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ISAAC SETS UP PROBE ON UNISWA STUDENT ACCIDENT

PAGE 3



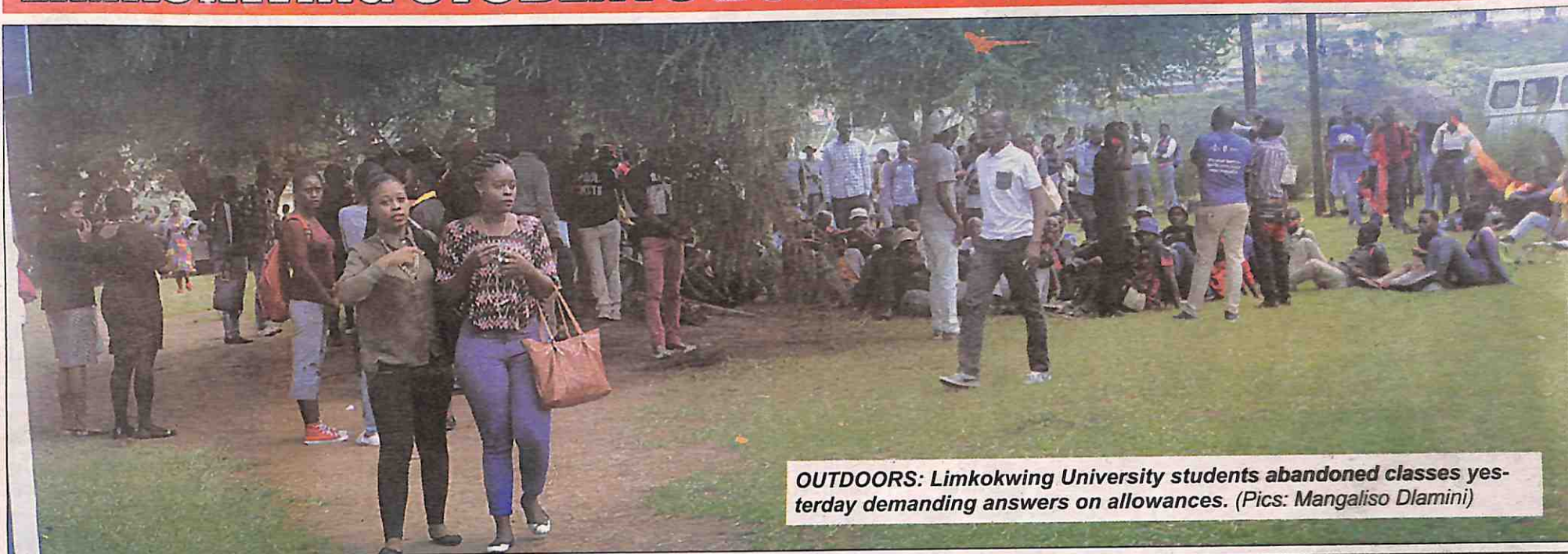
TEXTILE WORKERS GET SALARY RAISE

PAGE 3



LIMKOKWING STUDENTS BOYCOTT CLASSES

STORY ON PAGE 2



OUTDOORS: Limkokwing University students abandoned classes yesterday demanding answers on allowances. (Pics: Mangaliso Dlamini)

NEW PRINCIPAL LOCKED OUT

● Angry parents demand return of former principal, petition PS Muir

STORY ON PAGE 2

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2 NATIONAL NEWS

CHIEF MALIWA DISPUTE:

LUBOMBO RA ORDERED TO RETURN BUILDING MATERIAL

● Judge Stanley Maphalala grants applicants costs

By Linda Jele
High Court

HIGH Court Principal Judge Stanley Maphalala has ordered Lobombo Regional Administrator Sylvia Mthethwa to stop holding onto building material she disposed from residents for not paying allegiance to a chief amid a chieftaincy dispute.

The material had been provided for to finish a community hall project and a development committee at Mhlabubovu area in the Lubombo region was set up and given building material.

However, heavily armed police were dispatched to take away the building material.

The development committee then instituted legal proceedings against the Lubombo RA and six others seeking an order for the restoration of the material.

They complained that they were dispossessed off the material without due process.

The matter had been filed by Coshiwe Matsenjwa and seven members of the area's development committee.

They were represented by Advocate Lucas Maziya who was instructed by lawyer Luke Malinga.

The Attorney General's Principal Crown Counsel, Vusi Kunene appeared on behalf of Mthethwa in the matter.

It was submitted that the building material which consisted of 68 IBR corrugated iron sheets, 20 reinforcements, 50 large roof timber and window frames to name a few, was taken because the development committee comprised people who challenged the appointment of Chief Maliwa.

On May 15, 2015, police officers armed to the teeth, stormed Gogo Coshiwe Matsenjwa's home, where the material had been kept.

In her affidavit, Matsenjwa said the material had been kept by the development committee in her homestead and she agreed to care for them since she was also going to benefit. Matsenjwa said she was terrified by the heavily armed police officers who simply told her that they had been

...Attorney General files appeal

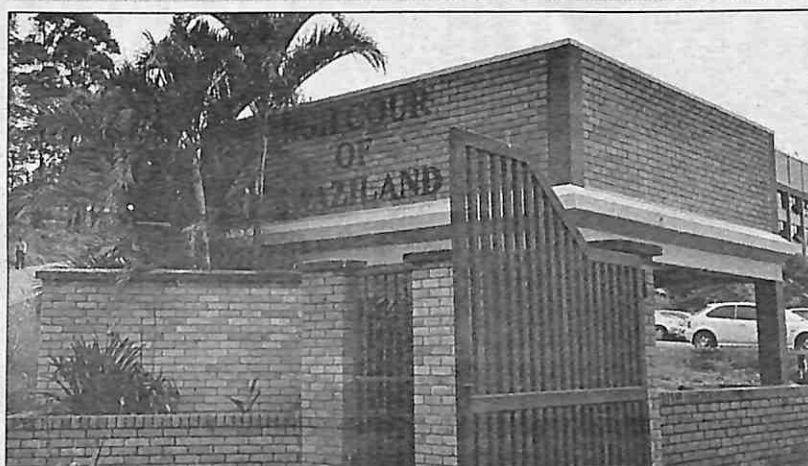
THE office of the attorney general intends to challenge the High Court ruling at the Supreme Court.

The office filed a notice of appeal before the Supreme Court and it is expected to file its grounds of appeal.

It had argued that the matter was not supposed to have been dealt with by the High Court, but through Swazi Law and Custom.

Appeal

The appeal is expected to be heard in the April/May session of the Supreme Court.



HERE: The High Court of Swaziland where the matter was heard.

assigned by the 'the law' to fetch the material from her. She said the police officers then loaded the material onto trucks and left despite that she had explained that they could only be taken in the presence of the committee and on production of a court order or documents directing them to dispossess her of the property.

The attorney general's office said the issue was a chieftaincy dispute and they continued to construct a community hall yet they refused to be allocated land by Chief Maliwa and did not recognise him.

Faction

It was also argued that if the deviating faction were to be allowed to continue constructing the hall, they would continue to disrespect the chief and prejudice His Majesty King Mswati III's appointment.

"Further, the material being utilised, which is also a government property, will go to drain as the hall will be demolished and allocated land as soon as the applicants agree to conform to the King's appointment," Kunene said.

Kunene also said the High Court did not have jurisdiction to hear the

matter, but it was supposed to be heard in traditional structures. Advocate Maziya said the High Court had jurisdiction to entertain the matter because the act bothered on violation of constitutional human rights.

Judge Maphalala said the development committee was in peaceful and undisturbed possession of the building materials at the time they were taken away.

"There was never any court order directing such dispossession," he said.

"I wish to comment en passant that in this case, a very old woman was despoiled of property under her care through the force of police officers and other officers in a situation that should not happen in our constitutional dispensation in this country," Judge Maphalala said.

He directed that the material should be returned to the development committee and kept at gogo Coshiwe Matsenjwa's home.

Judge Maphalala ordered Mthethwa and the six others to pay costs of suit on the ordinary scale and pay costs of the advocate.

Limkokwing students protest over allowances

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

STUDENTS of the University of Limkokwing yesterday suspended classes and embarked on a protest action over unpaid personal and bookshop allowances.

SRC President Baphatse Dladla said as the student body, they were concerned that the personal and bookshop allowances for most students had not been paid yet. "We are actually frustrated that some students have not received their bookshop allowances and because of that, they cannot learn. We have been told that government paid the allowances to the university and now we want answers on when

we will receive the money. We have been informed that the money from government has to go via our headquarters in Malaysia and we do to understand the reasoning against that as we are languishing in hunger here," said a furious Dladla.

Dladla said they met with the university's management yesterday and were told to meet again tomorrow when the management would have answers on when the money would be released to the students.

Dladla further lamented that some third year students had not received their allowances, but they were expected to do their internship programmes which also required money as the learners have to use public transport on daily basis.

I was let down by cops - Sitile

By Thembeke Dlamini
Manzini

THE wife who demanded for a divorce from her husband as he allegedly celebrated his nuptials with new wife has expressed disappointment at Manzini Police officers, who claimed to be ignorant of what bigamy was.

Sitile Magongo invaded her husband's wedding celebrations on Saturday where she sought her husband to free her through a divorce decree, something which she said he had failed to do despite intending to marry another woman through civil right.

"Money is scarce as I had to look after our children for the last few years on my own while he has gone on to have relationships and further got engaged to these women," Magongo said of her husband Mduduzi Dlamini, who had his ceremony disrupted when she arrived in tow with her friends and their son, who allegedly asked Dlamini of his audacity to afford to marry while he failed to pay their school fees.

Magongo explained how her husband of 14 years got married despite still being married to her and when she visited the Manzini Police Station to register her complaint, plain clothed police officers situated at the reception claimed to be ignorant of bigamy and the fact that it was a crime.

"I had been told by magistrate's court registry clerks to approach the police station. However, when I reached there, they told me that they were ignorant of the crime I was reporting," Magongo said, adding that she had to return to the magistrate court and was assisted by Khetsiwe Dlamini, who subsequently called the station to question why they were not helping her as she had been



COPS LET ME DOWN: Sitile Magongo.

referred there.

"In my presence she called the senior CID officer, who was said to be aware of the crime and he called me back to the station," she said.

She said, however, her husband was able to marry three days later on February 11 despite having availed all documentation to the officers who told her that she should not attend the wedding as she was going to be arrested should she be found to have committed a crime.

Marriage

"My husband got married though still bound by his first marriage and that was no crime whereas I was warned about committing a crime; aren't those double standards?" she questioned.

She further blasted the Ngwenya Alliance Church for their involvement in the bigamous ceremony.

"I was their member a few years ago until my husband joined the church and I told them that I would move out as to help him stay comfortable in his chosen house of worship. They have denied being part of his wedding ceremony, yet they donated most of the food and took part as a praise team," she said of the ceremony which she was unsuccessful in disrupting as it continued behind locked doors.

NEWS
EXTRA

'I BOUGHT BABY FOR £50 FROM WOMAN AT TRAIN STATION'

CAPE TOWN - A seamstress accused of snatching a baby from a maternity ward in South Africa nearly 18 years ago told a court yesterday she bought a baby for £50 from a mystery woman at a train station.

The 50-year-old is accused of abducting three-day-old Zephany Nurse,

known as South Africa's Madeleine McCann, from her hospital cot.

She told the court in Cape Town she hid a miscarriage from her husband and turned to a mystery woman called 'Sylvia' who promised to provide her with fertility pills or help her adopt.

She told Western Cape

High Court: "The woman told me about a young girl who was interested in putting her baby for adoption. I said we could talk about it."

She said she arranged to meet the woman at the station in a suburb of Cape Town a few days later but another woman arrived and gave her a baby.

She went on: "Suddenly this lady approached me with a baby in her hands. She asked me if I was waiting for Sylvia, I said 'yes'." "She said 'Sylvia told me to give you this baby and go to Retreat Hospital and phone her from there'. So I put the baby in my arms and went to the hospital."

Daily Mail

PARENTS LOCK-OUT NEW PRINCIPAL

COVER STORY

Stories by Nozipho Sibiba
Mbabane

ANGRY Fonteyn High School parents rejected the school's new principal from Londunduma High School yesterday.

Alice Nzima was stopped from entering the school premises by angry parents, who locked her out of the school's main gate.

Nzima has been transferred to the school to replace Buyile Shongwe, who has now been transferred and assumed duties at a now established Ngwane Park High School.

Shongwe has been the principal for almost five years now.

The infuriated parents overcrowded the school main gate and turned away Nzima, who was prepared for her first day as the principal of the school.

Driving in the latest Mercedes Benz, angry parents manning the school gates made it clear that she was not welcome at the school.

Armed with a petition which in part read: 'No to new head teacher, we want Mrs Shongwe back'.

The parents said they had plans with their former head, who had produced excellent Form Three results and they needed the same for their first Form V class in 2016.

The parents said there was no protocol followed in the transfer of their head teacher and there was no hand over made to them.

"Regional Education Officer (REO) was not properly informed and the budget for 2016 was already done with Shongwe."

Parents have promised to take the Teaching Service Commission (TSC) to court if Shongwe is not brought back.

"It is against the law to run a school without a principal for a long time."

The parents feel TSC has taken their children's future for granted. The parents said Fonteyn did not rely on government subvention for orphaned and vulnerable children; they pay school fees from their hard earned salaries.

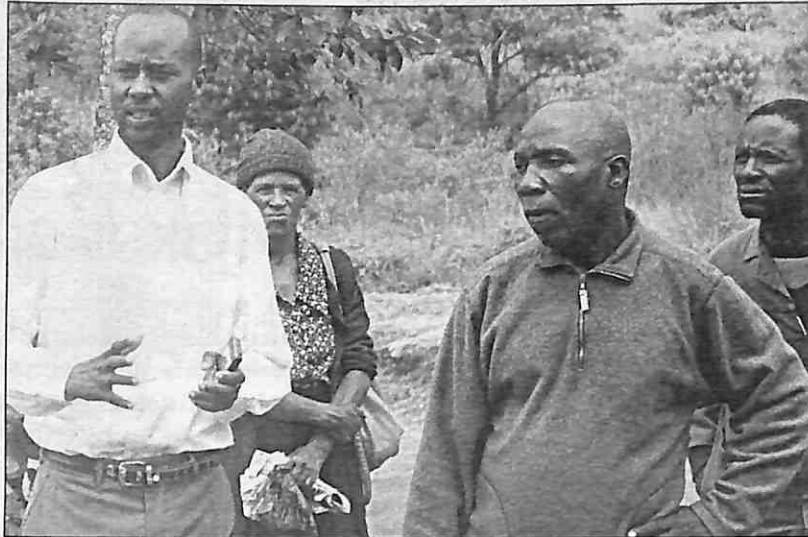
According to the parents, the pupils are also reluctant to accept the new principal.

Some of the parents who claimed to know her said, Nzima was not a committed woman.

"We want a principal who has passion like Buyile. As bad as it may be seem but Nzima is not that woman," alleged one parent.

However, Buyile Shongwe, who has already moved on to her new school when sought for comment, preferred not to talk to the media as

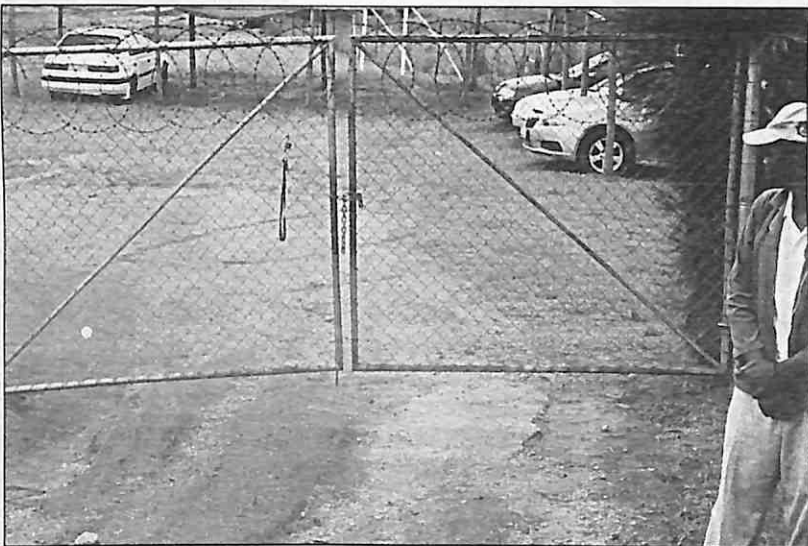
they blocked entrance to the school for Nzima, who was ready to start work



WAY FORWARD: Fonteyn Chairperson Sizwe Masilela addressing parents. (Pics: Mangaliso Dlamini)



WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE: Fonteyn High School parents waiting by the gate making sure the new principal does not enter the school.



NO ENTRY: The security guard was told by the parents to keep the gate close.

the matter was being dealt with a senior level. Community chairperson, Sizwe Masilela said they met with the Education and Training Principal Secretary Pat Muir.

He said their meeting with the PS was fruitful as he promised to enquire from TSC before issuing the findings of the transfer of Shongwe.

According to Masilela, Muir said TSC

should have done a proper hand over and also stated the reasons for the transfer.

"Instead Shongwe was handed a letter of transfer by the Manzini REO."

However, when PS to the Ministry of Education Pat Muir was reached for comment on the Fonteyn matter, his phone rang unanswered.

Textile workers get 5.7 percent salary increase

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE wages council has approved a 5.7% salary raise for the textile and apparel industry.

This is contained by an official letter obtained from the ministry of

labour and social security.

The letter reveals that the basic terms and conditions of employment shall not change and that the basic minimum wages shall be increased by 5.7% with effect from the March 1.

It is, however, worth noting that the relevant government gazette is still in

the process of publishing the changes.

Increase

Vic Royce, chairman of the Swaziland Textile Employers Association has confirmed the increase and Wonder Mkhonza general secretary of Amalgated Trade Unions of Swaziland (ATUSWA) has also confirmed the increase.

Four senior cops to investigate UNISWA student's accident

POLICE National Commissioner Isaac Magagula has appointed four senior police officers to conduct a full scale investigation into the injury of Ayanda Mkhabela, the University of Swaziland student who was run over by a police casspir.

Mkhabela was allegedly run over by an Operational Support Services Unit (OSSU) casspir during the protests last Monday.

He said the investigation had been given a maximum period of three weeks to complete the probe and submit their findings for further action as administrative convenience may be inappropriate in addressing this matter of immense public interest.

The four senior police officers are Senior Assistant Commissioner, Director Criminal Investigations Department Sam Mthembu, Senior Assistance Commissioner and Director Legal Affairs Bonisile Simelane, Senior Superintendent, Chief Investigator Complaints and

Discipline David Gwebu and Assistant Superintendent Legal Officer Zweli Mavuso.

Magagula said given the varying accounts of what may have led to the accident, and the seriousness with which it happened, he found it fitting and judicious that a full scale inquiry be launched for an intensive investigation on the matter.

"The inquiry is an internal police investigation aimed at getting to the bottom of the whole matter so that whatever action is deemed as pertinent going forward is taken."

Clarified

Magagula thus clarified that it was normal and within the parameters of their policy that whenever incidents such as this one occurred as a consequence of a police operation, an internal investigation was launched.

He, therefore, appealed to all those with information that may shed light on what led to the accident to make their submissions to the investigation team.

Natcom appeals for calm, apologises

THE National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula has appealed for calm in the aftermath of the unfortunate incident that occurred at the University during the protest action.

Magagula said so much had been said following the unfortunate incident that led to the student's injury in the course of a police operation to maintain peace and order.

He said in the wake of a stand-off between students and university administration that had spiralled to acts of violence and vandalism, which entailed among other acts, smashing of dormitory windows and looting of refectory items police were called in to maintain law and order.

"As an entity that subscribes to the virtues of accountability and transparency in our operations, we have found it apposite that we add our voice and shed some light or offer clarity, where such is pertinent in the interests of police public relations."

He pointed out from the outset that police presence at the institution's precincts was elicited or occasioned by the potential explosive situation which manifested its ugly head through the acts of violence and vandalism that had erupted against peace and order at the university.

The national commissioner said with the comments making the rounds in the public

domain following the unfortunate incident, some being in anger and perhaps justifiably so and others conducting a trial in public court and passing judgement.

"We wish to take this opportunity to appeal for calm whilst the matter of the student's injury is still investigated for appropriate recourse.

He said anger and emotions at this point in time served no particular purpose except to cloud the whole issue.

"He said the police service without implying a guilty state of mind and conscious, but in consonance with the spirit of 'Ubuntu' apologises to the University administration and the student fraternity for the incident."

The national commissioner said their commiserations went to the injured student and members of her family.

"We wish her a speedy recovery."

"All concerned are, therefore, assured that the matter will be accorded the judicious attention it deserves."

He said police took on board the student's welfare following the incident and she was evacuated from the scene of the accident to hospital by the police.

He thus mentioned that they were working hand in hand with the ministry of health and attending doctors to ensure that the student got the best medical care and the situation would continue to be monitored.

4 NATIONAL NEWS



DAMAGED: The maize fields that were damaged by Jeremiah Mjakes Dladla as they were planted on disputed piece of land by his sister in law.

DESPITE CURRENT DROUGHT MAIZE FIELD **CUT** DOWN'

By Thembeke Dlamini
Sigombeni

WITH maize prices soaring to unprecedented heights and hundreds of thousands of Swazis going hungry, a crazed man cut down a field of maize this past weekend during the still of the night.

This was his expression of dissatisfaction to an ongoing land dispute.

Jeremiah Mjakes Dladla of Lomzukululu, an area bordered by Sigombeni and Mbekelweni within the Manzini region, was found cutting down the maize field which belongs to his sister-in-law, Zodwa Dladla (39) at about 10pm on Saturday night.

"I was called by my children to see what my brother-in-law was doing and was shocked to find him in the process of cutting down my maize fields which had a few weeks to go before harvest," Zodwa said.

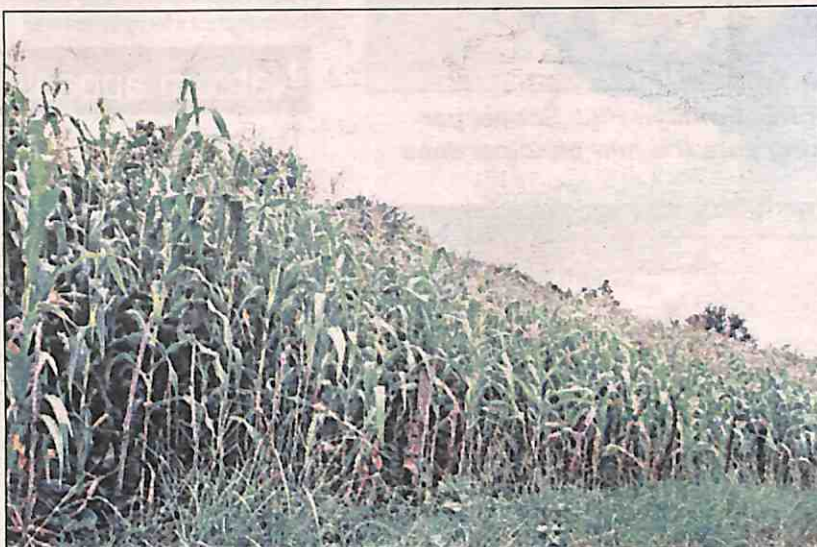
She was found in the company of her stepson Sikelela as they tried to make their way to the Matsapha Police Station from the area situated in hills.

After being asked to turn back in order to show reporters the field, they relented and the long trek was made.

The field was found to be located within others where a healthy harvest is assured.

Each stalk was cut cleanly at about 20 centimetres above the ground.

"My brother-in-law is a seasonal cane cutter and he was able to cut the whole field within 15 minutes



STANDING TALL: Maize fields belonging to Mjakes.



TUG OF WAR: Jeremiah Dladla and Zodwa Dladla.

as neighbours tried to stop him," Zodwa said.

Confessed

She confessed that the area she planted on was disputed, but the Mbekelweni Umphakatsi ruled that she be allowed to harvest before the land could be taken over.

"I have 11 children under my

care and I don't know what they will eat for the rest of the year with the field destroyed," she said.

In Swaziland, subsistence farmers measure food security for the following year by their harvest of maize, which is the staple for the country.

"How will I feed the children," she wept while at the field. The

trail leading to the field did not prepare for the desolation of the destroyed area. Journalists from other media houses expressed their shock on seeing the maize lying as though harvested.

"Bekavuna mosi lomuntfu," one journalist said while Zodwa wept quietly and her stepson walked away in anger.

When Jeremiah was located at the Sigodweni Police Station, he said he was not aware of what transpired at the field. "Nami ngimangala njengawe," he said stone faced.

He was arrested and is expected to appear at the Matsapha Circuit Court for malicious damage to property.

'Mjakes an angry man'

THE man who cut down a prized field of maize within 15 minutes has been accused of numerous other misdemeanours by his sister-in-law.

Jeremiah Mjakes Dladla of Lomzukululu was said to have so bad a relationship with his brother that his children, chickens and dogs bore the brunt of his frustrations.

"I was once strangled by my father's brother for no reason," Sikelela Dladla said.

He accused the nearly elderly man of numerous other

unpalatable accusations, saying his deceased mother was used as an insult in some instances. "My son has protected me on so many occasions," Zodwa Dladla said of her stepson who was present during the interview.

She recounted how her chickens were diminished after her in-law threw stones at them as well as her dogs.

"It has been a bitter life while my husband is usually away and at work," she said of the turmoil she had endured for the last five years.

Warder arrested for murder, attempted murder

By Linda Jele
High Court

AN officer at His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) has denied that he killed a man and hacked another with a bush-knife.

Sanele Dhladhla from Bhudla in the Manzini region was arrested by Mafutseni police and charged with murder and attempted murder, which he allegedly committed on February 13, 2016. He was accused of killing Wandile Mahlalela after assaulting and kicking him all over the body.

He was also charged with attempted murder for hacking him with a bush-knife and further kicked him several times all over the body.

He denied that he ever laid his hands on the two people, but they had been assaulted by a mob.

Dhladhla alleged that he only arrived and found that a mob had assaulted the two to a pulp and laying on the ground.

"I then asked as whether the police had been called, looking at the manner in which the deceased was injured. I deny the allegations contained in the charge sheet and I will present my defence during trial of this matter," Dhladhla said.

He submitted that he was a law abiding citizen in the country and a law enforcer.

Dhladhla also submitted that there was no reason he would want to involve himself in the commission of crime because he was cognisant of the conse-

quences thereof and how it could ruin his career. He claimed that it took him a long time to get a job and it was stressful.

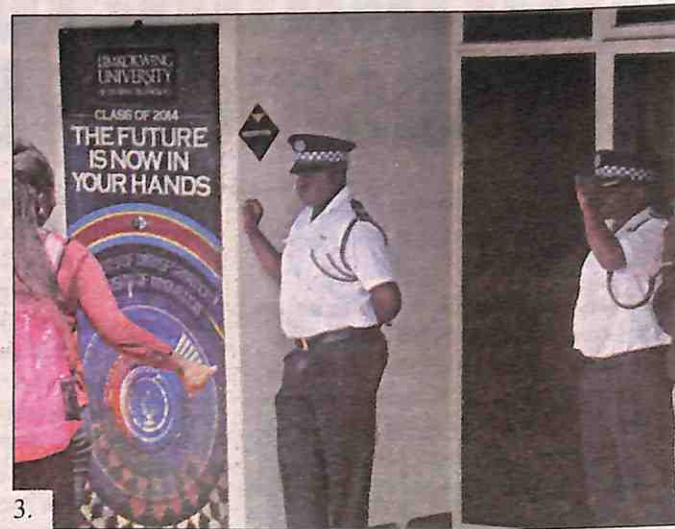
Dhladhla had moved an application before the High Court seeking an order to be admitted to bail. He is represented by lawyer Machawe Sithole from Sithole Magagula Attorneys. He submitted, in an affidavit, that he would plead not guilty to the charges on trial.

"There is no reason why I would participate in a killing of a person whom I do not know and has never provoked me. I am shocked at my arrest. My continued arrest would be prejudicial to the welfare of my family as I could not cater for their needs. I am the only one employed at home and my siblings heavily rely on my salary for their education and basic needs," he said.

"If I am reported absent at work for a number of days, I might lose my employment," he added. The office of the Director of Public Prosecutions did not oppose the application to have Dhladhla admitted to bail. He was admitted to E15 000 bail and ordered to pay E3 000 cash and provide surety to the value of E12 000.

He was also ordered to report to the Mafutseni Police Station on the last Friday of every month, warned not to interfere with Crown witnesses and not leave the country without leave of the prosecution. He paid the bail amount.

LIMKOKWING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PROTEST



1. **CRISIS:** The University bookshop which is fully stocked yet students have still not received their book allowances. 2. **WHAT NOW:** Students watch as their peers strike. 3. **LAW AND ORDER:** Police officers, keeping a close eye during the strike.




DEMONSTRATING: Students toyi-toying outside the university premises.

WE NEED ANSWERS: A student representative speaks as fellow students listen attentively after classes were abandoned.



1. **CLUELESS:** Students were left clueless and decided to seek answers from management. 2. **WALKING AWAY:** Students who had hoped to attend class heading back home.



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PRESS STATEMENT

EXTENSION OF LATE REGISTRATION

It is advised that the University Senate, at a meeting held on Wednesday 24th February 2016, resolved to extend late registration up to Friday 4th March 2016. Thereafter, there shall be no further extension. The Semester however, has not been extended.

Dr. S.S. SIMELANE
REGISTRAR

Scramble for minerals intensifies – SADC experts

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

THE scramble for access to natural resources, especially minerals, has intensified globally, partly arising from the demand emanating from the emerging economies.

This was the view of Dr. Esau Chiviya, the Secretary General of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Parliamentary Forum.

Addressing senators and members of parliament yesterday during a training workshop on the Southern Africa Resource Barometer (SARB), Dr. Chiviya said the scramble has opened up an opportunity for resource rich countries such as those in Southern Africa, to utilise their natural resources to drive their socio-economic development agenda.

He said despite the potential that could be taken advantage of in natural resources for SADC's industrial-

sation aimed at driving the socio-economic development agenda, there were some serious challenges in the governance and management of SADC's natural resources. Dr. Chiviya stated that the challenges were transparency and accountability, which he said had remained a serious problem despite national and regional efforts to address the situation. He said this was especially so in the mineral resources sector.

He also mentioned weak institutional negotiation capacity on the part of SADC governments againsts foreign companies and other investors that were well equipped with experts in all areas of the mining negotiation cycle.

Dr. Chiviya said despite the rich endowment of natural resources, in particular minerals, in the SADC region, Southern Africa was still haunted by what he termed the 'resource curse', where in the midst of abundance of natural resources, the region continued to be poor and



VIEW: Secretary General of the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum Dr. Esau Chiviya. (File pic)

underdeveloped.

He said natural resources were the wealth upon which economies worldwide, including those in the SADC Region, were built.

MPs, Senators trained on regional mining principles

PARLIAMENTARIANS were yesterday given an opportunity to fully understand the principles governing the mining of minerals in the region, amongst other issues.

The Southern Africa Resource Barometer formed the basis for the parliamentarians training workshop held at Ezulwini Sun Hotel.

The Southern Africa Resource Barometer is a unique measure that contains regionally accepted principles and guidelines that don't only enhance parliamentarians' oversight role, but also increase interaction between governments, mining companies and parliaments.

The main objective, according to Dr. Chiviya, was to ensure that parliaments and citizens were involved in the exploitation, utilisation, governance and management of minerals in a country.

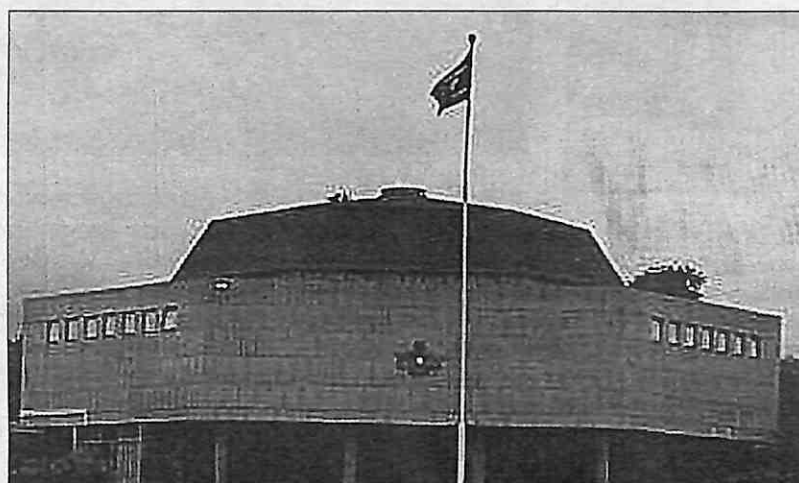
Development

"Allow me to brief you on the Southern Africa Resource Barometer as this is a SADC Parliamentary Forum Document I was instrumental in its development.

"SADC PF developed it in partnership with Southern Africa Resource Watch (SARWatch) with financial support from the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA)." Dr. Chiviya said.

He said SADC's natural resources must benefit SADC countries and their citizens. He said the Southern Africa Resource Barometer was an important instrument in that it was designed to provide parliamentarians with the much needed information to help them broaden their knowledge on natural resources as well as give them guidance on how to exercise oversight on natural resources governance and management.

It is expected to facilitate the measurement of progress towards improved governance and oversight,



TRAINING: House of Assembly. Parliamentarians were yesterday given an opportunity to fully understand the principles governing the mining of minerals in the region, amongst other issues.

and to identify threats and opportunities in the governance and management of natural resources.

