

HOOHOO COMES ALIVE: It was a spectacular event as different cultural groups faced off during the second leg of the Ingwenyama Cup Culture at Buhleni Royal Residence arena yesterday. Groups from the Hhohho region came in their numbers to compete in the inaugural competition, where five groups in the different categories qualified for the finals. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

COP BEATEN, STABBED BY UNKNOWN GANG

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BUGANU SEASON:

**73
ARRESTED
FOR DD**



PAGE 3

SOLDIER'S MURDER: UMPHAKATSI UNDER THREAT

Fear and panic grip Ndlalambi as youth threaten to burn down Umphakatsi to avenge killing of their friend

**STORY
ON PAGE 3**

SUPER SPECIALS



Reinforce

R8 x 6m

E24.⁹⁵

Reinforce R10 x 6m - **E38.⁹⁵**

Reinforce R12 x 6m - **E58.⁹⁵**

Reinforce Y10 x 6m - **E39.⁹⁵**

Reinforce Y12 x 6m - **E59.⁹⁵**

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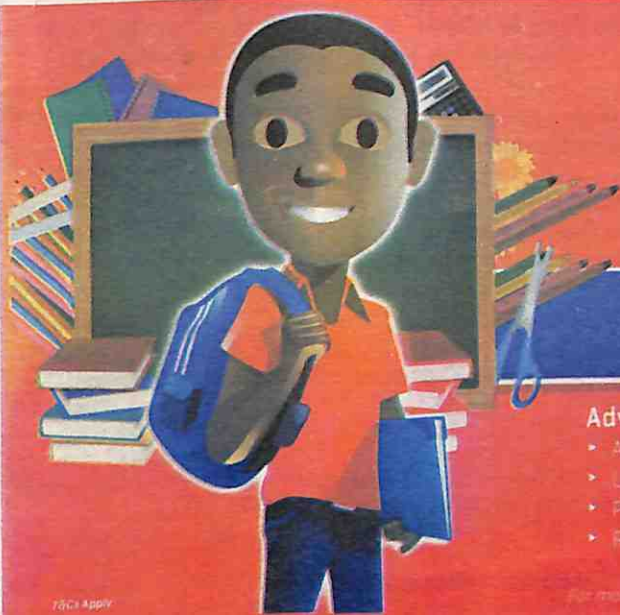
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SWAZIPOST

SENIOR COP ASSAULTED, STABBED BY UNKNOWN GANG

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

A senior police officer is battling for his life in hospital after he was heavily assaulted by unknown people on Saturday.

The motive for the attack remains a mystery as police are still conducting investigations on the attack of one of their own.

It is said the police officer, who is a desk officer in one of the police stations in the Shiselweni region, was attacked and almost beaten to death while near Jabulani area on the way to Gege.

Given the sensitivity of the matter and what had taken place before the attack, the name of the officer and station where he is based are withheld as there are still investigations carried out as to what happened exactly.

It was on Saturday morning when the desk officer got attacked after he had hitch-hiked a lift to take him to his house.

It is said after having spent the previous night at a popular night club in Nhlangano, the police officer with other people, got a lift but just when they were near Jabulani, a confrontation ensued which saw the police officer nearly killed.

Apart from the heavy beatings, it is said the officer also got stab wounds as some of his attackers were carrying knives.

Other versions are that the officer was seated in the passenger's seat of the bakkie and trouble started when they reached Jabulani as a group pounced on him and as to what sin he had committed, it is still a mystery.

There are well-known shebeens in the area and it is feared that trouble started when the vehicle stopped for some to buy cigarettes at one of the 'spots'.

It's believed that the officer, who was



CONFIRMS: Police Chief Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba.

not sober as he had taken one too many, was then heavily beaten and stabbed. Others said his attackers took advantage of the state he was in and took turns in assaulting him.

The officer is suspected to have suffered fractures, including broken ribs as well as other internal injuries with some stab wounds which were serious.

Others also said the officer tried to defend himself but because he was too drunk hence, he was reduced to nothing but a punching bag.

There are also other claims that the police officer was spotted at the night club in Nhlangano carrying a service pistol.

It is said upon realising the manner the police officer carried himself and that he was armed, the club management took the firearm and handed it to authorities at the regional police headquarters. It is said the club management also feared that the firearm could also be taken from the officer and used anyhow.

However, another version is that the police officer had the gun when he was

attacked at Jabulani and someone even took it from him and tried to scare away his attackers as he was too drunk to do that himself.

Sources said there was an inquiry filed opened as to what actually happened, with some saying the officer is also expected to give an account of the incident as soon as he is discharged from hospital.

He is also expected to explain if he was within the law to carry the firearm during that time and at the state he was in. It is said the arrangement in the police service is that when an officer is not on duty, the service firearm is left at the police station.

It is only on special occasions where an officer is allowed to take with him the gun, especially when he or she would be on duty. In this case, it is still to be established whether the officer had been authorised to carry the gun or not.

"It's going to be a serious case if the officer decided to ignore the laid down rules in as far as handling of the firearm is concerned. What we have learnt is that the inquiry is to determine some of these things," said a source.

Police Mouthpiece Superintendent Khulani Mamba only confirmed that a senior officer, who was a desk officer, was admitted at a hospital in a critical condition. He said this was after he had been attacked after being offered a lift. "What we got is that he was heading back to his work station when he got a lift and along the way he was assaulted. It is a matter being investigated," said Mamba.

Mamba did not want to be drawn for comment on the firearm which was reportedly being by the police officer. "I cannot comment on anything related to the gun or anything. What I can confirm is that the police officer is admitted after he was attacked," said Mamba.

Boy (16) steals car, rams it into van carrying 10 cops

By Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

A 16-year-old boy of Ngwane Park Township imbibed on the notorious bughu traditional brew, stole a motor vehicle and rammed it into a group of about 10 police officers, almost killing them.

The spine-chilling and movie-like incident occurred on Saturday afternoon. The police officers, dressed in overalls and gumboots, were fully loaded into a police double cab van and were from an operation when they came face to face with death.

The under-aged boy, who cannot be named for ethical reasons, drove the car, a Ford Ranger, at an excessively high speed amid cheers from a group of enthusiastic spectators, raving and spinning it on the road at Ludwala Shopping complex in Ngwane Park, outside Manzini City.

As the group of spectators grew bigger, the boy seemed to gain confidence and drove down the road facing Lwandle chiefdom. Some onlookers, however, started sensing danger and suggested to no one in

particular that police should be called to the scene to stop the potentially deadly game by the boy suspected to be stone drunk.

Before the onlookers could swallow their words, the boy had thrown the white Ford Ranger into a galley along the road, almost overturning it but by a stroke of luck it could not overturn. The cheers grew louder from an equally growing crowd.

From the roadside the boy drove the car in zig-zags further down the road at a very high speed. He climbed an electrical pole, chopping it down and forcing the steadily growing crowds to run helter-skelter. He rammed into yet another electrical pole, cutting it down at its base leaving it hanging before landing into the police van full of the police officers.

The officers were loaded in the van together with their spraying kits and material usually used for spraying dagga fields. They were all lucky to escape unhurt. About 20 minutes later, police from the traffic department arrived to take a statement from driver of the government motor vehicle registered GSD 183 PO that was

carrying the police officers.

A statement from the Form One Ngwane Park High pupil could not be recorded because, according to the police, he was too drunk to make a statement. "He would have to sober up first before we could record his statement," said one of the traffic police officers.

By that time, the boy was dripping with sweat and could hardly walk from the police car in which he had been put under arrest into the traffic police car that had to take him into police custody. The boy took the car without the permission of its owner, Siphos Dlamini.

Dlamini said he was watching a Soweto derby pitting soccer giants Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates on television while the boy asked to play music in his car using a memory stick. The car was parked within the premises. "I did not suspect anything fishy until I was told by neighbours that the boy has gone with my car."

"I don't know where I will get the money now to pay for so much damage," Dlamini said while pointing at a broken front rear of the car.

Water rationing continues this week

By Thembeke Dlamini
Manzini

LAST week's temporary relief on water rationing for Mbabane residents was just that, temporary.

The Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) yesterday revealed that the rationing schedule was back in effect even though it had, in essence, not been suspended.

"Residents might have noted that there was water throughout last week and this should not be construed as a suspension of the rationing schedule," Public Affairs Manager Nomahlubi Matiwane said yesterday afternoon.

She said the rationing schedule released on January 22 still stood and the places which had been listed will be without water for the duration stated.

tion stated.

Rationing started in the capital a few months ago after the Hawane Dam showed signs of running out of water. The current schedule sees residences and businesses alike without water for four days on end.

"We were able to provide water last week due to the rains which fell and due to the fact that there was not a lot of difference made by the rains, the schedule is still in place," she said, revealing that the corporation was inundated by consumers who were questioning how there was water in all areas last week and then a sudden turn around. She explained that there was no new schedule to issue as they were still using the old one up until the next review which would be before February 11 when the current rationing schedule ends.



QUICK FIX: Some have resorted to water harvesting due to the ongoing water woes.

RATIONING SCHEDULE THIS WEEK:

TODAY:

Mountain Inn - Which includes Moberi, SWSC Depot, Mbabane City Depot, Malagwane and Bahai Golf Course - Malunge, Eveni, SWSC Staff Quarters
Thembelihle - Beverly Hills, Woodlands, Mbuluzi, Castle Hotel, Dingabantu, Mbandzeni Street and Dalriach East
Sidvashini - Qobonga, Sidvashini South, Ndingilizi, Dark City, Manzana Mbangweni - Moberi and Mbangweni

TOMORROW

Mountain Drive
Fonteyn - Fonteyn School, Stores,

Mdzangwini, Sibhoteleni
Mseni Drive - Litete, Sifundzani Hing School, Luvivane, SPTC Flats
Pine Valley Road

WEDNESDAY

St Mark's - St Mark's Primary and High Schools, All Saints, Mbovane
Somhlolo Road (lower) - Profund, Sifundzani Primary School
Somhlolo Road (Upper) - Queens gate, SCOT, Sandia, Kent Rock, 35, Alliance Church, Selection Park
Nqoboza Road - Hlanganani, Mabhalala, Assemblies of god Church, Dalriach West
Lower Checkers - Manzana, Zone 1, Mbabane Central

Hot week, thunderstorms expected

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

THE country should brace itself for hot temperatures this week.

Swaziland Meteorology Services forecasters said the intensity of the rain would this week be less as they expected the

country to receive light thunderstorms on Wednesday and Thursday. "We should, therefore, expect a hot week ahead with isolated thunderstorms expected on Wednesday and Thursday at places."

Today it will be cloudy with fog becoming cloudy and cool but hot in the Lowveld.

Mbabane Mankayane Manzini Siteki Mhlume Big Bend
17/26 18/27 21/29 19/28 22/31 23/32
Tomorrow morning there will fog patches, otherwise partly cloudy and warm to hot in the Lowveld.

15/29 16/30 19/32 17/31 20/34 23/35

On Wednesday, there will be morning fog at places, otherwise partly cloudy and hot in the lowveld with a few thundershowers.

17/31 18/32 21/35 19/34 22/37 23/38

While on Thursday, there will be also a morning fog at places otherwise partly cloudy and cool warm in the lowveld with isolated afternoon thunderstorms.

18/24 19/25 22/28 20/27 23/30 24/31

SOLDIER'S MURDER: UMPHAKATSI UNDER THREAT

...Fear and panic grip Ndlalambi as youth threaten to burn down Umphakatsi to avenge the killing of their friend.

COVER STORY

By Sifiso Nhlalatsi
Ndlalambi

FEAR and consternation engulfed the small community of Ndlalambi as the youth of the area, friends and relatives of the soldier who was brutally killed last Thursday night are threatening to burn down the umphakatsi.

Bongani 'Yuki' Tsabedze, who was in his late 20's, was a soldier based at Nsingizini Barracks. Both the barracks and Ndlalambi are located in Northern Hhohho.

He died allegedly at the hands of a group of young men who are from the area's umphakatsi. A humble and always joyful Tsabedze was allegedly killed by jealous 'friends' he was drinking *buganu* with.

Following 'Yuki's' gruesome murder, the youth of the area, the deceased's friends and relatives want to gut down the Ludzibini umphakatsi, which is under Chief Magudvulela.

"Over the years, this area has been marred by murders, people here kill each other. Everytime a person is murdered, the concerned people and relatives of that people simply take justice into their own hands and burn down the suspect's homestead," the reliable source said, adding that they still shaken by the incident.

The source said the death of Tsabedze would surely divide the community as some people still go to the umphakatsi to register their grievances.

He said Ndlalambi community members are still in shock after a form three pupil allegedly stabbed Tsabedze to death in a bloody fight. The suspect, a form three pupil, is a family member of the Ludzibini Umphakatsi at Ndlalambi area.

According to a witness, the two groups were drinking the famous marula brew known as *buganu* at a Mkhonta homestead.

It is said the deceased soldier was with his friends and the school boy, who goes to a nearby school, was also in the company of friends.

Community shocked by tragic incident

BONGANI 'YUKI' Tsabedze, the soldier who allegedly died at the hands of young members of the Ludzibini Umphakatsi in the northern Hhohho was his family's breadwinner.

A reliable source said his demise would leave his four siblings with no one to take care of them.

"Members of the community are bitter and very hurt by his death. He was a very responsible young man.

The community believe that jealousy drove the boys to consider killing him because he was taking very good care of his family, whilst some were unemployed," the source said.

It has been gathered that Tsabedze was in the process of building a new house to accommodate his siblings.

When this reporter paid a visit to the area, community members expressed shock at the incident, saying they could not believe what had happened.

"This incident will create division amongst community members

mainly because most of the boys involved were from the area's Umphakatsi," a source said.

Another community member said the youth was being very troublesome as they carried weapons with them.

"We knew the two groups were not in good terms as whenever they meet they would be at each other's throats but we never thought something this extreme could happen," a resident stated.

Some of the community members stated that they were now living in perpetual fear as such incidences were becoming rife in the area and the culprits were the same people.

Meanwhile, Ndlalambi Indvuna Yenkhundla Dumisani Dlamini said the main cause of the incident was *buganu*.

"These boys drink too much *buganu* in this area; no matter how hard we try to warn them and tell them to drink responsibly, they just don't listen," Dlamini stated.

He stated that as a community they had not envisaged such to happen.

spear on the chest and badly injured with bush-knives and slashers which were used during the fight.

The source said Tsabedze died on the spot while Nganono and one of his brothers were taken on the same night to hospital.

The other boy was discharged in the morning while Nganono from umphakatsi is still fighting for his life at Pigg's Peak Hospital. After being discharged the boy was then apprehended by the Royal Swaziland Police (RSP).

When called for comment, Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the matter and stated that some suspects were already in custody while some were still in hospital.

Mamba said the accused were expected to appear at the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court today.

A source close to the matter stated that it was already dark and everyone was going home when a brawl ensued between the two groups.

"Unfortunately, the youth of this area always go around carrying weapons," the source stated.

It is said during the fight the soldier went to his neighbour's place where a certain girl resides and came back wielding a spear.

While the fight continued, the soldier is said to have been stabbed with a sharp object and he fell to the ground.

Upon realising that a lot of people were badly wounded and one was already down, some of the fighting members ran away but three of the boys including one named Nganono 'Leo' Dlamini and others from the other group stayed behind and called the police.

It was also discovered that during the fight Nganono was stabbed with a



SAFETY FIRST: Children should be warned about swimming without adult supervision.

Another girl drowns at Mazombizwe Dam

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlalambi

ANOTHER young girl, estimated to be 10-years-old, has drowned in a dam at Mazombizwe, hardly a week after last week's shocking incident of two girls who drowned near Mbuluzi River.

The girl drowned in the presence of friends on Saturday.

It's still unclear how Thembelihle Zondo drowned while in the company of other children almost her age. She was a pupil at Mazombizwe Primary and news of her death will be officially announced to her schoolmates today.

Other claims are that 'Lihle', as she was affectionately known, was seen going to the dam and without any waste of time, while still wearing her clothes, dove into it. It's said the girl never emerged after that leaving the other children perplexed.

It was then that the other children had to raise an alarm after realising that something bad had taken place. Relatives who were joined by neighbours then arrived at the dam and were shown the spot where she jumped into the water.

Grief and tension engulfed the area as some of the relatives came to terms with the fact that the young girl had been swallowed by the river. The search then began as those brave enough got into the water to try

and find the young girl.

It is said a relative of the girl who happened to be a teacher at one of the schools near Nhlalambi did not wait for the scuba divers to arrive as he jumped into the dam. It is said others still nursed hope that the little girl could still be alive and had thought that she could probably be trapped underneath while others already concluded that her dead body was to be retrieved.

The relative did not spend much time underneath as he was seen resurfacing carrying the lifeless body of his niece. It was sad and painful scenario for the girl's mother as she wept uncontrollably upon realising that her daughter was dead.

Police arrived soon after, took the body to the Nhlalambi Health Centre, where doctors certified her dead on arrival.

Police Chief Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the matter, saying it was still being investigated. "What we have gathered is that she was in the company of other children. The body was retrieved and taken to hospital, where it was confirmed dead," said Mamba.

Meanwhile, it is said there have been a number of lives claimed by the same dam, with many unsubstantiated stories to the effect that there could be a monster living in the dam surfacing every now and then.

73 arrested for drink-driving

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

A total of 73 people were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol over the weekend.

Police Chief Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba announced the figure yesterday.

"There were 73 drink-driving cases reported over the past weekend while the previous weekend there were 59 cases reported," said Mamba.

He attributed the rise in the number of drink-driving cases to the *buganu*

season, which is already underway in most parts of the country.

Mamba again mentioned that the *buganu* season was a headache to both police and the community as people continued defying warnings of drinking responsibly.

He mentioned that besides cases of drinking and driving, there were many other cases such as assault and many others that occurred during this season.

He, therefore, urged the public to drink responsibly and not get behind the wheel after taking alcoholic beverages.

"We are aware that it is the *buganu*



season but people should not drink excessively and forget to obey the laws of the country."

Mamba said besides the many drink-driving cases, the roads over the weekend were clean as there was no fatal road traffic accident reported.

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SMVAF INGWENYAMA CUP 2016

Culture Competition



INGADLA: Ingadla group battling it out during the Ingwenyama Cup Culture Competition at Buhleni Royal Residence Arena yesterday. All groups competed to make it to the finals at the well attended competition which attracted a number of competitors. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



BOMAKE: Lutsango also came through and the category was the most attended as there were 30 groups competing.



BOBABE: Chiefs from the Hhohho Region came in their numbers to support the event.



JUDGING: The panel of judges at work.



KIYO: Indlamu member from Ekufikeni in full swing.



SKILLS: Ingadla group from Elangeni showcasing their skills.



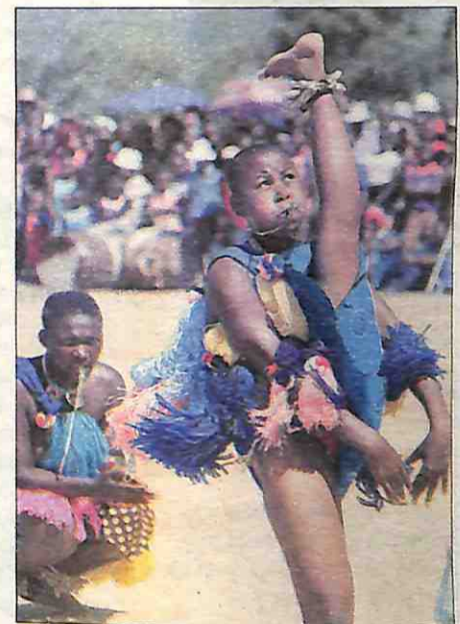
CHIT CHAT: Overseer of the Ingwenyama Cup Competition Prince Hlangabeza in a conversation with Mbongeni Simelane as Hhohho RA Prince Tshekedi looks on.



DIGNITARIES: Tinkhundla Minister Mduduzi Dlamini with Prince Hlangabeza, MP Sompisi Magagula, MP Jeremiah Ndwandwe and Chairman for the culture Committee Prince Bukhosi were also at Buhleni.



ACTION: A member of Lutsango during the Kutsamba session.



LITJITJI: Imbali from the Nkamanzi Ingadla group in action.



SYNERGY: Indlamu group from Nkamanzi battling it out during the competition.



ALL SMILES: Sindi Dladu, Ncesi Dlamini and Thuli Dlamini pose at the event.

'KWERE' NOT MADE A SCAPEGOAT – POLICE BOSS

...he says 18 other police officers had been dismissed from the service for various breaches of the law and internal disciplinary code

Stories by Nozipho Sibiba
Mbabane

NATIONAL Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula insists that Gcina 'Kwere' Mazibuko is not being made a scapegoat by being dismissed from the police service, but it was a consequence of a series of serious misdemeanours on his part.

Pursuant to the incessant comments by members of the public pertaining to the conduct of some members of the police service, the national commissioner was asked to give his

insights on the issue and the strategies in place or being canvassed to curtail the disorder.

Dismissed

Magagula, therefore, explained that 'Kwere' was not the first officer to be dismissed from the service, with an example given that in a period covering five years from 2010 to date, a total of 18 officers have had their services terminated from the police service for various breaches of the law and the internal disciplinary code.

"Two of the officers were dismissed specifically for drinking and driving similar to the case of Mazibuko." He expressed hope that with all the expla-

nations given, the issue of 'Kwere' would be put to rest and instead of people passing scornful and disparaging remarks, they would rather advise Mazibuko to lodge an appeal. "Over and above, there were 18 dismissed, while two officers were reduced in rank and/or demoted also for wayward conduct. One demotion was on account of drinking and driving and other for dishonesty."

Magagula pointed out that the police service is not a law unto itself as apparently erroneously perceived in certain quarters, that officers are dismissed willy-nilly without adherence to due process of the law. "All offi-



INSISTS: National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula.

cers found to have flouted the organisation's Ethical Code of Conduct are subjected to a properly constituted disciplinary hearing process as per the dictates of the rules of natural justice, in particular, the 'audi alteram partem rule'." On this note, he highlighted challenges that were experienced with regard to cases where police offi-

cers were cited for wrongdoing, especially those which were more criminal than general conduct inclined. He said with regard to the expedited hearing of these cases by the structures that are in the criminal justice system.

He decried the cumbersome nature of the processes which result in a very long period elapsing before such matters are finalised in court, which has a bearing on internal processes that are deemed prudent and fitting to deal with such officers. He was quick, however, to state that he was not apportioning blame on anyone, but just expressing a desire which has been communicated to the relevant structures, that cases involving police officers be given priority and be expedited given the position they hold in society as custodians of the law.

'ARROGANCE, HATE AGAINST POLICE A CONCERN'

NATIONAL Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula says whatever policing decision they take must represent a broader consensus and views of the public they serve.

Magagula stated that as a police service which embraces the philosophy of policing by the consent and approval of the public, implying that whatever policing decision they take, it must represent the broader consensus and views of the public they serve.

Magagula, therefore, said the police service do appreciate the constructive views as well as any form of criticism from the public as long as such criticisms is justified and without malice.

"We cannot claim to be perfectionists or all knowing, hence we always welcome the views and feedback from the public as it keeps us on toes and most importantly, aware of what the public demands." He did, however, express concern about those comments from the public, which parade and/or exhibit an attitude of arrogance or hate against members of the leader-

ship echelons of Police organisation. On this particular point, Magagula flagged the wise words by scholars of philosophical wisdom to the effect that 'An attitude of hate and arrogance compromises or diminishes wisdom and proper judgement'.

With regard to the comments by the public, he cited comments from the daily newspapers such as the letters to the editor on the assertion by the writer that the police officers who often cross the line are those who are soccer players for the police football team, Magagula disputed this point calling on the writer to provide strict proof.

Errant

He said, whilst the police recruitment processes may have exhibited certain deficiencies, to lambast soccer players has no basis as our statistics on errant officers do not support the view that they are the one at the forefront of misdemeanours. "The police service is in the process of reviewing the existing Recruitment Policy, so

that only the best possible candidates who are called to the policing vocation are recruited from the always flooded job market out there."

Additionally, he clarified that the police service does not expressly go out to recruit soccer players per se, but these are people, who like everyone else, apply to join the organisation and meet the requisite criteria for enlistment. Going forward, the national commissioner pointed out that the police service would continue cracking the whip on errant behaviour as well as rigorously enforcing the Disciplinary Code. He called on police officers to either shape up or ship out, emphasising that wayward behaviour would never be tolerated.

He appealed for the continued support of the public as the police service works hard to rid the organisation of rotten potato elements. He said deriding such noble efforts or blaming the errant shenanigans of individual officers on the police leadership is certainly not the way to go.



PUBLIC REVIEW STAGE NOTICE

This notice serves to inform the public that the following draft Swaziland National Standards (SZNS) are now available for commenting. The comment form is available at www.swasa.co.sz and the standards are available at the Swaziland Standards Authority (SWASA) Information Centre.

1. PRD/SZNS ISO 9001:2015 Quality management systems - Requirements
2. PRD/SZNS ISO 14001:2015 Environmental management systems - Requirements

The circulation of the standards will start on 01 February 2016 and will end on 02 March 2016.

This exercise seeks to get members of the public to comment on the standards before they are declared as national standards.

All comments may be submitted to SWASA information centre or e-mailed or faxed or posted to the details given below:

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Comments should indicate the clause, table, paragraph and the suggested alteration.

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Swazis now embrace cremation

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

SWAZIS are slowly but surely embracing the culture of cremation.

Last year the Manzini City Council together with Dups Funeral Homes appealed to the nation especially Manzini residents to adopt cremation in a bid to save the limited and slowly diminishing burial land.

Dups Groups Chief Executive Officer Allen Chipangura, said since last year, Dups has seen an increase of cremations.

"After the article with the municipal council of Manzini, we experienced a significant growth in the

number of cremations. Swazis are becoming informed and more sensitised on the idea and have since seen the benefits of opting for cremation instead of the traditional way of burial," he said.

Impressed

Chipangura said some of their clients were impressed by the convenience and cost effectiveness as they are able to have both the memorial service and the cremation in one place.

He said overtime since the service was introduced, the number of cremations per week had been increasing gradually.

The CEO said there was an increase of 40 percent from 2014 to 2015. "In fact, compared to 2014, the number of cremations per week

has actually almost doubled in the last year 2015.

We envisage that, going forward, more and more people will become more sensitised to this burial option and will utilise it. People should consider cremation, especially given the scarcity of burial land that cities are experiencing due to urban development and increased mortality," he said.

However, he said the utilisation of the service was mainly by the urban populace which constituted about 90 percent.

Understood

Meanwhile, Manzini Municipality Public Relations Officer Mathokoza Thwala said whilst they understood that for many Swazis cremation is regarded as a foreign

practice, they encouraged citizens to consider cremation as an option so as to save on the limited burial land available.

"Council, for example has stopped the burying of paupers at the cemetery in order to save on the fast diminishing burial space. They are now cremated at the Dups crematorium. The last cremation of paupers took place sometime last year, said Thwala. Direct cremations have proven to be more cost effective than direct burials as they do not require embalming. The deceased family has an option of keeping the body in an alternative container instead of a casket."



UNDERSTANDING: Manzini Municipality Public Relations Officer Mathokoza Thwala.

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

Accused have right to remain silent - magistrate 'reminds' crown

IN a move deemed to remind the crown and police about the legal rights of an accused person, Principal Magistrate Dumsani Magagula has turned down an application to have two accused remanded in police custody 'for further investigations'.

Magagula dismissed an application where the crown was seeking an order to have the two accused who are facing six counts of robbery and kidnapping released to the police so that they could assist them (police) to recover a stolen motor vehicle from Mozambique.

Kenneth Gcina Gamedze (45) and Thokozani Thabo Dlamini (27) are alleged to have committed a

string of robberies around the region, where they made away with valuables after using force to induce submission.

On the first count, it is said they robbed one Thabiso Gulwako of a motor vehicle, a Toyota Ford Ranger valued at E325 000 after threatening to shoot him if he resisted submission of the said property.

They are alleged to have further taken from him other properties which included bank cards and a mobile phone while at Big Bend.

They are further charged with a similar count in that they allegedly robbed Gabsile Tsabedze of her cellphone, bank cards and money in cash after using the same threats

of shooting her with a gun which they had in their possession.

The first accused is also charged with contravening the Arms and Ammunition Act 24 of 1964 in that he was found in possession of a 9mm auto pistol without being a holder of a valid permit.

Accused

The accused are represented by Attorney Mzobanzi Dlamini while the crown is represented by Crown Counsel Patrick Mkhathshwa.

When the crown led witnesses to present evidence before court, it transpired that the stolen motor vehicle has not yet been recovered. The witness, a police officer told the court that they had information that the vehicle was sold to a

Mozambican man in Matola.

It was after that submission that the crown then applied for an order to have the accused released to police custody so that they assist in recovering the said motor vehicle. The defence counsel however objected to the application, stating that the accused persons had opted to remain silent in the process of investigations.

Dlamini said it would be fruitless, therefore, to take the accused against their will to Mozambique as they would not be communicating anything to the police.

Making

When making judgement on the application, the principal magistrate highlighted that an accused has a

right to remain silent, especially when that has been raised before court as a point of argument.

Magagula went on and recalled that the police given time with the accused persons after their first appearance before court in December last year.

The accused were remanded in police custody between December 23 to 29, 2015.

Magagula said according to evidence which was presented before court, the police knew where the said motor vehicle was and in whose possession.

The principal magistrate subsequently dismissed the application on grounds that the accused have opted to remain silent.

CANGO wants clear prohibition of corporal punishment

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

WITH schools having opened last week, the Coordinating Assembly for Non-Governmental Organisations (CANGO) has called for a clear prohibition of corporal punishment in legislation applicable to all education settings.

