

Reflections 8: 2018 – Paarl Boys Remembrance Open by Dr Advocate Lyndon Bouah

Over the weekend of 24 February 2018 the Paarl Boys Remembrance Open event took place in Paarl. Paarl Boys High is one of the oldest schools in South Africa and this event was held as part of its 150 anniversary celebrations. The motto of the school is Tandem Fit Arbor Surculus which translated from Latin means "The twig will eventually become a tree!"

According to Wikipedia each year the school takes part in one of the biggest interschools in South Africa against its arch rival, Paarl Gimnasium High School. The main event (the under 19 A rugby match) attracts over 20 000 spectators to the Faure Street Stadium. The school has produced many Springboks, from legends like Boy Louw, Mannetjies Roux and Carel Du Plessis to more recent players like Corne Krige, Guthro Steenkamp and Frans Malherbe. The school is ranked as the top rugby school in South Africa.

So to celebrate, it organised a Chess tournament as part of the celebrations. The tournament had two sections. The youth section had 64 players and was won by Chris Boshoff with 5.5/6. A good turnout.

The main section had 41 competitors and attracted players from across the Western Province and Cape Winelands region. The event was won by Micheal James from Cape Town who scored 5.5/6. James drew with his UWC club mate Cherwin Kleinsmidt in round four but smashed the rest of the field.



Micheal James at Paarl Boys' High School

The top rated Bernard Klein lost to up and coming junior Ethan Samuels in round four. Ethan has been having a great 2018 and is knocking on the door of the Steinitz senior team. In third position was Junior Mncwabe from UWC. He scored 5/6. Cherwin and Ethan and Matthew Sheldon ended with 4.5. Sheldon was a surprise as he is only rated 1326. The event was well run by Andrew Talmarkes and I am glad that this event was part of the celebrations of Paarl Boys High School.

Micheal has sent me two of his games. In the first game against Ethan Samuels, Samuels feel the pressure against his king on the light square diagonal. Fireworks abound!

In the second game James played Deon Pick who succumbed to pressure this time on the dark squares! Enjoy the games.

[Date "2018.02.24"]

[Round "5"]

[White "Samuels, E."]

[Black "James, M."]

[Result "0-1"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 e6 3. f4 a6 4. d3 d5 5. Nf3 Nf6 6. e5 Nfd7 7. g3 b5 8. Bg2 Bb7
9. O-O Nc6 10. Ne2 Qc7 11. d4 h6 12. c3 O-O-O 13. Be3 Be7 14. Rc1 Kb8 15. Kh1
Rdg8 16. Bh3 g6 17. Qd2 g5 18. fxg5 hxg5 19. Bg2 Qd8 20. dxc5 Ndx5 21. Nxe5
Nxe5 22. Bd4 Nc4 23. Qc2 f6 24. b3 Na5 25. Rcd1 e5 26. Bg1 Qd7 27. Qd2 Qc6 28.
Bxd5 Rd8 29. c4 bxc4 30. Nc3 Rxd5 31. Nxd5 Rd8 32. Qg2 Rxd5 33. Rxd5 Qxd5 34.

[Date "2018.02.24"]

[Round "6"]

[White "Michael, James"]

[Black "Pick, D."]

[Result "1-0"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Bd3 Nc6 6. Nxc6 bxc6 7. O-O d6 8.
Kh1 Be7 9. f4 Qc7 10. Qe1 Bb7 11. e5 Nd7 12. exd6 Bxd6 13. Nc3 Nf6 14. Ne4 a6
15. Bd2 Nxe4 16. Bxe4 c5 17. Ba5 Qc8 18. Rd1 Be7 19. Bc3 Bxe4 20. Qxe4 O-O 21.
f5 Rb8 22. f6 Bd8 23. Qg4 g6 24. Qg5 Kh8 25. Rd3 Qc6 26. Qh6 Rg8 27. Qxh7+ {
Resigns.} 1-0

Regards

Dr Lyndon Bouah