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Amps 2015 BA

Swiss amateur wins top event in PE

TOP Swiss amateur Azelia Meichtry claimed her third amateur title on South African soil in the Eastern Province Championship on Sunday.

The Sierre golfer edged out Zethu Myeki from Border by three strokes on even-par 144 to lift the Stroke Play division title in the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality-sponsored event at Port Elizabeth Golf Club.

Meichtry captured the Nomads WGWP Junior Championship early last year and the Girls Division of the Global Junior Golf Tour's Curro SA Juniors International in March.

The KeNako Academy player was in threatening form during the recent

Chase to the Investec Cup for Ladies event on the Sunshin Ladies Tour and sounded a warning to her rivals with a tie for 11th at Houghton.

Meichtry offset four bogeys with three birdies and eagled at the par-five 18th for a 71 in her opening round. Myeki finished one stroke back. The Swiss followed up with a final round of 73.

Myeki was two over with back-to-back bogeys at one and two and dropped further shots at four and 10, but the Ernie Els and Fancourt Foundation player protected the runner-up spot with birdies at 12 and 13 and five straight pars for a 75.

However, the West Bank golfer could avenge Sunday's loss in the Match Play division.

"I was disappointed that I didn't make some birdies over the last five holes to have a chance at a playoff, but overall I am pleased with my form," Myeki said.

Both players have a first-round bye, but they will join the action in the semifinal this morning.

Meichtry will play the winner of the match between Gauteng North's Danielle du Toit and Klara Wildhaber in the one semifinal, while Myeki will face the victor of the match between Cloe Grand and Vere Raguth.



OUT THE BUNKER: Swiss golfer Azelia Meichtry shows the sort of form which won her the Eastern Province Championship Stroke Play division title in Port Elizabeth on Sunday
Picture: GALLO IMAGES

Van der Burgh
training hard

100m champ predicts records will tumble at Rio

David Isaacson

CAMERON van der Burgh, preparing to compete at his third Olympics at the Rio Games, joked yesterday that he was getting old – after finding himself surrounded by new young faces at a weekend gala.

"There were all these kids and I didn't know who they were – I was thinking 'where did they come from?' I'm getting old," a smiling Van der Burgh, 27, said at a media day at the Tuks-aligned High Performance Centre in Pretoria.

This institution can probably claim more Olympic and world championship success stories than any other in South Africa, having helped with four of the country's medals at London 2012.

At the start of the interview, Van der Burgh, the reigning 100m breaststroke Olympic champion, was greeted by fellow gold medalist James Thompson, the rower.

Van der Burgh believes his age is an advantage these days. "I'm approaching it a lot more like the [London] Olympics [than 2008, when he failed to reach the final].

"I know how I need to feel at every stage in the season. And I've got four years more training and four years more experience."

Van der Burgh was pushed off the 100m breaststroke mantle by England's 21-year-old Adam Peaty, but said he was focusing on what he needed to do to put himself in contention.

"You do obviously watch the others. But every day I wake up, I don't think 'I've got to beat Adam Peaty'. I've got to train ...

"To win the Olympics you're going to have to go 57-seconds – high or low, I don't know. These Olympics are going to be fast. A lot of world records will be broken this year."

Van der Burgh broke the 100m mark, winning gold four years ago with his 58.46 effort.

Jon Smith, a member of the golden rowing crew in London who now races the lightweight double sculls alongside Thompson, arrived yesterday wearing an ice pack on his left arm after suffering a swelling on his elbow.

He had no idea what caused it, but the condition had improved.

Some of the French team, including his world champion sculls ri-

vals, have been training in Pretoria, and even there, he has been showing his competitive edge.

"While I was on the Watt bike, a French guy came in and the work-rate went up," he said.

He has also seen them working out on the water: "They don't train hard enough. Their intensity is high ... They go faster than us, but they don't go as long as us."

Other athletes at the function included Comrades and Two Oceans queen Caroline Wostmann, as well as younger ones still dreaming of glory, like sprinter Akani Simbine.

"I believe I can perform against world-class athletes ... Preparation is going well. I'm healthy, I'm injury-free. I'm much stronger than I was this time last year," he said.

