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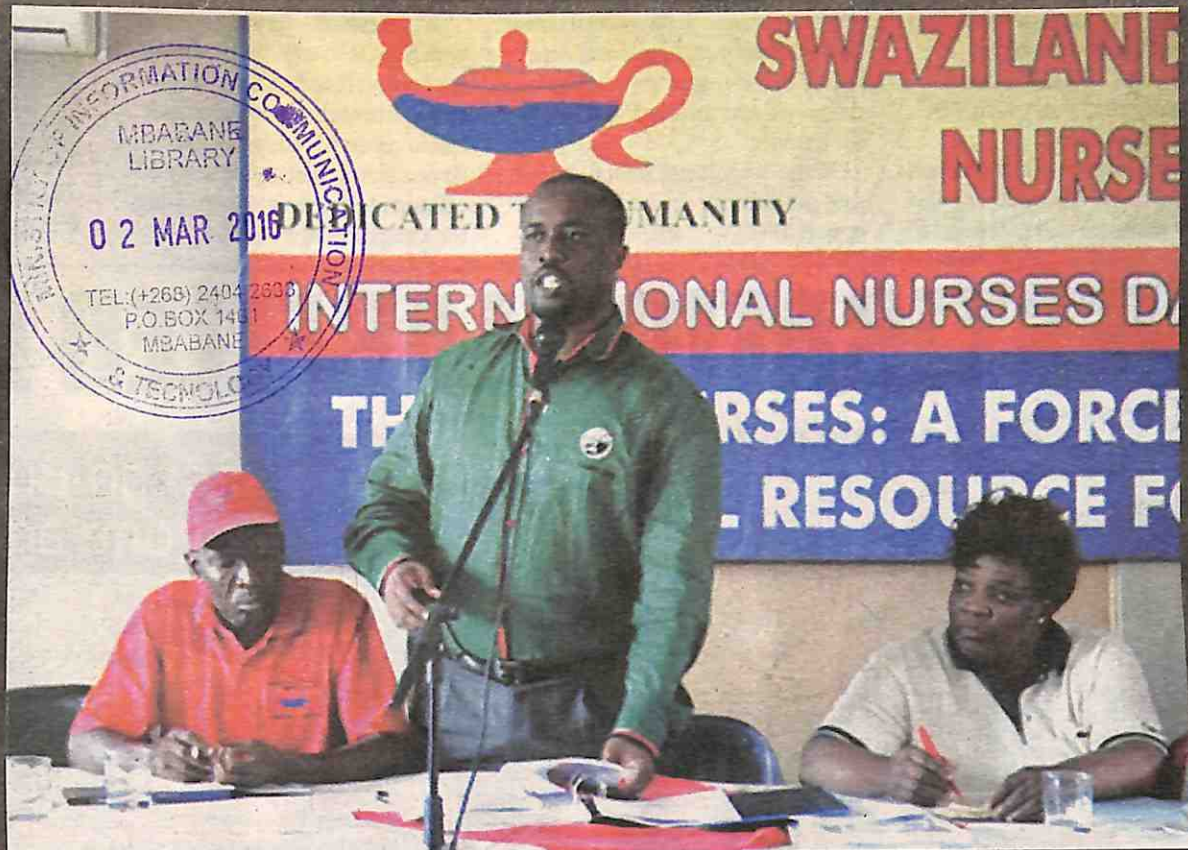
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WEDNESDAY MARCH 2, 2016

REVIVED, RELIABLE AND READ

PRICE: E4.60 (VAT INCLUSIVE)

**NO WAY: SWAD-
NU Secretary
General Sibusiso
Lushaba
addressing nurs-
es after they
expressed disap-
pointment at the
contents of the
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a review.
(Pic: Thembeke
Dlamini)**



**GELANE'S
WARNING
TO CABINET**

PAGE 4

**BISHOP
WAMUKOYA
ON GAYS,
LESBIANS**

PAGE 5

NURSES **REJECT** SALARY REPORT, TEACHERS MEET

**...paramedics'
pay irks nurses,
but happy with
housing
allowance**

STORY ON PAGE 3

SUPER SPECIALS



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2 NATIONAL NEWS

TSC, FONTEYN HIGH TO MEET OVER NEW PRINCIPAL

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

NEW Fonteyn High School principal will not be allowed to the school premises until the parents committee have met with the Teacher Service Commission (TSC) for further discussions.

The parents who met with the principal Secretary at the Ministry of Education, Pat Muir, on Monday said they were still waiting for a response from Muir.

According to Sizwe Masilela, Chairperson of the School

Committee they met with Muir on Monday and promised to schedule for the parents a meeting with TSC. However, by the end of business yesterday, the PS had not communicated anything with the parents.

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"I have promised to do an appointment with TSC as I believe the matter can be solved in a peaceful manner," he said.

Entrance

He also mentioned that he was told that the new principal was denied entrance at the school. Muir said he preferred the parents meet with TSC so that everything be discussed and resolved in a peaceful manner.

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TO MEET: Ministry of Education PS Pat Muir.

POLICE INVESTIGATION LABELLED A JOKE

SRC welcomes national police commissioner's apology

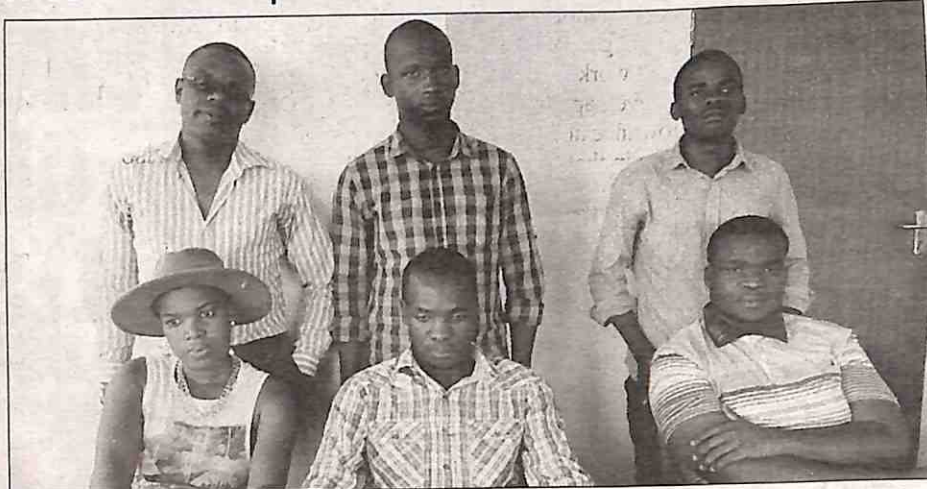
Stories by Thembeke
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They were reacting to reports that the Royal Swaziland Police Service (RSP) National Commissioner Isaac Magagula had appointed four senior police officers to conduct a full scale investigation into the injury of Mkhabela, who was run over by a police casspir during a protest action in the university premises last Monday.

The dissatisfaction in the latest developments was expressed during a press conference held at the Mandlenkosi Building, TUCOSWA offices in Manzini yesterday at noon.

The six member SRC led by President Brian Sangweni called for government to be the one to call an investigation and further



A JOKE: SRC President Brian Sangweni (c) with his entire team during the press conference in Manzini yesterday. (Pic: Thembeke Dlamini)

have independent people doing the investigation.

"How can police officers investigate themselves seeing as the reports we received after the incident which they witnessed," Sangweni said.

Worth noting is that a few hours after the incident, two officers reportedly visited Mkhabela at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital, where they told her how she had been stampeded by fleeing students, resulting in her injuries.

When this reporter called Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent

Khulani Mamba the day after she was injured, he said Mkhabela tried to climb on the body of the casspir and fell, thus injuring herself.

Meanwhile, Sangweni said they appreciated the apology by the police boss as it was what they wanted.

However, he said they were not excited about it as their queries remained unanswered.

"If you remember we wrote a letter to the national commissioner asking him to apologise and further requested that he furnish us with the first aid certificates which were acquired by the officers who rushed Ayanda

to the hospital seeing as she had spinal injuries," he said.

On the other hand, Lawyers for Human Right's Maxwell Nkambule, who had visited Mkhabela's home in Nhlanguano, speaking on his personal capacity, said they expected the police boss to tell the nation about the charges preferred against the officers who had driven the vehicle and not a probe.

His opinion was sought after attempts to get Mandla Mkhwanazi's comment proved futile as he did not answer his mobile phone several times from the afternoon, with the last call made at 7:20pm.

Somntongo Bucophho wins round one against govt

By Linda Jele
High court

THE Industrial Court has directed the ministry of tin-khundla administration and development to stop freezing a salary for a bucophho benkhundla member after he was charged with stealing an elderly grant.

The order is temporary and the ministry is yet to file papers and show why it should not be made final.

This followed an urgent application filed by Philemon Mathe of Phangweni Chiefdom under the Somntongo constituency, wherein he sought an order stopping the ministry of tin-khundla administration and development from removing him from the government payroll. The Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) has also been cited as a respondent in the matter.

Mathe instructed lawyer Ian Du Pont from Zonke Magagula Attorneys in the matter.

Mathe alleged that he last week received a letter from the Shiselweni Regional Secretary informing him that he was no longer fit to hold the position of Constituency Council because he had been arrested and convicted by the Magistrate's Court for fraud.

He claimed that the RS said the ministry was in the process of suspending his salary and called upon Mathe to pay back the money he had been paid ever since October 2015 when he was convicted by the magistrate's court.

He claimed that he had been charged with defrauding government E1 200 when he took money for an elderly person

when the person had died. "I am a member of the Somntongo council for the Somntongo Inkhundla. I was elected in 2013 and my term of office will expire in the year 2018.

"On the day I was called before the honourable Magistrate Musa Nxumalo. When the charge was put to me, I admitted knowing about the money, not that I admitted the charges. In other words, I did not plead guilty to the charge of fraud," Mathe said.

He submitted that the magistrate convicted him and sentenced him to a E2 000 fine or two years imprisonment and he filed a review before the High Court.

He said the High Court set aside the magistrate's ruling and sentence and ordered that the trial should start at the magistrate's court.

He claimed that he heard that the EBC was in the process of conducting elections to elect a new bucophho. He submitted that the purported suspension of his salary was unlawful because the conviction was set aside by the High Court. He said he was entitled to the monthly salary in virtue of being a bucophho area.

"I use the salary I get from Swaziland government to support my family. I depend on this monthly salary and have no other means of livelihood," Mathe said. He abandoned his prayer to interdict the EBC from conducting the elections after it turned out that there was no election to be held.

Judge Ticheme Dlamini issued an interim order suspending the suspension of the salary and postponed the matter to Friday.



...SRC meets Mkhabela's family, promises to deal with her case

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"We went to the family where we explained how she got injured and



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NURSES REJECT SALARY REVIEW REPORT

● they call it cost of living adjustment not review

COVER STORY

Stories by Thembeke Dlamini
Manzini

SWAZILAND Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU) has blasted the Salary Review Report recommendations which they equated to a cost of living adjustment yesterday.

They were converged at Caritas, where they looked at the effects the report would have on their lives as professionals and on a personal level.

Presenting the analysis on the report, Secretary General Sibusiso Lushaba said it was unfortunate that they had been deemed worthy to only receive about 15 percent increase whereas there was once a cost of living adjustment which reached over 12 percent.

"Even then we heard croaking of

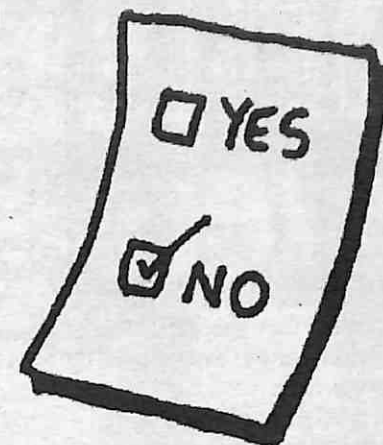
doom as naysayers predicted that the economy would falter and it stood," he said of the current outlook that government would not be able to accommodate the recommendations by the report as they would bloat the wage bill.

He further explained how the report failed to recognise them all as professionals, something which got members hot under the collar.

He explained that some positions such as the bottom rung were perceived to be occupations whereas the rest were deemed professionals.

The union further labelled the act by the consultant LCC Capital of touching on their overtime as folly as the matter of overtime had been enacted in other forums and as such, there were agreements which could not be touched by it.

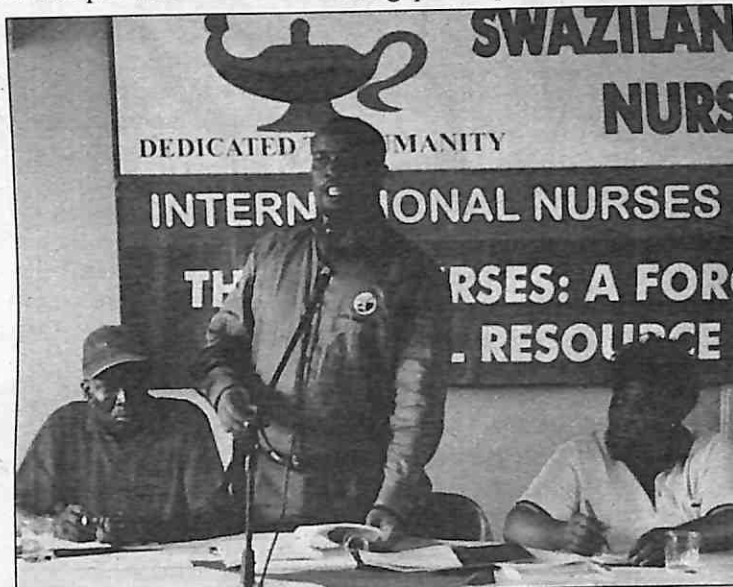
According to the report, their allowances provided by general orders were scraped with the consul-



tant recommending that the nurse's allowance be reduced to 17.139 and four percent while on call and standby allowances were capped at 25 percent.

Lushaba explained how the on-call and standby allowance capping meant that despite working for over 24 hours as it happens during operations, they would not get paid for the extra hours spent at work.

The nurses, however, approved their housing allowance allocation calling it refreshing in that they have in the past been inundated by poor living quarters problems.



NO HAPPINESS: Nurses have expressed disappointment at the contents of the salary review report which they said failed to recognise them all as professionals and was more of a cost of living adjustment than a review. (Pic: Thembeke Dlamini)

Reject medical aid recommendation

NURSES have rejected the prospect of getting medical aid saying it would bring about doubt to the quality of services they provide to the public.

This was during their analysis of the salary review report which took place at Caritas and hosted by their union, Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU).

The analysis, which was presented by the Secretary General Sibusiso Lushaba and had members in participation as they, towards the end, discussed which 'perks' they could forgo while improving others.

"We do not have an issue of queuing at hospitals because we have wellness centres, where we

can go and be attended immediately as opposed to other civil servants," they said.

They further said they would be letting their industry down in the event they decided to stop using their own facilities as they would compromise quality as they would have no experience on what was lacking or needed improvement.

"We were still pioneering for more people of influence to make use of the facilities within our health institutions in order for them to be improved. We want to be able to have senior government officials make use of the facilities they avail to the ordinary person and in that way everybody will be assured better health," they said.

He called for nurses to start doing what they were trained for instead of being satisfied with

doing the bare minimum by stating how he went to a hospital for a urine test and was told to wait.

Public sector unions to meet

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

PUBLIC Sector Unions will today hold a General Council meeting to brief branches of their assessment and analysis of the Salary Review Report which they received last week.

Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga, who was yesterday away in Zambia, said the general council was aimed at giving branches their feedback.

"We are planning a mass meeting next week, where we will further consult widely on the report," he said.

However, already sentiments on the ground from some teachers in some branches who were also shaping their opinions on the report is that of not being satisfied with the outcome.

Considerations

The teachers feel that the consultants, LCC Capital, excluded some important considerations they had suggested, some of which were raised in the 2004 review.

Some of the recommendations made by the teachers which they believe were not considered, including the issue of hardship allowances for teachers working under very hard conditions, for example in rural schools with no electricity, water and transport and teachers in special schools.

This has been a challenge amongst teachers who usually shun working for rural schools and opt to work at schools with all the necessary facilities.

As a result, SNAT is of the view that such teachers should be compensated accordingly.

Teachers are also not happy that Education Responsibility Allowance is

proposed to remain the same in the salary review report.

"This is ridiculous, a raise is necessary to cater for travel and lunch outside duty station, this also serves as motivation for sports teachers for extra responsibilities that come with such activities," a report from SNAT read.

The association of teachers has vowed to pursue issues, which were not dealt with that dates as far back as 2004 according to the recommendations put forward by SNAT.

Complaints raised in 2004 relating to grading have not been solved these issues involves the payments of PTC and STC holders.

Report

The report states that PTC holders are paid differently to STC holders and Vice Principals for colleges are paid lower than their subordinates Heads of Department (HODs).

The report states that C6 was moved to E1 and now paid higher than Deputy Head teacher. This has been seen as an anomaly which needs to be corrected since it distorts the reporting structure.

Teachers also want claims for Head Teachers which is currently capped at E800 to be included in their monthly salary just like nurses. It is said according to the salary report there is no mechanism of remuneration hence a 25 percent of basic salary is recommended which must be included in the monthly salary.

Another grievance raised in the report is that of overtime payments and benefits.

According to the report teachers do work overtime but are not paid for it and also the fact that teachers are not given benefits such as lunch out and sleep out allowances while on duty outside duty stations.



SNAT Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga.

...Bitter at paramedics being paid better

HAVING the prospect of paramedics paid a notch above nursing assistants has left a bitter taste in Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union members, who questioned the criteria used in reaching the irregular pay structure.

Even though some nurses had been upbeat prior to the meeting on receiving their report analysis as they were noted counting how much they would receive after taxes, housing allowance included, tempers seemed to rise on the information that the emergency personnel were notched better.

According to the report, assistant nurses will be paid at salary scale C2 which is nearly E109 000 per annum while paramedics will be on C5 at over E130 000.

"We are shocked to note the discrepancy regarding how nursing assistants are paid compared to others who train for about six weeks," a member said.

Thereafter, several took their turn registering their dissatisfaction at the discrepancy which they deemed an insult to their qualifications.

"How can you pay someone who collects a client and delivers him/her for further management more than the one who will take care of the client," nurses asked.

Some revealed how despite having acquired more qualifications, wanted to be hands on and as such called for their pay structure to be parried with their experiences.

This was, however, blasted by Secretary General Sibusiso Lushaba who said nurses could also be blamed for their predicament as they accepted to do minimal work within the hospitals, whereas their colleagues within rural settings went as far as diagnosing and prescribing medication.

"Can you tell me what a double qualified nurse would be doing within the out-patient department (OPD) taking blood pressure for the doctor to use? Why are the people with minor aches and pains not being attended to by nurses while those with serious symptoms wait for the doctor," he asked firmly.

Gelane warns Cabinet Ministers

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

SENATE President Gelane Zwane strongly warned Cabinet ministers not to dare fail in their executive responsibilities, cautioning that, "now, more than before, we have our eyes firmly on them."

Zwane was addressing senators and members of the House of Assembly at the end of a two-day training workshop for parliamentarians on the Southern African Resource Barometer at the Royal Swazi Sun Hotel.

"I am particularly pleased that the ministry of natural resources and energy is not only present, but has also participated significantly."

Firmly

"It would, therefore, be naive of the ministry not to be on notice that now, more than before, we have our eyes firmly on them. I saw other ministers in our midst; they too should spread the message to their colleagues in Cabinet that parliament is watching," said Zwane.

The training workshop emphasised on the oversight role of parliamentarians in holding the executive arm of government accountable for the benefit of broader society.

It touched on regional perspectives of natural resources governance in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and general principles and guidelines on natural resources management.

Regional experts in the area made presentations on how natural resources, minerals in particular, ended up benefitting only those in the executive arm of government and their respective heads of states in most African countries while the general citizenry languished in poverty.

Zwane said parliament had already passed the Mines as well as Minerals Act and the Diamonds Act.

She said, however, that alone was not enough. "We have to ensure that we monitor closely the enforcement of these pieces of legislation and be vigilant enough to ensure that when the need arises, we are at hand to effect the necessary amendments to our existing legislative framework," she said.

Prospects

Zwane continued: "We are currently faced with the prospects of a very difficult future ahead of us. We are all aware that government has been alerting us for the longest time that our reliance on SACU

receipts is very unhealthy. This is an opportunity to expand our revenue base.

It is very clear to me that we are in this position not because we have not been blessed with enough to sustain ourselves, but because we do not use what we have efficiently and effectively."

This was in reference to the enormous amounts of rich minerals the country has which,

however, were yet to make a



WARNING: Senate President Gelane Zwane.

positive meaningful impact on the livelihoods of the Swazi people. Zwane said the other opportunity that had been brought about by the workshop was that it reiterated the importance of continuous capacity development of legislators and staff.

She said they could not effectively do their job without being empowered through training workshops of that nature.

"We are humble servants of the people and, we have to deliver on their hopes and aspirations," said Zwane.

She said they could not have asked for a better way to start this parliamentary sessional year.

"To me this serves as an indication of your commitment to our national motto which is; 'how can I contribute to the meaningful sustainable economic development of my country.'

Appreciation

"I would also like to extend particular appreciation to the SADC Parliamentary Forum and Southern Africa Resource Watch, not only for hosting this very important workshop but, most importantly, for coming up with the resource barometer. The barometer, although designed for the extraction industries, can, with the necessary adaptations, have an influence that transcends the extraction industries. It can be used as a very important oversight tool across all industries.

I cannot thank the resource persons enough for their brilliant work. We leave this workshop very empowered and ready to implement," she said. Concluding her remarks, she promised that they would use the regional tool diligently.

...Fails to perform her duty, asks Princess Phumelele

IN a rather rare occurrence, Senate President Gelane Zwane failed to stand up and deliver her closing remarks at a parliamentarians' workshop yesterday, despite being physically present but, instead, asked Senator Princess Phumelele to read her written speech on her behalf.

No explanation was given as to what difficulty Zwane had to personally make her remarks. Member of Parliament Thuli Dladla was requested to introduce the Senate President, who seated quietly next to Speaker Themba Msibi.

After MP Dladla's brief introduction, all eyes were on the fiery Senate president known for her unpredictable outbursts, to stand up and take her responsibility of officially closing the workshop.

Surprisingly, Zwane remained seated and Senator Princess Phumelele took up the challenge.

Before she could read the speech, the princess made it clear that she had been asked to stand in for Zwane. As you may be aware that I'm not the Senate President and I don't even aspire to be." Attempts to get reasons from Zwane, if there were any, on why she could not personally perform her duties failed.



ACTED: Princess Phumelele.

Parliamentarians shun their workshop

MEMBERS of parliament from various constituencies failed to attend a very important training workshop organised for them by the SADC Parliamentary Forum and the Southern Africa Resource Watch.

The two-day workshop was attend-

ed mainly by senators and very few members of the House of Assembly. It was officially closed yesterday by Senate President Gelane Zwane. Strangely though, Zwane extended her gratitude to both senators and members of parliament alike, for what she termed; 'very impressive

attendance'.

This was, however, contrary to the situation within the conference hall which forced MP Thuli Dladla to end-up apologising to the SADC Parliamentary Forum Secretary General Dr. Esau Chiviya for the low turn-up by the MPs. "Dr.

Chiviya please receive our sincere apologies for the absence of some members of parliament. They are busy with the budget analysis in readiness for the country's Budget Speech to take place on Friday. MP Dladla also noted that the low turn-up was as a result of Tuesday being set aside specifically as a day on which most elected MPs attended to business in their respective con-

stituencies, adding that it was even more crucial for the elected MPs now that the country had only 18 months away to the general national elections. During such a period, MPs make frantic efforts to make their presence felt in their respective communities in a bid to win the hearts of the electorate and increase their chances of re-election in the next general election.

SOUTH AFRICAN TRUCK CATCHES FIRE

ON FIRE: A truck from South Africa Johannesburg ferrying steel doors and door frames to Cashbuild up in flames at Malagwane. The truck was heading for Manzini after making its delivery at Mbabane when its tyre burst and suddenly engulfed by a raging inferno. the driver, who's name is Sandil, made attempts to put the fire off using tree branches but it was the arrival of Fire and Emergency Services that rescued the situation. (Pic: Sabelo Majola)



NO CONFIDENCE MOTION AGAINST ZUMA FAILS, AGAIN

CAPE TOWN – A motion of no confidence against South Africa's President Jacob Zuma has failed, again.

The motion was brought by the Democratic Alliance (DA) yesterday in the wake of the financial ministry reshuffle.

The motion failed when 225 MPs voted against it, and 99 in favour and 22 chose to abstain.

In a robust debate in the National Assembly, political parties booed, shouted and called each other names as they debated Zuma's fitness for office.

Opposition parties pleaded with the ANC to let President Jacob

Zuma go, while the ruling party sang his praises.

Small Business Development Minister Lindiwe Zulu said Zuma, like the ruling party, was born of struggle and resistance.

The minister threw the ANC's struggle credentials at the opposition party.

"You like it, you don't like it. We liberated you from your shackles," she said.

She said the international community had confidence in Zuma and his leadership, and opposition parties could not change that.

"This should be a motion against the opposition," she said.



WON: President Jacob Zuma.

Classes resume at Mlindzini

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

CLASSES are reported to have finally resumed at Mlindzini Primary School in the outskirts of Mankayane Town.

Up until last Tuesday, since schools opened in January 26th, the principal of the school, Themba Dlamini, had been absent from school thus there had been no learning taking place.

Last week, the principal decreed that the entire school had only one teacher. He said he had been absent because he was busy looking for teachers from the Teaching Service Commission (TSC) in Mbabane with no luck.

For weeks, students had been coming to school only to be turned back home at around 10am upon finding classes locked.

Parents were concerned by the delay of the resuming of classes since the 2015 Standard Five results were appalling and they feared history would repeat itself. Mlimi Mamba, Manzini regional officer, confirmed that operations at the school were back to normal.

"The school has been equipped with teachers, which seemed to be the major problem and according to the principal, it is back to business."

The principal also confirmed that learning had resumed at the school and he had received some teachers.

"Tomorrow (today) the TSC is sending the last two teachers and all will be perfect. Textbooks and exercise books have already been distributed amongst the pupils and as I speak they are in class learning," he said.

'Anglican Church says no to same sex marriage, but'...

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

LOCAL Anglican Church Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya has come out to state that her church has not deviated from the Bible teaching on marriage, stating that it was still one man married to one woman.

This newspaper wanted Bishop Wamukoya to shed some light on a stand that was taken by the Anglican Church in the country.

This was after our sister newspaper, the Sunday Observer, reported that the Anglican Church from across Southern Africa have resolved that gays and lesbians were welcome to become full members of their churches. Responding to questions sent to her by this newspaper, Bishop Wamukoya said their church still stood by the principles of the Bible which required a man to be married to a woman.

"This, therefore, means that our ministers cannot solemnise a marriage between two people of the same sex," the bishop said.

However, Bishop Wamukoya said they frowned upon any kind

...it is still one man married to one woman

of unfair treatment directed towards people of the same sex just because they were gays or lesbians. She said the same was true for an unfair treatment of a certain nation by people belonging to a certain nation. "However, as much as we condemn xenophobia, the church equally condemns homophobia," the bishop said. The stand was reported to have been taken by Southern Africa Anglican Church leader Thabo Makgoba, who announced, through a pastoral letter he issued affirming, that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people were welcome to be full members of his church after meeting with the Synod (advisory council) of his bishops. The archbishop of Cape Town is the leader of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, which covers Anglicans in South Africa, Angola, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and Saint Helena. However, it is not all the bishops that are reported to have welcomed Bishop Makgoba's decision, together with the synod of bishops. One Anglican bishop in Uganda is reported to be very

much against the stand. Archbishop Stanley Ntagali is said to be viewing such a decision as being a deep betrayal

to God over LGBTI rights. Bishop Ntagali is reported to have vowed that the Church of Uganda would boycott Anglican events until God's order was restored. He made an example of a

meeting that is expected to take place in Lusaka, the capital city of Zambia.

"The Church of Uganda will not be participating in the upcoming April meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) in Lusaka," Ntagali said.

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6 NATIONAL NEWS

50 WARDERS TRANSFERRED

By Nozipho Sibiba
Mbabane

OVER 50 officers at His Majesty's Correctional Services have been transferred to new duty stations in different stations around country.

Following the annual transfers which saw a number of officers being transferred in January this year, 50 more Correctional officers were also transferred on Monday.

According to a press statement, the 50 transfers were commissioned by Commissioner General Isaiah Ntshangase during a meeting at the Correctional Staff College on Monday.

"Usually, transfers are sanctioned towards the end of the year but these ones were necessitated by some new developments and needs that required be swiftly addressed through the transfer of this group of officers," reads part of the statement.

However, he was quick to remind officers to be always ready for transfers as they may happen any time as per the nature of the job.

He said the nature of the job in any discipline service, demands that officers be transferred periodically in response to certain needs and requirements at various levels of the department's operations.

He explained that transfers were not done in bad faith nor were they done to victimise anyone but happen solely to strengthen services delivery in parts of the department where there is high demand for it.

"Officers with the requisite skills are solicited from other stations and transferred to add value to some centres where this is in short supply."

COMGEN, therefore, congratulated the officers for having been chosen as the ones to assume duties at the various centres, saying this was an indication that their services and expertise were being recognised and valued by management. He also urged them to maintain their good working records even in the new areas of responsibility.

On another note, Ntshangase reminded the officers that discipline, respect, loyalty and taking of lawful

According to a press statement, the 50 transfers were commissioned by Commissioner General Isaiah Ntshangase during a meeting at the Correctional Staff College on Monday



PROMOTIONS: Over 50 officers at His Majesty's Correctional Services have been transferred to new positions in different stations around the country.

orders were very important attributes which should always be observed by all Correctional officers if they wanted to see their career blossom to greater heights.

Standard

In addition this, he called for officers to strive to attain the highest standard of conduct and professional public service saying this required that officers be faithful to the principles of providing professional services to the public through adhering to the code of ethics and in meeting the vision, values, rules, policies and procedures of the department.

Furthermore, Ntshangase cautioned the officers that in whatever they do in their capacities as employees of the department should ensure their conduct was above reproach and free of elements that might put the good name of the department into disrepute.

More importantly, the commissioner general implored officers to be always mindful of the oath of service and the Secrecy Act which they

signed upon their employment as Correctional officers for His Majesty's Correctional Services.

He said breach of these very important procedures and policies through leaking of confidential information about the department constituted a serious offence which might lead to loss of employment to offenders. He urged officers with grievances to express them through the Staff Association which he said was the only lawful platform which officers should use to advance issues of their welfare. Ntshangase said the Service has suffered injustices in the past from critics who accused leadership of being insensitive of officers' welfare issues. He dismissed this as not true saying the department through government was working tirelessly to address the issue of shortage of accommodation for officers.

He said as a result, additional staff housing infrastructure was being constructed in many of the centres including Bhalekane, Big-Bend, Pigg's Peak, Matsapha, Malkerns etc.

Bring back public's confidence on judiciary – Lindifa

THE full bench of the Supreme Court has been called to bring back public confidence in the judiciary by interdicting interference of the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala in the Rodgers Bhozana Du Pont case.

This was a statement made by Mbabane lawyer Lindifa Mamba in court yesterday. He was arguing on the application by businessman Robert Nkambule to interdict the chief justice from interfering in the case where he is armed with an order to evict Rodgers Bhozana Du Pont from his farm at Croydon.