In a media statement, CANGO stated that this move was not meant to punish parents or caregivers or other carers (including teachers) or make them feel guilty, but to send a clear message that violence against children is not to be tolerated.

According to the Children's Consortium Secretariat corporal punishment had adverse effects on children. "For example, it can turn into serious physical abuse. It teaches children that violence is an acceptable way of dealing with issues, it teaches children that it is okay to use violence against someone

you love," reads the statement from the organisation.

CANGO said having witnessed the escalating number of children, who experienced violence in schools and across sectors in society, it believed that there were not enough measures to make schools safe and child friendly.

There is lack of awareness and involvement of teachers, parents and guardians in child protection issues at schools and in the community. The Children's Consortium stated that an observation had been made that there was a perception that some of the schools that had abandoned corporal punishment in favour of positive discipline performed poorly than those who still did.

The consortium said these were unproven myths.

The consortium used an example of a testimony of a 15-year old girl, extracted from an Update of Situation of Children and Women in Swaziland UNICEF



Swaziland) to capture the very essence of corporal punishment when she said: "I refused to take punishment which was supposed to be a beating on the buttocks because I was menstruating. The teacher ridiculed me in front of the whole class.

This really embarrassed me and I was expelled from his class for two terms," the girl said.

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8 NATIONAL NEWS

Irregularity halts E2 million renovation at army barrack

At least four reasons have been advanced by the ministry for stalling the renovation and rehabilitation process one which is explicitly described as an anomaly

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

AN anomaly in government's tendering process has stalled a E2million rehabilitation and renovation in one of the country's army barracks.

The rehabilitation and renovation project was funded by the government of the Republic of China on Taiwan.

Although the barrack is run and managed by the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF), the rehabilitation exer-

cise was conducted by government through the department of youth affairs under the ministry of sports, culture and youth affairs.

At least four reasons have been advanced by the ministry for stalling the renovation and rehabilitation process, one which is explicitly described as an anomaly. It is said government, through its relevant department, approved three tenders but the ministry decided to sign five tenders. Secondly, the ministry had reservations or concerns over the price list approved by the tender

board. Thirdly, some contractors or service providers tendered for or supplied material that was not in their contracts. Lastly, the service provider's contracts have expired.

The matter has been reported to parliament through the ministry's second quarter performance report for the current year, 2015/16.

Indicated

The report indicated that over E267 131 had already been spent on the project. The barrack act as a breeding ground for future leaders of the

Tinkhundla system of governance. The youth was supposed to be enrolled there and a particular form of discipline instilled to prepare them for more challenging responsibilities in the various structures of the government.

Today, the barrack is run more like a skills development centre whereby the youth is trained on various trades such as metalwork, bricklaying, motor-mechanic and, woodwork to name a few areas of skills development.



The majority of the youth undergoing these type of training, however, are nursing hopes that they would be eventually enlisted to the army's school of infantry at Mbuluzi to undergo military training and subsequently pass out as soldiers. The military culture that exists at the youth camp and the drills the youth is forced to perform, all combined, has contributed to the high expectations amongst the youth camp members that recruitment into the army was an eventuality.

Education minister to consult on standardising fees

MINISTER of Education and Training Dr. Phineas Magagula says the belief that having nationally standardised school fees in the country will help remove the burden from parents was nothing but a philosophical debate.

He said although he needed to consult widely on the subject, his personal view was that government's intervention on the matter could at least be with regard to setting minimum and maximum standards of the fees parents ought to pay, especially in public schools.

He said it could prove to be very difficult to set and agree on equally and

nationally accepted fees.

The minister said most schools differed not only in their physical appearance but mostly in infrastructure development and availability of facilities.

Charge

"Some schools charge very low fees but don't have facilities, all they can provide are just empty halls," the minister said.

He said another contributing factor, was that the issue of expensive or cheap schools revolved mainly around social stratification.

Magagula said it was for that reason that some schools had more than three

different uniforms for their school children while others like Zindwendweni survived with only one uniform.

He said it was, therefore, necessary to assess the costs before the standards could be set and agreed upon. He said some parents deliberately enrolled their children on very expensive schools simply because they could afford the fees.

The minister said the same applied to the idea of having one national uniform for all schools in the country. Magagula said the idea may have to be subjected to the same social standards and demands.

...decries slow pace of prosecuting corrupt principals

MINISTER of Education and Training Phineas Magagula is frustrated by the slow pace in which the justice machinery is grinding, especially with regard to the prosecution of corrupt school principals.

Minister Magagula said while he was satisfied that some corrupt principals and other officials had already been fired for criminal acts, the slow pace in which the cases were handled by the justice system amounted to torture to him. "If I had power, I would request the director of public prosecutions to speed up all cases where schools principals and other officials in the ministry are involved. This will help us get rid of the corrupt elements at once," said Magagula.

He was responding to concerns that

several officers in his ministry were implicated on corrupt related charges but justice had not been done on them.

Yet, in a normal and just society, they would be behind bars probably by now.

Some of these corrupt officials were schools principals who had over the years developed criminal tendencies whereby they helped themselves on school funds. The corrupt officials had gone beyond misappropriating the funds but brazenly stole them for self-enrichment. Previously, some head teachers would steal school funds and later claim that it was because they were not trained on how to keep books of accounts.

Magagula said such an excuse was nothing but hogwash meant to justify a criminal act. He argued that all head-

teachers had been given an induction course on how to properly keep schools accounts.

"It is very easy to keep school's accounts. It's not like you are solving equations but all you do is just record what you have done and safely keep the receipt for the item you have purchased. It's as simple as that," Magagula said.

He wondered how and why teachers suddenly claimed ignorance when it came to the management of school funds yet they were able to manage their personal bank accounts.

"How does it then differ," he asked.

Magagula said all that was needed was for the law to take its course on the culprits and speedy trials be conducted to eliminate them from society.



TENDERS FOR PROVISION OF TRANSPORT SERVICES TO THE ROYAL VILLAS HOTEL

The Royal Villas Hotel is inviting suitably qualified companies to tender for the provision of staff transport (between Mbabane, Ezulwini and Lobamba) from the 1st March 2016 – 28th February 2017.

The written proposals should be addressed to the following address and be received by 16:00hrs on Monday, 15th February 2016 sealed and marked **TENDER TO SUPPLY:**

The General Manager
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P. O. Box 511
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CONDITIONS

1. No faxed Tender will be accepted
2. Tender submitted after closing date will not be considered
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PRINCIPALS SHOULD NOT COLLECT TOP-UP FEES

By Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

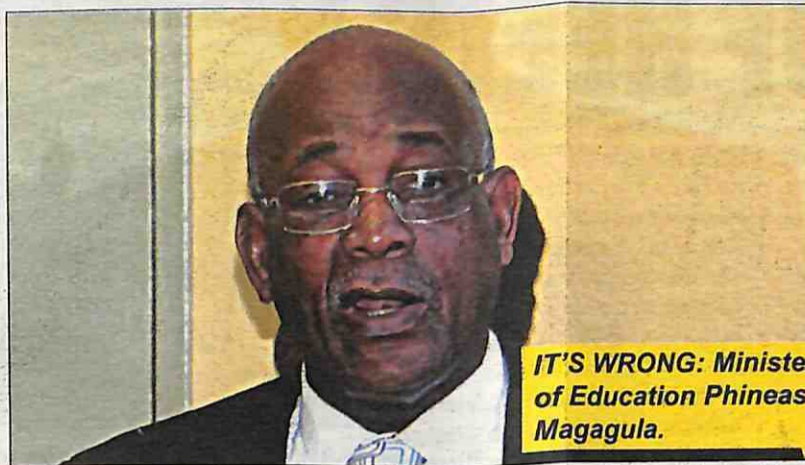
SCHOOL principals who continue to unlawfully collect top-up fees from parents will face the wrath of the ministry of education.

Minister of Education and Training Phineas Magagula said the ministry had issued several circulars on the issue outlining the position of government with regard to top-up fees at primary schools. Magagula said every school should live within its means, adding that serious disciplinary measures would be taken against those who continue to abuse parents by charging them top-up fees.

"What makes us even less interested in supporting the idea of top-up fees is that there are too many cases of misappropriation of funds in the schools by head teachers. So why should they be allowed to charge more than what the government is paying?" he said.

The minister was responding to concerns that some schools, especially in Mbabane and Manzini, are still demanding extra money from parents, providing flimsy excuses that the money allocated by government was not enough.

Magagula said principals had no justification whatsoever for the extra money they unjustifiably and fraudulently demanded from parents.



IT'S WRONG: Minister of Education Phineas Magagula.

He said government was in the process of reviewing the E560 it was currently paying to cover the expenses of an individual child in the free primary education (FPE) programme.

Amount

He said for the past seven years, government had been providing the same amount per child and therefore, it was high time they reviewed it to take into consideration the costs of inflation.

"Government is working on addressing that and while we consider that, teachers must live within the income at their disposal," said the minister.

Asked on when the review exercise was likely to be completed, Magagula said it was difficult to explicitly give a date on this matter as it involved other departments outside of his control.

Adding, the minister said the matter would have to be tabled at Cabinet and

deliberated upon, in the spirit of collective responsibility.

"We don't know when exactly this will be finalised but we can't deny that we are feeling the consequences of the inflation at present," said the minister. Investigations conducted by this newspaper revealed that a certain school principal in Manzini is personally collecting the top-up fees from the parents. The parents are made to pay the money directly to his office at the mission school.

Some parents suspect that the reason he does not allow them to deposit the money in the school's bank accounts is because he does not want to be detected by the ministry that he is one of those defying the circular. Another reason, parents suspect, is that he wants to help himself on the money at will undisturbed.

KaNdinda trio busted for trespassing in govt premises

By Mbono Mdluli
Magistrate's Court

THREE men from KaNdinda in the Manzini region appeared before Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane for trespassing in government premises and property without a permit.

Muzi Dlamini (27), Ncamiso Dingane Mdluli (32) and Bheki Pat Mayisela (20) were arrested and charged with trespassing.

Last Wednesday, the three are said to have wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally entered a Central Transport Administration (CTA) scrapyard in Mbabane without valid authorisation or permission from Nelson Shongwe who was in charge of the said premises.

They all pleaded guilty to the charge. Dlamini had some previous record of wrongdoing. The other two

(Mdluli and Mayisela) were found to have no previous criminal record. Dlamini, who is an employee at CTA, told the court that he received a call from the police after his fellow accused did not pick their phones. He said he was irked by the call and what they were going to do at the CTA. He told the court that the police did not find him inside the CTA premises because he had not yet arrived.

He said he found the police and his two co-accused standing next to his car after he had gone to visit his girlfriend.

Mdluli, the second accused person, pleaded for leniency from the court. He admitted that he was found by the police inside the premises of the CTA together with Mayisela as he wanted Dlamini to help him access an old tyre inside the premises. Mdluli told the court that Dlamini then went to check on his girlfriend and he did not

enter the scrapyard.

"Dlamini was called by the police after I, together with Mayisela, were arrested. It was me and Mayisela who entered the CTA and I wish to state that we did not tell Dlamini that we wanted to steal at his workplace," Mdluli said.

Mayisela also apologised to the court for the incident.

"I was with Mdluli at the scrapyard when we made a call to Dlamini to come and fetch us.

"He said he would call and when he reached Mbabane, he found that our cellphones had been switched off," Mayisela said.

He said Dlamini had not taken part in stealing the tyres.

Magistrate Simelane sentenced Mdluli and Mayisela to 12 months in prison with a fine option of E2 000.

Dlamini was acquitted and discharged.

Minister of Education and Training Phineas Magagula said the ministry had issued several circulars on the issue outlining the position of the ministry with regard to top-up fees at primary schools

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DO SUSPECT SHOWS POLICE CLEAN PAIR OF HEELS

By Mbono Mdluli
Magistrate's Court

A drink driving suspect decided to flee from police in fear of spending a night in custody.

Bonsile Dlamini was nabbed by police yesterday near Ezulwini for driving under the influence of an intoxicating substance.

Police spotted her and attempted to arrest her, but Dlamini drove off, evading facing arrest.

However, her act of running away did not yield any fruit because she ended up appearing before Mbabane Senior Magistrate Phathaphatha Mdluli to answer for her acts. In fact, by running away from police,

Dlamini aggravated the circumstances because she found herself being charged with two counts.

Dlamini was charged for driving under the influence of an intoxicating substance which could be dangerous to her and other road users. The other count was that of running away from police officers.

Arrest

Magistrate Mdluli wanted to know why Dlamini ran away from police officers when they tried to arrest her.

"I did not want to find myself spending a night in jail thus I drove off leaving the police officers behind. I did not know that it would be another charge," Dlamini said.

Mdluli warned Dlamini of doing such things in future because they would put her in danger of having to pay unnecessary expenses.

He told Dlamini that whenever she was caught on the wrong side of the law, the only option would be mitigating the circumstance.

Nab

"Once police nab you for an offence, do not make the situation any difficult or worse for them because by so doing, you are increasing the number of counts you will be charged," Mdluli said.

He said if she did not run away, she would be having only one count and pay a fine for that count only, which was that of driving under the influence of alcohol. Mdluli said Dlamini almost



LAW AND ORDER: Mbabane Magistrate's Court entrance.

accumulated three or four charges. He said that according to the Road Traffic Act, it was a crime to make the work of police officers difficult by giving them false information or resisting arrest.

Charges

He said such an act could make the number charges increase to 10

and pay a huge amount of money as fine. Dlamini was sentenced to 12 months in the correctional institution if she failed to pay a fine of E1 500 for count one. On count two, she was sentenced to a period of 10 months under correction if she failed to pay E1 000 as fine.

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL HOUSING AND GOVERNMENT FLATS



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Bona fide tenders should comprise the following:

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- A General Receipt as proof of purchase
- A Certified Copy of a valid Trading Licence
- A Certified Copy of a valid Labour Compliance certificate
- A Certified Copy of a valid Construction Industry Council (CIC) registration certificate
- E 1000,00 Tender deposit in a form of a Bank Guarantee
- A Current Company Form C, stamped by registrar of Companies
- A Current Company Form J, stamped by registrar of Companies
- The directors as listed in form J, should provide certified copies of identity documents

Tender Documents will be strictly available from **10:00am on Tuesday 02nd February 2016** until **04:45pm on 03rd February 2016**.

and may be collected from:

Microprojects Programme
Suite 102, Dian'ubeka House, Corner of Lalufadlana & Mdada Streets
Mbabane

Tenderers are advised to pay **E300,00** (Three Hundred Emalangeni only) for each document non-refundable amount at the Government Revenue Office and should use code **233/1201/04199/651299** when making payment. Companies are advised to consult Microprojects Unit office on the availability of tender documents prior to payment. The unit will not be liable for the refund in the event one pays for unavailable tender documents.

Compulsory site briefing date are as follows:

- There will be a tender briefing at Microprojects Programme Boardroom 1st floor, Dianubeka Building. Contractors are advised to assemble at Microprojects at 09:00am on the 02nd of February 2016 for a meeting.

Please note that Tenderers who will not attend tender briefing will not be evaluated.

Any action or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer.

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- A Current Company Form C, stamped by registrar of Companies
- A Current Company Form J, stamped by registrar of Companies
- The directors as listed in form J, should provide certified copies of identity documents

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and may be collected from:

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Mbabane

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Swazi sentenced 10 years in SA for cattle rustling

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A cattle rustler who has been making a living by stealing cattle in neighbouring South Africa and selling them to Swaziland has been arrested and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Sihle Mbovu Mndebele (40) of Fernie an area near the Swazi border at Nestorn tried to accrue his wealth by stealing and selling livestock to trusting buyers.

He was arrested and has been convicted and found guilty of stock theft. Mndebele was handed a 10-year sentence by the Carolina Magistrate's Court.

According to a report from Mpumalanga News, Mndebele treacherously tricked four young men including his son to help him collect "his cattle" from a certain farm in Badplaas.

"He paid them handsomely to carry out the task. He even produced a document authorising him to transport

the livestock. They were made to believe that the deal was genuine and that he owned the animals," read a media statement.

Mndebele led the four to the farm, where he seized 25 cattle which he identified as his from a number of others. The herd was then driven to Fernie and later smuggled over the Swazi Border to Bhunya, where they were sold to a local man.

In a statement to the Mpumalanga news publication by SAPS Sergeant Peace Mbokane, a case of stock theft was opened by the legitimate owner of the cattle at Badplaas a few days later.

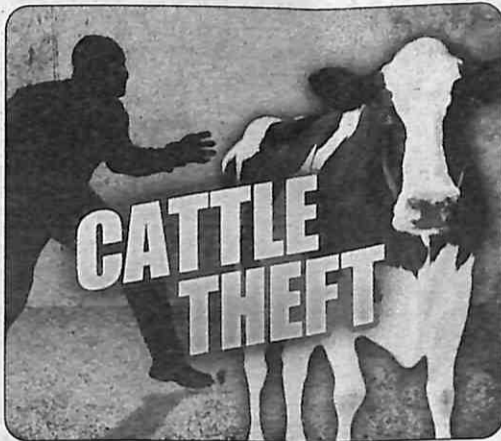
The docket was assigned to SAPS's

Jabulani Zitha of the Elukwatini Stock Theft Unit. "It was only through Zitha's hard work and commitment that

three of the young men were arrested and they told him how they had been tricked and lured into a trap by Mndebele, who made them believe that he was the rightful owner of the stock. The

police also traced Mndebele at Warburton, where he apparently fought the police and resisted arrest. He was again traced at Fernie where he was later arrested," explained Mbokane.

After several court appearances the accused was finally convicted and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.



Govt needs E22million for 91 boreholes

Stories by Eddie Abner
Ezulwini

THE ministry of natural resources and energy needs close to E22 million to fix and build boreholes in five tinkhundla centres around the country.

In the ministry's first phase of the feasibility study, they discovered that 91 boreholes in five Tinkhundla were non-functional.

Worth mentioning is that some of the Tinkhundla centres have requested new boreholes on top of the non functional ones.

They noted that Somntongo

Inkhundla was leading the pack with 31 non-functional boreholes, followed by Lubulini with 22, Matsanjeni come third with 18 while Sigwe has 17.

Sigwe has already requested 10 new boreholes from government that would benefit 250 homesteads while Matsanjeni requested five.



WHAT'S NEXT: SAA says topping irrigation in the Lowveld will have a negative impact on the country's economy.

Stopping irrigation will have dire effects on sugar industry

MEMBERS of the Swaziland Sugar Association (SSA) say stopping irrigation in the Lowveld will have a negative impact on the country's economy which will result in job losses.

Royal Swaziland Sugar Association (RSSC) Managing Director Nick Jackson said stopping irrigation would result in a loss of 11 000 hectares at Simunye, loss of E700 million per annum.

Retrenchments

"If we stop irrigation, there will be dire consequences. There will be significant loss of tax and dividends

to government for several years. Effects will be felt for many years as growers and RSSC tries to replant. There is a possibility that we will not recover at all.

"International markets will not be supplied. We will have significant and immediate job losses, anything up to 2 000 retrenchments," he said.

Jackson said expansion plans would be shelved and they would lose credibility in international markets adding that over 1 000 growers would lose their farms and livelihoods. Thousands of families would be thrown into poverty through the

multiplier effect.

Jackson added that stopping irrigation in the north would not alleviate water shortages in the rest of Swaziland but would suffer more yet the water will still flow to South Africa and Mozambique.

"We, therefore, implore government not to ban irrigation for RSSC and its growers. We urge government to grant RSSC and its growers an additional 30 000 millilitres for use before March 31, 2016, from Maguga. These actions will secure the sugar industry to play its part in the Swazi economy," he said.

Govt has set up 8 new one-stop service centres

By Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT has set up eight new one-stop government service centres.

Through the ministry of tinkhundla administration and development, the centres have been established at Siphofaneni, Sithobela, Lomahasha, Mayiwane, Luve, Hluti, Gege and Lugongolweni. There are two of such centres in each administrative region of the country. These service centres are part of the ministry's decentralisation efforts. Services which would be provided in these service centres include obtaining birth, marriage and death certificates. This is contained in the ministry's Vision 2022 plan.

Mandate

"The plan advocates for Tinkhundla as a home brewed system of choice for good governance, development and service delivery. In particular, a system which ensures that Swazis embrace modernity, within the context of our tried and tested traditional identity and values," the ministry said.

The ministry, in its vision plan, intended developing systems and processes to enable regional administration, Tinkhundla and chiefdoms to be strong and efficient enough. This would enable these structures to deliver on the primary mandate and business of the Tinkhundla-based system of government.

The ministry has also listed community development and mobilisation as one of its key



DETERMINED: Minister of Tinkhundla Administration and Regional Development Mduzuzi Dlamini.

activities.

This would involve training communities at chiefdom level on planning, developing and, prioritising projects.

Under the women in development programme, the ministry has set up five vocational skills training centres at Siphofaneni, Sithobelweni, Mahamba, Ntfontjeni and Mahlangatsha.

The communities are also exposed to appropriate technology programmes like training them on how to construct basic facilities for water harvesting, sanitation and building materials using resources available at community level. The minister for Tinkhundla Administration and Regional Development Mduzuzi Dlamini, recently stated that they were more than determined to see the government services being easily accessed by all communities throughout the country.

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Step in the Right direction

BISHOP NASH DONATES TO LAMGABHI CHURCH

● this included 50 bags of cement and food together with clothing worth E13 000

Stories by Simon Shabangu
LaMgabhi

DIVINE Healing Ministries founder Bishop Nash Shongwe and his church donated 50 bags of cement and food together with clothing worth E13 000 to Lamgabhi Trinity Assemblies Church at Etiyeni.

The Trinity Church is led by a young pastor, Gcina Nhlabatsi.

On top of the food, clothing and cement were 50 grey school trousers.

Shongwe also pledged to buy Pastor Nhlabatsi a designer suit.

The bishop further ministered to the fully packed church, which is still under construction, and later prayed for the sick.

Dr Nash, as he is affectionately known, was adopted by the church as their spiritual father as Nhlabatsi said he looked up to Shongwe who stood for the word of God through many challenges.

The church hosted services for five consecutive days and Shongwe was one of the speakers.

The church also hosted Bishop Vincent Hlatshwako.

The theme of the service was 'Even if the Ship is Wrecked, We Still Have to Sail to the Shore' and this is a quote from Acts 27 verses 22-26.

Shongwe told the church that God had called him to the ministry of giving, hence he had made it his habit to always remember the poor and needy when preaching.

He said with the support of his church and business community, he has been able to bring the donation to the church.



HELPING HAND: Pastor Gcina Nhlabatsi joined by chairman of the church Alec Lushaba as they receive the donation made by Bishop Nash Shongwe who was joined by members of his church at Lamgabhi Trinity Assemblies Church on Friday night. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

He said his mission was to go around the country and minister the Word of God and not forget the poor as the Bible says the church should take care of such people.

Shongwe said he did not even take offerings from the people but instead offered to them as God had commanded him to do so.

At LaMgabhi, all the offering collected during Shongwe's two days remained with the church.

In his remarks, the bishop told the church that he was humbled to have been identified as someone to take the responsibility of a father of the church.

He told the church that they must stand by their pastor and grow the church to even greater heights.

He advised Nhlabatsi that leading a church was no joke, but needed prayer warriors who would rise to all the challenges.

"My message to the pastor and all of you is that you must wait upon the Lord, do not compete but run your own race. Once you start competing, you will panic and end up losing focus on the Lord.

"Be strong and stand for the Word of God. Pray at all times for God told me that there would be a turnaround in your life. He will answer your prayers. It is now time for you to stand and go, you have suffered a lot and now God has heard your prayers. God will elevate you to greater heights and you will come out of poverty and suffering," he told the pastor.

...Pastor Nhlabatsi committed to church

PASTOR Gcina Nhlabatsi, the founder and senior pastor of the church, was overcome by emotions as he recounted all the trials and tribulations he went through when he started the church.

He told Bishop Nash Shongwe that the road had not been easy but was determined to see the work of God moving forward.

He said at times he would be late for church as he had no car.

"At one point, I got a lift from a bakkie which was loaded with pigs.

"By the time I got to church, I was dirty and stinking and I had to spend time washing myself at the toilet before taking to the pulpit," he said.

"We feel humbled and we believe that our lives will never be the same. We believe that all the people in the area will come to our church and we shall win more souls back to God," he said.

He said the structure was almost finished but they still needed more things to complete it.

"We are hoping more individuals and companies will come through and help us complete this project. Already, Tee & Jay has pledged a classy podium once we finish the church," he said.

Asked how much they needed to finish the construction of the church, Nhlabatsi said it was about 75 percent complete.

needed about E120 000.

He said they still needed to do fittings, tiles, ceiling, paint and a few touch ups so as to make the church a neater worshiping place. He said a Good Samaritan helped them with roofing which cost E60 000.

"She came from nowhere at the time when the school has given us a deadline to move out," he added.

Meanwhile, Chairman of the Church Alec Lushaba said they were humbled to have been graced by Dr Shongwe despite that they were located in the rural areas.

Humility

"Your humility says a lot Bishop and we can proudly say that the God you serve lives in you.

"It is not common for a man of your stature and position to come down to the lowest of people in class.

"We are also humbled about the gifts and donation you made to the church. We now know that the church will never be the same after your visit here," he said.

He also encouraged Shongwe to soldier on in ministering the Word of God.

He also thanked him for the donation, saying it would go a long way in helping the needy in the church.

He said the cement would also help them continue with the construction.

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PACKED: People came from near and far to be part of the service. **RIGHT - FOR YOU:** Pastor Fana Sihlongonyane assisting Bishop Shongwe as he presented gifts to the elderly.

DELICACIES: Bishop Shongwe was later presented with village chickens by the pastor and his wife together with Futhi Lushaba, who is also a member of the praise team in the church.



WORSHIP: It was a night of worship and prayer.

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...With

Starsky Mkhonta



EVELYN BARING NEEDS MAJOR FACELIFT - DLAMINI

"WE may be known as the 'University of the South' because of the good record we continue to register yearly, but our buildings depict a very bad picture of the school that is respected countrywide."

Evelyn Baring High School Principal Tom Dlamini lamented the pathetic state the school was in and further made a special appeal to relevant authorities to do something as a matter of urgency.

He said the situation was bad such that some of the buildings were no longer in a good state to be used. Dlamini was speaking during the handover of three refurbished classrooms on Friday, that were funded by the Evelyn Baring High Ex-Students Association (EBHESA).

The principal said some of the school's structures had never been renovated ever since it started operating ages ago.

During the handover, the principal thanked EBHESA for the project, adding that such help was a clear indication that the association wanted to see the school improve with its reputation intact.

He acknowledged the school's survival to the continued support of EBHESA.

"Things are falling apart in this



CHANGE: EBHESA representatives, school administration and pupils posing outside one of the classrooms which were refurbished by the former pupils. (Pics: Starsky Mkhonta)

school, literally. Some of the buildings have been in existence for many years, before some of us were born.

"These are buildings which have never been given any facelift. We deem it as a disaster and one wonders how we have been surviving. It would not be surprising if health inspectors could come here and decide to close the school.

"Something must be done and soon. The principal said if he had his way, all the old buildings would be demolished and construction of new classrooms resume. "Building new classrooms will be much cheaper than refurbishing the dilapidated



ALSO PRESENT: EBHESA President Phesheya Nkambule making his remarks during the handover of the project.



HAPPY MOMENT: Nkambule (left), REO representative Futhi Ndlela-Dlamini, RA representative Mhlengwa Dlamini and EBHS Principal Tom Dlamini posing outside another refurbished classroom.

ones," he said.

Dlamini then appealed to the current pupils to copy what EBHESA members were doing

for the school.

He said the pupils needed to join the association upon completing school.

RA heaps praises on Evelyn Baring

SHISELWENI Regional Administrator Themba Masuku has said all initiatives done by former pupils of Evelyn Baring High School are recognised in the region.

The RA who was represented by Mhlengwa Dlamini during the handover of three refurbished classrooms on Friday, said the good work by EBHESA uplifted the region.

"The association is showing the importance of unity. Unity is strength and EBHESA is symbolising that when we are united, we always succeed," said the RA. The RA said as EBHESA was not a back-bencher in taking the school forward, this was a clear indication that the school produced idealistic individuals who were now ploughing back. The RA then announced that a number of activities were lined up even this year in the region where he invited EBHESA to participate. He said he wished the former pupils would attend the now famous Mahamba Gorge Hiking, adding that this event had become the region's crowd puller.

"This time around, through the proceeds to be made from the Gorge hiking, EBHESA stands a chance of benefiting as we would see how we assist in its projects which benefit the school. So, let all Baringers be part of the fun on April 3," said the RA. Meanwhile, representing the regional education office was Futhi Ndlela-Dlamini, who is a senior inspector. She said she had been delegated by the REO Thabile Nxumalo to pass the ministry's gratitude for the wonderful work done by EBHESA. "EBHESA is easing the burden from government. We all know that as a country, we are experiencing financial challenges. It is appreciated and encouraging to see EBHESA meeting government halfway," said Ndlela-Dlamini.

Ndlela-Dlamini also congratulated the school for its wonderful performance both in Form Three and Form Five results. Meanwhile, EBHESA executive member Elyan Masuku said they would continue assisting the school so as to minimise the challenges it was facing. "I completed in this school way back in 1975 and my concern is that I see the same walls which housed us in those years. Then you begin to see that indeed we are obliged to do something," said Masuku.



IMPRESSED: The RA's representative Mhlengwa Dlamini addressing the gathering during the handover of the three classrooms.

Ekuphileni Church comes through for 100 pupils

ABOUT 100 children from areas around Zombodze Emuva have been presented with clothing and footwear by Ekuphileni Church in Zion, Mpandeni branch under Pastor Musa Mkhonta.

Elderly people and other needy people also went home happy.

The church received the clothing items from overseas donors.

