picked up U21s rugby colours. Recovering from a serious back injury, Julian Gould was a footballing Falcon for the second time. And away from University sport, Jamie Goldberg represented Great Britain at rugby in the Jewish Olympic Games.

It has been my pleasure to preside over the Eagles Club for the last year, due to both the reasons above, and also the camaraderie of the members. Two desserts with the Fellows, a leisurely Eagles' Day, and numerous outings of invariable success with female societies from other colleges have ensured that the social aspect of the Club has not been ignored. Furthermore, the vivid, imaginative, and energetic initiations continue to cement links between the new members and the old.

St John's College sport is in good health, and I am sure it will continue to prosper. If Coroebus was here with us now, I have no doubt that he too would want to become an Eagle.

Duncan Hancox
(Avis Maximus)

Current Junior Members of Eagles Club: Justin Atkinson, Richard Brice, Rob Cadwallader, Colin Campbell, Matt Dobson, Tim Fisher-Jeffes, Malcolm Gates, Nick Geddes, Paul Godfrey, Jamie Goldberg, Julian Gould, Tom Grafton, Duncan Hancox, Tom Henderson, Peter Horsley, David Hunt, Jeremy Ip, Colin Johnston, Andy Jones, Sion Jones, Tom Latter, Steve Lloyd, Johnny Mayer, Mike Rennoldson, Richard Samworth, Lee Sanders, Jim Scott, Oscar Stewart.
New Senior Member: Dr Duncan McFarlane

The Flamingoes Club

This year was a most memorable one for women's sport at St. John's, with a large number of girls representing the University in a range of sports, from hockey to skiing and with an amazing Johnian presence in both the University rowing and rugby clubs.

There was also a sad realisation that the aged nature of the current members of the club meant that the vast majority would be leaving in June, and, combined with the great sporting talent currently on display, a large number of new members were welcomed into the squad.

Michaelmas Term 1997

Alex Blackburn	LMBC Ladies' Captain, Tennis Colours
Sarah Boardman	SJC Football Captain, University 2nd XV Rugby Colours
Nikki Butterworth	SJC Football Captain, Netball Captain, University Air Squadron
Elly Hanson	Badminton Half-Blue, Tennis Colours
Kath Joy	Rugby Half-Blue, SJC Rugby Captain, Hockey Colours
Ele Mayne	University Cross-Country Captain, Cross-Country Half-Blue

Lent Term 1998

Felicity Britton	SJC Netball Captain, Badminton Colours
Jess Cave	SJC Tennis Captain, Hockey Colours
Treeva Fenwick	University Tennis Colours, Tennis Colours

Easter Term 1998

Jenny Allan	Rugby Colours, Hockey Colours
Nicole Armstrong	Hockey Colours
Nell Boase	Rugby Half-Blue, Rugby Colours
Nikki Brotton	Rowing Blue, 1st VIII Mays
Isobel Churchill	Hockey Colours
Megan Jefferies	Skiing Half-Blue, University Skiing Captain, English Skiing Champion 1997 (SG)

Adèle Langlois	University 2nd XV Rugby Colours, Rugby Colours
Natalie Papo	Skiing Half-Blue
Clare Skerritt	University Rugby Colours, SJC Rugby Captain
Anna Smith	Hockey Colours
Naomi Tuck	Blondie 1998, 1st VIII Mays
Anna Turk	Lightweight Rowing Half-Blue, 1st VIII Mays, University 2nd XV, Rugby Colours, Netball Colours
Amanda Walker	1st VIII Mays
Jess Wilson	Blondie 1998, 1st VIII Mays
Claire Wolfenden	University 2nd XI Hockey, Hockey Colours, Scotland U16 XI Hockey
Joasia Zakrewski	1st VIII Mays (Men)

This year has been very well enjoyed by Johnian sportswomen, both on and off the pitch. Despite busy sporting schedules, the Flamingoes have enjoyed several social outings in a variety of colleges. We look forward to the Annual Garden Party and welcome the new members and hope that they enjoy the next year as much as we have enjoyed this one. Good luck to the new President of the Club, Sarah Boys-Smith and to Vanessa Boag and Jess Cave, Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Sophie Dixon
President, 1997-1998

Men's Football

This season was like no other season in living memory. However, it was not the dazzling, breathtaking football played nor the gritty determination and commitment that set this season apart because, as we all know, these qualities are ingrained into every Johnian side. This season was unique because we were not in the top flight of Cambridge football for the first time since 1987. Some may regard this as John's lowest moment in football. Indeed the long away trips to the 'less fashionable' colleges of Selwyn and Sidney Sussex are not what footballing dreams are made of, but in these most unlikely of venues football nirvana was found.

The task was simple: promotion or long and painful death for the Captain by method of a blunt spoon and a barrage of Dave Hunt jokes. Under this sort of pressure I knew a good start was essential and thankfully pre-season went as planned. Two convincing victories vs Jesus and an old boys side and a draw to the dirty Trinity gave me hope of living to see next season. Like cream in a decidedly dodgy pint of milk, John's rose straight to the top of the division with impressive wins against Pembroke and Sidney Sussex. Confidence was riding high as we came to probably our most important fixture of the season: the filthy Trinity in the first round of Cuppers. What a game! A 2-0 lead was squandered, a third goal was disallowed and we had a player sent off before Sanders rose at the near post to notch a last ditch winner. Our all-conquering form spread to all walks of life with eight of us scoring in a midweek fixture away at Cindy's. We were unstoppable. Tit Hall were the next to be demolished by the Johnian scoring machine, 5-1 the result this time, Goldberg and Sanders bagging a brace each. However, the form deserted us away at Long Road as we let a 2-0 lead slip with the help of Hancox's right heel and we had to settle for a draw. Like any true championship contenders this was all taken in our stride and we bounced back to beat Sidney in the 2nd round of Cuppers 1-0, the goal bobbled home by the jokester Dave Hunt. The villagers from Magdelene were then demolished 4-1 including a storming hat-trick by Starling. The merriments of Christmas could now be enjoyed in the security of a 4 point lead at the top.

Maybe it was too much Christmas pudding but we just were not ourselves come January. We could only manage to put 10 (ten) past Selwyn (Shiekh 3, Starling 2) and 8 past John's from Thames Valley Polytechnic. However, the bubble really did burst in three days in February. Having drawn those pesky kids from Long Road again in Cuppers, they scraped a last minute equaliser to force extra-time and penalties. After seven penalties each, the sides were finally separated with us on the wrong end of the scoreline. Emma faced us 3 days later in what seemed to be an easy game for us, but as we all know there is no such thing as an easy 3 points. Unfortunately, we went down 2-1. Maybe promotion was not a mere formality, I could hear Dave warming up his routine. There were two games left: Christ's and Clare, between

us we occupied the top three positions in the division. Christ's were tumbled first 2-1 in a gritty performance, leaving us needing a point against Clare to guarantee promotion and the title. A 4-4 thriller followed. The notable performance coming from my fellow centre-back Hancox who scored for John's for the first time in his 483rd and final appearance using his shin to its full potential. So promotion was clinched as champions and I could sleep safe in the knowledge Dave's comical act was put away for another year. Only one thing was left : tour.

Oxford was the venue, James Bond the theme. Enemy spy Jinch was gimped but later proved to be a double agent for the evil rugby team. Christchurch was our primary target and were suitably demolished 4-1. Our other match against John's, Oxford we would rather forget (and almost do due to the alcohol consumption of the previous night). But the football was not foremost in our minds as we mobilised a night-time raid on 5th Avenue, sweeping all in our path. Mission Complete.

All that is left to do is thank my Committee, Dave Hunt and Selvan Masilamany, and to wish the incoming Committee of Tom Henderson (Captain), Alex Starling (Secretary) and Andy Bloxam (Treasurer), the very best for the assault on the top flight next year.

Lee Sanders
Captain

Women's Football

This year for the Women's Football Club can be summed up in one phrase 'A Glory Season'. After a disappointing season last year which ended in relegation the first team faced the prospect of life in the second division. The question was would we do a Manchester City and sink further, or immediately spring back like Nottingham Forest to the first division.

Although a strong squad last year we did have problems getting the ball into the back of the net so naturally, like many a premiership team, we looked to Europe to add style and flair to the team. In Nicki Butterworth and Geraldine Baybutt we got style, flair and commitment in bucket loads. Not for us any of those wimpy continentals crying foul every

time someone breathes on them in the box. These are true northern lasses back from a year's break in Europe. Geraldine played at centre forward all season and showed strength, determination and a deadly finish. Nicki, in midfield has the skill to match anyone in the league and the commitment. It was no surprise to the rest of the team when she was awarded player of the season and also finished top scorer in the second division. The rest of the team was a mixture of youth and experience with the emphasis on experience this year. The old blood included our fearless goalie Sophie Dixon, midfield maestros Andrea Bull and Sarah Boardman, golden oldie Chantal on the wing and myself as the geriatric in central defence. However the 1st years also got a look in with both Hwei Fan and Clare playing solidly in defence.

What doubts the first team had about their ability were quickly dispelled in the first game of the season and from then on the majority of league matches are something of a blur to me. Needless to say they were characterised by a flowing passing game with plenty of movement off the ball and plenty of goals. Only one league game really stands out for me and that was the final match of the season against Sidney Sussex. This was to decide the division, winning meant promotion and if my calculations were correct so did a draw (well probably, but I've never been particularly good at addition). We won the toss and were playing with the wind, or more correctly a gale, in the first half. Sidney were definitely skilful but with the advantage of a force 10 we netted 2 goals in the first half and clung on to take the match and win the division.

In the Cup things were just as good. The first round was a bit of a formality, a 6-0 thrashing of Fitz II. Why do the team always play better when the Captain is on the sidelines? This victory set us up for the Big One, a home match against Downing. We knew that they were good but the fact that they had under estimated us and already organised the quarter-final match fired the whole team up and we won 3-2 in a very tense match. Next up were Homerton, a match which we won, but the victory was marred by Andrea dislocating her knee. We obviously missed Andrea's energy and skills in the semi-final against Emmanuel which we lost 1-0.

Not to be outdone the second team has also had a great season. Most of the team had never played football before but what they initially lacked in skill they certainly made up for in enthusiasm. Hard work at practices throughout the season certainly benefited the team and they had a great run in the plate, reaching the quarter-finals and putting out Corpus I on penalties along the way. They were finally defeated by Sidney who got promoted to the first division this year.

I've really enjoyed this season; it's easy to Captain a successful, enthusiastic squad. However things would have been much more difficult without the help of Neg Yazdi and Rebecca Royce who constantly organised me and our many social events. Thanks also to Malcolm, Salman and Lee for turning up each week to coach and to Jim for providing pitches on a Saturday. I'd also like to wish good luck to Rebecca Royce (Captain), Clare Gaskell (Secretary) and the team for next year. I've enjoyed my six years of playing for the team and I'm really going to miss it next year.

Cathy McClay
Captain

Men's Hockey - 1st XI Report

The 1997-98 season saw, once again, a large number of new faces in the 1st team. Samworth, Baijal, Edwards and Polonious were lured from academia to greater things and Mayes was lured northwards. Berkenbosch and Meerburg, having served their apprenticeship at SJCHC, are now showing their compatriots how the game should be played.

For the first few games of the year, it was noticeable that team had not played together for long, but that improved rapidly. Pete Horsley proved to be an able, and somewhat more moveable, replacement in goal. The solidity of the defence was enhanced by the return of Colin Johnston after a brief soiree with the Blues, which allowed Richard McDowell to concentrate on the more attacking aspects of the sweeper's game. Steve Griffiths once again showed he could harass any centre forward in Cambridge into giving up possession, sadly he was only able

to play half the season due to arthritic joints. Our fullbacks, Neil Miller and Steve Seale, were determined in their tackling and rarely let an attacker past them - irrespective of where the ball was. Midfield was run with a combination of skill and brute force by the two centre halves Colin Campbell and Darren James. The wide midfielders offered a contrast in styles - Jim Scott rarely ventured in-field and was happiest dazzling the opposition with his silky stick work, on the other hand Dan Rees was convinced left half meant standing on the P spot and trying to knock the goalies head off with the ball. Up front, we replaced one Samworth with another and Richard showed some potential, but was not as prolific. Oscar Stewart's return from exile re-introduced some flair to the frontline - until he injured himself playing a lesser sport. Tim Clapp and Baylon Kamalarajan were promoted from the second team, and proved to be reliable wherever they played.

Cupper's this year was somewhat disappointing to say the least. Ed Fitzherbet made his last appearance for the College which helped improve our striking ability, but we managed to lose 1-0 to Queens' in the second round. Next year's aim must be to regain our rightful position as undisputed champions.

The League was a different story altogether, we managed to lose only one game the entire season - to a lucky Catz team - and did not lose an umpiring point, a tradition we were happy to break! This meant that we were, for the first time in memory, College League Champions. Perhaps the sweetest victory was against perennial rivals Jesus, whom we beat 7-4. The non-appearance of teams for games against John's led to 3 unsatisfactory 3-0 walkovers and the league will hopefully be restructured to give us the chance to play our full complement of games. The season's most remarkable statistic must be that Richard McDowell was the highest scorer - a good sign for our short corner team!

The annual tour found us in Dublin this year. Despite only taking 9 players and one manager, we managed to find some opposition to play against. Richard Samworth and Oscar Stewart (who else!) somehow lost their way after visiting the Guinness Brewery which resulted in us missing our ferry and being forced to stay in Dublin for an extra 4 hours.

The Old Boys' game this year was held in conjunction with the sports appeal and saw the return of many greats from yesteryear. The Old Boys won the game, no doubt because they provided the umpire, and the dinner afterwards provided a good time for all.

