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AUGUST 7, 2016

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BUSINESSMAN'S DAUGHTER WALKS FROM MBABANE TO CROYDON **PAGE 6**



Swaziland-based Egyptian Businessman Amr Elshimi, who is an interior designer making his submission at Sibaya yesterday with the assistance of Jabulani Nxumalo, who was interpreting. This was during day 3 of the Sibaya, which continues tomorrow. INSET - King's Office Legal Advisor David Millin who told Sibaya of TUCOSWA lies. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

TUCOSWA LIED TO ILO, SIBAYA TOLD

Told the International body that workers were arrested and jailed willy-nilly in the country **STORY ON PAGE 2**

STUDENTS FALLING PREY TO 'BLESSERS'

Page 3



DAVID KAU THRILLS AT CONVENTION CENTRE

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SundayObserver Scene



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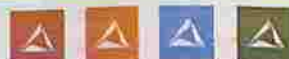


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CLARIFICATION

TUCOSWA LIED

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) lied about the country at the International Labour Organisation Conference a month ago.

They are said to have told the International body that workers were arrested and jailed in the country.

This accusation was made known by David Millin who is the Legal Advisor in the King's Office when making his submission yesterday during the People's Parliament at Ludzidzini.

Millin was part of the delegation that went to Geneva in June to plead the country's cause, as at the time it was on the Special Paragraph, and it is at this conference that they got to know of the allegations by the union, which were followed by investigations.

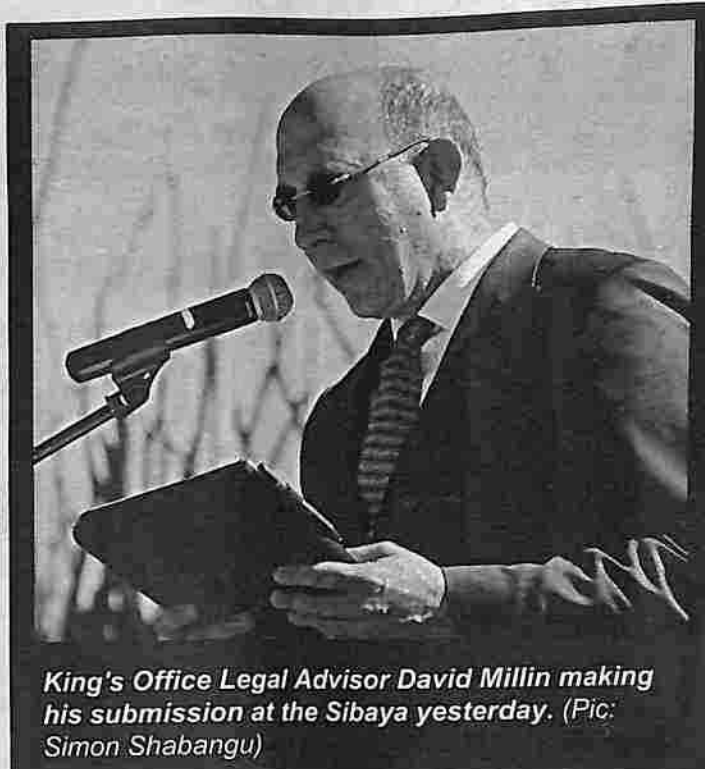
Jail

He said the investigations found that none of this had happened.

"Those allegedly in prisons were found to have been found guilty by courts for serious crimes; such as bombings and perpetuating violence in the country, and no workers had been jailed as reported by the union," said the legal advisor.

Millin also stated if the country had been found guilty of infringing the workers' rights, it would have been placed on the Special Paragraph.

This was said to be an effort by the trade union to see the country remain in this 'island,' as they lobbied workers, from other countries, to join them in their campaign to strangle the country. Instead, Millin said only the efforts by government officials came out victorious after successfully fighting and objecting all the submissions made by the trade union about the country.



King's Office Legal Advisor David Millin making his submission at the Sibaya yesterday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

He said, "We managed to dispute all these, giving clearly explanations to all their submissions, as well as the great strides made by the country in amending the legislatures, which had been outlined by the ILO."

Jobs

It is said the delegation further pointed out that there was no need for the country to remain in the Special Paragraph because it needed to fully partake in ILO in order to bring jobs.

As a result of these explanations, Millin said it turned out that ILO was not against the country, instead it was stated they would continue to support the country both financially and with expertise. In addition, he made it know that ILO was in fact, against any form of violence, be it burning farms, fighting the police and closing roads in protest. He said the only thing that was left for the country to do was the amendment to the remaining legislatures in the parliament to ensure it had addressed all the benchmarks

highlighted. Millin pointed out that it was however important that, "Anyone leaving the country to represent it in the International world be given a clear mandate on what to say to make sure that only the truth was told to the world, concerning what was happening in the kingdom." Moreover, he revealed that despite the efforts to paint a bad picture about the country, it was known for being peaceful, friendly, as well as for being one of the best producers in the world in handicrafts, agricultural produce amongst other produces.

Report

Further, he said countries in the world competed for trade to such an extent that some even lied about producing the best produces, even when they were not, because trade helped in creating jobs in a country.

He added that during the conference, some lobbied workers to represent Swaziland in the worst possible light through false assertions about the kingdom.

This comes a day after the trade union was reported by our sister publication, the Observer on Saturday for having refused to present their report at the People's Parliament on Friday.

It was reported that they had been asked by authorities who had invited all the delegates who went to Geneva, but TUCOSWA refused before leaving the Royal Residence after a briefing by the Prime Minister, Dr. Sibusiso Barnabas Dlamini and his Deputy in Paul Dlamini.

The country's delegation to the ILO Conference was led by the Minister of Labour and Social Security, Winnie Magagula, comprising of TUCOSWA President Quinton Dlamini, TUCOSWA Secretary General Vincent Ncongwane, FESWATU President Mashumi Shongwe, Jabulani Nxumalo and FSE/CC CEO Bonsile Ntando.

As the country had been given five benchmarks to follow before the admission back to the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA), there have been successful efforts to amend three out of the five.

Terrorism

Now, the outstanding legislatures are the amendment of the Public Order Act, which now awaits parliament's submissions on it, together with the Suppression of Terrorism Act.

Briefly, the Public Order Act is expected to be brought in line with the ILO standards, while the Suppression of Terrorism Act was expected to narrow the scope of the definition of 'terrorist act,' bringing it in line with international practice. Meanwhile, the union declined the invitation to make its presentation during Day 2 of Sibaya, with its leadership claiming that they could not make submissions as unions at Sibaya, but as individual Swazi nationals as their membership had not sent them.

Jabulani, Mashumi praised

In efforts to remove the country from the Special Paragraph, the Federation of Swaziland Trade Unions, through Mashumi Shongwe and Jabulani Nxumalo, were praised for standing up for the country despite TUCOSWA calling for the opposite.

This statement was made known by Minister Magagula, both during her submissions at the People's Parliament and in parliament when she told legislators how the two lobbied against the inclusion of Swaziland in a Special Paragraph.

Apart from this, the two has previously been criticised by the trade union, accusing them of being government's 'puppets,' to such an extent that they alleged

their trip to Geneva last year had been funded by the state to win them to their side.

Making his submission yesterday, Nxumalo said they were shocked when the country lost AGOA, to such an extent that they decided to attend the Conference to find out why the country was going through such. He said they were questioned how the issue concerned them with efforts to stop them from attending the meeting.

"Siphindze sabuyela Emuva satikhuthuza sangasebentisi imali yahlumende, bavimbe nalaba njengakucala babute kutsi sifunani ngoba sitimpimpi funa sivinjwe ngaNkulunkulu ke sagcina sikhonile kungena," said Nxumalo.

Another day, another hit at PM

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Yet another brave man has spoken out about the Prime Minister Sibusiso at the Sibaya meeting which entered day three yesterday.

The man who was among the first speakers said as far as he was concerned, the Swazi culture called for a person who was in mourning to be away from the public eye for some time and not be seen leading the nation.

Although the man did not mention any names, the people were heard shouting some statements in reference to the head of government. "Sati kutsi ngesiSwati umfelokati ukese kati kuphuma hlay kutsi ubonakala solo aholo live," he said. The Prime Minister lost his

wife Jane in 2012, and re-married Pastor Joy in 2014 although they are currently going through divorce. One man was booed at the Sibaya when he requested the media not to report on the Premier's divorce such that he did not even get the opportunity to finish his statement.

Khula Mkhabela spoke in riddles when he said to His Majesty "kunendvodza lehleli emnyeleni, ngabe Silo Sikhulu ngu Sidzikadzika, ngabe ngubhabuli, ngabe ngumkhulu loshiwo ngulenze indvodza? Lendvodza iyabukela tinkhabi tilima, wena Silo Sikhulu uhleli ubambe likhuba ugwele intfuli," he said.

The gathering clearly understood what Mkhabela was saying as they gave a big round of applause to his statement.

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The nation came in their numbers as they listened to submissions from Sibaya.

SIBAYA ENTERS DAY 4 TOMORROW

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The Ingwenyama has roared and told the nation that the people's parliament, Sibaya will enter day four tomorrow.

The Sibaya which entered day three yesterday was packed with people from all walks of life who all wanted an opportunity to speak before His Majesty King Mswati III as invited by him on Wednesday.

Acting Ludzidzini Governor Timothy Velabo Mtetwa, commonly known as TV, informed the gathering that 'emakhosi' had noted that there were still a number of concerns that were being raised by the people hence the people's parliament would continue tomorrow.

Victims

It is uncertain when the Sibaya will come to a close yet, as those who have been speculating have been proven wrong twice since it started.

The last time was held in 2013 it when Sibaya went in to day 5 before it

was dispersed by His Majesty.

The third day of Sibaya was no different like the two days where Swazis used the opportunity to address a variety of issues, ranging from their personal issues, problems in their communities, to issues which they believed were of national importance.

Abuse

Worth noting is that more and more woman are taking the opportunity to speak, although a majority of them were speaking about their personal problems.

Others spoke of how they were evicted on their land by distant family members while others spoke about being victims of abuse.

Tobhi Mbingo from KoNtshingila was emotional when she told the King how she was evicted out of her own home and fell victim to abuse from a family member, who also took most of her belongings.

One woman stunned the gathering when she returned to the microphone hardly a day after first making her submission and asking for financial

assistance.

What stunned the people however was that the woman confessed how three people had offered her cash the previous day after hearing her speak, but she went on to say she needed more assistance.

"When I left here yesterday I met one man by the gate who gave me some cash and another one also asked me if I was the same woman who had asked for assistance and gave me more cash.

Again when I was coming in today another man gave me some cash and I am very grateful to Swazis for their kindness.

However, I am in need of more assistance to build a house and would like to ask Mr Bennett to give me some milk," she said.

The woman was cut off however before she could finish her statement. Indvuna TV cautioned the woman saying a number of people wanted the opportunity to speak and she had already got her opportunity to speak the previous day.

University students falling prey to blessers

University students did not want to be left out from making their submissions at the people's parliament, Sibaya.

This was during the third day of the Sibaya meeting as summoned by Ingwenyama on Wednesday. At least two university students made submissions complaining about the late release of scholarships in government sponsored tertiary institutions in the country, saying this left the female students vulnerable to preying old man commonly known as 'blessers'. Ndumiso Nkambule, a student at the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) Luyengo Campus, requested the gov-

ernment to look into ensuring that the scholarship allowances were released on time.

"It is very saddening that students at the university are offered scholarships and yet they have to wait many weeks for the money to be released, sometimes at the end of the semester when we are about to close. What is most painful is that these students leave home with nothing to get a good education and they have no source of income," he said.

Another student from the same campus Lindelo Ngwenya who also touched on the same thing said students spent those weeks running

from their landlords as they had no money to pay them, making sure to leave the house as early as 4am and only coming back after 11pm. Both the students said the female students were more vulnerable to the sugar daddies who offered them money in exchange for sexual favours and this ruined their futures in the long run. "Bayaphela bantfwana bakho Silo Sikhulu, tifo tiyandza langephandle," added Nkambule.

They pleaded with the ministry of labour and social security to look into how they could ensure that allowances reached students on time to avoid this from happening.

Baby mama reports Social Welfare department to King

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The Manzini Social Welfare department was yesterday reported to His Majesty King Mswati III by Nelisiwe Sisana Khumalo from Ludzidzini.

This was during the ongoing People's Parliament which was commissioned by the King in the past week calling for people to open up about issues bothering

them.

Khumalo asserted that it had since become a challenge to get children's maintenance money from this department despite that it had been taken from the children's fathers.

"Sinenkinga lenkhulu silo sikhulu kutsi isuke seyishonephi lemali umasekutsiwa kute imali. Bekufanele siyitfole mhlaka 6 kuJuly kwasimangalisa kutsi sitawentanjani masekutsiwa kute lemali kani sati kutsi siyitfole

khona," she said.

She added that this was confusing to them more-so because they have not heard that the children's fathers had not been paid but at the department they were told there was no money.

Khumalo said they were told it would be available on July, 13 and when they went to collect the cheques on that day they were given cheques for the previous month as the current ones were held at the Treasury

Department. Therefore, she said there was a problem with the officers at the department and they were unhappy about this as 'baby mamas' because they need the money since it never reached their hands.

With that said, she then suggested that they should be given the money on the same month they receive it from the children's fathers to avoid the temptation of using the money before the day it is given to them.

'Emaswati lakhanyako' attend Sibaya

Indvuna TV Mtetwa had many people in stitches at the Sibaya

yesterday when he referred to white men who were making submissions as 'Emaswati Lakhanyako,' loosely translated as light skinned Swazis.

The first of these 'light skinned' Swazis to make a submission was King's Office Legal Advisor David Millin who was giving a report on the trip to Geneva for the International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference.

Shortly after lunch Indvuna TV introduced businessman Amr Elshimi who is an interior designer.



Businessman Amr Elshimi was among those who spoke during the day.

The Swazi businessman who originally hails from Egypt questioned why Swaziland could not emulate Japan as they also did not have any mineral resources yet their economy was doing well.

He said it started with

the people in the country to commit themselves fully to working hard and this could eventually improve the economy of the country.

BRIEFS AT SIBAYA DAY 3

• 'NO CHIEF THE SECOND HERE'

Acting Ludzidzini Governor TV Mtetwa yesterday warned the public against referring to chiefs as second or third chiefs. Indvuna, after receiving a directive, made an example saying it was wrong to say Chief Makhosikhosi II, or any other chief.

He said it was unfortunate that this growing trend had to be corrected by 'Bukhosi' while they were monitoring the proceedings and had not picked up on it. "Sekuze kukhuta emakhosi sikhona sibukile. Akushiwo kutsi Chief Makhosikhosi wesibili, ngyabekisa. Nangabe uvusa Makhosikhosi uba ngu Chief Makhosikhosi nje kuphela," he said.

• IMBALI THANKS KING FOR SNEAKERS

A member of the Imbali regiment took the opportunity to thank His Majesty King Mswati III for always making sure that

maidens from all walks of life looked uniform when they attended the reed dance.

Nontokoza Mamba said this was a great gesture by the Ingwenyama as the reed dance brought together girls from different backgrounds, some very poor and yet the sneakers made them all look uniform. She further thanked Inkhosatana Sikhanyiso for being a role model to girls around the country.

• WOMEN REPORT OF JOBS SCAMS IN FORCES

One of the issues that were raised more than once at the Sibaya, mostly by women, was how jobs at the security forces were for sale.

One of these women who spoke strongly about this was Philile Simelane who said she was told point blank that she would not make it in the force because she was a woman. "They said the only alternative for me was to pay money or come with a relative or friend who is related to royalty," she said.

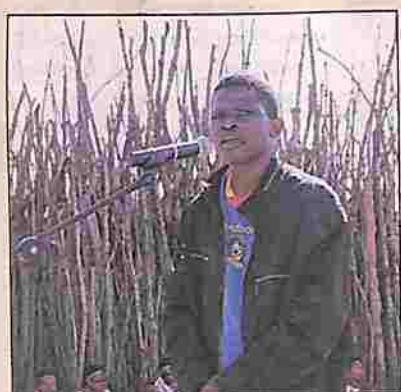


Nelisiwe Sisana Khumalo.

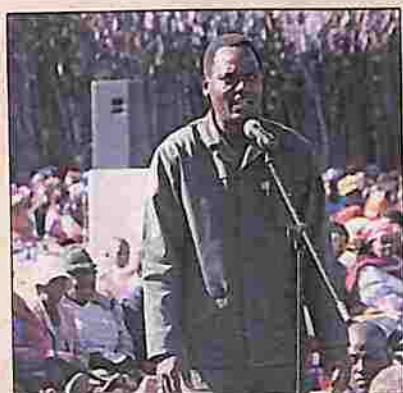


Wille Dlamini made his submission during the third day of the People's Parliament at Ludzidzini Royal Residence yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

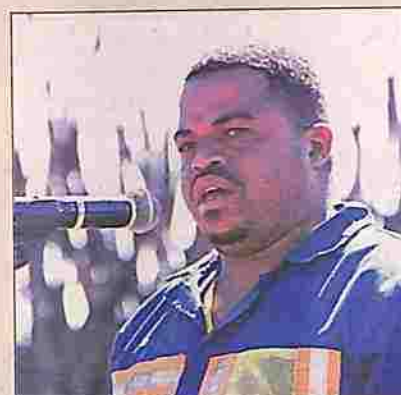
HAVING THEIR SAY



Austine Sihlongonyane.



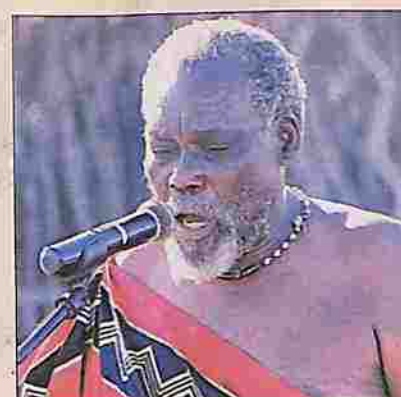
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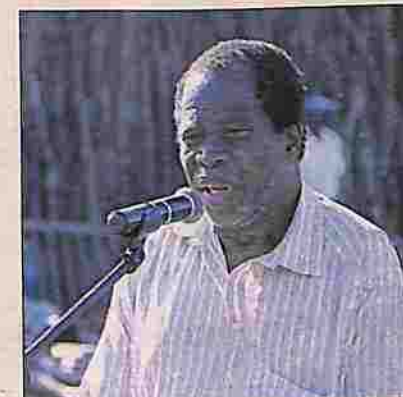
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Jabulani Nxumalo.



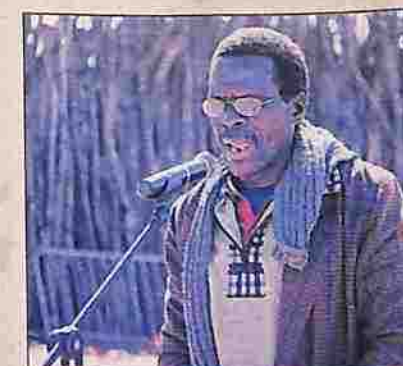
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Khanyakwezwe Dlamini.



Khetsiwe Dlamini.

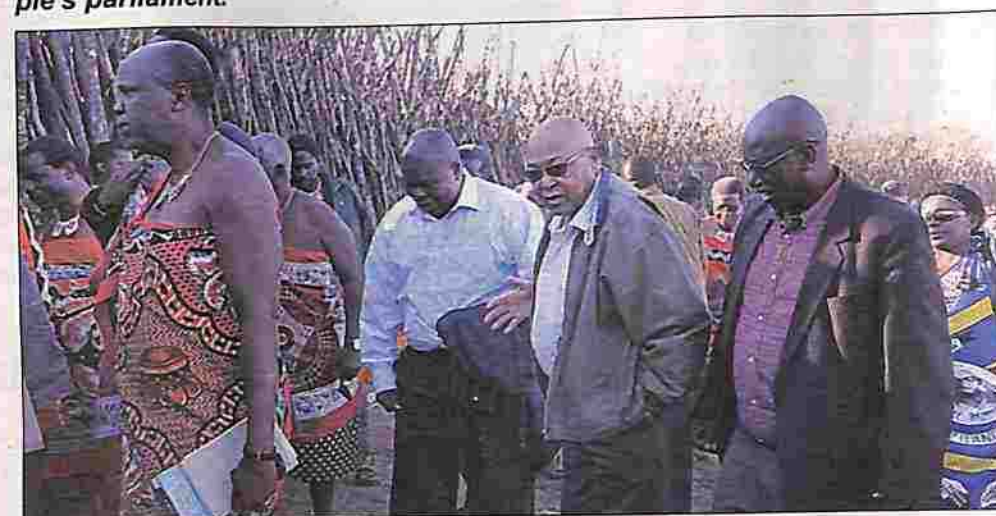


Mbusiseni Mthethwa.

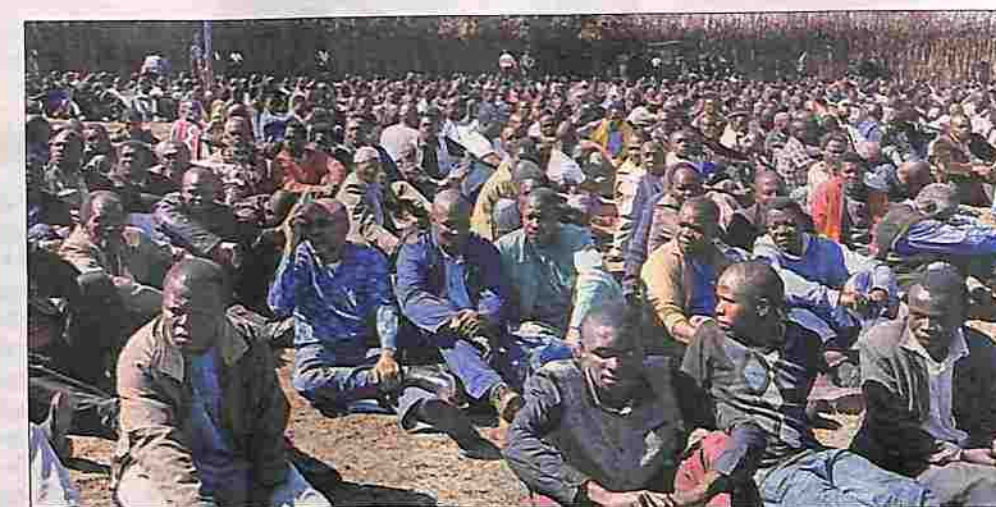
SIBAYA



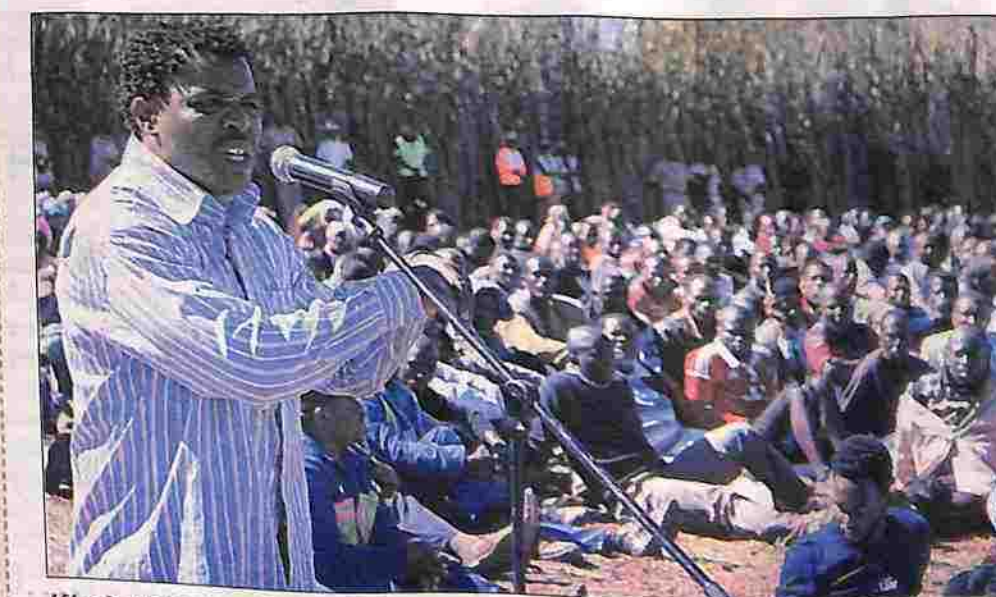
Emazinyane also came out to listen to what the people said during the people's parliament.



Prince Bukhosi, Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala, Minister Edgar Hillary and Land Management Board member and Businessman Justice Nxumalo leaving Sibaya after the day's activities.



Walter Bennett among the public as they listened to the submissions from Sibaya.



Khula Mkhabela stresses a point during his submission.

DAY 3



Professor Frances Whelpton (second from left) was among those in attendance at Sibaya yesterday.



Swaziland-based Egyptian Businessman Amri Alraise in conversation with Prince Masitsela after the day's activities.



Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze in conversation with King's Office Director of Legal Affairs Ntsika Fakudze and Chief Officer Dr Vincent Mhlanga.



Chiefs from different areas Mkhumbi Dlamini, Scunusa Dlamini, Ngome Ndlangamandla and Senator Prince Kusa listening to the people's submissions.



Khetsiwe Gama from Dlangeni making her submission.



MATSAPHA
Municipality

2016 YOUTH PARLIAMENT PRESS RELEASE

Youth Parliament to be hosted on International Youth Day

...This year's theme is 'The Road To 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Production and Consumption.'



MBABANE - The Matsapha Municipality, Ministry of Education and Training and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) will host the Youth Parliament next week.

The event, which has now become an annual activity, will be held on Friday 12th August 2016 at Esibayeni lodge, starting at 8.30am. This is the same day as the International Youth Day.

According to a press release issued by the organizers, participating will be students picked from 50 schools from the four regions of Swaziland. The students will be in camp for the week and undergo trainings to prepare them for the big day. The theme for the event is "The Road To 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Production and Consumption."

The youth Parliament is a forum where the young people engaged leaders and decision makers with the view of teaching them that they too are a meaningful voice in the crafting of their future.

The purpose of the event is to give young people the opportunity to have their views heard by key decision-makers and the general public. The forum affords young people to understand and actively participate in parliamentary processes, and it triggers a clear understanding of the parliamentary process.

The young people are also able to learn how to influence governmental decision-making as active citizens highlight the importance of helping young people to understand how decisions are made and how young people can be involved in influencing their worlds.

In participating the young people understand clearly what goes on in the government and the forum will give them the opportunity to express their views and opinions to politicians, the government officials, the public, and Non-Governmental Organizations. The forum will also afford them the opportunity to influence development projects, especially those that affect their interests.



Youth Parliament sessions are an effective way of gathering views on the gaps that exist in legislation. There is no panacea to youth problems, but meaningful youth participation is critical.

Real, full and effective participation of the young persons in policy formulations, implementation, monitoring and evaluation is vital. It is through for such as the youth Parliament that Governments do discover the interests and aspirations of the youth. Once put in place by an Act of Parliament the youth Parliaments could be a direct way by the young people to participate in the democratic processes of the country.

This therefore calls for deeper levels of engagement between the youth and their Governments hence the idea of youth Parliaments is an excellent one. As a result the Matsapha Municipality in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) will be hosting the youth parliament.

International Youth Day focuses on the rights of these young people to have full access to education, adequate healthcare, employment opportunities, financial services and full participation in public life. In a climate of economic uncertainty, it is all the more important for countries to invest in opportunities for their youth to learn, earn and grow so that the common future lies in good hands.

In 1985, the World Program of Action for Youth was set up to define a policy framework and guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people. It is just one of the many extensive efforts of the United Nations to help member states reach out to their youth. Along with ensuring their rights, an equally important goal of IYD is to shape the youth not just as a passive beneficiary of development efforts, but as a force for positive social change.

They are a source of innovation, creativity, energy and foresight, and member states must use all means possible to foster and harness the power of the youth.

SIBAYA DAY 3

WOMEN REBUKED FOR CRYING, NAME DROPPING AT SIBAYA

STORIED BY MLONDI MPANZA

Ludzizini Governor, Timothy Velabo Mtetwa had a tough time controlling women who could not hold their emotions during the ongoing People's Parliament.

Most women, given the opportunity to make submissions, were overcome by emotions as they poured out issues that were bothering them during the third day of Sibaya.

The governor, popularly known as 'TV' had to call the women to order every now and again, as they either cried and shed tears or dropped names of people who were not treating them well inside the cattle byre – something which was said to be against the country's culture.

As a result, TV took the opportunity before the lunch break to point out that this was not allowed inside the cattle byre.

He said, "Akulaleleke bakaNgwane naku lokungakatayekeki, akukhalwa lasibayeni. Azange sekuke kwenteke nalaba labahlaba inyandzaleyo lapha esibayeni. Umuntfu usuke asuka lena laphetfwe Khona, abengakhali ngani Khona atokhala lana? Nemagama ebantfu labese ayagagulwa lana, akwentiwa loko."

One of the women who visibly cried during their submissions is Tenele Nkambule, from Matsanjeni, who told her sad story of how, together with his mentally ill sister they have been the subject of abuse by their uncle.

Referring to the uncle as an 'enemy,' she alleged her uncle forged her mother's death certificate with police from Lavumisa Police Station which he used to claim money that belonged to their parent.

"Malume wabambisana nemaphoyisa akaLavumisa wakha sitifiketi, nangitsi ngiyobika kwatsiwa make ufile wabuya malume watsatsa konkhe babe lakusebenta waphindze wadlwengula sisi wami lowakhubateka ngengcondvo," said the emotional young woman.

She said she has been to every office seeking for assistance, revealing that she even had evidence of cash withdrawals made by the uncle claiming their mother had passed on yet she was alive.

Nkambule said her sister's state was so bad that she no longer allowed anyone to see her, pleading with the King to rescue her from the uncle

as emotions get high whilst they pour out what was bothering them, as stated by His Majesty during the opening of the people's parliament

SWSC MD, management 'Bobhabuli'

The name, 'Bhabuli' is one word that is a prominent feature in almost every speakers in the people's parliament.

Yesterday, it was used by Jabulisile Takangwane Dlamini, from Mbabane West, who referred to the Swaziland Water Services Corporation Managing Director and his management as such.

She said her husband took early retirement from the company in 2012 and asserted that the corporation never gave its workers pension when the company separated from the government into a parastatal.

As a matter of fact, she said, "MD nemanagement yakawater babobhabuli, bangemarhino. Akazange abanike imali yabo yepension mabaphuma kawater bayakucompany, wayigodla kwalamba bantfwabetsu, kwalamba sonkhe sive. Siyamangala kutsi lowater akukhulunywa ngani ngaye lana wesatjwani."

Dlamini said her children were struggling because of SWSC – something which should not be happening because their father worked in a company for 32 years but their money was being held by the MD and his management.

She added that the King should look into their matter and find out what was holding the manager from processing the monies.

On another note, she also pointed out that come 2018, she would not

whom she named, although his names will not be published.

Weeping

Adding, the weeping woman said, whenever she sought help concerning medical provisions to take care of her sister in offices held by men they demand to sleep with her first before they could offer help to her.

"Sengikwentile konkhe kwasemhlabeni, ngcela wena uphakame njengeNgwenyama usale ubhodla Mpangazitha empilweni yami. Umntfwanamake ngisimhiye ngimkhiyele for two days ngoba benglala kaManzini ngenca yesikhatsi ngjika elayinini. Ngyabonga loko kutokwenteka ngoba sengfike kuwe,"



elect any member of parliament, except for believing in the King.

This was because MP's were using them as care givers to get votes claiming that they would help improve their working conditions when they make it to parliament – something which did not happen.

"In 2018 when the elections take place, the only person i will vote for is His Majesty King Mswati III. Campaigning MP's make us their doormat because they want to be elected to parliament, but we love the king although there are corrupt people next to him who make fun of us," she said.

She also cried out at the fact that they were said to be the link between the ministry of health and the people, wondering how they were such when no one cares about their welfare as evident in the mere E20 they get paid for their hard work.

she said with tears flowing down her face.

She also requested the governor to facilitate a meeting with their uncle to rectify this, pointing out that whenever she raises the issue with Lavumisa Police she does not get any assistance as he was not even charged for raping and abusing the mentally ill sister.

In continued efforts to report this, she said she went to Hluti police where she was told to go to Mafutseni where again her efforts bore no fruits.

"Emafutseni bafike bangicitsa batsi ngisangene ngiphetfwe stage nyalo sengitokhala kuwe Ngwenyama. Sesidziniwe bobabe labsidlwengulako batsi tibi tendlu," she said.

TV's orders defied, woman speaks as much as she pleases

Countless efforts by the traditional prime minister to cut Khetsiwe Dlamini's submission after the elapse of her time proved futile.

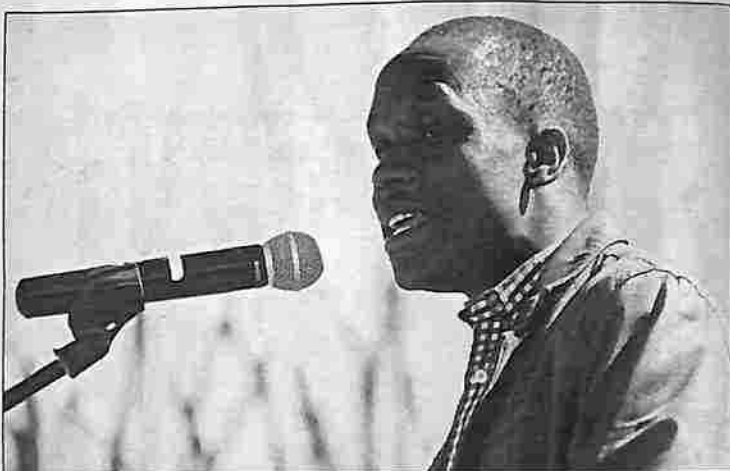
Each person is given five minutes to make their submission to the King, but Dlamini took more than this despite numerous warnings from TV that her time was over. At first, TV tried to warn Dlamini stating that, "Sesiphelile Sikhatsi sakho, khulumisa labanye."

But, she kept going with her submission regardless of being told that she would be forcefully removed if she adhered – something which seemed not to bother her.

Dlamini eventually left the floor when the governor ordered that her microphone be disconnected with police officers also intervening in order to give the same opportunity to everyone who wanted to speak.

Of note, this wayward behaviour by the woman was not taken kindly by the nation which had gathered at the cattle byre at Ludzizini as they stood on their feet shouting that she evacuates the floor so they could accord each other equal opportunities.

The governor was then heard asserting that they had removed the disrespectful person and proceedings could continue.



UNISWA student Lindelo Ngwenya.

University students want 60% allowance cut back

Lindelo Ngwenya, a student at the University of Swaziland said the 60 percentage cut of their allowances by the government had made them hungry.

The student, from Mahlangatsha, said there was a need for those who said the money was enough to explain to them what they meant by this, because they were struggling to survive on what they had been left with after the cut. He also spoke of allowances, which he said they received very late, when they were about to even close schools and thus deeming it useless. In light of this, Ngwenya said, "This then forces students to fall for 'blessers' who sustain them financially and thus expose them to diseases like HIV/AIDS because they are in need."

In addition, he pointed out that some of them did not even have parents or guardians who would support them financial so such a gesture from government made

them vulnerable.

His sentiments were echoed by Ndumiso Nkambule, a student from the Kwaluseni campus, who is also part of the university's student's welfare department.

Nkambule said the ministry of labour and social welfare was perpetuating HIV/AIDS by not reviewing allowances.

