

USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month March 2007



Performance of the Month:

On 10th March Frank Tickner (Cross Country) won the English National Cross Country Championships by a margin of 40 seconds to complete an historic clean sweep of Domestic Cross Country titles this winter. Frank's successes this season include:

- Winner GB&NI European Cross Country Trails, Liverpool, November 2006
- Winner BUSA Cross Country Championships, including GB&NI World Cross Country Championships, Bath, February 2007
- Winner UK Inter-County Cross Country Championships, Nottingham, February 2007
- Winner English National Cross Country Championships, Sunderland, March 2007



Other Notable Achievements:

Simon Mantell (Hockey) scored one of Reading's goals in their 2-1 win over Cannock HC in the National League. This win resulted in Reading snatching the title from Cannock in the final game of the season.

Olivia Kenny (Cross Country) was the UK's 4th finisher in the junior race at the World Cross Country Championships in Mombassa. The GB&NI team finished 5th. Olivia also finished runner up in the BUSA

Rebecca Roberts-Gawen (Lacrosse) received Joint Player of the Final Award at the recent BUSA Lacrosse Final. Birmingham put on a brave battle but eventually lost 7-5 to Edinburgh.

Hannah England (Athletics) won the 1500m at the BUSA indoor Championships in a new Championship Best Performance. She also easily won the 'On Camp with Kelly' 1500m held in conjunction with the European Indoor Championships.



- Hannah Cheneour-Cooking (Fencing) made it to the knock out stages in her first A-Grade International event.
- Carrie Hastings & Steven London (Squash) received Player of the Finals awards as Birmingham retained their BUSA Men's and Women's titles.
- Alice Briggs (Lacrosse) made a return from injury to help Birmingham to runner-up spot in the BUSA Championship.

- David Kettle, Simon Mantell, Andy Gooderham, Charlotte Bullock and Emma Griffiths (Hockey) were in the BUSA runner-up sides.
- Louise Hazel (Athletics) won two medals at the BUSA Indoor Championships including a personal best in the 60m Hurdles.
- Stacie-Jo Wellsbury (Triathlon) won individual bronze and team silver at the BUSA Modern Biathlon Championships.

USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month April 2007



Performance of the Month:

Hannah England (Athletics) wins the April Award following her outstanding performance at the Penn Relays in the US.

Hannah ran 2:03.9 for her leg in the University of Birmingham 4x800m team that finished 4th. Her time was considerably faster than her personal best of 2:05.25 set last season. Hannah also ran 4:37.3 for 1600m in the distance medley relay that finished 5th, a time which was 10 seconds faster than her personal best for the mile.

Hannah has been consistently impressive all winter and her continued ability to perform in a pressured environment makes her one to look out for in 2007 and beyond.



Other Notable Achievements:

Edward Parker (Golf) finished 7th when representing the R&A team at the Peru Amateur. He was also part of the BUSA select team which defeated Durham Counties 10-8.

David Kettle (Hockey) played for Cannock HC at European Clubs competition where they finished 2nd. (David's trip was part funded by a USB Scholarships Supplementary Performance Grant).

Stephen Jones (Basketball) played for BUSA English Universities team at home nations tournament in Edinburgh. England finished 2nd Steve scored 14 points over the two games.

Lucinda Davies (Golf) improved her handicap to 4, shooting 1 under par in the BUSA Northern Regional Tournament in which she finished 2nd.



- Ben Stawski (Badminton) is one of the non-university TASS scholars that we host. He finished 2nd in an U17 Six Nations Tournament in the Netherlands.
- Joel Hinds and Leonie Holt (Squash) were part of the University of Birmingham team which played in the knock-out stages of the National Premier League for the first time.

- Frank Tickner (Athletics) ran the 2nd fastest short leg at National 12 Stage Road Relay Championships.
- Simon Mantell, Stuart Pilgrim, Andy Gooderham and David Kettle (Hockey) are currently playing for GB recognition at the British Super League

USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month May 2007



Performance of the Month:

Despite the exams, May has been a busy month for our scholars and Kat Merchant (Rugby) is a worthy winner of the May award. She was a member of the England A team which won the European Championships. They beat France A 27-17 in the final. Kat made up for the disappointment of not been selected for the 6 Nations side and played the whole of the final.

