



# Bosch Blitz



27 July 2011, 12th Edition

## From Behind the Posts:

With golf it is a known fact that once you think you are in control of the game, or you think you have it all worked out, your inevitable downfall will come. We have been wonderfully swinging away for a couple of weeks now and might have been guilty of getting ahead of ourselves and not focusing on some crucial course management going into this second round.

We had the opportunity to go and watch the boys from London play against Bishops on the Tuesday afternoon. It was clear that our friendly encounter with one of England's best was going to require more than the bit of Q20 necessary to loosen some holiday rust.

The boys had a wonderful visit from Dennis Nick and some of our great old boys before the game to hand out the proud jersey, and it was good to see young and old united around the pride of the Bosch Tree. It ended up being a classic match with both sides creating and missing some opportunities. I was pleased that we matched them physically and that our defence was good, bar the two lapses of concentration where we were slack rather than them forcing the pressure on us. They had some real speed out wide and really brought the game to us by running hard and asking some difficult questions of our defense, and like I said earlier, we answered most of them. We on the other hand were not good enough in our own game and resorted to doing things that were out of character from our usual style of play. They were the better side on the day and deserved their win.

With the Wellington bogey still fresh in our minds we had the opportunity to enjoy the fabulous Bosch Wine Route on the Friday night. It felt like I was back in France with the beautiful cheeses crying out for little sips of red wine as we took a trip on foot around the fantastic BRSC wine route. Sharon took it upon herself to act as my own personal John Platter wine guide, escorting me through the many regions while taking notes and asking some really interesting questions along the way, as not to feel too guilty for just tasting and walking away one might think. It was also good to see John smiling again as he ran from region to region stocking up on some of the essential red camping juice.

Once again Saturday turned out to be a beautiful day for rugby, despite the now familiar rumors from our weather people predicting some nasty stuff. Standing on the balcony enjoying some coffee while watching our under 16's play I began to realize that they were not talking about the weather, and that the storm that was busy brewing in the U16 match was heading in our direction and looking ominous.

We talk about games that can turn one's season around, and to me this was the game for our sweet 16's. They were up against it from the start and we soon realized that the U16 score was one of the scores our hosts were planning and hoping to put up on to their gloating score board. Our boys dug deep and showed some tremendous character and scored a try of sheer justice that no one could contest.

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Well done to Zelim Nel and Rod “the bacon and egg” Labuschagne for all the hard work, also to the boys who are our team of the week, we want to say well done for never giving up, you showed tremendous Bosch spirit.

We also had some fantastic results in some of the other games. Our second team is starting to produce some very good rugby and getting the results that go with good performances, like the one on Saturday. The guys stuck to their game and structure with a couple of players really standing out, too many to mention, but the performance of Duncan Geldenhuys does need a mention.

Our under 14 team was too good and played some really good rugby which is not always easy when confronted with weaker opposition, so well done on scoring those points.

The under 15's will most probably have to sit down and have a good look at their video and try to work out how they lost? They played all the rugby, creating many opportunities with only some bad handling or decision-making tripping them up on the way to the try line. As always they were dominant in their set pieces and hungry to play. They are due for a big win and I for one am looking forward to seeing those boys and their coaches jumping around after such a game with joy. Keep going.

I am a passionate fisherman with fly-fishing being my biggest love (besides my wife naturally). The reason I love fly-fishing so much, besides the fact that you get to spend some quality quiet time in some of the most beautiful spots in creation, is the fact that it refines so many of the wonderful character traits needed to succeed in life.

This reminds me of a true story that goes something like, once upon a time... There was a fly-fisherman out in the Kuilsriver area who loved fly-fishing more than anything in the world. He loved being out on the water no matter what the result, he loved catching any fish at any size, and he just loved the sport. He also sometimes quietly dreamt of catching that one big trophy fish that would set him apart from the rest. And as time passed and he was nearing the end of his life, this dream became an obsession of the worst kind. His focus started to shift to only catching that one big trophy fish, so much that he lost the joy of just being out there fishing.

He knew the De Kuilen waters better than anyone, he also knew that every now and then, as the legend goes, a very big and rare fish would come up into the murky Kuilsriver to come and lay eggs which would help to sustain the fish population in the area and bring joy to all fishermen in the community. On a particular day he found himself all alone on the water, he was by this time already frustrated and tired of only catching the smaller ones. He became desperate and ready to sell his soul when out of the dark; the fishing devil planted the deadly seed which would end up robbing him of all that which makes fly-fishing special.