"The standard of living is higher than what government gives us but we are expected to live on such," he said. The student also said that they spent lots of their time following up on the little allowances from the ministry because 'files get lost' and in the process consuming the time they should be spending concentrating on their studies.

Therefore, he said the ministry of labour was selling the country as it seemed as though no one was hearing their light and they were yet to meet that one person who would listen to them and come up with a long lasting solution.

Helicopters used to smuggle dagga

Helicopter hired by the Royal Swaziland Police Service to destroy dagga have been said to be used to smuggle the illegal herb instead of their main objective.

This was said by Bhukumusa Mamba who first called for lesser fines for people caught in possession of dagga before stating that

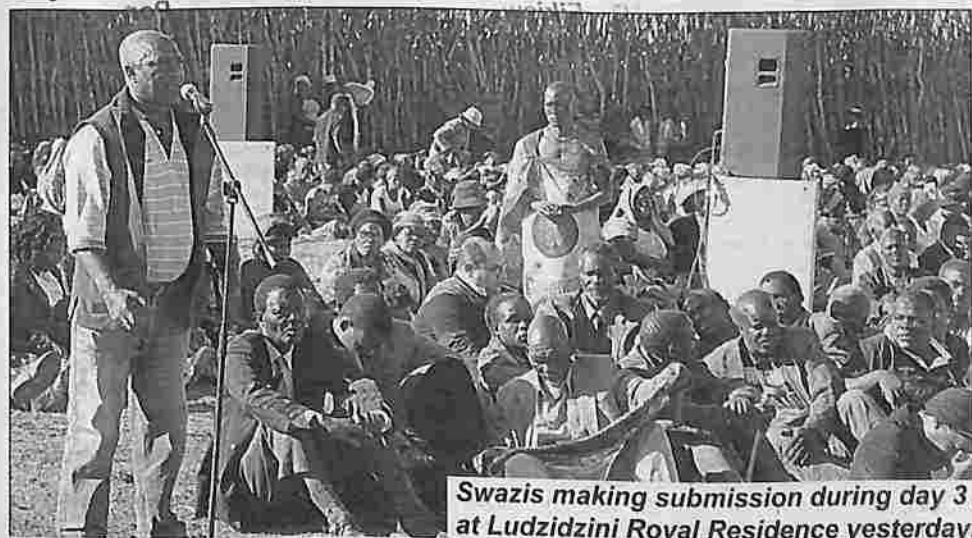
there were people brought from the neighbouring South Africa with helicopters under the pretence that they had come to destroy the herb.

He said, "Seyindlela yekuyeweta, sekuyadealwa ngalamahelicopter. Ngiyacela vele, natsi angeke sisuke lana siyeSouth Africa siyofuna insangu noma siyeLesotho. Why bete kaNgwane?"

Mamba pointed out that it should be made known that such acts were now centred

on dealings. He further condemned Swazi's for not respecting the King, asserting that it was not respectful to point fingers at His Majesty as seen in the previous days where speakers did so and further to the prime minister.

The speaker said the prime minister was very right and the only wrong he did was allowing his dirty linen to be hung in the newspapers as such portrayed a bad image about the country.



Swazis making submission during day 3 of the People's Parliament at Ludzizini Royal Residence yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini with cabinet ministers at the Sibaya.

Cabinet remains unpopular with people

There are glaring similarities concerning the submissions made at this year's Sibaya on the performance of government.

Although we have a new Cabinet, since the last Sibaya, the perception from the public is still the same as in 2012—during the last Sibaya. Back then, members of the Cabinet were heavily criticised by the people during their parliament at the cattle byre.

Things haven't changed, as once again, the public has called for parliament to be dissolved—and for the Prime Minister, Sibusiso Barnabas Dlamini to be relieved of his duties.

When the calls were made in 2012, members of the public took turns in calling for the removal of the premier and his team because they were failing the country.

The speakers said they had overstayed their welcome, despite that they still had at least a year left to their term which ended in the following year.

Another similarity concerns the commissioning of Sibaya; coming at the height of public dissatisfaction, concerning the awarding of salaries. In 2012 the major issue was the Circular No.1 of 2010.

This time around, politicians have just benefited from the salary review implementation for civil servants, which has forced the increase in salaries for politicians.

As was the case four years ago, the issue of politicians pay comes amid a struggling economy, with members of the public questioning the politicians pay during such difficult fiscal times.

Submissions made at the last Sibaya were critical of the cabinet members, further accusing them of corruption, as well as allegations that corrupt people were rewarded with top positions in government in the country.

Different speakers took turns lambasting the cabinet after His Majesty King Mswati III had advised the nation to speak open-

ly about any issue that is of concern to them.

The People's Parliament was commissioned by the King in the past week after opening it on Wednesday and then opened the floor for the nation to open up.

Once again, the premier and his team were accused of the problems faced by the country, the nation pointing out that their time was up. Their term of office ends in 2018.

The cabinet members were accused of selfishness in that they put their interests first before the nation when executing duties brought up to them.

One speaker went to the extent of revealing his disappointment because he had hoped the King had called Sibaya to relieve the team of their duties.

This was accompanied with calls for fresh blood even in parliament with assertions that both the parliament and cabinet were consisted of self-centred people.

Younger people were said to be the solution to these challenges and calling for a stop in the idea of using one and the same people in high positions.

This was said to be a challenge in that older people occupied most positions even when they had reached the mandatory retirement age of 60 and in the process contributing to the lack of employment for the youth who should be assuming these posts.

It is also worth noting that submissions by the cabinet ministers were thrown out of the window by the Swazi's gathered at the people's parliament.

The eight ministers were making submissions on the different conventions they had hoped to be discussed as part of the agenda on the first day of Sibaya.

These were disputed based on the assertion that the public had come to voice out their concerns and not to hear about the ministers conventions which they suggested should be discussed at Tinkhundla centres.

BUSINESSMAN'S DAUGHTER WALKS FROM MBABANE TO CROYDON

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI

In a rather historic instance, a 20 year old woman has walked all the way from Mbabane to Croydon at Dvokolwako, an area past Luvu in the Manzini region, as a form of celebrating the Supreme Court judgment which saw businessman Rogers Bhojane Du Pont getting back his farm.

Jessica Du Pont (Bhojane's daughter) embarked on a long walk to home yesterday morning carrying the Supreme Court judgment in her backpack. Jessica Du Pont said she made a promise four years ago that the day her family wins the matter which has been going on in court for a very long time she would walk all the way from Mbabane where she was residing to Croydon.

Indeed the 20 year old woman lived up to her promise as yesterday she walked all the way from Mbabane, going via Manzini past Mafutseni up until Croydon. Jessica said she left Mbabane at around 2:30am much against the advice of her mother.

Even though she made it all the way on foot, Jessica said it is a journey that she is not willing to take again. She said most people actually thought she was crazy when she said she was going to do it. She added that this has been a life changing journey for her as

● Jessica Du Pont (Bhojane's daughter) embarked on a long walk home yesterday morning carrying the Supreme Court judgment in her backpack. She says she made a promise four years ago that the day her family wins the matter which has been going on in court for a very long time she would walk all the way from Mbabane where she was residing to Croydon



it has taught her to persevere and face whatever hardships she comes across in her life.

Jessica said it was so painful when they were kicked out of her father's

Jessica Du Pont walked all the way from Mbabane to Dvokolwako Croydon after the Supreme Court ordered the return of Rogers Bhojane Du Pont's farm. (Pics: Sifiso Nhlabatsi)

property which is a place where they grew up knowing that it was home.

Bhojane Du Pont was kicked out of his property after it was sold by public auction for E530 000 to settle a debt that he owed to Swaziland Building Society. Bhojane's daughter carried the documents with the Supreme Court Judgment with her so that she could present it to her father in person. She said there were times in the journey where she had second thoughts and felt like giving up.

"When I reached Moneni at the filling station I thought of giving up but then I again I decided that I cannot go this far only to give up there," Jessica stated in an interview.

She added that she has heard of people who died from walking long distances but that did not stop her either.



Du Pont complained of aching feet and legs. RIGHT - Fikiswa Mabuza and Jessica Du Pont. Fikiswa accompanied Jessica from Mafutseni to Croydon. (Pics: Sifiso Nhlabatsi)



...Chips, chocolate and emahewu keep her going all day

Jessica Du Pont said she had nothing to take on her journey save for some chips, a chocolate bar and Emahewu.

She said that is all that kept her going all the way. Du Pont said as she had no one to escort her she had no paramedics no police or any person who was going to tend to her along the journey.

She said she was well aware that the journey she was taking was risky but her belief in God kept her strong as she had no fear. She said she knew

that she was even subjecting herself to criminals who prowl the night but she went all the way down Malagwane Hill until she reached Manzini at around 6am.

Du Pont said when she reached Mafutseni she tried to ask for police protection but at first the lady officer thought she was a mentally challenged person when she told her about the walk adding that she only believed when she saw the article.

Du Pont said the officer however told her that police are having a chal-

lenge when it comes to transport and they cannot escort her for protection hence she had to walk on her own. At Mafutseni Du Pont was joined by her cousin Fikiswa Mabuza (19) who accompanied her all the way home.

Du Pont said all she could think of was that her family won the case and that thought gave her so much energy, hope and joy.

Du Pont said to her the walk was not just a walk but it had a significant lesson in her life which is perseverance.

CUTTING-EDGE KAU IS MR FUNNY

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

It was laughter all the way during the Sifundzani Fundraising Night at the Convention centre on Friday. South African renowned stand-up comedian David Kau lived up to the billing as he kept his audience in stitches throughout his performance. Kau's cutting edge jokes ranged from politics right down to beauty.

Kau, who has performed in the country three times, started off by pointing out that performing in Swaziland was so much easy because there were no racial lines hence no joke would be interpreted as racial. He then made it known that he had a soft spot for Swaziland because his wife grew up in the country during the apartheid era and she went to Sifundzani Primary.

"My wife was born of a Greek man and a Zulu woman and at that time it wasn't safe for her to be raised in South Africa," he said.

Pointing

He then joked by pointing out that he usually does not take his family with him when travelling but he had brought them to Swaziland this time.

"I don't take my family with me when travelling but I came with them here, because I am not here to perform, I am in exile," he said.

Kau was referring to the recent South African election's which saw the Democratic Alliance (DA) winning most of the metros. Kau didn't spare South African President Zuma from his jokes as well as other South African politicians.

"Are there any politicians in the house?" Kau asked before making fun of the way politicians spoke when addressing the public. Minister of Labour and Social Security Winnie Magagula, was seen laughing uncontrollably when Kau was imitating politicians when



Members of the public were in their numbers for the Sifundzani -Fundraising-Night at the Convention Centre on Friday.

SOME OF KAU'S JOKES:

1. Nothing confuses me like the Oscar Pistorious sentencing. There was a trial and sentencing, he served that sentence then he was charged again, with something called medulla oblongata or whatever it is. I swear he is being charged one leg at a time.

2. Recently Uganda passed a gay law, in Nigeria over 93% voted anti gays. Do you guys have any law regarding this? Oh wait are you gay, are you seeking asylum? (referring to a guy who stood up whilst he was

asking this question). I like gay people I will take you with me.

3. Before I got married I was told Greek people give you money as gifts and I was excited because I was marrying a Greek woman. Imagine my disappointment when I discovered that of the 300 people at my wedding only two were Greeks the rest were Blacks. All I got were toasters and kettles and a report from the venue that 87 spoons were missing.

4. I make it a point to tell people

making speeches.

Kau who performed well over an hour did not spare the country when making jokes. He said he hadn't been in Swaziland in a while but for a moment when he got to the border post he was convinced he was in Lesotho.

"Yoh your highway what happened? Did you steal it in Lesotho? You guys just called the Chinese

,they went there looked at it, copied then came back and pasted it here," he joked. Kau also referred to Swaziland as a yellow bone factory.

"Do you guys have a yellow bone factory somewhere?" he questioned. He said all Swazi women were light skinned and he was convinced they were being manufactured. This joke made the ladies in the audience scream in excitement.

that I went to UCT.

The nice thing about UCT is that they have no gate or fencing, anyone can go there. Unlike other universities where you use access cards.

5. Dear white people can I just let you in on this, if you want free lunch on a Saturday look for a black funeral or wedding, we don't send out invites. Everyone who arrives is welcome.

6. I am not here to perform, I am in exile. I brought my wife and kids. I should have brought my gardener and domestic worker because I am not going back there.

He however quickly pointed out that the most beautiful women he had seen were in Montreal, Canada.

"You would swear there is a man who kills all the ugly ones," he joked. Kau was not the only comedian on the night, Swazi comedian Ndosh was the opening act. Ndosh who gave a sterling performance, made a joke of Kukhanya



Kau laughs at one of his jokes.

Construction Company by telling them "Akusakhanyi".

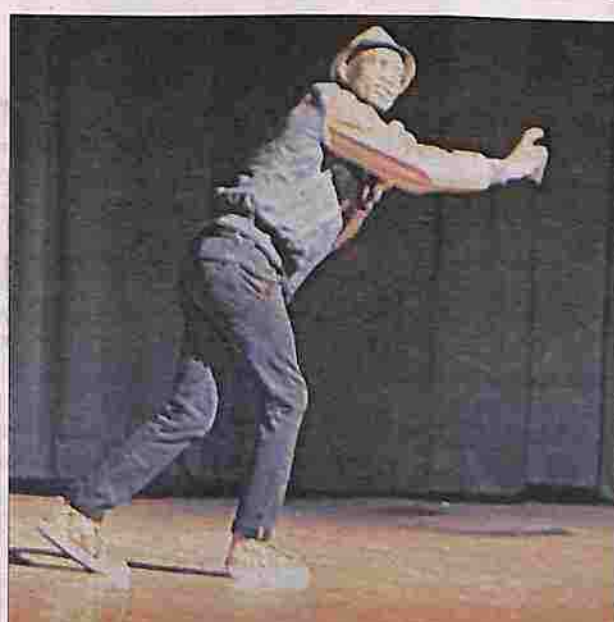
He was referring to the revamping that the company was doing on the Matsapha-Manzini highway. The revamping which should have ended in April this year has still not been completed. "Even the Sikhuphe-Mafutseni construction was shorter than the revamping of the Kakhoza road," he teased.

He asked if anyone in the audience worked for the company and asked what they thought they were doing on the road because it was unclear. He then warned girls named Nokukhanya from showing their faces in Manzini because Manzini people do not like anything or anyone who had a name synonymous to Kukhanya.

Ndosh then warned the audience of other Manzini people in their midst. "Any Manzini people in the house?" he asked. Manzini people raised their hands and screamed then he said "we are not safe, hold on to your phones tight," sending the audience into wild roars of laughter.



David Kau dances on Stage.



Kau making a joke.



David Kau and his family took time to take pictures with his fans.

KEN ROWLEY'S LATEST BOOK INSPIRED BY HIS DAUGHTERS

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Established author Kenneth Rowley has published yet another book titled 'Temangwane', a fictional story around the experiences of a young Swazi woman as she grows into a young adult.

The book which Rowley says was inspired by his daughters Khetsiwe and Sindisiwe is written in English although a lot of the context incorporates the Swazi culture and customs, and a lot of Swazi idioms.

"The themes of forced marriages, childlessness, love and western influence in a traditional society in transition," reads one of the professional reviews about the book.

Speaking about his latest book,

Rowley says he had the idea of the story as early as 1995 but he only wrote it in 2003 and it still took him years to compile the necessary research for the content.

"It is basically a book about a young woman, Temangwane, who is born in a polygamous family. She is reaching puberty and about to enter adulthood so she has to adapt with all that comes with it," he says without revealing too much.

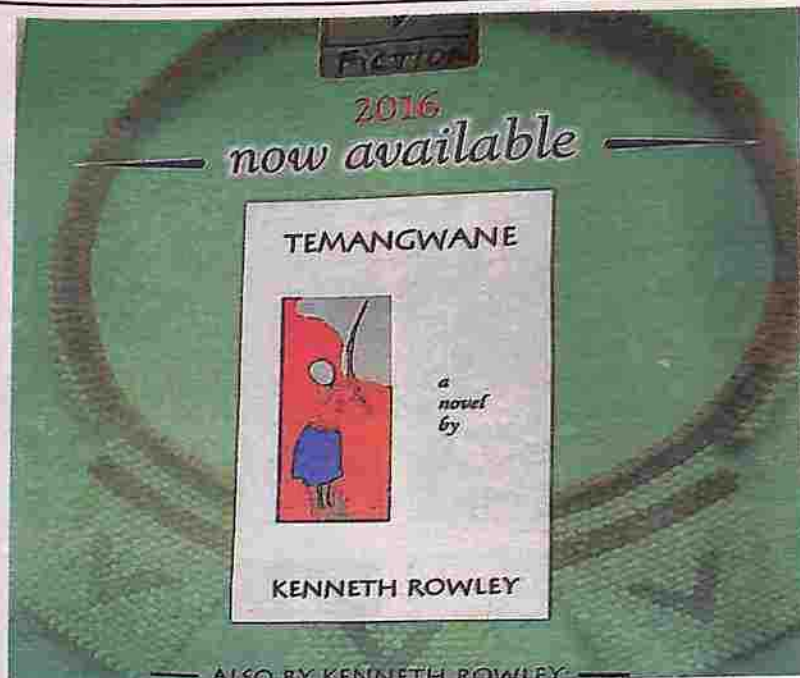
Other books that Rowley has written include; Tales of a form three dreamer, (which features the popular tale of the 'The stick and insect affair'), Small Affairs, Chakijane Kamnjololo, and Talking Eyes. Rowley says the book can be read by anyone as it carries a lot of emotion which most people can relate to.

The book is already available locally

for E85. Some of the outlets where the book can be purchased from are IM Books at the Gables (Ezulwini), Swazi Candles, Ocean Basket, Cuba Nora Restaurant, as well as the Royal Swazi and Lugogo Sun. The pacesetter author is also looking at distributing the book outside of the country as the reception for his books internationally has been positive in the past.

Rowley is a retired teacher and has taught at schools; such as Mhlatane High School, Mater Dolorosa High School, St Marks High School and finally Sifundzani High School where he was the first deputy principal.

There he spent two years also working as the IT project manager. He has also been a columnist for a local publication for seven years and currently runs workshops and does editing. He has been in the country since



1981 and one of the things he used to do was to take a voice recorder to some rural areas in the country where he would listen to elderly people tell stories. In compiling this book, he

spent a lot of time at the Swaziland National Archives reading about past records which is where he also got some ideas, and coming up with Swazi names.

Orphanage home takes in 125 abandoned children

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The Heart for Africa Children's Home has taken in 125 abandoned children in the country, under Project Canaan.

This is the same organisation that made headlines last year, after the founders rescued an abandoned newly born who was known as 'Baby River'. According to a blog post on Pleasant on Weekly, the project that started in 2009 has grown in leaps and bounds after receiving a donation that has helped them build a home for the children, although more funds are required for the operating costs.

Tim Hunt, who also worked on the project in 2010 said at that time, there was only a farm manager's building and about 50 acres of cleared land.

"In 2012, when I served again there, the baby home had just opened and the agricultural operation had expanded. Just four short years later, there are 125 children (infants though there are a few 5-year-olds) living there with a new baby arriving every eight days. Heart for Africa, five years ago, decided to only take children 12 months or younger—our home in one of the few in Swaziland to take infants.

Abandoned

And, abandoned babies are a huge issue in the kingdom so the organisation is filling a key niche," reads his post.

The new structures include a toddlers' home, a pre-school, a kindergarten classroom, a first-grade classroom as well as homes for 80 children where they will live from four or five years until they finish high school. It also includes a central multi-use room that serves as both the cafeteria and gathering place for older children. Hunt writes that the plan, since the beginning, has been to add residential housing and classrooms as the kids grow. Our sister publication the Swazi Observer has reported about Heart of Africa in the past, an initiative by Ian and Janine Maxwell who moved to the country in 2012 to focus on the project. The article that has been reported about the Maxwell's is about how they saved a baby who was dumped by the side of the river by his mother in a plastic bag just after birth. The baby boy had to undergo seven surgeries and three colostomies to heal a wound that developed. This touching story became public after Janine posted on her blog about 'Baby River' where she was trying to source funds to help pay the hospital bills.



NOTICE

The general public is advised that beginning 08 August 2016, traffic at the Manzini, Luve & Siteki junction at Mafutseni will be diverted to use the new MR3 Service Road from Mafutseni to Ngogola (see illustration below) while the NEW MR3 Main Road is being constructed. Sadeem Al Kuwait/Inyatsi JV will have the necessary sign age in place to guide motorists. The public is advised to adhere to all road safety and traffic control measures that will be in place. We regret any inconvenience caused.

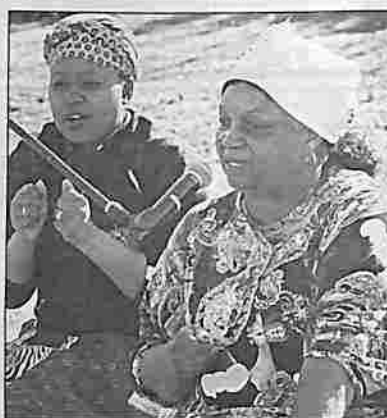
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Sive siyatiswa kwekutsi mhlaka 08 Ingci (08 August 2016) Inkapani leyakha umgwaco. Sadeem Al Kuwait /Inyatsi itawuvula umgwaco lomusha kusuka eMafutseni kuya eNgogola. Umdvwebo ngentansi u'tjengisa umgwaco lomusha lotabe usetjentiswa sive. Sive sonkhe siyacelwa kwekutsi sicaphele timphawu temgwaco letitabe tibekiwe, sinakisise nato tonkhe timphawu tekuphepha.



PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT

BOMAKE AT SIBAYA





MEN START FOREST FIRE, NABBED BY SNIFFER DOGS

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Montigny Usutu's security team and sniffer dogs proved to be efficient when they nabbed men, who were suspected to have been involved in a forest fire that broke out on July 8, 2016.

Montigny Investment PR and Communications Consultant Tharlene Ntombini said the fire incident occurred in the Usutu compound B11. Personnel in the Montigny B3 Fire Tower spotted the fire and immediately sent out the fire truck to extinguish the quickly raging fire. After the fire was under control, the Montigny Usutu sniffer dogs were called to the scene to assist in bringing the culprits to justice. Sniffer dog Rex was brought in to assist the security team to solve the crime.

"Rex led the team to a compound where the three suspects were hiding. The three suspects are from Mahlangatsha and Ngwenya. After intense questioning, the culprits confessed that they had gone bee hunting in the forest, and before they knew it, the fire that was started to extract the honey, began to rage out of control. When they realised they were not able to control the fire, they fled the scene.

The matter was handed over to the Bhunya police department for further investigation," said Ntombini.

Montigny Usutu has since warned members of the community against lighting fires in the forest or entering the forest without a permit. The community is urged to inform the forest rangers if they spotted any suspicious activity or if a beehive in any part of the forest is spotted. The company offers a E30 reward for reporting a beehive to the individual who reports it, and all the honey is extracted and given to the individual who reported it.

Residents are also urged to make use of the 3 344 toll free number with regards to any other information relating to entry into the forest, permits, or any suspicious activities spotted.

On another note, Montigny Usutu

Montigny Usutu's security team and sniffer dogs nabbed three men suspected to have lit a forest fire that broke out on July 8, 2016



Rander Andreas with sniffer dog Rex.

has extended its helping hand to Bhunya Primary School and touched many teachers and students hearts with the kind gesture of fixing broken hazardous toilets.

According to the head teacher Author Thwala, the school toilets and premises had been in a terrible condition for a very long time.

"My main concern above others was the condition of the toilets. We were very concerned that the toilets were a serious health hazard to the children. "We had many meetings on the school committee to try and resolve the issue, but due to governments financial constraints there was no possible solution to the pressing problem. The toilets were broken and water was running down the corridor from the toilets. It was really a terrible sight."

Thwala says after consulting with Montigny Usutu's staff to help fix the situation, there was finally a

breakthrough and a huge weight was lifted off his shoulders. He said the staff and directors of Montigny Usutu paid attention to them and took this request seriously.

Bhunya Primary has more than 800 students most of which are orphaned or vulnerable. The head teacher said the children really appreciated any assistance they can get as most of them come from impoverished homes, school is the only place for some of them to even get a decent meal and be in a good environment. When Montigny Usutu staff heard the schools plight, they sent out a team to assess the school and the toilets and see how they could rectify the problem.

The toilets were fixed over the school holidays, and the principal is pleased to report that the children are now able to use the toilets without a problem.

"Besides fixing the toilets, Montigny Usutu went as far as cutting the grass on the premises after it had overgrown and fear of snakes was another concern for the teachers. They also brought vegetable seedlings so we could plant and have healthy vegetables for the children to eat. The children were always eating porridge and samp most days as that was the only source of food available to them," added Thwala. He said with the seedlings they could now provide different vegetables along with the children's meals which will help them get the correct nutrition they so desperately need.

Montigny Usutu Human Resources Manager Thembi Maphanga also said the company considered the needs of the orphaned and vulnerable children very seriously.

She said although they were a new entity with a low budget for community outreach programmes currently, they still believed in health and safety as a basic need for all children, thus the serious attention paid to Bhunya Primary's plight.

...Montigny continues to grow Usutu asset

When Montigny Investments bought Usutu Forest Products from SAPPI South Africa 2 years ago, the strategy was to convert the old, decommissioned Pulp Mill site into the largest, integrated sawmill in Southern Africa.

Montigny is already working towards delivering on that promise, with the successful completion of the third sawmill on the Usutu site.

Montigny took over the site in 2014 which was already operating a very successful sawmill at Bhunya utilising burnt timber from Usutu.

Immediately after the acquisition, however, plans were made to relocate and upgrade the Montigny Siphocosini mill to Usutu. This mill was commissioned in 2015 and is operating very successfully. Montigny

Investment PR and Communications Consultant Tharlene Ntombini said there were a few challenges of removing the old concrete foundation and timelines that needed to be adhered to, the construction of this mill was completed on April 1, 2015.

"Currently the throughput per month is 10 000 tons of logs to produce 5000m³ of planks for the regional palleting and crating industry.

"In April 2016, the third mill was completed, and is now fully operational. This is a structural timber mill for the roof truss markets in South Africa, Swaziland and Mozambique. This strategy is in line with Montigny's motto of adding value to every part of the trees from its plantations.

This mill was imported from Brazil and was built at a cost of E35 million

emalangeni," she said.

Ntombini said this venture saw 45 permanent workers being employed by Montigny. Four hundred tons of steel and 350 cubic meters of concrete were used to build the new structural line mill.

She said other challenges included converting an old site layout into the now useable site and removing an old debarker, which consisted of 450 tons of steel. The mill is currently converting 400 tons of logs per day into 200m³ of high quality timber for the construction sector.

The number of employees at the Bhunya mill site will have increased from just seventy, two years ago, to more than 1000 by August 2016. This is in addition to the numerous job opportunities created in the plantation and harvesting operations.

E500 000 HOUSE TURNED WHITE ELEPHANT

STORIES BY MLONDI MPANZA

The only person to complete his house at Greenfield – Mhobodleni Township in Manzini is having it tough because there are no services.

This is because Bruce Mathokoza Kunya is struggling to have electricity connected in his house, worth around half a million, despite having made all the necessary payments to the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC).

Kunya is one of the residents who were relocated from Mhobodleni to Greenfield Township opposite New Village to make way for development.

He told the Sunday Observer that it has been a year since the completion of his house and he has been making efforts to have electricity connected for it, but all these efforts have bore no fruit.

The Resettlement and Allocations Committee member asserted that when they were relocated to the new area, there was neither water or electrical service.

But, he managed to get water connection from the Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) for his semi-detached house, meant for rental purposes, however the same cannot be said for the electricity connection.

After completing his house in July last year, he requested a quotation from SEC for the installation and was charged a collective fee of E6 655.48, which is inclusive of the capital contribution, connection fee and administration fee as stated in his quotation and receipt.

Having done that, he said he expected that a connection would be

● No electricity connection in house, meant to generate income for businessman, despite having fully paid SEC



The house belonging to Mhobodleni businessman, Bruce Mathokoza Kunya. (Pics: Mloni Mpanza)

made soon and he made a loan application from one of the financial institutions which he used to purchase stoves which are now lying idle, yet he intended on installing them in the house.

Clients

"In January, I got clients who wanted to occupy the houses and I promised them they would be able to move in as soon as possible knowing that I had paid for the connection but that has not happened and this equates to a loss of income for me," said Kunya.

As he continued nursing hopes, the unfortunate befell the businessman as his house was broken into and it was vandalised in the process, as criminals stole electricity cable, damaged window burglar bars as they

forced entry, as well as the ceiling, amongst other things.

The businessman attributes this to the delayed connection because he claims, had the house being connected, it would be having occupants.

Entry

"The culprits gained entry through the ceiling and window and stole taps and a number of things, which I have since replaced. It's unfortunate I have had to pay for one and the same thing twice in a situation that could have been prevented," he said.

The businessman said for the replacements, he spent around E20 000 as he had to hire people to repair the damaged items.

When Kunya reported the matter to the allocations committee, he was advised to write to the principal sec-

Efforts to meet Housing minister, PS

With exactly a year gone after the completion of his house, Bruce Kunya has failed to meet with either of the minister of housing or principal secretary to report his grievances.

He wants to report to them because the relocation process is the responsibility of this ministry and its Minister is Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza whilst the PS is Clifford Mamba.

An aggrieved Kunya revealed that he has made numerous efforts to have an audience with either of the two with their personal secretaries pointing him from pillar to post.

"I called the personal secretary to the PS and requested to have a word with him, but was told he was busy and they would inform him. I called again and an appointment was suggested which I rejected because it would mean me driving all the way to Mbabane for something we could discuss over the phone," he said.

Time went by and he got no report back from the PS's office and he called once again requesting to speak to the minister for which he said the personal secretary said to him he was now politicising the matter, referring him back to



The aggrieved businessman Bruce Kunya.

the PS, that did not sit down well with the businessman.

Meeting

In addition, when a meeting was finally set up with the minister, he said on the day he was headed for Mbabane he received a call and was informed their meeting would no longer take place as the minister had to rush somewhere.

Therefore, Kunya said there was something wrong with the project and he wanted the world to know because he had tried reporting to the relevant authorities but he has not got any positive response.

He said, "The world should know that all is not rosy at Greenfield as we are struggling to get basic services."

retary in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development as head of the whole relocation process.

He asserts all he wanted was to get any possible assistance in light of the damages caused by the challenge of electricity in the new township, but nothing has happened to date. When the Minister of Housing and Urban

Development, Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza was contacted, he said he was not aware of the matter but was going to follow up on it. "I was not aware of the issue, although I have heard that there was someone by this surname who wanted to meet me, unfortunately the King summoned the nation to Sibaya so we could not meet," he said.

Write grievances down - SEC

The Mhobodleni businessman has alleged when he made a follow up with the Swaziland Electricity Company he was told to communicate his grievances in writing by one of the managers in Manzini.

As per the instruction, he wrote the letter but when he made a follow up he was allegedly told to do so with the ministry of housing.

"I requested they communicate

this in writing as well, but they declined making assertions which were to the extent that they feared legal proceedings being instituted against them," he said.

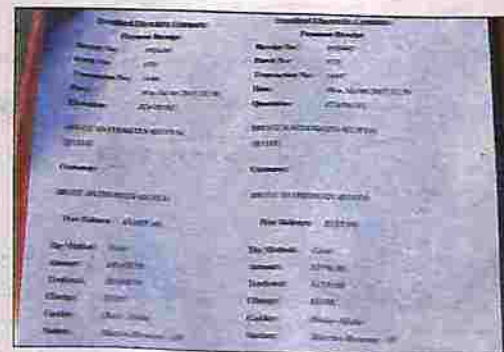
Superiors

Once again when he made a follow up, he alleges he was told by this particular manager that he was yet to meet with his superiors.

A week ago he received a letter from the company confirming

receipt of his letter sent at the beginning of July inquiring about the electricity connection.

But the letter stated that, "Please note that your connection to the SEC grid can only be implemented after the installation of the necessary underground infrastructure network by the township developer." It also points out that, that can only be possible also if there are no legal challenges or instruments that will prevent this which they may not be aware of.



The proof of payment to the Swaziland Electricity Company, for having made payments for connection.

'This could have been my donation towards SADC Summit'

If the house at Greenfield Township already had an electricity connection, it was going to be used to accommodate guests for the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Summit.

The Summit will be held in the country from the end of this month, until next month.

This was said by Bruce Mathokoza Kunya, who said upon hearing that His Majesty King Mswati III was receiving donations for the Summit, he realised he would have pledged his house for the duration of the Summit. "I would have given

the house to the visitors to be the first occupants of the house as my contribution towards the summit, but that cannot happen as I have no electricity," he said. Kunya also revealed that he refers to his house as 'Vision 2022,' because he holds that it resembled the King's vision of having reached first world status by the year 2022.

Motivation

He also said he wanted to write the words, 'Dream style,' at the gate but this too he has lost motivation of doing as a result of the non-connection of electricity.

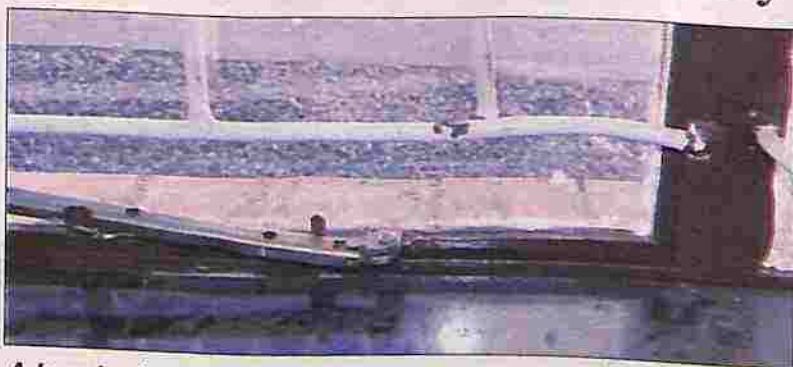
Residents shun township because of no electricity

The frustrations caused by the unavailability of the basic services in the township have been said to be the reason residents were not occupying it.

In fact, Kunya said someone told him they saw no reason of building their homes in the township because there were no basic services like electricity.

He said the fact that he was a zone leader and struggling with having this connected to his house was casting doubt on the people resettling to the township.

"All the plots have owners but they



A burglar bar which is alleged to have been damaged by thieves who vandalised the house.

are not occupied because there is no electricity," he said.

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

YALI FELLOW PARTNERS WITH U.S. MUSICIAN FOR EMANDLA EMCULO

A local and American based fellow of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) has come up with a new concept called Emandla Emculo—a youth charity music programme with a vision of positively touching and improving the lives of the youth through the power of music.

The initiative has been founded by 2015 fellow of the YALI Miliswa Mamba and Gerami Groover, who are both programme directors of the initiative working with Nothando Mnisi as the programme coordinator. The Swazi and American exchange fellows have partnered to host an educational and upliftment programme through music titled *Emandla Emculo* (The Power of Music).

This event will be hosted for the first time this year and thereafter it will be hosted annually.

According to Mamba, the first *Emandla Emculo* initiative involves two forums and a youth training week. The forums are open to educators, scholars, policy makers, influencers, local artists and everybody interested in the well being of Swazi youth. The output forums will be an action plan of the two topics of discussion, with the first forum hosted on Wednesday August 10 under the theme 'The importance of music in the culture of Swaziland.'

