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NEWSLETTER FOR THE ST CHARLES COLLEGE FAMILY

St Charles College Harwin Road Pietermaritzburg • Private Bag X7 Scottsville 3209 South Africa • Tel: +27 (0)33 386 8235 Fax: +27 (0)33 386 1702 • eMail: scc@scc.co.za • Website: www.scc.co.za

Academic world leaders – again



Sidharth Singh who obtained sixth place in the world for English Language and Keith Stanger who was first in South Africa for IGCSE Biology.

St Charles College is celebrating after achieving another top-ten place in the world for the University of Cambridge International Examinations. Last year a St Charles College boy came first in the world for Mathematics. This time it was the turn of Sidharth Singh to receive a “Cambridge Brilliance in the World Award” after being informed that he had achieved sixth position in the world for English Language. Amazingly enough, Sidharth wrote the examination in November last year when he was in Grade 11.

The International AS Level and A Level examinations are specially designed for international students and aim to be free of ideology and cultural bias. They are written in 157 countries across the world and are now the International Qualification that is most recognised by universities across the world.

“This is the ninth year that St Charles College has been a Cambridge International Centre, and the good news of the success of our pupils in tough courses at University keeps pouring in. We are especially proud of the hard work of our highly qualified teachers and students that has led to this achievement.”

Mr Allen Van Blerk
Head of Academic Research and Development

ENVIRO-QUIZ - REGIONAL ROUND

Monday evening, 10 May, saw yet another successful defence of the regional Enviro-Quiz title by the St Charles College Enviro Quiz team of 2010. Three St Charles College teams were entered into the regional competition and out of a total of 26 teams, the College’s first team finished top of the pile.

This accomplishment, the fifth in as many years, puts our boys through to the National Competition in August. This will also be our fifth National final (winners and trophy holders since 2007) and fingers crossed, the National Enviro Trophy may be coming home again.

We take this opportunity to wish the Enviro team the very best of luck in August and our compliments to Mrs Isabelle Matten and her charges.

Mr Dean Riley • Marketing



Enviro Team 1: Ruari Harrison, Billy Battershill, Brenden Roberts and Peter Taylor

ST CHARLES COLLEGE NOTES...

FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK



Moses Mabhida Stadium, Durban – Spain vs Switzerland FIFA World Cup match 16 June 2010

Since 11 June 2010 our nation has been entertained by one of the greatest international events that occur every four years. The 2010 Soccer World Cup (SWC) has been particularly important because it is the first WC to have been held on the African continent, and despite the early gloom and doom predictions, this tournament can generally be regarded as having been successful.

Much has been said and written about the WC. Millions of spectators, in South Africa and overseas, were treated to a feast of excellent football in the most impressive of stadiums. In the future the improvements to the country's infrastructure will be enjoyed by all, and hopefully much of the consequential employment will be sustained for many years. There is no doubt that at the very least, the tourist industry will continue to benefit from the goodwill that has been created during the WC. One can only pray that the "second welding" of our nation will last long into the future.

However, the WC has also highlighted the fact that those involved in education will come under increased pressure because of the blatant disregard of important values by those involved in professional sport. It must be stressed that this phenomenon is not the sole preserve of the "beautiful game" of soccer, as it exists in virtually every sport. It is a sad reflection on mankind that whenever significant sums of money are introduced into a sport, then that sport loses much of its educational value. Furthermore, the media ensures that many of the players become the role-models for our boys, and regrettably these "role models" portray much of what is undesirable and contradictory to the values that we have enshrined at SCC.