The England Results:

Saturday April 28th England A v Russia, WON 62-0

Monday April 30th England A v Italy, WON 41-11

Wednesday May 2nd, England A v Spain, DRAW 22-22

Saturday May 5th, Final England A v France A, WON 22-17

Kat has been an incredible inspiration to those around her in her perseverance to recover from two serious career-threatening injuries.



Other Notable Achievements:



Tessa Hill (Orienteering) was selected to represent GB at the World Junior Championships to be held in Australia in July. She has also been selected to compete for GB at a senior World Cup event.

- Jeremy Odametey won silver in the triple jump at the BUSA Athletics Championships. Ben Tickner just missed out with 4th in the 1500m. Charlotte Moore (1500m) and Michael Walker (Pole Vault) both finished 6th
- Simon Richards 14th, Abbey Norman 9th, Stacie-Jo Wellsbury finished 14th, 9th and 11th respectively at the BUSA Triathlon Championships. The team finished 5th.
- Graham Glen, Nathan O'Reilly (both silver lightweight 4), Catherine Jackson (silver lightweight 4+; bronze lightweight pair) and Amanda Larcombe (silver junior pair) picked up medals at the BUSA rowing regatta. Helen Wood was also in a team which has been selected for EUSA.
- Simon Mantell and Andy Gooderham (Hockey) were in the Wessex Leopards team which won the British Hockey Superleague. David Kettle and Stuart Pilgrim also played for their region in the League. Simon Mantell was also a member of the Reading team which finished in 4th place in the Eurohockey European Club Championship.
- John Pepper finished 2nd in the Steeplechase at the UK Intercounties; Julian Thomas ran a seasons best in the heats of the 200m.
- Stuart Pilgrim and Andy Gooderham (Hockey) played for the England A team that beat Reading 6-0 on May 12th. It was Stuart's debut game for the side.
- Olivia Kenny (Athletics) ran a new personal best of 9:34.81 in the 3000m when competing for the GB Under 20 team at the Loughborough.
- Elizabeth (Beth) Smith (one of the external TASS scholars supported through us) finished 1st out of the 40 juniors trailing at the recent British Synchronized Swimming Trials. Beth was also 7th in senior trials. She will compete at the European Junior Championships in June.



Hannah England (Athletics) finished 3rd in the 800m when representing England at the Loughborough international. Her time of 2:03.92 was a new personal best. She also finished 2nd in the BUSA T&F Championships and the UK Intercounties (both 1500m).

USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month June 2007



Performance of the Month:

June was a huge month for our athletics scholars, with personal bests, championship medals, awards and international selections galore. Louise Hazel (Heptathlon) is the winner of the June award following a close contest with her athletics team-mates.

Louise finished 6th at the Combined Events International in Arles, France with 5684 points. Louise's performance included a lifetime best of 40.31 meters in the javelin. She was subsequently selected for the GB & NI team to compete at the European Multi-events SuperLeague, and at the European Under 23 Championships later this summer.

Louise is currently ranked number 3 in the UK.



Other Notable Achievements:

June was yet another good month for Hannah England (Athletics) who ran a personal best of 4:12.44 for 1500m; won the English U23 Championships over that distance and was selected for the GB&NI European U23 team.

Jeremy Odamety (Athletics) won the triple jump at the English U20 Championships by a huge margin. His winning jump of 15.01 meters was a seasons best and left him 26cm clear of the opposition.

Simon Richards (Triathlon) had a big month in June. As well as finishing his medical degree, he competed in his first Elite Triathlon, finishing 21st in the Elite sprint race at Blenheim

Frank Tickner (Athletics) ran 8:31.40 for the 3,000m steeplechase in Prague improving his personal best by 15 seconds. He also earned his first senior GB track vest when he ran the 5,000m at the European Cup.



- Simon Mantell (Hockey) and Frank Tickner were joint winners of the AU Sports Personality of the Year. Hannah England finished runner up.
- Frank won the Sports Man on a National Stage Award at the BUSA dinner while the University Squash team (including Joel Hinds, Steve London, Leonie Holt and Carrie Hastings) picked up the Team of the Year Award at the same event.