The presentation took place yesterday during service, which was also attended by businessman and leader of Galathia Ibandla LeMhlosheni Reverend Kenneth Dladu, owner of fleet of kombis operating as 'Sika-Marazor'.

Pastor Mkhonta said it was

important for the church to take care of the challenges faced by members and those around the community.

"We are a church with responsibility.

Ours is not just to feed our members spiritually, but we also have a duty to assist the needy. As a church located in the community, we have a responsibility to assist where help is needed," said Mkhonta.

Mkhonta said the church's presentation to the needy would now be done annually.

"In fact, it is in our plans that we organise something like a party for the children of our church and the surrounding community. This is a start and we are hopeful that next

year, we are going to make this a big event," said Mkhonta.

The pastor thanked the donors, saying who were doing exactly what was encouraged by the Bible.

"In the Bible, we are told that Jesus fed those that were hungry and clothed people who needed clothes. Our overseas friends are fulfilling what is in the Bible," said Pastor Mkhonta.

The pastor also thanked Reverend Dladu for gracing the occasion.

He said Dladu was not just a friend to him in Christ but they were colleagues in the transport industry. Mkhonta also operates a kombi business.



GIVING HAND: Pastor Musa Mkhonta of Ekuphileni Church in Zion.

"Dladu is my friend in Christ and we are in transport business. Whatever we do, we do it together," said Pastor Mkhonta.

SNAT wants govt to consider supplementary exams

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane



ANOTHER CHANCE: SNAT has said the ministry of education and training should in future consider supplementary exams for schools with nullified results.

SWAZILAND National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga says the ministry of education and training should in future consider supplementary exams for schools with nullified results.

Mhlanga in an interview said he wished that the ministry would consider offering supplementary exams for schools who found themselves caught in malpractice.

He said repeating a class did not only affect the pupil but the parent and school as well.

This comes after Minister of Education and Training Phineas Magagula said the pupils from the

five primary schools, whose results were nullified should go back to class.

"However, the ministry says it will be costly for them to set another paper, it will be difficult and costly

to the schools and parents as well," Mhlanga said.

He said the school would have to provide an extra

class for the repeating pupils, whereas the parent must repay tuition and examination fees.

"Apparently government will not pay for the orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC) whose results were nullified."

He said this had caused an uproar in the five schools because parents demand a solution from the teacher. Mhlanga said this was an unfortunate situation because the Exams Council of Swaziland did not give enough information on the final verdict of the schools.

The minister of education and training on Friday said setting a new examination paper for the implicated schools would cost the exam council over E200 000.

He said the pupils would, therefore, have to go back to class and seat for final exams with those who were doing standard four last year.

The schools included Sebenta Mbukwane Primary, Ezindwendweni Primary, Patmos Primary, Ndvezane Primary and Dzanyane Primary.

The Minister further insisted that the parents of the pupils will have to pay a full school fees fee plus examination fees.

"We will not be lenient to the schools found to have committed malpractice," he said.

He said though it would be very costly for the parents but the exams council has to follow the procedure so that such does not occur ever again.

HC3 and AHF's Malagwane clean-up campaign

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE Health Communication Capacity Collaborative (HC3) last week partnered with the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) and provided HIV testing and counselling services to the Young Women Empowerment programme.

The HIV testing and counselling was coupled with a cleanup campaign that took place in Malagwane area.

HC3 is funded PEPFAR and its main aim is to reduce the vulnerability of young women between 20 and 24 years to HIV and gender based violence through community based HIV prevention by combining socio economic approaches in five Tinkhundla.

HC3 is working with the constituencies in Mbabane east and West. Young

women from Fontein, Msunduzi, Mahwalala, Sidwashini and Mangwaneni were part of the youth that attended the event at Malagwane since the programme encouraged strengthening networking among young women

HC3: Young Women Empowerment Programme Assistant Nomsa Mbuli said these young women were in a particularly unique transition phase in their life, making them extremely vulnerable to HIV.

"While a large portion of women younger than 20 are in school, the majority of young women between 20 and 24 are out of school. HC3 is, therefore, implementing activities aimed at strengthening social and economic assets among young women. The activities are based around strengthening the economic empowerment of young women, strengthening the social empowerment of young women and

increasing the uptake of high impact HIV risk reduction services," she said.

Adding, she said the success of the programme depended greatly on community engagement and participation from community members, especially young women.

Mbuli said the aim was to empower young women to also give back to their communities. She said this was because social empowerment involved caring for the environment and the young women have already started working towards achieving this goal. The young women showed enthusiasm on the clean-up campaign and hope for change as they left Malagwane spotless.

"HC3 invites any interested young women of ages 20-24 that are from the above mentioned areas to join this wonderful course and be part of the agents of change in their own communities," said Mbuli.

Woman steals E2 500 tablet

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A woman from Logoba in the Manzini region appeared in court to answer for the offence of theft for which she was arrested and charged with.

Andile Msibi (20) was accused of having wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally stolen a black/silver tablet worth E2 500 which was in the lawful possession of Musawenkosi Dlamini.

Msibi committed this crime on December, 2015 at or near Corporation in Mbabane. She pleaded guilty to the charges preferred against her. Msibi apologised to the court and the complainant for having appeared to have stolen the tablet. "I had told my boyfriend that I am the one who took the tablet from its owner and he did not have a problem with that," Msibi said. She said she was surprised to learn that a case was opened against her yet

she was the one who took the tablet from the owner and brought it back on her own. She said she never denied knowing it when the owner was looking for it. Msibi was sentenced to a period of 10 months in the correctional institutions if she failed to pay a fine of E1 000. Half of the sentence was suspended for three years on condition she was not found to have committed a criminal activity of the same kind during the time of the period of the suspension.



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manzini news

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By Nozipho Sibilya
Mbabane

OVER 30 neighbourhood care points (NCPs) in the Manzini and Hhohho regions will get assistance from Palms for Life Fund.

Palms for Life Fund is a non-profit organisation based in New York with an extensive track record of ongoing international projects in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

The organisation also has a footprint in Swaziland through an initiative called Sinaka Umiliba Project. Its aim is to create opportunities for community structures that will directly support children, particularly those that are vulnerable at the community level in the country. Sinaka Umiliba Project's main donor is the European Union (EU), and this initiative would span for over 40 months having started in November, 2014.

Palms for Life Founder Hannah Lauffer-Rottman said she decided to continue her international aid work in Swaziland.

She said their emphasis was on advancing the lives and livelihoods of women, girls and young children in the developing world.

She said they would use a model based on building partnerships with local implementing organisations. "This allows us to operate in a cost effective way, recognising the strength

of local partners, while simultaneously supporting their capacity," Rottman said during a press conference the organisation had at Mountain Inn last Wednesday.

She said they helped partners with projects design, funding proposal, monitoring and reporting.

"Our local partners are reputable organisations that have received international funding.

They are carefully selected and closely monitored by us," she added. Rottman said this project would create opportunities for existing community structures so as to take increased ownership over their own varying development strategies.

They also strengthened the delivery and quality of social services environment for commodities to assess their actions needed to support most vulnerable children," she said.

She said some of these structures

were community initiatives, others are faith or NGO-based as well as structures which were programme and supported by government.

"Community pre-schools and NCPs are some of the common structures in Swaziland that have historically supported children with educational, psychosocial, nutritional, health and hygiene support," she said.

She said over the years many of these structures which the project collectively called for were community child care centres that received significant logistical and financial support from both government and Global Fund, particularly NCPs.

"This support has had a positive and negative effect as it served its historical purpose as an emergency safety net for vulnerable children especially with regard to food aid," she said.

NCPs' important provision of basic meals largely due to donor support acted as a geographic anchor for

children.

She said many NCPs relied heavily on external donor aid to support vulnerable and non-vulnerable children in their communities.

She said in many communities, this created a sense of passivity as communities awaited handouts and external top-down support for their vulnerable and non-vulnerable children.

"Other types of community child care centres, developed without strong community backing or ownership, leaving the centres and children very vulnerable. This project will be one of the important challenges that will address how to transform the network of existing NCPs and community child care centres into active and empowered development partners," she said.

She noted that the project identified the current transitional role of NCPs and other community childcare centres.

It also identified the

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADE 12 CLASS OF 2015

WELCOME WELKOM WAMUKELIKILE HAMAMUKELA REAOAMUGELA BIENVENUE BEM VINDO TO METROPOLITAN COLLEGE.

WELL DONE!!!

 KHOSA Z.Z. - 5A5, 3A5 - MATHEMATICS (A) - LIFE ORIENTATION (A) - PHYSICAL SCIENCES (A) - TOURISM (A) - BUSINESS STUDIES (A) - ECONOMICS (A) - ACCOUNTING (A) - ENGLISH (A) - SWATHI (A)	 DLAMINI N.T. - 4A5, 4B5 - MATHEMATICS (A) - LIFE ORIENTATION (A) - PHYSICAL SCIENCES (A) - TOURISM (A) - BUSINESS STUDIES (A) - ECONOMICS (A) - ACCOUNTING (A) - ENGLISH (A) - SWATHI (A)	 DLAMINI M.M. - 3A5, 4B5 - MATHEMATICS (A) - LIFE ORIENTATION (A) - PHYSICAL SCIENCES (A) - TOURISM (A) - BUSINESS STUDIES (A) - ECONOMICS (A) - ACCOUNTING (A) - ENGLISH (A) - SWATHI (A)	 MAGAGULA K.R. - 3A5, 2B5 - MATHEMATICS (A) - LIFE ORIENTATION (A) - PHYSICAL SCIENCES (A) - TOURISM (A) - BUSINESS STUDIES (A) - ECONOMICS (A) - ACCOUNTING (A) - ENGLISH (A) - SWATHI (A)	 MAVIMBELA B.M. - 3A5, 1B - MATHEMATICS (A) - LIFE ORIENTATION (A) - PHYSICAL SCIENCES (A) - TOURISM (A) - BUSINESS STUDIES (A) - ECONOMICS (A) - ACCOUNTING (A) - ENGLISH (A) - SWATHI (A)	 DLAMINI M.K. - 2A5, 6B5 - MATHEMATICS (A) - LIFE ORIENTATION (A) - 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YES! NO?



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

info@observer.org.sz

EDITOR IN COUNCIL



WITH ALEC LUSHABA

WOMEN CHIEFS DO NOT SIT WELL WITH SWAZI CULTURE

...true, but the platform was wrong

THAT boy from the Navel, the intelligent one, I am told got the err of women chiefs and some activists with the statement he made last Monday during the official opening of the High Court Session.

Not only did he address his concern around the issue of women chiefs, but I don't know whether he now wants to assume his father's vacant position, he went further to denounce the hauling of chiefs before courts.

Sitting as council, he took all of us by surprise for his statements. These things have to be first cleared with us before such sensitive statements are made publicly by someone whom we know to be intelligent on issues of law.

We maybe lay councils but we are not that dumb. We know things that can get the nation excited and quickly get on each other's throats.

It is our job to prevent such from happening. What is interesting about his statement is that he too is not immune to the very sentiments he expressed. Not long ago, we had a case from the Navel that the courts had to deal with.

As we are speaking, their chieftaincy issue has not been resolved despite the fact that it is now over a decade since their chief, Watch War passed on. At the helm is a woman, working with council.

Let's give the boy benefit of the doubt and hope he has come of age to realise that the hereditary nature of our chieftaincy is under serious threat with women in charge.

He may have a point, but the forum was wrong. Such issues are our responsibility here at council to deal with. We have not hired him to jump the gun and scare people with such statements. People may now start to



GENDER EQUALITY: The question of whether women are fit to lead in crucial positions still remains a myth.

worry as to what is behind this statement? Probably there is something big we are plotting with all these women acting chiefs.

Truth of the matter is that it is not a common thing that women are placed in such crucial positions. However, we are not by any stretch of imagination undermining their important role as *boAntie* or *emakhosikati*. They are the real power behind the throne. Nothing fundamental gets decided without their input.

This does not even suggest that we question their leadership skills. We are clear that women are as capable as men to lead. It's just that with hereditary positions, it becomes difficult for women leaders to transfer power within the family blood line.

As Swazi tradition would have it, even when the chief did not have boys, a way was always found to install someone within the family tree to take over. Our royal family tree has such a scenario.

So with regards to that issue, we will as council summon the boy from the

Navel to warn him about that statement, which we view as serious and has a potential to cause instability. We will demand that he makes a clarification or withdraw it in totality. It is not his space to discuss such serious national issues to unsuspecting members of the public.

If he had raised it within council we would have challenged him and gotten him to explain as to the source of his concern. Let's hope liphemengesisini, but with councils, he will have to be called to order as it is case with everyone else.

He further mentioned something very close to his profession and a matter that concerned us as council.

But again, we must explain that we are opposed to his thinking. Or let me just say *akayibekangakahleledz-abayetfu*. We are not going to underestimate the damage caused by cases where chiefs are hauled before our courts. Such incidents do somehow belittle labantfwabenkosi (tikhulu). It is worse when as a chief you are hauled before court by a commoner

who goes on to win against you.

What concerns us most is that once that commoner or subject has won the case, how do you begin to control him or her again.

Yes, issues of leadership unfortunately involve control and power. In order for one to feel that he is in complete control of the community, he must be respected by all. That means even when you take unpopular decisions as a leader you still deserve to be respected.

Anyway, coming to the case at hand, where again this intelligent boy told lawyers not to dare touch such cases, let me say he misrepresented us. We are not merely against justice. As chiefs and leaders we are custodians of all the laws and rights conferred upon all subjects, whom the constitution defines as citizens.

Citizens are the same subjects or commoners, who now enjoy freedoms and rights. But these things are enjoyed in context.

This constitution was endorsed by all of us. There is no person, there-

fore, who would want to be seen acting outside it. So for that boy we call intelligent to express sentiments that appears to be contrary to the supreme law is unfortunate.

What do we expect the courts to do? The courts should still be arbiters for all matters brought before it.

However, courts should not take a position that is foreign to our being. Better now we have a Swazi Chief Justice, whom we expect to know and understand all Swazi lore.

Judges should seek the assistance of accessors who will advise them on what would be the appropriate action to be taken on each individual case.

We are only appealing for our courts to strengthen our institutions and nor weaken them and at the same time ensuring that people's rights and fair justice is dispensed.

If I were to illustrate my point here, the courts can strengthen these institutions by referring the matter to appropriate structures.

To completely legislate against matters being taken to court would be wrong. We regard courts as fair and impartial and we respect its decisions, but that does not make the court to know everything. Courts do need to respect our structures and give them legitimacy by instructing them to act accordingly. By so doing we will achieve both harmony between the institutions and further ensure that the dignity of our chiefs is restored. It will not be restored by completely shutting the courts doors.

We cannot in a constitutional dispensation be seen to be acting against it. As council we may be viewed as lay people and probably backwards, but we only appeal for more cooperation and strengthening of our institutions.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY: "I search for solitude and within that search I find 'me'." - Miles Patrick Yohnke

HOW TO FIND US:

MANAGING EDITOR:

Mbongeni Mbingo
e-mail: mbingo@observer.org.sz
Cell: 7602 9564
P.O Box A385, Swazi Plaza,
Mbabane, Betfusile Street
Tel: 2404 4437, 2404 4436, 2404 9600,
2404 9797, 2404 0706
Email: info@observer.org.sz
Website: www.observer.org.sz

NHLANGANO OFFICE

Tobacco Company Complex, Cnr King George, Masengule Streets
Opposite SEDCO Premises, Tel: 2207 5159
Starksky Mkhonta Cell: 7621 5081 (starksky@realnet.co.sz)

EDITORIAL CONTACTS

ACTING EDITOR: Alec Lushaba - 7604 6271 editor@observer.org.sz
NEWS EDITOR: Kenneth Dlamini - 7607 0035 newseditor@observer.org.sz
SPORTS EDITOR: Mphikeli Msibi - 7605 8044 sports@observer.org.sz
BUSINESS SENIOR REPORTER: - business@observer.org.sz
ENTERTAINMENT SNR REPORTER: - entertainment@observer.org.sz
SENIOR SUB EDITOR: Paradise Mamba - 7603 5639 subeditor@observer.org.sz

PIGG'S PEAK OFFICE

Kai Kai Building opposite Shoprite, Office No. 3
Tel: 2437 1083 Sifiso Nhlabatsi Cell: 77674 6378
Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz



MARKETING MANAGER

Sizwe Shongwe (7618 0425)
2404 8671/ 2404 8699
shongwesh@observer.org.sz

CIRCULATION OFFICER

Menzi Mabuza (7664 5864)
circulation@observer.org.sz

MANZINI OFFICE

Makhaya Convenient Centre,
Office No:25
Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 2505 7220

SITEKI OFFICE

Siteki market offices, Office No:15
Wonderboy Dlamini 2343 5779
Cell: 7643 6549

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Email: mbingo@observer.org.sz
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ON THIS DAY

...FEBRUARY 1

1960 - Four black college students began a sit-in protest at a lunch counter in Greensboro, NC. They had been refused service.

1968 - During the Vietnam War, South Vietnamese National Police Chief Brig. Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Loan executed a Viet Cong officer with a pistol shot to the head. The scene was captured in a news photograph.

1976 - "Sonny and Cher" resumed on TV despite a real life divorce.

1979 - Patty Hearst was released from prison after serving 22 months of a seven-year sentence for bank robbery. Her sentence had been commuted by U.S. President Carter.

1979 - Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was welcomed in Tehran as he ended nearly 15 years of exile.

1987 - Terry Williams won the largest slot machine payoff, at the time, when won \$4.9 million after getting four lucky 7s on a machine in Reno, NV.

1991 - A USAir jetliner crashed atop a commuter plane at Los Angeles International Airport. 35 people were killed.

1994 - Jeff Gillooly pled guilty in Portland, OR, for his role in the attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan. Gillooly, Tonya Harding's ex-husband, struck a plea bargain under which he confessed to racketeering charges in exchange for testimony implicating Harding.

1996 - Visa and Mastercard announced security measures that would make it safe to shop on the Internet.

1998 - Stuart Whitman received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

1999 - Former White House intern Monica Lewinsky gave a deposition that was videotaped for senators weighing impeachment charges against US President Clinton.

2001 - Three Scottish judges found Abdel Basset al-Megrahi guilty of the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, which killed 270 people. The court said that Megrahi was a member of the Libyan intelligence service. Al-Amin Khalifa, who had been co-accused, was acquitted and freed.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1937 - Garrett Morris, COMEDIAN



(1938-2012) - Sherman Hemsley, TV ACTOR

THE SPIRITUALITY OF STAR WARS

Resident Alien



Rev Carl Brook
(1 Peter 2:11)

LATE last year we went to see 'The Hunger Games' movie down at the Gables.

The requisite Coke and popcorn are expensive but I was prepared to live with that for the sake of a good film. We weren't disappointed except for one thing: the theatre next to us was showing 'James Bond: Spectre' and we could hear, quite clearly, every sound effect coming from that side of the room - very disconcerting! Will someone explain to me why in the third millennium, in the year of our Lord 2016, we are still subject to unsoundproofed movie theatres?

Happily, when we saw 'Star Wars' earlier this month, except for the sound of teens munching popcorn, we watched the film without interruption.

I find it interesting to think about the spirituality of such movies. Have you ever wondered, for example, about the blessing: "May the Force be with you"? Patently, an echo of the old Christian blessing: "May God be with you." Or when Master Obi-Wan tells young Luke Skywalker:



SPIRITUAL: The Star Wars

"Remember, the Force will be with you always"? Anyone who's read the Gospel will remember its parallel at the end of Matthew 28!

Disciples of 'The Matrix' trilogy are familiar with the journey that Neo travelled: the uncomfortable feeling that there's more to this world that meets the eye, the sensation of being unplugged from the matrix, the awakening and training of consciousness, subsequent attempts to combat the system, etc. Pretty close, in my opinion, to the Christian experience of being born again.

Neo's partner is called 'Trinity,' their trip to Machine City in search of a final solution is carried out in a hovercraft called the 'Logos,' the name of the human city resisting the machines is 'Zion.'

Science fiction is full of religious language and themes, but let us not be deceived: The Force is not God! Unlike

the Force our Father, Son and Holy Spirit cannot be manipulated; He does not have a dark side or light side - indeed, He is light. Our God is not like the heartless

'Architect' programme whose role is to balance equations within The Matrix. Before sin entered the world God's creation was perfect; the solution to the only equation worth balancing is supplied by God himself (the Source) in Jesus.

Of course, script writers of such genre use moral ideas and terminology familiar to us from childhood precisely in order for audiences to identify with their heroes. Soldiers of the Light (e.g. Jedi) will thus always be good while practitioners of the dark arts (e.g. Sith) are inevitably corrupt. In Tolkien's 'Lord of the Rings' saga, who the good guys? Elves, humans, hobbits and (sometimes) dwarves. Compare these races to the orcs, goblins and fell creatures

who have succumbed to 'the Shadow.' It is no great leap of the imagination to equate Sauron with the Satan of Jewish and Christian theology.

And this is where good fantasy has a beneficial role to play in the development of children. With its emphasis on the supernatural; some Christians shy away from such literature, possibly anxious about harmful thoughts affecting the young imagination.

And yet, while there are always exceptions, most children are able to differentiate between fantasy and reality. Boys will play games and girls love role-play precisely to cope or act out their realities. So I say, bring on the good books! Where is the CS Lewis (Narnia) of our time?

"Thank you for the arts, Creator God. Use them to draw us to yourself, we pray. Amen"

The internet of things will help our customers grow

MTN Business is bringing the Internet of Things to life in a move that it says is the precursor of a distinctive value proposition geared toward helping its customers grow their business and improve operational efficiencies.

"We believe this is the beginning of a journey for MTN," Sfisio Dabengwa, Group President and CEO of MTN Group said on Thursday 14 May 2015 at the launch of the MTN Business Internet Of Things (IoT) Platform.

"This is part of our strategy of further developing our abilities in terms of how we find and deliver solutions to our cus-

tomers and partners. It's quite clear that the Internet will continue to change the way we work and do things, and more importantly how it impacts our economy."

The solution that was launched consists of a dedicated machine-to-machine (M2M) network that allows customers to connect, manage, monitor and control remote devices.

This type of telemetry is considered the next big thing in enabling organisations to gain unprecedented advantages as devices and networks become more intelligent.

This type of functionality is already evident in systems such

as fleet tracking solutions, to some extent in courier delivery and tracking, and in the consumer world in devices such as wearable computers such as fitness trackers.

Mteto Nyati, MTN Group chief enterprise officer, explained that the introduction of the IoT Platform was part of the telecom group's strategy to become an ICT partner of choice. "Instead of trying to do many things, we are going to focus on enabling our customers to grow."

"That really is the thing that defines most of the activities you are going to see from us, and this is just the beginning of that jour-

ney," he said.

He explained that the offering comprises three primary value propositions: a dedicated M2M network separated from traditional voice and data traffic, a single rate for M2M data carried on any of its networks across Africa, and a platform that places control of remote devices and systems directly in the hands of customers.

MTN Business's Global SIM that enables the single-rate billing is seen as a key differentiator that will enable companies to expand their geographic footprint with ease and financial certainty.

Mg.co.za

HOW MUCH DOES A BABY COST IN FIRST YEAR?

...where the money goes in baby's first year.

THERE'S really no end to the amount of money you can spend on your baby in the first year.

While some items are definitely on the nice-to-have list, there are some costs that simply can't be avoided. We break down some of the big-ticket items and ways to save in baby's first year.

Birth costs

Government hospital

If you're giving birth in a government hospital, your birth will be free of charge – provided that you can supply the correct documentation (ID, proof of residence, bank statement within the last three months, or legal immigrant status).

However, midwife Burgie Ireland advises that "patients bring their own pillows, towels, toiletries, pads, nappies and baby clothes." She also suggests that you get family to bring you extra food and fluids.

BIRTHING CENTRE

Some mothers elect to give birth at a private or semi-private birthing centre (for example, the Genesis Clinic in Johannesburg).

These mothers choose it primarily because it facilitates natural labour in a homely setting, with the necessary medical facilities on hand, but it also has the advantage of lower costs than a private hospital.

Private birthing centre with natural birth cost: R4 655 to R11 125 with an additional R1 500 for an epidural. Private birthing centre with emergency caesarean: R7 000 to R23 760, depending on the length of the stay.

PRIVATE

In a private hospital, the costs are significantly higher and although your medical aid will cover a large portion of this, you need to check exactly what your specific package covers, because they often don't cover one hundred percent of your specialists' fees.

Natural birth at a private hospital: Expect an average of about R13 500 to R16 600 for a three-day stay, assuming no complications. For a planned caesarean birth at a private hospital, expect to pay approximately R22 600 to R25 500 for a four-day stay. (Based on Medi-Clinic Southern Africa rates for 2015.)

Note that this is only for the hospital service – your professional fees for your gynaecologist, anaesthetist and paediatrician are over and above that cost and likely to add at least



LIFE CHANGING DECISIONS: Planning for a baby.

another R12 000 to R15 000 to your bill.

These costs are all based on the assumption of a delivery with no complications. It is important to note that an emergency caesarean will have higher costs.

BREASTFEEDING COSTS

At a glance, breastfeeding may seem like a cost-free option, but there can be some costs involved – breastpads, nipple cream to soothe sore nipples (essential), a breast pump if you plan to express, and a feeding pillow to make you and your baby more comfortable.

- Breast pads: R83 – R190
- Nipple cream: R89 – R200
- Breast pump: R269 – R6 699
- Feeding pillow: R183 – R195

● High chair: When your baby transitions to solids at around six months old, you'll need a high chair to feed her. If you aren't offered a hand-me-down from a friend or family member, expect to pay between R599 and R2 300.

CHECK-UP COSTS

Immunisation and primary health care for any child under five is offered free of charge if you visit a government health clinic. What it will cost you is time – government clinics work on a first-come, first served basis, so expect to queue, possibly for hours.

However, if you get your immunisations through a private baby clinic, the costs will be in the ballpark of R5 000 in the first year. Yes, you read that right. Expect to pay between R500 and R1 000 per paediatrician visit. In addition, in the first year you'll most likely see your paediatrician for a six-week, 12-week and six-month check-up.

Baby's day out

Travel safety is one area where it pays to buy a recog-

nised brand with decent safety ratings. An infant car seat, which your baby will use up to about 12 months (or 10 kg), often comes as part of a travel system (pram and car seat), or you can buy the pram and car seat separately.

There is a massive variation in price – do your research, decide what functionality you need and what your budget can accommodate, and then choose accordingly. It is generally more cost-effective to buy a travel system than to buy the individual components separately.

- Pram/stroller: R699 – R11 100
- Infant car seat: R995 – R5 595
- Travel systems: R1 999 – R9 350

NURSERY RULES

The basics for a nursery include: somewhere for the baby to sleep, get changed and get clean – a cot, compactum and bath. A humidifier is a good investment and a baby monitor provides peace of mind when you're busy doing something else. Baby monitors range from basic noise monitoring to sophisticated video monitoring with remote access. As with all things baby, it depends on what functionality you want and what your budget allows, because the bells and whistles version comes at an equally premium price.

- Cot: R1 399 – R10 050
- Cot mattress: R249 – R1 500
- Baby monitor: R599 – R 3999, depending on how sophisticated you want your monitoring to be (optional).
- Compactum: R1 300 – R3 200 (optional)
- Baby bath: R199 – R600
- Bath thermometer: R55 – R65 (optional)
- Humidifier: R229 – R4 250 (optional)

Nappy choice

Nappies are indispensable – every baby needs them, so the choice boils down to disposable or reusable. Reusable nappies are the modern version of the old-school towelling nappies, which are still available, but which are more likely to be used as burping cloths by most new moms.

The initial outlay for new generation reusable nappies (not towelling nappies) is significantly higher, and you'll need to factor in laundry costs on multiple high-temperature loads through your washing machine. Yet over the course of your baby's nappy-wearing career, this is the greener or environmentally friendly choice.

Ultimately, it comes down to the yuck factor – would you rather throw away a fully loaded nappy or make the extra effort with a reusable nappy and avoid the guilty conscience about overflowing landfills?

If you opt for reusable or towelling nappies, 15 to 24 nappies is the recommended number to have.

Disposable

- Newborn babies: Work on 12 a day initially.
- Older babies: Six to eight per day.
- Wipes: Bulk is better, R90 – R100 for a bulk pack of four packs, approximately R180 – R200 per month

- Bum cream: R27 – R199

Reusable

- Reusable: R565 (newborn starter kit) to R1 450 (12 nappies and 3 covers)
- Towelling nappies: R60 – R80 for four, R360 – R480 for 24
- Waterproof covers: R90 – R320
- Nappy liners: R176 – R455 (bulk)
- Nappy bucket with lid: R229 – R449

CHILDCARE COSTS

This is another of the big expenses. Whether you have a childminder at home or send your child to crèche, this expense will make a dent in your monthly budget.

The most cost effective option is if a willing family member (often a granny) can take care of baby while you're at work, but this isn't always an option – especially for parents whose families live far away.

