



Tuks netball star De Bruin set to go places

ONE of the rising stars on the netball scene is the University of Pretoria's Marlize de Bruin, whose recent domination in local tournaments has caught the eye of the selectors.

De Bruin is one of six players from Tuks who have been selected to represent the South African Student team that will go all out to defend their title at the World Students Tournament in Uganda.

For De Bruin, the next few months are going to be hectic.

She is with the Jaguars team who will be competing in the SuperClub Tournament in Nelson, New Zealand, which starts tomorrow.

When she comes home, she is going to play for Tuks during the Varsity Tournament (August 26 to October 8).

She is also part of the South African Fast Five squad as well as the SA President's squad.

But in between all of the playing and training she has got to find time to complete the final year of her educational studies.

At the moment that entails working as a teacher at Afrikaans Hoër Meisieskool and then netball training until the early evenings.

Before she started studying at Tuks, De Bruin took a gap year in which she mostly focused on honing her netball skills.

De Bruin did not get much game time during the Jaguars Brutal Fruit Campaign as she had to compete with Erin Burger and Izette Griesel (both Protea players) for the centre position. She admits that at times it was tough not to play.

"But I realised that I was actually lucky. There are not many centres that get to test themselves during a training session against someone like Erin who is considered to be one of the world's best. I was forced to lift



University of Pretoria netball star Marlize de Bruin has caught the eye of the national selectors. PICTURE: AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA)

the standard of my play."

Last year, the Jaguars, which is actually an all UP-Tuks team, managed to win only one game during the SuperClub Tournament in New Zealand.

De Bruin says that this time around they are going to give a better account of themselves. "The previous time we didn't know what to expect. But now we are better prepared and our coach, Jenny van Dyk, has left nothing to chance in

the build-up.

"The important thing to remember is when playing in New Zealand is that the game is going to be much faster and more intense to what we are used to in South Africa."

The other Tuks players playing for the Jaguars who are also selected for the South African Students team are Chantelle Swart, Chante Louw, Tshina Madau, Lungile Mthembu and Jasmine Ziegelmeier – African News Agency (ANA)