The second forum will be hosted the following day where the main topic will be 'how music can be taught and made important in schools'. These forums will start at 10am and allow the exchanging of innovative concepts and engaging con-



The American fellows pictured with Miliswa Mamba during her time in Boston for YALI last year.

versations on how to create a sustainable programme that will assist in the advancement of musicianship of all young artists regardless of their socio-economic status. Mamba said all participants will engage in conversations on the two topics, and conclude with an action plan followed by lunch.

Forums

These forums will be followed by a week of music training which is open to all young people from Lobamba between the ages of 8 and 18 ending in a musical concert. A youth music training programme will be held in Lobamba during the first week of the upcoming school holidays starting Monday, August 15 and ending Friday, August 19 in a large concert performed by the students together with the international artist that will have been interacting with the youth throughout the week. Interested youth will get the opportunity to register on

Saturday August 13, 2016 for participating youth members of the Lobamba constituency. It is expected that they will be hosting 50-100 young people.

Reason

"The main reason why Lobamba was selected was because it is neither rural nor urban as a result it faces challenges of both urban and rural communities. The current challenges faced by the Lobamba youth such as lack of employment, rise of orphaned and vulnerable children; and large student dropout rate which have become the narrative of the lives of many of the young people. Statistically they are one of the highest HIV/AIDS affected communities. Lobamba also lies between the various urban areas of the country and is easily accessible," added Mamba. The music curriculum will cover general music theory, musicianship, choral and instrumental performance. The theory and musicianship courses

are going to be taught on the Kodaly method and controversial solfege, while the choral and instrumental performance taught in an assemble setting. The curriculum will also focus on history, song analysis and musical interpretation through movement.

Sessions

The youth sessions will include; the importance of education and why every young person should get an education, the validity of their dreams and, encouragement to dream big and

work hard to make them come true, their reason for being and the fact that everyone has a purpose in life, the lifestyle risk of getting HIV/AIDS and why and how to prevent getting infected. The sessions will also include understanding the challenges of the young people and support they lack and need. *Emandla Emculo* has the support of the American Embassy in the country, SiyeSwatini TransMagnific, 2015 YALI Fellows from the country, the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) both in Swaziland and the USA, National Emergency Response Council on HIV and AIDS (NERCHA), Destiny Music and PriceWaterhouseCoopers.

Initiative

Groover, who is one of the founders of the initiative, is a composer, producer, and educator from Boston, Massachusetts. She began her musical journey at Berklee College of Music where she received a bachelors and masters degree. As a music educator, Groover has worked with students in

public schools including Berklee City Music which is a non profit education programme that harnesses the energy of contemporary music to reach underserved fourth to twelfth graders. She has taught in this programme for a number of years, teaching courses in music, theory, ensemble, piano, voice composition and music technology.

She also has experience developing and leading curriculum for non profit organisations that are aligned to the mission of *Emandla Emculo*.

Mamba on the other hand is a successful business woman, youth mentor and motivational speaker from Swaziland who was selected as a Young African Leader and invited to participate in the Presidential summit in Washington where fellows get the chance to interact with President Barack Obama. She is the Managing Director of SiyeSwatini TransMagnific, a member of Vital Voices and serves on various boards both in business and social projects.

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BID NOTICE UNDER OPEN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING FOR THE SUPPLY OF FOOD RELIEF ITEMS UNDER NO. WVS/EFSP/001/FY16

World Vision Swaziland in partnership with USAID invite quotations from competent and experienced bidders in Swaziland for the supply of food items as indicated below.

Commodity	Tonnage (MT)- Mbabane
Maize Meal	1965
Pulses	295
Cooking Oil	137
CSB++	50
Total	2447

For submission documents with clear specifications and branding details, all interested suppliers **MUST** contact the Supply Chain office at: beketele_sigwane@wvi.org, jane_muyondo@wvi.org ensure to include both email addresses

ELIGIBILITY:

Following documents must be submitted after firm order:

- Performance Bond/Bank guarantee issued by first-class international bank (10% of contract value)
- Commercial Invoice(s) on letter headed paper addressed to Ordering Party
- Pro-forma Invoice(s) (addressed to Consignee)
- Waybills/Delivery Notes, signed by Consignee
- Certificate of Origin, stamped by Chamber of Commerce (the commodities should be derived from crops grown in Africa)

BID SUBMISSION:

Sealed bids and labeled "WVS/EFSP/001/FY16" must be delivered to World Vision Swaziland head office in Mbabane Ning Group Office Park 694 Somhlolo Road. Bidders must register their bids in the tender book and drop them into a bid box located at the reception between 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday to Thursday and 9:00am to 1:00pm on Fridays.

ADDRESS: Secretary Procurement Committee World Vision Swaziland, Ning Group Office Park 694 Somhlolo Road, Mbabane.

DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION:

The latest date of submission is Friday 22nd August, 2016 at 11:00am.

BID OPENING:

Bids shall be opened on Friday 22nd August, 2016 at 11:15am.

Note: World Vision Swaziland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Any kind of lobbying will lead to automatic disqualification.

For any clarification, contact the Supply Chain, beketele_sigwane@wvi.org, jane_muyondo@wvi.org. If you don't hear from us by 30/08/2016, consider your bid to have been unsuccessful.

Young men invited for male mentoring camp

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Swaziland's male mentorship programme Kwakha Indvodza, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and CHAPS, has introduced a new initiative for young men, the Lihawu Male Mentoring Camp.

This new activity is open to all men and boys around the country, between the ages of 15-29 years, who are out of school.

Kwakha Indvodza Executive Director, Tom Churchyard, said the Lihawu Camp is a camp for boys to learn how to protect themselves, their families and sexual partners. He said it was targeting young out-of-school boys, as these young men are more likely to make poor health choices, which might affect them for the rest of their lives.

Thando Ginindza, the Lihawu Camp Coordinator, said "Lihawu is a fun 3-day mentoring camp designed to teach young men about respect, responsibility to their communities and about their health, especially in their relationships. Lihawu gives our country's *emajaha* the chance to ask questions and get honest answers and advice on any issue, all in a traditionally Swazi-setting, fused with modern games and challenges."

After three days of fun and learning, *emajaha* make the ultimate step towards responsible manhood – they take an HIV test, get circumcised and reduce their chance of contracting a sexually-transmitted disease, especially HIV. "Just as they did in the days of Mswati II, they leave their communities as boys and return three days later as men," Ginindza added.

Surprised

According to information on their website, Kwakha Indvodza came about after Churchyard, a local teacher, conducted a series of study skills workshops with sponsored students at the Moya Centre. He was surprised at the reactions of the boys to his relaxed and informal presence and further alarmed to discover that many of these boys might not come into regular contact with another positive male influence. In September 2012, he gathered together 18 willing men and together they came up with a plan that focuses on the men. Kwakha Indvodza, Swaziland's first male mentoring project was born. KI has been conducting three meetings a month ever since, providing a unique mentoring experience to boys and men who have been denied, either through absence, tragedy or abuse, a present or positive masculine influence in their lives. To date, they have mentored hundreds of 15 to 25 year old boys and young men, who rarely interact with a positive male influence and who are fast growing into adulthood, without any point of reference or male guidance.

Another project within the mentoring initiative is the tertiary project, which works directly with 18-28 year old male university students inside the tertiary institutions and in the surrounding communities.

'NGANONO GETTING WHAT HE DESERVES'

STORIES BY SUNDAY
OBSERVER REPORTER

The Mbabane Municipality Chief Executive, Gideon Mhlongo believes that the Ward 1 Councillor, Nganono Manyatsi, is a problem child who deserves the suspension he has been served.

Manyatsi, who was suspended for two different cases, for two months each, is expected back in Council next week Monday, having been suspended for alleged misconduct by the Council.

Constant

In an interview this past week, Mhlongo explained that Manyatsi had been a constant problem within Council and therefore not productive.

"This same Councillor violated the same code of conduct that he signed when he was elected to represent his Ward," Mhlongo said, justifying his suspension.

During our interview, Mhlongo explained how the municipality has been patient with Manyatsi, further painting a picture of a man who refused to be a team player, and had been a 'handful' for his colleagues within Council.

"Everyone has tried to reason



Ward 1 Councillor, Nganono Manyatsi.

with him, but it has been an exercise in futility. He does not listen, instead does what he wants."

Mhlongo further disclosed that, 'because of the nature of the man, he does not get along with anyone, including people from his own ward, where he has had running disputes with the leadership of his Zones'.

Refused

This is despite that, according to the municipality, he was asked several times to work with his community, but not only has he refused to do so, the community alleges that it has not had a meeting with him ever since his election into the position.

Among the things Mhlongo

singled out was how Manyatsi was refusing to cooperate and abide by the code of conduct, which the CEO said the Mbabane Municipality was the first to have in the country.

"A simple code as that of presentation is difficult to abide by for (Nganono) Manyatsi," disclosed Mhlongo.

According to the municipality's code, Section 4.0 of the Standing Orders of 2000 (amendment) dealt with the issue of general conduct of councillors, especially in section (d) which deals with the dress code for councillors.

Smartly

"To enforce this with this particular councillor has been difficult," revealed Mhlongo.

According to this section, a councillor must dress smartly (necktie and coat, or Swazi attire) at all Council meetings.

Another of the code in which Manyatsi is alleged to be always found wanting is the code where a Councillor is not at all times to approach another councillor to talk through any misunderstanding and not resort to backbiting other councillors or staff.

Mhlongo believes that, were these to be followed to the letter the councillor would have long

been removed from his position.

Mhlongo's comments follow the article published by this newspaper in our last edition, in which the decision to suspend him was questioned.

He believes this is unfair against the municipality, which has tolerated a lot of the alleged transgressions Manyatsi is accused of, including from the very assumption of his position the controversy surrounding his election into Council.

Mhlongo said he was the first person to defend his election into Council and stood by the Councillor when the municipality was approached to force a re-election.

Motivated

"I stood by Nganono throughout this, and motivated that he be allowed to assume his duties, because he had already won the election; no matter the complaints emanating from this," he further disclosed. To this end, Mhlongo defended his involvement insofar as the suspension is concerned, explaining that he was not being personal when taking the decision.

"Let us just be fair and admit that Nganono's conduct is not that of a councillor," said Mhlongo candidly.

...Is in danger of being thrown out

Councillor Nganono Manyatsi is in danger of being thrown out of Council for breach of the code of conduct.

This is especially if the Mayor Benito Jones enforces section 11 of the Standing Orders. The mayor may do so, according to section 11.1 b, if the Mayor or special committee (set up by the mayor to investigate and report to him) finds that a Councillor has breached a provision of the code, the mayor may, in consultation with the Council, request the minister to remove the councillor from office. The same code allows for the mayor to suspend a councillor for a period not exceeding two months.

Manyatsi is expected back in office in next week Monday, according to Information and Public Relations Officer Lucky Tsabedze. He was suspended on March, 24, 2016.

NGANONO'S CRIME

On the first count, he was charged for allegedly insulting Mhlongo in a text message on March, 3, 2015 and Manyatsi was hauled for a hearing after he was charged.

He was charged with breaching Article 4 of the Code of Conduct for councillors in that he sent Mhlongo a text message via his cellular phone.

On the second count, he was charged with on four charges accompanied by a request being made to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development to remove him from his position.

This decision was reported to have emanated from a disciplinary conviction for

diverting trucks to illegally dump soil in open space without authority.

He was also charged for allegedly directing the council's Acting Director of Community Services Allen Matsenjwa to cancel a meeting that had been aimed at addressing the illegal dumping of the debris by the truck for which he was alleged to have claimed responsibility.

Misrepresenting

Further, he was charged with falsely claiming that he had authority to divert the truck to dump the soil in the open space or plot.

This was after the truck had been given a permit to dump the debris at the landfill in Mpolonjeni, but he allegedly

produced his council business card to the truck driver to make an impression that he had authority to divert the truck.

He was slapped with an alternative charge of influencing the dumping of the debris and further admitted to having done so.

Manyatsi appeared before a special committee and pleaded not guilty to the charges, but he was found guilty of having breached the standing order of the council.

The councillor instituted legal proceedings against the Municipal Council of Mbabane two months ago challenging his suspension, but up to date – nothing has been done to hear his case.

Bogogo part of child abuse prevention initiative

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Grandmothers in the country have praised for the role they play in raising children, and for being a secret weapon against child abuse.

An international blog has also praised the government for supporting a new approach to protecting children, a suggestion by local chiefs who thought they are a good idea as they are already allies for the children. It was noted that Swaziland was once ranked near the bottom of all the African nations for child well-being, a measure that includes legal protec-

tions for children and spending on initiatives like education and health care.

Now, Swaziland is regarded as a shining model of how to protect kids.

The country was recently singled out as an example of how a government can use a variety of approaches to make major strides, where most of that credit went to grandmothers. After non-profit organisations engaged the government on how they could improve the protection of children, chiefs came up with the suggestion of grandmothers.

UNICEF representative in Swaziland, Rachel Odede, was quoted

saying grandmothers were excellent allies for several reasons, and they enjoyed respect within the community and often stay home with the community's children. This was in 2000, and since then more than 10,000 grandmothers have enrolled in a new program called 'Shoulder to Cry On' to combat child abuse. It's sponsored by government agencies and non-profit organisations; UNICEF is one of the organisers. The program has helped address one of the challenges of child abuse – helping children understand that certain kinds of treatment are not OK and should be reported to a grandmother or another trustworthy

adult. One of the grandmothers who have enrolled in the new programmes courtesy of UNICEF, Khanyisile Simelane, who is a grandmother of eight was selected at a community meeting to be a shoulder to cry on in 2005. She knocked on doors around the village to explain her new role. Then, she began discussing abuse with children at the community center, where she works as a caregiver.

"I use picture stories mainly," Simelane says. These tales, part of grandmothers' training, are designed to help children identify and report abuse. In the stories, an animal's behaviour often mimics the actions of abusers; victims can turn to Grandmother Elephant, whose big

ears make her a good listener. Simelane said she monitored children's reactions and followed up afterwards. When a child comes to a grandmother to report abuse or the grandmother identifies abuse independently, she takes the child to the region's one-stop center dedicated to abuse victims. There, the child can talk to social workers, receive medical treatment and be interviewed by the police. Simelane says however she faces pushback for exposing inappropriate practices by family members. "This is indeed a difficult job," she admits, adding that some grandmothers have dropped out of the program because of hostile community reaction.

LIMKOKWING
UNIVERSITY
OF CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

THE UNIVERSITY THAT CHANGED THE GAME



LIMKOKWING: A STRATEGIC FIT TO CURRENT ECONOMIC STATE OF SD

BY MLONDI MPANZA

Limkokwing is a strategic fit to the current economic state of Swaziland, because it facilitates and expedites creative capability and skills based education.

This is how former Business Management student, Thando Innocent Dlamini describes the university of creativity.

As the Marketing Assistant for one of the country's biggest festivals, the MTN Bushfire, Thando reveals that amongst his responsibilities in the festival is to assist in its promotion, whilst developing new marketing ideas, sponsorship and partnership packages.

He is also responsible for designing activation packages and assisting in the development of "event themes" and concept research, development, planning and implementation amongst other things.

STUDYING IN LIMKOKWING

What did you study in Limkokwing University and when did you graduate?

I studied Business Management and I am waiting to graduate this year.

Briefly describe your experiences during your study with Limkokwing University.

Studying at Limkokwing for me meant many sleepless nights, creative thinking, lots of researching, networking, and trying new things. It also meant having to deliver on time with limited resources and having fun at the end of the day.

What are your most memorable moments at Limkokwing University?

I have always been an advocate for career development, mostly through entrepreneurship and I have organised quite a number of entrepreneurship functions and activities. My most memorable moment at Limkokwing would be when I hosted the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) and Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) on a career Fair day which saw the institution's Multi-Purpose Hall packed up to maximum capacity. Another one would be when I officially launched the Business Management Club which I Chaired and co-founded with my colleagues (class of 2016).

Name any outstanding achievement you had during the University (awards, competitions, tournaments, etc).

Unfortunately I am not an athletic-competitive person, but rather I am more a strategic creative. I was nominated for the student entrepreneur award last year but the awards eventually did not take place. On the side I held the leadership position of class rep, Chairman of the Business management Club and co-founder & edi-



tor in chief of the WINGZ MAGAZINE, a campus online based newsletter.

THE UNIVERSITY

What is different or unique about Limkokwing University compared to other Universities in the country?

What you learn from Limkokwing is usable to your own benefit even if you are unemployed, more so because it is creative oriented, which means as a student of Limkokwing you are better equipped to employ yourself and to survive competition in the industry by being as creative as no one else can be. Most universities cannot deliver that package, at least not as good as Limkokwing does.

What do you think of the University's hands on approach to education?

I think it is a perfect provision for the lack of employment and financial crisis our youth is facing. We now live in a different era from that of our parents whereby they would have to study in order to be employed, but we are at a day and age where we must create employment opportunities for ourselves as the youth.

How does the University's presence in the country benefit the country and its youth?

The presence of the university in the country is a blessing to us as young people. Today I am an entrepreneur and I have also helped some of my mates set up their own companies which today contribute to economy through taxes and are also employing some of the youth. If there were more of us opening these small companies and all collectively contributing to the economy of the country this way, the Lilangeni would be in a much better competing position.

How has Limkokwing University redefined creativity and innovation in the country?

I think the key element was in Tan Sri himself choosing this region to establish such a unique institution and then tailoring its programmes so well that they immediately met and responded to the need of creative education in the Sub-Sahara region thus forming the complete redefinition of creativity and innovation. The infrastructure, equipment, concept, skill, program and discipline are already well presented as requirements to acknowledge, adapt and action innovatively and creatively.

THE INDUSTRY

When did you start your job or business?

I started my job at Bushfire five months ago, as an intern student. But I was offered permanent employment soon after I completed my internship. I also run a small business called VNNSTQ Investments which I started with my colleagues back at school in 2014.

What is the biggest difference between University and the Industry? What impact did it have on you? How did you overcome the impact?

I think the biggest difference between University and the industry is the set up and the extremes of adaptation. The university is equipped with equipment belonging to it which bare no cost to the students whether it makes returns on the investment or not. The industry is a different story all together, all resources must be strategically positioned to yield returns no matter what the scenario is.

Also I think there is a drastic gap between understanding the pace of "taking action" in the industry than there is in the university. All actions bare consequences and the industry is no room for error, critical calculations must be made for every risk taken and proper implementation

strategies must be well put in place during action plan rollout. *What are some of your current notable projects?*

At the moment I'm still growing VNNSTQ but on the work side of things, the producers of bushfire have decided to add a whole new portfolio to the Bushfire calendar. We call it the Total Gold Series and it was officially launched this past weekend at House on Fire featuring The Soil as main attraction for the night. We are planning a three part treat for this series and it will always be staggered between one Bushfire to the next. Here I am responsible for securing the sponsorship for the series and I'm also tailoring new marketing ideas, sponsor & partnership packages, plus designing activation packages.

What would you consider to be your greatest achievement in your career?

I think being a member of the core team that creates the magic in the MTN Bushfire festival which is known internationally so far is the greatest achievement thus far. Given the credibility that Bushfire has, it is unbelievable to be in the midst of all that planning, strategising implementing and activity. I also feel so honored to be a soon-to-graduate student of Limkokwing. I can already feel the winds of the industry blowing beneath my wings.

How has your experience in Limkokwing University helped in your career?

My experience at Limkokwing has helped me a lot in my career. There are things I would have never understood in my lifetime but taking up a course with Limkokwing has really been eye opening for me. I have gained great understanding of technology and how to creatively leverage business functions around technological advancement.

I have also learned the importance of creativity and innovation and also how to use these skills to counter competition and to tailor and present new and unique products to the market. *What are the specific skills you picked up in Limkokwing University that have helped you succeed in the industry?*

Understanding business functioning - yes! But mostly, understanding business functioning so much closer to actually creating one, where no one else thinks there could be one is the main skill I have picked up from Limkokwing. I have also learned to deliver even on limited resources by being creative and innovative around my delivering.

What are your views regarding your particular industry in Swaziland today, especially in

light of the global economic downturn?

I think the entertainment industry can be a solution to this global economic downturn. MTN Bushfire alone generated a lot of money for the broader economy of the country this year. If only we had more activities in the country that accelerate the level of tourism and domestic entrepreneurship in the country, we would be in a better position to withstand the downturn.

Who appreciates you more in the industry that we can communicate with about your contribution to the economy or industry?

I am still a fresh carrot in the industry but I have worked harmoniously with lots of people including the likes of (but not limited to) Jiggs Thorne - MTN Bushfire festival director, Pastor Phetsa Dlamini - Blue Print consultants MD, Anthony Seibert - TOTAL Swaziland MD, Khulekani Magongo - young heroes CEO, Luigi Rosi - Happy Valley Manager, Bongani Mvubu - Swazi Observer marketing to name but just a few.

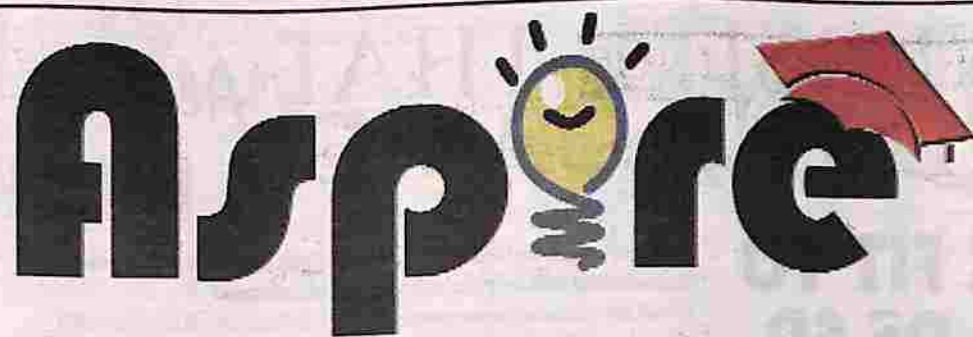
ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

Give tips or advice to our current students studying your graduate discipline.

Well, I can only encourage them to be proactive if they wish to make it in this industry. It's not really the good grades (they do count though) that put you on the map but is how much one is ready to take initiative and make things happen. It is common perception that University is not easy but if you make it a habit, a hobby, a little fantasy of your own, you might be singing a different tune. The only way to survive in this industry is to love it and to put the best effort in creating diversity as possible and all that begins right now, right where you are and with those people you are with, be it lectures or your colleagues.

What tips or advice would you offer to students interested in entering your line of work?

Well, it all comes down to visions and wishes. If you wish to be in this industry, I suggest you don't enter this industry - nothing gets done through wishing here. If you wish to become like anyone who is successful in the industry, just keep it in mind that we already have an original version of whosoever you wish to become and it is less likely that the industry is looking for a duplicate. But, if you envision yourself as a player in this industry, I recommend that you realistically set your goals, embark on the mission and work strategically towards accomplishing that vision you have.



A Youth Section On Youth Issues By The Youth



WRITER'S NOTE...

This past week, whilst I was on the very last stage of preparing for this week's edition, we heard the devastating news that a quantum had overturned with U-Tech students, who were on their way to school.

Two of them passed away, and some are still in critical conditions. One of the students was Lwandile 'Seven' Mngadi. These are two young people who still had aspirations to do great things. Just this morning, before penning this piece, I was so blank as to how I'd put my emotions into words for what had happened. At the very same time I stared in pain, as I tried to read the review of the Hipnotik show that Seven did for us. He had also planned on doing more writing for us, especially during the upcoming school holidays. Now, when every friend or relative least expected, death has crept and robbed us of one of the most amazing people we have met. So, with that I had to shift everything and make a fitting tribute to the two young people that passed way in the fateful tragic accident, on Thursday morning.

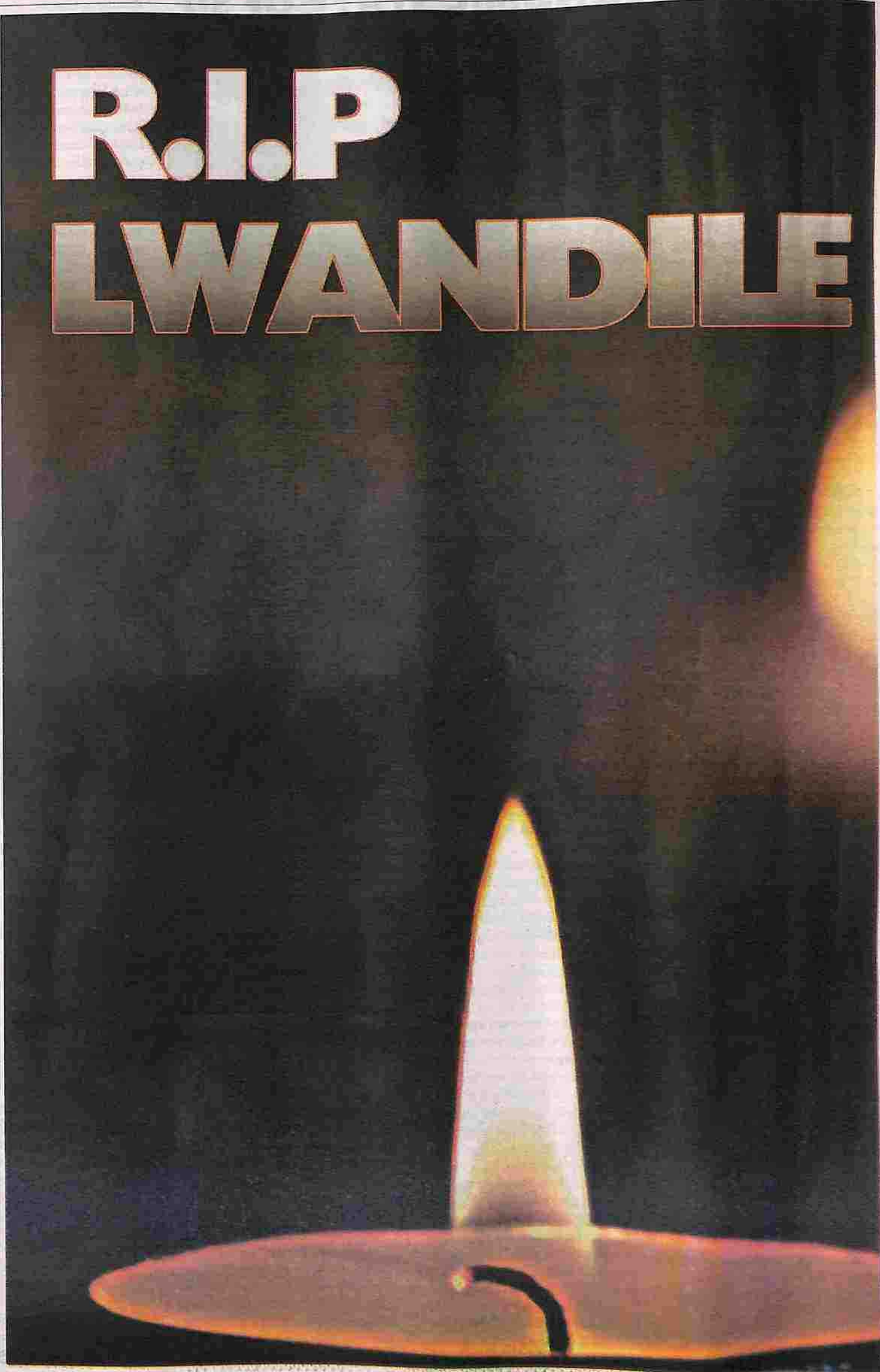
See, death is something that we can all never run away from. No matter how much we can try to take it away from our daily thoughts, it always hits – and this happens daily. Someone losses a life every day, the same way we gain one daily. One thing that made us take notice of his life was the kind of person 'Seven' was – outspoken, opinionated fashion forward and fun. I know a lot of us haven't come to terms with the fact that we shall never see him again. Such a life that had so much to still give out to the world.

Now, as I contacted those who knew him for their last words, I got to feel how devastated they were. We have lost a young soul, which was destined for success and greatness. Ask anyone who met him, and they shall tell you how trouble-free he was. Ask anyone who met him, and they will tell you how fun he was. And well, ask anyone who knew him, and they will tell you how mean his cotton game was.

I am one person who always believes in embracing reality so that we can continue living – but I have to confess that this still doesn't feel real. My heart is still overwhelmed and God-knows how much I wish this was just a nightmare that will pass as soon as I wake up. But, unfortunately, it's real. You have passed on, but just be sure that you shall always be in our hearts; for we have pledged to you a hallowed place in our hearts forever. Rest In Peace boy!

SBUSISO DLAMINI.

R.I.P LWANDILE



FRIENDS POUR OUT THEIR HEARTS



ANDILE HLOPHE

To my brother #SEVEN-HIMSELF" LW-ANDILE (smiles)MNGADI", yes you loved it when I called that but now man who do I call its hurts that I lost a friend, a brother, a motivator. It's not a easy to forget the days we had together and yes now reminiscing the little moments we had now you gone having to think we would have a journey that would talk about when we always together (sad faces)...I loved and cherished you, yes you young but you were my twin, we would talk have plans but the Lord knows why I don't have much to say but my tears can express the way I feel...



MUMU LUKHELE (RIGHT)

R.I.P boy. Your swag was always on point. You were easy going and fun. We will meet in heaven my brother.

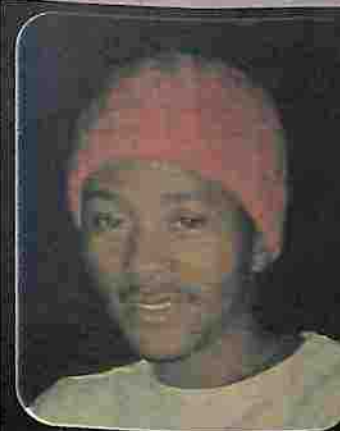
NTSIKA SIMELANE

Words are few to describe the type of life you were living my friend. To all students and my fellow students who knew him too, I say Rest In Peace mfanawami.



LUNGELIHLE

When a legend is born, his legacy shall always reign forever. Unfortunately, this is a legend that our kids will never get to meet. As the Seven starts align - we say Rest In Peace. We know you are at a better place.



VUYO MBINGO

I barely new Lwandile, besides the person I knew at school. He wasn't the perfect student, but he was among the juniors I got acquainted with. It's a tragic loss. To me, his friends, especially his family. We will remember you. Long live 7.

POETRY...

R.I.P

If tears could build
a stairway
And memories
were a lane
We would walk
right up to Heaven
And bring you back
again

No farewell words
were spoken
No time to say
goodbye
You were gone
before we knew it
And only God
knows why

Our hearts still
ache in sadness and
pain
And secret tears
still flow
What it means to
lose you is some-
thing words will
never describe

But we know that
you want us to
mourn for you no
more
To remember all
the good times we
had
Since you'll never
be forgotten
We will reserve a
special place for
you in our hearts.
Rest In Peace.



DON'T FORCE YOURSELF INTO SOMETHING YOU AREN'T GOOD AT

80 Script, real name Zolile Motsa is not new to our Swazi entertainment scene.

Whilst every Hip hop head in the country is waiting anxiously for the gifted lyricist's debut album, we, got the privilege of being one of the very first people to listen to some of the tracks in the upcoming album (I know it sounds unfair and trust me, as we've said time and time again - he is the best in the country. No further questions!

The young man did his primary school at Khanyisile Primary School and then went on to do his high school at Sifundzani High School.

"I can say that I was quite very fortunate and blessed to be taken to these good schools, and it's all thanks to my parents. Not just because of the quality of education but because of the people that I met there. You would be surprised that those are the people that I've kept till today."

Family

He says he fell in love with music at a very young age and it was because of his father who was an avid collector of music. "My dad was an avid collector of music. He would listen to everything - from soulful music to hip hop. I remember quite vividly the first time I heard Hip hop was when my dad was playing Jay Z's Blueprint on my way to school. I fell in love with it and then it just continued from that day on."

After that they started writing lyrics with his clique at school and they would then vote for the one who wrote the best piece during break time. "We started writing from a very young age with my friends and we would battle each other during break time. That's where some of us took it more seriously than the others and the rest is history." When we ask him how his parents took his decision to start taking rap seriously, he tells us that they had different perspectives. His mother was supportive and his father was not as sure due to the reckless behaviour that is always associated with Hip hop. "My mom was supportive, just as mothers always are, but my dad was not happy because of all the reckless behaviour that is always associated with Hip hop."

Challenges

As things went on though, and they noticed my talent, they started accepting, and it's even got to the point where they support me fully."

We then get to tertiary, and he says this was a very challenging time in his life. This was a very challenging time in my life, because all my life, I was an A-student, and for the very first time ever, I was supposed to apply myself yet there was rap on the other side which was consuming so much of my time. It was not

all bad news though because I did learn quite a lot there that I still apply today in my life, so to answer that question, tertiary was a fruitful experience."

A lot of people have always come out to critique 80Script because he is from a well off family, and he has even made tracks such as Aristocrats - which means upper class - and in some of the lyrics he goes as far as saying it's not his problem that some people cannot afford.

To clear that, 80 defends himself, and says although he is from a well off family, that doesn't guarantee him of anything in the Hip hop circles.

"I will not get anything free of charge just because I'm from a well off family. What people don't understand is that I've had to work very hard for what I've achieved so far. People will not love your music because you are from a well off family, and I won't get big gigs because of my family."

I haven't performed at the annual Bushfire festival yet and it's something I'm working on, so people should know that I don't get any freebies. I work hard for everything, because it's our family culture. We believe that we are built to succeed and therefore success comes through dedication and perseverance.

Another question that many people love to ask from him is why he doesn't relocate to South Africa permanently because he raps in fluent English.

"My plan has evolved over time. In my last project, I had decided to move to South Africa. In fact I moved there and managed some gigs - such as eTV's Hip hop show Shiz Niz and also on Vuzu, but then I realised something. South Africa as a country is celebrating its own."

Yes, youngsters such as Nasty C and A-Reece have managed to make it somehow, there are also 15 to 20 thousand kids who are talented but are just not getting as much recognition. So,

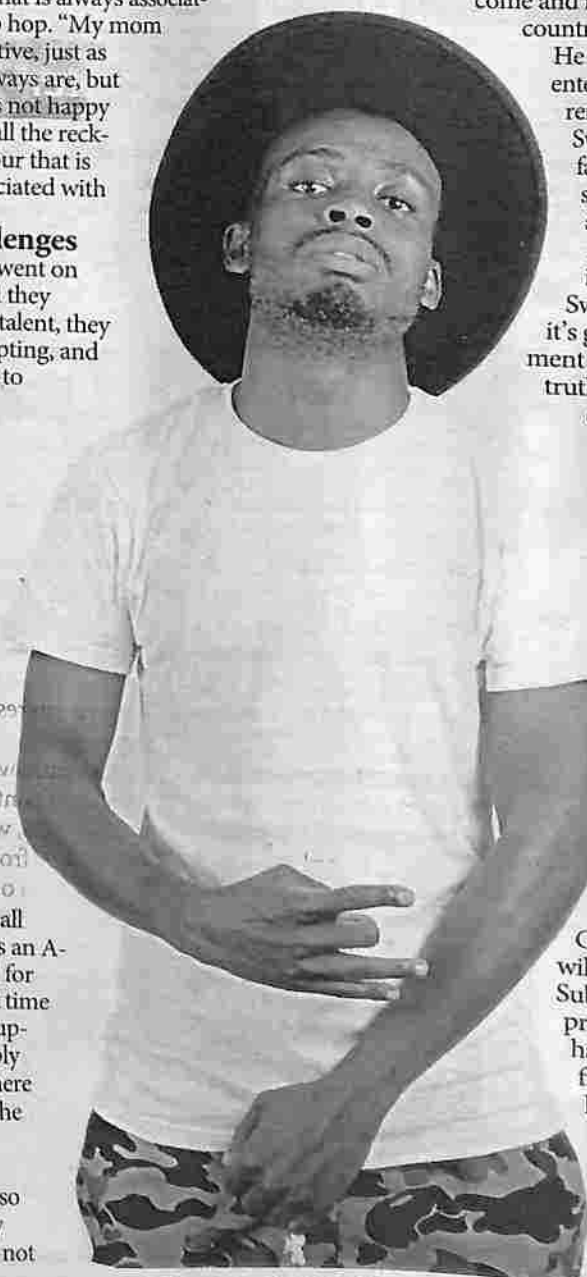
I decided that if I'm to make it, I should come and make myself the best in the country."

