



31 August 2011, 16th Edition

From Behind the Posts:

I couldn't shake the game from my mind and was eager to get to the computer and see where it all went wrong. The most disappointing thing about Saturday's match was that our performance did not match the occasion or our ability.

It was fantastic to see a packed Rugby A in what can only be described as the most beautiful setting in schools rugby. On the other hand it was very frustrating watching our guys self-destruct on a day when all you really wished for them was to have the game of their lives, no matter the result. It was very interesting listening to all the opinions from the spectators after the game on where they thought the team went wrong. The problem with most of those views or opinions was that they were based on seeing the symptoms and not the root cause of the problem. Nobody will convince me that these boys can't defend and that the Bishops play was too much for them to handle, they have proved on several occasions that they are fantastic defenders, in a system and one on one. So what went wrong you might ask?

The first couple of minutes of rugby from Bosch were poetry in motion as we took our game to them. The boys were unstoppable. We squandered 4 clear opportunities in the first 15 minutes, something that came back to haunt us as the match wore on. We managed to score with Magic Gavor darting over in the left-hand corner after some good phase play from a tapped penalty. When Hilio converted from the corner all seemed perfect and beautifully on track, little did we know that we would turn on ourselves and self-destruct for the rest of the game. After we went ahead 7-3, the Bishops team might just as well have walked off the field and watched us play against ourselves.

The self-destruct button was pushed 10 minutes into the game with a string of errors like we have not seen this season. The full extent of the destruction would only be evident in the latter part of the game when our defence fell apart and so too the first time tackling. With a combination of the bounce of the ball and some inaccurate kicking we never got into their half to apply the necessary pressure on them. We kicked 3 balls out on the full, we kicked 2 balls too long and we also missed 2 penalties for touch which would have put us in attacking positions deep in their half, but instead of us doing the attacking we would be the ones defending again back in our own half. Anyone who has ever played rugby will know that you can only defend for so long, and when it is pressure defence deep in your half the attrition rate doubles. Our boys were off their feet by the half time talk, looking drained from defending and the weight of the occasion. Our problems were further compounded with the fact that our line-out fell apart, we could not buy a line-out and Bishops weren't selling any either. When you add all this together with a couple of mistakes it doesn't take a rugby expert to work out that we didn't play enough rugby or applied enough pressure. Just from the kicking and line-out turn-over's we handed a dangerous Bishops team 16 attacking opportunities, sorry I forgot, there was also the two kick-offs that we couldn't control.

Continued ...



We did, however, manage to go past 3 phases on two occasions and ended up scoring on both of them. The second try by Brandon Volbrecht coming too late to create any spark of a late comeback. It would have been a great match if we could have had some share of the possession and territory that Bishops was enjoying. A lot of credit must go to Bishops who came to settle the score that we inflicted on them at the Piley, and they did that almost to the point. They brought a lot of intensity and played off a lot of quick momentum created by some devastating running and some very invisible defence on our side. It was agonizing to watch the Bishops boys in full flight with our guys reacting like tired heavy weights beaten by the speed of a light weight.

Standing behind the poles and seeing them besiege our try line with 5 Bishops classics was difficult to swallow. Your whole body wants to leap forward and stop the advancing runner, and in your mind you might even try to justify it by saying you are part of the team and the last line of defence. On a couple of occasions I could just picture Div bounding across the in goal while trying to force himself into a reserves jersey on his way to making that last savings tackle.

As you can imagine the guys were desperately disappointed in not giving a better account of themselves on the day. I am very proud of this team and of what they have achieved this season, as Gustaf Pienaar beautifully wrote in his report: I will choose to remember all those incredible highs that this team has given us.

The rest of the day was pretty even between the two schools with some team's hell bent on squaring up the two game series. The pride these schools feel in playing and beating one another is of such a nature that, if the one has tasted victory, the other one will not rest until the score is settled.