He said the barometer was also intended to help parliamentarians, academics, researchers, development partners and other stakeholders to predict, on a continental basis, the key resource governance and management trends in terms of exploitation and utilisation of natural resources of SADC Countries.

In this regard, he said it could be used at both national and regional level interventions. "I must emphasise that the barometer must be perceived as part of SADC PF's contribution to already existing efforts to promote better governance and management of SADC's natural resources.

"We are aware that there are instruments put in place at national, regional and continental levels, to improve the governance and management of mineral and other natural resources, some of which will be discussed in greater detail during this

workshop," he said.

He said the SADC Protocol on Mining and the Africa Mining Vision were such efforts at regional and continental levels aimed at enhancing the exploitation, utilisation, governance and management of minerals for the benefit of African countries and their citizens. He said to date, seven countries, namely DRC, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, South Africa and Madagascar had successfully undergone training on using the Southern Africa Resource Barometer.

The MPs who have gone through the training on the Southern Africa Resource Barometer have found the document an eye opener in terms of expanding their knowledge and understanding of the mining sector and what they should do in exercising oversight on the sector. He said Swaziland was now number eight and hoped that the MPs and senators would find the barometer very educative, informative and capacitating.

Corruption, bribery rife in mining sector

CORRUPTION and bribery in the negotiation process leading to the awarding of mining contracts remain a serious challenge to most governments in the region, Swaziland included.

To effectively address that, Dr Esau Chiviya told senators and members of parliament that they must play their oversight role.

He said parliamentarians were better positioned to ensure that such dirty dealings were avoided by enacting laws that best represented the interests of the people they represented in parliament.

He said foreign mining companies had the tendency not to disclose all

relevant information during the negotiations.

Ignorance on the part of governments in terms of the amount and quality of minerals and other natural resources available in their respective territories was also cited as another factor that led to the mineral resources not benefiting the citizens of the country where the minerals were sourced.

Dr. Chiviya said in most SADC Countries, the constitutional role of parliament in exercising oversight on the utilization and exploitation of minerals and other natural resources was often not appreciated and was ignored.

He said this was done despite that the three core functions of parliament included representing constituent interests, legislating and exercising oversight on the activities and performance of the executive arm of government.

He said this was essential if the exploitation and utilisation of SADC's natural resources by foreign companies and other investors was to benefit SADC countries and their citizens.

In this regard, he said, MPs, as legislators, should be responsible for ensuring that the exploitation of the country's natural resources benefited the country and its citizens.

"The existing framework and agreements with foreign mining companies wishing to

exploit the country's natural resources should benefit the country and its citizens," he said.

He observed that very few, if any, indigenous mining companies with national inter-

est, were capable of undertaking large scale mining. He said there was inadequate attention paid to training indigenous people in mining for takeover from foreign mining companies; and lack of meaningful collaboration by various stakeholders.

He said stakeholders like MPs, civil society organisations, labour movements and communities were vital in monitoring the governance and management of natural resources of our countries.

"It is my hope that the various presenters on the different topics of the workshop will be able to address the above challenges effectively and in doing, so capacitate the participating MPs in terms of the roles they should play so as to enhance monitoring and oversight on the government and management of Swaziland's natural resources for the benefit of the country and its citizens," Dr. Chiviya said.



DA to lay charges against EFF for 'inciting violence'

DURBAN – The DA will be laying criminal charges against the EFF for allegedly inciting violence on campuses, the party said in a statement.

DA MP and DA Student Organisation (DASO) leader, Yusuf Cassim, said the EFF had been using "violent and racially divisive language" to communicate with students over the past week. "The charge relates particularly to a post by an EFF Youth Command leader, Omphile Seleke, on Facebook, which detailed the steps to make a petrol bomb. This post was sub-

sequently retweeted by the EFF Student Command at the University of Pretoria.

"Incendiary and inciting public statements such as this are a cause of great concern and should be viewed as a serious offence, especially after the events that unfolded last week at the University of Pretoria, University of the Free State and North West University's Mafikeng Campus," he said.

According to Cassim, the EFF's leadership have yet to address the issue.

News24

Five community radio stations coming to SD

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE Swaziland Community Multimedia Network is advocating for the urgency to pass into law of the Swaziland Broadcasting Bill.

Once the bill has been passed the network wants to open five community radio stations in the country. This transpired during the network's breakfast meeting at Mountain Inn yesterday. The theme of the campaign is 'Grant Community Radio Licence, realise Vision 2022'.

The five community radio stations will be in all four regions.

Two of these will be in the Manzini region one at UNISWA, Kwaluseni

campus while the other will be at Ngwempisana in Mankayane. The rest will be stationed at Sidvashini in the Hhohho region, Siteki in Lubombo and Matsanjeni in Shiselweni region.

The network has funding to establish these radio stations from various international organisations which include the European Union, Cooperation for the Development of Emerging Countries (COSPE), and World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC) amongst others.

Ambrose Zwane, Treasurer of the network, said: "Our aim is to advocate nationally for passing of the Swaziland Broadcasting Bill to enable licensing of community radio. Key



COMING: Swaziland Community Multimedia Network Treasurer Ambrose Zwane

objectives of the campaign include influencing decision makers to improve the legislative framework for community broadcasting, getting the community broadcasting issues on the

agenda of international organisations, civil society, business community and media for further discussions raising awareness of Swazi citizen about benefits of community radio for socio-economic and community development".

Zwane of the network said they had already started with the training process of all relevant stakeholders.

"We are currently training over 36 women from two regions and we want them to be part of this initiative we will empower them on how to make radio programmes.

These community radio stations will empower people from these particular areas and it should be noted that they will not be used for people who want to pursue their political agendas but

the forum is to empower the community," he said.

Zwane further said Swaziland is now the only African country that does not have a community radio servicing its population since Zimbabwe has recently been granted a licence.

He went to say all relevant stakeholders have already been consulted.

Minister of Information, Communication and Technology Dumsani Ndlangamandla said the Swaziland broadcasting bill is still under a consultative stage. "The bill has been funded by the Commonwealth and if all goes accordingly, it will be tabled in parliament soon. We are hoping it be tabled during the 2016/17 financial year," he said.

Petty thieves break into shop, steal E400

By Thembeke Dlamini
Mbekelweni

THUGS broke into a shop through a roof on Sunday evening and stole a sum of E400 cash, leaving several cellular phones.

They also stole a packet of Doritos, cigarettes and packets of Rizzlers as well as charged their cellular phones.

Though angered by the damage to his shop, Shakira Mohammed was all laughs as he questioned the intelligence quotient of the burglars who broke into Engisini Grocery in Mbekelweni.

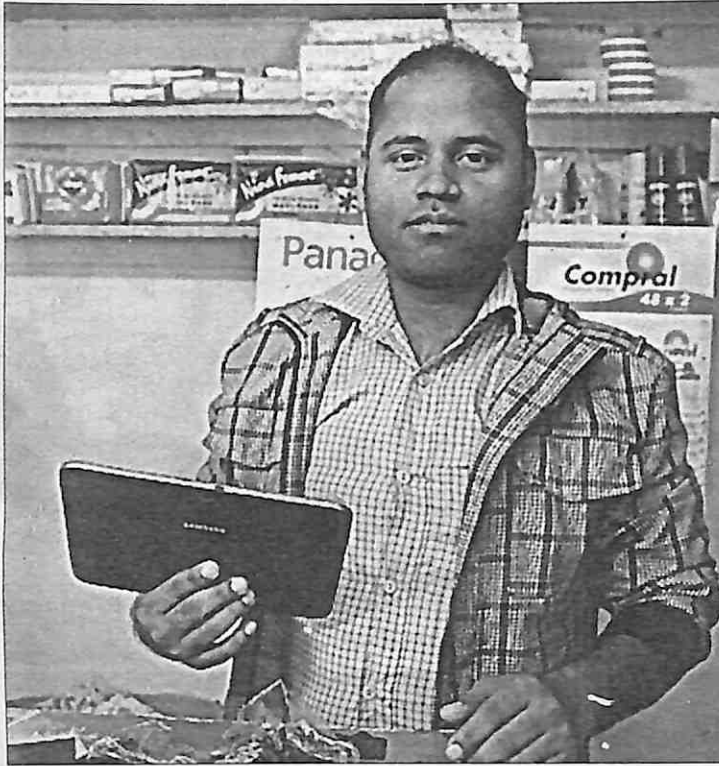
"I mean, I left two tablets charging and in full view and they only took the few things," he said good naturedly.

He decried how he was unable to find the security guard yesterday morning when he opened shop. "I don't know where he is," he said, further stating how he suspected some of the boys who sit at the entrance smoking the whole day.

"The person who broke in here is a regular dagga smoking customer. How else can I explain the rizzler," Mohammed asked.

He revealed how the small grocery shop situated along the road was usually targeted by the youth of the area who called on their cronies from nearby.

"I called the police at 7am and it is now 11am and still nothing. So they know that even robbing this



FOR WHO: Shakira Mohammed holding a tablet which was also ignored during the robbery which saw burglars coming down his roof into the shop.

shop during the day is possible," Mohammed said resignedly.

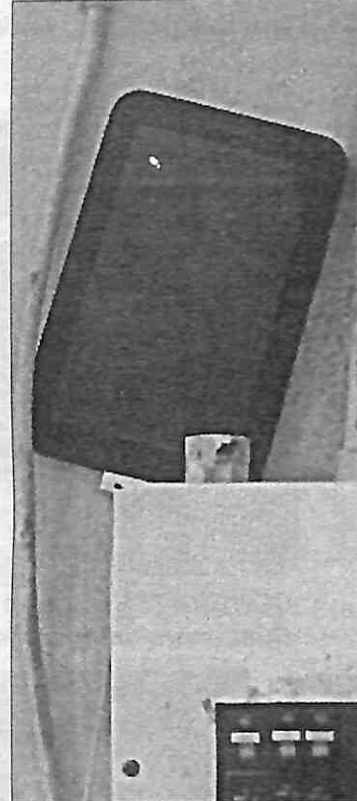
Having learnt to speak SiSwati, he conversed in it perfectly. He revealed how he had left about E400 in the till as petty cash to start the day. "They took the whole till, and charged their phone because we found this charger here," he said.

Counting some of the stolen stock, he identified a few packets of Doritos as having been stolen,

cigarettes and rizzlers.

"These people were intent on the money," he said while looking at packets of rice and mealie meal which he identified as needed due to the drought situation going on.

"I have been robbed about three times now. The first time they came with guns and took E4 000. The second time they took money, airtime and stock worth E5 000 and now this," he said.



NOT IMPORTANT: This cellular phone was not considered during the robbery despite it being in the shop.

The gaping hole in the ceiling showed how the thieves had calculated to land on top of the display fridge and as such had a short distance to fall on.

Although in disarray, Mohammed said most of the stock was accounted for as he reiterated his suspicions of dagga smokers breaking into his shop.

Keep livestock away from roads - Police

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE Royal Swaziland Police Service has warned residents along the Manzini - Hlane road to keep their livestock away from the road during the upcoming second leg of the Baganu Festival.

The Baganu Festival will kickstart on Friday at Hlane Royal Residence. The Police Information and Communication Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba has urged residents with homesteads along the highway to keep their livestock off the road.

"We urge the residents to be respectful and mindful that royalty as well as His Majesty's visitors will be using that road and they must find it clean," he said.

Mamba further warned the public that the fact that during the festival people enjoyed the fruit did not mean the public should drink, drive and be reckless.

"The police will be fully operational on the day no lawlessness will be spared by any means," he said.

Mamba further warned against the public who goes to the festival and disturb the royal festivities by opening high volume in their cars.

"Swazi people are known to be a respectful nation and we ask them to live up to that name. The world is looking at us on this day and we urged the public to behave accordingly. Lastly, the arena should be respected by everyone. Order should be maintained," he said.

Govt ordered to repatriate Ugandan teacher

By Linda Jele
Industrial Court

THE Industrial Court has directed government to foot the bill to send a former MDS High School foreign teacher back to Uganda.

Stanley Olalgiu filed the application seeking an order directing government to comply with a court order that had been issued by the Industrial Court in August 2014, wherein he was to be paid

his terminal benefits due for the 11 years he served in the country as a teacher. Government had also been directed to repatriate him and his family.

He instructed lawyer Andreas Lukhele from Dunseith Attorneys to enforce the order was he claimed that it as taking time for government to comply with the order to repatriate him and his family.

"The respondent has admitted its obligations to repatriate me and my family. Despite the order

of this court having been served to the respondent, it still fails to repatriate me and my family.

Accordingly, it fails to comply with the order and the failure to arrange me and my family's repatriation and put this matter to finality is unacceptable," Olalgiu said.

It was stated that the teacher was from Uganda and he had been teaching in the country on two year renewable contracts until in 2011 when the renewals were stopped. He took govern-

ment to court seeking an order to be paid his terminal benefits and be repatriated to Uganda.

He was demanding about E480 000 in total and the court issued an order that he should be paid his terminal benefits for the years he was in service. Less those already paid to him and be repatriated.

When the matter was heard by Industrial Court Judge Nkosinathi Nkonyane, there was no appearance on behalf of government. The order was granted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL CONSENT IN TERMS OF THE MANZINI TOWN PLANNING SCHEME OF 2013

I Faruk Mayanya the owner of the Property in question, hereby make a public notice in terms of clause 1.5 of the 2013 Manzini Town Planning Scheme that I wish to apply for the Council's SPECIAL CONSENT to establish (description of development) Guest House On plot 208 Ngwane Park Township.

Anyone having an objection to this application may lodge their objections in writing with myself at P. O. Box 418, Manzini M200; SWAZILAND not later than (date) 01 March to 08 March, that 21 days from the late publication of the notice namely on (date) 29

8 PICTURES

CORBAN BUILD HARDWARE

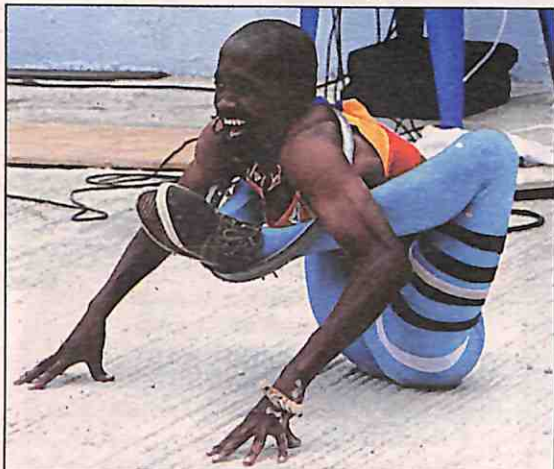
MANZINI NGCULWINI TOGETHER WE BUILD



NOW OPEN: Chief Mgebiseni of Ngculwini blessed the opening of the Corban Build Harware on Saturday. He is with the comapny director Thembinkosi Nkonyane, Indvuna Malungisa Nkambule (left) and Lobhalaza Dlamini. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



WELCOME: Nkonyane in a conversation with some of the friends and customers who came through to support him on the day.



FLEXING OFF: Ndodende, the rubberman was also lined up to entertain the gathering.



CONGRATS: The area's MP, Christopher Gamedze, also came through to congratulate Nkonyane. **RIGHT -** Customers lining up to pay for their wares at the shop.



IN ACTION: Nonhle Mthethwa and her younger sister Okuhle entertaining the customers. **RIGHT - DISPLAY:** All sorts of building material are found in the shop as tiles were also on display.



LOADING: Bakkies being loaded with bags of cement which was on high demand.



BUSY DAY: Customers loading their buys for the day. **RIGHT - MUSICAL:** Bishop Ellias Shongwe leading Shongwe and Khuphuka in song.



QATAR EMBASSY DONATES E1.4m TO ONLINE BUSINESS

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Ezulwini

THE online trading initiative that is spearheaded by Small Enterprise Development Company (SEDCO), together with Traders Link received a major boost yesterday when the Qatar Embassy donated a sum of E1.4 million towards it.

The donation was presented by Qatar Ambassador to Swaziland Yousuf Bin Mohammed Al Mahmoud to Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini yesterday at the Royal Villas at Ezulwini. The actual money donated by the Embassy was US\$90 000 (about E1 440 000).

Minister Dlamini thanked the Qatar Embassy for the financial assistance, stating that it meant many Swazis would be able to reap the rewards of performing transactions using Traders Link.

Traders Link is a company aimed at helping Swazis sell their products using the internet as it has been found that the internet is the cheapest way of transacting goods and services.

Traders Link Director Fred Ngeri is said to be the one working closely with SEDCO to see how they could come up with an online mall that could help Swazi sellers and buyers transact their goods and services to reduce costs.

"We thank the Qatar embassy for the financial assistance they gave us. We have come a long way with them in terms of helping Swazis start their own businesses that can help themselves become their own employers," Dlamini said.

Such a donation is the beginning of more co-operation and partnership with Traders Link to open markets for micro, small and medium enterprises in Swaziland



THANK YOU: Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini receiving a E1.4 million on behalf of SEDCO and Traders Link from Qatar Ambassador Yousuf Bin Mohammed Al Mahmoud at Royal Villas yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

Qatar Ambassador Yousuf Bin Mohammed Al Mahmoud expressed joy to be giving financial assistance to the Swazi Traders Link e-mall platform.

He saw such a donation as a beginning of more co-operation and partnership with Traders Link to open markets for micro, small and medium enterprises in Swaziland. "We want all businesses, big and small, to have full access to markets and sell to everyone nationally and internationally," Al Mahmoud said.

He mentioned that even farmers could showcase their produce for all citizens of the world. He also saw this as an opportunity for handicraft traders who would also have access to national and international markets. The ambassador pleaded with all Swazis to support Traders Link.

He also urged them to sup-

port rural economy by buying from people in rural areas. He also encouraged the youth to use Traders Link as an opportunity for them to become self-employed so that they could build their personal finance and drive the economy of the country forward.

Al Mahmoud viewed Traders Link as a platform that would boost the economy if everyone got to work in Swaziland and became a service provider, regardless of where they were physically located. "The system (Traders Link) will reduce poverty and unemployment in the country.

This, and many more, is the reason why we are sponsoring Traders Link because we also want to drive the micro economy forward," he said. He also promised that his country, the State of Qatar, would always support the Kingdom of Swaziland.

...Good news for informal traders

THIS looks like a year to remember for informal traders as the ministry of commerce, industry and trade wants to make it easy for informal traders to access finance that will be affordable.

This was revealed by Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini during an event where the State of Qatar, through its embassy in Swaziland, was donating US\$90 000 (about E1 440 000).

The presentation was done yesterday at Royal Villas Hotel in Ezulwini by Qatar Ambassador to Swaziland Yousuf Bin Mohammed Al Mahmoud.

Dlamini said as a ministry, they were in the process of

coming up with an initiative that would enable informal traders to be able to have access to affordable credit. "We are in the process of packaging a product that will enable informal traders to have access to affordable credit. We want informal traders to see a challenge to have access to credit as a thing of the past," Dlamini said.

The minister promised that such a package would come out this year.

He went on to say Traders Link would be able to work hand-in-hand with the informal traders, who would now have access to credit.

He said they were working closely with Traders Link in terms of coming up with an online mall that would link

all traders, both buyers and sellers, from all areas of the country and beyond.

The minister's sentiments were shared by Traders Link Director Fred Ngeri. He viewed Traders Link as the brain child of the minister. He then thanked the minister for supporting them as they were coming up with such an initiative.

He also encouraged Swazis to embrace this initiative as it would help them overcome many economic challenges like poverty.

He also urged Members of Parliament (MPs) to work with them as they were going to embark on an exercise to educate Swazis on how Traders Link worked and how it would help them get out of poverty.



Traders Link Director Fred Ngeri making his remarks while Dlamini presented a certificate of appreciation to the ambassador.



The organization

The Elimination8 is a regional organization that steers a multilateral partnership between eight member countries within the SADC region; these are Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. We are a regional organization working in concert with the Ministries of Health of the member countries. Elimination8 serves as a platform for regional collaboration towards malaria elimination within the SADC region, accelerating the country's efforts towards malaria elimination.

In order to meet the demands associated with running and coordinating this exciting and ambitious regional collaboration, based out of the Secretariat in Windhoek, Namibia, E8 is currently in pursuit of suitably qualified talent to complement the existing team. If you are an individual who resonates with the ideal of playing a leading role in the important global agenda of malaria elimination, and who is truly passionate about using your keen and innovative mind to developing new approaches to contribute towards a dynamic and ambitious effort to improve health and development prospects for SADC, these positions will be ideal for you.

COUNTRY FOCAL PERSONS

(Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe)

The position

You will play a fundamental role in providing support in the implementation, at country level, of the regional malaria strategy funded by the Global Fund to Fight HIV, TB, and Malaria. Your success will hinge on your aptitude and interest in coordinating activities; working across various interventions and programme units, and linking activities across the different strategic interventions taking place to eliminate malaria in Botswana, and the other seven E8 member states. As the designated point person in each of the 8 countries, you will serve as the touch point between the national malaria programs and the regional initiative. You will be seconded to, and work closely with the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) Manager to ensure that the country implementation targets set by the regional E8 partnership are being met. To facilitate close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, you will be based in the Ministry of Health in Gaborone, with some local and regional travel.

Key areas of responsibility:

- **Co-ordination:** Support the NMCP Manager in the co-ordination and field supervision of all program issues relating to the regional malaria strategy and management of cross-border programmes. Co-ordinate the implementation of programming, field assessments, and capacity building related to these programmes as well as harmonize the project planning and field operations of the national and regional partners/contractors.
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** Facilitate the collection of disease and programme monitoring & evaluation data for dispatch and aggregation at regional level. In addition, monitor cross-border collaboration activities and co-ordinate meetings and data sharing activities between the country and its neighbours. Monitor, evaluate and manage the processes on the ground, with guidance from the NMCP Manager and programme heads, to ensure that the country meets the milestones and outcome targets of the regional strategy.
- **Partnership and collaboration:** Serve as the key liaison between the Secretariat and the NMCP, with strategic and technical insights obtained from the NMCP Manager. Consistently collaborate with the focal persons in other countries to share information and to complement each other's technical methods. Consolidate the relationship amongst the eight countries, as well as between the Secretariat and the national programs, as an essential component to successfully implement the regional strategy.
- **Staff supervision:** Conduct field supervisory visits to review implementation of the regional malaria interventions by ministry of health units as well as by contracted organizations.
- **Reporting:** Support NMCP Manager by drafting consolidated quarterly reports of the progress in implementing the regional strategy within the country, and comparing the monitoring & evaluation data for reporting on the grant. Additionally, prepare any presentations and reports related to the regional strategy as required.
- **Program planning and management:** Being fully conversant with the strategic plans and regional work plans, collaborate with the NMCP Manager and the program focal points for diagnosis, vector control, and surveillance. Facilitate the allocation and coordination of the supporting national activities into the national strategies and plans.

Minimum requirements:

- A degree in public health, epidemiology, or related discipline (masters level preferred).
- At least 6 years relevant working experience, of which at least 3 years should be in malaria project management, preferably in a malaria elimination context.
- Knowledge of health systems context through experience in various SADC countries is a distinct advantage.
- Advanced Microsoft Office skills particularly Excel and PowerPoint.
- Demonstrated ability to diplomatically mobilize and coordinate partners around priority malaria interventions.
- Demonstrated experience with planning, implementation, data management, analysis and interpretation of research studies and routine data for programmatic decision-making.
- Proven ability to work efficiently in a fast-paced demanding environment and to troubleshoot and follow projects through to completion, consistently on schedule, without loss of attention to detail.
- Exceptional hands-on exposure in the formulation and execution of budgets, linking budget with program performance and impacts.
- Language skills: Should be fluent in English and able to communicate with internal and external stakeholders in an unambiguous manner (verbal and written). Portuguese will be required for the focal persons based in Angola and Mozambique.
- Ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously, set priorities and work independently.

Interested?

Elimination8 offers an attractive package commensurate with qualifications and experience. The closing date is 11 March 2016 and candidates who are citizens of one of the fifteen SADC countries are encouraged to apply. We request that you e-mail your CV for the attention of: Ms Theophila Shikongo totheo@potentia.com. All applications will be handled exclusively by Potentia, and all selected candidates will be required to undertake an assessment test. Note: Only electronically formatted CV's will be accepted.

10 NATIONAL NEWS

OK Furniture Salesman challenges transfer from Manzini to Ezulwini

By Linda Jele
Industrial Court

A salesman at OK Furniture has taken his employers to the Industrial Court seeking an order to stop a transfer from Manzini to Ezulwini.

Jacob Shabangu said the transfer was not lawful because he was never consulted. He said it was procedurally unfair and would prejudice him because he would not be able to make enough money at Ezulwini as he did in Manzini where he had developed a huge clientele list.

Seeking

He has instructed his lawyer Happy Mkhabela from Mkhabela Attorneys to institute proceedings seeking an order to declare the transfer null and void.

He also sought an order interdicting OK Furniture from transferring him. The matter appeared before Industrial Court Judge Nkosinathi Nkonyane.

Shabangu stated that he had been station at Bhunu Mall in Manzini since he was employed in 2007. He alleged that his duties entailed soliciting and finding new clients for the furniture shop. He alleged that his

...argues his clientele base is in Manzini and he can't make enough money at Ezulwini like he did in Manzini

basic salary had been E1 800 per month and commission based on the sales made.

"On average, I would earn around E15 000 to E20 000 per month from the commission alone because I knew a lot of

people in Manzini, which I brought to the respondent (OK) as my clients. Thus, my clientele base is in Manzini," Shabangu said. He claimed that his relationship with the employer had been good, at least before November 2015 when he was transferred to Nhlanguano.

He claimed that he complained that there was no just cause for the transfer and the Operations Manager Stephen Martin intervened and stopped it. He said the transfer was stopped

on the grounds that there was no sense transferring an employee far from where they were currently based.

"On February 19, 2016, I learnt with shock from my branch manager that Regional Manager

Stanley Msweli had requested and processed status change transferring me with immediate effect from February 1, 2016 to Ezulwini branch without any just reason and consultation with me," Shabangu said. He submitted

"On average, I would earn around E15 000 to E20 000 per month from the commission alone, because I knew a lot of people in Manzini, which I brought to the respondent (OK) as my clients."

that he engaged his managers on the transfer to no avail. He submitted that the intended transfer was substantively and procedurally unfair in that there was no valid reason and there were no operational reasons he was aware of warranting his transfer.

He submitted that he was never

consulted by the employer before the decision to transfer him was executed. He submitted that he would not be able to establish a new clientele base in the new branch because he did not reside there and did not have contacts. He submitted that this would have negative impacts on his income because it was mainly based on commission.

Inconvenience

He also claimed that his home-stead was in Manzini, where he stayed with his wife and children. He claimed that they all depended on him financially and the children attended schools around Manzini; therefore, the intended transfer would financially inconvenience him and his family.

He further submitted that the short notice on which he was informed of the intended transfer made it impossible for me to make the necessary arrangements such as transport, which would be very costly. The matter was postponed to March 12, 2016 for hearing. OK Furniture undertook to file answering affidavits on March 2, 2016. Shabangu will file a replying affidavit on March 4, 2016 and heads of arguments would be filed by March 11, 2016.



PRESIDING: Magistrate Simangele Mbatha.

Man with 11 children skips maintenance, weeps in court

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A father of 11 broke down in court after he was arrested for contempt of court following his failure to pay for his child maintenance.

The sorrow of being dumped by his own children proved too much for Musa Dlamini, who ended up breaking down in front of a magistrate while trying to tell his story.

Dlamini was fetched all the way from Nhlanguano to Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court to answer for his failure to pay maintenance money for his children.

He pleaded guilty to failing to heed to the court's order to pay E600 monthly per child. The court had to deploy a police vehicle to fetch the accused from Nhlanguano where he is working.

Magistrate Simangele Mbatha, who was presiding over the matter, asked the accused why he was failing to take care of his children. Dlamini stated that he had 11 children and some of them were employed as teachers, while four of them were still at school.

Assistance

The magistrate asked the accused if Dlamini's employed children were offering any form of assistance in the upbringing of their siblings.

Dlamini, who got all emotional stated his children actions brought him so much sadness because he was not any assistance from them.

Mbatha stated that as Dlamini was their father who took them to school, they must help him since they were now employed.

The magistrate stated that what the children was doing was wrong unless Dlamini was lying that he paid for their fees when they were still at school.

The magistrate spoke strongly against people who rejected their parents once they were well-off in life. The magistrate stated that such people should be dealt with.

"The children you took to school are now rejecting you. These children should be in court for failing to help you support their siblings," Mbatha stated.

Dlamini was ordered to come back to court on another day. He was told to bring the birth certificates for all his children. The magistrate further stated that she would summon Dlamini's older children to appear before court.

Security guard busted for driving faulty company car

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A security guard, who works for Guard Alert, was nabbed by Mbabane Police for driving an unroadworthy company car.

Lucky Dlamini (31) of Nkwilini in Mbabane was charged with two counts of contravening the Road Traffic Act No. 6 of 2007.

Collided

On the first count, he was accused of contravening Section 89 (1) of the Road Traffic Act No. 6 of 2007 (as read with Section 122 (6) (a) of the same Act). On February 3, 2016, Dlamini is said to have been dri-

ving a car that collided at right angle with a Toyota sedan registered CSD 326 AH which was driven by Thabiso Msibi (28) of Makhokholo in Mbabane.

The car driven by Dlamini was a Mahindra truck registered DSD 338 AH.

The incident happened at or near KaZondle, along Jojo Street. Dlamini was accused of having failed to stop adequately and take a proper look out.

Failed

He was further accused of having failed to give a right of way to the motor vehicle he collided with. He was also accused of failing to brake timeously.

On the second count, Dlamini was charged with contravening Section 50 (1) of the Road

Traffic Act (as read with Section 122 (4) of the same Act).

On February 3, 2016, Dlamini is said to have been driving an unroadworthy vehicle. The car was deemed unroadworthy because it had smooth tyres and a cracked rear side view mirror.

Defects

Dlamini appeared before Magistrate Philisiwe, who wanted to know why he committed such offences.

"The car I was driving belongs to the company, I work for. I reported these defects to the company but nothing was done," Dlamini said. He said since the defective car was his working tool, he had no choice but to drive it lest he be charged with insubordination by his employ-

ers. He apologised to the court. He said the other motor vehicle was extensively damaged. He said the company repaired it, but a certain amount would be deducted from his salary as compensation to the company.

Possibility

Simlane sentenced Dlamini to eight months in the correctional institution or pay a fine of E800 on count one.

On count two, he was sentenced to pay a fine of E500 or face a possibility of spending five months in the correctional institution. Simlane ordered that the sentences run concurrently. This means Dlamini had to pay a fine of E800 or spend eight months in the correctional institution.

Man breaks cop aunt's window after buganu binge

By Sizwe Dlamini
Mbabane

A 29-year-old man of Nkwilini was fined E900 for breaking a police officer's window.

Fortune Shongwe was sentenced by the Swazi National Court of breaking Constable Porsche Magagula's bedroom window.

Shongwe happens to be Magagula's nephew.

The incident happened on Sunday morning at 2am at Nkwilini Zone.

Magagula told the court that while at work at the Main Police Station in Mbabane, she received a phone call from her oldest child informing her that her nephew was drunk and was at her house making noise.

Magagula told her child to call the emergency number 999.

Magagula then phoned her brother Zuma, who is also her

neighbour to go and check on her children.

Her brother did what he was asked for and went to check the children.

He called his sister after about 20 minutes later, informing her that he had chased Shongwe away, but he had broken her bedroom window before running away.

The incident was reported to the police and Shongwe was arrested the following morning after he

was found by the police asleep next on the road.

Shongwe was reduced to tears as he told the court that he was drunk after having enjoyed the marula brew and was very sorry for breaking his aunt's window.

Swazi National Court President Chief Lembelele sentenced him to six months in a correctional facility or fine option of E400.

The court further instructed Shongwe to pay E500 to replace the broken bedroom window.

DPM ATTENDS FIRST EVER IMMUNISATION CONFERENCE

Stories by Observer Reporter
Mbabane

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) offices for Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean, in conjunction with the African Union and other partners, hosted the first-ever Ministerial Conference on Immunization in Africa.

The two-day meeting which started on Wednesday was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Representing Swaziland during the meeting were Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini, Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Health Dr Simon Zwane and Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) Programme Manager Nomsa Dube.

WHO Regional Director Dr Matshidiso Moeti and Dr Ala Alwan reported that the conference would represent a remarkable

moment. They noted that for the first time ministers of health, finance and other sectors from across the continent came together to declare their commitment to strengthening immunisation services, and put universal access to immunisation at the forefront of efforts to improve health and drive sustainable development

moment.

They noted that for the first time ministers of health, finance and other sectors from across the continent came together to declare their commitment to strengthening immunisation services, and put universal access to immunisation at the forefront of efforts to improve health and drive sustainable development.

These leaders are taking action now because they know that vaccines are a smart investment and that their countries can and must do more.

Significantly, the ministers were joined by civil society and religious

leaders, because reaching children with vaccines requires more than government funding. Reaching more children also requires that parents understand the value of immunisations and make receiving vaccines a priority for their children. The entire community should be engaged in planning for immunisation activities, so that when health workers arrive to provide vaccines, families show up.

"We have seen the transformative impact of efforts to reach more children with life-saving vaccines. Child deaths in Africa fell by half over the past generation, in large part due to the use of high impact

interventions such as immunisation.

Polio, a disease that once paralysed children in every country, hasn't been seen anywhere on the continent in more than a year. Because of a new meningitis vaccine, hundreds of millions of people no longer live in fear of the life-threatening infection, which wreaked havoc across Africa's so-called "meningitis belt."