With no one looking he quickly changed his trusted fly to that of a normal hook and then proceeded to stick a piece of bait on the barbell death trap. He then quickly dropped the line back into the water with his heart pounding away on his soul and eating away at his character. It wasn't long before the dream fish was trapped by his line and fighting with all honesty at the end of the line. The fisherman ended up having the fight of his life and managed to land the exhausted fish on the bank, and with no one watching and no camera in sight, he looked around before dealing that last cruel blow. He finally did it, all his dreams, all he has ever wanted was lying dead at his feet. Then for some unknown reason while walking home, he wasn't feeling the joy that he thought would accompany him once he landed the big one. He then thought to himself that maybe once he has mounted this beautiful fish on his wall, he would then start to feel that warm glow of satisfaction, but all those things never came. His trophy fish looked out of place, bigger as it protruded from the wall in his bragging room, staring at him as he belied the tale to everyone desperate to listen to a David vs. Goliath story. His family and friends were so happy for him; they knew how hard he had worked and how much it meant to him to catch the fish. His sons were so proud of their dad and kept asking him to take them fishing and show them how and where, but he never did take them, even worse, he never ever went fishing again.

**Continued ...**



People could never quite understand why he stopped talking about that tremendous moment in his life, and why looking at the trophy fish brought him to tears on so many occasions. He on the other hand knew very well what the cause of his unhappiness was; he also knew very well why the fishing died out in that area, causing great unhappiness in the fishing community. It only takes one (sometimes on a rare day there will be three) fishermen, who spoil it for everyone else. The moral of the story is this:

Be very careful of wanting something too much. Once you lose sight of what is really important and you start to focus only on the big one, you lose sight of all those little fish that were caught with honesty, discipline, integrity and patience, all those wonderful things that we as fly-fisherman use as bait.

Maybe a little dramatic but that was my view from behind the poles. We have had a really good run with many pars and birdies along the way, and maybe we spent too much time in the half-way house, but with this double bogey comes the need for some regimen and the tightening of the belt buckles in an effort to get our swing back, and play the game we know we are capable of. The feast is well and truly over, for now.....

### Clinton van Rensburg



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## Match Reports:

### Thursday 21 July - U19A vs. Wellington College, UK (lost 8 - 10)

Since 2008, Rondebosch has built a good relationship with Wellington College from Crowthorne near London. It became almost tradition that we shook the winter holiday rust off with a nice warm-up match against a normally easy English touring team. In 2008, we expected the same, but soon realised that Wellington was not your average English touring team. These were guys who competed for top honours in the Daily Mail Cup - unofficially the English Schools' championship. On that occasion, we drew in one of the most bruising encounters of the year at 17 all. Last year they hosted our 1<sup>st</sup> XI and Cubs cricket teams when we toured England in June/July. Their cricket is good but not in the same league as their rugby, so we had two comfortable victories. At the time, they told us they will be visiting us in 2011 with a cricket team in February (we won again), and with two rugby teams in July. It was the rugby they were the most excited about, since their leaving seniors, were the group who won the Daily Mail Cup on an earlier occasion. We knew then, that we would be in for one hell of a match.

The day finally arrived, and after a narrow loss for our second team against them, the first team did not start the match very well. William Keet converted an early penalty, but the fluent game that saw the team do so well at Cape Schools' just never got going. Instead, it was our visitors who got their phases together and finally broke our defence in the 14<sup>th</sup> minute. Both sides started to play better, but neither could breach the others' defence, and half time was reached with the scores still at 3 - 5.

Early in the second half, good play from Wellington saw them scoring another try. We finally started to find our rhythm, and managed to put a couple of good phases together. In the 23<sup>rd</sup> minute, Brandon Volbrecht finally crossed their goal line for a try. For the remainder of the half, we tried, wave after wave, but the outstanding defence of a very well drilled Wellington team withstood the onslaught, and held out for a narrow victory to them.



photos courtesy of Andrew Louwrens



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## **Saturday 23 July - U19A vs Hoërskool De Kuilen (lost 13 - 14)**

For the first time that anyone at the school can remember, we were drawn to play against De Kuilen from Kuilsriver. We did not know much about them as a rugby school, but knew that they would not be an easy opponent, since they lost narrowly by one point to SACS (21 - 20).