During many of the WC matches, one gained the impression that professional soccer promotes cheating. Players who tackle, or who are tackled, invariably end up falling on the ground as if pole-axed by rifle shots. Most of the referees awarded free-kicks for these "offences". In the majority of cases, technology subsequently proved that these players were shamming and were merely attempting to be given a

free-kick. What is of concern is the fact that FIFA, the international body that governs soccer, is loathe to use technology to clean-up this form of blatant cheating, because it will "slow-down" the game and make it less spectator friendly. This unacceptable behaviour is obviously linked to a "win-at-all-costs" attitude that is rife in the professional sporting arena. All that matters is money! The values of honesty, self-discipline and responsibility, values that are contained in our College's mission statement, are disregarded.

The manner in which referees are challenged by players is unacceptable and is indicative of the lack of respect for authority by the many "prima donnas" who have been created by the media. The media is in many ways responsible for having created a large number of "untouchables" who are in any event, paid excessively for their sporting skills. These players simply don't care about their behaviour because of their financial positions. Why care about anything when one is paid BP 150000 per week? Sadly it is these players who become the role models for our boys!

What is pathetic is the way in which players "celebrate" the goals that are scored. It would appear that the goal scorers forget that their goals were the result of the efforts of the other ten players. At the most a goal should be celebrated by the scorer having his hand shaken by his team mates as they return to the centre of the field for the restart of the game. But no, what is seen on the media is the blatant and arrogant display of boasting. It is a pity that the humility of the great Pele has disappeared. Our boys must continue to be taught the importance of humility and self restraint, and they must learn to give credit to all of their team mates for goals that they score. This is what team games are supposed to teach. It is sad to see how the selfish "I, me and myself" attitude has infiltrated team games.

There has been much controversy about the vuvuzela. The question, that has to be answered by the authorities, is whether all of the players who participated in the WC were asked to give their opinions as to the usage

of these loud instruments during the times that games were played. Prior to the WC, the Japanese team played in a friendly in South Africa and lodged a formal complaint about the noise levels of these instruments. Soccer, like rugby, depends on the highest level of communication amongst players during games and there is no doubt that the communication amongst players during the WC, if the formal complaint of the Japanese was anything to go by, was hugely compromised. What is now obvious is that large sums of money had been invested in the manufacture of these "cultural musical instruments" prior to the commencement of the WC. Apparently the main manufacturer has been contracted to export a large batch of "Vuvus" to the UK and elsewhere. Therefore the communication requirements of the players were of secondary importance to the financial gains of the manufacturers of the "Vuvus". Interestingly, spectators, not the players, were provided with protective hearing devices during games. In essence, the need for clear communication by the most important participants in the WC, the players, was not respected by the authorities. Why? Because of money!

Professional sports, including rugby, athletics, cycling, and no doubt, many others, have introduced another problem in so far as school sports is concerned in the form of performance enhancing substances. The intense competition at school level coupled to marketing considerations has resulted in a win-at-all-costs attitude and this has put pressure on boys, in particular, to experiment with performance enhancing substances regardless of the long-term danger of these drugs to their health.

In conclusion, it has become imperative that parents, coaches and teachers, work closely together to ensure that our boys are taught to assimilate the important values of our community. Cheating, poor discipline, boasting, disrespect, irresponsibility, selfishness and experimentation with performance enhancing substances are definitely not part of our value system, regardless of the amounts of money involved. *RG Kuhn • Headmaster*

WHAT BILLY BOY SAID

At 7:25 on a Friday morning at St Charles College you will find all the Senior Primary boys in a sports assembly. During this time Mr Irons and Mr Coutts provide half an hour of insight, feedback and motivation largely centred around sport – global, high profile sport as well as our own School sporting activities.

Usually, as part of the assembly, boys are quizzed on international sporting events. I never fail to be amazed at the extent of the knowledge that some boys have regarding this topic. A large number seem to know every team, every player, and every result of every international clash. They understand playoffs, complicated draws and handicap systems and can make insightful predictions about what is likely to happen next regarding this or that tournament.

What amazes me even more is that, among those who can be regarded as sports experts, are boys who have great difficulty remembering what happened in 1969 or what the difference is between an equilateral and isosceles triangle or what sea separates Western Europe from North Africa.

