



ADVANTAGE

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Farewell to Lorna Krog!



Retirement is a time
to look back
with satisfaction,
and a time
to look ahead
with anticipation.
A time to fill
each day
with enjoyment.
A very special
time for you.

On behalf of the SATA
Board, CEO Ian Smith would
like to thank Lorna for her
many years of dedication,
commitment and hard work.

Congratulations on your
retirement Lorna and we
hope you take the time to
enjoy yourself!

Seeing the wave of the green and gold every Friday in support of our rugby boys I notice that people seem to smile more and generally are happier and friendlier. What a delightful sight – pity we can't be like that all the time! September has been a busy tennis month with Club League and Championships taking place all over the country and that is what tennis is really all about – old and young, proficient against learner pitting their skills with fun against one another.

ZONDI NEW SATA PRESIDENT

Bongani "Wire" Zondi has been elected as the new President of the South African Tennis Association (SATA). The Annual General Meeting of the national association was held earlier and a new board was put into place. New SATA Board is as follows:



President: Bongani Zondi

Vice President: Gavin Crookes

Board: Clark Coetzee (Re-elected and is President of Gauteng North Tennis Association)

Theo Coetzee (new and President of Free State Tennis Association)

Riad Davids (new and former vice President of WP Tennis Association)

Clyde Lawrence (new and President of Border Tennis Association)

Chichi Maponya (new)

Jessica Motaung (re-elected)

Ian Smith (CEO)

Ronnie van 'T Hof (new)

Geoff Whyte (re-elected)

Zondi, who was moved up from the position of Vice President, takes over from Johann Koorts. "Johann Koorts set good, professional and high standards as President and I plan to continue with that," said Zondi. "The President is only as good as those who surround him and I believe my new Board are a competent, committed group of talented individuals whose passion for the game of tennis will drive them to lead the game to the next level."

Junior Selection Panel

The Board of the South African Tennis Association has announced the new Junior Selection Panel for 2011/12:

- Japie Klaasen
- Pietie Norval
- Terrey Schweitzer
- Patric Tsunke
- Frans Cronje

The incumbent Davis Cup and Fed Captains will also be full members of the Junior Selection Committee. At present the Davis Cup Captain is John-Laffnie de Jager and the Fed Cup Captain Greer Leo-Smith.

Anyone for Tennis

South African Tennis Association (SATA) President, Bongani Zondi made his first official public appearance as the newly elected President when he attended the launch of the recently revamped branch of the tennis development program ANYONE FOR TENNIS at Mbekweni near Paarl in the Western Cape.

The ANYONE FOR TENNIS development program, at the refurbished tennis courts at Mbekweni sports grounds, is the product of the hard work of the members of Paarl Hugenote Tennis Club. The Paarl Hugenote Tennis Club also hosts the Paarl Tennis Clinic the oldest and most successful tennis development program in South Africa under the leadership of SA tennis

MOODIE CALLS TIME

South Africa's top-ranked doubles player, Wes Moodie has hung up his racket. Moodie, 32, was ranked 39th in the doubles category of the ATP Tour rankings at the time of his retirement but was ranked as high as eighth in 2009.

The Durban-born player will be remembered best by most for his 2005 Wimbledon doubles victory with Australian Stephen Huss. Fittingly the tall right-hander's last tournament was also Wimbledon earlier this year where he and Belgian partner Dick Norman reached the Last 16.



CHANI WINS MAIDEN WTA TITLE

Chani Scheepers ended an eight year drought for South Africa as she won the Wanlima Guangzhou International Women's Open in Guangzhou, China beating Magdalena Rybarikova of Slovakia 6-2, 6-2. Scheepers had not been beyond the quarterfinals of any WTA tournament before Guangzhou. Chani is the first South African woman to win a WTA title since Amanda Coetzer won the Acapulco Tournament in 2003.

