

4th Rugby Team

2008 was an interesting year for the 4th XV. The team initially picked bore very little resemblance to the one that played the final game in Bloemfontein. Injuries and promotions disrupted the progress of the team somewhat, but then that is part and parcel of coaching at this level. What did remain constant was the passion and commitment of the boys selected. To me this reveals the true strength of our school, that loyalty to and belief in Boys High reigns supreme.

The 4th XV played some very good rugby this year. It must be said, however, that on occasion the boys could lose focus for periods of time. This cost them the occasional try and, once, a game that they should have won.

A rugby season is a journey and it was a real pleasure to watch these young men develop and grow. Bonds were formed between the players and a healthy pride developed within the team. Hopefully the lesson that hard work + team work = success, was learned.

The team was initially captained by Daniel Pallikarides and then Xander McKillop. Both did a fine job and were contributing factors to the team's success. I must also thank Marius Viljoen

who coached the forwards and had a very positive influence on the team as a whole. I would also like to thank the parents who hosted and supported during the season.

Player of the season: Scott Sharman
Most improved player: Brandon Smith

Results:

vs	KES	W22-10
vs	Maritzburg College	W26-12
vs	Jeppe	W41-0
vs	St Benedict's	W19-14
vs	Parktown	W15-6
vs	KES	W48-7
vs	Waterkloof	W30-0
vs	St Albans 3 rd	W14-6
vs	AHS	L0-13
vs	Maritzburg College	L5-6
vs	Grey Bloemfontein	L5-50
Played 11	Won 8	Lost 3

Craig McBride
 Coach

5th Rugby Team

A season of highs and lows. The 5th XV played some superb rugby and scored some breathtaking tries. This was balanced by some disappointing performances (18 all draw with Maritzburg College, 3-12 loss to Affies). It must be said, however, that the boys in this team had a real hunger for rugby and gloried in the competitive nature of the sport.

A large number of the 5th XV players went on to represent higher sides which is pleasing. I particularly enjoyed the never say die attitude shown by the players. This was never more evident than in the final game against Grey College. We were soundly beaten by a very talented (and large!) Grey side but none of the boys gave an inch. They gave their all until the final whistle and a coach can't ask for more.

The team was ably captained by Shaylin Bhana with Kevin Barnard usually running the backline. My thanks go to my co-coach, Marius Viljoen and to the parents who hosted and supported. Finally, my thanks to the boys. You made this an enjoyable season and it was a pleasure to coach you.

Player of the season: Kevin Barnard
Most improved player: Callum Healy

Results:

vs	KES	W32-0	
vs	Maritzburg College	L19-33	
vs	Jeppe	W24-0	
vs	Springs 2 nd	W22-0	
vs	Parktown	W50-0	
vs	KES	W17-3	
vs	Waterkloof	W49-0	
vs	AHS	L3-12	
vs	Maritzburg College	D18-18	
vs	Grey College	L7-43	
Played 10	Won 6	Drew 1	Lost 3

Craig McBride
 Coach



6th and 7th Rugby Team

In retrospect both the 6th and 7th team seasons can be seen as successful. Both teams lost only two games. The 6th team lost to Grey College by 12–24 and the 7th team lost to Affies 5–12. However, they still produced some of the best rugby we played all season. The two games were definite highlights and were evidence of the great camaraderie shared by the boys. The team spirit and great attitude of the squad was what stood out. As a result of losing close to thirty players to higher teams and injuries, settling into a pattern was extremely difficult, yet the boys lifted their performances and overcame this barrier to achieve the best win rates in the entire school. Special mention must go to the matric boys who, in their final season of school rugby, were an inspiration to the rest.

Thanks to my co-coach and friend, Callan Woodcock, for his dedication and hard work. My thanks also go to all the boys who represented the 6th and 7th teams and to Mr Loupos for his management. Always remember the friends made and the games played for your beloved school. May they stay in your memories forever.

S van Niekerk
Coach

9th and 10th Rugby Teams

The ninth and tenth teams of 2008 have embodied the true values and beliefs that have made Pretoria Boys High stand the test of time. The players were continuously

committed to practices even though they played only a few games, and were always prepared to do anything that was asked of them whether it was on or off the field. In the games they played, they portrayed a fire and passion for the game that one likes to see in rugby teams. Their best game was against Affies when they were trailing 5–7 at half-time. The men who played for the 9ths and 10ths were quality players and it was an honour to work with them. I have no doubt that most, if not all, will become quality individuals. Some may take longer to get there than others, but be that as it may!

I wish them all the best in their futures and thank them for the great season.

Wesley Koekemoer
Coach

8th Team

Grey College 20 – PBHS 6! To some people this means a loss to Grey. For me, this was a win! The last game of the season set the tone for the boys whom we had the privilege to coach this year. The team was characterised by three main aspects: courage, determination and a pure love for the game. Not once did the boys ever give up throughout any game during the year. Week after week, players would go up or come down and a lot of the time we played with an unsettled team, but the boys still lived up to their task. The Grey game was played with reserves from the 9th team, on a day where cricket scores prevailed and these reserves managed to produce a credible result, thanks again to courage and determination. It has been an honour and a privilege to coach these boys.

Special mention must go to Jared Walters, Mike Beard and Michael “Kook’s”. Thank you also to Mr Tucker who was always sound in his organisation and Chase Anderson who coached the backline. Well done guys on a season to be proud of.

Matthew Nesbitt
Coach



Jason Williams fights to maintain possession against KES.



Big jump against St Johns.

U16A Rugby

The 2008 season looked promising as we had a talented side but looks proved to be deceptive. Of the nine games we lost, six were lost by seven points or less and all of these could and should have been won. This would have made the season a much more satisfying one with regard to results.

During the Easter holidays the side participated in the Skonk Nicholson Rugby Festival at Maritzburg College. This was a superb opportunity for some pre-season team building and for us to work on our structures and combinations for the long season ahead. All 22 players in the squad got plenty of game time and it was clear that there was a huge amount of talent within the squad. I would like to thank Maritzburg College on a superbly organized festival. Hopefully we can continue to participate in this festival as it was extremely well-run and served as ideal pre-season preparation against some tough competition.

We had some extreme pace in the backs and of the 42 tries scored during the season, 37 were scored by the backs. The backs should have scored many more tries, however, basic handling errors and wrong decision making often let us down at crucial times during games. The return fixture against

King Edward VII is a prime example of this. Boys High had up to 70 percent possession and territorial advantage but unforced errors and basic finishing somehow saw us losing 0-7. The boys will, however, improve and develop if they are prepared to work hard at their respective games.

We seemed to battle in the lineouts for some reason, which lead to a breakdown in play and often resulted in turnover ball from great attacking positions. What went well at practice often seemed to fly out the window when game time arrived and we often over complicated things when just the basics were needed. Confusion ensued and the players seemed to lose focus when the situation demanded most it.

There were some seriously talented individuals in the side, who, with the required dedication and work ethic, can go far in rugby and I am looking forward to watching their progress.

It was a pleasure coaching this great bunch of guys and it was a thoroughly enjoyable season. Thank you to all parents and supporters for their patience and support throughout the season, it is greatly appreciated.

Player Profiles

Tendai Matunhire (L/H Prop) Blue Bulls U16B

The "Beast" scrummed extremely well during the season and never took a back step against any opposition. Special mention must go to his demolishing of the huge Maritzburg College and Natal U16 tight head prop, whom he taught a lesson in both encounters. He has great skills but needs to become more involved in the tight/loose aspects in order to show more of his strength, pace and power.

Jason Fourie (Hooker)

Jason was superb on the ground and had great body position which meant he stole much opposition ball at ruck time. He covered a lot of ground and was a real fighter often making great cover tackles as a result of his high work rate.

Challen Krichel (T/H Prop)

Moving from hooker to tighthead prop was always going to be testing, Challen however acquitted himself well, often having to scrum down against huge opposition. He had a solid season and showed some real pace when he scored from about 20 metres against St Albans.

Krati Bogiages (T/H Prop)

Came into the side at various stages during the season and filled the void left by injuries superbly. Solid scrummager who needs to work more on the ball in open play.

Schalk de Waal (Lock) (Captain)

Always led from the front and was solid jumping at 2

in the lineout. Enjoyed the physical stuff and played his best games against the top sides we encountered. Schalk has a great attitude towards his training and always gives of his best.

I will fondly remember the satisfaction of our win against Ermelo that both Schalk and his Dad enjoyed immensely!

