



your weekly sports bulletin

#4 24 Mar 2014

# witsblitz

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED EVENT

Tang Soo Do TAFISA Championships to select an SA team for the world champs in Canada in Sept 2014. Sat 29 Mar, Emerald City casino, Vanderbijlpark



## Large Wits squad for USSA T & F



**BATON CHARGE:** Wits' Poshy Mpai (#107, 2<sup>nd</sup> athlete left) cools his heels waiting for the handover in the men's 4 x 4km event at the 2013 USSA cross country meeting.

Wits Athletics is set to send its largest delegation in many years to an USSA track & field competition. That's because nearby TUT Pretoria are this year's hosts, helping reduce costs, and the recruitment of a small pool of field talent, such as Menzi Mthembu (long & triple jump) and Ntandazo Mtshengu (high jump). They complement squad regulars such as sprinter David Okharedia and middle-distancer Kyla Meyerson. Mthembu, Mtshengu and Okharedia have all been selected to represent CGA at the SA junior championships in Stellenbosch from on 3-5 April.

Wits Athletics performance in the premier national students' competition has slumped somewhat, compared to the glory years of the 1980's and '90's, when runners Bruce Fordyce, Mark Plaatjies and Hendrik Ramaia ruled. At last year's USSA's in Durban, only 1500m ace Marco Bucarizza bagged any points for his 3<sup>rd</sup>-place finish.

*\*The USSA track & field will be held @ TUT Pta on Fri 25 & Sat 26 April*



Striding out in the women's 4km event in last September's USSA cross country championships at CUT, Welkom

## WITS TENNIS HOSTS CHARITY FUND-RAISER



Wits Tennis hosts a fun doubles tournament this Friday evening 28<sup>th</sup> March (at the Bozzoli courts, from 17h30-20h30). The event forms part of the club's **Help a Child** campaign to sponsor equipment for players who would otherwise not afford to play tennis.

Wits' tennis academy works, headed by coach Byron Werbele, works with aspirant young tennis players to sharpen their skills and raise their enthusiasm for the game. In so doing, the academy hopes to raise SA's pool of talent.

Entrance fees, payable on arrival, are R50 for Wits students, R70 for outsiders (cash only, please!). All welcome, even friends and family outside of Wits. It's a great social occasion and there'll be food, drinks and beers on sale, so bring some extra cash.

To join in the fun e-mail your name, number and level of play (beginner, social or competitive) to head coach [Byron Werbeloff](#) (below, left, with his charges). Deadline for entries is Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> at 19h00. Also send Byron the names and details of any friends or family you wish to enter.



## Wits All-Styles Karate



For the *karatekas* of the **Wits All-Styles Karate**, commitment and dedication to training is a way of life. The past few weeks have been nothing short of impactful. With our successful results in the USSA tournament behind us, the club has tackled the challenges ahead... with an iron fist. With more than 100 members, including many new faces, much work has gone into building the newbies into strong *karatekas*. Whether it's tackling the dreaded *burpee* or figuring out the complexities of age-old *katas*, the karate club has proven over the course of the block that no challenge is impossible to overcome. Come see it for yourself this Saturday at Sensei JP's tournament at Marion College.

## WINL registration deadline nears

Registration for the Wits Internal Netball League (WINL) is fast drawing to a close. The league, played on a round-robin basis and contested by teams constituted largely by Wits residences, will commence on Tuesday 8 April. Games will be played at the Dig Field and Bozzoli #5 and #6 courts.



Esselen, Sunnyside, Braam Centre, Barnato, newcomers Noswal Hall, Reith, Medhurst, and Jubilee have all registered so far. Further applications are expected from Medics, David Webster, Girtan, Mavoda, and Junction. Registration fees are R750 per team. For this year only, WINL players will not be required to pay the R170 Wits Sport Council levy.



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## Wits' hockey men troop new kit colours



*NATTY THREADS: Wits' hockey dandies strut their stuff in their new kit (above) and the latest in fashionable hosiery (below). Wits will however trot out in a separate strip for the inaugural men's Varsity Hockey tournament that starts on Sat 3 May at the education campus artificial pitch.*



## Wits Table Tennis Club



Wits Table Tennis Club (WTTTC, or sometimes just Wits TT) have registered a field of 22 players for their two teams that play in the Gauteng Central Table Tennis Association (GCTTA) leagues. Wits A slug it out in the Premier league along with sides such as Maccabi A and B, Mandeville and Anchors A and B, while Wits B are entered in the 3<sup>rd</sup>-tier 2<sup>nd</sup> league and must contend with the likes of Maccabi and Flames' subsidiary sides.

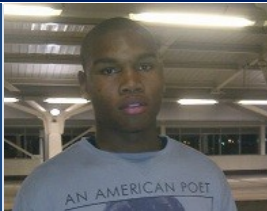


*Wits TT team regulars (above & below) pictured here at last November's fund-raising tournament in support of their bid for honours at the 2013 USSA table tennis champs.*



## A Wits phoenix

Menzi Mthembu



Triple and long jumper **Menzi Mthembu**, a 1st-year BCom student, made his way to Wits via King Edward School, just down the road. Menzi staked his claim for honours in KES's August 2013 athletics meeting against Affies. Then, jumping as an u-19, he recorded 15.13m, the longest in the history of the school, to pip by .01cm the school record set by Dylan Cotter in 2008. In the Saturday 15 March CGA qualifiers he secured his places as both long and triple jumper in the 2014 SA junior championships in Stellenbosch in April. He jumped 6.92m and 14.88m respectively. Menzi's a natural all-rounder, having achieved colours at KES for sport, drama and academics.

He is coached by KES athletics Jenny Kingwill, who continues to work with him in the absence of a sprint and field coach at Wits. Also a keen basketballer, he was a member was of the national u-16 team, and captained both KES's athletics squad and its basketball team. Menzi choosing Wits over another institution is a huge boost for our athletics confidence. He elected to do a BCom because he wishes to enter the world of finance. Judging from the effort he puts into his sport and academics, he's right on the money.

## RESULTS: USSA Rowing champs, Misverstand Dam Morreesburg, W Cape 20-22 March 2014



Men - 6/8 teams (57 points);  
Women - 6/8 teams (65 points);  
Overall - 6/8 teams (140 points)

## Ntandazo's two loves



**Ntandazo Mtshengu** (above) one of those lucky students who get to indulge their favourite passions simultaneously, the one re-inforcing the other. Just over a year ago, he jumped a personal best of 2m at the Bellville Yellow Pages inter-provincial. Now a 1<sup>st</sup>-year BMus student, he easily beat that on Saturday 15 March, recording a jump of 2.05m against his name, to bag a place in the CGA squad to the SA junior champs in Stellenbosch in April. Ntandazo, who matriculated from Durban Boys' High and trades by the Twitter handle [@Cranx2](https://twitter.com/Cranx2), considers himself a serious electro musician. Check out the beat boy's sample of work on the 'net: <https://soundcloud.com/cranx-3/celebration-original-mix>

## FIXTURES & EVENTS 24 – 30 March

**Futsal** Thur 27, Week 2 of two-division league, futsal courts, Dig Field, from 17h30



**Basketball** Thur 27, GUBL special general meeting, WCCO office, Lower Grnd Flr, The Matrix, 11h00-14h00

**Tennis** Fri 28 Mar, Wits Tennis Club development fund-raiser doubles tournament & social, Bozzoli tennis courts, from 17h30

**Tang Soo Do** Sat 29, TAFISA champs, Emerald City Casino Vanderbijlpark