Unusual start in hockey

HOCKEY at Milton had an unusual start, commencing with a series of international matches in 1966. The tours were arranged by P. D. Hyde Jackson who coached matches for many years. The matches started with a match against the staff who won 7-0.

In 1967 the school played its first match against Pretoria and went down 3-4. The team entered in the Town League below some of their rivals. The early teams suffered from lack of depth (as in other players were necessarily in Rugby and at Milton but in 1973 the boys practised on the Quad grounds which were more difficult).

The 1968 tournament was passed over. The subsequent tour to England, more practice, more accuracy which meant the elimination of many players from the team.

The school played three first match on their own field in 1969 beating Bulawayo 3-1. In 1970 further injuries and caps were awarded for the first time. The school continued to play in the Matabeleland Hockey League until there were sufficient international fixtures.

With greater competition the standard of school hockey improved and in 1973 the first Matabeleland Schools team was selected to play South Africa.

Mr Barry D. Rose, A.Ex. [illegible]

Marimbas a success

THE introduction of marimbas in 1980 was perhaps discovered by some members of staff, but the Marimba Club is one of the most successful to have been introduced at Milton.

A very large part of this success must be attributed to Miss Amanda Louth. Her personal experience, her dedication, her discipline and her appeal to the boys gave the Marimba Band an esprit de corps which led to an honours award at the 1984 Eisteddfod.

This itself is all the more remarkable in that the musicians are drawn from Form 1 to Form VI. They practice willingly and enthusiastically at any time, including lunch times, and their music is admired throughout the school.

The music covers African traditional, Western contemporary, reggae, jazz and blues and competitions. They can produce the tinkling bass which sets feet tapping and bits jerking or a haunting, zither-like sound, evocative of soft light and company of pure stones. However, the best ideas to hear them is when they are practising on their own, evolving simple melodies and complicated rhythms with a Bach-like precision.

They have been interviewed and filmed by an American/Canadian camera team for North American television and they entertained the visiting Tuebingen Chamber Orchestra from the Federal Republic of Germany. Especially enthralled was the Deputy Prime Minister, Cde Simon Mazorodze who became one of the band on his visit to Milton.

Any occasion is the right occasion for the Milton Marimba Band: variety shows, festivals, competitions, a tourist fair at the Bulawayo Sun, weddings, fashion shows, fund raising for other people and entertaining the public at the Bulawayo Trade Fair.

Many Zimbabwe players,

4 Springboks from Milton

A proud record in rugby

RUGBY has always been a traditional sport at Milton and was 33rd played on the day that the school was opened, halfway through the Matabeleland rugby season in 1919. Since then Milton has produced many famous names in rugby circles.

The school has produced four Springboks in Andy Macdonald and Chris Rogers who attended the High School and Des van Rensvelt and Ronnie Hill, who attended the Junior school. It is seldom that the national side is without an Old Miltonian, who has learnt his rugby on the Milton fields.

Records show that Milton first played Plumtree in 1911 winning 25-0 and it was not until 1921 that Plumtree first defeated Milton.

Over the years Milton's rugby has had its ups and downs and results may prove as to which was the best year ever. The 1978 side was unbeaten, scoring 287 points against 96 but the unbeaten side of 1934 only had its line crossed twice. No side in recent years can match those performances.

School rugby sides have made several tours to South Africa in the past but in 1982 the team toured England for the first time. The team played six games losing to Mill Hill, Campion, Sevenoaks and Blackheath and beating Dover College and St. George.

The tour was rounded off by a week's skiing in France. The experiences gained on the tour proved to be beneficial as the 1984 side had the best record for many years, only losing the first match against Falcons.

Intensive cricket coaching needed

"LEARN to play with a straight bat. This is the ABC of cricket. A good eye and quick feet may accomplish a deal, but until you play with a straight bat, you will never achieve any success."

This extract, taken from "Hints on Cricket" in the 1921 edition of "The Miltonian" may be adequately used as sound advice for any Milton cricketer, but if we are to survey the cricket substitute, it may also prove sound advice to all Milton sportsmen whose duty is to play these competitive games to the true spirit that they require. Milton, as in its seventy-fifth year, can feel proud that its cricketers have in the past and still do uphold "that bulwark in cricket".

On December 8, 1926 Milton played its newly constituted cricket playing the first game which was against Plumtree who became our traditional rivals. Since then there have been many exciting contests. The November 1929 game was a memorable one with Milton following on 91 runs behind and endeavoring to win by [illegible] Plumtree for 55 in the 1948 game Milton performed the very feat of taking four wickets in four balls.

