



Chapter 21

Sport and Recreation

The contribution of sport and recreation to gross domestic product (GDP) has increased from 1,9% in 1997 to 2% in 1999. Its estimated worth is some R15 913 million. If capital expenditure is included, the contribution rises to R16 765 million or 2,1% of GDP. Sport and recreation provide employment for some 34 325 full-time and 6 140 part-time workers, as well as about 8 000 volunteers.

Two separate entities are responsible for the delivery of sport and recreation in the country. With the South African Sports Commission (SASC) fully functional, the former Department of Sport and Recreation is now officially named Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA).

The SRSA is essentially responsible for the delivery of the Government's role in sport and recreation that includes management of the Vote for sport and recreation, inter- and intragovernmental relations, interpretation of government policy for sport and recreation, transfer payments and legislation.

The SASC is responsible for the delivery of sport and recreation through its programmes and those of its clients (the national federations).

The aim of the SRSA is to improve the quality of life of all South Africans through the promotion of sport and recreation and through participation internationally. It has set itself the following objectives:

- increasing participation in sport and recreation activities
- raising sport's profile in the face of conflicting priorities
- maximising the probability of success in major events
- placing sport and recreation in the forefront of efforts to reduce levels of crime.

The provincial governments are responsible for

- optimising the usage of facilities through better management and capacity-building
- policy development, within the context of the national sport and recreation policy, with the principal agents being provincial federations and macrobodies
- implementing recreation policy, through the Provincial Recreation Councils (PRORECs)
- funding these agencies
- upgrading facilities created by local governments for national and provincial events.

The SRSA focuses on the following:

- promoting sport and recreation policy and its implementation through the SASC, the

◀ The United Cricket Board runs a very successful development programme. Some 180 schools participate in the bursary scheme which is aimed at taking talented players and placing them in an environment where they will receive the best cricket coaching and schooling.

- National Olympic Committee of South Africa (NOCSA) and the national federations.
- developing recreation policy, with the most important agents being the SASC and the PRORECs.
 - funding these agencies.
 - researching, auditing and upgrading of community facilities.
 - developing life skills. The aim of this programme is to assist top athletes to deal with success or failure and to help them prepare for the challenges of society. This includes media skills, financial management, interpersonal skills and mental training.
 - high-performance sport. This programme focuses on the following:
 - raising the profile of South African sport
 - ensuring greater success for individuals, as well as South African teams
 - promoting greater representivity
 - entering into meaningful government-to-government agreements with other countries.

One of the biggest challenges the SRSA has embarked on is a three-year programme of facility provision through its Building for Sport and Recreation Project. The Project is another phase in government's determination to deliver in areas where the needs are the greatest. It has set aside R260 million for this purpose. An amount of R40 million has been set aside for the first year with the focus being on contributing towards the alleviation of unemployment through ensuring a labour-intensive approach to the provision of facilities.

Projects have been identified in line with the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Strategy and the Urban Renewal Programme. Through the provision of facilities, the SRSA aims to address three fundamentals:

- creating opportunities for the most needy to participate in sport and recreation activities
- bridging the imbalances that exist between rural and urban communities, insofar as accessibility to adequate facilities is concerned
- contributing towards poverty relief through the creation of job opportunities.

The main focus of the Project will be the erection of outdoor and indoor facilities as well as the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing facilities. Key elements of this Programme will be the provision of training in facility management and the implementation of sustainable maintenance projects.

Sport and recreation will benefit from the proceeds of the National Lottery, subject to the Lotteries Act, 2000 (Act 10 of 2000). The Distribution Agency for Sport and Recreation has been established. The main focus of this Agency is the establishment and consolidation of thriving, sustainable, mass-based sport and recreation structures and programmes, especially in disadvantaged rural communities.

This will be achieved through:

- the Presidential Sports Awards
- training of sport and recreation leadership
- establishing coordinated partnerships with learning institutions
- establishing coordinated monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- government-to-government agreements
- a visible increase of national sport and recreation structures, activities and physical infrastructure
- providing equipment
- promoting leagues and competitions
- concerted efforts aimed at making sport and recreation structures self-sufficient
- ethics in sport.

Information

South African rugby players Breyten Paulse and Percy Montgomery and Hellenic soccer player Brent Carelse appeared in a trilingual educational video on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) called *Men can make a difference*. The video was launched in November 2000.

At the end of October 2000, Paulse was named Rugby Player of the Year.

