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INGWENYAMA CUP COMPETITION AT BUHLENI



THROW A LEG: Ingadla group from Elangeni showcasing spectacular performance which led them to the top position at Buhleni during the culture competition on Sunday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu) **MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 28**

MBHOKANE'S SON WANTS TO TAKE OVER RADIO PROGRAMMES

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FROM SWEETS VENDOR TO PROUD KOMBI OWNER

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FORMER PUPIL CHARGED FOR SOLDIER'S MURDER

STORY ON PAGE 3

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6 NATIONAL NEWS

Man in jail for dagga, damaging police property

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Magistrate's Court

A suspect did the unthinkable at Ngwenya Border Post when he damaged a door of the police cell worth E4 500 after he was found in possession of dagga.

Delisa Bhembe (36) of Mankayane appeared before Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane and was charged with two counts. One was of contravening Section 7 of the Opium and Habit Forming Drug Act 37 of 1982 (as read with Section 8 (1) of the same Act). On January 24, 2016, Bhembe was found to be in possession of dagga weighing 610 grammes at or near Ngwenya Border Gate.

The other count was that of malicious damage to property.

On the same date in the same area, Bhembe damaged the door of the police holding cell of the Ngwenya Police Post.

Superintendent Sithembile Dlamini, when giving evidence in



CRIME SCENE: Ngwenya Border Post.

...Bhembe was found to be in possession of dagga weighing 610 grammes at or near Ngwenya Border Gate

SNIP

court, said they suspected that Bhembe was carrying dagga because they smelt the herb.

She said when he approached them as police, on his way out of the country, they smelt the dagga thus called him to the police guard house that is situated at the gate.

Dlamini related that she told Bhembe to take off a T-shirt he

was wearing when the incident happened.

When Bhembe did this, they found that he had wrapped his upper body with a salotape which had concealed

dagga.

He was then taken to the police holding cells where he was detained. Dlamini, however, told the court that it was not easy to put Bhembe behind the holding cells as he would resist and further shouted at them.

However, the police managed to put him in the cells. But this, according to Dlamini, did not stop Bhembe from causing unrest to people at the border gate.

Bhembe is said to have been hammering the door of the holding cells with an iron rod he found in the cells.

He is said to have even threatened the police. The police did not have a car to transport Bhembe to the Mbabane Police Station, so they had to keep him in the police holding cells at the Ngwenya police post.

'I banged the door to be allowed to go to the toilet'

DELISA Bhembe, a suspect who was nabbed for dagga possession at Ngwenya Border Gate said he banged the door at the police holding cells because he wanted to be allowed access to the toilet.

Bhembe told the court that he had been nabbed for being found in possession of dagga at the Ngwenya Border Gate on his way to South Africa. He said he allowed Superintendent Dlamini to search him after suspecting him to be carrying dagga, which was subsequently found to be wrapped on his upper body with sellotape. Bhembe said his detention papers were processed and was asked how many teeth he had.

He said he was not sure how many teeth he had because he had already lost some.

He related to the court that the officer then left him because she felt he did not want to talk to her, so she had to get people he would be comfortable to talk to.

He said the female officer came back with two male police officers.

One of the policemen, according to Bhembe, made him open his mouth, while the female police officer said Bhembe was disrespecting her. "When I asked them to let me go to the toilet, they refused and instead they locked me up. Inside the cell, I took an iron rod and banged the door to get their attention," Bhembe said.

He said that was when a male police officer came to him. He asked him to allow him to go to the toilet, but he refused.

He said he continued to bang the door until they came back to him and handcuffed him. Bhembe told the court that the police then told him that a car to take him to Mbabane Police Station was coming and he should stop banging the door. He

said he was handed to another police officer, who heavily assaulted.

Bhembe was granted bail fixed at E2 000 on condition he availed himself in court whenever ordered to do so. He was also told not to commit a similar offence while out on bail.



Pupils threaten suicide as results are nullified

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

PARENTS who attacked three senior officials from the ministry of education and training at Patmos Primary allegedly raised concerns that their children are now planning to commit suicide as their results were nullified.

The parents are said to have mentioned that since the reports of the results being withheld were communicated, their children started behaving strangely and others even attempted to take their own lives.

According to a reliable source, the parents, who held the three education ministry officials at ransom, demanded to know how they would deal with the situation if their children could be stressed following the developments with their situation.

The officials, who were taken aback by all this, had no answers to the angry parents but

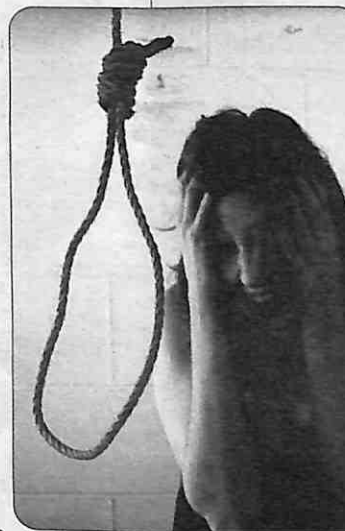
explained that this issue was beyond their jurisdiction.

"There was tension as the parents made it clear that they were not going to let the officials leave without giving satisfactory explanation.

The parents said the affected children were no longer eating and some showed symptoms of stress. The predicament has also led to some of the children being suicidal and the parents have to monitor the move-

ments of their children," said a bystander, who witnessed the drama unfolding. The parents are said to have only allowed the officials to leave after it was agreed that they should write their concerns to the REO.

Meanwhile, Hosea Inkhundla MP Thulani Masuku said he was not aware of the drama that saw angry parents holding education officials hostage at



NOT AWARE: Hosea Inkhundla MP Thulani Masuku.

the school.

"If this is what happened then it's quite unfortunate.

"However, since now it has been decided that the pupils should repeat, I urge the parties concerned to move forward and see to it that the future of these children is not destroyed," said Masuku.



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2 NATIONAL NEWS



CITED: Former CTA General Transport Manager Polycarp Dlamini.

Fraudster Polycarp lied – Court told

FORMER CTA General Transport Manager (GTM) Polycarp Dlamini told lies under oath, therefore, his evidence should be thrown out the window, it has been submitted.

It was alleged that Dlamini's evidence was contradictory during trial and prior to the trial he had told lies before a commission of inquiry that had been set up to look into operations of the parastatal.

Guilt

Dlamini had initially been co-charged with the rest of the accused, but entered a guilty plea and was turned into a state witness and testified against Mphumelelo Mamba, Director of Protronics Networking Corporation and Industrial Court Judge President Sifiso Nsibande.

It was submitted that Dlamini admitted that he had told lies before the commission of inquiry. The accused submitted that his evidence was not trustworthy and unreliable.

Inquiry

"The evidence of Polycarp Dlamini is untrustworthy and should be rejected by the court. He was not a credible witness because he was an accomplice witness who was convicted of same charges faced by the accused.

At the time he gave evidence, he had not yet been sentenced by the court," lawyer Luke Simelane said.

Simelane represented Mphumelelo Mamba in the case. He further submitted that Dlamini's evidence was not trustworthy because he lied under oath before the commission of inquiry.

Lawyer Nkosinathi Manzini, who represented Sandile Dlamini and Protronics Networking Corporation in the matter, submitted that Polycarp's evidence was contradictory. He also said he had told lies during the commission of inquiry, even though he told the truth before the High Court.

The summary of the charges

Fraud/theft

The accused allegedly submitted an invoice of E216 000 to the treasury department claiming that the Protronics Networking Corporation had rendered services to the Central Transport Administration when they knew that such was not true.

They allegedly submitted an invoice of E306 000 to the treasury department claiming the Protronics Networking Corporation had rendered services to the Central Transport Administration when they knew that such was not true.

Fraud

The accused allegedly misrepresented to Engen, Total and Caltex that the CTA was indebted to Protronics Networking Corporation in the sum of E2 772 000 when the company had not been hired by the Public Enterprise Unit, CTA or the three oil companies.

Fraud

The accused allegedly committed fraud in that they submitted invoices which purported that Protronics Networking Corporation had carried out vehicle assessment condition analysis and evaluation of motor vehicles yet the exercise was not done.

Fraud

The accused allegedly committed fraud when they submitted three invoices to government and claimed to have rendered three phases of development, implementation and roll out of a financial reporting system knowing very well that such was not done and caused E11.08 million loss to government.

Money laundering Fraud

It is alleged that Protronics Networking Corporation committed fraud in respect of a loan it received from the Swaziland Development Finance Corporation (FINCORP).

Stories by Linda Jele
High Court

SUSPENDED Industrial Court Judge President Sifiso Nsibande, former CTA employee Mphumelelo Mamba and businessman Sandile Dlamini want to be acquitted and discharged of the over E11 million fraud, theft, corruption and money laundering charges.

The suspects, at the close of the crown's case, have filed an application seeking an order declaring that they are acquitted and discharged because the crown failed to prove that they committed the said offences.

Also co-charged was Protronics Networking Corporation, a company that rendered services at the Central Transport Administration (CTA) where upon fraudulent activities allegedly took place.

Evidence

The suspects had initially been co-charged with former CTA General Transport Manager (GTM) Polycarp Dlamini who moved a guilty plea and was convicted and sentenced. They pleaded not guilty to the charges.

They have applied that High Court acting Judge Phillip Levinsohn should invoke Section 174 (4) of the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act. The Act provides that, "if at the close of the case of the prosecution the court considers that there is no evidence that the accused committed the offence charged or any other offence charged or any other offence on which he might be committed

CTA E11 MILLION CASE:

JUDGE PRESIDENT, SANDILE, MPUMELELO WANT ACQUITTAL

...they say the state has failed to submit concrete evidence warranting conviction

thereon, it may acquit and discharge him." The accused have punched holes in the crown's case and submitted that there was nothing in the evidence warranting a reasonable person to call them to defend themselves and be convicted.

They were charged with 20 counts in that they submitted invoices to the treasury department claiming payment for services alleged to have been rendered by Protronics Networking Corporation when such had never been done.

Lies

They are alleged to have claimed that the company upgraded fuel management devices on government vehicles and downloaded data into computers.

They claimed that the evidence of the key witness, Polycarp, never strengthened the crown's case. They submitted that the former general transport manager admitted that he had told lies before a commission of inquiry relating to Protronics Networking Corporation's involvement.

Lawyer Nkosinathi Manzini, representing Sandile Dlamini and Protronics Networking Corporation, submitted that Polycarp's evidence was contradictory. He said Polycarp had submitted that he devised a scheme to siphon funds from government by producing invoices through Protronics Networking Services. Manzini said Polycarp claimed money from government alleging

that the company which had been awarded a tender had rendered services when it did not. He said the former CTA boss stated in his evidence in chief that Protronics Networking Corporation did render some services at CTA which included upgrading FM devices for fuel management.

He said some expert witnesses also confirmed that there were problems in the devices which the company attended to and deserved to be paid. He said the evidence by Polycarp, Director of Transtech Engine Roach and Adriaan Barnard confirmed that the system had problems and it was not disputed that Protronics Networking Corporation rendered services. He said the problem could have been the number of vehicles the company claimed to have attended to.

Lawyer Luke Simelane, who represented Mamba in the case, submitted that a number of crucial witnesses were never brought in to give evidence. He said these included Liquid Automation Systems, Roy Vilakati who allegedly installed and maintained the fuel management system and CTA employee Mandla Shongwe whose responsibility was to download the data.

"In the circumstances the crown has failed to prove that the professional services were not rendered by Protronics Networking Corporation. The defence case that was put to the crown witnesses created so many doubts on the crown's case," it was submitted.

What terrible food – Speaker wonders

By Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

SPEAKER in the House of Assembly Themba Msibi says he is not party to the discriminatory decision that saw government civilian staff being fed with poorly rated food while police and soldiers enjoyed a five-star treatment in parliament.

Msibi did not only disassociate himself from the manner in which the government employees were catered for, but wondered how and why such a matter would be an issue in the first place.

According to him, this was an internal matter that had to be treated as such.

Speaker Msibi was responding to reports carried last week by this publication that some civil servants were surprised to witness the level of discrimination that was brazenly displayed during the preparations of the State Opening of Parliament.

Msibi said the matter could have been best addressed by the Clerk to Parliament, Nduna Dlamini, who is an overall administrator within the



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT: Speaker in the House of Assembly Themba Msibi.

institution of parliament.

The team that was preparing for the opening of parliament was served in two points but the menu was not the same. The civil servants were given white rice and beef stew which they washed down with prepared juice while members of the security forces enjoyed a mouth watering buffet in a separate room that had a variety of dishes.

The security officers were also given a variety of cold drinks. Members of the catering team dis-

tanced themselves from the arrangement, stating that they were given clear instructions by parliamentary authorities to separate the government employees in the manner they did and serve them a different menu.

The food was provided and paid for by parliament. Some casual employees had been engaged to help the catering staff to efficiently provide the service to the hundreds of people preparing for the official opening of parliament.

The preparations are reportedly at an advanced stage. Various groups that are tasked to carryout specified assignments recently delivered their reports to the Parliamentary Service Board, giving the committee assurance that it was all systems go with regard to the preparations.

Senate President Gelane Zwane announced that the official opening of parliament would be on February 12, 2016. A marquee that would host the event has already been put up by a team of experts in the erecting of marquees. About 1 000 people are expected to fill up the marquee after His Majesty the King has delivered his Speech from Throne.

FORM 3 PUPIL IN COURT FOR SOLDIER'S MURDER

...youth invades homestead, threaten another suspects, saved by cops

COVER STORY

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

IN a matter that has torn Ludzibini umphakatsi apart, a Form 3 pupil who is accused of killing a soldier at Ndlalambi has made his first court appearance before Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini.

The senior magistrate remanded the accused back into custody and informed him that he must come back for his remand hearing on February 8, 2016.

The accused, who was clad in school trousers, was told that if he wanted to make bail application, he must approach the High Court.

Death

The pupil couldn't understand what he was told as he requested once again that he be admitted to bail, but the magistrate told him that unfortunately he cannot do that.

Dlamini asked the accused if he was



KILLED: Bongani Tsabedze

aware of the charges that he was facing. The suspect stated that he knew very well what he was charged with.

According to the charge sheet brought to court, the 20-year-old pupil was charged with murder in that last Thursday while at Ndlalambi area he stabbed Bongani Tsabedze with a sharp object all over the body

resulting to his death.

Information gathered by this publication is that it is not the first time a member of the Ludzibini Umphakatsi had been arrested for murder.

One of the culprits, Nganono Dlamini, who was involved in the bloody fight that led to the death of the Nsingizini barracks soldier was out of jail after he was found guilty by Principal Judge Stanley Maphalala in 2013 for burning to death Obadia Hlophe, who is a resident of the same area on December 5, 2003.

According to documents from the High Court of Swaziland, Nganono in the company of 12 others, accused Hlophe of witchcraft hence they wanted him to show them his muti and the pot which he uses for it.

It is said that Hlophe (the deceased) was taken to a spot where he alleged that he was going to point out his muti. Along the way he was assaulted with sticks. Hlophe was then taken to a spot where he was burnt using car tyres and paraffin. Information gathered is that Hlophe's lower body was burnt to ashes. Nganono is still in hospital where he is currently recovering.

Youth march to suspect's homestead

ONE of the boys allegedly involved in the fight who was taken by police for questioning and later released, infuriated the youth of the area, who decided to march to his place of residence and demanded answers he was let off the hook that easily.

A source close to the matter stated that police intervened by taking the boy back to custody. It is said the youth did not understand why only

one person was arrested for murder while the deceased was assaulted by a crowd.

The community members stated that they feel like the justice system was failing them.

"The problem with the boys from Ludzibini umphakatsi is that they are a law unto themselves and they know that if they are arrested someone will bail them out," said a community member, who preferred anonymity.

An act by Free Evangelical Church of going to umphakatsi first and later going to the deceased's homestead did not go down well with members of the Tsabedze family, who felt like they are the ones who have suffered a great loss.

The deceased soldier, according to elders of the area, will be laid to rest on Saturday. Information gathered is that the witness to the matter is now living in fear for his life.

KaZakhali rape suspect teacher pushes for bail

By Linda Jele
High Court

THE office of the director of public prosecutions (DPP) has sided with High Court Judge Titus Mlangeni on the reasons he denied Zimbabwe rape suspect bail.

Principal Crown Counsel Phila Dlamini had called upon the full bench of the Supreme Court to turn down KaZakhali Primary School teacher Mathias Moyo's bail appeal.

Charge

Moyo was arrested and charged with raping a 15-year-old pupil sometime in October 2015 and his application for bail was dismissed by High Court Judge Titus Mlangeni on the basis that the Zimbabwean did not have strong ties in the country and might evade trial.

He filed an appeal before acting Supreme Court Judges Stanley Maphalala, Mbutfo Mamba and

Nkululeko Hlophe and instructed lawyer Sifiso Jele from Mabila Attorneys.

Jele submitted that the High Court made an error in denying Moyo bail because there were exceptional circumstances warranting him to regain his liberty.

Trial

He said a number of cases had been decided by courts where it was decided that the denial of guilt was in itself an exceptional circumstance.

Dlamini said the High Court did not err in dismissing Moyo's bail application because there was likelihood that he would not stand trial.

He said the court rightly considered the likelihood that Moyo might decide to forfeit his bail deposit.

He also said the court also considered the means Moyo had at his disposal to flee the country. He also said the court considered the strength of the case against Moyo and the inducement to evade trial.

"The respondent further submits that the applicant was not denied bail because he was a foreigner.

"Instead, the court a quo took into account that he has no long term investment in the country and the seriousness of the offence. It also took into account the sentence that may be imposed in the event the appellant is found guilty.

"The court a quo felt that these factors might induce the appellant to attempt to evade trial," Dlamini said.

Jele submitted that the High Court failed to take into account that Moyo had been in the country for the past 10 years and had his child and fiancée in the country. He said the constitution stipulated that Moyo had a right to personal liberty.

He also submitted that Moyo was a sickly person and the conditions in the correctional facilities were not proper for a person of his nature.

Judgment was reserved in the matter.

Mbhokane's son wants to take over Inhlonipho and Nasi ke Siswati

By Gugu Simelane
Lozitha



LIKE FATHER LIKE SON: Sibusiso 'Skavuya' Gama son of the late Jim Gama wants to host his father radio programmes.

A son to the late famous traditionalist and Ludzidzini Governor Jim Gama wants to follow in his father's steps and take over some radio programmes that were hosted by his father, including the commonly known as 'Inhlonipho and Nasi ke Siswati', which were aired on SBIS 1.

Sibusiso 'Skavuya' Gama (30), a soldier by profession, wants to be given a chance to continue where his father left.

He said he was not interested in money as he was employed, but only wanted to impart his vast knowledge of the Swazi culture and traditions to fellow Swazis. Jim Gama hosted three programmes at SBIS namely, Inhlonipho, nasi ke SiSwati and he co-hosted with Bongani 'S'gokosiyancinca' Dlamini on the much loved 'Khala Mdumbadumbane' programme.

Inhlonipho and Nasi ke Siswati were traditional and cultural oriented programmes, teaching listeners on the traditional and cultural way of living.

Gama's son said he had a lot to give since he spent most of his time with his father thus grasped almost quite a lot.

Gama lamented that ever since his father passed on, no one had taken over the two programmes yet he believed they were of benefit to young people as well as the older generation.

"I spent a lot of time with my father while he was alive. At some point I used to be his driver and while chauffeuring him around, he would tell me a lot of traditional and cultural things that I think can help Swazis. He

was resourceful and made a major impact in my life," said Gama.

"I just wish to be given the opportunity to pass on the great information that I inherited from my father. Our culture is vast and rich and I will be greatly honoured to continue with his legacy," he said. Gama further clarified that he was not expecting to be given the programme as the late Jim Gama's son, but wished to be given a chance to prove himself.

'S'gokosiyancinca' Dlamini who was co-host with Jim advised Skavuya to go to SBIS and find out if the station wants to revive the programmes then request for auditioning. "It is not about being the son of the late, but he should have that unique character," said Dlamini. Swaziland Broadcasting and Information Services Director Martin Dlamini said they had not yet received any request from Gama. He advised Gama to visit their offices to state his case.

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Step in the Right direction



TOUR: Journalists from local media houses touring the Swaziland Beverages last Friday. They were taken through the various departments of the company plant and interacted with different department leaders. (Pics: Lucky Simelane).

MEDIA HOUSES TOUR SWAZILAND BEVERAGES

By Lucky Simelane

SWAZILAND Beverages took a group of journalists on a media tour last Friday.

The tour was attended by scribes from different media houses in Swaziland including the Swazi Observer, Times of Swaziland, Swazi

TV, Channel Swazi, Swaziland Broadcasting Information Services (SBIS) and The Nation Magazine.

Objective

Speaking shortly before the team dispersed for the tour, Swaziland Beverages Director of Corporate Affairs Mpumelelo Makhubu said the objective of the tour was to familiarise

the press with the company's plant operations and for them to also to get know the scribes.

The media delegation incorporated editors, reporters and news producers. They were taken through the various departments of the company plant and interacted with different department leaders.



LISTEN: Brew Manager Mbuso Dlamini (in red T-shirt) talking to Swazi TV's Nkosinathi Dlamini and Lofana Mavuso.



ON TOP: Dlamini giving more information to the scribes.



READY FOR DISTRIBUTION: One of the company's products Imvelo traditional beer on display.



IT'S SIMPLE: Dlamini lecturing the journalists on the operation of his department.



FEEL IT: Swazi Observer Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbongo posing next to one of the company's brands as it was still being processed.



IT LOOKS LIKE THIS: The company's plant.



PROCEDURE: Swaziland Beverages Director of Corporate Affairs Mpumelelo Makhubu flanked by Swazi Observer Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbongo and acting Editor Alec Lushaba.



(Far left) **OPERATIONS:** The journalist at one of the company's work station.

POINT NUMBER ONE: Traditional Production Manager Ntsiki Kota briefing the journalist about her department.

A CONVERSATION WITH 'KUTSU':

By Thembeke Dlamini
Mbikwakhe

WELL known sweet vendor Velaphi 'Kutsu' Ngwenya (46) of Mpompotha scoffs at the idea of anybody working and earning anything below E2 000 per month.

"I am at times able to make that much a day and I don't understand how one is expected to live on E1 000 per month," he said talking about a defunct filling station where the workers used to be paid about E1 000 per month.

"I was shocked to hear that those girls were earning that much," Ngwenya said in an uppity kind of way.

He was found at Mhlaleni on Sunday evening where he had started the conversation by revealing that he had been accosted by a young man who was in the company of his girlfriend.

Safe

"You know *sisi*, this place is not safe," he said addressing this reporter before narrating how the young man rudely asked for a loan of E200.

"I told the man that I did not have the money and he threatened to take it from me, forcefully," he said as he looked around.

A few minutes later, transport to Mbikwakhe arrived

SWEET VENDOR, NOW PROUD KOMBI OWNER



MORE MONEY: Informal trader Velaphi 'Kutsu' Ngwenya said he did not understand how one could work the whole month and only earn about E1 000 labelling such as exploitation since he was able to make about that amount in a day. (Pic: Thembeke Dlamini)

and after boarding, he started on the conversation concerning the downfall of the petrol garage owner.

Business

"Some people don't know how to run a business," he

said to the driver of the vehicle after pleasantries had been exchanged and it turned out that they were from the same area. When he touched on the minimum wage, he was asked how much he

made a month, "*Hha sofuna kungikhuthuza?* (you want to pick pocket me now)," he said dismissively, but relented that he was at

times able to make E2 000.

"I recently bought a kombi which services the Manzini-Mananga route. I have also hired a driver who works well for me," he said.

Pocket

Posing for his picture to be taken, he then started counting his day's takings from a bag he retrieved from his pocket.

Palming a few E200 notes, he got angry each time he was disturbed in his counting because he said that caused him to forget how much he had.

"I have four children," he offered when asked about his personal life and then clammed up when asked whether he had a wife or a girlfriend.

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...THE SWEET DEAL 'KUTSU' GAVE PASSENGERS

'KUTSU' said he started his small business empire selling sweets in buses.

His modus operandi has been noted several times and it involves boarding a long distance bus and handing out sweets to the passengers from the door to

the end of the bus.

Often times, the passengers take the sweets with gratitude with the assumption that they were getting them for free.

Return

On return from the back, Kutsu would then ask for

money and collect anything from E1 to E5 worth a fraction of sweets eaten.

Forcefulness

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6 NATIONAL NEWS

I NEVER BOYCOTTED PSB MEETINGS - SPEAKER

By Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

SPEAKER in the House of Assembly Themba Msibi insists that he has never boycotted meetings of the Parliamentary Service Board, or any parliamentary meeting for that matter. In an interview yesterday, Msibi wondered where the reports that he was boycotting parliamentary meetings emanated from.

He viewed such reports as nothing but desperate attempts to drag his name in the mud. Msibi wondered if the other members of the PSB were monitored if they attended all the meetings and, in the event either of them did not attend, were there any reports to the effect that the member has boycotted.

He failed to understand why the media was quick to pick on him and allege that he was boycotting meetings in which he was a member.

The only logical conclusion he could make was that there was a negative agenda that was being pursued against him by the media. It was reported that Msibi was not attending meetings of the PSB after he questioned the authority of Senate Deputy President Ngom'yayona Gamedze for chairing the meetings.

Ndvuna Dlamini, the Clerk of



ADAMANT: Speaker in the House of Assembly Themba Msibi.

Parliament, was also drawn into the leadership squabble taking place in parliament when his authority and right to summon meetings of the PSB was questioned.

Both Msibi and Senate President Gelane Zwane wrote a memorandum to Dlamini informing him to immediately desist from calling meetings of the PSB which continues with the preparations for opening of parliament.

The arm-twisting and power struggle for the control of the parliament led to

the intervention by the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini who quickly gazetted the PSB members. The Clerk to Parliament, in terms of the gazette, would be secretary and ex-officio member of the PSB.

Deputy Speaker in the House of Assembly Esther Dlamini and Deputy Senate President Ngom'yayona Gamedze were appointed as alternate chairpersons.

Decision

This swift decision by the prime minister was viewed to have played a major role in giving leadership direction in parliament. The preparations for the official of parliament are reportedly at an advanced stage.

Various groups that are tasked to carry out specified assignments delivered their reports to the Parliamentary Service Board, giving the committee assurance that it was all systems go with regard to the preparations.

Senate President Gelane Zwane announced that the official opening of parliament would be on February 12, 2016.

A marquee that would host the event has already been put up by a team of experts in the erecting of marquees.

About 1 000 people are expected to fill up the marquee after His Majesty the King has delivered his Speech from Throne.

Sydney Williams reported to REO over treatment of pupil

Stories by Thembeke
Dlamini
Manzini

A Sydney Williams pupil who, according to his end of the year report card, passed Grade Six and proceeded to the next class when schools opened last week, got a shock of his life when he was told to return to Grade Six by a teacher as the week progressed.

Relating the disturbing occurrence, a source close to the matter related how the child was said to have been excited about proceeding to Grade Seven after his report indicated an aggregate of more than 60% only to be traumatised by the recall to the grade he thought he had completed.

The parent to the child reportedly made means to go to the school yesterday morning to find out more about the matter, and on failing to get it resolved amicably, proceeded to the Regional Education Officer (REO) in Manzini. The matter is said to have been reported with the report card left as evidence, that the child had been deemed fit to proceed to the next class.

When REO Mlimi Mamba was called yesterday afternoon, a woman stated that he was in a meeting and would only be able to attend to questions later.

When she was asked to confirm whether a parent had approached the offices concerning a child who was being turned back a grade, she said the parent was asked to return to their offices in the morning.

"Bayahlupha nalabatali labagijimela emaphapheni," she said angrily, accusing the parents of the child of using the media to sort out their issues.

When she was told that the parent had not approached the publication, she wanted to know how the story reached the *Swazi Observer*. "Manje niyati ngani nine lendzaba," she asked in a demanding manner.

The school, through Principal Thami Dlamini, vehemently denied that the child had been turned back.

"All I know is that the child is in Grade Seven and what you are telling me is strange because it did not occur," he said.

Of note is that the principal was called on the school landline in the morning several time and he was said to be away and the deputy, who was allegedly aware of the matter, was said to be too far to respond to the telephone call. "Please give me your number so that I can get him to call you back," the secretary to the school said when the deputy was sought for comment.

Maguga man asked how he copes without a wife

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A 40-year-old man of Maguga has been arrested for being found in possession of dagga weighing 10kg.

Sikhumbuzo Gumedze appeared before Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini yesterday. He pleaded guilty to possessing the banned substance without a permit.

The magistrate asked the accused if he had any family so that he could consider it before passing sentence. Gumedze stated that he had a wife but she left him in 2014.

Dlamini asked the accused how he manages without a wife, stating that the



problem with people who do not have spouses was that they ended up taking other people's wives.

Gumedze stated that he was still on the market searching for the right part-

ner. The magistrate wondered if for the past three years the accused has been scouting for companionship, to which Gumedze responded by saying "solo ngiyasoma your worship" which is loosely translated to "I'm still seeking courtship your worship."

Gumedze was then admitted to bail of E2 000 and told to come back for his remand next week Monday.

He was not the only one who appeared in court for the possession of dagga as another culprit Mathokoza Mdluli (29) of Zandondo was also nabbed with dagga weighing 8 kg at Mzaceni area yesterday.

He was sentenced to two years imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.

SCHOOL PARTS WAYS WITH POETRY TEACHER 'BLACKNOTE'

SYDNEY Williams Primary School has parted ways with poet and teacher Bonisile 'Blacknote' Nxumalo due to lack of finances.

Stating that they are unable to continue paying her a deserved salary, the school has asked parents to pay her directly for the drama and speech lessons she offered to the school.

It will now cost E300 per child per term to get the lessons which were previously part of the syllabus offered by the school but have now become optional.

In the communiqué dated January 28, the school revealed that they had been offering drama and speech lessons for the last nine years and had been paying the teacher's salary.

"Unfortunately because of the school's financial status and the

teacher's high qualifications, we are unable to retain her.

It is for this reason that we have decided to outsource Miss Nxumalo," the letter read.

Explained

Further, it explained that the parents would have to pay her directly if they wished their children to develop their talent, confidence, articulation, team spirit and creative writing.

"The cost for speech and drama lessons is E300 payable at the beginning of every school term," the letter read.

Clarification on the number of children affected by the outsourcing was not forthcoming from Principal Thami Dlamini as he said he only communicated with parents and they were aware of the situation.

NEWS EXTRA

Older men giving young girls HIV - study

GENEVA - Young schoolgirls in South Africa are contracting HIV from older men, a study released yesterday reveals.

