

NWU's best at Paris Olympics



Liezel Gouws, well-known Klerksdorp athlete, will for the first time represent South Africa in the long jump too. She is included in the SA Paralympics squad and will also compete in the 400m.

Photo: Facebook/Martin Potgieter.

Klerksdorp Record, Potchefstroom - In a little more than two months, the 2024 Olympic Games will be hosted in Paris, and a number of North-West University (NWU) students will get to be involved in the prestigious event.

Although the squads - including the management teams - have not been finalised, it can be confirmed that 400 m hurdles star Rogail Joseph, 200 m and 4 x 100 m sprinter Benjamin Richardson, javelin supremo Jo-Ané van Dyk and 4 x 100 m racer Bradley Nkoana have been included in the South African squad.

Liezel Gouws (400 m and long jump) from Klerksdorp as well as Khumo Pitso (high jump) have been included in the country's Paralympics squad.

Then there is the case of triple and long jumper Ethan Olivier. Olivier holds both a South African and a New Zealand passport. Born in Auckland to South African parents, Olivier is now studying Engineering at the NWU. The 18-year-old Olivier is the New Zealand record holder in the triple jump, and will represent the country of his birth at the Olympic Games in Paris.

Prof Pieter Kruger, director of the NWU's Centre for Human Health and Performance, has again been appointed by the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC) to serve as the team's sports psychologist, and Annelize Rostron, an alumnus of the NWU, will be attending the event as a hockey official.