



Artwork: Anna Stothard (LL Rem)



# STATION

Cricket	84
Cross Country	84
Fencing	84
Fives	85
Football	85
Martial Arts	89
Sailing	89
Shooting	90
Tennis	90
Water	90

## CRICKET

There was much in the second half of last season to suggest that 2002 should be a successful year for Westminster cricket. Despite two losses, we finished with two comfortable wins where the more junior members of the side made significant contributions.

Japhet with twenty-two wickets last year has already proved himself to be a successful off-spin

bowler. Yell and Cooke, whose devastating debut against Kingston included a wicket with his first ball, should provide testing pace bowling. Ell, Woodrow, Butler and Hall will complete the attack with tidy medium pace. We should be able to make runs hard to come by for our opponents and, if we can catch as well as last year, we should generate winning positions.

Stevenson's knock against the XL club was an innings of great maturity. With Butler, Pike, Clarke and Bamford to support him the batting is strong if not spectacularly so. Japhet, Yell and Cooke are all worthy of the all-rounder tag so there is plenty of depth in the order. To find a wicket-keeper to replace Stranger-Jones was never going to be easy but Salem shows signs of great promise.

Our target must be to beat Charterhouse. We are certainly capable of achieving this result but will need to perform to the best of our ability. The pre-season tour of Spain was a great success and we will surely not be under-prepared for the challenges ahead. Many thanks to Jim Kersten, for his tireless work with the first XI, and to all those who have helped with the station. Mark Feltham

## CROSS COUNTRY

Westminster has always had a history of competitive cross country, and this year has been no exception. Indeed, it is hoped that with continued application and regular training, the School can compete in a wider range of events. The results from this year already illustrate the potential that exists at Westminster and in addition it has been encouraging to see people of all abilities benefit from the Tuesday and Thursday afternoon station training sessions.

In the Long Distance Races held in September along the towpath from Barnes to Putney, Dominic Parsons (HH), Alex Joseph (MM) and James Furlong (AHH) all won their respective races, whilst Hakluyt's (Juniors), Milne's (Intermediates) and Rigaud's (Seniors) stole the team awards. Of particular note, Alex's time of 15.20 for the 3.5 mile circuit stood out in a competitive Intermediates race. By the time the Bringsty relays came around, the muddy conditions brought about some tight, exciting races, and some different names came to the fore. Ashburnham won the Senior race whilst Milne's again found success in the Junior Race and comfortably won overall. James

Furlong sped to the fastest time of 5.30 but was closely followed by Asadollah Rashidian (MM) in 5.43 who was giving away three years to many of his rivals.

In terms of Inter School competition, the King's Trophy perhaps arrived a little too early but to finish 15th out of 23 teams is no disgrace and the rowers who competed did themselves great credit. James Furlong again excelled himself at the Inter Old Boys race on Wimbledon Common in December and finished first schoolboy and contributed to the School's 4th place overall. However, perhaps the highlight of the year was at the London Schools Championships at Wormwood Scrubs where four runners were picked to represent the county (Furlong, Joseph, Mathilde Pauls (BB) and Zoe Chan (PP)) which is no mean achievement. Furlong and Chan then went on to compete for the County at the English Schools Championships.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of staff who have helped out or supported the events this year. It is encouraging too to see that the Common Room's runners are in such good health! Ian Watson won the handicap race at the Towpath Cup, when the CR triumphed over the OWs for only the third time in 35 years. A similar result is the target this year! Simon Wurr

## FENCING

This has been one of the most successful years in the history of fencing station. At the beginning of the year, fencing station expanded due to a generous grant of metal pistes and display lights by the School Society. This allowed Foil to move up School, which is now turned into a fencing salle every station afternoon. The extra space has allowed the expansion of sabre, happily coinciding with Peter Frohlich's return from Hungary. Peter, in addition to being the British Olympic Sabre Coach is also the coach to the last Hungarian to win the World Championships. By September there will be nearly 70 members of fencing station.

The expansion coincided with the arrival of one of the largest and most promising fifth forms in living memory, a number of whom are now dedicated sabreurs. The future looks bright for them after the recent appointment of Ian Williams – several times British Sabre Champion – to support Peter Frohlich's coaching.

The foilists have continued to dominate for the time being, a credit to the efforts of our coaches Tomek Walicki and Dave Taylor. This year a number of them began to earn national ranking points and earn themselves places on the British Cadet (U17), Junior (U20) squads. Dominic O'Mahony and Robert Shaw were selected to represent Great Britain in the Eden Cup – Britain's international junior A-grade competition. Andrew Holgate and Matthias Williams have also been selected to represent Great Britain abroad. Some memorable trips as far afield as Luxembourg and Germany took place during the year.

In school matches we were undefeated throughout the year. Eton succumbed to the increased strength in sabre with Pen Stuart and Johnny Lewin joining the captain for one of the most remarkable victories of the season. Harrow and St Paul's met a similar fate. One of the most enjoyable trips was to City of London, where twelve of the most promising fifth formers

won 28–8.

In March Westminster won the U18 British Schools Team Foil Championships, repeating their achievement of the previous year by beating King's Canterbury in the final. The gold medals were a fitting tribute to the two pupils who have shared the captaincy this year, Paddy Agar and Robert Shaw.