The study also urges males to undergo circumcision, which cuts their chances of contracting the virus by 60%.

With 400 000 new infections every

year, South Africa is still the country with the highest incidence of HIV in the world, and the statistics for youth contracting the virus are shocking.

According to HIV management organisation Careworks, more than 2 300 girls between the ages of 15 and 24 will contract HIV every single week.

"Statistics for boys in this category are equally chilling, but research shows that the incidence of new HIV infections among young females is more than four times higher than that of their male counterparts," the group said in a statement yesterday.

The risk is particularly great for high school learners because they are

more likely to engage in risky sexual behaviour, such as unprotected sex, says Marina Rifkin, a Public Health Specialist at CareWorks.

"Sexually active young women are particularly vulnerable as they often engage in sexual relationships with older men. Research conducted by the Centre for the AIDS Programme Research in SA (CAPRISA) shows a trend of girls contracting HIV from older men.

"The study found that both girls

and boys on completion of Grade Seven remained HIV-negative.

However, by the time they finished Grade 12 about seven to 10% of girls were HIV-positive, yet most of the boys remained HIV-negative. This is because the girls were having sex with older men who were likely to already have been infected by the HIV virus.

"Preventing HIV infection in this age group is a pre-requisite for achieving an AIDS-free generation and attaining epidemic control," says Rifkin. *News24*



600 attend prayer at Mbangweni Umphakatsi

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlalango

ABOUT 600 people attended the Mbangweni Umphakatsi prayer service held on Sunday.

The service, organised by the leaders of local churches, was to thank and appreciate God for having ushered the community into 2016.

It was also meant to acknowledge and give thanks for last year's achievement and success. This was the second time such service was organised at the Umphakatsi as even last year it was held around the same time.

Churches

Pastors from all existing churches in the area form a committee recognised by the elders. They are behind the prayer service which takes place two times a year, at the beginning of each year and towards the end.

Pastor Andreas Dlamini, who is one of the organisers of the service, said all went well and they were so much blessed.

He said the close to 600 crowd included other people from far away churches who came to worship at the Umphakatsi.

"It was a successful prayer service as pastors from all denominations shared the pulpit and we

were again entertained with gospel music," said Pastor Dlamini.

He said there were specified areas that they concentrated the prayers on. Among these was to pray and request God to assist the Mbangweni community in terms of development. "There were many areas we focused on and different pastors were tasked to pray for a certain issue.

The challenges faced by the community were one of the areas we focused on.

We also prayed for the country in general including the drought situation which has caused havoc countrywide," said Pastor Dlamini.

He further stated that as this was the first prayer service for 2016 the second one would be held towards the end of the year.

"The arrangement is that when the year begins we stage the prayer service meant to thank God and also ask Him to keep us safe as the year progresses.

We are planning to stage a second service around August which is to thank God for the things we would have achieved. This has become an annual service and we were staging it for the second time," said Pastor Dlamini.

He thanked the elders of Mbangweni for allowing them to hold the service at the Umphakatsi.

"We are grateful to the leadership of the area for affording us this opportunity. This is an indication that we have leaders who fear the Lord.

These prayers are for a purpose and there is no doubt that all the areas that were touched during the service will yield positive results. There is nothing better than seeking God's guidance whenever there are challenges," he said.

The pastor in conclusion said they were saddened by

the absence of the office of the regional administrator, saying as organisers they had invited it.

He said they kept the office updated on how the preparations were progressing and even alerted it about the date well in advance.

Disappointed

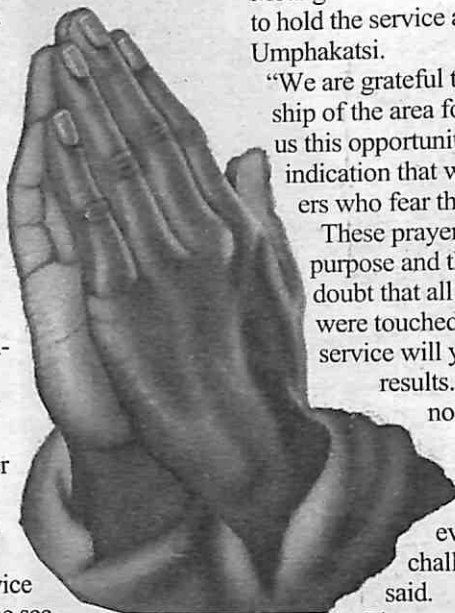
"We were disappointed that the office of RA did not show up despite that we kept them updated about the service from the onset of the preparations.

As to why they shunned such an important gathering we don't know or it could be that they were too occupied to be part of it.

At least they should have sent a representative because we had included them in the programme. It was very disappointing," said Pastor Dlamini.

On the other hand, Shiselweni RA Themba Masuku said he was not aware of the service because he did not even get an invitation from the organisers. "Maybe they were communicating with someone else, not me.

I always record when there are assignments needing my attention and if I don't make it, I delegate. With this issue, I know nothing about it," said Masuku.



STOP IT: Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe.

Stop factionalism, Mugabe warns ZANU-PF officials

HARARE - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has warned ruling ZANU-PF party officials fanning factionalism to desist from doing so or risk facing the boot, the state-owned Herald newspaper reports.

Mugabe said this soon after his arrival from Ethiopia where he attended the African Union's 26th ordinary summit.

Mugabe told ZANU-PF supporters no-one should undermine the party's leadership elected at a congress held in 2014.

ZANU-PF has been infested by factional battles, as several individuals and groups position themselves to take over from Mugabe, turning 92 on February 21, should anything happen to him while he is still in office.

Reports indicate that a faction known as Generation 40 (G40), believed to be led by Higher Education Minister Jonathan Moyo, is pushing for Grace Mugabe to succeed her husband. The group, reports say, wants to block Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa who has long been tipped as the heir apparent to Mugabe.

Mugabe's remarks came just days after presidential spokesperson George Charamba warned that the nonagenarian would be wielding the axe to those engaging in succession battles.

"The president is not a character who rushes. He will allow you a very long rope. You go about enjoying meaningless headlines and thinking you are on top of the world, it will take just one afternoon.

"So watch it, there are many sinister minds that speak in the name of the president, who are in fact 'secessionists' and it won't be long before the headlines give you the story," Charamba was quoted saying at the time.

News24

SD gets recognition for Malaria fight

By Eddie Abner
Mbabane

SWAZILAND has been honoured for commitment and excellence in the fight against Malaria by the African Leaders Malaria Alliance – the coalition of African Heads of States working to eradicate the disease by 2030.

This was during the African Union (AU) summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini was representing His Majesty King Mswati III on Saturday.

The country was honoured together with 12 other countries.

Swaziland will be awarded for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) target for eradicating Malaria.

The country was recently named as the first to eliminate malaria in the region.

Other countries awarded included Botswana, Cape Verde, Eritrea, Namibia, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe and South Africa.

Swaziland's honour was for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) target for malaria; Comoros, Guinea and Mali for being the Most Improved in Malaria Control, between 2011 and 2015; and Liberia, Rwanda and Senegal for good performance in malaria control between 2011 and 2015.

Africa has achieved historic progress in the fight against Malaria over the past 15 years.

Since 2000, the Malaria mortality rate has fallen by 66 percent among all age groups and by 71 percent among children under five. Annual Malaria deaths in Africa have also decreased from an estimated 764 000 in 2000 to 395 000 in 2015.

Approximately 663 million cases of malaria have been averted in sub-Saharan Africa over the last 14 years and according to the World Health Organisation, reductions in malaria cases attributable to Malaria control activi-

ties saved an estimated \$900 million in case management costs from 2001 to 2014.

Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn of Ethiopia, the current chair of ALMA, was quoted as saying for the first time in history, a Malaria-free Africa is in sight.

"The success in these 13 countries and elsewhere across the continent demonstrates that strong leadership is our most powerful weapon against this ancient and deadly disease."

According to ALMA, commitments from donors such as the Global Fund

to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the United States' President's Malaria Initiative, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, and France's multilateral and bilateral contributions, have been instrumental.

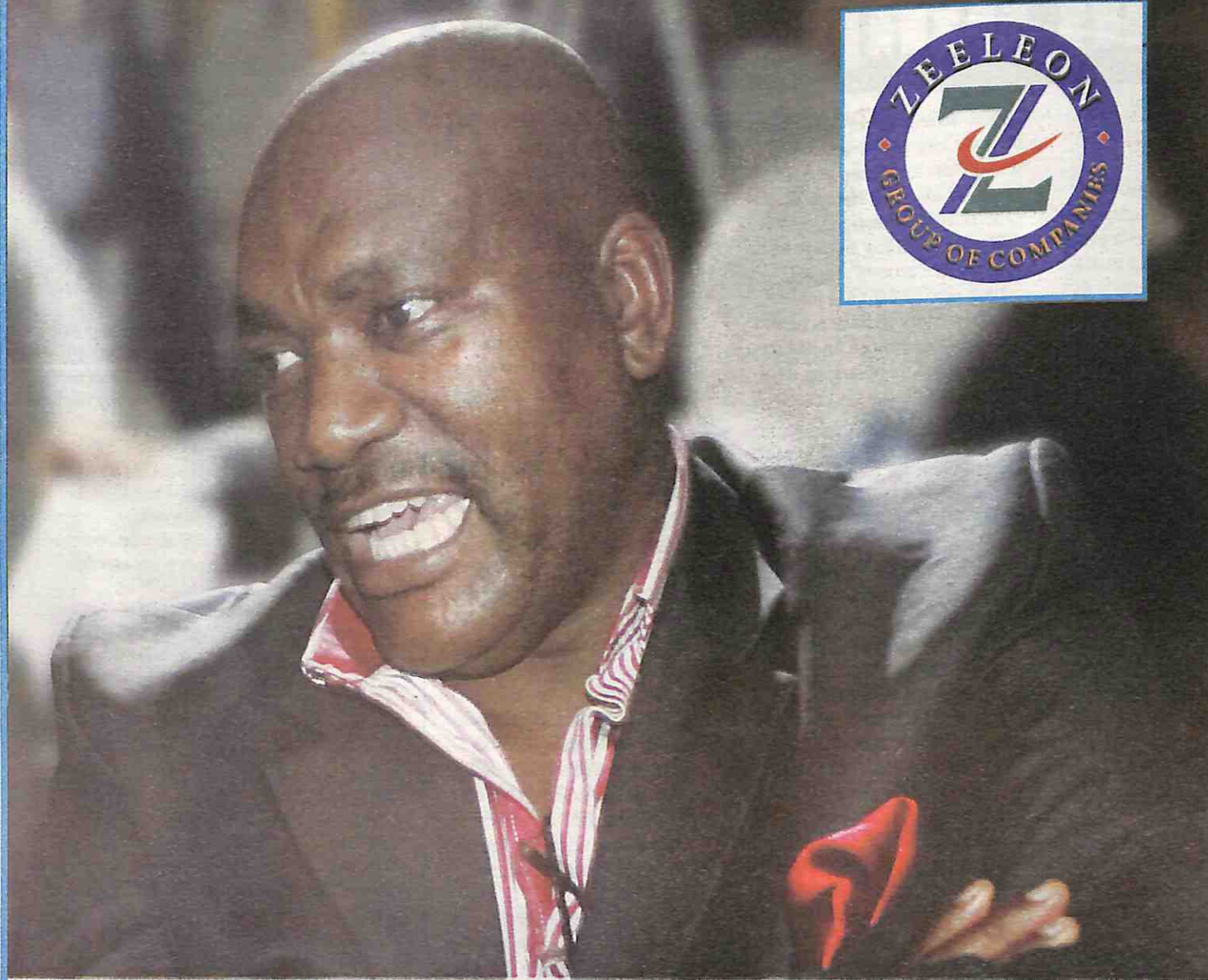


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Association of Christian Schools International

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The Board of Directors, Management and staff of Zeeleon Group of Companies would like to congratulate Mr Sthofeni Ginindza for his reappointment as Chairman of the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) Board of Directors. We hope he will strive to promote good corporate governance and contribute to the development of the entire economy

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Video on saving water goes viral

JOHANNESBURG - On the flip side, a video of a man bathing and using about two litres of water has been circulating on social networking site Facebook and WhatsApp.

The video has had several comments concerning how to maximise the little water people are able to put in containers for the dry days.

Internet site WikiHow also has a guide on how to bath with just a bucket full of water.

How to Take a Bucket Bath

Knowing how to take a bucket bath is a useful skill, particularly if you're travelling in a remote area or trying to conserve resources. By following a systematic approach, you can get clean using just a few gallons of water. If you want to know how to take a bucket bath, follow these tips.

Steps

1. Fill a bucket with clean, warm water. If you don't have access to warm water, first fill a kettle and bring it to a boil. Pour the hot water into the bucket and add cool water until you reach a desirable temperature.



2. Dip a cup in the bucket and pour the water over your head, allowing it to run over your body. Use only enough water to completely wet your legs and torso. If you're rinsing off a lot of dirt, be careful not to foul the clean water. Otherwise, stand over the bucket to catch water for reuse.



3. Lather your hair with shampoo. Dip your cup in the bucket. Bend at the waist so your head is directly over the bucket and dump the water in the cup over your hair. Repeat the process until your hair is completely wet, re-collecting as much water as possible in the bucket. Shampoo as you would normally, but do not rinse.

4. Scrub your body with soap and a damp washcloth. Many outdoor enthusiasts say a rigorous scrubbing can warm you up while it cleans you off. Wash from the head down.



Do not wash over the bucket. You want to keep the water in the bucket clean for rinsing off.

5. Rinse off from head to toe. Let gravity play a role in the process. Pour a cup of water over your head, washing away as much shampoo as possible. Concentrate on forcing the water over as much of your body as possible. Repeat rinsing until you're completely clean.

6. Discard dirty or soapy water but use any leftover clean water to rinse out dirty clothes.

Sourced <http://www.wikihow.com/Take-a-Bucket-Bath>

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BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL DON'T GET LEFT BEHIND.

Govt continues to distribute water tanks to schools

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE ministry of education and training continued to distribute water tanks in schools affected by drought on Saturday.

When schools opened last week the ministry distributed about 53 water tanks but fell short before covering all the schools that require these.

Of all the 40 schools that are affected by drought government needed about 87 more water tanks in total to be distributed to them.

These water tanks cost government E435 000. Each school is to receive two water tanks which will cater for pupils drinking and flushing of toilets.

Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Training Pat Muir said they cannot afford to buy mobile toilets as it would be too costly for the government.



PLAN B: The two water tanks provided by the ministry of education and training at Mbabane Central High School due to the shortage of water.

According to the Rapid Assessment Report conducted by the ministry of education and training through the education sector emergency response cluster members supplying 202 mobile toilets for the Mbabane school would cost the government a staggering E3 416 800 since each mobile toilet cost E16 900.

Schools that have not received any water tanks have been advised to expect the delivery anytime soon.

"The ministry has already embarked on delivering the water tanks, I know for sure that on Saturday the delivery process started and Mbabane Central High School was one of them," said Muir.

Rape cases now to be tried at High Court

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

RAPE cases with aggravating circumstances will now only be tried at the High Court.

This is because there is a rising number of cases of rape that are reported in the country.

The office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) feels the High Court is the right place where these offences could be tried as they have the power to deliver stiffer sentences to the perpetrators.

DPP Nkosinathi Maseko said the aggravating circumstances included rape of a child below 12 years, rape of a survivor by her biological father, where the survivor is an elderly or disabled person, rape by more than one offender (gang rape), multiple rapes such as where the survivor is repeatedly raped in one episode.

For example, when kidnapped and repeatedly raped during a night, where the survivor is man-

ifestly pregnant, rape of a child involving abuse of authority like rape by a guardian, school teacher, pastor and any other person of authority.

Other aggravating circumstances included an incident where there is admissible expert evidence that the survivor has suffered severe emotional or psychological trauma, rape involving the infliction of grievous bodily harm (GBH) and serial rape.

Maseko also promised that his office would be available to advise in the event the senior crown prosecutors received a docket with aggravating circumstances.

These are only the circumstances which the prosecutors might be of the view that they should be tried at the High Court yet they were never listed above.

"You are also reminded that in terms of the Magistrate's Court Act, it is only the principal magistrate that has the jurisdiction to preside over rape cases," read the statement.

GOVERNMENT TO PAY FOR REPEATING OVC

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

ORPHANED and vulnerable children (OVC) whose results were nullified in the Swaziland Primary Certificate (SPC) exams can heave a sigh of relief after government agreed to continue paying their fees for the 2016 academic year.

Ministry of Education and Training Principal Secretary Pat Muir confirmed that government would pay school fees for the OVC who would repeat Standard Five after they were among the children affected by malpractice.

"The law permits that we pay fees for the OVC who didn't make it in that particular year. However, we only pay for that individual once," he said.

The schools whose results were nullified for suspected malpractice in 2015 included Sebenta Mbukwane Primary, Ezindwendweni Primary, Patmos Primary, Ndzevane Primary and Dzanyane Primary.

This means all the pupils from these schools will be forced to repeat the class in 2016.

There were also five primary schools that were cleared from malpractice and these included Mgululu, Annadale, Mabamba, St Michael's and Mizpah.

There were two secondary schools which were cleared of malpractice in Sikanye and Qomintaba.

On the other hand, there were eight primary and four secondary centres that were found to have breached the regulations of conducting examinations by committing malpractice or maladministration.

Their results were released but penalties

were effected in the subjects in which malpractice was committed.

The primary schools were KaSiko, Dwalile, Kwaluseni Infant, Jack Hersov, Elubhaceni,

Machobeni, Mafusini and Sebenta Mlindazwe whereas the high schools were Nkhamba, Zamani, Nkonjwa and Maphilingo.

Malkerns reserves larger part of land for farming

By Thembeke Dlamini
Malkerns

MALKERNS farm buyers who hope to turn the land into townships should know there are strict zoning criteria in place as not every land can be turned into residential because much of it has been reserved for farming.

Malkerns Town Board Clerk Melusi Hlanze said agricultural enterprises would remain a priority despite the recent urbanisation while townships were restricted within 500 metres of the two tarred roads which cut through the valley.

The town came into being mainly as a result of the processing plant, Swaziland Fruit Canners operated by Rhodes Food Group.

He said this to allay fears of current owners of farming concerns who have stated how they were wary of urbanisation of the farming community seeing as it would negatively affect the food production of the country.

"Residential areas in the form of townships have been restricted to the area from SwaziCan towards the Luyengo direction and restricted to the area enclosed by the

Sundowners-Luyengo Road and the Mahlanya-Luyengo Roads," he said, adding that additional areas were those beyond the roads but restricted to 500 metres.

He said it was for this reason that consideration had been made with farms rated differently from residential as well as business areas.

He noted that there were several interested buyers who wanted to develop the area and tap into the lucrative business of township development.

"There will always be people selling as well as buyers and we have not noted any increase in sales due to people deserting the area due to rates.

But we have heightened interest with people seeking to buy farms and though we will not discourage them, they should know that the town plan restricts such to certain areas," he said further reiterating that Malkerns would remain a farming community.

To date, the only township which is recognised as such is Jacaranda which comprises 10 residential areas while the rest was classified as farms, crown land and government properties.

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Swaziland Environment Authority

10 NATIONAL NEWS

Herefords man faces dagga possession, two other charges

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A 26-year-old man has been arrested for breaking down a security door at Horo Police Post holding cells and escaping from lawful custody.

Nhlanhla Ndwandwe of Herefords was arrested on December 17, 2015, after he was found with dagga weighing 10 kilograms near Mbhasheni. He had no licence to carry the herb. After the arrest, the accused was then taken to Horo Police Post where he awaited his court appearance. However, Ndwandwe broke down the security door which was locked

using a padlock, bolting out under the watch of Inspector Methula. Police tracked him down and he was finally apprehended. Ndwandwe appeared before Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini who slapped him with three charges which included dagga possession without a licence, damaging a security door and a padlock worth E150 at Horo Police Post and escaping from lawful custody. Ndwandwe conducted his own defence and pleaded guilty to the charges. Dlamini then remanded the accused back into police custody until next week Monday where he would appear for his next remand hearing.



BACK IN JAIL: Nhlanhla Ndwandwe was taken back into police custody until next week Monday where he would appear for his next remand hearing.

Dagga man vandalises police property, gets 3 years in jail

Storie by Mbono Mdluli
Magistrate's Court

A man who was arrested for being found in possession of dagga and damaging police property was sentenced to three years in a correctional institution or alternatively, pay a fine of E6 000 for both offences.

Delisa Bhembe was arrested and charged with two counts. One was that of contravening Section 7 of the Opium and Habit Forming Drug Act 37 of 1982 (as read with Section 8 (1) of the same act).

On January 24, 2016, Bhembe was found to be in possession of dagga weighing 610 grammes at or near Ngwenya Border Post.

The other count was that of malicious injury to property. On the same day in the same area, Bhembe damaged the door of the police holding cells of the Ngwenya Police Post, which is valued at E4 500. He is said to have been doing this with an intention to damage the property of government.

On count one, Bhembe was sentenced to two years in the correctional institution, if he failed to pay a fine

of E4 000.

On the second count, he was sentenced to 12 months in the same institution, if he failed to pay a fine of E2 000.

Yesterday, Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane, who was presiding over the case, concluded the trial of the man from Mankayane.

The crown submitted before the magistrate that Bhembe should be given a stiffer sentence in order to send a message to would-be criminals not to commit a similar offence.

The crown had paraded only one witness, Detective Constable Zandile Mkhonta to prove that indeed Bhembe had committed the crimes.

In her judgment, Simelane was of the view that the Crown's single witness was enough to prove that Bhembe had committed the crimes.

"It is the court's view that the evidence of the evidence of the single crown witness was credible and trustworthy," Simelane said.

She pointed out that the evidence of the Crown witness was not challenged by the accused (Bhembe) in any way and as a result, it remained intact.

She said the fact that the accused did not question the state witness meant that the very act of not doing

that associated himself with all the offences for which he was charged. That was why the court found him guilty as charged.

Bhembe, when given a chance to mitigate, stated that he was apologetic to the court for his conduct from the time he was arrested up until the sentence was handed down.

"I apologise for my conduct and for the

offence I have committed. I have two minor children at home, with one doing Grade One, while the other one is in Form One.

I was trying to smuggle dagga to South Africa to boost my hawking business. I was helped by my cousin to wrap the dagga around my body with the sellotape," Bhembe said.

...Delisa Bhembe was found to be in possession of dagga weighing 610 grammes at or near Ngwenya Border Post. The other count was that of malicious injury to property.

SNIP

'Kombi drivers, conductors a hot-headed lot'

THE courtroom at the Mbabane Magistrate's Court was thrown into rapturous of laughter yesterday when one kombi driver told Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane that all kombi drivers and conductors, except for him, were hot-headed and abusive.

*Muzi Sengwayo was responding to the magistrate's question on why they were so abusive to the members of the public on the road.

Simelane said she was once subjected to such kind of abuse coming from kombi conductors and drivers.

"When you fork out a E50 note in the morning to a kombi conductor, he shouts at you as if you have committed a very serious crime yet you are giving money to this person in order to be paid at the end of the month and you say we should come with money in smaller amounts.

Where do you think we can get those smaller notes or coins at night?" Simelane said.

She said she now preferred buses compared to kombis.

In response, Sengwayo said it was true that public transport operators were very unruly, but he was quick to point out that people were different and so was their



TROUBLE: Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane has noted that kombi drivers and conductors are a hot-headed lot.

upbringing. He also submitted before the magistrate that the people one worked with had an impact in a way one behaved at work.

"Not all of us are that way. I take care of my customers and even if you can ask them Your Worship, they will tell you that I take care of them. I was once a conductor myself and I know how it is like to do that kind of work.

Sometimes it can be tiresome because other customers can be very problematic to us," Sengwayo said.

He had appeared before Simelane and he was charged with driving a kombi that was deemed to be unroadworthy because it had a defective handbrake. As a result, he was charged with contravening Section 50 (1) of the Road Traffic Act No. 6

of 2007 (as read with Section 122 (4) of the same act).

The particulars of the motor vehicle will not be revealed to protect his identity.

The same goes for the owner of the vehicle and the place where he was nabbed by the police for driving this unroadworthy vehicle. They will also not be revealed.

Sengwayo was sentenced to a period of five months imprisonment or an option of E500. Simelane suggested that Sengwayo should tell the owner of the motor vehicle to pay the fine because it was his responsibility to make sure that it was always in good condition. In response, Sengwayo said such a thing would be difficult for him because even the owners of the public vehicles were hot-headed and abusive to them.



PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: PROPOSED WOODLANDS II DEVELOPMENT
PORTION 1036 OF FARM 188, MBABANE

A public notice is hereby published in terms of section 52 of the Environmental Management Act, 2002. Swaziland National Housing Board has prepared an Environmental Impact Assessment report and formulated a Comprehensive Mitigation Plan for Woodlands Township Extension II on Portion 1036 of Farm 188 in Mbabane.

The purpose of the study was to identify environmental impacts that are likely to emerge as a result of the proposed development so that measures are taken to mitigate negative environmental impacts and enhance positive ones. Copies of these reports are available in the following places:

1. Swaziland Environment Authority offices- RHUS Office Park, Mbabane.
2. Mbabane National Library.
3. Matsapha Town Council.
4. Municipal Council of Mbabane.
5. UNISWA Mbabane Campus.
6. Southern African Nazarene University.
7. Mbabane West Inkhundla Centre.
8. Ngwenya Town Board

Interested and Affected parties are requested to submit comments and /or objections as per the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations, 2000. Written submissions should be directed to the Director, Swaziland Environment Authority, P. O. Box 2602, Mbabane.
Fax: 2404 1719

The deadline for submission of comments is 9th March 2016.

*20 days from last week of publication of notice.

TUCOSWA wants teachers, support staff united

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

The 12 demands are listed as follows:

1. The revocation of 'major' for public enterprises
2. The release of salary review report for the public sector workers
3. The release of the free primary education report
4. The end of exploitation of workers in the textile sector
5. A national minimum wage of E3 000 per month
6. That domestic workers be beneficiaries in the SNPF
7. Increased quality labour inspections in the workplaces
8. Payment of severance allowance on retirement
9. The immediate registration of ATUSWA
10. Requirements for labour compliance certificates for public contracts
11. Government must meet all the AGOA benchmarks
12. Declaration of TB as an occupational health disease

THE Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) is contemplating bringing all workers under learning institutions under one union.

If this comes to fruition, teachers and support staff in all primary and high schools may end up under one union.

The plans of bringing teachers and support staff together transpired during the federation's branch meeting held at Siteki on Saturday.

The meeting, which was said to be a build-up to the proposed workers' protest late this month, was also attended by the federation's President Quinton Dlamini.

Branch Secretary Musa Sifundza reported that the local branch was of the idea that these workers should be brought together as they were working under the same conditions.

Sifundza said bringing

these workers together may also help in addressing their issues in unity. He stated that, however, this would most likely be once the support staff has been included in government's payroll. He said the federation would therefore, have to work on negotiating with government to take over and provide salaries for schools' support staff.

Sifundza's sentiment was also echoed by the federation's president who stated that every worker in the country should be a member

of a union.

He pointed out that even the self-employed should have their union where they would have their issues discussed.

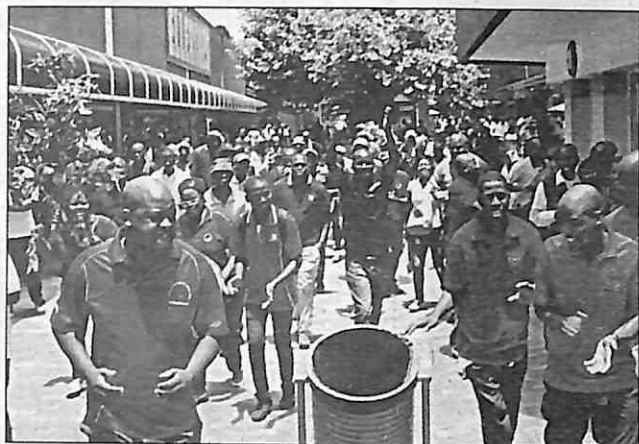
Dlamini stated that bringing all workers together was the main aim of the federation so that their labour issues could be easily addressed.

Meanwhile, the president also affirmed that all unions which affiliate to the federation would be downing tools and engaging in a protest action to last for two days.

This will be between February 25 to 26, 2016. The workers will be submitting 12 demands to government.

Amongst their demands, the workers call for government to release the salary review report for the public sector workers. They also demand that government releases the free primary education report.

The federation is currently conducting regional workshops where union leaders are being motivated ahead of the protest action which is said to be one of the biggest.



SWEEPING THROUGH: TUCOSWA members marching through the Swazi Plaza recently.

Pupil arrested for stealing 90 logs

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A 17-year-old pupil has been arrested for stealing 90 logs valued at E8 900 from the lawful custody of Samson Shiba.

The accused Muzi* was arrested with 'his partner in crime' Vusi Mavuso (24) of Malanda.

Muzi, who is a Grade Six pupil in one of the primary schools in Pigg's Peak, was represented by his father in court.

The two appeared before Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini where they were charged with theft. Mavuso applied for bail which Dlamini granted and it was fixed at E4 450 under the conditions that he does not interfere with witnesses and he is to appear in court when



YOUR WORSHIP: Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini.

ever required to do so. Due to the fact that Muzi is still attending school, he was released to his father's custody.

When his father was asked if he should be given the chance to have his son released to his custody he

stated that it would be better that way. He even told the court that should he fail to present the accused to court when requested by the magistrate, the law should take its course.

Muzi was then released to his father's custody under the same conditions given to Mavuso.

Meanwhile in the same court, a 'dagga dealer' was arrested for the possession of four kilograms of dagga.

Nhlanhla Nkambule (42) told the court that he was a drug pusher who buys dagga and sells it at Emalaynini, an area near Driekopies.

However, he told the court that it was the last time he was involved in such an activity.

The magistrate sentenced the accused to 20 months imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.

Magistrate issues 10 warrants of arrest

By Mbono Mdluli
Magistrate's court

IT seems as if the police will have a torrid time arresting suspects who failed to heed summons to appear before the Mbabane Magistrate's Court when they were ordered to do so.

A number of suspects had warrants of arrest issued against them after they failed to show up in court yesterday.

The warrants were issued by Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane after the suspects contravened the Road

Traffic Act of 2007.

