

CYCLING

The GT Maties Cycling Club had a busy time in the first semester. Six members of the Maties team took part in the five-day MTN Giro del Capo bike race. Stage four of this race saw the riders taking on Helshoogte Pass in Stellenbosch. Erik Kleinhans and Johnny Kritzinger eventually finished 64th and 70th respectively.

Not even a month later the students entered one of the toughest mountain bike races in the world, the Absa Cape Epic. Kleinhans, teaming up with UCT rider Oliver Munnik, did Maties proud by claiming 12th place overall, whilst CM Muller and his partner finished 24th.

The Maties Cycling Club also played host to the SA Student Cycling Champs that took place in Stellenbosch at the end of June. At the time of going to press both the men's team and the ladies' team were strong contenders for overall glory.

Meanwhile Johnny Kritzinger was bestowed the honour of representing the SA Student Team at the World Student Champs in the Netherlands at the end of March.

PHOTO LEFT: Erik Kleinhans (in front) and Oliver Munnik took part in the Cape Epic. (Photo: Neil Gardiner)



SWIMMING

At the Samsung Grand Prix at UWC, 16-year-old Jessica Pengelly set a new SA record in the 400m medley on course to qualifying for the Olympics.

The Matie swimmer secured her seat on the plane to Beijing when she also won the 200m and 400 m medley at the National Champs and Olympic trails in Durban a few weeks later.

ROWING

The Maties rowing team finished fifth at the annual SASSU sprints. The men managed two gold medals in the C-division category races (sculls and coxed IVs), as well as silver in the A-division men's VIII. Keegan Ackerman (cox), Adam Pickard and Brian Malcomess were also selected for the Grudge crew, which represents the top sixteen male rowers in the entire competition.



HOCKEY

Ten Maties will represent South Africa at the Olympics later this year. A mix of youth and experience sees nine women and 1 man in the 16 man squads. Matie coaches Jenny King and Kurt Cerfontyne are also included as women's coach and men's assistant coach respectively.

On the residence front, Steinhoff International Heemstede were crowned the women's Summer League champions, after seeing off Nerina in the final, whilst Steinhoff International Wilgenhof were named winners in the men's division.

WATERPOLO

UCT found out first-hand just how far water polo at SU had come over the last few years, when Maties comprehensively upstaged them in an intervarsity encounter at the Coetzenburg swimming pool. All six Stellenbosch sides tasted success, with the Maties men's first team winning 13 - 7 and the women's first team claiming a 5 - 3 victory.

UNDERWATER HOCKEY

In December last year the Maties men's underwater hockey A Team was crowned the best club team in South Africa for the second year running. Maties coach, Jimmy Herbert, was also appointed technical advisor for the SA team for the 2008 World Championships in Durban and the Maties captain, Brent Borstlap, will lead the SA team.

SU Cricket organiser André du Toit and Roger Telemachus

cricket

CRICKET SUCCESS: Daniel Childs was a member of the SA U19 team at the World Cup in Malaysia and Maties Cricket Club successfully hosted an international tournament. South Africa's women team won the World Cup Qualifying Tournament at Coetzenburg with ease and in doing so has come into consideration for the World Cup in England next year.

- The Club has also announced that Roger Telemachus, who until recently was still playing for South Africa, was chosen as player and coach for the 2008/2009 season. Telemachus, himself a former Maties player, takes over from Mr Omar Henry who has taken a position at Boland Cricket. Telemachus has played 78 first-class matches and 37 one-day international matches for South Africa during his 13-year career.

NETBAL

Stellenbosch is once again at the forefront of innovation and development in sport. Earlier this year, the Maties Netball Club in co-operation with Ultimate Coaching established the Maties Netball Institute.

This project, aimed at improving the quality of netball in South Africa by paying individual attention to players' skills and movement, is the brainchild of the Maties coach Francois Nel. The Institute sets its sights on everyone - from beginners to international players.

The SA Merit Tournament also took place and, as was expected, the Boland Merit Team was made up of mostly Maties. They are Aletta Esterhuysen, Zaandré Theron, Zsa-Zsa Temmers, Claudia Basson, Anja Zandberg, Leanie Kleynhans, Toschca Ferreira and Michelle Segal.

- In other news Heemstede beat Sonop to be crowned as the 2008 Summer League Champions. The halftime score was 5 - 3 in Sonop's favour, but in the second half Heemstede played like a team possessed to win 11 - 8 in the end.

IN THE PHOTO ABOVE: This year's Summer League champions are Heemstede