However, the highlight of the year was winning the Public Schools Fencing Championships at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre at the end of the Lent Term 2002. The previous year our very young team had come second, being beaten into second place by Whitgift by a single point. This year our older but still young team won all three major trophies: the Sir Winston Churchill cup for the best senior performance, the Paddy Power trophy for the best junior performance and the prestigious cup for overall Public School Champions. This was the first time since 1994 that Westminster had won the Public Schools Championships and the first time ever that we had won all three of the main categories. The competition was the biggest ever fencing event recorded in the UK, with over 1100 entries and 70 schools taking part.

There were some tremendous individual performances, not only by the junior international fencers many of whom made the finals of the individual events – including a remarkable performance by Andrew Holgate in the sabre – but also by some rising stars in the fifth form and lower shell. In fact, the fifth form is one of the strongest years ever for fencing at Westminster. Felix Baden-Powell, Lucian Trestler and Sam Wilkin's overall performance in the three weapons and Karan Kanal's marker for the future in the junior sabre particularly stood out.

The result was a tribute to the leadership of Robert Shaw and Paddy Agar who have produced a tremendous and enduring sense of enthusiasm during their respective captaincies. Russell Dudley-Smith

## FIVES

It has been a promising year for Eton Fives at Westminster. Ken Zetie left the station in a healthy state, with a strong squad of enthusiastic players. Particularly good results were obtained against Highgate, City of London and Old Westminsters this season. The School was represented at the Northern Championships at Shrewsbury School by James Japhet (MM), Ollie Butler (LL) and Murat Kerimol (College). In addition, Harry Gooding (DD) won the U14 Harrow individual trophy.

The climax to the year was the Schools' National Championships, again at Shrewsbury School, and we had representatives from all age groups. Paddy Ell, Ollie Butler, Henry Fraser (all LL) and Bruno Lacey (BB) put in good performances in the senior competition. At the U16 level, Danny Amliwalla and James Cook (RR) won a plate in a tightly fought final against a mixed Westminster/Newstead Wood pair Anthony Ellis (AHH), Theo Peterson (College). Freddie Krespi (GG), Jacob Rudman and Matthew Chen (both LL) also represented the School well.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank John Troy, Richard

Stokes and James Harrison for their help staffing the station this year, and Matthew Wiseman, who has been an inspiration for the boys, as coach. Next year's Captain will be Ollie Butler (LL), Vice-Captain Amieth Yogarajah (LL) and Secretary Peter Kennedy (RR). Michael Milner

## 1ST XI FOOTBALL

This proved to be one of the best seasons in recent years, and with many of the players returning next year, the prospects look bright for a repeat performance. The success of the team was largely due to a satisfactory blending of a good remove group with a sixth form year group which has enjoyed unqualified success throughout their school career. In addition, some players had begun to mature after one or two seasons with the eleven, ensuring that the dramatic jump from U16 level to senior football was less pronounced.

For any successful team, a solid defensive foundation and an ability to score goals are key factors to winning games. The team possessed both of these and for the Play Term it was perhaps in midfield that our weaknesses lay. A number of changes were made during the season to strengthen this area and it was only by the Lent Term that we had found a stable and workable combination of players.

The season began with two friendlies against Bolton and Allyn's. We won both of these and looked sharp. Unfortunately, the match against Allyn's was marred by Maram Al Kadhi (HH) breaking his leg.

<p><b>1st XI Results</b>            Played: 23            Won:15 Drawn: 2 Lost: 6            F71 A33</p> <p><b>September</b>            Alleyns (a) Won 2-1  <small>(match stopped before full time)</small>            Bolton School (a) Won 2-1            Ardingly(a) Drew 3-3            ISFA sixes (Chigwell)            Eton(h) Won 2-1            Old Westminsters Lost 1-4            KES Witley(a) Won 6-1            Oswestry (h) Won 7-0  <small>(2nd Rnd ISFA Cup)</small></p> <p><b>October</b>            Forest (h) Won 1-0            Kimbolton (a) Won 8-1            Lancing Not played</p> <p><b>November</b>            Highgate(h) Won 5-0            Brentwood(a) Lost 1-5  <small>(3rd Rnd ISFA Cup)</small>            Latymer(a) Lost 1-3            Chigwell(h) Won 3-0            Charterhouse(a) Lost 0-4            Aldenham(a) Won 4-0</p> <p><b>December</b></p>	<p><b>1st XI Results (continued...)</b></p> <p><b>January</b>            King's Canterbury(a) Won 2-0            Corinthian Casuals(h) Drew 2-2</p> <p><b>February</b>            Dulwich(a) Won 1-0            Hampton(a) Won 2-1</p> <p><b>March</b>            Oratory(a) Won 5-0            Harrow(h) Lost 1-2            St. Paul's(a) Won 11-0            Bishop's Stortford Cancelled</p> <p><b>House Competitions</b>  <b>House Sixes</b>            Winners Liddell's</p> <p><b>House Matches</b>            Winners Liddell's</p> <p><b>Representative honours</b>            David Weinstein-Linder (HH) and Cyrus Alamouti (LL) selected for the ISFA U19 B side against Essex and Jack Wolton (WW) selected for the ISFA U16 side which toured</p>
---	---



Above:  
Football 1st XI  
(standing left to right)  
Mr I Monk, R Scarfe,  
J Wolton, R  
Sawbridge, N Naylor,  
D Taylor,  
W Yell, Mr R Butcher,  
Mr J Kemball;  
(seated left to right)  
M Al Kadhi, D  
Freyhan, W  
Stevenson,  
R Ratcliffe,  
H Bacon (capt.),  
D Weinstein-Linder,  
S Stannard, S Salem,  
C Alamouti.