LJ van Zyl, the 400m hurdles veteran who has won medals at every athletics competition except the Olympics, is plotting his course for Rio, focusing on his stride pattern, which must change on the bouncer surface he will run on in Brazil.

His whole career he has switched between 14 and 15 strides on harder surfaces, but now he is looking to start with 13 strides between hurdles before going longer.

McCullum in
great finish

NEW Zealand captain Brendon McCullum ended his one-day international career with a series victory over Australia yesterday as his side sealed a 55-run win in the deciding third match at Seddon Park in Hamilton.

New Zealand, who were all out for 246 in 45.3 overs, managed to dismiss Australia for 191 in 43.4 overs to give them a 2-1 series win that helped them retain the Chappell-Hadlee Trophy. McCullum, 34, is retiring from all international cricket at the conclusion of the two-test series against the same opponents.

"I feel incredibly lucky to play for 14 years, meet some great blokes and make some great friends," McCullum said.

"I want to thank everyone for supporting me and making it possible."

The win, however, was marred by an incident when all-rounder Mitchell Marsh hit a delivery back to bowler Matt Henry.

A replay was called and Marsh was declared out to the anger of the spectators. – Reuters

IN MEMORIAM

DANIELLE MEYER (nee Rayners)



07.06.1978 – 09.02.2014

Today, 9 February, we remember the passing of our beautiful daughter, Danielle. The sadness, sorrow and pain is an ongoing experience that will heal at the appropriate time determined by God. We remember the beautiful moments we've experienced during God's given time with Danielle. She is with God in Celestial Glory. Where she is, we can only strive to be.

"Death has been swallowed up in victory".
1 Corinthians 15: 54 - 55.
You will always be treasured in our hearts forever. Missing you, Mommy, Daddy and sister Lizette.

FUNERAL NOTICES

BENYON. – Lorraine. Although 50 years have passed, you are still sorely missed by your children Kim and Grant.

SAPTOE. Patricia, 3 February 1968 – 9 February 2012. Safe in the arms of Jesus. Safe on His gentle breast. There by His love overshadowed sweetly her soul shall rest. Lovingly remembered by Carleen Tobias, Godfrey, Shirley, Ingrid and Lauren Saptoe, family members and friends.

LEON EYK (Ekkie)

20 October, 1952 – 9 February, 2006. Your memory will always be in our hearts. Loving wife Susan, children and grandchildren.

BIRTHS

GILBERT. – (nee Moser). Peter and Susan Moser are thrilled to announce the arrival of Anna Grace on 27 January, 2016.

DEATHS

BRANDT. – Collette (nee Barnard). Passed away peacefully on Monday, 8 February, 2016. Ex FNB, beloved sister of Marlene, Lynne, Jennifer and families. Lifted in the arms of angels this morning. Will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by her pets. R.I.P. dearest sister, another special flower picked for his garden.

BRANDT. – Collette, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, 8 February, 2016. Dearest mom of Heidi, Christopher and Kaylin and beloved daughter-in-law of Herbie.

LAW-BROWN. – Tekla, wife of Alan for 61 years, mother of Douglas, Olive, Melanie, grandmother of Dean and Eric, passed away on Friday, 5 February, 2016. Will always be missed and lovingly remembered.

MEISTRE. – Chris. Beloved husband of Cathy, loved father of Chantelle and Louis, Chris and Bernadette, Charl and Richelle, loving grandfather to Tiaan, Stefan, Kevin and fur kids, brother and friend of many, passed away peacefully on Friday, February 5, 2016, after an illness bravely borne. Chris will be sadly missed.

MADAME CRYSTAL. Tarot, telepathic, spiritual, palmistry and crystal ball reading by born clairvoyant. 084-670-3864.

STRYDOM. – (nee Rockman). Wilhelmina (Joepie) passed away peacefully on Saturday, 30 January, 2016. Safe in the arms of Jesus. Lovingly remembered by her daughters Amber, Wendy, Beverly, Razanah and families.

FUNERAL NOTICES

JACOBS. – Louie. The funeral service will take place on Thursday, February 11th, 2016, at 11:00 from the Open Boers Assembly of God Church, cnr of Brand and De La Ray Street, Westering, Port Elizabeth. The cortege will proceed to the Forest Hill Cemetery for the interment.

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