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“Osuji is The One”, they sang



TABLE MAN-NERS: The Osuji-Badat pairing (left) in their mixed doubles final against the outfit of Smith & Williams. The former won by 3 sets to 2.

Tournament organiser **Hlumelo Rubushe** writes that Wits Table Tennis Club (WTTCC) hosted what will go down as one of the most entertaining and competitive tournaments in recent memory. Styled *The One*, it brought together most of Gauteng’s premier players, as well as social players of all skills levels. The day kicked off with mixed doubles. Always very hard-fought, their outcomes are difficult to predict. In the end though, the pairing of **Chijioke Osuji** (also Wits’ coach) and Ismail Badat proved too strong for the field. They won an entertaining, competitive final against Brad Smith and Mark Williams 3-2. Following the doubles, the men’s and women’s singles events proved as fast-paced and exciting, doubles partners turning into adversaries as they battled for honours. In the women’s draw, Danica Schlome dug deep to beat Angie Smith 3-1 in a great display that bodes well for the women’s game in SA. In the men’s competition, Osuji and

Badat proved they didn’t need each other to succeed. Both reached the finals, and although Osuji won 4-2, it was a much closer contest than the score suggested. Badat must be commended for his heroic effort but on the day it fell to Osuji to claim, justifiably, to be The One. Doubtless, WTTCC tournaments continue to attract interest from the country’s best table tennis talent.

Witsies up their game at Track & Field USSA’s



Maties sprint ace Nabeela Parker (3rd from right) won the admiration of Witsies at the 2014 USSA track’n field champs at the Pilditch Stadium in Pta. No Wits women athletes participated in the meeting.

All things considered, it was a worthy performance by Wits’ athletes in this year’s USSA track & field champs. The event was hosted by TUT and staged at Pretoria’s Pilditch Stadium on 25/26 April. Despite several Wits competitors withdrawing at the last minute – citing academic commitments – our small band of track and field athletes more than doubled last year’s tally (5) to clock up 13 points.

Had he not been nursing an injury **Menzi Mthembu** would have bagged a better place in the long jump (jumping 7.52m to finish 4th) and in the triple jump (ending 7th with a jump of 14.98m). He solidered on in the face of his coach’s visible consternation. High jumper **Ntando Mtshengu** also narrowly missed a place, finishing 5th (2m). Middle distance runner **Marko Bucarizza**, by his own high standards, faded disappointingly to finish 7th in 14:52:11 in the men’s 5 000m and 9th in 3:52:77 in the 1 500m.

Wits runners look to improve their rankings at the USSA cross country event this September, and hope to include women athletes such as **Maryrose Anieboka** in the their squad.

Testing 2014 Varsity Hockey season for Wits

Wits earned a 7th-place finish yesterday in the 8-team 2014 men’s Varsity Hockey tournament by drawing 2-all with Rhodes in their play-off match at the UJ AstroTurf. On Saturday the Witsies lost 7-2 to UJ in their final pool game. Wits weathered two rough early rounds, unable to record a win and succumbing to Maties, UCT, UFS Kovsies and narrowly to UP Tuks, while drawing with NMMU and Rhodes. In today’s final, Maties will play UJ.



ON YER’ KNEES, BOETIE: Wits’ **Craig Daniels** attempts to round **Cody van Wyk** of Rhodes in their Sun 11 May round clash @ the UFS Astro.

CURTAIN COMES DOWN ON BIDVEST WITS’ 2014 SEASON



Nedbank Cup:

Orlando Pirates 3 - Bidvest Wits 1

Moses Mabhida’s mortal remains are interred at the Novodevichye Cemetery in Moscow. But the struggle veteran after whom the venue of Wits’ Nedbank Cup final demise is named would have turned in his grave at the poor quality of refereeing that robbed the Clever Boys’ of at least taking the game to extra time on Saturday 17 May. The modest bloc of white-shirted travelling Wits supporters could scarcely believe their eyes.

Jabulani Shongwe’s first-half goal to give Wits an early lead was itself fortuitous, for it became despite a blatant, red-cardable tackle on Calvin Kadi.

Kermit Erasmus proved Wits’ undoing in the end, though. His strikes in the 52nd and 71st minutes sandwiched former Clever Boy Sifiso Miyeni’s effort two-thirds into the match.

For their troubles, Wits walked away with the R2.5m runners’-up prize but had to wait until the next day, Sunday 18 May, for any further consolation. It came in the form of midfielder Sibusiso Vilakazi scooping three PSL 2014 awards: Footballer of the Season, Absa Premiership Players’ Player of the Season and Nedbank Cup Player of the Tournament.