South African Sports Commission (SASC)

In November 1998, the SASC Act, 1998 (Act 109 of 1998), was approved. The Act provides for a commission to administer sport and recreation under the guidance of the responsible Minister. In terms of the Act, a



part of the former Department of Sport and Recreation merged with the National Sports Commission to form the SASC. The Commission must respect the autonomy of sport and recreational organisations, while acting in an advisory capacity to the Minister. It also coordinates the provision of facilities and community centres via a national facility plan in consultation with the relevant authorities. According to the Act, the Minister has the power to appoint some members of the Commission, including the chairperson. The Minister may also remove, suspend and dismiss commissioners. The Commission started operating on 1 April 2000.

According to the SASC Amendment Bill, which was introduced on 8 June 2001, the provinces will lose their representation on the Commission. It is proposed that the Commission will be cut from the original 30 to 12 members, who will hold office for three years. Six will be named by general assembly, while six will be appointed by the Minister. The latter will comprise three chosen for their knowledge of sport, one to focus on women in sport, one to focus on the disabled, and one to promote rural sports development.

The vision of the SASC is to lead South Africa to sporting excellence. In pursuance of this vision, the Commission seeks to create a nation of world-class sportsmen and women by improving opportunities for all South Africans. It also works in partnership with stakeholders by striving to meet their human resource and infrastructure needs. The SASC ensures that management, promotion and

coordination of sport and recreation are administered with excellence.

The Commission's strategic thrusts are to

- manage, promote and coordinate the provision of sport and recreation
- ensure participation in international events
- ensure the provision of resources
- develop and implement policy
- educate and train
- implement a high-performance programme.

The Indigenous Games Project was launched on 24 February 2001 to promote and popularise those activities that have a particular appeal to vast sectors of the South African community, especially in rural areas.

The SASC conducted a four-day workshop in April 2001 to empower provincial coordinators on the seven games that have been identified, namely: *Jukskei, Kgati, Diketo, Morabaraba, Ntjova, Kho-kho* and *Dibeke*.

Provincial workshops were held, and a booklet has been developed to empower coordinators. A brochure outlining the aim of the Indigenous Games Project was also developed. Research is being conducted to compile a comprehensive resource and national profile of indigenous games in South Africa.

The SASC is in the process of establishing a national structure for all indigenous games federations.

Indigenous games will form part of the South Africa Games. The SASC is preparing for the reintroduction of the Games, a competition that will slot into the four-year development cycle, culminating in the Olympic Games. The South African Games will be a culmination of local, regional and provincial games through which participants will have to progress.

Projects

Sports Information and Science Agency (SISA)

SISA was officially launched in November 1995 and is now a project of the SASC. It is committed to the establishment, coordination and application of a world-class information, scientific and technological resource base, with skills, capabilities, facilities and

Information

On 16 June 2001, Andrew Kelehe broke the grip of foreign runners on the annual Comrades Marathon by winning the gruelling race between Pietermaritzburg and Durban in KwaZulu-Natal.

The police detective from Mafikeng ripped apart the strongest field ever assembled for the classic, in the second-fastest time of 5hrs 25min 51sec. Hundreds of thousands of ecstatic fans welcomed home the 36-year-old South African in Durban after which Kelehe dedicated his victory to the memory of his daughter who died in February 2001 at the age of 18 months.

He became the first South African black man to win the Comrades since Sam Tshabalala in 1989.

equipment to provide services to athletes, coaches, technical officials and administrators.

During 2000/01, SISA provided scientific support to 478 athletes through its high-performance programme. In addition, SISA has been requested by the South African Commonwealth Games Association to scientifically prepare the South African team due to compete in the Commonwealth Games in Manchester in 2002.

Dispute Resolution Centre

The SASC established the Dispute Resolution Centre on 7 April 2001 in response to the national federations' need for fast, economical and private dispute-resolution mechanisms.

The Centre has, together with dispute resolution experts, designed a set of rules that provide for strict, fair and expeditious hearings. These rules may be used when the Centre for Arbitration, under the aegis of the Arbitration Foundation for Southern Africa, refers a matter.

Junior *Dipapadi*

The Sports Pioneers Programme together with Movers in Action has been merged as one programme, called Junior *Dipapadi*. The programme started in 1995 when officials from the NSC and the provincial SRSA attended training in Australia on how junior sport should be introduced in the country.