Warrick Zimmer (Lock)

A very good lifter at the back of the lineout who has all the physical attributes to impose himself on the opposition and make a physical impact during games. Warrick has the ability to play super rugby but needs to focus on the game at hand and not lose focus when the situation demands it.

Jonathan Holtzhausen (Lock)

Loved the physical stuff and made some huge hits during the season. Had a superb game against HTS John Vorster which led to his invitation to the Blue Bulls U16 final trials. Unfortunately he broke his ankle which ended his season prematurely.

Neil Barnard (Flank)

'Bernie' was our silent assassin B a man of few words who just got on with the job at hand. A quick, strong and physical loose forward who I really enjoyed watching 'clean out' at ruck time and carrying the ball. Unfortunate not to have been selected for any of the Blue Bulls U16 sides.

Neels Mboya (Flank)

Another young man who was in and out of the side



during the season.

Neels worked well towards the ball and forced numerous turnovers and really got into the opposition's faces. He was another good option for line outs, especially on the 'lob ball'.

Sven Applegryn (8th man)

Good skills and an 'interesting' side step. Covered the paddock well but needs to play a bit more towards the ball. Sven was simply superb when jumping at the back of the lineout which gave us a great platform to attack from.

Cobus van der Merwe (Scrum half)

Excellent rugby brain and good skills. Cobus made some decisive breaks throughout the season especially in the game against Maritzburg College on Goldstones. Often got frustrated with the forwards not giving him clean ball, yet still managed to get good clean ball to the backs. He will need to become more vocal in his half back role.

Mitchell Harris (Flyhalf)

Had an absolutely cracking game against Ermelo on Goldstones during the Skonk Nicholson Rugby Festival which included 3 conversions and a drop kick B it was only after the game that we realised that he had played the entire game with a broken hand. This says much about this young man and you will not find many players more dedicated to his mates, team and school. Mitch has a great pass and a deceptive 'dummy' but needs to become a lot more vocal in the flyhalf pivot and work harder defensively and on his kicking game. A player with much potential.

Wonder Machete (Centre) Blue Bulls U16A

Hardworking and dedicated young man. Has great feet and the try scored by Richmond against Maritzburg College on Goldstones was due to Wonder's excellent stepping and well-timed pass. He needs to work on his pace in order to improve as a centre.

Dwayne Liebenberg (Centre)

Unfortunately broke his arm during practice early in the season which meant he was out for 6 weeks. Extremely strong defensively but, like Wonder, needs to do some speed work for the new season.

Michael Light (Centre)

Had a solid season which included a superb try against Jeppe. Mike has serious pace (so gave us an option at both centre and wing) and does not shy away from the contact situation. Needs to work on his passing to the 'left' in order to improve his game. Mike and Wonder worked together well as a centre combination.

Ezekiel Segole (Wing) Blue Bulls U16A

Serious pace out wide. Ezekiel did not see as much ball as he had hoped but when he got ball he made the most of his opportunities and scored some great tries. Loves the contact situation but needs to learn to try and beat his opposition on the outside more often. We worked extremely hard with Ezekiel and

Richmond on their catching of up and unders and the chip and chase. It was absolutely phenomenal to see the two of them combine using these skills after many hours of hard work to score an absolutely awesome try against Affies. He, however, needs to work really hard on his handling skills to improve his all round ability.

Richmond Collins (Wing) Blue Bulls U18 Craven Week Big, strong and seriously fast (10.55 for 100m). Richmond scored 21 of the side's 42 tries, some of which were out of this world and his 2 tries against Waterkloof were magnificent. He improved tremendously with regard to catching the high ball and his communication improved throughout the season. Richmond, however, needs to be pushed in order to get results and I believe he needs to develop a much better work ethic. We have only touched the tip of the iceberg with regard to unearthing the talent this young man possesses and will continue to work hard with him. His destiny, I believe, lies in his own hands and he must decide how much he really wants to be a top notch rugby player and then put in the hours to achieve this. His selection to the North XV at the completion of an excellent Craven Week was well deserved. I am looking forward to watching his progress in the next few years and I hope he works really hard at his game, because watching Richmond at full pace with ball in hand is something really special.

Ethan van der Walt (Fullback)

Ethan must know what Francois Steyn feels like as he played just about every position in the backline this season and I salute him for it. Great feet, superb skills and an awesome pass, Ethan, however, never really fulfilled his potential at the back. We will need to decide where we want to play him and then let him grow in that position. I am sure he still has nightmares about the pass he didn't make to Richmond against College, but we live and we learn and hopefully become better rugby players for it.

Shaun Tucker (Fullback)

Was always solid and dependable at the back and had a huge boot. Hopefully he will continue playing rugby in 2009. Other players who represented the U16A side were:

Heinrich Olmesdahl (Utility back)

Made a great impact on the games he played in or when he came in as a substitute. Scored a super try against Affies after coming on as a replacement.

Michael Elliot-Murray (Flank)

Came into the side late in the season and made a significant impact. I believe him moving to hooker will suit his style of play and give him more opportunities in U18 rugby in 2009.

Richard Köhne
Coach

**Results U16A**

KES	won	21-10
Pionier Hoërskool	lost	19-22
Kemptonpark Hoërskool	won	22-15
Ermelo Hoërskool	won	24-19
Maritzburg College	lost	12-17
Jeppe	won	17-14
HTS John Vorster	lost	17-20
St Benedicts	won	21-0
Parktown	won	50-6
Waterkloof	lost	14-25
KES	lost	0-7
Sffies	lost	19-34
St Sibans	won	17-7
RGS High Wycombe	lost	14-20
Maritzburg College	lost	10-14
Grey College	lost	0-83

Results U16B

			PF	PA	TF	TA
1	KES	W	33	0	5	0
2	Maritzburg	L	7	33	1	5
3	Jeppe	D	14	14	2	1
4	Springs A	W	48	7	8	1
5	Eldoraigne	W	21	5	3	1
6	Parktown	W	41	0	7	0
7	Waterkloof	L	0	5	0	1
8	KES	W	26	0	4	0
9	AHS	L	0	28	0	4
10	St Albans	W	41	0	7	0
11	Maritzburg	L	6	12	0	2
12	Grey Bloem	L	7	48	1	8
			6	244	152	38 23

U16B Rugby

Every year a different group of new boys arrives but with that undeniable Boys High spirit. This year was no different. It was encouraging to see the commitment and enthusiasm of all the boys who played in the U16B Rugby team, even if it was, sometimes, for only one match. The stats do not reflect the positive rugby played by the boys and sometimes it was only a final pass that was the difference between winning and losing. The two Maritzburg matches are testimony to the growth of the boys as a team. In the first one, under difficult circumstances, in hot, humid, midday Maritzburg, they defended to the death but still went down 7-33. The return match was not going to be easy as this Maritzburg side was the only one to beat Affies. A try for Maritzburg in the dying seconds ended one of the finest schoolboy rugby matches I have ever seen and, ultimately, the final score did not reflect the true spirit of the match.

Twenty-eight boys played for the B side during the season of which Heinrich Olmesdahl and the captain, Mitchell Wood, played every match. Mitchell Wood led from the front, always believing in the best possible outcome, no matter the score. Heinrich was the smallest player but had the heart of a tiger, never allowing himself to be intimidated. The core of the team who played seventy percent of the matches was Tyrone Dahlen, an unbelievably strong prop whose temper was always quick to flare but made him even more determined; Dupré

Nell made lineout work easy and won us a good few tight heads; Krati Bogiages, a prop with the step of a backline player, scored a great try against Parktown; Steven Anderson, the true work horse in the team ended his season with his finest match against Maritzburg; John Mouton was the most improved rugby player who teamed up well with Anderson; Michael Elliot-Murray was always keen to do his best, both at practice and in matches; Divan Ehlers became an outstanding scrumhalf with his incredible strength in a position that he was not used to and was able to bully opponents around the scrum; Matthew Currie was the general who commanded the game with ease and the team really missed him in the Jeppe game; Keenan Friday always stepped up to the plate when called upon to do so and Dumisani Lucas learned to catch a high ball and return it with hard fought interest. It always bodes well for a side when the team remains reasonably constant throughout the season.

I would like to thank all the other boys who played their part and were a part of this rollercoaster season. You contributed to a great time. No individual stood out with a large number of tries. The team scored thirty-eight tries with Heinrich Olmesdahl and Divan Ehlers both scoring four.