Well done to our under 16 B and under 14A team's for winning their respective Grand Slams. Our 3rd team had a very good win after losing to them in the first game with a try in the final second; revenge is sweet. In the end Bosch stood strong and walked off with the double. Just across the road the same battles were taking place with our under 13 team going down to Bishops after beating them in the first round. You might wonder where this incredible rivalry starts, well I witnessed it first hand as the dust was still settling on Rugby A. It was wonderful to see the little Bosch and Bishops boys running and kicking on the field afterwards in their respective playing kit, both already aware of the different colors. Watching them interact I soon noticed the competitive spirit between the two schools as they competed against each other in kicking for poles, and with that laying down the challenge that will stand and protect this healthy rivalry for many years to come.

I had a wonderful time writing for the Bosch Blitz and sharing my views and feelings, I actually found it to be very therapeutic; getting the stuff out of my head did me the world of good. I would like to thank everyone who supported us through the season and stood by us through thick and thin. The old boys are something special and we loved seeing your passion for your alma mater on so many occasions, it says so much about this school. We created some wonderful memories on and off the field, memories that will live with me forever. To our whole coaching and management team, all the supporters and friends of team 2011, you all know who you are, thank you for every "Blue and Gold" moment.

Clinton van Rensburg

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Bosch Top Scorers:

With the 2011 season complete our season's top points scorer, Hilio de Abreu goes onto the list with a very good 142 points for this season, and the top try scorer, Giovanni Hofmeyer with 9 tries.

Points in one season		
1995	Chris Verster	233
1972	Dave Dodd	179
1977	Francois Bonthuys	177
2007	Dean Grant	167
1960	André Tulleken	150
2011	Hilio de Abreu	142
2008	Darryn Berry	139
2010	Keenan Kleinsmith	102

Tries in one season		
1977	Brent Farrell	28
1961	Peter Sampson	20
2010	Räyn Smid	19
2008	Christiaan Bester	10
2011	Giovanni Hofmeyer	9
2009	Justin Fielies	6
	Michael Aristidou	6

Triple Crown & Grand Slam:

Congratulations to the four teams who added Triple Crowns to the seven we got last term. Eleven triple crowns in one year is outstanding. Special congratulations go to the U16B and U14A teams who took a clean sweep of Southern Suburbs Derbies to register two Grand Slams.

Term 2 Triple Crown			
Team	Wynberg	SACS	Bishops
U19A	18 - 15	19 - 15	34 - 18
U19F	12 - 5	17 - 14	12 - 10
U19G	24 - 22	22 - 10	19 - 3
U16B	24 - 14	33 - 3	46 - 0
U16C	33 - 5	17 - 12	52 - 0
U14A	43 - 0	32 - 7	45 - 14
U14B	33 - 19	34 - 7	20 - 14

Term 3 Triple Crown			
Team	Wynberg	SACS	Bishops
U19E	31 - 12	15 - 12	19 - 12
U16A	43 - 8	16 - 0	11 - 5
U16B	24 - 10	27 - 0	15 - 7
U14A	67 - 0	34 - 5	15 - 14

Grand Slam - 2011						
Term 2				Term 3		
Team	Wynberg	SACS	Bishops	Wynberg	SACS	Bishops
U16B	24 - 14	33 - 3	46 - 0	24 - 14	27 - 0	15 - 7
U14A	43 - 0	32 - 7	45 - 14	43 - 0	34 - 5	15 - 14



photos courtesy of Andrew Louwrens



Match Reports

U19A vs Bishops (lost 12 - 37)

It is with a heavy heart that I write my report this week. Not because we lost, but because I believe that this is a special team, and they did not deserve to end such an outstanding season like this. What makes it hurt even more, was not really when all the “experts” have so much advice after the match of what should have been done, but it was hearing all the supporters who were there to watch this team for probably the first time this year, judge the boys on what they saw this weekend. There is no denying that a 6 tries to 2 tries loss is a bit of a “klap”, and that this was the second biggest loss we suffered this year after the loss to Boishaai. We all know that on the day, we made mistakes, made some wrong decisions, and played an opponent who lifted their game, when we could not. It is really as simple as that - not that it makes it any more pleasant when we lost.

