

Swimming Team are the Ulster Champions

On the 18th November CAI travelled to Belfast for the Ulster Grammar Schools' swimming gala. The first events that took place were the 50 metre backstroke heats and Ciaran Sloan swam well and managed to reach the final. Christy McLaughlin then swam the breast stroke, and although he won his heat did not secure a place in the finals. Christopher Coils won both his heats in the IM and butterfly giving a good opportunity to get some points. Ciaran managed to scrape through in the freestyle event but I just missed out in 7th place. When the relays came we knew we had a good chance in the overall competition. The heats were comfortable and we got into the finals in both with easily the best time in the freestyle relay and only 4 milliseconds behind Sullivan Upper in the medley.

In the finals Ciaran managed to get a fourth and fifth and Christopher two seconds. This was an excellent performance as Christopher has another year at Junior Level.

The medley was tough, but we managed to

deny Sullivan and win the gold medal. The freestyle relay was not

so much about the other schools, but against the clock. Mr Knox had it beaten into our heads that we had to improve our previous record of fifty-three seconds to stand a chance in the forthcoming Bath Cup.

We all swam brilliantly beating Methody and also getting what Mr Knox wanted, in breaking fifty-three seconds. With maximum points from the relays we won the overall trophy for Top Junior School. In the end we got thirty-nine points with Methody closest to us on twenty –six points and Campbell College third. It was a class day but Mr Knox told us our prize was going to have to get up early and swim before school on Tuesday as well as Friday!

Conor Nicholl Year 10



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total of 11 A* grades.



Medallion Rugby tour to Dublin.

On the 10th of November 20 Medallion rugby players departed from school at 9 am in a small mini bus. After a quick diversion to Dunloy to pick up a 52 seater bus, (which let Mr. Palmer stretch his legs) we were on our way to Dublin next stop, Newry.

On our drive to Newry our choice of DVD's was beginning to drive Mr. Irwin insane. So a stop over in a McDonalds was well needed, now for most boys this was the first of many stops at McDonalds during the weekend. After a good feast, we were all back on the bus and the next stop was Tem-



On Friday night we found a man tougher than Mr. Beggs.

McKnight. Both teams had a punishing first half resulting in a half time score of 14 - 5.



plelogue.

CAI 21 – 12 Templeogue

During the first half there was a solid defence, with the ball kept mainly with the forwards. Although Templeogue did manage to find a gap in the defence which they took full advantage of, and scored.

But in reply Coleraine scored two unanswered tries, by Josh McCabe and Keith

After a stern team talk from Mr. Irwin and Mr. Palmer the second half started. Ritchie McMaster kicked deep but following poor defence Templeogue scored a try in the corner. This was then converted by the Templeogue out-half. Late into the second half Coleraine got a chance to score, after being camped on the line for a considerable amount of time. This final try was scored by Josh McCabe, bringing the score to 21 – 12. Coming to the end of the match Templeogue continued to try to break down the defence and there was sustained pressure on Coleraine's line. However the ball was eventually turned over and the match ended soon after.

After a speedy check in at Tara Towers and our rooms being allocated, we all were told to be changed quickly and meet in reception at 6 SHARP. At 6 o'clock we all were ready to leave for the cinema,

only for Mr. Irwin, Mr. Farrell and Mr. Palmer to hold us up. At 6.30 we finally left Tara Towers but before the film we had an hour to spend in Dublin. Most boys went to the McDonalds and got themselves some dinner. After annoying the locals, we all met up again in front of the cinema and democratically decided to go see "Borat".



Mr. Irwin and Mr. Palmer being "proper" cowboys.

After the film we waited outside for Mr. Irwin and co. to turn up, they had gone to the Malaysian restaurant down the road. On his arrival Mr. Irwin broke the news to us that we had to walk back because the bus driver had already gone. After a short walk we found the local "DART" station and jumped on the train for the nearest stop to the hotel. On Friday night we were split up all over the hotel and many of us just went up to rooms and watched TV.

On Saturday morning we walked the short distance to Blackrock College playing fields, where we would watch Methody playing Blackrock, but it appears this match was not being played at Blackrock so instead we went to the local beach and passed around the rugby ball.

Next was a trip to Dun Laoghaire to the local shopping centre, where we were given a lot of free time to spend in the shopping centre and to walk about the little port. Following this we went on our way to Dublin city centre again.