One of the suspects against whom a warrant was issued is Sikhumbuzo Magagula (38) of Maphalaleni. He was

charged with three counts of contravening Section 90 (as read with Section 122 (7)) of the Road

Traffic Act No. 6 of 2007. On January 15, 2016, he wrongfully, unlawfully and inconsiderately drove a BMW sedan which side-swiped with an Audi driven by Mdzabuko Shabangu (37) of Golf Course.

He did this at or near Sifundzani High School in Mbabane.

On the second count, he was charged with contravening Section 16 (1) of the Road Traffic Act No 6 of 2007. He drove the said motor vehicle on D10 public

road while it was unlicensed. On count three, Magagula contravened Section 50 (1) of the Road Traffic Act No 6 of 2007.

He drove the said vehicle while it was unroadworthy.



Other suspects include:

• **Mohamed Sameer Cassin** (29) of Matsapha. He is charged for contravening Section 27 (2) of the Road Transportation Act 5 of 2007.

He was driving a Mitsubishi truck registered ASD 331 BH on MR 3 public without a permit. He was nabbed at Ngwenya on January 14, 2016.

• **Jabulani Absalom Makhubu** (50) of Matsapha. He was charged for contravening Section 68 (1) of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007.

He parked a vehicle on a roadway on January 11, 2016 at Ngwenya. The vehicle is an Isuzu L.D.V registered KSD 864 BH.

• **Sikolethu Dlamini** (28) of

Extension 3. He was charged for contravening Section 71 (1) of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007. He was using a cellphone while driving an Audi sedan registered ISD 090 AH. He did this at Ngwenya. This was on January 13, 2016.

• **Sipho Mngometulu** (38) of Mpolonjeni. He contravened Section 70 (a) of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007. He failed to stop at a compulsory stop sign at Mathuneni road. This was on January 18, 2016.

• **Phumlile Patience Mhlanga** (41) of Big Bend. She contravened Section 70 (c). On January 20, 2016, Mhlanga entered a red traffic light along Dr Sishayi Road. She was driving a

Mazda sedan registered CSD 434 AS.

• **Bongani Hlanze** (33) of Mangwaneni charged for contravening Section 71 (1) of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007.

He used a cellphone without a hands-free gadget while driving a Kia sedan registered MSD 851 BH on January 14, 2016. He did this at Ngwenya.

• **Douglas Fana Dlamini** (36) of Checkers. He was charged for contravening Section 68 (1) of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007. He parked his car on a roadway while driving a Toyota sedan registered PSD 746 BH. This happened at Ngwenya on January 14, 2016.

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12 NATIONAL NEWS

65 cops have date with the courts

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

THERE are 65 police officers accused of being involved in various corrupt and or criminal practices whose matters are pending in courts.

Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) National Commissioner Isaac Magagula said he hoped that this

concern would be effectively addressed once the Police Bill was passed into law.

He said there were specific provisions pertaining to the seamless enforcement of discipline in the police service.

Dismissed

"Officers who were dismissed in the police service and feel that they were given a raw deal, are always free to have further recourse

through available appeal structures," he said.

Inquest

Meanwhile, as regards the Zavale case, the national commissioner said an inquest was currently ongoing and the necessary investigations were conducted.

"Hence it will be premature to jump the gun and apportion liability for the unfortunate incident at this stage," he said.

Magagula explained that even if the findings of the inquest pointed towards criminal liability, the matter would be forwarded to the directorate of public prosecutions to institute their own processes.

HUGE CONCERN: Royal Swaziland Police National Commissioner Isaac Magagula.



NEW TARGETS: HMCS Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase stressing a point during his meeting with Vulamasango school teachers.



Commissioner General sets new targets for Vulamasango

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

HIS Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase has set new targets for Vulamasango High School this year.

He said the school had a huge potential to do much better in 2016. The commissioner said there was a need for the academic staff to engage a much higher gear in order to help the school excel academically.

Ntshangase communicated this ambitious message to the teachers during a meeting held at the school hall.

Last year's academic records for the completing classes, Standard Five, Form Three and Form Five indicated that the school performed well with an impressive 100 percent pass, 97.5 percent and 87.75, respectively.

The school boasts an academic staff complement of 57 teachers

responsible for a current enrolment of 396 pupils.

Ntshangase, a teacher by profession, thanked the teachers for the effort they put towards improving the schools' academic results, but without hiding the fact that he was yet not satisfied with the quality of the results.

"I want the school to perform exceptionally well this time with most learners recording high quality grades in the completing classes.

Preparing

Don't waste time; start preparing for the exams while there is still plenty of time. Start preparing the pupils like the examination is tomorrow," he said.

He said there was a need for the teachers to work as a team and keep time so as to be up to date with the school syllabus.

Ntshangase told the teachers that most learners failed their subjects not because they were dull, but because some teachers were not playing their role well.

He said teachers ought to tune the mindset of learners to realise the

importance of taking their studies seriously.

The commissioner said some learners had low self-esteem and further implored teachers to give more attention to such pupils in order to improve their academic performance.

He instructed all learners to be part of the school's English Club so as to improve their skills in the subject.

In the past, joining the club was optional. However, the commissioner said it would now be compulsory for all learners to be part of the English Club.

He also ordered teachers to put more effort in teaching subjects like Mathematics and Science.

He said as Swaziland geared towards achieving Vision 2022, it would be imperative for the country to produce more scientists and engineers.

Ntshangase also urged teachers to encourage the spirit of competition amongst the students during the learning process as this would help improve their academic performance.

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ATTENTIVELY: The teachers listening attentively as the commissioner general addresses them.

...Inaugural speech and prize giving day on the cards

VULAMASANGO High School will now have an annual speech and prize giving day.

This was disclosed by HMCS Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase.

"The school administration will organise a glamorous inaugural speech and prize giving day to be

attended by parents, teachers and guests from the education sector," he said.

Last year, the school hosted a farewell party for Form Five pupils at the Mphophoma Conference Centre. School Principal Dan Jabulani Mavuso thanked the commissioner general for his support

which helped the school to perform well academically and in extra-curricular activities.

He promised that as teachers, they would pull all strings to help the school earn a good reputation by excelling academically as well as beating other schools in extra-curricular activities.

TERTIARY EDUCATION 'FREES' FOUR GBH ACCUSED PERSONS

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

UNDERGOING tertiary education has helped four assault accused not to spend time in the correctional institutions and further were subsequently not finger printed so as to avoid being discriminated.

The four accused are; Bahle Maswati Dlamini (25), Kwanele Hlatshwako (23), Sibusiso Hlatshwako (24) and Machawe Tsabedze, all from Mvutshini, just next to Ezulwini in the Hhohho region.

They were charged with assault with the intent to cause grievous bodily harm (GBH).

On September 7, 2015, the four are said to have wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally assaulted Sabelo Mabobo Nkambule by burning him with a plastic. They further assaulted him with kicks and batons, thus causing serious injuries to him.

The four appeared to answer on their charges before Senior Magistrate Phathaphatha Mdluli and all of them admitted to have assaulted Nkambule. They told the court that the complainant had stolen their items, which they used to run their daily errands, like at work and at school.

Dlamini told the magistrate that Nkambule stole items like laptops and sneakers. "That is why we took the law into our own hands as we were frustrated by his actions," he said.

Hurt

Kwanele said they did not mean to hurt Nkambule but they wanted to recover the items which were taken by him.

He said Nkambule admitted to stealing the items and police were already dealing with the matter.

Sibusiso also shared his brother's sentiments saying Nkambule told them that the police were working on the issue. Tsabedze said he was alerted by his three co-accused persons that there was a person who had a habit of stealing their items and they decided to deal with him out of frustration.

All of them apologised to the court for taking the law into their own hands.

In response, the senior magistrate said the courts had a problem when passing sentences that would send mixed feelings to the public. He said it was known that there were incidents where police would be called to deal with a situation and find that there would be no response because the officers would be out attending to other issues.

Mdluli said such was caused by the shortage of staff members in the police service. "However, we also know that there is laziness or lack of training amongst some members within the police service. This is seen



BEFORE HIM: Senior Magistrate Phathaphatha Mdluli.

when they are alerted about a suspect that is on the loose and they do nothing about that," Mdluli said. He said this would make the public lose patience and resort to mob justice. Therefore, the magistrate discouraged such. Mdluli further warned the accused to control their emotions especially because they were still young.

Noted

He also noted that the complainant was infamous for breaking into people's houses and steal because when there was a break-in at Mvutshini, Nkambule would be there. By so saying, the senior magistrate said he was not implying the accused were right by allowing emotions get the better of them. He sentenced the accused to 12 months to be spent in the correctional institution if they failed to pay a fine of E1 000 each.

He suspended half of that sentence for three years. He also ordered that the accused should not be finger printed because the first accused was doing his tertiary education in South Africa.

"He needs to get a study permit that will enable him to study there. I know that because I also have children who study there. I do not want him to be discriminated because this is his future. I will also order that the same should apply to the other accused because I want my sentencing to be uniform," he said.



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Nhlangano Central attributes good results to cooperation

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

NHLANGANO Central High School administration has attributed its success in the past two years to the cooperation of all stakeholders.

The school, which is located in the heart of the densely populated Mathendele Township, has been climbing the success ladder of late.

This time around the school proved that it was now a changed learning institution by making history when it recorded 100 percent pass in

the Form Three 2015 results.

It was a first for the school to record a clean sheet in Form Three and not just ordinary results but cream and quality. In Form Five, the entity surprised many when it topped even well established schools as it got position 14 nationwide.

Mlondi Mkhonta, who recently assumed the principal position after serving as deputy at the nearby Nsongweni High School, said he was impressed that things were going according to plan as they had a vision.

He said even though they were now turning the corner

in terms of academic performance, there was still a lot that needed to be done for them to achieve their target as a school.

"It is just the beginning and I would not want to say we are almost there, but we have the potential of performing much better. We have set ourselves targets and standards," he said.

Mkhonta said their achievement in the last two years was an indication that they would soon be a force to reckon with academically.

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...With

Wonderboy Dlamini

Mbabane youth rescues four families at Malindza

ELOHEEKA Empowerment, a youth club based in Mbabane, has come to the rescue of four poverty stricken families of Malindza.

Over the weekend, the charity club visited the respective families which are situated at Mpaka and Lubhuku where they donated food parcels to the families, which are mainly headed by the elderly.

Eloheeka Director, Bonginkosi Dlamini said the club was formed solely to assist needy people in different communities.

Club members comprise of youth from different churches in Mbabane and surrounding areas and these are either gainfully or self-employed.

Crisis

Dlamini said the main goal of the club was to improve the lives of the needy especially during tough times like now with the drought crisis.

Malindza is one of the areas in the region which has seen the worst effects of the prevailing drought that has also ravaged many parts of the country. The Mbabane youth therefore concentrated mainly on such areas where even drinking water has become very scarce.

The four homesteads of Malindza were identified through the assistance of the area's head-



DONATION: Eloheeka Empowerment, a youth club, visited four families which are situated at Mpaka and Lubhuku where they donated food parcels. The families are mainly headed by the elderly.

man and health motivators (*bagcugcuteli*).

Dlamini said usually, after receiving a request for the donation of food or any other kind of assistance, they would contribute money from their salaries and help meet the prevailing needs.

He said the contributions were made monthly, even before any request is forwarded to them.

"At first we met as Christian friends from different churches and formulated a strategy to assist needy people in the society. The demand for a helping hand

then became evident as the drought situation persisted since last year," said Dlamini.

Poverty

During their visit at Malindza, it was discovered that a number of families depended on handouts from members of the communities. One of the homesteads which were visited is said to be headed by an elderly woman who stays alone. Dlamini stated that the elderly woman would go to bed on an empty stomach for days on end.

"We discovered that the situa-

tion at Malindza was very terrible as many families are living in abject poverty. It was just unfortunate that we could only assist only four of them," the youth club director said.

So far they have visited six other areas since the formation of the youth club where they would donate food parcels including maize meal, rice, beans and cooking oil. Dlamini said they were also contemplating on giving further assistance to the families which were living in abject poverty.

Constituency impressed by Mbabane youth's move

THE authorities of Dvokodweni constituency are impressed by the kind gesture of the Mbabane youth towards helping the needy people in the area.

Constituency Headman, Sikhumbuzo Dlamini said the donation of food parcels by Eloheeka Empowerment to residents of the constituency was highly appreciated by the authorities of the area. Dlamini said the constituency has also taken note of the fact that the youth club was not from the same area, thus their kind gesture was not motivated by an expectation of any kind of reward.

On another note, Dlamini said the area was currently engulfed by deep seated poverty which is life threatening. In Malindza area a lot of cattle have died due to the prevailing drought. He said even though the situation was now getting better for the livestock following the recent rains, the poverty rate remained acute. "At this time of the year, there is no possibility of ploughing and getting a good harvest from the fields thus the poverty rate is expected to worsen," he said.

Dlamini said some families were headed by children while others by the elderly who had no source of income.

He then appealed to other organisations to come to the rescue of the populace as more families were in abject poverty in the area.

Ngomane whizz kid wants to fly to Cuba

HLONIPHILE Nolwethu Dlamini, the shining star of Ngomane High School, wants to pursue her studies in Cuba.

Hloniphile was the only pupil from the Lubombo region to appear in the top 20 category country wide after attaining aggregate eight in the SGCSE exams.

She accumulated four A* and two As, which landed her in position seven in the 2015 external examinations.

Despite the fact that the Lubombo region has once again been listed as the worst performer in the 2015 examinations, Hloniphile managed to raise the flag of her school high.

Speaking to the Lubombo News, Hloniphile said with such good results, she wanted to pursue a medicine course in Cuba or Taiwan as her second best choice. She has always aspired to become a medical doctor while still at primary school.

Ngomane High Principal Nompumelelo Dlamini said the school has put in place some special arrangements to help pupils get the best results in their external examinations. These included evening classes which are monitored by teachers to help the pupils prepare for the exams. The school also had one pupil in the top 50 category in the 2015 form three results.

Drought stricken Lomahasha, Lugongolweni to receive food donations

ONE of the constituencies which have been greatly affected by the prevailing drought, Lomahasha is yet to receive food donations from government.

The constituency is one of those which are dominated by rural areas where residents depend largely on farming to make a living.

Source

Many parts of the constituency are faced by an acute shortage of water after many of its sources ran dry.

This has spelt disaster to many residents of the area as they have no other means to sustain their families.

Speaking to the Lubombo

News, Constituency Headman, Mncedisi Matsenjwa

decried the situation of the area which is getting worse with each passing day for most of the residents.

Food

Matsenjwa has also questioned government's criterion in identifying areas which are eligible for food donations

adding that his constituency has been unfairly left out.

Bu it was gathered that children who depended on the NCPs were able to receive food hampers.

Distribution

However, this would last the children a few days before it gets finished.

"We are just hoping that government will consid-

er us in the next distribution exercise as the situation here is

"We are just hoping that government will consider us in the next distribution exercise as the situation here is very bad"

SNIP

CONSTITUENCY HEADMEN CAN OVERTHROW SERVING MPs

● The headmen do this with the ultimate intention to take over the parliamentary role right under the noses of the serving MPs in the next general election

By Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

THE ministry of tinkhundla administration and regional development has officially granted power and authority to constituency headmen to systematically and politically manoeuvre their way up the political ladder and overthrow serving members of parliament (MPs).

For several parliamentary terms, serving MPs have been bitterly complaining about what they refer to as 'kusaha situlo' by the constituency headmen, the strong desire to usurp the MPs powers and authority and subsequently win the hearts of the electorate.

The headmen do this with the ultimate intention to take over the parliamentary role right under the noses of the serving MPs in the next general election.

Plan

Through the ministry's strategic Vision 2022 plan, constituency headmen would now officially have the express right to attend meetings at chiefdom level.

In the document, the ministry has also entrenched the right and responsibility of the headmen, to ensure the preparation and implementation of an *inkhundla* development plan.

The constituency headmen would also have the right to regularly update chiefs within the constituency of all social and economic development programmes and projects implemented.

The *indvuna yinkhundla* is an elected head of the *inkhundla* authority and he is responsible and accountable to *bucophu*, the constituency executive council and the regional administrator for administrative and policy para-

eters.

The constituency headmen have a duty to supervise the *inkhundla* executive secretary, who is a civil servant, and presides in all meetings of the *Inkhundla* and supervise the work of *bucophu* in the respective chiefdoms.

These responsibilities alone, enable the politician in that position to have unhindered access to the electorate, and this is what most MPs have been grappling ever since the tinkhundla based form of governance was introduced.

With the ministry endorsing these politician's responsibilities and putting them down in black and white, it would justifiably give constituency headmen the interest to pursue their political aspirations with even more determination.

Ineffective

Most MPs feel that such an arrangement does not only render them look ineffective but it also takes away the credit from them for work which they had personally achieved.

"That makes the political field uneven," said a concerned MP. The ministry's Vision 2022 Plan outlines clearly the roles and duties of elected leaders at constituency level from *bucophu*, headmen and to MPs.

"The MP is a political representative of the *inkhundla* in the House of Assembly.

"The MP is subject to the Constitution and the law establishing the Parliament of Swaziland. In so far as performing community work outside Parliament, the MP is subject to the guidance of national policy parameters," the document states.

The regional administrator may guide the MP of his region on such policy parameters.



LEGISLATORS: Members of Parliament before the start of their business greeting each other.



Swaziland Water & Agricultural Development Enterprise

VACANCIES

SWADE is a government parastatal tasked with using water to stimulate economic development in rural areas through commercialization of agriculture. We have the following vacancies which are tenable in Mbabane and at the Lower Usuthu Smallholder Irrigation Project - LUSIP.

1. Agriculture Development Manager

Main Objective:

- To provide agribusiness management extension services to farmer companies within the designated project areas at LUSIP.

Responsibilities:

- Facilitate the delivery of sustainably developed and fully operational commercial farms in SWADE projects.
- Facilitate the development of sugar cane schemes.
- Facilitate the development of homestead gardens.
- Provide technical support to emerging businesses in institutional development, business development and mentorship of farmers in agronomy, financial management, general management and marketing.
- Develop crops viability models for use by farmers in their own farm investment decisions.
- Develop viable cropping programs for new businesses.
- Develop annual work plans and budgets for the Sugar Unit.
- Staff supervision
- Prepare periodic and special progress reports.
- Liaise with strategic partners
- Develop and manage stake holder relations by keeping all stakeholders informed about the project progress and ensuring that they participate in the project development to enhance sustainability.
- Implement SWADE strategic plan.

Qualifications and experience

- Minimum Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture. A Master's Degree would be an added advantage
- Minimum experience of 5 years, 3 years of which should be at management level
- Proven record in managing sugar cane
- Ability to facilitate rural community development
- Ability to work with multi-disciplinary teams
- A valid light duty driver's license with over 2 years' experience in driving.
- Good communication skills (written and oral expression)

2. Senior Systems Officer

Main Objective

- The Senior Systems Officer is responsible for the complete lifecycle of new or modified internally developed and externally sourced IT system. This will include analysing existing arrangements, implementing system improvements and providing the necessary training.

Responsibilities

- Liaising with system users and customers in developing usability requirements
- Communicate with the various stakeholders of the system to establish functional requirements
- Administer, analyse and sustain capacity and performance requirements of systems
- Produce all the relevant system documentation including user specifications, RFQ/RFP, testing documents and user manuals
- Provide user training and feedback on implemented systems
- Assist in the design of a Data Warehousing and Business Intelligence platforms
- Assist in establishing functional requirements for and provide support for the update of websites and provide upgrades for related technology
- Monitor systems and platforms for availability and provide support for users
- Provide coordination and support for the review and development of IT processes and related procedure

Qualifications and Experience

- A Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Information systems or other relevant degree
- Knowledge of computer software skills;
- Experience in providing the planning, coordination, utilization and administration of Oracle relational databases, MS-SQL relational databases and web platforms

3. Community Development Officer (2)

Main Objective:

- Mobilization of communities for the formation of farmers' companies or groups;

Responsibilities:

- Develop training material & train communities in training-for-transformation (T4T), and other related social cohesion topics;
- Profile newly formed farmers' groups, and compile report;
- Facilitate development of farmers' constitution / agreements;
- Facilitate development of chiefdom / community development plans;
- Develop & Review development processes and procedures
- Facilitate establishment of relevant farmers' systems;
- Train and facilitate resolution of farmers' conflicts / disputes with all stakeholders.

Qualifications and Experience

- Bachelor's degree either in Social Sciences, Community Development, Adult Education or other relevant field;
- Relevant post-graduate training an advantage
- At least three-year experience in community development, involving mobilization of rural community residents in Swaziland;
- Development of tools for and training of populations with low levels of education;
- Experience in development of community development and strategic plans;
- Good analytical and writing skills, paying attention to details, and documentation of processes and /or cases;
- Good understanding of gender issues in rural development;
- Fluency in Siswati and English;
- Good understanding of Swaziland's cultural and social structures and systems;
- Basic understanding of the country's relevant legal statutes;
- Skills in group dynamics and conflict resolution;

4. Human Resources Officer (2)

Main Objective:

- To be responsible for the general human resources function.

Functions:

- Staff recruitment, onboarding and exit.
- Advise on and ensure compliance with relevant employment legislation.
- Implementation of annual HR strategic plans.
- Implementation of the performance management system, design of personal development plans and related performance improvement interventions.
- Assist in the design and implementation of annual training plans and staff continuous professional development.
- Management of employment relations, discipline handling and conflict management.

Qualifications and Experience

- A bachelor's degree in the social sciences or equivalent.
- At least two years' experience in a similar function
- Good communication skills (written and verbal)
- A reasonable level of emotional intelligence.

5. Cadet Engineer (4)

Main Objective:

- To work with consultants on all project engineering works.

Functions:

- Assist in design and implementation of projects
- Prepare regular reports on each phase of the project where involved
- Routine IT records and data management
- Relevant functions attendant to project attachments.

Qualifications:

- A minimum degree in civil engineering from a reputable institution of higher learning. Membership of a professional association will be an added advantage.

Remuneration:

SWADE offers an attractive package commensurate with responsibilities, qualifications and experience.

If, qualified and interested, please send your application with detailed CV and references to reach us by the 07 February 2016, and addressed to Human Resources Manager SWADE, P.O. Box 5836, Mbabane, 4th Floor, Dlanubeka House, or email to mpdlamini@swade.co.sz

(If you would have not received a response after 3 weeks of the closing date you should consider your application as having been unsuccessful)

WORKS MINISTRY NEEDS E120M FOR NEW PROJECTS

Stories by Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE ministry of public works and transport has embarked on the construction of low level crossing bridges across the country, after the notorious accident that claimed 13 lives at Tsawela in November, 2014.

In total the ministry planned on constructing 17 low-level crossing bridges in 2015 and eight of these bridges have been completed while nine are still underway.

Out of the 17 bridges, nine bridges were built by the ministry and eight were outsourced from independent contractors.

A low level crossing is a bridge designed to make possible crossing of a river when the water flow is low. However, crossing is restricted at high flow rates. The completed bridges are in eight respective areas namely;

About probase soil stabilisation technology

THE key component of probase road system is the sealing process, incorporating the use of an environmentally friendly soil sealant, giving the road a layer of waterproof protection, making it dust and mud free.

However the durability of the road is greatly dependent on the pre-sealing works.

With good soil surface and proper sealing, the road can be virtually maintenance free.

Major Advantages

- Waterproofing - Soil sealed with probase can effectively prevent water penetration to unsealed roads
- Maintains the strength - The non-water layer of protection keeps the road dry
- Erosion free - Rain water causes erosion but with sealing erosion is prevented
- Dust free - The protective layer of the probase virtually turns the soil road into a dust-free environment.

Maphalaleni, Nkwene, Kupheleni, Nhlambeni, Mhlosheni, Hawane, KaGodloza and Mkhumbane. There is one bridge at Nsingweni and one in Makhungutja area which is nearing completion.

The seven bridges still under construction are in Ngwempisi, Lufafa, Tsawela, Dzakasini,

Siteki, Sitilo and Mbuluzi area.

Principal Secretary in the Ministry Makhosini Mndawe said they did not receive a budget in the financial year 2015/2016 for the construction of these bridges thus the delay in completion some.

He said recurrent and feeder roads budget were used for the

construction of these vital low-level crossings.

"The ministry requires about E15 million to complete the ongoing projects. It is worth noting that the ministry will further need about E120 million for new projects for the year 2016/2017 as we anticipate more funds to be allocated to road reserve maintenance," he said.

On another note, the ministry would upgrade 550 kilometres of low volume roads throughout the country in the next three years, using probase soil stabilisation technology.

However, this programme is yet to be approved by the relevant agencies with government.

Roads that are currently under construction are Manzini-Mbhadlane, Mbhadlane-Sikhuphe, Maguga and Sicunusa-Nhlangano (MR13). Manzini-Mbhadlane is undergoing re-sealing.

"Finally we plan to rehabilitate the Likhula-Big Bend (MR 16)," said Mndawe.

Disaster Agency to tighten screws in food distribution

By Eddie Abner
Mbabane

THE National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) will tighten the screws in the second phase of food distribution after discovering that some benefited even though they did not qualify.

By the end of December 2015, the agency had distributed food to over 72 000 Swazis in the first phase of food distribution.

NDMA Chief Executive Officer Russel Dlamini said since December, the numbers had been increasing.

He said they learnt a lot from the first phase and would not repeat mistakes that occurred in the second phase.

Dlamini said allegations emerged that there were people who benefitted despite that they did not qualify to get free food.

He said they expected to finish the phase by mid-February and thereafter prepare for the second one.

Reassess

The CEO said next Monday, they would reassess phase one.

"The first phase of the food distribution went very well but we learnt a lot from it. There were those loopholes that we saw which we are going to work on so to ensure that they are not repeated in the second phase. We will have a targeting criterion where we will strengthen on phase two. Next week Monday, we shall do an assessment on what kind of vulnerability is in communities and are going to use those cases when we do our distribution.

We will also have relief committees in the centres and these would comprise of *bagcugcuteli*, our team and people from the area. In that way, we will be able to identify those in dire situations and have a list to be signed by a chief before dispatching the food," he said. Dlamini said previously his team would only go to an area to check the situation and then the following day, distribute the food. He said they would slightly alter the distribution process now.

"We will not be distributing food like we used to but now we are going to do a verification process with the help of the community members," he said.

US students help groups affected by AIDS

By Eddie Abner
Mbabane

THE Missionary Sisters who founded Cabrini College made a difference in their trip to Swaziland as they worked with those affected by the AIDS pandemic.

"I decided to go to Swaziland because I wanted to make a difference. I wanted my winter break to matter and a service opportunity like this allowed me to do that," sophomore early childhood educa-

tion and special education major, Sabrina Lee, said.

"The education, business, social work and psychology departments have all worked with this partnership to provide support to the mission over the last six years," Colleen Poole said.

Field experience coordinator Colleen Poole was the main organiser of the service trip.

A lot of preparation went into the trip. Junior social work major Kimberly Miralda said, "we had meetings to prepare to go to Swaziland. I had to go to a travel

clinic to get shots. I had to get anti-malaria pills and insect repellent to travel."

While in Swaziland the students helped run a camp for teenagers. Each student had to create an hour long activity and gather the materials needed prior to leaving for the trip. "We helped with registration, organisation, scavenger hunts, activities and talent shows," Lee said. Swaziland was in the summer season, so students were off from school.

"We left Cabrini College on Friday, Jan. 1 and the students

returned on January 12," Poole said.

In addition to organising the mission trip, Poole and professor of exercise science and health promotion, Dr. Verde, used video chat to communicate with the camp staff to talk about what they needed. They gathered donations, school supplies and recreational equipment for the youth in Swaziland.

"When we arrived at Cabrini Ministries we worked with the education staff to plan the camp schedule and team to teach the activities. One staff member from Cabrini Ministries worked with each of our groups as a co-teacher and translator because the students are just learning English," Poole said.

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Swazi OBSERVER

THE OBSERVER SAYS

AGRICULTURE MUST NOT FAIL FARMERS

THAT over 20 000 cattle and other livestock died recently due to the persistent drought is a fact. However, it is also true that in recent weeks we have received some rains that have given us water or some water catchments and improved vegetation.

However, it seems the ministry of agriculture is not near arresting the situation to save the farmers. Selling of cattle and other livestock should not be presented as the only option. If we say to farmers they should sell their cattle, where do they sell these cattle? Are they selling them to some foreigners or within the country? If the answer, which is obvious, they sell it within the country, why is the ministry failing to come up with other alternatives other than just selling.

Our experts in government, especially in the ministry of agriculture, seem to be failing to come to terms with the disaster before us.

Government seems to have dealt with the water crisis better than the livestock challenge. By now, with the improved vegetation in high grounds, the ministry should be facilitating meetings of chiefs, exploring ideas of whether it wouldn't be possible to encourage residents to take some of the livestock to un affected communities (*kusisa*).

Selling

Instead of preaching the gospel of selling outright, can't the ministry encourage farmers to place some of their cattle somewhere, including opening government farms and also consider private farms?

It is fact that the farmers must also take responsibility and be the ones at the forefront, but the intervention of the ministry can quicken their arrangements.

It would also put the chiefs in good stead with their subjects as it would show that they too are also concerned with the health and well being of their communities. Such would promote cooperation amongst themselves and unity of the nation.

Selling of cattle is far from being a Swazi solution, but a simple one size fits all capitalist mentality. At some point, we need to go beyond our books and seek to find solutions that seek to promote our unity and cooperation. The keeping of cattle by these farmers is not just for commercial means, but goes far beyond that, so selling outright may not be the solution these farmers want. In fact, it is even wrong to describe them as farmers, because they don't fall under that category. What needs to be done doesn't even needs millions of Emalangeni, but a few thousands to get the chiefs to engage each other and a lasting solution will be found.



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

info@observer.org.sz

TIVE LEADERSHIP CENTER



... With
**Kholwaphi
Mdziniso**
(Executive
Director)

GUEST WRITER

INNOVATION is the core for continuity of organisations.

Innovation means identifying new ways and means of providing service in order to better meet the needs of the people.

Innovation refers to a new idea, more effective device or process. Innovation can be viewed as the application of better solutions that meet new requirements, unarticulated needs or existing market needs.

This is accomplished through more effective products, processes, services, technologies or ideas that are readily available to markets, governments and society. The term innovation can be defined as something original and more effective and, as a consequence, new, that "breaks into" the market or society.

In business and economics, innovation is the catalyst to growth. With rapid advancements in transportation and communications over the past few decades, the old world concepts of factor endowments and comparative advantage which focused on an area's unique inputs are outmoded for today's global economy.

