



Wits Blitz

WEDNESDAY 6 MAY 2015

VOL 2 #4

Women's Varsity Hockey tournament



Sun 03 May 2015. Potchefstroom Hockey Field, North West. KOVSIES vs WITS. Photo by: Catherine Kotze/SASPA

Women's Varsity Hockey is the big deal this May, and not just because our 1st X1's one of only 8 'varsities competing in this prestigious tournament.

The bonus for Wits is that its hockey stadium on the education campus will co-host, with UJ's Melville Astro turf, the second tournament weekend, from Friday 8 to Monday 11 May.

And so it was that Wits experienced a tough but not altogether unrewarding opening round of the women's 2015 event, over the long weekend of 1-4 May in Potchefstroom. After their fourth and last game on Monday, the scorecard for Wits reads: Played 4, drew 1, lost 2; won 1.

In Friday's series opener for Wits, they came up against 2013 women winners U Stell. Our girls gave good account of themselves against the Maties for the better part of the game, but came unstuck in the last quarter, conceding three goals.

On Saturday the Witsies fared much better, tying NMMU 2-all and giving themselves a fillip going into their third game, against the UFS the next day.

On Sunday, however, the Kovies had other plans, and claimed a third win of the weekend by overcoming Wits 4-0.

But Wits re-grouped for Monday's game against UCT, inflicting a 3-0 defeat on the Ikeys, the latter's fourth straight loss.

For Wits, one of the most eagerly-awaited match-ups takes place in the second round, on Sunday 10 May at 18h45, when they play their UJ rivals and co-hosts. Unfortunately, UJ will have home ground advantage.

Several Witsies were recognised for outstanding performances in the first weekend, including Toni Marks (*below*) and goalie Zimisele Shange



Jet Striker

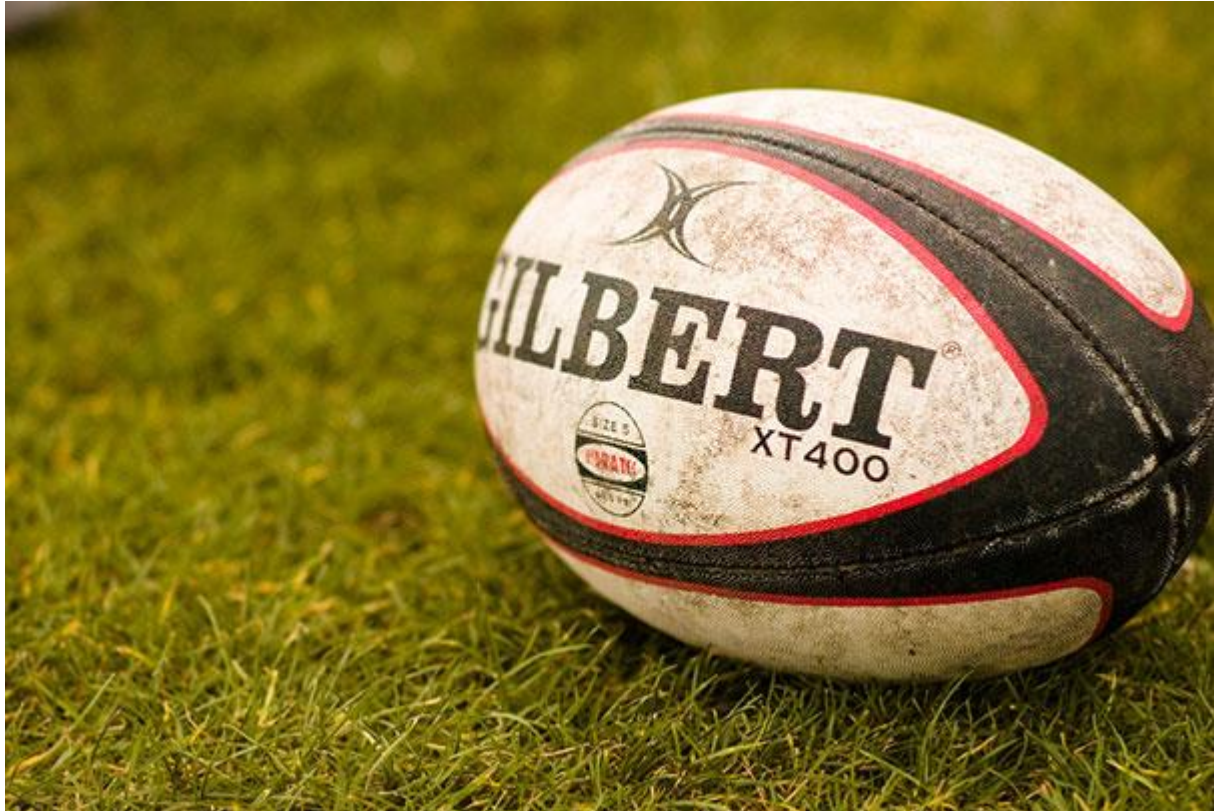
One Thousand Rands Only.