What Bill Gates (Billy Boy) said is, 'Learning is mostly about creating a context for motivation' [Time magazine February 2007]. This is not rocket science – it is something that we all know and understand innately. We just seem to forget about it. In my opinion, this explains

perfectly why a boy can remember the name of every team in the Super Fourteen League, most players' names and scores from recently played matches but cannot remember that π is twenty-two over seven. It's all about relevance and motivation.

So what might this mean for teachers and parents? A great many things I suppose, including the obvious fact that, those who are learning slowly probably need some help with motivation (first and foremost). They need to see the relevance of what they are expected to assimilate. Also, learners who are exposed to discussions that cover a broad range of topics are most likely to see the relevance of any particular topic of prescribed study and are more likely to see the links (and therefore relevance) between topics.

As teachers, parents and pupils we would do well remember the following quotes:

- Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do.
- And:
- People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing - that's why we recommend it daily.

Graham Stewart-Burger • Prep Headmaster

Boarders' Formal Dinner

Our first "open" formal dinner in a decade took place this term as a Matric Dinner Committee fundraiser under the guidance of Mr Beaumont. The Grade 11s arranged this function along with our new catering manger, Mr Craig Speed, as an additional fundraiser for this year's highly anticipated Matric Dinner.

The Formal was held in our BE dining room which was draped and lit and fluffed and tweaked to befit the occasion. The Grade 11 and 12 boarders were allowed to invite dates from neighbouring girls' schools and a delightful three course meal was served. The evening progressed with prepared speeches,

as well as several impromptu speeches from both boys and girls.

Smatterings of songs were played to round off the evening, although at a gentle volume so as not to disturb the Grade 9s and 10s who had already fallen asleep upstairs. Special thanks go out to guests Mr and Mrs Kuhn and Mr and Mrs Stewart-Burger, as well as other management staff who attended. Thanks also go to the superb troupe of waiters who did such a fine job serving and clearing. Well done team! We are sure this formal will be the first of many annual dinners.

Ms Sue Rabie • Head of Culture

1. Daniel Capsopoulos and Iain Knox try on their dates' GHS blazers
2. The waiters drawn from Grades 8 to 10
3. Daniel du Plessis and partner



COUNCIL ROUNDUP

Environment Council

The second half of the first term has had a very positive effect on the Council. The Enviro weekend (weekend 7) was a great success. Fifteen boys from the Council came out to the Battershill farm in Ashburton and had a fun and meaningful experience. On the weekend the boys went on a few informative walks and learned many new facts that will be helpful in the Enviro quiz.

On the topic of the Quiz – the first, second and third teams have been chosen in a qualifier at the end of the term. The first regional event will be held at TWC on 10 May.

The first team consists of Brenden Roberts, Peter Taylor, Rauri Harrison and Billy Battershill – we believe that we have what it takes to win the national competition. Overall, the first term has been a highly successful term and has put the Council in good stead for the rest of the year.

*Billy Battershill
Head of Environment Council*

Pastoral Care Council

It was encouraging this term to see the competence and maturity of the younger members of the SCA who spoke on the different sections of the Book of Matthew. I, as the leader of the SCA and Pastoral Council this year, have seen great growth in the number of boys that attend SCA and are a part of this spiritual Council.

“Youth” on a Friday evening, has also grown in attendance from last year. We have an average of 20 to 25 boys who attend the Youth Organization, NCF in Pietermaritzburg. I have also started a small Bible Study for the boys who stay in on a Sunday night. We will see from the start of term three if a combined church service on a Sunday night with our neighbouring girl’s school, St John’s, is a viable option.

I have great faith in this Council to become the most popular, hard working and spiritual council in this school. The boys in the Council are always willing to get involved with various activities and build their relationship with God. I encourage more boys to get involved with the life of SCA at St Charles College. I see great potential in the young men of SCA, in becoming great ambassadors for this School and their Father.

