

SHOW YEAR for matie sport

Maties achieved first-rate results again this year on the sport field. There were 76 Maties who served as national representatives while an amazing 304 Maties participated at provincial level. There were, moreover, 18 participants at University Sport South Africa (USSA) level. Added to this, the SU sportspeople also had outstanding results on international terrain. Maties had 15 representatives at the Olympic Games, including ten hockey players (nine women and one man), one athlete, one triathlon athlete and one swimmer. Two trainers, for hockey, also accompanied the team. For the Paralympic Games (see article on p 10) there were seven men and three women who participated, inter alia, as representatives of the Matie-Helderberg Club for Persons with Disabilities. Suzanne Ferreira, a trainer at the Stellenbosch University Sport Achievement Institute (SUSPI) accompanied the team as trainer for the sprinters.

This year the **Maties Rugby Club** won all the cups and shields for the Western Province (WP) leagues in which a Maties men's team played, as well as the award for the club which produced the most players for WP teams. It was also the twelfth consecutive year that FNB Maties were nominated as WP club champions. Rugby enthusiasts are invited to come and see in 2009 how the Maties defend their title as champions of the FNB Varsity Cup, which saw its debut in 2008. Maties will be playing on the following dates in the Danie Craven Stadium: 9 February against the University of Johannesburg, 23 February against NWU Pukke, and 9 March against NMMU. Steinhoff Majuba is this year's winner of the prestigious Sauer Trophy after beating Simonsberg 13 - 12 in the final.

Once again the women's first team of the **Steinhoff Maties Hockey Club** won the WP Great Challenge League. The women also took the trophy for the third consecutive year in the USSA tournament, while the men came third.

The stars of **Maties Athletics** once more shone brightly in the 2008 season. At the South African Championships Robert Oosthuizen won a gold medal for throwing the javelin, as well as representing South Africa at the Olympic Games. Janice Josephs won gold medals in long jump at the South African and Africa Championships. The junior athlete Wilhelm van der Vyver won a silver medal in the 100 m race at the Junior World Championships in Poland in 10,42 seconds. His time in the semifinal was 10,38 seconds. He also helped South Africa win a bronze medal and set up a new national record (39,70 seconds) in the 4x100 m relay race.

Both Maties men's and women's **tennis teams** won this year's University League as well as the WP Mixed League.

The **Badminton Club** won this year's Boland Super League for the 22nd time in the last 23 years, the Boland First League for the 19th time in a row and the Boland First Men's League for the fourth time the last five years.

Stellenbosch University's first **netball team** won the Boland Netball Super League for the second consecutive year, and with five Maties and their

chief trainer, Mariana van Zyl, helped the Boland Netball Team to win the South African championship.

In October, Maties men's **basketball team** for the first time in history won the Men's First Division of the Western Cape.

In the 2008 season the **Maties Cycling Club** proved that they are tough enough to compete in any mountain-biking race. Experienced cyclists like Johnny Kritzingner, Erik Kleinhans and Arno Viljoen gained places on the podium in various races, with young Maties like CM Muller, Christo Swartz and Chris Wolhuter who regularly finished among the first five in national mountain-biking races.

The SU team of **gymnasts** made a clean sweep at this year's annual USSA competition in KwaZulu-Natal by earning the winners' trophy for the fifth consecutive year, as well as the trophy for the best women's team, the best men's team, the best team item and the victrix ludorum.

As usual Maties **judokas** proved themselves to be probably the strongest judo club in South Africa by winning the USSA championship for the seventh consecutive year. They also produced three of the five judokas composing the national student team, with Maties trainer Jan Olivier who was again appointed as trainer. Paul Young, a doctoral student at SU, represented South Africa at two tournaments, namely the VII Africa Senior Kurash tournament in Agadir, Morocco, where he won a silver medal, and the V International Amir Temur Kurash tournament in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The Maties **oarsmen** Donnie Malherbe (third), Heinrich Schloms (fourth) and Ernest van Riet (eighth) were part of this year's team which won the formidable Berg River canoe marathon team competition. Heinrich and Ernest also finished second as the South African K2 river marathon champions. Pierre-André Rabie, an U/21 oarsman, finished seventh in the Berg River and, together with an oarsman from Kwazulu-Natal, won the SA U/20 title at the USSA meeting held on the Fish River.

The **Paralympic athletes**, Ilse Hayes and Hilton Langenhoven were nominated as this year's Sportsman and Sportswoman of the year. Also see p 10.



Photo top: Johnny Kritzingner (Photo: www.oakpics.com)

Second from top: Majuba wins the Sauer Trophy

Third from top: The victorious Mates Basketball Team

Fourth from top: Ms Jackie Wiese, Director of the Sport Bureau; Hilton Langenhoven, Sportsman of the Year; Ilse Hayes, Sportswoman of the Year and Mr Ernst van Dyk, guest speaker at the annual Sports Honours Evening.

Far left: The Matie Triathlon athlete, Mari Rabie, was part of the South African Olympic Team to Beijing.

