

# MILTON NEWS

Wednesday 14th. February 1979

No. 268

## Notes from the Headmaster

Schools Quiz. On Saturday last, three parents flew to Salisbury to record the first round of the Milton Team in the T.V. National Foods inter schools quiz. They were Mrs. Cundall, Mrs. Stuart and Mr. Walsh. They have had one or two rehearsals to learn to know each others strong points. I am not yet sure when their recording will be screened, but we will have to wait till then to know the result of their contest.

The Annual General Meeting of the P.T.A. takes place tonight. As there will be several items for discussion, I shall appreciate the attendance of as many parents as possible. There will be a great deal of discussion which will be of benefit to you and therefore to your son.

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## The Lions' Public Speaking Contest

The first round of the Lions' Public Speaking Contest is due to take place on Thursday 22nd. February. The aim of the contest is to give each high school in the Matabeleland and Midlands areas a chance to gain some glory by proving itself to have a gifted speaker or speakers. In addition, of course, the speakers are offered the opportunity to be in the limelight, to display their powers of oratory and to match their wits against their rivals from other schools.

The speakers choose their subjects from a list of topics selected by the Organisers of the Contest, and prepare speeches of approximately five minutes duration. If they are fortunate enough to be selected to progress to the next round, they have to prepare new five minute speeches. In the finals, in addition to their longer speeches, the speakers have to present an impromptu "One Minute Please" speech, on a topic chosen by the organisers.

Milton speakers for 1979 will be C. Walsh and S. Levin. The contest is usually well supported by all the local schools and a strong Milton contingent will give confidence and moral support to our two competitors; the speeches are usually witty and enlightening, so the evening's entertainment should be thoroughly enjoyable.

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#### Milton Toastmasters Club

The Milton Toastmasters Club was set up towards the end of last term; it had one meeting which was very successful and it was decided to continue the Club this year.

The Club has sixteen members and consists of pupils from both upper and lower six. Regrettably, only a small number can belong because of the set up. The Club meets once a month and guests are invited each time.

The aim of the Club is to train it's members in public speaking, to enable them to speak freely in front of any audience at any time. Approximately four people speak each time and they are then criticised by another member. The criticisms are designed to point out the speakers mistakes so that in the future the same mistakes are not made.

The Headmaster, Staff and Pupils extend their sympathy to the family of Andrew Hardinge of 4A2, who was tragically killed in the recent air disaster.

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Topic

Many hobbies, ranging from chess to art to woodwork, are encouraged in the various clubs at Milton. However, in some cases, they are poorly supported. (Do boys not wish to enjoy hobbies at school? Do they not know about all the clubs, or do they just not want to become involved?)

Club attendance should never become compulsory as indeed, the clubs exist only for the boys' enjoyment. They do not occupy much time and may open new areas of knowledge, or offer some well-needed practical help where boys already have some interest.

Those running the clubs are interested and knowledgable in their specific fields. It is important, if so many clubs are to continue, that they should be better supported.

Two activities warrant mention: The sixth form Union and the Choir. The new sixth form Union is being formed and it is hoped that it will arrange some enjoyable functions during the year. It aims to promote social and cultural activities amongst the members of the Milton sixth form.

The Choir is being newly formed, as members of last years choir have really enjoyed their singing.

From what is being planned in the school, I foresee a very busy social year for the school.

Craig Gordon

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Crit: On Disraeli T.V. Series

Three weeks ago, on Sunday at 8 o'clock, we saw the first programme in a T.V. series based on the life of Benjamin Disraeli (one of Britains greatest Prime Ministers). The series deals with Disraeli's public and private life and gives one great insight into the man's personality and actions. Considering the production side, Victorian England is excellently portrayed with all the extravagance and hypocrisy of the aristocracy. A vivid picture of political life is also obtained. This series is very entertaining and should prove interesting even for the least historically inclined of people. For those writing 'M' or 'A' level history, it should be of great benefit, in that it brings a Historical hero to life.

A.E.

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Book Review

Exodus I. This is one of the many books written by Leon Uris, famous for the Jewish Saga novels.

The novel is about Jews during the Second World War. The story follows the Jews to the British Protectorate of Cyprus, where the Jews are put into Concentration Camps, slightly better than the P.O.W. camps of Dachau and Auschwitz in Germany. Later the Jews were shipped to Palestine, better known to the Jews as Eretz Israel (Israel).

The novel is centred around a Danish Jewess, Karen Lynberg, daughter of German Scientist, Ari Ben Canaan, who is chief of a Jewish Kibbutzim. The story progresses with much human interest during which a complex love affair develops.

Much of the book is set in Israel, where Uris depicts Jewish Character and contrasts this with that of the Arabs. Uris presents a simple style in the book, but

the ending is emotional and dramatic.