Once again we provided a good number of players to University sides during the season, with John Mayer gaining another Blue, Colin Campbell, Colin Johnston and Oscar Stewart playing for Wanderers and Darren James representing the U21s.

I would like to thank everyone who made this year a success, especially Oscar Stewart who took on the role of Secretary and performed the task admirably. Best of luck for next year to Darren James as Captain and Dan Rees as Secretary.

God Bless the Hockey Club.

Colin Campbell
Captain

Men's Hockey - 2nd XI Report

The season was looking bad at the start, but luckily Neil 'Serial' Miller decided he had too much work to do and dumped the captaincy on me, which of course I was proud to accept. Following in the footsteps of such heavyweights as Baylon Kamalarajan and Richard Lloyd was going to be a tough job, but with the help of next year's well-built Captain, Dan Carter, we got through the season.

There was a noticeable difference in the standard of the team depending on whether the firsts had a match that day or not, and it was a sad day indeed when we had to concede a walkover to Peterhouse (of all Colleges) because the team consisted of the Captain and the goalkeeper. Overall, P10, W3, L7. But we did win cuppers for the third year running - just as well, since, with a superb Johnian arrogance, we had had 'Champions' tops printed up before the competition even started.

Memorable moments of the season must include a 10-2 trouncing of the only other second team in our division, St Catz, when even the Captain

scored (his only goal). The introduction of the cuppers tops, and for once having a full team, led to our best performance of the season with a 2-1 win against an excellent Selwyn side.

The defining moment for me, though, was playing the first round of cuppers with only 8 men in the team. We won 1-0 with Dan Carter scoring in the last seconds of extra time, after a superb run from the Captain. The team had given their all, the boys done us proud. Baylon then drove himself and the others that were supposed to be playing for the firsts in a league match straight to their next game (which had already started); now that's commitment. The rest of cuppers was a formality, since Oscar Stewart (Wanderers) had been injured for the first team cuppers - this meant he could legally play for us, and did so to devastating effect (although he did get tackled by a girl when we played Emma). We won the final against Jesus 4-0.

The players: Roddy Vann filled Bryan Sivyours' shoes (and pads) admirably, with an interesting fusion of hockey and rugby skills and a very loud voice. He scared the hell out of the opposition's attackers though, and he only let in 39 all season. But then we are in a division with everyone else's first teams. Top scorer was Dan Carter (13), star new recruit Mal 'Aussie' Green, most improved Joe 'Bloggs' Harrison, lippiest was Ben 'Lamarr' Corlett, and tallest was Dave 'Bez' Partridge. Baylon 'Romeo' Kamalarajan failed to score all season, and we were without the talents of the previous Captain, who incredibly, preferred law lectures to playing hockey. My thanks to the whole team, especially the Committee, star player Caroline Boddy, and all the engineers who regularly got roped into playing; Pierre Cardin, Earthworm Jim, and JT. We couldn't have done it without you, etc.

Best of luck to Dan Carter for next year.

Laurie Norfolk
2nd XI Captain

Women's Hockey

The women's 1st XI was this year in mourning for the loss of several quality players, among them the admirable Justine Curgenvin, the

inspirational Jane Pitt and our one and only goalkeeper, Jess Cave. Fortunately, some keen first years appeared at the hockey pitches and turned out to be rather good.

The lack of a goalkeeper made the year all the more interesting, with the team drawing lots each match to see who would pad up. Star goalies were revealed in the forms of HweiFan Liang, Hayley Mangan and even a battered and bruised rugby player who, unable to kick the ball, had to volley shots away from goal with her stick, to the horror of Blues' sweeper Sarah Crowther. Then we discovered Claire Wolfenden, one of our Scottish stars, whose amazing saves brought us to believe that we would keep a clean sheet for the entire season. Despite all this talent in goal, these players turned out to be so valuable on the pitch that we enlisted the help of Hannah Bradley, the shortest goalie in history. So great was her enthusiasm that we decided to keep the opposition well away from the D, however Hannah didn't mind - she spent matches dreaming about rowing instead.

The season opened well, with a baptism of fire against the three other teams from the top four of last year's league standings. First to go were Anglia, who we despatched 2-0, despite only having nine players on the pitch, discovering the skill of first year Rachel Isherwood. Next were Girton, previous years' arch-enemies. One of the few matches where we managed to get a full team on pitch, fantastic saves from Claire and a splendid display of flair from Isobel Churchill, Sophie Gilder and blues captain Sarah Boys-Smith ensured a gloriously victorious 3-0, despite Girton's employment of a male goalkeeper.

After such a promising start we had a hard-fought away match against eventual league winners Jesus. There was a great display of more promising first-year flair, with a formidable partnership appearing on the left between the (rather confusingly named) Jenny Allan and Jennifer Guthrie, and a strong performance at the back from Nicole Armstrong and Kath Joy. Up at the front, great interplay between Isobel and Sophie Gilder resulted in three fine goals, but Jesus just got one more. The only other league defeat was at the hands of Caius.

Back home on Jim's immaculate pitches we managed to slot seven accurate shots past a rather bemused Homerton who to my relief only

managed to have one shot on the goal I was keeping. A confident New Hall team were overawed by the speed of Lin Metcalf on the wing and with the help of a couple of honoured guests we helped ourselves to a 8-0 win. The final match against Catz revealed two very well-matched teams and resulted 0-0. I will rue forever the cross I missed into an open goal and past the university keeper.

With several fine performances behind us, from all members of the squad, we finished a creditable third place in the league. Unfortunately our luck in cuppers was not quite the same. Our opening match against a very well-tuned Fitz team one bleary Sunday morning suffered from just one Blues hockey /rugby match (and perhaps a hangover) too many and despite a valiant ten minute effort from the inspirational Sophie Gilder before she was pulled away to put on a blue shirt, they just got the better of us with a few lucky strikes.

The year showed a fine amount of commitment and enthusiasm from a number of players and this year's colours are awarded to Jenny Allan, Nicole Armstrong, Andrea Bull, Isobel Churchill, Kate Cornell, Sophie Dixon, Sophie Gilder, Jennifer Guthrie, Rachel Isherwood, Hweifan Liang, Hayley Mangan, Lin Metcalf and Anna Smith.

John's was well represented again this year in the University teams, with Captain Sarah Boys-Smith leading out a side that included Sophie Gilder and Sarah 'Team Teas' Crowther. A fine performance resulted in an honourable 2-1 win for the Light Blues. Claire Wolfenden obtained University colours, playing for the second team who also won, 3-1.

A very big thank you to everyone who played this season, particularly to Nicole, my Secretary, and Jennifer who stepped into her shoes most admirably. Special thanks must go to Baylon and Darren for their superb enthusiasm and 'quality' umpiring. Best of luck to next year's committee. God bless the Hockey Club.

Sophie Dixon
Captain

Lady Margaret Boat Club **Men 1997-1998**

Henley 1997

Henley was once again the dream that it is professed to be thanks almost entirely to the Old Johnian Henley Fund. The crew started their post May week detoxification by racing at Marlow missing one race and almost the second due to an incident with a fuel cap and Tom Latter. After an enjoyable row to Henley in the evening, they then spent the next week and a half under the watchful eye of Roger Silk preparing for the start of racing while staying at their much loved abode in Lower Assendon courtesy of Anne Arlidge. Fortunately the club did not need to qualify and had a bye in the first round. This meant that the usual eruption of seventy or more Red Blazers at Fitz's picnic was to take place on the Thursday. In their first race, after going down at the start, the VIII clawed their way back to loose by only a third of a length to UCL in what was far their fastest row of the week. While it was not the driest of fortnights, the customary rack, 'A1', the infamous cold Henley showers and the exceptional hospitality of Anne made the Henley experience an extremely enjoyable and memorable one for all those who went.

The Henley VIII

Cox:	Joasia Zakrzewski
Stroke:	Tom Latter
7	Jim Kemp
6	Tom Southern
5	Tristan Du Pisanie
4	Rob Milner
3	Nick Hardy
2	Dave Joiner
Bow:	Alex O'Reilly

Michaelmas 1997

After disappointing results for the 1st VIII in the May term, the club was ready to start moving back up the divisions. The term started with a

training camp in Cambridge, which gave some of us a chance to shake off a summer's worth of inactivity.

University IVs

Enthusiasm was high for the University IVs and with the re-introduction of the light IVs event, the Club managed to put out a coxless IV and three coxed IVs. Under the expert eye of Roger Silk the light IV won their event easily in a time of 10min 59sec winning the University IVs cup.

Light IV		1st Coxed IV	
Bow	Andy Jones	Bow	Martin Lowe
2	Rob Milner	2	Mark Brand
3	Tim Fisher-Jeffes	3	Richard Seago
Str	Nick Geddes	Str	Nick Hardy
		Cox	Greg Jefferis

Fairbairn Cup

For the remainder of the term up until 2 weeks before the Fairbairns, the club used a squad system to give the less experienced rowers and coxes a chance to learn more quickly. Unfortunately we lost two rowers from the coxless IV and three from the 1st Coxed IV to other commitments. This resulted in the selection of two Fairbairns VIIIs that were mostly the previous years' 2nd and 3rd May VIIIs. None the less the club, once again under the coaching of Roger Silk, managed to better their previous years' position of 4th and came 3rd behind the 1st and 3rd and Caius.

Novices

For the third year running, due to dedicated in-house coaching and great crew spirits, our novices wiped the board clean with an impressive set of results:

Men's 1st Novice VIII: Fastest Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup
Winner of the Clare Sprints Regatta Cup
Winner of the Queens Ergo Competition

Men's 2nd Novice VIII: Fastest 2nd Novice boat in the Fairbairn Cup
Winner of the Clare Sprints Regatta Plate

Lents 1998

Hopes were high for the Lent Term with the chance of 1st and 2nd boat headships a distinct possibility. On the 1st of January, somewhat worse for wear from the previous nights' festivities, fourteen of us, generously aided by the Old Johnian Henley Fund, set off for Eton on a weeks training camp under the watchful eyes of Guy Pooley and Chris Atkin. The early morning runs through the wind, rain and mud became something to look forward to when compared to rowing against the raging torrent that was the river Thames. Thanks to the good spirits of Guy, some visitors from London and the rest of the squad, a lot of good rowing was done and it set the Club up for what was to be a very successful Lent Term. The 1st VIII was fourth in the Lents with Trinity Hall, 1st & 3rd and Downing ahead. As the term progressed, the results of the head races indicated that 1st & 3rd and Downing were the only crews faster than LMBC. After two weeks of 'Jumps 10s' along the Plough Reach, 'Up twos' into the corners and 'legs 20' out of them, the crew was ready to take the Headship, settling a few old scores along the way.

On the first day the crew rowed raggedly but bumped Trinity Hall by the railway bridge. In order to improve the boat speed, the crew rowed the second day with technique in mind. While the boat was thankfully more stable, it was not as fast and we rowed over behind Downing without making any ground. The aim on the third day was to forget about technique and just get Downing if it was the last thing we ever did. Fortunately we bumped them twice and at the railway bridge they finally had the courtesy to acknowledge the bump. On the final day we were 2nd behind 1st & 3rd. Determination had never been so great and the will to race every stroke was there. Sadly the strong headwind that had caused Downing so much trouble the previous day was not there and on the glassy surface of the Cam neither LMBC nor 1st & 3rd made any real moves on each other for the greater part of the race.

1st Lent VIII

Bow	Jim Kemp
2	Phil Clatworthy
3	Andy Jones
4	Rob Milner
5	Bill Pollard
6	Dan Hine
7	Tim Fisher-Jeffes
Str	Nick Geddes
Cox	Joasia Zakrzewski

2nd Lent VIII

Bow	Nick Hardy
2	Martin Lowe
3	Rob Pagnamenta
4	Dave Joiner
5	Tristan Du Pisanie
6	Dave Tickler
7	Mark Brand
Str	Rob Lewis
Cox	Linda Haxby

Success, however, was a word that the 2nd VIII were very familiar with. Comprised mainly of the successful previous year's 2nd May VIII, they were looking to get into the 1st division as they had done in the Mays the previous year. Under the coaching of Paul Haines and John Durak (Fitz), the crew went up five places, having rowed sandwich boat, to win their blades.

The third boat went up three and in all, the Club had five Men's VIII's racing in the new five day bumps races. By the end of the Bumps the club was second in the running for the Mitchell Cup awarded to the overall best boatclub.

Contratulations to Dan Hine for winning the Bushe-Fox Freshman Sculls.

In the Head of the River Race, the 1st VIII started 345th due to not entering the previous year and finished a reasonable 111th.

1998 Boat Races

Congratulations to Tom Latter and Alex O'Reilly on their great win against the Oxford lightweights this year. Further congratulations are in order for Tom on his election as their President for next year. Commiseration to Richard Ehlers on the unfortunate loss in Goldie this year. The next one is there for the taking.

May Term 1998

The May Term started with a highly enjoyable training camp in York famed among other things for lying in the 'rain shadow that keeps the weather so dry'. While suntans were out of the question much to annoyance of the 24 LMBC men and women that attended, the standard of rowing improved remarkably thanks to the organisation and expert coaching of Jamie MacLeod. Once again due to heavy rainfall, the river was fast flowing, something almost unheard of by Cam rowers. However unlike at Eton, this did not have a huge effect on the rowing and by the end of the week, crews were rowing well given the broad range of standards.

Reunion regatta – Saturday, April 18th

This year the Club held a reunion regatta and dinner for all the old members of the Club in aid of the College's Sports Appeal. Rain, a recurring theme for the Club this year, was the only damper on what was for most a very enjoyable afternoon. The 'Moisley' crew won the regatta much to the surprise of the 'Atkin' crew, which came a close second. For those that did attend, the dinner was a spectacle of food, wine and red blazers accompanied by the sounds of the Boat Club song.