GRANDIN WINS MAIDEN WTA DOUBLES TITLE

South African doubles specialist, Natalie Grandin won her maiden WTA Title at the Hansol Korea Open in Seoul, South Korea. In an all-Top 2 doubles final, No 1 seeds Natalie Grandin and her Czech Republic partner Vladimira Uhlirova beat No 2 seeds Galina Voskoboeva (KAZ) and Vera Dushevina (RUS), 7-6(5) 6-4. It was a milestone for the 30-year-old Grandin, who collected her first WTA title. She had been 0-10 in WTA doubles finals beforehand.

SA PLAYER WINS ARTHUR ASHE AWARD



Boise State men's tennis player Damian Hume was honored by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association as he was named recipient of the ITA Mountain Region Arthur Ashe Leadership and Sportsmanship Award for his contributions on and off the court in 2010-11.

The ITA Arthur Ashe Award recognizes men's and women's players from all levels of collegiate tennis who have exhibited outstanding sportsmanship and leadership as well as scholastic, extracurricular and tennis achievements. Recipients of the award, which dates back to 1982, were honored during a special ceremony at the Arthur Ashe Kids' Day inside Ashe Stadium in Flushing, New York.

Johannesburg born Hume played his way to first-team All-Western Athletic Conference honors in both singles and doubles. He also was named WAC All-Tournament in singles and doubles.

legend David Samaai.

David and his brother Frank have served the community and South African tennis for longer than 60 years with this development program. Many first class and successful professional and provincial players were introduced to the wonderful sport of tennis by this program.

Both the Samaai brothers are in their eighties and still involved, however, coaches Aiden Demas and Thompson Ala will be in charge of these development programs, which is supported by the Boland Tennis Association and sponsored by Bidvest.

Support by SATA and National Lottery Development Fund has provided the program with much needed rackets, nets, balls and shoes.

The successful product of a similar program in Okiep as well as South African Davis Cup and ATP star Jeff Coetzee, attended the launch. Jeff is on the board and ambassador of the Strand branch of the ANYONE FOR TENNIS program. "We can only discover the abundant talent in our wider communities through initiatives like this" said Coetzee. "I have travelled the country and visited so many previously disadvantaged areas and have been amazed by the tennis talent on offer. I am grateful to SATA, Boland Tennis and the community of Paarl for their initiative and am honoured to be an ambassador of such a fantastic project."

Mr Zondi was accompanied by the SATA Vice-President Gavin Crookes, Board member Riad Davids and Chief Executive

WHEELCHAIR PLAYERS NAMES SPORTSPERSONS OF 2011

Wheelchair Tennis South Africa's (WTSA) superstars, Kgothatso Montjane and Lucas Sithole were named Sportspersons of the Year, in the disabled category, at a ceremony held at Sun City in August. Montjane was judged against a tough line up, with athletes like Natalie du Toit and fellow swimmer Emily Gray also in the running. Sithole was up against equally stiff competition with track and field athlete, Hilton Langenhoven and sprinter Samkelo Radebe vying for the title.



SATA congratulates these two determined and courageous athletes.

ALL AFRICA GAMES



A team of more than 200 athletes flew the flag for Team South Africa at the 10th All Africa Games in Maputo, Mozambique in September.

The sports contested in the Mozambican capital were: aquatics, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, canoeing, chess, cycling, football, judo, karate, sailing, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, triathlon, volleyball and beach volleyball.

Tennis was represented by Bridget Visee (official), Chanel Simmonds and Natasha Fourouclas.

Chanel earned a silver medal by reaching the final against the number 1 Tunisian player. However she had been sick all night and unfortunately had to pull out during the game. South Africa won the bronze in the team competition.

KEVIN AND CHANI AT THE US OPEN

Kevin Anderson and Chani Scheepers did us proud at the US Open this year. Despite being in the middle of Hurricane Irene the tournament was hardly affected or delayed.

Kevin went down to eighth seed American Mardy Fish in the fourth round in three tight sets, 4-6 6-7 (4) 6-7 (3) in a match which lasted three hours and 20 minutes. Our top-ranked women's player, Chani Scheepers also exited at the same stage and like Kevin went out fighting in a three hour match to seventh seed Francesca

Officer Ian Smith.