Innovation

Innovation refers to a new idea, device, or method, the act or process of introducing new ideas, devices or methods to improve. Innovation is the process of translating an idea or invention into a good or service that creates value or for which customers will pay.

For any idea to be called an innovation, the idea must be replicable at an economical cost and must satisfy a specific need.

Innovation involves deliberate application of information, imagination and initiative in deriving greater or different values from resources, and includes all processes by which new ideas are generat-

Innovation refers to a new idea, more effective device or process. Innovation can be viewed as the application of better solutions that meet new requirements, unarticulated needs or existing market needs.

venting, flexible work hours and creation of buyers' purchasing power.

Innovations are divided into two broad categories:

ed and converted into useful products.

In business, innovation often results when ideas are applied by the company in order to further satisfy the needs and expectations of the customers. Innovation ought to be part of business strategy for all organisation. The tendency many organisations, including corporations and government, is to ignore that element and copy the trend to follow the leaders and copy what leaders do in that industry.

We have adopted Vision 2022 as our institutional vision of making

Swaziland a developed country by 2022.

Part of what we have to do is promote innovation across industries.

In a social context, innovation helps create new methods for alliance creation, joint

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In business, innovation often results when ideas are applied by the company in order to further satisfy the needs and expectations of the customers. Innovation ought to be part of business strategy for all organisation. The tendency many organisations, including corporations and government, is to ignore that element and copy the trend to follow the leaders and copy what leaders do in that industry.

We have adopted Vision 2022 as our institutional vision of making

Swaziland a developed country by 2022.

Part of what we have to do is promote innovation across industries.

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ON THIS DAY

...FEBRUARY 2

- 1542 Portuguese under Christovão da Gama capture a Muslim-occupied hillfort in northern Ethiopia in the Battle of Baçente.
- 1829 Madman Jonathan Martin sets York Cathedral on fire, does £60 000 damage
- 1901 Mexican government troops are ambushed by Yaqui Indians, 100 killed
- 1906 Pope encyclical against separation of church and state 1919 Monarchist riot in Portugal
- 1920 France occupies (German) Memel territory
- 1925 Belgian episcopacy rejects liberalism, communism and socialism
- 1931 First use of a rocket to deliver mail (Austria)
- 1932 Geneva disarmament conference begins with 60 countries
- 1933 Two days after becoming chancellor, Adolf Hitler dissolves the Reichstag (Parliament)
- 1933 Hermann Goering bans Communist meetings/demonstrations in Germany
- 1942 LA Times urges security measures against Japanese-Americans
- 1948 President Harry Truman urges congress to adopt a civil rights programme
- 1952 B.B. King's "3 O'Clock Blues" hits #1 on the US Billboard's R&B hit parade to become his first national hit
- 1954 President Eisenhower reports detonation of first H-bomb (done in 1952)
- 1955 Firsts presidential news conference on network TV-Eisenhower on ABC
- 1957 UN adopts a resolution calling for Israeli troops to leave Egypt
- 1966 Pakistan suggests a six-point agenda with Kashmir dispute as number one item for the proposed Indo-Pak ministerial talks after 1965 war.
- 1971 Idi Amin ousts Milton Obote to become dictator of Uganda
- 1975 Army offensive against rebels in Eritrea
- 1983 Pope John Paul II names 18 new cardinals
- 1986 Dalai Lama meets Pope John Paul II in India
- 1989 FW de Klerk replaces Botha as South Africa's National Party leader

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1931 Boris Yeltsin, Ural Mts USSR, President of Russian SSR



1994 Harry Styles, Holmes Chapel Cheshire, British pop singer (One Direction)



BISHOP KEITH HARRINGTON'S CORNER

IN a world afflicted with sicknesses, diseases and numerous other challenges such as poverty and unemployment, it is natural for every human being to desire to live a healthy life.

Our physical health is important to everyone of us as we have so many goals that we've set for ourselves and wish to accomplish before we die.

This has led to a great influx of people to different churches that seem to promote and promise long life to their followers. However, the longevity of life seems to be connected to following a set of rules which in many cases includes wearing certain clothes that show your membership, or carrying around and using items that have apparently been prayed for thus are believed to be endowed with healing and protective powers.

Among these products we find things like 'anointing oil' that has brought controversy and division in the house of God. What has aggravated the debate on whether oil can be used in churches for certain liturgical services or not, is the now commercialisation of it.

What does the Bible reveal about 'anointing oil'? Does the oil have the ability to carry healing power?

These are just some of the questions that arise when we attempt to investigate this subject. It is noteworthy that anointing oil is mentioned 20 times in the scriptures, predominantly in the Old Testament.

The oil was used to pour on the head of the high priest and his descendants and in sprinkling the tabernacle and its furnishings to mark them as holy and set apart to the Lord. (Exodus 25:6; Leviticus 8:30; Numbers 4:16).

Three times it is called the "holy anointing oil" and the Jews were forbidden from reproducing it for personal use. (Exodus 30:32-33). There is no indication that the oil or the ingredients such as cinnamon, myrrh or frankincense in the oil had any supernatural power.

Priests

Oil was not only used for consecration of priests but also for the inauguration of kings as seen when Samuel anointed King David in the midst of his brothers. The oil symbolises the act of setting one apart for a specific duty or responsibility.

There are only four New Testament passages that refer to the anointing with oil, yet none of them offer an explanation for its use. In Mark 6 verse 13 we find that the disciples of Jesus Christ anointed the sick with oil and healed them.

In James 5 verse 14 to 16 we read the following: "14 Is anyone among you sick? He should call for the elders of the church, and they should pray for him and anoint him

DOES OLIVE OIL OR ANOINTING OIL WORK?

SERIES PART 3



ABBA ANOINTING: Anointing oils in the Bible. Faith is the only requisite for pleasing God and receiving miracles from Him. Jesus Himself told many who were healed by Him that they were healed by their own faith.

with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer offered in faith will save the person who is sick. The Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven. (ISV)."

The oil in this passage is to be used by the elders to anoint the person who is sick when they pray for him. It seems that the oil is only used as a symbolic representation of our faith in Jesus Christ to answer our prayer through divine intervention.

For it is the prayer of faith that will save the sick and it is the Lord that will raise him up.

The scripture doesn't say anything about the oil doing anything unusual during the prayer. Again there's no indication of the oil being made available for personal use, but rather used by the delegated elders when called upon to pray for a sick person.

Nowhere in the scriptures do we find that anointing oil is to be sold. Jesus commanded His disciples that they should freely give out the good news as they likewise freely received it. If we can buy anointing oil that actually is able to bring us healing or deliverance, this would mean, we have bought our blessings instead of freely receiving them from God. In the book of Acts 8 verse 18 to 20 we are introduced to a man called Simon who

when he saw miracles happening when the apostles laid their hands on people, offered them money in order to be able to buy such a gift from them.

However, the response of the apostles was that he should go and perish with his money as the gift of God is not for sale.

I've learned that everything that God offers us cannot be bought for a price. We can buy medicine but we can't buy health, as this is a free blessing from God.

Our money can buy a house but only God can turn it into a home at

I've learned that everything that God offers us cannot be bought for a price. We can buy medicine but we can't buy health, as health is a free blessing from God.

no cost. We can buy a bed but only God has the ability to give us sleep without charging us a dime. Cash can buy all the books in the world but wisdom and understanding come from God Almighty.

Buying a Bible cannot bring you salvation as this is a free gift from God. Today's

mentality is that there is "nothing for mahhala".

I recently read a story about a 70 year-old man who became sick of a disease that later prevented him from urinating.

He needed an operation that eventually relieved him from this dilemma. On receiving the bill from the physician the man burst out into tears and the doctor thought he was not able to pay the fees for the medical procedure that he had undergone.

When the practitioner asked the man why he was crying the man answered by saying: "For the last 70 years I have been able to use the toilet with ease and God never sent me any bill."

Neither is there any indication that oil carries the power for protection or prosperity. However, in a time when we all seem to be desiring these things, many of us easily become vulnerable and will do anything to secure the blessing of God.

Faith is the only requisite for pleasing God and receiving miracles from Him. (Hebrews 11:6) Jesus Himself told many who were healed by Him that they were healed by their own faith.

Anointing

If a person believes that using anointing oil can produce certain results, due to the fact that God honours faith, those things can easily come to pass. In the Bible some were healed because they believed that if the shadow of Peter could pass over them, they'd be made whole. In Acts 19 the sick received handkerchiefs and aprons from the Apostle Paul and they were healed immediately when these items were placed on them.

Is the sale of anointing oil to those who believe that using it can better their lives wrong? Could it be possible that ministers may have been tempted to come up with business strategies of selling certain things in order to sustain their ministries?

I conclude by pointing out that Jesus Christ is the centre of our faith. If there is anything that causes us to lose focus of Christ and put our faith in other tangible materials, then we need to choose to rather do without such "faith products".

HOW WORLD SEES US:

...Goodbye BRICS, hello Ticks. No place for SA in either

By Steve Johnson

THE BRICS are dead. Long live the Ticks. The BRICS concept, based on the belief that the quartet of Brazil, Russia and India and China would power an unstoppable wave of emerging markets-led economic growth, gripped the firmament for more than a decade after it was conjured into existence by Jim O'Neill, then chief economist at Goldman Sachs, in 2001.

But the deepening recessions in Brazil and Russia have now dealt such a blow to faith in the BRIC hypothesis that, late last year, even Goldman closed its BRIC fund after assets dwindled to \$100m, from a peak of more than \$800m at the end of 2010.

In its place, emerging market fund managers appear to have stumbled on its potential replacement – the Ticks, with tech-heavy Taiwan and (South) Korea elbowing aside commodity-centric Brazil and Russia.

Aside from a catchy acronym, the realignment tells us much about the changing nature of emerging markets – and the world in general – with services, particularly technology, to the fore and trade in physical goods, especially commodities in retreat.

Engine

“BRIC is not the engine of emerging market growth it was. There is a new order of things,” says Steven Holden, founder of Copley Fund Research, which tracks 120 EM equity funds with combined assets of \$230bn.

“Tech is just rampant and the consumer is what you are investing in EMs now. I don't think many people are aware of the new EM story as much as they should be. They think of Brazil, Russia, materials, big energy companies. That has changed hugely.”

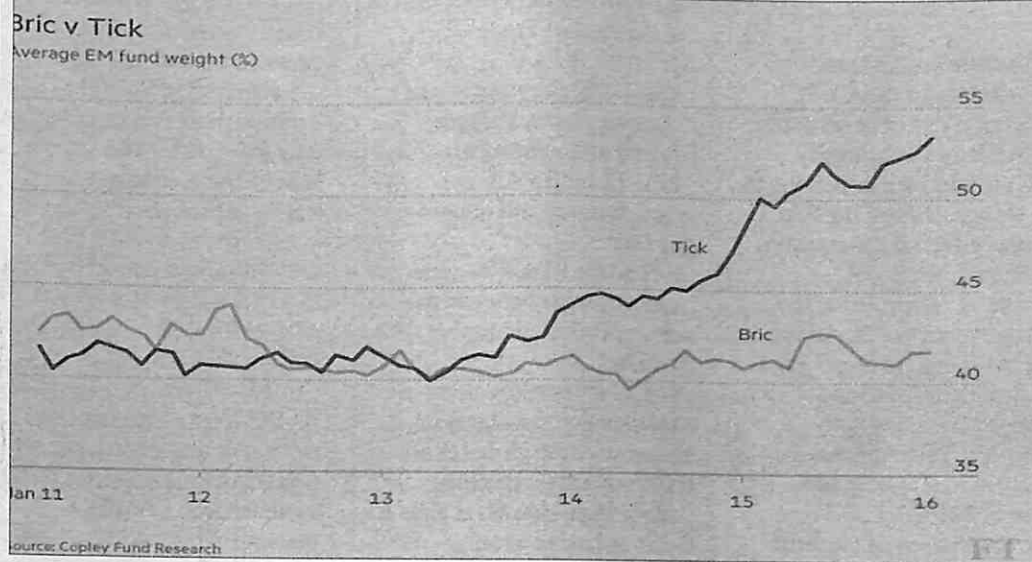
Richard Sneller, head of emerging market equities at Baillie Gifford, whose EM Growth and EM Leading Companies funds invest 45-50 per cent of their \$10bn-15bn of assets in technology companies, adds: “In many emerging markets the speed with which young consumers are adapting to technological change, in areas such as ecommerce and online shopping, is much faster than in the US.

“Trends that we hoped would emerge 15-20 years ago have come to generate significant cash flows.”

Luke Richdale, chief client portfolio manager, emerging markets at JPMorgan Asset Management, which manages \$70bn in EM and Asia-Pacific equities, says: “We are seeing leapfrogging [of technology] going on in China. There are models in the west, bricks and mortar etc, that simply won't happen there.”

According to Copley's data, the average emerging market equity

...One of the more interesting asides from Davos this year came via comments by IMF managing director Christine Lagarde when asked how she saw the economies of the Brics (Brazil, Russia, India, China, SA) performing in 2016. Lagarde gave some detail on the outlook for first four (poor; very poor; great; OK) but never mentioned South Africa. A similar approach is followed in this excellent piece below from the Financial Times of London where SA isn't mentioned among the Brics. That illustrates an uncomfortable reality – although SA cracks an invitation to the annual gatherings – and is even a formal participant in the proposed Brics Development Bank – for the rest of the world, the Brics end with China. None of which is of much relevance as you'll read through the article below which argues that troubles in Brazil and Russia have killed the concept of Brics – with Taiwan and South Korea replacing them as global economic drivers. Once again, no mention of SA in the new Ticks anagram. – Alec Hogg



fund now has a near-54 percent weighting to the Ticks, up from 40 per cent in April 2013, while the weighting to BRICS has remained in the low 40s, despite a sharp rise in China's index weighting, as the first chart shows.

As of December, 63 percent of funds had at least 50 percent of their assets invested in the Ticks, while only 10 per cent had such high exposure to the BRICS.

Houses such as JPMorgan, Nordea and Swedbank have a weighting of at least 35 per cent to Taiwan and Korea alone in at least some of their funds, while vehicles managed by Carmignac, Fidelity and Baillie Gifford have exposure of 3 per cent or less to Brazil and Russia.

Average

The average EM equity fund now has as much exposure to China's IT industry as it does to the country's financial sector, as the second chart shows – despite the index weighting of financials being 4 percentage points higher – following a sharp rise in tech holdings in the past three years.

The trend was turbocharged late last year when MSCI widened its EM index to include companies listed overseas, adding the likes of New York-listed Alibaba, Baidu and Netease to the index alongside existing heavyweights such as Tencent.

Wider afield, the two stocks most widely owned by the 120 funds monitored by Copley are Taiwanese chipmaker TSMC and Korea's Samsung Electronics.

“These are global companies that are either leaders or significantly well positioned in oligopolistic industries,” says Sneller, who also holds Taiwan's Hon Hai Precision

Industry (also known as Foxconn), partly in the hope that Apple, its largest customer, will start to source automobile parts from it if the US tech group makes a strong push into vehicles.

Reflects

To some extent, funds' buying of Ticks and tech stocks reflects their rising weightings in the MSCI index, particularly with many basic materials and energy companies suffering sharp falls in market capitalisation amid the commodity rout. The four Ticks now have a combined weighting of 62.4 per cent.

But Holden says many managers have been making active choices. “Managers are definitely ramping up their technology exposure. The numbers buying and overweight [the index] have gone up. For some funds, the index means nothing.” Almost a third of funds are now overweight Taiwan, up from just 8 percent in September 2013, Holden says.

One unanswered question is whether this trend reflects an underlying structural change or whether it is purely cyclical, with sectors such as IT and consumer stocks naturally seeing their weightings rise as commodity-related companies go backwards.

Taiwan was the largest country weighting in the MSCI EM index during the dotcom boom of the early 2000s, before the start of the commodity supercycle. Brazil, which led that phenomenon, has subsequently seen its weighting fall from a peak of 17.6 per cent in June 2008 to just 5.2 per cent.

JPMAM's Richdale believes it is a bit of both. “There is an underlying structural story but at the same time

equity markets in emerging markets are quite cyclical in nature,” he says.

Sneller accepts there is a cyclical element, with some of the consumer-oriented “toothpaste and tractors” stocks he also likes having previously been in vogue in the 1990s, before the Asian financial crises.

However, he believes structural factors are also at play with, for instance, online shopping likely to become far more dominant in China than, say, the US.

“The established incumbent legacy [shop] network is not there [in China],” he says. “You go to a third tier city in China and you don't have swanky malls.

“[Chinese people] value their time extremely highly. Why would you want to waste your time walking around second-grade shopping malls when you can do it online in a fraction of the time?”

Analysis by Michael Power, strategist at Investec Asset Management, suggests the trend may be cyclical.

All the Ticks (barring India which has a small current account deficit) are in the same quadrant of a matrix he uses to distinguish emerging market countries – that comprising manufactured goods exporters with an external account surplus.

As the fortunes of these quadrants tend to ebb and flow in line with global liquidity and commodity demand, they tend to perform in a cynical manner.

Yet even here there could be a structural factor. Power says the quadrant inhabited by most of the Ticks “always does best,” in risk-adjusted terms, over an economic cycle, suggesting it should increase its weight over time.

Wit & Wisdom

1. No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent. – Abraham Lincoln

2. What you do has far greater impact than what you say. – Stephen Covey

3. Not the cry, but the flight of a wild duck, leads the flock to fly and follow. – Chinese Proverb

4. One of the tests of leadership is the ability to recognize a problem before it becomes an emergency. – Arnold Glasow

5. The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on. – Walter Lippman

6. The greatest leaders mobilize others by coalescing people around a shared vision. – Ken Blanchard

7. The growth and development of people is the highest calling of leadership. –Harvey Firestone

8. To do great things is difficult; but to command great things is more difficult. –Friedrich Nietzsche

9. To have long term success as a coach or in any position of leadership, you have to be obsessed in some way. – Pat Riley

10. True leadership lies in guiding others to success. In ensuring that everyone is performing at their best, doing the work they are pledged to do and doing it well. – Bill Owens

11. We live in a society obsessed with public opinion. But leadership has never been about popularity. – Marco Rubio

12. Whatever you are, be a good one. –Abraham Lincoln

13. You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you think you cannot do. – Eleanor Roosevelt

14. A competent leader can get efficient service from poor troops, while on the contrary an incapable leader can demoralize the best of troops. – John J Pershing

15. A good leader is a person who takes a little more than his share of the blame and a little less than his share of the credit. – John Maxwell

16. There are three essentials to leadership: humility, clarity and courage. –Fuchan Yuan

17. I am endlessly fascinated that playing football is considered a training ground for leadership, but raising children isn't. –Dee Dee Myers

18. A cowardly leader is the most dangerous of men. – Stephen King

19. My responsibility is getting all my players playing for the name on the front of the jersey, not the one on the back. – Unknown

20. A good plan violently executed now is better than a perfect plan executed next week. – George Patton

21. The supreme quality of leadership is integrity. – Dwight Eisenhower

22. You don't lead by hitting people over the head – that's assault, not leadership. – Dwight Eisenhower

23. Earn your leadership every day. – Michael Jordan

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	9.25%
First National bank	
Inflation Rate	4.9%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	8.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	5.75%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E11.30 per litre
Replacement	E11.35 per litre
Diesel	E11.25 per litre
Paraffin	E 7.45 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES



Correct as at 01 February 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	16,0348	16,0848
British Pound/SZL	23,0828	23,1548
Japanese Yen/SZL	7,5077	7,5286
Swiss France/SZL	15,7636	15,8081
Botswana Pula/SZL	1,3998	1,4074
Australian Dollar/SZL	11,4199	11,4572
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11,4690	11,5014
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	2,8064	2,8536
Euro/SZL	17,4683	17,5227
Gold	1,114.9000	
Oil	32.7500	

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Moving Forward

Swaziland might benefit from SACU exchange tariff offer

By Linda Dlamini

THE Southern African Customs Union (SACU) exchange tariff offer with the East African Community (EAC) might be a new hope to turn things around the SACU quandary facing the country.

Revenue from SACU contributed 76 percent of the Swazi government income in 2009 but started to drop significantly in 2010 and continued declining with projections reflecting that they would amount to only about E4.5 billion in 2016.

The finalisation of the tariff offer to Egypt, Ethiopia and other non-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) member states by SACU might increase the region's revenues.

According to South Africa's Minister of Trade and Industry Dr. Rob Davies, there were other trade agreements that SACU was

working on like the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA).

MERCOSUR comprises of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela.

"SACU- India PTA negotiations are still ongoing," said Davies.

He said the PTA was aimed at promoting trade between the two sides on a selected number of products.

SACU, the world's oldest customs union, had been in trouble since the global economy had decreased its earnings culminating in lower receipts for the Swaziland economy.

SACU's largest trading partner is the European Union (EU), and with that economy going through an economic contraction SACU may benefit through diversifying its trading partners.

Meanwhile, the Swazi government had been formulating a trade policy for

2015-2022 that will drive the economic development of the country forward to decrease its dependence on SACU receipts.

An analysis of Swaziland's export volumes revealed that the country exported very little to other African countries.

Bulk of Swaziland's exports went to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).

In 2014 Swaziland exports to SADC countries constituted 77.2 percent of total trade while 9.9 percent of total trade was attributable to COMESA countries.

Swaziland is party to a number of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) COMESA and SACU which aids its exports and imports.

A FTA stipulates free trade between countries; this also includes broader provisions, such as agreements on movement of capital, goods and people.

A free trade agreement will also mostly include all or a large portion of goods.

In contrast, a PTA is much less broad covering preferential for a set of products or services.

A free trade policy should enable a nation to generate enough foreign currency to purchase the products or services that it does not produce indigenously.

The process works best when there are few if any barriers to entry for such imports.

The imposition of artificial constraints such as tariffs on imports or the provision of subsidies to exports will introduce distortions and impede free trade.

Trade agreement is any contractual arrangement between states concerning their trade relationships.

Trade agreements may be bilateral or multilateral—that is, between two states or more than two states.

SEDCO to launch new campaign to promote job creation

By Sikhulile Vilakati

IN an economy faced with a number of downturns, the Small Enterprises Development Company (SEDCO) has initiated a new campaign dubbed, 'Uzoythola Kanjani Uhlele Khoneni? meaning it won't just happen, stand up and do something.

The aim of the campaign is to promote job creation through entrepreneurship, encourage individuals in formal employment to venture into income generating projects, as well as advocate for youth and women entrepreneurship.

SEDCO Marketing Officer Mcolisi Dlamini said the primary objective of the campaign is to foster entrepreneurial culture as well as promote SEDCO services and programmes.

The company's prime focus is to create jobs and sustainable employment within small, micro and medium sized enterprises, hence make meaningful contribution in the country's socio-economic development.

"SMEs are an important base for economic development in developing countries, they are a



OPTIMISTIC:
Small Medium Enterprises Development Company Marketing Officer Mcolisi Dlamini.

seedbed for future development, they provide employment, and to a great extent promote the standards of living of the rural communities," he said.

Dlamini said they were targeting both employed and unemployed individuals and groups across all segment groups.

"The formally employed need to supplement their monthly earnings through venturing into income generating projects," he said.

Through the campaign they will also motivate tertiary graduates and high school completers to consider being job creators other than becoming job seekers through entrepreneurship.

Dlamini said this was critical since the current employment creation efforts cannot accommodate the number of people entering the job market each year.

"The campaign will also support existing small business

enterprises (SMEs) to improve their performance in the economy," he said.

He said they would use a number of media platforms which include radio, print, television and social media to directly engage the different target audiences.

"The messages will be loud and clear, with a call to action approach, and will also be communicated in the form of success stories," he said.

Adding, Dlamini implored those interested to start registering for a number of upcoming entrepreneurship trainings.

"We have designed a 10-day entrepreneurship course which covers topics like, the challenges and benefits of being an entrepreneur, personal budgeting, business idea generation, marketing, managing risk, costing and break even analysis, business planning, importance of keeping records, financial statements and lastly sources of finance," he said.

Trainings timelines

● 8-9 February, 2016, Caritas Manzini

● 22 February - March 4, 2016, Sidwashini SEDCO Estate

● 7-18 March 2016, Caritas Manzini.

Interest rate hike good for price adjustment

By Mangoba Makhubu

ECONOMIST and University of Swaziland (UNISWA) lecturer Christopher Fakudze says the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) 0.5 percent interest rate hike will bring good adjustments in price volatility within the financial market.

CBS increased the bank rate by 0.5 percent points from 5.75 percent to 6.25 percent.

CBS Governor Majozzi Sithole said the underlying reason for the increase in the bank rate was to counteract inflation increase.

The country's headline inflation increased from 4.5 percent in November 2015 to 4.9 percent in December 2015.

Fakudze said since there was already more money in circulation, keeping the interest rate flat could have generated too much inflation; hence there was a need to negate further potential inflation increase.

He said from the increase, there were a number of good benefits.

"This will raise the amount of capital banks needed to hold against liabilities," he said.

Adding, Fakudze said selling and buying of government bonds would also be more profitable.

However, he said the bad effect was



GOOD: Economist Christopher Fakudze.

that the increase would lessen cash in circulation, and as result money would become scarce.

"In the short run, consumption will decline, but inflationary pressure will

weaken and that would put the economy back on track," he said.

On another note, Sithole said looking ahead, inflation was expected to increase in the second half of the year.

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

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

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

All these factors are expected to aggravate inflationary pressures.

"However, in an effort to avoid capital flight and reduce future inflation increases, the bank has decided to take this rate decision. This is the minimum interest rate increase that the bank would take to contain the rising inflation in the economy and the harmful effects of capital outflows due to a high interest rate differential," he said.

Housing prices to remain stable

By Linda Dlamini

THERE will be increasing demand for houses amongst middle income earners as housing prices are projected to remain stable in the near term.

"The optimal point has not been reached where the property market will be subject to the law of diminishing returns," noted economist Theminkosi Dube.

However, the economist noted that the growth of the peri-urban area was negatively affecting the local housing market as people opted to live in places like Mpolongeni which were close to town and yet not under the municipal council.

Preferred

He said peri-urban areas were preferred because obtaining land was still under the Kukhonta system; hence land was not bought like in title deed.

Swazi Nation Land cannot be bought and is held trust for the Swazi people by His Majesty King Mswati III through administration done by chiefs.

An analysis of some of the structures being erected in these areas revealed that some of the houses constructed on Swazi nation land rivalled houses in upmarket suburbs like Dalrich or Beverly Hills in Mbabane. A property valuator who

spoke on condition of anonymity said, "The exigencies of demand and supply will ultimately determine the value of property. It is true that peri-urban areas are distorting the prices of houses," said the valuator.

"What may affect the demand for houses is that the number of people formally employed is not that high and given the current economic conditions this is unlikely to change anytime soon," said Dube.

Rentals

With regards to commercial real estate, Dube said there were only few new companies being registered which required office space, and rentals were pretty high at the moment which caused companies that usually rented office space to seek for alternative spaces.

Indeed looking at the trend that service-driven companies like law practices, engineering consultants, and non-governmental organisations now elect to buy houses in residential areas and open their offices there as opposed to renting out.

The advantage of this is that rental payments are exchanged for interest payments on the loan to buy the house.

Furthermore, the houses they have bought or built is a fixed asset thus the owner will enjoy capital increase as the value of the house increases in time.



MY TAKE: One of the participants making her submission during the meeting.



FULL HOUSE: Swaziland Standards Authority (SWASA) Executive Director Dr. Lomkhosi Mkhonta checking out the participants during the consensus meeting held last week at Bethel Court, in Ezulwini. (Courtesy pics)

SWASA FACILITATES PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY FORMULA

By Mangoba Makhubu

THE Swaziland Standards Authority (SWASA) has hosted a national consensus meeting with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to discuss and agree on a formula and method of preparing peanut butter and agave jelly.

The method would be adopted as a national standard in Swaziland.

In a statement sent to this publication, SWASA said this initiative begun last year and workshops were held across all the four regions of the country to create awareness and to educate SMEs representatives about standards and how they should implement them in their own businesses in order for their products to maintain quality standards.

Last year, with assistance from

home economics extension officers from the different regions, SWASA collected formulas and methods of preparation in order to be consolidated during the national consensus meeting which was held last week.

Extension

The Authority said the home economics extension officers also linked SMEs representatives with government agencies that assisted them with strategies to ensure that

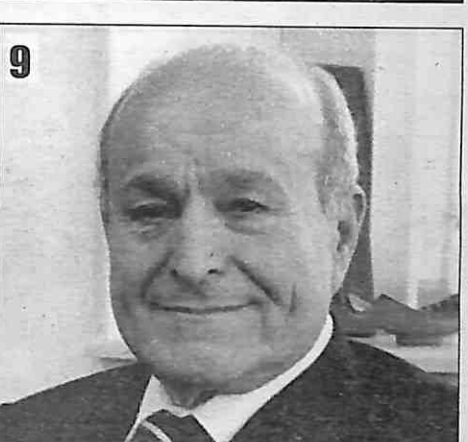
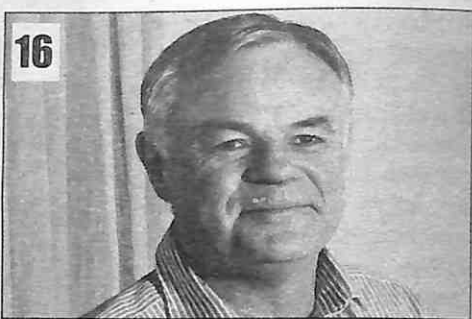
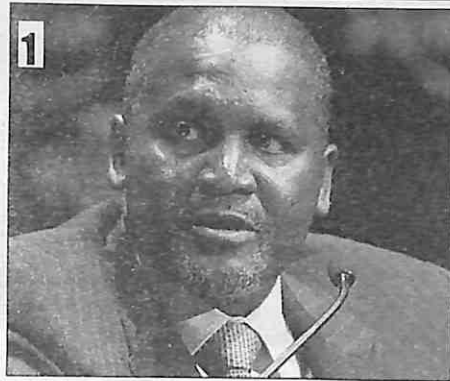
their production of peanut butter and agave jelly was continuous and would not create a negative effect on the environment.

"Across all four regions, SMEs representatives were trained on eight quality principles, how to write quality policies, how to use a plan-do-check-act (PDCA) cycle, fair trade standards, SZNS ISO 9001 and the benefits of implementing a quality management sys-

tem in compliance to SZNS ISO 9001, as well as WTO TBT agreements," said SWASA.