The May Bumps

After the fall to 9th in last year's May's, there was no shortage of oarsmen trialling for the 1st VIII. Seat racing decided the final place in the boat and a crew was selected that on paper was the strongest May VIII for at least the last three years. What remained to be seen was if they could row together. After crew selections at Ely by David Dunn and Roger Silk the crew was handed over to Andy 'quick and light catches' Jones, followed by a week with Adrian Cassidy and then once again with Roger who set the crew up for Sandy Black, the finishing coach. For the first three days of the bumps, the VIII never got further than the Gut, bumping Robinson, Magdalene and Trinity Hall. On the Saturday the crew claimed it went for the crowd pleaser and waited until just before the Pink House to bump Queens and win their blades.

While the rowing was far from aesthetically pleasing, it was fast which was hardly surprising given the strength of the crew.

2nd VIII trials were less competitive due to a number of oarsmen who either had other commitments or considered the prospect of winning blades unlikely due to the impressive position attained by the 2nd VIII in the 1st division the previous year. This lack of enthusiasm was to cost them two places in the Mays. However a repetition of the fate that had struck the last 1st May crew was averted thanks to inspiring words from their finishing coach Chris Atkin and the efforts of their other coaches, Paul Haines, Nick Pye and Pete Mallin-Jones. They rowed over on the final day, thereby retaining the 2nd boat headship and nearly bumping back Clare I showing what they were really capable of.

The 3rd VIII coached by Dave Joiner, Rob Milner, Karen Weimer and finished by Pete Fraser spent most of the week fighting off 1st & 3rd III while trying to bump Wolfson I. However they were caught on Friday and rowed over on the last day.

The 'Gents' VIII had the most number of bumps in the club moving up five places having rowed sandwich boat on the first day. Since most of them had 2nd May colours from the previous year, their success, while very welcome, was not that surprising.

The Lady Somerset, 'Beaver Boat' coached by Trotsky, Ben and Mrs G., apart from an equipment failure on the first day and boat being weighted down by cigars and beers on the last, had a storming row over-bumping on the Thursday and bumping on the Friday.

The 6th VIII coached by Rob Milner and Phil Clatworthy comprised of undergraduates and two members from last years Fellows' boat, after only a handful of outings rowed over three days bumping St. Catharine's IV on the Thursday.

1st May VIII

Bow	Tom Latter
2	Bill Pollard
3	Phil Clatworthy
4	Tim Fisher-Jeffes
5	Nick Geddes
6	Richard Ehlers
7	Dan Hine
Str	Alex O'Reilly
Cox	Amanda Walker

2nd May VIII

Bow	Martin Lowe
2	Steve Webb
3	Rob Starling
4	Rob Pagnamenta
5	Rob Milner
6	Mark Brand
7	Dave Tickler
Str	Jim Kemp
Cox	Greg Jefferis

The club has had a very successful year and is set to continue to grow in strength and move up the divisions. Next year there is chance of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd boat headships in the Lents and Mays. Thanks to the continued support of the OJHF and the hard work of Roger Silk and the officers of the club, the Lady Margaret Boat Club is ready for a boat burning.

Vive laeta . . .

Nick Geddes
Captain

Lady Margaret Boat Club Women 1997-1998

This year has been one in which the women of Lady Margaret Boat Club have featured prominently at University level, as well as on the Cam and further afield. We have continued to build on the strength of the Club and have a solid core of very talented and dedicated oarswomen. As always, we are extremely grateful for all the support we have received from College, the OJHF and the dedication and expertise of our Boatman, Roger Silk, all of whom are responsible for the continuing success of LMBC.

Henley 1997

Racing side by side at Henley is an unforgettable experience, made more so on this occasion by the gale force winds and driving rain. Due to other commitments, there had been a few changes from the May crew, but a couple of outings during May Week were squeezed in, and a happy band set off to race. In the first round we beat Wadham College, Oxford who were said to be their fastest College crew. Unfortunately circumstances conspired against us and we were beaten in the next round by Emmanuel, but despite the defeat good race experience was gained, and the crew enjoyed the days there.

Bow	Sarah Power
2	Alex Blackburn
3	Amanda Fuller
4	Jess Wilson
5	Sam Davies
6	Gemma Watts
7	Nikki Brotton
Str	Emily Grabham
Cox	Amanda Walker

Summer 1997

Three members of the Boat Club attended the CUWBC development Squad for a month, which culminated in racing at the National Championships in Nottingham. The experience gained during these weeks is invaluable not only to the individuals, but to the overall standard of rowing in the Boat Club.

Michaelmas 1997

Novices

This term is vital to the continuing success of the Boat Club, as the freshers who are bitten by the bug provide the senior rowers for the next couple of years. As such, it is important that they enjoy their time

rowing, as well as being taught well, and once again the Lady Margaret novices had a great success. The first women's novice VIII was the fastest College crew on the river, only being beaten by CCAT in the Clare Sprints Regatta and in the Fairbairns, by the slim margin of 2 seconds, but still 30 seconds ahead of the next boat. The 2nd VIII proved to be less fast, but just as aesthetically pleasing, and so can be deemed a success in their own right. Thank you to everyone who helped with tubbing and coaching with such enthusiasm. The greatest burden in novice term falls on the Lower Boats Captain, and I would like to thank Hannah Bradley for doing an admirable job throughout the year.

Seniors

The great strength of the Women's Boat Club was demonstrated at the beginning of term when Lady Margaret had 8 oarswomen trialing for CUWBC. Despite seriously depleted numbers rowing for College a crew entered the University IVs and was narrowly beaten by Trinity Hall.

Bow	Emily Grabham
2	Rachel Harker
3	Alex Blackburn
Str	Amanda Fuller
Cox	Ian Kegel

Due to CUWBC deciding they no longer needed the services of a couple of Maggie girls, for a couple of days it looked like an VIII could be formed to race in the Fairbairns Cup at the end of term. Unfortunately once again Fate, in the form of rugby injuries and illness, took out more than CUWBC put back, and so a IV was entered instead. They put in a spirited performance and came third in the senior women's division, but also beat a couple of men's crews.

Bow	Nicki Butterworth
2	Rachel Harker
3	Alex Blackburn
Str	Lucy Malenczuk
Cox	Ian Kegel

Lent Bumps 1998

With the novices of the term before now officially initiated into the boat club and raised to the elevated status of seniors, the Women's Boat Club put out 3 VIIIs for the Lents, acquiring a Grad VIII as the third boat. The 1st VIII entered the Pembroke Regatta and lost to a more experienced Fitzwilliam crew, but showed great promise. More training meant that we were ready for a trip to Bedford, and set off flying only to find the boat heading with great speed for a concrete wall as the rudder had fallen off. The problem fixed, we set off again and had a good race, wining the Colleges Division by beating King's.

The Lent Bumps were as exciting and traumatic as usual. The first day saw the 1st boat thwarting every Jesus attempt to catch them, and was a courageous row over. However, it proved to be unrepeatable, and they went down to Jesus the next day. Pembroke Ladies were the biggest and fastest crew on the river, and mowed down the Maggie boat, but were given their biggest shock of the Bumps when they lost a length off the start. The final day saw a bump from Catz, leaving Lady Margaret seventh in the division. The 2nd VIII fared rather better, and settled a long-term grudge match when they took the 2nd boat headship from Jesus with a bump on the second day. They also bumped a much slower Sidney Sussex crew, and so experienced the heady of joy of finishing higher than they started.

1st Lent VIII		2nd Lent VIII	
Bow	Emily Greenwood	Bow	Elly Webb
2	Liz Hopkins	2	Nadia Godin
3	Melissa Bolton	3	Ilina Lordonova
4	Jenny Allan	4	Louisa Wood
5	Alex Blackburn	5	Hayley Mangan
6	Rachel Harker	6	Nicki Butterworth
7	Jo Griffiths	7	Jo Warnke
Str	Lucy Malenczuk	Str	Camille Gatin
Cox	Greg Jefferis	Cox	Ruth Hardy

CUWBC Henley Boat Races

Lady Margaret was represented in force this year in the Boat Races. Emily Grabham and Nikki Brotton raced in the winning Blue Boat, Naomi Tuck and Jess Wilson in Blondie, and Anna Turk in the Lightweights. Very many congratulations to all of them for these great achievements, and again to Naomi for being elected as Hon Sec and Jess as President of CUWBC.

York Training Camp

No rest for the wicked, and the week before Easter saw 9 members of the women's boat club joining the boys in York for some serious training before term. This week proved to be very character-building, as we battled the elements, had wallets stolen, and learned to row like goddesses. It was, in fact, a very enjoyable week, and extremely beneficial in giving the May crew a week's extra rowing to build on. Huge thanks for the OJHF for helping fund this.

May Bumps 1998

With a first eight stacked with CUWBC rowers, the term began well and improved as it went on. The first VIII won the Nottingham City Regatta, showing good form for the Bumps. Under a great deal of pressure they performed admirably and bumped up four, taking out Churchill, Tit Hall, Clare and Jesus on the way up to third position.

The second VIII were not so fortunate but had two spirited rows against first boats. The graduate VIII competed in their first Bumps as the third boat and seemed to enjoy themselves in spite of the torrential rain.

1st May VIII		2nd May VIII	
Bow	Anna Turk	Bow	Emily Greenwood
2	Jo Griffiths	2	Cath Twilley
3	Rachel Harker	3	Liz Hopkins
4	Melissa Bolton	4	Amanda Fuller
5	Jess Wilson	5	Louisa Wood
6	Naomi Tuck	6	Jenny Allan

7	Nicki Brotton	7	Alex Blackburn
Str	Emily Grabham	Str	Lucy Malenczuk
Cox	Hannah Bradley	Cox	Christine Worth

With five members now doing the University Development Squad and the new CUWBC President a Maggie girl, the prospects for next year are good. A final thank you to Roger for everything he has done for us throughout the year. And here's to regaining the Headship next year ...!

Alex Blackburn
Women's Captain

Netball

St Johns Ladies Netball Team had quite a task in front of them this year. Last year's squad were crowned Cuppers Champions and reached 4th in the University League, so there was a lot to live up to! Fortunately this year's fresher entry managed to prove very strong on the court and provided some of this season's key players. The team had a string of very good matches, including a 15-7 victory against Jesus College when we were one man down! With only one League match lost, now 2nd in the League table, we stood a good chance of reclaiming our Cuppers title. Cuppers was a great day and with everyone on top form we managed to reach the Final. Unfortunately we were met with some tough opposition and had to relinquish the full glory to Pembroke. We will be back!

Many thanks to all those who came out and supported us during the tournament, it really makes a difference - you know who you are. Thanks to all of those involved in the squad. This year College Netball Colours are awarded to Meena Bhamra, Felicity Britton, Nikki Butterworth, Melanie Christian, Nikki James, Alex MacLavery, Hailey Magnan, Lucy Sheard and Christine Worth. Next year's Captain is Lucy Sheard, I wish her all the best.

Felicity Britton
Captain

Gentlemen's Rugger

Buoyed by the heady successes of the 1996-7 season, confident of the eternal might of the St John's College Rugby Football Club, and full of fine wine, I challenged Russell Earnshaw, in the dying reaches of May Week last year, to come back for the Old Boys' Game. 'And you can bring your 'mates' from Bath: Guscott, Robinson - any of them - and we will teach you the true meaning of total rugby,' I assured him.

A little later that summer, watching in awe at the ever-increasing power and skill which characterised the pre-season games of the second year of fully professional rugby, I began to reconsider. How would we cope with the rigours of the newly vamped, eight team Cambridge College Premiership, nevermind take on one of the finest Clubs of the Allied Dunbar Premiership? With the exodus of such rugby greats as Charlie Courtenay, Adam Green, Nick Hartley, Nick Studer, Dave Richards, Tom Tweddell, and Pete Evans from the fold of the John's rugby academy, the outlook was bleak. And so, as previous captains have done before me, I began to pray in earnest for new players who might aspire to the individual genius and collective flair of our most recent leavers.

My prayers were answered, and my faith in the admissions procedures at John's confirmed, when a bumper crop of capital young men was handed down to us in early October. Scott Bramley's killer instinct, and Matt Hall's all-round game combined very effectively with the penetrative power of Sion Jones to provide us with a formidable front row. Max Livingstone-Learmonth and Matt Bryan brought their classical techniques to our second row, while Iain de Weymarn added stamina to Rob Cadwallader's pace in the back row. Experienced half-backs Mike Rennoldson and Jamie Goldberg were given every option imaginable by the mastery of Mike Mayes, Jim Scott, Neil Lomax and Andy Jenkins. The question now was whether such raw individual talent could be compatible, in the heat of battle, with the spirit of rugby aux Garçons Rouges? Certainly, there was much evidence of our schoolboys' love of all things free-flowing in Freshers' Week; and, indeed, we were not disappointed, for this passion was to be continued throughout the season.

Revenge against Robinson for last year's painful draw was luscious, and at the end of the first week, after a session in finishing-techniques at Christ's, youth had combined with experience to score over one hundred points. The real test, though, came in our next game against Jesus on home turf, which was to prove decisive in the league's outcome. In a spirit of charity, we allowed Jesus the impression that they were to beat us, by giving them a 26-9 lead to choke on as they devoured their half-time oranges. However, Richard Samworth's electric pace and precision boot proved too much for them in the second half, as we reeled in victory 28-26 – candy from kids. Fast-moving, high-scoring games soon became the hallmark of the season, discounting one minor setback against the institute next door, which shall be corrected next year. So convincing were our wins, that mumblings of yet another league championship for the Red Boys could be heard as early as January.

