



## **PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Wednesday, 8 July 2015**

### **GOLFERS AND ATHLETES GAIN MOMENTUM FOR TEAM SA**

South Africa's golf and athletics teams injected some extra energy into the nation's campaign on day six of the World Student Games in Gwangju, getting off to cracking starts as their codes kicked off on Wednesday.

The three-man golf squad was spearhead by Teaghan Gauche, who produced a spectacular four-under-par total of 68 in the first round, settling in second place, just one shot behind leader Natipong Srithong of Thailand.

Jason Smith was lying in a tie for 33rd position and Andrew van der Knaap was tied for 38th, with the SA team in seventh spot overall heading into Thursday's second round.

The track and field contingent were equally impressive, with a host of athletes coasting into semifinals and finals. Jaco Engelbrecht, the first SA athlete to compete in a track and field final, took sixth place in the men's shot put with a best heave of 19.20m as he missed a place on the podium by just 68cm.

Sprint sensation Akani Simbine cruised through the second round of the men's 100m sprint, winning his heat in 10.26 to qualify for the semifinals, while Gideon Trotter was fourth in his heat, missing out on a place in the penultimate round by just 0.03.

Lindsay Hanekom (51.19) and Le Roux Hamman (51.55) coasted through the opening round of the men's 400m hurdles, booking their places in the semifinals.

Middle distance runners Dumisane Hlaselo and Anuscha Nice also had no trouble in getting through to their respective semifinals.

Hlaselo ended second in his 1 500m heat in 3:55.12, and Nice was third in her 800m heat in 2:05.47.

Ischke Senekal delivered the performance of her life, launching a 51.18m effort to grab the 12th qualifying spot for the women's discus throw final, and Mpho Links was one of 13 men to leap over 2.15m in the high jump qualifiers, securing his place in the final.

Earlier, in the morning session, Pieter Conradie (46.92), Jon Seeliger (47.89) and Justine Palframan (53.61) progressed to the men's and women's 400m semifinals, to be held on Friday.

Long jump specialist Roelf Pienaar showed his versatility by booking his place as the fifth best qualifier (16.13m) for the triple jump final.

In the pool, four swimmers progressed beyond the morning heats, though all four were eliminated in the semifinals of their events. Martin Binedell finished 11th overall in the men's 200m backstroke in 2:01.55, Jessica Ashley-Cooper was 12th in the women's 50m backstroke in 29.02, Nico Mayer ended 13th in the men's 100m butterfly in 53.57 and Marko Visser was ranked 15th in the 50m breaststroke, touching the wall in 28.11.

The SA women's football team lost 3-0 to Chinese Taipei in their first playoff match, and they will turn out in the lower-tier classification games over the weekend.

All eyes will be on the athletics contingent on Thursday, in search of Team SA's first medal at the Games, as well the men's football team, who will face Brazil in the quarter-finals.

Ends

For further information, please contact Bronwyn Roets on 082 906 0019 or Sharon Thomas on 082 312 5428 – you can also contact us via email on [bronwyn@eu-pr.com](mailto:bronwyn@eu-pr.com) or [sharon@eu-pr.com](mailto:sharon@eu-pr.com)