As far as the game was concerned, I believe that we really shrugged off the old habit of starting like a stuttering engine on a cold morning. In fact, when Selom scored our first try in the 8th minute of the match, I felt that it was done in such a clinical, calculated, and controlled way, that Bishops were going to struggle to contain us for a further 60 minutes. Even when they scored their 1st try only 5 minutes later from a very rare defensive error (for probably the 1st time this term, the pillar defender followed the dummy and left a huge gap next to the ruck), I was not worried. Trailing 7 - 10 at half time, it looked like we would be able to take control with our pack and start to dominate like we did against SACS.

But then the second half came, and things started to unravel. Not all the kicks went where they were intended to go, too many first time tackles were missed, and for the first time in many matches, injuries started to force changes on the field. We became our own worst enemy, and a rampant Bishops took full advantage of the situation, led by an outstanding performance from SA Schools player Tim Swiel, and their imported English Exchange Program wing, Harry Gooderham, who both started to find the gaps from counter attacks deep in their own half, to set up tries, and both of them each scoring one as well. We tried bravely, and with 10 minutes left, Brandon Volbrecht scored a try to give us some hope for a miracle two more tries (like we did to them last time). But when they scored again just 3 minutes later, it was all over, and they drove the nail in the coffin with another try on full time.

I want to finish my final Bosch Blitz report by saluting a team who went to KES and gave Johannesburg a game they still talk about; a team that went to Paarl and convincingly beat Gim on their own field; a team who refused to bow to a mighty Paul Roos; a team who went to Cape Schools and came back undefeated after facing Dale, Grey High, and St Andrews; a team who won 5 of the 6 Southern Suburbs Derbies (the best since 1997); and a team who delighted and entertained their supporters for 21 matches. Well done boys, we will remember you!



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U19B vs Bishops (drew 13 - 13)

Mixed emotions. Gratefulness. Exhausted.

After a week of intense preparation and focusing on ticking off all the boxes in order to be fresh and ready for the final match of the season, the boys were confident that we can end strongly against Bishops on home soil.

The reality is that life is not always a fairy tale and our pack of forwards unfortunately didn't pitch for the game. We were totally outplayed in the set pieces - the same platform from where we scored so many tries during the season. Even the best game plan in the world means nothing when the team is unable to secure quality ball in the set pieces. Losing the majority of our line-outs and conceding a couple of tight heads, puts us under an enormous amount of pressure against a Bishops team that didn't fire on all cylinders either.

Douglas Waddilove, captain courageous throughout the season, kept us in the game at half time with a couple of penalties. With just a few minutes left and Bishops leading by 13 - 6, the mood behind the posts was one of frustration, disbelief and disappointment. However, as so many times earlier in the season, our captain stepped up to the plate and scored a converted try next to the poles to draw the match 13 all when the final whistle went. I suppose a second draw in a row can be considered as acceptable by many people, but only the boys will really know whether they let themselves down or not. The bigger picture, however, shows that this team grew in stature as the season went on and lost only one of the six local derby matches this season. But more about that in the school magazine! Man of the Match: Douglas Waddilove



U19C vs Bishops (won 16 - 5)

With the last game of the season, and, against the old foe, the Dogs kept their best performance for last. From the kick-off the Dogs kept the ball and this allowed rising star winger, Alerick Hobbs to fend off two Bishops defenders and run 30m to score in the corner. Ten minutes later it was dejavu with Hobbs weaving his way past two defenders and powering his way with a hand-off to score again in the corner 12-0. The line-outs were a spectacle to watch and Captain Tom kept the opposition guessing at all times.

Second half - flyhalf, Leroy April kept the scoreboard ticking and the visitors were left to play catch up rugby. It wasn't just great attacking rugby on display, we saw some really committed defence by the Dogs. Bishops had no answer and no way through a tough tackling Dogs team, who were clearly up for revenge from the first round game. This was a fantastic display of rugby and more importantly showed great sportsmanship as the Dogs controlled the game.

It has been an absolute pleasure to coach the Dogs, the attitude of the boys, which is always on display on any given match day, is a great reflection of what Rondebosch Boys' is all about - it's more than rugby. Congrats to all who played for the Dogs this year and kept the flag flying.

