



University of Stirling Sports Union

e-newsletter

University of
stirling
sports union

ISSUE 6—08 DECEMBER 2009

Welcome to this week's edition of the Sports Union e-newsletter

Well done, well done, well done to everyone who attended last night's Club's Council and provided constructive, enthusiastic and, at times, fairly vocal feedback. Your views cannot possibly go unnoticed by the Students' Union and we will hopefully see the result of your efforts in the coming days.

It was very heartening to see over 150 people there last night who are all passionate about sport at Stirling. I had envisaged that there may not be a lot of support for the Students' Union proposal, however, I could not have predicted the fantastic response we got from our members last night. Without get inappropriately soppy here, each and every one of you is a credit to the Sports Union and the University. Well done!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank representatives of the Students' Union for presenting their proposal and trying their best to answer some difficult questions. Further thanks go to the Honorary Life members in last night's audience who provided some interesting input. Thanks to the Sports Union Exec for their help in preparing for last night's discussion and helping mobilise the membership. Finally, the big thanks go to you, the students. Despite being in the midst of the exam period, you turned out in droves and aired your views articulately and constructively. It was a fantastic effort which I cannot thank you enough for.

For those of you who were unable to attend last night's meeting, I have provided a summary below.

Back to sport.

On what was a relatively small fixture card last Wednesday, Stirling got some good results at home and further afield. Due to postponements, there were also a number of BUCS fixtures which were played out over the weekend and these matches provided some good wins for Stirling.

The Men's Lacrosse put in a great show on Saturday to thump Aberdeen 11-1 in the Granite City. Further misery was heaped on the woolly animals lovers from up north when the Men's Tennis 2nd Team all but secured their 8th consecutive Scottish Championship. A great effort from both teams!

Also in competitive action recently was the equestrian team who finished 3rd in their competition at Glasgow. Also in action was Scott Hartley, a Stirling student, who won the Scottish Eastern District Heavyweight Boxing Championship. Reports on both are below.

On another subject, I had an interesting meeting with the marketing team for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. And guess what, they want Stirling students to be the face of the games! This is a fantastic opportunity to work with one of the best sports photographers in the world. Please see the article below for more information.

This week's Highlights

- **News**
 - Officer Profiles
 - Photo shoot
 - SPotY
- **Reports**
 - Equestrian
 - Scott Hartley
- **Results**
- **Write for the SU e-newsletter**
- **The Union**

Attachments

- **Casting day info**

Commonwealth Games. And guess what, they want Stirling students to be the face of the games! This is a fantastic opportunity to work with one of the best sports photographers in the world. Please see the article below for more information.

Finally, congratulations to Ollie Hodson who was elected as the Communications Officer on the Sports Union Exec last night. Ollie will be a fantastic addition to the Exec. We'll hopefully get her writing these e-newsletters, I'm sure you're all fed up reading my hellish banter.

Finally, finally, this is the last weekly e-newsletter before the Christmas break so I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their efforts over the last year. There is a huge list of people that are deserving of thanks and we are very grateful to them. I'd like to finish by wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

p.s. Apologies for the late release of this week's e-newsletter but yesterday's events took their toll.

Jamie MacDonald
President

>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>

Officer profile consultations

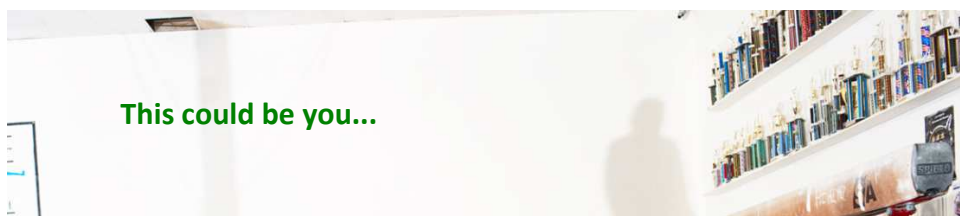
It was 'Question Time' at Club's Council last night as the Student Union came and presented their proposal for the officer structures at the Student Union. Audrey Burns, General Manager of the Student Union, presented a proposal which included a change to the title and remit of the current sabbatical officer, the Sports Union President. Immediately following the presentation, the floor was opened up to students to ask questions on the proposal. Cue student opinion...

A number of very interesting questions were put to Mark Cullen (VP Services and Treasurer), who, despite his opening intro of 'these questions are easy to answer', failed to provide satisfactory answers to a number of questions. As students became increasingly frustrated that their questions were not being answered it soon became evident that there was little or no support for the proposal. It is hoped that these concerns will be addressed and that the vociferous student opinion prevails.