There is a wide range of costs for a crèche or daycare, and you'll need to look in your area at what is on offer, but expect to pay anything between R1 450 to R3 600 per month for a full-day crèche. *News24*

Wit and Wisdom

1. Inspiration and motivation may come from others, but true inspiration comes from within.
Catherine Pulsifer

2. Those moments when you woke up inspired or had a 'light bulb' come on – that is your intuition.
Michael Henson

3. Reflect on insights and revelations from your devotions, prayers that you've had, needs you've experienced in your personal life, scriptures or texts that are important or inspirational to you.
Meredith Lane

3. If you know what you want to achieve in life, then you are more inspired to change for the better."
Josh David

4. Do your best to spend time with your friends. They will keep you inspired, supported, and determined.
Felix Oberman

5. A Business Coach: provides encouragement, encourages open discussion, provides inspiration and motivation.
Byron & Catherine Pulsifer

5. I know that serving others has been a source of inspiration, a source of strength, a reinforcement of faith, and an illustration of my life's purpose." **Dr. Rachel Talton**

6. We are surrounded by infinite amounts of opportunities to inspire other people and bring total joy into our lives at the same time. **Frank Arrigazzi**

7. And no matter how old you are, find people older than you are who can inspire you.
Noelle C. Nelson

8. Your body houses the inspiration, the creative juices that give you the drive to change your direction and/or move forward.
Rebecca Jane

9. Intelligence manifests itself in a lot of ways. Inspiration, education, action, enlightenment, creative, awakening, exclusive, expressive.
Michele Gilbert

10. The purpose of visualization is just to give you a glimpse of the possible outcomes to inspire you to take consistent action."
Sandra Leon

11. Lack of clarity is not inspiring, and in fact the anxiety about not knowing where you are going is fairly contagious.
Cassie Parks

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

CONTACTS

Manqoba Makhubu
(7670 4606)
business@observer.org.sz
Tel: 2404 9600/1
Fax: 2404 5503
2404 6463

VITALS

Prime Rate 9.25%
First National bank

Inflation Rate 4.9%
Central Statistical Office

Mortgage Rate 8.25%
Swaziland Building Society

Bank Rate 5.75%
Central Bank

Petrol (u) E11.30 per litre
Replacement E11.35 per litre
Diesel E11.25 per litre
Paraffin E 7.45 per litre
Engen Garage

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES



Correct as at 28 January 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	16,4054	16,4554
British Pound/SZL	23,3661	23,4374
Japanese Yen/SZL	7,2068	7,2269
Swiss Franc/SZL	16,1391	16,1723
Botswana Pula/SZL	1,5060	1,5139
Australian Dollar/SZL	11,5494	11,5928
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11,6301	11,6622
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	2,7125	2,7584
Euro/SZL	17,8457	17,9001
Gold	1,117.5000	
Oil	31.5700	

For more information contact:
Standard Bank Global Markets Department
Direct Lines: +268 2404 1543 / 1544
Email: gmswaziland@standardbank.co.za



Standard Bank

Moving Forward

CENTRAL BANK HIKE RATE BY 0.5 PERCENT

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

THE Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) has hiked interest rates by a further 0.5 percent as the economy continues to take a strain.

The bank increased the 5.75 percent to 6.25 percent.

Citing the low levels of economic growth in the economy, with the GDP growth at 2.4 percent in 2014, falling to an estimated 1.7 percent in 2015 due to the drought which had also exacerbated upside risks to inflation, CBS Governor Majozi Sithole said the Monetary Policy Consultative Committee (MPCC) had formulated its monetary policy stance.

"Considering the international, regional and domestic economic conditions, and pursuing its price stability mandate, the bank decided to increase the bank rate by 0.5 percentage points from 5.75 percent to 6.25 percent," reads a statement endorsed by the central bank governor.

Reason

Sithole said the underlying reason for the hike in the bank rate was the increase in inflation.

Headline inflation increased from 4.5 percent in November 2015 to 4.9 percent in December 2015.

He said the rise in the bank rate was needed to harmonise interest rates in the region.

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) had also hiked interest rates by an equivalent percentage.



HIKE: The Central Bank of Swaziland. (INSET) CBS Governor Majozi Sithole.

Sithole said the increase in food inflation was mainly caused by hikes in prices of meat, vegetables and cereal products.

Adding, he said another notable increase came from the prices of furnishing and household equipment which rose from 5.4 percent in December 2015 due to hikes in prices on non household goods.

Credit

Credit extended to the private sector increased by 6.6 percent in November 2015, compared to 5.7 percent in September 2015.

The governor said what contributed to the rise of private sector credit was households which increased by 13.1 percent while credit to business fell by 0.2 percent in November 2015.

"Household credit was largely supported by increases in motor vehicle and housing finance. The fall in credit to the business sector was mainly recorded in

the agriculture and forestry, mining and quarrying, as well as manufacturing sectors," said Sithole. The governor said looking ahead; inflation was expected to increase in the second half of the year.

The country is likely to register a low harvest due to the prevailing drought that had been experienced towards the end of 2015 which was the start of the farming season and the beginning of 2016.

Weather

"Food prices are also expected to continue rising in the medium term as harsh weather conditions had affected South Africa, the largest producer, from which Swaziland sources its maize imports," he said.

South Africa had recorded a 33 percent decrease in maize production during the 2014/15 harvesting season. According to the Republic, the harvest in 2015/16 might further decline by 39 percent.

The governor said they would continue to monitor the developing inflationary pressures exacerbated by the regional drought and exchange rate depreciation.

The rand has slumped 30 percent against the dollar since the start of last year and has failed to break past the R15 mark. The push factors have included fears over emerging markets, a commodities rout, power shortages and also lost ground somewhat after a decision by President Jacob Zuma in December to fire Nhlanhla Nene as finance minister.

There have also been suggestions that the rand has been manipulated downwards by the big banks, which have either illegally manipulated the currency, or sold it short.

"The bank will not hesitate to take the necessary action at its disposal to ensure price stability supportive to economic growth and employment," he said.

...Gross domestic reserves at E9.4 billion

AS of January 2016, the country's gross domestic reserves amounted to E9.4 billion, however, they decreased by 3.9 percent from last week.

In a statement endorsed by Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) Governor Majozi Sithole, he said at this level

the gross official reserves were enough to cover 4.2 months of estimated imports, which was above the internationally acceptable minimum of three months.

Contraction

"The contraction in reserves was mainly a result of payment of government's exter-

nal obligations," said the governor.

Support

Sithole said based on the bank's desire to support growth and job creation as well as increase credit extension, their wish would be to avoid increasing the bank rate.

"However in an effort to avoid capital flight and reduce future inflation increases, the bank has decided to take this rate decision.

This is the minimum interest rate increase that the bank would take to contain the rising inflation in the economy and the harmful effects of capital outflows due to a high interest rate differential," he said.

CIC INTRODUCES NEW CONSTRUCTION LEVY

By Linda Dlamini

THE Construction Industry Council (CIC) intends to introduce a construction levy to aid the organisation to implement its strategic plan objectives.

The council's objectives are to promote the construction industry in meeting construction demand, provide strategic leadership to construction industry stakeholders to stimulate sustainable growth, reform and improvement of the construction sector as well as to promote, and develop the construction industry in Swaziland and give priority to Swazi firms and companies.

According to CIC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Nhlanhla Dlamini, the levy would be implemented on all public projects from E1 and private projects that would exceed E1 million.

He said projects applications that would require exemption from the levy would be made in writing to the council accompanied by justifiable reasons.

The CEO stressed that it would be the contractor who would be liable to pay the levy and not the client.

Eligible

"Private persons building residential dwellings below E1 million would not be eligible to pay the levy," he said.

He said penalties might be imposed where the levy had been underpaid, based on submitted wrong cost estimates, late or avoided payments.

Adding, Dlamini said extra levies might be sought where it appeared that the levy had been underpaid or based on incorrect cost estimates.

"Once the local authority or any other approving body approves

According to CIC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Nhlanhla Dlamini, the levy would be implemented on all public projects from E1 and private projects that would exceed E1 million.



INNOVATION: CIC CEO Nhlanhla Dlamini.

building plans, the developer shall register that project to the CIC," he said.

The CEO said upon submission of completed forms for registering the project, the CIC would calculate the applicable levy, issue an invoice for payment and a compliance certificate to the developer.

Regulatory

He said the CIC had consulted construction industry regulatory agencies in other countries which included the Malawi construction council, Zambia national construction council, Kenya National construction authority, construction industry board of Australia and the Hong Kong construction industry council.

Dlamini said the levy would be used to develop construction standards, development funds, information publication, establishment and maintenance of a library, trainings, seminars, exhibitions and public meetings to disseminate information about building and construction research.

SUMMARY OF THE LEVY CHARGES

Minimum Project Cost (E)	Maximum Project Cost (E)	Levy Payable (%)
1	2 000 000	1
2 000 001	5 000 000	0.8
5 000 001	10 000 000	0.75
10 000 001	15 000 000	0.6
15 000 001	No Limit	0.5

"The CIC will make independent assessments of how the available levy should be invested for Swaziland's construction industry levy," he said.

Dlamini said the implications on the construction industry of the levy were predicted by the council to result in an increase of about one percent maximum in construction costs.

Implications

With regards to legal implications, Dlamini said the council may cancel certificate of registration of any contractor if it was satisfied that the contractor had willingly violated any of the provisions of the Act.

"A contractor who fails to inform the council or refuses to abide to pay the council the levy due shall be liable to civil proceedings for the recovering of the levy due or deregistered," he said.

However, Kosi Capital Managing Director Theminkosi Dube said the new levy might distort property valuations as contractors might undervalue their real estate endeavour to avoid paying the levy.

"This will cause people not build big expensive houses to avoid the construction levy," said Dube.



CHANGE: Guests, staff and stakeholders who attended the ASYCUDA World launch that will be going live today.

Some traders resist SRA's ASYCUDA World

By Manqoba Makhubu

LIKE most new developments the implementation of the Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) new custom system has been challenged with resistance from few doubting 'Thomases'.

The Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) World will be going live today and totally out phase the current ASYCUDA++ system.

Speaking during the launch and Customs Day celebration dinner last Wednesday, SRA Commissioner General (CG) Dumisani Masilela said as a result of the resistance they were forced to defer a fraction of the system implementation due to a community of traders who were resisting change.

Implementation

"I am informed that we are forced to defer implementation of one module of the system because a certain section of our trading community is resisting this change," he said.

He said what he could not comprehend was that the fact that South African had introduced a similar system they were currently complying in the Republic.

"We are left to conclude that this reluctance to have this module activated on our side is under pinned by motives that are not so noble," he said.

Masilela said they had decided to give it some time as they engage the group which he didn't disclosed.

He said they would avail



STOP THE RESISTANCE: SRA Commissioner General Dumisani Masilela delivering his speech.

the technical details of the system through various platforms which included leaflets, media and other relevant platforms.

Technical details of the system are also available on the company website.

Implore

"May I further implore our traders to continue engaging us, especially through our contact centre, not only when they face challenges with this system, but also giving us feedback on how the system can be improved," he said.

ASYCUDA World is a computerised customs system which handles manifests, customs declarations, accounting procedures, as well as transit and suspense procedures. Over 80 countries around the world reportedly use the same customs systems technology.

SOUTH AFRICA ALSO HIKES INTEREST RATES

By Linda Dlamini

THE South African Reserve Bank (SARB) has also increased interest rates by 50 basis points to 6.75 percent and increased the prime rate to 10.25 percent.

"Given the deterioration in the inflation outlook, the MPC decided to increase the repurchase rate by 50 basis points to 6.75 percent per annum, effective from 29 January 2016," said Governor of the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) Lesetja Kganyago.

This means the repo rate, which is the rate at which the SARB lends the rate at which the SARB lends money to banks, will rise to 6.75 percent, consequently the prime lending rate would be 10.25 percent.

The prime rate is the rate at which

financial institutions lend money to its customers.

He said economic growth was expected to average to about 1.3 percent in 2016.

"The exchange rate of the rand depreciated markedly since the previous meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), contributing significantly to the deterioration in the inflation forecast," said Kganyago.

Announcement

The announcement was made in the Pretoria after a three-day meeting of the SARB MPC.

The governor stated that three members supported a 50 basis point increase, two members preferred a 25 basis point increase, while one member preferred no change.

This hike comes after the bank

increased rates by 25 basis points in both July and November 2015.

The governor said since the previous meeting of the MPC, the inflation outlook had deteriorated significantly, mainly due to exchange rate and food price developments.

Noted

"As noted on a number of occasions in the past, the MPC is of the view that the growth constraints facing the economy are primarily of a structural nature and cannot be solved solely by monetary policy," said Kganyago.

By virtue of Swaziland being a member to the Common Market Area (CMA), interest rate policies of South Africa have a large impact domestically.

Interest rates of Swaziland often fol-

low that of the South Africa, regardless of prevailing economic conditions, in an effort to eliminate currency mismatching. The water crisis has already

increased debt levels among households and affected food prices. An increase in interest rates will put pressure on household disposable income.

CBS PERMITS MTN TO EXTEND MOBILE MONEY LIMIT

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

SWAZI MTN has been given a green light to extend mobile money daily limit beyond the E4 000 benchmark from the Central Bank of Swaziland.

In October 2015 during the official launch of the customer service week, MTN Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ambrose Dlamini said mobile money circulation stood at about E40 million per day, with over 300 000 customers, and about 400 mobile money agents around the country.

Feedback

Dlamini said due to the feedback that they had been getting from customers, they were engaging the CBS to increase the maximum daily limit.

Addressing editors last Thursday at Mahlelekukhwindi House, he announced that they finally got clearance from the CBS to increase the limit.

"The central bank has allowed us to increase our mobile money wallet from E4 000," he said.

He said there had been a phenomenal growth in the acceptability and use of mobile money such that at times when there were technical glitches they would receive overwhelming protests from customers.

Adding, Dlamini said according to the company's findings, the service had increased financial inclusion, especially of the unbanked by 20 percent.

Secure

"This service is not only secure, but it is also available throughout the country. It is celebrated as having contributed to improve financial inclusion in the country," he said.

He said the public could reduce unnecessary transport cost by using widely dispersed mobile money agents across the country for transferring money.

Dlamini said they were once invited by

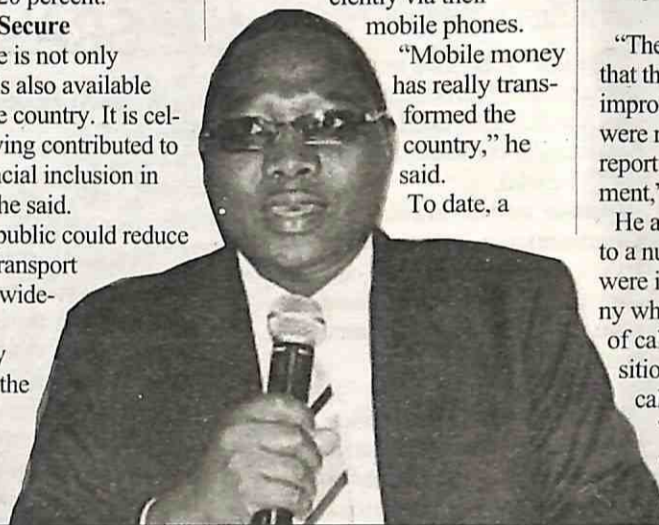
government in 2014 to tender for the payment of elderly grants, but lost the tender to Swaziland Post and Telecommunications (SPTC).

"We have a new idea which is school fees payment using mobile money," he said.

The service was launched in 2011 to enable Swazis to send and receive money safe and efficiently via their mobile phones.

"Mobile money has really transformed the country," he said.

To date, a



MOBILE MONEY EXTENTION: MTN Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ambrose Dlamini.

number of financial institutions have collaborated with the company to enable a fast, easy and reliable channel of moving money.

Meanwhile, Dlamini said they were pleased by the findings reflected by the company's perception report, 2015.

As reported by Dlamini the survey was conducted by an independent consultant.

Positive

"The perception figures show that there has been a positive improvement, at first the results were not that good, however, the report shows a huge improvement," he said.

He attributed the improvement to a number of changes that were introduced by the company which include the reduction of call rates, especially the transition from call per minute to call per second.

"This development saw our customers paying for the actual time used during a call, rather than being charged per minute regardless of how much they had used," he said.

...MTN to re-invest yellow care prize in CSR

SWAZI MTN to plough back the 21 Days of Yellow Care E600 000 second runners up prize into its social corporate responsibility programmes.

Last year, Swazi MTN was selected as the runner-up, out of 22 countries, in the 21 Days of Yellow Care.

Swazi MTN Chief Executive Officer Ambrose Dlamini said they had decided to re-invest the money back to the programme.

He said the company through its social corporate responsibility wing had invested about 60 percent in education.

"That is partly why last year we officially rolled out MTN Educare Radio to support learners in the areas of Mathematics and Science at Secondary and high school level," he said.

He said they were planning to expand the horizon of MTN Educare Radio programme by venturing into television, to simplify learning for students in the areas of Mathematics and Science.

"Will continue to invest in social responsibility initiatives, and also provide sponsorships, as we have been doing," said Dlamini.

Adding, Dlamini said they would continue to come up with new products and services in the digital space, as well as scale up public education through both the print and electronic media.

"The business unit within MTN will continue to provide ICT services space for SMEs. These will be shared with the media in due course," he said.

Lack of training stumbling block for most SMEs

By Sikhulisile Vilakati

LULOTE BMEP Executive Director Patrick Masirirambi says the major stumbling block of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) is the lack of training in business management.

This sends a very clear message there is work to be done and the government must continue to investing in small and particularly micro businesses, the shop owners, hairdressers, local pubs, to ensure they are properly supported and can continue to flourish.

He said it was mostly SMEs who undertook business management training, who had better chances of succeeding.

Business

"If you plan to venture into business or want to improve the management practices in your business, business management training is an essential initial phase," he said.

He said training provided nine basic elements for business success which were, improved organisation, good record keeping, competition analysis, understanding risks and rewards, enhancing creativity, staying focused, making sacrifices, providing fine customer service and maintaining consistency.

"Just because you opened a business doesn't mean that you're going to immediately start making money, it takes time to let people know who you are," he said. He said numerous people started a business thinking that they would turn on their computers or open

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"WE TURN YOUR IDEAS INTO PROFIT"

A member of the ILO
entrepreneurship training group

their doors and start making money but only to find that making money in a business was much more strenuous than they initially thought.

"You can avoid this in your business ventures by considering various interventions some of which are training and mentorship.

There is need for one to start planning out all the necessary steps to reach or achieve success," he said.

Masirirambi said there was a strong need for those going into business to equip themselves with prerequisite skills before venturing into trade.

"Identifying a business idea alone is not adequate, it does not matter that the business has been around for some time, training and mentorship are necessary to obtain new skills and methods of doing business," he said.

He said most SMEs could not prepare a comprehensive business plan which could help them access loans, they were failing to keep records, unable to scan the environment, failing to price their products, and to learn from experienced business acumens.

With regards to record keeping, Masirirambi said all successful businesses kept records.

"All successful businesses keep detailed records. By keeping detailed records, you'll know where the business stands financially and what potential challenges you could be facing. Just knowing this gives you time to create strategies to overcome the obstacles that can prevent you from being successful and growing your business," he said. He also urged SMEs to study and learn from competitors.

"After all, they may be doing something right that you can implement in your business to make more money," he said. Masirirambi said SMEs should always look for ways to improve your business and make it stand out from the competition.

"Consistency is a key component to making money in business. You have to consistently keep doing the things necessary to be successful day in and out. This will create long-term positive habits that will help you make money in the long term," he said.

BUSINESS EXTRA

TAX: DID THE PRESIDENCY LIE TO YOU?

JOHANNESBURG - The government appears to have lied when it said there had been thorough consultations with its social partners on the Tax Laws Amendment Act containing retirement reforms.

Independent Media can reveal that claims made by the Presidency and Treasury this week that there had been a total of 15 meetings with labour, business and community representatives to engage on the controversial reforms at the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC) are false.

Minutes of meetings held by Nedlac's Public Finance Chamber and Retirement Reform Task Team between October 26, 2012 - when government first tabled the retirement reform proposals - and August 25 last year, proved COSATU and other unions had been right in their contestation of the government's version of events. Independent Media is in possession of the minutes and a Nedlac status update report dated January 2016, which says: "A NEDLAC report was not produced, given that the engagements on Tax Harmonisation Proposals, of

which Retirement Reforms are part, were not finalised at Nedlac."

According to the organisation's protocols, a NEDLAC report is the official and public report on the consideration of a matter by NEDLAC which captures agreements and disagreements on matters. Nedlac spokeswoman Kim Jurgensen also confirmed that no such report existed on the contested laws. "There is no Nedlac report on the retirement reforms/Taxation Laws Amendment Act," she said. However, this week the Presidency stood its ground that it had followed all due processes.

"There was an extensive consultation process over the Tax Administration Laws Amendment Act, spanning two years, before it was signed into law by President Jacob Zuma. Media reports that there was no consultation are incorrect and misleading," read a statement it released on Wednesday. According to the recorded minutes, there were only three meetings held in 2014 by the task team established to discuss the retirement reforms, and there were no engagements on the actual laws which were only proposals at that stage. *Labour Bureau*

Nigeria in w

...Things lobby of the

LAGOS - Onele V his colleagues are the rising cost of li So they decided to about it and led a no a top Lagos hotel w work.

"Things are more rent is high, food is Vincent told AFP l lobby of the Southe a favourite of the m politicians and exp "Everything has i yet the staff salary the same."

Vincent and the o

RENAMO defen

MAPUTO - Gun former rebel mo attacked a posi security forces at Morrumbala dis province of Zam

According to a r daily 'Noticias', t members of the p tect the country's seriously injured i shooting had finis to the nearest heal Zero is about 20 where Renamo lat new military base. 'General Staff Hea located on the cou road. In the wake o movement of vehic the road was interr

The independent sought further infor from Jacinto Felix, Zambezia Provinc said he could say no team dispatched to The police have pro conference on Frida The Zero attack is the agreement on a c hostilities signed on RENAMO leader A the then President A agreement was supp definitive end the lov RENAMO had been 2013, mainly in Sofa the RENAMO attack vehicles using the m way. The attack also threats from Dhlakar six northern and cent



BRIEFS

Scores arrested over suspected IS links

KIGALI - Rwandan police have arrested several people suspected of being linked to Islamic State, less than a week after the police killed a preacher accused of encouraging youths to join the militant group. Police declined to say exactly how many people were arrested but said at least some of the suspects they had been pursuing had fled the country. On Monday, police detained Muhammad Mugemangango, the deputy imam at Kigali's Kimironko Mosque, and accused him of recruiting for the Islamic State, which is fighting in Iraq and Syria.

Reuters

New claims of sex abuse by peacekeepers

GENEVA - New allegations have surfaced of child sexual abuse in the Central African Republic (CAR) involving United Nations (UN) peacekeepers and troops serving in a European mission and in France's Sangaris operation. UN rights chief Zeid Ra'ad al-Husseini described the latest claims as 'extremely serious allegations' and said it was 'crucial that these cases are thoroughly and urgently investigated'. The new cases linking EU and French troops are said to date to 2014 but were discovered only in recent weeks as a result of a UN investigation. *Afp*

Zuma's allies in revolt against Gupta

PRETORIA - President Jacob Zuma's closest political allies this week broke ranks with the president over his close ties to the influential Gupta family, in a move that has isolated Zuma and laid bare growing hostility in ANC circles to the family. Although there have long been whispers about the family's close ties to Zuma and some of his ministers, this week COSATU and SACP leaders went public with their growing irritation at the influence the Guptas are said to have on some leaders. SACP deputy general secretary Solly Mapaila sparked a debate this week at the ANC's national executive committee lekgotla, which was attended by Zuma, saying the Guptas were the "elephant in the room". *Times Live*



DEBATE:
SACP deputy
general secretary
Solly
Mapaila.

Seven die as boat capsizes in Lagos

LAGOS - Seven people died on Saturday when a passenger boat capsized after hitting an object in the port city of Lagos, Nigeria's economic capital, a spokesperson for the state-run emergency agency (NEMA) said. The boat was taking 17 passengers from Ijede in the Ikorodu area of the city to Badore when it hit an object and capsized at about 10:20am, Ibrahim Farinloye told AFP. "Seven people are confirmed dead. We recovered four bodies at the scene while three others died in the hospital," he said. *Afp*

Girl killed after bakkie hit from behind

DURBAN - A seven-year-old girl who was seated at the back of a bakkie was killed when their vehicle was rear-ended by another car on Saturday evening in KwaZulu-Natal, said paramedics. The incident happened on the N2 South near the Higginson Highway, said Netcare 911 spokesperson, Chris Botha. "A further nine people miraculously escaped with only minor injuries. Medics treated the injured at the scene before transporting them to various hospitals for the care that they required," Botha said. *News24*

Nigeria faces currency woes in wake of oil price plunge

... "Things are more expensive, rent is high, food is high," Vincent told AFP last week in the lobby of the Southern Sun hotel, a favourite of the moneyed elite, politicians and expatriates

LAGOS - Onele Vincent and his colleagues are fed up with the rising cost of living.

So they decided to do something about it and led a noisy protest at a top Lagos hotel where they work.

"Things are more expensive, rent is high, food is high," Vincent told AFP last week in the lobby of the Southern Sun hotel, a favourite of the moneyed elite, politicians and expatriates.

"Everything has increased and yet the staff salary has remained the same."

Vincent and the other hotel

workers are far from lone voices in Nigeria, where many are feeling the pain as Africa's biggest oil producer struggles to adapt to the record lows of global oil prices and its naira currency is under devaluation pressure.

Daily newspaper headlines warn of "Hard times ahead", while many billboards in the commercial hub of Lagos stand stark white, just blank signs, an indication that companies are trimming costs.

Even high fliers are taking a hit. Importers of French wine complain that demand has dried up.

Luxury car dealers and real estate agents say business has dwindled.

Africa's leading economy is projected to have grown by 3.0 percent in 2015, its slowest pace in over a decade, according to an International Monetary Fund report in January.

Invested

Unlike Norway, which invested hundreds of billions of dollars of its oil money into stocks, bonds and real estate, Nigeria spent its riches when times were good.

Now that crude prices have slumped more than two-thirds

since \$100 per barrel in mid-2014, Nigeria is exposed.

Dollar reserves currently stand at a low of \$28 billion — \$20 billion less than in April 2013. There is only enough for five months of imports for a country heavily dependent on foreign goods.

While the huge drop in oil prices is a major headache for Nigeria, analysts say it is the government's response that is the biggest cause for concern. The central bank governor, Cess, dollars needed for imports.

AFP

RENAMO attacks defence forces

MAPUTO - Gunmen of Mozambique's former rebel movement RENAMO attacked a position of the defence and security forces at the village of Zero, in Morrumbala district, in the central province of Zambezia.

According to a report of the Maputo daily 'Noticias', three forest wardens, members of the police unit set up to protect the country's natural resources, were seriously injured in the clash. Once the shooting had finished, they were evacuated to the nearest health unit.

Zero is about 20 kilometres from Sabe where Renamo late last year established a new military base, which it called a 'General Staff Headquarters'. Zero is also located on the country's main north-south road. In the wake of the shooting the movement of vehicles along this stretch of the road was interrupted for several hours.

Independent

The independent newsheet 'Mediafax' sought further information on the incident from Jacinto Felix, spokesperson for the Zambezia Provincial Police Command. He said he could say nothing until a police team dispatched to Zero reported back. The police have promised to hold a press conference on Friday.

The Zero attack is a blatant violation of the agreement on a cessation of military hostilities signed on September 5, 2014 by RENAMO leader Afonso Dhlakama and the then President Armando Guebuza. This agreement was supposed to bring to a definitive end the low-level insurrection RENAMO had been waging since June 2013, mainly in Sofala province. Many of the RENAMO attacks in 2013-14 targeted vehicles using the main north-south highway. The attack also follows the repeated threats from Dhlakama to seize power in six northern and central provinces (including Zambezia) as from March.

All Africa

BAN KI-MOON SLAMS AFRICA'S POWER-HUNGRY LEADERS AT AU SUMMIT

JOHANNESBURG - United Nations Chief Ban Ki-moon has slammed African leaders who cling to power.

He was speaking at the opening of the African Union summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Saturday, "Leaders should never use undemocratic, constitutional changes and legal loopholes to cling to power. Leaders must protect their people not themselves. I commend those leaders who committed to stepping aside and respect constitutional term limits, I call on all to follow their example," said the UN secretary general. - *eNCA*



PROTECT PEOPLE: Speaking at the opening of the African Union summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Saturday, Ban Ki-moon said leaders must protect the people not themselves. (File pic)

Mugabe rants at whites, Obama

ADDIS ABABA - President Robert Mugabe was given a standing ovation by his peers at the African Union (AU) summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, over the weekend as he handed over the chair of the body with a rousing speech, filled with more than his usual invective against former colonists, imperialists, Westerners, US President Barack Obama, the United Nations and whites.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon squirmed in his seat on the podium when the 91-year-old Mugabe - still feisty despite the annual eruption of rumours about his death this

month - threatened that Africa would walk out of the UN unless it was given permanent representation on the UN Security Council.

"We have asked and asked and asked for security council reform," he said, adding that Africans were tired of making "hollow speeches" at the UN with no results. He said Africans were not real members of the UN, only those with white skins were members and if they decided one day "down with the UN" they would walk out of it.

"If the UN is to survive, we [Africa] must be equal members of it," he said to loud applause. "You're a good man,

Mr Ban Ki-moon, but we can't make you a fighter. That's not what your mission was. But we shall fight for our own identity and personality as Africans." He told Ban to tell the UN that Africans "are also human, not ghosts. Tell them, that we also belong to the world". He said the UN's headquarters in New York was misplaced and should be in a more populous country, such as China, India, or in Africa.

Yet Africans and others were placed there [New York] with the "white faces and pink noses next to us - yet how many are they compared to us?" *Independent Foreign Service*

Economy growing too slowly, ANC warned



WORD OF ADVICE: Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davies.

JOHANNESBURG - The ANC has received a warning from one of its cabinet ministers that the country was well off the level of growth needed to achieve its "radical economic transformation".

The party has also been urged to speed up the transition from an economy dominated by the production and exports of gold, diamonds and other primary commodities.

The mining sector was unlikely to create more jobs in the near future but would in all likelihood shed more of them. While government remained the biggest employer, the public sector was also unlikely to provide more prospects of further employment.

The warning was delivered by Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davies at the party's NEC lekgotla in Pretoria, when he tabled a report on the economic outlook for the country in the current tough conditions.

