

Sharks Rugby Team Visits Phokeng



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

The Sharks players, coaching staff and RBS staff with some of the kids who attended the training clinics
By Keabetswe Diale

Royal Bafokeng Sports (RBS) recently hosted the 2010 Currie Cup champions at the sports campus. The Sharks Rugby Team spent a week training at the campus, preparing for the season, which starts with the Super Rugby Competition in a few weeks time.

During their stay at the campus, the team held training clinics for RBS intermediate children and Lebone college learners. This provided an opportunity for the school kids to interact not only with the players, but also with coaching staff.

The delegation included John Plumtree, head coach for the Sharks, assistant coaches Grant Bashford and Hugh Reece- Edwards, and John Smit who is the current captain for the Sharks and the winning 2007 World Cup captain for the Springboks.

Plumtree gave the learners words of encouragement. He told them to acquire the skill first and exercise patience if they want to see themselves becoming successful rugby players.

While addressing the players during

breakfast, George Khunou, the Managing Director of RBS, said that sport has played a major role in transforming our society. "The 1995 Rugby World Cup held in South Africa was the beginning of the real transformation. Some of us did not know how the rugby ball looked and we were failing to understand its shape or how it is handled and kicked, because we knew from football that, as a player, you were not supposed to touch the ball as it was a serious offence".

Khunou went on to say, "today we have our young boys playing rugby

at a very early age in an area that is known to be rural. We are very happy and pleased to see the Sharks here in Phokeng. The Sharks are really blessed to be here and I hope that Platinum Stars has learnt many things from them including what it took for the Sharks to be the champions".

Platinum Stars also had an opportunity to join the Sharks at breakfast. The two teams exchanged signed jerseys to mark their union and support for each other.



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

Hugh Reece-Edwards and Captain John Smit conducting clinics



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

Obed Legobate and John Smit exchanging signed jerseys

RBS Sports Development Introduces Sports in Schools

By Ezzy Seabelo

A call from a high level, including the President and the Minister of Sports, will see different Sporting codes being introduced in Bafokeng Schools. RBS Development division has already implemented this initiative and a few schools are already undergoing sports training sessions.

Two Directors within the Development division, Sam Hodson, Director: Sports in Schools, and Ezzy

Seabelo, Director: Intermediate and Elite Sports, have been charged with the responsibility to drive the process together with a team of Sports Coordinators and Coaches in all sporting codes.

The Royal Bafokeng Nation is looking forward to the success of this initiative and hope that it will be adopted nationwide. Hodson will be responsible for Physical Education and after School Sports

while Seabelo will oversee the Inter-schools Competitions and Intermediate Teams in all five sporting codes.

More good news is that Basketball will now be introduced as the sixth sporting code within the community and this also includes the schools. Plans to build 16 Outside Courts for this sporting code are underway and the full roll out of the programme is expected in

the next two to three months.

"We are really gearing up this year in building our community in Sports", said Seabelo

Editor: Christelle Du Toit

Sub-Editor: Minah Huma

Contributors:

Keabetswe Diale

Annemie Bester

Ezzy Seabelo

Aubrey Molobi

Obed Legobate

Moss Ramatja

Photography: Keabetswe Diale

Royal Bafokeng Sports

contact details

Development office:

014 566 0000/15

Platinum Stars office:

014 573 4100(Club House)

014 566 0000 (Bafokeng Plaza)

Vision Statement

We envision a vibrant, healthy and patriotic Bafokeng Community transformed through sport towards vision 2020 and beyond.

Mission Statement

To implement a holistic strategy through sport, promoting: Responsibility, Creativity Pride, Patriotism, Sustainability, Volunteerism, Culture, Professionalism, Respect, Discipline, Ethics, Morals, Sharing, Caring and Health

A Sports Academy for up-and-coming Sports Stars

By Keabetswe Diale

The Bafokeng Sports Academy opened its doors for the first 22 pupils at the beginning of January. The boys will stay at the academy for the next five years while they train to become professional soccer players.