Andrew de Kock
Coach



Rugby

SPORT

U16C Rugby

As far as results go, this was a very successful season for the team. However, the two losses and one draw we conceded were unacceptable as this team had the raw talent and potential to be unbeaten. The two losses were against Affies (8-24) and Grey College (0-48). In both these games the boys were psychologically beaten before the game started! The draw we conceded was against Maritzburg College (at home) where the opposite occurred. Here we were totally over-confident, especially since winning down in Pietermaritzburg, and were 7-19 down. We fought back in the last five minutes to salvage a draw.

The highlight of the season was the rugby lesson

we gave Waterkloof. Here the Waterkloof boys were telling our boys how they were going to humiliate us and make our boys "cry to their mommies"! At 52-0 I think they got it wrong!

I really enjoyed coaching these boys this season and have no doubt many of them will end up playing in the First Team.

I would like to thank all who represented the U16C team this season and wish you well for the years to come.

L Randall
Coach



1. Jason Webber, Juan Jardim and Louis van Biljon.
2. Nii Mills attempts to beat the opposition against KES.
3. Donovan Marais.
4. PBHS 21 AHS 15.
5. George Kurz lays off the ball.

U16D Rugby

I had the privilege of coaching at Boys High for the second year running and discovered that I was going up to the next age group with the same group of boys from the previous year. I was truly excited. We could further enhance their skills and perfect some sort of game plan having known each other from the previous season. When all coaches and boys showed up to the trials we quickly got re-acquainted and then it was down to what we came to do, which was to pick the first round of teams. Being a student coach I had little input. The other coaches were impressed with how the boys had improved and I, obviously, took some of the credit. The boys all enjoyed the game of rugby and were very proud of playing for their school and this really showed during the remainder of the season.

I expected many of the boys from the previous season to arrive for our first practice but was surprised to see only five of them. The rest of the boys had moved up to higher teams, including a rather strong and speedy prop who was one of our top try-scorers in 2007.

Our 2008 season started by having to contend with lots of changes in the higher teams, but week after week the boys in the D team pulled together very nicely. I was most proud this season when we narrowly lost to Affies 10-12. The team played their hearts out and made some huge hits and beautiful runs with and off the ball. My proudest moment came when the Affies coach told me what a great side they were, and that we were very unlucky to lose in the last few minutes of the game. A small rule, like NOT kicking the ball at practices, went a long way to help keep our discipline on the field. There were five veterans in the team who formed the core of the team with their good play and leadership and they had a big influence on the rest of the team.

Dune van der Walt was our powerhouse tighthead prop. A pick and drive man in every aspect of his position.

Wayne Muller was the aggressor and utility forward who played every position but lock this season.

Wian Horn was the smallest member of our team but had the biggest heart. He was an unbelievable ball fetcher, an open side flank like a little terrier and the most improved player of all.

Vince Ramantsima had the pace, the flair and the skills all in one package. He matured in every way and was very strong in defence. He had another great season although not as many tries.

Greg McKenzie was the clown or Duracell bunny who became a confident fullback this season.

Max von Johannides was our very fit captain who could be the sixth veteran and was a regular in the C team.

Dylan Myron was a mobile and tiny loosehead whom we were able to convert into a hooker.

Simphiwe Bhebe was a hooker who wanted to be Dan Carter.

Bradley Bakker was a centre who converted to a tall, strong, fast lock and lineout man.

Adrian Botha was another conversion from fullback to flank and the perfect rugby player to have in any side. We often used him on the wing and where needed. He also played Cs.

Aaron Symondson took a little while to find his feet but loves running with the ball. A good lock but great flanker.

Anthony Smith or "Smithy" was our scrummy with an excellent pass who really started reading the game well. Remember Smithy, you are the voice in the team!

TJ Bryant was the E team scrumhalf and became our number 10 where he was better suited and also ended up in the C team.

Lyle Blanche also came from the Es through the Ds and ended up in the C team. A much under-rated player who has all the attributes needed and a very encouraging and positive attitude.

Mike Adamson was a strong, hard-hitting inside centre who enjoyed running with the ball. Remember to use two hands, Mike. He went from the Cs to the Ds then ended up in the Bs. Well done, Mike.

Thato (Potato) Matsaung – all the speed required for a team was found in one player. Don't be lazy 'Potato' – work hard on and off the field and use the speed you have been blessed with.

Other regular members through our constantly changing season were Josh du Preez, Dean Christian, Matthew Dulson and Duan Swart.

I would like to thank the team once again. It was a lot of fun and remember the three words to live by: DISCIPLINE, CONDITIONING and RESPECT. I hope they will help you in your last two years at the school.

Lastly, I must thank all the parents who attended the matches and offered their support, especially Mrs Muller for sponsoring our amazing team jerseys. Thanks also to Jan and Gene Horn for offering so much to the boys and for opening their lovely home to us to spend our team building night there. Jan always had a camera ready to take action shots of the team!

I would like to thank you for the privilege of being associated with these boys and their families, they became like my little brothers. Best of luck in your rugby futures.

Roanne Crouse
Coach



U16 E and F Rugby

As a whole, the season has been amazing for us coaches. Shaun Jacobs coached the forwards and I coached the backline. It is, however, difficult to say which was the best game of the season.

We started off with a bang in a 58–3 victory over Maritzburg College in an away game. The boys were full of energy and very focused on the task at hand. This pretty much describes the entire season.

The forwards were very dominating up front,

always winning lineouts and scrums and providing good ball for the backline. The backline had a combination of flair, speed and size which made them very enjoyable to watch.

Our thanks go to the entire team who proved to be fine, young men and also to all the parents for their support.

Rigard van Aardt

Shaun Jacobs

Coaches

U15A Rugby

The 2008 Rugby season started with a bang when the U15A squad had to attend their first fitness assessment in February. None of them realised that the shuttles that they were running during the Bleep Test that day, would become part of their daily routine for the next six months. I was impressed with the boys' attitudes and the way they started off the season and I knew that we were going to work well together. Mr Badenhorst (B-team coach) and I decided to coach and train the A/B squad of thirty players. The players in the A-team had to compete with players who were an immediate threat to their own position in the team which lifted their intensity during training sessions. The B-team players were lifted to a new level of rugby by running with the A-team boys and the improvement in their team spirit, intensity and skills was noticed almost immediately. Because we had very similar game plans, the squad system helped us tremendously when we had to move players from the B to the A team and vice versa. During our split sessions Mr Badenhorst worked with the forwards who were probably our main weapon this season. With Mr Badenhorst's help they became a very formidable unit that scared many an opponent who had to scrum against them, compete in the lineouts against them or, worse, stop one of their fearsome drives. I looked after the backline during those split sessions and the way the boys developed their passing skills and SAQ's (Speed, Agility and Quickness) was noticeable week after week. At the end of the season many of the bystanders, including our own forwards, had to admit that our backline had become a force to be reckoned with. What we lacked in pace we made up with skill and determination.

We started off the season like a house on fire, beating KES and Hugenote Springs without conceding a point. We played in the Francois Swart Rugby week at Affies during the Easter Holidays. The first match against Hugenote gave us a lot of confidence but we had to play the next two games against Monument and Eldoraigue, two of the strongest rugby schools in South Africa. We knew

that only our best would be good enough. We were 12 all at half-time against Monument, but the second half proved to be too long and too much for the boys to absorb and we subsequently lost that match. Most of the substitutes at the festival played in the last match against Eldoraigue and were found wanting. The Maritzburg College match was one that will be remembered for 34°C in the sun and no water breaks. A few injuries and a lapse of concentration five minutes before, and after, half-time cost us a game that was otherwise closely contested.

Our games against St. Benedicts, Jeppe, Parktown and St. Albans were relatively easy and the boys dominated their opposition. The return match against KES proved to be much tougher than the initial one in early March, but the boys managed to win while not playing their best rugby. The return fixture against Maritzburg College was a humdinger where we dominated initially and were leading 10–3 just after half-time, but we were bullied in the scrum and the boys allowed Maritzburg College to make a comeback and they finished us off with a drop goal at the end to beat us 20–10.

The two matches against Waterkloof and Affies made me realise that at U15 level, coaching and motivation can take you only that far and then you have to be able to match the opposition with pace and size, which we were lacking in a serious way against these two teams. Both these teams scored most of their tries by softening us up upfront and then by running around us to score a few tries. The boys played with plenty of passion and commitment but at the end of the day there is not much that can beat pace.

