**THE POTTER OF EMELY IS EMELY**

ESONA POYO

The stone that the builder rejects, becomes the head corner stone. From primary, Emely started doing sports, not because she enjoyed or loved it at that time but because she was chubby and her friends were skinnier than her which made her an easy target for them to make fun of. She said: “I started doing sport when I was in grade 3 but back then I couldn’t make provincials because I used to be chubby and that prevented me to excel in any sport that I played.”

Although that was a bummer for her it was also a stepping stone into greater things because when she got to high school she started pulling her weight and became serious about her craft, which was athletics back then. She received a scholarship for athletics when she was doing grade 10. She said: “I started being serious with sport in grade 8, when I got to high school. I did my grade 9 but when I was in mid-year of my grade 10, I got a scholarship for athletics to go to another school which was ….. From there I did my athletics until matric.”

By now everyone knows that nobody is perfect, and if you don’t, start a chat with one or two people. We may create a coping mechanism to keep ourselves sane by saying “we’re perfect” but we aren’t. Starting by simple things that no one actually notices, our nostrils, eyes, eyebrows, just to name a few, aren’t equal. These are just some of the things that show you WE ARE NOT PERFECT and it would be better to start accepting that about each other in our society, create a society of human understanding and always reaching common ground. Emely is one of the sweetest people when you see her around campus, you wouldn’t believe that she thought no one notices her around, haaa! Can you believe the shockery! But anyways it’s good to know that she thinks she’s invincible. She joined the rugby sport in her first year because she had anger issues and the only way she could release them was through aggression and which other way to do it than bashing oneself to another human being all in the name of sport, rugby. She said: “When I got to varsity, I kinda had anger problems, so I needed a sport that is more physical and rugby was the sport.”

In the same year, she was selected for trials for Free State Cheetahs and got the position to play for the first team in the starting line-up. She has never been benched and not only does that prove how excellent she is in her craft, Emely got an award for The Best Player of the Season. In her second year, she played for CUT and was selected for SA Students which happened last year too. This year, Emely is aiming high and is definitely going to reach her goal, she’s doing body building, yup! She’s there in life now.

Most to all believe that family is EVERYTHING but not this Nubian princess. When I asked her about what family means to her, this is what she said: “I’m not a family person, I like my space but I do treasure it because without them, I wouldn’t be here.” Which is not a bad thing, it is just knowing who you are and respecting your development and growth in life.

Slowly but surely, people are starting to understand that ART is a very important aspect of their lives even though some might still be lacking behind with that realisation, many people got the memo. I asked Emely, how ART links with sport, this is what she said: “I study art because a lot of people used to tell me that sport and art do not go together and I told them that I’ll be the first person who combines the two.” We encourage creatives to resist when it comes to their beliefs in ART.

We are told each and every day that we live in an equal democratic country but actions differ. Same goes for sport women and men. Women are still treated as if they are fragile vases that are only supposed to do less muscle consuming things than men and that needs to change, not only verbally but through actions too. Emely said: “I told myself that I can be a lady while muscular, I can be feminine and masculine at the same time and that doesn’t mean I’m muscular inside. I still cook and do all the other things that women do but I chose to be a fit woman too.” She also said she believes that if people would remove the gender issue and see everyone as people and treat them the same, everything would be well and the world would be a very friendly and a better place.