R 1000 - 00

073446 0238926 056428977 14

Sat 02 May 2015. Potchefstroom Hockey Field, North West., NMMU vs WITS, Striker of the Match: Wits Univ's Toni Marks. Photo by: Catherine Kotze/SASPA

Pirates Grand Challenge club competition



The disappointment of losing the Varsity Shield final to the UKZN Impi now behind them, Wits Rugby's focus will be on the 2015 Pirates Grand Challenge club competition.

On Fri 8 May they come up against 'Ou Oranje' rivals, the Univ of Johannesburg, here at home. The matches are played on the A and B fields, and kick-off times are as follows: u-19 & 3rd XV @ 18h15; u-20 & 2nd XV @ 19h40; 1st XV @ 21h00.

Writing in his SupaRugby Facebook page, Andre Bester said that the reason why Wits coach Hugo van As wouldn't pick most of the young players that were in action in the Varsity Shield for the Pirates Grand Challenge is because student rugby isn't senior club rugby, [and] that he would rather rather ease them into things

and that is why he opted to field older players that have been in action in the Pirates Grand Challenge in previous years.

That may be so, but there's no doubt Jo'burg's rugby community will be very keen to see how the talent Wits presented in the Varsity Shield will do in the rough and tumble of club rugby.

Wits Netball League



On Saturday 25 April two Wits Netball selection sides participated in an Oldies tournament against 9 other teams, including sides from VUT, Kempton Park, and Southdale.

The two teams namely Wits Dig's (Blue) and Wits Mutual (Yellow) both lost in the quarterfinals: Wits Yellow in **extra time** to Black Eagles (12-15) and Wits Blues to Mighty Stars (7-15). The latter side went on to win the tournament.

Lungoko Mveli (C) received best centre court player.

THE Wits teams were made up of players who currently comprise the training squad, and was split equally with 11 players in each team.

Wits Mutual (Yellow) only lost 16-20 to VUT 1. The latter side who have been walking over the Wits team these past two years.

The final was contested by Black Eagles and Mighty Stars.

Results from Wits internal netball league games played Tuesday 28 April:

- Esselen 17 - 29 David Webster
- Barnato 17 - 16 Jubilee
- Medhurst 16 - 21 Brainwashers

For updates, fixtures, log standings and more news about the Wits Netball League see our League Republic site at <http://wnl.leaguerepublic.com>

WINL log as at end-April 2015

	TEAM	GAMES PLAYED	WON	LOST	DRAW	POINTS	GOAL DIFFERENCE
1	BRAINWASHERS	7	7	0	0	21	135
2	MEDICS	5	5	0	0	15	154
3	MEDHURST	6	4	2	0	12	113
4	DAVID WEBSTER	6	4	2	0	12	67
5	SUNNYSIDE	6	4	2	0	12	26
6	MINERS	6	4	2	0	12	23
7	BARNATO	7	4	3	0	12	5
8	JUNCTION	5	3	2	0	9	52
9	REITH	6	3	3	0	9	-41
10	JUBILEE	3	1	2	0	3	18
11	ESSELEN	7	1	6	0	3	-107
12	ZENITH	6	1	5	0	3	-108
13	BRAAM CENTRE	6	1	5	0	3	-186
14	NOSWAL	2	0	2	0	0	-55
15	GIRTON	6	0	6	0	0	-132

GD = Goal difference: Goal difference is calculated by adding all the goals you've scored, less all the goals other teams have scored against you. The higher the GD, the better.

Cricket - Future Cup



The Future Cup being played between Wits and the Lenasia Premier League All Stars is heating up, with some great cricket [on offer from](#) both sides! Wits won a tight third game by 2 wickets on Tuesday 28 April to take a 2-1 lead in the series and show that Wits Cricket is on the move! The fourth and penultimate game was drawn, meaning Wits cannot now lose the series.

Wits' win in the third game came after the LPL All Stars squad won the toss and elected to bat first. The Wits bowlers [flew through their deliveries and bowled](#) with good pace, especially Yoni Fingelson. Fingelson took the opening 3 wickets.

Fingelson was well supported by the rest of a strong but developing bowling attack including first year Brad Williams, who also took 3 wickets with his off-spin.

Captain Nono Pongolo was on top form again, closing out the innings, and in the end the LPL side was all out for an above par 150.

It was always going to be a tough chase, but new recruits Isaac Dikale and Sebastian Green put on a great partnership to gave Wits a decent start.