Reckoned along with Wits’ highest-ever points tally in the PSL, 2014’s proven a memorable first season for coach Gavin Hunt.



Witsies shine at Tang Soo Do & Haedong Kumdo champs

Wits entrants at the joint Combat TSD SA and HK SA Champs held on 12 April at OMSH bagged a total of 7 gold, 7 silver and 6 bronze medals, as follows:-

Tang Soo Do - Mlamli Ncontsa: silver (sparring); **Ngwato Kekana:** gold (sparring) & bronze (weapons); **Kim Lucas:** silver (forms); **Ipeleng Malope:** 2 x gold (forms, weapons) & bronze (sparring); **Kurtis Kay Kavila:** 2 x gold (forms, weapons) & bronze (sparring); **Shakira Minty:** bronze (sparring); **Trisha Rajkumar:** gold (sparring) & bronze (forms); **Robert Makoloane:** 2 x silver (sparring, forms); **Candice Lee Lockyear:** silver (forms).

Haedong Kumdo - Ipeleng Malope: silver (forms) & bronze (sparring); **Kim Lucas:** gold (forms) & silver (sparring).

Reshuffle of duties @WitsSport

WitsSport's undergone a minor 'cabinet reshuffle' to offer a better service to student sport and to the broader Wits community seeking healthier, fitter lifestyles.

Lorraine Masibi (011-717 9415 / Lorraine.Masibi@wits.ac.za) is now sports officer for Athletics, Gymnastics, Netball, and Tai Chi/Kobujutsu. Tebogo Rabothata (011-717 9407 / Tebogo.Rabothata@wits.ac.za) takes over Chess and Table Tennis, and Simon Modise (011-717 9432 / Simon.Modise@wits.ac.za) adds Basketball to his portfolio.

Profile: Wits Yacht Club



The Wits Yacht Club has a rich history of producing sailors that compete at the highest level. We are a warm, welcoming club that focuses on training up enthusiastic sailors from understanding the basics of sailing, to mastering the ins and outs of high performance international racing. Our club has been the leading university outfit in South Africa in recent times, and received the Youth Ocean Sailors Award for our outstanding performance in the 2014 Cape to Rio Yacht Race. We placed 2nd in the 2013 USSA Intervarsity Regatta and have our sights set on gold in 2014. The club tends to focus on dinghy sailing, and will have a fully operational team racing fleet by August this year. We also travel far and wide to quench our thirst for exciting offshore keel boat sailing and plan to use this as a platform to launch members into recognised international sailing circuits. We plan to expand into kite and wind surfing in the not too distant future and are looking to attract people with such expertise. Wits Yacht Club is on the rise, will you be part of the race?"

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Basketball - Ashies 2014



VUT, winners of the women's section...

Yet another Ashraf Lodewyk Memorial Basketball Tournament – Ashies, as it is fondly known in the basketball community – has come and gone. On behalf of Wits Basketball, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person who attended this year's event, the tenth edition of Gauteng's and one of SA's foremost tournaments for scouting basketball talent. To the players, coaches, managers, referees, table officials, fans, security, paramedics, physiotherapists, WITS staff members and, especially, the Lodewyk family, a big and warm thank you. The Tournament would not have been a success without you!!

We extend hearty congratulations to the winners of Ashies 2014: to the team from the Vaal University of Technology (VUT in the women's section, who beat V & J 79 - 64; and to Jozi Nuggets in the men's tournament who beat the University of Johannesburg Alumini 86 – 73. Both teams went all the way with a perfect tournament record and are quite deserving of the title: Ashies 2014 Champions.

Wits Basketball looks forward to next year's tournament and hope that you will all return. Till then, stay ballin'!!

Manyani

Manyani Maseko is Wits Basketball chair, lead Ashies organiser year in and year out, coaches the Wits Lady Bucks (2nd) team, is acting chair of USSA Basketball, and is generally considered the unmissable life force of basketball at Wits.



...and Andile Hlope's Jozi Nuggets, proud men's section winners.

All the mid-year USSA's 30 Jun - 4 Jul 2014

Mid-year USSA tournaments that feature Wits teams or athletes:

Rugby	Rhodes
Fencing	UCT
Basketball	TUT/UP
Netball	NMMU
Volleyball	Wits
Squash	U. Stell
Badminton	UFS
Gymnastics	UCT
Climbing	Wits
Hockey	UP