Exodus II presents documentary proof of the Jewish struggle to liberate Israel.

I recommend this book for anyone who enjoys a good war book, which contains a bit of everything.

This book is available in the Middle School Library.

J.A.

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Interview with Milton's sixth form Girls

When asked what their first impressions of Milton had been, the sixth form girls from Townsend, Eveline and Northlea said that they had found it difficult to settle in and get used to the 'strange' atmosphere. They believed that a co-educational sixth form helps boys and girls to mix socially and as equals in a competitive field. They thought that most of their Milton counterparts were well mannered, but a few needed to learn to behave with more maturity. They have found that there is far more freedom in the classroom atmosphere at Milton

The girls said jokingly, that they were pleased to have a common room separate from that of the boys, as it was their 'sanctuary' ! In a more serious vein, they felt that they would like to participate more in all of Milton's activities; those who are prefects at their own schools would feel privileged to be invited to the Milton Prefects common room; they have already participated in cross country and were interested in the suggestion of girls being placed into houses at Milton. In all, the girls hope that they will soon settle well and become fully integrated into the life at Milton.

R.K.

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## First and Second Tennis Teams Report

Recently the first tennis team played two matches against Hamilton and Gifford and one mixed match with Townsend against a mixed Old Miltonians team.

The first team played Hamilton away. Playing under very windy conditions, we had a struggle against both the opposition and the weather. However, most of the team managed to play good, strong tennis. The doubles were played first and resulted in a draw. When the singles were played however, Milton showed it's strength and won six of the singles matches, three of which were won 8-1 by Broomberg, Husband and Falcich. The end result could have been better but, as the team is a new one and needs a few adjustments, we were pleased with the end result of 10 sets to 6 in our favour.

A few days later the first team played Gifford at Milton and our first match at home proved to be a successful one. Playing against a team which has slowly become stronger and stronger, we knew that we would all have to play good, consistent tennis if we wanted to have a good win. The final results, after winning six of the doubles matches and six of the singles, was 12 - 4 in our favour. It was a pleasing result proving that Milton, after losing many good players, has still one of the best sides in Matabeleland.

That weekend, four first team players and one second team player, met at Milton to play with five Townsend girls in a mixed round-robin match against a mixed O.M.'s team. It was soon discovered that the O.M.'s team was a much stronger one than the team we had and as a result, the final score was quite overwhelming in their favour.

Although our mixed team played good, strong tennis, opposition like International tennis player like Bazil Katz and other first league players, proved to be too much for the school side.

Playing for a solid three hours, the match proved to be very good experience and practice for all who played in the school side; it was also a lot of fun. A special mention must be made about our first couple, David Husband and Sally Stevens, who won all five of their matches and gained 35 out of a possible 49 games. The end result was 151 games to 94 in O.M.'s favour. It was a very enjoyable match and we look forward to playing Old Miltonians again.

The second tennis team also played against Gifford and this proved to be a great success. Playing at Gifford, our team won all the doubles matches and only lost one singles match which resulted in very pleasing score of 15 sets to one in Miltons favour. We only hope that the standard of tennis will remain as high as this throughout the year.

G.H.

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### Inter School Cross Country

It was boiling hot on the day of the cross country and all competitors crowded under the trees beside the tuck shop. Unfortunately the race did not begin on time as those present were waiting for two other schools who did not turn up, owing to a misunderstanding.

Mr. Walker gave all the competitors a briefing on the course. The U14's had to run a 'Hospital', the U16's a 'hospital' and a 'Holiday Inn' and the opens had to run two 'Hospitals'.

the U14's set off and about 17 minutes later Fagnoli of Milton came in, followed by two H-milton competitors.

The U16's set off followed shortly by the open group. First place in the U16 group went to D. Steyn of Milton who was followed by De Sousa of Giffor's and M. Grobler of Milton.

In the open section Gerling of Milton came in first, followed by Taute and Husband both of Milton.

All those who participated in the competition benefitted greatly from the experience and are looking forward to running another inter-Schools competition at Hillside Dams.

#### Milton 1st. XI Vs Hamilton

On Saturday Viljoen won his fourth consecutive toss and put Hamilton in to bat. From the first over, Hamilton went for the runs. Some poor fielding and bowling allowed them to reach a fairly respectable total of 149 all out with de Villiers taking 3 - 24.

Then Milton accepted the challenge and chased the runs in their search for victory. However, Milton throw away their wickets and most fell foul of the brilliant catching and fielding of the Hamilton team. Viljoen batted in fine style, but once he was out for 42, the pace slowed down. Suddenly Milton were 8 wickets down and they changed their tactics and played for a draw.

All in all, Hamilton were the better side that day, with the Milton team being very sloppy in the field.

M.B.

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