Apparently, news travels fast. Russell Earnshaw thought it better not to return from Bath for the Old Boys' game, despite our efforts to tempt with a reunion dinner in Great Hall after the match. Charlie Courtenay, on the other hand, not one to back down from a challenge, mustered a side to take us on. What vigour they lacked on the field, they made up for in the evening, with a spirited performance in the College bar, which had been all too quiet of late. How great it was to have so many Red Boys assemble in College, three days before we would defend our Cuppers' trophy at Grange Road.

Against a very strong St Edmund's side, with a complement of ringers from Wolfson, defence became the key in a hotly contested final. Paul Godfrey led from the front, and enjoyed the full support of a true rugby Élite in the form of players such as Alex Theos, Olly Jones, Matt Dobson, Luke Kevan, and Peter Horsley. Backing of another sort came from an awesome crowd of John's supporters, led by James Grant-Peterkin and Alex McKinnon, whose internal organ troubles (spleen and liver, respectively) had kept them out of the squad. Sadly, the cup did not come home that night, but we all returned with an immense sense of satisfaction and pride to the moral high ground that is St John's.

Celebrations of a gruelling, and very successful season culminated in a visit to the Emerald Isle, on tour. Ignoring advice from LMBCSBF's (Lady Margaret Boat Club's Society for Boating Forays), we opted for motorised water transport for the 'Love Cruise'. Our moustaches, sweatbands and mobile lending-library, in particular, were warmly received by our hosts, the University College Dublin Veterinary School, who were kind enough to introduce us to the delights of home-grown Guinness (although this did not require too much badgering for most of us). We moved on from the novel experiences of a win on tour, and a game of Gaelic football against UCD Vet's Select XV to a match against the Dublin Institute of Technology, which was followed by great song and dance at Brady's Pub. The traditional tour culture day coincided with St Patrick's Day, and an outing to Corke Park for the national hurling and Gaelic football finals provided all with ample time for reflection on their most recent sins. A cathartic final evening saw retribution melded with repentance, and the official handover of the reigns of John's rugby to next year's officers. Max, Matt, and Iain, to whom I wish the greatest success.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have helped to make this season so rewarding, both on and off the pitch: James Inch, whose efficiency, initiative and dancing were second to none; Sion Jones, an excellent captain of vice; Will McManus for taking the helm of the second team; Stan Moorhouse, for his continued and unfailing patronage of John's rugby; and Jim, Keith, and Ian for all their sterling work dealing with emergencies, and maintaining our hallowed turf. Vive Les Garçons Rouges!

Justin Atkinson
Captain

Women's Rugby

Well, what can I say, having spent most of the season supporting - mainly shouting - from the sidelines due to injury (nothing serious, just the odd broken finger and arm!!), I've had the pleasure of watching the Red Girls win time after time. We have been able to field three teams

this year which just shows the enthusiasm and ability of rugby girls at John's when we compare that to so many other colleges that struggle to even get one team out.

The first team have been unbeatable - winning for the fourth time in a row the league and cuppers double, with only Downing being able to score a try against us in the League and no-one coming close in Cuppers - the ball rarely entered our defensive half!! Several colleges even grouped together and pooled their University players into one team in an attempt to beat us in the semi-final, but nothing was able to conquer the mighty girls of Red and the victory was ours.

Despite their commitment to University rugby, Hope Cooper, Hannah Bradley, Nel Boase and Sophie Dixon all managed to find time to play in every College match, their experience, skill and will to win being an inspiration to us all. Hayley Mangan and Andrea Bull, another two committed veterans must be mentioned for their outstanding ability and contribution to the team. It was only a shame 'Flies' dislocated her knee and couldn't be with us on the pitch in the glory of our cuppers victory - her trusty kicking boot was sorely missed. Lastly I must mention the two new additions to the Red Girls side Claire Skerritt and Jenny Allan who despite having never played rugby till last year showed great determination and skill, they obviously have a natural talent for the game.

The second team, captained (with grace!) by Adele Langlois, also had a good season. They were placed third in the League, above John's long time strongest opposition Downing, but just below Trinity. Everyone in the team played well, with Ele Mayne, Tamsin Mather and Lin Metcalf being especially noted for their expertise, and new players Emily Greenwood, Rebecca Royce and Emmie Greenwood for their commitment and enthusiasm. The seconds again reached the quarter-finals of Cuppers, losing to future finalists Newnham only 5-0, and retaining the shield for the highest placed second team. For the first time ever, John's fielded a third team; this did not enter the League or Cuppers, but several friendlies were arranged for the benefit of new players. Captain Ele Busby is to be congratulated for both her work in

setting up the team and for her own success as a stalwart member of the second team.

The Red Girls have shown their superiority again this year with five players getting half-blues and a further four getting University colours, by playing for Cambridge in this years Varsity. The University team has been led valiantly and inspirationally by our former captain Hope Cooper.

The Red Girls success would not be what it is without the support and advice from our coaches: Luke Kevan and Mal Green, they have made training this season a joy and their commitment to the Red Girls has been truly appreciated.

Sadly we lose many of our top players next year, but with so many up and coming prodigies the strength of the Red Girls should be just as fierce. I wish Claire Skerritt and Jenny Allan all the very best with their captaincies I only hope they will enjoy it as much as I have and find it as great an honour. I look forward to joining them on the pitch next year - if the injuries hold off! I must congratulate Adele on the success of her team and thank her for all her help - it's been a joint effort. Thanks must also go to Jim and his staff for looking after the pitches so well and having to put up with all the home matches we've had.

**Kath Joy
Captain**

Men's Tennis

This year ushered in an almost completely new men's team, with the 1sts in particular being mostly graduates. The first team scored one crushing victory against Queens' and a good win over the bar. Otherwise, it was an inconsistent season: a below-strength cuppers team lost narrowly in the first round to Pembroke, and the league programme was disrupted by rain and a late start. The men's second team battled hard to maintain its place in Division 3, and the first team should do well next year in the top league. Many thanks to the following players for their skill, enthusiasm and flexibility when asked

to play at short notice: Matt Bevis, Richard Holm, Yushi Inaba, Dickon Pinner, Michael Wang, Pete Silverwood, Jonathan Shin, Tim Rayner (first team); Harsha Misra, Kaneshka Misra, Chris Kreuzer, Murali Sri-Ganesham, Simon Messman (second team).

John's had more success at university level, however, with Supraj Rajagopalan poised to register the College's first tennis blue for years by playing against Oxford at Queens' Club in July. A specialist singles player, he has skilfully adapted his hard-court game to grass. His mental strength has been a decisive factor in his string of impressive wins at Fenners', and he has all but secured the sixth singles place in the squad.

William Street
Captain

Women's Tennis

With the term during which tennis is played at League and Cupper's level being one which is dominated by frantic revision and exam-writing, not to mention serious training for the May Bumps, organising a full team of four and six players respectively can sometimes present a considerable challenge. This year was, unsurprisingly, no exception in this regard, but there was an enthusiastic group of women who did allow College tennis to intrude on their busy schedules . . . whether with days' or, in some emergency cases (thank you, Jenny!), hours notice. The following all played at least one game for John's in either Cuppers or the League: Katie Eckford, Louise Hornsey, Philippa Bentley, Jenny Allan, Rebecca Watkins, Camille Gatin, Helle Christianssen and Theresa Biberauer. To all of you: thank you very much for your time, energy and good spirit.

As far as the term's results are concerned, we had a run of mixed success. In the Cupper's competition, we had an outstandingly successful first round outing against Clare, coming out winners there by an 8-1 margin. Our next encounter - against Trinity - was also pretty

much one-way traffic, but, unfortunately, the stream was against us this time and we had to bow the knee in a 7-2 defeat. This meant the end of our Cupper's aspirations. The League was, however, by this time in full swing. Our first tie in this competition was against Homerton, top seeds in the division (Second). We played well, but ultimately had to concede defeat in what was to be our only home match. The next week, we discovered the precise location of the Caius courts in the vicinity of Newnham and also that grass courts, while they undeniably hold much charm, do not guarantee the most reliable bounces! After another close contest, we went down 4 - 2 again. The next week, however, it was our turn to come away 4 - 2 winners after our matches against Queens'. In addition, we also came away from that match with no doubt in our minds that the only sensible mode of locomotion to our host's far-flung tennis courts (positively miles down Barton Road!) was by bicycle. Our last two matches - against Downing and St Catharine's respectively - both ended in a draw, but not before the - in my South African opinion - unseasonal weather had necessitated some last minute rescheduling. Although our results will therefore not place us at the top of the Second Division next year, John's certainly did not end in the relegation zone. Here's to an even more successful season in 1999!

Theresa Biberauer
Captain

St John's College Water Polo, 1997 - 1998

Water Polo is like a very fine wine. A rich tale of powerful complexity and sweet subtleties, few will ever taste it's heady dew, or savour finesse distilled into a perfect drop. Though not the most skilled exponents of their art, the connoisseurs of the first division are experienced, discerning players, hinting at a flair and passion yet to be fully developed. It is the second division, then, which offers our gleaming rows of bottles, lining every supermarket, off-licence and corner shop, consistent, accessible, and characterless. But drinkable. Then we get to the third division.

Here, amongst the surplus litres of Europe's wine lakes, St. John's faces armies of cider drinkers, caught guzzling from cardboard cartons like recalcitrant schoolboys on a foreign exchange. The likes of vin de table de Magdalene, Pembroke, Jesus, and St. Catherine's 2nd's were all consumed without a murmur by the awesome talents of Blues Swimming captain Jeremy Ip and Blues freestyle champion Steve Coulthard, providing a mighty wake in which the weak splutter and drown. The sinister dark shadow of the mighty goal scorer, Andy Bloxham, soon falls upon the unfortunate survivors, and Dave Cox, Michael Yoong and Phil Cleverley sweep a merciless arc through the water beyond. County swimmer Liz Lothian and Cuppers freestyle finalist Alex Starling – unfairly talented in goal – join the queue to punish the fallen, and the stalwart efforts of Jim Kemp and Andrew Hadley add injury to insult, injury and injury. Even drafting in their first division players did not help Addenbrookes II.

Shockingly, in a sport noted for its gentle, Samaritan approach, (the gum shields, boxes and ear protectors are naturally omitted in 3rd division games), Robinson's triple half Blue had his fingers broken in a blues match, and, back in Cambridge, his third division drumming had to be postponed. Robinson and St John's will meet later this term, and the issue of who will be promoted to the shelves of the 2nd division will be decided then. Forcefully.

Rob Starling
Captain, St John's College Water Polo, 1997 – 1998
Blues squad, 1996 – 1998

COLLEGE NOTES

College Officers

The College Officers as of October 1998 are:

The Master	Professor P. Goddard ScD FRS
The President	The Reverend A.A. Macintosh DD
Senior Tutor	R.G. Jobling MA
Senior Bursar	G.A. Reid PhD
Deans	The Reverend A.A. Macintosh DD
	D.M. Carrington PHD
Domestic Bursar	Colonel R.H. Robinson OBE
Librarian	A.J. Saville MA, ALA
Praelector	Professor P.H. Matthews MA FBA
Organist	C.J. Robinson MA BMus CVO
Chaplain	The Reverend D.J. Dormor MSc

The College Council

As of October 1998, the College Council consists of:

The Master

The President	Dr Tombs
Dr Reid	Dr McConnel
Dr Leake	Dr Snaith
Dr Linehan	Mr Evans
Mr Jobling	Dr Watson
Dr Bayliss-Smith	Dr McDermott

COLLEGE SPORTS

St John's Athletics and Cross-Country Clubs

Athletics and cross-country are by no means the most dominant sports in St John's, and the College's performance in Cuppers events only serves to substantiate this fact. However, on an individual level there have been some noteworthy performances throughout the year.

In the Michaelmas Term, a select number of Johnians made the customary trip down to Wandlebury to do battle in Cuppers Cross Country. In the men's race Ben Cocker comfortably secured a place in the Spartans team (University 2nds) to compete against Oxford in the 2nd-5th's Varsity match held at Wimbledon Common. Due to a debilitating injury, and by no means lack of enthusiasm, Fiona Davy was unable to compete in this year's Cuppers. However, Fiona's enthusiasm for the sport has been rewarded by her appointment as Hare and Hounds (the University cross-country club) Women's Captain.

On April 18th Ben Cocker undertook his biggest test of endurance running to date when he competed in the Flora London Marathon. Finishing in an official time of three hours and twelve minutes, he was the third fastest Cambridge University runner. Despite his minimalist training regime and immediate post-race protests of vowing never to run another marathon, Ben now hopes to compete again next year and is determined to improve his time.

Two successful Johnians played a part in the 125th Athletics Varsity Match held on 15th May in Cambridge. Vanessa Boag performed superbly given that she had only been back in training for a few weeks following a lengthy period off due to injury. Owing to a lack of female distance athletes I was roped into doing both the 1500m and 5000m. However, I achieved personal bests in both events (4.40.8 and 16.59.5 respectively) and my performance in the 5000m meant that I was comfortably within the time required to earn myself a Blue.

Hopefully next year St John's as a team will feature more prominently. You don't have to be Olympic standard to take part, although if you are you'd have no problem getting a Blue. So here's to more people discovering the joy (and pain) of athletics and cross-country!

Emma Brooker
Captain

Cricket Club

After the relative disappointment of the last season, I saw the main point of the first XI's season as achieving to our full potential, and winning Cuppers. The former we did in style, with five wins, one draw and only one loss (I would like to thank Bill Boyes for bringing his Indian international batsman) coming during the regular annual fixtures. But we were deprived of the latter only due to the ineffectuality of the Crusader's captain. Fifth week was far too late to organise the first round draw, and the fact that we even made it to the semis was good going.