He believes that the Swazi entertainment industry is currently on the roll and only we Swazis will determine how fast it will become as professional as the others that we always marvel at. "Our industry is slowly but surely in motion. I think only us, as Swazis will determine how fast it's going to move. Even government has to invest because the truth is we cannot all be lawyers or doctors or teachers,

because there simply aren't enough slots for all of us. Entertainment can create job opportunities in the country."

When we get to the album that everyone is waiting, he calls for patience and says it's very, very, very close to completion. "I can safely say the album is very near to completion and people should just keep their ears on the ground because it will be out soon. They should know that we are working on a Grammy winning album. It will pass the ears of Mozaik, Subjamz and the Swazi Jive producer. So, I guess we just have to wait for it because from the bit that we've heard, the album is BEAMS!"

His aspirations are to retire at 30 and to graduate before thirty because he wants to get into marketing after his rap career.



ADVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

• **ON RAP AS A CAREER** - First things first, be very honest with yourself. Make sure that you are talented in rap, and you will know that because people will tell you when they hear you. Don't force yourself into something you aren't gifted at because of status. That will waste your time because you could be doing something else that you are really good at. So, if you are passionate and you also have the talent, then you have what it takes. Oh, before I forget, you also have to read, reading is what working out is to the body, so you have to always read.

• **ON DRUGS** - Drugs are not

COOL! It starts there and ends there. Smoking and drinking are useless because they are a waste of time and money. I don't even have to go to the hard stuff such as coke, because you know very well that they can wreck your life. No one says fun has to involve drugs, so just always keep that in mind.

• **ON GIRLFRIENDS AND BOYFRIENDS** - I believe that relationships are a waste of time. You have your life to focus on and not someone else. Yes, you can have a boyfriend or a girlfriend but just make sure that you are cautious.

FOREX ENTERTAINMENT ON A MISSION TO REINVENT THE ENTERTAINMENT GAME

Our country is literally nothing without young people who will continue developing it. This then calls for young people who will be innovative and help develop the nation. This week, we met with a couple of young people who have big dreams. They go by the name Forex entertainment investments. This is what they had to share with us about their stable;

Brief description On F.E.I

Forex Entertainment Investments is a marketing and investment enterprise aimed at promoting corporate and artistic brands but, with a core principle of empowering positive mind's in the whole entertainment process, bringing them into the mainstream economy to provide growth and sustainability that will drive any economy to world class status.

Our main focus:

- In terms of F.E.I's foreign investment strategy, we aim to promote local brands not only on a local level but also internationally, generating income through entertainment, and using the strength of the generated currency to boost that of the weaker currencies, promoting growth in that economy and getting that economy to world class status making it more competitive in the foreign market.

- Our other main focus is on the youth, mainly University students as our aims rely on them to work together with us in creating a better economy, as they are intellectually empowered.

The 7 aims set to be achieved by F.E.I By The Year 2022

• Promoting Gender Equality

F.E.I set's to achieve gender equality as we believe that women empowerment is a prerequisite for sustainable development and economic growth, to second this point research conducted by the United Nations, has shown women could increase their income globally by up to 76 per cent if the employment participation gap and the wage gap between women and men were closed. This is calculated to have a global value of USD 17 trillion, and this is a claim that we as F.E.I set to prove right by empowering women not only on a local but international stage.

- Decreasing the unemployment rate and duration



“Our other main focus is on the youth, mainly University students as our aims rely on them to work together with us in creating a better economy, as they are intellectually empowered.”

of getting employed due to experience requirements by employers.

F.E.I set's out to achieve this through the empowerment or investment in university students with entrepreneurial and strategic planning skill's that can help boost the efficiency of currently existing industries, thus promoting economic growth, sustainability and make the country more competitive in the foreign market.

• Promoting responsibly entertainment both locally and internationally.

F.E.I's main plan on entertainment is to provide a fun but empowering atmosphere at the same time, with responsible entertainment measures that include responsible drinking through a system that will see fun lovers above the age of 18 only getting to purchase a limited number of alcoholic beverages, for the duration of our entertain-

ment events, and this will allow the fun-lovers to be in a stable state of mind at the events to make it easy for them to listen and retrieve the information set out to empower them at the events.

• Eradicating HIV/AIDS

Through the hosting fun but empowering event's, what we set out to do is to interest a large crowd of fun lovers to attend the event, through our different strategies of interesting people to attend these event, and since youth fun lovers are mostly at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, we will request assistance from AMICAALL which is an organisation that deals with the eradication of HIV/AIDS, and we believe this is possible through educating the youth about prevention measures and how to be able to manage the virus if already contracted, and since the youth is the future, this will mean a lower HIV/AIDS contraction rate in the future.

• Promotion of arts in the country

A recent article was published on the newspaper describing the arts industry in the country as one that has still not reached levels of positive output's mainly with the music industry, with the society in the country also viewing the industry negatively, due to its efficiency and quality of services rendered, and as F.E.I we aim to promote local artist's by providing platforms such as EvolutionX which sets to use one of a kind strategies to ensure attendance of larger crowds of fun-lovers, allowing that artist to showcase their talent to a potential fan-base, promoting themselves as brands' and also leading them to become independent as they will have created a large following through the years' of hosting of responsible events by F.E.I. other aspects of the industry to be promoted through events such as EvolutionX include fashion, and motor-sport which is not yet fully recognised in the country.

• Promoting Tourism in the country

Through the hosting of one of a kind events such as the upcoming EvolutionX festival, the strategies to be used will not only grab the attention of local's but also that of the whole African continent, just to give you a little insight a fashion promoting strategy will be implemented seeing certain individuals winning prizes to the value of E10, 000.00 through a best dressed competition that will be held at the event.

• Promoting Swaziland as an investment opportunity

As F.E.I we believe that if we can successfully achieve all the as mentioned above, through help from the nation as we move towards achieving world class status by the year 2022, solving of issues such as gender equality that will make the economy more competitive, and the eradication of HIV/AIDS, which poses a challenge to the business environment, this will promote Swaziland as the ideal investment opportunity, thus creating more jobs and promoting growth in the economy ensuring that we reach world class standards by the year 2022 as visioned by King Mswati III. (To be continued on the next edition.)



ZANEMVULA
TSABEDZE
FILM REVIEWER
www.zanfiction.com

A SQUAD WORTH WAITING FOR? (This review contains spoilers for Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice)

Like most Joker/DC fans worldwide, the release of this movie has been one of my most highly anticipated dates of the year. The director of fantastic movies like Training Day and End of Watch, brings us Suicide Squad, the latest live action movie in the DC cinematic universe.

If you've seen Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice, you'll have a head start on the premise of this entire movie because it pretty much picks up from the aftermath of the events from Dawn of Justice. If you haven't seen it, you're not missing out on much, it is not a very good movie. The gist of Suicide Squad is that the government is reflecting on how freakishly strong and powerful Superman was and brooding over the idea that, if he had been "evil", the human race wouldn't have stood a chance against him. Now that he is "dead", the government needs a plan of action in the event of a Superman-type (or any other-worldly) attack. Amanda Waller, a government official played by Viola Davis, proposes they fish from their own pool of imprisoned DC villains and assemble a team that may stand a chance against such a threat. They call this team TaskForce X, which we know as the Suicide Squad.

So I'm going to start off with the films biggest problem before we get to all the good stuff. And that is:

NOT. ENOUGH. JOKER.

In all the trailers and all other promo leading up to this movie's release, we are not given a single indication that the Joker is just be a side-line character with no real place in the main storyline. If you take the Joker out of this movie, it's pretty much still the same movie.

And that is a huge let down. On the other hand, Batman merely makes a cameo appearance in the film, so perhaps the whole Batman/Joker dynamic is being reserved for a separate film that will come sometime in the future. I choose to believe that this is the reason they held back on the Joker and I am already waiting for his own movie. If that is not the case, we have been seriously cheated.

Nevertheless, from what little we do get to see of the Joker (played by Jared Leto), I am quite satisfied. I will probably never be as impressed as I was by Heath Ledger's portrayal of the Joker in 2008 but Leto comes close.

His performance is very different from the previous two, which is perfect. His Joker is more masculine and well-dressed. His signature laugh is well crafted but the movie doesn't give it much of a chance to shine or grow on the audience.

This is the third live action portrayal of the Joker and there are a lot of mixed feelings about Leto's interpretation of the character, but most of it seems to stem from comparisons to the previous Jokers we've seen in The Dark Knight (2008) and Batman (1989). Leto has never failed to impress me. He is one of the most versatile actors I've seen on screen, he commits to his roles, completely transforming himself with each character he plays.

Score: 5/10

Release date: 5 August 2016

Genre: Action, Adventure

Runtime: 123 minutes

Directed and written by: David Ayer

Rating: PG 13

SUNDAYCOMMENT:

TUCOSWA
no-show a
loud statement

From what has emerged at the recently-concluded Sibaya, the Trade Union Congress of Swaziland can have no place to hide. It has emerged that TUCOSWA declined the opportunity to inform the nation on its intention and presentation to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) especially during the Geneva Conference.

This is key; for the crust of the agenda at Sibaya is how the country always has to defend against being placed under the Special Paragraph, with information suggesting that this is based on the submissions and lobbying by the Union. In this case, it is what has finally led to His Majesty the King calling Sibaya to deliberate on what caused this negativity of the country outside our borders.

Speaking when commissioning Sibaya, Ingwenyama said that whenever he travelled he is told of negative things about the country, which he always wondered where it came from, 'because we live in this country and we do not know what they are talking about'.

The king then called for the negative misconceptions about the country to be cleared, which is what led to the calls for TUCOSWA to make a presentation at Sibaya. But the union is said to have declined the opportunity, because apparently the leadership is against this idea. The federation claims it could not present its issues as individuals, which begs the question of how they are able to make their presentations to the ILO. These are the same people who are able to articulate every little claim against the country in their quest to lobby for the country to be placed on the special paragraph.

From the submissions at Sibaya, including those made by the Minister of Labour and Social Security, as well as Jabulani Nxumalo, TUCOSWA owes this country a lot of answers. It cannot hide under the guise of being a federation when it suits itself, and when so many Swazis are suffering because of the decisions they make behind their other agendas.

The refusal to make the presentation at Sibaya could also be seen as a loss for the union to state its case, whatever that case is—for we remain in the dark. A lot of us could have benefitted from knowing what drives their campaign, and for what good they push their agenda.

As it is, we are left to conclude that the Trade Union Congress is not what it claims to be, but instead is a quasi-political party intent on pushing a different agenda to that of the good of the country.

It may not have made its presentation at Sibaya, but it has made a very loud statement in its silence.

BY MBONGENI
MBINGO

Analysis & opinion

SIBAYA HAS SPOKEN

When Ingwenyama invites the people to speak freely, you can expect just about anything—and that is what Sibaya is about. The people could not be intimidated, as they had been given the freedom to speak their minds. The people made their feelings known on a number of subjects, and it can be deduced that they have been very hungry for such an opportunity to speak—freely.

The highlight of the three days in which people made their feelings known just about on anything under our sun, is how scathing the majority of speakers were on the Cabinet, the prime minister included, and a lot of the people who have been given responsibility to lead in their various capacities. It was clear that people are frustrated.

However, what we can take from Sibaya is how people have the confidence in the system, and that this is their vehicle to contribute to their



own nation-building.

It is admirable how people came in their numbers, chose their points and made their submissions, in the hope and belief that these issues will be attended to—and in the belief in our system of governance.

Speaker after speaker, and various of them choosing varying topics, spoke with passion and zeal. They addressed their King knowing he was listening to them, and believing that he wanted to hear from them.

This is what we have to be proud of as a nation; that we remain com-

mitted to strengthening our fibre as a peaceful country that believes in dialogue to solve our issues. His Majesty has been instrumental, for he has espoused dialogue as the only way in which to address our differences and to build the nation. For three days at Sibaya, Swazis got together to engage; to scream; to whisper; to implore their king; to prick out the thorns.

This Sibaya has served to cement what we have always been about, a nation firm behind its king and culture—and system. It has exposed

the flaws of those who have been pursuing their agenda of seeking to divide and destabilise this great nation. And it achieved the point the Ingwenyama wanted to achieve above all—which is to show the world that whatever it is that has been said about Swaziland, it is far from the truth.

Sibaya has succeeded in showing just why His Majesty is always frustrated at why there is such a negative perception of this country—because it is based on lies, exaggerated half-truths, and jealousy.

The people have triumphed, because they have rallied behind their country. All there is to say is that we need better leaders to stand strong and defend this country and perform their duty to this great nation.

Bayethe! Wena Waphakathi!
Thank you for allowing your people to speak their minds.

MPs HAVE NO SHAME

I was astonished by this past week's and latest attempt by the Members of Parliament to try and score political points—or points for their stomachs—when they moved a motion to lobby for the increase of social grants. I found it cheap, and perhaps even distasteful. I actually wondered to myself the depths at which they are willing to go to cement their positions in the August house, to allow them to continue milking the public purse.

The sheer audacity by the politicians to even suggest that they would be willing to have E1 000 slashed, from their salaries has left a bitter taste to the mouth, purely because it goes to prove the point that MPs only use the elderly as their campaign tool.

It is not forgotten on us how these same people bought their way to parliament by lying to the elderly, by promising them the very improved social grants and a better life. Yet, for a good two years they have done nothing but focus on their own issues, and left the same elderly to make do with the E240 monthly grant.

What is upsetting, if not showing off how much they are out of touch with the reality out there, is the same MPs who said nothing when they cashed in their improved packages just a few weeks ago. When the MPs were informed that they would be also getting a windfall as a result of the review of the civil servants salaries, legislators forgot to question where this money was coming from, let alone the fact that it was really being insensitive to allow themselves to benefit so much when there was so much poverty around them.

Instead, they rushed to celebrate

the improved salaries, and went away to spend the back pay. Their greed got the better of them. Our parliament never fails to amaze, honestly. For me it is clear that we are being short-changed with this current parliament, and that we are not getting the value for what we are paying.

They lack the maturity to appreciate the situation on the ground, and the sensitivity to know when to actually pause and reflect. There is no doubt in my mind that it is wrong of parliament, and Cabinet to actually allow themselves to benefit from the salary reviews, even if they are purely just aligning the salaries as structure of the remunerations. Government sought to justify the improved salaries of Cabinet, MPs and *Emabandla* by claiming that this was an automatic realignment of the structure of politicians salaries, which are pegged and dependent on the adjustment of Civil Servants' remunerations. This, the government, explained is made by linking the alignment to the highest paid civil servant, the Secretary to Cabinet.

Consider

But, be that as it may, the reality is that they as politicians are the people who are best placed to know when it is right to effect something—and when the situation doesn't allow. They are the people best placed to consider the situation on the ground so as to be able to properly function as the oversight for the government. But, if politicians are ready to grab what's coming their way, then what hope do we have that they know what decisions to take in the interest of the people?

It is an open secret that the economy of this country is not doing

well, and that the majority of the people are struggling to make ends meet. Politicians, and in particular government, are struggling to create jobs and the issue of the social grants is a very sensitive issue to most people. Equally, other than accepting that they have to keep improving their salaries, so long as civil servants salaries are reviewed is failure to accept that the situation right now is not right.

Demands

I would have wished that government delays such a decision, and perhaps even go to the extent that they should have forfeited the back pay, if they were being sensitive to the public. This country already has a ballooning Wage Bill for which there is not enough coming in and it demands of the politicians to recognise this than for them to grant whatever there is on the table.

This kind of attitude is what leads government to purchase expensive wheels for ministers when they could have also been sensitive about it. It is also why we have so many ministries when it is clear that we could streamline these in order to be effective.

This is why one is perhaps disappointed with the attitude of parliament who continue to pursue personal agendas when the country needs a pulling together in order for us to be able to achieve our goals. The fact that there are bills pending in parliament while MPs find no time for such important business, or that MPs have failed to respond positively in tackling issues of national importance, is what leaves the public feeling as though we are getting the short end of the stick with this parliament.

People are frustrated with politicians and they have made this known at Sibaya this past week.

MPs, for instance, had a perfect opportunity to score good political points when the decision was being made to improve their salaries, by them saying no. This would be different from the deductions having to be effected in their salaries, as we can all recall how the previous parliament objected to this.

Yet, if they had the gall to stomach an increment such as this one, it would have gone a long way in their political mileage, not this gimmick of them now suggesting that government finds more money to pay the elderly, as if the country has enough in reserves. In fact, if the MPs do not know this then we are in bigger trouble.

Accepting

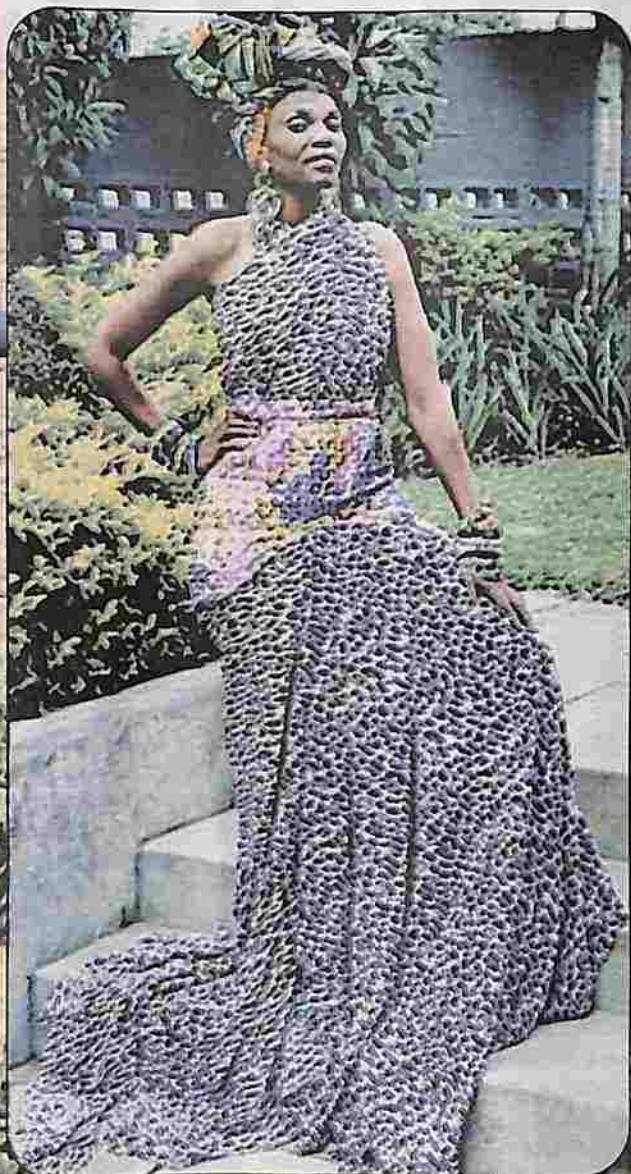
MPs are best placed to get the raw emotion of the people, if they play their role as the people's representative. If they stay in touch with reality, then they would have figured out a long time ago, that accepting the increment was tantamount to them accepting defeat to coming back in the next terms, because the people will not forget.

Therefore, MPs need to take real pragmatic decisions, and show that they are the future, and not just here to benefit for themselves.

That is why Sibaya is crucial for the nation, because people can't trust the very people who are placed there to do the basic duty of working for the people.

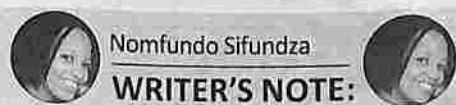
It is such a shame therefore, to sit and watch MPs behave as though they do not come from our communities.

If they seriously want to contribute positively, they have to start with showing that they are prepared to take the hard decision, and that starts with freezing their increments, which would go towards the social grants. Then, they would have matured.



THE AFRO SOUL SISTERS, VOICES OF GODDESSES





Nomfundo Sifundza

WRITER'S NOTE:

It is Sunday and that means you and I meet again for our lovely section of the SCENE.

This is my third edition and of course I did not compile it all on my own. A big shout out to the sweet Lungelo Nkhambule. Catch her article on page seven as she tackles the Social Networking Watch.

August being women's month means the celebration of the beautiful species. Three vocally gifted women indulge us on their choice of music genre. The one interesting factor we come across here is that they all insist that they did not choose afro-soul, but the genre chose them.

Divine huh? Read all about it on page four and five.

Hold up! on page two we meet an entrepreneur in the media sector. Enjoy his read.

The International news always makes the promise of shocking plastic surgery woes. But why? America why?

Our profession insists that we be inquisitive, so of course we have nine million dollar question. We need answers dear entertainers. Nothando Hlophe especially.

Now wherever you decided to spend your weekend last week. I know for certain you had a great time. On our picture spread we relive the weekend that combined worship and comedy.

Mduras #ZeroChill DVD recording did not last there, as the comedian's energy levels were still on a high at Mahalia's album launch, as he was the programme director.

Have a blast as you browse through last week's memorable moments.

This coming weekend also promises to be great as there will be the crowning of the most beautiful lady in Swaziland. I bet you, just as I, cannot wait one more day to see who takes the crown.

The girls are all stunning in their own special ways.

Until next week then *tah-dah!!*



Bashise shooting a video for one of the Zionist groups at Luphohlo Dam with his state of the art equipment.

YOUNG TELEVISION PRODUCER INVADING THE 'SMALL SCREEN' SPACE

A local film producer, Nkosinathi 'Bashise' Mkhathshwa, has invested over E70 000 on new equipment in a bid to produce high quality DVD material to meet international standards.

Mkhathshwa who trades under the name MK. V. P. Bashise Media Productions, has purchased a Mini-JIB valued at E36 500, a Canon XA 35 which costs E37 500 together with on camera video light valued at R3 000.

The full set cost E77 000, which he put to good use to change the media production landscape. This new technology, according to Mkhathshwa who affectionately known as Bashise, will improve the quality of his work in that he will now be able to capture high quality videos ranging from small to large groups including large crowds.

"With this equipment I will be able to shoot professional videos and compete with the big guns in Southern Africa. We are now shooting big groups in South Africa and Swaziland, so we must be competitive. MKVP Bashise Media Productions is now a big media company, so it's important that we have high tech equipment, so that we are able to take up any kind of project successfully" he said.

The man who dumped his nursing profession, after practicing for only two years, says his passion drives him to pursue the art he loves the most. He tried to stick to nursing but only stayed for two years as his passion was more with cinematography.

Describing his new 'baby' Bashise said a JIB is useful for getting high shots, or shots which need to move a great distance horizontally or vertically, without the expense and safety issues of putting a camera operator on a crane for a crane shot or laying track for a camera dolly. A JIB can even be mounted on a dolly for shots in which the camera moves over obstacles such as furniture, when a normal dolly shot could not be used.

Bashise is regular figure in a number of local big shows and now also frequents South Africa, where he shoots videos for local and

South African artists. He has done work for a number of big artists including the likes of Ncandweni Christ Ambassadors Live in Mhlaleni, Sermon titled breaking the Spirit of Failure in our Lives known as Jezebel, Ncandweni Christ ambassadors live in Umlazi (Durban) Titled God will Raise Another Man and Uyalalelwa uNkulunkulu DVD.

He also shot the video for Mduduzi Nezinceku Zamagawugawu song titled Amen from the album titled Iyakwehla Imvula. Did Gcina Masuku first DVD 'Nkosi Sihlangene, Mayibongwe Mthimkhulu Yethi Maria' and 'Kulungile' songs, which was Pastor T. Myeni's second DVD. He also shot Sihle Mathunjwa's Uyagikhathalela DVD. He will soon be shooting 'The Best of Gcina Masuku' and 'God Praises' DVD. There is also a chance that he will do work for Sifiso Ncwane's album, as talks are at an advanced stage.

He says competition is stiff out there, hence it was important for one to be on top of their game in order to attract more work in this industry. "I am very passionate about the work I do and I have big plans for the future as things seem to be slowly but surely falling in to place. My dream is to eventually start my own TV Station, which I believe will come true someday" he says.

Bashise says he does not only shoot musical videos as his area of expertise cuts across anything that needs to be captioned on motion picture. "Besides shooting music videos for artists, I also capture weddings, funerals, parties, graduations, movies, documentaries, TV programs and adverts. We would like to thank Dr. Timothy Myeni, Gawzela, Gcina Masuku for believing in us whilst we were least known and putting us on the world's map" he adds.



He says he started shooting music videos back in 2007, noting that their latest work is Simangele Dlamini (solo album) DVD of Amandla Egazi, the new DVD of GM Ndaba and New Creations. Mkhathshwa noted that most of his work, especially music videos, has been aired on local and international TV stations. "I am inspired by the legends like Vuya DVD productions in Johannesburg for their high quality and creative videos they produced back then. My dream is to open my own Television Station 'MKVP Bashise Television' in Johannesburg. I would love to be remembered for the legacy

I have created and the impact I

have in the media industry especially for putting Swaziland on the map" he says.

WHAT IS A JIB?

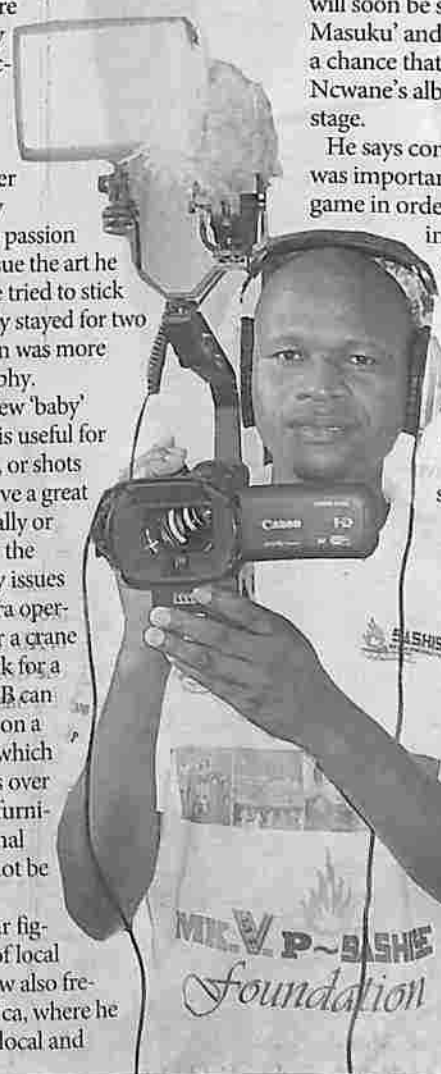
A JIB is somewhat more complicated than a simple lever, since almost always the camera's aim needs to be controlled independently of the swing of the JIB arm.

This can be done by relatively simple mechanical means or by the use of remotely controlled electric servo motors. Since the camera operator is often not able to use the camera's controls directly or look through the camera's viewfinder, a JIB is often used in conjunction with a remote camera control for focus and zoom and with a portable video monitor. A device known as a "hot head" or "remote head" is attached to the camera end of larger jibs. By Simon Shabangu

BRIEFLY ABOUT BASHISE

The Director of MK. V. P. Bashise Media Productions, Nkosinathi 'Bashise' Mkhathshwa, is a nurse by profession who deviated to pursue a completely different field of work. He was born at Mpaka Railway and grew up at Esiweni in Malindza next to where now sits the country's pride, KM III International Airport. He is a 30 year dynamic young man who has seen a lot behind the motion picture camera.

He schooled at Esiweni Primary School and did his secondary at Malindza High and Sitsatsaweni Secondary and later completed his school education at Good Shepherd High School. He then followed his passion for cinematography and joined British School of Film Making and Multimedia in Johannesburg where he obtained a degree. He later joined Mpumalanga College of Nursing where he studied nursing and obtained a Diploma in General Nursing. As fate has it, the later prevailed as he never pursued the nursing profession but stayed with making films.



SOCIAL SCENE



The past week has seen South African elections taking centre stage in the news and social media.

The campaigns of the different parties heading to the elections had every other person talking. Yes, even Swazis became part of the conversation.

It is no secret that whatever happens in South Africa has some kind of effect on our beloved Swaziland. I, for one, was behind the ruling

party all the way #Asinavalo. That isn't what we seek to address on this page today, though.

Today I want to talk about the involvement of Artists and entertainers in issues of importance such as politics.

The truth is no human being under the sun can detach themselves from politics and I find it very confusing when people say they are not into politics.

Do people who say this even

understand what politics is?

Politics is a part of our life; it is something that we cannot move ourselves away from.

During the campaigning process in South Africa we saw celebrities throw their weight behind the political parties of their choice.

Black Coffee took to Instagram and made his vote known; he further went on to say why he was voting ANC.

Coming back home the past week we had one of the greatest political events, Sibaya. His Majesty King Mswati III summoned the nation to the cattle byre where he commissioned the people's parliament.

I went on my social media with keen interest and looked up at our socialites and entertainers, and to my disappointment they did not say any-

thing on the event of this magnitude. I was disappointed with the continuous detachment of our local celebrities from issues of national interest like Sibaya.

Sibaya and the people's parliament is a platform for Swazis to express themselves.

The point I am driving at is our entertainers, just like their South

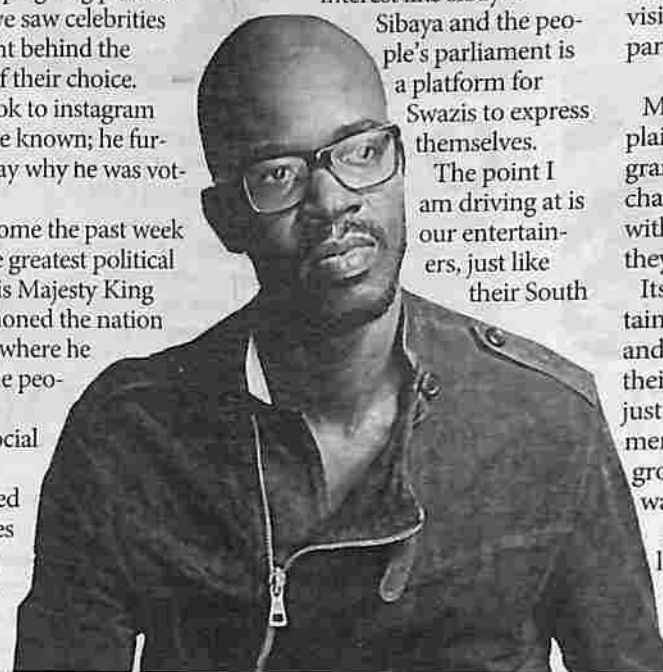
African counterparts, have a duty have a duty to lead on issues of national importance and during events of such high magnitude. I was also disappointed with their visible absence from the people's parliament.

Chance

Many times Swazi artists complain that their craft is taken for granted and now they had the chance, the platform to address this with the leaders of the country but they didn't.

It's time Swazi artists and entertainers took themselves seriously and used whatever means to have their industry taken seriously, not just by the people but by government, in order for their industry to grow and be given the respect it wants.

Artists and entertainers must learn from their South African counterparts it is important to be visible and be seen taking part.



MUGABE, THE AFRICAN ICON

A lot goes up and down in our social networking spaces. Some use it for business, others for bragging and posting pictures of their achievements. Others use it for fun.

Fun is a three letter word, yet it has a broad meaning. Social media users take it to another level, as the hype of the moment is quickly captioned using pictures that somehow relate with them. Social media has made Robert Mugabe an icon.

The Zimbabwean president's pictures have been captioned to all kinds of hilarious statements that match his facial expressions.

Some even take the messages seriously, as other captions have wise words and sensible advice.

Mugabe has stood the test of time in the Zimbabwean elections and even today he still stands with no intention of vacating the seat.

A BBC reporter interviewed him "Mr Mugabe you have been president for 32 years now. When are you going to say goodbye to the people of Zimbabwe?"

The president responded "Bye to the people of Zimbabwe? Where are they going? There have been numerous other posts that have been captioned in the presidents picture, making him the smartest and most followed man on social media.

Here we bring you some of the quotes we found online and also the pictures captioned on his face. Mugabe's pictures captioned.

HERE ARE SOME OF MUGABE'S OPINIONS:

1. **His opinion about himself:** "I am still the Hitler of the time. This Hitler has only one objective, justice for his own people, sovereignty for his people, recognition of the independence of his people, and their right to their resources. If that is Hitler, then let me be a Hitler tenfold. Ten times, that is what we stand for."

2. **On gay marriage:** Mugabe has never supported gay marriage, and has always ridiculed the idea, for to him, "even Satan wasn't Gay, he chose to approach unclad Eve Instead of unclad Adam". It would be ideal to demand of Mugabe how he got to know Satan was a He. But then, there



Epic Quotes

BBC Reporter: "Mr Mugabe, you've been president for 32 years now. When are you going to say goodbye to the people of Zimbabwe?"

Robert Mugabe: "Bye to the people of Zimbabwe? Where are they going?"

are no strong sources to link him with the statement. Below however are verified statements he made concerning gay marriage.

• "If you take men and lock them in a house for five years and tell them to come up with two children and they fail to do that, then we will chop off their heads."

• "Archbishop Tutu said it is nice to be gay, yet he has a wife, he should have begun by getting himself a man for a woman... When you are a bishop and cannot interpret the Bible, you should resign and give it to those who can. We will not compromise our tradition and tolerate homosexuality."

• "We need continuity in our race, and that comes from the woman, and no to homosexuality. John and John, no; Maria and Maria, no... I keep pigs and the male pig knows the female one."

3. **His opinion about south xenophobia in South Africa:** When some South Africans went crazy, hunting, harming and killing Africans from other countries living in South Africa, Mugabe reportedly stated that "South Africans will kick down a statue of a dead white man but won't even attempt to slap a live one. Yet they can stone to death a black man simply because he's a foreigner." However, the statement can't be authenticated as Mugabe's as the sources are not reliable. But then, it's certain that he blamed white South Africans for the xenophobic attacks. According to

him:

"It is a matter of the whites keeping things to themselves and the political dispensation brought in by Mandela, (that) did not address the question of disparities between whites and blacks, and this is what must be addressed."

Check Out: 15 Hilarious And Remarkable Quotes Of Julius Malema

4. **His opinion about the white man to trust:** Mugabe was elected Prime Minister after he called for reconciliation between the sections engaged in the Rhodesian Bush Warfare, including white Zimbabweans and rival political parties. Mugabe said "Stay with us, please remain in this country and constitute a nation based on national unity." When Mugabe's land reform was criticized for taking lands belonging to White farmers he retorted that "The white man is not indigenous to Africa. Africa is for Africans. Zimbabwe is for Zimbabweans... The white man is here as a second citizen. The only man you can trust is a dead white man."

Mugabe later on said: "What we hate is not the color of their skins but the evil that emanates from them." And thus emphasized that: "Our party must continue to strike fear in the heart of the white man, our real enemy!"