Enjoy your holidays and God bless South Africa, Fifa World Cup 2010, and Ayoba! Safe travels.

*Daniel Moxham
Head of Pastoral Care Council*

Civil Engineers Hydrology Competition



First place winners: Avishkar Maney, Macaelan Sardar and Tyrone James

Six St Charles College Grade 9s took the lion’s share of the prizes in this regional competition. The event, organised by the South African Institute of Civil Engineers, took place at St Charles College on Saturday 8 May.

The competition began in 2009 with four teams competing. This year there were ten teams from seven different schools. Each team used a reservoir which had to deliver equal volumes of water to three different points in the same time interval. Plastic pipes of different diameters were to be connected into a network in order to achieve this.

The two St Charles College teams, both comprising Grade 9 boys, did very well being placed in first and third position after completing their three attempts. Congratulations to Avishkar Maney, Macaelan Sardar and Tyrone James (above) who each won a book voucher for R160 and who will represent the Pietermaritzburg region in the National competition in Johannesburg later in the year, and to Arshad Edris, Yusuf Dhoda and Peter Taylor (below) who were each presented with a book voucher of R100 for coming third in the event.

Ms Anne Line • Science Department

Media Council

The Media Council is one of the many hard working types of councils within the College. It works closely with the Sports and Captains Councils and focuses mainly on the weekly sports programmes.

One of the aims within the Council has been to change the perception of the Council amongst the boys, and since the change in leadership at the beginning of term 4, 2009, it has done this to a fairly large degree. Ranging from avid sportsmen to intense academics, and even just the odd volunteer, the Council seems to be taking on a new role within the School.

The Council has involved the Prep school in some of its activities, with the cricket programme containing both prep and senior school fixtures. The members have found this an exciting challenge and hope to combine all fixtures on one programme in the near future.

Although the Council works hard, the programme wouldn’t be what it is if it weren’t for the tremendous help of both Mr Karlsen and Ms Rabie; their behind the scenes work is immeasurable and they are always available to add their valuable input.

Dundas Clark • Media Council Head

BE Council

Few can deny that the Boarding Establishment has been a huge success in this half year, and has been a source of pride for many of the boys.

Yet again the record books were rewritten, and the enrolment of Grade 8 boys in the Boarding Establishment was the largest it has ever been. Undoubtedly none can say they have not been able to settle into the St Charles College lifestyle, as Mr Sam Hamman and the four grade 8 prefects have taken the task of mentorship with open hearts and minds. The frequent smiles are testimony of this.

The transition to the new St Charles managed kitchen has been greatly appreciated by countless boys, with various boys from across all Grades agreeing with the quality of food.

The Boarding Establishment has been a success this half year. On behalf of the boys I applaud the kitchen management staff of Mr Craig Speed, Mr Linda Shezi and Mrs Dale Hackland. With regards to the Boarding Establishment many thanks to Mr Ian Montgomery and his staff, as well as the various hostel prefects.

*Charles Malanga
Head of Boarding Establishment Council*

“Animal Farm”

The past few weeks of ‘Animal Farm’ production rehearsals have given the boys a phenomenal insight into the workings of theatre and the craft of acting. The learning curve they have experienced has been huge. The process of putting the production together has allowed them to understand the complexities of working as a team and focusing on the tasks at hand.

The blood, sweat and tears have created a biting satire about the threat of Totalitarianism; an idealists’ dream, converted by realists into a nightmare. In this version of allegory, we met beasts whose prototypes have emancipated themselves from the cruel mastery of a human owner, only to climax in disillusionment when they themselves become subject to the rule of even more ruthless autocrats; the greedy, cunning pigs. Intermingling humour and drama, Animal Farm wrung the emotions of its listeners, leaving audiences shaken with the tale of a tragedy that happened in a mythical barnyard far way, but could

most terribly and swiftly happen in our own back yard.