In each region, SWASA executive director and the technical officer conducted exercises that gauged the understanding of the teaching points taught to SMEs representatives in attendance to ensure they can return to their respective organisations to implement what they had learnt from the workshops.

THE FORBES BILLIONAIRES LIST: 2016



EVEN with a slight decline of \$1.8 billion from last year's Forbes Billionaire list, Microsoft's co-founder Bill Gates retains his position as the world's wealthiest man with a net worth of \$77.4 billion.

A position he holds for the 17th time in the last 22 years. Gates is closely followed by Spaniard Amancio Ortega, who is the brains behind Inditex fashion group, which owns Zara clothing and accessories retail shops

With \$48.9 billion, Facebook's co-founder Mark Zuckerberg has moved up ten spots making him among the ten wealthiest people in the world. Zuckerberg holds the sixth position with his net worth increasing by \$15.5 billion from \$33.4 billion in 2015. With 22 African billionaires this year, the number on the list has dropped by seven, compared to 29 the previous year. The list, which is available in the February issue of Forbes Africa, is dominated by Egyptians, who have a combined net worth of \$14.1 billion, \$2.3 billion shy of Nigerian billionaire, Aliko Dangote's net worth.

Dangote remains the richest African on the list with his net worth increasing by \$700 million from 2015. Africa's richest have a combined \$74.5 billion, a drop of \$19.5 billion from \$94 billion in 2015. The wealthiest group are South Africans with a combined net worth of \$20.1 billion. From the 54 African countries, only seven are represented in the list and only two women. cnbcafrica.com

Rank	Name	Net Worth \$	Origin of Wealth	Citizenship	Age
1	Aliko Dangote	16.4bn	Cement, Sugar, Flour	Nigeria	58
2	Nicky Oppenheimer & family	6.5bn	Diamonds	South Africa	70
3	King Mohammed VI	5.8bn	Diversified	Morocco	52
4	Christoffel Wiese	5.7bn	Retailing	South Africa	74
5	Johann Rupert & family	5.4bn	Luxury Goods	South Africa	65
6	Nassef Sawiris	4.2bn	Construction, Chemicals	Egypt	55
7	Isabel dos Santos	3.5bn	Investments	Angola	42
8	Issad Rebrab & family	3.1bn	Food	Algeria	71
9	Naguib Sawiris	3bn	Telecom	Egypt	61
10	Mike Adenuga	2.8bn	Telecom, Oil	Nigeria	62
11	Mohamed Mansour	2.5bn	Diversified	Egypt	68
12	Othman Benjelloun	2bn	Banking, Insurance	Morocco	83
13	Ferri Ouedia	1.8bn	Gas Stations	Nigeria	53
14	Youssef Mansour	1.7bn	Diversified	Egypt	70
15	Folorunso Alakia	1.6bn	Oil	Nigeria	65
16	Kudu Bekker	1.5bn	Media, Investments	South Africa	63
17	Youssef Mansour	1.4bn	Diversified	Egypt	54
18	Osei Sawiris	1.3bn	Construction, Telecom	Egypt	86
19	Aziz Akhannouch & family	1.1bn	Petroleum, Diversified	Morocco	55
20	Mohammed Dewji	1.1bn	Diversified	Tanzania	40
21	Stephen Sauti	1bn	Pharmaceuticals	South Africa	51
22	Abdullahi Rabi	1bn	Cement, Sugar, Flour	Nigeria	55



Africa News

Boko Haram extremists burn children to death

ABUJA - Children were among those killed when Islamist terror group Boko Haram torched a village in north-eastern Nigeria, according to reports.

More than 50 villagers lost their lives when fighters armed with guns and explosives stormed Dalori, some seven miles from the city of Maiduguri, late on Sunday.

Extremists began shooting indiscriminately and set fire to homes and businesses after driving into the village shortly after evening prayers. Residents who tried to escape by fleeing to nearby bush were later hunted down and shot dead by insurgents.

Horrific photographs of the village in the aftermath of the strike show the charred bodies of humans and animals strewn across the streets. It came as three people



DEVASTATED: Women and children search through debris in the village of Dalori after it was burnt to the ground by Boko Haram extremists. (Daily Mail)

were killed and 56 others were wounded in two suicide attacks in the nearby region around Lake Chad, which is frequently targeted by Boko Haram. Army spokesman Colonel Mustapha Anka said the assailants arrived "in two cars and on motorcycles, they opened fire

then set light to homes," he said.

Three female suicide bombers who had initially tried to mingle with the villagers "were intercepted then blew themselves up," he said. The assailants also tried to strike a nearby camp for people displaced by Boko Haram but were repelled

by troops, he added.

Community leader Malam Masa Dalori said: "We were seated outside our home shortly after the Isha prayer when we heard gunshots and within a few minutes the invaders had arrived. 'They came in Golf saloon cars and began to shoot sporadically. Many people ran to the bush including myself.

"When we came back in the morning the entire community has been razed. At least 50 people were killed, and there are many people wounded."

Another villager, Mallam Hassan, gave a similar account. He said: "I lost an uncle in the attack. But I thank God I escaped with my children."

An aid worker who did not want to be named, also put the number of dead at more than 50, saying the bodies had been taken to hospital.

Maiduguri, known for being the spiritual birthplace of the Boko Haram movement, has been hit by several attacks in the recent months as the militants have tried to retake the city from which they were pushed out three years ago.

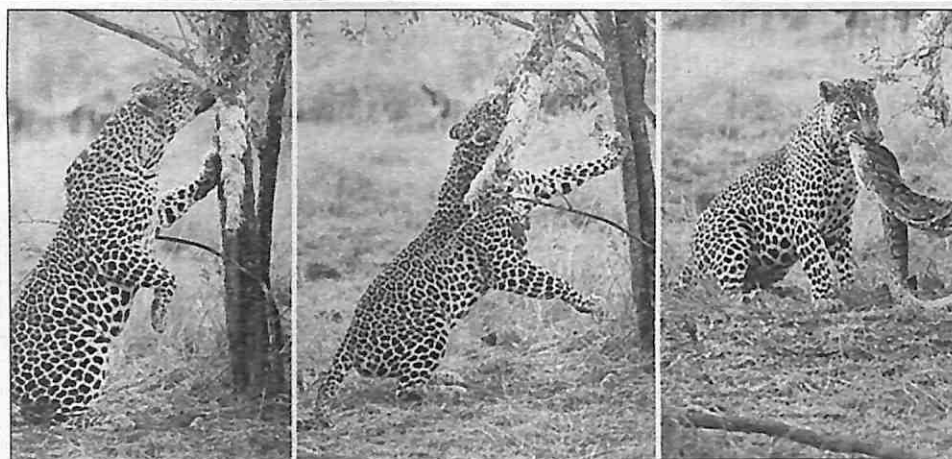
Daily Mail

Dlamini-Zuma undecided on 2nd term at AU

ADDIS ABABA - African Union (AU) Commission Chairwoman Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma has once again declined to say if she will run for a second term of office this year - or return home, possibly to run for national president.

She told South African journalists at the end of the AU summit in Addis Ababa: "I haven't decided yet. I still have time."

She also spelt out that in effect she had less than three months to decide because she would have to put herself forward as a candidate three months before the election in July. The summit was abuzz with speculation that she is not going to run again - either because she intends to run for South African president to succeed her ex-husband President Jacob Zuma - or because she knows she would be defeated by Algerian Foreign Minister Ramtane Lamamra, the former AU peace and security commissioner. *African News Agency (ANA)*



FANCY A BITE?: Brilliant pictures capture the moment a hungry leopard pulling a massive python out of a tree for his lunch. The male leopard was spotted performing a one-sided tug-of-war to free the dead snake from a tree in Saabi Sands reserve, in South Africa. Photographer Villiers Steyn revealed how the big cat took bites of the python as he worked, even jumping into the branches to help release the reptile at one stage, before taking it away to finish his meal off in peace and quiet. (*dailymail.co.uk*)

Zuma says SA considering ICC exit

ADDIS ABABA - South Africa could soon pull out of the International Criminal Court (ICC) President Jacob Zuma said late on Sunday.

Zuma was giving his assessment of the African Union (AU) summit, which had just ended here.

He noted that he and his fellow leaders had discussed Africa's growing concerns with the manner in which the ICC had conducted itself in relation to African countries. Zuma said in a discussion on the ICC and the Rome Statute, he had expressed South Africa's concerns.

"Our strongly held view is that it is now impossible, under the circumstances, for South Africa to continue its participation in the Rome Statute," said Zuma.

"South Africa is seriously reviewing its participation in the Rome Statute and will announce its decision in due course," he told the summit. Zuma's threat to withdraw from the ICC came in the wake of the last AU summit, in Sandton last June which was attended by Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, who is a fugitive from the ICC for alleged atrocities in Darfur. South Africa as a member of the ICC was obliged to arrest him.

The North Gauteng High Court also issued an order to the government to arrest him, both because of its obligations to the ICC and because the ICC Rome Statute has been incorporated into South African law.

Africa News Agency

Some African States oppose AU peace force for Burundi

ADDIS ABABA - Some African states oppose sending peacekeepers to Burundi without its consent after it said that would be seen as an invasion, Gambia's president said on Saturday at the start of an African Union summit.

Rifts in Africa about whether to deploy the 5 000-strong force will worry Western powers and others, who fear Burundi will slide into ethnic conflict if there is no intervention.

The African Union's peace and security council announced the plan for the force in December, but

Burundi swiftly rejected it.

The AU charter allows a force to be sent against the will of a host country if there is a risk of serious violence, such as genocide.

But some African leaders may be concerned about setting a precedent that could be turned on them, experts say.

"It is not only Burundi that is resisting that idea," Gambia's President Yahya Jammeh told reporters at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa when asked if there was opposition to the plan for peacekeepers. He did not name any nations. *African News Agency*

BRIEFS

'Boozing mother' to stand trial

CAPE TOWN - A mother who allegedly left her children unsupervised to drink in a tavern will be charged with negligence following the death of five siblings in a fire. A sixth child survived the shack fire after being saved by neighbours. Potchefstroom police said yesterday that the police in Ramatlabama have registered a case of inquest after five children aged between three and 16 years died due to fire burn. The fire broke out in their shack at about 2am on Sunday.

Times Live

\$1.9bn in Ebola aid not delivered

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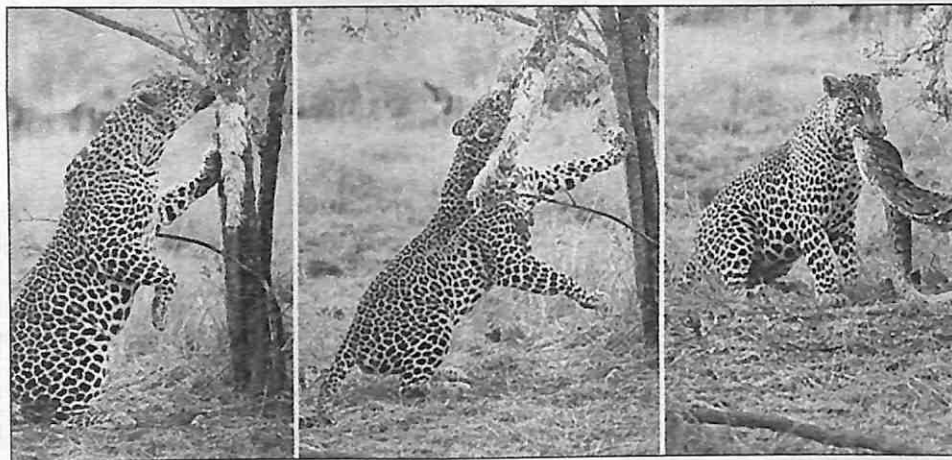
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Reuters



Focus on SA scene

EFF official gets R1 million, free house - for no work

JOHANNESBURG - A Bhisho MPL has been drawing his R85 000 monthly salary despite sitting at home for the past year.

February will mark exactly a year since expelled Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) legislature leader Themba Wele was suspended and later expelled by his party.

However, he continues to receive R1.02-million a year salary as the leader of the minority party at the Bhisho legislature.

Even after his expulsion from the EFF last October, he also continued to receive his benefits that included medical aid, an iPhone, a state house and a tablet.

This situation arose after he had interdicted the legislature and his party late last year against replacing him as one of only two EFF MPLs at the provincial legislature.

Legislature's acting spokesman Velisile Bukula confirmed that Wele was still a MPL and still received all his benefits.

"We cannot replace him as yet because he had approached the high court challenging his dismissal from his party and that case has not yet been finalised," Bukula said.

"The legislature will, however, abide by the decision of the court, but we cannot divulge any more information on this matter at this stage, as it is also still an internal political matter."

Wele said he had been on sick leave for the most part of last year. He said he returned to work this month and that his matter was going back to court on February 11.

He refused to discuss this more, saying "it was still sub judice".

EFF MPL and provincial chairman Siyabulela Peter said the party cannot replace Wele until the court process had been completed.

"He is already expelled by the party, but our hands are tied as we cannot do anything at this moment until this is settled by the court which will sit in mid-February," said Peter.

TMG Digital/Dispatch

Fresh bid to free Dalindyebo

EASTERN CAPE - A fresh legal tussle aimed at securing the release of AbaThembu King Buyelekhaya Dalindyebo from jail has been launched.

This, as the royal family has said it was battling to contend with the gap left by the controversial leader when he was incarcerated.

The king started his 12-year jail term on December 30, after he was convicted in 2009 for culpable homicide, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, arson and kidnapping. He is currently at a private hospital in East London where he was admitted early last month after embarking on a hunger strike, according to the Correctional Services spokesperson Manelisi Wolela.

Dalindyebo's lawyer, Zehir Omar, told The Citizen he filed a court application against the state and the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services Michael Masutha in the Mthatha High Court. He said



LEGAL TUSSELE: King Buyelekhaya Dalindyebo.

the basis of his argument was that Dalindyebo might have suffered a miscarriage of justice because his trial "was supposed to be stopped" when one of the court assessors died after it had started.

"The judge was supposed to stop the trial so that it could be started afresh later," said Omar. "If the court agrees that the king suffered a mistrial because of this, he must be released so that the case can be re-opened. I am confident that the point I am raising is right."

Masutha and the state had until today to respond, said Omar. Asked if the minister's office had received the litigation papers, his spokesperson, advocate Mthunzi Mhaga, said: "I am not aware but I will check."

Spokesperson for the royal family of the kingdom of AbaThembu Daludumo Mtirara said on Sunday the king left a gap that needed to be filled.

"Obviously, there is a gap because there is nobody on the throne. The entire nation requires the services of the king and this also cascades down to the family, but I cannot give further details on this," said Mtirara. The royal family was frequently holding meetings to discuss ways of nominating an acting king, said Mtirara, adding the next meeting would be held before the end of this month.

In October, the Supreme Court of Appeal set aside Dalindyebo's culpable homicide conviction and reduced his sentence to 12 years. His attempt to appeal to the Constitutional Court was unsuccessful, after which the king petitioned Masutha to have his trial reopened. The minister dismissed this.

The Citizen

Crackdown on shady 'miracle' adverts

JOHANNESBURG - South African newspapers and television channels could face a major financial loss if the Advertising Standards Authority of SA (ASA) succeeds in banning adverts placed by shady religious advertisers in the classified sections.

Advertisers claiming to be prophets, professors and healers promise muti to bring back lost lovers and make them commit to their partners - at a cost of course upon consultation.

Among their claims are magic sticks, wallets and tokoloshes (referred to in the ads as "short boys") who can bring clients money, improve taxi businesses, help them to obtain work promotions, earn double salaries, clear loans and credits.

They also promise women to help them fall pregnant and get married. This has angered the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL Rights Commission).

As a result, its chairperson, Thoko Mkhwanazi-Xaluva, said they will lodge a complaint against them with the ASA.

The ASA was among organisations that were invited by the commission to present their offerings in a bid to find ways of solving problems affecting unsuspecting viewers and readers in desperate need of miracles from such advertisers. *The Citizen*



TO LODGE COMPLAINT: Thoko Mkhwanazi-Xaluva.

OUTA now the 'people's public protector'

JOHANNESBURG - The Opposition to Urban Tolling Alliance (OUTA) - who has kept the e-tolling battle alive - will not fade out.

It will instead morph into a new NGO, tackling various other tax exploitations under a new name (but with the same acronym): the Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse (OUTA).

OUTA was formed following the announcement of the widely opposed and controversial e-tolling system in Gauteng, and since 2012 has been purely focused on that issue - a matter it also does not intend to halt until the scheme is abolished in favour of more efficient lower-cost options for motorists. "We will fight for citizens' rights, we are not going to accept this blatant, absurd abuse of power," Wayne Duvenage, Chairperson of OUTA, said in an exclusive interview with The Citizen.

"There are recycling taxes, there's Eskom and their inefficiencies, trying to justify outrageous increases while



'PUBLIC PROTECTOR': Outa Chairperson Wayne Duvenage.

they are squandering money. And we say to Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan: you are warning us of tax increases. But the holes in the bucket, what are you doing about that?

"You can't ask the people to throw more money from the top when it's just flowing out at the bottom with maladministration," said Duvenage. "And that's where we are going. We are going to ask government to hold politicians and leaders accountable

for the waste. There are legal channels and the courts are strong for us, so is the Constitution. And now you are getting the public behind us to say this too," he says. OUTA will start to fill a role of a "people's public protector", Duvenage said.

"We have powers, we can take a corrupt leadership to court. We don't have to wait for the public protector to do that. We can find the evidence." OUTA now is very different to when it started, Duvenage said.

"We have strategists, we have advocates on our payroll that work with us - and we are building legal cases. "Our membership is also growing, thousands and thousands of members are contributing."

OUTA will soon reveal plans to challenge Eskom. "Eskom, where is this money going? Your revenue has gone down and your costs have not dropped, they have gone up. Why? Bad leadership; contracts not being managed properly. It's just a cesspool," Duvenage said.

The Citizen

DA, EFF in 'secret talks' to beat ANC in local poll

JOHANNESBURG - Several opposition parties are in initial, informal discussions to create a united front to unseat the ANC in as many municipalities as possible in this year's local government elections.

Leading figures in four opposition parties, including the DA and EFF, confirmed the talks to the Sunday Times.

However, the United Democratic Movement - which may end up being the kingmaker in Port Elizabeth's Nelson Mandela Bay metro - is not part of the discussions. "No one has contacted us about any discussions. We will decide on coalitions after the election," said UDM leader Bantu Holomisa.

Such a front will be based on practical solutions aimed at "stopping the rot" in municipal basic services that has ignited protests throughout the country. Its extent

and structure has yet to be negotiated.

In response to President Jacob Zuma's assertion that the ANC comes first, it has been suggested that the united front operates under the banner 'Putting South Africa first'.

The proposal is for each opposition party to contest elections separately and for the exact nature of coalitions to be negotiated in every municipality in which the ANC loses. Where a single opposition party attracts more than 50% of the vote, as the DA is expected to do in Cape Town, no coalition will be formed, lessening the danger of smaller opposition parties being gobbled up by larger ones. The initiative for opposition unity was launched by the EFF, which has for months tried to reach out to other opposition parties, opposition leadership figures confirmed. *Times Live*



TOSS AND TURN: A buffalo had been snoozing under a tree in the Maasai Mara game reserve in Kenya when a female elephant surprised it and charged at her. As the buffalo headbutted the elephant, it retaliated and dug in its tusks (left) - tossing the buffalo into the air with full force. The buffalo was then dropped to the ground by the elephant (right) did not die immediately and rangers at the reserve think the animal must have been unwell to act so out of character. (Daily Mail)

Not letting sleeping buffaloes lie!

● Buffalo was attacked by the elephant after she surprised him while he was sleeping in the Maasai Mara, Kenya

● This series of images shows elephant impaling the buffalo before dropping him to the ground and walking off

NAIROBI - This is the shocking moment an angry elephant impaled a buffalo with its tusks, tossing it high in the air, before

*...Amazing pictures show elephant **IMPALE** the animal with its tusks after treading on it during a snooze... then shaking it to death*

shaking it to death.

The unsuspecting buffalo had been snoozing under a tree in Maasai Mara, Kenya, when a female elephant surprised him and he charged at her.

After the buffalo headbutted the elephant, she retaliated by digging her tusks into the creature and tossing the buffalo into the air with full

force.

The buffalo did not die immediately and rangers at the reserve think the animal must have been unwell to act so out of character.

The extraordinary scene was captured by amateur photographer Kimberly Maurer, 56, who was on holiday at the game reserve.

The 56-year-old said: "I started

looking through the images on the back of my camera immediately after the attack and became very excited to discover that I had actually captured the event in detail.

"This photograph was, no doubt, a once-in-a-lifetime capture for me. As you would imagine, his carcass was a meal for another animal or two." *Daily Mail*



UP HIGH: A series of amazing photographs show the huge elephant impaling the buffalo with one tusk before lifting him high into the air.



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: The female elephant - who appeared to only have one tusk - can be seen leaving the area with his herd but still appeared to be on high alert, with her head held high in the air.



BASOP: A Buffalo can weigh up to 590kg so it was unsurprising the elephant was soon forced to back off and drop the animal back to the ground.



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BRIEFS

US man makes tries to find child for sex

CLEVELAND - A former seminarian arrested for allegedly seeking to have sex with infants and young girls in Mexico was carrying \$2 000 in cash along with baby clothes and a bottle in his luggage, a Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesperson said. Joel Wright, who was arrested on Friday in San Diego, had previously travelled to Tijuana in an unsuccessful attempt to adopt a child, authorities said.

Reuters

20 years on, China punishes officials

HONG KONG - Twenty-seven officials in China have been "penalised" for the wrongful execution of a teenager 20 years ago, state news agency Xinhua reported late on Sunday. Huguilto was 18 in 1996 when he was sentenced and put to death for the rape and murder of a woman in the toilet of a textile factory in Hohhot in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. In 2014 Huguilto was finally exonerated after another man, Zhao Zhihong, confessed to the crime and was in turn convicted and sentenced to death.

AP

India train runs over teenager

NEW DELHI - An Indian teenager was struck and killed after he tried to take a photo of himself in front of an oncoming train, police said yesterday, in the latest deadly accident involving selfies. The passenger train ran over the boy shortly after he stepped onto railway tracks to snap the picture in the southern city of Chennai, while walking home with friends on Sunday evening. "It was a freak accident. More youngsters are now addicted to taking selfies," railway police officer S. Ramuthai from the Chennai suburb of Tambaram told AFP.

Afp



Netanyahu warns Gaza militants

JERUSALEM - Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned the Islamic militant group Hamas that rules Gaza on Sunday that his country will retaliate with "greater force" than deployed in the 2014 Gaza war if cross-border tunnels are used to attack Israel. Hamas has built a sophisticated network of tunnels to infiltrate Israel in order to carry out attacks. Israelis living near Gaza have reported hearing tunneling sounds under their homes recently. "We are operating systematically and calmly against all threats, including those from Hamas, both with defensive and offensive means, and of course in the event we are attacked by tunnels in Gaza we will operate with great force against Hamas, with much greater force than what we used in Operation Protective Edge," Netanyahu said. Reuters

Dad arrested for taking daughter's phone

DALLAS - A 36-year-old US man has been found not guilty of property theft, after he was arrested and charged for taking away his daughter's cell phone in an act of discipline, the Washington Post reported. Ronald Jackson took away his daughter's cell phone over a WhatsApp message she had sent to her friend. "I don't like his ratchet girlfriend or her kids," the message read. The message was referring to Ronald's new girlfriend. Reuters

World News

'She responded favourably to me'

NEW YORK - In a taped phone call to his alleged victim and her mother, Bill Cosby admitted they had sex and he had given her drugs, it has emerged.

He goes on to tell Andrea Constand: "Tell your mother you were awake. Tell your mother about the orgasm. Tell your mother how we talked."

Bill Cosby's attraction to Constand began the moment he spied her across a Temple University gym in about 2002. The flirting - some would say grooming - began almost immediately. When Constand, a Temple women's basketball staffer, mentioned that her back was bothering her, the 66-year-old comedian offered his 'layman's' fix in the women's locker room.

"It's one where she gets on my back with her back and her arms come under mine and I grab her and I say, 'Now you relax,' Cosby said in a 2005 deposition. "I go up and I come down and I give that jolt



CONSENSUAL: Bill Cosby.

and it's supposed to line the vertebrae." The friendship that followed between Temple's most famous booster and the then 31-year-old employee colours the sex-assault prosecution that starts in earnest today, when Cosby's lawyers will ask a judge to throw out charges stemming from a 2004 encounter at his suburban Philadelphia home.

In Cosby's mind, Constand had reacted 'very, very favorably' to him the day they met at Temple's arena.

A university trustee, he began inviting her to dinner at his home, at first with others but later alone. Cosby was both a sounding board and

someone who could open doors for a woman considering a career change. In November 2003, he summoned Constand to the Foxwoods casino in Connecticut, where he was performing, and arranged for her to have dinner with a casino executive in his suite. But he voiced frustration when she failed to follow through on his job leads.

"Here's a mentor, Bill Cosby, who is in the business - Bill Cosby, who happens to know something about what to do - and Andrea is not picking up on it," Cosby said in the deposition, part of the sex-assault lawsuit Constand filed in 2005. Daily Mail



WREAK HAVOC: A powerful storm battered Southern California with powerful winds and heavy downpours. Power outages affecting about 140 000 homes were reported across the Los Angeles and San Diego area. One person was killed after a large tree fell across multiple lanes of traffic in Pacific Beach (left and top right). A flash flood watch was issued for foothill neighbourhoods underneath wildfire burn areas and forecasters warned of possible mudslides and weak tornadoes as the storm (inset) continues across Southern California. The storm also churned up high surf (bottom right) near the Los Angeles community of Playa del Rey. Storms usually develop far from California, but this one developed unusually close, just 500 miles west of Santa Barbara, according to a climate expert, who believes the storm is driven by El Niño. (Daily Mail)

No vaccine for Zika virus likely any time soon

GENEVA - Even if the world's largest drug makers were to mobilise as fast as they could, and even if the science were straightforward, it is unlikely a Zika vaccine could be developed quickly enough to tackle the expanding outbreak of the virus that may cause birth defects when pregnant women are infected.

Little work has been done so far on the mosquito-borne virus, which the World Health Organisation said last week was "spreading explosively" in Latin America after a spike in cases of microcephaly, a birth defect that causes babies to be born with abnormally small heads. Previous vaccine development has shown that it takes years, sometimes decades, to

come up with a product that is safe and effective.

"Vaccines as well as antivirals take time to develop, and I would not expect that anything will be available for use in the course of the current issue that's going around the world," says Robert Amler, dean and professor of public health at New York Medical College. Bloomberg

'I've cured countries!'

NEW YORK - The controversial doctor who famously injected himself with Charlie Sheen's HIV positive blood has claimed his goats milk treatment can cure the virus.

Dr. Samir Chachoua made the extraordinary claims he had 'cured countries' of HIV and AIDS during an interview on Real Time with Bill Maher on Sunday night.

Chachoua - who is not licensed to practice medicine in the US - has been treating Sheen who revealed last year that he has been battling with the virus for four years.

He added that his 'cure,' based on the milk of arthritic goats, had made the virus "undetectable" in the Hollywood star, Gawker reports.

The doctor says the CAEV virus present in the milk "destroys HIV and protects people who drink it for life."

Chachoua went on to announce he had eradicated HIV and another virus called chikungunya in Comoros, an island nation off the eastern coast of Africa, in 2006.

The doctor did not go into any detail to how his supposed treatment would 'destroy HIV,' neither did he offer any scientific studies backing up his wild claims.

Daily Mail



DREAM ON: Dr. Samir Chachoua.

60 killed and dozens wounded in Syria attack

DAMASCUS - Bombings claimed by the Islamic State group have killed at least 60 people, including 25 Shiite fighters, and wounded dozens near Syria's holiest Shiite shrine outside the capital Damascus.

The first blast was caused by a car bomb that went off at a bus station by a public transport garage near the Sayyida Zeinab shrine.

Two suicide bombers then set off their explosive belts when people gathered at the scene, according to official SANA news agency.

"Bodies were still being pulled from the wreckage," a witness told state news channel Ikhbariyah.

The explosion tore a massive crater in the road and was so powerful that it scorched the facade of a six-storey building.

State television showed footage of burning buildings and wrecked cars in the neighbourhood.

ISIS claimed responsibility for the attack with a statement circulated on social media.

The Sunni extremist group, which considers Shiite 'heretics' and legitimate targets, said two of its members had detonated suicide bombs. Daily Mail



- NEWS
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- CARTOONS



THROW A LEG: Ingadla group from Elangeni showcasing a spectacular performance which led them to the top position. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

INGWENYAMA CUP CULTURE FINALISTS TO WIN BIG

Stories by Simon Shabangu

WINNERS in the different categories of the Ingwenyama Cup Culture will pocket E7 000 each, Spokesperson of the culture committee, Stanley Dlamini has said.

Groups or artists who will be placed second, will walk away with E5 000, third placed to get E3 000 and E2 500 for all the other finalists. The finalists also get E1 000 which will be transport money to the finals according to Dlamini. The winning groups at the regional level were presented with the money on the spot when they were crowned champions at Siteki and Buhleni, respectively. The

Lubombo region competitions took place on Saturday in Siteki while the Hhohho groups competed at Buhleni Royal Residence sports arena on Sunday.

Position

Second position winners in all the five categories walked away with E2 000 while third placed got E1 000. The finals will be held at Somhlolo National Stadium on a date yet to be announced.

Already 10 groups from the Lubombo and Hhohho regions have booked themselves tickets to the finals. Each group or artist under the five different categories who won already have a ticket to the finals. Dlamini congratulated the winners who have booked them-

selves space at the finals and urged them to work even harder and prepare for the great day. "Going to the finals means one has to work even harder because all those competing at this stage will be the cream of the crop from each region. If it calls for them to get coaches they have to do just that," he said.

He also noted that they were excited about the good response received from the culture groups and the level of the competition.

Response

"The response was very good; we were hoping to be done by 12 o'clock but the event went as far four o'clock in the afternoon which means the competition was fierce. The groups came from almost all

...Highest participation in Hhohho region so far

THE Hhohho region recorded the highest participation of groups as 80 groups competed at Buhleni Royal Residence arena on Sunday.

The highest number of groups came from *lutsango* category which had 30 groups, followed by *sibhaca* which had 28 groups. Ingadla also recorded an impressive number as 20 groups competed. Also attracting a good numbers of competitors was the praise singing category which saw 11 individuals battle it out in this category while *emajaha* saw only two groups coming through to compete in this category. All the groups who com-

peted in the different categories gave it their best as the standard of the competition was high.