5. **On Tony Blair and George W Bush:** As Mugabe can only trust a dead white man, he attacked the living

with his words. Some of the statements he made about Tony Blair And George W Bush are as listed below:

• "We are still exchanging blows with the British government. They are using gay gangsters. Each time I pass through London, the gangster regime of Blair..."

• "We have fought for our land, we have fought for our sovereignty, small as we are we have won our independence and we are prepared to shed our blood.... So, Blair keep your England, and let me keep my Zimbabwe."

• "Mr Bush, Mr Blair and now Mr Brown's sense of human rights precludes our people's right to their God-given resources, which in their view must be controlled by their kith and kin. I am termed dictator because I have rejected this supremacist view and frustrated the neo-colonialists."

• "We are now being coerced to accept and believe that a new political-cum-religious doctrine has arisen, namely that there is but one political God, George W Bush, and Tony Blair is his prophet."

• "Let Mr Bush read history correctly. Let him realise that both personally and in his representative capacity as the current President of the United States, he stands for this "civilisation" which occupied, which colonised, which incarcerated, which killed. He has much to atone for and very little to lecture us on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. His hands drip with innocent blood of many nationalities"

6. **About the Commonwealth:** "The Commonwealth is a mere club, but it has become like an 'Animal Farm' where some members are more equal than others. How can Blair claim to regulate and direct events and still say all of us are equals?"

Check Out: President Mugabe Caught Sleeping In Public 8 Times

7. **About criticising his government:** Commenting on a violent clash between members of his party and the opposition MDC, Mugabe said: "When they criticize the government when it tries to prevent violence and punish perpetrators of that vio-

"Some girls have never seen the doors of a gym but look physically fit because of running from one man to another" - Robert Mugabe



It's hard to bewitch African Girls these days. Each time you take a piece from her hair to a Witch doctor, either a Brazilian innocent woman gets mad or a Factory in China catches fire.

"Treat every part of your towel nicely because the part that wipes your buttocks today will wipe your face tomorrow."

~Robert Mugabe



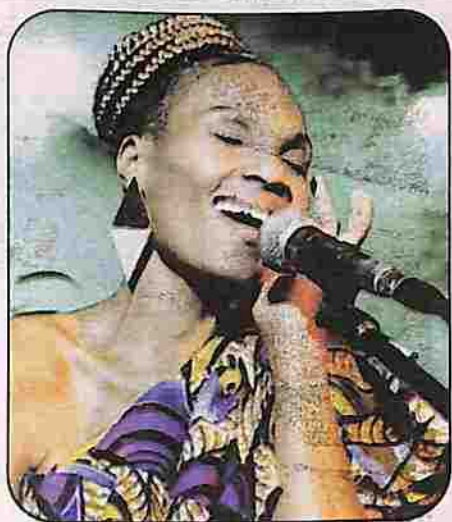
lence we take the position that they can go hang."

8. **On Zimbabwe's economy:** "Our economy is a hundred times better, than the average African economy. Outside South Africa, what country is [as good as] Zimbabwe? ... What is lacking now are goods on the shelves—that is all."

9. **On why he clings on power:** Now you can stop wondering why he's less willing to leave office even when age is no longer favoring him. According to Mugabe:

"I will never, never, never, never surrender. Zimbabwe is mine. I am a Zimbabwean. Zimbabwe for Zimbabweans. Zimbabwe never for the British. Britain for the British."

Read Also: 91-Year-Old Mugabe Has Goon Senile - Read



VOICES OF

Our country is made up of many beautiful things. The scenic beauty is enough to refresh a flooded mind and relax a troubled soul.

The country also boasts of massive talent in the form of, well for the sake of continuity, talent. Musically to be precise. Afro soul music singers are rare in the country hence it is

unproblematic to point out the cream of the crop because these women surely out do themselves in their craft.

Although we live in a world defined by all manners of awards and competitions to be deemed a super star, nothing beats the voice of a woman. The melodic and rhythmic voice of a woman belting it out, giving it her all in song.

No beauty and achievement compares to an African woman pouring out her soul in music and as she sings you begin to see right through her soul. That overtakes and wins the race against all awards.

Soul music is a popular music genre that originated in the late 1950s and early 1960s. It combines elements of African-American gospel

FIKILE 'FLOEWE' DHLADHLA

Most people recognise her voice from the Siyinqaba album where she belted out on the song 'Lutsandvo', but this amazing body structure and great talent has been around for quite some time.

Her maturity is heard from the way she maneuvers through high notes and low notes as she mesmerises. Floewe clearly knows her way through rhymes and vocals perfectly.

Floewe's musical journey began after she finished High School in 1995. Like every other child with a burning passion inside her

heart, she auditioned for a Hip Hop group known as VAMOOSE at the time.

Her talent earned her a position as a member in the group and the rest as they normally say, was histo-

ry.

On why she eventually chose Afro-soul music when other genres were there, the beauty smiles and responds "I would not say I chose it, it chose me as I started writing in my mother tongue so it felt natural.

Her diction on most of her vernacular songs is always on point. Take for instance the crowd favourite 'Lomatsemba' song. There is not even one word she sings in Zulu or somewhat Xhosa. It is pure and fluent Siwati.

So is this heard in

all her other crowd puller songs which include Moya, Ngilamleni and Mahlalela. "These four songs I have had to repeat, on request at almost all my performances" she says.

Floewe's most loved performances include but are not limited to the

Annual Bushfire Festival of the Arts, the A2GO Festival in Mozambique and the Annual Moshito Conference in South Africa, to mention but a few.

The beauty does not hide that the music industry is not a



playground as her advice to upcoming singers is; "It is imperative to stay true to who you are, know thyself before anyone else defines you. Decide what kind of musician you want to be and stick to it. People will want to work with you NOT only based on your talent; I have realised that talent alone is not enough.

As long as you take your craft seriously, the world will reciprocate. Consistency is also vital and keeping yourself in check. You never stop learning from others too. Young or old because all people have something to offer"

Before Floewe signs out may we say that the striking outfits on stage also go a long way into earning yourself the respect love you deserve. Keep it up. We love it.

● Her maturity is heard in the way she maneuvers through high notes and low notes as she mesmerises. Floewe's musical journey began after she finished high school in 1995

● Floewe's most loved performances include but are not limited to the Annual MTN BushFire Festival of the Arts, the A2GO Festival in Mozambique and the Annual Moshito Conference in SA

● Zaza's love for music struck when she was only 15 years old



NOMZAMO 'ZAZA' DLAMINI

What a young girl would not give to be like this woman?

She has maneuvered, fought and conquered all barriers as currently she is a vocalist in the leading music group, Joyous Celebration and even before the question is raised, No she has not quit Afro-soul.

When they say, your gift will take you before great men. Zaza knows better. Back in the day radio stations used to blast her

'injabulo' song. It was an amazing song, just as she sang it with her gorgeous smile on the music video 'ungicwalisangenjabulomculo'. It was clearly evident the sounds were from deep within and I repeat no award is better than a black woman singing from her soul. None.

Zaza's love for music struck when she was only 15 years old. This is where the interesting puzzle of the afro-soul sisters meets, she like Floewe did not choose the genre, but the genre chose her. She says with a smile. Again the beauty of an African woman is awakened.

Zaza admits that all

she did was to fall in love with the genre, she adds "I love music that speaks to one's soul, afro-soul speaks to my soul and I know for certain as I sing it speaks to the next person".

Judging from her social

net-working sites the beauty who is also a make-up

artist has a huge following, not only for her vocal abilities but also her free-spirited and humble personality.

Her crowd puller songs are witnesses that testify to the amazing

soul she has. "Lobola, senkhulile, ungesabi and kwe-sukesukela" has been requested for encore for as long as I can remember" she says.

Many times people have fallen in love with the beauty from her Joyous Celebration performance's including the recent show where she mounted on to stage clad in traditional regalia (emahiya) and sang Swazi hymns in worship. That moment made Swazis proud even unto today.

Zaza has also performed at the Kings Birthday celebrations; Trade fair, Simunye fun fair, Bushfire and the South African Traditional Music Awards (SATMA). She loses count and finally says "there are so many events I have poured out my soul at and I'm still counting, I will still be counting as long as I live".

On how the beauty juggles afro-soul and gospel music, she takes a deep sigh and finally responds "gospel has always been a part of me. Working



GODDESSES

music, rhythm and blues and jazz.

Here are three beautifully woven women soulfully shutting it down in their own respective ways. Veli 'Velemseni' Ndzimandze, Fikile 'Floewe' Dhladhla and Nomzamo 'Zaza' Dlamini are amazingly out of this world yet they are Africans, better yet they are Swazis. The combination of Velemseni, Floewe and

Nomalungelo was a blazing hot ball of fire at the Siyinqaba The Movie recording earlier this year at Mantenga Cultural Village.

Floewe's angelic voice fused with Velemseni's voice of a goddess and Nomalungelo's strong vocals shut the place the down for sure. Three powerful women were behind the microphone stands doing nothing more than giving birth to

timeless and soulful sounds which made the beauty of a vocally gifted black woman come to life. The audience watched in awe as even the wild animals at Mantenga were serenaded by African voices of Goddesses.

The three women take us through their love for afro-soul music and further have words of advice to aspiring afro-soul singers.

VELI 'VELEMSENI' NDZIMANDZE

Her voice is sweet. She sings so beautifully. Beautiful even becomes an understatement when describing Velemseni's voice.

Besides the fact that she holds a BA in music performance, this woman's voice is nothing the world has heard.

As she belts out her crowd puller and I tell you now with all honesty, her song 'hey mama' always gets encore requests. When she hits the high note singing 'hey mama/hey/I've fallen in love' audiences rise up on their feet and give a standing ovation even before she finishes the song.

Her musical story began in church, where she was in the choir but the pastors daughter kept snatching all the solos. Until her confidence struck her shyness and doubts about singing.

● Her musical story began in church, where she was in the choir, but the pastors daughter kept snatching all the solos. Until her confidence struck her shyness and doubts about singing



From there she started singing in all church choirs and groups in her primary school.

Velemseni strongly affirms, "through the years I have discovered new and life changing music which diluted the pop influence in

my singing and writing styles. People such as Joan Armatrading, Gabrielle, Tracy Chapman and of course Billie Holiday have greatly played a pivotal role in my music sense.

Veli, as she is affectionately called

by her closer sphere of friends, has been featured in a number of Siyinqaba songs including the hit 'we got it'. Its video hit Swazi TV soon after its release and the face behind the melodic voice was seen.

Thereafter she collaborated with Qibho Intalektual on the artistically woven 'art of time' track, where the rapper displays immense talent with his rhymes. Veli comes in singing 'with these fingers I slow everything down, so I could have more time'.

Her memorable rendition of 'coming home' during the 'Siyinqaba The Movie' show in Mantenga, earlier this year was on another level of awesome.

Her latest offering, 'beng'melewena' (shisa)

has again earned more accolades making Velemseni of the sought after afro-soul artists in the country.

Lastly on Veli, we also love the stunning looks you spot on during your performance's. Keep that up.



questions and left a lot of expectations, but with things of God, it is all about calling and timing more than it is about a beautiful voice" she elaborates.

We could not let Zaza go without words of advice to aspiring singers because above all, older women are womanhood midwives. Only an older woman can teach a young girl what womanhood is and how one handles issues as a 'woman'.

This is what she had to say: "There is so much to say but



the most important one is to never forget where you come from, no matter how bright the light shines. Everyone will want to be associated with you when things are going well for you but keep an eye on those that stick around when you are down".

The Afro-Soul sisters have spoken. Those who have ears may they hear what these souls say to other souls.

The country needs more of afro soul female singers.

● Many times people have fallen in love with the beauty from her Joyous Celebration performance's including the recent show where she sang clad in traditional regalia (emahiya) Swazi hymns in worship. That moment made Swazis proud even til today



with a gospel group does not change anything". Social media was once abuzz about Zaza's choice to handle both genres, but the songstress has come out to give clarity on the issue "It has raised a lot of

FRESH-FACED JODIE MARSH IS BARELY RECOGNISABLE

LONDON - She is famously a plastic surgery fan. Yet Jodie Marsh was feeling nostalgic for the days before she went under the knife as she shared a 'pre-nose job' snap with her 411 000 Instagram followers on Wednesday - looking virtually unrecognisable in the fresh-faced snap.

The 37-year-old glamour model was clearly feeling nostalgic for her younger years as she posed looking naturally beautiful in the sweet snap.



Jodie beamed into the camera in the shot, as she posed alongside her actor cousin Alex Walkinshaw who stars in both *Casualty* and *Holby City* as Adrian Fletcher. The Essex-native was sporting much darker tresses and an untouched face, with no signs of a surgeon's needle or knife. She addressed her cousin in her caption, writing: 'Found this at my mum's - it's me pre nose job with my gorgeous cousin Alex Walkinshaw who's currently in *Holby* and has also been in the *Bill Smithy* and *Waterloo Road*.

Daily Mail

AFFLECK SUFFERS EPIC WARDROBE MALFUNCTION

● As he forgets to fasten his trousers at *Suicide Squad* London premiere

LONDON - He makes typically suave appearances on the red carpet. Yet Ben Affleck proved wardrobe malfunctions can even happen to Hollywood superstars as he arrived at the *Suicide Squad* premiere after-party in London on Wednesday night - bearing more than intended.

The 43-year-old Batman vs. Superman star looked typically handsome as he hit the red carpet in his grey suit yet as the merriment of the evening progressed he appeared to forget to zip his flies and fasten his waistband.

Ben makes a brief cameo in the movie in his role as Batman, so was on hand to lend the central stars support as they hit the capital to debut the villainous flick.

Despite looking suave on the red carpet, in a grey suit, white shirt and dotted tie, it seems his trousers were gripe from the very start of the evening.

With his well-fitted jacket, it was a shock to see his trousers were

loosely-fitted and being cinched in by his black leather belt - risking an overexposure with any false move.

With his shirt hanging out at the back, Ben seemed slightly disheveled ahead of the rest of the night, while he remained stony-faced while heading into the after-party.

Ben looked worlds away from Bruce Wayne, Batman's alter ego, following his first turn as the Caper Crusader in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, which was released earlier this year to rave reviews. Atop his cameo in *Suicide Squad*, which has been met with an array of car crash reviews, Ben is also set to play Batman in the *Justice League* films in both 2017 and 2019.

Ben was joined by fellow *Justice League* stars Henry Cavill and Jason Momoa as they joined their fellow DC stars at the London premiere.

The trio jetted over to London after joining up in San Diego,



California, last month alongside *Justice League* stars Gal Gadot, Ezra Miller, and Ray Fisher.

The get together was where Affleck confirmed he would be directing the solo Batman film.

Daily Mail

Holly Willoughby wears her married name on her peachy posterior as she marks ninth wedding anniversary

LONDON - She's not shy when it comes to declaring the love she has for her husband Dan Baldwin.

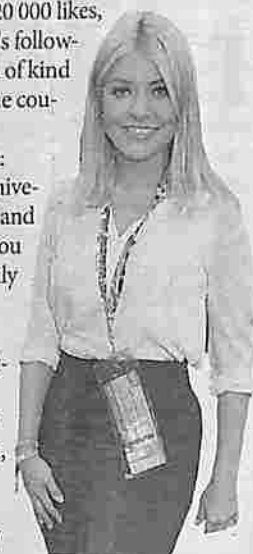
And Holly Willoughby, 35, marked the couple's ninth wedding anniversary with a saucy Instagram snap on Thursday.

The presenter shared a close-up of her derriere clad in black bikini bottoms with 'Mrs Baldwin' written in diamantes. The buxom beauty captioned the snap: 'Nine years ago today I became... #love #Hubby #happilyeverafter'. The post racked up more than 20 000 likes, and the star's followers were full of kind words for the couple.

One wrote: 'Happy Anniversary to you and Dan, hope you and the family are well x'

While another posted: 'Happy Anniversary Holly & Dan, love u loads Holly xo.'

Daily Mail



TEIGEN GIVES TOUR OF HER BEAUTIFUL US\$14.1 MILLION BEVERLY HILLS MANSION WITH JOHN LEGEND

BEVERLY HILLS - They began moving into the sprawling home back in January.

And it looks like Chrissy Teigen and John Legend's mansion is coming together quite nicely.

The 30-year-old model took to her Snapchat on Wednesday to give her fans a tour of their stunning new home in the ritzy Beverly Hills neighbourhood of Los Angeles.

Chrissy showed off a few adorable dog pictures for Luna's room, a bedroom and the sprawling living room in the 8,520-square-foot home.

She began the exhibition by videoing four cute pictures of their bulldogs with floral crowns on their head which she captioned: 'How great are these photos of our dog babies for Luna's room!!'



The *Sports Illustrated* cover girl went on to show off one of the rooms perhaps the most impressive part of the social media tour was an overhead shot of the gigantic living room.

The black leather couches were still wrapped up in plastic as buckets of paint and other miscellaneous items could be seen on top of a large, patterned carpet.

She then walked down the half-spiral staircase to give fans a closer look at how the living area was coming together.

It was definitely a time of family bonding as Chrissy snapped her mother Vilailuck, their precious pooch Pippa and even her husband John Legend who waved from the second level.

Daily Mail

Kim steps out in racy thigh-high lace up boots

BEVERLY HILLS - She has never been one to shy away from taking fashion risks.

And Thursday was no different for Kim Kardashian who was spotted in the upscale ritzy neighbourhood of Beverly Hills.

The 35-year-old reality star stepped out in sexy thigh-high lace up boots which she seemingly only paired with a black Yeezy T-shirt.

The Keeping up with the Kardashians star also rocked a new 'do as she sported fresh cornrow braids.

She first headed to her famed celebrity dermatologist, Dr Simon Ourian's Epione clinic.

Kim then grabbed lunch with fellow socialite Brittny Gastineau, 33, at the upscale Italian eatery Il Pastaio for a quick bite.

Daily Mail



Cowell turns to E-cigarettes in a bid to quit smoking

LONDON - Simon Cowell has revealed he's turned to E-cigarettes in a bid to finally quit smoking for the sake of his young son.

The 56-year-old music mogul is attempting to cut down over concerns that two-year-old Eric will disapprove as he gets older - and is hoping he will find success by turning to vaporisers.

"The idea is to cut down on the number," he told *The Sun*. "The Vape has been successful. It's a good one, it tastes nice and sweet."

"My driver was on 40-a-day and he has cut out smoking completely. I'm on 80-a-day now. It's a step in the right direction. I don't smoke in front of Eric for obvious reasons."

Last year Simon admitted he was worried that Eric would ask him to quit smoking when he gets older.

He said: "I have tried everything. If Eric grows up and says stop it I don't know what I would do."

I don't smoke around him and I wouldn't do that. I have thought about what he might

say in a few years. It is my worst vice ... this is the one thing I would find very difficult to give up because I do love a cigarette."

The *X Factor* and *America's Got Talent* judge previously tried hypnotherapy in a bid to kick the habit, but admits he smoked a cigarette within moments of leaving the session.

He explained: "I tried once to give up smoking, and the first thing I did when I walked out of the hypnotist's was light up a cigarette. I actually wanted one more."

Daily Mail



MARAWA OPENS UP ABOUT HIS LOVE LIFE



JOHANNESBURG - In what can be dubbed as a rare and telling interview Robert Marawa has opened up to Anele Mdoda on Real Talk about his love life.

Even though Robert and TV

personality Pearl Thusi have tried for months to keep their romance out of the spotlight, it's somewhat of an open secret.

Over the past two months Robert and Pearl have found themselves making headlines,

after the actress was spotted with some impressive bling on her ring finger.

Anele approached the topic by telling Robert that 'his lady' had told her that "one of her fingers has officially been occupied."

The talk show host went on to add that Robert's lady told her that he proposed in a restaurant, it was very sweet and she's happy.

"I'm sure she wasn't lying because the evidence is there and I'm sure she showed you the evidence," Robert said.

Taking a trip down memory lane Anele asked Robert how he approached Pearl. "It was a strange thing, we first met at a Polo event and I was walking to my car and she was driving, when I introduced myself," Robert said.

Exchanging

He added that they continued to 'walk and talk' until he reached his car and they parted ways without even exchanging numbers.

"Jesus will bring us together one day, if he does," Robert remembered about the encounter.

And much to his surprise it was Pearl who made the next move.

"I did a tribute show for Senzo Meyiwa and she sent through a message to say 'wow'," Robert recalled.

The sports personality went on to gush over his girl, and how it's not just about her.

"She's like that. So it's no surprise that the person is taking a bite out of The Big Apple."

Times Live

LootLove questions AKA's political 'rants'

JOHANNESBURG - TV personality Luthando "LootLove" Shosha has suggested that AKA might have gone a little too far by getting so deep into politics on Twitter.

Speaking this week on the Sobering podcast, Loot discussed celebrities who endorse politics and naturally the conversation centred around outspoken rapper AKA, who has been vocal in his support of the ANC in the lead up to the municipal elections held this week.

Comparing political endorsements to other brand endorsements, Loot noted that celebrities are often the face of a brand but may be wise to avoid getting into deep discussions.

sions about the brand and ethics. "Kiernan was right in that rant, he is a voice, he is influencing the kids but then (he has to) show them the whole story... Kiernan's business is just to be on the surface level of this thing, not to go in depth because you're going to ask him things that he cannot answer. You guys are going to start wanting him to fix things. All I know is that this thing is a double-edged sword," she said. And while AKA is just one of many celebrities who have flooded social media with messages of support for political parties, Loot says that she is not about to join them.

Drum



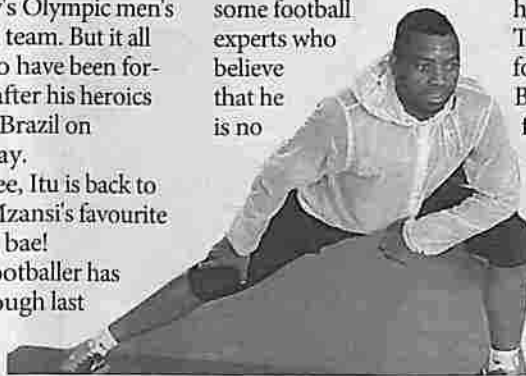
From heartbreak to hero following Brazil draw - Khune

JOHANNESBURG - Fresh from his recent break up with Sbhle Mpisane, Itumeleng Khune has spent most of the week trying to defend his selection as part of the country's Olympic men's football team. But it all seems to have been forgotten after his heroics against Brazil on Thursday.

You see, Itu is back to being Mzansi's favourite football bae!

The footballer has had a rough last few weeks

both on and off the pitch. Not only has he had to get over the heartbreak and mockery that he got following his split from girlfriend Sbhle, but he has also faced criticism from some football experts who believe that he is no



better than his second Jody February, and was not special enough to warrant one of the three spots available to players over 23 years of age.

But all of that seemed to have been forgotten on Thursday night when he formed part of a Bafana Bafana defence that held football giants Brazil, and its superstar striker Neymar, to a goalless draw.

Soon Itu's name was all over social media, trending with over 3 000 tweets.

Times Live

Robbie Malinga calls it quits

JOHANNESBURG - The legendary singer and producer Robbie Malinga is hanging up the mic to put more focus on music behind the scenes. Although he'll stop releasing his own albums, he won't stop making music.

"I know where my strengths lie," Malinga told Sowetan. "I have realised my strength is being the man behind the music, so that's what I'm going to concentrate on," he added.

Before he fades to the back, Robbie's reported to be working on releas-



ing one last album which will be a collaborative album before spring.

Malinga has worked with the likes of Kelly Khumalo, Zahara, Musa

Sukwene, Naima Kay and Nhlanihla Nciza.

You can see our one on one with man of the moment, Musa Sukwene here. *Drum*

Questions that need answers...

1 Is it safe to say the judges at the LOL competition were wrong; Mdura is the best stand up comedian in the land? The whole Sunday Observer crew still can't get over his last show.

2 What is happening with Miss Swaziland contestants, we haven't heard anything from them since the photo shoot? Oh wait is it safe now to implore Swazi Companies to sponsor the pageant, it is the biggest in the land and can it be the duty of every other Swazi to make it a success.



3 Dear Khulekani Baphelele Mamba aka Karly B When is the second season of Rhymes and Laughter? That show was entertaining and we wouldn't mind another season soon, oh with more goodies this time around.



4 Oh yes Karly B, remember those soulistic Thursdays you hosted a while ago? What happened? Please bring them back; some of us lived for those nights.

5 Swazi reality media will be conducting presenter auditions this coming week, wait a minute now will this one last? What happened to the presenters who won GEEP auditions?



6 When monthly poetry nights cease for a while *kusuke sekwentjani* Musa S Ndzinisa?

7 What is the definition of a Young African Leader? Did you see the 'young' people who were chosen as 'young African Leaders'?

8 So many gospel artists released albums last week; we can't help but wonder how the sales are doing *mhhh bazalwane, konkhe kuhamba kahle?*

9 Why did Nothando pull a Masikane on us? We thought you were Swazi but she went and posted about voting in South Africa? Honestly? *Sineluvalo manje*, hope it was a joke *nana*.

Behind the Scene

THE MAHALIA SHOW



Mahalia's back-up singers sang along the re-make of Shongwe Nekhuphuka's 'Amazulu Avumile'.



Bongekile from Agape Ministries belted out with her angelic voice.

Mahalia danced during her performance during her album launch.



Gospel music lovers deep in worship as Mahalia sang her lungs out.

RELIEF LAST WEEKEND

THE SPIRIT OF PRAISE



Team Swaziland posed with the star, Nothando (on knees) before the Spirit of Praise recording at Carnival City.



Nothando Hlophe belted it out.



The Dube Brothers watched the proceedings of the show after their rendition.



Comedian Mdura gestured during his performance.

AT MDURA'S SHOW



Comedy lovers posed in front of the Mazda banner after the #ZeroChill show.



They all laughed out loud as the comedians jokes were on point.

JA STIMULATES CREATIVITY AMONG HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS



NOKUKHANYA GAMEDZE

JA BOARD CHAIR

One of the most popular and significant programmes that JA offers is the JA Company Programme, which challenges young people to partake in a 15 week-long entrepreneurship programmes which inspires creative and innovative thinking among young people to come up with different business ideas. The concern has been how much impact does this programme has in the lives of young people and what happens to the enterprises that are established in schools.

I took a journey to visit Manzini Nazarene High School and talked with the teachers as well as the pupils and hear from them as to how much participation in these programmes has transformed the lives of the learners and that of the teachers. Manzini Nazarene is one of the schools that have performed extremely well especially in the JA Company programme over the years. There are vital lessons that can be extracted from them which I believe other schools can take a leaf out of.

BACKGROUND OF MANZINI NAZARENE WITH JA

The very first time that Manzini Nazarene enrolled in the different school programmes offered by JA was back in 2010. During their first entry, under the JA Company Programme, learners thought creatively and decided

to produce personalised magic mugs. These mugs were very popular to the extent that they earned Manzini Nazarene a spot among the top ten schools that competed during the 2010 national Expo. While this product could not claim first place position however it managed to earn them the highest sales award from JA Swaziland.

In 2013, Manzini Nazarene had a group of learners who came up with a unique idea of harvesting oyster mushrooms. While this product never made it to the top ten because of the longer period it took to produce, these young men never gave upon their innovative business idea. After finishing high school, they decided to formally register their business as Vibrant Mushrooms and conduct a legitimate business.

This business is currently a supplier of Matsapha Spar as well as Moonlight restaurant. This displays that viable business ideas do aluminate from young people. All is needed is guidance through our Business Development Services to nourish these business ideas and ensure that they thrive.

The most prominent milestone by Manzini Nazarene High School was winning the Company of the Year



Regional Competition title. This was during the 2015 Company of the Year Competition held in Gabon Libreville where Manzini Nazarene High School students were represented by Econovative Production.

The learners decided to creatively find ways of curbing a problem in their hostel of finding use for left-over food. They decided to produce dog food out of these readily available scraps of left-over food.

They also came up with a thermo bag which acts as an energy saver which retains heat and helps to cook foods with minimal application to heat.

THE POSITIVE IMPACT

Speaking to Manzini Nazarene Head teacher, Samuel Nkambule, he explained that the JA programmes have been instrumental in transforming the level of thinking of the learners. "Not only are our learners displaying a high level of maturity but they have displayed the ability to find

creative ways of solving real life issues affecting society and the school. It has also improved the learners ability to identify the use of education into establishing enterprises."

Sabelo Dlamini, the accounts teacher at Manzini Nazarene who is a facilitator for the JA Company programme explains that for him this opportunity to work with JA has provided a practical element to the commercial subjects he teaches.

"While I engage the students in a class exercise, it becomes very easy for them to grasp the concept through making reference to the practical experience presented by the programmes at Junior Achievement," he explained. What can be observed from the learners themselves is how highly motivated they are to be a part of this programme.

Their schoolmates who managed to scoop the Regional Competition Company of the Year title have become role models who inspire other learners to follow suit.

It is no wonder that as a result of this new energy rejuvenated to the learners by the JA programmes, learners in Form III have already started working towards their 2017 innovative product. They are determined to start working on different products early, allocating enough time for research on the intended product.

THE LEARNERS FUTURE PLANS FOR THE BUSINESS

The Econovative team who represented the country in Gabon has plans for their business idea. Speaking to the very eloquent Mvumeni Dlamini who holds the CEO position in the mini company explains that their best is yet to come in terms of pursuing their business idea. "Econovative is definitely here to stay. We have plans to engage in more research and come up with ideas on how our products can be developed as well as diversified in order to transform the business into a bankable entity. We are fortunate that we were able to get prize money from Gabon amounting to E35 000, which we plan to reinvest in the business and utilise in expanding the business," he explained.

I became so proud to learn that Amro, a South African based manufacturing company which supplies the school with soap is looking at ways in which they can partner with these students utilising their innovative, creative and scientific thinking in developing a new product in the marketing. They have provided the student with a byproduct of diesel and tasked them to innovatively think of a product that can be developed from this raw material and be sold in the market. These young scientists have adhered to the challenge and have already started on the research that will give birth to a ground breaking partnership.

CONCLUSION

It is evident that JA Swaziland takes young people through a transformational journey that gives birth to a cutting edge generation of young people. Manzini Nazarene is an example of how the thinking of young people can be transformed as they engage in different JA programmes. Join us again next week as we look into the impact through another school.

Excellent customer service is the lifeblood of every business organisation



The Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce, being the voice of business, applauds the move by the Chartered Institute of Customer Management (CICM) to award companies with customer service excellence in Swaziland. The awards to be held on November 25, 2016, will reward companies that have been voted for customer service excellence in the entire kingdom.

It is envisaged that the awards will become the standard of measure to the companies that have implemented successful customer service strategies, which are part of their overall organisational strategies. The winners will also have the opportunity to compete with other businesses that have been awarded for customer service excellence in a continental level. This is an initiative that the FSE&CC is proud to be associated with, as it is in line with the development goals set by His Majesty's 2022 vision, which seeks to improve the

quality of life in the country. The vision is premised on the critical dimensions of economic development, societal development, and environmental protection. There are key macro strategic areas identified and one of them is sound economic management, where full transparency and accountability in the use of public funds is underscored. The other is industrialisation to which there is need for maximisation of value-addition on service delivery and technological transfers.

Goals

Hence, in light of vision 2022 to which organisations have supposedly oriented their goals and objectives to have developed into a first class business by 2022, service excellence will act as a true measure of whether those goals have been met or not. The initiative by CICM should therefore be one to remind us that in today's modern world, customers are the lifeblood of every business.

Customers expect to be treated like individuals, not numbers. That means the business community needs to embrace new technologies and be smart about how to communicate and engage with their customers. By giving customers personalised service, customers will feel like companies care about them and are

not just about making a profit out of them. These unique experiences can help businesses to retain customers and create sticky loyalty which is essential in this day and age, with pressure from competitors at an all-time high.

In his popular book, "The Customer Driven Company," Richard Whiteley (1991) emphasises the theme "saturation with the voice of the customer" as the key to ensuring excellent customer service and consequently a successful and profitable business.

Failure to listen and respond to the voice of the customer causes stress, anger and frustration for hundreds of customers and the ultimate failure of those businesses that are not happily and intimately connected to their customers. The current economic environment shows that hundreds of businesses are failing, downsizing, or restructuring every day. Granted, businesses fail for a variety of reasons, but those companies that do not provide excellent customer service are among the first to go.

It is in this respect that as the "voice of business in Swaziland", the FSE&CC finds it imperative to proactively remind businesses that being more customer-focused and providing service excellence is becoming a significant advantage and performance differentiator for

both private and public organisations. It helps a business to win clients in an extremely competitive environment and also facilitates cost-saving. Consumers these days for instance, are faced with an overwhelming choice between similar price and quality products and services. Hence, it is no wonder that customer service is becoming the new battlefield on which successful organisations can differentiate and thus triumph over their failing counterparts.

Force

Employing a culture of service excellence in businesses will not only help one win this prestigious award, come November 25, but will also act as a powerful force for shaping the image that customers have of the industry. Secondly, getting a recognition for service excellence will be a great tool for measuring how well each employee in your company meets the levels of service, which is essential for your business success.

It is true that many would argue that it is difficult to measure service qualities for excellence. For example, people say, "you cannot measure friendly." This is true. You cannot measure friendly, but you can measure smiles. In addition, you can measure customer greetings such as "good morning" or "good afternoon."

These are qualities that many entrepreneurs may overlook yet they are critical for the prosperity of their trades. Customers are the reason your company exists: serving and retaining them is essential. If you do not recognise the value of your customers, they leave.

Assuming

If you treat them with compassion and respect, you can inspire their loyalty. Companies should not make the mistake of assuming that they are the only seller of a product in the market; a customer can find a product in many other stores; therefore, the only thing which can differentiate you from your competitors in the market is your 'customer service'.

Let us not forget that continuous financial loss as result of poor customer service weakens a business position with every aspect, ultimately leading it towards complete collapse. The aim of the FSE&CC is to see every business succeeding and not collapsing as a result of poor customer service.

We therefore encourage the Swazi business community to take advantage of this opportunity availed by CICM of being recognised for service excellence. Customers who want to vote for their favourite companies for this noble award can easily follow the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBBCYLJ>

Have a productive Sunday as you vote for your best company.

Check out these STOMES

MIND THAT ERROR

ADIDI UYO



If one error in a sentence is bad enough, what would you say about two or more errors in a sentence? On this page, we have since christened such a sentence STOME, acronym for Sentence with Two Or More Errors. STOMES may not be grammatical creatures that we find every day. But, if you look closely enough, you can find quite a few lurking in some of the messages in our newspapers.

Check this sentence, for instance: "Cabinet have a right to choose Journalist they want to accompany them, ours is to approve whoever they have chosen as part of their delegation - PS Ministry ICT." This is a sentence that runs under the headline of the lead story in the Independent News, April 4 - 15, 2016, which reads: "Cabinet implicated in SBIS sex scandal."

Now, tell me, how many errors can you detect in that sentence? Depending on how fastidious you are, you would find between three and six mistakes in it. Instead of pointing out the errors, let us first rewrite the sentence. Thereafter, we shall look at each error that has been corrected in the sentence.

The **elements** or parts of the sentence that have been corrected are in bold face: "**Members of the Cabinet** have a right to choose **the journalists** they want to **accompany them**. **Our job** is to approve **whomever** they have chosen as part of their delegation - PS, ICT Ministry."

As you can see, the first difference between the original and the rewritten sentence is the phrase that precedes the word, "Cabinet." Unless we are talking about furniture, "Cabinet" usually requires the limiting adjective or definite article, "the." Of course, "the Cabinet" is a collective noun; but, since the Cabinet as a whole does not travel out of town or out of the country, at once, it is reasonable to qualify it by saying, "Members of the Cabinet." This is all the more appropriate because the verb of the subject is "have," not "has," as would have been the case if the Cabinet were acting in unison.