This was a bitter blow for Maram and for the team, as arguably we missed his skill and passing ability during the earlier part of the season. The game against Ardingly, where we had ample opportunity to win in the final minutes, was followed by a very creditable performance in the ISFA sixes where we topped our group and qualified for the cup competition. We were eventually knocked out by a formidable Brentwood side. In the games up to half term there were notable wins against Eton and Forest. The Eton game was a tenacious and fast flowing affair and we were worthy of our win with Benjie Guy (RR) scoring the winner. Against Forest we scored an early goal with David Weinstein-Linder meeting a deep field cross with an excellent header. Forest then dominated the game in terms of possession, but we worked hard to protect our lead and managed to hold on. We handed out some impressive beatings too e.g. Witley, Oswestry, Kimbolton and Highgate, due largely to the re-invented David Weinstein-Linder up front, ably supported by Daniel Freyhan (HH), whose physical presence and coolness in front of goal proved too much for many average school defences.

Second in the ISFA southern league and playing well, we went to Brentwood (eventual winners) for the 3rd Round of the ISFA Cup with some optimism, despite their reputation as the best side on the circuit. Unfortunately we never imposed ourselves on the opposition and conceded three early goals from which we never recovered. This set in motion a run of poor results and a suspicion that we were not quite up to beating the best. There were good wins against Chigwell and Aldenham and at Charterhouse and Bradfield the score lines were in no way a reflection of our contribution to the games. There was not a lot between any of the sides, but some comical errors in defence resulted in several gifted goals. Up to the Highgate game, our defence of William Wolton (GG), Sam Stannard (LL), Ed Saunt (LL), Robert Sawbridge (GG) and Sherif Salem (AHH) had looked sound, but with confidence now suddenly at a low, and playing well only in patches, we were not mentally tough enough to recover from the mishaps.

In the Lent Term some changes were made and the team bounced back with some impressive results. There were excellent wins against Dulwich away, where, with a fine performance from Rupert Ratcliffe (AHH), we totally dominated the game, and against a typically accomplished Hampton side, where we didn't. However we did score two fine goals and fought hard with Ned Naylor (CC) making some match winning saves. The team was looking well balanced throughout with William Stevenson (LL) and Cyrus Alamouti (LL) providing the creativity in midfield and the two Davids, Weinstein-Linder (HH) and Taylor (WW) finding the net. The outstanding player of the term was Sam Stannard who having been moved to left back was consistently demonstrating a high level of performance. A frustrating loss to Harrow, including an unlikely winner from all of thirty yards was followed by a resounding thrashing of St. Paul's where much of the term's hard work came to fruition.

The Players: Henry Bacon (captain), Sam Stannard, William Yell, Sherif Salem, Robert Sawbridge, Rory Scarf, Jack Wolton, Ed Saunt, William Wolton, David Lloyd, Ned Naylor, William Stevenson, Cyrus Alamouti, Benjie Guy, Rupert Ratcliffe, David Weinstein-Linder, David Taylor, Daniel Freyhan, Maram Al Kadhi.

I would like to thank all the players for their hard work over the year and to the staff, RB, JB, PDH, MHF, PAH, VS, NJH, AJ, PW, JDK, RRS, MNR for all their valuable help and support in giving up their afternoons and weekends to coach and manage our nine teams. A special thank you too to Gabrielle Ward-Smith who leaves us this year. Gabrielle has been a valued member of the 'team' and contributed greatly to Westminster football over the past four years, running the U14 B side, refereeing games and organising our tour to Canada. We shall certainly miss her. Finally, a special thanks must go to IRM for not only his superb management of an equally successful 2nd X1, but his enthusiastic and invaluable support throughout the long season. Jeremy Kemball

## 2ND XI FOOTBALL

The 2002 season started with a bang at Ardingly and apart from the odd blip along the way just got better. The results of the season were: Played 20, Won 15, Drawn 1, Lost 4 with one of the defeats being against the OWW.

Our cards were well and truly on the table by beginning with a 6-1 defeat by our old rivals at Ardingly and then on to a 5-2 win at Eton. This set the pattern for an incredible first half of term with some exciting attacking football leading to plenty of goals and many more convincing victories as a result.

There were many valuable contributions from different players of which I would like to highlight a few. The leadership of Rory Scarfe in marshalling a tight defence combined with some excellent displays led to his deserved promotion to the 1st XI towards the end of the season. Next, the technical skills and tactical awareness shown by Tom Smith playing in the link role in centre midfield was at times a joy to watch. To become an excellent all-round team member Tom now needs to work on his strength and speed. The tireless running of Benjie Guy, the hard grafting Chris Abell, and silky skills of Jamie Lewis and Tom Wroe were often pleasing to the eye.