De Kuilen did not disappoint, and came out firing - they had the opportunity turn their season into a very memorable one by beating one of the "Big Boys' Schools". Although Rondebosch created more opportunities, and enjoyed the majority of the territorial advantage, the only scoring done during the first half was a penalty by Douglas Waddilove in the 17<sup>th</sup> minute, and two penalties from De Kuilen - the first in the 13<sup>th</sup> minute, and the second in the 37<sup>th</sup> minute of the half. Just before half time, we created yet another good scoring opportunity (and definitely the best one by far in the match at that stage) with a certain try going to waste only from our own unforced handling errors. The result was that while we should deservedly have been in the lead by half time, we changed sides being 3 - 6 down.

After half time, De Kuilen threw everything they had at us, and scored a well-deserved try. Douglas Waddilove replied with another penalty a few minutes later, and in the 13<sup>th</sup> minute, De Kuilen converted another penalty to take a 14 - 6 lead. For the rest of the match, Rondebosch did all of the attacking and created all of the play, only to be foiled every time we got near the De Kuilen try line by giving away several penalties. Eventually Daniel Anderson went over for a try, only for it to be disallowed by the referee. Shortly thereafter, Scott Albertyn broke the line, and this time no-one could dispute the validity of the try. Douglas converted and with six more minutes of playing time left, it was a one point match. No matter what we did, the De Kuilen defence held out. In another promising attack on their goal line, and with one minute of playing time left, of a half during which there were several injury hold-ups as well, the referee suddenly blew his whistle and pointed to the change rooms. Our disappointment was just as big as the elation of the De Kuilen players.

I could not help but remember my feelings after we lost to KES earlier this year. Just as on that day, I felt heartbroken for our boys, who lost a match in which they were the better team on the field, and never deserved to lose.

## **U19B vs De Kuilen (won 46 - 5)**

Following a narrow and bitterly disappointing loss at the hands of Wellington College, a much improved performance was in order. Against relatively unknown opposition all we could do prior to the match was focus on our own game. In particular we were concerned by the lack of aggression and physicality in Thursday's match and thus placed this as one of the primary areas where improvement was required.

We also stressed the importance of imposing ourselves early on, and if possible closing the match out as soon as possible. The boys responded well to these pleas and sure enough were able to score two tries within the first five minutes of the game. Naturally those early points served to settle the nerves of the players and coaches alike. In truth, despite De Kuilen showing no lack of willingness and fight, what they did lack was defensive organization, which made it relatively easy for our playmakers to penetrate their line and accumulate a considerable half-time lead.

However, a scrappy second half confirmed the importance of securing the win as early as possible. We became somewhat disjointed on attack and to their credit, De Kuilen produced some well-worked attacking efforts.

Overall, whilst it is pleasing to get back to winning ways, we are fully aware that Boland Landbou this coming week will be a totally different proposition and that a tough week of training is required. Two stand-out performances: Conor Ray and Duncan Geldenhuys



### **U19C vs De Kuilen (won 38 - 3)**

On a warm day in Kuils River the Dogs were on song, with a wonderful display of running rugby. The forwards dominated up front and were well lead by 8<sup>th</sup> man Lucky. Try of the day came from deep in Bosch 22m area and saw fullback Reece finish a good backline move to go under the posts. Bosch dominated all facets of the game and it was a good game to get rid of all the holiday rust. We are all looking forward to take on Landbou this week.

### **Force vs De Kuilen U19D (won 43 - 0)**

Back to the grind stone Part 2 has begun: The Force travelled to De Kuilen. We were scheduled to play the breakfast match 08:30 only to find out that De Kuilen only had 10 players.... we decided that the game must go on. We opted for the 10 man match with rolling reserves.

What a game, we were to play 20 minutes each way the score at half time was 26 - 0 to the Force. 10 minutes into the second half the ref called full time with the Force like a runaway train.

Our 'man of the match' was the whole Force team for a collective and excellent display of running rugby. We suffered 1 injury, that being Siya with a slight concussion. He will be sitting out the next match and will surely be missed.

The Force once again showed that they are to be reckoned with. Well done boys, we are very proud of your performance. The Force is looking forward to hosting the Boland Landbou on the Force Field this Saturday.