- Tessa Hill (Orienteering) competed for Great Britain at a senior World Cup event in Norway.
- Jon Pepper (Athletics) got June off to a flying start with personal bests over 5,000m (14:43.50) and the 3,000m Steeplechase (9:03.76).
- There were Ivy league Athletics wins for Sarah Waldrom (1500m) and Grant Baker (400m). Grant won the Senior Midland Counties title, also over 400m.

USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month July 2007



Performance of the Month:



July was by far the most difficult month to decide and so joint winners have been chosen for the July award.

Tessa Hill exceeded all expectations at the World Junior Orienteering Championships in Australia where she finished 26th in the Long race, 28th in the middle race and anchored the relay team to 13th place overall. She was the fastest Briton in all three events.

Simon Richards won his first National Triathlon Championship with victory in the 20-24 age category in Wakefield. Simon has been selected to compete at the World Age-group Championships in Hamburg.



Other Notable Achievements:

Hannah England (Athletics) finished 5th in the 1500m at the European U23 Championships. She also just missed out on a medal at the UK Champs and World Trials in Manchester where she finished 4th.

Carrie Hastings (Squash) has had a busy month. She won the Jamaican Open and finished runner up in both the Barbados Open and the St. Lucia Open.

Frank Tickner (Athletics) was selected for the World University Games in Bangkok. The UK no 3 will be UofB only representative at this event due to be held between 8th and 18th August

Lucinda Davies (Golf) won silver at the BUSA strokeplay, has improved her handicap to 3 and has been selected for the England team to play at the BUSA international in St Andrews in September



- Amanda Larcombe (Rowing) finished 4th in the U23 single skull at the Scottish National Championships.
- Edward Parker (Golf) has been selected to compete for England at the BUSA Home Internationals in St. Andrews in September
- Olivia Kenney (Athletics) finished 13th in the 3000m at the European Junior Championships in Henglo.
- Stacie-Jo Wellsbury (Triathlon) was 5th in the 20-24 category at the British National Standard Distance Triathlon in Wakefield and has qualified for the World Age-Group Championships in Hamburg.

- Lucy Mayho (Athletics) improved her 3000m PB by 48 seconds.
- Louise Hazel (Athletics) finished 17th in the Heptathlon at the European U23 Championships in Debracan.
- Michael Walker finished 2nd in the pole vault at the Welsh Championships while John Pepper (3000m SC) and Julian Thomas (200m) finished 6th and 7th respectively at the UK Championships.
- Julian Thomas (Athletics) won the 200m and Grant Baker (Athletics) finished 2nd in the 400m at the Senior Inter-Area Match
- James Greswell and Nathan O'Reilly (Rowing) cycled 1000km in 4 days from France to Barcelona!

USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month August –September 2007



Performance of the Month:

As the season drew to a close in a number of the summer sports, August and September were quite months in general and thus a combined July-August Award was decided. That said, September was anything but a quiet month for Triathlete Abbey Norman.

Abbey romped to 2nd place in the 18/19 year age category at the World-age Group Triathlon Championships in Germany. Abbey had won gold at the European Junior Age Group Championships in Copenhagen in July.

Other Notable Achievements:

Nathan O'Reilly, Graham Glen and Helen Wood were part of the two Birmingham teams which won medals at the European University Rowing Championships. The Men won bronze in the lightweight 4 for the second successive year, while the women's Coxless 4 won silver at their first attempt.

Frank Tickner (Athletics) was Birmingham's sole representative at the World University Games in Bangkok. He competed in the 3000m Steeplechase

Lucinda Davies (Golf) was part of the England University Ladies Team which won the Home Internationals at St. Andrews in September



- Edward Parker (Golf) was part of the English Universities Team which finished second to Scotland at the Home Internationals at St. Andrews
- Louise Hazel (Athletics) finished 2nd at an U23 International combined events competition in France
- Hannah England (Athletics) won the On Camp with Kelly 800m at the London Grand Prix
- Stacie-Jo Wellsbury & Simon Richards (Triathlon) competed at the World Age-Group Championships in Hamburg, Germany

USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month October 2007



Performance of the Month:

Tessa Hill (Orienteering) wins the first award of the new academic year following her defence of the Senior Home Internationals Individual title. Tessa was also part of the English team which were joint winners of the relay race at the same event.