Junior *Dipapadi* aims at giving all children from the age of three to 14 years the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation. Children are introduced to a variety of sport codes through play at beginner level. The project is divided into three subcomponents:

Super Start

The Super Start Programme has been developed in recognition of play and movement

experience for children between three and six years of age. It promotes participation in enjoyable physical activity at an early age to encourage learning and social integration and enhance self-image. Skills such as balance, coordination and rhythm are developed.

Playsport

Playsport is a fundamental motor skills programme for primary school children. It focuses on the acquisition of basic skills, providing teachers with the resources and strategies to address the motor skills of throwing, kicking, striking, locomotion, ball control, trapping and tracking.

Modified Sport

Modified Sport is a coordinated way of adapting adult sport for children so that they can develop skills, experience success and enjoy their introduction to sport. This means changing playing conditions, equipment and rules to suit the needs of young people.

Presidential Sports Awards

In 2001, the annual Presidential Sports Awards function, for the first time, featured a more representative cross-section of South African sportspeople being acknowledged for their achievements in, and commitment to, service in sport and recreation. The SRSA recognised a number of sportspeople who have never before been afforded the recognition they deserve. The SRSA is in the process of revising the format of the Awards, and hope to bring it in line with the various provincial sports awards ceremonies to engender a degree of harmony between the different ceremonies

Sport organisations

NOCSA

About 41 national federations fall under the NOCSA umbrella body, 28 of which represent Olympic sports. Three are winter Olympic sports.

Information
In January 2001, Sundowns managing director, Nastasia Tschilas, made soccer history by becoming the first woman from Africa to be elected to the *Federation Internationale de Football Association* (FIFA) Committee.



Disability Sport South Africa (DISSA)

Established in February 1994, the National Paralympic Committee of South Africa's (NAPCOSA) main objective was to act as the controlling body to recognise the right of the disabled to participate in sports activities at all levels. NAPCOSA was recently restructured through the integration of organisations that were not previously affiliated to it. It is now known as DISSA.

It is responsible for the selection and funding of South African national teams attending the Paralympic Games or any world championships recognised by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). It is the South African member of the IPC.

South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport

The main objectives of the Institute are to promote participation in sport which is free from the use of prohibited substances, to encourage the development of programmes in respect of the dangers of using drugs in sport, and to provide leadership in the development of a national strategy concerning doping in sport.

The International Intergovernmental Consultative Group on Anti-Doping in Sport met in May 2001 in Cape Town. At least 10 Ministers responsible for sport in their respective countries attended.

Among the Ministers were those of Canada, Finland, Nigeria, Sweden, Malaysia, Poland, Norway, France and Pakistan. A group of eight International Olympic Com-

mittee members was also present among the more than 100 visiting delegates.

Women and Sport South Africa (WASSA)

WASSA was launched in 1996 and is aimed at empowering women to be actively involved in all spheres of sport and recreation. It is managed by a steering council appointed by the Minister of Sport and Recreation in 1997.

Recreation

The result of co-operation between Recreation South Africa, SANREC and the SRSA is the South African National Games and Leisure Activities (SANGALA) programme. The programme was launched in February 1996 to involve South Africans in healthy recreational activities in the nation-building process.

SANGALA consists of the following:

- community – which is targeted at the broad community without any differentiation in age or status.
- training – which specialises in the training of community recreation leaders.
- corporate – which is aimed at middle and senior management in both the private and public sectors.
- senior – which encourages physical activity among senior citizens. More than 200 000 senior citizens participate annually in this project.
- street – which is a life-skills project for homeless children.
- RecRehab – which is a project for the rehabilitation of youth and women in prisons, and trains leaders to present recreational activities in prison. More than 1 000 prisoners participated in activities country-wide.

The PRORECSs are taking the responsibility of networking with recreation service-providers to ensure participation at grassroots level.

The emphasis of recreation delivery is on provincial and local level, where people participate in a variety of recreational activities including indigenous games.

Information

At the end of November 2000, the Minister of Sport and Recreation appointed a Task Team to draft a report on the way forward for South African sport. The Task Team has been mandated to

- identify key strategic objectives for sport and recreation that will form the basis for developing a national sports plan
- look at greater unity in sport structures
- draft a plan that will address a unity of purpose in the area of securing resources and high-performance.

2001 sports highlights

South African sportsmen and women have delivered the glory in 2001, but there were also disappointments on and off the sports fields.