Milton's two most outstanding cricketers were Percy Mansell and Colin Bland who both gained selection for the Springboks. Bland was one of the most outstanding outfielders.

As the number of boys increased it became necessary to have more ground available for cricket. In the late 50'ies, Milton acquired the Thompson Pickup to the north of Selborne Avenue and these fields accommodate all the junior sides.

The 1980/81 season was the most successful for many years. No game was lost and in a low-scoring game we ended Prince Edward's long unbeaten run. One of the most exciting games ever played against Plumtree was our one-wicket win with Grobler coming in at last man scoring 40 not out.

Milton is fielding fewer sides this year than for many seasons and undoubtedly part of the problem is that there is little coaching in the primary schools. Unless the Zimbabwe Cricket Union indulges in more intensive and less haphazard coaching endeavour, the game seems doomed.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Cde Simon Mazorodze, gives the marimba during a tour of the school during the third term, 1983. He and his party spent three hours viewing the school.

Business management game

THE game is run jointly by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Zimbabwe and the Computer Processing Group.

Each team taking part is given a viable company, which exists only on paper. The team must then run its company successfully to earn maximum profits and pay maximum dividends. The company which succeeds in making its share holders happiest is the winner.

Since the game's inception, Milton has entered two teams with remarkable success. A team has won the Matabeleland final in 1981, 1983, 1984 and 1985 and the national finals from 1982 to 1984. The 1983 finals will take place later this month.

Milton's management game team (from left) N. Gubbay, S. Gilhooley, C. Dimovski and M. Black receiving the Matabeleland Provincial Trophy, 1983.

Milton has produced the best in tennis

TENNIS at Milton is an old sport, reaching as far back as September 1928 when the school's first courts were opened. A year later the first tournament was held.

In 1929 Milton won for the first time the Inter Mine All Ten Championship and retained the trophy the following year. Since then we have held the title on many occasions. In 1975 we won every match that included the boys and repeated this in 1976.

Throughout the history of the school, Milton has produced some of the finest tennis players in the country. Brian Hale played at Wimbledon and his son, Larry, is highly placed in Zimbabwe.

National champions Peter Nelson and Ian Wright were both Miltonians while Darryl Lamb, Pat Hall and Ian Wilson were brought up locally to the game.

The game is very much alive now with Graham Evans, who is the first Matabeleland boy to play at Junior Wimbledon and is ranked in world junior rankings. Earlier this year he won an other national championship in the Transvaal. He has played in France and West Germany and is in the Junior Zimbabwe Cup team.

Our girls have further other players of note. Patricia Mason is the first girl to represent Matabeleland and Warren McDonald plays for the province. Brian Shemaila is a very promising junior.

The senior boy have made considerable strides. Milton made its way through to the semi-finals of the Mine Ex Ten after defeating Plumtree and CBC. Milton has a good record on the courts and the school's potential singles will be the future.

Bright future for soccer

SOCCER is an old established sport. It has [illegible] been played where [illegible] games of hockey. The game was played in winter and was abandoned in favour of Rugby and the Walker Kup.

In Britain the third round of senior Schools always interesting, with attention with public schools and secondary schools being seen on the pages of the game.

Charles Jack Thompson recounted that the first time he saw a match in this country took place in 1930. Although the game was imported from Europe it soon flourished in the elite and selected schools of this country.

Soccer at Milton really started in 1966 when the sport was [illegible] difficult, [illegible] and this [illegible] was the [illegible] side of the school pitch, but to a right. In [illegible] as goalkeeper. However, by 1970 results were bad, [illegible] and Milton became the top sport school in Group A Bulawayo.

The following year a visit from a British soccer coach doubtful injured and Milton played the Bulawayo match against Prince Edward, with the considerable loss of authority. Sport school knocked out Milton now fields A and B sides in all the age groups.

In the 1977 season, [illegible] on the five aggregate, Milton came fourth out of 16 teams. In 1980 the first XI qualified for the semi-finals of the provincial Hanley Cup and in 1984 we reached the final which we lost after extra time.

Milton is a force to reckon with in soccer and our great achievements in the past four years have not passed by so many people. The future is promising and this is shown by the present, [illegible] Under-16 group.

RUGBY AT MILTON

75th Anniversary Festival

Thursday, July 25

2.15: FALCON vs PLUMTREE

3.15: MILTON vs SEVENOAKS

Saturday, July 27

1.45: CHAPLIN vs MUTARE

2.30: FALCON/PLUMTREE vs SEVENOAKS

4.00: MILTON vs ST. GEORGE'S

ADMISSION: $1.00 each day
(Includes programme PRICE)

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