In the original sentence we find the word, "Journalist." There are two glaring errors associated with it. The first is that of improper capitalisation. And the second error is that of wrong number. To those two errors may be added that of omission of necessary article. As you can see, the rewritten sentence has changed the word to "the journalists." Certainly, it is not just one journalist we are talking about, here.

The third thing that has been corrected in the original sentence is comma that follows the word, "them." This is an error of the comma

SISWATI KEEPS MP STEFFEN AWAY FROM PARLIAMENT

BY ADIDI UYO



splice: the use of a comma to separate two independent clauses. The error may be corrected by using a full stop or a semicolon. We have used a full stop.

In the original sentence, the word, "ours," is vague: What does it mean, precisely? It is better to be explicit, hence the change to "our job."

Next is the error of incorrect case of pronoun. The pronoun, "whoever," is wrong because it is the nominative case, instead of objective case.

Finally, we have changed the source quoted in the story from "PS Ministry ICT" to "PS, ICT Ministry." To be sure, this is not a grammatical error, per se. Rather, it is something that has to do with lexical positioning. So, correct me, if I am wrong, but the transposition sounds and looks more meaningful than the original.

Our second STOME is from an opinion piece in the Observer On Saturday, April 9, 2016, titled: SAD END FOR JOY. The eighth paragraph of the article reads, thus: "Divorce has become a standard in any marriage. Actually, most people now bizarrely prefer divorce than marriage. In fact most couples are technically divorced but just opted to live together for the sake of the children, others for cash and sexual derivatives."

Hmm, what can I say? No doubt, the paragraph is riddled with controversial statements, but let us focus on its last sentence which qualifies eminently as a STOME. As we did with the first case, let us rewrite the sentence, first; then we shall examine the errors. Here, then, is the rewritten version, with the changed elements or parts in bold face: "**In fact** most couples are technically divorced but **have conveniently** opted to live together for the sake of the **children**, others for cash and sexual **benefits**."

The first word in the original sentence, "infact," is in error. Two words - the first, a preposition and the second, a noun - have

been written as one, causing an error of verbal fusion. Accordingly, they have been separated in the corrected version.

In the original sentence, there is no equality between the two elements that are connected by the conjunction, "and," thus, causing the error of faulty parallelism. The two elements are "are technically divorced" and "just opted." This error has been corrected in the rewritten version by providing a verb and an adverb in the second element, to wit: "have conveniently opted."

The third correction is the change of the word, "derivatives," to "benefits." Unless you believe otherwise, this is an error of faulty diction, if only for the reason of precision.

In the Sunday Times July 10, 2016 was a sub-piece with the title, "Leagues of academics' unites." For purposes of context, let me relate the first two paragraphs of the piece: "Dear ANC Youth League, the gobbledegook of a statement you dispatched this week in support of Hlaudi Motsoeneng is difficult to decipher."

"The senseless, sorry excuse of a statement must have been put together in a shebeen given how riddled it is with grammatical errors and wrong tenses."

Error #1: Comma omission. After the word, "shebeen," in the second sentence, a comma should have been used to separate the main clause of the sentence from the phrase that followed it. Error #2: Redundancy, specifically, tautology. Lo, what are "wrong tenses" but "grammatical errors"?

We may correct the sentence, thus: "The senseless, sorry excuse of a statement must have been put together in a shebeen, given how riddled it is with various grammatical errors."

Here is our last STOME for today: "Ever-thinking Nkilo Member of Parliament Hans Steffen is dreaming of a Swaziland that would have four official languages which means two on top of the current one - Siswati and English." This is the lead of the top story in the Swazi Observer of August 1, 2015, with the headline: MP HANS STEFFEN: MAKE AFRIKAANS, PORTUGUESE SD OFFICIAL LANGUAGES.

"Ever-thinking": Meaning what? Are we to understand that there are some Members of Parliament who do not think all the time? Well, let me pass!

There is need for a comma after the word, "languages," so that the non-restrictive phrase after it can be properly separated from the main clause of the sentence, otherwise we have the error of comma omission.

What do you think about the compound preposition, "on top of"? Is the preposition, "besides" or "in addition to" not preferable?

Whether we prefer either of them or not, we have to accept that "one," in the phrase, "the current one," is in error. That is because "Siswati and English," on top of which MP Steffen wants Portuguese and Afrikaans, are two languages, not one. The error is that of wrong number.



JOY NDWANDWE'S ZONE LEADERSHIP

August is feminine power month as maid-ens embark on the pilgrimage for ploughing season rain, *Ijaha sisu*.

This is also happening during the month when South African women marched against the apartheid regime to the Union Buildings demanding freedom for their children and grandchildren.

Today my focus is on the recent historical moment that has occurred in the United States of America, the first woman Presidential nominee.

I have been following the American political landscape as they long propositioned gender equity, but they have been failing humanity.

Britain is not a novelty as there is the Queen's leadership legacy, but the USA has been on my list of countries who have not walked the talk over the years.

BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING

Presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, I am personally so proud of you and your achievements as you have successfully broken the glass ceiling, now the sky is the limit. This had to be achieved by you Madam Hillary, with your track record in advancing the agenda of children, women and health care in your country.

This is feminine leadership that goes to the core of the future of the citizens, embedded in women and children. Your 45 years legacy has been about the future citizens of your country, this is the feminine leadership that is missing in the world. This legacy enabled your understanding the soft but pertinent issues for American citizens, a missing link within patriarchal leadership which does not rely on feminine power.

Unfortunately you paid an extremely painful price during the years when you were in the White House, when publicly humiliated. You were at your prime and of course you were not a traditional first lady and wife, working for the children, women and health care of citizens. When your husband President Clinton was targeted by 'panty droppers' and his masculine leadership rendered him vulnerable, hence the sexual harassment allegations.

This humiliated you, the world cast a doubt on your sexuality, and accused you of being cold and even second guessed whether you were a lesbian. This must have been the most difficult period of your life as you were a hard working, beautiful, sexy and intelligent woman.

The 'panty droppers' were way below your league, as I recall you saying what is the President doing with Monica 'the farmer's wife'? Therefore listening to your husband's speech during the National Democratic Convention supporting you and getting personal was music to my ears. I have no doubt in my mind that you deserve to return to the White House and recreate remarkably sweet memories with your husband, as you are the one taking him this time around. Madam Hillary, as an African woman I envy you in a positive way, returning your husband to the White House with your political legacy, what a joy and I wish you God's blessings.

Implore

This is an affirming moment for feminine leadership globally, as indeed all the children, women and men deserve to know that the glass ceiling has broken, the sky is the limit.

I implore you that make this moment a legacy of feminine leadership, dealing with soft but pertinent issues of children, women and health care. Plus the economic and security trajectory of your country, please no flaunting of opulence that most women in leadership humiliate us with. They become corrupt Barbie dolls who pose for the camera and forget that leadership is not Hollywood. Madam Hillary I will be follow-

LETTER

ROC POSITION ON THE HAGUE AWARD

Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to a controversial case, brought by the Philippines against the People's Republic of China, to which the award was rendered by the tribunal at the Permanent Court of Arbitration on July 12, 2016.

The said award is unaccepted and has no legal binding force on the Republic of China (Taiwan) based on the following three reasons:

First, the Republic of China (Taiwan) is not a party to the case. Our government was not invited to participate and has never been solicited to express its views in the proceeding.

Second, Taiping Island (also known as Itu Aba) was brought up in the case as a testimony during the court hearings by the Philippines with an intention to downgrade its status from an island to a rock, which runs against all hard facts and does not hold water. Actually, this

0.51-square-kilometer island, the largest naturally formed island in the South China Sea, is furnished with sufficient potable fresh water and fecund soil to sustain human habitation and economic life.

Therefore, Taiping Island meets the criteria of an island as per Article 121 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Republic of China (Taiwan), being a legal occupant of the island since 1946, is rightfully entitled to a 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone around it.

Third, the Republic of China (Taiwan), in the text of the award, was inappropriately referred to as "Taiwan Authority of China". This improper designation disregards the fact that the Republic of China (Taiwan) is a sovereign state.

Based on these three points, the said award severely impinged on the interests of the

Republic of China (Taiwan) and seriously undermined the rights of this government over the South China Sea Islands and their surrounding waters.

Consequently, the Republic of China (Taiwan) reiterates that the South China Sea Islands are part of the territory of the ROC and that it will take resolute action to safeguard its territory and relevant maritime rights.

Last but not least, Sir, let me stress that this government's position on this disputed region is "to set aside differences and to enable joint development". The ROC government urges relevant claimants in this region to settle their disputes peacefully through multilateral negotiations on the basis of equality.

Tai-wei Lin

Third Secretary

Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan)

THE RISE OF FEMININE LEADERSHIP



ing all the election debates and your acceptance speech during the fall, it's time for feminine leadership to rise.

FAREWELL SIBALI PRESIDENT OBAMA

President Barack Obama I bid you farewell and thank you for gracefully passing the baton to Presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, a significant moment for the rise of feminine leadership. I wish to invite you and Michelle to my village, Bulandzeni and Nkambeni in Swaziland, where you will understand why I refer to you as brother-in-law, Sibali. Michelle would be overwhelmed as to the number of faces that resemble her face in this village. We fondly call her "LaNdwandwe" because she has that Ndwandwe look, and feminine leadership embedded in Ndwandwe women's souls.

Critical

President Obama I am bidding you farewell, whilst also welcoming you to my village as your retirement is critical to global politics. Now that you have burnt your fingers over the past eight years in the Oval Office and understand why you had to receive a Nobel Peace Prize at the dawn of your term of office.

The world needs you more than ever as your leadership is required for the creation of the New World Order, as you have extensive experience and insights on what is wrong with the current world order.

Your two terms as President of the United States has been critical for humanity and now it's time to serve humanity, leading a New World Order. When you were appointed I saw and appreciated what African ancestry were revealing to the world, which is Africans have leadership qualities embedded in their DNA. President Obama, you have lived the "Dreams of my Father" who would have been an excellent leader in Kenya, but was suppressed by the then leadership.

I can seriously relate to that as our fathers had so much potential but their leadership qualities were suppressed.

However all is not lost as ancestry gifts are passed on and we have been witnessing your

leadership, and I liked it when they called you a 'strong leader.' When they resisted change you used your genetic African leadership and they have to implement such as Obama-Care. It has been extremely interesting witnessing your leadership and I hope you will write a memoir that will provide us with insights. In the meantime we are seriously looking forward to your leading the New World Order, which will protect our children, grandchildren, the environment and most significantly the universe. In conclusion, I personally thank you for taking AGOA away from Swaziland, and this is one controversial statement that Ambassador James and I disagreed on. My point is, if this AGOA is creating the kind of jobs that are prevalent at the Matsapha Industrial Area, then AGOA is of disservice to this country.

Disrespected

At this industrial site women are ill-treated, disrespected and most significantly under paid such that they resort to sex trade. In the meantime the companies that have employed them are banking the profits off shore whilst enjoying tax heavens.

President Obama, women are not staying with their children as they are renting one roomed flats, which have common ablution facilities. They live at close proximity with others such that they are vulnerable, and thus rendering them vulnerable to immorality and social ills. Their children are being raised in the villages also rendering them vulnerable to social ills and immorality. Hence I argue that AGOA needed to go and its return must be to sustain livelihoods and provide equitable employment, not slavery.

I am aware that AGOA goes beyond the Matsapha Industrial Site, into other goods and services such as the sugar industry. But the industrial sites is hurting us at the core of our moral and spiritual fibre, as women are turned into sex and work slaves. This is a heavy price for a small country and economy, and I am not sure how many years it will take to turn this around. As I have spoken to some women who have worked in this undignified environment, they are broken, humiliated and most significantly dehumanised.

CALL ME DISABLED

The amount of flack I get from friends, acquaintances, *bazalwane* and even family for identifying myself as part of the disabled clan always amuses me. The fact that they are uncomfortable with the 'label' and the association shows that there is a long way to go to the acceptance of disability. Because my disability is invisible some have suggested that I use any one of the different terms available to denote disability; "differently abled", "special needs" for instance.

They believe that these words are lighter and better categorise my form of disability because they believe disability to be negative view that they have it in their heads. The *bazalwane* religious rhetoric I refuse to even give space to in this national publication; at least not today.

When I say that I am "disabled," I am not putting myself down, insulting myself, suggesting that something is wrong with me, or making a negative statement about myself. I am staking a claim in an identity that is important to who I am as a person. I am recognising that my mind functions atypically, and that because of this, I am constantly forced by mainstream social/cultural attitudes and the laws and policies that enforce them to choose between being bothered (and then discriminated against) or accepting the idea that I must hide who I am by passing as an abled person.

By calling myself disabled, I am rejecting the idea that it is wrong to have a mind like mine. When I say that I am "disabled," I am not reducing myself to my disability, just as I am not reducing myself to my gender or my race when I say that I am a woman or that I am Black. Being disabled is one part, albeit an important part, of my multifaceted identity. Each of these parts overlap with each other, blurs into each other, and intersects with each other; they are not separated or disparate. It is important for me to define who I am, and being disabled is an important part of how I define myself.

Categorised

There are people, including people who would conventionally be categorised as disabled, who prefer to use the phrase "differently abled" to refer to disabled people. Some of these people are in my circle of allies and I understand how they have gotten to use this phrase. This phrase is used because it supposedly humanises disabled people by focusing on our abilities rather than on our impairments. Those who prefer the phrase "differently abled" often see the terms "disabled" or "disability" as potentially hurtful or offensive. "Dis" means "not," so the argument goes, so calling someone "disabled" must mean that a person is "unable to do anything," "incapable of ever doing anything functional or useful or desirable either by others or by themselves," and therefore, it is wrong to call people disabled.

Speaking from a purely objective standpoint, we as humans are all differently abled from one



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another. Some people are better at math than other people. Some people are better at public speaking than other people. Some people are better at cooking or even remembering to cook than other people. Some people walk and some do not, and of those people who do walk, not everyone walks the same way. When referring to groups of people, there is nothing

inaccurate with saying that within the group, each person is differently abled. This is true regardless of how many disabled people are in the group. For me, the problem arises when the term "differently abled" is used to refer to an individual disabled person.

Firstly, calling someone "differently abled" is euphemistic. It is borderline cutesy and it diminishes the actual experiences of disabled people. It suggests that the term disability should be uncomfortable and therefore should be avoided. What this does is further increase stigma against disabled people by discouraging discussions about disability and what it means to be disabled.

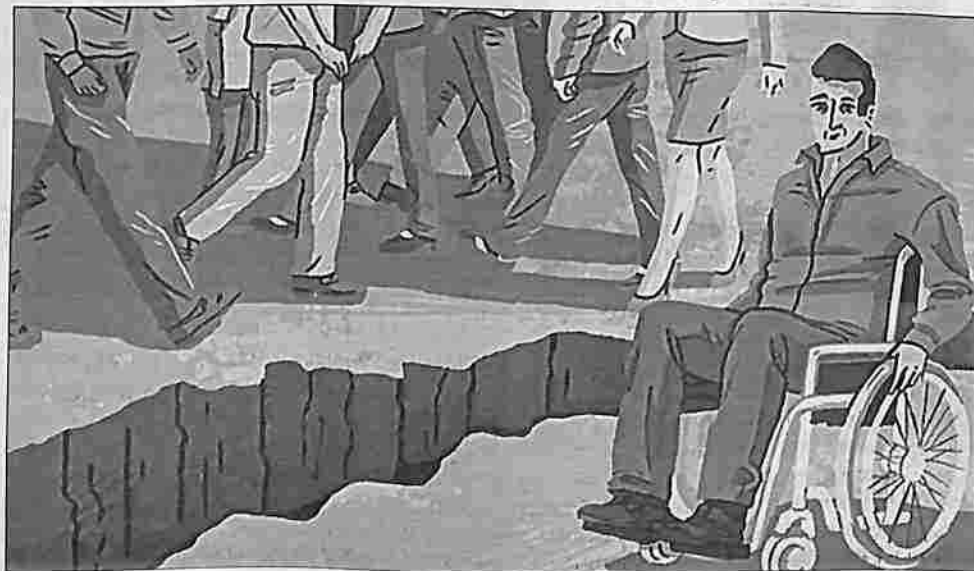
Reinforces

Secondly, using the term "differently abled" to refer to disabled people actually reinforces the idea that there is one normal way to be human - that there is one normal way to move, one normal way to communicate, one normal way to sense, one normal way to feel, one normal way to learn, and one normal way to think. It does not perform its intended purpose of suggesting that all people are different and that this is okay. It suggests that only disabled people, who must now be called "differently abled" instead, are deviant or defective from this normal human model, and it suggests that there is in fact a correct or right way to be "able."

It supports the false idea of the normal body/mind, which is what "differently abled" is supposed to undermine, and thus it fails in its supposed purpose.

Thirdly, the phrase "differently abled" ignores the reality that disability is the result of a complicated interaction between individual people's bodies/minds and social, cultural, and political structures that actively work to disable people with atypical bodies/minds. This happens because "differently abled" suggests that disability is one person's individual problem while also denying the impact of systems that privilege people with typical bodies/minds while marginalising people with atypical bodies/minds.

I do not believe in referring to disabled people as "differently abled" because this language only serves to reinforce oppression of disabled people by systems that marginalise us. Sensitivity towards disabled people is appreciable but I would rather you show me respect by respecting my identity. I am comfortable with it so kindly take my lead and abolish the political correctness BS when talking to me. Bless.





**LETHUMUSA
SIMELANE**

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The world all over has many different countries. A country can be defined as a state or nation that has people who maybe be of single race or different races living in it. Countries differ in their system of governance.

Some use democracy which maybe be defined as a system of government by the people, for the people, some autocracy, where one leader decides to the people, communism where people share resources communally etc.

For a country to be regarded as a fully fledged country there are certain precautions that need to be put in place. Like having a constitution that will guide them, court of law (the judiciary), executive that will ensure operations of the country are smoothly carried out and the legislative which is there to pass laws and ensure that these laws are being implemented. A country must have national symbols which is the flag, national anthem and the coat of arms.

Today let us deliberate on the national symbols in Swaziland and look forward to seeing our beloved kingdom taking strong measures to ensure the proper use of the national symbols. There is no country that can be defined as sovereign without national symbols.

Swaziland obtained her independence in 1968. This marked the end of colonial rule and the beginning of self-rule. Before independence, it was national symbols of the British that were used. We were under colonial rule and our colonial master wanted to enforce British supremacy on us. The coming of independence in 1968 also meant that Swazi people were free to govern themselves. The country needed to have national symbols which include; the flag, coat of arms, national anthem and royal symbols. David Rycroft composed the music notes of the national anthem whilst Andreas Fanyana Simelane and his wife wrote its words. The coat of arms was also created.

Important

A committee which was chaired by prince Mgcashula ensured its formulation. National symbols are very important in a country. The national anthem is a prayer for the country and makes the country stand in unity. It is sung in schools, functions, celebrations, events that are national. There is no powerful tool that can make people stand in unity other than the national anthem. It is not discriminatory as all people in a country can sing it regardless of colour or race. When the national anthem is sung, every person must stand at attention to show respect of the country.

Another very important component of the national symbols is the coat of arms. It is a symbol of authority. Most countries in their national symbols either use an animal or tree of national importance. In Swaziland the coat of arms comprise of two animals namely a lion

King Sobhuza II, Ngwenyama of Swaziland reading the Declaration of independence from Britain on Independence Day September 6, 1968.

(Below) A 1968 newspaper copy after independence.



and an elephant. A lion represent the king whilst an elephant represent the queen mother. A lion is a king of all land animals.

In our coat of arms the lion symbolises authority. It roars and its sound can be heard from a long distance. Lions are also known for their ability to vigorously and viciously defend their territory. King Mswati II, with his *Inyatsi* regiment expanded the territory of Swaziland.

During his reign, the country stretched to as far as some parts of present day Mpumalanga and KZN, South Africa. An elephant is another very important animal in our coat of arms. Elephants when they move from one place to another, they are always led by the elderly female, the matriarch of the herd.

When a king is chosen it is the mother of the king that is considered. The physical features of an elephant resembles that of the queen mother. An elderly elephant is known for having a sixth sense and has great leadership skills. It is an animal that is brilliant and strident.

The original coat of arms has the lion and the elephant legs sealed on the motto written *Siyingqaba*. This symbolises authority. The king

and the queen mother are seated on the throne. The coat of arms is a government stamp. All government records has it. It maybe files, audio visual, maps, drawings and correspondence.

Treasures

There is also the issue of the flag. Every country in the world has a flag. It is through it that the history of a country is portrayed. A flag in any country conveys certain messages about its people. It may include their history, national treasures and culture. National symbols especially the flag and the coat of arms tells a lot about a particular country and its people. The two national symbols (flag and coat of arms) are more prone to abuse if not properly handled. There are rules that need to be followed when dealing with national symbols. The flag for instance is handled by different people in different institutions.

Let us remind ourselves of this code of conduct with regard to its handling and usage. For example; it is the universal custom to display the flag from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationery flag-staff in the open.

The flag should be hoisted at full mast and

lowered ceremoniously. It should be displayed daily, near the main administration building of every public institution. When two flags of two or more countries are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.

A flag always holds the position of honour. When flown at half, it should be hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-mast position. This mainly happens when the country is in mourning. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. By half-mast means lowering the flag to one half the distance between the top and bottom of the post.

Flying a frayed or torn flag is a sign of disrespect. A flag used to cover a casket should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground. Flying a frayed or torn flag is a sign of disrespect. When it is in such condition it is no longer a fitting emblem for display it should be destroyed in a dignified way, prefer-



BEING A PARENT

THEMBUMENZI
NTSHALINTSHALI

Like any life principle, identifying something that excites you intrinsically goes a long way in making you a better person.

My submission today is more engaging with the "self" thus parenting in extension. In short, if you perceive yourself to be good, healthy, and happy and excited about your life, that focus will attract more of that even when it comes to parenting. All of us are in some way turned on by something.

It could be something we look forward to such as a holiday or a trip to an exotic destination. When we win-

dow shop we dream about buying beautiful things for ourselves and our homes.

We are turned on by the beauty, success, achievement, pride, being healthy and so forth, and that energy can also be shifted and shaped to a somehow desirable parenting.

Ask yourself this: why do you want to get up in the morning, besides answering the call of Mother Nature to empty your bladder? What is calling you either by whispering your name or shouting it?

Are your children part of your intrinsic motivation for getting up

and going every morning, not because you feel there is an obligation to fulfil in terms of providing for them, but because you want to do good by them as they are also an energy force that impacts your life?

Question

This becomes a hard question and most people I may know and refer to from the top of my head cannot give a straight answer to it.

They can mumble around how they want to feel when they find it... happy, excited, energised, etc. but they cannot say 'this' is what turns me on. Many people sit in corporate

offices making someone else's dream come true, not realising they have the power to live that calling or vocation right there in corporate life or not realising they have overstayed their welcome.

This becomes a common mistake for many parents when it comes to parenting and they do not realise that their children can never be 'some' project like that at work, they only want to connect with you at your personal level space just like you should be with yourself.

The more you expose yourself as an individual to different interests and

possibilities, the more information you will have at your disposal to make a decision based on what excites your interest and feels right for you.

This goes hand in hand when it comes to parenting, because as a parent, you should know just like I submitted before that your children are also different and have different interests, so the more you explore as an individual, the better of a person you become thus a better parent.

Have conversations about all sorts of things, that make you feel your pulse racing if you start to talk about

PARENTING WITH ENTHUSIASM

ably by burning.

It is not polite to fasten, display or use a flag in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way. It should never be placed upon anything, nor any part of it, nor attach to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, design, pictures, or drawing of any nature. It should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins (serviettes) or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discarded or used as portion of a costume except emblems of athletic uniform.

Attention

A flag should never touch anything beneath it, and should always be carried flat or horizontally. During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade, all persons should face the flag and stand in attention.

It is not permissible for any person to display a flag on his/her car. Cars that have flags on them are only for the King/Queen mother, Diplomats, and Government ministers. Also, when the national anthem is played and the flag displayed, all present should stand and face towards the flag.

In conclusion, a country is not a fully-fledged country if it does not have its own national symbols. Swaziland has come of age. The road from 1968 when we obtained independence has not been an easy one. Our grandparents fought so hard for us to be where we are today. The time has come for us as a country to develop ethics guiding the use of national symbols. Today in some homes around the country you find portraits of lions and elephants. Do Swazi people still remember that these are animals that are largely respected in the country as they symbolise authority.

If a tourist passes through a homestead with a portrait at the gate of a lion or an elephant, what message does he/she get about us as a country with regards to respect of national symbols and authority? We need to be clear on the correct blue colour used in the Swazi flag between sky blue and the one that is dark blue?

Originally the correct flag has sky blue not dark blue. Do we have a coat of arms and if we do, which one is correct between the one in our passports and that which is in our birth certificates?

The fact that we have four national symbols that are used concurrently shows that *kunobulabha bekunganaki* and the question that lingers without an answer is, if we have such *bulabha* that has gone uncorrected for 48 years, seriously are we ready for the electronic world? Are we ready in government for Electronic Documents and Records Management System (EDRMS)? How are we going to be able to manage information electronically if we cannot be vigilant in managing it manually?

something that you have a feeling and a flair for. Then ask more questions about it and go back to explore.

This is the feeling we should be experiencing as parents when it comes to conversations with our children, but unfortunately many parents shy away from such conversations which are very beneficial in creating a harmonious relationship with children.

Push and push harder and if possibly attend seminars, remain open, read, think and feel what resonates with you.

Remember, this is your life and that of your significant others we are talking about, you want to get this right.

You don't want to settle for some mediocre role in your children's life, the world is changing so are your children, but that is no excuse, change with them and push harder to find what it is that makes you feel fully alive and pursue it.



TOURISM & TRAVEL

BY BONGANI DLAMINI
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CARAVANNING: A MULTI-CULTURAL ADVENTURE ACTIVITY

As more and more people in Africa, and Swaziland in particular, are warming up to the possibility of being a tourist regardless of their station in life, race, creed, and other prejudices, there has emerged a black South African caravanning enthusiast and author, who is challenging old perceptions about adventure and race.

The female writer, Fikile Hlatshwayo-Rouget, has set to dismiss, if not change stereotypes in the adventure tourism world, which for many years had been assumed to be either expensive or a prerogative of a chosen few. However, the stereotype of black people being immiscible with caravans is one yet to be proven wrong.

In fact, Hlatshwayo-Rouget decided that she and her 'black family' would go around and explore wildlife sanctuaries and campsites in South Africa, but she found herself drooling to profile some of ours as well.

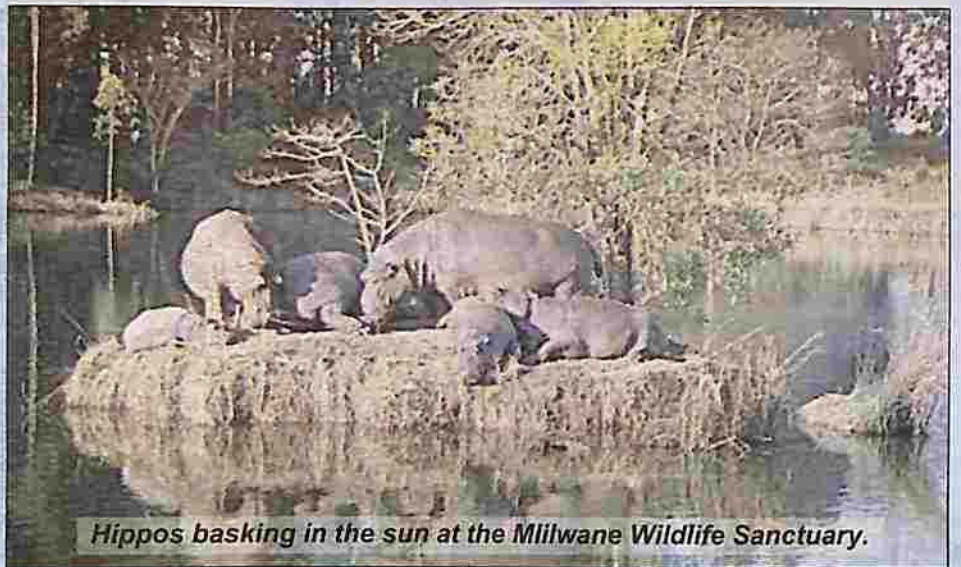
Fikile visited Phophonyane Falls and Eco Lodge, Maguga Lodge, Malolotja Canopy Tours, Mantenga Cultural Village, Nisela Safaris, Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary, Hlane Royal National Park and Magadzavane Lodge. All these are in our own backyard and very much affordable, but yet they are still under-utilised by locals.

Fikile, who came all the way from South Africa said they were able to find these places without a hassle, putting it in the straight and narrow that we need to go camping. From Fikile's shared experience of her Swaziland itinerary, camping and travelling around in a caravan is not all grit and dirt, as there are lots of added amenities on offer that impact on the life of the camper, ranging from educational to adrenaline rushes, as well as luxury. Swaziland's establishments are so good they cater for people who are not the typical 'out-door people' while actually in the outdoors. For example, the luxurious chalets at Nisela Safaris mesmerise with their 'get-the-best-of-both-worlds' character.

Discovered

In fact, a group of journalists who were hosted by SNTC recently at Mlawula Nature Reserve, discovered the comfort of camping at Sara Camp, which has state-of-the-art tents. People are also free to bring their own caravans or tents at Siphiso Camp, also found at Mlawula Nature Reserve.

Educational tours in the wild, says Hlatshwayo-Rouget, were also part of their busy tour, where they were taken through a



Hippos basking in the sun at the Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary.

quick lesson on the types and trends of certain birds, especially at Magadzavane Lodge. She says site-seeing at Malolotja wowed them, and would greatly recommend the place to other South Africans – both of colour and white.

Is it not an amazing thing to discover the beauty of one's country and learn even more while one hikes up the beautiful Malolotja, or being serenaded by the warm waterfalls at Phophonyane or rather enjoying watching traditional dances at Mantenga? Next time one thinks camping, caravanning, or just escaping the city noise, think no further than your own

backyard.

We need to bury all perceptions and take part in painting huge memory lanes we will be proud to walk down when we reminisce with family and foes, friends and enemies. If Fikile liked it, you might love it. If you decide not to buy a caravan, go out still and visit these amazing campsites, you will come back yearning for more.

Meanwhile, Fikile's book, titled 'Blacks do caravan', with amazing pictures of some of Swaziland's prime campsites, is now available in stores.





POLITICIANS' HEFTY PAY RISE RAISES MORE QUESTIONS

Let me begin today's feature by shouting 'Bayethe' to His Majesty the King for calling Sibaya. It is very clear that the King expects Swazis who love their country to use this platform wisely and speak out on issues that are of great concern aimed at building this nation.

Those who boycotted this forum will surely be seen as enemies of this national building initiative. *Idubukele BaKaNgwane!!*

CIVIL SERVANTS' OUTCRIES

The deafening outcries of the Civil servants that politicians including all the National Councils *Emabandla*, have been awarded over 32 percent hefty pay rise following the implementation of the now famous *Dvuladvula* back pay are just too loud to be ignored. We are bleeding in our hearts and shocked that the wishes of the civil servants who are the backbone of the government machinery to deliver essential services have once again been in vain.

To be given such a raw deal raises so much tension as they were only given just 18 percent. We are still baffled that some deserving public servants have not received any reward and back pay, a classical example being the HODs within the teaching fraternity, surely something is not right. Who negotiated for this hefty pay rise for the politicians and *Emabandla*, will we be wrong to conclude that the executive is to blame here, *bayaticomisa emacatsa langaka*.

What is further fuelling fire to the concerns is that the Premier and his Deputy over and above getting 32 percent hike they still stand to be paid over E50 000 and E60 000 including a medical cover after they leave office. Something is not adding up as only well performing economies can afford such luxury. The lame excuse that the Executive was not responsible for this greed and biased selfish salary hike is a sign of sheer negligence and oversight. For the Executive to state that the appointing authority was responsible

for this is mockery of our intelligence and aimed shifting the goal posts, we are not impressed. Where is fairness in this when distribution of national treasury is so skewed when thousands of the marginalized people live in dire poverty? You may be wondering what has this to do with human rights, well it has everything to do with them because the first basic principle is that all human beings are born equal and free and we should be upholding human dignity as the backbone of our co-existence as human beings. But such irresponsible judgement by the leadership tells us something is not right and we cannot be fooled any longer.

IMPLICATIONS OF THIS HEFTY PAY RISE

Firstly, it is totally unacceptable to shift the blame to LCC, the consultant who was engaged by the very same government, yet the Executive already knew what they wanted. Why are we being fooled that the King is responsible for this injustice. Playing politicking games and pulling a fast one by the executive instead of owning up, shows we have run short of sensitive leadership. The King rules in Council and all the national *Emabandla* have access to him to consult and give advice.

It is showing disrespect of the highest order to suggest that His Majesty personally instructed consultants to give such a hefty pay rise to politicians including *Emabandla*. Cabinet by virtue of its role and function received the report, and one would have expected that their first call was parliament, where a report and analysis will be given for endorsement, but seemingly parliament is also shocked like the rest of us.

Members of Parliament if they are still people's representatives should be ashamed for allowing themselves to be recipients of such unjust increment. Now this is where the great problem lies, what can be expected from people who are beneficiaries anyway, *bayacomisana batiphakela*

ngengcwembe lenkhulu. The IMF and World Bank are already giving warning signals that this country is headed for tougher economic times, unless the wage bill is addressed.

PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS DECEIVED

Having heard the outcry of the Public Sector Unions one has a feeling that they were indeed taken by surprise to learn that the politicians and *Emabandla* have already had an early Christmas. Any salary review by the way is definitely going to have a negative impact on the private sector work force remuneration packages. It is unavoidable that the labour movement will be looking at the welfare of the whole working force and will soon be calling for a national minimum wage review as it has been affected by this salary hike and the private sector will be expected to consider raising salaries as well. One wonders with the current state of the national economy that can hardly meet the national needs and presently underperforming, what does the future holds for us. Why does leadership invite more undue crisis when we already are seeing dash board indicators flashing dangerously that all is not well with our economy?

HIGH POVERTY LEVELS AND SERVICE DELIVERY CHALLENGES

The Swazi leadership knows that the majority of the people live in abject poverty. We have shared in this column that many families are having only one meal a day. Those who are on medication are causing so much more harm to their sickly bodies, which could lead to health complications, as they are exposed to taking medication on empty stomachs.

The lame excuse that the National Disaster Management System is delivering food surely is not a guarantee that food is reaching the desperate masses. Whoever thought that a bag of mealie-meal and beans is

enough must examine their heads. When we speak of high levels of poverty which the marginalised population are subjected to, we mean they have no resources that makes them live a quality life.

They walk many kilometres before they can reach health care facilities. They have no water as the recent drought have had such a great impact as rivers and streams have dried up. Then when you read about the implication of this over 30 percent salary hike for politicians, surely you wonder where fairness here is. The sooner the leadership become more sensitive to people's plights and impact of the high level of poverty the better.

BASIC SERVICES AND COST OF LIVING

The prices have since sky rocketed and there is no hope that they will ever come down again. Many people are not in gainful employment, basically rendering them to be living below the poverty line and cannot purchase basic things. With the drought having had its fair share of causing untold crisis, the reality is that the so called mitigation initiative by the National Disaster Management Agency is not going to solve our high levels of hunger.

