

Second Day. Wednesday 25th:

Telfer/Makgill-Crichton/Cook beat Forrester/Brewis/Reeve
Canvas.

Third Day. Thursday 26th (Semi-final):

Maughan/Morrison/Greenwood beat Mantell/Larman/Cook
1 1.

Telfer/Makgill-Crichton/Cook beat Lobleby/Charnley/Reeve
2 1.

Fourth Day. Friday 27th (Final):

Telfer/Makgill-Crichton/Cook beat Maughan/Morrison/
Greensted easily.

In all races the course was rowed from the Town Bridge to the Suspension Bridge, a downstream course of about 650 metres. The crews were composed of oarsmen from the Trial Eights, and the races added spice, and in some cases amusement, to the Easter Term training. J. F. LOBLEY.

FIVES CLUB

PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIVES COMPETITIONS

In the singles M. J. Shreeves, after a simple win in the preliminary round, had a hard time in his first round match and was eventually beaten. J. B. Tennant had a good run to the third round, although he was sometimes over-generous towards his opponent, but here he met his match in the Tonbridge No. 1. These two players constituted Bedford II and in the doubles they made use of a good draw and played very well to get to the semi-finals and had they dominated more in the second game of the match could well have reached the final. M. H. Robinson had the misfortune to meet the fourth seed in the second round but undaunted by this he played extremely well and managed the first real upset of the tournament. He was eventually beaten by Tennant's victor in the quarter-finals. M. I. McLaren, last year's semi-finalist, had a hard second round opponent but dispensed with him and others until the quarter-finals and semi-finals where two good opponents were ably dealt with. In the final, despite a brave effort, a good match finished with Enstone once more the Public School's Champion.

In the doubles Bedford I suffered from having both players doing well in the singles and this rather upset their doubles rhythm and they lost in the quarter-finals to the eventual winners.

M. I. McLAREN.

Results:

Singles—Quarter- and Semi-Finals

M. Robinson lost 6-11, 0-11 to Fuller (Tonbridge)
M. I. McLaren won 11-6, 11-6 against Fox (Giggleswick)
M. I. McLaren won 11-0, 11-0 against Andrews (St.
Dunstan).

Final

M. I. McLaren lost to Enstone 11-2, 11-2.

Doubles—Quarter-Finals

Bedford I lost 6-11, 10-12 to Allyn's I
Bedford II won 11-2, 11-7 against Allyn's II

Semi-Final

Bedford II lost 11-8, 8-11, 6-11 to Oundle I

TENNIS

It was unfortunate that at the beginning of term the bad weather left only the hard courts fit for play. However, with perseverance a team was selected to play in the first round of the Glanville Cup. Having achieved hopeful success in the competition last year, we were determined to repeat and improve on last year's result, when we were narrowly beaten by Rugby in the area finals. The first team consisted of three old colours (Crockett, Peterson, and Cole), Forster and Carroll—extracted from the cricket world, and Winström—a valuable Swedish import. In the match played on Tuesday, 28th April, the team had little difficulty in overcoming the Pilgrim School, but there were tense moments when playing King's Ely. Finally the School won convincingly—a promising start to the season.

Fortunately we were soon able to move on to the grass courts, where the shoes and balls were protected from the vicious surface of the tarmac on the hard courts. The weather now held and we were able to prepare ourselves sufficiently for the match against the Leys on Thursday, 7th May. The 1st VI kept the same team, although the juggling among the pairs showed the difficulty in deciding the order of merit. The 2nd VI under the captaincy of Watson and supervision of Mr. Churcher had three old colours (Watson, Hawkins and Welingham); these were joined by Copery, Wray and Warren. The selections were made from the coaching squad. and to decide on a definite team at this stage would be impossible.

The match against the Leys was perhaps just going our way when rain stopped play; we look forward to more luck in the remaining matches.

This season both teams are probably as strong as they have been for many years; with increased match experience and coaching from P. G. Smith, prospects look good.

Results:

1st round Glanville Cup—beat the Pilgrim School 3-0
beat King's School Ely 3-0
1st VI v The Leys—Match uncompleted 3½-2½
2nd VI v The Leys—Match uncompleted 2-3

C.J.C.

SHOOTING

Easter Term

After winning our first two matches, against St. Albans and the Bedfordshire County Rifle and Pistol Association (who a fortnight later ground our faces into the mud in a .303 match by over 50 points!) by relatively wide margins, it was with some trepidation that we went to Oundle. We had not yet won a match there since the very flat firing point seems to mesmerize us into performing with monotonous mediocrity. To condition ourselves mentally for this, we jacked up the back of our own firing point on bricks, and, although the result was rather unstable, it did help us to the extent of showing a win in the match aggregate. But this hides the fact that we lost over the country life first stage—which is what we particularly care about—and only caught up over the landscape and an extra practice.

The last two matches were, to a certain extent, anti-climatic. Haileybury found difficulty in adapting to our rather steep firing point—safely back on the ground again!—and never struck the form of which they were capable, whilst we, in reaction to our poor showing at Oundle, put in a record first stage score of 606/640. In the de Putron Cup

match against Bedford Modern School, we retained the Cup for the third year running, but unlike the close contest of last year, by a huge margin of 74 points, our opponents being clearly in the process of reconstructing their team, having only two members from last year's side.