Nkambule had bought the farm in an auction sale, but the sale was questioned resulting in the intervention of the Attorney General Majahenkhaba Dlamini who filed a review application before the Supreme Court on behalf of Du Pont.

It was alleged that the chief justice summoned Nkambule's lawyer, police and a deputy sheriff to his chambers and directed that the ejectment should be stayed at least until the review application was finalised.

The Supreme Court eventually issued an order in court to stay execution of the order to evict Du Pont from the farm pending finalisation of the case.

He submitted that the execution of the order to eject Du Pont from the farm was stopped by Maphalala in his chambers sitting alone and not as a court.

"The Chief Justice does not have power to set aside an order granted by a court if he sits alone in his chambers. He cannot order officers of this honourable court to stop executing an order of this court. This is what used to happen a few months ago when a single judge would sit alone and reverse judgments issued by courts. That is not desirable," Mamba said.

He submitted that the applica-

tion was not about the parties before court, but more about defining the powers of the court. "The public must not see the court as trying to protect one of its own. The Chief Justice does not have power beyond this court," Mamba said.

He said the public needed to have confidence in the judiciary and trust that once an order had been issued, it could not be set aside by an individual. That has been denied. It is this court's duty to restore that and issue an interdict against the chief justice," Mamba said.

The matter was presided over by Judge Jacobus Annandale, sitting with Judges Qinisile Mabuza, Mumcy Dlamini, Titus Mlangeni and Mabandla Manzini.

Judge Annandale asked Mamba if he was seeking to interdict something that happened in the past or for the future. Mamba said an interdict could hardly be given on past conduct, but it was for the future judging from the actions of the chief justice in the past.

He submitted that the lawyer, deputy sheriff and the police were stopped twice from executing the eviction order.

"There is fear that this might happen again," Mamba said. Judge Mlangeni asked if the interdict Nkambule sought would still count because the court had already issued an order staying execution of the order to execute the eviction.

Mamba responded to the positive and said Nkambule still had the ejection order and it was never challenged. He said the review did not automatically stay execution of the order, but only an appeal would have stayed execution of the order.

However, the court pointed out that the manner in which the prayers by the AG suggested that the order of eviction was being challenged. The court will make a ruling in the matter.



CHALLENGED: Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala has been challenged by Lindifa Mamba to bring back the public confidence on judiciary.

Take matter out of court, Judge tells Swazi TV man, rival

Stories by Linda Jele
High Court

JUDGE Siphon Nkosi has advised Swazi TV man Bongani Matsebula and Thabani Dlamini to consider taking away their battles from the courts, because it is embarrassing.

Judge Nkosi is presiding over a case where Dlamini is suing Matsebula for 29 000 as compensation for allegedly damaging his property.

Dlamini had alleged that Matsebula destroyed a television set and other household items after finding him and Makhosazana Mzileni inside the former's flat at Mobeni in Matsapha. Mzileni was Matsebula's wife at the time the incident happened on September 13, 2010. They later divorced.

Judge Nkosi advised the parties to consider solving the matter through traditional structures to determine if any-

one of them or both had acted wrongly. He said even through traditional structures, there were fines imposed if a person was found to have acted wrongly against another.

He said the matter in court, where the parties recalled what happened in the past, opened up healing wounds, especially because the media continued to also report about it, which bothered on embarrassment of those concerned.

"The lawyers can engage each other and decide if they can solve the matter without the courts. If you decide anything, I am available in my chambers before the next date of hearing," Nkosi said. Dlamini denied that he was having an affair with Mzileni when they were found by Matsebula in his flat. He said she had gone there as a friend and had asked him to avail his flat so that she could have her pizza.

Yesterday, Mzileni led evidence as a witness for Dlamini. She recalled that

she met Dlamini through facebook and their friendship grew resulting in many face to face meetings, some of which took place at his flat at Mobeni.

She claimed that sometime in September 2010 she had to fetch a recording from Dlamini's flat, of her friend who was fired by MTN.

She claimed that the recording was of a former MTN employee who had ill-treated Dlamini while on her duty and she was fired after Dlamini had reported her. She claimed that when her former husband arrived at the flat in Mobeni, he tried to assault Dlamini and herself, but they ran away. She alleged that he hit a household item while trying to assault her with an unknown object and police were called.

The matter has been postponed to Tuesday while the attorneys were advised to engage each other to see if they could reach an agreement to solve the matter elsewhere.



MANZINI NEWS

Read The Swazi Observer every Wednesday and get exciting news about Manzini...
...Interact with the Author on pro@mzcitycouncil.sz or 2505 2481 or 7611 4191



MANZINI YOUTH SPEAK THEIR MIND!

EVER wondered what's in the mind of the youth of Manzini municipality?

I'm certain you will agree with this writer that the youth has been silent for a long time in relation to their development needs yet the future of our beautiful municipality lies with them.

Well, the people-centred and innovative Municipal Council of Manzini in partnership with the Southern African Foundation for Economic Development (SARFED), has succeeded in breaking this long time silence.

About two weeks ago, it convened a big youth indaba at The George Hotel; the first of its kind to have happened within the bustling municipality.

Indeed, the youth showed up in great numbers (over 130 people) and made their voice heard. Read on and learn what's on their mind...

WE WANT MORE FDI, MORE JOBS

The youth of Manzini have strong confidence in the power of foreign direct investment (FDI). They actually believe that if more jobs are to be created, the National Government and the Municipal Council of Manzini need to be aggressive in the quest to attract FDI to the city. FDI means investment by foreign investors in a particular country or city. Well, not that they are unappreciative of local investment; in fact they stated during the convention that the National Government and Manzini Council need to make the investment climate conducive even for local investment in order to harness economic empowerment and job creation. The youth made particular reference to the growing trend whereby even the small scale business is operated by foreign investors. They lamented undue competition from foreign investors particularly on Small and Medium Enterprises such as fish-and-chips outlets; stressing that banking institutions and other financiers need to loosen their screws by making access to SME finance easier for the youth so that they could be able to venture into such small scale enterprises. On another note, Council was urged to facilitate for availability of more office and workshop-space within the city.

RETIRE AND MAKE WAY FOR THE YOUTH

The youth also raised concern that there is a growing practice whereby those in employment seem not to be keen to take retirement even after reaching the statutory retirement age. They lamented that this prac-



JOB CREATION PLEASE: One of the participants making a submission during the convention.



MOCATS: Manzini-based young poet who goes by the stage name Mocats rendering a performance.

tice robbed them of an opportunity to get jobs. Their key concern is that many youths have undergone tertiary education but are struggling to get jobs just because people are clinging-on-the-job even when they are supposed to have retired.

Stop renewing employment contracts for people who have reached the mandatory retirement age," that's the youth's plea to the employer.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SYLLABUS WAY TO GO

The youth of Manzini also punched holes on the current school syllabus in Swaziland, lamenting that it tends to channel learners into white-collar jobs.

"Government should make it mandatory for schools to provide both vocational and non-vocational syllabus so that learners would have

the leeway to choose the route that they desire to take in life. Other countries have that kind of education system and it's really working for their economies," so they said.

In essence, the youth feels that the current education system in Swaziland is too limiting and thereby depriving learners with special abilities a chance in life.

They also called for the establishment of more vocational institutions



SWAG: Models showcasing the Markswag clothing line.

in the country.

"HIGH MUNICIPAL RATES AFFECT TENANTS"

The youth made a plea on the Municipal Council of Manzini to always be considerate when charging property taxes (rates). Their concern was that, even though they largely played in the economy as tenants as opposed to property owners, high property taxes tend to have a negative bearing on the rentals as the property owner passes same onto the end user. They mentioned that even if they could access business start-up capital it might take long of them to realise returns on their investment due to high office space rentals.

DECLARE WAR AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

The youth of the vibrant Manzini municipality wish to see an end to drug and alcohol abuse in the city. It is on record that issues of drug and substance abuse are usually associated with the youth. Pleasantly surprising, however, the youth of Manzini want nothing to do with it. During the convention they called on the Municipal Council of Manzini and the Royal Swaziland Police to clean the city streets of drugs. "Facilitate for police raids on the places which are known to bedrug lords-infested and lobby for high and deterrent fines against offenders," the youth pleaded with Council. They also urged Council to invest in sports and other youth programmes in order to keep them busy and by so doing fend them off drugs and alcohol abuse.

...REFUSE COLLECTION CHALLENGE BEING ADDRESSED

The Municipal Council of Manzini is making frantic effort to address the temporary challenge relating to refuse collection within the municipality. This follows the mechanical breakdown of two trucks sometime last week, resulting in only one servicing the entire city. The situation resulted in delayed collection of refuse in some of the neighbourhoods. The trucks have been taken in for repairs and Council hopes they will be back on the roads soon. In the meantime, Council is making means to ensure that all refuse is collected as per the collection schedule.

Council expresses sincere apologies to her stakeholders for this unanticipated service delivery glitch. She believes that stakeholders appreciate the situation and will bear with her during this challenging period.

8 NATIONAL NEWS



BRAINY: Mlandvo Shongwe has since been promised a place in Form One in one of the prestigious schools in town. **RIGHT** - Mlandvo showing how he writes.

SWAZI OBSERVER STORY TOUCHES MANY HEARTS

as help for brilliant disabled 17-year-old Mlandvo continues to pour in

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

FINANCIAL help is pouring in for Mlandvo Shongwe, a brilliant 17-year-old Standard Five pupil from Motjane Primary School, who is living with disability.

The boy was interviewed by this newspaper three weeks for his bravery in defying all odds and performing exceptionally well despite his disability.

According to the school Principal Lungile Shongwe, help has been flooding since day one.

"The story had such a huge impact and help has been coming from all directions and in all forms.

Everyone wants to lend a helping hand and we are grateful for what the Swazi people are doing. So far three huge sponsors have come to pledge their commitment in helping him. They all want to

take him under their wing," she said.

Shongwe has, however, highlighted that help was not only coming in for Mlandvo but also his best friend Samkeliso Bhembe.

"Since their grade one, the boys have been inseparable, Samkeliso is like Mlandvo's right hand man, they are always together and he is very helpful.

Help

As you can imagine, it is not everything that Mlandvo can do for himself, he needs help especially when he goes to the restroom and with love Samkeliso has always been there for him," she said.

"The sponsors who have shown interest in financing Mlandvo's education have also welcomed the fact that the boys are a pair and are even more keen to help when they understand the passion that Samkeliso has for his friend," said the principal.

Shongwe revealed that the duo has already secured

spaces in form one in one of the best schools in Mbabane. "Unfortunately, all of the sponsors want to remain anonymous but I can reveal that all the businessmen have pledged to finance both boys education from Form One up to Form Five and through tertiary.

Website

One of the businessmen has said he will open crowd funding website and will have his international acquaintances contribute to the fund," she said.

George McIntosh of McAll investments said: "My family and I were very touched by the story and want to help both boys, we will support them not only with regard to education but in every area of their lives, we are still to go and see where they stay and inquire what sort of help can we also offer on top of the education clothes.

"This is a lifetime commitment."

Bongani Ndwandwe new Ubombo HR Manager

By Thembeke Dlamini
Manzini

ILLOVO Sugar, also known as Ubombo Sugar Limited has a new Human Resource Manager in Bongani Ndwandwe.

He replaces fired former manager Jobe Mashwama, who was first suspended last January after investigations instituted against him uncovered gross misconduct in the manner that some catering company was awarded a tender. He later parted ways with the company.

Confirming the appointment was Managing Director (MD)



NEW BROOM: Ubombo HR Manager Bongani Ndwandwe.

Oswald Mangwezi who, at the time he was called, could only confirm the appointment as it was after hours and he was driving.

According to his LinkedIn account, Ndwandwe is the outgoing Administration Manager: Budgets &

Reporting and is expected to wind up his current portfolio as he anticipates taking over the new on April 1.

When called late in the afternoon, Ndwandwe referred questions to his MD, saying he was the better person to offer any information.

Ndwandwe reportedly has a rich history with the company as his new appointment was confirmed at the eve of his completing 20 years with Illovo as he was first engaged as a management accountant in April 1996.

He reportedly rose through the ranks and has been engaged as an administration manager since 2012.

Don't dump your man no matter what, woman told

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A young woman has been advised by the Swazi National Court never to give up on her lover even if she continues being assaulted by her love rivals.

The woman, identified as Tanele, was at the Swazi National Court, where she was appearing as a complainant in an assault matter. Tanele told the Swazi National Court that she was assaulted by her boyfriend's baby mama.

This was after the baby mama claimed she discovered that the complainant was having an affair with the father of her children.

When asked if it was true Tanele stated indeed she was in love with the man who was involved in the love triangle.

She said as their relationship blossomed the accused in the company of her friends came over her residence and assaulted her.

Charge

She stated that at first she decided not to lay a charge of assault but after realising that the accused continued with her threats and assaults, she dumped her man and further reported the matter to the police.

When asked if the complainant broke up with her lover just because she was being assaulted by his baby mama, Tanele stated that she

had no choice but to make that decision.

The court told her that by breaking up with her man it meant she did not really love him because if she did, she would have stayed.

Assaulted

The accused when asked why she assaulted Tanele, stated that she was told that she was involved in a relationship with the father of her child so she decided to go and confront her about the matter.

The accused stated, however, that an altercation ensued and they ended up exchanging blows with the complainant and she won the fight, which is why Tanele ran to the police to report the matter.

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FATHER CICCONE'S DRIVER CHARGED

● He faces a culpable homicide charge following the fatal accident that claimed the life of Father Ciccone at Hhelehhele last week.

By Thembeke Dlamini
Manzini

THE driver of the car in which Father Angelo Ciccone was killed appeared in court yesterday facing a culpable homicide charge.

Mbongiseni Sifiso Tsabedze (27) of Bulunga, who was at the time of the incident employed as a driver at Mzimphofu, appeared before Magistrate Mthokozisi Dlamini.

He was represented by an attorney only identified as Thwala. Tsabedze was charged with culpa-

ble homicide for the fatal accident which happened on February 22 along the Hhelehhele-Joy Mission Road near Hamboek.

Died

He was said to have been the driver of the Toyota Rav 4 registered MSD 122 AS when he allegedly

drove into a Nissan Navara driven by Norah Hlelisiwe Ginindza, resulting in Father Ciccone sustaining mortal injuries from which he died on the spot.

Negligent

He was alleged to have been negligent in his driving as he failed to take a proper lookout when joining the road. Not only

that, he allegedly failed to avoid an accident which a reasonable person would have avoided.

Another passenger who was injured, Thoko Zikalala, was treated and discharged. Public Prosecutor Nqobile Mhlanga applied that he be remanded in custody until next Tuesday pending setting for trial while his defence council applied for bail.

Thwala explained how his client was also injured during the accident and was due for a medical attention after his appearance before the magistrate. Thwala stated that Tsabedze was employed by the St Joseph's Mission as a driver. Magistrate Dlamini granted and fixed bail at E3 000.



TRIBUTE TO FATHER CICCONE



MAKAPHUMULE NGBUHLE: Father Wandile Dlamini flanked by Donatos Zwane and Ndabehle Ndzinisa during a prayer service for Father Ciccone's soul to have eternal peace. (Pics: Mangaliso Kunene)



PROCEEDINGS: Father Wandile leading the service.



SOMBRE MOOD: Some of the mourners who attended the service.



SAD: Some of the mourners in a sombre mood.

FODSWA pays tribute to Father Ciccone

By Nozipho Sibiba
Mbabane

THE late Father Angelo Ciccone used his time, knowledge and skills to advance the interest of people living with disabilities in the country.

The Federation of Organisations of Disabled People in Swaziland (FODSWA) on behalf of the disability movement in Swaziland learnt with a deep sense of shock and sorrow of the untimely passing on of Father Angelo Ciccone, read a statement.

"His unyielding commitment to the plight of people with disabilities is unquestionable.

"An ardent advocate of an inclusive society, Father Ciccone contributed to the improved quality of life of these people who are often forgotten, side-lined, sometimes discriminated and stigmatised," read the statement.

The organisation quoted, Hebrews 13 verse 5-8 where it reads, "Let your conversation be

● "His unyielding commitment to the plight of people with disabilities is unquestionable."

without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you'."

"Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken over you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Celebrate

"As FODSWA, we celebrate the life of this distinguished man of God, who selflessly, until the end of his life, advocated brazenly for the rights of people with disability in every respect." They said whilst they have lost a renowned and remarkable hero, his invaluable work is a heritage that will forever remain in hearts and minds of the entire disability movement in Swaziland and beyond for many years to come. They said his spirit and dedication for this work would remain with them as they continued

being advocates of the rights of people with disability in Swaziland.

To the Roman Catholic Community, FODSWA sent their heartfelt condolences and assured them that they are in their thoughts and prayers always. "We wish them strength and courage as they go through this difficult and challenging moment. We would also like to wish a speedy recovery to those who were involved in the accident. Our deepest sympathy to their families." They then thanked the Catholic family for sharing the life of a stalwart, Father Ciccone with the people with disabilities.

"Although it is difficult during these times to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory be a source of comfort," the statement read. Father Ciccone died in a car accident at Hhelehhele in Manzini last Monday. He will be buried at Joseph's Cemetery on Saturday.



REST IN PEACE: A St Anne's member paying her last respect to the late Father Ciccone.



LEAVING: The mourners leaving after the service.

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10 NATIONAL NEWS

KOBE'S DRUG CLEAR-OUT

Director looking to wipe out drugs at school

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

DIRECTOR of Kobe-Ramokgadi Advanced Learning Academy Geoff Ramokgadi is calling upon schools' principals around the country to join hands and formulate an organisation which will help fight drug abuse in schools.

Ramokgadi said drug abuse was so rife in local schools that there was a need for principals to stand together and fight against it before it totally destroy the future generation of the country.

"The organisation will be for all pupils whether in private or public schools. We will seek the involvement of the Royal Swaziland Police Service and ministry of education to be able to carry this out. We also need parents' involvement in this



WORRISOME: The usage of drugs has been a problem at Kobe Ramokgadi Academy.

endeavour since they are also major stakeholders in the upbringing of a child," he said.

Amongst other efforts, Ramokgadi said this initiative would try to alleviate the tendency by pupils to aimlessly roam the streets and malls during school time.

"We want everyone, including

police, the public and teachers to take it upon themselves to question schools kids found walking around during school hours to be accountable for their purpose in town. During this time, these students engage in illicit behaviours and they are now used to being left alone and not questioned by anyone.

This has to change and this organisation will ensure that," he said.

He further said once identified, these pupils would receive the help and psychologists would be arranged for their assistance. "The organisation will also address the issue of the responsibility of parents. Parents are partly to blame for the high usage of drugs amongst students because they give their children unnecessary large amounts of allowances and with this very money, the pupils purchase the drugs. We want to urge parents to be involved in their children's lives and take time to know them so that they will easily notice if there is something strange or suspicious about their children," he said. Ramokgadi said all principals who were interested in forming the organisation should contact him or Kobe Principal Thuli Makgatho at the school.

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Justice Conference Room on the **22 March 2016** starting at **09.00hrs.**

Region Hhohho

1. Ncamiso Dladla P.O. Box 477 Manzini grant of a **Wine & Malt** liquor license situated at **Plot #6 Old Zakhele, Manzini** known as **Zinto's Cozy Bar**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

I **James J. Dlamini** the owner of the Property in question, hereby make a public notice in terms of clause 1.5 of the 2013 Manzini Town Planning Scheme that I wish to apply for the Council's SPECIAL CONSENT to establish a **beauty Spa to trade as Mbalazi Lifestyle Centre** on **Plot Portion 1 of Lot 350 Manzini township, Ext 2.**

Anyone having an objection to this application may lodge their objections, in writing, with the Municipal Council of Manzini at P. O. Box 418, MANZINI M200, SWAZILAND not later than **30 March 2015**, that is 21 days from the late publication of the notice namely on **02 to 09 March 2016.**

Man who destroyed maize field gets off lightly

By Thembeke Dlamini
Matsapha

THE man who razed a whole field of maize at Lomzukululu on Saturday had his sentence wholly suspended for a year and was told to compensate his sister-in-law with E1 900, the cost of inputs used to cultivate. Jeremiah Mzakes Dladla (46) yesterday appeared before Matsapha Circuit Court Magistrate Lucia Lukhele for cutting down a healthy crop of maize, the culmination of a dispute over the piece of land cultivated by his sister-in-law Zodwa Dladla (39). Having denied the act during an interview on Monday while at the police station, he pleaded guilty to the charge in court. He claimed to have used a

knife to cut down the field measuring nearly 100 metres in length.

The seasonal cane cutter said he went to the fields at about 1am in contradiction to his brother's wife's version where she stated that it happened at about 10pm.

He claimed to have used the knife which was also contrary to her version of seeing him using a slasher.

When Zodwa was asked for her reasons for failing to raise an alarm, she said she feared that her husband's blood pressure would be raised as he was a sickly man. She also relented that the Mbekelweni Umphakatsi had initially stopped her from ploughing the area due to the dispute and on seeing that it was planting season again, she used the fields.

After her brother-in-law complained to the umphakatsi, she said they told her to nurture her field and hand it over to him on harvest hence her shock at his decision to chop her plants down.

Magistrate Lukhele advised that the matter of the dispute be returned to the traditional leaders and sentenced Jeremiah to two years in prison with an option to pay E3 000. The whole sentence was suspended for a whole year provided that he was not found guilty of a similar offense during that period. He was also told to compensate Zodwa with E1 900, an amount calculated by officers from the ministry of agriculture.

He was told to repay the amount by the end of the month.

Man jailed for theft of computer system worth E41 000

By Mbono Mdluli
Magistrate's Court

A man from Ekupheleni in the Hhohho region has been busted for stealing a computer system worth E41 650 and is currently kept in custody while his case continues.

Melusi Sikhumbuzo Mbingo (31) was arrested and charged with two counts of housebreaking and theft. He appeared yesterday before Mbabane Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane. On count one, Mbingo is charged with stealing a computer system valued at E41 650, belonging to Mcolisi

Dlamini.

Accused

The accused person (Mbingo) is said to have executed this act by wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally breaking into an office situated in the ministry of labour and social security and stole the computer system.

The items of the computer system that were stolen include an LG monitor (E2 500) and a Central Processing Unit (CPU), with Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), which was valued at E39 150. The crime is said to have taken place on February 19, 2016. On the second count,

Mbingo is accused of stealing a vacuum cleaner valued at E5 000.

The cleaner is said to be in lawful possession of Thabsile Vakele Shongwe. The vacuum cleaner is said to have been stolen in an office situated at the ministry of labour and social security.

The accused is said to have wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally broke into the office.

This crime happened on February 19, 2016. The total value of the items allegedly stolen by Mbingo is E46 650. Mbingo was remanded back to custody until next week Tuesday.

Brother insults sister in front of DC

Stories by Sizwe Dlamini
Mbabane

A 60-year-old man from Nkaba was found guilty for insulting his 72-year-old sister.

Alfred Shabangu was found guilty by the Swazi National Court for insulting his sister Velaphi Shabangu (72) at the District Commissioner (DC) (Ndabazabantu) offices in Mbabane.

In a case of sibling rivalry, an argument at the D.C office turned into a court case when it is alleged that Alfred insulted his older sister Velaphi by calling her a prostitute.

The incident happened last Thursday in front of Magagula.

The issue was then forwarded to the court by Magagula, stating that he had no jurisdiction over such matters.

Velaphi informed the court that as she tried to explain to the DC as to why they were involved in a land dispute, her brother insulted her.

In defence, Alfred said he did not insult his sister, but only stated a fact, that his 72-year-old sister was married twice to different men at the same time.

The Swazi National Court ruled out Alfred's claim.

Court President Chief Lembelele said Alfred had no right to insult his older sister.

He was found guilty for insulting his sister and was sentenced to five months in a correctional facility if he failed to pay the E300 fine.

Man beaten up by barman at Yemfo

A 28-year-old man from Pine Valley has told the court how he was assaulted by a bartender at Yemfo Bar.

Sakhile Dlamini (28) was assaulted by Vuyani Dlamini (27) after a misunderstanding.

The incident happened on Saturday evening at Yemfo Bar.

Sakhile alleged that while drinking at the bar, he shouted an insult directed at his friend who was standing behind the bartender.

He said the reason he was shouting was because of the sound from the loud music that was playing.

He said the bartender, then assumed that the insult was directed at him.

Punching

Vuyani then approached Sakhile, first punching him in the face and then kicking him in the leg repeatedly.

Other customers then separated the two men.

Sakhile went to report the matter to the police station and Vuyani was arrested the next morning.

Withdrawn

The case was later withdrawn by Sakhile, informing the Swazi National Court that Vuyani had apologised for the incident.

Swazi National Court President Chief Lembelele Dlamini allowed the case to be withdrawn, stating that it was in the best interest of both parties to keep peace. The case was withdrawn at a E100 fee.

Siblings in court for stealing E12 000 items

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

TWO men from Elangeni in the Hhohho region are in court for allegedly stealing items worth E12 400 from Thabo Joseph Maphalala.

Thulani Samuel Msibi (34) and Bongani Nkosenhle Msibi (25) appeared before Mbabane Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane yesterday.

They were charged with house breaking with intent to steal and theft. On January 7, 2016, the accused persons are said to have wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally broke and entered into a house, which was guarded by Maphalala.

The two are said to have proceeded to steal items belonging to Maphalala.

The stolen items include a grey Defy fridge (E1 800), white double bed (E8 000), black Hisense television (E2 000), black subwoofer speaker (E400) and two black speakers (E200).

The accused pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The Crown led evidence against the accused persons.

The Crown called upon Thabo Joseph Maphalala to testify in the matter. Maphalala is the com-

plainant in the matter and stays at Ludzeludze Rural Development Area (RDA). He is employed by the ministry of agriculture as a tractor mechanic.

On January 7, 2016, Maphalala left his work station to check his late brother's home at Elangeni. This is the home where a house had been broken into. He left the homestead in 2014 to live in a government house at Ludzeludze. He would visit the homestead on weekends or whenever it was convenient to him.

Upon reaching the homestead at 11am on January 7, he found the fence enclosing the homestead cut and there was a big opening. "I proceeded to the main door and found that the lock system had been broken. I pulled the door and it opened on its own.

"I had the keys with me but could not use them to gain entry to the house because the lock system was completely removed," Maphalala said.

When he entered into the house, he found that items such as a fridge, stove, television, bed, pillows, pillow cases and blankets were missing. He said only the head board remained.

He also went to the main bedroom where he found that his late brother's bed and its bedding were missing. He then went outside to check



EXHIBITS: The television and the speakers stolen by the Msibi siblings. (Pics:Mbono Mdluli)

if sheets of corrugated iron, which were stored there, were still in order. He had left 87 of them, but when he checked this time around, he found that they were 49.

He then went to report the matter

at Lobamba Police Station.

After two weeks, the Lobamba police called him to the station to see if some of the items they had recovered were not his.

He was able to identify the

refridgerator, double bed, the television and the speakers.

The police did not release the items to Maphalala, but kept them at the station.

Crown witness kept some of stolen items

ONE of the Crown witnesses kept some of the stolen items after he was asked by the accused persons to do so on their behalf.

Alec Lusekwane Matsebula related how the items were found in his home where he had been keeping them on behalf of the accused persons.

In January, Matsebula, who stays at Buka at Ezulwini, related to court that he was called by his cousin Khangezile Sihlongonyane.

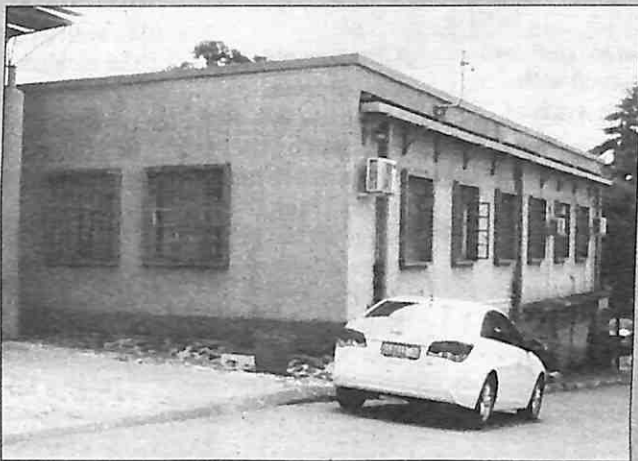
Sihlongonyane, according to Matsebula, is Bongani Nkosenhle Msibi's girlfriend, who is one of the accused persons.

Matsebula said Sihlongonyane wanted him to take the items to his house at Ezulwini. He said he could not help them because of work commitments.

Matsebula works as a truck driver at Heptagon Construction.

He was able to help on the following day when he knocked off from work at 7pm.

"They told me to take their items and keep them in my house as they had difficulty paying rent. They asked me to keep the items for them until the end of January 2016," Matsebula said.



APPEARED: The Mbabane Magistrate's Court where the matter was heard.

While still loading the items into the van, Sihlongonyane's landlord and her boyfriend came and demanded that they pay the rent, but they told him that they would come back to pay the rent.

Matsebula said he only agreed to take the items because Sihlongonyane was his cousin.

At the end of January, Matsebula reminded his cousin to come and collect the items.

Sihlongonyane is said to have assured Matsebula that they would come and collect the items. He said the items included a refridgerator, two speakers and a subwoofer as well as a double bed.

Last month, when Matsebula was at his home,

he saw a police van entering his homestead where he stayed. On board were the two accused persons and Sihlongonyane.

He narrated that the accused persons told him to take the items out of the house and hand them to the police.

The police asked Matsebula if his place was the destination the police were going to.

He said it was indeed the place.

When the police asked if Matsebula knew that the items were stolen, he said he had received the items from Sihlongonyane and her boyfriend.

The matter continues next week Thursday.



USUTU FOREST PRODUCTS COMPANY LIMITED

Employment Opportunity: Forest Rangers (50 positions)

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If you satisfy the specified requirements please send your application, copies of academic certificates and CV to the Human Resources department or email to hr@montigny.co.sz by no later than 8th March, 2016.

Should you not receive feedback within one week of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

12 NATIONAL NEWS

Unknown mob beats, burns 70-year-old to death

Thandeka Ndlangamandla
Nhlango

AN elderly woman aged 70, of Ezindwendweni has been brutally beaten then burnt to death by an unknown mob.

An unknown mob pounced on an unsuspecting gogo Salina Mngometulu, a widower, beating her brutally and proceeded to burn her to death.

Her family members alleged that the mob severely first her to death inside her house.

They said she was later taken outside, where petrol was sprinkled on her and they lit her and she burned along with all her belongings including the blankets she was sleeping in.

One of the children she was living with said they heard screams outside at around 11pm.

However, they said they were afraid to go outside since they did not know what was happening lest they were caught in the crossfire.



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

The child said their grandmother was heard screaming "ningibulalelani" three times before she died.

"We just don't know what has befallen this family, we don't even know the reason why she was killed," said a trau-

matised Ntsetselelo Mngometulu, her daughter-in-law.

She said her mother-in-law was not in dispute with anyone so they were in the dark about why she was killed so cruelly.

Mngometulu said one of the children woke up early, looking for their grandmother only to discover her house opened with smoke coming out.

Shocked by the scene, the child ran to alert other family members. Unfortunately when they arrived they only found her remains next to her empty house.

Meanwhile, Police Chief Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the matter. He said gogo Mngometulu was found dead in the morning after being killed by an unknown mob at night.

He said they still had no clue as to why the old woman was killed. However, Mamba said no arrest had been made yet since the incident happened at night and there were no witnesses but investigations are ongoing.