Traditionally, the last few weeks after the July holidays prove quite difficult to motivate the boys, to get them back to fitness and to convince them that the remaining three matches are just as important as the build up we had to the Affies match. For the first time, with this group of boys, we had no problems motivating the boys and they kept on improving on their skills and ability during the last few weeks. Grey College away (on buses for the first time ever to replace the train trips) was our last fixture of the

season. We were motivated and ready to cause an upset. Within the first 5 minutes we were 3–0 up and we had good reason to think we were in with a chance. Unfortunately we had to play 30 minutes a half compared to the 25 minutes a half that we are used to and they scored just before halftime. Rossouw de Waal scored a great individual try, which took the score to 18–10 with about 15 minutes remaining. Unfortunately we got no closer to a victory. The wall of resistance broke and they scored a few tries in the last 10 minutes to beat us 44–10.

This was a season where we saw so many individuals grow and develop into much better rugby players than what they were at the beginning of the season. This can mostly be attributed to the positive attitudes of the boys, the commitment at practices and their undoubted loyalty to each other and the team. These boys trained four times a week for 5 months without complaining once. This was also the first time ever that I had the captain, with some of the other players, asking me for cones (after we finished a practice with a few shuttles and fitness) so that they could do a few more shuttles to improve their individual fitness even more.

Thank you to Mr Badenhorst for all his support and valuable input and the way he worked with all the boys. It is noticeable that they respect him and the various contributions that he made at every practice. He has been a great coach and a supportive friend throughout the season. To the boys, thank you for your loyalty, support, commitment and the amazing team spirit you guys had throughout the season, whether we were winning or struggling at times. I look forward to next season where I will be following your rugby careers with keen interest. Good luck!

In conclusion, we as coaches of the junior teams must not forget the big picture of rugby at Boys High. We (and the boys) must remember that the hard work we are doing at junior level, developing passing skills, SAQ's, coaching them the basic option taking skills and the love and passion for the game of rugby, might not be visible immediately, but we

RUGBY U15B

The first thing one normally mentions when it comes to writing a sports report, is the result. In this case, results will do no justice to the never-say-die attitude of this group of young men. It was a privilege to watch the determination that the boys displayed in their practices as well as their matches. The job of the coach is made so much easier when he has a team of players setting the standard at practice and maintaining that standard throughout the season. The boys played ten matches but only

Opponents	Result	Points for	Points against
KES	Won 20–0	20	0
Hugenote	Won 32–0	32	0
Monument	Lost 19–38	19	38
Eldoraigue	Lost 8–27	8	27
Maritzburg away	Lost 7–22	7	22
St Benedicts	Won 17–0	17	0
Parktown	Won 51–0	51	0
Jeppe	Won 32–3	32	3
Waterkloof	Lost 3–52	3	52
KES	Won 10–5	10	5
Affies	Lost 0–44	0	44
St Albans	Won 22–5	22	5
Maritzburg home	Lost 10–20	10	20
Grey	Lost 10–44	10	44
	Total	241	260
Games played:	14		
Games won:	7 (50%)		
Games lost:	7 (50%)		

are helping to develop skills that are valuable to any player who arrives at first team level. We enjoyed every moment when the first team beat Affies and Maritzburg College, because those boys learned a lot of their rugby at junior level. To all the junior coaches, stay positive and thank you for all the hard work you put in once again this season. Your time and effort have not gone unnoticed and we do appreciate your contribution to the boys in creating a Boys High style of playing rugby.

M Smuts
Coach

won three. It must be mentioned that most of the losses were within a three point margin: results that could have gone either way.

I would like to thank the boys who played this season and wish them well in their future rugby careers. Keep on enjoying your rugby as much as you did this season. A final word of thanks to Brandon Roux for his dedication as captain.

M Badenhorst
Coach



U15C Rugby

In order to ensure a successful season, fitness, respect and commitment are vitally important. I was proud of and impressed by the U15C team who showed all these qualities and were prepared to work as a team.

Once again a major headache was players constantly leaving and joining the team. Trying to string two practice sessions together with the same fifteen players was almost impossible. We played a total of eleven games, winning five and losing six. We obtained wins against KES (away), Jeppe, St Benedicts U15B, Sutherland U15A and Parktown. Our losses were against KES (Home), Maritzburg

College (away and home), Affies, Waterkloof and Grey College.

I must thank all the boys for their commitment throughout the season. There are too many to mention individually. The team was guided by Chris Marais, a very keen captain who was always willing to learn and a group of players who supported him. The team was an absolute pleasure to coach and I wish you well in the future, both sporting and academic.

H Dorlas
Coach

U15E and F Rugby

The trademark of the U15E and F teams this year was their wholehearted commitment to the two teams and to practice. Both teams had a wealth of backline players but sadly not enough boys were willing to scrum down in the front row. Ryan Bosman must be commended for being willing to move between hooker and prop on a number of occasions. Theo Lombard led the E team by playing some excellent rugby at eighth man. The scrum was regularly changed around but was always held together by the stalwarts such as Donovan Broughton, Calvin Craig and Kern Leask. The backline stuck to simple passing down the line which proved to be effective. Lamont Peterson will always remember that he nearly did not play against Maritzburg College, but ended up scoring a hat-trick of tries. Peter Stegmann was a rock-steady centre who unfortunately ended up being one of the saddest casualties of the season when he had an arm broken against Grey College in the last minutes of the game. Carrick Sanders was the players' choice for tackler of the season: he was never scared to put his body on the line and he saved a number of certain tries against us.

Matches played by the U15Es which must be remembered are the "timeless" match against Maritzburg College in which we were victorious with a score of 14-12 and the return match at home which saw the team win by a healthy margin of 46-0. The team gelled on the day to produce a most memorable game of rugby. The team narrowly lost to Affies 15-20 in a match that showed their skill. Other results that the team enjoyed were the two wins over KES. It was evident after the season that a number of the players have a good future in store for them and will certainly find themselves in higher teams next year.

Played:	9
Won:	5
Lost:	4

The U15F team played with much spirit and a never-say-die attitude. They were well led by Michael McLaggan who was not averse to giving his all and more on the field. His passionate half-time talks were backed up by good positional play and 100% effort. Marek Boegman also had a chance to lead the team and did so by example on the flank. The best result of the season was the victory over Maritzburg College 45-15. KES were also convincingly beaten 24-0. All of the boys and reserves were extremely committed to the team and practices, and it made choosing a team a hard task at times. In the forwards, mention must be made of Le Roux Geldenhuys who ran hard and took the ball well up the field, gaining much advantage for the team. A player who went from strength to strength was Guy McFarlane who showed bursts of speed in the latter half of the season. Adam Nunn showed good hands in the full back position, Tyrone Marais showed the opposition a clean pair of heels when given half a chance while Donavon Terry somehow always managed to have the number thirteen in each of his lineout calls! Each player deserves a mention but space will not allow it, so in summary, it must be said that the U15F team was a pleasure to coach, and a number of these players will surely go on to greater heights in rugby.

Emile Godden
Coach
M Smith
Manager

U14A Rugby

Having been involved with the U14 section for the past five years, it is always exciting to watch all the U14 boys come out for the rugby trials. More than seventy percent of the boys who turn out for the trials have never played rugby before.

Trials took place during the second week in March and after four days we chose seven U14 teams and still had twelve boys who couldn't make a team. However, these boys were accommodated in the F and G teams as the season progressed.

I realised from the start that there were some very promising players to work with but, as usual, it would take a few games to work out the right combinations. This often means that boys chosen for the A team may find themselves dropped to the B team a few weeks later.

We started the season with our traditional fixture against KES and lost narrowly. This proved that, with a few months coaching, these boys could develop into a very good team. This year we accepted an invitation to attend the Maritzburg College festival where we won one of our matches, lost one and drew one against schools we have not previously encountered.

The season's results were not very good and we won only four out of thirteen games. The boys suffered heavy losses against the top rugby schools such as AHS, Grey College, Waterkloof and Maritzburg College. The team's best performance of the season was the return match against Maritzburg College where we went down by one point and almost upset a very strong College team.

The team will have to improve on the psychological side of their game. One has to ensure that one is ready for each game and the boys need to put into practice what they learn in training.

The boys who represented the team this year must be commended on their loyalty and fantastic team spirit. There were occasions when we as coaches had to give the boys a tongue-lashing, but what was said on the field stayed on the field and this strengthened the relationship between the boys and coaches. I believe this team will only improve and in a few years they will do the School proud.