So, although technically we could say that we had an unbeaten .22 season, the Oundle result was not decisive enough for us to inject much conviction into the claim. But what was very striking was the all-round performance and steadiness of the team. Seven members of the squad shot in all matches for the VIII, and only 17 points divided them, with A. B. Keith winning the match aggregate cup with 591/620 for scores in shoulder to shoulder matches. Equally, some fine individual performances were put up, notably A. P. Sykes' 80/80 against Haileybury. As we also shot 9th man and cadet pair in some matches, the whole squad gained match experience which was most valuable. The VIII for the de Putron Cup was: D. S. Tansley (Captain), I. A. Clarke, R. J. Larman, D. R. H. Steen, A. P. Sykes, A. B. Keith, D. A. Lord, Eatly.

Club colours were awarded to A. B. Keith and D. A. Lord, Pryce, Smith and Martin ii also shot.

Results

v Oundle (away)	VIII	938-934
	9th man	73-75
v Haileybury and I.S.C. (home)	VIII	628-580
	9th man	65-58
v B.M.S. (home) (de Putron Cup)	VIII	593-519

Summer Term

The shift in emphasis, with the return of the warmer weather, is to .303 shooting, but throughout the term, a coaching session twice a week will keep the non-squad members busy on the miniature range.

The .303 shooting started in 1970 in sub-zero temperatures and snow, since when we have shot in sleeting rain, frost, fog, drizzle and hurricane. But being British and made of stern stuff, although we may despair, we ***** well don't give up, and our perseverance has at last been rewarded with some fine weather. Some of the squad took part in the County trials, and I am hopeful that the School will have a representative or two in the inter-counties shoot at the end of the month. The victorious Roberts Shield team, with M. W. Eatly coming in for D. S. Tansley, has been invited to be one of the teams in the Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and Isle of Ely prize meeting, but I fear that we will be rather out of our depth. To add even greater interest to the season, we have been invited to enter the East Anglian Schools shoot in June, where we will come up against some of the best shooting schools in England. So, all in all, we have plenty to look forward to. T.J.E.

FENCING

The team, basically an inexperienced one at the beginning of term matured very well as the term progressed. The standard in Sabre particularly was raised very noticeably. There is also much talent in the juniors which should stand the School in good stead for years to come. Papworth who is new to the épée team lacks speed and style but his aggressive persistence which is important to that weapon is responsible for his good results this term. Rogers and Stafford have worked

hard and fought hard all term, the Lewis Sabre being just won by Stafford. Sykes with his fine technique and style has culminated with an excellent display in the Quadrangular. Robinson, the youngest member of the team has learnt much this term and must be congratulated on reaching the semi-final in the County Foil Championships. In the sabre also, both Stafford and Rogers qualified for the final.

Results:

v Bedfordshire Fencing Club—14th February—away
Foil Wray 2 wins Sykes 1 win Stafford lost 3-6
Épée Wray 3 wins Sykes 1 win Papworth lost 4-5
Sabre Stafford 2 wins Rogers 2 wins Hutchinson lost 4-5

v Rugby home
Foil Wray 3 wins Sykes 1 win Stafford 1 win won 5-4
Épée Wray 3 wins Sykes 3 wins Papworth Won 6-3

The Quadrangular Tournament (fenced at Eton on 14th March).

1st Dulwich; 2nd Eton; 3rd Bedford; 4th Haileybury.
Foil: Wray 4 wins, Robinson 1 win; Épée: Sykes 5 wins;
Sabre: Stafford 3 wins. W. J. WRAY.

CRICKET

School v The Buccaneers

Played at home on Saturday, 2nd May. Match tied.

This was a game which provided us with a very satisfactory opening to the season and the spectators with one of the tensest and most exciting finishes ever seen on the ground.

Put into bat, the opposition made a solid, if uninspired start. All five front-line bowlers had been tried before Danielli, bowling with the intelligence and guile of a vastly more experienced cricketer, lured one of the openers into lifting the ball to mid-off, where it was "pouched" gratefully. Further pressure from the School and a brilliant diving catch from Blunt saw three more wickets down and the Buccaneers forced to play a type of cricket contrary to that implied by their cavalier title. Despite tremendous effort on the part of Blunt and Witherow, our two "quicknesses", no more wickets fell before the declaration which came at 161-4, leaving us 140 minutes in which to get the runs. It is true to say that the pitch was now playing far more easily than when the opposition began and that the outfield had quickened noticeably.

Gore and Maclaren opened steadily and the score had reached 48 before Gore was hurried into pushing up a catch. Oakley began by straight driving their accurate left-armed for three successive fours and with Maclaren proceeded to push the score along at a pleasing rate. On Oakley's dismissal for 40, Maclaren, who had recently reached a valuable half-century, was joined by Fletcher, who took the score to 140 before losing his wicket. A flurry of runs and wickets left us with the scores level, 3 wickets left and an over to go.

Taylor was bowled on the third ball, Witherow too failed to trouble the scorer, and Danielli strolled out to do battle with a crowding enemy. The last ball of the game he square-cut for what seemed a certain run, but on dropping his bat, he turned to gather it and was run out by yards.