



Wits Blitz

Sports Edition

FRIDAY 8 AUGUST 2014

VOL 1 #11

WITS LOOK TO CLAIM BACK-TO-BACK TITLES AND MAKE PGC RUGBY HISTORY

The Bill Jardine Stadium, home of the Golden Lions Rugby Union's (GLRU) Raiders RFC and the venue for tonight's Pirates Grand Challenge u-21 final, is said to be where dreams of sporting greatness go to die. Perhaps appropriately, as it's adjacent to the Bosmont Cemetery. But any funeral preparations are premature: neither Wits nor UJ, contesting the final, will be able to claim home ground advantage. Wits, however, stand to make history tonight and become the first team to win an u-21 PGC title back-to-back. The PGC competition is the premier age-group rugby tournament of the GLRU. Wits beat Alberton 17-5 in last Saturday's semi-final (see report on p2).

PGC U-21 RUGBY FINAL
WITS vs UJ
19h40, Bill Jardine Rugby Stadium, cnr Springbok & Commando Rds, Bosmont-Industria
DIRECTIONS: Proceed west along Main Reef Rd to China Mall (formerly the Westgate Shopping Centre, on the north-east quadrant of the intersection of Main Reef and Commando Rds). The Putco bus depot will be on your left. Turn right (northwards) into Commando Rd. The BJRS is a little way down on the left, just where Springbok Rd (on your right) forms a T-junction with Commando Rd.

12 AUGUST

TUESDAY FOOTBALL MANIA

3 monster matches against Tuks, right here in our own backyard



VS



16:45 USSA : Wits Univ v UP Tuks (Men) Wits Rugby Stadium
16:45 USSA : Wits Univ v UP Tuks (Women) Sturrock Park Stadium
19:30 PSL : Bidvest Wits v Tuks FC Bidvest Stadium

Spread the word #WITSvTUKS

Be part of the BOZZ revival - join the Wits Nike Run @ 16:30 from the Bozzoli Sports Pavilion. Refreshments on sale from 16:00 / Bring & Braai Facilities. Show your student card at the BOZZ, collect your free Bidvest Wits match ticket & stand to win the new Bidvest Wits FC match shirt



Second recruitment drive a big hit with potential new Witsies

WitsSport's Sturrock Park conference centre was inundated with prospective recruits on Friday 1 August when it staged its second recruitment drive of the year. Learners, some accompanied by parents, from KES, Helpmekaar, St Davids, St Benedict's, Parktown Girls, St Andrews, Queens College, Bryanston and Randpark High, among others, made up the more than 200 invited guests.

The large KES contingent in attendance was thanks to the efforts of KES headmaster and former Witsie, Dave Lovatt. WitsSport's Liz Chase, a former hockey Olympic gold medalist for Zimbabwe collected a few top scholars from Rodean. The rest of the visitors made their way to Wits under their own steam.

The recruitment drive aims to introduce prospective students to the Wits Campus and the institution's culture, to change perceptions and initiate relationships between Wits and our key stakeholders.

SRC Vice President and former WSC Chair Paul Ndiweni got proceedings underway, warmly welcoming learners and parents. He was followed by Jade Aspeling (former Netball player and WSC committee member) and Andrew Keightley-Smith, current WSC chairperson.

A lesson learnt from the first recruitment drive was that late-afternoon traffic late is an issue, prompting us to reverse the order of events. Instead of first listening to presentations, visitors boarded one of the three 50-seater buses and, with the football juniors' 20-seater in tow, headed off to the WEC Campus. The first stop was the Wits Junction that had so impressed Golden Lions CEO Rudolf Streauli earlier in the week. The guests were similarly blown away by the quality of accommodation and amenities.

The two recruitment drives and the GLRU visit confirm the positive impressions of the university that Wits Junction creates. Having experienced it, people are more strongly inclined to consider Wits as an *alma mater*, based on both quality and safety. It is WitsSports' dream to initiate a Sports Block at the Junction...a strategy that will benefit both WitsSport and Wits University in the long term.