There will be discussions behind the scenes this week in order to revise the current proposal. There will be a proposal put forward to Student Union Council on Thursday at 6pm in W1. You will be updated on the revised proposal as soon as I am made aware of this.

Commonwealth Games Photo-shoot

A fantastic, once in a life time opportunity has arisen for Stirling students to become the face of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The lucky students selected will be photographed, in some form of sporting activity, by one of the world's leading sports photographers, Finlay MacKay. A quick search of Finlay's name reveals the work he has done with the likes of Michael Phelps, Usain Bolt and Serena Williams. To give you an idea of some of the work he's done, I have included an example of his recent work with Nastia Liukin below. Ross Main's semi-favourite photo.





This really is a fantastic opportunity to work with one of the very best photographers in the world. Even if you are not an athlete that competes in one of the Commonwealth Games sports you can still appear as the face of that particular sport. For example, tennis players would be quite adept at modelling for table tennis, squash etc. Furthermore, if you are an athlete of a suitable build, it is likely you could appear in any of the sports.

I have learned, from my modelling days, that these opportunities need to be grasped with both hands. I would therefore strongly encourage you to put yourself forward for selection.

I have attached some further information with regards to how you get involved. A casting day will take place on the 14th of December.

Matthew wins Sports Personality of the Year



Stirling golf graduate Catriona Matthew took the plaudits as she was crowned Scottish Sports Personality of the Year at a star-studded awards ceremony.

Matthew, who became the first ever Scottish woman to win a golf major – and only the fourth Briton – when she lifted the British Open trophy at Royal Lytham and St Annes in August, was honoured at the Sunday Mail sportscotland Sports Awards.

The glittering ceremony, broadcast on STV on Sunday evening, recognised the plethora of achievements across Scottish sport in 2009, from local heroes to clubs and coaches.

And Matthew, who was the first female golf scholarship recipient at the University of Stirling in 1987, took the evening's main award ahead of such luminaries as Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson and tennis star Andy Murray amongst others.

Benefiting from the flexible International Sports Scholarship Programme and an R&A bursary, Matthew, neé Lambert, spread her course over five years and graduated with a 2:1 BA in Financial Studies.

She was a promising golfer at this stage and has since excelled on the international stage, with three LPGA and three LET tour victories to her name, including the British Open success which came just two months after the birth of her second child Sophie.

Ian Thomson, an Honorary Professor of the Department of Sports Studies at the University, helped launch the University's International Sports Scholarship Programme in 1981.

Ian Thomson, an Honorary Professor of the Department of Sports Studies at the University, helped launch the University's International Sports Scholarship Programme in 1981.

He worked closely with Matthew, 40, and is proud to see her efforts acknowledged. He said: "She has the perfect qualities – steely determination and an incredible modesty as well as being talented in both sport and education. I am delighted to see her get the rewards and recognition she deserves.

"It is no coincidence there is such a strong crop of young talented female golfers coming through at the moment as she is an inspiration and a great role model. She stayed in Scotland and developed her game and it is good to see so many others remain here. Eventually they will head off to compete in the big tours, but it is nice they can improve and gain an education here first."

Professor Thomson was recently the recipient of an honorary degree from the University and among the many congratulatory cards was one from the reluctant hero. "It was so nice she found the time to write to me," added Professor Thomson. "It was a lovely letter saying how when she started out as a bursar at Stirling it was very unusual, unlike now, for golf to have a fitness programme and how the University was ahead of the game."

Matthew, who lives in North Berwick with her family, including her husband and regular caddy Graeme, is aiming to finish the year in style at the season ending European Tour event.

She tees off on Wednesday in the Omega Dubai Ladies Masters with the chance to overtake Swede Sophie Gustafson at the top of the European Order of Merit.

The Sunday Mail Sports Awards also recognised the achievements of Scotland's emerging talent, through the Young Sports person of the Year category, which was sponsored by the University of Stirling as Scotland's University for Sporting Excellence.

This accolade went to teenage curler Eve Muirhead, who won three consecutive Junior World Championship gold medals and is now set to compete at the Winter Olympics in Vancouver next year.