My thanks go to all those players that worked hard, not only in matches but also in training and which made it such an enjoyable and extremely satisfying season. I would especially like to thank Rory Scarfe for his help, support and fantastic leadership during what can only be described as a great campaign. IRM

## 3RD XI FOOTBALL

The 3rd XI season was full of surprises this year. The atmosphere, of course had not changed in the slightest, our ethos being one of enjoying the game as opposed to winning it. However, our results seem to paint a different picture, winning over half our matches, showing our 3rd XI to be the strongest Westminster has ever fielded. Not only that, but of the losses many were extremely close fought despite what some score lines might suggest.

Throughout the season, the defence consisting of Turton, Georget, Marlow, Mitropolous and Naylor played spectacularly well, coping with gaps left by the Remove last year. They gelled well providing resistance to the most extreme onslaughts. However, the defence could not have succeeded without the superb support it gained from the midfield consisting of Stepien, Chatterjee, Pandya, Walton and Elliot-Purdy. Their "total football" style allowed them to change from defence to attack in an instant. The swift counter-attacking approach proved too much for many opposition defences. The

midfield provided an almost continuous supply of balls to the immensely skilled Church and the pacey Attar.

Injuries in the season presented gaps in the team allowing Pike, Lynch-Bell, Gazzard, Manners, Salmon, Konyar, Testard, Boswell, Woodrow and Reilly to make significant contributions to the team.

Many thanks to Mr Barot for being a great coach, for his technical advice and his physical presence. Thanks as well to Mr Hargreaves for his moral support. All the best to the Sixth Form whom we hope will continue the trends of the 3rd XI next year.

James Church (LL Rem)  
and Otto Turton (GG Rem)

## U16 FOOTBALL

It is always a mixed blessing when injuries and promotions to the 1st XI necessitate a change in a team's formation. This was certainly true of this year's under 16 team. At the start of the season, serious injuries to Webb and Garthwaite together with Wolton's promotion to the senior side posed a challenge to the whole squad. Two comfortable wins against Ardingly and K.E.S.Witley were punctuated by a heavy loss to Eton, where Garthwaite sustained the broken arm from which he did not fully recover until towards the end of the second term. A mixed start but we did show in the wins that we could play attractive football.

We were fortunate in having a large and talented group to draw from. Karageorgis led the front-line throughout the season. For the early matches he was accompanied by Younger and at various points he was joined by his old partner from the previous two years, Wroe. The balance of the team, however, required Wroe to play left midfield and we ended up with a 4-5-1 formation. Levy and Borsay performed admirably in the centre and the midfield quintet was completed by two of Younger, Zafiriou and Ahmed. Our defence was our strength with a back-four marshalled by the ever-present Oates, ably supported by Gordon or Bagherzade in the centre and Farthing, Gokmen or Sen Gupta on the flanks. In goal, Low replaced Bussetil after the Highgate game. Both proved to be competent and enthusiastic keepers.

All in all this was a most enjoyable season. Several of the team will be pressing for 1st XI places next season and in two years time I expect them to form the backbone of a strong senior side. Many thanks to Valance for his inspired coaching and to Dr Hartley who has led the B team through an extremely successful season. Mark Feltham

## U15A FOOTBALL

This has been a very enjoyable, yet ultimately frustrating season

for the U15A team. Enjoyable because this has been one of the most enthusiastic and hard working U15 squads I have had the privilege to work with, but frustrating because our paltry tally of two victories did not reflect the effort put in by everyone over the season as a whole.

Over the course of the two terms a total of 24 players out of a 34 strong squad represented the School at U15A level, showing that we were blessed with a large pool of highly competent players this year. The fine success of the U15B team is partly a result of this strength in depth. However the lack of enough influential players who had the qualities necessary to dominate opposing teams and turn games perhaps meant that the U15A side did not prevail more frequently. This is not to say that we did not have players of this ilk – Assadollah Rashidian and Henry Hepworth were our best examples, and many others in the team showed signs of developing into such players – it was just a rare occasion that all components of the side played at the level required to transform worthy toil into glorious triumph.

Our regular players all should get a mention by name: the acrobat ic Louis Jagger kept goal for the early fixtures before Nick Grosse worked his way into the A-team and then held onto the green jersey with many brave performances. Dependable John Reicher, Oliver Capel, Sam Smith and James Lloyd-Thomas were our defensive mainstays. Joining Assadollah Rashidian and Henry Hepworth in midfield regularly were Martin Briscoe-Wilson, Ben Scrace, Max Zamkow and Alex Joseph, whose considerable pace when running down the wings frightened many defences. Charles Cooke (top scorer equal with Alex Joseph on 7 goals) had a variety of striking partners up front including Will Irwin and Alistair Wallace. The hard working duo of Yusuf Blunt and Hamza Khan played in most outfield positions between them over the course of the season! Several other players including Tim Hunter Jones, Tom Gill, Azam Rangoonwala and Rob Runge enjoyed short runs in the side at various times. Well done to all of you.

All that remains is for me to thank Paul Whittle for his excellent and patient coaching throughout the season, Andrew Johnson for all his support and fantastic success with the U15B team, Assadollah Rashidian for his dedicated captaincy and all those who came along to support the team from the touchline. Nick Hinze Full team and player statistics are available on NJH's homepage on the school website.

## U15B FOOTBALL

The team played 15, won 9, drew 1 and lost 5. They scored 53 goals and conceded 39. Before a summary of the season as a whole, a few individuals deserve praise.

