

Rapport features Bidvest Protea Coin Development Programme for Talented Young Cricketers

January - February 2025



Despite his job as Sports Editor of Rapport online newspaper, Tinus Van Staden remains a passionate cricketer. He still spends many Sundays playing for his club—Pirates. No, not the soccer club!

Pirates Sports Club, founded in 1888 and the oldest sports club in Gauteng, is situated in the leafy Johannesburg suburb of Greenside.

Cricket is a social game, with many hours spent chatting to teammates—especially when the team is batting—and after the game, sharing a cold beverage while reflecting on the day’s dropped catches and dubious LBW decisions.

It was during a Sunday game in early January that Tinus first heard about the **Gijima Training Academy** and its internship programme, which focuses on talented cricketers from disadvantaged backgrounds. Combining their love for the game with training in the private security industry. Intrigued, Tinus wasted no time in contacting **Chris Laubscher, Human Resources Executive of Bidvest Protea Coin**. An onsite visit was hastily arranged.



Tinus and **Elizabeth Sejake**, with her video camera in hand, arrived at **Gijima Training Academy** just in time for the 13 interns' practice session, coached by **Abram Ndhlovu from Phangiso CAP**. Phangiso CAP is a **non-profit organisation focused on the development of young cricketers from disadvantaged communities**, led by renowned cricketer **Aaron Phangiso**. Phangiso CAP partnered with **Bidvest Protea Coin** on this unique project.



AARON

ABRAM

During the visit, Chris and Tinus discussed the **global shift from physical newspapers to digital platforms**, following Rapport’s 2024 decision to move exclusively online. Tinus argued that online newspapers allow for more interactive and engaging storytelling.



The Sunday after the visit, the article was published on the **Netwerk24/Rapport** online platform.

Chris reflects that while it would have been wonderful to sit quietly on a Sunday morning and slowly read Tinus’ brilliantly descriptive article in print, he concedes that Tinus may have a point. The online version, with its supplementary video, transforms the article into an experience.

The beautifully written and produced full Afrikaans article is available for **Netwerk24/Rapport** subscribers.