It has been clear throughout the process that the boys have enjoyed the experience tremendously. As directors, we have given the boys the basics and watched them develop their characters.

We also had lots of help; namely Andrew Ness our Director, Sue Rabie and Wayne Naidoo our producers, Gareth Barry our mask designer, Justin Smit our animation expert, Tom Smith and his ground staff for the set building and drapery, the Matric Dance Committee also for drapery, Barbara Thorpe for ticket sales, Moira Filmer our advisor, Marcus Henning and the Hexagon for lights and costumes, John Woodley and James Naicker for sound, Dale Hackland and Craig Speed for the catering and Select Cleaners for cleaning.

Ms Sue Rabie • Head of Culture

Creating thinking sportspeople

Watching young international players surrounded by an army of coaches, I have often wondered about the resemblance to a child surrounded by many nannies eager to fulfil his every need. The child grows up healthy and protected but ignorant of the ways of the world. Every time a new situation presents itself, he searches for the latest nanny equivalent. Meanwhile the kid, who learned to climb a tree to pluck fruit for himself, moves ahead.

In a wonderful, and brief, interview on Cricinfo, Rodney Marsh, who was a tough player and tough coach, says, ‘The best coaches are the ones who can communicate with a player about what the fault is in their game and get the player to fix the problem. You never forget things if you can work them out for yourself.’ And by inference, if you keep telling the player what to do to fix his problem, he will never learn to work it out for himself.

In India, and I suspect around the world, we are seeing the mushrooming of the academy, the game’s greatest enemy. Ten-year-old kids are going to academies of various hues, largely dubious, to learn the forward-defensive stroke and the cover drive. They must learn almost by rote, and therefore not too differently from the way they study history; they are taught about where the front foot should be, about how bat and pad must go together, where the elbow should be, where the toe should point, about how the follow-through must end with the bat over the left shoulder. All perfectly correct, except that they don’t learn to hit a ball; instead, they become obedient pupils. It is similar to what happens in school but with one difference. In History you memorise and transfer on to paper to earn a grade. You cannot do that in cricket because a real ball comes at you and you must negotiate it.

And so we end up producing highly skilled players who don’t learn to question,

who depend on a coach to tell them what to do. I wonder sometimes if that is what befalls fine talents like Ishant Sharma and RP Singh and many like them. Do they learn, as Marsh says, to fix their own problems? Do they rediscover the freedom, and therefore the joy, of trying out different things and seeing what works and what doesn’t? Wasim Akram once told me, during a long drive,



Gary Scott, in Grade 1, checks his options

how he and Waqar Younis would pick cricket balls with different levels of wear and tear and bowl with them in the nets to see what they could achieve. There was no one telling them to do it, they figured it out themselves. So maybe, as Marsh says, the coach communicates the fault and lets the player figure out the solution through practice.

John Buchanan advocated something similar. Marsh and Buchanan come from completely different schools of cricket but seem to converge on this point. Buchanan encouraged players to go to coaches with their solution to the problem, not with the problem itself. It is a powerful thought and not one to be disregarded. The easiest thing to do with a problem is to go to someone and ask for the solution.

It is also, as I have discovered with computers, the surest way to ignorance. As Marsh says, ‘If you don’t talk about the game, you’ve got no hope of getting better.’

The process of working it out will lead to mistakes, but far too often in India we don’t recognise mistakes as essential stops on the way to learning. A nanny doesn’t allow a child to make a mistake, a coach doesn’t allow a young cricketer to go wrong in quest of being right. And by making the learning of cricket similar to the learning of history (which, in the right hands, can be really exciting as well), coaches convert a simple game into a difficult, complicated one. It makes sense, though, for if the coach were to present the game as being very simple, he couldn’t justify making a living out of teaching it, could he?

I sometimes wonder how many young players we lose by not allowing them to work out their own solutions? And I wonder if we realise how many fine players plateau suddenly because their solution to a problem was to ask a coach?”