To crown what has been a fantastic season for Tessa, she was named most improved Junior by British Orienteering.

Tessa is working hard on her running this season, and finished 91st in the senior women's race at the Birmingham Cross Challenge event at the end of the month.



Other Notable Achievements:

As the Cross Country season kicked into action, Birmingham athletes were to the fore. Non Stanford, Lucy Mayho, Sara Treacy and Olivia Kenney helped University of Birmingham teams to 1st and 2nd place at the Manchester Relays. Sarah Waldron was a run away winner of the Junior Women's race at the Birmingham Cross Challenge where she was followed home by Sara Treacy. Sam Perkins was first junior home in the Men's race.

October was also a big month for our lacrosse girls. Laura Merrifield and Alice Briggs were part of the England team which toured the US and played games against a number of Collegiate teams, as well as national sides from American and Canada. Injured scholar Rebecca Roberts-Gawen travelled with the team as tactical coach and video analyst.



USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month November 2007



Performance of the Month:

After a few quite months, things kicked into action with 4 BUSA medals for UofB Scholars and numerous other outstanding performances.

In a close run contest, Nikki Bartlett (Rowing) wins the November award. Nikki finished 2nd in the BUSA light-weight section at the National Indoor Rowing Championships. BUSA was a member of the University of Birmingham team which won EUSA silver earlier in the year.



Other Notable Achievements:

Sara Treacy (Athletics) has been selected for the Irish Team for the European Junior Cross Country Championships following her 4th place finish at the Irish Intercounty Championships.

After a successful summer on the International scene Abbey Norman (Triathlon) won a silver medal in BUSA Duathlon Championships.

Lucy Williams (Golf) was joint winner of the BUSA South Eastern Regional Qualifiers. Lucy has also been playing a crucial part in the first teams performance in the BUSA league.

Elena Johnson (Badminton) picked up two bronze medals at the BUSA Individual finals. She paired up with Kate Lester in the Women's doubles and with Ivor Griffiths in the mixed doubles.

Andrew Smedley (Golf) finished joint 2nd at the BUSA South Eastern Regional Qualifiers. Like Lucy, Andrew has been a crucial part of the 1st team which are currently top of the Northern Premier League.



- Sarah Waldron (Athletics) finished 6th at the GB trials for the European Cross Country Trials, and just missed out on selection for the team.
- Christopher Smith (Athletics) ran a personal best 1:19.45 for 600m at an open indoor meet in Sheffield. This is the second fastest ever indoors by a GB junior.
- Craig Gundersen (Athletics) won a bronze medal with Liverpool at the National Cross Country Relays in Mansfield.

- Tom Langford (Boxing) won his bout when competing for the Midland Counties against the North West Counties in an interregional competition.

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USB Sport Scholarship Performance of the Month December 2007



Performance of the Month:

A successful 2007 for Birmingham's scholars was rounded off nicely with some individual BUSA medals. After some tough consideration, Helen Holloway (fencing) was deemed the winner of December title.

Helen won the BUSA title in her specialist weapon (Epée) this month, beating team-mate Eryn Spinlove in the final. The championship was a very successful one for Birmingham, and they finished top of the medal table.



Other Notable Achievements:



Fresher Tom Langford (Boxing) competed with distinction in his first competition for the University. Not only did Tom win gold in his category (light-welter weight) at the English University Championships, but he also won the overall award for the best pound-for-pound fighter at the event. Tom will now go forward to represent Birmingham at the British University Games in March.

Sara Treacy (Athletics) finished 34th in the junior race at the European Cross Country Championships. She was 3rd counter for the Irish Team which finished 5th. Sara has subsequently been selected to compete for Ireland in the Junior race at the Celtic Cross Country Championships to be held in Edinburgh in January.



- Birmingham men's and women's squash teams were easy winners of their BUSA premier league stage 2 groups. The men's didn't drop a match all weekend winning 5-0 against Manchester, Loughborough and Nottingham. The women's team were also easy winners over Nottingham, Bath and Leeds. Scholars Joel Hinds, Steven London, Alistair Mutch, Carrie Hastings, and Leonie Holt all played their part in a successful weekend.