Car worth E60 000 stolen at Buhleni

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A car valued at E60 000 belonging to a resident of Ntabanezimpisi was stolen last week at Buhleni.

The 58-year-old man discovered that his vehicle had been stolen while parked at Buhleni area.

According to a statement released by Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba, Buhleni police are still looking for the white Toyota Hilux short base hips valued at E60 000.

The police have requested anyone who might have information on the car registered FXD 922 MP to come forward, so that the culprit may be arrested or the motor vehicle

recovered.

Meanwhile, another suspect that is still wanted by the police is a driver of a car which was involved in a hit and run accident at Nhlango along Mshengu Street.

The culprit in the Nhlango hit and run, knocked down a 26-year-old man of Sibovu.

The man was seriously injured and was rushed to Nhlango health centre, where he was certified dead upon arrival.

Police said the motor vehicle did not stop after knocking down the man and it was suspected that it was damaged on the front, bonnet and windscreen as a result of the accident. Police are appealing to the public for information that may lead to the whereabouts of the motor vehicle or the driver. If the public notice a damaged motor vehicle on the road and suspect it, can dial 999.

Two hitchhikers assault man for calling them poor

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

TWO men who were hitching a ride at Buhleni have been arrested for assaulting a driver who called them poor and further refused to give them a ride.

Mpendulo Tfwala (31) and Fana Mkhwanazi (21) both from Nyakatfo appeared before Magistrate Simangele Mbatha for the charge of assault.

On February 21, while at Buhleni both accused acted jointly and heavily assaulted Bhekumuzi Mabuza

with logs all over the body thus sustained injuries. They pleaded guilty to the charge and told the magistrate that they were provoked by Mabuza, who found them hitch-hiking along the road. Tfwala told the court that Mabuza stopped his car and upon seeing that, they were hitchhiking, instead of giving them a ride told them that he could not give them a ride as they were poor. Tfwala said the complainant then tried to run them over.

"We caught up with him and asked him to stop calling us *timphuya*, then a fight ensued between the two of us. Mkhwanazi then intervened and we continued assaulting the com-

plainant," Thwala said in court.

The magistrate advised the accused that it was wrong to take justice into their own hands. She sentenced them to six months in a correctional facility if they failed to pay a fine of E2 000.

Meanwhile, in the same court, two brothers who were charged with assault escaped from the wrath of the law after the court decided to strike their matter off the roll.

Mbongeni and Sibusiso Mhlanga of Mayiwane were arrested for allegedly assaulting Xolani Kunene with a whip and shovel all over the body with the intention of causing him grievous bodily harm.

Jealous lover suspects, assaults baby mama for cheating

Sizwe Dlamini
Mbabane

A 38-year-old woman from Motshane was assaulted by the father of her baby with a plank for allegedly having an extra affair.

The Swazi National Court heard how Nana Msibi

(38) was assaulted by the father of her two children, Skhumbuzo Mamba (48), with a plank.

The incident happened at the Mamba residence in Motshane on Saturday evening.

Msibi told the court that while cooking in the kitchen, an angry and drunk Mamba approached her

claiming that he had proof that she was cheating on him.

Mamba then proceeded to slap Msibi on the face while still accusing her.

Msibi managed to run into the lounge and was struck twice on the back with a plank that Mamba had picked up on the kitchen floor.

Msibi managed to run out of the house to a neighbour and called the police, who arrested Mamba on Sunday morning.

The case was withdrawn by Msibi telling the court that she had reconciled with Mamba.

Court President Chief Lembelele asked Mamba why he had assaulted the mother of his children.

Mamba blamed the devil for the incident adding that he would never assault Msibi again.

Mamba was advised by the court president against assaulting the mother of his children adding that if Msibi reopened the case, he would get a severe sentence.

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Court fines man E500 for assaulting brother

Stories by Sizwe Dlamini
Mbabane

A 39-year-old man from Ngwenya was assaulted by his brother for accusing him of being a devil worshipper.

Sibusiso Ginindza (27) was found guilty by the Swazi National Court for assaulting his older brother James Ginindza (39).

James told the court that on Sunday at the Ginindza homestead, whilst washing his socks,

he was approached by Sibusiso who came shouting.

Sibusiso claimed that James had called him a devil worshipper.

James told the court that his younger brother then insulted him shouting, saying he was mad because of certain medication he

was taking.

In a bid to silence his brother, James said he stood up but was slapped on the face by Sibusiso.

James said Sibusiso proceeded to insult him and causing a scene and other neighbours came out to watch.

James told the court that he was so embarrassed by the whole incident that he eventually called the police.

Sibusiso was arrested the next morning.

The court sentenced Sibusiso to seven months in a correctional facility if he failed to pay the E500 fine.

Man assaulted by stepson over mom

A 56-year-old man from Nkwalini was assaulted by his stepson for beating his mother.

Sandile Dlamini (56) was assaulted by his stepson, Xolani Malindzisa (31) after Dlamini allegedly assaulted his mother Grace. The incident happened on Sunday evening at the Malindzisa homestead at Nkwalini.

Dlamini said him, together with his girlfriend (Grace) had taken two cups each of buganu when an argument ensued between the two. Dlamini then assaulted Grace slapping her multiple times. She then ran to the main house to awake her son, informing him that Dlamini had assaulted her.

Malindzisa then woke up and came to his mother's

Malindzisa then woke up and came to his mother's rescue and proceeded to drag Dlamini out of the homestead.

Snip

rescue and proceeded to drag Dlamini out of the homestead.

Meanwhile, Malindzisa's asked the Swazi National Court to consider the fact that the incident happened at his homestead, where Dlamini was a guest.

Malindzisa further informed the court that he could not sit back and watch a stranger abuse his mother in his father's house.

The court allowed the case to be withdrawn as Dlamini had requested so.

Both Dlamini and Malindzisa were not to reappear in court for the same case.

Drunk uncle assaults 11-year-old niece

A 49-year-old man of Motshane has been fined E400 by the Swazi National Court for assaulting his niece.

Last Saturday night, Mphumelelo Mhlanga (49) who was drunk, assaulted his 11-year-old niece.

The incident happened at the Mhlanga homestead and was reported to the police by Nomcebo's mother Hlobisile Shabangu (26).

Shabangu told the court that while she was in the kitchen cooking, she was informed by another child that her brother-in-law was drunk and assaulting children in the main house.

We all have the power to stop child abuse.

Shabangu said she went to the main house to check and found her daughter laying face down

on the bedroom floor.

"My daughter told me that her uncle had slapped her three

times on the face. I then called the police who arrived the next morning and arrested Mhlanga," she said.

Mhlanga told the court that he was drunk and did not mean to assault the child.

Court President Chief Lembelele asked Mhlanga to inform them of the exact reasons for assaulting the child and he replied saying the child was being cheeky.

The president informed Mhlanga that assaulting children in a violent manner was a very serious offence reminding him that even corporal punishment in schools was regulated.

Mhlanga was sentenced to six months in a correctional facility if he failed to pay the E400 fine.



Ministry of Public Works and Transport



KUKHANYA
Civil Engineering Contractors

PUBLIC NOTICE

ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR MR3: MATSAPHA TO MANZINI CBD

The general public is cautioned regarding extensive construction works that will be ongoing along MR3 Matsapha-Manzini.

Blockades and heavy traffic interruptions are expected between the 1st and 18th March 2016. All road users are urged to be extra careful and vigilant whilst passing through the activity areas, reduce speed, cooperate with all caution signs or use alternative routes where possible.

Kukhanya will endeavour within own capacity to ensure smooth flow of traffic.

We apologise for the inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your continued patience and cooperation.

SATISO SEMGWACO

Sive siyecwayiswa ngeluhla lwekulungisa umgwaco lelitawuphatamisa kuhamba kwetimoto kusukela kuMatsapha kufike kaManzini. Kuphatamiseka nekubambeleleka kwetimoto kubhekekile evikini la 01 - 18 Indlovulenkulu 2016.

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Umakhi utowetama ngakokokhe lokusemandleni kunciphisa kuphatamiseka kwetimoto.

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Tel: 2404 8740/3 www.pspf.co.sz
TOLL FREE: 800 2401

VACANCY

ACCOUNTS OFFICER

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the position of Accounts Officer, which currently exists in our organization. The position reports to Financial Accountant.

Job Summary

- Processing of payments in an accurate and timely manner, within and in compliance with PSPF financial policies and procedures.

Key responsibilities:

- To perform reconciliation of the cash book for Current and Control Accounts.
- To capture, print payment vouchers, upload payments and ensure authenticity and validity of documents using financial systems.
- To provide the necessary and appropriate support for budgets, policies and procedures as well as Internal and External Auditors.
- Prepare monthly Trust Management Accounts and PAYE reconciliation reports and keep records.

Qualifications and Experience:

- B degree in Accounting, from a recognized institution.
- Minimum 3 years book keeping experience.

Knowledge/skills and personal attributes

- Proficient knowledge and competency in computerized accounting programs and systems.
- Proficient in accounts payable, accounts receivables, preparation of financial statements and reports.
- Skilled in accounting, bookkeeping and spreadsheets.
- Demonstrate advanced analytical, problem solving, stress and time management skills.
- Integrity, demonstrable work standards and sound work ethics.

Applications and Closing date

Written application accompanied by a detailed Curriculum Vitae, should be received not later than 4 March 2016, before 16h00 addressed to:

Director Corporate Services
Public Service Pensions Fund
P. O. Box 4469
Mbabane

NORTHERN HHOHHO NEWS

...With

Sifiso Nhlabatsi



Pigg's Peak Office

Kai Kai Building opposite Shoprite,
Office No:3Tel: 2437 1083 Cell: 7674 6378
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AHF PARTNERS WITH PEAK TIMBER IN A E1.3M PROJECT

THE AIDS Health Care Foundation (AHF) has partnered with Peak Timbers and other stakeholders in a E1.3 million health care project.

The other partners are the Tides Foundation and Global Environment Fund (GEF).

The project will see the northern Hhohho community get easy access to antiretroviral treatment and other health care services.

Peak Timbers Environment and Community Liaison Manager Nhlanhla Nxumalo said AHF, through its outreach programmes would be bringing services closer to the people employed at the plantation free of charge.

Nxumalo said AHF would help Peak Timbers in that they would embark on a door-to-door testing and counselling at the company's own compounds.

He said the compounds that were known as 'villages' were over 20 and they had a population of about 2 500 people.

Meanwhile, AHF Medical Director Dr Nkululeko Dube said such a project would also be beneficial to those who were already taking their antiretroviral treatment.

He said this was because they would no longer visit far-away health centres like those in Manzini to get their medication, but would be on the AHF programme.

Dube said the project would not only benefit those living and working at Peak Timbers, but the whole of Northern Hhohho would gain from it.

Community representatives are already available to assist with the project.

Nxumalo clarified that the project was not meant to duplicate or replace the Pigg's Peak government hospital.

He added that other stakeholders such as the ministry of health, social welfare and AMICAALL Swaziland are also involved in this project.

AMICAALL programme is responsible for coordinating the clinic's services with other prevention activities, social support and community mobilisation.

Nxumalo said AHF would work with the hospital instead and try to offer what was not offered by it.

Dube said AHF was one of the biggest organisations providing services outside the US government.

He said in 2007, AHF established a



ALL YOURS: AHF Medical Director Dr Nkululeko Dube presenting car keys to Peak Timbers' Etienne Sales while Environment and Community Liaison Manager Nhlanhla Nxumalo looks on. (Pic: Sifiso Nhlabatsi)

Peak Timbers in return presents AHF with a car

IN appreciation of the outreach programme by AHF, Peak Timbers presented the entity with a brand new Toyota Fortuner Vehicle.

Peak Timbers Environment and Community Liaison Manager Nhlanhla Nxumalo said since AHF was planning to take its services to all parts of northern Hhohho, Peak Timbers saw it fit to present the organisation with a vehicle. "That is why we bought them a car and we hope they will be able to move around while doing their activities," Nxumalo stated. An elated Dube said the vehicle would help them reach areas outside Pigg's Peak Town. Peak Timbers also gave AHF building structures which they

would use as a clinic and staff houses.

This project has also brought employment to the northern Hhohho folks as some are now employed as groundsman, security guards and nurses.

Dube said the recruitment exercise would soon be finalised. He said with timber being the main economic activity in Pigg's Peak, they felt they had to support Peak Timbers as a way of giving back to the community.

He further stated that he appreciated the partnership they had with Peak Timbers, more especially when one considered the strained resources due to the economic challenges faced by the country.

clinic in Manzini known as Lamvelase Clinic to care for HIV positive patients in and around the city. The clinic also alleviated some of the capacity limitations created by the expanding need for ART.

Dube said currently, the organisation was dealing with about 12 000 patients. He said AHF was planning to extend its services to all regions of the country with the next one being Lubombo.

Dube said they would be providing comprehensive HIV care where all HIV-related services would be integrated under one roof.

These include tuberculosis treat-

ment and testing as well as sexual reproductive health services that include family planning, antenatal care and cervical cancer screening.

When asked why they chose Pigg's Peak, Dube said Peak Timbers was their partner and more so because there were villages in Peak Timbers that had difficulties getting access to medication.

On that note, AHF Operations Manager Mzwandile Nkambule stated that most of the people employed by Peak Timbers were migrant workers who left their families behind and ended up being involved in relationships with other people.



REVAMPED: The building at its early stages at the REO compound in Pigg's Peak

REO offices get facelift

AS the small town of Pigg's Peak continues to develop, more buildings are being constructed and rehabilitated, the same goes for roads.

Currently, the northern Hhohho regional education offices are being rehabilitated.

A multipurpose hall is being constructed by Pots

Construction Company.

The building is constructed in such a way that it would be a hall and storeroom at the same time. Last year, a request was made to the ministry of education and training that the REO building be rehabilitated.

It seems like the request did not fall on deaf ears.

Road accidents increase daily in the small town

ROAD accidents occurring in Pigg's Peak roads are increasing, almost daily.

In the past few days, a horrific accident occurred on Pigg's Peak public road near Luhlangotsini when an Opel Corsa van driven by a 34-year-old man of Nkomazi collided with a Chevrolet Aveo driven by a 22-year-old man of Glen Village.

The driver of the Corsa sustained serious injuries and was rushed to Pigg's Peak Government Hospital, where he was certified dead.

Close friends and relatives to the deceased are still failing to come to terms with what had befallen them. While residents

of Pigg's Peak were still recovering from the shock of the loss of the deceased whom they said was a humble person another horrific accident happened along Pigg's Peak Nkomazi public road at Plantation.

A 34-year-old man of Mnyokane knocked down a 39-year-old woman of Kandeve. According to police reports, the woman was rushed to Pigg's Peak hospital where she was also certified dead. Residents pointed out certain accident zones and suggested that it was time something was done on those zones. The residents suggested that speed humps be constructed so as to slow down traffic.

RDF continues to come through for Hhohho folks

THE Rural Development Fund (RDF) under the ministry of tinkhundla administration and development continues to help some of the country's populace.

Nginamadvolvo Indvuna Sithwathwa Ndwandwe said the Fund had also helped in some projects around his area such as providing gardens for the community, where they could grow crops for their livelihood. Currently, some gardens are being fenced, Ndwandwe said not only was the RDF coming through for the community, but other enti-

ties were assisting them develop in one way or the other such as the Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) Service.

"Recently, RSP renovated a house for an old woman," Ndwandwe said.

Sergeant Nelly Dlamini from the Pigg's Peak Police Station said they renovated the house for the elderly woman at Nginamadvolvo through the Police Christian Fellowship programme.

She said they would be officially handing it over soon and donate food parcels to the old woman.



MOST AFFECTED: Farmers growing maize have felt the most effect of El Nino during the on-going drought.

SADC'S EL NINO TALK IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

By Nomthandazo Nkambule
Mbabane

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) last week held a meeting to discuss the impact of the 2015/16 El Niño on agriculture and food and nutrition security in Southern Africa.

The meeting was staged from February 25 to 26, in Johannesburg, South Africa, with support from the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

The meeting was attended by senior officials from 13 SADC member states namely; Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

It was also attended by representatives from the humanitarian, development and donor communities, academia, NGOs, farmer unions and the private sector and the UN.

SADC Chairperson Boweditswe Masilo opened the meeting.

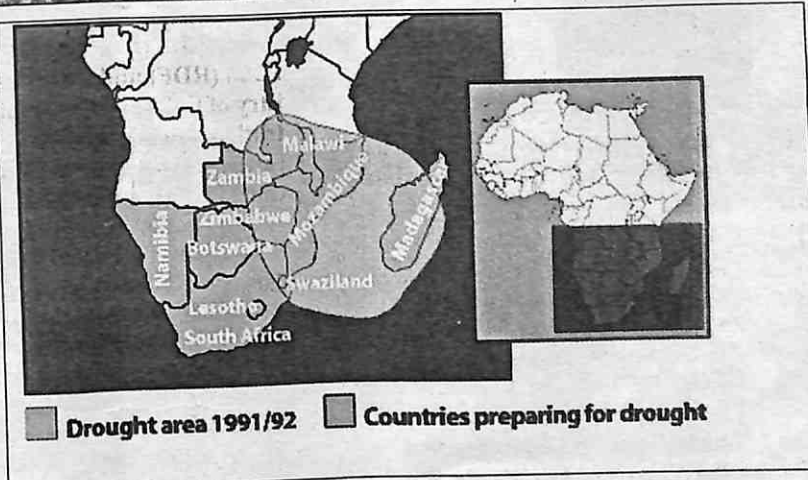
Understanding

A press release from SADC said the overall objective of the meeting was to create a common understanding of the effects of the current El Niño event from a regional and country perspective and agree on essential actions and commitments.

The meeting noted that the strong 2015/16 El Niño has resulted in one of the driest rainfall seasons in over 35 years in Southern Africa. This will have a number of implications including a low production of the 2015/16 agricultural production season leading to further declines in food production and regional cereal supplies.

The effects of El Niño would include higher prices of maize and other cereals, livestock and livestock

● The meeting noted that SADC member states, cooperating partners and the SADC Secretariat are undertaking a number of regional initiatives in disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response



EMERGENCY: The impact of El Nino on agriculture and food and nutrition in Southern African has been felt by most countries, forcing members of state to discuss the issue.

products and other food products. "There will be increased hunger and malnutrition given that approximately 70 percent of the region's population are either directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture.

Food

El Niño will result to an increased in the number of people vulnerable to food insecurity, particularly women, children and HIV affected people. There will also be adverse effect on water, energy, education, and health sectors," SADC said.

The meeting noted that SADC member states, cooperating partners and the SADC Secretariat are undertaking a number of regional initiatives in disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response.

However, the magnitude of this disaster required additional measures to reduce the impact of El Niño on lives and livelihoods of affected population and ensure that development gains registered in the past are not reversed. This might scuttle the global Sustainable Development Agenda.

The meeting acknowledged that the El Niño phenomenon would continue to recur hence agreed on the immediate implementation of short, medium and long-term measures in a collective and

coordinated manner to minimise the impacts on the communities. SADC said in the short term, member states would provide preliminary data on the number of people affected, cereal and other food deficits for planning and resource mobilisation.

Needs

With the support of cooperating partners, members would be provided with immediate relief. This would meet the food and non-food needs of more than 28 million vulnerable population who were affected by the previous poor season.

The numbers are likely to increase in view of the current El Niño.

SADC said member should scale up ongoing social protection/safety nets and to provide capacity needs for support by international cooperating partners. "In the short term, member states and partners must increase budgetary allocation for disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response. Accessible, affordable and quality basic social services for the most vulnerable should be provided," added SADC.

SADC said its members and partners must support male and female smallholder farmers to produce in the next production season.



PARTNERSHIP: Officials from the Swaziland National Blood Transfusion Services and Lubombo principals taking a group photo. (Pic: Sicelo Maziya)

By Sicelo Maziya
Siteki

THE Swaziland National Blood Transfusion Services (SNBTS) has school principals from the Lubombo region in a bid to maintain their continued healthy relationship.

The bank has a partnership with the ministry of education and training that has seen the formation of safe blood clubs in different schools.

SNBTS thus meet the principals at the Siteki Hotel so as to renew their continued relationship with the principals and further look at the blood donor education and maintenance of blood donor clubs in schools.

The meeting was also looking at exploring new donor recruitment strategies in schools as well as delayed post donation reactions and care.

The meeting also looked at the Swaziland road traffic accidents and demand for blood.

It looked at the current blood

demands at health facilities and also explored the question of whether blood needs were met through recruiting only from schools. SNBTS Technical Director Dr Hosea Sukati in an interview said the meeting was just a routine exercise that is done annually with principals.

He said they would also meet with career guidance teachers.

Sukati said they were grateful for the good working relationship they had with the ministry of education.

He said without the good working relationship with the education the country would be without blood.

He said at Lubombo, they were staging such meetings for the first time adding that they would visit the other regions on the same mission.

"This is just a meeting of stakeholders not that there is a crisis for safe blood. The main theme for this meeting was to maintain and advocate for numbers of safe blood," he said.

16 NATIONAL NEWS

By Nomthandazo Nkambule
Mbabane

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) is providing technical support through its country and regional offices to Swaziland for the formulation of a national coordinating mechanism (NCM) for tobacco control.

Dr William Maina and Dr William Onzivu conducted a workshop that started shortly after the commemoration of World Cancer Day last Wednesday.

Both the commemoration and workshop took place at the Royal Villas. The three-day workshop was attended by stakeholders from the public and private sectors as well as the civic society.

The formation of the NCM is a prerequisite of the WHO framework convention on tobacco control (FCTC) entered into force in February 2005.

The treaty was signed by 168 of the 192 WHO member states and more than 180 WHO member states have become party to the convention.

Dr William Maina said there were few African states that had not ratified the treaty and among them, was neighbouring Mozambique.

The FCTC provided an internationally coordinated response to combating the tobacco epidemic and set out specific steps for governments in addressing tobacco use.

These included adopting tax and price measures so as to reduce tobacco consumption, banning tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship.

Other measures included creating smoke-free work and public spaces, putting prominent health warnings on tobacco packages and combating illicit trade in tobacco products.

During the workshop, Ministry of Health Legal Advisor Zandile Dhlamini presented the provision of the Tobacco Products Control Act of 2013, which required that the minister of health appoints a Tobacco Products and Licensing Board.

The board will regulate, supervise and monitor tobacco and tobacco related products in the country.

WHO ROPES IN EXPERTS FOR TOBACCO CONTROL



ATTENTIVE: WHO Health Promotion Officer Dr Kevin Makadzange among the participants of the workshop.

PRESENTATION: Dr William Onzivu making a presentation about the FCTC during the tobacco control workshop at Royal Villas.

According to the Act, the board shall comprise of a chairperson who is not a public officer, a representative from the ministries of finance, agriculture, tourism and commerce, industry and trade, among others.

Dr William Onzivu said there would be a need to create awareness about the Act since many people



were oblivious of it.

Mechanism

Consultants helped the locals identify key sectors in tobacco control and their roles. The meeting man-

aged to come up with a proposed composition of the NCM headed by the ministry of health.

The ministry is expected to officially appoint the mechanism which

would spearhead tobacco control activities in the country.

The meeting agreed that IEC materials should be developed and disseminated as a way forward, support to civic society as well as sensitising the media on tobacco control. On the issue of policy and legislation, the meeting agreed that the national tobacco control policy should be finalised as well as regulations to the Act. There should be trainings on enforcement and compliance to the tobacco control law.

Adding, Dhlamini thanked WHO and the participants for conducting a fruitful meeting which set out to formulate the NCM.

"We are looking forward to the appointment of the NCM and we hope that the members will do their best in advancing the objective of the ministry of health in tobacco control," she said.

FPE ineligible expenditure a challenge to education

By Jozane Maziya
Mbabane

THE ministry of education and training has commended the project coordination unit (PCU) and chief inspector of primary schools for training and assisting school principals so as to avoid free primary education (FPE) ineligible expenditure.

Principal Secretary Pat Muir said FPE ineligible expenditure was a challenge to the ministry.

Muir noted that the ministry did not have a budget to cater for FPE ineligible expenditure.

He said in the year 2014, the ministry had to pay back more than E450 000 for FPE ineligible expenditure, adding that this was money the ministry did not have.

The PS said the ministry was not prepared to continue paying these monies thus the regional education officers (REO) were asked to ensure that schools abide by the stipulated guide-



CHALLENGE: Principal Secretary Pat Muir.

lines.

In an effort to curb the high costs of FPE ineligible, the ministry is seriously considering punitive action in future to head teachers who would cause ineligible, the PS said during the presentation of the National Education And

Training Improvement Programme (NETIP) baseline survey at the Royal Villas.

Muir said head teachers who caused ineligible might find themselves appearing before the Public Accounts Commission (PAC).

Court fines man E500 for assaulting brother

By Sizwe Dlamini
Mbabane

A 39-year-old man from Ngwenya was assaulted by his brother for accusing him of being a devil worshipper.

Sibusiso Ginindza (27) was found guilty by the Swazi National Court for assaulting his older brother James Ginindza (39).

James told the court that on Sunday at the Ginindza home- stead, whilst washing his socks, he was approached by Sibusiso, who was yelling at him.

Sibusiso claimed that James had called him a devil worshipper.

James told the court that his

younger brother then insulted him by saying he was mad because of some medication he was taking.

In a bid to silence his brother, James said he stood up, but he was slapped in the face by Sibusiso.

James said Sibusiso proceeded to insult him and cause a scene as neighbours came out to watch.

James told the court that he was so embarrassed by the whole incident that he eventually called the police. Sibusiso was arrested the next morning.

The court sentenced Sibusiso to seven months in a correctional facility if he failed to pay the E500 fine.

Swazi OBSERVER

OBSERVER SAYS...

TSC MUST BE WARY OF ITS DECISIONS
Parents at Fonteyn High School are up in arms against the ministry of education's decision to transfer their principal, who has impressed in the five years she had been in the school.

Just when they thought their maiden Form Five class was in good hands, the Teaching Service Commission (TSC) came with a letter transferring her to a school in the Manzini region.

According to the parents, they were not informed why their principal was taken away; hence stand opposed to the decision. Whilst the new principal from Londunduma High School is equally competent based on last year's Junior Certificate results, the parents don't warm up to her and want the ministry to retain her.

They are persuaded probably by the slogan, if not broken, don't fix it. The TSC's mandate includes that of hiring and firing of teachers and transfers. But these things must be informed by strong reasons why they are done, not merely to fix individuals or to inconvenience them a bit.

From the two schools recent JC results, it is clear that both had performed exceptionally well and what could have been the reason that necessitated the changes if it is not results? It is in the ministry of education's best interests that a school performs well and that their administration is sound. One of the things that contribute to these two factors is the relationship that exists between the school, the ministry of education and parents.

If the relationship between the principal and parents is sound, there would be fewer or no challenges, as parents would do everything in their power to support the school administration. Upsetting this tri-pot relationship then affects the entire school performance and creates problems for the school administration and ministry.

Not unless the transfer is at the request of the principal, who in most cases would have informed the parents of her/his, wish, and such disruptive changes should be minimal. It is understandable in cases where the ministry is trying to correct or intervene on the basis of poor performances that such transfers can be welcome or at the request of the parents.

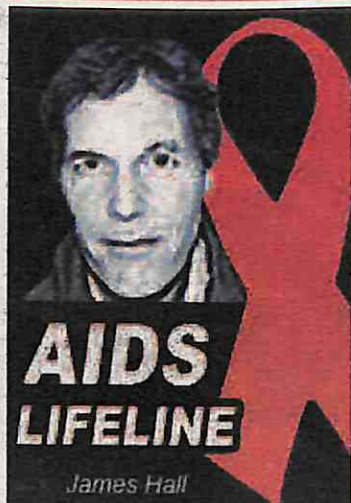
Such disruptive transfers can be damaging to even good performing schools, hence the ministry or TSC should try to avoid them. These two schools may find themselves at the end of the year performing poorly and the ministry should be ready to take the blame for its disruptive and unnecessary intervention. We bank on the ministry and the TSC to address crisis spots, but should also be alive to such actions if they don't promote excellence.



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

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GOVERNMENT'S declaration last week that the drought hitting the country this summer is a national emergency frees up resources to provide food to those in need. Cattle have died by the tens of thousands and crops have failed in the rainless hot season.

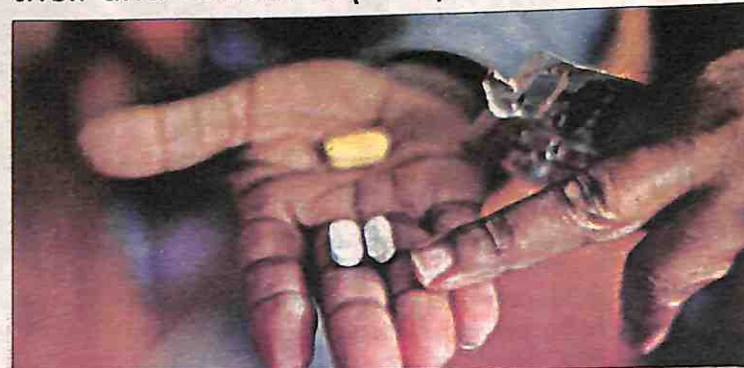
Of course, all people need food, and of particular concern are HIV-positive people who must consume nourishment before they should take their anti-retroviral (ARV) medicines. These life-prolonging meds work effectively on a full stomach.

Hopefully, in this year's government budget, more funds will be designated to agriculture to ensure long-term food security. While it is certainly true that it is farmers and not government that grow crops. However, government support is essential for food production. Rather than more, slightly less government spending goes to agriculture this year than last year.

All economists and politicians agree that Swaziland must become self-sustaining in food production, and be so productive that food prices drop and essential nutrition becomes more affordable. With regard to people living with HIV, a national increase in access and uptake of Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) cannot succeed with just medicine alone. As just mentioned, proper nutrition is a requirement for HIV-positive people to fully benefit from the anti-retroviral drugs, whose life-extending work

NATIONAL DROUGHT EMERGENCY AND HIV MITIGATION

● all people need food, and of particular concern are HIV-positive people who must consume nourishment before they take their anti-retroviral (ARV) medicines



to boost the immune system and keep AIDS at bay, requires sufficient fuel from regularly taken nutritious food.

Food security has usually been seen as a famine-avoidance matter. When crops fail, international donors provide grain to ensure that starvation does not take hold in our country. Recipients of this aid vary from year to year, depending on the health of the crops which in turn are guided by the vagaries of the weather.

Repercussions

The repercussions of these adversities are often meagerly addressed in the design and roll-out of treatment initiatives for households affected by HIV.

What was understood by healthcare workers in this country is that for HIV-positive people food security is an everyday issue.

Nutritious food may not be easy to come by if a person is poor or unemployed and is unable to purchase needed items. Also of concern are rural people who may not be close to stores where in winter months, like these, they may purchase fresh fruits and vegetables or have access to resources to grow them themselves.

Furthermore, without proper refrigeration, food cannot be kept for any length of time in the hot-

ter climes of the country; hence the importance of the rural electrification programme to rural dwellers living with HIV and AIDS.

(Again, HIV and AIDS is more than a health issue and requires the involvement of many sectors to combat.)

Food security for the HIV positive means having nutritious foods to boost the immune system and keep the body healthy. Food education is also an essential component to a successful ART rollout.

Approach

An HIV positive person must take an almost scientific approach to the food he or she consumes.

Knowing about nutrients is key to ensuring that foods which are truly nutritious are part of a daily diet. A person may consume large quantities of food, but if what is taken does not provide vitamins and proteins, then proper food security is not obtained.

