



# SA record for Leotlela as Tukkie's win title

Gift Leotlela, the 18-year-old sprint sensation, lived up to his billing as the top junior sprinter in South Africa at the weekend.

He scorched to a record-equalling 10.12sec win in the men's 100m at the second and final Varsity Athletics at the University of Pretoria grounds.

The big expected match-up between Leotlela and training partner Thando Roto unfortunately did not take place.

Roto withdrew as a precautionary measure after experiencing a slight niggle in training.

This did not stop Leotlela from screaming away from the field at the Varsity Athletics meeting to equal his SA Junior Record of 10.12sec.

Leotlela first broke the seven-year-old SA Record of Akani Simbine of 10.19sec when he clocked 10.12sec at the provincial championships a fortnight ago.

On Friday his technique was near perfect as he blitzed the field to win by a margin of almost half a second over Keenan Michau, also from Tuks. Michau was timed at 10.56sec.

"I was happy with all the phases of my race except the final 10m," said Leotlela.

"My season so far has been really good and I'm looking forward to the SA Junior Championships this coming weekend in Cape Town to defend my title."

Earlier in the evening, Rikenette Steenkamp (Tuks) romped home to a 13.22sec win in the women's 100m hurdles.

Rival Maryke Brits (Kovsies) pushed her to just beyond halfway, before the Tuks athlete pulled away. Brits was second 13.51sec.

"My hamstring felt a bit stiff in the week, so I didn't push it as hard as I wanted to. But the sub-13 is still my plan and I feel I'm on track. It will come," a confident Steenkamp told reporters afterwards.



Gift Leotlela has equalled his own South African junior 100m record at Friday's Varsity Athletics meeting in Pretoria.

Photo: Christiaan Kotze, SASPA

Tuks was dominant in the sprints as SA Junior Record Holder in the 200m, Clarence Munyai convincingly won the men's 200m race with a time of 20.25sec.

"I struggled in the last 50m. But I haven't trained since I ran the SA Record two weeks ago. So I'm happy," said Munyai who ran 20.10sec on this very track at

the Provincial Championships to break the 20.16sec record of Riaan Dempers set in 1995.

Munyai was pushed by Kovsies' Heinrich Maartens in the bend, but as they came in to the home straight, Munyai proved to be too powerful. Maartens was second in 20.62sec.



Rikenette Steenkamp in action in the 100m hurdles, which she won in 13.22 seconds.

Photo: GB Jordaan