The major improvement this year came in our bowling. Matt Siddle was again our lynch pin, picking up from where he left off last year. But special mention must go to our other mainstay, Mark Byron. After being only a fringe bowler last year, Mark's vast improvement to being Matt's regular opening partner goes a long way to explaining our competitiveness this season. Neil Lomax was unlucky not to be taking the new ball every match, but still fired it up whenever called upon and weighed in with a lot of wickets in the games he played, as was the case with Dan Rees who completed what was very strong Cuppers quarter. Thanks also go to Deep Shah, Saurabh Dinakar and Dan Carter who, with their willingness to be called upon at any hour, allowed me to consistently put out a strong bowling line up even during exams.

Another difference this year came behind the stumps, with the effervescent Aussie Cam Grey always sure with the gloves, and occasionally even with the bat. He replaced an unlucky Roddy Vann, who responded in the last game of the season by scoring a priceless fifty. In fact the whole team always went about compiling runs together. They

usually came from Jamie Goldberg, Mark 'Fluff' Bartholomew, myself and Rich McDowell, who in his first week of cricket this year hit a rapid 105 not out in twenty overs to win our first round of Cuppers against Sidney. However, at times we faltered, in particular the game against the Hetairoi, a close one in which we batted second, collapsed chasing a modest total, but, with the help of our Australian ex-pat community, held on for a memorable victory. Along with Mark, the other freshers who have bright futures at John's are Graeme Coates and Tom Williams. Despite missing the early part of the season due to pulling a hamstring in the marathon, Graeme quickly became acquainted with the slow wicket and he will score a lot of runs from the top of the order next season. Tom never really managed to fire with the bat, although his real value to the team lies in his ability to help with both bat and ball. Another proficient underachiever is Kanishka Misra, but he always contributed with some amazing fielding at gully. Also Asad Rashid and Lance Wimble had steady early seasons but faded later due to work commitments.

Great thanks must go to Richard Samworth, for his help despite being sidelined due to injury, Ed Genochio and Alex Starling, who organised the 2nd and 3rd teams respectively, and to Katherine McAleavey who took the girls team. Farewells go out to Posty, to whom I wish luck in his quest to find a captain who will bowl him all day, to Golders G, who I do not think will ever score the century he deserves, to the Kiwi, who I suggest should sort out his running, to Roddy, for always being keen and to Sumit, who will one day make a great umpire.

Lastly, the whole club would like to wish Mr and Mrs Williams the happiest of retirements after another outstanding year of wickets and teas. We will certainly miss them.

Ben Cocker
Captain

The Flamingoes

As in previous years, a large number of girls have represented St John's in a variety of College sports. Nearly 60 female Johnians showed a keen interest in rowing and certainly did not put LMBC to shame. The first women's novice boat was placed in both the Clare Novice Regatta and the Fairbairn Cup. The rugby team has yet again excelled this year to win the league. Netball, hockey, football, as well as a number of other sports have also played a major part in College life.

Many Johnians have also played sport at the University level. Thus the competition for the few available slots in the Flamingoes Club this year was high. New members include two Blues: Melissa Bolton (rowing) and Emma Brooker (running); four Half-blues: Jo Griffiths (cricket and LMBC Captain), Karen Hartshorn (lightweight rowing), Juliette Malley (ski-ing) and Christine Worth (rugby). Emily Greenwood was also elected (University rugby colours and College Colours in rugby and rowing).

I am sure next year will be just as successful – both on and off the pitch. Good luck to next year's President (Megan Jeffries), Secretary (Jenny Allan) and Treasurer (Natalie Papo).

Sarah Boys Smith
President

Men's Football

This season saw a welcome return to the top flight, and though the close season allowed us an opportunity to bask in achievements gone, promotion proved just the first step in a journey of epic proportions facing the courageous members of the 1st XI. Anxious to avoid becoming the Nottingham Forest of Cambridge football, the Captain's request to the Board for a wealth of new players was alas rebuffed. The directive from on high was clear – this team would have to make do without transfers. Fortunately the core of the promotion brigade remained the same, and thus a settled squad, overlooked by Blues and

Falcons, armed itself with the cliché that a great team would beat a team of greats. These veterans of College Football would have to let the ball do the work and let their football do the talking. And talk it did.

We approached our campaign as the unknown quantity. A pre-season administering of the slipper to recent Champions Downing, with impressive early-season performances from the beguiling Samir Sheikh and geordie gem Oli Maddison, undoubtedly sent shock waves around the division. However we were unable to quash Robinson in our opening match, the goal hungry Sunil Sharma finding the net in a 1-1 draw. Victory over Jesus restored faith in our abilities, with Nick Gower making an impressive debut, and we faced the local derby against Trinity with the chance of going top. A bout of vertigo was the last thing we needed in this supercharged match, and perhaps undeservedly we went down 5-3. We bounced back with victories over Catz and Churchill, the latter including a hatrick from the clinical Alex Starling, meaning the mid-winter break could be enjoyed in the knowledge that our Division One place was secure.

The loss of Pete Jones by the Bosman ruling, though depriving us of arguably our most skilful player, could not dampen the expectation of our impending clash with Fitz, league leadership again the carrot. Fitz proved the more hungry donkeys, though helped in no small part by a penalty that did no justice to the tireless industry of the multi-positional Malcolm Gates. With thoughts of the Championship dashed, we reverted to sexy football, second nature to the mature midfield masters Jamie Goldberg, Jon Bray, Paul McMahon, and Thomas Brown, who linked well with code-changing Mike Mayes in victories over Girton and Downing, and a draw with Christ's. A third place finish reflects the commitment, enthusiasm and no small degree of footballing talent of which all the players can be proud, dispelling the myth (at least in the footballing sense) that age comes before beauty.

Cuppers was a similar story of unrecognised potential. A first round victory over Emma was decided in penalties, the magnificent Andy Bond helping John's to succeed where England failed. St Edmund's, ungentelemanly opponents to say the least, were similarly dispatched in

round two. A quarter-final match at Girton gave us the opportunity to repeat our league victory, but whereas most forward lines had foundered on the rock-like defence of Masil, Sanders, Henderson, and Bloxam/Gulati, the rock alas crumbled allowing Girton to score (a few) more goals than us. 'Get off the bus, lads!' some were heard to cry during this frustrating match, though with hindsight it appears the players were unduly fatigued by the travel incurred in reaching this backwater of the University.

The Lent Term saw us welcome an Old Boys team back for a weekend of football and frivolity. The pace of the match might be best described as 'continental', but with the emphasis firmly on post-match celebration, a great weekend was had by players past and present. The term also saw the inception of a 'Colleges XI' match against Oxford, and I congratulate Lee Sanders, Sunil Sharma and Sav Masil on their selection.

I am eternally grateful to Secretary Alex Starling and Treasurer Andy Bloxam who were instrumental in adding fiscal fortitude and fashionable fleeces to footballing flair. John's has gone the way of the Premiership and elected Italian winger Thomas Brown (yes, he is Italian) as Captain, backed up by Stuart Gale (Secretary) and the immovable Alex Starling (Treasurer). I wish them the best of luck, and hope that Thomas's footballing philosophy will see John's finally abandon the long ball tactic.

Tom Henderson
Captain

Women's Football

After last year's glory season, the question was how the Women's First Football Team would take the pace in the first division. The graduation of our mid-field into management consultancy didn't help, but thanks to an extraordinarily talented crop of first years we were in with a chance. On the wing, Jenny Rooney's silky skills bemused the defence, while Hannah Fuller, winner of the Crunching Tackle Award, went for the more direct approach in midfield. Most Improved First Team Player Julie Gonzales Torres is shaping up to be a star striker.

We had a fantastic start to the season defeating Clare 5-2. Things then began to slide. Our Cuppers performance was less than impressive, with both teams knocked out by the second round of the Plate competition. In the League, a suspiciously androgynous Newnham team managed to get six past our valiant goal keeper Kirsty Mattinson. In Sidney and Girton, our inexperienced team faced more Blues than was desirable, but the stalwart defence of Clare Gaskell, Anushka Asthana, Hwei Fan Liang and Helen Hendry kept the scores respectable (4-0, 2-0). Against league champions Hills Road, our goal drought ended with Jane Thompson ramming two into the back of the net. (OK the sixth formers scored seven, but it was a good effort.) A nail-biting play off against Downing ended in a 2-1 defeat. Traditionally, John's First Team never spends more than one season in the same division. We look forward to emerging as Second Division Champions in the new millennium.

This should be possible because there is now a greater depth of talent in the women's club than we have had for ages. The Second Team had a record season, with Meg Jeffries, Rebecca Thevorakiam and Sophie Allebone-Webb notching up an impressive tally of goals. Undefeated all season, the Seconds have blasted their way out of fifth division obscurity to the heights of the fourth division.

The enthusiasm and commitment of the whole squad has been impressive, with practices remaining popular all season. This was largely due to Alex Starling's inspired coaching, with help from Lee Sanders, Malcolm Gates and Selvan Masilnamany. Thanks also to referee Ed Genochio, for having nothing better to do with his Saturdays than to blow us up for foul throws. However, the hero of the season was the secretary, Clare Gaskell, who retrieved my organisational foul-ups on an embarrassing number of occasions. Best of luck to Clare next year as Captain, and to Jenny Rooney as Secretary. Hannah Fuller, I hope, will continue the traditional treasurer's role of doing nothing at all.

Rebecca Royce
Captain

Men's Hockey – 1st XI Report

Although the 1998-99 season saw a change in personnel, the new team was adamant from the start to improve on last year's success. Mayer, Horsley, Stewart and Miller left potentially huge shoes to be filled, but, for the league team, no hole was greater than that left by Colin Campbell in midfield, who finally completed his move through the ranks to the Blues.

The goalies' gloves were filled initially by Claire Wolfenden, before up stepped Alex Walsh from the music society dungeons. Traditionally, Johnian goalkeepers have a cold season, stuck at one end of the pitch whilst all the action is at the other, but Alex Walsh proved handy when called upon. If in doubt, he'd take both man and ball, provided of course the 'man' was one of his own defenders. As always, the defence was a rock. Colin Johnston, newly appointed Wanderers Captain, showed how easy playing sweeper truly is. Steve Seale was solidity personified, never straying from his defensive duties (or more than 2 feet from the centre forward), and rightly earning his Captain's (albeit drunken) praise, appreciation and affection! Rich McDowell continued to show the attacking qualities of his defensive position with 5 goals in 4 league games, proving himself irreplaceable in the short-corner routine. When Steve Griffiths finally recovered from his long-term injury, his post-Christmas comeback added even more talent to the defence, as he thwarted many attackers by showing that experience is better than youthful exuberance. Unfortunately, he managed to get himself sent off in Cuppers final for not being quick enough to get out of the opposition attacker's way! Tom Williams, Graeme Coates and Adam Molyneux all proved to be competent additions to the defence as and when they were required. All in all, it was hardly surprising that we only conceded 5 league goals all season.

Dan Rees stepped into centre midfield to join Captain Darren James. Together they proved formidable going forwards, if a *little* slow to track back. In fact, Dan spent so much time up the pitch he just managed to nick the coveted Top Goalscorer's award with 14 league and 3 cup goals in the season. Jim Scott dazzled everyone with his amazing single skill, and his pace meant he could link up beautifully with Darren's

ambitious passes. It's a shame the reverse wasn't true! New boy Jono Angliss was a welcome addition at left midfield, but unfortunately, his pre-season pledge to 'beat Reesy easily' on goals scored proved beyond all doubt that he was all mouth and no trousers. As a unit, the midfield managed to become the envy (and the torment) of the whole league.

Up front were combined the talents of Rich Hull, Baylon Kamalarajan and Tim Clapp. Unfortunately, Rich Samworth's long-awaited return from injury never materialised, but with the other strikers in prolific form (they did manage to score a whole 3 each during the season!) we managed to get by without a Samworth for the first time in 5 years.

The league campaign got off to a great start with a 5-1 win over eventual runners-up Queens. This later proved to be our best performance of the season, but the momentum was maintained throughout the campaign to ensure we retained the College League Championship. Some notable results included a 10-0 drubbing of Girton, and the only dropped points came in a 1-1 draw with Jesus. The final standings showed:

Played: 10

Won: 9

Drew: 1

Lost: 0

Goals for: 44

Goals against: 5

Our Cuppers team was strengthened with three additions. Colin Campbell returned to add weight to the forward line, where he was joined by 'ringer' Roger Wilcock. 'Dodge' proved an impressive steal from Hughes Hall (justified on the grounds that he did apply to John's, but was rejected!), scoring 6 goals in 3 matches. Rohan Sajdeh joined the midfield, making it even more solid than it was previously, and giving the Captain the enviable dilemma of having too many good players to choose from! Needless to say, this team once again returned John's to its rightful (and traditional!) place as Cuppers Champions, and secured the Double for the first time in 16 years. The Road to Wilby included a nail-biting quarter-final match against holders Queens, with two extra-time goals from Roger Wilcock eventually securing an emphatic 4-3 win. Other opposition simply faded beneath us: in the second round, Kings went down 12-0 to a

vastly under-strength John's team; Trinity's Blue goalkeeper couldn't stop them being dispatched 4-1 in the semi, and eventual victory came with a 5-1 demolition of Fitz in the final. The final standings again showed John's dominance of the game in both attack and defence:

Played: 4

Won: 4

Goals for: 25

Goals against: 5

The annual tour this year took us to the cultural surroundings of Prague in the Czech Republic. For the first time in memory, not only did the team fly to their destination, but we were also accompanied by girls (albeit only two of them, and they were from New Hall!). Although several university players were required to boost numbers, we still managed to take the spirit of John's to the locals, whether they liked it or not! Still, not to be outdone, the locals made us sample some of their spirits, and no-one seems to remember what happened after that. Undeterred by the fact that none of us actually knew if they played hockey in the Czech Republic, we eventually managed to find some opposition for a token end-of-week game. A fun time was had by all, and I'm sure we'll never forget Prague, just as Prague will never forget us!