What must be understood is the nutritional aspects of food security, and ensuring that what people eat is truly good for them.

It is a "less is more" approach: proper food in the right proportion is healthier for those people living with HIV than a lot of food of minimal nutritional value.

Sometimes the goal of obtain-



ing food security for one segment of the HIV-positive population, school children, falls victim to donor rules.

"One donor refuses to pay for general feeding schemes at school. They will pay only for children with HIV. But how can you separate the children that way?" one HIV and AIDS activist told AIDS LIFELINE.

To segregate HIV positive children in order to feed only them would both breed resentment from other children (who are likely also hungry and in need) and their parents and also introduce the danger of discrimination against children so publicly identified as being HIV-positive.

NGOs from outside the country must consider a more holistic approach to the HIV and AIDS crisis in Swaziland. This requires more sensitivity to the on the ground needs of the people of Swaziland, rather than prescribing "one size fits all" regulations.

One recommendation is that food feeding schemes be expanded for all children, with special emphasis on breakfast for the students, who might not have eaten that day and who cannot be expected to concentrate in class on empty stomachs.

HIV-positive people must also be given specific food assistance, the meeting concluded, including the guidance and tools (seeds, even water if necessary) required to create and maintain back-yard gardens, and facilitate household nutrition security as a bare minimum, to complement effective ART uptake.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Your aspirations are your possibilities. -Dr. Samuel Johnson

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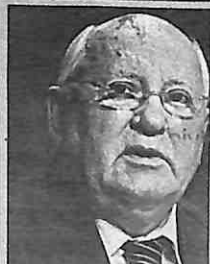
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ON THIS DAY

...MARCH 2

1815 - Signing of Kandyan treaty by British invaders and Sri Lankan King.
 1817 - 1st Evangelical church building dedicated, New Berlin, Penn.
 1836 - Republic of Texas declares independence from Mexico in Columbia.
 1853 - Territory of Washington organised after separating from Oregon Ter.
 1861 - Government Printing Office purchases 1st printing plant, Washington.
 1865 - British newspaper "Morning Chronicle" begins publishing.
 1877 - Rutherford B. Hayes (R) declared president despite Samuel J Tilden (D) winning the popular vote, but is 1 electoral vote shy of victory.
 1901 - The United States Congress passes the Platt amendment, limiting the autonomy of Cuba as a condition for the withdrawal of American troops.
 1903 - Martha Washington Hotel, catering to women only, opens in NYC.
 1907 - General Louis Botha named premier of Transvaal.
 1929 - Congress creates Court of Customs & Patent Appeals.
 1937 - Mexico nationalises oil.
 1945 - King Michael of Romania gives in to Communist government.
 1946 - Ho Chi Minh elected president of North Vietnam.
 1956 - Morocco tears up the Treaty of Fez, declares independence from France.
 1958 - Yemen announces it would join the United Arab Republic.
 1962 - JFK announces US will resume above ground nuclear testing.
 1970 - Rhodesia becomes independent republic.
 1974 - Grand jury concludes Pres Nixon is involved in Watergate cover-up.
 1977 - Libya amends constitution.
 1981 - Aircraft hijacked by 3 Pakistani terrorists.
 1989 - Madonna's "Like a Prayer" premieres on worldwide Pepsi commercial.
 1992 - Moldova joins the United Nations.
 1997 - Saudi Arab billionaire Prince al-Waleed bin Talal acquires 5% of Apple.
 2002 - U.S. invasion of Afghanistan: Operation Anaconda begins, (ending on March 19 after killing 500 Taliban and al Qaeda fighters, with 11 Western troop fatalities).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1931 - Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (1985-91), born in



1977 - Chris Martin, English musician (Coldplay), born in Exeter, Devon.

THE REVOLUTION ESCALATES

1 BILLION RISING REVOLUTION

14 FEBRUARY 2016



FOR the fourth year, globally One Billion Rising activists planned their rising events, artistic uprisings, panel discussions, press conference, town halls, movies, articles, gatherings, poetry, art, posters, actions and protests that took place on and about 14 February.

With the theme - ONE BILLION RISING: Rise for REVOLUTION 2016, this year's campaigns escalated the collective actions of activists worldwide, and amplify their call for systemic changes towards ending violence against women and girls once and for all.

Rising events continued to focus on highlighting and creating bold artistic initiatives that reflected the actions taking place in communities.

The theme Rise for Revolution allowed for creative and artistic expressions, multi-sectoral involvement, and provided a unique space to engage people from all walks of life.

It allowed the use of imagination, art and political actions - and allowed everyone the freedom to localise their campaigns.

REVOLUTION can bring everyone from the personal to the political - from the 'I' to the 'We'. It harnesses collective energy because it is hopeful and envisions possibilities and a future.

In a show of true global solidarity, activists across the globe ROSE and welcomed refugees who are fleeing war, persecution and poverty, from Italy to Croatia, India to the UK. In Germany there are over 100 cities hosting events and many are rising for and with refugees and other marginalised communities.

OBR artist Phoenix Nicole Bornkessel recently released this year's local anthem 'Station of Welcome,' featuring local activists welcoming refugees.

Across the world activists were rising for the victims of sex trafficking and labour trafficking; they were at the forefront of events and called for revolution in New Mexico and Miami and Cancun, and more.

"We've danced, we've demand-

"We are evolving our fight against violence against women, knowing that unless we put the marginalised at the lead, unless we address imperialism, war, climate change, racism, economic inequality, workers rights and patriarchy we will never end violence against women and girls"



ed justice, we've demanded changes. This year we are radicalising our actions - enlarging, deepening and expanding the revolution.

Let's continue to shift consciousness and be braver, bolder, more creative and determined with our actions. Communities will focus on the most marginalised women and girls to bring about true, long lasting change," stated Monique Wilson, Global One Billion Rising Director.

"We are evolving our fight against violence against women, knowing that unless we put the marginalised at the lead, unless we address imperialism, war, climate change, racism, economic inequality, workers rights and patriarchy we will never end violence against women and girls. Let's go further than we have ever gone, igniting revolution and paradigm change," stated Eve Ensler, Founder of One Billion Rising who has penned a new monologue that activists worldwide will perform entitled 'Rise, Dance, Disrupt'.

With the tagline Listen, Act, Rise, this year's theme and call to action was created by the One Billion Rising global coordinators at their annual gathering in May.

Their shared voices - from regions around the world - came to a unanimous decision to escalate the actions worldwide.

Global videos are already live online, with more being added as the campaign unfolds. The website features an activist toolkit, campaign info and FAQ and more. Rising videos featuring activist voices from around the world are updated frequently and a social media feed keeps the campaign updated in real time.

EXAMPLES OF RISINGS ROUND THE WORLD

Already, activists have risen in London and Paris and New York for Climate Justice. They have marched to stop police killings of Black women and men and #SayHerName, joined forces

with the Labor Rights group to stand for oppressed women workers after Rana Plaza in Bangladesh.

OBR continued to fight sexual assault on hundreds of college campuses. It joined in solidarity with the women of Cuba and will rise with them next year. We've stood with the women of the Balkans in their fight for justice for war crimes.

In Bangladesh activists will rise with garment factory workers and trade union leaders and members. They are rising for workers rights, for humane working conditions, for accountability and responsibility of factory owners and governments

Across the Balkans they are rising to protect threatened reproductive rights and against fascism. In Croatia, the revolution is focusing on a cross-section of marginalised communities including Roma women, refugee women, women with disability and jobless female workers.

India is rising in a huge way, with large city events and small villages rising. They are rising for disability rights and access, youth are rising, rising against patriarchy, rising for mother earth. In Himachal Pradesh Tibetan communities in India are joining Indian activists and are rising for Peace and climate justice.

Activists in Puglia, Italy and Hong Kong and Taiwan are rising for migrant women and migrant workers.

Activists in Perugia have incorporated sign language into their rising choreography to highlight violence against women with disabilities

In Palestine they are rising for women in marginalised areas in the Jordan Valley; a place that where women face domestic violence and daily harassment and surmounting atrocities from the Israeli occupation and the illegal Israeli settlers, who are building their settlements on the land of the Palestinians and increasing their suffering from lack of water, sanitary, health, education and

basic life elements.

Activists in Peru are rising for justice and reparations for victims of forced sterilisation in the 1990s.

Across the Philippines activists are rising and dancing to end multiple forms of violence in oppression that harm communities in particular ways.

They are rising for real justice for the victims of the Typhoon Haiyan and rising for Climate justice to prevent future tragedies. They are resisting forced migration and rising with and for indigenous communities rights by rising against militarisation, rising against mining and environmental plunder, and rising against political oppression and killings. Girls in Swaziland are rising against forced marriages.

ABOUT ONE BILLION RISING

One Billion Rising is the biggest mass action to end violence against women in human history.

The campaign, launched on Valentine's Day 2012, began as a call to action based on the staggering statistic that 1 in 3 women on the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. With the world population at 7 billion, this adds up to more than ONE BILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS. Every February through 8 March, thousands of Risings take place in hundreds of countries across the world and within local communities - to show the world what one billion looks like and shine a light on the rampant impunity and injustice that survivors of various forms of violence face.

Through the collective efforts of activists in 200 countries, One Billion Rising has mobilised, engaged, awakened and joined people worldwide to end violence against women. It has made violence against women a global human issue not relegated to country or tribe or class or religion and revealed it as a patriarchal mandate, present in every culture of the world.

WHY BARCLAYS IS SELLING ABSA

UNDER-PERFORMANCE IN £S ONLY HALF THE STORY

By appointing turnaround specialist John McFarlane chairman of Barclays in September 2014, the board sent a signal that it would do whatever it took to fix the 326 year old banking group. But at stage one, though, few would have imagined that the hacking would include one of its four pillars, the Barclays Africa operation dominated by Absa, which employs a quarter of the group's staff and around 10% of its capital. What must have been a touch-and-go decision would have been tipped by the Rand's Nenegate-inspired plunge which highlighted the risk of having a large chunk of the business exposed to such a volatile environment. When you tot up the numbers, the total investment in the decade was £3.8bn – £2.6bn under John Varley a few months after he took over as CEO in 2004; and then £1.2bn by CEO Antony Jenkins in July 2013. Barclays is likely to get back £400m less when it sells its 62.3% stake – a poor advertisement for foreign investment in weak currency geographies like South Africa. – Alec Hogg

BARCLAYS Chief Executive Officer Jes Staley, poised to announce the fate of the lender's African business, must convince investors he can improve the investment bank's profits just as slumping trading revenue batters the industry.

Staley is leaning toward maintaining the securities unit without pursuing a major restructuring or spinning off the business, according to people familiar with the matter, who asked not to be identified before his presentation yesterday. He probably will lay out plans to exit the bank's African business and its 50 billion pounds (\$70 billion) of assets, according to a person briefed on the decision. The bank said in a statement Sunday that its board is still evaluating options for the African unit.

"You're looking at a dreadful climate, so whatever Staley lays out, there will be questions," said Chris Wheeler, a London-based analyst at Atlantic Equities. "If Jes is looking for a bounce off his strategy, it has to be very controllable, and the only options are cutting costs and reducing capital allocated to the investment bank."

Barclays has four core divisions: two units in Barclaycard and personal and corporate banking that have steady returns of more than 10 percent; the African business that's hit by slowing economic growth and a falling South African rand; and the investment bank, which has the lowest returns of the four.

Cost Cuts

Staley has already taken an ax to the latter unit, announcing 1,200 additional job cuts, exiting most countries in Asia, imposing a hiring freeze and cutting the bonus pool to restrain costs. The moves have thus far not arrested a two-year slump in shares that has left the bank trading 50 percent less than its book value. With that valuation at its lowest in more than three years, the stakes are high for Staley's strategic update alongside



full-year results.

Chairman John McFarlane fired former retail banker Antony Jenkins as CEO in July, blaming him for a slow pace of restructuring, and installed Staley, who ran the world's largest investment bank at JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Staley already has seen European rivals struggle to restructure their securities divisions amid volatile debt and equity markets. Deutsche Bank AG, which laid out a plan in October to cut as much as half of its trading and investment-banking clients, has lost almost 30 percent of its market value so far this year and has sought to calm fears about its ability to service debt. Credit Suisse Group AG accelerated staff reductions after trading losses drove worse-than-expected fourth-quarter results.

Trading Slump

Last year was the worst for fixed-income trading since 2008, according to research firm Coalition Development Ltd. JPMorgan said last week that trading revenue was down 20 percent so far in 2016 and that investment banking fees will probably slide about 25 percent this quarter amid the market turmoil.

"The ongoing market weakness is leading to faster restructuring at Credit Suisse and Deutsche Bank because of the stress they are coming under," said Paul Dilworth, an investment manager at Kames Capital Plc, an Edinburgh-based fixed-income firm that oversees

about 55 billion pounds including Barclays bonds. "It's validated McFarlane's decision to get rid of Jenkins and bring in Staley when he did, because what they really need is someone to be more knowledgeable about the IB and understand how to redistribute capital and what businesses they should close down."

Staley appears set to redistribute capital from the African business, which had 14 percent of the bank's assets and 9.4 percent of its risk-weighted assets. That business had the only drop in pretax profit among Barclays' four main units in the third quarter as it was hit by higher impairments and a falling rand. Barclays has operated on the continent for almost a century and owns a 62 percent stake in Johannesburg-based Barclays Africa Group Ltd., which was built up under former CEO Robert Diamond.

'Too Cyclical'

Kames Capital's Dilworth estimates a spinoff of the African unit could bolster the bank's capital by 1.5 percentage points, taking it closer to its 13 percent target. The bank had a common equity Tier 1 level of 11.1 in the third quarter, the weakest of any major U.K. lender.

"European banks are restructuring against a really difficult background, so what you want now is some really strong revenue growth to support you whilst you're get-

ting it done, and I can't see them getting this in Africa," said Wheeler. "It's too cyclical."

Still, investors will also want answers on the investment bank, including who will run it. Staley is already waiting on several newly hired executives from his former employer to join after mandated gardening leaves are up, and investment bank CEO Tom King has announced he will depart this week.

"Investors will be disappointed if they do not get any news on what the longer-term strategy for both the investment bank and the African operations are," said Julian Chillinworth, chief investment officer at Rathbone Brothers, which manages 27 billion pounds and owns Barclays shares.

"I would be surprised if they have not been following events at Deutsche and Credit Suisse very closely."

Barclays may also find little room to cut fat as it seeks to retain top-performing employees when faced with competition from U.S. investment banks. The U.K. bank cut its 2015 bonus pool for its dealmakers and traders by about 10 percent to 12 percent, two people with knowledge of the matter said last week.

"The point is, when you've gone through the muscle, you're going into the bone," Wheeler said. "And they're probably into the muscle already."

Biznews (Bloomberg)

Wit and Wisdom

1. Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. No man has learned anything rightly, until he knows that every day is Doomsday.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

2. If it is not right do not do it; if it is not true do not say it.
Marcus Aurelius

3. Don't give your advice before you are called upon.
Desiderius Erasmus

4. Feed your body. Feed your soul. Feed your dream. BUST OUT!!!
Awiakta

5. Life must be lived and curiosity kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn his back on life.
Eleanor Roosevelt

6. Whatever you do, you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising that tempt you to believe your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires some of the same courage that a soldier needs. Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men and women to win them.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

7. Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't.
Erica Jong

8. Today a thousand doors of enterprise are open to you, inviting you to useful work. To live at this time is an inestimable privilege, and a sacred obligation devolves upon you to make right use of your opportunities. Today is the day in which to attempt and achieve something worthwhile.
Grenville Kleiser

9. Try to make at least one person happy every day, and then in ten years you may have made three thousand, six hundred and fifty persons happy, or brightened a small town by your contribution to the fund of general enjoyment.
Sydney Smith

10. Moderation. Small helpings. Sample a little bit of everything. These are the secrets of happiness and good health.
Julia Child

11. A barking dog is often more useful than a sleeping lion.
Washington Irving

12. Don't follow any advice, no matter how good, until you feel as deeply in your spirit as you think in your mind that the counsel is wise.
Joan Rivers

13. One's first step in wisdom is to question everything - and one's last is to come to terms with everything.
Georg C.

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BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate 9.75%
First National bank

Inflation Rate 5.6%
Central Statistical Office

Mortgage Rate 8.75%
Swaziland Building Society

Bank Rate 6.25%
Central Bank

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

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES



Correct as at 01 March 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	15,8325	15,8825
British Pound/SZL	22,0736	22,1433
Japanese Yen/SZL	7,0997	7,1189
Swiss France/SZL	15,8737	15,9079
Botswana Pula/SZL	1,3822	1,4183
Australian Dollar/SZL	11,3170	11,3560
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11,7130	11,7465
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	3,0002	3,0505
Euro/SZL	17,2336	17,2880
Gold	1,243.8000	
Oil	36.0600	

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Moving Forward

SD RECORDED OVER 1.26M TOURIST ARRIVALS IN 2015

By Manqoba Makhubu

A total of about 1 255 901 tourist arrivals into Swaziland were recorded in 2015, with all but one region recording an increase in the percentage of arrivals.

This was relayed by Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini, who revealed that the Middle East had the highest increase of 11.3 percent.

"A total of 1 253 people from the Middle East arrived into the country as opposed to 1 126 in 2014.

"This region's main countries that visit Swaziland were Kuwait, Iran, Israel, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, among others," said Dlamini.

Dlamini said Europe and the Americas had an increase of 3.2 percent apiece. 103 559 tourists arrived from Europe in 2015, as compared to 100 308 in 2014. From that region, the country that

had the biggest increase was France with 36.8 percent.

Visitors from Switzerland and Belgium also increased significantly by 11.2 and 8.5 percentages, respectively. However, in terms of real numbers, Germany remained the leading source market for the country's tourism industry, with 21 510 Germans arriving into the country last year, a 0.7 percent decrease from 2014's figure of 21 669 tourists.

Dropped

France overtook both Netherlands and United Kingdom to claim the second position on the European market, with 19 360 French tourists arriving in the country in 2015. Netherlands dropped to third position from second and had 17 414 Dutch tourists arriving into Swaziland in 2015, 2.6 percent lower than 2014's figure of 17 874.

The rest of Swaziland's traditional markets in the European

region include Italy, Norway, Portugal and Sweden.

The North and South America region's 3.2 percent increase was a result of increases in all three top source markets in that region. The United States of America (USA) had the greatest increase at 3.6 percent, with 17 988 Americans arriving into the country last year compared to 17 359 in 2014.

Canadians and Brazilians arriving into the country increased by 2.8 and 2.3 percentages, respectively.

Arrivals

Adding, Dlamini said Asia and Australia had also registered an increase of 2 percent in tourist arrivals into the country last year. From that region, Pakistani had the highest increase; 22.9 percent, while Australia had the highest decrease at -26.9 percent. Some of the countries which registered increases from that region include China, South Korea, and

India, with 8.5, 7.3, and 2.3 percentages respectively, while those that registered decreases include Taiwan and Philippines with -12.8 and -1.5 percentages respectively.

Meanwhile, Dlamini said the only region that registered a decrease in the number of arrivals was Africa, which registered 6.2 percent. From that region, Mozambican arrivals in the country decreased by 17.4 percent, as 181 271 got into the country last year compared to 219 555 in 2014.

South Africa remained the biggest source market in Africa, with 810 249 arrivals from that country last year, representing a 5.4 percent decrease compared to 856 492 in 2014.

Decreases were also registered in arrivals from Kenya, Botswana and Zambia while increases were recorded from Zimbabwe (18.5 percent), Tanzania (10.5 percent) and Nigeria (3.7 percent).

Mbabane Council sets up E6.8 million drought mitigation plan

By Linda Dlamini

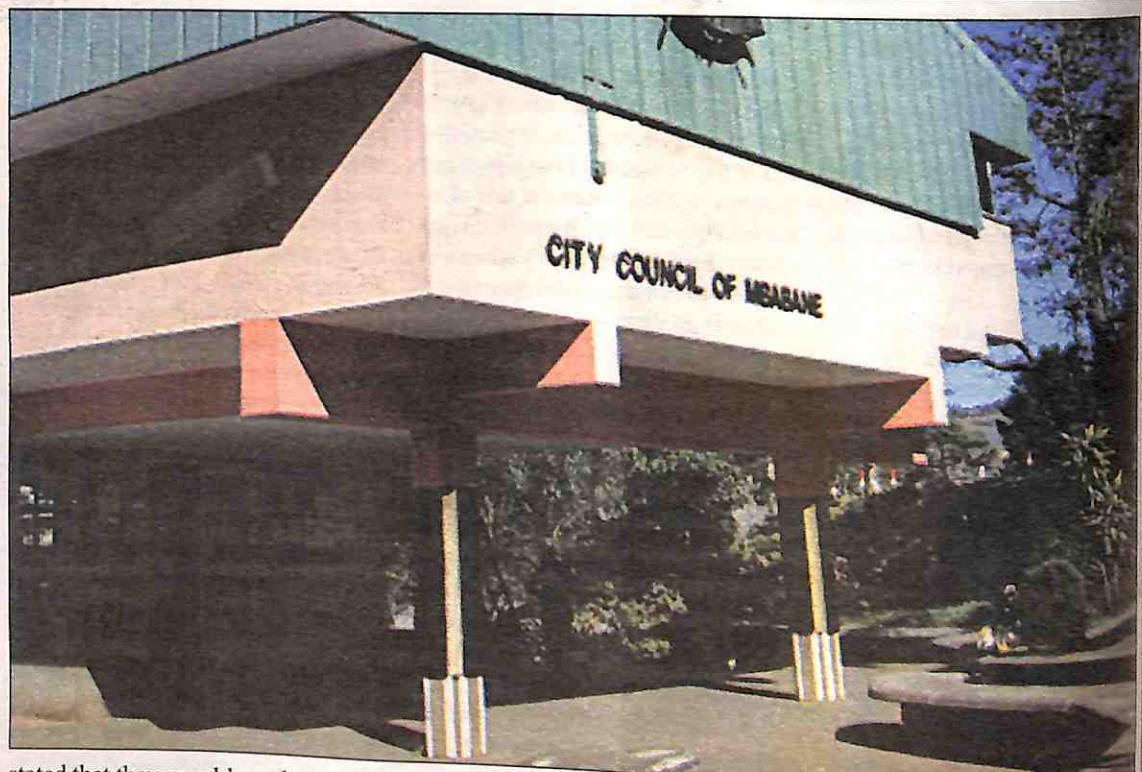
THE Municipal Council of Mbabane is working towards setting up a E6.8 million drought mitigation plan.

According to the Municipal Council Agenda Minutes for the 31st Ordinary Meeting, the council has set aside about E5 788 000 for the operational costs of the project while E1 056 000 would cater for capital costs.

"Since there is no budget for this expenditure, council will have to seek external funding in the form of a bridging loan," reads the report in part.

The loan will be recovered from the central government once the 2015/2016 Supplementary Budget has been approved in parliament.

Once the loan source has been identified, a report will be submitted to council and the ministry of housing and urban development for its authorisation. "The council has engaged with the Swaziland Water Services Corporation SWSC about the possibility of them financing the contingency plan, but they have



stated that they would not be able to finance all the activities of the contingency plan," said the report.

Analysis of the plan reveals that the Council plans to install tank stands and 10 000 litre water tanks at the Mbabane market and bus rank toilet.

The council said water for the Mbabane Market will be sourced from the Mbabane River through a submersible water pump, whereas water for the market toilet would be sourced from the market borehole and the freedom square toilet will be closed for the duration of the drought.

The council plan has been drawn up to cover a period of six months and with the water levels in the Mbabane River expected to drop during the winter period, the city of Mbabane is expected to continue having water shortages for the duration of the next six months.

Ngwane Park residents to get preferential jobs from E14m tender

By Sikhulisile Vilakati

NGWANE Park residents will get preferential job opportunities from the E14 million tender that was awarded to Roots Civils as the Manzini LED programme introduced community-based recruitment.

Roots Civils won the tender for upgrading four roads at Ngwane Park Extension which are Mantayi, Mthombothi, Gundvini and Mkhaya.

The company has already set up offices on site and the project is expected to commence anytime soon.

Municipal Council of Manzini Public Relations Officer Mathokoza Thwala said the council's intention was that the project should not only benefit the ward in the form of good quality roads, but also in the form of job creation in order to alleviate unemployment.

Thwala urged residents of



JOB CREATION:
Municipal Council of Manzini Public Relations Officer Mathokoza Thwala.

Ngwane Park who would wish to be employed as general labourers during the upgrading of the four roads to approach the contractors that had been awarded the tender for job opportunities.

"The community-based recruit-

ment forms part of councils Local Economic Development (LED), which aims at enhancing the economy of Manzini through job creation and providing support to the business sector," he said.

However, he emphasised that this does not mean that the residents were guaranteed of automatic employment, as hiring would depend on the competency of the applicant as determined by the contractor.

"Therefore, we urge residents not to fight the contractor in the event they are turned down," he said.

"As Manzini City Council, we also wish to encourage females to take the opportunity to try their luck too.

"And those who are interested should make sure that they bring their national identity cards, graded tax numbers and proof of residence such as water or electricity bill or their lease agreements with landlords (in the case of tenants)," he said.

He said those who would not have the bill or lease agreement under their names should approach Ngwane Park Councillor Jewel Mamba for assistance.

DIFFERENT BORDER SYSTEMS AFFECTS CROSS BORDER TRANSPORTATION

By Linda Dlamini

CROSS-Border Road Transport Agency (C-BRTA) Chief Executive Officer Sipho Khumalo says the fact that Swaziland and South Africa use two different border systems is an impediment for cross border transportation between the two countries.

Khumalo said this made it difficult to share experiences and look at ways to assist one another as one country's problem was not that of the other when the two countries were operating using different systems.

"For instance, in Swaziland the Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) uses the ASYCUDA World System while in the republic, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) uses a totally different system," he said.

He said to mitigate this institutional bureaucracy red tape, there was a need to harmonise the systems of the two states.

Problem

"This creates a problem of duplication, in that a procedure done on one side of the border is also done on the next side when it has already been done on the other side," he lamented.

He said the harmonisation would involve sharing data on the same information system which in turn would reduce duplication, resulting in the simplistic procedures to follow and thus ultimately increasing efficiency at the borders.

Synchronisation of important aspects like that of border insurance would greatly add to the reduction of delays at the border post.

Adding, Khumalo said there was also inadequate road infrastructure for the improvement of cross border trade between Swaziland and the Republic of South Africa, emphasising that this was not a problem for the country only, but also most countries in the Southern African Development (SADC) Region.

STA PROJECTS TOURIST INCREASE IN 2016

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

ALTHOUGH the overall 2015 statistics for inbound tourism into the country suggest a decrease of about 5.2 percent compared to 2014, the Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) foresees a reversal of this trend this year, mainly due to the eventual relaxation of South African immigration laws.

"It is a fact that the stringent South African immigration guidelines and laws last year posed as a serious threat to the growth of tourist arrivals, not just into Swaziland, but the entire Southern African region.

"We cannot rule out the impact and negative effects of what was seen as xenophobia attacks in South Africa, affecting travelling

trends in the whole region. This is more evident on the decrease of tourists from the African region as opposed to an increase in all other international regions," reasoned STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini.

Dlamini said worldwide, tourist arrivals into all countries reached a combined figure of a record breaking 1.2 billion, with only Africa showing a decrease in growth.

This, he said, was according to the latest UNWTO statistics. He said African Destination Marketing Organisations (DMOs) like the STA were desirous to change the patterns in 2016.

HUGE INCREASE: STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini.



...International tourist arrivals reach a record 1.2 billion in 2015

INTERNATIONAL tourist arrivals worldwide grew by 4.4 percent in 2015 to reach a total of 1.184 million in 2015, according to the latest UN World Tourism Organisation barometer.

Some 50 million more tourists (overnight visitors) travelled to international destinations around the world last year as compared to 2014.

This information was released to tourism trade and buyers who attended Meetings Africa business events expo in Johannesburg, South Africa, last week. Swaziland was represented by the Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA), who had a stand at the event.

2015 marks the sixth consecutive year of above average growth, with international arrivals increasing by 4 percent or more every year since the post-crisis year of 2010.

"International tourism reached new heights in 2015. The robust performance of the sector is contributing to economic growth and job creation in many parts of the world. It is thus critical for countries to promote policies that

foster the continued growth of tourism, including travel facilitation, human resources development and sustainability," said UNWTO Secretary General Taleb Rifai.

Demand was strong overall, though with mixed results across individual destinations due to unusually strong exchange rate fluctuations, the drop in oil prices and other commodities which increased disposable income in importing countries, but weakened demand in exporters as well as increased safety and security concerns.

"2015 results were influenced by exchange rates, oil prices and natural and man-made crises in many parts of the world. As the current environment highlights in particular manner the issues of

safety and security, we should recall that tourism development greatly depends upon

our collective capacity to promote safe, secure and seamless travel. In this respect, UNWTO urges governments to include tourism administrations in their national security planning, structures and procedures, not only to ensure that the sector's exposure to threats is minimised but also to maximise the sector's ability to support security and facilitation as seamless and safe travel can and should go hand in hand", said Rifai.

Growth in advanced economy destinations (+5 percent) exceeds that of emerging economies (+4 percent), boosted by the solid results of Europe (+5 percent).

This information was released to tourism trade and buyers who attended Meetings Africa business events expo in Johannesburg, South Africa, last week. Swaziland was represented by the Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA), who had a stand at the event.

Snip

By region Europe, the Americans and Asia and the Pacific all recorded around 5 percent growth in 2015. Arrivals to the Middle East increased by 3 percent while in Africa, limited data available, points to an estimated 3 percent decrease, mostly due to weak results in North Africa, which accounts for over one third of arrivals in the region.

Results from the UNWTO Confidence Index remain largely positive for 2016, though at slightly lower level as compared to the previous two years. Based on the current trend and this outlook, UNWTO projects international tourist arrivals to grow by 4 percent worldwide in 2016.

By region, growth is expected to be stronger in Asia and the Pacific (+4 percent to +5 percent) and the Americans (+4 percent to +5 percent), followed by Europe (+3.5 percent to +4.5 percent). The projections for Africa (+2 percent to +5 percent) and the Middle East (+2 percent to +5 percent) are positive, though with a large degree of uncertainty and volatility.

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2016/2017 BUDGET:

PRIORITISE EDUCATION, ELDERLY GRANTS, JOB CREATION - CIVIC SOCIETY

By Linda Dlamini

CIVIC society organisations have called on the government to place education as its main priority for the next financial year 2016/17.

Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini is expected to deliver his budget speech this week.

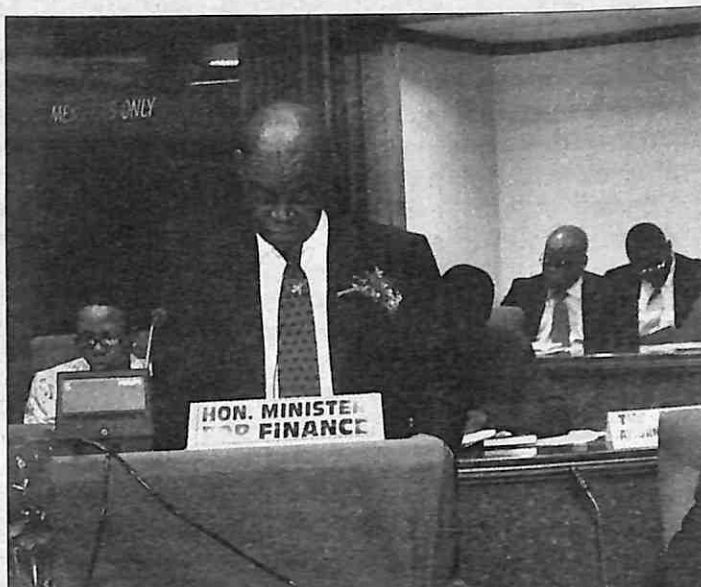
Lawyers for Human Rights in Swaziland (LHRS) chairperson Maxwell Nkambule said a large chunk of the budget should go to education.

