

Alex BMX Riders with a dream



Pics: Jonk Wa Mashamba

Passion for riding... Members of the Alex BMX are determined to finally get a safe place for their practice

BY JONK WA MASHAMBA
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Nothing will stop Irvin Mokitimi's mission to change the Kasi boys from the dangerous lifestyle of playing with Nyaope. Despite the lack of support from public or private sectors, Mokitimi of Ext 8 is determined to hook substance abusers to join his baby Alex BMX Riders.

"My aim is to see Alexandra a drug-free and abuse-free community. I think through activities such as ours, the unemployed-youth can make a living out of this sport," ex-

plains the 29 year-old Mokitimi

But to embark on this kind of sport, which is evidently hardza-dious, one needs protective gear.

"The BMX and its gear are very expensive. It also becomes more challenging to convince more guys on the streets to join us since we currently don't have sponsors and a facility. But I'm courageous, that one day we will get sponsors and find a conducive area for our practice," adds the father of two.

When Greater Alex Today Newspaper visited the enthusiasts at Ext. 8, they had just prepared a piece of land to practice Back Flips,

Tail Whip, Bar Spins and Rotations.

"We need a ramp to do these things. We can't even organize competitions if we don't have facilities. Because of the challenges; we end up riding on the streets, which can result in serious accidents,"

Alex BMX has members such as Johnk Sekgato (25), Bongani Nkosi (19) and Sbusiso Nkosi (24). They say that riding keeps them busy and drags them away from reckless lifestyle and would be happy to get help to formalize their activities.

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Ba kae? The journey down memory lane

BY JIMMY MASINGI
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Pic: Jimmy Masingi

Rudzani Ramudzuli

NAME: Rudzani
SURNAME: Ramudzuli
DATE OF BIRTH: 1983-05-10
NICK NAME: RRR
WHERE WERE YOU BORN? I was born in Venda in the Nzhelele village
WHICH CLUBS DID YOU PLAY FOR? I started at Black Leopards then went to Orlando Pirates, Supersports and later I joined Dynamos
WHEN DID YOU RETIRE AND WHY? I retired in 2012 because things were no longer going my way in football
WHICH WAS YOUR FAVOURITE GROUND? In Limpopo it was Thohoyandou and in Gauteng it was Ellis Park
DO YOU HAVE SIBLINGS? Yes; we are four boys and four girls
ARE YOU MARRIED? Yes I'm married with two boys
WHERE DID YOU STAY AT THE

PRIME OF YOUR CAREER? I stayed at Becluech, Centurion, and Kempton Park
WHERE DO U LIVE NOW? I live in Midrand at the moment
DO YOU OWN A CAR? Yes I've got a polo and Mercedes Benz
ARE YOU DRINKING ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES? Yes, but occasionally
DO YOU GO TO CHURCH? Yes sometimes I go to ZCC in Tembisa
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOWADAYS? I'm more involved in the transport industry and I have a few taxis.

When I met with Rudzani, it was at the Altrek Sports Grounds where Alex Masters were playing their counterpart, the JHB Masters. The former Orlando Pirates player looks very young; he looks like he can still play some more professional football.

Rudzani started his professional football in 2003 when he was recruited from the Castle League by one of the Black Leopards, Joel

Sports Guru Corner

Weekend Sports Wrap



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FOOTBALL – Alexandra United went back to winning ways by beating Soweto Panthers 2-0 in the ABC Motsepe League on Saturday afternoon at the Fiant Stadium in Meadowlands. Goals from each half were enough for the hope of the city giants to claim the much needed three points away from home. The victory for United follows after a goalless draws against Log leaders, African All-Stars at Tsakane Stadium last Friday. Alexandra United coach approached Soweto Panthers match with four changes to the team that played the African All-Stars; with other players rested. Despite missing some of their star players, Alexandra United managed to grind the results.

Alexandra United defender Tony Patricio opened the scoring with a great header from Lizo Njempu's well-taken free kick, which found Patricio unmarked in the box to head home the opener. Soweto Panthers could have equalized but poor finishing let them down. The referee blew the half time whistle with United leading by a goal to nil. In the second half, Alex United coach introduced the debutant Collen Zimba to add fire power upfront. Alexandra United's new signee Colleen Zimba squandered the best chance of the match with the keeper at his mercy, but fluffed the ball over the cross bar. Booyens Salmok scored the winner on the 79th minute to give United the comfortable victory. Starting the second round of the ABC Motsepe League, Alexandra United beefed up the team with the acquisition of former Kaizer Chief's midfielder, Kagiso Senamela, Collen Zimba and former Black Leopards, David Tswa.

CRICKET - The Proteas thumped the West Indies by 257 runs in the ICC Cricket World Cup match of the pool B at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Friday morning. South Africa won the toss and elected to bat first and posted 408 for five, with captain AB de Villiers top scoring for the Proteas. De Villiers' heroics saw him become the only player to reach the fastest 50, 100 and 150 in one match. The South African Captain finished undefeated, as he notched 162 off just 66 balls. Hashim Amla and FAF du Plessis both laid the foundation with 65 and 62 respectively while

Rilee Rossouw gave the Proteas the edge.

Meanwhile, spinner Imran Tahir took five wicket, restricting West Indies to 151 all out while Kyle Abbott took the biggest wicket of Chris Gayle. In the biggest match of the weekend; New Zealand have beaten Australia by one wicket in 23 overs of the dramatic pool A match at the Cricket World Cup in Eden Park, New Zealand. New Zealand handed Australia their first loss in the tournament after they were bowled out for 151. Mitchell Starc and Mitchell Johnson were the peak of the Australian team after taking six wickets for 28 runs. New Zealand now tops the group having played four matches and won all of them.

Rugby – Toyota Cheetahs defeated the Blues 25-24 in the Super Rugby match played at the Free State Stadium on Friday night. The Cheetahs recorded their second victory of this year's tournament. The Free State franchise opened with a victory over the Cell C Sharks at the King's Park Rugby Stadium. Vodacom Bulls used the home ground advantage to record their first victory of the season, beating Stormers 43-35 on Saturday at the Loftus Versveld Stadium in Pretoria. After a disappointing start, the Bulls redeemed themselves with a much-needed victory.

The DHL Stormers' unbeaten run continued when they overcame the Emirates Lions 22-19 at Emirates Stadium on Saturday night. The DHL Stormers lead the South African conference with three out of three and trail the Hurricanes with a point in the combined log. The log leaders welcome the Cell C Sharks at the Newlands Stadium in Cape Town for their next match, while Vodacom Bulls travels to Free State for their date with the Toyota Cheetahs.

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Masuta to play for them; he played for Leopards for five years.

"When I arrived at Leopard I was welcomed by Sbusiso Dlamini, Mulondo Shikhwivilu, Thokozane Mnguni and others. Gavin Hunt was the coach then.

"My move to Orlando Pirates happened without my knowledge; it was an agreement between two chairmans, Mr Thiediel and Mr Khoza.

"I'm still feeling honoured even today to have played for such a big team in South Africa and Africa as

a whole. Orlando Pirates made me what I'm today but Leopards gave me the break of a lifetime. I will always be grateful for that," he said. At Pirates I played alongside Chipa lekoelea, Gerald Raphahlela, Lucky Lekgwathi and others.

But without taking anything away from other teams I played, I enjoyed my football at Leopards. At the moment I'm planning to start a soccer academy and register as a soccer agent to help the disadvantaged youth.