Davies painted a picture of a country that would struggle to create jobs in the future if it continued to rely heavily on the exports of primary commodities.

While he said the economy was still creating jobs with substantial gains in the agriculture, construction and financial services sectors, there were still significant job losses in the mining sector. "Notwithstanding global and domestic headwinds, the South African economy continues to grow."

But we are well off the five percent inclusive growth needed for radical economic transformation," said Davies.

Construction

The fall of commodity prices also had a knock-on effect in manufacturing, construction and services.

Agriculture was seen as still having "potentially among the fastest job creation potential", but was being negatively affected by the drought.

"Above all, the crisis underscores the need for South Africa and Africa to accelerate transition from an economy dominated by production and exports of primary commodities," said Davis. 00 000 jobs (period unspecified).

The Sunday Independent

Prasa money trail: R80m to Zuma's friends

JOHANNESBURG - Questionable payments, totalling almost R80m, were made to an Angolan businesswoman who is close friends with President Jacob Zuma, and to a controversial lawyer who is the business partner of one of his sons, according to Rapport's lead story yesterday.

According to the newspaper, investigators into the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa's (Prasa) controversial R3.5bn contract for new locomotives are probing suspicious payments made by the managing director of Swifambo Rail Leasing - the contractor - which they say possibly point to "massive corruption" during the deal.

The company of a Maria da Cruz Gomes - who, according to the report, is an Angolan businesswoman who Zuma regularly visited in her plush home in a

Sandton complex - allegedly received payments totalling about R40m from Auswell Mashaba, Swifambo's MD.

Mashaba also allegedly made payments totalling nearly R39m to the law firm of George Sabelo, a business partner of Zuma's eldest son. Sabelo was implicated in the 2013 PetroSA corruption scandal after it came to light that he had channelled some R11m related to PetroSA contracts to unknown third parties.

Rapport claims to have documents detailing how Mashaba paid nearly R80m to Similex, Gomes's company, and to Sabelo's law firm, Nkosi Sabelo, during 2013 and 2014, following Prasa's first tranches of payments to Mashaba's company.

Rapport reported that the locomotives in question were too tall for parts of South Africa's rail network.

Times Live

SACP ACCUSES ANC OF DISRUPTING MEETING

LIMPOPO - The South African Communist Party (SACP) in the Limpopo province has accused its alliance partner the African National Congress (ANC) of disrupting a meeting at Turfloop near the provincial capital of Polokwane.

It charged that the meeting - to commemorate the 21st anniversary of the death of struggle hero Joe Slovo as well as the Right to Learn campaign - was disrupted by "a bunch of thugs trucked in by the African National Congress (ANC) branch chairperson of Ward 4 near the University of Limpopo outside Polokwane".

"The mob, which arrived in a mini truck, started singing anti-

SACP songs and became unruly, holding the meeting hostage. The mob of thugs then went on to collapse the marquee under which the meeting was held and disconnected electric power switching off the sound system. "Some of the hooligans were visibly drunk. They shouted down invited speakers from the South African National Civic Organisation (SANCO) and the Young Communist League (YCLSA) and then collapsed the marquee when the SACP Provincial Secretary was short of finishing his address. The South African Police Services were called to the scene to eject the hooligans from the meeting," the SACP said. *Times Live*

Mbete urges national dialogue on racism

JOHANNESBURG - ANC national chairwoman Baleka Mbete has urged the party faithful to take the lead in a countrywide dialogue on racism, rather than allow anger to drain their energy.

She said while some people were still "deeply, very racist" two decades into democracy, the children of today "must move into the future not burdened by our baggage from the past". "Even you who are young people right now, ngomso (tomorrow) you will be a parent, a grandparent... what is the legacy we want to leave for those children?" Mbete asked during a rally marking the party's 104th anniversary in the Boland town of Grabouw on Saturday.

Children were already going to school together without the colour of their skin being an issue and should not have to grow up "preoccupied with issues of racism", Mbete said.

In a nod to the groundswell of anger over recent incidents of racism, she said it was only human to be angered, but "the instruction of the leadership of the ANC is that we must not allow ourselves to be burdened by racism". *Political Bureau*



REQUEST: ANC national chairwoman Baleka Mbete.



EXPLAINING: Herman Mashaba at his home in Atholl, with his wife, Connie, and daughter Khensani. (Pic: Simphiwe Nkwali)

Mashaba on Joburg mayoral race: 'Zuma made me do it'

JOHANNESBURG - He is a political rookie and, audaciously, he is eyeing the post of Johannesburg mayor. Herman Mashaba doesn't need the R1.2-million pay cheque that comes with running the country's economic hub.

He has enough of that thanks to an empire built on the back of Black Like Me, a haircare range that turned him into a household name.

But can the 56-year-old, who has been put forward as the DA's mayoral candidate, unseat ANC heavyweight Parks Tau to claim the city for the opposition?

Can he capture voters in Bruma or Eldorado Park or on East Avenue, Atholl, the wealthy northern suburb enclave where he has

lived for the past 20 years?

More importantly, does Mashaba have what it takes to strike a chord with millions of residents of Soweto, Diepsloot or Alexandra?

Easy, he declares. "I'm a civil servant and not a politician... the people who were voted in have proved that they are not working for the masses, they are working for themselves," says Mashaba in a general reference to public concerns about corruption.

But his foray into politics has had a bumpy start, with controversial comments about BEE.

"A commissioner of oaths has to confirm that I am black? That's all I was saying. Why do I have to prove that I'm black? This was taken out of context."

Times Live

SA receives accolade for curbing malaria

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa was awarded an African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) award, for achieving the malaria millennium development goal target, at the African Union summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Saturday. Since the turn of the millennium, malaria cases have decreased in South Africa by 82% and malaria deaths have decreased by 71%.

The Presidency said the decrease in malaria cases is attributed to a sound malaria vector control programme, in which South Africa has used dichlorodiphenyl-

trichloroethane, or DDT, odourless insecticide for indoor residual spraying, coupled with other interventions recommended by the World Health Organisation.

"We are honoured to receive this 2016 ALMA Award, which recognises the efforts that our programme in South Africa has made not only in the past decade but also investments we have made to fight malaria since the 1940s," said President Jacob Zuma after receiving the award during the ALMA meeting for AU heads of state and government. *eNCA*

- Abul Bajandar, 25, from Khulna, suffers from a rare skin disorder known as Epidermodysplasia Verruciformis
- Condition means that wart-like lesions, resembling tree branches and bark, grow from his hands and feet
- Medics have now come together to discuss treatment - seven years after he began suffering from the disorder

DHAKA - A Bangladeshi man dubbed as the tree-man because of wart-like lesions growing from his hands and feet has been admitted to hospital.

Abul Bajandar, 25, from Khulna, has been suffering from a disease known as Epidermodysplasia Verruciformis - a rare and inherited skin disorder - for the past seven years. Doctors at the Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) will now decide on his treatment after forming a medical board of experts. The rare inherited skin disorder means gnarled growths sprout from his hands and feet. Medics will now decide on his treatment after forming a medical board of experts in Bangladesh

THE MAN WHO'S TURNING INTO A TREE:

...Bangladeshi suffers rare condition that causes tree-like 'roots' to grow from his hands and feet

Bajandar sits on his bed at a hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh, as medics come together to discuss possible treatments for him

The skin condition, which is inherited, causes wart-like lesions on the body. *Daily Mail*

(R) TREE LIKE 'ROOTS': Abul Bajandar, 25, from Khulna, in Bangladesh, has been suffering from a disease known as Epidermodysplasia verruciformis, where tree-like roots grow from his hands.



INHERITED: The rare inherited skin disorder means gnarled growths sprout from his hands and feet. Medics will now decide on his treatment after forming a medical board of experts in Bangladesh.



What is epidermodysplasia verruciformis?

EPIDERMODYSPLASIA verruciformis (EV) is a rare and inherited skin disorder which creates wart-like lesions anywhere on the body.

The condition is caused by infection with the human papillomavirus and can create widespread skin eruptions, including wartlike lesions and reddish-brown pigmented plaques.

In order to inherit the disease two abnormal EV genes, one from each parent, must be present. No serious treatment against EV has been found, yet several treatments have been suggested.

Notable cases include a Romanian man named Ion Toader who was diagnosed with the condition in March 2007, and the Dede Koswara, from Indonesia.

Dr Samanta Lal Sen, chief coordina-

tor of National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery of the DMCH, made the announcement today.

On duty doctors visited Bajandar at the burn unit, where he had been admitted today.

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knee as a teenager.

He was later sacked from his job and shunned by neighbours when the branch-like growths covered much of his body and stopped him from working. At the time it was reported that he would need at least two operations every year.

Previously, Koswara was forced to take part in a circus act in Bandung in order to make ends meet.

But once his case was publicised donations from the public began to flood in for his treatment.

On duty doctors from a burns unit are expected to visit Bajandar, who is pictured lying on a hospital bed in Dhaka. The rickshaw-puller, who has been suffering from the rare skin disorder for seven years, is checked over by a doctor at the hospital. The condition means that branch-like growths sprout from Bajandar's hands, which are placed on a hospital bed above. *Daily Mail*

BACK TO WORK!!!!

WRITING TABLE (2283-E) 1.6M. 7 DRAWERS
E1399 ea

OFFICE TABLE (3011-B) 1.650M. 6 DRAWERS
E1699 ea

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ALSO AVAILABLE IN BLACK

STUDENT DESK WITH DRAWERS
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- Abul Bajandar, 25, from Khulna, suffers from a rare skin disorder known as Epidermodysplasia Verruciformis
- Condition means that wart-like lesions, resembling tree branches and bark, grow from his hands and feet
- Medics have now come together to discuss treatment - seven years after he began suffering from the disorder

THE MAN WHO'S TURNING INTO A TREE:

...Bangladeshi suffers rare condition that causes tree-like 'roots' to grow from his hands and feet

DHAKA - A Bangladeshi man dubbed as the tree-man because of wart-like lesions growing from his hands and feet has been admitted to hospital.

Abul Bajandar, 25, from Khulna, has been suffering from a disease known as Epidermodysplasia Verruciformis - a rare and inherited skin disorder - for the past seven years. Doctors at the Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) will now decide on his treatment after forming a medical board of experts. The rare inherited skin disorder means gnarled growths sprout from his hands and feet. Medics will now decide on his treatment after forming a medical board of experts in Bangladesh

Bajandar sits on his bed at a hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh, as medics come together to discuss possible treatments for him

The skin condition, which is inherited, causes wart-like lesions on the body. *Daily Mail*

(R) TREE LIKE 'ROOTS': Abul Bajandar, 25, from Khulna, in Bangladesh, has been suffering from a disease known as Epidermodysplasia verruciformis, where tree-like roots grow from his hands.



INHERITED: The rare inherited skin disorder means gnarled growths sprout from his hands and feet. Medics will now decide on his treatment after forming a medical board of experts in Bangladesh.



What is epidermodysplasia verruciformis?

EPIDERMODYSPLASIA verruciformis (EV) is a rare and inherited skin disorder which creates wart-like lesions anywhere on the body.

The condition is caused by infection with the human papillomavirus and can create widespread skin eruptions, including wartlike lesions and reddish-brown pigmented plaques.

In order to inherit the disease two abnormal EV genes, one from each parent, must be present. No serious treatment against EV has been found, yet several treatments have been suggested.

Notable cases include a Romanian man named Ion Toader who was diagnosed with the condition in March 2007, and the Dede Koswara, from Indonesia.

Dr Samanta Lal Sen, chief coordina-

tor of National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery of the DMCH, made the announcement today.

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BRIEFS

Thousands protest plan to permit gay unions

ROME – Thousands of people opposed to gay rights are gathering in Rome's Circus Maximus to protest against legislation that would permit marriage-style unions for same-sex couples and grant them legal recognition as families. Massimo Gandolfini, organiser of Saturday's "Family Day" protest, told Sky Tg24: "Italy is one of the few western countries that is still resisting this deviation." Premier Matteo Renzi's coalition government intends to legalise same-sex civil unions and permit homosexuals to adopt the biological children of their partners. But some Cabinet ministers are expressing dissent. **Reuters**

One die in shooting, stabbing

LOS ANGELES – A shooting and stabbing at a large motorcycle show in the western US state of Colorado has killed one person and injured at least six others, officials said. The early afternoon incident in Denver prompted a precautionary lockdown at a local hospital where the wounded were taken. "During the disturbance, there were shots fired and at least one stabbing," Denver police spokesperson Raquel Lopez told reporters. "We do have one deceased party and multiple other victims. At this time, we do not have anyone in custody." **AP**

Turkey issue threatens

ISTANBUL – Turkey has warned Russia that it will suffer the 'consequences' if its fighter jets continue to violate Turkish airspace, after Ankara reports a new infringement by a Russian bomber. NATO-member Turkey said another Russian warplane violated its airspace despite several warnings – just two months after its military shot down a Russian jet for crossing over Turkish borders. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said "If Russia continues the violations of Turkey's sovereign rights, it will be forced to endure the consequences." **Daily Mail**



Obama to meet with Muslims

WASHINGTON – In a public show of support, President Barack Obama will meet with Muslim community members on Wednesday in Baltimore on his first presidential visit to an American mosque. Obama plans to hold talks with Muslim leaders at the Islamic Society of Baltimore, the White House announced Saturday. The visit will amount to a public embrace of Muslims by Obama at a time when public sentiment against them seems to be growing, largely fuelled by fears of terrorist acts carried out by extremist groups. **Reuters**

Germany tightens asylum rules

BERLIN – Germany moved to tighten its asylum laws to slow a record migrant influx as Chancellor Angela Merkel sought to bridge deep European rifts over the crisis in talks with Italy's Matteo Renzi. Late last Thursday Merkel's coalition government, after months of wrangling, hammered out a deal to limit numbers by blocking some migrant family reunifications and declaring three North African nations 'safe countries of origin'. The agreement means citizens of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia will have little chance of gaining political asylum, echoing steps Germany took for several Balkan countries last year. **DPA**



WHITE HOUSE HOPEFULS IN FRANTIC SPRINT TO IOWA VOTE

DES MOINES – Months into their campaigns, US presidential candidates were suddenly racing against time over the weekend in a final frenzied weekend of persuasion politics before Iowa kicks off the nomination process.

Democrat Hillary Clinton, fearful of a 2008 repeat when she was beaten to the punch in Iowa by an upstart Barack Obama, was leaving nothing to chance, stumping in the heartland as Senator Bernie Sanders did the same, seeking to deny her yet another shot at history.

Republican Donald Trump and his nearest Ted Cruz made unmasked appeals to the evangelical conservatives so important in the first-in-the-nation contest.

And long-shot candidates like Carly Fiorina made their pitch to voters too, reminding them that polls are notoriously unreliable in Iowa, where political upsets are commonplace.

The three Democrats and 12 Republicans aiming to be their party's 2016 torchbearer are leaving it all on the field in Iowa, hosting several dozen events across this snow-swept heartland state as they gear up for today's debut vote in the presidential marathon.

The state is small and relatively homogeneous, but it is immensely consequential for the top finishers who can claim momentum heading into the primary in New Hampshire.

On the Republican side, it is bil-

lionaire Trump at the fore, tearing up the traditional playbook and largely avoiding the retail politics that require candidates to put in days and weeks in Iowa.

But he made the requisite appeal to evangelicals, who comprised 57% of caucus voters in 2012 and are expected to play a huge part in the February 1 vote.

Bible

Trump posted a short video on Facebook, showing him holding up a Bible given to him by his mother. "I want to thank the evangelicals. I will never let you down," he said.

At a Saturday rally in Dubuque, he expressed his usual confidence – "If we win Iowa we can run the table!" – while knocking Cruz, repeating his concerns about the

senator being born in Canada and questioning his eligibility to be president.

Cruz is locked in a do-or-die battle with Trump in Iowa, and is counting on a strong evangelical turnout to help propel him to victory here.

"We need godly wisdom back in the White House," Cruz supporter Pam Cobb said at a Cruz rally in Ida Grove, in northwest Iowa.

Getting 'heated'

Hovering in third place is Republican Senator Marco Rubio, whose star is seen as rising perhaps just at the right time.

"You have a right to be angry," Rubio told more than 300 people at a university hall in Ames, Iowa.

AFP



DANCER: The jaywalking lemur who could be auditioning for a role in Madagascar. This cheeky chap was spotted 'dancing' across a road in the manner Julien, the all-dancing 'lord of the lemurs', would have been proud of on the island, which lies off the coast of Madagascar. But sights like this are becoming increasingly rare, as deforestation threatens the sifaka lemurs, which developed the unusual method of moving so they could get away from predators quickly. (**Daily Mail**)

Syrian opposition relents on peace talks

GENEVA – Representatives of Syria's largest mainstream opposition umbrella group were to arrive in Geneva on Saturday evening, allaying fears they would boycott UN-brokered talks aimed at ending the country's brutal civil war.

A delegation from the Saudi-backed High Negotiations Committee (HNC) was preparing to leave Riyadh, spokesman Monzer Makhouz told AFP.

"We will be arriving this evening in Geneva," he said, adding that HNC chief Riad Hijab would join the delegation later.

The announcement came after the group grudgingly relented late on Friday to Western and Saudi

pressure to attend the talks, the biggest push to date to chart a way out of Syria's nearly five-year war.

The HNC representatives will be arriving a day late for the UN-backed talks. On Friday, a 16-member delegation representing Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's regime held nearly three hours of preliminary talks with UN special envoy Staffan de Mistura.

HNC had long refused to join the talks without an end to bombardments of civilians and an agreement on relief reaching hundreds of thousands of people stuck in besieged Syrian towns.

But their about-face does not mean the situation on the ground has improved. **AFP**

Muslims in UK top three million for first time

LONDON – England is home to more than three million Muslims for the first time ever, new figures show.

The number in the country has doubled in just over a decade as a result of soaring immigration and high birth rates.

In some parts of London, close to half the population are now Muslims, according to detailed analysis by the Office for National Statistics obtained by The Mail on Sunday. On current trends they will be the majority in those areas within a decade.

Half of those following Islam in England and Wales were born abroad while more are under 10 years old than in any other age group, indicating their numbers will grow still further in generations to come.

The three million milestone – representing one in 20 people across the country – will reignite debate about the changing face of Britain amid growing calls for all Muslims to integrate into society. Education watchdog Ofsted has

warned that schools could be branded failing if veil-wearing by students or teachers is deemed a 'barrier to learning' and yesterday Britain's most senior judge, Lord Neuberger, said there were 'serious difficulties' with witnesses giving evidence in criminal trials with covered faces.

David Cameron has called on Muslim women to help the fight against extremism by learning English, while Theresa May is setting up an independent review of Islamic courts amid fears that the Sharia code discriminates against women.

Another review, ordered by Justice Secretary Michael Gove, is investigating fears that the growing number of Muslims behind bars – now one in five inmates in Category A jails – is fuelling radicalisation. **Daily Mail**

MUSLIMS TODAY

3 MILLION

Total England & Wales (2014 latest figures) equivalent to

5.4% or 1 in 20

of the total population

5 YEARS AGO

2.7 MILLION

Total in England and Wales (2011) equivalent to

4.8% or 1 in 21

of the total population

15 YEARS AGO

1.5 MILLION

Total in England and Wales (2001) equivalent to

3% or 1 in 30

of the total population

25 YEARS AGO

950,000

Total in England and Wales (1991) equivalent to

1.9% or 1 in 50

of the total population



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SWAMA'S ARTISTS JAMMING SESSION A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

Stories by Samukelisiwe Ginindza

THE Swaziland Arts and Music Association (SWAMA) started its year on a high note, as they hosted a successful artist's jamming session, wherein almost every artist signed under them came to play.

The session was held on Saturday at Manzimnyama, Zombodze, where artists performed in a big stage provided by F2R.

Residents also came in their numbers as music was playing and smoke filled the air with a number of braai stands packed with meat. The event was attended by Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon C. Dlamini, South African saxophone maestro Siphon Mabuse and SWAMA President Lutfo Dlamini, to mention a few.

Mabuse is no stranger to the local music scene as he had graced a number of events, where he created

a new fan base for himself and memories to last most Swazis a lifetime.

A number of the artists present celebrated and embraced each other as they hit the stage, danced and sang along to each other's music.

Trying

"This is what we were trying to build with this show. As we start a New Year, we want to embrace each other as an association and I am glad that our artists came in their numbers. Yes some of them didn't come, but it's their loss," Lutfo said. First to take to the stage was Chorister Sabelo Dlamini.

He was followed by Lyrikal Busta, who outdid himself in terms of performance. Most of the people present showed no fondness to hip hop, but as he performed his second song, some of them were on their feet dancing in the green lawn.

Khefisto, who was featured by the



IN NUMBERS: People came in their numbers to witness the SWAMA artists jamming session held at Manzimnyama, Zombodze on Saturday. The event was also graced by South African artist Siphon Mabuse as well as Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini on Saturday. (Pics: Samukelisiwe Ginindza)

Immortal Seven, had to take over from where he left as people were now in a partying and dancing mood.

The kwaito artist performed his hit track titled 'Kugewele Intombzani'.

Much to the jubilation of the

ladies present, they took his lyrics serious as he went on with his performance on stage.

Artists are known for their versatility and KSB proved just why he deserves a chance in the limelight as well.

The linguistic up and coming artist rendered freestyle in three languages, Portuguese, SiSwati and English.

Maskandi musician Mcwayizeni, performed his song titled 'Ben 10' which was a hit amongst the residents as they danced on the open dance floor.

Stage

Then music veteran Mshikishi took to the stage and gave the crowd what they were expecting, a performance with his famous gorilla dance moves.

Even though the artist took over 15 minutes to mount the stage as there were a few technical glitches, he still managed to make it up to the people who had to wait a while before he mounted the podium.

The Traptronic, Nkhanini Child to Child and Tribal Misfits also spiced up the event with their incredible dance moves on stage.

Security was also tight as the Royal Swaziland Police kept a hawk's eye on everything that was happening.

...HOTSTIX LAUNDS ARTISTS

SOUTH AFRICAN musician Siphon Mabuse lauded all the artists signed under SWAMA for honouring the artists jamming session with their presence.

He urged artists to keep on showing so much support when it comes to celebrating musicians.

"Music is very important and most of the time the only thing that leads to our failure as musicians is the lack of support to each other, failure to honour invitations and the desire to want to go overseas, instead of making a name first in the country where we are from," he said.

Mabuse went on to add that contributing to something that was close to your heart was always cherished and remains in history books for years.

Honoured

"To the SWAMA President, Lutfo Dlamini, I am honoured by the invitation, I am in my late 60s and I have been in the music industry for years, but I have



DANCING SKILLS: Itallo displaying his dance moves.

never seen such support like I am seeing today, even back in South Africa.

"People left everything they were doing for this jam session and let us keep that spirit going. I may be from South Africa and speak a different language, but we have one universal language here, which is music," Mabuse urged.

...LONGEST SERVING ARTISTS ACKNOWLEDGED

THREE of the longest serving artists in both the music industry and association were acknowledged with certificates by SWAMA President Lutfo Dlamini and Siphon Mabuse.

The artists are Mshikishi Mndzebele, Clifton Lukhele (67) and Duma Mazibuko (63).

The trio is still fit and always renders outstanding performances on stage.

However, of all the three, only Mshikishi was present to accept his certificate as the rest couldn't make it to the event.

Mabuse cracked everyone up when he mentioned that he should have also received a certificate of appreciation, as he too was over 60 years.



SHOWING THEM A THING: Hotstix, Minister Gideon Dlamini, Lutfo Dlamini and Mshikishi dancing to Mshikishi's music during his performance.

"It is good that we appreciate musicians in such a manner, but I am a little hurt as I should have also received

a certificate, everyone knows that I am over 60 years old too," he said jokingly.

...MARVELLOUS TRIO GIVES THEM THE BEST

OUR very own Bholoja and Itallo Dlamini teamed up with Hotstix in a collaboration that stole the show and will, without a doubt keep, people talking.

The trio performed about three songs from each of their tracks.

They took to the stage with Bholoja's track titled 'Lendzawo', which saw the young and old coming closer to the stage and watch closely.

The three maestros proved their capabilities in both vocal and instru-

ment playing. Itallo also showcased his flexibility as he danced every now and then while on stage.

With Itallo and Hotstix on the saxophone, 'Bholoja' had to balance the performance with bass guitar and captivating vocals.

...LET US MAKE THIS A HABIT - LUTFO

THE SWAMA President Lutfo Dlamini was impressed with the turnout, he urged everyone present to keep such a habit.

"Thank you to everyone who made

it here, we appreciate such a gesture and I urge you to keep this a habit, as it is something that will see the success of our artists," he emphasised. Dlamini went on to say they were

even proposing to make such an annual event, as it also gave a platform to the up and coming artists, to shine. "Do not wait until you are booked for an event to shine, utilise such platforms to show people who you are. If there is something that spreads like wild fire it is word of

mouth, the more good you do in society, the more people talk about you. That is how most of the now successful artists gained their recognition," Dlamini mentioned.

He appreciated the gesture from the session's main sponsor Puma Garage for their hospitality.

"It is not everyday where businesses give towards such events and thanks to Puma Garage for honouring our pleas," he said. He then thanked Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini and Siphon Mabuse for honouring their invitations.



WEDNESDAY MAY 10, 7PM
ALL OF THEM

SWAMA JAMMING SESSION @ MANZIMNYAMA



RUBBING SHOULDERS: Siphon Hotstix Mabuse smiles as artist Lyrikal Busta and Mimz pose next to him backstage. This was during the SWAMA jamming session held at Manzimnyama, Under Zombodze area on Saturday. (Pics: Samukelisiwe Ginindza)



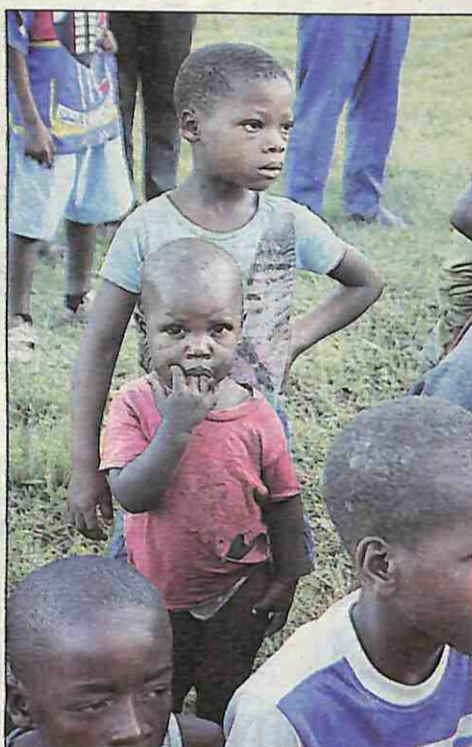
NOT TO BE LEFT OUT: Hlubi and Bhakithemba pose with the legend.



PERFORMANCE: Chakalaka performs for the crowd.



LEAN ON ME: Visual artist Honest Lihle Mhlanga and KSB couldn't miss the show for the world.



FINGER LICKIN GOOD: Even toddlers came to see the live performances.



FRIENDS LIKE THESE: SWAMA PRO Menzi Mtsetfwa dancing with a friend.



LEGENDS MEET: Washumkhukhu presenters Simanga and Mshikishi couldn't miss a kodak moment with Hotstix.



SERENADING: Khfisto performs with Immortal Seven's Banele.



ZOOMING IN: Funlovers taking pictures.



ARIEL VIEW: This trio opted for a view from the top.



SKILLFUL: Nkhanini Child to Child boys displaying their dancing skills.



VETERANS: Mshikishi performs while Itallo appreciates his abilities.



ENJOYING: Dancing became the order of the day.

SWAMA JAMMING SESSION @ MANZIMNYAMA



HD: These youngsters had the time of their lives in the front row.



COULDN'T MISS OUT: Residents following proceedings comfortably in the nearby shrubs.



HOLD ME CLOSER: Ntfombititsini and Ncamiso getting cosy under the shade.



NAP: With so much fun going on, this man opted to doze off in his camp chair.



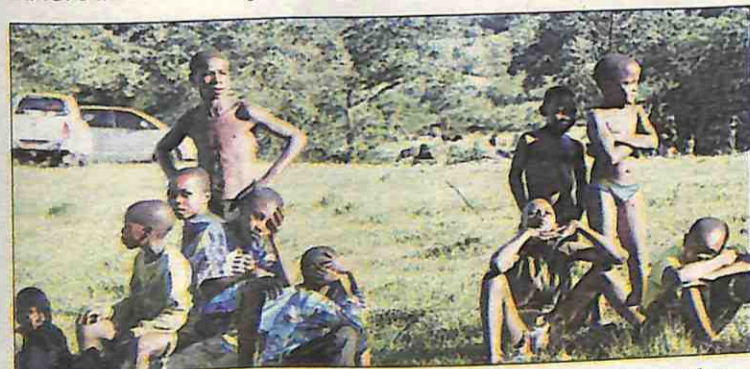
SELFIE MOMENT: Younsters taking a selfie.



MASKANDI: Mcwayiseni gave a superb performance.



#ABUSHE: Some of those who attended the show enjoying their drinks.



RELAXED: Youngsters who earlier enjoyed a dip at the near by river, were also seen watching some of the performances.



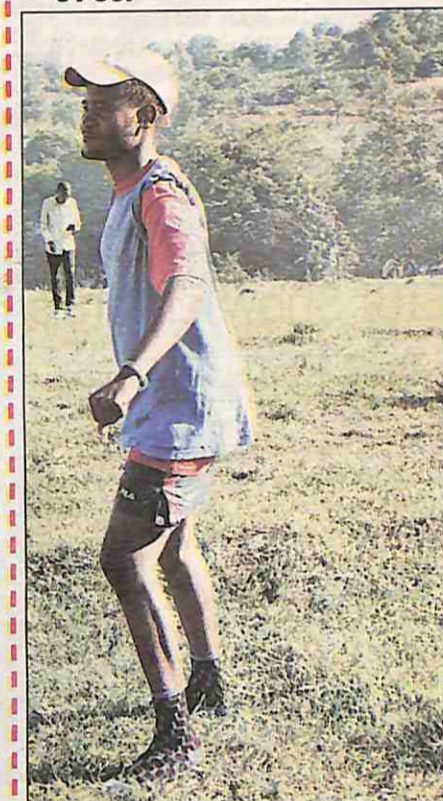
GENTS: Traptronix before their turn to shine on stage.