"Free primary education and the institutions of higher learning should be a priority," Nkambule said.

Swaziland United Democratic Front (SUDF) national coordinator Wandile Dlodlu echoed this observation by adding that education must get a lion's share as well as this was one area hitting the current and future prospects of economic growth.

Musa Isaiah Hlophe also entrenched the call for prioritising education adding that education, from primary through to universities should be prioritised.

"This is so because high quality education for all children has shown that it is the best foundation for sustainable development," Hlophe said.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS: Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini.

The civic organisations also noted that health is an important aspect of any economy.

Hlophe said that as a nation, we cannot solely depend on expensive private hospitals, themselves who have to refer us to yet other very expensive private hospitals in South Africa.

Service

"Only a few people are able to afford this kind of service, which then exposes the average citizen to early death because of the failure to access good medical service at affordable cost here at home," Hlophe said.

Dlodlu said that large government outlays in health and social welfare remain a huge necessity.

Vulnerable

In terms of social welfare, the government should seriously consider increasing the amounts given to the elderly and other more vulnerable groups to at least E750 per month considering that a 50kg bag of meal mill is now E416 to E420 in some stores.

The current drought situation, which has had incalculable effects on the Swazi economy,

also needs attention and it is expected that the government allocate resource towards it.

Nkambule said the government should put emphasis on alleviating the effects of the drought situation.

"Rural agriculture is the key to the reversing the effects of the drought and so government should prioritise agriculture," added Hlophe.

Dlodlu added that more resources must also go to agriculture and rural development to open economic activity in the rural areas in an attempt to absorb the more than sixty per cent rural mass.

"Government should allocate the best portion towards job creation, our economy needs urgent stimulation for the economy to grow," Dlodlu said.

The allocation the armed forces seems to be a contentious one, Nkambule said that the army should get close to nothing.

"Cut drastically on armed forces like police, soldiers and warders," added Dlodlu.

Hlophe concurred that the current levels of army pay should be reduced; however, he added that the government should increase the investment into the training and recruitment of the police to ensure adequate internal security.



UNIQUE: Some of the neckpieces on display. (Pic: Sikhulisile Vilakati)

Unique handmade neckpieces selling like hot cakes

By Sikhulisile Vilakati

SAMAC's Art Store Manager Samukelisiwe Dlamini says they are experiencing an overwhelming demand of custom handmade neckpieces both in local and neighbouring countries markets.

Dlamini said due to the increasing demand, they were compelled to maximise their production since in most cases they would even run out of stock.

"Our business is growing and we sometimes run out of stock, and that is not good for business. We are humbled by the support of both local and international customers. We even had to employ two more assistants to maximise our production," she said.

Dlamini said they manufactured statement neckpieces, bracelets, earrings on request.

"Our customers love the different designs we do for them, hence the business is growing at a very high speed," she said.

Dlamini said as a small business they were looking forward to be the best manufacture of handmade jewellery and possibly supply even overseas markets and employ even more people so that everyone can have something to look forward to each morning.

SMEs are central to local private sector development, a major driver of economic growth and are key builders of social infrastructure.

Economies

Research has revealed that SME businesses generate up to 90 percent of jobs in developing and low-income economies.

The jobs generated are suitable for semi-skilled and unskilled workers. Importantly, employment is a major driver of reduced conflict and social empowerment.

However, SMEs still reportedly face numerous challenges in accessing the capital and support they require starting or growing successful and sustainable businesses.

They are grossly under-served with few capable and experienced service providers and, as a result, are not making the economic and social contribution to their local communities and countries that SMEs make in markets.

Government is still faced with a challenge to invest in SME development in order to create a vibrant SME sector.

Swazi MTN targets gold accreditation in people management excellence

By Manqoba Makhubu

SWAZI MTN Chief Executive Officer Ambrose Dlamini says his company is working towards attaining a gold accreditation status when it comes to people management excellence.

Dlamini made these remarks during a recent meeting with all managers at Swazi MTN to orient them on the Investors in People (IIP) Standard and Framework.

IIP is a business improvement tool, underpinned by people management excellence. It is designed to advance an organisation's performance through its employees. It helps organisations improve performance, and realise objectives through the management and development of their people.

Dlamini said personnel was the primary resource for any company, therefore, it is critical for investment to be made in people.

"Without investing in people, it is extremely difficult to excel as a company. And providing great



EXACTLY MY POINT: Next Level Impact Chief Executive Officer Martin Rice talking to MTN Chief Executive Officer Ambrose Dlamini. (Pic: Manqoba Makhubu)

customer service, for instance, becomes a distant dream. As Swazi MTN, we are not in a hurry to forget that last October, we made a public commitment to improve customer service at all our touch points.

Commitment

"We stand by that commitment to date. We realise that exceptional service will not come about out of natural impulse. We need

to intentionally invest in quality service provision in as much as we need to directly invest in our people," said Dlamini.

Dlamini said there were three principles to which an organisation must subscribe, and key indicators to work towards.

Implementation

Adding, he said after implementation there had to be an assessment by external experts,

who would then evaluate if the principles and indicators had been implemented throughout the organisation.

Swazi MTN IIP manager's orientation was facilitated by Next Level Impact Chief Executive Officer Martin Rice.

Rice is a leadership development and organisational change specialist, who has over two decades in people development.

During the facilitation, Rice advised other CEO's and leaders that they should not be afraid to invest in people, because the return on investment would surprise them.

He also cited an interesting conversation that took place between a chief executive officer and chief financial officer of a company, he said the CFO asked the CEO, "What happens if we invest (or spend money) in developing our people and then they leave us?" and The CEO responded by asking, "What happens if we don't and they stay?"

"Companies succeed by realising the potential of their people, because good people make great business," said Rice in emphasis.

World News

France clears part of Calais 'Jungle'

FRANCE - Clashes have erupted between French riot police and refugees and migrants as authorities began destroying makeshift shelters in the makeshift camp on the edge of Calais known as the "Jungle".

On Monday night, police lobbed tear gas canisters at residents of the camp who protested against the raid as about 20 demolition workers moved in to start pulling down the shacks by hand.

As night fell about 150 of the camp's inhabitants threw rocks and struck vehicles heading for England on a port road which runs next to the sprawling camp, as some were wielding iron bars, an AFP news agency reporter said.

Police also fired tear gas in clashes with activists who had formed a security cordon to protect the tear-down operation.

While there were no reports of injuries, authorities said at least three people were arrested.

Earlier, around 20 makeshift huts went up in flames in an angry backlash as workers, guarded by scores of French police, began pulling down tents and shelters, while clashes continued throughout the afternoon.

"You can see that the protesters didn't hesitate to set fire to tents and shelters or to throw stones at police," Etienne Desplanques, a regional government cabinet director, told Al Jazeera.

"It's not acceptable, and it's normal that we're going to restore security," Desplanques said.

Several lorries and cars were blocked by the camp's residents on the stretch of road overlooking a piece of ground which had previously been part of the camp.



UP IN SMOKE: French police fire tear gas canisters at protesters as demolition workers pull down shacks in makeshift refugee camp.

The demolition of the southern half of the camp began after a court petition by charities to stop it was rejected last week.

"It's infinitely sad to see the waste of so much work that we've done in the past months," said Maya Konforti of the

Auberge des Migrants (Migrants' Hostel) charity.

Volunteers and aid workers have spent months trying to improve conditions in the camp, built on a former toxic waste dump on the outskirts of Calais. *aljazeera*

Fighting female genital mutilation among India's Bohra

MUMBAI - About 40 years ago at the age of seven, Masooma Ranalvi was lured to a dark alley in a decrepit-looking building by her grandma's promise of ice-cream. It is a day that she will never forget.

"I remember it so clearly. I was told to lie down, my legs were held and I was cut with a razor. It was a sharp piercing pain. It was so scary and I couldn't stop crying," Ranalvi told Al Jazeera English. After the procedure, black powder was put on the wound and for the next 10 days Ranalvi suffered silently in pain. "It happened in such a primitive way but we were in the throbbing metropolis of Mumbai. Even to date, what happened was never spoken about." Masooma Ranalvi was mutilated at the age of seven [Al Jazeera] Ranalvi, who grew up in Mumbai but has since moved to the country's capital, is one of the estimated 200 million girls and women alive today that have suffered female genital mutilation (FGM), according to the latest worldwide figures by UNICEF. *AFP*

Mexico says 11 pregnant women infected with Zika

MEXICO CITY - Mexico has confirmed 11 pregnant women are infected with the Zika virus, out of a total of 121 cases, the government said on Monday.

Most of the cases were identified in the southern Mexican states of Chiapas and Oaxaca, according to a health ministry report.

Eight of the pregnant women are from Chiapas, two are from Oaxaca and one is from the Gulf coast state of Veracruz, the health ministry reported.

The number of cases of infected pregnant women has risen since mid-February, when the health ministry said there were 80 confirmed cases of Zika, including six cases of pregnant women with the virus. Much remains unknown about Zika, including whether the virus actually



GETTING OUT OF HAND: Mexico has confirmed 11 pregnant women are infected with the Zika virus.

causes microcephaly, a condition marked by unusually small heads that can result in developmental problems.

Brazil said it has confirmed more than 580 cases of microcephaly, and considers

most of them to be related to Zika infections in the mothers. Brazil is investigating more than 4,100 additional suspected cases of microcephaly. *reuters*

Syria's government 'wrecking truce deal'

GENEVA - A senior official from Syria's main opposition group said on Monday that a fragile international attempt to halt nearly five years of fighting was in danger of collapse because of attacks by government forces.

The cessation of hostilities drawn up by Washington and Moscow faced "complete nullification" because Syrian government attacks were violating the agreement, the official of the

Saudi-backed opposition High Negotiations Committee (HNC) said. France said there were reports of attacks on opposition forces in breach of the deal, which came into force on Saturday, and countries backing the Syrian peace process met to try to clarify the situation.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the pause in the fighting was largely holding, despite some incidents that he hoped would be contained. *reuters*



ASSISTANCE: UN medical staff help wounded civilians at Mogadishu airport after at least 30 people were killed in twin bomb attacks in Baidoa. (News24)

BRIEFS

Suicide bomber kills 25

BAGHDAD - Iraqi officials say a suicide bombing at a funeral north of Baghdad has killed at least 25 people and wounded dozens. Local security officials say a senior local leader of Asaib Ahl al-Haq, a powerful Shi'ite militia, was killed in the attack in Muqadiyah, about 90km north of the capital. Security there is largely maintained by state-sanctioned Shi'ite militias known as the Popular Mobilisation Forces. Hospital officials confirmed the updated toll. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorised to brief the press. *news24*

Governor's killer hanged

RAWALPINDI - Thousands protested in Pakistani cities Monday against the execution of a man hailed by hardline Islamists as a hero for killing a provincial governor who was seeking reform of the blasphemy law.

Protests against the hanging of Mumtaz Qadri were held in Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and several smaller cities, with demonstrators burning tyres and chanting slogans. But mass demonstrations did not break out and most rallies dispersed peacefully after security was stepped up at flashpoints across the country of some 200 million. *reuters*

Violence uniting Christians - Pope

VATICAN CITY - Pope Francis said on Monday that "devastating" Islamist and other violence in the Middle East and Africa had brought different churches closer, as he met the Ethiopian Orthodox leader.

It was a theme he raised in talks with the Russian Orthodox patriarch in Cuba earlier this month, where he spoke extensively about church unity and the attacks faced by Christians in the Middle East and North Africa. "The shared suffering means that Christians, who are otherwise divided on several issues, have become much closer to one another," he said on meeting Patriarch Abuna Matthias at the Vatican. *news24*



Google self-driving car crashes

LOS ANGELES - A self-driving car being tested by Google struck a public bus on a Silicon Valley street, a minor accident that appears to be the first time one of the tech company's vehicles caused a crash during testing. Google accepted at least some responsibility for the collision, which occurred on February 14 when one of the Lexus SUVs it has outfitted with sensors and cameras hit the side of the bus near the company's headquarters in Mountain View, California. *dailymail*

Israel orders trial for Palestinians

RAMALLAH - Israel has over the past 10 days slapped "administrative detention" orders on 84 Palestinians, a controversial procedure under which prisoners can be held without charge, a Palestinian NGO said on Monday. The Palestinian Prisoners' Club said 39 Palestinians had been arrested and placed under administrative detention for periods of between two and six months, while the other 45 had their detention prolonged. *dailymail*

Focus on SA scene

ANC under fire in secret report

JOHANNESBURG - The South African Communist Party (SACP) has accused the ANC national executive committee (NEC) of being unable to function properly or to curb factional dissent.

The SACP said the ANC's national leaders' failure to act against their 'thugs', who allegedly attacked SACP members in the past, had fuelled the factional feud between the two organisations.

It described the ruling party's national intervention in the squabbles between the two organisations as 'toothless and annoying'.

"This is despite the fact that it is one of the most active NECs that is able to go to many provinces constantly and engage with members," said the SACP.

"Yet the rot is spreading unabated from one region and one province to another, making national interventions toothless."

The accusations are contained in a confidential SACP organisational report seen by The Citizen.

It was presented at the SACP's central committee meeting held in Braamfontein, Johannesburg, at the weekend.

Violence

ANC spokesperson Zizi Kodwa said: "We cannot comment because we don't have that confidential report."

Members of the two alliances had been embroiled in violent fights during meetings in parts of Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal in recent months.

"How do we explain to a community that a group of 'ANC thugs' attack a community meeting organised by the SACP in broad daylight with guns in Inchanga [a village in KwaZulu-Natal]?" the SACP asked.

"The ANC cannot even visit the community or the family of the deceased [an unnamed man who was killed in the attack], and yet wants votes from the very same community."

SACP General Secretary Blade Nzimande, also an ANC NEC mem-

ber, was reported to be one of the key figures at the central committee gathering.

According to SACP spokesperson Alex Mashilo: "All I can say is that the word 'thugs' was used in reference to non-ANC people who attacked SACP members at a rally in KZN."

The SACP said: "The factions blatantly do wrong things, knowing that such will either be condoned or ignored. The challenges are as a result of the failure of the [ANC] leadership."

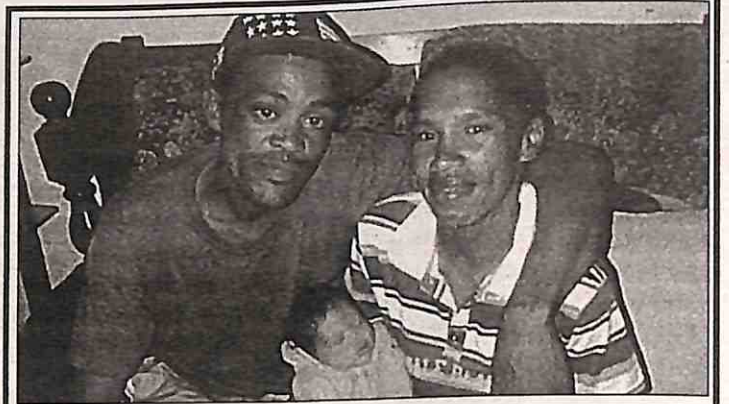
"Unfortunately, the leak comes from the inability of the NEC to function appropriately."

The SACP's tirade comes at the time when the ANC was pinning its hopes on receiving voter support from its ally for the upcoming local government elections.

Political analyst Steven Friedman said: "SACP members in Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal are hostile toward the ANC, but I don't think this will affect the ANC in the elections."

According to Friedman, the ANC's national leadership was also divided in various ways.

citizen



EARLY DAYS: Gerald Strydom and Juanita Muller reunited with Sergio.

Alleged baby snatcher is a teen

CAPE TOWN - The Daily Voice can reveal that a suspect arrested for snatching a 10-day-old baby from Worcester Hospital is just 17 years old.

Sergio Strydom was found when the teenage girl and her 42-year-old mother were bust at their home in Ashton on Sunday night.

It's believed the girl had suffered a miscarriage at the same state hospital last Wednesday, just hours before Sergio was taken from his mother's private room.

For 70 agonising hours, Juanita Muller, 29, hoped and prayed that her fourth child would be brought back to her safe and sound.

Her ordeal came to a dramatic end when police found Sergio in Ashton - over 60km away.

The tiny baby was taken back to hospital for 'treatment and observation', and was discharged on Monday afternoon, according to his 53-year-old granny, Segrai Petersen.

"The baby is doing well, and we're overjoyed and relieved to have him home," she said.

Sergio was snatched on Thursday after a stranger

befriended his mom.

Juanita said the young woman had given her name, number and address and said they should visit.

But the moment she turned her back, the woman grabbed Sergio and ran off.

The mom, who suffers from TB, said she didn't run after the snatcher because doctors had told her not to leave the ward.

A neighbour and friend of the suspects told the Daily Voice she was asked to come to their house on Friday night to bathe the baby because he was about to meet his "dad" for the first time.

The neighbour said the girl had already named the baby 'Alrick Junaid'.

She said the girl was pregnant with her boyfriend's child, a 17-year-old schoolboy from Bonnievale.

She was told her friend's daughter had given birth to a healthy baby boy.

"I was talking to my friend on WhatsApp on Wednesday night and she said the pains were between two and five minutes apart, and I said then the baby is arriving soon."

iol

'Majority of South Africans are not racist'

CAPE TOWN - Mayor Patricia de Lille says she's determined to prove that Cape Town is not a racist city.

And, she won't be put off by communities who say they don't want to engage with her.

"I won't be stopped by anybody. I've been elected by the people and I have a political mandate. I'm not afraid of anybody," said De Lille at the launch of the second phase of the city's anti-racism campaign on Monday. She will be holding her first race dialogue meeting in Gugulethu

on Monday as part of the next phase of the Inclusive City campaign launched on Human Rights Day last year. Over the past year, Capetonians have been encouraged to publicly condemn racism, and to report incidents to her office.

"Don't walk away from a racist incident. Deal with it the moment it happens," advised De Lille.

The second phase of the Inclusive City campaign will involve councilors distributing pamphlets and posters, and engaging directly with their communities on issues of race. "The majority of South Africans are not racist," said De Lille. "What we need in this country is constant dialogue. We are all

South Africans first. If you want to call yourself white, coloured, black or Indian, that's your choice."

News24



Zuma's wife in bitter dispute with KZN snake catcher

DURBAN - President Jacob Zuma's wife, Tobeka Madiba Zuma, is locked in a bitter dispute with a KwaZulu-Natal businessman over payment for the removal of snakes from the family's Nkandla homestead.

Jaco Dercksen, 47, of Zini Snake Removals, claimed he was owed R52 000 for removing snakes and fumigating the president's entire homestead.

The first lady, however, said Dercksen provided services that were not requested and then slapped her with an "extravagant invoice" afterwards.

The Mtunzini snake catcher said he received a phone call from the Tobeka Madiba Zuma Foundation in December asking him to remove snakes around home number three, the Madiba House.

He said at first he was hesitant to take the job.

"I didn't want to be held responsible for anything that went wrong but she told me that I came highly recommended and insisted that I help."

After agreeing to take the job, he quoted the family R19 000 and a R9 000 deposit was paid to him.

Dercksen said he went to Nkandla on December 18. *News24*

Prayers, silent protests at UFS

BLOEMFONTEIN - While one group of University of the Free State management and students prayed yesterday morning, another group of students held a silent protest outside the venue.

University Spokesperson Lacea Loader said the campus ministry forum organised the prayer in a bid to unite students after days of disruptions.

The silent protesters, however, said prayer would not solve their problems.

"At this point we feel

oppressed, and it is not through prayer that we are going to be assisted. Government and the institution just showed us that we are alone," said Kgosi Sigo.

"We have become voiceless and intimidated and the whole of last week we feared for our academic lives," he said.

Another student, who wished to remain anonymous, agreed.

"You can't pray away our oppression as black students. We feel like the prayer is just a front and we are victimised as students."

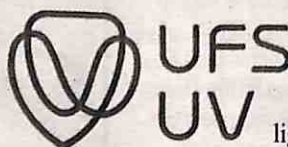
Last Monday, a group of protesters who apparently wanted to highlight the plight of outsourced workers

disrupted a Varsity Cup rugby match at Shimla Park Stadium. Spectators ran onto the field and attacked them. The following morning, EFF protesters vandalised and pulled down a statue of Charles Robberts Swart on campus. CR Swart was the last governor general of the Union of South Africa until 1961, and president of the Republic of South Africa from 1961 to 1967.

Protesters burnt tyres at the foot of the statue, and used hammers and rocks to bring it down.

On Thursday, security guards were brought in to protect the statue of Marthinus Theunis Steyn from further vandalism. Steyn was the sixth and last president of the Orange Free State from 1896 to 1902. *iol*

UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA
FREISTATA



UFS
UV



CASTING DOUBT: Bankruptcy Judge Ann Nevins has called into question his claims following a series of photographs showing the 40-year-old posed with stacks of cash like this one where he spells out the word 'BROKE' in the money. (Daily Mail)

50 CENTS FAR FROM **BROKE!**

LA - Bankrupt rapper 50 Cent is far from broke. In fact, he is still extremely rich.

New bankruptcy documents obtained exclusively by Daily Mail Online reveal he has more than \$64 million in assets and property.

50 Cent, who's real name is Curtis James Jackson III, filed bankruptcy last June days after a New York jury awarded fellow rapper Rick Ross' baby mama, Lastonia Leviston, \$7 million in a legal battle over her leaked sex tape. Which he has yet to fork over.

The lawsuit stemmed from a 13-minute video that appeared online in 2009 featuring a wig-wearing Fifty as a narrator dubbed Pimpin' Curly.

The character made explicit remarks about Leviston and taunted rap rival Rick Ross, who at the time was trading barbs with Fifty via video, lyrics and interviews.

50 Cent got the 2008 tape from the man in it - Leviston's boyfriend at the time. The 40-year-old rapper also lost a legal battle with his ex-business partners over a failed head-phone deal and was slapped with a \$17 million judgement in that case.

According to his Chapter 11 petition, Fifty claimed he had assets between \$10 to \$50 million but that his liabilities were in the same range.

Last month, he filed documents in the bankruptcy stating he only had \$16 million in assets.

However, it appears appraisers checked into it all - and found his assets total over \$64 million and that he only has liabilities totaling more than \$36 million.

In addition, 50 Cent's current monthly income is \$184 000-plus. The appraisers also valued his home goods to \$131 000 including \$49 000 in jewelry alone.

Appraisers found he has over \$10 million in checking and stocks as well as his various G-Unit and other business' which are worth over \$44 million.

His bankruptcy claims have come into question by Judge Ann Nevins, who is concerned over his actual need for bankruptcy and has asked

● **Bankruptcy documents obtained exclusively by Daily Mail Online reveal 50 Cent has more than \$64 million in assets and property**

● **Appraisers also found he has over \$10 million in checking and brokerage accounts and his businesses are worth over \$44 million**

● **The 40-year-old rapper filed for bankruptcy last June following a judge's decision to award Lastonia Leviston \$7 million in sex tape legal battle**

● **Meanwhile, Fifty keeps posting photographs of himself surrounded by big piles of cash to social media**

● **Bankruptcy Judge Ann Nevins has asked him to explain the photos, which he appears to have ignored**



CASH MONEY: 50 Cents also posed lying down on a bed of stacks of \$100 bills as new bankruptcy documents reveal he is earning \$184 000-plus a month.

for him to explain a series of photographs he posted to social media. Fifty posted on his Instagram account photos of himself surrounded by piles of cash - one in which the money spelled out the word 'BROKE', another with him lying on a bed surrounded by the cash, a third with it stacked in his refrigerator - and finally, one with him posing in front of a wall of cash made out of towering piles of money.

"I'm concerned about allegations of

non-disclosure and a lack of transparency in the case," bankruptcy judge Nevins said at a hearing in Hartford, Connecticut.

"There's a purpose of having a bankruptcy process be transparent, and part of that purpose is to inspire confidence in the process."

She added that bankruptcy is a place where 'honest, but unfortunate' people can get a fresh start, the Wall Street Journal reported.

Daily Mail

Mummified captain found in ghost ship seven years after death

PHILIPPINES - The mystery of the mummified body of a German adventurer who was found dead on his yacht off the coast of the Philippines has taken a new twist after a haunting note and photos were uncovered.

Manfred Fritz Bajorat, 59, whose body was discovered by two fishermen, wrote a thirty-two word memorandum to his beloved wife Claudia, who died from cancer aged 53 on 2 May 2010.

"Thirty years we've been together on the same path. Then the power of the demons was stronger than the will to live. You're gone. May your soul find its peace."

These tragic final words were discovered on a forum for sailors on the Internet called kaktus-guenther.de.

Bajorat's body was found sitting near to the radio telephone as if he was trying one last desperate Mayday call to save himself when he died.

Photos

Christopher Rivas, 23, a resident of P-4 Poblacion, in Barobo, was fishing together with a friend nearly 40 miles from the coast when he spotted the yacht, painted white and whose sail was broken from afar.

The 40-foot long yacht, named SAYO, had been cruising around the world for the past 20 years.

Inside the cabin, much of which was underwater, were found photo albums apparently showing his wife, family and friends, and clothes and tins of food were strewn all around.

It is unclear how long Manfred, who has been identified thanks to paperwork on board, has been dead or what killed him - although authorities believe there was no foul play involved.

A friend told BILD that he last heard of him one year ago on Facebook for his birthday.

Dry ocean winds, hot temperatures and the salty air helped preserve his body.

Police are trying to retrace his last voyages and find the last people to speak with him.

He broke up with his wife in 2008, who had been on his travels with him, and she died two

years later of cancer.

Photos from an album in the cabin have been uncovered, showing a family in happier times which testify to the life on land that Manfred sailed away from.

One image shows a wife, his daughter Nina, a friend and his partner, enjoying a picnic on a wooden table beneath sun dappled trees.

Books

Another badly battered picture shows Manfred and a baby, presumably his daughter, with the words: "Our first time with our little Button on the sea."

Other fragments are snapshots of Notre Dame in Paris and Claudia and Manfred enjoying a drink at a Parisian sidewalk cafe with the wording above: "Drink Coca Cola."

Yet another shows more familiar landmarks of the French capital including the grave of the Unknown Warrior and the Arc de Triomphe.

Other pictures from inside the yacht show the state of chaos in which it was found - clothing, footwear, books, paper - among the detritus. And a touch of humour too in the sign screwed into a bulkhead: "This is a swell ship for the skipper...but a hell ship for the crew."

In 2009 in Mallorca he met another world sailor called Dieter who told Germany's BILD newspaper: "He was a very experienced sailor. I don't believe he would have sailed into a storm. I believe the mast broke after Manfred was already dead."

His body was taken for an autopsy in Butuan City, the yacht was towed for a police inspection into the port of Barobo.

Following the post-mortem, a spokesman from the Barobo police station told MailOnline that there is no evidence of 'foul play'. "The doctor believes that the man died of natural causes, and there is no evidence of foul play," he said.

Police spokeswoman Goldie Lou Siega in the Philippines said: "We have no evidence of a second person aboard and no weapon was found on the yacht."

Daily Mail



DOWN AND OUT: The mummified body of Manfred Fritz Bajorat was found aboard his yacht, drifting in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Barobo town in Surigao del Sur. (Daily Mail)

BRIEFS

Egypt jails youth leader

CAIRO - An Egyptian court on Monday sentenced an April 6 leader and three other activists of the banned youth movement to three years in jail for possessing leaflets calling for the regime's overthrow, officials said. April 6 spearheaded the January 25, 2011 uprising that ended the autocratic rule of president Hosni Mubarak. It also opposed Mubarak's Islamist successor Mohammed Morsi as well as the military-installed regime that replaced him.

news24

Ugandan rebels kill 13 in DRC

GOMA - Suspected Ugandan rebels killed 13 civilians in an overnight raid on a village in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the army said on Monday.

"We've just discovered a total of 13 bodies, cut to death, including four women," said Lieutenant Mak Hazukay, army spokesperson in the region of Beni, in the north of the North Kivu province.

The Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) "carried out their dirty work in three small isolated villages," he told AFP, reached by phone from Goma, the capital of the troubled province.

news24

Bongo to run for re-election

OZOURI - President Ali Bongo Ondimba, whose father ruled oil-rich Gabon for 41 years, on Monday said he would seek a second term in polls this year and pledged to fight "unwarranted privilege" in the tiny African nation.



Speaking from a bridge under construction in the rural Ozouri area, where oil was first discovered in the mid 1950s, Bongo said "I am announcing my candidacy at this year's presidential election."

If elected, he pledged he would "fight with determination against unwarranted privilege and build a better life together" for Gabon's 1.6 million people, most of whom are mired in poverty despite the oil wealth. *enca*

Dozen injured ingrenade blast

BUJUMBURA - A dozen people were injured in at least 10 grenade blasts overnight in Bujumbura, police said yesterday, as UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon visited Burundi.

"Last night, ten grenades exploded in several districts of Bujumbura, leaving a dozen people wounded," a senior police officer told AFP on condition of anonymity. The officer said two soldiers were among the injured as well as civilians after the series of explosions in outlying parts of the capital. *iol*

Post-election violence in Uganda

KAMPALA - Six people were killed and more than 10 houses burnt down in western Uganda over the weekend following mounting tensions over post-election results. The clashes broke out in Budibugyo District, in western Uganda bordering the Central African Republic, between supporters of district chairman Jolly Tibebamya, and Uganda's ruling National Resistance Movement flag-bearer Ronald Mutegeki, reported Uganda's Daily Monitor on Monday morning. *iol*



UN team to probe Burundi

BURUNDI - The UN yesterday said it would send a team of investigators to Burundi to look into allegations of widespread human rights violations during the country's 10-month-long political crisis.

The team was expected in Burundi today, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights said.

The three experts - from Algeria, Colombia and South Africa - are members of the UN's Independent Investigation on Burundi office, set up in December and tasked with "an investigation into violations and abuses of human rights with a view to preventing further deterioration of the human rights situation".

"Our aim is to help the state fulfil its human rights obligations,

and ensure accountability for human rights violations and abuses, including by identifying perpetrators," said Christof Heyns, the UN's special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, who is one of the investigators.

"We have a clear mandate from the Human Rights Council to help prevent Burundi from falling into the abyss," said Maya Sahl-Fadel, the Algerian team member.

The team is expected to present its preliminary findings later this month.

Following a visit to Burundi last week by five African leaders, led by President Jacob Zuma, the African Union said it would increase the number of human rights and military observers deployed.



MAKING SURE: Following a visit to Burundi last week by five African leaders, led by President Jacob Zuma, the African Union said it would increase the number of human rights and military observers deployed. (AP)

Burundi's political crisis was triggered by President Pierre Nkurunziza's decision in April to run for a third term, which he won in an election in July.

Since then violence has become routine, with more than 400 people killed and nearly 250 000 leaving the country.

Timeslive

Kenyan airports on high alert for terror attacks

NAIROBI - Kenyan airports may not be under any danger of an imminent terrorist attack, but authorities have raised the nation's operational threat category to high alert, the Kenya Airports Authority said.

Earlier, media reports that Kenya had placed its security forces on high alert based on intelligence that al-Qaeda-linked militants were planning to attack its main air-

ports caused panic.

