



Sagicor Open Junior Chess Championships

August 12th -15th 2008

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Del Castilho and Blackman lead Sagicor Open

Top Seeds Martyn Del Castilho of The Lodge School and Justin Blackman of Queens College brushed aside all opposition to top the standings after four rounds of play at 2008 Sagicor Open Junior Championships currently being played at the National Union of Public Workers' Headquarters in Dalkieth Road.

Del Castilho, who is going for an unprecedented 4th Sagicor Title, kept his date with destiny by dispatching fellow country men Damian Graves of Coleridge & Parry in round 2, Kyle Walkes of UWI in round 3 and school mate Kirk Grant in round 4.

Blackman, who is on the hunt for his 1st Sagicor Title, scored his points against Shawn Durant of Alleyne in round 2, Akeem Cox of Combermere in round 3 and Stewart James of Jamaica in round 4.



Justin Blackman, Barbados (left) vs Stewart James, Jamaica (right)

On four points, Del Castilho and Blackman will now face each other in round 5 for what could be the title decider in the Open Section.

Jamaica's Junior Champion Damion Davy moved to 3rd place with 3 ½ points with a win in round 2 against Barbados Ladies Champion Corinne Howard of

Community College, a forfeit by Emmerson Hurley of Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic in round 3 and a win against Trinidad & Tobago Under-18 Champion Esan Wiltshire in round 4.

Barbados Junior Champion Wendell Meusa, unlike his Jamaican counterpart, faltered badly in round 3 losing to Wiltshire. He now finds himself in a seven way tie for 4th place on 3 points with Wiltshire, Jamaican James Stewart, Kirk Grant of The Lodge School, Combermere's Akeem Cox and, Craig Clermond and Kyle Walkes of UWI.

In the Under-12 Section, Calvin Tjong Tjin Joe of Surinam and Omari Teka of Grenada head the leader board with 4 points, thus setting the stage for a round 5 showdown that may very well decide honours for the section.

Tjong Tjin Joe's points came against Lydia Nurse of Queens College in round 2, Mikail Mascoll of St. Judes Primanryin round 3 and Jefferson Johnson of The Lodge School in round 4., while Teka scored his points against Nalini Persaud St. Winifreds, Shanice Dawson of Harrison College and Caleb Grosvenor of Peoples Cathedral Primary.

Play continues tomorrow at the National Union of Public Workers' Headquarters in Dalkieth Road with two rounds starting at 8:45 a.m. followed by the Sagicor Blitz Tournament at 1:00 p.m. Admission to the public is free.