It was a difficult day for the panel of judges in the different categories as the groups were all out to impress.

Ready

One could tell that the groups were ready for the competition despite the short notice.

The stiff competition was with the *Sibhaca* and *Ingadla* groups which proved to be a fierce one as most of the groups came out 'guns blaze' and ready to walk away with the prize only to find that the competitors were equally good.

WINNERS

Winners of the day were: All first position holders are proceeding to the finals.

Lutsango	Maphalaleni	1. Phulumkanti Zulu
Nkanini	Sibhaca	2. Valumoya Msweli
Gucuka	Zulwini	3. Bhethemba Simelane
Nkamanzi	Kasiko	
	Mcengeni	
Ingadla		Lamyama
Langeni	Timbongi, Praise Singers	Etfuntini
Mkhuzweni		Luvunjweni

chiefdoms and we realise that some of the chiefdoms came with groups to compete in all the categories.

"We now realise that the King's dream of reviving culture is going to be achieved," he said. He also thanked the

chiefs for encouraging their people to take part in this competition and urged others to be ready as the competition would also take place next year. He also thanked the chiefs who came through to support their groups.

WE ARE PROUD OF THE SUCCESS - RA

Hhohho Regional Administrator Prince Tshekedi noted that the region has always been outstanding when it comes to cultural performances thus the positive response was no surprise to him.

He said they were grateful to the chiefs of the area for coming in their numbers to support their people. "We thank the chiefs for encouraging their subjects to come through and compete in the event where the King seeks to encourage the nation to be active in culture. As a region we are very excited that people came in their numbers to compete, cheer on and applaud for their performing groups. The level of competition is also impressive and one wonders how the judges will come up with the eventual winners because the groups are all good," he said.

He added that his region had always stood out. "I have never seen Hhohho



SUCCESS: Prince Bukhosi, Prince Mbuyisa, Prince Hlangabeza and Prince Tshekedi following the proceedings.

playing second fiddle to anyone," he said.

Initiative

Meanwhile MP Mabulala Maseko of Maphalaleni said as legislators of the region they were grateful to the King for this initiative as it would help the country in many ways. "As you can see the numbers that came through, this promotes unity and peace among the people and also generates the brotherhood spirit. Our cul-

ture defines us as a people and such platforms are needed and we praise the King for this initiative.

Activities

As the Maphalaleni Inkhundla we were also not left behind because we are a cultural community and always excel in such activities. We also support and encourage such cultural activities so our groups are very active hence they are always shining," he said.

MORE STILL TO COME - TINKHUNDLA MINISTER

MINISTER of Tinkhundla Administration and Development Mduduzi 'Small Joe' Dlamini said his ministry was excited about the culture aspect of the Ingwenyama Cup Competition because it promoted unity and peace at the tinkhundla level.

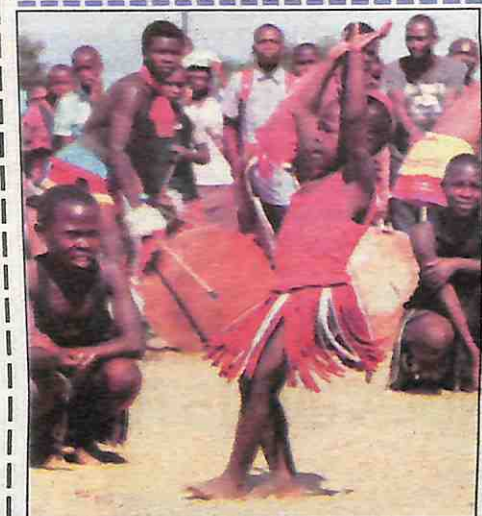
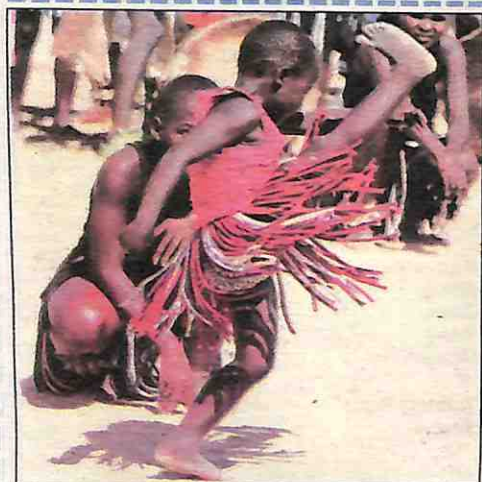
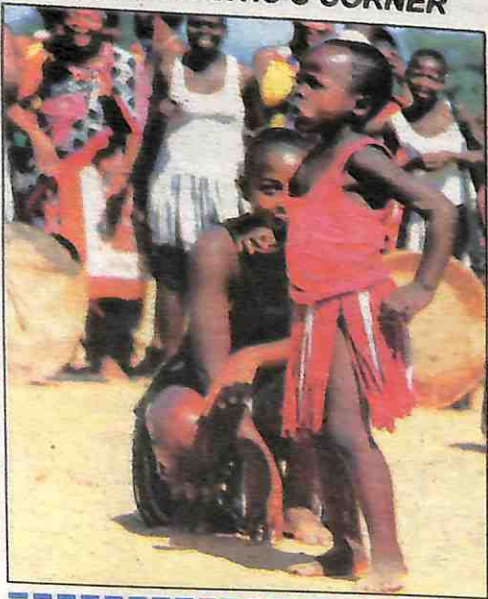
He said his ministry was excited because the King has led the way and shown them that there must be some activity at each tinkhundla where culture is concerned. He said the ministry was also planning a number of competitions which would be carried out alongside some national activities and different events around the country. "As soon as the

logistics are done we will then announce the strategy we have adopted as a means of promoting culture as the King has ordered. His Majesty has led the way and us as government is to follow in his footsteps," he said.

Encouraged

He encouraged the two remaining regions to also get ready and come out in their numbers and take part in this competition. "We also urge the business community to support the groups in any possible way because participants will need outfits, transport and even food as they prepare for the competition. Even on the day it will be good for businesses to support their people," he said.

NOSIZOLWETHU'S CORNER

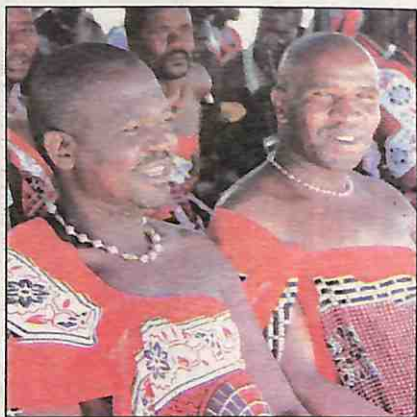


WONDER KID: Young Nosizolwethu Mashaba, who is a member of Emangweni Ingadla group, stole the show with her dancing skills which left all present spellbound.

Ingwenyama Cup Competition @ Buhleni



WELL FED: Ingwenyama Cup Competition committee members Johannes Soboza, Adam 'Bomber' Mthetwa, MVA CEO Helmon Vilakati, Makawosi Masuku and John Mazibuko were also at Buhleni to witness the culture competition on Sunday. Culture groups from the Hhohho region battled it out for the top prize. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



WATCHING: Swaziland National Arts and Culture Council CEO Stanley Dlamini and Tinkhundla Minister Mduduzi 'Small Joe' Dlamini taken by the renditions.



TOTAL: Thembekile Dlamini adding up the scores during the competition.



SPECTATORS: The competition attracted scores of people from near and far.



POSE: Mzimba, MP Mabulala Maseko, Bhutana Dlamini, Johannes Soboza and Mshiyeni Dlamini were also present.



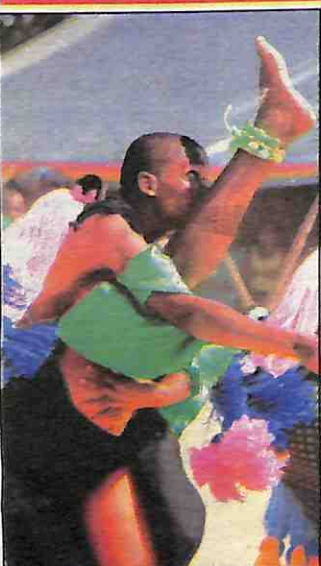
FIRST TABLE: The panel of judges watching the sibhaca performances.



KUYO: Emfasini sibhaca group were full of so much energy.



IMBALI: The level of competition was very high among the Ingadla groups as they all gave it their best.



LUNYAWO PHEZULU: Maidens enthusiastically outdoing each other at the ceremony.

Brits win big @ SAG Awards in Los Angeles

ELEGANT:
Brie Larsont.

LOS ANGELES - The Screen Actors Guild Awards celebrate the best of the world's acting talent. And flying the flag for the Brits at the 22nd annual ceremony were some of the UK's A-list talent including Kate Winslet, Helen Mirren and Emilia Clarke as the glitterati descended upon the The Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on Saturday. The leading ladies put on a strong sartorial display as they rocked the red carpet at the film awards in an array of brightly coloured dresses, joined by the likes of Game Of Thrones favourites Maisie Williams and Gwendoline Christie. Mail Online



FLATTERING: Emilia Clarke.



STYLISH: Gwendoline Christie.



COUPLE: Eddie Redmayne and Wife.



GOLD DRESS: Helen Mirren.



TRENDY: Kit Harington.



WOW: Queen Latifah reacts to winning Outstanding Performance in Bessie.



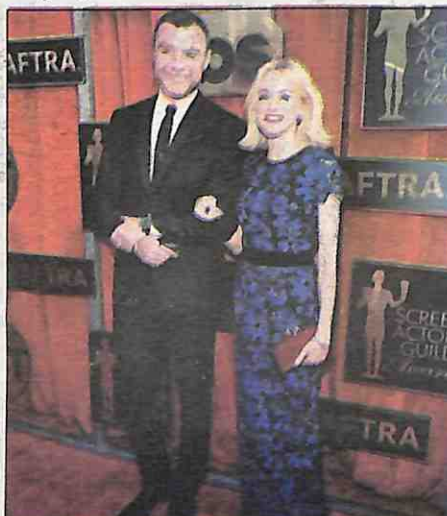
GIGGLE: Eddie Redmayne chats to Nicole Kidman.



JOYFUL: Viola Davis lifting her trophy.



TEAM: The cast of Straight Outta Compton were photobombed by Susan Sarandon on Saturday at the SAG Awards in Los Angeles.



ALL SMILES: Naomi Watts and partner Liev Schreiber.

SD'S TOP PHOTOGENIC MODEL 2017:

REGISTRATIONS OPEN TO YOUNG SINGLE MOTHERS TOO

Stories by Samukelisiwe Ginindza

THIS will serve as good news to aspiring models and appreciators as registrations for next year's Top Photogenic Model competition has begun and it will be open until March 19.

The ongoing competition is open to every woman between the ages of 18 to 29. However, this year's competition will be different as single mothers between the mentioned age groups are also welcomed.

The finalists will go through a series of photoshoots throughout 2016 before the actual winner is announced in 2017. This year's winner will be named in March 26 at the Happy Valley Resort and Casino.

To register, those interested can send a Whatsapp message with their



READY: Miss Photogenic 2016 contestants.

name and the word 'photogenic' to 76425361.

This was confirmed by Tiyandza Dlamini, who initiated such a concept in 2014, which saw its first winner Nompandulo Mndzebele gracing a number of runways as well as winning the prize of E10 000. She was also the ambassador of HandHolding

Foundation.

"We have had single mothers in this competition before and we feel it is necessary to point it out that they are also welcome to join," Tiyandza said.

She mentioned that such a leverage brought joy and boosted the confidence of few single mothers who had joined before.

2016 finals set for March 26

THE fate of the 13 models who have joined this year's competition will be known on March 26, wherein the winner will be announced.

The event will be held at Happy Valley Resort and Casino. This was confirmed by Tiyandza Dlamini, who mentioned that the winner would walk away with E10 000 cash. "Last year the finalists had to partake in the first half of various photoshoots, but this year they will be going through the final stages of the photoshoots which will involve intense

themes and will require the models to give it their best," she emphasised.

Thanked

She thanked the sponsors who have made everything possible, and they are Happy Valley Resort, Classic Furniture Emporium, Millennium Trend, Adelique Fashion House, Nu Nap Studio, Synkro Art Productions, Bar Code, Samacs Accessories, Red Lips Make Up and Oh Lala fashions.

Entry at the door will be E180.

"The objective of SD's Top Photogenic Model competition is to help young women who are oppressed to be empowered and motivated to continue pursuing their dreams and be involved in activities that will boost their self-esteem

"Most young single mothers tend to give up on their dreams in

fear of being judged and have fingers pointed at them, which tends to render them isolated, depressed and rejected," Dlamini said.

Top Photogenic Model competition emphasises that every woman should learn to love herself first and become her own ambassador.

By Phesheya Kunene

IT will come as great news to local music fans that gospel icon Mahalia Buchanan will be touching Swazi soil soon.

Her record company, Dlopho Records, revealed their plans, which are at an advanced stage, of bringing the songstress to Swaziland for a launch of her new album.

The singer with a golden voice needs no introduction since she has won the hearts of many with her debut appearance on Joyous Celebration. She might no longer be with Joyous, as she has since gone solo, but she keeps on proving to be a force to be reckoned with in the music scenes. Just last year, she scooped the Best Newcomer Award at the SABC Crown Gospel Awards.

She had initially received three nominations overall, but could not take the other awards home. She was also nominated for the Best Worship Album and Best Praise Album categories.

Mahalia is ready for Swaziland



COMING: Gospel icon Mahalia Buchanan.

Her manager, Doctor Makhubela, confirmed that the artist's CD is already at local music stores.

Ensured

"We have ensured that Mahalia's music is available to her local fans. We are quite aware that she has a great following in Swaziland. Her DVD will be available soon at Swazi music outlets," revealed

Makhubela.

Her 24 track debut album 'Redeemed to Worship' was recorded live at Soweto Theatre. Currently, the anointed gospel artist is on a city to city tour in South Africa.

She will embark on an African tour, which will include Swaziland. The songstress revealed her love for the Kingdom of Swaziland.

Honour

"It is an honour to know that we have fans from countries as far as Swaziland. When one creates music, they think only South Africa gets to hear of them. I have over the years become aware that my influence has crossed borders. I have always been pressurised by my many fans to record an album. The good news is, it is finally here. I love Swaziland and I cannot wait to perform there soon," stated Mahalia. Her management has also said her fans should rest assured as the popular musician would be in the kingdom in June.

'CITY OF GOD' MIX TAPE IS OUT

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza

YUNGEE PAIGE'S long awaited debut album has been finally released.

The album titled 'City Of God' was dropped yesterday.

This was confirmed by Yungea Paige, whose real name is Ndzingeko Mabuza. He mentioned that this project defined him and his music. This album has 18 tracks. "Most of the tracks are based on where I am from and where I am going to. It means a lot to me, especially because it took me a year to compile it and I'm grateful to God that it is finally out," he said.

The former Enjabulweni High School student revealed that he decided to name his album 'City Of God' because it was a long awaited project.

"This project defines what type of genre I would focus on, which is 'hip hop soul'. It is filled with diversity, enriched with southern

soul and that is just how I define my sound and music. This whole project was produced by me and mixed and mastered by Qiniso Slim Q Dlamini. It features the likes of Kena, Villah and Nile. I would say it is a must have," he boasted. Mabuza went on to add that his journey in music had been wild as it had its own ups and downs.

Easy

"This road was not simple; I had a few setbacks in every step I attempted to take.

Spending sleepless nights in studio was not a walk in the park and I am glad that I persevered as the album is finally here," Yungea Paige revealed.

He emphasised his desire to have people relating to the tape and in the process get inspired. The City Of God Mix tape is available for download on:

www.soundcloud.com/ndzingeko-paige-mabuza

Other Download links will be available from next week.



#MduraHellaFunny tickets released

By Phesheya Kunene

PRE-SHOW tickets to the much-anticipated February 12 stand-up comedy show dubbed #MduraHellaFunny have been released, and are already reported to be selling faster than had been expected.

This development was relayed to this publication by the #12Feb #MduraHellaFunny management, who stated that a limited number of tickets were already available at Ocean Basket outlets in Mbabane and at The Gables in Ezulwini.

"The demand for #MduraHellaFunny comedy show, which will incorporate the Know!!! It Game show, has been exceptional over the past few weeks, as people fear space might be sold out on the day. In our efforts to allay such fears, we decided to release the pre-show tickets early so that people could secure their space in good time," revealed Larry Mhlanga, Tall Tree Talent managing director. Mhlanga said social media was already abuzz with ticketing-related inquiries, adding that this informed their decision to make the tickets available at

various central locations. He implored people to be early birds in buying the tickets, citing the constricted space as a possible spoiler for those who would prefer to purchase them late. "One will recall that the Swaziland Theatre Club can only accommodate about 180 people, hence buying the tickets early would ensure that people are not disappointed as indications already point a sold-out show," he said.

Brand

By last Friday, said Mhlanga said, about 45 tickets were already sold in Mbabane alone.

#MduraHellaFunny is the official brand for Mdura; a comedian of immense talent, who was unearthed

during last year's LOL Comedy Competition. The February 12 show to start at 7pm is set to be the comedian's first full set stand-up comedy show. He will perform for an hour uninterrupted.

Already, teasers of some of his famous jokes are already posted on his Facebook page, #MduraHellaFunny, yet he will be unpacking all new jokes on the night.

Celebrity

Mhlanga added that a celebrity and friends game show titled Know!!!IT, would raise curtains for Mdura's set.

"The game show, as reported, is set to test contestants' knowledge on Swaziland's attractions. Winners, some of whom will be drawn from



THE BEHIND IT MAN: Mdura.

the audience, will be treated to amazing prizes sponsored by Swazi Trails, Big Game Parks and Swazi Plaza Properties, among others," he said.

Celebrity Watch

Rain leaks through roof of Kylie Jenner's \$2.7m mansion

LOS ANGELES - She dropped nearly three million dollars on her mansion a year ago.

But Kylie Jenner's Calabasas hideaway bared a hole in the roof on Sunday as rain poured down, potentially threatening her invaluable wall art.

"Oh no, oh no!" the 18-year-old could be heard worrying off camera as she shared two Snapchat videos on Sunday.

The Keeping Up With the Kardashians reality star shared the first clip as a pool of water sat on her glossy black wooden floors.

The large puddle continued to form as she filmed, which sat just



WORRIED: Kylie Jenner.

a few feet from an outside doorway. Drops of rain water were still pouring down as Jenner tilted the camera lens up at the ceiling, giving the viewer a glimpse at the source of the problem.

Mail Online

Kimberley Walsh, Justin Scott talk marriage

BARBADOS - It has been the subject of much secrecy, with A-list guests, a glossy magazine deal and a strict photography ban.

But Kimberley Walsh and her new husband Justin Scott finally opened up about their celebrity-filled wedding in a pre-ceremony interview.

The Girls Aloud star, who tied the knot with former Triple 8 band member Scott in Barbados on Saturday, spoke about the nuptials with Hello! magazine.

It comes as she was joined by her Girls Aloud band-mates Cheryl Fernandez-Versini and Nicola Roberts as bridesmaids, while the couple's 17-month-old



WANT COMMITMENT: Justin Scott and Kimberley Walsh.

son Bobby was pageboy.

The wedding celebrations kicked off with a beachside welcome party, before the couple, who have been together for almost 14 years, exchanged vows at St James Parish Church. *Mail Online*

Blac Chyna handcuffed after being thrown off flight

AUSTIN - Blac Chyna's plans for an appearance in London were thwarted on Friday as the 27-year-old was removed by officers from a flight at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

And newly released photographs show the star being handcuffed and led away by officers following the incident.

The pictures came as it emerges that following the arrest Blac's new beau Rob Kardashian drove 1 400 miles from Los Angeles to Texas to collect her.

The star, dressed casually in a black and white sweatshirt - worn with the hood pulled over her head - black leggings, and white



ARRESTED: Blac Chyna.

sneakers, appeared upset as she was led through the airport.

Her black, hooded sweatshirt covered her long, silver tresses, which were styled in a ponytail for her travels. *Mail Online*

Drake responds to the President choosing Kendrick Lamar

NEW YORK - The President of the United States ended the Drake vs Kendrick Lamar battle earlier this month.

But Drake isn't going down without a fight - as he bit back in rap to Barack Obama's choice on Saturday.

The Canadian hip hop star, 29, released his first single off Views From The 6, which referenced the President's decision.

"Tell Obama that my verses are just like the whips that he in, they bulletproof," he defiantly raps on Summer Sixteen.

Obama was asked on January 15, during a You Tube Q&A: "If Drake and Kendrick Lamar got in



FIGHTING: Drake.

a rap battle, who do you think would win?"

"Gotta go with Kendrick," the President answered, "I'm just saying. I think Drake is an outstanding entertainer, but Kendrick, his lyrics - his last album was outstanding. Best album, I think, last year." *Mail Online*

Chris Brown's ex says he's giving daughter Royalty asthma

LOS ANGELES - This past October Chris Brown and Nia Guzman agreed to co-parent one-year-old daughter Royalty.

However, on Sunday TMZ reported that Nia was already asking to restrict the 26-year-old's visitation, as she claimed their daughter had developed asthma because Chris had exposed her to 'an extreme amount of secondhand smoke.'

Nia also claimed that Royalty 'reeks of smoke' after a visit with the Zero singer, who is a weed and tobacco enthusiast.

Additionally, Nia is worried that the performer is abusing drugs, suspecting he has relapsed



ASTHMA SCARE: Chris Brown and daughter Royalty.

with sizzurp, which is made from prescription cough syrup, hard candy, and sugary soft drinks.

She requests that the star be forced to hire a full-time nanny or simply lose some of his visitation rights with Royalty. *Mail Online*

Mariah Carey 'planning extravagant wedding'

AUSTRALIA - She said 'yes' to marrying billionaire beau James Packer just two weeks ago after just eight months of dating.

Now Mariah Carey has reportedly begun planning her extravagant wedding to the Australian businessman.

Woman's Day claims the 45-year-old diva wants everything from rides, fireworks, elephants and a statue of herself for her big day. "There will be fireworks, a marching band and a flyover by military aircraft."

While going into detail about the items on Mariah's wish list for her wedding day, the source added that the Butterfly star also



WEDDING BELLS: Mariah Carey James Packer.

wants a 'mermaid statue of herself' created especially for the special event.

But while it seems the mother-of-two will have anything and everything for the nuptials, she also has a big surprise install for her husband-to-be. *Mail Online*

Girls night out with Taylor Swift,

LOS ANGELES - She's known for a being a girl's girl.

And on Saturday, Taylor Swift, 26, shared an evening with two of her musical BFFs.

Fifth Harmony member Camila Cabello, 18, and singer/actress Serayah McNeill of Empire enjoyed a girls' night in with the Wildest Dreams singer.

Taylor was dressed in a dark ensemble, complete with a fitted, lace-up sweater, while Serayah, 20, sported a top knot up do, with a leather jacket over a green top and jeans. Camila went for a laid-back chic look in an oversize cream sweater and ripped jeans, and all three girls appeared to



GIRLS OUT: Taylor Swift, Fifth Harmony Camila Cabello and Serayah McNeill.

rock their own pair of chunky high heels.

Taylor shared two photos of her evening spent with her famous friends. *Mail Online*

Kendra Wilkinson attends son's basketball game

LOS ANGELES - She's spent many long hours watching her husband Hank Basket on the football field.

And Kendra Wilkinson is proving to be every bit as dedicated to supporting her son.

On Saturday, the 30-year-old enjoyed a family outing with husband Hank Baskett and daughter Alijah, one, in Los Angeles.

The threesome were attending six-year-old son Hank's basketball game.

The mother-of-two was dressed comfortably for the event, clad in a white top and grey hoodie, complete with a dolphin-print logo.

Kendra layered her look with a



SUPPORTIVE: Hank Basket and Kendra Wilkinson.

pair of black leggings and camel-coloured, UGG-style boots. Her only accessory was her wedding ring. *Mail Online*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Qondi starts to crack. Sihle feels her grasp on Zweli slipping. The drivers make a disturbing discovery and S'bu discovers unknown depths to Lebo.



CRACKS: Qondi.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Nina is left with the short end of the stick. Calvin faces more resistance than he expected. Bradley desperately scrambles to please both Barker and Samantha.



PLEASED: Barker.

Muvhango

TODAY

Nenzhelele promises to make Mashudu's life hell when he finds him. Ranthumeng moves up the list of Detective 3's suspects. Sthembiso opens up to Rendani about not having money to register.



CONFIDANTE: Rendani.

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY



UPSET: Niki.

Niki is upset with Suffo for spending the night with Puleng and for neglecting Busi. Lerato organises a press conference and makes a public apology on Bongani's behalf. The press conference goes awry. Fats gets furious when he finds out that Thabiso proposed to Bulelwa.

PICTURE OF THE DAY



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

This time of year is one of your favourites. You should find yourself in a position to really enjoy and understand those around you; whether you are working with people or you have a house full of guests. Wonderful feelings and a sense of support and harmony make this a truly joyous time. Celebrate the feelings that you have today and allow them to carry forth throughout the coming new year. You will find that others are very respectful of your ability to give advice, be of good cheer and in general present the type of person worth following.



Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

Today you may benefit from a visit to the library. Instead of buying books on subjects that are important to you, why not borrow the books and do your research? This could mean you want to learn how to replace a mirror or build a new mailbox. Some attention may need to be paid to consolidating or organising your personal affairs or to rearranging your living situation, perhaps by clearing away one goal to create another goal. There are small challenges that you handle quickly. You make it a point to renew your energy occasionally by living a quiet personal life-style; if not all the time, at least occasionally.



Pisces

February 19 - March 20

You could be feeling quite ambitious, as a rather practical streak motivates you to get your personal business organised. You want very much to be respected for who you are and what you can do and you find work, achievement and ambition mean more to you at this time. You are very practical when it comes to dealing and working with other people. You just seem to have a natural talent for knowing what to do and can take action with very little fuss or bother. You are asked to make use of your talents. Being conscientious is of special importance now.



Aries

March 21 - April 19

This should be a landmark day to enjoy—one to put in the photograph album or diary entry. You are in control of your beautiful day and able to guide yourself with ease. A clothes-conscious member of your family gives you important suggestions on your wardrobe this morning. A shopping trip may be in order. Some form of entertainment is enjoyable this afternoon. A broken item has your attention later today. Sometimes it is better to have a professional fix some important item that has broken—the cost may be much less than having to buy a new item or fix it yourself.



Taurus

April 20 - May 20

This is a time when you may wish you could be anyone but you. Slow down and take your day one minute at a time and be observant of others and your surroundings. After a little time you might just want to take a few minutes each day to stop and just simply observe others. You may soon find that you don't want to be anyone else. Now you can get to work on what you don't like and be more expressive with the traits that are most positive. There is such a demand for a certain type of sales or technical person that you may feel you could fill the requirements.



Gemini

May 21 - June 21

Knowledge is beneficial. You display your knowledge as you work to guide, advise, adjust and communicate with your clients or the customers that come across your path. You are good at what you do, and this day is progressive. Purchasing and selecting colours may be on your mind later this afternoon. A new home requires plenty of time and patience in making it truly your own. If



you are a new homeowner, decorator, realtor, etc., there is an interest in home improvement.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

It should not be hard for you to enjoy and value your own life situation today. This afternoon you may be thinking of ways to escape the everyday routine. Acupuncture or some other type of health treatment may be what you desire to investigate. You may also want to learn better relaxation methods, weight loss, allergy relief, etc. Some of your friends will join you. Some words to an old song such as, "old friends are like gold, new ones like silver, hold on to the new, but cherish the old" is a good one to remember at this time.



Leo

July 23 - August 22

It seems to be difficult to concentrate today. It may be that there are many interruptions. If this is the case, keep notes and you will find that you are more able to concentrate on the subject at hand. With this note taking you will find that ideas and thoughts will not become lost. You may want to share some of your ideas with your teammates but wait until a noon break when you could get some feedback. You may have an idea for an exhibit that would bring in lots of future customers.



Virgo

August 23 - September 22

Stress lessens now and your vitality improves. In the workplace, teamwork and compromise techniques lead to success. It is worthwhile to examine the views voiced by others. Writing down chores is a good thing; it will force you to slow down and think through your next move before you push yourself too quickly. You can sense the challenges as well as the opportunities when it comes to a new boss or new work partner today. This afternoon is a good day to be with others in play or work.



Libra

September 23 - October 23

It may be impossible to try to lose yourself in your work this day. This may put you at odds with your more sensible duties. It is a good time to give your best to the moment—the whole day will then eventually work out. Take your breaks, which are important in helping to eliminate some of the stress—perhaps a little walking. You may make your money in the field of exercise, perhaps through sports, and still need a break that moves the energies into another direction.



Scorpio

October 24 - November 21

You really get serious about taking better care of yourself—on many levels. The bottom line to all of this is that you simply want to feel good about yourself and the way you do things. Diet, exercise and organising your personal affairs somehow mean more to you at this time. You make decisions that will create a positive outcome—groceries, exercise and diet. You and your neighbours plan a garage sale for this coming weekend. May need this winter.



Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

This may not be the best time to make any important decisions that could affect your living situation or life conditions. You may find others challenging your authority or questioning the direction you are taking. Step back and rethink your presentation; you will gain confidence. In a few more days, you will be able to make yourself heard, perhaps by only having to rephrase your words.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



HARD SUDOKU # 264

SOLUTION

1	4	2	8	9	7	5	3	6
8	5	7	4	6	3	9	1	2
6	9	3	1	5	2	8	7	4
5	1	4	2	7	8	6	9	3
2	8	9	3	4	6	1	5	7
3	7	6	9	1	5	2	4	8
7	6	1	5	2	4	3	8	9
9	2	8	7	3	1	4	6	5
4	3	5	6	8	9	7	2	1

HARD SUDOKU # 263

Fill in the missing numbers so every row, column and quadrant contains the number 1 through 9.

3	6	8	4				1	
				5				8
	7					4		
2			3		1	7		
9		7			6			
		3		2			6	9
					5			
6		9		4				



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was off the island and back home. The second guy wishes the same. The third guy says "I'm lonely. I wish my friends were back here."

USELESS FACTS

1. The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.
2. When you sneeze, air and particles travel through the nostrils at speeds over 100 mph.
3. One in every four

- Americans has appeared somewhere or another on television.
4. One in eight Americans has worked at a McDonalds restaurant.
5. 70% of all boats sold are used for fishing.
6. Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

BRAinteasers
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERSYesterday's Brain Teaser
Answers

1. Imagine you are in a room, no doors windows or anything, how do you get out?

A. Stop imagining.

2. What happens only in the middle of each month, in all of the seasons, except summer and happens only in the night, never in the day?