The majority of the boys who played for the A team had never played rugby at primary school and as a result, a lot of hard work was necessary. One must remember that our opponents enrol boys who have had years of playing rugby at primary level and many offer rugby bursaries. Our team changed often due to injuries and lack of form but in the last few games the team settled down and started to

show their true potential.

Our forwards usually matched the opposition in the scrum, but the lineouts will need to improve at U15 level. Our front line changed as the year progressed and the following boys played in the front row: tighthead Thean Ras held the scrum together and was a strong scrummager who will need to work on his fitness and develop more aggression; at hooker we converted a flank, Kyle Ferreira, to fill in for Martyn de Jong who was injured. Kyle never gave up and must be one of the most improved players in the team; at loosehead Michael Downer played some fine rugby but will also need to improve his fitness levels and try to concentrate for longer periods during matches; other front row players were Willie Lloyd, Franco du Toit and Cedric Kabeya.

The scrum was locked by Dirk Schoeman, Ronald Olifant and William Scott. Dirk was our main source of lineout possession and he, too, will need to be more aggressive at U15 level and must concentrate for longer periods of time. Ronald did the cleaning at the rucks and mauls and still needs to grasp the basics of the game. William unfortunately broke his arm early in the season and only managed to play the last couple of games after his recovery. He has the right attitude to become a good player but must also learn to concentrate for longer periods and not be too hard on himself.

The team's loose forwards were always competitive and the following boys played in these positions: Matthew Schiff, Khuma Mampuru, Ngoako Ralepelle, Arnold van Wyk and, later, David Joubert, who all showed some good aggressive play against bigger boys. Arnold, Khuma and David had never played this position before and must be given credit for their performances. Matthew and Ngoako never stood back for anyone and won some good loose ball. Unfortunately, injuries also caused the loose forwards to never settle into a combination. Other players who played loose forward were Johannes Westerveld and Emil de Beer. Thank you for your contribution this year.

The backline had the ability to perform but, again, we lost players to injury.

The team had three good scrum halves during the season. Michael Kurz has a great break and good sidestep but needs to work on his passing and listen to his school coaches. Grant Felton showed some good improvement during the season but needs to work on his aggression and tackling and Nathan Smith who, although not the quickest scrum half, had the aggression and tackling skills needed at A



Rugby

SPORT

team level.

CR Hugo started the season as flyhalf. but unfortunately left the school midway through the year. He was a talented flyhalf. Wesley Horne was the replacement and got the best out of his outside backs. He has a great boot and good feet and was the highest point scorer in the team. He needs to work on his passing to the back and if he improves in this area he has the potential to become a great flyhalf. Our centres were Cameron Anthony, Gavin Engelbrecht and Arnold van Wyk and they always gave of their best. Gavin was moved from centre to fullback halfway through the season. Cameron played inside centre and pulled off some great tackles. He was like a fourth loose forward and often won the ball at the breakdown. He will need to work on his speed off the mark and passing accuracy. Arnold was moved from loose forward to centre for the last few games and, although he had played in this position before, he had strong opposition. He has the ability to become a good centre but must work on not getting sucked in on defence and also on his one-on-one tackling.

The wings were Sandile Hlatshwayo, who captained the side, Katlego Makhubela, Tshepo Ramaila and Thando Mbukwane. All these boys have the ability to play great rugby as they have good speed. Sandile showed that if he was given more ball he was able to cause havoc as he had a good step, speed and no fear of making contact. His tackling was out of the top drawer. If he gets more ball at U15 level he will be devastating. Katlego, Tshepo and Thando all played good rugby but need to work on their ball skills in the off-season. CR Hugo and Gavin Engelbrecht were the two fullbacks. CR was solid and safe and when he wasn't available Gavin was my best option even though he preferred playing at centre. Gavin has all the attributes to become a classy fullback as he has good hands, good speed and a good boot. He needs to work on his positional play and tackling and success in these areas will make him a very good player.

Although our results were not too good, I believe this team can develop into a formidable side in the

future. I would like to thank Paul Anthony for his coaching input this season. The boys and I benefitted from his expertise and we truly appreciate the effort he put into the team. I do believe that anyone who has aspirations to become a coach at the highest level needs to put in a few years at U14 level.

Thank you to the parents who came out to support the team. Many of you drove great distances to watch their games and the boys appreciated seeing you, their parents, around the field.

Finally, to the team: you sacrificed many hours this past year, listened to my shouting voice, suffered through shuttles and yet you were at practice week in and week out. Your commitment was never in question and I do believe that, although results are important, you boys showed your loyalty to the School and that is what counted at the end of the day.

I look forward to your progress in the future and remember: never give up on your goal of one day wearing the candy stripes.

M Housdon
Coach

Results

Played 14	Won 4	Lost 9	Drew 1
Points for: 178			
Points against: 347			
Versus			
KES	Lost	7-22	
Rob Ferreira	Lost	17-19	
KZN Development	Drew	19-19	
St Charles	Won	17-0	
Jeppe	Won	7-17	
Maritzburg College	Lost	0-41	
Parktown	Won	7-54	
St Benedicts	Lost	10-12	
KES	Lost	8-28	
Waterkloof	Lost	0-58	
AHS	Lost	0-67	
St Albans	Won	17-3	
Maritzburg College	Lost	9-10	
Grey College	Lost	3-54	



Chris Ehlers breaks during the game against Parktown Boys High.



Jason Williams brought down by defenders in the match against Parktown.

U14B Rugby

Coaching under 14 rugby at an English high school is the equivalent of a 101 crash course! The vast majority of the under 14 boys had never played rugby in their lives and they had to quickly develop their physical skills and toughen up mentally. This steep learning curve helped them to produce some very good victories and a few “glorious defeats” against much bigger and more experienced rugby players.

The season started off with a solid 10–0 victory over KES before the April holidays. We were then brought rudely down to earth in a 0–37 defeat at the hands of Maritzburg College. Our 0–12 loss to Eldoraigue taught us that making mistakes on our try line would be punished. We then dished out a confidence boosting 70–0 thrashing of Parktown. The boys then produced their best performance of the season in a 19–0 win over Springs Boys High’s A team. The boys also showed tremendous courage to hang on for a 14–12 win over a Jeppe team that included a few of their A team players!

The boys produced fantastic rugby in a heart-breaking 7–10 loss to Waterkloof, where the boys were camped on the Waterkloof try line as the final whistle blew. Probably our biggest disappointment was an inexplicable 5–6 loss in the return match at home to KES. Against Affies the boys battled bravely to be easily the best under 14 team of the day, but we still lost 3–43!

In the third term, the boys demonstrated just how much their skills had improved by moving the ball from touch line to touch line and through several phases in scoring a fantastic long range try against Maritzburg College. Unfortunately, Maritzburg College’s three rolling maul tries proved to be the difference in a 7–17 defeat. The season was then rounded off with a 0–57 lesson dished out by Grey College, where the boys were far below their best. Hopefully, the boys can put these lessons to good use in the coming years.

The following boys were regulars in the under 14B team of 2008:

Dylan Day (fullback/wing) – Dylan is at his best when he hits the line at speed. He has excellent pace and positional play. He has a deceptive sidestep, is a solid last line of defence and possesses a booming boot. His long range penalty was responsible for our only points against Affies.

Thando Mbukwane (fullback/wing) – Thando is a dangerous attacker and a fearless defender. I have vivid memories of him making many vital tackles in the last line of defence. Thando developed quickly, but his season was interrupted by injuries. He

recovered and by the end of the season had become a fixture in the A team.

Hanyani Ntlemo (wing) – tough uncompromising winger, he stood back for no-one. His physical approach unfortunately led to him missing a few games through injury. Hanyane has good hands and contact skills. His abilities were sorely missed against Grey College.

Katleho Makhubela (wing) – has tremendous pace and an eye for the gap; he used these weapons to score a fantastic try in our first match against KES. If he puts in a bit of extra effort developing the rest of his skills, he is sure to become a fixture in the A team.

Tshepo Ramaila (centre/wing) – has excellent feet and acceleration and made many sniping breaks, in addition to his trademark big tackles. Tshepo put in many hours after practice working on his skills. We missed his invaluable contribution when he was promoted to the A team. Tshepo also formed an unbreakable midfield defensive combination with Jacques Kirstein and Alexander Oelofse – even Grey College and Affies could not get through these three boys.