With the Junction visit concluded, the convoy headed back to the main Wits Campus via Empire Road. The traffic, mercifully, played along, and we were able to



ALL ABOARD: WitsSport academic support co-ordinator Kerry Yates shepherds Parktown GHS learners onto the 20-seater for Friday's campus tour.

wind our way up Yale Road to the AMIC Deck. Jade, Andrew, Paul and Kerry Yates (WitsSport academic support co-ordinator) displayed great skill as tour guides, showing off The Matrix, and the Bidvest Football Stadium while it was being prepared for the MTN 8 clash with Bloem Celtic later that evening. An important box we were looking to tick was a higher level of informal engagement between learners and parents, and their "tour guides" and WitsSport staffers.

The final leg of the tour was a short trip along Enoch Sontonga back to Sturrock Park for the series of presentations. First up was Kerry Yates who professionally and succinctly detailed Wits' academic entry requirements.

Jade Aspeling and Andrew Keightley-Smith impressively provided first-hand insights into student life, and shared techniques for balancing studies and competitive sport at university.

As proceedings were concluded, many parents and learners asked for personal advice, shared and traded business cards, and confirmed their availability for the one-on-one sessions.

A nice touch was having printed copies of the latest *WitsBlitz Sports Edition* (#10, Fri 1 Aug) and the latest issue of the quarterly *Wits Now* student magazine available to distribute to learners and their parents.

Friday's event elicits pride in all Witsies involved—students, academics and support staff—in the team effort made, and the visibly appreciative reception it received from our guests. It will undoubtedly benefit the entire Wits University community in the years to come.

B'BALLERS HIT THE COURTS FOR WLB WOMEN'S MONTH TOURNAMENT

Each August Wits Basketball welcomes competing teams and fans of basketball to its annual Wits Lady Bucks Basketball Tournament. This year will see the third edition of the event, held in celebration of Women's month. Gauteng's premier women's basketball tourney will be played at Wits West Campus' Hall 29, from Friday 8 to Sunday 10 August. Competing sides have travelled from as far as Swaziland and Zimbabwe to test themselves against some of SA's finest women basketball talent.

Tournament organiser and Wits Basketball acting chairperson Manyani Maseko says last year winners, Royal Bafokeng, will be hard-pressed to defend their title.

"The Lady Bucks are a far more confident team this year, especially after winning the USSA title," she said. Chisz and Lakers hail from Zimbabwe, while the Hackers

are based in Swaziland. Other teams include UJ Galaxy, Soweto's Raptors, NWU, Dube Steelers, Ebony, and Jozi Nuggets.

Teams have been split into 2 divisions: Division 1 (1 pool of five teams) and Division 2 (two pools of four and five teams respectively). Pool teams play each other once. The top 2 teams in Division 1 teams will advance to the finals. The top two teams in each pool of Division 2 will advance to the semi-finals.

In an innovation introduced for the tournament this year, games will be played according to running time, with 20-minute halves, including for the semi-finals for Division 2. Twenty four-second shot clocks will be used for all games. Play commences at 6pm on Friday, 9am on Saturday and 8.30am on Sunday. Tickets R10 (adults) and R5 (u-12's), at the door.

Annual Wits Lady Bucks Tournament

Date: 07 - 10 August 2014
Times: Thurs & Fri - 6pm till late
Sat & Sun - 9am till late

Venue: Hall 29, West Campus, Wits
Entrance Fee: R10 Adults, R5 Kids

We Bailin' Baby... All day errday

BASKETBALL RESULTS



BLURRED: Wits's Jonathan vd Bijl (centre, in white kit) is clearly distinguishable in this hazy take from the Horny Bucks' Tue night game against VUT at Hall 29. VUT won 74-69.