A memorandum sent to airport managers warned that suicide bombers might target domestic flights at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi and Moi International Airport in Mombasa, the Nairobi-based Capital FM reported.

"The information has gone viral creating panic among the public," CEO of Kenya Airports Authority Yatich Kangugo told reporters.

"Unfortunately, the information was released prematurely without awaiting the due verification by the threat assessment experts."

Somalia-based al-Shabab militants have staged several attacks in East Africa's biggest economy in retaliation for Kenya contributing peacekeeping troops for an African Union mission supporting the government in Mogadishu.

news24



Zim court allows firm to return to diamond fields after ban

HARARE - A Zimbabwean court has allowed the largest diamond mine in the Marange fields to return and assume control of all assets after challenging government's decision to stop mining operations.

Zimbabwe's mines minister on February 22 ordered all nine companies operating in the diamond fields in the east of the southern African country near Mozambique to stop mining and leave because their license had expired.

Mbada Diamonds, a 50/50 venture between the government and Mauritius-registered Grandwell Holdings, on Monday won a reprieve from the High Court, which ruled that Mbada should have full control of its assets.

In the interim judgment seen by Reuters on Tuesday, the ministry of mines was ordered to let Mbada's security personnel have access to the company's mining site in Marange.

"As a contingency plan pending the hearing of this matter ... (minister of mines) shall allow such security personnel full access to all the relevant premises thereat, including residential premises, full access to all the equipment, diamond ore and any other assets," Judge Joseph Mafusire said. A full hearing on whether Mbada can resume mining will be held today.

Mines Minister Walter Chidhakwa told Reuters that the government, through the Attorney General, would launch an appeal on Tuesday, which would automatically suspend Monday's ruling.

"We believe in the original position that we took and we stand by that decision. The Attorney General will launch an appeal this morning," said Chidhakwa. Mbada wants the court to remove the ministry of mines from its concession and force the government to renew its license. *reuters*



WAKE UP: A refugee pours water over a woman who collapsed because of losing her child in a panic move after Macedonian police used teargas against refugees at the Greek-Macedonian border. (AFP)



SD IS NOT INTERNATIONAL BEAUTY PAGEANTS PLAYGROUND - ISRAEL

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza

FOLLOWING the massive interest shown towards the country by foreign beauty pageants, the Imbali Foundation has warned them (pageants) to not to take the country as a playground.

This follows the controversy surrounding the Miss Africa pageant, wherein one of the licence holders, Neo Mashishi, came to the country to invite Miss Swaziland Tourism to take part in the latter pageant.

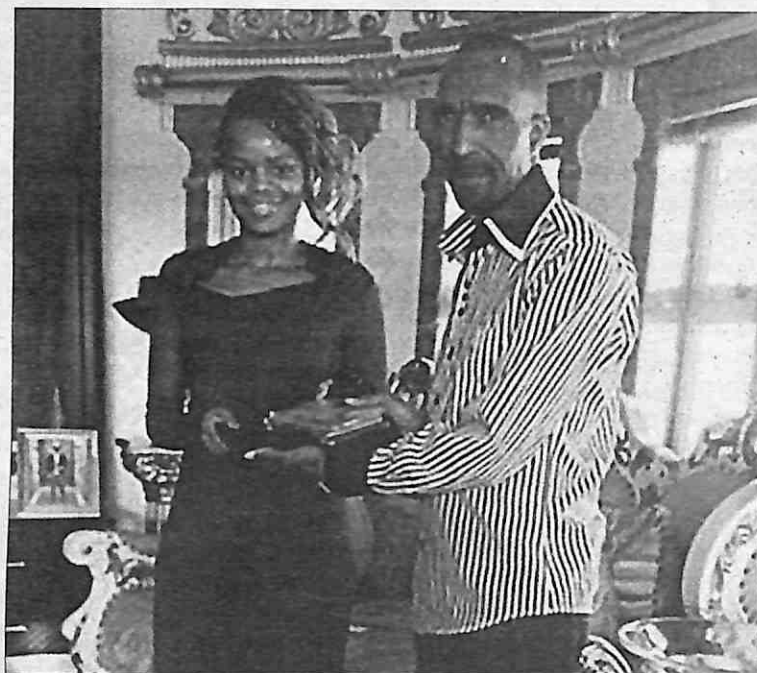
Immediately after his visit, another man from Botswana by the name Bruce Nkgakile emerged, stating that he was the rightful licence holder and knew nothing about Mashishi.

Imbali Foundation Public Relations Officer Israel Matsebula confirmed such occurrences, stating that this would not down grade only the value of the country, but that of Miss Swaziland Tourism as well.

"Princess Sikhanyiso is the patron of Miss Swaziland Tourism. People around the world have so much respect for it because she is the face of this pageant and this reflects well to the country,"

"So when people decide to come to the country to create such conflicts, we as Imbali Foundation condemn such acts. This is not a playground for international beauty pageants," Israel explained.

Mashishi was first introduced to the princess during the official meeting she had with the then newly crowned Miss Deaf Africa



CONFLICT: Neo Mshishi accepting a gift from Princess Sikhanyiso back in July.

Queen Tlhomelo Sabole.

When interviewed by the members of the press, Mashishi stated that the pageant, which was to be inaugurated in December 4 in South Africa, would be attended by the Miss Swaziland Tourism 2015/2016, who was to be crowned two months before the finals of Miss Africa.

Disclosed

Mashishi disclosed that over 55 countries from around Africa were to participate in this pageant and applications were open from July 15 as well as online voting, which was

to run from July 20 until end of September.

He stated before the impressed princess that after such a process, the girls would then undergo continental auditions which were to be held from August 21 until September 19.

"This pageant is vigilant against xenophobia and poverty in Africa. It is more than a beauty pageant, young women aspiring to become Miss Africa must be intelligent, well-mannered and cultured. These qualities will qualify them to be role

models to young women all over Africa and abroad," he explained then.

Bruce then later emerged, claiming to be the rightful licence holder. This saw the Imbali Foundation disassociating itself from all the controversy.

Matsebula mentioned that they were always open for international offers; however, they wanted nothing to do with conflicts.

Pageant

"As Swazis, we should be cautious of such events. It does not mean that since it happened to the Miss Swaziland Tourism pageant, it will happen to another pageant. So we should scrutinise every pageant i.e. its licence holder and background," Israel warned.

The Miss Africa website which was to be set-up for public view was non-existent when the paper went into print and the grand finale that was to be aired live on television never came to light.

When contacted for a comment, Mashishi stated that they only got to know of such allegations from someone who contacted them from Botswana, enquiring about the matter at hand.

"These were the organisers of Miss Botswana, who were requesting to send a delegation to represent the country in the first ever Miss Africa after realising that I have the right to host the Miss Africa pageant," Mashishi explained.

The Miss Africa Continent, however, will be held this year in April 30 at The Lyric Theatre in Gold-Reef city. Swaziland will not be participating.

However, at the time the paper went to print, Mashishi had not yet sent his necessary credentials, indicating legitimacy for their Miss Africa pageant as promised.

Nothando to appear on Its Gospel Time

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza

NOTHANDO Hlophe seems to have all her lucky stars lining in one line, as fresh from recording her live CD at Esangweni, Esibayeni Lodge, she will appear on Its Gospel Time.

Hlophe recorded her episode on Monday, in Johannesburg, South Africa, at Eclipse studios. This programme which airs on Sundays at 8pm is presented by gospel music pioneer Rebecca Malope.

Its Gospel Time is a South African Gospel Music show which is aired on SABC 2. It features gospel artists with a full update on their careers, life and aspirations in life. It is not known when

Hlophe's episode will be aired, however, as she is currently waiting for a word from the producers of the show.

Mandla Nxumalo, who is Hlophe's manager, confirmed the matter, stating that they were not sure when the episode would be aired on television, they were waiting for a word from the producers.

"It is true that we travelled to South Africa on Monday to record on episode with Rebecca Malope to be aired on Its Gospel Time soon. People can keep a close eye on the project," he said.

He added that even though this might be an inspiration to most peo-

ple, especially vocalists, it must also come as proof that everything works right with the Lord.

"If you asked Nothando two years ago if she would be here, she would have probably told you no, because she might have not believed that she could achieve such. But since God

said it is her time, all the things that are happening are a result of her patience because she waited for her turn and never ceased to pray," Nxumalo advised.

Hlophe recorded her live CD a day before she went to record this episode and her show, which was massively attended, did not disap-

point as she delivered a moving piece as well as delivered vocal brilliance.

Those who attended the show seemed to have inspired her to be in a good space. Even though she carried herself with poise, she was emotionally dealing with the demise of her brother, whom she was to pay her last respect, barely two hours after the show.

"I can confirm that she paid her last respect to her brother after her live recording.

"I personally gained more spiritual respect for her as she did not make the show about her, but for the people who were there to support her. She proved to many what kind of a strong artist she is," Nxumalo accentuated.



New Music organisation to host Cape Town Jazz Orchestra



HOST: Nelisa Lawton.

Stories by Tenele Dlamini

A new organisation that will deal specifically with music in the country, has been formed and officially registered by the husband and wife team of Nelisa Lawton and Prosper Mpofo of the local company Legendary Events, will host the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra starting from March 3rd to the 5th.

With the assistance of a few likeminded friends and acquaintances, this vision of bringing artists of this calibre, which was a brain child of Lawton and Mpofo, has come into fruition.

The music organisation which aims to provide music education and provide performance opportunities for local musicians, according to Newton, has extended an invitation to the much acclaimed Cape Town

Jazz Orchestra to come and perform in Swaziland.

"It was decided to bring their youth section (18-25yrs), the NU-Notes Jazz Ensemble, in order to serve as an inspiration to local musicians.

Due to cost considerations, only 10 of the 40 musicians will be coming. The management team of the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra will be part of the team, and will convene two workshops, one for adult musicians and the other for high school students.

They will be in the country between 2-6 March and will finish off with a concert on Saturday, 5 March at the Swaziland Theatre Club at 7.00 pm to which entrance is free," explained Lawton.

The duo has owned the events management company, Legendary Events since 2004 and since then, it has been

known to promote jazz and has had the privilege of hosting award winning artists such as Abdullah Ibrahim, Hugh Masekela, McCoy Mrubata, Louis Mhlanga, Kunle Ayo, Sibongile Khumalo, Simphiwe Dana, Hanmer, Siphokazi, The Afro Tenors, Judith Sphuma, The Soweto Gospel Choir and of course the cream of local artists.

This trip will be sponsored by the National Arts Council of South Africa, which is an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture in South Africa, and Legendary Events.

"It is the wish of the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra and Into Music Society that local musicians will attend the workshop and benefit from the experience to improve their musicianship, since we hope to continue with this programme," added Lawton.

Dusty and Stones aiming for Nashville

Stories by Samukelisiwe Ginindza

FOLLOWING their massive international airplay, Dusty and Stones are looking at tackling Nashville.

Dusty and Stones are a local country music duo, who have been topping the charts in the United Kingdom radio stations and Nashville which is situated in Tennessee, United States of America is the world's capital of country music.

The duo from Mooihoek has been battling for the top charts with top names in this music genre such as Bruce Springsteen.

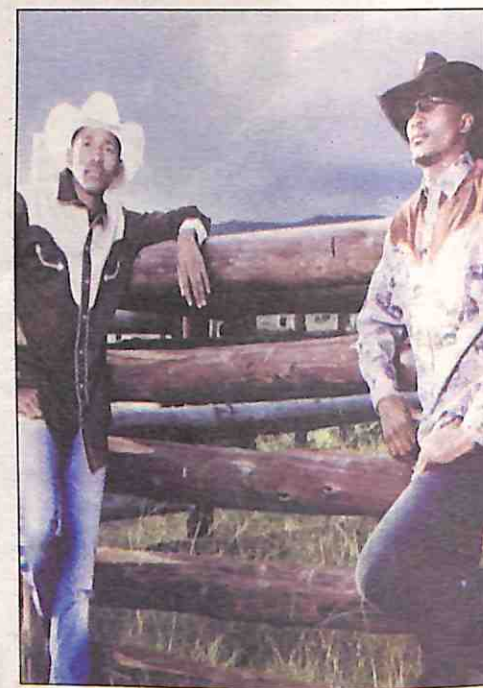
Dusty, whose real name is Gazi Simelane, expressed amazement and stated that the international exposure came about after an airplay they received from Ireland based radio station UCC98.3 FM.

Tackle

"Our dream now is to tackle into Nashville, as we have played with other country music artists from Tennessee, who have opened our eyes in terms of the standards there, so with our second album, we will be adding that influence learnt into it," he said.

Dusty and Stones are currently working on their second album, with which they are looking at making another mark in the market and country music industry.

"Our country music implementations have also improved after working with the best of the industry, so our quality has improved as well and we are looking at working with the best South African producers, to give us the best material," Simelane added.



...Alliance Française supports Into Music Society initiative

THE Alliance Française has indicated that they are in support of all music and arts culture initiatives in the country, that includes the hosting of the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra in the Kingdom of Swaziland.

The orchestra will be performing and holding workshops this week at the Swaziland Theatre Club.

According to Mphumelo Fakudze, the Alliance Française Administrator, this is not a collaboration with the music organisation; however, they as an entity are showing support, promoting and advertising the event through many advertising mechanisms, which he stated include placing posters at their premises as well as liaising with the media.

"The Alliance Française is mainly giving out information on behalf of Legendary Events and Into Music Society.



Legendary Events is a member of Alliance Française and because of this membership, we advertise and promote for them," Fakudze explained.

He also urged all members of the public to attend the three day jazz event; which includes an adult workshop on the first day, a student workshop on the Friday and a concert on

Saturday starting at 7pm.

He said the evening show on Saturday would accommodate the working class, who may not be able to attend the show on the other days.

When asked if according to him, there is a relatively huge following of Jazz lovers in the country, he mentioned that they had previously hosted a couple

of jazz concerts and performances in the country and feel that people will show interest in these upcoming shows.

"We have had within the last couple of weeks, the Sibusile Xaba and Unlearning Ensemble and we feel from that, there is a great following of this type of music genre in the country," added Fakudze.

DStv announces 2016 price hikes

CAPE TOWN – After Eskom told South African consumers they will have to fork out 9.4% more for electricity in 2016, MultiChoice announce its annual price increases for the year as well, coming into effect from April and for the first time ever DStv Premium breaks through the psychological level of R700 per month.

DStv Premium, DStv Extra and DStv Compact packages are increasing by a whopping 8% or more – higher than inflation.

MultiChoice says fees for

DStv Access and DStv decoder insurance have not increased, and that the subscription for DStv EasyView has decreased. While MultiChoice in Africa for the first time ever hiked DStv subscriptions for a second time in one year in 2015 as African currencies tanked against the dollar, South Africans were spared.

MultiChoice must pay in dollar and sterling for its international TV channels supplied by various channel providers for its DStv platform, as well as to procure expensive sports

content rights, that combined run into billions of rand annually. Similarly local broadcasters like M-Net and e.tv buy the foreign content to schedule on their locally packaged channels in dollar from Hollywood.

While the rand also dramatically weakened against the greenback, South African DStv subscribers were spared a second price increase in the same year as what happened in 2015 in the continent's other larger economies, including Uganda and Kenya. In Nigeria, MultiChoice in 2015 upped DStv subscriptions by 20% and between 21% and 30% in Zambia, leading to consumer outrage. Channel24

	2015	1 April 2016
DStv Premium	R699	R759
DStv Extra	R425	R459
DStv Compact	R319	R345
DStv Select	R199	R219
DStv Family	R199	R219
DStv Access	R99	R99
DStv EasyView	R39	R29
M-Net analogue/CSN	R335	R369

...SiSwati Song topping the UK charts

DUSTY and Stones track titled 'Mkhulu wetfu' is currently leading the UK country music top charts, regardless of being vernacular within English network.

The track has also earned the duo massive recognition as well as opportunities.

Country Undercover co-host Kieran Murphy even stated on air that the duo were pioneers of country music in foreign language.

"This is by far the first country song to rhyme so well in a foreign language and I can say I am impressed," he said on air.

Such reception has seen the duo receiving recognition and gigs internationally as well as having their CDs flying off the shelves in the UK.

ARTS AWAKE SHOW



FULL HOUSE: A section of the audience applauding and appreciating the Arts Awake show last Friday at the Swaziland Theatre Club. (Pics: Tenele Dlamini)



SMILE: Nomcebo Mdlalose, one of those who came to watch the show was there to support her friend Thandwa.



IN SUPPORT: Supporting vocalist, Eunice singing her heart and soul out during a duet with Freeman.



WOW: US Embassy's Sharon Martins smiles and gestures while chatting to Women Working Together's Zanele at the show.



CHIT CHAT: Rn' B musician Tiyas was one of the performers for the night, with his wife Beke and another guest upon arrival at the Theatre Club.



JAZZY: Local artist KrTC performing a jazzy hip hop number with other artists.



LUNGS OUT: Local poet and artist Beko giving a great performance on stage with Freeman.



GLAD TO BE HERE: Jabu Shongwe (left) and Zanele Thabede were also there to watch the performance.



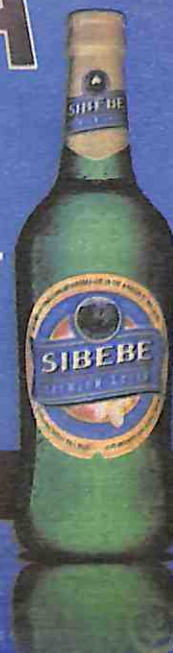
DUET: Anita and Thandwa rendering a powerful performance, with the song 'In My Mind I'll Always Be His Lady.'



PACHANGA MAGAYA MUSIC

RAS RITCHIE/REGGIE PROJECT
DUB RUI (MOZ), DJ MBO

PRICE: E100 DATE: FRI 4 MARCH
DOORS OPEN 8PM



ENJOY RESPONSIBLY. NOT FOR SALE TO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18.

**CORRUPT CRIMES**

WHEN: TODAY, 16:20
CHANNEL: SONY (127)

"S1/E13 - The Dumb Crook". Hours after robbing a bank in Nebraska, the 19-year-old culprit brags about it on YouTube along with her shocking reasons for doing it.

Corrupt Crimes investigates recent crime stories



with expert analysis and dramatic storytelling. Exposing corruption across the United States is the goal of the series.

TURNING POINT

WHEN: Tonight, 18:55
Channel: ED (190)

"S1/E6 - Jonathan Liebman". This series visits successful people around Africa to find out what their 'turning point' was in terms of their career path to success - do they have advice for us on money, family, and work ethics? Turning



point is a collection of stories shared from the perspective of an array of extraordinary individuals whose lives have changed irrevocably due to one pivotal decision that led them to the journey of their success.

CHOPPED

WHEN: Tonight, 20:00
Channel: Food Network (175)

"S23/E1 - Let's Do Lunch". Is there anything worse than facing the chop? Another batch of plucky contestants are summoning up the courage to take on the pressure-cooker environment of the Chopped kitchen, all for the goal of becoming the



Chopped champion. Another season of equally delicious and thrilling recipes awaits those with the stomach for the Chopped challenge! New season premieres Wednesday 2 March at 20:00 CAT.

THE BONE COLLECTOR

WHEN: Tonight, 20:00
Channel: Studio Universal

A quadriplegic homicide detective and his female partner must track down a serial killer.

Throughout Women's Month Studio Universal will make Wednesday evenings one to look forward to for the ladies, with a selection of enter-



taining and riveting movies from 'Hollywood Royalty: Denzel Washington.

BPL: Liverpool v Man City

WHEN: Tonight, 21:55
Channel: SS3 Africa HD(223)

"Barclays Premier League - Liverpool vs Manchester City". Live from Anfield - Liverpool, England. Enjoy the game in full HD on the DStv Explora. Catch our broadcast via



live video streaming on supersport.com or stream the game on your table or mobile device with the SuperSport app.

FASHION ONE'S TRENDS, STYLE COMING TO DStv, GOtv

WASHINGTON - Fashion One launches 1 March across 48 countries in Africa, replacing Fashion TV.

On 1 March 2016, a wealth of ideas, trends and creativity came to subscribers with the launch of Fashion One on DStv channel 178. Fashion One is well known across the African continent and will now reach an estimated 10 million households and is available on DStv to Premium, Compact +, Compact, Family and Access customers.

Fashion One caters to a fashionable and stylish audience with content covering the very latest in entertainment, international fashion, lifestyle news and events. Showcasing a strong portfolio of original programs from reality shows to documentaries, food to travelogues and beauty tips, the channel also covers African markets and captures the essence of



local trends and styles.

The channel debuted with Style Wars and new seasons of Eco Fashion and Fashion on a Plate. Style Wars is a six-episode long reality series where stylists compete to create original and inventive outfits for commercials and photo shoots. Designed to challenge each person's versatility, the competition

provides an exciting look into this colourful and performance-oriented world. Ngugi Vere, a Zimbabwean-born stylist and creative consultant, currently living in South Africa, will go up against other determined stylists from London, Los Angeles, Australia and New York. The show starts on 3 March and airs every weekend at 11pm (CAT).

Celebrate Women's Day on DStv

LOS ANGELES - Next Tuesday, we are celebrating International Women's Day and on DStv, we have great entertainment for all women to enjoy.

From series and movies to documentaries and lifestyle programmes, there's something for every mood.

We find ourselves surrounded by strong, powerful, independent and beautiful women who inspire us daily - with their stories and their achievements.

And in honour of International Women's Day, we want to share our favourite quotes from some of Africa's most inspiring women.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Nigeria Never ever accept 'Because



WOMENS LOVE: Alek Wek, Lupita Nyong'o and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

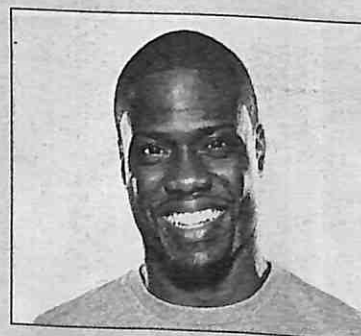
you are a women' as a reason for

doing or not doing anything.

Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart to host MTV Movie Awards

LOS ANGELES - This year's show will tape at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, California, on Saturday 9 April and broadcast on MTV across Africa on MTV on Monday 11 April at 21:30 CAT (Red Carpet Show) and 22:00 CAT (MTV Movie Awards). For the first time ever, MTV will take the telecast entirely outdoors and onto the backlot to capture the essence of movie making magic against a dramatic nighttime backdrop.

Performers and presenters will be announced at a later date. "It's an honour to be hosting the MTV Movie Awards with a guy who's



TO HOST: Kevin Hart.

not only one of the funniest guys on the planet, but who's often mistaken as my twin: Kevin Hart," said Dwayne Johnson. "We live for our

fans and promise to make this an epic, historic unforgettable night for them."

"I love hosting - it's my thing," said Kevin Hart. "Dwayne and I are the perfect team for the epic 25th anniversary show. It's going to go down."

"Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart define what it means to be modern movie stars," said MTV Movie Awards executive producer Casey Patterson. "They have a direct and personal relationship with their fans, who love them for it and have made them two of the biggest entertainers in the world."

★ Celebrity ★ Watch ★

GOODGER SHOWS OFF AMPLE ASSETS IN BIKINI

MACAO - She famously lost three stone after embarking on a health and fitness overhaul and Lauren Goodger once again showed off her incredible looks yesterday morning.

The 29-year-old posted a picture of herself to Instagram in which she posed wearing a stunning blue bikini while away in Macao in Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. Showing off a perfect golden tan, the former TOWIE star also displayed her ample assets and a toned tummy as she pouted for the camera. Wearing a pair of designer shades, Lauren's



AMPLE: Lauren Goodger.

brunette hair flowed in the wind as she flashed her 'Jake' tattoo on her wrist, in tribute to her boyfriend Jake McLean. *Mail Online*

WILL SMITH SHRUGS OFF OSCAR DRAMA

NEW YORK - Will Smith was in high spirits on Monday while filming in New York City following his boycott of the Oscars.

The 47-year-old actor beamed while strutting down a street and also gladly shook hands, signed autographs and took selfies with fans.

Will and his wife Jada Pinkett Smith, 44, were singled out during the Oscars by host Chris Rock for boycotting the awards ceremony over the lack of black nominees.

'It's not fair that Will Smith was this good in 'Concussion and didn't get nominated. It's also not



MR GOOD MOOD: Will Smith.

fair that Will was paid \$20 million for 'Wild Wild West!', Rock said. *Mail Online*

DORNAN SEEN ON 'FIFTY SHADES DARKER' SET

VANCOUVER - He's the young business magnate with a penchant for S&M with college graduates.

Jamie Dornan was spotted back in character as Christian Grey for the first time on set of the sequel to bonkbuster 50 Shades of Grey on Monday.

The 33-year-old actor looked sharply dressed as he arrived to film scenes for Fifty Shades Darker in Vancouver.

The Northern Irish native - who no doubt didn't celebrate winning a Razzie for worst actor on Saturday - looked handsome in a smart pale grey slim-fitting



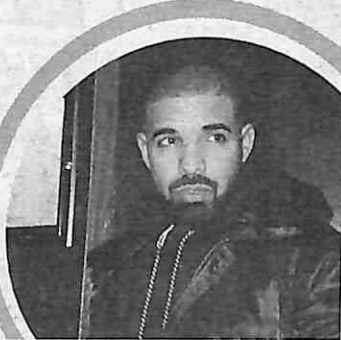
I'M BACK: Jamie Dornan.

suit. *Mail Online*

DRAKE ENJOYS A LOW-KEY MEAL AT NOBU

LONDON - He caused quite a commotion when he performed at the BRITS.

But Canadian rapper Drake was much more low-key when he dined out in central London's affluent Mayfair on Monday evening. The handsome star, 29, was spotted at Nobu - just days after delivering a steamy performance with rumoured beau Rihanna. Joined by an equally-casual male friend, the two exited the venue in their near-matching styles and headed into a waiting vehicle. There, they were driven off to a late-night venue for further exploration of the city.



DINNING: Drake.

Sadly, there was no sign of Rihanna joining the festivities - although there's a chance she may have joined the men later on. *Mail Online*

EDDIE MURPHY, BUTCHER WEAR MATCHING LOOK

LOS ANGELES - Their morning coffee run has become a routine for the couple.

And on Monday, Eddie Murphy and girlfriend Paige Butcher even seemed to have coordinated their wardrobes for the errand.

The 54-year-old comedian and his pregnant girlfriend, 36, both sported laid-back, black ensembles as they were spotted in Studio City, California to grab coffee. Eddie kept comfortable in a sleeveless, loose-fitting hooded black T-shirt, worn with the hood pulled up over his head.

The comedian coupled the shirt



MATCHING LOOK: Eddie Murphy and Paige Butcher.

with a pair of black and white Adidas athletic trousers, as well as black sneakers. *Mail Online*

PENELOPE LOOKS CUTE IN ELSA FROZEN COSTUME

CALABASAS - It seems like the cold never bothered Penelope Disick anyway.

The three-year-old youngster looked adorable as she wore a shimmering costume of Disney's Elsa on her latest family outing.

Her mother Kourtney Kardashian and older brother Mason, six, all were spotted leaving the Toys R Us in Calabasas as they picked up a few playthings. Penelope already looked to be living in her own fantasy world as she sported a shiny seafoam green dress with matching flat shoes.

Her brunette tresses were done



FAMILY: Penelope and Mason Disick with their mom Kourtney Kardashian.

up in four cornrows up top as the rest of it was worn down. *Mail Online*

JENNIFER HUDSON UNVEILS SHAVED HEAD

NEW YORK - Jennifer Hudson unveiled a daring new hairstyle as she was pictured heading to her Broadway play in New York City on Sunday.

The Spotlight hit-maker spotted a shaved head after having ditched her fringed crop for a more androgynous look. Jennifer, 34, suited the closely-shaved style but it was a stark contrast to her to the glossy black pixie crop she rocked just two weeks ago. The American Idol finalist opted for comfort over style as she made her way to The Colour Purple rehearsals. She made the most of her curvaceous figure, squeezing into a pair of plain



NEW LOOK: Jennifer Hudson.

black leggings which she teamed with a personalised cropped hooded jumper, with the words, 'J Hud' emblazoned across it in tiny diamantes. *Mail Online*

BEYONCE WEARS SUNGLASSES INDOORS AT NBA GAME

LOS ANGELES - She rocked the Super Bowl with a fierce half-time performance at the start of February.

And Beyonce showed that she's an all-round sports fan as she enjoyed a Monday night date with husband Jay Z at an NBA basketball game in Los Angeles.

The 34-year-old singer looked stunning even off-duty, as she hung out make-up free courtside at the Los Angeles Clippers versus the Brooklyn Nets. She covered her eyes in on-trend round-framed sunglasses and pulled her honey locks into a ponytail which showcased her flawless



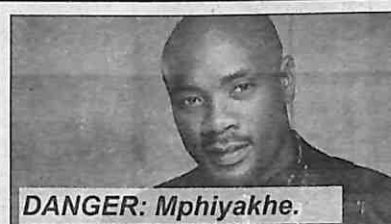
POWER COUPLE: Jay Z and Beyonce.

skin. *Mail Online*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY



DANGER: Mphiyakhe.

MPIYAKHE turns a terrible danger into a cunning strategy in order to end the strike. Jabu, anxious about Baby, tries to hide his worry from Iris.

ISIDINGO

TODAY



FIXER: Nikiwe

LINCOLN tightens the ropes around his wife to save his family. Nikiwe just wants things fixed in the house. Calvin is being emotionally strung along.

Muvhango

TODAY



IT'S A DATE: Nonny.

MFUNGELWA is caught and arrested. Nenzhele attacks Vhangani to avoid being captured. Pule invites Nonny on a real date.

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY



BROKEN SILENCE: Mapula.

Mapula tells Gadifele about Bra Honest raping her. Gadifele uses this info to blackmail Bra Honest. David decides to use drugs in order to help Brenda. Doc is jealous when he sees Bongi with another man.



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn - Someone is kind enough to bring a subject to your attention that you can either correct or change before a client or customer becomes difficult. You can handle most anything with expert finesse.



Aquarius - You could come up with new solutions to some of the slowdowns in the workplace. You may be in a situation where a new computer software package does not work in the way it was meant to work and you modify or use it in different ways.



Pisces - You are glad to have work before you this day. The roots of happiness grow deepest in the soil of service and that is your attitude now. Your timing should be perfect and those around you should find you most spontaneous and energetic.



Aries - Your mind is quite able to handle any management issues or business problems that move in your direction. You could find ways to use some new technical knowledge that will bring faster and more satisfying results.



Taurus - Your business and social status will improve soon. Luck is in your corner today, increasing your earning power. This may mean new information has come your way or it could mean a development has been announced.



Gemini - There may be some serious decisions made about the future of a project, investment or term of employment with your business. This is a good time to be communicative to the associates around you and to listen carefully as well.



Cancer - Don't be too quick to jump into a financial deal. Today you might be tempted to sign on the dotted line. Some item that broke may have your attention and during the noon break, you may be able to fix it. Don't forget to have lunch first.



Leo - You have an opportunity to come to the aid of your fellow workers. You and another co-worker make a good team and can quickly turn difficulties into positive experiences. You may find yourselves leading a group very soon. This is a good thing.



Virgo - Your genius mind kicks in early this morning and moves at breakneck speed all day long. Put your mind to work and take care of any unfinished business—your mental attitude is good and discipline should come easily.



Libra - You may feel that you have a lack of mental concentration today but it could be that you are just tired of the same old view, or the same old work. You are ready for a change and any new business venture begun around this time could be risky due to poor planning—patience.