### **Flyers vs Elkanah House 1<sup>st</sup> XV (won 45 - 7)**

The Flyers Gentlemen had been moved at very late notice from their hallowed Fortress, to a somewhat foreign venue just 2 fields down, but showed their ability to travel well and put on a show. The relaxed atmosphere before game time could only be described as the calm before the storm, as inside centre Andrew de Villiers danced his way through the defence before side-stepping the opposition fullback into whiplash and dotting down, to open the account. This was followed up by a phenomenally worked play that went through the hands to Christopher Shaw, who casually flipped a one-handed pass out the back for Simon Dwyer to run in his first of two tries. Maddy Williams, never to be outdone, started bisecting the uprights from every angle, in a Flyers kicking performance reminiscent of the 2009 season. More tries followed by Robin Dwyer as well as de Villiers and Maddy Williams, who would again convert. One of the great forwards moves of the season saw a penalty tap being crashed up, followed by Mike Moller picking up at half back and tossing a no-looker inside to the skipper Matthew Budden who went over untouched. A wonderful game of running rugby, and one of the finest individual performances in Flyers history by man of the match Andrew de Villiers. A promising season seems inevitable in the Flyers and Stunners camp.

### **Stunners vs Parklands 1<sup>st</sup> XV (lost 10 - 19)**

Saturday was an exciting day for the new look stunners, as more than 10 new caps prepared to make their debut. The game got off to a slow start as Parklands ran in two tries against some disorganized defence and the stunners battled to convert countless opportunities into points. After being 12-0 down at the half time break, some calm and experienced words by captain, Rory Little, seemed to fire up the Stunners gentlemen. The Landon magic, as it has become known was all the guys needed to get onto the scorecard as he dotted down for five points. As the rust started to wear off from the holiday break, true Stunners flair came into being and another well worked try, scored by Michael Wood saw the score at 12-10. As the last five minutes approached the Stunners had to throw everything at the opposition, but it was not to be as Parklands intercepted in overtime to secure a win. It was a game of missed opportunities early on, but the Stunners look like a side that have the ability to release massive potential over the next few weeks.



### **U16A vs De Kuilen (won 17 - 14)**

The U16As found themselves up against a surprisingly tough and robust De Kuilen side. Congratulations to a well disciplined RBHS side for this win. RBHS won the game in injury time when Khanyo Ngcukana ran 60m to score. Other points were scored by Jacques Potgieter (try), Ronnie Melck (try) and Tyren Lee (conversion).

### **U16B vs De Kuilen (won 33 - 0)**

The U16B team beat De Kuilen 33 - 0. The team is to be congratulated on their discipline.

### **U16C vs De Kuilen (won 33 - 0)**

The C team beat De Kuilen 33-0. Try scorers were James Watermeyer x2, Dylan Harty, Doug Bryant and Shuab Manuel. Conv: Alezio Joemat converted 4 tries. It was a scrappy game to start the season, but a good win, nonetheless.

### **U16D vs Elkanah House (won 21 - 5)**

The D's played a slightly heavier side with some talented individual players but the well-drilled and spirited D team beat them despite two of their players having to leave the field with injuries. Try scorers were Luke Erasmus x2 and Dayyaan Allie. Dylan Dore converted all the tries.

### **U15A vs De Kuilen (lost 7 - 10)**

We controlled every aspect of the game except the score board. Yet again this season we played some very good rugby but were simply unable to walk away with a win. We were our own worst enemy making numerous unforced handling errors in the cold damp conditions that accompany an eight thirty start. De Kuilen scored a soft try by means of a kick down field that was followed by an awkward bounce followed by another kick into our in-goal which we were unable to dot down. Our try by contrast came from a very well worked drive of the back of a lineout.

The second half saw the entire action take place in the De Kuilen half of the field but the action was reduced to a boring affair with one scrum following another. De Kuilen hung onto their 3 point lead from half time and despite the lineout count, tight head count etc. we walked off the field once again knowing that we were probably 10 points better than our opponents but the score board told another story.

### **U15B vs De Kuilen (lost 10 -12)**

The boys started the match like a house on fire dominating possession and territory in the first half. After two well worked tries we went into the break 10-0 up. Unfortunately, due to two lapses in concentration on defence, the boys ended up losing the match 12-10. Lessons that can be learnt from this game are that we have to play for the full 50 minutes to win a game, even if we may be dominating the match and possibly deserving of the win.





## U14A vs De Kuilen (won 64 - 7)

The coaches were faced with three challenges - the euphoria of the big defeat handed to Bishops last term had to be put behind in the history annals, the players were rusty after the long break and De Kuilen was an unknown quantity. As a result the team was prepared and motivated to play their best and to continue where they left off at the end of last term.

