

VARSIY CRICKET

(20 not out) and Van Wyngaardt (12 not out) steered Pukke to a four-wicket win with seven balls to spare.

Pukke's amazing achievement on the cricket field gave them a unique hat-trick of Varsity Sports titles, having already won the netball and rugby competitions in 2016. Their victory means they will represent South Africa at the Red Bull Campus Cricket World Championships later this year.

Lubbe was named Player of the Match in the final for his 3-15 and his 19, while

PUKKE'S TOTAL OF 252-2, THE OPENING STAND OF 249, AND LUBBE'S 125 OFF 47 BALLS ALL SET NEW VARSITY RECORDS



WIHAN LUBBE ON ...

WINNING THE TOURNAMENT

"It's an incredible feeling to know we have finally succeeded in winning the tournament, especially after coming so close in the last two. The fact we got reward for all the efforts, not only the players but the coaches too, makes it all add up to a pretty special win."

HIS RECORD-BREAKING STAND WITH MALAN

"It was definitely a personal highlight. We've had a couple of big stands between us, but nothing like this. To do it with someone who I regard as a good friend added to the occasion."

HIS OVERALL PERSONAL SUCCESS

"Our goals for this tournament were mostly for the team and what we wanted to achieve as a whole. Reaching those goals means a lot and obviously doing well personally helps the confidence."

he also finished atop the run-scorers' list with 294 in eight innings and placed joint-third on the wicket-taking list with 12 sticks to cap a memorable tournament for the all-rounder.

Lubbe's teammate, spinner Dyllan Matthews, topped the wicket charts with 13 breakthroughs along with fellow turner Niel Botha of Maties.

A total of three centuries were scored in the tournament – two of which were in the same game, between Pukke and UJ on the penultimate day. Once again it was that man Lubbe in the thick of it, scoring an unbeaten 125 in a 249-run stand along with Malan (104). Pukke won the match by 44 runs, with their total of 252-2, the opening stand of 249, and Lubbe's 125 off 47 balls all setting new Varsity Cricket records.

A mere two days earlier, Stefan Klopper (right) had set the record for the fastest hundred, bringing up his three figures off 53 balls in an unbeaten 101 for UJ against Tuks. Klopper also achieved the only five-for of the competition, taking 5-22 against the University of Free State on the morning of 2 February – a few hours before smashing his ton.

With the likes of Titans star Heinrich Klaasen having emerged from Varsity Cricket in recent years, one can only expect more stars to rise to the professional game – as has been the case for many years with its rugby brother. The Varsity Cup has produced no fewer than 25 Springboks. – **Warwick Austin**

THE STATS

TOP SCORES

WJ Lubbe (Pukke)	125* vs UJ
JN Malan (Pukke)	104 vs UJ
WSS Klopper (UJ)	101* vs Tuks
W Victor (UFS)	97* vs Maties
JN Malan (Pukke)	94* vs UCT
JCP Newby (UCT)	87* vs UFS
FDP de Beer (Maties)	86* vs UFS
WJ Lubbe (Pukke)	86 vs NMMU
D Potgieter (UJ)	79 vs Pukke
TP Kaber (Tuks)	78 vs UCT

BEST FIGURES

WSS Klopper (UJ)	5-22 vs UFS
J Davidson (NMMU)	4-14 vs UCT
B Dandela (Pukke)	4-34 vs NMMU
CMJ Fortune (UMC)	3-9 vs UJ
D Matthews (Pukke)	3-11 vs UCT
TP Kaber (Tuks)	3-12 vs UFS
P du Plessis (UFS)	3-14 vs UCT
WJ Lubbe (Pukke)	3-15 vs UMC
L Philander (UMC)	3-14 vs UCT
D Christens (UMC)	3-14 vs UFS



MOST WICKETS

D Matthews (Pukke)	13
N Botha (Maties)	13
WJ Lubbe (Pukke)	12
CMJ Kirsten (Tuks)	12
TP Kaber (Tuks)	12
J Davidson (NMMU)	11
WSS Klopper (UJ)	11
M May (Maties)	9
L Philander (UMC)	9

MOST RUNS

WJ Lubbe (Pukke)	294
JCP Newby (UCT)	270
JN Malan (Pukke)	269
FDP de Beer (Maties)	257
RU Rickelton (UJ)	251
TP Kaber (Tuks)	247
JM Bredenkamp (Maties)	208
MJ Ackerman (Pukke)	204
AG du Toit (UMC)	200
W Victor (UFS)	200

IMAGES: MARIÏVAN DE WALL