>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>RE

Equestrian Club jumping up the tables

On Wednesday 2nd December the Equestrian Club's B Team took part in their first competition of the season. This year the B Team have been drawn against Glasgow Caledonian, Glasgow and Edinburgh University. Each University holds a home match and the other three universities attend. The first match was at Glasgow Caledonians home ground, Hazelden Equestrian Centre in Glasgow. After a very early start the team which consisted of Iona Paterson, Lynne Blore, Elizabeth Maclennan and Aisha Scott finally arrived at the venue. On arrival four unknown horses were shown to the riders and each rider drew a horse from a hat. This was the horse they rode for the dressage phase. The dressage involved the rider producing a test that they had memorised, making the horse complete different moves throughout. Another 4 unknown horses were produced for the jumping and the same process of drawing a horse repeated. The show jumping phase involved each rider completing a course of 7 jumps at a maximum height of 85cms. After the dressage the Stirling team were sitting in an amazing first place and finished in a very respectable third place following the jumping. Individual places were also won by Elizabeth who finished 6th and Lynne who finished 3rd. Full results were: Glasgow Caledonian 4th, Stirling 3rd, Edinburgh 2nd and Glasgow 1st.

Hartley's a knock-out!

Hartley's a knock-out!

Alloa Boxer Scott Hartley successfully won the Scottish Eastern District Heavyweight title on Sunday the 29th of November at the Bowhill War Memorial Club in Cardenden with a victory over Kircaldy boxer Steven Tasker.

In the 1st round Hartley started at a fast pace catching Tasker with a good left hook followed by a solid right to the body. After a bout of trading punches on the ropes from both boxers Hartley finished with a snappy straight right to catch the judges eye. The round finished with Hartley taking the middle of the ring and using his greater hand speed and footwork to keep himself out of Taskers range.

With Tasker behind on points the Kirkcaldy boxer threw caution to the wind in the second round and landed two clubbing right hands which shook Hartley for a few moments. Hartley had to dig deep and hit back with a quick right/left combination which forced Tasker back. Tasker tried to land his big sweeping right hand near the end of the round but Hartley was able to avoid the punches and closed the round with a confident left jab, right hook and right hook to the body.

Kircaldy's Steven Tasker did not come out at the start of the third round after sustaining a shoulder injury during the latter stages of the second round giving Scott Hartley a deserved victory which he hopes will be a springboard for challenging the Scottish title in 2010.

RESULTS

Wednesday 2nd December

Sport	Team	H/A	Opposition	Result
Basketball	Women's 2nds	H	Heriot-Watt	
Football	Men's 3rd	H	Glasgow	2-2
Football	Men's 2nd	H	St Andrews	3-3
Football	Women's 1st	H	St Andrews	p-p
Football	Men's 4th	H	Strathclyde	4-1
Hockey	Women's 1st	H	Edinburgh	
Hockey	Men's 2nd	H	Heriot-Watt	
Lacrosse	Women's 1st	A	Glasgow	2-8
Rugby Union	Men's 2nd	H	Dundee	
Swimming	1st	H	Aberdeen	
Tennis	Men's 3rd	H	Dundee	
Tennis	Men's 1st	H	Loughborough	0-10
Tennis	Women's 1st	A	Glasgow	10-0
Tennis	Men's 4th	H	Heriot-Watt	

Saturday 5th December

Lacrosse	Men's 1st	A	Aberdeen	11-1
Netball	1st	A	Glasgow Cale	32-25
Netball	2nd	A	St Andrews	

Wednesday 9th December

Basketball	Men's 1st	H	St Andrews	
Swimming	1st	A	St Andrews	

Write for the SU Newsletter

In order to keep the weekly SU e-newsletter running, we need contributions from you guys. We are seeking match reports. news stories. interviews and any other contributions you can

In order to keep the weekly SU e-newsletter running, we need contributions from you guys. We are seeking match reports, news stories, interviews and any other contributions you can offer.

Please send all correspondence to sports.union@stir.ac.uk.

Christmas at The Union

First of all, we want to wish you all the very best for the exam period and hope everything goes well!

We also wanted to let you know about some amazing offers in your Union this festive season - there's so many it'll be easier to list!

Christmas Lunch - quite simply, no one on campus does Christmas lunch like we do. Check it out every day this week!

Special promo on Bud - whether you're wanting to kick back and relax following an exam or wanting to see the latest Champions League matches, we've got Bud on promo for just £1.50 whilst stocks last.

Free Mince pies - free you say?! That's right. Buy an coffee in Underground and we'll give you a nice tasty mince pie free.

Long Bar - the fabulous Long Bar Grill may now have stopped for the semester but Long Bar remains open for all to come in and relax in so whether you want to meet up with friends, do a bit of studying or play some pool - why not head to the Long Bar every day until 6pm.

Union Shop - the very best place on campus for all your Christmas treats - from cards to gifts, we've got Christmas wrapped.



University of Stirling Sports Union

e-newsletter

The logo for the University of Stirling Sports Union, featuring the text "stirling sports union" in a stylized font within a circular emblem.

stirling
sports union