The Hasselbaink (goal obsession) award goes to Jack Kember with 14 goals, including 4 against both Charterhouse and City (but not Spurs.) The Vieira (elastic legs and vision) award goes to Andy Byrne who scored 2, made others and dominated that awkward gap between strikers and defence with determination. Please don't go to Madrid. The Gallas (last ditch tackle) award goes to Ben Deanfield who played 13 games with total commitment and never shied away from bruising tackles as well as posing an attacking threat. The David James (brilliance with occasional calamity) award goes to Louis Jagger. Despite briefly swapping from football to fencing Louis



made some stunning saves. No team wins 9 without an able keeper at the back. Now it is time to form the Reduced Soccer Company to condense the season into one ludicrous plot.

After weeks of sunshine we are allowed to play on the Square. Wallace (Rod Wallace?) rolls the ball to Kember who having dwelt slightly too long on the ball (again) knocks it to Remez (Kewel). JJ bemuses the opposition with a drag back before making crossing to Scrace (Gudjohnsen).

At Aldenham, Scrace nets a hat-trick to add to goals against Alleyn's, Lancing (2), Dulwich (2) and Harrow (2). From the restart, St. Paul's are thwarted in midfield by Byrne and Hunter Jones (Petit?), who scores to add to goals against Charterhouse, City, Harrow. Keljik (Dyer) pops up with a goal or two (Lancing, Oratory) and then releases Zamkow (Scholes) who fires the ball into the net at Harrow.

The opposition then find a wall of Gill (Terry), Runge (Keane - goals against Alleyns, Highgate, 2 at Aldenham) and Radhakrishnan (Desailly). The ball spills out to Naylor (Pearce, but harder) who out-muscles their winger. Irwin (Anderton) scores against Aldenham and then takes the throw to Deanfield who hits a cross-field ball to Rangoonwala (Solano) who splits the defence and sets up Wallace to score against Ardingly, Alleyn's, Lancing, Highgate, Aldenham and City. Remez bury the spot kick (just) and the referee's blushes are saved. Inspired, JJ adds goals against Highgate, Chigwell, Aldenham, City and Stortford. Alert to attacking possibilities, Jagger throws the ball out to Blunt (Sinclair) who sets up Briscoe-Wilson (Huckerby) at Alleyn's and Charterhouse. Pitying Aldenham (and their local off side rules) we make some subs: Marolda (Del Piero), Smith (Sol... poached by the 'A' team?!), Shaw (Poyet), Bacon (Owen - one-footed), Capel (Le Saux), Alexander (Hamann) and our other keepers, Grosse (Cudicini) and Ilingworth (van der Sar). All in all a season we should be proud of. Thanks also to Nick Hinze (Ottman Hitzfeld) and Paul Wittle. Claudio Ranieri, will now take a break from management until next season.

Andrew Johnson

## U14 FOOTBALL

It would be fair to say that this was not a vintage season for the U14s. Unfortunately, they were often outgunned

by considerably superior opposition on an Independent Schools circuit that was stronger than any which I had previously encountered. Many of the U14 teams we played against were very accomplished, several of them benefiting from the presence of 'Sports Scholars'.

There were a few high points though, such as the 5-3 victory over KES Witley and the 2-1 win away at The Oratory. In addition, there were a couple of draws away from home at Alleyn's (2-2) and Haileybury (1-1). Otherwise, it was more a story of a lot of effort for not a lot of gain.

Whilst success was not always forthcoming as a team, several individuals made great strides during the season. Chief amongst these was Sam Allen who was probably the most overworked U14 goalkeeper in living memory. Perhaps the next most consistent performer was Nat Gordon who grew and grew in confidence at the heart of the defence. He was matched by Marc Baghdadi who was ever-present on the left flank whether in defence or midfield. Alex Hall also made his one of the first names with his solid performances in a variety of defensive and midfield roles and Dominic Parsons consistently unsettled opposition defenders with his lightning pace. Anthony Comninos was another consistent performer throughout the season.

Hakan Feridun and Stefan Vukcevic showed that they have the ability to be influential midfield players. Similarly, Tommy Cattell showed himself to be the most talented and natural goal scorer in the squad. Ed Casserley and Thomaz Steuerman both started in the B team but joined the As during the course of the year. In addition, Alex Asher,

Ed Miles, Matthew Woodhams, Thomas Hannah, Alex Estorick, Nidal al Juzi and Charles Maynard all showed signs of promise for the future.

The hope is that with hard work these boys will progressively develop as they go up the School. I would encourage them to stay positive and assure them that real effort at improving their technical and physical fitness will eventually pay dividends. I thank all concerned with U14 football, pupils and staff alike (but particularly GWS, MNR and RRS), for their efforts this season. James Kershner

## MARTIAL ARTS

This last year has been an exciting and dramatic time in Westminster Judo following the departure of Rev. Mordecai – the founder of Martial Arts at Westminster – yet we have pressed on under the



watchful eye of Mr Allnatt. We've finally taken off in competitions and the station has become more popular than ever. In our third year, we have some experienced members amongst us, and the Lower School young bloods are making good progress; there were plans for a grading, but it had to be cancelled as the majority of players did not have their licences ready. In November we defeated St Paul's with 10 wins over their 5. The real deal however was the Independent Schools, where we performed much better than last year where we only won one Bronze medal. We managed wins in the juniors (under 16), with Marc Scrimshire getting through a strained neck in his first fight to win the bronze, and Vikram Iyer – towering over most of his opponents – lumbered to the finals winning a silver cup. Our resident hulk Charles Greenbury – who despite his size was dwarfed by his opponents – scored a Bronze in the 90+kg Seniors. The rest of our team fought very well, though I was the only one to manage even a single victory – a reflection on the quality of our opponents. Thanks go to our supporters, who travelled up to High Wycombe to see the competition and of course to Larry, our coach.