The national soccer team has overcome their most hectic schedule since readmission, and qualified for the World Cup finals in Japan and Korea amid tragedy and the traditional post-season courtroom relegation battles. The rugby team has beaten the world champions with a new controversial captain. The cricketers were dominant at home against Sri Lanka and in the West Indies. The athletes have enjoyed success, albeit limited, at the World Championships following the normal selection controversies.

Individually, Retief Goosen's dramatic United States (US) Open golf victory and Hestrie Cloete's World Championship high jump title dominated the early part of 2001. In October 2001, Goosen won the Madrid Open, with which he also clinched the European Order of Merit.

It says so much about Goosen that after he grabbed one of the world's most coveted trophies (and ended Tiger Woods's amazing run of four majors in a row) the only negative comments about him in the press – South Africa and internationally – were that he had choked in the dramatic final hour of regulation play. The modest 32-year-old made himself work overtime for the honour (and a \$900 000 cheque) after missing a sitter for

the title on the 72nd hole. But, after throwing away the title on the Sunday evening, the quiet South African came back and won an 18-hole play-off. Goosen's triumph is amazing, if expected, among those who know golf. He was struck by lightning as a child, and the fact that he can swing a club is even more remarkable than Woods's quiet capitulation.

While Cloete has probably become a millionaire as a result of the series of jumps that earned her the world title, she could be forgiven for dreaming of the Goosen millions, but then as the typical 'girl next door' she probably does not care about the money that much. Despite literally reaching dizzying heights on the athletics fields, the farm girl from Lichtenburg remains relatively unaffected by the fame and fortune.

Cloete bagged her second global title in the high jump in September 2001 with a brilliant performance at the fifth Goodwill Games in Brisbane, Australia. It brought South Africa's tally of medals at the meeting to two golds and one silver, and made it three out of three for South Africa's small contingent of three athletes. Frantz Kruger won the first gold medal in the discus, while Llewellyn Herbert took silver in the 400 m hurdles on the opening day of the Games. It made South Africa's debut at the Goodwill Games a magnificent one.

A few days later Hestrie Cloete concluded the best year of her career when she added the IAAF Grand Prix crown to her selection of major achievements for the second time when the IAAF's official track and field commitments came to an end at the 2001 Grand Prix Final in Melbourne. Her victory with a height of 1,98 m was about as easy as in the Goodwill Games.

Goosen and Cloete deserve the top accolades for the year as much for their performances in major competition as for proving that nice people don't always come second in the wheeling and dealing world of professional sport.

But, there was much more controversy amongst the team sports.

Information

The SRSA assisted the national Olympic and Paralympic teams that participated in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. The achievements of the Olympic team were disappointing, leading to substantial review. The Minister has instituted a task team to explore, among other things, ways and means to improve performance at that level. South African athletes managed to reach a record number of 28 finals, but were only able to win five medals (two silver and three bronze).

Of the 23 athletes who won 38 medals (13 gold, 12 silver and 13 bronze) at the Paralympic Games, 22 were part of the SISA High Performance Programme.

The Olympic Games also saw the retirement of Penny Heyns from competitive swimming.



Setting themselves up for a glorious 2002, Bafana Bafana qualified for both the World Cup and African Nations Cup finals despite a hectic international schedule. The national team played five World Cup and four African Nations Cup qualifiers, a disastrous Cosafa Cup match, and friendlies, all between January and July – while the players still had to find the energy and motivation to represent their clubs.

Coach Carlos Queiroz has added a touch of class to the national soccer team, and it showed as they booked their flights to Japan and Korea for the World Cup, and Mali for the African Cup of Nations in 2002 with an unbeaten run in both competitions.

The year started with a lacklustre African Nations qualifier draw with Mauritius and an equally unimpressive 1-0 World Cup victory over Burkina Faso in January, but then, despite atrocious conditions, Bafana were able to secure a solid victory in Malawi a month later.

A stunning loss to Lesotho in a friendly only served to spur on Africa's top-ranked team to destroy Mauritius 3-0 in Port Elizabeth in an African Nations Cup qualifier before they fought to a very creditable 0-1 loss to Italy in Perugia in another friendly.

The suspension of Guinea meant a 2-1 victory over Zimbabwe. The point from Burkina Faso just sealed the World Cup issue before a confident 3-0 victory over Malawi in Durban rounded off their campaign to go to Japan and Korea in 2002.