Scorpio - If you had not noticed, this year is more a year of settling in or finding a good vocation. For the next several years, your opportunities do not get much better than they are right now.



Sagittarius - This is one of your best days for whatever you want to accomplish. Focus your attention on your goals. Make an effort to complete one task before moving on to another. Continue to analyse where you may best spend your energies.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



HARD SUDOKU #245

SOLUTION

2	4	8	3	5	6	7	1	9
9	5	7	2	1	4	8	6	3
3	6	1	8	9	7	4	5	2
6	7	3	1	4	2	9	8	5
1	9	4	6	8	5	3	2	7
5	8	2	7	3	9	1	4	6
7	2	9	4	6	8	5	3	1
8	3	6	5	7	1	2	9	4
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HARD SUDOKU #244

Fill in the missing numbers so every row, column and quadrant contains the number 1 through 9.

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LOL

Laughing Out Loud

Mother, "How was school today, Patrick?"
Patrick, "It was really great mum! Today we made explosives!"

Mother, "Ooh, they do very fancy stuff with you these days. And what will you do at school tomorrow?"

USELESS FACTS

1. To escape the grip of a crocodile's jaws, push your thumbs into its eyeballs - it will let you go instantly.

2. Reindeer like to eat bananas.

3. No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver and purple.

ple.

4. The word "samba" means "to rub navels together."

5. Mel Blanc (the voice of Bugs Bunny) was allergic to carrots.

6. The electric chair was invented by a dentist.

BRAINTEASERS
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterdays Brain Teaser

1. What is black when u buy it, red when u use it and grey when u throw it away?
A. Charcoal Hide

2. Why are cooks cruel?

A. Because they whip cream and beat eggs!

Today's Brain Teaser

1. Two mothers and two daughters went out to eat, everyone ate one burger, yet only three burgers were eaten. How is this possible?

2. How many centimetres are in a metre?

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R/N 17651 Dn- 10 Feb, 17 Feb, 24 Feb, 02 Mar

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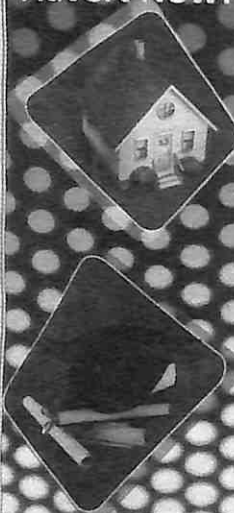
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R/N 177940 Dn- 18 March

Russia, Qatar to avoid a re-vote for their World Cups

LONDON - New FIFA President Gianni Infantino confirmed on Monday that the next two World Cups will take place safe in the knowledge there is not enough evidence of corruption to warrant a re-vote.

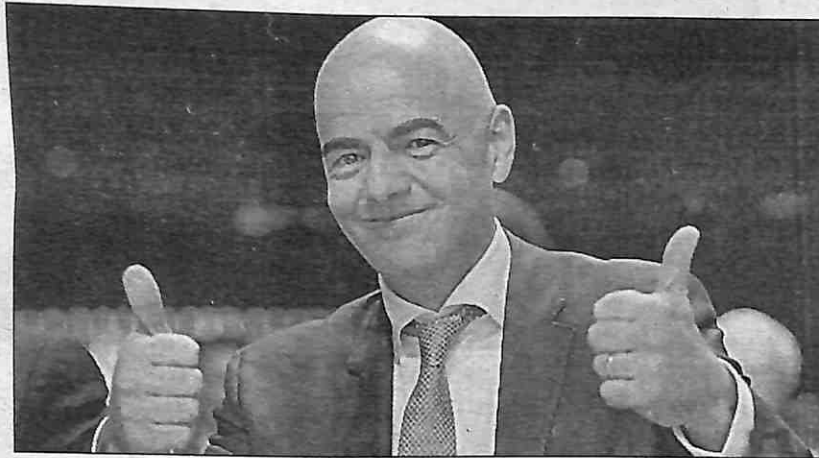
It emerged after the FIFA Congress in Zurich that the still-to-be-published Garcia report into the bidding process for Russia 2018 and Qatar 2022 has no smoking gun in its details.

The report will only see light of day when an investigation into the conduct of Thailand's Worawi Makudi is complete. But even if Garcia has uncovered one or two instances of bribes playing a part in those murky votes from 2010, it would not be enough for either country to lose the World Cup.

That would only happen if FIFA investigators - or the Swiss prosecutors looking into the bids - can prove enough of the FIFA executive committee electorate were bribed to have affected the outcome.

It would need that enormous weight of evidence for FIFA to be confident of winning the inevitable legal battle against a country stripped of a World Cup - and is not going to happen.

Only FIFA, reforms or no reforms,



CONFIRMED: New FIFA President Gianni Infantino.

could have Match, their long-time ticketing agents run by the Byrom brothers Jaime and Enrique, under investigation by the Swiss authorities and their own lawyers - yet still have Enrique as a big presence around the Baur au Lac Hotel in Zurich last week organising the travel and accommodation for the FIFA top brass. It is equally bizarre that Paul Kirby, a colourful Mayfair estate agent whose representation of New Zealand on the FA Council ended 14 years ago, can still be aboard the FIFA gravy train as an observer for the Oceania Football Confederation.

Even the presence of tennis legend Billie Jean King at a FIFA women's

conference next Monday is not as straightforward as it seems. PR company Teneo that represents American lawyers Quinn Emanuel, who have effectively been running FIFA, are also in partnership with King across her business interests.

Rather than the £16 000 Parmigiani watches waiting for them at the 2014 Congress, all that FIFA delegates received in Zurich last week was a bar of chocolate. Everton have 4 000 shareholders, many of whom are strongly opposed to Iranian Farhad Moshiri acquiring a 49.9 percent stake in the club for £200million subject to Premier League approval.

dailymail

Heather Watson progresses in Monterrey Open

LONDON - British No 2 Heather Watson made a welcome return to form with victory in the first round of the Monterrey Open in Mexico.

Watson, who has slumped to 84 in the world after a poor start to the new year, beat Japan's Misaki Doi 6-4 6-7 (0/7) 6-3 to advance.

The 23-year-old is currently without

a coach after ending her temporary link with Judy Murray, and lost in the first rounds of both the Australian Open and the Abierto Mexicano Telcel. But she was too strong for Doi, currently ranked 30 places higher in the rankings, breaking her opponent twice in the opening set and twice again in the decider to advance.

Having failed to retain her Hobart title last month and fallen to a narrow opening round defeat at the Australian Open to Timea Babos, Watson has fallen in the rankings.

She is currently without a coach after Judy Murray finished her interim stint at the Australian Open.

dailymail

Scott back into world Top 10

LONDON - Adam Scott is back into the world top 10 due to his win Sunday in the Honda Classic, his first since the ban on anchored-style long putters.

The 35-year-old former world number one and Masters champion was forced back to the shorter putter at the start of the year when the ban on anchored putters came into force.

The top eight places are unchanged with Jordan Spieth nearly two points clear at the top.

World top 20:

1. Jordan Spieth (USA) 11.48
2. Jason Day (AUS) 9.69
3. Rory McIlroy (NIR) 9.49
4. Bubba Watson (USA) 8.17
5. Rickie Fowler (USA) 8.08
6. Henrik Stenson (SWE) 7.25
7. Justin Rose (ENG) 6.24
8. Dustin Johnson (USA) 5.91
9. Adam Scott (AUS) 5.77
10. Patrick Reed (USA) 4.94
11. Branden Grace (RSA) 4.68
12. Sergio Garcia (ESP) 4.57
13. Hideki Matsuyama (JPN) 4.55

sport24

Higuain helps Napoli hold Fiorentina

NAPOLI - Gonzalo Higuain claimed his 25th Serie A goal of the season as Napoli maintained their title push with a thrilling 1-1 draw at Fiorentina on Monday.

Napoli were under the cosh after champions Juventus stretched their lead at the top of the table to four points with a 2-0 win over hapless Inter Milan on Sunday.

But despite pushing La Viola hard in a thrilling encounter at the Artemio Franchi, a share of the spoils against a Fiorentina side that looks worthy of a top three finish to qualify for next season's Champions League left Napoli with no complaints.

Napoli remained in second place, three points behind Juventus, with Roma and Fiorentina both five points further adrift in third and fourth places respectively.

Napoli coach Maurizio Sarri said it had been a "great game" but admitted to Mediaset Premium: "They had the chance to win the game in the final minutes of the first half, as we did in the final minutes of the second."

"It was a fair result, neither side deserved to lose. I'm really happy with my lads, and tip my hat to

Fiorentina."

Fiorentina coach Paolo Sousa did not agree, but was buoyed by another performance that underlined Fiorentina's Champions League credentials.

"Unfortunately we just lacked a little bit of luck to take what was a deserved win," said the Portuguese coach.

"But we're right on track for the goals we have set ourselves. With a little bit of ambition and belief, we want to compete with the big sides."

"I'm proud of the lads, because they always want to improve. Tonight we deserved something more from this match."

After just six minutes Sousa's men got in front when Marcos Alonso rose above the Napoli defence at a corner to send a glancing header past Pepe Reina.

But Alonso went from hero to zero in a matter of seconds.

From the subsequent kick-off that had all the hallmarks of a set-piece, Kalidou Koulibaly promptly fired a high punt into the Fiorentina area that forced 'keeper Ciprian Tatarusanu out of his net. *dailymail*

Pattinson ordered to rest as he suffers from shin pain

LONDON - Australia pace bowler James Pattinson has suffered a recurrence of shin soreness that kept him on the sidelines for much of January and been ordered to rest for the remainder of the season.

The right-arm quick, who missed Australia's domestic Twenty20 competition in January, returned to the international field in the second test against New Zealand in Christchurch where he impressed with his pace and bristling aggression.

The 25-year-old took six wickets in the match at Hagley Oval, including 4-77 in New Zealand's second innings that helped reduce the target Australia needed to chase to seal the seven-wicket victory.

"James had a recurrence of his left shin soreness following the second test in Christchurch and had follow-up scans in Melbourne yesterday," Cricket Australia physiotherapist David Beakley said in a statement yesterday.

"These scans have shown some inflammation around the shin consistent with bone stress. 'James will now require some time off to allow this injury to resolve and will not be available for the remainder of the domestic cricket season.'"

Pattinson was not in Australia's squad for their short limited overs tour of South Africa before the World Twenty20 in India, which begins next week.

dailymail

Lewis says no to pros at Olympics

LONDON - Former World and Olympic champion Lennox Lewis has slammed a proposal to allow professional boxers to compete at the Olympics, saying it could be dangerous for young amateur boxers.

Lewis won super-heavyweight gold for Canada at the 1988 games in Seoul before turning professional and switching to represent Britain

as unified heavyweight world champion.

He told BBC Radio 5 Live's Sportsworld programme: "I kind of think it is preposterous, to a certain degree. The amateur system is based for amateurs - this is why we put in the headgear to protect them because they have a lack of experience and they are not that primed as a professional yet."

dailymail



READY: Adrien Broner and Ashley Theophane (r) faced off at the press conference ahead of their bout on April 1. (*Daily Mail*)

Mayweather makes his presence felt

LONDON - Floyd Mayweather may not be fighting any more, but he was still the star attraction as he took to the stage at the press conference for the upcoming showdown between Adrien Broner and Ashley Theophane.

Four-division world and current champion Broner - who bases his style and mannerisms upon Mayweather and Theophane who fights under the latter's promotional banner, will meet for the WBA light-welterweight title on April 1 at the D.C. Armory. Known for his brash manner and vulgar trash-talk, Broner who had been seen as the heir to the welterweight

throne - until his two convincing losses to Marcos Maidana and more recently Shawn Porter, was surprisingly respectful to his opponent but promised the bout would not be going the distance, as the taunts soon crept in. "This is really a big fight for me. I know that Ashley Theophane is going to come to fight, because he has something to prove. He's going to try to take my world title."

"A lot of people told me I wouldn't be here. I come from nothing. Like cereal and water nothing. I'm very fortunate to have someone like Floyd to look up to. I don't want to be like Floyd though, I don't want to be like any man." *Dailymail*



CHIEFS WILL BEAT ASEC IN CAF CHAMPIONS - MATSHITSE

Letsoaka on thin ice at Celtic?

BLOEMFONTEIN - News reaching the Siya crew is that Bloemfontein Celtic may consider making technical team changes, should the results continue to elude the team.

Siwelele find themselves sitting 12th on the ABSA Premiership log, after failing to get a win in their last five games.

Pressure

Celtic have collected three points out of a possible 15 in their last five games and, the pressure has been mounting on the team's head coach, Serame Letsoaka.

While the focus has been on Celtic's announcement that the club is up for sale, sources have told the Siya crew that lack of results under the current technical team has also been an issue of concern for the Mangaung outfit.

soccerladuma

JOHANNESBURG - Peter Matshitse has said that Kaizer Chiefs' new style of play could be enough to see them go all the way in this year's CAF Champions League.

Amakhosi have been winning games but most importantly, they have been conceding less goals in the process.

Matshitse, therefore, believes that the Glamour Boys stand a good chance of improving their record in African competitions.

"Given that they play a different style of play now, I think they stand a good chance of doing well this time around," Matshitse told Goal.

"They have a new coach and he has introduced a new style of play.

"They have been winning and conceding very little. They are playing



WINNING WAYS: Kaizer Chiefs coach Steve Komphela interviewed.

[well] you know.

"They are switching play, going through the channels well, so it's different.

"I am optimistic that they will do well against this team [Asec

Mimosas] this time around."

However, he mentioned that their weakness in defence could be exploited in the tournament, as they have had lapses in concentration this season. *Goal.com*

Makola enjoying roaming midfield role at Pirates

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates midfielder Mpho Makola has admitted that it's good to see the team back to winning ways and that he is happy to be contributing positively to the team's success.

Makola is currently the club's top scorer with seven goals to his name this season. Makola scored the all important goal as the Sea Robbers edged Bloemfontein Celtic in their previous encounter. "It's good to see the team doing very well and to find myself contributing to the team doing well," Makola told Goal.

"I am enjoying myself with the role the coach has given me in the team. The Alexander-born star mentions that the support his teammates give to one another has been key in recent weeks.

Goal.com

Middendorp calls for Maritzburg United focus

JOHANNESBURG - Maritzburg United coach Ernst Middendorp has urged his side to concentrate for the 90 minutes ahead of their home Nedbank Cup Last 32 fixture against National First Division side Black Leopards today.

United have let in a number of late goals this season that has denied them crucial points in their bid to stay in the South African top-flight.

And they will want to make sure they do not do likewise in the Nedbank Cup, where victory, even against lower league opposition,

would be a big morale-booster for the team. "When something like that happens in the last seconds, there is still a little bit of a nativity with this team," he told reporters.

"We have to take the performance, improve the performance, we have to work on the goals conceded, block-

ing the crosses, second post marking." Maritzburg have only won two games all campaign and Middendorp knows a good cup run will help their league form too. And performances have improved in recent weeks, they defeated Bloemfontein Celtic away from home before a late loss to Bidvest Wits when striker James Keene scored in the fifth minute of injury-time. *Mzansi Football*



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

REVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATIONS POLICIES

CONTRACT No.	NAME	CLOSING DATE
NDMA 2016/001	Request for Proposals for the Review of the NDMA Policies	11 March 2016

The Agency seeks to engage the services of a suitable qualified consultants for the Review of various NDMA Organizations Policies. The list of these policies are listed on the RFP Document.

Tenderers should submit the following as Part of their Technical Proposal:

- Company profile
- CVs of key personnel.
- Tax Compliance Certificate.
- Trading License.
- Technical Proposal
- Financial Proposal
- Trade references (letters)

All interested service providers must collect the RFP document at the **National Disaster Management Agency Offices** (see below address) upon payment of a non-refundable E200.

**RHUS Office Park,
Lot 195, Karl Grant Street
Mbabane**

Tenders must be placed in the tender box in a sealed envelope showing the project name and contract number not later than 12h00 Noon, Friday 11 March 2016 at:

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC PLAN

CONTRACT No.	NAME	CLOSING DATE
NDMA 2016/002	Request for Proposals for the Development of the NDMA Strategic Plan	11 March 2016

Proposals are hereby invited from suitably qualified consultants for the Development of NDMA Strategy. Only vendors that can demonstrate experience and technical ability to undertake the service shall be considered.

Tenderers should submit the following as Part of their Technical Proposal:

- Company profile
- CVs of key personnel.
- Tax Compliance Certificate.
- Trading License.
- Technical Proposal
- Financial Proposal
- Trade references (letters)

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ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



WENGER URGES PLAYERS TO RESPOND

LONDON - Arsene Wenger has urged Arsenal to bounce back following a disastrous week.

Having suffered a crushing Champions League defeat by Barcelona, the Gunners fell further behind in the title race after losing to a youthful Manchester United side at the weekend.

Wenger admits his players have endured a tough week, not helped by intense criticism from ex-players and pundits.

But with two massive Barclays Premier League games against Swansea City and Tottenham, the manager has urged his team to show their mettle.

"We had a very, very bad week and it's down to us to make this week a very good one," the Frenchman said in his press conference ahead of the clash with the Swans today.

"That's why you love competition, a bad week isn't permanent and it's how you respond that is the beauty of sport. Things change quickly one way or another."

'We've had a bad week but it's down to us to change it'



YES WE CAN: Arsene Wenger.

Following their defeat at Old Trafford on Sunday, Graeme Souness savaged Arsenal's lack of heart after their title hopes were dented by Marcus Rashford-inspired United.

Joke

The Scot said the north Londoners 'bordered on being a joke' but Wenger refused to respond to the Sky Sports pundit's remarks.

"I'm never surprised by the criticism. That's part of the media today and a part your opinions, it's always a bit excessive," he added.

"I don't want to respond to individual criticism because I accept it. I think people are too emotional but I believe this club is respected all around the world."

Daily Mail

Conte focused on Italy, not Chelsea - FIGC

MILAN - Italian Football Federation (FIGC) president Carlo Tavecchio insists coach Antonio Conte is focused purely on Euro 2016 despite being linked with Chelsea.

The former Juventus coach is widely expected to take over at the Premier League giants ahead of next season.

Despite that, Tavecchio has no doubt Conte is concentrating on the present and Italy, who meet Belgium, the Republic of Ireland and Sweden in Group E in



DIFFERENT FOCUS: Antonio Conte.

France.

"For me, at the moment, Conte is with the national team and is working with

desire, skill and sacrifice," he said via Gazzetta World.

"We are taking the first steps to do well in the European Championship, but beyond that, only time will tell." Former England manager Fabio Capello has said Conte is already "preparing" to take charge at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea, who replaced Jose Mourinho with interim boss Guus Hiddink, are on an 11-match unbeaten run in the Premier League and sit 11th in the table. *Goal*



Public Service Pensions Fund

PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONS FUND
P. O. BOX 4469, MBABANE
Tel: 2404 8740/3 www.pspf.co.sz
TOLL FREE: 800 2401

PUBLIC NOTICE/ SATISO

DEATH GRATUITY DISTRIBUTION BY PUBLIC SERVICE PENSION FUND

The Public Service Pensions Fund invites the following deceased members' families to meetings to be held at the following scheduled times and dates at the Pensions Building, along Mhlambanyatsi Road. Family members are requested to bring certified copies of the following: proof of identity, death certificate, birth certificates, marriage certificate(s) and any other relevant documents.

Lihhovisi letemhlala phansi (PSPF) licela tihlobo tanaba labalandzelako kutsi tivele enhloko hhovisi ngalamalanga netikhatsi letilandzelako.

Tiyacelwa kutsi tiphatse sitifiketi sekufa semufi, titifiketi tekutalwa tebantwana bemufi, titifiketi tekutsana, nabomatise bebuve (P.I.N.) ID nato tonkhe tincwadzi letingasita.

The following deceased members' families are invited to attend a meeting on the following dates:

MONDAY 07 MARCH 2016

Name of Deceased	Ministry	Empl. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Mthemba Frank Sibikele	Agriculture	6197560	28.01.2016	09h00
2. Dlamini Dumsile Winterose	Police	3836486	29.01.2016	10h00
3. Mhlanga Siphos	Education	7285370	27.01.2016	11h00
4. Mhlangu Ronnie Mbusweni	Fire	6159243	25.01.2016	12h00

TUESDAY 08 MARCH 2016

Name of Deceased	Ministry	Empl. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Mdluli Ndimiso Michael	Police	6489744	27.01.2016	09h00
2. Magagula-Mavuso Doris T.	Education	4269700	02.02.2016	10h00
3. Lukhele Thokozani Vusi	Works	6363673	31.01.2016	11h00
4. Tsabedze Bongani Vusumuzi	Defence	2819464	28.01.2016	12h00

WEDNESDAY 09 MARCH 2016

Name of Deceased	Ministry	Empl. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Tsabedze Colani Ernest	Defence	9080346	05.02.2016	09h00
2. Nhlabatsi Zephania Mveli	Police	459205	06.02.2016	10h00
3. Dlamini Siviwe Buyisiwe	Health	8791830	10.02.2016	11h00
4. Mazibuko Sandile Mlungisi	Education	9119404	12.02.2016	12h00

THURSDAY 10 MARCH 2016

Name of Deceased	Ministry	Empl. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Mbatha Vusumuzi James	Defence	9209842	12.02.2016	09h00
2. Dlamini Mandla Nicholas	Education	5250860	06.02.2016	10h00
3. Dlamini-Mdluli Phumaphi S.	Education	3409082	07.02.2016	11h00
4. Dlamini Celumusa Jabulani	Police	9000966	11.02.2016	12h00

For more information please contact Nothando Dlamini at 2404-8740/3 or our Toll Free Number 8002401 (order 9510 #)



UBOMBO SUGAR LIMITED

TENDER NOTICE

REQUEST FOR TENDERS FOR: REMEDIAL WORKS AT LOMDASHI, LIGIDZAMUVA & UMCHWELE AT NGCAMPHALALA & GAMEDZE CHIEFDOMS IN THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND:

Tender Number: UBO 15/2016 AGRIC

Ubombo Sugar Limited (USL) has secured funding from the European Union - Swaziland Sugar Facility under contract number DCI-SUCRE/2014/345-758 & DCI-SUCRE/2014/354-051 to implement Ubombo Integrated Small Holder Development Projects in the Ubombo cane supply area in Swaziland. Therefore Ubombo Sugar Limited now invites suitably qualified Local and International Civil Engineering contractors to tender for, construction of infield roads, side drains and road crossing culverts.

The tender documents are obtainable from the Purchasing & Inventory Manager's Secretary (Mill stores) Ubombo Sugar Limited, upon payment of SZL 500.00 which excludes courier delivery cost. Payment is made at the Cashier's Office located at the Ubombo Sugar Limited Main Office, P. O. Box 23, Big-Bend. Documents will be on sale from Tuesday 01 March 2016 up to the day of compulsory clarification meeting and site visit. Companies that have their origin in G20 countries (including South Africa) are not eligible to tender, but materials can be sourced from South Africa by eligible companies. The fee is payable at the cashier's office between 08h00 and 11h15.

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

Ubombo Sugar Ltd, Main Office (Agriculture Offices)
Portion Farm 161, Old Main Road
PO Box 128, Big Bend,
Swaziland
Telephone +268 2363 8000
Fax: +268 2363 6924

The deadline for submission of tenders is 11 March 2016 at 1200hrs, local Swaziland time. A compulsory site inspection will be held on 04 March 2016 at 0900hrs. The bidders will assemble at 0900hrs in the Agricultural Development conference room at Ubombo Sugar Limited for a clarification meeting before proceeding to site. Information pertaining to the site visit should be directed to the Project Engineer, Justin Mutiro. Email address: jmutiro@illovo.co.za
Tel: +268 23636 927/8 copied to the Project Manager, Peter Oldham. Email address: poldham@illovo.co.za Tel: +268 2363 6927/8.

Ubombo Sugar Limited does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.
Funded by the European Union

Boost for Madrid as Bale returns

MADRID - Gareth Bale has returned to Real Madrid first-team training after being ruled out with a calf injury since January.

The Wales international's last appearance for the club came in the 5-1 victory over Sporting Gijon, but despite his return to the first team, doubts remain as to whether the winger will be fit to face Levante tonight.

Although Bale was able to return to individual training on January 26 after a scan revealed he had torn his calf muscle, head coach Zinedine Zidane was cautious not to rush the former Tottenham man back into

action.

The 26-year-old had been a key figure for previous boss Rafael Benitez during his time at the Bernabeu and had started Zidane's reign in a positive manner: before sustaining his injury, he had contributed 11 goals and four assists in his last eight Liga outings for the capital side, though only two of these matches came under the Frenchman.

Bale has endured a difficult season because of repeated injury issues, missing a total of 14 games with various muscular problems.

His latest return comes at a turbulent time for Madrid, with Karim



RETURNING: Real Madrid midfielder Gareth Bale.

Benzema injured and Cristiano Ronaldo criticising team-mates after

the loss to Atletico Madrid, before later apologising. *Goal.com*

PIRLO OPEN TO EXTENDING NEW YORK STAY

MILAN - New York City star Andrea Pirlo has not ruled out the possibility of extending his contract with the MLS club.

Pirlo's deal expires in December after the Italy international midfielder joined David Villa and Frank Lampard from Juventus in New York last year.

The 36-year-old Pirlo is enjoying his anonymity in New York, so much so he is open to the possibility of playing on at Yankee Stadium.

"I don't rule out the idea of staying here," Pirlo told the New York Times. "That could be



VETERAN: New York City midfielder Andrea Pirlo.

something interesting.

"I always wanted to come here

to play, but I never thought it would be so soon.

"Just being able to go out to dinner at the trendiest restaurants in Italy, I can't do that," Pirlo added.

"There were times we were kept in our dressing room until late at night because it wasn't safe to go home. Our bus would get attacked, the tires slit."

Pirlo made 13 appearances in New York's inaugural season, and Patrick Vieira's men open their 2016 MLS campaign at Chicago Fire on Sunday.

Goal.com



MONEY MATTERS: Ezequiel Lavezzi (bottom right) poses with Hebei China Fortune team-mates (left to right) Gervinho, Gael Kakuta, Ersan Gulum and Stephane M'bia.

I like the money in China - Lavezzi

BEIJING - Ezequiel Lavezzi has revealed he turned down Chelsea and Manchester United in order to move to the Chinese Super League.

The former PSG forward left France to join Hebei China Fortune in February for a reported contract of £11.65m per season despite interest from the Premier League and Italian giants Inter Milan.

Following former Liverpool target Alex Teixeira, Ramires and Jackson Martinez in making the move to Asia, Lavezzi admitted the 'financial aspect' played a part in his switch; as well as the project in developing the club.

"I could have signed for Inter, Chelsea or Manchester United,"

the Argentina international told Canal+.

"But I made the decision to go to China. It's an important choice for my career, I'm sure I'll face many challenges here.

"I like the project to develop this club. It was that which convinced me to come to Hebei, as well as the financial aspect.

"I'm also fascinated by Chinese culture, so to come and play here is definitely an interesting challenge."

Lavezzi joins ex-Arsenal attacker Gervinho, former QPR midfielder Stephane M'bia and ex-Chelsea youngster Gael Kakuta in Hebei where former Everton midfielder Li Tie is the manager.

Daily Mail

Pacquiao gets Rio 2016 invite

MANILA - Manny Pacquiao has received an invitation to compete at the 2016 Olympics in Rio, but Floyd Mayweather has 'absolutely' no intention of making a surprise return to the Games.

Top professional boxers will become eligible to compete in this summer's Olympics under radical new proposals being pushed through by the sport's world governing body, AIBA.

In light of the decision, which is yet to be confirmed, it has emerged that AIBA president, Dr Ching-Kuo Wu, has personally invited Pacquiao to compete in Brazil.

According to the Philippine Star, the idea was initially discussed when Pacquiao flew to Doha, Qatar for the AIBA World Championships last October.

It is believed Pacquiao, who is preparing for his fight with Timothy Bradley in April, is wanted to compete at the Games as the sport's world governing body bids to attract the biggest names to Rio.

However, retired boxer Floyd Mayweather has revealed he has no intention of making a shock return to the ring at the Olympics.

Mayweather, who won bronze at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, retired undefeated with a record of 49-0 after defeating Andre Berto in September.

"Absolutely not," said the 39-

year-old when asked if he is considering a return to the ring.

"For my body to recover from all my fights will be for the rest of my life. I'm truly blessed to have been fighting for so much of my life.

"I had a great run. Ain't no more for this body to heal but rest."

Until now only amateur boxers have been allowed to compete in Olympics, but professional boxers could appear in the summer.

Dr Ching-Kuo Wu has indicated that the last remaining barriers preventing full-time professionals competing in the Games are set to be abolished within a matter of months.

Wu said: "We want the best boxers to come to the Olympic Games. It is AIBA's 70th birthday, and we want something to change - not after four years, but now.

"It is an IOC policy to have the best athletes in the Games, and of the international federations, AIBA is probably the only one without professional athletes in the Olympics.

"We already have our own professionals, APB and WSB boxers, in the Games - [and] we will go further."

But former World and Olympic champion Lennox Lewis has labelled the proposal to allow professional boxers to compete at the Olympics as 'preposterous'.

Daily Mail

DEL BOSQUE: I KNOW WHO SHOULD BE MY SUCCESSOR

MADRID - Spain coach Vicente del Bosque knows who he wants to succeed him at the helm of the national team after Euro 2016.

The 65-year-old has announced his intention to quit his role after the showpiece event in France in June and July.

Del Bosque said he was sure who he wanted the next Spain coach to be, but he is keeping it to himself.

"I am clear who I want to be my successor," he told Punto Pelota.

"But I have not told anyone."

Reigning champions Spain face the Czech Republic, Turkey and Croatia in Group D at the Euros, with their opening game on June 13. *Goal.com*



CLEAR: Spain coach Vicente del Bosque knows his successor.

Motupa needs more game time - Sebola

JOHANNESBURG - Andries Sebola has said that Gift Motupa needs to be given more time in the Orlando Pirates' first team after impressing in his most recent outing.

"I think he needs to be given time to play like they did last week against Mpumalanga Black Aces," Sebola told Goal.

According to the Bucs legend, the fact that Motupa is part of the South African U23 team and could be going to the Olympic Games in Rio later this year, means the 21-year-old should be afforded enough game time.

"He is part of the under-23 team. He will be going to the Olympics in Brazil.

"So, I think it is going to be good for him if they give him time to play."

Sebola added that Motupa has what it takes to be a regular in the current Bucs team.