JAIVA YO YO: Tribal Misfits Sandile doing what he does best while Mthobisi appreciates his partner.



GUGA OTHANDAYO: Dancing was the order of the day as revellers didn't shy away from getting jiggy with it.



TAKEN: This young man literally danced his pants off.



HURRAY: This woman couldn't hide her excitement.



BRING IT ON: The youth screaming on top of their lungs as their favourite artists perform.

By Phesheya Kunene

DJ SO WHAT WALKS AWAY WITH E2 000 CASH IN DJS COMPETITION

THE Battle of the DJs competition could have started about four hours late but when it did kick off, it took only about thirty minutes to determine the winner of this annual competition.

After the show experienced difficulties such as some of the judges coming in very late and the sound system seemingly failing to produce the quality sounds, the show that was supposed to start at 7pm ended up starting just after 11pm.

The Battle of the DJs completion, which was themed 'The Next Big Thing' was having its fifth edition, held at J&R Bar in Matsapha on Saturday night. This competition attracted over 200 people, who included big guns such as DJs Khwephe, 711, What What, Steel and the Chakalaka band.

The Got it, Get it (GIGI) crew made sure the place had their theme colours and also got in the audience's good books with the prizes they kept dishing out to the audience such as T-shirts and flat caps.

However, with that said, the judging panel which consisted of three judges such as DJ Chuidy and Bones Connection from SBIS radio station, were in no compromising mood as they were serious with their work. With over 15 DJs waiting to shine on the night, the second DJ to rock the turn tables after a less impressive dis-



ON THE ONE AND TWOS: DJ So What mixes his songs. (Pic: Phesheya Kunene)

play by the duo of Big Masters, DJ So What used his experience to his advantage as he produced a set that captivated everyone that had attended, including the other competing DJs. The rules of this competition stated that each DJ took only fifteen minutes on the decks and DJ So What, who deservedly took the crown home, made the stipulated

fifth teen minutes seem like five minutes as he delivered a spirited performance which he capped off with striking moves and mixing skills. Completing the top three is Mtsepisto, who came second and Le Kronik taking the third position. The top three did well to impress not only the judges but the audience as well as their sets were out of the ordinary.

Nonetheless, the first Act to hit the stage, the Big Masters seemed to be overwhelmed by anxiety while on stage as they failed to impress and did not click as a team.

Duo

The duo showed signs of having difficulty with their selection and mixing skills. Taking over from DJ Chuidy, who was playing for fun, the duo continued with the deep house selection the experienced spinner was dishing out. When the Programme Director Ken Ndzimandze announced the end of their set, DJ So What did not waste time as he kick started his set with the hip hop banger "Roll Up" by Emtee, he infused this song with an old house music song by DJ Cleo, sending the crowd into frenzy.

He played almost all the genres as he infused his commercial house with a bit of deep house and a hint of pop music. The audience instantly fell in love with his set and was crowned the winner before the official crowning. One reveller who introduced himself as Bhembe said after observing the other DJs, it was evident that DJ So What was way above the others and he was no competition to them. "The other DJs are competing amongst themselves, the second DJ is a professional, and he has no competition here. To be honest, the other DJs are competing amongst themselves for the second and third spot as we already have a winner in DJ So What," he said, while the show was ongoing.

Selection

Most of the DJs preferred deep and commercial house with only a few invading the hip hop, pop and upbeat RnB music selection.

One of the organisers of the show, DJ Big Boi thanked the DJs for trying their luck while adding that he witnessed immense talent on the night. "The DJs impressed me a lot as most of them were performing for

the first time in such a platform. The KGI management was also left praising the performances rendered. We congratulate the winners and also extend our gratitude to the GIGI team for the support," he said. One of the veteran DJs, DJ 711 said he was excited to be supporting the upcoming DJs and said he played to inspire them on the night. Most of the DJs cited anxiety as their biggest letdown as they claimed they were not used to such a big platform but admitted that DJ So What deserved to win on the night. On the other hand, one of the judges, DJ Chuidy said he witnessed too that most of the DJs were nervous but was quick to say he was impressed with what he saw. The prize presentation for this competition will be held at City by Nite pub this coming weekend whereby the winning DJs will be given an hour each on stage to prove their worth. The first prize winner will walk away with E2000 cash and head phones together with a CD bag with the runner up going home with a mixer 4 channel. On the third position, DJ Le Kronik will only receive a CD bag for his efforts.

EIBI Show enthralled Hip-Hop music lovers

Stories by Tenele Dlamini

THE EIBI show, which stands for Everything I Believe In, enthralled and captivated patrons at the Finesse Restaurant in Mbabane at the Hip-Hop fest held on Saturday afternoon.

Most, who had come to witness participants perform were impressed by the talent and reason behind hosting an event of this nature. According to the manager of the performers on the day, Ncwiki F. Simelane, this is an awareness event.

"Today's event was a listening session for all fans and lovers of Hip-Hop, to get to hear all the music performed by these artists, before it is released. The Listening Session is also part of the bigger movement called, Everything I Believe In," said Simelane.

Performers on the day included the likes of; Young



THE MOVEMENT: Members of the Everything I Believe In movement, from left, Young Boss, Ncwiki F, Zoe, Cody Neyy Xoku and Shortie.

Boss, Ncwiki F, Cody Neyy Xoku, Zoe and Shortie, who all put on an excellent performance.

Movement

According to the Artists' manager, the movement has already held a couple of other shows in different places, which include The

Show (EIBI) at the Theatre Club, The Weekend Experience show at El Para as well as at a number of Universities and Open Bashes in the country.

The manager, who seemed passionate about this programmes and his craft in general, said he encouraged

...It's a motivational movement

ACCORDING to management, the EIBI is geared at encouraging and motivating young people, artists and those aspiring to be hip-hop artists, to follow their dreams.

"Everything I Believe In showcases the different hustles that young people face. These struggles are then presented to the public through documentaries that are then showcased," Simelane explained. The date of the Grand Show to be held mid-year is yet to be confirmed. This will feature Swaziland's most talented Hip-Hop artists, both male and female. This initiative has been put together by Stand Still Records, a local recording label formed in 2009 by the two artists Young Boss and Ncwiki F. "2016 marks the beginning of the second volume of the EIBI movement, the first having been held in 2015. The great thing about this year is that the programme focuses specifically on movement," said the manager.

people to get involved in this movement and should expect the mother of all performances, which is a Grand Show in the middle of the year.

INTIMATE AFFAIR FOR MBABANE FOLK

By Phesheya Kunene

STREETJOY promotions collaborated with MK Entertainment for an intimate show on February 13 as they make sure love is in the air during the month of love.

There will be music, dinner and dance as the Mbabane Theatre Club will be temporarily transformed to look the part during the event to be held by the poolside. The venue will be transformed into an intimate lounge with the colours red and white being dominant on the night. This was revealed by the organising team during a media launch that was held at the same venue on Friday evening.

Those present during the launch were given a hint of how the place would be transformed as there was a lounge set up for the launch. During the launch, it was mentioned that on the day, there would be plenty of ballroom dance, plenty of music from DJs such as MK, Xtra Luv, and Marlo. The show will start at 7pm. It was also revealed that the Spanella Jazz band will also rock the audience on the general section together with other acts. While on the VIP section, there will be a one man show performance. On this section, Xtra Luv, whose real name is Terrence Ginindza shared that they had released about 200 tickets while adding that a VIP ticket holder would be entitled to a dinner treat, top of the range lounge furniture and good music. "We are planning on making this show annual, the support we will get from the public will determine that, coming to the show, we are bringing something different to the Mbabane folks.

Life

"We are bringing the city to life; people will witness a different and intimate event that will signify the value of love," he said. Founder of Streetjoy promotions said they were happy to have partnered with MK entertainment for this show as they try to build a show that would be made annual if the response would be positive. "We will be bringing old school songs that are about love and we want to assure the public that Valentine's Day is still alive and should be celebrated every day," he said. The launch was attended by the organisers and media houses; the place looked elegant and intimate with soulful music playing on the background.

EIBI artists take their craft seriously

IT is quite evident, through their different performances, stage skill and sheer tenacity, that these artists take their craft seriously.

These rap artists include Cody Neyy Xoku, who says he would not like to classify his music as it tends to limit his creativity.

"My music is inspired by my personal experiences," Clody said.

While Young Boss, the other founder of the initiative, said his art was stimulated by all the good and bad, hates and loves that have occurred in his life. Shortie a female entertainer said

her music possesses a more soulful edge to it. "My music has a touch of soulful RnB. I'm motivated by the world around me, love, family and friends," Shortie explained.

Ideas

Ncwiki F. the manager and man at the wheel of the project said he got ideas mainly from other Hip Hop music, from trap

to conscious music. He is also moved by his own life experience and the Stand Still lifestyle.

On the other hand, female member Zoe, said her music was quite diverse. "My approach is a mixture of soul, pop and RnB. Life moves me and the people around me. I choose to sugar-coat lyrical by truth," said the artist.

★ Celebrity ★ Watch ★

Amber Rose enjoys bonding day with two-year-old son

LOS ANGELES - It has been quite a dramatic week on social media between herself and exes Kanye West and Wiz Khalifa.

But Amber Rose seemingly found comfort in the most important little man in her life.

The 32-year-old model was spotted bonding with soon to be three-year-old son Sebastian in Los Angeles on Friday.

No doubt the relaxed mother-son outing came at a

good time for the model as social media has been abuzz this week with Amber having a war of words with her 38-year-old rapper ex, who also dragged the youngster into their Twitter beef.

On the outing, the curvaceous beauty wore her regular black hoodie with 'MUVA' emblazoned on it from her clothing collection. She also showed off her curvaceous figure with a pair of black athletic leggings and a pair of black Nike Flyknit Roshe

Run trainers. *Mail Online*



BONDING:
Amber Rose and her son Sebastian.

Horgan-Wallace gloats about abraham assault charges being dropped

LONDON - And Aisleyne Horgan-Wallace certainly didn't hold back as she celebrated assault charges against her being dropped following a five-month probe, taunting her rival Teen Mom star Farrah Abraham via Twitter on Saturday.

Prosecutors dropped charges against the former Big Brother contestant, who had been facing trial after an

explosive, champagne-throwing argument with Farrah, 24, on Channel 5's Celebrity Big Brother's spin-off Bit On The Side back in September 2015.

She also recorded a video - complete with a middle finger salute to her rival Farrah - referencing their televised spat last September.

In the video, Aisleyne can be seen celebrating her news as she dances around in a car and flicks her middle finger up as she bops along.

Mail Online



FREE: Aisleyne Horgan-Wallace.

Leigh-Anne Pinnoch puts on busty display in crop

LONDON - She's a style chameleon, especially when it comes to her luscious locks.

And Leigh-Anne Pinnoch really was the mane attraction as she stepped out revealing stunning jumbo mermaid style braids on a night out.

The Little Mix stunner, 24, put on a busty display in her crop top which showed off her ample curves to the max as she rocked a monochrome ensemble at Mahiki nightclub in

London's Mayfair on Saturday night. The Black Magic singer went for a dramatic make-up look with big and bold lashes to accentuate her eyes as well as black eyeliner. Leigh-Anne was glowing on the night wearing gold eye shadow, while bronzer and blusher accentuated her cheekbones. She perfected her pout with a classic nude lip and a brown lip pencil as she partied with pals.

The singer, who has a busy month ahead since Little Mix have been nominated at the BRIT Awards 2016. *Mail Online*



STYLISH:
Leigh-Anne Pinnoch.

Nicki Minaj finds time for touch up

NEW YORK - Nicki Minaj probably never leaves home without it - and by that we mean her compact mirror.

The 33-year-old singer was prepared as she and Meek Mill watched the Golden State Warriors take on the Philadelphia 76ers at the Wells Fargo Centre in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Nicki took advantage of the down time and whipped out a glittery pink-backed mirror to re-

apply her thick eye liner.

She wore a black hoodie, black jeans and dazzlingly patterned boots, and she clutched a Chanel handbag that she seemed to enjoy showing off too.

Nicki seemed to be having a marvelous time and even scored a bag of cotton candy which she appeared to have devoured - Meek had the remnants

of his own bag at his feet.

He was dressed darkly too in hoodie, black trousers, black trainers and a black beanie.

Mail Online



MAKE-UP TOUCH:
Nicki Minaj.

Stephanie Davis 'inundated with work offers'

LOS ANGELES - Her Celebrity Big Brother housemates have warned that 'she'll never work again'.

But after giving us laughter, tears, tantrums and more on her widely-talked about appearance, Stephanie Davis is said to have been inundated with work offers for when she gets out.

The actress, 22, whose Hollyoaks contract was terminated with immediate effect in

2015, has both shocked and gripped Channel 5 audiences after striking up a relationship with co-star Jeremy McConnell, despite having having a boyfriend, Sam Reece, outside the house.

Appearing to bolster the claims, Lauren Lunn Farrow, Managing Director of Lunn Farrow Media Management Agency said the public could identify with her vulnerability. 'Stephanie has got the whole country talking,' said Lauren. 'And everyone has an opinion on her. She has huge visibility at present within the media and viewers have seen how vulnerable she is'.

Mail Online



INUNDATED:
Stephanie Davis.

Hamilton shows off results of gruelling gym sessions

LONDON - He is usually seen in a Formula One racing suit.

But, keen to show off the effects of his gruelling gym sessions, Lewis Hamilton was wearing much less when he took to Instagram on Saturday afternoon.

The handsome sportsman delighted fans when he shared a shirtless image of himself, which left little to the imagination. Wearing just a sexy pair of navy blue shorts, the 31 year-old cut a seriously fit figure with the latest addition to his

online news-feed. Displaying an admirable six-pack and enviable biceps, the star displayed plenty of pecs appeal.

Flashing a cheeky smile in the bottom left-hand side of the frame, he was evidently feeling playful as he posed for the self-portrait.

Captioning the shot, 'Putting in that work!!! #getit

#workhardplayhard #nevergive-up', the smouldering image was 'liked' more than 35 000 times and garnered a slew of affirmative comments. *Mail Online*



SHOW OFF: Lewis Hamilton.

Will.I.Am gives false hope to The Voice contestant

LONDON - He is rarely the type of celebrity to get embarrassed.

But Black Eyed Peas singer Will.I.Am suffered something of a toe-curling gaffe on Saturday's episode of BBC talent show The Voice, this week.

The 40 year-old found himself panicking live on the weekly talent show after accidentally pushing his 'chair choice' button for a wannabe chart star.

The incident came as Alaric Green took to the stage to give a

dramatic rendition of the theatrical song Broken Vow.

For the majority of the song each of the four judges - Will, Paloma Faith, Ricky Wilson and Boy George - sat without showing interest.

However, as Will.I.Am went to make notes on his pad, he inadvertently pressed his buzzer and

spun around - sparked a chain reaction contest with Ricky.

Mail Online



WRONG HOPES:
Will.I.Am.

A family day out for happy Rocco with dad Guy Ritchie

LONDON - It could have been any happy family outing yesterday as 15-year-old Rocco Ritchie joined his film director father Guy and model stepmother Jacqui on a gentle bike ride.

Rocco was spotted out in London grinning broadly as he hit the road three abreast with Guy, 47, and Jacqui, 33, who married in Rocco's fun trip out must have

been a welcome relief from the custody battle involving the teenager that is currently being played out in court in New York.

Relations between Rocco and his pop star mother Madonna, 57, are said to be in difficulty. He dramatically quit her Rebel Heart Tour in December following an apparent row

over his mobile phone. *Mail Online*



FAMILY GATHERING:
Guy Ritchie and Family.

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

A body is found reminding Qondi of her recent horror. Khanyi ropes Samson into her schemes with S'bu and Mahlemamba gets good news.

ROPES IN:
Khanyi.



ISIDINGO

TODAY

Nina ignores Barker's advice to lay low and unknowingly puts herself in the firing line. Calvin returns to the Deep, but not everyone is happy to see him. Brad turns on Sam after a calamitous weekend hosting the Steyns.

IGNORES:
Nina.



Muvhango

TODAY

Someone is in possession of Thandaza's belongings. But where is Thandaza? Gizara is onto Nenzhelele. Sthe lies to Rendani and Vusi.

NO WHERE TO BE FOUND:
Thandaza.



RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

Thabiso only deposits R60 000 of the money into Bulelwa's account, forcing her to meet with him again. Thabiso says that Bulelwa would be happier with him than with Fats.



FORCED: Fat And Bulelwa.



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

com
ember 22 - January 19



is much contemplative about your work today. should also be a great deal most beneficial with people of the late sex. Problems in the workplace may or emotional problems at home may easily interfere with your concentration at. Concentrate on the job at hand first! There opportunities later to clear away any. You will notice some financial growth as not been previously available. You may, have to move quickly in order to secure profit.

February 18
y 20 -



ould expend great in money-making now-success will follow. er, you should not be ve or quick to act; it would ter to spend time carefully ing your work and making the necessary nents: A period of great mental activity piration has begun. You have a lot on your and feel a strong need to communicate and ideas. Realize that this is a busy time at or you allow yourself more time for oject, problem customer or instructions to

March 20
y 19 -



not a good time to make ncrete decisions about a ship or business deal. The ns and actions of today will ng-lasting effects. Think things through e your answer or thinking on a particular ation is becoming more and more al-setting you apart from the crowd and ill that is traditional. This may mean a shift your normal job description-an opportunity al. You show a great deal of interest in all matters, particularly the general living ment in the home.

April 19
21 -



you may actively be ned about the welfare of in your business-or people k under you. Your e ideas are good-ready to be applied to d at any project you attempt. This is an time to sway others to your cause speeches or arguments-your thinking is d. In addition, this is a good time to lead y on a project, for your originality is ally heightened. Companionship with is most rewarding.

May 20
0 -



re realistic about your abilities e expectations for success. Your will most likely be very y you take a serious attitude e. This is an excellent time e some time alone and get many things lished. You feel that you are able to ific situations. Good advice is if you need it. Something electric is in d your charisma shines! Your ability to communicate with friends and is increased.

June 21
y 21 -



to fool you this y! On the positive y to just reflect here may

ask questions. Also, it's important at this time not to let personal relationships interfere with your work. You might accomplish more to sit alone as you work. If possible, save the new projects for another day just now.



June 22 - July 22

Your search to find ways in which to add to the finances is becoming successful. It may be possible that a part-time job opportunity has surfaced. While in the middle of a project today you will want to put in some effort to not become distracted. If you have a door, close it or push it almost closed and place a note on the door that says, "hard at work, no interruptions please." this is a feel good day and much will be accomplished! The time is ripe for a sudden and unexpected change in the normal routine of family life.

July 23 - August 22



You should take note not to be controlling with superiors. You will find yourself a magnet to others and may enjoy a group luncheon today. People just flock to you and enjoy your company. Interactions with the opposite sex on a professional level may occur often today. All of the world loves a lover and today that is you! What a day to declare your love for someone! This is a great time for new beginnings! Your awareness of relationships far outstrips your ego's needs. Do not waste a day like this by being alone.

August 23 - September 22



Keep matching, you must keep moving in order to keep up today. This is one of those days when the leads keep coming in to reach the sales quota you have always wanted to make. Hey, the total sales by the end of your day could be expanded if you tape your card to the bottom of the products you sell. Your name will be passed around to lots of people and your customers count will continue to grow.

September 23 - October 23



Relations with a spouse or business partner are on solid ground. Mental stimulation from others is most helpful for you right now. It is a good idea to make every effort to move with gentle action and low tones when communicating with others. A heavy-duty project should have great success when you give it your attention. You may experience some negativity during a group discussion this afternoon-patience; this is short-lived. You will find good results happen when you find extra time to spend with a difficult person-listening is a good thing.

October 24 - November 21



There is a perfect balance between your career needs and personal needs today. Neither side of you has to struggle with the other. You have a supersensitive awareness of the moods and needs of others, making this an excellent time to run seminars or work with groups. This evening there may be offers to expand your talents-learn or express yourself in writing, music, poetry, etc.

November 22 - December 21



Sagittarius job interviews or proposals for advancement can be positive and possible now. You may experience a great deal of misunderstanding in your professional life at this time. There may be conflicts about the direction of certain projects or... People working under you may not perform to your standards. This may also be a magical

BABY BLUES



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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



HARD SUDOKU #265 SOLUTION

2	6	5	4	1	8	9	7	3
1	3	7	5	2	9	4	8	6
4	8	9	6	7	3	5	1	2
3	9	4	8	6	2	7	5	1
6	7	1	3	5	4	2	9	8
8	5	2	7	9	1	6	3	4
9	2	6	1	8	7	3	4	5
7	1	3	2	4	5	8	6	9
5	4	8	9	3	6	1	2	7

HARD SUDOKU #264

Fill in the missing numbers so every row, column and quadrant contains the number 1 through 9.

4								
	5	7		6				
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						7	2	

A COP KNOCKED ON MY DOOR THIS MORNING

A policeman knocked on my door this morning, but I just locked it and sat there in complete silence. After 20 seconds he knocked again, but I just continued to ignore it. The knocks got louder and more frequent but I was determined not to move in the hope that he would just go away. Then, he decided to look through the window. He shouted, "Do you think I'm stupid? I can see you in there, sir. Open the door!" I said, "You're not coming in mate!" He said, "I don't want to come in, I just want you to step out of the car."

USELESS FACTS

- The most common name in world is Mohammed.
- Mount Olympus Mons on Mars is three times the size of Mount Everest.
- Most toilets flush in E flat.
- 2 000 pounds of space dust and other space debris fall on the Earth every day.
- Each month, there is at least one report of UFOs from each province of Canada.
- You can be fined up to \$1 000 for whistling on Sunday in Salt Lake City, Utah.

BRAinteasers QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- A man walks into a restaurant and the waiter says good day Admiral. Why did the waiter call the man an Admiral?
A. Because he was wearing his uniform.
- A man gets an egg and a rocket kit. The man builds the rocket and puts the egg inside it. Then the man stands back and launches the rocket. The rocket suddenly blew up. The egg was not damaged how come?
2. What happens only in the middle of each month, in all of the seasons, except summer and happens only in the night, never in the

Today's Brain Teaser

- Imagine you are in a room, no doors windows or anything, how do you get out?

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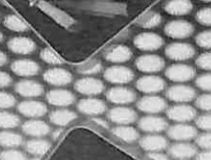
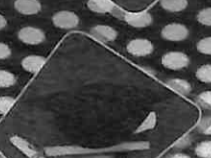


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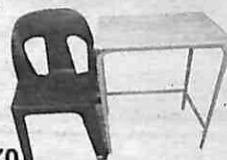
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MESSI, SUAREZ SINK ATLETICO

BARCELONA - Barcelona took control of the La Liga title race as goals from Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez inspired a come from behind 2-1 win against nine-man Atletico Madrid on Saturday.

Koke handed the visitors a deserved early lead, but Barca turned the game thanks to two goals in eight minutes before the break through Messi and Suarez.

Atletico's hopes of salvaging a point were then ruined as Filipe Luis and Diego Godin were sent-off for rash challenges either side of halftime.

Victory takes Barca three points clear of Atletico at the top of the table - having also played a game less - and seven points clear of third-placed Real Madrid, who hosted Espanyol yesterday.

"It is clear it is an important day for us to pick up three points against our closest rivals, but there is a long way to go," said Barca boss Luis Enrique.

"Every game presents its difficulties and you don't always overcome them in the most effective or spectacular way."

Meanwhile, Atletico coach Diego Simeone refused to chastise Luis and



SCORED: FC Barcelona's Luis Suarez, front, kicks the ball to score against Atletico Madrid during a Spanish La Liga soccer match at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain, Saturday, (AP Photo/Manu Fernandez)

Godin for leaving his side short-handed against the European champions.

"I have nothing to reproach them for," said the Argentine.

"Even with nine men we maintained our way of playing. In a game you can win or lose, but I always prefer to lose in this way."

The clash between La Liga's top two pitted Europe's most feared attack against its strongest defence, but it was Atletico who started on the front foot.

Saul Niguez's dipping effort was brilliantly turned over by Claudio Bravo after just two minutes.

AFP

Aubameyang double leads BVB to win

BERLIN - Borussia Dortmund trimmed Bayern Munich's lead in the Bundesliga with a 2-0 win over Ingolstadt on Saturday as Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored twice to leave him with 20 league goals.

'Auba' - the 2015 African player of the year - headed second-placed Dortmund into a 77th-minute lead at home, but replays showed he was offside when Lukasz Piszczek launched his cross.

It was harsh for visitors Ingolstadt

who looked to have taken the lead midway through the second-half when Dortmund captain Mats Hummels scored an own goal.

Hummels' backpass flew over goalkeeper Roman Buerki on 66 minutes, but the referee did not give the goal after spotting an Ingolstadt foul in the build-up.

Aubameyang put the game beyond doubt by drilling home Henrikh Mkhitaryan's pass on 86 minutes for his 20th goal in 19 league matches.

"I didn't score last week (against

Moenchengladbach), so it was important to stay focused," said Aubameyang, who was unaware he was offside for his first goal.

"In the moment, I didn't see I was offside, I just headed the ball in.

"We have conceded a few goals this season which were offside, so things balance themselves out."

Aubameyang has already reached his goal for the season having bet Dortmund coach Thomas Tuchel he would score 20 goals before the campaign started. AFP

El Shaarawy stunner on Roma debut

MILAN - On-loan AC Milan forward Stephan El Shaarawy hit a spectacular debut goal for Roma in a 3-1 win over regional rivals Frosinone to secure a first win for the club's new coach Luciano Spalletti.

El Shaarawy signed for the Serie A club in midweek after French league side Monaco opted not to buy the striker outright.

But Monaco's loss became Roma's gain as the 23-year-old, who is keen

to work his way back into Italy's plans for this summer's Euro 2016 in France, connected with Ervin Zukanovic's short delivery to beat Nicola Leali on 48 minutes.

Lead

Radja Nainggolan had given Roma an 18th minute lead as he lay prone inside the area, only for Daniel Ciofani to finish off a great Frosinone move by firing under on-loan Arsenal goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny six minutes later.

El Shaarawy's spectacular effort settled nerves but it took until Miralem Pjanic's 84th minute strike for the hosts, who saw Francesco Totti come off the bench to make his long-awaited comeback, to begin playing with swagger.

Roma should have added more, with both El Shaarawy and Nainggolan coming close with late strikes as the hosts held on for a first win in five games.

AFP

Paul Lawrie first player to defend Qatar Masters title

DOHA - Branden Grace became the first player to defend the Qatar Masters title after Paul Lawrie suffered a last-day nightmare at Doha.

Grace began the last round two shots behind former Open champion Lawrie but shot a 69 to finish two ahead of Denmark's Thorbjorn Olesen and Spain's Rafael Cabrera-Bello.

"It's great," said South African Grace after securing his seventh European Tour title since 2012.

"It's a big thing to spend a week defending. You've got more pressure." Daily Mail



DEFENDING CHAMPION: Branden Grace became the first player to defend the Qatar Masters title on Saturday. (Daily Mail)

Lewandowski talks about rejection at 17

BERLIN - Everybody wants a piece of Robert Lewandowski these days.

He is the man who came off the bench to score five goals in nine minutes against Wolfsburg in the Bundesliga this season.

At Bayern, there has not been as prolific a partnership as Lewandowski and Thomas Muller since Uli Hoeness and Gerd Muller were playing up front for the team which won the European Cup for three consecutive years between 1974 and 1976.

In Poland, whose national team he will lead at Euro 2016, the debate now is whether he is the greatest player of all time, alongside Zbigniew Boniek, Kazi Deyna, formerly of Manchester City, or the striker Grzegorz Lato.

So it is hard to fathom that he was ever a reject. For while



REJECTED: Robert Lewandowski.

there is always the odd Jamie Vardy or Olivier Giroud in football, players who were overlooked as teenagers and forced to fight the hard way into football's top tier, there are few genuine global superstars to have taken that route.

Daily Mail

Michael Clarke returns to cricket

LONDON - Former Australian captain Michael Clarke will end his self-imposed exile from cricket with a club match next month, opening the way for a possible return to first class action, primarily in the Twenty20 format.

Clarke retired from international cricket last August following the Ashes series defeat by England, having already stepped down from the limited-overs format after the World Cup win on home soil earlier in 2015.

The 34-year-old batsman then opted against taking up the first year of a two-year deal with Big Bash League franchise Melbourne Stars and announced he was taking an extended break from the game in September.



RETURNING: Michael Clarke.

On Sunday, Clarke confirmed he would play for Sydney grade side Western Suburbs on February 20-21, saying he missed the competitive side of the game and any possible return at senior level would concentrate on T20s.

Daily Mail

Zidane refuses to comment

MADRID - Real Madrid manager, Zinedine Zidane, has refused to comment on the rumours linking Neymar with a move to Los Blancos.

Reports in Spain suggest that Real are looking to the Brazil captain as possible replacement for Cristiano Ronaldo, who has been linked with a move away from the Santiago Bernabeu.

It's been reported that Los Blancos and Neymar met before the Ballon d'Or ceremony in Zurich earlier this month, although Barcelona vice-president Jordi Mestre rejected those claims.

However, the Frenchman was asked about the possibility of the 23-year-old being linked with a switch to Madrid.

"I have a squad of 26 players and I'm happy to have them," Zidane told reporters.