Two draws, 1-1 in Liberia and 0-0 in Durban against Congo, meant South Africa ended their African Nations qualifications on a disappointing note, but even second place in the group is good enough to give the team a chance to regain the continent's premier trophy in Mali in 2002.

A loss to Malawi ended hopes of a Cosafa Cup victory, but in reality their quarter-final exit meant two matches less, and is probably a blessing in disguise for the overworked players.

But the overriding story of Bafana Bafana's struggle to qualify is the ongoing player versus country debate which sees captain Lucas Radebe, Shaun Bartlett and Mark Fish,

among others, battling to keep their places on the lucrative payroll of United Kingdom teams while representing their country.

The domestic soccer programme has been far from satisfactory, with Pirates' league victory completely overshadowed by the Ellis Park Stadium tragedy when 43 people were killed in a stampede during the crucial Pirates vs Chiefs match ... and then the ongoing relegation debacle.

The Premier League was in the position of starting their 2001/02 season with the annual court case and appeals making the fixture list something of an uncertainty ... and in fact there were still stories circulating that the aggrieved relegated teams, and those who kept their place in the top flight out on the field, would both be included in an enlarged league.

The rugby world may not be bedevilled by fixture controversies, but the Springbok rugby team struggled to a shared series with France before the regular blood-letting began and Andre Vos was relieved of his captaincy as South Africa prepared to take on and, after a slow start, destroy Italy.

Initially Bob Skinstad may have had few supporters outside Cape Town when coach Harry Viljoen threw him into the cauldron as captain, but the outgoing loose forward has done little wrong other than lead his team to the expected defeat by the All Blacks in the opening Tri-Nations Test at Newlands.

Australia was expected to be the next to steamroller the Boks, but with Skinstad grabbing the winning try and young Conrad Jantjes magnificently snatching his opportunity, the Springboks were able to shock the World Champions and give the fickle fans a chance to talk of Tri-Nations glory again.

Skinstad did give his detractors ammunition when he was sent to the sin bin during the return clash in Perth, but the 14-14 draw in Australia gives hope that maybe Harry Viljoen and Bob Skinstad's Springboks are on their way back to being the best in the world.

However, a week later the All Blacks beat the Springboks 26-15 at Eden Park. Australia went on to clinch the Tri-nations Cup.

The Super 12 gave a clue that the Australians were still worthy World Champions, with the ACT Brumbies brushing all aside on their march to the final, while the Sharks were almost as impressive as they strode to the playoffs. The class of the Brumbies was evident in the final, and when the Sharks ran out of ideas in the second half the Australians upped the tempo, leaving the KwaZulu-Natal-based squad to return home with only their pride.

The national cricket team will have flown back from their trip to the West Indies feeling proud of their achievements on the field, but there was some drug-induced flying off the field which attracted less honour.

Their 2-1 Test series victory meant the Proteas secured their first victory in the Caribbean and became only the second team since 1973 to win a series there. Shaun Pollock, who only took over the captaincy a year before, led from the front as he

deservedly claimed the Man of the Series award. The South Africans rubbed in their domination with an emphatic 5-2 win in the one-day series, and proved that probably only the potent Australian squad can claim to be better than Polly's boys.

But a celebratory party in one of the player's rooms during the Tests included some dagga which the team management discovered. The crisis deepened when all the players were sworn to silence over the issue. Not surprisingly, the story leaked out and the feeding frenzy began, with journalists able to get their teeth into both the illegal smoking as well as the attempt to cover up the scandal.

Earlier the Proteas had won the Test series against the Sri Lankans 2-0, including a record innings and 229-run victory in the second Test. The one-dayers ended with a 5-1 victory for Pollock and company.

In September 2001, South Africa's cricketers won the Test series against Zimbabwe 1-0. Jacques Kallis's unbeaten knock – his highest Test score – completed a remarkable series for the batsman, which saw him rack up 388 runs without being dismissed. This earned him a world record for the longest time batting without being dismissed in Test cricket. He was named man of the series.

In the boxing ring, one of the biggest events in the country featured two boxers from outside our borders.

Lennox Lewis surprisingly lost his world title to Hasim Rahman in an extravaganza that gave local pugilist fans a glimpse of the glitz and glamour of top-class boxing, but the exorbitant ticket prices meant few of the real boxing fans could see the action live.

