



witsblitz

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WitsSport seeks more flexibility to attract talent

WitsSport is currently engaged in discussions with the university's senior executive team that could see, from as early as next year, the university adopting greater academic flexibility for talented sportsmen and women. Such a new policy, it is hoped, would help Wits attract and retain larger numbers of high-performing athletes.

WitsSport head Adrian Carter said this approach is in line with best international practice, and is based on the Elite Athlete Friendly Network in Australia.

"It is crucial that Wits displays some form of



TOP DAWGZ: Wits will hope to attract schools' top sports talent, such as these basketballers from St Albans' and St Benedict's, should the Elite Athlete Friendly Network concept be implemented.

flexibility as we look to compete in the world of tertiary sport," he said. "With a measure of flexibility, our athletes will be able to cope better with the demands of their chosen sport *and* their academic commitments."

The new policy will permit exceptional sports students to negotiate a longer period

in which to complete their degree. Additionally, a dedicated number of spaces in Wits residences will be reserved for sports students requiring accommodation.

The change in tack on sporting admissions co-incides with WitsSport's new recruitment drive that targets Grade 12's who excel at sport and academics, bringing them to the campus for a tour of sports facilities and to interact with current Wits sporting luminaries.

"It will also complement the ASP - Academic Support Programme – which was initiated and implemented by WitsSport this year," Carter added. On behalf of WitsSport, he wished to thank the senior executive team for their willingness to engage around the issue.

At the end of each year, the Wits Univ. Boat Club hosts a formal dinner, bringing together past and present club members to enable them to form meaningful, tangible links with each other. The club cordially invites you to take part in the evening. The dinner will be hosted at the Rand Club on Sat 11 October 2014. We ask you to reserve the evening and keep a lookout for further details. Your attendance will give WUBC members the opportunity to meet the people that make the boat club's existence possible. It's also an opportunity for us to thank you for your support. This year has been a success for the club on many fronts. The club has seen an increase in membership, fundraising income has so far exceeded that of last year's, and the club's participation in competitions and involvement in the rowing community has increased.



GENTLY DOWN THE STREAM: WUBC look to round off another year with a dinner and blow-out at the Rand Club. WitsBlitz will advise details and ticket availability.

Pride in this varsity team has been cemented in the hearts of the members of WUBC and the positive start to our season has resulted in a new enthusiasm for the club. The boat club aims to represent the university to the best of its ability. WitsSport's assistance in the management of the club has been a contributing factor to its continued existence and success.

Stephen Mattushek
President

Watch the WUBC night practice [video](#) on Youtube

Wits boxers to compete in Gauteng champs

The two Wits Boxing Club members who earned call-ups to compete in the Gauteng provincial championships, staged at the Transnet Engineering Boxing Academy in Pretoria on 30-31 May, have excelled again. Anathi Bukani (64kg) was placed third in his weight division, while Khayelihle Maseko (60kg) finished second. Another Witsie boxer, Njabulo Mahlalela (81kg), was also scheduled to compete but was forced to withdraw as it clashed with his exams timetable. Wits boxers have a long tradition of making a strong showing in provincial and national student tournaments.



'HOOD YOU BELIEVE IT? Khayelihle Maseko (left) goes padding with Scott Yarham. Maseko was the best-performing Wits boxer at the 2014 Gauteng provincial championships.

2014 SPORTS BURSARY RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

WitsSport is currently notifying successful applicants for 2014 sports bursaries of their awards. Altogether, 43 bursaries were awarded to recipients in 10 codes. Details of all the awards will be posted to the [WitsSport website](#).

WITS WOMEN'S HOCKEY COACH HEADS TO WORLD CUP



Even as Wits women's hockey coach Pietie Coetzee (*extreme left, back row*) heads off to The Hague in the Netherlands to play in the World Cup, she will closely follow the training and preparation of her team as they build up to the USSA hockey tournament at the end of June. The Wits 1st team drew 2-2 with Club of the Year, Wanderers last Thursday. Wits hosted the match at their beautiful artificial hockey turf and did not want to let their famous coach down. "I am so proud" said Coetzee of her injury-cover call-up. She is the highest goal-scorer in international women's hockey and is hoping to add a few more. Both SA's men's and women's teams qualified for the World Cup, to be staged between 31 May and 15 June.

ADIEU' ADELE

It's a fond farewell to WitsSport's **academic support co-ordinator** Adele du Plooy as she heads off into the sunset in Cape Town to start a new life. We wish her *hamba kakuhle*, we bid a warm *Wamkelekile!* to her replacement, **Kerry Yates** (tel 011-7197441).



Doyle: PGC a development pipeline for Wits Rugby

Head rugby coach Andy Doyle says Wits Rugby aims to use the remainder of the 2014 rugby season, and especially the Pirates Grand Challenge (PGC), competition to blood and nurture new talent. "It's an excellent opportunity for our student-athlete players to develop their skills, with a view to increasing their preparedness for next year's Varsity Shield," says Doyle. In 2015 Wits will play in the 2nd-tier Shield inter-varsity rugby tournament, two seasons after having won it to claim promotion to student rugby's premier competition, the Varsity Cup.