*Article by Harsha Bogle
World-renowned sports journalist*

SPORTS IN THE PREP

Prep winter roundup

The big-ball sports, rugby and soccer, have both enjoyed much success this year. The latter is arguably the most important developmental sport a boy can play. The former allows for no hiding places and gives boys the freedom to be boys.

2010 will be spoken about for many, many years to come – and the topic of conversation will be soccer. The World Cup and Football Fridays generated much excitement and the 12 Prep teams played structured soccer during the season. The boys' enjoyment of the beautiful game was evident and there were some fantastic results against Highbury, Clifton Nottingham Road amongst others as well as a very competitive round of fixtures in Durban against Virginia. Declan Cox led a committed first XI where he unleashed some free kicks that even our College's first team would be pleased to replicate during their upcoming season. The goal of the year could be claimed by third team stalwart Murray Fitzpatrick whose 30m shot in the first game of the season almost pierced the netting in the roof of the O'Meara goal. Lukas Cronje and Oliver Becker were both awarded Soccer Player of the Week twice during the season for consistently performing at a high level.

St Charles Prep rugby has slowly been showing improvement but 2010 was a watershed year. The U9s played many festivals as well as Saturday matches and both teams showed good progress during the season. The U10s are a group growing in confidence and were

involved in many tight and fiercely fought contests. The highlights of the U10 season were comprehensive victories against Pelham and Clifton Nottingham Road. The U11 group, if they learn the real value of teamwork, will take Prep rugby to great heights. With prodigious talent and heaps of ambition, they won far more games than they lost. The open age group fielded five teams and it was not uncommon for the tackler of the week to come from the fourth or fifth team. The first XV did themselves proud every time they took to the field. They won seven out of the 12 games – but stats aside – they loved their rugby and gained much respect. Caelan Erskine and Sam Hines represented Midlands at the KZN Primary Schools' Festival in Vryheid. Cross-country was enjoyed by a small, albeit committed, group of runners. They performed admirably at the various Midlands races, with a number of top-three positions earned during the season. The inter-House cross-country championship was won by Smith House.

Having performed a few tests during physical education, the average anaerobic fitness levels of our senior primary boys are fair but the average aerobic fitness levels are poor. The cross-country boys lift the aerobic average considerably. Well done to them. We must look to grow the number of boys who run cross-country from 2011 going forward. Boys must be fit if they are to really enjoy their sport.

Mr Rowan Irons • Head of Prep Sport

Below: The Prep first XI cricket team – winners of the Sunfoil Day/Night League beating Merchiston in the final at the Maritzburg Oval.

Right: Sam Hines; Far right: Declan Cox.



Junior Primary sport

The second term was once again a very busy term for the Junior Primary. The School hosted seven mini events, three soccer and three rugby festivals and the annual mini-Comrades. This meant the boys had a sporting event or festival almost every week of the term.

The skill levels of the boys improved remarkably throughout the term, the coaches are applauded for the passion and enthusiasm they showed when teaching the basics of their respective sports.

The highlight of the term is always the mini-rugby curtain-raisers, the many 'oohs and aahs' from the appreciative crowd to standing in the tunnel for the College's first XV boys; anxious moments as little ones try to see down the tunnel with a very focused Matthew Tweedle charging onto the field.

The mini-rugby festivals were held on

Harwin Field and were well attended by local and some out-of-town schools, Kokstad are commended for the effort they put into attending our mini-rugby festival.

The St Charles Junior Primary soccer festivals are very popular and have up to 50 teams participating at any one time; the Oval is transformed into a miniature Soccer City with many aspiring Ronaldos and Rooneys showing off their silky skills.

The mini-Comrades proved to be quite a daunting prospect for our young men, a challenge they met with enthusiasm and vigour.

Who could forget the Grade 7 boys support and encouragement of Skhanyiso Khumalo, as he completed the course?