While in Dublin city centre many boys found the time to go to the local McDonalds or Burger King to get something to eat. A few boys were lucky enough to see Paris Hilton at "Brown Thomas" which was the highlight of the trip for the boys who saw her. After this encounter with fame we travelled on to

Lansdowne Road stadium where we watched the fantastic match between South Africa and Ireland. Andrew Trimble scored and the final score was 32-15 to Ireland.



After the match we all boarded the bus and had a relaxing trip back to Coleraine arriving at 11 O'clock.

Everyone on the tour had a good time and mainly thanks to the fun on Friday night. On behalf of the whole team who travelled down to Dublin I would like to thank Mr. Irwin, Mr. Palmer and Mr. Farrell for a good time, which was had by all.

David Templeton

This house believes that the NHS should be privatized!

Just before the half term break, two noble teams from the senior school participated in the Belfast Civic Trust's debating competition. Team A, consisting of Gareth Steele and Jamie Rajan against a strong St. Colomb's side.

Debating in favor of the motion Gareth found himself closely matched with his opposition first speaker who made sufficient ground against our boys. Jamie followed as second speaker and made a valiant effort to regain lost ground but was outshone by the opposition's second speaker. In a last attempt to pull the debate back for the Inst, Gareth concluded by "laying into" the opposition argument, urging the audience to agree with them that the NHS should be privatised. Unfortunately the judge felt that our boys had not argued their case as well as their opposition had and gave the competition to the St. Colomb's team by a 73 to 63 victory.

Later that week Team B, consisting of John Wisener and Drew McNeil travelled to Ballymena, to face Cambridge House (supported of course by team A and Philip Hunter). With the benefit of having seen Team A in action two days earlier Team B were able to tweak their argument against the motion.

John led the CAI boys into the competition with charisma and coherence and was the only competitor to really shine for the judge in his opening and summing up speeches. Drew, while perhaps not shining for the judge, did the school proud with his fearless attempt to win over his evaluator and the audience. The highlight of the debate came



however when the floor was opened for questions. An impassioned Jamie Rajan took the floor to ask a question, but in the process produced a very compelling and moving speech, delivered with poise, stature and confidence. Where was that in his own competition is the question I ask!

The debate overall was very interesting and engaging, although the judge felt that it deteriorated into a discussion at times. In the end the judge deemed that the debate was worth 54 points to 53 in favour of Cambridge House.

I would like to thank the team members for their hard work and gallant efforts! Also Mrs Taggart for organizing the two debates and Mrs Reid for giving her time to take the boys to Ballymena. Now that several members of the Debating Society are leaving for University at the end of the year we hope that the club will live on! As for our young hopefuls moving up from the junior school to you I say, "all the best lads!"

Gareth Steele

Diary Dates

11th-15th December
-School Exams

22nd December -

End of term .

19th January -

CIFA Quiz

Prize Day from the Stage



A-Level students with 3 As or above

Coleraine Academical Institution held its annual prize distribution on the last day of last term, 27th October 2006. The guest speaker this year was Mr Dean Pittman, the Consul General for the USA in Northern Ireland. There were the usual speeches again this year, the Headmaster giving the report of both the academic and extra-curricular achievements within and outside of school. The guest speaker's speech however was quite interesting; Mr Pittman has a very colourful background, having served in the US

army in a number of different countries around the world, including Iraq. He spoke about his native America, and onto the importance of a good education.

For me, sitting on the stage was quite a different experience; it seemed to go through much quicker than usual.



Some of our top GCSE students

– It was also quite interesting to see what exactly went on in the audience during prize day. Whether it was the constant fidgeting of the students, or the beaming grin on Mr Beggs' face when one of the members of the Board of Governors referred to Mr Mc Nay as "Mr Mc Elnay". All in all though, prize day ran smoothly, with no real mishaps and the school representing itself very well once again.



Top AS level performers

Stephen Dobbin

Museum Opening a Big Success!



“What are you going to do when you retire?” was a common question from my students towards the end of last year. When I told them that, among other things, I was going to start a School Museum, I think some of them visualised a big glass case with me (and some of my colleagues) inside it. But could it be done? After an initial rush of enthusiasm, I began to wonder! At the start of July I went into the main Museum room and stood staring at a pile of what looked like assorted junk – some of it covered in dust and cobwebs – in the middle of the floor. But with a bit of work, and a lot of help and encouragement from the Bursar and the maintenance staff, it started to come together. And I’d have to admit that when it was opened to the public after Prize Day, I was quite pleased with the result.

