

Matters of Principal

Our small school has a short but enterprising history. As I have said on many occasions, what has happened on this campus over the past 25 years has been extraordinary. The development on this campus is second to none and we can be proud of some world class facilities in our Astro, High Performance Centre and some of the technology in our classrooms. Yet, as we all know, schools are about so much more than the buildings. They are places of teaching and learning, of building relationships, building a sense of belonging and a sense of pride. As a result of Covid fatigue and a general negativity that exists in society, much of this sense of pride and school spirit has been lost. When I speak of school pride, I speak of that feeling amongst our pupil body that they want to be a part of this "special thing". School pride is not something that you can simply demand. It requires hard work and commitment. It requires buy-in to what it is that we want be as a collective; it requires sacrifice and occasionally inconvenience, but the reward of that feeling of being a part of something bigger than oneself is worth it.

Over the past few weeks our Head of Marketing, Beth Coetzee, has been going through past marketing material and school archives and she came across some documentation that has often been spoken about but that I have never seen. She showed it to me this week! On 25 August 2015 the Grade 11 class made a proposal to Mr Carolan, the then Headmaster. The objective was clear:

To introduce the idea of the 'Badger' or Honey Badger as Stanford Lake College's animal or mascot in order to bring about school spirit and pride and unite the student body behind a common symbol.

Goals:

• To promote a newfound and revitalised sense of school spirit and pride.

• To unite the student and school body behind a single symbol or image.

• To start a legacy/tradition and enrich the school's history and identity as the 'Stanford Badgers'.

• To keep up with the globalisation of the universal idea of a 'mascot' and match and better competitor schools such as Mitchell House and Heuwelkruin at sports days.

• To give us new material to conceptualise cheers; themes; informal team shirts/attire logos, etc.

• To honour the late Mr Wikus van der Walt who taught us so much about spirit, teamwork and resilience.

• Along with the Stanford trees, to enrich the imagery of the school.

With its long claws, thick skin and razor-sharp teeth, the honey badger or *Mellivora capensis* meaning "honey eater of the Cape" has been listed every year since 2002 in the Guinness Book of World Records as "THE WORLD'S MOST FEARLESS CREATURE".

It has no natural predators and is known to go after anything, anytime, anywhere.

We can all learn from history - and it is time to rejuvenate pride and spirit at Stanford Lake College.

Next year will we celebrate our 25th year and it will be the year of the badger. We will be bold, brave and brilliant, like the fearless badger that is our mascot.





SILVER FOR DEBATING TEAM

by Nanaki Kgopong

On Wednesday 26th October, we as the Senior Debating Team had the privilege of participating in the Mayor's Cup final debate hosted at Library Gardens in Polokwane. It was delightful to hear that out of 54 teams and after many demanding debates, our debating team came second in our division. It was an energy packed finale full of critical thinking and insightful floor questions. The humidity increased the intensity of the day but we didn't shy away from any challenge. To my debating team, thank you for working harmoniously as a collective this season. To Ms Hlungwane, we wouldn't have been able to accomplish this without you - thank you for always being by our side and ed-



iting our speeches. To the junior grades, give debating a chance, who knows, you might win the Mayor's Cup one day!



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in the third selection round for South African team for the Pistol Calibre Carbine (PCC) World Shoot. The competition took place at

Frontier Range in Stilfontein. Llewellyn came fourth in the Super Junior age category and ended up third overall in South Africa among the Super Juniors. He narrowly missed selection for the South African team by 8 points.



HONOURS FOR RUBEN

Congratulations to Ruben le Roux who was awarded his Honours for his commitment and dedication to horse riding on Monday.

Stanford Lake College Zhristmas larol ervice)99

Wednesday 30th November 6:30pm-7:30 pm Dream an' Do Centre No Charge! RSVP: gbrown@slc.co.za **Booking Essential**

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Stanford Bash

Trophy Toyota

Stanford hosted the inaugural T20 Bash this past weekend. Pietersburg Hoërskool (PHS), Ben Vorster, and Merensky all participated in the T20 tournament. The first fixtures took place on Friday afternoon when Stanford took on Ben Vorster on the Scholefield Oval and Merensky took on PHS.

Stanford won the toss and elected to bowl first. Ben Vorster scored 150 for seven in their allotted 20 overs. Ruben Vosloo was the top scorer making 45 runs off 35 balls and was well supported by Gideon Goosen (44 from 30 balls). The pick of the Stanford bowlers was Finn Straughan taking three wickets for 21 runs in three overs and was supported by Travis Hudson taking two wickets for 13 runs in his four overs. Stanford started their run chase and fell short by 55 runs as they were bowled out for 95 runs. Zayd Moosa was the pick of the batsmen scoring 23 runs off 16 balls. Ruben Vosloo took four wickets for 13 runs in his four overs. Ruben Vosloo was announced as the player of the match.