Mr Robbie Coutts
Head of Junior Primary Sports



Skhanyiso Khumalo completes the course

The benefits of bellowing...

It's interesting that Spain's coach spent more time sitting on the bench during the World Cup than most of his foes – poker faced and quiet; not leaping like a salmon or doing the disk on the edge of the technical area. His homework had been done thoroughly and he gave his team space to express themselves. He had the look of a man who deeply trusted in his preparation. Vicente del Bosque was calm and patient; not surprisingly, so was his team. He did get over-excited on a few occasions during the final – but concession can be made for that (besides his players were being fly-kicked in the chest).

What about input from the sidelines during school sport? The two main channels of noise come from coaches and supporters. A survey was conducted towards the end of last term with the senior primary boys asking whether they liked instruction during a game. 42% felt they played better when there was not constant instruction from the sideline. 48% felt they enjoyed continuous instruction and the remaining 10% were undecided. Obviously discretion is paramount, as is positive instruction. Nobody thrives off negativity. We did not extend the survey to whether boys liked support – I suspected the process to be futile. Support is great and something we all need. Parents play a crucial role when it comes to support on the side of a sports field. However, input from parents during game time should always be in the form of encouragement rather than instruction, especially when it is not forthcoming from the coach.

SCC Coaches are not encouraged to bellow from the sideline. There is a movement to change what has become a bad habit – all over South Africa – of coaches constantly giving instruction during school sports fixtures. Coaches must do their coaching and talking at practice. Teams must use what they have learnt during the week to make their own decisions during a game. To draw parallels with the classroom: a practice is like a maths lesson, a match could be

seen as an exam. Boys must get on with it, and every now and then make mistakes that they can then learn from. Coaches (or parents) that continually pre-empt mistakes during a game and try and fix them before they happen are advocating results based coaching and end up developing a bunch of 'non-thinking' players. Obviously the amount of instruction during game time becomes more necessary at a younger age and is also sport specific. It is not within the spirit of certain sports to instruct during games. Some sporting codes happily accept it. Half times, contrary to popular belief, are designed for rehydration, not five minute mini lectures on re-designed game plans. Coaches are frequently reminded of this.

Teachers, coaches, parents and 'supporters' who prowl the touchline barking instruction should be reminded what we are all here for – the kids. Let them play and learn. For those that can be classified as a bellower (and I have definitely been guilty on many more than one occasion) bring a campmaster chair to the game, studies show that sitting is more calming. In saying that, sport would be a bland and drab pastime if passion was suppressed. Some humans show more emotions than others, and coaching styles must always vary – there must be spontaneous outbursts of excitement. However, we must also remember that the Saints sport we coach or support is definitely not a pastime nor is it professional... it is part of a vital educational process; the difference in approach is huge and sometimes forgotten. Please enjoy your son's (and his team's) efforts this year and please continue the great support we have had on the sidelines thus far.

Please remember if a coach seems very quiet during a game, he or she may well be on the right track. Proper preparation prevents poor performance. In summary, the benefits of bellowing: little to none.

Mr Rowan Irons • Head of Prep Sport

First XI hockey

Experience best results in St Charles College's history

The first hockey XI has excelled this season with possibly the best results the School has ever had. With the introduction of the artificial playing surface a couple of years ago and a clear mental adjustment, the first hockey team has proved itself to be not only one of the top teams in the province but one of the top teams in the country.

The pool of talented hockey players is clearly evident who, with a hard work ethic, produced some impressive results. A clear highlight for the team was a memorable win

against Michaelhouse – for the first time in the School's history. Other notable results came with wins against DHS and Northwood as well as a creditable draw against St David's who are seen to be one of the top three schools in the Gauteng region. Some of the players were rewarded with Inland colours with Uli Fischer, Keagan Davids and Tux Khumalo representing the U18A team at the Inter-Provincial tournament, as well as Gareth Rall and Joel Barron representing the U18B team. Mzamo Cele played for the

SA U18 team at the U21 Inter-Provincial tournament.

