

1st Tennis Report

Tennis at Boys High has grown both in popularity and success and is now becoming one of the more recognised sports at the school, and 2006 was no exception. With over seventy boys playing social and league every day our success was determined by the hours of dedication put in by the boys. Although tennis is not as widely recognised as rugby and hockey, we produce results which would make anyone proud.

During the year, not only did we beat Affies (our main rivals) three times, but also managed victories against KES, St Stithians and Waterkloof.

Our new year began with a well fought win over the Old Boys who had the likes of Paul Newman beaten by Peter Jacobs and the Snyder brothers who looked out of sorts against Ryan. It was also great to see Tucker return to Boys High and add depth to our squad.

Although we took down a relatively young and inexperienced team we continued our good form, remaining unbeaten against Maritzburg College and Grey Bloemfontein. One of the highlights of the season was being invited to the Cape to play in the Paul Roos Festival where the final day was competed over five sets. As none of us had played a five-setter before, we were all brimming with excitement. Being pitted against the hosts in the round-robin draw we knew it would be extremely tough playing at the low altitude where the balls move much slower and the wind is a factor. Although losing to the hosts Paul Roos dampened our spirits somewhat, we still qualified for the knockout rounds by beating Paarl Gym and Bishops. Meeting our neighbours Affies in the semi finals is never a dull occasion and even Peter showed a little bit of emotion (no one

was more pleased than Gerald). Henri decided to knuckle down and play and Ryan thought it was a jolly good time to swop Afrikaans jokes with our rival school. Winning the derby, although it was in Cape Town, meant a lot to the boys and of course gave us the dream of playing a final of five sets against Paul Roos. No matter who one is, five sets can be an exhausting affair, where one point can last five minutes. Tucker showed his determination by taking it all the way in a gripping 4 hr 29 min.

Grey festival in Port Elizabeth followed and we not only won the tournament but did so without losing a single match on the way (Bishops 9-0, Grey PE 9-0, Affies 6-0, Grey Bloem 6-0). Our only real threat was Greg and Henri's 'competitions' throughout the night and the occasional broken ankle at a game of soccer. Otherwise we thoroughly dominated the festival whilst our hockey and rugby sides struggled to equal our results.

We also added the return leg of both Maritzburg and KES into our win column thus building up to our main event C the Wayne Ferreira Festival, an event where the top schools in the country battle it out on the tennis court to decide the best in the country. In order for Boys High to qualify we needed to beat our old foes Waterkloof. I think all of us will remember the atmosphere going into the match knowing we needed to win. With the guys playing at a very high level where a point here there could determine the match, emotions were running high in the local derby. Boys High went into the doubles with a commanding 4-2 lead needing just one doubles to win the match. Things took a turn for the worse when all three doubles pairs were on the receiving end of a spirited fight from the home side.

1st Team tennis



Front Row L-R: T Vorster, P Jacobs, S Havemann (Captain), R Viljoen, G Taylor. Back Row L-R: Mr G Stoffberg (Coach), H Snyders, R Higgs, S Brookes, M Sauer, Mrs E Müller (Manager).



At Grey PE – winning without dropping a match. Greg Taylor, Tucker Vorster, Peter Jacobs, Henri Snyders, Scott Havemann, Ryan Viljoen



Yet after sidestepping match-points-down our first and third double combinations managed to pull the all-important win.

Once we were over the first hurdle we were brimming with confidence. We beat St Stithians and Kearsney but lost to Paul Roos in the round robin. Our good form allowed us to qualify for the semi-finals where we were narrowly edged out by Clapham (4-5) in another gripping match. With the final day being rained out we settled for joint 3rd-4th place with Waterkloof.

We finished the year with only four team losses so I can honestly say we can hold our heads up high and be proud of our achievements. Not only did we clinch the Johannesburg League title with wins over rivals, Affies and Saints, we gave our all at every single event and festival.

For the first time we hosted the only, and therefore

the biggest, U15 festival in South Africa (with twelve top schools competing), and by all accounts it was fantastic event.

On behalf of the team we would all like to thank Mrs Muller, Mr McEvoy and Mr van Reenen for all their help in the organising and running of the team, and for the successful Junior Festival. A thank you must also be given to Mrs Higgs for her continued help in the tuckshop and Mrs Taylor and the Old Boys Association for their fundraising.

A really big thank you is due to Gerald Stoffberg, our coach, who throughout the years has shown his dedication to not only the School but to everyone of us who plays tennis. Thank you to the boys who put the time and effort into making our tennis what it is today.

Good luck to Tucker and the boys for next year!
Scott Havemann, Captain

U15 National Junior Tennis Festival

From 10-15 August 2006, twelve top schools from around South Africa competed in the annual under 15 National Junior Festival hosted for the first time at PBHS. The matches were played at five different venues around Pretoria.

The participating schools were divided into two round-robin groups, after which play-offs took place. The winner of the tournament was Affies with Paarl Boys High second. Pretoria Boys High did well in coming fifth out of twelve schools.

The following people need to be thanked for their various roles in making this tournament such a success: Mr Leon van Reenen who organised the transporting of the players to the different venues; Mr Kai McEvoy who was the official photographer

and produced a beautiful collage for each team; Mr Greg Hassenkamp and Mr Mark Southwood for hosting the players in their respective hostels; Matron Gray who was responsible for the housekeeping in the boarding houses; Mrs Jeni Wallace for providing super meals for the boys; Mrs Elaine Muller for organising the formal dinner and lastly, a big thank you to our coach, Gerald Stoffberg, for a most enjoyable and professionally organised tournament.

Thanks to the following sponsors for their contributions: Prince, Newlands Spar, Jill Green, Maureen at School Food Marketing.

Jarryd Sauer



Marc Sauer - determined to hit the middle of the racket



*U/15 National Junior Festival tennis team
Front Row L-R: P Ngwenze, J Sauer, A Jekel
Back Row L-R: M Morolo, W le Roux, G Stoffberg (couch),
T Edwards, A Crouse*



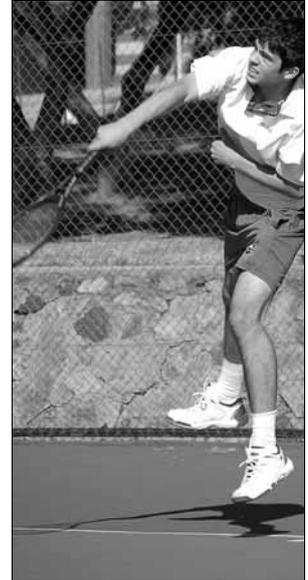
Shaun Brookes – top spin



Shaun Brookes – reaching for the stars!



Glen Guthrie – dealing with a backhand.



Glen Guthrie – drilling a 1st serve



Old Boys Day 2006



Walter Kotze – it takes effort to drill this forehand



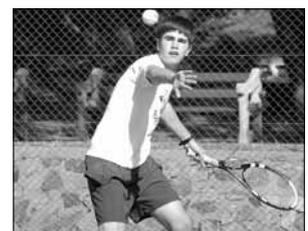
Sachin Ramjee – perfect balance



Marc Sauer – covering the wide forehand



Andreas Rademeyer - down low for a volley



Murray Lynch – keeping his eye on the ball