Joshua Richter (centre) – Joshua is a skilled team player with good hands. He is also a solid tackler. He also showed initiative with the many hours he put into his goal kicking after our practices. Joshua’s two excellent conversions were the difference in a tense 14–12 win over Jeppe.

Alexander Oelofse (centre) – incredibly strong, uncompromising centre, continually improved his attacking skills throughout the season and was an integral part of our team’s style of play. Although he was not used at flank in any of our matches, his physique and excellent rugby instincts could see him thrive at the side of the scrum in the coming seasons.

Jacques Kirstein (flyhalf and Vice-Captain) – he must be pound for pound the best tackler at Boys High. That title alone does not do him justice. He has excellent hands, kicks with both feet and reads the game incredibly well. As he develops I’m sure he will challenge for a place in the A team.

Nathan Smith (flyhalf/centre and Captain) – Nathan is a creative rugby player and a courageous defender, he was deservedly promoted to the A team. He must continue to focus on his athletic ability in order to capitalise on the opportunities he creates.

Michael Kurz (scrumhalf) – the typical scrumhalf, always up to mischief, with his sniping breaks and quick feet. He was a handful for the opposition and they could not take their eyes off him for a second. As the season progressed he developed the ability to decide when to pass and when to take the break.



Rugby

SPORT

James von Bardeleben (scrumhalf) – a very skilful and clever player, always prepared to spark an attack with a quick tap, links very well with the forwards and backs and is prepared to tackle the big forward. James worked really hard on his skills and is excellent at tidying up loose ball. James has fantastic hands and passes equally well off both his left and right hand. With his passion, skills and work ethic he will develop into a fine rugby player.

Emil de Beer (8th man and Captain) – a passionate and tough forward with good contact skills. Emil reads the game well and developed a telepathic understanding with our scrumhalf Michael Kurz. He organised the lineouts like Victor Matfield and he rarely played a match without “donating” blood.

Luke Stevenson (flank) – originally started in the D team and was quickly promoted to the B team, where he became a fixture. Luke has an excellent rugby brain and has a knack of always being in the right place to field kick-offs. He also scored our best try of the season against Maritzburg College. Luke is extremely brave – never more so than as the last line of defence to a rampaging Grey College monster, he made a try saving tackle, but broke his nose in the process.

Khumo Mampuru (flank) – he had the highest work rate of any under 14 rugby player this season. Khumo originally started in the D team and by the end of the season he had achieved his goal of being an indispensable part of the A team. Very quick to the break down points, where he is an absolute pest (even Affies couldn’t handle him). Khumo is an excellent listener and he will quickly gain the knowledge and skills that will make him a more polished player. He was sorely missed when he was promoted to the A team.

Martyn de Jong (flank/lock) – was unfortunate to injure his shoulder early in the season and only made his comeback against Affies. He is a fantastic team man and tough tackler with good hands and excellent rucking skills.

Ronald Olifant (lock) – a very committed and enthusiastic young man. He worked really hard on his skills and developed throughout the season. He is a big and mobile forward which could see him make an impact at blindside flank.

Willie Lloyd (tighthead prop) – the “Silent Assassin”. He’s an “old school” tighthead prop, who gave the opposition a torrid time in the scrums. He made incredible strides in his handling and mobility and is a fearsome sight when cleaning out the rucks or with ball in hand.

Cedric Kabeya (Prop/hooker) – originally started in the C team and ended up playing plenty of matches for the A team. Cedric is an extremely strong young man, with good mobility and hands. He is a fearlessly committed player and will develop into a devastating ball carrier.

Jonathan Howard (hooker) – he injured his wrist early in the season, just as he was starting to learn the finer details of hooker. Jonathan showed real skill with his throwing at the lineouts which was honed over many hours of practice.

Franco du Toit (loosehead prop) – Franco was always keen to make his trade mark rampaging runs, he is an awesome sight in full flight – I have vivid memories of him sprinting for the try line, leaving many hapless Parktown defenders in his wake. When he consistently applies himself, as he did against Waterkloof, he will become a formidable rugby player.

Sean Cheadle (flank/lock) – nicknamed the “Wild Thing”. When he was revved up he would fly fearlessly into tackles and rucks. If he can maintain his work rate throughout a match, Sean will develop into a devastating rugby player.

A big thank you must go to Mr Blew and Mr Gouws, for their excellent work with the C and D teams and for always accommodating the never ending team changes. Also, the parents deserve a special mention for their loyal support, particularly Mr Kurz for his assistance with water bottles at half time. Mr Housdon and Mr Anthony also added a lot of value to the B team by including us in the A teams’ training.

I trust the boys will put the lessons of 2008 to good use in the future – I hope you learnt as much from me as I did from you. Good luck and I look forward to following your progress.

*Jaydon Kelly
Coach*



Spelling it out ...

U14C Rugby

The under fourteen age group is always a difficult one to coach as most of the boys have never played rugby before. This year was no different. The U14C and D teams trained as a squad throughout the year and built up friendships and spirit all the way through. Probably the most frustrating part of the whole season was the amount of selection changes throughout the age group which had a ripple effect on everyone's team selection. It hampers progress and consistency throughout the team.

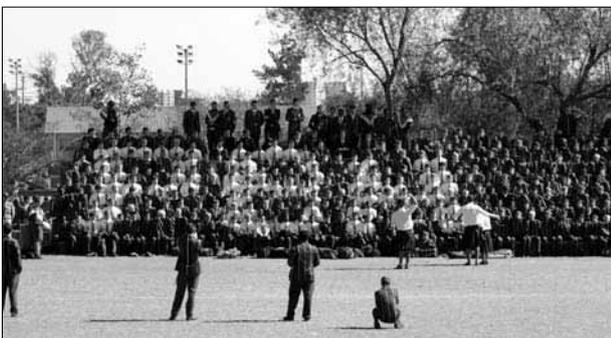
Despite all this, the boys had an enjoyable first year of rugby at Boys High. We were unable to defeat any of our toughest challengers this season. The low of the season was a hammering by Affies, but highlights included great performances against Grey College and a close loss to Waterkloof. James van Bardeleben and Brenton Gouws led the side effectively throughout the year and can both be admired for their determination and spirit in leading the boys when their backs were against the wall. A strong part of our make-up was our scrumming by Andrew McCabe and Jason Schmidt.

U14D Rugby

Firstly, I would like to thank the parents for their support and involvement with the team. It is very much appreciated that they are there to cheer on the boys. Thank you also for your help in hosting visiting teams.

This was a very strong U14D side with loads of talent. The season started off with a cold and wet day at KES where the boys put on a great show and comfortably beat KES. By the time of the June holiday we had played seven games and lost only two. We had a memorable victory over Waterkloof and a narrow 5-15 loss to Maritzburg College, where I felt we dominated the second half.

The game against Grey College was the most memorable of the season and a fitting way to end.



The rock in our lineouts was Dean Delarey who was a tower in the jumping and stole many an opposition's throw-in. Spirited performances were also put in by Jonathan Browne, Nic Slabbert, Rudolph Jansen and Dale Smith at the back row. James von Bardeleben and Keenan Ryan combined well as our halfback pairing with Ryan being an elusive and visionary flyhalf. Josh Richter, Brandon Hobden and Garrick O'Brien all put in solid performances at centre with Leonardo Swart and Giovanni Bertoni running with pace on the wings. Jeannot Blum held our last line of defence at the back and was often up against bigger and faster backs running at him. I have no doubt in my mind that some of these players will end up reaching their potential and playing at higher levels.

By the end of the season we had a happy squad and coaches who enjoyed the many afternoons of hard work and dedication. These boys will build and build on this foundation in the years to come.

Mark Blew
Coach

Playing the "icebreaker" I thought the boys wouldn't be up for it. With five minutes gone we were leading 7-0. We lost the game 12-26, but I know that the boys played their rugby with guts and a never-say-die attitude. It was the best game they played during the season. They can hold their heads up high as they made the school proud.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the boys for their support and dedication to the team and wish them all the best for the future. I hope to see many of you playing in the candy stripes one day.

Ethan Gouws
Coach



... at one of the home games.



Rugby

SPORT



1. Stanley Twiname kicks for goal.
2. Big crowd of supporters for AHS match.
3. Mitchell Sharman running the ball against KES supported by (l to r) Andries Pretorius; Katlego Maake and Louis le Roux.
4. Jason Williams breaks the line against AHS.
5. Close to the line in the match against KES.