Dr Moeti stated that the communities that needed to be engaged the most were the ones that have traditionally been underserved, and where health systems are the weakest. Children, whose parents had little or no education or income are



REMARKABLE MOMENT:
WHO Regional Director Dr Matshidiso Moeti.

among the least likely to receive the vaccines they need.

In poor and remote areas, health systems to deliver vaccines and other basic health services are weak or non-existent.

COMMITTEES NEEDED AT COMMUNITY LEVEL – DPM

DEPUTY Prime Minister Paul Dlamini said he was excited about all the information he got during the conference and hailed WHO for seeing it fit to organise such an event.

Dlamini said the meeting gave them a chance to be sensitised on immunisation, saying it was a very important component of life that had proven to have worked for many years. He said the country was also doing well but needed to improve on immunisation coverage. The country currently stands at 82% coverage.

While there is need to improve, Dlamini said other countries were at 70%; either because of civil wars, poor infrastructure or weak campaigns and education.

He said the meeting also talked about the issue of financing, adding that these were not drugs but vaccines and were likely to be more



EXCITED: Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini.

expensive.

"We were also reminded about the challenges and a need to look closely at how we can address them. These

challenges include among others; children who have been dumped by their mothers, some are dumped with their grandparents as well as teenage pregnancies," he said.

Dlamini said there was need to form committees to lead immunisation at community level because pregnancies occur in the community and the committees are in a better position to know each pregnancy and also follow up whether a child has been immunised or not.

He noted that many countries including Swaziland were still battling with religious groups who do not want to immunise children.

He said there was need to map them and bring sensitisation campaigns closer to them so that they understood the importance of immunisation.

Our children will blame us, he says

DPM Paul Dlamini said two Polio survivors; one from Kenya and another from Nigeria made a presentation during the conference and were bitter about their condition.

He said the two survivors blamed their parents for taking for granted the issue of

immunisation, saying if their parents had taken them for immunisation they would not be paralysed.

"The two paralysed participants complained that their parents were careless and failed to take them for just two drops of vaccine which would keep them healthy

and able to walk on their own.

Our children are going to blame us, I was really touched by their stories," said the DPM.

He further said the country should make sure that every child had an immunisation card.

Ezulwini
MUNICIPALITY

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NOTICE OF RATES ASSESSMENT FOR THE PERIOD

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 27(1) of Rating Act of 1995, that the Council has levied the following differential property rates on each Lilangeni for land and improvements as per the approved Ezulwini Urban Area Valuation Roll.

1. DEVELOPED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES		2. DEVELOPED COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES	
a). Land	0.441%	a). Land	1.11%
b). Improvements	0.231%	b). Improvements	1.11%
3. UNDEVELOPED PROPERTIES		4. GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES	
a). Residential	1.11%	a). Developed Land	5.02%
b). Commercial	1.11%	b). Improvements	5.02%
		c). Vacant Land	5.02%

PAYMENT BY INSTALLMENT

Section 27(2) permits payments of rates by installment. If One wishes to avail himself / herself of this facility, s/he should contact the Town Treasurer as soon as possible.

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Property Owners who want to use this facility should use any of the bank accounts specified in the Rates Invoice or contact the Office of the Treasurer. It is very important to state the property account number as the reference when paying electronically. Furthermore, the payment confirmation should be sent to the office of the Treasurer as soon as possible.

NOTIFICATION OF POSTAL ADDRESS

Property owners are reminded that Section 37(4&5) of the Rating Act of 1995 requires the owner of an immovable property shown in the Valuation Roll to notify the Local Authority of his/her postal address within two weeks of acquiring such property and thereafter within two weeks of any change of his/her postal address. This provision assists the Local Authority to update its records and also facilitates communication between the property owner and the Municipality.

V. Matsebula
Town Clerk

Form Five whizzkid calls for end to corruption

By Mbono Mdluli
Matsapha

ONE of the top performing form five pupils in 2015 says her wish is to stay in a world where there is no corruption and there is fair distribution of natural resources. Stella Dlamini, who was doing her high school education at Ka-Boyce High School last year, said this when reading her winning letter at Macmillan in Matsapha. This was during a presentation of prizes to winning students, who had entered a Universal Postal Union (UPU) letter-writing competition last year. The competition was facilitated by SwaziPost, which is a division of Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC), together with Macmillan Swaziland. The theme of last year's competition challenged the participants to write a letter to express themselves on the kind of world they would like to live in. Dlamini said she wished the world was filled with unity and peace, with no acts like human trafficking. She said the exploitation of workers, where most workers would see an opportunity of developing themselves through other people's enslavement should come to an end.

She also wished for all states to be ranked among the prestigious states in the world.

"If at all a poor state is to exist, it should have an equal share of resources and the plights of struggling states should be short-lived and not overlooked, but offered assistance instantly," reads part of Dlamini's letter. She said corruption should end because it was caused by greed. She called for positions to be earned by merit so that youngsters would be motivated to strive for qualifications and achievements which would serve as gateways to top posts.

The whizzkid also wished for heads of state to have wide vision in order to easily achieve their missions in



WITNESS: Part of the people who had come to witness the prize-presentation of the 2015 Letter-Writing Competition, which took place yesterday at Macmillan in Matsapha. (Pics: Mbono Mdluli)

their respective states. She made an example of Swaziland, which had set a goal for achieving the first world status in 2022. Dlamini called for a world in which every citizen was literate. She said this would help accelerate scientific inventions, especially the ones focussed on eradicating deadly diseases.

She called for a world in which no citizen would die because of a curable disease. She also wished that every citizen should protect the environment to avoid all the problems it was faced with. She said

food should also be enough to avoid deaths from hunger. Dlamini is now pursuing her International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma at Waterford Kamhlaba United World College of Southern Africa (UWCSA). According to Wikipedia, the International Baccalaureate Diploma is a programme that provides an internationally accepted qualification for entry into higher education, and is accepted by many universities worldwide.

The event was attended by Macmillan Swaziland Managing



REMARKS: Hhohho REO Lungile Simelane encouraging students to embrace the culture of writing.



MY POINT: SwaziPost General Manager (GM) Phumelela Shongwe making his remarks.



RENDERING A POEM: Swazi National High School Student Sibusiso Mabuza rendering a poem titled "I write."

Director (MD) Busi Simelane, Swazi Post General Manager (GM) Phumelela Shongwe, Hhohho Regional Education Officer (REO) Lungile Simelane, among others. They all praised the



WINNER: Winning Letter-writer Stella Dlamini reading her winning letter to the attendants.

winning pupils for being able to express their feelings through writing.

They stated that writing was good because it was a way of expressing oneself and making one's feelings known to the world.

This year's letter-writing competition is already underway, having started this month. It is expected to end on March 30, 2016. The theme for this year's competition is: Write a letter to your 45-year-old self. It is open to pupils aged nine to 18 years.

2015 Letter-writing winners Individual Category

Position	Winner's Name	School Name	Prize
1	Stella Dlamini	KaBoyce High School	E3 000 bursary and Macmillan books
2	Mduduzi Nxumalo	Evelyn Baring High School	E1 500 bursary and Macmillan books
3	Mfihlakalo Sihlabela	Sisekelo High School	E500 uniform voucher and Macmillan books
4	Temphilo Lukhele	Living Waters	Macmillan books
5	Goodness Hlandze	Nkonjwa High School	
6	Gcebile Vilakati	Sifundzani Primary School	Macmillan books
7	Tekuseni Fakudze		Macmillan books
8	Phephile Tsabedze	St Theresa's High School	Macmillan books
9	Siphelele Mngometulu	Letchwe Light High School	Macmillan books
10	Kholeka Motsa	Evangelical Primary School	Macmillan books

Schools Category

Position	School Name	Number of Participants	Prize
1	Evelyn Baring Primary School	246	Lap top plus E750 worth of Macmillan books
2	Ka-Boyce High School	172	Scanner, Printer, Copier, plus E5 000 worth of Macmillan books
3	Sifundzani High School	129	Swazi Post stationery worth E1 000 plus E5 000 worth of Macmillan books

No chance to pay fine in instalments in court

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

IF you think of driving under the influence of alcohol, know very well that your chances of having to pay fine in instalments in court are next to zero because there are challenges being encountered by administrators of justice and law enforcers.

This was revealed yesterday by Mbabane Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi, together with Prosecutor Dolly Shongwe. They said this when they were trying a

court case involving Futhi Dlamini, who had been accused of driving a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug with a narcotic effect.

Dlamini is said to have done this at or near Swaziland Broadcasting and Information Services (SBIS), along Msakato Street in Mbabane. He did this on February 27, 2016 and was driving a Toyota Corolla registered WSD 826 BM.

By so doing, he found himself contravening Section 91 (1) of the Road Traffic Act No. 6 of 2007.

The accused was informed of his rights in court.

He was told that he had the right to defend himself or hire a lawyer to defend him.

He elected to conduct his own defence. The charge was read to him and he understood it and pleaded guilty to the charge. The court accordingly found him guilty as charged. He was treated as a first offender because there were no previous convictions found against him.

He was then given an opportunity to mitigate on his own behalf to the court. He said he was sorry for what he did. "I have seven children and they attend school. If the court

grants me an opportunity to pay a fine, I apply that I pay the fine in instalments," Dlamini said.

Nhlabatsi wanted to know the reason why he wanted to pay the fine in instalments.

He told her that he was a pensioner and the money he got monthly was meagre. He said that if he was to pay the fine in cash, he would be out of budget.

Nhlabatsi then consulted with Shongwe to find out her view concerning Dlamini's application. Shongwe was of the view that the application should be decided by the court.

Nhlabatsi told Shongwe that she consulted her because she did not want the decision to come from her

but wanted her to state whether she was fine with Dlamini's application or not.

"We have had challenges in the past, whereby we allowed accused persons to do that but when it was time for them to pay the instalments, they would simply not pay them and we would not know where to find them," Shongwe said.

Nhlabatsi also shared Shongwe's sentiment. She said it became a waste of the resources of the government to chase after people who ran away because they owed government.

Dlamini was sentenced to two years in the correctional institution or a fine of E2 000.

CREDIT INDUSTRY HAS BEEN UNREGULATED FOR TOO LONG

By Eddie Abner
Mbabane

THE finance portfolio committee says the consumer credit industry has been operating in an unregulated environment for too long and most Swazis have been held hostage by shylocks and other credit providers.

The committee made this observation in the Consumer Credit Bill number 15 of 2015.

It was delivered by Finance Portfolio Committee Chairperson Marwick Khumalo last Wednesday in parliament.

The Consumer Credit Bill 2015 seeks to bring the law on credit into conformity with the constitution, the Financial Regulatory Authority Act, 2010 and other laws so as to promote a fair and equal access to credit products.

Furthermore, the Bill will also repeal the Money Lending and Credit Financing Act, No.3 of 1991, Higher Purchase Act, No.11 of 1969, Pawn Broking Act No.13 of 1894 and other incidental matters.

Tabled

The Bill was tabled by Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini before the House of Assembly on October 29, 2015.

The committee also mentioned that they received an overwhelming response from stakeholders after inviting them through an advert that appeared on local daily publications.

Some of the stakeholders that appeared before the committee

included SACCO, Lubane, First National Bank (FNB), Get Bucks (subsidiary of Exponent), Chairman of the Appeals Tribunal Doris Shabalala, Select Management, Letshego, Amandla and First Finance, Standard Bank and individual shylocks.

FNB, which was represented by Chief Executive Officer Dennis Mbingo, Hlengiwe Msibi and Ambrose Masango wanted clarity on the definition of low income earners, stating that it was vague.

They wanted to know if the low income earner referred to a minimum wage one gets monthly, annually or otherwise.

Earners

"A low income earner may be redefined to mean a person who makes or earn a minimum wage or equivalent as may be determined by the minister responsible," the committee said in response.

A representative from Get Bucks suggested that if credit providers would not be allowed to take bank cards, then an alternative source of security should be provided like stop orders.

"Bank cards cannot be taken as security for loans as they cannot be sold for cash to recover the debt at default. The taking of bank cards or other identity documents has been outlawed by Clause 27 of the Bill. However, credit providers are encouraged to use stop orders to recover their lent money to consumers," the committee responded.

However, MILAS' Mandla



CHAIR: Finance Portfolio Committee Chairperson Marwick Khumalo.

Ndzinisa submitted before the committee that the fine imposed on micro lenders might be too harsh and appealed that leniency should be extended.

Harsh

"The fine may be too harsh on micro lenders. Leniency should be extended. The point is not to close down businesses as they provide employment," he submitted.

The committee said the Bill was meant to deter micro lenders from charging exorbitant fees and added that there was a clause

which stated that the penalty would not exceed E20 000.

Mbabane businessman Walter Bennett submitted that shylocks were benefitting from government stop orders.

He wondered what happened to the 33 percent that was set as the maximum that could be deducted from a government employee.

"Shylocks are benefitting from government stop orders. What happened to the 33% that is set as the maximum that can be deducted from a government employee? However, from time to time one read reports of ministers earning up to zero in their payslips," he said.

The committee amended clause 39 and added a new Clause with a subheading reading, the total cost of credit shall, (a) In the case of secured cash credit agreement, not exceed 7.5% per month
b) In the case of secured term credit agreement, not exceed prime time's two per annum
c) In the case of unsecured cash credit agreement, not exceed 12.5% per month
d) In the case of unsecured term credit agreement, not exceed prime time's three per annum.

Example of total cost of credit: Example 1: Once off

Low income earner borrows a loan of E5 000 at 15% per month
End of first month: E575
Default charges (5%): E28.75
Total cost: E603.75
Collection cost (5%): E30.19
Total including collection cost 633.94.

Over 800 000 send emails to ANC MPs ahead of Zuma no confidence vote

CAPE TOWN - The Democratic Alliance (DA) says over 800 000 South Africans have participated in their lobbying call to send messages to the ANC caucus ahead of a debate in Parliament to discuss a motion of no confidence in President Jacob Zuma.

The DA lobbied South Africans last week to write to ANC MPs and support a motion of no confidence in Zuma via an online platform on the party's website.

I'm proud

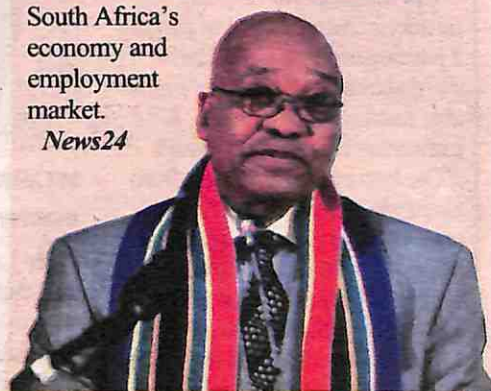
"The DA is proud to announce that through our newly launched online platform South Africans have sent over 805 000 letters lobbying the ANC National Assembly Caucus to support next week's Motion of No Confidence in President Zuma," DA Chief John Steenhuisen said in a statement on Sunday.

"Further, our supporting the motion and our call for all 72 Ministers and Deputy Ministers to be excluded from the vote on the Motion due to the glaring conflict of interest between their official responsibilities and their private interests, has over 15 000 signatures. The National Assembly is due to debate the motion on Tuesday in Cape Town.

Steenhuisen said the party also wrote to the Speaker of the National Assembly Baleka Mbete to request that the vote be done via secret ballot, as to avoid MPs possibly voting by fear rather than choice.

"President Zuma's recklessness with the economy, including his disastrous decision to fire Nhlamhla Nene, has devastated South Africa's economy and employment market.

News24



President Jacob Zuma.

Two women steal makeup at Clicks

By Mbono Mdluli
Magistrates' Court

TWO women appeared at the Mbabane Magistrate's Court for shoplifting at Clicks in Mbabane.

Ncobile Dlamini (24) of Ludzidzini and Nonhlanhla Mavuso (25) of Siteki were both charged with theft (shoplifting).

They both committed the act last Friday at Clicks, in Mbabane. Dlamini stole a red lipstick valued at E119. The lipstick was said to have been in lawful possession of Thulani Dlamini.

Stolen

Mavuso, on the other hand, was accused of stealing an oil absorbing face powder valued at E119.99. The powder was said to be in lawful possession of Mangaliso Mdluli.

The ladies, whose cases were tried on different occasions, were informed that they had a right to conduct their own defences or hire ser-

vices of an attorney. They both chose to conduct their own defences. They pleaded guilty to the offences.

When Dlamini was asked why she took the lipstick, she told the court that she was absent minded when she took the lipstick.

When given an opportunity to mitigate, she apologised to the court for committing the offence. "I apologise to the court and I will not commit a similar offence," Dlamini said.

Mavuso, on the other hand, asked for forgiveness from the court.

Promise

"I apologise to the court and I

promise that I will not commit the same offence again. I left a child at home who is nine months old with my grandmother, who is not very well to be in a position to take care of a small child," Mavuso said.

Both ladies were sentenced to five months in the correctional institution, with a fine option of E1 000 each.

At the time of compiling this report, both women were still organising money to pay the fine.



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LUBOMBO NEWS

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...With

Sicelo Maziya



HONEY PRODUCERS' WORKSHOP AT SITEKI HOTEL

LUBOMBO honey producers are currently engaged in a capacity development workshop at Siteki Hotel.

The training will cover marketing and unionism as the farmers strive to produce the best and marketable honey product.

The training is facilitated by the Co-operation for the Development of Emerging Countries (COSPE) and the Swaziland National Agricultural Union (SNAU).

Training

The training will help the farmers in many aspect of forging a partnership that would help them secure and maintain available markets using their Lubombo Eco Product brand.

The honey producers are from Shewula, Mhlumeni, Tikhuba and Mambane, and are banking hopes that their pure honey would help them sustain through the poverty challenge.

The farmers are also nursing hope that the heat wave by El Nino will not destroy trees and the blossoming flowers that produce honey.



WORKSHOP: Lubombo honey producers are currently engaged in a capacity development workshop at Siteki Hotel. (Pics: Sicelo Dlamini)

The Lubombo farmers are worried that once the heat wave had destroyed the plants, it would be difficult for them to produce the best natural grade of honey.

For honey to be regarded as best, it is based on the natural vegetation that is being used by the bees to produce it.

The farmers said their honey was not exposed to treated plants and flowers treated but only the natural vegetation of the Lubombo plateau.

Shared

The farmers also shared tips on customer care so as to make sure that their brand was always seen

and associated with good quality.

Tebukhosi Dlamini, Richard Masimula from COSPE and Henry Dladla (SNAU-Lubombo) conducted the training to help the farmers achieve their desired goal of becoming a leading brand in honey producing.

Nkilongo youth trained in vocational skills

YOUTH under Nkilongo constituency are trained on vocational skills so as to engage them in income generating projects as employment opportunities are scarce.

The Nkilongo youth are being trained in bricklaying, plumbing and electricals. Indvuna of the area, Nkosinathi Mamba, said they were currently training the youth at only two areas under Nkilongo constituency and these were Mndobandoba and Ndzevane. Mamba said they had just realised that the youth at Mayaluka were not attending the training due to transport fares to the designated training centres. He said they were working on securing another training location for the Mayaluka youth.

Tikhuba youth want to explore the future

TIKHUBA youth have risen to the challenge to utilise their newly acquired entrepreneurial skills to start small businesses within their community.

The training they received has helped the youth who were previously disadvantaged due to lack of employment opportunities.

The youth started their poultry business through funding and training by COSPE-Swaziland. The youth are now working towards producing eggs as the next step in their business growth. The youth have even diversified to selling maize meal (imphumphu) as the prize of the commodity has escalated.

The youth said before they were trained by COSPE, they always thought of following other young people to the textile factories to seek employment.

SCOUTS CELEBRATIONS A SUCCESS

SWAZILAND Scouts Association graced the Big Bend community in an effort to sensitise the community on the ideal idea of the scouting movement.

The scouts organisation annually celebrates the day of the founder of the movement in all the four regions of the country. Scouts ensure that communities in which they celebrate their special day are given basic knowledge about the activities of the scout's movement. Swaziland Scouts Association Public Relations Officer (PRO) Zwelihle Mamba said their aim was to sensitise the Mayaluka community about the voluntary, educational and religious values instilled to scouts as a programme that would ensure that every scout becomes a better citizen of the country. He said the voluntary character of scouting

emphasised on the fact that members should adhere to it by their own free will and because accept the fundamentals of the movement. This remark applied both to young people and adults. As an educational movement scouting is non-political.

Required

This non-political character is constitutionally required from all national associations and is a basic characteristic of the movement.

This does not, however, mean that scouting is completely divorced from political realities within a given country. In the first place, it is a movement whose aim is to develop responsible citizenship. This civic education cannot be accomplished without an awareness of political realities within a country. It is a

movement that is based upon a number of principles - fundamental laws and beliefs - which condition the political opinions of members of the movement. Mamba said scouting in the broadest sense of the term could be defined as a process aiming at the total development of a person's capabilities.

Clearly

He said scouting must be clearly distinguished from a purely recreational movement. An image which it tends to project in some parts of the world. Despite the importance of the recreational activities in scouting, these are conceived as a means to an end, and not as an end in themselves.

He also said education must also be distinguished from the process of acquiring particular knowledge or skills.

Sugar industry initiates irrigation reduction system

AS the effects of the drought persist, the Swaziland Sugar Association (SSA) has started the initiatives that would see irrigation to its fields scheduled.

The industry will now irrigate its fields on scheduled periods.

There will be a major reduction of up to 80 percent of water application in some of the fields and a 100 percent shutdown on others.

The adjustments have been necessary to ensure the equitable sharing of the limited water that has since remained.

SSA Head of Technical Services Jabulani Sifundza said the primary concern has been ensuring that there was sufficient water for household needs in the neighbouring communities.

He said that was the reason they saw it fit to present clean drinking water to the residents



DROUGHT: Swaziland Sugar Association has started the initiatives that will see irrigation to its fields scheduled.

and show their (SSA) commitment to prioritising human lives. Sifundza said they uphold their pledge to supporting the basic human right of access to clean water for all communities around sugar industry.

Sifundza said the decision to reduce or stop irrigation alto-

gether in some of the industry's sugarcane fields would reduce the yields significantly, thus resulting in reduced earnings for the industry. However, he said they would not deter from their commitment to share the limited water resources with the surrounding communities.

RETURNING AGOA POSSIBLE - US

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

UNITED States of America Ambassador to Swaziland Lisa Peterson says it will not be a walk in the park for Swaziland to take part in the Africa Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA) programme.

Peterson was addressing editors and media practitioners during her meeting with them held at her residence.

Such comments were prompted by Swazi Observer Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbingo, who wanted the ambassador to shed light on the issue of AGOA as regards Swaziland.

He asked Peterson what Swaziland needed to do to be re-admitted into the programme by America.

Enacted

In response, Peterson said when AGOA was enacted by USA back in 2000, it was envisaged by America that countries participating in the programme should be those that respected human rights, including freedom of speech.

She stated that she did not know when Swaziland would be re-admitted to AGOA, but assured the editors that it would be possible.

The ambassador said Swaziland must work hard in meeting the benchmarks to be re-admitted.

Peterson's sentiments were shared by USA Embassy Public Affairs Officer Ruth Newman, who said there was a tendency in the media



SHORT MEETING: Swazi Observer Acting Editor Alec Lushaba (L), USA Ambassador Lisa Peterson (C) and Swazi Observer Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbingo (R) posing for our camera. Peterson was visited by the editors whom she met yesterday. This took place at her residence in Thembelihle, Mbabane. The purpose of the meeting was to find ways in which the media could work with her office in highlighting human rights issues (Pic: Mbono Mdluli)

and amongst Swazis to think that being readmitted to AGOA would be easy.

"The ambassador said she was willing to help Swaziland retain its AGOA status, but this should not be taken as something that will be easy.

Swaziland is still expected to meet

its own benchmarks.

It does not mean the issue of benchmarks is gone," Newman said.

She added that it would be possible for Swaziland to be re-admitted into the programme, but the country must decide if it really wanted to be re-admitted.

A private school within a public school

By Sabatha Dlamini
Manzini

FRUSTRATED parents of St. Theresa's Primary School desperate to have their children proceed with French and computer lessons have resorted to running the French and computer department separately from the school.

This means the department will be run independently of the school committee, with independent funds and effectively more like a private entity.

The parents, who are behind the idea, formed a separate structure from the legally accepted school committee to manage and run the affairs of the semi-private French and computer department of the school.

The committee was made up of volunteers, whose sole responsibility would be to raise funds for the payment of French and computer teachers.

The funds to be raised by this group from parents and any other sources, would not be deposited into the school account, allegedly because government, through the ministry of education and training, is strongly against the collection of any other fees from parents.

The ministry made it clear that

schools must make do with funds within their disposal and, those funds are being provided for by the government as part of the free primary school education programme.

During the St. Theresa's meeting, the parents, while calling for the headteacher to continue collecting money from them to run the now privately operated French and computer department, did not explain on whose bank account the money would be kept.

Parents

The school's manageress made it clear to the parents that the director of education strongly warned them against collecting any top-up fees from parents, irrespective of whatever name they chose to call it.

The schools manageress said the ministry would not tolerate a situation whereby certain activities involving the collection of money apparently to meet school needs be conducted within the school premises.

The schools Manageress made it clear to the parents that the director of education strongly warned them against collecting any top-up fees from parents, irrespective of whatever name they chose to call it.

The group of volunteers to make up the PTA committee comprised of the following individuals; Khetsiwe Mkhabela, Nothando Mhlana, Sandile Khumalo, Hanson Mavuso, Nonduduzo Ndwandwe, Mbali Msibi and Nomcebo Nyawo.

Rocklands Mill employees not happy with bully 'manager'

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

WORKERS at the Rocklands Mill are not happy with the way they are treated by one of their superiors.

The employees said a white man came and was occupying the position of a fitter but all of a sudden he informed them that he was their manager.

Subsequent to that, he implemented some rules, but is failing to adhere to them himself. The workers said he told them that no person was allowed to enter the plant without wearing the right protective clothing known as PPE.

However, they alleged that of late, he come to work wearing shorts adding that at one instance the 'manager' tore papers for an interning student who was from

the Swaziland College of Technology (SCOT).

One supervisor when asked about the incident he confirmed it, but said he could not say much on the matter as it had been reported to the production manager who is responsible for the student's welfare. The employees said they wanted to report the bossy 'manager' but feared victimisation.

The employees further stated that there were other incidences, where they have been ill-treated but decided to keep quiet.

When the reporter from this publication visited the mill, he was directed to the human resources manager for further questions.

However, after being told to wait for hours on end, the human resources manager told her secretary that she did not address the media.

Fraudster finally busted after six years

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

AFTER six years of getting away with his petty criminal activities a fraudster has finally been brought to justice.

This comes after a 22-year-old man of Kazwayimbane was arrested after he defrauded his friend E2 700 by stealing his credit card and withdrawing cash.

Offences

Mancoba Mhlana has been going around the Northern Hhohho region committing various offences. Mhlana appeared before Magistrate Simangele Mbatha, where he was charged with three criminal offences. The first

charge that Mhlana was slapped with was that of theft in that on February 22, 2015 near Buhleni, the said accused did wrongfully and intentionally steal a Building Society ATM card and withdrew money amounting to E2 700.

It is said the card, which Mhlana stole, belonged to Chester Bongi Dlamini.

On the second count, the accused was again charged with the offence of theft in that 2011, near Mhlangatane the accused stole clothing items that amounted to E1 560, which belonged to Mbongiseni Tsabedze.

The last count that Mhlana was charged with

was that of the offence of contravening the Opium and Habit Forming Drug Act in that on Saturday, while at Kazwayimbane the accused was caught in the possession of 136 grams of dagga seeds without possessing a permit to carry the illegal substance.



Mhlana, who chose to conduct his own defence, pleaded guilty to all the charges.

When asked why he stole Dlamini's money, Mhlana stated that Dlamini had sent him to withdraw only E200 but after seeing that there was a lot of cash he got tempted and withdrew E2 700. When asked about Tsabedze's clothing, Mhlana told the court that

he did not steal them but simply took them because Tsabedze owed him money and was failing to pay him back.

In passing sentence, Magistrate Mbatha ordered the accused to pay back the money he took from Dlamini and also pay for the clothes which he stole from Tsabedze. Mbatha further sentenced the accused to two years imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000 for the first charge.

On the second count, Mhlana was sentenced to six months imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000 while on the last count he was sentenced to a year imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.

The sentences were set to run consecutively.

There are plans to regulate NGOs

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

WHILE most non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are not over-regulated by government, it has been discovered that this leads to the misuse of funds.

In a bid to prevent such from occurring, NGOs in the country have reached a mutual understanding by adopting certain standards and practices for an effective implementation of programmes.

This was revealed during the NGO Open Day held at the Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre.

The event was graced by the Swaziland Standards Authority (SWASA), members of different NGOs around the country and other figures from the ministry of home

affairs.

The ministry's Under Secretary Arnold Dlamini said NGOs assisted governments to provide services to citizens.

"Most governments tend not to over regulate NGOs so as to allow their growth and positive contribution in

the economy," he said. Dlamini said traces of malpractice had let down the phenomenon thus it is high time to regulate the sector. He said government would positively consider being part of certain NGOs programmes.

It is also hoped that through the implementation of certain standards eroded donor confidence would be regained.

Dlamini emphasised the importance of donor confidence saying regaining it was centred on good governance,

accountability, accurate programme monitoring evaluation, keeping a happy and well motivated workforce.

The US said currently NGOs were characterised with funds misuse, no accountability such that management are their own bosses or they work like in a sole trade establishment, staffers are uncontrollable. "This standard intends to eradicate such habits which are anti-the national Vision 2022," he said.

Dlamini said the newly released assignment of responsibilities to Minister Legal Notice 189/2015 had retained NGO monitoring in the ministry of home affairs. Adding, the US said there would be legal frameworks which would allow NGOs to fully deliver the five consortia which are HIV and AIDS, gender, children, food security and the newly established governance and human rights.

...Most governments tend not to over regulate NGOs so as to allow their growth and positive contribution in the economy

SNIP

Communities been drinking unsafe water

Sicelo Maziya
Nkilongo

PEOPLE from Lunkuntfu, who are beneficiaries of the Swaziland Sugar Association (SSA) water project have applauded the entity and its partners for the kind gesture in light of the water crisis.

All along, the community has been living off the sewage spillage and that resulted in them having running stomachs when they had not thoroughly cooked the water. Lomadina Tfwala said the clean water that had been donated would be taken care of as they suffered a lot with the water shortage in the area. The water project by SSA and its partners who are also players in the sugar sector,

came at the right time. The people from Lunkhutfu had no idea where to source water following the drought that had dried up water sources. Worth noting is that most of their livestock had perished due to the drought. Meanwhile, Dumisa Tfwala from Gamula said the heatwave had hit them hard adding that now they had no cattle. "In our culture, the beauty of a man is his cattle. With the prevailing drought, we are not only losing our status but our cultural heritage is being challenged," he said.

Tfwala also thanked the sugar industry for the water and tanks donation. He said they appreciated what the companies were doing as they had realised that the water shortages were also affecting them.

1 000 at Scouts founder's birthday celebrations

Sicelo Maziya
Siteki

ABOUT 1 000 members of the Swaziland Scouts Association assembled at Mayaluka in Big Bend to celebrate their founder's birthday.

Founder Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, known as B-P was born in Paddington, London on February 22, 1857.

The weekend's event was themed 'celebrating the great idea'. Lubombo Regional Commissioner Bakhona Nyoni said he was happy with the turn-up and further thanked all scout leaders who attended the

event. He said it was indeed a great day for celebrating the scout movement. Nyoni said he hoped Big Bend would never be the same adding that the people of the area now had an idea of what scouting was all about.



During the celebrations, children also joined the march in the small streets of Mayaluka.

Nyoni said he was also grateful for the parents who allowed their children to join scouting. Meanwhile, World Scouts Movement Organisation celebrated the day of Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, known as B-P worldwide with the Girl Guide movement calling it

the 'Thinking Day'.

BP was born in Paddington, London on February 22, 1857. He was the eighth of ten children of Baden, a Professor at Oxford University, and Henrietta Powell.

His father died when B-P was only three years old, leaving the family in a challenging situation. B-P was given his first lessons by his mother and later attended Rose Hill School, where he gained a scholarship to Charterhouse School. He was eager to learn new skills and played the piano and violin. While at Charterhouse he began to exploit his interest in the arts of scouting and woodcraft.

UBOMBO SUGAR LIMITED

TENDER NOTICE

REQUEST FOR TENDERS FOR:

(1) BUSH CLEARING, LAND PREPARATION AND FORMATION AT LUNKUNTFU –
Tender No. UBO 03/2016 AGRIC

(2) DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF BULK WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE AT
LUNKUNTFU PROJECT IN BIG BEND, SWAZILAND:
Tender No. UBO 13/2016 AGRIC

Ubombo Sugar Limited (USL) has secured funding from European Union – Swaziland Sugar Facility under contract number DCI – SUCRE/2014/354-051 to implement Ubombo Integrated Small Holder Development Project 2 in the Ubombo cane supply area in Swaziland. Therefore Ubombo Sugar Limited now invites suitably qualified Local and International Land Preparation contractors to tender for land preparation of 142 ha and for design and construction of bulk water supply infrastructure at Lunkuntfu.

The tender documents are obtainable from the Purchasing & Inventory Manager's Secretary (Mill stores) Ubombo Sugar Limited, upon payment of SZL 500.00 which excludes courier delivery cost. Payment is made at the Cashier's Office located at the Ubombo Sugar Limited Main Office, P.O. Box 23, Big Bend. The cashier's office is open Monday to Friday from 08h00 to 11h15 only for purchase of the tender documents. Documents will be on sale from Wednesday 24th of February 2016 up to 02 March 2016. Companies that have their origin in G20 countries (including South Africa) are not eligible to tender, but materials can be sourced from South Africa eligible companies.