A. The Letter N.

Today's Brain Teaser

1. Mike turns off the light in his bedroom. The light switch is 20 feet from the bed, but he still manages to get into his bed before it is dark. How does he do it?
2. A businessman pushes his car to a hotel and tells its owner that he is bankrupt. Why?

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Zidane's side close gap to four points

MADRID - It took just 11 minutes to change the question from if Real Madrid would beat Espanyol, to if they would beat them by more than the six goals they managed in September.

Cristiano Ronaldo hit a 'perfect' hat-trick, scoring a right-footed penalty, a left-footed screamer after a solo dribble and then a header to seal it, following on from the five he bagged against them when these sides met at the start of the season.

Red-hot Les Blues striker Karim Benzema opened the scoring by heading home in the seventh minute, before Espanyol gave away a silly penalty when Enzo Roco tripped up Ronaldo in the box four minutes later.

The Portuguese forward picked himself up and bludgeoned the ball past Giedrius Arlauskis, on loan from Watford, to make it 2-0 and essentially kill the match there and then, bar



HAT-TRICK: Ronaldo completed his hat-trick with a stooping header from close range, connecting with Jese's cross.

Madrid's stars fattening their goal talies.

James, with the aid of a heavy deflection, got a goal for himself too, as Madrid ran riot. And thanks to Oscar Duarte's late own goal, after live-wire substitute Jese caused havoc in the box, they matched their previous result.

Firing 12 past them in two league games is impressive, especially considered Los Pericos shut out Barcelona recently in Cornellà.

Espanyol have now lost eight games in a row away from home in La Liga, their worst run since they 'achieved' the same in 2002.

Daily Mail

Fiorentina coach sent off after intercepting ball

ROME - Fiorentina coach Paulo Sousa was involved in one of the oddest dismissals of the season on Sunday when he was sent off against Genoa for intercepting the ball while it was still in play.

Sousa, standing on the touchline, saw that a Fiorentina clearance was going straight into touch, stopped the ball with his foot and handed it to a Genoa player to take a throw-in.

But television replays clearly showed that the ball was still in play when Sousa stopped it and

the bemused Portuguese was ordered from the touchline.

"I anticipated everyone including myself. There are rules, but it was an honest mistake," he told reporters.

"I always try to be as well-behaved as possible, I try to help the referees, but sometimes you are penalised for certain behaviour."

"At the end of the game, we just have to respect the referees even when they make mistakes."

Daily Mail



DISMISSED: Fiorentina coach Paulo Sousa was involved in one of the oddest dismissals of the season on Sunday.

Gary Neville jeered after another loss

VALENCIA - Former Manchester City striker Alvaro Negredo missed two second half sitters as Valencia lost again, meaning Gary Neville has now failed to win any of his first eight league games as the club's manager.

Neville has taken just five points from a possible 24 since taking over and Valencia are now being sucked towards the drop-zone after this 1-0 defeat to Sporting Gijon.

Tomorrow, Europe's finest will be in town as Barcelona arrive for the first leg of the Copa del Rey semi-final. Sporting are a million miles from last season's treble winners. But the relegation

favourites left with all three points, scoring with a second half penalty.

Negredo's decline has been almost as steep as Valencia's - the one-time Spain international also missed the team's best first half chance and Neville desperately needs the injured Paco Alcacer to return from strained knee and ankle ligaments.

Valencia started brightly and after six minutes they had their first chance when Pablo Piatti wriggled clear and played in Sofiane Feghouli. He cut back inside on to his favoured left foot but his shot was weak and easily saved.

Piatti had started well and his

pass was good but Feghouli, making his first start for over two months, couldn't finish. Piatti had the next chance stinging Ivan Cuellar's hands with a rasping shot that was tipped over.

The early pressure was promising and Neville remained on the edge of his technical area willing in the first goal but by the half hour mark he was lifting his arms in a clear gesture to his players for them to raise the tempo - their early threat had disappeared and both team seemed to be going through the motions.

As centre-back Aymen Abdenmour hoofed a hopeful long ball forward, and it ran straight to Sporting's keeper it

was all Neville could do to not let the player know how wasteful he had been with possession.

There were more stray passes and a few impatient whistles could now be heard around Mestalla. They turned to groans in 39 minutes when Feghouli cleverly let a forward pass from Antonio Barragan run to Negredo who was in the clear with only the advancing Cuellar but he took three touches and what seemed like an age to get his shot away and the keeper saved.

He also smothered the rebound as Valencia were second to the loose ball.

Daily Mail

ROSSONERI RUN RIOT OVER CITY RIVALS

MILAN - AC Milan stormed to victory in a frenzied derby against Inter Milan, who missed a penalty and had coach Roberto Mancini sent off.

Inter substitute Mauro Icardi, dropped from the starting line-up after being publicly criticised by Mancini last week, hit his spot kick against the post minutes after coming on as he squandered a chance to cancel out Alex's first-half opener.

Carlos Bacca and M'Baye Niang quickly compounded Icardi's misery as they scored two more for Milan, who had failed to win any of the last three meetings between the two sides, and seriously dent Inter's lingering title hopes.

Icardi, who earned Mancini's wrath after a miss against Carpi last week, was replaced by new signing Eder but the Brazil-born striker himself missed a sitter on six minutes as he headed wide from close range with the goal at his mercy.

"This is the greatest joy I've experienced since I've been coaching, because derbies won so roundly go down in history," said

Milan boss Sinisa Mihajlovic, who wildly celebrated Inter's penalty miss.

"I even ripped my trousers at the knees, I was so happy because it was a decisive



CLEAR: Inter midfielder Marcelo Brozovic vies for the ball with Milan's Riccardo Montolivo (left) during the 3-0 defeat. (*Daily Mail*)

moment." Eder appeared to be brought down by Luca Antonelli as he raced onto Marcelo Brozovic's through ball one minute later but, with Inter players demanding a red card, the referee gave Milan a free kick. *Daily Mail*

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Any person objecting to the account may lodge his or her objection in writing with the executor and with the Master of the High Court at any time before expiry of the said period.

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Lanky Niang pledges loyalty to Amazulu

DURBAN - Amazulu's surprise signing, Mame Niang, has pledged to work hard in pushing for the club's return to the Absa Premiership.

The lanky Senegalese joined the National First Division (NFD) side before the transfer window closed on Friday.

Niang's move to Durban left many surprised after Maritzburg United chairman Farook Kadodia had publicly stated that Mamelodi Sundowns had agreed to lend the striker to them.

The striker said he chose Amazulu over Maritzburg because of Uthutu coach Steve Barker.

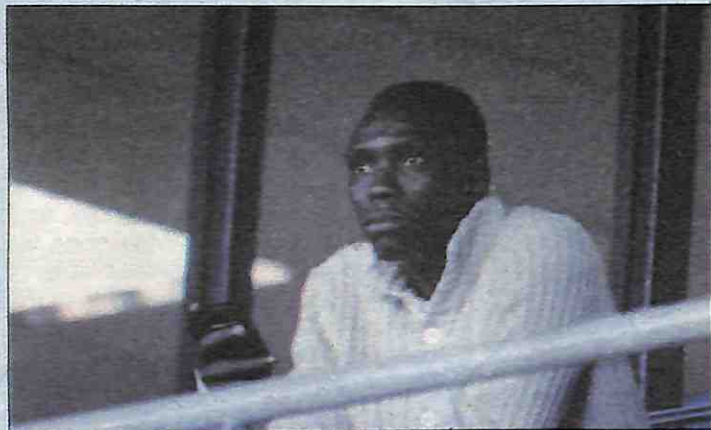
"I've worked with Steve Barker before, he is a great coach. I am looking forward to helping the team achieve its

aspirations of returning to PSL next season."

Niang added: "I'm a different kind of striker. If I bring what I have to the team and the other players bring the quality they have, we should be able to achieve our goal this season."

"Amazulu are too well organised to be playing in the NFD - if we work hard as a collective I believe it will happen for us."

The 31-year-old towering player comes with extensive experience. He has just returned from a six-month stint in Cyprus and has previously played in the German Bundesliga with VfL Wolfsburg, the Norwegian Premier League with Viking as well as for SuperSport United and Moroka Swallows in the PSL top flight. *Daily Sun*



LOYALTY: Mame Niang during the Absa Premiership match between Orlando Pirates and Maritzburg United.

WALAZA EYEING PSL COMEBACK

JOHANNESBURG - Former Orlando Pirates striker, Excellent Walaza, is in search of a club to help him to revive his career.

The 28-year-old has been in the football wilderness in recent years.

Former Moroka Swallows midfielder, Lefa Tsutsulupa, has taken Walaza under his wing with a view to help him to play at the highest level again.

Walaza has been training with Swallows, although there have been no plans for the struggling NFD side to sign him. It is believed



SIGHTS ON COMEBACK: Excellent Walaza.

that the player is keen to join a team in the PSL.

"The player is fine and

we are still looking for a team for him. We have spoken to a couple of

teams about him, but at the moment there is nothing for him yet. We have noticed that most of the teams have problems with scoring goals. He can possibly solve those problems," said Tsutsulupa.

Walaza last played for Atle FC in the NFD, between 2011 and 2012. Some of the Pirates fans could remember Walaza for scoring two goals for their team in the 2-2 draw against Kaizer Chiefs in Durban in 2007.

Soccer Laduma

SA referees just not good enough - Komphela

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs coach Steve Komphela has made the controversial suggestion that the Premier Soccer League (PSL) and the SA Football Association (SAFA) must start looking for referees outside South African borders.

He gave the impression that local referees are not good enough to officiate in matches of such calibre as the Soweto derby between Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates.

Komphela wants the Soweto derby to emulate the Egyptian derby between Al Ahly and Zamalek. When the two north African rivals lock horns, the Egyptian FA cross borders in search of a top referee outside the country to officiate over one of the biggest rivalries on the continent.

Komphela's suggestion followed their controversial 1-1 draw with Bucs at a packed FNB Stadium on Saturday, where two

goals were disallowed, one by either side. Match referee Phillip Tinyani made a few questionable decisions, including disallowing Pirates' goal in the first half.

Speaking after the match, Komphela said "if all stakeholders and all of us are footballing people, we will always strive to elevate the game and never try to relegate it again".

He said: "Maybe we've reached a stage where we need to cross borders to get people to help us."

"Maybe in so doing we will elevate the game in South Africa. But maybe some of us feel it's not worth elevating."

Komphela also claims that first assistant referee Zakhela Siwela refused shake his hand after the game.

"At the end of the match I extended my hand to the first assistant referee who was running alongside our bench and he refused it," Komphela explains.

Daily Sun



INJURY WOES: Mamelodi Sundowns midfielder Bongani Zungu.

Zungu out with fractured shin

PRETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns midfielder Bongani Zungu tells KickOff.com he will be out for four to six weeks after fracturing his shin against Maritzburg United.

Zungu came off second best after entering a tackle with Philani Zulu in Sundowns' 3-2 win at Harry Gwala Stadium on Saturday night.

"The injury is not that bad... I fractured my right shin and I will be out of action for four to six weeks," Zungu says to this website.

"I'm not feeling any pain as I'm talking to you and I'm sure by March I will be in action."

Zungu is leaving Downs at the end of the season to join Portuguese side Vitoria de Guimaraes FC and when he suffered the injury this weekend there were concerns that it might jeopardise his move. But with the player back in March, he will also be able to help the Brazilians in their quest to win the League.

"My focus right now is Sundowns. Fortunately we have enough quality in the team and I won't be missed. The players will do their best to finish the season strongly and our supporters will rally behind the team."

Sizzling Sundowns host Chilli Boys

PRETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns will be out to keep their three point lead atop the Absa Premiership log standings intact when they host Chippa United at the Lucas Moripe Stadium this evening.

Kick-off is at 7:30pm.

The Brazilians extended their unbeaten run in the league to 12 matches with a 3-2 win over Maritzburg United at the weekend.

Pitso Mosimane's troops have showed no signs of slowing down, but have been dealt a major blow with news that Bongani Zungu has been ruled out for a reported six weeks after suffering a shin injury in the first-half against the Team of Choice.

Zungu's absence will be felt in midfield, but in Teko Modise and Hlompho Kekana, who has been

in great form of late, Mosimane will be confident that his side can continue their hot-streak.

With both Bidvest Wits and Mpumalanga Black Aces dropping points in recent weeks, Mosimane has hammered home the importance of not letting complacency set in, Modise revealed: "Having a coach such as Pitso Mosimane, there is no way that the team can have complacency because he is driven by passion," Modise said.

"He has instilled that within the team, so everyone is passionate to achieve this season."

"There is no chance of complacency."

"We have got a very good squad and we can win with anybody on the pitch and that has been working for us."

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ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP

TERRY ON CHELSEA EXIT - FULL TRANSCRIPT

TO be honest, I was told in last week before the Arsenal game [I knew] it's not going to be extended. It's my last run in the FA Cup so I want to make it a good one.

It's a big season for me and I want to push on - not just in this competition but in the Premier League as well. I knew before the Arsenal game so mentally I've kind of accepted it. We just have to move on. They said when the new manager comes in, things might change. It's a no at the minute.

I needed to know now like I have done every January and sometimes it takes a couple of months to get done. Unfortunately it was a no. It's not going to be a fairytale ending, I'm not going to retire at Chelsea. It's going to be elsewhere, which it took me a couple of days to get over.

My performance isn't going to change - the way I train, what I give for the club. I want to give everything and finish on a high, on 100 per cent good terms with the club. We spoke about my legacy and coming back to the club when I finish.

The most important thing now is to get us up the league. I didn't feel as though I was playing great in the first four or five games of the season, like everyone in the team, and the performances showed that.

But since then myself and everyone else has picked up back to where we are. All I can do is keep my head down and plug on because it'll be my last year at the club. The club will move on. No player is ever bigger than the club. Ideally I would have loved to stay, but the club's moving in a different direction.

No doubt they'll sign one or two great centre-backs. I want to come back as a Chelsea supporter in years to come with my kids and see the team doing great.

Unfortunately that's not going to be with me, but I want to see the team do well. It's going to be my last year and I want to go out at the top. I couldn't play for another Premier League club. I couldn't do that to the Chelsea fans. It will be elsewhere for sure. I don't know where and I leave that to the people in charge. It certainly won't be in the Premier League.

My agent made the call like we do every January. He got told over the phone and I called to set up a meeting the following day.

The club immediately set that up which was great of them to do that. I wanted to hear it face to face. They told me. Unfortunately it's not going to be. I feel as though I'm in great nick, I'm playing great and I've got a couple of years to go. It'll just be elsewhere.

CHELSEA'S STATEMENT IN FULL

JOHN requested a meeting with the club the week before last. In that meeting he asked about the possibility of an extension to his existing contract.

John was advised that while no new deal was currently on the table, that situation could change in the coming months. The club has the utmost respect for John and everything he has helped us achieve to date.

He is a fantastic servant of Chelsea Football Club and a superb captain and, as such, the club will keep the channels of dialogue open.

Daily Mail

Blues star reveals he was told by the club his contract won't be extended

LONDON - John Terry is to leave Chelsea at the end of the season after he announced on Sunday night that the club have refused to offer him a new contract.

The 35-year-old revealed after Chelsea's 5-1 win in the FA Cup fourth round at MK Dons that he will end his career elsewhere after 21 years at Stamford Bridge, though he insisted he will not join another Premier League club.

Terry admitted he would have 'loved to stay' but was told by club officials at a meeting before last weekend's win at Arsenal that they would not be adding a one-year extension to his contract.

However, Chelsea insisted that they will "keep the channels of dialogue open."

The club's most iconic player has been at Chelsea since the age of 14 and enjoyed a glittering career, winning four Premier League titles, five FA Cups, three League Cups, the Champions League and the Europa League.

Terry wants to continue playing but promised he will not sign for

JOHN TERRY TO LEAVE CHELSEA END OF SEASON



(1) John Terry was a mainstay of the Chelsea defence during Jose Mourinho's first season in charge during 2004-05. (2) Blues midfielder Claude Makelele goes to congratulate Terry after his vital contribution in the last 16 clash. (3) Terry stands in the middle of Chelsea silverware. (4) Terry was found not guilty of affray after an altercation with bouncer Trevor Thirlwall at the Wellington Club. (5) The former England captain had the chance to make history from the penalty spot but he memorably slipped. (6) Terry took his hostile on-field persona too far when he enraged QPR defender Anton Ferdinand at Loftus Road. (7) The defender received his marching orders for a late and high challenge on Barcelona forward Alexis Sanchez.

another side in England, with offers likely to come in from

China or the United States.

"It's not going to be a fairytale

ending, I'm not going to retire at Chelsea," Terry confirmed.

"I was in last week before the Arsenal game and it's not going to be extended.

"It's my last run in the FA Cup so I want to make it a good one. It's a big season for me and I want to push on - not just in this competition but in the Premier League as well.

"I knew before the Arsenal game so mentally I've kind of accepted it. We just have to move on and climb the league."

He continued: "They said that when the new manager comes in, things might change. It's a no at the minute.

"I needed to know now like I have done every January and sometimes it takes a couple of months to get done.

Unfortunately it was a no.

"It's going to be elsewhere which it took me a couple of days to get over.

"But like I say, I knew before the Arsenal game and my performance isn't going to change - the way I train, what I give for the club. I want to give everything and finish on a high, on 100 per cent good terms." *Daily Mail*

Zouma surprised by Terry exit announcement

LONDON - Kurt Zouma was left shocked by Chelsea's decision to release captain John Terry at the end of the season and does not know how the former England captain can be replaced.

Terry has announced he is leaving the club he joined at the age of 14 after they opted not to offer him a new contract. The 35-year-old, who has made 696 appearances so far for the Blues, had

been hoping to secure a 12-month extension but was informed by the club of their decision before last week's win at Arsenal. However, Zouma believes his central-defensive partner could play on for another couple of years.

"I am very surprised - I didn't know," Zouma told the Evening Standard. "Now we have to see what John wants to do because I think he can play for another one

or two years. "This feels like when we lost Didier (Drogba) last summer. (Terry) is a huge personality at Chelsea. When you lose these kind of players, you have to replace them but I don't know how John can be replaced. We have to think about it.

"For me he can play many more times. He is still at a top level. He has been playing very well since I arrived at Chelsea. He can continue for sure." *Daily Mail*



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ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



DONE DEALS: CLUB-BY-CLUB GUIDE TO ALL JANUARY MOVES SO FAR

LONDON - This Premier League season has already proved wildly unpredictable.

With so many surprise packages and big spending flops from the summer, you can be sure the top flight clubs will have their cheque-

books out ready to do business this month.

Increase

Last January, the Premier League spent over £100m on transfers and that could increase over the next month given the terrible plight of

established clubs and the ambition of new contenders near the top of the table. With that in mind you can keep up to date with every major Premier League transfer right here throughout the January transfer window with our club-by-club guide...



Mohamed Elneny.

ARSENAL

IN: Mohamed Elneny (Basle, £5m)

OUT: Glen Kamara (Southend United, loan)

ASTON VILLA



IN: None

OUT: Joe

Cole (Coventry City, free)

Gary Gardner (Nottingham Forest, loan), Callum Robinson (Preston North End, loan), Joe Bennett (Sheffield Wednesday, loan), Jose Angel Crespo (Rayo Vallecano, loan), Philippe Senderos (released)

BOURNEMOUTH

IN: Benik

Afobe (Wolves, £12m)

Lewis

Grabban (Norwich City, £8m), Marius

Adamonis (Atlantas, undisclosed), Juan

Iturbe (Roma, loan)

OUT:

Elliott Ward (Blackburn Rovers, undisclosed), Yann Kermorgant (Reading, undisclosed), Lee Tomlin (Bristol City, loan), Jayden Stockley (Exeter City, loan), Alexandre Pato will be on loan at Chelsea from Corinthians until the end of the Premier League season.

SWANSEA CITY

IN: Alberto Paloschi (Cheivo, £8m)

OUT: Jonjo Shelvey (Newcastle United, £12m)



Alexandre Pato.

CHELSEA

IN: Matt Miazga (New York Red Bulls, £3.5m)

Alexandre Pato (Corinthians, loan)

OUT:

Ramires (Jiangsu Suning, £25m)

Papy Djilobodji (Werder Bremen, loan), Christian Atsu (Malaga, loan)

Patrick Bamford (Norwich City, loan), Charly Musonda (Real Betis, loan), Alex Kiwomya (Fleetwood, loan), Mitchell Beeney (Newport, loan)



Emmanuel Adebayor.

CRYSTAL PALACE

IN: Emmanuel Adebayor (Free agent), Randall Williams (Tower Hamlets, undisclosed)

OUT:

Jonny Williams (MK Dons, loan)

Jack Hunt (Sheffield Wednesday)

Liam Walsh (Yeovil, loan)

Jonjo Kenny (Oxford, loan)

EVERTON

IN: Shani Tarashaj (Grasshoppers, £3m), Matty Foulds (Bury, undisclosed)



OUT:

Steven Naismith (Norwich City, £8m), Shani Tarashaj (Grasshoppers, loan)

LEICESTER CITY



IN: Daniel Amartey (Copenhagen, £5m)

Demarai Gray (Birmingham City, £3.75m), Daniel Iverson (Esbjerg, undisclosed)

OUT:

Andrej Kramaric (Hoffenheim, loan)

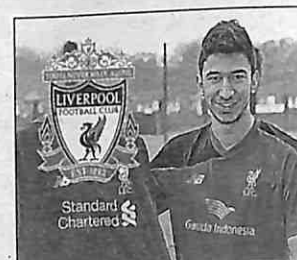
MANCHESTER CITY

IN: Anthony Caceres (Central Coast Mariners, £150,000)



OUT:

George Evans (Reading, free), Shay Facey (Rotherham, loan)



Marko Grujic.

LIVERPOOL

IN: Marko Grujic (Red Star Belgrade, £5.1m)

Steven Caulker (Queens Park Rangers, loan)

OUT:

Marko Grujic (Red Star Belgrade, loan), Ryan Fulton (Portsmouth, loan)

MANCHESTER UNITED

IN: None

OUT:

Victor Valdes (Standard Liege, loan), Ashley Fletcher (Barnsley, loan), Ben Pearson (Preston, undisclosed)



NEWCASTLE UNITED

IN: Andros

Townsend (Tottenham Hotspur, £12m)

Jonjo Shelvey (Swansea City, £12m), Henri Saivet (Bordeaux, £4.5m)



OUT:

Shane Ferguson (Millwall, undisclosed), Mike Williamson (Wolves, undisclosed), Florian Thauvin (Marseille, loan), Lubo Satka (York City, loan), Gael Bigirimana (Coventry City, loan)

NORWICH CITY

IN: Steven Naismith

(Everton, £8m)

Timm Klose

(Wolfsburg, £7.6m)

Matt Jarvis (West Ham United, £2.5m)

Ivo Pinto (Dinamo Zagreb, undisclosed)

Ben Godfrey (York City, undisclosed)

Patrick Bamford

(Chelsea, loan)

OUT:

Lewis Grabban

(Bournemouth, £8m)

Elliott

Bennett (Blackburn Rovers, undisclosed)

Gary Hooper

(Sheffield Wednesday, undisclosed)

Conor McGrandles

(Falkirk, loan)

Harry Toffolo

(Peterborough United, loan)

Jamar Loza (Southend United, loan)

Jake Kean (Colchester, loan)



SOUTHAMPTON

IN: Charlie Austin (Queens Park Rangers, £4m)

OUT:

Sam McQueen

(Southend United, loan)

Ryan Seager (Crewe Alexandra, loan)



SUNDERLAND

IN: Wahbi Khazri

(Bordeaux, £8m)

Lamine Kone (Lorient, £6m)

Jan Kirchhoff (Bayern Munich, £750,000)

Dame

N'Doye (Trabzonspor, loan)

Steve Harper (Free agent)

OUT:

Costel Pantilimon

(Watford, free)

Will Buckley

(Birmingham City, loan)

Danny

Graham (Blackburn



Rovers, loan)

Lynden Gooch

(Doncaster Rovers, loan)

Sebastien Coates

(Sporting Lisbon, loan)

Dailymail



STOKE CITY

IN: None

OUT:

Steve Sidwell

(Brighton, loan)

Weekend Sports Results

MTN Premier League

Royal Leopard	2	Bad Boys	1
Manzini Sea Birds	1	Mbabane Swallows	4
Bad Boys	2	Malanti Chiefs	1
Midas City	2	Red Lions	0
Manzini Wanderers	1	Young Buffaloes	1
Mbabane Highlanders	0	Green Mamba	1

MTN First Division

Tambuti	2	Mbabane Citizens	0
Ubombo Flyers	0	Sikhalo Se-Africa	1
RSSC United	1	Moneni Pirates	3
Manchester United	1	Madlenya	0
Ludzeludze Brothers	1	Hellenic	0
Amalanda	3	KoNtshingila	2

PLS Reserve League

Red Lions	1	Midas City	0
Sea Birds	1	Swallows	1
Manzini Wanderers	1	Young Buffaloes	0
Manzini Sundowns	1	Royal Leopard	3
Malanti Chiefs	2	Bad Boys	1
Mbabane Highlanders	0	Green Mamba	1

Swazi Trac Hhohho Super League E75 000

Sibovini	4	V Killers	1
Black Swallows	1	19 Celtics	3
Gordon Stars	1	L Wanderers	0

Brand ACTIVE Mbabane Juniors Pre-season Tournament E20 000

Super sport	5	J Stars	1
Super Stars	1	Dark City	1
Dark City	3	Hurricane	3
New Stars	4	Flying Stars	5
All Stars	2	Swallows	1
Swallows	2	Dynamos	0
Citizens	3	Super stars	1
Super sport	2	Hurricane	1

Bakhanyisele Mabulala XP Mabuza Maphalaleni Regional League E30 000

Love & Peace	0	Hill Stars	1
H Fighters	4	Rollers	0
Lunkanka	2	Mighty birds	2
Jubukweni	2	Academy	4
Sunrise	0	Iubuyane	2
Early Sunset	2	Siphambanweni	0
East			
Barcelona	1	Hot Spurs	2
Thuluzobona	0	Professions	0
Young Lovers	3	Rangers	0
Blue Birds	1	Khulawane	2
Junior Stars	4	Unkhokha	2
Young Stars	0	Billy Ocean	4
Xi experience	1	Killers	1
Manchester	2	Iselesele	1

Mandla Mahewu Mbabane Regional Football E55 000 League

Pine Valley	0	White City	0
Thembelihle	1	Corporation	3
Mpolonjeni	1	Imbumba	1
Sandla	2	Amaweile	2
R Dynamos	2	N Rangers	2
F Stars	1	Real Tec	1
FC Vall Stars	0	PMT	1

B Division

M United	1	Manzana	1
Mphalati	2	Free Style	0
Lusoti	6	N Die	3
J Aces	6	Movers	1
Darkies	4	Wailers	1
Arsenal	2	Junction Stars	1
Classic	2	D Action	5

Futis Nkhaba Regional Football league E15 000

Tycoons	0	L Lions	4
Crocodile	0	Swazi aces	1
Majotini	0	L Lions	3
Marisburg	3	Athletico	2
Barcelona	4	M Celtics	1
Nkoyoyo	3	Manyisa	0
D Stars	0	Bafana	3

Ematombeni Mdzimba Regional League E30 000

Highlanders	0	Rhinos	2
All Stars	2	Timbungulu	3
B MashubA	0	Top center	1
Bush Bucks	1	Pirates	3
Barcelona	2	Tyson 2	3



WHOSE BALL?: Manzini Wanderers' Sifiso Matse and Young Buffaloes' Timothy Mathonsi battling for the ball during the MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday. The game ended in a 1-all draw. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

Blue Birds 1 Drikopies 5

Buy Cash Pig's Peak Regional League E30 000

Peak city	4	PP United	0
Thuluzobona	2	Khanjana	3
Morning Star	2	Phophonyane	5
Mhlathuze	2	Hot Spurs	1
Mpolonjeni	2	Phachanga	6
Mangwaneni	3	Super sport	0
Professionals	1	Mhlathuze	0
Whit Killers	0	Mhlolo	1

Post Construction Sigangeni Regional League

Northern Sigangeni			
U Eagles	2	Kangaroo	1
Real touch	3	Sigangeni	0
Villa Sport	2	L Nationals	1
Makhwane	0	Mighty Chiefs	1
Real United	1	Kupheleni	0
M Celtics	0	Young Fighters	0

Southern Magilane

Express	2	Ntsetse Flyers	1
XI Rangers	0	Cannibals	3
Young Heroes	2	Sithobela	1
M Eagles	1	United Stars	1
Community	0	SD Civils MU	1
Total xi	1	Burning Stars	3

Ntabezimpisi

E15 000			
B Aces	0	Superstars	3
M Arsenal	1	Manchester	2
Professionals	3	C Cosmos	0
City Stars	3	H LIONS	0

Umntofu Fertiliser Ndzingeni Regional League

E40 000			
Northern Stream			
Arsenal	1	Young Stars	2
Chiefs	1	Sweet banana	0
Liverpool	2	Winners Park	1
Rebels	5	Super sport	2
K Celtics	1	City	0

Southern Stream Mvuma

Kk Ajax	0	D Darkies	2
Gebhulas	0	Super aces	2
M Celtics	4	Lozaza	1
Happiness	1	M Madrid	2
Blue Birds	1	Academy	1

MP Mbalekelwa Mhlangatane Regional League

Western Streams			
Young Rovers	3	Y Bombers	0
M Tigers	7	H Defenders	0
Mangweni aces	1	M Cosmos	1
XI -Men	1	Democracy	2

East

City Stars	1	Zinyane	2
Chelsea	0	Hot Fighters	1
Weimar	0	Manchester	1
Silver Stars	0	M Professional	4
Arsenal	3	Lonnhlalane	2
Thuluzobona	2	Democracy	0
Wizard	0	Mpofu Aces	5

Nttonjeni MP Sompisi Regional League E30 000

Chelsea	0	Trounge	2
Nkonjaneni	0	Zibonele	1
Barcelona	3	Teenagers	2
R Madrid	2	seven up	3
Hellenic	0	Lierpool	5
Express	4	H Pirates	0
United Aces	1	Mbabatane	1
Uprise	1	Black Stone	1