Once again we provided a good number of players to the university sides. Colin Campbell and Roger Wilcock gained Blues; Colin Johnston and Rohan Sajdeh played for the Wanderers; and Darren James and Jono Angliss represented the Squanderers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has helped make this season the unprecedented success it has been: unbeaten and Double Champions. I would especially like to thank Club Secretary Dan Rees, without whose help I could not have managed. Best of luck next year to Jim Scott as Captain and Steve Seale as Secretary – they certainly have their work cut out to try to carry on the success achieved this year!

God Bless the Hockey Club.

Darren James
Captain

2nd XI Hockey

The seconds season was, to be frank, a tale of two terms. The first term saw us start away to Downing, traditionally a strong side, which should have been promoted last season. With several debutants including Will Critchlow (his first ever game) and Simon Leslie (most energetic player of the season), we put up a valiant fight, but went down 4-1. Next came the bufties of the league, Cambridge City Thursday XI. We took an early lead in front of the magnificent John's pavilion, with Carter scoring an audacious one handed goal, which was later revealed to have been a lazy attempt to control the ball. Most of the rest of the game was spent recovering the ball from behind our goal, as City very politely declined to punish us for all but one of our frequent defensive errors. This was to be our only point of the term.

Next came Fitzwilliam, who had been relegated along with Trinity Hall from the first division the season before, and had 2 squanderers in their line-up. They were the difference, as we rarely made it past the half-way line, and lost 8-0. The less said about that game the better probably.

After that we travelled to Robinson, home of the legendary Sieff, who proceeded to dribble disdainfully around our players, before losing the ball ineffectually. 0-0 at halftime, and we looked good for a point. Shortly after the break, however, last years captain and chief bandanna wearer Laurie 'Tart' Norfolk forced the ball home from a scramble in the D, and an unthinkable (and undeserved) victory looked on the cards. This only seemed to force Binson into a higher gear though, and 2 late goals saw them take victory.

The next game was the low point of the season, as we entertained Jesus 2nd XI, the only other second team in the division, who had not beaten us in about 5 years. Their side was considerably bolstered by first team players, and though we took the lead with a goal from Rich 'Yak' Hull, Jesus struck back to go 3-1 up with seconds to spare, and a even a late goal from debutant Graeme Coates was little consolation.

Hence we reached Christmas, having played 5, won 0, drawn 1 and lost 4.

After the holidays though, we were awarded a walkover against Churchill, after their captain declined to bother to rearrange the fixture, and the next week Trinity Hall arrived with a very weak side, whom we duly dispatched 11-0, Carter poaching 4 and Seale ringing with 2.

The week after saw us entertain the deviants from Trinity, whose 'cunning' strategy of electing to play 11 outfield players and no keeper (not strictly within the rules), meant that we could score at will whenever we got in the box. Unfortunately this was only 5 times, but Carter with 2 well taken goals, and a methodical finish from new boy Adam Johnson, were enough to see us past a shaky finish which saw us concede 2 in the dying seconds, but come out 5-4 winners. The league season finished with walkovers from Selwyn and Magdalene, and a nominal draw against Peterhouse, whom we weren't left enough time to play.

The second term figures were thus 'played' 6, won 5, drawn 1, lost 0. This about-turn in fortunes lifted us to 4th in the league, behind Fitz and Downing who were promoted, and Robinson. This matched the positions gained by recent previous captains Richard Lloyd and Baylon 'Romeo' Kamalarajan, who lived up to his name by scoring both on and off the pitch for the first time in at least 3 seasons this year (well done Bayls!).

That left us with the debacle that was 2nd team cuppers, where we were left to play Jesus 2nd XI for the coveted invisible cup. Sadly we were short of a couple of key players, and struggled against a strong (and slightly first team heavy) Jesus side. The defence held out stoically for the first half and much of the second, but when Jesus scored with 7 minutes to go, the dream of retaining the cup for the 4th successive year looked in shatters. From the restart however, we resolutely surged forward, and good play from Ben 'Lamarr' Corlett saw us rewarded with a short corner. We decided on the only short corner routine we had, and the ball came out to Coates, who stopped well and nudged the ball into the D to Carter, who struck the ball across the goalkeeper towards the inside of the post. Seeing his keeper beaten, a desperate Jesus defender decided his only course of action was to kick the ball away from the goal, and from the resultant flick, Lamarr sent the ball fizzing

into the top corner; one-all. With no more goals forthcoming, the sides were taken to the lottery of a penalty shoot-out, where Lamarr, Yak and Carter all saw their flicks saved, giving Jesus their first cup for several years. A disappointing end to a topsy turvy season.

Special thanks to everyone who played for us this season – many of whom may not have thought that they would wield a stick upon a hockey pitch in their lives. Most improved player of the season goes to Will Critchlow, most amusing debut goal to Adam Johnson, and the captaincy next year to Graeme Coates with my best wishes for a fantastic season.

God Bless The Hockey Club

Dan Carter

Women's Hockey

The new season dawned, and the realisation finally hit home that, with most of last year's stars departing for pastures new, the women's squad was in a sorry state. However, Kath Joy was lured from rugby to a superior sport, gaining University Colours with the Nomads, and trials revealed some impressive first-year talent, particularly with Emily Longmore and Frankie Whitelaw at left and right half.

With a team which had effectively never played before, we knew it was going to be a struggle. The first half of the season saw commitment and enthusiasm begin to flag in the face of defeat, albeit to the strongest teams in the first division, and for the second consecutive year, Cuppers proved to be something of a non-event, losing 2-1 in the first round to Caius, although this match did reveal the scoring talents of Lynda Hewitt.

However, after Christmas, the revival began, with the quarter-final of the Plate. We battled hard, and when it came down to penalty flicks, we discovered what last year's team had missed with the temporary absence of Jess Cave in goal, who pulled off four fantastic saves, as Claire Wolfenden and Rachel Isherwood, two stars whose talent emerged last year, slotted their flicks away to put us into the semi-finals. Blessed by the temporary return from Germany of Andrea 'Flies' Bull,

whose turn of pace had been sorely missed, our league match against Newnham notched up our first league win of the year, with two goals from Andrea. It looked like our season was taking a turn for the better. A 6-1 demolition of Emma in the semi-final of the Plate, with an impressive four from Isherwood, and 2 from Andrea, gave us the chance of bringing home silverware for the first time in recent years, with the final against Newnham, for once at our pitches (we wanted to win on home soil), on the morning of the hockey dinner.

In the event, we had to do a little re-shuffling, in the absence of our very able sweeper Clare Palmer, who had slotted in well with Nicole Armstrong, Rachel Jones and Kath, in a strong defence. Andrea and Kate Cornell ambushed Newnham with their impressive speed down the wings, and Andrea, Kath and Lynda all took full advantage. One goal was conceded on the rare occasion that a very unaccustomed sweeper had to actually face an attacker in the course of the match, as the ball spent most of its time being picked out of the Newnham goal. We were 5-1 winners in the end, a deserved thrashing of a side which did its utmost to avoid the fixture. This was the highlight of our season; committed players demonstrating the flair and enthusiasm expected from a Johnian team.

Unfortunately, we were unable to salvage our league prospects, but next year we will have the opportunity to teach some lesser colleges what hockey is all about, and our return to the 1st division will hopefully be swift.

We fought hard in a difficult season, but survived with pride intact. College Colours are awarded to Nicole Armstrong, Jess Cave, Kate Cornell, Jennifer Guthrie, Lynda Hewitt, Rachel Isherwood, Rachel Jones, Kath Joy, Emily Longmore, Clare Palmer, Aideen Silke, Frankie Whitelaw and Claire Wolfenden.

I'd like to thank Darren James and Dan Carter for their excellent coaching and unbiased umpiring, and wish Lynda Hewitt, my able Secretary, best of luck as next year's Captain.

Jennifer Guthrie
Captain

Lady Margaret Boat Club – Men

Henley 1998

2 crews were entered for Henley Royal Regatta: a coxless IV in the Visitors and our traditional VIII in the Temple. The VIII suffered a loss of 6 members of the blade-winning May VIII due to ineligibility and other commitments, giving members of the 2nd VIII the opportunity to represent the club and enhance their own racing. The IV contained three members of the May VIII as well as a steersman from Jesus.

Both crews competed at Marlow, the IV winning the Senior 3 event. The VIII did not fare well, but enjoyed the row from Marlow to Henley that evening.

VIII

Bow	Tristan Du Pisanie
2	Dave Tickler
3	Rob Pagnamenta
4	Martin Lowe
5	Mark Brand
6	Rob Milner
7	Tim Fisher-Jeffes
Str	Dan Hine
Cox	Amanda Walker

IV

Bow	Henry Llewelyn-Usher (steers.)
2	Nick Geddes (Capt.)
3	Tim Fisher-Jeffes
Str	Dan Hine

In the regatta itself the VIII drew our old rivals 1st and 3rd. In an extremely close race the VIII were unlucky to lose but were rewarded with an appearance in *The Telegraph*. The photo was aptly captioned: 'The Pain of Defeat'. The IV raced Edinburgh University, and beat them convincingly. In their second race they lost to a fast Trinity College Dublin crew who made it through to the final.

As usual members of the club came to watch on Wednesday thanks to the kind donations of tickets from Johnians. The club is very grateful to the Old Johnian Henley Fund for financing the campaign, and to the Arlidge family for their excellent hospitality.

Michaelmas Term 1998

The start of the academic year brought with it concerns about continuing our recent run of successes with the Novices. CUBC had run a week-long Novice coaching seminar (to which we sent our Secretary), and Trinity had elected no fewer than 4 Men's Lower Boats Captains to try to end our winning streak. With these thoughts in mind, the committee set about organising a good Squash and a memorabilia-filled stall at the Freshers' Fair with the aim of recruiting as much new talent as possible. Freshers' Fair revealed 2 schoolboy oars, some graduate oars and over 40 novices.

The Senior side of the club split into 3 coxed IVs and a training VIII. The 1st IV entered the coxed event, partly for lack of boat, and partly to race the stronger crews of our particular rivals – 1st and 3rd and Caius. The IV steadily gathered pace as it raced, after the initial upset of dead-heating Churchill in the first round (!), beating 1st and 3rd easily before reaching Caius in the final. In what was to become the first of the two times that Caius pipped us to the post, they beat us by a verdict the Umpires recorded as 1.5 seconds.

1st Coxed IV

Bow	Andy Jones
2	Tim Fisher-Jeffes
3	Tom Leake
Str	Alex O'Reilly
Cox	Joasia Zakrzewski

2nd Coxed IV

Bow	Andrew Bloxam
2	Alistair Boyd
3	Andrew Nutter
Str	Mark Brand
Cox	Sophie Hill

The other IVs recorded little success but served as a good base to start the Fairbairn campaign. 3 Fairbairn VIIIs were selected of greatly varying ability. The 1st VIII suffered from work commitments and was

rewarded with 13th place – some way below where a crew of that ability should have been placed. The 2nd and 3rd VIIIs recorded positions of 28th and 48th respectively.

The traditional Fairbairn success of Lady Margaret is in the Novices, and despite our concerns at the beginning of term, there was to be no shortage of winning results. The Winter Head revealed the form of our 1st and 2nd Novice VIIIs, as well as those of our opposition. The 1st VIII won the Novice event by over a minute, beating a number of senior crews along the way. Second place went to the 2nd VIII which was 15 seconds clear of the rest of the field.

Fuelled by these results, the novices turned their attention to the side-by-side Clare Novice Regatta. Lady Margaret swept the board winning 3 out of the 4 finals in the competition: the 1st VIII won the cup, and the 2nd VIII won the Plate. The 3rd VIII was denied the pleasure of competing in an all LMBC final by 1st and 3rd's 2nd VIII. To those watching the racing, it was clear that the 1st VIII was in a different league to the competition.

Cleavers are not usually used by Novice Boats, and when Jesus changed the rules of their own Fairbairns competition to enhance their own boat's chances, they probably thought they would beat us. They did spoil the prospect of three Lady Margaret crews in the top three positions and we had to settle for 1st, 3rd and 4th with the other two boats beating a number of 1st and 2nd VIIIs lower down the order.

The results were a great achievement due in no small part to the considerable coaching time and effort put in by members of the club. The successes were also due in part to the large number rowing – over 126 first-years signed up to row. Particular thanks are due to Rob Pagnamenta who also made an impression on the Ladies' Lower Boats!

Lent Term 1999

Nursing our heads after the New Year celebrations, and determined to lose some of the post-Christmas lard, a squad of 13 oarsmen and 2 coxes

arrived at Eton to start the Lent Headship campaign. Free from the ice of two years ago, and the high winds and rain of last year, we were able to take advantage of relatively tame weather conditions and a strong stream not usually encountered on the Cam. Weakened by the loss of several senior oarsmen to other commitments, the squad was in need of good technical input, which was ably provided by Guy Pooley, and a dose of Chris Atkin's motivational medicine.

The week was a great success and a much-improved squad returned to Cambridge, their minds focused on bumping 1st and 3rd to go Head. The benefits of being able to train away from the physical limitations of the Cam, and the work and time pressures associated with Cambridge are enormous. Particular thanks must go to the Old Johnian Henley Fund for their financial support, and to Guy Pooley for hosting and coaching the camp.

The 1st VIII set about its aim with admirable dedication and commitment under the tuition of Roger Silk, Andy Jones and John Hall-Craggs. The 2nd VIII had to defend a very high position gained by an exceptional VIII last year, most of whom were no longer available. The result was an inexperienced crew which showed potential at the beginning of term, but failed to believe in themselves enough to capitalise on it. The results of the Bedford Head confirmed this. The 2nd VIII finished some way below the standard expected whilst the 1st VIII showed their turn of speed by beating the College opposition convincingly and just missing out on a pennant.