The completed tender documents must be delivered in sealed envelopes showing only the project name and the tender number to the address below:

Ubombo Sugar Ltd, Main Office
Portion Farm 161, Old Main Road
P.O. Box 128, Big Bend, Swaziland
Telephone +268 2363 8000
Fax: +268 2363 6924

The deadline for submission of tenders is **05th April 2016 at 1200hrs**, local Swaziland time. A compulsory site inspection will be held on **03rd of March 2016 at 0900hrs**. The bidders will assemble at 0900hrs in the Agricultural Development conference room at Ubombo Sugar Limited for a clarification meeting before proceeding to site. Information pertaining to the site visit should be directed to the Project Engineer, Justin Mutiro. Email address: jmutiro@ilovo.co.za. Tel: +268 2363 6927 COPIED TOT HE Project Manager, Peter Oldham. Email address: poldham@ilovo.co.za Tel: +268 2363 6927/8.

Item No.	Contract Name	Tender Number
1.	Bush clearing, land preparation and formation at Lunkuntfu 142ha	UBO 03/2016 AGRIC
2.	Design & Construction of bulk water supply infrastructure at Lunkuntfu	UBO 13/2016 AGRIC


Doc 7968


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FEATURES & OPINION

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Swazi OBSERVER

THE OBSERVER SAYS

Hail the Mamba clan

IN a country where the simple appointment of a chief is marred in endless disputes, it is in order that we applaud the Mamba clan's exemplary leadership in resolving theirs within a shortest time possible.

This move clearly demonstrates how serious the clan take issues of leadership. King Maja II only passed on in 2012, but in a time enough for her wives to mourn his death; they were quick to identify the Regent, which by extensions, also means that they have already identified who the next King would be. Endless fights over leadership derail development and compromises the community's solidity and unity. We would like to encourage the Mamba clan to support their regent and further ensure that by the time the new King is installed, the Kingdom is ready and looking forward to the occasion. Conflicts have a way to influence the behaviour or conduct of the new leader. Any leader installed in the midst of squabbles and conflict tends to take a hard line that rubs his community in a wrong and divisive way. We are seeing some of these tendencies in some of these communities already, some of which are not far from the Mamba clan. The seamless transition of power from the late King to Inkhosikati naboMntfwana epitomises the Mamba clan as very proud people, who take serious issues of leadership. We have, during our time, witnessed cases of the clan rallying behind their leader. This peaceful unveiling of Inkhosikati LaBafana as mother of the Mamba clan defines them as people who believe strongly in their traditions and rich history. We hope other long feuding communities of almost similar status would emulate the exemplary leadership displayed by the Mamba clan.

The Mamba royal family can teach many of the feuding chiefdoms a thing or two on how to rally behind one unifying force and fight for the common good of the community.

In no time, as soon as the young prince, soon to be crown prince is identified, we will be celebrating his installation.

How we wish their spirit could spread to the rest of the country, especially those that have gone for decades without identifying their leader. Uncertainty in leadership breeds confusion and results in underdevelopment, which then affects the entire community and derails the country's strategic development aspirations.

We would like to wish the Mamba clan well and pray for the good life of Inkhosikati Nabomntfwana and the soon to be crowned prince.

TIVE LEADERSHIP CENTER



... With
Kholwaphi
Mdziniso
(Executive
Director)

Guest Writer

EMOTIONAL intelligence (EI) or emotional quotient (EQ) is the capacity of individuals to recognise their own and other people's emotions to discriminate between different feelings and label them appropriately and to use emotional information to guide thinking and behaviour.

There are currently several models of emotional intelligence, Goldman's original model is considered to be a mixed model that combines what have subsequently been modelled separately as ability emotional intelligence and trait emotional intelligence. Goldman defined emotional intelligence as the array of skills and characteristics that drive leadership performance.

Attributable

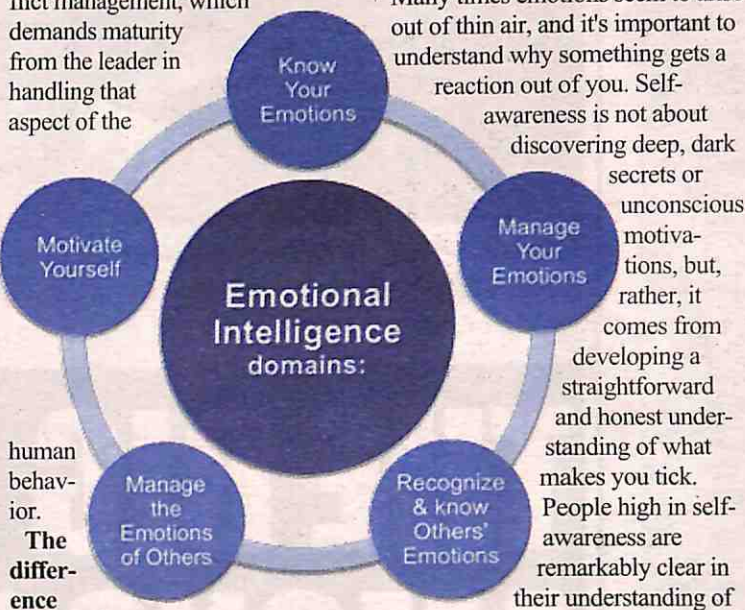
Studies have shown that people with high EI have greater mental health, job performance and leadership skills although no causal relationship has been shown and this is likely to be attributable to general intelligence and specific personality traits. For instance, Goleman indicated that EI accounted for 67% of the abilities deemed necessary for superior performance in leaders, and mattered twice as much as technical expertise or IQ.

Scholars have different views on emotional intelligence - if it is a real intelligence and whether it has incremental validity over IQ and the Big Five personality traits.

However, for effective leadership, one does not necessarily need a high IQ to lead well, but emotional intelligence is very fundamental because EQ determines to a greater extent how the leader relates to other people reflecting through the

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, A KEY TRAIT OF EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

emotional window. EI affects the ability of problem solving and conflict management, which demands maturity from the leader in handling that aspect of the



human behavior. The difference

between emotional intelligence (EI) and Intelligence quotient (IQ)

Emotional intelligence and intelligence quotient is not the same thing. Emotional intelligence (EI) is more of being social aware of your feelings yet intelligence quotient (IQ) is a total score derived from one of several standardised tests designed to assess human intelligence.

IQ scores are used for educational placement, assessment of intellectual disability, and evaluating job applicants, yet emotional intelligence is about boosting your self-awareness, which is also a core skill of mindfulness.

Developing emotional intelligence

One of the ways to genuinely understand your emotions so that you can manage them effectively is to spend enough time thinking through them to figure out where they come from and why they are there. Emotions always serve a purpose. Emotions always come

from somewhere. They are reactions to the world around you. Many times emotions seem to arise out of thin air, and it's important to understand why something gets a reaction out of you. Self-awareness is not about

discovering deep, dark secrets or unconscious motivations, but, rather, it comes from developing a straightforward and honest understanding of what makes you tick. People high in self-awareness are remarkably clear in their understanding of what they do well, what motivates and satisfies them, and which people and situations push their buttons.

Challenge

Brad berry (2002) states that the daily challenge of dealing effectively with emotions is critical because our brains are hard-wired to give emotions the upper hand. Since our brains are wired to make us emotional creatures, your first reaction to an event is always going to be an emotional one. You have no control over this part of the process. You do control the thoughts that follow an emotion, and you have a great deal of say in how you react to an emotion as long as you are aware of it. Some experiences produce emotions that you are easily aware of; other times emotions may seem non-existent. When something generates a prolonged emotional reaction in you, it's called a 'trigger event.' Your reactions to your triggers are shaped by your personal history, which includes your experience with similar situations. As your EQ skills grow, you learn to spot your triggers and practise productive ways of responding to them that will become habitual.

Leaders should not struggle between letting their emotions and their reason drive their behaviour. Emotional intelligence is more on self awareness hence increasing the ability of being effective through making informed decision that are not merely driven by your emotions.

Jameson (1996) asserts that there are four aspects of emotional intelligence which are: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship management but the faculty that needs monitoring and much attention is the social awareness.

Tough

Social awareness is a tough one for a lot of people to increase because to be socially aware, you have to spot and understand people's emotions while you're right there in the middle of it a contributing, yet astutely aware, participant in the interaction.

Listening and observing are the most important elements of social awareness.

To listen well and accurately observe what's going on around you, you have to stop bad habits. You have to stop talking, stop the monologue that's running through your mind; stop anticipating the point the other person is about to make, and stop thinking ahead to what you are going to say next. It takes practice to really watch people as you interact with them to get a good sense of what they are thinking and feeling.

Emotional intelligence is a fundamental trait that leaders have to continue develop until when they feel that they are at the top of their game.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY: "Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will."

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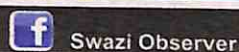
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ON THIS DAY

...MARCH 1

1565 - Portuguese soldier Estácio de Sá founds the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

1628 - Writs are issued in February by Charles I of England mandating that every county in England (not just sea-port towns) pay ship tax by this date.

1633 - Samuel de Champlain reclaims his role as commander of New France on behalf of Cardinal Richelieu.
1711 'The Spectator' begins publishing (London).

1781 - Continental Congress adopts Articles of Confederation.

1792 - US Presidential Succession Act passed.

1811 - Egyptian King Muhammad Ali Pasha oversees ceremonial murder of 500.

1840 - Adolphe Thiers becomes prime minister of France.

1845 - President Tyler signs a resolution annexing the Republic of Texas.

1896 - Battle of Adwa: 80 000 Ethiopians destroy 20 000 Italians in Ethiopia.

1914 - The Republic of China joins the Universal Postal Union.

1921 - Rwanda ceded to Great Britain.

1927 - Bank of Italy becomes a National Bank.

1932 - The 20 month old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh is kidnapped from their home in East Amwell, New Jersey in what became known as the "Lindbergh kidnapping" 1937 1st permanent automobile license plates issued (Ct).

1946 - British government nationalizes and takes control of the Bank of England, after 252 years.

1947 - International Monetary Fund begins operation.

1950 - Chiang Kai-shek resumed the presidency of National China on Taiwan.

1952 - Egyptian government-Ali Maher Pasja resigns.

1953 - Joseph Stalin suffers a stroke and collapses. He dies four days later.

1961 - President Kennedy establishes the Peace Corp 1963 200 000 French mine workers strike.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1978-Jensen Ackles, American actor (Days of our Lives)



1994 - Justin Bieber, London Ontario, Canadian pop singer (Baby, One Time)



HOLDING THE LINE: Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan with his deputy, Mcebisi Jonas, and President Jacob Zuma at a pre-Budget meeting. He has shown the mettle, the character of a hero, by standing up against the abuse of power. (GCIS)

THE BIG READ: A MAN AMONG ZUMA'S MICE

MANY commentators say there are no heroes in South African public life.

They are wrong. There are many, and they are all around us.

But we need to keep our eyes open and see them at work and acknowledge their bravery and encourage them to keep going.

Last week, Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan joined this legion of heroes.

Gordhan might lose his job, which he has handled with such dignity and aplomb, this week.

Greed

It does not matter if he does. He will still be a hero. In just two-and-a-half months he has shown the mettle, the character, of a hero. He stood up against abuse of power and the wanton theft of our people's resources. He has spoken out against greed without fear.

For this he is already being vilified by those who want to profit from the state and its resources at the expense of the poor.

What has Gordhan done?

In just two-and-a-half months he has told President Jacob Zuma three things: state-owned enterprises will no longer be used as piggy banks, and the days of Dudu Myeni running SAA as if it were her spaza shop are over.

He also told Zuma that there would be no blank cheque for building nuclear power stations

just because the Russians say so, and state institutions such as SARS will not be used to open up opportunities for Zuma's cronies or stop probes into the affairs of the president himself.

Last week, Gordhan did what no minister in Zuma's administration has dared to do: he told Zuma's best friends - the Guptas of Saxonwold - that he would not be appearing at their sham New Age televised breakfasts. It is a stance that not a single one of Zuma's 34-member cabinet has taken.

Raised

Every single member of Zuma's cabinet has come running when the Gupta finger has been raised. Zuma must have been furious with Gordhan. He must have been even more furious when he received numerous calls from the Gupta family asking him to intervene - and he couldn't.

He couldn't do it this past week, but his knives have been sharpened. All the compromised people with which he has packed the institutions of accountability are now sniffing around trying to find something with which they can besmirch Gordhan. Given Zuma's history, the National Prosecuting Authority, the Hawks and others will find something they can use to try to rattle Gordhan. They will try to use the law to shut

him up. We know that the law will be an ass in such a case because it has been manipulated already.

The Hawks, which replaced the admired Scorpions - disbanded because Zuma wanted it so - is headed by Major-General Berman Ntsemeza.

Ntsemeza was appointed by Zuma despite Judge Elias Matojane saying in March last year that Ntsemeza had lied under oath and was dishonest.

"In my view, the conduct of the mthrd respondent [Ntsemeza] shows that he is biased and dishonest. To further show that the third respondent is dishonest and lacks integrity and honour, he made false statements under oath," Judge Matojane said.

Damaging

This is why, in September, when he was appointed to head the Hawks, the Congress of the People described the announcement as "a cynical, arrogant and damaging abuse of power" by Zuma. COPE was right.

These are the people we are dealing with now. They are the front and centre of our system.

Who will prosecute Gordhan when Ntsemeza has investigated him? It will be the NPA, another deeply compromised and totally discredited institution whose main job seems to be to intimidate anyone who might want to

get a few answers out of Zuma.

Zuma knows how to win dirty fights and so I cannot guarantee that Gordhan will win. Indeed, like Anwa Dramat, formerly the Hawks head, and so many others, he is likely to lose.

Remember that Dramat started sniffing around some cases that implicated Zuma and today he is out of a job and faces further harassment and intimidation.

Gordhan is a hero because, after six years on the Zuma train, he developed a backbone and said "enough is enough".

Cronyism

Enough to looting of the state. Enough to cronyism. Enough to short-changing and stealing from the taxpayer. Enough to using the organisation of Nelson Mandela and Pixley kaIsaka Seme to steal. On Thursday morning he warned that South Africa faced becoming a kleptocracy: "There are many parts of transacting between the government and business that have gone seriously wrong and, if we don't stop it, we're going to become a kleptocracy."

Gordhan might be fired this week, or next week. But his work here is done. He used his voice to speak truth to corrupt power. That makes him a hero in my book. There are others in the ANC. I look forward to seeing them find their voice this week, and next week. *Timeslive*

THE CHURCH OF TODAY SERIES PART 7

He is the God of miracles, signs and wonders



BISHOP KEITH HARRINGTON'S CORNER

THE gospel of Jesus Christ is known to be accompanied by miracles, signs and wonders.

God is known from time immemorial for performing divine miracles on earth in order to strengthen the faith of people towards Him.

Jesus Christ constantly explained the purposes for which miracles needed to be performed in people's lives. He performed many miracles as He demonstrated His power over nature and spirits thus confirming that the Kingdom of God is at hand. (Mark 1:15)

In physical miracles such as making the blind see, walking on water or calming a storm, the laws of the universe are suspended through divine intervention.

Some were moral miracles such as the forgiveness of sins or driving out demons, where the blessing of Jesus purifies the soul.

One such example is found in Mark 12:1-12, where Jesus healed a paralytic to demonstrate a moral miracle of the forgiveness of sins.

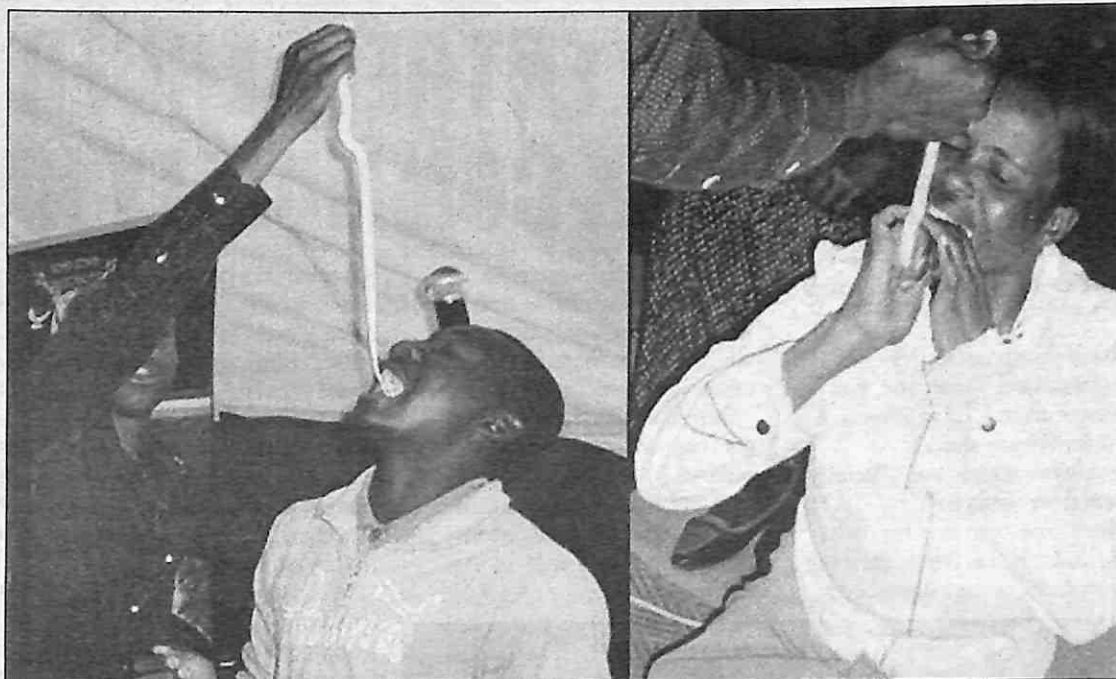
Appear

It is noteworthy that only three of Jesus Christ's miracles appear in all four gospels. These are His own resurrection, which is the greatest of them all (Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20), the feeding of the 5 000 through the multiplication of the loaves found in Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17 and also the healing of the blind (Matthew 9:27-31, Mark 8:22-26, Luke 18:35-43 and John 9), even though different individuals are involved.

Miracle stories are an integral part of the gospel narrative, as the ministry of Jesus is centred on the establishment of God's imminent Kingdom.

This ended the dominion of the evil one over the world which was present since sin and death entered mankind. These miracles were Jesus' chief weapon in the struggle with evil.

A miracle is, therefore, regarded



as an act of power originating from the words dynamic and dynamite.

People would marvel at the miracles of our Lord as well as those performed by His disciples or apostles. All of them were not questioned but would instead bring multitudes to repentance.

Jesus Christ would in many instances not want the recipient of the miracle to tell anyone of his or her experience.

Converted

In the book of Acts, the fact that people were receiving divine miracles caused the Apostles much persecution as many were being converted to becoming followers of Christ.

This is what miracles should be doing even in our generation. non-believers should be convinced of the existence of God through these miracles.

Believers should have their faith in God strengthened as they witness the power of God operating in their lives and God fighting their battles against sickness and disease.

Miracles should also be able to distinguish between true and false religions of the world.

Sadly, miracles today are performed by different ministers to attract people to those churches rather than bringing people closer to God.

It seems as if miracles are the latest form of competitive tool among "men of God". Signs and wonders have become a measuring tool of who is greater than the other.

Unlike the apostles who were persecuted by other religious sectors for miracles that couldn't be denied, ministers today are persecuted on social media for performing what the public regards as "fake miracles".

Healed

Ministers have been accused of paying people to claim that they were healed from certain sicknesses which they never had.

As the years go by, the number of miracle workers has increased dramatically.

Not only have those performing miracles increased but seemingly the type of miracles that are being performed have increased.

Some of these have caused a whole lot of confusion within the Christian faith and have brought the issue of whether these miracles are real under serious scrutiny by many.

Jesus Christ turned water into wine at a wedding in Cana. However, when tempted by the devil to turn stones into bread He resisted the devil by quoting the Word of God.

Today believers are fed grass, rodents such as rats and reptiles

like snakes as a demonstration of the power of God.

It is said that these including hair and pieces of cloth are miraculously turned into edible food substances.

This happens by the taste of these things changing in the mouths of the recipients. Others have drunk petrol and have claimed that it tastes like pineapple juice.

Flowers

Lately we've heard and seen people being fed flowers and leaves.

Jesus Christ walked on water but preachers are claiming to have the ability to walk on air. Shockingly, those ministers with such claims still buy luxury cars and private jets, which would not be necessary if they really possess the power to travel on the air. Jesus Christ was seen with Elijah and Moses by His own disciples but the appearance of angels in our day is only captured on blurry camera shots without any present in the congregation having seen their appearance.

Let's assume that most of these claims are true, what value do these add to the gospel?

How many sinners have come to repentance because of these "miracles"? Let us ponder on this and continue with the subject in next week's edition.

Wit & Wisdom

1. Imperfection is not our personal problem, it is a natural part of existing. Tara Brach

2. Better it is to live one day seeing the rise and fall of things than to live a hundred years without ever seeing the rise and fall of things. Buddha

3. Life is very short and what we have to do must be done in the now. Audre Lorde

4. Our duty is to be useful, not according to our desires but according to our powers. Henri-Frederic Amiel

5. Life is the sum of all your choices. Albert Camus

6. I have a simple philosophy: Fill what's empty. Empty what's full. Scratch where it itches. Alice Longworth Roosevelt

7. The trouble with life isn't that there is no answer, it's that there are so many answers. Ruth Fulton Benedict

8. Life is like a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you only spend it once. Lillian Dickson

9. Constant development is the law of life, and a man who always tries to maintain his dogmas in order to appear consistent drives himself into a false position. Mohandas K. Gandhi

10. We do not see things as they are. We see them as we are. Talmud

11. No one is in control of your happiness but you; therefore, you have the power to change anything about yourself or your life that you want to change. Barbara de Angelis

12. Pursue some path, however narrow and crooked, in which you can walk with love and reverence. Henry David Thoreau

13. I cannot believe that the purpose of life is to be 'happy.' I think the purpose of life is to be useful, to be responsible, to be compassionate. It is, above all, to matter and to count, to stand for something, to have made some difference that you lived at all. Leo C. Rosten

14. No matter what age you are, or what your circumstances might be, you are special, and you still have something unique to offer. Your life, because of who you are, has meaning. Barbara de Angelis

15. For everyone of us that succeeds, it's because there's somebody there to show you the way out. The light doesn't always necessarily have to be in your family; for me it was teachers and school. Oprah Winfrey

16. We all have our own life to pursue, our own kind of dream to be weaving. And we all have some power to make wishes come true, as long as we keep believing. Louisa May Alcott

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!"

Isaiah 14:12

Good Deacons Will Be Rewarded

1 Timothy 3:13 - Those who do well as deacons will be rewarded with respect from others and will have increased confidence in their faith in Christ Jesus. NLT

And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said to me, See you do it not: I am your fellow servant...

—Revelation 19:10

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate 9.75%
First National bank

Inflation Rate 5.6%
Central Statistical Office

Mortgage Rate 8.75%
Swaziland Building Society

Bank Rate 6.25%
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 29 February 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	16,1063	16,1563
British Pound/SZL	22,3451	22,4144
Japanese Yen/SZL	6,9917	7,0128
Swiss France/SZL	16,1661	16,2114
Botswana Pula/SZL	1,3759	1,4137
Australian Dollar/SZL	11,4790	11,5227
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11,9050	11,9376
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	2,9492	2,9988
Euro/SZL	17,6259	17,6806
Gold	1,227.0000	
Oil	35.9000	

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Moving Forward

LOCAL YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR INVESTS E1.3 MILLION IN COMMUNITY HARDWARE

Stories by Simon Shabangu

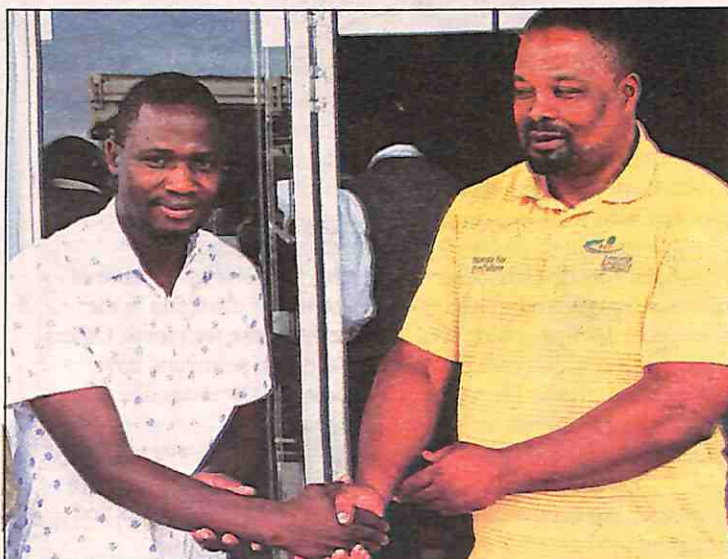
A local youth entrepreneur, Thembinkosi Nkonyane, has invested over E1.3 million in a new hardware shop at Ngculwini, which was officially opened on Saturday.

Nkonyane, who is in his early 30s, said this was one of their big investments as they started con-

structing the hardware from scratch and eventually came up with a double story building which also accommodates six offices on the second floor.

He said they had already filled the shop with stock worth over E1 million.

Nkonyane said this was their third shop, as they had one in Manzini and another in Mankayane.



WELL DONE: Ngculwini Chief Mgebiseni congratulating Thembinkosi Nkonyane during the official opening of the shop at Ngculwini on Saturday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



BUSY: A view of the busy day at the Corban Build Hardware shop opening.

The Manzini outlet is located at their head office next to Sibonelo Savings and Credit Cooperative offices, which is opposite Dairy Board Building.

He said they decided to open a branch in Ngculwini after realising that most people had to travel from as far as Siphofaneni and Macetjeni to buy construction material in Manzini.

"We identified the gap, and I approached the area's authorities here since I am also a resident and they bought into the idea and supported us all the way until we got this piece of land.

I am grateful to the chief and his inner council for their support. Now people will be able to get material closer. The other positive we have brought was to create job

opportunities for the people around this area," he said.

He said as the project grew, they would employ more people, adding that their mission was not only to develop themselves, but to also empower the community around them, and were also planning to expand their outlets to areas outside the Manzini corridor.

"The plan is to open two more hardware shops before the end of the year, however, for now I cannot divulge much detail, since these are projects which are still in the pipeline, especially with regards to securing the perfect location," he said.

Adding, he said the company's plan was to spread the Corban Build Hardware brand through the country.

...Company builds E70 000 market for vendors

WHILE constructing the shop, the company also built a market for local vendors who were trading under shacks by the roadside.

The market would accommodate eight vendors and each one of them would have their own compartment with a separate and lockable door for the security of their wares.

"This is just our way of appreciating the gesture from the chief of the area and to also empower the people around us. We felt as a new shop in the area it would be good to have them working closer to us in a clean and conducive environment. They will be trading for free there," he said.

Meanwhile, Chief Mgebiseni said he was grateful to for the kind gesture from the company.

He said this would help the vendors trade from a clean and secure place.

The chief said other businesses should copy from such companies, who strive to empower the local community when they establish in the area.

"Corban has been in operation since 2009 as we started off with electrical shops which 'gave birth' to the hardware line of business. Last year, we decided to venture in the hardware line of business which is doing very well so far in the less than a year of operation as we have already managed to open two shops with this being the third. We are also hoping that the Swazi people will support us in this new investment because the idea is to bring the building material closer to the people" he said.

BUNYE BETFU TABLES E17 MILLION BUDGET

Linda Dlamini

BUNYE Betfu Buhle Betfu Savings and Credit Cooperative Society has tabled a E17 million budget for the financial year 2016/17.

According to the cooperative's budget report capital projects for the cooperative society are forecasted to cost around E530 000, while the rest will go to recurrent and operational expenditure almost E16.9 million.

"Capital budget includes exterior renovations, replacing existing windows on the second floor and

attending to a leaking roof," reads the report in part.

The cooperative also plans on purchasing a vehicle during this financial year.

"The intended motor vehicle will greatly aid the organisation as it will save substantially on the travelling allowance claim," reads the report.

"The report anticipates that the cooperative total earnings are projected to about E19 million up 16.4 percent from E16 million in 2015/16.

Currently total expenditure of the cooperative society takes up almost 91 percent of the total earn-

ings that is generated by the firm.

The financial projections of the firm indicate that the cooperative will continue to have a high total expenditure when compared to total income.

Expenditure

The high expenditure erodes the income generated by the cooperative and consequently less money is returned as profits, therefore, it stands to reason that the cooperative would do well if it decreased its expenditure.

For instance the cooperatives telephone bill during the 2015/16 financial year was E62 764 and projections indicate that during the

2016/17 financial year could be around E90 000 representing a 43 percent raise in telephone bill.

At a special general meeting held at Divine Healing Ministry auditorium on 28 February, 2015 one member wanted to know why the phone bills were still too high.

"Members were not satisfied with the treasurer and secretaries responses," read the report.

Salaries and benefits are set to increase by 37 percent as in the previous year a figure of E1 3 million was quoted; the projected budget reveals that salaries and benefits are projected to be E 1.8 million.

SANDILE SIMELANE LEADS NEW SIPA BOARD

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

MONDELEZ International Swaziland Managing Director and Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC) President Sandile Simelane have been appointed as the new board chairman of the Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA).

Simelane, together with other seven board members, received and signed their appointment letters yesterday at the SIPA Head Offices in Mbabane.

Their term of office will set off from today up to 2019.

The establishment of the board is mandated by the Swaziland Investment Promotion (SIPA) Act, 1998 and The Public Enterprise Act which required the minister to appoint a board that would work with management.

The function of the board is to be the governing body of the authority.



NEW BOARD: Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini with the new SIPA board members led by Sandile Simelane and SIPA Chief Executive Officer Phumelele Dlamini. (Pic: Manqoba Makhubu)

Speaking during a meeting with the appointed board members, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini challenged the board to rebrand Swaziland as an investment destination, create more job opportunities and to integrate much deeper on beneficiation.

"This is very important because you are entering at a time when the mandate of SIPA is elevated to

ensure optimal benefits of the Swazi economy," he said.

Creation

He said as government had mandated every organ to contribute to the creation of 20 000 jobs per year; in March 2017, he would like to receive a report on SIPA's contribution to job creation to the total figure.

"We need the figures; therefore, we challenge you to come up with

Full List of Appointed Board Members

- Sandile Simelane
- Phumelele Dlamini
- Khethiwe Mhlana
- Ephraem Sibandze
- Graene David Rust
- Mandla Dlamini
- Siboniso Masilela
- Zandile Dlamini
- Samuel Mdluli

strategies to reduce escalating numbers of factors like unemployment, if we talk and talk, but don't produce report figures then we are not doing good," he said.

Adding, the minister also challenged the board to look for solutions other than outcries of bottle-necks.

Advice

"Consult widely, advice us on how best we can improve our investment image, liaise with embassies, create partnerships and scout for development finances," he said.

He also urged the board to develop strategic plans for the country to fully exploit opportunities that would come with regional integration initiatives and economic partnership agreements.

The country has recently hosted a delegation from the European Union (EU) and is expected to sign and ratify the preferential trade agreement with the EU agreement before October 2016.

The minister said government was also working towards regaining the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA) eligibility. "These are all possible new windows of opportunity that need to be fully exploited," he said.

Dlamini also spoke firmly against corruption.

"We don't want incidents where investors are made to pay incentives to conduct business to individuals," he said.

...We will work together to drive economic growth

NEW SIPA Board Chairman Sandile Simelane says they will work together with honesty to drive the mandate of SIPA and the economic growth of the country.

Referring to the current challenges currently facing the local economy Simelane said after the darkest hour comes dawn.

"There is a lot that the country can do, we need to tap into the good resources that we have and we can supply the whole of Africa, and as well as become a leading manufacturing country," he said.

Confidence

He thanked the minister for showing confidence in them and

vowed that they work extra hard to contribute in economic growth.

"We will work together and drive the mandate of SIPA, and we will work with honesty towards economic growth, job creation, and wealth creation. We are here for the nation to ensure that we achieve Vision 2022," he said.

STA MAXIMISES MARKETING AT MEETINGS AFRICA

THE Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) has successfully attended and maximised its marketing efforts for 'destination Swaziland' at Meetings Africa, a tourism and business events expo held at Sandton Convention Centre, in Johannesburg, last week.

Speaking to the business desk upon return, STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini said Meetings Africa was a business events trade exhibition that showcased Africa's diverse business event offerings.

"It's the place where Africa's business events industry professionals gather together to network and create mutually beneficial partnerships. The expo focuses on

MEETINGS AFRICA

Advancing Africa Together

10
YEARS
2005 - 2015



conventions, local corporate executives who book business travel, in-house event co-ordinators, travel agencies specialising in incentive, business and conference travel as well as to position

Swaziland as the ideal destination for MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and events)," revealed Dlamini.

He said as Africa was gaining prominence as a business events host hence STA was looking at showcasing how accessible Swaziland was. Dlamini revealed that this year's Meetings Africa drew a much larger contingent of exhibitors, buyers and visitors from the wider African continent.

"There were over 262 exhibitors

and over 1 000 hosted buyers from all over the world. It may also be noted that most of the stand owners and hosted buyers were mainly decision-makers and not just representatives. This allowed for on-the-spot decision making where applicable," he explained.