The Bafokeng Sports Academy is a training and development institution focused on development of talented sportsmen from the young age of 13 years until they are about 18 years old. The Academy started with only two sporting codes, namely football and athletics

In addition to developing these boys' talent to their full sporting potential, the boys will be provided with accommodation, balanced meals and medical care. Fourteen of the boys are pupils at Seolo Junior Secondary School and eight of them attend school at Tlaseng Primary School. Their school uniform as well as casual wear, training kits and school fees are also provided by the sports academy.



Academy boys on their first day of school

For the boys, the academy has given them a life changing opportunity and they are prepared to make the most of it. We wish them all the best for the future!

The selected boys in the above picture are: Charles Baloyi; Mohau Tonyane; Gift Links; Thembalane Matlawe; Thapelo Mmusi; Letlhogonolo Mokgathe; Refilwe Phoka; Tuelo Malepane; Kobamelo Kodisang; Itumeleng Stone; Mveliso

Mange; Katlego Khunou; Katlego Molifi; Boiki Modisakeng; Bongwiwe Mosweu; Sbusiso Mabiliso; Tshepo Moteke; Amos Mashishi; Oupa Mapena; Koketso Sekudu; Tshepo Serumula and Thato Ramafsi.

Picture: Keabetswe Diale

Sports Profile: Eugene Thiipe



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

EUGENE THIPE

Born: 29 years ago

Marital Status: Married

Eugene Thiipe is the founder of Bafokeng Athletics Club which was established in February 2004. He was appointed as the national coach for the youth championships in 2006; in 2008 he became the SA junior sprints coach and was finally promoted to a senior national team sprints coach in 2009 for the IAAF championships.

Thiipe is proud to be one of the youngest elite coaches in the world. He is also the first black coach to produce the first black female athlete to represent South Africa at the Olympics (Tsholofelo Thiipe). He gives all credit to *Kgosi* Leruo Molotlegi for believing in his ability as an athlete. As the manager and coach, he is thankful for the support the RBS and athletic federations have given him.

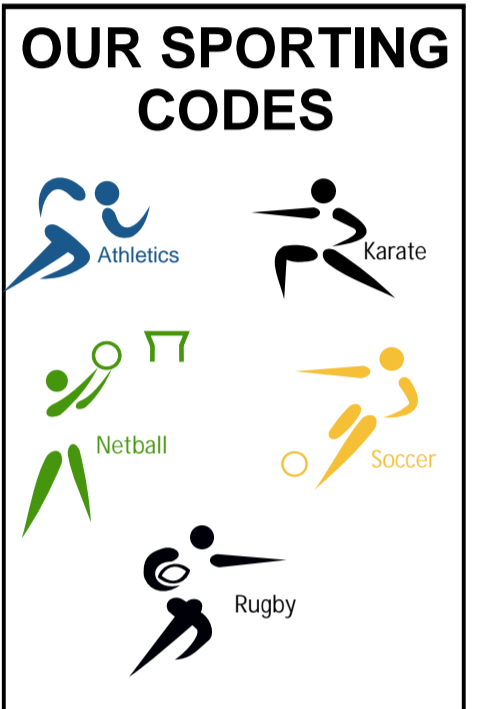
He says his dream is to see four Bafokeng athletes at the London Olympics in 2012.

Facts about Thiipe:

- Won the SA schools athletics title at the age of 15
- Won the schools Athletics World Cup in France in 1997
- Played for the Blue Bulls under 19 team in 1999.
- Had a knee injury in the year 2000 and decided to focus on athletics only as he was active in the two sporting codes.
- He was awarded an Athletic scholarship at the Washington States University in the year 2000 where he also studied Human Movement Science. He was also awarded a USN (Ultimate Sports

Nutrition) sponsorship for a period of 10 years.

- Thiipe was awarded another Athletics scholarship at the University of Pretoria in 1999 where he acquired a Btech in Criminal law.



By Annemie Bester

Former Lion's player, Shandr  Frolick, started training with the Leopards when they kicked off their 2011 campaign in the second week of January.

Frolick could very well secure himself a lucrative contract with the Potchefstroom based side for this year's Currie Cup campaign. Leopards coach Leon Boshoff was keen to have the speedy fullback and wing join his squad.