We've been going strong this year, and with more competitions, and a grading coming up, we will only get better!

Raphael D'Amico (AHH V1th)

## SAILING

We sail at Welsh Harp Reservoir in Bosun dinghies, under the instruction of John Porter on Tuesdays, and at Queen Mary Reservoir in Picos on Thursdays. Because both of these places are an hour's drive from school, sailing requires a big time commitment from the boys involved.

This has been a very good term for us. Due to a large influx of fifth formers, the station has doubled in size to 14, which is the maximum possible number we can carry in the mini-bus. Most of the sailors were beginners at the start of term, and they have brought great enthusiasm to the station, and progressed at an impressive rate, such that they are now competent in helming both single and double-handers. Another point of note has been how they have all learnt to work together in getting the boats rigged and launched, and then put away afterwards. It is quite a surprise to see them all just getting on with it! Many of them put the Cowes Sailing Expedition on their expedition choice forms, and I'm sure those that I am taking will get a lot out of it.

We have competed in several matches, starting with our first appearance at the British Schools Team Racing Championships. That was a very tough competition, and we didn't quite make the semis, but it was very good experience for our boys. Since then we have had matches against Reading Oratory, Merchant Taylors', and Highgate, and easily won all of these, with some superb sailing from David Reicher and Andy Fawcett, and useful backup from Chris Ziegler and Ben Shillito. The beginners took it in turn to crew. Sports colours were awarded to all boys who had taken part in a match.

Unfortunately, David has been tied up with exams this term, and so unable to attend station on a regular basis. I would, however, like to make special mention of Andy Fawcett's contribution to the smooth running of station.

He has had infinite patience with the junior members of the group, organising them and helping to instruct them, and I probably would have gone mad without his help! In fact, the staff at Queen Mary Reservoir were so impressed they said they would be happy to offer him work as a dinghy instructor as soon as he has qualified. He will be a great Head of Station next year.

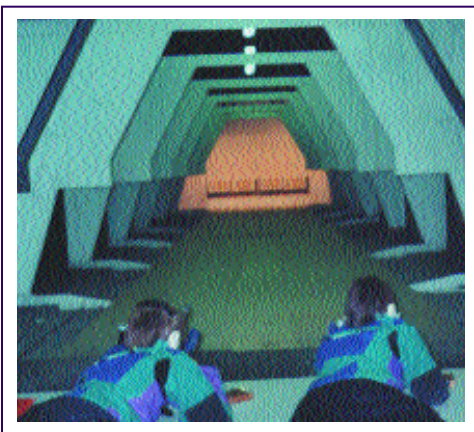
Fiona Smart has also been invaluable in driving the mini-bus and keeping everything running smoothly with the station, and Jenny Lambert has stood in on the couple of occasions when Fiona was unable to make it. Both of them also had a go at sailing and seemed to enjoy it. I very much hope that one of the new members of staff will be qualified to take over the running of the station next year. However, it will still be necessary to use an extra instructor from the sailing centres, and this will inevitably put the budget up.

I expect most of this year's sailors will continue in Election Term 2002, and hope that the station will increase its profile in the coming years. I will miss it very much – there is, unfortunately no sailing in Bogota!  
Guin Hodges

## SHOOTING

This year, shooting station has made encouraging progress towards sporting respectability at Westminster. Many Westminsters, notably the rowers, have a poor appreciation of the actual skill involved to be good at shooting. It is a truth that shooting is easy (as one can always miss the target!) but getting consistently high scores requires much dedication and practice. For this reason, Alex Fry deserves particular praise for his excellent

shooting on a weekly basis, a performance which has earned him the top average in the station this year. However, there have been numerous other impressive performances by Kenichi Akito and Andrew



Couroussopoulos.

Furthermore, the new recruits, Tokini Peterside and Alex Gabrielle are showing great promise. They will be part of a very strong team next year! On the competitive front, Westminster has enjoyed mixed success with good performances in the NSRA Centenary National competition and in our recent match against Wellington College. Although we lost the latter fixture, the small margin of just 23 points

reflected good performances under the pressure of facing a team containing international shooters! Particular thanks also must be given to Mrs Jackman who is leaving the station this summer after many years of happiness (and times of great tolerance!). I would also like to thank Alan Lewis our coach whose dedication has catalysed great improvements in the shooting of all those who are members of the station!

Thomas Wrathmell (DD Rem)

## TENNIS

Tennis Station went well in 2001, although our fixtures were frequently decimated by rain and we did struggle somewhat in the competitions. We did, however, benefit greatly from having two coaches, Kieron and Carol, who are on the regular coaching staff at Queen's Club. Carol has been working with some of the players throughout the year and the improvement amongst them is highly encouraging.