An industry player who shared the stand with STA, according to Dlamini, was the Royal Villas Hotel, which was represented by their Marketing Officer, Thandeka Dlamini. The stand was manned by STA information officers - Henrietta Mdluli and Xolani Gama. Dlamini revealed that 200 Swaziland Discovery magazines, 150 Explorer Maps, 10 Business Year Books and 20 Annual Reports were distributed at the STA stand.

...STA HOLDS MEETINGS WITH HIGH-END BUYERS

IN a bid to lure international inbound traffic to Swaziland, the Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) has held promising scheduled meetings with high-end international buyers who had attended Meetings Africa, at Sandton, in Johannesburg, last week.

STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini met separately with William Seller, Gudrun Tibau, Erika Aguilar, and Fuchu Jin. "Some of the issues and products they were interested in were conference facilities in the country, places of interest for business travellers, corporate profile of the

country, and sought to find new destinations," said Dlamini.

Most of these international buyers, said Dlamini, catered for high-end clientele, and hence required a minimum of three-star facilities for their clients.

"We also had walk-in meetings at the show, where buyers sought

the same information as the pre-arranged meetings. We were able to meet some of the South African tour operators and their interest was the events calendar. We also interacted with media houses that had interest in including Swaziland as a tourist destination to visit," said Dlamini.

SNHB to construct 110 house units at Matata

By Sikhulile Vilakati

SWAZILAND National Housing Board (SNHB) will construct 110 house units under the Matata City Project.

As part of the Matata City Project 2022, more buildings would be constructed within the town with about E200 million allocated to upgrade the Matata City.

Speaking during the Swaziland national transport dialogue last week, Matata Group Managing Director Hans Steffen said the Group wanted to grow the town to be the next 'Dubai' in the next 50 years.

He said they would link with communities and other countries that would like to engage aircrafts transportation.

Future

"The core future of the Swazi economy for me and from my opinion is to make food and transport it to Africa or the rest of the world. So agriculture products and exports have always been the way that Swaziland is going to become the Hub that it wants to become.

"For the reason that Swaziland has the best sunshine, it has water and infrastructure that would allow the country to be economically self-

boosted," said Steffen.

Planning

He also said Swaziland had a great airline and the town they were planning to construct would be only 50 minutes from the King Mswati III International Airport.

He further said they wanted to develop a well planned city to avoid clustering and haphazardly development, whereby one finds a salon, a brick manufacture and a restaurant within the same environment.

"There would be an area for developing hotels and living areas where the National Housing Board has bought land from the site to build the house units, but people need to apply for licences so that they can be granted permission to build in these zones that would be allocated to them," he added.

Talks

"As Matata, we also engage in talks with one of the pension funds in order to raise more cash to kick start the project," he said.

Moreover, he said transporters should engage with Swaziland Water and agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE) in terms of business opportunities.

There is going to be a lot of fruits and vegetables to be exported.

"There is plenty of opportunity hence transporters should stick to the low field since there are new sugar schemes still coming," said Steffen.



SWAZILAND NATIONAL HOUSING BOARD

2016 NATIONAL BUDGET:



IN the past years, the Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC) was consulted and participated extensively during preparation of the Swaziland National Government Budget.

This has not been the case for the 2015 and 2016 Budget Years.

On enquiry from the ministry of finance, it was stated that this was due to the introduction of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) Budget processing.

This new process is software-based, and that created a challenge in influencing any variation in the budget development.

FSE&CC wishes to continue to be inclusively involved in the process of developing the National Budget, as the views of the private sector in economic growth are important.

Notwithstanding, the Swaziland Economic Outlook for 2016, is expected to worsen. With SACU receipts declining further in the 2015/16 financial year, government finds itself needing to react positively in assuring citizens and investors that the economy will recover. Already in the print media, Cabinet has indicated the need for job creation, as announced by government at the start of 2016.

The minister of finance will take the podium against the backdrop of a much debated electricity crisis; 'moderating' inflation; a volatile Lilangeni worsening in history to a low of E17 to the US Dollar; subdued economic growth, a rising tax base, low savings and a Government Wage Bill that continues on an upward trajectory, unabated.

Whilst protecting our industries, the loss of AGOA and the persistent drought is of utmost importance as economic productivity has a direct effect on the country's tax base. When business is less productive, jobs are shed as the cost of a non-productive workforce and rising costs of production erode bottom line profits.

Also worth noting is the unreliable supply of electricity which results in rising costs due to machine shutdown and machine work hours minimised. The Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) had listed a number of projects which are in the pipeline that would increase Swaziland's supply of electricity.

However, no visible delivery has been seen in this regard yet some of the delivery deadlines are fast looming.

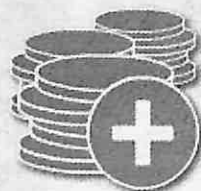
The resignation of its managing director allegedly due to lack of board support, is in no way building confidence within private sector circles as electricity is currently under supplied to the detriment of private sector productivity and economic growth.

The expectation from the private sector is that this year's national budget should be forward looking and take into account the country's priorities, some of which are mentioned above. Whilst tax collections have always out-performed estimates, the question is whether this trend can be sustained against the backdrop of current economic conditions and declining

...FSE&CC EXPECTATIONS

ing growth prospects.

REVENUES



We expect that given the country's continued reliance on SACU receipts, the budget speech should outline precise alternative

ways for the country to raise revenues. Raising tax rates or introducing new excise duties or levies would, in our view, be counter-productive given the state of the economy.

The country needs to make it easier to do business so that more enterprises are able to thrive so as to expand the tax base.

However, it is quite encouraging to note from the minister of finance that government has approved a further tax reduction on Corporate Tax by 2.5 percent to 25 percent beginning April 1, 2016.

We therefore, expect that the minister will provide policy direction on the taxation of businesses in the country, especially given the recommendations of the Tax Incentive Study conducted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2015.

Such policy direction should have the overriding objective of not only encouraging more foreign direct investments but should also be encouraging SMEs to be part of the tax base through appropriate incentives, such as a threshold where income generated by these businesses is not taxable, among other interventions.

No doubt strong fiscal stimulus is necessary and one way to stimulate the economy is through tax reforms.

Government needs to articulate a viable strategy to stimulate the growth of the economy and ensure job creation and robust industrial development.

In an economy where over 80 percent of goods are imported from South Africa, there still exist opportunities for local goods both for the domestic and export market.

Swaziland boasts favourable infrastructure and a high literacy rate, making it ideal for local production of goods by local enterprises. There needs to be a clear thrust by government to invest in these areas of development and enhance the growth of industrial development in the country.

RECURRENT VS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Given the shift to MTEF, we also expect that the Budget Speech will prioritise capital expenditure over recurrent expenditure.

This would be in line with the medium term view adopted under MTEF and also the need for the country to deploy adequate resources to capital projects which have a lasting impact on the economy.

The fact that the public service payroll, a large component of the country's recurrent expenditure, amounts to about 15 percent of GDP does not bode well for the long term prospects of the country. So we expect that the budget speech will caution all government ministries to curb spending on personnel and improve service delivery. We are hopeful that the size of the civil service will not continue to grow as that upward trend would make the budget to focus less on capital expenditure. We are hopeful that government will begin to provide better services with fewer personnel.

The capital expenditure itself should be linked to the country's priorities, including power generation and other infrastructure that will unlock the economic growth of the country. We expect that capital expenditure will be geared towards leveraging the current infrastructure for economic growth. For example, it should be clear what investments will be made to King Mswati III International Airport to increase the country's exports within the short to medium term period. Some infrastructure assets have been lying idle for a considerable time, which means there are no returns on the investments.

FISCAL DISCIPLINE

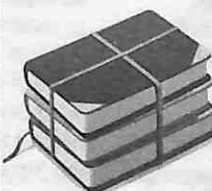
The previous Speech from the throne emphasised the need for fiscal discipline. The government plan of action also highlights the need for 'fiscal prudence' and the ministers of finance have made the same point in previous budget speeches. We expect that government will give us timelines on the enactment and implementation of the Public Finance Management Bill, something that is still pending from the last budget speech.

It stands to be seen whether commitments to exercise prudence as expressed highlighted will indeed come into effect and reduction in expenditures such as government travel and that these resources will be utilised in areas where they are most needed.

Government needs to make the public sector productive and self-liquidating to eliminate the burden on the economy and re-structure all the public sector commercial entities to eliminate losses. FSE&CC expects some effort towards Government encouraging foreign direct investments (FDI) in line with consistent tax policy (i.e. tax reform) that wouldn't discourage FDIs, especially in finding a balance and equitable spread of tax incentives across all sectors, including SMEs.

GOVERNMENT PARASTATALS

Government parastatals should contribute to improved fiscus as opposed to drawing substantially from it. We, therefore, expect that the minister will highlight concrete steps to ensure that



parastatals are positioned to be self-sustaining and also well governed to contribute to the consolidated fund. Additionally, we expect the minister to give assurance that the proliferation of parastatals will come to an end as they bring with them several other problems outside of financial considerations.

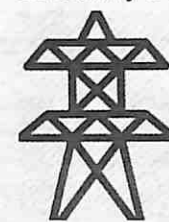
The lack of sustainability in the parastatals continues to bleed the economy as entities that have been in existence for many years are still not self-sustaining.

Issues of governance around corruption and mismanagement continue to plague these entities and need to be addressed if long term solutions are to be implemented in the parastatals.

The introduction of Swazi Airways as an alternative carrier has been noted and in this regard the market is concerned on due diligence and a feasibility study having been carried out to ensure that this venture is a viable long term investment.

POWER GENERATION

The country is currently not meeting its energy needs and relies heavily on South Africa, which at the moment also has its problems relating to the supply of electricity. We expect



that the budget speech will allocate resources towards ensuring that the renewable energy projects identified by the ministry of natural resources take off.

COMMERCIAL/SMALL CLAIMS COURTS AND SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

There is a need for specialised courts to expedite commercial cases. As this is a subject that has been on the table for several years, and is one of the deliverables of ease of doing business, we expect that the budget speech will allocate funds towards infrastructure development to ensure that commercial courts are established and commercial cases get resolved expeditiously.

SPECIFIC LEGISLATIVE REFORMS

On the part of expediting certain legislation, the FSE&CC eagerly awaits the tax incentives that will be provided by the Special Economic Zones (SEZ).

The FSE&CC thus expects that this law/Bill will be fast tracked and aligned with developments internationally. FSE&CC believes that this will fast track the coming on board of new investors, ultimately resulting in improved economic outlook and the much needed GDP Growth for better employment opportunities in the country. Specifically, improve the regulatory framework that affect the business environment by removing constraints that hinder public-private partnerships (PPPs) and foreign direct investment (FDI).

DROUGHT CRISIS

The current drought crisis caused by

'El Nino' has had significant socio-economic impact on the country. The effects of this natural disaster are not only short term but have far reaching long term consequences, as agricultural supply decreases amidst an ever increasing demand for food. Private sector is heavily reliant on a consistent supply of water for their operations, a lack of which, has increased the cost of doing business. Private sector expects government to address these issues accordingly as well as provide much need relief to the industries that are hardest hit. Further relief is (tax) anticipated on those business which have fully involved themselves and incurred costs in assisting communities to deal with the catastrophic effects of the drought.



The sugar industry, which is the largest GDP contributor in country, is expected to be the hardest hit if the drought continues at the current rate. FSE&CC expects more job losses in the agricultural sector and wishes that the Swaziland Government will prioritise more funding in this very important sector.

JOB CREATION

In 2016, government through Cabinet and the Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS) Committee, embarked on a job creation drive to



CREATION

curb unemployment which in turn shall stimulate tax revenues. With the economy forecasted to regress by 0.2% in 2016, job creation is at the forefront of stimulating the economy.

Government's goal of creating 25 000 jobs in 2016 is quite ambitious but achievable nonetheless and positively welcomed by the FSE & CC. FSE & CC expects government

● to outline and share with the business communities any opportunities available for industry participation.

● Improve the legislation and revive the mining sector

● Encourage value addition in all industries, especially in mining and agriculture

EXPORT SECTOR AND TRADE

Lastly, it is important to monitor the development of the export sector and formulate a diversification roadmap, given the growing world economic trend especially in the service industries, including 'Internet of Things' (IoT). Emphasising traditional exports is likely to lead to failure and the newer sectors, other than services will take several years to develop and implement, hence the need for Swaziland to prioritise important and key sectors to promote, in the short to medium term. Other issues of importance:

- Skills development
- Curbing corruption



Nigeria sacks thousands of ghost workers, saving millions

LAGOS - Nigeria's finance ministry said Sunday that it had saved millions of dollars for the cash-strapped government by removing more than 20 000 "ghost workers" from the state payroll.

The eliminated ghost workers represented just a "percentage" of "non-existent" staff who had

been receiving monthly wages, highlighting the brazen corruption in Africa's biggest economy. **Statement**

"The salary bill for February 2016 has reduced by \$11.53m," finance ministry advisor Festus Akanbi said in a statement.

Akanbi said that stricter payroll regulation would boost the bud-

get at a time when Nigeria's state coffers are depleted as a result of the collapse in global oil prices. **Savings**

Trimming personnel costs "is key to funding the deficit in the 2016 budget, as savings made will ultimately reduce the amount to be borrowed," Akanbi said.

Nigerian President

Muhammadu Buhari announced a record budget in December promising to stimulate growth and build infrastructure in the oil-rich but import-dependant nation.

He has vowed to infuse the budget with money recovered in his quest to stamp out endemic corruption in Nigeria.

AFP

Mujuru meets war veterans ahead of first press conference

HARARE - FORMER VP Joice Mujuru who recently launched her Zimbabwe People First party has hit the ground running, wooing dozens of war veterans to her side.

Dozens of war veterans chose to ignore President Robert Mugabe's birthday bash which was held in Masvingo on Saturday to meet Mujuru at a Harare lodge.

This comes after Mujuru last week told the British Sunday Times newspaper that she initially didn't have plans to continue in politics but was persuaded by people who wanted her to lead them.

According to ZPF spokesperson, Rugare Gumbo, Mujuru will be addressing her first press conference as opposition leader "anytime soon".

Gumbo said among the war veterans who met Mujuru were former senior government bureaucrats and diplomats who were now disgruntled with President Robert Mugabe's rule.

A fortnight ago, government unleashed the police on war veterans during a planned demonstration in Harare. Many war veterans were beaten and tear gassed in a chaotic development which forced Mugabe to take to the national television to call for calm.

During the Saturday meeting, sources said, Mujuru advised the war veterans to remain disciplined and avoid being used by the Zanu PF elites to wage war against each other.

A month ago, Mujuru met with various grassroots activists from around the country in Harare during which she explained her party's vision and answered questions from participating members. *aljazeera*



TOUGH LIFE: Refugees are living in makeshift grass-huts in Southern Malawi's border district of Mwanza. (News24)

Liberia introduces tuk-tuk to overcome traffic woes

MONROVIA - Omnipresent on the chaotic streets of Mumbai, Jakarta and Bangkok, Asia's three-wheeled "tuk-tuk" has now come to Africa and with a two-fold bonus: providing much-needed jobs and slashing accidents.

Cheap to run and safer than the traditional motorcycle taxi, the auto-rickshaw is an increasingly common sight trundling along the traffic-choked streets of the continent's sprawling capitals.

Known in Tanzania and Ethiopia as "bajaj", in Egypt

as "toktok", in Nigeria as "keke-marwa" and in Sudan as "raksha", the tuk-tuk has now hit Liberia, where delighted locals have christened their own version the "kekeh".

Motorcycle taxis, known locally as "two-tires", were the go-to means of public transport in Liberia's capital Monrovia until lawmakers outlawed them in 2013 amid concerns over reckless riding and the high toll of accidents.

The ban paved the way for the kekeh, imported from India and China by numerous operators, mostly

Nigerian and Guinean, who employ young Liberians.

"What's making the kekeh very important... is (that) we are looking at a huge transport challenge in our country," said Jenkins Zayzay, secretary-general of the Liberia Motorcycle and Tricycle Association (LIMT-CA).

"You had the two-tires that were running in the city centre before, but because of government regulations, we had to introduce another form or some level of job employment for the young people. *AFP*

Outrage in Egypt parliament after MP hosts Israeli envoy

CAIRO - Egyptian lawmakers expressed outrage on Sunday at their colleague Tawfiq Okasha for hosting the Israeli ambassador to dinner and one hit him with a shoe - an insult in the Arab world.

Lawmaker Kamal Ahmad struck Okasha, a controversial television anchor, with his shoe

in the assembly amid a group of agitated lawmakers, television footage showed.

Okasha came under fire after he invited Israel's ambassador to Cairo, Haim Koren, to his home for dinner last week where they discussed Egyptian and Israeli politics. Okasha talked about his meeting with Koren in an inter-

view in independent Egyptian daily Al-Masry Al-Youm, saying the two agreed that Israel "has a key role in the issue of the dam" being built by Ethiopia on the Nile. Live footage broadcast by private television channel CBC Extra on Sunday showed some lawmakers escorting an angry Ahmad from the assembly

as he waved his shoe.

"I expressed the Egyptian people's opinion. This shoe wasn't just intended for Tawfiq Okasha's face and head, but also for the Knesset and the Zionist entity," Ahmad said in a video posted on the newspaper Al-Shuruq's website.

AFP

BRIEFS

More companies to list this year

NAIROBI - African companies are likely to launch more than a dozen initial public offerings (IPOs) this year, defying commodity price drops and capital flight from emerging markets, international law firm Baker & McKenzie said yesterday. If transactions in the pipeline are concluded they are likely to raise \$3.1 billion, some \$1.5 billion more than was raised by last year's 21 IPOs on the continent, said Baker & McKenzie, a leading law firm by deal count for mergers and acquisitions in emerging markets, in a statement. *AFP*

Man jailed for Paris attacks planner

PARIS - Authorities have jailed an Algerian citizen for possible links with the suspected ringleader of the Paris attacks, Abdelhamid Abaaoud.

A court in Algeria's Bejaia province said the man, who lives in Belgium, was jailed last Tuesday in the northern Algerian town Akbou, according to state news agency APS. The statement didn't identify the man or specify the charges against him.

The man is suspected of having "links with the terrorist attacks of Paris," according to the court statement.

AP

Civilians killed in Somalia's Baidoa

MOGADISHU - Somalia's al-Shabab says it has bombed a busy traffic junction and a nearby restaurant in the city of Baidoa, killing at least 17 people. The attacks on Sunday were part of the armed group's campaign of violence in its bid to topple Somalia's UN-backed government.

"The restaurant and the junction were very busy and the death toll may rise," Police Major Bilow Nurr told the Reuters news agency. Baidoa lies about 245km northwest of the capital Mogadishu.

The attack follows a car bomb attack in Mogadishu near a park and hotel on Friday that killed 14 people, police said.

aljazeera

Chad leader facing protests

N'DJAMENA - The nationwide strikes which brought Chad's biggest cities to a halt this week over President Idriss Deby Itno's planned bid for re-election are some of the most significant protests of the hardliner's 26-year rule.

The strike, which ran under the slogan "That's Enough", successfully locked down N'Djamena, leaving classrooms emptied and the capital's two big markets deserted in a protest mirrored in cities across the country.

AFP

Egypt to extradite Frenchman

CAIRO - Egypt is to extradite a Frenchman to the Dominican Republic for his alleged involvement in the escape of two pilots sentenced to prison in a drugs case, an official said on Saturday.

The prosecution ordered the extradition of Christophe Naudin, a criminologist and aviation security expert who was arrested on February 4 in Cairo, an interior ministry official who requested anonymity told AFP.

AFP

Focus on SA scene

Zuma to get R4 billion jet

JOHANNESBURG – The process of purchasing a new jet for President Jacob Zuma has gained increased urgency after he was delayed in Burundi.

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) sent an aircraft to fetch Zuma, who had been stranded this weekend after his aircraft broke down in Bujumbura.

That situation has now prompted the SANDF to reactivate the process of procuring a new presidential jet.

"We've been engaging with our procurement agency Armscor, which

is the responsible authority for procurement. And yes I can confirm that in view of this perpetual problem, we're planning to re-look at all options available to us, to deal with this matter urgently," said the SANDF's Simphiwe Dlamini.

There was public uproar last year when it surfaced that Zuma was in line to get an aircraft upgrade, rumoured to cost up to R4-billion.

The jet was reported to be equipped with a private bedroom suite and a conference room.

– eNCA



ANOTHER DAY ANOTHER DRAMA: President Jacob Zuma.

Zuma vs Pravin for national assembly today

PARLIAMENT – President Jacob Zuma is facing the wrath of MPs in the National Assembly today in his fight with Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan over the control of the South African Revenue Service (SARS).

Gordhan has received backing from the ANC and across society over his fight with Zuma and SARS boss Tom Moyane.

Zuma will be in Parliament today to face a motion of no confidence in his leadership and management of the economy. The DA brought the motion late last year, but Parliament approved it only last week.

Zuma's battle with the Treasury boss follows weekend reports that the Hawks were gunning for Gordhan over an allegedly rogue unit at Sars.

Gordhan has stood firm, saying he did nothing wrong. He accused a group of people of trying to destabilise the country and the economy. He said they did not have the interests of the economy at heart.

This was the same message from ANC Secretary-General Gwede Mantashe that those gunning for Gordhan had no interest in the country.



BATTLE FIELD: President Jacob Zuma is facing the wrath of MPs in the National Assembly today.

Economist Peter Attard Montalto, of Nomura, warned that the conflict between Zuma and Gordhan could polarise the economy.

"We think the market is significantly underestimating the conflict stirring within the ANC," he said.

"December saw the balance of forces within the party upset by Nenegate and a shift in favour of the tenderpreneur faction.

"Pravin Gordhan's (forced) appointment shifted it back into balance, but the tenderpreneur faction has not

'lost' and is now fighting back."

The clash between the two men comes at a critical time, with South Africa facing a possible credit rating downgrade. Statistics on the economy will be released in the coming days.

The economy has struggled to grow and has shed jobs in the process. South Africa's economy has not performed well in the past few years, with the government blaming the global downturn in 2008.

iol

EFFSC accuses Blade of dictating to students



JOHANNESBURG – Higher Education Minister Blade Nzimande has pleaded with student organisations to allow classes to reopen this week at the University of Pretoria (UP). This comes after a six-day shutdown, sparked by violent protests and several altercations between students, security officers and the police over the past two weeks.

Students were demanding an end to Afrikaans as a language of instruction at UP. Nzimande called a meeting with university management and various student organisations yesterday to call for an end to the protest in favour of negotiations with management.

"We are also concerned that some of these institutions find it easy to deteriorate into racial conflict. We must be careful how we deal with these issues," said Nzimande at a briefing shortly after one of the meetings.

Nzimande defended his perceived lack of direct intervention into the situation, saying he does not undertake the day-to-day running of institutions of higher learning.

Conflict

He passed the buck to the university itself as the one responsible for solving the conflict.

"It's the institutions themselves that must deal with the crisis at hand." The EFF Student Command (EFFSC) stormed out of the meeting with Nzimande shortly before the

briefing, accusing the minister of refusing to engage with them and dictating to students, rather than negotiating. Nzimande later clarified that he had not called the meeting to engage, but rather to relay a message, pleading with the students and university management to allow academic activity to resume.

Blame

The EFFSC leader at UP, Amla Monareng, said while they would not back down from the protest, they were willing to sit down with university management.

"We don't want violence, we are willing to engage, but we will not negotiate on the issue of #AfrikaansMustFall. We know that the ANC have been sleeping with the oppressor for a long time and when the going gets tough they will always sell out."

Earlier yesterday the ANC in Gauteng and its alliance partners joined hands with AfriForum and Solidarity to denounce the violence and disruption of classes recently witnessed at UP, which was largely blamed on the EFF. Nzimande said he was not surprised that the EFFSC were blamed for the violence. "For them it's more of a political agenda."

Earlier this month, a discussion between university management and student leadership over the language policy at the institution went awry when it ended in an alleged altercation involving AfriForum Youth.

citizen.co.za

Winnie fights for Madiba's Qunu home

PORT ELIZABETH – Winnie Madikizela-Mandela was to contest her former husband Nelson Mandela's will in the Mthatha High Court yesterday.

The ANC struggle stalwart is attempting to claim ownership of Mandela's home in Qunu.

Mvuzo Ntyeseni, the lawyer representing Madikizela-Mandela, said his client was challenging the will in relation to her ex-husband's Qunu house.

Ntyeseni said papers were ini-

tially filed during October 2014. Madikizela-Mandela claimed the property had been obtained while she was married to Mandela and belonged to her in terms of the abaThembu custom. In his last will and testament, Mandela left the Qunu property to all members of the Mandela family as a place to unify them. Madikizela-Mandela was left out of his will which was released in February 2014 after his death on December 5, 2013.

African News Agency

Voetsek Blade, Wits students tell Nzimande

JOHANNESBURG – A small group of Wits University students disrupted a media briefing called by Higher Education

Minister Blade Nzimande and Police Minister Nathi Nhleko yesterday, chanting "Blade Must Fall".

The small group were angered when Nzimande requested that only journalists ask him questions. Reacting to Nzimande's request, one student in the group shouted 'Voetsek Blade', before he and several others were pushed away

by Nzimande's bodyguards.

Students then started chanting 'Blade Must Fall', while others threatened to set university buildings alight.

Nzimande said: "I will not dignify this with a response."

The two ministers had called the media briefing to outline each department's role in the current unrest on university campuses.

Nzimande said there was a fringe group that wanted to impose its views through violence. He said the involvement of security police was not their first choice, but

he had a duty to protect university property. Nhleko said the security agencies would assess the situations at universities before outlining each department's next move to contain the unrest at universities.

"We will basically conduct a review and take stock of what the situation overall has been and what currently obtains and how we need to find a way of enforcing the law and re-cultivating the rule of law at our universities," he said.

Last week, chaos erupted at various universities as student protests turned violent. Protesting students burnt down buildings, including the administration building at North West University.

News24



INSIDE THE VERY LAVISH LIFESTYLES OF LONDON'S ARAB PLAYBOYS

LONDON - Their souped-up supercars have become an annual feature on the streets of west London, when the 'summer season' is marked with million-pound Ferraris outside Harrods and Masarat's in front of the Dorchester hotel.

But aside from their love of fast cars and expensive boutiques, little is known about the lives of the incredibly rich Arabs who frequent the capital's most exclusive districts every year.

But one of the men who helps organise the annual influx of the Middle East's most wealthy has now lifted the lid on their eye-watering spending.

Michael Shaw, whose company Franklin organises homes and staff for the world's elite, told MailOnline of the thousands his clients spend on making sure their beloved vehicles arrive in pristine condition, their outrageous property demands and the army of domestic staff who rush around them.

The carnival of colourful cars parading down Knightsbridge and around Sloane Square has become a tourist attraction in itself in recent summers, with visitors to the capital spending as much time photographing the outlandish vehicles as they do shopping for souvenirs.

But the appearance of the sportscars is the result of months of planning and work on behalf of huge teams of staff.

Shaw says some of his clients book their vehicle on to a ship weeks before they plan to arrive, while others are happy to spend £40 000 to have the vehicle

- Head of firm who organises millionaires' summer trips to London lifts lid on their extravagant lifestyles
- They pay £40 000 to have their cars flown over on a cargo plane with some going to Italy get cars re-sprayed
- Some spend weeks in £3 000-a-night hotel suites while others demand flats that redesigned to suit their tastes
- Many employ an army of staff including butlers, yacht crew and even guards to mind cars while they are shopping



HEAVEN ON EARTH: A valet helps a young Kuwaiti get out of his Lamborghini Aventor in Knightsbridge this week. He is one of a clique of super-rich Arabs who spend the summer months in London at great expense.

The carefully-tended cars sit outside their owner's hotels overnight, like these outside the Dorchester. (Daily Mail)



ATTENTION: But while their owners enjoy the high-life in the capital's best venues, their cars have become a tourist attraction



MONIED: Some of those who come to Britain pay £40 000-a-time to have their cars loaded on to a cargo plane.



SUPER CARS: Shaw said the wealthy Arabs choose London because of its luxury hotels, restaurants and boutiques.

packed up and put on a cargo plane.

He said: 'We have clients all around the world, but those from the Middle East tend to come to

London not just because it's so hot over there, but because they want to spend time around and be seen in London's amazing array of restaurants and hotels.

"Having an expensive car is the ultimate status symbol and that's why our clients want to bring them over here with them."

Daily Mail

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BRIEFS

Bombing attacks kill at least 24

BAGHDAD - Iraqi officials say back-to-back bombings in an outdoor market in eastern Baghdad have killed at least 24 people. A police officer says a bomb went off on Sunday afternoon in the Shi'ite district of Sadr City. Minutes later, a suicide bomber blew himself up amid the crowd that had gathered at the site of the first bombing, he added. He said at least 52 other people were wounded. A medical official confirmed the causality figures. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorised to release information. **AP**

3 investigated 3 fatally shot

FORT WAYNE - Authorities in Indiana were seeking information on Sunday after two men and a teenager who were part of an African community were found shot to death last week inside a Fort Wayne home. The bodies of 23-year-old Mohamedtaha Omar, 20-year-old Adam Kamel Mekki and 17-year-old Muhannad Adam Tairab were found last Wednesday evening by officers responding to a "problem unknown" dispatch. Police Chief Garry Hamilton told WANE-TV each was shot multiple times, and Safety Director Rusty York said authorities don't have any reason to believe the killings were a hate crime. **AP**

Pastor killed in shooting

WASHINGTON - A gunman opened fire at a Baptist church in Dayton, Ohio on Sunday, killing the pastor, local media reported. The pastor of the St Peter's Missionary Baptist Church died as result of injuries sustained in the shooting, which took place after 12:30, WHIO television said, citing police. A witness reported hearing two gunshots after the shooter walked into the pastor's office, the station said. **AFP**

Pakistan arrests 20 fishermen

KARACHI - Pakistan has arrested 20 Indian fishermen for violating the territorial waters of the country, its maritime security agency said on Sunday. The Indian fishermen were arrested and brought to the Southern city of Karachi early on Sunday morning. Their boats were also seized. "We are preparing documents to produce all of them in court tomorrow," police official Fida Hussain told AFP. **AFP**

Syria's truce enters second day

DAMASCUS - Syria's fragile ceasefire entered a second day on Sunday with battlezones still largely quiet for the first time in five years, despite sporadic incidents including several air strikes. The truce, brokered by Washington and Moscow, is seen as a crucial step towards ending a conflict that has claimed 270 000 lives and displaced more than half the population. The convoluted patchwork of territorial control in Syria, wrapped up in a brutal civil war since 2011, has complicated efforts to implement the deal. **AFP**



Clinton, Trump set for Super Tuesday success

PURCELLVILLE - Democrat Hillary Clinton aims to build an impregnable lead on "Super Tuesday," the most consequential day of the presidential nominations calendar, while Republicans struggle to derail their insurgent and controversial frontrunner Donald Trump.

With barely 24 hours before the big day, Clinton and Trump are well positioned to secure the lion's share of the delegate bonanza in the 11 states voting in each party's primaries.

Clinton, riding high after thrashing rival Bernie Sanders Saturday in South Carolina, could come close to staking her claim to the nomination on March 1 when the race goes national, after a string of smaller but important single-state contests.

Trump, whose brash and incendiary campaign has turned American politics on its head, has



FACE OFF: Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican frontrunner Donald Trump.

a political target on his back, with mainstream favorite Marco Rubio assailing the real estate mogul during every campaign stop now.

Super Tuesday will unquestionably be a gut check for the Republican Party.

It will also test whether Rubio's newfound aggression against Trump -- the 44-year-old senator

has attacked his business dealings, temperament, looks, age and policy platforms in recent days -- will affect voters.

"We can't nominate someone who's going to lose," Rubio said at a campaign stop in Purcellville, Virginia.

"Never Trump!" an audience member shouted out.

Trump's extraordinary bombast

during the campaign, including calling some Mexican immigrants "rapists" and urging a ban on Muslims entering the country, would have been the undoing of a normal candidate.

But all signs show 2016 is far from normal, with a fiercely angry electorate keen to back an outsider who persistently attacks the establishment.

In the latest controversy, Trump came under withering criticism for refusing to disavow the support of David Duke, a white supremacist who once led the Ku Klux Klan.

"I don't know what group you're talking about. You wouldn't want me to condemn a group that I know nothing about. I'd have to look," Trump told CNN's "State of the Union."

His comments drew fierce criticism from across the political spectrum.

AFP

Critics lash out at Trump over white supremacist backing

WASHINGTON - Conservatives and liberals alike rounded on Republican Donald Trump for refusing to reject on Sunday an endorsement by David Duke, a white nationalist who once led the Ku Klux Klan.

Among Democrats, Hillary Clinton sailed toward the "Super Tuesday" primaries bolstered by a blowout win in South Carolina on Saturday.

With just two days to go

before the biggest showdown yet in the US presidential race, Clinton gained crucial momentum in the race for the Democratic nomination by crushing rival Bernie Sanders 73.5 to 26%.

"We got decimated," Sanders conceded in an interview on ABC's "This Week" show, acknowledging that the outpouring of African American support for Clinton exposed a weakness in his campaign.

On the Republican side, Trump's trailing rivals desperately tried to raise doubts among voters about the frontrunner's ability to beat Clinton in the November 8 presidential election.

Senator Ted Cruz suggested in an interview with ABC's "This Week" show that Mafia dealings could be hiding in Trump's tax returns, which the billionaire real estate developer has so far resisted releasing.

AFP

Merkel calls mob that screamed at migrants 'repulsive'

BERLIN - German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Sunday called the actions of protesters who shouted abuse at a bus full of migrants "repulsive" and "unjustifiable".

Video of about 100 people trying to block migrants from entering a shelter in the eastern village of Clausnitz on Feb. 18 prompted concern about growing extremism in Germany. The number of far-right attacks on migrants has increased significantly over the past year, as more than a million people came to Germany seeking asylum.