Rowan Carstensen was superb with 39 runs of 29 balls, handing the Wits side the initiative. The Witsies were 85-2 after 10 overs and in a good position, but a great fight back from an LPL side taking wickets at regular intervals made it a tight game.

in the series takes place on Tuesday, and with a strong fightback from the LPL side is expected.

Wits Cricketer Selected To Captain SA Deaf Cricket XI



Wits Cricket's first XI regular, Colin Venter (*above, in the middle of the back row*), has been selected to captain the SA Deaf XI.

Colin matriculated from King David Linksfield and is now a third-year B Ed student. He's played cricket since the age of 6, and comes from a family with a strong cricketing pedigree, and who've represented SA.

Dad Stephen captained the SA 1995 World Cup side in Australia, a team which also featured his Uncle Dionne. Brother Kevin played in the SA Deaf World Cup side in India a decade later, in 2005.



Colin Venter, CSA Deaf Cricket Player of the Year 2013

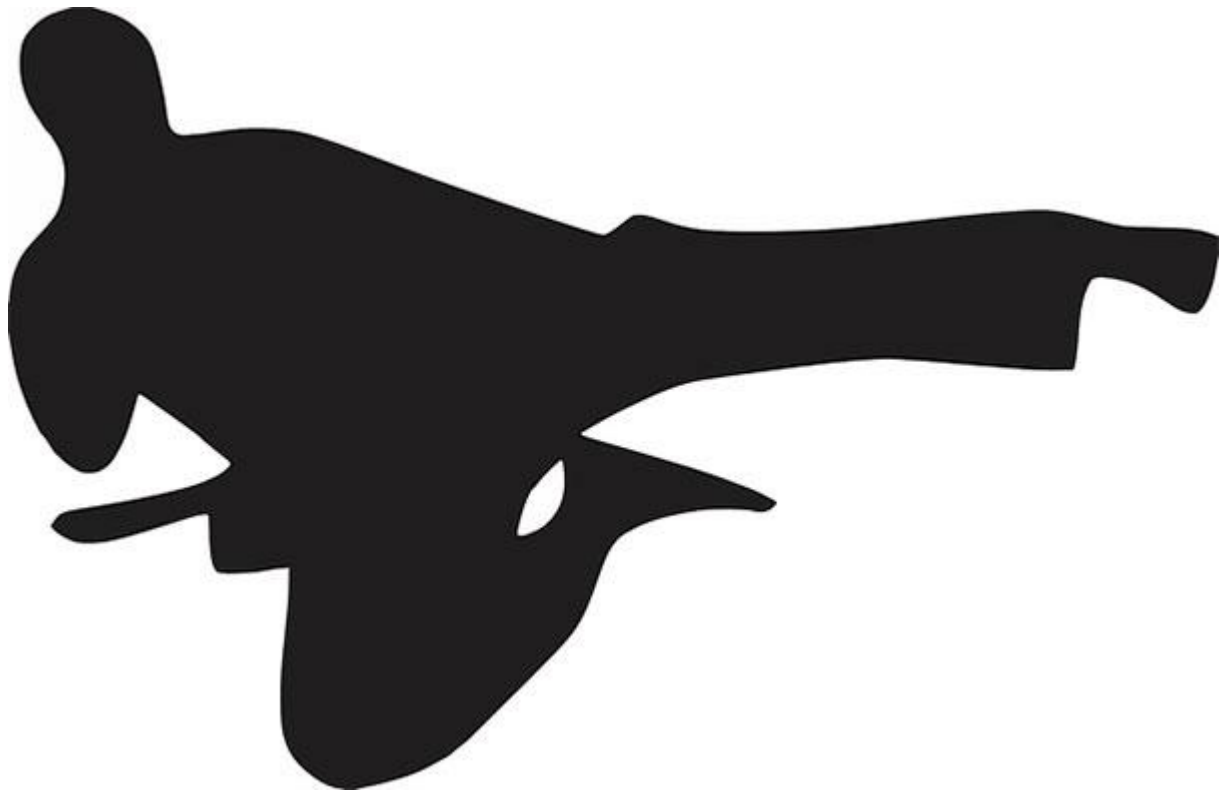
Stephen Meyer captained the Gauteng deaf cricket side that captured the SA deaf cricket title four times.

Colin captained the Gauteng deaf side that won the 2014 T20 inter-provincial tournament and the 2015 (50 overs inter-provincial tournament. He was previously selected to the SA deaf cricket side that competed in a triangular series against Australia, England in Australia in 2011. He's also represented SA at the Maccabi Games in 2013, where the SA team bagged gold.