"We are a bit thin in the backline with injuries to key players keeping them next to the field. We still don't know if Joubert Engelbrecht has been included in the final Super 15 group of the Lions, while Danie Dames, Jovan Bolwes, and Theo van Wyk are still on the injury list," Boshoff commented.



Picture: Annemie Bester

Shandr  Frolick

Locks Gys Briedenhann and Bradley Mockford have only just come out of rehabilitation after injuries and front ranker Os van der Walt tore his

ligaments and will only be ready to play later on in the Currie Cup.

Two University of the North West (Puk) players who have been training with the Leopards, Dauw Steyn and Andr  Barnard, might very well feature in the Vodacom Cup.

"I am excited about the year and what I have witnessed since we started training this week. The players are all fitter and stronger after the hard three weeks in December", said Boshoff.

The Leopards will play two friendlies in preparation for the Vodacom Cup. On 5 February they tackle the Griffons in Potchefstroom, and on 11 February they will play against the Bulls in Rustenburg at Impala rugby club.

Boy Diale turns 50



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

Platinum Stars' Assistant Team Manager, Boy Diale turned 50 on the 5th of January 2011.

We would like to wish him all the best and hope he reaches a century.

Thanks for reading the January issue of Utlwang. If you have any comments and suggestions please contact: Keabetswe Diale on (014) 573 4100 or enquiries@bafokengsports.com

Platinum Stars donates to the needy

by Keabetswe Diale

14 December, Platinum Stars joined hands with Three Star Cash & Carry and Radio Mafisa to reach out to the needy community. About 500 food packages for the disadvantaged families were received by the representatives of the Diocese of Rustenburg, who were very grateful for the donation.

Platinum Stars Supporters Relations Manager Aubrey Molobi said their aim was to share the Christmas spirit with the less fortunate. Radio Mafisa entertained the people at Three Star Cash & Carry where they also interviewed some Platinum Stars players.



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

Platinum Stars Players with fans at Three Star Cash and Carry



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

From left: Aubrey Molobi, Thabo Mokgothu, Buang Mathanjwa, Jose, George Mofokeng, Gladys Tau, Mduzuzi Nyanda and Mmasabata Phetla with the donated parcels

Message from the Team Manager – Calling Fans' support



Picture: Keabetswe Diale

Obed Legobate: Platinum Stars Team Manager

As we start with the New Year, I would like to thank you for the great support you gave the team last season and again encourage everyone to get behind the club.

Platinum Stars started the season with the Head Coach, Owen da Gama, who was previously with the team. He came to add value and lay a foundation which will bring positive results and consistency in the club.

So far the team has played 15 games which leave us in the joint top 8 position in the log.

The significant results we got are the two draws from the tough away games we played against Kaiser Chiefs and Orlando Pirates and our win against the defending champions SuperSport United, also in away games.

For the second half of the season, we need to double our efforts in order to consolidate our position in the top 8. I understand that as fans, we want to see the team do well, but the team can do better if you give them your support.

Come join us, your support could make a difference. We would like to see you at the stadium, especially when we play at home, Moruleng stadium and Bafokeng Sports Palace.

Let's support our team at all times, 2011 will bring all the wonderful results!

Obed Legobate
Team Manager

Upcoming Games

02/02/11	Platinum Stars vs Mpumalanga Black Aces	Royal Bafokeng Sports Palace	19h30
05/02/11	AmaZulu vs Platinum Stars	Moses Mabhida Stadium	15h30
13/02/11	Platinum Stars vs Kaizer Chiefs	Royal Bafokeng Sports Palace	15h30
16/02/11	Maritzburg United vs Platinum Stars	Harry Gwala Stadium	19h30

Log

	Team	Pld	Pts
1	Pirates	17	35
2	Chiefs	17	33
3	Ajax	17	33
4	Sundowns	17	32
5	Santos	17	28
6	Celtic	17	27
7	Arrows	17	25
8	Vasco	17	21
9	Plat Stars	17	21
10	FS Stars	17	20
11	SuperSport	17	20
12	AmaZulu	17	19
13	Wits	16	16
14	Maritzburg	17	16
15	Swallows	17	11
16	Aces	17	8



PLATINUM STARS
FC