Merkel told public television ARD late on Sunday that she sees a "polarisation" in Germany society, but insisted that her decision in September to keep the country's borders open to migrants had been right.

"I think we're doing better than some people think, but we've got a way to go," she said. To those who have opposed her course, at time vehemently, Merkel said she was willing to listen. "They aren't convinced yet but I think that I can convince them if the issue is resolved, but we need a certain amount of time for this." Merkel said her government is working to solve the problems causing people to flee to Europe, but added that those coming to Germany have to abide by its laws, citing what she called the "devastating" incident in Cologne at New Year, when scores of women were robbed and sexually assaulted by men of mostly North African origin.

News42



EVICION ORDER: An Indonesian family living in a red-light district in Jakarta packs their belongings after the government announced plans to destroy the area and build a public park, as they plan to close all red-light districts in the country by 2019. (AFP)



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DJ LFA's birthday bash

By Phesheya Kunene

DJ LFA's birthday party was turned into a cosy affair as performances were delivered inside the sheltered arena rather than the outdoor stage.

With the show listed amongst the big shows of the weekend, one would have expected it to be staged on the big and outdoor stage at Solanis Shisanyama, a place that has taken local music scenes to another level.

This was not the case as the show took centre stage inside the sheltered arena and the over 200 fun lovers who came for the show ended up sharing the limited dancing floor inside the shelter.

However, this did not hinder some fun lovers to let loose on the dance floor as the music delivered on Friday night was too good to be ignored.

The show attracted mainly a youthful crowd which was not only in a jovial mood but dressed for the occasion as most of the women were in skimpy outfits.

The birthday boy LFA thanked the massive support from his fans while adding that the support from his colleagues was priceless.

The show was characterised by house and hip/hop music with the live performances giving the crowd a hint of *kasi* hip/hop.

This saw the revellers who crammed the bar arena leaving their seats for the dance floor.

Though, most of them were in a relaxed mood as they enjoyed their

● The spinner said the show was worth it as all his guests and performers were well catered for.



MUSICAL FEELING: Those who attended DJ LFA's party dancing away.

drinks, when DJs such as One D, the birthday boy LFA and So What hit the decks, the dance floor became abuzz with crazy dance moves from an excited set of house music fans.

The spinner said the show was worth it as all his guests and performers were well catered for.

"I decided to do a birthday party this year because I am actually a leap year baby.

The turnout was quite good and the vibe was even better. My fellow DJs from Mega Sound kept the guests entertained," he said.

The weekend long birthday bash boosted an impressive line-up that consisted of big name DJs such as DJ Mbo, Zulu D, Smish and new sensation DJ So What.

The young spinner was a marvel on the night, as he gave a sterling performance which saw revellers dancing up a storm as they appreciated the house music he mixed smoothly on the decks.

He infused his set with other genres such as hip/hop and kwaito.

DJ So What performed exceptionally well such that the artists and other DJs who had attended, gave him a resounding round of applause. Some of the artists who supported the show included Qibho Intellekual and Sandz.

Talking about the memorable performance, DJ LFA whose real name is Lemuel Luembe said the young spinner shut it down and noted that

MAN OF THE MOMENT: DJ LFA was a marvel on the decks during his birthday party at Solanis Shisanyama.

the whole crowd went crazy about his set.

Another spinner, who gave an impressive set on the night is DJ Mbo as this man did what he does best which is giving his all on stage.

Performing acts were two artists who have made a name for themselves in the entertainment scenes in LK Baba and 80 Script.

When they finally hit to the stage, they both gave out breathtaking performances.

One of the best performers of the night, LK Baba, who had fans eating from the palms of his hands, said he was excited about the outcome. He expressed his excitement about seeing fans appreciating his new single 'Mbabane'.

Though drummer Big Siz, whose real name is Sizwe Mabuza could not make it due to Nothando Hlophe's live CD recording, fans were left satisfied with the set delivered by LFA.

He delivered a set influenced by the new school hip/hop which he infused with deep house before completely diverging to commercial house and dishing out hit after hit. This in turn saw the dance floor being the busiest place. The spinner played after midnight and he delivered an hour-long performance.

"I appreciate the people who enjoy music and the way I deliver to them. I would also like to thank the Solanis team, close friends and my girlfriend for the support," he said.

The show was hosted by none other than the stylish Ur Gal Zee and she lit the place when she asked the birthday boy to join her on stage and asked the audience to sing him the birthday song for him.

Show almost cancelled as LFA loses grandmother

DJ LFA said he was on the verge of cancelling the show due to the sad loss of his grandmother but his family convinced him to continue.

The spinner, who started playing back in 2008 then played at club level in 2014 said he found it hard to deal with the passing away of his grandmother as he said they were very close and to rub salt to the wound, she passed away a day before the show.

"We were very close and I was devastated by the loss.

I was on the verge of cancelling the show because of the situation at home but then my mother and uncle encouraged me to go on with the show and give it all my best. I appreciate the motivation," he said.

Smile

The spinner said the performances by DJs So What and MBO then the live performances by local rappers LK Baba and 80 scripts brought a smile on his face as he loved these performances the most.

Alcohol rain down on birthday boy

AFTER the host of the show, Ur Gal Zee called out the spinner to the stage, the birthday song was sung for him. And as soon as it was done, alcohol rained down on the spinner.

His friends and other DJs seemed prepared for the moment as they poured all sorts of drinks all over his body and celebrated his big day. This short but exciting moment left the spinner dripping from champagne and other drinks and even had to change his clothes while wearing a big and appreciative smile.



RUNNING THE SHOW: Ur Gal Zee.

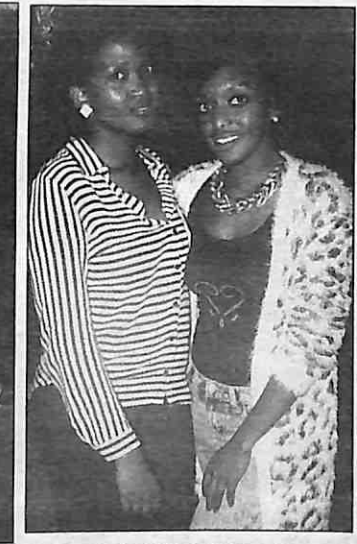
CREATING MEMORIES WITH FRIENDS



HONOURED: Friends singing to the birthday boy.



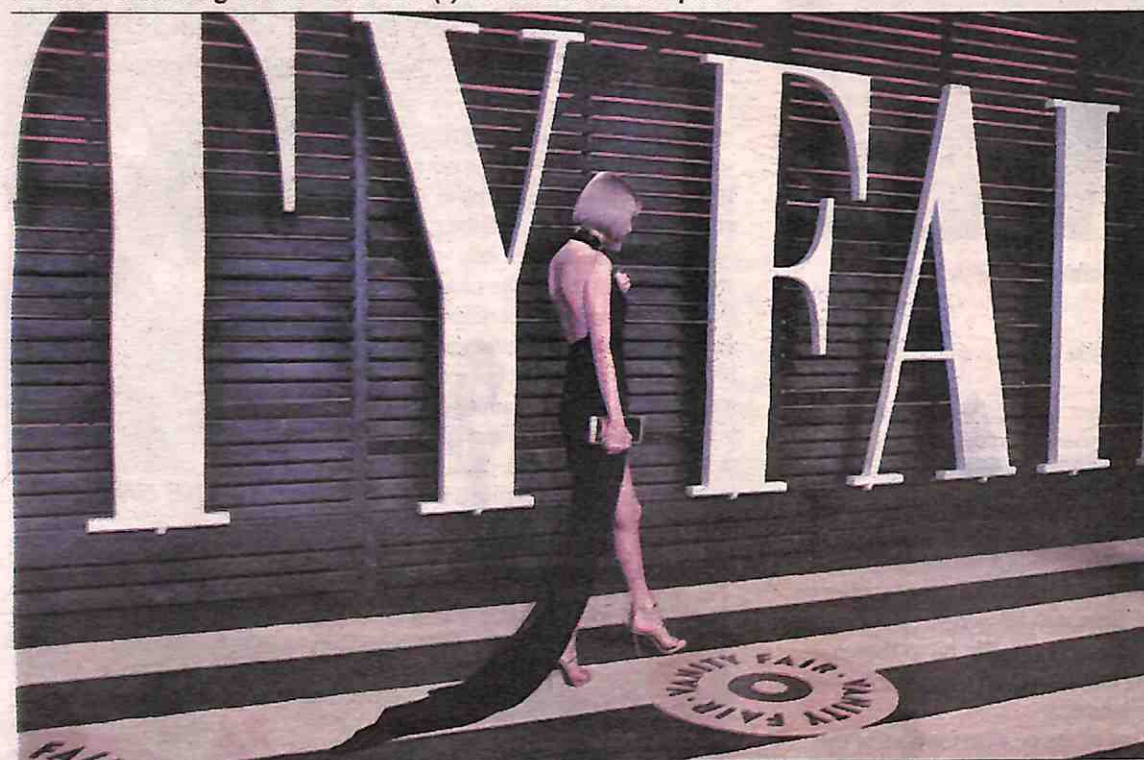
IMPRESSIVE: 80 Script was a marvel to watch on the night.



DANCE QUEENS: The two ladies danced a storm through the night.



BLOOMING LOVELY: Kate Winslet wowed in a shiny black strapless number with a billowing train as she headed into the ceremony to fight for Best Supporting Actress for her turn in *Steve Jobs* during the 88th Academy Awards. **CENTRE** - Cate Blanchett looked stunning while Isla Fish (r) also looked the part.



CENTRE OF ATTENTION: Taylor Swift was seen adjusting her gown as she journeyed along the carpet.

BRIT OF ALL

Kate Winslet, Sophie Turner and Daisy Ridley ooze glamour in stunning gowns as they lead the UK and Irish stars on the 88th Academy Awards red carpet

IT is the biggest night in the Hollywood calendar when the great and good of Tinseltown descend on the Kodak Theater.

But British and Irish stars proved they could give their American counterparts a run for their money as they turned out in force on Sunday night for the 88th Academy Awards. And while only a handful of Brits and their Irish cousins were nominated for major acting prizes, they proved they were winners while taking a turn on the red carpet before the main prizegiving of the year. Kate Winslet was among

the Brits flying the flag for the UK and she certainly took centre stage. The stunning actress wowed in a shiny black strapless Ralph Lauren number with a billowing train as she headed into the ceremony to fight for Best Supporting Actress for her turn in *Steve Jobs*.

Statuette

She was joined on the red carpet by her *Titanic* co-star Leonardo DiCaprio, who is hot favourite to finally pick up a golden statuette for his role in *The Revenant*. Kate admitted she was 'scared' as she chatted to the *Daily Mail* on the red carpet. She added: 'I

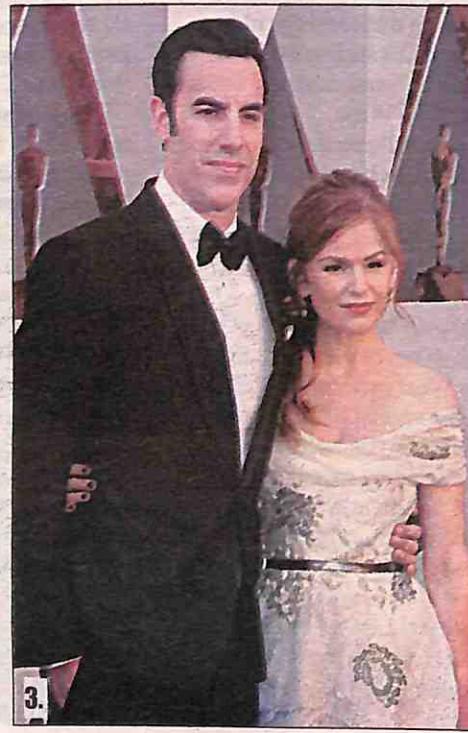
know I have done this before but I feel scared. Look, my hands are shaking. It just suddenly got to me.'

Game of Thrones star Sophie Turner, 20, made quite the impression as she arrived in style at the glitzy bash. Turning heads in serious style, the flame-haired beauty oozed old school glamour in a figure-hugging green number which was split to the thigh. The beauty - best known for her role as Sansa Stark on the hit game show - pouted and posed her way along the carpet in the eye-catching number.

Daily Mail



FINALLY: Leonardo DiCaprio used his Oscar win for Best Actor to deliver a lecture on climate change at the Academy Awards on Sunday night.



1. **SEALED WITH A KISS:** Alicia Vikander and Michael Fassbender finally let their relationship walls down, for a second, on Sunday night 2. **BIG MOMENT:** The 27-year-old could not hide her excitement or feelings as the Swedish actress won Best Supporting Actress. 3. **Funny pair** Comic Sacha Baron Cohen was joined by his actress wife Isla Fisher at the ceremony. 4. **TELLING IT LIKE IT IS:** Chris Rock tackled the #OscarsSoWhite controversy head on and did not shy away from the race row which dominated the run up to the Oscars.

RIGHT



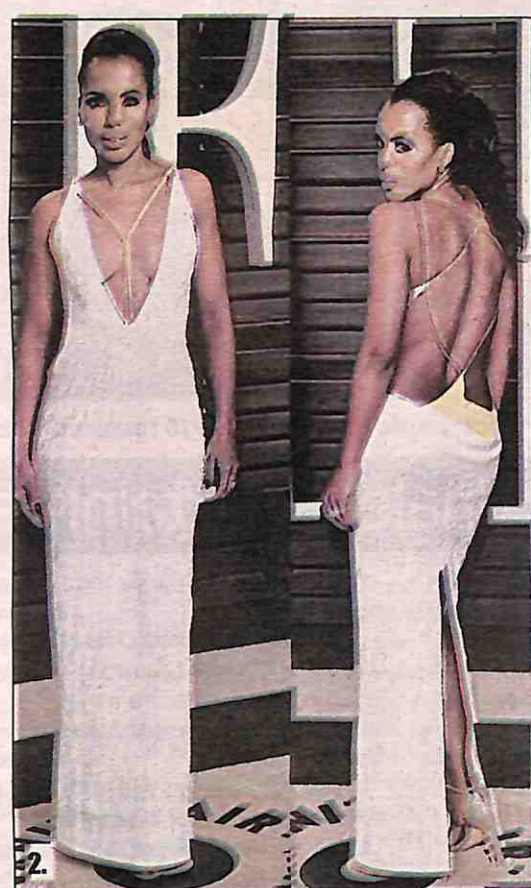
BY HIS SIDE: Best Actor nominee Eddie Redmayne looked dapper as he was supported by his pregnant wife Hannah, who looked stunning in a floaty black halterneck dress with gold embellishment.



LOOK OF LOVE: The couple looked smitten as they gazed at each other while Charlotte made quite the impression in her racy low cut dress.



GORGEOUS: Brie Larson looking gorgeous in her navy blue dress. **CENTRE** - Tennis superstar Serena Williams turned heads in her elegant dress complete with flowing train and low-cut neckline and Jennifer Lawrence rocked this black number.



1. GLOWING: Another pregnant attendee was Emily Blunt, looked sensational in a baby pink gown. **2. CHANGING THINGS UP:** Kerry Washington made sure to vamp up her look as she attended the Vanity Fair Oscar Party at Wallis Annenberg Centre for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills. **3. OUCH:** Dustin Lance Black (L) has accused Sam Smith of texting his fiancé, Olympic swimmer Tom Daley (R) in an epic social media put-down.



EVERYONE WANTS A PIECE: Brie was captured amongst a group of giddy fans, who all wanted her picture.



Best Actor y Awards



RIGHT



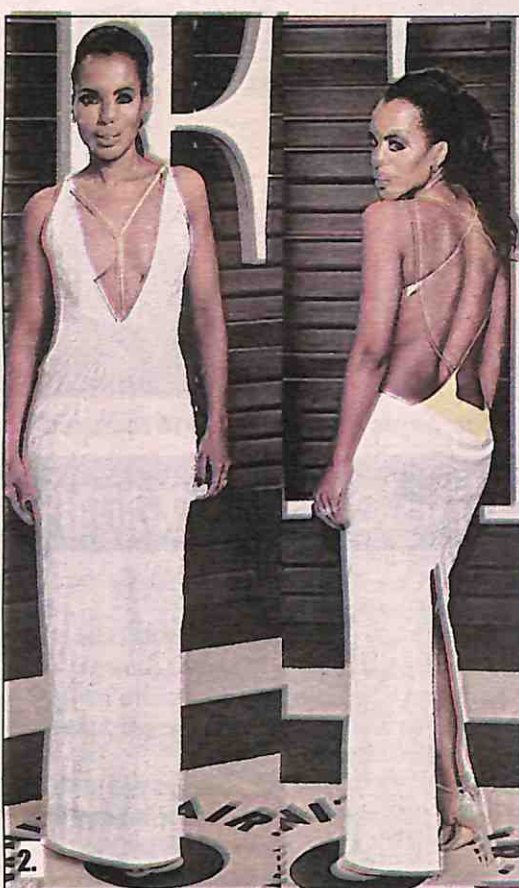
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CHRIS ROCK PULLED NO PUNCHES

HOLLYWOOD - Chris Rock pulled no punches as he accused white dominated Hollywood of racism during the most eagerly anticipated opening monologue in recent history at the 88th Academy Awards.

Addressing the huge elephant in the room, the acid-tongued comedian, 51, compared Tinseltown to a bitchy racist sorority and jibbed at cops for killing black men as he riffed on the #OscarsSoWhite race row,

which overshadowed this years ceremony.

"Is Hollywood racist? ... you're damn right," said Rock to the audience in the Dolby Theater while he excoriated the film industry for its racial bias on the biggest night in show business.

Indeed, from almost his very first words to his last, Rock brutalised Hollywood for the lack of diversity, with the host finishing the entire ceremony by saying 'Black Lives Matter'

Chris Rock on 'Hollywood Racist'

'Hollywood IS racist': Chris Rock skewers his Oscars audience and killer cops in rip-roaring monologue but saves his real scorn for the boycott brigade

What Chris Rock said...

- Chris Rock ended the Oscars ceremony by telling the cameras 'Black Lives Matter'
- Opening monologue addressed the #OscarsSoWhite controversy
- Rock told his star-studded audience that Hollywood was racist

Said Hollywood was 'sorority racist'

- only giving white people roles
- "We want opportunity," said Rock.
- "We want black actors to get the same opportunities."
- Riffed on the Civil Rights struggle in the 1960s and called the Oscars the 'White People's Choice Awards'
- However, also attacked Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith for their boycott
- This was the second straight year of all-white acting nominees

Prompted the #OscarsSoWhite call to boycott the 88th Academy Awards



RACIST: Chris Rock.



BEAUTY QUEEN: Eleven of Swaziland's Top photogenic models for 2016 featured in animal print wear.

SD's Top Photogenic finale Entertainment revealed

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza

THE Tribal Misfits of Dance, Heavenly Bound and Pearl have been roped in as performers during the grand finale of the second annual Swaziland's Top Photogenic model to be held at Happy Valley Casino and Resort.

The event will be held on March 26, wherein one of the top 12 finalists will be announced as a winner and walk away with E10 000 in prizes. The Tribal Misfits are known for

their versatility in dance and are the first winners of the T55 talent search winners.

The dance crew which consists of Mthobisi and Sanele, have headlined a number of prominent events and will be the opening act at the grand finale.

The Heavenly Bound is an acapella group that dazzles with the growing genre. Pearl has been part of the entertainment in the inaugural show last year.

On the night, the finalists will be parading Tendo designs, a clothing label that will also be

officially launched during the night.

This show is the brain child of Tiyandza Dlamini. Dlamini revealed that the entrants for 2017 would be revealed during the same night.

"The 2017 entrants will have to take good pictures in order to qualify for the finals and the public will have to like their pictures on Facebook.

"Each like is considered as a vote," she said.

She added that the judges would have a tough task choos-

ing the winner as the girls had shown great potential and had been consistent since the beginning of the show.

"The girls are just too phenomenal, they outstand themselves with each and every photo shoot we have.

I can only wish the judges luck as I know that their job will be tough. The girls are all just good," she noted.

The theme for the night will be Fire and Ice and theme colours are red and white. Entry is E180 at the door.



PERFORMERS: Tribal Misfits.

Pachanga, Ras Ritchie, Magaya, Reggie Project and Mbo for SFNL

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza

SIBEBE Friday Night Live will again on Friday see local artists who include Magaya, Pachanga, Ras Ritchie, Reggie Project and DJ MBO battling it but for the top spot during the Bush Fire Festival.

The line-up for the Season 5

show was revealed yesterday. Magaya could not hide his excitement when interviewed as he stated that he was humbled by the recognition and would utilise it to leave a mark.

"Such platforms do not come easily, recognition comes with hard work and I cannot put it in my head that as good as this may

be, but I remain humbled," he said.

Known

The kwaito artist commonly known for his track, 'We Are Family' added that he was planing on delivering nothing, but the best to his fans as he was looking at impressing them mostly.

"It has always been my dream to be featured at the Bush Fire

Festival but I plan on impressing the people who have lifted me up more than anything, then getting a spot during the festival can only be a boost," Magaya mentioned.

The show will also feature a Mozambican artist known as Dub Rui and entry will be E100 at the gate. The show will commence at 8pm.



★ Celebrity ★ Watch ★

Liam Payne CONFIRMS dating Cheryl

LOS ANGELES - Shirtless Liam Payne has CONFIRMED he is dating Cheryl Fernandez-Versini after posting a picture of them lying down together in what appears to be a bed or a sofa.

The One Direction star, 22, changed his Instagram profile picture to a selfie of the two of them on Sunday, changing his profile bio to say, 'Happy.'



HAPPY COUPLE:
Liam Payne and Cheryl Fernandez.

While 1D singer Liam is wearing little, Cheryl, 32, wears a striped top as she poses with her signature V-sign across her face. A fan is said to have caught the couple browsing the aisles at midnight in the Guildford branch, although they were only pictured from behind.

It does seem unlikely one of the biggest pop stars in the world would be pushing his own trolley let alone picking up some kitty food with his new girlfriend. *Daily Mail*

Kendall Jenner shows off stylish figure

MILAN - She never suffers a style slip-up.

So it's fitting that Kendall Jenner was typically on-form as she was seen leaving Milan Fashion Week's Bottega show on Saturday.

The 20-year-old model looked happy and cheerful as she exited the catwalk showcase in alongside a host of other stars.

Dressed to impress, the reality TV personality sported a cropped jumpsuit in charcoal

grey, which teased onlookers with a glimpse of her perfect pins. Keeping it casual, she

added a pair of pristine white trainers to the mix, before capping the ensemble with a tan-coloured overcoat.

With her entourage in tow, she kept her look simple with accessories that comprised of designer sunglasses and matching handbag.

Effortlessly turning heads at the event, she took all of the attention in her stride as she navigated the post-show flux. *Daily Mail*



SEXY: Kendall Jenner.

Nicki Minaj, Meek Mill in huge blowout

PHILADELPHIA - Just because Meek Mill is under house arrest, doesn't mean Nicki Minaj has to be.

The couple have had a huge 'blowout fight' after she refused to stay with him while he serves out his sentence in Philadelphia.

Earlier this month a judge told the 28-year-old rapper he must serve a minimum of three months house arrest for parole

violations on drug and gun charges. He wanted his girlfriend to live with him for the duration but she refused, triggering the fall-out. On February 5, Mill escaped a custodial prison sentence but was dealt a critical blow to his hip hop career.

Common Pleas Judge Genece Brinkley also ordered him to spend six more years on probation. The judge sentenced the House Party rapper to between six months to a year in a county jail. *Daily Mail*



RESOLUTE:
Nicki Minaj.

Danielle Armstrong looking sexy in swimwear

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And the TOWIE girls took it to the extreme as they filmed scenes for the forthcoming series in Gran Canaria last week.

Danielle Armstrong led the way in a sexy pink bikini which made the most of her ample assets

while Kate Wright and Chloe Sims were putting on an equally busty display.

Danielle, 27, went for a bold statement in her neon pink bikini which stood out boldly against her deeply tanned skin.

A combination of her incredibly taut stomach and ample bosom made the stunning star, who joined the show in 2013 as James Locke's girlfriend, stand out from her peers. *Daily Mail*



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Ashley looking sexy at Coffee Bean

LOS ANGELES - Ashley Benson bared her belly in a crop-top at the Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf located in West Hollywood's Sunset Plaza on Friday.

The 26-year-old actress carried two beverages while clad in daring double denim - blue jean jacket, faded black skinny jeans, and gold booties.

The Pretty Little Liars starlet sported minimal make-up and gave her flaxen bob a

boost with frizzy hair extensions a shade lighter.

Ashley's casual sighting came hours after she donned a cleavage-baring, chic Chanel double-breasted blazer at the nearby Bar Marmont.

"[My style is] more laid-back, but when I do dress up, I really go for it. I like a suit look on a girl," the Anaheim-born blonde said in the March edition of Marie Claire.

"I dress like I should be living in New York: boots, leather jackets, sweaters, coats." *Daily Mail*



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Geordie Shore's Chloe Ferry reveals her legs

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So it's no wonder Geordie Shore star Chloe Ferry stepped out in yet another daring look as she made her way Sydney airport in Australia on Friday afternoon.

Preparing for a jaunt in Perth with her castmates, the 21-year-old confidently

flashed the flesh in a short bur-gundy number.

The slouchy jumper dress, complete with a plunging neckline and asymmetrical hemline, drew attention to her legs and accompanying leg tattoo.

With her jet-black mane left loose around her shoulders, the MTV favourite concealed her eyes with black over-sized shades and enhanced her facial features with a bold pink pout. *Daily Mail*



REVEALS: Chloe Ferry.

Kourtney takes break from organic fare

LOS ANGELES - Kourtney Kardashian has complained lately that she is so stressed out these days from her split with Scott Disick that she has not been able to eat.

But that didn't seem to be the case on Friday night as the 36-year-old - who normally follows only an organic diet - shared some snaps of herself wolfing down a burger at a pre-Oscar bash.

The mom-of-three stuffed the patty into her face as a friend

snapped away.

'Midnight snack,' she captioned another as she continued to chew through.

It is not known who she was with, but the beauty appeared to be a model.

Alessandra Ambrosio, who looked least likely to eat out of anyone, also posted a version with her mouth open.

Nevertheless the eldest Kardashian still managed to look stunning

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LOYAL: Jeremy McConnell and Stephanie Davis.

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Muvhango

TODAY



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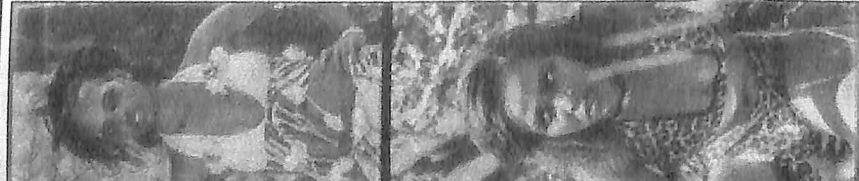


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Celebrity Watch

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HAYWAERD WAYS: Suffo.



Rock.



THE LAST CAR
THAT PARKED HERE
IS STILL MISSING

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn - Business is completed quickly today and you may be able to go home early or plan your weekend activities during the afternoon. Nonrestrictive discussions and reading material may bring insights.



Aquarius - Your creative mind may not have an opportunity to kick in today as there are lots of people trying to gain your attention and you can become distracted; patience is a virtue.



Pisces - Hard work is the mode for this day. You enjoy the work and take pride in finding the right answers in a short amount of time. Your timing should be perfect and others will accept your guidance well.



Aries - You are at your mental best with sharp ideas and clear thoughts. This is an excellent time to make decisions and take care of mental work.



Taurus - Communication with authority figures is enhanced. Your communication abilities are in full swing. This is an excellent time to sway others to your way of thinking. Be careful though, of taking it to an extreme in trying to find the logical reason for every event that occurs, especially the action of loved ones.



Gemini - Don't be too quick to jump toward a new financial opportunity—there could be further negotiations necessary. Talk to someone today that will not be afraid to give you suggestions for adjustments—if there are any. Your job may be in stage sets or design. It may also be in some other craft.



Cancer - Irrational actions could occur if you allow outside influences to rule your feelings. You must drop that continuous worry over someone else's opinion. This could be a stressful day, but you will find a way to change it into a more positive one.



Leo - Today and tomorrow is this month's best times for beginning a diet, or at least, giving the old diet a boost. Be careful not to push your friends to adopt the same diet methods that you choose for yourself—everyone has his or her own special needs.



Virgo - Sometimes you feel that by the middle of the day you have become involved in too many people and too many subject matters. Stop and take a moment to get away from the crowd or to step up above the view so that you can see things in a different light.



Libra - This is a great time to reflect and understand any past frustrations; perhaps new and positive ideas are forming in your mind. Emotions in particular or the feelings of those around you are clear. You feel good and so does everyone else.



Scorpio - You will find that more changes happen in the career market today. It also appears that an organizational shuffle will affect you and could open up new opportunities.



Sagittarius - Your management and directional abilities are in high focus. A new method of working may have you and your co-workers with your heads together in deep concentration. Friends at work may be talking about family matters this afternoon.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



HARD SUDOKU #247

SOLUTION

4	6	7	1	9	3	2	8	5
2	1	9	8	6	5	7	4	3
5	3	8	4	2	7	9	6	1
3	9	4	7	1	8	5	2	6
6	8	1	9	5	2	4	3	7
7	5	2	6	3	4	8	1	9
8	4	6	3	7	9	1	5	2
9	2	3	5	4	1	6	7	8
1	7	5	2	8	6	3	9	4

HARD SUDOKU #246

Fill in the missing numbers so every row, column and quadrant contains the number 1 through 9.

	4		3		7			
								3
	6	1	8		4			
6		3		4				5
1	9					2		
		2	7					
	2	9		6				
			5	1				
4				2				8

Another one was: Doc, I can't stop singing the 'Green Grass of Home'. He said: That sounds like Tom Jones



syndrome'. 'Is it common?' I asked. 'It's not unusual' he replied.

USELESS FACTS

1. Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every 2 weeks otherwise it will digest itself.
2. The citrus soda 7-UP was created in 1929; '7' was selected after the original 7-ounce containers and 'UP' for the direction of the bubbles.
3. 101 Dalmatians, Peter Pan, Lady and the Tramp, and Mulan are the only Disney cartoons where both parents are present and don't die throughout the movie.
4. 'Stewardesses' is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.
5. To escape the grip of a crocodile's jaws, push your thumbs into its eyeballs - it will let you go instantly.
6. Reindeer like to eat bananas

BRAINTEASERS
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterday Brain Teaser

1. Why is it against the law for a man living in England to be buried in Wales

A. Because it is illegal to bury living people. It is called murder.

2. What ends in a 'w' but has no end?
A. A Rainbow

Today's Brain teaser

1. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it and grey when you throw it away?

2. Why are cooks cruel?

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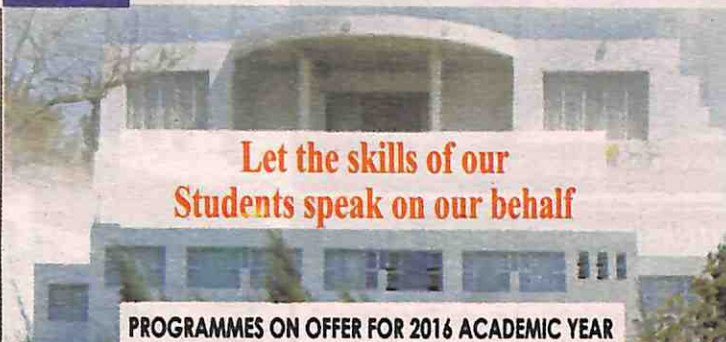
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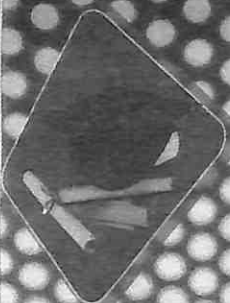
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'I'LL GET BACK TO NO 1'

LOS ANGELES - 17-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer donned a tuxedo to head to the Oscars in Los Angeles and marked the occasion with a shot of tequila.

The 34-year-old, who has recently announced his return to the practice court after successful knee surgery, took to the red carpet in Beverly Hills to soak up the atmosphere at Hollywood's star night.

In video footage Federer joins Guillermo, who's from the American programme the Jimmy Kimmel show, to have a quick drink before heading into the

prestigious ceremony.

"I'm a champion like you," joked Guillermo, before having Federer in raptures of laughter by claiming his prowess was in drinking rather than tennis. Ever the good sport, Federer gulped his shot of tequila and quipped, "I'll get back to No 1 with shots like that!" As a dedicated athlete the Swiss maestro won't regularly sample the delights of alcohol.

"That was a strong one," said Federer after composing himself.

The world No 3 was joined at the Oscars by fellow tennis stars Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova, who both attended the Vanity Fair Party.

Federer will have delighted his vast legion of fans by announcing he is back on court following knee surgery.

He missed tournaments in Rotterdam and Dubai having undergone arthroscopic knee surgery in

Switzerland to repair a torn meniscus the day after his 6-1, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 defeat by Novak Djokovic in the Australian Open semi-finals last month.

The 17-time Grand Slam champion posted a couple of pictures on social media earlier this month proving he is hitting again and declared "Rarely felt so happy being back on a practice court."