Force vs Bishops U19D (lost 8 - 20)

Sadly the arrival of the Wildboys marked the end of a somewhat up and down season for the Force. The Force once again produced some of the best rugby that I have seen being played at this level.

The Force defended valiantly during the 1st half only to have 2 tries scored against them, the Force found themselves on the back foot at half time. Some stern words from the Captain, Matt Harris and some of the senior players seemed to be the catalyst needed to change the flow of the game.

The Force attacked from all sides of the Forcefield breaching the try line of the Wildboys on 3 occasions, only to have 2 tries disallowed -1 to a knock on over the line and 1 being held up. Once again the Force outdid themselves to such an extent that the referee congratulated the Force players on the magnificent way in which they played the game and added that it was a pleasure to ref, even though at times he admitted that he might have forgotten that he was the referee as he was mesmerized with the outstanding standard of play.

The final score was 20 Wildboys 8 Force, Our man of the match was shared by 2 players Richard the open side flank and Neil our inside centre.

To all the boys who have had the privilege to play in the Force all 30 + in 2011, thank you. Well done Force you made me proud to be associated with you.





Flyers vs Bishops U19E (won 19 - 12)

A full-strength Flyers side, bolstered by new signings in the week took to the field brimming with confidence and pride as one of the few teams on track for the Triple Crown. Skipper Matthew Budden used his brilliant tactical mind to choose to play against the wind in the first half after winning the toss. With a strong breeze putting us under pressure, we had to defend for most of the first half, playing most of the game in our 22. Bishops only managed to score 5 points in that time, a testament to our defensive patterns which we focused on in the week. The second half was a completely different story as we applied incredible pressure to get our first try out wide through Robin Dwyer. Carrying on the pressure we forced Bishops to run the ball from their own line, causing a handling error which was picked up by Andrew de Villiers to score "under the posts, coach!" as Andrew Winter put it to me as he nearly tore my shirt. An easy conversion by Maddy Williams followed. Bishops returned these two quick tries with some strong attacks on our line, eventually getting through to score near the posts to convert. Not losing any focus or confidence at all, the Flyers came right back and off a few phases Maddy Williams popped an inside ball to Captain Matthew Budden who crashed over the line carrying three defenders with him. A difficult conversion followed but words of wisdom from the coaching staff, combined with some overtime kicking practice allowed Maddy Williams to bend the ball mid-flight to seal a 7-pointer for the Flyers. The boys defended like Trojans for the rest of the match, the Dwyer twins putting in all kinds of tackles whenever the ball got to the Bishops wings. The final whistle blew and the field was invaded by our fans that showered us in champagne to celebrate our Triple Crown victory!

Stunners vs Bishops U19F (won 25 - 12)

The Stunners decided to make a repeat performance of last week's match by once again saving the good stuff for the second half. After putting themselves under unnecessary pressure for most of the first half, Dylan Mountford crashed over the line after some great forward interplay. The coaches again employed their infamous 'bad cop, worse cop' tactic in the half-time huddle and the results showed in the second half as we started applying enormous pressure through the well-educated boot of Ryan Grant allowing us to play all the rugby in Bishops half. Eventually, after a few butchered chances, including a ball dropped over the try line, Tom Mountford dived over in the corner for the first of three tries. We again assaulted the Bishops advantage line through the absolutely massive Brad Pepler employing his water polo arm to pull off some offloads. We managed to win a penalty within kicking range and Ryan Grant was more than happy to flourish on the pressure of getting a kick to put us into the lead for the first time in the match. In the following minutes, Preston Cox received the ball on the 22 and gave his signature dummy to put himself clean through to dot down next to the posts with an easy conversion for Ryan Grant. To top off a great comeback Samuel Carstens decided to score his first try of the season the only way he knows how: rounding his defender and leaving the cover defence for dead, flamboyantly diving over in the corner for one of the most champagne tries of the year!

