HOCKEY 1996/7 (ONT.

South East Div I: Bridport Hawks 4 Taunton CS 0, Okehampton 2 Chudleigh 3, Ottery Crickets b 5 PGSOB 3, Taunton Vale B 1 Mid-Somerset 1, Torbay 3 East Devon A 0

South East Div II: Chard 3 Exeter Univ B 0, Mid-Somerset A 1 North Devon 6, Minehead A 2 Dawlish A 3, Shepton Mallet A 3 Exeter Hornets A 5, Taunton CS A0 Exmouth 3.

South East Div I: Chudleigh 6 East Devon A 1, Mid-Somerset 6 Ottery Crickets B 0, Okehampton 3 Bridport Hawks 2, PGSOB 3 Torbay A 0, Taunton CS 3 Taunton Vale B 3.

Div II: Dawlish A 2 Chard 3, Exeter Hornets A 1 Exmouth 8, Exeter Univ B 6 Mid-Somerset A 0, North Devon 4 Taunton CS A 1, Shepton Mallet A 9 Minehead A 1.

South East Div I: Bridport Hawks 0 Chudleigh 1. East Devon A 1 PGSOB 2. Ottery Crickets B 3 Taunton CS 5. Taunton Vale B 1 Okehampton 3. Torbay A 1 Mid-

South East Div II: Chard 6 Shepton Mallet A0, Exmouth 2 North Devon 0, Mid-Somerset A 2 Dawlish A 5, Minehead A 1 Exeter Hornets A 5, Taunton CSA 1 Exeter Univ B 0.

# Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....1 North Devon 1st XI.....6

With Mike Evans, Ian Francis and Des Switzer all With Mike Evans, Ian Francis and Des Switzer an playing their first games of the season for Mids 2nd string, it was hardly surprising Mids took a little while to get their game together. Unfortunately, in the opening 12 minutes North Devon put away two crosses at the far post, giving keeper Martin McBain no chance.

In the next 45 minutes Mids scored their second league goal of the season through Edward Medli-cott, and were millimetres away from a second for the same player.

Had the second attempt gone in this could have been a game to remember, and Mids might have got their first league point of the season, but instead North Devon began to play constructively again and scored four more times before the end.

SOUTH		12	IVI			
era Laura Interna	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bridgwater	11	3	2	48	24	3
Torbay	9	1	5	31	24	2
Ottery Cric	8	3	5	45	36	2
Minehead	7	5	4	35	31	2
E Devon	8	2	5	34	30	2
Newquay	5	3	8	26	35	1
Dawlish	4	5	7	31	34	1
Penzance	3	6	7	33	39	1
Shep Mallet	3	5	8	29	40	1
Bodmin	3	3	10	21	40	1

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	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
Chudleigh	11	2	3	50	22	35	
Okehampton	10	3	3	58	22	33	
PGSOB	10	3	3	46	29	33	
Mid-Som	7	5	4	36	27	26	
Torbay A	8	1	7	35	44	25	
BridportHwk	7	3	6	42	24	24	
Taunton VB	6	4	6	40	37	22	
Taunton CS	5	. 2	9	36	39	17	
E Devon A	1	3	12	18	53	6	k
Ottery Crik B	1	2	13	15	79	5	

						1515	
SOUTH	EAS	TE	VIC	11			
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
Exmouth		0	0	78	14	48	
Chard		0	2	71	17	42	
Exeter Horn	11	1	4	55	32	34	
Exeter Uni B	9	1	6	45	23	28	
North Devon	8	2	6	53	32	26	
Dawlish A	7	0	9	32	45	21	
Shep Mallet	4	2	10	34	44	14	
Minehead A	4	1	11	22	76	13	
Taunton CSA	3	1	12	21	53	10	
MidSomst A	0	0	16	4	78	0	

SOUTH E	AS	TD	VI	III		
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chard A	7	5	1	32	18	26
Seale Hayne	6	6	1	33	16	24
Exeler Horn A	8	0	5	23	21	24
Exmouth A	6	4	4	31	22	22
Bridgwater B	5	3	7	25	22	21
Torbay B	5	5	2	26	14	20
Bridport Hwk	3	1	10	19	41	10
N Devon A	1		11		52	5