The basic layout tries to re-create part of a classroom and a Science Lab, a corner of the old boarding school, and a bit of the Headmaster’s Study as it would have looked in the 1960s. So a visitor to the museum can see how

teachers worked in the days before digital projectors and the Internet, how Science Labs operated in the days of Leclanche Cells and beam balances, and how boarders lived in big dormitories with all their worldly goods in a wooden locker.

There is a fair selection of our sporting history – the oldest a rugby cap from 1895 – but although we have a good selection of material for rugby, rowing, cricket and athletics, we still need a lot more covering the history of all our other sports as well as the wider range of extra-curricular activities. Could you or any of your relations help us out here?

We have a very big number of photographs covering just about every decade of the twentieth century – boys, teachers, ancillary staff and day-to-day life around the school. And there is a good selection of the things which often get thrown away – programmes, notes to parents, form lists and rollbooks.

I hope the museum will grow and that friends of the school will come across material at home which we could put on display. Eventually we hope to have a school archive as well as a museum, and maybe – as our 150th anniversary draws closer – a history of CAI as well?



Mr Cassells

Golf Disappointment

On Thursday, November 2nd the school golf team, Richard McCrudden, Philip McAuley, Chris Barber and Adam Brown travelled to an extremely wet and windy Massarenne Golf Club to play the semi-final of the Ulster Schools Match-play tournament against Wallace High School. Wallace had brought a very solid team with a maximum handicap of 8 compared to our 13.

However the team put up a valiant performance with most matches very close after nine holes. The team unfortunately 'stumbled on the last hurdle' leaving their dream of an Ulster Final slipping away.

The final scores:

Richard McCrudden lost 5&4, Philip McAuley lost 2 down, Chris Barber won 3&2 and Adam Brown lost 4&3. The team are looking forward to next year's opportunity and are hoping to go all the way to the final. But they will have to do this without Richard as this was his final year.



Footballers Make it to District Final

This was the final match of this year's league campaign. Inst had recorded victories over Dalriada, Limavady Grammar and Loreto College and only needed to avoid defeat to be sure of their place in the District Final. For Ballymoney High, only a victory would be good enough if they were to progress.

As the first half progressed, Inst were beginning to threaten with Lynas on the left wing enjoying a lot of possession and tormenting the Ballymoney defence. It was from one of his runs that Inst opened the scoring when he hit the bye line and squared the ball to present Jonny Gilmore with a simple tap in. This opening goal encouraged the CAI side and they enjoyed a spell of dominance in which Gilmore,

Steele and Quinn all had chances to double the advantage. Just before half-time, Inst struck the killer blow to go 2-0 up when Steele played a clever ball over the top of the Ballymoney defence and Gilmore



kept his composure to net his second. The second half continued in the same vein but it took Inst another 20 minutes to break through a resilient Ballymoney defence. This time it was Mark Anderson who provided the cross for Thomas Young to expertly volley past the Ballymoney goalkeeper and seal up the points. Final score Ballymoney 0 CAI 3.

Mr Spence

Photo Round Up



Year 9 pupils Jamie Gibson and Richard Nicholl who won the Novice Section of the Ulster Schools Pairs Bridge Competition on Saturday 11th November.



A Cinema Ticket prize winner from last month's raffle.



Some boys enjoying the Reading Club which is held at lunchtime on Thursdays in Room 4



Tough Lessons for 1st XV

Last Saturday CAI travelled up to Belfast to play Methodist College at Perry Park. Inst started off very strongly and pinned the home side in their own 22. A combination of solid defence and determined attack from CAI allowed them to pick up their first points of the day through a drive over the line by flanker Warwicker. This was followed by a successful conversion by Bloomfield. Fired up by their try, Coleraine found themselves pressurizing their opponents line as they had done before. This time a penalty allowed Bloomfield to successfully add another 3 points on the board for Inst. This great first half continued for the away side as Bloomfield kicked his second penalty to make the score 13-0 in Inst's favour. At this stage they eased off a little which allowed Methody to run in 3 tries in the last 10 minutes to make the score at half time 17-13.

This was unfortunate for Coleraine as the first 20 minutes saw them playing the best rugby they had played all season.

In the 2nd half Inst started to get worn down by the fast paced game. The home side managed to suck in CAI's forwards and half backs on a few occasions allowing them to stretch the remaining defenders and score in the corner. This happened 3 times in the second half bringing the score to 36-13 to MCB. CAI didn't give up and worked their way back up the pitch to pressurize the Methody line for the remaining 5 minutes but no points resulted. The score remained the same on the final whistle but CAI could take a lot of positives out of the game.

Jonny Shiels

Any comments or ideas please e-mail them to stripes-magazine@hotmail.co.uk