

Reflections by Dr Lyndon Bouah

April is really the month for birthdays for many people associated with Chess. On 10 April Roland Willenberg celebrated his birthday, 11 April Chessa Vice President Winston Dalpat celebrated his birthday, on 12 April President Jacob Zuma celebrated his birthday, on 13 April former world champion, and the player I consider the greatest of all time, Grandmaster Gary Kasparov and on 14 April it was mine. I celebrated my birthday at the Steinitz Open and scored two out of two points! (Organisers kindly note that we should organise more events on my birthday so I can score more points!).



Roland Willenberg



Winston Dalpat

I celebrated my birthday by sharing cake with the chess players at the Steinitz Open. One of the competitors Kevin Jacobs from Nelson Mandela Bay said that when he played he noticed that his opponent had a fondness for rooks because he was continuously eating the rooks he captured on my cake!



A player I share my birthday with is Charles Eichab from Namibia. He plays board one for Namibia at the Olympiad and various other events. He visited me a few months ago and enjoyed his short holiday in Cape Town. We then discovered that he too had a birthday cake made of chess pieces.

Charles has played ten Olympiads for Namibia already. In 2012 he played 8 rounds undefeated on board one and in round nine he missed a good continuation which would've secured him the FM title.

In Port Elizabeth he shared 7th to 12 in the SA Open which was a highlight for him.

In 2007 Charles was voted the best African Performer at the SA Open.

In 2002 Charles went undefeated for 8 boards at the Olympiad on board three.

Charles informs me that he drew with Grandmaster Pontus Carlsson earlier this year. Carlsson is from Sweden.



Charles Eichab

One of the interesting facts about the Namibia press is that they actually wish their sportspersons a happy birthday on their birthday! Check out the press clipping.

Hulle verjaar dié week
(rugby o.20)

Baie Geluk

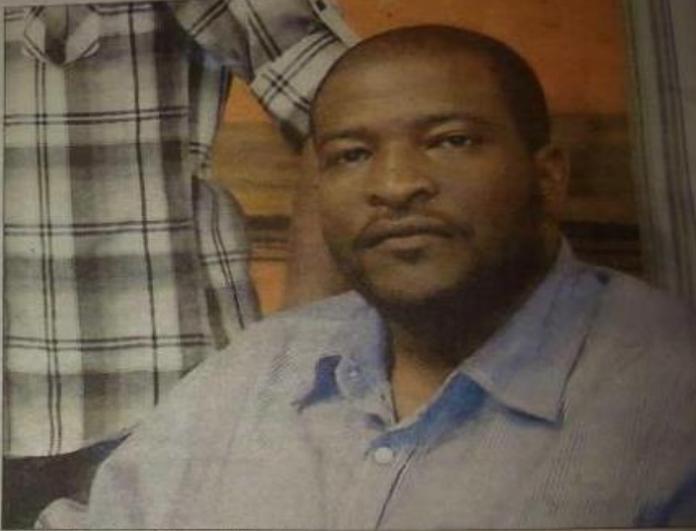
VRYDAG, 14 April
 Stephen Jones (krieket)
 Russell van Rooi (rugby)
 Maximilian Mbaeva (Brave Warriors)
 Vivienne Katjuongua (Sportkommissie)
 Charles Eichab (skaak)
 Cameron McNab (rugby)

SATERDAG, 15 April
 Drikus Coetzee (triathlon, fietsry)
 Wayne Jeffery (hokkie)

SONDAG, 16 April
 Baksteen Nell (rugby)
 Vikapita Meroro (boks)
 Russell Bucko Bartlett (hokkie)
 Kristien Kruger (atletiek)
 Devon Sprake (hokkie)

DIENSDAG, 10 April
 Gert Fisch (rugby)
 Divato Karuombe (rugby)

WEDNESDAG, 12 April
 Henning Snyman (rugby-afrigter)
 Bamfuchile Wyle (Warriors-afrigter)
 Gert Lowe (vlugbal)
 Ilies (rugby)
 Kruger jr. (krieket)



Die skaakmeester Charles Eichab.

We end off with Charles showing us his chess themed cake!



We look forward to seeing our Namibia friends again soon!

Regards
Dr Lyndon Bouah