South East Div I: Bridport Hawks 3 Taunton Vale B 1. Chudleigh 1 PGSOB 1. Mid-Somerset 1 East Devon A 0. Okehampton 14 Ottery Crickets B 0. Taunton CS 7 Torbay A 2. Div II: Dawlish A 5. Taunton CS A 2. Exeter Hornets A 3. North Devon 2. Exeter Univ B 0 Exmouth 4. Minehead A 1 Chard 5. Shepton Mallet

A 1 Mid-Somerset A 0. Div III: Bridport Hawks A 1 Exeter Hornets B 2, Chard A 2

South East Div I: Bridport Hawks 11 Ottery Crickets B 1, Mid Somerset 1 PGSOB 2, Okehampton 6 Torbay A 1, Taunton CS 4 East Devon A 0, Taunton Vale B 0 Chudleigh 3,

South East Div II: Chard 7 Exeler Hornets A.2, Dawlish A.2 Exmouth 4, Exeter Univ B.3 North Devon 4. Minehead A.2 Mid Somerset A.3, Shepton Mallet A.8 Taunton CS.40.

South East Div I: Chudleigh 5 Mid-Somerset 0, East Devon A 1 Okehampton 4, Ottery Crickets B 2 Taunton Vale B 4, PGSOB 0 Taunton CS 0, Torbay A 0 Bridport Hawks 2. South East Div II: Exeter Hornets A 3 Exeter Univ B 2, Exmouth 8 Shepton Mallet A 1, Mid-Somerset A 0 Chard 5, North Devon 10 Dawlish A 0, Taunton CS A 7 Minehead A 0.

Torlaen III 4, Llanishen 3 Weston-s-M 4, Marlborough II 1 North Wilts 3, Mid-Somerset 5 Frome 2, Mid-Somerset II 2 Frome Vets 6, Minehead II 0 Shepton Mallet II 6, Neath 3 Caerphilly 1, New Milton 1 Wavfarers 3, Newport III 2

# Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....0 Exeter University 3rd XI.....6

This season, Mids have to take pleasure in moral victories rather than league points, and the second half of this game provided one such moral victory. As in previous encounters with the students, they were a class above Mids in their tactical play and, for the most part, individual skills.

In the first half the University side crashed in five goals, and Mids were completely out of the game. Learning from last week's concession of goals to the far-post ball, Mids only conceded one by that to the far-post ball, Mids only conceded one by that method this week, but were powerless to stop three goals, all from free-hits just outside the top of the circle, that were smashed goalwards to receive deflections into the net. The fifth goal was an absolute gem of a shot from fully 15 yards that hit the roof of the net. Mids' busiest player was Tom Medlicott in goal who, despite the scoreline, made several brilliant save. liant saves

The second half, however, saw only one further oal, which came from open play, and saw Mids attacking and giving as good as they got. Copying the opposition's free-hit tactics, Mids were within inches of scoring on a number of occasions. Defensi ively, Colin Crees, Andrew Cameron and Bill Wych all made crucial tackles with expert timing. Medlicott was nowhere near as busy, but still had to make a number of crucial saves.

# Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....0 Shepton Mallet 2nd XI.....1

Mids were so near yet so far in their search for a first Sun Life League point of the season.

To the impartial observer, Shepton always had the upper hand in this game, with the majority of possession and scoring chances, but they were thwarted by incisive tackling and brilliant goalk-

With the score still 0-0 at half-time, Mids had hardly mustered a meaningful chance, but with Martin McBain in such good form in goal, Shepton hardly looked like scoring either.

The deadlock was broken just five minutes into the second half when Ollic Stevens crossed from the right to the far post, through a brace of players, for Ollie Franklin to score.

This spurred Mids to push further forward, and with Tom Medicatt playing well up the pitch, a number of half-chances were created, but none could be turned into real danger for Shepton.

More Shepton pressure was soaked up by Colin Crees, Andy Cameron and Alan Wilton at the back for Mids. The game ended with Shepton probably the more disappointed side, but for Mids this was the closest they have come to breaking their league duck.

# Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....0 Chard 1st XI.....5

Despite the scoreline this was not a return to the Despite the scoreine this was not a return to the unequal struggles of earlier in the season. In a previous encounter Chard had easily outplayed Mids, but for the return Mids were able to field a stronger side, and Chard were clearly weaker.

The 5-0 scoreline in this final Sun Life League game of the season undoubtedly flattered Chard, with the main difference between the sides being the experience of the goalkeepers. With no regular goalkeeper available, Mids relied on the willingness of full-back Andy Cameron to put on the keeper's kit, and while he made some fine saves, his lack of experience was exploited by Chord. experience was exploited by Chard.

In the forward area Mids had only themselves to blame as they missed a number of good chances but at least they got into the shooting circle and made the chances in the first place.

Paul Salvidge had his best game of the season in Mids' defence as time and time again he dispossessed Chard attackers, whose frustration boiled over, with one of them being temporarily suspended for aggressive play, followed by dissent, and another formally warned.

Chard had scored two goals in the first half, a third just after half-time and the last two very late in the game with, in fact, the final goal being the last hit of the match.

Mids will look forward to next season when perhaps they will be in a division with their more usual fare of 2nd teams to play, rather than the strength of the 1st teams they have met this year. Two final friendly matches round off Mids' seasor

# Mids let down by poor start

#### Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....2 Dawlish 2nd XI.....5

Mids threw this game away in the first 20 minutes. Thereafter they put in a strong performance and created as many chances in 45 minutes as they have in the rest of the season

In a dismal 20 minutes Mids went three down, with all the goals coming from defensive errors.

For the second, Mids allowed the ball to go in the net, only to find the ball had struck an attacker's stick in the circle, and thus a goal was scored.

Mids then earned a penalty corner which the visiting keeper could only help into the net as David Yelland flicked it high to his left, but from a breakaway Dawlish scored a good fourth goal.

The second half saw both Peter Manley and Ashley Spearing go close before Yelland converted another penalty corner. The Dawlish goalkeeper was then called upon to produce his best as Mark Smith, Manley Spearing and Yelland all had further chances to get Mids healt itself to some back into the game.

The Dawlish fifth came late in the day as Mids started to flag, and regret the first 20 minutes of sloppy play.

### Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....3 Minehead 2nd XI.....2

It finally happened at Minehead on Satuday, Mid Somerset 2nd XI halted a run of 24 conse-cutive defeats with a well deserved victory over an admittedly youthful Minehead side.

However, this is not to say the opposition were without skill, having easily beaten Mids earlier in the season. Mids were strengthened by the creative play of Andy Biggs returning from his antipodean travels but none the less this was a good all round performance.

The first half was even with Minehead hav-The first half was even with Minehead having the edge with a well taken goal from a penalty conrer, but Mids were showing the potential to do better. For 20 minutes of the scond half Mids fulfilled this potential with a purple patch that brough three goals and severalmore chances thwarted by more than competent goalkeeping. First John Sawyer fot Mids in the game with a wells truck shot and then Malcolm Chorlton picked up tow goals, both fromless than yard, both following penalty corners that had been initially saved by the keeper but not cleared.

In the last few minutes Mids conceded a second goal but this was no snatched victory, this was a small reward for a long season when spirits have never flagged.

# Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....3 Chard Evergreens.....1

The concluding game of Mids' season brought their second victory in a workmanlike, rather than sparkling, fashion. The signs were there even from the fourth pass of the game, which Andy Biggs incisively put through to Malcolm Chorlton who was free at the top of the circle, but his first touch let him down and the chance went begging.

Mids did score within two minutes as Chorlton crossed for Peter Manley to fire home. However, the second goal was a long time coming, with the Mids defence being called into action more often than they would have liked. Eventually a quick pass from Andrew Board set. John Savyer from to heat from Andrew Board set John Sawyer free to beat the goalkeeper with a reverse stick shot.

In the second half it took a goal by Chard to reor the second half it took a goal by Chard to revitalise the Mids side, who won a series of penalty corners but could not convert them, except for a combination of Sawyer and Chorlton forcing the Chard keeper into conceding a penalty flick, which was duly converted by David Yelland.

With Mids facing their usual exodus of young players to university next year, anyone interested in playing for the club can contact David Yelland. Tel: (01985) 844092