Squash Report

The 2008 squash season started as per normal with our fixture against the Old Boys. The boys were outclassed by the powerful Old Boys team but showed signs of promise for the season. The School Championships was the next event up and Craig Stephens showed that he had the desire and the drive to achieve this year by beating the older boys to reach the final. He was, however, beaten by Athan Page, fresh from finishing 12th in the British Junior Open, the de facto World Championships. The same two boys contested the U16 championships and their progress this year has been most encouraging for the future of squash at Boys High. As they still have a further two years at Boys High we expect great things from these two boys. Athan has been the outstanding U16 player in the country this year and was ranked No. 1 in the country in that age group. Craig is the most improved player in the country and his hard work has brought rich dividends. He has achieved part of his goal by being ranked 3rd in the U16 age group nationally and will continue to push Athan to greater heights.

The U14 and Form 1 championships were won by David Joubert, beating Kyle Gaunt on both occasions. Joubert went on to be ranked the joint No. 1 U14 in the country and shows great promise as a squash player. We hope his tremendous talent doesn't entice him to play another sport. The U14 talent appeared somewhat sparse at the start of the year but a core of eager boys has risen to the challenge and produced sparkling results this year.

The 1st Team started their year off at the St Andrews Festival and beat Rondebosch and traditional rivals St Andrews. This was offset by a draw against Glenwood and losses to Selborne and Grey College. Our trip to the Queens College 150th sports festival saw an improvement against Selborne where we lost on a games count after the matches were tied three all. This was followed up by progressively more convincing victories against Queens College, St Andrews College, Dale and Grey High School. The captain, Justin Guy, and Craig Stephens excelled by being unbeaten through the festival.

In the local schools league and regional top schools playoffs we were once again superior to all comers except the powerhouse Menlo Park side. Perhaps the only negative in the year was that we

couldn't offer them greater resistance, a feeling that was slightly eased when they convincingly won the National Top Schools title. The First Team has once again been comfortably ranked amongst the top five schools in the country and, with a mainly young side that will be returning next year, there is much cause for optimism.

The U16 boys have had an exceptional season and are the real area of strength at the school. Seven of the top eight players in the province are Boys High boys and the U16A and C teams won the A and B leagues respectively. The U14A and C teams duplicated this feat in the U14 age group. Boys High was once again awarded the trophy for the best overall performance in the Schools league. There is tremendous talent and desire at the School and boys like Charl Fourie, Mark Schickerling, Nathan McDonald and Kabelo Moletsane in the U14 age group and Daniel Swanepoel, Lloyd Parker, Murray Coetzee and Francesco Prelorenzo in the U16 age group have shown tremendous progress this year.

I would like to thank the coaches, Heath Wallace and Matthew Dewey for all their hard work with the Juniors and I hope that their efforts will bear fruit in the future. To our departing matrices, I hope that you all continue to play squash. Blane Meyer, Keagan Boustead, Shuaib Akoojee and the rest must be commended for their efforts and I look forward to seeing their progress after school. The three matrices in the first team have offered much to the School. Justin Guy is a player of exceptional natural ability which sometimes leads him to boredom. I hope he realises his potential and works hard to attain what he is capable of. Heinrich van Rensburg has worked hard to represent the first team and was a dedicated team man who was deservedly awarded Full Colours. Chris Minnaar is a hard-working young man who will improve with age as his strength and technique improve. He has a different outlook on the game which makes him an unusual prospect for most opponents. The other players who represented the 1st Team this year will all be returning in 2009 and we look forward to even better performance from Alex Jacobs, Declan Gallagher and Michael Joubert

Mark Southwood
MIC



1st Team results

St Andrews Festival

vs Selborne	lost 1-5
vs Rondebosch	won 5-1
vs St Andrews School	won 4-1
vs Grey College	lost 1-5
vs Glenwood	drew 3-3

Queens College 150th Festival

vs Selborne	
drew 3-3 (lost 9-13 on games)	
vs Queens College	drew 3-3
(won 13-11 on games)	
vs St Andrews College	won 6-0
vs Dale College	won 6-0
vs Grey High School	won 5-1

Pretoria Schools' League

vs Menlo Park 2 nd Team	won 4-0
vs Waterkloof	won 4-0
vs PBHS 2 nd Team	won 4-0
vs Menlo Park 1 st Team	lost 0-4
vs St Albans	won 4-0

Top Schools' Playoffs

vs Zwartkops	won 5-1
vs Menlo Park 2 nd Team	won 6-0
vs Waterkloof	won 6-0
vs St Albans	won 6-0
vs Menlo Park 1 st Team	lost 1-5

Friendly Matches

vs St Andrews School	won 6-0
vs Grey College	lost 2-4

Pretoria League Winners

U16A
U16C
U14A
U14C
PBHS was the winner of the overall best performance in Schools' league.

Provincial Representation

U19B	Justin Guy
	Heinrich van Rensburg
U16A	Athan Page
	Craig Stephens

	Michael Joubert
	Murray Coetzee
U16B	Daniel Swanepoel
	Lloyd Parker
U14A	David Joubert
	Kyle Gaunt

National Representation

Athan Page	No. 1 U16
Craig Stephens	No. 3 U16
David Joubert	No. 1 U14

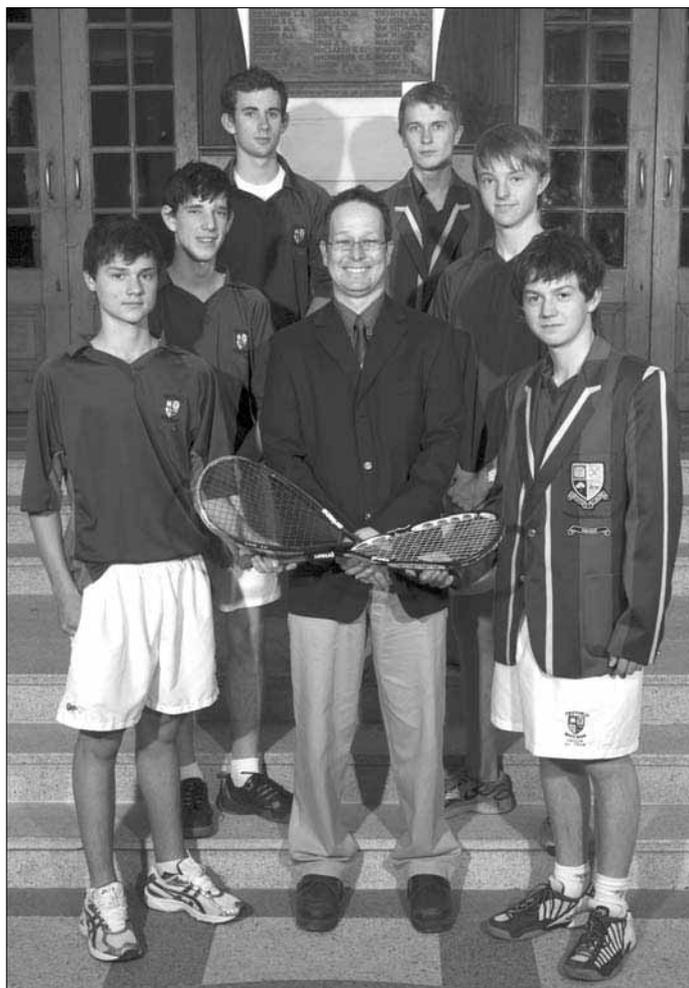
Full colours

Athan Page
Craig Stephens
Justin Guy
Heinrich van Rensburg

Half Colours

Christopher Minnaar
Declan Gallagher

1st Squash team



*Front Row L-R: A Page, Mr M Southwood (Master-in-charge), H van Rensburg.
Middle Row L-R: C Minnaar, C Stephens.
Back Row L-R: D Gallagher, J Guy (Captain).*

Swimming

After competing in the St Benedict's invitational gala quite early in the season, Mrs Gioia made a comment to a colleague about the gala. She said, very eloquently, "what a humbling experience". Some of you may recall that it was a tough gala, we did not go with our strongest team, and the competition, which was not simply made up of our local Johannesburg and Pretoria teams, but from KZN and the Free State too, was probably the toughest we have had.

This season has been just that: a tough one and a humbling one. It is evident that the tides of swimming have changed for us. PBHS is no longer the top school for swimming in Gauteng. Our competition has grown stronger, maybe through better and more efficient training programmes, luring better swimmers into their realms or a greater dedication and discipline shown by their swimmers as a whole. There remains no doubt that swimming is a sport for individuals, but at this level it is a sport that caters for individuals that must form part of, and act in the best interests of the team as a whole too, in this case for the so-called best school in the world.