U19G vs Bishops (won 42 - 7)

Tries from Ryan Lewis (hatrick), Andre Edwards, Ted, Akho Lupuwana. Conversions by Mandi (3) and Dylan McFarlan (3)

U16A vs Bishops (won 11 - 5)

The U16A team did not have a bad day at the office - they won 11 - 5, however, the team did not display the sparkle as they did in previous games. Bishops were extremely competitive and were probably unlucky to have not scored more points. Nic Le Roux scored a try, and Tyren Lee kicked two penalties. Well done on being Triple Crown winners.

U16B vs Bishops (won 15 - 7)

Well done to the Bosch U16B team - winners of the Triple Crown AND the Grand Slam. The Bosch team showed a tremendous amount of courage to come from behind and win, down 7 - 0 at half time, the boys rallied to win 15 - 7.



U16C vs Bishops (lost 15 - 7)

The U16 C's played a hard game but was not sufficiently consistent or purposeful in their playing. Consequently they lost 15 - 7. Both the C&D teams have had very good seasons and have put in some very spirited play and the boys must be complimented on their team spirit.

U16D vs Bishops (lost 31 - 5)

The U16 D's played with a team depleted by fasting and injuries therefore a number of non-rugby extras were conscripted to assist the team. They all put in a good effort.

U15A vs Bishops (lost 12 - 19)

Having watched the U15A game it is not surprising that there are so many followers of the game of Rugby. We saw 30 young men giving their all for their respective sides, but unfortunately there can only be one winner.

The score line of 12-19 tells nothing of the commitment shown or of the opportunities lost. For example with the score at 5 all (try scored by Josh Kaplan), we had 75 % possession and were all over the opposition and attacking the Bishops try line with a 3 on 1 overlap and 5 m out when the Bishop's wing intercepted the ball and ran 95m to score under the sticks - heartbreak!

In the second half we used the wind wisely and had Bishops defending frantically in their own quarter for much of the half, only to see them run in a long distance try from their own goal line. With the score now at 5-19 it would be impossible to win the game, but the Bosch charges never gave up and scored a consolation try, by Francois Swart, it gave the scoreboard a better reflection on how close the game had been.

At the end of the day all one can say is that we gave it our all and well done to Bishops for using the few opportunities that they had and for defending well.

U15B vs Bishops

Once again we started strongly and scored a well worked try through Kyle Ritchie. Bishops hit back strongly and we had to defend for long periods of time, eventually conceding twice. We looked very strong on attack but unfortunately could not finish off from our numerous line breaks. It was a disappointing end to the season but the boys can hold their heads high after a season in which they improved greatly.

U15C vs Bishops (lost 5 - 29)

Derby day! It must be said that the boys ran out onto the pitch on Saturday buzzing from the previous weeks win against SACS. but as momentum goes it seemed as though the boys had run out of steam. This is unfortunate, for the boys really had come on in leaps and bounds throughout the season. It's always tough to go down against the old foe down the road, Bishops, but truthfully they were a much better side only due to the fact that they had consistent selections and kept the same team week in and week out; opposed to Boschs' injury woes and selections from the top. Nonetheless, the boys stuck to it and played their hearts out every second of the game. Bjorn going over in the corner may have seemed to be a consolation try, but I feel it was testament of the 'Never say Die' attitude the boys delivered. All in all it has been a fantastic season and a real privilege to see the boys grow in stature!





U15D vs Bishops (lost 7 - 13)

The D's gave it their absolute all from the very word go. It's always great to see boys come out of the wood work for derby games such as this, but it makes you wonder where they have been hiding all season and what a difference they would've made had they showed more commitment. Nonetheless, as an old boy it's fantastic to see players getting the ruggus bug and the thirst to play against Bishops. The game could've gone either way but the so called 'Bishops Bounce' was back in play and the boys were unlucky to have gone down. A few stalwarts in Josh Malan and Calvin Davis were forced to leave the battlefield during the game, if they had stayed on it could've seen a completely different outcome. Vuyo, had an absolute stormer on the wing, both in defence and in attack, and had a sensational individual try which saw him galloping in over the white wash from his own 22m line. It has been an absolute privilege to have coached such a side as this and I can't wait to see the boys in action again next year!

U14A vs Bishops (won 15 - 14)

Jamie King and his team knew that Bishops would try anything to avenge the drubbing they received on Lutgensvale in the first term. Bishops pride was badly dented and rumours were flying that the boys in white were going to make sure that they took this one, whatever the cost may be.

