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Going on her own way

A snapshot of twenty-six year old Réka Pupp: beginnings, plans, studies at the Faculty of Sciences.  
  
"Although the sport has a long history in Paks, and I've obviously heard of Olympic champion Antal Kovács, judo has no history in our family. I was in primary school when I received a flyer promoting judo. Something about it caught my attention so much that I went home and announced that I was going to do judo. They were not happy.   
I was a little girl of about 20 kilos at the time and my parents argued that it was a boy's sport. And I said that it was on the paper I had read to myself that they were expecting girls. With a bit of hysteria, I managed to get them to take me to my first training session, and I stuck with it. To be honest, I didn't even know that judo was practised in white clothes before," says Réka Pupp about the beginning. "The beginning was playful, then the competitions started and the success came quickly: at the age of ten I was already national champion, I received a lot of positive feedback. Obviously there were some dead ends, like a change of coach, which was harder."  
As for the compatibility of studies and sport, high school was not a challenge: "I went to Paks, my school supported sport, they helped me a lot. I always tried to work ahead," says Réka.  
She chose the University of Pécs because of the quality of education and its proximity.  
  
"I definitely wanted to study sports-related subjects, and since Budapest was not attractive to me and Pécs was more easily accessible from Paks, I chose the UP.