Our team can no longer rely simply on a few individual stars that train with outside coaches or on clubs that are backed up by a strong contingent of fit young men who do not necessarily make swimming their sole sporting endeavour. Now is the time for those of you who will be here for a year or more still to step up to the plate and improve your own individual aspirations as a swimmer in the PBHS A Swimming team, to constantly strive to improve your own swimming abilities for the good of the team and that of the school.

Looking back over the season as a whole, on a personal level, it has been a pleasure for me, in this, my first season, to be head of swimming. The leadership and dedication offered by this year's matrices has made me stand back in awe and wonder. The swimming staff seldom had to intervene or raise voices or lose tempers. A special mention must be made of the swimming captain, Nick Korb, and the vice captain, Ryan Engelbrecht. Their contributions to swimming at Boys High have been constant and unflinching throughout their time here, and we will be sad to see them leave. Nick has, in my short experience and involvement with swimming, been the finest captain that I have had the pleasure of working with. Under Nick's leadership, the team was a cohesive unit that supported one another and stood together, in other words, we had a team, not a collection of individuals. This has been a very

exciting development for swimming at Boys High, and I hope that this will remain the case for many seasons to come.

A sincere word of thanks must also be made to the staff who have helped so dedicatedly throughout the season. Mrs Ursula Naude, Mrs Gudrun Kruger, Mr Henk Dorlas, Mr Paul Ewart-Phipps, Mr Clyde MacDonald, as well as a few friendly and helpful parents, especially Mr Michael Kurz, thank you for your great help and enthusiasm for swimming. An even larger thank you to Mrs Kathy Louw who has been ceaseless in her efforts of running the tuck shop and doing catering at all the home fixtures that we hosted.

I also have to make a special thank you to two other members of staff. Firstly, to Emile de Bruyn. Your efforts this season are most appreciated and valuable in the redevelopment of swimming at Boys High. It certainly is a new era for swimming at Boys High and having you to help us spearhead this development is exciting and immensely rewarding for both myself and the boys. Secondly, to Mrs Heather Gioia, your assistance has been entirely invaluable to me and I thank you deeply for this. Your charisma on the pool deck and your excitement for the sport as a whole are infectious qualities that spread through the entire team, and you certainly are a valued member of the team.

This year's **Victor Ludorum** awards were made to the following boys in their respective age groups:

Under 14: Dylan Dawson,

Under 15: Ferdi Louw,

Under 16: Sean Tucker

Under 17: George Kurz

Open: Daniel Poultney.

Half Colours

Ryan Engelbrecht

Sean Tucker

Dean Murray

Callan Bartlett

George Kurz

Leo Kruger

Sven Appelgryn

Adrian du Toit

Craig Bester.

Full Colours

Marios Yiannou (re-award)

Nick Korb (re-award)

Daniel Poultney for his inclusion in the Gauteng Schools team.



Swimming

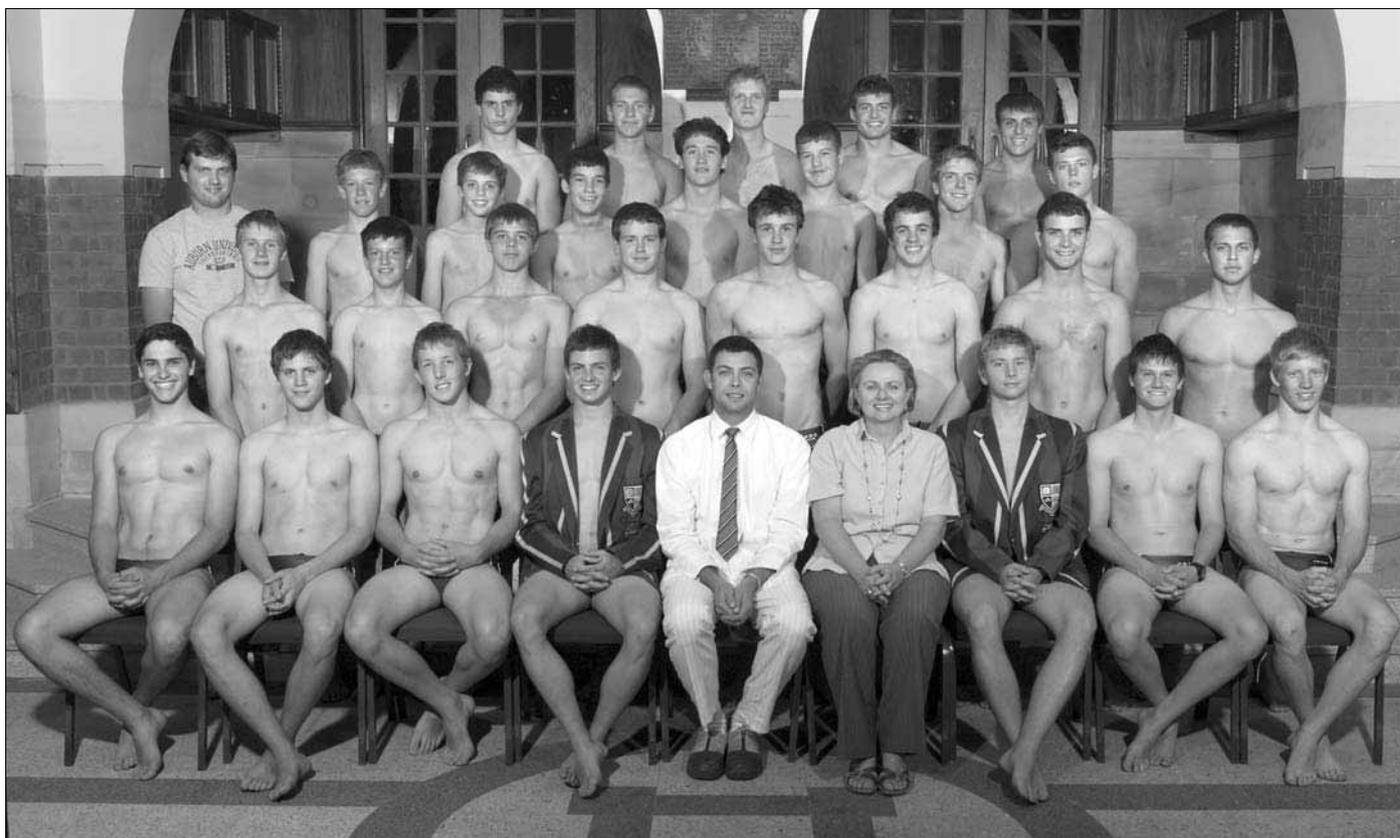
SPORT

A new award, the Commitment Award, was created for individuals who have not only shown great commitment and dedication to the team, but swam remarkable individual swims. It was decided that four boys would qualify for this award. The first award was made to Robert Harrington-Johnson for his 30 second-flat swim that saw him smash the Inter-house 50m breast-stroke record by over 2 a second. Ferdie Louw also won this award for his sincere dedication and enthusiasm for the team and sport as well as for his constant improvement, especially in freestyle, throughout the season. Marios Yiannou received this award for his incredible performances, particularly his backstroke swims at the St Benedict's

Invitational gala and his sub-25 second swims in the 50m Freestyle. The last award went to Nick Korb for his two 50m freestyle swims of under 25 seconds.

On the whole, I can't help but look back and smile at the team I had the privilege of working with this season. We may not have won all the time, but as Mr Schroder always mentions at public occasions, there is always that Boys High magic that accompanies these boys wherever they go. And if we have to eat a little humble pie for a few years, or just one season, then we will do it, one bite at a time!

K McEvoy
MIC



Front Row L-R: M Yiannou, M Sheppard, D Murray, N Korb (Captain), Mr K McEvoy (Master-in-charge), Mrs H Gioia (Coach), D Poultney, L Kruger, G Kurz.

Second Row L-R: A Smedsrud, D de la Rey, D Joubert, F Retief, L Maré, D Maré, A du Toit, M Collier.

Third Row L-R: Mr E de Bruin (Coach), T Lombard, A Robberts, A Oelofse, D Hayes, N Zietsman, J Fourie, C Bartlett.

Back Row L-R: K Pretorius, S Appelgryn, R Haagner, S Tucker, F Louw.