The game was tight. Bishops learnt to tackle and effectively shut the Bosch loose trio down from breaking away. Their rush defence almost neutralised our effective backs and their determination to win was paramount.

But they were not able to break our team. Superbly led by King, they remained calm, stuck to their patterns and engineered two excellent tries to take a 10-0 lead seven minutes from the turn. First right wing Rory Thomson ran hard down the line, did an excellent side-step and then really turned on the gas to score after four minutes. Two minutes later centre Kyle Ballakistan broke through to score his 16th try of the season.

Bishops bounced back with a breakaway converted try in the 18th minute to go 7-10 into the second half. Two minutes after the restart number eight Pieter Slabbert ran hard after a planned move to score in the corner to put Bosch up 15-7. Bishops were, however, not prepared to give up and ten minutes later a converted try brought them within one point of Bosch. From then on it was a grinding battle. Bishops tried everything to score, but the blue defence held. Bosch tried hard to do the same but the white defences were too solid.

Realising that Bishops must not be allowed to go ahead, Rondebosch played real controlled rugby in the last ten minutes. They retained ball, drove forward, kicked up field for touch and turned around possession several times to ensure they kept the slender lead. Lesser sides would have thrown caution to the wind in an attempt to score a try, but our boys played the right game and achieved which was arguably their finest hour (or ten minutes rather). This was the type of play that showed what discipline and determination can do.

When referee Leon Erasmus blew the final whistle 15 relieved and overjoyed boys in blue jumped, hugged, cried, shouted and treasured a great win, a super season, and above all, a Grand Slam!

U14B vs Bishops (won 33 - 17)

In a game that produced four superb tries by speedster Ferhad Ahmed on the left wing, Rondebosch convincingly beat Bishops after leading 14-0 at half-time.

Eddie Stiles and his men continued where they left off against Wynberg last week and played their best rugby of the season. The pack was superb with Stiles and flank Lazlo Pschorn leading the drives and locks Leo Figueria and Byron Bowes as well as prop Nick Witten not far behind. Scrumhalf Anthony Duckitt was always a handful and often broke to send centres Liam Ludski and Jason Waugh away.

Fullback Dayyaan Galiem joined the line regularly and was rewarded with a try in the second half. Flyhalf Nicholas Stander slotted four conversions.



U14C vs Bishops (lost 17 - 25)

The team played with heart and determination for the whole game. It was a very entertaining game to watch. A big plus was our rucking at the loose scrum and we played very well when we had the ball and did not stand back to our opposition. Two of the forwards went onto score superb tries after many phases. As coaches there was a lot to be proud of on Saturday and we look forward to see what these boys will do next year. All in all we had a good season and it was fun to see the boy's grow. Tries: Jonathan Weideman, Chris Stephenson, Mojalefa Moisa

U14D vs Bishops (lost 0 - 32)

The boys played with heart and determination, but they were outplayed by the structure and strength of Bishops. The boys put in a good effort and played a hard 50min without giving up. We thank the boys for their dedication and time this season and we are sure next year will be a better year for them.

Tribute to Mr Barker:



The 1st XV team traditionally links arms to sing the school song in unison with the rest of the school at the end of a match. This weekend was no exception when the school played Bishops in their final match of the season. In recognition of this being the last home derby for retiring Headmaster, Martin Barker, the team paid tribute to him by singing the school song in front of the chalet before his departure to the post-match function.

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A huge thank you from the team at Rugbymatters for the honour of being part of the Bosch Rugby Season, in the Bosch Blitz and on our website. To Gustaf, Clinton, the RBHS coaches, the Bosch Rugby Supporters' Club, Old Boys, sponsors, parents and friends: you've put together an incredible performance 'behind the posts' this year, and to the Bosch Men who've given their all at practices and matches during the 2011 season: you've written yourselves into the history of WP Schools Rugby and answered the call of your School - you've had an amazing run, we salute you and look forward to following your successes again in 2012.

Long may the 'Tree' continue to bear rugby fruit!