

H I G H S C H O O L N O T E S



From the Principal

End of Year

As this is the final edition of High Notes for the year, I would like to thank the students, staff, parents, Old Boys and friends of High for their efforts in so many areas of school life. Much has been accomplished in 2007. Great support was shown by the High community, financially and personally. We hope the school has been successful, innovative, responsive and inclusive in its activities. I would like to wish all families my compliments for the festive season. After the frantic building and grounds activity of 2005-07, next year should be a year of consolidation, to ease our tight cash flow situation. During our pause for breath we will celebrate our 125th year of operation as a secondary school preparing gifted boys for life and university.

School Certificate Tests

The School Certificate Test results were not good overall this year. The 'z' scores in English, history and geography were the lowest since the 2003 reporting began. The mathematics results were the lowest since 2003. The science results were better than last year on the 'z' score benchmark. Computing Skills were lower than the inaugural results last year. In terms of band 6 results, the school percentages were: in mathematics, the lowest since 2003, in English, the lowest since 2002, in science, the highest since 2005, in history and geography, the lowest since 2002. In combined bands 5/6 the results were: in English, the lowest since 1999, in mathematics, the third highest since 1998, in science, the best since 2003, in history and geography, the worst on record. Even though our focus is firmly on developing students for the HSC, these results are disquieting. The Executive will be discussing possible reasons for the slump and suggested interventions to improve them.



Cadet Dinner

The inaugural Cadets Dinner last week was well attended and demonstrated the goodwill surrounding the cadet movement among Old Boys as well as the strength of our school unit. The Dining President was CUO Weiping Lu who conducted proceedings very well. The formal dress, ceremonial sword, trophies on display and volunteer waiters, added to the ambience of the evening. Our guests were LTCOL Fomiatti (UNSWR) and LTCOL Major (AAC), with special guest CMNDR Littlewood (ret), an Old Boy. LTCOL Fomiatti presented the 'University of New South Wales Regiment Award for Leadership' to WO Anthony Ho. LTCOL Major presented the 'Major General Jim Norrie Memorial Award for Military Skills' to CPL Johan Santoso. LTCOL Major Knowles (AAC) presented Cadet Isaac Eveleigh (Year 8) with 'Officer Commanding's Award for Contribution to the Unit'. It was an enjoyable evening and I hope the start of a tradition of cadet functions to build the culture of service at our school.

Music Awards Dinner

Some wonderful music was played at the Music Awards Dinner last Sunday evening. A special guest from Melbourne High played original compositions, a strings tutor was accompanied by Ms Lim, a piano duet was played featuring Samson Lou and Ms Lim, and an unusual saxophone solo, rounded off the pre-dinner performances. A packed Great Hall honoured the achievements of boys in the performance music program. It was encouraging to see so many senior students stay on in the program until Year 12. Seniors playing instruments serve as terrific role models for juniors but also add maturity and virtuosity to the musical offerings. Ms May captured the many award winners in photographs. The highlight of the evening was the award of Musician of the Year. Unfortunately, the very worthy recipient



Muhammed Mehmedbasic (Year 11), was engaged playing for the Sydney Youth Orchestra and could not attend to collect his prize, which was accepted on his behalf by his brother, Ennes.

Five Highs

High was hosting the Five Highs tournament this year. A great amount of effort is required to host this event with grounds to be hired, billets to be organised, catering to be arranged and down time excursions to be negotiated.



Richard Ayre, Laurie Heil and Hugh Howey drove the organisation of the visit. The tournament was a great success and a credit to them. High was not able to win overall but had a victory over arch rival Melbourne High to regain the Cec Rubie Trophy. Our young team will have gained invaluable match practice and experience against some talented older players from specialist cricket schools around the country.

Visual Arts Exhibition

The annual visual arts exhibition and P & C 'thank you' evening was an enjoyable affair. All the Creative Arts staff were there. The imaginative displays were lit up for added impact this year. Our three ARTEXPRESS representatives had their work honoured but two of the works had been taken away for public display. It was gratifying to see the creativity, imagination and dedication to detail that our students exhibited in their art works. Simon Chan managed the refreshments and Ann Kurts and Steve Saunders headed up the catering on behalf of the Sailing Committee. Occasional music was supplied by Jeremy Ireland and Alexander Belokopytov (Year 10). The evening had a friendly, relaxed tone. I encourage more parents to come and see the work of their sons and to share in the experience of visual arts at High



Dr K A Jaggar

FROM THE LIBRARY

Thanks to Clay Kesting and Kerry Eaton who have donated *Monkey Undercover*, *Atticus of Rome* and *Love me Tender* after a professional (in their own time) visit to Scholastic Press.