"I'm only focused on those things and the game.

"I don't get mixed up in what is said outside. The rumours don't bother the dressing room, it's normal that the media talk about this, it's always going to happen, just as with the subject of Cristiano, on whether or not he is leaving.

"What we have to do is concentrate on our work."

Reuters



NO COMMENT: Zinedine Zidane.

australian open

Murray loses fifth Australian Open final of career

...as World No 1 Novak Djokovic clinches straight sets victory in Melbourne



The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) has adopted a Vision and Mission statement and a new Work Programme for promoting sustainable development and deeper integration within the SACU region. The SACU Secretariat hereby invites suitably qualified and experienced citizens of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia and South Africa to submit their applications for the following positions.

VACANCY

Job Title for the Position:

Trade Negotiations Coordinator

Main Purpose of the Job:

To assist SACU member states with the achievement of the SACU Agreement objectives (enhanced: economic development, diversification, industrialisation, competitiveness, trade investment and global economy integration) by providing a professional service to SACU negotiation teams, technical committees, internal and external parties with regard to the development and coordination of the annual SACU multilateral trade negotiation programme, mechanism, technical and administrative procedures, negotiation positions, economic and trade analysis, research, policy advice and management and coordination of harmonisation initiatives to support the above.

Key Areas of Responsibility

- Develops and recommends a common Multilateral Negotiating Mechanism for SACU and its Institutions.
- Develops technical and administrative procedures for review and decision making by the SACU Council of Ministers, the SACU Customs Union Commission, SACU Tariff Board and various SACU Technical Liaison Committees.
- Develops the annual Multilateral Trade Negotiation Preparation Programme for approval by SACU Secretariat management and the Council of Ministers to ensure that the SACU Member State Multilateral Trade Negotiation Programme is well prepared, co-ordinated and supported.
- Identifies, formulates and proposes internal, external and regional partnerships for the effective clarification of roles, accountabilities and responsibilities with regard to the co-ordination and implementation of the annual SACU Multilateral Trade Negotiation Preparation Programme.
- Communicates and coordinates the annual Multilateral Trade Negotiation Programme schedule and activities to trade negotiation teams, technical committee members and the relevant external and internal parties to ensure that effective preparation, contribution and execution of responsibilities takes place.
- Plans, coordinates and manages Seminars and Workshops to initiate, facilitate and support the implementation of the approved annual Multilateral Trade Negotiation Preparation Programme.
- Coordinates and facilitates the development of multilateral trade negotiation positions and provides a professional trade negotiation back-up service to SACU Trade negotiation teams prior and during multilateral trade negotiations with regional and international trading partners.
- Sources and disseminates economic research and trade analysis information from research institutions to ensure that SACU multilateral trade negotiation positions, objectives and multilateral trade negotiating teams are backed up and supported with sound and well researched information.
- Schedules and facilitates progress review meetings with the relevant parties involved, to ensure that the schedule for the implementation of the annual Multilateral Trade Negotiation Preparation Programme is met and agreed time scales are adhered to.
- Provides a policy review, advice, development, coordination, management and implementation service to support sound, effective and cohesive decision making and implementation by SACU Institutions, i.e. SACU Technical Liaison Committees / SACU Commission.

Educational Qualifications Required:

- Master's degree in Economic, International Trade or equivalent
- 8 years Secretarial experience conducting trade negotiations
- Microsoft Word; PowerPoint; Excel; Outlook and the Internet
- Excellent negotiation skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills
- Attention to detail

Applications must be accompanied by a detailed CV, e-mail and telephone contact details, certified copies of ID, educational qualifications and at least 3 contactable references. Quote the reference number and job title. Applications must be submitted to Human Resources Manager, SACU Secretariat, Private Bag 13285, Windhoek Namibia or send by e mail to: Applications@sacu.int

The closing date for applications is 12th February 2016.
For further information, please visit our website at www.sacu.int.

Should you have received no response within 4 weeks of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful in this instance, as correspondence will be limited to shortlisted candidates only.

Doc.7350

MELBOURNE - A remarkable Australian Open turned out to have the ending everyone predicted when Novak Djokovic carried off his sixth title and Andy Murray headed home empty-handed again.

The 28 year-old Scot could not remove world number one from his ultimate comfort zone and went down 6-1, 7-5, 7-6 in two hours and 53 minutes.

Murray was unlikely to waste much time before

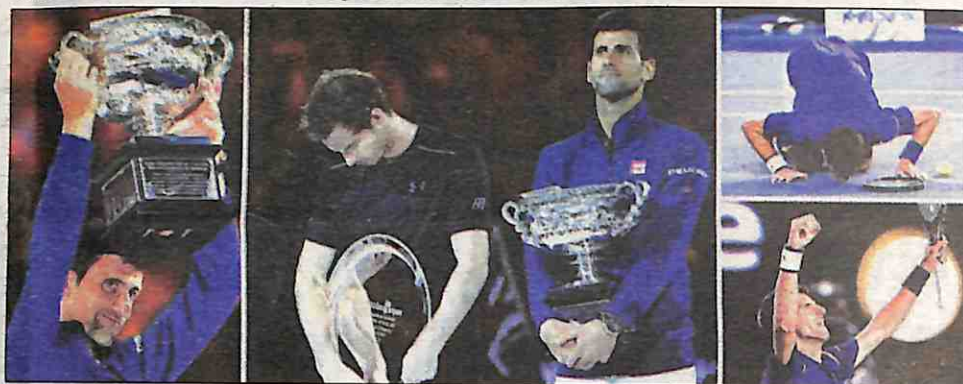
heading straight back to England to be with wife Kim, who is due to give birth. Given the distractions he has faced here, reaching the final was a noble effort, but there was an air of Groundhog Day about the climax.

The World No 2 was outplayed in the first set, but fought tigerishly in the next two, only to subside at the end of them.

Murray becomes the first player in the post-1968 Open Era to lose five finals

at the same Grand Slam since Ivan Lendl at the US Open - who eventually won it. The phenomenal Djokovic, claiming his third straight Slam, equals Rod Laver and Bjorn Borg on eleven Major titles.

The 28 year-old Scot had been in the Rod Laver Arena at 1am earlier in the day to see his brother lift the men's doubles title, and while it did not seem to do him much harm in the first game he was off colour for the four after that. Murray forced a break point straightaway at the start, saved by a cross court backhand, and then fell 0-5 behind as his serve continually misfired and the Serb quickly went into his zone. *Daily Mail*



CHAMPION: A remarkable Australian Open turned out to have the ending everyone predicted when Novak Djokovic carried off his sixth title and Andy Murray headed home empty-handed again. The 28-year-old Scot could not remove world No 1 from his ultimate comfort zone and went down 6-1, 7-5, 7-6 in two hours and 53 minutes. Murray is unlikely to waste much time before heading straight back to England to be with wife Kim, who is due to give birth. (*Daily Mail*)

I'M NOT A ROBOT - SERENA

MELBOURNE - Serena Williams on Saturday said she wasn't a 'robot' and couldn't win every match she played after slumping to a shock defeat in the Australian Open final against Germany's Angelique Kerber.

The world No 1 and top seed was overwhelming favourite to win her 22nd Grand Slam title at

Melbourne Park, but an error-strewn performance handed the German a stunning 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 victory.

Stopped

It stopped Williams matching Steffi Graf's Open-era record of 22 Grand Slam titles, which will now have to wait at least until the French Open in June.

The 34-year-old, who had won all six of her previous

Melbourne Park finals, was the defending champion and won three Grand Slam titles last year. But she said she was not infallible.

"It's interesting. I mean, every time I walk in this room, everyone expects me to win every single match, every single day of my life," she said at her post-match press conference.

AFP

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australian open

Gordon Reid wins first singles Grand Slam title

MELBOURNE - Gordon Reid held both arms in the air after he clinched his first Grand Slam wheelchair singles title at the Australian Open on Saturday.

The 24-year-old Scot then turned his attention to a group of his childhood friends who had flown in from the west Australia city of Perth to support him.

One of them was Gary Peak, who in 2005 had been at Reid's side in Helensburgh, on the day he was struck down at the age of 14 with Transverse Myelitis.

"Gary was the one who, the day this happened to me, was with me," said Reid.

"The next day I was fine again, but over the course of the day I lost all feeling from the waist down. Gary was the one who sat with me all day, as it happened.

"It makes him being here even more special. He's literally been there through the whole journey."



CHAMP: Great Britain's Gordon Reid kisses the trophy after winning his first Grand Slam in the wheelchair event.

Full of confidence, Reid brought his best to the court in his first Grand Slam singles final to beat Belgian Joachim Gerard 7-6 (9-7), 6-4.

"When it got to match point, I couldn't quite believe it," said Reid. "What's happened here was never

the goal when I started out. All I wanted was to get back involved in sport.

"Not only did I never dream of a day like this, I didn't even know wheelchair tennis existed in the Grand Slams." *Daily Mail*

Murray, Soares seal new partnership with comeback win

MELBOURNE - It was third time lucky for Jamie Murray on Saturday as the Brit finally claimed his first Grand Slam men's doubles title at the Australian Open.

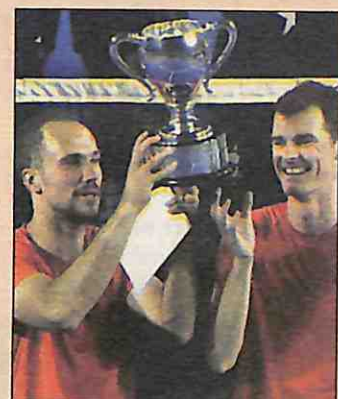
Murray and Australian partner John Peers had suffered defeats in the finals at both Wimbledon and the US Open before the pair split at the end of last season.

But Murray has found an accomplished and experienced partner in Brazilian 33-year-old Bruno Soares and the pair beat Daniel Nestor and Radek Stepánek 2-6, 6-4, 7-5 to go all the way in the first Grand Slam tournament they have played together.

Two weeks before his 30th birthday on February 13, Murray becomes the first British men's doubles winner in Melbourne since Fred Perry and Patrick Hughes won the title in 1934.

The finalists faced a long wait to get onto the court due to the women's singles final between Angelique Kerber and Serena Williams going the distance.

Eventually, play got underway at 10:42pm local time under the roof on Rod Laver Arena due to



WINNERS: Jamie Murray (right) and Bruno Soares celebrate after winning the Australian Open men's doubles title. (Daily Mail)

the wet weather outside.

Soares struggled in the early stages as veteran pair Nestor and Stepánek - who have a combined age of 80 with Canadian Nestor aged 43 and Czech Stepánek 37 - broke twice to take the opening set. Murray and Soares kept calm and slowly played their way back into the match, breaking for 3-1 in the second set before going on to level the match as the clock struck midnight.

AHF SWAZILAND

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

LINKAGES & RETENTION COORDINATOR

The AIDS Health Care Foundation in Swaziland is looking for dynamic and energetic individuals to fill the positions of **Linkages & Retention Coordinator** to be based at LaMvelase Help Centre in Manzini. AHF is an international NGO working in Swaziland since 2007 in the field of HIV prevention, treatment and care. AHF operates clinics in Manzini, Mbabane and Nhlanguano and now expanding to Pigg's Peak. The purpose of the job is to carry out and supervise all activities linked to the psychosocial field in the all AHF Programs in Swaziland. This will also include participating in training and support supervision of service providers in order to ensure that all the client's psychosocial needs are met and quality services are delivered.

Key function of the job

- Carry out all the activities linked to psychosocial field in order to ease the patient situation and maximize the adherence towards HIV and TB treatment;
- Supervise and train Mobile counselors, linkage coordinators, adherence counselors and Expert clients on counseling skills;
- Perform psychosocial assessment of all clients who default treatment to determine the underlying problem and recommend proper action plan towards resolution;
- Ensure the supervision of the psychosocial activities at the administrative and clinical levels that aim at supporting treatment adherence of patients in care;
- Organize patient support groups and support the already existing groups in the communities;
- Keep and maintain a network of psychosocial partners that can provide answers to patients' social problems (institutions, NGOs, FBOs) and collaborate with them;
- Supervise all the tracking of all patients lost to follow up and provide a monthly comprehensive report on outcomes;
- Conducting regular site visits to the AHF sites/clinics and outreach testing events to offer psychosocial supervision;
- Sit in regularly with mobile counselor and adherence officers to assess and ensure that new skills acquired through training are implemented in the daily counseling and psychosocial activities;
- Organize ongoing community dialogues and health education sessions through outreach events, act as a motivational speaker in the community and ensure that IEC materials are consistently provided;
- Participation in preparing monthly, quarterly and annual reports/work plans on Prevention Programs and Basic Care activities;
- Provide supervision and train to all AHF counselors and volunteers involved in counseling and provision of psychosocial support in AHF programs.

Qualifications and experience required

At minimum, the applicant should have a degree in psychology or community development from a state recognized institution. A minimum 3 years of work experience in psychosocial work preferably with HIV and TB care delivery models will be required.

Essential skills

- Must be fluent both verbally and writing of College level English. Must possess excellent communication skills and be a good motivator and educator. Proficiency in the local language will be an added advantage;
- Ability to read, analyze, and interpret general business periodicals, professional journals, technical procedures, or governmental regulations. Ability to effectively present information and respond to questions from groups of managers, clients and the general public;
- Successful completion of a college level statistics class;
- Ability to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Fluency verbal and written in English and SiSwati is a must;
- Ability to solve practical problems in varied situations;
- Sensitivity to patient population and issues surrounding HIV/AIDS;
- Strong interpersonal skills;
- Ability to facilitate training and communicate well;
- Ability to plan, organize, and manage work on an independent basis;
- Knowledge in applying quality assurance principles, legal aspects and standards governing psychosocial practitioners;
- Flexibility and creativity to come up with new strategies to improve the lives of patients;
- A commitment and willingness to quality care and training;
- Basic Computer Literacy.

Application submission

Applications with complete Curriculum Vitae, certified copies of academic qualifications, must be addressed to the Country Programme Manager, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, P.O. Box 7352, Manzini or emailed to recruitment.ahfswaziland@gmail.com or hand delivered at LaMvelase Help Centre at the Corner of Nkoseluhla & Sandlane Street in Manzini. All applications must be submitted no later than 5th February 2016. Only successful candidates will be called within 2 weeks.

Doc.6199



Schindler

VACANCY

POSITION: Service Technician
REPORTS TO: Service Leader
LOCATION: Swaziland
COMMENCEMENT DATE: ASAP

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DOC7877





ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



CHELSEA REJECT €45M BID

LONDON - English Premier League champions Chelsea have reportedly rejected an offer of €45 million from a La Liga outfit for striker, Diego Costa.

According to AS, Atletico Madrid manager, Diego Simeone, has been trying to convince the club's president that he wants the Spain international back in Madrid.

Los Rojiblancos are believed to have launched a €45 million bid for the striker, although AS report that

the Blues have rejected the offer.

The likes of Jackson Martinuz, Fernando Torres and Luciano Vietto all failed to start in the defeat to Barcelona, demonstrating Simeone's lack of belief in his current front-line.

However, following Costa's return to form since Guus Hiddink has taken over, which has seen the striker score six goals in his last six appearance, the Blues are unlikely to let the 27-year-old leave the club.

The Sun



TARGETED: Diego Costa.

United midfielder Michael Carrick to quit Old Trafford

LONDON - Louis van Gaal could be dealt another blow as Manchester United stalwart Michael Carrick appears set to quit the club.

Carrick, in his tenth season with the Red Devils, has just five months to run of his current deal and can sign a pre-contract with another club now.

According to The Sun, he is ready to depart Old Trafford as interest from America has increased in the 34-year-old.

It has also been alleged that Premier League clubs are also keen on signing the Englishman - who could still be selected for this summer's Euro 2016 squad by Roy Hodgson.

Carrick has started just 11 of United's Premier League games this season.

Although he has spent some of the season sidelined with an ankle injury, he has failed to hold down a place in the team when fully fit. *Sunday Mirror*

BLAME LOUIS VAN GAAL FOR UNITED PROBLEMS - ROONEY

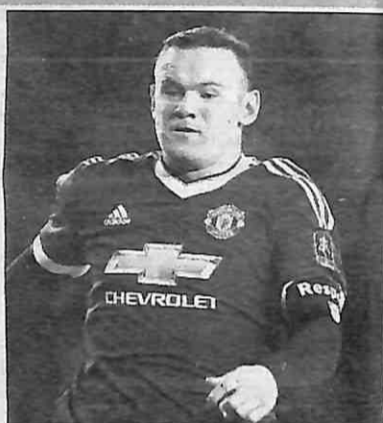
LONDON - Wayne Rooney has told Manchester United fans it is not fair to blame Louis van Gaal for all the club's problems this season.

The 30-year-old admitted that the players have been the real villains of United's damaging slump, not their manager.

Van Gaal will not resign but accepts that the tide has turned against him. He was barracked by home supporters at Old Trafford last week.

Friday night's FA Cup win against Derby County is likely to provide only a temporary reprieve for the Dutchman, who has presided over United's worst-ever points tally at this stage of a Premier League season and come under constant criticism for a laborious style of play.

Rooney, however, wants the players to be accountable for an early Champions League exit and the struggle to qualify for next season's



WORKING HARD: Wayne Rooney.

competition.

"It's unfair to say it's (down to) the manager," said the captain. "We're on the pitch, so the players have to take a lot of responsibility for performances and results."

"We have to stand up and take criticism when it's there. We want to win,

of course — we always want to win — and we're trying. Even when you're giving 100 percent, it doesn't always come off."

Rooney, who stylishly scored the first goal in the 3-1 win at Derby, confirmed suspicions that the Dutchman had at least partially abandoned his philosophy in pursuit of entertainment.

"The manager gave us a lot of freedom to go and play and I think you can see the difference in the team," he said. "You can see we were enjoying it, scoring some good goals and thoroughly deserved to win so hopefully we can put in another performance like this against Stoke tomorrow."

Rooney followed a different script to Van Gaal, who bristled when asked whether the more expansive game was down to changes in United's game or Derby's failings.

"Why? I cannot answer this question," he replied. *Daily Mail*

Man City confident win to sign John Stones

LONDON - MANCHESTER CITY believe they can win the £50 million battle for John Stones in the summer.

Chelsea made repeated bids up to £38m for Everton's star without success.

They will try again at the end of the season as Stones, 21, will not move before the transfer window closes tonight.

But City are quietly confident they can capture Stones after learning his preference is to stay in England — which will disappoint Spanish giants Real Madrid and Barcelona, who have both shown an interest in the defender.

That would leave Chelsea, City



CONFIDENT: John Stones.

and probably Manchester United fighting for pole position in the race to sign him. *Daily Star*



KHUNE'S INJURY NOT SERIOUS

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs goalkeeper Itumeleng Khune was carried off the field of play due to a twisted ankle twist.

However, Chiefs coach Steve Komphela told the Siya crew that the injury was not serious though they still have to wait for the medical report and no the seriousness.

"When we went to the drawing room he was looking good. We just have to wait for the assessment from the medical team before we



INJURY: Itumeleng Khune.

can say how long he will be out," Komphela said.

"But from what we have seen he doesn't look bad at all it's just unfortunate that we are having these injuries at this time." *Soccer Laduma*

SuperSport Pip 'Downs

JOHANNESBURG - SuperSport United have made another shrewd move in the transfer market by snapping up Polokwane City midfielder, Cole Alexander, ahead of next season.

Alexander, 26, will see his contract with Polokwane expire at the end of the current campaign, and it has been no secret that a number of clubs have been vying for his signature over the past

few months.

The Siya crew has previously reported that both SuperSport and Mamelodi Sundowns were interested in landing the midfielder man, with Stuart Baxter known to be a fan of the former Ajax Cape Town man.

Now it has been confirmed to the crew by club CEO, Stand Matthews, that Matsatsantsa have managed to persuade Alexander to don their colours

next season, with the player set to make the move to Tshwane at the end of the 2015/16 season.

The likes of Kaizer Chiefs, Orlando Pirates and Sundowns were all known to be interested in Alexander at some point since it became apparent that he would not be staying with City, however it is thought that Baxter's appointment helped persuade him to make the move to SuperSport. *Soccer Laduma*



TRANSFER: Cole Alexander.

Qalinge's skills excite Orlando Pirates coach Eric Tinkler



SKILLFUL: Thabo Qalinge.

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates coach, Eric Tinkler says individual skills like those shown by Thabo Qalinge in yesterday's Soweto Derby lifts the crowd and the team.

Qalinge sent the Soccer City crowd into a frenzy when he chest-trapped the ball before lifting it onto his shoulders, then brought it down and continued the play with a sweet touch with his feet.

The former Mpumalanga Black

Aces midfielder was starting his first Soweto Derby as Pirates and Kaizer Chiefs drew 1-1.

Skill

"We know his skill. It's fantastic," Tinkler said after the match. "Actually we showed the video of him doing the same thing during the CAF Confederation Cup at the hotel [before the match]."

"Sometimes you need to have that skill — you saw that when the game started, both sides looked nervy and players were losing the

ball cheaply until Yeye [Letsholonyane] stood on the ball.

The fans got behind the players and it seemed to lift the spirit of the Chiefs players and they started to play."

Tinkler says he enjoys watching Qalinge doing his tricks on the ball — as long he is doing them at the right time, in the right place for the benefit of the whole team.

Kickoff

Absa Premiership LOGS

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Mamelodi Sundowns	16	11	3	2	27	11	36
Black Aces	16	10	3	3	23	12	33
Bidvest Wits	16	10	2	4	30	15	32
Kaizer Chiefs	16	6	8	2	22	13	26
Platinum Stars	15	7	5	3	22	17	26
Chippa United	16	7	1	8	24	25	22
Golden Arrows	15	6	3	6	16	17	21
Free State Stars	15	6	3	6	16	18	21
Bloem Celtic	16	5	5	6	15	15	20
SuperSport United	16	5	5	6	15	20	20
Ajax Cape Town	15	5	4	6	19	20	19
Polokwane City	16	5	3	8	16	24	18
Orlando Pirates	15	4	5	6	17	17	17
Jomo Cosmos	16	3	4	9	11	20	13
University of Pretoria	16	3	3	10	8	21	12
Maritzburg Utd	15	1	5	9	16	32	8

German Bundesliga

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Bayern Munchen	18	16	1	1	48	9	49
Borussia Dortmund	19	14	2	3	52	24	44
Hertha BSC	19	10	4	5	29	21	34
Bayer 04 Leverkusen	19	9	4	6	29	21	31
FC Schalke 04	19	9	3	7	26	26	30
Monchengladbach	19	9	2	8	35	34	29
1. FSV Mainz 05	19	8	3	8	24	24	27
VfL Wolfsburg	18	7	5	6	28	24	26
1. FC Koln	18	6	6	6	19	24	24
FC Ingolstadt 04	19	6	5	8	12	20	23
Hamburger SV	19	6	4	9	21	27	22
FC Augsburg	19	5	6	8	21	26	21
Eintracht Frankfurt	19	5	6	8	24	30	21
SV Darmstadt 98	19	5	6	8	19	29	21
VfB Stuttgart	19	6	3	10	27	39	21
SV Werder Bremen	19	5	4	10	23	36	19
TSG 1899 Hoffenheim	18	2	8	8	18	26	14
Hannover 96	19	4	2	13	19	34	14

Italian Serie A

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Juventus	22	15	3	4	42	15	48
Napoli	21	14	5	2	45	18	47
Fiorentina	21	13	2	6	39	21	41
Internazionale	21	12	5	4	26	14	41
Roma	22	10	8	4	40	25	38
Milan	21	9	6	6	29	25	33
Sassuolo	22	8	9	5	26	24	33
Empoli	21	9	5	7	27	26	32
Lazio	21	9	4	8	29	30	31
Chievo	22	7	6	9	27	30	27
Atalanta	22	7	6	9	22	25	27
Torino	21	7	5	9	27	28	26
Bologna	21	8	2	11	24	27	26
Palermo	22	7	4	11	24	35	25
Udinese	21	7	3	11	19	35	24
Genoa	21	6	5	10	24	27	23
Sampdoria	21	6	5	10	31	36	23
Carpi	22	4	7	11	21	37	19
Frosinone	22	4	4	14	23	48	16
Verona	21	0	10	11	14	33	10

French Ligue 1

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Paris Saint-Germain	22	19	3	0	56	10	60
Monaco	23	10	9	4	33	28	39
Angers	23	10	7	6	24	18	37
Nice	23	10	6	7	37	28	36
Caen	23	11	3	9	26	28	36
Rennes	22	8	10	4	32	25	34
St Etienne	22	10	3	9	25	25	33
Nantes	23	8	8	7	21	22	32
Marseille	23	7	10	6	33	24	31
Lyon	23	8	6	9	28	27	30
Lorient	23	7	9	7	32	32	30
Bordeaux	22	7	9	6	27	30	30
Bastia	23	8	4	11	22	27	28
Guingamp	23	7	6	10	22	30	27
Lille	23	5	11	7	18	19	26
GFC Ajaccio	23	6	8	9	24	31	26
Montpellier	23	7	4	12	27	29	25

LATE PENALTY SEES CELTIC SINK WITS

BLOEMFONTEIN - Musa Nyatama netted a stoppage time penalty to earn Bloemfontein Celtic a 2-1 win over Bidvest Wits yesterday afternoon.

The early exchanges proved to be an open affair, with both sides seeing a bit of the ball in the opening 15 minutes, while Elias Pelembe forced Patrick Tignyemb into a routine save in the 12th minute.

Wits were presented with a chance to take the lead in the 29th minute when Bhasera teed up Sibusiso Vilakazi, who fired straight Tignyemb from 12-yards out.

Wits eventually broke the deadlock in the 34th minute



BATTLE: Musa Nyatama being challenged by Tumelo Nhlapo.

when Daine Klate teed up Elias Pelembe for the simple tap-in from six-yards, after a well-worked move, which was started by the goalscorer. Moneeb Josephs came to

Wits' rescue on the stroke of halftime, as the veteran goalkeeper pulled off a fine save to deny Alfred Ndengane from close range.

Soccerladuma

Zulu, Mathe seal victory for Dikwena

JOHANNESBURG - Goals from Solomon Mathe and Siyabonga Zulu were enough to hand Platinum Stars a 2-0 win over the University of Pretoria at the Royal Bafokeng Stadium.

Dikwena broke the deadlock after 26 minutes courtesy of a strike from Solomon Mathe, after being teed up by Msomi.

Cavin Johnson's men were then dealt a blow in the 39th

minute when Tshabalala was forced off with an injury. He was replaced by Ndumiso Mabena.

AmaTuks nearly reduced the deficit five minutes before the halftime break when Thabiso Nkoana fired a low effort just wide of the upright from the edge of the box. The score remained 1-0 to Dikwena at the halftime break, as the visitors struggled to register a single effort on target.

After a quiet start to the half, Shaun Bartlett made a double change after the hour-mark, introducing Lennox Bacela and Kebede with the hope bagging an equaliser.

Things got tougher for AmaTuks in the 73rd minute when they were reduced to 10 men after Maruping was shown his second yellow card of the game.

Dikwena eventually sealed the win in the 85th minute.

Soccerladuma

Everton spoil Carlisle's big day

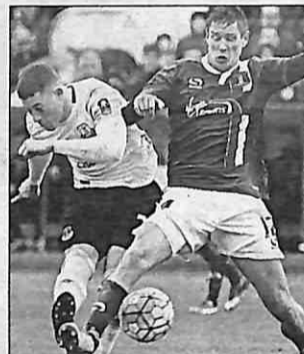
LONDON - Carlisle United had dreamed of an FA Cup fairytale back at their Brunton Park home that had been so heavily damaged in December's floods, but Everton ruined the fourth tier side's big day with a comprehensive 3-0 win in the fourth round yesterday.

It was an emotional occasion for Carlisle following the devastation wrought by Storm Desmond which had left much of the Cumbrian

city deluged, including the football stadium, where water rose as high as the crossbars.

Following a major relief effort, with players, management and staff helping with the clean-up as the club were forced to play away from home, Carlisle had returned to League Two action at a newly-rebuilt Brunton Park last week.

Still, everyone's thoughts remained on their money-spinning, glamour Cup tie



MATCH WINNER: Ross Barkley (left) fires home the third, with the aid of a deflection, to seal a comfortable win.

Sexwale may lose Africa's support in FIFA bid

JOHANNESBURG - Africa's FIFA presidential contender Tokyo Sexwale risks losing the continent's backing and may be asked to pull out of the race, according to reports.

Two local Sunday papers made the speculation ahead of the Friday meeting of the leadership of the 53-member Confederation of African Football (CAF) in Kigali due to decide which candidate to support.

Sexwale and his office



IN DANGER: Tokyo Sexwale.

were not immediately available for comment.