Wits Horny Bucks will have to wait for another opportunity to get the better of their old enemy, VUT. The Wits men's 1st team went down to the boys from the other side of the Vaal River 69-74. In a repeat of their USSA semi-final clash, the Witsies led well into the final quarter before losing narrowly. Wits Lady Bucks though maintained their championship-winning form, defeating their UJ counterparts 46-26.

WITS, UJ RE-IGNITE OLD HOCKEY RIVALRY

Everyone knows that when UJ and Wits play each other there is no quarter asked or given. Saturday morning was no exception as the Wits women's 3rd team and UJ's 4th slugged it out at the UJ Astro in Melville. Wits were not deterred by their opponents enjoying home-ground advantage. Both teams were ready to show the other who deserved the win more, and if you were on the sidelines you'd have seen it written all over their faces.

The Wits ladies started off well. They were composed and maintained a good structure to their game that gave them dominance in the first half. The team work and commitment of the Witsies paid off: they managed to score 2 goals! Wits was clearly playing to win.

But the game took a nerve-wracking change towards the end of the first half as UJ began to take over. It was not unexpected, perhaps, as the Wits defenders were made to sweat a little more. The link line ran very well, showed impressive skills and had several opportunities to score a goal but Wits maintained their strong defensive structure and did not concede a goal.

Inexplicably, UJ resumed the second half defensively and, although allowing Wits few opportunities, did themselves not create many scoring chances. UJ covered all major areas well and it was a swift short corner conceded to Wits that enabled the blue 'n yellow to score their third and final goal of the game.

The teams were playing competitive hockey; UJ managed to overpower Wits but failed to get the ball into the goals, and had to watch as our ever-alert goalkeeper cleared her lines. Although UJ never gave up, our defence was up to the task and repelled every attack. For stretches in the second half UJ's half was almost empty, but their lack of composure in front of goal let them down. At the end of an intense 2nd half, Wits was satisfied to be going home with a 3-0 victory against UJ. We will be prepared for an even tougher game when we welcome them to our WEC home ground on Sunday 10 August.

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We Ballin Baby... All day everyday

SK YOUR INNER WOMAN FUN RUN

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR WITS PHYSIO & OT

Date: 9 August 2014
 Theme: Your Inner Woman
 Price: R10 per entry
 Location: WITS Education Centre

Prizes: Best Dressed Male & Female
 1st, 2nd, 3rd Male & Female Race
 Registration on-site
 Race Starts 08:00

NIKE RUNS BECOMING A WITS INSTITUTION



INTO THE SUNSET: In the falling light of a late Highveld winter afternoon, Wits-Nike runners set off from the Bozz.

No doubt the weekly Tuesday Wits Nike runs are becoming an institution on our campus. Although event organisers were a little overwhelmed by the response to the first race, scepticism turned to elation as more than 200 runners responded in week two to the invitation to pound the campus route. By week three it was clear the Wits Nike runs are going to be a huge hit. They cater for social, occasional and serious runners. With little incentive, Witsies of all shapes and sizes are relishing in this fun keep-fit initiative. Don't stop running!

PGC rugby semi-finals round-up

On Sat 2nd August Wits' u-21 and 2nd XV rugby teams played in the semi-finals of the Pirates Grand Challenge. The u-21's opponents on the day (at Wanderers) were a gutsy Alberton team while the 2nd team squared off against UJ at the Raiders's Bill Jardine Stadium. In the juniors' clash, Wits were in control early on and this should have been reflected on the scoreboard. However, at least five times they were called back by the referee for forward passes. These mistakes cost Wits, and they struggled to convert the pressure into points. Flanker Connor Brockschmidt eventually went over for Wits with Dandre vd Berg kicking the conversion. The HT score was 7-5 to Wits.

The second half saw Alberton getting much more of the possession and the favourable refereeing decisions. However, in true Wits spirit, the boys rallied and defended for long stretches to keep Alberton at bay. The game was eventually taken away from Alberton with a great move that saw Ish Nkolo dotting down next to the uprights. The final score was 17 - 5. The captain on the day, Richard Crossman, and centre Joshua Jarvis were the stand-out players for the Witsies.