Big thanks also to Nikita Slinko Year 9 for his donation of the newest Patricia Cornwell novel.

Library Heralds – Boys Reading (*please attend to this now*)



Parents are notified that their sons can join the HSC Herald scheme and receive the Herald daily at the incredibly cheap price of \$40 for three terms (four terms for those who join this in term 4 in 2008). Finally, all years can join this scheme by paying by Credit Card online at www.heraldeducation.com. Boys need to print out a parent signed copy of their transaction record for library staff to retain. At present 48 boys order a daily Herald which is delivered to the Library.

Would parents please assist their sons to keep up that reading by attending to the online order now?

Letters Re Absence/Lateness/ Early Leave

When your son returns to school from being absent he



is required to provide a letter of explanation signed by a parent or guardian. If your son is going to be late for school a note is also required.

If your son has an early leave note he is required to have his note signed by either Mr Beringer, Mr Dowdell or Mr Prorellis **before 8:55 am** and handed in to the Main Office immediately after. Each letter should be signed by a parent or guardian with the name date and roll class of your son printed clearly. Your son needs to pick up a leave pass from the Main Office before he leaves the school.

Leave

If you require leave for your son please, apply in writing and address your application to the Principal, Dr Jaggar, stating the reason and length of time of the leave. Your son must then present this application to Dr Jaggar for permission for the leave. **Please remember to apply before the leave and not after.**

The Principal must approve all leave applications.

Another email service for parents

Parents who supply the school with an email address can now have an updated report on their son's attendance record can sent to them on a daily or weekly basis.

If you would like to have your son's attendance record sent to you send your email address to lesterc@sydneyboys-h.schools.nsw.edu.au. Please include your son's name and date of birth in the email.

SBHS DEBATING

DEBATING PARKING- SATURDAY DEC 15TH from 5 – 8 PM

We have another opportunity to earn funds for debating at the Sydney FC vs Perth Glory game on **Saturday Dec 15th**. Given the recent visit from David Beckham, interest in soccer is very high. This should be a good night for us. You will either be accepting money and issuing tickets or showing the drivers where to park. There is plenty of help and support available and for those parents and boys who are new to parking, it is good fun (much better than a cake stall).

Please email HARLEEN KAUR- DEBATING PARKING COORDINATOR at harleen@tpg.com.au - with your name, your son's name and roll call class and let her know how many people will be coming.

DEBATING SUPPORTERS GROUP- AGM 2007 MINUTES

Date: 6th November 2007
Place: SBHS Staff Common Room
Present: Craig Phillis (Chair), Jocelyn Brewer, David Rudder, Julie Connolly, Alice Paul, Shirley Tickner, Harleen Kaur, Angela Pal, Karen Chiam, Sachi Purcal, Karl and Mimi Wong
Apologies: Cathy McMahon

Meeting Commenced 6.30pm

Treasurer's report

- Angela reported that the DSG account holds \$465.

GPS competition

- See MIC report

Parking

- Harleen reported that she has been getting some emails bouncing back. (Alice too).

M.I.C's report

- Report tabled
- Jocelyn tabled a calendar of debating events for 2008

President's Address

- Craig Phillis thanked Jocelyn and other office bearers and also acknowledged the assistance offered by other parents throughout the season.

Office positions for 2008

- Angela Pal offered to continue as treasurer. Shirley Tickner will assist/observe so as to be able to take over in 2009 if required and elected. Seconded by Jocelyn.

- Jocelyn nominated Craig Phillis for President. The nomination was seconded by Alice and carried unanimously.
- Jocelyn nominated David Rudder as Secretary. Seconded by Alice and carried by the meeting.
- Karen Chiam offered to be supper coordinator with the assistance of Sachi Purcal.
- Alice offered to be Annual Dinner Coordinator and Leone Wilcox offered to assist.
- Harleen Kaur offered to continue as parking coordinator

Other business

- With problems of bouncing emails and occasional non-receipt of emails it was suggested that a database coordinator be found from the parent body
- 2008 Co-payment is to be nominated by Jocelyn after she has worked out the budget for 2008. She suggested that the co-payment include a nominal amount to cover gifts to coaches. The meeting supported the proposition,

Meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Next Meeting

Place: SBHS Staff Common Room
Date: 5th February 2008

Information for new parents 6.30pm
General meeting 7.30pm

All welcome





SYDNEY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL ROWING COMMITTEE

The past week has seen a lot of activity at the rowing sheds with Melbourne High visiting, Years 7 and 8 rowers camping and Year 9 seat racing for positions in the Year 10 Vllls.