Expected

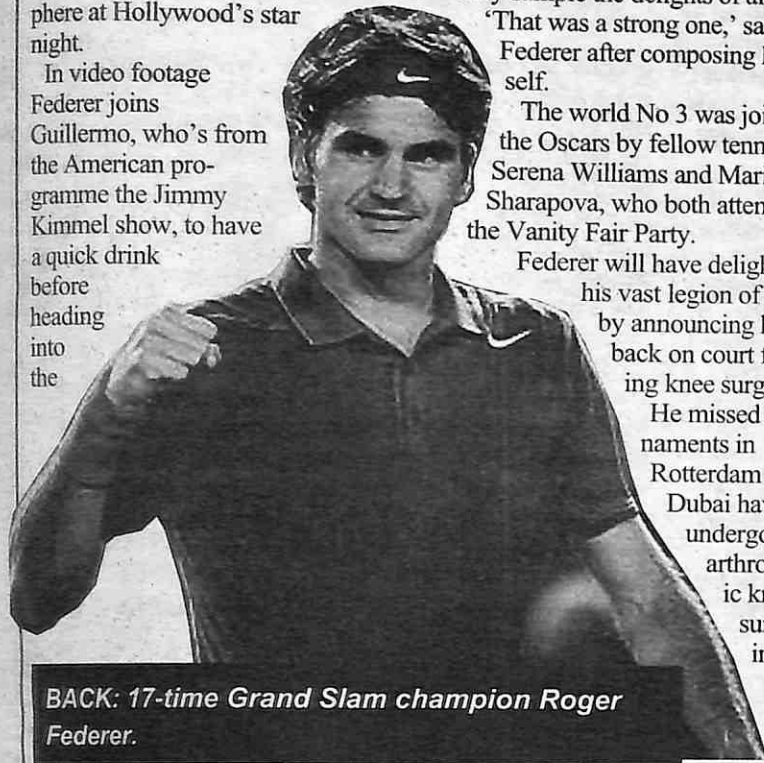
Federer was expected to make his return at Masters 1 000 events in either Indian Wells or Miami in March but has delayed his comeback to prepare for the gruelling season ahead.

He wrote on his Facebook page: "As it is a long year, I don't want to push it too hard and come back too soon."

"Thus, I will unfortunately not be able to make it back in time for the great event in Indian Wells but I do plan on playing in the desert next year. "After consultation with my team, I have decided to enter the Monte-Carlo Rolex Masters."

The 34-year-old assured fans his recuperation was going to plan.

He added: "The Rehab for my knee is going really well! I have now had a lot of great practices on the court and in the gym." *Daily Mail*



BACK: 17-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer.

CAF PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES INFANTINO

JOHANNESBURG - CAF President Issa Hayatou has congratulated Gianni Infantino on becoming FIFA's top official in elections held last Friday.

In a letter Hayatou said that on behalf of the CAF Executive Committee and the African football family paid tribute to the new man chosen to turn around the fortunes and problems which have besieged FIFA in the last year.

"We are confident that you will restore FIFA's image backed by your career, skills, passion for football, understanding of the issues related to the future of football, and your desire to develop our sport around the four corners of the world."

"Be assured of the continued support of CAF, African members of the new FIFA Council, as well as our commitment to strengthening the excellent relationship between CAF and FIFA," said the CAF President, who acted as interim president of FIFA in the months preceding the February 26 elections. - *African News Agency*

No thanks to Bok job - Rassie

CAPE TOWN - Rassie Erasmus has reportedly withdrawn himself from the race to become the next Springbok coach.

Erasmus, head of SARU's Mobi-Unit of coaches, was earlier reported to be the favourite to replace Heyneke Meyer as Bok coach.

However, according to Network24, Erasmus informed SA Rugby's executive committee last week that he does not want to become the next Bok coach.

With Erasmus out of contention, Allister

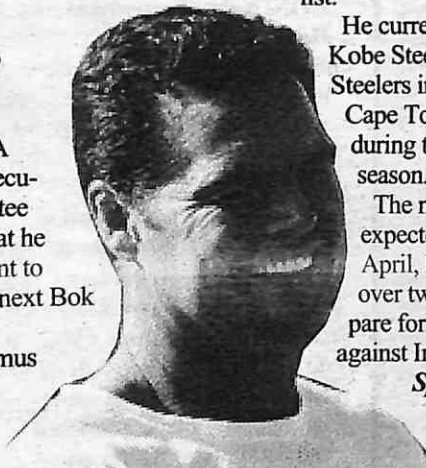
Coetzee appears the favourite for the job.

Coetzee, a former Stormers coach, was confirmed to still be in contention for the job when SARU president Oregan Hoskins sent out an email to committee members, telling them to add Coetzee's name to the candidates list.

He currently coaches the Kobe Steel Kobelco Steelers in Japan, but is in Cape Town at present during the Japanese off-season.

The new Bok coach is expected to be named in April, leaving him just over two months to prepare for the series against Ireland.

Sport24



LEAVING: Rassie Erasmus.

Citigroup subpoenaed regarding FIFA probe

NEW YORK - Citigroup says it has received a subpoena from federal prosecutors over its possible involvement in the FIFA bribery scandal, the first large US bank to receive such a notice from investigators.

Citigroup disclosed the

subpoena in a regulatory filing late last Friday, saying it is cooperating with investigators in the matter.

When they announced charges against high-level executives of FIFA, world soccer's governing body, last year, federal prosecutors had said several banks,

including HSBC and JPMorgan Chase, were used to transfer cash.

Closed

JPMorgan has not disclosed any investigation.

In the filing, Citi said investors requested information on "banking relationships and transactions

at Citibank and its affiliates associated with certain individuals and entities identified as having had involvement with the alleged corrupt conduct."

A Citi spokesperson declined to comment beyond the filing.

AP

Thiem moves up in world rankings

PARIS - Dominic Thiem is up to 14th in the ATP world rankings following his second tournament win inside a month in Acapulco.

The 22-year-old Austrian, who has been tipped for stardom for some time, won the tournament in Buenos Aires in mid-February and on Sunday he defeated Australian hope Bernard Tomic in three sets. Tomic moves up one place to 20th. The top 10 is unchanged with Stan Wawrinka consolidating his fourth ranking by winning the tournament in Dubai. Top-ranked Novak Djokovic was forced to withdraw from that tournament with an eye infection, while Roger Federer is sidelined after a knee operation.

1. Novak Djokovic (SRB) 16 580
2. Andy Murray (GBR) 8 765
3. Roger Federer (SUI) 8 295
4. Stan Wawrinka (SUI) 6 325
5. Rafael Nadal (ESP) 4 810
6. Kei Nishikori (JPN) 4 030
7. Tomas Berdych (CZE) 3 900
8. David Ferrer (ESP) 3 505
9. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (FRA) 2 950
10. Richard Gasquet (FRA) 2 715
11. John Isner (USA) 2 585
12. Marin Cilic (CRO) 2 555
13. Milos Raonic (CAN) 2 450
14. Dominic Thiem (AUT) 2 430 (+1)
15. Kevin Anderson (RSA) 2 065 (-1)
16. David Goffin (BEL) 1 970
17. Gal Monfils (FRA) 1 950
18. Roberto Bautista (ESP) 1 935
19. Gilles Simon (FRA) 1 895
20. Bernard Tomic (AUS) 1 885 (+1)

AFP

Siasia takes over as head coach of Nigeria ahead of AFCON qualifiers

JOHANNESBURG, February 29 (ANA) - Samson Siasia has been re-appointed Head Coach of Nigeria with the 2017 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers one of his main targets.

Siasia was appointed after former Super Eagles coach and respected player Sunday Oliseh resigned, the country's football federation said over the weekend.

Winner

Siasia will team up with Salisu Yusuf, FIFA Under 17 World Cup winner Emmanuel Amunike and Alloy Agu in their quest for the Super Eagles to soar to new heights.

Siasia was Nigeria's Head Coach between December 2010 and October 2011, before he lost his job after the Super Eagles

failed to qualify for the 2012 Africa Cup of Nations.

Amunike led the Nigeria Under 17 boys to a fifth FIFA World Cup title in Chile last year and was hailed for his excellent comportment and maturity, as well as the tremendous skills of his players.

Siasia and Amunike are among few ex-Nigeria internationals who boast impressive track record in coaching. Amunike, who has a UEFA Pro licence, was assistant to Manu Garba when the Nigeria Under 17 squad won a fourth FIFA World Cup title in 2013, and then headed the crew that successfully defended the trophy last year. - *African News Agency*

Hoeness released from prison

MUNICH - Disgraced ex-Bayern Munich President Uli Hoeness was released from prison yesterday after serving 21 months for tax evasion, a regional official said.

The 64-year-old served half of his three-and-a-half year sentence after being convicted in March 2014 of having evaded at least 28.5 million euros (\$31.5 million) in taxes. His release in the middle of the night was confirmed by Bavaria's justice ministry, which gave no further details.

Hoeness, the son of a German butcher, rose to fame as the driving force behind Bayern's rise and became a millionaire businessman, before his fall from grace. He was granted day release in January 2015, and immediately started working in the club's youth academy. "It's not over!" was Hoeness' battle cry to FC Bayern in May 2014, shortly before starting his sentence.

He has said he would announce his future plans on July 1.

The date coincides with the start of Carlo Ancelotti's reign as Bayern's

coach to replace Pep Guardiola.

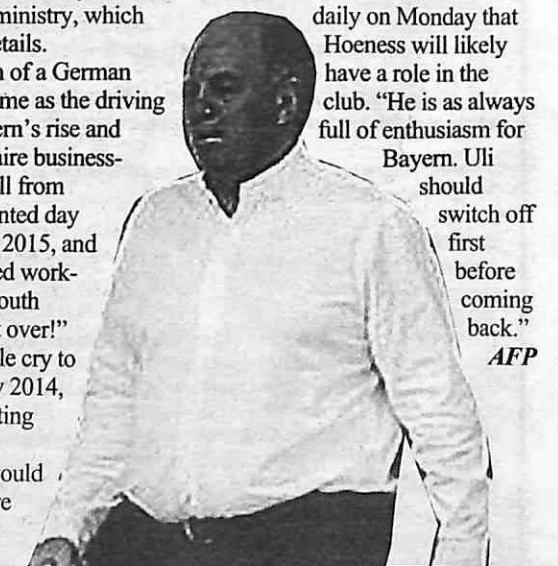
His first public engagement is expected to be at a ceremony to honour Jupp Heynckes, who coached Bayern to the 2013 treble, in Moenchengladbach on March 13.

Three days later, he will be at Munich's Allianz Arena to watch Bayern's Champions League last 16, second leg at home to Juventus. Bayern's honorary chairman Franz Beckenbauer told Bild

daily on Monday that Hoeness will likely have a role in the club. "He is as always full of enthusiasm for Bayern. Uli

should switch off first before coming back."

AFP



FREE: Disgraced ex-Bayern Munich president Uli Hoeness.



ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



Loftus-Cheek signs new five-year Chelsea deal

LONDON - Chelsea midfielder Ruben Loftus-Cheek has signed a new five-year contract extension that will keep him at Stamford Bridge until 2021, the club have confirmed.

The 20-year-old, who is rated as the west Londoners' best academy product since John Terry, has made 13 appearances in all competitions this

term and opened his account for the club in January's FA Cup win over Scunthorpe United.

His previous deal was set to expire at the end of next season, but Loftus-Cheek has now pledged his future to the Blues.

"I'm delighted to sign a new contract at Chelsea and my focus is on working hard in training every day in order to push on and

establish myself in the team," he told the club's official website.

"It really means a lot because this shows the club believe in me so I'm really happy.

"The club have done so much for me since I started here as an Under-8 and now I want to repay the faith they've shown in me with my performances on the pitch." *Goal.com*

Pique rules out Manchester City move

BARCELONA - Gerard Pique says his love for Manchester United makes a reunion with Pep Guardiola at Manchester City impossible.

Barca academy product Pique spent four years at Old Trafford before returning to Camp Nou in 2008, where he has enjoyed a trophy-laden eight years - including three La Liga titles, two Copa del Reys and two Champions League medals won under

the stewardship of Guardiola.

The former midfielder has since gone on to enjoy further success in charge of Bayern Munich and will take on a fresh challenge at the Etihad Stadium next season.

However, Pique insists that a return to the Premier League with City is something he

could never contemplate

despite the respect he has for Guardiola.

"My love for [Manchester] United is too strong to go to City," he said on Periscope. "I don't see myself in their shirt even though Pep



is a great coach." *Goal.com*

WONDERKID RASHFORD NEARLY JOINED MANCITY

MANCHESTER - As Louis van Gaal celebrates the impact of Manchester United's newest goalscoring hero Marcus Rashford, he owes a debt of gratitude to fellow Dutchman Rene Meulensteen whose influence persuaded the striker to choose United over rivals Manchester City at the age of nine.

The schoolboy striker was courted by both clubs and trained with each of them until he made his big decision to join United. How grateful they must feel now after his sensational debut against Midtjylland at the age of 18.

According to David Horrocks, his first coach at renowned south Manchester junior club Fletcher Moss Rangers, the deciding factor was United's training pro-

FIVE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MARCUS

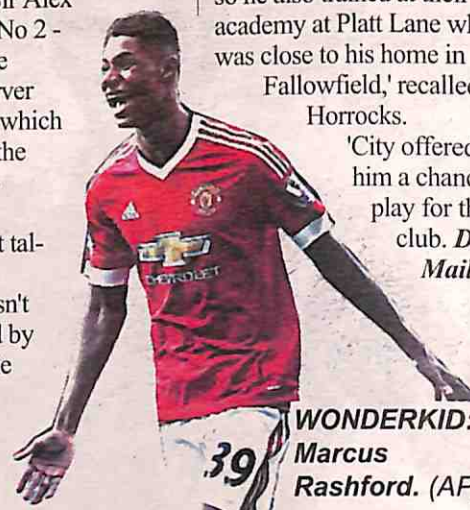
1. He was born on Halloween, 1997
2. He used to play for Fletcher Moss Rangers at youth level
3. He was prolific at under-18 level
4. He scored twice on his UEFA Youth League debut
5. He has been in senior United squads before

gramme introduced by youth coach Meulensteen - later to be Sir Alex Ferguson's No 2 - based on the famed Coerver methods in which mastery of the ball is paramount.

"Like most talented kids, Marcus wasn't just scouted by one club. He went to the Moss Side develop-

ment centre at United and City knew he was going well so he also trained at their academy at Platt Lane which was close to his home in Fallowfield," recalled Horrocks.

"City offered him a chance to play for the club." *Daily Mail*



WONDERKID: Marcus Rashford. (AP)

Cech wants Arsenal response after loss

LONDON - Arsenal were dealt a severe blow to their Premier League title hopes with Sunday's 3-2 loss to Manchester United but can quickly get back on track with two wins in four days, goalkeeper Petr Cech has said.

The Gunners are five points back of surprise leaders

Leicester City after their Old Trafford defeat but Cech said the table would look healthy for them again if they could beat Swansea City at home on Wednesday and second place Tottenham Hotspur in Saturday's North London derby.

"This was a big disappointment for us and is a step back

after last week, where we managed to overcome a deficit against Leicester at home," he told reporters.

"This is a step back but we need to keep working.

"We have two important games coming up this week and if we manage to win both, the table might look better again." *Reuters*

Pochettino serene as title realities bite

LONDON - Tottenham Hotspur manager Mauricio Pochettino said that the balm of victory would help his hobbling players prepare for Wednesday's Premier League clash with London rivals West Ham United.

Harry Kane wore a face mask to protect a broken nose against Swansea City on Sunday and Dele Alli injured his foot in the warm-up, but both players finished the match with smiles on their faces as Spurs came from behind to win 2-1.

Coupled with Arsenal's 3-2 defeat at Manchester United, it enabled Pochettino's men to reclaim second place and close to within two points of leaders Leicester City.

After visiting sixth-place West Ham, Spurs face a showdown with north London rivals Arsenal, but despite their walking wounded, Pochettino said: "It's easier to prepare for the West



TITLE CHASERS: Spurs forward Chadli wheels away in celebration after replacing Erik Lamela to score the equaliser. (AP)

Ham game after this victory.

"They (the players) are happy, they smile, it is always a better mood to recover. "It is an exciting moment for us, but some players we need to manage because some players feel a little bit tired. We came from a very tough period."

While Spurs look to establish themselves as Leicester's main challengers, third-place Arsenal find themselves five

points behind the leaders ahead of their home game with Swansea. Arsenal could not take advantage of an injury-ravaged United team at Old Trafford, where 18-year-old striker Marcus Rashford scored twice for the hosts and set up Ander Herrera for what proved to be the decisive goal, and manager Arsene Wenger conceded it had been a weighty blow. *Daily Mail*



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Tender Number: UBO 15/2016 AGRIC

Ubombo Sugar Limited (USL) has secured funding from the European Union - Swaziland Sugar Facility under contract number DCI-SUCRE/2014/345-758 & DCI-SUCRE/2014/354-051 to implement Ubombo Integrated Small Holder Development Projects in the Ubombo cane supply area in Swaziland. Therefore Ubombo Sugar Limited now invites suitably qualified Local and International Civil Engineering contractors to tender for, construction of infield roads, side drains and road crossing culverts.

The tender documents are obtainable from the Purchasing & Inventory Manager's Secretary (Mill stores) Ubombo Sugar Limited, upon payment of SZL 500.00 which excludes courier delivery cost. Payment is made at the Cashier's Office located at the Ubombo Sugar Limited Main Office, P. O. Box 23, Big-Bend. Documents will be on sale from Tuesday 01 March 2016 up to the day of compulsory clarification meeting and site visit. Companies that have their origin in G20 countries (including South Africa) are not eligible to tender, but materials can be sourced from South Africa by eligible companies. The fee is payable at the cashier's office between 08h00 and 11h15.

The completed tender documents must be delivered in sealed envelopes showing only the project name and the tender number to the address below;

Ubombo Sugar Ltd, Main Office (Agriculture Offices)
Portion Farm 161, Old Main Road
PO Box 128, Big Bend,
Swaziland
Telephone +268 2363 8000
Fax: +268 2363 6924

The deadline for submission of tenders is 11 March 2016 at 1200hrs, local Swaziland time. A compulsory site inspection will be held on 04 March 2016 at 0900hrs. The bidders will assemble at 0900hrs in the Agricultural Development conference room at Ubombo Sugar Limited for a clarification meeting before proceeding to site. Information pertaining to the site visit should be directed to the Project Engineer, Justin Mutiro. Email address: jmutiro@illovo.co.za
Tel: +268 23636 927/8 copied to the Project Manager, Peter Oldham. Email address: poldham@illovo.co.za Tel: +268 2363 6927/8.

Ubombo Sugar Limited does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.
"Funded by the European Union"



Performing at home will be key for 'Downs

PRETORIA - After beating Chicken Inn in the preliminary round of the Caf Champions League, Alton Meiring has said that anything can happen for Mamelodi Sundowns if they do well at home.

"Well, anything is possible in football and more especially if they do well at home in the competition, then anything is possible because that helps a lot in this instance," Meiring told Goal.

Meiring, who helped Downs reach the final of the Caf Champions League in 2001, has said that the strikers will also be key to their success in the competition.

Source

"I am quite happy with their strike-force and they will be key to Sundowns in the Champions League and going all the way because they have been their main source of goals this season.

"They have been amazing, Khama Billiat he has been my player of the Season.

"He is the one on-form and Keagan Dolly is also playing very well and even the other striker Castro is doing very well," the former Downs striker added.

Impressive

Coach Pitso Mosimane's charges were impressive against Chicken Inn this past weekend, which saw them overcome a 1-0 deficit from the first leg, to move on to the next phase of the competition in an exciting 2-1 win.

Goal.com

BLOEM CELTIC RECEIVE OFFERS FOR TAKEOVER

BLOEMFONTEIN - The Bloemfontein club is experiencing extreme difficulties in recent days, and now chairman Max Tshabalala is looking to sell-up.

On Monday Celtic's official Twitter account announced two offers for a potential takeover.

Tshabalala admittedly wants to sell the club due to the latest violent unrest from the fans, which triggered after Celtic's defeat against Orlando Pirates.

The chairman released the following statement on Bloem Celtic's official site.



ROUDY: Siwelele fans behaviour against Orlando Pirates has forced the chairman to put the club up for sale.

"I must concede my heart is painful at how some supporters behaved last night. Vandalizing the stadium,

fighting and hurting Pirates supporters in the process and clearly the situation has gone out of hand. Goal.com

I don't regret joining Celtic - Letsoaka

BLOEMFONTEIN - Despite their recent poor form which resulted in the team failing to get the required results, Bloemfontein Celtic head coach Serame Letsoaka says that he does not regret joining Phunya Sele Sele and he believes that the only thing missing from his

charges is capitalising from their goal scoring opportunities.

The 52-year-old mentor resigned from Lamontville Golden Arrows to replace Clinton Larsen at Celtic last December and has found the going much tougher than he anticipated at the City of Roses.

When Larsen departed from Celtic, they were placed 6th on the log and now they find themselves at the bottom half of the log table, occupying a 12th spot.

"No not at all, I don't regret coming here (To Celtic)," Letsoaka told reporters in a post-match press conference on Saturday. Sport24

Hunt to keep faith with youngsters

JOHANNESBURG - Bidvest Wits boss Gavin Hunt has vowed to keep faith with his youngsters after securing a place in the qualifying first round of the CAF Confederation Cup at the weekend.

A youthful Clever Boys outfit hammered Light Stars of Seychelles 6-0 on Saturday to secure a 9-0 aggregate victory and a place in the next round of qualifiers.

And with Hunt's side actively involved in the Absa Premiership title race, the club's youngsters are likely to be heavily involved in the first team between now and the end of the campaign.

"You will need the youngsters and I always say when the run-in comes, you need the freshness," Hunt told Sowetan Live. Sport24

'Losing Gabuza won't be a blow for Bucs'

JOHANNESBURG - Bruce Ramokgadi has said that losing striker Thamsanqa Gabuza at the end of the campaign won't come as a blow to Orlando Pirates aspirations, as they would be afforded enough time to start afresh.

The KZN-born star is in his final six months of his contract with him yet to extend his deal with the club.

"No, it's (a potential move away) not going to be a blow because everybody will be starting afresh and on the same page with pre-season," Ramokgadi told Goal.

"So I don't think it will be a big blow because also everybody usually gets new players at the end of the season."

He does however believe that if Pirates had lost Gabuza in January, it would have been a difficult one for the club to deal with. Goal.com

'Downs to face Leopards, Chiefs meet ASEC

ABUJA - Mamelodi Sundowns will have been drawn against AC Leopards from Congo in the last 32 of the CAF Champions League.



CAF LAST 32 FIXTURES:

Club (COD) v Ferroviario Maputo (MOZ)
Mamelodi Sundowns (RSA) v AC Leopards (CGO)
Kaizer Chiefs (RSA) v ASEC Mimosas (CIV)
Warri Wolves (NGR) v Al Merrikh (SUD)
Etoile (CGO) v Entente Setif (ALG)

Wydad Casablanca (MAR) or Douanes (NIG) v CNaPS (MAD)
St George (ETH) v TP Mazembe (COD, holders)
Enyimba (NGR) v Vital'O (BDI)
Olympique Khouribga (MAR) v Etoile Sahel (TUN)
Stade Malien (MLI) v Coton Sport (CMR)
AFP

Dynamic Corporation (Pty) LTD



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Aquamarine BBUV 30003

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Flush

first diverter

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AND MANY MORE IN STOCK.

El Clasico date announced

MADRID - The date for the second Clasico between Barcelona and Real Madrid this season has been announced.

The two Liga rivals will face-off at Camp Nou on April 2 at 20:30 CET as the Blancos look to get revenge for the 4-0 defeat they suffered in November.

Two goals from Luis Suarez and one each from Neymar and Andres Iniesta ensured the Catalans smashed then-manager Rafael Benitez's side at the Bernabeu, with Isco shown a red card late on in the contest.

Since then, Madrid have moved to replace Benitez with Zinedine Zidane but have not

yet experienced a drastic upturn in fortunes in La Liga, with Barca pulling further clear of Los Blancos at the top of the table.

The gap between the two sides now stands at 12 points after Real suffered a 1-0 defeat at home to Atletico Madrid on Saturday, with Cristiano Ronaldo forced to backtrack on post-match comments that had seen him openly criticise his team-mates.

With Barca looking to extend their unbeaten run to 35 matches when they face Rayo Vallecano on Thursday, Madrid fans will surely not be relishing the trip to Camp Nou in April. *Goal.com*

PIQUE SENDS BARCA EIGHT POINTS CLEAR

BARCELONA - Barcelona moved eight points clear at the top of La Liga after coming from behind to beat Sevilla 2-1 at Camp Nou thanks to goals from Lionel Messi and Gerard Pique.

The Spain defender coolly slotted home the winning goal of an entertaining contest just after half-time, ensuring the hosts - who saw closest rivals Atletico Madrid beat Real Madrid on Saturday - avoided a slip-up against the last team to beat them in the top flight.

The win extends Barca's unbeaten run to 34 games, but they were made to work hard against a Sevilla side that showed no fear against the league leaders.

Sevilla came into the match on the back of a seven-game streak without defeat and Vitolo gave them a deserved lead after 20 minutes, before Messi soothed Barca's nerves when he scored from a brilliant free-kick.

Pique's goal just after the interval gave the home side a slender

lead that they held onto throughout a captivating second half, in which their title credentials were tested by a buoyant Sevilla.

In the game's early exchanges, Neymar's dancing feet failed to break down a packed Sevilla defence and Unai Emery's men went close to opening the scoring when Timothee Kolodziejczak flashed a shot over the crossbar from close range.

Sevilla's strong start brought Barca to life and Messi hit the post with a curling corner kick, which rebounded straight to Luis Suarez, who unleashed a hammer of a shot that smashed onto the crossbar before Sevilla cleared their lines.

Rather than sitting back as so many sides do at Camp Nou, Sevilla continued to attack. A brilliantly worked passing move down the left flank saw Benoit Tremoulinas cross to the far post where the unmarked Vitolo side-footed a volley past the stranded Claudio Bravo.

Goal.com



HERO: Barcelona's Gerard Pique celebrates scoring against Sevilla during a La Liga match at Camp Nou.

Jordaan misses FIFA congress

CAPE TOWN - Until recently it would have taken something akin to a pack of wild horses to stop SAFA president Danny Jordaan staying away from the glare of a significant and far-reaching FIFA congress.

But last Friday when FIFA got down to the fateful business of electing Gianni Infantino as its new president in succession to the disgraced Sepp Blatter and rubber stamped a far-reaching manifesto to eliminate the widespread corruption within world soccer's controlling body, the SAFA president was a conspicuous absentee in Zurich.

Asked by an Eastern Cape newspa-

per why he had decided not to attend the presidential election, Jordaan replied: "I have only one full-time job and that is mayor of the Port Elizabeth metro."

"If there are important matters relating to finance cropping up, I needed to be here."

It contrasted and contradicted what the SAFA president had insisted when he took on the duties of Port Elizabeth mayor last year amid a great deal of controversy.

He was adamant at that point it would in no way affect his duties as SAFA president.

So, it is not entirely surprising, that a good many are suggesting Jordaan

might have had other reasons as well for his stay-at-home.

And it has been pointed out that with the controversial issue of SAFA's alleged 10-million dollar bribe to secure the hosting of the 2010 World Cup still filtering through the corridors in Zurich, Jordaan might have reasoned that discretion was the better part of valour and stayed well away from the controversy in which the payment from South Africa seemingly ended up in the pocket of notorious former FIFA vice-president Jack Warner instead of furthering the interests of the African diaspora in the CONCACAF region. *Sport24*

Lyon end PSG's record

PARIS - Lyon stunned Paris Saint-Germain 2-1 on Sunday to end the defending champions' hopes of becoming the first French team to avoid defeat for a whole league season.

Young forward Maxwell Cornet stroked Bruno Genesio's men into a surprise early lead and Lyon deservedly made it two through Sergi Darder's wonderfully-taken goal on the stroke of half-time.

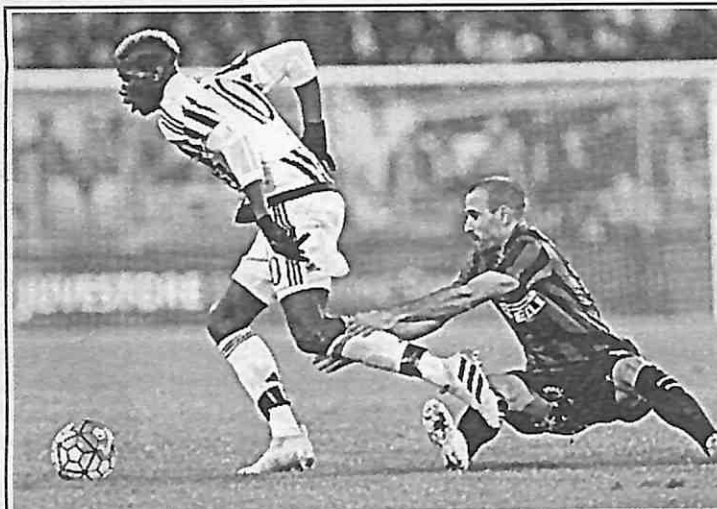
Lucas Moura pulled one back for the runaway league leaders, but Lyon held on for a famous

victory that moves them into the top three.

For PSG this was a first league loss since a 3-2 defeat at Bordeaux in March 2015, although they remain 23 points clear of Monaco at the top of the table.

Manager Laurent Blanc admitted that his side were off the pace and did not deserve to take anything from the game.

"We were too average, myself included," he told Canal+. "Lyon were in a better state of mind. Were we not at our best? I don't know, we must regroup." *AFP*



WAIT FOR ME: Inter Milan's Rodrigo Palacio (r) challenges Juventus' Paul Pogba during a Serie A match.

Juventus widen Serie A lead

MILAN - Alvaro Morata came off the bench to earn then score a late penalty as champions Juventus went four points clear at the top of Serie A on Sunday with a 2-0 win over hapless Inter Milan.

Days after rescuing their Champions League hopes with a 2-2 home draw with Bayern Munich, Juventus welcomed Roberto Mancini's visitors looking to steal a march on title challengers Napoli.

After a dominant first half, the hosts broke the deadlock two minutes after the restart when Leonardo Bonucci fired Inter midfielder Danilo D'Ambrosio's header past Samir Handanovic on the volley.

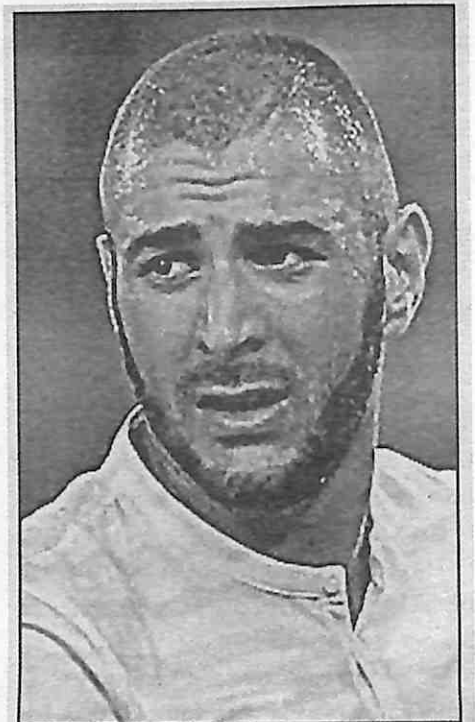
Morata replaced Juve striker Paulo Dybala with eight minutes remaining, and two minutes later stepped up to send

Handanovic the wrong way after winning a penalty when he was chopped down in the box by Joao Miranda.

Juve's 19th win of the season leaves Massimiliano Allegri's men four points clear of Napoli, who will be hoping striker Gonzalo Higuain finds his scoring boots again for a difficult trip to fourth-placed Fiorentina on Monday.

Inter remain in fifth place at 13 points behind Juve, but their seventh loss of the campaign has all but ended their titles hopes and given hope to their direct rivals for the third and last Champions League qualifying spot. While a reportedly ailing Mancini decided not to speak to media, Allegri was only too happy to have removed a direct rival for the league trophy.

AFP



OUT: Real Madrid's injured striker Karim Benzema.

Blow for Madrid as Benzema suffers hamstring injury

MADRID - Real Madrid are set to be without Karim Benzema for at least their next three matches after the club confirmed that the striker has suffered a hamstring injury.

Benzema was withdrawn at half-time of Saturday's derby defeat to Atletico, with Borja Mayoral replacing the France international forward who was only passed fit for the match on Thursday having been suffering from a hip problem.

Indeed, the 28-year-old was absent from the 1-1 draw with Malaga and is now set for a further spell on the sidelines that could see him miss La Liga fixtures against Levante and Celta Vigo as well as the Champions League last-16 second-leg clash with Roma.

A statement on Madrid's official website read: "After tests at the University Hospital Sanitas La Moraleja the player Karim Benzema has been diagnosed with a muscle injury to his right hamstring."

Benzema has scored 23 goals in all competitions for Madrid in the 2015-16 campaign but has only struck once in his last four games for Los Blancos.

The striker joins Gareth Bale on the sidelines although the Welshman could be close to a return having started individual training last Thursday as he steps up his recovery from a calf problem that has kept him out since the middle of January.

Goal.com

Wounded 'Birds' face Green Mamba

By Sabelo Majola

TODAY
Mbabane Swallows vs Green Mamba
Somhlolo National Stadium,
6:30pm

SOCCER - After being knocked out of the CAF Champions League preliminary round by Rwandan army side APR in Kigali on Saturday, Mbabane Swallows arrived back in the country yesterday and will be facing Green Mamba in an MTN Premier League encounter at Somhlolo National Stadium tonight.



MENTOR: Mbabane Swallows coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati.

'Birds' are in the title race and only five points separate them from defending champions Royal Leopard, who are at the summit of

the log. Swallows have a game in hand.

The Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati-led charges have scored the highest number of goals so far in the campaign and currently have 36. They recorded the highest victory when they beat Bad Boys 7-1 in the first round match.

The 'Beautiful Birds' are fourth on the log with 31 points while their opponents are seventh with 19 points.

'Koki' will pin hopes on his front-line duo of Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa and Sandile Hlatshwayo to penetrate the Green Mamba defence and score goals.

It was a 1-1 draw when the two teams met in the first round of the

campaign and tonight will be a tight affair as 'Birds' are looking to close the gap on Leopard while Green Mamba are fighting for a top four finish, as per the team's president desires.

Swallows will be without their experienced goalkeeper in Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza, who got a straight red card after handling the ball outside of the box during their game against rivals Mbabane Highlanders in the SwaziBank Cup last 16.

The player will be back in action after tonight's game as he is serving a one match suspension.

Green Mamba, on the other hand, will be without their influential player in Musa Dlamini, who is still

nursing a collarbone dislocation he sustained last month during their match against Mbabane Highlanders in the Ingwenyama Cup tournament.

Teams:

Mbabane Swallows

Head coach- Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati

Captain - Wonder Nhleko

Key players- Kabamba

Thsitshimbi, Felix Badenhorst,

Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu

Match winner- Sabelo 'Sikhali'

Ndzinisa

Green Mamba

Coach - Hebert Maruwa

Captain - Siyabonga 'Msholoz' Mdule

Key Players -Phumlani

Ngwenya, Njabulo Thwala, Civil

Matsebula

Match Winner: Phinda 'Phindix'

Dlamini

Weekend Sports Results

Compiled by Sanele Jele

NETBALL

SSA E70 000 Netball League

Females

Sports & Culture	75	Two Sticks	0
RSP	49	Raiders	21

Males

Correctional	33	RSP	32
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DARTS

SRIC Darts E50 000 League

Macembe	21	RSP	2
Eco Water	13	RSSC	10
Manzini CC 1	19	Mbabane CC	5
Macembe	20	Railway	3

VOLLEYBALL

National Volleyball Association

Men Premier

Correctional	2	USDF	0
RSP	2	L. Customs	0
Correctional	2	RSSC	0
USDF	2	L. Customs	1
RSP	2	RSSC	1

Ladies Volleyball

Group A			
Correctional	2	Zakhele	0
Correctional	2	Ludzeludze	0
Zakhele	2	Ludzeludze	0

Group B

RSP	2	USDF	0
Chilly babes	2	RSSC	0
RSP	2	Chilly babes	0

SOCCER

MTN Premier League

Midas City	1	Manzini Sundowns	0
Royal Leopard	1	Young Buffaloes	1
Sea Birds	1	Bad Boys	0
Manzini Wanderers	2	Malanti Chiefs	2
Red Lions	1	Mbabane Highlanders	2

National First Division

Tambuti	2	Madlenya	0
Moneri Pirates	2	Amalanda	0
Sikhali	1	Hellenic	0
RSSC United	1	Flyers	2
Citizens	3	Kontshingila	1
Manchester	vs	Brothers	did not play

Swazi Bank Under 20 tournament

Red Lions	0	Midas City	0
Sea Birds	1	Malanti Chiefs	1
M. Wanderers	3	Bad Boys	0
M. Sundowns	1	Royal Leopard	2

Swazi Trac Hhohho Regional Super League E70 000

Southern zone			
Vovovo	1	Sibovini	0
Tinyosi	2	Mv. Invaders	0

Gordon Stars	1	Sibuyeni	1
Umbelebele	2	Swazi Sun	1
Wizards	4	Killers	2

Northern zone

Horo Spinners	2	Star Wanderers	0
19 Celtics	0	Fast Movers	0
B. Swallows	0	Bush Bucks	2
Vultures	1	Mvuma	1

Bakhanyisele Mabulala Maphaleni- Regional League E 30 000

Western stream

Khulungwane	2	Young Lovers	6
Billy Ocean	1	Manchester	2
Liselesele	0	Junior Stars	1
Thuluzobona	2	Blue Birds	3
Professionals	1	Rangers	0
Young Star	0	Barcelona	1
Umkhokha	2	Killers	1

Eastern Stream

Siphambanweni	0	Rollers	4
Sunrise	0	H. Fighters	0
Sunset	2	Mighty Birds	0
Jubukweni	0	Hill Stars	0
L. Pirates	0	Love & Peace	3
Academy	1	Lunkanka	3

Mandla Mahewu Mbabane Regional Football E 55 000

Promotion

PMT	1	Corporation	0
Mpolonjeni	2	Rangers	3
FC Vaal Stars	2	Mb. Celtics	2
Thembelihle	1	Amawele	0
Dynamos	1	White City	2
Flying Stars	0	Pine Valley	2
Sandla	1	Real Tec	1
Veni	0	Imbumba	3

Futis Nkhaba Regional Football League E 15 000

Promotion

Dribbling	2	Tycoons	1
Nkoyoyo	0	Majotini	0
Bafana	0	Shooting	4
Loxion Lions	0	Barcelona	1
Swazi Aces	3	Atletico	1
Mhlosheni	3	Manyisa	1
Super Stars	6	Marisburg	0

Ematombeni Mdzimba Regional League E30 000

Rebels	0	Monaco	1
Timbungulu	3	Amacabane	0
Top Centre	3	Blue Birds	0
Arsenal	1	Cosmos	2
B. Mashuba	5	Barcelona	3
Green Sea	1	Rangers	2
Rhumba Stars	3	Swallows	0
Pirates	1	Bush Bucks	1
Highlanders	3	Drikoppies	3
All Stars	0	Sundowns	2
Kasiko	0	Chiefs	1

Sikhumbuto Timpisini Regional League 25 000

Promotion

Mat. Swallows	3	Soccer Rose	4
Hh. Pirates	3	Msahweni	2
V. Cosmos	3	Stone Breakers	2
Zamalek	3	Mv. Sundowns	0
G. Arrows	0	Red Lions	0\
Gunsners	0	Mb. Swallows	4
Ellegence	2	Ludzibini	2

B. Division

Juventus	0	All United	2
Combustion	3	All Stars	3
Kudvwaleni	6	Superstrikes	0
Mb. Swallows	1	Njakeni	6
Y. Bombers	1	Blue Birds	2

T & J Lobamba League

Real Masters	0	Emajukujuku	5
Stone Breakers	0	Lobamba Blazers	0
L. Sunrise	5	Elangeni Vultures	0
Emaselesele	1	Rangers	2
SUB	4	Ezulwini FC	2
Fast Reaction	1	Smuzamuzi	0
Prime Spurs	4	Vutha	2
City Stars	2	Umlilo	1

B. Division

Scorpion	2	Lusito Lions	2
X - Eleven	3	Malagwane	1
Zabeni All Stars	2	Silomo	2
Power Stars	2	Liwakawaka	2
Ezulwini Aces	2	Somjalose Classic2	
Servest	3	Luveve Stars	2

Buy Cash Peak pigs Regional League E30 000

Promotion

Hot Spurs	5	PP United	1
Mpolonjeni	1	Mhloio	4
Supersport	2	White Killers	1
Pachanga	4	Mhlathuze	1
Peak City	2	Morning Stars	2
Professionals	0	Thuluzobona	3
Phophonyane	1	Mhlatane	2
Khanjane	2	Citizen	0

Post construction Sigangeni League Regional League E30. 000

Northern

Junior Stars	0	Kupheleni	1
Kangaroo	0	Real touch	3
Makhwane	2	L. nationals	1
M. Celtics	2	Sigangeni	2
Mighty Chiefs	1	Real united	2
Young Fighters	0	Villa Sports	1

Ntabenezimpisi

Promotion			
Manchester	1	Cosmos	0
Bombers	0	Skom Boyz	0
Arsenal	3	Hungry Lions	1
Mduez	3	City Stars	2
Seven Stars	2	Sundowns	0

Sigodlo	4	Killers	1
Buhleni Aces	1	Professionals	0
Fontotje	1	Super Stars	3

Ntfontjeni Mp Sompisiregional League 30.000

Promotion

Trounge	6	Teenagers	0
Zibonele	0	Aces	0
Seven Up	3	Uprises	0
Madrid	4	Hellenic	2
Barcelona	1	Express	6
Nkonjaneni	4	Mbabatane	1
Chelsea	1	Pirates	4
Black Stone	1	Liverpool	5

Mbalekelwa Mhlangatane Regional Football League

East

Cosmos	0	Rovers	2
Young Stars	2	H. Defenders	3
M. United	2	M. Aces	2
Elevenmen	2	Tigers	4

Langa Bricks Malindza Zonal League E35000

Mahlaleni	4	Seven Stars	0
Siweni UTD	4	Gabi Gabi	1
Malindza UTD	2	Lubhuku	0
Black Mamba	1	Bhelebane	0
Home Sweepers	1	Zamalek	0
Promising Stars	1	Sigodlo	0
Emahlokholoko	0	Liverpool	0

Shiselweni Northern Super League

Tycoons	3	White Killers	0
Black Aces	3	Sandleni	0
Power Stars	2	Blue Birds	1
Home City	1	Pieterse XI	0
Mbotjeni	1	Nkwene Sundowns	1

Shiselweni Regional Football League

Young Killers	4	Stone B	1
City Press	3	Ngwabi	0
Buffaloes	2	Uyashesha	2
Tingulube	3	Arsenal	0

Shiselweni Southern Super League

Manchester	8	Amagagasi	2
Fast XI	0	Mazomba	0
All Nations	1	NHO Wanderers	0
Makhwelela	3	Black Pirates	0
Rangers	2	Sibovu	0
Black Mashuba	3	Mahlalini	0

Shiselweni Forestry - Nhlangano Promotion

Mashobeni	3	NHO Sun	2
NHO Sun	3	Black Terrors	1

Simosakhe -Hlatikhulu Promotion

Black Killers	1	TP Mazembe	1
Magele	0	Red Swallows	0
Kwedzeni	1	Black Aces	1
Never Die	3	Pirates	0
Young Killers	4	Liverpool	1
XI Stars	3	Tinyosi	0

Golden Foot 'Tuff One' 21 km race @ Zakhele Sports Ground



OFF THEY GO: The over 1 000 athletes who competed in the Golden Foot 'Tuff One' 21km race at Zakhele Sports Ground in Manzini on Sunday.
(Pics: Lucky Simelane)



SHUKUMA: Minister of Foreign Affairs Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze and Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David Ngcamphalala among the runners.



FINAL: Manzini South MP Owen Nxumalo and Minister David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala celebrating as they approach the finishing point.



I AM THE WINNER: Golden Foot 'Tuff One' 21km race Melusi Sihlongonyane celebrates after crossing the finish line.



SUPPORT: Swaziland Beverages staff escorting their Marketing Director Sanele Khumalo (third from left) to the finishing point.



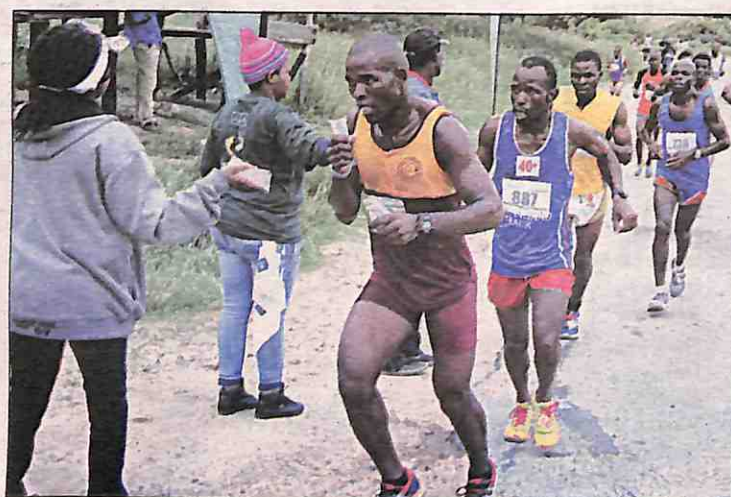
SHORT DISTANCE: Those who competed in the 10km.



STARTING POINT: Some of the runners who participated.



HAPPY PEOPLE: Runners having fun.



WATER PLEASE: Participants go past the Nedbank water station.



TUFF ONE: USDF runners taking the lead.

Golden Foot 'Tuff One' 21 km race @ Zakhele Sports Ground



ME TOO: Minister Ngcamphalala was also presented with a trophy.



SPONSOR: Tokky Sportz House Managing Director Jeff Hou receives a trophy from race organiser Tokky Hou.



TAKE: Sanele Khumalo presenting prizes to Nathi Zwane, Veli Dlamini and Ntokozo Dlamini.



MEDALISTS: Tilwane Social Club members posing after the race.



JUNIORS: Nomvula Ntshalintshali flanked by Nobuhle Mamba and Zethu Tfwala after receiving their prizes.



CORPORATE TEAM: Busi Sithole accepting the trophy on behalf of Nedbank from Hou and Sifiso Mdluli.



BIGGEST TEAM: Golden Foot Club members in jubilation after receiving their award.



PARTNERS: Swaziland Beverages Marketing Director Sanele Khumalo accepting the trophy from Hou.



WINNERS: Sifiso Mdluli presenting prizes to 10km race winners in the ladies category Nothando Mkhwanazi, Gabsile Mpanza and Sanelisiwe Simelane.



WE THANK YOU: Total Swaziland Managing Director Anthony Siebert being awarded a trophy by Hou.

OPEN HAPPINESS: Swaziland Beverages staff members displaying their medals.



THE STRIKER PUNCH POW!

...with Mphikeleli Msibi [STRIKING, STRAIGHT AND STRENGTHENED]

PLS PHOTO-FINISH LOOMING AS TITLE RACE HEATS UP

WITH only four matches left in the league, chances are high that the 2015/16 season, just like the previous one, will end in a photo-finish.

Defending champions Royal Leopard are at the summit of the log but were somehow after playing a draw with third-placed young Buffaloes over the weekend.

The four teams in the title race are Royal Leopard, Mbabane Highlanders, Young Buffaloes and Mbabane Swallows.

These teams are being separated by less than four points which makes the race more interesting as tension begins to mount following the weekend games.

The big question that now remains is, who between these giants will romp to victory by collecting more of the 12 points that remain before the league winds up?

The same could be said for the tail-end, where Malanti Chiefs, Bad Boys, Sea Birds and Red Lions remained fighting it out, while Manzini Wanderers are plunged to fifth-from-bottom position.

Royal Leopard's never-say-die attitude and fighting spirit saw them force a hard-fought draw against Buffaloes and this demon-



strated their intentions to defend the title.

Led by the home grown coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane, 'Ingwemabalala' seem to have the zeal and character to handle the pressuring that comes with the title race following the tenacity they showed against their rivals Buffaloes where they scored an equaliser in the dying minutes of the match.

Young Buffaloes also have a change of winning the silverware but need to have consistency in this

crucial stage if the season.

'Amathole Ezinyathi' failed to protect what looked like sweet victory after burly striker Phiwa Dlamini scored with a stunner at the stroke of death but they again allowed the opposition to force a draw.

Buffaloes are also capable of clinching the league title with the depth and quality in the camp but need to instil self belief and character in their players in order to withstand the pressure.

Second-placed Mbabane Highlanders can also end their 15

year league crown drought if they can motivate their squad and work on stamina and endurance which has seen them losing crucial matches against the likes of Royal Leopard, Buffaloes and recently Swallows in the SwaziBank Cup where they were let down poor level of fitness.

Joy

Coach Meck Mwaye needs to try and work on his player's staying power if he wants bring joy to the passionate 'Black Bull' faithful.

Highlanders have already won the E300 000 first round incentive and all they need is the final push to win the crown.

Red and white glamour side Mbabane Swallows can rewrite history books by winning five trophies in one season as they are still competing in the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup and the Swazi Bank Cup. The 'Birds' seem to have a uphill mountain to climb in their remaining games as they still to face their rivals Highlanders, Royal Leopard, Green Mamba, Buffaloes and Manzini Wanderers. The Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati-led side have depth and quality to win all these games as they seem to have adopted the winning culture.

Let's wait and see!

'Birds' game plan poor

IT doesn't take a genius to realise that Mbabane Swallows' approach in the CAF Champions League second leg match against APR of Rwanda was the major let down.

This I say because one would have expected the team to be more defensive instead of being offensive. Judging from the line-up one could easily tell that the team wanted an early goal something that left the team vulnerable at the back hence they conceded two early goals and at the same time giving away their 1-0 advantage going into the match. They started with two of their strikers in Sabelo 'Skhali' Ndzinisa and Sandile Hlatjwako and it was clearly that their approach was to attack more. True, the best way of defending is to keep the ball more but we all know that Swallows does not have that quality.

Advantage

Early in the match they threw their advantage away after conceding the first goal and it is the way they approached the match on Saturday that should have everyone else in the team worried. Swallows work really hard every year to, as they put it, 'establish an identity' and qualify for such tournaments. The belief is that you rally the team around a certain philosophy and style of play. The team believes in that style, whatever it is, and can count on it. But this is not what we are seeing at the 'Beautiful Birds'. They are a power running team and that's their strength with only one striker upfront. Playing both of their strikers at the same time has always been a problem. Building one system of play, perfecting one style, is incredibly difficult. So teams focus on finding a system that works for them, practicing it, getting it to a place they believe in, and then building the team's identity around that system. That is what Swallows should be doing. I doubt if Swallows have a system. They have gotten so good on the offensive side of the football and now should put more emphasis on defending. Let's look at the game against APR. I think here they failed to defend.

The funny thing is that I'm speaking in general trends here as I did not watch the match. I think I must be quick to say that. Swallows can line up as a power run team but I think they somehow cracked against APR as we expected them to play better away. It was a learning experience and I hope they will be a better team going forward.

MY GAME

AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF SPORTS ISSUES

WITH: COMFORT JELE
comfortjelle@gmail.com



SwaziBank Cup brings the vibe again!

THE football-loving Swazi nation will be treated to another top shelf football courtesy of the 13th edition of the SwaziBank Cup - 'Sidlala kanje' which enters the quarterfinal stage as the battle for the E1 million winners' prize heats up.

Battle lines have been drawn. It will be the ground that suffers the most when rampaging police ensemble, Royal Leopard take on high-flying Mbabane Swallows in yet another interesting fixture that is set to attract hordes of football lovers to the stadium.

Fresh from watching the Mbabane derby in the tournament's last 16, it will be another scintillating moment for the football lovers, who will definitely come in droves to watch this nerve-wrecking encounter between the two most successful sides in the past decade. The most interesting part is that these two teams have already met four times in all competitions this season whereby 'Ingwemabalabala' won once compared to the 'Beautiful Birds' who won three times to claim their dominance over their opponents. The two teams already have a date in the final of the Ingwenyama Cup probably after another encounter in

the second round of the entertaining MTN league, where they are both in contention for championship. Ironically, this means the two sides will complete the season having met seven times in all competitions. However, this time it will not be a cup final but the quarter-final of the mouth-watering SwaziBank Cup. Who will really win this one? For Leopard they have to demonstrate high level of determination if they need to go past the on-form capital city giants, who will definitely be a hard nut to crack.

Experience

The Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane coached side have the experience and talent capable of matching any formidable team locally, and outside the borders but it is their tactical approach that will determine victory against Swallows. Much against their record of 2013/14 season where they won four major trophies, the blue and white outfit has only managed one trophy so far this season - something which is a great cause of concern for the team's faithful. Can they really succumb, to let slip yet another chance

of winning silverware? Swallows, who are obviously buoyed by their 1-0 victory over traditional rivals, Mbabane Highlanders in the last 16, is not expected to take any chances against the police ensemble. Unlike their opponents, the Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati charges already have two trophies in their cabinet so far this season and they are determined to win every silverware available as the team's CEO Sibusiso Manana would usually say. After crashing out from the CAF Champions League, Swallows will now shift their focus to domestic competitions, and of course,

this quarter-final match will provide them with an acid test. In as much as the Birds have given Leopard a run for their money in the previous

encounters, it is worth noting that this game will remain just unpredictable as it is usually the case. Like their opponents, Swallows have the experience and talent that can stand the test of time against any team, and Leopard will have to dig deeper to their reserves if they want to eliminate this mean-looking Swallows team. Can Swallows continue with their dominance over the police side even this time around?

Only time will tell! As the razzmatazz of the SwaziBank Cup continues to captivate the nation, another interesting fixture will be the



one pitting armed forces sides, Green Mamba and Young Buffaloes who both need it the most. For both teams' set of players no one needs to remind them about the significance of this game hence, it will take some extraordinary determination for any of the teams to win.

Champions

Green Mamba, the two times champions, possesses a lot of danger when it comes to knock-out and they will definitely come firing from all cylinders to give their opponents no chance.

History has it that the correctional services side has been twice beaten in the semi-final of knock-out competitions this season - Castle Premier Challenge and Ingwenyama Cup. And any defeat against the marauding army side will point to a gloom season for the team as they are even struggling in the MTN League. Buffaloes on the other hand, are set to give Green Mamba tough time, if their form in the MTN league is anything to go by.

The rest of the fixture will see Red Lions take on Sea Birds in Manzini mini-derby while 2008 champions, Malanti Chiefs have a date with the only remaining national first division side, Tambuti F.C to complete the scintillating quarterfinal fixture.

After all has been said and done, let the spirit of fairplay prevail in all aspects as we continue to enjoy the SwaziBank Cup. Let the games begin...*Sidlala Kanje!*

'Koki' bitter after APR defeat

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCKER - Mbabane Swallows head coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati declined to comment on their CAF Champions League exit at the hands of Rwandan side APR, but alleged that he was focusing on their clash against Green Mamba tonight.

'Birds' take on Green Mamba in the MTN Premier league this evening at 6:30pm and Vilakati said the focus had shifted from CAF and they were eyeing victory

against the Correctional Services side.

"We have been engaged in back to back games, but we are fully focused on tonight's clash against Green Mamba. It is an important that we win tonight and the players are geared up for the task ahead," he said.

Vilakati arrogantly denied commenting on their loss against APR.

Meanwhile, Armee Patriotique Rwandaise coach Emmanuel Rubona hailed his players after a resounding 4-1 win over Mbabane Swallows in the CAF Champions League preliminary

round second leg clash on Saturday at Kigali Regional Stadium.

According to reports from Rwandan newspaper, The New Times; Central defender Abdul Rwatubyaye netted a historic hat-trick while midfielder Patrick Sibomana scored another goal as the Rwandan league champions overturned a 1-0 deficit from the first leg to precede to the next round with a 4-2 goal aggregate.

After winning the first international match in charge of the Military side, Rubona said, "The team is looking better. We are happy to win the game and quali-

fy for the next round; my ambition is to continue winning and giving confidence to my players."

"We have to look forward for the next game against Young Africans, but now we are going to continue to prepare for the national league. I like the way the team is playing but obviously there is room for improvement," added Rubona.

Mbabane Swallows consolation goal was scored in the 26th minute by Sanele Mkheweli after his shot was deflected by Emery Bayisenge.

Green Mamba set to unveil SA stars against 'Birds'

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER - CORRECTIONAL

Services side Green Mamba are set to unveil their South African stars in Bhuti Khoza and Phetego Maebela when they visit Mbabane Swallows in a crunch MTN Premier League match slated for Somhlolo National Stadium tonight.

The players will be ready for selection after the team sorted necessary paperwork ahead of the tricky clash.

Green Mamba Chief Executive Officer Thame Phakathi confirmed that their two international players might make their debut tonight.

"The two players will be ready for selection depending whether the technical bench wants to use them for the match, otherwise everything has been sorted concerning their registration.

We will also welcome back our fullback Lawrence 'Tsiki' Mncina, who has been on the sideline with an ankle injury. All the players are geared up for the match except for Musa Dlamini, who is still out nursing a collar bone injury," he said.

The Herbert Maruwa-led side will be looking to improve their log standings as they are currently sitting on position seven with 19 points.

They will be up against the wounded capital city giants, who are fresh from a CAF Champions League exit at the hands of APR from Rwanda on Saturday where they lost 2-4 on aggregate.



POSING: Siphosiphile Dlamini, MRFA Chairman Peter 'Samora' Simelane, Save Mor MD Lincoln Motsa, Kwaluseni MP Mkhosi Dlamini, Bucopho Frans Dlamini, Wickeal Magongo and Njabu Mabuza posing for a group photo during the launch of the Save Mor E15 000 knockout tournament at Kwaluseni yesterday. (Pic: Sabelo Majola)

E15 000 Save Mor knockout sponsorship for Kwaluseni

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCKER - SAVE MOR has pumped in E15 000 to sponsor the Kwaluseni Promotion League knockout tournament.

The deal was launched yesterday at Save Mor shopping complex in Kwaluseni.

Kwaluseni Promotion League and Super League teams will take part in the tournament.

Speaking during the launch, Kwaluseni Member of Parliament Mkhosi Dlamini encouraged teams to support the sponsor's business.

He also pleaded with teams

to make the games a violence-free tournament.

"We encourage teams to have the sponsor's logo when playing in the tournament.

"We also plead with referees to maintain a high level of professionalism so that we avoid any scenarios that could lead to violence," he said.

Manzini Regional Football Association Chairman Peter 'Samora' Simelane said it was the teams' good behaviour that had landed them the sponsorship.

He said teams should thrive to maintain good conduct to keep the sponsor.

"Soccer helps keep the

youth active hence avoiding bad behavior like drug abuse, crime and unbecoming sexual behaviour that could lead to HIV. We hope teams will support the sponsor while also protecting it," he said.

Save Mor Managing Director Lincoln Motsa expressed his desire to plough back to the community that supported his business and to see the sport growing.

"Besides being a sport and keeping one healthy, soccer is a profession and people are making a living out of the game. It is my desire to see the sport growing and I am proud to be associated with the sport in the community," he said.

Simelane said they would leave the Manzini Post Office at 6:30am and return immediately after the game on Saturday.

"We have decided to leave early so that we can visit some places of interest before the game. It is important that football lovers make their bookings early because reservations are important to avoid disappointments as we are going to collect money upon boarding the bus," he added. Interested fans should contact Simelane on 76983068.

Wanderers apologise for SwaziBank Cup mayhem

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER - HUB giants Manzini Wanderers have since apologised to the entire local football fraternity following the SwaziBank Cup mayhem.

Speaking during a press briefing held on Saturday night at the Royal Swazi Sun, 'Weslians' boss Bheki Shongwe strongly condemned the unsporting behaviour by their supporters, who caused the abandonment of their SwaziBank Cup last 16 tie against Malanti Chiefs about two weeks ago at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

"We would like to apologise to the National Football Association of Swaziland, Premier League of Swaziland, SwaziBank and the entire Swazi nation following the incident involving our supporters. We will cooperate with the DC and also seek guidance from the PLS on how we can avoid such occurrences in future," he said.

The former Kaizer Chiefs Managing Director further said they would try and strengthen their internal security as a team to try and curb violence incidences during their games.

"We will be engaging our internal structures and discuss ways on how we can control our supporters. We have also launched our own investigations to try and find out what really transpired on that night. We urge all our supporters to try and control their temper during games because violence tarnishes the image of the team," Shongwe said.

Commended

On another note, Shongwe has commended the good work done by their current technical bench led by Anthony Mdluli.

Shongwe said the trio of Anthony Mdluli, Velekhaya Mtsefwa and Clement Mdluli was so far doing a commendable job in reviving the hub giants.

"I am happy with the progress made by the three coaches since they took charge of the team. Even though I am not always able to watch the games, the results are telling a better story that the team is improving. We will continue giving them all the necessary support in order to achieve our goal of securing a respectable position in the league at the end of the season," he said.

Shongwe further called for unity and harmony among the entire Manzini Wanderers family, saying it could change the team's fortunes.

"It is important for all Wanderers stakeholders to join hands in reviving the team so that we can reclaim our glory days."



APOLOGIES: 'Weslians' boss Bheki Shongwe.

E300 for Nedbank Cup Soweto derby trip

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCKER - FANS wishing to go and watch the Nedbank Cup last 32 involving Soweto giants Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates Saturday will have to pay E380.

This amount includes transport fee and match ticket.

This was revealed by trip organizer Njabulo Simelane, who said tickets were still available at Shoprite stores countrywide.

"We have seen an inflation on the match ticket prices in the past few months, especially the games involving the top three South African teams. Tickets have been costing around E40 to watch the Soweto derby but they have since increased by 100%, now valued

at E80. However, this Nedbank tie promises to be a cracker as both teams are still without a trophy so far this season with the NedBank Cup being the only hope for silverware. This being a knockout comes with a possibility of having the game decided on penalties, something that has become a norm these days, but whatever way, we are going to have losers," he said.

Swallows not worried about fatigue

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - DESPITE arriving in the country yesterday following their exit in the CAF Champions League at the hands of Rwandan side APR, Mbabane Swallows will be playing Green Mamba this evening in the MTN Premier League at Somhlolo and they are not worried about fatigue.

Swallows CEO Sibusiso Manana said they were ready for tonight's clash with the green and white ensemble and invited fans to come in their numbers to rally behind the boys.

"We are ready for the match and invite our supporters to rally behind the team tonight as this is a crucial game that we must win. We are challenging for the title and cannot afford to drop any points at this stage of the campaign," he said.

Entrance fee will be E20.

Manana said they had a full strength squad and all the players were looking forward to tonight's match.

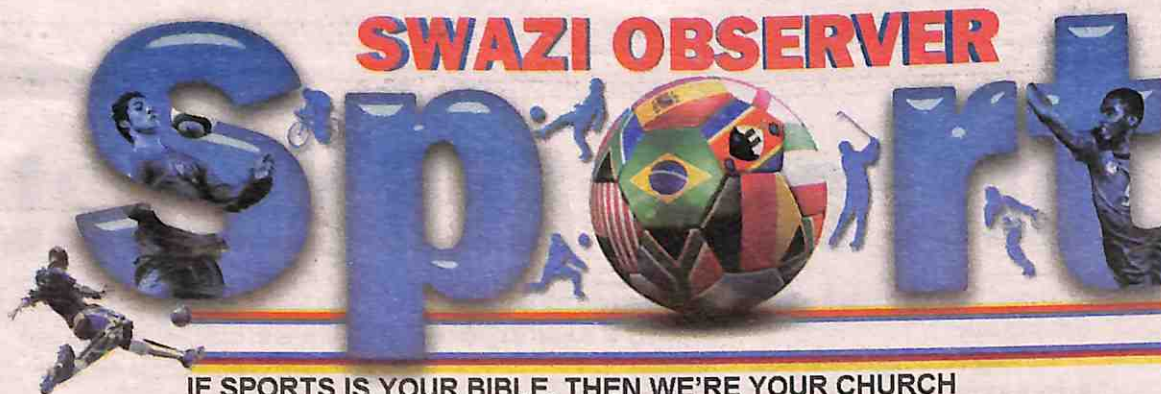
Available

"We have all the players available for selection including Tony 'TT' Tsabedze, who has been training with the team after recovering from an injury. We are determined to continue making our fans happy until the end of the season as we are still in the running for three trophies," he added.

Swallows are fourth on the log with 31 points, five points behind defending champions and log leaders Royal Leopard. The team could not defend their 1-0 home lead in the CAF Champions League against APR in Kigali where they lost 4-1.

Swallows' lone goal came through Sanele Mkhweli.

The team arrived in the country early yesterday morning and had a couple of hours to prepare for the match this evening. Meanwhile, Green Mamba CEO Thami Phakathi said they were also ready for the match. "We have been preparing hard for this match and all the players except for Musa Dlamini will be ready for selection." The match will start at 6:30pm Somhlolo National Stadium.



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Tuesday March 1, 2016



'LANDERS REMOVE SPONSOR'S LOGO

- Team replaces company logo with puma on their kit
- Team reportedly unhappy with monthly subvention from the company
- Deal believed to be worth E200 000 runs until the end of the season

EZIMNYAMA
NGENKANI

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - THE marriage between Mbabane Highlanders and Steffanuti Stocks is on the rocks after the capital city giants removed the company's logo on the front of their kit and placed it on the sleeves.

The new development was first observed two weeks ago when the capital city giants played rivals Mbabane Swallows during the SwaziBank Cup round of 16 tie at the Somhlolo National Stadium where they appeared on brand new black puma kit.

Source

A reliable source within the 'Black Bull' camp asserted that the elders were unhappy with the monthly subvention from the company hence the removal of the logo from the front.

He said they felt the money was far less than what the company was making from the deal. "The team feels they are not getting what they deserve in the



NO LOGO: Mbabane Highlanders players celebrating a goal.

deal since the two parties came to partnership about four months ago. The superiors felt the deal should be revised because they are not satisfied with the current package from the sponsor," said the source.

The source said the team had a high monthly wage bill amounting to over E90 000 a month yet the company was giving them far less compared to their

expenses despite the mileage they were getting from their huge fan base.

Sought for comment, Highlanders Chief Executive Officer Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini refereed all questions to Managing Director Bheki 'Rubber' Simelane.

Sponsorship

"All sponsorship issues are dealt with by the MD's office

and, therefore I cannot commit myself on the matter until I get a briefing from my superiors," he politely said.

He said he was aware that something was going on between the two parties.

"The MD is the right person to talk to on, this matter is concerned."

Efforts

Efforts to get Simelane were futile as his cell phone was unavailable when tried several times yesterday as he was reportedly locked in a meeting.

Steffanuti Stocks Swaziland Director Shaun White.

White could also not be drawn for comment as he was reportedly out of the office when contacted.

The company's official identified as Welile said they were still in partnership with Highlanders but refused to elaborate.

The deal launched earlier this season is reportedly in the region of E200 000 and is expected to run until the end of the current campaign.

Sidlala Kanje!



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