Even though the weather experts are promising average rains ahead, our people will have no farm inputs as they will be recovering from the effects of the drought and will be further challenged. Will Government consider subsidising farm inputs this year in order for assist the poor people to have a foundation to start all over again? The so called government tractor pool that is run by the ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, will be unable to meet the demand. Is there a mitigation programme plan aimed at assisting those who are highly dependant on farming maize in particular? Whoever thought there is no poverty in urban settings must have their minds examined. So many people

are currently living far below the poverty line within the informal urban setting (*Etikomplazi*) and are desperately needing urban based mitigation strategies.

FAR-REMOVED LEADERSHIP

The attention seekers in parliament, who now act like they are concerned by calling for their hefty salaries to be slashed so that the money be given to the elderly is mockery of the highest order. These politicians are far removed from the people's present crisis, no wonder they are playing this mind games.

The mere fact that after they were elevated to this political positions, some quickly moved to live in the urban areas. The lame excuses often used are that their homes are far away hence the need to relocate. Such leadership end up not hearing the people's voices on the ground because they hardly live there.

Ideally, there should be mechanisms put in place that allow people to be heard when they raise issues and have them attended to without delay. There should be report back and feedback mechanisms in place to the electorates, and these politicians and *Emababandla* will know what people are thinking about this hefty pay rise. Surely their hearts of stones will be changed and have people's pressing needs addressed.

Surely one hopes they would develop listening ears to people's voices and do something. There is an urgent need to seriously evaluate the performance of present leadership as it is clear they have no national interests in their hearts. National priorities and critical essential services delivery should be delivered urgently.

People's needs must be given a top priority in any human endeavour and development - *Bantfu embili*. We hope the people's submissions will be heard and implemented.

Let us listen to the voice of reason, *eMaswati atfungela injobo bandla, sakha sive! Embili Ngwane!!*

Happy Women's Month, from Dups!



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against the extension of Pass Laws to women. The month is now a representation of women's strength and character.

Sadly, this celebration comes against the backdrop of several acts of violence involving women - many women getting murdered by men who, even after the deed, still claim to love the slain women, women murdering men they claim to love, women abusing helpless children, and last but not least, women committing acts of violence on themselves by taking their own lives. This is all quite unfortunate as it is avoidable.

This week we would just like to celebrate all the strong women holding it together to keep their families' heads above water against all odds.

They might be holding top executive jobs, selling vegetables at the market, or just looking after their families at

home. These are all positive contributions that keep families and the nation intact. Remind us again who called women "the weaker sex!"

Indications all around us show us that many of them are actually solid as rocks. There are many grannies who should be resting and enjoying their twilight years, but are scrapping around to feed, clothe and educate hungry orphaned grandchildren. We salute you for your resilience.

There are also many single mothers raising their offspring by themselves after getting widowed or after the children's dads ran for the hills, mothers raising children with disabilities, we take our hats off to you.

As human beings, women need companionship. That's what God and nature call for. The companionship, however, must be wholesome. A person who makes your life miserable,

leaves you feeling shortchanged or puts your life under any form of threat is not a companion.

That person does not deserve your attention. It is always a sad day when we read stories of women who die at the hands of their partners, especially after there had been red flags throughout their relationship that their lives were under threat.

Think of the school girl that got murdered by her boyfriend in June after telling her friends that he had threatened to kill her, yet she still walked away with him and lost her life. Women are known for their big hearts that overflow with love. Love, but be willing to accept it when things go south. Your love for someone should not be the reason why you should stop existing (as when women commit suicide following the collapse of a relationship or get murdered by a violent partner), or why the other person must stop existing (as when women murder men who don't reciprocate their love.) Life is too sacred to

be wasted like that.

There is a message that ladies share a lot on social media which reads: "A strong woman knows how to keep her life in order. Even with tears in her eyes, she still manages to say, 'I'm OK,' with a smile." Don't say you're OK when you're not, because when you bottle emotions up, one day they bubble up and explode, like when you shake a bottle of Coke.

Talk to someone who cares. There are organisations available to help women in distress.

Should you find yourself all alone, don't bury your head in the sand. Show up and make your mark in the world. Regardless of the circumstances, learn a new skill this month to celebrate your womanhood. Love yourself and others. Pray. Have faith.

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Happy Women's Month to all you beautiful women in the Kingdom. August is regarded a women's month in South Africa in commemoration of the 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings in August 1956 in protest

BRIEFS

Singapore calls for vigilance after 'rocket attack' plot foiled

SINGAPORE - Singapore called for heightened vigilance yesterday, a day after Indonesian police arrested a group of men they believed were plotting a rocket attack on the wealthy city-state with the help of a Syrian-based Islamic State militant. The six suspected militants were rounded up on Friday in dawn raids on Batam island, about 15 km (10 miles) south of Singapore, where police believe the men planned to fire the rockets from. Local police chief Sam Budigusdian said those arrested were still being held there while investigations continued. *Reuters*

Trump ends standoff with Ryan

GREEN BAY — In an effort to repair some of the damage he had inflicted on his presidential campaign, Donald Trump has endorsed House Speaker Paul Ryan. The endorsement ends a four-day standoff that had exposed the deep chasms in the Republican Party over his candidacy. Trump struck a rare conciliatory tone at a Wisconsin rally on Friday night, imploring his party to unite behind him. It was an unusual gesture for Trump, who is known for his refusal to admit mistakes and his tendency to double down when he's under attack. *News24*

Turkey's ruling party orders purge

ISTANBUL - Turkey's ruling party has ordered a purge from its ranks of supporters of US-based Islamic preacher Fethullah Gulen, accused of plotting last month's failed coup. The "urgent clean-up in the party organisation" was aimed at expelling those linked with the Fethullah Terrorist Organisation (Feto), as Ankara calls the movement blamed for the July 15 attempted putsch, state-run Anadolu news agency reported. *News24*

13 killed, in birthday party fire

FRANCE - A fire apparently sparked by birthday cake candles tore through a bar in northern France early yesterday, killing at least 13 people in the nation's deadliest blaze in a decade. Through the shattered front windows of the bar in Rouen melted stools and scorched liquor bottles were visible, as tearful mourners hugged each other and brought flowers to the scene of the tragedy. Most of the dead were between 18-25 years old, with one person among the six injured still fighting for life. Authorities said the bar was crowded with young partygoers. Prime Minister Manuel Valls expressed "deep sadness at the tragedy that claimed 13 young lives." *AFP*

South Sudan accepts deployment of force

ADDIS ABABA - An African regional bloc says South Sudan's government has accepted the deployment of a regional force to the country, almost a month after fighting erupted between opposing army factions. South Sudan had previously rejected an outside force, but the head of the Inter-governmental Authority on Development said that the government had accepted a protection force without preconditions. Mahboub Maalim spoke to reporters after several regional heads of state met on the crisis. He also said the recently named First Vice President, Taban Deng Gai, had agreed to step down if opposition leader Riek Machar returns to South Sudan's capital, Juba. *News24*



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TRUMP'S WEEK OF CAMPAIGN WOES

WASHINGTON - Donald Trump, the embattled Republican presidential nominee, has made a successful campaign out of incendiary rhetoric and defying political correctness.

But the plain-talking political outsider has stepped in it repeatedly over the past week, so much so that members of his own party are begging him to get back on the message in his battle against Democratic rival Hillary Clinton.

Here are some of Trump's biggest gaffes since he his campaign.

Trump alarmed American voters and his own supporters when he urged Russia to find and release emails that disappeared from Clinton's private server while she was secretary of state.

"Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30 000 emails that are missing," Trump said during a July 27 media conference. "I think you will probably be rewarded mightily by our



Donald Trump.

press."

Democrats - and some furious Republicans - seized on the comments to highlight how Trump invited a foreign power to conduct espionage against the United States.

Trump backtracked the next day: "Of course I'm being sarcastic."

Trump's denigration of the family of a fallen Muslim American soldier was seen by many as a monumental misstep. Khizr Khan, a Pakistani immigrant whose son died in

a suicide bombing in Iraq in 2004, pricked Trump by telling the Democratic National Convention on Thursday last week that Trump has "sacrificed nothing, and no one", for the country.

The Republican shot back on ABC News that he has made "a lot of sacrifices", then raised the stakes by tweeting: "Mr Khan, who does not know me, viciously attacked me from the stage of the DNC." *Reuters*

Rebels turn tables on regime as IS loses Syria bastion

DAMASCUS - Jihadists and rebels captured strategic military positions on the edges of Syria's second city Aleppo on Saturday, turning the tables on Russian-backed regime forces besieging the city.

To the northeast, a Western-backed alliance of Arab and Kurdish fighters scored a major victory against the Islamic State group in the town of Manbij after a fierce two-month battle.

The developments have rocked the key northern province of Aleppo, a microcosm of Syria's topsy-turvy, multi-front war that has killed more than 280 000 people.

Rebel and regime forces have fought for control of the provincial capital of the same name since mid-2012, transforming the former economic powerhouse into a divided, bombed-out city.

Yesterday opposition fighters and allied jihadists captured fresh territory south of Aleppo in a bid to cut off regime forces and open up a new route into besieged rebel-held districts.

"The Army of Conquest on Saturday took control of the armament school, where there is a large amount of ammunition, and a large part of the artillery school" at a military academy south of the city, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The coalition of rebels, Islamists, and jihadists "is about to cut off, by gunfire, the supply route into government-controlled districts" of the city, Observatory head Rami Abdel Rahman said.

That road passes through a southwestern suburb of Aleppo called Ramussa and is the last route into the city used by regime troops. *Reuters*

Building new dams is adding to Africa's malaria burden

ADDIS ABABA - More than 2,000 large dams have been built and more than 200 are currently under construction or planned in sub-Saharan Africa.

The general aim is to enhance food security, increase hydropower generation, manage rainfall variability and promote economic growth.

In 2012, the continent's heads of state and government laid out an ambitious, long-term plan for closing Africa's infrastructure gap. Ethiopia has built several dams in recent years that have helped satisfy its growing energy demand.

Initiated

The Democratic Republic of Congo has initiated the construction of several dams along the Congo River at Inga Falls. The height of the Kamuzu Barrage is being augmented in Malawi. Encouraged by recently renewed international aid for water resources development, feasibility studies are under way for many more dams throughout the continent. But the construction of these dams brings an unintended consequence - an



More than 2 000 large dams have been built and more than 200 are currently under construction or planned in Sub-Saharan Africa.

increase in malaria cases in the surrounding areas.

Africa is home to 90% of the global malaria burden, carrying at least 174 million cases annually. A conservative estimate is that more than one million malaria cases result from large dams in Africa each year. Specific examples of elevated transmission around dams have been documented in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal and Zimbabwe. One example is the Koka Reservoir in central

Ethiopia. Water impounded in reservoirs generally increases the abundance of sites - typically shallow puddles - in which larvae of the malaria-carrying *Anopheles* mosquito thrive. This causes a drastic increase in the overall number of adult mosquitoes. These mosquitoes often bite people in the evening and night, increasing the rate of malaria transmission among human populations living within a few kilometres of reservoirs.

Reuters

Turkey's president to meet Putin

ANKARA - As Turkey's relations with Europe and the United States are strained by the fallout from its failed coup, President Tayyip Erdogan travels to Russia on Tuesday to meet Vladimir Putin in a trip he may hope will give the West pause for thought.

Turkish officials insist Erdogan's visit to St. Petersburg is no sign that the NATO member and European Union membership candidate is turning its back on the West. Rather, they say, it is the next step in a rapprochement with Russia that started weeks before the July 15 attempted putsch.

But the thaw with Moscow, which imposed trade sanctions nine months ago after Turkey downed a Russian fighter jet near the Syrian border, comes as Ankara's relationship with the West could scarcely be more fractious.

Erdogan and many Turks have been incensed by what they see as Western concern over a post-coup crackdown but indifference to the bloody events themselves, in which more than 230 people were killed as rogue soldiers bombed parliament and seized bridges with tanks and helicopters. *Reuters*

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Asensio set to stay at Real Madrid

MADRID - Marco Asensio is set to fight for his spot at Real Madrid despite receiving numerous offers to leave the club, according to his agent.

Asensio, 20, spent last season on loan at Espanyol and enjoyed a superb season, contributing four goals and 10 assists in 34 La Liga appearances.

His performances led to a call-up to the Spanish national team in May, where the attacking midfielder made his debut in a friendly win over Bosnia and Herzegovina.

And Asensio is set to fight for his place at Santiago Bernabeu this season, despite the limited opportunities in Zinedine Zidane's squad.

"What I know is that he has a 99 per cent chance to stay at Madrid. There's a one per cent chance he would leave," his agent, Horacio Gaggioli, told COPE.

"These days will be definitive. It will not reach the 31st of August. Madrid would have to give away a player to get him back next season. He has to go before August 12 or 13, or he will stay in Madrid.

"But we do not contemplate this situation. We believe Marco has the conditions to play at Madrid.

"Of course, it's another thing to play 35 games a season at Madrid because it's one of the biggest clubs in the world. It is a question of growing within the squad."

He added: "I will not talk about the clubs that were interested in Marco, but there was interest from England, Germany, Italy, France and Spain.

"He is a very appetising footballer."

GOAL



Marco Asensio.

Neymar recalls first training with Messi

MADRID - In an interview with Soccer Laduma, FC Barcelona superstar, Neymar recalls what it was like training with Lionel Messi for the first time.

The forward moved to the Camp Nou in 2013 from Brazilian outfit, Santos and has already gone on to win the two La Liga titles, two Spanish cups and the UEFA Champions League.

The 24-year-old spoke exclusively to Soccer Laduma, and revealed he felt he was in video game when training started with the likes of Messi and Andres Iniesta.

"I spent my very first training session with him and the other stars of Barcelona. Suddenly I found myself training with Messi, Iniesta, Xavi, Puyol, Fabregas, Pique... it seemed like I had entered a video game. We're all friends and we are always together when we can be," Neymar said.

"When you play alongside guys like Messi, Iniesta, Dani Alves, Busquets, Alba and everyone else, any adaptation becomes easier. I can say that I am a privileged player!"

Since joining the Catalan giants in 2013, Neymar has made 185 appearances, scoring 85 goals in that period.

Soccerladuma

NOBLE'S PHONE 'ALWAYS ON' FOR ENGLAND CALL

LONDON - West Ham captain Mark Noble believes his chances of a first England call-up are unchanged but told his former boss his phone is "always on".

Ex-Hammers boss Allardyce replaced Roy Hodgson as England's head coach following a poor Euro 2016 showing which saw the Three Lions eliminated by Iceland at the round of 16 stage.

The 61-year-old labelled Noble the 'ultimate West Ham man' in his 2015 autobiography but, despite enjoying a decade-long career in the first team, the midfielder has been overlooked by previous England bosses.

Noble - who led West Ham out for their first game at the London Stadium in Thursday's 3-0 Europa League qualifying win over NK Domzale - picked up 20 Under-21 caps earlier in his career but is still to be involved in a senior squad despite impressive top-flight

showings.

He may now have his best chance given Allardyce knows everything about him, but Noble, 29, is not holding out any hope although he did back the new national boss to prove a hit.

Asked if he had changed his perspective on his England chances now Allardyce has the job, Noble said: "Not one little bit to be honest.

"I'm going to enjoy playing here and obviously I played under Sam for four years and thoroughly enjoyed my football under

him.

"I thought he was a great manager and I loved him as a person and I think he is the right man for the job.

"I think he will do well, 100 per

cent, his man-management qualities and what he expects from his teams, what he gets out of the players, I think he is the right man."

Noble revealed he has not had communication with Allardyce since congratulating him on keeping Sunderland in the Premier League last season - but is easily reachable.

"It's always on," he replied when asked if he will be keeping his phone on in case Allardyce gets in touch.

"We had a couple of texts at the end of last season when he kept Sunderland up and I had my testimonial.

"Sam sent me a nice message and I sent one at the end of last season just saying 'congrats on keeping them up and hope you are going to have a good summer' - I didn't expect it to be quite this good, but I suppose he has!"

Teamtalk



West Ham captain Mark Noble

Sissoko: Real Madrid move would be a dream

PARIS - The France international has been heavily linked with a move to the Santiago Bernabeu, and would jump at the chance to make such a move, though he knows nothing is certain.

Moussa Sissoko says moving to Real Madrid would complete a childhood dream.

The Newcastle United midfielder has been heavily linked with a potential move to the Santiago Bernabeu after impressing for France at Euro 2016, where Les Bleus reached the final, only to lose to Portugal. Newcastle were relegated from the Premier League last season, but are reportedly demanding €40 million if they are to sell the 26-year-old.

Sissoko - who has also been linked with Paris Saint-Germain - is flattered by the supposed interest from Madrid, but knows a move is not a certainty.

"That's flattering," he said to L'Equipe about the prospect of a move to Madrid. "Who would not be flattered by the interest of the best clubs in the world?"

"It's simple - when you are young and you start playing football, your dream is to become a professional and play for a club like Real or Manchester United.

"I have worked my way up and if a club like Real comes to me, it will be something huge. It is difficult to reject a club like Real, although you still have to think carefully to make the best decision

possible.

"[Being coached by Zinedine Zidane] could be something fantastic, but that is not the case today. Everyone knows Zidane, his career, the man he is and the coach he is becoming. This is a great person in the world of football.

"Now I wait to see if this is really feasible before I think about it and make a decision. I know there are a lot of interested clubs. So we will take all the options into account before making the best choice possible. We will see what happens.

"Since the beginning of my career, I didn't have the opportunity to play Champions League matches and I have a real desire to discover this competition.

"At

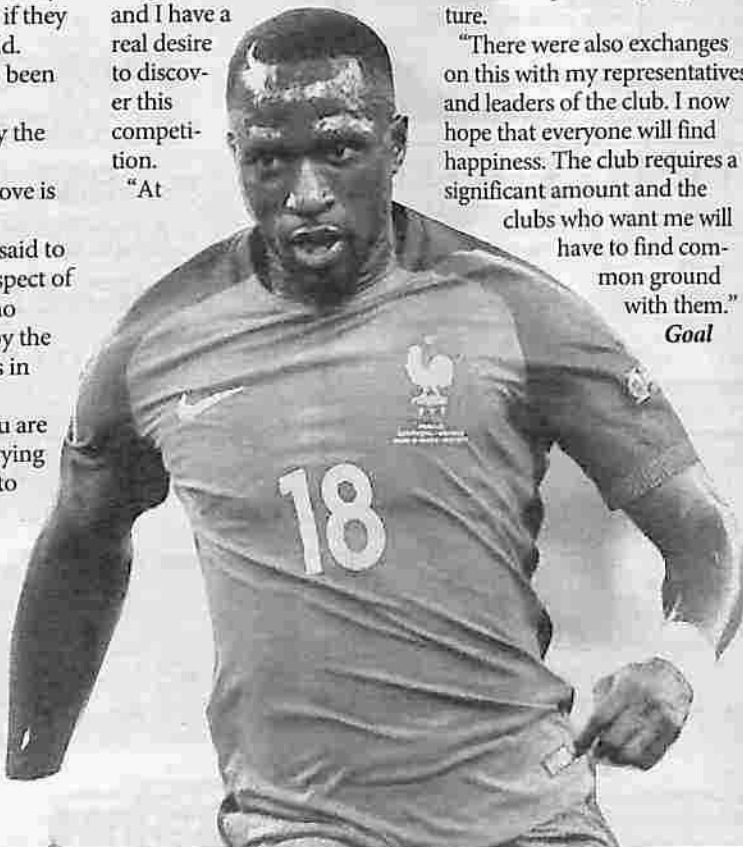
Newcastle, I have continued my progress and now I think now have the qualities to be able to aim higher. I was waiting for my time and perhaps it has arrived. I feel able to go to the big leagues and my wish is to join a really big club."

Sissoko, who joined Newcastle from Toulouse in 2013, has held in-depth talks with manager Rafael Benitez - the man who started last season in charge of Madrid.

He added: "I had a very good talk with my coach where we could put everything on the table. He would have liked to keep me but he also knows what is good for a player. He is therefore open to my departure.

"There were also exchanges on this with my representatives and leaders of the club. I now hope that everyone will find happiness. The club requires a significant amount and the clubs who want me will have to find common ground with them."

Goal



Moussa Sissoko.

Mourinho explains why he axed Schweinsteiger

LONDON - Manchester United manager, Jose Mourinho, has explained why he axed German midfielder, Bastian Schweinsteiger from the first team.

Reports in England suggested that the World Cup winner was banished from the first team, and the Portuguese manager has now revealed he only wants to keep a squad of 23 players.

The Red Devils have a number of players fighting for a place in the midfield, which includes Michael Carrick, Morgan Schneiderlin, Ander Herrera and Marouane Fellaini. While, Paul Pogba is set to be Mourinho's latest signing, leaving no room for Schweinsteiger.

"I think is what is happening in every club in the world which is the manager decides his squad and chooses a certain number of players to face the season," Mourinho told reporters at his press conference.

"That's it and I normally like to work with 20 players plus the three goalkeepers which is what I do for 15 years because we have so many players but at the same time we also have so many competition and especially the Europa League is a competition that changes a lot of the season you can play 15 matches, you play on the Thursday, you have a big risk, travel a lot.

"Normally you are going to play the Premier League on the Sunday so I made the decision to be with 23 players plus three goalkeepers which I think is still a lot and I had to make my decisions."

Soccerladuma



MONEY NOT A PROBLEM FOR ARSENAL - WENGER

LONDON - Arsene Wenger has reiterated that there are no financial restraints in his pursuit for new Arsenal players, but will play the waiting game.

There are deafening calls for Arsenal to add another top-quality striker to their squad to accompany Olivier Giroud and have been strongly linked with Alexandre Lacazette, Mauro Icardi and Alvaro Morata this summer.

However, with the new season fast approaching, Wenger was quizzed in a press conference about the lack of progress made in the transfer market.

When asked about the club's striker search, he told reporters:



Arsenal Manager Arsene Wenger.

"The money is never a problem if you have to pay what is requested. The price of a player is down to four ingredients.

"One is the talent, two his age, three is how much you expect him to improve your team and four his resale value. If he ticks

all four boxes then the price is not that important. You have to find the player."

It's not the prices, it's the players," he added after his side's 8-0 win over Viking in a pre-season friendly on Friday.

"Today we didn't have [Aaron] Ramsey, Xhaka, Alexis [Sanchez] - he will play on Sunday. We still have [Mesut] Ozil at home, and Giroud and [Laurent] Koscielny too.

"We also have young players who came on and did well. We do not have to panic but we are on alert in the transfer market so that we can make the right move when the opportunity comes up."

Teamtalk

Zlatan wants winning United start

LONDON - Zlatan Ibrahimovic has predicted that he will begin his Manchester United career with a trophy when the team meet Leicester City in the Community Shield at Wembley today.

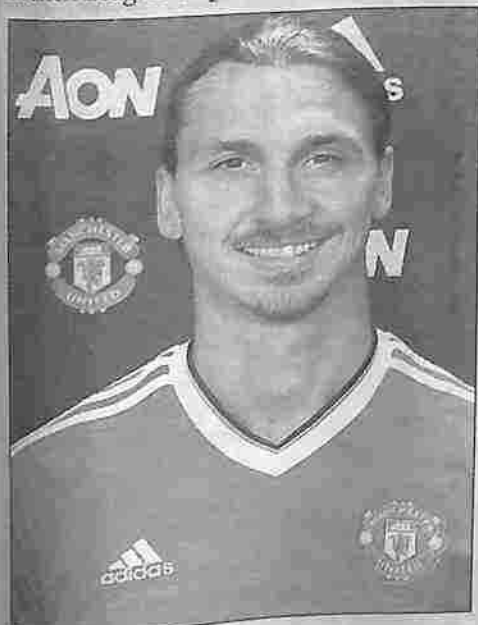
"I'm used to winning trophies; I didn't come here to waste time," said Ibrahimovic, who is in line to make his competitive debut for United after joining them on a free transfer from Paris St-Germain in July, having enjoyed a trophy-laden career to date.

The 34-year-old Swede plans to set the tone for what he hopes will be a successful spell at Old Trafford and help the FA Cup holders to get Jose Mourinho's reign off to a winning start against the Premier League champions.

"That is the first trophy we will bring home," he told Manchester United TV. "For me, every trophy is very serious. I have collected 30 trophies and I want to collect more of them. I'm not satisfied until I collect everything.

"I didn't come here to lose time," the former AC Milan striker continued. "I came here to win. I believe the philosophy is the same for the club, especially a club like this. They are made to win."

Last season, Ibrahimovic helped PSG to win a second successive domestic treble, winning Ligue 1, the French Cup and the French League Cup. AFP



Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

Ramon offers reasons why Man-U have won Pogba race

LONDON - Former Real Madrid president Ramon Calderon has had his say on why Paul Pogba is heading back to Manchester United rather than the Bernabeu.

The 23-year-old midfielder is close to completing his world-record switch to Old Trafford, with Jose Mourinho all-but confirming the Frenchman will be the final part of his jigsaw this summer.

Calderon was asked by Spanish media about his thoughts on the long-running transfer saga which did see Real Madrid emerge as strong contenders to sign him at

things and the fact Zinedine Zidane wanted this player in his squad - well, either Real don't have enough money to pay or the player doesn't want to go there and prefers United.

"I have had that experience both ways, with Cristiano Ronaldo wanting in and Robinho out. There

comes a time that such players are so demanded [they] can choose where they want to play between the clubs that can pay for them.

He added: "Pogba is an extraordinary footballer, outstanding - as all the footballing world thinks too. He's a box-to-box player - strong, great dribbling, good passing.

"We will only know if this is a fair price a few years from now. This is supply-and-demand law: as long as somebody is willing to pay, the selling club will be up for it."

Teamtalk



Paul Pogba.

Schmeichel pens new Leicester deal

LEICESTER - Leicester City goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel has committed his future to the club by signing a new five-year contract, the Premier League champions announced yesterday.

Schmeichel, son of Manchester United and Denmark great Peter, kept 15 clean sheets last season and played every minute as Leicester pulled off a 5,000-1 upset by winning the Premier League. The 29-year-old follows striker Jamie Vardy in signing a new contract at

Leicester, who play Manchester United in the Community Shield today before opening their title defence at Hull City next weekend.

"I'm just buzzing and I can't wait for the season to get started. It was a very easy decision," Schmeichel told LFC TV.

"It was a case of coming back after winning the Premier League and making sure that the hunger was the same within myself and the

squad. I've come back absolutely convinced that this is the place for me to be.

"We've taken some massive steps and ever since I arrived it's been fantastic. I've loved being here from minute one."

Capped 22 times by Denmark,

Schmeichel joined Leicester from Leeds United in 2011 and has made 220 appearances for the club.

AFP

Christian Lealiifano diagnosed with leukaemia

CANBERRA - Australian rugby player Christian Lealiifano is undergoing treatment after being diagnosed with leukaemia.

The 28-year-old, who played in all three Tests for Australia against England in the summer, has earned 19 caps for his country.

Lealiifano plays in Super Rugby for the Brumbies, whose chief executive Phil Thompson said: "At the moment it's just a matter of ensuring Christian receives the best care and support he can at this time."

Australian Rugby Union chief executive Bill Pulver said the national body will do all they can to support the player and his family.

We were shocked to receive the news of Christian's diagnosis yesterday and our thoughts are firmly with him as he begins his treatment," said Pulver.

Mirror



Australian rugby player Christian Lealiifano.

Hurricanes outclass Lions to win Super Rugby

WELLINGTON - The Hurricanes ended a 20-year nightmare yesterday when Beauden Barrett in scintillating form engineered a 20-3 victory over the Lions yesterday for their maiden Super Rugby title.

On a miserable, wet night in Wellington, man-of-the-match Barrett was everywhere for the Hurricanes and settled the outcome with an audacious try 12 minutes from time.

There were tumultuous scenes in the packed stadium as the Hurricanes, a team which often promised plenty but never delivered, became the fifth New Zealand side to be crowned Super champions.

The atrocious conditions dictated the outcome would rest on which of rival flyhalves Barrett and Elton Jantjies could best direct play.

It was a kicking duel Barrett won as he kept returning the Hurricanes to point-scoring positions despite the Lions dominating territory.

Cory Jane also scored for the Hurricanes with Barrett adding two conversions and two penalties while the Lions points came from a sole Elton Jantjies penalty.

It has been a long road to the top for the Hurricanes who lost the 2006 and 2015 finals as well as being beaten five times in the semi-finals.

But 2016 was not going to elude them, particularly with their local knowledge of Wellington's wintry conditions while the arduous travel from South Africa eventually told on the Lions as the game wore on.

When the Lions used their big men to ram a pathway forward in the first half they were stopped in their tracks time and again as Brad Shields and Victor Vito, in his 100th game, led a bruising defence.

If the Lions went wide they were rattled by the Hurricanes line speed which directly led to the opening try.

Lionel Mapoe was forced to rush a clearing kick which went straight into the arms of Jane a few metres away and the former All Black wing had an easy run to the line. AFP

RIO'S OLYMPIC GAMES HAVE OFFICIALLY BEGUN



RIO - Rio's Olympic Games have officially begun after Friday's Opening Ceremony - a celebration of Brazilian culture featuring Gisele, carnival-style dancing and an elaborate light display.

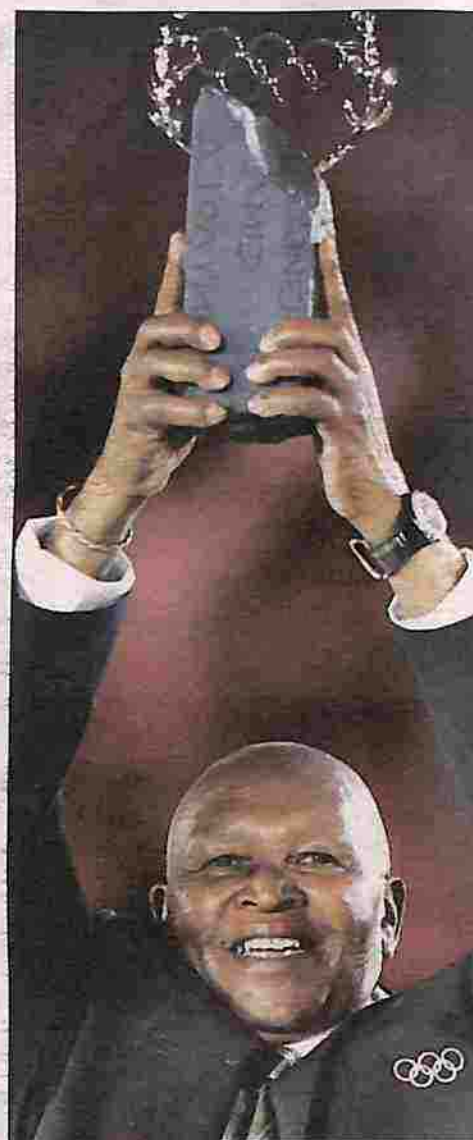
But many were left unimpressed by the cut-price ceremony - which cost just a tenth of London's in 2012, branding it 'boring'.

Others were furious that the money had been spent on the Olympics during Brazil's worst recession in recent years.

That anger erupted into protests outside the stadium as demonstrators, also frustrated over the presence of Brazil's acting president Michel Temer, clashed with police who used tear gas on the protesters.

Inside the stadium, others showed their anger through the thousands of seats left unsold as the Opening Ceremony began.

The 80 000-seater Maracana Stadium was less than two thirds full when the lights went down. A Brazilian presenter told the audience: 'We are 60 000 people soon to be joined by three billion' on TV. Twenty minutes before the world tuned in, many of the seats of the 'sold out' show remained empty.



RIO 2016 OLYMPICS



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Swaziland in
real time

All went according to plan

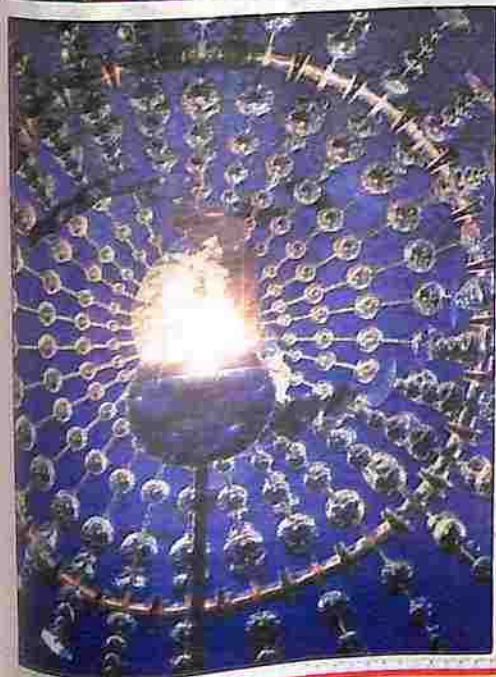
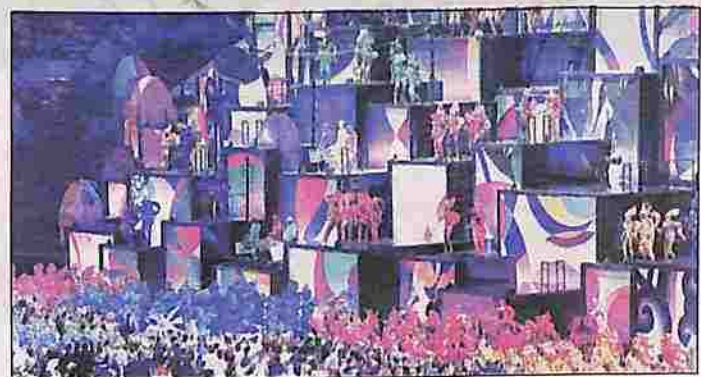
RIO - After weeks of speculation that Rio 2016 wouldn't be able to pull it off, all went according to plan on Friday night - except for one thing.

Despite being part of the official program, interim President Michel Temer was not introduced as the opening ceremony began.

Temer, an unpopular vice president who took power in May as the result of a controversial impeachment process, was nowhere to be found.

On social media and in the hallways of the huge Maracana soccer stadium, people began to whisper, or shout, where is he? Is he dodging the opening ceremony to avoid being heckled? Will any national leader officially open the Games?

Three hours later, he appeared. In an apparent attempt to minimise expected boos, he was not introduced by name or title, and a voice simply started talking quickly. But by the time the crowd figured out who it was, they jumped on him as expected, and drowned out the second half of his 13-word speech. A much smaller counterattack managed to add some cheers to the mix, creating a political cacophony underlining just how strange a situation Brazil faces.



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MANCHESTER CITY COMPLETE £4.7M MORENO DEAL

● with Colombian teenager sent straight out on loan

LONDON - Manchester City have confirmed the signing of Colombian teenager Marlos Moreno.

The 19-year-old has agreed a five-year deal with City following his £4.7m switch from Atletico Nacional.

He is set to join Deportivo La Coruna until the end of the coming campaign.

Moreno becomes City's third signing of the week following the arrivals of Leroy Sane and Gabriel

Jesus.

Moreno said: "City are one of the best clubs in the world. It will be nice to experience being part of such a big club."

"I want to make the most of it. 'Pep Guardiola is one of the best managers in the world. I think he likes young players very much and he can improve young players tactically and technically. 'It will be great to work with him and to be part of a great team.' *Mirror*



Colombian teenager Marlos Moreno.

No guarantee for Markovic to be in Liverpool - Klopp

LONDON - Jurgen Klopp has said there is no guarantee that winger Lazar Markovic will still be a Liverpool player at the end of the transfer.

But he has praised the former Benfica players commitment and development through the Reds pre-season campaign.