Results of PGC matches vs Alberton games played Sat 31 May:

Wits 1st 63 Alberton 13

Wits 2nd 52 Alberton 0

Wits 3rd 28 Alberton 0

Wits u-21 24 Alberton 29

Wits u-19 5 Alberton 34

Next PGC fixtures see the 1st, 2nd, 3rd & u-21 teams away to Rustenburg Impala, Sat 7 June from 13h15.

Wits Karate's high flyer



Dylan Adam (above) a 3rd-year Geography Witsie, is a 3rd-dan black belt who has done his club proud by making the national team to travel to Japan to compete in the JKA Shoto Cup World Championships. He was selected in the senior national team for u-21 *kata*, *kumite* and team *kata*. Dylan started karate at age 8 and has excelled exponentially in the sport, representing South Africa on more than one occasion. He trains and teaches at the famous Honbu *dojo* in Johannesburg and has also agreed to help out with training at Wits Karate. Dylan has brought a spark of energy to the club, not only with his training but also by embracing the team captaincy. We wish him all the best for the World Championships.

Wits TSD excel at UFS tournament...again!



Club captain **Kim Lucas** (front right red lanyard) reports that his team of Tang Soo Do exponents, led by instructor Master Greg Hart (extreme left), again achieved exceptional results at a tournament. This time it was at the 2014 Free State championships, held at the Bloemfontein campus of the UFS. Almost every squad member came away with a medal as the Witsies bagged 6 gold, 2 silver, and 7 bronzes between them. Full details next week!

pic: Wits Vuvuzela

Call for Witsies to take to the streets



Wits is urging all staff, students, alumni and supporters who've signed up for this year's 702 Walk the Talk event to hit the streets on Sunday 27 July as a single, large, visible and vibrant group. The event consists of 5km, 8km and 20km walks, the longest of which is this year styled the *Democracy Walk* and will pass through the Wits campus. Whatever your preferred length, please make every effort to brand yourself on the day with your favourite Wits gear. Dig out that t-shirt and cap, shake off the mothballs, and join the rest of Johannesburg in a fun day outdoors.

Although, unlike last year, Wits isn't dishing out goodies or paying entrance fees, we promise to make your route through or past the campus a memorable part of your walk. Further details will be made available through university media. In the meantime you can contact WitsSport's communications officer Marcus Toerien (marcus.toerien@wits.ac.za, tel 011-7179415) or Wits Communication's Kanina Foss (kanina.foss@wits.ac.za, tel 011-7171024).



UNDER 1 BANNER: Witsies fly the flag at the 2013 Walk the Talk

(pic: Wits Vuvuzela)

Wostmann SA's best woman at Comrades



THE AUDIT TRAIL: Wits School of Accounting's Caroline Wostmann (above), 6th-placed in the women's race, was the first SA women home in this year's Comrades Marathon

Senior auditing lecturer in the Wits School of Accountancy, **Caroline Wostmann**, was the 1st South African woman home in the 2014 Comrades Marathon. Next week we'll bring you the back story of her incredible 6:51:43 run that earned her a 6th placing in the women's race.

WitsSport and the entire Wits community acknowledge her achievement with pride. Congratulations are in order too for Witsies Iain Burns, Stuart Murray-Smith, Mark Dowdeswell, Dr Kris Carlson, Dr Hugo Canham and WitsSport's own Adrian Carter for completing the Pietermaritzburg-Durban 'down' run. We look forward to a larger Wits contingent attempting the run inland next year!

Levenson takes over reigns at Wits Cricket



THAT'S THE WAY: Neil Levenson overseeing the bowling technique of his young charge.

(pic: www.seriouscricketcoaching.net)

Neil Levenson replaces Hanke von Rauenstein as head cricket coach at Wits, a position the latter has held for the past three seasons. The new coach is a former first class provincial player and a qualified Cricket South Africa-accredited level 3 coach. Neil spent much of his provincial playing career at the Benoni-based Easterns before returning in the last few years to play in Gauteng. He has coached representative teams and at academies, clubs, schools. He spent time in the UK playing, studying and working in development structures throughout Durham and Northumberland, and is excited to take on this challenge at Wits

Neil has run a Premier League cricket club's coaching programmes, and previously ran his own academy. He believes his years of one-on-one coaching has given him a well-trained eye for the modern technical developments in coaching methodologies, such as video analysis. "The challenge at WITS is unique, and I look forward to implementing new and exciting development programmes to increase the profile of the game," he says, and believes his strong connections with many of the Johannesburg schools are advantageous for the university's recruitment programme. WitsSport thanks Hanke for his hard work and commitment to Wits Cricket these past years.

Banyana summons for Wits women's coach



The SA Football Association (SAFA) has roped in Wits women's coach Jabulile Baloyi as Banyana Banyana (above) assistant coach. Baloyi is thrown in the deep end of preparations for the national women's team's game against Botswana at VUT Vanderbijlpark at 3pm on Sat 7 June. The Gauteng USSA Football League (GULF)'s *AmaTuesdays* competition in which Wits play is currently in recess, and resumes after the return of students from the mid-year break. Wits are fixtured away against UJ on 5 Aug at the latter's Bunting Rd stadium.

pic: www.news.bbc.co.uk