MP Sikhumbuto Timphisini Regional League E30 000

All Stars 3 Sikheleni 1

Y Swallows	1	Combustion	3
M Swallows	3	G Arrows	1
Msahweni	0	Soccer Rose	3
Mv All	4	Super strikers	0
Juventus	0	Njakeni	2
Matsamo Swallows	3	Vusweni	3
Elegance	2	H Pirates	1
Gunners	0	Sundown's	2
AK	2	Zamalek	1
Ludzibini	0	Red lion	1

Lubombo Regional Football Association

Swazi Trac Lubombo Super League

Mangwanyane	2	Samampela	0
Barcelona	2	Crooks United	1
Tabankulu Callies	2	Rail United	1
Impumelelo	1	Crystal Palace	0
City Warriors	0	Young Aces	0
XI Men	2	CPL	0
Dangerous Darkies	2	Brave Lions	0
Red Lions	2	Illovo	0

RSSC Siyakha 1800 North Zone

Equator	2	Khuphuka Pirates	2
Tonga Y.Stars	0	Tabankulu F.C	0
Peacemakers	4	Tabankulu Celtics	4
Silver Stars	2	Juventus	0
T.Rovers	4	Revelations	1
Professionals	4	Highlanders	0
Bacambi	0	Zwelabantu	0
Cosmos	2	XI Stars	0
Arsenal	1	Zamalek	0
Sumerise	1	Rhinos	0
Classic	1	All Stars	0

Lubombo Eastern Zone

City Rollers	2	Matsela Chiefs	1
Young Zebras	5	BBS	2
Heroes	2	Eastern Pirates	2
Ngcina F.C	1	Mpolonjeni United	1
Wenela Pirates	1	Real Madrid	0
Tiger Boys	1	Six to Six	2
Home Sparrow	1	Hot Chillies	1
Mkhutjane	2	Black Stars	1
GSH	1	Classic	0

Mahle Makholo Western Zone

Tawern	1	Sea Birds	0
Black Swallows	2	Kukhanyeni	1
Mauritius	0	Gucuka	0
Hugry Vultures	4	White City	1
Heroes	2	Bekela Chiefs	0
Nkunzemnyama	1	Western Blues	0
Sithobela	1	Mamisa	1

Mafucula Zonal League

Skyline	2	Phacanga	0
Red Lion	2	Madraya	1
Boys to Men	3	Zion	2
National	6	Super Stars	3

Langa Brick Malindza

Liverpool	4	Emahlokhloko	1
Lubhuku	4	Malindza utd	3
Malaheni	3	Seven stars	1
Home sweepers	3	Zamalek	1
Siweni utd	2	Gabi gabi	0
Bhelebane	0	Black mamba	0

Manzini Regional Football Association

Manzini Super League

Compiled by Sanele Jele

Star Point	2	Mhlambanyatsi Rovers	2
Milling Hotspurs	2	Sacrament	0
Sisonkhe	8	Taliban	0
FC North	0	Stumbo's XI	1
Sisonkhe	1	Mhlambanyatsi Rovers	0
Seven Dreams	1	Ludzeludze Killers	0
Luve Cosmos	1	Bhudla Celtics	1

Riverview Manzini Promotion League

Nkonkwanecallies	1	SibonisoSeLwandle	3
Wise Kids	3	Superstars	2
New Generations	0	African Chiefs	2
FC Surprise	1	Mhlaleni United	1
Young Tigers	1	Two Sticks Comrades	4
Parachute	1	Fairview Cosmos	3
Manzini Classic	1	Home Sparrows	2
Villa Stars	3	Combine Stars	2

Riverview Filling Station Manzini First Division

Manzini Bullets	0	Nhlambeni United	3
Villa Sport	0	FC Bayern	4
Manzini United	5	Bremer United	0
Kholwane Flying Birds	7	Villa Sport	0
Nhlambeni United	0	Logoba Rebellions	0
The Bones	1	Kholwane Flying Birds	1
Manzini United	2	Logoba Rebellion	1

SaveMor Kwaluseni Promotion League

Kwaluseni Rebels	0	Real Heroes	1
Royal Swallows	0	Boyane Young Aces	4
Swazi Wire	0	Kudzeni United	1
Mhlane United	1	Nsenga Comrades	3

Save Mor Kwaluseni First Division League

Dark City	1	Supersport	1
Fashion International	2	Fletcher United	3

Usuthu Promotion League

Commandos	2	Luhleko Flyers	1
Rhinos	0	Luhleko Classic	0
Youngstars	3	Zamalek	3
Black Aces	1	Buffaloes	0
Neverlose	0	Internationals	0
Othandweni Swallows	3	Revergers	1
Peacemakers	1	Superstars	0
Mkhiweni Promotion League			
White Killers	2	LuveSuncity	1
Toronto	2	Blue Birds	2
Ngonini Y. Aces	1	Luve Stars	1

Kukhanyeni Promotion League

Ngwazini	2	Nyakeni Ravens	1
Young Killers	2	Mbuluzana	2
Mdayane	3	NyakeniTrompies	1
Louis XIV	0	Bhekinkhosi	0
Kukhanyeni	4	Submarine	0
Mphola Celtics	2	Nyakei Heroes	2

KPMG Mafutseni Promotion League

Dynamos	2	Madubula Rovers	1
Khamatfo	1	Supersport	2
Ntabamhoshana	0	Logoba Young Killers	0
Vulamehlo Classic	4	Mkhuzweni	2
Nkonga Pirates	0	Emataliyane	1
Timbutini	2	Moyeni United	2
Young Carnibals	8	XI Bees	0
Ma-G-Man	7	Vultures	1

Nsingweni Promotion League

All Stars	2	Young Madrid	0
Nsuka United	1	McengeniSundowns	1
Nsuka Fighters	4	Mfeni Pirates	1
Red Lions	3	Young Lovers	0
AC Milan	3	Highland Blues	1
Black Aces	0	Matsantsantsa	3

MP Mankayane Promotion League

Junior Bucs	0	Khabonina Vultures	0
Manchester United	1	Brazilians	1
Young Warriors	2	Mzabalazo	0
Super Eagles	0	Nkhanga Express	0
Total	1	Boca Juniors	2

Sigcaweni Football League

Choppers	0	Bombers	2
Heroes	3	P.G. Rangers	2
D.XI	1	T.Kzee	1
XI Experience	1	Sisonke	2
Lubhuku	2	Warriors	0
Emashekeshe	2	Hotspurs	3
Mdumezulu	2	Thuluzobona	0
Wizards	0	Aces	0
Lovers	0	Classic	2

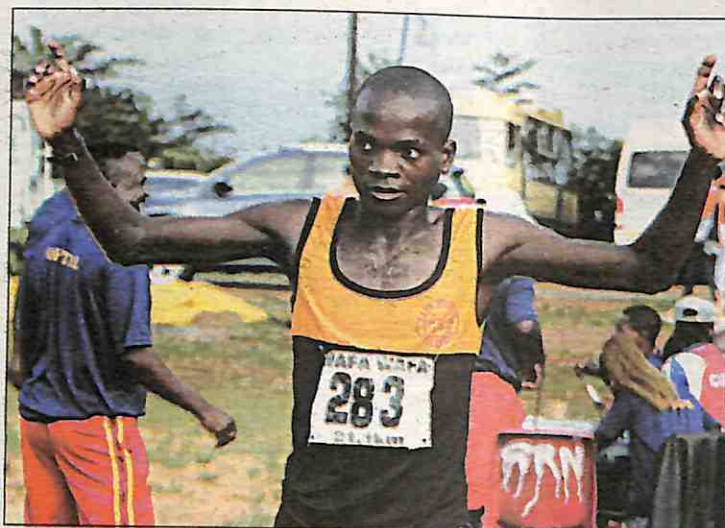
USDF 'WAFA WAFA' RACE



LET'S GO: 21 km runners in full swing immediately after the start of the USDF 'Wafa wafa' race on Sunday. Both the starting and winning point was at St Georges Army Brracks in Matsapha. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)



IN IT TOO: Swazi Observer Board Chairman S'thofeni Ginindza with USDF Deputy Commander Jeffrey Tshabalala working up a sweat.



REMARKS: Sicalo Foundation Deputy Chairman Simon Magagula making his remarks. **RIGHT - CHAMPION:** USDF team member Melusi Sihlongonyane gestures after crossing the finish line in the 21 km race.



REPRESENTING: Samukelisiwe Tfwala from RSP was the first lady to cross the finish line in the 21 km race.



FOR YOU: Dolly Ndzabandzaba smiles as she gets her prize from Tshabalala. She came second in the 10 km Masters.



IN NUMBERS: Golden Foot Athletics Club also participated.

WINNERS: Nobuhle Mamba, Nomvula Ntshalintshali and Zethu Thwala displaying their prizes after winning the 10 km race in the ladies category.



HAPPY PEOPLE: Zithande Athletics team striking a pose.



MTN Premier League 2015/16

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LEOPARD MAUL SUNDOWNS 2-1



JOYAL: Leopard supporters celebrate the team's second goal. They came from a goal down to beat Sundowns 2-1 to remain top in the MTN Premier League table. (Pics: Sanele Jele)



FOLLOW ME: Muzi 'Mzoro' Dlamini shields the ball while Ndumiso Shongwe closes in.



DEBUT: Leopard's Congolese striker Richard Bazombwa dashing away with the ball from Phumlani. This was Richard's debut game in Leopards colours.



BOBO: Phinda Dlamini dribbles past Sicele Mavimbela.



DRIBBLE: Zwelli 'Mlilo' Nxumalo controls the ball while Sandile Dlamini closes in. Mlilo score the first goal that brought Leopard back in the game through a superb free kick. **RIGHT - SHI**



WHOSE BALL? Mxolisi Lukhele tries to negotiate his way past Darren Christie. **RIGHT - Sifiso Nkambule** fighting for the ball with 'Down's Phumlani Dlamini.



DEJECT- ED: Some Manzini Sundowns supporters taking a frustrated on-field protest on.



...with Mphikeleli Msibi

THE SUCKER PUNCH

[STRIKING, STRAIGHT AND STRENGTHENED]



MTN LEAGUE TITLE RACE GOING DOWN TO THE WIRE!

The MTN Premier League title race is surely going down to the wire, if the current log standings are anything to consider.

With six games to go, rampaging police ensemble Royal Leopard leads the pack; enjoying a three points difference to second-placed Mbabane Highlanders, who succumbed to their fourth defeat of the season at the hands of the inconsistent Green Mamba at Somhlolo National Stadium over the weekend.

Young Buffaloes, who were riding the crest of the wave during the early stages of the league, are now perched on position three with 32 points separated by a goal difference with Highlanders.

Red and white ensemble and capital city giants Mbabane Swallows are still in position four with 31 points and complete the top four bracket.

Now it is safe to deduce that it is a four-horse race. At this stage boys are separated from men, pretenders are separated from contenders and of course, grain is separated from chaff as the league title race reaches its climax. And the million dollar question is; who will finally take it home? Below I take a glimpse of the four teams contesting for the coveted title;

Royal Leopard

Under the tutelage of Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane, 'Ingwemabalabala' are on the verge of clinching their third successive league title to set yet another record in the history of local football.

With a relatively balanced and experienced squad, the blue and



white outfit poses danger to many elite league teams. Good or bad they win.

Most often they win games even when all odds seems to be stacked against them in as far as their performance is concerned, and of course, they would win games when losing seem to be inevitable. That is the strength of Leopard, who according to their standard, are not the same team that rewrote local football history books by winning four major tournaments in one season, a feat they achieved during the 2013/14 season.

This is the same team that put this tiny Kingdom of eSwatini on the map when they reached the second round of the prestigious CAF Confederations Cup on two occasions, thus opening doors for Mthunzi 'Xavi' Mkhontfo, who eventually signed for DRC giants AS Vita.

For Leopard, theirs is to remain consistent in the six games left and they must bear in mind that they are still to play the other title challengers in Swallows and Buffaloes. With so much depth in the team, the Leopard technical bench's task is to focus on the tactical aspect, because it is an undisputed fact that winning games at this stage will not be a walk in the park.

Mbabane Highlanders

'Inkunz'emnyama', as the capital city giants are affectionately

known, possess the chance of winning this league title race for the first time in so many years.

They are currently separated by three points with Leopard.

They have the squad which can take them through provided they maintain consistency in the remaining games which are so crucial for every elite league team.

Do they really have what it takes to hold on until the end? After recording a victory against relegation-threatened Sea Birds mid-week the Meck Mwase-led side faltered when it mattered the most against the struggling Correctional Services side Green Mamba, much to the disappointment of their throngs of supporters, who always rally behind them.

Highlanders, who won the E300 000 first round incentive in spectacular fashion in December, have to up their game if they are to be regarded as serious title contenders more so because they have proven that they have the potential of giving their opponents a run for their money.

The team must know that at this stage winning games remain an arduous task hence after their loss to Green Mamba they should not allow frustration to get the better of them. Making amends and focusing on the next game is what is needed at this juncture. The race is still on. This is where we can gauge them if they are the real title

chasers.

Amongst the title contenders, they have traditional rivals, Swallows to play in one of the remaining games.

Young Buffaloes

The army side are showing some cracks at the very crucial stage of the competition, when everyone was already counting them as run-away league champions.

Their two consecutive defeats at the hands of Swallows and Leopard in their last games of the first round seemed to be what condemned them to misery as the Dominic Kunene charges are still failing to convincingly get their footing.

Although they collected maximum points in the opening two games of the second round, the team is now showing signs of fatigue.

Against a not-so-convincing Manzini Wanderers on Sunday the army side could only manage a draw. Can they really surrender at this crucial stage?

In their remaining games they are still to play Swallows and Leopard, the same teams which dent their hopes of winning the first round incentive.

A mammoth task indeed! Surely 'Amatholezinyathi' have to dig deeper in their reserves if they want to win this one, for the second time since 2009. Do they have what it

takes to give the dominant Swallows and Leopard a fierce competition?

To become the champions you have to beat the best out there first. The players have to gain confidence and believe in themselves, if they are to win games. Indeed an acid test awaits the army side in their quest to bring this one home.

Mbabane Swallows

Perhaps, the high scoring team in the elite league this season, Swallows are slowly surging to the top.

After starting the season on a very low note, the 'Beautiful Birds' are now showing real title credentials with each passing game.

The team has already scored 36 goals so far in this campaign, much better than any other team in the league.

When they win they win big. And when it matters the most they fail to rise to the occasion. They dropped two precious points against struggling basement side Malanti Chiefs mid-week, only to rise and whack Sea Birds 4-1 over the weekend to remain on course of the scintillating title race.

Swallows boast of talented and experienced players, who know what it means to win the league.

They already have the King's Super Cup and the Castle Premier Challenge in their trophy cabinet this season, hence are now used to winning trophies, something which will come in handy to the players' mental strength.

Buoyed by the prospects of winning the inaugural SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup, the spirit at the team's camp is probably very high. Mentor Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati has to work hard in maintaining his winning team.

They are yet to play Highlanders, Leopard and Buffaloes in the remaining games. Collecting maximum points against these teams, who are also contenders, will not be an easy task but Swallows have to go past them if they are to win this league.

Mr Oswin you are the man

Friday was a great night and one to be always remembered in as far as the development of local football is concerned.

This was the night 'Football Friends' Esibayeni Lodge increased its sponsorship package for next season in the Under-17 league by E50 000, taking it to E200 000 from the previous E150 000.

The new package has given strength and courage to the hardworking PLS Chairman Victor Gamedze, who has been running helter-skelter trying to raise funds for the development leagues.

Special thanks go to Esibayeni Lodge MD Desmond Oswin for continuing to support the league by com-

mitting himself to another year and further increasing the package by E50 000.

Mr Oswin, we may not have the right words to express our appreciation for your continued support but we know this surely will go a long way in the development of our football. Your efforts can never go unnoticed and I must say we will soon reap the desired fruits.

We will soon be producing future stars for the country through this league.

You shocked many when you went out of your way and pledged incentives for some of Young Buffaloes players, who excelled in their Junior Certificate examinations.

Your kind gesture proved that you are not only concerned about football but you are also a father figure and a parent as you encouraged the youngsters to continue working hard in their academic work while still polishing their football careers.

Recognising

Thank you for also recognising the passionate football administrator in Mbabane Swallows Head of Youth Development Lloyd 'Magic feet' Maziya with a trophy for his contribution to the PLS development leagues and further rewarding Young Buffaloes for their success since the inception of the PLS development programme.

We hope other administrators, especially ex-players, will take a leaf from 'Magic feet' and join hands with the PLS and work with the junior sides in

their respective teams. We also thank the Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala for gracing the event despite his busy schedule. Minister your attendance proved your love and passion for sports. Your dedication will play a key role in the transformation of local football.

We also commend the PLS and FA for the role they are playing in youth development. To the PLS development officer, we hope you will continue working hard next season by improving the league and continue making it a showroom for the hundreds of youngsters from the different 12 teams.

Lastly, congratulations are in order for the champions Young Buffaloes for winning the inaugural league and indeed 'Asakhulile Emathole'.



THANK YOU SIR: Esibayeni Lodge MD Desmond Oswin.

MANZINI WANDERERS DECIDE AGAINST RE-SIGNING NDEBELE

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - HUB giants Manzini Wanderers have decided against the signing of Zimbabwean midfielder Hloniphani Ndebele, who spent the whole of last week training with the maroon and white ensemble.

The former Mbabane Highlanders playmaker could not rejoin the 'Weslians' before the transfer deadline last Friday due to the foreign quota which allows teams to have only five international players.

Manzini Wanderers PRO Sandile 'Ntofo' Dlamini confirmed that they could not sign Ndebele despite training with them last week.

"It is true the player trained with us as he was assessed by the

technical team but couldn't be signed due to the tight foreign quota. He is still a good player and we wish him the best of luck in his future endeavours."

Injured

Dlamini said they were expecting their injured players to start training with the rest of the team.

"We will be welcoming back Douglas Adamako after spending over two months on the sidelines due to a niggling knee and Takawira Chimwanda, who is still recovering from an ankle injury," Dlamini said. He said they were hoping to have a full squad



during the SwaziBank Cup which is expected to kick-off this weekend.

Ndebele had a brief stint with the 'Weslians' at the beginning of the season and he featured during the SwaziTelecom Charity Cup before picking a knee injury.

He was also part of the 2009 Manzini Wanderers team that finished as runners-up in the SwaziBank Cup.

Wanderers have five international players in Ousmane Toure, Justice Nozozo, Takawira Chimwanda, Douglas Adamako and Kola Aladeon.

WE NEED TO WORK ON OUR FINISHING - TINAVO

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER - HELLENIC assistant coach Mushavi Tinavo says his team will return to training to work on their finishing, after they missed several chances in the 0-1 loss to Ludzeldze Brothers at Manzini Club on Sunday.

Tinavo said they failed to utilise the chances they created during the match.

"If we are serious about competing for the NFD title race, then we need to start scoring more goals and win more matches. I was very disappointed with my players today, especially the strikers as they failed to score the needed goals despite getting numerous chances throughout the match. I



believe we could have easily won the match. We have to go to the drawing board to rectify our mistakes," he said.

Hot

Tinavo also said the scorching sun wave also contributed to their loss as it negatively affected his players. "It was hot and the players were obviously affected. At some point you could see that the heat was taking its

toll on the players. Our opponents capitalised on that and punished us. We will prepare well for the remaining games," he said. On the other hand, Ludzeldze Brothers coach Msizi Thwala said they were the better team on the day and deserved the maximum points. "We came here to win as we wanted nothing else but the three points. I am very happy with my players, they played according to my game plan and it paid off. Our mandate is to avoid relegation. This is our first season in the NFD and the best that we can do is to absorb the pressure and maybe next season we can talk about competing for promotion." Hellenic occupy the sixth spot with 18 points while Brothers are two places away from the basement with 16 points.



DISAPPOINTED: Soweto giants Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates fans. (Pic: Sabelo Majola)

Soweto derby disappoints local fans

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - OVER 40 local supporters who went to watch the famous Soweto derby on Saturday expressed disappointment over the two teams for not living up to expectations.

Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates played to a 1-1 all draw at FNB Stadium on Saturday.

The supporters of the two Soweto giants feel the derby standard has dropped over the years with the teams failing to live up to expectations.

"The derby is not as exhilarating as it used to be in yester years, we are not getting our money's worth anymore. We expected to see flair together with loads of goals, but all we got was a draw and there is nothing exciting about that," said one fan.

Derby

The fans left the country on Saturday morning for South Africa and they came back immediately after the game.

The organiser of the trips, Njabulo Simelane, said they would be organising another trip to watch the derby in the Nedbank Cup but still waiting

for the announcement of venues and dates.

"As much as we are disappointed over the dropping performance from the two teams, we are going to be organising another trip to watch the derby again. We are hoping for a better performance when the two giants lock horns in the Nedbank Cup but we are still waiting to get the dates and venues before we start organising," he said.

Simelane added that they were happy with the response they were getting from fans in these trips and they would keep organising them

Response

"We have received a positive response from interested fans. However, we wish to mention that in future we have negotiated with Shoprite stores to collect the money on our behalf because some individuals don't trust us with their money despite that we have a good record of organising successful trips. We hope our new arrangement will be more convenient for the sceptical fans. But they should know that the fee will increase as it will include commission for the shop," he said.

THREE STA ARTISTS FOR MOROCCO OLYMPICS QUALIFIERS

Stories by Sabelo Majola

TAEKWONDO - THE Swaziland Taekwondo Association team will be represented by three artists in the Olympic Games Qualifiers to be held in Morocco this week.

Thandukhanya Dlamini, Carlota Munave and Wandile Maziya will be leaving tomorrow for the Northern African country to compete in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games Qualifiers to be staged in Agadir, courtesy of Swaziland Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA) through Continental Grant and Swaziland National Sport and Recreational Council (SNSRC), which supported the team financially. The games will begin from 5-7 and the artists will be back in the country next Monday.

Speaking during a farewell function held at the ministry of sports, culture and youth affairs yesterday, Minister David 'Cruiser'



ALL SMILES: Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala posing with the Morocco-bound STA artists and officials. (Pic: Sanele Jele)

Ngcamphalala wished the artist all the best in Morocco and urged them to fly the Swazi flag high at the international stage.

Confidence

"We have a lot of confidence in each one of you and we are anticipating good results. We hope that you will represent the country well and fly the Swazi flag high in Morocco and qualify for the Olympics Games in Brazil. We also acknowledge the sponsorship from SOCGA and SNSRC and we appreciate their efforts in improving sports in the country. We encourage other

companies to come forth and aid financially in the growth of sports. Working together we will attain the vision 2022 status," he said.

Constrains

Due to financial constrains, the team will travel with one official, Zakhele Dlamini, who is currently in South Africa working on the artist's Visas.

STA President Bongani Manyatsi also expressed his gratitude to both SOCGA and SNSRC for their support, saying the team had prepared well and there were going there to fight and qualify for Rio.

...TEAM DRESSED BY SGONIAN REPUBLIK WEAR

THE Taekwondo team was dressed evenly in the colours of the Swazi flag courtesy of Sgonian Republik Wear.

The athletes, together with officials, were looking uniform as they were all wearing swea-

ters from SR-wear. Minister David Ngcamphalala and STA President Manyatsi thanked to the clothing company for their kind gesture and encouraged other companies to come forward and emulate SR-wear.

WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY;

Thandukhanya Dlamini - 23
Division (-68kg)

Team-RSSC Taekwondo team
Honours- Mozambique Championships 2011-2012 (2 gold), Korean Ambassadors Cup, Pretoria (Two silver, one gold), Lesotho Team Cup (gold) Russia Championships
"This is a very important event as it is the ticket to the Olympics Games in Rio and I promise to give out the best in me."

Carlota Munave - 18
Division (+67kg)
Team-St Michaels High team
Honours-Junior World Championships in Taipei, World Qualifiers Taipei, Botswana Championships (bronze), Youth Olympics China, World Championships Russia

"It is our dream to make the country proud as we want to qualify for Rio. I promise to do my best as I have been watching my previous performance in videos and working on my weaknesses."

Wandile Maziya - 20
Division (-58kg)
Team- Manzini Nazarene Taekwondo team
Honours - COSATA Games in Mozambique (silver), Lesotho Team Cup, Korean Ambassadors Cup (gold), Russia Championships
"I have been hard at training preparing for the games. I strongly believe in myself and I want to come back with a gold medal. Unlike in Russia where we competed with the best in the sport, we will compete with Africans and my fingers are crossed as the ambition is to qualify for the Olympic Games in Brazil."

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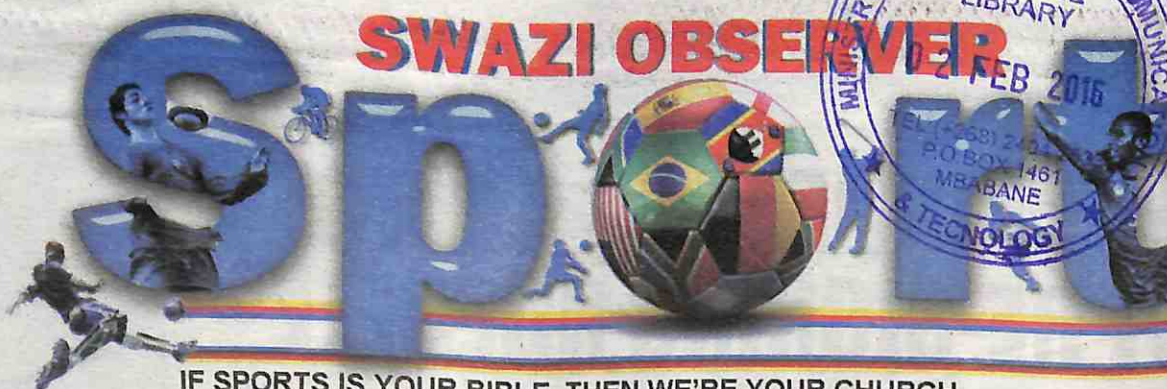
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IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Tuesday February 2, 2016

MANZINI WANDERERS' ORDER TO COACH;

GO GET YOUR PAPERS

MR FIX IT: Wanderers coach Shepherd Murape.

- Murape told to come back with qualification
- Coach left for SA yesterday morning
- Has been with the team for over a month now
- Claims to possess a FIFA Professional Certificate



By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER – FOLLOWING the ongoing confusion over the qualification of their current head coach Shepherd Murape, Manzini Wanderers have since ordered the Zimbabwe-born mentor to go and fetch his qualification papers in South Africa before returning to the team.

The former Black Leopard coach left the country yesterday morning for Johannesburg to sort his paper work after failing to submit the required CAF B Licence to the technical director's office since joining the hub giants in December last year.

Manzini Wanderers General

Manager Patrick Gamedze confirmed the latest developments when contacted yesterday.

"The directors have met and ordered the coach to go to South Africa where he is also a citizen to get his papers, which we must then submit to the Football Association in order for him to be eligible to sit on the bench. We are expecting him to come back as soon as he gets all the necessary papers."

Gamedze said they still believed Murape was the right man to lead the team.

"We do not want to be on the wrong side of the law and that is why we want to follow football

rules in as far as hiring a coach is concerned hence we have asked the coach to get the necessary documents.

"The assistant coaches will be drilling the team in the absence of the head coach," Gamedze said.

He also said they were happy with the progress in the team as they wanted to bring back the glory days in the club.

He then urged the entire 'Weslians' family to continue supporting the team in the current campaign.

"We are still determined to secure a respectable finish in the league and further compete effectively in the upcoming

SwaziBank Cup. We are pleading with all our supporters to always rally behind the team in order to achieve our desired goal."

Efforts to get Murape proved futile as his cellphone rang answered when tried several times yesterday.

The former Zimbabwe national team coach told our sister publication, the Observer on Saturday that he possesses a FIFA Professional Certificate which he obtained in 1982 in Belgrade, Serbia.

He has been watching the team from the grandstands in three matches against Manzini Sundowns, Bad Boys and Young Buffaloes after failing to submit his papers to the TD'S office.



Pirates positive ahead of today's SwaziBank Cup draw

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - WITH the launch and the draw of the SwaziBank Cup taking place today, defending champions Mweni Pirates have confidently declared that with the strong squad they have assembled, they are positive of defend the title.

The 13th edition of the tournament will be launched today at House on Fire, starting at 2pm.

The Sea Robbers won the 12th edition of the prestigious tournament last year, beating Manzini Wanderers 2-0 in the finals. They were led by Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini together with Happy Simfukwe at the time.

Team mouthpiece Thami Dlamini said they had a strong and capable squad that had what it takes to defend the title.

"We know what lies ahead of us, but we are up for the challenge. We have a strong squad that is capable of attaining our objective, which is

SWAZI BANK CUP PREVIOUS WINNERS:

2004	Green Mamba	5	Denver Sundowns	1
2005	Hub Sundowns	2	Malanti Chiefs	0
2006	Mb Swallows	1	Malanti Chiefs	0
2007	Royal Leopard	1	Manzini Sundown	0
2008	Malanti Chiefs	2	Royal Leopard	1
2009	Mb Highlanders	2	Mnz Wanderers	1
2010	Mb Highlanders	1	Umbelebele/Cosmos	0
2011	Royal Leopard	4	Mhla Rovers	3
2012	Green Mamba	3	Mb Highlanders	1
2013	Mb Swallows	5	Malanti Chiefs	3
2014	Royal Leopards	3	Young Buffaloes	1
2015	Mweni Pirates	2	Manzini Wanderers	0

defending the SwaziBank Cup. It's not going to be easy, but we will stop at nothing to shield what belongs to the Buccaneers. We need to retain the cup," he said.

It was the first time Pirates reached the finals of the SwaziBank Cup and they were E800 000 richer after Ndumiso 'Karas' Dlamini and Mfanzile 'Fash' Ndzimandze scored the goals that drove them to victory. Royal Leopard have

won the cup three times, more than any other team since its inception in 2004. Mbabane Swallows and Highlanders have both won it twice.

Dlamini urged supporters to continue rallying behind the team.

"This is the time where we need the supporters more than ever. They have been loyal to the team and have been coming in numbers for every match to rally behind the boys. We encourage the spirit, especially in the SwaziBank Cup that we are so eager to defend," he said. Meanwhile, SwaziBank PRO Phepheya Vilakati said all was set for the launch at House on Fire this afternoon. Each of the 32 teams should send a representative to be part of the launch and draw.

"All is set for the launch of the 13th edition of the SwaziBank Cup today and the nation will have all the details of the event from all our respective media houses as we have a surprise package for this year. All I can say is that it's going to be a magnificent competition," he said.