It was interesting and enjoyable hosting a Year 10 VIII crew and three staff members from Melbourne High last week. Arriving on the Thursday they camped with our boys at the sheds and were up and out on the water early Friday morning. The Melbourne boys were billeted to High boys for the Friday and Saturday nights with thanks to the Deacon, Denny-Smith, Whiting, Schilling, Chant, Chen and Blomberg families.

The two schools raced on Saturday and Sunday mornings as Vllls and quads with High racing very well in the first & second Year 10 Vllls. This is reported in more detail below by Andrew Blomberg and George Denny-Smith. A highlight was one of the Melbourne High staff, Sonny Chua, playing magnificently at the High Music Awards Dinner on Saturday night.

Gareth Deacon, our Junior Captain of Boats, gave the farewell speech and expressed how High were looking forward to experiencing the Yarra in February next year. A big thank you is extended to our Rowing Master, Mr Barris, for organizing the annual exchange program.

Years 7 and 8 crews had successful camps on Sunday and Monday nights with eager parents helping with the cooking and staying for the night with the boys. Thank you to those parents. Year 9 boys arrived at the sheds early Tuesday morning to seat race for positions in the Year 10 Vllls. Crews were decided and now we need to see commitment from all rowers during the January holidays.

There are camps for all senior rowers in January with As camping 15th – 22nd, 25th and 28th. and B & Cs camping 23rd, 24th and 31st.

The High Regatta starts the GPS racing season on Saturday 2nd February 2008.

Finally, as we finish the first half of the season, I would like to thank the enthusiastic hard working committee, and all the parents, for their commitment to running camps, BBQs, cooking, fund raising and getting their boys to and from the sheds at difficult hours of the day. It's a mammoth effort on many people's part.

Julie Blomberg
President, Rowing Committee

Melbourne High Visit

Last week we had the annual visit from Melbourne High. The Melbourne boys arrived on the Thursday afternoon and rowed 2 sessions with us. As they were not used to the rougher water than that experienced on the Yarra and the rivercats which produce more wash, they struggled to keep up. An exciting night followed in which all boys interacted and learnt about each others lifestyles on the river. In the morning it was back to solid rowing with a 5 o'clock start and yet another row at about 9. We then spent the day walking the exotic Sydney coastline until ending up at Coogee for a barbeque and a swim. As a storm approached, we went our separate ways taking our billets back to our own houses.

With no surprises, we were back at the sheds at quarter to seven to begin the first instalment of races. These were contested in eights. All 3 races were won by Sydney High 1sts with ease while the 2nds fiercely competed as Melbourne struggled in different conditions. The Melbourne boys were then taken to the city to see a movie and experience the tradition of 'all-you-can-eat' pizza hut. Records were broken as we munched through many a pizza. After some more wandering, exploring Sydney, we went back to our homes to rest up for the quad races the next day, which was Sunday.

Despite the thoughts that Melbourne would be better at quads, the more difficult conditions meant that both the 1st and 2nd quad beat both Melbourne quads in all 3 races. This meant that as far as racing goes, it was a clean sweep. As this was the last day there were many photographs taken and goodbyes said. We look forward to our visit to the Yarra in February.

Andrew Blomberg

On Thursday 6th December, Melbourne High came up for their annual rowing exchange with the school. We were looking forward to this as it would be our test against another school and we wanted to see if our training paid off. We camped on the Thursday and kept the Melbourne boys entertained with our tales. Watching them row on the day made us think they wouldn't be as big a challenge as we thought.

On Friday we rowed again but didn't stay with each other and later on the non-billeters left for school while the billeters and their billets stayed to practise rowing in the quads. The Melbourne boys looked a lot better in a quad than an eight so thought we'd have a tougher time doing our quad races. We left the sheds to take the Melbourne people on the Sydney Coastal walk from Tamarama to Coogee where we had lunch. It had been sunny all day and after walking in the sun everyone was keen to get in the water but as soon as lunch was finished the weather turned cloudy and a thunderstorm was on its way.

Some of us still stayed for a while before splitting up and taking our billets home. Saturday saw the eights races take place, where the Sydney High 1st Yr 10 VIII dominated followed by some close and not so close races between 2nds and Melbourne. A trip to the movies and all you can eat pizza hut in the city was made after rowing to show the Melbourne boys a good time.

Most people ended up at Andrew Blomberg's house before heading home. On Sunday we had the quad races where both Sydney High quads comprehensively beat the Melbourne quads in a clean sweep of the three races. After breakfast we had a group photo with everyone as a memento and then it was time for the Melbourne boys to get to the airport. We developed new friendships during this exchange and we look forward to travelling down to Melbourne next February. Thanks must go to Mr Barris and the Melbourne coaches for organizing the trip.