In the PHS vs Merensky game, Merensky won the toss and elected to bat first. Merensky scored 89 for nine in their allotted 20 overs. Rinaldo Borman did well with the bat, scoring 20 runs from 15 balls. The PHS bowlers did a fine job with Hanno van Zyl and Zandre Hatting each taking three wickets. PHS chased the target down within 12 overs and won the game by 10 wickets. Michael Nel scored 50 off 34 balls and was announced as the player of the match.

On Saturday, PHS took on Ben Vorster. PHS won the toss and elected to bowl first. Ben Vorster was bowled out for 74 within 16 overs. Tristan Buglass scored 19 runs off 24 balls. Hanno van Zyl was brilliant with the ball, taking three wickets for 15 runs in three overs. Michael Nel and Nicolas Oerlemans took two wickets a piece. PHS chased the target down within 15 overs with five wickets in hand. Michael Nel scored 26 runs from 20 balls. Ben Vorster's best bowler came in the form of Ruben Vosloo taking three wickets for 16 runs in four overs. Michael Nel was announced as the player of the match.

Stanford took on Merensky on the Scholefield Oval. Merensky won the toss and sent the home team in to bat first. Stanford posted 99 for nine in their allotted 20 overs with Finn Straughan scoring 21 runs off 13 balls. Maan Mistry and Luka Heinlein each took two wickets. Merensky chased the target down within the 19th over with four wickets in hand. Adriaan du Plessis scored 26 runs off 33 balls and he was well supported by Rinaldo Borman scoring 23 runs in 14 balls. The pick of Stanford's bowlers was Pearson Mumba taking three wickets for 18 runs in 3.3 overs. David Mulder also chipped in with two wickets for 14 runs in his four wickets.

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The afternoon saw another tightly fought contest when Merensky and Ben Vorster took to the field. The winner of this match would take on PHS in the final on Sunday morning. Merensky won the toss and elected to bowl first. Ben Vorster were in trouble early on as they were restricted to 8/3 within two overs. They were bowled out for 119 runs with Ruben Vosloo scoring 53 runs in 54 balls. Merensky's best bowler was Christian de Beer taking three wickets for 15 runs in three overs. Merensky took to the crease and needed 12 off the last over. Gideon Goosen from Ben Vorster held his nerve and bowled well to restrict Merensky to 155 for 9 in their allotted 20 overs. Gideon was the pick of the bowlers taking three wickets for 21 runs in four overs. Maan Mistry held Merensky in the game scoring 30 runs off 33 balls. Ruben Vosloo was announced as the player of the match. Ben Vorster secured their spot in the final.

Stanford took on log leaders, PHS. Stanford won the toss and elected to bowl first. PHS scored a mammoth 174 for four in their allotted 20 overs. Drian Hartslief was the best batsman and contributed 53 runs off 42 balls. Pearson Mumba was the pick of Stanford's bowling attack, taking two for 37 in his four overs. Stanford was bowled out for 48. Zandre Hatting was the bowler of the day taking five wickets for seven runs in his four overs. He was also announced as the player of the match.

Sunday morning saw Stanford taking on Merensky for the dirty gold and PHS and Ben Vorster clashing for the trophy. In the match between Stanford and Merensky, Stanford won the toss and elected to bowl first. Merensky posted 153 for four in their allotted 20 overs. Travis Hudson took two wickets for 27 runs in four overs. Maan Mistry scored 55 runs and was well supported by Rinaldo Borman who contributed 46 runs. Stanford then took to the crease to start their run chase. The home team was unfortunately bowled out for 68 runs. Maan Mistry took three wickets for 11 runs in his four overs. He was also announced as the player of the match.

The final between PHS and Ben Vorster was a great display of batting. Ben Vorster won the toss and chose to bat first. They scored 138 for eight in their allotted 20 overs with Ruben Vosloo's 35 runs and Njabo's 29 runs. Nicolas Oerlemans was the best bowler taking three wickets for 12 runs in two overs. Zandre Hatting also contributed with three wickets. PHS got their chase off well putting on a 95-run first-wicket partnership between Michael Nel and Nicolas Oerlemans. The latter ended up scoring 54 runs off 44 balls and was announced as the player of the match. PHS chased the target down with 15 overs with nine wickets in hand. PHS securing the first T20 Bash trophy.

A big thank you to the following sponsors for making this weekend possible: Trophy Toyota, KH Sports, Stitchberry, CTM Tzaneen, Iron Crown Pub and Grill, MACS Patel Brothers Accountants, North East Office Equipment, and MRA Insurance Brokers Limpopo.

We are looking forward to hosting this tournament again next year.