The young Venter's accomplishments – he considers himself more of a a medium-pace seam bowler than a batter – have not gone unrecognised. He was awarded the Cricket SA deaf cricketer of the year accolade in 2012 and 2013, and nominated Gauteng disabled sportsman of the year in 2014, losing out only to the SA wheelchair tennis champ Lucas Sithole.

Colin will captain the SA deaf side on an international tour next, possibly to England or Dubai. With his remarkable record of achievement, this modest athlete is surely a candidate for Wits colours this year.

Karate



Tournaments

Wits Karate will participate in the Karate Unlimited club tournament that will be held at Marist Brothers in Linmeyer, in the south of Johannesburg, on 9 May.

This tournament brings together all the dojos (or clubs) at which Wits' karate instructor John Paul Rodrigues teaches.

The different categories of competition in the club champs range from age 4, to senior level *ie.* brown and black belts.

Later, in June, the SA Nationals will be held at the Standard Bank Arena, downtown in Doornfontein. All JKA clubs throughout SA compete in the Nationals in June.

Also at this tournament, trials will be held to select a team to compete in the African Cup to be held in September in Johannesburg.

We wish our Witsies taking part the very best of luck, and we look forward to seeing more than just a few of them making the SA team that's selected for the African Cup.

Basketball



Wits lady Bucks catch their breath during a break in their game against Soweto Raptors at the this year's Ashie's tournament. Pic: Wits Vuvuzela

The 11th annual Ashies, the Ashraf Lodewyk Memorial Basketball Tournament, hosted by Wits Basketball between 22-27 April, has come and gone.

Tournament winners were, in the men's section, Vaal University of Technology, who defeated Braamfontein Blues 85-58, and in the women's section, V & J, who only very narrowly beat Soweto Raptors 52-51.

The tournament All Stars in the women's section comprised Takalani Mfamadi of V & J, Ellen Moutlwatse of the Soweto Raptors, Zanele Ndaba of VUT, and Nozipho Mahlaba of the KZN Warriors. The women's most valuable player (MVP) was Emmerentia Ledwaba, the V & J #6

In the men's section, Mike Mukumbuta and Lebesa Selepe of VUT, Graci Miller Kibikiabo of the Randburg Rhinos, and Luka Lunnemann of the Jozi Basketball Club made the All Stars, while the Braam Blues' Tshiamo Ngakane was voted most valuable player.

Lone High Jumper Carries Our Flag



Wits' Ntando Mtshengu has some way to go to challenge the USSA record of 2.21m set by Kabelo Kgosiemang (above) in 2014. Pic credit: www.africanathletics.org

High jumper and 2nd-year B Mus student Ntando Mtshengu was the lone Witsie carrying our flag at the USSA Athletics track & field championships held at the Univ of Stellenbosch's Coetzenburg Stadium on the weekend of 24-25 April.

Thando, as he is known, is probably Wits' top-ranking field athlete, having jumped a personal best of 2m at Germiston in March this year. Thando trains at UJ, since Wits Athletics is able to cater for specialist athletic field codes such as javelin, hammer throw, high jump, pole vault and so on.

But luck was not on his side: "Not too good," Thando texted in response to being asked how the tournament went. "I didn't finish the competition. My injury came back," he said of a recurring lower back sprain that has troubled him all season.

Wits Judo 2015

By Candice Wagener



The WKC training squad, pictured here on 29 April 2015

The start of the year for Wits Judo has been phenomenal, kicking off with the 2015 USSA championships hosted by the University of Pretoria.

We came away with excellent results: Calvin Fourie got a gold medal for his weight category (u-100kg) and a silver medal in the open weights category; Caitlin Wild was awarded a silver medal in her weight category (u-63kg) and a bronze medal in the open weights category. These two students are also being considered for participation in the World Student Games of 2016.

The USSA Karate general meeting resulted in three Wits students becoming part of the executive committee: Candice Wagener as Secretary, Caitlin Wild as treasurer and Calvin Fourie a student representative.

Wits Judo does not only participate in competitions, but is also host to many of the judo community's events. We pride ourselves in our facilities being a place where many legends come, stand tall, and leave having demonstrated excellence and skill.

The Club hosts the Gauteng squad training twice a month, where the training dojo is filled with novice and experience judokas alike, and where everyone trains together for the evening. When a vote was taken to have one of the training sessions at UP, everyone expressed a preference for the Wits training. The club, under the guidance of Coen Von Tonder, also hosts many of the different competitions of the community of judo. In the beginning of the year, the Champion of Champions takes place at Wits.

The schedule for the month of May is a rather busy one as the national rankings, regional rankings and Champion of Champions will happen on successive Saturdays - 9th and 16th May. The national ranking is going to be the best one yet, as judoka from around the country will be coming to compete, and will do so at the best venue available!



www.wits.ac.za/sport

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Send us your news](#)