1st Lent VIII

Bow	Andy Bloxam
2	Chris Bell
3	Phil Clatworthy
4	Mark Brand
5	Rob Milner
6	Alex O'Reilly
7	Tom Leake
Str	Jim Kemp
Cox	Linda Haxby

2nd Lent VIII

Bow	Steve Barker
2	Steve Webb
3	Andy Veitch
4	Alex Grebnev
5	Matt Kendry
6	Rob Pagnamenta
7	Andy Nutter
Str	Eric Kerrigan
Cox	Aleks Kowalski

The Lents themselves were a missed opportunity. As expected, the 2nd VIII performed badly and slipped out of the 1st division, gaining their spoons in the process. The 1st VIII missed a golden opportunity to regain the Headship from Trinity on the first day, despite overlapping them down most of the reach. The sheer exhaustion of the day allowed us to be bumped by a powerful Caius crew who had hardened their gearing in order to bump us before we got Trinity. This happened just past Ditton corner, whilst we had overlap on Trinity.

With some encouragement from our coaches, and a short paddle in the morning, we regained our confidence for the penultimate day's row over in front of Jesus. Despite being the more powerful and experienced crew, Jesus only really made a slight impression. Our superior rhythm allowed us to draw away to 2 lengths down the reach, our coaches calling to their bows: 'You're drawing away Lady Margaret. That's a good rate 32!'. The Saturday saw us exact revenge on Trinity, bumping them at the Railway Bridge whilst avoiding the challenge from Jesus.

There was excitement in the other divisions. The 3rd Men heroically denied Jesus 2nd Men their blades by bumping Corpus Christi. They were unlucky not to have gone 'up 4'. Also suffering from some bad luck was the 5th Men's VIII. After failing to get on due to what the umpires described as 'being badly obstructed by the boat in front and being forced onto the bank', the umpires decided that this 'cost them at least 10 seconds through no fault of their own' and they were allowed to compete. Luck was still in short supply as a catalogue of equipment failures and steering errors cost them bumps. The 4th VIII also recorded success: they ended up three.

The Boat Races 1999

Lady Margaret was conspicuous in its absence from the Tideway Boat Races Line-up. Commiserations to Tom Latter, President of the Lightweights, on their defeat. Oxford may have drunk merrily from the cup, but Cambridge filled it.

May Term 1999

Post Easter training camp took place with the women at York, under the auspices of Jamie MacLeod. Again we were fortunate with the conditions, with the river and flow at more manageable levels than last year. This allowed us to get some decent mileage in which served as a good basis for the following week's trials in Cambridge. Once again the ability to train away from the limitations of the Cam and the pressures of academic work at Cambridge had clear benefits in terms of bringing on new talent, even if one officer of the club found the prospect of finals the following week daunting!

The Club is very grateful to the members of the Old Johnian Henley Fund for financing both training camps and almost all new equipment purchases. There is no doubt that without this assistance Lady Margaret would be a faint shadow of its present self in terms of participation and success.

Trials week ended with a coaching day attended by 1st May coaches, and hosted by the President of the Club, the Master. This provided an excellent forum for selecting the crew and implementing a balanced and cohesive plan for the term. Next year a slightly expanded version would allow similar benefits to extend to the 2nd VIII.

1st May VIII

Bow	Tom Leake
2	Chris Bell
3	Phil Clatworthy
4	Alex O'Reilly
5	Rob Milner
6	Tim Fisher-Jeffes
7	Andy Jones
Str	Jim Kemp
Cox	Linda Haxby

2nd May VIII

Bow	Matt Kendry
2	Christoph Rummel
3	Tim Dawson
4	Adam Johnston
5	Andy Nutter
6	Eric Kerrigan
7	Andrew Veitch
Str	Robert Pagnamenta
Cox	Sophie Hill

Six other crews were selected, including the traditional Fellows' boat. With 8 men's crews it is clear that not only is rowing the highest participation sport at John's, but also that Lady Margaret is the largest Boat Club on the Cam.

The May Bumps brought a mixture of success. Whilst the 1st VIII was clearly hoping for a repetition of their blades-winning performance of the previous year, the situation this year was very different. We were up against 'stacked' crews with several CUBC oarsmen, whilst we had none returning. Despite this, thanks to the coaching of Roger Silk, Pete Mallin-Jones, John Hall-Craggs, and Sandy Black, we were able to make another impression into the higher ranks of the division, beating a number of these 'stacked' crews in side-by-side races on the way.

The first night was marred by an unfortunate incident at Grassy whilst we had overlap on Downing. Downing moved out to several lengths, and it was only towards the end of the course that we once again had overlap. Unfortunately the stop and restart took its toll and we were forced to reserve their scalps for the 2nd night. The third night saw us chasing our old rivals, 1st and 3rd. A poor row fired us up for the final night, but we were still only able to make a slight impression, mostly over the first half of the course.

The 2nd VIII were left weak from a combination of lack of participation from some of our more senior oarsmen, and a poor Lent term. Despite a late turn of speed in the last two weeks, they were unable to avoid falling four places, and losing the 2nd Boat Headship. On the third day, they suffered a nasty incident in which their boat was written off. This forced them to race in the 3rd VIII on the final day which saw them fall to a Caius crew containing a number of their Lent Head crew.

Despite containing one complete novice at the beginning of term, the 3rd VIII were able to hold their ground in a division containing mostly 1st and 2nd VIIIs. They eventually fell 2 places, to a 1st and 2nd VIII. The 3rd May VIII remains our traditional training ground, with 4 members of the 1st VIII having rowed or steered previous 3rd May boats. Containing 3 1st May colours, and 4 2nd May colours, the 4th VIII were our predicted stars. They will have been disappointed with their 2 bumps and 2 row-overs, just as the rest of the club was disappointed that they did wish to row for the senior boats.

The Lady Somerset 'Beaver' Boat, formed by the Rugby Club, rowed as the 5th VIII and fell three places, probably as a result of a little post-exam celebration rather than a lack of power or talent! The Fellows' Boat

fought well amongst crews many years younger than themselves, and were rewarded with a row over on the 3rd night. The crew contained some novice rowing talent, and it is gratifying that the Fellowship have sought to boost their rowing numbers to strengthen what has become something of a tradition at Lady Margaret. We remain the only club to have a Fellows boat - an achievement of which to be proud in itself.

The 7th and 8th boats completed the Getting-On Race, beating a number of crews to gain slots in the lower end of the 6th division. However, the 8th VIII was following the 7th VIII and the Officers of the Club were concerned at the possibility that a bump between them might occur. In the event the crew selections were fair, and the 7th VIII sailed away to narrowly miss their blades, whilst the 8th VIII enjoyed more than their fair share of rowing over. These successful results amongst the slightly higher standard of the getting-on region were particularly gratifying as these crews were almost completely composed of novices from the Michaelmas term.

The Club remains strong with a considerable amount of talent which, this year in particular has shown, is more effectively translated into boat speed than in other clubs. This is due in no small part to the help and advice of Roger Silk and the team of coaches. I wish my successor, Jim Kemp the best of success in the 175th anniversary year of the LMBC.

Vive Laeta

Alex O'Reilly
Men's Captain

Lady Margaret Boat Club – Women

This year has once again been a successful and enjoyable one for Lady Margaret. In the Lents and the Mays LMBC was the biggest Club on the River; particularly notable were the unprecedented five women's boats in the Lents and eight women's boats in the Mays. With this increase in size have arrived some changes in Club administration. Dr Steve Gull and Professor Richard Perham have been elected to the positions of Vice-Presidents of the Club. Both have shown tremendous dedication to

the Club in the past, their services as Senior Treasurers (Professor Perham also serving as President of the Club for a time) are greatly appreciated, and both continue to take an active interest in the Club. Catherine Twilley, the College Development Officer, takes over from Dr Gull as Senior Treasurer and the Master continues as President of the Club. The involvement of these Senior Members is invaluable to the smooth running of the Club and their support and interest throughout the year is of great help to the Committee.

Henley 1998

After an incredibly successful Mays in 1998 we were fortunate to be able to take the full May crew to Henley this year. After a few relaxed outings during May Week we arrived in Henley keen to see how we fared against crews from outside Cambridge. In the first round we beat Manchester University convincingly. In the second round later that day we were drawn against a University Crew from Villanova, USA and despite holding them for half the course, eventually lost to a bigger, faster crew who were eventual finalists in the event. Much fun was had and experience gained by all.

Bow	Anna Turk
2	Jo Griffiths
3	Rachel Harker
3	Melissa Bolton
4	Jess Wilson
5	Naomi Tuck
6	Nikki Brotton
Str	Emily Grabham
Cox	Hannah Bradley

Summer 1998

Three members of LMBC attended the CUWBC Summer Development Squad, held for the first four weeks of the Long Vacation. This is a valuable experience not only in terms of race practice, but it also acts as

a stepping-stone towards the University trialling process which begins in October.

Michaelmas Term 1998

Novices

Keen to repeat the success of previous years' novices, it was with some trepidation that the LMBC committee set up shop at the freshers' fair in October to persuade lots of the new intake that they really did want to come and try rowing. We need not have been so worried, they came in droves and very little persuasion was required with the result that after ergo and tubbing sessions we were able to put out four novice VIIIs.

The first women's novice VIII always suffers a great deal of pressure to repeat previous years' results and this year was no exception. The crew coped with it admirably, reaching the final of the Clare Sprints Regatta where they were beaten by CCAT. In the Fairbairns they were 3rd, beaten only by CCAT and Jesus. The 2nd VIII had a particularly successful term, winning their division of the Clare Sprints Regatta and coming 5th overall in Fairbairns (the fastest 2nd VIII by a very long way). The 3rd VIII also performed admirably, reaching the semi-final of the lower boats division of the Clare Sprints and narrowly missing out on a final against our 2nd VIII. The 4th novice VIII were the only 4th VIII on the river, and successfully reached the quarter final of the Clare Sprints.

Thanks must go to the people who helped with tubbing and coaching throughout the term; without all the willing volunteers results such as these would not be possible. Lucy Malenczuk, this year's Lower Boats' Captain, deserves a special thankyou and is largely responsible for most of this year's novices deciding that they would carry on rowing as seniors.

Seniors

Once again, Lady Margaret had a number of oarswomen trialling for CUWBC. However, as a result of an influx of people with previous rowing experience, we were able to put out a senior VIII right from the

start of term. After some encouraging performances in the first few weeks of term in the VIII, a crew was entered for the University IVs and was narrowly beaten by Trinity Hall, the eventual winners. A spirited row in the Fairbairns Cup at the end of term resulted in the VIII being placed 8th overall.

Bow	Camille Gatin
2	Libby Saxton
3	Jo Warnke
4	Carla Cadiz-Araven
5	Simone Kohler
6	Lucy Malenczuk
7	Jo Griffiths
8	Louisa Wood
Cox	Diana Wilson

Lent Term 1999

The eerie quiet of College after New Year was broken quickly when an intrepid band of ex-novices and somewhat rusty seniors returned for an 'on the Cam' training camp after the break. Much progress was made during this week at the start of term, fitness and strength improving greatly as the Christmas excesses were worked off. Crew selection was made somewhat easier as a result of this week, and an encouraging start to the term was made. The Women's Boat Club swelled in numbers and 5 VIIIs were put out for the Lents, due mainly to the continued enthusiasm of the ex-novices from the Michaelmas Term.

The racing schedule for Lent Term proved to be as hectic and demanding as ever, with the Cam Head to Head, Newnham Regatta, Pembroke Regatta, Bedford Head, Bumps and the Women's Head of the River Race all being packed into a busy term. The 1st and 2nd VIIIs put in some good performances in the Head to Head, Newnham and Bedford, satisfying themselves that they were within reach of their opposition. Pembroke Regatta was blessed with glorious weather and a great day's racing was had by all – the 1st VIII reaching the quarter final,

losing to Caius who were eventual finalists; the 2nd VIII put in a good row losing to a strong and experienced Emmanuel II; the 3rd VIII were the heroines of the day, winning their division and intimidating everyone else so much that their opposition in the final failed to turn up.

With the new racing schedule adopted for the Lents this year after last year's successful trial, the Bumps now begin for the lower boats on the Tuesday of Bumps week, with the 1st divisions beginning on Wednesday as usual. The 1st VIII were starting behind a fast Newnham crew who were predicted to go up 4, and managed to hold them off until well after the railings. This was followed by three extremely tough row-overs in horrendous headwinds down the reach, the crew never quite catching those in front but never being caught by those behind. The 2nd VIII were starting in a very difficult position, surrounded by bigger, more experienced 1st VIIIs and despite their extreme determination and enthusiasm, went down four. The 3rd VIII once again proved to be the stars of the day, bumping three times amongst 2nd VIIIs.

1st Lent VIII

Bow	Jo Warnke
2	Nina Champion
3	Frankie Whitelaw
4	Emily Longmore
5	Simone Kohler
6	Roshan Cools
7	Jo Griffiths
Str	Emily Greenwood
Cox	Diana Wilson

2nd Lent VIII

Bow	Nathalie Walker
2	Clare Palmer
3	Ully Forster
4	Anna Silvester
5	Gillian Phillips
6	Helena Shore
7	Lizzie Steynor
Str	Amy Warren
Cox	Sophie Hill

Women's Head of the River Race 1999

For the first time ever Lady Margaret took two crews to the WHORR who both raced in unusually pleasant conditions over the 4-mile course on the Thames. The 1st VIII started 198th and finished 140th, benefiting during the first half of the race from the row-overs during the bumps but tiring soon after that. The 2nd VIII had an excellent row, again

starting low down the order, to finish 166th, beating 3 of the crews who they had gone down to in the bumps.

