

JC beat Wolmer's in SCQ SEMIS

by CPT Wayne Harris, Team Manager

Fresh off their resounding victory over Munro College in the Quarterfinals, Jamaica College wasted no time in re-exerting their quiz dominance, trouncing Wolmer's Boys 40-25 in the first match in the Best of 3 semi-final series. It was the second consecutive match that the Fervet Boys were scoring at least 40 points.

Head Coach Chanarie Lindsay noted, "My main job is to keep the boys focused. Once they're focused, they can easily beat anybody."

Unsurprisingly, the match started out with Wolmer's trying to keep the scores close. With JC winning the toss and send Wolmer's to answer first, it placed Wolmer's in a precarious and unfamiliar position of staying ahead against the favoured One College. This has been JC's approach all season, inflicting psychological stress on teams who struggle to keep a lead. Despite scoring 8 points, which is their second best first section output all season, Wolmer's fell victim to JC's strategy and were trailing 8-9 going into the Speed (Minutes) Section.

The 1-point score difference came from our ace and the competition's best player, Geography guru Mason Jai Edwards, who was able to identify the location of the city of Dubrovnik in Croatia.

Nonetheless, despite trailing after the First section, it was Wolmer's best section of the match. As such, they were under immense pressure for the rest of the match. Wolmer's had hoped to replicate their output when they eliminated the more-favoured Kingston College in the 3rd round by having a superior Minutes section (21 points), propelling them to victory in the buzzer section. But this was not going to be the case against the mighty True Blue Delta Force Team. In the first two minutes, Wolmer's scored a respectable 7 and 6 points respectively. Meanwhile Jamaica College managed to still outscore Wolmer's by 9 and 8 points. In demonstrating their True-Blue class, the Boys from Hope stretched their lead to 26 - 21 going into the last minute of the Minutes section; these 60 seconds ultimately decided the winner of match.



Mason-Jai Edwards- Geography guru and best player in the competition

In the last minute, Wolmer's ran out of gas and lost all momentum. They managed to score only 1 point, an historic low for a semi-final team in any season. On seeing that output, the Fervet Boys, with their griffins' instincts, smelled blood and went for the jugular vein, scoring 7 points and stretching their lead over their now deflated and pusillanimous opponent. The answer in that section that stood out was the one to the Spanish question: "The book cover is green". Answered by the best language quiz player in the competition, Ryhomah Muir, a transfer student from York Castle, it was a symbolic answer highlighting that the quiz culture at 189 Old Hope Road is now green, and flourishing in a new book.

When the minutes section had ended, the scores read JC - 33-22 Wolmer's Boys. While a comfortable lead, there were queries to be made from both teams. The question was: in whose favour would the queries go? Wolmer's were hoping to claim this small consolation victory to re-gain some lost momentum. Once again, that was not to be the case, as the judges returned with some more good news that JC's 3 queries will be accepted and only one for Wolmer's will be accepted. This mini-victory set the tone for the buzzer section.



Ryhomah Muir -language guru and best language player in the competition

With the scores now 36 -23 in favour of Jamaica College, Wolmer's were already defeated psychologically, knowing that Jamaica College had the highest buzzer efficiency of all teams in the competition. While not impossible, Wolmer's had no history of winning matches with such a deficit. It was time for the Fervet Boys to take Wolmer's to class. With this season volleyball and swimming losses, and last season's basketball loss to Wolmer's etched in their elephant memory, the Quiz Boys went to work with the aim to avenge all losses to the maroon and gold team. As two of the oldest schools in the Caribbean, it was a beating of generational proportion.

Reserve player Christoff Legister, 3A, whispered to his reserve teammate, Dejaun Buchanan, 5D, the line from Chronixx hit song, 'victory when you're winning it's a sweet story,' as they could visualize the old man from the GIF in their WhatsApp group echoing the words, "Dem Dead, Dem Dead, dem Dead."

Out-pressing Wolmer's, Captain Marvin Whyte and his team managed only to reach 40 points, which was comfortably enough for them to execute

Coach Lindsay's

Rambo's plan, by drawing first blood and taking a commanding 1-0 lead in Tuesday's 2nd semi-final match in the best of 3 series.

Coach Lindsay noted, "We got a few incorrect presses in the buzzer that could have been queried, but with the margin of victory, the judges had no appetite to listen to us. We were the Heroes of the day. Not Wolmer's."

For next match, the Dark Blues are now looking to pay homage to the late Chuck Norris, the movie star and TV icon to many Jamaicans, by leaving the Wolmer's Team Missing in Action, and send the juggernaut Jamaica College Quiz Team to its second SCQ final in 2 years.