Arriving in Kuils River the conditions were perfect - a dry, wide field and no wind. The boys were fired up and right from the kickoff no 8 Pieter Slabbert crossed under the posts for scrumhalf Nick Potgieter to convert. Six minutes later centre Eddie Bester did the same and Potgieter's boot put Bosch 14-0 up. Twelve minutes later fullback Yaseen Jacobs went over in the corner and at 19-0 things did not look good for De Kuilen.

Unnecessary handling errors and moves not being rounded off resulted in no further scores in the rest of the first half. A hard talk at break urging the boys to keep structures and get the ball out to the runners paid off. After the restart the floodgates opened - seven tries followed and the opposition were in tatters. First Slabbert scored again virtually immediately after the restart (and got his hat trick 10 minutes later), followed by another hat trick by centre Kyle Ballakistan and one try each from wing Rory Thompson and captain Jamie King (flank). Potgieter's trusty boot converted five of these tries, bringing his total contribution to 14 points

The only blemish was De Kuilen's consolation score after a handling error in the Bosch backline

Once again it was solid driving play, good rucking and hard-running backs that made the day. Now for Boland Landbou and a second triple crown!

## U14B vs De Kuilen (won 74 - 0)

De Kuilen were completely outclassed by a determined Bosch team that ran riot scoring no fewer than 12 tries of which seven were converted by flyhalf Nicholas Stander.

Left wing Jack Cooter scored straight from the kickoff, scrumhalf Anthony Duckitt followed two minutes later, centre Mark Miller almost immediately afterwards (all three converted by Stander) and right wing Ferhad Ahmed five minutes later. At 26-0 after only 10 minutes, the writing was on the wall for the opposition. Big lock Leo Figueria scored just before the turn (Stander converting) to stretch the lead to 33-0.

After the break Ahmed added another two tries to complete his hat trick. Cooter, Miller and Duckitt each crossed a second time while centre Lazlo Pschorn and flank Hugh Dyason each went over the whitewash once. Stander brought his tally for the day to 14 by adding another three conversions.



### U14A Team

*Canal Walk sponsored tog bags and fleece tops for the U14A rugby team. The boys are seen here sporting their new gear.*

**Back row:** *Vanessa Herbst Public Relations Manager of Canal Walk, Yaseen Jacobs, Jamie King, Rory Thomson, Imraan Andrews, Kyle, Ballakistan, Pieter Slabbert, Warwick Shimmings, Eddie Bester.*

**Front row:** *Liam Greenhalgh, Ashwin Adams, Nick Potgieter, Jordan Diekmann, Russell Eaby and Gerhard von Aspern, Wayne Abegglen, CEO of Canal Walk and Trevor King who facilitated the sponsorship.*



## Fixtures: Saturday 30 July vs Boland Landbou

Team	Opposition	Field	Time
U19 A	Boland Landbou	Rugby A	11:30
U19 B	Boland Landbou	Rugby A	10:00
U19 C	Boland Landbou	Rugby A	08:30
U19 D	Boland Landbou	Meadow C	10:00
U19 E	Boland Landbou	Meadow C	08:30
U19 F	Boland Landbou	Meadow B	10:40
U19 G	Boland Landbou	Desert B	08:30
U16 A	Boland Landbou	Meadow A	09:40
U16 B	Boland Landbou	Meadow A	08:30
U16 C	Boland Landbou	North	09.40
U16 D	Bye		
U15 A	Boland Landbou	Meadow B	09.30
U15 B	Boland Landbou	Meadow B	08.30
U15 C	Boland Landbou	Desert B	09.40
U15 D	Boland Landbou	North	08.30
U14 A	Boland Landbou	Desert A	10.30
U14 B	Boland Landbou	Desert A	09.30
U14 C	Boland Landbou	Desert A	08.30
U14 D	Bye		

### Bosch Rugby Supporters' Club News:

The Bosch Wine Route which was held on Friday (22 July) in the Mears Centre was again a great success! Over 370 parents, Old Boys, staff and other friends of Rondebosch sampled and bought wines and whisky and enjoyed great food and excellent live music.

The Bosch Wine Route has become the premier event on the Rondebosch social calendar and we thank all those who supported it and helped to raise funds for rugby coaching, equipment and bursaries. Your support of the Rondebosch boys is greatly appreciated.

A special thank you also to all the sponsors and donors who made the evening possible as well as to the parents, Old Boys, staff and boys who once again so willingly provided assistance and support.



photos courtesy of Andrew Louwrens