George Denny-Smith

LEARN TO ROW

Successful Learn to Row program has been running out of "The Sheds" Sunday mornings since the beginning of 2007.



Now supported by several community colleges participant numbers have jumped. Volunteer coaches are desperately needed to accommodate this rise in participants.

The coaching session goes from 7:00 till 9:00 Sunday mornings for a period of six weeks with the next course starting on Sunday, August 12th. Volunteer coaches will row/cox as part of the crew they are coaching. So if you think you could get back into a boat and row 3 to four slow kilometres as well as putting something back into the school please contact Ross Bowey on 0428 519 705 or rossbowey@optusnet.com.au as soon as possible.

From the MIC-Various basketball associations in your area

There are no excuses boys. I expect that all players in the 'A' grade will attend the trials at an organisation and some 'B' grade. If you want to succeed in school basketball, get in the big league and it will be easy!!

Under 14s are born in 1994/95

Under 16s are born in 1992/93

Under 18s are born in 1990/91

Norths - www.nsba.com.au

Manly - www.manlybasketball.com.au/rebs/

Penrith - www.penrith.basketball.net.au/fs_home.asp

Hills - www.hills.basketball.net.au/uploads/res/67_3179.pdf

U14 Men - 9am - 11am

U16 Men - 3pm - 5pm

U18 Men - 3pm - 5pm

Bankstown - www.bankstown.basketball.net.au/FS_extra.asp?id=1187orgID=62

U14s - 4:30pm - 6pm

U16s - 6pm - 7:30pm

U18s - 6pm - 7:30pm

Sutherland - www.sutherland.basketball.com.au/uploads/res/155_31225.doc

U14s - 12:30pm - 2pm

U16s - 2:30pm - 4:30pm

U18s - 7am - 9am

U14s - 10:30am - 12pm

U16s - 7am - 9am

U18s - 12pm - 2pm

U14s - 12:30pm - 2pm

U16s - 2:30pm - 4:30pm

U18s - 7am - 9am

Glebe - www.gbaonline.com.au/main.html

Junior rep training and games are held every Friday for U14s / U16s and U18s between 7pm and 8pm.

Parramatta - www.parramatta.basketball.net.au

No information available

Ryde - www.ryde.basketball.net.au/FS_extra.asp?id=30322&OrgID=408

Hornsby - www.hornsby spiders.com.au/

Their trials have already started ... so I think this one is too late..... Boys can still make enquiries with the association if they are interested.

Sydney Comets - www.sydneybasketball.com.au/fs_home.asp

This information has kindly been provided by the Basketball committee for your benefit! Please support your son in attending the sessions. When we have a minimum of five boys participating at a representative level in each age group we will have success at school level.

B Hayman

Year 12 Parents 2008

are invited to

Surviving the HSC

a presentation for parents by Jane Sleeman on understanding and helping our sons through their HSC year

Tuesday 11 March 2008

in the Great Hall

6:15pm drinks and finger food

7pm sharp presentation begins

8:15pm drinks and finger food

\$10 per person payable at the door

(to cover catering costs)

Jane is a school counsellor and a psychologist in private practice specialising in anxiety and depression in young people and adults. She gives presentations to a wide variety of audiences and is a facilitator with the Black Dog Institute. Most importantly to Jane she is the mother of three adolescents including one currently doing the HSC.

We are grateful to SBHS for funding the speaker.

RSVP: 4 March 2008

Barbara Taylor admin@gtmanagement.com.au

Phone: 0410 268 444

FROM THE HIGH STORE



Boys going into Year 10 2008 are required to wear white shirts with logo, senior tie and mid-grey trousers.

STOCK IS NOW AVAILABLE come in early to avoid long waiting times when back to school in Jan 2008.

Senior tie \$27.50

Short sleeve shirt

Size 14 \$24.00

Size 16-22 \$26.00

Size 24-28 \$28.00

Long sleeve shirt

Size 14 \$25.00

Size 16-22 \$27.00

Size 24-28 \$29.00

Trousers \$59.00

LAST DAY TO PURCHASE UNIFORMS IN 2007 WILL BE WEDNESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2007.

HOLIDAY OPENING TIMES

JANUARY

MONDAY 21ST 10AM - 3PM

TUESDAY 22ND 12pm - 7PM

WEDNESDAY 23RD 10AM - 3PM

FRIDAY 25TH 10AM - 3PM

TUESDAY 29TH 9AM - 12PM

THESE DATES ARE VERY BUSY WITH NEW STUDENTS SO AVOID THE RUSH & GET NEXT YEARS UNIFORM NEEDS BEFORE THE END OF TERM!!!