Another highlight was the epic Fire and Ice clash between Philip 'Time Bomb' Ndou and Cassius 'Hitman' Baloyi. Ndou took the WBU catchweight title by a unanimous decision after 12 rounds.

Hestrie Cloete was not the only athlete to achieve athletics glory in Edmonton. The team of Corne du Plessis, Morne Nagel, Lee-Roy Newton and Mathew Quinn shocked all but the potent US quartet to grab silver in the 4x100m relay.

Information

The South African Boxing Bill was introduced in July 2000. The aim of the Bill is to create a new structure and dispensation for professional and amateur boxing in South Africa, and to provide for interaction between all role-players and the proposed next boxing commission, Boxing South Africa. The Boxing Commission will consist of not less than four but not more than seven members, to be more effective. Amateur boxing will be linked more closely with professional boxing, and an interactive relationship with professional boxing will be established. Boxers, promoters, managers, trainers and officials will be provided with a forum from where they can operate as associations in order to promote their interests.

The first Women's Boxing Convention in the history of South African boxing took place in Cape Town on 28 April 2001. The following decisions were taken at the Convention:

- Women's boxing will function under the auspices of Boxing South Africa.
- Women's boxing will adhere to the new Boxing Act. Women boxers will have the option of participating in boxing as amateurs or professionals. If they do decide to go via an amateur ring first, they will be graded until they reach the level where they are ready for the professional ring. Those who are adamant that they are ready for professional boxing will have to undergo a process whereby the Commissioners will evaluate them by means of exhibition matches and other measures.
- There will be no discrimination; the only difference is that women boxers will be required to wear protective gear.



On the roads, Andrew Kelehe beat the potent foreign challenge to win both the Comrades Marathon and the hearts of the nation after he dedicated his emotional victory to his 18-month-old daughter who died four months before. Honest Mutsakani won the Two Oceans, while Gwen Griffiths was the top woman there to make up for the poor showing by the South African women in Comrades.

But the Comrades itself ended in a surprise second place when the country's premier race was usurped two weeks later by the Spar/Mercury Ladies 10 km Challenge. The women's-only race attracted a massive 15 870 entries to top the 15 500 of Comrades and officially become the biggest race in South Africa.

A week before the athletes were getting some hardware at Edmonton, the swimmers were struggling in Japan. South Africa finished at the bottom of the medal table with a lone bronze medal from Roland Schoeman's third in the men's 50 m freestyle. The South African swimming administrators will be scratching their heads as they dream of the glorious Atlanta Olympics and wish for a new Penny Heyns.

Among the less glamorous sports, Robbie Hunter became the first South African to compete in the *Tour de France* and looked to be in contention for the prestigious green jersey for the first week, but was forced out of the tour in the tough mountain stages of the second and third weeks.

Len Jenkins won the Dusi Canoe Marathon, and Graeme Solomon paddled to victory in the gruelling Berg River Marathon in July.

In September 2001, South Africa's junior boys' team emerged with another medal on the final day of the World Marathon Canoeing Championships in Stockton-on-Tees, England, and finished the two-day competition ranked third in the world. A day after Shaun Rubenstein won a bronze medal in the Boys K1 race, Durbanites Clinton Pretorius and Brett Bartho grabbed another bronze in a thrilling K2 race.

In May 2001, South Africa met Italy on the hockey field. Man of the series, Greg Nicol, bagged five goals as South Africa wrapped up their five-match tour against Italy with an emphatic 8-2 win at the Randburg Sports Complex.

In the brave, but sadly often unrecognised, world of disabled and special athletes, Ernst van Dyk and Terence Parkin have been the stars of 2001. Van Dyk won the wheelchair section of the Boston Marathon in 1:25:12, a six-minute winning margin. Parkin, one of the stars of the Sydney Olympics, skipped the Official World Swimming Championships to collect three golds at the World Deaflympics in Rome. Parkin set new world records in the 200 m freestyle (1:54,21) and the 400 m individual medley (4:29,97) and also won gold in the 100 m breaststroke in a time of 1:05,13.

Arnold Schwarzenegger visited South Africa to appeal to people of the entire African continent to adopt Special Olympics into their communities. Special Olympics is the largest amateur sports body in the world, but at present serves only 25 000 athletes across the entire African continent. In the US alone, there are over 20 000 communities that have Special Olympics Programmes.





Acknowledgements

South African Sports Commission
Sport and Recreation South Africa
Tim Whitfield

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