But an unnamed executive committee member of the South African Football

Association (SAFA) told the local Sunday Times weekly that "we have been told that he is not taking the African continent seriously." "And just about everybody on the continent says he must withdraw from the presidential race," said the official. The City Press, another South African Sunday paper also cited an unnamed SAFA official saying the business tycoon may be dropped if he did not get CAF's backing on February 5. *Times Live*

Results

Yesterday

Absa Premiership

Platinum Stars	2-0	UP
Bloem Celtic	2-1	Bidvest Wits

English FA Cup

Carlisle United	0-3	Everton
MK Dons	1-5	Chelsea

French Ligue 1

Caen	2-0	Nice
Bordeaux	4-0	Rennes

Italian Serie A

Chievo	0-4	Juventus
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Spanish La Liga

Sevilla	3-1	Levante
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Saturday

Absa Premiership

Maritzburg Utd	2-3	Sundowns
Black Aces	1-0	Chippa United
SuperSport United	1-0	Free State Stars
Polokwane City	2-1	Jomo Cosmos
Orlando Pirates	1-1	Kaizer Chiefs

English FA Cup

Liverpool	0-0	West Ham United
Reading	4-0	Walsall
Oxford United	0-3	Blackburn Rovers
Crystal Palace	1-0	Stoke City
West Bromwich	2-2	Peterborough
Portsmouth	1-2	Bournemouth
Shrewsbury Town	3-2	Sheffield
Aston Villa	0-4	Manchester City
Arsenal	2-1	Burnley
Nottingham	0-1	Watford City
Bury	1-3	Hull City Gigg
Bolton Wanderers	1-2	Leeds United
Colchester United	1-4	Tottenham

English Football League Championship

Bristol City	0-0	Birmingham City
Huddersfield Town	2-3	Cardiff City
Rotherham United	1-4	Charlton Athletic

French Ligue 1

Troyes	0-1	Nantes
Bastia	1-0	Lyon
Toulouse	1-2	Guingamp
Lorient	2-0	Reims
GFC Ajaccio	0-4	Montpellier
Angers	3-0	Monaco

German Bundesliga

VfB Stuttgart	2-1	Hamburger SV
FC Augsburg	0-0	Eintracht Frankfurt
SV Darmstadt 98	0-2	FC Schalke 04
Dortmund	2-0	FC Ingolstadt
Leverkusen	3-0	Hannover 96
Bremen	3-3	Hertha BSC

Italian Serie A

Roma	3-1	Frosinone
Atalanta	1-1	Sassuolo
Carpi	1-1	Palermo

Rwanda 2016 Chan

Cameroon	0-3	Ivory Coast
Rwanda	1-2	Congo DR

Spanish La Liga

Real Sociedad	2-1	Real Betis
Villarreal	1-0	Granada CF
Eibar	1-2	Malaga
Getafe	0-1	Athletic Club
Barcelona	2-1	Atletico

ent win
stones





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MTN Premier League 2016

PICTURES



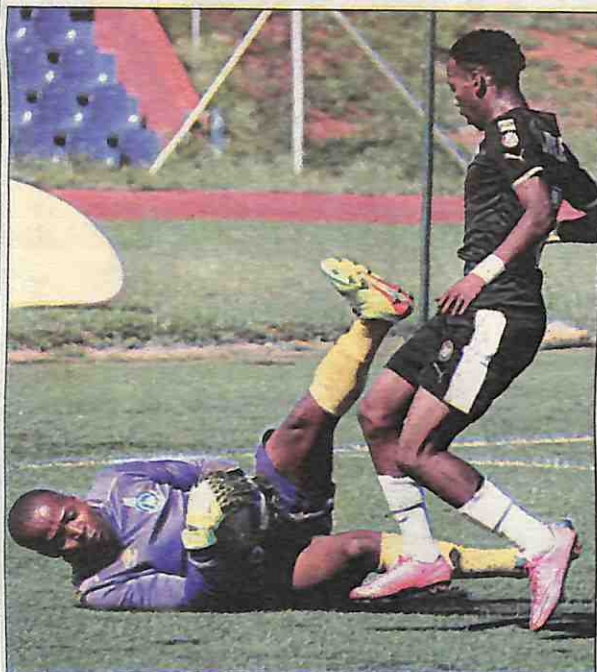
BLOCKING: Green Mamba's Phumlani Ngwenya marking Mbabane Highlanders' Patrick Meso during the MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Green Mamba won 1-0.



GIVE WAY: Fanelo Tsabedze attempts to go past Siyabonga Mdluli.



LIKE A CAT: Green Mamba goalkeeper Colani Mngometulu making a brilliant save.



SAVE: Green Mamba goalkeeper Colani goes for the ball while Lungelo Tsabedze closes in.



FRIENDSHIP: Highlanders and Manzini Wanderers fans cheering the players on.

(Pics: Lucky Simelane)

SHOT: Martin Nyazira trying to block Sabelo Gamedze's shot.



CALM DOWN: Highlanders coach Meck Mwase comforting Lungelo Tsabedze.



OBSTRUCTION: Phulmani Ngwenya obstructs Highlanders' Xolani Sikhondze.



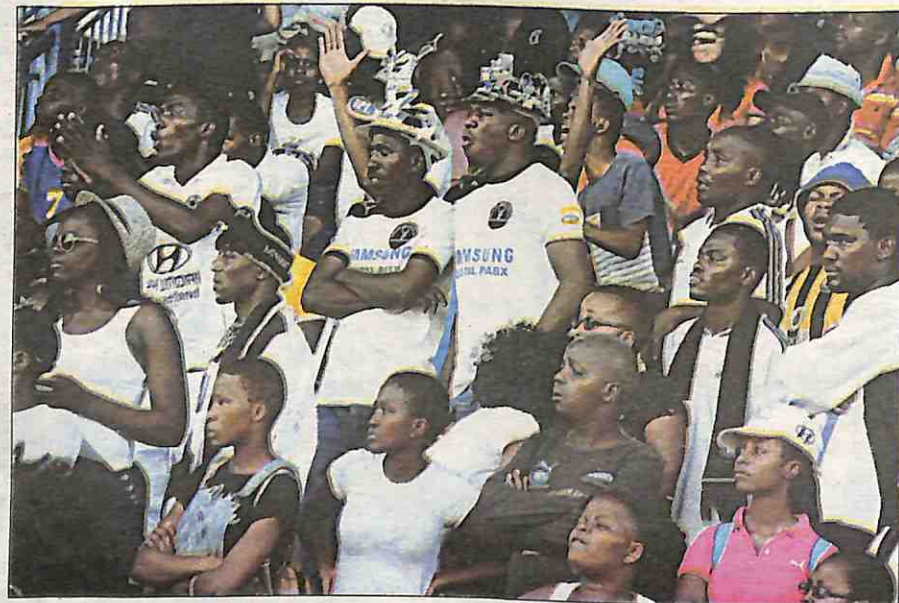
CHASING: Highlanders' Lungelo Tsabedze being pursued by Green Mamba's Sanele Chauke.



OOPSI! Phinda Dlamini and Sabelo Gamedze fighting for the ball.



LIKE A BULL: A Highlanders fan having fun before their clash against Green Mamba.



GWAZWA NKUNZI: Frustrated Highlanders supporters.



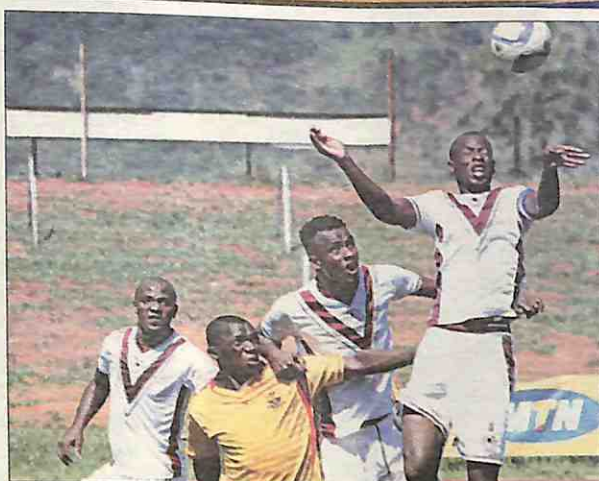
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MTN Premier League 2016

PICTURES



WHOSE BALL?: Manzini Wanderers' Sifiso Matse and Young Buffaloes' Timothy Mathonsi battling for the ball during their MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. The game ended in a 1-1 draw. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



THREE AGAINST ONE: Lwazi Maziya heading the ball.



DULA WESELI: A Wanderers fan celebrating their goal.

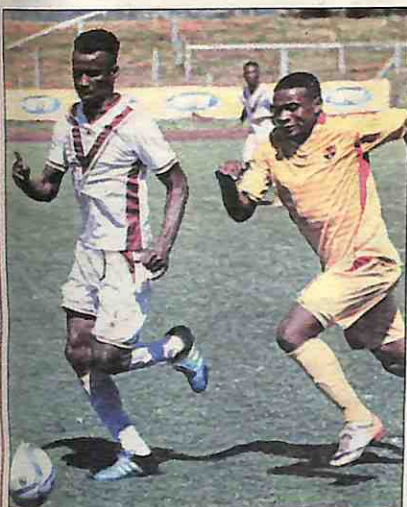


MAHHALA HHA: Wanderers supporters celebrating their goal.

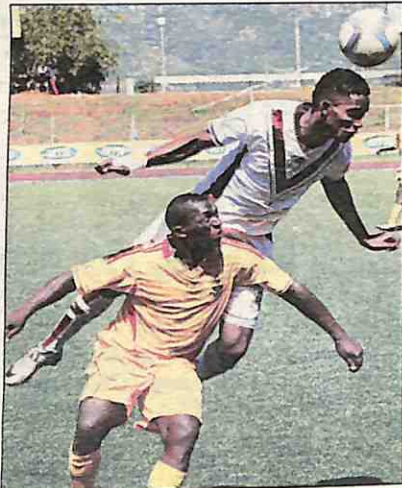
Murape's corner



YES: Manzini Wanderers coach Shepherd Murape celebrating the team's goal against Young Buffaloes.



RUNNING: Ousmane Toure and Ndoda Mtsetfwa dashing for the ball.



ON TOP: Wanderers' Mthokozisi Nkambule heading the ball over Buffaloes' Nhlanhla Kunene.



PUSHING: Aladeon Kola winning the ball from Mphile Tsabedze.



ASAKHULILE AMATHOLE: Buffaloes players celebrating their equalising goal.

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USDF sweep the boards in 'Wafa Wafa' race

By Sabelo Majola

ATHLETICS - A total of 710 athletes turned out for the first edition of the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) 'Wafa Wafa' race held at St Georges Army Barracks yesterday and the USDF athletics team were the big winners.

Melusi Sihlongonyane from USDF was crowned the champion of the 'Wafa Wafa' race after clocking 1:09:40. In second position was another USDF athlete Amos Thwala, who clocked 1:12:05.

Also making it in the top three was Correctional Services' Manqoba Mkhwanazi, who finished the race with a time clock of 1:14:24.

The first lady in the 21km race was RSP athletics team member Samukelisiwe Tfwala, who also came first in last year's Financial Services Marathon held at Somhlolo in October where she clocked 1:35:00. Second in ladies was another RSP athlete, Winile Mnisi.

Sihlongonyane, who broke the previous record when he won last year's seventh edition of the 'Tuff One' Race with a time clock of 1:05,



IN NUMBERS: 21 km runners at the start of the USDF 'Wafa Wafa' race yesterday at St Georges Army Bracks, Matsapha. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)

said it was a good race and the route was safe.

"I opened the gap when going through the hills because that is where my strength is and I prepared well for the route. I train alone and I give myself enough time to plan ahead for a race and find a niche to excel at.

"My last race was a 15 km run in Mozambique and it gave me good practice coming to this race," he said.

Second-placed Tfwala, who has

the best time of 1:06 said the hills, gave him a problem but he was happy to be in second position.

Samukelisiwe said the hills were not a problem to her as she was still feeling refreshed after the race.

"I trained hard for the race and the hills were not a problem to me. I feel like going on as my body is refreshed and strong. I will definitely be part of the event next year and I hope to do even much better and improve in my best time," she said.

Tshabalala praises athletes, soldiers for respect

USDF Deputy Commander Jeffrey Tshabalala has praised both the athletes and soldiers, who were present at the event, for good behaviour and conduct.

Tshabalala, who participated in the 5km race, was speaking shortly before the presentation of the 'Wafa Wafa' race.

"We are very proud of what happened here today (yesterday). We had no serious problems occurring as everybody complied with the rules. We also behaved ourselves as soldiers as we harassed nobody. It was a wonderful event and a harmonious atmosphere. We followed all routes accordingly and I noticed that we had no casualties which mean we were all ready and fit. It will be the same atmosphere in future events," he said.

Tshabalala also added that



RESPECT: USDF Deputy Commander Jeffrey Tshabalala making his remarks shortly before the prize presentation.

the USDF athletics team would come in their numbers for the next event which is the 'Tuff One' race scheduled for February 28.

He said they would do even better than they did yesterday.

AAS encourages formation of clubs

ATHLETICS Association of Swaziland (AAS) Secretary Thoba Mazibuko has encouraged the formation of more athletics teams so that there would be more events of this nature.

Promising clubs like Tubungu, Umsobho and Tinjumbana were part of the race yesterday.

Mazibuko requested new clubs to write letters to the association so that they may be granted formal membership. "We are very proud of the

USDF club for hosting such a magnificent event and we encourage such. Even though we didn't meet our target of 1 000 athletes, but we are happy with the turnout, hoping to meet the target in the next race, which is the 'Tuff One' later this month.

We encourage the formation of more clubs as they are the ones who organise such events. We encourage our athletes to make this a habit and attend the next race," he said.

Hurube, Comfort take part in race

ROYAL Leopard and Red Lions PROs Frank Hurube and Red Lions' Comfort Shongwe took part in the USDF 'Wafa Wafa' race.

The pair participated in the 5km race and kept a disciplined pace, running together from the starting point to the finish. Even though they didn't get any medal, they seemed to have accomplished their mission as they wanted to keep fit and healthy than walking home winners.

Both the 10km and 5km races started at the same time and the winners were from USDF in men while RSP dominated in women.



BATTLE OF THE PROs: Royal Leopard PRO Frank Hurube and Red Lion PRO Comfort Shongwe also took part in the race.

Sponsors' corner:

Simon Magagula - Sicalo Foundation Deputy Chairman



THANK YOU: Sicalo Foundation Deputy Chairman Simon Magagula making his remarks.

like to remind our colleagues that the cooperative is here for them and we are at your service when you need help. To those who won, they must keep the fires burning and those that didn't must try to do better next time."

"It is a great pleasure for Sicalo Foundation to be part of this amazing event. We always encourage a healthy lifestyle because a healthy body results to a healthy mind and that guarantees productivity. We are very happy to see such a great number of athletes turning out for the event. Although we promised to be part of the race, other commitments prevented us from participation but we will make it to the next race."

Sandile Gwebu - Hlalawati Savings and Co-Op Society Treasurer

"The organisation is proud to get the opportunity to push their wellness programme as we all know that one cannot give out their potential best if the mind and body is not sharp. We also

RESULTS

21 km top ten:

Athlete	Time
1 Melusi Sihlongonyane	1:09:40
2 Amos Thwala	1:12:05
2 Manqoba Mkhwanazi	1:14:24
4 Ntokozo Mavimbela	1:14:27
5 Michael Ndaba	1:14:52
6 Thulani Ngubane	1:15:11
7 Mthunzi Makhubela	1:15:35
8 Wandile Maseko	1:15:39
9 Sifiso Sibandze	1:15:59
10 Mduduzi Hlatjwako	1:16:26

10 km top 5:

1 Nkosinathi Zwane	15:06
2 Ntokozo Dlamini	15:15
3 Veli Dlamini	15:25
4 Ndumiso Thusi	15:31
5 Lwazi Mabuza	15:40



FIBA to help improve standard of basketball

By Sibusiso Masilela

BASKETBALL - THE Federation of International Basketball Associations (FIBA) says it is willing to help improve the standard of basketball in the country.

This was disclosed by the world

governing mother body's Swiss-born expert Lubomir Kotleba during a meeting with the Swaziland National Basketball Association (SNBA) officials on Friday at Esibayeni Lodge.

"We are willing and ready to assist Swaziland improve in the sport. We will come up with ways in which the country can improve

technically and professionally in the sport.

The country is blessed with natural talent, but facing some challenges which need our assistance in order to overcome them. We are going to do our best possible means to help the local association improve in order for local basketball to reach greater heights," he

said.

When making his remarks, SNBA President Nhlani Maphanga thanked FIBA for bringing Kotleba to assist in finding ways in which they could improve the standard of the sport in the country.

"We are very grateful and humbled to have Kotleba in the country.

He is here to help us find ways in which we can improve the standard of basketball in Swaziland. We will soon be rolling out programmes aimed at improving the sport. We would like to thank government through the Swaziland National Sports and Recreation Council (SNSRC) for supporting the association," he said.

Brothers, Amalanda record wins

By Sanele Jele

L. Brothers..... (0)1
Hellenic..... (0)0

SOCCER - LUDZELUDZE Brothers denied Hellenic their second victory in a row after beating them 1-0 in a First Division encounter played at Manzini Club Stadium yesterday.

The game started on a low note probably due the scorching heat with both teams failing to break the deadlock in the first half.

Chances were few and far in the first half with both teams struggling in the last third.

The second stanza was action packed as the hosts started piling pressure on the opponents with both team upping their tempo.

Five minutes into the second stanza, Brothers made a brilliant counter attack but their striker Themba Msibi fumbled a well laid pass from Mondli Dlamini.

The Msizi Thwala-led charges continued attacking in great numbers but it was Hellenic goal-



BITE THE DUST: Hellenic were denied their second victory in a row after beating them 1-0 in a First National Division by Ludzeludze Brothers..

keeper Sibusiso Dlamini, who kept his team in the match.

Ludzeludze finally opened the scorers chat in the 60th minute into the second stanza via the boot of Mnisi.

This was after a great counter attack orchestrated by the marvelous Thabiso Motsa, who took on defenders with his amazing speed.

He laid a teasing pass to Zombodze Dlamini, who chipped

the ball to the trouble maker Mnisi, who niched a ground shot that easily beat the advancing Hellenic goalie.

The Mangwaneni-based side tried to come back into the game but their finishing was poor.

It was Senzo Dlamini, who missed manna from Heaven when he failed to execute free header unmarked inside the box from an Andile Masuku corner in the 85th minute.

Hellenic forward Sizwe Gama also failed to find the back of the net after he received a defence splitting pass from Ncamiso Motsa just three minutes before the final whistle.

Ludzeludze goalkeeper Maseko Sifiso made brilliant saves to deny Hellenic their back to back win on the day.

Meanwhile, the Shiselweni derby pitting Kontshingila and Amalanda ended in a 3-2 victory in favour of the visitors.

The tightly contested match went into the breather with Amalanda leading 2-0, thanks to a brace by Lwazi 'Shumi' Mamba. Nkosikhona Tsabedze and Mcolisi Sukati leveled matters for Kontshingila in the second half but a 75th minute striker from Daniel Kirk gave his team the maximum points.

NFD results:

Tambuli	2	Mbabane Citizens	0
Ubombo Flyers	0	Sikhalo Se-Africa	1
RSSC United	1	Moneni Pirates	3
Manchester U	1	Madlenya	0
Ludzeludze B	1	Hellenic	0
Amalanda	3	Kontshingila	2

We are back - 'Koki'

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - MBABANE Swallows coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati said he was pleased with their 4-1 victory over Sea Birds on Saturday at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The outspoken mentor said the win brought them back to the title race which something they needed to maintain as a team.

"I am happy with the win and we should continue from here until the end of the season. We started off the match brightly but eventually gave the opposition too much space to breath."

He said, they however, needed to improve and do better in the next games as complacency was now creeping in some of my players. "We have to continue working hard as a team. We will take one game at a time

and treat it as a cup final because the league has now entered its crucial stage where every team is now fighting to achieve their own mission," he said.

His Sea Birds counterpart Van Rooyen

Magagula said they were let down by poor lapse of concentration in their defence.

"I think we played well but were only let down by poor lapse of concentration in the first half where conceded two quick goals. I am obviously worried as we are now losing matches due to lack of concentration. I will, however, take this as a good learning experience for my players. We have to win most of our remaining matches," Magagula said.

The 'Beautiful Birds' returned to their winning ways in the league through goals from Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa, who scored a brace, Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko and Papy Kabamba, who were also on target to help their side win 4-1.

Sea Birds scored their consolation through striker Muzi Tsabedze.



PLEASED: Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati.

We were too complacent - 'Chacklas'

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER - MALANTI Chiefs interim coach Abel 'Chacklas' Shongwe has attributed their 1-2 loss against Bad Boys to complacency.

He made these remarks after watching his side lose their 16th MTN Premier League match and Manzini Club on Saturday.

"Complacency let us down in this match. We creating a lot of scoring opportunities but they failed to convert them which cost us big time. We also failed to regroup on time and as a result they caught with counter-attacks," he said. He, however, commended the players for their fighting spirit. "Malanti Chiefs are a good team but we have to improve. We will go back to the drawing board to rectify our mistake and we promise to come strong in our next match." Meanwhile, winning coach Mpendulo Mawelela said he was happy with the win. "It was a tough game and either team could have won. I laud my players for their positive attitude. Coming from a goal down to win this tough encounter is really commendable.

However, I think towards the end of the match, boys showed signs of anxiety but I am happy we managed to pull through," Mawelela said. The coach further said he was happy with the new signings.

"The new players played well especially Siyabonga Jele, who was a constant threat to the opposition. I encourage them to keep working hard. Banele was good too but unfortunately he got injured during the course of the game," he said

Mawelela said they would fight until the end. Bad Boys are still on position 11 in the MTN log with 15 points, which means they are not out of the danger zone.

Malanti Chiefs remain on the basement of the log with seven points after 16 outings.

'Beating 'Buffs' could have been turning point'

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER - MANZINI Wanderers Coach assistant Anthony Mdluli believes a victory against Young Buffaloes would have been their turning point.

Interviewed after their 1-all draw against the army outfit at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday, the coach said the end result was unfortunate as they wanted the maximum points.

"We wanted to win this game so that we could move from the position we are currently occupying in the log. We knew we were playing a top team in Buffaloes hence, the plan was to use counter attacks and it worked for us as we managed to score the

goal. We just failed to defend up to the last minute," he said

The coach said their main target was to win at least five of their remaining seven games.

"We were hop-

ing to win this game but we couldn't. We now have to win at least four of the remaining games but it will be tough because we are left with big teams like Swallows, Leopard, Highlanders, Malanti and Midas City," he said.

Meanwhile, Young Buffaloes coach Dominic Kunene said they were satisfied with the point secured from the game.

"It was not the result we were hoping for but we are happy with what we have.

The plan was to be patient as we knew they would go all out. We created chances in the first half but failed to convert," he said.

The coach however highlighted that they would continue working hard in preparation for their upcoming games.



'Nuro' praises players' fighting spirit

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - DEFENDING champions Royal Leopard head coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane has praised his charges for their fighting spirit and perseverance as they came from a goal down to beat Manzini Sundowns 2-1 at Mavuso Sports Centre on Saturday.

Ntibane said even though his players were trailing behind when the match went for the breather, they persevered and

pressed on, creating chances until they equalised in the second half.

Victory

"It has come to the stage where every game is a must win and it gets tougher with every match. I am quite impressed with the way the players persevered and to come from a goal down and claim victory is excellent," he said.

Ntibane also praised the team's new signing Richard Bazombwa from DRC, who was impressive in his debut.

"I was impressed with his performance, even though he still needs time to adapt to our style

but he played well. He will soon catch up and believe in him."

Injuries

Meanwhile, Sundowns head coach Musa Manyatsi said they came into this match thin as two of their key players in Justice Figureito and Phinda Ginindza were out with injuries.

"There was an element of fatigue from my players and we were hit by injuries as both Phinda and Justice are out nursing injuries.

"Loss of concentration especially in the second half gave Leopard a chance to punish us and they did," he said.



WE DID WELL: Royal Leopard head coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane.

NOT AGAIN



DEJECTED: Disappointed Mbabane Highlanders supporters during their teams loss to Green Mamba.

'BUFFS' SECURE LAST MINUTE POINT AGAINST WANDERERS

By Qondile Ntiwane

Wanderers..... (1)1
Buffaloes..... (0)1

SOCCER – A last minute strike by mid-fielder Dumisani Mdluli earned Young Buffaloes a precious point against Manzini Wanderers during an MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The lanky defender salvaged the point for the army side with less than a minute to full-time. Mdluli, unmarked inside the box, connected a pass from Bertram Dlamini before blasting the ball past Wanderers goalkeeper Wenzile Khumalo, much to the disappointment of the Wanderers faithful. Manzini Wanderers was the better team especially in the first half of the match and were all over a disjointed Buffaloes. It was, however, Buffaloes that could have been first to open the score sheet but defender Geina 'Kwere' Mazibuko saved the day in the 33rd minute when he blocked a Nhlanhla Mshengu Kunene shot on the goal line as the goalkeeper was nowhere near the goal posts.

Nightmare

Wanderers' striker Kola Oladeon, who was a nightmare to the Buffaloes defence, came through for his side in the 35th minute when he connected from the right flank a pass from Sifiso Matse past the country's number Nhlanhla Gwebu. This was a few minutes after a five minutes water break sanctioned by referee Thulani Sibandze. The maroon and white outfit could have doubled the score line two minutes later but a pass to Sidumo Shongwe inside the box was cleared by the Buffaloes defence. The Dominic Kunene led side failed to make use of a golden opportunity in the 72nd minute after they were awarded a free kick just at the edge of the box following a hand ball by Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya. Midfielder Mancoba Dunga Kunene directed his shot over the cross bar. Substitute Phiwa Dlamini was also unfortunate when his place kick shot was cleared by the Wanderers defence after the ball bounced off the Wanderers goalkeeper.

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Monday February 1, 2016



OWN GOAL: Mbabane Highlanders' Jimoh Moses (2) helped Green Mamba after scoring a goal in their own goal post. Green Mamba maintain the lead until the final whistle. This was during their MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SIDE CONTINUES WITH DOMINANCE OVER 'LANDERS AS...

MAMBA POISON 'BULL' AGAIN

- 'Landers suffer third loss to 'Inyok'eluhlazana' in the current campaign
- Surrenders top spot to Leopard



By Sibusiso Masilela

Mbabane Highlanders..... (0)0
Green Mamba..... (1)1

SOCCER – GREEN Mamba continued their dominance over the capital giants when they handed Mbabane Highlanders, a 0-1 loss during an MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The Correctional Service side have beaten the black and white ensemble in three meeting in the current campaign following their hard-fought win which came after an own goal by Nigerian defender Jimmoh Moses. The defender failed to clear a Civil Matsebulu tap in

after he received a low pass from striker Phinda 'Phindrix' Dlamini in the 3rd minute to give the opposition an early lead. Despite displaying one of their worst performances so far this season, Highlanders seemed to have been cursed by football gods as they missed numerous clear cut chances that could have atleast given them a draw in this match.

Playmaker Fanelo Tsabedze almost equalised for his side in the 11th minute but failed to beat Green Mamba goalkeeper Xolani Mngometulu after receiving a Xolani 'Papi' Sikhondze threaded pass. Winger Mphucuko Dlamini, who was given a berth ahead of captain Colani 'Chocco' Sibandze squandered another chance in the 25th minute with

only the keeper to beat.

The sides tried to push forward but play kept being broken down in the midfield as the two sets of midfielders battled it hard in the middle of the park.

Break

Njabulo Tfwala almost made it 2-0 for 'Inyoka Eluhlazana' before the half hour mark but his shot was swallowed by Sidumo Vilakati at Highlanders goals as the match went to break with Green Mamba leading 1-0.

The second stanza saw both teams failing to create glittering chances but Green Mamba second half substitute Shaka Nkanyana, who came for Zimbabwean winger Martin Nyazira almost scored in the 70th minute when his timely header

went agonizingly wide after meeting a Phumlani Ngwenya cross. Highlanders brought in 'Chocco' and Kingsley Makhatho for the tired Mphucuko Dlamini and 'Papi' Sikhondze but still they could not found the elusive equaliser with Sibandze missing two chances in the 74th minute and 85th minute respectively. The hosts continued to look threatening on attack but Inyok'eluhlazana were an organised unit at the back, making life difficult for the 'Landers attackers.

Referee Simanga Nhleko ended the gruelling match much of a delight to the Green Mamba fans, who continued to have joy at the expense of the 'Bull' faithful, who left the venue dejected.

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Royal Leopard	16	10	5	1	25	11	14	35
Mbabane Highlanders	16	10	2	4	25	12	13	32
Young Buffaloes	16	10	1	5	24	14	10	32
Mbabane Swallows	16	9	4	3	36	13	23	31
Midas City	16	7	2	7	15	15	0	23
Manzini Sundowns	16	5	6	5	14	14	0	21
Green Mamba	16	4	7	5	23	20	3	19
Manzini Wanderers	16	4	6	6	15	22	-7	18
Red Lions	16	4	5	7	12	22	-10	17
Bad Boys	16	4	3	9	17	30	-13	15
Manzini Sea Birds	16	3	4	9	15	28	-13	13
Malanti Chiefs	16	1	4	11	8	28	-20	7

MTN NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION LOG

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1. Moneni Pirates	16	13	1	1	38	7	31	40
2. Tambuti	16	13	0	2	38	9	29	39
3. RSSC United	16	8	3	4	23	16	7	27
4. Hellenic	16	7	0	5	19	19	0	21
5. Mbabane Citizens	16	5	4	6	18	20	-2	21
6. Ubombo Flyers	16	6	2	7	27	21	6	20
7. Sikhalo	16	7	5	3	24	13	11	20
8. L. Brothers	16	5	4	7	22	28	-6	19
9. Madlenya	16	5	3	7	18	24	-6	18
10. Amalanda	16	4	6	5	21	22	-1	18
11. Manchester United	16	2	5	8	14	20	-7	11
12. Kontshingila	16	1	1	13	15	45	-29	4

RESULTS

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE

Saturday	
Royal Leopard	2-1 Bad Boys
Manzini Sea Birds	1-4 Mbabane Swallows
Bad Boys	2-1 Malanti Chiefs
Midas City	2-0 Red Lions
Yesterday	
Manzini Wanderers	1-1 Young Buffaloes
Mbabane Highlanders	0-1 Green Mamba

MTN FIRST DIVISION

Tambuti	2-0 Mbabane Citizens
Ubombo Flyers	0-1 Sikhalo Se-Africa
RSSC United	1-3 Moneni Pirates
Manchester United	1-0 Madlenya
Ludzeludze Brothers	1-1 Hellenic
Amalanda	3-2 Kontshingila