CUWBC Henley Boat Races 1999

With a Maggie girl, Jess Wilson, as CUWBC president this year, the Lady Margaret tradition of a strong representation in the Henley races was carried on with some style. Jess Wilson and Melissa Bolton rowed in the winning and record-breaking Blue Boat, and Karen Hartshorn rowed in the Lightweight. All three deserve many congratulations on their achievements, and congratulations to Jess on a successful year as President. Karen Hartshorn has been elected Lightweight President for the year 1999-2000 and we wish her the very best of luck.

York Training Camp

After the successes of last year's joint training camp with the men's boat club in York, it was decided that the week should be repeated this year. Although the flood waters of the River Ouse seemed to have subsided somewhat since last year, we had to do battle with snow, hail, wind, rain, hire cars which would not start – the list goes on. An excellent week was had, the training being an invaluable first step towards the May boat. The week culminated with a few short pieces against York University, whom we were very pleased to hold level on our final piece, after only 6 days together as a crew. Once again we are extremely grateful for the generous support of the OJHF in helping to fund this. Huge thanks must also go to Jamie McLeod who not only spent the week coaching the men, but also suffered a curry with us and kept us supplied with copious amounts of Yorkshire Curd Tart!

May Term 1999

With crew selections at the start of term hampered by injury, illness and work commitments, the term started off a little rockier than people had hoped. However with the aid of some supersubs, expert coaching,

newly painted boathouse doors and coxes' diet plans, things were soon back on track.

However, the effects of starting our training as a crew later than most other people on the River were difficult to overcome. The disruption at the start of term was coped with admirably by all those concerned. The 1st VIII was starting in a very difficult position at 3rd on the River, and achieved a hard-fought row over, at times only a canvas ahead of Jesus, on the first day. On the second day, a fast and very stacked Newnham crew were starting behind LMBC and bumped us round Ditton corner just as we were coming within 4 feet of a slightly slower Pembroke crew ahead. On the Friday, we were again unfortunate to be caught by Caius at a similar point on the course to the previous night. However, on Saturday we had by far our best row of the whole term, rowing over to finish more than 6 lengths clear of Jesus who had got so close to catching us on the Wednesday. Who knows what we could have managed if we'd had 8 weeks together as a crew! The 2nd VIII fared rather better than has been the recent tradition of Lady Margaret women's 2nd May VIIIs. They rowed over, and over, and over, and over, surrounded by first VIIIs and had an enjoyable term's rowing. The 3rd VIII once again proved to be the Lady Margaret heroines, bumping on all four nights, and each time bumping 2nd VIIIs, to be awarded their blades. The Red Girls rowed as the 4th VIII and had a successful bumps, rowing over twice and bumping up twice as well. The Graduate VIII, rowing as the 5th VIII had 4 glorious row overs, to start and finish as the bottom boat in the women's 4th division.

1st May VIII

Bow	Jo Griffiths
2	Lucy Malenczuk
3	Camille Gatin
4	Simone Kohler
5	Melissa Bolton
6	Anna Turk
7	Karen Hartshorn
Str	Emily Greenwood
Cox	Aleks Kowalski

2nd May VIII

Bow	Frankie Whitelaw
2	Fiona Learmont
3	Nina Champion
4	Libby Saxton
5	Nathalie Walker
6	Emily Longmore
7	Jo Warnke
Str	Catherine Twilley
Cox	Diana Wilson

Thanks to my fellow officers this year – Melissa Bolton (Vice-Captain) and Lucy Malenczuk (Lower Boats Captain) – and good luck to next year's officers: Frankie Whitelaw (Women's Captain), Nina Champion (Women's Vice-Captain) and Nathalie Walker (Women's Lower Boats Captain)

Vive Laeta

Jo Griffiths
Captain

Netball

Runners-up in Cuppers and 2nd in the League; although total victory had remained elusive last season for another year it would clearly be a hard act to follow! With a large part of the old team leaving, we had to hope for a talented Fresher-intake to make up numbers. Here we were not disappointed, with Natasha Nair, Sarah Hull, Kate Wilson and Nancy Priston all becoming regulars (once we had dragged Nancy off the Rugby pitch, that is!). Katharine McAleavey also joined us as a much-needed shooter. But we soon discovered that having a squad with only two shooters was problematic, and narrowly lost a few early matches, with most of the team not playing in their normal positions – my own shooting skills certainly left a lot to be desired. Half-way through the season, the discovery of Louisa Wood as an extra shooter proved extremely valuable, and we kept fighting until in some later matches we got a taste of victory again, beating Queens 15-6, and hanging onto our lead against Selwyn to win 12-11. A draw against Newnham (when we only had 6 players), then secured our very respectable 5th position in the top division.

Cuppers was another great day, and we started off in top form, winning our group by beating Anglia Poly 5-0, and Emma 6-0. Then, after a long lunch-break, we sadly had to bow out to Homerton in our Quarter-final match. Everyone played really well – special thanks to Kath Joy for stepping in at the last minute and having some storming games, to Sarah for coming out to support even though she was ill, to Kate for being willing to umpire whenever we needed someone, and of course to everyone else who put in lots of time and effort.

This year College netball colours are awarded to Flic Britton, Sarah Hull, Rachel Isherwood, Katharine McAleavey, Alex McLaverty, Natasha Nair, Nancy Priston, Lucy Sheard, Kate Wilson, Louisa Wood, and Christine Worth. I wish next year's captain, Louisa Wood, the best of luck – maybe it will be our turn for victory!

Lucy Sheard
Captain

Gentlemen's Rugger

The difficulty of being the best in a fiercely competitive sport is always underestimated: being expected to win, week in week out, when every other side is particularly determined to beat you, is not such an easy task. Phase others it might, but this was not the sort of problem to trouble the might of the St John's Rugby Academy.

With the majority of last year's League winning side remaining, the potential was there, but certain worrying holes were left by the departure of Matt Dobson, Paul Godfrey and Olly Jones. And could the team be complete without the frenzied running spectacle that is Rob Cadwallader? Early sessions of touch rugby on Jesus Green confirmed the quality of the existing stock of players, and allowed the talent of the young hopefuls to be observed. Tom Blathwayt's skills promised points, Tom Williams whet the selectors' appetite early on, and Lance Wimble, from the Southern hemisphere, provided some excellent pace. James Butler, Huw Lewis-Jones and James Tibbatts, all accomplished players, added great strength and depth to the squad.

The season began with a solid performance, the defeat of Robinson 25-5. They expressed their dismay by vandalising the pitch and tearing down our posts, which meant that we had to face Jesus away. In front of a hostile crowd, we demonstrated our ability to play as a team and pulled off a 24-20 victory. Allowing a couple of late tries was a generous gesture on our part, but the result was never in doubt. Then against Downing all that we had worked on came together giving us total domination in all aspects of the game. The front five overpowered their opponents so

decisively in the set scrum that the ball seemed to come our way regardless of whose put-in it was. The back row pressured the stand off to render him impotent and our backs were able to exhibit their incisive running and power. A spate of injuries and some rather disappointing play towards the end of the Michaelmas Term against Peterhouse and Pembroke were fortunately ephemeral. Fiji were in town to play the Blues, but the real exhibition of flair was at home to Christ's, where top try scorer Mike Mayes ran in a hat trick as part of the 72-3 hammering.

The Lent Term's first fixture was the decisive encounter against Jesus. Despite their pre-term week-long training camp especially for this game, a great team performance and Iceman Lomax's kicking put to bed for another year the annual myth that Jesus are close rivals to the John's elite. A minor upset against Downing gave us the impetus to invite Magdalene, Pembroke and Robinson for a skills festival in which we scored 192 points against their 16 in the three games. This exhibition of traditional Red Boy flair, taken to blazing new extremes of genius, allowed us to secure the League with a game in hand, and scared both Girton and Magdalene into conceding in the first round and quarter-final of Cuppers. The vital preparation for the semi-final therefore was the high profile clash against Charlie Courtenay's Old Boys side. Jim Scott's side step of Russell Earnshaw was a crowd pleaser, as was the gentlemen's Master Class later in the bar.

In that semi-final, Queens' attacked unrelentingly in the first half, but the forwards' defence was formidable, led by defiant player of the season Sion Jones, who could be seen to be making four, five, or even six tackles in a row. The second half bore the fruits of the first half's resilience and the backs, under Jamie Goldberg's unrivalled composure, were able to run rings around their opposition to score 40 points. As a measure of the groundsmen's commitment, the John's pitch was deemed fitter than Grange Road for Cuppers Final. Unfortunately, the trophy still remained elusive, as a St Edmund's side, packed with Blues from prop to winger, narrowly denied us. Our real undoing was that no team before had forced us to contest for the full eighty minutes.

Celebrations of a great season peaked on tour to Newcastle and Edinburgh, where we were grateful for the enormous enthusiasm of our

hosts. In the first match against The Armstrong Select XV, a sudden phase of good play was prompted by a 'next try wins' scenario, which led us to victory. Although ejected *en masse* within twenty minutes from the first drinking establishment that we graced that evening, our spirits along with our palates were not dampened. Newcastle was, however, to provide an outlet for many people to express themselves fully on the dance floor, in a way that Cambridge simply does not offer. The rigours of The Boat left us unable to win a memorable tour double against The Shadwell Army in Edinburgh. But as soon as we were installed in Dr Watt's Library, we were able to make a critical analysis of our game and identify why we had failed to score, and the appropriate amendments were made in the Pottersrow Union that night. And so, with a renewed sense of purity, the touring party returned South.

I would like to thank the whole squad for their passionate commitment throughout the season. At one point, there were nine players in the University Under 21 squad, and this entailed the gruelling programme of playing or training six times per week. Nonetheless, the players showed their class in the College matches. Others did not start the College games regularly, but trained hard and performed well when they did come on. Both groups contributed to the great success of the season.

I would also particularly like to thank those without whom the phenomenon of John's rugby could not have been upheld: Matt Hall was a superb vice-captain and Iain de Weymarn's ruthless efficiency as secretary was invaluable; Roddy Vann for organising the Gentlemen's XV with such aplomb; Stan Moorhouse for his total dedication to the club; the elite support unit led by Steve Webb and James Grant-Peterkin; Jim, who we wish well in retirement, as well as Keith and Ian, for all of their hard work and making our pitch the best in Cambridge; and Booz. Allen & Hamilton for their continuing sponsorship of the men's and women's teams.

Max Livingstone-Learmonth
Captain

*The following played in the Under 21 Varsity Match:
Andy Jenkins, Sion Jones, Neil Lomax, Mike Mayes, Jim Scott.*

Women's Rugby

Having discovered rugby late in my College career, the chance to Captain the Red Girls raised a daunting but exciting prospect. Would the team be able to match their unbeaten record in the league? Fortunately, the first-year recruits fulfilled all my hopes with their sheer raw talent.

Much of the success of the Red Girls is due to the enthusiasm of our coaches, the perpetually brown-legged Mal and his rather paler colleague Rich. They were able to coach us to new heights of flair – we actually pulled off a few of Rich's dummy moves. I would like to thank them for the time and effort that they put in throughout the season which undoubtedly led to our winning ways.

The experienced stalwarts of the first team – Nell Boase, Emily Greenwood and Adele Langlois formed a force to be reckoned with and provided the backbone of the side. Unfortunately, the multi-talented Kath Joy was injured for much of the season but reappeared with a vengeance at the league decider against Jesus securing the win with a fantastic try. Incidentally, Jesus was the only side who managed to dent our defence and scored the solitary try against us in the season. Jenny Allan proved to be a great fly-half for the first team and managed to combine this with inspired leadership of the second team. Christine Worth and Natasha Nair joined the Red Girls at the beginning of the year and distinguished themselves with their skills on the rugby pitch.

With Andrea 'Flies' Bull off on a year learning about the intricacies of the German legal system we were in need of a good conversion kicker. I thought we had found her in the diminutive form of Megan Jeffries who, as I recall, converted all the tries in the one match she played. Unluckily she suffered from injuries which left her unable to play for the rest of the season but we valued her support from the sidelines. However, Jenny Allan honed her kicking boot and performed well under pressure.

Most of the second team were new to rugby at the beginning of the year but with good coaching everyone became an adept rugby player at the

close of the season. It is a mark of the talent in the Red Girls that one of our valued second team players, Clare Gaskell, went on to the bench for the Varsity match. She put her footballing experience to good use and developed into a useful point scorer. Nancy Priston showed incredible commitment to the Red Girls and turned into a versatile player. Jenny Rooney gained the apt name of 'Speedy' with her unbeatable pace and Noor Hamad was able to confuse both her own team and the opposition so much that her cunning tactic of running in the wrong direction resulted in a try – once she started heading the right way. Diana Wilson, Meg Clothier and Louise Hornsey all played well and I think Anna Reid will be an asset next year to the Red Girls. Tamsin Mather was able to play for both the first and second teams and her experience was worth a great deal.

We were very grateful for the refereeing skills of Roddy Vann and Luke Kevan who were able to show up even when given short notice after match rearrangements, although Emily Greenwood still hasn't forgiven Roddy for disallowing her try.

Having won the league the prospects for the Cuppers competition were looking good. However, the mercurial British weather meant that all the pitches were water-logged and Cuppers was cancelled. The Red Girls therefore still remain reigning champions.

This year has been really wonderful for me as Captain, despite my apprehensions at the loss of ten players last year. The new players that joined the Red Girls this year were absolutely excellent. I wish Christine Worth all the best in her forthcoming captaincy and I hope Nancy Priston will lead the second team to more deserved victories.

The final word must go to Jim and his colleagues who manage to keep the pitches in pristine condition whatever havoc the elements wreak. I wish Jim a very happy retirement, but it will be with some sadness that the John's field teams say goodbye to him.

Clare Skerritt
Captain