Taiwan International Youth Culture Conference

Between the 1st and 8th of December 2007, three Year 11 students travelled to Changhua Senior High School in Taiwan to attend the 2nd annual Youth Culture Conference. This conference was also attended by delegates from six other nations; USA, Russia, Taiwan, Ireland, Finland and Japan. The first 4 days saw us billeted with local students, followed by the remaining 3 days in a hotel on the outskirts of Taipei.



The first two days of the trip were dedicated to the economic discussion of brands and presentations of each nations' cultural, social and commercial aspects. Kiril Mickovski (11), presented a paper on Fosters Group, whilst Nic Lochner (11) discussed Qantas and Ishan Nadkarni completed the trio with an in depth look into Billabong Clothing. Mr Storey, being the dedicated economics teacher that he is, made it his duty to instigate a lengthy discussion on globalisation and Taiwan's political marketing. While Nic and Ishan were afforded the opportunity to mingle with the other nations, Kiril spent most of his time eating and attempting to converse with the local girls.

Following the formal nature of the conference, each night, everyone took part in festivities. A party on the first evening featured performances from local and international students. A Taiwanese Avril Lavigne, a tour of Buffalo, NY, Aussie stand-up, Russian folk dancing, a lesson on how to speak Finnish, Japanese martial arts and traditional Irish singing were amongst the acts.

The second night starred a bizarre Taiwanese banquet, as the food was endless and different, but highly enjoyable as it expressed an opportunity to further our understanding of the Taiwanese culture, as well as allowing us to chat with the other internationals. It was here that Mr Storey presented the CSHS principal with the school plaque and the history of Sydney High.

The rest of the trip was then packed with sight seeing and touring Taiwan: Visits to the Giant Buddha, various corporations and factories, Hospital and famous orchids. We also enjoyed spending time at the night markets where anything and everything was on sale. As we left Changhua for Taipei, we encountered several other Taiwanese landmarks. The world's tallest building, longest intra-mountain tunnel, President's office, the National Palace Museum and rocky beaches were amongst the itinerary. Since everything was over a half hour drive from one another, the time enabled us to communicate and create friendships with the other international students.

Not only was the trip highly enjoyable but also highly educational. The relationships that we forged during the tour are ones that will remain forever with us. As the other teams departed early in the morning, goodbyes were marred with tears and mutual sadness. All three students were especially thankful for this opportunity, that very few students ever get to undertake, and would like to sincerely thank Mr Storey, Mr Beringer and Dr Jaggar for support and assistance in making the trip possible, and our billets; Annie, Tony and Winston and their families who were kind enough to house us during our stay.

Nic Lochner, Ishan Nadkarni and Kiril Mickovski

From the Canteen Team

\$10 Thank You Voucher

Our December **\$10 Thank You Voucher** has been won by Betty Lim.
Thanks so much to Betty for being one of our happy band of volunteers.

We know Andrew (11) will make good use of his voucher.

Watch this space for next month's winner!

More from the Canteen Team

Holidays fast approaching

It's that time of year again and we hope you will all understand that not all your usual favourites will be available in canteen right through to the end, as we are running down stock in preparation for the long summer break.

Happy Holidays!!

CHINESE NEW YEAR



23 February 2008

Tickets are selling fast. Please make sure you book your tickets as soon as possible, using the detachable portion of the invitation you received earlier.

Cost:

\$ 25 per adult & high school student

\$ 20 per primary school student

Free for children 5 & under

\$ 100 for family of 5 or 6 people

Payment to be made at the school office.



School Of Golf - Classes from as little as \$25 per lesson

Moore Park Golf welcomes children of all ages and abilities to join the fun of learning how to play the game with qualified instructors.

- Junior Programs and Kids Classes (school terms and school holidays)
- Your child will interact with other children of similar ages and abilities
- Junior programs uniquely tailored to each child

FREE BUCKET OF BALLS

Present this coupon to School of Golf staff and parents will receive a **FREE** bucket of balls for the driving range at your child's first lesson.

Complete details below to go into the Major Prize Giveaway (entry box at the School of Golf). All children participating in classes between 20 December 2007 - 28 April 2008 will go into the draw to **WIN** a Deluxe Aussie Pro Set (valued at **\$250**).

Adult's Name: _____ Ph: _____

Child's Name: _____

Email Address: _____

For more information please call School of Golf on: (02) 9663 1064 or visit www.mooreparkgolf.com.au