What has also been good to see is the team starting to develop a specific brand of hockey which is filtering down through the age groups. This creates a clear understanding amongst the boys on how St Charles look to play the game and also creates a sense of consistency where players seem easily to fit into the team's system.

Mr Andrew McIntosh • First XI hockey coach



Left: Gareth Rall; Below: Frank Kusel (U16) with Michael Taylor in support; Right: Keagan Davids.



SPORTS

Senior School sports overview

Swimming

There has been a squad system operating during the first term. The squad has attended four galas and hosted one. We have fared reasonably well against Michaelhouse and the smaller Independent Schools and at the end of the season came first in our St Charles College Invitation Gala and the Howick Gala beating Michaelhouse A Team; and Maritzburg College, Hilton and Kearsney B Teams in the process. Two of our boys were picked for KZN in their age groups.

Water polo

Four teams have actively trained in the first term. Unfortunately the change of season in order to accommodate the World Cup prevented any real fixtures but the teams were involved in a Thursday Afternoon/Evening round-robin in which our teams fared reasonably well, winning around 50% of their games. A tour of the Eastern Cape was undertaken by a very young side and although they struggled, most of the boys will be back in 2011 and some until 2012. This experience will see SCC in a strong position for the next few years. Two boys were selected for KZN teams.

Basketball

This team has achieved beyond our wildest imaginings.

Our first team lost by six points to the second ranked school in the country, St Benedict's. We led against Maritzburg

College (ranked 2 in KZN) until rain stopped play. The team had wins against Alex and Hilton and very narrow losses to Michaelhouse and Kearsney. Of the first team line-up, 7 of the 10 are in Grade 10 and 1 in Grade 11, which paints a very rosy picture for the next two years. There were five Midlands representatives

Tennis

Once again we are dominant in KZN Inland tennis. We are awaiting result of the first team league but are expecting to have come first although a rained out game against Voortrekker could see Michaelhouse pip us at the post. This would be the third year in a row.

The tennis team has one U18 and four U15 players chosen for KZN.

Squash

Squash has had resurgence in interest and we are looking at comfortably running two teams in the league. Two boys have been picked for KZN.

Cricket

For the first time our U14 age group fielded six cricket sides which is the same number of teams fielded by the entire school ten years ago. The SCC first XI fielded a side that at times had eight boys in Grade 10 and 11 and this team played 17 fixtures losing only three. This has been a remarkable effort: over the past six month's victories over PBHS, Rondebosch, KES, Bishops, St

John's College, Grey College (Bloemfontein) and many others, place our first XI right up there with the very best cricketing schools in the country. We can look forward to the future with confidence.

Hockey

St Charles hockey is now recognized as one of the top three in KZN. We have dominated most times at age group level and have achieved some astonishing results in 2010. Considering that our first XI is also made up of a number of young players, Andy McIntosh (first XI coach) predicts an even better set of results next year. The performance of hockey at St Charles is exciting and fully justifies the investment in the artificial playing surface. Three of our boys were selected for KZN Inland U18A; four of our boys were picked for Inland U18B and a large number for both the Inland U16 and U14 teams. *(See page 7 hockey report)*

Rugby

We are easily amongst the best in our size category of Independent schools. Our coaching will be tweaked again with a level 2 coaching course in the September holidays and another refresher in week three of term 1, 2011. Four of our boys were selected for KZN Trials and three for Maritzburg Schools. A further four boys were selected for Maritzburg U16 and KZN trials.

Mr Dave Karlsen • Head of Sport



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1. Johan de Beer – Senior Victor Ludorum; 2. James Rae; 3. Charles Malanga and Ngcebo Hlengwa; 4. Andrew Darroch; 5. Dean Robinson batting; 6. Vincent Potgieter supported by Zamile Khumalo and Dudley Hodgson.