Sadly, a different fate was in store for the Wits second team. They went down 14-45 to UJ. Our boys were slow out of the starting blocks and an extremely harsh 2nd-min yellow card (dished out for what appeared to be a perfectly legitimate tackle) rattled the team somewhat. UJ racked up three converted tries in the next ten minutes for a 21-0 lead. The Witsies managed to steady the ship and fought back gamely but it was too little, too late and UJ were comfortable winners. Angus Gordon and Nyathi Motsoang scored tries for Wits, both converted by Kyle Peyper. **Andy Royle & Al Leonard**

Barloworld Ford Bruma

CLICK HERE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES & EVENTS

FIXTURE / EVENT	DATE & TIME	DETAILS	VENUE
Women's Basketball	7/8/9 Aug	Wits Lady Bucks Women's Basketball Tournament, incl. teams from Botswana & Zimbabwe. Contact Mnyani Maseko or Simon Modise	Hall 29, Wits West Campus see details at
Rugby	Fri 8 Aug, 7.40pm	Pirates Grand Challenge u-21 final: Wits vs UJ (in the semi-final on Sat 2 Aug Wits beat Alberton 17-5)	Bill Jardine Stadium, cnr Springbok & Commando Rds, Bosmont-Industria
Women's Basketball	Sun 10 Aug, 9am	Week 8 of Women's Gauteng Basketball League (WGBL) : Bees vs Wits. See here for other fixtures and mid-July log standings	Wembley Sports Arena, Turffontein
Football	Tue 12 Aug	PSL - Bidvest Wits vs Tuks, 19h30; UGFL (amaTuesdayz) men - Wits vs Tuks, 4.45pm; UGFL (amaTuesdayz) women - Wits vs Tuks 4.45pm	→Bidvest Stdm →Wits Rugby Stdm →Sturrock Park Stdm
Running	Sun 17 Aug	Varsity Kudus & Wits Alumni Relations present the 2014 Wits 21.1km/10km Road Race. Click here for details. Online entries at www.entrytime.com	starting at 8am from the Wits Club, West Campus
Tennis	Tue 19 Aug	WTC club championships, from 19 Aug. Download entry form . Contact Erika Venter for details	Wits tennis courts (behind E Campus rugby stdm)
Table Tennis	Sat 23 Aug	Wits Table Tennis Club presents the Oteng Memorial Table Tennis Tournament. Prize money guaranteed. Contact Rhinoelo Rubushe (tel 079 484 0371) or Tebogo Rabotlata (083 463 0709)	New Squash Centre, East Campus
Basketball - Women's	Sun 24 Aug 9am	Week 10 of Women's Gauteng Basketball League (WGBL) : VUT Alumni vs Wits	Wembley Sports Arena, Turffontein



Wits Citizenship & Community Outreach (WCCO) volunteers and Wits Univ. Football Club (WUFC) members brought 30 youngsters from homeless children's NGO Jabulani Khakibus Kids (JKK) to Dig Field for a day of football up-skilling and fun.

UGFL AmaTuesdayz results

The two Wits representatives in the USSA men's football squad for the CUCSA games in Zambia later this month confirmed they are worthy selections. Both players scored against reigning USSA Gauteng champions, UJ, to secure Wits a 2-0 win. Both players have been selected the USSA Football National Team that will be going to the CUCSA Games taking place in Zambia 16 - 21 August 2014. The *AmaTuesdayz* tie between the two institutions was played at UJ's Bunting Rd campus stadium on 5 August.

Keorapetse Molete (*below left*) and Mahle Mtshane (*below right*), who depart with the USSA squad on their Lusaka road trip on Saturday 16, bagged a goal in the first and second half respectively for a famous Wits away win.

In the evening's earlier game, the Wits women lost to UJ 2-0. Both men's and women's teams though are still well within range of qualification for this year's USSA's in Durban.