Other dignitaries that attended were Mr. Pieter Lourens of the Boland Sports Committee, representatives from the Drakenstein Municipality, President and Vice-President Boland Tennis Dr Danie Morkel and Dean Owen and Frank and David Samaai.

Obituary - Kenny Thorne

Born in Stutterheim 4 June 1941. Died 19 August 2011.

Ken Thorne was a regular Border representative during the 1960's and 1970's, captaining Border, East London and club teams during this period.

Besides the international championships at the end of the year, there were six other tournaments on the Border which were supported by players from all over the Eastern Cape and further afield.

Thorne competed in all these tournaments winning many singles, doubles and mixed doubles titles in the East London, Kaffrarian, Kei Mouth and Transkei championships.

He won the East London singles title for three successive years in 1962, 1963 and 1964 and again in 1969 when he captured a triple crown - singles, doubles and mixed doubles.

Thorne started his tennis career at the now defunct East London Tennis Club which at the time was the strongest on the Border. He captured the

Schiavone of Italy. After taking the first set 7-5 she lost the second on a tiebreaker 7-6 (5) and the final and quickest set was 6-3 in favour of the French Open finalist.

SA WINS THE AFRICA JUNIOR CHALLENGE

IC South Africa recently announced that South Africa is the winner of the Africa Junior Challenge.

Played in perfect conditions at the Gauteng East Tennis Complex in Benoni at the beginning of September, the players from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana entertained spectators to some excellent performances. The IC values of sportsmanship and friendship were evident throughout the event and roving umpires and the referee had a stress-free tournament.

A Development Clinic for 20 Vosloorus children was also held and they were joined for a while by members of the Gauteng East squad.

Final Results: South Africa -1; Zimbabwe - 2; Namibia - 3; Botswana - 4.

DAVIS CUP DEFEAT

Croatia won their Davis Cup promotion/relegation play-off against South Africa at the Fanie du Toit Sports Stadium in Potchefstroom 4-1.

Unfortunately South Africa was plagued with injury when both Izak van der Merwe and Kevin Anderson could not continue playing.

Izak with a wrist injury and Kevin a hip injury.



The ITF have announced the seeds for the 2012 Davis Cup:

Europe/Africa Zone Group I

1. Israel
2. South Africa
3. Belgium
4. Romania

CRADOCK CHALLENGE FROM A BORDER POINT OF VIEW

No fewer than 224 veteran tennis players descended on Cradock for the popular Cradock Challenge organised by Free State's Izak Buys. Border, EP, Free State and South-Western Districts each sent seven teams of eight players.

The format is unique in that the total ages of the four men and four women per

singles title twice (1962 & 1964), the mixed doubles three times and the men's doubles 11 times between 1959 and 1976.

In 1976 he joined the Beacon Bay Tennis Club and remained unbeaten at singles from 1976 - 1980, recapturing the title in 1983 & 1984. He also won seven doubles and five mixed doubles titles.

In later years Thorne represented Border at veteran level.

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team are taken into account. The youngest group is the 140+ division and the oldest the 280+ section. Each tie consists of six men's and six women's doubles and four mixed doubles matches and totals 208 games. The winners are the teams who score most games in a tie.

For the first time since the inception of the tournament 11 years ago, Border triumphed in two sections the 140+ and 280+.

The 140+ team of Gary Thorne, Ras van Pletzen, Dylan Rawlins, Wayne Shuman, Christine Keyser, Izelle Troskie, Anna-Mari Mare and Tanya Dubber opened by upsetting the top-seeded Free State side by the convincing margin of 126-82.

Border met EP in the final which turned out to be a humdinger. EP won five of the six men's doubles 7-6 after the games had stood level at 6-all. With two mixed doubles still to play, they were level at 91-all. At the end of the day each side had won 104 games and the section was declared a tie – a fair reflection of the contest.

EP emerged as the most successful province winning the 190A, and 220A and 220B divisions. Free State won two sections 190+ and 240+. Border 140+ and 280+.

Seize the advantage

Wendy