Having fallen victim to the weather against Highgate the previous week, we were forced to begin the season on April 28th with a new fixture against Putney Common Tennis Club. After an odyssey journey, we finally arrived just as the heavens opened. However, after several interruptions, we did manage to complete the fixture which we lost 6-2. Cochran and Younger played particularly well and won both our sets. Sadly, our traditional fixture with the American School was completely washed out as was the match against UCS after half-term.

We were more fortunate with the OWWs with whom the channels of communication have greatly improved over the last few years; many thanks to Duncan Matthews in this regard. In 2001 we organised both a senior and a junior fixture, with honours halved. There were many fine performances including the combinations of Church and Lloyd, Cochran and Webb and Varvarin and Younger. We also had 2 fixtures against Harrow, both played away so that we could get more players to participate. On Thursday 10th May we took our 18 best players, but came second. Church and Lloyd again proved a successful pairing. We also lost the Junior fixture after half-term, but again there were encouraging contributions from Varvarin and Webb, Hessing and Ellis, and Shaw and Rashidian. Testard and Cole also put up a good fight.

Before Expeditions we also organised a Junior fixture against Putney. The result was 10-2 and suffice it to say we did not get the 10. Putney were flattered by the scoreline. Honest!

All in all, it was a very good season. We had thriving numbers, a good captain in Ted Roy, good coaching, and played much competitive tennis. Thanks to all concerned.  
Simon Craft

## WATER – BOYS

The last year at the Boat Club has been extremely successful, with medal success in all the major events, and some outstanding individual performances.

The National Schools Regatta produced a number of



surprises in May. The 1st VIII – which had just begun to rediscover the form of the winter season after an unfortunate spate of injuries and illnesses – had a fantastic first day of competition, beating an impressive field in the semi-finals. The final was equally thrilling (the top five crews were separated by just 4 seconds) and the VIII, exhausted after 3 rounds, came fifth. The J15s performed astoundingly in crews only recently selected: the second four surprised everybody with a well-deserved fourth place, but most notable was the performance of the silver-medal winning first four, in which rowed James McNaughton, a novice J14 who now rows regularly in the 1st VIII.

On the second day, the pair of James Summerfield and Jack Holborn struggled in the rough conditions and strong field, and were unfortunate to be knocked out in their semi-final. James Furlong, the 1st VIII reserve, was placed in a tough Championship Sculls heat, and missed out on qualification for the semi-finals by just a few seconds. The Championship Four – in which rowed retiring Head of the Water, James Woodrow – exceeded all expectations, defeating some powerful competition to reach the final, where after a tremendous weekend they finished fifth.

After exeat, the Club's full attention was turned towards selecting an VIII to compete at Henley Royal Regatta, the biggest event of the year. Preparation for the race went well: the crew even spent an enjoyable weekend camping in Henley to take advantage of the early morning calm. The VIII was disappointed to lose to an outstanding crew from Bedford Modern School in the first round of the regatta.

Over the summer break, there was an expedition to the annual night regatta in Genoa, where the Westminster VIII this year included a mixture of OWW and coaches. The sun and food contributed to a great weekend away, and the crew were satisfied with their bronze medal against some strong international opposition. Later on in the summer, a Westminster cutter rowed the PLA Challenge – a race from London Bridge to the OXO tower – and won a silver medal. Jack Holborn continued rowing through July in preparation for the Coupe de la Jeunesse, in which he had been selected to row for the Great Britain junior team. On both days Jack's coxed four won silver medals, losing out by inches.

With the end of the 2001 season, Mrs Freckleton decided the time

had come to leave Westminster, where she had successfully taught and coached Westminsters for fifteen years.

The Play Term began with the strenuous 23-mile Great River Race. All Westminster crews performed well, the top crew carrying TV reporter and cameraman, who made a documentary about the experience! The Boat Club's new transportation also attracted press coverage in 2001: the top squad now travels to Putney from Westminster Pier on a river-boat.

Our annual American tour this year took us to the Head of the Charles, in Boston, and the Head of the Schuylkill, in Philadelphia. The 1st VIII rowed efficiently in Boston, coming seventh in the biggest race of its kind in the world. After a fantastic few days spent enjoying the local sites (not to mention the Jacuzzis and widescreen televisions), the boys drove down to Philadelphia, where they were the guests of St. Joseph's Prep and were joined by the girls VIII for the first time. The racing done, both crews flew back home just in time for the start of school.

Due to flooding and bad weather, most of the domestic winter races of the Play Term were cancelled, which was a great disappointment to all, not least the enthusiastic new fifth form. Fortunately, Maidstone Head offered a frosty opportunity towards the end of term to showcase the boat club's new crews: a J14 quad won their event. The Senior 4, rowed by Jack Holborn and Charlie Hayes together with OWW Ed Sainty and coach Ian Watson, produced the fastest time of the entire race.

Sam Scheuringer, Charlie Hayes and Will Sweet all did well in long distance trials for the Great Britain junior team in November and February, and the impressive performance of Head of Water, James Summerfield, resulted in his selection for the next round of trials.

The Schools Head of the River was perhaps the most successful of recent years for Westminster, with five of our six competing crews finishing in the top three. The fifth form results were particularly outstanding: the 1st octuple came second, and the 2nd octuple came third. Despite last-minute injuries and crew changes, the J15 and J16 coxed fours were pleased to win silver and bronze medals respectively. The 1st VIII were frustrated by their sixteenth place finish, but the following weekend they redeemed themselves somewhat by winning Kingston Head.