Markovic has featured regularly since returning to Merseyside after his loan spell with Fenerbahce last term where he made 14 appearances in an injury-hit season.

The £20m man knows he faces a battle to play his way into the manager's first-team plans, but Klopp has been true to his word in giving the 22-year-old the chance to do so this summer.

Speaking before today's high-profile match against Barcelona, Klopp said Markovic had overcome initial doubts about his fitness after a bad hamstring problem last season, and praised the winger's attitude and work ethic.

"He has developed well," he said. "When we started to train, you could really see that he didn't trust his body 100 per cent."

"He had a serious injury. We spoke about this. Everybody knows that Lazar is a very quick player, but he was not at 100%." He had some doubts about how it would be, so he needed the first one or two weeks. And since then he has become better and better and better."

"He's in good shape. I'm not sure where his 100% is, but he's in a good way and he's a nice lad, good boy, funny, works hard. That's the truth. 'But at the end we have to see how we will build our squad. We have time between now and 31 August where maybe something will happen. Maybe it will happen earlier, maybe it will happen on the 31st, or maybe it will never happen. That's how it is."

"At this moment we need all these players for the games and for our training sessions, and he is part of it. That's all for now."

Mirror

Mourinho blames late arrival for Renato Sanches failure

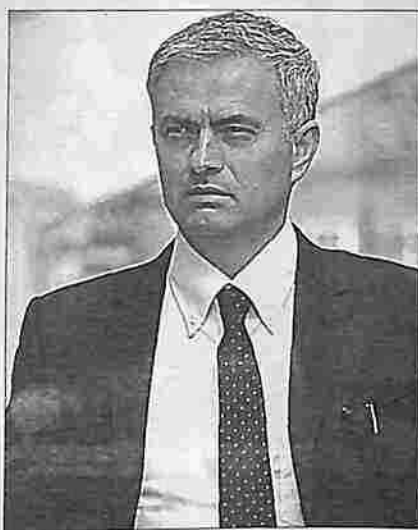
LONDON - Man United boss Jose Mourinho has said he would have put a "fight" to sign midfielder Renato Sanches had he arrived at Old Trafford earlier.

The 18-year-old midfielder

joined Bayern Munich in a deal worth up to €80m prior to Euro 2016, but Mourinho believes the outcome could have been different if he was appointed quickly following Louis van Gaal's exit.

"I arrived late. I signed in May, we started talking a week before, but completely out of the process. If I had arrived earlier, I'd fight for him," Mourinho told Sport TV. "Manchester United watched Renato many times and

maybe I did it even more. In so much time at home, I watched many Benfica and Portuguese league games, I got to know the boy better with time." "He's in a big club, in a league where he'll certainly be the champion. The



Man United boss Jose Mourinho

a world-record move for Paul Pogba is close to completion. *Teamtalk*

Swansea seal deal for former Spain striker Llorente

LONDON - Swansea City have confirmed they have completed the signing of former Spain striker Fernando Llorente.

The 31-year-old, who was part of the Spain squads that won the 2010 World Cup and 2012 European Championship, joins from Sevilla after scoring nearly 130 goals in a career which has also taken in Athletic Bilbao and Juventus.

"The striker, who will wear squad number nine, has signed

a two-year contract at the Liberty Stadium after undergoing a successful medical," said a Swansea statement.

"I am very happy to join Swansea," added Llorente.

"I have scored goals in La Liga and Serie A, and now I want to score a lot of goals for the club in the Premier League."

"I want to score a lot of goals like Michu. He is a very good player and he did very well here."

Teamtalk

'Strong' Leicester will not crumble like Chelsea - Ranieri

LONDON - Claudio Ranieri has insisted Leicester will not implode like Chelsea did under Jose Mourinho due to the "solid foundation" he has built.

The Italian believes the Foxes have strong foundations and will not change despite their shock Premier League title win.

They replaced Chelsea as champions after the Blues finished 10th last season having collapsed in spectacular style and sacked Mourinho in December - following a 2-1 defeat to Leicester.

Reports of a player revolt, a high-profile row with former club doctor Eva Carneiro and limp performances all contributed to Mourinho's downfall at Stamford Bridge following their 2015 title win.

He was appointed Manchester United boss in May and Ranieri faces him yesterday in the Community Shield and feels he and the Foxes will avoid the same fate as Mourinho in their Premier League defence.

"When I build something it is never destroyed. My philosophy is to watch your house, not other houses. It's important what

happens here. My house is very clean and very clear," he said.

"Slowly we try to build the first floor and the second floor. The foundation is very solid. I don't know what happened (to Chelsea). They were the champions."

Players

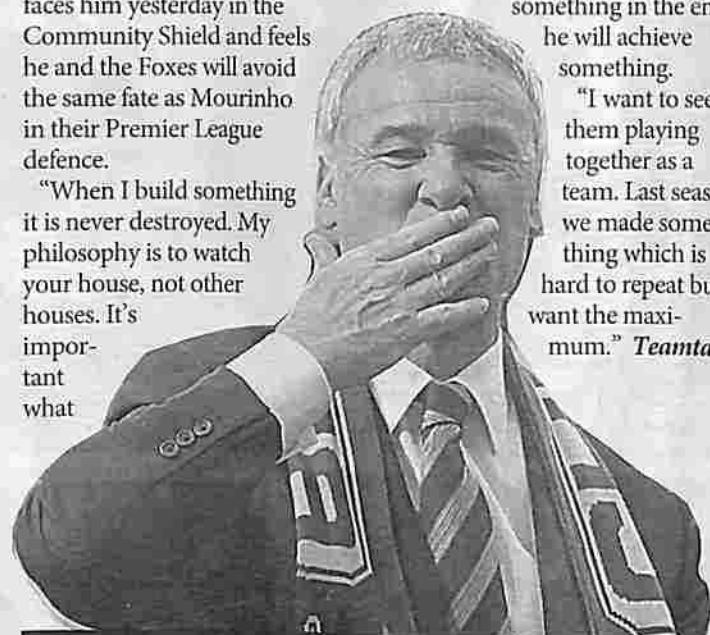
"I spoke with my players and I said 'I know you very well now and I want more. Forget what we achieved, I want more. You cannot tell me this is your maximum, I want more than the maximum from last season'."

"I am very curious what we can do now. If someone needs more rest psychologically, stay with me on the bench and understand what happens on the pitch."

"One of my strengths is always to have the right balance. Never give up, I always believe in myself and if one man wants to do

something in the end he will achieve something."

"I want to see them playing together as a team. Last season we made something which is hard to repeat but I want the maximum." *Teamtalk*



Leicester Claudio Ranieri.

LONDON - Premier League champions Leicester are ready to fight the likes of Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Juve to sign wonderkid Gabriel Barbosa.

According to The Sun, the Foxes are prepared to splash out £25m on the 19-year-old, who is currently represent Brazil at

Leicester 'join European elite in race for Brazilian ace'

the Olympic Games, and are ready to meet with his representatives as they jet in from Santos next week.

Following Manchester City's

recent £27m deal for Palmeiras forward Gabriel Jesus, Santos are said to be demanding £30m for their highly-rated youngster and will not settle for any less.

Everton and West Ham have also been linked as they both look to strengthen their striking departments ahead of the new season. *Teamtalk*



Mass exodus for FC Cape Town

CAPETOWN - National First Division side, FC Cape Town, have undergone wholesale changes ahead of the new season, with over 15 players leaving the club.

The African Beasts didn't have the best of campaigns in the NFD last season after finishing 10th with the third worst defensive record in the league, after conceding 50 goals, but they are hoping to improve this time around.

Push

With plans in place to push for promotion in the near future, the club's head coach, Johnny Ferreira, has explained that there are many changes afoot. Speaking in this week's issue of Soccer Laduma, Ferreira confirmed to the Siya crew that goalkeepers Wade Miller and King Ndlovu, as well as defenders Bafana Kali, Siphelele Magubane, Bongane Nyambi, Ntokozo Mbhele, Tamon Litchfield and several others had left. He said, "We only have a few players left from last season. These include Lucky Nguzana, Lucky Sithole, Jino Mocketsi, Edward More, Michael Kwong, Maboke Matlakala and Siphelele Hleleni. *Soccer Laduma*

MOHOMI BRACES FOR ORLANDO PIRATES BATTLE



JOHANNESBURG - Mamelodi Sundowns newcomer Lucky Mohomi expects an intense battle with Orlando Pirates today in the semi-finals of the Dr Hage Geingob Cup in Namibia.

The PSL rivals will ignite hostilities at 17h00 (SA time) at the Independence Stadium, with the victor meeting either Tigers FC or African Stars in

Sunday's final. Sundowns are bidding for a hat-trick of triumph at the pre-season competition.

Clear

"Since I have been with Sundowns one thing has been clear, there are no friendly matches," Mohomi told the club's website. "The intensity is always high, and now that this is a high-profile friendly one can expect a highly con-

tested match," added the former Free State Stars midfielder, who forms part of a strong 30-man squad in Windhoek. Downs coach Pitso Mosimane is minus injured trio Asavela Mbekile (shoulder), Kennedy Mweene (groin) and Mzikayise Mashaba (hernia), but will unleash marquee signing Sibusiso Vilakazi against the Buccaneers. *Kickoff*

Everyone will be given the chance - Pitso

JOHANNESBURG - Mamelodi Sundowns head coach, Pitso Mosimane says the Dr Hage Geingob Cup presents a chance to have a look at all the players in his squad.

Sundowns and Orlando Pirates will face each other in the semi-final of the Dr Hage Geingob Cup in Namibia.

Mosimane told journalists that

the Brazilians will be going out to win the tournament. "This is a great chance for us to give everyone the chance to play," Mosimane said. "Some of the players need to get rest but almost everyone will be playing because in every game or tournament we play we want to win and the same will happen in this tournament."

Soccer Laduma



Pitso Mosimane.



Baroka FC players.

Baroka FC through to F.A.M.E charity cup final

JOHANNESBURG - Baroka FC progressed to the F.A.M.E Charity Cup final after beating Black Leopards 1-0 in the first semi-final.

There was a good tempo in the opening exchanges but both sides struggled to carve out clear-cut openings in the 30 minutes.

However, that was the trend for the rest of the half, even though Baroka saw most of the possession in the opening 45 minutes.

It was a typical pre-season encounter, with neither side showing any real attacking intent, as the score remained goalless at the halftime break.

Baroka eventually broke the

deadlock 10 minutes into the second half, after Leopards goalkeeper Avahashoni Tshinuna fumbled Richard Matloga's cross-cum-shot into his own net. Leopards responded by introducing attacking midfielder Siphelele Ntshangase in the 65th minute, as they looked for an equaliser. *Soccer Laduma*



Eric Tinkler.

Baloyi, Ekstein send Kaizer Chiefs into charity cup final

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs progressed to the F.A.M.E Charity Cup final after securing a 2-0 win over Magesi FC on Saturday afternoon.

New signings Sibusiso Khumalo, Enocent Mkhabela, Edmore Chirambadare and Michelle Katsvairo were handed starts, while Emmanuel Letlotlo started up front.

Letlotlo could have opened the scoring after 15 minutes, but the striker failed to hit the target from six-yards out.

Chiefs eventually broke the deadlock in the 22nd minute, as Letlotlo did well pick out Lucky Baloyi, who rifled home from close range.

Steve Komphela's charges were in control throughout the counter and nearly doubled their lead in the 41st minute,



Kaizer Chiefs' Hendrick Ekstein controls the ball.

but Hendrick Ekstein's powerful effort sailed into the side-netting.

Chiefs were presented with a chance to extend their lead

shortly after the break, but an un-marked Ekstein failed to hit the target from close range.

Change

Komphela opted for a change

on the hour mark, as Edward Manqele replaced Chirambadare for the final 30 minutes. Magesi nearly leveled matters in the 63rd minute when Khutso Mohwatseleng broke free, but Luthando Sixhaso was well-positioned to make the save.

Doubled

Chiefs doubled their lead in the 76th minute, as Ekstein pounced on a poor clearance before calmly slotting into an empty net.

With Chiefs comfortably leading, Komphela introduced Ryan Moon in the 85th minute for his first appearance in the Black and Gold.

The AmaKhosi saw out the remaining stages of the second half with relative ease and will now face Baroka FC in the final. *Soccer Laduma*

Cape Town City FC coach anticipated Pirates exit

CAPETOWN - City coach Eric Tinkler tells Goal that after losing the Nedbank Cup final to SuperSport United, he kind of got the feeling that his days were numbered at Pirates.

Tinkler's three-year-tenure, one as head coach and two as assistant coach to Roger De Sa and Vladimir Vermezovic, at Orlando Pirates came to end after the appointment of Muhsin Ertugral, who he also coincidentally succeeds at Cape Town City FC, previously known as Mpumalanga Black Aces.

Inform

He informs Goal that he felt that after losing the Nedbank Cup final in May, the coaching job was no longer available.

"To be honest, after we lost the final to SuperSport United, I kind of got the feeling that I was going to be leaving," Tinkler told Goal. "The coaching job was no longer going to be available and that is why I had to go."

Goal



SWAZI TELECOM CHARITY CUP 2016 | PICTURES



Swazi Telecom Charity Cup U-20 defending champions Young Buffaloes celebrating beating Mbabane Highlanders 2-1 in the first semi-final at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. (Pics:Sanele Jele)



Mbabane Highlanders posing for a group photo ahead of their clash against Royal Leopard.



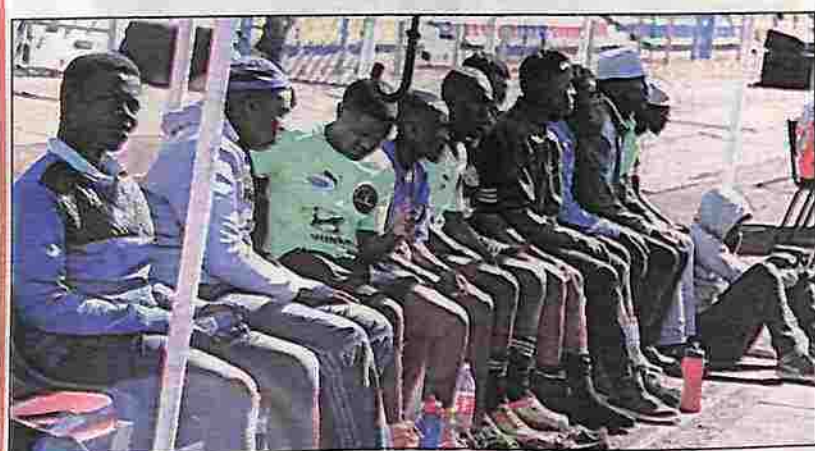
Buffaloes' Ncamiso Gina and Mbuso Dlamini fighting for the ball.



Highlanders captain Bonisani Masuku attempts a shot while Mvuselelo Sihlongonyane closes it.



Highlanders' Bonisani Masuku hot on Sithembiso Nhlabatsi's heels.



Mbabane Highlanders' bench watching the game.



Manzini Wanderers Coach Percy Shongwe giving instructions to Thulami Zubuko.



Manzini Wanderers before their game against Mbabane Swallows. They lost 2-5 in penalties after playing to a 1-all draw in the second semi final.



Highlanders' Sithembiso Ngwenya dashes away while Buffs's Thabo Masuku closes in.

Match Official Esrom Dlamini after Swallows and Wanderers kits colours clashed. Swallows settled for the junior national squad's kit.



SWAZI TELECOM CHARITY CUP

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WILL THE WILD CAT DUCK THE HORN?

STORIES BY QONDILE
NTIWANE

**Royal Leopard vs Mbabane
Highlanders**
Somhlolo National Stadium, 9am

The country's Mecca Somhlolo National Stadium will be a hive of activity as the 'Yam' Nawe edition of the Swazi Telecom Charity Cup takes centre stage this morning. For the first time after 10 years in the tournament, the country's big three will share the stage in the E2.2 million Swaziland Post and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) sponsored

tournament. They will be joined by police side Royal Leopard, who by virtue of being one of the teams to reckon with in the land, has become a big side.

The first clash of the day will see Leopard take on Mbabane Highlanders who have been absent from this tournament for a long time. This is set to be a spine-chilling encounter as Leopard will be out to defend the championship title after beating Mbabane Swallows last year while Highlanders will also be gunning for this trophy which they last won in 2010.

Interestingly both teams have won this prestigious tournament three

times and only one has a chance to make history to claim it for the fourth time if they make it to the end.

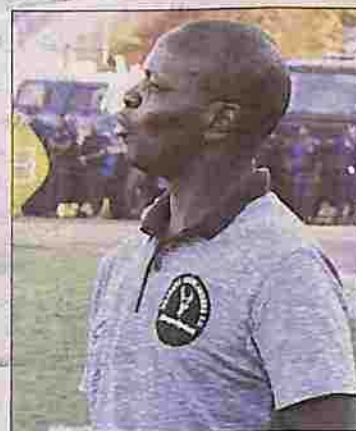
The 'Black Bull' will be parading new players in this tournament following an exodus of about six players from their last season squad. The new players registered by the team include former Manzini Wanderers defender Takawira Chimwanda and Zimbabwean pair of Thomas Maringo and Ramson Ruzazwo.

The players will join the likes of Highlanders Captain Xolani 'Choco' Sibandze, Lungelo Tsabedze in the quest to make the final of the

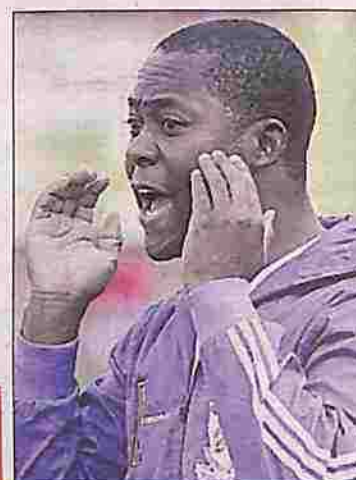
tournament and further take home the mouth-watering E900 000 first prize at stake.

The Highlanders stars will however be up against star-studded troops, the likes of Zweli 'Mlilo' Nxumalo, Muzi Mzoro Dlamini, Sicelo Mavimbela, Siboniso Rocco Malambe and Mxolisi Lukhele, amongst others.

Both set of players have made their intentions of winning this tournament hence one can expect fireworks come 9am. Coaches Meck Mwase and Sifiso Nuro Ntibane know what is at stake here and they will have to ensure their charges come to the party.



Coaches, Meck Mwase ('Landers) and Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane (Leopard's)



'Weslians' have a bone to chew with 'Birds'

**Mbabane Swallows vs
Manzini Wanderers**
(Somhlolo National Stadium,
11am)

Last season's quadruple champions Mbabane Swallows will take on trophy drought stricken Manzini Wanderers in the second semi-final of the Swazi Telecom Charity Cup at the Somhlolo National Stadium. This is a clear indication that this clash will be a battle of the titans when the two giants lock horns for a spot in the final of the tournament.

The Mbabane glamour side has had a fabulous season bagging home four trophies. The red and white outfit made it to the final of this tournament last year but lost out to police side Royal Leopard whom they met with in five top finals in the previous season. On paper the 'Beautiful Birds' are favourites to win this clash as they have, amongst other things, main-

tained the same star-studded and experience squad from last season.

Pressure will be on the team as their supporters will be out in great numbers to rally behind the side and looking to see how the team will kick start the new season following the sterling performance in the previous one.

Memories

Wanderers will harbour memories of their disappointing 0-6 historical defeat at the hands of the Mbabane side in their last meeting in the MTN League. This clash will present the Weslians a chance to redeem themselves.

The maroon and white outfit has also signed a number of players who are expected to debut in this much anticipated game. The players include Zimbabweans Frank Makarati, Tafandwa Jaravani and Tinyosi former star Gugulethu Dlamini, amongst others.

The hub giants have however been dealt a slight blow ahead of the games following the non-recognition of their new coach Julius Chakupewa who does not possess the CAF B Licence as per the requirements of the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS).

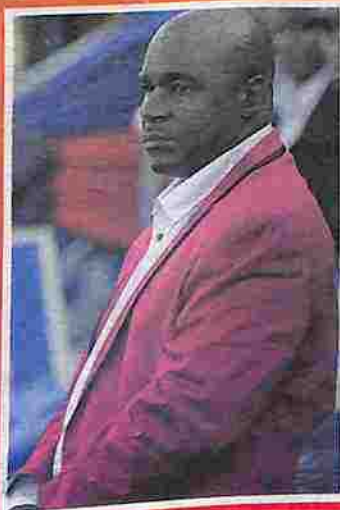
Wanderers' assistant coach who led the team towards the end of last season is aware that beating Swallows will not be an easy task if their cup pedigree is anything to go by and he is expected to go all out in order to beat his deputy in the coaches association Thabo Koki Vilakati to the trophy.

Wanderers Captain Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya has stated that they need this trophy to put an end to their trophy drought spanning over a decade.

One factor which will work for the two sides is the throngs of supporters that will be present to rally behind them.

Manzini
Wanderers
coach Antonia
Mdluli.

(Right)
Mbabane
Swallows
coach Thabo
'Koki'
Vilakati.



Network Interruption

Swazi MTN is accelerating modernisation of the network from Oshoek throughout the country's business corridor, up to King Mswati III International Airport.

The company will be modernising more sites between Ezulwini Matsapha and Manzini additional to the 52 that have already been commissioned in Mbabane and Ezulwini.

Much as most of the major changes are effected at night to minimise interruptions, some are effected during the day, making service interruptions inevitable.

Swazi MTN sincerely apologises for service interruptions and for inconvenience that is caused by the modernisation process. However, once the process is complete, our customers are going to enjoy seamless connections.

Thank you.

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Over 80 artists at STA, Excelsior champs

BY SABELO MAJOLA

TAEKWONDO - Excelsior Taekwondo Club in conjunction with Swaziland Taekwondo Association and Fitness Zone hosted a tournament that attracted over 80 artists at Bosco Skills Centre yesterday. The artists comprised of both males and females who competed in different categories. STA Secretary Sandile Mchunu said the association's main focus was grooming junior artists who would see a positive transition in the sport.

He said the objective was to have some of them representing the country in the Junior Championships which would be hosted in Canada in November.

"Canada will be hosting world juniors' championships in three months hence our focus is mainly in planting the culture of high competence among our junior artists. We are also looking to qualify for Japan

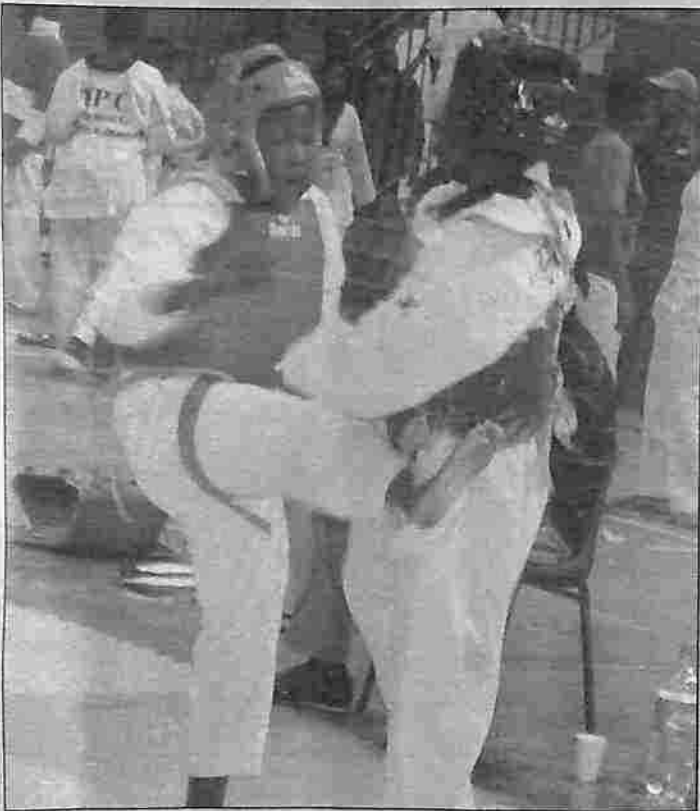
Olympics in 2020, having failed to qualify for the ongoing Rio Olympics in Brazil," he said.

He said that they would also be going to Zimbabwe next month for another competition which was initially scheduled for last month but had to be postponed to September.

Some of the winners in the juniors' category included Peter Mkhwanazi who won in the over 73kg, Sabusiswa Motsa in the U-55kg while Nkosephayo Mahlalela and Eve Mhlanga won in the U-48 and U-49kg, respectively.

Some of the winners:

- +73kg junior male Peter Mkhwanazi
- -55kg cadets Sabusiswa Motsa
- -73kg junior male Maseko Thubelihle
- -45kg junior male Mthokozisi Sihlongonyane
- -48kg junior female Nkosephayo Mahlalela
- -49kg junior females Eve Mhlanga



Nomphumelelo Dlamini competing against Sphelele Mkhabela.

SIFISO MHLANGA KING OF THE MOUNTAIN

BY SABELO MAJOLA

CYCLING - Swazi Frontiers and Mountain Bike MTB Series leading cyclist Sifiso Mhlanga has proved he is a gem as he was crowned the King of the Mountain MTB.

The event was held at Malkerns Club yesterday. Mhlanga has added more points to his current lead in the MTB series, as he was recently

crowned champion of the Mdumenzulu MTB held two weeks ago. Mhlanga crossed the finish line after 1:40 hours in the 40km main race and was followed by thriving Newcom Wheels cyclist Mduduzi Zwane after only two minutes on the clock.

Taking third position was MTN Khemani veteran cyclist William Kelly who recorded a time of 1:43 hours. Wendy Reed was the first lady

to cross the finish line.

Cycling Association of Swaziland (CAS) Secretary Menzi Tsela said it was a fun filled MTB race.

"We are thankful to the organisers and all stakeholders who made the event successful. It was nothing but fun all the way," he said.

Tsela, together with CAS president Mandla Simelane also took part in the 40km main race. Other races held included the 14km and 5km.

Clement Nhleko shines in SRIC Monthly Mug

BY SANELE JELE

MBABANE - Veteran golfer Clement Nhleko was yesterday crowned the champion of this month's edition of the SRIC Month Mug golf tournament.

This was during the prize presentation held at Mbabane Golf Club yesterday which saw more than 40 golfers taking to the greens early in the day. The annual tournament is sponsored to a tune of E70 000 by Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC). Nhleko's nett score was 65. Coming second was Clement Dlamini on a net score of 65 while Mncedisi Ntombini netted 67 on the 3rd spot. Tied on the fourth spot on a net score of 70 were Gordon Benett, Sayed Juma and Mervin Lubbe.

Seasoned golfer Styles Richards proved that he was unstoppable, carding the best gross score of 77 in the event played in medal play format. Shinning in the novelties were Kenneth Nkambule on the nearest hole 2/11, Themba Maziya on the nearest hole 5/18 with Phil Mnisi taking the award for the longest drive.

The winners once again got fabulous prizes, mainly electrical appliances, courtesy of the giant insurance company. Other winners were Nicolas Vilakati, Zama Kunene and Mduduzi Nhleko.



Marketing and Corporate Communications Manager Sizwe Shongwe and Mbabane Golf Captain Ronnie Mkhombe during the prize presentation held at the Mbabane Golf Club yesterday. (Pic:Sanele Jele)

THE RESULTS

1. Clement Nhleko	65 C/B best net	10. Zama Kunene	72
2. Clement Dlamini	65	11. Mduduzi Mtseftwa	73c/b
3. Mncedisi Ntombini	67	Peter Dlamini	76 best
4. Gordon Benett	70 c/b		
5. Sayed Juma	70		
6. Mervyn Lubbe	70		
7. Phil Mnisi	71		
8. Kenneth Nkambule	72c/b		
9. Nicholas Vilakati	72		

Novelties

Kenneth Nkambule	Nearest pin 2/11
Themba Maziya	Nearest pin 9/18
Phil Mnisi	Longest drive

Eight teams compete in E2 000 RSP tourney

BY SABELO MAJOLA

VOLLEYBALL - Eight teams competed in the Swaziland National Volleyball Association B Division tournament hosted by the RSP Volleyball Club yesterday.

The teams were battling it out for the E1 000 first prize during the tournament sponsored by the Police College Canteen to the tune of E2 000. The tournament held at the Police College in Matsapha yesterday saw the teams being divided into two groups and played in a round robin format.

RSP volleyball team man-

ager Mxolisi Matsenjwa, who was also one of the organisers, said the top three teams from the tournament would be awarded with cash prizes and medals. He added that they would be launching a new E7 000 worth sponsorship soon.

"We are waiting for the Swaziland National Volleyball Association (SNVA) to grant us a slot so that we officially launch the sponsorship worth E7 000,

courtesy of Old Mutual," he said. The eight teams that participated during the tournament were RSP, Elangeni, Ludzeludze, Panthers in group A while USDF, Correctional, Eagles and RSSC completed group B.

The prize breakdown:
Champions - E1 000 and gold medals
Runners-up - E800 and silver medals
Third place - E6 00 and bronze medals



RSP players trying to block the ball as Panthers launch an attack. This was during a tournament sponsored by the Police College Canteen to the tune of E2 000, played at Police College yesterday.



SWAZI TELECOM CHARITY CUP 2016 | PREVIEW



'BUFFS', 'BIRDS' THROUGH TO CHARITY CUP U-20 FINALS

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – Young Buffaloes and Mbabane Swallows are through to the finals of the Swazi Telecom Charity Cup Under 20 finals.

The two sides will curtain for the big finale slated for the Somhlolo National Stadium today. Kick off for this encounter is 2pm

Defending champions Buffaloes recorded a 2-1 victory over debutants Mbabane Highlanders in the first semi-final to ensure their third straight final appearance in the youth development competition which they have won since inception. Mbabane Swallows on the other hand booted Manzini Wanderers out of the tournament after beating them 5-2 after penalties.

It was a first half strike from Likhwa Manyatsi that ensured 'Amathole Ezinyathi' put one hand in the E30 000 worth trophy ahead of today's finals. The striker connected a pass from Lindani Matsenjwa 28 minutes into the



Swallows donning the junior national squad's jersey.

game. He came back to haunt the opposition in the 31st minute when he capitalised on a defensive blunder before unleashing a shot straight into the net.

Resilience

Highlanders showed some resilience especially in the first half which resulted in their lone goal scored by winger Bongumenzi Mngomezulu in the 33rd minute.

Mbabane swallows on the other hand came from behind after trailing to Manzini Wanderers for the better part of the game to book their second consecutive finals appearance.

The 'Weslians' took the lead 10

minutes into the second stanza through striker Lungelo Mawelela who benefitted from a Mfanzile 'Fash' Mdluli rebound spilled by the opposition goalkeeper Qniso Nyawo.

The 'Birds' forced the match into the dreaded shootouts following a Dumisa Tsabedze striker three minutes before time.

It was the Swallows keeper who became the instant hero when he denied a spot kick by Lungelo Mawelela while Wanderers Thando Dlamini missed the target which saw the 'Birds' fly away to the finals.

'Birds' don national team jersey

SOCCER – Mbabane Swallows were forced to don the junior national team soccer kit following a clash of colours in their kit and that of Manzini Wanderers.

The clash saw the second Swazi Telecom Charity Cup semi final halted as officials tried to salvage the situation. The referee had no other alternative but to stop the match following an uproar from supporters who complained about the kits.

This was after consultations with the Match Commissioner Esrom Dlamini with only three

FIXTURES

2016 FA COMMUNITY SHIELD
17:00 Leicester City v Manchester United

Club Friendly
13:55 West Ham United v Juventus
19:30 Arsenal v Man City

OLYMPICS - FOOTBALL
Football Men
08 August 2016
00:00 Denmark v South Africa
03:00 Brazil v Iraq



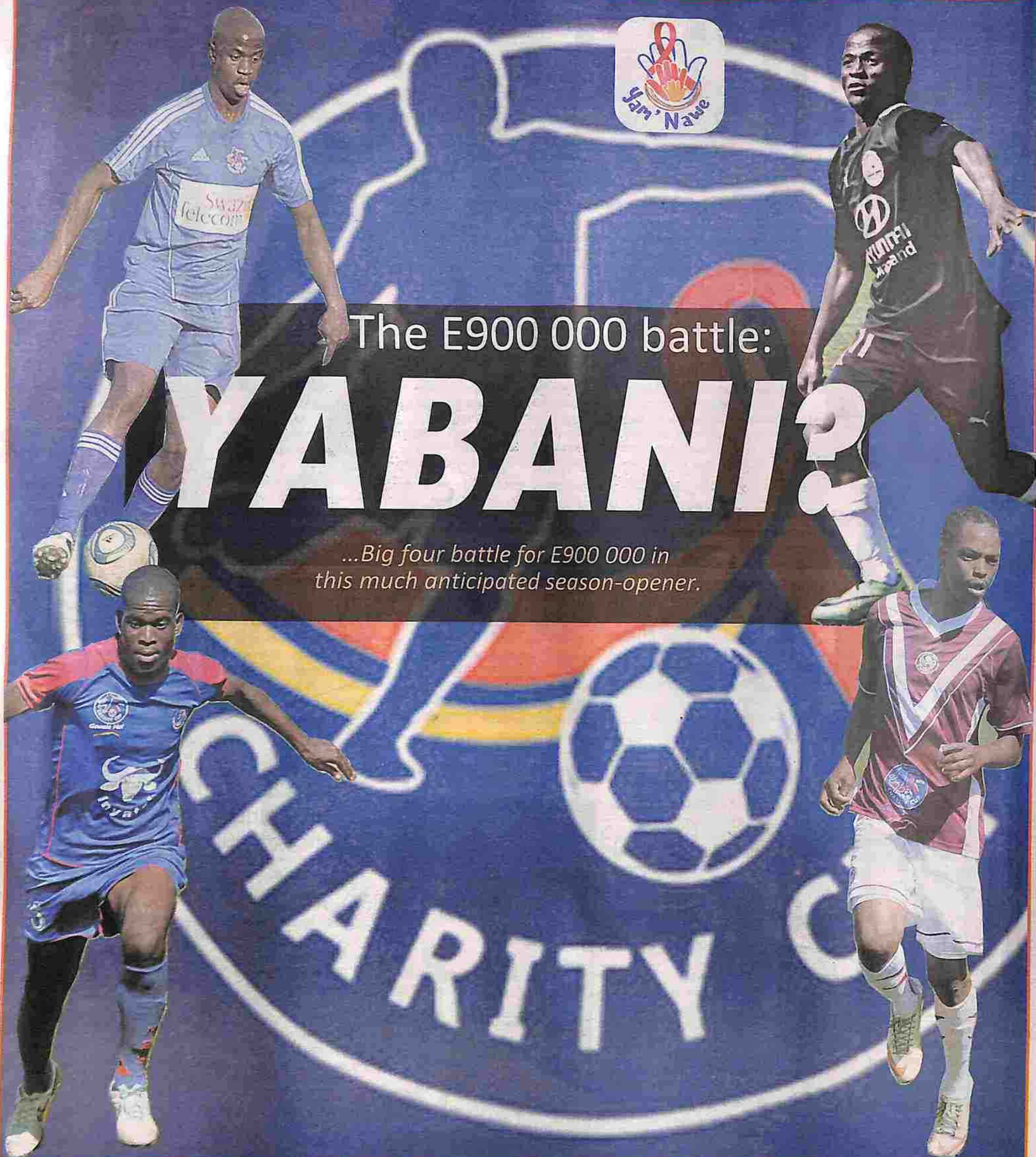
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The E900 000 battle:

YABANI?

...Big four battle for E900 000 in
this much anticipated season-opener.