"I think he has the quality to play for a team like Pirates, especially if they give players like him a chance that wasn't in the Confederations Cup a chance to play," Sebola added. *Goal.com*

REGIONAL LOG

Compiled by: Sanele Jele

MTN Premier League log

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1. Royal Leopard	17	10	6	1	26	12	14	36
2. Mbabane Highlanders	17	11	2	4	27	13	14	35
3. Young Buffaloes	17	10	2	4	25	15	10	33
4. Mbabane Swallows	16	9	4	3	36	13	23	31
5. Midas City	17	8	2	7	16	15	1	26
6. Manzini Sundowns	17	5	6	6	14	15	-1	21
7. Green Mamba	16	4	7	5	23	20	3	19
8. Manzini Wanderers	17	4	7	6	17	24	-7	19
9. Red Lions	17	4	5	8	13	24	-11	17
10. Manzini Sea Birds	17	4	4	9	16	28	-12	16
11. Bad Boys	17	4	3	10	17	31	-14	15
12. Malanti Chiefs	17	1	5	11	10	30	-20	8

MTN National First Division log

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1. Tambuti	17	15	0	2	44	9	35	45
2. Mweni Pirates	17	14	2	1	43	9	34	44
3. RSSC United	17	9	3	5	27	19	8	30
4. Sikhalo	17	7	5	5	26	16	10	26
5. Ubombo Flyers	17	8	0	9	24	37	-13	24
6. Mbabane Citizens	17	6	4	7	24	29	-5	22
7. Madlenya	17	6	3	8	20	28	-8	21
8. Hellenic	17	6	1	10	15	24	-9	19
9. Amalanda	17	4	6	7	22	26	-4	18
10. L. Brothers	16	4	5	7	18	27	-9	17
11. Manchester United	16	2	5	9	15	25	-10	11
12. Kontshingila	17	1	2	14	18	43	-25	5

PLS Reserve League standings

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1. Royal Leopard	2	2	0	0	6	1	5	6
2. Manzini Wanderers	2	2	0	0	2	0	2	6
3. Red Lions	2	1	1	0	2	0	2	4
4. Sea Birds	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	4
5. Green Mamba	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	3
6. Young Buffaloes	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	3
7. Malanti Chiefs	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3
8. Manzini Sundowns	2	1	0	1	3	3	0	3
9. Mbabane Swallows	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1
10. Bad Boys	2	0	0	2	1	3	-2	0
11. Midas City	2	0	0	2	0	2	-2	0
12. Mbabane Highlanders	2	0	0	1	0	4	-4	0

Bakhanyisele Mabulala Maphaleni League

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Young Lovers	22	16	4	2	55	12	43	52
2. Juniors Stars	23	16	4	3	47	17	30	52
3. Billy Ocean	22	15	4	3	42	12	30	49
4. Manchester	23	14	7	2	44	19	25	49
5. XI Experience	22	10	5	6	36	34	2	35
6. Liselesele	23	9	7	7	33	29	4	34
7. Hotspurs	22	9	6	7	33	33	0	33
8. Young Stars	23	8	7	8	29	33	-4	31
9. Blue Birds	23	6	7	10	35	38	-3	28
10. Professionals	23	7	7	9	25	34	-9	28
11. Umkhokha	23	7	6	10	33	41	-8	27
12. Barcelona F.C.	23	7	6	10	25	37	-12	27
13. Thuluzobona	23	4	7	12	26	43	-17	19
14. Killers	23	3	9	11	26	33	-7	18
15. Rangers	23	2	7	14	17	46	-29	13
16. Khulungwane	23	2	2	18	24	68	-44	8

Maphaleni West

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Early Sunset	17	9	5	3	26	9	17	32
2. Hill Stars	17	10	3	4	23	11	12	31
3. Love & Peace	17	10	4	3	27	16	11	31
4. Happy Fighters	17	9	5	3	41	23	18	30
5. Mighty Birds	17	9	2	6	28	15	13	29
6. Lunkanka	17	7	6	4	22	19	3	27
7. Rollers	17	7	3	7	25	24	1	24
8. L.Pirates	17	6	2	9	25	29	-4	20
9. Academy	17	5	4	8	29	38	-9	19
10. Sunrise	17	4	4	9	19	29	-10	16
11. J. United	17	3	4	10	16	36	-20	13
12. Siphambanweni	17	3	2	12	13	38	-25	11

Mandla Mahewu Mbabane Regional League

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Pine Valley	23	17	3	3	44	21	23	54
2. PMT	23	14	7	2	37	17	20	49
4. Thembelihle	23	12	4	7	34	27	7	40
3. Corporation	22	11	5	6	41	25	16	38
5. Mbabane Celtics	22	11	4	7	32	20	12	37
6. Amawele	23	9	8	6	35	26	9	35
7. Real Tec	23	9	7	7	33	31	2	34
8. Flying Stars	23	8	7	8	34	36	-2	31
9. White City	23	7	7	9	23	26	-3	30
11. Imbumba	23	7	7	9	36	34	2	28
10. FC Vaal Stars	23	7	6	10	35	36	-1	27
12. Sandia	23	6	8	9	25	30	-5	26
13. Royal Dynamos	23	5	7	11	30	36	-6	22
14. Veni	22	6	3	13	27	43	-16	21
15. Mpolonjeni	22	4	6	12	27	43	-16	18
16. National Rangers	23	2	8	13	23	45	-22	14

B. Division

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Mphalati	20	14	3	3	37	18	19	45
2. Arsenal	20	14	2	4	51	28	23	44
3. Double Action	19	13	3	3	49	20	29	42
4. Manzana	20	12	3	5	30	32	2	39
5. Lusoli	20	11	4	5	54	30	24	37
6. Freestyle	20	10	2	8	37	32	5	32
7. Junior Aces	20	8	6	6	43	29	14	30
8. Junction	20	7	5	8	37	39	-2	26

9. Darkies	20	7	4	9	51	45	6	25
10. Classic	20	7	4	9	46	52	-6	25
11. Mbabane united	20	5	3	12	32	49	-36	18
12. Wailers	20	4	3	13	31	58	-27	15
13. Never Die	19	3	3	13	26	50	-24	12
14. Movers	20	2	1	15	17	83	-68	7

Emaftombeni Mzimba Regional League

Promotion									
Position		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Cosmos	22	15	4	3	43	19	24	49
2	Rhumba	22	11	8	3	33	15	18	41
3	Timbungulu	22	13	5	4	40	20	20	44
4	Rangers	22	12	4	6	44	29	15	40
5	Arsenal	22	13	1	8	42	35	7	40
6	Pirates	22	10	9	3	32	19	13	39
7	Green Sea	22	10	7	5	37	24	13	37
8	Swallows	22	11	2	9	30	31	-1	35
9	Chiefs	22	9	5	8	22	27	-5	32
10	Kasiko	22	5	9	8	25	25	0	24
11	All Stars	22	6	10	28	33	-5	24	
12	Monaco	22	6	3	13	28	29	-1	22
13	Rebels	22	6	4	12	29	37	-8	22
14	Sundown's	22	6	2	14	22	37	-15	20
15	Bush Bucks	22	3	4	15	22	61	-39	13
16	Amacabane	22	2	3	17	16	55	-39	9

B. Division

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Top Centre	14	11	2	1	34	14	20	35
2. Rhinos	14	8	4	2	24	17	7	30
3. Highlanders	15	8	4	3	30	20	10	28
4. Black Mashuba	15	7	3	5	33	22	11	24
5. Tyson	12	4	3	5	24	19	5	15
6. Barcelona	15	3	5	7	22	26	-4	14
7. Driekopies	14	3	2	9	21	34	-13	11
8. Blue Birds	15	2	0	13	12	46	-34	6

Futis Nkhaba Regional League

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Shooting Stars	20	14	4	2	55	14	41	46
2. Majolini	21	12	6	3	41	21	20	42
3. Barcelona F.C.	21	13	3	5	40	22	18	42
4. Crocodiles	19	12	4	3	44	20	24	40
5. Nkoyoyo	21	12	3	6	32	21	11	38
6. Swazi Aces	21	9	6	7	35	32	3	33
7. Bafana	20	9	5	6	41	26	15	32
8. Super Stars	21	9	3	9	53	30	23	30
9. Mhlosheni	21	7	5	8	36	32	4	26
10. Loxion Lions	22	7	2	12	19	31	-12	23
11. Dribbling Stars	19	6	3	10	24	46	-22	21
12. Atletico	20	3	2	15	18	60	-42	14
13. Tycoons	20	4	1	15	18	51	-33	13
14. Marisburg	20	3	1	16	21	54	-33	12
15. Manyisa United	20	3	2	15	17	28	-11	11

Nfonjeni Mp Sompisi Promotional League

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Zibonele	23	16	5	2	48	14	34	53
2. Nkonjaneni	23	15	6	1	48	13	35	51
3. Trounge	23	14	4	5	56	14	42	49
4. Seven Up	23	15	3	5	35	22	10	49
5. Liverpool	22	13	4	5	44	14	30	43
6. Express	23	12	6	5	46	26	20	42
7. H. Pirates	22	9	7	5	28	23	5	34
8. United Aces	22	8	9	5	25	20	5	33
9. Royal Madrid	21	7	8	6	27	18	9	30
10. Black Stone	22	7	6	8	40	34	6	27
11. Mbabatane	22	4	7	10	28	46	-18	20
12. Chelsea F.C.	22	5	3	14	35	49	-14	18
13. Barcelona F.C.	20	3	3	13	17	53	-36	12
14. Hellenic	22	3	3	16	19	73	-54	12
15. Uprises	22	3	2	16	16	46	-30	11
16. Teenagers	23	1	0	22	12	83	-71	3

Buy Cash Pigg's Peak Football League

Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Khanjana Rovers	23	15	8	0	68	27	41	53
2. Pachanga	23	16	4	3	67	22	45	52
3. Citizen	22	13	7	2	52	21	31	46
4. Mhlatane United	23	12	6	5	54	20	34	42
5. Mhlo	23	11	5	7	46	47	-1	41
6. Phophonyane	21	13	1	7	51	36	15	40
7. Thuluzobona	23	11	6	6	38	24	14	40
8. Supersport	22	8	5	9	32	34	-2	3

MenEngage One-Day Tournament



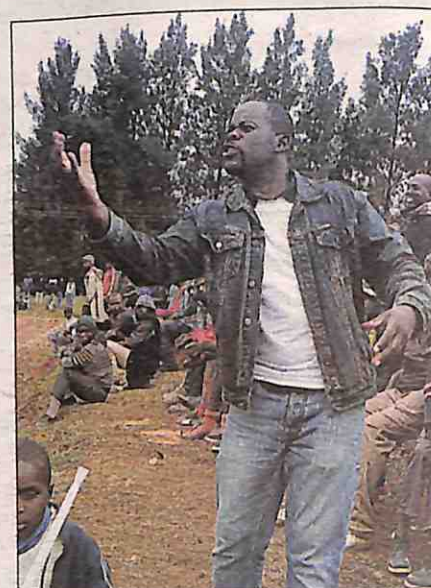
AT SIGANGENI SPORTS GROUND



THERE YOU GO: Burning Spear Captain receives their trophy as they were the eventual champions during the MenEngage One-day Knockout Tournament at Sigangeni sports ground. (Courtesy pics)



PROUD SPONSORS: Ntokozo Tsela (HRFA member) Sigangeni Chairperson, Gcinimuzi Mavimbela, Comfort Shongwe and MenEngage members.



INSTRUCTIONS: Burning Spear coach Sibusiso Motsa issues instructions to his players.



MVP: Best player from Burning Spear receives a handshake from MenEngage personnel.



CHAMPS: The Burning Spear being crowned the tournament champions.



GOOD JOB: Burning Spear Captain displays the soccer kit on his team's behalf from MenEngage Swaziland.



AMBASSADOR: MenEngage ambassador Mbabane Highlanders Xolani 'Chocco' Sibandze and HRFA Secretary General Nigel Shongwe meeting the players.



SECOND BEST: Runner-up Cannibals FC take a photo during the prize presentation.



NUTURING TALENT: Kupheleni FC Coach Konti Dube during proceedings.



THE BENCH: Real United bench led by Jacob Mamba.



PROGRAMME: Mbongeni Shongwe with Chocco & Sdumo Shongwe greeting the teams and presenting the programme.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS



KEEP IT UP: Willard Mkhwanazi receiving his prize from Captain Ronnie Mkhombe during the annual Club Championship competition prize presentation last weekend. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)

By Sabelo Majola

GOLF –THE annual Club Championship competition hosted by Mbabane Golf Club over the weekend with was a huge success.

A total of 46 golfers took part in the competition.

The tournament was sponsored by Real Image Internet to the tune of E22 400. The sponsorship has been running consecutively for the last two years. This is a closed tournament, where the club allows only its members to participate in honour of supporting the club over the years. The tournament had two divisions A and B. The A division was made up of golfers with handicap nine and below whilst the B division was made up of golfers with handicaps from 10 and above. Notable participants included veteran golfer Evert Madlopha, Albert Mhlanga, who is the current SGU president and relatively new and upcoming golfer Tim Nhleko (Swaziland Building Society MD).

Superb

The tournament was played under beautiful weather over the two days (Saturday and Sunday). The golf course was superb and characteristic of the top golf courses. Taking the champion's trophy home was Willard Mkhwanazi, who shot 147 gross. Vusi Dlamini from Futhi's took the best net in the A division with 139 net.

The on form Wandile 'DJ Ntombi' Ntombini took the 1st spot in the B division with the best gross score of 159. Upcoming and fast improving golfer Welcome Mhlanga took the best net with 138.

Out of the three ladies, who participated, Nokuthula Dlamini got the first spot in the ladies category with a gross score of 197 with Kate Ansley taking the best net on 162. Speaking on behalf of the sponsor, the captain Ronnie Mkhombe thanked the golfers for supporting Real Image Internet



GOOD JOB: Welcome Mhlanga receiving his prize for best net B Division.



WELL DONE: Wandile Ntombini was crowned best gross B Division.



HANDSHAKE: Vusi 'Futhi's' Dlamini gestures as he accepts his prize for best net A Division.



LADIES SECTION: Nokuthula Dlamini being awarded for best gross in the ladies category.

not only through participating in the tournament but also by using the company's services.

"We would like to forward our gratitude to golfers for their continued support to the spon-

sor and we urge you to maintain your loyalty," he said. He then announced that Real Image would be sponsoring the tournament again in 2017 to a large applaud from the golfers.

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Doc 7394

Ludzeludze Brothers face E10 000 fine

By Sanele Jele

SOCCKER - LUDZELUDZE Brothers face a E10 000 fine after a match was abandoned due to clash of colours in their kit with opponents Manchester United in their MTN National First Division League encounter on Saturday at the Rocklands Stadium.

Brothers will be charged according to article 4(14) of the MTN NFD rules for failing to produce an alternative kit after their colours clashed with those of the home side.

"Each registered club shall have two sets of contrasting uniforms, for home and away fixtures. The (home and Away) colours must be registered with the PLS office and adhered to by all clubs. In the case where colours clash, the away or visiting



NOT ME: PLS CEO John Mazibuko

club is required to change uniform. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the game being abandoned or called off and if the game does not play, the offending club shall be

brought before the DC. If found guilty, they shall be fined an amount of not less than E10 000 and further lose the match with three points and three goals to their opponents," reads the article.

PLS CEO John Mazibuko said he could not comment and referred this publication to Vilakati.

"The COO is the right person to comment on such issues which are under his office," he said. A source who was present at the stadium claims that the match could not take place because of the clashing kits and pitch was unmarked and it did not meet the playing standards. When reached for comment Premier League of Swaziland Chief Operation Officer (COO) Pat Vilakati's mobile phone was unavailable from the network. He was tried several times but the efforts were futile.

MenEngage sponsors Sigangeni soccer tournament

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCKER - FOUR Sigangeni Regional League teams were over the weekend treated to a one-day knockout tournament courtesy of MenEngage.

MenEngage is a Non-Governmental Organisation that seeks to engage men and boys to reduce gender inequalities and promote the health and well-being of women, men and children. The tournament was held at Sigangeni Sports ground on Saturday and only the top two teams from each stream were selected. These are Ekupheleni FC and Real United from the Northern stream while Burning Spear and Young Cannibals are from the Southern Stream. Burning Spear emerged victorious after defeating Ekupheleni in the finals.

Hhohho Regional Football Association Comfort Shongwe thanked ME for coming through and supporting the development of the sport in the country. "We are grateful to MenEngage for their

involvement in the development of football and we hope they will achieve their objectives through the sport."

About MenEngage

MenEngage is a global alliance committed to research, interventions, and policy initiatives that engage men and boys to reduce gender inequalities and promote the health and well-being of women, men, and children. The alliance includes several major international organisations as well as local and national groups with extensive experience in engaging men and boys in gender equality and the reduction of gender-based violence. The organising members of MenEngage include EngenderHealth, Instituto Promundo, Save the Children-Sweden, Sahayog, the Family Violence Prevention Fund, and the International Planned Parenthood Federation. The goal of MenEngage is to increase the number of men and boys reached by interventions that promote and engage them in gender equality and violence prevention.

Over 100 register for Ezulwini MTB

BY Sabelo Majola

CYCLING - OVER 100 local and international cyclists have already registered for the Essential Ezulwini MTB race scheduled for March 12.

This will be the first cycling competition in the year and it is sponsored by Out There Sports Events.

One of the organisers of the race Chadley Kelly said they were looking at having between 250 and 300 cyclists participating in the event,

which is one of the toughest cycling competitions.

"It is the first MTB race in the year and we are hoping for a good turnout. We assume cyclists will be on their best form knowing that this is one of the toughest races in the sport."

Chad said a large number of Mozambican cyclists have also registered for the event and they were expecting international cyclists from other countries to be part of the event.

"The Mozambican cyclists love the reputation of the event and they will be coming out in big numbers. We

REGISTRATION FEE

RACE	AGE	TIME	ENTRY FEE
60 km	17yr-60+	7.00am	E250
35 km	15yr-60+	8.00am	E200
18 km	14yr & under	8.15am	E120
10 km	10yr & under	8.30am	E100
2 km	5yr & under	8.40am	E50

also have cyclists from South African coming through as well. We hope local cyclists will rise to the occasion and fly the Swazi flag high."

Registration will close March 5.

Chad they will, however, accommodate cyclists who will register after the closing date at an added fee.

Macembe start second round on high note

By Sanele Jele

DARTS - MACEMBE started the SRIC Darts League on a high note when they beat RSP in their first game of the second round.

Macembe humiliated Royal Swaziland Police 21-2 in a one-sided match played on Saturday. They also went on to excel against Railway where they triumphed 20-3. The other games saw Ecco Water beat RSSC 13-10 while Manzini City Council 1 got the better of Mbabane City Council, winning 19-5. Swaziland National

Darts Association Secretary Phumlani 'Koffi' Ndwandwe said he was impressed with the standard displayed by the teams. "I was very happy with the performance of the different teams despite that they are from the festive season. This was their second game and it is good to note that they did not show some signs of rustiness. This means the league is becoming more competitive and that is what we want to see. The competition is very much healthy between Macembe, Ecco Water and Correctional," Ndwandwe said.

Fans speak on violence during games

SOCCKER - FOOTBALL fans have voiced out why they resort to violence during games.

Some of the fans interviewed at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday have come out to say that poor

referring and continuous poor results from their respective teams were the reason for their unruly behaviour.

Ndumiso Matsebula - Highlanders

"A win always make us happy as Highlanders fans.

We are very much hopeful that we will win the league because all the cups have eluded us, the league is a must win. We do not want to settle for less, we want the league. On why we resort to



violence, I believe mostly the referee are culprits here otherwise we would accept fair results."

Mavela Mhlanga - Malanti Chiefs

"I am very happy with a draw; although we wanted to prove Wanderers that we are better than them.

They should thank their gods for the late equaliser. On Malanti being relegated and winning SwaziBank Cup, I believe we won't be relegated and will win the SwaziBank. As for us we don't resort to vio-



lence but we accept results as they are."



Mkhuleko Maziya - Mbabane Highlanders

"I was not shaken when Red Lions scored the first goal; I knew we would win this match.

The team is always expected to win against team like Red Lions. This is not to undermine Red Lions but it's only that we are a bigger team than them. When we lose such games, we then become violent which is not good for football. We want Highlander to win the league this season and if they don't, then we will have a problem as fans. Sometime our expectations lead us to violence.

Lucy Nkambule - Wanderers

"We turn to violence mainly because of the degrading standard of refereeing.

For example, we get angry when referees fail to make spot on decisions.

Some of the wrong decisions cost the teams and we don't like that because the referees get away with that as nothing is done to them. It's really hard to accept bad results but again we must also learn to be patient as fans. Violence is bad, that we know and it's only that sometimes the decisions are unbearable.



Nondumiso Fakudze - Wanderers

"I was expecting a win today but unfortunately we could not win. We played very well but failed to score the much needed goals.

This is one of the reasons why we resort to violence when our teams do not live up to our expectations.

This is wrong we know that but sometimes it becomes too much. I think we have to be patient as fans as violence is not the way to go."



MTN LEAGUE GAMES CONTINUE THIS WEEKEND

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER - THE Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) presents exciting MTN Premier League games this weekend with capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders taking on hub giants Manzini Wanderers at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday.

The fixture released by the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) shows that there will be three double headers this weekend, starting on Friday.

All games this weekend have been scheduled for Somhlolo National Stadium.

On Friday, Miday City and Red Lions will host relegation threatened Malanti Chiefs and Young Buffaloes, respectively.

On Saturday, Green Mamba will lock horns with Manzini Sundowns



THE BEAT GOES ON: Somhlolo National Stadium.

at 1:30pm while Mbabane Swallows Highlanders have a date with Bad Boys at 3:30pm

Champions

Log leaders and defending champions Royal Leopard host Sea Birds while hub giants Manzini Wanderers visit Mbabane Highlanders in some of the exciting

matches.

PLS Chief Executive Officer (CEO) John Mazibuko said all the teams would be in action this weekend.

"The fixture has been confirmed and released, as the teams will be battling this weekend," Mazibuko said.

THE FIXTURE:

Friday at Somhlolo National Stadium

Miday City	vs	Malanti Chiefs	6:30pm
Red Lions	vs	Young Buffaloes	8:30pm

Saturday at Somhlolo National Stadium

Green Mamba	vs	Manzini Sundowns	2pm
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Sunday at Somhlolo National Stadium

Mbabane Swallows	vs	Bad Boys	4pm
Royal Leopard	vs	Sea Birds	1:30pm
Mbabane Highlanders	vs	Manzini Wanderers	6:30pm



BOOST: Tony 'TT' Tsabedze and Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza

'Tony', 'Nkomishi' boost for Birds ahead of Bad Boys clash

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER - MBABANE Swallows will be boosted by the return of goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza and Tony 'TT' Tsabedze when they take on Bad Boys in an MTN Premier League encounter this weekend.

Swallows face a date with the 'Bad Company' on Saturday at Somhlolo National Stadium. This was confirmed by Mbabane Swallows CEO Sibusiso Manana yesterday, who said both players would be ready for selection this weekend. "Tony" was on the bench when we played against A.P.R in Rwanda in the CAF Champions League second leg match where we lost 1-4. He has fully recovered and ready to play again." He said 'TT' had been training with the rest of the team. 'Nkomishi' was red carded in our match against Highlanders and will be back with the team this weekend.

"He will serve in the match

against Green Mamba tonight (yesterday)." Manana said the two players would have to fight for a starting place. "They have to fight for the starting eleven as you know Swallows is a big team with a lot of good players."

The CEO said they had put behind the loss against APR and their main focus now was now on local competition.

Injury

Tsabedze has been on the sidelines for almost six weeks due to ankle injury while 'Nkomishi' received a straight red card in the SwaziBank Cup last 16 match clash against Mbabane Highlanders at Somhlolo National Stadium. 'TT' as Tsabedze is affectionately known has been missing in action and his return will be welcome by the team's supporters, who have been itching for his comeback. Manana said they were happy with the return of both players as they would add the necessary depth in the team seeing that the league had reached the crucial stage where they wanted to win every match.



SURVIVAL: Bad Boys FC.

WE WILL SURVIVE RELEGATION - BAD BOYS BOSS

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - NEWCOMERS Bad Boys boss Sifiso Shongwe is confident the team will survive relegation at the end of the current campaign.

Shongwe said they were now treating each game as a cup final. "We have to win all the remaining four games in the MTN Premier League in order to survive the dreaded axe."

The team is currently sitting on position 11 with 15 points after 17 games. Shongwe said they would have to double their effort in the remaining games.

"I am positive we will survive the axe by winning the remaining games. Our position on the log is not good and we really have to improve." He said they would surprise many by winning all their remaining games, starting with the

game against Mbabane Swallows. When asked about what led to their slump during the course of the season, Shongwe said they got complacent during the course of the league which saw them losing 10 games.

Mission

"We have met as a team and looked at ways on how to approach the remaining games where we will be all to fulfil our mission of avoiding relegation at the end of the season. Everyone in the team has promised to work hard to ensure that the team remains in the premier league next season," Shongwe said.

The 'Bad Company' was also knocked out in the round of 32 stage of the SwaziBank Cup by Lubombo Super League side CPL FC. Bad Boys started well in the league beating big team hence they got the 'giant slayers' tag.

FA targeting one international friendly match before Zim clash

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - THE National Football Association (NFAS) is looking to stage one preparatory match for Sihlangu before they take on Zimbabwe in the AFCON 2017 qualifier.

This match will be played at Somhlolo National Stadium in March 26. FA CEO Frederick Mngometulu said they were still organising one international friendly match for the nation's pride before taking on the 'Warriors'.

"We are planning to have one practise match for Sihlangu during their 10-day full time camp which will be on March 14 until the day of the match. We are looking for a competitive opponent that will give us a good practise ahead of

the next match."

He said they wanted the players to be ready for the Zimbabwe clash.

"We are still determined to qualify for the first ever AFCON finals which is our priority as a country and we will do our level best to ensure that we achieve that," he said. The Harries 'Madze' Bulunga -led side are currently leading the chasing pack in Group L with four points after two matches.

Support

The return leg will be played three days later in Harare, Zimbabwe.

On another note, the FA has congratulated new FIFA President Gianni Infantino, who was elected as the head of the world football governing mother body last Friday.

Mngometulu said they would fully support the president in his five-year term of office.

"We would congratulate President Infantino for being appointed the new FIFA boss and we will work with him in developing football. We are confident that he will take the sport in the right direction as his appointment has ended the drama which had engulfed world football."

He said they had so much confidence in Infantino. "We hope he will work hard in ensuring that football develop at an equal rate in all the respective continents and further introduce new development programs." The former UEFA Secretary has replaced the long serving Joseph Sepp Blatter, who stepped down from his position as he is currently serving a six-year ban from football activities which he was handed by the FIFA ethics Committee about two months ago together with UEFA President Michel Platini from France.

OUSMANE TOURE HOPES FOR TOP 8 FINISH

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER - MANZINI Wanderers defender Ousmane Toure says they are hoping for a top eight finish in the MTN Premier League.

He made these remarks after helping his team earn a point against Malanti Chiefs at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday as the match ended in a 2-all draw. "We did not to play our normal game as a team; we could have won the match but missed a number of scoring opportunities. The

point was, however, vital for us as we are now target a top eight finish at the end of the season," he said. The Malian defender said they would not go back to the drawing board to work on their mistakes. "We conceded silly goals and also have to work on our concentration. We are starting to play better as a team and I am personally happy with our progress."

Toure was he was happy to score the equalising goal. "My aim is to score more goals for the team and I am looking forward to helping the team in the remaining games." Wanderers'

defensive midfielder Thulani Dlamini shared the same sentiments. "We committed silly mistakes at the back and got punished. We wanted to beat Malanti Chiefs and get our revenge as they booted us out of the SwaziBank Cup. We had to win this match at all cost especially for our die-hard supporters but it was not to be as we settled for a draw." He said they would take each game at a time as they were looking at improving on the log standings. Wanderers are sitting on position eight with 19 points after 17 games.

Fatigued 'Birds' turn the tide to draw against Mamba

By Sabelo Majola

Mbabane Swallows..... (0)2
Green Mamba..... (2)2

SOCCER - AFTER declaring that they are not worried about fatigue, an obviously exhausted Mbabane Swallows conceded two first half goals before hitting back to force a 2-2 draw against Green Mamba in an MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium last night.

Swallows returned into the country on Monday morning from Rwanda, where they lost 1-4 against APR in the CAF Champions League second leg match and declared readiness for the Mamba clash but showed signs of fatigue in the match.

The Correctional Services side started the match on a high as they took advantage of the tired 'Birds' players to score two quick goals within three minutes.

A first-half goal by Njabulo Thwala in the 10th minute gave the visitors a lead as they dictated terms for the better part of the opening minutes.

He received a pass from Phumlani Ngwenya to beat goalkeeper Ntokozo Shabangu between the Swallows poles.

Green Mamba were back again three minutes later with striker Phinnda 'Phidrix' Dlamini scoring their second goal.

Shot

He blasted a hard shot from inside the box to give his team a 2-0 lead, beating Shabangu hands down.

Swallows resorted to playing long balls but Mamba were up to the challenge as they were a better team physically in the first half.

The match went to break with Mamba having a 2-0 advantage. Swallows came back recharged in the second half after the introduction of Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko, who came in for Tumelo Ramotsibi.

The match continued with Swallows piling pressure as they added numbers forward but the Mamba back line defended well.

'Samba Jive' and Felix Badenhorst combined well as they would now and again visit the final third but failed to get the needed goals.

Their efforts were finally rewarded through an own goal by Zimbabwean midfielder Sande Blessing which halved the deficit in the 80th minute.

The 'Birds' demonstrated the fighting spirit they are famed for by wresting control as the match progressed and scoring twice within 10 minutes.

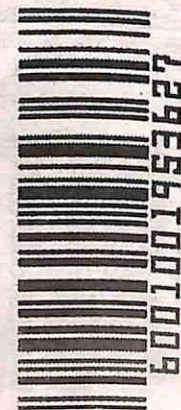
Substitute Sandile Hlatjwako scored the equalising goal in the 82nd minute to bring the clubs level after coming in for Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze.

Swallows were on fire in the last stage of the match as they searched for a winning goal but they missed a number of scoring opportunities before the referee blew the final whistle.

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'WESLIANS' FORFEIT MATCH TO MALANTI

- Slapped with E33 500 fine
- Ordered to pay amount within 21 days
- Malanti will play against Tambuti in the SwaziBank Cup quarterfinals

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - HUB giants Manzini Wanderers have been found guilty as charged by the National Football Association (NFA) Disciplinary Committee for the SwaziBank Cup mayhem against Malanti Chiefs at Somhlolo National Stadium two weeks ago.

The maroon and white outfit will forfeit the match to Malanti and further pay E33 500 in fines after being found guilty on three counts for the abandonment of the match with about three min-

utes remaining on that fateful Saturday.

Heading the FA DC was Muzi Simelane whilst Wanderers were represented by Zakhele Dlamini of TZD Sports Management during a hearing last night at the Sigwaca House.

The team was charged and found guilty in three combined counts which are under article 8 (1) of the SwaziBank Cup 2016 Cup rules and regulations.

The team was found guilty for causing the abandonment of the match, uttering abusive or obscene or derogatory words at a

person and failure to control their supporters which also carries a E20 000 combined fine.

The 2015 SwaziBank Cup runners-up were further slapped with a E5 500 fine for threatening by action or words to assault the referee (Leticia Vienna) and a E3 000 fine for throwing objects of any kind onto the field.

Wanderers through their lawyer Zakhele Dlamini pleaded guilty to all the three counts.

Ordered

In the verdict delivered to the team yesterday, the Manzini giants were ordered to pay the E33 500 fine in 21 days.

Wanderers Public Relations Officer Sandile 'Ntofo' Dlamini, who was also present during the hearing, confirmed the verdict.

"We have received the verdict of the incident which took place

during our SwaziBank Cup match against Malanti Chiefs and we are still going to sit down as a team and discuss ways on how we can avoid such occurrences in future. Internal investigations are still ongoing to try find out what transpired on that day. We will soon be educating our supporters on conduct during games."

Malanti were leading 2-1 when the match was stopped by the referee.

Wanderers Boss Bheki Shongwe has also apologised to the entire local football fraternity and the nation following the mayhem.

Malanti Chiefs will now face current National First Division log leaders Tambuti in the quarterfinals of the SwaziBank Cup - 'Sidlala kanje'.

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