Generally, the Boat Club has had a very successful year, and with the acquisition of several new boats and coaches, all crews are hoping to do well in the summer races. You can keep up with results and news on [www.wsb.org.uk](http://www.wsb.org.uk), thanks to the hard work of

webmasters James Summerfield, and Charlie Hayes.

William Sweet (RR Rem)

## WATER – GIRLS

“I didn’t know Westminster had a girls squad” – a comment not uncommonly overheard from surprised spectators on the bank. This year’s girls’ squad had something to prove, and with only two years to do it in, the only thing faster was their 2k time.

First VIII 2000-2001  
Valerie Diedrichs  
Faye Dayan  
Daisy Collins  
Jessica Chichester  
Rosie Goldman  
Catherine Nassim  
Mathilde Pauls  
Rosamund Urwin  
Cox: Gigi Florentin-Lee

Henley IV 2001  
Daisy Collins  
Faye Dayan  
Mathilde Pauls  
Jessica Chichester  
Cox: Gigi Florentin-Lee

GB Trials Pair

After our training camp in Ghent last year, a solid VIII emerged, led in the stroke seat by Valerie Dierichs.. During the run up to the National Schools’ Regatta, the squad enjoyed numerous successes in smaller regattas, in both IVs and the VIII. These included wins at Wallingford and Bedford Regatta. Clearly the girls had a knack for this racing business, and it was even rumoured that they enjoyed it too.

After our string of successes in both competition and training, they approached the National Schools’ competition very positively, though

we knew the task in hand was difficult. This was to be the first time that we competed with the female powerhouses of school rowing, Lady Elenour Holles and Headington for example. Unlike our entire squad, which had started rowing in the 6th form, the girls we were up against had been rowing for 5 years, many of them in junior Great Britain squads.

This however, did not dampen the spirit and determination with which the crew approached the challenge. The race started very well, but the commentator, 100m from the finish announced “Westminster is significantly overrating all the other crews, it looks like they’ve pushed to early, they’ll never be able to hold 6th place off at this rate!” Never say never to Westminster Girls. We made the finals, by just over a couple of inches, both of them won by grit and determination. Unfortunately, we were not so successful in the final, coming 6th. However, no Westminster girls crew has ever reached the Women’s Championship Vllls final, so we were all extremely proud, returning with 6th place and a little piece of history.

Taking this theme of defying expectations even further, a IV was selected to race at Women’s Henley. Stroked by Daisy Collins, this crew not only battled a challenging training regime, but also the stresses of the new AS examination system. Even when we arrived, we were met with unfavourable odds – in the heats our opposition was a IV from Lady Elenour Holles, renowned for their speed, skill and bench-press. So sure that we would be knocked out was CD Riches, that he had made plans to return with us to Putney that afternoon to do some coaching. Again, in true Westminster Girls Squad style, we defied expectations, not only by beating them, but by a whole four lengths! In the next round we faced Headington, who despite a very brave, fighting finish, beat us by a length and a half. Still, no girls boat had ever made the quarter-finals at Henley, so we returned disappointed not to have made it to the next day, but again very proud with our latest piece of history. After a long summer break, we had quite a relaxing half term in preparation for our trip to Philadelphia. More for the experience of

racing in America than medal seeking or hard training, this relatively unsuccessful but nevertheless enjoyable experience was composed of an VIII pulled together with the remaining girls from the top squad.

The sixth form competed at the Cambridge Winter Head, accompanied by a few old hands from the remove, Rosamund Urwin in the stroke seat and Catherine Nassim at 7. However, because of this, they were forced up a category and although they came last, their time was good enough that they would have won the novice event which they would have entered had they sufficient numbers.

The latter half of the PlayTerm was extremely gruelling in terms of training, possibly the hardest the girls squad had ever faced. Faye Dayan unfortunately suffered a serious back injury, but almost 6 months later has now made a full recovery. Jessica Chichester and Mathilde Pauls went to Great Britain trials in January and rose to the challenge with ever increasing vigour. They are to be congratulated for their excellent result, coming 4th in their pair. Special congratulations must go to Mathilde Pauls for winning in her single on the second day! Unfortunately, since she is German, she cannot be selected. However, Jessica has been selected for the squad, and we wish her the best of luck on her GB training camp in Nottingham this Easter.

We also enjoyed our first training camp without the presence of the boys’ squad at Lake Banyoles in Spain. The beautiful flat water and brilliant sunshine provided excellent conditions for sculling and being coached by Olympians Guin Bettern and Gillian Lyndsay was an added bonus!

After the disappointment of the cancellation of last year’s Schools’ Head, many of the Remove girls returned to join with the sixth form in a Women’s sixth form VIII. Again, the boat house leaves the women to return with the silverware, being the only crew to win their event! Not only that, but a win by over 20 seconds: a new event record.



The sixth form show increasing promise, particularly from Jessica Espey. We have also had some very promising new recruits since Christmas, with the addition of Zoe, an impressive and accomplished runner. Suzie Richards continues to both cox and row, having an ergo time better than many in the squad. She has also successfully competed in modern pentathlon. And who said coxes were lazy?!

Gigi Florentin-Lee (HH Rem)